



For Immediate Release
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Mike Kern

Illinois State • Indiana State • Missouri State • North Dakota State • Northern Iowa
South Dakota • South Dakota State • Southern Illinois • Western Illinois • Youngstown State

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2018 Valley Football Standings (thru Saturday, Nov. 3)

Team	MVFC		Points		Overall	Points		H	A	Stk.
	W-L	Pct.	For	Opp		W-L	Pct.			
North Dakota St.	6-0	1.000	215	90	9-0	1.000	340	110	6-0	3-0 W15
South Dakota St.	4-2	.667	213	138	6-2	.750	348	158	5-0	1-2 W2
Northern Iowa	4-2	.667	173	146	5-4	.556	254	210	3-1	2-3 W1
Western Illinois	4-2	.667	170	167	5-4	.556	238	254	3-1	2-3 W3
Indiana State	3-3	.500	195	202	5-4	.556	306	274	2-2	3-2 W3
Illinois State	2-4	.333	163	135	5-4	.556	292	164	4-1	1-3 L3
Missouri State	2-4	.333	137	221	4-5	.444	246	311	3-2	1-3 L3
South Dakota	2-4	.333	173	233	3-6	.333	250	315	2-2	1-4 L4
Youngstown State	2-4	.333	115	172	3-6	.333	195	254	3-2	0-4 L2
Southern Illinois	1-5	.167	142	192	2-7	.222	276	326	0-4	2-3 L1

Schedule/Results

Saturday, Nov. 3

UNI 26, #13 Illinois State 16
Indiana State 51, South Dakota 48 (3ot)
#7 South Dakota State 59, Missouri State 7
#1 North Dakota State 17, Youngstown State 7
Western Illinois 34, Southern Illinois 31

Saturday, Nov. 10

#22 UNI at Youngstown State, 11 am CT
Youngstown, Ohio • ESPN+
#22 Illinois State at RV Indiana State, 12 pm CT
Terre Haute, Ind. • ESPN3
RV Western Illinois at South Dakota, 1 pm CT
Vermillion, S.D. • Midco SN / ESPN+
#6 S. Dakota State at Southern Illinois, 1 pm CT
Carbondale, Ill. • ESPN+
#1 North Dakota State at Missouri St., 2 pm CT
Springfield, Mo. • ESPN+

Saturday, Nov. 17

Youngstown State at Illinois State, 12 pm CT
Normal, Ill. • NBCSCH / ESPN+
Indiana State at Western Illinois, 1 pm CT
Macomb, Ill. • ESPN3
South Dakota at South Dakota State, 2 pm CT
Brookings, S.D. • Midco / ESPN+
S. Illinois at N. Dakota State, 2:30 pm CT
Fargo, N.D. • NBC ND / ESPN+
Missouri State at UNI, 4 pm CT
Cedar Falls, Iowa • ESPN+

END OF REGULAR SEASON



ESPN APP is MVFC Digital Home

The ESPN App curates all of ESPN's incredible content into a personalized experience unique to each fan's tastes. All

MVFC home games will be available through the App via "TV Everywhere" (airing on ESPN3 or ESPN+). Fans can subscribe to ESPN+ for just \$4.99 a month (or \$49.99 per year) and cancel at any time. For questions about the new ESPN App or ESPN+, please contact the ESPN customer care team at support.espn.com or 1-888-549-ESPN.

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Players of the Week

Each week a panel will select players of the week for offense, defense, newcomer, offensive line and special teams.

MVFC Media Vault

By Wednesday of each week, the league will collect school weekly coach press conferences (audio/video links) and PDF links to weekly notes in the MVFC Media Vault.

Statistics

Interactive school and league statistics are available, courtesy of the league's partnership with SIDEARM.

Weekly Features

The league produces weekly video segments (Two Minute Drill and The Extra Point) and a bimonthly audio podcast (First and Goal). Each is available by visiting the league's web site (valleyfootball.org) - under the Multimedia tab on the main menu bar.

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Headlines

This Week in the MVFC

Only two weekends remain, and six different MVFC teams are in a position to reach the seven-win plateau (North Dakota State, with nine, is already there.) The MVFC will take its TV cameras to Springfield, Mo., for the North Dakota State-Missouri State contest (ESPN+). Scott Warmann, Don Patterson and Kelly Burke will call the action from Plaster Field.

Streaking

North Dakota State owns the nation's longest active winning streak in the FCS at 15 games. The 15-game streak is the second-longest in MVFC history. The Bison, meanwhile, own the league's three longest win streaks of all time (33, 15, 14).

FCS Active Win Streaks

15	North Dakota State
13	Colgate
8	Kennesaw State
8	Princeton

MVFC All-Time Win Streaks (includes playoffs):

33	North Dakota State (2012-14)
15	North Dakota State (2017-current)
14	North Dakota State (2015-16)
13	Western Kentucky (2002-03)
	UNI (2006-07)
11	Eastern Illinois (1986)
	UNI (1985)
	Southern Illinois (2009)

Players of the Week

Offense

QB Ryan Boyle, Indiana State Jr., 6-2, 215, Urbandale, Iowa / (Iowa)

Boyle accounted for a program record seven touchdowns in a 51-48 triple overtime victory against South Dakota. He tied an Indiana State single-game record with five passing touchdowns, including three during the overtime periods. He accounted for 380 yards of total offense, including a career high 187 yards on the ground. He was 20-for-27 through the air for 193 yards. He broke down the Coyote defense in each of the overtime periods. It took just one play for the Sycamores to score in the first overtime as Boyle connected with Dante Hendrix for 25 yards. He would come back to give the Sycamores the lead in the second period with a three-yard jump pass for the two-yard score to tight end Zach Larkin before winning the game on a three-yard pass to Hendrix to push the Sycamore winning streak to three games for the first time since 2014. Starting his seventh career game for the Sycamores, Boyle helped Indiana State to 40 or more points for the fifth time.

Defense

LB Katrell Moss, Indiana State Sr., 5-11, 225, Indianapolis (Warren Central)

Moss recorded a season high 18 tackles, including 10 solo stops Saturday against South Dakota. Moss found his way into several key plays, making 3.5 tackles-for-loss in the game, including one tackle for loss at the goal line. A Warren Central High School product, Moss recovered a fumble in the third quarter as the Coyotes marched into the red zone, seizing the momentum. Moss also was credited for a quarterback hurry in the game.

