

# Playoff History

## 1984 NCAA Division II First Round

November 25, 1984  
Caniglia Field • Omaha, Neb.

Northwest Missouri State (10-2) ..... 15  
Nebraska-Omaha (11-1) ..... 28

The Bearcats amassed 591 yards of total offense, but committed eight turnovers in the contest en route to a 28-15 loss in the school's first-ever NCAA Division II Playoff appearance.

Wide receiver Steve Hansley set an NCAA Division II Playoff record for most yards receiving with 220 yards, including a 91-yard bomb for a TD in the first quarter. That TD gave Northwest the lead in the contest, 9-8. But UNO outscored Northwest 20-6 over the remainder of the game.

Northwest held the Mavericks to just 365 yards of total offense and 4.5 per play but the hosts were too much in the second half. UNO's Brian Nelson led an even rushing attack with 101 yards on 23 carries while James Quaites had seven catches for 102 yards. Northwest's Brian Quinn passed for 423 yards on 25-of-42 passing but tossed three interceptions.

### SCORING SUMMARY:

Northwest	9	0	6	0	—	15
Nebraska-Omaha	8	3	7	10	—	28

1st	11:31 (NW)	Johnson 44-yd field goal, 3-0
	7:32 (UNO)	Macaitis 5-yd pass from Naran (Nelson pass from Brummer), 3-8
	7:17 (NW)	Hansley 91-yd pass from Quinn (kick failed), 9-8
2nd	0:47 (UNO)	Greg Morris 21-yd field goal, 9-11
3rd	6:07 (UNO)	Quaites 39-yd pass from Naran (Morris kick), 9-18
	5:05 (NW)	Wilson 52-yd run (kick failed), 15-18
4th	12:42 (UNO)	Morris 39-yd field goal, 15-21
	1:33 (UNO)	Nelson 5-yd run (Morris kick), 15-28

### GAME STATISTICS:

	NW	UNO
First Downs	25	20
Rushes-yards	36-168	49-194
Passes	25-42-3	15-33-0
Passing yards	423	171
Total offense	78-591	82-365
Fumbles-lost	6-5	4-1
Penalties-yards	11-110	9-70
Punts-average	1-0.0	7-33.9

### PASSING

NW - Quinn: 25-42-3-423 (1 TD)  
UNO - Naran: 15-33-0-171 (2 TD)

### RUSHING

NW - Wilson: 17-150-1; Thomas: 9-29-0; Chester: 3-10-0  
UNO - Nelson: 23-101-1; Macaitis: 13-62-0

### RECEIVING

NW - Hansley: 10-220-1; Anderson: 12-157-0  
UNO - Quaites: 7-102-1; Allen: 4-49-0

### TACKLES

NW - Donaldson: 13; Savard: 11; Sullivan: 10  
UNO - Coleman: 12; several with 7

## 1989 NCAA Division II First Round

November 18, 1989  
Carnie Smith Stadium • Pittsburg, Kan.

#18 Northwest Missouri State (9-3) ..... 7  
Pittsburg State (12-0) ..... 28

Pittsburg State scored 21 points in the second quarter on the way to a 28-7 defeat of Northwest in the Bearcats' second playoff appearance.

Both teams threatened to score in the first quarter, but PSU's Jody Truitt fumbled a pass reception into the Northwest end zone for a touchback and the Bearcats were stopped on a fourth-and-one at the Pitt 11-yard line.

PSU took advantage of Bearcat miscues in the second quarter to string together 21 points. After a Bearcat fumble, PSU quarterback Jay Padden ran in from five yards out. After a Darren Dawson 10-yard spurt on a fourth-and-three, gave the Gorillas a 15-0 edge, Northwest punter Todd Gray bobbled the snap from center and was tackled at the Bearcat 13. Pitt needed only four plays and a Northwest offside penalty to score from there to go up 21-0 and cruise to the victory.

The Gorillas' defense held Northwest's high-powered wishbone offense to just 220 yards of total offense and forced three turnovers. Ralph Hinds scored Northwest's only touchdown on a 6-yard scamper in the third quarter.

### SCORING SUMMARY:

Northwest	0	0	7	0	—	7
Pittsburg State	0	21	7	0	—	28

2nd	11:12 (PSU)	Padden 5-yd run (Jenkins kick), 0-7
	5:33 (PSU)	Dawson 10-yd run (Davis pass from Ginavan), 0-15
	1:11 (PSU)	Padden 4-yd run (run failed), 0-21
3rd	9:00 (NW)	Hinds 6-yd run (Miller kick), 7-21
	7:27 (PSU)	Davis 10-yd run (Jenkins kick), 7-28

### GAME STATISTICS:

	NW	PSU
First Downs	14	15
Rushes-yards	63-180	52-271
Passes	3-8-1	1-3-0
Passing yards	40	44
Total offense	71-220	55-315
Fumbles-lost	7-2	2-2
Penalties-yards	2-18	2-15
Punts-average	4-22.5	4-29.5

### PASSING

NW - Kruse: 3-5-1-40; Wilson: 0-3-0  
PSU - Padden: 1-3-0-44

### RUSHING

NW - Tillison: 15-69-0; Hinds: 17-48-1; Wilson: 8-30-0  
PSU - Dawson: 19-129-1; Davis: 17-96-1; Padden: 12-34-2

### RECEIVING

NW - T. Johnson: 1-20-0; J. Johnson: 1-11-0; Redmond: 1-9-0  
PSU - Truitt: 1-44-0

### TACKLES

NW - Svehla: 11; Stephens: 10; Agee: 7  
PSU - Rodrigue: 10; Hayes: 9; Schwiegerath: 9; Gray: 8

## 1996 NCAA Division II First Round

November 23, 1996  
Al Caniglia Field • Omaha, Neb.

#2 Northwest Missouri State (11-1) ..... 22  
Nebraska-Omaha (10-2) ..... 21

Jesse Haynes made a diving, one-handed catch of Greg Teale's pass for a touchdown as time ran out, giving the Bearcats their first-ever playoff victory. Teale lofted the 17-yard pass under pressure and Haynes, with two defenders all over him, hauled it in at the goal line and fell into the end zone for the touchdown.

But Haynes' catch never would have happened without the biggest play of the game. Twan Young made a leaping, one-handed interception with 2:34 left in the game and Northwest trailing 21-16.

Haynes also had an incredible game on the ground, rushing for 232 yards and a touchdown - a Northwest playoff record that still stands today.

### SCORING SUMMARY:

Northwest	10	0	6	6	—	22
Nebraska-Omaha	0	14	7	0	—	21

1st	14:07 (NW)	Haynes 69-yd run (Purnell kick), 7-0
	11:13 (NW)	Purnell 31-yd field goal, 10-0
2nd	11:52 (UNO)	McPhaul 7-yd run (Kosel kick), 10-7
	2:37 (UNO)	Jones 8-yd pass from Thompson (Kosel kick), 10-14
3rd	10:42 (UNO)	Koory 1-yd run (Herdzina kick), 10-21
	3:40 (NW)	Comer 17-yd pass from Teale (pass failed), 16-21
4th	0:00 (NW)	Haynes 17-yd pass from Teale (rush failed), 22-21

### GAME STATISTICS:

	NW	UNO
First Downs	17	19
Rushes-yards	48-218	54-289
Passes	4-19-0	6-14-1
Passing yards	65	58
Total offense	67-283	68-347
Fumbles-lost	1-0	3-1
Penalties-yards	8-67	6-66
Punts-average	6-36.2	3-32.7

### PASSING

NW - Teale: 4-19-0-65 (2 TD)  
UNO - Thompson: 6-14-1-58 (1 TD)

### RUSHING

NW - Haynes: 32-232-1; Evans: 1-4-0  
UNO - Herdzina: 15-93-0; Thompson: 14-74-0; Koory: 12-72-1

### RECEIVING

NW - Serve: 1-20-0; Comer: 1-17-1; Haynes: 1-17-1  
UNO - Young: 3-23-0; Benjamin: 1-19-0; Jones: 1-8-1

### TACKLES

NW - LeBlanc: 11; Sutton: 6; Nelson: 6; Four with 5  
UNO - Titus: 10; Johnson: 7; Bartling: 6; Welch: 5

## 1996 NCAA Division II National Quarterfinal

**November 30, 1996**  
**Jackson Field • Greeley, Colo.**

#2 Northwest Missouri State (11-2) .....	26
#15 Northern Colorado (10-3) .....	27

Omar Zuniga caught a 2-yard touchdown pass with :12 left to give Northern Colorado a one-point victory over Northwest in the quarterfinals. The Bears eventually went on to win the national championship.

Leading 23-21, Northwest had the ball at the UNC 1 yard line. But two consecutive penalties forced the Bearcats to settle for a field goal to make it 26-21 with 1:45 left in the game.

That sequence set up Northern Colorado's 80-yard, game-winning drive.

### SCORING SUMMARY:

Northwest	7	10	0	9	—	26
Northern Colorado	14	0	7	6	—	27

1st	11:28 (NC)	Beck 5-yd run (Schauer kick), 0-7
	4:07 (NW)	Haynes 37-yd run (Purnell kick), 7-7
	2:52 (NC)	Grable 42-yd pass from Beck (Schauer kick), 7-14
2nd	6:18 (NW)	Teale 12-yd run (Purnell kick), 14-14
	0:13 (NW)	Purnell 25-yd field goal, 17-14
3rd	10:23 (NC)	Holmes 8-yd run (Schauer kick), 17-21
4th	8:53 (NW)	Haynes 13-yd run (kick blocked), 23-21
	1:35 (NW)	Purnell 30-yd field goal, 26-21
	0:12 (NC)	Zuniga 2-yd pass from Beck (Pass failed), 26-27

### GAME STATISTICS:

	NW	NC
First Downs	18	18
Rushes-yards	51-225	49-187
Passes	9-20-1	12-23-0
Passing yards	172	121
Total offense	71-397	72-308
Fumbles-lost	1-1	3-1
Penalties-yards	6-39	8-52
Punts-average	5-31.4	7-35.9

### PASSING

NW - Greisen: 4-10-0-113; Teale: 4-9-1-41  
NC - Beck: 12-23-0-121 (2 TD)

### RUSHING

NW - Haynes: 28-144-2; Evans: 13-94-0; Greisen: 2-5-0  
NC - Holmes: 32-156-1; Beck: 11-50-1; Chicarelli: 4-13-0

### RECEIVING

NW - Serve: 4-54-0; Evans: 1-51-0; Zeller: 1-24-0  
NC - Holmes: 5-57-0; Grable: 2-47-1; Chicarelli: 3-10-0

### TACKLES

NW - Sutton: 13; Combs: 13; LeBlanc: 12; Hoggatt: 6  
NC - Scott: 12; Johnson: 8; Zimmerman: 8; Kemble: 7

## 1997 NCAA Division II First Round

**November 22, 1997**  
**Rickenbrode Stadium • Maryville, Mo.**

#16 North Dakota State (9-3) .....	28
#3 Northwest Missouri State (12-0) .....	39

Tony Miles' 86-yard kickoff return sparked the Bearcats to victory in their first-ever home playoff game.

Trailing 21-12, Northwest, which had been sluggish most of the day, got the jump-start it needed on a Bison kickoff. Miles took the kick at his own 14, got a couple of blocks and raced down the left sideline to the end zone, making the score 21-19 in favor of NDSU.

Derek Lane scored from 29 yards away and Matt Becker caught a 2-yard touchdown pass from Chris Greisen to make it 33-21. NDSU pulled within 33-28 late in the game. But Bobby Nelson iced the victory, returning an interception 36 yards for a touchdown in the closing seconds.

NDSU did outgain Northwest in total yardage (374-298) but Northwest was +2 in the turnover category.

### SCORING SUMMARY:

North Dakota State	7	7	7	7	—	28
Northwest	3	7	16	13	—	39

1st	6:52 (ND)	Morris 4-yd run (Johnson kick), 7-0
	0:02 (NW)	Purnell 43-yd field goal, 7-3
2nd	4:20 (ND)	Morris 64-yd run (Johnson kick), 14-3
	2:58 (NW)	Hanson 19-yd pass from Greisen (Purnell kick), 14-10
3rd	9:49 (NW)	Team safety, 14-12
	4:25 (ND)	Strehlow 5-yd pass from Feeney (Johnson kick), 21-12
	4:07 (NW)	Miles 86-yd KO return (Purnell kick), 21-19
	2:01 (NW)	Lane 29-yd run (Purnell kick), 21-26
4th	8:58 (NW)	Becker 2-yd pass from Greisen (Purnell kick), 21-33
	5:53 (ND)	Nelson 4-yd pass from Feeney (Johnson kick), 28-33
	0:12 (NW)	Nelson 36-yd INT return (kick failed), 28-39

### GAME STATISTICS:

	ND	NW
First Downs	22	14
Rushes-yards	61-250	31-47
Passes	10-23-3	15-31-2
Passing yards	124	251
Total offense	84-374	62-298
Fumbles-lost	3-1	0-0
Penalties-yards	4-40	7-66
Punts-average	6-37.0	6-30.5

### PASSING

NW - Greisen: 15-31-2-251 (2 TD)  
ND - Feeney: 10-23-3-124 (2 TD)

### RUSHING

NW - Lane: 17-59-1; Evans: 4-6-0  
ND - Morris: 28-155-2; Feeney: 15-55-0; Dietrich: 12-41-0

### RECEIVING

NW - Hanson: 5-117-1; Miles: 4-52-0; Becker: 3-44-1  
ND - Swanson: 2-44-0; Strehlow: 4-38-1; Vigen: 1-17-0

### TACKLES

NW - Nelson: 9; Crowe: 9; Keys: 8; Combs: 8;  
ND - McCullum: 6; Steffen: 5; Swanson: 5; Fredricks: 5

## 1997 NCAA Division II National Quarterfinal

**November 29, 1997**  
**Rickenbrode Stadium • Maryville, Mo.**

Northern Colorado (11-2) .....	35
#3 Northwest Missouri State (12-1) .....	19

For the second consecutive season, Northwest's season came to an all-too-early end against the Northern Colorado Bears. UNC eventually went on to win its second consecutive NCAA Division II Championship.

Northwest got on the scoreboard first when Chris Greisen hit Wade Hanson with a 6-yard touchdown pass.

Three unanswered UNC TDs made it 21-7 midway through the second quarter. Northwest pulled within 21-13 just before halftime.

