

2012 ILLINOIS FOOTBALL

QUICK FACTS

UNIVERSITY INFORMATION

Location: Urbana-Champaign

Founded: 1867

Enrollment: 42,605

Colors: Orange & Blue

Nickname: Fighting Illini

Conference (Division): Big Ten (Leaders)

President: Robert Easter

Chancellor: Phyllis Wise

Director of Athletics: Michael J. Thomas

Stadium: Memorial Stadium (FieldTurf – 60,670)

COACHING STAFF

Head Coach: Tim Beckman

Alma Mater: Findlay, 1988

Record at Illinois: 0-0 (first season)

Overall Record: 21-16 (fourth season)

Assistant Coaches:

Tim Banks: Defensive Coordinator / Safeties

Billy Gonzales: Co-Offensive Coordinator / WR

Chris Beatty: Co-Offensive Coordinator / QB

Luke Butkus: Offensive Line

Steve Clinkscale: Cornerbacks

Keith Gilmore: Defensive Line

Alex Golesh: TE / Specialists / Recruiting Coord.

Tim Salem: Running Backs / Special Teams

Mike Ward: Linebackers

Jon Carvin: Offensive Graduate Assistant

Justin Hood: Defensive Graduate Assistant

Kolby Jackson: Special Teams Graduate Assistant

Lester Richmond: Defensive Graduate Assistant

SUPPORT STAFF

Director of Player Personnel: Paul Nichols

Director of Football Operations: Tim Knox

Head Strength & Conditioning Coach: Aaron Hillman

Sports Medicine: Scott Brooks

Director of Game Analysis: George Anasis

Equipment Manager: Trent Chesnut

FOOTBALL INFORMATION

2011 Record: 7-6, 2-6 (5th Big Ten Leaders)

Offensive Formation: Spread / Multiple

Defensive Formation: Multiple

Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 42/16

Off: 19/8 **Def:** 21/7 **ST:** 2/1

Starters Returning/Lost: 15/9

Off: 7/4 **Def:** 7/4 **ST:** 1/1

All-Time Record (Years): 580-534-51 (122)

Big Ten Record: 333-384-32

Memorial Stadium Record: 252-212-14

Bowl Appearances (last): 17 (2011 Kraft Bowl)

All-Time Bowl Record: 8-9 (.471)

FOOTBALL CONTACT INFORMATION

Office Phone: 217-333-1400

Mailing Address:

Memorial Stadium

1402 South First Street, NE Tower

Champaign, IL 61820

FOLLOW THE ILLINI...

fightingillini.com

CoachBeckman.com

twitter.com/IlliniFootball

facebook.com/IlliniFootball

Illinois Athletic Public Relations // 217-333-1391 // www.fightingillini.com/media

Football Co-Contacts: Kent Brown (kwbrown3@illinois.edu) and Derek Neal (drneal@illinois.edu)

2012 ILLINOIS SCHEDULE

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME	LOCATION	2011 REC	SERIES HISTORY (LAST)
Sept. 1	WESTERN MICHIGAN	11 am	MEMORIAL STADIUM	7-6	ILL leads 3-1 (2011)
Sept. 8	at Arizona State	9:30 pm	Tempe, Ariz.	6-7	ASU leads 2-1 (2011)
Sept. 15	CHARLESTON SOUTHERN	11 am	MEMORIAL STADIUM	0-11	First meeting
Sept. 22	LOUISIANA TECH	7 pm	MEMORIAL STADIUM	8-5	First meeting
Sept. 29	PENN STATE	TBA	MEMORIAL STADIUM	9-4	PSU leads 15-4 (2011)
Oct. 6	at Wisconsin	2:30 pm	Madison, Wis.	11-3	ILL leads 36-35-7 (2011)
Oct. 13	at Michigan	2:30 pm	Ann Arbor, Mich.	11-2	MICH leads 68-23-2 (2011)
Oct. 27	INDIANA (Homecoming)	11 am	MEMORIAL STADIUM	1-11	ILL leads 45-21-3 (2011)
Nov. 3	at Ohio State	TBA	Columbus, Ohio	6-7	OSU leads 64-30-4 (2011)
Nov. 10	MINNESOTA (Dad's Day)	TBA	MEMORIAL STADIUM	3-9	MINN leads 34-28-3 (2011)
Nov. 17	PURDUE	TBA	MEMORIAL STADIUM	7-6	ILL leads 42-39-6 (2011)
Nov. 24	at Northwestern	TBA	Evanston, Ill.	6-7	ILL leads 54-46-5 (2011)
Dec. 1	Big Ten Championship Game	TBA	Indianapolis, Ind.		

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MEDIA SERVICES

DIA INTERVIEW PROCEDURE

To facilitate the schedules of Division of Intercollegiate Athletics coaches and administrators and to expedite media requests, the University of Illinois Sports Information Office requires media personnel to arrange interview requests through the Sports Information staff. This interview procedure is designed to enhance the availability of DIA staff members to answer questions from the media at a time which best facilitates each individual's schedule.

In most situations, student-athletes are not available on the day of scheduled intercollegiate competition until after the event is completed. Players have been instructed not to talk to media who haven't coordinated their requests through Sports Information. The team locker room and training room are off limits to media personnel.

PRESS BOX

ENTRANCE TO PRESS BOX Enter the press box through Gate 10 via the press elevator located in the Northwest corner of Memorial Stadium (press box side of the field). Press level for all working media is level 8.

MEDIA WILL CALL (Assembly Hall Box Office): Credentials that are not mailed may be picked up at the "Press Will Call" at the box office of the Assembly Hall. Will Call opens two hours before kickoff. Persons picking up credentials will be required to provide photo identification. All credentials are non-transferable.

WORKING PRESS DECK (level 8): This level is reserved for print media, originating and non-originating radio, network television and sports information personnel. Wireless internet is available free of charge to working media.

PHOTO DECK (level 5): This deck, located on the West Balcony level, offers a limited area for all broadcast video photographers who are covering the game. This area also will be used by network television and Illini Productions. Food service for media utilizing this area is in the main press box (level 8) or in the photo tent.

PHOTO TENT (field level/SE corner): This area offers a field-level workroom for photographers covering the game. In addition to work tables and power outlets, wireless internet service is provided. This area contains pregame and halftime food service for photographers. **Photo vests are obtained here and are required to shoot from the field.**

SUITES AND CLUB SEATS (levels 6/7): This level contains individual suites and an indoor club seating for the 77 Club. Levels 6 and 7 are not accessible to the media.

SIDELINES

The University of Illinois follows NCAA and Big Ten rules regarding media representatives on the sidelines. Photographers are not permitted to shoot between the 25-yard lines and they must wear both a sideline credential and a photo vest at all times. Violators of the policy will be escorted from the stadium.



ATHLETIC PUBLIC RELATIONS

Bielfeldt Athletic Administration Building // 1700 South Fourth Street // Champaign, Ill. 61820
(217) 333-1391 // Fax: (217) 333-5540 // www.fightingillini.com/media



Kent Brown



Derrick Burson



Derek Neal



Ben Taylor



Mike Koon



Jen Funderburk



Josh Bates



Nicole Mechling



Taylor Thomas



Heidi Rivers

KENT BROWN	Assistant A.D.-Media Relations / Co-Football Contact (coaches)	(217) 244-6533	kwbrown3@illinois.edu
DERRICK BURSON	Associate Director	(217) 333-0933	burson@illinois.edu
DEREK NEAL	Assistant Director / Co-Football Contact (players)	(217) 244-3707	drneal@illinois.edu
BEN TAYLOR	Assistant Director / Assistant Football Contact	(217) 244-5045	bkaylor@illinois.edu
MIKE KOON	Assistant Director	(217) 244-1256	mkoon@illinois.edu
TBA	Assistant Director	(217) 333-3592	TBA
JEN FUNDERBURK	Office Manager	(217) 333-1391	jdfishe1@illinois.edu
JOSH BATES	Graduate Assistant	(217) 244-4982	jbbates2@illinois.edu
NICOLE MECHLING	Graduate Assistant	(217) 265-0170	nmechli2@illinois.edu
TAYLOR THOMAS	Intern	(217) 244-3886	tbthomas@illinois.edu
HEIDI RIVERS	Graphic & Web Designer	(217) 333-2320	hrrivers@illinois.edu
TBA	Graphic & Web Designer	(217) 333-3317	TBA
TBA	Graphic & Web Designer	(217) 244-7321	TBA

HOME-GAME CREDENTIALS

Media and photography credential and parking applications will be accepted on-line at fightingillini.com/media. Season credential requests should be made by Friday, August 17. Single-game credential requests should be made two weeks prior to each game to ensure mail delivery, or no later than Monday before each game for will call or pre-game day pickup. Illinois sports information staff will review each application and individuals will receive an e-mail notification following that review. Please note that in the event of heavy demand for credentials for a particular game, requests will be prioritized according to published circulation numbers. Spouses, dates, non-workers and children will not be permitted in the press box. Media agencies violating this policy could have future credential requests denied. The press box is open to the media four hours prior to kickoff.

