



# Hawkeyes Mic LLC

One Passion, Many Voices

## **Hawkeyes Mic: Hawkeyes – Illini Prognostications (12/03/20)**

*The Hawkeyes Mic picks are in for the Iowa – Illinois game. It's unanimous again this week. But there's just a little bit of nervousness in the air. Check them out – see if you agree or disagree.*



### **Scott Dochterman – Iowa 27-13:**

There's nothing about this game that suggests it will be easy. Illinois has a formidable running game and a hard-hitting defense. However, if the Hawkeyes play mistake-free disciplined football, they should win this border fistfight.

[TheAthletic.com](http://TheAthletic.com)

[@ScottDochterman](https://twitter.com/ScottDochterman) on Twitter

### **Steve Batterson – Iowa 35-28:**

Illinois is an improved football team and Brandon Peters provides senior leadership under center, but the Fighting Illini's run defense has been spotty at times this season. That plays into Iowa's hands with Tyler Goodson, Mekhi Sargent and Ivory Kelly-Martin in a return to his home state coming up big at Memorial Stadium.

[The Quad City Times](#)  
[@SBatt79](#) on Twitter

### **John Bohnenkamp – Iowa 34-10:**

Illinois won't be bothered by Iowa's alleged clapping, but it won't matter.

[HawkeyeMaven.com](#)  
[@JohnBohnenkamp](#) on Twitter

### **Brendan Stiles – Iowa 27-10:**

I expect a low-scoring game since this game is in Champaign and the winds there will probably play an even greater factor than usual now that we're in the month of December. Iowa's offense should be fine against an Illinois defense that struggles against the run. I feel like this game, however, will be about Iowa's defense, as I expect it to make things uncomfortable for Brandon Peters, who threw 3 interceptions against the Hawkeyes last season at Kinnick.

[@TheBStiles](#) on Twitter

### **John Patchett – Iowa 31-17:**

Turnovers, turnovers, turnovers! Iowa cannot afford to make them in Champaign and expect to come away with a victory. Lovie Smith's Defense is ball-hawking — it has seven picks plus six fumble recoveries — and Illinois has played just five games this season. Attention Spencer Petras and any other Iowa player who touches the ball on Offense! The Illini started the season with three consecutive losses — then beat Rutgers (which actually means something this year) and Nebraska in Lincoln (and handily at that).

The Illini Offense is averaging 21.8 points and 381.8 yards per game. Compare that to the Hawkeyes Offense which is averaging 31.8 points and 364.5 yards per game. Iowa's Defense has been outstanding and stingy, surrendering just 16.7 points per game — while Illinois is allowing 32 points per game. The Hawkeyes Defense has also been a turnover machine — with 10 INTs to go along with six fumble recoveries (over six games).

Iowa's Special Teams have been pretty special all season. Expect that to continue this Saturday. [Although Memorial Stadium is often the site of ridiculous winds — since the only things with any altitude in that part of Illinois are the Interstate over-passes — so that always has the potential to impact kicking (and passing).]

Illinois leads this series 38-35-2, but the Hawkeyes have won 14 of the last 17, 11 of the last 12, and six in a row. Assuming (always risky) the Hawkeyes limit turnovers, I expect them to claw out another victory and make it seven straight over the Illini — which would set up a pretty big showdown with Wisconsin next week at Kinnick Stadium.

[HawkeyesMic.com](http://HawkeyesMic.com)

[@HawkeyesMic](https://twitter.com/HawkeyesMic) on Twitter

### **Tyler Tjelmeland – Iowa 38-14:**

Before Iowa struggled to pull away from Nebraska, I was looking at this game as a trap game before the big showdown for the Hawks with the Badgers. Iowa was humbled a bit last week and they will be focused going into this one. Iowa's the better team. Iowa gets the win. The biggest thing to watch in this one for me is Petras and whether or not he can get some consistency going before the Wisconsin match-up next week.

[HawkeyesMic.com](http://HawkeyesMic.com)

[@TylerTjelmeland](https://twitter.com/TylerTjelmeland) on Twitter

### **Jack Brandsgard – Iowa 34-17:**

I wouldn't be surprised if the margin of victory was more lopsided. Iowa enters with strong momentum behind it, and the Hawkeyes are playing well on both sides of the ball. This could be a week where Spencer Petras finds his stride against a weak Illinois defense.

[HawkeyesMic.com](http://HawkeyesMic.com)

[@JackBrandsgard](https://twitter.com/JackBrandsgard) on Twitter

**Hawkeyes Mic** Hawkeyes - Illini Content and Coverage is [here](#).

### **Saturday Weather Forecast — Champaign-Urbana, IL**

