

Football News Release



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NORTHWOOD AT FERRIS STATE

SEPTEMBER 29, 2003

GAME FACTS

NORTHWOOD TIMBERWOLVES

(2-2; 2-1 GLIAC)

AT

FERRIS STATE BULLDOGS

(2-2; 1-2 GLIAC)

KICKOFF: 7 p.m. (EDT)

STADIUM/SURFACE: Top Taggart Field
(6,200)/Artificial Turf (AstroTurf 12).

RADIO COVERAGE: WBRN-AM (1460) – John Smith
(play-by-play), Ted Halm (color commentary).

THE RECORDS: Ferris State improved to 2-2 overall and 1-2 in the GLIAC with a 29-16 conference triumph over Wayne State Saturday (Sept. 27) at Wayne State Stadium in Detroit, Mich. Last season, FSU compiled a 5-5 overall mark and placed sixth in the GLIAC with a 4-5 conference record. The Bulldogs were 4-1 at home and 1-4 on the road last fall. In 2001, FSU posted a 7-4 overall mark and a third-place 7-3 GLIAC record. Ferris has won or shared the conference championship six of the last 11 years, including five straight (1992-96).

Northwood is 2-2 overall and 2-1 in the GLIAC after winning its second straight game following a 30-3 conference victory over Mercyhurst last Saturday (Sept. 27) at NU's Hantz Stadium in Midland, Mich. A season ago, the Timberwolves were 7-4 overall with a fourth-place 7-3 GLIAC mark. NU was 3-2 in away contests and 4-1 at home in 2002. Ferris State and Northwood both tied for the conference title in 1999 with 7-2 league records.

THE COACHES: FERRIS STATE – Jeff Pierce (Ferris State, 1979), 9th season, 56-36-0 (.609) — (6-2-0 vs. Northwood). In his coaching FSU career, Pierce is 29-15-0 (.659) in home games, 21-11-0 (.656) in October and 50-30-0 (.625) in GLIAC contests to date.

NORTHWOOD – Pat Riepma (Hillsdale, 1983), 11th season, 53-53-2 (.500) – (2-8-0 vs. Ferris State).

2003 FERRIS STATE SCHEDULE & RESULTS

Sept. 6	at Hillsdale	W 25-20
Sept. 13	at Grand Valley State*	L 10-40
Sept. 20	Northern Michigan* (HF)	L 14-26
Sept. 27	at Wayne State*	W 29-16
Oct. 4	Northwood*	7 p.m.
Oct. 11	at Michigan Tech*	1 p.m.
Oct. 18	Mercyhurst* (HC)	2 p.m.
Oct. 25	at Saginaw Valley State*	12 p.m.
Nov. 1	Findlay*	1:30 p.m.
Nov. 8	at Ashland*	1:25 p.m.
Nov. 15	Indianapolis*	1:30 p.m.

All times are Eastern

Home games in **Bold** *GLIAC Game

(HF) – Hall of Fame (HC) – Homecoming

THE GAME: The Ferris State University football team returns home this Saturday (Oct. 4) as the Bulldogs entertain the Northwood University Timberwolves in Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) play at Big Rapids, Mich.

HEAD COACH JEFF PIERCE: Jeff Pierce is in his ninth season at Ferris State and has a current 56-36-0 career coaching record. Pierce has made his mark among the school's all-time coaches by posting the second-best winning percentage (.609) in the program's history. The 1995 GLIAC Coach-of-the-Year is five wins shy of becoming FSU's winningest coach and would surpass Keith Otterbein (60-39-0, 1986-94). Under Pierce, the Bulldogs have won or shared three GLIAC titles while earning back-to-back (1995-96) berths in the NCAA Division II National Championship Playoffs, including a semifinal-round appearance in '95.

ALL-TIME SERIES: Ferris State has a 15-14-0 series lead over Northwood in a series which commenced in 1972. FSU has won 13 of the last 16 meetings, including nine of the past 11 contests after NU was victorious in 11 of the previous 13 games. Ferris is averaging 37.3 points per game (410 total) in its last 11 contests to Northwood's 21.5 (236 total) for a +15.8 point margin. The Bulldogs boast a present six-game home series winning streak and have averaged 40.3 points (242 total) in comparison to the Timberwolves' 23.3 points a game (140 total) for a +17.0 differential.

Ferris State leads 15-14-0

(NU 1973-78) & (FSU 1992-97)

FSU Scoring Avg.: 25.2 (730 pts.)

NU Scoring Avg.: 21.1 (611 pts.)

