9-14-2012

Iowa State Daily (GridIron 09-14-2012)

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Brett Bueker’s off-the-field contributions to ISU football
Brett Bueker is not the typical team captain: He is not the 400-yards-per-game starting quarterback or the nobody benchwarmer. To the ISU football team, he is a leader and coach-like figure.

The place holder for PATs and long-snapper for punts, Bueker's role on the team far exceeds the jobs that he holds on the field. Bueker's story begins as a walk-on in 2008, when he got the call that told him he would have a chance at the quarterback position for Iowa State.

“It’s been my dream ever since I was a little kid to play big-time Division I football,” Bueker said. “Saturdays were always my favorite days because I loved college football.”

However, Bueker was somewhat shadowed by other talent from teammates Austen Arnaud and Jerome Tiller. Bueker was told he was good enough to play elsewhere instead of being the backup.

“I realized it wasn’t going to work out for me at quarterback, but transferring never crossed my mind,” Bueker said. “Once I start something, I just want to finish it, and that’s the mindset I’ve always had.”

Coaches and teammates have recognized Bueker’s work ethic on and off the field. Offensive coordinator Courtney Messingham praised Bueker on his ability to earn respect from his teammates.

“He’s a guy that everybody looks at and respects because of the way he goes about his business in our program,” Messingham said. “He’s a guy from day one that has been totally bought in and cares about nothing except us being successful as a program and works his tail off.” Messingham said if there’s something that needs to be done, or if Bueker talks, teammates are quick to listen, because he is such a highly respected player.

The weight room

One of Bueker’s closer friends and teammates is starting cornerback Jeremy Reeves. “It started two years ago when we were all working out together,” Reeves said. “He forced me into doing more stuff in the weight room than I ever have.”

That is what Bueker strives for: getting his teammates in the weight room with the attitude of wanting to be there, rather than feeling like they have to be there.

“I love trying to get them better, trying to push them out of their comfort zones a little bit [and] trying to get them to achieve levels they didn’t think they could,” Bueker said.

Bueker said ever since high school, he has had that love and passion for strength and conditioning. It started with his own personal passion for lifting. But after developing more of a leadership role on the team, Bueker said he takes

Profile

Bueker becomes leader off the field

Team captain brings success to football team

By Stephen.Koenigsfeld @iowastatedaily.com

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## Gridiron Picks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Team 1</th>
<th>Team 2</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11-3</td>
<td>BYU vs. Utah</td>
<td>No. 25 BYU vs. Utah</td>
<td>BYU over Utah after last weekend.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9-5</td>
<td>Kansas vs. TCU</td>
<td>No. 16 TCU vs. Kansas</td>
<td>TCU has scored way too many points on USC last week.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12-2</td>
<td>Notre Dame vs. Michigan State</td>
<td>No. 20 Notre Dame vs. No. 10 Michigan State</td>
<td>Michigan State — The Spartans have been one of the few bright spots for the Big Ten this season.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8-6</td>
<td>USC vs. Stanford</td>
<td>No. 2 USC vs. No. 21 Stanford</td>
<td>USC — Matt Barkley's bro hair will flow like Fabio after he chops down the Stanford tree and rides it like a surfboard.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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### Iowa State vs. Western Illinois

- Iowa State — Number of windows I smashed when four of the teams I picked last week lost: three. I have problems.
- Western Illinois — Western Illinois has beat Butler and Indianapolis. Do they even have football?

### UNLV vs. Washington State

- UNLV — Even though it was Minnesota, UNLV took the Gophers to triple overtime. Why this is a pick, I'll never know.
- Washington State — Mike Leach gave the best speeches, especially when he tears his team apart after a victory.

### Florida vs. Tennessee

- Florida — The Gators squeaked out a win last week against Texas A&M and will be carrying that momentum.
- Tennessee — Florida nearly let the "12th Man" beat me last week, so I'm volunteering to pick Tennessee this week.

