JAN. 2, 2020

# **Shutout Second Half Dooms Michigan, 35-16**

John Borton

Michigan threw more of a Citrus Bowl scare into Alabama than some expected. But the Crimson Tide threw a second-half shutout, submerging the Wolverines, 35-16.

Jim Harbaugh's crew led 16-14 at the half and actually appeared the better team at times. The stunner of a scenario ended after 30 minutes, leaving U-M 9-4 on the season with losses to four teams ranked in the top 15.

Bama stood one quarterback injury away from the College Football Playoff, but Mac Jones — subbing for injured standout Tua Tagovailoa — didn't exactly hurt his crew

Jones delivered 327 yards and three touchdowns through the air in a 16-of-25 passing performance, without an interception. Michigan senior QB Shea Patterson couldn't keep up with the Joneses, going 17 of 37 for 233 yards with one touchdown and a critical pickoff late in the game.

Freshman tailback Zach Charbonnet (13 carries for 84 yards) and redshirt freshman tailback Hassan Haskins (18 attempts for 61 yards) teamed for 145 yards, helping the Wolverines' ground game top that of the Crimson Tide (162-153). But when Bama went bombs away — especially to All-American wideout **Jerry Jeudy** — the Wolverines had no answer.

Jeudy enjoyed a career day — six catches for 204 yards and a touchdown. He exploded early and late, lifting the Crimson Tide (11-2) to the win.

"It's an impressive group," Harbaugh said. "Yeah, I would have to say that is as impressive group as you're going to ever see. They're fast, but they also made the contested catches, made some great catches, ran some tremendous routes and they were able to get behind us two or three times."

While the Wolverines put three field goals on the board, along with an early touchdown, the Tide kept washing into the end zone. Alabama put up 480 yards on offense to Michigan's 395, but kept on finding pay dirt, triggering the decisive 21-0 second half

"It was a very competitive game through the half, into the fourth quarter, until, really, until about six minutes left in the game," Harbaugh said. "Their ability to create the big play was critical in the game and their ability to keep us out of the end zone

35	1/1/2020 • ATTENDANCE 59,746 CAMPING WORLD STADIUM, ORLANDO, FLA.					
16	QT	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Tot
	Michigan	10	6	0	0	16
	Alabama	7	7	7	14	35

and through the drives. We had long drives and settled for field goals.

"At the end, stopping us when we had a chance out on the interception and then came back and drove the length of the field for 80 yards or so. You know, that was a huge difference in the game."

Alabama wasted no time serving notice offensively. Following Michigan's threeand-out from midfield on the game's first possession, Jones punched U-M in the nose on the Bama's very first snap.

He unloaded an 85-yard bomb to Jeudy, in stride behind the Wolverines' defense. With 1:13 ticked off the clock, Harbaugh's crew found itself fighting from behind.

The Wolverines answered later in the quarter, going 85 yards for a touchdown and taking seven plays to get it done. Several big Charbonnet runs got them going, and a flea-flicker toss from Patterson to junior wideout **Donovan Peoples-Jones** for 34 yards put U-M into the red zone.

Patterson then floated a play-action toss to redshirt junior tight end Nick Eubanks for a seven-yard, game-tying touchdown. With 7:06 left in the opening quarter, the Wolverines fashioned a 7-7 deadlock.

Running the football with stunning effectiveness, U-M then dug out from its own 1-yard line, taking it all the way down to the Alabama 20. A pair of 11-yard runs by Charbonnet and a 40-yard toss to freshman wide receiver Giles Jackson (four catches for 57 yards) set up redshirt junior placekicker Quinn Nordin's 36-yard field goal.

Suddenly Michigan — a significant underdog — moved on top 10-7 with nine seconds remaining in the opening quarter.

Nordin tacked on a 42-yarder with 7:16 left in the half, following a 13-play, 56-yard Michigan drive. U-M continued to pound the ball on the ground, Patterson mixing in a clutch 22-yard toss to sophomore wideout Ronnie Bell (four catches for 53 yards).

Bell spun out of a tackle to move the chains, after a holding call put the drive in jeopardy.

Alabama's next drive looked over at the Michigan 31, Jones' incomplete pass appearing to force a 48-yard field goal attempt. But officials flagged sophomore defensive end Aidan Hutchinson for roughing the passer after he drove Jones into the turf late.

