



2004 SVSU CARDINALS FOOTBALL

Sports Information Office • Ryder Center 207 • 7400 Bay Road, University Center, MI 48710
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 Ryan Thompson, Director of Sports Information & Promotions

For Release: October 5, 2004

2004 Schedule

Date	Opponent	Time
Aug. 28	NORTHWOOD	L 24-21
Sept. 11	at Wayne State	W 45-0
Sept. 18	at Findlay	W 38-24
Sept. 25	HILLSDALE	W 35-14
Oct. 2	INDIANAPOLIS	W 62-14
Oct. 9	at Mercyhurst	1:30 pm
Oct. 16	GRAND VALLEY STATE	12:00 pm
Oct. 23	NORTHERN MICHIGAN	12:00 pm
Oct. 30	at Michigan Tech	1:00 pm
Nov. 6	at Ferris State	1:00 pm

Home Games in CAPS and **Bold** at Harvey Randall Wickes Memorial Stadium
 All Games are GLIAC Contests



2004 Standings

	GLIAC			
	W	L	PF	PA
Northwood	5	0	237	93
Michigan Tech	5	0	205	67
Grand Valley State	5	0	178	39
Ferris State	5	1	140	97
Saginaw Valley State.. 4	1	1	201	76
Findlay	2	3	124	127
Gannon	2	4	179	223
Mercyhurst	2	4	172	225
Hillsdale	2	4	152	214
Ashland	1	4	74	155
Northern Michigan	1	4	91	189
Wayne State	1	4	40	188
Indianapolis	0	6	111	211

Inside the Numbers

SV	Category	MC
3rd (40.2)	Scoring Offense	6th (28.7)
3rd (15.2)	Scoring Defense	11th (37.5)
2nd (268.8)	Pass Offense	6th (219.3)
1st (166.2)	Pass Defense	8th (212.0)
9th (17.2)	Kickoff Returns	12th (13.9)
1st (2.00)	Turnover Margin	3rd (1.17)
8th (170.8)	Rushing Offense	13th (47.8)
7th (146.4)	Rushing Defense	12th (258.7)
4th (439.6)	Total Offense	12th (267.2)
3rd (312.6)	Total Defense	11th (470.7)
2nd (163.6)	Pass Efficiency	8th (118.7)
2nd (98.2)	Pass Def Efficiency	6th (110.1)
10th (57.6)	Penalties	6th (49.7)
5th (40.6)	3rd Down Conv.	12th (29.7)

This Week

The Cardinals (4-1, 4-1 GLIAC) are looking to improve to 3-0 on the road this season as they travel to Erie, Pa. for a clash with Mercyhurst (2-4, 2-4 GLIAC) on Saturday at 1:30 pm. SVSU posted a season-high 62 points last week in a win over Indianapolis and in the process maintained their hold of fifth-place in the GLIAC standings. The Cardinals bring the 24th-ranked total offense into the game as they are averaging 439.6 yards per game against a Mercyhurst defense that is allowing 470.7 yards per game. The aerial attack for Saginaw Valley is averaging 268.8 yards per game which ranks 20th in Division II. The Cards are also winning by an average of 25 points per game this season and are opportunistic on defense ranking second nationally in turnover margin (+10, 2.0 per game).

Last Game

Senior quarterback **Mark Radlinski** (*Grand Rapids, Mich./Catholic Central HS*) established a new school record throwing his 61st career TD pass to fellow senior **Mike Crawford** (*Lake Orion, Mich.*) in the third quarter as SVSU rolled in a 62-14 homecoming win over Indianapolis. Radlinski turned in a solid performance in one half of action as he completed 11-of-14 passes for 144 yards and four TD's. Radlinski broke the previous record held by Matt LaFleur.

The Cardinals jumped on the Greyhounds early and often as SVSU scored touchdowns the first seven possessions of the game. SVSU took the opening kickoff and marched six plays and 65 yards in 2:55 with senior **Marcus Ewing** (*Lewiston, Mich./Johannesburg-Lewiston HS*) capping off the drive with a 15-yard TD run, his first of two scores on the day. Ewing toted the ball 13 times for a career-high 182 yards in the contest, including a 50-yard scamper on SVSU's fifth TD drive.

The Cardinals took a 21-0 lead after the first quarter as senior **Michael Collins** (*Rochester, Mich./Adams HS*) ran in a one-yard TD with 11:42 remaining and **Devin Robinson** (*Cambridge, Mass.*) caught a 27-yard TD pass with 4:49 left in the quarter. SVSU put up 28 more points in the second quarter to built a 49-14 lead at the break. SVSU's **Bob Awrey** (*Freeland, Mich.*) hauled in a 10-yard TD catch to put SVSU ahead 28-0 with 12:32 to go in the half. The Greyhounds got on the board with 8:32 in the second quarter as Matt Kohn found Justin Russell on a 15-yard TD hookup capping off a 13-play, 89-yard drive making it 28-7. The Cards responded quickly with a two-play, 58-yard scoring drive with **Rick Cottengim** (*Elk Grove, Calif.*) grabbing an eight-yard TD at the 7:44 mark. One play later, senior **Nicholas Postma** (*Rudyard, Mich.*) picked off a Kohn pass and raced 16 yards for a touchdown making it 42-7.

