

2015 FIGHTING ILLINI FOOTBALL I

QUICK FACTS

UNIVERSITY INFORMATION

Location: Urbana-Champaign
Founded: 1867
Enrollment: 44,942
Colors: Orange & Blue
Nickname: Fighting Illini
Conference: Big Ten (West Division)
President: Timothy L. Killeen
Interim Chancellor: Barbara J. Wilson
Director of Athletics: Mike Thomas
Stadium: Memorial Stadium (FieldTurf – 60,670)

COACHING STAFF

Interim Head Coach/OC: Bill Cubit
Alma Mater: Delaware, '74
Record at Illinois: 0-0 (1st season)
Overall Record: 85-65-1 (14th season)

Assistant Coaches:

Tim Banks: Co-Defensive Coordinator / DB
Mike Phair: Co-Defensive Coordinator / DL
Mike Bellamy: Wide Receivers
Tom Bratton: Offensive Line
Ryan Cubit: Quarterbacks / Recruiting Coord.
Alex Golesh: Tight Ends / Special Teams
Nathan Scheelhaase: Running Backs
Al Seamonson: Outside Linebackers
Mike Ward: Inside Linebackers

Tyler Johns: Defensive Graduate Assistant
Kaeman Mitchell: Defensive Graduate Assistant
Reilly O'Toole: Offensive Graduate Assistant
LeDominique Williams: Defensive Graduate Assistant

SUPPORT STAFF

Director of Football Operations: Tim Knox
Director of Player Personnel: Scott Yielding
Director of Student-Athlete Development: Pat Embleton
Head Football Athletic Trainer: Jeremy Busch
Head Strength & Conditioning Coach: Aaron Hillmann
Head Football Equipment Manager: Trent Chesnut
Director of Football Video: Alex Benizzi

FOOTBALL INFORMATION

2014 Record: 6-7, 3-5 (5th Big Ten West Division)
Offensive Formation: Spread / Multiple
Defensive Formation: Multiple
2014 Starters Returning/Lost: 17/8
Off: 8/3 Def: 7/4 ST (PK/P/LS): 2/1
2014 Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 49/24
Off: 18/12 Def: 27/10 ST (PK/P/LS/H): 4/2
All-Time Record (Years): 592-599-51 (125)
All-Time Big Ten Record (Years): 337-404-32 (119)
Memorial Stadium Record (Years): 262-223-14 (92)
Big Ten Championships (Last): 15 (2001)
National Championships (Last): 5 (1951)
Bowl Appearances (Last): 18 (2014 Heart of Dallas)
All-Time Bowl Record: 8-10 (.444)

FOOTBALL CONTACT INFORMATION

Office Phone: 217-333-1400
Mailing Address: Memorial Stadium
1402 South First St, NE Tower, Champaign, IL 61820

FOLLOW THE ILLINI...

FIGHTINGILLINI.com
Twitter/Instagram: @IlliniFootball
Facebook: Fighting Illini Football

Illinois Athletics Communication // 217-333-1391 // FIGHTINGILLINI.COM/media
Football Co-Contacts: Kent Brown (kwbrown3@illinois.edu) and Derek Neal (drneal@illinois.edu)

2015 ILLINOIS SCHEDULE

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME	LOCATION	2014 REC	SERIES HISTORY (LAST)
Sept. 4	KENT STATE	8 pm CT	MEMORIAL STADIUM	2-9	First Meeting
Sept. 12	WESTERN ILLINOIS	11 am CT	MEMORIAL STADIUM	5-7	ILL leads 1-0 (2007)
Sept. 19	at North Carolina	11 am CT	Chapel Hill, N.C.	6-7	UNC leads 2-0 (1987)
Sept. 26	MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE	TBA	MEMORIAL STADIUM	6-6	ILL leads 2-0 (2000)
Oct. 3	NEBRASKA	TBA	MEMORIAL STADIUM	9-4	NEB leads 9-2-1 (2014)
Oct. 10	at Iowa	11 am CT	Iowa City, Iowa	7-6	ILL leads 38-30-2 (2014)
Oct. 24	WISCONSIN (Homecoming)	2:30 pm CT	MEMORIAL STADIUM	11-3	WIS leads 38-36-7 (2014)
Oct. 31	at Penn State	TBA	State College, Pa.	7-6	PSU leads 17-5 (2014)
Nov. 7	at Purdue	11 am CT	West Lafayette, Ind.	3-9	ILL leads 43-41-6 (2014)
Nov. 14	OHIO STATE	TBA	MEMORIAL STADIUM	14-1	OSU leads 67-30-4 (2014)
Nov. 21	at Minnesota	TBA	Minneapolis, Minn.	8-5	MIN leads 35-29-3 (2014)
Nov. 28	vs. Northwestern	TBA	Soldier Field, Chicago	5-7	ILL leads 55-48-5 (2014)
Dec. 5	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 Athletics Communication Office requires media personnel to arrange interview requests through the Athletics Communication 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 Athletics Communication. 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 near the northwest corner of Memorial Stadium (press box side of the field). Press level for all working media is Level 8.

MEDIA WILL CALL (temporary athletics tickets trailer located in State Farm Center northwest parking lot): Credentials that are not mailed may be picked up at the "Press Will Call" at the temporary State Farm Center ticket trailer located near SFC in Lot 35 (northwest parking lot). 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 athletics communication 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 Fighting 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, underneath the southeast corner of the Horseshoe, offers a field-level work room 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. These vests must be returned following the game.**

SUITES AND CLUB SEATS (Levels 3/6/7): These levels contain individual suites and an club seating for the Colonnades Club and 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.

HOME-GAME CREDENTIALS

Media and photography credential and parking applications will be accepted online at FIGHTINGILLINI.com/media. Season credential requests should be made by Friday, Aug.

ATHLETICS COMMUNICATION

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



Kent Brown



Derrick Burson



Derek Neal



Marla Glasser



Jenny Dewar



Jen Fisher



Chad Beyler



Jessica Leifheit



Dan Longo



Adam Marantz



Eddie DiazMuñoz

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DEREK NEAL	Associate Director / Co-Football Contact (players)	(217) 244-3707	dneal@illinois.edu
TBA	Assistant Director / Assistant Football Contact	TBA	TBA
MARLA GLASSER	Assistant Director	(217) 333-3592	mglasser@illinois.edu
JENNY DEWAR	Assistant Director	(217) 244-5045	jdewar2@illinois.edu
CHAD BEYLER	Intern	(217) 300-1449	beyler2@illinois.edu
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DAN LONGO	Graduate Assistant	(217) 244-5122	longo1@illinois.edu
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ADAM MARANTZ	Director, Digital Design & Production	(217) 300-1325	amarantz@illinois.edu
EDDIE DIAZMUÑOZ	Creative Director	(217) 300-1855	diazmuno@illinois.edu

14. 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 athletics communication 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 and will close three hours after the conclusion of the Illinois press conference.

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 southeast 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 the 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.

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

CREDITS

Executive Editors: Derek Neal

Editor/Interior Design: Derek Neal

Editorial Assistance: Kent Brown, Matt Wille, Ben Taylor, Chad Beyler

Cover Designs: Stacie Sansone, Eddie Diazmuñoz

Cover Elements: Old Hat Creative

Photography: Mark Jones, Darrell Hoemann, Mark Cowan, Bradley Leeb, Craig Pessman, Cary Frye, Frank Polich, Matthew Jones, Derek Neal

Printing: Premier Print Group, Champaign, Illinois

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, but not limited to use in delayed editorial or non-editorial advertising, sales promotion or merchandising) is prohibited without prior specific written approval of the University of Illinois or the Big Ten Conference. Nothing in these terms and conditions authorizes or allows bearer to violate any of the trademarks, copyright and other proprietary rights of the University of Illinois or the Big Ten Conference. A maximum of two minutes (2:00) of game video

CREDENTIALS REQUESTS

Illinois Home Game Credentials (including Nov. 28 game at Soldier Field)