Newcomer

QB Ryan Boyle, Indiana State Jr., 6-2, 215, Urbandale, Iowa (Iowa)
See above.

Special Teams

PK Austin Errthum, UNI Sr., 5-10, 180, Kalona, Iowa (Mid-Prairie)

Errthum was 4-4 in field goals and 2-2 in PATs to help lead UNI to a 26-16 win over Illinois State. He hit from 30, 30, 27 and tied his second longest kick of the season at 43 yards. The senior was also stellar in kickoffs, finding the end zone on every kick to average 65 yards per kickoff and notch six touchbacks on seven kicks.

Offensive Lineman

LT Evan Greeneway, South Dakota State 6-7, 290, Jr., (Yankton, S.D./Yankton H.S.)

Greeneway graded out at 93 percent while not allowing a sack in the Jackrabbits' 59-7 victory over Missouri State on Nov. 3. He helped pave the way for SDSU to rack up 547 yards of total offense with nearly an equal blend of rushing (283 yards) and passing (264). Five of SDSU's touchdown drives took five plays or less, with three consisting of only one play. The Jackrabbits did not allow a single tackle for loss or sack in the game and have only given up eight sacks all season.

Magic Number = 0

North Dakota State earned at least a share of the 2018 MVFC title and the league's automatic berth into the NCAA playoffs with a win last weekend against Youngstown State. The Bison hold a two-game advantage over three teams in the standings (UNI, SDSU and Western Illinois). NDSU would win the tiebreaker in the event it ties any of those three teams.

Title Town

North Dakota State has a league-record eight-straight Conference titles (shared or outright), and that is second-only to UNI's 16. The Panthers had a streak of seven-straight titles from 1990-96.

Total Titles	Last
UNI	16 2011
North Dakota State	8 2018
Southern Illinois	5 2009
Western Illinois	5 2002
Illinois State	3 2015
Eastern Illinois	2 1995
Missouri State	2 1990
Youngstown State	2 2006
South Dakota State	1 2016
Western Kentucky	1 2002

Still Perfect

North Dakota State (9-0), Colgate (8-0) and Princeton (8-0) still have perfect records through Nov. 3. There are also four unbeaten FBS teams.

FCS Unbeaten Teams (2018)

9-0	North Dakota State
8-0	Colgate, Princeton

FBS Unbeaten Teams (2018)

9-0	Alabama, Clemson, Notre Dame
8-0	UCF

Home Sweet Home

Two league schools are perfect at home this season: North Dakota State (6-0) and South Dakota State (5-0). A total of 27 FCS teams are unbeaten at home this year.

North Dakota State (15-straight) and South Dakota State (9-straight) boast two of the longest active home win streaks in the FCS. San Diego (20) has the current longest home win streak among FCS schools.

NCAA Leaders, Home Win Streaks

20 - San Diego (PFL)
15 - North Dakota State (MVFC)
14 - Kennesaw State (Big South)
12 - Grambling (SWAC)
11 - McNeese (Southland)
10 - Monmouth (Big South)
9 - South Dakota State (MVFC)
8 - Stony Brook (CAA)
8 - Weber State (Big Sky)

Working Overtime

League teams have been involved in 68 overtime games since current OT rules were put in place in 1994. A total of 35 conference games have been decided in overtime, including Indiana State's 51-48 win against South Dakota on Nov. 3, 2018.

Below is a breakdown of MVFC schools all-time records in overtime games.

Team	Record	Last OT result
Illinois State	8-7	lost, vs. SDSU, 2017
Indiana State	9-8	win, vs. USD, 2018
Missouri State	1-10	lost, vs. SDSU, 2011
North Dakota St.	3-1	won, vs. YSU, 2017
UNI	6-8	won, Cal Poly, 2017
USD	3-2	lost, vs. INS, 2018
South Dakota St.	4-2	won, vs. INS, 2018
Southern Illinois	6-4	won, vs. YSU, 2015
Western Illinois	7-2	won, vs. SDSU, 2015
Western Kentucky	1-1	lost, vs. UNI, 2005
Youngstown State	6-4	lost, vs. NDSU, 2017

Most TDs This Year

Indiana State's Ryan Boyle accounted for seven TDs in Indiana State's win against South Dakota (5 passing, 2 rushing). It's the most in a game by an MVFC player this year. QB Easton Stick of NDSU had 6 TDs (2 rush, 4 pass) in the Bison win vs. UNI.

What a Rush

Indiana State's Ryan Boyle rushed for 187 yards in the Sycamores' win against South Dakota on Nov. 3. It was the fifth-most in the league this year, and the most by a QB.

Most Rush Yards by QB, MVFC History

245, Donte Pimpleton, WKU, vs. Illinois State, 2001
207, Julian Reese, INS, vs. Illinois State, 2001
200, Aaron Bailey, UNI, vs. Portland State, 2015
194, Tirrell Rennie, UNI, vs. Youngstown St., 2010
187, Ryan Boyle, INS, vs. South Dakota, 2018
187, Tirrell Rennie, UNI, vs. Indiana State, 2010
174, Peyton Huslig, MSU, vs. Indiana State, 2017

Historic Comeback

Western Illinois trailed Southern Illinois on Nov. 3, 2018, 31-14 before scoring the first of 20 unanswered points with a Sam Crosa field goal with 13:33 remaining in the 4th quarter. The 17-point fourth-quarter comeback tied for the fifth biggest comeback in league history.

