



# Hawkeyes Mic LLC

One Passion, Many Voices

## Hawkeyes – Jackrabbits Prognostications (09/03/22)



*The Hawkeyes Mic picks are in for the Iowa – South Dakota State Season-Opening Game – it's unanimous this week for Game 1 of the 2022 Season. Check them out – see if you agree or disagree.*

### **Scott Dochterman – Iowa 24-10:**

If the Hawkeyes want to be bullies of the Big Ten, they first have to be bullies of the Great Plains.

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

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

### **Steve Batterson – Iowa 24-10:**

There won't be anything sexy about it, but expect Iowa to work to establish the run and control the clock against a quality opponent. The Hawkeye defense will make the difference, but Gavin Williams and Leshon Williams and a slightly-more experienced offensive line will help Iowa's rushing attack take a step forward.

[The Quad City Times](https://www.thequadcitytimes.com)

[@SBatt79](https://twitter.com/SBatt79) on Twitter

### **John Bohnenkamp – Iowa 24-20:**

Jackrabbits aren't to be trifled with in the season opener.

[IowaCollegeHoops.com](http://IowaCollegeHoops.com) - AP  
[@JohnBohnenkamp](https://twitter.com/JohnBohnenkamp) on Twitter

### **Brendan Stiles – Iowa 31-10:**

This will be like most season openers are for the Hawkeyes. I imagine the Jackrabbits give them a good test for about a half before Iowa eventually hits its stride and then grinds this game down the way Kirk Ferentz has done many times throughout his career. It might not look pretty, but the Hawkeyes should be able to control the line of scrimmage and dominate in this one.

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

### **John Patchett – Iowa 20-14:**

I have zero - ZERO - faith in Iowa's Offense until it actually shows it can score touchdowns on a regular basis, including inside the red zone — something it utterly failed to do the last eight games in the 2021-22 season. In those games the Hawkeyes averaged a meager (pathetic) 1.38 Offensive TDs per game — just one of the key offensive stats that landed Iowa near the bottom of the 130 FBS teams. Is it the out-dated offensive scheme that remains largely unchanged since 1999? That's certainly part of it. The completion percentage for QB Spencer Petras last season? That's definitely another part of the problem. Is it the very complex playbook? According to players, that's also an issue. Anyway, you get my point.

Having beaten that dead horse, I'll now stand back and watch the first three games and see how things go. In spite of this...

As mediocre as the Hawks Offense has been, the Defense has been very good. This season it might be outstanding. And Tory Taylor is a terrific punter - one of the best around. So, once again, the Defense and Special Teams will be crucial - and responsible for at least as many points as the Offense will put up.

SDSU is a really good all-around football team - one of the best in the FCS - and the Jackrabbits aren't going to high-tail it back to South Dakota without having put up a valiant fight at Kinnick Stadium. And we've seen in the past that Ferentz's teams often struggle in these kinds of contests. A close, hard-fought game in the 1st Half should lead to the Hawkeyes pulling away in the 2nd.

An opening season win, leading up to next week's Cy-Hawk Trophy clash.

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

### **Tyler Tjelmeland – Iowa 27-13:**

Iowa's defense could really be special this season, but they have a tough test with SDSU who's offense is experienced, talented, and can really move the ball. Ultimately, week one is critical for Iowa's offense to establish some dominance on the line and get Petras into a rhythm early in the year. A steady diet of Gavin Williams and Lashon Williams will look to pull pressure off Petras as much as possible to start developing that rhythm. The tight ends should see heavy involvement as well. It won't be terribly flashy, but the Hawkeyes get to 1-0. Probably a typical, close to the vest game-plan from Ferentz. I don't see FCS upset magic here.

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

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

### **Jack Brandsgard – Iowa 24-20:**

As I'm sure everyone has heard, this is no cakewalk for the Hawkeyes. South Dakota State is an FCS school with FBS talent, and Iowa will need to bring it to avoid another North Dakota State situation. I was shocked to see the spread favor Iowa by 15.5 points, as I'm expecting this to be a closely-contested game. A lot will hinge on the sharpness of Spencer Petras, and I'm looking for Sam LaPorta to have a huge game to make up for the Hawkeyes' depleted receiving corps. I think Iowa gets it done, but it'll be nervy.

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

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

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