

JACKRABBITS GAME DAY

8-3
(6-2 MVFC)



7-4
(6-1 OVC)

Saturday 2 p.m., Coughlin-Alumni Stadium (15,000), Brookings • Radio: 570 AM

FCS PLAYOFFS: First Round; Series: First Meeting



SHAUNA MARLETTE/P&D

South Dakota State running back Zach Zenner gets free of the pile during the Jackrabbits victory over South Dakota on Nov. 17. SDSU hosts its first-ever FCS playoff game on Saturday, facing Eastern Illinois University.

SOUTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY JACKRABBITS

SCHEDULE

Date	Opponent	SDS	Opp
Sept. 1	at Kansas	17	31
Sept. 8	at Southeastern Louisiana	31	14
Sept. 15	vs. UC Davis	12	8
Sept. 22	at Indiana State	24	10
Sept. 29	vs. Missouri State	17	7
Oct. 13	vs. Western Illinois	31	10
Oct. 20	at Northern Iowa	6	27
Oct. 27	vs. Youngstown State	41	28
Nov. 3	at Southern Illinois	16	12
Nov. 10	at North Dakota State	17	20
Nov. 17	vs. South Dakota	31	8
Nov. 24	vs. Eastern Illinois (2 p.m.)		

STAT LEADERS

RUSHING

Name	Att	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
Zach Zenner	252	1,703	6.8	99	10
Reggie Gandy	53	171	3.2	23	0
Austin Sumner	74	25	-0.3	24	0
JACKRABBITS	407	1,849	4.5	99	12
Opponents	373	1,249	3.3	56	9

PASSING

Name	Com	Att	Yds	Int	TD
Austin Sumner	179	313	2,101	13	14
JACKRABBITS	183	326	2,133	13	14
Opponents	215	389	2,026	12	7

RECEIVING

Name	No	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
Tyrel Kool	39	519	13.3	50	2
Aaron Rollin	34	474	13.9	49	2
Brandon Hubert	30	402	13.4	42	3
Zach Zenner	26	176	6.8	31	0
JACKRABBITS	183	2,133	11.7	50	14
Opponents	215	2,026	9.4	43	7

PLACE KICKING

Name	EPm	EPa	FGm	FGa	Long
Justin Syrovatka	25	26	14	18	48

PUNTING

Name	No	Avg	Long	In20
Ethan Sawyer	58	40.6	72	8

DEFENSIVE LEADERS

Name	Tack	TFL	Sack	INT	FR
Ross Shafraht	125	2.5	0.0	2	1
T.J. Lally	89	8.0	6.0	2	1
Skyler Luxa	54	—	—	3	—
Bo Helm	53	2.0	1.0	—	—
Winston Wright	52	2.5	0.5	—	3
Doug Peete	43	12.0	6.0	—	—
JACKRABBITS	807	61	30	12	7
Opponents	820	68	39	13	8

PROBABLE STARTERS

Pos	No	Name	Ht	Wt	Yr
QB	6	Austin Sumner	6-5	220	So.
RB	31	Zach Zenner	6-0	215	So.
WR	23	Brandon Hubert	5-11	185	Jr.
WR	2	Tyrel Kool	5-9	190	Sr.
WR	5	Aaron Rollin	6-1	210	Sr.
TE	86	Seth Daughters	6-5	250	Sr.
TE	82	Vince Benedetto	6-3	250	Jr.
LT	76	Bryan Witzmann	6-7	300	Jr.
LG	65	Alex Parker	6-5	315	Jr.
C	78	Will Castle	6-2	310	Sr.
RG	59	Taylor Suess	6-3	295	Jr.
RT	66	Trevor Gregor	6-5	310	So.

Pos	No	Name	Ht	Wt	Yr
DE	34	Doug Peete	6-3	255	Jr.
DT	52	Andy Mink	6-2	270	Sr.
NT	54	David Hettiger	6-3	260	Sr.
DE	69	Marshall Peugh	6-3	250	Jr.
LB	44	Ross Shafraht	6-1	225	Sr.
LB	33	T.J. Lally	6-0	225	RFr.
LB	7	Chris Tracy	6-1	230	Sr.
LCB	14	Winston Wright	5-10	190	Jr.
SS	37	Skyler Luxa	5-11	210	Sr.
FS	19	Bo Helm	5-10	195	Sr.
RCB	21	David Godley	6-0	185	Sr.

