

Football News Release



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S-10

FERRIS STATE AT HILLSDALE
OCTOBER 29, 2001

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GAME FACTS

FERRIS STATE BULLDOGS
(5-4; 5-3 GLIAC)

AT

HILLSDALE CHARGERS
(3-6; 3-5 GLIAC)

KICKOFF: 2:30 p.m. (EST)

STADIUM/SURFACE: Frank "Muddy" Waters Stadium (8,500)/Prescription Athletic Turf

RADIO COVERAGE: WBRN-AM (1460) – Jason Edwards (play-by-play), John Smith (color commentary).

THE RECORDS: Ferris State improved to 5-4 overall and 5-3 in the GLIAC with a 7-6 conference road triumph over Northern Michigan last Saturday (Oct. 27) evening at NMU's Superior Dome in Marquette, Mich. The Bulldogs were 5-6 overall a season ago, which included a 5-5 GLIAC mark (5th-place tie). Ferris was 2-3 at home and 3-3 on the road last season. In 1999, FSU was 7-3 overall and conference co-champions (7-2 GLIAC). The Bulldogs have won or shared the conference championship six of the last nine years, including five straight (1992-96).

Hillsdale, which is midst a current four-game losing skid, is 3-6 overall and 3-5 in the GLIAC to date. The Chargers dropped a 44-31 conference decision to Mercyhurst last Saturday (Oct. 27) at MC's Louis J. Tullio Field in Erie, Pa. The Chargers are 3-1 at home and 0-5 on the road this fall. HC finished the 2000 campaign at 3-8 overall and 2-8 in the GLIAC (10th-place tie). The Chargers were 1-5 at home and 2-3 in away outings a season ago.

THE COACHES: FERRIS STATE – Jeff Pierce (Ferris State, 1979), 7th season, 47-29-0 (.618) – (4-2-0 vs. Hillsdale).

HILLSDALE – Dave Dye (Baldwin-Wallace, 1967), 5th season, 21-32-0 (.396) – (2-2-0 vs. Ferris State).

2001 FERRIS STATE SCHEDULE & RESULTS (5-4, 5-3 GLIAC)

| | | |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|------------------|
| Sept. 1 | at South Dakota State | L 24-34 |
| Sept. 8 | Findlay* | W 33-10 |
| Sept. 15 | at Saginaw Valley State* | L 20-33 |
| Sept. 22 | at Wayne State* | W 38-14 |
| Sept. 29 | Northwood* | W 32-29 |
| Oct. 6 | Grand Valley State* (HF) | L 17-63 |
| Oct. 13 | at Mercyhurst* | L 14-25 |
| Oct. 20 | Michigan Tech* (HC) | W 35-0 |
| Oct. 27 | at Northern Michigan* | W 7-6 |
| Nov. 3 | at Hillsdale* | 2:30 p.m. |
| Nov. 10 | Indianapolis* | 1:30 p.m. |

All times are Eastern
Home games in **Bold** *GLIAC Game
(HF) – Hall of Fame (HC) – Homecoming

THE GAME: The Ferris State University football team, which has a current two-game winning streak, will close out the road portion of its 2001 season schedule this Saturday (Nov. 3) as the Bulldogs battle the Hillsdale College Chargers in Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) play at Hillsdale, Mich.

HEAD COACH JEFF PIERCE: Jeff Pierce is presently in his seventh year at Ferris State and has registered a career 47-29-0 coaching record to date. Pierce has already made a mark among the school's all-time coaches by posting the second-best winning percentage (.618) in the program's history. The 1995 GLIAC Coach-of-the-Year is presently tied with Sam Ketchman (1953-66) for second place in all-time victories and is 14 wins away from becoming the winningest FSU coach and would surpass Keith Otterbein (60-39-0, 1986-94). Under Pierce's tutelage, the Bulldogs have won or shared three GLIAC titles while earning back-to-back (1995-96) berths in the NCAA Division II National Championship Playoffs, including a semifinal-round appearance in '95.