Deficit	Final Score (Year)
42-21	USD 52, Weber State 49 2ot (2016)
20-0	SIU 21, No. 2 Youngstown 20 (2000)
20-0	SIU 33, Missouri State 30 (1995)
42-24	ILS 46, Missouri State 42 (1999)
31-14	W. Illinois 34, Southern Illinois 31 (2018)
31-14	W. Illinois 35, Missouri St. 31 (1988)
20-3	S. Illinois 24, Murray State 20 (1997)
31-14	S. Illinois 34, N. Illinois 31 (2007)

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vs. Non-Conference (17-12)

Home: 14-2 / Away: 3-10 / Neut: 0-0

NCAA FCS Teams (13-5)

Big Sky	5-3
Cal Poly	1-0
Montana	1-1
Montana State.....	1-1
Northern Arizona	1-0
Northern Colorado	1-0
Weber State.....	0-1
CAA Football.....	1-0
Delaware.....	1-0
Independents	2-0
Hampton	1-0
North Alabama	1-0
Ohio Valley	3-1
Eastern Illinois.....	2-0
Murray State.....	1-0
SE Missouri State.....	0-1
Pioneer Football	1-1
Butler	0-1
Valparaiso.....	1-0
SWAC.....	1-0
Arkansas-Pine Bluff.....	1-0

NCAA FBS Teams (1-7)

ACC.....	0-1
Louisville.....	0-1
Big Ten	0-2
Illinois.....	0-1
Iowa.....	0-1
Big 12.....	0-3
Iowa State.....	0-0
Kansas State.....	0-1
Oklahoma State.....	0-1
West Virginia.....	0-1
Mountain West.....	1-0
Colorado State.....	1-0
SEC.....	0-1
Ole Miss.....	0-1

Non Division I Teams (3-0)

Lincoln	1-0
St. Xavier.....	1-0
Quincy	1-0

vs. Ranked (FCS) Teams (2-2)

UNI at #24 Montana, L, 23-26
South Dakota at #11 Weber St., L, 10-27
#15 Montana at Western Illinois, W, 31-27
#20 N. Arizona at Missouri State, W, 40-8

vs. Ranked (FBS) Teams (0-2)

Missouri St. at #25 Okla. State, L, 17-58
Youngstown St. at #14 W. Virginia, L, 17-52

6-0 League Start for NDSU

North Dakota State became the 13th team in league history to start an MVFC season with a 6-0 mark after the Bison defeated Youngstown State on Nov. 3. All of the previous 12 earned a playoff berth, and 11 of them won the Conference title.

Year	Team, Note (* - denotes playoffs)
1987	*UNI was 6-0, won league
1988	*Western Illinois was 6-0, won league
1994	*UNI was 6-0, won league
1997	*Western Illinois was 6-0, won league
1999	*Illinois State was 6-0, won league
2003	*Southern Illinois started 6-0, won league
2004	*Southern Illinois started 7-0, won league
2007	*UNI started 6-0, won league
2009	*Southern Illinois started 8-0, won league
	*South Dakota State started 6-0, finished 2nd
2011	*North Dakota State started 6-0, won league
2013	*North Dakota State started 8-0, won league
2018	North Dakota State is 6-0

**teams that went undefeated in league play*

Turnover Margin

Four MVFC programs rank among the Top 15 in the FCS in turnover margin, topped by North Dakota State, which ranks 4th-best with +1.44. South Dakota State is 7th, while Indiana State and UNI are tied for 15th. Indiana State is tied for the national lead (with Dartmouth) with just four turnovers lost this year.

FCS Leaders - Turnover Margin

Rank, Team (Conf.)	Mar.
1. Dartmouth (Ivy League)	2.13
2. Southeast Missouri State (OVC)	1.89
3. Colgate (Patriot)	1.50
4. North Dakota State (MVFC)	1.44
5. UC Davis (Big Sky)	1.33
5. Northwestern State (Southland)	1.33
7. Princeton (Ivy League)	1.25
7. South Dakota State (MVFC)	1.25
7. Elon (CAA)	1.25
15. Indiana State (MVFC)	0.78
15. UNI (MVFC)	0.78

Taking Care of the Rock

Six MVFC schools rank in the Top 28 of the FCS for fewest interceptions thrown, topped by Indiana State (2nd nationally with just one pick) and North Dakota State (4th, with two).

FCS Leaders - Fewest Interceptions Thrown

Rank, Team (Conf.)	INT
1. Cal Poly (Big Sky)	0
2. Indiana State (MVFC)	1
2. Dartmouth (Ivy League)	1
4. Dayton (Pioneer)	2
4. Princeton (Ivy League)	2
4. North Dakota State (MVFC)	2
4. Elon (CAA)	2
28. UNI (MVFC)	6
28. South Dakota (MVFC)	6
28. Illinois State (MVFC)	6
28. South Dakota State (MVFC)	6

Defense In the Red Zone

North Dakota State (2nd) and Illinois State (9th) rank among the FCS leaders in Red Zone defense. Missouri State is also in the Top 25, ranking 23rd in the FCS. NDSU's opponents have reached the Red Zone just 16 times this year (in nine games). Only Colgate (11), Princeton (13) and Kennesaw State (15) have allowed fewer Red Zone trips. South Dakota State ranks 7th in fewest Red Zone trips allowed (18).

FCS Leaders - Red Zone Defense

Rank, Team (Conf.)	RZ Att.	Scores	Pct.
1. Colgate (Patriot)	11	4	.364
2. NDSU (MVFC)	16	7	.438
3. Dartmouth (Ivy)	20	11	.550
4. Jackson St. (SWAC)	27	17	.630
5. Stony Brook (CAA)	30	19	.633
6. Penn (Ivy League)	21	14	.667
6. Chattanooga (SoCon)	30	20	.667
8. Princeton (Ivy League)	13	9	.692
9. Illinois State (MVFC)	30	21	.700
10. SE La. (Southland)	47	33	.702

2018 Valley Football Teams in the Top 25

Team	Pre	S3	S10	S17	S24	O1	O8	O15	O22	O29	N5
Illinois State	20	19	18	15	9	14	12	7	9	13	22
Indiana St.	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	rv
Missouri St.	--	--	--	rv	rv	24	rv	rv	rv	--	--
NDSU	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
UNI	12	18	18	22	21	22	rv	25	17	rv	22
S. Dakota	rv	23	22	rv	rv	rv	24	rv	--	--	--
SDSU	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	7	7	6
S. Illinois	rv	rv	rv	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
W. Illinois	rv	rv	rv	rv	rv	rv	rv	--	rv	rv	rv
Youngstown	24	rv	--	rv	rv	--	--	--	--	--	--

**Rank represents highest position in the two polls (STATS or AFCA FCS Coaches polls)*

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Scoring Defense

Three MVFC schools rank among the Top 13 in the FCS for fewest points allowed per game. North Dakota State tops the MVFC and ranks 5th nationally (12.2 ppg), while Illinois State (9th, 18.2 ppg) and South Dakota State (13th, 19.8 ppg) also surrender fewer than three TDs per contest.

