1984 - THE CHAMPIONSHIP YEAR IN REVIEW

Augustana 47, North Park 6 on September 15, at Ericson Field...Any doubts about Augustana's readiness coming off an NCAA Division III national championship were answered early in the first game of the year. Before the first quarter was over the Vikings had a 28-0 lead and four different players had scored touchdowns. Fullback Ron Nelson opened things up by bulling his way for a four yard touchdown just over two minutes into the game. A 25 yard pass from quarterback Kirk Bednar to tight end Norm Singbush made it 14-0 at 6:29 and just 1:20 later Shane McCormick sprinted in from 18 yards out to make it 21-0. With 2:57 left in the first quarter Bednar passed for his second touchdown of the day, this time for 21 yards to wide receiver Mike McGhee. Things were never in doubt after that and the final score was 47-6 as Augustana rolled up 428 yards rushing with 14 different players carrying the ball. The rushing leader was actually freshman Eric Welgat with 78 yards on just two carries while Nelson picked up 75 on 11 attempts. Bednar, just a sophomore making his first varsity start, completed three of five passes for 48 yards. Free safety Don Anspaugh led the defense with 10 tackles as the Vikings only allowed North Park 66 yards rushing on 38 attempts.

SCORE BY QUARTERS	1	2	3	4	FINAL
North Park "Vikings"	0	6	0	0	6
Augustana "Viking"	28	7	10	2	47

SCORING SUMMARY

AUG - Ron Nelson 4 run (Joe Mackay kick) 12:56 1st

AUG – Norm Singbush 25 pass from Kirk Bednar (Joe Mackay kick) 6:29 1st

AUG – Shane McCormick 18 run (Joe Mackay kick) 5:09 1st AUG – Mike McGhee 21 pass from Kirk Bednar (Joe Mackay kick) 2:57 1st AUG – Kirk Sanders 7 run (Joe Mackay kick) 11:46 2nd

NP – David Bridges 1 run (pass failed) 7:22 2nd AUG – Joe Mackay 28 field goal 4:37 3rd

AUG – Phil Hagen recovered blocked punt in end zone (Joe Mackay kick)

AUG - Safety (Brian King tackled David Bridges in end zone

Augustana 31, Carroll 0 on September 22, in Waukesha, Wisconsin...Sophomore Brad Price had his first breakout game with 106 yards on 16 attempts and a touchdown to lead the way in a 31-0 win at Carroll. The Vikings chewed up 345 yards rushing on 61 attempts and Norm Singbush caught four passes for 79 yards and a touchdown. Joe Mackay got things started with a 33 yard field goal with 6:08 left in the first quarter, capping a typical Augustana drive. After receiving the opening kickoff the Vikings went 80 yards on 18 plays, using nearly eight minutes on the clock before stalling and relying on Mackay's right leg. Kirk Bednar hit Singbush with a 21 yard pass on the last play of the first quarter to make it 10-0 and that is the way the score stood at halftime. Price broke free on a 35 yard scoring run early in the third quarter and Shane McCormick scored the final two touchdowns on runs of 29 and one yards. The defense was superb in recording its first shutout of the year, allowing just 17 yards rushing on 29 attempts and only 128 yards of total offense for the game.

SCORE BY QUARTERS	1	2	3	4	FINAL
Augustana "Vikings"	10	0	21	0	31
Carroll "Diapoore"	0	0	Λ	0	0

