

2022 HUSKIE FOOTBALL

Game 3 - Saturday, Sept. 17, 2022 - 2:30 PM CT

VANDERBILT COMMODORES at NIU HUSKIES

DeKalb, Illinois • Huskie Stadium (23,595)



2022 Record: 1-1
2021 Record: 9-5
Head Coach
Thomas Hammock
4th Season

On The Air

TV: ESPN+
 Radio: 94-9 WDKB
 AM 560 The Answer
 Sportsfan Radio 1330
 The Varsity Network App

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2022 Record: 2-1
2021 Record: 2-10
Head Coach
Clark Lea
2nd Season

HUSKIE BITES

- The NIU Huskies welcome Vanderbilt, the only SEC team ever to play in Huskie Stadium, for a return visit. The teams, who meet for the fifth time Saturday, played in DeKalb in 1997, with the Commodores coming away with a 17-7 victory.
- NIU is coming off a 38-35 loss at Tulsa as the Golden Hurricane scored in the final minute and thwarted the Huskies' last drive with an interception. NIU overcame a 24-7 halftime deficit to take a 28-24 lead with 14:50 to play as the game featured four lead changes in the final period.
- NIU will celebrate the 10th anniversary of the 2012 Huskie team that won 12 straight games, including a double overtime thriller over Kent State in the MAC Championship game, to earn a bid to the Orange Bowl, becoming the first MAC team to play in a BCS bowl game. Nearly 40 members of the team are expected back for the weekend.
- The Huskies are the defending Mid-American Conference Champions and are one of just five teams from a non-autonomous (Group of 5) league with 100 or more wins since 2010, and enter the Vanderbilt game with 101. NIU was selected by the league media and coaches to claim the MAC West title (see polls page 2).
- In 34 games since Thomas Hammock took the reigns of the Huskie program in 2019, 21 have been decided by one score (eight points or less) with 10 of those determined by three points or fewer. NIU is 7-3 since 2019 in games within that three-point margin, including a 4-0 mark in 2021. Over the last two seasons, NIU is 8-4 in one score games.
- NIU head coach Thomas Hammock, a two-time first team CoSIDA Academic All-American who rushed for over 1,000 yards to lead the Huskies in both 2000 and 2001, is in his fourth season as head coach at his alma mater. Hammock, a finalist for Eddie Robinson Coach of the Year honors a year ago, will be inducted into the NIU Athletics Hall of Fame on October 8.
- Linebacker Kyle Pugh has made NCAA FBS history as he is back for his eighth season at NIU. Pugh saw his 2017 and 2019 seasons cut short, missed 2021 with a knee injury sustained in the spring, and earned the COVID-19 "re-do" for 2020. He earned All-MAC honors in 2018 and 2020 and has 11 tackles this season, including eight in the season opener versus Eastern Illinois.

2022 SCHEDULE

Day, Date	Opponent (TV)	Time (CT)
Thurs., Sept. 1	EASTERN ILLINOIS (ESPN+)	W, 34-27
Sat., Sept. 10	at Tulsa (ESPN+)	L, 38-35
Sat., Sept. 17	VANDERBILT (CBSSN)	2:30 p.m.
Sat., Sept. 24	at Kentucky	TBA
Sat., Oct. 1	at Ball State*	TBA
Sat., Oct. 8	TOLEDO*	2:30 p.m.
Sat., Oct. 15	at Eastern Michigan*	TBA
Sat., Oct. 22	at Ohio*	TBA
Wed., Nov. 2	CENTRAL MICHIGAN* (ESPN2/U)	6 p.m.
Wed., Nov. 9	at Western Michigan* (ESPN2/U/CBSSN)	6 p.m.
Wed., Nov. 16	MIAMI* (ESPN2/U)	6/7 p.m.
Sat., Nov. 26	AKRON*	TBA
Sat., Dec. 3	MAC Championship - Detroit (ESPN)	11 a.m.

**Mid-American Conference Game*

HUSKIE FOOTBALL FACTS

Head Coach..... Thomas Hammock
 Alma Mater/Year..... NIU '02
 Record at NIU/Years..... 15-19/4th
 Career Record/Years..... Same
 Basic Offense/Defense..... Multiple/4-2-5
 First Year of Football..... 1899
 2021 Record/MAC Record/Finish..... 9-5/6-2/1st
 All-Time Record..... 602-513-51
 Last Bowl Game..... 2021 Tailgreeter Cure Bowl
 Coastal Carolina 47, NIU 41
 Bowl Appearances (FBS)..... 14
 MAC Championship Appearances, Last..... 9, 2021
 MAC Championships, Last..... 6, 2021
 Letterwinners Returning/Lost..... 52/15
 Starters Returning..... 22 (8 offense, 13 defense, 1 specialist)
 Starters Lost..... 7 (3 offense, 2 defense, 2 specialists)

NIU FACTS

Location..... DeKalb, Illinois
 Founded..... 1895
 Enrollment..... 16,769
 Affiliation..... NCAA Football Bowl Subdivision
 Conference..... Mid-American (West Division)
 Colors..... Cardinal and Black
 Stadium..... Brigham Field at Huskie Stadium
 Surface/Capacity..... FieldTurf / 23,595
 President..... Dr. Lisa Freeman
 Assoc. VP/Athletic Director..... Sean T. Frazier
 Tickets..... 815-753-PACK (7225)

NIU ATHCOMM (FB)

Associate Athletic Director..... Donna Turner
 Primary Contact..... 815-753-9513/815-793-5474
 donnaturner@niu.edu
 Associate Director..... Mike Haase
 815-753-9538/630-748-9847
 mhaase@niu.edu

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COVERING THE HUSKIES

NIU WEEKLY PRESS CONFERENCE

- NIU will host a weekly press conference with Thomas Hammock and several Huskie players throughout the season.
- For Saturday games, press conferences will be held on Tuesdays at 12:15 p.m. CT in the McCareins Auditorium (2nd floor) of the Yordon Center.
- The press conference can be seen live or accessed any time thereafter on the NIU Athletics' YouTube Channel (NIUAthleticsOfficial).

NIU PLAYER & COACH AVAILABILITY

- Huskie players and coaches are available for interviews Monday through Wednesday on Saturday game weeks.
- After practice or at the press conference are the best times for in-person interviews.
- Contact the NIU Athletics Communications Office to arrange in-person, phone or Zoom interviews.
- Please provide 24-hour notice for phone requests.
- Contact Mike Haase (players) or Donna Turner (coaches) to arrange interviews.

PRACTICE COVERAGE

- Media who wish to attend practice should contact the NIU Athletics Communications Office as access is limited during the season.
- Practices are held in the mornings at Huskie Stadium and/or the Chessick Practice Center.
- Social media posts regarding practice - whether during or after practice - are not permitted during the season.

INFORMATION, VIDEO & PHOTO REQUESTS

- To be added to the NIU AthComm e-mail distribution list (media only), contact Donna Turner.
- Contact Mike Haase to request photos and/or video.
- Information on all MAC teams, including releases, depth charts and photos, logos, league stats and more are available online at CollegePressBox.com. Media can register for access at collegepressbox.com/register.

MAC PRESEASON POLLS

Selected by a panel of 24 MAC media members.

West (1st place votes) Points

1. NIU (11)	122
2. Toledo (9)	120
3. Central Michigan (4)	112
4. Western Michigan	56
5. Eastern Michigan	52
6. Ball State	42

East (1st place votes) Points

1. Miami (20)	139
2. Kent State (3)	116
3. Buffalo	78
4. Ohio	72
5. Bowling Green (1)	71
6. Akron	28

Football Champion Votes

NIU (9), Toledo (6), Miami (5), Central Michigan (4)

Selected by MAC football head coaches.

West (1st place votes) Points

1. NIU (6)	61
2. Toledo	51
3. Central Michigan (2)	50
4. Western Michigan (3)	45
5. Eastern Michigan	24
6. Ball State (1)	21

East (1st place votes) Points

1. Kent State (5)	61
2. Miami (6)	60
3. Buffalo	43
4. Bowling Green (1)	36
5. Ohio	35
6. Akron	17

Football Champion Votes

NIU (4), Kent State (3), Miami (2), Western Michigan (2), Ball State (1)

NOTING NIU

VANDY VISITS: The Northern Illinois University Huskies return home to take on Vanderbilt on Saturday, September 17 in the finale of a home-and-home series with the Commodores. Vanderbilt returns to Huskie Stadium for the first time since 1997 and are the only SEC team to play in DeKalb.

LAST WEEK: NIU lost at Tulsa, 38-35, when TU scored with 58 seconds to play after the Huskies could not convert on fourth and four from the Tulsa 48-yard line. NIU quarterback Rocky Lombardi led a second half comeback that saw the Huskies' overcome a 24-7 halftime deficit by scoring three consecutive touchdowns, including on back-to-back possessions to start the half thanks to an onside kick recovery, to take the lead. Lombardi finished the game 18-of-31 passing for 239 yards and three touchdowns, two to newcomer Kacper Rutkiewicz to go with a 33-yard toss to Cole Tucker. The NIU defense held Tulsa to 107 rushing yards and collected four sacks.

DOG BONES: With a 22-21 win over Georgia Tech in the 2021 season-opener, NIU claimed its 17th "Boneyard Win," which are wins over prominent opponents and teams from leagues now designated as "Power 5." The Boneyard tradition began in 1983 with a win over Kansas and NIU has collected nine Boneyard Wins in the last 12 years. The Huskies have one Boneyard Win over a Southeastern Conference team with its 2003 victory over Alabama.

NIU BONEYARD WINS

Year	Opponent	H/A	Score	Opp Rank
1983	Kansas	A	37-34	—
1988	Wisconsin	A	19-17	—
1989	Kansas State	A	37-20	—
1990	Kansas State	H	42-35	—
2002	Wake Forest	H	42-41	—
2003	Maryland	H	20-13	15
2003	Alabama	A	19-16	21
2003	Iowa State	H	24-16	—
2009	Purdue	A	28-20	—
2010	Minnesota	A	34-23	—
2012	Kansas	H	30-23	—
2013	Iowa	A	30-27	—
2013	Purdue	A	55-24	—
2014	Northwestern	A	23-15	—
2017	Nebraska	A	21-17	—
2018	BYU	A	7-6	—
2021	Georgia Tech	A	22-21	—

HOME AGAIN: With a 76-29 (.724) record at home since 2003, NIU's all-time record at Huskie Stadium is 183-112-2 for a .619 all-time winning percentage. During that stretch, the Huskies have had 15 winning records at home and five undefeated seasons in DeKalb (2003, 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013). NIU was 4-2 at home in 2021 and is 1-0 in 2022 after winning the season opener over Eastern Illinois.

REUNITED: On Saturday, NIU will celebrate the 10th anniversary of the 2012 season that saw NIU win its second consecutive MAC Championship in a thrilling double overtime win over Kent State and make history as the first Mid-American Conference team to play in a Bowl Championship Series (BCS) game. The 12-1 Huskies took on Florida State and trailed just 17-10 after three quarters before the Seminoles scored a pair of fourth quarter touchdowns to ice the game. Nearly 40 players from the 2012 team have signed up to return, including quarterback Jordan Lynch, wide receivers Da'Ron Brown and Tommy Lee Lewis, defenders Tyrone Clark, Victor Jacques, Alan Baxter and Nabal Jefferson and tight end Jason Schepler. The group will gather in The Yard before the game and be introduced between the first and second quarters.

SERIES HISTORY: NIU and Vanderbilt have met four times previously, as the Huskies have faced the Commodores twice as many times as any other Southeastern Conference opponent. Vanderbilt has won each of the previous meetings, including three in Nashville, most recently on Sept. 28, 2019, by a 24-18 score. The series dates to Oct. 29, 1994, a 17-16 Vandy win. VU also won in DeKalb in 1997 (17-7) and in Nashville in 1999 (34-31). Three of the four games have been decided by one score.

SE-C YOU IN DEKALB: Vanderbilt is the only SEC team to play in Huskie Stadium as the Commodores make their second visit to DeKalb Saturday. The Commodores won a 17-7 decision on October 11, 1997, during the Huskies' 23-game losing streak.

NIU AND THE SEC: The Huskies are 1-11 all-time versus six different teams from the Southeastern Conference and have never played current league members Georgia,

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Mississippi State, Missouri, South Carolina, Texas A&M, LSU or Kentucky, although that will change next week when NIU takes on the Wildcats in Lexington. The Huskies' lone victory over an SEC opponent was a 19-16 upset victory over No. 21 Alabama on Sept. 20, 2003 in Tuscaloosa. NIU is 0-4 all-time versus Vanderbilt and has lost to Florida and Arkansas twice in its history. The Huskies have also dropped games at Auburn (2000), Ole Miss (1983) and Tennessee (2008).

SEC TWO-FER: NIU will play consecutive games versus Southeastern Conference teams for the first time in school history with Saturday's game versus Vanderbilt followed by next week's contest at Kentucky. This year marks just the second time the Huskies have faced two SEC teams in a season. In 1994, NIU played Vanderbilt in Nashville on October 29 - a 17-16 loss - and two weeks later, lost to Arkansas in Fayetteville, 30-27.

THE LAST TIME: After falling behind Vanderbilt 14-0 in the first six minutes of the game, NIU out-gained and out-scored the Commodores the rest of the way but were unable to complete the comeback and dropped a 24-18 decision on September 28, 2019, in Nashville. NIU totaled 388 yards to the Commodores' 373 and collected 20 first downs to Vandy's 16. Quarterback Ross Bowers completed 17-of-32 passes for 280 yards with Spencer Tears gaining 100 yards on his three catches.

FAMILIAR FACES: The Huskies will see a few familiar faces on the opposite sideline on Saturday as Vanderbilt defensive backs coach Dan Jackson spent the 2020 and 2021 at NIU as cornerbacks coach. In addition, defensive quality control assistant Jamaal Richardson spent the 2021 season at NIU as a graduate assistant.

SEEN THEM BEFORE: Eleven players who saw action against Vanderbilt in 2019 are on the 2022 Huskie roster, with left tackle Marques Cox the only starter from that contest still in the NIU line-up. Wide receiver Cole Tucker caught two passes for 43 yards in Nashville, including a 28-yard grab, while kicker John Richardson made a 39-yard field goal in the third quarter to account for NIU's first points of the game. Defensive end Michael Kennedy contributed a solo tackle. Current Huskie starters James Ester (DT), Liam Soraghan (TE), Nolan Potter (OT) and Nick Rattin (LB) all saw action in the 24-18 Vandy win.

LAND OF LINCOLN LEADERS: Since 2010, NIU is the winningest football program among the state of Illinois' seven Division I football programs. During that time, the Huskies are 1-1 versus their fellow in-state FBS programs with a 2014 win over Northwestern and a 2010 loss at Illinois. NIU is 4-1 versus in-state FCS opponents over the last 12 seasons, including the opening week win over Eastern Illinois. With nine bowl games and eight MAC Championship game appearances in the last 12 years, NIU has played more games, 157, than any other school in the state.

Illinois' Division I Schools Since 2010

Team	W	L	Pct.
NIU	101	56	.643
Illinois State	84	56	.600
Northwestern	83	68	.550
Southern Illinois	62	76	.449
Eastern Illinois	53	82	.392
Western Illinois	52	85	.379
Illinois	55	92	.374

AMONG THE BEST: NIU was one of just 19 Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS) teams and one of five teams from a non-autonomous (Group of 5) league to enter the 2022 season with 100 or more wins since 2010. The Huskies are now 101-56 over the last 12 years for a .643 winning percentage. NIU's 157 games played during that time ranks

HUSKIES IN THE PROS

As the 2022 NFL season began, five Huskies are on NFL rosters, led by ninth-year pro Jimmie Ward, who was named to the NFL Network's Top 100 list this summer. Wide receiver Kenny Golladay enters his second season with the New York Giants and his sixth season in the league. Max Scharping was signed by the Cincinnati Bengals this week, while Jordan Steckler (Houston) and Jack Heflin (Green Bay) are on practice squads.

National Football League

New York Giants	Kenny Golladay (WR)
Green Bay Packers	Jack Heflin (DL) - PS
Cincinnati Bengals	Max Scharping (OL)
Houston Texans	Jordan Steckler (OL) - PS
San Francisco 49ers	Jimmie Ward (S)

FOLLOW THE HUSKIES

TV: NIU-VANDERBILT ON CBS SPORTS NETWORK

- CBS Sports Network will carry the NIU-Vanderbilt game, marking the Huskies' first appearance on the network this season.
- Find the CBSSN channel in your area by using the channel finder at CBSSportsNetwork.com or check to see if it is offered by your cable provider.
- Carter Blackburn (play-by-play) and Randy Cross (color analyst) will be on the call for CBSSN Saturday.