But the Bearcats' momentum was short-lived. The Bears' Corte McGuffey connected with Dillon Micus on a 65-yard bomb on the first play of the second half to make it 28-13.

### SCORING SUMMARY:

Northern Colorado	14	7	7	7	—	35
Northwest	7	6	6	0	—	19

1st	11:26 (NW)	Hanson 6-yd pass from Greisen (Purnell kick), 0-7
	8:57 (NC)	Holmes 28-yd run, (Schauer kick), 7-7
	2:36 (NC)	McGuffey 5-yd run, (Schauer kick), 14-7
2nd	10:00 (NC)	Micus 35-yd pass from McGuffey (Schauer kick), 21-7
	0:20 (NW)	Greisen 2-yd run (kick blocked), 21-13
3rd	14:47 (NC)	Micus 65-yd pass from McGuffey (Schauer kick), 28-13
	12:30 (NW)	Miles 26-yd pass from Greisen (Greisen pass failed), 28-19
4th	5:10 (NC)	Chicarelli 10-yd run (Schauer kick), 35-19

### GAME STATISTICS:

	NC	NW
First Downs	16	16
Rushes-yards	51-185	27-87
Passes	9-15-0	22-40-3
Passing yards	181	212
Total offense	66-366	67-299
Fumbles-lost	5-3	4-3
Penalties-yards	7-63	5-53
Punts-average	5-28.8	3-26.7

### PASSING

NW - Greisen: 22-40-3-212 (2 TD)  
NC - McGuffey: 9-15-0-181 (2 TD)

### RUSHING

NW - Lane: 14-76-0; Evans 4-7-0; Pugh 2-6-0  
NC - Holmes: 30-126-1; McGuffey: 15-49-1; Chicarelli: 2-15-1

### RECEIVING

NW - Evans: 5-58-0; Miles: 3-48-1; Hanson: 6-39-1  
NC - Micus: 4-129-2; Holmes: 2-30-0; Haase: 2-11-0

### TACKLES

NW - Crowe: 10; Buckwalter: 10; Sutton: 5; Keys: 4  
NC - Heiner: 9; Johnson: 7; Eastin: 7; Zimmerman: 7

## 1998 NCAA Division II First Round

November 21, 1998  
Rickenbrode Stadium • Maryville, Mo.

#16 Nebraska-Omaha (9-3)..... 14  
#2 Northwest Missouri State (12-0)..... 28

Northwest rode the arm of quarterback Chris Greisen as the Bearcats piled up 340 yards through the air en route to the first round win. Greisen went 24-of-37 with three touchdown tosses. The Bearcats turned two of three UNO turnovers into touchdowns taking a 21-7 halftime lead.

The Bearcats scored first on Derek Lane's 3-yard reception from Greisen with 11:05 on the clock in the first quarter. Tony Miles and Ryan George each scored in the second quarter to give the Bearcats a 21-7 lead at halftime.

Tucker Woolsey increased the lead to 28-7 in the third with his 1-yard touchdown run.

UNO quarterback Ed Thompson was a dual threat passing for 94 yards and one score and also rushing for 138 yards.

### SCORING SUMMARY:

Nebraska-Omaha	7	0	0	7	—	14
Northwest	7	14	7	0	—	28

1st	11:05 (NW)	Lane 3-yd pass from Greisen (Purnell kick), 0-7
	6:31 (UNO)	Koory 1-yd run (Kosel kick), 7-7
2nd	11:17 (NW)	Miles 29-yd pass from Greisen (Purnell kick), 7-14
	0:52 (NW)	George 11-yd pass from Greisen (Purnell kick), 7-21
3rd	5:15 (NW)	Woolsey 1-yd run (Purnell kick) 7-28
4th	6:31 (UNO)	Kreis 5-yd pass from Thompson (Kosel kick) 14-28

### GAME STATISTICS:

	UNO	NW
First Downs	20	21
Rushes-yards	46-272	38-100
Passes	10-28-1	24-37-0
Passing yards	94	340
Total offense	74-366	75-440
Fumbles-lost	2-2	1-0
Penalties-yards	5-31	10-74
Punts-average	3-36.7	6-43.2

### PASSING

NW - Greisen: 24-37-0-340 (3 TD)  
UNO - Thompson: 10-28-1 (1TD)

### RUSHING

NW - Lane: 22-63-0; Woolsey 5-35-1; Jansen: 1-5-0  
UNO - Thompson: 18-138-0; Koory: 9-68-1; Holland: 11-32-0

### RECEIVING

NW - Miles: 8-102-1; George: 5-80-1; Holmes; 4-65-0  
UNO - Kreis: 6-46-1; Jenkins: 2-32-0; Kenoly: 1-8-0

### TACKLES

NW - Crowe: 12; Becker: 9; Williams: 7; Young, Buckwalter: 6

## 1998 NCAA Division II National Quarterfinal

November 28, 1998  
Rickenbrode Stadium • Maryville, Mo.

#6 Northern Colorado (11-2)..... 17  
#2 Northwest Missouri State (13-0)..... 42

For the third straight year, Northwest and two-time defending national champs Northern Colorado met in the quarterfinal round.

UNC led 17-14 late in the first half, but Greisen scored on a 1-yard scramble with no time left on the first-half clock to give Northwest a 21-17 lead.

The Bearcats broke the game open on the second offensive play of the second half. Derek Lane busted through the middle for a 67-yard touchdown and the rout was on.

Lane rushed for 132 yards, while Greisen passed for three scores.

### SCORING SUMMARY:

Northern Colorado	3	14	0	0	—	17
Northwest	7	14	21	0	—	42

1st	11:07 (NW)	Hill 54-yd pass from Greisen (Purnell kick), 0-7
	2:03 (NC)	Schauer 29-yd field goal, 3-7
2nd	11:19 (NC)	Moody 13-yd pass from McGuffey (Schauer kick), 10-7
	7:00 (NW)	Hill 24-yd pass from Greisen (Purnell kick), 10-14
	4:37 (NC)	Zuniga 12-yd pass from McGuffey (Schauer kick), 17-14
	0:00 (NW)	Greisen 1-yd run (Purnell kick), 17-21
3rd	14:34 (NW)	Lane 67-yd run (Purnell kick), 17-28
	8:08 (NW)	Woolsey 1-yd run (Purnell kick), 17-35
	1:14 (NW)	George 35-yd pass from Greisen (Purnell kick), 17-42

### GAME STATISTICS:

	NC	NW
First Downs	24	20
Rushes-yards	28-125	36-184
Passes	24-46-4	19-26-1
Passing yards	230	275
Total offense	74-355	62-459
Fumbles-lost	0-0	0-0
Penalties-yards	6-55	5-41
Punts-average	3-30.7	3-45.0

### PASSING

NW - Greisen: 19-26-1-275 (3 TD)  
NC - McGuffey: 24-46-4-230 (2 TD)

### RUSHING

NW - Lane: 14-126-1; Greisen: 12-40-1; Woolsey: 6-22-1  
NC - McGuffey: 5-38-0; Wyeth: 9-35-0; Brown: 8-29-0

### RECEIVING

NW - Lane: 5-96-0; Hill: 3-87-2; George: 2-43-1  
NC - Gable: 3-41-0; Zuniga: 4-38-1; Richards: 4-32-0

### TACKLES

NW - Crowe: 10; Keys: 8; Sutton: 6; Williams: 6; Simmons: 5

## 1998 NCAA Division II National Semifinal

December 5, 1998  
Rickenbrode Stadium • Maryville, Mo.

#11 Texas A&M-Kingsville (11-3) ..... 34  
#2 Northwest Missouri State (14-0) ..... 49

The third straight home playoff game for the Bearcats in 1998 had Northwest facing Texas A&M-Kingsville in the semifinals. The winner would go to Florence, Ala., to take part in the NCAA Division II Championship game.

Northwest scored first but the Javelinas retaliated with 10 unanswered points to go up 10-7.

The A&M-Kingsville lead was short-lived, though. Willie Cohen hauled in a 65-yard bomb from Chris Greisen to put Northwest back on top.

Twan Young recovered a blocked punt for a score and Tony Miles took a 74-yard reception all the way to put the Bearcats up 28-10 before halftime. Kingsville would not get closer than eight points before Northwest wrapped up its first semifinal win in school history.

### SCORING SUMMARY:

Texas A&M Kingsville	3	14	10	7	—	34
Northwest	7	21	7	14	—	49

1st	11:44 (NW)	Holmes 30-yd pass from Greisen (Purnell kick), 0-7
	0:03 (TAMK)	Johnson 41-yd field goal, 3-7
2nd	10:42 (TAMK)	Turner 30-yd INT return (Johnson kick), 10-7
	9:49 (NW)	Cohen 65-yd pass from Greisen (Purnell kick), 10-14
	7:24 (NW)	Young 0-yd blocked punt return (Purnell kick), 10-21
	3:30 (NW)	Miles 74-yd pass from Greisen (Purnell kick), 10-28
	1:51 (TAMK)	Burnell 3-yd run (Johnson kick), 17-28
3rd	10:37 (NW)	Miles 14-yd pass from Greisen (Purnell kick), 17-35
	7:48 (TAMK)	Hackney 30-yd pass from Bennett (Johnson kick), 24-35
	1:34 (TAMK)	Johnson 26-yd field goal, 27-35
4th	13:38 (NW)	Miles 12-yd pass from Greisen (Purnell kick), 27-42
	6:21 (NW)	Lane 3-yd run (Purnell kick), 27-49
	4:01 (TAMK)	Hackney 25-yd pass from Bennett (Johnson kick), 34-49

### GAME STATISTICS:

	TAMK	NW
First Downs	18	18
Rushes-yards	49-241	30-74
Passes	11-21-1	15-22-1
Passing yards	213	313
Total offense	70-454	52-387
Fumbles-lost	2-0	1-1
Penalties-yards	11-67	5-28
Punts-average	7-34.3	5-42.6

### PASSING

NW - Greisen: 15-22-1-313 (5 TD)  
TAMK - Bennett: 7-15-1-168 (2 TD); Bauovich: 4-6-0-45

### RUSHING

NW - Lane: 15-61-1; Woolsey: 7-22-0; Miles: 1-10-0  
TAMK - Foster: 14-123-0; Bennett: 16-43-0; Humphrey: 6-43-0

### RECEIVING

NW - Miles: 5-136-3; Cohen: 1-65-1; Holmes: 1-30-1  
TAMK - Hackney: 3-79-2; Carrier: 3-66-0; Palmer: 2-43-0

### TACKLES

NW - Crowe: 8; Sutton: 8; Williams: 7; Simmons: 7; Keys: 6

## 1998 NCAA Division II National Championship

**December 12, 1998**  
**Braly Stadium • Florence, Ala.**

#3 Carson-Newman (12-2) .....	6
#2 Northwest Missouri State (15-0) .....	24

Not even the cold and continuous rain could dampen the excitement of the 3,000-plus Northwest fans who made the 714-mile trip to Florence, Ala., for the Division II title game. Carson-Newman drew first blood and led 6-0 during the first quarter when Jarvonni Jackson pulled down a 36-yard touchdown pass from Leonard Guyton. But Derek Lane reached pay dirt on an 8-yard run with 14:12 to go in the second quarter to put Northwest up 7-6 after David Purnell's PAT.

After Northwest took a 17-6 halftime advantage, the only score of the second half came when J.R. Hill clinched the game and the championship for the Bearcats. Hill found himself wide open and hauled in a Greisen 25-yard aerial for a touchdown to put Northwest up 24-6.

Greisen set an NCAA Division II Playoff record for TD passes with 13, while tying an NCAA Division II Championship game record with 22 completions.

Lane rushed for a game-high 79 yards. Greisen passed for 211 yards and two scores. Miles pulled down nine passes for 75 yards.

### SCORING SUMMARY:

Carson-Newman	6	0	0	0	—	6
Northwest	0	17	7	0	—	24

1st	3:03 (CN)	Jackson 36-yd pass from Guyton, (pass failed), 6-0
2nd	14:13 (NW) 9:58 (NW)	Lane 8-yd run (Purnell kick), 6-7 Miles 12-yd pass from Greisen (Purnell kick), 6-14
	1:09 (NW)	Purnell 42-yd field goal, 6-17
3rd	10:11 (NW)	Hill 25-yd pass from Greisen (Purnell kick), 6-24

### GAME STATISTICS:

	NW	CN
First Downs	21	14
Rushes-yards	31-135	33-91
Passes	22-34-0	12-26-1
Passing yards	211	185
Total offense	65-346	59-276
Fumbles-lost	1-1	7-2
Penalties-yards	4-31	6-49
Punts-average	6-38.2	6-34.2

### PASSING

NW - Greisen: 22-34-0-211 (2 TD)  
CN - Guyton: 3-12-1-106 (1 TD); Allen: 9-14-0-79

### RUSHING

NW - Lane: 18-79-1; Greisen: 9-34-0; Miles: 1-16-0  
CN - Oates: 10-56-0; Hakins: 12-35-0; Allen: 4-6-0

### RECEIVING

NW - Miles: 9-75-1; Maus: 3-49-0; Hill: 2-39-1  
CN - Jackson: 2-66-1; Rumph: 4-48-0; Cockrell: 2-45-0

### TACKLES

NW - Crowe: 9; Knutson: 6; Young: 5  
CN - Burris: 10; Styles: 6; Dixon: 6; Barnes: 6

## 1999 NCAA Division II First Round

**November 20, 1999**  
**Rickenbrode Stadium • Maryville, Mo.**

#9 North Dakota (9-2) .....	13
#4 Northwest Missouri State (11-1) .....	20

Both defenses played well. In fact, neither Northwest nor North Dakota scored an offensive touchdown until after regulation play had ended.

UND scored late in the first quarter when the Sioux returned a blocked field goal for a TD to lead 7-0. Two UND field goals in the second quarter made it 13-0 at halftime.

Tony Miles returned a punt 64 yards for a score and two David Purnell field goals tied the game early in the fourth quarter.

David Jansen rushed for 115 yards and scored the game-winning touchdown in overtime.

