✦ INSIDE THE NUMBERS

OFFENSE	Michigan	Rutgers
Points per game	20.3	28.7
First downs	116	148
Rushing yards	943	1,069
Rushing attempts	253	258
Average yards per rush	3.7	4.1
Rushing yards per game	134.7	152.7
Passing yards	1,161	1,695
Passing completions-attempts-int.	99-167-7	118-209-12
Average yards per catch	11.7	14.4
Passing yards per game	165.9	242.1
Total offense yards	2,104	2,764
Average yards per game	300.6	394.9
Kickoff return average	21.3	22.3
Punt return average	6.4	8.0
Third-down conversions	35-91	37-90
Third-down conversion percentage	38%	41%
Fourth-down conversions	7-10	14-24
Fourth-down conversion percentage	70%	58%

DEFENSE	Michigan	Rutgers
Points allowed per game	15.7	33.3
First downs allowed	109	143
Rushing yards allowed	669	1,394
Opponent rushing attempts	236	239
Average yards allowed per rush	2.8	5.8
Rushing yards allowed per game	95.6	199.1
Passing yards allowed	1,082	1,523
Opp. passing completions-attempts-int.	116-191-7	124-194-5
Average yards per catch allowed	9.3	12.3
Passing yards per game allowed	154.6	217.6
Total offense yards allowed	1,751	2,917
Average yards per game allowed	250.1	416.7
Kickoff return average allowed	31.3	15.6
Punt return average allowed	4.4	0.0
Third-down conversions	31-97	34-80
Third-down conversion percentage	32%	43%
Fourth-down conversions	3-6	6-8
Fourth-down conversion percentage	50%	75%

RUTGERS STATISTICAL LEADERS

Passing	Comp.	Att.	Yds.	TD	INT
Dylan Lonergan	74	127	1066	10	6
AJ Surace	40	71	539	6	5

Rushing	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
Antwan Raymond	123	648	5.3	6	51
Clay Thevenin	73	405	5.5	4	43
Dylan Lonergan	22	46	2.1	0	11
Aiden Gibson	11	35	3.2	0	9
Ja'shon Benjamin	3	12	4.0	0	6

Receiving	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	LG
KJ Duff	45	774	17.2	9	78
Ben Black III	10	195	19.5	2	53
Jourdin Houston	17	184	10.8	0	26
Dyzier Carter	11	151	13.7	0	35
Antwan Raymond	13	128	9.8	1	22
Vernon Allen III	5	72	14.4	2	28
Clay Thevenin	5	51	10.2	1	19

Tackles	UT	AT	Tot.	TFL-Yds.	Sacks-Yds.
Chris Joines	19	15	34	0-0	0-0
Bradlee Jones	19	15	34	2.5-4	0-0
Jesse Ofurie	14	19	33	2.5-5	0-0
Sean Allison	16	15	31	0-0	0-0
DK Gilley	8	18	26	0.5-1	0-0
Moses Walker	7	19	26	3.5-4	1.5-2
Ty Morris	9	11	20	1.5-2	0-0
Rondo Porter	7	13	20	6-28	2.5-19
Sekou Kromah	5	12	17	4-20	2-16
Sage Clawges	6	9	15	0-0	0-0
JJ Conyers	11	4	15	0-0	0-0
Malachi Davis	6	9	15	5-6	0.5-0
Abram Wright	4	11	15	0.5-2	0-0

Interceptions	No.	Yds.	TD
Moses Walker	2	8	0
Bradlee Jones	2	1	0
DK Gilley	1	7	0

Kicking	PAT	FG	LG
Dane Pizzaro	23-24	6-7	47

Punting	No.	Avg.	I20	LG
Jakob Anderson	18	45.5	4	70

Score By Qtrs	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	OT	Total	Avg.
Michigan	21	37	48	36	0	142	20.3
Rutgers	45	43	63	50	—	201	28.7

Turnovers	Gained	Lost	+/-
Michigan	9	13	-4
Rutgers	7	14	-7

MICHIGAN (4-3 OVERALL, 1-3 BIG TEN) AT RUTGERS (2-5 OVERALL, 1-3 BIG TEN) SATURDAY, OCT. 31, 2026

LOCATION: SHI Stadium (52,454) • Piscataway, N.J.

TIME: 12:30 p.m. ET

TV: Big Ten Network will broadcast the game nationally, with Jason Horowitz (play-by-play), Jake Butt (color) and Brooke Fletcher (sideline) on the call.

