THE GAME: The Ferris State University football team will return to action this Saturday (Sept. 21) evening as the Bulldogs travel to Michigan’s Upper Peninsula to battle the Northern Michigan University Wildcats in Marquette, Mich. The contest will represent FSU’s Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) opener due to the cancellation of last Saturday’s (Sept. 14) home encounter with Grand Valley State University.

HEAD COACH JEFF PIERCE: Jeff Pierce is presently in his eighth season at Ferris State and has registered a current 50-29-0 career coaching record. Pierce has already made a mark among the school’s all-time coaches by posting the best winning percentage (.633) in the program’s history. The 1995 GLIAC Coach-of-the-Year is 11 wins shy of 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 and Northern Michigan will square off for the 29th time in a series which originated in 1946 (10/26) with a 7-7 deadlock at Big Rapids. Ferris State has won nine of the last 10 meetings, including the last four contests to date. The Bulldogs are averaging 31.3 points (313 pts.) a contest in that 10-game span while the Wildcats have scored at an 16.9 points (169 pts.) per game clip. FSU, which has won four of its last five contests at Marquette, is averaging 32.2 points (161 pts.) in the five-game period in comparison to NMU’s 16.6 points an outing (83 pts.) for a +15.6-point differential. Fifteen of the 28 meetings have been decided by 15 points or more and the Bulldogs are 8-7-0 in those contests.

### GAME FACTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ferris State Bulldogs</th>
<th>Northern Michigan Wildcats</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-0; 0-0 GLIAC</td>
<td>1-1; 1-0 GLIAC</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Kickoff

7 p.m. (EDT)

### Stadium/Surface

Superior Dome, Marquette, Mich.

### Radio Coverage

WBNR-AM (1460) – Jason Edwards (play-by-play), John Smith (color)

### THE RECORDS: Ferris State is currently 1-0 overall as a result of its 33-21 non-conference triumph over Hillsdale (Sept. 7) at FSU’s Top Taggart Field in Big Rapids, Mich. The Bulldogs’ conference opener scheduled for Saturday (Sept. 14) against Grand Valley State was cancelled and won’t be rescheduled.

A season ago, Ferris compiled a 7-4 overall mark and finished third in the GLIAC standings at 7-3. 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 10 years, including five straight (1992-96).

Northern Michigan is 1-1 overall and 1-0 in the GLIAC to date following a 37-7 conference-opening triumph over Mercyhurst last Saturday (Sept. 14) at NMU’s Superior Dome in Marquette, Mich. Last season, the Wildcats registered a 4-7 overall record and were 3-7 in conference action (ninth-place tie). NMU was 4-2 at home and 0-5 on the road last fall.

### THE COACHES: FERRIS STATE – Jeff Pierce is presently in his eighth season at Ferris State and has registered a current 50-29-0 career coaching record. Pierce has already made a mark among the school’s all-time coaches by posting the best winning percentage (.633) in the program’s history. The 1995 GLIAC Coach-of-the-Year is 11 wins shy of 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.

### At Marquette: NMU leads 7-4-3

### First Game: Ferris State 7, Northern Michigan 0

### Most Decisive Score: Ferris State 47

### Current Series Win Streak: 1

### At Big Rapids: FSU leads 7-4-3

### Most Points in a FSU Win: 47

### Longest Winning Streak: 6

### At Marquette: NMU leads 7-4-3

### Most Points in a NMU Win: 80

### FSU Scoring Avg.: 18.9 (528 pts.)

### NMU Scoring Avg.: 18.7 (524 pts.)

### Differential: +0.2 (FSU)

### At Big Rapids: FSU leads 7-4-3

### Most Points in a FSU Win: 47

### Longest Winning Streak: 6

### At Marquette: NMU leads 7-4-3

### Most Decisive Score: Ferris State 47

### First Game: Ferris State 7, Northern Michigan 0

### Last FSU Win: 7-6 (10/27/01)

### Last NMU Win: 23-21 (9/27/97)

### Last Meeting in Marquette: Ferris State 38-33

### Current Series Win Streak: 1

### Last Meeting in Big Rapids: Ferris State 7-6 (10/27/01)

### At Big Rapids: FSU leads 7-4-3

### Most Points in a FSU Win: 47

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### Last Meeting in Marquette: Ferris State 38-33

### Current Series Win Streak: 1

### Last Meeting in Big Rapids: Ferris State 7-6 (10/27/01)
State last Saturday (Sept. 14) was cancelled due to the tragic death of a student-athlete involved, and felt there was enough doubt in the contest being announced following last Friday’s (Sept. 13) meeting between the athletics staff and the football team.

