WHO'S NEXT?

Iowa State searches for new identity as the season begins
ISU looks for the face of football as its new season arrives

Team schedule
Curious who Iowa State plays this weekend? Do you want to know how brutal their Big 12 schedule is this year? Check out the Cyclones' schedule here.

Gridiron picks
Four sports editors of the Iowa State Daily take their pick at a few of the week's biggest games. This week we feature the Daily's editor-in-chief, Katelynn McCollough.

Quick facts
You can check out this page to get a little bit of knowledge on the opposing team this week, the University of Northern Iowa. Check out information on the team and its head coach.

Troy Davis Q&A
Daily sports editor Alex Halsted goes one-on-one with Iowa State's former Heisman Trophy finalist and back-to-back 2,000 rusher Troy Davis.

Who's next?
Iowa State heads into the season without a definitive face of the program. Find out if the team has found a face or how it would move through the season without one.

Photo gallery
Take a look back in time with photos from last season, and then check out this season's team with photos from media day and fall camp.

Depth chart
Check out the players Iowa State will trot onto the field in the season opener Saturday with breakdowns of the team's depth chart.

Flavors
With extreme temperatures expected for Saturday's season opener, discover savory ways to stave off the effects of dehydration. Also, sample recipes for your first tailgate.
The past two seasons, this game has come down to the wire, with Jake Knott’s heroic interception winning Iowa State its second-straight CyHawk Trophy. The year before, Steele Jantz’s magic pulled a triple overtime win out of a hat. This year, with Iowa State’s season ticket numbers rising while Iowa’s are falling, it’s just one more reason for the Hawkeyes to bring it to Jack Trice Stadium.

The Cyclones were one score away from upsetting the eventual Big 12 Champions in No. 6 Kansas State, but fell short in last year’s Farmageddon. Reigning Big 12 Offensive Player of the Year Colin Klein is gone from Kansas State, but John Hubert and his 15 touchdowns return in the Wildcat backfield.

Schedule

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, Aug. 31</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>Ames</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, Sept. 14</td>
<td>5 p.m.</td>
<td>Ames</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, Sept. 26</td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Tulsa, Okla.</td>
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<td>Saturday, Oct. 26</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Ames</td>
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<td>Saturday, Nov. 2</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Manhattan, Kan.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, Nov. 9</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Ames</td>
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After Steele Jantz’s last-second heroics two years ago in Jack Trice, UNI will be ready to exact revenge. The Panthers bring a very versatile and quick attack on offense, while being regarded as a very fast team on defense by the ISU coaching staff. Despite who’s favored, this in-state rivalry always is expected to come down to the wire.

The last time Oklahoma State visited Ames, it was sent home packing after the Cyclones eliminated its hopes for a possible national title. Now Oklahoma State boasts the reigning Big 12 Freshman of the Year in J.W. Walsh who finished No. 8 in total offense.

Iowa State’s biggest upset last year came against No. 15 TCU, beating the Horned Frogs in Fort Worth, Texas. Head coach of the newly ranked No. 20 Horned Frogs Gary Patterson hasn’t named a starter yet for this upcoming season. Teams will either see the dual-threat Trevone Boykin pocket passer Pachall.
The Big 12’s No. 1 rushing offense will return, led by former star recruit Lache Seastrunk. Next in line in for Baylor at quarterback following the remarkable years from Robert Griffin III and Nick Florence, Bryce Petty comes in with the nonexistent ceiling. Coach Art Bryles on his new general: “A reasonable expectation is to break every Baylor record there is offensively.”

We all know about the basketball game, but when Kansas football comes to town, Iowa State needs to win one of the few games it is expected to win in the quest for bowl eligibility. Quarterback Sam Richardson threw for 250 yards last season for the Jayhawks en route to a 51-23 win against the Cyclones.

Texas Tech’s defense was the difference last year against Iowa State in Jack Trice Stadium, intercepting Steele Jantz three times. The Cyclones did upset Texas Tech two years ago in Lubbock, 41-7. Now the Red Raiders return to Ames with its expected passing attack, testing Iowa State’s experienced secondary.

The No. 15 Longhorns return the Big 12’s leading passer in David Ash, which gives Texas an automatic advantage through the air. Alongside that, Mack Brown could quite possibly be on the hot seat, giving Texas all the more motivation to not trip up on an opponent like it did four years ago against the Cyclones.