RADIO: LEARFIELD Michigan Sports Network, anchored by WCSX (94.7 FM) in Detroit, with Doug Karsch (play-by-play), Jon Jansen (color) and Jason Avant (sideline) on the call.

SERIES FACTS: This is the 11th meeting between the Wolverines and Scarlet Knights, with U-M leading 9-1. Rutgers won the first game at home 26-24 in 2014, but Michigan has rattled off nine straight victories - including a 31-7 win in Ann Arbor in 2023. U-M has won four straight in Piscataway (2016, 2018, 2020, 2022).

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Staff Predictions: Michigan vs. Rutgers - by Chris Balas

It's been nearly 20 years since Rutgers' Greg Schiano was nearly the Michigan football coach … and he would have been had then- U-M athletic director Bill Martin had his way.

Yes, the story (and we believe it) is that Martin, having not been adequately prepared for the coaching search to replace Lloyd Carr despite having plenty of notice. That left him scrambling. And when things got interesting between Schiano and Michigan after Martin met him during a function in New York, an article came out on NJ.com about how the Scarlet Knights were going suddenly, magically going to invest more money in the football program and facilities.

It appeared U-M was being played, we said at the time. Sure enough, Schiano removed his name from consideration, and Martin was back to square one.

But Schiano's agent also represented another client who was very interested in Michigan — West Virginia's Rich Rodriguez. This meeting was much quieter, took place in Toledo, Ohio, and only hit the news because a reporter randomly spotted the two together. It moved quickly from there, and the rest is history.

It's hard not to wonder what Schiano would have accomplished at Michigan had he gotten the opportunity, but it was probably a good reminder to the "anyone can win at Michigan" crowd that yeah, it can happen here, too. A dose of humility was probably what the fan base needed at the time, painful as it was.

But — enough is enough, right? The Harbaugh years should have been the norm, not the exception in Ann Arbor, but … well, Michigan gonna Michigan. There's been a leadership void since Bo Schembechler passed away, everyone pushing their own agendas. They've passed on great and logical candidates because they didn't check the "the right boxes," and … here we are.

What U-M needs to do, and immediately so, is bring in a strong, experienced athletic director who is proactive, willing and able to make the tough decisions, and respected. Yes, a good fundraiser is important in this day and age, but that can't be the only qualification here. There are going to be tough decisions that need to be made about the football program, perhaps even in a few months, and now isn't the time to be "experimenting," a word former interim athletic director Jim Hackett used when he explained why he hired Jim Harbaugh.

But … we digress. Yes, there is a football game to be played Saturday in lovely Piscataway, and Michigan needs to get it together and finally figure some things out on offense (and yes, special teams). We don't throw the word "unacceptable" around very often, but this offense has been that. A loss to this sorry Rutgers team would be, too.

Congratulations to last week's winner, your author, who predicted a one touchdown Michigan loss to Indiana (Yay). Saturday's champion earns the sub of his choice from Jersey Mike's and the right to call the first series of plays against Michigan State if the offense doesn't improve dramatically this week.

Michigan at Rutgers Staff Picks

CHRIS BALAS: We keep picking Michigan to eclipse 21 points, and each week the Wolverines disappoint (UTEP doesn't count). The Wolverines have been ridiculously bad on offense, and spare us the "just need to finish" stuff. As much as we respect Kyle Whittingham, he has to know his offense is a national embarrassment.

Changes need to be made at the end of the year, if not before. Even a veritable offensive explosion Saturday won't change that. **Michigan 24, Rutgers 10**

JOHN BORTON: Rutgers is supposed to be a gimme. But with Michigan not ramming home three-footers these days, there's no such thing. Avoiding the quadruple bogey for 2026 won't be as simple as it should be. **Michigan 20, Rutgers 13**

CLAYTON SAYFIE: Rutgers will be without starter Dylan Lonergan, after he left following the third snap of the 42-14 loss to Northwestern last Saturday. The backup situation was ugly with AJ Surace and Sean Ashenfelder behind center. Rutgers has some offensive firepower with star wideout KJ Duff (but he's listed as 'doubtful' to play) and productive backs Clay Thevenin and Antwan Raymond, but it's hard to imagine anything but a few big plays burning the Michigan defense.

This is a great opportunity for Michigan's offense to put up season-highs in almost every category, because Rutgers' defense is one of the worst in the Power Four once again. The Wolverines should be in for their second Big Ten victory, this one by a comfortable margin. **Michigan 38, Rutgers 10**

ANTHONY BROOME: Vibes around the Michigan program aren't great right now, but Rutgers has traditionally been a get-right spot for teams across the Big Ten since joining the league in 2014. Rutgers will likely be without star receiver KJ Duff this weekend, which is a massive early win for the Wolverines. Its defense has also given up at least 30 points in every game against conference competition thus far.

