



St. Ambrose Fighting Bees Game Notes

St. Ambrose Fighting Bees (4-3, 2-2) vs. St. Xavier Cougars (6-2, 4-0)

Week 10 – Saturday, November 1st, 2003, 1:00 p.m. CDT

St. Xavier Stadium (3,000) – CHICAGO

QUICK FACTS:

St. Ambrose Fighting Bees (4-3, 2-2)

Vs. St. Xavier Cougars (6-2, 4-0)

Date: Saturday, November 1st, 2003

Kickoff: 1:00 p.m. CDT

Site: St. Xavier Stadium (3,000)

National Anthem: TBA

Radio: Live on KALA 88.5 and 105.5

(Matt Veto, play-by play, Matt Carroll, color)

TV: None

Series Record: This will be the 8th time that the Cougars and Fighting Bees face each other, SAU has won 4 of those games. However, the Cougars defeated the Bees last year 24-20 at Brady Street Stadium.

Streaks: After winning their first two games of the season the Fighting Bees (4-3) have lost three out of their last five, but won 35-13 last weekend hosting Iowa Wesleyan. The Cougars (6-2) are riding a six game winning streak, after losing their first two games. Their most recent win came in a close 31-24 contest at Olivet Nazarene.

Coaches:

Cougars – Mike Feminis (6-2, 32-19, fifth year)

Fighting Bees – Todd Sturdy (4-3, 56-32 ninth year)

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ST. XAVIER COUGARS (6-2)

Date	Opponent	Time	Result	Score
9/6	@ NW Okla. State	1:00	Loss	21-24
9/13	@ UW Whitewater	1:00	Loss	24-35
9/20	WALSH	1:00	WIN	37-7
9/27	@ Urbana	1:00	WIN	45-7
10/4	ST. FRANCIS (IL)	1:00	WIN	37-0
10/11	@ William Penn	1:00	WIN	28-7
Date	Opponent	Time	Streak	Series
10/18	MCKENDREE	1:00	WIN	24-14
10/25	@ Olivet Nazarene	1:00	WIN	31-24
11/1	ST. AMBROSE	1:00	W-6	SAU leads 4-3
11/8	@ Trinity Int'l	1:00		
11/15	IOWA WESLEYAN	1:00		

ST. AMBROSE FIGHTING BEES (4-3)

Date	Opponent	Time	Result	Score
9/13	QUINCY	1:00	WIN	34-7
9/20	@ Waldorf	1:00	WIN	70-0
9/27	@ St. Francis (IN)	1:00	Loss	40-45
10/4	OLIVET NAZARENE	1:00	Loss	18-19
10/11	ST. FRANCIS (IL)	1:00	WIN	50-7
10/18	@ Trinity Int'l	1:00	Loss	3-24
10/25	IOWA WESLEYAN	1:00	WIN	35-13
Date	Opponent	Time	Streak	Series
11/1	@ St. Xavier	1:00	W-1	SAU leads 4-3
11/8	WILLIAM PENN	1:00		WPU leads 7-6
11/15	@ McKendree	1:30		SAU leads 4-1

THE STAKES: The Fighting Bees are looking to win consecutive games and improve upon a 4-3 record. The Fighting Bees have won 22-of-25 contests in the MSFA Midwest over the past three seasons. The Cougars will be looking to win their seventh straight game and continue their undefeated home record this season. They lost their first two game of the year, first at NW Oklahoma State 21-24, then at UW Whitewater 24-35. SXU has defeated Walsh, Urbana, St. Francis (IL), William Penn, McKendree, and Olivet Nazarene. Last year the Cougars finished with a 9-3 record.

THE SERIES: This is the 8th meeting between the two teams with the Fighting Bees having the advantage of winning 4 of those games. Last season the Cougars knocked off the Bees in a 24-20 win with two games remaining in the season, handing SAU one of its three losses of the year.

THE IF's:

- Give the Fighting Bees their fifth win of the 2003 season
- Give the Fighting Bees their 5th victory against the Tigers
- Give head coach Todd Sturdy his 57th victory





JUST SHY OF A GRAND: How close was he? So close he easily could have got it with one more play. But junior running back Joe Schimmel fell just shy of hitting the 1,000 rushing yards mark. Schimmel needed 175 yards to get to the 1,000-yard plateau entering last Saturday's game. Schimmel finished the day with 171 yards on 21 carries, four of those going for scores. To top his day, Schimmel started his day off with a bang, scoring three of those scores in the first quarter alone. The 996 yards so far this season is 14th overall. He also continued his streak of eclipsing the 100 rushing yard barrier with his 171-yard performance. Schimmel has rushed for 100-plus in every game, so far this season. In his career, Schimmel has rushed for 1,652 yards in his career, which ranks tenth all-time on the career list. Schimmel was named MSFA Midwest Player of the Week for his performance Saturday.

DON'T PASS ON THIS DEFENSE: The St. Ambrose Fighting Bees defense continued to keep teams from racking up big yardage against them when they limited the Iowa Wesleyan Tigers to 205 yards of total offense and maintaining their number one ranking in the MSFA in total defense and pass defense. They are only allowing 231.0 total yards of offense and have only given up 107.6 yards through the air. Last week they ranked towards the top in the NAIA in both categories. This week's national stats have yet to be released.

STREAK STOPPERS: It was last season at this time that the St. Ambrose Fighting Bees looked to win their 20th consecutive MSFA Midwest game. However, the St. Xavier Cougars would have nothing to do with that. They stopped the Mid-States record with a 24-20 victory at Brady Street Stadium. Saturday's match up will be one day shy of the one-year anniversary of the Cougars win.

BACK-TO-BACK: It has only happened once this season and it is something that head coach Todd Sturdy wants to change, but the Fighting Bees have only put together back-to-back wins once this season and it was the first two games of the season against Quincy and Waldorf. Since then, the Bees have lost two straight, won one, lost one and won one.