FIGHTINGILLINI.com/media

Road Game Credentials

North Carolina: sportssystems.com/uncfootball

Iowa: hawkeyesports.com/media

Penn State: gopsusports.com/media

Purdue: sportssystems.com/purdue

Minnesota: gophersports.com/media

OPPONENT SID CONTACTS

KENT STATE - AARON CHIMENTI

(330) 672-8468 // achiment@kent.edu

Website: www.kentstatesports.com

WESTERN ILLINOIS - PATRICK OSTERMAN

(309) 298-1133 // pr-osterman@wiu.edu

Website: www.goleathernecks.com

NORTH CAROLINA - KEVIN BEST

(919) 962-8916 // kbset@unc.edu

Website: www.goheels.com

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE - MARK OWENS

(615) 898-5057 // owens@goblueraiders.com

Website: www.GoBlueRaiders.com

NEBRASKA - KEITH MANN

(402) 472-2263 // kmann@huskers.com

Website: www.huskers.com

IOWA - STEVE ROE

(319) 335-9411 // steven-roe@uiowa.edu

Website: www.hawkeyesports.com

WISCONSIN - BRIAN LUCAS

(608) 263-5052 // BML@athletics.wisc.edu

Website: www.uwbaddgers.com

PENN STATE - JEFF NELSON

(814) 865-1757 // jtn4@psu.edu

Website: www.gopsusports.com

PURDUE - MATT RECTOR

(765) 494-3196 // rector@purdue.edu

Website: www.purduesports.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

NORTHWESTERN - PAUL KENNEDY

(847) 467-2028 // pkennedy@northwestern.edu

Website: www.NUSports.com

footage (without audio) may be utilized during the one week period following the conclusion of the game solely within regularly scheduled bona fide news programming distributed via television, and may not be distributed via the internet, wireless or other forms of media.

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 at the southwest 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 should pick them up by 5 p.m. Friday at the UI Athletics Communication Office (1700 S. Fourth St., Champaign) when possible. On game day, media with credentials at will call have their names on a list to gain entrance to lot 32.

HOTEL ROOMS

The Athletics Communication Office has a limited number of rooms reserved in the Champaign-Urbana area. Please contact Athletic Communications office manager **Jennifer Fisher, 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 Athletics Communication 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 complimentary access to the internet during games through a wireless network (DIA-Private). WIFI passwords are printed on the name card at your seat in the press box or can be obtained from an athletics communication representative in the press box or photo tent.

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 Bill Cubit 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 in the team room on the ground floor of the football facility in the northeast corner of Memorial Stadium). A member of the UI Athletics Communication staff will escort media members to the Illinois interview area and will leave the press box with approximately eight 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 team personnel will lead media 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 head coach Tim Beckman is each Monday at his weekly press luncheon at 1 p.m. CT in the 8th Level media area of Memorial Stadium. The press conference also can be accessed via teleconference. Full video and selected quotes will be posted on FIGHTINGILLINI.COM by 5 p.m. on Monday. Contact the Athletics Communication Office for the conference phone number. Media parking is free in the northwest State Farm Center parking lot or at meters in the ARC lot. **The DIA is not responsible for any parking tickets received.** Illinois offers head coach Tim Beckman's weekly press conference to television stations through an FTP site on Mondays beginning Aug. 31 and running every week (except for bye weeks) of the season. For access information to the FTP site and exact time, contact Athletics Communication at (217) 333-1391.

PLAYER INTERVIEWS

Monday: 1:15-2pm, Press Level Memorial Stadium. Selected players along with approved requested players following Coach Cubit's weekly press luncheon. Monday player requests must be received by athletics communication staff by 2 p.m. on Sunday.

Tuesday: Offensive players not involved in press conference on Monday are available, by request, after post-practice meetings (approx. 5:45 pm) in the recruiting area on the north end of Memorial Stadium. Interview requests should be submitted to Derek Neal (drneal@illinois.edu) by Noon on Tuesday.

Wednesday: Defensive players not involved in press conference on Monday are available, by request, after post-practice meetings (approx. 5:45 pm) in the recruiting area on the north end of Memorial Stadium. Interview requests should be submitted to Derek Neal (drneal@illinois.edu) by Noon on Wednesday.

Phone Interviews - Monday at press box media access and after practice on Tuesday and Wednesday if time allows. Requests should be submitted to Derek Neal (drneal@illinois.edu) at least 24 hours prior to the interview.

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

Please arrange interview requests in advance with Kent Brown or Derek Neal in the Athletics Communication Office, 217-333-1391. We will make every effort to fulfill your

request, but the student-athletes' academic and athletic requirements take priority.

COACH INTERVIEWS

Interim head coach Bill Cubit is available for media interviews Mondays (except bye weeks) during the regularly scheduled press conference. Coach Cubit will begin his portion at approximately 1 p.m., with players beginning at approximately 1:15 p.m. Cubit and offensive assistant coaches will be available after practice on Tuesdays, while Cubit and defensive assistant coaches will be available after practice on Wednesdays.

Coach Cubit also is available for interviews immediately before practice Tuesday and Wednesday by appointment. Contact Athletics Communication to arrange, preferably at least 24 hours in advance. Phone interviews with Coach Cubit may also be arranged through Athletics Communication following the Big Ten coaches' teleconference call that begins at 12:04 p.m. CT each Tuesday during the season.

Please arrange Cubit interview requests in advance with Kent Brown in the Athletics Communication Office, 217-333-1391.

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.

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 12:04 pm CT. The teleconferences will begin Tuesday, Sept. 1 and conclude Nov. 24. For information on how to access the teleconference, please call Scott Chipman at the Big Ten Conference Office at (847) 696-1010.

2015 Big Ten Teleconference Schedule (CT)

11:00 a.m.	Pat Fitzgerald, Northwestern
11:08 a.m.	Jim Harbaugh Michigan
11:16 a.m.	Paul Chryst, Wisconsin
11:24 a.m.	Mike Riley, Nebraska
11:32 a.m.	Mark Dantonio, Michigan State
11:40 a.m.	Kirk Ferentz, Iowa
11:48 a.m.	Jerry Kill, Minnesota
11:56 a.m.	Kyle Flood, Rutgers
12:04 p.m.	Bill Cubit, Illinois
12:12 p.m.	Randy Edsall, Maryland
12:20 p.m.	Darrell Hazell, Purdue
12:28 p.m.	James Franklin, Penn State
12:36 p.m.	Urban Meyer, Ohio State
12:44 p.m.	Kevin Wilson, Indiana

HEAD COACH RADIO SHOW

The "Bill Cubit Show" airs Tuesday nights from 7-8 p.m. on the Illini Sports Network. The live call-in show, originating from Buffalo Wild Wings in Savoy, allows UI students and the Champaign-Urbana community the opportunity to meet Cubit and ask questions about the Illinois football program. The show is hosted by Brian Barnhart, the play-by-play voice of Fighting Illini football.

FIGHTINGILLINI.COM

All Illinois media releases, statistics, live and archived press conferences, and video of coach and player interviews are available on the official University of Illinois website, **FIGHTINGILLINI.com**. The website also offers live audio broadcasts of all Illinois football games and the coach's radio show broadcasts.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Fighting Illini fans and media can get all the latest news on the football team on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube.

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y ILLINIPRODUCTIONS HD

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f **t** **i** **y**

FIGHTING ILLINI SPORTS NETWORK



Veteran FISN broadcasters Brian Barnhart and Steve Kelly

The 43-station Fighting Illini Sports Network brings Illinois football to fans across the state and Midwest with Brian Barnhart, Martin O'Donnell, Carey Davis and Steve Kelly calling the action.

In 2015, Barnhart will begin his 14th 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 Tuesday night at 6:30 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 offensive lineman Martin O'Donnell joins the Fighting Illini Sports Network as an expert analyst in 2015. O'Donnell, who lettered at Illinois from 2004-07, and earned All-America honors at left guard in 2007 after helping lead the Illini to the 2008 Rose Bowl, replaces former Illini quarterback Kurt Kittner in the booth.

New in 2015 is the addition of former Fighting Illini and NFL fullback Carey Davis as sideline reporter for all home and away football games. Davis donned the Orange and Blue from 2000-03, helping Illinois to the 2001 Big Ten title. He played four seasons in the NFL for Atlanta, Indianapolis and Pittsburgh, helping the Steelers win Super Bowl XLIII.

