



2008 WEEKLY MATCH NOTES

FERRIS STATE		WEEKLY RELEASE #1 - AUGUST 26, 2008	
		VOLLEYBALL	

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2008 Schedule

Record: 0-0 Home: 0-0 Road: 0-0 Neutral: 0-0
GLIAC: 0-0 Home: 0-0 Road: 0-0

DATE	DAY	OPPONENT	TIME
AUGUST			
28	Thu.	Aquinas	7 p.m.
29	Fri.	Indiana (Pa.)♦	2 p.m.
29	Fri.	Wheeling Jesuit (W.Va.)♦	5 p.m.
30	Sat.	Minnesota Duluth♦	12 p.m.
30	Sat.	Urbana (Ohio)♦	2:30 p.m.
SEPTEMBER			
5	Fri.	vs. Eckerd (Fla.)★	11 a.m.
5	Fri.	vs. Colorado State-Pueblo★	5 p.m.
6	Sat.	vs. Minnesota State★	11 a.m.
6	Sat.	at Tampa★	7 p.m.
12	Fri.	at Northwood*	7 p.m.
13	Sat.	at Wayne State*	4 p.m.
16	Tue.	at Grand Valley State*	7 p.m.
19	Fri.	Northern Michigan*	7 p.m.
20	Sat.	Michigan Tech*	4 p.m.
26	Fri.	at Lake Superior State*	7 p.m.
27	Sat.	at Saginaw Valley State*	5 p.m.
OCTOBER			
3	Fri.	Hillsdale*	7 p.m.
4	Sat.	Findlay*	4 p.m.
10	Fri.	at Ashland*	7 p.m.
11	Sat.	at Tiffin*	2 p.m.
17	Fri.	at Asics GLVC/GLIAC Crossover♦	TBA
18	Sat.	at Asics GLVC/GLIAC Crossover♦	TBA
24	Fri.	Grand Valley State*	7 p.m.
31	Fri.	Lake Superior State*	12 p.m.
NOVEMBER			
1	Sat.	Saginaw Valley State*	1 p.m.
7	Fri.	at Northern Michigan*	7 p.m.
8	Sat.	at Michigan Tech*	4 p.m.
12	Wed.	GLIAC Tournament Quarterfinals (Campus Site)	TBA
15	Sat.	GLIAC Tournament Semifinals (Campus Site)	TBA
16	Sun.	GLIAC Tournament Championship (Campus Site)	TBA
20-22	Thur.-Sat.	NCAA-II Great Lakes Regional (Campus Site)	TBA
DECEMBER			
4-6	Thu.-Sat.	28th Annual NCAA-II Elite Eight (Campus Site)	TBA

*Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) Match
Home matches in **bold** All times are Eastern
♦ – Ferris State Invitational (Big Rapids, Mich.)
★ – Tampa Labor Day Classic (Tampa, Fla.)
◆ – Asics GLVC/GLIAC Crossover (Indianapolis, Ind.)
Dates and times are all subject to change

TICKET INFORMATION: Tickets for all 2008 Ferris State home matches will be available at the door. For more information, please contact the FSU Athletics Ticket Office at (231) 591-2888.

THE 36TH SEASON: The 2008 campaign represents Ferris State's 36th season of women's volleyball. The Bulldogs own an all-time mark of 755-426 (.639) to date. Since the program's inception in 1972, the Bulldogs have won nine GLIAC titles, made 14 NCAA-II Tournament appearances and registered 28 winning seasons.

THE 2008 FSU ROSTER: Ferris State's 2008 active roster includes two seniors, four juniors, four sophomores and eight freshmen. Five of the 18 players are outside hitters, six are middle hitters, and seven others fill the squad's setter, defensive specialist and libero roles. All 18 student-athletes on the team hail from the state of Michigan.

NO PLACE LIKE HOME: The Bulldogs have posted a 36-1 cumulative record in non-conference home outings during head coach **Tia Brandel-Wilhelm's** tenure. Overall, Ferris is 117-28 (.807) in home matches under Brandel-Wilhelm.



