BAY CITY, Mich. -- Defending league champion Grand Valley State University was picked to win the 2008 Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) football title by the head football coaches of the league in preseason balloting.

The league's 12 head coaches participated in the balloting, but were not allowed to vote for their team. The first-place team on each ballot received 11 points, while second received 10 points, etc.

The Lakers outdistanced Ashland University by 16 points in the voting (121-105) and garnered 11 first-place votes. Ashland posted a second-place league finish in 2007 and received the lone remaining first-place nod.

The poll was released in conjunction with the league’s football media day luncheon held at Zehnder’s Restaurant in Frankenmuth, Michigan.

Saginaw Valley State University placed third in the balloting with 83 points. Northwood University (78 points) finished just five points behind the Cardinals in the poll to place fourth. Hillsdale College and Michigan Technological University each tallied 73 points and finished in a tie for fifth place.

Ferris State University narrowly edged out the University of Indianapolis for seventh place. The Bulldogs recorded just two more points (66-64) than the Greyhounds in the balloting.

Wayne State University outdistanced Northern Michigan University by 8 points (48-40) to finish ninth in the poll. The University of Findlay edged out Tiffin University for 11th place by just five points (25-16) to round out the poll.

The 2007 season saw two GLIAC teams earn berths in the NCAA Division II playoffs. Both Grand Valley State and Ashland extended their play into the postseason. The Eagles had their season ended with an opening round loss to Central Washington (40-24). The Lakers were defeated in the Division II semifinals by Northwest Missouri State University (34-16), making it only the second time in the last seven years they did not participate in the Division II championship game.

For more information about GLIAC football please check the GLIAC football web page at: www.gliac.org/.
### 2008 GLIAC Football Composite Schedule

#### Thursday, August 28
- Indianapolis at Kentucky Wesleyan *8 pm*

#### Saturday, August 30
- Findlay at Urbana (Ohio) *Noon*
- Mercyhurst (Pa.) at Wayne State *12:30 pm*
- Winona State (Minn.) at Michigan Tech *1 pm*
- Bloomsburg (Pa.) at Ashland *1 pm*
- St. Joseph’s (Ind.) at Hillsdale *2:30 pm*
- Ferris State at Tiffin *2:30 pm*

#### September 6, 2008
- Wayne State at Saginaw Valley State* *Noon*
- Tiffin at Findlay* *Noon*
- Hillsdale at Michigan Tech* *1 pm*
- Ferris State at Ashland* *1 pm*
- Northwood at Northern Michigan* *4 pm*
- Indianapolis at Grand Valley State* *7 pm*

#### September 13, 2008
- Grand Valley State at Saginaw Valley State* *Noon*
- Indianapolis at Wayne State* *Noon*
- Ashland at Michigan Tech* *1 pm*
- Northern Michigan at Tiffin* *1:30 pm*
- Northwood at Hillsdale* *2:30 pm*
- Findlay at Ferris State* *7 pm*

#### September 18, 2008
- Michigan Tech at Northern Michigan* *8 pm*

#### September 20, 2008
- Saginaw Valley State at Northwood* *Noon*
- Tiffin at Ashland* *1 pm*
- Wayne State at Findlay* *4 pm*
- Hillsdale at Indianapolis* *6 pm*
- Ferris State at Grand Valley State* *7 pm*

#### September 27, 2008
- Findlay at Northwood* *Noon*
- Tiffin at Wayne State* *Noon*
- Indianapolis at Saginaw Valley State* *Noon*
- Northern Michigan at Ferris State* *2 pm*
- Ashland at Hillsdale* *2:30 pm*
- Michigan Tech at Grand Valley State* *7 pm*

#### October 4, 2008
- Wayne State at Ashland* *1 pm*
- Ferris State at Michigan Tech* *1 pm*
- Grand Valley State at Tiffin* *1:30 pm*
- Findlay at Hillsdale* *2:30 pm*
- Saginaw Valley State at Northern Michigan* *4 pm*
- Northwood at Indianapolis* *6 pm*

#### October 11, 2008
- Ashland at Northwood* *Noon*
- Tiffin at Saginaw Valley State* *Noon*
- Northern Michigan at Wayne State* *Noon*
- Michigan Tech at Findlay* *Noon*
- Ferris State at Indianapolis* *6 pm*
- Hillsdale at Grand Valley State* *7 pm*

#### October 18, 2008
- Grand Valley State at Findlay* *Noon*
- Indianapolis at Michigan Tech* *1 pm*
- Saginaw Valley State at Ashland* *1 pm*
- Northwood at Tiffin* *1:30 pm*
- Wayne State at Ferris State* *2 pm*
- Northern Michigan at Hillsdale* *2:30 pm*

#### October 25, 2008
- Hillsdale at Wayne State* *Noon*
- Northwood at Ferris State* *Noon*
- Michigan Tech at Saginaw Valley State* *Noon*
- Findlay at Northern Michigan* *1 pm*
- Indianapolis at Tiffin* *1:30 pm*
- Ashland at Grand Valley State* *7 pm*

#### November 1, 2008
- Wayne State at Northwood* *Noon*
- Saginaw Valley State at Findlay* *Noon*
- Tiffin at Michigan Tech* *1 pm*
- Grand Valley State at Northern Michigan* *1 pm*
- Ferris State at Hillsdale* *2:30 pm*
- Ashland at Indianapolis* *6 pm*

#### November 8, 2008
- Saginaw Valley State at Ferris State* *Noon*
- Grand Valley State at Wayne State* *Noon*
- Michigan Tech at Northwood* *Noon*
- Findlay at Ashland* *1 pm*
- Hillsdale at Tiffin* *1 pm*
- Northern Michigan at Indianapolis* *2:30 pm*

#### November 15, 2008
- Division II First Round Playoffs, Campus Sites TBA

#### November 22, 2008
- Division II Second Round Playoffs, Campus Sites TBA

#### November 29, 2008
- Division II Quarterfinals, Campus Sites TBA

#### December 6-7, 2008
- Division II Semifinals, Campus Sites TBA

#### December 13, 2008
- Division II Finals
  - Braly Municipal Stadium, Florence, Ala. TBA

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* - GLIAC Game

Game Times are subject to change.

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