HEAD-TO-HEAD: They have only met seven times entering this Saturday's eighth meeting and neither team holds a commanding edge over the other. The Fighting Bees lead the overall series 4-3 with the Fighting Bees winning two of the last three. SAU won the first two meetings before the Cougars battle back to tie the series with the next two wins. The Fighting Bees took the contests in 2000 and 2001 to grab a 4-2 lead and then the Cougars inched a game closer with last years victory.

NATIONALLY RANKED: Despite falling out of the NAIA Top 25 polls two weeks ago, the Fighting Bees still rank among the nation's best in offensive and defensive statistics. They also are receiving votes from the other NAIA polls, NAIAFootball.net and Don Hansen have the Fighting Bees ranked in the Top 30 in the nation. Don Hansen has the Bees ranked at No. 30 and NAIAFootball.net has the Bees receiving votes. The NAIA Stats will be released later this week.

LAST SERIES MEETING: It was November 2nd of last season when the Cougars knocked the Bees from their 19 consecutive game MSFA Midwest record winning streak. The Cougars shut out the Fighting Bees in the second half after trailing 20-10 entering the break. But 14 points in the third quarter gave the Cougars a lead that they would not relinquish. Despite out-gaining the Cougars 445-376 and accumulating 33 first downs compared to 15, the Fighting Bees could not find the end zone in the second half. Running back Brandon Adolphs rushed for 160 yards on 18 carries to lead the Bees.





LEAGUE TOP 10s: Fighting Bees from today's match up who rank among the MSFA's statistical leaders:

FIGHTING BEES LEADERS			
Player	Rank	Category	Stat
Joe Schimmel	2	Rushing	142.3
Jeff Kietzman	4	Total Offense	192.7
Jeff Kietzman	4	Passing	171.1
Joe Schimmel	2	All-Purpose Yards	180.6
Jeff Kietzman	3	Pass efficiency	143.3
Andy Ford	1	Punt return avg.	13.3
Joe Schimmel	2	Scoring avg.	12.0

TALE OF THE TAPE:

Statistical Category	Fighting Bees		Tigers	
	Rank	Stat	Rank	Stat
Scoring Offense	3	35.7	4	30.9
Scoring Defense	4	16.4	2	14.8
Total Offense	2	451.9	5	385.1
Total Defense	1	231.0	4	275.8
Pass Offense	6	172.7	3	203.8
Pass Defense	1	107.6	5	145.6
Rushing Offense	3	279.1	8	181.4
Rushing Defense	3	123.4	4	130.1
Time Of Possession	15	25:50	2	32:43
Pass Efficiency	2	138.6	5	124.7
Pass Def. Eff.	1	83.3	4	100.5
Kickoff Returns	14	16.2	11	18.1
Punting	10	29.6	7	31.3
Punt Returns	4	12.0	15	4.5
Turnover Margin	7	.29	9	-.12
Field Goals	8	.667	5	.778
PAT Kicking	8	.867	1	1.000
Sacks By	13	10	12	12
Sacks Against	6	10	2	3
First Downs	6	141	2	176
Opponents First Downs	1	101	4	121
Penalties	12	77.7	5	54.6
Opp. Penalties	14	39.4	7	59.4

PLAYER TO WATCH: Since he is only four yards shy of a 1,000 rushing yard season, all eyes will be on junior running back **Joe Schimmel**. Schimmel will also be looking to continue his streak of seven consecutive games with over 100-plus yards on the ground. He may have a little weight on his shoulders this week, but it has not stopped him yet this season. Schimmel has accumulated 996 yards on the ground and 1,652 in his three-year career. Both rank in the SAU all-time statistical categories and Schimmel still has the remainder of this season and all of next season to add to those totals.





Trivial Pursuit

Tallest Player: 6'5" – Six Players
 Shortest Player: 5'8" – Sherwood, Fette
 Heaviest Player: 305 – Raul Blanco
 Lightest Player: 160 – Halupnik, Ford
 Native Iowans: 34
 Native Illinoisians: 61
 High Schools represented: 64
 Players 300+ pounds: 3
 Players 6'5" or taller: 6

**2003 Roster Breakdown
By State**

Illinois (61) Texas (1)
 California (5) Indiana (1)
 Iowa (34) Missouri (1)
 Wisconsin (2)

SAU Home GAME MVP AWARD (selected by media)

Week	Opp.	Player
3	Quincy	Joe Schimmel
6	Olivet Nazarene	Paul Berge (Olivet Nazarene)
7	St. Francis (IL)	Jeff Kietzman
9	Iowa Wesleyan	Joe Schimmel
11	William Penn	

SAU Home GAME OFFENSIVE AWARD (selected by media)

Week	Opp.	Player
3	Quincy	Joe Schimmel
6	Olivet Nazarene	Joe Schimmel
7	St. Francis (IL)	Jeff Kietzman
9	Iowa Wesleyan	Joe Schimmel
11	William Penn	

SAU Home GAME DEFENSIVE PLAYER AWARD

Week	Opp.	Player
3	Quincy	Luke Perry
6	Olivet Nazarene	Paul Berge (Olivet Nazarene)
7	St. Francis (IL)	Mike Aussieker
9	Iowa Wesleyan	Adam Panther
11	William Penn	

Fighting Bees "When" Stats

3-1 at Brady Street Stadium
 1-2 on the road

2-2 vs. MSFA Midwest Conference
 1-1 vs. MSFA Mid-east Conference

4-3 on Saturdays

2-1 in September
 2-2 in October
 0-0 in November

4-0 when leading after the first quarter
 0-1 when trailing after the first quarter
 0-2 when tied after the first quarter

4-0 when leading at halftime
 0-3 when trailing at halftime
 0-0 when tied at halftime

4-1 when leading after the third quarter
 0-2 when trailing after the third quarter
 0-0 when tied after the third quarter

4-1 in games decided by 10+ points
 0-1 in games decided by 4-9 points
 0-1 in games decided by 3 points or less

0-1 when opponent scores more than 28 points
 4-2 when opponent scores less than 28 points

4-1 when the Bees score more than 28 points
 0-2 when the Bees score less than 28 points