FCS Leaders - Scoring Defense

Rank, Team (Conf.)	PPG
1. Colgate (Patriot)	2.9
2. Princeton (Ivy League)	9.1
3. Kennesaw State (Big South)	10.8
4. Dartmouth (Ivy League)	11.1
5. North Dakota State (MVFC)	12.2
9. Illinois State (MVFC)	18.2
13. South Dakota State (MVFC)	19.8

Passing Efficiency

South Dakota State's Taryn Christion ranks second nationally in passing efficiency with a rating of 165.7. Easton Stick of NDSU is close behind at 158.3 (7th), while Indiana State's Ryan Boyle has a rating of 153.6 (11th-best in the FCS).

FCS Leaders - Fewest Interceptions Thrown

Rank, Team (Conf.)	Points
1. Anthony Lawrence, San Diego (PFL)	168.0
2. Taryn Christion, SDSU (MVFC)	165.7
3. Colin McGovern, Stetson (Pioneer)	165.6
4. Derek Kyler, Dartmouth (Ivy League)	162.3
5. Tanner Gueller, Idaho St. (Big Sky)	159.6
6. John Lovett, Princeton (Ivy League)	158.4
7. Easton Stick, NDSU (MVFC)	158.3
11. Ryan Boyle, Indiana State (MVFC)	153.6

In the Backfield

Western Illinois' Pete Swenson leads the FCS in tackles for loss and he's tied for third nationally in sacks per game.

FCS Leaders - Tackles For Loss

Rank, Team (Conf.)	TFL
1. Pete Swenson, Western Illinois (MVFC)	2.2
1. BJ Blunt, McNeese (Southland)	2.2
3. Derick Roberson, SHSU (Southland)	2.0
3. Evan Veron, Nicholls (Southland)	2.0
5. Glenn Cunningham, Fordham (Patriot)	1.9
5. Cameron Gill, Wagner (NEC)	1.9

FCS Leaders - Sacks Per Game

Rank, Team	Sacks
1. Derick Roberson, SHSU (Southland)	1.50
2. Adrian Hope, Furman (SoCon)	1.31
3. Pete Swenson, Western Illinois (MVFC)	1.22
3. BJ Blunt, McNeese (Southland)	1.22
3. Tomas Wright, Bryant (NEC)	1.22

Tough Schedules

MVFC teams hold seven of the Top 8 spots in the Massey Ratings strength of schedule index. UNI and Western Illinois rank 1-2, followed by New Hampshire (CAA). South Dakota (4th), North Dakota State (5th), South Dakota State (6th), Illinois State (7th) and Southern Illinois (8th) round out the national leaders. All of the league's 10 members are rated in the Top 36 in the Massey Ratings strength of schedule. Only two leagues (MVFC and Big Sky) have more than three teams among the Top 20 (MVFC has nine.)

Strength of Schedule Ratings, Massey Ratings

1. UNI
2. Western Illinois
3. New Hampshire
4. South Dakota
5. North Dakota State
6. South Dakota State
7. Illinois State
8. Southern Illinois

16. Youngstown State
20. Missouri State
36. Indiana State

SOS Ratings, Ranked by No. of Teams in Top 20

1. Missouri Valley Football - 9
2. Big Sky - 7
3. CAA Football - 3
4. Southern - 1

4 Teams in Top 25

Four league teams are in the Top 25 this week, and two others are receiving votes. North Dakota State continues to have its unanimous stranglehold in both polls while South Dakota State, Illinois State and UNI are also ranked. Western Illinois and Indiana State are receiving votes.

Team	STATS	AFCA	Sagarin	Massey	HERO
NDSU	1	1	1	1	1
SDSU	6	6	2	4	5
UNI	22	24	4	8	19
ILS	23	22	5	15	18
WIU	rv	rv	16	13	25
INS	-	rv	30	27	42

Among conferences, the MVFC is the top-rated league in the FCS (Sagarin Rankings), and also ranks ahead of a two FBS leagues, including Conference USA (both the East and West divisions), and the Sun Belt (West Division).

Sagarin Rankings, Conference Leaders (FCS)

1. MISSOURI VALLEY
2. CAA Football
3. Big Sky
4. Southern
5. Ivy
6. Ohio Valley

2018 Players of the Week

Sept. 4

Offense - RB Bruce Anderson, North Dakota State
Defense - LB Alex Gray, South Dakota
Special Teams - WR/RS Dakota Caton, Indiana St.
Newcomer - QB Brady Davis, Illinois State
Offensive Lineman - OC Tanner Volson, NDSU

Sept. 10

Offense - QB Austin Simmons, South Dakota
Defense - WR Cade Johnson, South Dakota State
Defense - DE Darin Greenfield, South Dakota
Special Teams - P Brady Hale, South Dakota State
Newcomer - QB Brady Davis, Illinois State
Offensive Lineman - OL Marquis Prophete, MSU

Sept. 17

Offense - RB Ja'Quan Keys, Indiana State
Defense - LB Tyler Lovelace, Missouri State
Special Teams - RB/RS Steve McShane, WIU
Newcomer - WR John Brunner, Western Illinois
Offensive Lineman - RG Edward Miller, SDSU

Sept. 24

Offense - QB Easton Stick, North Dakota State
Defense - DB Devin Taylor, Illinois State
Special Teams - P J.T. Bohlken, Illinois State
Newcomer - WR Deion McShane, UNI
Offensive Lineman - LT Dillon Radunz, NDSU

Oct. 1

Offense - QB Sean McGuire, Western Illinois
Defense - FS Andrew Gray, South Dakota
CB Darius Joseph, Missouri State

Special Teams - P Garret Wegner, North Dakota St.
Newcomer - QB Montgomery VanGorder, YSU
Offensive Lineman - Cal Twait, UNI

Oct. 8

Offense - QB Easton Stick, North Dakota State
*Defense - FS Andrew Gray, South Dakota
Special Teams - PK Chase Vinatieri, SDSU
Newcomer - QB Ryan Boyle, Indiana State
Offensive Lineman - Wyatt Wozniak, Indiana State

Oct. 15

Offense - QB Eli Dunne, UNI
Defense - S James Hendricks, North Dakota State
Special Teams - P Brady Hale, South Dakota State
Newcomer - QB Brady Davis, Illinois State
Offensive Lineman - LT Drew Himmelman, Illinois St.

