Shortstop Patti Silye holds the distinction of being Ferris State softball’s first All-American as a result of achieving first-team Converse All-America honors in 1982. Silye, who was inducted into the FSU Bulldog Athletics Hall of Fame Class of 2001, earned All-GLIAC accolades as a senior in 1982. She was also a two-time (1980-81) AIAW All-State selection.

Silye ranks tied for third among FSU’s all-time leaders in triples, tied for fourth in home runs and tied for 10th in RBIs. While at Ferris, Silye helped the Bulldogs qualify for the AIAW National Tournament twice and the program’s first-ever NCAA Division II Tournament appearance in 1982. A native of Grosse Ile, Mich., Silye posted a career 278 batting average with 96 hits in 345 at bats in 117 contests. She notched eight doubles, 14 triples, eight home runs and 70 RBIs in her career.

Ferris State softball’s only two-time (1997 & 1999) All-American, outfielder Jody Gifford is the program’s record holder in several career statistical listings, including hits, home runs, and batting average. She’s also the single-season holder in four batting categories. In her four-year (1996-99) FSU career, Gifford played an instrumental role in guiding the Bulldogs to a third-place showing at the 1998 NCAA Division II National Championships and a repeat national tournament appearance in 1999. She also helped Ferris secure a pair of Great Lakes Region titles.

A three-time (1997-99) All-GLIAC First-Team pick, Gifford was named to both the 1998 and 1999 NCAA Great Lakes Region All-Tourney Teams. The Bay City, Mich., native finished her career batting .373 with 277 hits in 743 at bats over a 243-game period. She also hit 31 home runs, 41 doubles, 19 triples and had 193 RBIs.

A standout athlete in both softball and tennis, Anne Bentley was a National Fastpitch Coaches Association (NFCA) Third Team All-America pick in 1997 along with teammate Jody Gifford. A leader on and off the field, Bentley was a standout second baseman in her Ferris career (1997-2000). Both a first-team All-GLIAC and All-Great Lakes Region performer in 2001, Bentley helped FSU to two (1998-99) NCAA Division II National Championship appearances and Great Lakes Regional crowns. She was a key factor in Ferris being the overall 2000 GLIAC Champions after winning the league tournament.

In 234 career games, she batted .306 with 222 hits in 725 at bats. She belted 11 home runs and had 95 RBIs to go with a school-best 43 doubles. The native of Wyoming, Mich., Bentley was selected the NCAA-II Conference Commissioners Association Great Lakes Region Scholar-Athlete of the Year in 2000.