### SCORING SUMMARY:

North Dakota	7	6	0	0	0	—	13
Northwest	0	0	10	3	7	—	20

1st	3:56 (ND)	Grime 66-yd missed FG return (Peterka kick), 7-0
2nd	10:22 (ND) 0:01 (ND)	Peterka 23-yd field goal, 10-0 Peterka 27-yd field goal, 13-0
3rd	12:34 (NW) 3:01 (NW)	Miles 64-yd punt return (Purnell kick), 13-7 Purnell 46-yd field goal, 13-10
4th	10:19 (NW)	Purnell 36-yd field goal, 13-13
OT	15:00 (NW)	Jansen 1-yd run (Purnell kick), 13-20

### GAME STATISTICS:

	ND	NW
First Downs	14	19
Rushes-yards	47-185	37-130
Passes	9-24-2	20-43-3
Passing yards	109	221
Total offense	71-294	80-351
Fumbles-lost	2-1	3-2
Penalties-yards	4-42	6-43
Punts-average	9-28.8	5-33.4

### PASSING

NW - Travis Miles: 20-42-3-221; LeBlanc: 0-1-0-0  
ND - Stein: 9-24-2-109

### RUSHING

NW - Jansen: 24-115-1; Tony Miles: 2-24-0; Woolsey 2-5-0  
ND - Perkerewicz: 30-141-0; Stein: 4-18-0; Zaub: 7-10-0

### RECEIVING

NW - Tony Miles: 11-147-0; Holmes: 3-28-0; Janse: 3-25-0  
ND - Juhasz: 4-50-0; Schleusner: 3-33-0; Headley: 2-26-0

### TACKLES

NW - Williams: 9; Sidwell: 8; Miller: 8; Smith: 6; Simmons: 5  
ND - Wagner: 10; Howe: 9; Grimes: 7

## 1999 NCAA Division II National Quarterfinal

**November 27, 1999**  
**Nottingham Field • Greeley, Colo.**

#4 Northwest Missouri State (12-1) .....	41
#3 Northern Colorado (11-2) .....	35

Northwest trailed 28-17 in the fourth quarter, but the 'Cats out-scored UNC 24-7 from there to take the six-point victory. Travis Miles passed for 342 yards and three touchdowns, while David Jansen rushed for 99 yards and a score. The biggest play of the game included both Miles and Jansen in unfamiliar roles.

Jansen completed a five-yard halfback throwback pass to Miles for a TD late in the game to give the Bearcats the lead for good.

Brian Schertz preserved the lead with less than two minutes remaining, blocking a UNC field-goal attempt.

### SCORING SUMMARY:

Northwest	7	3	7	24	—	41
Northern Colorado	6	8	14	7	—	35

1st	10:57 (NW) 7:47 (NC)	Jansen 14-yd run (Purnell kick), 7-0 Scott 5-yd pass from McGuffey (kick failed), 7-6
2nd	14:54 (NC)	Garble 19-yd pass from McGuffey (Lonegan pass), 7-14
	0:26 (NW)	Purnell 48-yd field goal, 10-14
3rd	7:39 (NW)	Jansen 2-yd pass from Miles (Purnell kick), 17-14
	3:20 (NC)	Richards 8-yd pass from McGuffey (Schauer kick), 17-21
	0:43 (NC)	Scott 10-yd run (Schauer kick), 17-28
4th	13:20 (NW)	George 5-yd pass from Miles (Purnell kick), 24-28
	9:59 (NW)	Holmes 38-yd pass from Miles (Purnell kick), 31-28
	7:55 (NC)	Grable 47-yd pass from McGuffey (Schauer kick), 31-35
	4:06 (NW)	Miles 5-yd pass from Jansen (Purnell kick), 38-35
	0:51 (NW)	Purnell 47-yd field goal kick, 41-35

### GAME STATISTICS:

	NW	NC
First Downs	24	19
Rushes-yards	36-139	32-110
Passes	27-37-1	18-27-0
Passing yards	347	260
Total offense	73-486	59-370
Fumbles-lost	1-0	2-0
Penalties-yards	12-97	8-49
Punts-average	4-37.3	6-35.7

### PASSING

NW - Travis Miles: 26-36-1-342 (3 TD); Jansen: 1-1-0-5 (1 TD)  
NC - McGuffey: 18-27-0-260 (4 TD)

### RUSHING

NW - Jansen: 24-99-1; Tony Miles: 2-23-0; Woolsey: 4-10-0  
NC - Prosser: 7-44-0; Daniels: 15-43-0; Zuniga: 1-14-0

### RECEIVING

NW - Holmes: 8-169-1; Tony Miles: 7-104-0; Jansen: 7-36-1  
NC - Grable: 4-102-2; Zuniga: 2-59-0; Nelson: 3-37-0

### TACKLES

NW - Bonnett: 10; Williams: 7; Miller: 6; Buckwalter: 6; Pugh: 5  
NC - Heiner: 10; Zimmerman: 10; Morelock: 9

## 1999 NCAA Division II National Semifinal

December 4, 1999  
Rickenbrode Stadium • Maryville, Mo.

Indiana University (Pa.) (9-4) .....	12
#4 Northwest Missouri State (13-1) .....	20

A second straight trip to the NCAA Division II National Championship game was on the line as Northwest hosted Indiana (Pa.) in the semifinals.

The Bearcats drew first blood in the second quarter when Ryan George scored on a 4-yard pass from Travis Miles. IUP answered in the third quarter, but missed the PAT and trailed 7-6.

A 48-yard bomb by the Indians early in the fourth quarter put Northwest down 12-7. The Bearcats had now trailed in the fourth quarter of all three playoff games.

A 33-yard David Purnell field goal made it 12-10 midway through the fourth quarter. IUP then fumbled the ensuing kickoff and Northwest recovered in Indian territory. Although the offense only managed one yard, Purnell was true from 35 yards out for another field goal and Northwest was back on top, 13-12.

Scott Courter's recovery of teammate David Jansen's fumble in the end zone accounted for the final score. Jansen rushed for 221 yards in the contest.

### SCORING SUMMARY:

Indiana (Pa.)	0	0	6	6	—	12
Northwest	0	7	0	13	—	20

2nd	12:00 (NW)	George 4-yd pass from Miles (Purnell kick), 0-7
3rd	8:37 (IUP)	Wilson 1-yd run (kick failed), 6-7
4th	12:53 (IUP)	Dorsey 48-yd pass from Eyerman (pass failed), 12-7
	6:38 (NW)	Purnell 33-yd field goal, 12-10
	4:21 (NW)	Purnell 35-yd field goal, 12-13
	1:09 (NW)	Courter 0-yd fumble recovery (Purnell kick), 12-20

### GAME STATISTICS:

	IUP	NW
First Downs	20	25
Rushes-yards	32-30	46-204
Passes	16-33-1	20-31-0
Passing yards	202	235
Total offense	65-232	77-439
Fumbles-lost	2-1	6-1
Penalties-yards	3-29	7-71
Punts-average	4-40.3	1-29.0

### PASSING

NW - Travis Miles: 20-30-0-235 (1 TD); Hackett: 0-1-0-0  
IUP - Eyerman: 16-33-1-202 (1 TD)

### RUSHING

NW - Jansen: 32-221-0; Woolsey: 4-15-0; Tony Miles: 1-14-0  
IUP - Wilson: 1-7-48-1; Dew: 8-34-0

### RECEIVING

NW - Holmes: 6-107-0; Jansen: 4-61-0; Miles: 5-29-0  
IUP - Ocasio: 3-49-0; Dorsey: 1-48-1; Sauve: 4-43-0

### TACKLES

NW - Williams: 12; Miller: 8; Carlson: 8; Buckwalter: 5; Voge: 5  
IUP - Flora: 8; Tindell: 8; Borisenko: 8

## 1999 NCAA Division II National Championship

December 11, 1999  
Braly Stadium • Florence, Ala.

#1 Carson-Newman (13-1) .....	52
#4 Northwest Missouri State (14-1) .....	58

The 1999 NCAA Division II National Championship game between Northwest and Carson-Newman has been described as "the greatest college football game ever played" and "the best Division II game in history." The fireworks started when Northwest still trailed by 16 points, 30-14. The Bearcats and Eagles traded touchdowns two more times, leaving Northwest behind 44-29 with 3:34 remaining in the game. The Bearcats got on the board less than a minute later when J.R. Hill took a seven-yard scoring strike from Travis Miles. The Bearcats held Carson-Newman at the Northwest 26-yard line with less than a minute left. Then Hill and Miles hooked up again, this time from 34 yards away to make it 44-42 with 10 seconds left.

Then came "The Catch." Travis Miles threw a fade route to Ryan George deep in the end zone for the two-point conversion attempt. George caught the ball dragging his left foot just inbounds, tying the game at 44-44. After two scoreless overtimes, with each team missing a potential game-winning field goal, Carson-Newman regained the lead in overtime No. 3 and converted the mandatory two-point conversion to go ahead 52-44. Northwest answered with a Tony Miles 15-yard reverse for a score. Steve Comer hauled in a Travis Miles pass for the two-point conversion to tie the game and bring on overtime No. 4.

Northwest took its first lead since the first quarter when Hill caught a 13-yard scoring strike from Travis Miles in the fourth overtime to make it 58-52. The conversion attempt failed. On C-N's first-and-10 from the 12-yard line, the Eagles fumbled. The Bearcats' Ryan Miller recovered and Northwest had its second consecutive championship.

### SCORING SUMMARY:

Northwest	7	0	7	30	0	0	8	6	—	58
Carson-Newman	10	14	6	14	0	0	8	0	—	52

1st	9:21 (NW)	Jansen 18-yd run (Purnell kick), 7-0
	5:28 (CN)	Fleming 38-yd field goal, 7-3
	3:39 (CN)	Rumph 86-yd punt return (Fleming kick), 7-10
2nd	8:27 (CN)	Oates 1-yd run (Fleming kick), 7-17
	3:32 (CN)	Refoure 20-yd run (Fleming kick), 7-24
3rd	11:54 (NW)	Holmes 20-yd pass from Miles (Purnell kick), 14-24
	4:54 (CN)	Oates 1-yd run (kick failed), 14-30
4th	12:44 (NW)	Miles 7-yd pass from Miles (Comer pass from Miles), 22-30
	7:39 (CN)	Guyton 10-yd run (Fleming kick), 22-37
	7:25 (NW)	Miles 81-yd KO return (Purnell kick), 29-7
	3:34 (CN)	Oliver 12-yd run (Fleming kick), 29-44
	2:41 (NW)	Hill 7-yd pass from Miles (Purnell kick), 36-44
	0:10 (NW)	Hill 34-yd pass from Miles (George pass from Miles), 44-44
OT3	(CN)	Oliver 1-yd run (Guyton run), 44-52
	(NW)	Miles 15-yd run (Commer pass from Miles), 52-52
OT4	(NW)	Hill 13-yd pass from Miles (run failed), 58-52

### GAME STATISTICS:

	CN	NW
First Downs	30	26
Rushes-yards	77-419	34-137
Passes	7-22-1	24-45-3
Passing yards	108	298
Total offense	99-527	79-435
Fumbles-lost	2-2	0-0
Penalties-yards	12-87	13-93
Punts-average	3-37.3	4-41.5

### PASSING

NW - Travis Miles: 24-45-3-298 (5 TD)  
CN - Guyton: 7-22-1-108

### RUSHING

NW - Jansen: 18-54-1; Tony Miles: 4-47-1; Woolsey: 7-26-0  
CN - Oliver: 30-194-2; Oates: 19-106-2; Refoure: 13-73-1

### RECEIVING

NW - Hill: 7-120-3; Holmes: 5-70-1; Tony Miles: 6-65-1  
CN - Rumph: 3-36-0; Fletcher: 1-35-0; Jackson: 2-20-0

### TACKLES

NW - Simmons: 17; Bonnett: 16; Miller: 13; Williams: 11  
CN - Early: 7; Hyppolite: 7; Curry: 6

## 2000 NCAA Division II First Round

November 18, 2000  
Rickenbrode Stadium • Maryville, Mo.

#5 North Dakota State (11-1) .....	31
#1 Northwest Missouri State (11-1) .....	17

Northwest's fifth straight berth in the NCAA Division II Playoffs didn't last as long as the Bearcats would have liked.

North Dakota State outscored Northwest 21-7 in the second half to break open a contest that was tied 10-10 at halftime. The Bison scored 21 unanswered points in the third and fourth quarters and led 31-10 with less than five minutes to play.

Northwest got a 60-yard touchdown from Travis Miles to J.R. Hill with 3:28 left to make it 31-17, but it was too little, too late.

NDSU racked up 282 yards on the ground and had two running backs go over 100 yards. The Bearcat offense, which set school and MIAA records for scoring, was held to just 265 yards of offense and its lowest point total of the season.

The 2002 season marked the final time for NDSU to be a Division II affiliation as they went to DI status in 2003.

### SCORING SUMMARY:

North Dakota State	10	0	14	7	—	31
Northwest	0	10	0	7	—	17

1st	11:22 (ND)	Pederson 47-yd field goal, 3-0
	9:40 (ND)	Gordon 39-yd pass from Johnson (Pederson kick), 10-0
2nd	14:01 (NW)	Timmerman 20-yd field goal, 10-3
	9:24 (NW)	Jansen 7-yd run (Timmerman kick), 10-10
3rd	10:23 (ND)	Peck 13-yd pass from Johnson (Pederson kick), 17-10
	3:31 (ND)	Gordon 4-yd run (Pederson kick), 24-10
4th	8:13 (ND)	Perkins 8-yd run (Pederson kick), 31-10
	3:28 (NW)	Hill 60-yd pass from Miles (Timmerman kick), 31-17

### GAME STATISTICS:

	ND	NW
First Downs	19	14
Rushes-yards	56-282	31-81
Passes	4-16-0	20-43-0
Passing yards	77	184
Total offense	72-359	74-265
Fumbles-lost	3-2	2-1
Penalties-yards	9-99	3-29
Punts-average	8-39.4	9-36.0

### PASSING

NW - Travis Miles: 20-43-0-184 (1 TD)  
ND - Johnson: 4-15-0-77 (2 TD)

### RUSHING

NW - Jansen: 18-59-1; Miles: 2-41-0; Woolsey: 1-2-0  
ND - Perkins: 14-134-1; Gordon: 30-119-1; Johnson: 7-18-0

### RECEIVING

NW - Hill: 9-107-1; Miles: 5-40-0; Stewart: 1-21-0  
ND - Gordon: 1-39-1; Peck: 2-27-1; Bratton: 1-11-0

### TACKLES

NW - Miller: 10; Williams: 10; Quinlin: 9; Becker: 8  
ND - Evenson: 9; Swanson: 6; Maher: 6; Murphy: 5

## 2002 NCAA Division II First Round

**November 23, 2002**  
**Rickenbrode Stadium • Maryville, Mo.**

#11 Minnesota-Duluth (11-1) ..... 41  
#4 Northwest Missouri State (12-0) ..... 45

Northwest needed a last-minute touchdown to win a shootout with Minnesota Duluth, 45-41. The game marked Northwest's return to the playoffs after a one-year absence.