SIDELINE: Photographers with game-day sideline credentials must enter through the press box entrance on the northwest side of Memorial Stadium (Gate 10). To secure a photo vest, photographers must go to the photo tent in the SE corner of the playing field. **Game credential alone will not gain admittance to the sidelines during the game. You must have a photo vest!** Refreshments are available for photographers in the photo tent before each game and at halftime. Wireless passwords also can be obtained in the photo tent.

ROAD-GAME CREDENTIALS

See page 3 for instructions on how to request credentials for Illinois' road contests.

ON THE COVER

(L-R): Michael Buchanan, Glenn Foster, Terry Hawthorne, Steve Hull, Akeem Spence, Head Coach Tim Beckman, Graham Pocic, Jonathan Brown, Nathan Scheelhaase, Hugh Thornton and Supo Sanni.

CREDITS

Executive Editor: Kent Brown
Editor/Interior Design: Derek Neal
Editorial Assistance: Ben Taylor, John Lock, David Rachke
Cover Designs: Will Wyss, Eddie Diaz Munoz
Cover Photography: Mark Cowan
Interior Photography: Mark Jones, Mark Cowan, Cary Frye, Gary Anderson
Printing: Premier Print Group, Champaign, Ill.

CREDENTIAL USE

Working credentials are subject in all respects to the Media Credential Criteria and Policies set forth by the Big Ten Conference and University of Illinois as in effect from time to time. Working credentials are issued for the sole purpose of providing facility access to an accredited agency's employee who has a legitimate working function (media or game service) in conjunction with a game or games. It is non-transferable and non-assignable and any duplication or alteration of this document is prohibited. Any unauthorized use of this credential subjects the bearer to ejection from the facility and prosecution for criminal trespass. Any secondary use of any picture, photograph, audio description, video, film/tape, drawing or other description of a game taken or made by the accredited organization or individual to whom a credential has been issued (including,

CREDENTIALS REQUESTS

Illinois Home Game Credentials

www.fightingillini.com/media

Road Game Credentials

Arizona State: Email requests to Doug Tammaro at tammaro@asu.edu

Wisconsin: http://www.uwathletics.com/sport_news/media/media.aspx

Michigan: www.MGoBlue.com/media

Ohio State: www.ohiostatebuckeyes.com/media

Northwestern www.nusports.com/school-bio/media-services.html

OPPONENT SID CONTACTS

WESTERN MICHIGAN - MAT KANAN

(269) 387-4125 // mat.kanan@wmich.edu
Website: www.wmubroncos.com

ARIZONA STATE - MARK BRAND

(480) 965-6592 // mark.brand@asu.edu
Website: www.thesundevils.com

CHARLESTON SOUTHERN - ASHLEY BAILEY

(843) 863-7688 // abailey@csuniv.edu
Website: www.csusports.com

LOUISIANA TECH - PATRICK WALSH

(318) 257-5305 // pwalsh@latech.edu
Website: www.latechsports.com

PENN STATE - JEFF NELSON

(814) 865-1757 // jtn4@psu.edu
Website: www.gopsusports.com

WISCONSIN - BRIAN LUCAS

(608) 263-5052 // BML@athletics.wisc.edu
Website: www.uwbadgers.com

MICHIGAN - JUSTIN DICKENS

(734) 763-4423 // dickensj@umich.edu
Website: www.mgoblue.com

INDIANA - JEFF KEAG

(812) 855-6209 // jkeag@indiana.edu
Website: www.iuhoosiers.com

OHIO STATE - JERRY EMIG

(614) 688-0343 // emig.2@osu.edu
Website: www.ohiostatebuckeyes.com

MINNESOTA - PAUL ROVNAK

(612) 625-9379 // psrovnak@umn.edu
Website: www.gophersports.com

PURDUE - MATT RECTOR

(765) 494-3196 // rector@purdue.edu
Website: www.purduesports.com

NORTHWESTERN - PAUL KENNEDY

(847) 467-2028 // pkennedy@northwestern.edu
Website: www.NUsports.com

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LIVE BLOGGING

Media Agencies and Representatives shall not transmit or display any real-time video or audio, while the event or live network presentation of the event is in progress. Photographs or any text-based accounts or descriptions of the event (including without limitation, any web log, blog, online journal or other web-based publication) during the event is only allowed with the advance written permission of the Illinois Division of Intercollegiate Athletics.

WEB SITES

Media credentials are issued only for individuals who are affiliated with web sites for national or regional television and news media organizations, e.g. USA Today Online, ESPN, CNN/SI, CBS Sportsline, Rivals.com, Scout.com, etc., for institutions that are conference members and non-conference opponents, and for the Big Ten Conference. The University of Illinois reserves the right to deny media credentials to any individual whose web site is not affiliated with an official news-gathering organization.

PARKING

Media parking is located in Lot 32, which is located on the SW corner of First and Kirby, south of Memorial Stadium. Entrance to the parking lot is off First Street. Parking credentials should be requested at the same time game-day working credentials are requested. If time permits (at least six working days), both credentials will be mailed. Those who request parking passes the week of the game must pick them up by 5 p.m. Friday at the UI Sports Information Office (1700 S. Fourth St., Champaign), or at the Media Will Call location in the Assembly Hall Box Office.

HOTEL ROOMS

The Sports Information Office has a limited number of rooms reserved in the Champaign-Urbana area. Please contact SID office manager **Jennifer Funderburk, 217-333-1391**, at least two weeks in advance. These rooms will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis.

TELEPHONES

Telephone lines in the press box must be ordered at least two weeks in advance of the game(s) for which they are needed. The orders should be addressed to AT&T (800/321-8152 or 800/443-9370 fax), during regular business hours. No telephone lines or instruments are available through the UI Sports Information Office. The stadium address is 1402 South First Street, Champaign, IL 61820.

Photographers are encouraged to use wireless access in the photo tent rather than installing phone lines.

WIRELESS ACCESS

Media members and photographers will have access to the internet during games through a wireless network. All wishing to use wireless internet should present their credential to a sports information representative in the press box or photo tent to receive a wireless password.

PREGAME AND POSTGAME SERVICES

Play-by-play, halftime and complete final statistics, quote sheets, and pregame and postgame notes are all regular services on game day. Coach Tim Beckman and selected Illinois players will be available approximately 10-15 minutes after the conclusion of the game and will be brought to the interview room (located on the ground floor of the football facility in the northeast corner of Memorial Stadium). A member of the UI SID staff will escort media members to the Illinois interview area and will leave the press box with approximately seven minutes remaining in the game. Media will be escorted to the postgame interview area through the team entrance after the team has exited the field. Those interested in audio-taping grouped interviews should connect their recorders to the distribution amplifier provided. Output from the device is microphone level, terminated in 1/8" two-conductor plugs and jacks, or three-pin standard microphone male connectors. The visiting SID will lead media down to the visitor's interview area, located in the visiting locker room in the northwest corner of the stadium.

WEEKLY PRESS LUNCHEON

The best time to interview Coach Tim Beckman is each Monday at his weekly press luncheon at 1:20 p.m. CT in the 8th Level Media Area of Memorial Stadium. The press conference also can be accessed via teleconference. Contact the sports information office for the conference phone number. Media parking is in the NW Assembly Hall parking lot. **The DIA is not responsible for any parking tickets received.** Illinois offers a weekly football satellite feed, with comments from Coach Tim Beckman's weekly press conference on Mondays beginning Aug. 27 and running every week (except for bye weeks) of the season. For satellite coordinates and exact time, contact sports information at (217) 333-1391.

PLAYER INTERVIEWS

Monday: 1:50-2:20 pm, Press Level Memorial Stadium. Selected players along with approved requested players. Player requests must be received by SID staff by noon on Sunday.

Tuesday: After practice. Offensive players not involved with press conference on Monday. Player requests should be submitted to SID by noon on Monday.

Wednesday: After practice. Defensive players not involved with press conference on Monday. Player requests should be submitted to SID by noon on Tuesday.

Phone Interviews - Monday afternoon and after practice on Tuesday and Wednesday. Requests should be submitted to SID by noon a day prior to the interview.

First-year freshmen will be available once Big Ten games begin at the discretion of Coach Beckman.

Please arrange interview requests in advance with Kent Brown, Derek Neal or Ben Taylor in the Sports Information Office, 217-333-1391. We will make every effort to fulfill your request, however, the student-athletes' academic and athletic requirements take priority.

COACH INTERVIEWS

Coach Beckman and coordinators are available for media interviews Mondays during the regularly scheduled press conference. Coach Beckman will begin his portion at approximately 1:20 pm, with players and requested coordinators beginning at approximately 1:50 pm. Offensive assistant coaches will be available after practice on Tuesdays and defensive assistant coaches will be available after practice on Wednesdays.

Coach Beckman is also available for interviews immediately before practice Tuesday and Wednesday by appointment. Contact the SID to arrange, preferably at least 24 hours in advance. Phone interviews with Coach Beckman may also be arranged through the SID following the Big Ten coaches' teleconference call that begins at noon each Tuesday during the season.

Please arrange interview requests in advance with Kent Brown in the Sports Information Office, 217-333-1391.

