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## **2006 DAKTRONICS GREAT LAKES REGION WOMEN'S SOCCER TEAMS**

### **GRAND VALLEY'S TAFLER NAMED REGION'S PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

ERIE, PA - NCAA Division II national semifinalist Grand Valley State led all teams with five players named to the 2006 Daktronics Great Lakes Region women's soccer teams released Tuesday. The Lakers had four players selected to the first team.

Grand Valley State's Katy Tafler was named Great Lakes Region Player of the Year. The sophomore forward was also the 2006 Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) Player of the Year.

Tafler has led Grand Valley State into the NCAA Division II national semifinals, where it will play Tampa on Thursday, November 16. The winner moves onto the national championship match Saturday, November 18 against the West Chester-Metro State winner. The Lakers are 18-1-1 overall and finished 7-1 in GLIAC play.

Tafler has started all 20 matches for the Lakers this season and leads the nation in points per match (3.74) and goals per match (1.68). She has broken GVSU single-season scoring records for goals in a season with 32 and points with 71. Tafler opened the season scoring two or more goals in seven consecutive matches. She has scored a goal in 17 of 20 matches this season, including four match-winning goals. Tafler, who was named GLIAC Player of the Week five times this year, is currently tied for second on the squad with seven assists. She was selected as the GLIAC Freshman of the Year in 2005, along with being named to the All-GLIAC and All-Region teams.

The Daktronics Great Lakes region first team is comprised of Tafler, sophomore goalkeeper Kristina Nasturzio (Grand Valley State), freshman forward Becky Fleming (Quincy), sophomore forward Sarah Powell (Mercyhurst), junior midfielder Kristie Smilanich (Ferris State), junior midfielder Jamie Shadd (Gannon), junior midfielder Lindsay Ewert (Rockhurst), senior defender Laura Gentry (Quincy), junior defender

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Sue Christenson (Grand Valley State), senior defender Katie Ales (Grand Valley State), and senior defender Finella Annand (Mercyhurst).

All 11 first-team selections will now be placed on the national ballot for All-America consideration. The complete 2006 Daktronics Great Lakes Region women's soccer teams can be found on the following page.

# Golden Knights Gannon

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## 2006 Daktronics Great Lakes Region Women's Soccer Teams

### First Team

| <u>Name</u>        | <u>School</u>      | <u>Year</u> | <u>Position</u> | <u>Hometown</u>      |
|--------------------|--------------------|-------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| Kristina Nasturzio | Grand Valley State | So.         | GK              | Mississauga, Ontario |
| Katy Tafler        | Grand Valley State | So.         | F               | Mississauga, Ontario |
| Becky Fleming      | Quincy             | Fr.         | F               | Florissant, Mo.      |
| Sarah Powell       | Mercyhurst         | So.         | F               | McKean, Pa.          |
| Kristie Smilanich  | Ferris State       | Jr.         | MF              | Kalamazoo, Mich.     |
| Jamie Shadd        | Gannon             | Jr.         | MF              | Cleveland, Ohio      |
| Lindsay Ewert      | Rockhurst          | Jr.         | MF              | Lee's Summit, Mo.    |
| Laura Gentry       | Quincy             | Sr.         | D               | St. Louis, Mo.       |
| Sue Christenson    | Grand Valley State | Jr.         | D               | Livonia, Mich.       |
| Katie Ales         | Grand Valley State | Sr.         | D               | Novi, Mich.          |
| Finella Annand     | Mercyhurst         | Sr.         | D               | Inverness, Scotland  |

### Second Team

| <u>Name</u>          | <u>School</u>      | <u>Year</u> | <u>Position</u> | <u>Hometown</u>       |
|----------------------|--------------------|-------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Brittany Parker      | Missouri-Rolla     | Sr.         | GK              | Johnston, Iowa        |
| Shannon Carrier      | Grand Valley State | Sr.         | F               | Plainwell, Mich.      |
| Jayne Light          | Northern Kentucky  | Jr.         | F               | Cincinnati, Ohio      |
| Leanna Neuner        | Concord            | Sr.         | F               | Rolling Meadows, Ill. |
| Elizabeth Valenti    | SIU Edwardsville   | So.         | MF              | Overland Park, Kan.   |
| Kayla Fromme         | SIU Edwardsville   | Sr.         | MF              | New Berlin, Ill.      |
| Colleen Schwarz      | Gannon             | So.         | MF              | Williamsville, N.Y.   |
| Padra Bencini        | SIU Edwardsville   | Sr.         | D               | Carbondale, Ill.      |
| Krisie Muesenfechter | Missouri-St. Louis | So.         | D               | O'Fallon, Mo.         |
| Laura Piazza         | Gannon             | Fr.         | D               | Brampton, Ontario     |
| Chantelle Both       | Gannon             | So.         | D               | Brampton, Ontario     |