

The Michigan Full Court Press

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The Official Newsletter of the Maize Rage

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On the atmosphere at Crisler Arena... "It was amazing. The fans behind the bench were awesome. You can hear them when you're on the floor, especially at the free throw line. You just try to block them out, go through your routine and make your shots. I was impressed with them." -J. Fithian (Binghamton), 11/15/04

This is it. Maize Rage, welcome back to Crisler Arena for the official start of the 2005-06 Michigan Basketball season! Tonight your Wolverines take on a young Central Michigan squad that struggled last year. Without a single senior on the team, this year doesn't look much better for the Chippewas. But the team does have plenty of talent, and they are coming off of an embarrassing preseason loss at home. Meanwhile, the Maize and Blue are coming off of a dominating, 45-point preseason win over Northern Michigan. Tommy's squad will be excited for this one, and you should be too. While the number of Ragers has decreased, there's no reason why the noise and energy level needs to follow this trend. Before the football team takes on the Buckeyes tomorrow, we need to take care of business tonight. Bring the enthusiasm to start this promising season off on the right foot! Go Blue!

Here is the projected starting lineup for the Central Michigan Chippewas (0-0, 0-0 MAC):

11	Giordan Watson	5'10" G	Speedy sophomore PG rolls in a Dodge Intrepid, loves his mom's mac and cheese, and lists Allen Iverson as his sports hero
5	Eddie Spencer	6'6" G	According to teammates, the biggest trash talker on the team
1	Sefton Barrett	6'6" F	Laid back soccer player from outside Toronto eats a Hershey almond bar and drinks an orange Gatorade before every game
21	Chris Kellermann	6'8" F	Blonde-haired freshman reads nothing but magazines and the Sports section of the newspaper, but loves his iPod and his Pontiac Grand Prix
34	Justin Blevins	6'7" F	Enjoys watching "Mean Girls" and loves Lindsay Lohan
Coach	Jay Smith		Former U-M assistant under Steve Fisher is from Mio (home of Hambone)

Ouch: Central's lone preseason contest, an exhibition game against Northwood (Division II) last Sunday, didn't quite go according to plan. CMU shot 39% from the floor and 48% from the free throw line while allowing 18 Northwood three-pointers en route to a 92-71 blowout loss to the Timberwolves. Sefton Barrett led the Chips with 16 points on 5-16 shooting.

Snoop Kellermann: Chris Kellermann just can't help but "drop it like it's hot" when it comes to talking about his girlfriend, Kate Fissel of the CMU volleyball squad. Kellermann states that one of his interests is "watchin Fizzle hit the shizzle out of the volleybizzle". This one speaks for itself. Fo shizzle, dizzle.

What's in a name?: We all know real names are overrated these days. One could write a book on the many nicknames on this Chippewa team, but here are some highlights: Giordan Watson's various nicknames include Young G, G-Money, and "Iceberg"... Eddie Spencer goes by "Spezy"... Freshman guard Aaron Richie (#3) prefers to be called "French Lick"... Freshman forward Brandon Ford (#13) is also known as "Shorty", "Beast", and "Tree"... Sophomore center John Tiemeyer (#42) goes by "T-time".

Glamour and Showtime: Ragers, look down at your socks. If you're wearing white socks, CMU junior guard Tyrone Jordan (#43), a high school teammate of Paul Davis, won't be happy. The glamour king admits that he hates wearing white socks in public. He also hates mismatched socks and "short people in tall tees", and absolutely despises non-matching outfits. In addition to glamour, Tyrone has a thing for Showtime; he lists Lester Abram as the toughest player he's ever faced.

O, Canada: CMU's roster includes four Canadian players: Sefton Barrett, Brandon Ford, Reynold "Rey Rey" Walters (#4), and Andre Smyth (#31). Let them know that they have nothing on our own Canadian wonder, Jevohn Shepherd.

THE REST OF THE CMU ROSTER: #2 Jon Yeazel, #23 Mike Kramer, #33 Jeff Bohnhoff, #53 Drew Walker.

Keep it classy, Rage: As we work toward becoming a great student section, it's important that we refrain from swearing and making other negative slurs throughout the game. The University of Michigan is an institution of class, and as a collective representative of the University, we need to uphold this standard. It's cool to razz the opposition, but keep it clean, Ragers.

Central Michigan's Free Throws:

- Listen in to the center of the Rage where the chant will be started, and follow along with one of these:
 - You Will Miss! You Will Miss! You Will Miss! (And upon a miss, yell "Thank you!")
 - General noise (Popcornin without the jumping)
 - Chanting a player's name
 - Absolute quietness, and then scream just as the player shoots
 - Upon a made free throw, listen for the "It doesn't matter!" prompt and yell "You still suck!"