FERRIS STATE VOLLEYBALL

THIS WEEK IN BULLDOG VOLLEYBALL:

Thursday, Aug. 28 * 7 p.m. (EDT)
Aquinas at Ferris State
Ewigleben Sports Arena * Big Rapids, Mich.

Friday, Aug. 29 * 2 p.m. (EDT)
Ferris State Invitational – Indiana (Pa.) at Ferris State
Ewigleben Sports Arena * Big Rapids, Mich.

Friday, Aug. 29 * 5 p.m. (EDT)
Ferris State Invitational – Wheeling Jesuit (W.Va.) at Ferris State
Ewigleben Sports Arena * Big Rapids, Mich.

Saturday, Aug. 30 * 12 p.m. (EDT)
Ferris State Invitational – Minnesota Duluth at Ferris State
Ewigleben Sports Arena * Big Rapids, Mich.

Saturday, Aug. 30 * 2:30 p.m. (EDT)
Ferris State Invitational – Urbana (Ohio) at Ferris State
Ewigleben Sports Arena * Big Rapids, Mich.

FSU VOLLEYBALL AT A GLANCE: The Ferris State University women's volleyball will open the 2008 season and its 36th year of intercollegiate competition this Thursday (Aug. 28) versus Aquinas in a non-league match. The Bulldogs then host the eight-team Ferris State Invitational this week-end (Aug. 29-30) on three courts at the Ewigleben Sports Arena and Jim Wink Arena on the FSU campus in Big Rapids, Mich. Ferris State will go up against Indiana (Pa.), Wheeling Jesuit (W.Va.), nationally-ranked Minnesota Duluth, and Urbana (Ohio).

LAST SEASON: Ferris State concluded the 2007 season at 20-10 overall with a third-place 12-6 mark in the GLIAC's North Division. The Bulldogs, which produced the program's 10th consecutive winning campaign in 2007, made its 10th straight conference tourney appearance a year ago.

2008 GLIAC PRESEASON POLL: Ferris State has been chosen to finish in a tie for third place in the 2008 GLIAC Volleyball Coaches Preseason North Division Poll as released by the league office. The Bulldogs totaled 16 points in the balloting, which was conducted by the conference's head coaches. A season ago, the Bulldogs racked up a third-place 24 points after posting 26 points good for third place in the 2006 league poll. Ferris State was tabbed fourth in the 2005 poll with 26 points. Defending NCAA Division II National Champion Grand Valley State was voted as the favorite to repeat as the North Division regular-season champions for the fourth consecutive year as the Lakers recorded 24 points along with four of the six first-place votes. Northern Michigan received the other two first-place votes while totaling 18 points.

2008 BULLDOG CAPTAINS: A pair of seniors – setter-outside hitter **Candice Marut (Pinconning)** and setter-outside hitter **Andrea Rich (New Baltimore/Anchor Bay)** will serve as the captains for the 2008 season.

GREAT STRETCH: Ferris has won 20 or more matches nine times under 13th-year head coach **Tia Brandel-Wilhelm**. The Bulldogs are 220-95 (.698) over the past 10 years and have reached the NCAA Division II Great Lakes Regional Tournament five times in that span. FSU has advanced to the GLIAC Tournament 10 consecutive years to date.

"BACK TO SCHOOL" NIGHT: The Ferris State Athletics Department will hold its fourth annual "Back To School" night in conjunction with this Thursday's (Aug. 28) 2008 season-opening match versus Aquinas. Fans attending the match can earn free admission by providing a new school supply, which will then be distributed by the department for use in local elementary classrooms. Items should be in new package condition and can include such materials as crayons, construction paper, markers, glue, notebooks, and pencils. In support of the "Back To School" supplies drive, the FSU Copy Center is donating two boxes of copy paper to be donated to a local school in need.



FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

210 Sports Drive, SPC 002, Big Rapids, MI 49307-2741



MORE BULLDOG BITES

2007 FERRIS STATE INVITATIONAL RECAP: Ferris State posted a 4-0 tourney record as the Bulldogs notched victories over Alaska Anchorage (3-0), West Virginia State (3-0), Glenville State, W.Va. (3-0), and the Colorado School of Mines (3-0). Candice Marut and Lindsay Tye were named to the 12-member 2007 Ferris State Invitational All-Tournament Team.

FERRIS STATE INVITE HISTORY: The Bulldogs have experienced recent success in the Ferris State Invitational. From 1998-2001, the Bulldogs opened each of their four campaigns with a 4-0 record after winning consecutive matches in the home event. FSU went 3-1 in the 2006 FSU Invite as the Bulldogs suffered a 3-2 tourney-opening loss to California, Pa. (8/25) before posting a pair of 3-0 decisions over Lees-McRae, N.C. (8/25) and West Virginia State (8/26). FSU wrapped up the tournament with a 3-1 victory against Augustana, S.D. (8/26). The Bulldogs compiled a 4-0 invite mark in each of the previous two years (2004 and 2005).

THE STARTING POINT: The 2008 campaign represents the fourth straight season in which the Bulldogs will open a season at home. Prior to the 2004 campaign, FSU had not played its season opener at home since 2001. The Bulldogs, who have won their first four matches eight of the last 10 years to date, posted their best start in school history (10-0) in 2000. Ferris State is 29-6 (.829) all-time in season-opening encounters, including an 11-1 mark under head coach Tia Brandel-Wilhelm. FSU is 11-0 (home), 6-2 (road) and 12-4 (neutral) all-time in its first match of the season. The Bulldogs have won 16 of their 18 season openers to date, which included a 3-0 non-conference home decision over Alaska Anchorage last season (8/24) in Big Rapids.

TOUGH AT HOME: The Bulldogs have compiled a 264-68 (.795) record to date in 27 seasons of competition at the Ewigleben Sports Arena since moving from the Health and Physical Education (HPE) Building in 1981. Ferris, which as enjoyed six undefeated home seasons in the facility, registered a 12-2 home ledger in 2007. Overall, Ferris is 117-28 (.807) in home matches under head coach Tia Brandel-Wilhelm.

WHAT RETURNS FOR 2008: Below is a look at the 2007 statistical totals of the returnees and what percentage of the team totals they accounted for:

Table with 4 columns: Category, 2007 Total, 2008 Returning, % Returning. Rows include Kills, Aces, Digs, and Blocks.

A LOOK AT THIS WEEK'S OPPONENTS

AQUINAS: Ferris State has 4-3 all-time lead over the Saints, which includes a 2-1 home mark. The Bulldogs posted a 3-1 triumph in 1998 (9/11) at the Grand Valley State Invitational in Allendale, Mich., which represents the most recent matchup between the two teams. The Saints, under second-year head coach David Rawles, finished 5-29 overall and 0-14 in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference (WHAC) last season. AC opened its 2008 season Tuesday (Aug. 26) at Rochester (Mich.) College. Tia Brandel-Wilhelm vs. AC - 1-0

INDIANA (PA.): First-ever meeting between the two teams. The Crimson Hawks were 16-22 overall and 1-9 in the Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference (PSAC) in 2007 under head coach Zach Shaver, who starts his third year at IUP in 2008. Tia Brandel-Wilhelm vs. IUP - 0-0

WHEELING JESUIT: Ferris maintains a 4-2 lead in the all-time series and is 2-0 at home against the Cardinals. FSU prevailed in the last meeting (9/2/05) with a 3-0 win at Amerihost-Grand Valley State Fall Classic in Allendale, Mich. WJU was 26-11 overall and 15-0 in the West Virginia Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (WVIAC) a season ago. Christy Benner is in her sixth season as the Cardinals' head coach. Tia Brandel-Wilhelm vs. WJU - 4-2