RADIO: HUSKIE SPORTS NETWORK

- The Huskie Sports Radio Network coverage for the Vandy game begins 90 minutes before kickoff, at 1 p.m. (CT), on 94-9 WDKB with the Toyota Huskie Nation Pre-Game Party.
- Coverage on WDKB, as well as NIU network affiliates AM 560 The Answer (Chicago) and SportsFan AM 1330 begins 30 minutes before the game, at 2 pm (CT).
- Hear the broadcast online via Huskie All Access, and on mobile devices via the FREE NIU Huskies mobile app or The Varsity Network app.
- Bill Baker is in his 43rd season as the radio play-by-play "Voice of the Huskies." Color analyst Mark Lindo is alongside for the 37th consecutive season, while Andy Garcia is in his 10th season on the NIU sidelines.

INSIDE HUSKIE FOOTBALL RADIO SHOW

- Fans are invited to attend the one-hour weekly show every week at 1 p.m. in the Novak Room at Fatty's Pub & Grille in DeKalb (1312 W. Lincoln Hwy).
- Shows will take place on Thursdays in September and October.
- Listen live on the NIU Huskies or The Varsity Network mobile app and hear the show on the same day at 6 pm on SportsFan AM 1330 in Rockford.
- Host Andy Garcia chats with NIU Head Coach Thomas Hammock each week, along with Huskie players and special guests.

NIU WEEKLY ON YOUTUBE

- The show features weekly interviews with NIU football personnel, including head coach Thomas Hammock, assistant coaches and players, as well as NIU administrators, coaches and student-athletes from other sports programs.
- Watch new episodes on the NIU Athletics YouTube Channel each week.
- The show is hosted by Andy Garcia.

NIU ATHLETICS ON YOUTUBE

- See weekly and post-game press conferences, video features, highlights of past games and more.
- Subscribe for FREE and click the bell to be notified every time NIU posts a new video.
- Search "NIU Athletics" on YouTube or go to YouTube.com/NIUAthleticsOfficial.
- Archived videos and highlights, replays of some of the greatest games in school history and special features are also available 24/7 on YouTube.

NIU HUSKIES MOBILE APP

- Download the new, free NIU Huskies mobile app from the Apple Store or Google Play.
- Link to the NIU radio broadcasts, live stats, complete team rosters, digital game programs and more.
- Connect to the NIU social media channels and sign up for notifications on any Huskie team.

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tied for seventh in the nation and are the most by any Group of 5 team.

HISTORY-MAKING: In 2021, NIU became the first team in FBS history to win its conference championship game one season after going winless. The Huskies went 0-6 in the COVID-shortened 2020 season, with three of the losses by one score. NIU's nine-win improvement was the largest one-year jump in school history.

CHAMPS, AGAIN: With its 41-23 win over Kent State in the 2021 Rocket Mortgage MAC Championship game, NIU's five MAC Championship game victories are more than any other current league member. NIU has made a record nine appearances in the game, which celebrated its 25th anniversary in 2021. NIU has won six Mid-American Conference titles all-time, as the Huskies' first MAC crown came in 1983 under head coach Bill Mallory before the days of conference championship games.

HERE WE GO AGAIN: A year ago, the Huskies played in 10 games decided by eight points or less, and the first two games of 2022 have followed suit. NIU defeated Eastern Illinois by seven points in the season opener, stopping the Panthers at the NIU 36-yard line as time expired. Last week, Tulsa scored with 58 seconds left and NIU's final drive ended in an interception.

CARDIAC CANINES CONTINUED: In four seasons under Thomas Hammock, 21 of the Huskies' 34 games have been decided by one score (eight points) or less, including 10 of 14 games a year ago and both games in 2022. The Huskies are now 8-4 in one score contests over the last two seasons and have an 11-10 mark in games decided by one score over the last four years. NIU is just as good when the games are closer with a 7-3 record in the last four seasons in games decided by three points or less, including a 4-0 record in those games a year ago.

ONE OF A KIND: NIU linebacker Kyle Pugh is the first player in FBS history to play eight years of college football - although due to a series of different injuries, he has not actually played in all eight seasons. Pugh, who is earning his second master's degree, signed with the Huskies in February 2015 and redshirted as a freshman. Pugh was an all-conference player in 2018 and 2020. Pugh has been at NIU through three presidential administrations, four bowl games and three MAC Championship games. His freshmen teammates were in sixth grade when he arrived at NIU.

FINE FORM: In his first game since 2020 and in

his eighth season as a Huskie, linebacker Kyle Pugh made eight tackles in the season opener versus Eastern Illinois and added three at Tulsa to up his career total to 197 stops. He has 12.5 career tackles for loss and three sacks in 36 games with 25 starts. Pugh's most successful season came in 2018 when he made 106 tackles, 63 solo with five tackles for loss in 13 games.

KACPER KAN: Illinois State transfer Kacper Rutkiewicz made his first two catches as a Huskie count as he hauled in a pair of touchdown passes from Rocky Lombardi at Tulsa. Rutkiewicz' first catch was a nine-yard grab he caught at the five and rumbled into the end zone for NIU's first touchdown. He accounted for the Huskies' next score as well, closing out the opening drive of the second half with a 30-yard reception in the left corner of the end zone. Rutkiewicz finished the game with three catches for 45 yards.

COLE HARD FACTS: A year ago, Trayvon Rudolph (51 catches), Tyrice Richie (44) and Cole Tucker (41) accounted for 66 percent of the Huskies' 205 pass receptions. Richie graduated and Rudolph is injured, leaving Tucker as Rocky Lombardi's top target with 11 catches for 190 yards. At Tulsa, Tucker caught seven passes for a career high 123 yards, including a 33-yard touchdown for his seventh career TD. The DeKalb native and Huskie legacy, whose parents Brett and Cindy were NIU football and gymnastics student-athletes, respectively, has caught 121 passes for 1,588 yards in his career to move into NIU's all-time Top 20 in receiving yards at No. 19.

ALREADY THERE: Against Tulsa, freshman safety Muhammad Jammeh collected NIU's third interception of the season, matching the Huskies' SEASON total from a year ago. Jammeh added his first career interception to sophomore cornerback Eric Rogers' two picks versus Eastern Illinois. Last season, NIU defensive backs had just one interception, with safety C.J. Brown scoring on a 26-yard interception return in the MAC Championship game.

GETTING THERE: With Jordan Gandy's recovery of a muffed punt at Tulsa plus the three interceptions, the Huskies have gained four turnovers already in 2022 for an average of 2.0 per game. Last season, NIU ranked 118th in the country with 12 turnovers (three INTs, nine fumble recoveries) gained in 14 games. The Huskies rank 16th nationally in turnover margin (+1.50) and lead the MAC in turnovers gained and turnover margin.

ROSTER BREAKDOWN

BY CLASS	Off.	Def.	Spec.	Total
Senior	5	4	0	9
Junior	5	2	1	8
Sophomore (C)	7	12	0	19
Sophomore (R)	7	3	1	11
Sophomore	5	8	1	14
Freshman (R)	13	13	2	28
Freshman	16	14	1	31

BY POSITION

Offensive Line.....	18
Tight End.....	7
Fullback.....	2
Wide Receiver.....	16
Running Back.....	9
Quarterback.....	6
Defensive End.....	10
Defensive Tackle.....	10
Linebacker.....	17
Safety.....	8
Cornerback.....	11
Kicker/Punter.....	4
Long Snapper.....	2

BY STATE/PROVINCE

Illinois.....	50
Wisconsin.....	15
Iowa.....	7
Michigan.....	7
New Jersey.....	7
Georgia.....	6
Indiana.....	6
Florida.....	5
Minnesota.....	3
Missouri.....	3
Nebraska.....	3
Maryland.....	2
Texas.....	2
Alabama.....	1
Massachusetts.....	1
Ohio.....	1
Ontario (Canada).....	1

HUSKIE OPPONENTS THIS WEEK

Eastern Illinois.....	at Illinois State
Tulsa.....	Jacksonville State
Vanderbilt.....	at NIU
Kentucky.....	Youngstown State
Ball State.....	Murray State
Toledo.....	at Ohio State
Eastern Michigan.....	at Arizona State
Ohio.....	at Iowa State
Central Michigan.....	Bucknell
Western Michigan.....	Pittsburgh
Miami (Ohio).....	Cincinnati
Akron.....	at Tennessee

"THE HARD WAY"

"The Hard Way" has been a mantra for NIU Football long before hashtags or Twitter. The slogan has been embraced by Huskie players and coaches alike since 1996 when it was first introduced at NIU by a junior college transfer named Kenneth Williams during preseason camp. The Hard Way describes the hard work, sacrifice and determination required to get the job done no matter the obstacle. It describes a culture of toughness. The hashtag evolved from a song/chant that is sung in the Huskie locker room following victories.

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BY THE NUMBERS

- 1 Vanderbilt is the only member of the SEC to take on NIU at Huskie Stadium
- +3 NIU's turnover margin through two games in 2022
- 5 NIU MAC Championships since 2011
- 6 Antario Brown has scored a rushing touchdown in six of his last seven games dating back to last season
- 7 Receivers who caught a pass from QB Rocky Lombardi in last week's game at Tulsa
- 10 Rushing touchdowns for Rocky Lombardi in his NIU career
- 11 Current Huskies on the roster that played in the last meeting against Vanderbilt in 2019
- 15 Games between recovered onside kicks for NIU (12/12/20 at EMU to last week at Tulsa)
- 18 Returning starters for the Huskies
- 20 Total scoring margin in four games of the Vanderbilt-NIU series
- 21 NIU's points off turnovers through the first two games of 2022
- 31 Consecutive starts for OT Marques Cox, dating back to 9/28/19 at Vanderbilt
- 35 NIU is one of 35 FBS teams to be perfect in the red zone through three weeks
- 39 Combined number of yards (9+30) on Kacper Rutkiewicz's first two receptions as a Huskie, that both went for TDs at Tulsa last week
- 50 Huskies from Illinois on the 2021 roster
- 51 Red zone scores for NIU in 2021 in 56 trips
- 72.2 Percentage of NIU's total offense that returns for 2022 season
- 95 Consecutive PATs made by kicker John Richardson (95-for-95)
- 109 Tackles by First Team All-MAC safety CJ Brown in 2021, which led NIU
- 119 Seasons of college football played by NIU
- 123 Cole Tucker's receiving yards at Tulsa, a career-high
- 2,432 Career rushing yards for head coach Thomas Hammock (1999-2002) to rank 13th at NIU

ON THE WATCH

Eight members of the 2022 NIU Football team have been named to one or more of the college football preseason watch lists, or have been nominated for a national college football award.

Antario Brown, RB, So.	Doak Walker Award
CJ Brown, S, So.-C.....	Jim Thorpe Award
.....	Nagurski Award
.....	Bednarik Award
Rocky Lombardi, QB, Sr.-R.....	Unitas Award
.....	Reese's Senior Bowl
Nolan Potter, OT, Jr.-R.....	Outland Trophy
.....	Reese's Senior Bowl
Nick Rattin, LB, Jr.	Allstate AFCA Good Works Team
.....	Wuerffel Trophy
John Richardson, K, Jr.-R.....	Groza Award
Trayvon Rudolph, WR, So.-C.....	Biletnikoff Award
.....	Paul Hornung Award
Harrison Waylee, RB, So.-C.....	Doak Walker Award

NEGATIVE YARDAGE: NIU sacked Tulsa quarterback Davis Brin four times Saturday and the Huskies have five sacks on the season, led by Ray Thomas' 1.5. Four different players had sacks at Tulsa, including defensive end Izayah Green-May. The Wisconsin transfer leads NIU in tackles for loss with 2.5 on the year.

THE POWER OF 3: Thomas Hammock and running backs coach Nic McKissic-Luke have installed a three-man rotation at running back featuring sophomores Antario Brown, Mason Blakemore and Harrison Waylee. All three scored versus Eastern Illinois, Waylee on a two-yard run after a 54-yard pick-up. Blakemore on a 19-yard run, and Brown with a 35-yard score. On the night, the three totaled 188 rushing yards on 32 carries for an average 5.9 yards per rush. On the season, they have 308 of NIU's 313 yards and are averaging 4.6 yards per carry with four TDs.

RAYNER SHINES: Sophomore linebacker Daveren Rayner has led NIU in tackles in each of the first two games in 2022 with a career-high 14 tackles against Eastern Illinois, followed by an 11-tackle game at Tulsa. Rayner is just the third Huskie to make 20 or more tackles in the first two games of a season since 2012. He joins current teammate Kyle Pugh (2017) and All-American defensive back Jimmie Ward (2012 and 2013) as the only Huskies to reach that early season mark.

MR. ROGERS' NEIGHBORHOOD: After missing the last nine games of last season due to injury, sophomore cornerback Eric Rogers picked off Eastern Illinois quarterback Jonah O'Brien twice in the Huskies' 34-27 win for the first INTs of his NIU career. The first gave NIU possession in Panthers' territory and preceded Antario Brown's 35-yard touchdown run, while the second came inside the Huskies' five-yard line to stop an EIU drive. He earned MAC West Defensive Player of the Week honors.

SHEMAR-VELOUS DEBUT: Senior wide receiver Shemar Thornton, a transfer from Florida International University, had an impressive Huskie debut with six catches for 81 yards versus Eastern Illinois to lead NIU. Thornton caught a 38-yard pass to convert a third-and-10 play in the fourth quarter and averaged 13.5 yards per catch in the game. He added two catches for 31 yards at Tulsa and ranks second on the team in receiving.

WELCOME BACK: Harrison Waylee, a third-year sophomore, made his return to the Huskie backfield after missing the last nine games of 2021 due to an injury suffered in the Eastern Michigan game on Oct. 2. Waylee ran for 574 yards on 101 carries while starting the first five games last season and came into the 2022 season with 1,030 career yards on 208 carries. He has 100 yards on 19 carries through two games in 2022.

ON(SIDE) IT: NIU kicker John Richardson provided one of the key moments in NIU's 17-point comeback versus Tulsa when he recovered his own onside kick after the Huskies scored on the opening possession of the second half. Richardson dribbled the ball forward 11 yards, got blocking from a pair of teammates and pounced on the ball, allowing NIU to retain possession and embark on another touchdown drive that pulled the Huskies within three points at 8:54 of the third quarter. It was the first onside kick recovery by NIU since Dec. 12, 2020 when Jyrant Mitchell recovered a Richardson onside effort versus Eastern Michigan.

WORTH THE WAIT: Sixth-year senior tight end Liam Soraghan scored his first career touchdown versus Eastern Illinois on a 13-yard reception from his roommate, quarterback Rocky Lombardi and has three catches for 39 yards on the year. He came into the year with four career receptions for 24 yards.

NEW TO NIU: Five players who transferred to NIU this year have seen action for NIU this season with wide receiver Shemar Thornton (FIU) and defensive end Izayah Green-May (Wisconsin) both earning starting roles. Thornton led the Huskies in receiving with six catches for 81 yards versus EIU while fellow transfer receiver Kacper Rutkiewicz caught a pair of touchdown passes at Tulsa. Green-May leads NIU in tackles for loss through two games and earned his first sack last week. Quinn Urwiler (North Dakota) and Joey Rattin (Upper Iowa) have contributed on special teams. In all, eight players who started their collegiate careers elsewhere - including starting punter Tom Foley - are listed on the two-deep.

KICKING IT: NIU kicker John Richardson has scored 15 points on the year with nine PATs and two field goals to put his career total at 230 points, 45 field goals and 95 PATs. He ranks sixth in most points scored kicking, is fifth in field goals made and sixth in PATs made. He entered the season first or tied for first on the Huskies' career lists for field goal percentage (.796) and PAT percentage (1.000)

NIU HUSKIES 2022 FOOTBALL

WALK ON TO SCHOLARSHIP

#	Name	Pos.	Hometown
3	Mason Blakemore	RB	Centralia, Ill.
6	Jeffery Lomax	QB	Elgin, Ill.
10	Billy Dozier	WR	New Lenox, Ill.
14	Jordan Gandy*	CB	DeKalb, Ill.
17	Louis Frye	S	Teaneck, N.J.
21	Muhammad Jammeh*	S	Detroit, Mich.
26	Jaden Dolphin*	HSK	Des Plaines, Ill.
36	Dayven Shinhoster	LB	Barrington, Ill.
38	Nick Rattin*	LB	Palatine, Ill.
40	Izzy Ozoh	TE	Hazel Crest, Ill.
44	Ryan King	LB	Wildwood, Mo.
47	Drew Cassens	TE	Downers Grove, Ill.
49	Brock Lampe*	FB	Kenosha, Wis.
82	Tristen Tewes*	TE	Pleasant Plains, Ill.
84	George Gumbs	WR	Chicago, Ill.
85	Trayvon Rudolph	WR	Crete, Ill.
95	Devonte O'Malley*	DE	Midlothian, Ill.
96	Jacob Waskow	DT	Canton, Ill.
98	Tom Foley*	P	Peoria, Ill.

