



2008 Weekly Game Notes



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On Deck

2008 NCAA-II Great Lakes Regional

2008 Schedule/Results



2008 SOFTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP
 NCAA DIVISION II
 GREAT LAKES REGION TOURNAMENT
 Cougar Field • Edwardsville, Illinois
 May 7-11, 2008

- #6 FERRIS STATE:**
 30-16 Overall;
 16-4 Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC)
- #8 WEST VIRGINIA STATE:** 41-14
#7 WEST VIRGINIA WESLEYAN: 50-18
#5 INDIANAPOLIS: 37-26
#4 WAYNE STATE: 33-16
#3 SAGINAW VALLEY STATE: 34-15
#2 LEWIS: 37-16
#1 SOUTHERN ILLINOIS-EDWARDSVILLE: 45-9

☛ **IN THE NCAA REGIONALS:** Ferris State will be making its sixth NCAA Division II Regional appearance in the program's history and its third in the last four seasons this Wednesday (May 7) as a result of receiving an at-large bid. The Bulldogs' last regional appearance was in 2007 at the Great Lakes Regional (May 10-13) in Romeoville, Ill. Ferris produced a 2-2 tourney mark as the Bulldogs were victorious in their opening two contests versus Gannon (6-1) and Missouri-Rolla (12-4 in six innings), respectively. Ferris then suffered a pair of 6-4 losses to 2007 national champion Southern Illinois-Edwardsville and Grand Valley State in the double-elimination tournament.

☛ **NCAA REGIONALS PERFORMANCE:** Ferris State has compiled an 11-7 all-time record in regional action, which includes a 6-5 mark in its last 11 post-season appearances. The Bulldogs won back-to-back Great Lakes Regional Championship titles in 1998 and 1999 both under current head coach **Keri Becker**. FSU has outscored the opposition in its five regional appearances by a combined 89-to-54 margin.

FERRIS STATE AT NCAA-II REGIONALS

YEAR-BY-YEAR	RECORD	SITE
1982	2-2	Stratford, Conn.
1998	3-0*#	Ashland, Ohio
1999	3-1*#	Allendale, Mich.
2005	1-2	Highland Heights, Ky.
2007	2-2	Romeoville, Ill.
*Regional Champions		#National Participant

☛ **AGAINST REGIONAL OPPONENTS:** The Bulldogs have compiled the following all-time records versus the 2008 NCAA-II Great Lakes Region field.
Saginaw Valley State – 35-45; **Wayne State** – 39-84; **Indianapolis** – 6-1; **Lewis** – 4-11-0;

Southern Illinois-Edwardsville – 4-11; West Virginia Wesleyan – 1-2; West Virginia State – 0-0.

☛ **36th Season** – The 2008 campaign represents the 36th season of varsity competition for the Ferris State Softball program. The Bulldogs are 700-632-3 overall (.525) since the program's inception in 1973. During that period, FSU has compiled 16 20-plus win seasons, including three consecutive (1997-99) 40 or more victory campaigns.

☛ **Seven Bulldogs Named All-GLIAC** – Ferris State placed seven players on the 2008 All-GLIAC teams, which were announced last Friday (May 4) at the GLIAC Tournament in Midland, Mich. Junior utility player **Sarah Mueller** was a repeat first-team selection while junior first baseman **Amanda Jager** also received first-team kudos after garnering second-team honors a season ago. Senior third baseman **Katie Kraai** along with sophomore second baseman **Amanda Harrington** and junior pitcher **Holly Bruntjens** all collected second-team accolades. Attaining honorable mention laurels were junior catcher **Krystle Bailey** and freshman outfielder **Lynsay Weaver**. Bruntjens earned honorable mention plaudits last season while Bailey was a second-team pick.

☛ **Doubling Their Pleasure** – Ferris State's 85 doubles this season in 46 games presently represents the third-highest single-season total in the program's history and this season's team is one second-base hit away from matching the 2007 squad's all-time second-place 86 doubles. FSU's school record is 92 doubles set by the 1998 team.

☛ **Post-Season Producer** – **Katie Kraai**, a two-time (2005 & 2007) NCAA-II Great Lakes Region All-Tournament Team selection, is currently hitting for a .524 average (11-21) in seven career NCAA Tourney appearances. She also has compiled two doubles, two home runs, nine RBI, and a .905 slugging percentage to date.