4-1 when the Bees scores first
 0-2 when the opponent scores first





ST. AMBROSE FIGHTING BEES TEAM NUMERICAL ROSTER

#	Name	YR	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Home Town	High School/JC
1	Joe DuPage	JR	WR	5' 9	180	Pekin, IL	Pekin
2	Ricky Shepard	SR	LB	6'2	220	Corona, CA	Chaffey C.C.
3	Larry Williams	JR	RB	5'9	175	Colton, IL	San Bernardino JC
4	TJ Sheedy	SR	DB	5'10	190	Davenport, IA	Davenport North
5	Alex Romero	SR	DB	5'9	195	Santa Ana, CA	Mater Dei
6	Nic Gieselman	SO	WR	5'10	165	Burlington, IA	West Burlington
7	Chris Burhans	FR	WR	6'1	200	Chicago, IL	St. Rita
8	Adam Panther	JR	DB	6'1	190	Eldridge, IA	North Scott
9	Ryan Antonik	SR	TE	6'2	230	Chicago, IL	Holy Cross
10	JT Bucy	JR	QB	6'3	195	Lewiston, IL	Lewiston
11	Jeff Kietzman	SO	QB	6'5	205	Eldridge, IA	North Scott
12	Jeff Sherwood	JR	K/P	5'8	170		
13	Ryan Luttenegger	SO	QB	6'2	190	Burlington, IA	Burlington
14	Mike Novak	JR	DE	6'4	250	Cedar Rapids, IA	Cedar Rapids
16	Adam Norland	FR	DB	5'11	185	Keswick, IA	Tri-County
17	Cliff Wherry	JR	DB				
18	Jon James	FR	K/P	5'10	160	Stankey, IA	Oelwein
19	Aaron Washington	SR	WR	6'1	195	Westchester, IL	St. Joe's
20	Shane Jones	JR	WR	6'1	180	Princeton, IL	Princeton
21	Johnny Dickens	JR	DB	6'1	185	Waterloo, IA	East
22	Cale Jasper	JR	DB	5'9	165	Cambridge, IL	Cambridge
23	Justin Fette	FR	RB	5'8	175	St. Olaf, IA	Central Community
24	Andy Ford	JR	WR	5'9	160	Coralville, IA	Iowa City West
25	Ryan Foster	FR	RB	5'11	185	Manchester, IA	West Delaware
26	Chase Schwigen	SO	DB	5'11	195	Milan, IL	Rock Ridge
27	Bryan Beerman	JR	WR	6'2	175	St. Charles, MO	Duchesne
28	Matthew Hunt	FR	DB	6'0	180	Fairfield, IA	Fairfield
29	Luke Perry	JR	DB	6'3	180	Fairfield, IA	Fairfield
30	Paul Vesey	JR	RB	5'11	245	Davenport, IA	Iowa Central C.C.
31	Justin Rose	SO	DB	6'0	175	Farmington, IL	Farmington
32	John Kelley	FR	RB	5'10	170	Burlington, IA	Notre Dame
33	Doug Paver	FR	RB	6'1	220	New Lenox, IL	Lincoln Way Central
34	Joe Schimmel	JR	RB	6'0	190	Mokena, IL	Lincoln Way
35	Jake Turner	SR	DB	6'0	180	Davenport, IA	Davenport North
36	Steve Clary	SO	RB	5'9	195	Urbandale, IA	Urbandale
37	Dan Prokup	SR	TE	6'5	245	Spring Valley, IL	Hall
38	Matt Webster	JR	K	6'0	165	Winnebago, IL	Winnebago
39	Steve Parker	FR	RB	6'2	230	Evergreen Park, IL	St. Rita
40	Ben Sacco	SO	LB	6'4	225	East Moline, IL	United Township
41	Marty Marino	FR	LB	5'11	200	Oak Forest, IL	Providence
42	Kevin Hopkins	JR	LB	6'3	220	Cedar Rapids, IA	Linn Mar
43	Christopher Oehmen	FR	DB	6'0	180	Chicago, IL	St. Laurence
44	Kyle Schultz	JR	DB	5'10	185	Lockport, IL	Lockport
45	Mike Aussieker	SR	LB	6'1	225	San Diego, CA	Grossmont C.C.
46	Matt McDermott	FR	DB	6'0	185	Oak Forest, IL	Providence
47	Jonathan Plude	FR	LB	5'9	195	Lemont, IL	St. Rita
48	Jacob Brower	JR	DE	6'4	240	West Des Moines, IA	W. D. Moines Valley
49	Eddie Rose	FR	LB	6'1	220	Marion, IA	Marion
50	Matt Seidel	JR	LB	6'1	220	Princeton, IL	Princeton
51	Rocco Abbanati	JR	LB	5'7	209	Chicago, IL	Holy Cross
52	Darren Miller	FR	LB	5'7	205	Sigourney, IA	Sigourney
53	Brad Cook	FR	OL	6'1	250	Bettendorf, IA	Bettendorf
54	Kyle O'Connor	SR	OL	6'2	290	Sterling, IL	Sterling Newman
55	Kurt Gersch	SO	OL	6'1	275	Rolling Meadows, IL	Rolling Meadows
56	Dru Filkins	FR	OL	6'4	250	Downers Grove, IL	Downers Grove South
57	Andy Wulf	FR	LB	6'0	200	Tipton, IA	Tipton
58	Brian Hunt	JR	LB	6'3	210	Chicago, IL	Brother Rice
59	Chad Odoerfer	SO	LB	6'1	190	Olwein, IA	Olwein
60	Nick Cooper	SO	OL	6'3	250	Washington, IL	Washington
61	Jon Glos	SO	OL	6'3	260	Streamwood, IL	Streamwood
63	Matt Kron	FR	OL	6'1	245	Chicago, IL	Holy Cross