ONE-SCORE GAMES

2019		3-3
at Vanderbilt	L	24-18
Ball State	L	27-20
at Ohio	W	39-36
at Miami (Ohio)	L	27-24
at Toledo	W	31-28
Western Michigan	W	17-14
2020		0-3
at Ball State	L	31-25
at Western Michigan	L	30-27
at Eastern Michigan	L	41-33
2021		7-3
at Georgia Tech	W	22-21
Wyoming	L	50-43
Eastern Michigan	W	27-20
Bowling Green	W	34-26
at Toledo	W	22-20
at Central Michigan	W	39-38
at Kent State	L	52-47
Ball State	W	30-29
at Buffalo	W-OT	33-27
vs. Coastal Carolina	L	47-41
(Cure Bowl)		
2022		1-1
Eastern Illinois	W	34-27
at Tulsa	L	38-35

ON(SIDE) IT: NIU kicker John Richardson provided one of the key moments in NIU's 17-point comeback versus Tulsa when he recovered his own onside kick after the Huskies scored on the opening possession of the second half. Richardson dribbled the ball forward 11 yards, got blocking from a pair of teammates and pounced on the ball, allowing NIU to retain possession and embark on another touchdown drive that pulled the Huskies within three points at 8:54 of the third quarter. It was the first onside kick recovery by NIU since Dec. 12, 2020 when Jyran Mitchell recovered a Richardson onside effort versus Eastern Michigan.

EARNED IT: Thomas Hammock has made a habit of rewarding players who walk-on to the Huskie program with scholarships. Since his arrival at NIU in 2019, 21 players have earned scholarships after arriving at NIU as walk-ons, including 19 players on the 2022 roster and eight – fully one third – of the Huskies starters on offense, defense or special teams. Of those 19, 15 are from the state of Illinois. The group joins a long and distinguished list of NIU players from the past that arrived as walk-ons including 2010 MAC MVP Chad Spann, who will be inducted into the NIU Athletics Hall of Fame this fall, and recently retired NFL defensive back Rashaan Melvin. See the complete list of current former walk-ons in the column to the left.

LEAD DOGS: Six players were elected team captains for 2022 by their teammates. Quarterback Rocky Lombardi, linebacker Nick Rattin and defensive tackle James Ester (DT) were named captains for the second straight season. Linebacker and eighth-year senior Kyle Pugh, offensive tackle Nolan Potter and sophomore defensive back Jashon Prophete were also chosen.

NEW FACES: The Huskie coaching staff features two new faces in 2022. Co-defensive coordinator and cornerbacks coach Nick Benedetto arrived in March 2022 from Sanford, where he was defensive coordinator for the past two seasons. Wide receivers coach Joseph Hawkins was an analyst at Duke after previously serving as wide receivers coach as Bryant University.

STAFF DIVERSITY: One of 14 African-American men to lead a FBS program, Thomas Hammock's staff also reflects the university's and NIU Athletics' commitment to diversity. Of the 10 full-time assistant coaches on staff, seven are minorities which ranks tied for second among all FBS schools. NIU's staff includes six African-American coaches and one Hawaiian/Pacific Islander. The six African-American coaches are tied for second-most in FBS. Last year, NIU won the NCAA/MOAA Diversity and Inclusion Award for the second time. The top four (credit: the University of Colorado):

Hawai'i	8	(4 P, 2 Asian/P, 1 AA, 1 Asian)
Miami, Fla.	8	(5 AA, 2 H, 1 P)
NIU	7	(6 AA, 1 H/P)
Virginia	7	(7 AA)

HALL OF FAMER: NIU head coach Thomas Hammock is one of three former Huskie football players who will be inducted into the NIU Athletics Hall of Fame during Homecoming Weekend on Oct. 8. Hammock gained more than 2,400 rushing yards and was a two-time first team CoSIDA Academic All-American during his NIU playing career (1999-2002). He will be joined by fellow running back Chad Spann (2007-10) and quarterback Chandler Harnish (2008-11) in the 2022 Hall of Fame Class.

SCHOLAR-ATHLETE: Senior defensive end Michael Kennedy is NIU's 2022 nominee for the William Campbell Trophy, presented by the National Football Foundation to the top football Scholar-Athlete in the country. Kennedy earned his undergraduate degree in management with an emphasis on entrepreneurship and social responsibility and is currently pursuing his MBA.

GRADS: NIU 2022 roster includes 13 players who have already earned their undergraduate degrees – either at NIU or from another institution, and one who already has two degrees. Huskie eighth-year senior Kyle Pugh has both an undergraduate and a graduate degree. Transfers Miles Joiner, Rocky Lombardi, Izayah Green-May, Kaymar Mimes and Shemar Thornton all came to NIU with degrees from their previous institutions. In addition to Pugh, Brett Bostad, Marques Cox, Jeffrey Griffin Jr., Michael Kennedy, Nolan Potter, Liam Soraghan and Cole Tucker are Huskie alumni.

YOUNGSTERS: A year ago, the Huskies won the MAC with the second-youngest roster in the country, including 71 players who graduated from high school in 2020 or 2021. Of the 120 players on this year's roster, 59 are freshmen, including 28 who redshirted in 2021. Add the 14 "true" (second-year sophomores) and 73 players, or 60.8% of the roster, graduated high school in the past two years.

NEXT UP: The Huskies close out the 2022 non-conference slate at Kentucky as the Huskies face SEC teams in back-to-back weeks for the first time in school history. The Huskies and Wildcats kick off at 7 p.m. ET/6 p.m. CT on ESPN2.

NIU Head Coach Thomas Hammock

Thomas Hammock, a former Huskie student-athlete and assistant coach, returned home to Northern Illinois University as the 23rd head coach in the history of NIU football on Jan. 18, 2019. One of the top football student-athletes in school history, Hammock was named NIU head coach after five seasons (2014-18) as an assistant coach with the Baltimore Ravens.

In his third season as head coach in 2021, Hammock led the second-youngest team in the Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS) to a 9-5 record and the Mid-American Conference Championship after the Huskies went winless (0-6) during the COVID-shortened 2020 campaign. NIU recorded a nation's best seven one-possession wins, including four by three points or less and another in overtime, en route to the Mid-American Conference West Division title. Hammock was named the MAC Coach of the Year and was one of 13 finalists for the FWAA's Eddie Robinson Coach of the Year Award, becoming just the fourth coach from a MAC school to be named a finalist for the honor.

The first African-American head coach in NIU football history and the first alumnus to lead the Huskies as a FBS program, Hammock's contract was extended through the 2026-27 academic year in November 2021.

In his first two seasons, Hammock refreshed the roster while imposing academic standards that led to the football team posting its highest GPA in school history (3.08), and completing the entire COVID-19 shortened six-game 2020 schedule without a single case of the virus.

Hammock began his coaching career at Wisconsin, where he spent two seasons as a graduate assistant, followed by two seasons as an assistant at NIU under Huskie Hall of Famer Joe Novak (2005-06). He was an assistant at Minnesota and Wisconsin before joining the Ravens in 2014.

In his five seasons as the running backs coach for the Ravens, Baltimore's rushing attack finish in the top 11 in the NFL three times, including in 2018 when the Ravens had the second-best rushing offense in the league. The Ravens made the playoffs twice during his time in Baltimore.

Hammock helped mentor running back Justin Forsett to his first career Pro Bowl in 2014 as he rushed for a career-high 1,266 yards, fifth-most in the NFL. Baltimore fullback Kyle Juszczyk was selected to the Pro Bowl for the first time in 2016 after he led the NFL in catches (37) and receiving yards (266) by a fullback.



ABOUT HAMMOCK

COACHING EXPERIENCE

2019-	NIU (Head Coach)
2014-18	Baltimore Ravens (Running Backs)
2011-13	Wisconsin
	• Asst. Head Coach/RBs/Recruiting Coord. (2012-13)
	• Running Backs (2011)
2007-10	Minnesota
	• Running Backs (2007-09)
	• Co-Offensive Coord./Running Backs (2010)
2005-06	NIU (Running Backs)
2003-04	Wisconsin (Graduate Assistant)

POSTSEASON EXPERIENCE

2021	Cure Bowl (NIU)
2021	MAC Championship Game (NIU)
2018	NFL Playoffs (Baltimore Ravens)
2014	NFL Playoffs (Baltimore Ravens)
2013	Capital One Bowl (Wisconsin)
2012	Rose Bowl (Wisconsin)
2012	Big Ten Championship Game (Wisconsin)
2011	Rose Bowl (Wisconsin)
2011	Big Ten Championship Game (Wisconsin)
2009	Insight Bowl (Minnesota)
2008	Insight Bowl (Minnesota)
2006	Poinsettia Bowl (NIU)
2005	MAC Championship Game (NIU)
2004	Outback Bowl (Wisconsin)
2003	Music City Bowl (Wisconsin)

PLAYING EXPERIENCE

1999-2002	NIU (Tailback)
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EDUCATION

College	B.S., NIU, 2002
	M.S., Wisconsin, 2005
High School	Bishop Luers (Ind.), 1999

PERSONAL

Birthplace	Jersey City, N.J.
Hometown	Fort Wayne, Ind.
Family	Wife, Cheyennitha, daughter Tierra; son Thomas Douglas

Prior to his five seasons in Baltimore, Hammock spent three years at Wisconsin as running backs coach and assistant head coach. In 2011, the Badgers ranked 11th nationally in rushing, while Montee Ball led the nation in rushing yards (1,923) and broke the NCAA single-season touchdown record with 39, 33 rushing. Ball was a consensus first team All-American and a Heisman Trophy finalist as the Badgers finished 11-3 and played in the Rose Bowl.

The following season, Wisconsin again ranked among the nation's elite rushing teams, Ball became the NCAA's all-time leader in rushing scores and won the Doak Walker Award as the nation's top running back.

A two-time CoSIDA Academic All-American at running back during his playing days, Hammock returned to DeKalb as an assistant coach in 2005-06. In his first season, NIU Hall of Famer Garrett Wolfe rushed for 1,580 yards and 16 touchdowns in just nine games as NIU won the MAC West Division and appeared in the MAC Championship Game for the first time.

During the 2006 campaign, Wolfe rushed for an NCAA-best 1,928 yards as the Huskies reached the Poinsettia Bowl. Hammock helped Wolfe earn All-America and first team All-MAC honors in both 2005 and 2006. Wolfe was also the Vern Smith Leadership Award winner as the MAC's Most Valuable Player in 2006.

Following his two seasons with the Huskies, Hammock spent four years as the running backs coach at Minnesota (2007-10), helping the Gophers to the Insight Bowl in both 2008 and 2009. Hammock was named the co-offensive coordinator at Minnesota for the 2010 season and the Gophers moved up 26 spots nationally in rushing and 34 spots in total offense.

Hammock, a New Jersey native who grew up in Ft. Wayne, Indiana, earned his bachelor's degree in marketing from NIU in December 2002, and a master's in educational leadership and policy analysis from Wisconsin in 2004. He and his wife, Cheyennitha, also a NIU alum, have a daughter, Tierra, and a son, Thomas Douglas.

YEAR-BY-YEAR NIU RECORD

Year	Overall	MAC	Finish
2019	5-7	4-4	3rd, West
2020*	0-6	0-6	6th, West
2021	9-5	6-2	MAC Champions
2022	1-1	0-0	
Total	15-19	10-12	

*Season shortened due to COVID-19

NIU COACHING STAFF

DERRICK JACKSON

Associate Head Coach/
Co-Defensive Coordinator/Safeties
Fourth Season at NIU
Duke

Game Location: Booth



ERIC EIDSNESS

Offensive Coordinator/Quarterbacks
Fourth Season at NIU
Sioux Falls

Game Location: Booth



NICK BENEDETTO

Co-Defensive Coordinator/Cornerbacks
First Season at NIU
Sioux Falls

Game Location: Field



NIC McKISSIC-LUKE

Run Game Coordinator/Running Backs/
Special Teams Coordinator
Third Season at NIU
Alabama A&M

Game Location: Field



ROBERT WIMBERLY

Executive Asst. Coach/Linebackers
Fourth Season at NIU
Alabama A&M

Game Location: Field



DARYL AGPALSA

Run Game Specialist/Offensive Line
Fourth Season at NIU
Linfield

Game Location: Field



JORDAN GIGLI

Defensive Line/Recruiting Coordinator
Fourth Season at NIU
Trine

Game Location: Field



JOSEPH HAWKINS

Wide Receivers
First Season at NIU
Norfolk State

Game Location: Field



TRAVIS MOORE

Defensive Ends
Fourth Season at NIU
NIU

Game Location: Field



JASON ONYEBUAGU

Tight Ends/Co-Special Teams
Coordinator
Second Season at NIU
NIU

Game Location: Booth




NIU HUSKIES 2022 FOOTBALL

NIU vs. Vanderbilt

LAST MEETING

Sept. 28, 2019 • Nashville, Tenn.

Final

	NIU	0	0	10	8	18
	Vanderbilt	14	0	7	3	24

Scoring Summary

Team	Qtr.	Time	Scoring Play	Pl.	Yds	TOP Score
VU	1st	13:25	Brooks 61 run (Rice kick)	4-80	1:35	0-7
VU	1st	8:57	Vaughn 1 run (Rice kick)	5-31	2:49	0-14
NIU	3rd	12:51	Richardson 39 FG	5-52	2:02	3-14
NIU	3rd	7:01	Brinkman 38 pass from Bowers (Richardson kick)	8-83	3:34	10-14
VU	3rd	5:12	Lipscomb 38 pass from Neal (Rice kick)	4-75	1:49	10-21
VU	4th	13:46	Rice 28 FG	10-44	5:06	10-24
NIU	4th	11:44	Jones 1 run (Brinkman pass from Bowers)	6-75	2:02	18-24

Team & Individual Statistics

	NIU	VU	
First Downs (R-P)	20 (9-8)	16 (10-5)	Rushing - NIU: Nettles 10-64, Harbison 13-62, Richie 2-18. VU: Vaughn 17-138, Brooks 2-61, Mosley 1-4.
Rushes-Net Yards	31-108	26-184	Passing - NIU: Bowers 17-32-0, 280. VU: Neal 21-28-0, 189.
Passing Yards	280	189	Receiving - NIU: Tears 3-100, Crawford 3-36, Jones 3-34, Brinkman 2-45, Tucker 2-43, Richie 1-18, Robinson 1-10, Harbison 1-1. VU: Lipscomb 8-100, Johnson 6-64, Vaughn 3-8, Bolar 1-6, Brooks 1-5, Mosley 1-5, Pinkney 1-1.
Passes (C-A-I)	17-32-0	21-28-0	Tackles - NIU: Williams 8, McKie 7, Jones-Davis 6. VU: Harris 7, Moore 7, Haynie 5.
Plays-Total Yards	63-388	54-373	
Fumbles-Lost	1-0	1-0	
Penalties-Yards	9-74	9-97	
Kickoff Returns-Yds	1-22	2-20	
Punt Returns-Yds	2-(-6)	2-24	
3rd Down Conv.	4-13	3-11	
4th Down Conv.	0-0	0-0	
Punts-Average	8-38.1	6-46.7	
Possession Time	31:25	28:35	
Sacks By-Yards	2-16	3-23	

SERIES HISTORY

Overall Vanderbilt leads 4-0
 In DeKalb Vanderbilt leads 1-0
 In Charleston Vanderbilt leads 3-0
 Streak Vanderbilt, 3

10/29/94: VU 17, NIU 16 (A)
 10/11/97: VU 17, NIU 7 (H)
 9/11/99: VU 34, NIU 31 (A)
 9/28/2019: VU 24, NIU 18 (A)

NIU VS. THE SEC

vs. Alabama NIU leads series 1-0
 Last Meeting.....9/20/03 at Alabama: NIU 19, Alabama 16
 vs. Arkansas Arkansas leads series 2-0
 Last Meeting.....9/20/14 at Arkansas: Arkansas 52, NIU 14
 vs. Auburn Auburn leads series 1-0
 Last Meeting.....9/23/2000 at Auburn: Auburn 31, NIU 14
 vs. Florida Florida leads series 2-0
 Last Meeting.....11/4/95 at Florida: Florida 58, NIU 20
 vs. Mississippi Mississippi leads series 1-0
 Last Meeting.....11/13/93 at Mississippi: Mississippi 44, NIU 0
 vs. Tennessee Tennessee leads series 1-0
 Last Meeting.....10/4/08 at Tennessee: Tennessee 13, NIU 9
 vs. Vanderbilt Vanderbilt leads series 4-0
 Last Meeting:.....9/28/19 at Vanderbilt: Vanderbilt 24, NIU 18

