

## Illinois at No. 3 Michigan

**Date:** Oct. 22, 2016

**Site:** Michigan Stadium (107,601)

**Kickoff:** 3:30 p.m.

**Television:** Big Ten Network

**Radio:** Michigan Sports Network (950 AM in the Detroit area, Sirius channel 135, XM channel 195) with Dan Dierdorf, Jim Brandstatter and sideline reporter Doug Karsch, a regular contributor to TheWolverine.com.

**Series Facts:** The Wolverines hold a 69-23-2 advantage in the all-time series with the Fighting Illini, including a 30-10-1 mark at Michigan Stadium ... U-M has won eight of its last 10 against Illinois ... Michigan boasts a 89-28-2 all-time record on Homecoming, including 41 wins in the last 48 years.

## Despite Win Last Week, Illinois Limp Into The Big House

Ryan Tice | Editor

Michigan's Jim Harbaugh has said that he, like any head coach, worries in particular about the games sandwiched around an off week. In his first year at the helm, Harbaugh's crew fell to Michigan State preceding the week of rest and then were taken down to the wire after the bye in a 29-26 win at Minnesota by a Gophers team that finished 6-7 compared to the Wolverines' 10-3.

Harbaugh's second U-M squad took care of business going into the off Saturday with a 78-0 win at Rutgers two weeks ago and look to do something similar this weekend, when they welcome Illinois — who just beat Rutgers, 24-7 — to The Big House.

If things go as planned, Harbaugh will once again be mashing the gas pedal to the floor against an overmatched foe. In Michigan's two competitive games, they have posted a 59-35 scoring advantage over Wisconsin, which is currently No. 10 in the Associated Press poll, and Colorado, which checks in at No. 26 of both polls. In U-M's other four games, the gap widens to 241-27, an average margin of victory of 53.5 points — and Illinois under first-year head coach Lovie Smith definitely falls into the latter category. The Illini gave up 34 points to both Western Michigan and Purdue — which just fired head coach Darrell Hazell on Sunday — in disappointing home losses.

"They've had their ups and downs," said Doug Bucshon, publisher of OrangeAndBlueNews.com. "I think fans expected them to be more competitive against Western Michigan and

Purdue, two games where they thought that they had the talent to win. I think the record, 2-4, is disappointing; they expected to be competing for a five- or six-win season and a bowl game.

"Lovie doesn't really have the talent yet to play the kind of offensive and defensive scheme that he wants."

There's no doubt about the Illini inconsistencies. But the lows have been frequent and deep, while the highlights have been few and far between. The wins over Football Championship Subdivision competitor Murray State and Rutgers, which is basically fielding an FCS-level team, may only even qualify as highs when the rest of the season is taken into account.

There have some notable individual performances, such as redshirt junior Kendrick Foster and redshirt freshman Reggie Corbin emerging to usurp returning starter and 2015 leading rusher Ke'Shawn Vaughn to give the Illini a quality stable of backs, or defensive ends Carroll Phillips and Dawuane Smoot's 19 combined tackles for loss. However, even those get balanced out — and overshadowed — by the struggles.

On the offense, it's the quarterback position in particular that cancels out the formidable one-two punch in the backfield. Fifth-year senior quarterback Wes Lunt started seven games in 2014 and every contest last fall, but was hurt two weeks ago against Purdue. He wasn't playing great, yet was still the obvious best option under center.

Redshirt sophomore Chayce Crouch stepped in against Purdue, rushing for 137 yards and a pair of scores on just 17 carries (8.1-yard average), but he doesn't provide much as a passer despite his 10 of 14 final line in that one. Last week — 6-of-14 passing for 92 yards with one touchdown and an interception while being limited to 25 yards on 11 carries — was a more accurate representation of what to expect if he gets the nod Saturday.

"Lovie doesn't really tell us a whole lot about injuries ... we're assuming it's going to be Chayce Crouch again," Bucshon noted. "He's a lot more of a runner obviously than Wes Lunt; he's a running quarterback, he's not really a passer.

"Michigan will have to prepare for both guys. Lunt is a pocket passer, and when they put Chayce Crouch in there, they're more of a read-option type of team."

The supporting cast for whoever the quarterback is will be powered by the ground duo of Foster, who Bucshon called a tough, one-cut rusher who excels on zone runs, and Corbin, who is

more of the outside guy with a knack for squeezing through small holes and finding daylight. Through six games, the duo has combined for 816 yards and eight touchdowns (seven belong to Foster) from scrimmage.

The Illini are thin at wide receiver, where the undisputed No. 1 is junior Malik Turner. Only two UI athletes have triple-digit receiving yards, but Turner's 31 receptions are nearly three times as many as the next leading pass catcher (fellow wideout Justin Hardee has 11 for 106 yards). The 6-3, 205-pound Turner has gained 427 yards and three touchdowns through the air.

Phillips and Smoot are the leaders on the defensive front, but even Smoot has been somewhat underwhelming after being talked up as a first-round NFL Draft pick this offseason. He has a respectable 30 tackles, eight stops behind the line of scrimmage, one sack and a team-best five quarterback hurries, but hasn't been as good as expected. Phillips, a former JUCO transfer in his first year as a full-time starter, has emerged as the star of the line and leads the Big Ten with 11 tackles for loss; he has also notched four sacks.

"It's not really the outside guys, it's the inside of the D-line that really hasn't played as well," Bucshon explained. "... In the middle, the tackles haven't really gotten a good push, they don't get good leverage and they haven't been able to stop the run."

Two newcomers have significantly impacted the defense. Graduate transfer linebacker Hardy Nickerson has stabilized the unit from the middle after making the move from Cal to play under his father, a former NFL standout of the same name who was hired to be Smith's defensive coordinator. He's the Big Ten's leading tackler, with 9.7 tackles per game. His 58 stops include 3.5 for loss, and he is tied for the team lead with a pair of interceptions.

"I'd hate to see where they're at against the run without him in there," Bucshon noted. "He's really a stat stuffer, as far as tackles go. He chases on the ball from sideline to sideline."

The other defensive addition making a difference is redshirt freshman strong safety Patrick Nelson, who was promoted to the starting lineup three weeks ago. He has tallied double-digit stops in each of his starts since, including 14 takedowns last week against Rutgers, but still has a ways to go in his pass coverage.

The special teams have been better since the return of starting punter Ryan Frain, a fifth-year senior who missed two games after being in an accident while riding a bike on campus, but U-M's Jabrill Peppers is capable of doing something special every time he touches the ball and Bucshon noted Illinois' best option might be kicking away from him. Redshirt sophomore kicker Chase McLaughlin has been automatic from inside of 40 yards in his first year playing, but he did miss a possible 41-yard game-winner against Purdue.

Playing at The Big House against the nation's No. 3 team with

its head coach demanding a better showing than last year's post-bye performance could make for exactly the type of homecoming U-M fans dream of and one that a beat-up Illinois fanbase dreads (but still expects).

"Keeping it close would kind of be a moral victory," Bucshon said. "I don't think you'll hear that out of Lovie Smith because there's no such thing as a moral victory to coaches — but if they can just keep it close and don't get embarrassed against Michigan at home, come home with everybody healthy and ready to go next week, it's kind of a victory there."

"The spread is huge — I think it's 36 points — and I'm expecting Michigan to roll. ... The only real chance Illinois has to keep it close is to get some turnovers. I haven't seen Michigan be careless with the football, so it's a really difficult task going into Ann Arbor this weekend for sure."

A difficult task that inches closer to impossible when the one certainty surrounding the game is that Harbaugh will be preparing his team as if they were the 36-point underdogs.

### Offensive Players To Watch

**Redshirt junior RB Kendrick Foster:** Although the 5-9, 200-pounder brought just 15 career rushing attempts into the season and last year's leading rusher returned, Foster has been the top back this year. On 62 totes, he has gained 384 yards (6.2 yards per carry) and five touchdowns; he also has two touchdowns on five catches and serves as the kickoff returner.

