

St. Ambrose University Basketball

St. Ambrose University Quick Facts

Location: Davenport, Iowa
Founded: 1882
Enrollment: 3,780 (fall 2007)
President: Joan Lescinski, CSJ, PhD
Athletic Director: Ray Shovlain
Athletic Fax: 563-333-6239
Nickname: Fighting Bees, Queen Bees
Colors: Navy Blue and White
Affiliation: National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics
Conferences: Mid-States Football Association Midwest League; Mid-American Men's Volleyball Intercollegiate Conference; Midwest Collegiate Conference (baseball, m/w basketball, m/w cross country, m/w golf, m/w soccer, softball, m/w track & field, women's volleyball)

Why are we the Fighting Bees?

One of the most frequent questions asked is where did the Bees come from? Bees have been associated with St. Ambrose, bishop of Milan, because of a legend that when he was an infant his father found his face covered with bees. This was taken to be a sign of future eloquence.

But what about Bees as our mascot? For the first 50 years the St. Ambrose athletics teams were called the Saints. But in 1937 the students mounted a campaign to change the nickname to something else. The Ambrosian News, the student newspaper, took up the issue and asked students for suggestions. As you can imagine there was a wide variety of possibilities: The Big Oaks... the Ambrosian Oaks... the Buffaloes... the SAC (a reference to the initials of the school and to the Indian tribe that once lived here)... the Blue Tide... the Fighting Irish.

One student, Warren Lage, suggested the Bees, and he explained that bees were historically associated with our patron saint and that "the qualities of a bee, such as its industriousness and its ability to sting might exemplify characteristics that might be associated with our athletics teams. These might include: to strive valiantly, to work hard, to be as troublesome to their opponents as a bee is to his." The students voted to name our teams the Bees. Almost immediately the nickname got a nickname, when the Bees became the Blue Swarm.

St. Ambrose Sports Information Office

The St. Ambrose Sports Information Office is located in Office 218 in the athletics offices of Lee Lohman Arena, which is located on the St. Ambrose campus on the corner of Scott and Lombard Streets.

Game Services: Complete statistics will be provided, including halftime box scores and a final game packet including final box scores and complete play-by-play.

Photographers: There is plenty of space for photographers surrounding the court. Photographers are allowed anywhere on either baseline. Photographers are not allowed on the sidelines.

More information on the St. Ambrose athletic program is available online at www.sau.edu/athletics.

2007-08 - Another Banner Year for the Fighting Bees

St. Ambrose had another successful season, on the playing fields and in the classroom, in 2007-08. The Bees won 10 conference championships, had 81 student-athletes earn all-conference honors, and crowned eight All-Americans. St. Ambrose had 110 academic all-conference picks and 53 academic All-Americans. Additionally, SAU led the country with 16 NAIA Scholar Teams.

Staff Directory (area code 563)

Administration:		
Ray Shovlain	Athletic Director ShovlainRaymondJ@sau.edu	333-6233
Beth Lybbert	Administrative Assistant LybbertElizabethA@sau.edu	333-6229
Jim Callahan	Asst. Athletic Director CallahanJamesR@sau.edu	333-6237
Bruce Billingsley	Asst. Athletic Director BillingsleyBruceA@sau.edu	333-6452
Tony Huntley	Athletic Facilities Director HuntleyTonyL@sau.edu	333-6478
Sports Information:		
Brian Thiessen	Sports Information Director ThiessenBrianA@sau.edu	333-6227
Athletic Training:		
Dean Beauchamp	Head Trainer BeauchampDeanJ@sau.edu	333-6235
Haruyo Izumi	Athletic Trainer IzumiHaruyo@sau.edu	333-6061
Johnnie James	Athletic Trainer JamesJohnnieE@sau.edu	333-6062
Jason Vorwerk	Athletic Trainer VorwerkJasonE@sau.edu	333-6061
Head Coaches:		
Nate Altenhofen	Women's Basketball AltenhofenNathanM@sau.edu	333-6230
Bruce Billingsley	Women's Volleyball BillingsleyBruceA@sau.edu	333-6452
Rich Blomgren	M/W Tennis BlomgrenRichardW@sau.edu	333-6476
Jim Callahan	Baseball CallahanJamesR@sau.edu	333-6237
Lance Corber	Dance CorberLanceG@sau.edu	333-6229
Bill Gleeson	Men's Volleyball GleesonWilliamJ@sau.edu	333-6464
Fr. Bud Grant	Men's Soccer GrantRobert@sau.edu	333-6419
Jeff Griebel	Men's Golf GriebelJefferyK@sau.edu	333-6452
Mike Magistrelli	Football MagistrelliMichaelJ@sau.edu	333-6240
Jon Mannall	Women's Soccer MannallJonE@sau.edu	333-6476
Felicia Miles	Cheerleading MilesFeliciaE@sau.edu	333-6346
Bridget Murphy	Softball MurphyBridgetL@sau.edu	333-6229
Dr. Michael Orfitelli	Women's Golf OrfitelliMichaelA@sau.edu	333-6228
Ray Shovlain	Men's Basketball ShovlainRaymondJ@sau.edu	333-6233
Dan Tomlin	M/W Track and Field TomlinDanielD@sau.edu	333-6236
Dan Zeimet	M/W Cross Country ZeimetDanielL@sau.edu	333-6204