Differential: +4.1 (FSU)

At Big Rapids: FSU leads 7-6-0

At Midland: Tied at 8-8-0

First Game: FSU 20, NU 3*

(10/28/72)

Last FSU Win: 32-29* (9/29/01)

Last NU Win: 41-24 (10/5/02)

Last Meeting in Big Rapids:

FSU 32, NU 29* (9/29/01)

Current Series Win Streak: 1

(NU 10/5/02)

Longest Series Win Streak: 6

(NU 1973-78) & (FSU 1992-97)

Most Points in a FSU Win: 56

(56-14 – 10/21/95)

Most Points in a NU Win:

41 (41-24 – 10/5/02)

Most Decisive Score: FSU 42

(56-14 – 10/21/95); NU 27 (51-24

– 10/28/89)

* – Denotes FSU home game

1972 FSU 20-3 H

1973 NU 17-14 A

1974 NU 15-14 H

1975 NU 7-0 A

1976 NU 23-0 H

1977 NU 29-7 A

1978 NU 40-27 H

1979 FSU 17-7 A

1980 NU 16-6 H

1981 NU 13-10 A

1982 NU 27-14 H

1983 NU 38-14 A

1984 NU 21-0 H

1985 FSU 38-20 A

1986 FSU 35-29 H

1987 FSU 43-13 A

1988 FSU 37-6 H

1989 NU 51-24 A

1992 FSU 33-10 A

1993 FSU 47-0 A

1994 FSU 52-16 H

1995 FSU 56-14 A

1996 FSU 40-24 H

1997 FSU 31-17 A

1998 NU 35-21 A

1999 FSU 46-36 H

2000 FSU 28-14 A

2001 FSU 32-29 H

2002 NU 41-24 A

LAST MEETING – 2002: Northwood scored TD's on its first four possessions to record a 41-24 victory over Ferris State before 2,678 fans at Hantz Stadium in Midland, Mich. NU took a 7-0 opening-quarter lead on a one-yard TD quarterback sneak by Jason Martin at the 10:15 mark. Ferris was able to answer on its next possession as quarterback Tom Marsan's 13-yard TD pass to split end Andy Thwaites with 6:20 left in the quarter tied the game at 7-7. The Bulldogs proceeded to take a 10-7 lead with 2:11 to go in the first quarter on kicker Tom Perez's 22-yard field goal. However, NU regained the upper hand with three consecutive TD's in the second quarter to go up 27-10 due to a 45-yard TD scamper by Martin with eight minutes remaining before halftime. Prior to Martin's TD run, a one-yard TD plunge by fullback Bryant Lawrence and a 14-yard TD pass from Martin to running back Pernell Jackson accounted for the Timberwolves' first two second-quarter scores. Ferris drew within 27-17 with 39 ticks left in the first half on a 13-yard TD pass play from Marsan to flanker Delano McKinney. The Timberwolves made it 34-17 at 9:15 of the third quarter as Martin hit paydirt from a yard out. The teams exchanged fourth-quarter scores with NU scoring on a Jackson's 19-yard dash with 4:43 remaining before FSU countered as split end Dennis Cartwright hauled in a 20-yard Marsan pass with just under four minutes left. For the game, Northwood compiled 510 total offensive yards to Ferris' 427-yard total. Marsan threw for 377 yards and three TD's on 37-of-55 passing while Martin rushed for a game-high 171 yards and three TD's. Tailback Derek Fudge caught 10 passes for 96 yards while Cartwright and Thwaites each had eight receptions for 127 and 82 yards, respectively. Middle linebacker Luke Piepkow paced the Bulldogs with 18 tackles (11 solos). Outside linebackers Kevin Myers and Rob Mida totaled 17 stops each while free safety Alvin Grier contributed with 11 tackles and defensive tackle Whitney Bell attained 10 stops.

INTERNET COVERAGE: All 2003 Ferris State football games can be heard live on the internet through an agreement with FSU Athletics and local radio affiliate WBRN. The link is located on Ferris' Athletics homepage website (www.ferris.edu/sports). Listeners who click on the Bulldog Athletics' webcast icon will be directed to the site at www.ferris.edu/sports/bulldogwebcasts.

– more –

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ATHLETICS COMMUNICATIONS

2003 GLIAC STANDINGS

	GLIAC					OVERALL				
	W	L	Pct.	PF	PA	W	L	Pct.	PF	PA
Grand Valley State	3	0	1.000	127	48	4	0	1.000	136	54
Saginaw Valley State	3	0	1.000	98	35	4	0	1.000	128	49
Indianapolis	2	1	.667	107	111	3	1	.750	151	118
Findlay	2	1	.667	57	66	3	1	.750	108	97
Northern Michigan	2	1	.667	104	72	2	2	.500	104	134
Northwood	2	1	.667	86	34	2	2	.500	100	64
Ferris State	1	2	.333	53	82	2	2	.500	78	102
Mercyhurst	1	2	.333	47	85	2	2	.500	77	106
Hillsdale	1	2	.333	58	89	1	3	.250	78	114
Michigan Tech	1	3	.250	139	138	1	3	.250	139	138
Ashland	1	3	.250	59	110	1	4	.200	65	122
Wayne State	0	3	.000	33	98	1	3	.250	71	119

