



For Immediate Release  
Nov. 15, 2023  
Mike Kern

Illinois State • Indiana State • Missouri State • Murray State • North Dakota • North Dakota State  
UNI • South Dakota • South Dakota State • Southern Illinois • Western Illinois • Youngstown State

1818 Chouteau Ave. • St. Louis, MO 63103 • (314) 435-4779 [Kern cell]



## 2023 Valley Football Standings (thru Nov. 11)

Team	Overall	Pct.	Conference	Pct.	PF	PA	Home	Away	Neut.	Streak
South Dakota St.	10-0	1.000	7-0	1.000	379	107	5-0	4-0	1-0	W 10
South Dakota	8-2	.800	6-1	.857	213	155	5-1	3-1	0-0	W 2
UNI	6-4	.600	5-2	.714	261	245	3-1	3-3	0-0	L 1
North Dakota St.	7-3	.700	4-3	.571	349	187	5-1	1-2	1-0	W 1
Youngstown St.	6-4	.600	4-3	.571	314	261	5-1	1-3	0-0	L 1
North Dakota	6-4	.600	4-3	.571	320	252	5-0	1-4	0-0	L 1
Illinois St.	6-4	.600	4-3	.571	340	203	4-2	2-2	0-0	W 2
Southern Ill.	6-4	.600	3-4	.429	242	181	2-2	4-2	0-0	L 2
Missouri St.	4-6	.400	3-4	.429	311	298	3-2	1-4	0-0	W 1
Murray St.	2-8	.200	1-6	.143	166	349	2-2	0-6	0-0	L 6
Indiana St.	1-9	.100	1-6	.143	139	292	1-4	0-5	0-0	W 1
Western Ill.	0-10	.000	0-7	.000	132	461	0-4	0-6	0-0	L 10

### Schedule/Results

Saturday, Nov. 11	Result
*Murray State at NR/IV Illinois State	ISU, 44-7
* #1/1 SDSU at #22/IV Youngstown State	SDSU, 34-0
* #10/12 N. Dakota at #6/6 South Dakota	USD, 14-10
*Western Illinois at Indiana State	ISU, 27-6
* #15/20 UNI at Missouri State	MSU, 35-16
* #11/15 Southern Illinois at #12/13 NDSU	NDSU, 34-10

Saturday, Nov. 18	Times CT
*Indiana St. at #16/20 Southern Illinois [ESPN+]	1 pm
* #5/5 South Dakota at WIU [ESPN+/KELOXTRA]	1 pm
* #25/IV Youngstown St. at Murray State [ESPN+]	1 pm
* -IV Illinois St. at #13/17 UND [Midco/ESPN+]	1 pm
* Missouri St. at #1/1 SDSU [Midco/ESPN+]	2 pm
* #9/9 NDSU at #22/IV UNI [PSN/ABC ND/ESPN+]	4 pm

Sunday, Nov. 19	Times CT
FCS Division I Championship -- Selection Show	11:30 am
ESPNU	

Saturday, Nov. 25	Times CT
FCS Division I Championship -- First Round	

\*indicates MVFC game  
Stats Perform poll listed first; followed by AFCA Coaches poll.

### FCS Unbeatens

South Dakota State (10-0) is the only FCS unbeaten. Notably, there are only seven FBS programs that are perfect.

#### Active NCAA DI Football Win Streaks

27	Georgia
24	South Dakota State
17	Washington
16	Florida State

#### Consecutive Victories (All Games, includes playoffs)

- 39, NDSU (2017-2021) [NCAA record]
- 33, North Dakota State (2012-14)
- 26, James Madison (2016-17)
- 24, South Dakota State (2022-present)
- 24, Montana (2001-02)
- 24, Penn (1992-95)
- 22, Harvard (2013-15)
- 22, Sam Houston (2020-21)

#### Consecutive Victories (League Games Only)

- 19, North Dakota State, 2017-21
- 18, North Dakota State, 2012-14
- 16, South Dakota State, 2021-present
- 14, Southern Illinois, 2008-09
- 13, UNI, 1993-95