BIG TEN TELECONFERENCE

The Big Ten will once again feature a weekly teleconference on Tuesdays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. CT. Coach Beckman will be available via the Big Ten teleconference every Tuesday at noon CT. The teleconferences will begin Tuesday, Aug.

28, and conclude Nov. 20. For information on how to access the teleconference, please call Scott Chipman at the Big Ten Conference Office at (847) 696-1010.

2012 Big Ten Teleconference Schedule (CT)

LEGENDS DIVISION COACHES

11:00 a.m.	Brady Hoke, Michigan
11:10 a.m.	Pat Fitzgerald, Northwestern
11:20 a.m.	Bo Pelini, Nebraska
11:30 a.m.	Mark Dantonio, Michigan State
11:40 a.m.	Kirk Ferentz, Iowa
11:50 a.m.	Jerry Kill, Minnesota

LEADERS DIVISION COACHES

12:00 p.m.	Tim Beckman, Illinois
12:10 p.m.	Danny Hope, Purdue
12:20 p.m.	Bill O'Brien, Penn State
12:30 p.m.	Bret Bielema, Wisconsin
12:40 p.m.	Urban Meyer, Ohio State
12:50 p.m.	Kevin Wilson, Indiana

COLLEGEPRESSBOX.COM

Collegepressbox.com is the official media website for Big Ten football. Download weekly game notes, quotes, statistics, media guides, headshots, logos and more for the conference and each of its member schools. Login information will be distributed to accredited media or you can apply for a password by sending an e-mail to password@collegepressbox.com.

FIGHTING ILLINI INSIDER

This weekly half-hour television program features highlights of the previous week's game with analysis by coach Tim Beckman. Viewers should consult their local listings for the days and times of the telecasts. Brian Barnhart, Illini Sports Network play-by-play commentator, hosts the show with Tim Beckman.

FIGHTINGILLINI.COM

All Illinois media releases, statistics and Coach Beckman audio comments are available on the official University of Illinois website, www.fightingillini.com. The website also offers live audio broadcasts of all Illinois football games and the coach's radio show broadcasts.

TIM BECKMAN RADIO SHOW

The "Tim Beckman Show" airs Wednesday nights from 7-8 p.m. on the Illini Sports Network. The live call-in show originates from both the WDWS studio and various locations in the community each week including fraternities, sororities, dormitories and campus buildings, allowing University of Illinois students and the Champaign-Urbana community the opportunity to meet Coach Beckman and ask questions about the Illinois football program. The show is hosted by Brian Barnhart, the play-by-play voice of Fighting Illini football.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Fighting Illini fans can get all the latest news on the football team on facebook and twitter.

<http://www.facebook.com/IlliniFootball>

<http://www.twitter.com/IlliniFootball>

Illinois Social Media Index: <http://bit.ly/ILSocMedia>



ILLINI SPORTS NETWORK



The 41-station Illini Sports Network brings Illinois football to fans across the state and Midwest with Brian Barnhart, Kurt Kittner and Steve Kelly calling the action.

In 2012, Barnhart will begin his 11th season as the "Voice of the Illini" after a long stint in professional baseball, including two years as the play-by-play voice of the Anaheim Angels. Barnhart serves as the voice of the Illini Sports Network, providing play-by-play coverage of football and men's basketball and as the host of the statewide "Tim Beckman Show" call-in program every Wednesday night at 7:05 p.m.

A native of nearby Tolono, Barnhart graduated Liberty University before beginning a 15-year career in professional baseball in 1986. In 1998, Barnhart was named the play-by-play announcer for the Angels and spent two full seasons with the American League club before returning to the Champaign-Urbana area in 2000. He currently is a news and sports announcer at WDWS-AM 1400 in Champaign. During the 2007 season, Barnhart was honored by the Illinois Broadcasters Association with the "Silver Dome Award for Best Sports Play-by-Play" for his call of Illinois'

football upset of No. 1 Ohio State. In 2008, Barnhart was named "Sportscaster of the Year" in the state of Illinois by the National Sportscasters and Sportswriters Association.

Former Illini All-American quarterback Kurt Kittner joined the Illini Sports Network in 2007 and is in his sixth season as expert analyst. Kittner lettered at Illinois from 1998-2001, leading the Illini to a the Big Ten title, a 10-win season and a trip to the Sugar Bowl in 2001. The three-time team MVP was the signal caller for the most proficient offenses in school history. Kittner was a two-time All-Big Ten selection, won 24 games in an Illinois jersey and finished 12th in the Heisman Trophy voting in 2001. The Schaumburg, Ill. native was a fifth-round draft pick by the Atlanta Falcons.

Along with Barnhart and Kittner on the broadcast again this fall is Kelly, a veteran Illini sportscaster who handles pregame, halftime and postgame host duties. Kelly has covered Illini athletics for over two decades on television and radio. He hosts the popular "Sports Talk" show on WDWS-AM 1400 in Champaign and also hosts "Gameday" extended coverage of Illini athletics on WDWS and Lite Rock 97.5.

The statewide Illini Sports Network is managed by the Division of Intercollegiate Athletics, including distribution, sales operations, affiliate relations and programming. ISN programming includes Illinois football, men's and women's basketball, volleyball and baseball, along with the "Illini Today" series. The "Tim Beckman Show" can be heard statewide on the Illini Sports Network every Wednesday beginning Aug. 29 at 7:05 p.m.

2012-13 ISN STATION LIST

as of August 2, 2012

Alledo, WRMJ-FM 102.3	Litchfield, WAOX-FM 105.3
Alton, WBGZ-AM 1570	Macomb, WKXQ-FM 92.5
Bloomington, WJBC-FM 93.7	Mattoon, WCRC-FM 95.7
Bloomington, WGLO-FM 95.5	Mt. Carmel, WJSJ-FM 100.5
Canton, WBYS - AM 1560	Murphysboro, WINI-AM 1420
Carlyle, WCXO - FM 96.7	Olney, WSEI-FM 92.9
Champaign, WDWS-AM 1400	Paxton, WPXN-FM 104.9
Champaign, WHMS-FM 97.5	Peoria, WGLO-FM 95.5
Chicago, WIND-AM 560	Pittsfield, WBBA-FM 97.5
Danville, WDAN-AM 1490	Pontiac, WJBC-FM 93.7
Danville, WDNL-FM, 102.1	Pontiac, WJEZ-FM 98.9
Davenport, IA, WFXN-AM 1230	Quincy, WTAD-AM 930/
Decatur, WSOY-AM 1340	Robinson, WTAY-AM 1570
DuQuoin, WQQN-AM 1580	Robinson, WTYE-FM 101.7
Dwight, WJEZ-FM 98.9	Rockford, WRK-AM 1440
East Moline, WFXN-AM 1230	Rushville, WKXQ-FM 92.5
Effingham, WCRC-FM 95.7	Salem, WJBD-FM 100.1
Fairfield, WFIW-AM 1390	Salem, WJBD-AM 1350
Galesburg, WGIL-AM 1400	Sparta, WHCO-AM 1230
Jacksonville, WJIL-AM 1550	St. Louis, KFNS-AM 590
Jerseyville, WJBM-AM 1480	Springfield, WFMB-AM 1450
Kankakee, WGFA-FM 94.1	Springfield, WCVS-FM 96.7
Kewanee, WKEL-AM 1450	Taylorville, WTIM-FM 97.3
LaSalle-Peru, WLPO-AM 1220	Vandalia, WCRC-FM 95.7
LaSalle-Peru, WKOT-FM 96.5	Watseka, WGFA-FM 94.1
Litchfield, WSMI-FM 106.1	