SCORING SUMMARY

AUG – Joe Mackay 33 field goal 6:08 1st

AUG – Norm Singbush 21 pass from Kirk Bednar (Joe Mackay kick) :14 1st

AUG - Brad Price 35 run (Joe Mackay kick) 9:19 3rd

AUG - Shane McCormick 29 run (Joe Mackay kick) 5:39 3rd

AUG – Shane McCormick 1 run (Joe Mackay kick) 1:23 3

Augustana 45, Wheaton 14 on September 29 at Ericson

Field...The Viking secondary, which included a pair of sophomores (Troy Westerman and Mike Gray) in the starting lineup, survived 75 passes by three Wheaton quarterbacks in a wild 45-14 Augustana victory. The Crusaders completed 41 of those 75 passes for 432 yards but Augustana got two interceptions each from Gray and Mark Long and one apiece from Pat VanDeVelde and Nick Kasap. Although Wheaton threw the ball all over the place, the Viking defense allowed just 30 yards rushing on 17 attempts. The Viking running game was in top form as Ron Nelson gained 160 yards on 18 attempts and Brad Price picked up 150 on 14. As a team Augustana rushed for 434 yards but lost three fumbles. A six yard touchdown run by George Velasquez started the scoring on the opening drive. Velasquez returned the opening kickoff 77 yards to the Wheaton 23 and his score came five plays later. Two touchdowns by Nelson on runs of 57 and one yard made it 21-0 by the end of the first quarter. It was 24-7 at halftime and in the second half Price broke loose for a 62 yard touchdown run, Velasguez scored his second touchdown on a 14 yard sprint and Shane McCormick ended things with a one yard run late in the fourth quarter.

SCORE BY QUARTERS	1	2	3	4	FINAL
Wheaton "Crusaders"	0	7	7	0	14
Augustana "Vikings"	21	3	7	14	45

SCORING SUMMARY

AUG – George Velasquez 6 run (Joe Mackay kick) 12:22 1st

AUG - Ron Nelson 57 run (kick failed) 6:26 1st

AUG – Ron Nelson 1 run (Kirk Bednar pass to Norm Singbush) 4:00 1st WHE – Mark Seeland 7 pass from Keith Bishop (Cabral kick) 14:41 2nd

AUG – Joe Mackay 26 field goal 2:38 2nd

WHE – Jim Jorden 1 pass from Keith Bishop (Cabral kick) 4:18 3rd AUG – Brad Price 62 run (Joe Mackay kick) 2:19 3rd

AUG – George Velasquez 14 run (Joe Mackay kick) 14:48 4th AUG – Shane McCormick 1 run (Joe Mackay kick) 4:49 4th

Augustana 35, Illinois Wesleyan 21 on October 6 in Bloomington, Illinois...After building up a 35-0 lead midway early in the third quarter the Vikings survived three late touchdowns for a 35-21 win over Illinois Wesleyan before a Dad's Day crowd at Titan Stadium. Augustana rushed for 380 yards on 87 attempts and held a mammoth 41:41 to 18:19 advantage in time of possession. Norm Singbush opened the scoring by catching a 48 yard pass from Kirk Bednar on a second and three situation on the first drive of the game. Joe Mackay made the first of five extra points and with 12:09 remaining in the first quarter the Vikings led 7-0. Mike McGhee caught an 18 yard pass from Bednar to cap a 79 yard, 12 play drive to push the advantage to 14-0 with 1:42 left in the first. Ron Nelson scored from the one early in the second quarter to make it 21-0 and Singbush caught his second scoring pass of the day, this one a nine yarder from Bednar to make it 28-0 just :36 ahead of halftime. Singbush's second score capped a 94 yard, 18 play drive. Augustana's final score came when Brad Price scampered over from the four at the 9;21 mark of the third quarter. Wesleyan tightened the game with three touchdowns, the last coming on a 68 yard pass from quarterback John Rooney to Ken Anderson with 3:40 left in the fourth quarter to make it 35-21. The Titans got the ball back once more but Nick Kasap

intercepted Rooney's pass at the Augustana 43 to end the final threat.