Given a second chance, the Crimson Tide finished off the eight-play, 75-yard touchdown drive on a nine-yard TD bolt by running back Najee Harris. Instead of maintaining a tenuous lead, the Wolverines fell behind 14-13 with 3:32 left in the half.

Nordin wasn't done, however. After Michigan appeared to play itself out of field goal range, the kicker hammered a perfect 57-yard bomb as the clock ran out.

"It was a tremendous kick," Harbaugh said. "He had been kicking the ball really well leading up to the game, hit three from that same spot in pregame and got a great snap and a great hold and had real good spin on the ball. He hit it perfect."

Up 16-14 at the half, the Wolverines looked ready to serve up a New Year's shocker.

Alabama then started the second half the way it did the first. On the Crimson Tide's third snap after intermission, Jones unleashed a 42-yard touchdown bomb to wideout DeVonta Smith.

It took the Tide all of 1:30 to wash back over the Wolverines, grabbing a 21-16 lead.

"They made some really big plays, made some really good plays, some outstanding catches and throws," Harbaugh noted.

Neither team scored again in the third quarter, and Michigan's prime opportunity early in the fourth exploded when Patterson fumbled and Charbonnet pounced on it for a 10-yard loss. Alabama then reminded everyone of its quick-strike ability.

Facing third-and-11 at his own 8-yard line, Jones put the Crimson Tide into the end zone on three plays. He hit Jeudy on the sideline for 14, found him on a crossing route for 58, then fired a 20-yard toss to wide-open tight end Miller Forristall.

Three snaps, 92 yards and a 28-16 lead with 10:01 remaining put Alabama in the driver's seat.

Michigan then drove off the road.

Set up at their own 48, the Wolverines still enjoyed seven minutes to scramble back. But on the first play of what could have been a crucial drive, Patterson floated an easy sideline pickoff to Bama defensive back **Shyheim Carter**.

Patterson expected Eubanks to break outside, but the tight end maneuvered in and up. When the senior quarterback looped one to the sideline stripe, Carter might as well have been fair catching a punt.

The Crimson Tide turned the back-breaking turnover into a run-heavy, clock-draining drive. It ended in a two-yard Harris touchdown plunge, finishing off a 75-yard drive — and the Wolverines.

# **Report Card: Grading Michigan Wolverines** Football In A Loss To Alabama

Chris Balas

ORLANDO, Fla. - Grading all aspects of Michigan football's 35-16 loss to Alabama in the Citrus Bowl:

#### Michigan Football Rushing Offense: B-

This grade was on its way to being an 'A' ... until it wasn't. Alabama adjusted in the second half after U-M's offensive line dominated in the first, and it was so bad that the Wolverines ran six times for no yards in the fourth quarter, aided by sack yardage.

Freshman Zach Charbonnet managed 57 yards in the first quarter alone, with redshirt frosh Hassan Haskins adding 21. However, they were non-factors in the second half, when Alabama pulled away.

The Crimson Tide appeared to bring more men to the line of scrimmage and dare the Wolverines' receivers to beat them, but they couldn't. Charbonnet finished with a team-best 84 yards on 13 carries (6.5-yard average), while Haskins added 61.

## Michigan Football Passing Offense: D+

There were plays to be made, at times — some of them were, too many of them weren't. Michigan's receivers continue to struggle to get open, and senior quarterback **Shea Patterson** struggled at times to find them when they did. He was (unofficially) 0 of 7 on deep balls not aided by a flea flicker, and while he overthrew a couple, there were tight windows in which to throw.

Junior **Donovan Peoples-Jones** is still an average at best route runner, sophomore Ronnie Bell drops too many balls and junior Nico Collins is somewhat limited as a strider. Freshman Giles Jackson was a bright spot (four catches for 57 yards) and will continue to improve, but this group just isn't explosive enough, and Patterson still takes bad sacks (two Saturday) and is inconsistent.

Bell (53 yards) and Collins (48) also snared four receptions.

## Michigan Football Rushing Defense: B-

Given the absence of senior tackle Carlo Kemp and redshirt junior counterpart Michael Dwumfour, the front seven exceeded expectations before running out of gas in the fourth quarter.