64	Matt Newberry	SO	DE	6'5	250	Burlington, IL	West Burlington
65	Jake Smith	SO	OL	5'11	225		
66	Raul Blanco	SR	OL	6'4	305	Cicero, IL	Morton East
67	John Ford-Harris	JR	OL	6'3	280		
68	Elzie Hunt	SO	OL	5'9	290	Garland, TX	Garland
69	Gabe Barta	SR	OL	6'2	285	Wyoming, IL	Stark County
70	Matt Selle	FR	OL	6'2	300	Dubuque, IA	Wahlert
71	Simon Vogel	FR	OL	6'1	245	Marion, IA	Linn Mar
72	Joe Eirich	SO	DT	6'2	260	Schaumburg, IL	Schaumburg
73	Rory Quinn	JR	DE	5'11	245	Aurora, IL	AC Catholic
74	Craig Hurd	FR	OL	6'3	210	Aurora, IL	AC Catholic
75	Greg Ford	FR	OL	6'0	285	Orion, IL	Alleman
76	Ryan Johnson	FR	OL	6'3	250	Bettendorf, IA	Bettendorf
77	Jonah Mergen	FR	OL	6'2	265	McFarland, WI	Edgewood
78	Paul Cagle	SR	OL	6'3	285	New Lenox, IL	Lincoln Way
79	Sean Dominick	FR	OL	6'4	245	Lemont, IL	Providence
80	Jace Foley	JR	OL	6'5	300	Davenport, IA	Davenport West
81	Ryan Mello	JR	TE	6'3	265	Lakeside, CA	Grossmont C.C.
82	David Ryan	SO	WR	6'1	205	Moline, IL	Moline
83	Ricky Packingham	FR	WR	6'3	180	Washington, IL	Morton
84	Matt Ghiglieri	SR	WR	6'0	200	Toluca, IL	Fieldcrest
85	Jason Lynch	JR	TE	6'4	230	Lemont, IL	Joliet Catholic
86	Cody Zoiti	SO	WR	6'1	190	Canton, IL	Canton
87	Brandin Smith	FR	WR	6'3	180	Rock Island, IL	Rock Island
88	Mitch Szczepaniak	FR	WR	6'1	185	Woodridge, IL	DG South
89	Tim Turkowski	FR	WR	6'4	180	Orland Hills, IL	Providence
90	Jake Becker	FR	DL	6'2	225	Morton, IL	Morton
91	Jason Kratt	JR	DT	6'5	290	Coal Valley, IL	Rock Island Alleman
93	Eric George	FR	DT	6'2	260	Davenport, IA	Assumption
94	Shawn Giffin	JR	DE	6'0	230	New Lenox, IL	Lincoln Way
95	Nathan Shultz	FR	DE	6'4	240	Cedar Rapids, IA	CR Washington
95	Andrew Korpala	FR	DT	6'1	275	Granger, IN	St. Joseph's
97	Brandon Graves	SR	DE	6'5	285	Metamora, IL	Metamora
98	Adam LeDoux	FR	DT	6'1	237	Broadview, IL	Holy Cross
99	Joe Frisco	FR	DT	6'0	265	Peoria, IL	Dunlap

Depth Chart

Offense	Starters	Backup
Quarterback:	#11 Jeff Kietzman	#10 J.T. Bucy
Tailback:	#34 Joe Schimmel	#6 Nic Geiselman
Fullback:	#39 Steve Parker	#81 Ryan Mello
Wide Receiver:	#7 Chris Burhans	#19 Aaron Washington
Wide Receiver:	#1 Joe DuPage	#24 Andy Ford
Tight End:	#9 Ryan Antonik	#85 Jason Lynch
Left Tackle:	#66 Raul Blanco	#76 Ryan Johnson
Left Guard:	#55 Kurt Gersch	#54 Kyle O'Connor
Center:	#53 Brad Cook	
Right Guard:	#69 Gabe Barta	#78 Paul Cagle
Right Tackle:	#78 Paul Cagle	#60 Nick Cooper

Defense

Defensive End:	#94 Shawn Giffin	#57 Andy Wulf
Left Tackle:	#97 Brandon Graves	#73 Rory Quinn
Right Tackle:	#14 Mike Novak	#30 Paul Vesey
Defensive End:	#48 Jacob Brower	#91 Jason Kratt
Outside Linebacker:	#42 Kevin Hopkins	#50 Matt Seidel
Middle Linebacker:	#45 Mike Aussieker	#59 Chad Odoerfer
Outside Linebacker:	#2 Ricky Shepard	#58 Brian Hunt
Cornerback:	#5 Alex Romero	#21 Johnny Dickens
Free Safety:	#4 T.J. Sheedy	#35 Jake Turner
Strong Safety:	#29 Luke Perry	#44 Kyle Schultz
Cornerback:	#8 Adam Panther	#25 Ryne Foster





Game Previews and Recaps

Game #1 – St. Ambrose University Fighting Bees 34; Quincy Hawks 7 September 13, 2003 – Brady Street Stadium (10,000) Davenport, Iowa

