

Oct. 16 - at Akron 55, Bowling Green 25

The Falcons dropped their fourth game in their last five contests losing a 55-25 decision at Akron on their Homecoming.

The Falcons took the opening kickoff and moved to the Akron 42 yard line before they turned the ball over on a fumble as the result of a botched handoff on a reverse play.

Akron took little time in taking advantage moving 48 yards in five plays to paydirt to strike first.

The Falcons came right back on their next possession to move to the Akron one-yard line only to have the ball moved back to the 11-yard line on back-to-back false start penalties. The Falcons could not punch it in and had to settle for the 22-yard Jason Strasser field goal.

The Falcons would not get into Akron territory with their next seven possessions while Akron took control scoring 27 unanswered points to take a 34-3 edge at the 5:31 mark of the third quarter.

The two team traded touchdowns the rest of the way.

The Zips second score of the game came on a botched field goal try which was eventually picked up by holder Ryan Uhlenhake who tossed the ball five yards to Ryan Schulz for the touchdown. The Zips final touchdown came on an onside kick attempt by Bowling Green which was fielded by Jon Eaton at the 42-yard line and returned for a score.

The two teams combined for 585 yards of total offense in the second half. They combined for 983 yards for the game.

Sophomore Kurt Gerling had nine receptions for 183 yards, three receptions for 59 yards in the last scoring drive, falling just six yards shy of the game record of 189 set by Mark Szlachcic against Fresno State in the 1991 California Bowl. It was the third-highest total in school history.

Ricky Schneider took over for starter Andy Sahm at quarterback late in third quarter and directed three scoring drives.

Bowling Green            3 0 6 16 - 25

Akron                    14 7 13 21 - 55

AK - Tony McCray 13 run (Derr kick), 11:21, 1st qtr.

BG - Jason Strasser 22 field goal, 8:01, 1st qtr.

AK - Ryan Schulz 5 pass from Ryan Uhlenhake (Derr kick), 2:57, 1st qtr.

AK - Lavel Bailey 15 pass from Butchie Washington (Derr kick), 12:09, 2nd qtr.

AK - Jimmie Gray 32 run (Derr Kick), 8:05, 3rd qtr.

AK - Bailey 71 pass from Washington (rush failed), 5:31, 3rd qtr.

BG - Godfrey Lewis 3 run (run failed), 2:04, 3rd qtr.

AK - Chris Morgan 5 run (Derr kick), 14:06, 4th qtr.

BG - Kurt Gerling 4 pass from Ricky Schneider (Gerling pass), 12:54, 4th qtr.

AK - Nick Fortener 21 pass from Greg Gromek (Derr kick), 8:10, 4th qtr.

BG - Matt Bunsey 7 pass from Schneider (Bunsey pass), 1:13, 4th qtr.

AK - Jon Eaton 42 kickoff return (Derr kick), 1:04, 4th qtr.

Attendance - 6,039

Team Statistics - First Downs (BG 25, AK 27); Rushes-Yards (BG 34-117, AK 47-263); Passing Yardage (BG 336, AK 267); Completions-Attempts-Interceptions (BG 22-44-0, AK 15-21-0); Punts-Avg. (BG 6-42.7, AK 5-43.4); Fumbles-Lost (BG 1-1, AK 0-0); Penalties-Yards (BG 12-87, AK 9-109); Time of Possession (BG 27:52, AK 32:08).

Individual Leaders - Bowling Green - Rushing (Steve Holmes 9-61); Passing (Ricky Schneider 13-22-192, Andy Sahn 9-22-144); Receiving (Kurt Gerling 9-182, Aaron Alexander 7-105). Akron - Rushing (Jimmie Gray 8-77, Brandon Payne 13-58); Passing (Butchie Washington 13-19-241); Receiving (Lavel Bailey 5-112, Jake Schifino 5-59).