The Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC), which features 13 member NCAA Division II institutions, will embark on its seventh year in the 2005 football season and is presently regarded as one of the nation's top gridiron conferences. Formerly known as the Midwest Intercollegiate Football Conference (MIFC), the MIFC merged into the GLIAC effective July 1, 1999. The MIFC had been in existence for nine years. The merger was approved by the conference's Executive Council on May 18, 1999, and ratified by the President's Council. As a result, Indianapolis became an associate member as a football-only school. Following the 1989 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 as a result of the two conferences merging.

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 now-defunct MIFC. The GLIAC currently boasts a two-time national champion in Grand Valley State. GVSU captured its second straight national crown in 2003 by besting North Dakota, 10-5, in the NCAA-II National Championship game held Dec. 13 at Florence, Ala. The Lakers claimed their first-ever national title in 2002 (Dec. 14) with a 31-24 victory over Valdosta (Ga.) State. In the 2001 campaign (Dec. 8), GVSU made its initial championship game appearance as the Lakers suffered a 17-14 loss to North Dakota. Overall, the GLIAC conducts championships in 21 sports – 11 for men and 10 for women. The policy-making body of the GLIAC is the Executive Council, which is comprised of representatives from each member institution – its director of athletics, faculty athletics representative and senior woman administrator. Final approval of all GLIAC legislation is required by the Council of GLIAC Presidents.

Tom Brown will begin his 14th season this fall as the conference's fifth commissioner and is responsible for all conference administration.

**The GLIAC Administration**

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The 2005 GLIAC Composite Schedule includes:

- **Saturday, August 27**
  - Saginaw Valley State at Northwood*, 12 p.m. EDT
  - Ashland at St. Joseph's (Ind.), 1 p.m. EDT
- **Saturday, September 3**
  - Northwood at Wayne State*, 12 p.m. EDT
  - Indianapolis at Michigan Tech*, 1 p.m. EDT
  - Ashland at Michigan Tech*, 1 p.m. EDT
  - Hillsdale at Findlay*, 7 p.m. EDT
  - Gannon at Grand Valley State*, 7 p.m. EDT
- **Saturday, September 10**
  - Wayne State at Saginaw Valley State*, 12 p.m. EDT
  - St. Joseph's (Ind.) at Northwood, 12 p.m. EDT
  - Gannon at Ashland*, 1 p.m. EDT
  - Michigan Tech at Mercyhurst*, 1:30 p.m. EDT
  - Ferris State at Hillsdale*, 2:30 p.m. EDT
  - Grand Valley State at Indianapolis*, 7 p.m. EDT
  - Northern Michigan at Findlay*, 7 p.m. EDT
- **Saturday, September 17**
  - Findlay at Saginaw Valley State*, 12 p.m. EDT
  - Northwood at Mercyhurst*, 1:30 p.m. EDT
  - Wayne State at Northern Michigan*, 5 p.m. EDT
  - Grand Valley State at Ashland*, 7 p.m. EDT
  - Hillsdale at Gannon*, 7 p.m. EDT
  - Indianapolis at Ferris State*, 7 p.m. EDT
- **Saturday, September 24**
  - Indianapolis at Wayne State*, 12 p.m. EDT
  - Findlay at Northwood*, 12 p.m. EDT
  - Ashland at Michigan Tech*, 1 p.m. EDT
  - Northern Michigan at Gannon*, 1 p.m. EDT
  - Mercyhurst at Ferris State*, 2 p.m. EDT
  - Saginaw Valley State at Hillsdale*, 7 p.m. EDT
- **Saturday, October 1**
  - Hillsdale at Northwood*, 12 p.m. EDT
  - Gannon at Michigan Tech*, 1 p.m. EDT
  - Ashland at Mercyhurst*, 1:30 p.m. EDT
  - Saginaw Valley State at Indianapolis*, 5 p.m. EDT
  - Grand Valley State at Findlay*, 7 p.m. EDT
  - Wayne State at Grand Valley State*, 7 p.m. EDT
- **Saturday, October 8**
  - Mercyhurst at Saginaw Valley State*, 12 p.m. EDT
  - Michigan Tech at Wayne State*, 12 p.m. EDT

**Past GLIAC Champions**

2004 – Northwood (9-1), Michigan Tech (9-1)
2003 – Saginaw Valley State (10-0)
2002 – Grand Valley State (9-0)
2001 – Grand Valley State (9-0)
2000 – Northwood (9-1), Saginaw Valley State (9-1)
1999 – Ferris State (7-2), Northern Michigan (7-2)
1998 – Grand Valley State (9-1)
1997 – Ashland (9-1), Grand Valley State (9-1)
1996 – Ferris State (9-1)
1995 – Ferris State (10-0)
1994 – Ferris State (10-0)
1993 – Ferris State (8-2)
1992 – Ferris State (8-2), Butler (8-2), Grand Valley State (8-2), Hillsdale (8-2)
1991 – Butler (9-1)
1990 – Grand Valley State (9-1)
1989 – Grand Valley State (9-1), Michigan Tech (9-1)