Whatever it does might well be fool's gold, but Michigan should be able to move the ball the way it did in the second half against Penn State two weeks ago. This is a potential shutout spot defensively, too. If there's a moment to drop a bomb on someone out of nowhere, this feels like the most logical week for it. **Michigan 35, Rutgers 6**

DOUG SKENE: The Michigan defense should pitch a shutout and continue to impress. They play hard, know exactly where they need to be to execute, and they are fun to watch. The thought of watching this Michigan offense makes me want to go clean my golf clubs again. At some point, this offense has to show it can get a few first downs and score a touchdown or two. Playing a Rutgers defense that gives up lots of points is a good place to start. **Michigan 24 Rutgers 6**

ETHAN MCDOWELL: Michigan is 4-3 with an offense struggling to find any sort of rhythm, but the defense continues to play at an elite level. They will face a Rutgers team missing its starting quarterback and superstar wide receiver this week on a squad that already lost to UMass and Boston College. The Wolverines should be able to lean on its running game more than last week and win this one pretty comfortably. **Michigan 27, Rutgers 10**

2026 MICHIGAN FOOTBALL CUMULATIVE STATISTICS

RUSHING	G	NO	GAIN	LOST	NET	AVG	TD	LG	YD/G
Marshall, Jordan	7	81	331	12	319	3.9	4	17	45.6
Hiter, Savion	7	67	259	21	238	3.6	2	41	34.0
Underwood, Bryce	7	61	267	45	222	3.6	2	38	31.7
Kuzdzal, Bryson	7	15	92	12	80	5.3	1	43	11.4
Carr, Tommy	3	21	103	43	60	2.9	1	22	20.0
Marsh, Andrew	7	1	15	0	15	15.0	0	15	2.1
Owens, Eli	6	1	7	0	7	7.0	0	7	1.2
O'Meara, Tomas	7	1	5	0	5	5.0	0	5	0.7
Johnson, Travis	7	1	2	0	2	2.0	0	2	0.3
Moa, Salesi	7	1	0	1	-1	-1.0	0	0	-0.1
Johnson, Donovan	1	1	0	2	-2	-2.0	0	0	-2.0
TEAM	7	2	0	2	-2	-1.0	0	0	-0.3
Total	**7**	**253**	**1081**	**138**	**943**	**3.7**	**10**	**43**	**134.7**
Opponent	**7**	**236**	**812**	**143**	**669**	**2.8**	**3**	**31**	**95.6**

PASSING	G	ATT	COMP	%	INT	YDS	TD	LG	YD/G
Underwood, Bryce	7	124	72	58.1	6	924	5	49	132.0
Carr, Tommy	3	41	27	65.9	1	237	1	24	79.0
TEAM	7	2	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Total	**7**	**167**	**99**	**59.3**	**7**	**1161**	**6**	**49**	**165.9**
Opponent	**7**	**191**	**116**	**60.7**	**7**	**1082**	**7**	**45**	**154.6**

RECEIVING	G	No	Yds	Avg	TD	Lg	Yd/G
Buchanan, JJ	7	33	539	16.3	4	49	77.0
Marsh, Andrew	7	32	309	9.7	1	34	44.1
Hansen, Hogan	5	11	100	9.1	0	22	20.0
Hiter, Savion	7	7	61	8.7	0	19	8.7
Hoffman, Jalen	7	5	39	7.8	0	13	5.6
Goodwin, Channing	7	2	32	16.0	0	24	4.6
Marshall, Jordan	7	4	32	8.0	0	16	4.6
Moa, Salesi	7	2	23	11.5	1	19	3.3
Johnson, Travis	7	2	21	10.5	0	11	3.0
Owens, Eli	6	1	5	5.0	0	5	0.8
Total	**7**	**99**	**1161**	**11.7**	**6**	**49**	**165.9**
Opponent	**7**	**116**	**1082**	**9.3**	**7**	**45**	**154.6**

TOTAL OFFENSE	G	RUSH	PASS	TOTAL	PG
Underwood, Bryce	7	222	924	1146	163.7
Marshall, Jordan	7	319	0	319	45.6
Carr, Tommy	3	60	237	297	99.0
Hiter, Savion	7	238	0	238	34.0
Kuzdzal, Bryson	7	80	0	80	11.4
Marsh, Andrew	7	15	0	15	2.1
Owens, Eli	6	7	0	7	1.2
O'Meara, Tomas	7	5	0	5	0.7
Johnson, Travis	7	2	0	2	0.3
Moa, Salesi	7	-1	0	-1	-0.1
Johnson, Donovan	1	-2	0	-2	-2.0
TEAM	7	-2	0	-2	-0.3
Total	**7**	**943**	**1161**	**2104**	**300.6**
Opponent	**7**	**669**	**1082**	**1751**	**250.1**