Northwest trailed 7-3 after one quarter. But a Jamaica Rector 45-yard punt return for a touchdown put the 'Cats on top in the second quarter. Northwest led 17-10 at the intermission.

Then the fireworks started. The third quarter saw six touchdowns, three for each team. Northwest led 38-30 after three periods. UMD got a field goal early in the fourth and a touchdown with three minutes left to regain the lead.

But Northwest went 61 yards in six plays to record the final score and the win. Back-to-back completions of 17 and 30 yards from John McMenammin to Jamaica Rector highlighted the drive.

Northwest racked up 579 yards of offense, while the Bulldogs accounted for 453 yards.

### SCORING SUMMARY:

Minnesota-Duluth	7	3	20	11	—	41
Northwest	3	14	21	7	—	45

1st	10:31 (MD)	Kuhl 16-yd pass from Fritz (Gerlach kick), 7-0
	2:16 (NW)	Ibarra 34-yd field goal, 7-3
2nd	10:55 (NW)	Rector 45-yd punt return (Ibarra kick), 7-10
	4:33 (NW)	Roberts 2-yd run (Ibarra kick), 7-17
	0:19 (MD)	Gerlach 47-yd field goal, 10-17
3rd	14:42 (MD)	Battaglia 34-yd pass from Fritz (Gerlach kick), 17-17
	12:41 (NW)	Roberts 5-yd run (Ibarra kick), 17-24
	10:44 (MD)	Langeness 55-yd fumble recovery (Gerlach kick), 24-24
	7:17 (NW)	Roberts 1-yd run (Ibarra kick), 24-31
	3:49 (MD)	Battaglia 35-yd pass from Fritz (kick failed), 30-31
	1:14 (NW)	Rector 64-yd pass from McMenammin (Ibarra kick), 30-38
4th	12:26 (MD)	Gerlach 37-yd field goal, 33-38
	3:02 (MD)	Battaglia 66-yd pass from Fritz (Battaglia pass), 41-38
	0:31 (NW)	Scaggs 3-yd run (Ibarra kick), 41-45

### GAME STATISTICS:

	MD	NW
First Downs	24	29
Rushes-yards	36-123	33-209
Passes	18-43-2	24-40-2
Passing yards	330	370
Total offense	79-453	73-579
Fumbles-lost	1-0	3-2
Penalties-yards	8-69	7-65
Punts-average	6-37.3	2-34.0

### PASSING

NW - McMenammin: 23-39-2-338 (1 TD)  
MD - Fritz: 18-43-2-330 (4 TD)

### RUSHING

NW - Herring: 11-80-0; Scaggs: 8-58-1; Rector: 3-26-0  
MD - Ruffed: 13-36-0; Ray: 8-31-0; Fritz: 10-22-0

### RECEIVING

NW - Rector: 8-217-1; Herring: 7-59-0; Otte: 2-31-0  
MD - Tim Battaglia: 7-159-2; Steve Battaglia: 6-102-1

### TACKLES

NW - Ridley: 8; Giddings: 8; Creger: 8; Smith: 5; Tiehen: 5  
MD - Jipson: 9; Nseumen: 7; Skinner: 6; Fisher: 5

## 2002 NCAA Division II National Quarterfinal

**November 30, 2002**  
**Rickenbrode Stadium • Maryville, Mo.**

#7 Northern Colorado (12-1) ..... 23  
#4 Northwest Missouri State (12-1) ..... 12

For the fifth time in seven years, Northwest and Northern Colorado met in the quarterfinals of the NCAA Division II playoffs.

A stifling Bears defense led the visitors to an 11-point win over Northwest. The Bearcats managed only 123 yards of offense, one week after racking up nearly 600 total yards.

UNC got on the scoreboard first with a touchdown. The Bearcats answered, but missed the extra point and trailed 7-6. Northwest had four possessions which reached UNC territory after the first quarter but was unable to score.

Northern Colorado's dominating defense allowed the Bears ofense to put together a 23-6 lead.

The Bearcats finally scored again on the final play of the game. Seniors John McMenammin and Mark Stewart hooked up for a 10-yard touchdown pass on the final play of their collegiate careers.

### SCORING SUMMARY:

Northern Colorado	7	3	7	6	—	23
Northwest	6	0	0	6	—	12

1st	11:18 (NC)	Pyatt 26-yd pass from Passard (Swim kick), 7-0
	3:21 (NW)	Burke 5-yd pass from McMenammin (kick failed), 7-6
2nd	2:14 (NC)	Swim 20-yd field goal, 10-6
3rd	10:28 (NC)	Pyatt 40-yd pass from Passard (Swim kick), 17-6
4th	0:28 (NC)	Matthews 5-yd run (kick failed), 23-6
	0:00 (NW)	Stewart 10-yd pass from McMenammin, 23-12

### GAME STATISTICS:

	MD	NW
First Downs	19	9
Rushes-yards	39-89	21-(-8)
Passes	20-31-1	18-31-1
Passing yards	268	131
Total offense	70-357	52-123
Fumbles-lost	2-0	5-1
Penalties-yards	5-45	5-24
Punts-average	7-28.1	7-38.3

### PASSING

NW - McMenammin: 18-31-1-131 (2 TD)  
NC - Passard: 20-31-1-268 (2 TD)

### RUSHING

NW - Roberts: 5-12-0; Rector: 1-12-0; Herring: 4-11-0  
NC - Matthews: 22-66-1; Thompson: 11-34-0

### RECEIVING

NW - Rector: 5-40-0; Stewart: 3-33-1; Burke: 3-24-1  
NC - Pyatt: 7-126-2; Jackson: 7-63-0; White: 2-44-0

### TACKLES

NW - Ridley: 12; Creger: 11; Bowser: 6; Chumley: 5  
NC - Doughty: 9; Davidson: 8; Dunn: 5; Hoffschneider: 5

## 2004 NCAA Division II Second Round

**November 20, 2004**  
**Bearcat Stadium • Maryville, Mo.**

#6 Texas A&M-Kingsville (9-2) ..... 14  
#4 Northwest Missouri State (11-1) ..... 34

Led by the steady arm of redshirt freshman quarterback Josh Mathews and the legs of redshirt freshman running back Xavier Omon, the No. 4 Northwest Missouri State football squad defeated No. 6 Texas A&M Kingsville, 34-14. The meeting was just the second in history as both teams met in the 1998 playoffs in the Northwest win.

Mathews ended his day with a career-high 286 yards on 18-of-33 passing with three TD's. Omon was limited to 64 yards on 22 carries but the yardage total was a milestone. He took over the Northwest single-season rushing total with 1,490 yards as he passed Jesse Haynes' (1996) mark of 1,453.

Northwest led just 7-0 at the half, its smallest lead in the locker room at home this year. But the Bearcats came out fired up in the second half. A playoff-record 51-yard field goal by Luis Berlanga sparked a 27-point second-half outburst.

Jamaica Rector tied the MIAA record (all games) with his 37th career touchdown reception.

### SCORING SUMMARY:

Texas A&M-Kingsville	0	0	7	7	—	14
Northwest	0	7	13	14	—	34

2nd	9:11 (NW)	Froehlich 5-yd pass from Mathews (Berlanga kick), 0-7
3rd	10:34 (NW)	Berlanga 51-yd field goal, 0-10
	5:56 (TAMK)	Tyler 56-yd fumble recovery (Hammond kick), 7-10
	4:52 (NW)	J. Rector 9-yd pass from Mathews (Berlanga kick), 7-17
	0:47 (NW)	Berlanga 22-yd field goal, 7-20
4th	14:21 (NW)	Falkner 46-yd pass from Mathews (Berlanga kick), 7-27
	12:50 (TAMK)	Washington 71-yd pass from Taylor (Hammond kick), 14-27
	3:59 (NW)	Omon 23-yd run (Berlanga kick), 14-34

### GAME STATISTICS:

	TAMK	NW
First Downs	15	18
Rushes-yards	32-57	33-49
Passes	18-37-2	18-34-0
Passing yards	297	286
Total offense	69-354	67-335
Fumbles-lost	2-1	1-1
Penalties-yards	9-114	7-40
Punts-average	8-34.8	7-39.4

### PASSING

NW - Mathews: 18-33-0-286 (3 TD)  
TK - Taylor: 18-37-2-297 (1 TD)

### RUSHING

NW - Omon: 22-64-1; Fiech: 3-10-0; Netolicky: 1-2-0  
TK - Miller: 13-66-0; Beard: 2-(-4)-0

### RECEIVING

NW - J. Rector: 11-202-1; Falkner: 3-59-1; A. Rector: 1-8-0  
TK - Washington: 7-153-1; Harding: 4-60-0; Bingham: 3-55-0

### TACKLES

NW - Tysdahl: 9; Whitt: 9; Kaiser: 7; Tollefson: 6; Long: 5  
TK - Fillmore: 10; Donnell: 9; Spencer: 8; Sualua: 6; Martin: 5

## 2004 NCAA Division II National Quarterfinal

November 27, 2004  
Carnie Smith Stadium • Pittsburg, Kan.

#4 Northwest Missouri State (11-2) .....36  
#1 Pittsburg State (13-0) .....50

Special teams were not so special as there were a combined three PAT attempts blocked, one punt blocked and one field goal blocked and No. 1 Pittsburg State scored 29 second-half points en route to the 50-36 victory over No. 4 Northwest.

After Northwest hushed the PSU crowd by taking a 10-0 lead, the Gorillas scored the next 14 points on two passing touchdowns. Northwest battled back to take a 23-21 edge at the half.

The Northwest PAT attempt was blocked by Eric Wright after going up 29-21. That special teams play seemed to ignite the Gorilla squad as the hosts scored 21 of the game's final 28 points to take the semifinal win.

The game was not decided until the Pittsburg State defense stepped up late. Northwest was driving in an attempt to tie the game at 36. However, a Mathews pass to junior wide receiver Andre Rector in the left front corner of the end zone with 4:23 remaining was intercepted by linebacker Chad Miller.

### SCORING SUMMARY:

Northwest	10	13	6	7	—	36
Pittsburg State	0	21	15	14	—	50

1st	12:38 (NW)	J. Rector 18-yd pass from Mathews (Berlanga kick), 7-0
	4:10 (NW)	Berlanga 51-yd field goal, 10-0
2nd	14:21 (PS)	Noble 1-yd pass from Majors (Alleman kick), 10-7
	11:59 (PS)	Carpenter 58-yd pass from Majors (Alleman kick), 10-14
	1:44 (NW)	Omon 1-yd run (Berlanga kick), 17-14
	0:42 (NW)	Falkner 29-yd blocked punt return (kick failed), 23-14
	0:04 (PS)	Austin 3-yd pass from Majors (Alleman kick), 23-21
3rd	10:59 (NW)	Tiehen 16-yd fumble recovery (kick blocked), 29-21
	10:59 (PS)	Wright PAT return, 29-23
	5:24 (PS)	Taylor 1-yd run (kick blocked), 29-29
	1:03 (PS)	Ward 10-yd pass from Philpot (Alleman kick), 29-36
4th	12:20 (NW)	Omon 1-yd run (Berlanga kick), 36-36
	9:26 (PS)	Race 23-yd run (Alleman kick), 36-43
	2:33 (PS)	Philpot 25-yd run (Alleman kick), 36-50

### GAME STATISTICS:

	NW	PS
First Downs	15	27
Rushes-yards	29-96	54-377
Passes	19-34-3	10-19-1
Passing yards	290	152
Total offense	63-386	73-529
Fumbles-lost	0-0	3-3
Penalties-yards	13-113	5-27
Punts-average	5-41.8	4-28.8

### PASSING

NW - Mathews: 19-34-3-290 (1 TD)  
PS - Majors: 6-11-1-102 (3 TD); Philpot: 4-8-0-50 (1 TD)

### RUSHING

NW - Omon: 24-85-2; Herring: 2-10-0; Mathews: 3-1-0  
PS - Philpot: 20-131-1; Race: 20-130-1; Taylor: 6-72-1

### RECEIVING

NW - A. Rector: 5-143-0; J. Rector: 9-82-1; Froehlich: 3-48-0  
PS - Carpenter: 4-102-1; Ward: 3-36-1; Austin: 2-13-1

### TACKLES

NW - Clark: 8; Tysdahl: 8; Bostwick: 6; Kaiser: 5; Long: 5  
PS - Miller: 11; Lattime: 7; Taylor: 7; Neville: 6; Wright: 5

## 2005 NCAA Division II First Round

November 12, 2005  
San Angelo Stadium • San Angelo, Texas

#21 Northwest Missouri State (8-3) .....45  
#20 Angelo State (9-3) .....14

In the first meeting between the two schools, Northwest held Angelo State to more than 20 points off its season average in the 45-14 first round NCAA playoff win. Sophomore running back Xavier Omon finished with a career-high 225 yards on 24 carries.

The Bearcats sprinted out to a 21-0 lead by scoring on its first three possessions including two 1-yard plunges from senior Daren Roberts. ASU's Brandon Davis recovered a fumbled snap on a punt and put the hosts on the board in the second quarter. Senior wide receiver Andre Rector caught touchdown passes of 50 and 22 yards in the second quarter to expand the Bearcat lead to 35-7 going into the half and the rout was on. The Northwest defense held ASU to 91 yards on 24 plays in the first half.

ASU scored one last time on a 2-yard pass from Drew Peterson to Matt Stanley midway through the fourth. Freshman kicker Tommy Frevert hit his ninth field goal of the season, this one from 26 yards out, to close out the scoring.