Redshirt freshman Trevor Knight — who ran Oklahoma’s scout team offense — starts under center after receiving all kinds of praise from defensive coordinator Mike Stoops, who watched him beat his starting defense throughout the past year in practice. ISU hasn’t beaten Oklahoma since before most of us were born — in 1990.

We all know about the basketball game, but when Kansas football comes to town, Iowa State needs to win one of the few games it is expected to win in the quest for bowl eligibility. Quarterback Sam Richardson threw for 250 yards last season for the Cyclone en route to a 51-23 win against the Jayhawks.

West Virginia became bowl eligible with its 31-24 win against Iowa State last season. Iowa State could have tied the game after a 65-yard drive, but Jeff Woody fumbled on the five yard line with 3:55 remaining. The Mountaineers will be without QB Geno Smith and running back Tavon Austin this season.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team 1</th>
<th>Team 2</th>
<th>Pick 1</th>
<th>Pick 2</th>
<th>Pick 3</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UNI vs. Iowa State</td>
<td>Ole Miss vs. Vanderbilt</td>
<td>[Alex Halsted, sports editor (0-0)]</td>
<td>Iowa State — After needing a Steele Jantz miracle to beat the Panthers in 2011, I think this season is a little easier for the Cyclones.</td>
<td>Ole Miss — Vanderbilt doesn’t have Jay Cutler anymore, right? I’ll have to go with Ole Miss.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississippi State vs. Oklahoma State</td>
<td>No. 5 Georgia vs. No. 6 Clemson</td>
<td>[Dean Berhow-Goll, ass. sports editor of special sections (0-0)]</td>
<td>Oklahoma State — The Cowboys outrun the Bulldogs behind quarterback J.W. Walsh.</td>
<td>Georgia — When you beat the Georgia Bulldogs, you’re gonna feel the bulldog bite. (Look it up!)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. 12 LSU vs. No. 20 TCU</td>
<td>No. 19 Boise State vs. Washington</td>
<td>[Dylan Montz, assistant sports editor (0-0)]</td>
<td>LSU — Les Miles eats grass before every game, so I have no choice but to go with LSU in this one.</td>
<td>Boise State — For all the potatoed Boise State beats Washington again after doing so in a bowl game last season.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississippi State vs. Oklahoma State</td>
<td>No. 12 LSU vs. No. 20 TCU</td>
<td>[Maddy Arnold, assistant sports editor (0-0)]</td>
<td>Ole Miss — These guys return 15 starters and brought in a top recruiting class. Momentum sides with the Rebels.</td>
<td>Clemson — Both teams can score, but I really love what I saw in Jahlil Okafor and Sammy Watkins last year.</td>
</tr>
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<td>Mississippi State vs. Oklahoma State</td>
<td>No. 12 LSU vs. No. 20 TCU</td>
<td>[Katelynn McCollough, ISD editor-in-chief]</td>
<td>Ole Miss — I just watched the ESPN 30-for-30 “The Ghosts of Ole Miss.” Man, Wright Thompson has a smooth southern voice.</td>
<td>TCU — I love what Patterson has done disguising who his starting QB will be. Upset alert!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississippi State vs. Oklahoma State</td>
<td>No. 12 LSU vs. No. 20 TCU</td>
<td>[Katelynn McCollough, ISD editor-in-chief]</td>
<td>Ole Miss — The Panthers fits, but Iowa State will be able to win this one without Steele Jantz.</td>
<td>Ole Miss — Keith Price has a shot to be really good, but Boise State might be a tad underrated this year.</td>
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<td>No. 12 LSU vs. No. 20 TCU</td>
<td>[Katelynn McCollough, ISD editor-in-chief]</td>
<td>Ole Miss — The Cowboys are 8-1 in their last nine games against the SEC. Can’t bet against those results.</td>
<td>LSU — Des Miles, the Mad Hatter himself, pulls off a win against the Horned Frogs in the state of Texas.</td>
</tr>
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<td>Mississippi State vs. Oklahoma State</td>
<td>No. 12 LSU vs. No. 20 TCU</td>
<td>[Katelynn McCollough, ISD editor-in-chief]</td>
<td>Ole Miss — The Bulldogs went to Death Valley 10 years ago and shutout the Tigers. Georgia will win at Clemson again.</td>
<td>Washington — Boise State beat UW in the MAACO Bowl Las Vegas last season on Dec. 22, but the Huskies get this one in Seattle.</td>
</tr>
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<td>Mississippi State vs. Oklahoma State</td>
<td>No. 12 LSU vs. No. 20 TCU</td>
<td>[Katelynn McCollough, ISD editor-in-chief]</td>
<td>Ole Miss — The Bulldogs defense has always been good under Gundy. This year won’t be any different.</td>
<td>TCU — The Horned Frogs return most of their defense from last season. I think TCU can upset.</td>
</tr>
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<td>No. 12 LSU vs. No. 20 TCU</td>
<td>[Katelynn McCollough, ISD editor-in-chief]</td>
<td>Ole Miss — It’ll be a high scoring game with two experienced QBs but Georgia will be top dog in Death Valley.</td>
<td>Boise State — The Broncos edged out the Huskies in a bowl last season. It’ll be another good game, but Boise State will win.</td>
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<td>[Katelynn McCollough, ISD editor-in-chief]</td>
<td>Ole Miss — I’m willing to put my money on any school that uses Ole instead of Old.</td>
<td>Boise State — The Broncos edged out the Huskies in a bowl last season. It’ll be another good game, but Boise State will win.</td>
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<td>No. 12 LSU vs. No. 20 TCU</td>
<td>[Katelynn McCollough, ISD editor-in-chief]</td>
<td>Ole Miss — Because any team that nicknames their stadium Death Valley is sure to bring the heat.</td>
<td>Washington — Until the world knows the difference between Idaho and Iowa, they don’t need any more attention.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>No. 12 LSU vs. No. 20 TCU</td>
<td>[Katelynn McCollough, ISD editor-in-chief]</td>
<td>LSU — Ditto on Death Valley. It’s apparently a popular stadium nickname.</td>
<td>Louisville — Louisville just always has a nice way of rolling off an announcer’s tongue.</td>
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Quick Facts
University of Northern Iowa

