# 2015 *FIGHTING 11LL1N1*





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#### GAME 1

#### KENT STATE (0-0) at ILLINOIS (0-0)

Friday, Sept. 4, 2015 // 8:12 p.m. CT // BTN Champaign, III. // Memorial Stadium (60,670)

#### TELEVISION BROADCAST

The Illinois/KSU game will be televised on Big Ten Network with an air time of 8 p.m. CT. Eric Collins (play-by-play), Glen Mason (color analyst) and former Illini J Leman (sidelines) will call the action with Jim Ressler producing and Andrew Greathouse directing.

#### RADIO BROADCAST

The 43-station Fighting Illini Sports Network will carry the radio broadcast with the pregame show beginning at 7 p.m. CT. Calling the action will be **Brian Barnhart** (play-by-play), Martin O'Donnell (analysis), Carey Davis (sidelines) and Steve Kelly (pregame, halftime and postgame). The broadcast also can be heard on SIRIUS (93) and XM (196) satellite radio and online via FIGHTINGILLINI.COM.

#### **GAMEDAY LINKS**

Gameday Information: http://fightingillini.com/gameday

#### TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets are available for Saturday's game against Kent State starting at \$18 and Family 4-packs are available starting at \$60 at the UI Athletic Ticket office, by calling 1-866-ILLINI-1 or online at FIGHTINGILLINI.COM.

#### **ILLINOIS SCOREBOARD**

| Sept. 4 Kent State 8 pm (BTN)                  |
|--|
| Sept. 12 Western Illinois                      |
| Sept. 19 at North Carolina                     |
| Sept. 26 Middle Tennessee State Time TBD       |
| Oct. 3 Nebraska Time TBD                       |
| Oct. 10 at lowa                                |
| Oct. 24 Wisconsin (Homecoming) 2:30 pm         |
| Oct. 31 at Penn State Time TBD                 |
| Nov. 7 at Purdue                               |
| Nov. 14 Ohio State Time TBD                    |
| Nov. 21 at Minnesota Time TBD                  |
| Nov. 28 Northwestern Time TBD                  |
| Dec. 5 Big Ten Championship Game Time TBD      |
| All times Central rankings are AP/Coaches Poll |

#### KENT STATE SCOREBOARD

| Sept. 4 at Illinois      | 8 pm (BTN)     |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| Sept. 12 Delaware State  | 5 pm (ESPN3)   |
| Sept. 19 at Minnesota    | 11 am          |
| Sept. 26 Marshall        | TBD (ESPN3)    |
| Oct. 3 Miami (OH)        | 2:30 pm        |
| Oct. 10 at Toledo        | 2 pm           |
| Oct. 17 at UMass         | 2:30 pm        |
| Oct. 24 Bowling Green    | Time TBD       |
| Nov. 5 Buffalo           | 6:30 pm        |
| Nov. 10 at Ohio          | 7 pm (ESPN2/U) |
| Nov. 18 Central Michigan | 7 pm (ESPN2/U) |
| Nov. 27 at Akron         | Time TBD       |
|                          |                |

#### FOR OPENERS

• **Kicking Off:** The Fighting Illini open their 126th year of football Friday night under the lights in primetime with Kent State coming to Memorial Stadium for an 8:12 p.m. kick.





- Moving Forward: The 2015 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 to six wins and a spot in the Zaxby's Heart of Dallas Bowl in 2014.
- Cubit Takes the Reigns: Friday's game marks the first game for Bill Cubit as head coach of the Fighting Illini. The third-year offensive coordinator was named head coach on Aug. 28 after the dismissal of Tim Beckman. Cubit spent eight years as head coach at Western Michigan before coming to Illinois in 2013 and has a career head coaching record of 85-65-1.
- Home Sweet Home: Illinois enters 2015 with a streak of 17 consecutive home-opening wins, the third-longest streak in the Big Ten behind Nebraska (29) and Wisconsin (19). Illinois is 87-33-5 all-time in home-openers.
- Starting Off Right: The Illini have an all-time record of 78-42-5 in season-openers and are 55-27-4 when opening the season at home. The Illini have won their last nine season-openers at Memorial Stadium dating back to 1997.
- Bowl Bound? Illinois opens the 2015 season looking to reach a bowl game for the fourth time in the last six years. The Fighting Illini won the 2010 Texas Bowl (over Baylor) and 2011 Kraft Fight Hunger Bowl (over UCLA), then endured a two-year bowl drought in 2012 and 2013 before returning to postseason play in 2014.
- O Captain, My Captain: The Fighting Illini voted on five captians for the Kent State game: WR Geronimo Allison, STAR Eric Finney, OL Ted Karras, QB Wes Lunt and LB Mason Monheim.
- 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 ranks sixth on the Illinois career all-purpose yards (3,486) list with a realistic chance to break Robert Holcombe's all-time UI mark of 4,737.
- Ferguson needs 122 yards to reach 2,000 career rushing yards. He enters 2015 ranked 18th on the UI all-time 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 kick, punt, interception and fumble returns for TD in his career.
- Despite an injury-plagued 2014, junior QB Wes Lunt still managed to break the UI single-season QB efficiency record last season. Lunt completed 153-of-241 passes (63.5 percent) for 1,763 yards, 14 TDs and just three INTs, good for a 141.61 efficiency rating that edged Nathan Scheelhaase's mark of 140.0 set in 2013.

| WHERE TO FIND       |       |
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| SID Contact Info    | 2     |
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| Cubit Bio           | 14-15 |

#### KENT STATE GAME PROMOTIONS

- ORANGE OUT Fans should wear ORANGE to the game
- Grand Opening of Grange Grove 5-8 pm (Interactive games, food trucks and music by Johnnie 6/90)
- Illini Walk 5:30 pm through Grange Grove
- Family 4-Pack Tickets 4 tickets and \$20 concessions voucher starting at \$60

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#### ILLINOIS WEEKLY MEDIA SCHEDULE // KENT STATE GAME 3 THURSDAY 4 FRIDAY **5** SATURDAY 31 MONDAY 1 TUESDAY **2** WEDNESDAY **6** SUNDAY **Cubit Press Conference Cubit B1G Teleconference** No availability No availability GAME DAY No availability No availability (1 pm. Press Box. L8) (12:04 pm) Illinois vs. Kent State (8:12 pm CT, BTN) Official injury report released Post-practice availability **Coordinators and Select** in evening - Off/Def players & staff Postgame player/coach Players Available who weren't at Monday availability (1:15 pm, Press Box, L8) availability. (approx. 5:20 pm)

#### **MEDIA INFORMATION**

#### MONDAY'S SELECTED PLAYERS

Illini coordinators and players will be available on Monday at about 1:15 pm following head coach Bill Cubit's press conference on the 8th floor of the Memorial Stadium Press Box. The players this week are **DB V'Angelo Bentley, RB Josh Ferguson, OL Ted Karras and QB Wes Lunt.** 

#### **POST-PRACTICE INTERVIEWS**

The first 30 minutes of practice are open to the media on Tuesday this week (3:20-3:50 p.m.). Interviews will take place after practice and post-practice meetings at about 5:20 p.m. Media are asked to wait in the recruiting area on the north end of the stadium until practice is over (enter through the alley between ARC and Memorial Stadium).

#### PHONE INTERVIEWS

The best time for phone interviews is on Monday between 1:15 and 2 p.m. after Cubit's press conference, or on Tuesday after practice (approx. 5:20 p.m.) if time allows. Other arrangements can be made with advance notice. Requests for phone interviews must be made at least 24 hours in advance to Derek Neal (drneal@illinois.edu).

#### PRESS CONFERENCE VIDEO

Video files (MP4 and MXF files) of Coach Cubit's weekly press conference will be available for download on Box. com by 3 p.m. CT each Monday. Please email drneal@illinois.edu for the link to download.

#### **TELECONFERENCE ACCESS**

Contact the UI Athletic Communications Office (217-333-1391) for Illinois teleconference access information.

Contact Scott Chipman (schipman@bigten.org) at the Big Ten Conference Office for Big Ten Coaches' Teleconference information.

#### **UI ATHLETICS COMMUNICATION STAFF**

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CREDENTIAL WEBSITE: FIGHTINGILLINI.COM/media

#### KENT STATE CONNECTIONS

- Saturday will be the first meeting on the gridiron between the Fighting Illini and Kent State.
- Illinois interim head coach **Bill Cubit** spent eight seasons in the MAC as head coach at Western Michigan (2005-12). During his time at WMU, Cubit faced Kent State four times, going 2-2 in those meetings.
- The Golden Flash went 2-9 in 2014 and posted a 1-6 mark in the MAC East.

#### IT'S ALL ABOUT EXPERIENCE

- Illinois' 22 projected starters (see depth chart on page 9), 20 are upperclassmen. There are nine seniors, 11
  juniors and two sophomores listed as starters on the initial depth chart.
- The projected offensive starters are made up of four seniors, five juniors and two sophomores (WR Malik Tuner and RT Christian DiLauro).
- The defensive side is made up of all upperclassmen, with five seniors and six juniors making up Friday's projected starters.

#### 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 (2013) 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     |

#### SCHEELHAASE, O'TOOLE RETURN TO ALMA MATER

• A pair of (very) recent Fighting Illini quarterbacks have joined the coaching ranks at their alma mater.
Nathan Scheelhaase, a four-year starter from 2010-13, is the team's running backs coach after initially being tabbed as assistant director of football operations in May. Scheelhaase moved into the on-field coaching role after Bill Cubit was named interim head coach just before the season. Reilly O'Toole, who led the Illini to the Zaxby's Heart of Dallas Bowl last season, also is on staff as an offensive graduate assistant.

#### ILLINI PRESEASON HONORS

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

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)



## **DID YOU KNOW?**

- 13 players on this year's team already have an undergraduate degree.
- V'Angelo Bentley is the only player in 126 years of Illinois football to return a punt, kickoff, interception and fumble for touchdowns in his career.

#### **TEAM STAT COMPARISON (2014 STATS)**

| 2014 Season Statistics | ILL   | . KSU |
|------------------------|-------|-------|
| Overall Record         | 6-7   | . 2-9 |
| Conf. Record           | 3-5   | . 1-6 |
| Total Offense          | 367.2 | 315.5 |
| Points Scored          | 25.9  | .16.4 |
| First Downs            | 19.1  | .16.5 |
| Rushing Yds            | 117.5 | .81.9 |
| Passing Yds            | 249.8 | 233.6 |
| Time of Possession     | 27:43 | 29:03 |
| 3rd Down Conversion    | 36.0  | .30.3 |
| Points Allowed         |       |       |
| Yards Allowed          | 456.4 | 430.8 |
| Rushing Yds. Allowed   | 239.2 | 214.5 |
| Passing Yds. Allowed   | 217.2 | 216.3 |

#### STATISTICAL LEADERS (2014 STATS)

| RUSHING | <b>LEADERS</b> | (YP | G) |
|---------|----------------|-----|----|
|---------|----------------|-----|----|

| FERGUSON | .56.5 | HOLLEY  | 46.9 |
|----------|-------|---------|------|
| Young    | .29.2 | REARDON | 13.5 |

#### PASSING LEADERS (YPG)

| LUNT | 220.4 | REARDON | 224.2 |
|------|-------|---------|-------|
|      |       |         |       |

#### RECEIVING LEADERS (YPG)

| DUDEK   | /9.8 | Pierce 58.3   |
|---------|------|---------------|
| ALLISON | 49.8 | Humphrey 57.7 |
|         |      |               |

#### INTERCEPTION LEADERS (TOTAL)

| MONHEIM 2   | ITALIANO 3 |
|-------------|------------|
| 5 players 1 | MONDAY 2   |
|             |            |

#### SCORING LEADERS (PPG)

| FERGUSON4.6             | MELCHIORI | 8.5 |
|-------------------------|-----------|-----|
| REISNER3.1              | Pierce    | 5.6 |
| DUDEK2.8                | Humphrey  | 3.5 |
| Young 2.8               | HOLLEY    | 2.5 |
| ALL-PURPOSE YARDS (YPG) |           |     |

## FERGUSON. . . . . 89.4 CALHOUN . . . . . 93.9 DUDEK . . . . . . . . . . . . . 65.0

| TACKLES (TPG) |      |           |       |
|---------------|------|-----------|-------|
| MONHEIM       | .8.5 | HOLLEY    | 12.5  |
| Petty         | .8.4 | ITALIANO  | . 8.7 |
| BARTON        | .7.7 | DELLINGER | . 8.2 |
|               |      |           |       |

#### TACKLES FOR LOSS (TOTAL)

| Thomas III | 9.5 | REFUGE  | 6.0 |
|------------|-----|---------|-----|
| WARD       | 8.5 | TERHUNE | 6.0 |

CAPS indicates returning player

#### GRANGE GROVE GRAND OPENING

- The grand opening of the Grange Grove will be at Friday's season-opener. Grange Grove will transform what was previously Lot 36, the parking lot directly west of Memorial Stadium, into a high-energy tailgating area.
- Grange Grove will open at 7am on game days for public tailgating. Programming in the area, including live
  music and children's areas, will start approximately three hours before kickoff. The tailgating lot will close
  at 10pm or an hour after the conclusion of the game (for night games).
- More information on Grange Grove can be found at FIGHTINGILLINI.COM/GrangeGrove

#### MONHEIM STEAMROLLER

- Senior LB Mason Monheim enters 2015 with 294 career tackles, the second-most among active FBS players behind only Temple's Tyler Matakevich (354).
- Monheim has improved his tackle totals in each of his three seasons at Illinois with 86 in 2012, 97 in 2013 and 111 in 2014.
- In 2014, Monheim ranked eighth in the Big Ten and 62nd nationally in tackles per game (8.5), and led the Big Ten with four fumbles forced. He has seven career forced fumbles, tied with former Illini great Kevin Hardy and Earnest Thomas III for fourth on the Illinois career fumbles forced record list.
- Monheim earned second-team freshman All-America honors in 2012 after becoming the first true-freshman ever to lead the Illini in tackles (86).