Alabama running back Naiee Harris had only 51 yards at halftime, aided by a 25yard run, but he exploded in the fourth quarter for 69 to finish with 136 net and two scores. The Wolverines did a solid job filling the gaps until they wore down late and did a much better job containing the edges than they did against Ohio State.

## Michigan Football Passing Defense: D

"If not for a few big plays ..." is this defense's mantra.

Wide receiver **Jerry Jeudy** set the tone early by getting behind U-M's fastest defensive back, freshman **Daxton Hill**, and the Crimson Tide also managed passes of 58, 42 and 25 yards. Jeudy was the MVP with six receptions for 204 yards and a touchdown, and **Mac Jones** out-dueled Patterson in completing 16 of 25 passes for 327 yards with three scores.

#### Michigan Football Special Teams: A-

Redshirt junior kicker **Quinn Nordin** was one of the players of the game, nailing three big field goals. His 57-yarder seemed to give the Wolverines momentum heading into the half, and even provided a 16-14 lead.

Freshman **Giles Jackson** provided two big kick returns, including a 50-yarder to open the game, and sophomore kicker **Jake Moody** only had one kickoff returned, huge given Alabama's prowess in the return game.

# Offense Notes: U-M's Attack Stalls In The Second Half Against Alabama

Austin Fox • The Wolverine

The Michigan Wolverines' football offense came out on fire on Wednesday against Alabama, putting up 286 yards through the first two quarters on a Crimson Tide defense that had only been yielding 318.5 per outing entering the contest.

Michigan's offense was also incredibly balanced in the first half, racking up 151 yards through the air and 135 yards on the ground en route to 16 points before the break.

The Wolverines stalled in the game's final two quarters, however, posting just 109 yards and failing to crack the scoreboard.

The Maize and Blue possessed the ball six times in the first half and scored on four of those drives (three field goals and a touchdown), but punted on four of their six second-half series and turned the ball over on the two others (a pair of interceptions by senior quarterback **Shea Patterson**).

"It just comes down to players making plays," <u>Patterson said afterward.</u> "We didn't make enough today.

"I didn't play my best. I missed a few throws and felt like I didn't make enough plays."

Patterson in particular had a rough final two quarters, connecting on just 8 of 19 throws for 82 yards, finishing with a stat line of 17-of-37 passing for 233 yards with one

touchdown and two picks.

He had averaged 351.6 passing yards over the last three regular-season games, but his streak of three straight 300-yard outings came to an end on Wednesday.

"They started cutting our edge," head coach **Jim Harbaugh** said, addressing Alabama's second-half adjustments. "That jammed up a few of the outside running plays. But I thought [redshirt freshman running back] **Hassan Haskins** and [freshman running back] **Zach Charbonnet** really ran well the whole game.

"We didn't make enough plays or keep enough drives going."

#### Michigan Was Forced To Settle For Field Goals Too Often In The First Half

Michigan saw three of its lengthy drives in the first half end in field goals after the offense failed to find the end zone. Two of them used up 10 plays and the other lasted 13, with all three taking at least 3:32 off the clock.

Michigan's three field goal drives all occurred in a row immediately following the club's first and only touchdown of the day at 7:10 of the first quarter, a seven-yard scoring pass from Patterson to redshirt junior tight end **Nick Eubanks** that completed an 85-yard march.

Failing to score touchdowns in the red zone had been an issue all season long for the Maize and Blue, who ranked 63rd nationally in the category entering the day (they had scored touchdowns on 61.4 percent of their red-zone trips).

"Any time you get the ball, you want to put points on the board," Patterson noted. "You have to score touchdowns in the red zone.

"It could've been a lot different. It comes down to making plays and I missed a couple throws. I didn't make enough of them."

# Miscellaneous Michigan Football Notes

- After accumulating 395 total yards, Michigan eclipsed 5,000 yards on the year, and has now done so in all five of Harbaugh's seasons. Prior to the current head coach, the program had not eclipsed that number since 2011.
- U-M has scored 19 points or fewer in each of its past three bowl games 16 on Wednesday, 15 against Florida last year and 19 versus South Carolina on Jan. 1, 2018.
- Freshman wideout **Giles Jackson's** four catches and 57 receiving yards were both career highs.
- Charbonnet's 84 yards were his most since he compiled 116 in the win at Illinois Oct. 12. His 13 carries, meanwhile, were his most since he racked up 15 in the victory over Notre Dame Oct. 26.