2008 GLIAC SOFTBALL COACHES PRESEASON POLL

SCHOOL (FIRST-PLACE VOTES)	PTS
1. Wayne State (4)	.94
2. Grand Valley State (4)	.89
3. Ferris State (1)	.79
Gannon (2)	.79
5. Ashland	.63
6. Saginaw Valley State	.54
7. Northwood	.49
8. Mercyhurst	.39
9. Hillsdale	.27
10. Findlay	.20
11. Lake Superior State	.12

30-16-0 OVERALL; 16-4-0 GLIAC

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME/RESULT
3/8	vs. St. Joseph's (Ind.)*	W 4-3 (8)
	vs. Northern Kentucky*	W 10-2 (5)
3/9	vs. Shippensburg (Pa.)*	L 2-0
	vs. Minnesota State*	W 3-2
3/10	vs. Upper Iowa*	L 10-9 (9)
	vs. Pfeiffer (N.C.)*	W 4-3 (8)
3/12	vs. American International (Mass.)*	L 5-3 (8)
	vs. C.W. Post (N.Y.)*	L 9-0 (5)
	vs. Indianapolis*	L 7-1
3/13	vs. SIU-Edwardsville*	L 5-4 (8)
	vs. Southern Indiana*	W 4-1
3/14	vs. Wisconsin-Parkside*	L 5-2
	vs. Central Missouri*	L 3-0
3/15	vs. St. Xavier (Ill.)*	W 8-4
	vs. New Haven (Conn.)*	W 8-0
3/22	at Wayne State Invitational▲	Cancelled
3/26	Aquinas (DH)	Cancelled
3/29	Gannon* (DH)	W 4-2, W 5-0
3/30	Mercyhurst* (DH)	W 5-0, W 10-0 (5)
4/5	at Northwood* (DH)	W 14-6 (5), W 9-5
4/6	at Saginaw Valley State* (DH)	L 2-3, W 4-3 (8)
4/7	Cornerstone (DH)	W 5-0, W 13-2 (5)
4/12	at Findlay* (DH)	W 8-2, L 7-6
4/13	at Ashland* (DH)	L 3-2, W 9-0
4/16	Grand Valley State* (DH)	W 2-1, W 1-0
4/19	Lake Superior State* (DH)	W 130 (5), W 152 (5)
4/20	at Tiffin (DH)	L 4-3, W 16-3 (5)
4/22	at Northwood (DH)	W 9-2, L 4-3
4/25	Wayne State* (DH)	L 1-0, W 1-0 (10)
4/26	Hillsdale* (DH)	W 5-0, W 8-6
5/2	Mercyhurst☼	W 3-1
5/3	Saginaw Valley State☼	L 10-4
5/3	Gannon☼	W 3-1
5/3	Ashland☼	W 7-4
5/3	Wayne State☼	L 3-2
5/7	Saginaw Valley State☼	10:30 a.m.
5/15-19	at 27th Annual NCAA-II Championships♦	TBA

All starting times are Eastern and subject to change
 Home games in **bold** and played at the
 FSU Varsity Softball Field

NOTE – All dates are doubleheaders
 except tournaments

* – Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) game

☼ – Florida Rebel Tournament - Kissimmee, Fla.

☼ – GLIAC Championships - Midland, Mich.

☼ – NCAA-II Great Lakes Regional Tournament - Edwardsville, Ill.

♦ – Houston, Texas

– more –



FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

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2008 FINAL GLIAC STANDINGS



THROUGH GAMES OF MAY 4

TEAM	GLIAC		OVERALL	
	W-L	Pct.	W-L	Pct.
Wayne State #22	16-4	.800	33-16	.673
Ferris State	16-4	.800	30-16	.652
Saginaw Valley State	14-6	.700	34-15	.694
Ashland	13-7	.650	29-17	.630
Grand Valley State	12-8	.600	27-16	.628
Northwood	10-10	.500	23-26	.469
Mercyhurst	7-13	.350	25-30	.455
Gannon	7-13	.350	27-23	.540
Findlay	6-14	.300	11-30	.268
Hillsdale	6-14	.300	13-37	.260
Lake Superior State	3-17	.150	9-31	.225

☛ **On The National Scene** – The Bulldogs are ranked fifth nationally in doubles per game (1.9 avg.) thru games of April 27 while being listed 33rd in earned run average (1.95) and 45th in scoring (5.66). Individually, **Sarah Mueller** is 32nd in triples (0.13) and 58th in ERA (1.6).