#### Consecutive Victories To Start a Season (MVFC)

- 16, North Dakota State, 2019 (was a perfect 16-0)
- 15, North Dakota State, 2013 (was a perfect 15-0)
- 15, North Dakota State, 2018 (was a perfect 15-0)
- 12, UNI, 2007 (lost to Delaware)
- 10, South Dakota State, 2023
- 10, Southern Illinois, 2003 (lost at UNI)
- 9, Western Illinois, 1988 (lost at Northern Illinois)
- 9, North Dakota State, 2011 (lost to Youngstown St.)
- 9, North Dakota State, 2014 (lost at UNI)
- 8, UNI, 1992 (lost at Eastern Illinois)
- 8, North Dakota State, 2017 (lost to S. Dakota State)
- 8, North Dakota State, 2021 (lost at S. Dakota State)
- 7, Illinois State, 2014 (lost at UNI)

### In the Metrics

The MVFC has eight of its 12 programs in the Top 15 of the Sagarin Ratings. The MVFC is the top-rated FCS league in the Sagarin Ratings. Only four leagues have teams that occupy spots in the Top 15 (MVFC-8; Big Sky-4; CAA-2; Southern-1).

South Dakota State is ranked No. 1 across the board (Sagarin, Massey, Stats Perform and AFCA rankings). Eleven of the league's 12 programs have SOS ratings 19 or higher, including UNI, which has the FCS nation's hardest-rated schedule (per Massey).

Team	Sagarin	Massey	SOS	Stats	AFCA
S. Dakota State	26 (1)	1	17	1	1
N. Dakota State	80 (3)	4	13	9	9
Southern Illinois	113 (6)	8	12	16	20
UNI	119 (8)	10	1	22	rv
South Dakota	123 (10)	5	19	5	5
Youngstown State	124 (11)	15	14	25	rv
North Dakota	126 (12)	14	15	13	17
Illinois State	131 (15)	23	41	--	rv

Sagarin ratings list full DI rank (FCS rank); Strength of Schedule (SOS) is taken from Massey ratings; Stats is Stats Perform FCS poll; AFCA is Coaches poll.

#### Sagarin Conference Ratings (Teams in Top 15)

1. Missouri Valley Football (8 in the Top 15; 4 in the Top 8)
2. Big Sky (4 -- 3 in the Top 8)
3. United Athletic
4. CAA Football (2)
5. Ivy League
6. Southern (1)
7. Big South/OVC
8. Southland

# 2023 Missouri Valley Football Conference Weekly Release

## vs. Non-Conference (20-16)

FCS: Home: 14-3 / Away: 2-3 / Neut: 2-0  
 NDI: Home: 1-0 | FBS: Away: 1-10

### NCAA FCS Teams (18-6)

Big Sky	4-1
Eastern Washington	1-0
Idaho State	1-0
Montana State	1-0
Northern Arizona	1-0
Weber State	0-1
Big South-OVC Association	3-4
Eastern Illinois	0-2
Lindenwood	1-1
Robert Morris	1-0
Southeast Missouri State	1-0
UT Martin	0-1
CAA	1-0
Maine	1-0
PFL	6-0
Dayton	1-0
Drake	2-0
Presbyterian	1-0
Saint Thomas	1-0
Valparaiso	1-0
Southern Illinois	1-0
Lamar	1-0
United Athletic	3-1
Austin Peay	1-0
Central Arkansas	1-0
Southern Utah	0-1
Utah Tech	1-0

### NCAA FBS Teams (1-10)

ACC	0-1
Louisville	0-1
Big 12	0-2
Iowa State	0-1
Kansas	0-1
Big Ten	0-2
Indiana	0-1
Ohio State	0-1
C-USA	0-2
Middle Tennessee	0-1
New Mexico State	0-1
Mid-American	1-1
Ball State	0-1
Northern Illinois	1-0
Mountain West	0-1
Boise State	0-1
SEC	0-1
Missouri	0-1

### Non-Division I Teams (1-0)

Western Oregon	1-0
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### vs. Ranked (FCS) Teams (2-1)

S9 - #9 Weber State at #20 UNI	L, 34-17
S9 - #3 Montana State at #1 SDSU	W, 20-16
S16 - #15 S. Illinois at #13 SEMO	W, 26-25

### vs. Ranked (FBS) Teams (0-1)

S9 - #23 Youngstown State at #4 Ohio St.	L, 35-7
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## Against the FCS | Breakdowns

Here's a breakdown of what MVFC schools have done vs. FCS schools (league and non-league), vs. FBS schools, and vs. the Top 25.

