

WEEK TWELVE

IOWA AT ILLINOIS

Iowa hands Illinois worst loss in school history

CHAMPAIGN, Ill. -- Nate Stanley passed for 178 yards and three touchdowns while Mekhi Sargent and Toren Young added two rushing touchdowns each as Iowa rolled over Illinois 63-0 on Saturday.

It tied the largest margin of defeat in Illinois history, matching a 63-0 loss to the University of Chicago in 1906.

The win ended a three-game skid for the Hawkeyes (7-4, 4-4 Big Ten) and makes a bowl invitation all but certain.

The loss ended Illinois' bowl hopes.

Iowa quarterback Nate Stanley threw an interception on the second play of the game and the Hawkeyes punted on the next series. But the floodgates soon opened: Over the next 18 minutes, Iowa scored five times.

"A lot of man coverage today, a lot of zone a week ago," Iowa coach Kirk Ferentz said. "A lot of that stuff is just how things shake out, but again, we're going to be a better team any time we get our better guys involved."

The Hawkeyes led 35-0 at the half.

"We didn't play well in any phase," said Illinois coach Lovie Smith. "Starting with coaching, we thought we had the team prepared. We weren't. They outperformed us in every way."

Stanley was 13 of 21 through the air for three touchdowns and one interception. His touchdown passes went to tight end Noah Fant (who played sparingly last week much to the chagrin of many Iowa fans) and T.J. Hockenson.

"I don't know if there were any major conversations, but we're a better team, obviously, when our tight ends are involved," Ferentz said. "Noah (Fant) had a good week. The plan worked out well today and it was good to see him involved and helping our team move the ball. It was a really productive day for him."

Sargent carried 17 times for 121 yards, while Young rushed for 67 yards on 14 carries. Kyle Groeneweg returned a punt for a touchdown following Illinois's first series of the second half.

ILLINI WOES

AJ Bush was 12 of 28 for 82 yards and two interceptions for Illinois. Ra'Von Bonner carried the ball 21 times for 111 yards.

Illinois' top rusher. Reggie Corbin, left last week's game with an ankle injury and appeared to re-injure it in the first half. He carried the ball once prior to leaving Saturday's for minus 4 yards.

Illinois (4-7, 2-6) turned the ball over four times, which led to 14 Iowa points.

Iowa generated 400 yards of total offense, compared to 231 for Illinois.

"We're not a good football team right now," Smith said. "There are some scars that will stay with you."

IN GOOD COMPANY

This win gives Kirk Ferentz his 150th career win at Iowa, which makes him the fifth coach in Big Ten history to win 150 games as a member of the Big Ten conference. He joins Woody Hayes (206), Amo Alonza Stagg (199), Bo Schembechler (194), and Joe Paterno (162).

THE TAKEAWAY

Iowa was able pretty much to do as they pleased. And what pleased them seemingly was scoring touchdowns.

Illinois was never in the same stadium with Iowa, let alone the same game. Moribund defense and an ineffective offense kept Illinois out of the game from the opening play.

Final	1	2	3	4	T
IOWA	7	28	14	14	63
ILL	0	0	0	0	0

Scoring Summary -----

	IOWA	ILL
FIRST QUARTER		
IOWA TD 6:20 Noah Fant 9 Yd pass from Nate Stanley (Miguel Recinos Kick) 4 plays, 39 yards, 1:50	7	0
second Quarter		
IOWA TD 13:50 Mekhi Sargent 3 Yd Run (Miguel Recinos Kick) 7 plays, 58 yards, 3:15	14	0
IOWA TD 13:42 A.J. Epenesa 19 Yd Fumble Return (Miguel Recinos Kick) 1 play, -6 yards, 0:08	21	0
IOWA TD 11:43 T.J. Hockenson 11 Yd pass from Nate Stanley (Miguel Recinos Kick) 1 play, 11 yards, 0:07	28	0
IOWA TD 5:10 T.J. Hockenson 37 Yd pass from Nate Stanley (Miguel Recinos Kick) 4 plays, 83 yards, 2:27	35	0
third Quarter		
IOWA TD 13:26 Kyle Groeneweg 61 Yd Punt Return (Miguel Recinos Kick) 3 plays, -3 yards, 1:34	42	0
IOWA TD 8:11 Toren Young 5 Yd Run (Miguel Recinos Kick) 6 plays, 20 yards, 2:39	49	0
fourth Quarter		
IOWA TD 11:10 Mekhi Sargent 29 Yd Run (Miguel Recinos Kick) 5 plays, 60 yards, 1:59	56	0
IOWA TD 5:47 Toren Young 14 Yd Run (Caleb Schudak Kick) 7 plays, 51 yards, 3:54	63	0

	IOWA	ILL
Team Stats		
First Downs	20	11
Total Yards	400	231
Total Plays	60	73
Avg Gain Per Play	6.7	3.2
Net Yards Rushing	203	149
Rushes	37	43
Yards Per Rush	5.5	3.5
Net Yards Passing	197	82
Comp-Att	14-23	12-30
Yards Per Pass	8.6	2.7
Times Sacked	3	2
Yds Lost To Sacks	-24	-10
Interceptions	1	3
Punts	5	9
Punt Average	0.0	0.0
Penalties	2	6
Penalty Yards	28	68
Fumbles	1	1
Fumbles Lost	0	1
Possession	28:43	31:17

Individual Stats

RUSHING							
	Rush	Yds	Avg	Long	TD		
IOWA							
10 Mekhi Sargent	17	121	7.1	29	2		
28 Toren Young	14	67	4.8	17	2		
2 Peyton Mansell	1	7	7.0	7	0		
6 Ihmir Smith-Marsette	1	6	6.0	6	0		
4 Nate Stanley	4	2	0.5	9	0		
ILL	Rush	Yds	Avg	Long	TD		
21 Ra'Von Bonner	21	111	5.3	19	0		
3 Jakari Norwood	4	30	7.5	12	0		
1 AJ Bush	12	18	1.5	7	0		
22 Kenyon Sims	2	4	2.0	6	0		
2 Reggie Corbin	1	-4	-4.0	0	0		
15 Trenard Davis	1	-4	-4.0	0	0		
8 M.J. Rivers II	2	-6	-3.0	5	0		
PASSING							
	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
IOWA							
4 Nate Stanley	13	21	178	8.5	3	1	170.7
2 Peyton Mansell	1	2	19	9.5	0	0	129.8
ILL	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
1 AJ Bush	12	28	82	2.9	0	2	53.2
8 M.J. Rivers II	0	2	0	0.0	0	1	-100.0
RECEIVING							
	Rec	Yds	Avg	Long	TD		
IOWA							
87 Noah Fant	3	54	18.0	37	1		
38 T.J. Hockenson	2	48	24.0	37	2		
12 Brandon Smith	3	39	13.0	15	0		
23 Dominique Dafney	1	19	19.0	19	0		
14 Kyle Groeneweg	1	14	14.0	14	0		
84 Nick Easley	1	10	10.0	10	0		
28 Toren Young	2	7	3.5	4	0		
10 Mekhi Sargent	1	6	6.0	6	0		
ILL	Rec	Yds	Avg	Long	TD		
4 Ricky Smalling	3	27	9.0	16	0		
9 Sam Mays	3	24	8.0	12	0		
3 Jakari Norwood	1	11	11.0	11	0		
21 Ra'Von Bonner	2	8	4.0	7	0		
6 Dominic Stampley	1	5	5.0	5	0		
36 Austin Roberts	1	4	4.0	4	0		
2 Reggie Corbin	1	3	3.0	3	0		