FINAL STANDINGS

Team	Conf	All
North Dakota State *	7-1	10-1
South Dakota State *	6-2	8-3
Illinois State *	5-3	8-3
Indiana State	5-3	7-4
Southern Illinois	5-3	6-5
Youngstown State	4-4	7-4
Northern Iowa	4-4	5-6
Missouri State	3-5	3-8
Western Illinois	1-7	3-8
South Dakota	0-8	1-10

CONDITIONS

Outdoors. Grass. Cloudy but warm, high temps around 38 degrees. Very slight chance of precipitation.

STANDINGS NOTE

* - Qualified for FCS Playoffs. NDSU received a first-round bye, and will face the winner of the SDSU-Eastern Illinois game on Dec. 1. Illinois State received a first-round bye, and will travel to Appalachian State.

MATCHUPS

JACKRABBIT OFFENSE VS. EIU DEFENSE

SDSU quarterback Austin Sumner has been sharp of late, going three straight games without an interception, including 20-30 for 272 yards against USD last week. Running back Zach Zenner had been slowed of late, but had 164 yards against USD.

JACKRABBIT DEFENSE VS. EIU OFFENSE

EIU sports the single-season receptions record holder in Erik Lora (124-1,531, 12 TD) and two others who are approaching 50 catches on gunslinger Jimmy Garoppolo, who will reach 500 pass attempts on the season with his first attempt in the game. SDSU's defense is strong, but will face its toughest test yet.

SPECIAL TEAMS

SDSU kicker Justin Syrovatka has a little more range, and has been more sure on the "gimme" kicks, as EIU's Cameron Berra has missed 4 PATs. The Jackrabbits also have significant edges in punting and returns.

INTANGIBLES

The Jackrabbits have been nearly unbeatable at home, including 5-0 this season. SDSU is 36-11 at home since beginning the move to NCAA Division I FCS. The Jacks have also played well in big games this season.

PREDICTION

The Jackrabbits will have their hands full with this high-powered Panther offense, but SDSU has some offensive weapons of its own. This SDSU team has played its best when the stakes have been highest, and should be able to handle whatever Eastern Illinois can dish out. But don't be surprised if the scoreboard operator gets a workout.

JACKRABBITS 51, EASTERN ILLINOIS 38

EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY PANTHERS

SCHEDULE

Date	Opponent	EIU	Opp
Aug. 30	vs. Southern Illinois	49	28
Sept. 8	at Western Michigan	21	52
Sept. 15	at Illinois State (2 OT)	51	54
Sept. 22	vs. Murray State (OT)	50	49
Sept. 29	vs. Austin Peay	65	15
Oct. 6	at UT Martin	37	51
Oct. 13	vs. Jacksonville State	31	28
Oct. 27	at Eastern Kentucky	24	7
Nov. 3	at Tennessee Tech	31	24
Nov. 10	vs. Southeast Missouri	39	20
Nov. 17	at Central Arkansas	30	48
Nov. 24	at South Dakota State (2 p.m.)		

STAT LEADERS

RUSHING

Name	Att	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
Jake Walker	209	1,008	4.8	43	11
Taylor Duncan	113	453	4.0	28	8
Jimmy Garoppolo	79	7	0.1	14	2
PANTHERS	425	1,487	3.5	43	22
Opponents	486	1,609	3.3	39	22

PASSING

Name	Com	Att	Yds	Int	TD
Jimmy Garoppolo	306	499	3,602	14	31
PANTHERS	316	513	3,798	14	34
Opponents	303	481	3,032	9	25

RECEIVING

Name	No	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
Erik Lora	124	1,531	12.3	50	12
Chris Wright	49	834	17.0	74	11
Chavar Watkins	45	504	11.2	61	4
PANTHERS	316	3,798	12.0	74	34
Opponents	303	3,032	10.0	74	25

PLACE KICKING

Name	EPm	EPa	FGm	FGa	Long
Cameron Berra	47	51	11	14	48

PUNTING

Name	No	Avg	Long	In20
Scott Weatherford	47	38.7	55	8

DEFENSIVE LEADERS

Name	Tack	TFL	Sack	INT	FR
Robert Haynes	95	5.5	2.0	2	1
Nick Beard	82	3.0	1.0	—	1
LeQuince McCall	76	5.0	1.0	—	1
Pete Houlihan	71	5.0	0.5	1	—
Arlavious Dowdell	51	13.5	7.5	—	1
Greg Mahan	44	10.0	5.0	—	1
Antonio Taylor	24	3.0	—	—	2
PANTHERS	985	83	24	9	16
Opponents	952	61	27	14	14