Team	All	vs. FCS	vs. FBS	Top 25
Illinois State	6-4	6-4	—	0-3
Indiana State	1-9	1-7	0-2	0-3
Missouri State	4-6	4-5	0-1	1-3
Murray State	2-8	2-6	0-2	0-4
North Dakota	6-4	6-3	0-1	1-2
North Dakota State	7-3	7-3	—	1-2
UNI	6-4	6-3	0-1	2-2
South Dakota	8-2	8-1	0-1	4-1
South Dakota State	10-0	9-0	—	7-0
Southern Illinois	6-4	5-4	1-0	1-3
Western Illinois	0-10	0-9	0-1	0-4
Youngstown State	6-4	6-3	0-1	2-2
NON-MVFC ONLY	20-16	18-6	1-10	2-1
MVFC GAMES	42-42	42-42	—	17-28
ALL GAMES	62-58	60-48	1-10	19-29

## MVFC vs. The Top 25

MVFC members have 19 total wins against a Top-25 team this season, which includes 17 wins within Conference play.

### MVFC Leaders (Wins vs. Ranked Teams, 2023)

7-0	South Dakota State
4-1	South Dakota
2-2	UNI
2-2	Youngstown State

## Against the Top 25, Part II

Only seven FCS programs with six or more wins headed into this weekend have posted multiple wins against Top 25 programs this season (against teams currently in the AFCA or Stats Perform polls this week). Four of them are MVFC teams.

### FCS Leaders (Wins vs. Ranked Teams)

7	South Dakota State
4	South Dakota
2	North Dakota State
2	UNI
2	Furman
2	Idaho
2	Montana

## Against the Top 25

Counting games scheduled for Nov. 18, only nine FCS programs have played (or will play) four or more Top 25 FCS programs this season -- 8 in the MVFC, and Montana State.

### FCS Leaders (Games vs. Ranked\* Teams)

7	South Dakota State
6	North Dakota State
5	South Dakota
5	Southern Illinois
4	Illinois State
4	Montana State
4	North Dakota
4	UNI
4	Youngstown State

\* teams currently in the AFCA or Stats Perform polls this week

## 7 MVFC Teams Ranked

Seven different MVFC teams are ranked in Top 25 this week as South Dakota State, South Dakota, Southern Illinois, North Dakota State, North Dakota, UNI, and Youngstown State represent the MVFC in the Stats Perform rankings.

It marks the 68th time in league history that six or more MVFC teams have been ranked in the same poll (and for the seventh-straight week).

**The MVFC (8) and the Big Sky (4) dominate the Top 15 in this week's Sagarin rankings – with 12 of the Top 15 spots (and seven of the top 8).**

### Stats Perform Top 25 (Nov. 13)

	School (first-place votes)	Rec.	Pts.	
1	South Dakota State (56)	10-0	1,400	1
2	Furman	9-1	1,309	2
3	Montana	9-1	1,301	3
4	Montana State	8-2	1,233	5
5	South Dakota	8-2	1,183	6
6	Idaho	7-3	1,042	4
7	Delaware	8-2	1,029	8
8	Sacramento State	7-3	957	9
9	North Dakota State	7-3	874	12
10	Villanova	8-2	792	T-13
11	Florida A&M	9-1	750	T-13
12	UAlbany	8-3	690	18
13	North Dakota	6-4	685	10
14	Western Carolina	7-3	601	17
15	Austin Peay	8-2	556	20
16	Southern Illinois	6-4	507	11
17	North Carolina Central	8-2	489	7
18	Chattanooga	7-3	481	19
19	UT Martin	8-2	475	21
20	UIW	7-2	464	16
21	Mercer	8-3	311	23
22	Northern Iowa	6-4	285	15
23	Harvard	8-1	168	24
24	Lafayette	8-2	142	25
25	Youngstown State	6-4	126	22

