

Sports

Blackhawks roll over Springfield

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The rematch with Mid-Missouri is set, with the No. 2 seed for the upcoming American Professional Football League playoffs on the line.

Iowa (5-4) took care of business Saturday with a 59-25 win over Springfield at the Mid-America Center to set up a winner-take-all showdown with the Outlaws (5-4) in Sedalia, Mo., next weekend.

The two teams remain tied for second in the APFL standings behind unbeaten Sioux City after both won on Saturday. They've split their two previous meetings this year, each winning at home, and are 3-3 in their all-time series since 2009.

"We fully expect to win, and we plan to win," Iowa quarterback Chuck Wright said. "This was merely the stepping stone to get back to play the giant up in Sioux City. We fully expect to go down there and win ... no ifs, ands or buts about it."

The veteran signal-caller from Dana College threw for six touchdowns for the Blackhawks in his final regular-season game at the MAC. Wright, who has helped Iowa win the last two APFL titles, said this will be his final summer of indoor football.

"I was a little emotional before the game, probably more than the guys knew," he said. "They took a guy from Tampa, Fla., that played NAIA football and made me feel like I played in the NFL. I couldn't be more grateful to the coaches and the guys I've played with."

Wright connected with four different receivers for scoring passes in the opening half as the Blackhawks built a 38-7 lead at the break while snapping a rare two-game losing streak.

Iowa also scored a pair of special teams touchdowns, on a Chris Moore fumble recovery and an Andrew Seymour return, while dropping fifth-place Springfield to 2-7 on the season.

"It was a great effort on all sides of the ball," Blackhawks coach Mike Wolff said. "The team is really coming together. And our goal is to get better each week and peak at the right time."

After facing Mid-Missouri in Sedalia on Saturday, Iowa wraps up its regular season with a road game in Topeka, Kan., against six-time league champ Kansas. The playoffs begin on July 2.

Springfield (2-7) 0 7 12 6 - 25

Iowa (5-4) 22 16 7 14 - 59

I: Andrew Seymour 5 pass from Chuck Wright (kick failed)

I: Safety, Justin Strodman sacked in end zone

I: Mike Stuart 12 pass from Wright (Zach Kohlhoff kick)

I: Chris Moore fumble recovery (Kohlhoff kick)

I: Kohlhoff 34 FG

S: Otis Thomas 3 run (Josh Pell kick)

I: Steve Rush 36 pass from Wright (Kohlhoff kick)

I: Robert Kirvin 3 pass from Wright (run failed)

S: Larry White 1 run (run failed)

S: Reicorda Bennett 11 pass from Strodman (pass failed)

I: Kirvin 17 pass from Wright (Kohlhoff kick)

S: Thomas 2 run (run failed)

I: Seymour 8 kickoff return (Kohlhoff kick)

I: Brunow Augustine 5 run (Kohlhoff kick)

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING: S, Strodman 11-23, Thomas 9-33, White 9-22. I, Holliday 9-19, Augustine 5-17.

PASSING: S, Strodman 4-13-0 50. I, Wright 15-26-2 212, Rush 0-1-0 0.

RECEIVING: S, Bennett 3-40, Cullom 1-10. I, Seymour 5-81, Kirvin 5-79, Rush 2-40, Stuart 1-12.

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