MINNESOTA DULUTH: Ferris holds a 7-5 lead in the all-time series despite suffering a 3-0 loss to UMD last season (9/7) at the Minnesota Duluth Classic in Duluth, Minn. The Bulldogs, who compiled a 29-2 overall record and a 12-0 mark in the North Central Conference (NCC) last season, are presently ranked eighth nationally in the 2008 CBS College Sports/American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) Division II Preseason Coaches Poll. Tia Brandel-Wilhelm vs. UMD - 0-2

URBANA (OHIO): First meeting between the two teams. The Blue Knights compiled a 17-17 overall mark with a 5-8 league ledger in the 2007 campaign. Wendy Cromer begins her first year at UU this season as the program enters NCAA Division II status. Tia Brandel-Wilhelm vs. UU - 0-0

2008 FERRIS STATE VOLLEYBALL ROSTER

Roster table with columns: No., Name, Pos., Yr., Ht., Exp., Hometown/High School (College). Lists 20 players including Katie Edwards, Amanda Kettlewell, Candice Marut, Dana Ruttie, Arielle Goodson, Leslie Swanson, Anne Sutton, Ashley Huntey, Sarah Lark, Samantha Fordyce, Lisa Tobiczkyk, Whitney Rupp, Danielle Hamilton, Mallory Kopa, Aly Brecht, Andrea Rich, Karen Thompson, and Kristy Gilchrist.

Head Coach: Tia Brandel-Wilhelm, 13th Year (Alma, 1990) Assistant Coach: Theresa Beeckman, 4th Year
Volunteer Assistant Coaches: Dale Wilhelm, 5th Year * - Letters earned C - Captain

2008 SEASON TRENDS

Table with 2 columns: SITUATION and FSU RECORD. Lists various match and game scenarios with corresponding records, such as Three-game match (0-0), Opponent has more blocks (0-0), and Attendance over 200 (0-0).

FERRIS STATE'S DOUBLE-DOUBLE LEADERS



HEAD COACH TIA BRANDEL-WILHELM

Tia Brandel-Wilhelm and the Ferris State University women's volleyball program are deeply intertwined as the Bulldog head coach embarks on her 13th year at FSU for the 2008 season.

Since becoming the program's fifth head coach in June 1996, Brandel-Wilhelm has resurrected the program by guiding the Bulldogs to five NCAA Division II National Tournament appearances, which includes four of the last six years.



Success and Brandel-Wilhelm have become synonymous as Ferris State recorded the program's 10th consecutive winning campaign in 2007 as Bulldogs attained double-digits in victories for the 27th straight year with a 20-10 overall record.

In 2004, Ferris State claimed its ninth Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) Championship after winning the league's annual postseason tournament for the first-time ever.

FSU also reached the NCAA-II Great Lakes Regional Tournament under Brandel-Wilhelm in 2002. During the 1999 campaign (11/5), Brandel-Wilhelm registered her 200th career coaching victory in the Bulldogs' 3-1 home league win over Grand Valley State.

In the last eight seasons, Brandel-Wilhelm has coached Ferris State to an impressive 199-86 overall record (.698). She was voted as the GLIAC's Coach-of-the-Year for the second time in 2002 by her coaching peers after leading Ferris to a second-place finish in the league's North Division.

Brandel-Wilhelm's resume demonstrates a penchant for winning. Prior to joining FSU, she served as head coach for three seasons (1993-95) at West Virginia Wesleyan College in Buckhannon, W. Va. Under Brandel-Wilhelm's tutelage, the Bobcats racked up a 118-20 overall record, captured three West Virginia Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (WVIAC) and regional titles, made two NAIA national tournament appearances, and placed fifth at the 1995 NCAA Division II Championships.

Brandel-Wilhelm left WVWC with an active streak of 80 conference victories. In 1993, she was selected WVIAC and NAIA Mid-South Region Coach-of-the-Year after guiding her team to an impressive 40-11 overall mark in her initial campaign.

She earned a master's in business administration from WVWC after receiving her undergraduate degree in business administration and psychology from Alma (Mich.) College in 1990. Brandel-Wilhelm, who competed in both volleyball and track at Alma, was an all-conference first-team scholar athlete. While attending Alma, she coached volleyball for two years at Alma (Mich.) High School.