### AFCA Coaches Top 25 (Nov. 13)

	School (first-place votes)	Rec.	Pts.	
1	South Dakota State (26)	10-0	650	1
2	Furman	9-1	615	2
3	Montana	9-1	603	3
4	Montana State	8-2	563	5
5	South Dakota	8-2	529	6
6	Delaware	8-2	491	8
7	Florida A&M	9-1	446	9
8	Idaho	7-3	405	4
9	North Dakota State	7-3	396	13
10	Sacramento State	7-3	390	11
11	UIW	7-2	385	10
12	Austin Peay	8-2	364	14
13	UT Martin	8-2	333	16
14	North Carolina Central	8-2	285	7
15	Villanova	8-2	277	18
16	Chattanooga	7-3	244	17
17	North Dakota	6-4	227	12
18	Western Carolina	7-3	206	21
19	Harvard	8-1	195	19
t20	Central Arkansas	7-3	135	24
t20	Southern Illinois	6-4	135	15
22	Lafayette	8-2	133	23
23	Albany	8-3	131	25
24	Mercer	8-3	108	NR
25	Holy Cross	6-4	40	22

# 2023 Missouri Valley Football Conference Weekly Release

## Players of the Week

### Offense

*WR Raylen Sharpe, Missouri State*

Sharpe matched a Missouri State season record with his sixth 100-yard receiving game of the season (third in a row) to help the Bears to a dominant 35-16 win over No. 15 UNI. He pulled in 11 receptions for a career-high 160 yards and two touchdowns in the victory. His catch total was the second-highest, single-game reception sum in the league this season, trailing only his own 13-reception performance vs. NDSU in October. Likewise, his game-high 175 all-purpose yards was two yards shy of a career high.

### Defense

*LB Garret Ollendieck, Indiana State*

Ollendieck had 11 tackles including three sacks against Western Illinois. He also added two QB hurries as ISU consistently harried the Leathernecks' passing game on Saturday afternoon. Ollendieck was disruptive in the fourth quarter with his sack of WIU's Matt Morrissey setting up a 4th-and-14 inside Western territory. The next play, he went back through the middle for a quarterback hurry on a play that resulted in an incompletion and turnover on downs. Justin Dinka scored three plays later for the game-clinching touchdown.

### Special Teams

*WR/RS Red Wilson, North Dakota*

In the 14-10 loss at No. 6 South Dakota, Red Wilson helped North Dakota get off to a good start, returning the opening kickoff 99 yards for a TD. He ended the game with three returns for 143 yards. With his return, he became just the fifth player in UND history to run back the opening kickoff for a score.

### Newcomer

*LB Amir Abdullah, Illinois State*

The junior transfer from Nebraska-Kearney led the Redbird defense with nine tackles on the day and added a sack, 1.5 tackles for loss, and recorded a 30-yard interception return that set up a Redbird field goal. His interception was one of three on the day for the Redbirds, who allowed just seven points on the day and held the Racers to just 123 yards passing.

### Offensive Lineman

*RG Jake Kubas, North Dakota State*

Kubas graded out at 90% with no tackles for loss or sacks allowed in North Dakota State's 34-10 victory over Southern Illinois. Kubas led the Bison offensive line in physicality points and helped NDSU rush for 217 yards and four touchdowns against the No. 3-ranked defense in the FCS. The Bison also passed for 232 yards and averaged 7.0 yards per play.

## Perfect Against the FCS

**South Dakota State (10-0) is the only unbeaten in the FCS and the Jackrabbits are joined by two others who have yet to lose a game to an FCS school in 2023.**

### FCS Teams Who Are Unbeaten Vs. FCS Teams, 2023

- 9-0 South Dakota State (vs. Missouri State, Nov. 18)**
- 9-0 Furman (next: at Wofford, Nov. 18)
- 7-0 Florida A&M (next FCS: Bethune-Cookman, Nov. 18)

## Getting to 7 Victories

As many as seven MVFC teams could reach seven regular-season wins this year. South Dakota State (10), South Dakota (8) and North Dakota State (7) have already reached that milestone. Five other MVFC teams are 6-4 headed into the final weekend (Illinois State and UND face one another and only the winner will reach 7 wins.)