**Junior WR Malik Turner:** The 6-3, 205-pounder has been productive throughout his career, but has taken it to another level as the undisputed No. 1 receiver. His 5.2 catches per game ranks fourth in the Big Ten while his clip of 71.2 receiving yards per game is fifth. According to ESPN.com, he hasn't dropped a pass yet this year. For his career, he has 95 catches for 1,193 yards and seven scores.

**Redshirt sophomore QB Chayce Crouch:** After Wes Lunt went down with an injury against Purdue, Crouch helped UI force overtime and actually outscore their Big Ten rivals in the second half and overtime, 15-13. Crouch's numbers weren't as good last week against Rutgers, but he got a win in his first start. The 6-4, 225-pounder has posted a rushing attempt in three of his four appearances, and has a run of greater than 14 yards in each.

### Defensive Players To Watch

**Senior DE Carroll Phillips:** While fellow defensive end Dawuane Smoot received much of the offseason hype — Pro Football Focus listed him the 20th-best player in all of college football heading into the season — Phillips is the one who has been playing like the future first-round pick (PFF listed Smoot No. 18 in its 2017 NFL mock draft six months ago). Nobody in the Big Ten has more tackles for loss than Phillips' 11 stops behind the line of scrimmage, which is tied for eighth in the land.

**Fifth-year senior LB Hardy Nickerson:** ESPN.com recently named him the No. 4 transfer who has made the biggest impact in the 2016 campaign, and the best on defense. The former Cal standout's 9.67 tackles per game ties for 20th nationally.

**Redshirt freshman SS Patrick Nelson:** He notched 14 tackles in the win over the Scarlet Knights, including 1.5 tackles for loss and 10 solo stops, en route to being named the Big Ten Freshman of the Week. Since being moved into the starting lineup, he averages 12.0 tackles per game, which is tied for the most in the league during conference play.

### Special Teams Player To Watch

**Redshirt senior P Ryan Frain:** According to OrangeAndBlueNews.com publisher Doug Bucshon, there was a noticeable difference in the Illinois punt game when Frain was in the game and when he was out with an injury. In his first year as a starter last season, he averaged 40.2 yards on his 70 attempts, landing 12 inside the 20. In his 19 punts this year, he stuck opponents inside their 20 seven times with an average of 41.2.

### By The Numbers: Illinois

**5.7** Yards per carry is the Illini's team average on the year. Each of their four rushers who have reached triple-digit rushing yards average at least 5.0.

**+8** Is Illinois' turnover margin, which is tied with Ohio State for best in the Big Ten and fifth nationally. They have 13 takeaways and just five turnovers, although five takeaways came against a bad Rutgers team in Saturday's 24-7 victory.

**8.3** Tackles for loss per game is what the Illinois defense averages, which is tied for ninth nationally.

**13** Is Illinois' spot in ESPN.com's Big Ten Power Rankings (ahead of only Rutgers); Michigan checks in at No. 2.

**31** Points have been scored by four of the Illini's five previous opponents; the lone exception is Rutgers, who they beat 24-7 for head coach Lovie Smith's first Football Bowl Subdivision win (they beat Football Championship Subdivision foe Murray State in week one). If you take out those two wins, Illinois is giving up an average of 37 points per game.

**89-87** Was Lovie Smith's record in 11 years as an NFL head coach, most notably leading the Chicago Bears to Super Bowl XLI in 2006, when they lost to the Indianapolis Colts. He's back in the college game for the first time since 1995, when he was Ohio State's defensive backs coach. For comparison's sake, Jim Harbaugh went 44-19-1 in four years with the San Francisco 49ers.

**120th** Is where Illinois ranks nationally for third-down conversions (23 of 74, 31.08 percent). The U-M defense is first in the land on third downs, allowing foes to convert just 12.2 percent of the time (10 of 82).

## Michigan Football Keys To The Game: Illinois

Chris Balas | Senior Editor

Michigan is right where it wants to be at the halfway point of the season, 6-0 and ranked No. 3 nationally with a dominant defense. Illinois ... well, isn't.

But that doesn't mean the Wolverines will take the Illini lightly. Illinois is actually 3-5 in its last eight games at the Big House, and that includes a 67-65, triple-overtime loss that could have gone either way in 2010 — otherwise they'd be .500. Throw in a 22-22 tie at Michigan Stadium in 1992, and it's clear there's a trend here — this program gets up for Michigan when it comes to Ann Arbor.

This is not your big brother's Michigan team, however ... it's more like your dad's. Former Michigan head coach Bo Schembechler didn't like the way the Illini treated his former assistant Gary Moeller, who was fired after three years as Illinois' head coach in the late 1970s/early '80s, and he did his part to own the series, losing only once in his tenure (16-6 in 1983).

Current Michigan head coach Jim Harbaugh has many of Schembechler's traits, and he has yet to drop a game in which his Wolverines were heavily favored to win. Chances he'll lose as a 36-point favorite Saturday are about as good as 0-3 Michigan State's current odds to win the Big Ten, but he's still saying all the right things to respect his opponent.

Harbaugh and Illinois head coach Lovie Smith will face off as the first Super Bowl coaches to ever meet as college head coaches.

"He is a great coach," Harbaugh said of Smith. "He is an outstanding person. I don't know him real well, but I know a lot of people who do, and they speak very highly of him.

"They're improving."

Still, they're not very good, and a 24-7 win over Rutgers doesn't do much to move the needle. This is a team that lost to Purdue, after all.

Here are the keys to a Michigan win Saturday:

**Stop The Run:** Sophomore quarterback Chayce Crouch made his first career start against Rutgers, a game in which the Illini rushed for 228 yards. Illinois, in fact, has combined for 543 rushing yards in its last two games — granted, those were against the two worst teams in the league in the Scarlet Knights and Purdue.

Illinois did manage 124 yards on the ground in a fourth-quarter game at Nebraska, including a pair of 31-yard runs, and led 16-10 entering the final 15 minutes before collapsing. If starter Wes Lunt returns — he's a much better passer than Crouch — a

semblance of a running game could open things up a bit for an Illinois team that will need some balance on offense to keep this one close.

All three Illinois backs are averaging 5.0 yards per carry or more, led by impressive redshirt freshman Reggie Corbin's 9.3. He's ripped off a run of 31 or more yards in four of six games.

**Win The Turnover Battle:** There are two big equalizers between teams that are otherwise not evenly matched — weather and turnovers. Notre Dame lost a 10-3 game at NC State a few weeks ago in tropical storm conditions because the Irish couldn't move the ball.

The forecast Saturday in Ann Arbor: Sunny and 55.

When it comes to turnovers, a big one — like a fumble returned for touchdown by Colorado in game three — can set the tone for the game. The Wolverines had to play from behind in a 45-28 win that game, and the contest wasn't comfortable until the fourth quarter.

Turnover margin is one area in which Illinois has excelled this year — it's plus-eight through six games (+1.33 per game) to tie for the lead in the Big Ten. The Illini have recovered seven fumbles, tied for first in the conference. Michigan, for all its success on defense this year, is eighth in the league in turnovers gained.

**Focus On The Task At Hand:** This one sounds cliché, and it might be, but don't look ahead. The Wolverines are frothing at the mouth for their shot at Michigan State, which needed a fluke dropped punt snap on the last play of the game to beat Michigan in Ann Arbor a year ago. Fifth-year senior Kyle Kalis admitted U-M wasn't sharp in its Sunday practice this week — the starters were given several days off to rest and heal — and teams respond differently after a week off.