### SCORING SUMMARY:

Northwest	14	21	7	3	—	45
Angelo State	0	7	0	7	—	14

1st	11:40 (NW)	Omon 19-yd run (Frevert kick), 7-0
	6:23 (NW)	Roberts 1-yd run (Frevert kick), 14-0
2nd	12:59 (NW)	Roberts 1-yd run (Frevert kick), 21-0
	7:56 (AS)	Davis 0-yd fumble rec. (Williams kick), 21-7
	5:53 (NW)	Rector 50-yd pass from Lamberson (Frevert kick), 28-7
	0:31 (NW)	Rector 22-yd pass from Lamberson (Frevert kick), 35-7
3rd	3:42 (NW)	Omon 62-yd run (Frevert kick), 42-7
4th	7:01 (AS)	Peterson 2-yd pass from Stanley (Williams kick), 42-14
	1:34 (NW)	Frevert 26-yd field goal, 45-14

### GAME STATISTICS:

	NW	AS
First Downs	26	15
Rushes-yards	48-241	30-204
Passes	18-25-0	16-31-1
Passing yards	258	180
Total offense	73-499	61-384
Fumbles-lost	2-1	2-2
Penalties-yards	5-30	2-10
Punts-average	4-39.8	5-40.4

### PASSING

NW - Lamberson: 18-24-0-258 (2 TD)  
AS - Weisshuhn: 11-25-1-120; Stanley: 5-6-0-60 (1 TD)

### RUSHING

NW - Omon: 24-225-2; Herring: 8-43-0; Gregg: 3-6-0  
AS - Fox: 21-174-0; Stanley: 3-24-0; Thomas: 4-13-0

### RECEIVING

NW - Rector: 5-124-2; Robinson: 3-40-0; Wright: 3-35-0  
AS - Fox: 4-68-0; Thomas: 1-33-0; Hayes: 4-24-0

### TACKLES

NW - Butler: 8; Womack: 6; Erspamer: 6; Pratt: 5  
AS - Brittain: 10; Reed: 9; Stafford: 7; Smith: 6

## 2005 NCAA Division II Second Round

November 19, 2005  
Yager Stadium • Topeka, Kan.

#21 Northwest Missouri State (9-3) .....42  
#12 Washburn (9-3) .....32

Northwest scored touchdowns on its first five possessions en route to a 42-32 second round playoff win over host Washburn. At the 2:41 mark of the first quarter, Northwest held a 21-0 lead thanks to two touchdown passes from senior quarterback Josh Lamberson.

Washburn picked up its initial first down hitting the Northwest 26 late in the first. However, the Northwest defense gave the ball back to the offense and sophomore E.J. Falkner took a pitch pass from Lamberson and ran down the right sideline for a 74-yard touchdown. The Bearcats held a 35-7 advantage at the half.

Down 42-17, Washburn notched two more scores on two pass plays to make the score closer. Senior Kelly Williams picked up his team-tying third interception with a leaping grab in the middle of the fourth stanza to squash another would-be Washburn scoring drive.

The Northwest win was revenge from WU's 31-28 victory at Bearcat Stadium on Oct. 8. That loss for Northwest snapped a 10-game winning streak at home.

### SCORING SUMMARY:

Northwest	21	14	7	0	—	42
Washburn	0	17	7	8	—	32

1st	11:59 (NW)	Rector 39-yd pass from Lamberson (Frevert kick), 7-0
	8:07 (NW)	Omon 2-yd run (Frevert kick), 14-0
	2:41 (NW)	Meyerkorth 8-yd pass from Lamberson (Frevert kick), 21-0
2nd	12:35 (NW)	Falkner 74-yd pass from Lamberson (Frevert kick), 28-0
	9:54 (WU)	Gardiner 45-yd pass from Brill (Connor kick), 28-7
	8:58 (NW)	Omon 70-yd run (Frevert kick), 35-7
	4:51 (WU)	Hearn 1-yd run (Connon kick), 35-14
	0:16 (WU)	Connor 35-yd field goal, 35-17
3rd	11:03 (NW)	Wright 8-yd pass from Lamberson (Frevert kick), 42-17
	3:44 (WU)	Odupitan 30-yd pass from Brill (Connor kick), 42-24
4th	2:41 (WU)	Odupitan 15-yd pass from Brill (Lehman pass from Brill), 42-32

### GAME STATISTICS:

	NW	WU
First Downs	18	20
Rushes-yards	44-183	41-76
Passes	17-27-0	16-29-1
Passing yards	311	296
Total offense	71-494	70-372
Fumbles-lost	1-0	1-0
Penalties-yards	7-54	4-34
Punts-average	4-29.5	5-31.6

### PASSING

NW - Lamberson: 17-26-0-311 (4 TD)  
WU - Brill: 16-29-1-296 (3 TD)

### RUSHING

NW - Omon: 37-166-2; Lamberson: 6-18-0  
WU - Hearn: 22-61-1; Mosley: 11-41-0; Walker: 1-7-0

### RECEIVING

NW - Rector: 7-110-1; Falkner: 2-83-1; Roberts: 2-55-0  
WU - Odupitan: 5-118-2; Gardiner: 2-74-1; Lebahn: 2-44-0

### TACKLES

NW - Flynn: 7; Erspamer: 6; Pratt: 6; Butler: 5; Womack: 5  
WU - Gould: 10; Gonzalez: 8; Lewis: 6; Neal: 6; Lawrence: 6

## 2005 NCAA Division II National Quarterfinal

**November 26, 2005**  
**Carnie Smith Stadium • Pittsburg, Kan.**

#21 Northwest Missouri State (10-3) .....	21
#23 Pittsburg State (10-4) .....	10

Northwest advanced to the NCAA Division II semifinals for the third time in program history with a 21-10 victory over Pittsburg State. Northwest never trailed in the game and snapped a three-game skid against the Gorillas. Senior Daren Roberts staked Northwest to a 7-0 lead in the first quarter and Northwest held on.

After a PSU field goal, the Gorillas looked to grab the lead in the second after Northwest had to punt deep in its own territory. Pitt State started the ensuing drive at the Northwest 36-yard line but quarterback Andy Majors was intercepted by junior Darcell Clark on a third-and-25 play.

The Bearcats took advantage of the game's first turnover when senior Andre Rector scored from 13 yards out to give Northwest a 14-3 edge, which held until the third quarter. Junior Mike Peterson gave the Bearcats some breathing room, catching a Lamberson pass for 57 yards to put his club up 21-10. Defensive end Ryan Waters thwarted a PSU rally with his second interception of the season late in the fourth quarter.

### SCORING SUMMARY:

Northwest	7	7	0	7	—	21
Pittsburg State	0	3	7	0	—	10

1st	4:15 (NW)	Roberts 1-yd run (Frevort kick), 7-0
2nd	11:35 (PS)	Alleman 51-yd field goal, 7-3
	5:34 (NW)	Rector 13-yd pass from Lamberson (Frevort kick), 14-3
3rd	9:15 (PS)	Twito 28-yd pass from Majors (Alleman kick), 14-10
4th	8:57 (NW)	Peterson 57-yd pass from Lamberson (Frevort kick), 21-10

### GAME STATISTICS:

	NW	PS
First Downs	19	15
Rushes-yards	40-143	30-82
Passes	20-23-0	20-34-4
Passing yards	225	208
Total offense	63-368	64-290
Fumbles-lost	0-0	0-0
Penalties-yards	9-60	5-40
Punts-average	6-27.7	4-34.5

### PASSING

NW - Lamberson: 20-23-0-225 (2 TD)  
PS - Majors: 20-34-4-208 (1 TD)

### RUSHING

NW - Omon: 29-152-0; Wright: 1-13-0; Roberts: 5-6-1  
PS - Bean: 13-52-0; Majors: 12-19-0; Taylor: 4-12-0

### RECEIVING

NW - Peterson: 6-106-1; Rector: 5-40-1; Falkner: 3-24-0  
PS - Curran: 5-65-0; Pray: 5-36-0; Twito: 2-34-1

### TACKLES

NW - Harness: 6; Womack: 6; Erspamer: 5; Finch: 5; Pratt: 5  
PS - Jones: 10; Neville: 9; Lattimer: 9; Shamblin: 8; Hoppe: 7

## 2005 NCAA Division II National Semifinal

**December 3, 2005**  
**Braly Municipal Stadium • Florence, Ala.**

#21 Northwest Missouri State (11-3) .....	25
#13 North Alabama (11-3) .....	24

Northwest is headed to its third NCAA Division II national championship thanks to a 25-24 come-from-behind win over North Alabama. Freshman wide receiver Raphael Robinson caught his first career touchdown from three yards out with :23 seconds remaining.

Northwest trailed for the first time in the postseason as Yuta Fukuda nailed a 20-yard field goal with 9:01 left in the second to give UNA a 3-0 lead. That lead stood until the third quarter. Out of the locker room, junior defensive back Tyler Martin blocked a UNA punt. Five plays later, Josh Lamberson found Andre Rector in the corner of the end zone to stake Northwest to a 7-3 lead. However, UNA's Doug Waller picked up the fumble later in the quarter and ran in from 11 yards out.

Xavier Omon made sure the UNA lead was short-lived with a 67-yard touchdown sprint with 6:48 in the third. After a 27-yard field goal by Tommy Frevort early in the fourth tied the score at 17-17, UNA's Anthony Merritt took a reverse and weaved his way 17 yards with 8:36 remaining. The Lions led 24-17 at that point.

Kyle Kaiser wrapped up Lion quarterback Vinnie Saylor in the end zone and the safety brought Northwest within five points at 24-19 with 6:43 left. The game-winning drive started at the Northwest 49 with 1:52 left. With no time-outs, Lamberson engineered a six-play march going 5-of-6 in passing. The big strike was a 25-yard spiral to Rector where Northwest had it at the 3-yard line. One play later, Robinson nabbed his only catch of the day.

### SCORING SUMMARY:

Northwest	0	0	14	11	—	25
North Alabama	0	3	14	7	—	24

2nd	9:01 (NA)	Fukuda 20-yd field goal, 0-3
3rd	11:46 (NW)	Rector 11-yd pass from Lamberson (Frevort kick), 7-3
	7:44 (NA)	Waller 11-yd fumble rec (Fukuda kick), 7-10
4th	6:48 (NW)	Omon 67-yd run (Frevort kick), 14-10
	2:02 (NA)	Wilson 11-yd pass from Saylor (Fukuda kick), 14-17
4th	13:59 (NW)	Frevort 27-yd field goal, 17-17
	8:36 (NA)	Merritt 17-yd run (Fukuda kick), 17-24
	6:43 (NW)	Team safety, 19-24
	0:23 (NW)	Robinson 3-yd pass from Lamberson (pass failed), 25-24

### GAME STATISTICS:

	NW	NA
First Downs	17	23
Rushes-yards	21-109	36-124
Passes	25-40-2	29-42-1
Passing yards	245	248
Total offense	61-311	78-347
Fumbles-lost	1-1	1-0
Penalties-yards	6-40	6-57
Punts-average	5-35.8	4-23.0

### PASSING

NW - Lamberson: 25-40-2-245 (2 TD)  
NA - Saylor: 29-41-1-248 (1 TD)

### RUSHING

NW - Omon: 16-101-1; Roberts: 1-2-0  
NA - Fountain: 4-38-0; Blount: 18-30-0; Milwee: 5-23-0

### RECEIVING

NW - Rector: 8-108-1; Falkner: 7-65-0; Omon: 2-32-0  
NA - Merritt: 7-73-0; Messing: 5-56-0; Long: 5-52-0

### TACKLES

NW - Kaiser: 9; Finch: 8; Pratt: 8; Waters: 8; Erspamer: 7  
NA - Tharpe: 9; Wright: 9; Farris: 7; Suggs: 7; Williamson: 5

## 2005 NCAA Division II National Championship

**December 10, 2005**  
**Braly Municipal Stadium • Florence, Ala.**

#21 Northwest Missouri State (11-4) .....	17
#1 Grand Valley State (13-0) .....	21

Northwest lost 21-17 in its third-ever national championship appearance. It's the first loss in a championship game for the Bearcats.

With :01 second remaining and the ball resting on the Grand Valley 22-yard line, senior quarterback Josh Lamberson hit redshirt freshman Raphael Robinson at the four, but time ran out as several GVSU defenders held Robinson from the goal line.

After Grand Valley took the lead 21-17 on a 35-yard screen pass, Northwest had 4:15 left to attempt a second straight come-back win. Lamberson, who set a NCAA championship record for most completed passes (33) and attempts (49), hit three different receivers to put the ball at the Northwest 40. Senior fullback Mitch Herring hauled in a 5-yard completion and moved the chains to the 17-yard line. After a spike to stop the clock, Lamberson seemed to connect with sophomore E.J. Falkner in the back of the end zone but Falkner was unable to drag his feet inbound. Lamberson was sacked on the next play before Robinson came up just short.

Sophomore Xavier Omon picked up his ninth career postseason rushing touchdown late in the first half and gave Northwest a 14-7 lead at the half. With Northwest holding a 17-14 advantage, GVSU's Scott Greene lined up from 34 yards out on the next possession but his field goal attempt hooked right. Northwest was unable to sustain a drive and gave the ball right back to Grand Valley with 8:57 remaining. On the ensuing drive, Finnerty found a wide open Brandon Langston in the left flat for the winning score. That play covered 35 yards at the 4:25 mark.

### SCORING SUMMARY:

Northwest	7	7	0	3	—	17
Grand Valley State	7	0	7	7	—	21

1st	7:47 (NW)	Peterson 30-yd pass from Lamberson (Frevort kick), 7-0
2nd	4:15 (GV)	Finnerty 5-yd run (Greene kick), 7-7
	13:43 (NW)	Omon 2-yd run (Frevort kick), 14-7
3rd	2:15 (GV)	Finnerty 3-yd run (Greene kick), 14-14
4th	14:56 (NW)	Frevort 35-yd field goal, 17-14
	4:25 (GV)	Langston 35-yd pass from Finnerty (Greene kick), 17-21

### GAME STATISTICS:

	NW	GV
First Downs	20	16
Rushes-yards	24-54	42-165
Passes	33-51-0	12-19-0
Passing yards	326	172
Total offense	75-380	61-337
Fumbles-lost	0-0	0-0
Penalties-yards	1-6	3-15
Punts-average	6-33.8	5-40.2

### PASSING

NW - Lamberson: 33-49-0-326 (1 TD)  
GV - Finnerty: 12-19-0-172 (1 TD)

### RUSHING

NW - Omon: 13-63-1; Falkner: 1-6-0  
GV - Martin: 18-72-0; Finnerty: 14-59-2; Hukill: 6-35-0

### RECEIVING

NW - Peterson: 9-150-1; Wright: 5-44-0; Rector: 5-42-0  
GV - Langston: 4-62-1; Hukill: 3-46-0; Trent: 3-35-0

### TACKLES

NW - Harness: 7; Womack: 7; Termini: 7; Tollefson: 6;  
GV - Adams: 12; Carr: 9; Skuta: 9; Cain: 7; Carruth: 6

## 2006 NCAA Division II Second Round

November 25, 2006  
Bearcat Stadium • Maryville, Mo.