- **Location:** Cedar Falls, Iowa
- **Type:** Public
- **Founded:** 1876
- **Enrollment:** 13,080
- **Student-to-faculty ratio:** 16-to-1
- **Nickname:** Panthers
- **Mascot:** TC Panther and TK (The Kitten) Panther
- **The Panthers play at the UNI-Dome, which seats 16,324.**
- **Since 1985, Northern Iowa has won at least a share of 16 Missouri Valley Football Conference Championships, with the most recent in 2011 when it shared the title with North Dakota State.**
- **Famous alumni include Super Bowl winning quarterback and NFL MVP Kurt Warner, U.S. Sen. Chuck Grassley and former ISU and current Creighton men's basketball head coach Greg McDermott.**
- **Todd Blythe, former ISU wide receiver from 2003-07, is in his second season on the UNI coaching staff and in his first season coaching the Panther wide receivers.**
- **As an FCS team, Northern Iowa has 17 victories against FBS opponents. The last UNI victory against an FBS school was in 2007 when the Panthers beat Iowa State 24-13 at Jack Trice Stadium.**
- **The Panthers have a winning record all-time against each of its football conference opponents.**
- **ISU offensive coordinator Courtney Messingham is a graduate of Northern Iowa, where he played quarterback for the Panthers from 1985-88.**
- **Northern Iowa missed the FCS playoffs in 2012 after going 5-6 but has made the playoffs seven times since 2001.**
- **The Panthers have played in one FCS National Championship game, a 2005 loss to Appalachian State 21-16.**
- **The UNI men's basketball team upset top-seeded Kansas 69-67 to earn the program's first Sweet Sixteen appearance in the NCAA tournament in 2010.**
- **Known as Iowa State Teachers College from 1909-61 before becoming the University of Northern Iowa in 1967.**

Mark Farley
Head coach

- **Experience:** 13th year at Northern Iowa (104-46)
- **Hometown:** Waukon, Iowa
- **College:** Northern Iowa (1987)
- **Graduate Degree:** Northern Iowa (1994)
- **Family:** wife, Lori; sons Jake and Jared, daughter Jamie
- **Farley has spent his entire coaching career as a part of the UNI coaching staff except from 1997-2000 when he was an assistant coach at the University of Kansas.**
- **He was a three-year starter for the Panthers as an inside linebacker and led the team in tackles from 1984-86.**
- **Farley served as the interim Director of Athletics for Northern Iowa from Feb. 1, 2008, through July 1, 2008.**

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@ISUdining
dining.iastate.edu
By Alex Halsted
@iowastatedaily.com

When many people think of Iowa State, the name Troy Davis still lingers. Davis played for Iowa State from 1994-96 and became not only one of the best Cyclones in program history but one of the top collegiate running backs ever.

