



The Rage Page



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The Official Newsletter of the Maize Rage

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“We had a little bit of a meltdown.” ... Senior wing Ron Coleman after Michigan lost to Central Michigan, 78-67.

For Michigan fans looking for immediate success, this non-conference season has been disappointing to say the least. Not only has Michigan folded against each ranked opponent it has faced, but it has also been upset by Harvard and Central Michigan. But the first half of the season will have to be considered a success if the Maize and Blue can upset #8 UCLA this afternoon. What a momentum swing that would be leading into the New Year and the start of the Big Ten schedule. And don't think it's impossible. UCLA has played down to its opposition early in games all year, and this is the Bruins' first true road game. However, against a roster as talented as this one, the Wolverines will need all the help they can get today. That's where you come in. Go Blue!

Here is the projected starting lineup for the #8 UCLA Bruins (10-1, 0-0 Pac-10):

2	Darren Collison	6'1"	G	Started his UCLA career by punching Jordan Farmar in the face in practice
0	Russell Westbrook	6'3"	G	Admits he can't grow a beard—"I have a baby face, so I keep it smooth"
3	Josh Shipp	6'5"	F	Junior is still not as good as brother Joe, who led the Pac-10 in scoring (20.4 ppg) in 2003 at Cal; father Joe played football at rival USC
23	Luc Richard Mbah a Moute	6'8"	F	Prince of his native village, Bia Messe, Cameroon; UCLA students recently printed t-shirts that declare: "Moute Kicks Boute"
42	Kevin Love*	6'10"	C	Takes a slow, circuitous walk from the free throw line to center court and back whenever he shoots free throws "to catch his breath," says Westbrook
Coach	Ben Howland			As an assistant at Gonzaga, main duty was to guard John Stockton in practice

***Bum of the Game: #42 Kevin Love** – Whenever Kevin Love touches the ball, chant “Ke-vin” and, if the center section asks: “What’s the matter with Kevin?” reply “He’s a bum! Bum-bum-bum-bum-bum-bum-bum.”

Love and basketball: Despite being a highly-touted recruit starting for a top-10 program, freshman Kevin Love is likely the third- or fourth-most famous member of his family. His father is Stan Love, who played for the Bullets, Lakers, and Spurs in the 1970s; his uncle, Mike, is the lead singer for the Beach Boys; finally, aunt Kathleen won the 1982 Ironman triathlon and is a member of the U.S. Triathlon Hall of Fame. A couple more fun facts: Love broke a 50-year-old Oregon state scoring record with 2,628 points in high school despite missing a large portion of his sophomore season with an injury. Also, Love sparked controversy when Nike removed him from its AAU team after he played in a Reebok-sponsored camp. Pay close attention to his chosen brand of shoes today.

Marko II: Remember Marko Spica, the Central Michigan center and last weekend's Bum of the Game? You might recall that he was set to go to UCLA but couldn't cut it academically. Well, meet sophomore Nikola Dragovic (#41), who the Bruins settled on as a near clone of poor Marko. Just like Spica, Dragovic is from Belgrade, Serbia, where he also went to a high school with a ridiculous name (Second Secondary School of Economics). And most importantly, just like Spica, he struggles in the classroom, having missed the first half of last season with an academic suspension. (Ironically, he says he chose UCLA because it's a "great academic school"). His birthday was Thursday, so if you have any belated gifts (perhaps a tutor?) please deliver them promptly.

Cliff Keen is that way: Three members of the UCLA roster—Nikola Dragovic, Joey Ellis (#24), and Michael Roll (#20)—played volleyball in high school. If you feel inclined, help them out and give them directions to Cliff Keen Arena.

Aliases: Alfred Aboya's (#12) full name is Alfred Aboya Baliaba; James Keefe's (#13) is James Eucherias Keefe V.

THE REST OF THE UCLA ROSTER: #5 DeAndre Robinson, #10 Mustafa Abdul-Hamid, #14 Lorenzo Mata-Real, #21 David McGrath, #22 Chace Stanback, #55 Matt Lee

- UCLA'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")
 - Gooooo!! Bluuuuuuue!! (with the rest of the crowd)
 - Absolute silence, and then scream just as the player shoots
 - Sing The Victors (listen for the "1, 2, you know what to do!")
 - Upon a made free throw, listen for the "It doesn't matter!" prompt and yell "You still suck!"

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.