SCORE BY QUARTERS	1	2	3	4	FINAL
Augustana "Vikings	14	14	7	0	35
Illinois Weslevan "Titans"	0	0	7	14	21

SCORING SUMMARY

AUG - Norm Singbush 48 pass from Kirk Bednar (Joe Mackay kick) 12:09 1st

AUG - Mike McGhee 18 pass from Kirk Bednar (Joe Mackay kick) 1:42 1st

AUG – Ron Nelson 1 run (Joe Mackay kick) 12:36 2nd
AUG – Norm Singbush 9 pass from Kirk Bednar (Joe Mackay kick) :36 2nd

AUG - Brad Price 4 run (Joe Mackay kick) 9:21 3rd

IWU - Bud Carlson 5 run (Bret Robinson kick) 5:41 3rd

IWU – Ed Winkle 5 pass from John Rooney (Bret Robinson kick) 9:55 4th IWU - Ken Anderson 68 pass from John Rooney (Bret Robinson kick) 3:40 4th

Augustana 56, Carthage 7 on October 13 at Ericson

Field...Scoring on its first five possessions of the game, Augustana sprinted out to a 34-0 lead at halftime and coasted to a 56-7 victory over Carthage on Homecoming in front of an overflow crowd of 4,000. The Vikings rolled up 422 yards rushing on 80 attempts with 16 different players carrying the ball. They had a total of 26 first downs, 24 of those coming on the ground. Fullback Ron Nelson led the way with 71 yards on 14 carries while scoring three touchdowns on runs of one, seven and 20 yards. His first touchdown came with 9:28 left to play in the first quarter that capped a 50 yard drive on seven plays, five of those runs by Nelson. Carthage fumbled the kickoff and Cary Hinze pounced on it at the 19 and six plays later Brad Price knifed into the end zone from the two and the score was 14-0. Robert Woolridge recovered a fumble at the Redmen 41 on the next Carthage possession and Nelson blasted over from the seven to make it 21-0 late in the first guarter. Woolridge recovered his second fumble of the game, this time at the Redmen 16 and Bob Guerrieri sprinted over from 13 yards out and with four seconds gone in the second quarter it was 28-0. Shane McCormick scored on a five yard run with 4:20 left before halftime but this time the extra point was no good and the score stood 34-0 at intermission. Nelson's 20 yard run early in the third quarter made it 40-0. Joe Kiesewetter scored on a one yard run and Doug Ely tallied on a 14 yarder along with a safety when Carthage snapped the ball over the punter's head. A two yard run by the Redmen's Jim Bentz with 1:57 left in the game ruined the shutout. The Augustana defense only allowed 110 yards of total offense (58 rushing and 49 passing) with Joe Wheeler leading the team in tackles with seven. The Vikings held a huge 41:49 to 18:11 advantage in time of possession.

SCORE BY QUARTERS	1	2	3	4	FINAL
Carthage "Redmen"	0	0	0	7	7
Augustana "Vikings"	21	13	13	9	56

1984 - THE CHAMPIONSHIP YEAR IN REVIEW

SCORING SUMMARY

AUG – Ron Nelson 1 run (Joe Mackay kick) 9:28 1st

AUG - Brad Price 2 (Joe Mackay kick) 6:41 1st

AUG – Ron Nelson 7 run (Joe Mackay kick) 1:18 1st AUG – Bob Guerrieri 13 run (Joe Mackay kick) 14:56 2nd

AUG - Shane McCormick 5 run (kick failed) 4:20 2nd AUG – Ron Nelson 20 run (Joe Mackay kick) 9:37 3rd AUG – Joe Kiesewetter 1 run (Joe Mackay kick) :21 3rd

AUG – Safety (Ball snapped over punter's head) 10:35 4th AUG – Doug Ely 14 run (Matt Krull kick) 6:52 4th CAR – Jim Bentz 2 run (Griffin kick) 1:57 4th

Augustana 19, Millikin 16 on October 20 in Decatur, Illinois - In what was probably the definitive game of the 1984 regular season the Vikings watched a 13-0 halftime lead slip away before coming back to claim a 19-16 victory over the Big Blue. The game was played in a driving rainstorm and there were only four passes attempted in the entire game