Oct. 22

Offense - RB/KR Steve McShane, Western Illinois
Defense - LB Duncan Ferch, UNI
Special Teams - WR/KR Darrius Shepherd, NDSU
Newcomer - QB Ryan Boyle, Indiana State
Offensive Lineman - RG Austin Hopp, W. Illinois

Oct. 29

Offense - QB Matt DeSomer, Southern Illinois
Defense - LB Jonas Griffith, Indiana State
Special Teams - K Jerry Nunez, Indiana State
Newcomer - QB Ryan Boyle, Indiana State
Offensive Lineman - OC Tanner Volson, NDSU

Nov. 5

*Offense - QB Ryan Boyle, Indiana State
Defense - LB Katrell Moss, Indiana State
Special Teams - K Austin Errthum, UNI
Newcomer - QB Ryan Boyle, Indiana State
Offensive Lineman - LT Evan Greenaway, SDSU

* - denotes National Player of the Week



ILLINOIS STATE **REDBIRDS** (5-4, 2-4 MVFC)

S1	St. Xavier (Ill.)	W, 46-0	1-0, 0-0
S8	Eastern Illinois	W, 48-10	2-0, 0-0
S22	at Colorado State	W, 35-19	3-0, 0-0
S29	*at Missouri State	L, 21-24	3-1, 0-1
O6	*Western Illinois	W, 33-16	4-1, 1-1
O13	*Southern Illinois	W, 51-3	5-1, 2-1
O20	*at #1 North Dakota St.	L, 14-28	5-2, 2-2
O27	*#7 South Dakota State	L, 28-38	5-3, 2-3
N3	*at UNI	L, 16-26	5-4, 2-4
N10	*at Indiana State	ESPN3	12:00 p.m.
N17	*Youngstown State	NBCSCH/ESPN+	12:00 p.m.

*MVFC game

Rice Award Watch List Adds Edgar

Freshman wide receiver Andrew Edgar is having one of the best freshman seasons for the Redbirds in recent history, and for his efforts he was named to the STATS FCS Jerry Rice Award Watch List, which honors the top freshman player in FCS football. Against No. 7 South Dakota State, the Chicago native set career highs in receptions (9), yards (202) and touchdowns (2) against the Jackrabbits. He had a pair of 100-plus yard games in his time at Illinois State and is second in the league among league first-year players with 600 yards receiving. He leads all freshman in yards per catch (18.2) and is tied with Dante Hendrix of Indiana State with four receiving touchdowns. Edgar is the first Redbird freshman to be named to the prestigious list, and his 600 receiving yards have set a new single-season standard for a freshman at Illinois State.

Taylor Takeaways

In his first year as a starter for the Redbird defense, cornerback Devin Taylor has certainly made his presence felt. At UNI, Taylor stepped in front of an Eli Dunne pass in the end zone to stop the potential Panther scoring threat. The interception was Taylor's third of the season, tying him with safety Luther Kirk for the team lead in that category. His three interceptions tie him for second in the MVFC and he also ranks second in the conference with 12 passes defended on the season.

Robinson Approaching a Milestone

Since rushing for 128 yards against No. 1 North Dakota State, running back James Robinson has found it tough to get over the 1,000 yard mark for the season against tough defenses in South Dakota State and UNI. However, Robinson is just 39 yards away from the 1,000 yard mark as he heads into this week's game at Indiana State. Robinson, a member of the Walter Payton Award Watch List, leads the league in rushing yards and would become the first Redbird back since 2015 to surpass the 1,000 yard plateau. Robinson ranks No. 10 in the FCS with those 961 rush yards and also sits in the top 20 in rushing touchdowns (10) and rushing yards per game (106.8).



INDIANA STATE **SYCAMORES** (5-4, 3-3 MVFC)

A30	Quincy	W, 49-0	1-0, 0-0
S8	at Louisville	L, 7-31	1-1, 0-0
S15	at Eastern Illinois	W, 55-41	2-1, 0-0
S27	*#21 UNI	L, 0-33	2-2, 0-1
O6	*at #3 South Dakota St.	L, 51-54 (ot)	2-3, 0-2
O13	*Missouri State	L, 26-29	2-4, 0-3
O20	*at Southern Illinois	W, 24-21	3-4, 1-3
O27	*at Youngstown State	W, 43-17	4-4, 2-3
N3	*South Dakota	W, 51-48 (3ot)	5-4, 3-3
N10	*#22 Illinois State	ESPN3	1:00 p.m. ET
N17	*at Western Illinois	ESPN3	2:00 p.m. ET

*MVFC game

Boyle Earns National POW Honors

Indiana State quarterback Ryan Boyle put together one of the best performances of the year Saturday against South Dakota when he went for a program record seven touchdowns (five passing and two rushing). He tied the single-game passing touchdown record on five scores, including touchdown passes in all three of the overtime periods while accounting for 380 yards of total offense. Boyle also set a career high with 187 yards rushing with a 10.4 yard per rush average. On Monday he was named by CFPA (College Football Performance Awards) and STATS as its National Offensive Player of the Week.

Triple Overtime Thriller

Indiana State extended its winning streak to three games Saturday in an exciting triple overtime victory against South Dakota. It marked the fourth ever triple overtime game in program history and just the second triple overtime win after Indiana State defeated Western Illinois (Oct. 23) in 1999. The victory also marks the first overtime win for the Sycamores since 2014 when ISU defeated Youngstown State.

Turning the Corner

Coming off an 0-11 season a year ago, the Sycamores were picked to finish last in the Missouri Valley Football Conference with just one vote not assuming the worst in 2018. The Sycamores are now 5-4 on the season and have won three-straight games for the first time since 2014. It marks the first time since 2012 the Sycamores have won three-straight conference games.

Red Zone Success

One of the keys this season for the Sycamores has been their success when entering the red zone. ISU ranks 12th nationally and has scored in the red zone 35-of-39 times for a 91 percent average. Last season, ISU entered the red zone just 19 times over 11 games with only nine touchdowns. This season, the Sycamores have 26 touchdowns and nine made field goals through nine games.



