



Hawkeyes Mic LLC

One Passion, Many Voices

Hawkeyes – Illini Prognostications (10/08/22)



The Hawkeyes Mic picks are in for the Iowa – Illinois Game — and once again it's a split decision for this week's Game 6 of the 2022 Season. Check them out – see if you agree or disagree.

Scott Dochterman – Iowa 24-13:

There's an orange out in Champaign on Saturday. By game's end, the Illini will be wearing blue.

TheAthletic.com

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

Steve Batterson – Iowa 17-14:

Bret Bielema successfully played the "chance to do something special" card last week when the Fighting Illini handed Wisconsin a 34-10 loss to win in Madison for the first time in two decades. This week, the Illini are hearing a lot about their ongoing eight-game losing streak to the Hawkeyes, another "chance to do something special." Expect Iowa to have a bit of a chip on its shoulder after its

27-14 loss to Michigan, arriving at Memorial Stadium with just enough of an attitude to slow Illinois' impressive early-season momentum.

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

John Bohnenkamp – Illinois 17-13:

Illini have confidence now.

[**IowaCollegeHoops.com**](#) - AP
[**@JohnBohnenkamp**](#) on Twitter

Brendan Stiles – Iowa 23-20:

As crazy as this might sound, I like the Hawkeyes in this game because I think the fourth quarter they played last week against Michigan is something that can carry over, especially if Iowa can punch Illinois in the mouth early with the Illini riding the high of winning big in Madison last week. I also think the Rutgers game 2 weeks ago helps Iowa in terms of preparation and what it can expect going into Champaign this Saturday night. As long as the Hawkeyes play a clean game, they should come away with a win here.

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

John Patchett – Illinois 20-17:

Look. I'm not completely understanding all of the Iowa "love" this week — or what the Offense in particular has done (continues to do) to justify it. Maybe it's because the Hawkeyes have won 16 of the last 19 games in this series, 13 of the last 14, and the last 8 straight. BUT. Iowa is averaging an incredibly paltry 1.40 offensive TDs per game so far this season — and an even worse 1.39 offensive TDs per game over the last 13 games. The Hawkeyes did move out of last place in the FBS offensive rankings - to next to last place - after the Michigan game. The Defense also took some hits after the Wolverines gashed it for 327 total yards last Saturday at Kinnick Stadium but still ranks among the best in the nation.

One of the problems for Iowa this weekend at Illinois is that the Illini's Defense ranks even higher than that of the Hawkeyes. Just how is Iowa's Offense going to score against that? Look what happened to the Badgers last week in Madison. I just don't see it. The Illini will load up the box and force QB Spencer Petras to try to beat it via the pass - and we've seen for way too long how that's been going overall - and it's anything but good.

The Illinois Offense is not exactly record-setting but it does have one of the best running backs in nation in Chase Brown. Brown has accumulated 733 rush yards through the first five games which is tops in the FBS. It's passing game leaves

something to be desired - but it's better than the what Iowa has at this point (11th in the Big Ten vs. Iowa's 14th).

There's only so many games in a season where you have to rely on Defense and Special Teams to win games. If it wasn't by Iowa Punter Tory Taylor, I shudder to think what would happen.

The Illini and a thrilled Bret Bielema get the victory in Champaign Urbana, Iowa drops to 3-3 overall and 1-2 in conference play. The Hawkeyes will get blown out in Columbus in two weeks (barring the biggest upset in college football this season), and will return under .500 to face lowly Northwestern at the end of the month in the Homecoming Game in Iowa City. Iowa will (probably) be favored in that game — but that might be the last time this season.

And yet, does anyone realistically think there will be any changes? No. It's too bad Iowa fans don't get to see what, say, Alex Padilla might be able to do at QB — just to see if he could provide a spark - just to try something different. Alas...

Sorry to be the bearer of this bad news. Hope I'm wrong.

Namaste.

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Tyler Tjelmeland – Iowa 23-10:

The Iowa offense didn't sparkle against Michigan, but it did some things it's been unable to do all year. Like throw effective passes more than 5 yards down the field. The defense for Iowa is the deciding factor for any of these toss up games, and I'll bet on the Iowa defense against most. Including the Illini.

HawkeyesMic.com

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

Jack Brandsgard – Illinois 20-17:

Illinois was impressive in its drubbing of Wisconsin last week, proving to be the straw that broke the camel's back for Paul Chryst. Illini RB Chase Brown enters this game as the nation's leading rusher, and Iowa's defense will have its hands full trying to contain him. I think a big play from Brown is the difference in this one.

HawkeyesMic.com

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

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