(two by each team) with one completion for no yards. The Vikings took the opening kickoff and marched to the Millikin 14 before turning the ball over. The defense rose to the occasion, however, and on second down linebacker Joe Wheeler recovered a fumble by Big Blue guarterback Ed Walker at the 15 and four plays later George Velasquez was in the end zone on a three yard run. Joe Mackay's extra point was perfect and the Vikings led 7-0 midway through the first quarter. Augustana started a drive at its own 30 with 5:00 left in the first and ended it with Ron Nelson's one yard touchdown with 13:36 left in the second. Nelson, who would churn out 162 yards on 37 carries for the day, got the ball eight times on the drive, including the last five in a row. The extra point was no good and the score was 13-0. It stayed that way until halftime although Augustana drove to the 34 once and the 10 another time before being turned away. Linebacker Jeff Scarpinato had a fumble recovery to set up one of those drives. In the second half Millikin scored 16 points in a span of just 2:16 to take a 16-13 lead. After receiving the opening kickoff Augustana lost 19 yards and on third and 29 from his own 16, John Leighton went back to punt. With the rain coming down in sheets, Leighton mishandled the snap and Millikin recovered on the Vikings seven. Two plays later Rick Petrovic scored on a five yard run and Walker ran for two and with 13:12 left in the third quarter the lead was down to 13-8. Unable to move the ball. Augustana went back to punt again and Leighton's punt was blocked and Frank Perryman returned it 36 yards for a touchdown. Once again Walker ran for two points and at 10:56 of the third the Big Blue led 16-13. Things looked bleak for the Vikings as their next possession produced one yard and another scary punt situation loomed. This time Leighton got off a decent punt of 33 yards, considering the monsoon like conditions. With 5:59 left in the third quarter Augustana got the ball back and head coach Bob Reade decided to put the game in the hands of Nelson. With the line getting just enough footing on straight-ahead plays, Millikin was fed a steady diet of Nelson for the rest of the game. The Vikings marched 67 yards on 12 plays with Nelson getting the call six times. His 29 yard run on a third and six from the 49 was the big play. Bednar got what proved to be the winning score on a six yard keeper and with 14:12 left in the contest Augustana reclaimed the lead 19-13. The defense allowed just two first downs the rest of the way and Nelson carried the ball on 10 of his team's final 13 plays. His five yard gain on a fourth and one with less than a minute left clinched the victory. Augustana managed to gain 272 yards on 72 rushing attempts and the defense held Millikin to just 82 yards of total

SCORE BY QUARTERS FINAL Augustana "Vikings" Millikin "Big Blue" 0 6 19 16 0 16

SCORING SUMMARY

offense.

AUG - George Velasquez 3 run (Joe Mackay kick) 7:10 1st

AUG - Ron Nelson 4 run (kick failed) 13:36 2nd

MIL – Rick Petrovic 5 run (Ed Walker run) 13:12 3rd

MIL - Frank Perryman 36 return of blocked punt (Ed Walker run) 10:56 3rd

AUG - Kirk Bednar 6 run (kick blocked) 14:12 4th

Augustana 28, North Central 0 on October 27 at Ericson

Field...Any threat of a letdown after the big win over Millikin was dispatched in a 28-0 whitewash of North Central. The Millikin game prepared the Vikings in terms of dealing with bad weather as rain swept through Ericson Field and made the playing surface a muddy quagmire. It slowed things for a while as the score was 0-0 after the first quarter before Ron Nelson ran 12 yards for a touchdown to cap a 62 yard, nine play drive. Joe Mackay's extra point made it 7-0 with 10:43 left in the second quarter. Midway through the period punter John Leighton dropped a punt dead at the Cardinal six and North Central tried to slam the ball out of its own territory. Fullback Tom Jenks carried the ball five

straight times and got the ball out to the 20 but on his fifth carry he fumbled and middle guard Lynn Thomsen fell on it at the 19. Three plays later George Velasquez bolted over from 13 yards away. The kick was no good and with 3:44 left before halftime the lead was 13-0. Defensive tackle Paul Rashid recovered a fumble by North Central quarterback Sam Cendro at the Cardinal 38 on the next drive and Brad Price sprinted 25 yards into the end zone. Bob Guerrieri scored the two point conversion and with 1:24 in front of intermission the score was 21-0. Quarterback Kirk Bednar's one yard quarterback sneak midway through the third quarter and Matt Krull's kick made it 28-0. The Augustana defense allowed just 111 yards of total offense (105 rushing and six passing) en route to a second shutout of the year. Cornerback Troy Westerman led the team in tackles with eight and Rashid had two fumble recoveries to go with four tackles. Rich Baumgartner added a blocked punt.