2012-13 BOWL SCHEDULE

Bowl Game	Date/Time (ET)	Site	Matchup	Network
Gildan New Mexico Bowl	Dec. 15 / 1 pm.	Albuquerque, N.M.	MWC vs. Pac-12	ESPN
Famous Idaho Potato Bowl	Dec. 15 / 4:30 pm	Boise, Idaho	MAC vs. WAC	ESPN
S.D. County Credit Union Poinsettia Bowl	Dec. 20 / 8 pm.	San Diego	MWC vs. BYU	ESPN
Beef 'O' Brady's Bowl St. Petersburg	Dec. 21 / 7:30 pm	St. Petersburg, Fla.	Big East vs. C-USA	ESPN
R+L Carriers New Orleans Bowl	Dec. 22 / 12 pm.	New Orleans	Sun Belt vs. C-USA	ESPN
MAACO Bowl Las Vegas	Dec. 22 / 3:30 pm	Las Vegas	MWC vs. Pac-12	ESPN
Sheraton Hawai'i Bowl	Dec. 24 / 8 pm.	Honolulu	C-USA vs. MWC	ESPN
Little Ceasars Pizza Bowl	Dec. 26 / 7:30 pm.	Detroit	Big Ten vs. MAC	ESPN
Military Bowl presented by Northrop Grumman	Dec. 27 / 3 pm.	Washington, D.C.	ACC vs. Army	ESPN
Belk Bowl	Dec. 27 / 6:30 pm	Charlotte, N.C.	ACC vs. Big East	ESPN
Bridgepoint Education Holiday Bowl	Dec. 27 / 9:45 pm	San Diego	Big 12 vs. Pac-12	ESPN
AdvoCare V100 Independence Bowl	Dec. 28 / 2 pm.	Shreveport, La.	ACC vs. SEC	ESPN
Russell Athletic Bowl	Dec. 28 / 5:30 pm	Orlando, Fla.	ACC vs. Big East	ESPN
Meineke Car Care Bowl of Texas	Dec. 28 / 9 pm	Houston	Big Ten vs. Big 12	ESPN
Bell Helicopter Armed Forces Bowl	Dec. 29 / 11:45 am	Fort Worth, Texas	C-USA vs. MWC	ESPN
Kraft Fight Hunger Bowl	Dec. 29 / 3:15 pm	San Francisco	Pac-12 vs. Navy	ESPN or ESPN2
New Era Pinstripe Bowl	Dec. 29 / 3:15 pm	Bronx, N.Y.	Big East vs. Big 12	ESPN or ESPN2
Valero Alamo Bowl	Dec. 29 / 6:45 pm	San Antonio	Big 12 vs. Pac-12	ESPN
Buffalo Wild Wings Bowl	Dec. 29 / 10:15 pm.	Tempe, Ariz.	Big Ten vs. Big 12	ESPN
Franklin American Mortgage Music City Bowl	Dec. 31 / 12 pm.	Nashville, Tenn.	ACC vs. SEC	ESPN
Hyundai Sun Bowl	Dec. 31 / 2 pm.	El Paso, Texas	ACC vs. Pac-12	CBS
AutoZone Liberty Bowl	Dec. 31 / 3:30 pm	Memphis, Tenn.	SEC / Big East / C-USA	ESPN
Chick-fil-A Bowl	Dec. 31 / 7:30 pm	Atlanta	ACC vs. SEC	ESPN
TicketCity Bowl	Jan. 1 / 12 pm.	Dallas	Big Ten vs. C-USA	ESPN
TaxSlayer.com Gator Bowl	Jan. 1 / 12 pm.	Jacksonville, Fla.	Big Ten vs. SEC	ESPN2
Capital One Bowl	Jan. 1 / 1 pm	Orlando, Fla.	Big Ten vs. SEC	TBA
Outback Bowl	Jan. 1 / 1 pm	Tampa, Fla.	Big Ten vs. SEC	TBA
Rose Bowl Game presented by VIZIO	Jan. 1 / 5 pm	Pasadena, Calif.	Big Ten (BCS) vs. Pac-12 (BCS)	ESPN
Discover Orange Bowl	Jan. 1 / 8:30 pm	Miami	ACC (BCS) vs. BCS	ESPN
Allstate Sugar Bowl	Jan. 2 / 8:30 pm	New Orleans	SEC (BCS) vs. BCS	ESPN
Tostitos Fiesta Bowl	Jan. 3 / 8:30 pm	Glendale, Ariz.	Big 12 (BCS) vs. BCS	ESPN
AT&T Cotton Bowl	Jan. 4 / 8 pm	Arlington, Tex.	Big 12 vs. SEC	Fox
BBVA Compass Bowl	Jan. 5 / 1 pm.	Birmingham, Ala.	Big East vs. SEC	ESPN
GoDaddy.com Bowl	Jan. 6 / 9 pm	Mobile, Ala.	MAC vs. Sun Belt	ESPN
BCS Championship	Jan. 7 / 8:30 pm	New Orleans	BCS #1 vs. BCS #2	ESPN

All times Eastern and subject to change

2012 BIG TEN COMPOSITE SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, AUG. 30

Minnesota at UNLV

FRIDAY, AUG. 31

Boise State at Michigan State

SATURDAY, SEPT. 1

Western Michigan at Illinois
Indiana State at Indiana
Iowa vs. Northern Illinois [1]
Michigan vs. Alabama [2]
Southern Miss at Nebraska
Northwestern at Syracuse
Miami (Ohio) at Ohio State
Ohio at Penn State
Eastern Kentucky at Purdue
Northern Iowa at Wisconsin

SATURDAY, SEPT. 8

Illinois at Arizona State
Indiana at Massachusetts
Iowa State at Iowa
Air Force at Michigan
Michigan State at Central Michigan
New Hampshire at Minnesota
Nebraska at UCLA
Vanderbilt at Northwestern
Central Florida at Ohio State
Penn State at Virginia
Purdue at Notre Dame
Wisconsin at Oregon State

SATURDAY, SEPT. 15

Charleston Southern at Illinois
Ball State at Indiana
Northern Iowa at Iowa
Massachusetts at Michigan
Notre Dame at Michigan State
Western Michigan at Minnesota
Arkansas State at Nebraska
Boston College at Northwestern
California at Ohio State
Navy at Penn State
Eastern Michigan at Purdue
Utah State at Wisconsin

SATURDAY, SEPT. 22

Louisiana Tech at Illinois
Central Michigan at Iowa
Michigan at Notre Dame
Eastern Michigan at Michigan State
Syracuse at Minnesota
Idaho State at Nebraska
South Dakota at Northwestern
UAB at Ohio State
Temple at Penn State
UTEP at Wisconsin

SATURDAY, SEPT. 29

Penn State at Illinois
Indiana at Northwestern
Minnesota at Iowa
Ohio State at Michigan State
Wisconsin at Nebraska
Marshall at Purdue

SATURDAY, OCT. 6

Illinois at Wisconsin
Michigan State at Indiana
Michigan at Purdue
Nebraska at Ohio State
Northwestern at Penn State

SATURDAY, OCT. 13

Illinois at Michigan
Ohio State at Indiana
Iowa at Michigan State
Northwestern at Minnesota
Wisconsin at Purdue

SATURDAY, OCT. 20

Indiana at Navy
Penn State at Iowa
Michigan State at Michigan
Minnesota at Wisconsin
Nebraska at Northwestern
Purdue at Ohio State

SATURDAY, OCT. 27

Indiana at Illinois
Iowa at Northwestern
Michigan at Nebraska
Michigan State at Wisconsin
Purdue at Minnesota
Ohio State at Penn State

SATURDAY, NOV. 3

Illinois at Ohio State
Iowa at Indiana
Michigan at Minnesota
Nebraska at Michigan State
Penn State at Purdue

SATURDAY, NOV. 10

Minnesota at Illinois
Wisconsin at Indiana
Purdue at Iowa
Northwestern at Michigan
Penn State at Nebraska

SATURDAY, NOV. 17

Purdue at Illinois
Indiana at Penn State
Iowa at Michigan
Northwestern at Michigan State
Ohio State at Wisconsin
Minnesota at Nebraska

FRIDAY, NOV. 23

Nebraska at Iowa

SATURDAY, NOV. 24

Illinois at Northwestern
Indiana at Purdue
Michigan at Ohio State
Michigan State at Minnesota
Wisconsin at Penn State

SATURDAY, DEC. 1

Big Ten Championship Game [3]

[1] - Chicago, Ill.

[2] - Arlington, Texas

[3] - Indianapolis, Ind.



2012 OPPONENTS

WESTERN MICHIGAN BRONCOS

Sept. 1 // 11 am CDT // ESPNU // Champaign, Ill.

Location: Kalamazoo, Mich.

Enrollment: 25,086

Stadium (Surface): Waldo Stadium (FieldTurf)

Stadium Capacity: 30,200

Conference: Mid-American Conference (West)

Athletics Website: wmubroncos.com

Head Coach: Bill Cubit (8th Season)

Alma Mater, Year: Delaware, 1975

School/Career Record: 47-39 / 81-57-1

2011 Record: 7-6

2011 Conf. Record: 5-3 (3rd in MAC West)

Series: ILL leads 3-1

Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 34/19

Starters Returning/Lost: 16/9



2012 Schedule

Sept. 1 at Illinois
 Sept. 8 Eastern Illinois
 Sept. 15 at Minnesota
 Sept. 22 Connecticut
 Sept. 29 Toledo
 Oct. 6 UMass
 Oct. 13 at Ball State
 Oct. 20 at Kent State
 Oct. 27 Northern Illinois
 Nov. 3 at Central Michigan
 Nov. 10 at Buffalo
 Nov. 17 Eastern Michigan
 Nov. 24 BYE

LOUISIANA TECH BULLDOGS

Sept. 22 // 7 pm CDT // BTN // Champaign, Ill.

Location: Ruston, La.

Enrollment: 11,500

Stadium (Surface): Joe Aillet Stadium (FieldTurf)

Stadium Capacity: 30,600

Conference: Western Athletic

Athletics Website: latechsports.com

Head Coach: Sonny Dykes (3rd Season)

Alma Mater, Year: Texas Tech, 1993

School/Career Record: 13-12 / Same

2011 Record: 8-5 (Poinsettia Bowl)

2011 Conf. Record: 6-1 (1st)

Series: First meeting

Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 49/20

Starters Returning/Lost: 17/8



2012 Schedule

Aug. 30 vs. Texas A&M
 Sept. 8 at Houston
 Sept. 15 Rice
 Sept. 22 at Illinois
 Sept. 29 at Virginia
 Oct. 6 UNLV
 Oct. 13 BYE
 Oct. 20 Idaho
 Oct. 27 at New Mexico State
 Nov. 3 UTSA
 Nov. 10 at Texas State
 Nov. 17 Utah State
 Nov. 24 at San Jose State

ARIZONA STATE SUN DEVILS

Sept. 8 // 9:30 pm CDT // ESPN // Tempe, Ariz.

