



St. Norbert College

Sports Information

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St. Norbert College Green Knights Football Preview

No. 17 Wartburg College (10-3 in 2008) at St. Norbert College (7-3 in 2008)

Saturday, September 5, 2009 - 1 p.m.

Dr. John R. Minahan Stadium (3,100) - De Pere, Wisconsin

2009 Midwest Conference Standings

Team	Conference		Overall	
	W	L	W	L
Beloit	0	0	0	0
Carroll	0	0	0	0
Grinnell	0	0	0	0
Illinois College	0	0	0	0
Knox	0	0	0	0
Lake Forest	0	0	0	0
Lawrence	0	0	0	0
Monmouth	0	0	0	0
Ripon	0	0	0	0
St. Norbert	0	0	0	0

Games on Saturday, Sept. 5

Wartburg at St. Norbert, 1 p.m.
 Beloit at MacMurray, 1 p.m.
 Cornell at Grinnell, 1 p.m.
 Illinois College at Millikin, 1 p.m.
 Knox at Eureka, 1 p.m.
 Lake Forest at Aurora, 1 p.m.
 Loras at Monmouth, 1 p.m.
 UW-Oshkosh at Ripon, 1 p.m.
 Wartburg at St. Norbert, 1 p.m.
 Carroll at North Park, 7 p.m.

Game Overview:

St. Norbert opens its 76th season of intercollegiate football by hosting Wartburg College, which was a NCAA Division III Playoffs quarterfinalist in 2008.

The Series:

Wartburg topped St. Norbert 44-20 last season in Waverly, Iowa, in the only meeting between the two schools. Wartburg led 23-13 at halftime but the Knights scored two touchdowns to open the second half to take command of the game. Wartburg quarterback Nick Yordi completed 18 of 28 passes for 313 yards and four touchdowns. St. Norbert was held to 229 yards of total offense and was sacked nine times.

The Coaches:

St. Norbert coach Jim Purtill (Miami-Ohio, 1978) is 91-16 entering his 11th season in De Pere.

Wartburg coach Rick Willis (Cornell College, 1988) is 89-20 entering his 11th season in Waverly. This is Willis' second season back at the helm after coaching the Knights from 1997-2005.

About the Green Knights:

St. Norbert enters the new season coming off a 2008 campaign that saw the Green Knights finish 7-3 overall and a third-place finish at 7-2 in the Midwest Conference. It marked just the second time in 10 years St. Norbert didn't capture at least a share of the Midwest Conference championship.

2009 St. Norbert Football Schedule and Results (0-0, 0-0 MWC)

Date	Opponent	Site	Time/Result	Quick Fact
Sept. 5	Wartburg	De Pere	1 p.m.	SNC looking for first win over IIAC foe since 1981
Sept. 12	Grinnell	Grinnell, Iowa	1 p.m.	SNC has won 10 straight games in the series
Sept. 19	Lawrence	De Pere	1 p.m.	SNC is 4-0 against former SNC DC & LU coach Chris Howard
Sept. 26	Lake Forest	Lake Forest, Ill.	1 p.m.	SNC owns 23-2 series lead over Lake Forest
Oct. 3	Knox	De Pere	1 p.m.	SNC has scored at least 42 points last five games vs. KC
Oct. 10	Monmouth	Monmouth, Ill.	1 p.m.	SNC and MC have split last four games in series
Oct. 17	Carroll	Waukesha	1 p.m.	Last two games have been SNC wins by two and three points
Oct. 24	Ripon (HC)	De Pere	1 p.m.	SNC is 18-1 on Homecoming since 1991
Oct. 31	Beloit	De Pere	1 p.m.	SNC has won 10 straight games in the series
Nov. 7	Illinois College	Jacksonville, Ill.	1 p.m.	IC QB Mitch Niekamp passed for 467 yards in 2008 game

St. Norbert Quick Facts

Nickname:Green Knights
Location:De Pere, WI 54115
Colors:Dartmouth Green & Old Gold
Founded:1898
Enrollment:2,100
President:Thomas Kunkel
Athletics Director:Tim Bald
Conference:Midwest Conference
Facility:Dr. John R. Minahan Stadium
Capacity:3,100
Year Opened:1938
All-Time Minahan Record:196-91-7
Head Coach:Jim Purtill
Record at St. Norbert:91-16 (11th year)
First Season of Football:1931
Seasons of Football:76
All-Time Overall Record:381-263-20
All-Time MWC Record:140-29-0
MWC Championships:12
(1985,87,88,89,99,2000,01,02,03,04,06,07)
NCAA Playoff Appearances:8
(1989,99,2000,01,03,04,06,07)

Head Coach Jim Purtill

Education:

Bachelor's degree at Miami (Ohio) University (1978); master's degree at Salem (W. Va.) College (1995).