DAVENPORT, Iowa – The weather outside was frightful, but the play inside Brady St. Stadium was delightful for the St. Ambrose Fighting Bees. Head coach Todd Sturdy could not have been more pleased with the way his team opened up the 2003 season than with the romp he and his team put on the Quincy Hawks in a 34-7 Fighting Bees victory. Numerous Fighting Bees made their debuts while others proved why they are seasoned veterans. Andy Ford got things started for the Fighting Bees (1-0) returning a Pat Bradfield 34 yard punt 46 yards down to the Hawks six-yard line, setting up Joe Schimmel who scampered in untouched for the Fighting Bees first score. Kicker Matt Webster missed the ensuing extra point. Webster would make up for the early mistake, kicking three of his four field goals in the first half, two from 22 yards, the other from 25. He would later add a 35-yard field goal as well. Webster's first field goal came after University of Iowa transfer Chris Burhans blocked Bradfield's punt that was picked up by St. Ambrose's Luke Perry and returned to the Hawks 30-yard line. The Hawks would score after Webster's first field goal, a drive that went 12 plays for 70 yards capped by LeVar Ammons four-yard rush for the touchdown, which cut the Fighting Bees lead to 9-7. After marching down the field, Fighting Bees quarterback Jeff Kietzman threw an interception into the end zone as time expired in the first quarter. Hawks defensive back Bill Survillion made the diving catch and downed the ball in the end zone. Fighting Bees linebacker Mike Aussieker would return the favor, intercepting a Matthew Wehrle pass and returning it 19 yards to the Hawks 11-yard line. Aussieker finished the game tops in tackles with ten, three assisted, as well as a tackle for a loss, the interception and a pass deflection. The Bees would fail to get into the end zone, however and Webster kicked his second field goal, giving the Bees a 12-7 lead. The Fighting Bees would travel 81 yards on 14 plays to setup Webster's third field goal of the half, giving the Bees a 15-7 lead going into the locker room. Webster also missed a 41-yarder late in the second quarter. Burhans would get his first reception of the year and it was a big one. Burhans hauled in a 55-yard pass from Kietzman to give the Fighting Bees a 22-7 lead with 10:29 to go in the third quarter. Kietzman finished the day 7-of-13 for 127 yards, a touchdown and an interception. "Today was tough (battling the weather) but they had to play in the same conditions too," Kietzman said of his debut. "The offensive line played great today, they deserve all of the credit." "I thought that Jeff played a great game," Sturdy added. "He did some good things, the interception was his only mistake and the ball was wet, so you can't fault him for that. "But he kept his head, he didn't panic or do all those things that you normally get out of when you have a new guy out there." After the Fighting Bees defense forced another Hawks punt, one that was fair caught at the Bees 45-yard line, Schimmel got the call again. He would take the pitch and rush 55 yards for the score. Schimmel finished the day with 180 yards on 19 carries, two touchdowns while hauling in three passes for 26 yards. Schimmel was named the Game MVP and Offensive Player of the Game. "I am pretty proud at how well I played, but I tell ya, the line up front did a great job," Schimmel said. "I have been waiting for this day since I got here, playing behind Nate (Norman) and Brandon (Adolphs). "I waited my time and picked up some things from them along the way and it all worked out." "Joe Schimmel came to play today, he played like a veteran player," Sturdy added. After the Fighting Bees took the 29-7 lead and the defense forced the Hawks to punt again, JUCO transfer Larry Williams saw action at the tailback position, giving Schimmel a rest. The move was a smart one as Williams did almost as much damage as Schimmel did. Williams rushed 17 times for 139 yards in his first game as a Fighting Bee. After Webster added the 35-yard field goal, Aaron Washington blocked a Hawks punt that rolled into the end zone and went for a safety. The Fighting Bees out gained the Hawks 491-238 and controlled the clock, having possession of the ball for 33:13 of the game. "There were a lot of good things," Sturdy said. "We did sputter a little bit there, but it is our first game. "We played well, I was pretty happy with both sides of the ball especially with all the new faces that we had in there and those kids did a good job."

Game #2 – St. Ambrose Fighting Bees 70; Waldorf Warriors 0 September 20, 2003 – Bolstorff Field (1,500) Forest City, Iowa

The trip back home for the No. 13 St. Ambrose Fighting Bees will probably be their easiest of the season as they defeated the Waldorf Warriors 70-0 at Bolstorff Field in Forest City, Iowa. The Fighting Bees jumped out to a 42-0 halftime lead and racked up over 400 yards in total offense in that same span. After playing a few series' in the second half, many of the Bees reserves saw action. Running back Larry Williams dominated the game, racking up 216 yards on the ground on 14 carries, three for touchdowns. Williams had touchdown runs of 3, 41 and 39 on the day. Running back Joe Schimmel also had another outstanding game, playing limited minutes Schimmel rushed 15 times for 153 yards and three touchdowns. Schimmel scampered 3, 42 and 43 yards for his three scores. Quarterback Jeff Kietzman played well in his second game at the helm of the Fighting Bees offense completing 12-of-15 for 171 yards and two touchdowns. Kietzman also rushed six times for 64 yards including a 56 touchdown run. Leading the receiving core was tight end Ryan Antonik, who hauled in three passes for 109 yards and a touchdown on the day. Wide receiver Andy Ford also added a touchdown and caught two passes for 41 yards on the day. The Fighting Bees defense held the Warriors to 47 total offensive yards while the Fighting Bees offense racked up 729 yards. The Fighting Bees also had four times as many first downs (20-5) than the Warriors.





**Game #3 – St. Francis (IN) Cougars 45; St. Ambrose Fighting Bees 40
September 27, 2003 – Cougar Stadium (4,000) Fort Wayne, Ind.**