Location: Tempe, Ariz.

Enrollment: 68,064

Stadium (Surface): Frank Kush Field/Sun Devil Stadium (Grass)

Stadium Capacity: 71,706

Conference: PAC-12

Athletics Website: thesundevils.com

Head Coach: Todd Graham (1st Season)

Alma Mater, Year: East Central University, 1987

School/Career Record: 0-0 / 49-26

2011 Record: 6-7

2011 Conf. Record: 4-5 (t-3rd in South)

Series: ASU leads 2-1

Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 49/20

Starters Returning/Lost: 11/11



2012 Schedule

Aug. 30 Northern Arizona
 Sept. 8 Illinois
 Sept. 15 at Missouri
 Sept. 22 Utah
 Sept. 29 at California
 Oct. 6 BYE
 Oct. 11 at Colorado
 Oct. 18 Oregon
 Oct. 27 UCLA
 Nov. 3 at Oregon State
 Nov. 10 at USC
 Nov. 17 Washington State
 Nov. 23 Arizona

PENN STATE NITTANY LIONS

Sept. 29 // Time and TV TBA // Champaign, Ill.

Location: State College, Pa.

Enrollment: 42,034

Stadium (Surface): Beaver Stadium (Grass)

Stadium Capacity: 107,282

Conference: Big Ten

Athletics Website: gopsusports.com

Head Coach: Bill O'Brien (1st Season)

Alma Mater, Year: Brown, 1992

School/Career Record: 0-0 / Same

2010 Record: 9-4 (TicketCity Bowl)

2010 Conf. Record: 6-2 (T-1st in Leaders)

Series: PSU leads 15-4

Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 35/23

Starters Returning/Lost: 10/13



2012 Schedule

Sept. 1 Ohio
 Sept. 8 at Virginia
 Sept. 15 Navy
 Sept. 22 Temple
 Sept. 29 at Illinois
 Oct. 6 Northwestern
 Oct. 13 BYE
 Oct. 20 at Iowa
 Oct. 27 Ohio State
 Nov. 3 at Purdue
 Nov. 10 at Nebraska
 Nov. 17 Indiana
 Nov. 23 Wisconsin

CHARLESTON SOUTHERN BUCCANEERS

Sept. 15 // 11 am CDT // BTN // Champaign, Ill.

Location: Charleston, S.C.

Enrollment: 3,231

Stadium (Surface): CSU Stadium (Grass)

Stadium Capacity: 4,000

Conference: Big South

Athletics Website: CSUSports.com

Head Coach: Jay Mills (10th Season)

Alma Mater, Year: Western Washington, 1984

School/Career Record: 43-57 / Same

2011 Record: 0-11

2011 Conf. Record: 0-6 (7th)

Series: First Meeting



2012 Schedule

Sept. 1 at The Citadel
 Sept. 8 Jacksonville
 Sept. 15 at Illinois
 Sept. 22 at Shorter
 Sept. 29 BYE
 Oct. 6 at Stony Brook
 Oct. 13 VMI
 Oct. 20 Presbyterian
 Oct. 27 Edward Waters
 Nov. 3 at Liberty
 Nov. 10 Gardner-Webb
 Nov. 17 at Coastal Carolina
 Nov. 24 BYE

WISCONSIN BADGERS

Oct. 6 // 2:30 pm CDT // ABC // Madison, Wis.

Location: Madison, Wis.

Enrollment: 42,099

Stadium (Surface): Camp Randall (FieldTurf)

Stadium Capacity: 80,321

Conference: Big Ten

Athletics Website: uwbadgers.com

Head Coach: Bret Bielema (7th Season)

Alma Mater, Year: Iowa, 1992

School/Career Record: 60-19

2011 Record: 11-3 (Rose Bowl)

2011 Conf. Record: 6-3 (T-1st in Leaders)

Series: ILL leads 35-36-7

Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 41/23

Starters Returning/Lost: 11/13



2012 Schedule

Sept. 1 Northern Iowa
 Sept. 8 at Oregon State
 Sept. 15 Utah State
 Sept. 22 UTEP
 Sept. 29 at Nebraska
 Oct. 6 Illinois
 Oct. 13 at Purdue
 Oct. 20 Minnesota
 Oct. 27 Michigan State
 Nov. 3 BYE
 Nov. 10 at Indiana
 Nov. 17 Ohio State
 Nov. 24 at Penn State

2012 OPPONENTS

MICHIGAN WOLVERINES

Oct. 13 // 2:30 pm CDT // ABC // Ann Arbor, Mich.



Location: Ann Arbor, Mich.
Enrollment: 41,942
Stadium (Surface): Michigan Stadium (FieldTurf)
Stadium Capacity: 109,901
Conference: Big Ten
Athletics Website: mgoblue.com

Head Coach: Brady Hoke (2nd Season)
Alma Mater, Year: Ball State, 1982
School/Career Record: 11-2 / 58-52

2011 Record: 11-2 (Sugar Bowl)
2011 Conf. Record: 6-2 (2nd in Legends)
Series: UM leads 68-23-2

Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 50/24
Starters Returning/Lost: 15/9

2012 Schedule

Sept. 1 vs. Alabama
 Sept. 8 Air Force
 Sept. 15 UMass
 Sept. 22 at Notre Dame
 Sept. 29 BYE
 Oct. 6 at Purdue
 Oct. 13 Illinois
 Oct. 20 Michigan State
 Oct. 27 at Nebraska
 Nov. 3 at Minnesota
 Nov. 10 Northwestern
 Nov. 17 Iowa
 Nov. 24 at Ohio State

MINNESOTA GOLDEN GOPHERS

Nov. 10 // Time and TV TBA // Champaign, Ill.



Location: Minneapolis, Minn.
Enrollment: 50,883
Stadium (Surface): TCF Bank Stadium (FieldTurf)
Stadium Capacity: 50,805
Conference: Big Ten
Athletics Website: gophersports.com

Head Coach: Jerry Kill (2nd Season)
Alma Mater, Year: Southwestern (KS), 1982
School/Career Record: 3-9 / 130-82 (18 Seasons)
2011 Record: 3-9
2011 Conf. Record: 2-6 (6th in Legends)
Series: UM leads 34-28-3

Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 52/21
Starters Returning/Lost: 14/11

2012 Schedule

Aug. 30 at UNLV
 Sept. 8 New Hampshire
 Sept. 15 Western Michigan
 Sept. 22 Syracuse
 Sept. 29 at Iowa
 Oct. 6 BYE
 Oct. 13 Northwestern
 Oct. 20 at Wisconsin
 Oct. 27 Purdue
 Nov. 3 Michigan
 Nov. 10 at Illinois
 Nov. 17 at Nebraska
 Nov. 24 Michigan State

INDIANA HOOSIERS

Oct. 27 // 11 am CDT // TV TBA // Bloomington, Ind.



Location: Bloomington, Ind.
Enrollment: 42,237
Stadium (Surface): Memorial Stadium (FieldTurf)
Stadium Capacity: 52,929
Conference: Big Ten
Athletics Website: iuhoosiers.com

Head Coach: Kevin Wilson (2nd Season)
Alma Mater, Year: North Carolina, 1984
School/Career Record: 1-11 / Same
2011 Record: 1-11
2011 Conf. Record: 0-8 (6th in Leaders)
Series: ILL leads 45-21-3

Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 49/23
Starters Returning/Lost: 16/8

2012 Schedule

Sept. 1 Indiana State
 Sept. 8 at UMass
 Sept. 15 Ball State
 Sept. 22 BYE
 Sept. 29 at Northwestern
 Oct. 6 Michigan State
 Oct. 13 Ohio State
 Oct. 20 at Navy
 Oct. 27 at Illinois
 Nov. 3 Iowa
 Nov. 10 Wisconsin
 Nov. 17 at Penn State
 Nov. 24 at Purdue

PURDUE BOILERMAKERS

Nov. 17 // Time and TV TBA // Champaign, Ill.