SCORE BY QUARTERS FINAL North Central "Cardinals" Augustana "Vikings" 0

SCORING SUMMARY

AUG – Ron Nelson 12 run (Joe Mackay kick) 10:43 2nd AUG – George Velasquez 13 run (kick failed) 3:44 2nd AUG - Brad Price 25 run (Bob Guerrieri run) 1:20 2nd AUG - Kirk Bednar 1 run (Matt Krull kick) 7:08 3rd

Augustana 28, Illinois Benedictine 7 on November 3 in Lisle, Illinois...A 28 point first quarter put this game away early but an injury to starting quarterback Kirk Bednar soured the Vikings mood just a bit. Bednar scored the first touchdown on a two yard run to cap a 62 yard, seven play drive. Matt Krull's extra point made it 7-0 with 7:59 to play in the first quarter. On Benedictine's next possession the Eagles were forced to punt from their own 10 and Bill Martinez blocked the kick by Sam Camburn and Paul Rashid fell on it in the end zone. Krull's kick made it 14-0 with 6:32 to play in the first. After Augustana held, Benedictine punted back and the Vikings were in business at their own 45. Augustana had to punt but a roughing the kicker penalty gave the Vikings new life and eventually Bednar connected with a wide open Norm Singbush for a 29 yard scoring pass with 1:26 left in the first. Krull's kick made it 21-0. Defensive end Robert Woolridge intercepted a pass at the Eagles' 26 and on the next play Bednar hooked up with fullback Shane McCormick for a 26 yard touchdown pass. Krull made it 28-0 before the first quarter ended. Benedictine got on the board on a six yard run by John Karpowicz early in the second guarter and that was all the scoring for the game. George Velasquez led the rushing attack with 121 yards on 14 attempts as Augustana ground out 296 yards on the ground. The defense limited the Eagles to only 19 yards rushing on 29 attempts and 176 yards passing.

SCORE BY QUARTERS 3 4 FINAL Augustana "Vikings" 0 0 28 28 Illinois Benedictine "Eagles" 0 0

SCORING SUMMARY

AUG - Kirk Bednar 2 run (Matt Krull kick) 7:59 1st

AUG – Paul Rashid recovered blocked punt in end zone (Matt Krull kick) 6:32 1st

AUG - Norm Singbush 29 pass from Kirk Bednar (Matt Krull) 1:46 1

AUG – Shane McCormick 26 pass from Kirk Bednar (Matt Krull) :46 $1^{\rm st}$ IBC – John Karpowicz 6 run (Tom McNally kick) 11:16 $2^{\rm nd}$

Augustana 21, Elmhurst 0 on November 10 in Elmhurst,

Illinois...Under blustery conditions the Vikings used a suffocating defense to record a 21-0 win over Elmhurst to clinch a fourth straight undefeated regular season and College Conference of Illinois & Wisconsin championship. Augustana allowed just 84 yards of total offense, 29 rushing and 55 passing. Elmhurst quarterback John Laschinski completed just four of 25 passes and was intercepted three times. Troy Bex stepped in at quarterback to replace Kirk Bednar, who was hurt in the win over Illinois Benedictine a week earlier. The Vikings got on the board first when Ron Nelson scored on a one yard run to cap a 47 yard, nine play drive on their first possession. The drive was set up when cornerback Troy Westerman intercepted Lashinski at the Bluejay 47 on Elmhurst's first offensive play. The score stayed that way until halftime and late in the third quarter Brad Price broke loose on a 47 yard romp late in the period. Krull's kick made it 14-0. Bex put the finishing touches on the win with a one yard run with 3:00 left in the game to cap a 26 yard, nine play drive that was set up by a 28 yard punt return from Norm Singbush.