### Seasons With Most 7-Win Teams in MVFC History\*

- 6 -- 2014 (Illinois St., Indiana St., UNI, NDSU, SDSU, YSU)#
- 5 -- 2012 (Illinois St., Indiana State, NDSU, SDSU, YSU)
- 5 -- 2013 (UNI, NDSU, SDSU, Southern Illinois, YSU)#
- 5 -- 2017 (UNI, NDSU, South Dakota, SDSU, Western Illinois)
- 5 -- 2019 (Illinois St., UNI, NDSU, SDSU, Southern Illinois)#
- 5 -- 2021 (Missouri St., NDSU, South Dakota, SDSU, SIU)
- 4 -- six times

\*7 regular-season wins, not including playoff wins  
#indicates a 12-game regular-season schedule

## In the Field of 24

**Since 2014 (9 seasons), the MVFC had averaged 4.44 playoff bids and 7.67 wins, earning a league-record and FCS-tying record six bids in 2021.** The league has 14 title-game appearances in the last 12 years and 10 titles in that span. In those 12 seasons (2011-22), the MVFC had a total of 85 playoff victories; next best is the CAA with 49.

### MVFC in the Playoffs (Most Total Bids, All Time)

- 6 -- 2021
- 5 -- 2014, 2015, 2017, 2020
- 4 -- 2003, 2016, 2019
- 3 -- 2006, 2010, 2012, 2018, 2022

16 teams (1986-2009, 2020); 20 (2010-12); 24 (2013-present)

## MVFC Ties FCS Record

In 2021, for the first time in Conference history, six Missouri Valley Football teams earned bids into the 24-team FCS playoff field. Only one other conference in NCAA history has received six bids in a single playoff (CAA in 2018). The MVFC had received as many as five bids four times previously (2014, 2015, 2017, and in Spring 2021).

## Title Games, Consecutive Years

An MVFC school has appeared in an FCS-record 12-straight title game appearances for the league. The CAA (5 in a row), OVC (4-straight) and SoCon (4 appearances in a row) are next on the list.

### 12 -- MVFC (11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22)

- 5 -- CAA (2006, 07, 08, 09, 10)
- 4 -- OVC (1979, 80, 81, 82)
- 4 -- SoCon (1998, 99, 00, 01)
- 3 -- Big Sky (1994, 95, 96)
- 3 -- Big Sky (2008, 09, 10)
- 3 -- Southern (1991, 92, 93)
- 3 -- SoCon (2005, 06, 07)

## Title Town

Breakdown of conference member appearances in FCS title game since 2011 -- last 12 seasons, including 2022)

### 14 -- Missouri Valley Football Conference

- 4 -- CAA
- 3 -- Southland
- 2 -- Big Sky
- 1 -- OVC

## Ranked vs. Ranked

One Conference game this week features ranked MVFC teams playing one another. In the 230 previous such meetings the home team is 131-97 and the higher-ranked team has a 145-84 record. (Rankings are based on appearance in either the Stats Perform or AFCA poll; the numbers above also include two neutral-site games; one meeting featured a matchup where teams were the same ranking.)

## 2023 Valley Football Teams in the Top 25

Team	Pre	S5	S11	S18	S25	O2	O9	O16	O23	O30	N6	N13
Illinois State	RV	RV	25	RV	RV	22	RV	25	RV	RV	RV	RV
Indiana St.	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Missouri St.	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Murray St.	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
UND	17	15	13	14	11	15	15	9	15	13	10	13
NDSU	2	2	2	2	2	7	6	14	11	10	12	9
UNI	20	20	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	RV	23	18	15	22
S. Dakota	--	--	--	--	--	15	10	6	4	9	6	5
SDSU	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
S. Illinois	RV	23	15	12	10	5	13	12	11	10	11	16
W. Illinois	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Youngstown	RV	25	25	24	19	RV	20	25	24	22	22	25

\*Rank represents highest position in the two polls (Stats Perform or AFCA FCS Coaches polls)

# 2023 Missouri Valley Football Conference Weekly Release

## Clinched

South Dakota State earned at least a share of the 2023 MVFC crown with its win last weekend against Youngstown State. The Jacks hold a one-game lead in the standings and can earn an outright crown with a win against Missouri State (or a South Dakota loss to Western Illinois).