Harbaugh should know all about the dangers, though. He quarterbacked an undefeated 1986 team that lost to an average Minnesota team a week before his Wolverines were to play at Ohio State. Frankly, this team could probably overlook the Illini and still win, but anything can happen if you allow a team to hang around, something else Harbaugh knows. His 2007 Stanford team was a 41-point underdog at USC when it pulled one of the greatest upsets in college football history.

The Breakdown: Michigan is tied for 12th nationally in fewest penalties per game. Illinois is 123rd out of 128 schools with 8.67. Michigan leads the nation in third-down conversion defense, holding opponents to a 12.2-percent success rate, while Illinois ranks 120th nationally with a 31.1-percent success rate on third down.

These are just two of the stats that don't work in Illinois' favor.

Michigan is better than the Illini at every position, and it's highly likely this game will essentially be over by halftime.

## TheWolverine.com Staff Picks

**TheWolverine.com Senior Editor Chris Balas:** Michigan 45, Illinois 10

The Wolverines aren't necessarily looking past Illinois to next week's game at Michigan State, but they could probably afford to. This one's a mismatch.

**The Wolverine Senior Editor John Borton:** Michigan 49, Illinois 9

Lovie gets no love — and no touchdowns — in the Big House.

**TheWolverine.com Recruiting Editor Brandon Brown:** Michigan 54, Illinois 10

Michigan has proven to be much better than basically everyone else they'll play. It should be no different against the Illini.

**TheWolverine.com analyst Doug Skene:** Michigan 42, Illinois 3

Michigan shakes off a thin layer of rust from the week off and rolls toward Spartan week.

**The Wolverine.com intern Leland Mitchinson:** Michigan 49, Illinois 7

Michigan returns home and will take care of business against Illinois.

## Borton's Blog: New Rule Needed To Set Up Showdown

John Borton | Senior Editor

The Big Ten might require a rules tweak, if Urban Meyer continues overseeing the Evil Empire and Jim Harbaugh maintains a breakneck pace toward a serious pushback.

Let's call it the BoWoody Dictum. (Sorry, Ohio State fans. When you lose the head-to-head series, 5-4-1 in this case, you get second billing).

The so-far fictional BD requires that any time both Michigan and Ohio State begin a season 6-0, either the Wolverines or the Buckeyes are shifted into the West Division for the remainder of the year. That sets up the Big Two showdown not just for the East, but for all the marbles, like it was for so many years and, of course, like the cosmos dictates that it ought to be.

Yes, we hear you people with the ears of corn on your heads: Wait! What about us? We're 6-0 too!

Right ... on your way to 7-2, at best, in the West. But we digress...

The Wild, Weird West does feature Nebraska sitting on top of the division at 3-0, with Iowa just a click behind at 3-1. The Cornhuskers barely beat pesky Indiana and still travel to Wisconsin, Ohio State and Iowa. There are at least two losses in that trio of games, or the "N" on the helmet stands for "Noooooo ... way that just happened."

Iowa, meanwhile, ought to be disqualified from half-title consideration strictly on the basis of winning at Rutgers by only a touchdown. That's an offense running waist-deep in silage.

The best team in the West sits at 1-2, clipped already by both beasts of the East. The Badgers may still win the West, and without the BoWoody, you're looking at a rematch.

That's because turning to the East, the Buckeyes and Wolverines loom as kings of the realm, at No. 2 and No. 3 nationally. Neither team is invincible, but they're better than anyone else in the league.

Ohio State passed its biggest test, at Camp Randall Stadium last Saturday night. Yes, they still travel to Penn State, Maryland and Michigan State, but that's a tough road slate in name only, and it says here the Buckeyes handle the Cornhuskers convincingly in the Horseshoe come Nov. 5.

Meanwhile, Michigan's daunting second half of the season became substantially less so, once actual teams began playing actual games.

Michigan State will double down on its fulminating hatred of all things maize and blue, but plenty of MSU students will do so in their dreams, given the noon start on top of a 2-4 start. They haven't reached the two-Cokes-gets-you-tickets level of desperation, but it's not far off.

The MSU offense is in rebuilding mode after heavy personnel losses, No. 99 in the nation and averaging 24.2 points per game. That puts pressure on the vaunted Spartans defense ... which is No. 85, giving up 30 on average.

With all due respect to Emperor Palpatine of Star Wars fame, even letting the hate flow might not be enough this time around.

Iowa, as noted, could hang around in the West, but mostly because the winner of that division will wind up with two losses. Going to Iowa City in November isn't any bargain, but it looks a whole lot less intimidating than it might have before the season.

Illinois, Maryland, Indiana at home? The latter two could provide some uncomfortable moments, but a loss would be at the '76 Purdue or '86 Minnesota level of stunner. Of course, Jim Harbaugh played in the latter, so he well understands how those things can happen.

Harbaugh put it pretty succinctly on Monday, in a press conference he endured long enough to race back into preparation for Illinois.

He said: "We're just going to work — work and not worry."

If Michigan plays the second half of the season anything like it played the first half, there aren't many worries — at least until Nov. 26. That's when worlds collide, with one team advancing on to the Big Ten championship game and the other (if 11-0 going into The Game) still hoping for a playoff spot.

Getting way out over our skis, to employ a Harbaugh phrase? Probably. Clemson didn't expect to be in a dogfight at home against North Carolina State. Iowa never saw North Dakota State coming. Michigan State and Notre Dame didn't anticipate being lousy.

Stuff happens. That's why Harbaugh isn't taking his foot off the gas, and why his players take their cues from The Jackhammer. There's a big show coming, but they have to nail the rehearsals first.

## Michigan Football News & Views: Jim Harbaugh

John Borton | Senior Editor

Jim Harbaugh fired off the line following a bye weekend, ready to go in his Monday press conference. Here are some highlights, his words and our take:

**News:** Knee braces were optional for Michigan offensive linemen until sophomore tackle Grant Newsome torn his anterior cruciate ligament versus Wisconsin. They are no longer optional.

**Harbaugh:** "No, no longer optional. All linemen are wearing knee braces."

**Views:** That's a significant procedural shift. The braces, standard fare for many squads, were not mandatory in Harbaugh's first year back in Ann Arbor and for the first part of this season.

What happened to Newsome is obviously a game-changer, though. He's already undergone surgery, with more to come, Harbaugh confirmed. The injury was so severe, the head coach initially sounded dubious about the sophomore playing football ever again.

While there's far more confidence now that Newsome can return, the situation provided a huge motivation for change. Some linemen prefer the flexibility and comfort not wearing the braces provides. The risk/reward calculus has obviously changed, and that's good.

**News:** Michigan leads the nation in third-down conversion defense, giving up 12.2 percent.

**Harbaugh:** “It’s good team defense. It takes all 11 playing well together. It’s stopping the run on third-and-short-yardage situations, pass rush, tackling, not allowing yards after contact on shorter passes, underneath the sticks. Defending deeper balls, medium-range balls. It’s a combination of really good coverage on the back end, pressure up front and a very good stop-run defense.”

**Views:** Nobody comes close to what the Wolverines are doing to opponents on third downs. Toledo features the next-best unit in that situation, and the Rockets are allowing opponents to convert 19.8 percent of the time.

It takes a village, like Harbaugh noted. It helps if the village is populated by fast and ill-intentioned headhunters, and that happens to be the case here.

Life does get tougher in the second half of the season in some ways, but Michigan shouldn’t get severely tested on the defensive side of the football until the final regular-season game. By then, the Wolverines should have had plenty of time to gear up and get even sharper.

**News:** Michigan is ranked No. 3 in the Associated Press poll, its most lofty position over the past decade. Harbaugh isn’t worried about his team becoming complacent.

**Harbaugh:** “We’re just going to work — work and not worry.”

**Views:** This is Michigan’s most intense, focused group since the 2006 crew rolled into Columbus at 11-0. Maybe it’s easier to be and sound that way when you’re 6-0 and experiencing the decisive victories piling up. But that’s not all of it.