VANDERBILT COMMODORES

Head Coach (Alma Mater/Year).....Clark Lea (Vanderbilt, 2004)
 Record at Vanderbilt/Years.....4-11/2nd
 Career Record/Years.....Same
 2021 Record2-10
 Conference Record/Finish0-8/7th-East
 LocationNashville, Tenn.
 Enrollment.....12,309
 ConferenceSoutheastern
 Colors.....Black and Gold
 Stadium.....FirstBank Stadium
 Surface/CapacityShaw Sports Powerblade NXT 2.25/40,375
 ChancellorDaniel Diermeier
 Athletic DirectorCandice Lee
 Athletics Website.....VUCommodores.com
 Twitter.....@VandyFootball

VANDERBILT ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS

Name Contact Information
 Michael Schollmike.scholl@vanderbilt.edu
574-876-6248

VANDERBILT 2022 SCHEDULE

Day, Date	Opponent (TV)	Time (CT)
Sat., Aug. 27	at Hawaii (CBSN)	W, 63-10
Sat., Sept. 3	ELON (ESPN+/SECN+)	W, 42-31
Sat., Sept. 10	WAKE FOREST (SECN)	L, 45-25
Sat., Sept. 17	at NIU (CBSSN)	2:30 p.m.
Sat., Sept. 24	at Alabama*	TBA
Sat., Oct. 8	OLE MISS*	TBA
Sat., Oct. 15	at Georgia*	TBA
Sat., Oct. 22	at Missouri*	TBA
Sat., Nov. 5	SOUTH CAROLINA*	TBA
Sat., Nov. 12	at Kentucky*	TBA
Sat., Nov. 19	FLORIDA*	TBA
Sat., Nov. 26	TENNESSEE*	TBA

*-American Athletic Conference Game

TEAM COMPARISON

	NIU	VANDY
Scoring Off./G	34.5	43.3
Scoring Def./G	32.5	28.7
Rush Yds./G	156.5	232.0
Rush Defense/G	136.0	137.0
Pass Yards/G	225.5	207.7
Pass Defense/G	299.0	297.7
Total Offense/G	382.0	439.7
Total Defense/G	435.0	434.7
INT /Opp. INT	1/3	1/0
Sacks By/Allowed	3/0	6/1
3rd Down Off/Def	52.0%/58.3%	32.4%/30.2%
Red Zone Off/Def	100%/100%	100%/70.0%
Kickoff Return Avg.	18.5	20.0
Punt Return Avg.	3.5	1.0
Fumbles-Lost	1-0	6-4
Penalties/Yds. Game	16/78.5	15/45.7
Field Goals	2-4	3-5

NIU HUSKIES 2022 FOOTBALL

NIU PLAYERS TO WATCH

1 ANTARIO BROWN

RB | 5-10 | 218 | So. | Savannah, Ga. | Beach HS

• Doak Walker Award Watchlist...Named to Pro Football Focus' preseason Honorable Mention All-MAC team...Rushed for 73 yards on 20 carries at Tulsa last week with an eight-yard touchdown run...Had 70 yards and a score against Eastern Illinois in week one...Has scored a touchdown in six of his last seven games...Averaged over six yards per carry in his freshman season...Rushed for 101 yards on 16 carries in his first career game on Oct. 2, 2021 against Eastern Michigan...Rushed for over 100 yards against Coastal Carolina in the Cure Bowl, carrying the ball 12 times for 105 yards and a touchdown.

Year	G/GS	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	Lg
2022	2/2	33	143	4.3	2	35
Career	11/4	114	681	6.0	7	47

6 CJ BROWN

S | 5-11 | 194 | So.-C | Canton, Mich. | Walled Lake Western HS

• Named to Jim Thorpe, Nagurski, and Bednarik Award watchlists in the preseason... Named to Pro Football Focus' preseason Honorable Mention All-MAC team... Made six tackles last week at Tulsa...Had eight tackles in NIU's season-opening win over Eastern Illinois...First Team All-MAC selection in 2021 after leading NIU with 109 tackles...Had 10 tackles in first career start against Wyoming...Made 13 tackles, with 1.5 tackles for loss, in overtime win at Buffalo...Had a season-high 14 tackles against Western Michigan...Returned his first career interception 26 yards for a touchdown in the MAC Championship game against Kent State, adding 10 tackles and a sack to earn Defensive Player of the Game.

Year	G/GS	Solo	Asst.	Total	TFL	INT	PBU
2022	2/2	7	7	14	0.0	0	0
Career	22/17	74	60	134	4.0	1	2

70 MARQUES COX

LT | 6-6 | 309 | Jr.-R | Peoria, Ill. | Peoria HS

• A First Team All-MAC selection to Pro Football Focus' All-MAC teams in preseason...Has started 31 straight games at left tackle dating back to Sept. 28, 2019 at Vanderbilt...Most senior member of an offensive line that has not allowed a sack in the first two games of the 2022 season...Named to Phil Steele's All-MAC fourth team in 2021 after starting all 14 games at left tackle...One of four NIU offensive linemen to start each game in 2021...Anchored an offensive line that paved the way for the fourth-best rushing offense in FBS (241.4 yards/game). while also allowing the second-fewest sacks in the country.

14 JORDAN GANDY

CB | 5-10 | 182 | Jr. | DeKalb, Ill. | DeKalb HS/South Dakota State

• Named to Pro Football Focus' All-MAC First Team in preseason...Had seven tackles, a pass breakup and a fumble recovery last week at Tulsa...A third team All-MAC pick in 2021, starting all 14 games with 53 tackles, 10 pass breakups, 3.5 tackles for loss and two fumble recoveries...Earned second team All-MAC honors in 2020, leading NIU with 41 tackles and seven pass breakups in six games...Has started all 22 games in his NIU career.

Year	G/GS	Solo	Asst.	Total	TFL	QS	INT	PBU
2022	2/2	2	9	11	0.5	0	0	1
Career	30/22	74	39	194	4.0	0.0	2	19

15 IZAYAH GREEN-MAY

DE | 6-6 | 242 | Sr.-R | Bolingbrook, Ill. | Bolingbrook HS/Wisconsin

• Had four tackles last week at Tulsa, with two tackles for loss and a sack...Played in 31 games at Wisconsin from 2017-21...Appeared in 12 games in 2019, making his first career start at South Florida in the Badgers' season opener...Had four tackles against Kent State that season.

Year	G/GS	Solo	Asst.	Total	TFL	QS	INT	PBU
2022	2/2	4	1	5	2.5	1.0	0	0
Career	33/3	8	5	13	3.5	2.0	0	0

12 ROCKY LOMBARDI

QB | 6-3 | 227 | Sr.-R | Clive, Iowa | Valley HS/Michigan State

• Johnny Unitas Golden Arm Award Watchlist...2022 Team Captain...Threw for 259 yards and three touchdowns last week at Tulsa, adding a one-yard rushing score...Was 10-for-11 passing in the third quarter alone against the Golden Hurricane for 134 yards and a touchdown to get NIU back in the game after falling behind 24-7... Had 198 passing yards and a touchdown in the season-opening win over Eastern Illinois...Threw for over 2,500 yards and 15 touchdowns in first season in DeKalb, helping guide the Huskies to their sixth MAC championship...Broke the NIU and MAC single-game passing yards record with 532 yards at Kent State on Nov. 3, 2021, completing 33-of-57 passes with three passing touchdowns...Had 348 passing yards and three touchdowns the week prior in a 39-38 win at Central Michigan...Also rushed for 472 yards and nine touchdowns.

Year	G/GS	Rush	Yds.	Avg.	TD	Lg	Comp-Att-Int	Pct.	Yds	TD	Lg
2022	2/2	3	6	2.0	1	5	32-53-1	60.4	451	4	38
Career	37/24	172	644	3.7	10	64	391-728-23	53.7	4,950	30	75

NIU HUSKIES 2022 FOOTBALL

NIU PLAYERS TO WATCH

11 KYLE PUGH

LB | 6-0 | 226 | Sr.-6 | Chicago Heights, Ill. | Bloom Township HS

• 2022 Team Captain...In his eighth year in the program...Made eight tackles in season-opening win over Eastern Illinois, his first game action since the 2020 season...Sat out the 2021 season after suffering an injury late in 2021 spring practice...A Third team All-MAC selection in 2020...Third on the team that season with 36 tackles...Named Second team All-MAC in 2018 when NIU won its fifth MAC title...Had a career-best 106 tackles that season...Arrived at NIU in 2015 as a true freshman and redshirted that season.

Year	G/GS	Solo	Asst.	Total	TFL	QS	INT	PBU
2022	2/2	4	7	11	0.0	0	0	0
Career	36/25	100	97	197	12.5	3.0	1	3

9 DAVEREN RAYNER

LB | 6-3 | 208 | So.-C | Indianapolis, Ind. | Lawrence Central

• Led NIU with a career-high 14 tackles in the season-opening win over Eastern Illinois...Had a team-high 11 tackles last week at Tulsa...His 25 tackles are the most for a Huskie defender in the first two games of a season since 2012... Made 29 tackles, 24 of which were solo stops, in eight games in 2021...Started each of the first four games...Had six tackles, including a sack, in NIU's win at Georgia Tech on Sept. 4, 2021...Followed up that performance with a season-high seven tackles the next week against Wyoming...Broke up three passes his true freshman season in 2020.

Year	G/GS	Solo	Asst.	Total	TFL	QS	INT	PBU
2022	2/2	11	14	25	0.5	0	0	0
Career	16/11	45	36	81	3.5	2.0	0	3

12 ERIC ROGERS

CB | 6-2 | 184 | So.-C | Burlington, N.J. | Burlington Township HS

• Had his first two career interceptions in season-opening win over Eastern Illinois...Also had a tackle for loss...The first Huskie to intercept two passes in a game since Jalen McKie at Akron on Nov. 1, 2018...Started the first five games of the 2021 season before suffering a season-ending injury...Had seven tackles in each of the first two games of the season at Georgia Tech (9/4/21) and against Wyoming (9/11/21)...Recovered a fumble in the second quarter of the Georgia Tech game...Made four tackles in consecutive games against Michigan, Maine and Eastern Michigan.

Year	G/GS	Solo	Asst.	Total	TFL	QS	INT	PBU
2022	2/1	3	0	3	1.0	0	2	0
Career	8/5	23	6	29	1.0	0	2	1

8 KACPER RUTKIEWICZ

WR | 5-8 | 172 | Jr. | Mount Prospect, Ill. | John Hersey HS/Illinois State

• Caught two touchdown passes last week at Tulsa, his first two receptions as a Huskie...Finished the game with three receptions for 45 yards...Had 38 catches for 651 yards in 28 games at Illinois State, averaging over 17 yards per reception...Made 11 catches for 155 yards in 10 games in the Fall 2021 season...Named to the 2019 Missouri Valley Football Conference All-Newcomer Team...Led the Redbirds that season with 23 receptions for 429 yards...Had a career-high 105 receiving yards in win over Northern Arizona (9/21/19).

Year	G/GS	Rcv.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	Lg
2022	2/0	3	45	15.0	2	30
Career	30/11	41	696	17.0	3	64

15 COLE TUCKER

WR | 6-2 | 195 | Sr.-R | DeKalb, Ill. | DeKalb HS

• Set a new career-high with 123 receiving yards at Tulsa last week on seven receptions for his fourth career 100-yard receiving game... Had a 33-yard touchdown catch that put NIU up 28-24 early in the fourth quarter...Caught four passes for 67 yards in the season-opening victory over Eastern Illinois...Named to Pro Football Focus' preseason All-MAC third team in preseason...Third on the team in 2021 with 41 receptions, 575 receiving yards, and three touchdown catches...Had a season-high 114 receiving yards on just four catches against Maine, with a career-long reception of 66 yards...Set a career-high with 10 receptions in the overtime victory at Buffalo...Had six receptions for 87 yards and a touchdown against Coastal Carolina in last year's Cure Bowl.

Year	G/GS	Rcv.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	Lg
2022	2/2	4	67	16.8	0	66
Career	43/26	114	1,465	12.9	6	66

30 HARRISON WAYLEE

TB | 5-10 | 192 | So.-C | Johnston, Iowa | Urbandale HS

• Doak Walker Award watch list...Led NIU with 83 rushing yards on 14 carries in season-opening win over Eastern Illinois...Accounted for 56 of NIU's 74 yards on its opening touchdown drive against the Panthers, punching in the game's first score from one yard out...Second on the team in rushing in 2021 despite playing in only five games...Missed the final nine games due to injury...Rushed for 144 yards and a touchdown in the Huskies' season-opening win at Georgia Tech... Followed that up with a career-high 179 yards on 26 carries the next week against Wyoming with two touchdowns...Had 130 rushing yards in NIU's win over Eastern Michigan to open MAC play...Is averaging five yards per carry in his NIU career...Five career 100-yard rushing games.

Year	G/GS	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	Lg	Rcv.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	Lg
2022	2/0	19	100	5.3	1	54	2	14	7.0	0	7
Career	13/10	227	1,130	5.0	6	75	11	81	7.4	1	16

NIU FOOTBALL 2022 STATISTICS

TEAM STATISTICS

	NIU	OPP
SCORING	69	65
Points Per Game	34.5	32.5
Points Off Turnovers	21	0
FIRST DOWNS	38	48
Rushing	13	13
Passing	21	30
Penalty	4	5
RUSHING YARDAGE	313	272
Yards gained rushing	319	314
Yards lost rushing	6	42
Rushing Attempts	71	67
Average Per Rush	4.4	4.1
Average Per Game	156.5	136.0
TDs Rushing	5	1
PASSING YARDAGE	451	598
Comp-Att-Int	32-53-1	44-67-3
Average Per Pass	8.5	8.9
Average Per Catch	14.1	13.6
Average Per Game	225.5	299.0
TDs Passing	4	7
TOTAL OFFENSE	764	870
Total Plays	124	134
Average Per Play	6.2	6.5
Average Per Game	382.0	435.0
KICK RETURNS: #-Yards	6-111	6-80
PUNT RETURNS: #-Yards	2-7	3-47
INT RETURNS: #-Yards	3-0	1-0
KICK RETURN AVERAGE	18.5	13.3
PUNT RETURN AVERAGE	3.5	15.7
INT RETURN AVERAGE	0.0	0.0
FUMBLES-LOST	1-0	1-1
PENALTIES-Yards	16-157	12-126
Average Per Game	78.5	63.0
PUNTS-Yards	6-271	2-111
Average Per Punt	45.2	55.5
Net punt average	37.3	52.0
KICKOFFS-Yards	12-726	13-748
Average Per Kick	60.5	57.5
Net kick average	41.3	39.4
TIME OF POSSESSION/Game	30:47	29:13
3RD-DOWN Conversions	13/25	14/24
3rd-Down Pct	52%	58%
4TH-DOWN Conversions	0/1	2/4
4th-Down Pct	0%	50%
SACKS BY-Yards	5-27	0-0
MISC YARDS	0	0
TOUCHDOWNS SCORED	9	8
FIELD GOALS-ATTEMPTS	2-4	3-4
ON-SIDE KICKS	1-1	0-0
RED-ZONE SCORES	(7-7) 100%	(9-9) 100%
RED-ZONE TOUCHDOWNS	(6-7) 86%	(6-9) 67%
PAT-ATTEMPTS	(9-9) 100%	(8-8) 100%
ATTENDANCE	10864	22113
Games/Avg Per Game	1/10864	1/22113
Neutral Site Games		0/0

SCORE BY QUARTERS	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	OT	Total
NIU	7	21	21	20	0	69
Opponents	10	20	7	28	0	65

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING	GP	Att	Gain	Loss	Net	Avg	TD	Lg	Avg/G
BROWN, Antario	2	33	145	2	143	4.3	2	35	71.5
WAYLEE, Harrison	2	19	101	1	100	5.3	1	54	50.0
BLAKEMORE, Mason	2	15	67	2	65	4.3	1	19	32.5
LOMBARDI, Rocky	2	3	6	0	6	2.0	1	5	3.0
TEAM	2	1	0	1	-1	-1.0	0	0	-0.5
Total.....	2	71	319	6	313	4.4	5	54	156.5
Opponents.....	2	67	314	42	272	4.1	1	42	136.0

