



Hawkeyes Mic LLC
One Passion, Many Voices

Hawkeyes – Wildcats Prognostications (11/05/21)



The Hawkeyes Mic picks are in for the Iowa – Northwestern Game — and it's back to unanimous again this week for Game 9 of the 2021 Season. Check them out – see if you agree or disagree.

Scott Dochterman – Iowa 30-13:

I'm fearful anytime the Hawkeyes are double-digit favorites against the Wildcats; Iowa has lost the last five such games outright. But this Northwestern squad doesn't have either the offense or the defense to put that kind of scare into Iowa this time around.

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

Steve Batterson – Iowa 27-7:

As wobbly as the Iowa offense has been, the Northwestern defense has had even more issues. The Wildcats run defense has been giving up 229.5 yards per game. Nebraska topped 400. Michigan State and Minnesota ran for more than 300.

Michigan came within four yards of doing the same. Given Iowa's recent line issues, a more modest total is likely but Tyler Goodson should be able to get November off on the right foot for the Hawkeyes.

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

John Bohnenkamp – Iowa 20-7:

Hawkeyes show a little bit of offense.

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

Brendan Stiles – Iowa 23-7:

I know the Wildcats have won 4 of the last 5 and have been possibly an even bigger thorn in Iowa's side over the years than Purdue and Wisconsin both have, but I do believe the Hawkeyes bounce back this weekend in Evanston. This is a game in particular that I can see being fairly ugly from start to finish, but I like the Hawkeyes in this spot because this is where I think the defense gets back on track in terms of creating turnovers and short fields for the offense to work with. This game is basically a reset for Iowa, so I expect this to be a game where the Hawkeyes focus on the fundamentals and do the small things necessary to pick up a victory.

[@TheBStiles](#) on Twitter

John Patchett – Iowa 24-10:

Iowa "thought bubble": *Thank God it's Northwestern this Saturday!*
Northwestern "thought bubble": *Thank God it's Iowa this Saturday!*

I was inclined to pick Northwestern this week - based on recent series history plus the fact that Iowa's offensive line too often appears to consist of an awesome center and four turnstiles plus the entire offense seems a mess — but on Tuesday Scott (along with Steve and John) talked me off that cliff (for this week at least). Kirk won't fire himself as OC (or Brian either) so don't expect anything to change. But I digress...

Northwestern is a shambles this season - all around - so that makes it very difficult to think it can flip a switch and upset Iowa this week — but it's hard to completely dismiss that possibility no matter how unlikely (see the paragraph above).

The Wildcats Defense is bad — as in bottom of the B1G bad: 14 Rush, 12 Total, 12 Scoring. The Wildcats Offense is bad: 12 Total, 14 Scoring, 8th Rush, 11 Pass.

The Hawkeyes Offense is as bad or worse than NU's in most categories (except scoring). But the big difference-makers in this game are Iowa's Defense and Special Teams. If the Hawks can't run the ball effectively vs. Northwestern, then Iowa REALLY has a problem.

I think the Hawkeyes hit both of their key offensive in-game indicators: 20+ points and 100+ rush yards, break their two-game losing streak, and get things back on track heading into their final three regular season contests. Still a (tiny) sliver of a chance at the B1G West - but Iowa must win out even to keep that sliver alive.

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

Tyler Tjelmeland – Iowa 38-10:

Iowa's offense has sputtered the past two weeks, but it's also played against two of the top five conference defenses in Wisconsin (#2) and Purdue (#5). The defense struggled mightily against Purdue, but was tasked with overcoming turnovers and multiple miscues against Wisconsin. I'm not saying "its not that bad" but I'll be glad to say it if Iowa doesn't get it's stuff together against an inferior Northwestern. The Wildcats have the 13th ranked defense in the B1G and that bodes well for a Hawkeye offensive unit looking to find a foothold to get things back to ticking right along. Hawkeyes big.

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

Jack Brandsgard – Iowa 20-13:

Who knows anymore? After two straight duds, Iowa's offense can only go up from here. I expect Tyler Goodson to have an Akrum Wadley-type game against Northwestern as the Hawkeyes gain traction on the ground for the first time in a while.

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

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