The personalities on this group — from the fiery intensity of redshirt sophomore Swiss Army Knife Jabrill Peppers, to the determined, last-chance edge of senior tight end Jake Butt, to the village-razing furor of a host of defensive linemen — are right for staying on pace.

Harbaugh said he worried most about games going into and coming out of a bye week. Michigan handled its business pretty effectively going into the bye. Illinois stands to get a strong shot to the jaw by the Wolverines coming out of it.

**News:** Senior cornerback Jourdan Lewis is playing at top form, after missing the first three games of the year.

**Harbaugh:** “He’s been outstanding. Athletically, technically, physically, intensely ... all things are good. All things are really good with Jourdan Lewis. He’s playing at a very high level.”

**Views:** Lewis noted he felt rusty in his first game back with the Wolverines, but it didn’t take long to shake that off. He’s one of the most motivated veterans, someone who likes to lead by

example but doesn’t mind speaking up once in a while.

He speaks most forcefully when opponents are helpless against his coverage, and that happens more often than not. When he’s locking receivers down, it changes what defensive coordinator Don Brown can do overall.

Lewis, like Butt, returned for a final season with the Wolverines when he could have opted for the NFL. They both saw a chance to deliver a season unlike anything they’d experienced in their first three years at Michigan. They see no reason to let up not, fitting perfectly into the “work, don’t worry” mindset.

**News:** Harbaugh acknowledged watching Ohio State-Wisconsin on Saturday.

**Harbaugh:** “I was just watching it as a fan — two good football teams.”

**Views:** Whether the fan in him wanted to see the first dent in OSU’s armor, or for the Buckeyes to remain intact for a possible 11-0 versus 11-0 showdown Nov. 26, we may never know. What we do know is Harbaugh looked on with a mind going well past that of the typical fan in dissecting the Buckeyes.

He saw Wisconsin run effectively versus OSU, and saw how it got done — loosening them up with jet sweeps, then finding plenty of cracks up the middle. He saw Badgers quarterback Alex Hornibrook enjoy a more comfortable evening against OSU’s defense — by far — than he did in Ann Arbor.

But Harbaugh also saw the one element about Ohio State that could put an end to Michigan’s hoped-for perfect season — uber-mobile quarterback J.T. Barrett. Guaranteed, Brown honed in on Barrett versus the Badgers, but Harbaugh is taking it all in as well ... and preparing.

## Michigan Football Notebook: Jabrill Peppers On The Rise

John Borton | Senior Editor

Redshirt sophomore linebacker Jabrill Peppers gave himself a C- when asked to grade his performance thus far. His position coach isn’t going to dispute that, because he knows the purpose behind it.

Michigan linebackers coach Chris Partridge guided Peppers as a high school player at Paramus Catholic in New Jersey. He still coaches him now, and smiled when Peppers’ self-assessment came up.

“Yeah, he fell down against Penn State and didn’t score a touchdown on the punt return,” Partridge said, grinning. “He’s going to be a harsh grader. That’s who he is. Jabrill, because he does so many different things, the sky is the limit. He constantly

keeps getting better and better.

“If he feels like he’s a C-, I’m going to agree with him, and we’ll talk and see what we can do to help get him to an A.”

The teammates of the Heisman Trophy candidate never seem jealous or put off by the third-year Wolverine. That’s because they see him work so hard and do so much, Partridge mentioned.

It’s also because he demonstrates a selflessness head coach Jim Harbaugh preaches to them all.

“Jabrill is a team player,” Partridge said. “He’s a guy who sacrifices for his team, if need be. He’s not a guy who is always me, me, me. He embraces the young guys. He tries to teach them.

“If he makes a mistake, it’s only going to happen once probably in his whole life. He fixes it. I’m talking X’s and O’s, scheme-wise ... well he also tries to make sure his teammates don’t make that same mistake. That’s the type of player he is.

“We use him on offense as a decoy, and he might be dead tired, because he just ran an 18-play drive. Then he goes in and he has to run a fake jet sweep for something, not getting the ball. He’s running at 100 miles per hour. Your team sees that. That’s the type of kid he is, and the team sees that.”

Peppers’ versatility continues to impress all those around him, Partridge noted.

“Oh, absolutely,” Partridge assured. “You’ve got to understand how much he’s able to do. If you get into the details of it, he lines up as our wing on punt and blocks, and covers on a punt. He’s a safety, or a cover guy, on kickoff. He’s a guy you can plug in anywhere, and he does it at such a high level.

“I just don’t know if there are many people who can do as much as he does in multiple positions, constantly.”

Partridge sees Peppers and freshman defensive end Rashan Gary going back and forth, and the coach sits back and smiles. He coached both at Paramus Catholic, and now watches them performing on another plane altogether for one of the best defenses in the nation.

“It is awesome,” Partridge said. “It’s really cool. It’s a good thing to know you said and did the right things to help guide those guys to the right places and do what they’re doing now. To see their work ethic, and what they’re doing on and off the field, it’s a good feeling, for sure.”

### **Juwann Bushell-Beatty Getting Better**

Michigan offensive coordinator Tim Drevno saw his offensive line take a significant blow when starting left tackle Grant Newsome, a sophomore, went down with a knee injury against Wisconsin.

Newsome is done at least for the year after having surgery, with more to come.

That said, Michigan’s football season is far from done, and the Wolverines are moving forward with a reconstructed line. Drevno sounded pleased by what he’s seen so far in the next-man-up category.

Juwann Bushell-Beatty, a 6-6, 311-pound performer out of New Jersey’s Paramus Catholic High School, stepped in when Newsome went down. Drevno appreciated the effort the Wolverines received then and in the days that followed from the redshirt sophomore.

“When he came off the bench against Wisconsin, there was not a big letdown there,” Drevno said. “You’re concerned — first time stepping in, in a game. But he did an outstanding job of coming off the bench. He did better in the Rutgers game and just keeps getting better, which is nice.”

Drevno noted Bushell-Beatty has been working towards his opportunity for more than two years in a winged helmet.

“He’s done a great job,” Drevno said. “It really started in the weight room with [Michigan strength and conditioning coach] Kevin Tolbert and his staff. He’s really changed his body. It’s really important to him. He takes pride in his work to be good.

“He’s really got good foot turnover speed. He’s playing with strength, and that comes from the weight room work he’s had. He’s just done a really, really nice job and progressed nicely.

“Juwann is a very good person and wants to be good at whatever he puts his hands on. He’s got a great attitude.”

Chris Partridge, Bushell-Beatty’s high school coach at Paramus Catholic and now U-M linebacker coach, pointed out that the third-year Wolverine got a late start in high school, playing football only his last two years.

“Juwann is a guy we knew would have to develop coming out of high school,” Partridge said. “He didn’t play much football growing up. It’s good to see him continue to develop and work at it, work his way onto the field. It’s a great feeling.

“I just love how Juwann is very work oriented and just wants to be really good. He works every single day at it.”

Michigan looked at difference scenarios after Newsome went down, including moving junior center Mason Cole back out to left tackle, where he played the last two years, or moving left guard Ben Bredeson, a fifth-year senior, to the spot. Drevno sounds like he’s content with the present set-up, and he’s seeing Bushell-Beatty continue to improve.

“It’s just getting game reps and practice reps — as many reps as you can get to play the game of football and see different looks,” Drevno said. “It’s being able to think quick on your feet.

You really become a better football player.

“He needs to keep doing what he’s doing. I feel absolutely comfortable with him at left tackle. I really do. [He needs to] just keep getting better, like all of them do.”

### Miscellaneous Notes

- Offensive coordinator Tim Drevno couldn’t have asked for a much better effort than Michigan’s four turnovers through six games. He expressed positive feelings — head coach Jim Harbaugh not associating the word “satisfaction” with football — for the Wolverines’ effort in that area.