#### BENTLEY IN GOOD COMPANY WITH THE "GALLOPING GHOST"

- Senior DB V'Angelo Bentley is a preseason candidate for the Paul Hornung Award, which goes to the most
  versatile player in major college football. Already an elite cornerback and kick/punt returner, Bentley could
  add even more to his repertoire this season as the senior took some snaps in the offensive backfield during
  training camp.
- Bentley is the only player in Illinois history to record a kickoff return, punt return, interception return and
  fumble return for touchdown in his career. Football legend Harold "Red" Grange is the only other Illini player
  with kickoff, punt and interception returns for TDs, but he never returned a fumble for a score.

#### Bentley Return TDs (4)

KR 100 yards vs. Southern Illinois 8/31/2013 PR 67 yards vs. Ohio State 11/16/2013 INT 45 yards vs. Texas State 9/20/2014 FR 12 yards vs. Minnesota 10/25/2014

#### Grange Return TDs (6)

KR 95 yards vs. Michigan 10/18/1924
KR 83 yards at lowa 10/17/1925
PR 70 yards vs. Butler 10/10/1925
PR 66 yards vs. Nebraska 10/6/1923
PR 35 yards vs. Northwestern 10/27/1923 (\*returned a blocked punt for TD)
INT 90 yards vs. Northwestern 10/27/1923

**FERGY FAST** 

- For the last two seasons, RB **Josh Ferguson** was among the nation's top all-purpose backs. He was one of only seven players in the nation with over 700 rushing yards and over 400 receiving yards in 2014.
- Ferguson has 3,486 all-purpose yards in his first three seasons, sixth-most in UI history and 1,251 yards behind Robert 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 finished his junior season ranked sixth on the UI career all-purpose yardage list with 3,486 yards (1,878 rush, 1,227 rec, 381 KR) and ninth on the career receptions list with 131. He also is 18th in career rushing yards (1,878).
- Ferguson broke Ty Douthard's UI record for receptions by a running back, finishing 2014 with 131 catches, just ahead of Douthard's total of 128 from 1993-96. Ferguson is second on Illinois' career receiving yardage list for RBs with 1,227 in three seasons to trail only Douthard's 1,250 yards.
- Ferguson continued to haul in passes at an incredible rate for a running back, snagging 50 receptions in 13 games to rank second on the team. He has 131 career receptions, ninth on the Illinois career receptions record list. Ty Douthard is the only other running back in the top 10, standing 10th with 128 career catches.
- A preseason Doak Walker Award candidate, Ferguson had 1,162 yards from scrimmage in 2014 (735 rushing, 427 receiving) and has found the end zone 10 times on the season (8 rushing, 2 receiving).



#### NATIONAL RANKINGS

| ASS | OCIATED | <b>PRESS</b> | (preseason) |
|-----|---------|--------------|-------------|
| DL  | Toom    |              | D.          |

| Rk   | Team                  | Record            | Pts         |
|------|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------|
| 1    | Ohio State (61)       | 0-0               | 1525        |
| 2    | TCU                   | 0-0               | 1428        |
| 3    | Alabama               | 0-0               | 1322        |
| 4    | Baylor                | 0-0               | 1263        |
| 5    | Michigan State        | 0-0               | 1256        |
| 6    | Auburn                | 0-0               | 1192        |
| 7    | Oregon                | 0-0               | 1156        |
| 8    | USC                   | 0-0               | 1085        |
| 9    | Georgia               | 0-0               | 991         |
| 10   | Florida State         | 0-0               | 959         |
| 11   | Notre Dame            | 0-0               | 873         |
| 12   | Clemson               | 0-0               | 862         |
| 13   | UCLA                  | 0-0               | 698         |
| 14   | LSU                   | 0-0               | 675         |
| 15   | Arizona State         | 0-0               | 605         |
| 16   | Georgia Tech          | 0-0               | 588         |
| 17   | Mississippi           | 0-0               | 563         |
| 18   | Arkansas              | 0-0               | 410         |
| 19   | Oklahoma              | 0-0               | 394         |
| 20   | Wisconsin             | 0-0               | 393         |
| 21   | Stanford              | 0-0               | 347         |
| 22   | Arizona               | 0-0               | 311         |
| 23   | Boise State           | 0-0               | 240         |
| 24   | Missouri              | 0-0               | 219         |
| 25   | Tennessee             | 0-0               | 114         |
| UTTE | DO DECEIVING VOTES. N | Nicciccinni State | o 100 Toyac |

OTHERS RECEIVING VOTES: Mississippi State 100, Texas A&M 61, Oklahoma State 46, Virginia Tech 42, Utah 36, **Penn State 20**, Louisville 12, Cincinnati 8, **Nebraska 6**, Kansas State 5, Florida 4, NC State 4, Texas 3, BYU 2, Northern Illinois 2, Michigan 2, California 1, Western Kentucky 1, West Virginia 1.

#### **USA TODAY/COACHES** (preseason)

| Rk    | Team                  | Record           | Pvs          |
|-------|-----------------------|------------------|--------------|
| 1     | Ohio State (62)       | 0-0              | 1598         |
| 2     | TCU (1)               | 0-0              | 1487         |
| 3     | Alabama (1)           | 0-0              | 1452         |
| 4     | Baylor                | 0-0              | 1365         |
| 5     | Oregon                | 0-0              | 1260         |
| 6     | Michigan State        | 0-0              | 1230         |
| 7     | Auburn                | 0-0              | 1103         |
| 8     | Florida State         | 0-0              | 1057         |
| 9     | Georgia               | 0-0              | 1026         |
| 10    | USC                   | 0-0              | 1014         |
| 11    | Notre Dame            | 0-0              | 883          |
| 12    | Clemson               | 0-0              | 838          |
| 13    | LSU                   | 0-0              | 727          |
| 14    | UCLA                  | 0-0              | 697          |
| 15    | Mississippi           | 0-0              | 668          |
| 16    | Arizona State         | 0-0              | 577          |
| 17    | Georgia Tech          | 0-0              | 573          |
| 18    | Wisconsin             | 0-0              | 470          |
| 19    | Oklahoma              | 0-0              | 407          |
| 20    | Arkansas              | 0-0              | 377          |
| 21    | Stanford              | 0-0              | 365          |
| 22    | Arizona               | 0-0              | 299          |
| 23    | Missouri              | 0-0              | 229          |
| 24    | Boise State           | 0-0              | 190          |
| 25    | Tennessee             | 0-0              | 166          |
| OTHER | RS RECEIVING VOTES: N | Mississippi Stat | e 164. Texas |

OTHERS RECEIVING VOTES: Mississippi State 164, Texas A&M 149, Oklahoma State 89, Virginia Tech 70, Utah 40, Kansas State 37, **Nebraska 27**, Louisville 27, **Minnesota 25**, **Penn State 20**, South Carolina 18, Miami (FL) 16, Texas 8, *ILLINOIS* 7, Duke 6, Air Force 5, Louisiana Tech 5, Marshall 4, Utah State 4, West Virginia 3, NC State 3, BYU 3, **North Carolina 2**, Florida 2, Georgia Southern 2, UCF 1, Cincinnati 1, Kentucky 1, Maryland 1, Michigan 1, Washington 1.

\* Illinois' 2015 opponents in bold.

| 2015 BIG TEN STANDINGS |                                   |       |       |   |       |      |           |                            |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------|-------|---|-------|------|-----------|----------------------------|
|                        |                                   | BIG T |       |   | OVER  | ALL  |           |                            |
| WEST DIVISION          | W                                 | L     | Pct.  | W | L     | Pct. | LAST WEEK | THIS WEEK                  |
| /RV ILLINOIS           | 0                                 | 0     | -     | 0 | 0     |      |           | vs. Kent State (9/4)       |
| lowa                   | 0                                 | 0     | -     | 0 | 0     |      |           | vs. Illinois State         |
| /RV Minnesota          | 0                                 | 0     | -     | 0 | 0     |      |           | vs. #2/2 TCU (9/3)         |
| RV/RV Nebraska         | 0                                 | 0     | -     | 0 | 0     |      |           | vs. BYU                    |
| Northwestern           | 0                                 | 0     | -     | 0 | 0     |      |           | vs. #21/21 Stanford        |
| Purdue                 | 0                                 | 0     | -     | 0 | 0     |      |           | at Marshall (9/6)          |
| #20/18 Wisconsin       | 0                                 | 0     | -     | 0 | 0     |      |           | vs. #3/3 Alabama (Dallas)  |
| EAST DIVISION          | W                                 | L     | Pct.  | W | L     | Pct. | LAST WEEK | THIS WEEK                  |
| Indiana                | 0                                 | 0     | -     | 0 | 0     |      |           | vs. Sourthern Illinois     |
| Maryland               | 0                                 | 0     | -     | 0 | 0     |      |           | vs. Richmond               |
| RV/RV Michigan         | 0                                 | 0     | -     | 0 | 0     |      |           | at Utah (9/3)              |
| #5/6 Michigan State    | 0                                 | 0     | -     | 0 | 0     |      |           | at Western Michigan (9/4)  |
| #1/1 Ohio State        | 0                                 | 0     | -     | 0 | 0     |      |           | at Virginia Tech (9/7)     |
| RV/RV Penn State       | 0                                 | 0     | -     | 0 | 0     |      |           | at Temple                  |
| Rutgers                | 0                                 | 0     | -     | 0 | 0     |      |           | vs. Norfolk State          |
| III INNIS NON-CO       | ILLINOIS NON-CONFERENCE OPPONENTS |       |       |   |       |      |           |                            |
| ILLINOIS NON SO        |                                   |       | RENCE |   | VERAI | LL   |           |                            |
| TEAM                   | W                                 | L     | Pct.  | w | L     | Pct. | LAST WEEK | THIS WEEK                  |
| Kent State             | 0                                 | 0     | -     | 0 | 0     |      |           | at Illinois (9/4)          |
| Western Illinois (FCS) | 0                                 | 0     | -     | 0 | 0     |      |           | vs. Eastern Illinois (9/3) |
| /RV North Carolina     | 0                                 | 0     | -     | 0 | 0     |      |           | vs. South Carolina (9/3)   |
| Middle Tennessee St.   | 0                                 | 0     | -     | 0 | 0     |      |           | vs. Jackson State          |

#### HE'S LUNT. HE'S LUNT. HE'S LUNT. HE'S IN MY HEAD

- Junior QB **Wes Lunt** missed three full games and parts of two others with a fractured fibula in 2014, but still managed a big year statistically. At the time of his injury, Lunt ranked in the top 20 in the nation in completions per game (25.4, 10th), passing yards per game (313.8, 14th), passing touchdowns (13, 17th), passing yards (1,569, 18th), completion percentage (66.5, 20th) and passing efficiency (154.8, 20th), and was tied for fourth in FBS with 14 passing plays of 30+ yards.
- Lunt started his Illini career in impressive fashion, recording the best debut as well as the best first two, three- and four-game starts in an Illini signal-caller's first season in school history. In five games before his leg fracture, Lunt completed 127-of-191 passes (66.5%) for 1,569 yards, 13 touchdowns and three interceptions, and was leading the Big Ten in passing yards per game (313.8).
- Lunt was at his best in the fourth quarter, 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.). He led the Illini to three fourth-quarter comeback wins in 2014.
- Lunt led all Power Five QBs in 4th qtr QB rating in 2014 when plus or minus 7 points (20-for-25, 5 TD, 0 INT).

#### KARRAS CONTINUES FAMILY'S B1G LEGACY

- Senior OG Ted Karras has been a mainstay on the offensive line for the last four years. Karras started at
  right guard for the first nine games of 2014, before suffering a season-ending knee injury against Ohio
  State. He has 31 career starts, second most among active Illini behind only Mason Monheim's 35 starts.
- If the Karras name seems familiar, that's because it's familial. Karras is the seventh member of his family to play football in the Big Ten, including his great-uncle, Alex, who was a four-time Pro Bowler before starting an acting career that resulted in a starring role in the 1980s sitcom "Webster." In addition, his grandfather, Ted, played at Indiana; his father, Ted Jr. now the coach at Division II Walsh University in North Canton, Ohio played at Northwestern; his great-uncle, Paul, played at lowa; his great-uncle, Lou, played at Purdue; and his uncle, Tony, played at Northwestern.

#### **GERONIMO A THREAT**

Senior receiver **Geronimo Allison** made a name for himself in 2014 and is looking for an even bigger 2015. Allison ranked 15th in the Big Ten in receiving yards per game (49.8) and 19th in receptions per game (3.4) last season. He had 598 yards and five touchdowns on 41 catches (14.6 ypc) in 12 games.

- Allison was one of Illinois' top big-play threats with nine plays of 20-plus yards in 2014, third on the Illini squad among non-quarterbacks.
- The Tampa, Florida, native has had overwhelming success on first down, recording 359 of his 598 total
  yards (60.0 percent) on that down, including four touchdowns. Eleven of his 22 first-down catches resulted
  in first downs and five of them went for 25-plus yards.



#### 2015 ILLINOIS COACHING STAFF

#### **On Field During Game**

| Bill Cubit      | Head Coach/Offensive Coordinator    |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| Tim Banks       | Defensive Coordinator/Secondary     |
| Mike Phair      | .Co-Defensive Coordinator/Def. Line |
| Mike Bellamy    | Wide Receivers                      |
| Tom Brattan     | Offensive Line                      |
| Alex Golesh     | Tight Ends/Special Teams            |
| Nathan Scheelha | ase Running Backs                   |
| Mike Ward       | Inside Linebackers                  |
| Reilly O'Toole  | Offensive GA                        |

#### In Coaches' Booth

| Ryan Cubit           | Quarterbacks        |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| Patrick Embleton     | Offensive GA        |
| Al Seamonson         | Outside Linebackers |
| Tyler Johns          | Offensive GA        |
| Kaeman Mitchell      | Defensive GA        |
| LeDominique Williams | Defensive GA        |

#### **UNIVERSITY QUICK FACTS**

Location: Urbana-Champaign

Founded: 1867 Enrollment: 44,942 Colors: Orange & Blue Nickname: Fighting Illini

Conference (Division): Big Ten (West)
President: Timothy L. Killeen

Interim Chancellor: Barbara J. Wilson Director of Athletics: Mike Thomas

Stadium: Memorial Stadium (FieldTurf - 60,670)

#### FOOTBALL QUICK FACTS

**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

#### **DUDEK. WHERE'S MY CAR?**

- 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.
- Dudek became the eighth player in school history to record a 1,000 yard season as a receiver, ranking seventh on the UI single season list with 1,038 yards.