FT. WAYNE, Ind. - All of the 4,000 plus fans that were in attendance at Bishop John M. D'Arcy Stadium on Saturday sure got their money's worth. In arguably the best game that the NAIA could see all season, the No. 12 St. Francis (IN) Cougars defeated the No. 11 Fighting Bees 45-40 on the most bizarre final play. After fighting back from down 18, the Bees took a 40-39 lead with 1:43 remaining in the game. Bees running back Joe Schimmel rushed 19 yards untouched into the end zone to give the Bees the one-point edge. Quarterback Jeff Kietzman failed to connect with a receiver for the two-point conversion. The Cougars took over with plenty of time to get themselves to within field goal range. Bees kicker Matt Webster booted a 57-yard kickoff to the Cougars eight-yard line where Lewis Fuller returned the kick 24 yards to the 32. Nine plays (including two third down conversions) and 64 yards later the Cougars found themselves at the Fighting Bees four-yard line with three seconds to go. According to the Cougars radio announcers, the Cougars had not attempted a field goal in over two years and Cougars kicker Clint Bontempo had already missed an extra point early on in the game. But head coach Kevin Donley sent out his kicker anyway. The Fighting Bees used their last timeout to try and "ice" Bontempo and came out of the timeout lined up in the "Speed Block" formation (a formation that has all 11 players attempting to block the kick). The plan worked perfectly with Aaron Washington the first to break through the line and stuffing Bontempo's attempt. Game over? Not so fast. Bontempo picked up the loose football and started rushing to the left side of the field only to be met by Bees defenders. Game over? Bees Win? NO! After being hit, Bontempo tossed the ball, which flailed through the air and ended up in the hands of the holder Andy Papagiannis who had been trailing the play. Papagiannis would then continue the play, diving just inside the pylon for the touchdown. Ball game over and celebration time in the end zone for the Cougars as the entire team piled onto Papagiannis after he scored. On the other side of the field the Fighting Bees stood there in total disbelief of what had just happened, pinching themselves in hopes of waking up from a dream. "That has to be one of the craziest things that I have ever seen," Bees head coach Todd Sturdy said. Although this is not the first time Sturdy has seen something like this. "We got beat like that in 1993 against University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse. On a fluke field goal, they bobbled the snap, we (almost) had 'em tackled from behind, the ball popped up in the air, the guy caught it and beat us. "I didn't think it would happen again in my lifetime but it did," Sturdy said in utter shock, still trying to figure out what had happened. "It hurts. We are a good team and they are a good team...it hurts." So what does a coach say to his players after something like that? Not too much according to Sturdy. "I know there is nothing that I can say that is going to make this any better for the kids," Sturdy said. "But there is one thing that I challenged them with is this: one day they are going to get married and perhaps be fortunate enough to have kids, but when there is a bad day like this, what are they going to tell their kids? What are they going to expect out of their son in this same situation? "It's easy if it is just you, to lose focus and be all mad, but what would they tell their son in this situation? Keep their head up, be positive, how quickly and positively are you going to make adjustments, keep fighting, are you going to try harder next time? "You have to be able to come back tomorrow and get the job done, that's the way it has to happen. We'll have a mourning period I am sure, but we'll come back to work and be ready to win and get back at it." The Fighting Bees offense entered the day as the league's top offense (and third overall in the nation of all college football teams NCAA Division I included) and continued their offensive dominance racking up 400 yards. Leading the onslaught was Schimmel who racked up 100+ yards for the third consecutive game this season rushing for 103 yards on 16 carries, two for touchdowns. Sophomore quarterback Jeff Kietzman had a tremendous game, completing 16-of-26 for 226 yards and two touchdowns. He also rushed ten times for 47 yards and a score to cap his day, much to the pleasure of Sturdy. "I am proud of my quarterback," Sturdy said. "He didn't have to throw it as much in the first couple of games and they (St. Francis newspaper) said that we hadn't played any competition and all these things but, that's fine. We're going to be a good football team. "Jeff played his butt off today, he really did a great job. I was proud of him. He battled." The Cougars came out of the gates roaring, scoring the games first 12 points seven minutes and 22 seconds into the game, as well as converting on three third downs. The one thing that both the Cougars (second to last in the MSFA on third down conversions) and Fighting Bees (last in third down conversions) have had trouble doing this season. "That killed us," Sturdy said. "I am not going to sit here and point fingers at anyone, we are just going to have to evaluate some things." Cougars halfback Luther Stroder was the first to strike with a four yard touchdown run, his first of three on the day. Bontempo missed the ensuing extra point and the Cougars led 6-0 early. The Fighting Bees then went three and out and were forced to punt. This time the Cougars only used 50 ticks to score again. Quarterback Chris Brammell found Greg Seiss for a 72 yard score. Next thing you know, the Bees were down in a hurry. Brammell had an outstanding day, completing 20-of-31 for 310 yards, two touchdowns and an interception. But the Bees never gave up, a theme throughout the day. Bees running back Larry Williams started the Bees scoring with a six-yard run and after Webster added the extra point, the Cougars lead was cut to five. Then the Cougars struck twice in a row again. Stroder rushed nine yards for six and sophomore running back Mike Ledo hauled in a 37-yard pass from Brammell to put the Cougars up 25-7. Stroder finished the day with 12 carries for 47 yards while adding three receptions for 27 yards. His counterpart, Ledo racked up a game high 104 yards on 19 carries. Ledo also had four catches for 71 yards. The Fighting Bees lived up to their nickname, fighting their way back with two scores of their own. Schimmel rushed in from three yards out right before the end of the half and receiver Joe DuPage hauled in a 33-yard pass on the first drive of the second half, bringing them within four at 25-21. The Cougars scored twice, sandwiched around Kietzman's 11-yard touchdown run, and led 39-28 with 9:10 left in the game. The Bees then would fail to convert on fourth and six with just under seven minutes remaining, almost taking the wind out of their sails. But, they continued to fight. The Fighting Bees defense forced the Cougars to punt after three consecutive rushes by the Cougars. The Bees would send everyone in efforts of trying to block the punt. Enough defenders broke through the line to force Cougars punter Cam Smith to take an 18-yard loss, being brought down by Luke Perry at the Cougars 15-yard line. Two plays later and the Bees were back in





business. Kietzman's pass was completed to tight end Ryan Antonik for the six-point score. The two-point conversion was unsuccessful. Antonik led the Bees receiving core with six receptions for 60 yards and the score. The ensuing Cougars drive would be brought to a halt when defensive back T.J. Sheedy intercepted Brummell's pass at the Cougars 36-yard line, setting up the final set of plays. "This is a game when it is just a darn shame that one team has to win and one team has to lose," Donley said in as much shock as Sturdy. "These are two great football teams and it could have gone either way. "We didn't make it (the field goal) and we still found a way to win." "This is what it's all about, we got to play in a great football game," Sturdy said. "We grew up a lot today. I think obviously this is going to make us better. "Give them credit, they had a good game plan and played really well."