Coaching Experience:

Offensive line coach at Ferris State (1988 to 1994); offensive coordinator at Albion (1995 to 1998); head coach at St. Norbert (March 9, 1999 to present).



Purtill at St. Norbert

Year	Overall	MWC	Place	NCAA
1999	9-2	9-0	1st	First Rd.
2000	10-1	9-0	1st	First Rd.
2001	8-2	7-1	T1st	First Rd.
2002	9-1	8-1	T1st	
2003	11-1	9-0	1st	Second Rd.
2004	9-2	9-0	1st	First Rd.
2005	8-2	8-1	2nd	
2006	10-1	9-0	1st	First Rd.
2007	10-1	9-0	1st	First Rd.
2008	7-3	7-2	3rd	
2009	0-0	0-0		
Totals	91-16	84-5		

Purtill vs. Midwest Conference

Team	Overall	Home	Away
Beloit	10-0	4-0	6-0
Carroll	9-0	5-0	4-0
Grinnell	10-0	5-0	5-0
Illinois College	9-1	5-0	4-1
Knox	10-0	5-0	5-0
Lake Forest	9-1	5-1	4-0
Lawrence	10-0	5-0	5-0
Monmouth	8-2	4-2	4-0
Ripon	9-1	4-0	5-1
Totals	84-5	42-3	42-2

The Green Knights return nine starters from last year's squad, with six on offense on three on defense. Three offensive linemen return, including a first-team All-MWC selection in senior Tim Mueller. Senior wide receiver Jeremy Gezella returns after catching team-high 34 receptions, 695 yards and six touchdowns.

Junior quarterback Rob Berger gets the starting nod after splitting time a year ago. Berger completed 40 of 86 passes for 702 yards with five touchdowns and five interceptions while rushing for 529 yards on 49 attempts.

Senior defensive back Ben Hackbart is the leading returning tackler from last season. Hackbart made 65 tackles and made five interceptions from his safety position.

About the Knights:

Wartburg advanced to the quarterfinals of the NCAA Division III Playoffs last season and finished 10-3 overall after winning the Iowa Intercollegiate Athletic Conference with a 7-1 record. The Knights, who were 6-2 in games decided by eight points or less, beat UW-Stevens Point and Monmouth in the playoffs before falling to UW-Whitewater 34-17. The Knights were picked by IAC coaches to repeat as league champion in 2009.

Wartburg returns seven starters from a team that lead the IAC in scoring offense a year ago. Senior quarterback Nick Yordi completed 231 of 401 passes for 3,037 yards with 25 touchdowns and 14 interceptions last season. Leading rusher Alex Boom also returns after netting 587 yards on 176 attempts with seven touchdowns.

The Knights return four defensive starters from a unit that allowed 321.5 yards per game last season. Junior linebacker Blake Suckow is the leading returning tackler with 60 tackles last season.

Opening Day Observations:

St. Norbert has won six of its last nine season openers. Wartburg beat St. Norbert last year after the Green

Knights swept a home-and-home series in 2006-07 with Olivet Nazarene.

The first four wins in that stretch all came against MIAC foes Hamline University and the University of St. Thomas. The Green Knights defeated the Pipers 34-22 in St. Paul in 2000 and won 26-22 in 2001 in De Pere. St. Norbert then beat St. Thomas 35-31 in 2002 and 21-19 in 2003. St. Norbert is scheduled to play St. Thomas again in 2010-11.

The four MIAC games were the Green Knights' first openers against a non-Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference or NCAA Division II foe since 1983, the last time SNC won an opener prior to 2000 (24-14 over Monmouth in 1983). The Green Knights opened against NCAA Division II Michigan Tech from 1984 to 1987, UW-Stevens Point in 1988 and 1989, UW-Oshkosh from 1990 to 1999 and UW-Whitewater in 2004 and 2005.

St. Norbert, entering its 76th year of varsity football, is 36-33-6 in season openers.

Winning Ways:

St. Norbert is shooting for its 11th consecutive season with at least seven wins. Since Jim Purtill became head coach in 1999, St. Norbert has won as few as eight games just three times - 8-2 seasons in 2001 and 2005 and a 7-3 campaign in 2008.