Along with Barnhart, O'Donnell and Davis on the broadcast again this fall is Steve 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 Fighting Illini Sports Network is managed by Fighting Illini Sports Properties and encompasses all sponsorship and operational elements. Illini Sports Network programming includes hour-long pregame and postgame shows around live football and men's basketball games, plus coverage of women's basketball, volleyball and baseball, along with the "Illini Today" daily report. The "Bill Cubit Show" can be heard statewide on the Illini Sports Network every Tuesday beginning Sept. 1 at 7 p.m.

FIGHTING ILLINI SPORTS NETWORK

2015-16 STATION LIST (as of July 21, 2015)

Aledo, WRMJ-FM 102.3	Litchfield, WSMI-FM 106.1
Alton, WBGZ-AM 1570	Macomb, WKXQ-FM 92.5
Alton, WBGZ-FM 94.3	Mattoon, WHQQ-FM 98.9
Bloomington, WRPW-FM 92.9	Mt. Carmel, WJSJ-FM 100.5
Canton, WBYS-AM 1560	Murphysboro, WINI-AM 1440
Champaign, WDWS-AM 1400	Olney, WSEI-FM 92.9
Champaign, WHMS-FM 97.5	Paxton, WPXN-FM 104.9
Chicago, WSCR-AM 670	Peoria, WZPN-FM 96.5
Danville, WDAM-AM 1490	Pittsfield, WBBA-FM 97.5
Danville, WDNL-FM 102.1	Quincy, WTAD-AM 930
Davenport, IA, WFXN-AM 1230	Robinson, WTYE-FM 101.7
Decatur, WSOY-AM 1340	Rockford, WROK-AM 1440
DuQuoin, WQQN-AM 1580	Rushville, WKXQ-FM 92.5
Dwight, WJEZ-FM 98.9	Salem, WJBD-AM 1350
Effingham, WHQQ-FM 98.9	Salem, WJBD-FM 100.1
Fairfield, WFIW-AM 1390	Sparta, WHCO-AM 1230
Galesburg, WGIL-AM 1400	Springfield, WFMB-AM 1450
Galesburg, WGIL-FM 93.7	Springfield, WFMB-FM 107.1
Jacksonville, WJIL-AM 1550	Springfield, WCVS-FM 96.7
Jacksonville, WJIL-FM 102.9	St. Louis, KQOZ-AM 1190
Jerseyville, WJBM-AM 1480	Watseka, WGFA-FM 94.1
Kewanee, WKEL-AM 1450	

2015-16 BOWL SCHEDULE

Bowl Game	Date/Time (ET)	Site	Matchup	Network
Cure Bowl	Dec. 19 / Noon	Orlando, Fla.	American vs. Sun Belt	CBS Sports Net.
New Mexico Bowl	Dec. 19 / 2 pm	Albuquerque, N.M.	C-USA vs. MWC	ESPN
Royal Purple Las Vegas Bowl	Dec. 19 / 3:30 pm	Las Vegas, Nev.	MWC/BYU vs. Pac-12	ABC
Raycom Media Camellia Bowl	Dec. 19 / 5:30 pm	Montgomery, Ala.	MWC vs. Sun Belt	ESPN
R-I Carriers New Orleans Bowl	Dec. 19 / 9 pm	New Orleans, La.	Sun Belt vs. MWC	ESPN
Miami Beach Bowl	Dec. 21 / 2:30 pm	Miami, Fla.	American vs. C-USA	ESPN
Famous Idaho Potato Bowl	Dec. 22 / 3:30 pm	Boise, Idaho	MAC vs. MWC	ESPN
Boca Raton Bowl	Dec. 22 / 7 pm	Boca Raton, Fla.	American vs. MAC	ESPN
S.D. County Credit Union Poinsettia Bowl	Dec. 23 / 4:30 pm	San Diego, Calif.	Army vs. MWC	ESPN
GoDaddy Bowl	Dec. 23 / 8 pm	Mobile, Ala.	MAC vs. Sun Belt	ESPN
Bahamas Bowl	Dec. 24 / Noon	Nassau, Bahamas	C-USA vs. MAC	ESPN
Sheraton Hawaii Bowl	Dec. 24 / 8 pm	Honolulu, Hawaii	American vs. MWC/BYU	ESPN
St. Pete Bowl	Dec. 26 / 11 am	St. Petersburg, Fla.	ACC vs. American	ESPN
Sun Bowl	Dec. 26 / 2 pm	El Paso, Texas	ACC vs. Pac-12	CBS
Heart of Dallas Bowl	Dec. 26 / 2:20 pm	Dallas, Texas	Big Ten vs. C-USA	ESPN
Pinstripe Bowl	Dec. 26 / 3:30 pm	Bronx, N.Y.	ACC vs. Big Ten	ABC
Independence Bowl	Dec. 26 / 5:45 pm	Shreveport, La.	ACC vs. SEC	ESPN
Foster Farms Bowl	Dec. 26 / 9:15 pm	Santa Clara, Calif.	Big Ten vs. Pac-12	ESPN
Military Bowl	Dec. 28 / 2:30 pm	Annapolis, Md.	ACC vs. American	ESPN
Quick Lane Bowl	Dec. 28 / 5 pm	Detroit, Mich.	ACC vs. Big Ten	ESPN
Armed Forces Bowl	Dec. 29 / 2 pm	Fort Worth, Texas	Big Ten vs. MWC	ESPN
Russell Athletic Bowl	Dec. 29 / 5:30 pm	Orlando, Fla.	ACC vs. Big 12	ESPN
Texas Bowl	Dec. 29 / 9 pm	Houston, Texas	Big 12 vs. SEC	ESPN
Birmingham Bowl	Dec. 30 / Noon	Birmingham, Ala.	SEC vs. American	ESPN
Belk Bowl	Dec. 30 / 3:30 pm	Charlotte, N.C.	ACC vs. SEC	ESPN
Music City Bowl	Dec. 30 / 7 pm	Nashville, Tenn.	ACC/Big Ten vs. SEC	ESPN
Holiday Bowl	Dec. 30 / 10:30 pm	San Diego, Calif.	Big Ten vs. Pac-12	ESPN
Peach Bowl	Dec. 31 / Noon	Atlanta, Ga.	At-Large vs. At-Large	ESPN
Cotton Bowl (Semifinal)	Dec. 31 / TBA	Arlington, Texas	TBA vs. TBA	ESPN
Discover Orange Bowl (Semifinal)	Dec. 31 / TBA	Miami, Fla.	TBA vs. TBA	ESPN
Outback Bowl	Jan. 1 / Noon	Tampa, Fla.	Big Ten vs. SEC	ESPN
Citrus Bowl	Jan. 1 / 1 pm	Orlando, Fla.	Big Ten vs. SEC	ESPN
Fiesta Bowl	Jan. 1 / 1 pm	Glendale, Ariz.	At-Large vs. At-Large	ESPN
Rose Bowl	Jan. 1 / 5 pm	Pasadena, Calif.	Big Ten vs. Pac-12	ESPN
Allstate Sugar Bowl	Jan. 1 / 8:30 pm	New Orleans, La.	SEC vs. Big 12	ESPN
TaxSlayer.com Bowl	Jan. 2 / Noon (ESPN)	Jacksonville, Fla.	SEC vs. ACC/Big Ten	ESPN
Liberty Bowl	Jan. 2 / 3:20 pm	Memphis, Tenn.	Big 12 vs. SEC	ESPN
Alamo Bowl	Jan. 2 / 6:45 pm	San Antonio, Texas	Big 12 vs. Pac-12	ESPN
Cactus Bowl	Jan. 2 / 10:15 pm	Phoenix, Ariz.	Big 12 vs. Pac-12	ESPN
College Football Championship Game	Jan. 11 / 8:30 pm	Glendale, Ariz.	Semifinal Winner vs. Semifinal Winner	ESPN

All times Eastern and subject to change

2015 BIG TEN COMPOSITE SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, SEPT. 3

TCU at Minnesota
Michigan at Utah

FRIDAY, SEPT. 4

Michigan State at W. Michigan
Kent State at Illinois

SATURDAY, SEPT. 5

Illinois State at Iowa
BYU at Nebraska
Stanford at Northwestern
Wisconsin vs. Alabama [1]
Southern Illinois at Indiana
Richmond at Maryland
Penn State at Temple
Norfolk State at Rutgers

