



2005 SVSU CARDINALS FOOTBALL

Sports Information Office • Ryder Center 207 • 7400 Bay Road, University Center, MI 48710
 Telephone: (989) 964-4053 • Fax: (989) 964-7389 • Website: www.svsu.edu/athletics
 Ryan Thompson, Director of Sports Information & Promotions

For Release: September 14, 2005

Cards Look to Remain Unbeaten in '05 and versus Oilers

The Saginaw Valley State Cardinals bring a 2-0 record into today's game against the University of Findlay. The Oilers are 3-0 overall and 2-0 in the GLIAC entering the contest. Findlay has been living on the edge in their last two games with two three-point wins over Hillsdale and Northern Michigan. Last week, Findlay needed two overtimes to dispose of Northern Michigan, 40-37, in front of the home crowd at Donnell Stadium. Saginaw Valley State will try and take advantage of the fact that this will be the first road game of the season for the Oilers. The Cardinal offense will look to expose an Oiler defense that was picked apart last week by Northern Michigan. The Wildcats gained 472 yards and Buddy Rivera of NMU earned GLIAC Offensive Player of the Week honors after passing for 295 yards and four TD's and rushing for 102 yards and another score. Saginaw Valley State features the second-best total offense in the GLIAC averaging 449.5 yards per contest. Sophomore signal-caller **Chris Dougherty** (*Grinnell, Iowa*) has played well in his first two collegiate starts. Last week, he threw for 319 yards and three TD's in a 29-3 win over Wayne State.

Saginaw Valley State owns a 5-0 advantage in the all-time series with Findlay and have outscored the Oilers, 222-65, in the process. The Cardinals won 38-24 last year at Findlay in a game that featured 937 yards of total offense. Saginaw Valley ran 68 plays and gained 523 yards (7.7 per play) including 220 yards on the ground. Marcus Ewing ran for 133 yards and one TD for the Cards. Michael Simpson led the Oilers with 89 rushing yards on 23 carries with one TD. Mark Radlinski was 18-of-28 for 303 yards and three TD's for SVSU. Kevin Crooks was 21-of-32 for 189 yards for Findlay. John DiGiorgio recorded 14 tackles and Damion DeRosia added six tackles, one sack, one pass breakup and one blocked kick. Nick Notario had 12 tackles and one tackle for loss for Findlay.

Senior **John DiGiorgio** (*Shelby Twp., Mich./Eisenhower*) is closing in on a milestone at SVSU. He needs ten tackles to become the all-time leading tackler in school history and currently ranks third on the all-time chart. This season, he has collected 29 tackles and ranks second in the GLIAC in tackles per game (14.5).

Sophomore wideout **Rick Cottengim** (*Elk Grove, Calif.*) established a new career-high with eight catches against Wayne State. Cottengim turned those catches into 123 receiving yards and also found the end zone on a second-quarter 22-yard screen pass. In addition, he had two punt returns for 28 yards totaling 151 all-purpose yards. This season, he ranks seventh in the GLIAC in receptions per game (5.0) and fourth in all-purpose yards per game (137.0). In addition, Cottengim ranks second in the GLIAC in punt return average (12.0).

Cardinal Quick Facts

Location	University Center, MI 48710
Enrollment	9,448
Nickname	Cardinals
Colors	Red, White & Blue
Stadium	Harvey Randall Wickes Memorial
Capacity	6,300
Conference	GLIAC
President	Dr. Eric R. Gilbertson
Athletics Director	Joe Vogl
Sports Information Director	Ryan Thompson
Office/Cell Phone	989-964-4053; 989-992-6514
FAX Number	989-964-7389
Press Box Phone	989-755-0016
E-mail	rgthomps@svsu.edu
Web Site	www.svsu.edu/athletics
Head Coach	Randy Awrey (No. Michigan, 1978)
Year at SVSU	7th; 52-18
Career Record	16th; 100-59-1
Office Phone	989-964-7315
Off. Coord./Ass't Head Coach	Jim Kiernan
Defensive Line	John Wesolek
Linebackers	Mike Juscik
Offensive Line	Todd Carter
Wide Receivers	Brandon Johnson
Def. Backs/Special Teams	Tom Wender
Offensive Formation	Multiple
Defensive Formation	5-2
2004 Record/GLIAC	7-3/7-3 (4th)
2004 Letterwinners Returning/Lost	40/19
Starters Returning (O, D, S)	13 (6, 5, 2)
Starters Lost (O, D, S)	11 (5, 6, 0)