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SCORE BY QUARTERS FINAL Augustana "Vikings" Elmhurst "Bluejays" Ω

SCORING SUMMARY

AUG - Ron Nelson 1 run (Matt Krull kick) 10:11 1st AUG – Brad Price 47 run (Matt Krull kick) 1:53 3rd AUG - Troy Bex 1 run (Matt Krull kick) 3:00 1st

Augustana 14, Dayton 13 on November 17 in Dayton, Ohio...In the annals of Augustana College football there may not have been a harder hitting, more intense game than the one that took place at Welcome Stadium. When Kirk Bednar took a knee at the Dayton 42 for the final play of the game the Vikings had a 14-13 victory in the first round of the NCAA Division III Playoffs. For two hours and 40 minutes these two small college heavyweights waged a physical war that was not really decided until Brad Price ran three yards for a first down on a fourth and one situation at the Dayton 42 with less than a minute left in the contest. At the time Augustana was clinging to a 14-13 lead and free safety Mike Gray had just snuffed out the Flyer's last threat with an interception at the 49. Dayton got on the board first with a 41 yard field goal by Dan French with 5:05 left in the first guarter. The Vikings answered two possessions later with a seven yard run by Ron Nelson to cap a 56 yard, 12 play drive that was set up when Joe Wheeler recovered a fumble at the Augustana 44. A 49 yard touchdown pass from quarterback Dan Nussman to Jim Green gave Dayton a 10-6 lead at halftime. In the third quarter Dayton punter Scott Wyler dropped a center snap in his own end zone and fell on it for a safety that allowed the Vikings to trim the lead to 10-8. With 9:33 left to play in the game French hit a 43 yard field goal to push the lead up to 13-8. Augustana started its game winning drive at its own 30 after a 21 yard kickoff return by Brad Price. Bednar hit Norm Singbush with an 11 yard pass early in the drive to get things going and from midfield Price ran 26 yards on a sweep to the left side to get the ball to the Dayton 24. On third and eight Bednar threw a pass across the middle to Singbush who went up and took it away from a defender at the five. Price gained three yards to put the ball on the two and Nelson got the game winner on a two yard run with 6:01 left in the game. The try for two was turned away when George Velasquez went airborn at the goalline but was knocked back by a terrific hit that typified this game. It was then left to the Viking defense and Gray's interception with 1:54 left was the key play. The Augustana rushing attack churned out 209 yards on 61 attempts against the tough Dayton defense with Nelson leading the way with 74 yards on 21 attempts. Bednar completed 11 of 22 passes for 144 yards with Singbush snagging nine passes for 132 yards. Defensive tackle Phil Hagen led the Augustana defense with 11 tackles while Wheeler had 10 including one for loss, one fumble recovery and a pass deflection. The Vikings limited Dayton to just 44 yards rushing on 35 attempts and they held a 36:17 to 23:43 edge in time of possession.

SCORE BY QUARTERS FINAL Augustana "Vikings" Dayton "Flyers"

SCORING SUMMARY

DAY – Dan French 41 field goal 5:05 1st AUG – Ron Nelson 7 run (kick blocked) 11:30 2nd

DAY – Jim Green 49 pass from Dan Nussman (Dan French kick) $5:14\ 2^{\rm nd}$

AUG - Tackled punter in end zone 3:18 3rd DAY - Dan French 43 field goal 9:33 4th AUG - Ron Nelson 2 run (run failed) 6:05 4th

Augustana 23, Union 6 on November 24 at Rock Island Public Schools Stadium...From the moment that sophomore defensive lineman Brian King separated Union's Rick Bajcer from the football (and his senses) on the opening kickoff, this game belonged to the Augustana defense. After beating the Flying Dutchmen 21-14 on a late touchdown in the 1983 Amos Alonzo Stagg Bowl for the national championship, this game was billed as revenge time for the team from Schnectady, New York. The Augustana defense would have none of that however, as it forced nine turnovers (seven interceptions and two fumbles) and the Vikings won going away by a score of 23-6. Union, which was averaging nearly 400 yards of total offense coming into the game, was held to just 248 yards, including only 59 on the ground. It was vintage Augustana football and best exemplified by the knock that King put on Bajcer with the game just seconds old. Dave Torri smothered Bajcer's fumble at the Union 20 and seven plays later Matt Krull kicked a 21 yard field goal to put the Vikings ahead 3-0. The Dutchmen tied the game at 3-3 late in the first quarter on a Greg Sticka field goal of 24 yards but Augustana took a 10-3 into halftime thanks to a one yard touchdown run by Ron Nelson

