

## CLASS 1A CHAMPIONSHIP – Saturday, November 21, 2009

10:05 a.m. – No. 2 St. Albert, Council Bluffs Falcons (13-0) vs. No. 9 South Winneshiek, Calmar Warriors (12-1)

**STATS & INTERVIEWS:** We have a complete stat crew on duty. They will have halftime and final stat summaries for you. **Do not conduct interviews or detain players or coaches on the field at any time.** There is an interview room at the end of the tunnel for that express purpose (This is a request asked for by the media when on the field interviews compromised some outlets.) No media are allowed in the locker rooms. **Since this is a working press box, please observe the professionalism of “No Cheering.”** Team ratings used are the season final Associated Press poll, Oct. 27. Team and individual season statistics are available from the IHSAA's QuikStats.

-- IHSAA --

**ROAD TO THE DOME:** Saint Albert (13-0) is its fourth title game and has taken home three title trophies -- 2004, 2006, and 2007 after finishing second in 2003. This is the school's 21st playoff trip and their 13th in succession. The second-rated Falcons closest encounter was a 24-21 quarterfinal win over West Lyon, Inwood. That came after throttling West Sioux and Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn. In the semis they crushed Prairie Valley, Gowrie, 49-21 to run their season offensive average to 43.2 ppg against a strong defensive clip of 13.4 ppg. Saint Albert brings a playoff record of 31-17 to the game. South Winneshiek has had one of the best seasons in their school's history, making the playoff field for just the third time and the first since 2003. This is their championship debut in the semifinals. They are 3-2 all-time in playoff games. The Warriors' final three playoff games were eyebrow raisers as they swarmed defending champion Emmetsburg, 40-6, avenged their only loss of the season with a 22-20 thriller over Turkey Valley, Jackson Jct., and halted third-rated West Branch, 14-7. The team sports a 40 ppg offensive clip and has allowed a stingy average of only 9.3 ppg on defense.

ST. ALBERT, COUNCIL BLUFFS FALCONS		SOUTH WINNESHIEK WARRIROS	
Glenwood	31-12	Riceville	52-6
Lewis Central	31-12	Postville	68-6
West Monona, Onawa	59-19	BCLUW, Conrad	74-8
Underwood	38-6	Gladbrook-Reinbeck	40-0
Tri-Center, Neola	44-7	Grundy Center	40-0
Riverside, Oakland	41-0	Nashua-Plainfield	44-0
Clarinda Academy	72-6	Denver	34-21
Griswold	41-21	Aplington-Parkersburg	36-13
Logan-Magnolia	35-14	Turkey Valley, Jackson Jct.	14-28
West Sioux, Hawarden (substate)	52-13	Lake Mills (substate)	42-6
Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn (first round)	44-22	Emmetsburg (first round)	40-6
West Lyon, Inwood (quarterfinals)	24-21	Turkey Valley, Jackson Jct. (quarterfinals)	22-20
Prairie Valley, Gowrie (semifinals)	49-21	West Branch (semifinals)	14-7
<i>Offense: 561/43.2</i>		<i>Offense: 520/40.0</i>	
<i>Defense: 174/13.4</i>		<i>Defense: 121/9.3</i>	

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**THE COACHES:** Two first time championship coaches match up. The Falcons' Coach Kevin Culjat is a 1982 St. Albert graduate and is in his first year. His staff includes Mike Kayl and six former players of the Falcons – Vince Rew (1986), Jake Driver (1998), Tony Stuntz (1999), Pat Ryan (2000) Jerrad Mitchell (2000) and Zac Gradoville (2003). The Warriors are coached by Jason Ohrt, in his third season with a 20-11 mark. He is a graduate of Dubuque Senior and the University of Dubuque. He is assisted by Mike Johnson, Loren Straube, Steve Hoffert, Chad Poshusta and Joel Hageman.

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**GAME SNAPSHOT:** Many observers favor St. Albert to take its fourth title, but South Winneshiek's run through the playoffs doesn't make it a sure thing. If it is close going into the fourth quarter, fans could be treated to a typical exciting Iowa playoff finish. Both teams boast strong defensive units and can move the ball. St. Albert boasts one of the top talents in western Iowa and in Class 1A in the person of all around athlete Jake Waters. The 6-2 senior has been a three-year starter and has over 2,300 yards total offense. A precision passer he has connected on 101 of 158 aerials for 1,683 yards and 29 TDs while being intercepted only three. Because of margin of victory wins, his second half playing time was curtailed, but he thrives more on the competition than records. His career totals to date is 314 completions for 5,192 yards and 70 touchdowns. This fall he has rushed for 707 yards and six touchdowns in 101 carries. His supporting cast is also talented. Jake Gentile has romped for 826 yards and 12 TDs while averaging over 7.3 yards per carry. Andrew Brown chips in with 694 yards and 13 scores. Brown has also caught 25 passes for 388 yards and five touchdowns. Topping the catch corps is Steve O'Neill who has 30 receptions for 560 yards and 16 TDs, while Paul Johnson has snared 27 balls for 374 yards and six touchdowns. Defensively the Falcons have a remarkable 43 take-a-way including 22 aerial thefts. O'Neil leads the high-jacking crew with nine, while 12 players have at least