ALL PURPOSE	G	RUSH	REC	PR	KR	IR	TOTAL	PG
Buchanan, JJ	7	0	539	0	0	0	539	77.0
Marsh, Andrew	7	15	309	30	0	0	354	50.6
Marshall, Jordan	7	319	32	0	0	0	351	50.1
Hiter, Savion	7	238	61	0	0	0	299	42.7
Kuzdzal, Bryson	7	80	0	0	170	0	250	35.7
Underwood, Bryce	7	222	0	0	0	0	222	31.7
Hansen, Hogan	5	0	100	0	0	0	100	20.0
Staehling, Nathaniel	7	0	0	0	0	79	79	11.3
Carr, Tommy	3	60	0	0	0	0	60	20.0
Moa, Salesi	7	-1	23	34	0	0	56	8.0
Hoffman, Jalen	7	0	39	0	0	0	39	5.6
Berry, Zeke	7	0	0	0	0	37	37	5.3
Goodwin, Channing	7	0	32	0	0	0	32	4.6
Hill, Jyaire	7	0	0	0	0	24	24	3.4
Johnson, Travis	7	2	21	0	0	0	23	3.3
Owens, Eli	6	7	5	0	0	0	12	2.0
Lea'ea, Jonah	7	0	0	0	0	9	9	1.3
O'Meara, Tomas	7	5	0	0	0	0	5	0.7
Snowden, Smith	7	0	0	0	0	3	3	0.4
Johnson, Donovan	1	-2	0	0	0	0	-2	-2.0
TEAM	7	-2	0	0	0	0	-2	-0.3
Total	**7**	**943**	**1161**	**64**	**170**	**152**	**2490**	**355.7**
Opponent	**7**	**669**	**1082**	**40**	**219**	**21**	**2031**	**290.1**

PUNT RETURNS	G	NO	YDS	AVG	TD	LG	YD/G
Moa, Salesi	7	3	34	11.3	0	13	4.9
Marsh, Andrew	7	7	30	4.3	0	10	4.3
Total	**7**	**10**	**64**	**6.4**	**0**	**13**	**9.1**
Opponent	**7**	**9**	**40**	**4.4**	**0**	**16**	**5.7**

KICK RETURNS	G	NO	YDS	AVG	TD	LG	YD/G
Kuzdzal, Bryson	7	8	170	21.2	0	36	24.3
Total	**7**	**8**	**170**	**21.2**	**0**	**36**	**24.3**
Opponent	**7**	**7**	**219**	**31.3**	**1**	**99**	**31.3**

PUNTING	G	No	Avg	Lg	Blk	TB	FC	50+	In 20
Brown, Cam	7	35	42.1	52	0	2	16	5	15
Total	**7**	**35**	**42.1**	**52**	**0**	**2**	**16**	**5**	**15**
Opponent	**7**	**40**	**40.9**	**62**	**2**	**2**	**10**	**8**	**18**

FIELD GOALS	G	Att	Made	Lg	Blkd
Butkowski, Trey	7	8	6	49	0
Total	**7**	**8**	**6**	**49**	**0**
Opponent	**7**	**13**	**11**	**52**	**0**