### Total Titles (Outright and Shared, Combined)

UNI	16
North Dakota State	10
Southern Illinois	5
Western Illinois	5
South Dakota State	4
Illinois State	3
Missouri State	3
Eastern Illinois	2
Youngstown State	2
North Dakota	1
Western Kentucky	1

## Margin Call

A total of 13 league games (of 42 played so far) have been decided by one score in 2023. In 2022, Indiana State (0-4) and Southern Illinois (1-4) each lost four league games by a score. This year, South Dakota (4-0) and UNI (3-0) are both unbeaten in "close games," while Illinois State (1-2), Indiana State (0-3) and Youngstown State (1-2) have also each been involved in three one-score games in the MVFC this year.

Team	Margin of Each MVFC Game	Rec.*
ILS	16 (W), 19 (L), 37 (L), 3 (L), 3 (L), 1 (W), 37 (W)	1-2
INS	2 (L), 7 (L), 37 (W), 14 (L), 3 (L), 12 (L), 21 (W)	0-3
MOST	13 (L), 28 (L), 41 (W), 4 (W), 16 (L), 1 (L), 19 (W)	1-1
MUR	2 (W), 31 (L), 21 (L), 4 (L), 32 (L), 14 (L), 37 (L)	1-1
UND	21 (L), 39 (W), 25 (W), 27 (L), 3 (W), 14 (W), 4 (L)	1-1
NDSU	5 (L), 28 (W), 25 (L), 45 (W), 32 (W), 17 (L), 24 (W)	0-1
UNI	3 (W), 7 (W), 35 (L), 27 (W), 3 (W), 44 (W), 19 (L)	3-0
USD	5 (W), 31 (W), 3 (W), 14 (W), 34 (L), 7 (W), 4 (W)	4-0
SDSU	21 (W), 19 (W), 35 (W), 7 (W), 34 (W), 17 (W), 34 (W)	1-0
SIU	13 (W), 28 (L), 21 (W), 7 (L), 63 (W), 7 (L), 24 (L)	0-2
WIU	16 (L), 39 (L), 41 (L), 45 (L), 63 (L), 44 (L), 21 (L)	--
YSU	3 (L), 28 (W), 3 (L), 3 (W), 16 (W), 12 (W), 34 (L)	1-2

\*games decided by one score

## MVFC-Big Sky Challenge Series

In an effort to publicize current matchups and promote future non-conference scheduling between two of the premier FCS conferences, the MVFC and the Big Sky Conference announced a Challenge Series between the two leagues before the 2017 season. (Only regular-season contests count in the series standings.) **The MVFC won the 2023 series, with a 4-1 advantage. The MVFC has never lost a season series in the Challenge.**

### 2023 (MVFC Wins Series, 4-1)

- Sept. 2 – #2 NDSU 35, Eastern Washington 10
- Sept. 9 – #9 Weber State 34, #20 UNI 17
- Sept. 9 – at #1 SDSU 20, #3 Montana State 16
- Sept. 9 – at #15 North Dakota 37, NAU 22
- Sept. 16 – UNI 41, Idaho State 17

## Notching a Shutout in the MVFC

South Dakota State recorded its fifth all-time shutout in league play with its 34-0 win at Youngstown State on Nov. 11. UNI, with 11 shutouts recorded in MVFC play, has more than any other league school. Notably, it marked only the sixth time since 1997 that YSU had been blanked in a league game.