A conference contest was announced following last Friday’s (Sept. 13) meeting between the athletics staff and the football team.

Derek Fudge moved into 11th place on the school’s career rushing leaders list against Hillsdale with 492 yards on 42 attempts (4.57 avg.) and surpassed Benny Roel’s (1992-95) 1,835-yard total.

Jason Feasel’s team-high nine tackles (six solos) versus Hillsdale matched his previous career best set twice a season ago – vs. Michigan Tech (10/20) and Indianapolis (11/10).

Senior cornerback DeRen Ellis (Detroit/Harper Woods Notre Dame) and senior free safety Alvin Grier (Benton Harbor) are both one interception shy of tying Akl Young (1991-94) for fifth place among FSU’s all-time pass theft leaders. Young notched 10 career interceptions for 59 yards while Ellis has nine for a 126-yard total and Grier for 111 yards.

Conference Openers: FSU is 8-13-1 in conference openers since 1980 and has notched a 4-7-1 mark in road outings during that span. Ferris is 7-5-0 since 1990, which includes a 4-2-0 road record. FSU sports a 7-5 mark in its second game of each season dating back to 1990.

Bulldogs On The Road: Ferris State is presently 44-24-1 (.645) in road contests since 1990, which includes a 44-22-0 (.667) record in regular-season away outings. Since 1993, FSU is 34-17-1 (.683) in overall road encounters and 34-15-1 (.690) in regular-season away games only. The Bulldogs have registered a 3-3-0 road ledger in each of the last two campaigns to date.

Under The Lights: Ferris sports a current 24-34-4 (.419) record in night contests dating back to 1961. The Bulldogs are 8-16-2 (.346) on the road and 16-18-2 (.472) in home encounters. FSU posted a 3-1 mark in such outings a season ago and is 1-0 this campaign following its season-opening 33-21 home non-conference triumph over Hillsdale two weeks ago (9/7).

FSU In The Upper Peninsula: FSU has compiled a 36-33-10 (.519) record versus four-year football-only colleges (Northern Michigan and Michigan Tech) from Michigan’s Upper Peninsula. The Bulldogs are 14-21-4 (.410) in away contests – 4-7-3 at Marquette and 10-14-1 at Houghton.

Preseason Recognition: Bo Moore has been tabbed a 2002 preseason All-America selection by Lindy’s College Football Annual and Don Hansen’s National Weekly Football Gazette. Moore, a second-team preseason honoree by Hansen’s Football Gazette, was also chosen to the Detroit Free Press All-Michigan Small College Football Team. Joining him on the preseason squad are senior tackle Justin Giordano (Memphis), Luke Piepko and DeRen Ellis.

Up Next: Ferris State entertains the Wayne State University Warriors Saturday, Sept. 28, in FSU’s annual Hall of Fame Game. Opening kickoff for the GLIAC game is slated for 7 p.m. (EDT) at Top Taggart Field in Big Rapids.

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).

Preseason Standings:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Grand Valley State (10)</td>
<td>126</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Saginaw Valley State (2)</td>
<td>122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Ferris State</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Indianapolis</td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Ashland</td>
<td>86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Michigan Tech</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Northwood</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Northern Michigan</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>Hillsdale</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>Findlay</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.</td>
<td>Wayne State</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.</td>
<td>Mercyhurst</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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First place votes in all categories. Voting was conducted among the GLIAC football coaches; coaches were not allowed to vote for their own team. Points were assigned as follows: First-place votes: 10 points; Second-place votes: 8 points; Third-place votes: 6 points; Fourth-place votes: 4 points; Fifth-place votes: 2 points.