LAST WEEK'S RESULTS

at Saginaw Valley State 28, Ashland 0*
Ferris State 29, at Wayne State 16*
 at Northwood 30, Mercyhurst 3*
 Findlay 31, at Michigan Tech 28*
 at Northern Michigan 49, Indianapolis 17*
 Grand Valley State 37, at Hillsdale 24*

SATURDAY, OCT. 4

Wayne State at Ashland*, 1:25 p.m.
 Saginaw Valley State at Indianapolis*, 2 p.m.
 Northern Michigan at Hillsdale*, 2:30 p.m.
 Mercyhurst at Findlay*, 6 p.m.
 Michigan Tech at Grand Valley State*, 7 p.m.
Northwood at Ferris State*, 7 p.m.



www.gliac.org

*GLIAC Game
 All Times are Eastern



2003 GLIAC PRESEASON COACHES' POLL

PLACE	TEAM	POINTS
1.	Grand Valley State (8)	117
2.	Saginaw Valley State (4)	114
3.	Findlay	92
4.	Northern Michigan	83
5.	Ferris State	80
6.	Northwood	79
7.	Indianapolis	61
8.	Hillsdale	60
9.	Ashland	38
10.	Michigan Tech	28
11.	Wayne State	26
12.	Mercyhurst	14

First place votes in parentheses. Voting was conducted among the GLIAC football coaches; coaches were not allowed to vote for their own team. Points were assigned as follows: First-11 points; Second-10 points; Third-9 points; Etc.

LAST WEEK: Ferris State continued its winning ways at Wayne State last Saturday as the Bulldogs exploded for 16 third-quarter points en route to a 29-16 conference victory before 2,215 fans at Wayne State Stadium in Detroit, Mich. Ferris trailed 13-6 at halftime but regrouped in the second half to outscore the hosts 23-3. Ferris' lone first-half points occurred at 3:18 of the second quarter on junior quarterback **Tom Marsan's (Evergreen Park, Ill.)** one-yard TD run. The Bulldogs narrowed WSU's lead to 13-9 with 11:04 remaining in the third quarter on a 39-yard field goal by senior kicker **Tom Perez (Lewiston/Johannesburg-Lewiston)**. Ferris proceeded to claim the advantage (16-13) at 7:32 thanks to a one-yard TD run by senior tailback **Derek Fudge (Gibonston, Fla./East Bay)**, who rushed for a game-high 126 yards on 25 attempts. FSU widened its margin two minutes later as sophomore flanker **Carlton Brewster (Grand Rapids/Creston)** returned a Warrior punt 65 yards for a TD as the Bulldogs went up 22-13 entering the fourth quarter. Wayne State made a 30-yard field goal with just under 12 minutes left to get within 22-16 before Ferris countered as **Fudge** scored on a 53-yard TD run with 6:05 remaining. The Bulldogs compiled 303 yards with 150 yards rushing and 153 yards in passing. Defensively, Ferris held the Warriors to 94 yards rushing on 37 attempts. Along with **Fudge**, **Brewster** turned in a productive day with 108 yards in punt returns and 80 kickoff return yards on three attempts apiece. He also had a team-best four receptions for 37 yards. **Marsan** completed 13-of-27 passes for 153 yards while WSU quarterback Randy Hutchison threw for 215 yards on 19-of-32 passing. Senior defensive tackle **Pat Smith's (Pewamo/Pewamo-Westphalia)** career-high 11 tackles spearheaded the defensive charge. Senior middle linebacker **Luke Piepkow (Clark Lake/Jackson Lumen Christi)** notched nine tackles while junior defensive ends **John Hazle (St. Johns)** and **Jesse Schnitker (Manton)** posted eight stops apiece. Senior free safety **Rich Dosh (Burton/Flint Kearsley)** and junior outside linebacker **Kevin Myers (Midland)** each picked off a Warriors' aerial in the contest.

BULLDOG BITES: **Derek Fudge's** 126-yard rushing performance at Wayne State marked his 17th career 100-yard plus single-game effort

and his third in four contests this fall. He has 3,395 career rushing yards in 34 outings and is 129 yards away from tying Chuck Evans (1974-77; 3,524 yds.) for second place among FSU's all-time best rushers.

➤ **Pat Smith** set a personal career best at Wayne State as a result of totaling 11 tackles (nine solos). Smith, who had a combined 13 tackles in his initial three outings this season, surpassed his previous high of six stops at Northern Michigan (10/27/01) and at Hillsdale (9/6/03).