- Michigan's 395 yards in the game were its fewest since the win at Maryland Nov. 2 when it racked up 331.
- U-M ran 80 offensive plays on Wednesday, while Alabama only executed 55. The Maize and Blue held the ball for 34:47, while the Crimson Tide possessed it for 25:13.
- Patterson's first-quarter touchdown pass to Eubanks was the veteran's fourth scoring grab of the year and the fifth of his career.
- Haskins' 18 carries were the second most he had ever had compiled in a game, only trailing the 20 he had in the win over Notre Dame Oct. 26.
- U-M's 162 rushing yards were its most since accumulating 303 in the triumph over Notre Dame.
- The Wolverines put together two scoring drives of 80 or more yards a seven-play, 85-yarder and a 10-play, 81-yard march. U-M also converted eight of its 17 third downs.
- Patterson finished with 3,061 passing yards this year, becoming just the third quarterback in program history to throw for 3,000 yards in a single season, joining **John** Navarre (3,331 yards in 2003) and Jake Rudock (3,017 yards in 2015).
- Wednesday was Michigan's fourth straight bowl loss. The Wolverines fell to Florida State following the 2016 season, South Carolina after the 2017 campaign and Florida at last season's end.

# **Defense/Special Teams Notes: Alabama's Explosive Plays Spell Doom For U-M**

Austin Fox

The Michigan Wolverines' football defense played well for portions of Wednesday's loss to Alabama, but were ultimately doomed by the Crimson Tide's explosive scoring plays.

U-M's defense gave up touchdown plays of 85, 42 and 20 yards, all three of which occurred through the air.

Redshirt sophomore quarterback **Mac Jones** started for the Crimson Tide in place of injured junior Tua Tagovailoa and connected on 16 of 25 throws for 327 yards with three touchdowns and no picks.

"It's an impressive group [of receivers]," head coach **Jim Harbaugh** said in the postgame. "I would have to say that is as impressive group as you're going to ever see. They're fast, but they also made the contested catches, made some great catches, ran

some tremendous routes and they were able to get behind us two or three times."

Alabama's offense as a whole averaged 8.7 yards per play.

Defensive coordinator **Don Brown's** unit also forced six Alabama punts and two three-and-outs, including a crucial one with only 6:21 remaining that kept Michigan in the game (it trailed 28-16 at the time, but senior quarterback **Shea Patterson** wound up throwing an interception on the drive's first play).

U-M's defense was also burnt by big plays on the ground, with junior running back Najee Harris racking up 136 yards and two scores; he broke off a 25-yard run while junior running back **Brian Robinson** added a 16-varder of his own.

"We just have to execute at a very high level, especially against a good team like this," redshirt freshman linebacker Cam McGrone noted afterward when asked what the keys are to not giving up big plays. "We just can't make any mistakes."

#### Quinn Nordin Connects On Three Field Goals, Ties A School Record By Making A 57-Yarder

Redshirt junior kicker Quinn Nordin made kicks of 36, 42 and 57 yards on Wednesday, marking the second time this season he had made three field goals in a game (also did so against MSU Nov. 16).

The redshirt junior's 57-yarder occurred as the first half expired and tied the school's record for the longest kick; Hayden Epstein also made a 57-yard field goal against Michigan State in 2001.

"It was a tremendous kick," Harbaugh said of the field goal to end the first half. "He had been kicking the ball really well leading up to the game, hit three from that same spot in pregame and got a great snap and a great hold, and had real good spin on the ball

"He hit it perfect."

Nordin's 57-yard field goal was the longest make in Citrus Bowl history, and he is now tied for the most 50-yard field goals (four) in school history.

Freshman wideout Giles Jackson, meanwhile, got the afternoon started off with a bang by fielding the game's opening kickoff and taking it 50 yards to the 50-yard line.

Jackson averaged 33 yards on three kick returns on the day.

"Giles is a real ascending player," Harbaugh exclaimed. "Kick returns, had some good ones today. He's a freshman so I didn't know exactly what we were going to have, but he has really produced and had a heck of a year.

"I thought he had a good game today."