#### JIHAD WARD: IT'S TIME TO EAT

- Senior defensive end Jihad Ward will miss the 2015 season-opener due to injury after starting all 13 games in 2014. The junior college transfer came on strong late in his first season at Illinois, finishing with 51 tackles, 8.5 TFLs including 3.0 sacks two forced fumbles, four fumble recoveries (tied for second-most in the nation) and five QB hurries. He was named honorable mention All-Big Ten by conference coaches.
- Ward has an interesting story, as one of five children of a single mother who had him at the age of 17 the reason he wears No. 17 on the field. A receiver and safety in high school, Ward hit a growth spurt during his senior year and moved to defensive line. He went to Globe Institute of Technology in Manhattan, taking on the role of big brother to the teammates he lived with in Staten Island. He helped the group navigate the two-hour journey to Globe's campus near Times Square via bus, ferry, train and foot every day, often leaving their housing at 4 a.m. and not returning home until as late as 11:30 p.m. Ward posted 10 sacks in two seasons at Globe Tech, earning recognition as the No. 2 junior college DT by 247sports in 2013.

#### LINEBACKER U, IT'S NOT WHERE YOU THINK IT IS

- Like many Illini teams over the years, the 2015 Illini defense will be led by the linebacking corps of senior WILL Mason Monheim, a 2015 Butkus Award candidate, junior MLB T.J. Neal Jr., a breakout player in 2014, and senior STAR Eric Finney, a potential breakout player in 2015. The trio combined for 228 tackles, 14.0 TFLs, one sack, four PBUs, five forced fumbles and three interceptions. Monheim, a preseason Butkus Award candidate, racked up 111 tackles, which ranked eighth in the Big Ten (8.5 tpg), while Neal added 98 stops in 2014.
- Monheim has piled up 294 tackles, 19.0 TFLs, seven forced fumbles, 3.5 sacks and three interceptions in his first three seasons.
- Illinois' history at the linebacker position is up there with any program in the nation. It begins with the greatest linebacker in football history, **Dick Butkus**, who was a two-time All-American and led the Fighting Illini to a 1964 Rose Bowl win over Washington. Illinois boasts two Butkus Award winners, **Dana Howard** in 1994 and **Kevin Hardy** in 1995, several first-team All-Americans like **Darrick Brownlow** (1990), **Simeon Rice** (1994 & '95) and **J Leman** (2007), not to mention second-team All-American **Scott Studwell** (1976) and NFL legend **Ray Nitschke**.

#### ALL OVER THE NFL

- Illinois has 21 former players in 2015 NFL training camps (as of Aug. 30), including one player from the 2014 roster — TE Matt LaCosse (Jets).
- 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.

#### TRANSFER U

Illinois welcomes seven junior college transfers to the roster in 2015, marking the third straight season that the Illinois staff has 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 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**

| OANLEN OTAN              | IO LIC     | ••    |          |           |       |      |
|--------------------------|------------|-------|----------|-----------|-------|------|
| PLAYER                   | '14        | '13.  | '12 .    | . '11 .   | '10   | .T01 |
| Monheim, Mason           | 13         | . 12. | 10 .     |           |       | 35   |
| Karras, Ted              | 9          | . 10. | . 12 .   |           |       | 31   |
| Spence, Eaton            | 13         | . 12. | 2 .      |           |       | 27   |
| Ferguson, Josh           | 9          | 8.    | 6 .      | 0 .       |       | 23   |
| Bentley, V'Angelo        | 11         | 9.    | 0 .      |           |       | 20   |
| Barton, Taylor           | 12         | 5.    |          |           |       | 17   |
| Svetina, Mike            |            | . 11. | 5 .      |           |       | 16   |
| Spencer, Joe             | 12         | 2.    |          |           |       | 14   |
| Neal, T.J                | 13         | 0.    |          |           |       | 13   |
| Ward, Jihad              | 13         |       |          |           |       | 13   |
| Allison, Geronimo        | 12         |       |          |           |       | 12   |
| Hardee, Justin           | 8          | 1.    | 1 .      |           |       | 10   |
| Powell, Teko             | 3          | 6.    | 0.       |           |       |      |
| Dudek, Mike              |            |       |          |           |       |      |
| Bain, Rob                | 7          | 0.    |          |           |       | 7    |
| DiLauro, Christian       | 7          |       |          |           |       | 7    |
| Lunt, Wes                | 7          |       |          |           |       | 7    |
| Mosely, Darius           |            |       |          |           |       |      |
| Turner, Malik            | 5          |       |          |           |       | 5    |
| Schmidt, Austin          |            |       |          |           |       |      |
| Clements, Jarrod         | 3          | 0.    |          |           |       | 3    |
| Flavin, Patrick          |            |       |          |           |       |      |
| Clary, Tim               |            |       |          |           |       |      |
| Fejedelem, Clayton .     | 1          |       |          |           |       | 1    |
| Finney, Eric             |            |       |          |           |       |      |
| Little, Jevaris          |            |       |          |           |       |      |
| Redshirted/did not play/ | not on sau | ad; 0 | = Played | l, didn't | start |      |
|                          |            | ., -  | .,       |           |       |      |

#### **CAREER BIG PLAYS**

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

| Player   | Run . Pass Rec Def ST To | t |
|----------|--------------------------|---|
| Lunt     | 0 26 0 0 0 2             | 6 |
| Dudek    | 2 1 18 0 0 2             | 1 |
| Ferguson | 607001                   | 3 |
| Allison  | 0 0 9 0 0                | 9 |
| Bentley  | 0013                     | 4 |
| Turner   | 0200                     | 2 |
| Barton   | 0 0 1 0                  | 1 |
| Hardee   | 0 0 1 0 0                | 1 |
| Monheim  | 0 0 1 0                  | 1 |
| TOTAL    | 8273733                  | 8 |

#### 2014 FIRST DOWN PRODUCTION

| Player           | Run | Pass Re | cTotal |
|------------------|-----|---------|--------|
| Wes Lunt         | 0   | 71 0    | 71     |
| Mike Dudek       | 2   | 44      | l 46   |
| Josh Ferguson    | 30  | 016     | 5 45   |
| Geronimo Allison | 0   | 20      | ) 16   |
| Justin Hardee    | 0   | 011     | 10     |
| Malik Turner     | 0   | 013     | 3 9    |
| Marchie Murdock  | 0   | 0 1     | 1      |
| Tyler White      | 0   | 1       | 1      |

#### **OFFENSIVE NOTES**

- Senior walk-on tight end Tim Clary was surprised with a scholarship for his final season at practice on Aug.
   Clary was given an envelope on the sidelines, surrounded by his teammates. After he opened the letter and realized what it was, Clary was mobbed by his teammates.
- The projected starters on the Illini offensive line are massive, as all five projected returning starters are listed at at least 300 pounds and have an average weight of 306 pounds (Schmidt - 300, Boles - 320, Spencer - 300, Karras - 310, DiLauro - 300).
- Illinois boasted one of the top passing offenses in the Big Ten in 2014, ranking second in the conference in passing yards per game (249.8) and completion percentage (61.21%), and sixth in passing efficiency.
- The Illini quarterbacks clearly found a trio of dependable pass-catchers in Mike Dudek (76 receptions), Josh Ferguson (50) and Geronimo Allison (41), as all three have over 40 receptions in 2014. All three are on the 2015 roster.
- WR newcomers Geronimo Allison, Mike Dudek, and Malik Turner combined for 142 receptions, 1,892 yards and 12 touchdowns in 2014. Allison, Dudek and Turner accounted for 49.5 percent of Illinois' receptions (142 of 287) and 58.3 percent of Illinois' receiving yards (1,892 of 3,247) in 2014.

#### **DEFENSIVE NOTES**

- Illinois returns loads of experience on defense with eight starters back, including three of four defensive backs (V'Angelo Bentley, Eaton Spence and Taylor Barton) and two of three starting linebackers (Mason Monheim and T.J. Neal). On the defensive line, Jihad Ward, Rob Bain and Chunky Clements all return as starters. Key losses include STAR Earnest Thomas III, DT Austin Teitsma and DB Zane Petty.
- Senior safety Clayton Fejedelem was huge down the stretch in 2014 and is expected to start in the Illini
  secondary in 2015. The transfer from St. Xavier University posted 20 tackles in the final two regular season
  games to boost the Illini to a bowl berth. Fejedelem started the 2014 season as a walk-on, but was awarded
  a scholarship by the coaching staff during the Illini's second bye week in mid-October.
- Sophomore safety **Taylor Barton** took an interception 77 yards to the house against Western Kentucky, the first interception return for a touchdown by an Illini since Ashante Williams vs. Western Michigan on Sept. 1, 2012. Barton ranked third on the team and 11th in the Big Ten in tackles, averaging 8.3 per game.

#### THE SPECIAL TEAMS

- Senior **Taylor Zalewski** and junior **David Reisner** are competing for place kicking and kickoff duties in 2015. The duo both saw time as place kicker in 2014, but neither could secure control of the job.
- Reisner had one of the highlights of 2014 for the Fighting Illini, nailing a game-winning 36-yard field goal with eight seconds remaining to give Illinois a 16-14 win over Penn State Nov. 22. Reisner's game-winner marked the first time since 2008 that the Illini won a game with a field goal in the last two minutes (Matt Eller, 46 yards vs. lowa, 27-24, Nov. 1, 2008).
- Junior **Ryan Frain** is expected to take over punting duties in 2015. Frain will have big shoes to fill, as four-year starter Justin DuVernois left as one of the most prolific punters in school history. In 2014, the Illini ranked 18th in FBS and second in the Big Ten in net punting (39.85 ypp).
- Junior long snappers **Zach Hirth** and **Michael Martin** are expected to split time once again in 2015. Martin made his Illini debut in the 2014 season-opener, filling in perfectly for returning starter Hirth, who did not play in the first seven games of 2014 due to injury. Hirth, who was ranked the No. 2 long-snapper in the nation by ESPNU coming out of high school, returned for the Minnesota game and handled FG and PAT snapping from that point on, while Martin remained the snapper on punts.
- In addition to being one of the nation's best return men and a starting corner, V'Angelo Bentley blocked a
  field goal attempt against Penn State in 2012, marking the first blocked FG for an Illini since Derek Walker
  at Michigan on Oct. 4, 2008, and the first blocked kick of any kind for an Illini since Clay Nurse swatted
  away a PAT at Fresno State on Dec. 3, 2010.

#### **ILLINI GAMES BROADCAST IN CHINESE**

- Illinois Athletics and the Fighting Illini Radio Network, under the direction of Fighting Illini Sports Properties, have announced that home football games at Memorial Stadium will be broadcast in Mandarin Chinese online through FIGHTINGILLINI.COM.
- The broadcast will be led by David He, a sophomore majoring in Recreation, Sport, and Tourism. David will be joined by Bruce Lu.
- Over 4,500 students from China attend the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, making them the largest group of international students on campus. The number of Chinese students attending Illinois has gradually increased from 850 students in the fall of 2005 to more than five times that number today.
- Broadcasting football games in Chinese is the latest effort in a series of moves to better connect with international students on campus. Beginning in 2013, Illinois Athletics has partnered with Inclusive Illinois, the



#### **FUTURE ILLINOIS SCHEDULES**

| 1010     | NE ILLINOIS SOI  | ILDUL    | LJ                                |
|----------|------------------|----------|-----------------------------------|
| 2016 //  | ' Final          | 2019 //  | ' 2 non-conference TBA            |
| Sept. 3  | Murray State     | Aug. 31  | TBA                               |
| Sept. 10 |                  | Sept. 7  | @ UConn                           |
|          | Western Michigan | Sept. 14 |                                   |
| Sept. 24 | -                |          | Nebraska                          |
| Oct. 1   | @ Nebraska       | Sept. 28 |                                   |
| Oct. 8   | Purdue           | Oct. 5   |                                   |
| Oct. 15  | @ Rutgers        | Oct. 12  | Michigan                          |
| Oct. 22  | @ Michigan       | Oct. 19  | •                                 |
| Oct. 29  | Minnesota        | Oct. 26  | @ Purdue                          |
| Nov. 5   |                  | Nov. 2   | Rutgers                           |
| Nov. 12  | @ Wisconsin      | Nov. 9   | @ Michigan State                  |
| Nov. 19  | Iowa             | Nov. 16  |                                   |
| Nov. 26  | @ Northwestern   | Nov. 23  |                                   |
| Dec. 3   | B1G Championship | Nov. 30  | Northwestern (Chicago)            |
|          |                  | Dec. 7   |                                   |
| 2017 //  |                  |          |                                   |
| Sept. 2  | Ball State       | 2020 //  | <sup>'</sup> 2 non-conference TBA |
|          | Western Kentucky | Sept. 12 |                                   |
| Sept. 16 | @ South Florida  |          |                                   |
| Sept. 23 |                  | 2021 //  | <sup>'</sup> 2 non-conference TBA |
| Sept. 30 | Nebraska         | Sept. 11 | @ Virginia                        |
| Oct. 7   | @ lowa           |          |                                   |
| Oct. 14  | Rutgers          | 2022 //  | <sup>1</sup> 2 non-conference TBA |
| Oct. 21  | @ Minnesota      | Sept. 10 | Virginia                          |
| Oct. 28  | Wisconsin        |          |                                   |
|          | @ Purdue         | 2023 //  | ' 2 non-conference TBA            |
|          | Indiana          | Sept. 9  | @ Kansas                          |
|          | @ Ohio State     |          |                                   |
| Nov. 25  |                  |          | ' 2 non-conference TBA            |
| Dec. 2   | B1G Championship | Sept. 7  | Kansas                            |
| 2018 //  | ' Final          | 2025 //  | 2 non-conference TBA              |
| Sept. 1  | Kent State       | Sept. 6  |                                   |
|          | Western Illinois |          |                                   |
| Sept. 15 | South Florida    | 2026 //  | <sup>'</sup> 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        |          |                                   |
|          | @ Nebraska       |          |                                   |
| Nov. 17  |                  |          |                                   |
| Nov. 24  | at Northwestern  |          |                                   |

Chinese Students and Scholars Association and the International Student and Scholar Services office to host Football 101 — an interactive and educational session about the basics of football taught by the Fighting Illini football team; and Basketball Carnival — an open gym focusing on the fundamentals of basketball with the Fighting Illini women's basketball team.

