



Hawkeyes Mic LLC
One Passion, Many Voices

Hawkeyes – Wildcats Prognostications (12/31/21)



The Hawkeyes Mic picks are in for the Iowa – Kentucky Citrus Bowl Game – it's not unanimous this week for Game 14 of the Season (The Old Crystal Ball has lost faith in Iowa's Offense). Check them out – see if you agree or disagree.

Scott Dochterman – Kentucky 19-16 :

That number flips if Iowa ends up plus-3 in turnover margin.

[TheAthletic.com](https://www.theathletic.com)

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

Steve Batterson – Iowa 24-21:

The ability of the Hawkeye defense to dictate how this game is played will have a lot to do with the outcome. If Iowa can slow the Kentucky rushing attack and put quarterback Will Levis in some uncomfortable passing situations, the Hawkeyes will have an opportunity for success. The wildcard remains on offense, where Iowa will need to get to something out of the running game despite Tyler Goodson's decision to opt out of the Citrus Bowl. Ivory

Kelly-Martin and Gavin Williams have shown they are capable, but need to turn that opportunity into actions.

[**The Quad City Times**](#)

[**@SBatt79**](#) on Twitter

John Bohnenkamp – Iowa 21-17:

And let the winter QB debate begin.

[**IowaCollegeHoops.com - AP - HawkeyeNation**](#)

[**@JohnBohnenkamp**](#) on Twitter

Brendan Stiles – Iowa 24-14:

The biggest reason why I like Iowa to win this game is because Kentucky is prone to turning the ball over while the Hawkeyes have an opportunistic defense that should be able to create some short fields for the offense. This game comes at an ideal time for Iowa because the Hawkeyes had an entire month to get the taste of getting mauled by Michigan out of their mouths. I think Iowa comes out with a plan in mind and executes it well enough to emerge victorious.

[**@TheBStiles**](#) on Twitter

John Patchett – Kentucky 13-10:

This is the first time I've picked against the Hawkeyes the entire season - but I have zero faith in this Kirk/Brian Ferentz Offense: it doesn't match their current personnel, it's arguably way more complicated than it needs to be (listen to what the players have been saying), and it's well past its "best by" date. The last half of the season gives me no reason to believe it will be any different in the Citrus Bowl vs. a very stout Stoops-Coached Defense. I don't understand why Ferentz continues to argue that stats don't matter — when THEY DO MATTER WHEN YOU HAVE A BOTTOM-10 OFFENSE IN THE ENTIRE FBS. Yes, sometimes stats don't matter, game to game - but when they are this bad you can't ignore the mediocrity. Plus Iowa's Offense has gotten increasingly bad as this season progressed.

There - I got that off my chest. It's too bad especially when Phil Parker's Defense is very good and LeVar Woods Special Teams have been excellent. But those two units need at least a modicum of support from the sputtering offense - and it just hasn't been happening. So why would you believe the Citrus Bowl is going to be any different.

Parker has shown in recent Iowa bowl game history that, when you give him a few weeks to prepare for an opponent, his defense will almost certainly shut the opposition's offense down or at least hold it well under season averages. So - a very low-scoring affair — due to Iowa's Defense and Special Teams contributions - as well as to the Hawkeyes Offensive ineptness. I hope I'm wrong - but I just don't see any rational reason to think otherwise at this point. And If the Hawkeyes can pull out a victory (possible), it will almost certainly be due to defense and special teams. Happy New Year!

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

Tyler Tjelmeland – Kentucky 20-16:

Iowa's defense is exceptional. It should play well against Kentucky headed by two former B1G players in QB Will Levis (formerly of Penn State) and WR Wan-Dale Robinson (formerly of Nebraska). That said, it's not the defense that Iowa needs answers from. It's the offense. An offense which has been putrid at times this season. With no Tyler Goodson and a QB situation that's as convoluted as can be going into the bowl season, Iowa's defense could play their best game and it might not matter. I want to pick Iowa in this game because they should be energized to play after being embarrassed in the B1G Championship Game, but I simply can't do it. Kirk Ferentz has been so good recently in big games, but the culmination of all the offensive woes are just too much to get over. Additionally, Kentucky is no slouch on defense. They're ranked 24th nationally in Total Defense and 32nd in Scoring Defense. Give me the Wildcats. I'll be seriously curious. Hope I'm wrong!

HawkeyesMic.com

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

Jack Brandsgard – Iowa 13-10:

I'm envisioning a low-scoring slog of a game that encapsulates Iowa's season, with the Hawkeyes finding a way with a key defensive turnover late.

HawkeyesMic.com

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

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