SUNDAY, SEPT. 6

Purdue at Marshall

SUNDAY, SEPT. 7

Ohio State at Virginia Tech

SATURDAY, SEPT. 12

Western Illinois at Illinois
Iowa at Iowa State
Minnesota at Colorado State
South Alabama at Nebraska
Eastern Illinois at Northwestern
Indiana State at Purdue
Miami (Ohio) at Wisconsin

Florida International at Indiana
Bowling Green at Maryland
Oregon State at Michigan
Oregon at Michigan State
Hawaii at Ohio State
Buffalo at Penn State
Washington State at Rutgers

SATURDAY, SEPT. 19

Illinois at North Carolina
Pittsburgh at Iowa
Kent State at Minnesota
Nebraska at Miami (Fla.)
Northwestern at Duke
Virginia Tech at Purdue
Troy at Wisconsin
Western Kentucky at Indiana
South Florida at Maryland
UNLV at Michigan
Air Force at Michigan State
Northern Illinois at Ohio State
Rutgers at Penn State

SATURDAY, SEPT. 26

Middle Tennessee State at Illinois
North Texas at Iowa
Ohio at Minnesota
Southern Mississippi at Nebraska
Ball State at Northwestern
Bowling Green at Purdue
Hawaii at Wisconsin
Indiana at Wake Forest

Maryland at West Virginia
BYU at Michigan
Central Michigan at Michigan State
Western Michigan at Ohio State
San Diego State at Penn State
Kansas at Rutgers

SATURDAY, OCT. 3

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

SATURDAY, OCT. 10

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

SATURDAY, OCT. 17

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

SATURDAY, OCT. 24

Wisconsin at Illinois
Northwestern at Nebraska
Indiana at Michigan State
Penn State at Maryland [2]
Ohio State at Rutgers

SATURDAY, OCT. 31

Illinois at Penn State
Maryland at Iowa
Michigan at Minnesota
Nebraska at Purdue
Rutgers at Wisconsin

SATURDAY, NOV. 7

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

SATURDAY, NOV. 14

Ohio State at Illinois
Minnesota at Iowa
Nebraska at Rutgers
Purdue at Northwestern
Michigan at Indiana
Maryland at Michigan State

SATURDAY, NOV. 21

Illinois at Minnesota
Purdue at Iowa
Northwestern at Wisconsin
Indiana at Maryland
Michigan at Penn State
Michigan State at Ohio State
Rutgers at Army

FRIDAY, NOV. 27

Iowa at Nebraska

SATURDAY, NOV. 28

Northwestern at Illinois [3]
Indiana at Purdue
Wisconsin at Minnesota
Maryland at Rutgers
Ohio State at Michigan
Penn State at Michigan State

SATURDAY, DEC. 5

Big Ten Championship Game [4]

[1] - Arlington, Texas
[2] - Baltimore, Maryland
[3] - Chicago, Illinois
[4] - Indianapolis, Ind.



2015 OPPONENTS

KENT STATE GOLDEN FLASHES

Sept. 4 // 8 pm CT // BTN // Champaign

Location: Kent, Ohio
Enrollment: 29,477
Stadium (Surface): Dix Stadium (FieldTurf)
Stadium Capacity: 25,319
Conference: Mid-American Conference
Athletics Website: www.kentstatesports.com

Head Coach: Paul Haynes
Alma Mater, Year: Kent State, 1991
School/Career Record: 6-17 / same

2014 Record: 2-9
2014 Conf. Record: 1-6
Series: First meeting

Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 44/20
Starters Returning/Lost: 19/6



2015 Schedule	
Sept. 4	..... at Illinois
Sept. 12	..... vs. Delaware State
Sept. 19	..... at Minnesota
Sept. 26	..... vs. Marshall
Oct. 3	..... vs. Miami (Ohio)
Oct. 10	..... at Toledo
Oct. 17	..... at UMass
Oct. 24	..... vs. Bowling Green
Oct. 31	..... OPEN
Nov. 5	..... vs. Buffalo
Nov. 10	..... at Ohio
Nov. 18	..... vs. Central Michigan
Nov. 27	..... at Akron

MIDDLE TENNESSEE BLUE RAIDERS

Sept. 26 // Time & TV TBA // Champaign

Location: Murfreesboro, Tennessee
Enrollment: 23,881
Stadium (Surface): Horace Jones Field (FieldTurf)
Stadium Capacity: 30,788
Conference: Conference USA
Athletics Website: www.GoBlueRaiders.com

Head Coach: Rick Stockstill
Alma Mater, Year: Kansas State, 1994
School/Career Record: 57-55 / same

2014 Record: 6-6
2014 Conf. Record: 5-3
Series: Illinois leads 2-0

Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 45/21
Starters Returning/Lost: 16/6



2015 Schedule	
Sept. 5	..... vs. Jackson State
Sept. 12	..... at Alabama
Sept. 19	..... vs. Charlotte
Sept. 26	..... at Illinois
Oct. 3	..... vs. Vanderbilt
Oct. 10	..... at Western Kentucky
Oct. 17	..... vs. Florida International
Oct. 24	..... at Louisiana Tech
Oct. 31	..... OPEN
Nov. 7	..... vs. Marshall
Nov. 14	..... at Florida Atlantic
Nov. 21	..... vs. North Texas
Nov. 28	..... at UTSA

WESTERN ILLINOIS LEATHERNECKS

Sept. 12 // 11 am CT // BTN // Champaign

Location: Macomb, Illinois
Enrollment: 11,458
Stadium (Surface): Hanson Field (Matrix Turf)
Stadium Capacity: 16,368
Conference: Missouri Valley
Athletics Website: www.goleathernecks.com

Head Coach: Bob Nielson
Alma Mater, Year: Wartburg College (1982)
School/Career Record: 9-15 (2) / 179-74-1 (22)

2014 Record: 5-7
2014 Conf. Record: 3-5
Series: Illinois leads 1-0

Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 41/15
Starters Returning/Lost: 16/7



2015 Schedule	
Sept. 3	..... Eastern Illinois
Sept. 12	..... at Illinois
Sept. 19	..... at Coastal Carolina
Sept. 26	..... OPEN
Oct. 3	..... vs. Southern Illinois
Oct. 10	..... vs. South Dakota
Oct. 17	..... at Northern Iowa
Oct. 24	..... at Illinois State
Oct. 31	..... vs. Youngstown State
Nov. 7	..... at North Dakota State
Nov. 14	..... at Indiana State
Nov. 21	..... vs. South Dakota State

NEBRASKA CORNHUSKERS

Oct. 3 // Time & TV TBA // Champaign

Location: Lincoln, Neb.
Enrollment: 25,006
Stadium (Surface): Memorial Stadium (FieldTurf)
Stadium Capacity: 87,000
Conference: Big Ten (West)
Athletics Website: Huskers.com

Head Coach: Mike Riley
Alma Mater, Year: Alabama, 1975
School/Career Record: First Season / 93-80 (14)

2014 Record: 9-4
2014 Conf. Record: 5-3
Series: NEB leads: 9-2-1

Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 60/16
Starters Returning/Lost: 17/10



2015 Schedule	
Sept. 5	..... vs. BYU
Sept. 12	..... vs. South Alabama
Sept. 19	..... at Miami (Fla.)
Sept. 26	..... vs. Southern Miss
Oct. 3	..... at Illinois
Oct. 10	..... vs. Wisconsin
Oct. 17	..... at Minnesota
Oct. 24	..... vs. Northwestern
Oct. 31	..... at Purdue
Nov. 7	..... vs. Michigan State
Nov. 14	..... at Rutgers
Nov. 21	..... OPEN
Nov. 27	..... vs. Iowa

NORTH CAROLINA TAR HEELS

Sept. 19 // 11 am CT // ESPN/2 // Chapel Hill

Location: Raleigh, North Carolina
Enrollment: 29,135
Stadium (Surface): Kenan Memorial Stadium (Grass)
Stadium Capacity: 63,000
Conference: ACC
Athletics Website: www.goheels.com