ALL-TIME SERIES: Ferris State trails Hillsdale 19-12-1 in their all-time series and both teams will square off for the 33rd time this Saturday. FSU has won eight of the last 12 contests, including five of the last seven despite having a current two-game series losing string. The Chargers are 1-4-1 in their last six home meetings versus the Bulldogs.

| | |
|--|---------------------------|
| Hillsdale leads 19-12-1 (FSU 9/24/94 – 10/31/98) | 1978 FSU 14-3 H |
| FSU Scoring Avg.: 14.2 (454 pts.) | 1979 FSU 19-0 H |
| HC Scoring Avg.: 20.5 (656 pts.) | 1980 HC 7-0 A |
| Differential: +6.3 (Hillsdale) | 1981 HC 20-17 H |
| At Big Rapids: HC leads 10-7-0 | 1982 HC 52-0 A |
| At Hillsdale: HC leads 9-5-1 | 1983 HC 27-14 H |
| First Game: HC 44, FSU 0 | 1984 HC 20-8 A |
| (9/27/46) | 1985 HC 24-15 A |
| Last FSU Win: 24-21* (10/31/98) | 1986 HC 23-20 H |
| Last HC Win: 23-14* (11/4/00) | 1987 HC 34-15 A |
| Last Meeting in Big Rapids: | 1988 HC 37-10 H |
| FSU 24, HC 21* (10/31/98) | * – Denotes FSU home game |
| Current Series Win Streak: 2 | 1989 FSU 24-22 A |
| (HC 10/30/99 – 11/4/00) | 1990 FSU 14-10 H |
| Longest Series Win Streak: 5 | 1991 FSU 23-16 A |
| 1946 HC 44-0 A | 1992 HC 36-14 H |
| 1947 HC 26-0 H | 1993 Tie 13-13 A |
| 1961 HC 13-0 H | 1994 FSU 14-10 H |
| 1972 HC 20-17 H | 1995 FSU 17-10 A |
| 1973 HC 13-7 A | 1996 FSU 20-7 H |
| 1974 FSU 27-17 H | 1997 FSU 35-21 A |
| 1975 HC 11-2 A | 1998 FSU 24-21 H |
| 1976 HC 36-14 H | 1999 HC 40-37 A |
| 1977 FSU 6-3 A | 2000 HC 23-14 H |

LAST MEETING – 2000: Hillsdale snapped its five-game losing streak due in part to a 17-point second-quarter outburst as the Chargers went on to register a 23-14 victory over Ferris State at Top Taggart Field in the Bulldogs' home finale. Hillsdale led 17-14 with 5:55 remaining in the contest after Ferris State scored its only points of the second half on a 62-yard TD pass from quarterback Kyle Park to split end Clarence Coleman. But, the Bulldogs won't get no closer as Hillsdale cornerback Tim Mustapha intercepted a Park aerial and returned the pigskin 39 yards for the TD with 1:19 left in the game to seal the win. Mustapha, who had two interceptions for 39 yards in the contest, set a school single-season and GLIAC record with his 11th interception of the season. FSU led 7-0 after the opening 15 minutes of the game when free safety Alvin Grier returned a HC fumble 62 yards for the score. However, the lead was short-lived as Hillsdale dominated the second quarter by reeling off 17 consecutive points to claim a 17-7 halftime advantage. Running back Shawn Kersjes tied things up for the Chargers with a two-yard run with just over 12 minutes to go in the second quarter and then fullback Brian Gephart bulldozed into the end zone from a yard out at the 6:59 mark to give the visitors a never they would never relinquish. HC kicker Blake Barisich accounted for the Chargers' final points on the quarter on a 23-yard field goal with 1:28 remaining before halftime. Hillsdale chalked up 309 yards of total offense, including 206 on the ground, while the Charger defense allowed just 10 yards rushing. Coleman led Ferris State, which totaled 239 total offensive yards, with a game-high nine receptions for 105 yards. Park was 11-of-20 passing for 137 yards, but threw two interceptions while his backup freshman Dan Richard passed for 92 yards along with an interception. Outside linebacker Rob Ridling led the Bulldog defense with 17 tackles (13 solos) while middle linebacker Rudy Lopez had 15 stops. Grier and outside linebacker Charlie Pierson notched 11 tackles apiece to support the effort.

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FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

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INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS

2001 GLIAC STANDINGS

| | GLIAC | | | OVERALL | | |
|----------------------|----------|----------|-------------|----------|----------|-------------|
| | W | L | Pct. | W | L | Pct. |
| Grand Valley State | 7 | 0 | 1.000 | 8 | 0 | 1.000 |
| Saginaw Valley State | 7 | 1 | .875 | 8 | 1 | .889 |
| Indianapolis | 6 | 2 | .750 | 7 | 2 | .778 |
| Ferris State | 5 | 3 | .625 | 5 | 4 | .556 |
| Michigan Tech | 4 | 4 | .500 | 4 | 4 | .500 |
| Wayne State | 3 | 4 | .429 | 3 | 5 | .375 |
| Ashland | 3 | 5 | .375 | 4 | 5 | .444 |
| Hillsdale | 3 | 5 | .375 | 3 | 6 | .333 |
| Mercyhurst | 2 | 5 | .286 | 2 | 5 | .286 |
| Northwood | 2 | 5 | .286 | 2 | 5 | .286 |
| Northern Michigan | 2 | 6 | .250 | 3 | 6 | .333 |
| Findlay | 2 | 6 | .250 | 2 | 7 | .222 |