#### **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.

#### 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.

#### ILLINI RETURN TO CAMP RANTOUL

Illinois spent 12 days at Camp Rantoul in Rantoul, Illinois, on a portion of the former Chanute Air Force Base. The Fighting Illini were in Rantoul from Aug. 10-21, continuing a 17-year tradition that spans back to 1998 under head coach Ron Turner. The only year that Illinois did not spend a portion of training camp in Rantoul was 2001 when the grass on the practice fields died. A favorite of three Illinois head coaches for its similarities to an NFL training camp setup, Camp Rantoul has a hotel, three practice fields, a locker room, weight room, dining hall and meeting rooms all within close walking distance. The Illini are one of about a dozen FBS teams and two Big Ten teams (Northwestern) to hold at least a portion of preseason camp off-campus.

#### 2015-16 BIG TEN BOWL POSSIBILITIES

Jan. 11 CFP National Championship Game

B1G Championship

Dec. 1

- 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

#### **WEEKLY COACHES RADIO SHOW**

The Bill Cubit radio show airs live from Buffalo Wild Wings in Savoy every Tuesday evening of a game week from 7-8 p.m. on the Illini Sports Network. Hosted by Fighting Illini football play-by-play voice Brian Barnhart, the live show allows University of Illinois students and the



Champaign-Urbana community the opportunity to meet coaches and student-athlestes and ask questions about the Illinois football program.



#### **ILLINI NCAA & B1G RANKINGS (2014)**

| ILLINI NGAA & BI        | 6 KANKINGS (2014)      |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| TEAM RANKINGS (125      | teams ranked)          |
| CATEGORY                |                        |
|                         | .117.5111th 13th       |
|                         | .239.2 115th 14th      |
|                         | .249.8 48th 2nd        |
| Passing Defense         | .217.2 47th 9th        |
|                         | 131.54 56th 6th        |
|                         | 136.00 95th 14th       |
|                         | .367.294th 8th         |
|                         | .456.4 109th 14th      |
|                         | 25.0 9th               |
|                         | 34.0 107th 14th        |
|                         | .39.85 18th 2nd        |
|                         | 7.91 51st 8th          |
|                         | .19.45 102nd 13th      |
|                         | 0.23 81st 9th          |
| Sacks Per Game          | 1.77 89th 12th         |
|                         | 2.85 103rd 12th        |
| lackles For Loss        | 6.3 49th 7th           |
|                         |                        |
| MISCELLANEOUS RAN       | KINGS                  |
|                         | STAT NCAA Big Ten      |
| Firet Downe             | 248 85th 7th           |
| Onnonent First Downs    | 292 101st 14th         |
|                         | 36.0 98th 11th         |
|                         | 42.388th 12th          |
|                         | 38.5 106th 11th        |
|                         | 53.870th 11th          |
| Penalty Yards Per Game  | .51.46 59th 11th       |
| Onnonent Penalty Yds/Gm | 45.8 9th               |
|                         | 38.3 9th               |
| Time of Possession      | .27:42 112th 13th      |
|                         | 74.0 107th 14th        |
|                         | 90.0 114th 11th        |
|                         |                        |
|                         |                        |
| NCAA INDIVIDUAL RAI     |                        |
|                         | PLAYERSTATRANK         |
|                         | V. Bentley815 15th     |
|                         | J. DuVernois 44.0 18th |
| Receiving Yards         | M. Dudek 1,038 29th    |
|                         | M. Dudek 79.8 33rd     |
|                         | M. Monheim 0.31 17th   |
| Fumbles Recovered       | J. Ward 4 2nd          |
|                         |                        |
| BIG TEN INDIVIDUAL I    | RANKINGS (Ton-10)      |
|                         | PLAYERSTATRANK         |
|                         | M. Dudek 79.8 3rd      |
|                         | M. Dudek 5.8 3rd       |
|                         | M. Dudek 6 6th         |
|                         | R. O'Toole10 9th       |
|                         | V. Bentley 815 3rd     |
|                         | V. Bentley 21.6 9th    |
|                         | J. DuVernois 44.0 2nd  |
|                         | M. Monheim 8.5 8th     |
|                         | Z. Petty 8.4 10th      |
|                         | T. Barton 8.3 11th     |
|                         | M. Monheim 0.31 1st    |
|                         | T. Barton 0.17 T-7th   |
|                         | meJ. Ward 0.31T-1st    |
|                         | V. Bentley 0.17 T-7th  |
|                         |                        |
|                         |                        |

## CAREER RECORDS TO WATCH

Entering 2015 season

| ILI       | LINOIS INDIVIDUAL CAREER         |        |
|-----------|----------------------------------|--------|
| CAI       | REER RUSHING YARDS               |        |
| 1.        | Robert Holcombe, 1994-97         | 4.105  |
| 2.        | Antoineo Harris, 1999-2002       |        |
| 3.        | Thomas Rooks, 1982-85            |        |
| 4.        | Jim Grabowski, 1963-65           | ,      |
| 5.        | Rocky Harvey, 1998-2001          |        |
| 6t.       | Mikel Leshoure, 2008-10          | 2.557  |
| 6t.       | Juice Williams, 2006-09          |        |
| 8.        | Pierre Thomas, 2003-06           |        |
| 9.        | Rashard Mendenhall. 2005-07      |        |
| 10.       | Howard Griffith, 1987-90.        |        |
| 11.       | Keith Jones, 1984-88             |        |
| 12.       | John Karras, 1949-51             |        |
| 13.       | Chubby Phillips, 1973-76         |        |
| 14.       | Red Grange, 1923-25              |        |
| 15.       | Nathan Scheelhaase, 2010-13      |        |
| 16.       | Rich Johnson, 1966-68            |        |
| 17.       | Jason Ford, 2008-11              |        |
| 18.       | Josh Ferguson, 2012-present      |        |
| 19.       | Ty Douthard, 1993-96             |        |
| 20.       | Donovonn Young, 2011-14.         |        |
|           |                                  | ,      |
| CA        | REER ALL-PURPOSE YARDAGE         |        |
| 1.        | Robert Holcombe, 1994-97         | 4,737  |
| 2.        | Pierre Thomas, 2003-06           |        |
| 3.        | Keith Jones, 1985-88             |        |
| 4.        | Arrelious Benn, 2007-09          |        |
| 5.        | Thomas Rooks, 1982-85            | 3,501  |
| 6.        | Josh Ferguson, 2012-present      |        |
| 7.        | Chubby Phillips, 1973-76         |        |
| 8.        | Howard Griffith, 1987-90         |        |
| 9.        | Red Grange, 1923-25              |        |
| 10.       | A.J. Jenkins, 2008-11            | 3,230  |
| CA        | REER RECEPTIONS                  |        |
| 1.        | David Williams, 1983-85          | 262    |
| 2.        | Jason Dulick, 1993-96            | 169    |
| 3.        | A.J. Jenkins, 2008-11            | 167    |
| 4.        | Brandon Lloyd, 1999-02           | 160    |
| 5.        | Arrelious Benn, 2007-09          | 159    |
|           | John Wright, Sr., 1965-67        | 159    |
| 7.        | Walter Young, 1999-02            |        |
| 8.        | Mike Martin, 1979-82             | 143    |
| 9.        | Josh Ferguson, 2012-present      | 131    |
| 10.       | Ty Douthard, 1993-96             | 128    |
| CΔI       | REER RECEIVING YARDS (RUNNING BA | CK)    |
| ол.<br>1. | Ty Douthard, 1993-96             |        |
| 2.        | Josh Ferguson, 2012-present      |        |
| ۷.        | Justi i ergusuli, 2012-present   | 1,221  |
|           | REER PUNT RETURN AVERAGE         |        |
|           | imum 15 punt returns)            | 0 2071 |
| 1.        | Dike Eddleman, 1946-48           |        |
| 2.        | 3 31                             |        |
| 3.<br>1   | V'Angelo Bentley, 2012-present   |        |
| 4.        | Mike Gow, 1972-74                |        |
| 5.        | neu uidiige, 1323-23 10.1 (4     | u-400) |

#### CAREER KICKOFF RETURN YARDAGE

| (min | . 30 returns)                    |                 |
|------|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1.   | Pierre Thomas, 2003-06           | 1,495 (59-25.3) |
| 2.   | Clinton Lynch, 1990-93           | 1,383 (64-21.6) |
| 3.   | V'Angelo Bentley, 2012-present   | 1,355 (63-21.5) |
| 4.   | George McDonald-Ashford, 1995-98 | 1,276 (57-22.4) |
| 5.   | Greg Foster, 1979-80             | 1,233 (58-21.3) |

#### CAREER FORCED FUMBLES

| LLK I OKOLD I OMDLLS        |
|-----------------------------|
| 1990)                       |
| Simeon Rice, 1992-95        |
| Whitney Mercilus, 2009-11   |
| Dana Howard, 1990-94        |
| Mason Monheim, 2012-present |
| Earnest Thomas III, 2011-14 |
| Kevin Hardy, 1992-95        |
|                             |

#### **ACTIVE FBS CAREER TACKLES LEADERS**

| (enter | ing 2015 season)             |     |
|--------|------------------------------|-----|
| 1.     | Tyler Matakevich , Temple    | 354 |
| 2.     | Mason Monheim, Illinois      | 294 |
| 3.     | Trevon Stewart , Houston     | 291 |
| 4.     | Michael Mudoh , Tulsa        | 271 |
| 5.     | Joseph Peterson , Georgia St | 265 |
|        |                              |     |



CAREER KICKOFF RETURN AVERAGE

 1. Red Grange, 1923-25
 30.2 (15-453)

 2. Mike Bellamy, 1988-89
 26.4 (18-475)

 3. Pierre Thomas, 2003-06
 25.3 (59-1,495)

 6.
 Ray Wilson, 1983-86
 22.9 (22-503)

 7.
 Chubby Phillips, 1973-76
 22.8 (46-1,048)

 8.
 Darryl Usher, 1985-87
 22.6 (42-950)

 9.
 George McDonald-Ashford, 1995-98
 22.4 (57-1,276)

 10.
 V'Angelo Bentley, 2012-present
 21.5 (63-1,355)

(min. 15 returns)

4.

5.

## 2015 ILLINOIS FOOTBALL DEPTH CHART

Pre-Kent State game - Aug. 31, 2015



#### OFFENSE

#### **QB** 12 Wes Lunt (6-5, 225, Jr.) 7 Chayse Crouch (6-4, 225, r-Fr.)

10 Jimmy Fitzgerald (6-3, 220, Fr.)3 Jeff George, Jr. (6-3, 190, Fr.)

RB 6 Josh Ferguson (5-10, 195, Sr.)

23 Henry Enyenihi (5-11, 210, Jr.)
5 Ke'Shawn Vaughn (5-10, 205, Fr.)
25 Kendrick Foster (5-9, 200, So.)

WR-X 8 Geronimo Allison (6-4, 195, Sr.)

9 Sam Mays (6-3, 200, Fr.)2 Tyrin Stone-Davis (6-3, 195, Jr.)

WR-T 4 Dionte Taylor (6-0, 180, Jr.) 86 Desmond Cain (5-11, 185, Fr.)

88 Zach Grant (6-0, 195, Jr.)

WR-Z 11 Malik Turner (6-3, 205, So.) 16 Marchie Murdock (6-1, 195, So.)

81 Raphael Barr (6-2, 190, So.)

TE 87 Tyler White (6-5, 255, Jr.)

89 Andrew Davis (6-6, 235, Jr.)

47 Tim Clary (6-2, 250, Sr.)

80 Ainslie Johnson (6-2, 225, Jr.)

39 Nathan Echard (6-2, 230, So.)

13 Caleb Reams (6-3, 240, Fr.)

LT 57 Austin Schmidt (6-6, 300, Jr.)

75 Patrick Flavin (6-7, 300, Sr.)

72 Gabe Megginson (6-5, 300, Fr.)

LG 55 Chris Boles (6-4, 320, Sr.)

73 Chris O'Connor (6-5, 300, Sr.)

79 Zach Heath (6-4, 300, Jr.)

C 71 Joe Spencer (6-4, 300, Jr.)

53 Nick Allegretti (6-4, 305, r-Fr.)

78 Harry Black (6-5, 285, So.)

76 Zeke Martin (6-5, 285, Fr.)

RG 69 Ted Karras (6-4, 310, Sr.)

74 Connor Brennan (6-5, 295, Jr.)

RT 67 Christian DiLauro (6-5, 300, So.)

66 Jordan Fagan (6-6, 295, So.)

52 Adam Solomon (6-5, 315, Fr.)

#### **DEFENSE**

DT

CB

#### DE 91 Dawuane Smoot (6-3, 270, Jr.)

9 Kenny Nelson (6-6, 250, Sr.)

85 Brandon Roberts (6-3, 265, So.)

NT 11 Chunky Clements (6-3, 290, Jr.)

94 Tito Odenigbo (6-3, 280, r-Fr.)

16 Rob Bain (6-3, 300, Jr.)

55 Jamal Milan (6-2, 310, Fr.)

LEO 6 Carroll Phillips (6-3, 230, Jr.)

45 Henry McGrew (6-3, 235, r-Fr.)

47 Sean Adesanya (6-3, 230, So.)

WLB 43 Mason Monheim (6-1, 235, Sr.)

22 LaKeith Walls (6-2, 215, Jr.)

33 Tre Watson (6-2, 240, r-Fr.)

44 Julian Jones (6-2, 215, Fr.)

MLB 52 T.J. Neal Jr. (6-1, 235, Jr.)

10 B.J. Bello (6-3, 225, Jr.)

35 Sean White (6-0, 230, Sr.)

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.)

32 Justice Williams (6-3, 210, Fr.)

2 V'Angelo Bentley (5-10, 190, Sr.)

24 Darius Mosely (5-11, 190, Jr.)

23 Davontay Kwaaning (5-11, 190, Sr.)

31 Cameron Watkins (6-0, 185, Fr.)

SS 3 Taylor Barton (6-1, 215, Jr.)

