



### IOWA BIO

#### National Championships - 5



Big Ten Championships: 11  
(Last: 2004)

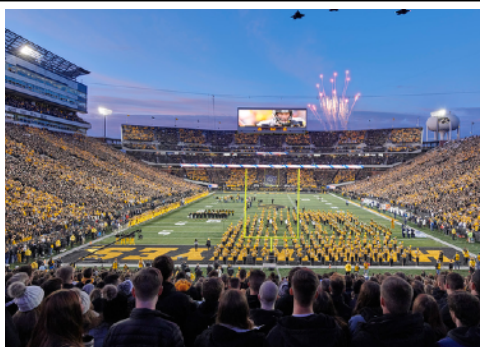
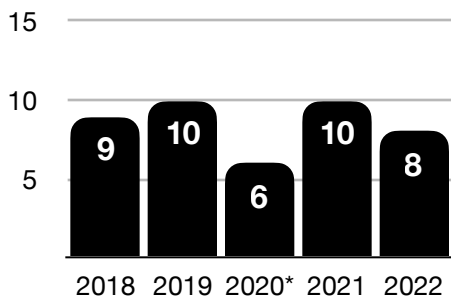
Location: Iowa City, IA

All-Time Record: 653-543-34

2022 Results: 8-5  
Won Music City Bowl

Head Coach: Kirk Ferentz  
25th Year (186-115)

### 5-YEAR WIN TREND



Kinnick Stadium (70,585)

## The Search for the Iowa Offense Continues

It's remarkable that Kirk Ferentz has stacked up 8 or more wins in every full season since 2015 and it's even more remarkable that he's been able to accomplish that feat with an often lackluster offense. The Hawkeyes have never had the kind of offensive firepower displayed by the likes of Ohio State and Michigan over the years but they've never had an offense quite as sluggish as the unit that took the field in 2022. Iowa averaged just 17.7 points per game and even that number is deceptively high considering the points scored by the defense. There were several more instances where the defense created a turnover right on the doorstep of the end zone. That defense was the polar opposite of the offense and would have been the best scoring defense in the country if not for allowing 54 points against Ohio State in a blowout. Turnovers (a -4 margin) had a lot to do with the number of points allowed and the defense was otherwise sensational.

The offense has prevented the Hawkeyes from taking full advantage of an often wide-open Big Ten West. Iowa did reach the conference title game in 2021 and the division is there for the taking. Brian Ferentz, Kirk's son, remains as the offensive coordinator much to the chagrin of many Hawkeye fans. There is now a bizarre and yet understandable stipulation in his contract that states the Hawkeyes must score 25 points per game. If they fail to meet this goal for the third straight season, Brian Ferentz will lose his job. A pair of Michigan transfers should help aid Ferentz' race to 300 total points. **Cade McNamara** guided Michigan to a College Football Playoff before ultimately losing his job to JJ McCarthy and should be a major upgrade at quarterback. While Iowa loses out on star tight end Sam Laporta (the teams' receiving leader with 58 catches for 657 yards), **Erick All** should fill that role nicely. His 2021 campaign was his best and included 38 catches for 437 yards and his 2023 production could be just as good or even better. **Luke Lachey** provides additional talent at tight end. The wide receiver position was practically non-existent last season in terms of passing production but with McNamara under center this unit should be much better. **Nico Ragaini** was the lone bright spot at receiver in 2022 and he made 34 catches for 386 yards in just ten games.


Running back **Kaleb Johnson** was remarkably effective as a true freshman and ran for 779 yards and 6 touchdowns. **Leshon Williams** added 412 yards and both he and Johnson return which gives the Hawkeyes a good one-two punch in a running game that dipped below 100 yards per game last season. The rush offense could be much better if McNamara is able to add a passing threat to the Hawkeye attack and space out the defense, providing better rushing lanes for the backs. The offensive line should be solid and it was an experienced group even before they added Miami transfer **Rusty Feth**.