Head Coach: Larry Fedora
Alma Mater, Year: Kansas State, 1994
School/Career Record: 21-17 (3) / 55-36 (7)

2014 Record: 6-7
2014 Conf. Record: 4-4
Series: North Carolina leads 2-0



2015 Schedule	
Sept. 3	..... vs. South Carolina
Sept. 12	..... vs. North Carolina A&T
Sept. 19	..... vs. Illinois
Sept. 26	..... vs. Delaware
Oct. 3	..... at Georgia Tech
Oct. 10	..... OPEN
Oct. 17	..... vs. Wake Forest
Oct. 24	..... vs. Virginia
Oct. 31	..... at Pittsburgh
Nov. 7	..... vs. Duke
Nov. 14	..... vs. Miami (Fla.)
Nov. 21	..... at Virginia Tech
Nov. 28	..... at North Carolina State

IOWA HAWKEYES

Oct. 10 // 11 am CT // TV TBA // Iowa City

Location: Iowa City, Iowa
Enrollment: 31,387
Stadium (Surface): Kinnick Stadium (FieldTurf)
Stadium Capacity: 70,585
Conference: Big Ten (West)
Athletics Website: Hawkeyesports.com

Head Coach: Kirk Ferentz
Alma Mater, Year: Connecticut, 1978
School/Career Record: 115-85 (15) / 127-106 (19)

2014 Record: 7-6
2014 Conf. Record: 4-4
Series: ILL leads 38-30-2

Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 38/20
Starters Returning/Lost: 14/10



2015 Schedule	
Sept. 5	..... vs. Illinois State
Sept. 12	..... at Iowa State
Sept. 19	..... vs. Pittsburgh
Sept. 26	..... vs. North Texas
Oct. 3	..... at Wisconsin
Oct. 10	..... vs. Illinois
Oct. 17	..... at Northwestern
Oct. 24	..... OPEN
Oct. 31	..... vs. Maryland
Nov. 7	..... at Indiana
Nov. 14	..... vs. Minnesota
Nov. 21	..... vs. Purdue
Nov. 27	..... at Nebraska

2015 OPPONENTS

WISCONSIN BADGERS

Oct. 24 // 2:30 pm CT // TV TBA // Champaign
HOMECOMING

Location: Madison, Wis.

Enrollment: 43,193

Stadium (Surface): Camp Randall Stadium (FieldTurf)

Stadium Capacity: 80,321

Conference: Big Ten (West)

Athletics Website: UWBadgers.com

Head Coach: Paul Chryst

Alma Mater, Year: Utah, 1986

School/Career Record: First Season / 19-19 (3)

2014 Record: 11-3

2014 Conf. Record: 7-1

Series: WISC leads 37-37-7

Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 44/22

Starters Returning/Lost: 11/11



2015 Schedule

Sept. 5 vs. Alabama
Sept. 12 vs. Miami (Ohio)
Sept. 19 vs. Troy
Sept. 26 vs. Hawaii
Oct. 3 vs. Iowa
Oct. 10 at Nebraska
Oct. 17 vs. Purdue
Oct. 24 at Illinois
Oct. 31 vs. Rutgers
Nov. 7 at Maryland
Nov. 14 OPEN
Nov. 21 vs. Northwestern
Nov. 28 at Minnesota

OHIO STATE BUCKEYES

Nov. 14 // Time & TV TBA // Champaign

Location: Columbus, Ohio

Enrollment: 57,466

Stadium (Surface): Ohio Stadium (FieldTurf)

Stadium Capacity: 102,329

Conference: Big Ten (East)

Athletics Website: OhioStateBuckeyes.com

Head Coach: Urban Meyer

Alma Mater, Year: Cincinnati, 1986

School/Career Record: 38-3 (3) / 142-26 (13)

2014 Record: 14-1

2014 Conf. Record: 8-0

Series: OSU leads: 67-30-4

Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 45/14

Starters Returning/Lost: 16/6



2015 Schedule

Sept. 7 at Virginia Tech
Sept. 12 vs. Hawaii
Sept. 19 vs. Northern Illinois
Sept. 26 vs. Western Michigan
Oct. 3 at Indiana
Oct. 10 vs. Maryland
Oct. 17 vs. Penn State
Oct. 24 at Rutgers
Oct. 31 OPEN
Nov. 7 vs. Minnesota
Nov. 14 at Illinois
Nov. 21 vs. Michigan State
Nov. 28 at Michigan

PENN STATE NITTANY LIONS

Oct. 31 // Time & TV TBA // University Park

Location: University Park, Pa.

Enrollment: 46,068

Stadium (Surface): Beaver Stadium (Grass)

Stadium Capacity: 106,572

Conference: Big Ten (East)

Athletics Website: GoPSUSports.com

Head Coach: James Franklin

Alma Mater, Year: East Stroudsburg, 1995

School/Career Record: 7-6 (1) / 31-21 (4)

2014 Record: 7-6

2014 Conf. Record: 2-6

Series: PSU leads: 17-5

Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 40/18

Starters Returning/Lost: 15/9



2015 Schedule

Sept. 5 at Temple
Sept. 12 vs. Buffalo
Sept. 19 vs. Rutgers
Sept. 26 vs. San Diego State
Oct. 3 vs. Army
Oct. 10 vs. Indiana
Oct. 17 at Ohio State
Oct. 24 vs. Maryland
Oct. 31 vs. Illinois
Nov. 7 at Northwestern
Nov. 14 OPEN
Nov. 21 vs. Michigan
Nov. 28 at Michigan State

MINNESOTA GOLDEN GOPHERS

Nov. 21 // Time & TV TBA // Minneapolis

Location: Minneapolis, Minn.

Enrollment: 52,557

Stadium (Surface): TCF Bank Stadium (FieldTurf)

Stadium Capacity: 50,720

Conference: Big Ten (West)

Athletics Website: GopherSports.com

Head Coach: Jerry Kill

Alma Mater, Year: Southwestern College, 1983

School/Career Record: 25-26 (4) / 152-99 (21)

2014 Record: 8-5

2014 Conf. Record: 5-3

Series: MINN leads 35-29-3

Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 48/29

Starters Returning/Lost: 15/11



2015 Schedule

Sept. 3 vs. TCU
Sept. 12 at Colorado State
Sept. 19 vs. Kent State
Sept. 26 vs. Ohio
Oct. 3 at Northwestern
Oct. 10 at Purdue
Oct. 17 vs. Nebraska
Oct. 24 OPEN
Oct. 31 vs. Michigan
Nov. 7 at Ohio State
Nov. 14 at Iowa
Nov. 21 vs. Illinois
Nov. 28 vs. Wisconsin

PURDUE BOILERMAKERS

Nov. 7 // 11 am CT // TV TBA // West Lafayette

Location: West Lafayette, Ind.

Enrollment: 38,770

Stadium (Surface): Ross-Ade Stadium (Grass)

Stadium Capacity: 60,000

Conference: Big Ten (West)

Athletics Website: PurdueSports.com

Head Coach: Darrell Hazell

Alma Mater, Year: Muskingum College, 1986

School/Career Record: 4-20 (2) / 20-30 (4)

2014 Record: 3-9

2014 Conf. Record: 1-7

Series: ILL leads: 43-41-6

Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 50/17

Starters Returning/Lost: 18/10



2015 Schedule

Sept. 6 at Marshall
Sept. 12 vs. Indiana State
Sept. 19 vs. Virginia Tech
Sept. 26 vs. Bowling Green
Oct. 3 at Michigan State
Oct. 10 vs. Minnesota
Oct. 17 at Wisconsin
Oct. 24 OPEN
Oct. 31 vs. Nebraska
Nov. 7 vs. Illinois
Nov. 14 at Northwestern
Nov. 21 at Iowa
Nov. 28 vs. Indiana

NORTHWESTERN WILDCATS

Nov. 28 // Time & TV TBA // Soldier Field, Chicago

Location: Evanston, Ill.

