



Jeff Ligney
Director of Media Relations
1110 Washington Ave.
Bay City, MI 48708
Voice: (989) 894-2529
E-mail: jligney@gliac.org
web site: www.gliac.org

Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference

November 6, 2009 - For immediate release

GVSU's Irie Dennis and Megan Brown Named 2009 GLIAC Women's Soccer "Offensive and Defensive Players of the Year," Respectively

BAY CITY, Mich. -- Grand Valley State University senior forward **Irie Dennis (New Albany, Ohio)** was named the 2009 Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) women's soccer "Offensive Player of the Year," while teammate, sophomore defender **Megan Brown (Jenison, Mich.)**, was named "Defensive Player of the Year" in balloting conducted by the league's coaches.

Grand Valley State rookie midfielder **Ashley Botts (Beloit, Wis./Boylan Catholic)** was honored with the league's "Freshman of the Year" award, while **Drago Dumbovic**, who guided Saginaw Valley State University to a school record for wins in a season, earned "Coach of the Year" accolades.

Dennis has started all 19 matches and notched six goals and six assists for a total of 18 points this season, helping the No. 3 Lakers to a 17-0-2 (13-0-1) GLIAC record. She currently ranks fifth in GVSU history with 28 assists, sixth with 30 goals and sixth with 88 points during her career. The Lakers have posted a record of 76-3-4 in her four years on the squad, and Dennis has notched 11 game-winning goals in a Laker uniform. She has also been recognized for her academics, as she was recently named a member of the 2009 ESPN The Magazine All-District IV Academic Second Team.

Brown has been apart of an impressive backline that has only allowed eight goals this season (.42 goals-against per game). She is the leader of the GVSU defense that ranks first in the GLIAC in shutout percentage (0.63) and has recorded 12 shutouts this season. Brown and the Lakers have held opponents to just 45 shots on goal through 19 matches, just over two shots on goal per contest. In conference play the Lakers allowed just five goals, and not more than one in any match. Brown has started all of GVSU's 19 matches, playing 1,401 minutes and notching five assists this year.

Botts has helped the No. 3 Lakers to an unbeaten 2009 regular season and has helped improve the GVSU unbeaten streak to 59 regular season games and 39 conference matches. She currently leads the Lakers with 12 goals and 28 points. Among GLIAC players, she ranks second in goals, third in points, and is tied for second with five game-winning goals. Botts leads GVSU with 71 shots, placing 33 of them on goal.

Dumbovic earns the GLIAC "Coach of the Year" award for the first time in his seven seasons at the helm of the SVSU women's soccer team. He has led the Cardinals to their five-straight winning seasons, including a team record 13 victories this fall. Under the guidance of Dumbovic, the Cardinals have posted nine shutouts during the 2009 season with a starting lineup that featured a majority of underclassmen. SVSU has posted a 13-2-2 overall record and a 10-1-2 record in GLIAC play, with its only defeat coming at the hands of nationally-ranked Grand Valley State.

Joining Dennis, Brown, and Botts on the All-GLIAC first team are: teammates junior midfielder **Kristen Eible**, senior midfielder **Katie Johnson**, sophomore midfielder **Erin Mruz**, senior defender **Amber Bloem**, junior defender **Jenna Wenglinski**, and freshman goal keeper **Chelsea Parise** of GVSU; sophomore forward **Amanda Watson** of Northwood University; sophomore forward **Bri Borgman** of Ferris State University.

The complete listing of the 2009 All-GLIAC women's soccer teams and postseason awards are listed on the following page.

-more-



2009 GLIAC Women's Soccer Postseason Awards

Offensive Player of the Year:

Irie Dennis - Grand Valley State (SR, F, New Albany, Ohio)

Defensive Player of the Year:

Megan Brown - Grand Valley State (SO, D, Jenison, Mich.)

Freshman of the Year:

Ashley Botts - Grand Valley State (FR, MF, Beloit, Wis./Boylan Catholic)

Coach of the Year:

Drago Dumbovic - Saginaw Valley State University

2009 All-GLIAC Women's Soccer Teams

All-GLIAC First-Team

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Yr.</u>	<u>Hometown/High School</u>
Forward	Bri Borgman	Ferris State	So.	Holland, Mich./West Ottawa
Forward	Ashley Botts	Grand Valley State	Fr.	Beloit, Wis./Boylan Catholic
Forward	Irie Dennis	Grand Valley State	Jr.	New Albany, Ohio
Forward	Amanda Watson	Northwood	So.	Oregon, Ohio/Clay
Midfielder	Kristen Eible	Grand Valley State	Jr.	DeWitt, Mich.
Midfielder	Katie Johnson	Grand Valley State	Sr.	Petoskey, Mich.
Midfielder	Erin Mruz	Grand Valley State	So.	Gurnee, Ill./Warren Township
Defender	Amber Bloem	Grand Valley State	Sr.	Grandville, Mich./Cornerstone
Defender	Megan Brown	Grand Valley State	So.	Jenison, Mich.
Defender	Jenna Wenglinski	Grand Valley State	Jr.	Portage, Mich./Central
Goalkeeper	Chelsea Parise	Grand Valley State	Fr.	Warren, Mich./Stevenson

All-GLIAC Second-Team

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Yr.</u>	<u>Hometown/High School</u>
Forward	Jaclyn Barrett	Saginaw Valley State	Sr.	Williamston, Mich.
Forward	Ashley Davis	Tiffin	Fr.	Westerville, Ohio
Forward	Dana Stephens	Northern Michigan	Jr.	Wyandotte, Mich./Riverview
Midfielder	Erin Hilbert	Grand Valley State	Fr.	Ada, Mich./Forest Hills Central
Midfielder	Renee Privette	Saginaw Valley State	Sr.	Port Huron, Mich.
Midfielder	Alicia VanZanten	Ashland	Jr.	Hudson, Ohio
Defender	Abby Bellamy	Saginaw Valley State	Fr.	Davidson, Mich.
Defender	Rosie Paris	Findlay	Jr.	Lima, Ohio/Elida
Defender	Becky Schmidt	Northern Michigan	Fr.	Slinger, Wis.
Defender	Natalja Stanski	Grand Valley State	Sr.	Tecumseh, Ontario/St. Anne
Goalkeeper	Kara Music	Northern Michigan	Sr.	Whitehouse, Ohio

-more-