

Sports Information

INDIANA UNIVERSITY - PURDUE UNIVERSITY
AT FORT WAYNE

September 30, 1983

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

IPFW ADMITTED TO GLVC

This Friday morning, Indiana University-Purdue University at Fort Wayne was officially welcomed into the Great Lakes Valley Conference. In a meeting held at Indiana Central University in Indianapolis, faculty representatives from the seven-member GLVC voted to accept IPFW's application for membership, effective next fall.

Joining the Great Lakes Valley Conference offers many advantages to IPFW. The schools are located within a 150-mile radius. Strong rivalries against top competition are likely to produce strong fan interest, substantial attendance figures, and more revenue for the IPFW athletics programs. With the proceeds, IPFW will be able to attract more talented recruits and schedule stronger opponents.

The certainty of an automatic NCAA Division II tournament bid to the GLVC men's basketball champions is another big advantage.

The Great Lakes Valley Conference is thought of by many as being the strongest NCAA Division II conference in the Midwest. Originally formed for men's basketball, the league now consists of Ashland College, Ashland, Ohio; Bellarmine College, Louisville, Ky; Indiana Central University, Indianapolis; Indiana State University at Evansville; Kentucky Wesleyan College, Owensboro, Ky; Lewis University, Romeoville, Ill.; and Saint Joseph's College, Rensselaer, Ind. Of these seven schools, Indiana State has the largest student population, listing an enrollment of 4,500 students.

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The word "NEWS" is written in a large, bold, outlined font, similar to the IPFW logo, positioned at the bottom right of the page.

IPFW ADMITTED INTO GLVC

ADD ONE

The GLVC schedule now adds women's basketball, men's and women's tennis, men's baseball, cross country, golf, soccer, and women's volleyball to men's basketball. The conference is considering adding women's fast-pitch softball. Each sport has a conference tournament to conclude its season.

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Media Contact: Kurt Patberg

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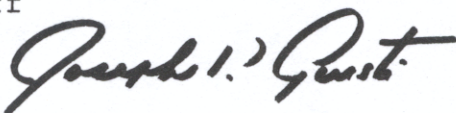
INDIANA UNIVERSITY - PURDUE UNIVERSITY

AT FORT WAYNE
2101 COLISEUM BOULEVARD EAST
FORT WAYNE, INDIANA 46805

OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

TEL. NO. 219-482-5356

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Faculty and Staff
FROM: Joseph P. Giusti 
DATE: August 24, 1983
SUBJECT: Membership in the Great Lakes Valley Conference

It is with pleasure that I can inform you that IPFW has received permission from Purdue University (which has the relevant mission at Fort Wayne) to approach the Great Lakes Valley Conference with a view toward having the campus formally join the Conference.

I would like to thank all those faculty and staff members who have helped bring us to this point. Thanks to these efforts, the next athletics season and the chance to participate as a full-fledged conference member offer exciting opportunities.

js

Barbara L. Blauvelt
History/Political Science
CM 209

MEMORANDUM

TO: Fort Wayne Senate
FROM: Student Affairs Committee
DATE: February 22, 1983
SUBJECT: Great Lakes Valley Conference Membership
DISPOSITION: Upon approval, to the Chancellor and Athletic Department
for implementation

RESOLVED, That having reviewed the competitive ability of IPFW's athletic teams and the projected student athletics budget and the athletic scholarship fund, the Fort Wayne Senate reaffirms its approval of IPFW membership in the Great Lakes Valley Conference.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That every effort be made to apply for membership in the Great Lakes Valley Conference by the Fall 1983 conference meeting.

Approving

M. Crill
A. Friedel, Chair
L. Hess
K. Schenk
J. Stauffer
J. Ulmer
K. Wakley

Absent

S. Souers
J. Violette

GREAT LAKES VALLEY MEMBERSHIP REVIEW

1. CAMPUS AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT

A. Game Attendance

Men's basketball, the flagship sport of the GLVC, has shown the greatest attendance growth in 1982-83. IPFW now averages 300 fans per game with student support becoming increasingly evident. Cheerleaders, pep band, student government and fraternity/sorority support now provide a good foundation for growth. Season ticket sales (total 50) represent a dramatic improvement over previous years, especially the off-campus sales (18) for the first time ever.

Soccer, volleyball and women's basketball are also attracting significant numbers of fans for the first time.

B. Gate Receipts and Concessions

Increased attendance is reflected in added revenue as demonstrated in Table 1.