Enrollment: 8,367

Stadium (Surface): Ryan Field (Grass)

Stadium Capacity: 47,130

Conference: Big Ten (West)

Athletics Website: NUSports.com

Head Coach: Pat Fitzgerald

Alma Mater, Year: Northwestern, 1997

School/Career Record: 60-53 (9) / Same

2014 Record: 5-7

2014 Conf. Record: 2-5

Series: ILL leads: 55-48-5

Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 62/20

Starters Returning/Lost: 16/8



2015 Schedule

Sept. 5 vs. Stanford
Sept. 12 vs. Eastern Illinois
Sept. 19 at Duke
Sept. 26 vs. Ball State
Oct. 3 vs. Minnesota
Oct. 10 at Michigan
Oct. 17 vs. Iowa
Oct. 24 at Nebraska
Oct. 31 OPEN
Nov. 7 vs. Penn State
Nov. 14 vs. Purdue
Nov. 21 at Wisconsin
Nov. 28 at Illinois

2015 PRESEASON NOTES

- The 2015 Fighting Illini are looking to continue the positive momentum generated by last season's bowl berth and the steady improvement of the team over the last three seasons. Illinois' win total has gone from 2 wins in 2012, to four wins in 2013 and six wins and a spot in the Zaxby's Heart of Dallas Bowl in 2014.
- The Fighting Illini are seeking a bowl bid in back-to-back years for the first time since 2010 and 2011, when trips to the Texas Bowl and Kraft Fight Hunger Bowl, respectively, culminated the seasons. In all, Illinois has made 18 bowl appearances, holding an 8-10 record in those games.
- Senior LB **Mason Monheim** enters 2015 with 294 career tackles, the second-most among active FBS players. The Butkus and Lombardi Award candidate piled up a career-high 111 tackles in 2014, and has forced seven career fumbles, tied for fourth most in Illinois history.
- Senior RB **Josh Ferguson** is one of only three active FBS players with more than 1,500 career rushing yards (1,878) and 1,000 receiving yards (1,227). Arizona State's D.J. Foster and Oregon's Byron Marshall are the other two.
- A Doak Walker Award candidate, Ferguson enters 2015 ranked sixth on the Illinois career all-purpose yards list with a realistic chance to break Robert Holcombe's all-time UI mark. Ferguson has 3,486 all-purpose yards in his first three season, 1,251 yards behind Holcombe's career mark of 4,737 from 1994-97. Ferguson had 1,162 all-purpose yards in 2014 and 1,351 in 2013.
- Ferguson needs 122 yards to reach 2,000 career rushing yards. He enters 2015 ranked 18th on the UI all-time rushing list, with the potential to jump into the top three with a big season.
- Senior DB/RET **V'Angelo Bentley** needs 141 kick return yards to break Pierre Thomas' UI career record of 1,495 yards. Bentley currently ranks third on the list. The Paul Hornung Award (most versatile) candidate is the first Illinois player in school history to record a kick return, punt return, interception return and fumble return for TD in his career. He was one of 20 players in the country with two or more defensive touchdowns in 2014.
- Sophomore WR **Mike Dudek** will have to wait a little while to follow up on the most prolific season for a freshman receiver in school history. Dudek finished with 76 receptions for 1,038 yards in 2014, which both shattered Arrelious Benn's previous freshman marks of 54 catches and 676 yards in 2007 and placed him in Illinois' season top-10 rankings. However, Dudek suffered a knee injury in spring practice and is not expected to return to game action until at least October.
- Dudek was a first-team Freshman All-American by ESPN.com, Scout and 247sports after leading FBS freshmen in receiving yards (79.8 ypg), ranking 33rd overall and third in the Big Ten. He led the Big Ten in receptions (50) and receiving yards (716) during conference games and ranked fifth in the nation with 354 fourth-quarter receiving yards and tied for third nationally with 10 plays of 15+ yards in the fourth quarter.
- Despite an injury-plagued season, junior QB **Wes Lunt** still managed to break the Illinois single-season quarterback efficiency record in 2014. Lunt completed 153-of-241 passes (63.5 percent) for 1,763 yards, 14 touchdowns and just three interceptions last season, good for a 141.61 efficiency rating that edged Nathan Scheelhaase's mark of 140.0 set in 2013.
- Lunt was at his best in the fourth quarter in 2014, completing 36-of-48 passes (75.0 percent) for 449 yards with five touchdowns and zero interceptions. He ranked fourth in FBS in fourth-quarter efficiency (187.95) and third in completion percentage (75.0) (min. 30 att.) while leading the Illini to three fourth-quarter comeback wins. Lunt led all Power Five QBs in 4th quarter QB rating when plus or minus 7 points (20-for-25, 5 TD, 0 INT).

SWEET HOME CHICAGO

The Fighting Illini will return to historic Soldier Field in 2015, facing in-state rival Northwestern at the home of the Chicago Bears on Nov. 28 to close out the regular season. This year's Soldier Field game is the first of a three-game series at the historic venue, which will see the Fighting Illini and Wildcats match up in Chicago in 2015, 2017 and 2019. Illinois hosted Washington at Soldier Field in 2013, falling 34-24 to the Huskies. The last time Illinois and Northwestern played in Chicago was a 48-27 Illini rout at Wrigley Field, the home of the Chicago Cubs.

TRANSFER U

Illinois welcomes seven junior college transfers to the roster in 2015, marking the third straight season that Beckman and staff have brought in at least six JUCO transfers. LEO **Sean Adesanya**, OL **Connor Brennan**, TE **Andrew Davis**, RB **Henry Enyenihi**, OL **Jordan Fagan**, OL **Zach Heath** and TE **Ainslie Johnson** all will look to make an immediate impact just like the 2014 transfer class, which included breakout stars like WR **Geronimo Allison**, LEO **Carroll Phillips** and DL **Jihad Ward**. All of the 2015 transfers except for Adesanya enrolled at Illinois in January and participated in spring ball, giving them a leg up for the fall.

CAREER STARTS LIST

PLAYER	'14	'13	'12	'11	'10	TOT
Monheim, Mason	13	12	10	0	0	35
Karras, Ted	9	10	12	0	0	31
Spence, Eaton	13	12	2	0	0	27
Ferguson, Josh	9	8	6	0	0	23
Bentley, V'Angelo	11	9	0	0	0	20
Barton, Taylor	12	5	0	0	0	17
Svetina, Mike	11	5	0	0	0	16
Spencer, Joe	12	2	0	0	0	14
Neal, T.J.	13	0	0	0	0	13
Ward, Jihad	13	0	0	0	0	13
Allison, Geronimo	12	0	0	0	0	12
Hardee, Justin	8	1	1	0	0	10
Powell, Teko	3	6	0	0	0	9
Dudek, Mike	9	0	0	0	0	9
Bain, Rob	7	0	0	0	0	7
DiLauro, Christian	7	0	0	0	0	7
Lunt, Wes	7	0	0	0	0	7
Mosely, Darius	2	3	0	0	0	5
Turner, Malik	5	0	0	0	0	5
Schmidt, Austin	4	0	0	0	0	4
Clements, Jarrod	3	0	0	0	0	3
Flavin, Patrick	2	0	0	0	0	2
Clary, Tim	0	1	0	0	0	1
Fejedelem, Clayton	1	0	0	0	0	1
Finney, Eric	0	1	0	0	0	1
Little, Jevaris	1	0	0	0	0	1

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

CAREER BIG PLAYS

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

Player	Run	Pass	Rec	Def	ST	Tot
Lunt	0	26	0	0	0	26
Dudek	2	1	18	0	0	21
Ferguson	6	0	7	0	0	13
Allison	0	0	9	0	0	9
Bentley	0	0	0	1	3	4
Turner	0	0	2	0	0	2
Barton	0	0	0	1	0	1
Hardee	0	0	1	0	0	1
Monheim	0	0	0	1	0	1
TOTAL	8	27	37	3	3	78