Davis was the first collegiate player to rush for 2,000 yards in consecutive seasons and was a Heisman Trophy finalist twice, finishing fifth as a sophomore and second as a junior before foregoing his senior season for the NFL.

The ISU Hall of Famer recently took some time to reflect on his career.

Q: When you were coming out of high school you were a very highly touted recruit. What was it about Iowa State?
A: The reason why I went there was because the recruiting that they had. My goal was I wanted to go to a school that hadn’t been known and make them known.

Q: Do you feel like you did that?
A: I felt like I did it because there weren’t too many people that knew Iowa State until I went up there and had ESPN there almost everyday. We started getting more recruits there. Guys like Seneca Wallace came there, my brother Darren Davis. They’ve won a bowl game and everything. I wish I could have went to a bowl game, but we couldn’t make it there. I think they’re known now.

Q: You were the first collegiate player to rush for 2,000 yards in consecutive seasons. What was it like to do that?
A: It’s something that was in the back of my mind. I didn’t know who it was going to be to do that, and I did it my sophomore and junior years. Getting the ball that many times, you have to get something out of it. My second year I ran for 2,010 yards and my third year 2,185. It just goes to the offensive line. The offensive line did their job.

Q: What do you remember about the atmosphere at then-Cyclone Stadium during your big seasons? Did it get a little crazier?
A: I can’t say yes, I can’t say no. The fans there, they loved Troy Davis. Whatever Troy did, they were behind me. We had fans up top keeping my yardage every game. Every time I looked up there, “I’m almost to 1,000 yards.” We were five games in. Once we got over that, in my 10th game or whatever, I’m standing up there, “I’m close to 2,000 yards.” They kept me in touch with all my yardage.

Q: What do you remember about the Heisman ceremonies? You went to two of them.
A: It was exciting. My junior year I came in second, so it was just exciting for me to get named to go there with the other top players there.

Q: The second year you went to the Heisman, the last game you did a Heisman pose in the end zone. What do you remember about that?
A: It was against Kansas State. It was like fourth and goal and the whole offensive team came to the sideline. Somebody asked us who wanted the ball. I raised my hand and said: “Give me the ball.” I got the ball and I dove in. That was my reaction, saying: “Hey, I’m going for the Heisman, so let me go ahead and do the Heisman stance right now.”

Q: When you got second in the Heisman that year, you were first in all the voting regions but the eastern one. What was it like to come that close?
A: I thought it was mine all the way. But Danny Wuerffel, he was on a winning team, and he was going to the big bowl game. I think the Heisman is for the best player, not the best team, but I guess since he was going to the big bowl game they gave it to him. I came up short. I’m not mad about it. As long as I got invited there, that made me happy there.

Q: What was it like on campus?
A: That was like everyday, “Oh my god, there goes Troy Davis.” “Can I get your autograph?” “Can I touch you?” “Can I hold your hand?” “Can you sign my shirt?” I got that like everyday.

Q: In 1996, you had 53 carries against Northern Iowa. What do you remember about that game?
A: I didn’t know that I was going to get that many carries. Since my parents were there, coach kind of made my parents excited. By the time the game was over he said: “I don’t believe I gave you the ball 53 times.” (My parents) drove up and that was the first college game that they every watched.

Q: The next week you had 41 carries for 378 yards against Missouri. What was it like being a workhorse like that?
A: My offensive line opened the holes for me, and the coaches saw it, so they just kept on feeding me the ball. I wasn’t tackled, so I was in top shape. They just kept on feeding me the ball.

Q: Is there a certain game or moment that stands out as your best memory?
A: My greatest memory was my first time seeing snow there. I had been in Miami for 19 years. I had never been out of town or anything like that, so when I got recruited and went up there, and for the first time saw snow, that made me excited because I was going to be playing in it.

