Founded in 1972, the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) continues to be a leader in the development and promotion of intercollegiate athletics for men and women. The charter members of the conference were Ashland University, Lake Superior State University, Northwood University and Saginaw Valley State University. Ferris State University followed soon afterward when they joined the conference along with Oakland University in 1972. The conference continued to expand until it reached its current number of 13 member institutions. The GLIAC’s current members are—Ashland University, Ferris State University, The University of Findlay, Gannon University, Grand Valley State University, Hillsdale College, Lake Superior State University, Mercyhurst College, Michigan Technological University, Northern Michigan University, Northwood University, Saginaw Valley State University and Wayne State University.

The GLIAC entered a new era in 1995-96. Previously its members were all institutions located in the state of Michigan. On December 13, 1994, membership was offered to three institutions located in Ohio and Pennsylvania. The expansion members were Ashland University (Ashland, Ohio), Gannon University (Erie, Pa.) and Mercyhurst College (Erie, Pa.). All three began their conference membership July 1, 1995. The University of Findlay (Ohio) was later added to the conference in July of 1997.

Overall the GLIAC conducts championships in 21 sports, 11 for men and 10 for women. Men’s championship sports are baseball, basketball, cross country, football, golf, soccer, swimming and diving, tennis, wrestling, indoor track and outdoor track. Women’s championship sports include basketball, cross country, golf, soccer, softball, swimming and diving, tennis, indoor track, outdoor track and volleyball. The 2005-06 GLIAC Men’s and Women’s Indoor Track and Field Championships will be held at the University of Findlay Friday and Saturday, Feb. 24-25, in Findlay, Ohio. The league’s outdoor championships are slated for Friday and Saturday, May 4-5, at Ferris State University in Big Rapids, Mich.

**GLIAC Runner-Up**

Ferris’ 1985 women’s cross country team, which is pictured above, claimed GLIAC runner-up accolades. The 1985 team ranks as one of 28 Bulldog men’s and women’s track and field/cross country squads to attain league runner-up recognition. FSU also has 19 GLIAC titles to its credit.