DEFENSE	G	TACK	AST	TOT	TFL	SACK	PD	FF	FR
Bowles, Troy	7	27	28	55	5-14	0.5-1	1	0	1
Bracy, Chris	7	26	18	44	2-11	1-9	2	2	0
Staehling, Nathaniel	7	19	22	41	2.5-6	0-0	0	0	0
Hill, Jyaire	7	21	12	33	1-3	0-0	2	0	0
Moore, Rod	6	13	12	25	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Snowden, Smith	7	16	7	23	2-4	1-3	2	0	0
Berry, Zeke	7	14	7	21	1-1	0-0	3	0	0
Taylor, Chase	7	9	12	21	1.5-4	1-3	1	0	0
Daley, John Henry	7	8	12	20	6.5-24	4-21	1	0	0
Etta, Enow	7	11	9	20	3-2	0.5-0	0	0	1
Moa, Aisea	7	8	10	18	0.5-1	0-0	1	0	0
Nichols, Dominic	6	6	10	16	5-18	2.5-12	0	0	0
Pierce, Trey	7	8	7	15	1.5-1	0.5-0	0	0	0
Lea'ea, Jonah	7	5	7	12	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Marshall, Nate	7	3	7	10	2.5-18	2-17	0	0	0
Patterson, Benny	6	2	8	10	2.5-8	0.5-4	0	0	0
Boney, Tariq	7	5	4	9	3-12	2-11	0	0	0
Curtis, Mason	7	3	4	7	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Owusu-Boateng, N.	7	4	2	6	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Young, Jordan	7	6	0	6	0-0	0-0	1	0	0
Alford, Max	7	2	3	5	1-6	0-0	0	0	0
Kanka, Bobby	7	3	2	5	0.5-1	0.5-1	0	0	0
Earls, Shamari	7	2	1	3	0-0	0-0	1	0	0
Palepale, Deyvid	6	2	1	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Andrighetto, Nico	7	2	0	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Bell, Kendrick	5	2	0	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Brandt, Cameron	7	0	2	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Oden, Jacob	1	2	0	2	1-3	0-0	0	0	0
Dabney, Markel	1	0	1	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Edokpayi, Lugard	6	1	0	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Goodwin, Channing	7	1	0	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Hammond, Ted	5	0	1	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Kuzdzal, Bryson	7	1	0	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0

2026 MICHIGAN FOOTBALL CUMULATIVE STATISTICS

Marsh, Andrew	7	1	0	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Meadows, Carter	4	1	0	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Norton, Brady	6	1	0	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Tonielli, Deakon	6	0	1	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0

INT. RETURNS	G	No	Yds	Avg	TD	Lg	Yd/G
Staehling, Nathaniel	7	1	79	79.0	1	79	11.3
Berry, Zeke	7	1	37	37.0	0	37	5.3
Hill, Jyaire	7	1	24	24.0	0	24	3.4
Lea'ea, Jonah	7	1	9	9.0	1	9	1.3
Snowden, Smith	7	1	3	3.0	0	3	0.4
Bracy, Chris	7	1	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Moore, Rod	6	1	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Total	**7**	**7**	**152**	**21.7**	**2**	**79**	**21.7**
Opponent	**7**	**7**	**21**	**3.0**	**0**	**19**	**3.0**

SCORING	G	TD	FG	SAF	PAT-1	PAT-2	Total	PG
Butkowski, Trey	7	0	6	0	16	0	34	4.9
Buchanan, JJ	7	4	0	0	0	0	24	3.4
Marshall, Jordan	7	4	0	0	0	0	24	3.4
Hiter, Savion	7	2	0	0	0	0	12	1.7
Underwood, Bryce	7	2	0	0	0	0	12	1.7
Carr, Tommy	3	1	0	0	0	0	6	2.0
Kuzdzal, Bryson	7	1	0	0	0	0	6	0.9
Lea'ea, Jonah	7	1	0	0	0	0	6	0.9
Marsh, Andrew	7	1	0	0	0	0	6	0.9
Moa, Salesi	7	1	0	0	0	0	6	0.9
Staehling, Nathaniel	7	1	0	0	0	0	6	0.9
Total	**7**	**18**	**6**	**0**	**16**	**0**	**142**	**20.3**
Opponent	**7**	**11**	**11**	**0**	**9**	**1**	**110**	**15.7**

TEAM STATISTICS

Scoring by Quarters:	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	OT	Total
Michigan	21	37	48	36	0	142
Opponents	30	13	10	50	7	110

	U-M	OPP
Total First Downs	116	109
Rushing	52	38
Passing	52	54
Penalty	12	17
Total Net Yards	2104	1751
Total Plays	420	427
Yards Per Play	5.0	4.1
Yards Per Game	300.6	250.1
Rushing Attempts-Yards	253-943	236-669
Yards Per Attempt	3.7	2.8
Yards Per Game	134.7	95.6
Pass Att.-Comp.-Int.	167-99-7	191-116-7

	U-M	OPP
Passing Yards	1161	1082
Yards Per Completion	11.7	9.3
Yards Per Game	165.9	154.6
Punting: No.-Avg.	35-42.1	40-40.9
Fumbles-Lost	8-6	7-2
Penalties-Yards	47-410	35-283
Sacks By-Yds. Lost	16-80	13-79
Third-Down Conversions	35-91	31-97
Conversion Pct.	38.5	32.0
Fourth-Down Conversions	7-10	3-6
Conversion Pct.	70.0	50.0
Avg. Time Of Possession	29:04	30:56

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