A native of Whitehall, Mich., Brandel-Wilhelm presently serves as Ferris State's senior women's administrator and is accredited as a level II coach by the United States Volleyball Association. She also serves as the advisor for Ferris State's Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC). Brandel-Wilhelm, who is a member of the American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA), also holds positions on the NCAA National Volleyball and AVCA Division II Volleyball Coaches Committees.

Brandel-Wilhelm is married to Dale Wilhelm and resides in Big Rapids along with her daughter, Ivie, and stepson, Allen. The newest addition to the family is a son, Isaac, who was born on July 16, 2007.

Brandel-Wilhelm Year-By-Year

Table with columns: YEAR, SCHOOL, MATCHES, OVERALL (WON, LOST, PCT.), CONFERENCE (WON, LOST, PCT.), GLIAC FINISH. Rows include years 1993-2008 and CAREER/FSU TOTALS.

2008 GLIAC STANDINGS

Table showing 2008 GLIAC Standings for North and South Divisions. Columns include School, Conference (W, L, Pct.), and Overall (W, L, Pct.).

FERRIS STATE INVITATIONAL SCHEDULE

Friday, Aug. 29

Court 1 - Ewingleben Sports Arena

- 11 a.m. Saginaw Valley State vs. Indiana (Pa.)
2 p.m. Indiana (Pa.) at Ferris State
5 p.m. Wheeling Jesuit at Ferris State

Court 2 - Jim Wink Arena

- 11 a.m. Mercyhurst vs. Urbana (Ohio)
2 p.m. Hillsdale vs. Mercyhurst
5 p.m. Urbana (Ohio) vs. Saginaw Valley State

Court 3 - Jim Wink Arena

- 2 p.m. Minnesota Duluth vs. Wheeling Jesuit (W.Va.)
5 p.m. Minnesota Duluth vs. Hillsdale

Saturday, Aug. 30

Court 1 - Ewingleben Sports Arena

- 9:30 a.m. Mercyhurst vs. Minnesota Duluth
12 p.m. Minnesota Duluth at Ferris State
2:30 p.m. Urbana (Ohio) at Ferris State

Court 2 - Jim Wink Arena

- 9:30 a.m. Indiana (Pa.) vs. Wheeling Jesuit (W.Va.)
12:30 p.m. Indiana (Pa.) vs. Hillsdale
3 p.m. Wheeling Jesuit (W.Va.) vs. Saginaw Valley State

Court 3 - Jim Wink Arena

- 9:30 a.m. Urbana (Ohio) vs. Hillsdale
12:30 p.m. Saginaw Valley State vs. Mercyhurst

ON THE INTERNET: Ferris State University Athletics' official web site can be found at www.ferris.edu/sports. The site features information on all of FSU's varsity athletics programs including rosters, statistics, yearbooks and more.

LIVE STATS: "Live Stats" of all 2008 Ferris home matches will be provided in progress via the internet. Visit www.ferris.edu/sports and click on the "Live Stats" icon to access the CSTV GameTracker "Live Stats" feature.

ALL-CONFERENCE RETURNEES: The Bulldogs return a pair of All-GLIAC performers from a season ago in middle hitter Kristy Gilchrist (Macomb/Anchor Bay) and Andrea Rich. Gilchrist received all-conference second-team accolades in 2007 while Rich garnered honorable mention all-league kudos.

HELPING HANDS: Candice Marut and Andrea Rich enter their senior years in 2008 ranking among the Bulldogs' all-time leaders in assists. Marut is presently listed eighth on the charts with 1,702 career assists while Rich is 11th with a 1,387 career assists total.

PRODUCTIVE SEASON: Junior outside hitter Katie Edwards (Cedar Springs) turned in a solid 2007 season with career single-season bests in kills (279), service aces (six), digs (67), and total blocks (30). Her blocks total marked the team's sixth highest output a season ago.