one fumble recovery. Junior Gabe Meis is the newest of a long line of quality place kickers. He has 64 PATs and has connected on seven of eight field goal attempts with a long of 47. His 85 points by kicking is tenth best in Iowa but tops among Class 1A kickers. Brown's punting has been solid, averaging 37 yards per boot. Jordan Andera triggers the South Winn's attack. The senior has scampered for 2,041 yards on 222 rushes for 23 TDs. Operating often in the spread he has 37 pass completions for 546 yards and 12 touchdowns. For added measure he has three scoring receptions. Fellow senior Danny Sender has 110 carries for 831 yards and eight trips to the end zone and numbers five touchdowns among his 23 pass receptions. Sophomore Jared Holien has zeroed in on 64 of 122 passes for 1,046 yards and 15 TDs. Logan Einck is one of seven Warriors to snare a scoring pass. He has 10 among his 33 receptions for 677 yards. Sender has had a solid year punting, averaging 38 yards per try. Senior Tanner Hageman and junior Matt Schmelzer headline an aggressive defense that has 122 tackles for losses. Hageman has been in on 155 stops and Schmelzer 110. The South Winneshiek defensive clan has given their offense additional chances with 19 interceptions and 16 fumble recoveries. Einck has six picks and Sender five, while six different players have two fumble recoveries.

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### PROBABLE STARTERS

ST. ALBERT OFFENSE						SOUTH WINNESHIEK DEFENSE					
Pos	No	Name	Gr	Ht	Wt	Pos	No	Name	Gr	Ht	Wt
WR	2	Paul Johnson	12	5-10	170	DE	70	Aaron Ashbacher	12	6-3	200
WR	4	Stephen O'Neill	11	5-11	165	DT	52	Matt Schmelzer	11	5-10	195
RB	5	Andrew Brown	12	5-11	180	DT	71	Austin Ashbacher	10	6-3	225
QB	15	Jake Waters	12	6-2	205	DE	73	Chris Bollerman	12	6-5	195
RB	26	Jake Gentile	11	6-1	190	LB	45	Matt Meyer	10	5-10	175
TE	6	Mickey Russell	11	6-1	190	LB	1	Dakota Smith	12	5-9	230
TE	80	Jesse Parks	11	6-5	210	LB	22	Tanner Hageman	12	6-1	205
OL	53	Marco Naughton	10	6-1	240	LB	54	Nolan Hageman	12	6-3	200
OL	56	Rick Romano	12	6-0	195	C	16	Dominik Lensing	11	5-11	165
OL	57	Scott Moran	11	5-11	185	FS	25	Danny Sender	12	5-11	185
OL	72	Eric Golwitzer	12	6-0	190	C	15	Logan Einck	12	6-3	180
P	5	Andrew Brown	12	5-11	180						
PK	18	Gabe Meis	11	6-1	170	KO	25	Danny Sender	12	5-11	185

SOUTH WINNESHIEK OFFENSE						ST. ALBERT DEFENSE					
Pos	No	Name	Gr	Ht	Wt	Pos	No	Name	Gr	Ht	Wt
QB	14	Jared Holien	10	6-2	200	LB	2	Paul Johnson	12	5-10	170
RB	5	Jordan Andera	12	6-0	185	LB	3	Ian Finn	12	5-7	155
RB	25	Danny Sender	12	5-11	185	DB	4	Stephen O'Neill	11	5-11	165
WR	15	Logan Einck	12	6-3	180	LB	5	Andrew Brown	12	5-11	180
WR	16	Dominik Lensing	11	5-11	165	LB	6	Mickey Russell	11	6-1	185
WR	10	Jon Hackman	12	6-3	200	DB	26	Jake Gentile	11	6-1	190
LT	54	Nolan Hageman	12	6-3	200	LB	55	Kevin Russell	11	5-9	160
LG	70	Aaron Ashbacher	12	6-3	200	DL	54	Matt Butcher	12	6-1	195
C	52	Matt Schmelzer	11	5-10	195	DL	56	Rick Romano	12	6-0	195
RG	71	Austin Ashbacher	10	6-3	225	DL	72	Eric Golwitzer	12	6-0	190
RT	61	Nick Schmelzer	10	6-2	200	DL	80	Jesse Parks	11	6-5	210
P	25	Danny Sender	12	5-11	185						
PK	25	Danny Sender	12	5-11	185	KO	18	Gabe Meis	11	6-1	170