### Most Shutouts Recorded (in MVFC games)

- 11 - UNI
- 8 - North Dakota State
- 6 - Illinois State, Southern Illinois
- 5 - South Dakota State, Western Illinois
- 4 - Youngstown State
- 2 - Missouri State, South Dakota
- 1 - Indiana State, Western Kentucky

### Fewest Times Shut Out (in MVFC games)

- 1 - North Dakota, NDSU, SDSU, Western Kentucky
- 2 - Southern Illinois
- 3 - South Dakota
- 6 - Illinois State, Western Illinois, Youngstown State
- 9 - Missouri State
- 15 - Indiana State

## SDSU's Defense is No. 1

South Dakota State leads the FCS in scoring defense and in total defense. The Jack-rabbits have surrendered just 258.8 yards per game and 10.7 points per game. SDSU also ranks ninth-best in the FCS by surrendering 92.8 yards per game on the ground (the league has 4 of the top 13, led by UNI at 90.4 rushing yards per game allowed.)

### Fewest Points Per Game Allowed, Season

#### 10.7, South Dakota State, 2023 (10 games)

- 11.1, North Dakota State, 2021 (15 games)
- 11.3, North Dakota State, 2013 (15 games)
- 11.5, North Dakota State, 2012 (15 games)
- 11.6, North Dakota State, 2017 (15 games)
- 12.2, Eastern Illinois, 1989 (11 games)
- 12.2, Western Kentucky, 2001 (12 games)

### Fewest Yards Per Game Allowed, Season

- 235.1, North Dakota State, 2012 (15 games)
- 237.5, North Dakota State, 2017 (15 games)
- 241.0, Western Kentucky, 2001 (12 games)
- 243.6, UNI, 1991 (11 games)
- 254.0, North Dakota State, 2008 (11 games)
- 255.9, North Dakota State, 2013 (15 games)
- 258.8, South Dakota State, 2023 (10 games)**
- 264.7, North Dakota State, 2021 (15 games)

## Against the FCS

The MVFC has an 18-6 mark against teams from FCS leagues this year. **Remarkably, a league member has only lost seven games to an unranked FCS foe since September 2019, going 53-7 against FCS unranked teams during that span.**

## Players of the Week

### Sept. 4

Offense: QB Nic Baker, Southern Illinois  
 Defense: S Cole Wisniewski, North Dakota State  
 Special Teams: P Kaedin Steindorf, North Dakota State  
 Newcomer: RB Tyshon King, Youngstown State  
 Lineman: LT Easton Kilty, North Dakota

### Sept. 11

Offense: RB Mason Blakemore, Illinois State  
 \*Co-Defense: DT Nick Gaes, South Dakota  
 Co-Defense: S PJ Jules, Southern Illinois  
 Special Teams: K Griffin Crosa, North Dakota State  
 Newcomer: WR Griffin Wilde, South Dakota State  
 Lineman: LT Hunter Zambrano, Illinois State

### Sept. 18

\*Offense: QB Nic Baker, Southern Illinois  
 Defense: S PJ Jules, Southern Illinois  
 Special Teams: S/RS Tucker Large, South Dakota State  
 Newcomer: RB Tyshon King, Youngstown State  
 Lineman: C Chase Arends, UNI

### Sept. 25

Offense: QB Jacob Clark, Missouri State  
 Defense: CB Caleb Blake, Missouri State  
 Special Teams: P/PK Ian Wagner, Illinois State  
 Newcomer: RB Jayden Becks, Missouri State  
 Lineman: LT Hunter Zambrano, Illinois State

### Oct. 2

Co-Offense: QB Theo Day, UNI  
 Co-Offense: WR Carter Bell, South Dakota  
 Defense: SS Dennis Shorter, South Dakota  
 Special Teams: P Orion Phillips, Murray State  
 Newcomer: RB Plez Lawrence, Indiana State  
 Lineman: OG Mason McCormick South Dakota State

### Oct. 9

Offense: RB Isaiah Davis, South Dakota State  
 Defense: LB Logan Kopp, North Dakota State  
 Special Teams: PK Jake Andjelic, Indiana State  
 Newcomer: RB Tyshon King, Youngstown State  
 Lineman: LT Garret Greenfield, South Dakota State