Katie Kraai ranks 50th in doubles (0.34) while **Amanda Jager** is 64th in on-base pct. (.496) and 69th in doubles per game (0.33).

☛ **WHERE THEY PRESENTLY RANK AMONG FERRIS STATE'S CAREER LEADERS:**

PLACE	TOTAL	BATTING LEADERS		YEARS
		GAMES PLAYED		
8.	195	Katie Kraai	2005-	
BATTING AVERAGE (MIN. 200 AT BATS)				
5.	.330	Amanda Jager	2006-	
10T.	.312	Sarah Mueller	2006-	
18T.	.293	Krystle Bailey	2006-	
HITS				
9T.	165	Katie Kraai	2005-	
18T.	133	Sarah Mueller	2006-	
20.	129	Krystle Bailey	2006-	
RUNS BATTED IN				
5.	102	Katie Kraai	2005-	
14.	73	Sarah Mueller	2006-	
18T.	67	Amanda Jager	2006-	
18T.	67	Krystle Bailey	2006-	
DOUBLES				
1.	47	Katie Kraai	2005-	
7.	32	Sarah Mueller	2006-	
17.	25	Amanda Jager	2006-	
18T.	22	Krystle Bailey	2006-	
25T.	17	Amanda Harrington	2007-	
HOME RUNS				
3.	15	Amanda Jager	2006-	
6T.	11	Katie Kraai	2005-	
8T.	8	Sarah Mueller	2006-	
14T.	6	Krystle Bailey	2006-	
14T.	6	Amanda Harrington	2007-	
STOLEN BASES				
14.	22	Sarah Mueller	2006-	
PITCHING LEADERS				
COMPLETE GAMES				
6.	45	Sarah Mueller	2006-	
INNINGS PITCHED				
6.	388.0	Sarah Mueller	2006-	
14.	261.1	Holly Bruntjens	2007-	
WINS				
3T.	38	Sarah Mueller	2006-	
11.	26	Holly Bruntjens	2007-	
SHUTOUTS				
4.	13	Sarah Mueller	2006-	
7T.	8	Holly Bruntjens	2007-	
STRIKEOUTS				
6.	211	Sarah Mueller	2006-	
8T.	195	Holly Bruntjens	2007-	
APPEARANCES				
6.	67	Sarah Mueller	2006-	
14T.	48	Holly Bruntjens	2007-	

☛ **Jager Hitting Her Stride** – Amanda Jager has been a productive performer for the Bulldogs this spring by leading the team in batting average (.382), home runs (seven), RBIs (30), slugging percentage (.659), and on-base percentage (.503). She also has posted a team-best tying 47 base hits this campaign. Her .382 batting average (47-123) not only marks a career season high, but is 81 points higher than her previous season best of .301 (25-83) set as a freshman in the 2006 season.

☛ **The 40-Hits Club** – The Bulldogs currently have four players with at least 40-plus base hits this season in **Katie Kraai** (47), **Amanda Jager** (47), **Amanda Harrington** (45), and **Sarah Mueller** (45). The four have combined to produce 51.4% (184-358) of the team's hits output this spring.

☛ **30-Win Plateau** – For the second consecutive season and the eighth time in the program's history, Ferris State softball has reached the 30-win plateau in a single season. The Bulldogs compiled a 31-17 overall ledger a season ago. All but one (1995 – 30-17 overall) of the 30-victory or more campaigns has occurred under coach **Keri Becker**.

☛ **Digging The Long Ball** – Ferris State's 25 home runs this season currently represents the third-highest total in school history and the 2008 Bulldogs are eight away from tying the school record of 33 roundtrippers set by the 2007 squad. Ten different hitters have cleared the fence this spring with **Amanda Jager's** career season-best seven homers paving the way. Jager's seven home runs this season ties her with Emily McLean (2006) for sixth place on FSU's all-time charts and she's one shy of moving into a fifth-place tie with Jody Gifford (1997).

☛ **Record Holder** – **Katie Kraai**, the lone senior on this season's team, holds the distinction of being Ferris State's all-time leader in doubles with a 47-career total. The 2008 All-GLIAC Second-Team pick set the new standard with a two-base hit versus Wayne State (4/25) and was honored as the GLIAC's Player of the Week (4/28). Her 15 doubles in 46 outings this spring marks a personal career single-season high.

