



Illini projected starting lineup:

1	Trent Frazier	6'2"	G
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Retired alligator wrestler

3	Jacob Grandison	6'6"	G/F
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Is a campus preacher in his free time

11	Ayo Dosunmu	6'5"	G
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Might play, depends on how broken his face is

21	Kofi Cockburn	7'0"	C
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Still on probation due to ref abuse

44	Adam Miller	6'3"	G
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Is a wolf on all levels except physically

HC Brad Underwood
In his fourth season as Head Coach at Illinois

Good evening, Ragers! Michigan men's basketball added two more wins this week, beating both Iowa and Indiana confidently. They cruised past Baylor for #2 in this week's AP Poll and could clinch the B10 Title with a win over Illinois tonight.

ioWa:

Michigan took on its 3rd ranked opponent in less than two weeks last Thursday night at the hands of the Iowa Hawkeyes. The 9th-ranked team in the land boasts the front-runner for Player of the Year in Luka Garza, averaging close to 25 points a contest. The story of the game was the known friendship between Garza and Michigan's Hunter Dickinson. The two slugged it out and this game may have signaled a "passing of the torch" of the top center in the B10 as Dickinson battled, and won, against Garza. Although Garza outscored Dickinson by a bucket, it was clear that there was a big difference in this game compared to another opponent Iowa may face. After Iowa's Jack Nunge went down with a season-ending injury, Iowa could not afford to take Garza off the floor as their big man. Behind Franz Wagner's 21 points, Michigan cruised to a 79-57 top-10 victory.

(Who)osiers?:

The Wolverines traveled to Assembly Hall on Sunday afternoon to face off with an NCAA Tournament bubble team in the Indiana Hoosiers. Michigan has had Indiana's number for multiple seasons now ranging from the time of Tom Creen to now Archie Miller. It has been 1,853 days since Indiana last beat Michigan. Although only one bench player for the Wolverines scored (Brown Jr. - 3), Michigan coasted after halftime to a 16 point win. Wagner once again led the scoring with 21, something tells me he likes that number. The Wolverines eagerly watched Wisconsin-Illinois after their game because if the Badgers would have won, Michigan would have clinched the title. Now three games ahead of the Illini with three games left, Michigan has the chance to do it themselves tonight at the Crisler Center.

The Rest of the Fighting Illini:

Connor Serven (#2), Zach Griffith (#4), Andre Curbelo (#5), Edgar Padilla, Jr. (#10), Brandon Lieb (#12), Benjamin Bosmans-Verdonk (#13), Giorgi Bezhaniashvili (#15), Da'Monte Williams (#20), Austin Hutcherson (#22), Tyler Underwood (#32), Coleman Hawkins (#33), Jermaine Hamlin (#34)

To comply with the Big Ten sportsmanship code, the "Bum of the Game" has been replaced by the "Player to Watch": **Ayo Dosunmu**

Keep it classy, Rage: As one of college basketball's premiere student sections, it's important that we refrain from swearing or using other slurs throughout the game. The University of Michigan is an institution of class, and as a collective representative, we need to uphold this standard.

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Have questions, comments, or potential future Rage Page material? Contact Gabrielle Dykhouse, Rage Page Editor (gdhouse@umich.edu)

Tweets of the Week

Brandon Brown (@BSB_Wolverine) 2/25

"Is #Michigan really about to just casually roll another highly ranked team by a smooth 20 piece?"

Context: Yes, Brandon, yes they did.

John U. Bacon (@Johnubacon) 2/25

"This Michigan team might be the most talented since the Fab Five - - and throw in more depth and discipline, and they might be the best."

Context: The NCAA Tournament will have to prove this, but this team is darn good and has a lot of steam rolling into the postseason.

Orion Sang (@orion_sang) 2/27

"Michigan jumped Baylor on KenPom ... and Franz Wagner is now No. 9 for KenPom Player of the Year"

Context: Franz is not the only Wolverine on that list, Dickinson is No. 3. Michigan will have also jumped Baylor in the AP Poll as the Bears dropped their game Saturday night at Kansas.

Gavin Good (@itsallG_O_O_D) 2/27

"Brad Underwood sending some subs: "We're going to honor the (postponed games) b/c we're a member of this league. We're not gonna be the teams that pick & choose what we play for whatever. We're going to show up. I think it's about character, & this team has a ton of it." #Illini

Context: If you weren't hyped up for this game already, here is some more kool-aid...

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Illini Insights:

Illinois comes to Crisler on Tuesday for the 128th all time matchup (since 1949) between these two teams. Illinois leads the all-time series 64-63, but the Wolverines are 14-6 against the Illini since the 2009-10 season. Last year, the Illini beat the Wolverines on an Ayo Dosunmu buzzer beater, a loss that Michigan has "never recovered from" according to a few questionable Illinois Twitter accounts. Juwan Howard and Co. have clearly bounced back and will look for sweet revenge come tipoff.

Illinois was pegged as a Big Ten contender and possible Final Four team during the preseason. They have been in the top 25 all season, ranking no lower than 22nd, and currently at their peak, ranked 4th. They are led by Dosunmu and Cockburn, both on the late season top 20 Wooden Award watch list, who average 21 and 17.7 points, respectively. As a team, they average 81.2 points per game (17th in nation) on 50.1% shooting (7th in country) and 38.1% from three (21st in country). However, they can be careless with the ball, ranking second to last in the Big Ten in turnovers per game with 13.6.

Pro Blue Update

Moe Wagner:

Franz' big bro was named to the Washington Wizards' starting lineup last week!

Zavier Simpson:

The 6'0" guard has been making a mark for the Oklahoma City Blue G League team, putting up 14 points and 10 assists last Sunday night.

Jon Teske:

Also in the G league, Teske joined four of his Lakeland Magic teammates in scoring double digits for their season opener.