PASSING	G	Effic.	C-A-I	Pct.	Yds	TD	Lg	Avg/G
LOMBARDI, Rocky	2	152.99	32-53-1	60.4	451	4	38	225.5
Total.....	2	152.99	32-53-1	60.4	451	4	38	225.5
Opponents.....	2	166.17	44-67-3	65.7	598	7	42	299.0

RECEIVING	G	No.	Yds	Avg	TD	Lg	Avg/G
TUCKER, Cole	2	11	190	17.3	1	33	95.0
THORNTON, Shemar	2	8	112	14.0	0	38	56.0
RUTKIEWICZ, Kacper	2	3	45	15.0	2	30	22.5
SORAGHAN, Liam	2	3	39	13.0	1	17	19.5
BLAKEMORE, Mason	2	2	15	7.5	0	21	7.5
WAYLEE, Harrison	2	2	14	7.0	0	7	7.0
GUMBS, George	2	1	13	13.0	0	13	6.5
MCCRAY, Fabian	2	1	12	12.0	0	12	6.0
JOINER, Miles	2	1	11	11.0	0	11	5.5
Total.....	2	32	451	14.1	4	38	225.5
Opponents.....	2	44	598	13.6	7	42	299.0

TOTAL OFFENSE	G	Plays	Rush	Pass	Total	Avg/G
LOMBARDI, Rocky	2	56	6	451	457	228.5
BROWN, Antario	2	33	143	0	143	71.5
WAYLEE, Harrison	2	19	100	0	100	50.0
BLAKEMORE, Mason	2	15	65	0	65	32.5
TEAM	2	1	-1	0	-1	-0.5
Total.....	2	124	313	451	764	382.0
Opponents.....	2	134	272	598	870	435.0

PUNT RETURNS	No.	Yds	Avg	TD	Long
RUTKIEWICZ, Kacper	1	3	3.0	0	3
TUCKER, Cole	1	4	4.0	0	4
Total.....	2	7	3.5	0	4
Opponents.....	3	47	15.7	0	25

INTERCEPTIONS	No.	Yds	Avg	TD	Long
ROGERS, Eric	2	0	0.0	0	0
JAMMEH, Muhammad	1	4	4.0	0	4
Total.....	3	4	1.3	0	4
Opponents.....	1	0	0.0	0	0

KICK RETURNS	No.	Yds	Avg	TD	Long
BLAKEMORE, Mason	6	111	18.5	0	26
Total.....	6	111	18.5	0	26
Opponents.....	6	80	13.3	0	18

PUNTING	No.	Yds	Avg	Long	TB	FC	I20	50+	Blkd
FOLEY, Tom	6	271	45.2	51	0	2	0	1	0
Total.....	6	271	45.2	51	0	2	0	1	0
Opponents.....	2	111	55.5	57	0	0	1	2	0

KICKOFFS	No.	Yds	Avg	TB	OB	Retn	Net	YdLn
RICHARDSON, John	12	726	60.5	6	0			
Total.....	12	726	60.5	6	0	80	41.3	23
Opponents.....	13	748	57.5	5	0	111	39.4	25

NIU FOOTBALL 2022 STATISTICS

2022 LONG PLAYS

	No.	Long
NIU	8	54 RUSH, Waylee vs. Eastern Illinois, 9/1
Rushing	2	54, Waylee vs. Eastern Illinois, 9/1
Waylee	1	54 vs. Eastern Illinois, 9/1
A. Brown	1	35 TD vs. Eastern Illinois, 9/1
Passing	5	38 Lombardi to Thornton vs. Eastern Illinois, 9/1
by Lombardi	5	38 to Thornton vs. Eastern Illinois, 9/1
to Tucker	3	33 TD from Lombardi at Tulsa, 9/10
to Rutkiewicz	1	30 TD from Lombardi at Tulsa, 9/10
to Thornton	1	38 from Lombardi vs. Eastern Illinois, 9/1
Returns	1	26 KR by Blakemore vs. Eastern Illinois, 9/1
Blakemore	1	26 KR vs. Eastern Illinois, 9/1
OPPONENT	8	42 O'Brien to Thomas, Eastern Illinois, 9/1
		42 RUSH by Pierre, Eastern Illinois, 9/1
Rushing	1	42 Pierre, Eastern Illinois, 9/1
Passing	6	42 O'Brien to Thomas, Eastern Illinois, 9/1
Returns	1	25 Punt Return Stokes at Tulsa, 9/10

* 25 Yards or Longer

				|----- PATs -----|							
SCORING	TD	FGs	Kick	Rush	Rcv	Pass	DXP	Saf	Pts		
RICHARDSON, John	0	2-4	9-9	0-0	0	0-0	0	0	15		
RUTKIEWICZ, Kacper	2	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0	0	12		
BROWN, Antario	2	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0	0	12		
TUCKER, Cole	1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0	0	6		
LOMBARDI, Rocky	1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0	0	6		
BLAKEMORE, Mason	1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0	0	6		
SORAGHAN, Liam	1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0	0	6		
WAYLEE, Harrison	1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0	0	6		
Total.....	9	2-4	9-9	0-0	0	0-0	0	0	69		
Opponents.....	8	3-4	8-8	0-0	0	0-0	0	0	65		

ALL PURPOSE	G	Rush	Rec	PR	KOR	IR	Tot	Avg/G
TUCKER, Cole	2	0	190	4	0	0	194	97.0
BLAKEMORE, Mason	2	65	15	0	111	0	191	95.5
BROWN, Antario	2	143	0	0	0	0	143	71.5
WAYLEE, Harrison	2	100	14	0	0	0	114	57.0
THORNTON, Shemar	2	0	112	0	0	0	112	56.0
RUTKIEWICZ, Kacper	2	0	45	3	0	0	48	24.0
SORAGHAN, Liam	2	0	39	0	0	0	39	19.5
GUMBS, George	2	0	13	0	0	0	13	6.5
MCCRAY, Fabian	2	0	12	0	0	0	12	6.0
JOINER, Miles	2	0	11	0	0	0	11	5.5
LOMBARDI, Rocky	2	6	0	0	0	0	6	3.0
TEAM	2	-1	0	0	0	0	-1	-0.5
Total.....	2	313	451	7	111	0	882	441.0
Opponents.....	2	272	598	47	80	0	997	498.5

FIELD GOALS	FG-FGA	Pct	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	Lg	Blk
RICHARDSON, John	2-4	50.0	0-0	0-0	1-1	1-3	0-0	43	0

FG SEQUENCE	NIU	Opponents
Eastern Illinois	(43),(38),43	(34),(25)
Tulsa	48	(28),40

Numbers in (parentheses) indicate field goal was made.

NIU FOOTBALL 2022 DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

		|-----Tackles-----|				|-Sacks-|		|---Pass Def---|		|-Fumbles-|		Blkd		
		GP	Solo	Ast	Total	TFL/Yds	No-Yds	Int-Yds	BrUp	QBH	FR-Yds	FF	Kick	Safety
9	RAYNER, Daveren	2	11	14	25	0.5-2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
6	BROWN, C.J.	2	7	7	14	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
11	PUGH, Kyle	2	4	7	11	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
14	GANDY, Jordan	2	9	2	11	0.5-2	.	.	1	.	1-0	.	.	.
26	DOLPHIN, Jaden	2	3	7	10	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
4	THOMAS, Raishein	2	2	8	10	1.5-9	1.5-9	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
21	JAMMEH, Muhammad	2	3	5	8	.	.	1-0	1	.	0-4	.	.	.
38	RATTIN, Nick	2	2	5	7	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
2	BYRD, JaVaughn	2	5	2	7	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
95	O'MALLEY, Devon	2	2	4	6	.	.	.	.	2	.	.	.	.
15	GREEN-MAY, Izayah	2	4	1	5	2.5-10	1.0-6	.	.	2	.	.	.	.
5	KENNEDY, Michael	2	1	4	5	1.5-4	1.0-4	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
3	LAFAYETTE, Devin	2	1	4	5	0.5-1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
1	ESTER, James	2	1	2	3	1.5-7	0.5-6	.	.	1	.	.	.	.
12	ROGERS, Eric	2	3	.	3	1.0-1	.	2-0	.	.	.	.	.	.
36	SHINHOSTER, Dayven	2	2	1	3	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
99	OPPONG, Pierce	2	1	1	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
32	URWILER, Quinn	2	1	1	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
10	TAYLOR, Demond	2	2	.	2	1.0-2	1.0-2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
52	DAVIS, Ivan	2	.	2	2	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.
51	HABERMAN, Cade	2	.	1	1	0.5-2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
22	MCGARRELL, Cyrus	1	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
10	DOZIER, Billy	2	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
7	HANSEN, Jordan	2	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
0	MCCRAY, Fabian	2	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
	Total.....	2	66	80	146	11-40	5-27	3-0	3	5	1-4	.	.	.
	Opponents.....	2	53	88	141	7.0-12	0-0	1-0	7	4	.	.	.	.

NIU FOOTBALL 2022 PARTICIPATION

No.	Name	GP/GS	Eastern Ill.	Tulsa	Vandy	UK	Ball St.	Toledo	EMU	Ohio	CMU	WMU	Miami	Akron
0	MCCRAY, Fabian	2/-	X	X										
1	BROWN, Antario	2/2	RB	RB										
1	ESTER, James	2/2	DT	DT										
2	BYRD, JaVaughn	2/1	CB	X										
3	BLAKEMORE, Mason	2/-	X	X										
3	LAFAYETTE, Devin	2/1	X	HSK										
4	THOMAS, Ray	2/2	DE	DE										
5	KENNEDY, Michael	2/-	X	X										
6	BROWN, CJ	2/2	S	S										
7	HANSEN, Jordan	2/1	HSK	X										
8	GRIFFIN Jr., Jeffrey	2/-	X	X										
8	RUTKIEWICZ, Kacper	2/-	X	X										
9	RAYNER, Daveren	2/2	LB	LB										
10	DOZIER, Billy	2/-	X	X										
10	TAYLOR, Demond	2/-	X	X										
11	PUGH, Kyle	2/2	LB	LB										
11	TRAVIS, Messiah	2/-	X	X										
12	LOMBARDI, Rocky	2/2	QB	QB										
12	ROGERS, Eric	2/-	X	CB										
14	GANDY, Jordan	2/2	CB	CB										
15	GREEN-MAY, Izayah	2/2	DE	DE										
15	TUCKER, Cole	2/2	WR	WR										
17	FRYE, Louis	2/-	X	X										
19	THORNTON, Shemar	2/2	WR	WR										
19	VALCARCEL, Nate	2/-	X	X										
21	JAMMEH, Muhammad	2/2	S	S										
22	MCGARRELL, Cyrus	2/-	-	X										
26	DOLPHIN, Jaden	2/-	X	X										
27	PORTER, Trey	2/-	X	X										
30	WAYLEE, Harrison	2/-	X	X										
32	URWILER, Quinn	2/-	X	X										
36	SHINHOSTER, Dayven	2/-	X	X										
37	RATTIN, Joey	2/-	X	X										
38	RATTIN, Nick	2/-	X	X										
39	RICHARDSON, John	2/-	X	X										
41	MYLES Jr., Rashon	2/-	X	-										
44	KING, Ryan	2/-	X	X										
49	LAMPE, Brock	2/1	X	FB										
50	NYGRA, Pete	2/2	C	C										
51	HABERMAN, Cade	2/-	X	X										
52	DAVIS, Ivan	2/-	X	X										
60	BUSS, Evan	2/-	X	X										
65	ZSCHERNITZ, Logan	2/2	RG	RG										
69	POTTER, Nolan	2/2	RT	RT										
70	COX, Marques	2/2	LT	LT										
74	PITCEL, Tyler	2/-	X	X										
75	ENGSTRAND, Leif	2/-	X	X										
76	CHAMPE, John	2/1	X	LG										
79	LIPPE, J.J.	1/1	LG	-										
80	JOINER, Miles	2/1	TE	X										
83	SORAGHAN, Liam	2/2	TE	TE										
84	GUMBS, George	2/-	X	X										
91	HATFIELD, Isaac	2/-	X	X										
95	O'MALLEY, Devonte	2/2	DT	DT										
96	WASKOW, Jacob	2/-	X	X										
97	WILLIAMS, Roy	1/-	-	X										
98	FOLEY, Tom	2/-	X	X										
99	OPPONG, Pierce	2/-	X	X										

X-indicates played; letters indicate position started

NIU FOOTBALL 2022 STARTERS

OFFENSIVE STARTERS GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	QB	TB	TE/FB	TE	WR	WR	WR	LT	LG	C	RG	RT
E. Illinois	Lombardi	A. Brown	Joiner	Soraghan	Tucker	Thornton		Cox	Lippe	Nygra	Zschoernitz	Potter
Tulsa	Lombardi	A. Brown	Lampe	Soraghan	Tucker	Thornton		Cox	Champe	Nygra	Zschoernitz	Potter
Vanderbilt												
Kentucky												
Ball State												
Toledo												
E. Michigan												
Ohio												
C. Michigan												
W. Michigan												
Miami												
Akron												

DEFENSIVE STARTERS GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	DE	DT	DT	DE	LB	LB	LB	HSK	CB	S	S	CB
Eastern Illinois	R. Thomas	Ester	O'Malley	Green-May	Rayner	Pugh		Hansen	Gandy	Brown	Jammeh	Byrd
Tulsa	R. Thomas	Ester	O'Malley	Green-May	Rayner	Pugh		Lafayette	Gandy	Brown	Jammeh	Rogers
Vanderbilt												
Kentucky												
Ball State												
Toledo												
E. Michigan												
Ohio												
C. Michigan												
W. Michigan												
Miami												
Akron												

CAREER GAMES PLAYED/STARTED

Name, Pos.	Class	GP	GS	Name, Pos.	Class	GP	GS	Name, Pos.	Class	GP	GS
Akanimo Asuquo, LB	Fr.-R	1	-	Jeremiah Howard, WR	So.-C	2	-	Trayvon Rudolph, WR	So.-C	20	10
Mason Blakemore, RB	So.	10	-	Muhammed Jammeh, S	Fr.-R	6	2	Kacper Rutkiewicz, WR	Jr.	2	-
Brett Bostad, FB	Jr.-R	26	2	Miles Joiner, TE	Sr.-R	11	6	Dayven Shinhosier, LB	So.	15	-
Antario Brown, RB	So.	11	4	Michael Kennedy, DE	Sr.-R	42	7	Liam Soraghan, TE	Sr.-R	35	16
C.J. Brown, S	So.-C	22	17	Ryan King, LB	Fr.-R	4	-	Demond Taylor Jr., DT	So.-R	26	12
Evan Buss, OL	So.-C	21	1	Devin Lafayette, S	Fr.-R	8	7	Tristen Tewes, LB/TE	So.-R	24	6
JaVaughn Byrd, CB	So.	16	8	Brock Lampe, FB	Fr.-R	11	1	Ray Thomas, DE	So.-C	22	19
Drew Cassens, TE	So.-C	10	-	J.J. Lippe, OL	So.-R	18	14	Shemar Thornton, WR	Sr.	2	2
John Champe, OL	So.-C	22	5	Rocky Lombardi, QB	Sr.-R	15	15	Mohamed Toure, WR	So.-R	24	4
Marques Cox, OT	Jr.-R	34	32	Fabian McCray, WR	So.-R	20	-	Messiah Travis, WR	So.-R	26	4
Jaiden Credle, RB	Fr.	1	-	Cyrus McGarrell, CB	Fr.-R	6	-	Cole Tucker, WR	Sr.-R	43	26
Ivan Davis, DE	So.-C	16	-	Rashon Myles Jr., LB	Fr.	1	-	Quinn Urwiler, LB	So.-R	2	-
Jaden Dolphin, S	So.-C	22	3	Ty Myles, CB	Fr.-R	4	-	Trey Urwiler, WR	Fr.-R	4	-
Billy Dozier, WR	So.	22	2	Makhi Nelson-Douglas, LB	So.	9	4	Nate Valcarcel, S	So.-C	15	-
Leif Engstrand, OT	So.-R	23	-	Pete Nygra, C	Fr.-R	5	2	Jacob Waskow, DT	So.-C	15	-
James Ester, DT	So.-R	26	19	Devonte O'Malley, DL	So.-C	22	11	Harrison Waylee, TB	So.-C	13	10
Dustin Fletcher, QB	So.-C	3	-	Pierce Oppong, DE	So.-C	22	7	Roy Williams, DE	Fr.	1	-
Tom Foley, P	So.-R	2	-	Tyler Pitcel, OL	Fr.-R	2	-	Kanon Woodill, K	Fr.-R	2	-
Louis Frye, S	So.	12	1	Trey Porter, S	Fr.	2	-	Logan Zschoernitz, OG	So.-R	26	24
Jordan Gandy, CB	Jr.	22	22	Nolan Potter, OT	Jr.-R	34	22				
Izayah Green-May, DE	Sr.-R	2	2	Jashon Prophete, CB	So.-C	17	2				
Jeffrey Griffin Jr., DT	Jr.-R	26	-	Kyle Pugh, LB	Sr.-6	36	25				
George Gumbs, WR	So.	6	-	Joey Rattin, LB	So.	2	-				
Cade Haberman, DT	So.	16	1	Nick Rattin, LB	Jr.	34	22				
Ethan Hampton, QB	Fr.-R	2	1	Daveren Rayner, LB	So.-C	16	11				
Jordan Hansen, S	So.-C	18	16	John Richardson, K	Jr.-R	36	-				
Isaac Hatfield, LS	Fr.-R	2	-	Eric Rogers, CB	So.-C	9	6				

