Hyde picked by Packers

By Brendan Stiles

HawkeyeDrive.com

Former Iowa defensive back Micah Hyde was drafted by the Green Bay Packers in the fifth round of the 2013 NFL Draft on Saturday. The Packers used the 159th overall pick on Hyde, who was the only Hawkeye taken in this year's draft after six Hawkeyes went off the board each of the past three years.

Hyde was a three-year starter at Iowa, spending the majority of his collegiate career at cornerback. He did start two games at free safety during his junior season before switching back over to corner. Last season, the Fostoria, Ohio native was a team captain and went on to win the Woodson-Tatum award, given annually to the Big Ten's top defensive back.

"He's a smart kid. He's a tough kid, a willing tackler," Packers cornerbacks coach Joe Whitt, Jr., told the Green Bay media Saturday afternoon. "He'll be able to go in and play the nickel, play outside at the corner if he has to.

"He understands football. That's one thing that I really like, bringing guys in that have a high football I.Q."

His selection made him the seventh defensive back to be taken from Iowa in the last six years, a stretch dating back to when Charles Godfrey was picked by Carolina in 2008.

This marks the third time in four years Green Bay has selected a Hawkeye player in the NFL Draft. The Packers used a fourth-round selection last year on former Iowa defensive tackle Mike Daniels and in 2010, former offensive tackle Bryan Bulaga was taken 23rd overall.

2013 NFL DRAFT:

Round 5 (159th overall) - Micah Hyde, CB, Green Bay Packers
UNDRAFTED FREE AGENTS:

James Vandenberg, QB, <u>Minnesota Vikings</u>

Matt Tobin, OL, Philadelphia Eagles

Keenan Davis, WR, <u>Cleveland Browns</u>