**Game #4 – Olivet Nazarene Tigers @ St. Ambrose Fighting Bees
October 4, 2003 – Brady Street Stadium (10,000) Davenport, Iowa**

DAVENPORT, Iowa – The old saying is that bad things come in three's. St. Ambrose Fighting Bees head coach Todd Sturdy is hoping that isn't the case. The No. 15 Fighting Bees lost their second consecutive heartbreaking game in two weeks. This time it came at the hands of the Olivet Nazarene Tigers (2-2, 1-0) by a 19-18 score at Brady St. Stadium. The Fighting Bees led by as many as 11 with just over eight minutes left in the game, but the Tigers fought back to take the lead with two minutes and six seconds left. Tigers quarterback Joe Boseo rushed one-yard for the go ahead score. The play was set-up after Boseo completed a 49-yard pass to Shaun Edmonds on a play where many of the Fighting Bees faithful thought a flag should have been throw for offensive pass interference. Boseo finished the day 16-of-36 for 209 yards, a rushing and a passing touchdown. The Fighting Bees did have one last chance at getting into field goal range, but quarterback Jeff Kietzman's pass intended for Joe Schimmel was picked off by Jarvis McClure. That put the nail into the coffin for the Bees. Kietzman had his first rough outing of the season, completing 16-of-26 passes for 192 yards, a touchdown but threw four interceptions. The Fighting Bees did continue their offensive success, racking up 400 yards of total offense. Schimmel led all players yet again with his fourth consecutive 100-plus yard game. This time Schimmel rushed for 175 yards on 28 carries, two went for scores. The first a 2-yard scamper, the other a 7-yard dash. Schimmel also led the receiving core with four receptions for 35 yards. Turnovers cost the Bees as they had a total of six turnovers and were sacked three times throughout the game. The loss drops the Fighting Bees to 2-2 overall and 0-1 in the MSFA Midwest. The Tigers improved to 2-2 on the season and 1-0 in the MSFA Midwest.

**Game #5 – St. Francis (IL) Fighting Saints @ St. Ambrose Fighting Bees
October 11, 2003 – Brady Street Stadium (10,000) Davenport, Iowa**

DAVENPORT, Iowa – The saying goes, we came, we saw, we kicked it. Well the fans of the St. Ambrose Fighting Bees came and saw, but the Fighting Bees football team literally kicked "it." They defeated the visiting St. Francis Fighting Saints (1-4, 0-2) by a commanding 50-7 score in front of one of the largest homecoming crowds ever. "We bounced back after an upsetting loss last week," head coach Todd Sturdy said. "It's a credit to our kids to comeback like they did, they didn't let that loss affect them." "Any win that we get is big and doing it on homecoming makes it that more special." Fighting Bees quarterback Jeff Kietzman responded in tremendous fashion after last week's slip up with 214 total yards of offense and four touchdowns. He was 13-of-22 passing for 190 yards, a touchdown and an interception while adding 24 yards on the ground on nine carries. Kietzman rushed for three touchdowns as well. "He bounced back after a rough outing last week and that shows a lot of character on his part," Sturdy said. "He came out and led our football team today." "I just went out and did what we worked on all week," Kietzman said. "Coach Sturdy had a great game plan and everyone executed real well. "The line blocked well and the receivers caught the balls well." Kietzman also added a punt for 33 yards which ended up bouncing inside the Saints 5-yard line pushing them deep into their own territory. "It was kind of ugly, but it worked," Kietzman said of his punting debut. Kietzman's did what he has done all season, that being completing passes to at least seven different receivers in each game so far this season. His favorite target on Saturday was Joe DuPage. DuPage had five receptions for 95 yards and a touchdown on the day. Running back Joe Schimmel continued his weekly feats yet again. For the fifth time this season, Schimmel rushed for over 100 yards and a touchdown. Saturday he added 139 yards and 28 carries to his total and crossed the goal line once on the day. "They (the Saints) tried to take our big players out of the game, but he played great today," Schimmel said. "Getting a lot of carries was a big part of it, we have guys like Raul (Blanco) and Gabe (Barta) up front who are unstoppable O-linemen and Jeff (Kietzman) had a great day on the passing end of it, opening the run," Schimmel said. The Fighting Bees defense, led by defensive coordinator Rich Wright, came up with another outstanding game, limiting the Saints to 79 yards of total offense, forcing one fumble, intercepting three passes and coming away with six sacks on the day. "The defense played lights out, we didn't have any trouble all day," Sturdy said. Leading the defense was defensive end Shawn Giffin who had ten tackles (four assisted), three of those for a loss of 12 yards, a forced fumble and two sacks for a loss of eight yards on the day. Linebacker Mike Aussieker had five tackles (two assisted), two for a loss of 11 yards, a fumble recovery, a pass break up and a sack for a loss of ten yards on the day. Cornerback Adam Panther had an interception return 24 yards for a touchdown and Ryne Foster added the other interception on the day. "They did a great job," Sturdy said. "The only time we put them in a hole was when we threw that interception offensively and that was the only field position that the Saints had all day." The Fighting Bees dominated from the word go, scoring in double figures in all but the fourth quarter. Unfortunately for the Fighting Bees cheerleaders, who do pushups for every point scored and after each score, they were forced to do back flips one at a time to make up the large number of points. Something that the crowd took much pleasure in. "We have to get some momentum (as the stretch run for the MSFA Midwest Championship is under way) and get on board with that and we have to get through these next five games of the schedule one game at a time," Sturdy said.





**Game #6 – St. Ambrose Fighting Bees @ Trinity International Trojans
October 18, 2003 – Leslie Frazier Field (2,000) Deerfield, Ill.**