### Miscellaneous Michigan Football Notes

- Senior cornerback Lavert Hill had one pass broken up to bring his career total to 29, which is the sixth most in Michigan history.
- U-M fell to 2-3 in the all-time series with Alabama. Its last victory over the Crimson Tide came in the Orange Bowl on Jan. 1, 2000.
- Alabama's 35 points tied its lowest point total of the year (it also scored 35 versus Tennessee). Its 20 first downs were also a season low.
- Freshman safety Daxton Hill and sophomore defensive end Aidan Hutchinson each recorded 1.5 tackles for loss to tie for the team lead.
  - Freshman defensive tackle Mazi Smith played in just his second game of the year.
- Wednesday's game was Michigan's sixth all-time appearance in the Citrus Bowl, with the club holding a 4-2 record in the annual game.
- Junior safety **Brad Hawkins** returned after missing the last two contests with injury.
- Nordin's three made field goals brought his career total to 39 successful makes, which is the fifth most in U-M history.
  - The Wolverines' defense failed to record a sack.
- Michigan did not force a turnover for the first time since the loss at Penn State Oct. 19.
- The 480 yards Michigan allowed were the second most it had given up all year, trailing only the 577 it yielded to Ohio State Nov. 30.
- Freshman defensive tackle Chris Hinton made his first career start, filling in for injured senior Carlo Kemp and injured redshirt junior Michael Dwumfour.

# Wolverine Watch: It's A Loss To Build Upon

John Borton

Things are never as bad as they seem.

- Harper Lee, To Kill A Mockingbird

That's the message for day one of 2020, courtesy of **Jim Harbaugh** and the Wolverines. Michigan fans entered the Citrus Bowl matchup against Alabama fearful as a 12-year-old watching Stephen King's "Pet Cemetery" through tiny parted fingers.

After all, they'd witnessed their favorite football team run off the field for the sec-

ond straight year by Ohio State. They'd seen Michigan's defense give up 57 points to the Buckeyes, and figured Alabama might do likewise.

Freshman wideout Giles Jackson not only made big plays on returns, he also led U-M in receiving yards.

Imagine their pleasant surprise when Michigan led the Tide at the half (16-14) and trailed by just five (21-16) entering the final 15 minutes. Rumors of a Crimson tsunami were greatly exaggerated.

The Wolverines couldn't finish, and Alabama most certainly did. Make no mistake there. But those who tuned in expecting OSU, The Sequel wound up pulling their hands away from their eyes pretty early.

Scoreless second half of not, Michigan clearly belonged on the field with a team a that was a breath away from the College Football Playoff.

The Wolverines even showed flashes of being the better squad at times, dominating on the ground in the first half. Freshman back **Zach Charbonnet** and redshirt freshman counterpart Hassan Haskins sent a strong signal about Michigan's run capabilities in the years to come.

"That was our O-line — credit to them," senior quarterback **Shea Patterson** said. "Zach and Hassan ran their asses off. They had a heck of a game. This was a great experience for them. It was good momentum for them, going forward."

Freshman wideout Giles Jackson put his team at midfield to open the game, on a near-breakaway kickoff return. He then led the Wolverines in receiving, with four catches for 57 yards.

"Every time he touches the ball, I think he's going to score," redshirt freshman linebacker Cam McGrone noted. "He has that explosive-play capability. He makes something happen with the ball every time he touches it. It's definitely exciting."

"Giles is a real ascending player," Harbaugh concurred. "Kick returns, he had some good ones today. He's a true freshman. So I didn't know exactly what you're going to have in a true freshman, but he has really produced and had a heck of a year.

Jim Harbaugh has big shoes to fill at quarterback and on the offensive line, but he's all about "onward."

"I thought he had a good game today. He made a real tough catch that got us a first down in the game. I can't say enough good things about him."

Michigan's defense exceeded expectations against a Crimson Tide crew averaging nearly 50 points a game. A hotly disputed roughing-the-passer call against sophomore defensive end Aidan Hutchinson handed Bama one touchdown it wouldn't have had.

Further, Alabama head coach Nick Saban delivered an in-your-face TD to Harbaugh with 26 seconds left, refusing to take a knee with the game clearly over.

"It was kind of a smack in the face," McGrone said. "But it is what it is. It's football. We've got to be ready at all times."

Now, let's not get carried away after a 19-point loss, no matter how and to whom. Michigan still extended its bowl losing streak to four. The Wolverines have now gone two straight seasons getting hammered by Ohio State and following it up with losses by three scores or more in the bowl game.