“It’s a point of emphasis,” Drevno said of ball security. “The coaching staff does a good job — Jedd [Fisch] and Tyrone [Wheatley] and Jay [Harbaugh] and Jim. You’re making sure you preach about it, you coach it and you show examples of not allowing that to happen. You make a point of emphasis on it.”

- Linebackers coach Chris Partridge noted the Wolverines are getting another ‘backer up to speed quickly. A true freshman continues to settle in as a future major contributor.

“Devin Bush Jr. is ready to go,” Partridge said. “He’s doing a phenomenal job for us on special teams, getting a ton of reps in practice. He’s ready to step in there, for sure. He’s the one that really comes to mind.”

## By The Numbers: Bye Weeks Have Brought Mixed Results for Michigan Football

Austin Fox | Contributor

Does a team perform better or worse in the game immediately following its bye week? This age-old question has been asked by many, but no clear answer can seem to be agreed upon. Some claim the extra week of preparation helps a team tremendously, while others feel a week off can cause a team to come out rust-

Michigan's recent performances after a bye		
Date	Opponent	Result
Oct. 31, 2015	@Minnesota	W, 29-26
Nov. 22, 2014	Maryland	L, 23-16
Oct. 25, 2014	@No. 8 Michigan State	L, 35-11
Nov. 2, 2013	@No. 22 Michigan State	L, 29-6
Oct. 5, 2013	Minnesota	W, 42-13
Oct. 6, 2012	@Purdue	W, 44-13
Oct. 29, 2011	Purdue	W, 36-14

ier than usual.

Over the last five years, Michigan's off-dates have yielded mixed results. The Wolverines have played impressively at times, but have also looked flat at other points. Here’s a look at how Michigan performed in all of its games following a bye week, dating back to 2011:

**2015:** The Maize and Blue’s week off occurred on Oct. 24 in Jim Harbaugh's first year at the helm, the week after the Michigan State loss. Whether that game had a carryover effect on Halloween night in Minneapolis is hard to say, but the Wolverines did not look like their usual selves against the Gophers. Not only did Minnesota outgain Michigan 461-296, but it also took a late goal-line stand as time expired by the Wolverines just to win the game, 29-26.

**2014:** The Maize and Blue enjoyed two bye weeks in 2014, with the second one occurring on Nov. 15. On Nov. 22, Michigan faced Maryland in The Big House on Senior Day, needing a win to clinch bowl eligibility, but instead came out with no emotion or energy whatsoever. The Wolverines were outscored 14-0 in the fourth quarter and lost the game, 23-16. The loss all but assured Michigan would not go to a bowl game and helped seal Brady Hoke’s fate.

The Wolverines’ first off date in 2014 came on Oct. 18, with a game at No. 8 Michigan State the following week. Once again, Michigan came out flat and was blown out, 35-11. The Wolverines were outgained, 446-186 yards, and didn’t score a touchdown until the final minutes when the game had already been decided.

**2013:** The Maize and Blue again had two bye weeks — the second week off came before the Michigan State game, but once again it didn’t seem to matter. In one of the most infamous games of the Hoke era, the Wolverines were blown out in East Lansing, 29-6, and were held to a staggering minus-48 yards rushing.

The first of the two byes occurred on Sept. 28, with the Maize and Blue handling Minnesota the following week, 42-13.

**2012:** The Wolverines’ lone off date of the season came on Sept. 29; Michigan then proceeded to dominate Purdue in West Lafayette, 44-13, on Oct. 6 in a game that was actually expected to be fairly close. In one of the most impressive road performances of the Hoke regime, the Wolverines held Purdue to just 56 yards on the ground while rushing for 304 of their own.

**2011:** On Oct. 29, Michigan once again faced Purdue following its bye week. Like 2012, the Wolverines dominated the Boiler-makers, prevailing 36-14. The Maize and Blue outgained them 535-311 yards, including a 339-89 advantage on the ground.

The game immediately following its week off has seen Michigan rack up a 4-3 record over the last five years, and all but one of those games (the Minnesota victory last year) were coached



by Hoke. Most expect that 4-3 record to improve immensely, though, with Jim Harbaugh now at the helm.

### **By The Numbers: Illinois at Michigan**

**2** Home games remaining for Michigan after Saturday — Nov. 5 against Maryland and Nov. 19 against Indiana.

**4** Turnovers for Michigan's offense this season, tied for the second-fewest in the nation.

**7** Rushing touchdowns for redshirt junior fullback Khalid Hill, which leads the team and is tied for third-most in the conference. He also has a receiving score.

**9.3** Yards per carry average for Illinois redshirt freshman running back Reggie Corbin, good for second-best in the Big Ten.

**11** Times Illinois has won at Ann Arbor in 45 all-time tries.

**385** Yards Illinois gave up to Rutgers last week. In comparison, Michigan only allowed 39 to the Scarlet Knights.

**427** Receiving yards for Illinois junior receiver Malik Turner, 321 more than fifth-year senior Justin Hardee, the team's second-leading receiver.

**2009** Was the last time Michigan lost to Illinois. The Wolverines traveled to Champaign on Halloween to face a 1-6 Illini team and were blown out in embarrassing fashion, 38-13. The Maize and Blue were outscored 31-0 in the second half and allowed 377 rushing yards in the process.

## **Around The Big Ten: Week Eight**

Austin Fox | Contributor

The Wolverine takes a look around the league heading into week eight of action.

### **Illinois (2-4, 1-2 Big Ten)**

Illinois heads to No. 3 Michigan on Saturday, looking to win back-to-back conference road games ... After posting 14 tackles at Rutgers last week, redshirt freshman safety Patrick Nelson earned Big Ten Freshman of the Week honors ... Illinois and Michigan last played in 2012, with the Wolverines picking up a 45-0 victory in Ann Arbor ... Fifth-year senior quarterback Wes Lunt missed the Rutgers game with injury, and is questionable this week ... Saturday will mark the first time that two coaches who have coached in a Super Bowl will face off against each other in the collegiate ranks.

### **Indiana (3-3, 1-2 Big Ten)**

Coming off a heartbreaking loss to then-No. 10 Nebraska last week, Indiana heads to Northwestern ... This will be the first meeting between the two schools since 2012 ... Indiana and San Diego State are the only two teams in the country who have yet to allow a run of 30 yards or longer ... Redshirt junior quarterback Richard Lagow is second in the Big Ten for passing yards (1,656), touchdown passes (12) and passing yards per game (276) ... Fifth-year senior receiver Ricky Jones is second in the league in both receiving yards (466) and receiving yards per game (77.7).

### **Iowa (5-2, 3-1 Big Ten)**

Iowa welcomes No. 10 Wisconsin to Kinnick Stadium in a game that will have huge implications in the Big Ten West ... The Hawkeyes beat the Badgers in Madison last year, 10-6 ... Saturday will mark the 90th meeting between the two programs, with Wisconsin holding a slim 44-43-2 edge ... Senior cornerback Desmond King, last year's Jim Thorpe Award winner, intercepted his first pass of the season last week at Purdue; King picked off eight passes in 2015.

### **Maryland (4-2, 1-2 Big Ten)**

Coming off a disappointing 31-10 home loss to Minnesota last weekend, Maryland hosts Michigan State ... The Terrapins have suffered numerous key injuries lately, as fifth-year senior quarterback Perry Hills and fellow fifth-year senior running back Trey Edmunds missed last week's game with injuries, and senior cornerback/receiver/returner Will Likely injured his knee during the contest; Edmunds is out for Saturday's game, and Hills and Likely are both questionable ... Junior defensive end Jessie Aniebonam's 5.5 sacks rank second in the Big Ten, and his 8.5 tackles for loss rank third ... Sophomore running back Ty Johnson leads the conference in yards per carry (9.6), while freshman teammate Lorenzo Harrison ranks third (8.2).

