

## Blackhawks roll past Extreme

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Published: Monday, June 26, 2006 2:00 AM CDT

The Iowa Blackhawks were hitting on all cylinders Saturday night at the Mid-America Center in defeating the Omaha Extreme, 52-7.

Running back Eric Johnson gave Iowa the early lead with a 5-yard touchdown run on just the third play of the game. Iowa never looked back.

On Omaha's first possession, quarterback, Steve Rush, lead the Extreme to a first-and-goal inside the Blackhawks' 5-yard line before turning the ball over on a fumble forced by defensive back Chris Moore.

Moore, a former Thomas Jefferson standout, lead the way for the Blackhawks, recording 13 tackles, 3 ½ sacks, two forced fumbles, and a blocked field-goal attempt. Defensive end Nick Marchisio returned to action after missing the last three games with a hip flexor to record 2 ½ sacks.

"We wanted to put pressure on their quarterback early in order to keep the Extreme off-balance," said Blackhawks defensive coordinator Demetrius Richards. "Moore simply executed the game plan perfectly."

Iowa would hold Omaha scoreless until Extreme quarterback, Steve Rush, scored on a 24-yard touchdown run with only eight seconds remaining in the first half.

Offensively, quarterback Chuck Wright played nearly flawless ball, throwing for 119 yards and two touchdowns on 9-of-11 passing. Running back, Elijah Simmons tacked on 91 total yards of offense and four touchdowns.

"The big guys up front, Dave (Liebentritt), Shawn (Ronk), and Tyrice (Ellebb) kept Omaha out of the backfield which allowed me to get comfortable early. (That) allowed me to play more efficiently," explained Wright.

Iowa capped off the game with a 52-yard field goal by Paul Kosel late in the fourth quarter to end the scoring.

Iowa will be traveling to Wichita, Kan., on Saturday to battle the Aviators in a game that may decide who will earn home-field advantage in the playoffs. Iowa defeated Wichita 50-47 in overtime on June 17.

Iowa will return home on July 8, to battle the three-time defending APFL Champion Kansas Koyotes at the Mid-America Center at 7:05 PM.

Omaha Extreme 0 7 0 0 - 7

Iowa Blackhawks 14 14 21 3 - 52

IA - Eric Johnson 5-yard run (Paul Kosel kick)

IA - Elijah Simmons 3-yard run (Kosel kick)

IA - Mike Stuart 21-yard pass from Chuck Wright (Kosel kick)

IA - Elijah Simmons 18-yard pass from Chuck Wright (Kosel kick)

O - Steve Rush 24-yard run (Evans kick)

IA - Elijah Simmons 18-yard run (conversion failed)

IA - Elijah Simmons 4-yard run (Mike Stuart pass from Chuck Wright)

IA - Chuck Wright 1-yard run (Kosel kick)

IA - Paul Kosel 52-yard field-goal

Iowa

Rushing: Elijah Simmons 7-64-3, Eric Johnson 3-16-1, Chris Raff 2-4, Mike Stuart 2-3, Chuck Wright 1-1-1

Passing: Chuck Wright 9-11-119-2-0, Chris Raff 0-1-0-0

Receiving: Kurt Ferguson 2-29, Elijah Simmons 2-27-1, Eric Johnson 3-25, Mike Stuart 1-21-1, Kyle Peterson 1-16, Burton Bosan 1-2

Omaha Extreme

Rushing: Steve Rush 16-44-1, T. Rush 3-7, Seth Vandervort 3-21, W. Rush 5-20

Passing: Steve Rush 5-18-59-0-1

Receiving: No stats provided