LAST WEEK'S RESULTS

at Northwood 35, Ashland 31*
 Grand Valley State 44, at Michigan Tech 34*
 Indianapolis 38, at Wayne State 14*
 at Mercyhurst 44, Hillsdale 31*
 Saginaw Valley State 49, at Findlay 21*
Ferris State 7, at Northern Michigan 6*

SATURDAY, NOV. 3

Saginaw Valley State at Michigan Tech*, 11:30 a.m.
 Northwood at Northern Michigan*, 1 p.m.
 Ashland at Indianapolis*, 1 p.m.
 Findlay at Mercyhurst*, 1:30 p.m.
Ferris State at Hillsdale*, 2:30 p.m.
 Wayne State at Grand Valley State*, 7 p.m.



www.gliac.org

*GLIAC Game
 All Times are Eastern



LAST WEEK: Ferris State edged out a 7-6 conference victory over Northern Michigan last Saturday evening in front of 4,423 fans at NMU's Superior Dome as the Bulldogs overcame a 6-0 first-half deficit to record their second consecutive win. The contest also marked the first time in 21 games that NMU failed to score a TD. Junior cornerback **DeRen Ellis (Detroit/Harper Woods Notre Dame)** tied the contest with 7:51 remaining in the second quarter on a 55-yard TD interception return after picking off NMU quarterback Bryan White's pass. Sophomore placekicker **Tom Perez (Lewiston/Johannesburg-Lewiston)** then kicked the extra-point for what turned out to be the winning point as each team was held scoreless in the second half. The Wildcats struck first with 12:20 to play in the first quarter on a 24-yard field goal by Andrew Coster. Leading 3-0 after the first 15 minutes of play, NMU went up 6-0 at the second quarter's 14:09 mark when Coster booted a 42-yard field goal. However on the Wildcats' next possession, **Ellis** picked off White's pass on a fourth-and-12-yard situation at the NMU 34-yard line and returned the ball to the end zone. The Bulldogs posted 337 yards in total offense while the Wildcats' managed 207 yards. The FSU defense, which limited the hosts to 24 yards rushing, was paced by sophomore middle linebacker **Luke Piepkow's (Clark Lake/Jackson Lumen Christi)** game-high 15 tackles. Senior defensive tackle **William Foster (St. Ignace/LaSalle)** totaled 12 stops while senior free safety **Alvin Grier (Benton Harbor)** and senior outside linebacker **Charlie Pierson (St. Ignace/LaSalle)** garnered 10 and nine tackles, respectively. Offensively, senior flanker **Clarence Coleman (Miami, Fla./Miramar)** had a game-best eight catches for 130 yards and senior split end **Lamar Patterson (Milan)** caught four passes for 52 yards. Senior tailback **Matt Otero (Independence, Ohio)** rushed for 100 yards on 12 attempts while redshirt freshman quarterback **Tom Marsan (Evergreen Park, Ill.)** was 18-of-30 in passing for 247 yards. Sophomore punter **Tim Gill (Mt. Clemens/Lutheran North)** recorded a 37.2 yards per attempt average with eight punts for 298 yards.

BULLDOG BITES: **Clarence Coleman**, who presently has 37 career receiving TD's in conference games only, remains one shy of tying the GLIAC record for most receiving TD's in a career held by Saginaw Valley State's Brian Dolph (38 TD's; 1997-2000). In conference scoring, the FSU wide out has presently amassed a sixth-place 256 career points in 37 conference outings and is now within eight points of tying Saginaw Valley State's Brian Dolph (264 pts.; 1997-00) for third place. **Coleman**, who has 280 career points, presently ranks third among FSU's all-time scoring leaders and needs 20 points to move into a second-place tie with Jason Lipke (300 pts., 1992-95).

DeRen Ellis' pass interception at Northern Michigan marked his first of this season and the ninth of his career. The pass theft moved him into a four-way tie for sixth place among the school's all-time interception

leaders. **Ellis**, who has totaled 126 yards on nine interceptions in 26 career outings, is presently tied with Gary Warner (1966-69), Willie Bouyer (1969-72) and Bob Alger (1976-78/80).

Ferris State's defense has allowed 3.0 points (six total) in its last two games after giving up an average of 29.7 points (208 total) in its first seven contests this season. The Bulldogs haven't allowed a TD in those two games. The last time FSU didn't give up a TD in a game was in 1996 (8/29) with a season-opening 26-0 victory at Ashland.