### **Michigan State (2-4, 0-3 Big Ten)**

Riding a four-game losing streak, Michigan State heads to Maryland on Saturday night ... This will be the eighth meeting between the two programs, with the Spartans holding a 6-1 advantage ... Michigan State is looking to avoid its first five-game losing streak since 1991 ... Senior receiver R.J. Shelton's 75.3 receiving yards per game are the third-most in the conference.

### **Minnesota (4-2, 1-2 Big Ten)**

After picking up a big win last week at Maryland, Minnesota returns home to host Rutgers ... Fifth-year senior quarterback Mitch Leidner missed the Maryland game with a concussion and is out once again this week; redshirt junior Conor Rhoda will start in Leidner's place ... Rutgers has lost five of its last six Big Ten road games, with the lone win coming at Indiana in a 55-52 shootout last year ... Redshirt sophomore running back Rodney Smith is third in the conference in both rushing touch-

downs (7) and rushing yards per game (98.3).

### **No. 8 Nebraska (6-0, 3-0 Big Ten)**

After grinding out a tough road win last Saturday at Indiana, No. 8 Nebraska returns home to host Purdue ... The Cornhuskers are 6-0 for the first time since 2001, when they started 11-0 ... Nebraska is currently riding a seven-game winning streak and has not lost since last year's regular-season finale against Iowa ... The Cornhuskers are just one of 11 undefeated teams remaining in the FBS.

### **Northwestern (3-3, 2-1 Big Ten)**

After last week's 54-40 win at Michigan State, Northwestern returns to Evanston to face Indiana ... The Wildcats dropped their first two games of the season to Western Michigan and Illinois State, respectively, but have since won three out of the last four ... Junior running back Justin Jackson leads the Big Ten in both rushing yards (698) and rushing yards per game (116.3) ... Fifth-year senior receiver Austin Carr has dominated the statistical categories for wide receivers in the conference, leading in catches (43), receiving yards (595), touchdowns (8) and receiving yards per game (99.2) ... After recording two sacks against Michigan State last week, fifth-year senior defensive end Ifeadi Odenigbo's seven quarterback takedowns lead the league.

### **No. 2 Ohio State (6-0, 3-0 Big Ten)**

No. 2 Ohio State hits the road for a second straight week, this time they travel to Happy Valley ... The Buckeyes have not lost a road game since losing to Michigan in Ann Arbor on Nov. 26, 2011 ... Ohio State won a double-overtime thriller, 31-24, when it last played at Beaver Stadium in 2014 ... Redshirt sophomore safety Malik Hooker's four interceptions lead the Big Ten and are tied for third-most in the country ... Redshirt freshman running back Mike Weber is second in the conference in both rushing yards (612) and rushing yards per game (102).

### **Penn State (4-2, 2-1 Big Ten)**

Coming off a bye week, Penn State welcomes No. 2 Ohio State to Happy Valley ... The Nittany Lions have won 10 of their last 11 home games, with the lone loss coming to Michigan last November ... Sophomore running back Saquon Barkley's eight rushing touchdowns are tied with Iowa redshirt junior Akrum Wadley for the conference lead ... Penn State has asked the whole stadium to wear white, in what will be just the ninth White-Out in Beaver Stadium history.

### **Purdue (3-3, 1-2 Big Ten)**

Purdue heads to No. 8 Nebraska in its first game without head coach Darrell Hazell, who was fired on Sunday ... The Boilermakers defeated the Cornhuskers last season in West Lafayette, 55-45 ... This will be just the fifth meeting between the two programs, with each team holding a 2-2 record ... Purdue will be looking to win back-to-back Big Ten road games for the

first time since 2012 ... Redshirt sophomore quarterback David Blough leads the league in passing yards (1,756) and passing yards per game (292.7) ... Interim coach Gerad Parker, who was the wide receivers coach, will lead the team.

### **Rutgers (2-5, 0-4 Big Ten)**

Rutgers heads to Minnesota on Saturday in search of its first Big Ten win ... This will be the first-ever meeting between the two schools, even though the Scarlet Knights have been playing football since 1869 and the Gophers since 1882 ... Head coach Chris Ash announced on Monday that redshirt junior quarterback Chris Laviano has been benched, and redshirt sophomore Giovanni Rescigno will start in his place ... Rutgers has been outscored 160-7 over its last three games.

### **No. 10 Wisconsin (4-2, 1-2 Big Ten)**

Coming off its heartbreaking overtime loss to No. 2 Ohio State last weekend, No. 10 Wisconsin heads to Iowa ... The winner will be awarded the Heartland Trophy, a giant brass bull ... The Badgers have won their last three games at Kinnick Stadium ... Redshirt junior linebacker Jack Cichy earned Big Ten Defensive Player of the Week honors after posting a career-high 11 tackles, including 3.5 for loss, last week against the Buckeyes ... Redshirt junior linebacker T.J. Watt is tied for second in the Big Ten in sacks with 5.5 and is tied for fourth in tackles for loss with eight.

### **Schedule: Saturday, Oct. 22**

- Indiana at Northwestern: 12:00 PM (BTN)
- Rutgers at Minnesota: 12:00 PM (ESPNU)
- No. 10 Wisconsin at Iowa: 12:00 PM (ESPN)
- Illinois at No. 3 Michigan: 3:30 PM (BTN)
- Purdue at No. 8 Nebraska: 3:30 PM (ABC/ESPN2)
- Michigan State at Maryland: 7:30 PM (BTN)
- No. 2 Ohio State at Penn State: 8:00 PM (ABC)

## **Michigan Football: NFL Wolverines, How They Fared — Week Six**

Chris Balas | Senior Editor

NFL analyst and former Detroit Lion Chris Spielman said last spring that Michigan's Graham Glasgow might be the steal of the 2016 draft after going to the Detroit Lions in the third round.

Glasgow is doing his part to prove him right.

The rookie guard received his first career start in Detroit's 31-28 win over the Los Angeles Rams, and more than held his own against All-Pro defensive tackle Aaron Donald and a tough Rams front.

"We had some new guys playing in some different spots up front and they blocked their [butts] off," quarterback Matthew

Stafford told DetroitLions.com after the game. “You know, to play that front, what did we give up? One sack? I felt comfortable really the whole day.

“That’s big-time football for those guys to step in and play, and then we ran the ball pretty darn well, too. So it was a good day for our guys up front.”

Offensive coordinator Jim Bob Cooter told MGoBlue.com that Glasgow appears to have a bright future. Glasgow received the majority of the snaps a week earlier in a win over previously undefeated Philadelphia.

“He’s getting better and better,” Cooter said. “He’s developing. He’s a young player who’s getting to know this NFL game, getting to know this week-in, week-out, day-in, day-out grind of the NFL season.

“But he’s getting better. He’s doing a good job of doing what we ask him to do. He’s not perfect in the game. I thought he battled and competed. I thought he did a relatively good job [against the Eagles].”

Visit <http://TheWolverine.com> for the full update.

## The Week In Michigan Recruiting: Oct. 20

Brandon Brown | Staff Writer

Here’s a look back at the last week of action involving the Maize and Blue’s recruiting efforts:

- Hot Boards are being updated daily and the most recent edi-

tion of each can be found linked at the bottom every day. Tight end is the latest position group to be looked at, and, as of right now, Michigan doesn't have a clear-cut remaining target. Only two uncommitted players are currently being pursued, but both seem to be leaning away from the Wolverines.

- Bradenton (Fla.) IMG Academy teammates Cesar Ruiz and Jordan Anthony are both high on the Wolverines, and they recently spoke about U-M in a glowing fashion. Ruiz, the nation's top center, and Anthony, a four-star inside linebacker, have been to U-M multiple times, including most recently for official visits for the Wisconsin game, and both could end up in Ann Arbor.

