



Jeff Ligney
Director of Media Relations
1110 Washington Ave.
Bay City, MI 48708
Voice: (989) 894-2529
E-mail: jligney@gliac.org
web site: www.gliac.org

Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference

April 29, 2009

For immediate release

GVSU's Smith Named GLIAC Women's Golf "Athlete of The Year"

Ashland's Misheff Earns "Freshman of the Year" Honors, AU's Leonard Named "Coach of the Year"

BAY CITY, Mich. -- Grand Valley State University junior women's golfer **Ashley Smith (Plymouth, Mich./Salem)** has been chosen as the GLIAC Women's Golf "Athlete of the Year" it was announced by the conference office. Fellow Laker sophomore **Kristina Langton (Ada, Mich./Grand Rapids Catholic Central)** claimed medalist honors at the 2009 GLIAC Women's Golf Championships on Monday (4/27). Ashland University's **Erin Misheff (Silver Lake, Ohio/Walsh Jesuit)** was named the conference's "Freshman of the Year" while Ashland's **Pam Leonard** was tabbed as the GLIAC "Coach of the Year".

Smith was named the GLIAC "Athlete of the Year" after finishing in a tie for third place at the GLIAC Championship on Monday. After shooting an opening round 80, Smith tallied a second round score of 75, good for a 155 (+11). She was one of four Lakers in the top six spots and earned First Team All-GLIAC honors.

Langton earned medalist honors at the GLIAC Championship on Monday, finishing eight strokes ahead of the competition. Langton shot an opening round 75 and followed that up with a one-under par 71 in the final round. Her total of 146 was good for +2, as she led a pack of five Lakers in the top-10. Langton's performance earned her First Team All-GLIAC honors.

Misheff is the first AU player to receive the GLIAC "Freshman of the Year" award. She capped a strong regular season by being named First Team All-GLIAC and finishing second at the GLIAC Championships. This spring she was also sixth at the Northwood Invitational and eighth at the AU Invitational.

Leonard was named the GLIAC women's golf "Coach of the Year" for the first time in her career, after completing her fifth year at Ashland. This season she has led the Eagles into the NCAA Division II postseason. This marks the first time the AU women's program has been invited to the NCAA's postseason play.

Joining **Smith**, **Langton**, and **Misheff** on the 2009 All-GLIAC First Team are: seniors **Alison Meyer** and **Raquel Hansen** of Ferris State University.

The All-GLIAC Second Team includes: freshmen **Erin Fuchik** and **Bryce Hetchler**, and senior **Meghan Hunter** of Ferris State; junior **Caitlin Bennett** and freshman **Sarah Hoffman** of Grand Valley State; and sophomore **Ann Miles** of Ashland.

A complete list of the 2009 All-GLIAC Women's Golf teams are on the following page.

-more-

"Where Champions Compete"

Ashland University • Ferris State University • University of Findlay • Grand Valley State University • Hillsdale College • Lake Superior State University • Michigan Technological University • Northern Michigan University • Northwood University • Saginaw Valley State University • Tiffin University • Wayne State University • University of Indianapolis (associate member) • Lewis University (associate member)

2009 GLIAC Women's Golf Postseason Awards

Page 2 of 2

2009 GLIAC Women's Golf Postseason Awards

Athlete of the Year: Ashley Smith - Grand Valley State University

Conference Medallist: Kristina Langton - Grand Valley State University

Freshman of the Year: Erin Misheff - Ashland University

Coach of the Year: Pam Leonard - Ashland University

2009 All-GLIAC Women's Golf Teams

First-Team

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Yr.</u>	<u>Hometown/High School</u>
Kristina Langton	Grand Valley State	So.	Ada, Mich./Grand Rapids Catholic Central
Raquel Hansen	Ferris State	Sr.	West Olive, Mich./Grand Haven
Alison Meyer	Ferris State	Sr.	Duluth, Minn./Central
Erin Misheff	Ashland	Fr.	Silver Lake, Ohio/Walsh Jesuit
Ashley Smith	Grand Valley State	Jr.	Plymouth, Mich./Salem
Allie Tyler	Grand Valley State	So.	Grand Rapids Mich./Forest Hills Central

Second-Team

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Yr.</u>	<u>Hometown/High School</u>
Caitlin Bennett	Grand Valley State	Jr.	Grosse Pointe Woods, Mich./North
Meghan Hunter	Ferris State	Sr.	Dexter, Mich.
Anne Miles	Ashland	So.	Dublin, Ohio/Bishop Watterson
Sarah Hoffman	Grand Valley State	Fr.	Saline, Mich.
Bryce Hetchler	Ferris State	Fr.	Clinton Twp., Mich./Fraser
Erin Fuchik	Ferris State	Fr.	Tulsa, Okla./Bishop Kelly

Honorable Mention

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Yr.</u>	<u>Hometown/High School</u>
Ashley Gubser	Findlay	Fr.	Twinsburg, Ohio
Stephanie Schwertner	Ashland	Sr.	Massillon, Ohio/Canton Central Catholic
Christine Suchy	Ashland	Sr.	Strongsville, Ohio
Andrea Vogt	Findlay	So.	Auburn, Ind./DeKalb
Jacqueline Sublette	Findlay	Fr.	Columbus, Ind./North
Paige Molnar	Northwood	Jr.	Corunna, Mich.

* - All-GLIAC Women's Golf selections are based upon a player's stroke average in her nine best rounds in league play, including the three rounds of the GLIAC Tournament. All ties are broken by total strokes in the GLIAC Tournament.