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March 6, 2008 -- For Immediate Release

Grand Valley State's Callistus Eziukwu Named 2007-08 GLIAC Men's Basketball Player of the Year

Ashland's Richardson Tabbed "Freshman of the Year," GVSU's Wesley Earns "Coach of the Year" Honors.

BAY CITY, Mich. -- Senior center **Callistus Eziukwu** (Muskegon, Mich.) of Grand Valley State University has been selected as the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) men's basketball "Player of the Year." Rookie center **Kale Richardson** (Carroll, Ohio) of Ashland University was chosen as "Freshman of the Year," while Grand Valley State head coach **Ric Wesley** earned GLIAC "Coach of the Year" honors. All three were selected by the GLIAC men's basketball coaches in conjunction with all-conference balloting.

Eziukwu led Grand Valley State to a 30-0 regular season record and the first 18-0 campaign in GLIAC history. Eziukwu averaged 15.2 points, 8.6 rebounds, 2.4 blocked shots and shot 62.9 percent from the floor. Eziukwu tallied 13 double-doubles on the year, including a string of eight straight, scored in double figures 27 times and notched double-digit rebounds 14 times. Eziukwu led Grand Valley State to a 87-9 record overall, a 49-5 mark in GLIAC play and three GLIAC North Division titles the last three years. Callistus ranks third in D-II history with 315 blocked shots, while his 1,571 points rank fifth in GVSU annals.

Richardson averaged 16.0 points, and 7.2 rebounds per game this season. He ranked eighth in the conference in both scoring and rebounding as well as free throw percentage (.806). The 6-8, 250-pound rookie was also seventh in the conference in three-point field goal percentage (.439) and ninth in blocked shots (0.79 bpg.). Richardson had six double-doubles and scored in double digits in 24 of 28 games. He had 10 games where he scored 20 or more points, including a season-high 28 points against then fourth-ranked Findlay. Richardson reached double figures in rebounds seven times. Richardson is the second AU player to be named the GLIAC "Freshman of the Year" following Alex Jones, who won the award following the 2003-04 season.

Wesley guided the Lakers to school and GLIAC history during the 2007-08 campaign. Wesley led GVSU to a 30-0 regular season mark, the first undefeated regular season in school history, and an 18-0 GLIAC record, the first time a team has won 18 games in a GLIAC single-season. Wesley's 2007-08 squad currently leads the nation in scoring defense (53.3 points per game) and field goal percentage defense (36.1 pct.). Wesley, who is 105-19 (.846) in his fourth year at the helm of the Laker basketball program, picked up his 100th career victory third-fastest (119 games) in D-II history and eighth-fastest in the history of college basketball. He leads all active coaches in the NCAA ranks with an .846 winning percentage. GVSU is 87-9 since the 2005-06 season overall, including a 49-5 record in GLIAC action. Wesley has led GVSU to three straight GLIAC North Division titles (2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08).

Joining Eziukwu on the All-GLIAC North Division First Team are: Grand Valley State senior guard **Jason Jamerson** and junior guard **Pete Trammell**; Michigan Technological University senior forward **Tim Strom**; and Northern Michigan University senior guard **Jake Suardini**.

The All-GLIAC South Division First Team includes: Findlay junior forward **Josh Bostic**; Gannon University junior forward **Kyle Goldcamp** and senior forward **Vince Mosley**; Hillsdale College senior forward **Tim Homan**; Mercyhurst College senior guard **Terry Smith**.

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**Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference
2007-08 Men's Basketball All-Conference Teams and Postseason Awards**

Player of the Year: Callistus Eziukwu - Grand Valley State University (Sr., C, Muskegon, Mich.)

Freshman of the Year: Kale Richardson - Ashland University (Fr., C, Carroll, Ohio)

Coach of the Year: Ric Wesley - Grand Valley State University

GLIAC North Division All-Conference First Team

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Pos.</u>	<u>Hometown/High School</u>
Callistus Eziukwu	Grand Valley State University	Sr.	C	Muskegon, Mich.
Jason Jamerson	Grand Valley State University	Sr.	G	Muncie, Ind./Burriss
Tim Strom	Michigan Technological University	Sr.	F	Marquette, Mich.
Jake Suardini	Northern Michigan University	Sr.	G	Gwinn, Mich.
Pete Trammell	Grand Valley State University	Jr.	G	Jenison, Mich.

GLIAC South Division All-Conference First Team

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Pos.</u>	<u>Hometown/High School</u>
Josh Bostic	University of Findlay	Jr.	F	Columbus, Ohio/Westland
Kyle Goldcamp	Gannon University	Jr.	F	Pittsburgh, Pa./Central Catholic
Tim Homan	Hillsdale College	Sr.	F	Celina, Ohio
Vince Mosley	Gannon University	Sr.	F	Boynton Beach, Fla./Dillard
Terry Smith	Mercyhurst College	Sr.	G	Syracuse, N. Y./Bishop Ludden

GLIAC North Division All-Conference Second Team

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Pos.</u>	<u>Hometown/High School</u>
Mark Barnes	Northwood University	Jr.	G	Saginaw, Mich.
L.J. Kilgore	Grand Valley State University	Sr.	G	Grand Rapids, Mich./Creston
Ryan Kuhl	Lake Superior State University	Jr.	F	Rochester, Mich./Adams
Lawrence Ross	Saginaw Valley State University	Jr.	G	Battle Creek, Mich./Central (Miami, Ohio)
Robby Springborn	Michigan Technological University	Jr.	G	Fond du Lac, Wis.

GLIAC South Division All-Conference Second Team

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Pos.</u>	<u>Hometown/High School</u>
Brett Bartlett	Ashland University	Sr.	G	Lagrange, Ohio/Keystone
Tony Gugino	Hillsdale College	Jr.	F	Holland, Mich./Christian
Morgan Lewis	University of Findlay	Jr.	F	Painesville, Ohio/Harvey
Wynn Sarden	Wayne State University	Sr.	G	Sterling Heights, Mich./Warren Cousino
Bret Wackerly	Ashland University	Jr.	G	Canton, Ohio/Hoover

GLIAC North Division All-Defensive Team

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Pos.</u>	<u>Hometown/High School</u>
Callistus Eziukwu	Grand Valley State University	Sr.	C	Muskegon, Mich.
Sean Geary	Michigan Technological University	Jr.	G	Marquette, Mich.
L.J. Kilgore	Grand Valley State University	Sr.	G	Grand Rapids, Mich./Creston
Pete Trammell	Grand Valley State University	Jr.	G	Jenison, Mich.
Mike Zuiderveen	Saginaw Valley State University	Sr.	C	Kalamazoo, Mich./Christian

GLIAC South Division All-Defensive Team

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Pos.</u>	<u>Hometown/High School</u>
Josh Bostic	University of Findlay	Jr.	F	Columbus, Ohio/Westland
Kyle Goldcamp	Gannon University	Jr.	F	Pittsburgh, Pa./Central Catholic
Joe Lindsey	Gannon University	Jr.	G	Spring Valley, N. Y.
Marcus Parker	University of Findlay	So.	G	Canton, Ohio/McKinley
Terry Smith	Mercyhurst College	Sr.	G	Syracuse, N. Y./Bishop Ludden