

WEEK FOURTEEN  
DRAKE AT IOWA STATE

AMES, Iowa -- Iowa State insisted on playing 12 games, cycling through a pair of FCS opponents before settling on tiny Drake.

That decision nearly resulted in the most embarrassing loss in school history.

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David Montgomery ran for 145 yards and two touchdowns and No. 24 Iowa State survived a near-upset by the non-scholarship Bulldogs on Saturday, winning 27-24.

Brock Purdy had 153 yards passing and a TD and ran for another score for the Cyclones (8-4), who fought through persistent rain and a muddy, torn-up field for their seventh win in eight games.

It hardly felt like a victory, though, against a team that agreed to play this makeup game only two weeks ago, and Iowa State coach Matt Campbell blamed the close call on execution instead of effort.

"I don't know that we played with great detail on a surface like that, where every inch matters," Campbell said.

Iowa State's opener against South Dakota State was canceled (lightning) and the Jackrabbits' replacement, Incarnate Word, backed out after reaching the FCS playoffs.

The Bulldogs, buoyed by conditions that made footing more important than formations, forced turnovers on back-to-back possessions to open the second half. They turned the second one, a pick of Kyle Kempt, into a 19-yard TD pass from Grant Kraemer to Devin Cates and a stunning 24-20 lead with 3:37 left in the third quarter.

That finally woke the Cyclones up.

They responded with a 7-yard touchdown reception by Deshaunte Jones to jump back on top, and Spencer Benton and JaQuan Bailey came up with huge fourth-quarter sacks to force Drake punts.

Montgomery's 2-yard run on a 3rd-down-and-1 with 1:26 left sealed it for the relieved Cyclones.

"Sometimes people outside of our program define us because we're non-scholarship," Drake coach Rick Fox said. "I think you saw the kind of guys, the kind of athletes, the kind of competitors we have."

Kraemer threw for 221 yards and three TDs for the Bulldogs (7-4). They outgained Iowa State 279-273.

THE TAKEAWAY

Iowa State: The Cyclones have long prided themselves on having one of the nation's best grass gridirons. But seven home games and a morning filled with sleet, snow and rain -- at times, all happening at once -- literally leveled the playing field. It was so muddy that Iowa State's band wasn't allowed to perform at halftime. Still, the Cyclones looked uninspired at best -- and it might have made them less desirable when bowls make their picks on Sunday. "If it does, so be it. All we can be is us," Campbell said.

Drake: The Bulldogs made the most of their moment on a big stage, and Fox should be applauded for having his guys ready to go on short notice. To blame this loss all on Iowa State would be unfair, because the Bulldogs looked the part from the opening whistle. "Watching their film, we kind of knew where the open holes were going to be," Kraemer said.

POLL IMPLICATIONS

It's hard to believe Iowa State is one of the 25 best teams in America after that debacle.

HOW IT HAPPENED

Drake opened the scoring with a 7-yard TD pass from Kraemer to Zach DeLeon and had the game tied up at 14-all early in the second quarter after a 10-play, 83-yard touchdown drive. Iowa State appeared set to begin pulling away after Purdy's 11-yard TD run made it a 20-14 game at halftime -- but the slippery conditions caused Purdy to fumble deep in Iowa State territory early in the third quarter, leading to a Drake field goal. Kempt then threw a pick because of a bad read, not a wet football, and the Bulldogs drove 54 yards to take the lead. "The field, it was awful," Iowa State receiver Hakeeem Butler said.

HE SAID IT

"When we got out to the game, my only thought was, 'Yeah, this is exactly who I thought they'd be,'" Drake defensive end Nathan Clayberg said. "They're going to be big. They're going to be strong. They're going to be good football players. So are we."

Final	1	2	3	4	T
DRKE	7	7	10	0	24
ISU	7	13	7	0	27
Scoring Summary -----					
FIRST QUARTER					
DRKE	TD 9:23				
Zach DeLeon 7 Yd pass from Grant Kraemer (Danny Donley Kick)					
2 plays, 7 yards, 0:40					
ISU	TD 6:38				
David Montgomery 7 Yd Run (Connor Assalley Kick)					
5 plays, 54 yards, 2:38					
SECOND QUARTER					
ISU	TD 14:55				
David Montgomery 1 Yd Run (Connor Assalley Kick)					
8 plays, 51 yards, 3:55					
DRKE	TD 9:42				
Tom Pugh 2 Yd pass from Grant Kraemer (Danny Donley Kick)					
10 plays, 83 yards, 5:13					
ISU	TD 2:13				
Brock Purdy 11 Yd Run (Connor Assalley PAT failed)					
5 plays, 22 yards, 2:22					
THIRD QUARTER					
DRKE	FG 11:02				
Danny Donley 26 Yd Field Goal					
6 plays, 20 yards, 2:09					
DRKE	TD 3:37				
Devin Cates 19 Yd pass from Grant Kraemer (Danny Donley Kick)					
8 plays, 54 yards, 4:01					
play					
ISU	TD 0:26				
Deshaunte Jones 7 Yd pass from Brock Purdy (Connor Assalley Kick)					
10 plays, 67 yards, 3:05					

Team Stats	DRKE	ISU
First Downs	14	17
Total Yards	279	273
Total Plays	59	67
Avg Gain Per Play	4.7	4.1
Net Yards Rushing	58	114
Rushes	30	42
Yards Per Rush	1.9	2.7
Net Yards Passing	221	159
Comp-Att	20-29	17-25
Yards Per Pass	7.6	6.4
Times Sacked	2	2
Yds Lost To Sacks	-17	-18
Interceptions	1	1
Punts	6	2
Punt Average	28.7	38.0
Penalties	5	2
Penalty Yards	50	15
Fumbles	2	1
Fumbles Lost	0	1
Possession	29:36	30:24

Individual Stats							
RUSHING							
DRKE	Rush	Yds	Avg	Long	TD		
18 Braeden Hartwig	13	48	3.7	13	0		
15 Grant Kraemer	7	12	1.7	11	0		
25 Cross Robinson	2	0	0.0	0	0		
30 Grant Gossling	1	0	0.0	0	0		
20 Drew Lauer	6	0	0.0	2	0		
ISU	Rush	Yds	Avg	Long	TD		
32 David Montgomery	33	145	4.4	39	2		
14 Tarique Milton	1	3	3.0	3	0		
25 Sheldon Croney Jr.	1	-1	-1.0	0	0		
15 Brock Purdy	4	-16	-4.0	11	1		
PASSING							
DRKE	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
15 Grant Kraemer	20	29	221	7.6	3	1	160.2
ISU	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
15 Brock Purdy	15	22	153	7.0	1	0	141.6
17 Kyle Kempt	2	3	6	2.0	0	1	16.8

RECEIVING					
DRKE	Rec	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
87 Zach DeLeon	4	68	17.0	27	1
1 Devin Cates	4	53	13.3	23	1
17 Will Purdom	2	34	17.0	18	0
81 Steven Doran	3	31	10.3	14	0
20 Drew Lauer	4	30	7.5	15	0
29 Isaiah Skinner	1	4	4.0	4	0
82 Tom Pugh					
ISU	Rec	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
18 Hakeem Butler	4	67	16.8	24	0
8 Deshaunte Jones	4	37	9.3	15	1
23 Matthew Eaton	2	32	16.0	17	0
14 Tarique Milton	3	14	4.7	8	0
32 David Montgomery	2	6	3.0	8	0
88 Charlie Kolar	1	3	3.0	3	0
3 Kene Nwangwu	1	0	0.0	0	0