



St. Mary's set for showdown with rival Menard Friday on the road

St. Mary's Tigers (2-0) at Holy Savior Menard Eagles (1-1) – Week 3
Friday, Sept. 15, 2023 | 7 p.m. CT | Alexandria, La. | Donald Garner Stadium
Last Meeting: SMH 35, Menard 7 (Sept. 15, 2022 at Turpin Stadium)
Live Audio: [listen \(kzblradio.com\)](https://www.kzblradio.com) - 100.7 KZBL

ALEXANDRIA, La. – The St. Mary's Tigers football team plays on the road for the first time this season when they take on the Holy Savior Menard Eagles Friday night at Donald Garner Stadium in Alexandria.

The Tigers (2-0) are on the heels of a 44-12-win last week of Buckeye which saw the Tigers force BHS into five turnovers. However, SMH was whistled for 14 penalties totaling 130 yards.

SMH quarterback Mixon Bankston threw for 198 yards completing 10 passes on 20 attempts. However, it was senior Drake Griffin that shined on both sides of the ball. The linebacker and

running back had 18 tackles on the defensive end and found the endzone twice, a 55-yard inside kick return and a 26-yard touchdown run. Ethan Busby also had 183 yards and two touchdowns.

“The win was good, but we’ve got to clean some things up long term,” said SMH head coach Aaron York. “I didn’t like our blocking scheme because we had four guys blocking and one guy not on many plays. And we could see on film when we watched that it was really close to being executed well but still, we have got to get that fixed.”

St. Mary’s now turns its attention to Menard (1-1), a familiar face and rival. The two teams have played the last two seasons with SMH coming out on top in both games. The Tigers defeated the Eagles last year at home 35-7 and two years ago at Garner Stadium 31-17.

“I kind of compare Menard to us,” said York. “They will run the ball and throw it enough to keep you on your toes. They are well coached and will test us on both sides of the ball. This is certainly a rivalry game though. A lot of our kids know their kids. A lot of our parents went to school there. So, it’s going to be a fun game.”

Fans can tune into Friday’s game by listening live at 100.7 KZBL locally. The game will also be available for those out of the listening area at kzbl.com/listen.html. Live updates will be available as well at the Inside Natchitoches Sports Facebook page.