NIU FOOTBALL 2022 SCORING DRIVES

NIU

Opponent	Plays	Yds.	TOP	Score	Qtr./Clock	Play
E. Illinois	8	74	4:13	7-0	1/10:41	Waylee 1 TD (R)
E. Illinois	8	75	3:32	14-3	2/11:48	Blakemore 1 TD (R)
E. Illinois	2	35	0:15	21-3	2/11:27	A. Brown 35 TD (R)
E. Illinois	8	64	4:27	28-6	3/5:59	Soraghan 13 TD (P)
E. Illinois	11	49	5:21	31-13	4/12:15	Richardson 43 FG
E. Illinois	11	62	6:12	34-20	4/3:39	Richardson 38 FG
Tulsa	6	44	2:50	7-17	2/2:17	Rutkiewicz 9 TD (P)
Tulsa	6	75	3:16	14-24	3/11:44	Rutkiewicz 30 TD (P)
Tulsa	7	54	2:48	21-24	3/8:54	A. Brown 8 TD (R)
Tulsa	8	78	4:18	28-24	4/14:50	Tucker 33 TD (P)
Tulsa	7	40	3:40	35-31	4/5:57	Lombardi 1 TD (R)

OPPONENT

Opponent	Plays	Yds.	TOP	Score	Qtr./Clock	Play
E. Illinois	13	55	7:06	7-3	1/0:20	Galloway 34 FG
E. Illinois	7	40	3:10	21-6	2/0:04	Galloway 25 FG
E. Illinois	6	82	3:11	28-13	3/2:43	Benefield 24 TD (P)
E. Illinois	7	85	2:12	31-20	4/9:58	Thomas 13 TD (P)
E. Illinois	5	74	1:29	34-27	4/2:04	Vallie 8 TD (P)
Tulsa	12	75	4:47	0-7	1/10:13	Santana 14 TD (P)
Tulsa	10	30	4:41	0-10	2/13:02	Long 28 FG
Tulsa	8	71	3:11	0-17	2/8:15	Santana 25 TD (P)
Tulsa	4	69	1:22	7-24	2/0:49	Epps 20 TD (P)
Tulsa	10	75	4:14	28-31	4/10:36	Stokes 1 TD (P)
Tulsa	5	52	0:56	35-38	4/0:58	Anderson 1 TD (R)

NIU HUSKIES 2022 FOOTBALL

		---1st Downs---		Rushing	-----Passing-----			Total Off.	Punts	Fum	Penalties	3rd	Time of
Game	Score	Total	R-P-Pen	No-Yds-TD	C-A-I	Yds	TD	Pl-Yds	No-Avg	No-L	No-Yds	Downs	Poss
(9-1) NIU	34	19	7-10-2	34-187-3	14-22-0	192	1	56-379	2-42.5	0-0	7-73	6-of-11	29:26
vs. Eastern Illinois	27	25	7-16-2	30-165-0	25-35-2	276	3	65-441	1-54.0	0-0	8-70	8-of-12	30:27
(9-10) NIU	35	19	6-11-2	37-126-2	18-31-1	259	2	68-385	4-46.5	1-0	9-84	7-of-14	32:00
at Tulsa	38	23	6-14-3	37-107-1	19-32-1	322	4	69-429	1-57.0	1-1	4-56	6-of-13	28:00

(9-17) NIU
vs. Vanderbilt

(9-24) NIU
at Kentucky

(10-1) NIU
at Ball State

(10-8) NIU
vs. Toledo

(10-15) NIU
at Eastern Michigan

(10-22) NIU
at Ohio

(11-2) NIU
vs. Central Michigan

(11-9) NIU
at Western Michigan

(11-16) NIU
vs. Miami

(11-26) NIU
vs. Akron

NIU HUSKIES 2022 FOOTBALL

INDIVIDUAL GAME-BY-GAME STATS

RUSHING (No.-Yards/TD)

	Total	EIU	Tulsa	Vandy	UK	BallSt	Toledo	EMU	Ohio	CMU	WMU	Miami	Akron
BROWN, Antario	33-143/2	13-70/1	20-73/1										
WAYLEE, Harrison	19-100/1	14-83/1	5-17/0										
BLAKEMORE, Mason	15-65/1	5-35/1	10-30/0										
LOMBARDI, Rocky	3-6/1	1-0/0	2-6/1										
TEAM	1--1/0	1--1/0	-										

RECEIVING (No.-Yards/TD)

	Total	EIU	Tulsa	Vandy	UK	BallSt	Toledo	EMU	Ohio	CMU	WMU	Miami	Akron
TUCKER, Cole	11-190/1	4-67/0	7-123/1										
THORNTON, Shemar	8-112/0	6-81/0	2-31/0										
RUTKIEWICZ, Kacper	3-45/2	-	3-45/2										
SORAGHAN, Liam	3-39/1	1-13/1	2-26/0										
BLAKEMORE, Mason	2-15/0	-	2-15/0										
WAYLEE, Harrison	2-14/0	1-7/0	1-7/0										
GUMBS, George	1-13/0	1-13/0	-										
MCCRAY, Fabian	1-12/0	-	1-12/0										
JOINER, Miles	1-11/0	1-11/0	-										

PASSING (Comp.-Att.-INT, Yards; TD)

Game	Rocky Lombardi
Eastern Illinois	14-22-0, 192; 1
Tulsa	18-31-1, 259; 3
Vanderbilt	
Kentucky	
Ball State	
Toledo	
Eastern Michigan	
Ohio	
Central Michigan	
Western Michigan	
Miami	
Akron	

PUNT RETURNS (No.-Yards, Long; TD)

Cole Tucker	Kacper Rutkiewicz
1-4, 4; 0	--
--	1-3, 3; 0

PUNTING (No.-Average, Inside 20; Long)

Game	Tom Foley
Eastern Illinois	2-42.5, 0; 44
Tulsa	4-46.5, 0; 51
Vanderbilt	
Kentucky	
Ball State	
Toledo	
Eastern Michigan	
Ohio	
Central Michigan	
Western Michigan	
Miami	
Akron	

KICK RETURNS (No.-Yards, Long; TD)

Mason Blakemore
4-66, 26; 0
2-45, 20; 0

NIU HUSKIES 2022 FOOTBALL

DEFENSE

Solo-Asst.	EIU	Tulsa	Vandy	UK	BallSt	Toledo	EMU	Ohio	CMU	WMU	Miami	Akron
RAYNER, Daveren	4-10 0.5 TFL	7-4										
BROWN, C.J.	3-5	4-2										
PUGH, Kyle	2-6	2-1										
GANDY, Jordan	3-1 0.5 TFL	6-1 PBU, FR										
DOLPHIN, Jaden	2-7	1-0										
THOMAS, Raishein	1-4 0.5 QS	1-4 QS										
JAMMEH, Muhammad	1-4	2-1 INT, PBU										
BYRD, JaVaughn	5-2	-										
RATTIN, Nick	2-2	0-3										
O'MALLEY, Devonte	0-2	2-2										
KENNEDY, Michael	0-3 QS, 1.5 TFL	1-1										
GREEN-MAY, Izayah	0-1 0.5 TFL	4-0 QS, 2 TFL										
LAFAYETTE, Devin	-	1-4 0.5 TFL										
ESTER, James	0-2 0.5 QS	1-0 TFL										
ROGERS, Eric	1-0 2 INT, TFL	2-0										
SHINHOSTER, Dayven	1-0	1-1										
TAYLOR, Demond	-	2-0 QS										
URWILER, Quinn	1-1	-										
OPPONG, Pierce	1-1	-										
DAVIS, Ivan	0-2 PBU	-										
HANSEN, Jordan	-	0-1										
HABERMAN, Cade	0-1 0.5 TFL	-										
MCGARRELL, Cyrus	DNP	1-0										

NIU HUSKIES 2022 FOOTBALL

THE LAST TIME A HUSKIE TEAM...

RECORDED A SHUTOUT – 49-0 vs. Akron (10-26-19)
HAD AT LEAST 25 FIRST DOWNS – 29 vs. Coastal Carolina, Cure Bowl (12-17-21)
HAD AT LEAST 30 FIRST DOWNS – 32 at Kent State (11-3-21)
HAD AT LEAST 35 FIRST DOWNS – 35 vs. Ball State (10-10-15)
HAD AT LEAST 40 FIRST DOWNS – 43 vs. Ball State (11-15-11)
SCORED 40 OR MORE POINTS – 41 vs. Coastal Carolina, Cure Bowl (12-17-21)
SCORED 45 OR MORE POINTS – 47 at Kent State (11-3-21)
SCORED 50 OR MORE POINTS – 63 vs. Ball State (11-9-17)
SCORED 60 OR MORE POINTS – 63 vs. Ball State (11-9-17)
SCORED A SAFETY – Michael Kennedy, tackled RB in end zone at Eastern Michigan (12-12-20)
SCORED TWO OR MORE DEFENSIVE TOUCHDOWNS - 2 (Fumble Recovery in End Zone; INT Return) vs. Akron (10-26-19)
GAINED 200 OR LESS YARDS OF TOTAL OFFENSE – 33 vs. Boise State, Poinsettia Bowl (12-23-15)
GAINED 500 OR MORE YARDS OF TOTAL OFFENSE – 516 vs. Coastal Carolina, Cure Bowl (12-17-21)
GAINED 600 OR MORE YARDS OF TOTAL OFFENSE – 663 at Kent State (11-3-21)
GAINED 100 OR LESS YARDS RUSHING – 74 vs. Central Michigan (11-11-20)
GAINED 300 OR MORE YARDS RUSHING – 335 vs. Coastal Carolina, Cure Bowl (12-17-21)
GAINED 400 OR MORE YARDS RUSHING – 433 vs. Miami (10-18-14)
THREW FOR LESS THAN 100 YARDS – 23 vs. Western Michigan (11-23-21)
THREW FOR MORE THAN 300 YARDS - 532 at Kent State (11-3-21)
DID NOT COMMIT A TURNOVER – vs. Eastern Illinois (9-1-22)
HAD A SUCCESSFUL ON-SIDE KICK – John Richardson kick & recovery at Tulsa (9-10-22)
HAD 40 MINUTES TIME OF POSSESSION – vs. Kent State, MAC Championship (12-4-21)
HELD OPPONENT TO 100 YARDS OR LESS RUSHING – 38 yards vs. Eastern Michigan (10-2-21)
HELD OPPONENT TO 50 YARDS OR LESS RUSHING – 38 yards vs. Eastern Michigan (10-2-21)
HELD OPPONENT TO NEGATIVE YARDS RUSHING – (-11) at Miami (10-24-09)
HELD OPPONENT TO 100 YARDS OR LESS PASSING – 51 yards vs. Akron (10-26-19)
HELD OPPONENT TO 200 YARDS OR LESS TOTAL OFFENSE – 145 vs. Akron (10-26-19)
HELD OPPONENT TO 150 YARDS OR LESS TOTAL OFFENSE – 145 vs. Akron (10-26-19)
HELD OPPONENT TO 100 YARDS OR LESS TOTAL OFFENSE – 64 vs. Kent State (10-8-11)
HELD AN OPPONENT WITHOUT A TOUCHDOWN – vs. Akron (10-26-19)
WAS INVOLVED IN AN OVERTIME GAME – W, 33-27, OT at Buffalo (11-17-21)

THE LAST TIME A HUSKIE OPPONENT...

HAD 35 MINUTES OF POSSESSION – 41:52, Western Michigan (11-23-21)
RETURNED A KICKOFF FOR A TOUCHDOWN – 100 yards, D'Wayne Eskridge of Western Michigan (11-28-20)
RETURNED A PUNT FOR A TOUCHDOWN – 91 yards, LaVon Brazill of Ohio (11-21-09)
RETURNED AN INTERCEPTION FOR A TOUCHDOWN – 23 yards, Chad Muma of Wyoming (9-11-21)
RETURNED A FUMBLE FOR A TOUCHDOWN – 61 yards, Mark Lee of Eastern Michigan (12-12-20)
SCORED A SAFETY – Ball State (11-10-21), Blocked NIU punt, went out of back of end zone
BLOCKED A PUNT – Hassan Littles of Ball State (11-10-21)
BLOCKED A PUNT FOR A TOUCHDOWN – Mathew Sexton (block) / Jaron Johnson (recovered ball in end zone) of Eastern Michigan (10-26-17)
BLOCKED A FIELD GOAL – Levi Watson of Eastern Illinois (9-9-17)
BLOCKED A PAT KICK – Elijah Daniel of Murray State (9-12-15)
MISSED A PAT KICK (not blocked) – Thiago Kapps of Western Michigan (11-28-20)
SHUT OUT THE HUSKIES – Navy 16, NIU 0 (11-25-08)
SHUT OUT THE HUSKIES FOR A HALF – 2nd, Toledo (12-5-20)
PASSED FOR 300 OR MORE YARDS – 322, Davis Brin of Tulsa (9-10-22)
PASSED FOR 400 OR MORE YARDS – 450, Jimmy Garoppolo of Eastern Illinois (9-21-13)
RUSHED FOR 100 OR MORE YARDS – 100, Markenziy Pierre of Eastern Illinois (9-1-22)
RUSHED FOR 200 OR MORE YARDS – 220, Donnel Pumphrey of San Diego State (9-17-16)
HAD A RUSH OF 60 YARDS OR LONGER – 60, Braydon Bennett of Coastal Carolina, Cure Bowl (12-17-21)
TWO OR MORE PLAYERS RUSHED FOR 100 YARDS – 173, Marquez Cooper and 103 Xavier Williams of Kent State (11-3-21)
HAD 10 OR MORE RECEPTIONS – 12, Skyy Moore of Western Michigan (11-23-21)
HAD 100 OR MORE RECEIVING YARDS – 135, Keylon Stokes of Tulsa (9-10-22)
HAD 200 OR MORE RECEIVING YARDS – 206, Skyy Moore of Western Michigan (11-23-21)

THE LAST TIME A HUSKIE PLAYER...

