

Illini projected starting line-up:

11 Ayo Dosunmu 6'5" G

His best friend on Snapchat is his mother

1 Trent Frazier 6'2" G

Predicted an NCAA tournament appearance for the Illini last season, they finished 12-21

20 Da'Monte Williams 6'3" G

Son of Frank Williams, the 2001 B1G Player of the Year and 2-time All-American

15 Giorgi Bezhanishvili 6'9" F

At the age of 10, he placed 2nd in classical dance in a national competition in Austria

21 Kofi Cockburn 7'0" C

Punched a ref the last time the Illini played Michigan

HC Brad Underwood

In his 3rd season at Illinois, previously at OK State and SF Austin, with a 40-44 record

Good afternoon Ragers and welcome to Crisler again this week as we face off against the #21 ranked Fighting Illini of Urbana-Champaign, Illinois! This is an early rematch in the B1G season as the Wolverines fell to the Illini in early December by a score of 71-62. The Wolverines shot a paltry 3-18 from downtown and were outbounded by 16 on the road. Your Maize & Blue are looking to reverse course as they have lost 3 straight and 4 out of the last 5 while Illinois looks to further their winning streak to 6. The Wolverines look to avenge their loss while regain some confidence as they head on the road for the next 2 games at Nebraska and then in MSG against Rutgers.

The Streaking Illini: Illinois hired Brad Underwood 3 years ago to revive a basketball program that was once at the bottom of the Big Ten barrel, and have reaped the benefits this season. Underwood's mantra of a packline defense and recruiting at a relatively higher level than before have allowed the Fighting Illini to be placed 2nd in the conference standings and ranked #21 in the country. They are currently on a 5-game winning streak with their last lost being on the road against MSU. The hot Illini look to take advantage of their momentum with another win on the road after beating Purdue by 17 on Tuesday.

King Kofi: Kofi Cockburn, a 4-star recruit coming out of Oak Hill Academy, has cemented himself as one of the premier big men in the Big Ten and in the country as a true freshman. The big man from Jamaica leads his team in rebounds (9.7, which is 4th in the B1G) and blocks while 2nd in points with 15 points per game. The Illini plan to feed Kofi often as Michigan has shown to be susceptible to allowing opposing big men to have career days. Cockburn (pronounced co-burn) looks to build off his monster 22-point and 15-rebound performance against the Boilermakers.

The Rest of the Fighting Illini: Benjamin Bosmans-Verdonk (#13), Andres Feliz (#10), Jacob Grandison (#3), Alan Griffin (#0), Zach Griffith (#4), Jermaine Hamlin (#34), Austin Hutcherson (#22), Tevian Jones (#5), Kipper Nichols (#2), Samson Oladimeji (#35), Tyler Underwood (#32)

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

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.

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.

Have questions, comments, or potential future Rage Page material? Contact Ryan Patel, Rage Page Editor (rypatel@umich.edu)

Revenge Tour: If Michigan chose a time to turn up the heat, it would certainly come at a good time right now. Illinois marked the first B1G loss of the season for Michigan back on December 11th in Champaign. The 71-62 final score was truly closer than it looks. Michigan trailed by four with just over two minutes to go before the Illini began knocking down some free throws. Michigan needs to steer the ship around if they want to start playing to their potential again.

Return of the Goat?: Isaiah Livers has been "Out Indefinitely" since December 21st with a groin injury. For those of you who may not know, "out indefinitely" is another term for "day-to-day". The Junior combo-forward has now dressed and warmed up for the past two games, however not being cleared to get any gametime. Before his injury, he was averaging close to 14 points a game and seemed to be the focal point of most opposing defenses, opening up shooting opportunities for others. Hopefully we see his return today.

January Blues: The month of January has not been kind to the Wolverines. They find themselves sitting at 1-4 during the first month of the new year. Although only hosting three of the seven total games played this month, the Maize & Blue are going to have to fight through the massive adversity they are facing whether at home, or on the road. Before January, Michigan only scored under 70 twice (Louisville, Illinois).

Remember: A maize Michigan shirt, a Michigan basketball jersey, or costume is required to sit in the bleachers.

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Cheers and Chants

- Put your arms around those near you and sway to the beat during the pregame video
- **Scream "SLEEEEEEEEEEP" before big Jon shoots a 3**
- During free throws, listen for the distracting noise and echo along
- Follow your section leaders for chants during offensive possessions
- Popcorn (jump up and down) and **MAKE NOISE ON DEFENSE**

Hey Baby!: Every time the band plays "Hey Baby" by Bruce Channel, sing along with these lyrics... "Heyyyyyy (opposing team), I wanna know, why you suck so much!"

1ST HALF COUNTDOWN: When the opposing team **shot clock reaches 0:07, start chanting from 10...9... 8... to force a shot clock violation!**

2ND HALF COUNTDOWN: When the opposing team **shot clock reaches 0:10, start chanting from 7.... 6.... 5.... to force an early shot!**

"Pro" Blue Update

Caris LeVert: Back in full stride after his injury, Caris is in full form after a 16-point outing against the Sixers this past Monday. He played 32.8 minutes, the longest stretch for him since he was out for roughly 6 weeks with a thumb injury.

Duncan Robinson: DRob has been a key and consistent cog for the 2nd place Miami Heat. Averaging 11.8 points and 3.2 rebounds, he is 3rd on the team in 3-pt % at 42.8% and is currently 7th in the league in 3-pointers made with 131.

Glenn Robinson III: GR3 has been hobbled by an ankle injury this past week, his first setback of the season. Glenn previously started all 42 games for the Warriors and leads the team in minutes played with 31.8 minutes.