



## Illinois State Postgame Notes

FINAL – #1 North Dakota State 38, #11 Illinois State 20  
Nov. 17th, 2012 • Hancock Stadium • Normal, Ill.

### PLAYER NOTES:

- Defensive end and Buck Buchanan Award nominee **Colton Underwood** added another sack Saturday, bringing his total 9.5 for the year to go along with a team-high 18 tackles-for-loss.
- Quarterback **Matt Brown** threw 20th touchdown of the season, when he found fullback **Jordan Neukirch** for his second-career touchdown reception.
- Brown also rushed for a three-yard touchdown, his sixth of the season to set a new career high. He finished the regular season with a total of 26 touchdowns responsible for (20 passing, six rushing).
- With 249 total yards today, Brown has a recorded a school record of 10,219 career total yards.
- Sophomore placekicker **Nick Aussieker** tied his career high with a 47-yard field goal in the third quarter against the Bison.
- **Senior middle linebacker Mike Zimmer** finished the game with 10 tackles, marking his sixth game this season with 10 or more tackles in a game.
- Zimmer also added a sack in the game, one of just two for the Redbirds against the Bison.
- With his 10 tackles, Zimmer became the 12th player in school history with over 100 tackles in a single season.
- Junio safety **Ezra Thompson** recorded a career-best eight tackles in the game against NDSU.

### TEAM NOTES:

- Illinois State finished third in the Missouri Valley Football Conference with a 5-3 record and posted an 8-3 overall record.
- The Redbirds finished with their first eight win season since 2006.
- In each of the years Illinois State has won at least eight games, they have advanced to the FCS playoffs (1998, 1999, 2006).
- The Redbirds finished the season 3-3 at Hancock Stadium.
- NDSU All- American Marcus Williams returned a 98-yard kick-off return for a touchdown, the first for a Redbird opponent since October 9, 2004, when Steven Rush from Missouri State returned one 100 yards for a score.
- The Redbirds fell to 7-2 this season when leading after three quarters of play.
- Illinois State is now 33-73-1 against ranked opponents and falls to 2-5 all-time against teams ranked No. 1 in the nation.