MISSOURI STATE **BEARS** (4-5, 2-4 MVFC)

A30	at #25 Oklahoma State	L, 17-58	0-1, 0-0
S6	Lincoln (Mo.)	W, 52-24	1-1, 0-0
S15	#20 Northern Arizona	W, 40-8	2-1, 0-0
S29	*#9 Illinois State	W, 24-21	3-1, 1-0
O6	*at South Dakota	L, 28-35	3-2, 1-1
O13	*at Indiana State	W, 29-26	4-2, 2-1
O20	*Western Illinois	L, 14-31	4-3, 2-2
O27	*Southern Illinois	L, 35-49	4-4, 2-3
N3	*at #7 S. Dakota State	L, 7-59	4-5, 2-4
N10	*#1 North Dakota State	ESPN+	2:00 p.m.
N17	*at UNI	ESPN+	4:00 p.m.

*MVFC game

Senior Day Celebration

Sixteen Missouri State seniors will be recognized during pregame ceremonies Saturday, including co-captains Jared Beshore and Jordan Turner. Beshore (S), Tre Betts (CB), Cole Christensen (OL), Aaron Clardy (OL), Easton Flaugh (CB), Skyler Hulse (DE), Nick Masoner (RB), Marquis Prophete (OL), Brad Pryor (OL), Jason Randall (RB), Matt Rush (CB) and Turner (OL) are all three-time lettermen for the Bears. Other senior honorees are JaMario McClendon (S), Anthony Monken (QB), Scotty Schaffner (TE) and E.J. Sutton (DT).

Solid on Special Teams

Bears' junior punter Brendan Withrow has helped propel the MSU special teams into solid national rankings this fall. The Bears rank No. 4 nationally in punt return defense, giving up just 2.0 yards per punt return. MSU is also No. 6 nationally in net punting at 39.58. Withrow is also ranked in the top 30 nationally with his 41.6 yard average. He has just one touchback with 19 kicks downed inside the 20 on his 46 attempts.

Huslig Closes In

Bears' junior QB Peyton Huslig is just 46 yards shy of eclipsing 2,000 passing yards for the season. He would become just the ninth Bears' signal caller to reach this milestone and first since Cody Kirby in 2010. Likewise, Huslig's 2,331 yards of total offense for the year ranks eighth on the MSU season chart, just 437 yards off Jay Rodgers' 1999 record of 2,768.



NORTH DAKOTA STATE **BISON** (9-0, 6-0 MVFC)

S1	Cal Poly	W, 49-3	1-0, 0-0
S15	North Alabama	W, 38-7	2-0, 0-0
S22	Delaware	W, 38-10	3-0, 0-0
S29	*#3 South Dakota State	W, 21-17	4-0, 1-0
O6	*at #22 UNI	W, 56-31	5-0, 2-0
O13	*at Western Illinois	W, 34-7	6-0, 3-0
O20	*#7 Illinois State	W, 28-14	7-0, 4-0
O27	*at South Dakota	W, 59-14	8-0, 5-0
N3	*Youngstown State	W, 17-7	9-0, 6-0
N10	*at Missouri State	ESPN+	2:00 p.m.
N17	*Southern Illinois	NBC ND/ESPN+	2:30 p.m.

*MVFC game

Stick Sets NDSU Career TDs Record

Senior quarterback Easton Stick set another NDSU career record with his 108th career touchdown in last week's win over Youngstown State. Stick completed a 30-yard TD pass to Lance Dunn and rushed for a 1-yard TD. He broke Brock Jensen's record of 107 touchdowns responsible for from 2010-13. Stick has the NDSU career record with 74 TD passes and has rushed for 34 scores. He enters Saturday's game at Missouri State just 42 yards shy of the conference record for rushing yards by a quarterback held by MSU's DeAndre Smith (2,276 from 1987-90).

NDSU, Cox Leads League in Picks

Sophomore linebacker Jabril Cox continues to lead the conference with four interceptions and is 10th in the FCS with 0.4 interceptions per game. Cox is one of seven players in FCS with two or more pick-sixes this season. NDSU has not had a linebacker lead the team in interceptions since Joe Mays had three in 2005. The Bison record for interceptions by a linebacker is five by Rick Budde in 1976. NDSU leads the conference with 14 picks (1.56/game), up slightly from last year's pace of 1.47/game when the Bison finished with 22 interceptions.

Bison Making the Passing Game Count

North Dakota State may rank ninth in the conference in total passing yards per game, but the Bison are making the attempts count. NDSU is second in passing efficiency with a 155.5 rating and has three of the league's top four in yards per reception. Desmond Cain caught a career-long 50-yard pass last week against Youngstown State and is the MVFC leader with 24.7 yards per catch. Dallas Freeman is third (21.4) and running back Bruce Anderson is fourth (19.8). NDSU leading receiver Darrius Shepherd is eighth with 17.6 yards per catch and ranks fourth in yards (686) and fifth in yards per game (76.2).



NORTHERN IOWA **PANTHERS**

(5-4, 4-2 MVFC)

S1	at Montana	L, 23-26	0-1, 0-0
S15	at Iowa	L, 14-38	0-2, 0-0
S22	Hampton	W, 44-0	1-2, 0-0
S27	*at Indiana State	W, 33-0	2-2, 1-0
O6	*#1 North Dakota State	L, 31-56	2-3, 1-1
O13	*at #24 South Dakota	W, 42-28	3-3, 2-1
O20	*#2 South Dakota State	W, 24-9	4-3, 3-1
O27	*at Western Illinois	L, 17-37	4-4, 3-2
N3	*#13 Illinois State	W, 26-16	5-4, 4-2
N10	*at Youngstown State	ESPN+	11:00 a.m.
N17	*Missouri State	PSN/ESPN+	4:00 p.m.

*MVFC game

Panthers Score on Defense

The Panthers are 4-0 when scoring a defensive touchdown and every MVFC win has come with a defensive score. Two of the defensive scores came from Duncan Ferch. His pick-six is the fourth of his career which ties Deiondre' Hall (2012-15) for the UNI career record. The Panthers are now tied for second in the FCS and first in the MVFC in defensive touchdowns scored.

Tough Rushing Defense

For the third time in four games, UNI held their opponent to under 100 yards rushing. The Redbirds notched 35 yards on 28 carries. South Dakota tallied 41 yards on 41 carries, South Dakota State racked up 51 yards on 20 carries. The Panthers are 28th in the FCS and third in the MVFC for rushing defense at 128.4 yards per game allowed.

Farley Impressive in November

Over his 18 seasons at UNI, head coach Mark Farley has amassed a 54-9 mark in November. Farley has gone undefeated during November 10 times (2001, 2004, 2005, 2007, 2008, 2011, 2012, 2014, 2015, 2017) while having a losing record once during the month (2002).