8 Dillan Cazley (5-10, 190, Jr.)

6 Diliali Gazley (5-10, 190, Jl.)

29 T.J. Moss (5-11, 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.)

30 Julian Hylton (6-0, 195, r-Fr.)

CB 27 Eaton Spence (6-0, 185, Sr.)

28 Jalen Dunlap (6-1, 185, So.)

12 Chris James (5-11, 185, r-Fr.)

19 Frank Sumpter (5-10, 175, Fr.)

#### **SPECIAL TEAMS**

| K<br>- OR -  | 17<br>38        | , (,,,  |
|--------------|-----------------|---|
| P            | <b>13</b><br>38 | <b>Ryan Frain (6-2, 220, Jr.)</b> David Reisner (6-0, 195, Jr.)         |
| LS<br>- OR - | 54<br>56        | ,   |
| H            | 13              | Ryan Frain (6-2, 220, Jr.)  |
| KO<br>- OR - | 17<br>38        |   |
| KR           | <b>2</b><br>24  | <b>V'Angelo Bentley (5-10, 190, Sr.)</b> Darius Mosely (5-11, 190, Jr.) |

V'Angelo Bentley (5-10, 190, Sr.)

ah\_de\_SAN\_va

Darius Mosely (5-11, 190, Jr.)

#### **PRONUNCIATION GUIDE**

PR

2

| Sean Adesanya        | ah-de-SAN-ya          |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Nick Allegretti      | al-uh-GRET-ee         |
| V'Angelo Bentley     | vee-AN-juh-low        |
| Jack Broeker         |                       |
| Trenard Davis        | tre-NARD              |
| Mike Dudek           | D00-deck              |
| Nathan Echard        |                       |
| Henry Enyenihi       | en-YEN-ih-hee         |
| Jordan Fagan         |                       |
| Clayton Fejedelem    | FEJ-uh-lem            |
| Patrick Flavin       | FLAH-vin              |
| Joe <b>Fotu</b>      |                       |
| Ainslie Johnson      |                       |
| Ted Karras           |                       |
| Davontay Kwaaning    | duh-VAHN-tay QUAN-ing |
| Jevaris Little       |                       |
| Jimmy Marchese       |                       |
| Max Marietti         |                       |
| Jamal <b>Milan</b>   |                       |
| Jonathan Milazzo     |                       |
| Alex Mussat          |                       |
| Jim <b>Nudera</b>    |                       |
| Tito <b>Odenigbo</b> |                       |
| Mike <b>Parisi</b>   |                       |
| Teko Powell          |                       |
| Dawuane Smoot        |                       |
| Eaton Spence         |                       |
| Tyrin Stone-Davis    |                       |
| Mike Svetina         |                       |
| <b>Dionte</b> Taylor |                       |
| Malik Turner         |                       |
| Ke'Shawn Vaughn      |                       |
| Ikjot Wahi           |                       |
| Jihad Ward           | ,                     |
| Taylor Zalewski      | zuh-LESS-key          |
| Tom Brattan          | sounds like latin     |
| Alex Golesh          | GOAL-esh              |
| Nathan Scheelhaase   | SHEEL-house           |



## 2015 ILLINOIS FOOTBALL // GAME NOTES

#### PROBABLE OFFENSIVE STARTERS QUICK FACTS

| QB | 12 | Wes Lunt (Jr., 6-5, 225)          | Made 7 starts in 2014 141.61 QB efficiency broke UI season record 14/3 TD/INT ratio, 1,763 passing yards and 63.5 completion %      |
|----|----|-----------------------------------|---|
| RB | 6  | Josh Ferguson (Sr., 5-10, 195)    | 1 of 3 in FBS with 1,500+ rush & 1,000+ rec. yards in career 3,486 all-purpose yards 6th in UI history Doak Walker Award Watch List |
| WR | 8  | Geronimo Allison (Sr., 6-4, 195)  | Third on team with 41 receptions for 598 yards in 2014 Had back-to-back 100-yard games at Washington & at Nebraska                  |
| WR | 4  | Dionte Taylor (Jr., 6-0, 180)     | Steps into slot starting role with Mike Dudek injured Has one career catch for five yards in 2013 Goes by D.J.                      |
| WR | 11 | Malik Turner (So., 6-3, 205)      | Made 5 starts as true frosh in 2014 Career-high six receptions for 84 yards in bowl game 25 rec. for 256 yards, 1 TD on season      |
| TE | 87 | Tyler White (Jr., 6-5, 255)       | Has played in 24 career games, mostly on special teams Had two receptions for 17 yards in 2014, including one TD                    |
| LT | 57 | Austin Schmidt (Jr., 6-6, 300)    | Started last 4 games at LT in 2014 Has played in 23 career games Father played at Towson St., brother played at Dartmouth           |
| LG | 55 | Chris Boles (Sr., 6-4, 320)       | Fifth-year senior has played in three career games, mostly on special teams Earned bachelor's degree in communication in Dec. 2014  |
| С  | 71 | Joe Spencer (Jr., 6-4, 300)       | Has 14 career starts Ul's SAAC & Uplifting Athletes chapter president 2-time Academic All-B1G as a finance major                    |
| RG | 69 | Ted Karras (Sr., 6-4, 310)        | Has 31 career starts Dad, Ted Jr., is HC at Walsh University 7th family member to play B1G FB Earned bachelor's degree in Dec. 2014 |
| RT | 67 | Christian DiLauro (So., 6-5, 300) | Started last 7 games of 2014 at RT as RS frosh ESPN.com Big Ten All-Freshman team in 2014 Majoring in agri-accounting               |

#### PROBABLE DEFENSIVE STARTERS QUICK FACTS

|      |    |                                   | •••••   |
|------|----|-----------------------------------|---|
| DE   | 91 | Dawuane Smoot (Jr., 6-3, 270)     | Slides over from LEO to DE with injury to Jihad Ward Played in all 13 games in 2014 at LEO, making 33 tackles, 7.5 TFLs and 2.5 sacks         |
| NT   | 93 | Chunky Clements (Jr., 6-3, 290)   | Played in 13 games and made 3 starts in 2014 Had 24 tackes, 6.0 TFLs & 2.0 sacks Cousin, Roy Roundtree, was a WR at Michigan from 2009-12     |
| DT   | 16 | Rob Bain (Jr., 6-3, 300)          | Made 7 starts in 2014 Had first career sack in bowl game 29 tackles, 4.0 TFLs, 1 sack on season 1 of strongest players on team                |
| LE0  | 6  | Carroll Phillips (Jr., 6-3, 230)  | Played in first 7 games of 2014 as situational pass rusher before missing last 6 due to injury 6 tackles, 2 hurries, 1 sack, 1 TFL in '14     |
| WLB  | 43 | Mason Monheim (Sr., 6-1, 235)     | Butkus & Lombardi Award Watch lists Led team & 8th in B1G with 111 tackles in '14 294 career tackles 2nd most for active FBS players          |
| MLB  | 52 | T.J. Neal Jr. (Jr., 6-1, 235)     | Started all 13 games at MLB in 2014 Fourth on team with 98 tackles, 6.5 TFLs 2x Academic All-Big Ten honoree                                  |
| STAR | 14 | Eric Finney (Sr., 6-0, 220)       | JUCO transfer has played in 23 games over last two seasons 19 tackles, 1 TFL and 1 PBU in 2014 Known as great questionnaire taker             |
| СВ   | 2  | V'Angelo Bentley (Sr., 5-10, 190) | Hornung Award Watch list (most versatile) 3-year starter Only player in UI history w/kickoff, punt, INT & fum returns for TD May play some RB |
| SS   | 3  | Taylor Barton (Jr., 6-1, 215)     | Honorable mention All-B1G in 2014 3rd on team & 11th in B1G with 100 tackles Has incredible beard   |
| FS   | 20 | Clayton Fejedelem (Sr., 6-1, 195) | Has moved into starting role as senior Walk-on transfer from St. Xavier U was awarded scholarship in Oct. 2014                                |
| СВ   | 27 | Eaton Spence (Sr., 6-0, 185)      | Has 27 career starts 6th on team with 55 tackles in 2014 Earned bachelor's degree in communication in May 2015                                |

#### PROBABLE SPECIAL TEAMS QUICK FACTS

| K  | 17 | Taylor Zalewski (Sr., 6-3, 220) | Shared PK duties over last 3 years, making 19 of 30 FG Avg 62.5 ypk w/28 touchbacks in 2014 Has 86 TBs in 160 career KO (53.8 pct.)   |
|----|----|---------------------------------|---|
| K  | 38 | David Reisner (Jr., 6-0, 195)   | Navy transfer shared PK duties with Zalewski in 2014 Hit GW 36-yd FG vs. PSU w/:08 left to keep Illini 2014 bowl hopes alive          |
| P  | 13 | Ryan Frain (Jr., 6-2, 220)      | Takes over punting duties for departed 4-year starter Justin DuVernois Has kicked in 3 games in his UI career — 2 PATS, 4 KO & 1 punt |
| LS | 54 | Zach Hirth (Jr., 6-4, 220)      | Saw action as snapper for placements in 5 of last 6 games in 2014 after returning from injury Ul's primary long snapper in '13        |
| LS | 56 | Michael Martin (Jr., 6-4, 225)  | Has served as Ul's long snapper in all 13 games Champaign, III., native Mechanical engineering major                                  |



