



# 2004 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, 2004

## 2004 Schedule

Date	Opponent	Time
Aug. 28	<b>NORTHWOOD</b>	L 24-21
Sept. 11	at Wayne State	W 45-0
Sept. 18	at Findlay	6:00 pm
Sept. 25	<b>HILLSDALE</b>	12:00 pm
Oct. 2	<b>INDIANAPOLIS</b>	12:00 pm
Oct. 9	at Mercyhurst	1:30 pm
Oct. 16	<b>GRAND VALLEY STATE</b>	12:00 pm
Oct. 23	<b>NORTHERN MICHIGAN</b>	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
Michigan Tech .....	3	0	116	29
Grand Valley State .....	3	0	107	32
Northwood .....	2	0	94	24
Findlay .....	2	0	69	23
Ferris State .....	2	1	50	48
Ashland .....	1	1	39	42
<b>Saginaw Valley State .....</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>24</b>
Mercyhurst .....	1	2	95	124
Gannon .....	1	2	79	107
Hillsdale .....	1	2	79	92
Wayne State .....	0	2	3	115
Indianapolis .....	0	3	62	101
Northern Michigan .....	0	3	33	131

## Inside the Numbers

SV	Category	UF
5th (33.0)	Scoring Offense	3rd (36.3)
3rd (12.0)	Scoring Defense	5th (14.7)
5th (236.0)	Pass Offense	10th (183.0)
1st (104.5)	Pass Defense	5th (191.3)
4th (22.0)	Kickoff Returns	5th (21.2)
1st (3.50)	Turnover Margin	3rd (1.67)
10th (80.0)	Rushing Offense	3rd (249.0)
7th (141.0)	Rushing Defense	5th (104.0)
10th (316.0)	Total Offense	3rd (432.0)
1st (245.5)	Total Defense	4th (295.3)
4th (142.4)	Pass Efficiency	5th (139.8)
1st (69.7)	Pass Def Efficiency	2nd (80.7)
11th (59.0)	Penalties	13th (78.0)
12th (32.1)	3rd Down Conv.	10th (34.0)

## This Week

The Cardinals (1-1, 1-1 GLIAC) look for another road win on Saturday as they visit unbeaten Findlay (3-0, 2-0 GLIAC) at Donnell Stadium. SVSU won their eighth straight on the road last Saturday with a resounding 45-0 victory at Wayne State. The Cardinals have the top-ranked defense in the GLIAC allowing 245.5 yards per game. In addition, the Cardinals rank first in Division II in turnover margin (+7) averaging 3.5 in the plus-column per game. The Cardinals also rank 20th nationally in total defense. Findlay has a potent rushing attack ranking third in the league at 249.0 yards per game. The Oilers also rank second behind the Cardinals in pass defense efficiency (80.7).

## Last Game

The Saginaw Valley State University football squad shook off an opening week loss with a resounding 45-0 win at Wayne State on Saturday from Adams Field. The Cardinals captured their eighth straight road victory dating back to last season and did so in all three aspects of the game – offense, defense and special teams.

The defense put SVSU in the scoring column early in the first quarter as junior safety **Joe DiGiorgio** (*Shelby Twp., Mich./Eisenhower*) returned a Darren Haynes fumble 45 yards to paydirt with 13:09 left in the quarter. DiGiorgio's return was the longest fumble return in school history. The extra-point attempt was no good and the Cards led 6-0. The running attack produced the second Cardinal touchdown as senior **Marcus Ewing** (*Lewiston, Mich./Johannesburg-Lewiston*) scampered in from 10 yards out capping off a four-play, 19-yard drive. Senior quarterback **Mark Radlinski** (*Grand Rapids, Mich./Catholic Central*) misfired on the two-point conversion pass and SVSU led 12-0 with 9:45 left in the opening quarter.

The aerial attack for the Cardinals got warmed up midway through the first quarter as Radlinski connected on three straight TD passes to three different receivers. The first TD pass was hauled in by senior **Stan Spencer** (*Mt. Pleasant, Mich.*) from 16 yards and the **Larry Gibson** (*Riverview, Mich.*) PAT made it 19-0 with 5:10 remaining in the quarter. Senior wideout **Mike Crawford** (*Lake Orion, Mich.*) collected his second TD catch of the year from 10 yards with 2:52 left to give SVSU a 26-0 lead in the game's first 12 minutes. The second quarter featured an acrobatic TD grab by sophomore **Bob Awrey** (*Freeland, Mich.*) his first TD catch of the year and it was 32-0 Cardinals with 6:03 left in the half. The Cardinals registered 202 total yards in the first half and the defense clamped down the Warriors to 44 total yards and just two first downs. Radlinski played sparingly in the second half and went 16-of-22 through the air for 191 yards and four TD's. The four scores tied a single-game high for Radlinski. He was also 13-of-18 for 119 yards and three scores in the first half.