The Green Knights have an all-time record of 381-263-20 in 75 years of intercollegiate football, a winning percentage of .589. In Midwest Conference play, St. Norbert has an all-time league best record of 140-29, a winning percentage of .829.

In 24 years in the Midwest Conference, St. Norbert has won 12 football championships. In addition to St. Norbert, only four charter members of the MWC have won at least 10 football championships - Coe with 21, Ripon with 19, Lawrence with 16 and Cornell with 12.

* - as of 8/30/09

St. Norbert College Football Two-Deep – Offense

Pos.	No.	Name	Hgt.	Wgt.	Yr.	Hometown
WR	11	Jeremy Gezella	6-3	210	Sr.	Green Bay
	9	Nick Wilson	6-3	210	Jr.	Sheboygan
LT	74	Tyler Kuehl	6-3	280	So.	Rapid River, Mich.
	53	Justin Straw	6-2	245	So.	Clatskanie, Ore.
LG	66	Drew Anderson	6-1	305	Jr.	Batavia, Ill.
	68	Jack Strotman	6-3	385	Sr.	Deerfield, Ill.
C	62	Ryan Kaminski	5-11	270	Sr.	Germantown
	64	Jeff Gregory	5-11	295	Jr.	Lake Tomahawk
RG	78	Jacob Reisner	6-3	290	Sr.	Kaukauna
	75	Mike D'Andrea	6-2	335	Sr.	Hudson
RT	55	Tim Mueller	6-6	315	Sr.	Niles, Ill.
	59	Ryan Lobeck	6-1	270	Sr.	Kingsford, Mich.
WR	34	Logan Krueger	6-2	200	So.	Denmark
	13*	Joe Green	5-10	175	Fr.	Tigerton
TE	80	Brian Peterson	6-4	240	Sr.	Marinette
	98	Nick Glass	6-3	225	Sr.	Deerfield, Ill.
RB	1	Todd Sheedy	5-11	205	Sr.	Green Bay
	31	John Weninger	5-10	200	Jr.	Lomira
RB	43	Mike Dickman	5-8	200	Sr.	Plymouth
	42	John Grogan	5-11	220	So.	Naperville, Ill.
QB	15	Rob Berger	6-2	215	Jr.	Rice Lake
	10	Mike Fabrizio	6-0	185	So.	Chicago, Ill.
K	19	Roger Nault	5-11	190	Jr.	Kingsford, Mich.
	25	Sam Mason	5-10	165	Fr.	Green Bay

* - denotes duplicate number

St. Norbert College Football Two-Deep – Defense

Pos.	No.	Name	Hgt.	Wgt.	Yr.	Hometown
DE	87	Nick Gorski	6-4	225	Sr.	Palos Heights, Ill.
	95	Joel Treml	6-2	235	So.	De Pere
DT	94	Bret Blozinski	5-11	240	So.	Green Bay
	57	Dale Bishop	5-10	235	Jr.	Appleton
DT	91	John Troyer	6-0	265	So.	Engadine, Mich.
	97	John Riemer	5-10	240	Jr.	Elcho
DE	58	Kyle Ripley	6-0	235	Jr.	Pulaski
	92	Dan Hansmann	6-3	250	So.	Plymouth
LB	7	Adam Gruett	6-1	235	So.	Hilbert
	30	Tom Trampas	5-10	200	Jr.	Elmwood Park, Ill.
LB	50	Drew Oudenhoven	5-11	215	Jr.	Appleton
	54	Zach Zander	5-11	210	Fr.	Columbus
LB	40	Justin Baker	5-11	210	Jr.	Hessel, Mich.
	33	Kyle Zweifel	6-1	200	So.	Norway, Mich.
CB	3	Chris Manlick	5-8	165	Sr.	Auburndale
	28	Todd Winkelbauer	5-9	165	So.	Rock, Mich.
SS	23	Dustin Gresen	5-9	210	Sr.	Hartford
	22	Ben Nantell	6-1	195	So.	Stevens Point
FS	41	Ben Hackbart	5-8	215	Sr.	Sussex
	27	Zach Wollner	5-10	195	Sr.	Kewaskum
CB	13	Dan Sjoquist	5-9	170	So.	Kingsford, Mich.
	8	Ryan Pepin	5-9	170	So.	Iron Mountain, Mich.
P	15	Rob Berger	6-2	215	Jr.	Rice Lake
	7	Adam Gruett	6-1	235	So.	Hilbert