# 2015 ILLINOIS FOOTBALL ROSTER (As of 8/30/15)

| NO      | NAME                            | POS  | НТ           | WT         | YR         | ELIG.      | HOMETOWN/PREVIOUS SCHOOL   |    |                       |
|---------|---------------------------------|------|--------------|------------|------------|------------|--|----|-----------------------|
| 47      | Sean Adesanya                   | LE0  | 6-3          | 230        | So.        | 4-3        | Rahway, N.J./Rahway HS/Eastern Arizona JC                        | NO | NAMEPOS               |
| 90      | Altan Aldemir                   | DL   | 6-3          | 240        | Fr.        | 5-4        | Plainsboro, N.J./The Peddie School                               | 2  | V'Angelo BentleyDB    |
| 53      | Nick Allegretti                 | 0L   | 6-4          | 305        | r-Fr.      | 4-4        | Frankfort, III./Lincoln-Way East                                 | 2  | Reggie CorbinRB       |
| 8       | Geronimo Allison                | WR   | 6-4          | 200        | Sr.        | 2-1        | Tampa, Fla./Spoto HS/Iowa Western CC                             | 3  | Taylor Barton DB      |
| 16      | Rob Bain                        | DL   | 6-3          | 305        | Jr.        | 2-2        | Bolingbrook, III./Bolingbrook                                    | 3  | Jeff George, Jr QB    |
| 81      | Raphael Barr                    | WR   | 6-2          | 200        | So.        | 3-3        | Etiwanda, Calif./Etiwanda HS/Citrus College (CA)                 | 4  | Darwyn Kelly DB       |
| 3       | Taylor Barton                   | DB   | 6-1          | 215        | Jr.        | 2-2        | Orlando, Fla./Lake Highland Prep                                 | 4  | Dionte TaylorWR       |
| 10      | B.J. Bello                      | LB   | 6-3          | 225        | Jr.        | 2-2        | New Lenox, III./Lincoln-Way West                                 | 5  | James Crawford STAR   |
| 2       | V'Angelo Bentley                | DB   | 5-10         | 190        | Sr.        | 2-1        | Cleveland, Ohio/Glenville  | 5  | Ke'Shawn VaughnRB     |
| 21      | Man Berg                        | WR   | 6-2          | 200        | So.        | 3-3        | Sherman Oaks, Calif./La Salle                                    | 6  | Josh FergusonRB       |
| 78      | Harry Black                     | 0L   | 6-5          | 285        | So.        | 3-3        | Orlando, Fla./Dr. Phillips                                       | 6  | Carroll Phillips LEO  |
| 55      | Chris Boles                     | 0L   | 6-4          | 320        | Sr.        | 1-1        | Toledo, Ohio/Central Catholic                                    | 7  | Chayce Crouch QB      |
| 74      | Connor Brennan                  | 0L   | 6-5          | 295        | Jr.        | 3-2        | Sonoma, Calif./Redwood HS/City Coll. of San Francisco            | 7  | Caleb Day DB          |
| 64      | Jack Broeker                    | 0L   | 6-4          | 265        | Fr.        | 5-4        | Springfield, III./Sacred Heart Griffin                           | 8  | Geronimo AllisonWR    |
| 27      | Dre Brown                       | RB   | 5-11         | 205        | Fr.        | 5-4<br>5-4 | DeKalb, III./DeKalb HS   | 8  | Dillan CazleyDB       |
| 86      | Desmond Cain                    | WR   | 5-11         | 185        | Fr.        | 5-4<br>5-4 | Delray Beach, Fla./American Heritage School                      | 9  | Sam MaysWR            |
| 8       | Dillan Cazley                   | DB   | 5-11<br>5-10 | 190        | Jr.        | 3-4        | Charleston, III./Charleston                                      | 9  | Kenny Nelson DL       |
| o<br>47 | -                               | TE   | 5-10<br>6-2  | 245        | Sr.        | 3-2<br>1-1 | •  | 10 | B.J. BelloLB          |
| 11      | Tim Clary<br>Chunky Clements    | DL   | 6-3          | 290        | Jr.        | 3-2        | Spring Grove, III./Richmond-Burton Dayton, Ohio/Trotwood Madison | 10 | Jimmy FitzgeraldQB    |
|         | •                               | RB   | 5-10         |            |            | 5-4        | Upper Marlboro, Md./Gonzaga College HS                           | 11 | Chunky Clements DL    |
| 2       | Reggie Corbin<br>James Crawford | STAR | 5-10<br>6-2  | 185<br>220 | Fr.<br>So. | 3-4<br>3-3 | ,  | 11 | Malik Turner          |
| 5       |                                 |      |              |            |            |            | Deerfield, Fla./St. Thomas Aquinas                               | 12 | Wes LuntQB            |
| 7       | Chayce Crouch<br>Andrew Davis   | QB   | 6-4          | 225        | r-Fr.      | 4-4        | Granville, Ohio/Newark Catholic                                  | 12 | Chris James DB        |
| 89      |                                 | TE   | 6-6          | 230        | Jr.        | 3-2        | Marion, Iowa/Marion HS/Iowa Western CC                           | 13 | Ryan Frain            |
| 7       | Caleb Day                       | DB   | 6-1          | 205        | Jr.        | 3-2        | Hilliard, Ohio/Hilliard Darby                                    | 13 | Caleb Reams TE        |
| 67      | Christian DiLauro               | OL.  | 6-5          | 300        | So.        | 3-3        | Uniontown, Ohio/Green  | 14 | Eric Finney STAR      |
| 26      | Cedric Doxy                     | STAR | 6-2          | 220        | Jr.        | 2-2        | Calumet City, III./Thornwood                                     | 14 | Alex MussatQB         |
| 18      | Mike Dudek                      | WR   | 5-11         | 185        | So.        | 4-3        | Naperville, III./Neuqua Valley                                   | 15 | Jevaris Little DB     |
| 28      | Jaylen Dunlap                   | DB   | 6-1          | 190        | So.        | 3-3        | Chicago, III./Crete-Monee  | 15 | Tyrin Stone-Davis WR  |
| 39      | Nathan Echard                   | TE   | 6-2          | 245        | So.        | 3-3        | Eureka, Mo./Eureka   | 16 | Rob BainDL            |
| 23      | Henry Enyenihi                  | RB   | 5-11         | 215        | Jr.        | 2-2        | Lawrenceville, Ga./Duluth HS/Sacramento City College             | 16 | Marchie Murdock WR    |
| 66      | Jordan Fagan                    | 0L   | 6-6          | 295        | So.        | 4-3        | Chula Vista, Calif./Olympian HS/Grossmont Coll. (CA)             | 17 | Jihad Ward DL         |
| 20      | Clayton Fejedelem               | DB   | 6-1          | 200        | Sr.        | 1-1        | Lemont, III./Lemont/St. Xavier University                        | 17 | Taylor ZalewskiPK     |
| 6       | Josh Ferguson                   | RB   | 5-10         | 200        | Sr.        | 1-1        | Naperville, III./Joliet Catholic                                 | 18 | Mike DudekWR          |
| 14      | Eric Finney                     | STAR | 6-0          | 220        | Sr.        | 1-1        | Riverside, Calif./Centennial/College of the Canyons              | 19 | Justin Hardee WR      |
| 10      | Jimmy Fitzgerald                | QB   | 6-3          | 220        | Fr.        | 5-4        | Champaign, III./Centennial HS                                    | 19 | Frank Sumpter DB      |
| 75      | Patrick Flavin                  | 0L   | 6-7          | 300        | Sr.        | 1-1        | Lisle, III./Benet Academy  | 20 | Clayton Fejedelem DB  |
| 25      | Kendrick Foster                 | RB   | 5-9          | 200        | So.        | 3-3        | Peoria, III./Richwoods   | 21 | Man BergWR            |
| 42      | Joe Fotu                        | DL   | 6-3          | 285        | Sr.        | 2-1        | East Oakland, Calif./San Leandro HS/Laney CC                     | 21 | Patrick Nelson DB     |
| 13      | Ryan Frain                      | PK/P | 6-2          | 220        | Jr.        | 2-2        | Indianapolis, Ind./Scecina                                       | 22 | LaKeith Walls LB      |
| 3       | Jeff George, Jr.                | QB   | 6-3          | 205        | Fr.        | 5-4        | Indianapolis, Ind./Warren Central HS                             | 23 | Henry Enyenihi RB     |
| 88      | Zach Grant                      | WR   | 6-0          | 195        | Jr.        | 2-2        | Springfield, III./Rochester/St. Ambrose Univ./NIU                | 23 | Davontay Kwaaning DB  |
| 84      | Jordan Hahn                     | WR   | 6-2          | 195        | So.        | 3-3        | Olney, III./East Richland  | 24 | Darius MoselyDB       |
| 19      | Justin Hardee                   | WR   | 6-1          | 195        | Sr.        | 2-1        | Cleveland, Ohio/Glenville  | 25 | Kendrick FosterRB     |
| 38      | Samuel Harlib                   | DB   | 6-0          | 180        | So.        | 3-3        | Las Vegas, Nev./Army & Navy Academy                              | 26 | Cedric Doxy STAR      |
| 79      | Zach Heath                      | 0L   | 6-4          | 300        | Jr.        | 3-2        | Penryn, Calif./Del Oro HS/American River College (CA)            | 26 | Cameron Tucker RB     |
| 54      | Zach Hirth                      | LS   | 6-4          | 220        | Jr.        | 2-2        | Eureka, Mo./Eureka   | 27 | Dre Brown RB          |
| 30      | Julian Hylton                   | DB   | 6-0          | 205        | r-Fr.      | 4-4        | Tinley Park, III./Lincoln-Way North                              | 27 | Eaton Spence DB       |
| 12      | Chris James                     | DB   | 5-11         | 190        | r-Fr.      | 4-4        | Orange, Texas/West Orange-Stark                                  | 28 | Jaylen Dunlap DB      |
| 80      | Ainslie Johnson                 | TE   | 6-2          | 230        | Jr.        | 3-2        | Anaheim, Calif./Servite HS/Cerritos College (CA)                 | 29 | Nelson Lugo STAR      |
| 44      | Julian Jones                    | LB   | 6-2          | 215        | Fr.        | 5-4        | Atlanta, Ga./Westlake HS   | 29 | T.J. MossDB           |
| 69      | Ted Karras                      | 0L   | 6-4          | 310        | Sr.        | 1-1        | Indianapolis, Ind./Cathedral                                     | 30 | Julian HyltonDB       |
| 4       | Darwyn Kelly                    | DB   | 6-1          | 210        | So.        | 3-3        | Upper Marlboro, Md./H.D. Woodson                                 | 30 | Jim Nudera TE         |
| 23      | Davontay Kwaaning               | DB   | 5-11         | 190        | Sr.        | 1-1        | Chicago, III./Lindblom   | 31 | Leslie PooleWR        |
| 15      | Jevaris Little                  | DB   | 6-0          | 190        | Jr.        | 2-2        | St. Petersburg, Fla./Lakewood                                    | 31 | Cameron Watkins DB    |
| 95      | Max Loeb                        | DL   | 6-0          | 300        | So.        | 3-3        | Lawrenceville, III./Lawrenceville                                | 32 | Justice Williams STAR |
| 68      | Matt Long                       | 0L   | 6-4          | 290        | Fr.        | 5-4        | Coal City, III./Coal City  | 33 | Tré Watson LB         |
| 29      | Nelson Lugo                     | STAR | 5-11         | 200        | Jr.        | 2-2        | Franklin Park, III./East Leyden                                  | 34 | Mike SvetinaLB        |
| 12      | Wes Lunt                        | QB   | 6-5          | 225        | Jr.        | 2-2        | Rochester, III./Rochester HS/Oklahoma State                      | 35 | Jonathan Milazzo PK   |
|         |                                 |      |              |            |            |            |  |    |                       |



# 2015 ILLINOIS FOOTBALL ROSTER (As of 8/30/15)

| 4.1      |                                |          | 0.0          | 005        | -            | - 4        | V 1131 111 701                                       |    |                      |
|----------|--------------------------------|----------|--------------|------------|--------------|------------|--|----|----------------------|
| 41       | Jimmy Marchese                 | LB       | 6-2          | 205        | Fr.          | 5-4        | Vernon Hills, III./Stevenson                         | 35 | Sean White LB        |
| 70       | Max Marietti                   | 0L       | 6-5          | 315        | Fr.          | 5-4        | Frankfort, III./Lincoln Way East                     | 36 | Austin Roberts LB    |
| 56       | Michael Martin                 | LS       | 6-4          | 225        | Jr.          | 2-2        | Champaign, III./Centennial                           | 37 | Dennis Thurow DB     |
| 76<br>0  | Zeke Martin                    | 0L       | 6-5          | 285        | Fr.          | 5-4        | Medina, Ohio/Medina HS                               | 38 | Samuel HarlibDB      |
| 9<br>4 E | Sam Mays                       | WR       | 6-3          | 200        | Fr.          | 5-4        | Missouri City, Texas/The Kinkaid School              | 38 | David ReisnerPK      |
| 45<br>40 | Henry McGrew                   | LE0      | 6-3          | 250        | r-Fr.        | 4-4        | Overland Park, Kan./Blue Valley                      | 39 | Nathan Echard TE     |
| 48       | Chase McLaughlin               | PK       | 6-1          | 170        | r-Fr.        | 4-4        | Cypress, Texas/Cypress Woods                         | 40 | Ryan Tucker P        |
| 72<br>55 | Gabe Megginson                 | 0L       | 6-5<br>6-2   | 300        | Fr.          | 5-4<br>5-4 | Jacksonville, III./Jacksonville HS                   | 41 | Jimmy Marchese LB    |
| 35       | Jamal Milan                    | DL       |              | 310        | Fr.          | 5-4<br>5-4 | Chicago, III./Al Raby HS                             | 42 | Joe FotuDL           |
| 43       | Jonathan Milazzo               | PK       | 5-10<br>6-1  | 170<br>235 | Fr.          | 2-1        | Orland Park, III./Carl Sandburg                      | 43 | Mason Monheim LB     |
|          | Mason Monheim                  | LB       | 5-11         |            | Sr.          | 2-1<br>3-2 | Orrville, Ohio/Orrville                              | 44 | Julian Jones LB      |
| 24<br>29 | Darius Mosely<br>T.J. Moss     | DB<br>DB | 5-11<br>5-11 | 190<br>195 | Jr.<br>r-Fr. | 3-2<br>4-4 | O'Fallon, III./O'Fallon Township                     | 45 | Henry McGrewLEO      |
| 29<br>16 |                                | WR       | 5-11<br>6-1  | 195        |              | 3-3        | Carpentersville, III./Dundee Crown                   | 46 | Luke Nelson P        |
|          | Marchie Murdock<br>Alex Mussat |          | 6-2          | 205        | So.          | 5-3<br>5-4 | Arlington, Texas./Legacy                             | 46 | Ikjot Wahi DE        |
| 14       |                                | QB       |              |            | Fr.          |            | Troy, Mich./Athens                                   | 47 | Sean Adesanya LEO    |
| 52       | T.J. Neal Jr.                  | LB       | 6-1          | 235        | Jr.          | 2-2        | McKeeseport, Pa./McKeeseport                         | 47 | Tim Clary TE         |
| 9        | Kenny Nelson                   | DL       | 6-6          | 250        | Sr.          | 1-1        | Detroit, Mich./Cass Tech                             | 48 | Chase McLaughlin PK  |
| 46       | Luke Nelson                    | Р        | 6-1          | 205        | Jr.          | 3-2        | Western Springs, III./Lyons Twp./College of DuPage   | 49 | Conner Schmidt STAR  |
| 21       | Patrick Nelson                 | DB       | 6-0          | 205        | Fr.          | 5-4        | Chicago, III./Hales Franciscan HS                    | 52 | T.J. Neal Jr LB      |
| 30       | Jim Nudera                     | TE       | 6-1          | 240        | Sr.          | 1-1        | Elmhurst, III./York                                  | 52 | Adam Solomon OL      |
| 73       | Chris O'Connor                 | 0L       | 6-5          | 300        | Sr.          | 1-1        | Tinley Park, III./Andrew                             | 53 | Nick AllegrettiOL    |
| 94       | Tito Odenigbo                  | DL       | 6-3          | 290        | r-Fr.        | 4-4        | Centerville, Ohio/Centerville                        | 54 | Zach HirthLS         |
| 63       | Mike Parisi                    | 0L       | 6-4          | 275        | Fr.          | 5-4        | Elk Grove Village, III./Elk Grove                    | 55 | Chris Boles OL       |
| 6        | Carroll Phillips               | LE0      | 6-3          | 240        | Jr.          | 2-2        | Miami, Fla./Miami Central HS/Coiah Lincoln CC        | 55 | Jamal Milan DL       |
| 31       | Leslie Poole                   | WR       | 5-11         | 185        | Sr.          | 1-1        | Schaumburg, III./Conant                              | 56 | Michael Martin LS    |
| 93       | Teko Powell                    | DL       | 6-3          | 300        | Jr.          | 2-2        | Miami, Fla./Norland                                  | 57 | Austin SchmidtOL     |
| 13       | Caleb Reams                    | TE       | 6-3          | 240        | Fr.          | 5-4        | Gurnee, III./Warren Township HS                      | 63 | Mike Parisi OL       |
| 38       | David Reisner                  | PK       | 6-0          | 195        | Jr.          | 2-2        | Bartlett, III./South Elgin/Navy                      | 64 | Jack Broeker OL      |
| 36       | Austin Roberts                 | LB       | 6-2          | 230        | r-Fr.        | 4-4        | Rice Lake, Wis./Rice Lake                            | 65 | Ryan Walton OL       |
| 85       | Brandon Roberts                | DL       | 6-3          | 265        | So.          | 3-3        | Peoria, III./Richwoods                               | 66 | Jordan Fagan OL      |
| 57       | Austin Schmidt                 | 0L       | 6-6          | 300        | Jr.          | 3-2        | Galena, Ohio/Olentangy                               | 67 | Christian DiLauro OL |
| 49       | Conner Schmidt                 | STAR     | 5-11         | 195        | So.          | 3-3        | Lincoln, III./Lincoln Community                      | 68 | Matt Long OL         |
| 91       | Dawuane Smoot                  | LE0      | 6-3          | 265        | Jr.          | 3-2        | Groveport, Ohio/Groveport Madison                    | 69 | Ted Karras OL        |
| 52       | Adam Solomon                   | 0L       | 6-5          | 315        | Fr.          | 5-4        | Indianapolis, Ind./Bishop Chatard HS                 | 70 | Max Marietti OL      |
| 27       | Eaton Spence                   | DB       | 6-0          | 190        | Sr.          | 1-1        | Belle Glade, Fla./Glades Day                         | 71 | Joe SpencerOL        |
| 71       | Joe Spencer                    | 0L       | 6-4          | 300        | Jr.          | 2-2        | Mason, Ohio/Mason                                    | 72 | Gabe MegginsonOL     |
| 15       | Tyrin Stone-Davis              | WR       | 6-3          | 200        | Jr.          | 2-2        | Philadelphia, Pa./Mastbaum Area VTS/Pierce Col. (CA) | 73 | Chris O'Connor OL    |
| 19       | Frank Sumpter                  | DB       | 5-10         | 175        | Fr.          | 5-4        | Cleveland, Ohio/Glenville HS                         | 74 | Connor Brennan OL    |
| 34       | Mike Svetina                   | LB       | 6-2          | 235        | Jr.          | 2-2        | Brunswick, Ohio/St. Ignatius                         | 75 | Patrick Flavin OL    |
| 4        | Dionte Taylor                  | WR       | 6-0          | 190        | Jr.          | 3-2        | Ft. Lauderdale, Fla./University School               | 76 | Zeke MartinOL        |
| 37       | Dennis Thurow                  | DB       | 6-1          | 205        | So.          | 3-3        | Naperville, III./Neuqua Valley                       | 78 | Harry BlackOL        |
| 26       | Cameron Tucker                 | RB       | 5-8          | 200        | Sr.          | 1-1        | River Forest, III./Nazareth Academy                  | 79 | Zach HeathOL         |
| 40       | Ryan Tucker                    | Р        | 6-3          | 185        | r-Fr.        | 4-4        | Chicago, III./Marist                                 | 80 | Ainslie Johnson TE   |
| 11       | Malik Turner                   | WR       | 6-3          | 205        | So.          | 4-3        | Springfield, III./Sacred Heart-Griffin               | 81 | Raphael BarrWR       |
| 5        | Ke'Shawn Vaughn                | RB       | 5-10         | 205        | Fr.          | 5-4        | Antioch, Tenn./Pearl-Cohn HS                         | 83 | Bobby Walker TE      |
| 46       | lkjot Wahi                     | DE       | 6-3          | 225        | Fr.          | 5-4        | Darien, III./Hinsdale South                          | 84 | Jordan Hahn WR       |
| 83       | Bobby Walker                   | TE       | 6-4          | 215        | Fr.          | 5-4        | Golf, III./Loyola Academy                            | 85 | Brandon RobertsDL    |
| 22       | LaKeith Walls                  | LB       | 6-2          | 235        | Jr.          | 2-2        | Cleveland, Ohio/Rhodes                               | 86 | Desmond CainWR       |
| 65       | Ryan Walton                    | DL       | 6-6          | 260        | So.          | 3-3        | Crestwood, III./Oak Forest                           | 87 | Tyler White TE       |
| 17       | Jihad Ward                     | DL       | 6-6          | 295        | Sr.          | 2-1        | Philadelphia, Pa./Bok Vo-Tech HS/Globe Tech (NY)     | 88 | Zach Grant WR        |
| 31       | Cameron Watkins                | DB       | 6-0          | 185        | Fr.          | 5-4        | Madison, Tenn./Pearl-Cohn HS                         | 89 | Andrew Davis TE      |
| 33       | Tré Watson                     | LB       | 6-2          | 240        | r-Fr.        | 4-4        | Tampa, Fla./Tampa Catholic                           | 90 | Altan Aldemir DL     |
| 35       | Sean White                     | LB       | 6-0          | 230        | Sr.          | 2-2        | Casey, III./Casey-Westfield                          | 91 | Dawuane Smoot LEO    |
| 87       | Tyler White                    | TE       | 6-5          | 255        | Jr.          | 3-2        | Kalamazoo, Mich./Plainwell                           | 93 | Teko PowellDL        |
| 32       | Justice Williams               | STAR     | 6-3          | 210        | Fr.          | 5-4        | Frisco, Texas/Wakeland HS                            | 94 | Tito Odenigbo DL     |
| 17       | Taylor Zalewski                | PK       | 6-3          | 225        | Sr.          | 1-1        | Orland Park, III./Carl Sandburg                      | 95 | Max Loeb DL          |
|          | •                              |          |              |            |              |            | ,  |    | 2000                 |