Location: West Lafayette, Ind.
Enrollment: 39,726
Stadium (Surface): Ross-Ade Stadium (Grass)
Stadium Capacity: 62,500
Conference: Big Ten
Athletics Website: purduesports.com

Head Coach: Danny Hope (4th Season)
Alma Mater, Year: Eastern Kentucky, 1981
School/Career Record: 16-21 / 51-43 (8 Seasons)

2011 Record: 7-6 (Little Ceasars Bowl)
2011 Conf. Record: 4-4 (3rd in Leaders)
Series: ILL leads 42-39-6

Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 50/26
Starters Returning/Lost: 16/9

2012 Schedule

Sept. 1 Eastern Kentucky
 Sept. 8 at Notre Dame
 Sept. 15 Eastern Michigan
 Sept. 22 BYE
 Sept. 29 Marshall
 Oct. 6 Michigan
 Oct. 13 Wisconsin
 Oct. 20 at Ohio State
 Oct. 27 at Minnesota
 Nov. 3 Penn State
 Nov. 10 at Iowa
 Nov. 17 at Illinois
 Nov. 24 Indiana

OHIO STATE BUCKEYES

Nov. 3 // Time and TV TBA // Columbus, Ohio



Location: Columbus, Ohio
Enrollment: 56,064
Stadium (Surface): Ohio Stadium (FieldTurf)
Stadium Capacity: 102,329
Conference: Big Ten
Athletics Website: ohiostatebuckeyes.com

Interim Head Coach: Urban Meyer (1st Season)
Alma Mater, Year: Cincinnati, 1986
School/Career Record: 0-0 / 104-23 (10 Seasons)

2011 Record: 6-7 (Gator Bowl)
2011 Conf. Record: 3-5 (4th in Leaders)
Series: OSU leads 64-30-4

Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 48/24
Starters Returning/Lost: 18/6

2012 Schedule

Sept. 1 Miami (OH)
 Sept. 8 Central Florida
 Sept. 15 California
 Sept. 22 UAB
 Sept. 29 at Michigan State
 Oct. 6 Nebraska
 Oct. 13 at Indiana
 Oct. 20 Purdue
 Oct. 27 at Penn State
 Nov. 3 Illinois
 Nov. 10 BYE
 Nov. 17 at Wisconsin
 Nov. 24 Michigan

NORTHWESTERN WILDCATS

Nov. 24 // Time and TV TBA // Evanston, Ill.



Location: Evanston, Ill.
Enrollment: 8,367
Stadium (Surface): Ryan Field (Grass)
Stadium Capacity: 47,130
Conference: Big Ten
Athletics Website: nusports.com

Head Coach: Pat Fitzgerald (7th Season)
Alma Mater, Year: Northwestern, 1996
School/Career Record: 40-36 / Same

2011 Record: 6-7 (Meineke Car Care Bowl)
2011 Conf. Record: 3-5 (5th in Legends)
Series: ILL leads 54-46-5

Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 59/25
Starters Returning/Lost: 13/11

2012 Schedule

Sept. 1 at Syracuse
 Sept. 8 Vanderbilt
 Sept. 15 Boston College
 Sept. 22 South Dakota
 Sept. 29 Indiana
 Oct. 6 at Penn State
 Oct. 13 at Minnesota
 Oct. 20 Nebraska
 Oct. 27 Iowa
 Nov. 3 BYE
 Nov. 10 at Michigan
 Nov. 17 at Michigan State
 Nov. 24 Illinois

2012 PRESEASON NOTES

- A new head coach, **Tim Beckman**, takes over in 2012 for the Fighting Illini, the 123rd year in the program's history.
- Illinois finished the 2011 season on high note, defeating UCLA, 20-14, in the 2011 Kraft Fight Hunger Bowl to finish with a record of 7-6.
- The Kraft Fight Hunger Bowl win over UCLA, combined with the 38-14 win over Baylor in the 2010 Texas Bowl, gave Illinois bowl victories in consecutive seasons for the first time in school history.
- Illinois opens the 2012 season looking to reach a bowl game for the third consecutive season, something that hasn't been done since making five straight bowl appearances from 1988-92.
- Illinois returns seven starters on the offensive side of the ball — OL **Michael Heitz**, OL **Hugh Thornton**, OL **Graham Pocic**, WR **Darius Millines**, WR **Spencer Harris**, QB **Nathan Scheelhaase** and the TE tandem of **Evan Wilson** and **Jon Davis**.
- The defense also returns seven starters — DE **Michael Buchanan**, DT **Akeem Spence**, DT **Glen Foster**, LB **Jonathan Brown**, CB **Terry Hawthorne** and safeties **Supo Sanni** and **Steve Hull**.
- The Illini return both punters from 2011, traditional punter **Justin DuVernois** and rugby-style punter **Ryan Lankford**, as well as long-snapper **Zak Pedersen**.
- Illinois returns five of its top seven tacklers from a defense that ranked seventh nationally in 2011. Brown led the way last season with 108 stops, ranking sixth in the Big Ten in tackles per game (9.0). Spence was fourth on the team with 69 stops, Buchanan fifth with 64, Hawthorne sixth with 60 and Hull seventh with 58 tackles.
- Offensively, 100 percent of the Illini's passing production returns in 2012. However, less than 50 percent of the team's receiving and rushing production returns with the loss of wide receiver A.J. Jenkins and running backs Jason Ford and Troy Pollard to graduation.

THE BECKMAN ERA BEGINS

- **Tim Beckman** takes over in 2012 as the 23rd head football coach at the University of Illinois. Beckman came to Illinois after three years as head coach at Toledo, where he led the Rockets to two bowl appearances and a Mid-American Conference West Division co-championship. Beckman took over for Ron Zook, who was released following the 2011 regular season after seven seasons at Illinois.
- Beckman assembled a diverse and dynamic staff for 2012. It is composed of **Tim Banks** (defensive coordinator/safeties), **Billy Gonzales** (co-offensive coordinator/wide receivers), **Chris Beatty** (co-offensive coordinator/quarterbacks), **Luke Butkus** (offensive line), **Steve Clinkscale** (cornerbacks), **Keith Gilmore** (defensive line), **Alex Golesh** (tight ends/specialists/recruiting coordinator), **Tim Salem** (running backs/special teams coordinator) and **Mike Ward** (linebackers). All three coordinators come to Illinois from BCS schools — Banks from Cincinnati, Gonzales from LSU and Beatty from Vanderbilt. Golesh, Ward and Clinkscale all were on Beckman's staff at Toledo, while Salem was at Central Florida prior to coming to Champaign-Urbana. Butkus is an Illinois alumnus who was working in the NFL with the Seattle Seahawks, while Gilmore was retained from the previous Illini staff.

HOME COOKING

- After having a school-record eight home games, including five straight to start the season, in 2011, the Illini will have seven games inside the friendly confines of Memorial Stadium in 2012. The Illini start the season with four of their first five games at home, beginning with the season-opener against Western Michigan on Sept. 1. The Illini have an all-time record of 252-212-14 at Memorial Stadium entering the 2012 season.

ILLINI PRESEASON HONORS

- A number of Fighting Illini players have earned mention on award watch lists and preseason All-America and All-Big Ten teams. Below is a list of the honors that Illinois players have earned heading into 2012:
 - LB Jonathan Brown** — Bednarik Award watch list, Butkus Award watch list, Lombardi Award watch list, Lott Trophy watch list, Nagurski Trophy watch list, Fourth-team All-America and First-team All-Big Ten (Phil Steele)
 - DE Michael Buchanan** — Bednarik Award watch list, Hendricks Award watch list, Lombardi Award watch list, Nagurski Award watch list, Second-team All-Big Ten (Phil Steele)
 - DB Tommy Davis** — Hornung Award watch list
 - CB Terry Hawthorne** — Hornung Award watch list, Third-team All-Big Ten (Phil Steele)
 - C Graham Pocic** — Outland Trophy watch list, Rimington Trophy watch list, Second-team All-Big Ten (Phil Steele)
 - QB Nathan Scheelhaase** — Davey O'Brien Award watch list, Fourth-team All-Big Ten (Phil Steele)
 - DT Akeem Spence** — Lombardi Award watch list, Outland Trophy watch list, Second-team All-Big Ten (Phil Steele)
 - OL Hugh Thornton** — Fourth-team All-Big Ten (Phil Steele)

CAREER STARTS LIST

PLAYER	'12	'11	'10	'09	'08	TOT
Pocic, Graham	13	13	0	—	—	26
Scheelhaase, Nathan	13	13	—	—	—	26
Spence, Akeem	13	13	—	—	—	26
Thornton, Hugh	10	8	7	—	—	25
Buchanan, Michael	12	8	0	—	—	20
Green, Justin	5	13	0	—	—	18
Hawthorne, Terry	11	1	5	—	—	17
Wilson, Evan	4	11	—	—	—	15
Hull, Steve	11	1	—	—	—	12
Brown, Jonathan	11	0	—	—	—	11
Foster, Glenn	11	0	0	—	—	11
Millines, Darius	8	3	—	—	—	11
Sanni, Supo	11	—	0	0	—	11
Harris, Spencer	9	1	—	—	—	10
Heitz, Michael	9	—	—	—	—	9
Lankford, Ryan	5	1	—	—	—	6
Williams, Ashante	3	0	2	—	—	5
Cvijanovic, Simon	4	—	—	—	—	4
Ramsey, Jack	0	1	3	—	—	4
Staples, Justin	1	3	0	—	—	4
Nixon-Youman, Patrick	3	0	0	—	—	3
Bates, Houston	2	—	—	—	—	2
Becker, Zach	1	1	0	0	—	2
Davis, Jon	2	—	—	—	—	2
Hill, Alex	2	—	—	—	—	2
Sands, Tyler	1	—	1	—	—	2
LaCosse, Matt	1	—	—	—	—	1
Lattimore, Justin	0	1	—	—	—	1
Viliunas, Eddie	1	0	—	—	—	1
Young, Donovan	1	—	—	—	—	1