with 4:52 left in the second quarter. Early in the third quarter Sticka stuck a 43 yard field goal to trim the lead to 10-6. Krull added field goals of 27 and 20 yards in the third and fourth quarters to make it 16-6 and free safety Mike Gray sealed things with a 38 yard interception return for a touchdown with 2:47 left in the game. Brad Price gained 122 yards on 25 carries to lead the Augustana rushing attack but the story of the game was the defense. Union had 14 possessions in the game with seven ending in an interception, two in fumbles lost and one on a blocked field goal attempt. Gray and Troy Westerman each had three interceptions and Nick Kasap had the other. Torri and Robert Woolridge each recovered fumbles and Westerman also added a blocked field goal. Gray and linebacker Jeff Scarpinato each had 10 tackles to lead the way.

SCORE BY QUARTERS Union "Flying Dutchmen" Augustana "Vikings" Ω 6 23

SCORING SUMMARY

AUG – Matt Krull 21 field goal 11:35 1st UNION – Greg Sticka 24 field goal 2:24 1st AUG – Ron Nelson 1 run (Matt Krull kick) 4:52 2nd

UNION - Greg Sticka 43 field goal 13:58 3rd

AUG – Matt Krull 27 field goal 4:10 3rd AUG – Matt Krull 20 field goal 13:54 4th

AUG - Mike Gray 38 interception return (Matt Krull kick) 2:47 4th

Augustana 21, Central of Iowa 12 on December 8 at Kings Island, Ohio...Fullback Ron Nelson was too much for the Dutchmen of Central of Iowa and as a result the Augustana Vikings won their second consecutive NCAA Division III football championship in a game that was not nearly as close as the score would indicate. Nelson, who just did nudge past the 1000 yard mark for the year (he ended with 1001), got the call 32 times on a muddy Galbreath Field and he churned out 155 yards and three touchdowns. The Vikings led 14-0 in the first quarter and held Central to only 111 yards of total offense for the afternoon. The day belonged to Nelson, who would be named the game's MVP, and he made his statement early. Augustana faced a fourth and two from Central's 44 early in the first quarter and Nelson got the call. He burst through a hole in the middle of the line behind blocks from center Greg King and guard Tim Holmstrom and scampered untouched into the end zone. The extra point was blocked and the score was 6-0 and the Vikings had a lead they would never relinquish. On the next Augustana possession Nelson scored on a three yard run to cap a 55 yard, 13 play drive with :23 left in the first quarter. Quarterback Kirk Bednar ran it in for the two point conversion and the score was 14-0. Central did narrow things a bit with two Matt Schulte field goals in the second quarter to make it 14-6 at halftime. Nelson pushed the margin back up to 21-6 with a two yard touchdown run early in the fourth guarter. A late touchdown pass from Pat Dale to Matt Schulte allowed Central to cut the lead to 21-12 with 1:43 left in the contest but Norm Singbush intercepted Dale on the final play of the game to give the Vikings their second straight national title.

SCORE BY QUARTERS FINAL Central "Dutchmen" 12 21 Augustana "Vikings"

SCORING SUMMARY

AUG - Ron Nelson 44 run (kick failed) 9:06 1st

AUG – Ron Nelson 3 run (Kirk Bednar run) :23 1^{st} CEN – Matt Schulte 33 field goal $7:57\ 2^{nd}$

CEN - Matt Schulte 42 field goal :23 2nd AUG - Ron Nelson 2 run (Matt Krull kick) 12:09 4th

CEN - Matt Schulte 37 pass from Pat Dale (run failed) 1:43 4th