TABLE 1

	1981-82	1982-83	% Increase
Men's basketball	\$ 980	\$3220	228.5
Women's basketball	685	1185	73
Women's volleyball	570	640	12
Men's volleyball	395	600 (est)	51
	2630	5645	114.6

Concession sales have added \$1630 to this year's game revenue, a seven-fold improvement over last year.

C. Booster Club

Members subscribing to the highest level of giving (\$100+ membership) reached 16 in 1982-83 doubling the previous high in this category. Total membership dues at that level also reached an all-time high at \$3,000 (approximately).

The booster club has also undertaken a number of new program activities to promote and support athletics. Al McGuire's convocation and reception attracted significant community interest and established a precedent for future endeavors such as the planned appearance by I.U.'s Bobby Knight. Further programs include the formation of a basketball promotions committee, post-game hospitality receptions, regular luncheons and breakfasts with coaches, and a display booth at Southtown Mall.

D. Media Exposure/Community Interest

Dramatically improved news coverage has been evident in each media forum throughout the 1982-83 seasons. This new coverage demonstrates

a genuine interest in our programs and identifies a marketing mechanism that stands to be exploited by a well ordered SID/promotions operation.

Less measurable, but certainly apparent to subcommittee members and athletic staff, has been an increasing awareness of our programs on campus and in the larger community. Telephone activity has increased along with correspondence and casual inquiries to our athletic department. Area high school coaches are attending our games, in-the-know fans are inquiring about our progress, and area schools are inviting our teams to present clinics and demonstrations. Note Arnie Ball's recognition to take part as a coach in the development of the Olympic program at Olympic Village this summer.

E. Financial Resources

The projected budget estimate for scholarship funding in 1983-84 is \$40,000. This compares to the \$24,500 scholarship budget for 1982-83, and places our program in a competitive position with other GLVC teams. We anticipate that with added funding we will be regarded more as a winning program than a competitive one. A winning posture is one we can credibly obtain. (See budget attached.)

F. Promotions

We need to exploit our successes better than we have. Our modest beginning, laudable as it is, is only the promise of things to come. Area schools have been guests at home games, one men's basketball game has been taped for T.V., alumni, faculty, and staff have been featured in special appeals for game attendance.

G. Physical Plant

With the Multipurpose Building now placed in an optimally operational mode, IPFW has one of the best indoor facilities in the GLVC. With the completion of the outdoor baseball and soccer fields in the spring, our over-all facilities will be the finest small college facility in the area.

It is important to note that eleven companies and numerous individuals have contributed the equivalent of \$40,000 in machinery, material and man hours toward the completion of this project.

K. Physical Exams

A local physician arranged for a group of medical doctors to donate a day to conduct physical examinations for IPFW athletes.

II. COMPETITIVENESS

A. Present Status

It is now evident that we can compete in the mid-level range of GLVC teams in men's basketball. Moreover, we can do just as well

or better in the other conference sports: soccer, women's basketball, baseball, tennis. Team records to date are shown in Table 2.

TABLE 2*

	Won	Lost	Tie	Comments
Women's volleyball	30	16		Most wins ever
Soccer	10	8	1	Two overtime playoff games
Women's tennis	9	0		First undefeated season
Cross country	2	1		Consistent high finish in multi-team invitationals and 11th in State Meet at Bloomington
Women's basketball	17	4		Most wins ever and best record ever
Men's basketball	16	12		Most wins ever, second winning season, and best record ever

B. Future Prospects

Our teams are very young. There are no seniors on the men's and women's basketball and volleyball teams, for example. Our prospects for team maturity with the present players are very good indeed. Recruiting activity is at an all-time high. The quality of our early contacts bodes well for good success at signing time. Our facilities, team performance, academic programs and scholarship fund have combined to provide an attractive package for prospective student-athletes. Prospective student-athletes are initiating contacts with us now--a sure sign that IPFW is coming into its own as a recognized program.

III. CONCLUSION

Although the above accomplishments do not speak for themselves as to IPFW's membership in the Great Lakes Valley Conference, they do point the way. Achievements to date are measurable and improving. The athletic program is operating in a mode of confidence and high expectations not previously evident at our campus. The question no longer seems to be whether we can compete in the GLVC, but how the conference membership can assist us in attaining our own internalized goals of attendance, student involvement, recognition, campus identity, and esprit d'corps. These things are attainable goals. We only need to continue to pursue them with dedicated and complete University support.

*NOTE: Team schedules reflected a much higher level of competition as a result of 1982-83 being the program's initial year in NCAA Division II.