Special Teams Shine for Panthers

Special Teams have shined for the Panthers. UNI has yet to allow a blocked punt or field goal this season. UNI is 19th in the FCS in Kick-off Return Defense and 21st in Net Punting. Austin Errthum is coming off of a MVFC Special Teams Player of the Week nod. He leads the Valley in field goals with 14 and has the highest percentage at 82.4 percent (14-17). He also leads the conference in kickoff average (63.8 YPK), Net (41.8 YPK) and touchbacks (33).



SOUTH DAKOTA **COYOTES**

(3-6, 2-4 MVFC)

S1	at Kansas State	L, 24-27	0-1, 0-0
S8	Northern Colorado	W, 43-28	1-1, 0-0
S15	at #11 Weber State	L, 10-27	1-2, 0-0
S29	*at Southern Illinois	W, 31-24	2-2, 1-0
O6	*#24 Missouri State	W, 35-28	3-2, 2-0
O13	*UNI	L, 28-42	3-3, 2-1
O20	*at Youngstown State	L, 17-29	3-4, 2-2
O27	*#1 North Dakota State	L, 14-59	3-5, 2-3
N3	*at Indiana State	L, 48-51 (3ot)	3-6, 2-4
N10	*Western Illinois	Midco/ESPN+	1:00 p.m.
N17	*at South Dakota State	Midco/ESPN+	2:00 p.m.

*MVFC game

Offense Comes Alive in Indiana

USD posted 600 yards of offense for the second time this season in Saturday's game against Indiana State. Austin Simmons completed 38 passes for 375 yards and three scores, and Kai Henry became the first Coyote running back to eclipse the century mark on the ground, running 22 times for a career-high 113 yards and two scores. The 48 points are the most scored in a loss in program history.

Simmons Eclipses 2,600 Yards

South Dakota junior quarterback Austin Simmons leads the Valley and ranks ninth nationally with 2,609 yards passing this season, which is the third-highest single-season total in South Dakota history behind Wesley Beschoner's 3,049 yards in 2005 (11 games) and Chris Streveler's 4,134 yards a year ago (13 games). Simmons has thrown 15 touchdowns against six interceptions this year. He has also ran for three scores.

Henry Over 1K, Allen Nears 2K

RB Kai Henry has run for 1,015 yards in 21 games as a Coyote and is the 13th player since 2000 to eclipse the 1,000-yard mark. Wide receiver Dakarai Allen stands with 976 yards receiving at USD following a career-high nine-catch, 88-yard performance against the Sycamores. Allen also caught his 11th touchdown pass as a Coyote.

Western Illinois for Senior Day

South Dakota hosts Western Illinois for its final home game of the season. The road team has won each of the last two meetings in games decided by less than a touchdown. South Dakota head coach Bob Nielson led the Leathernecks from 2013-15.



SOUTH DAKOTA ST. JACKRABBITS

(6-2, 4-2 MVFC)

S1	at Iowa State	Canceled	0-0, 0-0
S8	Montana State	W, 45-14	1-0, 0-0
S15	Ark.-Pine Bluff	W, 90-6	2-0, 0-0
S29	*at #1 N. Dakota State	L, 17-21	2-1, 0-1
O6	*Indiana State	W, 54-51 (ot)	3-1, 1-1
O13	*Youngstown State	W, 36-7	4-1, 2-1
O20	*at #25 UNI	L, 9-24	4-2, 2-2
O27	*at #9 Illinois State	W, 38-28	5-2, 3-2
N3	*Missouri State	W, 59-7	6-2, 4-2
N10	*at Southern Illinois	ESPN+	1:00 p.m.
N17	*South Dakota	Midco/ESPN+	2:00 p.m.

*MVFC game

Big-Play Jacks

Each of South Dakota State's first five touchdowns against Missouri State on Nov. 3 covered at least 32 yards, continuing a trend during the 2018 season. Of the Jackrabbits' 46 touchdowns scored this season, 18 have been on plays of 30 or more yards. Redshirt freshman running back Pierre Strong Jr. paced the Jackrabbit offense early, scoring on runs of 55 and 54 yards. He became the first SDSU player with two 50-plus-yard touchdowns in the same game since Zach Zenner tallied three (TD runs of 69 and 60 yards and a 60-yard TD reception) in a 2014 FCS playoff game at Montana State.

Christion Nears Century Mark

Taryn Christion is nearing yet another career milestone as he enters this weekend's game with 95 career TD passes. He currently ranks third among active FCS quarterbacks in career touchdown passes and would become the 18th quarterback in FCS history to reach the 100 mark. Christion also stands only 41 yards away from passing Matt Brown (10,951 yards from 2009-12 at Illinois State) for the MVFC career passing yardage record of 10,951.

Owning the Second

South Dakota State has put the game out of reach each of the past two weeks with a big second quarter. The Jackrabbits have outscored the opposition by a combined 52-7 in the second quarter, holding a 21-0 advantage at Illinois State on Oct. 27, followed by a 31-7 outburst against Missouri State on Nov. 3. For the season, SDSU holds a 111-35 scoring advantage in the second quarter.

Push 'Em Back

SDSU matched a season high with 11 tackles for loss Nov. 3 against Missouri State, while setting team highs with four sacks and four interceptions. The Jackrabbits' 11 TFLs resulted in 51 lost yards in holding MSU to 30 net yards rushing on 31 attempts, marking the second week in a row and third time this season SDSU held an opponent to less than 100 yards on the ground.



SOUTHERN ILLINOIS SALUKIS

(2-7, 1-5 MVFC)

A30	at Murray State	W, 49-10	1-0, 0-0
S8	at Ole Miss	L, 41-76	1-1, 0-0
S15	SE Missouri State	L, 44-48	1-2, 0-0
S29	*South Dakota	L, 24-31	1-3, 0-1
O6	*at Youngstown State	L, 14-17	1-4, 0-2
O13	*at #12 Illinois State	L, 3-51	1-5, 0-3
O20	*Indiana State	L, 21-24	1-6, 0-4
O27	*at Missouri State	W, 49-35	2-6, 1-4
N3	*Western Illinois	L, 31-34	2-7, 1-5
N10	*#6 South Dakota State	ESPN+	1:00 p.m.
N17	*at North Dakota State	ESPN+	2:30 p.m.