2015-16 BIG TEN BOWL POSSIBILITIES

Jan. 11	CFP National Championship Game
Dec. 31	CFB Playoff Semifinals (Orange & Cotton Bowls)
Jan. 2	Taxslayer (Gator) Bowl B1G/ACC vs. SEC
Jan. 1	Rose Bowl Game vs. Pac-12
Jan. 1	Outback Bowl vs. SEC
Jan. 1	Buffalo Wild Wings Citrus Bowl vs. SEC
Dec. 30	Franklin American Music City Bowl B1G/ACC vs. SEC
Dec. 30	National University Holiday Bowl vs. Pac-12
Dec. 29	Lockheed Martin Armed Forces Bowl vs. MWC
Dec. 28	Quick Lane Bowl vs. ACC
Dec. 26	Foster Farms Bowl vs. Pac-12
Dec. 26	New Era Pinstripe Bowl vs. ACC/ND
Dec. 26	Heart of Dallas Bowl vs. C-USA

ILLINI NCAA & B1G RANKINGS (2014)

TEAM RANKINGS (125 teams ranked)

CATEGORY	NCAA	Big Ten
Rushing Offense	117.5	111th
Rushing Defense	239.2	115th
Passing Offense	249.8	48th
Passing Defense	217.2	47th
Passing Efficiency	131.54	56th
Pass Efficiency Defense	136.00	95th
Total Offense	367.2	94th
Total Defense	456.4	109th
Scoring Offense	25.0	84th
Scoring Defense	34.0	107th
Net Punting	39.85	18th
Punt Returns	7.91	51st
Kickoff Returns	19.45	102nd
Turnover Margin	-0.23	81st
Sacks Per Game	1.77	89th
Sacks Allowed Per Game	2.85	103rd
Tackles For Loss	6.3	49th

MISCELLANEOUS RANKINGS

CATEGORY	STAT	NCAA	Big Ten
First Downs	248	85th	7th
Opponent First Downs	292	101st	14th
Third-Down Conversions	36.0	98th	11th
Opponent 3rd-Down Conv.	42.3	88th	12th
Fourth-Down Conversions	38.5	106th	11th
Opponent 4th-Down Conv.	53.8	70th	11th
Penalty Yards Per Game	51.46	59th	11th
Opponent Penalty Yds/Gm.	45.8	9th	9th
Kickoff Coverage	38.3	9th	9th
Time of Possession	27:42	112th	13th
Red Zone Offense	74.0	107th	14th
Red Zone Defense	90.0	114th	11th

NCAA INDIVIDUAL RANKINGS (Top-30)

CATEGORY	PLAYER	STAT	RANK
Combined Kick Returns	V. Bentley	815	15th
Punting	J. DuVernois	44.0	18th
Receiving Yards	M. Dudek	1,038	29th
Receiving Yards Per Game	M. Dudek	79.8	33rd
Forced Fumbles Per Game	M. Monheim	0.31	17th
Fumbles Recovered	J. Ward	4	2nd

BIG TEN INDIVIDUAL RANKINGS (Top-10)

CATEGORY	PLAYER	STAT	RANK
Receiving Yards Per Game	M. Dudek	79.8	3rd
Receptions Per Game	M. Dudek	5.8	3rd
Receiving Touchdowns	M. Dudek	6	6th
Passing Touchdowns	R. O'Toole	10	9th
Combined Kick Returns	V. Bentley	815	3rd
Kickoff Returns	V. Bentley	21.6	9th
Punting	J. DuVernois	44.0	2nd
Total Tackles	M. Monheim	8.5	8th
	Z. Petty	8.4	10th
	T. Barton	8.3	11th
Fumbles Forced Per Game	M. Monheim	0.31	1st
	T. Barton	0.17	T-7th
Fumbles Recovered Per Game	J. Ward	0.31	T-1st
	V. Bentley	0.17	T-7th

ILLINI PRESEASON HONORS

Three Fighting Illini players have earned mention on award watch lists. Below is a list of the honors that Illinois players have earned heading into 2015 (through July 20):

V'Angelo Bentley, CB/KR/PR - Paul Hornung Award (versatile)

Josh Ferguson, RB - Doak Walker Award (RB)

Mason Monheim, LB - Rotary Lombardi Award (linemen, LB), Butkus Award (LB)

GETTING IT DONE IN THE CLASSROOM

The Illini have excelled in the classroom over the last three seasons, a major focus of the staff's program-building.

- A total of 38 football student-athletes earned degrees in 2014-15, including 13 that are on the 2015 roster pursuing second degrees or master's degrees.
- Since 2012, the number of football graduates has gone from 15 (2012), to 16 (2014) to 21 (2014) to 38 (2015).
- Illinois has broken its school record for Academic All-Big Ten selections in each of the last three seasons in Champaign. Prior to 2012, the school record was 12 (2000 & 2009). Since then, the Illini have had 18 (2012), 21 (2013) and now 29 in 2014.
- For four consecutive semesters, at least 40 football student-athletes have posted at least a 3.0 grade-point-average, including a high of 60 in Spring 2015. In the same time frame, Illinois' team GPA also has risen steadily from 2.71 in fall 2012 to 2.98 in spring 2015.

Semester 3.0+ GPAs Team GPA

Fall 2012	42	2.71
Spring 2013	51	2.87
Fall 2013	43	2.84
Spring 2014	41	2.90
Fall 2014	56	2.97
Spring 2015	60	2.98

LIFT FOR LIFE CONTINUES TO GROW

Fighting Illini players raised over \$16,000 for acoustic neuroma, which ended the career of former Illini offensive lineman **Andrew Carter**, with their fourth annual Lift for Life fundraiser through Uplifting Athletes on June 26, 2015. Acoustic neuroma is a rare, slow-growing tumor of the nerve that connects the ear to the brain. Sophomore offensive lineman **Joe Spencer** serves as president of the UI chapter of Uplifting Athletes and helped organize the event, which featured the entire Fighting Illini team participating in a strongman competition at Memorial Stadium. Find more on Andrew Carter's story here: <http://bit.ly/CarterFeature>.

ALL OVER THE NFL

Illinois had 19 former players on 2014 NFL active rosters, sixth-most among Big Ten teams. Four former Fighting Illini — DE **Michael Buchanan**, CB **Justin Green**, TE **Michael Hoomanawanui** and CB **Tavon Wilson** — earned Super Bowl rings as members of the New England Patriots, while CB **Vontae Davis** earned his first Pro Bowl nod as a member of the Indianapolis Colts. Heading into 2015, a total of 22 Illini were on NFL training camp rosters.

FUTURE ILLINOIS SCHEDULES

2016 // Final	2019 // 2 non-conference TBA
Sept. 3 Murray State	Aug. 31 TBA
Sept. 10 North Carolina	Sept. 7 @ UConn
Sept. 17 Western Michigan	Sept. 14 TBA
Sept. 24 OPEN	Sept. 21 Nebraska
Oct. 1 @ Nebraska	Sept. 28 TBA
Oct. 8 Purdue	Oct. 5 @ Minnesota
Oct. 15 @ Rutgers	Oct. 12 Michigan
Oct. 22 @ Michigan	Oct. 19 Wisconsin
Oct. 29 Minnesota	Oct. 26 @ Purdue
Nov. 5 Michigan State	Nov. 2 Rutgers
Nov. 12 @ Wisconsin	Nov. 9 @ Michigan State
Nov. 19 Iowa	Nov. 16 TBA
Nov. 26 @ Northwestern	Nov. 23 @ Iowa
Dec. 3 B1G Championship	Nov. 30 Northwestern (Chicago)
	Dec. 7 B1G Championship
2017 // Final	2020 // 2 non-conference TBA
Sept. 2 Ball State	Sept. 12 UConn
Sept. 9 Western Kentucky	
Sept. 16 @ South Florida	2021 // 2 non-conference TBA
Sept. 23 OPEN	Sept. 11 @ Virginia
Sept. 30 Nebraska	
Oct. 7 @ Iowa	2022 // 2 non-conference TBA
Oct. 14 Rutgers	Sept. 10 Virginia
Oct. 21 @ Minnesota	
Oct. 28 Wisconsin	2023 // 2 non-conference TBA
Nov. 4 @ Purdue	Sept. 9 @ Kansas
Nov. 11 Indiana	
Nov. 18 @ Ohio State	2024 // 2 non-conference TBA
Nov. 25 Northwestern (Chicago)	Sept. 7 Kansas
Dec. 2 B1G Championship	
2018 // Final	2025 // 2 non-conference TBA
Sept. 1 Kent State	Sept. 6 @ Duke
Sept. 8 Western Illinois	
Sept. 15 South Florida	2026 // 2 non-conference TBA
Sept. 22 Penn State	Sept. 12 Duke
Sept. 29 OPEN	
Oct. 6 @ Rutgers	
Oct. 13 Purdue	
Oct. 20 @ Wisconsin	
Oct. 27 @ Maryland	
Nov. 3 Minnesota	
Nov. 10 @ Nebraska	
Nov. 17 Iowa	
Nov. 24 at Northwestern	
Dec. 1 B1G Championship	

