**Ferris State Volleyball Tradition**

**GLIAC Champions!**

**“Bulldogs Capture 2004 Crown”**

Ferris State captured its ninth Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) Championship in 2004 as the Bulldogs defeated archrival Grand Valley State (Nov. 14) 3-0 in the championship match of the league’s annual postseason tournament held at GVSU’s Fieldhouse Arena in Allendale, Mich.

The Bulldogs, who were ranked among the top 20 teams in the CSTV/American Volleyball Coaches Association Division II National Poll during the 2004 season, knocked off the Lakers for the second time in 2004 with a convincing 30-27, 30-24 and 30-16 triumph in front of 625 fans. The tournament championship was the first for the Bulldogs in the league’s 10th annual postseason event.

Ferris, which had previously claimed tournament runner-up accolades on three different occasions, also received the league’s automatic berth into the NCAA Division II Great Lakes Regional Tournament. The national tournament appearance was FSU’s 12th all-time berth.

Middle hitter Lauren Heine and outside hitter Karla Fairbanks were named to the GLIAC All-Tournament Team while senior Ashley Green was chosen as the all-tournament team most valuable player.

Fairbanks went on to attain 2004 American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) Division II All-America Second-Team honors. She also concluded her career ranked third on Ferris’ all-time chart with 1,649 career kills and was 53 digs away from becoming only the sixth player in school history to record both 1,000 career kills and 1,000 career digs.

A two-time (2003-04) All-GLIAC First Team honoree, Fairbanks placed second overall among the league leaders in kills (4.85 kpg) and third in aces (0.59 apg) as a senior. She was named GLIAC North Division Player of the Week four times in 2004 and garnered NCAA Division II Great Lakes Region All-Tournament Team recognition.

The Bulldogs compiled a 25-7 overall record during the 2004 campaign, including a second place 14-4 GLIAC North Division regular-season mark.

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**BULLDOG VOLLEYBALL**

**2004: A Season To Remember**

- Ferris State volleyball was my home away from home. I learned a lot about teamwork, time management and what it’s like to have 13 sisters. It was a rewarding experience.
  
  — Erin Minnis
  
  1998-2001

- I have made many lifetime friendships and will always cherish my time as a Ferris State volleyball player. My teammates were not only great players, but also great friends. Go Bulldogs!
  
  — Sheri Harris
  

- I learned to build strong relationships during my time as a Bulldog student-athlete. Because of that, I interact easily today with a variety of different personalities in my career path.
  
  — Lacey VandeStreek
  
  1997-99

- I had the time of my life playing at Ferris State and could not imagine my life today without that experience. I learned things about myself that would not have been possible any other way.
  
  — Morgan Buckner
  
  1997-2000

- It was a great experience playing volleyball at Ferris State. You really feel like you’re welcome and there’s a family-type atmosphere. I loved every minute.
  
  — Alaina Olds
  
  1999-02

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(Above Left) - The Bulldogs are introduced in a home match.

(Above) - Ferris State fans cheering on the squad at the 2004 NCAA Division II Great Lakes Regional Tournament in Allendale, Mich.