#18 Midwestern State (10-3) .....	0
#2 Northwest Missouri State (12-0) .....	27

Northwest held Midwestern State, the nation's third-most potent offense statistically, to 17 total yards of offense in the second half and a Northwest playoff-record low 147 overall. The Northwest defense, which notched its third shutout of the season and first in playoff history (25 games), limited the nation's third-best offense more than 300 yards below its season average. MSU entered the game third with 460 yards of total offense per game and third in scoring at 39 points per contest. MSU was shut out for the first time since the 1996 season.

The Mustangs of MSU appeared ready to take the first lead of the game taking the opening kickoff 50 yards to the Northwest 15-yard line. But a Kristian Foster 32-yard field goal attempt missed right. The Northwest offense, which gained 473 yards of total offense, sputtered in the red zone early. Two Tommy Frevert field goals in the first quarter, one from 29-yards and another from 28-yards, handed Northwest a 6-0 edge going into the second frame.

Two costly fumbles in the first half by Northwest killed two scoring opportunities. Both occurred inside the MSU 30-yard line. However, a blocked field goal by Northwest's Diezeas Calbert in the second quarter helped preserve the Northwest shutout.

Junior Xavier Omon, who returned to the starting lineup after missing two games with injured ribs, found the endzone twice in the second and third quarters to give the Bearcats a 20-0 edge. Junior Josh Mathews then found junior Jon Goss from four yards out with 10 minutes left in the game to complete the scoring.

### SCORING SUMMARY:

Midwestern State	0	0	0	0	—	0
Northwest	6	7	7	7	—	27

1st	7:00 (NW)	Frevert 29-yd field goal, 0-3
	2:17 (NW)	Frevert 28-yd field goal, 0-6
2nd	0:47 (NW)	Omon 1-yd run (Frevert kick), 0-13
3rd	8:35 (NW)	Omon 5-yd run (Frevert kick), 0-20
4th	10:24 (NW)	Goss 4-yd pass from Mathews (Frevert kick), 0-27

### GAME STATISTICS:

	MS	NW
First Downs	9	25
Rushes-yards	29-99	39-137
Passes	8-22-1	26-36-0
Passing yards	48	336
Total offense	51-147	75-473
Fumbles-lost	0-0	3-3
Penalties-yards	7-33	5-46
Punts-average	5-39.6	0-0

### PASSING

NW - Mathews: 26-36-0-336 (1 TD)  
MS - Polk: 8-22-1-48

### RUSHING

NW - Omon: 27-100-2; Cook: 10-33-0; Mathews: 2-4-0  
MS - Polk: 18-82-0; Odoms: 4-17-0; Richard: 1-3-0

### RECEIVING

NW - Wright: 5-119-0; Falkner: 7-73-0; Peterson: 6-58-0  
MS - Davis: 1-14-0; Butler: 1-12-0; Richard: 1-8-0

### TACKLES

NW - Thompson: 16; Bortters: 11; Cumby: 7; Sherrer: 6  
MS - Smith: 5; Erspamer: 5; Waters: 5; Kaiser: 4; Flynn: 4

## 2006 NCAA Division II National Quarterfinal

December 2, 2006  
Bearcat Stadium • Maryville, Mo.

#8 Chadron State (12-1) .....	21
#2 Northwest Missouri State (13-0) .....	28

Northwest Missouri State set a playoff record by allowing just 48 net rushing yards, and held the NCAA's most prolific rusher (all divisions) to a career-low 16 yards, en route to the 28-21 NCAA quarterfinal win over Chadron (Neb.) State.

After Northwest went up by two touchdowns, 28-14 on a 21-yard catch by junior Mike Peterson late in the third quarter, the Eagles cut the lead in half. Quarterback Tyler Hidrogo, who entered in the fourth quarter, found Brady Hollaway from 37-yards out at the 4:45 mark in the fourth. Chadron drove the ball to the Northwest 40 before a 4th-and-1 pass attempt fell incomplete with :23 ticks left on the clock.

Chadron struck first on a Woodhead 43-yard touchdown reception at the 7:30 mark of the first. It was the first time all season (13 games) that Northwest had trailed in a game. But Northwest knotted the score at 7-7 on the next possession on a 10-yard catch by junior Xavier Omon.

Two long touchdown runs by freshman Sheldon Cook and Omon staked the Bearcats to a 21-7 lead going into the half. Woodhead's second touchdown catch midway through the third quarter started the Chadron State comeback. Woodhead went for 10 catches and 79 yards but was held to a career-low 16 yards on 16 rushes (1.0 ypc) -- he went for a net minus-8 rushing yards in the second half.

Omon finished with 158 rushing yards on 35 carries (4.5 ypc) and two touchdowns (1 rushing, 1 receiving). Junior E.J. Falkner led the Bearcat receivers, going for three catches and 37 yards. Junior quarterback Josh Mathews was 13-of-19 passing for 125 yards and two scores.

### SCORING SUMMARY:

Chadron State	7	0	7	7	—	21
Northwest	14	7	7	0	—	28

1st	7:30 (CS)	Woodhead 43-yd pass from McLain (Atter kick), 7-0
	3:47 (NW)	Omon 10-yd pass from Mathews (Frevert kick), 7-7
	0:25 (NW)	Cook 20-yd run (Frevert kick), 7-14
2nd	9:48 (NW)	Omon 12-yd run (Frevert kick), 7-21
3rd	5:15 (CS)	Woodhead 1-yd pass from McLain (Atter kick), 14-21
	0:45 (NW)	Peterson 21-yd pass from Mathews (Frevert kick); 14-28
4th	4:45 (CS)	Hollaway 37-yd pass from Hidrogo (Atter kick), 21-28

### GAME STATISTICS:

	CS	NW
First Downs	18	17
Rushes-yards	27-48	38-181
Passes	24-42-2	13-19-0
Passing yards	279	125
Total offense	9-327	57-306
Fumbles-lost	3-1	3-1
Penalties-yards	6-40	8-65
Punts-average	4-26.5	4-23.5

### PASSING

NW - Mathews: 13-19-0-125 (2 TD)  
CS - McLain: 20-32-2-191 (2 TD); Hidrogo: 4-10-0-88 (1 TD)

### RUSHING

NW - Omon: 35-158-1; Cook: 1-20-1; Peterson: 2-3-0  
CS - McLain: 8-21-0; Woodhead: 16-16-0; Hidrogo: 1-9-0

### RECEIVING

NW - Falkner: 3-37-0; Wright: 3-25-0; Peterson: 2-19-1  
CS - Woodhead: 10-79-2; Stropko: 7-65-0; Hollaway: 3-64-1

### TACKLES

NW - Kaiser: 7; Smith: 7; Burnsides: 7; Erspamer: 7; Flynn: 5  
CS - Schweger: 10; Bailey: 7; Assmann: 6; Wheeler: 6

## 2006 NCAA Division II National Semifinal

December 10, 2006  
Bearcat Stadium • Maryville, Mo.

#6 Bloomsburg (12-2) .....	3
#2 Northwest Missouri State (14-0) .....	33

No. 2 Northwest Missouri State is headed back to Florence, Ala., and the Division II national championship for the second straight season after a 33-3 semifinal victory over visiting No. 6 Bloomsburg (Pa.). In front of a crowd of 7,055 in the first home night game since 1977 and first home national telecast on ESPNU, Northwest held the Bloomsburg offense to 191 total yards -- the 11th time it limited an opponent under 300 yards of offense this year.

The Bearcats scored 20 straight points in the second half to expand a 13-3 halftime lead.

The Bearcat offense took its opening drive 63 yards on six plays capped by a 1-yard plunge by junior Xavier Omon. Sophomore Tommy Frevert pushed the Northwest lead to 10-0 in the first quarter on a 31-yard field goal.

Bloomsburg's Jon Koenig put his team on the board, nailing a 42-yard field goal early in the second quarter before Frevert booted three more 3-points. Frevert tied an NCAA playoff record with his four made field goals with the last occurrence coming in 2002.

Another 1-yard score by Omon followed by a 12-yard pass to sophomore Raphael Robinson late in the fourth ended the scoring. While the Northwest offense expanded its lead in the second half, the Northwest defense allowed BU to post just 61 total yards on 24 plays in the second half.

The Northwest defense was led by four tacklers with five stops apiece -- junior Jared Erspamer, senior Kyle Kaiser, senior Thomas Smith and junior Dallas Flynn. Northwest did not allow a 100-yard rusher for the 18th straight time.

### SCORING SUMMARY:

Bloomsburg	0	3	0	0	—	3
Northwest	10	3	6	14	—	33

1st	10:40 (NW)	Omon 1-yd run (Frevert kick), 0-7
	1:17 (NW)	Frevert 31-yd field goal, 0-10
2nd	12:54 (BL)	Koenig 42-yd field goal, 3-10
	8:47 (NW)	Frevert 27-yd field goal, 3-13
3rd	9:53 (NW)	Frevert 31-yd field goal, 3-16
	3:29 (NW)	Frevert 23-yd field goal, 3-19
4th	13:15 (NW)	Omon 1-yd run (Frevert kick), 3-26
	2:45 (NW)	Robinson 12-yd pass from Mathews (Frevert kick), 3-33

### GAME STATISTICS:

	BL	NW
First Downs	8	25
Rushes-yards	29-23	40-179
Passes	9-21-0	23-32-1
Passing yards	168	252
Total offense	50-191	72-431
Fumbles-lost	2-0	1-0
Penalties-yards	6-30	6-45
Punts-average	6-30.5	0-0

### PASSING

NW - Mathews: 23-32-1-252 (1 TD)  
BL - Latorre: 8-19-0-115; Brittingham: 1-1-0-53

### RUSHING

NW - Omon: 29-149-2; Cook: 7-30-0; Mathews: 4-0-0  
BL - Brittingham: 15-56-0; Best: 3-0-0

### RECEIVING

NW - Falkner: 8-91-0; Robinson: 6-78-1; Wright: 5-43-0  
BL - Bilal: 5-104-0; Brittingham: 2-35-0; Schuck: 1-21-0

### TACKLES

NW - Erspamer: 5; Kaiser: 5; Smith: 5; Flynn: 5  
BL - Sosnovik: 9; Trettin: 8; Price: 6; Riccardi: 6; Cooper: 6

## 2006 NCAA Division II National Championship

**December 16, 2006**

**Braly Municipal Stadium • Florence, Ala.**

#1 Grand Valley State (15-0) .....	17
#2 Northwest Missouri State (14-1) .....	14

No. 1 Grand Valley State scored the game-winning touchdown on a Cullen Finnerty 4-yard rush early in the fourth quarter and GVSU won its fourth national title in the last five years after escaping with a 17-14 victory over No. 2 Northwest Missouri State in front of 7,437 fans. Northwest turned the ball over for the fourth time with less than four minutes remaining in Laker territory and GVSU ran out the clock with two first downs.

GVSU turned Bill Brechin's second pick into three points early in the second quarter. The Lakers hit the board first courtesy of a 30-yard field goal by Todd Carter. But the lead was short-lived after Wright completed his first career pass hitting sophomore Raphael Robinson from 26-yards out to give Northwest a 7-3 lead at the 11:20 mark of the second.

After the teams traded punts to open the second half, Grand Valley long snapper Sean Stevens snapped the ball short to punter Justin Trumble. Trumble picked up the fumble cleanly but did so while kneeling. The play was blown dead at the spot and Northwest took over at the Grand Valley 25. Five plays later, running back Xavier Omon found paydirt from seven yards out and Northwest led 14-10 with seven minutes left in the third.

Winning the field position battle, GVSU's Trumble pinned his punt at the Northwest 2-yard line after the drive stalled at the Northwest 43. The Bearcats were unable to gain a first down, and after a 25-yard punt, GVSU took over at the 36. Finnerty, who became the first opponent rusher to gain over 100 yards in 19 games, scored the game-winner, capping a six-play, 36-yard drive.

### SCORING SUMMARY:

Grand Valley State	0	10	0	7	—	17
Northwest	0	7	7	0	—	14

2nd	14:46 (GV)	Carter 30-yd field goal, 3-0
	11:20 (NW)	Robinson 26-yd pass from Wright (Frevort kick), 3-7
	7:06 (GV)	Fowler 2-yd pass from Finnerty (Carter kick), 10-7
3rd	7:00 (NW)	Omon 7-yd run (Frevort kick), 10-14
4th	13:06 (GV)	Finnerty 4-yd run (Carter kick), 17-14

### GAME STATISTICS:

	GV	NW
First Downs	19	21
Rushes-yards	38-123	29-124
Passes	15-33-0	21-33-3
Passing yards	225	226
Total offense	71-348	62-350
Fumbles-lost	3-2	1-1
Penalties-yards	6-35	3-20
Punts-average	5-33.0	5-33.0

### PASSING

NW - Mathews: 20-32-3-200; Wright: 1-1-0-26 (1 TD)  
GV - Finnerty: 15-33-0-225 (1 TD)

### RUSHING

NW - Omon: 26-129-1; Cook: 1-4-0  
GV - Finnerty: 22-115-1; Martin: 12-40-0

### RECEIVING

NW - Wright: 8-85-0; Robinson: 4-60-1; Peterson: 4-39-0  
GV - Fowler: 7-96-1; Mitchell: 2-55-0; Trent: 2-24-0

### TACKLES

NW - LeFlore: 7; Smith: 6; Clayton: 5; Calbert: 5; Burnside: 5  
GV - Beaty: 12; Mcfadden: 7; Skuta: 7; Cain: 6; Carruth: 5

## 2007 NCAA Division II Second Round

**Nov. 24, 2007**

**Bearcat Stadium • Maryville, Mo.**

#4 West Texas A&M (12-1) .....	28
#5 Northwest Missouri State (10-1) .....	56

Xavier Omon rushed for four touchdowns and the Northwest defense accounted for three more as the Bearcats got past West Texas A&M 56-28 at Bearcat Stadium.

The win is the 20th for Northwest head coach Mel Tjeerdsma in the postseason, an NCAA Division II record. The Bearcats have won 16 straight games at home and improved to 7-0 against the Lone Star Conference dating back to 2004.

The 56 points scored are the most for Northwest in a playoff game since 1999 and the most given up by the Buffs this season. Omon's four rushing touchdowns is a Northwest postseason record. He carried 28 times for 107 yards, his ninth career 100-yard rushing performance in the playoffs.