Tom Marsan is averaging 256.3 passing yards (769 total) per game in his last three outings to date. In his previous three appearances, he averaged 200.7 passing yards (602 total) a contest.

HARLON HILL TROPHY CANDIDATE: Senior flanker **Clarence Coleman** is among several NCAA-II standouts vying for the 2001 Harlon Hill Trophy as the nation's top Division II player. The All-America receiver has currently amassed 4,759 career receiving yards on a NCAA-II record 305 catches in 40 games at FSU while compiling 273 career receptions for 4,470 yards in conference games only. Coleman established school single-season marks for receptions (97), receiving yards (1,519) and TD's (15) in 2000. His 89 catches for 1,441 yards in GLIAC games last fall were both conference records. Coleman, who's the GLIAC and FSU's all-time leader in receptions, receiving yards and all-purpose yards, has presently recorded 10 double-figure reception games in his career while registering 26 career 100-yard plus receiving single-game performances.

COLEMAN AMONG NCAA ALL-TIME LEADERS: **Clarence Coleman**, the NCAA Division II's all-time leader in pass receptions with 305 career catches to date, became the NCAA-II's career leader in receiving yards with his 44-yard TD reception at Mercyhurst (Oct. 13). Coleman has registered a current 4,759-career yard total and surpassed the national mark held by James Roe of Norfolk State (4,468 yds. on 239 receptions, 1992-95). Coleman is averaging 15.6 yards per catch and 119.0 per game in 40 career outings.

Coleman is also listed among the national career leaders in all four NCAA Divisions (I-A, I-AA, II and III), presently ranking third in receiving yards (4,759), tied for third in receptions (305), ninth in receiving yards per game (119.0), 12th in all-purpose yards (7,505), tied for 14th in receptions per game (7.6) and tied for 25th in touchdown receptions (39).

The 2000 All-America receiver is currently tied with Brown's Stephen Campbell (305; 1997-00) on the all-time receptions list and is 12 catches away from tying Jacquay Nunnally (317; 1997-00) of Florida A&M for second place. Coleman is 59 all-purpose yards shy of moving into an 11th-place tie with Howard Stevens (7,564; 1968-69 & 71-72) of Randolph-Macon and then Louisville. He's also currently 246 receiving yards away of tying Nevada's Trevor Insley (5,005; 1996-99) for second place among the all-time leaders after surpassing Mississippi Valley's Jerry Rice (4,693; 1981-84) this last Saturday.

UP NEXT: Ferris State concludes its 2001 season Saturday, Nov. 10, as the Bulldogs host the Indianapolis Greyhounds in GLIAC action. Opening kickoff for the season finale is slated for 1:30 p.m. (EST) at FSU's Top Taggart Field in Big Rapids, Mich.

BULLDOGS-OF-THE-WEEK: Following each Ferris State contest, individual players will be recognized by the FSU coaching staff for their outstanding performance. Individual(s) will be selected on offense, defense, specialty teams, and for extraordinary effort (*every player, every play*).

| DATE | OPPONENT | BULLDOGS-OF-THE-WEEK |
|----------|----------------------|---|
| Sept. 1 | South Dakota State | Offense-Kyle Park, Defense-DeRen Ellis, Specialty-Tom Perez, EPEP-William Foster |
| Sept. 8 | Findlay | Offense-Clarence Coleman, Defense-J.J. Moreland, Specialty-Devin Sokolowski, EPEP-Derek Fudge |
| Sept. 15 | Saginaw Valley State | Offense-Derek Fudge, Defense-Bo Moore, Specialty-Tim Gill, EPEP-Lamar Patterson |
| Sept. 22 | Wayne State | Offense-Tom Marsan, Defense-Luke Piepkow, Specialty-Jason Wells, EPEP-Charlie Pierson |
| Sept. 29 | Northwood | Offense-Lamar Patterson, Defense-Charlie Pierson, Specialty-DeRen Ellis, EPEP-Matt Otero |
| Oct. 6 | Grand Valley State | Offense-Matt Otero, Defense-Rich Dosh, Specialty-Robert Giles, EPEP-Patrick Smith |
| Oct. 13 | Mercyhurst | Offense-Clarence Coleman; Defense-Kevin Myers; Specialty-Jesse Schmitker, EPEP-DeRen Ellis |
| Oct. 20 | Michigan Tech | Offense-Tom Marsan; Defense-Jason Feasel; Specialty-Rob Mida; EPEP-Brad Morris |
| Oct. 27 | Northern Michigan | Offense-Lamar Patterson; Defense-William Foster; Specialty-Tim Gill; EPEP-Alvin Grier |
| Nov. 3 | Hillsdale | |
| Nov. 10 | Indianapolis | |

Home games listed in **bold**