- Ole Miss commit Willie Gay will be in Ann Arbor this week-end for an official visit and had some very surprising things to say about the Maize and Blue while still being considered a Rebel pledge. Could a flip be imminent for the four-star outside linebacker?

- TheWolverine.com spent some time in Sugarcreek, Ohio, and watched Michigan commit Joel Honigford dominate on the offensive line. The three-star tackle spoke about his commitment to Michigan while living in the heart of Buckeye country. His head coach also had some great things to say about the future Wolverine.

- IMG Academy four-star wide receiver Brian Hightower isn't the most talkative prospect in the 2018 class, but he said a few words about how he's looking at Michigan these days after a recent practice.

- Michigan commit Luiji Vilain hasn't visited Ann Arbor yet this season, but he's been able to catch games on TV and he's excited about being a part of Don Brown's defense. Other schools are still pursuing the four-star pass rusher, but Vilain seems as solid as can be.

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**HEADLINE NEWS**

1H JOHN BORTON | FOOTBALL

### Michigan Football: 6-0 Start Signals Something Special

Michigan's 6-0 start crosses a line that, historically, puts the Wolverines in strong position to finish in the Top 10.

1H BRANDON BROWN  
Expected Visitors List: Illinois  
With an away game and a bye in the rearview mirror.

41M CHRIS BALAS  
Behind Enemy Lines: Q&A With OrangeandBlueNews.com's

**2017 Commitments**

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Name	Position	Rating
Andrew S.		★★★
Joel Honigford	OL	★★★★
Kai-Leon Herbert	OL	★★★★
Dylan McCaffrey	QB	★★★★
AJ Dillon	RB	★★★★
James Hudson	DE	★★★★
Joshua Ross	LB	★★★★
Kurt Taylor	RB	★★★★
Le'Damond Hall	OL	★★★★

## INSIDE THE NUMBERS

Offense	U-M	UI
Points Per Game	50.0	26.0
First Downs	138	97
Rushing Yards	1530	1139
Rushing Yards/Game	255.0	189.8
Rushing Attempts	270	201
Average Yards Per Rush	5.7	5.7
Passing Yards	1290	1089
Passing Yards/Game	215.0	181.5
Passing Attempts	174	161
Average Yards/Catch	11.8	11.3
Total Yards	2820	2228
Average Yards Per Game	470.0	371.3
Average Kickoff Return	15.5	19.4
Average Punt Return	18.6	4.5
Third-Down Conversions	40-83	23-74
Third-Down Conv. Percent	48%	31%
Fourth-Down Conversions	6-9	2-5
Fourth-Down Conv. Percent	67%	40%

Defense	U-M	UI
Points Allowed Per Game	10.3	26.2
First Downs Allowed	68	125
Rushing Yards Allowed	595	1111
Rushing Yards Allowed/Game	99.2	185.2
Opponent Rushing Attempts	208	257
Average Yards/Rushing Attempt	2.9	4.3
Passing Yards Allowed	682	1220
Passing Yards Allowed/Game	113.7	203.3
Opponent Passing Attempts	149	163
Average Yards/Catch Allowed	10.8	11.6
Total Yards Allowed	1277	2331
Average Yards/Game Allowed	212.8	388.5
Average Kickoff Return Allowed	19.7	24.1
Average Punt Return Allowed	9.7	8.5
Third-Down Conversions	10-82	39-85
Third-Down Conv. Percent	12%	46%
Fourth-Down Conversions	5-12	1-6
Fourth-Down Conv. Percent	42%	17%

Class Breakdowns (2016 Depth Chart)				
	Sr.	Jr.	So.	Fr.
U-M Offense	7	6	5	6
U-M Defense	10	2	8	4
U-M Specialists	6	1	2	4
<b>U-M Totals</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>14</b>
UI Offense	10	5	5	4
UI Defense	10	3	5	6
UI Specialists	10	2	2	1
<b>UI Totals</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>11</b>

Turnovers	Gained	Lost	+/-
U-M	10	4	+6
UI	13	5	+8

Score By Quarters	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	OT	Total	Avg.
U-M	70	101	66	63	—	300	50.0
UI	31	63	30	32	—	156	26.0

## 2016 ILLINOIS STATISTICAL LEADERS

Passing	Comp.	Att.	Yds.	TD	INT
Wes Lunt	78	129	840	6	1
Chayce Crouch	18	32	249	1	1

Rushing	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Kendrick Foster	62	384	6.2	56	5
Reggie Corbin	35	325	9.3	53	1
Ke'Shawn Vaughn	44	221	5.0	65	2
Chayce Crouch	29	176	6.1	28	2
Tre Nation	11	59	5.4	17	0

Receiving	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Malik Turner	31	427	13.8	68	3
Justin Hardee	11	106	9.6	31	0
Ke'Shawn Vaughn	8	86	10.8	61	0
Zach Grant	8	84	10.5	19	0
Reggie Corbin	6	66	11.0	30	0
Ainslie Johnson	5	85	17.0	56	1
Kendrick Foster	5	33	6.6	15	2

Tackles	UT	AT	Tot.	TFL/Yds.	Sacks/Yds.
Hardy Nickerson	20	38	58	3.5/8	1.0/1
Patrick Nelson	17	25	42	2.0/6	0.5/2
Tre Watson	17	24	41	1.0/3	0
Jaylen Dunlap	23	10	33	2.0/4	0
Dawuane Smoot	14	16	30	8.0/23	1.0/6
Carroll Phillips	12	14	26	11.0/45	4.0/24
Taylor Barton	7	19	26	1.5/4	0
Gimel President	10	13	23	5.5/15	2.5/5
Chunky Clements	6	15	21	2.5/13	2.5/13

Interceptions	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD
Darius Mosely	2	102	51.0	1
Hardy Nickerson	2	33	16.5	0
Taylor Barton	1	0	0	0
Julian Hylton	1	-2	-2.0	0

Kicking	PATM-A	FGM-FGA	LG
Chase McLaughlin	17-17	9-12	48

Punting	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG
Ryan Frain	19	782	41.2	53
David Reisner	17	675	39.8	61

## 2016 MICHIGAN SCHEDULE

Date	Opponent	Result/Time (ET)
Sept. 3	Hawai'i	W, 63-3
Sept. 10	Central Florida	W, 51-14
Sept. 17	Colorado	W, 45-28
Sep. 24	Penn State	W, 49-10
Oct. 1	Wisconsin	W, 14-7
Oct. 8	at Rutgers	W, 78-0
<b>Oct. 22</b>	<b>Illinois</b>	<b>3:30 p.m.</b>
Oct. 29	at Michigan State	12 p.m.
Nov. 5	Maryland	TBA
Nov. 12	at Iowa	8:00 p.m.
Nov. 19	Indiana	TBA
Nov. 25	at Ohio State	12 p.m.