PROBABLE STARTERS

Pos	No	Name	Ht	Wt	Yr
QB	10	Jimmy Garoppolo	6-3	206	Jr.
RB	5	Jake Walker	5-10	194	RSr.
WR	81	Chris Wright	6-1	177	Sr.
IWR	8	Erik Lora	5-10	181	RJr.
LT	77	Dominic Pagliara	6-6	296	RJr.
LG	74	Collin Seibert	6-4	268	RSo.
C	71	Kevin Kapellas	6-4	277	RSr.
RG	72	Alex Pierce	6-6	307	RJr.
RT	62	Shane Kelly	6-4	253	RJr.
IWR	84	Sam Hendricks	6-4	206	RSo.
OVR	9	Chavar Watkins	6-2	201	RSr.

Pos	No	Name	Ht	Wt	Yr
LE	32	Arlavious Dowdell	6-2	230	Sr.
DT	53	Greg Mahan	6-3	248	RSr.
DT	90	Roosevelt Holliday	6-3	297	Sr.
RE	93	Pat Wertz	6-4	241	RSr.
WLB	50	Adam Gristick	5-10	208	RSo.
MLB	49	Robert Haynes	6-0	224	So.
SLB	12	LeQuince McCall	6-1	220	RJr.
LCB	30	Tavares Crawford	5-10	169	Jr.
R	40	Jourdan Wickliffe	6-1	195	So.
FS	28	Nick Beard	6-1	183	RJr.
RCB	31	Pete Houlihan	5-11	177	Jr.

HUSKERS GAME DAY 9-2 N 4-7
(6-1 BIG 10) (2-5 BIG 10)

11 a.m., Kinnick Stadium (70,585), Iowa City, Iowa • Radio: 93.1 FM • TV: ABC
Series: Nebraska 27-12-3; Last Meeting: Nebraska 20, Iowa 7 (2011)

Quick Hitters
■ Nebraska will win a spot in the Big Ten title game against Wisconsin in Indianapolis with a victory. Iowa won't reach bowl eligibility for the first time since 2000, but a win would make things a bit easier heading into what could be a difficult off-season. (AP)
■ Nebraska's last trip to Iowa City was in 1999 for coach Kirk Ferentz's debut with the Hawkeyes. The Huskers rolled 42-7 over an Iowa team that won just one game. (AP)
■ Iowa coach Kirk Ferentz said earlier this week that he likely won't work in youngsters just to see what he'll have in 2013. (AP)
■ Nebraska's current five-game winning streak is its longest in conference play since 2009, when it was in the Big 12. (AP)
■ Iowa has lost twice at home this season on a field goal of 45 yards or longer on the final play. (AP)

Key Matchup
Nebraska QB Taylor Martinez vs. Iowa's defensive line. Martinez is the type of dual-threat quarterback that has often vexed the Hawkeyes in the past.

From The Coach
■ "Yeah I thought we have had a good week, good attention to detail. We got a lot done, we had a little bit extra of walk through time today. I feel good where we are." **Nebraska coach Bo Pelini, on preparing for a game on a short week of practice.**

Big Ten Standings

Division	Conf	All
Legends Division	6-1	9-2
Nebraska	6-1	8-3
Michigan	4-3	8-3
Northwestern	2-5	6-5
Minnesota	2-5	5-6
Michigan State	2-5	4-7
Iowa	2-5	4-7

Division	Conf	All
Leaders Division	7-0	11-0
Ohio State *	5-2	7-4
Penn State *	4-3	7-4
Wisconsin	2-5	5-6
Purdue	2-5	4-7
Indiana	0-7	2-9

* - Ineligible for post-season play

Press & Dakotan DAILY DOSE

Daily opinions from the P&D Sports Staff on local and national high school, college and professional sports.

Taylor's 138-Point Game Nothing To Be Celebrated

BY JEREMY HOECK
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It's been nearly 48 hours since Jack Taylor from tiny Grinnell College, a Division III school in Iowa, shattered the record books with his 138-point game on Tuesday night.

But excuse me for not being