2005 GLIAC Standings

Team	Conf.		Overall	
	W-L	Pct.	W-L	Pct.
Grand Valley State	3-0	1.000	3-0	1.000
Michigan Tech	3-0	1.000	3-0	1.000
Ashland	2-0	1.000	3-0	1.000
Findlay	2-0	1.000	3-0	1.000
Saginaw Valley State	2-0	1.000	2-0	1.000
Northwood	1-1	.500	2-1	.667
Gannon	1-2	.333	1-2	.333
Indianapolis	1-2	.333	1-2	.333
Northern Michigan	1-2	.333	1-2	.333
Hillsdale	1-2	.333	1-2	.333
Wayne State	0-2	.000	0-2	.000
Ferris State	0-3	.000	0-3	.000
Mercyhurst	0-3	.000	0-3	.000

2005 Saginaw Valley State Football Schedule of Opponents

Date	Day	Opponent	Site	Time/Result	Series	Atten.	Notes
Aug. 27	Sat.	at Northwood*	Midland, Mich.	W 9-7	20-10-1	4,292	Cards score TD with 23 secs. left
Sept. 3	Sat.	Open Date					
Sept. 10	Sat.	Wayne State*	Univ. Center, Mich.	W 29-3	24-6-1	3,750	Cards limit WSU to 231 total yards
Sept. 17	Sat.	Findlay*	Univ. Center, Mich.	12:00 pm	5-0	N/A	SV claimed 38-24 win in '04
Sept. 24	Sat.	at Hillsdale*	Hillsdale, Mich.	7:00 pm	15-13	N/A	SV was a 35-14 winner last year
Oct. 1	Sat.	at Indianapolis*	Indianapolis, Ind.	5:00 pm ET	17-6	N/A	Greyhounds add lights for '05
Oct. 8	Sat.	Mercyhurst*	Univ. Center, Mich.	12:00 pm	6-1	N/A	Lakers upset Cards, 22-15, in '04
Oct. 15	Sat.	at Grand Valley State*	Allendale, Mich.	7:00 pm	10-22	N/A	Cards defeated #1 GVSU in '04
Oct. 22	Sat.	at Northern Michigan*	Marquette, Mich.	1:00 pm	10-14	N/A	Coach Awrey's alma mater
Oct. 29	Sat.	Michigan Tech*	Univ. Center, Mich.	12:00 pm	15-6	N/A	Huskies Co-GLIAC Champs in '04
Nov. 5	Sat.	Ferris State*	Univ. Center, Mich.	12:00 pm	14-15-1	N/A	Cards thump Bulldogs, 47-14, in '04

* GLIAC Games

Special Dates: Community Youth Day 9/10; Band Day 9/17; Homecoming 10/8; Admissions Open House 10/29; Senior Day 11/5



2005 SVSU CARDINALS FOOTBALL

Sports Information Office • Ryder Center 207 • 7400 Bay Road, University Center, MI 48710
Telephone: (989) 964-4053 • Fax: (989) 964-7389 • Website: www.svsu.edu/athletics
Ryan Thompson, Director of Sports Information & Promotions

For Release: September 14, 2005

NCAA Statistical Breakdown (2005 Totals)

SVSU	Category	UF
449.5 (17th)	Total Offense Per Game	339.0 (76th)
283.0 (33rd)	Total Defense Per Game	348.3 (73rd)
155.5 (53rd)	Rushing Offense Per Game	188.3 (32nd)
126.0 (60th)	Rushing Defense Per Game	169.7 (90th)
294.0 (6th)	Passing Offense Per Game	150.7 (97th)
101.2 (37th)	Pass Efficiency Defense	116.7 (71st)
19.0 (90th)	Scoring Offense	29.3 (50th)
5.0 (3rd)	Scoring Defense	20.3 (49th)
0.5 (47th)	Turnover Margin	1.7 (14th)
9.0 (133rd)	Team Kickoff Returns	18.2 (100th)
11.63 (38th)	Team Punt Returns	4.0 (110th)
34.22 (28th)	Team Net Punting	31.56 (63rd)

*based on 147 Division II schools sponsoring football

Oh Brother!