Phil Parker is now in his 23rd season as defensive coordinator with the Hawkeyes and he continues to churn out elite defenses. Even though Iowa must replace their long-time leader and Butkus award winner Jack Campbell as well as fellow linebacker Seth Benson, the Hawkeyes bring back significant defensive talent and are poised for another tremendous season. Cornerback **Cooper DeJean** is one of the best in the country and is a big factor on special teams. Linebacker **Jay Higgins** will assume the "quarterback on defense" and **Nick Jackson** could make a major impact for the Hawkeyes right out of the transfer portal. **Logan Lee** and **Noah Shannon** both made the honorable mention All-Big-Ten team and **Joe Evans** was third team with 6.5 sacks. To nobody's surprise, the front seven should dominate. Punter **Tory Taylor** is the best in the country but the Hawkeyes would like to use him less frequently this season.













**The Bottom Line:** Make no mistake, scoring 25 points per game would still rank Iowa in the bottom half of college football. However, if the Hawkeyes do achieve this oddly transparent requirement they'll become instant contenders in the West and become a prime candidate to earn a third double-digit win season in just five years due to the exceptional play on defense. Losing Jack Campbell certainly hurts but Iowa almost always reloads and haven't allowed an average of more than 20 points per game in a season since 2015 and I expect that streak to continue in 2023. This team will go as far as the offense is able to take them.

## Projection: 9-3 (2nd in Big Ten West)

### 2022 Statistics

Points Scored <b>17.7</b> 123th in FBS	Rush Yards <b>94.8</b> 124th in FBS	Pass Yards <b>156.7</b> 123rd in FBS	Turnover Margin <b>+6</b> T-24th in FBS
Points Allowed <b>13.3</b> 2nd in FBS	Rush YDS Allowed <b>101.3</b> 12th in FBS	Pass YDS Allowed <b>169.5</b> 6th in FBS	

## 2023 Iowa Schedule

Week	Date	Team
1	Sat, Sept 2	 vs. Utah State
2	Sat, Sept 9	 @ Iowa State
3	Sat, Sept 16	 vs. W. Michigan
4	Sat, Sept 23	 @ Penn State
5	Sat, Sept 30	 vs. Michigan St.
6	Sat, Oct 7	 vs. Purdue
7	Sat, Oct 14	 @ Wisconsin
8	Sat, Oct 21	 vs. Minnesota
9	Bye Week	
10	Sat, Nov 4	 vs. N'western*
11	Sat, Nov 11	 vs. Rutgers
12	Sat, Nov 18	 vs. Illinois
13	Fri, Nov 24	 @ Nebraska

Conference Games in Bold

## KEY GAMES

**Sat, Sept 9: @ Iowa State** - Iowa saw their 6-game win streak in the "Cy-Hawk" rivalry end after a highly disappointing 10-7 loss. Can the Hawkeyes regain their spot as the best team in the state with a road victory in Ames?

**Sat, Oct 14: @ Wisconsin** - Iowa claimed a 24-10 victory against the Badgers last year but new head coach Luke Fickell guides a much improved Wisconsin team and Madison has proven difficult for Iowa (0-3 in last three meetings). The West Division title could be on the line.

**Sat, Nov 18: vs. Illinois** - Neither team found the end zone last season in a 9-6 slugfest won by the Illini that snapped an Iowa 8-game win streak in the series.

## KEY PLAYERS

### Erick All - TE



It's good to see All back on the field and (presumably) healthy after a back issue caused him to miss virtually all of 2022. He was dominant in 2021 and caught 38 passes for 437 yards and 2 touchdowns for the Michigan Wolverines and he should thrive in Iowa. No school utilizes their tight ends more and no school has been as successful at putting tight ends in the NFL as Iowa. And, yes, All will be the next Iowa tight end playing on Sundays.

### Cooper DeJean - CB

DeJean is simply a football player. His primary role is playing lockdown corner but he'll both cover and return punts. He returned 10 a season ago including a 41-yard scamper against Wisconsin. He had five interceptions and three he ran back for touchdowns! He won two state titles as a quarterback, so could he even factor in the Iowa offense somehow this season?



## 2022 RESULTS (8-5)

### South Dakota State (W 7-3)

Iowa State (L 7-10)

### Nevada (W 27-0)

### @ Rutgers (W 27-10)

Michigan (L 14-27)

@ Illinois (L 6-9)

@ Ohio State (L 10-54)

### Northwestern (W 33-13)

### @ Purdue (W 24-3)

### Wisconsin (W 24-10)

### @ Minnesota (W 13-10)

Nebraska (L 17-24)

### Kentucky (W 21-0)

# IOWA™

## RECRUITING

### 2023 Class Ranking

# 39th

(Via 24/7 Sports)