SVSU concluded their scoring with 13 points in the third quarter. Crawford's 10-yard TD at 12:10 and two **Bobby Belmonte** (*East Grand Rapids, Mich./Catholic Central HS*) field goals pushed the final score to 62-14. Belmonte connected from 32 yards at the 8:58 mark and a season-best 49 yards at the 3:10 mark.

The Cards racked up 466 total yards, including a season-high 298 yards on the ground. Logan Barnhart (Haslett, Mich.) carried 13 times for 83 in the second half. The Cardinal defense picked off four passes for 127 return yards. Postma and **Lenny Dantinne** (*Wallace, Mich./Stephenson HS*) each led the team with nine tackles. Postma also had two pass break-ups and Dantinne's nine stops is a career-high.



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Player Notes

Senior quarterback **Mark Radlinski** (*Grand Rapids, Mich./Catholic Central*) broke the school record for career TD passes with his 61st toss in the third quarter against Indy. Radlinski has thrown for 17 TD's and just two picks this season and currently ranks fourth nationally in pass efficiency (173.9). He has garnered a GLIAC Offensive Player of the Week award this season after a 303-yard, three-TD performance at Findlay. He has also thrown for three or more TD's in four of five games this season, including a career-best five TD's against Hillsdale. Radlinski has thrown for 5,861 career yards and needs 930 more yards to tie the school record for career passing yards.

Senior safety **Nicholas Postma** (*Rudyard, Mich.*) currently ranks second on the team with 40 tackles and leads the team with five tackles for loss of 14 yards. Postma recorded a career-high 17 tackles in a win at Findlay. Postma also has two sacks for a loss of nine yards. Postma led SV with nine tackles and also returned an interception 16 yards for a TD against Indy.

Senior running back **Marcus Ewing** (*Lewiston, Mich./Johannesburg-Lewiston*) has eclipsed the 100-yard barrier in his last two contests. He carried 19 times for 133 yards and a TD at Findlay and then set a career-high with 182 yards on 13 carries with two scores against Indy. Ewing is averaging 6.7 yards per carry and leads the team with 36 points (six TD's).

Freshman wideout **Rick Cottengim** (*Elk Grove, Calif.*) was named GLIAC Special Teams Player of the Week against Wayne State setting a school-record with seven punt returns for 138 yards. In addition, Cottengim returned a punt 69 yards for a TD in the third quarter and currently ranks 26th nationally with a 13.5 yard average. Cottengim currently ranks first on the team in all-purpose yards with 621. He has 229 punt return yards, 235 receiving yards, 144 kickoff return yards and 13 rushing yards. Cottengim had his first 100-yard receiving game with five catches for 115 yards against Hillsdale. He also caught a season-long 75-yard TD in the first quarter against the Chargers.

Rankings

The Cardinals hold down the seventh spot in the regional rankings released this week. SVSU is in the Northwest Region this season and has three upcoming games against teams ranked in the top eight of the region. Northwood, Grand Valley State, St. Cloud State, North Dakota, Michigan Tech and Winona State are the teams in order ahead of the Cardinals. In addition, Don Hansen's Gazette has SVSU ranked sixth nationally. D2Football.com ranks SVSU 11th and the AFCA has the Cards in the 13th spot this week.

On the Road Again

SVSU has won nine straight regular-season road games including a 2-0 mark this season. The Cardinals are averaging 459.5 yards of total offense, including a stout 198.5 yards per game on the ground. SVSU has allowed just three first-half points in two contests and have outscored their opponents, 83-24, including 60-3 in the first half.

Cardinals On the Web

Follow the SVSU football squad on the official Saginaw Valley State athletic website at www.svsu.edu/athletics. Post-game recaps, stats, updated roster and more are just a click away. The Cardinals are also live on the internet with game broadcasts at www.svsu.edu/stream.

Last Year vs. Mercyhurst

The Cardinals defeated the Lakers, 26-3, in Erie behind a strong defensive effort that limited Mercyhurst to 208 yards of total offense, including just seven rushing yards. SVSU put up 363 total yards, including 182 rushing yards on 44 carries. Marcus Ewing led the Cards with 78 rushing yards on 14 carries and a TD. Mark Radlinski was a solid 18-of-27 for 173 yards and a score through the air. Radlinski completed seven passes for 78 yards to Glenn Martinez. Eric Houle kicked two field goals (22, 40) as the Cardinals were 5-of-5 in scoring chances inside the red zone.

Series History vs. Mercyhurst

The Cardinals have a perfect 6-0 record against Mercyhurst in the all-time series. The Lakers have played SVSU tough including a pair of losses by seven points or less in 2000 and 2001. SVSU is 3-0 in Erie and is averaging 37.3 points per game during those meetings. Head Coach Randy Awrey is 5-0 against the Lakers.

2003 - SV 26, MC 3
2002 - SV 51, MC 7
2001 - SV 28, MC 21
2000 - SV 46, MC 40
1999 - SV 40, MC 33
1998 - SV 69, MC 0

Career Stats vs. Mercyhurst

Neil Baumgartner had six tackles in last year's meeting and has 14 tackles in his career against the Lakers. Punter Dustin Esslin is averaging 36.3 yards per punt in six career tries. Marcus Ewing has rushed for 111 yards in two games, including 78 yards and a TD in last year's contest. Mark LaFreniere has caught 13 passes for 263 yards (20.2 ypc) against MC. Mark Radlinski is 25-of-39 for 428 yards and two TD's, including six completions for 201 yards in the 2002 game.