### Oct. 16

Offense: RB Gaven Ziebarth, North Dakota  
 Defense: LB Isaiah Stalbird, South Dakota State  
 Co-Special Teams: PK Will Leyland, South Dakota  
 Co-Special Teams: RB/KR Luke Skokna, North Dakota  
 Newcomer: PK Owen Rozanc, Missouri State  
 Lineman: OL Chase Evans, Southern Illinois

### Oct. 23

Offense: RB Amauri Pesek-Hickson, UNI  
 Defense: DE Devin Goree, Missouri State  
 Special Teams: PK Andrew Lastovka, Youngstown State  
 Newcomer: RB Charles Pierre Jr., South Dakota  
 Lineman: OL Jared Penning, UNI

### Oct. 30

Offense: QB Mitch Davidson, Youngstown State  
 Defense: LB Logan Kopp, North Dakota State  
 Special Teams: PK/P Hunter Dustman, South Dakota St.  
 Newcomer: PK C.J. Elrichs, North Dakota  
 Lineman: RG Evan Beerntsen, South Dakota State

### Nov. 6

Offense: QB Tommy Schuster, North Dakota  
 Defense: Rush LB Brendan Webb, South Dakota  
 Special Teams: PK/P Hunter Dustman, South Dakota St.  
 Newcomer: RB Mason Blakemore, Illinois State  
 Lineman: OL Seth Anderson, North Dakota

### Nov. 13

Offense: WR Raylen Sharpe, Missouri State  
 Defense: LB Garret Ollendieck, Indiana State  
 Special Teams: WR/RS Red Wilson, North Dakota  
 Newcomer: LB Amir Abdullah, Illinois State  
 Lineman: RG Jake Kubas, North Dakota State

\*indicates National Player of the Week

# 2023 Missouri Valley Football Conference Weekly Release



## PASS EFFICIENCY

MVFC LEADERS IN NCAA STATS

1. MARK GRONOWSKI, SDSU	180.5
7. CAM MILLER, NDSU	163.1
9. MITCH DAVIDSON, YSU	156.9
10. JORDAN PACHOT, MSU	156.0
11. TOMMY SCHUSTER, UND	155.8

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## COMPLETION PCT.

MVFC LEADERS IN NCAA STATS

2. CAM MILLER, NDSU	74.4
4. TOMMY SCHUSTER, UND	71.7
7. ZACK ANNEXSTAD, ILS	69.7
8. MITCH DAVIDSON, YSU	69.4
9. AIDAN BOUMAN, USD	68.5

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## RED ZONE SUCCESS

MVFC Leaders in NCAA Stats

1. SOUTH DAKOTA ST.	38 OF 39
2. NORTH DAKOTA ST.	43 OF 46
5. MISSOURI STATE	33 OF 36
13. NORTHERN IOWA	34 OF 38

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## 3RD DOWN PCT.

MVFC LEADERS IN NCAA STATS

1. SOUTH DAKOTA STATE	56.7
2. NORTH DAKOTA STATE	51.3
4. NORTH DAKOTA	50.0
11. ILLINOIS STATE	46.4

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## SCORING OFFENSE

MVFC LEADERS IN NCAA STATS

4. SOUTH DAKOTA ST.	37.9
9. NORTH DAKOTA ST.	34.9
113. ILLINOIS STATE	34.0
21. NORTH DAKOTA	31.8
24. YOUNGSTOWN ST.	31.4

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## SCORING DEFENSE

MVFC LEADERS IN NCAA STATS

1. SOUTH DAKOTA ST.	10.7
5. SOUTH DAKOTA	15.5
11. SOUTHERN ILLINOIS	18.1
13. NORTH DAKOTA ST.	18.7

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## TOTAL DEFENSE

MVFC LEADERS IN NCAA STATS

1. SOUTH DAKOTA ST.	258.8
5. NORTH DAKOTA ST.	286.0
8. SOUTHERN ILLINOIS	289.9

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## RUSHING DEFENSE

MVFC LEADERS IN NCAA STATS

6. NORTHERN IOWA	90.4
9. SOUTH DAKOTA ST.	92.8
10. SOUTHERN ILLINOIS	96.7
13. YOUNGSTOWN STATE	101.5

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