#### THE LAST TIME

#### An Illinois Player Had ...

Rushing

250 yards rushing: 330, Mikel Leshoure vs. Northwestern, 11/20/2010

200 yards rushing:

330, Mikel Leshoure vs. Northwestern, 11/20/2010

150 yards rushing:

190, Josh Ferguson vs. Texas State, 9/20/2014

125 yards rushing:

147, Reilly O'Toole at Northwestern, 11/29/2014

100 yards rushing:

147, Reilly O'Toole at Northwestern, 11/29/2014

Back-to-back 175 yard rushing games:

Rashard Mendenhall (189 vs. Ball State, 10/27/2007 & 201 at Minnesota, 11/3/2007)

Three consecutive 100-yard rushing games:

Mikel Leshoure, 11/6/2010-12/29/2010 (5 games)

Five consecutive 100-yard rushing games:

Mikel Leshoure, 11/6/2010-12/29/2010 (5 games)

2 rushers with 175 yards:

Rocky Harvey (215), Steve Havard (175) vs. Middle Tennessee, 9/12/1998

2 rushers with 100 yds:

T. Pollard (133), D. Young (100) vs. Western Michigan, 9/24/2011

80+ yard rushing play:

80. Daniel Dufrene at Ohio State. 11/10/2007

70+ yard rushing play:

75, Josh Ferguson vs. Texas State, 9/20/2014

Two 40+ runs in one quarter: 82 and 47 (1st), Antioneo Harris vs. Purdue, 10/12/2002

True-freshman rushed for 100-yards in first career game:

E.B. Halsey, 139 yards vs. Missouri, 8/30/2003

40 rushing attempts:

40. Antoineo Harris at Wisconsin, 11/9/2002

30 rushing attempts:

33, Mikel Leshoure vs. Northwestern, 11/20/2010

2 rushers with 2 TDs:

N. Scheelhaase (2) & D Young (2) vs. SDSU, 9/10/2011

8 TDs rushing: Howard Griffith (8) vs. Southern Illinois, 9/22/1990

4 TDs rushing: Antoineo Harris (4) vs. Indiana, 10/27/2002

3 TDs rushing: Mikel Leshoure (3) vs. Baylor, 12/29/2010

2 TDs rushing: Josh Ferguson (2) vs. Texas State, 9/20/2014

2 TDs rushing by a QB: Nathan Scheelhaase (2) vs. SDSU, 9/10/2011

#### Receiving

200 yards receiving:

200, Mike Dudek vs. Purdue, 10/4/2014

150 yards receiving:

200, Mike Dudek vs. Purdue, 10/4/2014

100 yards receiving:

115, Mike Dudek vs. Penn State, 11/22/2014

2 receivers with 100 yards receiving:

Ryan Lankford (115) & Josh Ferguson (103) vs. Southern Illinois, 8/31/2013

70+ yard pass play: 72, R. Lankford from N. Scheelhaase vs. Washington, 9/14/2013 60+ yard pass play:

60. Geronimo Allison from Wes Lunt at Washington, 9/13/2014 50+ yard pass play:

56, Mike Dudek from Reilly O'Toole at Ohio State, 11/1/2014

10 or more receptions:

10, Josh Ferguson vs. Purdue, 10/4/2014

2 receivers with 2 TDs:

Will Judson and Chris Duvalt vs. Missouri, 8/30/2008 3 TDs receiving: A.J. Jenkins (3) vs. Northwestern, 10/1/2011

An OL caught a pass:

Jeff Allen, (1 rec., 2 yds) vs. Southern Illinois, 9/11/2010

An OL scored a TD:

Corey Lewis, fumble recovery in end zone at Indiana, 11/9/2013

600 yards passing: 621, Dave Wilson at Ohio State, 11/8/1980

500 yards passing: 621, Dave Wilson at Ohio State, 11/8/1980

400 yards passing: 456, Wes Lunt vs. Western Kentucky, 9/6/2014

300 yards passing: 332, Wes Lunt vs. Purdue, 10/4/2014

Consecutive 300-yard passing games:

Nathan Scheelhaase at Penn State (321, 11/2/2013) and at Indiana (450, 11/9/2013)

Three consecutive 300-yard passing games:

Jason Verduzco vs East Carolina (352,8/31/1991), at Missouri (431, 9/14/1991) and vs. Houston (341, 9/21/1991)

6 TDs passing: Dave Wilson at Ohio State, 11/8/1980

5 TDs passing: Nathan Scheelhaase (5) vs. Miami (OH), 9/28/2013

4 TDs passing: Wes Lunt (4) vs. Youngstown State, 8/30/2014

3 TDs passing: Reilly O'Toole (3) at Northwestern, 11/29/2014

Two 65-plus yard TD passes in the same game:

N. Scheelhaase, 77 & 67 yds to A.J. Jenkins at Indiana, 10/8/11

10+ consecutive completions in a game:

Nathan Scheelhaase (15) vs. Northwestern, 11/30/2013 Non-QB with passing TD: Josh Ferguson vs. Penn State, 9/29/12

Defense

**20 Tackles:** J Leman (20) vs. Missouri, 9/1/2007

4 interceptions: Mike Gow (4) vs. Stanford, 9/21/74

3 interceptions: Eugene Wilson (3) vs. Penn State, 11/10/2001 2 interceptions: Trulon Henry (2) vs. Ohio State, 10/2/2010

3+ sacks in a game: Whitney Mercilus (3.0) at Indiana, 10/8/2011

3+ TFLs in a game: Austin Teitsma (3.5) vs. Texas State, 9/20/2014 3+ PBUs in a game: Eaton Spence (3) vs. lowa, 11/15/2014

Interception by a lineman: Michael Buchanan vs. Western Michigan, 9/1/2012

Interception return for TD:

Mason Monheim (49 yards) at Northwestern, 11/29/2014 Two players with interception returns for TD in a game:

Pat Nixon-Youman (68 yards) vs. Indiana, 10/23/2010 & Jonathan Brown (66 yards) vs. Indiana, 10/23/2010

Fumble recovery for TD: V'Angelo Bentley (12 yards) vs. Minnesota, 10/25/2014 Scored on a safety:

at Washington (UW punter fumbled out of end zone), 9/13/2014 Defensive extra point:

Kevin Mitchell (75 yards) at Ohio State, 11/5/2005

Total Offense/All-Purpose

**500 yds. total offense:** 503, Juice Williams vs. Minnesota,

10/11/2008

**400 yds. total offense:** 439, Wes Lunt vs. WKU, 9/6/2014 **300-100 (passing-rushing):** 431 (310-121), Juice Williams at

Michigan, 10/4/2008 **300 all-purpose yards:** 328, A.J. Jenkins vs. N'western, 10/1/2011 **200 all-purpose yards:** 200, Mike Dudek vs. Purdue, 10/4/2014 3 Total TDs: Josh Ferguson (3 - 2 rush, 1 rec) vs. Texas St., 9/20/2014

Special Teams

5 field goals: Doug Higgins vs. Michigan State, 10/20/1990 4 field goals: Derek Dimke (4) at Penn State, 10/9/2010 3 field goals: David Reisner (3) vs. Penn State, 11/22/2014 2 field goals: David Reisner (3) vs. Penn State, 11/22/2014

Made 50+ yard field goal: Taylor Zalewski (54) vs. Purdue, 11/17/2012 Blocked a Punt: Team vs. Youngstown State, 8/30/2014

Blocked Punt for a Touchdown: Vontae Davis (2 yards) vs. Missouri, 9/1/2007

Blocked Two Field Goals: Terrell Washington vs. NIU, 9/8/2001 Blocked a Field Goal: V'Angelo Bentley vs. PSU, 9/29/2012 Blocked a PAT: Clay Nurse at Fresno State, 12/3/2010 Punt return for TD: V'Angelo Bentley (67 yards) vs. OSU, 11/16/2013 Kickoff return for TD:

V'Angelo Bentley (100 yards) vs. Southern Illinois, 8/31/2013 Blocked FG returned for TD:

Travis Williams (66 yards) vs. Illinois St., 9/6/2003 Two-point conversion:

N. Scheelhaase pass to Miles Osei vs. Ohio State, 11/16/2013

Two two-point conversions in the same game: 2 at Ohio State, 11/3/2012 (Russell pass to LaCosse; Russell rush)

An Opposing Player had ...