Q: A lot of people when they think of Iowa State think of you and Seneca Wallace and people like that. What does it mean to have that legacy?
A: It’s a dream come true because every athlete that I know who goes and plays football, they want to be the top name of that school. When they mention Iowa State, they mention Troy or Darren [Davis] or Seneca Wallace. That puts a smile on my face.
SAME PLACE
NEW FACE

ISU looks for the face of football as its new season arrives

By Alex Halsted
@iowastatedaily.com
As practice wound down on the hottest day of fall camp with the team dressed in full pads, Jacques Washington strapped up his helmet and settled in for the kickoff return.

There was nothing out of the ordinary about that.

The return, though, came a short walk west from Jack Trice Stadium on Johnny Majors Field with nobody watching and no bright lights. Washington’s return came two and a half hours into practice, as it wound down during period 24 in the third week of camp.

The return was for the scout team.

“That’s what those kinds of guys do in situations like this,” said ISU coach Paul Rhoads. “That’s what those faces need to do and we need more of them doing it.”

Iowa State will have a new identity as the 2013 season begins. The questions still come now and then about Jake Knott and A.J. Klein, the often talked about linebackers who have departed for the NFL.

The Cyclones are still searching for a new face of the program. Maybe one will emerge. Maybe it’s Paul Rhoads. Maybe, players say, the team doesn’t have just one.

So when the scout kickoff team needed a returner, Washington didn’t hesitate.

“I would say just take advantage of every rep, every opportunity you get to get better,” Washington said of being a leader. “If you’re not getting better, your opponent somewhere else is getting better.”

The team is focused on winning games, first. Eventually a face might emerge, but right now there is belief that the team’s leaders can come from all over.

“My job is to play football at a high level, and that’s what I’m here to do. I’m not going to get too caught up in being this, or being that,” said linebacker Jeremiah George, who started alongside Knott and Klein last season. “We have a lot of guys on this team that could step up at any given time and be the face.”

Qualities of a ‘face’

What does being a face of a college football program mean, anyway?

“It’s from the time they wake up to the time they leave here at night,” Rhoads said when asked. “To me, leadership is about elevating the play of those around you and we need to continue to do that.”

When ESPN broadcaster Joe Tessitore announced to the country on Nov. 18, 2011, “Touchdown, they did it!” running back Jeff Woody was the face as Iowa State upset No. 2 Oklahoma State at Jack Trice Stadium.

Woody has heard the chants of his name with each subsequent carry at Jack Trice, but he’s convinced being a face is more than carrying a football.

“Anytime a kid wearing a Cyclones shirt asks you for a picture or something like that, you do it,” Woody said. “Being someone your little brother would want to look up to. We’ve got a lot of guys on the team that do that.”

Each player rattles off different names who could be one of the team’s faces. Washington, George and Woody are a few. James White — a two-time captain for the Cyclones — is another.

“You don’t have just one guy out there that everybody has to go to,” said White, who will be the team’s starting running back for a second consecutive season.

“We have six captains, so that’s pretty good for us as a team.”

Washington, who has started 26 consecutive games, often riles up teammates with his Channel 10 News show.

He knows that leading on the field is important, too.

“That’s why — even when no fans or media could notice — I dropped back to return that kickoff for the scout team when he could have slid by, letting someone else do it instead.

“Just bringing it everyday, being that guy that just doesn’t talk about it,” Washington said, listing qualities of a leader. “I like to have fun as you probably see — I like to make jokes — but at the same time it’s business when its time to strap it up.”
Seeing numbers in the stands
Austen Arnaud remembers the moment when he first felt like a face of the ISU program. As he stood on the grass at Jack Trice and looked around, he saw his No. 4 scattered around the stadium.

“Wow, there’s a lot of jerseys out here,” Arnaud remembers thinking.

The year before during his redshirt sophomore season, Arnaud was in the midst of his first season as the Cyclones’ starting quarterback. Things weren’t going well.

“We won our first two games and lost the next 10,” Arnaud said. “About midway through the year, we were down on ourselves. That’s one thing that I always preach, you always have to stay positive.”