➤ **Luke Piepkow**, who had nine stops at WSU, moved into 13th place on Ferris' all-time tackles leaders list ahead of Steve Krispinsky (1973-75; 306 tackles). Piepkow is now 10 stops shy of tying Nick Coleman (1986-89; 319) for 12th place. The 2002 All-GLIAC Second-Team honoree is averaging 9.7 tackles per game (309 total) in 32 career contests.

➤ With his two TD's at Wayne State, **Derek Fudge** moved into seventh place on Ferris' career scoring charts with a current 168-point total. He eclipsed Dave Gagnon (1970-73) and Cedric Gordon (1985-87), who both totaled 162 career points. Fudge now trails Chris Pulliams (1993-96; 204 pts.) by 36 points for sixth place on the all-time points leaders list.

➤ The Bulldogs extended their present road winning streak in the Wayne State series to six consecutive with last Saturday's win and haven't suffered a defeat at WSU (29-17) since 1990 (9/22). Ferris has won 10 of the last 12 meetings, including five of the past six to date.

➤ Senior punter **Tim Gill (Mt. Clemens/Lutheran North)** is averaging a career-high 38.4 yards per punt (884 yds.) on 23 attempts this campaign. His previous season high was a 35.4-yard average (601 yds.) on 17 kicks during his freshman year in 2000. He's sixth on the school's all-time punt yardage chart with 5,032 career yards on 145 attempts (34.7 avg.).

➤ **John Hazle** has already set a new personal career high with 29 tackles (14 solos) in four games this season. He notched 25 stops (17 solos) as a frosh in the 2001 campaign.

➤ **Jesse Schnitker's** eight tackles at Wayne State was a single-game high, eclipsing his six stops at Grand Valley State earlier this fall (9/13).

➤ **Kevin Myers** had his six-game double-figure tackle string snapped at Wayne State after notching five stops. Myers, who compiled seven double-digit tackle efforts last fall, is averaging 11.4 stops (85 total) in his last seven games. The 2002 All-GLIAC Second-Team selection had a team-high 112 tackles a season ago and tied for 12th nationally (11.1 avg.).

BREWSTER RECEIVES WEEKLY CONFERENCE HONOR: ➤ **Carlton Brewster** has been named this week's GLIAC Special Teams Player of the Week as a result of his notable performance in the Bulldogs' victory at Wayne State last Saturday. Brewster accumulated 188 total return yards in the contest with a career-best 108 punt return yards (36.0 ypr.) on three attempts, highlighted by a 65-yard TD return. A season ago (10/26), Brewster received the same honor with five punt returns for 104 yards (20.7 ypr.), including an 89-yard TD return in Ferris' 24-3 home win over nationally-ranked Saginaw Valley State. He joins **Derek Fudge** (offense) as conference player of the week recipients this campaign.

BULLDOGS AT HOME: Ferris State is 70-49-2 (.587) at Top Taggart Field since 1980 and sports a 56-38-2 (.594) conference home mark during that span. The Bulldogs are 49-22-2 (.685) overall since 1990, which includes a 43-19-2 (.688) conference mark.

UNDER THE LIGHTS: Ferris has compiled a 25-38-4 (.403) record in evening contests dating back to 1961. The Bulldogs are 16-20-2 (.447) at home.

UP NEXT: Ferris State continues conference action Saturday, Oct. 11, as the Bulldogs visit the Michigan Tech University Huskies at Houghton, Mich. Opening kickoff is set for 1 p.m. (EDT) at MTU's Sherman Field.

Bulldogs-Of-The-Week: Following each Ferris State contest, individual players will be recognized by the FSU coaching staff for their outstanding performance. Individual(s) will be selected on offense, defense, specialty teams, and for extraordinary effort (*every player, every play*).

DATE	OPPONENT	BULLDOGS-OF-THE-WEEK
Sept. 6	at Hillsdale	Offense-Derek Fudge, Defense-John Hazle, Specialty-Carlton Brewster, EPEP-Kevin Myers
Sept. 13	at Grand Valley State	Offense-Andy Thwaites, Defense-Luke Piepkow, Specialty-Tim Gill, EPEP-Kevin Myers
Sept. 20	Northern Michigan	Offense-Derek Fudge, Defense-Rich Dosh, Specialty-Corey Scheick, EPEP-Rob Mida
Sept. 27	at Wayne State	Offense-Derek Fudge, Defense-Pat Smith, Specialty-Carlton Brewster, EPEP-Allen Feigel

Oct. 4	Northwood
Oct. 11	at Michigan Tech
Oct. 18	Mercyhurst
Oct. 25	at Saginaw Valley State
Nov. 1	Findlay
Nov. 8	at Ashland
Nov. 15	Indianapolis

Home games listed in **bold**