RETURNED THE OPENING KICKOFF FOR A TD – Aregeros Turner (97 yards) vs. Buffalo (10-22-16)
RETURNED A KICKOFF FOR A TOUCHDOWN – Trayvon Rudolph (100 yards) vs. Bowling Green (10-16-21)
RETURNED A PUNT FOR A TOUCHDOWN (NOT BLOCKED) – Perez Ashford (44 yards) at Miami (10-24-09)
RETURNED AN INTERCEPTION FOR A TOUCHDOWN – C.J. Brown (26 yards) vs. Kent State, MAC Championship (12-4-21)
RETURNED A FUMBLE FOR A TOUCHDOWN – Sutton Smith (85 yards) vs. Western Michigan (11-20-18);
Trayshon Foster (0 yards) vs. Akron (10-26-19) - *fumble recovery in end zone*
SCORED A SAFETY – Michael Kennedy (tackled RB in end zone) at Eastern Michigan (12-12-20)
A NON-QB THREW A TOUCHDOWN PASS – Michael Love (7 yards to Mitchell Brinkman) vs. Western Michigan (11-26-19)
A NON-QB COMPLETED A PASS - Trayvon Rudolph (2 pt PAT to Tristen Tewes) at Central Michigan (10-23-21)
BLOCKED A PUNT – Corey Lersch at Ohio (10-12-19)
BLOCKED TWO PUNTS IN A GAME – Jordan Delegal (2) at Ball State (11-20-10)
BLOCKED A PUNT FOR A TOUCHDOWN – Corey Lersch blocked; Adam Buirge scored on a three-yard return at Ohio (10-12-19)
BLOCKED A FIELD GOAL – Devonte O'Malley at Georgia Tech (9-4-21)
BLOCKED A PAT KICK – James Ester vs. Coastal Carolina, Cure Bowl (12-17-21)
CONVERTED A FAKE FG FOR A TOUCHDOWN – Mathew Sims (7-yard rush) vs. Central Michigan (9-29-12)
RAN A SUCCESSFUL FAKE PUNT - Andrew Haidet to Messiah Travis (8-yard pass) at Western Michigan (11-28-20)
MISSED A PAT KICK (not blocked) – Christian Hagan at Wyoming (9-3-16)
CONVERTED A TWO-POINT ATTEMPT – Miles Joiner pass from Rocky Lombardi at Central Michigan (10-23-21)
FAILED TO CONVERT A TWO-POINT ATTEMPT - Twice (incomplete passes) at Kent State (11-3-21)
PASSED FOR 300 OR MORE YARDS – Rocky Lombardi (532) at Kent State (11-3-21) - *NIU SCHOOL RECORD*
PASSED FOR 400 OR MORE YARDS – Rocky Lombardi (532) at Kent State (11-3-21) - *NIU SCHOOL RECORD*
THREW FOUR OR MORE TD PASSES IN A GAME - Marcus Childers (4) vs. Buffalo, MAC Championships (11-30-18)
THREW FIVE OR MORE TD PASSES IN A GAME – Chandler Harnish (6) at Toledo (11-1-11)
COMPLETED A 60-YARD PASS – Rocky Lombardi (75) to Trayvon Rudolph (TD) at Kent State (11-3-21)
COMPLETED A 70-YARD PASS – Rocky Lombardi (75) to Trayvon Rudolph (TD) at Kent State (11-3-21)
COMPLETED AN 80-YARD PASS – Daniel Santacaterina (81 yards) to Spencer Tears at San Diego State (9-30-17)
RUSHED FOR 100 OR MORE YARDS – Jay Ducker (146) & Antario Brown (105) vs. Coastal Carolina, Cure Bowl (12-17-21)
RUSHED FOR 200 OR MORE YARDS – Jay Ducker (210) vs. Bowling Green (10-16-21)
RUSHED FOR 300 OR MORE YARDS – Jordan Lynch (321) vs. Western Michigan (11-26-13) - *Set NCAA QB RECORD*
HAD A RUSH OF 60 YARDS OR LONGER – Clint Ratkovich (96) vs. Western Michigan (11-23-21)
HAD A RUSH OF 70 YARDS OR LONGER – Clint Ratkovich (96) vs. Western Michigan (11-23-21)
HAD A RUSH OF 80 YARDS OR LONGER – Clint Ratkovich (96) vs. Western Michigan (11-23-21)
CONSECUTIVE GAMES RUSHING FOR 100 YARDS OR MORE – Jay Ducker, 3 games
(vs. Western Michigan, 11-23-21; vs. Kent State, MAC Championship, 12-4-21; vs. Coastal Carolina, Cure Bowl, 12-17-21)
RUSHED FOR FOUR OR MORE TOUCHDOWNS IN A GAME – Joel Bouagnon (5) vs. Bowling Green (11-1-16)
RUSHED FOR TWO OR MORE TDS IN CONSECUTIVE GAMES – Tre Harbison vs. Ball State (2), Ohio (3) - (10-5-19 to 10-12-19)
TWO PLAYERS RUSHED FOR 100 YARDS, SAME GAME – Jay Ducker (146) & Antario Brown (105) vs. Coastal Carolina, Cure Bowl (12-17-21)
TWO PLAYERS HAD 100 RECEIVING YARDS, SAME GAME - Trayvon Rudolph (108) and Cole Tucker (103) vs. Ball State (11-10-21)
QB RUSHED FOR 150 YARDS OR MORE – Marcus Childers (169) vs. Ohio (10-13-18)
HAD 10 OR MORE RECEPTIONS – Cole Tucker (10) at Buffalo (11-17-21)
HAD 100 OR MORE RECEIVING YARDS - Cole Tucker (123) at Tulsa (9-10-22)
HAD 200 OR MORE RECEIVING YARDS – Trayvon Rudolph (309) at Kent State (11-3-21) - *NIU SCHOOL RECORD*
CAUGHT TWO OR MORE TOUCHDOWN PASSES IN A GAME - Kacper Rutkiewicz (2) at Tulsa (9-10-22)
CAUGHT THREE OR MORE TOUCHDOWN PASSES IN A GAME – Trayvon Rudolph (3) at Kent State (11-3-21)
HAD 200 RUSHING AND 200 PASSING YARDS IN A GAME – Chandler Harnish (229 rushing/203 passing) vs. Western Michigan (10-15-11)
HAD 100 RUSHING AND 100 RECEIVING YARDS IN A GAME – Garrett Wolfe (171 rushing/114 receiving) at Ohio State (9-2-06)
SCORED THREE OR MORE TOUCHDOWNS IN A GAME – Rocky Lombardi (3 rushing) vs. Kent State, MAC Championship (12-4-21)
INTERCEPTED TWO OR MORE PASSES IN A GAME - Eric Rogers (2) vs. Eastern Illinois (9-1-22)
SCORED A RUSHING AND RECEIVING TD IN A GAME – Jordan Huff (1 rush, 1 receiving) vs. Ball State (11-9-17)
KICKED A FG OF 50 OR MORE YARDS – 51 yards, John Richardson at Ohio (10-12-19)
SCORED 15 OR MORE POINTS KICKING – 16, John Richardson at Toledo (10-9-21)
KICKED FOUR OR MORE FIELD GOALS IN A GAME – 5, John Richardson at Toledo (10-9-21) - *Tied NIU SCHOOL RECORD*

NIU HUSKIES 2022 FOOTBALL

NIU 2022 ROSTERS

No.	Name	Pos.	Hgt.	Wgt.	Elig.	Hometown (High School/Previous School)
0	Fabian McCray	WR	6-2	192	So.-R	Chicago, Ill. (Phillips)
0	Akanimo Asuquo	LB	6-0	215	Fr.-R	Forney, Texas (North Forney)
1	Antario Brown	RB	5-10	218	So.	Savannah, Ga. (Beach)
1	James Ester	DT	6-3	295	So.-R	Detroit, Mich. (Cass Tech)
2	Ethan Hampton	QB	6-3	204	Fr.-R	Elburn, Ill. (Aurora Christian)
2	JaVaughn Byrd	CB	6-0	186	So.	Milwaukee, Wis. (Rufus King)
3	Devin Lafayette	S	6-2	197	Fr.-R	Brunswick, Ga. (Brunswick)
3	Mason Blakemore	RB	6-1	207	So.	Centralia, Ill. (Centralia [Ill.])
4	Dustin Fletcher	QB	6-3	218	So.-C	Flint, Mich. (Carmen-Ainsworth)
4	Ray Thomas	DE	6-4	256	So.-C	Racine, Wis. (Washington Park)
5	Justin Lynch	QB	6-1	205	So.	Chicago, Ill. (Mount Carmel/Temple)
5	Michael Kennedy	DE	6-1	225	Sr.-R	Chicago, Ill. (Mt. Carmel)
6	C.J. Brown	S	5-11	194	So.-C	Canton, Mich. (Walled Lake Western)
6	Jeffery Lomax	QB	6-3	209	Fr.-R	Elgin, Ill. (Elgin)
7	Jordan Hansen	S	6-1	200	So.-C	Arlington Heights, Ill. (John Hersey)
7	Terron Kellman	RB	5-8	185	Fr.	Clinton, Md. (St. Frances Academy)
8	Jeffrey Griffin Jr.	DT	6-0	301	Jr.-R	Homewood, Ill. (Homewood-Flossmoor)
8	Kacper Rutkiewicz	WR	5-8	172	Jr.	Mount Prospect, Ill. (John Hersey/Illinois St.)
9	Daveren Rayner	LB	6-3	208	So.-C	Indianapolis, Ind. (Lawrence Central)
9	Mohamed Toure	WR	6-2	200	So.-R	Irvington, N.J. (Irvington)
10	Billy Dozier	RB	5-10	191	So.	New Lenox, Ill. (Lincoln Way West)
10	Demond Taylor Jr.	DT	6-2	299	So.-R	East St. Louis, Ill. (East St. Louis)
11	Kyle Pugh	LB	6-0	226	Sr.-6	Chicago Heights, Ill. (Bloom Township)
11	Messiah Travis	WR	5-10	183	So.-R	Chicago, Ill. (Solorio Academy)
12	Eric Rogers	CB	6-2	184	So.-C	Burlington, N.J. (Burlington Township)
12	Rocky Lombardi	QB	6-3	227	Sr.-R	Clive, Iowa (Valley/Michigan State)
13	Nevan Cremascoli	QB	6-2	215	Fr.	Winnetka, Ill. (New Trier)
13	Ty Myles	CB	5-10	185	Fr.-R	Blackshear, Ga. (Pierce County)
14	Jordan Gandy	CB	5-10	182	Jr.	DeKalb, Ill. (DeKalb/South Dakota State)
14	Mason Pierre-Antoine	WR	6-0	182	Fr.-R	Frankfort, Ill. (Lincoln Way East)
15	Cole Tucker	WR	6-2	195	Sr.-R	DeKalb, Ill. (DeKalb)
15	Izayah Green-May	DE	6-6	242	Sr.-R	Bolingbrook, Ill. (Bolingbrook/Wisconsin)
16	Brian Whitsey	LB	6-0	218	Fr.-R	Chicago, Ill. (Solorio Academy)
16	Jalen Johnson	WR	6-3	198	Fr.	Aurora, Ill. (Metee Valley)
17	Eli Reed	WR	5-11	182	Fr.	Downers Grove, Ill. (Downers Grove South)
17	Louis Frye	S	6-0	203	So.	Teaneck, N.J. (Paramus Catholic)
18	Elijah Hamm	LB	6-1	208	Fr.-R	Watkinsville, Ga. (Oconee County)
18	Jeremiah Howard	WR	5-11	192	So.-C	Merrillville, Ind. (Merrillville)
19	Shemar Thornton	WR	5-11	191	Sr.	Miami, Fla. (Hallandale/FIU)
19	Nate Valcarcel	S	6-1	182	So.-C	Greenfield, Wis. (Whitnall/South Dakota)
20	Jacob Finley	CB	5-11	178	Fr.	Hoover, Ala. (Hoover)
21	Jaiden Credle	RB	5-11	195	Fr.	Columbus, Ga. (Carver)
21	Muhammad Jammeh	S	6-1	198	Fr.-R	Detroit, Mich. (Renaissance)
22	Cyrus McGarrell	CB	6-2	183	Fr.-R	Windsor, Ontario, Canada (Clearwater Acad. Int'l. [Fla.])
23	Dane Pardridge	WR	5-11	175	Fr.	DeKalb, Ill. (Marmion Academy)
23	Jordan White	S	6-2	208	So.	Havre de Grace, Md. (Havre de Grace/ Youngstown St.)
24	Jashon Prophete	CB	5-11	186	So.-C	Pompano Beach, Fla. (Blanche Ely)
24	Nathan Castor	RB	6-0	185	Fr.	Fort Myers, Fla. (South Fort Myers)
25	Christian Nash	RB	5-11	228	Fr.	Omaha, Neb. (Millard South)
25	Jake Gassaway	LB	6-0	205	Fr.	Omaha, Neb. (Millard South)
26	Jaden Dolphin	LB	6-2	216	So.-C	Des Plaines, Ill. (Maine West)
26	Chris Stinson	TE	6-4	210	Fr.	Aurora, Ill. (West Aurora)
27	Keyshaun Pipkin	WR	6-2	202	Fr.	Indianapolis, Ind. (North Central)
27	Trey Porter	S	6-0	197	Fr.	Ankeny, Iowa (Ankeny)
28	Sam Robertson	CB	6-1	183	So.	Plymouth, Minn. (Wayzata/North Dakota)
29	Amariyun Knighten	CB	6-0	170	Fr.	Hollywood, Fla. (Stranahan)
30	Harrison Waylee	RB	5-10	192	So.-C	Johnston, Iowa (Urbandale)
30	Zeke Williams	CB	5-10	179	Fr.	Naperville, Ill. (Naperville North)
32	Quinn Urwiler	LB	6-0	228	So.-R	Mooseheart, Ill. (Batavia/North Dakota)
32	Joshua Brown	RB	5-8	195	Fr.	Villa Park, Ill. (Willowbrook)

ALPHABETICAL

No.	Name	Pos.
57	Jaylin Adams	DT
48	Nick Alvarado	LB
88	Malik Armstrong	WR
0	Akanimo Asuquo	LB
3	Mason Blakemore	RB
43	Brett Bostad	FB
1	Antario Brown	RB
6	C.J. Brown	S
32	Joshua Brown	RB
60	Evan Buss	OL
2	JaVaughn Byrd	CB
47	Drew Cassens	TE
24	Nathan Castor	RB
76	John Champe	OL
33	Andre Cobb	CB
70	Marques Cox	OL
21	Jaiden Credle	RB
13	Nevan Cremascoli	QB
93	Cameron Crowell	DE
55	Abiathar Curry	OL
52	Ivan Davis	DE
26	Jaden Dolphin	LB
10	Billy Dozier	RB/WR
75	Leif Engstrand	OL
1	James Ester	DT
20	Jacob Finley	CB
4	Dustin Fletcher	QB
66	Mike Florentine	LS
98	Tom Foley	P
17	Louis Frye	S
14	Jordan Gandy	CB
25	Jake Gassaway	LB
58	Skylar Gill-Howard	DT
15	Izayah Green-May	DE
8	Jeffrey Griffin Jr.	DT
84	George Gumbs	WR
51	Cade Haberman	DT
18	Elijah Hamm	LB
2	Ethan Hampton	QB
7	Jordan Hansen	S
91	Isaac Hatfield	LS
34	Anthony Hernandez	LB
71	Drew Hoth	OL
18	Jeremiah Howard	WR
72	Bubba Hubbard	OL
35	Logan Jacobson	P
21	Muhammad Jammeh	S
90	Reggie Jean	DT
16	Jalen Johnson	WR
80	Miles Joiner	TE
7	Terron Kellman	RB
5	Michael Kennedy	DE
44	Ryan King	LB
29	Amariyun Knighten	CB
3	Devin Lafayette	S
49	Brock Lampe	FB
79	J.J. Lippe	OL
6	Jeffery Lomax	QB
12	Rocky Lombardi	QB
5	Justin Lynch	QB
73	Brandon MacKinnon	OL
54	Evan Malcore	OL
0	Fabian McCray	WR