After the season, when Gene Chizik departed for Auburn, Rhoads was hired. One of his first calls was to Arnaud. He told the soon-to-be junior he wanted him to lead.

The No. 4 jerseys came shortly after in 2009, and Arnaud helped Iowa State to a 7-6 record and an Insight Bowl victory, its first bowl win since 2004.

“It’s a pretty cool thing, honestly,” Arnaud said of seeing his number on jerseys. “It’s a cool deal to see guys that get to have that, because for a team like Iowa State they only make one jersey.

“That was definitely cool, and it was definitely an honor.”

Knott’s No. 20 has filled the backs of fans in recent years and continues to populate Ames in every direction.

“It meant a lot for me and it showed that people had looked up to me,” Knott said. “I never really saw myself as being that guy coming in, I was just happy to be there. To go from that to having my jerseys out there, it was a really, really cool thing.”

On the shelves this season, the gold No. 20 lettering on the replica cardinal ISU jerseys have been replaced by No. 52, the number worn by George.

In the constantly changing college football landscape, the team is searching for a new identity.

“It’s exciting, it’s a part of college football that you get to experience,” George said. “I’m going to take it in stride and enjoy it. Especially little kids, they’re wearing my jersey, and they get to come up and meet me.

“That’s an amazing thing.”

Finding a face
When Rhoads looks at his 2013 team, he doesn’t see one face that stands out.

“I want them to be bigger faces,” Rhoads said. “They don’t look at me like Mount Rushmore right now.”

So, who’s next?

Of the 22 starters who will trot onto the field on offense and defense, nine will be seniors. Redshirt sophomore quarterback Sam Richardson is in a similar position to the Arnaud of 2009 when he emerged as a face with multiple years remaining.

Sometimes becoming a face just happens.

“I never really saw myself as the face of the program,” said Knott, whose 347 career tackles are sixth all-time in ISU history. “I’m just a guy who came in everyday and worked and was lucky enough to be voted captain.”

This season, there might not just be one face.

“With this team, with the leaders they have in place, there really isn’t a face of the team,” Arnaud said. “This team is very good in that aspect that, they’re not a selfish club. They’re a team group.

“That’s what makes them unique in my opinion.”
1. Paul Rhoads and ISU Athletic Director Jamie Pollard at a new conference announce the team’s acceptance to play in the Liberty Bowl.
2. Former ISU linebacker Jake Knott plays through a shoulder injury against Baylor on Oct. 27.
3. Former ISU quarterback Steele Jantz is no longer in the QB race.
4. Former ISU wide receiver Josh Lenz looks on as Iowa State lost to Tulsa in the Liberty Bowl on Dec. 29, 2012.
5. Former ISU linebacker A.J. Klein was drafted in the 5th round by the Carolina Panthers.
6. Lenz celebrates after a catch against former Big 12 team Texas A&M.
7. ISU football players celebrated after winning the CyHawk Trophy at Kinnick Stadium last year, 9-6.
1. The defensive line hit the sled in fall training camp.
2. Jeremiah George expects to be the rock in the middle of the Cyclone defense this season.
3. Tight end Ernst Brun snags a ball in fall training camp.
4. Iowa State could play as many as seven running backs this season, led by James White.
5. Sam Richardson enters the season as the unquestioned starting quarterback.
6. JUCO transfer Aaron Wimberly will get playing time at running back this season. Wimberly has been touted as one of the fastest on the team.
7. Shontrelle Johnson returns at running back after his ACL tear last year.
For the first time in Paul Rhoads’ tenure as head coach, his starting quarterback doesn’t have to look over his shoulder. Redshirt sophomore Sam Richardson only has two starts and four total games under his belt, but his play down the stretch of the season and his 8/1 TD/INT ratio was enough to get the nod.

Now with a full offseason of hard work under his belt — Jeremiah George called him one of, if not the most hard working guy on the team — Richardson feels prepared to take the next step. Expect Richardson to be more confident with his arm and with his legs out of the highly vaunted pistol offense this year.