The Rage Page is produced by the Maize Rage, an independent student group, for University of Michigan students only. It is funded by the Michigan Student Assembly and does not reflect the views of the Michigan Athletic Department or the University of Michigan.

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

Here is the projected starting lineup for YOUR Michigan Wolverines (4-7, 0-0 Big Ten):

44	Kelvin Grady	5'11" G	Recorded a career-high eight assists vs. CMU; his 3.1 assist-to-turnover ratio leads the team and he is a perfect 10-for-10 from the free throw line
3	Manny Harris	6'5" G	Manny leads the team in scoring with 16.1 ppg; in fact, he's scored in double-digits in ten of his 11 career games
24	Ron Coleman	6'6" W	One of just two seniors on the roster, R.C. has now played in 110 consecutive games; along with Harris, he leads the team in rebounds with 54 on the year
34	DeShawn Sims	6'8" F	Scored 17 points against CMU and has put together a streak of double-digit scoring in each of the last six games
22	Ekpe Udoh	6'10" F	After just over one year in A ² , Ekpe ranks #9 in UM history with 101 blocks; his 7'3" wingspan has helped him record 10 multi-block games this season
Coach	John Beilein		First-year head coach is focusing on installing his offensive and defensive schemes and simply improving as the season goes along

'Fresh' Men: Freshmen Manny "Fresh" Harris and Kelvin "Smooth" Grady have wasted no time adjusting to the college game. Both have started each game of their Wolverine careers and made an instant impact. Of Michigan's 143 assists, Harris and Grady are responsible for 67. Harris leads the team in scoring, rebounds, steals, and minutes played. Grady has not done so bad himself, shooting a blistering 14-of-28 from three-point range and remaining perfect on free throws.

Future looks bright: Two recruits have signed National Letters of Intent to play for Michigan in the 2008-09 season. Ben Cronin, from Syracuse, NY, is a 7-foot center with a 7'5" wingspan. Cronin averaged 12.0 points, 12.0 rebounds, 8.0 assists, and 5.0 blocks as a junior for the Henninger HS Black Knights. Gotta love a player that puts up round numbers like that. Stu Douglass, a 6'3" shooting guard from Carmel, Indiana, also signed with the Wolverines. Douglass put up 10.0 points, 3.0 rebounds, 2.0 assists, and 1.0 steals per game last season, and is a 92% free throw shooter. He has played high school games against the likes of Greg Oden, Mike Conley, and Eric Gordon.

Welcome LLP: Laval Lucas-Perry, a 6'3" freshman guard at Arizona, is transferring to Michigan. Lucas-Perry, who was ranked the #20 point guard by Rivals.com, averaged 26 points, seven rebounds, and six assists as a senior at Flint Powers Catholic High School. He is expected to be in attendance at today's game, and will be eligible to play for the Maize and Blue starting in January 2009.

H-BOMB: When Manny Harris, our new H-Bomber, hits a three, drop back in your seats as if a bomb has violently shaken Crisler Arena. Simultaneously yell "Fresh" (Manny's nickname), holding the -SH at the end.

Chants: Be steady and don't speed up, or the chants will become disorganized and ineffective...

Offense:

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

Defense:

-De-fense! (clap clap)
-D-D-D-Defense! D-D-D-Defense!
-Popcorn (Jump up and down while screaming OHHHH!!)
-Bounce! Bounce! Pass! (Yell "bounce" when the opposition dribbles, and "pass" when they pass)

Bum of the Game goes to the bench: -NaNaNaNa! NaNaNaNa! Hey Hey Hey, You Suck!

Upcoming home games:

Wed, January 2	vs. Wisconsin	7:00pm	Big Ten opener
Tues, January 8	vs. #13 Indiana	7:00pm	Bring your cell phones to harass Kelvin Sampson



STUDENTS! E-MAIL LIST: To sign up for weekly newsletters and important Rage tidbits, go to MaizeRage.org and click the link on the left side of the page, or send an email to vinnyc@umich.edu requesting that your name be added.

Histo's Corner:

Michigan is 3-10 all-time against UCLA, but 1-1 at home and 3-3 since Michigan's 1989 National Championship when televised on CBS.

When Michigan leads UCLA at halftime, the Wolverines are 2-1; when Michigan trails at the half, it is just 1-3.

John Beilein's West Virginia teams are 2-0 against Ben Howland's UCLA squads.

Michigan is 16-7 all-time on games played December 22. The Maize and Blue has won seven straight on this date, the last loss having come in 1969,

Histo's RPI Update:

Michigan - #168, UCLA - #43