*MVFC game

Five Salukis Losses by Average of 4

The Salukis have lost five games by an average margin of four points. They held second-half leads of a touchdown or more in four of those losses. Last week versus Western Illinois, SIU led by 17 points heading into the fourth quarter before losing by three points on a field goal with 12 seconds remaining.

DeSomer Takes Over at QB

QB Matt DeSomer (6-0, 215, Sr.) has moved into the starting spot for the Salukis. In the last two weeks, he has completed 33-of-49 passes for 414 yards, setting new career passing highs in both games. He rallied SIU with four-unanswered touchdowns in a 49-35 win over Missouri State and also ran the ball 14 times for 92 yards. DeSomer has played quarterback, wide receiver, safety and special teams during his 39-game career at SIU. He is 1-4 as a starting quarterback. His career stats include 892 rushing yards, 1,004 passing yards, 110 receiving yards, eight rushing touchdowns, nine passing touchdowns and seven tackles.

Salukis on Record Pace for 1st Downs

SIU's offense averages 25.2 first downs per game, which is on pace to break the school record of 24.8 first downs set by the 2015 team. Southern recorded 70 first downs in Weeks 3-4. The 37 versus SMO was a school record and the 33 versus South Dakota ranked fourth all-time.

Jeremy Chinn Steps in at CB

Due to injuries in the secondary, S Jeremy Chinn (6-2, 211, Jr.) has started the last two games at cornerback, as the Salukis have played without their top four corners. In the last 21 games, Chinn has seven interceptions and six forced fumbles. A preseason All-MVFC pick, he is tied for second all-time at Southern in forced fumbles (6), trailing only Tyler Williamson (8, 2012-14).



WESTERN ILLINOIS **LEATHERNECKS** (5-4, 4-2 MVFC)

A30	at Montana State	L, 23-26	0-1, 0-0
S8	at Illinois	L, 14-34	0-2, 0-0
S15	#15 Montana	W, 31-27	1-2, 0-0
S29	*Youngstown State	W, 45-38	2-2, 1-0
O6	*at #14 Illinois State	L, 16-33	2-3, 1-1
O13	*#1 North Dakota State	L, 7-34	2-4, 1-2
O20	*at Missouri State	W, 31-14	3-4, 2-2
O27	*#17 UNI	W, 37-17	4-4, 3-2
N3	*at Southern Illinois	W, 34-31	5-4, 4-2
N10	*at South Dakota	ESPN+	1:00 p.m.
N17	*Indiana State	ESPN3	1:00 p.m.

*MVFC game

Just Kickin' It

Sam Crosa's first career, game-winning field goal occurred with 13 seconds remaining in the Leathernecks 34-31 come-from-behind victory at Southern Illinois. Nathan Kaufman was the last Leatherneck to record a game-winning field goal, and he also did so against SIU (2015). Crosa currently ranks ninth all-time in Western history with 17 career field goals.

Comeback Kids

Down 17 in the fourth quarter of an MVFC showdown at Southern Illinois (Nov. 3), the Leathernecks outscored the opposition with 20 unanswered points en route to a 34-31 win. Sam Crosa hit a 33-yard, game-winning field goal with 13 seconds remaining. The deficit tied for the largest fourth-quarter, comeback victory in program history as Western scored three touchdowns in the final quarter (overcoming what was once a 23-point disadvantage) against Missouri State on Sept. 17, 1988. The Leathernecks won the game, 35-31.

Close Calls

Four of Western's games this season have been decided by a touchdown or less, and three of the matchups were settled in the fourth quarter. Western is 62-46 all-time in games decided by a touchdown or less.

Montana State | L, 26-23

(The Leathernecks never trailed until a pair of MSU field goals in the final minutes of the game)

Montana | W, 31-27 (Steve McShane scored back-to-back touchdowns in the last six minutes)

Youngstown State | W, 45-38 (Western led by as much as 21 points in the fourth quarter)

Southern Illinois | W, 34-31 (Sam Crosa nailed a game-winning, 33-yard field goal with 13 seconds left in the game)



YOUNGSTOWN STATE **PENGUINS** (3-6, 2-4 MVFC)

S1	Butler	L, 21-23	0-1, 0-0
S8	at #14 West Virginia	L, 17-52	0-2, 0-0
S15	Valparaiso	W, 42-7	1-2, 0-0
S29	*at Western Illinois	L, 38-45	1-3, 0-1
O6	*Southern Illinois	W, 17-14	2-3, 1-1
O13	*at #2 South Dakota St.	L, 7-36	2-4, 1-2
O20	*South Dakota	W, 29-17	3-4, 2-2
O27	*Indiana State	L, 17-43	3-5, 2-3
N3	*at #1 N.Dakota State	L, 7-17	3-6, 2-4
N10	*#22 UNI	ESPN+	12:00 p.m. ET
N17	*at Illinois State	ESPN+	1:00 p.m. ET

*MVFC game

Braswell Becomes Go-To Guy

Junior WR Jermiah Braswell has become a go-to receiver for the Penguins. In the past three games he has 12 receptions for 219 yards. He caught a career-high six passes for 93 yards and a touchdown against Indiana State. Last time out, he hauled in three passes for 60 yards at North Dakota State, including a career-long 46-yard grab. Against South Dakota he caught three passes for 66 yards, including a season-long 33-yard reception. Braswell had a 27-yard catch at South Dakota State. Earlier this season, he also had a five-catch, 63-yard performance at West Virginia.

McCaster Likes Home Cooking

Senior TB Tevin McCaster has rushed for more than 100 yards in each of the Penguins' five home games this season. He had 166 against Butler, 141 vs. Valparaiso, 116 vs. Southern Illinois and 176 vs. South Dakota and 165 yards vs. Indiana State. In YSU's five home games, he has 764 yards on 140 carries and has scored five touchdowns.

Dellovade Most Tackles in 18 Years

Senior LB Armand Dellovade has the most career tackles by any YSU player since 2000. Dellovade had a career-high 16 tackles at North Dakota State which included seven solo stops. He also forced a fumble and had a pass breakup against the Bison. Dellovade now has 317 career tackles which rank him 12th in school history. It's the most by any YSU player since the end of the 2000 season. Among the Penguins' FCS history, he ranks 10th in career tackles.