Three West Texas A&M quarterbacks combined for 69 pass attempts, a Division II postseason record. Keith Null was 36-of-53 for 360 yards, two touchdowns and two interceptions.

Aldwin Foster-Rettig returned Null's first interception 89 yards for a score to give Northwest a 28-7 lead with eight minutes remaining in the first half.

The Bearcats also scored defensively on a sack, a forced fumble and a fumble recovery in the end zone by Ike Urum-Eke to make it 49-21 with eight minutes left in the third quarter. Chris Termini intercepted Matt McIntyre and raced 66 yards for the final score of the game late in the fourth quarter.

### SCORING SUMMARY:

West Texas A&M	7	14	0	7	—	28
Northwest	21	14	14	7	—	56

1st	11:58 (NW)	Wright 29-yd pass from Osborn (Frevort kick), 0-7
	9:05 (NW)	Omon 3-yd run (Frevort kick), 0-14
	4:40 (WT)	McKnight 1-yd run (Roberts kick), 7-14
	0:51 (NW)	Omon 1-yd run (Frevort kick), 7-21
2nd	8:02 (NW)	Foster-Rettig 89-yd INT return (Frevort kick), 7-28
	5:14 (WT)	Martin 9-yd pass from Null (Roberts kick), 14-28
	2:12 (NW)	Omon 9-yd run (Frevort kick), 14-35
	0:40 (WT)	Martin 10-yd pass from Null (Roberts kick), 21-35
3rd	9:58 (NW)	Omon 13-yd run (Frevort kick), 21-42
	8:31 (NW)	Urum-Eke 0-yd fumble rec (Frevort kick), 21-49
4th	8:22 (WT)	Swain 18-yd INT return (Roberts kick), 28-49
	3:44 (NW)	Termini 66-yd INT return (Frevort kick), 28-56

### GAME STATISTICS:

	WT	NW
First Downs	25	20
Rushes-yards	23-30	38-130
Passes	42-69-3	16-28-2
Passing yards	405	299
Total offense	92-435	66-429
Fumbles-lost	1-1	1-1
Penalties-yards	17-129	13-144
Punts-average	3-40.7	3-41.0

### PASSING

NW - Osborn: 16-28-2-299 (1 TD)  
WT - Null: 36-53-2-360 (2 TD); Taylor: 5-11-0-39

### RUSHING

NW - Omon: 28-107-4; Cook: 2-20-0  
WT - Flemming: 9-14-0; Davis: 1-13-0

### RECEIVING

NW - Peterson: 3-96-0; Wright: 5-70-1; Qaoud: 4-57-0  
WT - Hayden: 7-95-0; Johnson: 7-90-0; Martin: 7-62-2

### TACKLES

NW - Erspamer: 10; Jones: 7; Robertson: 7; Burnside: 6;  
WT - Grimslid: 6; Swain: 6; Allen: 6; Jones: 6; Shakoov: 5

## 2007 NCAA Division II National Quarterfinal

**Dec. 1, 2007**

**Elliott Field • Chadron, Neb.**

#5 Northwest Missouri State (11-1) .....	26
#2 Chadron State (12-1) .....	13

Northwest running back Xavier Omon ran for a school record 309 yards and scored three touchdowns against the RMAC's top run defense to help lift the Bearcats to a 26-13 win against Chadron State at Elliott Field.

The Bearcat defense forced five turnovers and held 2006 Harlon Hill Award winner Danny Woodhead to 91 yards and no touchdowns. Woodhead ends his four-year career two points shy of former Pittsburg State running back Germaine Race's Division II record for career points scored.

Omon had 204 yards and two scores in the first half. He took the second play of the game 34 yards untouched for a score. His 4-yard touchdown with 45 seconds remaining in the first half gave the Bearcats a 16-0 lead.

Woodhead, who had 16 yards on 16 carries in last year's game against Northwest, had 10 yards on 10 carries in the first half of this year's contest. His longest run was a 50-yard dart up the middle in the third quarter, but the drive was ended by a Ryan Jones interception.

Woodhead lost two fumbles in the game and the Bearcats intercepted three passes. Jones, Ike Urum-Eke and Matt Robertson each recorded their first interceptions of the season.

In addition to setting the school's all-time rushing mark for a game, Omon broke Northwest's single-season record. He now has 1,982 yards this year, topping the 1,829 yards gained by Jesse Haynes in 1996.

Omon scored his 93rd career touchdown and scored his 560th career point, moving ahead of Emporia's Brian Shay for second-place on the MIAA's all-time list.

### SCORING SUMMARY:

Northwest	16	3	7	0	—	26
Chadron State	0	7	0	6	—	13

1st	14:44 (NW)	Omon 34-yd run (Frevort kick), 7-0
	1:55 (NW)	Team safety, 9-0
	0:45 (NW)	Omon 4-yd run (Frevort kick), 16-0
2nd	9:28 (NW)	Frevort 30-yd field goal, 19-0
	7:47 (CS)	Schommer 27-yd pass from McLain (Atter kick), 19-7
3rd	0:44 (NW)	Omon 3-yd run (Frevort kick), 26-7
4th	1:56 (CS)	Schommer 25-yd pass from McLain (kick failed), 26-13

### GAME STATISTICS:

	NW	CS
First Downs	26	27
Rushes-yards	50-332	33-112
Passes	20-33-1	31-66-3
Passing yards	209	289
Total offense	83-541	99-401
Fumbles-lost	2-1	2-2
Penalties-yards	12-102	4-29
Punts-average	5-42.0	5-34.8

### PASSING

NW - Osborn: 20-33-1-209  
CS - McLain: 31-66-3-289 (2 TD)

### RUSHING

NW - Omon: 37-309-3; Wright: 2-10-0; Cook: 4-9-0  
CS - Woodhead: 21-91-0; McLain: 9-45-0

### RECEIVING

NW - Qaoud: 5-53-0; Wright: 6-45-0; Peterson: 2-44-0  
CS - Schommer: 9-153-2; Harrington: 4-39-0

### TACKLES

NW - Robertson: 10; Burnside: 9; Erspamer: 6; Dohrman: 5  
CS - Schweger: 13; Wheeler: 12; Bailey: 8; Wendling: 5

## 2007 NCAA Division II National Semifinal

Dec. 8, 2007  
Bearcat Stadium • Maryville, Mo.

#1 Grand Valley State (12-1) .....	16
#5 Northwest Missouri State (12-1) .....	34

Northwest Missouri State beat top-ranked Grand Valley State 34-16 in front of more than 7,000 cold and raucous fans at Bearcat Stadium. The Bearcats ended the Lakers' 40-game winning streak and will compete for the national championship for the third straight season.

Northwest trailed 13-10 at halftime, but got 204 yards rushing and three total touchdowns from running back Xavier Omon in the second half. Omon carried 31 times for 292 yards and three scores in the game. He also scored on an 11-yard reception from quarterback Joel Osborn early in the fourth quarter. The Bearcats scored three touchdowns and a field goal on their first four second-half possessions.

Omon's 98-yard touchdown run with nine minutes remaining was the game's final score and the exclamation point the Bearcats. The length of the run was for a new program and MIAA record.

Omon broke 7,000 yards rushing in his career (7,010), just the second back in Division II history to reach the mark. Along the way he passed Emporia State's Brian Shay and Pittsburg State's Germaine Race to be the all-time leading rusher in the MIAA. He's Division II's leading rusher this season with 2,274 yards.

Northwest forced a three-and-out on Grand Valley's first possession of the second half, and then marched 69 yards on 10 plays for a score and the lead. Omon carried six times on the drive and capped it with an 8-yard touchdown.

The teams exchanged field goals before the Lakers committed their first and only turnover of the game. Quarterback Brad Iciek, under pressure, threw a jump ball, which Ryan Jones intercepted 22 yards downfield and returned 50 yards to the Grand Valley 15. Facing 3rd-and-6 from the 11 two plays later, Osborn scrambled and found Omon in the flat. Omon made one Laker miss, then tip-toed the sideline before diving for the pylon and the score. It was Omon's first touchdown reception of the season and it gave Northwest a 27-16 lead.

### SCORING SUMMARY:

Grand Valley State	3	10	3	0	—	16
Northwest	0	10	7	17	—	34

1st	4:19 (GV)	Trumble 27-yd field goal, 3-0
2nd	12:48 (NW)	Omon 33-yd run (Frevrt kick), 3-7
	6:49 (GV)	Trumble 32-yd field goal, 6-7
	1:20 (GV)	Berezik 22-yd pass from Iciek (Trumble kick), 13-7
	0:04 (NW)	Frevrt 30-yd field goal, 13-10
3rd	8:55 (NW)	Omon 8-yd run (Frevrt kick), 13-17
	4:08 (GV)	Trumble 32-yd field goal, 16-17
4th	13:33 (NW)	Frevrt 22-yd field goal, 16-20
	11:05 (NW)	Omon 11-yd pass from Osborn (Frevrt kick), 16-27
	9:14 (NW)	Omon 98-yd run (Frevrt kick), 16-34

### GAME STATISTICS:

	GV	NW
First Downs	20	20
Rushes-yards	25-101	39-290
Passes	23-42-1	20-26-0
Passing yards	273	238
Total offense	67-374	65-528
Fumbles-lost	1-0	1-1
Penalties-yards	10-60	5-35
Punts-average	5-47.8	2-41.5

### PASSING

NW - Osborn: 20-25-0-238 (1 TD)  
GV - Iciek: 23-42-1-273 (1 TD)

### RUSHING

NW - Omon: 31-292-3; Council: 5-16-0  
GV - Berezik: 10-49-0; Garriss: 9-19-0; Smolens: 3-18-0

### RECEIVING

NW - Peterson: 6-93-0; Wright: 5-55-0; Obert: 2-33-0  
GV - Horn: 7-89-0; Trent: 5-74-0; Berezik: 2-24-1

### TACKLES

NW - Burnsides: 8; Robertson: 6; Kaatman: 5; Jones: 5  
GV - McGuckin: 12; Adams: 10; Skuta: 8; Carr: 7; Carruth: 7

## 2007 NCAA Division II National Championship

Dec. 15, 2007  
Braly Municipal Stadium • Florence, Ala.

#5 Northwest Missouri State (12-2) .....	20
#8 Valdosta State (13-1) .....	25

Michael Terry scored from 1-yard out in the final 30 seconds to give Valdosta State a 25-20 win against Northwest Missouri State in the Division II National Championship game at Braly Municipal Stadium. It's the second championship for the Blazers, who defeated Pittsburg State to win the title in 2004.

Northwest (12-2) became the fourth program to appear in three consecutive championship games, but were denied a ring for the third straight year. The Bearcats' three championship losses were by three, four and now five points.

Xavier Omon scored in his 18th consecutive game, but was held to 63 yards on 27 carries by the Blazers - his lowest rushing total of the season. He finishes his career with 7,073 yards and 98 touchdowns. He's the second leading rusher in Division II history.

Joel Osborn completed 18 of his 28 passes for 150 yards including one touchdown. That touchdown went to Mike Peterson, who led Northwest with 89 yards on six receptions.

The Blazers (13-1), who had trailed in the second half of all three playoff games leading up to the championship, dug themselves a 14-3 hole in this one. Valdosta scored on its first possession of the second half and took its first lead, 17-14, early in the fourth.

The lead was short-lived, but the Blazers had one last comeback in them. Terry's score completed an eight-play, 37-yard drive and took the clock down to 22 seconds. An interception in the final seconds sealed the win.

Other than their lone touchdown drive in the second half, the Bearcats had two three-and-outs and had its three other drives stalled by penalty. The killer was a hold after Omon had broke free for a first down with five minutes remaining. The penalty backed the Bearcats up to their 11-yard line. A punt, and Terry's go-ahead score, followed.

### SCORING SUMMARY:

Northwest	0	14	0	6	—	20
Valdosta State	3	0	7	15	—	25

1st	12:50 (VS)	Williams 35-yd field goal, 0-3
2nd	13:28 (NW)	Foster-Rettig 31-yd INT return (Frevrt kick), 7-3
	0:21 (NW)	Peterson 3-yd pass from Osborn (Frevrt kick), 14-3
3rd	11:46 (VS)	Callaway 7-yd pass from Copeland (Williams kick), 14-10
4th	13:21 (VS)	Parker 14-yd pass from Copeland (Williams kick), 14-17
	12:33 (NW)	Omon 2-yd run (kick blocked), 20-17
	12:33 (VS)	King PAT return, 20-19
	0:22 (VS)	Terry 1-yd run (rush failed), 20-25

### GAME STATISTICS:

	NW	VS
First Downs	12	19
Rushes-yards	31-87	24-34
Passes	18-28-2	30-45-1
Passing yards	148	271
Total offense	59-235	69-305
Fumbles-lost	1-0	1-0
Penalties-yards	7-53	8-75
Punts-average	7-41.1	7-36.0

### PASSING

NW - Osborn: 18-28-2-148 (1 TD)  
VS - Copeland: 29-44-1-257 (1 TD)

### RUSHING

NW - Omon: 27-63-1; Wright: 2-15-0  
VS - Terry: 12-36-1; Nelson: 4-12-0

### RECEIVING

NW - Peterson: 5-57-1; Obert: 2-53-0; Wright: 3-21-0  
VS - Jones: 10-95-0; Callaway: 5-61-1; Nelson: 6-40-0

### TACKLES

NW - Robertson: 15; Erspamer: 12; Burnsides: 8  
VS - Cullen: 9; Reynolds: 7; Montford: 7; Daniels: 7

## 2008 NCAA Division II Second Round

Nov. 22, 2008  
Bearcat Stadium • Maryville, Mo.

#10 Pittsburg State (11-2) .....	35
#3 Northwest Missouri State (11-1) .....	38

Northwest quarterback Joel Osborn completed a 27-yard pass to Nick Rhodes on fourth-and-10 and on the ensuing play, hit Kendall Wright for a 15-yard touchdown pass and the winning score in a 38-35 win against Pittsburg State at Bearcat Stadium.

Northwest took a 24-13 lead into halftime and made it 31-13 early in the third quarter on a 29-yard touchdown run by backup quarterback Blake Bolles - his only play in the game. A Mark Smith fumble preceded the score and was one of three turnovers by Pittsburg State's senior quarterback.

