



Cardiac Cardinals

Despite being down 13, Fisher rallies past Pride

STAFF WRITER
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After an interception early in the second quarter gave Springfield a chance to increase its 13-point lead, the St. John Fisher football team could have done what most teams do and fold.

Not these Cardinals. Sophomore quarterback Tim Bailey overcame four turnovers and tossed four touchdown passes as Fisher outlasted the Pride 38-35 in rainy conditions Saturday in an Empire 8 matchup at Growney Stadium.

"I made some mistakes out there today but you got to give credit to this entire team for picking me up and getting the win," Bailey said. "Springfield had success early and that gave them confidence that they could stay with us and maybe pull it out."

The Cardinals (5-3, 3-1 E8) remain in the hunt for the conference championship and are tied with Alfred, Ithaca and Hartwick for first place.

"At times we looked like a really good football team and at other times

TALE OF THE TAPE

| Springfield | Game Results | Cardinals |
|-------------|-------------------|-----------|
| 35 | Score | 38 |
| 191 | Total Offense | 443 |
| 133 | Rushing yards | 224 |
| 58 | Passing yards | 219 |
| 1-0 | Fumbles-lost | 4-1 |
| 6-58 | Penalty yards | 8-70 |
| 4/13 | Third down conv. | 6/16 |
| 1/3 | Fourth down conv. | 3/3 |
| 7-261 | Kickoff return | 6-156 |
| 2-5 | Punt Return | 2-7 |
| 23:26 | Possession Time | 36:34 |

we didn't," Fisher coach Paul Vosburgh said. "Our receivers did a lot of good things, not just catching the ball but run blocking as well."

Sophomore wide receiver Dan Witkowski was Bailey's favorite target for the second consecutive week, amassing 157 yards and three touchdowns on six receptions. Witkowski had one

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Senior Kenny Bostick (23) takes down Springfield junior fullback Baldwin Cunningham as the Cardinals won, 38-35. Erica Henriksen

FAMILIAR FOES



After spending nine seasons with the Cardinals, Blaise Faggiano will face his former team for the first time as the head coach at Utica College

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VOLLEYBALL

Lady Cards 'gunning' for Naz in Empire 8 tourney

COPY EDITOR
NICOLE RUSSO

It's not even basketball season yet, but the legendary Fisher-Naz rivalry is alive and well.

"We're gunning for them," Alyssa Ziobrowski of the women's volleyball team said.

The Cardinals will face the Flyers in the first round of the Empire 8 tournament after going 3-1 at the conference crossover at Ithaca last weekend to lock up the No. 3 seed. No. 2 Nazareth handed Fisher its only loss.

The stakes will be higher when the two meet again in the four-team, single-elimination tournament at Stevens Nov. 8. The winner advances to the championship the next day—and earns the right to play for an automatic bid to the NCAA Division III tournament. Nazareth boasts four conference titles while Fisher has yet to win one.

"We know all their strengths and weaknesses now," Ziobrowski said, noting that Fisher wasn't playing with a healthy roster when the teams first met. "We don't think they'll change their game around much. They have a couple of really good hitters we'll have to focus on, but we know how to prepare for them now."

Fisher was picked to finish fifth in

the Empire 8 preseason coaches' poll. "We proved a lot of people wrong, and I can't wait for the tournament," Ziobrowski said.

Head coach Kelly Greapentrog said the team always felt it could prove the poll wrong.

"We knew we were a top four team," she said. "They didn't think we'd be in this position. We were pleased to exceed their expectations, and meet our own."

Defending champion Stevens went 4-0 over the weekend to run its conference record to 8-0 and lock up the top seed. The Ducks, who advanced to the Division III quarterfinals each of the last two years, joined the E8 in 2007 and are 18-0 all-time in the conference. The Cardinals missed the tournament last year after advancing to it each of the previous three years. Ziobrowski admits that Fisher had to overcome the growing pains in the conference.

"There was always a clear top four and bottom four before. Then Stevens came into the conference and sort of bumped us out," Ziobrowski explained. "This year, we knew we had to work a lot harder to reclaim that top spot."

Nazareth, which had a 17-match

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