



The Rage Page



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“I think that we settled into our player rotations and that we created a certain confidence and swagger after the Penn State win. As a coach, **there's magic when you see your team win.**” ... *John Beilein after defeating Ohio State on Sunday*

Michigan fans, welcome to Jalen Rose Day at Crisler Arena! Today, with #5 in the house, your Wolverines will look for their 4th win in 5 games as they take on a struggling Illinois squad. Despite a 69-60 setback at Minnesota, the Maize and Blue have clearly turned the corner, and the team is poised for a string of victories to build momentum heading into the Big Ten Tournament (where anything can happen). These Illini are a far cry from the 2005 national runners-up; let's make it three straight wins over them here at Crisler!

Here is the projected starting lineup for the Illinois Fighting Illini (11-16, 3-11 Big Ten):

3	Chester Frazier	6'2"	G	Junior's claim to fame is the coldhearted pregame shove he gave to Eric Gordon which set the tone for a classless night from Illini fans in Assembly Hall; Gordon, who led IU to an overtime win, was trying to shake Frazier's hand
1	Trent Meacham	6'2"	G	Transfer from Dayton takes almost 75% of his shots from beyond the arc
32	Demetri McCamey	6'3"	G	D-Mac celebrated his 19 th birthday on Thursday; bested fellow frosh Eric Gordon's 19 points with a career-best 31 when they went head-to-head Feb. 7th
23	Rodney Alexander	6'7"	F	Juco transfer from Benton Harbor should start in place of Brian Randle, who is likely out for the season after separating his shoulder against Wisconsin
55	Shaun Pruitt*	6'10"	C	Arrested in 2006 after spitting on and slapping a bouncer at The Clybourne in Champaign; declared for the NBA Draft last spring before deciding that it would be best to return for his senior season (anyone surprised?)
Coach	Bruce Weber			After losing to Indiana in front of thousands of Illinois students that chanted "F*** you Gordon" and threw bead necklaces and ice cubes at Eric Gordon's family, Weber referred to the crowd in his postgame comments as "tremendous"

***Bum of the Game: #55 Shaun Pruitt** – Whenever Shaun Pruitt touches the ball, we'll do a "Pru-itt... Bum!" chant (like "Goalie... Sieve!" at a hockey game). Shaun has a history of chatting with Ragers during warm-ups or while checking in (coinciding with a history of us owning Illinois at Crisler when he plays), so don't be shy.

Where's the "Al-Legion-ce"?: Remember that smooth shooting guard who committed to Michigan, transferred from Detroit Country Day to Oak Hill Academy, de-committed from Michigan, re-committed to Michigan, signed with Michigan, reaffirmed his commitment to Michigan when Tommy Amaker was fired, de-committed from Michigan after talking with Coach Beilein, signed with Kentucky, then decided to transfer from Kentucky? After a brief flirtation with returning to the Maize and Blue, **Alex Legion (#15)** has ended up at Illinois. Unfortunately, it is unlikely he will be here today due to NCAA rules restricting transfers from traveling to away games.

Briefly: Freshman guard **Jeff Jordan (#13)**, who goes by "Lil' J", is on an academic scholarship to Illinois even though his father made \$31 million last year according to Forbes.com (his father is, of course, *Michael Jordan*)... Sophomore center **Brian Carlwell (#33)** announced on Wednesday his plans to quit the team and seek a transfer; word on the street is that Carlwell made the decision after Coach Weber told him he needed to lose weight... Although it may appear so, Illinois did not trade Eric Gordon to Indiana for **Mike Davis**; the former IU head coach (now at UAB) has no relation to the Illini freshman guard of the same name (**#24**). Sorry, Rage.

THE REST OF THE ILLINOIS ROSTER: #2 Chris Hicks, #22 Steve Holdren, #25 Calvin Brock, #30 Bill Cole, #31 Jamar Smith, #33 ~~Brian Carlwell~~, #34 C.J. Jackson, #42 Brian Randle, #50 Richard Semrau, #54 Mike Tisdale

Upcoming events:

Mon, February 25	JOHN BEILEIN RADIO SHOW	6:00pm	(Live from Damon's Grill on State St., stop by!)
Tues, February 26	vs. Northwestern	9:00pm	**Gates open one hour prior to tipoff**

Help with the Rage Page

Interested in helping make this fine publication? Send an e-mail to craigjoh@umich.edu or come to a Monday evening Maize Rage meeting.

Histo's Corner:

U-M is 45-28 all-time at home against Illinois, including 2-0 in the last two years.

Since Crisler Arena opened in 1967, Michigan is 4-1 when playing Illinois at home in February during an even-ending year.

In his last game against Illinois, Jalen Rose led Michigan to a 79-70 win with a team-best 24 points and 8 rebounds.

Histo's RPI Update: Michigan - #155, Illinois - #120

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.