MAIZE RAGE NEWS AND INFO ON YOUR MICHIGAN WOLVERINES ON THE FLIP SIDE →

Here is the projected starting lineup for YOUR Michigan Wolverines (0-0, 0-0 Big Ten):

4	Daniel Horton	6'3"	G	The 2002-03 Big Ten Freshman of the Year is back at the helm after a rough 2004-05. Look for the H-Bombs to start dropping again!
5	Dion Harris	6'3"	G	Michigan's 2003 Mr. Basketball gets to return to natural SG position
32	Lester Abram	6'6"	W	No, that's not "Air Brooklyn" J.C. Mathis in the #32... Showtime is back! Les is ready to return to form after successful shoulder surgery
44	Courtney Sims	6'11"	F	Could be coming off his true breakout game, where he tallied 25 pts, 6 rebs, and 4 blocks against Northwestern in the Big Ten Tourney
25	Graham Brown	6'9"	F	"Hambone" enters his senior season with a new nickname but same commitment to hard work... look for more scoring this year as well
Coach	Tommy Amaker			Ready to lead a "healthy, happy, and hungry" team to 2005-06 success

Back to the future: Senior guard Lester Abram, who wore #2 during his first three years at Michigan, decided during the offseason to switch to #32. Why? Lester wore #32 in high school, where he led Pontiac Northern to back-to-back Class A state titles. Les was missed greatly last year with his injury, but he was granted a medical redshirt, and will have one more year here after this one.

Enter Hambone: Graham Brown, who affectionately garnered the nickname "Moose" from the Rage for the last year and a half, has admitted that he prefers to be called by his childhood nickname of "Hambone", given by his father. We're all family here, Ragers, so let's make Graham feel at home this season with chants of "Ham-bone!"

Revenge is sweet: Freshman center Phillip DeVries (#40) was headed to Central Michigan before his scholarship offer was pulled.

Yeah, new guys: Joining DeVries are freshmen Jerret Smith (#1), Jevohn Shepherd (#15), and Kendric Price (#21). In addition, senior Hayes Grooms (#10) is now eligible after transferring, and senior Troy Sanchez (#14) joined the team after walk-on tryouts.

H-BOMB: If Daniel hits a three, drop back in your seats as if a bomb has violently shaken Crisler Arena. It's the H-BOMB!

Chants: Be steady and don't speed up.

Offense:
-Here we go, Michigan, here we go! (clap clap)
-Go, Blue, Go! (clap clap clap)
-Let's Go Blue! (clap)

Defense:
-De-fense! (clap clap)
-D-D-D-Defense! D-D-D-Defense!
-Popcorn (Jump up and down while screaming OHHHH!! at the tip or when Michigan is on defense)
-Bounce! Bounce! Pass! (Yell "bounce" when the opposition dribbles, and "pass" when they pass)

Turnovers:
-You! You! You! (while pointing finger at the player)

Fouls:
-It's all your fault! It's all your fault! It's all your fault! (while pointing finger at the player)

Straight (road) trippin': All 100 spots for the free road trip to Notre Dame on December 3rd have been filled, but you can add your name to the waiting list by emailing Griff Hickman, Superfan VI (ghickman@umich.edu). Look here for info on future road trips!

Upcoming Home Games:				
November 26	vs. Butler	2 PM	Gates open at 12:30	(Tickets must be purchased individually)
November 29	vs. Miami (FL)	9:30PM	Gates open at 8:00	**Big Ten / ACC Challenge**

Visit MaizeRage.org

E-MAIL LIST: Just because you have tickets does not mean you are on the official Maize Rage e-mail list. To sign up for weekly newsletters and important Rage information, go to MaizeRage.org and click the link on the left side of the page, or simply send an email to tuchii@umich.edu requesting that your name be added.

Histo's Corner: Michigan is 19-2 all-time against Central Michigan, including a 17-1 mark at home (winning by an average of 20.0 points).

Michigan is 5-0 against CMU in the month of November, and 10-0 on even-numbered days.

Michigan is 20-3 all-time in first game home openers at Crisler Arena. Michigan is 5-1 in first game overall home openers since 1999, having won by an average score of 75-62.

HISTO'S "BY THE NUMBERS":

14-4: The mode of Michigan's Big Ten records in seasons with years ending in 5 and 6 (xxx5-xxx6), corresponding to an outright 1st place Big Ten finish.

2: The number of seasons in which Michigan has gone undefeated in Crisler Arena. In both seasons, the team captured the Big Ten title and reached the NCAA Elite 8.