2015 POST-SPRING DEPTH CHART

Post-Spring Game 2015 - does not include incoming freshmen except for early enrollees

OFFENSE

LT	57	Austin Schmidt (6-6, 295, Jr.)
	55	Chris Boles (6-4, 320, Sr.)
LG	75	Patrick Flavin (6-7, 300, Sr.)
	73	Chris O'Connor (6-5, 300, Sr.)
	79	Zach Heath (6-4, 290, Jr.)**
C	71	Joe Spencer (6-4, 300, Jr.)
	78	Harry Black (6-5, 280, So.)
RG	69	Ted Karras (6-4, 310, Sr.)
	53	Nick Allegretti (6-4, 305, r-Fr.)
	74	Connor Brennan (6-5, 285, Jr.)*
RT	67	Christian DiLauro (6-5, 295, So.)
	66	Jordan Fagan (6-6, 285, So.)*
QB	12	Wes Lunt (6-5, 225, Jr.)
	7	Chase Crouch (6-4, 225, r-Fr.)
	3	Jeff George, Jr. (6-3, 190, Fr.)*
	10	Jimmy Fitzgerald (6-3, 220, Fr.)*
RB	6	Josh Ferguson (5-10, 195, Sr.)
	23	Henry Enyenihi (5-11, 210, Jr.)*
	25	Kendrick Foster (5-9, 200, So.)
	29	T.J. Moss (5-11, 195, r-Fr.)
WR-X	8	Geronimo Allison (6-4, 195, Sr.)
	16	Marchie Murdock (6-1, 195, So.)
	2	Tyrin Stone-Davis (6-3, 195, Jr.)
WR-T	4	Dionte Taylor (6-0, 180, Jr.)
	88	Zach Grant (6-0, 195, Jr.)
	31	Les Poole (5-11, 185, Sr.)
WR-Z	19	Justin Hardee (6-1, 195, Sr.)
	11	Malik Turner (6-3, 205, So.)
	81	Raphael Barr (6-2, 190, So.)
TE	87	Tyler White (6-5, 255, Jr.)
	47	Tim Clary (6-2, 250, Sr.)
	89	Andrew Davis (6-6, 225, Jr.)*
	80	Ainslie Johnson (6-2, 225, Jr.)*
	30	Jim Nudera (6-1, 240, Sr.)
	39	Nathan Echard (6-2, 230, So.)

DEFENSE

DE	17	Jihad Ward (6-6, 290, Sr.)
	9	Kenny Nelson (6-6, 250, Sr.)
	97	Paul James III (6-4, 255, So.)
	85	Brandon Roberts (6-3, 265, So.)
NT	16	Rob Bain (6-3, 300, Jr.)
	94	Tito Odenigbo (6-3, 280, r-Fr.)
DT	11	Chunky Clements (6-3, 290, Jr.)
	93	Teko Powell (6-3, 305, Jr.)
	42	Joe Fotu (6-3, 285, Sr.)
LEO	91	Dawuane Smoot (6-3, 270, Jr.)
	6	Carroll Phillips (6-3, 230, Jr.)
	45	Henry McGrew (6-3, 235, r-Fr.)
WLB	43	Mason Monheim (6-1, 235, Sr.)
	22	LaKeith Walls (6-2, 215, Jr.)
	33	Tre Watson (6-2, 240, r-Fr.)
	35	Sean White (6-0, 230, Jr.)
MLB	52	T.J. Neal Jr. (6-1, 235, Jr.)
	34	Mike Svetina (6-2, 235, Jr.)
	10	B.J. Bello (6-3, 225, Jr.)
	36	Austin Roberts (6-2, 230, r-Fr.)
STAR	14	Eric Finney (6-0, 220, Sr.)
	5	James Crawford (6-2, 215, So.)
	26	Cedric Doxy (6-2, 220, Jr.)
CB	2	V'Angelo Bentley (5-10, 190, Sr.)
	28	Jalen Dunlap (6-1, 185, So.)
	8	Dillan Cazley (5-10, 190, Jr.)
SS	3	Taylor Barton (6-1, 215, Jr.)
	7	Caleb Day (6-1, 200, Jr.)
	30	Julian Hylton (6-0, 195, r-Fr.)
FS	20	Clayton Fejedelem (6-1, 195, Sr.)
	15	Jevaris Little (6-0, 190, Jr.)
	4	Darwyn Kelly (6-1, 210, So.)
CB	27	Eaton Spence (6-0, 185, Sr.)
	24	Darius Mosely (5-11, 190, Jr.)
	23	Davontay Kwaanig (5-11, 190, Sr.)
	12	Chris James (5-11, 185, r-Fr.)

INJURED (out at start of 2015)

RB	27	Dre Brown (5-11, 200, Fr.)*
WR	18	Mike Dudek (5-11, 185, So.)

SPECIAL TEAMS

K	17	Taylor Zalewski (6-3, 220, Sr.)
	38	David Reisner (6-0, 195, Jr.)
	48	Chase McLaughlin (6-1, 165, r-Fr.)
P	13	Ryan Frain (6-2, 220, Jr.)
	40	Ryan Tucker (6-3, 185, r-Fr.)
	48	Chase McLaughlin (6-1, 165, r-Fr.)
LS	54	Zach Hirth (6-4, 220, Jr.)
	-OR-	56 Michael Martin (6-4, 225, Jr.)
H	13	Ryan Frain (6-2, 220, Jr.)
	40	Ryan Tucker (6-3, 185, r-Fr.)
KO	17	Taylor Zalewski (6-3, 220, Sr.)
	38	David Reisner (6-0, 195, Jr.)
	13	Ryan Frain (6-2, 220, Jr.)
KR	2	V'Angelo Bentley (5-10, 190, Sr.)
	24	Darius Mosely (5-11, 190, Jr.)
PR	2	V'Angelo Bentley (5-10, 190, Sr.)
	24	Darius Mosely (5-11, 190, Jr.)

PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

Sean Adesanya	ah-de-SAN-ya
Nick Allegretti	al-uh-GRET-ee
V'Angelo Bentley	vee-AN-juh-low
Jack Broeker	BRO-ker
Trenard Davis	tre-NARD
Mike Dudek	DOO-deck
Nathan Echard	ECK-erd
Henry Enyenihi	en-YEN-ih-hee
Jordan Fagan	FAY-gin
Clayton Fejedelem	FEJ-uh-lem
Patrick Flavin	FLAH-vin
Joe Fotu	FOE-too
Ainslie Johnson	AINS-lee
Ted Karras	CARE-us
Davontay Kwaanig	duh-VAHN-tay QUAN-ing
Jevaris Little	juh-VAR-is
Jimmy Marchese	mar-CASE
Max Marietti	mar-ee-EH-tee
Jamai Milan	mi-LAN
Jonathan Milazzo	muh-LAH-zo
Alex Mussat	moo-SAHT
Jim Nudera	new-DARE-uh
Tito Odenigbo	oh-DEN-uh-bo
Mike Parisi	puh-REE-SEE
Teko Powell	TEE-ko
Dawuane Smoot	duh-WON
Eaton Spence	sounds like eaten
Tyrin Stone-Davis	ty-RIN
Mike Svetina	sve-TEE-na
Dionte Taylor	dee-ON-tay
Malik Turner	ma-LEEK
Ke'Shawn Vaughn	KEY-shawn
Ikjot Wahi	ICK-jote WAH-hee
Jihad Ward	juh-HODD
Taylor Zalewski	zuh-LESS-key

Tom Brattan	sounds like latin
Alex Golesh	GOAL-esh

* Early enrollee, Jan. 2015

** Junior College transfer, Jan. 2015