-- = Redshirted/did not play/not on squad; 0 = Played, didn't start

2011 FIRST DOWN PRODUCTION

Player	Run	Pass	Rec	Total
Nathan Scheelhaase	42	88	0	130
Donovonn Young	21	0	1	22
Reilly O'Toole	3	16	0	19
Spencer Harris	0	0	13	13
Jon Davis	0	0	11	11
Darius Millines	0	0	10	10
Josh Ferguson	4	0	1	5
Ryan Lankford	0	0	4	4
Eddie Viliunas	0	0	3	3
Evan Wilson	0	0	3	3
Matt LaCosse	0	0	1	1
Miles Osei	1	0	0	1

CAREER BIG PLAYS

(Rush/Pass/Rec/PR over 20 yds & KOR/Def over 40 yds)

Player	Run	Pass	Rec	Def	ST	Tot
Nathan Scheelhaase	13	48	1	0	0	61
Darius Millines	0	0	5	0	1	6
Evan Wilson	0	0	5	0	0	5
Donovonn Young	4	0	0	0	0	4
Jonathan Brown	0	0	0	2	0	2
Terry Hawthorne	0	0	0	2	0	2
Ryan Lankford	0	0	2	0	0	2
Jack Ramsey	0	0	1	0	1	2
Justin Green	1	0	0	0	0	1
Justin Lattimore	0	0	1	0	0	1
Patrick Nixon-Youman	0	0	0	1	0	1
Reilly O'Toole	0	1	0	0	0	1
Eddie Viliunas	0	0	1	0	0	1

2011 ILLINI RANKINGS IN THE NCAA AND BIG TEN

TEAM RANKINGS (120 teams ranked)

CATEGORY.....	NCAA.....	Big Ten
Rushing Offense.....	171.69.....	41st.....6th
Passing Offense.....	184.00.....	91st.....7th
Total Offense.....	355.69.....	85th.....9th
Scoring Offense.....	22.62.....	91st.....9th
Rushing Defense.....	123.85.....	26th.....2nd
Pass Efficiency Defense.....	117.93.....	30th.....3rd
Total Defense.....	286.15.....	7th.....2nd
Scoring Defense.....	19.62.....	15th.....5th
Net Punting.....	35.71.....	80th.....7th
Punt Returns.....	2.92.....	118th.....12th
Kickoff Returns.....	15.71.....	120th.....12th
Turnover Margin.....	-0.46.....	95th.....11th
Pass Defense.....	162.31.....	3rd.....1st
Passing Efficiency.....	123.49.....	85th.....8th
Sacks Per Game.....	3.15.....	6th.....1st
Tackles For Loss.....	7.92.....	4th.....1st
Sacks Allowed Per Game.....	2.77.....	102nd.....10th

MISCELLANEOUS RANKINGS

CATEGORY.....	STAT.....	NCAA.....	Big Ten
Third-Down Conversions.....	42.27.....	46th.....	T-4th
Opponent 3rd-Down Conv.....	34.59.....	21st.....	2nd
First Downs.....	19.31.....	78th.....	8th
Opponent First Downs.....	15.77.....	T-6th.....	1st
Penalty Yards Per Game.....	42.23.....	27th.....	5th
Opponent Penalty Yds/Game.....	41.5.....	10th
Fourth-Down Conversions.....	42.86.....	T-91st.....	12th
Opponent 4th-Down Conv.....	56.25.....	T-83rd.....	7th
Kickoff Coverage.....	41.9.....	105th
Time of Possession.....	31:02.....	32nd.....	4th
Red Zone Offense.....	83.7.....	T-45th.....	7th
Red Zone Defense.....	71.8.....	T-22nd.....	T-3rd

NCAA INDIVIDUAL RANKINGS (Top-25)

CATEGORY.....	PLAYER.....	STAT.....	RANK
Receptions/game.....	A.J. Jenkins.....	6.92.....	16th
Receiving Yards/game.....	A.J. Jenkins.....	98.15.....	14th
Sacks/game.....	W. Mercilus.....	1.23.....	1st
Tackles for Loss/game.....	W. Mercilus.....	1.73.....	2nd
.....	J. Brown.....	1.63.....	6th
Forced Fumbles/game.....	W. Mercilus.....	0.69.....	1st

BIG TEN INDIVIDUAL RANKINGS (Top-10)

CATEGORY.....	PLAYER.....	STAT.....	RANK
Passing Yards Per Game.....	N. Scheelhaase.....	162.3.....	6th
Passing Efficiency.....	N. Scheelhaase.....	133.4.....	7th
Receptions Per Game.....	A.J. Jenkins.....	6.9.....	1st
Receiving Yards Per Game.....	A.J. Jenkins.....	98.2.....	2nd
Total Offense.....	N. Scheelhaase.....	210.3.....	8th
Scoring (kick).....	D. Dimke.....	4.9.....	10th
Punt Return Average.....	R. Lankford.....	1.7.....	7th
All-Purpose.....	A.J. Jenkins.....	106.2.....	7th
Punting.....	J. DuVernois.....	38.3.....	10th
Field Goals Per Game.....	D. Dimke.....	0.77.....	9th
Tackles per game.....	J. Brown.....	9.0.....	6th
Sacks Per Game.....	W. Mercilus.....	1.23.....	1st
.....	M. Buchanan.....	0.58.....	4th
.....	J. Brown.....	0.50.....	T-6th
Tackles For Loss Per Game.....	W. Mercilus.....	1.73.....	1st
.....	J. Brown.....	1.62.....	2nd
.....	M. Buchanan.....	1.04.....	9th
Passes Defended.....	T. Hawthorne.....	0.85.....	T-1st
Interceptions.....	T. Hawthorne.....	0.23.....	T-8th
Fumbles Forced.....	W. Mercilus.....	0.69.....	1st
Fumbles Recovered.....	J. Brown.....	0.17.....	T-7th

RETURNING ALL-BIG TEN SELECTIONS

- Illinois junior linebacker **Jonathan Brown**, senior defensive end **Michael Buchanan** and senior cornerback **Terry Hawthorne** all return in 2012 after earning All-Big Ten honors a season ago. Brown was a second-team selection by the media and honorable mention by the coaches, while Buchanan was a second-team pick by both sets of voters. Hawthorne was an honorable mention selection by both panels last season.

TEAM NOTES

- Illinois had six games decided by one score in 2011, going 4-2 in those games. The Illini had three consecutive three-point wins against Arizona State, Western Michigan and Northwestern early in the season and also had a six-point win over UCLA in the Kraft Fight Hunger Bowl along with two losses by one score, losing at Purdue by seven and at Penn State by three.
- With only 64 penalties for 549 yards in 2011, the Illini ranked 30th nationally in fewest penalties per game (4.9) and 27th nationally in fewest penalty yards per game (42.2). The Illini were penalty-free against Arkansas State, the first time in 18 years that the Illini played a game without being flagged.
- Illinois' win over Arizona State on Sept. 17 marked the program's first victory over an AP-ranked opponent since topping No. 1 Ohio State on Nov. 10, 2007. The Illini had dropped nine straight games to ranked teams prior to that game. It also was the Illini's first win over a ranked non-conference opponent since beating No. 25 Louisville, 34-10, on Sept. 22, 2001.
- Illinois' 53-point margin of victory against South Dakota State on Sept. 10 was its largest since 1944, when the Illini defeated Illinois-Normal (Illinois State), 79-6. Illinois' 56 points were its most at home since 2002, when the Illini scored 59 against Arkansas State.

OFFENSIVE NOTES

- QB **Nathan Scheelhaase** made big improvements in 2011, upping his completion percentage from 58.7 to 63.2 from his freshman to sophomore seasons. He also topped his 2010 totals in passing yardage (1,825 to 2,110), passing efficiency (132.0 to 133.4) and rushing touchdowns (five to six).
- After tossing four touchdowns and seven interceptions in the first six starts of his career, Scheelhaase threw 26 touchdowns and only nine interceptions from the midpoint of 2010 to the end of 2011.
- Tight end **Jon Davis** emerged during the second half of his freshman season in 2011, hauling in 19 of his 22 receptions in the last seven games, including a career-high five catches against Wisconsin, to earn third-team freshman All-America and first-team freshman All-Big Ten honors.

DEFENSIVE NOTES

- The Illinois defense was dominating in 2011. The Illini finished the season ranked third nationally in pass defense (162.3 ypg), fourth in tackles for loss (7.9 per game), sixth in sacks (3.2 per game), seventh in total defense (286.2 ypg) and 15th in scoring defense (19.6 ppg).
- Illinois gave up only 11 scores and 65 total points after 28 turnovers in 2011 (eight TDs, three FGs). Since the start of 2010, the Illini have held opponents to 90 points (nine TDs, nine FGs) following 44 turnovers.
- LB **Jonathan Brown** was a monster during the second half of 2011, totaling 78 tackles, 13.5 TFLs, 4.0 sacks, two PBUs, one forced fumble, two fumble recoveries and three hurries in the final seven games of 2011. He ranked sixth in the nation and second in the Big Ten in TFLs per game (1.63).
- CB **Terry Hawthorne** turned the tide of the Kraft Fight Hunger Bowl with his 39-yard interception return for TD late in the third quarter that gave Illinois a 10-7 lead. It was the second pick-six of Hawthorne's career (Minnesota, 2009). In the home finale vs. Wisconsin on Nov. 19, Hawthorne had a career-high 15 tackles and forced a fumble. For the season, Hawthorne led the team in interceptions (3) and passes defended (11).