The senior duo of Radlinski and Crawford connected again on a nice double move down the WSU sideline for a 35-yard TD making it 38-0 with 10:55 left in the third quarter. The final score came on the legs of junior wideout **Rick Cottengim** (*Elk Grove, Calif.*) as he returned a punt 69 yards for a TD making the final score 45-0 after a **Bobby Belmonte** (*East Grand Rapids, Mich./Catholic Central*) extra point. Cottengim set a school record for punt returns in a game with seven returns for 138 yards.

The defense held WSU to 157 total yards including just 22 yards on the ground. Junior linebacker **John DiGiorgio** (*Shelby Twp., Mich./Eisenhower*) led the attack with eight tackles. Seven different players had at least four stops as the Cardinals posted their first shutout since last year's 38-0 victory over Ashland on September 27. SVSU was a plus-four in turnover margin as well as senior **Corey Gonzales** (*Auburn Hills, Mich./Avondale*) picked off two passes.

The Cardinals totaled 408 yards of total offense including 231 in the air and 177 yards on the ground. Junior **Logan Barnhart** (*Haslett, Mich.*) rushed for 61 yards on nine carries to lead the Cardinals.



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## Player Notes

Senior quarterback **Mark Radlinski** (*Grand Rapids, Mich./Catholic Central*) is moving up on the all-time lists in several offensive categories. Radlinski ranks second at SVSU with 5,013 yards. In addition, he surpassed 300 completions and 500 attempts in the Northwood game. He is 331-of-540 (.603) for his career which is the top completion percentage in school history. Radlinski completed 19-of-36 for 253 yards and one TD versus NU. Radlinski tied a career-best with four TD tosses at Wayne State. He has now thrown for over 250 yards seven times during a game. Radlinski has thrown for 49 TD's and is 11 shy of tying the school record of 60 set by Matt LaFleur. Radlinski ranks 21st in passing efficiency in Division II this season.

Junior linebacker **John DiGiorgio** (*Shelby Twp., Mich./Eisenhower*) tallied a team-high eight tackles at Wayne State. He eclipsed 200 career tackles with a team-leading 13 tackles against the Timberwolves. DiGiorgio ranks tied for 20th at SVSU with 219 career stops and is averaging 8.11 tackles per game for his career.

Senior wideout **Mike Crawford** (*Lake Orion, Mich.*) caught a career-high five balls for 60 yards and a TD in week one. Crawford caught his third career touchdown in the fourth quarter versus NU. Crawford had the first multi-TD game receiving of his career versus Wayne State. Both of his catches were for touchdowns as he caught a 10-yard TD in the first quarter and a 35-yard TD in the third quarter.

Junior 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 eighth nationally with a 17.9 yard average. Cottengim currently ranks first on the team in all-purpose yards with 293. He has 143 punt return yards, 72 receiving yards, 65 kickoff return yards and 13 rushing yards.

## National Rankings

The Cardinals are ranked nationally in three different media outlet polls this week. SVSU occupies the 14th-spot in the latest AFCA Coaches Poll moving up three spots. The Cardinals are ranked 10th in two different polls. D2Football.com has SVSU up two spots from last week, while Don Hansen's Football Gazette has SVSU up three spots.

## Radio Coverage

The Cardinals once again partner with WSGW AM 790 in Saginaw for all football broadcasts in 2004. J.J Boehm and Dave Slaggert bring SVSU football to life on the airwaves. In addition, Boehm hosts the Coaches' Show with head coach Randy Awrey. WSGW broadcasts the show live from Timbers Bar & Grill on State Street in Saginaw on Thursday's at 7:00 pm. Due to scheduling conflicts this week's show is at 6:00 pm.

## Cardinals On the Web

Follow the SVSU football squad on the official Saginaw Valley State athletic website at [www.svsu.edu/athletics](http://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](http://www.svsu.edu/stream).

## Scouting the Oilers

The University of Findlay has began the season with a 3-0 record including a pair of GLIAC wins on the road over Northern Michigan (41-0) and Hillsdale (28-23). Senior quarterback Kevin Crooks (Toledo, Ohio/Ottawa Hills) has posted solid numbers completing 43-of-73 passes for 549 yards and seven TD's. The running game has been firing on all cylinders as the Oilers are averaging 249.0 yards per game. Junior running back Michael Simpson (Lima, Ohio/Senior) is averaging 117.7 yards on the ground and 6.5 yards per carry. He has 54 carries for 353 yards and three scores. The defense is led by senior defensive back Harry Garland (Zanesville, Ohio) who has 22 tackles, including 19 solo stops. Garland also has five breakups and one interception. The Oilers are a fast-starting squad this year outscoring their opponents, 66-17, in the first half and 34-7 in the second quarter.

## GLIAC Online

For everything concerning the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference including up-to-date standings and statistics, visit the GLIAC online at [www.gliac.org](http://www.gliac.org).

## Series History vs. Findlay

The Cardinals are 4-0 in the all-time series against Findlay dating back to 2000. SVSU has been dominant averaging 46.0 points per game in the four wins. The average scoring margin for the Cards has been 35.7 points per game.

2003 - SV 35, UF 7  
2002 - SV 69, UF 7  
2001 - SV 49, UF 21  
2000 - SV 31, UF 6