## 2016 ILLINOIS SCHEDULE

Date	Opponent	Result/Time (ET)
Sep 3	Murray State	W, 52-3
Sep 10	North Carolina	L, 23-48
Sep 17	Western Michigan	L, 10-34
Oct 1	at Nebraska	L, 16-31
Oct 8	Purdue	L, 31-34 (OT)
Oct 15	at Rutgers	W, 24-7
<b>Oct 22</b>	<b>at Michigan</b>	<b>3:30 p.m.</b>
Oct 29	Minnesota	12:00 p.m.
Nov 5	Michigan State	TBD
Nov 12	at Wisconsin	3:30 p.m.
Nov 19	Iowa	TBD
Nov 26	at Northwestern	TBD

## 2016 MICHIGAN WOLVERINES FOOTBALL DEPTH CHART (UNOFFICIAL)

OFFENSE					
Pos. No.	Player	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	
WR 82	Amara Darboh	6-2	215	5th-Sr.	
9	Grant Perry	6-0	196	So.	
LT 76	Juwann Bushell-Beatty	6-6	311	R-So.	
74	Ben Bredeson	6-5	310	Fr.	
LG 71	Ben Braden	6-6	335	5th-Sr.	
74	Ben Bredeson	6-5	310	Fr.	
C 52	Mason Cole	6-5	305	Jr.	
57	Patrick Kugler	6-5	303	R-Jr.	
RG 67	Kyle Kalis	6-5	305	5th-Sr.	
74	Ben Bredeson	6-5	310	Fr.	
RT 78	Erik Magnuson	6-6	305	5th-Sr.	
70	Nolan Ulizio	6-5	291	R-Fr.	
TE 88	Jake Butt	6-6	250	Sr.	
2	Devin Asiasi	6-3	287	Fr.	
WR 82	Jehu Chesson	6-3	203	5th-Sr.	
85	Maurice Ways	6-3	217	R-So.	
QB 3	Wilton Speight	6-6	243	R-So.	
8	John O'Korn	6-4	215	R-Jr.	
FB 80	Khalid Hill	6-2	263	R-Jr.	
19	Henry Poggi	6-4	257	R-Jr.	
RB 4	De'Veon Smith	5-11	228	Sr.	
32	Ty Isaac	6-3	230	R-Jr.	
or 12	Chris Evans	5-11	200	Fr.	
or 22	Karan Higdon	5-10	189	So.	

SPECIALISTS					
Pos. No.	Name	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	
PK 91	Kenny Allen	6-4	222	5th-Sr.	
3	Quinn Nordin	6-1	205	Fr.	
P 91	Kenny Allen	6-4	222	5th-Sr.	
3	Quinn Nordin	6-1	205	Fr.	
KO 91	Kenny Allen	6-4	222	5th-Sr.	
3	Quinn Nordin	6-1	205	Fr.	
H 15	Garrett Moores	6-5	217	Sr.	
LS 31	Scott Sypniewski	6-1	231	R-Jr.	
50	Andrew Robinson	6-0	221	R-So.	
KR 26	Jourdan Lewis	5-10	186	Sr.	
86	Jehu Chesson	6-3	203	5th-Sr.	
PR 5	Jabrill Peppers	6-1	205	R-So.	
12	Chris Evans	5-11	200	Fr.	

DEFENSE					
Pos. No.	Name	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	
DE 33	Taco Charlton	6-6	285	Sr.	
15	Chase Winovich	6-3	245	R-So.	
DT 96	Ryan Glasgow	6-4	299	5th-Sr.	
90	Bryan Mone	6-4	310	R-So.	
DT 43	Chris Wormley	6-6	302	5th-Sr.	
or 73	Maurice Hurst	6-2	282	R-Jr.	
99	Matthew Godin	6-6	294	5th-Sr.	
DE 43	Chris Wormley	6-6	302	5th-Sr.	
or 3	Rashan Gary	6-5	287	Fr.	
SLB 5	Jabrill Peppers	6-1	205	R-So.	
59	Noah Furbush	6-5	238	R-So.	
ILB 9	Mike McCray	6-4	248	R-Jr.	
10	Devin Bush Jr.	5-11	232	Fr.	
ILB 42	Ben Gedeon	6-3	247	Sr.	
52	E. Mbem-Bosse	6-3	215	Fr.	
FS 25	Dymonte Thomas	6-2	199	Sr.	
23	Tyree Kinnel	5-11	206	So.	
SS 44	Delano Hill	6-1	215	Sr.	
23	Tyree Kinnel	5-11	206	So.	
CB 8	Channing Stribling	6-2	175	Sr.	
28	Brandon Watson	5-11	203	R-So.	
or 22	David Long	5-11	187	Fr.	
CB 26	Jourdan Lewis	5-10	186	Sr.	
28	Brandon Watson	5-11	203	R-So.	

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## 2016 ILLINOIS FIGHTING ILLINI FOOTBALL DEPTH CHART

OFFENSE					
Pos. No.	Player	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	
QB 12	Wes Lunt	6-5	225	Sr.	
7	Chayce Crouch	6-4	225	So.	
RB 2	Reggie Corbin	5-10	185	R-Fr.	
5	Ke'Shawn Vaughn	5-10	210	So.	
FB 39	Nate Echard	6-2	235	Jr.	
WR 19	Justin Hardee	6-1	200	Sr.	
86	Desmond Cain	5-11	185	So.	
WR 11	Malik Turner	6-3	205	Jr.	
9	Sam Mays	6-3	200	So.	
WR 88	Zach Grant	6-0	195	Sr.	
4	D.J. Taylor	6-0	190	Sr.	
TE 87	Tyler White	6-5	255	Sr.	
80	Ainslie Johnson	6-2	230	Sr.	
89	Andrew Davis	6-6	230	Sr.	
OT 57	Austin Schmidt	6-6	300	Sr.	
74	Connor Brennan	6-5	300	Sr.	
OG 72	Gabe Megginson	6-5	300	R-Fr.	
61	Darta Lee	6-3	320	Fr.	
C 71	Joe Spencer	6-4	300	Sr.	
78	Harry Black	6-5	285	Jr.	
OG 53	Nick Allegretti	6-4	315	So.	
66	Jordan Fagan	6-6	300	Jr.	
OT 67	Christian DiLauro	6-5	300	Jr.	
52	Adam Solomon	6-5	315	R-Fr.	

SPECIALISTS					
Pos. No.	Player	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	
K 43	Chase McLaughlin	6-1	175	So.	
38	David Reisner	6-0	205	Sr.	
P 13	Ryan Frain	6-2	220	Sr.	
38	David Reisner	6-0	205	Sr.	
LS 56	Michael Martin	6-4	225	Sr.	
58	Sean Mills	6-3	215	Fr.	
H 13	Ryan Frain	6-2	220	Sr.	
88	Zach Grant	6-0	195	Sr.	
KO 43	Chase McLaughlin	6-1	175	So.	
13	Ryan Frain	6-2	220	Sr.	
KR 22	Kendrick Foster	5-9	200	Jr.	
39	Nate Echard	6-2	235	Jr.	
24	Darius Mosely	5-11	190	Sr.	
PR 24	Darius Mosely	5-11	190	Sr.	
4	D.J. Taylor	6-0	190	Sr.	

DEFENSE					
Pos. No.	Player	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	
DE 91	Dawuane Smoot	6-3	255	Sr.	
45	Henry McGrew	6-3	245	So.	
DT 11	Chunky Clements	6-3	295	Sr.	
55	Jamal Milan	6-2	300	R-Fr.	
DT 95	Kenyon Jackson	6-0	290	Fr.	
16	Rob Bain	6-3	295	Sr.	
DE 6	Carroll Phillips	6-3	240	Sr.	
14	Gimel President	6-4	275	Sr.	
WLB 33	Tre Watson	6-2	235	So.	
5	James Crawford	6-2	220	Jr.	
MLB 10	Hardy Nickerson	6-0	230	Sr.	
40	Mike Svetina	6-2	235	Sr.	
SLB 2	Julian Jones	6-2	215	So.	
32	Justice Williams	6-3	215	R-Fr.	
CB 1	Jaylen Dunlap	6-1	190	Jr.	
31	Cameron Watkins	6-0	195	R-Fr.	
FS 3	Taylor Barton	6-1	215	Sr.	
17	Stanley Green	5-11	195	Fr.	
SS 21	Patrick Nelson	6-0	210	R-Fr.	
30	Julian Hylton	6-0	205	So.	
CB 24	Darius Mosely	5-11	190	Sr.	
27	Ahmari Hayes	6-3	200	Jr.	
CB 12	Chris James	5-11	190	So.	
8	Dillan Cazley	5-10	190	Sr.	

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