BIG YEAR FOR FIGHTING ILLINI ATHLETICS

The Fighting Illini saw huge success across the board during the 2011-12 academic year.

- **Mike Thomas** was hired as the 18th Director of Athletics at Illinois on Aug. 10, 2011, and immediately made a splash by hiring new head coaches for football (Tim Beckman), men's basketball (John Groce) and women's basketball (Matt Bollant) during his first eight months on the job.
- Illinois finished 21st in the Learfield Sports Director's Cup, the second-best finish in program history. The Director's Cup measures the overall success of college athletic programs.
- The men's gymnastics team won the 2012 NCAA Championship, the program's first since 1989, while the women's volleyball team was the national runner-up after spending much of the season ranked No. 1.
- Four Illini programs won Big Ten titles in 2011-12. Men's gymnastics and men's golf both won their fourth consecutive conference titles, men's tennis won its first Big Ten title since 2005 and women's soccer won its second-ever Big Ten Tournament title.
- Illini individuals won six NCAA titles in 2011-12. **Andrew Riley** made history at the NCAA Track & Field Championship, becoming the first male ever to double as NCAA champ in the 100m and 110m hurdles. Women's track freshman **Ashley Spencer** (400m outdoor), gymnasts **C.J. Maestas** (rings) and **Paul Ruggeri** (vault), and golfer **Thomas Pieters** all won individual national titles as well.

2012 DEPTH CHART

Post 2012 Spring Practice - does not include incoming freshmen except for early enrollees

OFFENSE

Left Tackle

- 68 Simon Cvijanovic (6-5, 295, So.)
- 66 Scott McDowell (6-5, 290, r-Fr.)

Left Guard

- 72 Hugh Thornton (6-5, 310, Sr.)
- 52 Alex Hill (6-3, 325, So.)
- 55 Chris Boles (6-4, 325, r-Fr.)

Center

- 76 Graham Pocic (6-7, 310, Sr.)
- 67 Jake Feldmeyer (6-4, 295, Jr.)
- 60 Tony Durkin (6-3, 280, r-Fr.)

Right Guard

- 69 Ted Karras (6-4, 300, r-Fr.)
- 61 Tyler Sands (6-5, 300, Sr.)

Right Tackle

- 74 Michael Heitz (6-5, 305, So.)
- 75 Patrick Flavin (6-7, 280, r-Fr.)
- 56 Shawn Afryl (6-3, 310, So.)

Quarterback

- 2 Nathan Scheelhaase (6-3, 195, Jr.)
- 4 Reilly O'Toole (6-4, 220, So.)
- 8 Miles Osei (6-0, 200, Jr.)
- 10 Chase Haslett (6-1, 195, r-Fr.)

Running Back

- 6 Josh Ferguson (5-10, 185, r-Fr.)
- 5 Donovan Young (6-0, 220, So.)
- 8 Miles Osei (6-0, 200, Jr.)

Fullback

- 41 Zach Becker (6-3, 250, Sr.)

X Receiver

- 15 Darius Millines (5-11, 185, Jr.)
- 19 Kenny Knight (6-4, 210, r-Fr.)
- 29 Peter Bonahoom (6-2, 200, r-Fr.)

H Receiver

- 12 Ryan Lankford (6-0, 175, Jr.)
- 20 Fritz Rock (6-1, 200, So.)
- 85 Tim Lukas (6-4, 200, Jr.)

Z Receiver

- 80 Spencer Harris (6-3, 195, So.)
- 18 Jeremy Whitlow (6-2, 200, r-Fr.)
- 7 Hayden Daniels (6-4, 200, r-Fr.)

Tight End

- 89 Evan Wilson (6-6, 250, Jr.)
- 83 Eddie Viliunas (6-4, 255, Sr.)
- 3 Jon Davis (6-3, 240, So.)
- 11 Matt LaCrosse (6-6, 240, So.)

DEFENSE

Defensive End

- 54 Justin Staples (6-4, 240, Sr.)
- 59 Tim Kynard (6-3, 260, Jr.)
- 58 Kenny Nelson (6-6, 245, r-Fr.)

Nose Tackle

- 94 Akeem Spence (6-1, 300, Jr.)
- 95 Jake Howe (6-3, 295, So.)
- 87 Daniel Rhodes (6-3, 290, Fr.) *

Defensive Tackle

- 91 Glenn Foster (6-4, 280, Sr.)
- 44 Austin Teitsma (6-2, 280, So.)
- 90 DeJazz Woods (6-3, 255, So.)

Defensive End

- 99 Michael Buchanan (6-6, 240, Sr.)
- 6 Darrius Caldwell (6-5, 230, r-Fr.)
- 98 John Valentine (6-5, 250, r-Fr.)

Will Linebacker

- 30 Houston Bates (6-3, 240, So.)
- 48 Henry Dickinson (6-4, 230, So.)
- 15 Zepheniah Grimes (5-11, 220, r-Fr.)

Mike Linebacker

- 45 Jonathan Brown (6-1, 235, Jr.)
- 42 Ralph Cooper (6-1, 230, So.)
- 40 Beau Sullivan (5-11, 215, Jr.)

Star

- 25 Ashante Williams (5-11, 205, Sr.)
- 28 Ta'Jarvis Fuller (6-1, 190, Fr.) *

Cornerback

- 1 Terry Hawthorne (6-0, 190, Sr.)
- 27 Eaton Spence (6-0, 180, r-Fr.)

Strong Safety

- 5 Steve Hull (6-2, 200, Jr.)
- 9 Earnest Thomas (6-2, 210, So.)
- 4 Pat Nixon-Youman (5-10, 180, Sr.)
- 13 Ben Mathis (6-3, 200, Jr.)

Free Safety

- 7 Supo Sanni (6-3, 220, Sr.)
- 31 Nick North (6-1, 195, r-Fr.)
- 29 Kaeman Mitchell (5-9, 180, Jr.)

Cornerback

- 26 Justin Green (5-11, 195, Sr.)
- 21 Jack Ramsey (5-11, 200, Sr.)
- 22 Nick Forzley (5-9, 180, So.)

SPECIAL TEAMS

Placekicker

- 37 Nick Immekus (6-0, 220, So.)
- 26 Taylor Zalewski (6-3, 200, r-Fr.)
- 83 Brennan VanMieghem (6-2, 190, r-Fr.)

Punter

- 18 Justin DuVernois (6-1, 190, So.)
- 12 Ryan Lankford (6-0, 175, Jr.)

Long Snapper

- 46 Zak Pedersen (6-2, 230, Sr.)

Holder

- 86 Tim Russell (6-6, 225, Jr.)
- 8 Miles Osei (6-0, 200, Jr.)

Kick Return

- 1 Terry Hawthorne (6-0, 190, Sr.)
- 6 Josh Ferguson (5-10, 185, r-Fr.)
- 8 Miles Osei (6-0, 200, Jr.)

Punt Return

- 1 Terry Hawthorne (6-0, 190, Sr.)
- 12 Ryan Lankford (6-0, 175, Jr.)

** denotes early enrollee*

PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

Shawn Afryl AFF-rill
Dami Ayoola DAY-me uh-YOU-la
V'Angelo Bentley vee-AN-juh-low
Peter Bonahoom BAHN-uh-hoom
Simon Cvijanovic sve-YAWN-oh-vich
Justin DuVernois doo-vern-WAH
Patrick Flavin FLAH-vin
Ta'Jarvis Fuller tuh-JAR-vis
Zepheniah Grimes zeff-uh-NY-uh
Michael Heitz heights
Nick Immekus EM-uh-kiss
Ted Karras CARE-us
Davontay Kwaanig QUAN-ing
Tim Kynard kuh-NARD
Javaris Little juh-VAR-is
Darius Millines mil-LINES
Kaeman Mitchell KAY-man
Patrick Nixon-Youman YO-man
James Nudera new-DARE-uh
Miles Osei oh-SAY
Zak Pedersen PED-er-son
Graham Pocic POH-sick
Daniel Quintana Quinn-TAH-nuh
Nejee Robinson NAH-jee
Supo Sanni SHOO-poh SAH-nee
Nathan Scheelhaase SHEEL-house
Eaton Spence sounds like eaten
Garrett Stroup rhymes with crop
Mike Svetina sve-TEE-na
Austin Teitsma TIGHTS-muh
Brennan VanMieghem van-MEE-gum
Eddie Viliunas vuh-LOO-nus
Ashante Williams a-SHONN-tee
Taylor Zalewski zuh-LESS-key