### BYU vs. Utah

- BYU — After Utah lost a heartbreaker last week, BYU will improve its hot start.
- Utah — I'm not compelled to pick Mormon Notre Dame since the Utes will be hungry after an upset loss last week.

### Kansas vs. TCU

- TCU — Too bad Mark Mangino left Kansas for a job as the new Orange mascot at Syracuse.
- Kansas — The Spartans have been one of the few bright spots for the Big Ten this season.

### Michigan State vs. Notre Dame

- Michigan State — Not too many.
- Notre Dame — My best speeches, especially Mike Leach gives the best speeches, especially when he tears his team apart after a victory.

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**GRIDIRON**

**QUICK PICKS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Menu</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>2430 Lincoln Way</td>
<td>515-292-3328</td>
<td>$2.00 Domestic Draws</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$3.00 Captain / Jack’s</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$5.00 Fishbowls</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$5.00 Tenderloins</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$5.00 Gin &amp; Tonic</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>60¢ Wings</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
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<td>MUG NIGHT</td>
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<td></td>
<td>$5.00 Raging Bulls</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
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<td></td>
<td>$8.00 Long Island Fishbowls</td>
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</table>

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Quick Facts: Western Illinois

Mark Hendrickson: head coach

- **Experience:** Third year (12-14)
- **Hometown:** Richland, Iowa
- **College:** Northern Iowa
- **Family:** wife Ericka; two sons, Myers and Davis; one daughter, Georgie.
- Hendrickson has started his third year as coach of the Leathernecks. He takes over after 11 years as offensive coordinator and 10 as assistant head coach.
- In his time at Western Illinois Hendrickson has produced 10 1,000-yard rushers and three 1,000-yard receivers.
- He was also voted runner up for the Eddie Robinson Award in 2010, which is given to the National Coach of the year.
- Hendrickson served as a University of Iowa special teams coach under Hall of Famer coach, Hayden Fry. During his tenure as special teams coach, Hendrickson coached the Big Ten’s leading punter in 1995 and 1996.
- Hendrickson grew up in Richland. He attended Pekin High School and graduated from Northern Iowa in 1980. He also was a four-year letterwinner at UNI in 1982.
- His two sons, Myers and Davis, are both athletes. Myers graduated recently and lettered in football. Davis is a current member of the University of Illinois baseball team. His daughter, Georgie, attends Macomb High School.

- **Location:** Macomb, Ill.
- **Type:** Public University
- **Founded:** 1899
- **Enrollment:** 13,600
- **Nickname:** Leathernecks
- **Mascot:** Bulldog

Western Illinois’ colors were chosen in 1902 and were inspired by the “vast golden prairie strewn with purple coneflowers.”

Western Illinois is the only nonmilitary institution in the nation with permission from the Department of the Navy to use the United States Marine Corps Official seal and mascot, the Bulldog.

Colonel Rock is the university’s mascot. It was named after Ray “Rock” Hanson, a former WIU athletic director and former Marine as well.

Western Illinois competes in the Summit League. The football team competes in the Division I FCS, or Football Championship Subdivision in the Missouri Valley Conference.

The WIU football stadium — Hanson Field — seats 17,168 attendees, which is less than half the size of Iowa State’s Jack Trice Stadium (55,000).

Former NFL All-Pro safety Rodney Harrison is a WIU alumnus.
COLOR IT CARDINAL

Iowa State vs. Western Illinois | Saturday, Sept. 15, 2012
it upon himself to look out for his teammates. “I’m not looking out for myself anymore,” Bueker said. “I want to be a great leader for these guys.” Bueker said he will go into the weight room two-to-three times a day if he has to. It all depends on his teammates’ class schedule.

After just starting graduate school, Bueker takes his classes online, freeing up his mornings and afternoons for his teammates.

“I’ll go in in the morning with guys that have class at 8 or 9 in the morning, so we’ll go in [the weight room] at 6 or 7 in the morning,” Bueker said. “And then some other guys will have a little break in the afternoon, so I’ll go in with them.”