SVSU is cultivating a "family" atmosphere this season as four sets of brothers are on the current roster. Joe and John DiGiorgio are starters on the defensive side. Bob and Tony Awrey are wideouts for the Cards. Chris and Joe Dougherty are identical twins and Forrest and Josh Hamlin are defensive tackles in the trenches. Joe DiGiorgio is a safety who has recorded eight tackles and recovered one fumble. John DiGiorgio leads the team with 29 tackles, including three and a half tackles for loss. Bob Awrey leads the team with 13 catches for 112 yards. Tony Awrey caught his first pass as a true freshman last week against Wayne State for a 16-yard TD. Chris Dougherty is the starting quarterback and has thrown for 578 yards and four TD's. Joe Dougherty has three catches for 26 yards. Forrest Hamlin has recorded one tackle and half a sack while Josh Hamlin is planning on redshirting this season.

Rankings

The Cardinals made a slight move this week in the AFCA Coaches Poll and are currently ranked 11th with 370 points. SVSU jumped up one spot over Tuskegee (Ala.) with a 29-3 win over Wayne State. One top 25 matchup occurs this week as #5 Nebraska-Omaha travels to #16 South Dakota for a North Central Conference showdown. SVSU is one of four teams in the top 25 this week along with #2 Grand Valley State, #17 Michigan Tech and #21 Northwood. The Cardinals stayed put at #12 in the latest D2Football.com and Don Hansen's Football Gazette Polls.

Awrey Closing In

Head Coach Randy Awrey is approaching the top of the mountain at SVSU and currently needs seven wins to tie George Ihler with 61 wins as the winningest coach in school history. Awrey's 54-18 record (.750) is tops at SVSU for winning percentage.

Last Week

The Saginaw Valley State Cardinals improved to 2-0 with a 29-3 win over visiting Wayne State on Saturday. The Cardinal defense played well for the second straight game limiting the Warriors to 231 yards of total offense and 3.6 yards per play. Wayne State had 113 yards of offense in the first half and 118 yards in the second half. The Warriors were 2-of-15 on third down conversions and rushed for 85 yards on 31 carries. Conversely, the Saginaw Valley offense was firing with 512 total yards, including 183 rushing yards. The Cards ran 46 times as senior **Logan Barnhart** (*Haslett, Mich.*) carried 13 times for 73 yards. Sophomore quarterback **Chris Dougherty** (*Grinnell, Iowa*) led the offense with 319 passing yards and three scores. He found **Stan Spencer** (*Mt. Pleasant, Mich.*) on a 43-yard TD in the first quarter to give SVSU a 6-0 lead. Later, he found **Rick Cottengim** (*Elk Grove, Calif.*) with 57 seconds left in the first half on a 22-yard screen pass for a TD giving SVSU a 13-3 halftime lead.

Dougherty completed his touchdown throws in the third quarter as he found freshman **Tony Awrey** (*Saginaw, Mich./Nouvel Catholic*) for his first collegiate catch for a 16-yard TD with 58 seconds left in the quarter to give SVSU a 23-3 lead. Sophomore **Bobby Belmonte** (*East Grand Rapids, Mich./Catholic Central*) kicked three field goals in the second half to round out the scoring. He connected from 25, 27, and 26 yards respectively as SVSU drives stalled inside the end zone.

Nine different Cards caught a pass including Cottengim's team-leading eight catches for 123 yards. Junior **Bob Awrey** (*Freeland, Mich.*) had six catches for 56 yards. On the defensive side, senior linebacker **John DiGiorgio** (*Shelby Twp., Mich./Eisenhower*) had a game-high 15 tackles, a sack and one forced fumble.

"Special" Teams

It is said that special teams usually decides the game and if so SVSU is in good hands with sophomore placekicker **Bobby Belmonte** (*East Grand Rapids, Mich./Catholic Central*) and senior punter **Dustin Esslin** (*Pickford, Mich.*). Belmonte currently ranks tied for first at SVSU connecting on 75 percent of his field goals (12-of-16), while Esslin is tops on the all-time list averaging 40.1 yards per punt in his career.

Stan the Man

Senior wide receiver **Stan Spencer** (*Mt. Pleasant, Mich.*) hauled in a season-long 43-yard TD catch versus Wayne State and now ranks ninth all-time at SVSU with 76 receptions.