It’s widely known that running back is Iowa State’s most talented and deepest position on the depth chart. The coaching staff loves that they have multiple options when it comes to handing the ball off, all of whom have different skill sets. James White is listed as the starter currently, but expect burner Aaron Wimberly to see touches on the outside while bruiser Jeff Woody gets the short yardage situational touches. Licking their chops behind those three are underclassman DeVondrick Nealy who has shown flashes, while redshirt senior Shontrelle Johnson returns from an ACL tear and a broken neck.
Wide receivers/tight ends

Making big plays last year on the outside was in short supply for Iowa State. Only two receivers eclipsed 400 yards last year, while 147 of leading yardage man Josh Lenz’s 459 yards resulted from his prodigious four-touchdown game against No. 15 TCU. Now the Cyclones lose their top three receivers from last year and are in need of someone to help take the safeties out of the box to free up the running attack. ISU coaches raved about redshirt sophomore Quenton Bundrage who stood out extensively in the spring and is expected to be the No. 1 receiver, while starting tight end Ernst Brun returns as Iowa State’s top red zone weapon after leading the team in receiving touchdowns.

Offensive line

Iowa State’s new offensive line coach, Chris Klenakis, didn’t just bring his pistol offense to Iowa State — he brought his fiery attitude too. The pistol offense, which Klenakis helped develop and run at Nevada while Colin Kaepernick was taking the snaps, should introduce more downhill running from Iowa State’s backs. The Cyclones return a solid core of left guard Ethan Tuftee who is currently not starting for week one against the University of Northern Iowa, center Tom Farniok and left tackle Kyle Lichtenburg, while trying to find a solid fillers in the fluid positions at right guard and tackle.
The defensive side of the trenches may be Iowa State’s most inexperienced position moving into the 2013 slate. Only one returning starter in Willie Scott is back at left end, while four more players return with some game experience. David Irving, a massive 6-foot-7, 272-pound player with a seemingly unlimited ceiling has moved from defensive end into defensive tackle. Coach Rhoads has raved about the long-levered Irving and his ability to do everything a 300-pound hole plugger can do. You can expect to see a big rotation of players in and out on the line trying to find the right combination to bring pressure while also halting the run.

Iowa State not only lost two of the most recognizable faces in program history in Jake Knott and A.J. Klein, they also lost the two cornerstones and leading tacklers of the ISU defense for the past three years, both now playing in the NFL. Now senior returning captain Jeremiah George — who played alongside Knott and Klein — is expected to be leaned on heavily as the middle linebacker with Jared Brackens moving from the nickel back to the strong side linebacker and a lightly experienced Jevohn Miller starting as the weak side linebacker. Jake Knott’s younger brother, Luke, could also be in the mix for playing time behind Miller.
Defensive backs

Three of the four starters return to a veteran secondary for the Cyclones. Led by captain Jacques Washington, a ball-hawking senior who was second on the team in tackles last year, this group of defensive backs features three seniors with Deon Broomfield listed as starter at strong safety and Jansen Watson as the right cornerback. Charlie Rodgers, the youngest listed starter on the defense as a redshirt freshman, brings a big 6-foot-1, 202-pound frame on the outside and has been making strong impressions and received high praise from the ISU coaching staff from spring football through fall training camp.

Special teams

Punting for Iowa State for the third straight year is Ray Guy Award watch list member Kirby Van Der Kamp. The Big 12 second team selection had 10 kicks of 50-plus yards while pinning opponents inside the 20 yard line 29 times. Van Der Kamp has been called a “weapon” by head coach Paul Rhoads several time for his ability to pin teams deep in their own territory. Rhoads said much to the same tune as last year, the kicking battle would extend until the morning of the opener against UNI on Sept. 1. Edwin Arceo earned the nod last year as Cole Netten redshirted. Arceo finished the year 12-18 while his long was a 51-yard bomb.
Keep it simple at this weekend’s tailgate. Bringing a new twist to a classic comfort food, these pigs will sure to keep your guests hogging their share.

You will need:
- 1 package crescent rolls
- 1 package hot dogs, sliced in half
- 1 can chili, or 1 cup homemade
- Cheese slices (pepper jack recommended)

Lay the crescent roll dough onto a nonstick baking sheet. Place the hot dog slices on top of the dough. Next spoon chili on to cover the hot dog. Top with a small slice of cheese and roll so the filling is covered by dough. Place on the baking sheet with the seam side down. Bake according to package instructions for the crescent rolls.
OCTOBER 5th.
BE THERE.

GET READY!

OCTOBER 5TH.
BE THERE.

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