Messingham said doing the little, extra things are what set Bueker apart from the rest.

“We’ve got a great staff that lays out the things they need to do for them to be successful,” Messingham said. “Then [Bueker] jumps on board with it, and he’s not afraid to do those extra things — the extra day in the weight room.”

**Post-Bueker**

Once Bueker has graduated and set out to pursue a career as a strength and conditioning coach, he said he expects any number of his teammates to take over his role.

“There’s a lot of guys that will step up and will be great leaders in the weight room,” Bueker said. “The commitment level is night-and-day compared to what it was.”

Bueker said he wanted to list names of who those players might be, but it was too difficult for him, because there are just so many he believes will be leaders like him.

Messingham said doing the little, extra things are what set Bueker apart from the rest.

“Places. People. Love.”

**Fast facts**

Brett Bueker hails from Bettendorf, Iowa. Bueker serves as a place holder on extra points and long snapper on punts. Bueker is more commonly known for his roles off the field more so than on it.

As an athlete in high school, Bueker played quarterback before walking on in 2008 as a backup quarterback to Austen Arnaud and Jerome Tiller.

Bueker was named part of the Chik-fil-A Big 12 Community of Champions in 2011.

Bueker acquired his first and only stats as a Cyclone in the Pinstripe Bowl against Rutgers, where he ran on a fake field goal for a first down.

Also for his leadership roles on and off the field, Bueker was awarded the Ruben J. Miller award in 2011.

Bueker will head into the 2012 season as the current place holder and long snapper.
No one wants to watch a blowout. They happen in all sports, but they are much more common in college football with the parity that has made the sport laden in mismatches. Teams, particularly in the six Bowl Championship Series conferences, have been scheduling opponents from the Football Championship Subdivision — formerly known as Division I-AA, the lower tier of Division I college football. This practice has been taking place for years — so much that a rule that used to be in effect made it so wins against FCS schools did not count toward bowl eligibility.

This year, Iowa State scheduled one of three nonconference games against Western Illinois, an FCS team from the Missouri Valley Conference. While playing Northern Iowa last year did merit some sentiment, since both teams are in the same state, Iowa State does not have any ties to Western Illinois, nor have the teams faced each other before.

When some of us looked at the ISU football schedule this season, Sept. 15 stuck out like a sore thumb. A season-opening bout against Conference USA’s Tulsa and a Cy-Hawk rivalry game against Iowa is followed by a meaningless matchup against a lower-tier FCS team in Western Illinois; is this some kind of joke?

While we understand the need for a “break” in the schedule — especially in the cutthroat Big 12 Conference — these games against FCS teams do nothing for raising interest in the early weeks of the college football season.

Savannah State, a little school of roughly 4,500 students in Savannah, Ga., made national headlines during the first two weeks of the season. In the Tigers’ opening season game, they were beaten down by Oklahoma State 84-0.

Savannah State was then given a 70-point advantage by the Las Vegas odds makers in its second-week game against Florida State.

The good news: Savannah State covered the spread. The bad news: It still lost 55-0.

While Savannah State got paid a hefty $860,000 for getting blown out in the first two weeks of the season, according to The New York Times, was it really worth it for Oklahoma

FCS.p11 >>
State or Florida State to beat the living piss out of a lesser team in their early season games?

If either Oklahoma State or Florida State goes to a bowl game this year, will the coaches be crediting an early win against a no-name FCS team as a major reason for the team’s success leading up to the bowl? No.

They are going to be talking about victories against the Virginia Techs or the Oklahomas in the heat of a conference race — games we actually watch and care about.

Vegas does not even have the line available for Western Illinois’ trip to Jack Trice Stadium, but we can probably guess it has to be at least by three touchdowns, if not a lot more.