DEERFIELD, Ill. – There is a first time for everything. Unfortunately for the No. 22 St. Ambrose Fighting Bees it wasn't a first that they were hoping to be apart of. The Fighting Bees lost for the first time to the Trinity International Trojans (4-3) by a 24-3 count at Leslie Frazier Stadium on Saturday. Although it was only the teams eighth meeting overall, it was the first time that the Trojans were successful against the Bees. "I have no idea what it was," Fighting Bees head coach Todd Sturdy said in a loss for words. "I haven't been this disappointed in a long time." The loss has more than likely killed the Fighting Bees (3-3) chance at a fourth consecutive MSFA Midwest title as they have fell to 1-2 in the conference. "We are playing for pride now," Sturdy said. For the 14 seniors, it will be the first time that they have not won the championship and for senior tight end Ryan Antonik it does not bode well for him. So much so that after Sturdy was finished with his post-game talk, Antonik asked to speak to the players. "I told them that we haven't been 3-3 since I have started here," Antonik said. "We haven't had a losing record and it's up to us seniors to make sure that everybody has fun the rest of the way. "I told the seniors that we only have eight days left of practice in full pads." The Fighting Bees defense had one of their better games of the season only giving up a touchdown and a field goal until the games final minute, when they gave up a second touchdown on the day. They limited the Trojans to 183 yards of total offense, but mistakes by the offense and special teams hurt the Bees the most. "The defense really played well," Sturdy said. "It was one of their better games of the season." Senior linebacker Mike Aussieker led the way with nine tackles, two for a loss of five yards. Shawn Giffin added seven tackles, one for a loss and a fumble recovery returned for 12 yards. But for the first time all season, notice the trend of firsts, the Fighting Bees offense was limited to less than 400 yards of total offense. The Bees would rack up 329 yards of offense, but only managed a 27-yard field goal by Matt Webster. There would be one first that would not take place on Saturday for the Fighting Bees. Running back Joe Schimmel has rushed for over 100 yards in every game this season and continued that streak on Saturday with 128 yards on 20 carries. Things didn't start out very well for the Bees. The defense forced the Trojans to punt and on the Bees very first possession, quarterback Jeff Kietzman fumbled the snap, which was recovered by the Trojans. The Trojans would not capitalize on the mistake when Kelly Tappenbeck's 35-yard field goal attempt was blocked. The Bees went 0-for-2 on fourth down conversions in the first half on a windy day in the windy city and were sacked three times to add to their struggles throughout the game. They also lost two fumbles and were intercepted once. The Trojans were the first to strike when Mike O'Donnell returned Jon James punt 78 yards to the house for a 7-0 lead with two minutes and 58 seconds to go in the half. The Trojans would add a 26-yard field goal with 28 seconds left in the half and led 10-0 at half. They would build their lead to 17-0 just over five minutes into the second half when Alan Stokes scampered 23 yards for the score. Trojans wide receiver Jerad English made a leaping 24-yard catch with just over a minute remaining to cap the scoring. "We aren't going to win any football games when we commit that many mistakes," Sturdy said. "We had a couple of problems up front protecting Kietzman and that didn't help any. "I will be back in the office today ready to prepare for a win next week."

**Game #7 – Iowa Wesleyan Tigers @ St. Ambrose Fighting Bees
October 25, 2003 – Brady Street Stadium (10,000) Davenport, Iowa**

DAVENPORT, Iowa – Nobody said winning had to be pretty. That is what St. Ambrose Fighting Bees head coach Todd Sturdy was saying at the conclusion of Saturday's game against the Iowa Wesleyan Tigers. With the way Sturdy looked, you would have thought that the Bees had just handed the Tigers (0-7, 0-4) their first win of the season. That was not the case as the Bees handled the Tigers 35-13 at Brady St. Stadium, improving to 4-3 overall and 2-2 in the MSFA Midwest. "It was a sloppy game," Sturdy said. "Somebody kept it close." The Bees jumped out early and never looked back. Running back Joe Schimmel rushed for three of his four touchdowns in the first quarter to give the Bees a 21-3 edge after one quarter of play. "It's important to get teams down early," Schimmel said. "And it's tough not to score from five, six yards out when you have these big guys in front of you." Schimmel had runs of 4, 6, and 1 yards in the first quarter and later tacked on a 19-yard run for a score. He finished the day with 171 yards on 21 carries, leaving him just a mere four yards shy of the 1,000 rushing yards plateau. "Every week we want to come out and run the ball and we ran the ball well today, which opened a lot of things up," Schimmel said. The Fighting Bees defense continued its dominance in the MSFA and proved why they are the league's top defense. They gave up 205 yards on the day, but had three forced fumbles, two of which they recovered, an interception returned for a touchdown and three sacks for 20 yards. "Everybody stepping up their effort is what made this a good outing," defensive coordinator Rich Wright said following the game. "One time it's Mike Aussieker, the next time it's Kevin Hopkins or Shawn Giffin, Brandon Graves, whoever, it's just a collection of guys getting together, and we are starting to see the results." The most vicious of the sacks came from Mike Novak who, as Bees linebacker Mike Aussieker described it, "threw him like a rag doll." Aussieker finished the day with ten tackles (seven assisted) and 1.5 for a loss of two yards. Junior linebacker Kevin Hopkins led the defense with ten tackles (six assisted); a pass break up and an interception returned 24 yards for a touchdown. Both Tigers quarterbacks took myriad hard hits on the day and failed to get their offense going enough to make it a game. Tigers' sophomore defensive back Kelly Philius probably received the worst hit of the day when he was attempting to make a tackle on a punt return. However, Bees wide receiver Chris Burhans cleanly laid him out on a day where numerous big hits took place. The Bees did have some trouble on the penalties side of things, committing 14 for 129 yards on the day, sometimes helping the Tigers offense along. "I tell you what, if we quit shooting ourselves in the foot as far as some of the silly penalties we would be playing really well," Wright said. "We had a couple of times where we could have gotten ourselves off the field, but a penalty kept their drive alive. "But our kids are playing pretty hard, they're playing intense and feel they have a lot to play for, we're getting after it." The Fighting Bees are now set to take on the St. Xavier Cougars, the team that ended the Fighting Bees streak of 19 consecutive MSFA Midwest division victories, a record in the MSFA.

**Game #8 – St. Ambrose Fighting Bees @ St. Xavier Cougars
November 1, 2003 – SXU Stadium (3,000) Chicago, Ill.**





**Game #9 – William Penn Statesmen @ St. Ambrose Fighting Bees
November 8, 2003 – Brady Street Stadium (10,000) Davenport, Iowa**

**Game #10 – St. Ambrose Fighting Bees @ McKendree Bearcats
November 15, 2003 – Leemon Field (2,500) Lebanon, Ill.**

**NAIA Playoffs – TBA
November 22, 2003 - TBA**

