

The Rage Page



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The Official Newsletter of the Maize Rage

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If there is one team that the Wolverines can beat at home after a rough road trip, it is the nationally ranked Golden Gophers (stress the "o") of Minnesota. The Wolverines have not lost to Tubby Smith's team since February, 2008 when Michigan was struggling mightily through that distant 10-22 season. Since then, we have owned Minnesota both home and away and tonight is a chance to continue that dominance as they come in ranked #19. Coming off a close home victory against lowly Iowa, the Gophers (stress the "o" again) were our allies in Indianapolis last season as we watched and cheered them to the Big Ten Championship game. But tonight is much different. Let's cheer the Wolverines on to their first win over a ranked opponent this season. GO BLUE!!!

Here is the *projected* starting lineup for the Minnesota Golden Gophers (14-4, 3-3 Big Ten):

0	Al Nolen	6'1" G	Will be seeing most of the minutes at point guard after teammate Devoe
			Joseph left the team earlier this season.
24	Blake Hoffarber	6'4" G	Leads the Gophers with 13.8 points per game and 3.6 assists.
33	Rodney Williams	6'7" F	Hailed as a great dunker because of his 360-degree dunk during the Gophers'
			Midnight Madness (also called "Tubby's Tipoff") last season.
45	Colton Iverson*	6'10" F/C	The pride of Yankton, South Dakota, the acne-infested big man is
			actually NOT related to Allen Iverson, despite many similarities.
50	Ralph Sampson III	6'11" F/C	Dad is a former #1 NBA draft pick, but this Ralph Sampson is not projected to
			be drafted, according to multiple mock draft websites.
Coach	Tubby Smith		As we learned last March at the Big Ten Tournament, when asked "What time
	•		is it?" you are supposed to respond with, "It's Tubby Time!"

^{*}To comply with the new Big Ten Sportsmanship code, the Bum of the Game has been removed from the Rage Page. Instead Colton Iverson is now the "Player to Watch".

6th Man: Not appearing in the starting lineup (though he may tonight for whatever reason), #32 Trevor Mbakwe is probably Minnesota's most valuable player. Known as a terror on the boards and a shot-blocking machine, he ran into some legal troubles and, as a result, is still coming off the bench for Tubby Smith. There may be other reasons for the Tubman to bring Mbakwe off the bench, but it is not common practice for a team's best player to come off the bench. Mbakwe sees the floor more than almost every other player on the roster, including most of the starters.

The Oto-Mobile: There is an enigma on the Gophers' roster, and he goes by Oto Osenieks (#10). According to ESPN.com's roster page, his hometown is "Riga", with no other information given. Upon researching further, it was learned that he is actually from Latvia and played his high school ball in Illinois. Sadly, the 6'8" Oto has not seen the floor yet in this, his freshman season, and is probably redshirting.

Teflon Don: Sophomore **Bryant Allen** (#2) plays both football and basketball, and patterns his football game after Reggie Bush and his basketball game after Kobe Bryant (yawn). More interesting, though, is that he really likes Rick Ross (especially his song "The Boss") and knows how to tumble with the best of them. Allen hasn't played in a game yet this season, but scored a touchdown during the football season.

Maverick: Freshman Maverick Ahanmisi (#13) has, unlike some of the aforementioned players, seen some playing time this season, though not much. In high school he wore both pink and purple socks, and his school was filmed for an episode of CSI. It is unclear whether or not he had a role in the episode, but it will be interesting to see if he wears pink or purple socks in tonight's game.

THE REST OF THE GOLDEN GOPHERS: #4 Dominique Dawson, #15 Mo Walker, #20 Austin Hollins, #22 Chris Halvorsen, #23 Chip Armelin, #55 Elliot Eliason

MINN'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)
- 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 one of college basketball's premiere student sections, 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.

Here is the <i>projected</i> starting lineup for YOUR Michigan Wolverines (11-8, 1-5 Big Ten):					
4	Darius Morris	6'4"	G	D-Mo has been the most consistent scorer for the Wolverine with only two	
				games under double-digit scoring in the last 15 games.	
0	Zack Novak	6'4"	G	Z-No is nine rebounds away from matching his rebound total from last year.	
10	Tim Hardaway Jr.	6'5"	G	T-Hard had a quick five points (eight total) and grabbed seven boards in	
				Tuesday's loss at Northwestern.	
23	Evan Smotrycz	6'9"	F	E-Smo had no points against Northwestern, but there's good news; after	
				scoring no points against Kansas he followed it by scoring 14 points vs OSU.	
52	Jordan Morgan	6'8"	F	J-Mo averaged 9.5 ppg before the Wisconsin game, but only nets 4.8 since	
Coach	John Beilein			Coach Beilein's birthday is coming up on February 5 th ; he will be 58 years old	
				and he has been coaching for 36 of them	

Go Stu, Go: While it was a tough night offensively for almost everyone in Evanston, Stu Douglass showed that he can still shoot the lights out. Stu shot 3-5 from behind the arc and perfect from inside the arc (4-4) on his way to 17 points against the Wildcats.

Streaking: If you haven't noticed, this Michigan team has been a bit streaky this year. The Wolverines went on a 7 game winning streak in December with good wins at Clemson and against Oakland (the Golden Grizzlies are 7-0 in the Summit League), but then came Big Ten season. After losing to Purdue and beating Penn State at home, Michigan had two close home losses to top-5 opponents and then two blowout road losses to average Big Ten foes. That means tonight is a very important game. A win tonight could boost confidence levels going in to East Lansing on Thursday. A win at MSU and a win at home against Iowa would mean these Wolverines could find themselves on another streak.

The MAIZE RAGE: If you plan on watching the game from the bleachers, it is important that you wear MAIZE in the MAIZE RAGE. It is ok to wear some other colors, but you are not allowed to wear the opposing team's colors under ANY circumstances. Tonight, if you are wearing scarlet (or any kind of red) you will be promptly escorted out of the bleachers.

*H-BOMB: When Tim Hardaway Jr. hits a three, drop back in your seats as if a bomb has violently shaken Crisler Arena. Simultaneously, yell "Timmay" (Like Timmy from South Park).

THE FISH: At halftime, be sure to sit down and start swaying back and forth. You will see random Maize Ragers jump up and flop like a fish. If you feel so inclined, go ahead and try it out, too!

Chants: Be steady and DON'T SPEED UP, or the chants will become disorganized and ineffective...

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- -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-Defense! 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)

Upcoming games:			
January 27	at Michigan State	7:00pm	We will have 50 Ragers going crazy at the Breslin Center
January 30	vs Iowa	4:00pm	First home game against an unranked opponent since January 2
February 3	at Ohio State	7:00pm	If OSU keeps winning, we will play a #1 team three years in a row



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 grantsea@umich.edu requesting that your name be added.

The Histo and Bacari Corner

Did you know...

- Michigan has played a ranked team three times on January 22 since 1995, with the most recent game being a 64-61 loss to #11 Wisconsin in 2008.

Coach Bacari's Tweets of the Week!

Jan. 19: "You may have figured out that I'm a man that lives in possibilities right? HALOL!! Not a drop of negativity in me because it's not productive.

Jan. 19: Pouring a foundation and waiting for it to harden before we build it up. Grow with us!