Western Illinois doesn’t get as nice a payday as Savannah State — $350,000, said ISU Steve Malchow, senior associate athletic director, in an email to the Daily — but its relevance as an opponent to Iowa State is not any less insignificant.

Of course FCS teams do upset FBS (both BCS and non-BCS) teams — eight upsets have already taken place this season, two of which involved teams (Pittsburgh, Colorado) that play in BCS conferences — so we are not saying the two sects should never be allowed to tangle.

But unless Iowa State is facing an FCS juggernaut like Northern Iowa or North Dakota State, many could honestly care less about this game.

May our cynicism be taken with a grain of salt, but Western Illinois adds nothing to Iowa State’s schedule but an easy beatdown two weeks before conference play begins.

So have fun watching Iowa State beat Western Illinois into the ground, even though no one wants to watch a blowout.

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Favorite tailgating dishes

Enjoy watching Iowa State take on Western Illinois with our favorite tailgating dishes. You won't need to study a playbook to make any of these meals — these dishes are as easy to make as they are delicious.

**Game Day Chex Mix**
By Lauren Grant
AmesEats Flavors writer

Ingredients
- 8 cups Corn Chex cereal
- 1 cup corn nuts
- 1 cup cheese crackers (Gold Fish, Cheez-Its)
- 1 cup pretzels
- 1 cup Fritos
- 6 tablespoons butter
- 1 tablespoon fresh lime juice
- 1 teaspoon fresh lime zest
- 3 teaspoons chili powder
- 1 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1 teaspoon onion powder
- red pepper flakes to taste

In a large bowl combine first five ingredients. Melt butter by microwaving in a smaller bowl then add lime juice, zest and remaining spices. Pour butter mixture over cereal; mix until everything is evenly coated. Microwave on high for five to six minutes, stopping to stir every couple of minutes. Turn mixture out onto paper towels to cool and store in an airtight container.

**Football Whoopie Pies**
By Ashley Moyna
AmesEats Flavors writer

Ingredients
- 1 chocolate cake mix
- 3 eggs
- 1/2 cup water
- ½ cup vegetable oil
- Cream cheese or vanilla frosting
- Red and yellow food coloring

Preheat oven to 400 degrees F. In a mixer, combine cake mix, eggs, water and oil. Whip together for two to three minutes then spoon batter in rounded mounds. Use the back of the spoon to round out the batter into football shapes. Bake for eight minutes and cool completely. In a bowl mix half of the frosting with yellow food coloring and the other half with red food coloring. Spoon each color of frosting into separate pastry or Ziploc bags with the end cut. Pipe frosting onto the bottom of half the cookies. Then top with another cookie. Half the whoopie pies should contain yellow frosting and the other half red. Pipe football lacing on the tops of cookies if desired.

**Blue Cheese and Bacon Dip**
By Lauren Grant
AmesEats Flavors writer

Ingredients
- ½ cup sour cream
- 1 cup crumbled blue cheese
- 1-¾ cup cream cheese, softened
- ¼ cup diced onion
- ½-1 teaspoon hot sauce
- 4 bacon slices, cooked crispy and crumbled

Process all ingredients except bacon in a blender or food processor until all ingredients are smooth. Remove from blender or food processor and stir in crumbled bacon — save a few bits to garnish with later. Cover dip and let chill for at least two hours. Top with chopped fresh parsley, extra bacon and blue cheese crumbles. Serve with chips and crackers.

**Kick-Asserole**
By Morgan Casey
AmesEats Flavors writer

Ingredients
- 2 sticks of butter
- 2 cans of regular corn
- 2 cans of creamed corn
- 2 cups macaroni
- 2 cups shredded cheddar cheese
- Salt and pepper to taste

Place all ingredients into a crock pot on medium-warm heat and stir until cheese and butter are melted. Cover and let cook for one to two hours, depending on the heat of your crock pot. Stir occasionally to prevent macaroni on the bottom from becoming burned or stuck to the surface. Add salt and pepper to taste.