**200 yards rushing:** 208, Ameer Abdullah, Nebraska, 9/27/2014 **150 yards rushing:** 175, Melvin Gordon, Wisconsin, 10/11/2014 Two 100-yard rushers:

M. Gordon (175) and C. Clement (164), Wisconsin, 10/11/2014 50+ yard rushing play:

67, David Cobb, Minnesota, 10/25/2014

Two 40+ TD runs in one quarter:

Carlos Hyde (51, 55 in 4th), Ohio State, 11/16/2013 400 yards passing: 408, Scott Rislov, San Jose State, 9/21/2002 **300 yards passing:** 336, Tyler Jones, Texas State, 9/20/2013 80+ yard pass play:

80, Louisiana Tech(Cody Sokol to Ken Dixon), 12/26/2014

**70+ yard pass play:** 80, Louisiana Tech(Cody Sokol to Ken Dixon), 12/26/2014 50+ yard pass play:

80, Louisiana Tech(Cody Sokol to Ken Dixon), 12/26/2014 200 yds. in receptions: 246, Roy Roundtree, Michigan, 11/6/2010 150 yds. in receptions: 189, Cody Latimer, Indiana, 11/9/2013 100 yds. in receptions: 110, Jake Duzey, Iowa, 11/15/2014 Two 100-yard receivers: 182, Chirstian Jones & 112, Rashad Law-

rence, Northwestern, 11/30/2013 4 Field Goals: Dan Conroy, Michigan State, 10/16/2010 Three 50+ yard field goals:

Tim Douglas (51, 58, 51), Iowa, 9/26/1998 Punt return for TD: Jeremy Maclin (66 yards), Missouri, 9/2/2007 Kickoff return for TD: S. Vault (89 yards), Northwestern, 11/29/2014 INT return for TD: Xavier Woods (69 yards), Louisiana Tech,

Blocked Punt for a TD: Ben Kuznia (3 yards), Minnesota, 11/7/2009 Fumble recovery for TD: Shaq Thompson (52 yards), Washington, 9/13/2014

Scored on a Safety: Louis Trinca-Pasat sack (intentional grounding on Wes Lunt), Iowa, 11/15/2014

**An Illinois Team Had ... 80 points:** 87 vs. Illinois Wesleyan (87-3), 10/5/1912 **70 points:** 79 vs. Illinois State (79-6), 9/16/1944 **60 points:** 65 at Michigan (65-67), 11/6/2010 **50 points:** 50 vs. Miami (Ohio) (50-14), 9/28/2013 **40 points:** 47 at Northwestern (47-33), 11/29/2014 30 points: 47 at Northwestern (47-33), 11/29/2014

**O points:** at Michigan (0-45), 10/13/2012 O points in 1st half: at Ohio State (14-55), 11/1/2014 O points in 2nd half: at Nebraska (14-45), 9/27/2014

Did Not Score a Touchdown: vs. Michigan State (3-42), 10/26/13

**400 rushing yards:** 519 vs. Northwestern, 11/20/2010 **300 rushing yards:** 308 at Indiana, 10/8/2011 200 rushing yards: 291 at Northwestern, 11/29/2014

Less Than 100 rushing yards: 68 vs. Penn State, 11/22/2014

Negative yards net rushing: -27 vs. Arizona, 9/18/1993 400 passing yards: 450 vs. Purdue, 10/4/2014 300 passing yards: 450 vs. Purdue, 10/4/2014

Less than 100 passing yards: 96 at Ohio State, 11/3/2012 4 TD catches by tight ends: 4 vs. Miami (Ohio), 9/28/2013

700 total net yards: 723 vs. Illinois-Normal, 9/16/44 600 total net yards: 612 at Indiana, 11/9/2013 500 total net yards: 515 vs. Purdue, 10/4/2014

400 total net yards: 451 at Louisiana Tech, 12/26/2014 Less Than 100 total net yards: 78 at Wisconsin, 10/8/1977

Consecutive games, 500 total net yards: at Michigan (501, 10/4/2008), vs. Minnesota (550,

10/11/2008), vs. Indiana (563, 10/18/2008) Kicked five field goals: 5 vs. Wisconsin, 10/20/2001 A Shutout: Charleston Southern (44-0), 9/15/2012 9 or more sacks in a game: 9 at Purdue, 11/3/2001

6 or more sacks in a game: 6 vs. Arizona State, 9/17/2011 15 or more TFL in a game: 15 vs. San Jose St., 9/21/2002 10 or more TFL in a game: 11 vs. Minnesota, 10/25/2014

Missed Extra Point Kick: vs. Louisiana Tech, 12/26/2014 Successful Two-Point Conversion: vs. Ohio State, 11/16/2013 2 Successful Two-Point Conversions: at Ohio State (2), 11/3/2012 Forced 5 or more turnovers: 5 at Northwestern, 11/29/2014

Turned ball over 5 or more times: 6 vs. Louisiana Tech, 9/22/2012 10+ Passes Broken Up: 11 vs. Illinois State, 9/12/2009 Blocked two kicks in same game: 2 at Purdue, 10/4/2003 Blocked two punts in the same game: 2 vs. Indiana, 10/23/2010

Entire game without punting: vs. Miami (Ohio), 9/28/2013 No penalties committed: vs. Arkansas State, 9/3/2011

No turnovers given up: vs. lowa, 11/15/2014 No sacks allowed: vs. Cincinnati, 9/7/2013 A successful on-side kick: vs. Penn State, 11/22/2014

Overtime game: Lost to Penn State, 24-17, in 10T, 11/2/2013 A game with a weather delay: vs. Texas State, 9/20/2014 (1:56 delay)

**An Opposing Team had ...** 200 yards rushing: 304, lowa, 11/15/2014 300 yards rushing: 304, lowa, 11/15/2014

Less Than 100 yards rushing: 66, Southern Illinois, 8/31/2013 Less Than 50 yards rushing: -6, Western Michigan, 9/1/2012 Less Than 20 yards rushing: -6, Western Michigan, 9/1/2012

Negative yards rushing: -6, Western Michigan, 9/1/2012 One first down: Missouri, 9/10/1994

Zero first downs: Michigan, 10/27/34 Zero Irrst downs: Michigan, 10/2//34
300 yards passing: 336, Texas State, 9/20/2014
400 yards passing: 414, Northwestern, 11/30/2013
Less Than 100 yards passing: 93, Wisconsin, 11/22/2014
500 total net yards: 587, Iowa, 11/15/2014
600 total net yards: 624, Nebraska, 9/27/2014
700 total net yards: 705, Michigan State, 9/24/2005

Less Than 100 total net yards: 96, South Dakota State, 9/10/2011

Less Than 250 total net yards: 219, UCLA, 12/31/2011

40 points: 55, Ohio State (55-14), 11/1/2014 50 points: 55, Ohio State (55-14), 11/1/2014

60 points: 60, Ohio State (60-35), 11/16/2013 **70 points:** 70, Michigan (70-21), 11/7/1981

**A Shutout:** Michigan (45-0), 10/13/2012 Did Not Score in Game: Charleston Southern (0-44), 9/15/2012 Did Not Score a Touchdown: Charleston Southern (0-44), 9/15/2012

Scoreless Half: (First) Miami (Ohio) (14-50), 9/28/2013 Missed PAT: Ohio State, 11/16/2013

Successful Two-Point Conversion: Northwestern (2), 11/29/2014 Def. Scored All Points in Victory: Arizona, 16 points, 9/18/1993

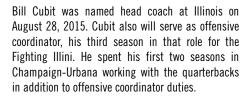


# CUBIT

HEAD FOOTBALL COACH

**UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE, '75** 

THIRD SEASON AT ILLINOIS



Illinois boasted one of the top passing offenses in the Big Ten in 2014, ranking second in the conference in passing yards per game (249.8) and completion percentage (61.21 percent), and sixth in passing efficiency. The Illini rushed for a season-high 291 yards in the regular-season finale at Northwestern, the most since running for 308 yards at Indiana on Oct. 8, 2011.

Cubit guided the Illini offense to a dramatic improvement in his first year, as Illinois jumped at least 50 spots in the national rankings from 2012 to 2013 in first downs, passing offense, long scrimmage plays, total offense, passing efficiency and scoring offense, with the biggest turnaround a 95-place leap in first downs per game. His 2013 unit ranked third in school history in passing yards per game (287.7) and fourth in total yards per game (426.7) and points per game (29.7). Quarterback Nathan Scheelhaase posted the third-most yards of total offense in a season in school history under Cubit in 2013 and broke the school record for completion percentage.

Cubit came to Illinois in January 2013 following an eight-year stint as head coach at Western Michigan. Cubit led WMU to a 51-47 overall record and three bowls during his tenure in Kalamazoo.

Cubit's 2011 Western Michigan squad set records for points (459), touchdowns (58), pass attempts (554), completions (369), passing yards (4,385), total yards (5,960), offensive plays (945), first downs (320), passing first downs (204), kick returns (63), kick return yardage (1,409) and total return yards (1,658). In 2010, two of his receivers (Juan Nunez and Jordan White) topped 1,000 yards in receiving, before White earned consensus All-America honors in 2011 while leading the nation in receiving yards and receptions.

Cubit brings 34 years of coaching experience, including 17 years as a head coach on the collegiate and high school level. He also has spent eight

years as an offensive coordinator at five NCAA Division I schools working the sidelines in five of the nation's premier conferences (BIG EAST, Big 12, Mid-American, PAC-10 and Southeastern).

Prior to returning to Western Michigan as head coach in 2004, Cubit served as offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach at Stanford in 2003, directing a Cardinal offense that ranked 28th in NCAA passing (247.3 yards per game). Prior to his time at Stanford, Cubit served as offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach at Rutgers (2001-02) and at Missouri in 2000.

In his first stint at WMU from 1997-99, Cubit oversaw an offense that ranked in the NCAA Top 25 in passing offense, scoring offense and total offense in back-to-back seasons. In 1998, the Broncos were the nation's 20th-highest scoring team with an average of 32.7 points per game, and were 20th in the nation



in 1999 with an average of 31.1 points per game. His quarterback during that period was Tim Lester, who finished fifth in NCAA career passing yards (11,299) and seventh in career touchdown passes (87).

Cubit's head coaching experience includes five seasons (1992-96) at Division III Widener University in Philadelphia, Pa. He led the Pioneers to a 34-18-1 mark, two Middle American Conference championships and a pair of NCAA Tournament appearances while twice being named conference coach of the year.

Other collegiate stops for Cubit include two years (1990-91) as running backs coach at Akron, a season (1989) as quarterbacks coach at Florida, three seasons as assistant head coach (1985) and the secondary coach (1983-85) at Central Florida and two years (1975-76) coaching running backs and receivers at Swarthmore College. As a high

#### THE BILL CUBIT FILE

#### **CUBIT'S COACHING EXPERIENCE**

| CORIL 2 CONCHING EXPERIENCE |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|-----------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 2015-                       | Illinois (head coach/offensive coordinator)      |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2013-14                     | Illinois (offensive coordinator/quarterbacks)    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2005-12                     | Western Michigan (head coach)                    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2003-04                     | Stanford (offensive coordinator/quarterbacks)    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2001-02                     | Rutgers (offensive coordinator/quarterbacks)     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2000                        | Missouri (offensive coordinator/quarterbacks)    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1997-99                     | Western Michigan (offensive coordinator)         |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1992-96                     | Widener (head coach)                             |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1990-91                     | Akron (running backs)                            |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1989                        | Florida (quarterbacks)                           |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1985                        | Central Florida (assistant head coach/secondary) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1983-84                     | Central Florida (secondary)                      |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1975-76                     | Swarthmore College (running backs/receivers)     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                             |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

#### **CUBIT'S DIVISION I HEAD COACHING RECORD**

| YEAR  | SCHOOL           | OVERALL | CONF. | CONF. FINISH     | BOWL           |  |
|-------|------------------|---------|-------|------------------|----------------|--|
| 2005  | Western Michigan | 7-4     | 5-3   | T-3rd (MAC West) |                |  |
| 2006  | Western Michigan | 8-5     | 6-2   | 2nd (MAC West)   | International  |  |
| 2007  | Western Michigan | 5-7     | 3-4   | T-3rd (MAC West) |                |  |
| 2008  | Western Michigan | 9-4     | 6-2   | T-2nd (MAC West) | Texas          |  |
| 2009  | Western Michigan | 5-7     | 4-4   | 3rd (MAC West)   |                |  |
| 2010  | Western Michigan | 6-6     | 5-3   | 3rd (MAC West)   |                |  |
| 2011  | Western Michigan | 7-6     | 5-3   | 3rd (MAC West)   | Little Caesars |  |
| 2012  | Western Michigan | 4-8     | 2-6   | 5th (MAC West)   |                |  |
| 2015  | Illinois         | 0-0     | 0-0   |                  |                |  |
| TOTAL | 8+ YEARS         | 51-47   | 38-27 | -                | 3 BOWLS        |  |



#### 2015 ILLINOIS FOOTBALL // GAME NOTES

school coach, Cubit compiled a nine-year record of 79-15-2 at three different programs - Martin County (Fla.), Academy Park (Pa.) and his alma mater. Sharon Hill.

A Sharon Hill, Pa., native, Cubit (61 years old/DOB: 10-14-1953) earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Delaware in 1975. He played quarterback and wide receiver for the Blue Hens (1971-74), earning Associated Press All-America honorable mention in 1974. He also set school records for catches in a game (10) and a season (47), along with receiving yards in a season (787).

In 1981, he earned a master's degree in education from Saint Joseph's University. Cubit and his wife, Nancy, have three grown children: Stacey - who was married on March 3, 2007 - Sheri and Ryan, who is an assistant coach for the Fighting Illini. Cubit also has three grandchildren.



#### THE BILL CUBIT FILE

#### **HOMETOWN**

Sharon Hill, Pa.

#### **BIRTHDATE**

Oct. 14, 1953

#### **FAMILY**

Wife: Nancy

Son: Ryan

Daughters: Stacey and Sheri

#### **EDUCATION**

 $\begin{array}{ll} \text{B.S., business administration} - \text{Delaware,} \\ 1975 \end{array}$ 

M.S., education - St. Joseph's, 1981

#### PLAYING EXPERIENCE

Delaware, 1971-74

#### **BOWL GAMES**

2014 Zaxby's Heart of Dallas Bowl 2011 Little Caesars Pizza Bowl 2008 Texas Bowl 2007 International Bowl

1974 NCAA College Division runner-up

1971 Boardwalk Bowl

1989 Freedom Bowl

#### CUBIT'S RECORD VS. OPPONENTS (as Division I head coach)

| Akron3-1750                       |
|-----------------------------------|
| Ball State                        |
| Bowling Green3-01.000             |
| Buffalo                           |
| Central Connecticut State1-01.000 |
| Central Michigan3-5375            |
| Cincinnati0-1000                  |
| Connecticut2-01.000               |
| Eastern Illinois 1-0 1.000        |
| Eastern Michigan 4-4 500          |
| Florida State                     |
| Hofstra                           |
| Idaho1-1500                       |
| Illinois1-2333                    |
| Indiana                           |
| lowa                              |
| Kent State                        |
| Massachusets1-01.000              |
| Miami (OH)                        |
| Michigan0-2000                    |
| Michigan State                    |
| Middle Tennessee State 0-0        |
| Minnesota                         |
| Missouri0-1000                    |
| Nebraska0-1000                    |
| Nicholls State                    |

| North Carolina0-0   |
|---|
| Northern Illinois   |
| Northwestern0-0   |
| Notre Dame  |
| Ohio  |
| Ohio State  |
| Penn State0-0000  |
| $Purdue. \dots \dots 0-1 \dots .000$  |
| Rice0-1000  |
| Southern Illinois   |
| $Temple. \dots \dots \dots \dots 40 \dots 1.000$  |
| Tennessee Tech  |
| $Toledo \ \dots $ |
| $Virginia \dots \dots 1-1 \dots .500$   |
| West Virginia   |
| Western Illinois 0-0  |
| Wisconsin   |
| Total   |