Smith accounted for all but two yards on a 10-play, 51-yard touchdown drive on the Gorillas' ensuing possession. Brandon Clark got the final two yards to close the gap to 31-19. A two-point conversion pass from Smith to Ricky Ludeman made it 31-21.

A dropped pass led to a Northwest punt and a 12-play touchdown drive by the Gorillas followed. Clark's second 2-yard run made it 31-28 near the end of the third quarter.

The two teams exchanged punts and a 25-yard return by Harrison Kush gave Pittsburg State the ball at the Northwest 34-yard line with seven minutes left in the fourth quarter. Smith and Clark combined on seven straight rushes and Clark gave the Gorillas their first lead, 35-31, on his third 2-yard run with 3:34 remaining.

Northwest got a 36-yard return near midfield from Wright. Osborn ran for a first down, but a sack by Brett Shamblin helped lead to a fourth-and-10 from the 42-yard line with 1:20 left.

Chris Swartz blitzed on the fourth-down play and had a free shot at Osborn, who managed to free himself before firing downfield. Rhodes came back to the underthrown pass before making the completion at the 15. Osborn found Wright in the left-corner of the end zone with 55 seconds left. Four incompletions by Smith sealed the win.

### SCORING SUMMARY:

Pittsburg State	7	6	15	7	—	35
Northwest	7	17	7	7	—	38

1st	7:38 (NW)	Council 1-yd run (Frevrt kick), 0-7
	2:36 (PS)	Smith 15-yd run (Witter kick), 7-7
2nd	6:43 (NW)	Council 5-yd run (Frevrt kick), 7-14
	6:15 (NW)	Council 26-yd run (Frevrt kick), 7-21
	1:10 (PS)	Clark 5-yd run (pass failed), 13-21
	0:02 (NW)	Frevrt 36-yd field goal, 13-24
3rd	13:31 (NW)	Bolles 29-yd run (Frevrt kick), 13-31
	10:26 (PS)	Clark 2-yd run (Ludeman pass from Smith), 21-31
	1:16 (PS)	Clark 2-yd run (Witter kick), 28-31
4th	3:34 (PS)	Clark 2-yd run (Witter kick), 35-31
	0:55 (NW)	Wright 15-yd pass from Osborn (Frevrt kick), 35-38

### GAME STATISTICS:

	PS	NW
First Downs	25	17
Rushes-yards	54-223	30-107
Passes	17-29-1	17-27-0
Passing yards	185	234
Total offense	83-408	57-341
Fumbles-lost	2-2	1-1
Penalties-yards	9-49	6-45
Punts-average	3-41.7	5-48.4

### PASSING

NW - Osborn: 17-27-0-234 (1 TD)  
PS - Smith: 17-29-1-185

### RUSHING

NW - Council: 18-95-3; Bolles: 1-29-1  
PS - Smith: 27-123-1; Clark: 20-77-4

### RECEIVING

NW - Rhodes: 2-64-0; Wright: 4-59-1; Gannan: 2-39-0  
PS - Kush: 4-54-0; Fisher: 2-45-0; Nelson: 5-29-0

### TACKLES

NW - Burnsides: 12; Vondrak: 9; Jones: 8; Foster-Rettig: 7  
PS - Morgan: 9; Welch: 6; Shamblin: 4; Vaughn: 4

## 2008 NCAA Division II National Quarterfinal

**Nov. 29, 2008**

**Shotwell Stadium • Abilene, Texas**

#3 Northwest Missouri State (12-1) .....	45
#2 Abilene Christian (11-1) .....	36

Northwest quarterbacks Joel Osborn and Blake Bolles combined to pass for 316 yards and score four touchdowns to the lead the third-ranked Bearcats to a 45-36 win against second-ranked Abilene Christian at Shotwell Stadium.

Northwest avenged its lone loss of the season by holding Abilene Christian to its lowest scoring output of the year and its second-lowest total yards. The Wildcats were leading the nation in both categories entering Saturday's contest.

The Bearcats trailed briefly in the first quarter, but held leads of 15 points in both the second and fourth quarters. A 32-yard field goal by Tommy Frevert gave the Bearcats a 45-34 lead with 3:21 remaining. Northwest took a safety on the final play of the game.

Osborn was 19-of-28 for 247 yards and two touchdowns. He threw a 24-yard touchdown pass to Abe Qaoud to cap the opening drive of the game and connected with Nick Rhodes on a 21-yard strike near the end of the first half. Northwest led 28-20 at the break.

Bolles quarterbacked two drives, both of which resulted in touchdowns. He finished a seven-play, 58-yard touchdown drive in the first quarter with a 2-yard pass to Greg Applegate. He capped an 11-play, 98-yard drive with a 14-yard run to give Northwest a 42-27 lead with 14:42 remaining.

The Bearcat defense got interceptions from Chris LeFlore and E.J. Hawkins and forced three consecutive 3-and-outs in the first half. Two of the 3-and-outs led to Northwest touchdowns, LeFlore's interception led to the 98-yard touchdown drive and Hawkins' pick sealed the win on the Wildcats' final possession.

### SCORING SUMMARY:

Northwest	14	14	7	10	—	45
Abilene Christian	10	10	7	9	—	36

1st	12:06 (NW)	Qaoud 24-yd pass from Osborn (Frevert kick), 7-0
	10:34 (AC)	Adams 47-yd field goal, 7-3
	7:39 (AC)	Knox 9-yd pass from Malone (Adams kick), 7-10
	2:00 (NW)	Applegate 2-yd pass from Bolles (Frevert kick), 14-10
2nd	10:44 (NW)	Council 1-yd run (Frevert kick), 21-10
	5:54 (AC)	Adams 25-yd field goal, 21-13
	2:11 (NW)	Rhodes 21-yd pass from Osborn (Frevert kick), 28-13
	0:21 (AC)	Knox 6-yd pass from Malone (Adams kick), 28-20
3rd	12:48 (AC)	Scott 8-yd run (Adams kick), 28-27
	8:39 (NW)	Council 5-yd run (Frevert kick), 35-27
4th	14:42 (NW)	Bolles 14-yd run (Frevert kick), 42-27
	9:00 (AC)	Scott 1-yd run (Adams kick), 42-34
	3:21 (NW)	Frevert 32-yd field goal, 45-34
	0:00 (AC)	Team safety, 45-36

### GAME STATISTICS:

	NW	AC
First Downs	30	24
Rushes-yards	44-134	32-186
Passes	27-38-0	21-46-2
Passing yards	320	269
Total offense	82-454	78-455
Fumbles-lost	2-1	0-0
Penalties-yards	8-61	15-110
Punts-average	2-42.5	3-30.0

### PASSING

NW - Osborn: 20-29-0-251 (2 TD); Bolles: 7-8-0-69 (1 TD)  
AC - Malone: 21-45-2-269 (2 TD)

### RUSHING

NW - Council: 21-78-2; Bolles: 6-51-1; Osborn: 9-17-0  
AC - Scott: 26-169-2; Malone: 4-14-0; Gates: 2-3-0

### RECEIVING

NW - Rhodes: 6-63-1; Council: 4-62-0; Qaoud: 3-45-1  
AC - Scott: 5-76-0; Ferguson: 4-56-0; Knox: 4-44-2

### TACKLES

NW - Horn: 6; Clayton: 5; Vondrak: 5; Bates: 5; Burnside: 5  
AC - Thompson: 11; Edwards: 8; Harp: 8; Lewis: 7; Fellows: 7

## 2008 NCAA Division II National Semifinal

**Dec. 6, 2008**

**Bearcat Stadium • Maryville, Mo.**

#5 North Alabama (12-2) .....	7
#3 Northwest Missouri State (13-1) .....	41

LaRon Council rushed for 139 yards and four touchdowns to lead third-ranked Northwest Missouri State to a 41-7 win against fifth-ranked North Alabama at Bearcat Stadium.

Northwest led 20-0 late in the first quarter. North Alabama totaled 10 yards in the opening frame with no first downs and a lost fumble. The Lions also punted into a strong wind three times, none of which went further than 17 yards.

The Bearcats scored on all four first-quarter possessions. Tommy Frevert made field goals from 30 and 26 yards. Brian Shannon caught a 10-yard touchdown pass from Joel Osborn and Council scored from 3 yards out.

The Lions got on the board early in the second quarter on a 1-yard plunge by Mike McLendon. It was North Alabama's longest drive of the game at 64 yards and was the only drive that netted more than 37.

Myles Burnside intercepted his sixth pass of the season and returned it 34 yards to the 1-yard line with 1:06 remaining in the first half. Council scored on the next play and Northwest took a 27-7 lead into halftime.

The Bearcats took the opening kick of the second half and marched 45 yards in seven plays to take a 34-7 lead. Sheldon Cook's career-long, 46-yard kickoff return set up the drive. Facing 3rd-and-18 from the 19, Osborn scrambled to the 6 and lateraled to Council before being tackled. Council carried the rest of the way for his third score of the game.

The Lions failed on 4th-and-4 near midfield on the ensuing possession. Northwest ran the ball 10 straight times and made it 41-7 on a 5-yard sweep by Council, who carried eight times for 41 yards on the drive.

Lion quarterback A.J. Milwee completed 19-of-39 passes for 137 yards - his second lowest output of the season. He led North Alabama in rushing with 36 yards on 14 carries.

Milwee, a finalist for the Harlon Hill Award, was the nation's third-most efficient passer heading into the game. He'd averaged 244 yards and thrown 27 touchdowns against four interceptions prior to Saturday's game.

### SCORING SUMMARY:

North Alabama	0	7	0	0	—	7
Northwest	20	7	14	0	—	41

1st	11:02 (NW)	Frevert 30-yd field goal, 0-3
	7:27 (NW)	Shannon 10-yd pass from Osborn (Frevert kick), 0-10
	6:00 (NW)	Council 3-yd run (Frevert kick), 0-17
	2:53 (NW)	Frevert 26-yd field goal, 0-20
2nd	12:06 (NA)	McLendon 1-yd run (Schneider kick), 7-20
	1:03 (NW)	Council 1-yd run (Frevert kick), 7-27
3rd	11:36 (NW)	Council 6-yd run (Frevert kick), 7-34
	3:46 (NW)	Council 5-yd run (Frevert kick), 7-41

### GAME STATISTICS:

	NA	NW
First Downs	12	20
Rushes-yards	32-84	50-186
Passes	20-41-1	10-21-0
Passing yards	137	69
Total offense	73-221	71-255
Fumbles-lost	3-1	1-0
Penalties-yards	7-70	7-67
Punts-average	6-21.0	6-32.3

### PASSING

NW - Osborn: 7-16-0-54 (1 TD)  
NA - Milwee: 19-39-1-137

### RUSHING

NW - Council: 28-139-4; Cook: 6-18-0; Bolles: 7-17-0  
NA - Milwee: 14-36-0; McLendon: 9-23-1; Pickett: 2-12-0

### RECEIVING

NW - Gannan: 4-29-0; Wright: 3-26-0; Shannon: 1-10-1  
NA - Coleman: 5-54-0; Williams: 5-45-0; Pickett: 1-19-0

### TACKLES

NW - Vondrak: 6; Urum-Eke: 6; Jones: 5; Roach: 5  
NA - Russell: 7; Craft: 6; M. Johnson: 6; C. Johnson: 6

## 2008 NCAA Division II National Championship

**Dec. 13, 2008**

**Braly Municipal Stadium • Florence, Ala.**

#6 Minnesota-Duluth (15-0) .....	21
#3 Northwest Missouri State (13-2) .....	14

Northwest had committed two turnovers in three playoff games, but four against Minnesota Duluth proved too many in a 21-14 Bulldog win in the NCAA Division II National Championship game Saturday at Braly Municipal Stadium.

Northwest lost two of its six fumbles, threw two interceptions and was sacked six times in finishing national runner-up for the fourth year in a row.

Minnesota Duluth earned its first title in its first championship game and became the third Division II team to finish a season 15-0. The Bulldogs trailed for three minutes and three seconds all season. Quarterback Ted Schlafke threw two touchdowns, one to Isaac Odim, who also ran for a score. Minnesota Duluth scored in each of the final three quarters.

Northwest had two chances to take the lead in the second quarter. Northwest had 1st-and-10 from the 15-yard line, but Kendall Wright's fumble ended the drive. The Bearcats later had 1st-and-10 from the 12, but a fumbled snap from center on first down and an 11-yard loss on a fumble on third down led to a missed 42-yard field goal.

Joel Osborn's 1-yard pass to Raphael Robinson made it 21-14 with 1:39 remaining, but Luke Schalekamp recovered the ensuing onside kick for the Bulldogs to end the game.

LaRon Council carried 19 times for a game-high 99 yards, but was kept out of the end zone for the first time all season. Council finished with 1,739 yards rushing - the third-most in program history. His 36 touchdowns led the nation.

### SCORING SUMMARY:

Minnesota-Duluth	0	7	7	7	—	21
Northwest	0	0	0	14	—	14

2nd	0:14 (UMD)	Doherty 38-yd pass from Schlafke (Nadeau kick), 7-0
	6:32 (UMD)	Odim 5-yd pass from Schlafke (Nadeau kick), 14-0
4th	13:44 (UMD)	Odim 4-yd run (Nadeau kick), 14-7
	8:04 (NW)	Foster-Rettig 44-yd INT return (Frevert kick), 21-7
	1:39 (NW)	Robinson 1-yd pass from Osborn (Frevert kick), 21-14

### GAME STATISTICS:

	UMD	NW
First Downs	17	19
Rushes-yards	43-145	32-106
Passes	14-23-2	18-30-2
Passing yards	128	189
Total offense	66-273	62-295
Fumbles-lost	0-0	6-2
Penalties-yards	1-12	3-30
Punts-average	6-39.0	4-48.5

### PASSING

NW - Osborn: 17-28-2-182 (1 TD)  
UMD - Schlafke: 14-22-2-128 (2 TD)

### RUSHING

NW - Council: 19-99-0; Bolles: 4-26-0  
UMD - Odim: 21-69-1; Foss: 9-37-0; Schlafke: 8-24-0

### RECEIVING

NW - Rhodes: 4-61-0; Qaoud: 5-36-0; Gannan: 2-36-0  
UMD - Doherty: 4-61-1; Winfield: 3-22-0; Odim: 3-19-1

### TACKLES

NW - Horn: 12; Roach: 9; Paddock: 8; Wilmes: 7; Vondrak: 7  
UMD - Aurich: 13; Johnson: 10; Fechtelkotter: 8; Yelk: 7