☛ **Moving Up The Chart** – **Sarah Mueller**, a two-time (2007-08) All-GLIAC First-Team honoree, has registered a squad-high and career season-best 14 wins (14-6) this season in 20 appearances. The 2007 *Daktronics* All-America Third-Team and Louisville Slugger/National Fastpitch Coaches Association (NFCA) All-Great Lakes Region Second-Team selection, is presently tied for eighth among Ferris' career single-season wins leaders with Nadine Crowl (1997), Brandy Coe (2000), and Holly Bruntjens (2007).

☛ **Dispelling The Sophomore "Jinx"** – **Amanda Harrington** is enjoying her most productive season at FSU this spring with career highs in batting average (.349), hits (45), doubles (12), and slugging percentage (.519). Her .349 average is second highest on the team and is 73 points higher than last season (.276).

☛ **Fast Start Is The Key** – Ferris State has generated 55.4% (139-251) of its run production this season in the first three innings, which a 42-14 advantage in the second frame.

☛ **Did You Know?** – FSU belted eight home runs in the 2007 NCAA Regionals and totaled 35 hits in 114 at bats (.307 batting average).

HEAD COACH KERI BECKER



The all-time winningest coach in Ferris State Softball program history, **Keri Becker** is presently midst her 11th season at FSU and was recently honored as the 2008 Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) Coach of the Year.

Entering the 2008 season, Becker ranked tied for 50th place among NCAA-II active coaches in winning percentage (.599).

Despite being unable to coach in the 2003 season due to a military commitment, Becker was voted the GLIAC's Coach of the Year after receiving the same honor in her first season (1997) at Ferris. She missed the entire 2003 campaign due to active United States Army duty in late February 2003 in support of Operation Enduring and Iraqi Freedom.

During her tenure at FSU, Becker has guided the Bulldogs to a GLIAC Championship title (2000), two GLIAC Co-Championships (2005 & 2008), two (2000 & 2005) GLIAC Tournament championships and a pair (1998-99) of NCAA-II Great Lakes Regional crowns. Ferris made consecutive appearances (1998-99) in the NCAA-II National Championship Tournament. She also directed the 1999 squad to a school single-season record 46 victories.

Under Becker, Ferris State has accumulated eight winning seasons while making five NCAA-II Great Lakes Regional Tourney appearances. The Bulldogs qualified for the 2007 regional tourney and prevailed in their opening two post-season contests en route to finishing the season with a 31-17 overall record.

A 1995 graduate of Saginaw Valley State, Becker enjoyed a stellar softball career at SVSU in which she earned all-conference first-team kudos four consecutive seasons and was a two-time academic all-league selection as a four-year starter. Prior to Ferris, she served two seasons (1995-96) as an assistant coach at SVSU.

BECKER YEAR-BY-YEAR

SEASON	GP	W	L	T	Pct.
1997	60	40	20	0	.667
1998	61	44	17	0	.721
1999	64	46	18	0	.719
2000	51	33	18	0	.647
2001	45	22	23	0	.489
2002	45	16	29	0	.356
2003	*Leave of absence due to military commitment				
2004	46	24	21	1	.533
2005	51	31	20	0	.608
2006	52	26	26	0	.500
2007	48	31	17	0	.646
2008	46	30	16	0	.652
TOTALS	569	343	225	1	.604

BECKER'S RECORD BREAKDOWN

YEAR	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY
1997	0-0	17-8	21-10	2-2
1998	1-1	10-5	23-7	10-4
1999	0-0	19-7	16-6	11-5
2000	0-0	15-8	14-10	4-0
2001	0-0	6-12	16-9	0-2
2002	0-0	6-10	7-17	3-2
2003	*Leave of absence due to military commitment			
2004	0-0	4-13-1	20-8	0-0
2005	0-0	7-7	19-11	5-2
2006	0-4	12-8	14-12	0-2
2007	0-0	14-9	16-4	3-4
2008	0-0	11-8	16-6	3-2
TOTALS	1-5	118-95-1	182-100	41-25

CAREER TOTAL – 343-225-1; HOME – 101-37-0; AWAY – 77-62-1; NEUTRAL – 165-126-0