NIU HUSKIES 2022 FOOTBALL

NIU 2022 ROSTERS

No.	Name	Pos.	Hgt.	Wgt.	Elig.	Hometown (High School/Previous School)	No.	Name.....Pos.
33	Andre Cobb	CB	6-1	174	Fr.	Naperville, Ill. (Neuqua Valley)	22	Cyrus McGarrell.....CB
34	Anthony Hernandez	LB	6-2	209	Fr.-R	Schaumburg, Ill. (Schaumburg)	89	Kaymar Mimes.....TE
35	Logan Jacobson	P	6-0	220	Fr.	Hillsboro, Mo. (St. Pius X)	41	Rashon Myles Jr.....LB
36	Dayven Shinhoster	LB	6-0	217	So.	Barrington, Ill. (Barrington)	13	Ty Myles.....CB
37	Joey Rattin	LB	6-0	201	So.	Palatine, Ill. (Fremd/Upper Iowa)	25	Christian Nash.....RB
38	Nick Rattin	LB	6-2	222	Jr.	Palatine, Ill. (Fremd)	45	Makhi Nelson-Douglas..LB
39	John Richardson	K	5-11	173	Jr.-R	Orland Park, Ill. (Brother Rice)	50	Pete Nygra.....OL
40	Izuchukwu "Izzy" Ozoh	TE	6-4	237	Fr.-R	Hazel Crest, Ill. (Homewood-Flossmoor)	95	Devonte O'Malley.....DT
41	Rashon Myles Jr.	LB	6-1	195	Fr.	Brownsburg, Ind. (Brownsburg)	99	Pierce Oppong.....DE
42	Dawson Ripperda	DE	6-3	215	Fr.	Larchwood, Iowa (West Lyon)	40	Izuchukwu "Izzy" Ozoh...TE
43	Brett Bostad	FB	6-0	243	Jr.-R	Kennedale, Texas (Kennedale)	23	Dane Pardridge.....WR
44	Ryan King	LB	6-0	218	Fr.-R	Wildwood, Mo. (Chaminade College Prep)	14	Mason Pierre-Antoine...WR
45	Makhi Nelson-Douglas	LB	6-1	223	So.	Omaha, Neb. (Elkhorn South)	77	Luke Pinnick.....OL
46	Nathan Ruble	LB	6-1	215	Fr.	Festus, Mo. (St. Pius X)	27	Keyshaun Pipkin.....WR
47	Drew Cassens	TE	6-2	243	So.-C	Downers Grove, Ill. (Downers Grove North)	74	Tyler Pitcel.....OL
48	Nick Alvarado	LB	6-0	205	Fr.	Bloomfield, N.J. (Union City)	27	Trey Porter.....S
49	Brock Lampe	FB	6-1	238	Fr.-R	Kenosha, Wis. (Bradford)	69	Nolan Potter.....OL
50	Pete Nygra	OL	6-4	287	Fr.-R	North Indianapolis, Ind. (Brownsburg)	24	Jashon Prophete.....CB
51	Cade Haberman	DT	6-2	298	So.	Omaha, Neb. (Westside)	11	Kyle Pugh.....LB
52	Ivan Davis	DE	6-3	241	So.-C	Canton, Mich. (Plymouth)	37	Joey Rattin.....LB
53	Tony Webb Jr.	OL	6-5	295	Fr.	Chicago, Ill. (Tinley Park)	38	Nick Rattin.....LB
54	Evan Malcore	OL	6-6	285	Fr.	Sun Prairie, Wis. (Sun Prairie)	9	Daveren Rayner.....LB
55	Abiathar Curry	OL	6-3	295	Fr.	Janesville, Wis. (Parker)	17	Eli Reed.....WR
55	Jaden Wilson	DE	6-2	262	Fr.-R	Detroit, Mich. (Renaissance)	56	Liam Rempel.....DE
56	Liam Rempel	DE	6-4	238	Fr.-R	Monmouth Beach, N.J. (The Hun School)	39	John Richardson.....K
57	Jaylin Adams	DT	6-1	315	Fr.	Chicago, Ill. (Morgan Park)	42	Dawson Ripperda.....DE
58	Skylar Gill-Howard	DT	6-1	240	Fr.-R	Milwaukee, Wis. (Greenfield/Upper Iowa)	28	Sam Robertson.....CB
60	Evan Buss	OL	6-6	313	So.-C	Kimberly, Wis. (Kimberly)	12	Eric Rogers.....CB
62	Seth Thompson	OL	6-4	296	Fr.-R	Eden Prairie, Minn. (Holy Family Catholic)	46	Nathan Ruble.....LB
64	Matthew Schooley	OL	6-2	302	Fr.-R	Wisconsin Rapids, Wis. (Lincoln)	85	Trayvon Rudolph.....WR
65	Logan Zschernitz	OL	6-3	319	So.-R	Spencer, Wis. (Spencer)	8	Kacper Rutkiewicz.....WR
66	Mike Florentine	LS	6-1	219	So.	Frankfort, Ill. (Lincoln Way East/N. Dakota St.)	64	Matthew Schooley.....OL
69	Nolan Potter	OL	6-6	309	Jr.-R	Cedar Rapids, Iowa (Washington)	36	Dayven Shinhoster.....LB
70	Marques Cox	OL	6-6	309	Jr.-R	Peoria, Ill. (Peoria)	83	Liam Soraghan.....TE
71	Drew Hoth	OL	6-4	313	Fr.-R	Cedar Falls, Iowa (Cedar Falls)	26	Chris Stinson.....TE
72	Bubba Hubbard	OL	6-3	275	Fr.	Bartlett, Ill. (Bartlett)	10	Demond Taylor Jr.....DT
73	Brandon MacKinnon	OL	6-5	280	Fr.-R	Lakeville, Mass. (The Hun School [N.J.]	82	Tristen Tewes.....TE
74	Tyler Pitcel	OL	6-4	310	Fr.-R	Mukwonago, Wis. (Mukwonago)	4	Ray Thomas.....DE
75	Leif Engstrand	OL	6-8	335	So.-R	Oconomowoc, Wis. (Oconomowoc)	62	Seth Thompson.....OL
76	John Champe	OL	6-4	322	So.-C	Brookfield, Wis. (Brookfield East)	19	Shemar Thornton.....WR
77	Luke Pinnick	OL	6-4	302	Fr.-R	State Center, Iowa (West Marshall)	9	Mohamed Toure.....WR
79	J.J. Lippe	OL	6-5	311	So.-R	Milwaukee, Wis. (Whitefish Bay)	11	Messiah Travis.....WR
80	Miles Joiner	TE	6-4	251	Sr.-R	Dayton, Ohio (Butler/Youngstown State)	15	Cole Tucker.....WR
82	Tristen Tewes	TE	6-3	251	So.-R	Pleasant Plains, Ill. (Pleasant Plains)	32	Quinn Urwiler.....LB
83	Liam Soraghan	TE	6-7	262	Sr.-R	Dearborn, Mich. (Divine Child)	86	Trey Urwiler.....WR
84	George Gumbs	WR	6-4	230	So.	Chicago, Ill. (Simeon)	19	Nate Valcarcel.....S
85	Trayvon Rudolph	WR	5-10	181	So.-C	Crete, Ill. (Crete-Monee)	96	Jacob Waskow.....DT
86	Trey Urwiler	WR	5-9	183	Fr.-R	Mooseheart, Ill. (Batavia)	30	Harrison Waylee.....RB
88	Malik Armstrong	WR	6-0	170	Fr.	Joliet, Ill. (Minooka Community)	53	Tony Webb Jr.....OL
89	Kaymar Mimes	TE	6-5	255	Jr.-R	Long Branch, N.J. (Long Branch/Pitt)	23	Jordan White.....S
90	Reggie Jean	DT	6-1	280	Fr.	Ocoee, Fla. (Foundation Academy)	16	Brian Whitney.....LB
91	Isaac Hatfield	LS	6-2	228	Fr.-R	Georgetown, Ind. (Floyd Central)	94	Jalannie Williams.....DT
92	Kanon Woodill	K	5-11	168	Fr.-R	Plainfield, Ill. (Plainfield North)	97	Roy Williams.....DE
93	Cameron Crowell	DE	6-3	245	Fr.	Columbus, Ga. (Carver)	30	Zeke Williams.....CB
94	Jalannie Williams	DT	6-4	304	Fr.-R	Milwaukee, Wis. (Greenfield)	55	Jaden Wilson.....DE
95	Devonte O'Malley	DT	6-2	276	So.-C	Midlothian, Ill. (Bremen)	92	Kanon Woodill.....K
96	Jacob Waskow	DT	6-2	282	So.-C	Canton, Ill. (Canton)		
97	Roy Williams	DE	6-6	246	Fr.	Crestwood, Ill. (Shepard)		
98	Tom Foley	P	6-4	219	So.-R	Peoria, Ill. (Peoria Notre Dame/Minnesota)		
99	Pierce Oppong	DE	6-3	257	So.-C	Bloomington, Minn. (Jefferson)		

KEY: So.-C - was a true freshman in 2020.



NIU HUSKIES 2022 FOOTBALL

DEPTH CHART

OFFENSE

No.	Name (Hgt., Wgt., Yr., Hometown, High School/Previous School)
QB 12	Rocky Lombardi (6-3, 227, Sr.-R, Clive, Iowa, Valley HS/Michigan State)
2	Ethan Hampton (6-3, 204, Fr.-R, Elburn, Ill., Aurora Christian HS)
RB 1	Antario Brown (5-10, 218, So., Savannah, Ga., Beach HS)
30	Harrison Waylee (5-10, 192, So.-C, Johnston, Iowa, Urbandale HS)
OR 3	Mason Blakemore (6-1, 207, So., Centralia, Ill., Centralia HS)
FB 49	Brock Lampe (6-1, 238, Fr.-R, Kenosha, Wis., Bradford HS)
TE 83	Liam Soraghan (6-7, 262, Sr.-R, Dearborn, Mich., Divine Child HS)
40	Izzy Ozoh (6-4, 237, Fr.-R, Hazel Crest, Ill., Homewood-Flossmoor HS)
TE 82	Tristen Tewes (6-3, 251, So.-R, Pleasant Plains, Ill., Pleasant Plains HS)
89	Kaymar Mimes (6-5, 255, Jr.-R, Long Branch, N.J., Long Branch/Pitt)
WR 15	Cole Tucker (6-2, 195, Sr.-R, DeKalb, Ill., DeKalb HS)
84	George Gumbs (6-4, 230, So., Chicago, Ill., Simeon HS)
WR 18	Shemar Thornton (5-11, 191, Sr., Miami, Fla., Hallandale HS/FIU)
11	Messiah Travis (5-10, 183, So.-R, Chicago, Ill., Solorio Academy)
WR 0	Fabian McCray (6-2, 192, So.-R, Chicago, Ill., Phillips HS)
8	Kacper Rutkiewicz (5-8, 172, Jr., Mount Prospect, Ill., John Hersey HS, Illinois State)
LT 70	Marques Cox (6-6, 309, Jr.-R, Peoria, Ill., Peoria HS)
60	Evan Buss (6-6, 313, So.-C, Kimberly, Wis., Kimberly HS)
LG 76	John Champe (6-4, 322, So.-C, Brookfield, Wis., Brookfield East HS)
77	Luke Pinnick (6-4, 302, Fr.-R, State Center, Iowa, West Marshall HS)
C 50	Pete Nygra (6-4, 287, Fr.-R, North Indianapolis, Ind., Brownsburg HS)
64	Matthew Schooley (6-2, 302, So.-C, Wisconsin Rapids, Wis., Lincoln HS)
RG 65	Logan Zschernitz (6-3, 319, So.-R, Spencer, Wis., Spencer HS)
74	Tyler Pitcel (6-4, 310, So.-C, Mukwonago, Wis., Mukwonago HS)
RT 69	Nolan Potter (6-6, 309, Jr.-R, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Washington HS)
75	Leif Engstrand (6-8, 335, So.-R, Oconomowoc, Wis., Oconomowoc HS)

DEFENSE

No.	Name (Hgt., Wgt., Yr., Hometown, High School/Previous School)
DE 4	Ray Thomas (6-4, 256, So.-C, Racine, Wis., Washington Park HS)
9	Pierce Oppong (6-3, 257, So.-C, Bloomington, Minn., Jefferson HS)
97	Roy Williams (6-6, 246, Fr., Crestwood, Ill., Shepard HS)
DT 95	Devonte O'Malley (6-2, 276, So.-C, Midlothian, Ill., Bremen HS)
10	Demond Taylor Jr. (6-2, 299, So.-R, East St. Louis, Ill., East St. Louis HS)
DT 1	James Ester (6-3, 295, So.-R, Detroit, Mich., Cass Tech)
51	Cade Haberman (6-2, 298, So., Omaha, Neb., Westside HS)
8	Jeffrey Griffin Jr. (6-0, 301, Jr.-R, Homewood, Ill., Homewood-Flossmoor HS)
DE 15	Izayah Green-May (6-6, 242, Sr.-R, Bolingbrook, Ill., Bolingbrook HS/Wisconsin)
52	Ivan Davis (6-3, 241, So.-C, Canton, Mich., Plymouth HS)
OR 5	Michael Kennedy (6-1, 225, Sr.-R, Chicago, Ill., Mt. Carmel HS)
LB 9	Daveren Rayner (6-3, 208, So.-C, Indianapolis, Ind., Lawrence Central HS)
44	Ryan King (6-0, 218, Fr.-R, Wildwood, Mo., Chaminade College Prep)
LB 11	Kyle Pugh (6-0, 226, Sr.-S, Chicago Heights, Ill., Bloom Township HS)
OR 38	Nick Rattin (6-2, 222, Jr., Palatine, Ill., Fremd HS)
HSK 26	Jaden Dolphin (6-2, 216, So.-C, Des Plaines, Ill., Maine West HS)
3	Devin Lafayette (6-2, 197, Fr.-R, Arlington Heights, Ill., John Hersey HS)
CB 14	Jordan Gandy (5-10, 182, Jr., DeKalb, Ill., DeKalb HS/South Dakota State)
22	Cyrus McGarrell (6-2, 183, Fr.-R, Windsor, Ontario, Can., Clearwater Academy International [Fla.])
S 6	C.J. Brown (5-11, 194, So.-C, Canton, Mich., Walled Lake Western HS)
23	Jordan White (6-2, 208, So., Havre de Grace, Md., Havre de Grace HS/Youngstown St.)
S 21	Muhammad Jammeh (6-1, 198, Fr.-R, Detroit, Mich., Renaissance HS)
17	Louis Frye (6-0, 203, So., Teaneck, N.J., Paramus Catholic HS)
OR 7	Jordan Hansen (6-1, 200, So.-C, Arlington Heights, Ill., John Hersey HS)
CB 12	Eric Rogers (6-2, 184, So.-C, Burlington, N.J., Burlington Township HS)
OR 2	JaVaughn Byrd (6-0, 186, So., Milwaukee, Wis., Rufus King HS)

SPECIALISTS

No.	Name (Hgt., Wgt., Yr., Hometown, High School/Previous School)
P 98	Tom Foley (6-4, 219, So.-R, Peoria, Ill., Peoria Notre Dame HS/Minnesota)
K 39	John Richardson (5-11, 173, Jr.-R, Orland Park, Ill., Brother Rice HS)
LS 91	Isaac Hatfield (6-2, 228, Fr.-R, Georgetown, Ind., Floyd Central HS)
HO 98	Tom Foley (6-4, 219, So.-R, Peoria, Ill., Peoria Notre Dame HS/Minnesota)
KOR 3	Mason Blakemore (6-1, 207, So., Centralia, Ill., Centralia HS)
21	Jaiden Credle (5-11, 195, Fr., Columbus, Ga., Carver HS)
OR 10	Billy Dozier (5-10, 191, So., New Lenox, Ill., Lincoln Way West HS)
PR 15	Cole Tucker (6-2, 195, Sr.-R, DeKalb, Ill., DeKalb HS)
8	Kacper Rutkiewicz (5-8, 172, Jr., Mount Prospect, Ill., John Hersey HS/Illinois State)

Pronunciations

Name	Pronunciation
AKANIMO ASUQUO	Ah-kuh-NEE-moh Uh-SOO-kwah
Brett BOSTAD	BO-stad
ANTARIO Brown	ann-TAIR-ee-oh
John CHAMPE	CHAMP (e is silent)
MARQUES Cox	Marcus
Jaiden CREDLE	CRAY-dul
NEVAN CREMASCOLI	NEV-en KREH-muh-SKOL-ee
Cameron CROWELL	CRO-well
ABIATHAR Curry	uh-BYE-uh-THARR
JADEN Dolphin	JAY-den
LEIF ENGSTRAND	LEAF ANG-strand
Cade HABERMAN	Hobb-ER-man
Drew HOTH	HOETH (long o)
Muhammed JAMMEH	Juh-MAY
JALEN Johnson	JAY-lin
TERRON Kellman	Turr-ON
AMARIYUN Knighten	Uh-marr-EE-yun
Devin LAFAYETTE	Lah-FAY-ett
Brock LAMPE	LAMP-ee
J.J. LIPPE	LIP-ee
KAYMAR MIMES	K-marr Mims
DEVONTE O'Malley	Duh-VOHN-tay
MAKHI Nelson-Douglas	Muh-KY
Pete NYGRA	NIE-gruh
Pierce OPPONG	OH-pong
Izzy OZOH	OH-zoe
Tyler PITCEL	PIT-sul
JASHON PROPHETE	JAY-shon Prah-FIT
Nick & Joey RATTIN	ruh-TEEN
DAVEREN Rayner	Dave-UR-in
LIAM REMPEL	Lee-UM rem-PELL
Dawson RIPPERDA	Ruh-PURR-duh
KACPER RUTKIEWICZ	CASS-per ROOT-kuh-WITS
Matthew SCHOOLEY	SKOOL-ee
DAYVEN SHINHOSTER	Dave-IN SHIN-HOE-stir
LIAM SORAGHAN	Lee-UM SORE-uh-HAN
DEMOND Taylor Jr.	duh-MOND
Tristen TEWES	TAY-vis
MOHAMED TOURE	moe-HOMM-ed TORE-ray
Trey & Quinn URWILER	er-WILE-er
Nate VALCARCEL	Val-CAR-sul
Jacob WASKOW	Wass-KOW
KANON Woodill	Cannon
Logan ZSCHERNITZ	SHUR-nitz

Coaches

Daryl AGPALSA	Ag-PAWL-suh
Nick BENEDETTO	BENN-eh-DETT-oh
Eric EIDSSNESS	IDES-ness
Jordan GIGLI	GEE-lee
Jason ONYEBUAGU	On-yay-BOO-ah-GOO

Hometowns

Oconomowoc	Uh-CON-oh-muh-WALK
Mukwonago	Muh-GWAHN-UH-go

as of 9-13-22