U-M's streak of dropping games to top-15 teams on road or neutral turf now stands at 20. And despite near breakthroughs and close calls at times, the Wolverines remain without a Big Ten title or even a conference championship game appearance under Harbaugh.

It's not exactly a **Bo Schembechler**-like opening, much less the return of **Fielding H.** Yost. But again, this was a game in which Harbaugh's crew could have gotten clotheslined. Instead, it just got beat.

McGrone, a stalwart of the defensive effort behind a line that saw its depth depthcharged in the waning weeks, sees Michigan's defense getting better in the days ahead.

Obviously, the Wolverines will face some major holes to plug on offense, starting at quarterback and including a veteran-heavy offensive line. But the forward move of offensive coordinator Josh Gattis' attack in the latter stages of the season remains undeniable.

We've said it before, and we'll say it again — good to great represents the toughest move in sports. That's the challenge for Harbaugh, Gattis, defensive coordinator **Don Brown** and all who step on the field in 2020.

Michigan looked very good at times this season — destroying Notre Dame, letting Michigan State know the free ride is over, etc. The Wolverines looked very good at times against Alabama, the great and powerful.

Greatness remains elusive, and enticing. Harbaugh isn't budging, from Ann Arbor or the mission.

# **Five Best Players Of The Game**

John Borton

Michigan gave Alabama a battle, but in the end, the Crimson Tide's talent swept away the second half. Here's a look at the game's five best players:

- 1. Alabama wide receiver Jerry Jeudy Jeudy's a pro, and he saved his best for last. He began the game with an 85-yard touchdown reception, and wound up with a halfdozen catches for a career-best 204 yards.
- 2. Alabama quarterback Mac Jones Not bad for a fill-in. At one point, Jones was 12-of-15 passing with three touchdown throws. He wound up 16 of 25 for 327 yards with that trio of TD tosses, which was enough to win.

Alabama tailback Najee Harris had some spring in his step against a program that once recruited him.

- 3. Alabama tailback Najee Harris The one-time Michigan recruit did most of his damage late, but he helped his team put the game away. Harris ended up with 136 yards and a pair of touchdowns on 24 carries.
- **4. Freshman tailback Zach Charbonnet** Charbonnet looked strong in this one, averaging 6.5 yards per carry on his 13 attempts. His 84 yards on the ground helped Michigan fashion a 16-14 lead at intermission, and had the Crimson Tide on its heels for a half.
- **5. Freshman wide receiver Giles Jackson** Another rookie took a big step forward in this game. Jackson burst out on the opening kickoff, taking it back to midfield. He ended up leading Michigan in receiving with 57 yards on four catches, an average of 14.3 yards per grab, and 99 yards on three kickoff returns.

# Michigan nabs four-star forward Terrance Williams

Corey Evans

Following his decommitment from Georgetown, has made the final decision on his college landing spot. The four-star forward, following his official visit to Michigan over the weekend, gave his verbal commitment to the Wolverines, he told Rivals.com.

"I felt like it was the best fit for me. Coach (Juwan) Howard is a players coach and that is the one thing that I was impressed with during my visit there and I need a coach like that," Williams said. "I also love his coaching style. I liked his fast-pace offense they run and the movement they have, such as back screens and a lot of ball screens."

Standing at 6-foot-6 and capable of playing either forward position, Williams sits as the 94th best prospect in the 2020 class. The 23rd rated small forward nationally is valued for his toughness and shot making. He comes to Ann Arbor with a tremendous winning pedigree and will enroll alongside his travel teammate and good friend,.

Another mix-and-match sort of forward that should fit in well next to and . Williams spoke further on his fit at Michigan. "In his system, he (Juwan Howard) told me I would play more of the three and the four as a hybrid forward, but with his positionless style of basketball, it really doesn't matter," he said. "It is just more about who is at different spots, which is what I feel I will thrive in."

He made over 37-percent of his perimeter attempts on the Nike EYBL circuit this summer. He also posted per-game averages of 15.1 points and 5.9 rebounds.

Williams becomes the fourth member of Michigan's 2020 class. All four can be found within the Rivals150. Five-star Isaiah Todd, top-50 center Hunter Dickinson and versatile combo guard Zeb Jackson will join Williams next year in Ann Arbor. They make up the fourth best class in America and the Big 10's top 2020 group.