The Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) embarks on its fourth year in the 2002-03 athletics season after the West Intercollegiate Football Conference (MIFC) merged into the GLIAC effective July 1, 1999. The MIFC had been in existence for nine years as one of the nation’s leading NCAA Division II football conferences.

The merger was approved by the conference’s Executive Council on May 18, 1999, and ratified by the President’s Council.

The University of Indianapolis is currently the only institution in the conference which isn’t officially a GLIAC member, but is an associate member as a football-only school. As part of the merger agreement, the GLIAC Executive Council granted Gannon University of Erie, Pa., a waiver until 2004 to play a full football schedule in the GLIAC.

Gannon presently fields a non-scholarship football team.

The program, second-ranked Grand Valley State (GVSU) advanced to the NCAA-II Championship game (Dec. 8) where the Lakers suffered a 17-14 loss to North Dakota at Florence, Ala. Saginaw Valley State joined GVSU as playoff qualifiers and the Lakers notched a 33-30 home win over the Cardinals in quarterfinal-round action (Nov. 24).

In 2000, Northern Michigan and Saginaw Valley State both qualified for the playoffs. Northwood won its first-round contest and advanced to the quarterfinals. Grand Valley State was the GLIAC’s lone playoff participant in 1998, which at the time marked the ninth straight year a conference member had competed in NCAA post-season action. Ferris State holds the conference record for most playoff appearances with five (1992-96), which includes a 1995 semifinal appearance.

Following the 1999 season, the GLIAC dropped football as a conference-sponsored sport, and the Heartland Collegiate Conference (HCC), already a football-only conference, went out of existence as the MIFC was formed between the merger of the two conferences.

On February 8, 1989, at Grand Valley State’s Eberhard Center, formal commitments were submitted by the six GLIAC institutions sponsoring football – Ferris State, Grand Valley State, Hillsdale, Northern Michigan, Saginaw Valley State and Wayne State – and the five HCC teams – Ashland, Butler, Indianapolis, St. Joseph’s (Ind.), and Valparaiso, to form the new defunct MIFC.

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### 2001 GLIAC Final Standing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>W</th>
<th>L</th>
<th>Pct</th>
<th>PF</th>
<th>PA</th>
<th>W</th>
<th>L</th>
<th>Pct</th>
<th>PF</th>
<th>PA</th>
<th>AWAY</th>
<th>NEUTRAL</th>
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<td>236</td>
<td>152</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>.923</td>
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<td>513</td>
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<td>2. Saginaw Valley State</td>
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<td>159</td>
<td>11</td>
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<td>.846</td>
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<td>135</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>.636</td>
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<td>220</td>
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<td>157</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>.667</td>
<td>276</td>
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### 2002 GLIAC Composite Schedule

**Thursday, August 29**
- Indiana (Pa.) at Findlay, 6 p.m. EDT
- Wayne State at Northern Iowa, 8:05 p.m. EDT

**Saturday, August 31**
- St. Joseph’s at Indianapolis, 2 p.m. EDT
- Michigan Tech at Ashland*, 7 p.m. EDT

**Saturday, September 7**
- Ashland at Edinboro (Pa.), 1 p.m. EDT
- West Virginia Wesleyan at Mercyhurst, 1:30 p.m. EDT
- Northern Michigan at St. Cloud State, 2 p.m. EDT
- California-Davis at Grand Valley State, 7 p.m. EDT
- Hillsdale at Ferris State, 7 p.m. EDT
- Saginaw Valley State at Northwood, 7 p.m. EDT

**Saturday, September 14**
- Michigan Tech at Ashland*, 7 p.m. EDT
- Ferris State at Findlay*, 6 p.m. EDT
- Mercyhurst at Northern Michigan*, 7 p.m. EDT
- Indianapolis at Hillsdale*, 7 p.m. EDT
- Grand Valley State at Ferris State*, 7 p.m. EDT
- Northwood at Ashland*, 7 p.m. EDT

**Saturday, September 21**
- Grand Valley State at Wayne State*, 12 p.m. EDT
- Findlay at Northwood*, 12 p.m. EDT
- Mercyhurst at Ferris State*, 12 p.m. EDT
- Indianapolis at Michigan Tech*, 12 p.m. EDT
- Ashland at Hillsdale*, 12 p.m. EDT
- Ferris State at Northern Michigan*, 7 p.m. EDT

**Saturday, September 28**
- Michigan Tech at Findlay*, 1 p.m. EDT
- Saginaw Valley State at Ashland*, 1 p.m. EDT
- Wayne State at Ferris State*, 7 p.m. EDT
- Northwood at Grand Valley State*, 7 p.m. EDT
- Wayne State at Findlay*, 1:30 p.m. EDT
- Findlay at Hillsdale*, 1:30 p.m. EDT
- Ashland at Findlay*, 1:30 p.m. EDT
- Grand Valley State at Ferris State*, 1:30 p.m. EDT
- Grand Valley State at Findlay*, 1:30 p.m. EDT
- Grand Valley State at Mercyhurst*, 1:30 p.m. EDT
- Findlay at Grand Valley State*, 1:30 p.m. EDT

**Saturday, October 5**
- Ferris State at Northwood*, 12 p.m. EDT
- Indianapolis at Saginaw Valley State*, 12 p.m. EDT
- Grand Valley State at Michigan Tech*, 12 p.m. EDT
- Ashland at Wayne State*, 12 p.m. EDT
- Hillsdale at Ashland*, 7 p.m. EDT
- Ferris State at Grand Valley State*, 7 p.m. EDT
- Hillsdale at Grand Valley State*, 7 p.m. EDT

**Saturday, October 12**
- Mercyhurst at Ashland*, 1 p.m. EDT
- Ferris State at Grand Valley State*, 1:30 p.m. EDT
- Michigan Tech at Ferris State*, 2 p.m. EDT
- Wayne State at Hillsdale*, 2:30 p.m. EDT
- Northern Michigan at Grand Valley State*, 6 p.m. EDT
- Grand Valley State at Findlay*, 6 p.m. EDT

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### Past GLIAC Champions

- 1994 – Ferris State (10-0)
- 1993 – Ferris State (8-0-2)
- 1992 – Ferris State (8-2), Butler (8-2), Grand Valley State (8-2), Hillsdale (8-2)
- 1991 – Butler (8-1-0)
- 1990 – Grand Valley State (9-1)