



I NIKE ✓ BIG Illini

FIGHTING ILLINI

F O O T B A L L

FIGHTINGILLINI.COM

#9 ILLINOIS
FIGHTING ILLINI
3-0, 0-0 BIG TEN



AT



#19 INDIANA
HOOSIERS
3-0, 0-0 BIG TEN

SATURDAY, SEPT. 20, 2025 | 6:30 P.M. CT | BLOOMINGTON, IND. | MEMORIAL STADIUM

LIVE COVERAGE

TV | NBC

- » Noah Eagle (play-by-play)
- » Todd Blackledge (analyst)
- » Kathryn Tappen (reporter)



RADIO | Busey Bank Illini Sports Network

- » Scott Beatty (play-by-play)
- » Carey Davis (analyst)
- » Michael Martin (sideline)
- » Steve Kelly (pre/half/post)



The broadcast can be heard live on **TuneIn** online radio, **SiriusXM 139/195**, the **SiriusXM App**, and at **FightingIllini.com/live**.

#9 ILLINOIS FIGHTING ILLINI (3-0)

Aug. 29	Western Illinois	W, 52-3
Sept. 6	at Duke	W, 45-19
Sept. 13	Western Michigan <i>FamilLy Day</i>	W, 38-0
Sept. 20	at #19 Indiana	6:30 p.m. CT (NBC)
Sept. 27	#25 USC <i>Homecoming</i>	11 a.m. CT (FOX)
Oct. 4	at Purdue	TBA
Oct. 11	#1 Ohio State <i>Hail to the Orange Out</i>	TBA
Oct. 25	at Washington	TBA
Nov. 1	Rutgers <i>Dads Day</i>	TBA
Nov. 15	Maryland <i>Military Appreciation</i>	TBA
Nov. 22	at Wisconsin	TBA
Nov. 29	Northwestern <i>Senior Day</i>	TBA

Rankings are AP Top 25

INDEX

2-5	Illini Notes	20-21	Bret Bielema
2	Media Contacts	22-23	Assistant Coaches
3	Pronunciations	24-36	Stats
4	Returning Starters	37	Game Summaries
6-7	Roster	38-40	National Stats
8-17	Player Profiles	41	Starters
18	Academics	42-44	Last Time
19	Series History	45	Combined Stats

ILLINOIS TRAVELS TO INDIANA

- After a 3-0 start and a shutout win over Western Michigan last week, Illinois starts Big Ten play on the road at #19 Indiana.
- Illinois is on a seven-game winning streak, tied for the longest active winning streak in the nation with reigning national champion Ohio State and Memphis.
- Illinois' seven-game winning streak is the program's longest under head coach **Bret Bielema**.
- Illinois' seven-game winning streak is Illinois' longest since winning seven straight from 2010-11 (2010 Texas Bowl + the first six games of 2011).

ILLINOIS IN THE RANKINGS

- Illinois and Indiana will meet in a ranked vs. ranked matchup for the second time in history and the first time since October 28, 1950, when #12 Illinois beat #19 Indiana, 20-0, in Champaign.
- Illinois is looking for its first road win as a top-10 team since Oct. 27, 1990 (21-3 vs. Wisconsin).
- Illinois entered the AP's top 10 on Sept. 7, the program's first top-10 ranking since December 2001.
- Illinois' #9 ranking is the program's highest September ranking since 1964, Dick Butkus' senior season.
- Illinois had its highest preseason ranking (#12) since 1990, when the Illini started #11 in the Preseason AP Top 25.
- Illinois' #12 preseason ranking is the ninth-highest in program history since the AP Preseason Poll began in 1950.
- Illinois was ranked in the Preseason AP Top 25 and the Preseason Coaches Poll for the first time since 2008.

TOUGH, SMART, DEPENDABLE

- Illinois is second in the nation in turnover margin (+6), behind only East Carolina (+7).
- Illinois has started the season with zero turnovers in its first three games for the first time since at least 1995.
- Illinois has thrown only six interceptions over the last two seasons (2024-25), tied with Army, James Madison, Missouri, and Vanderbilt for the second-fewest in the nation over that span. Only Marshall (5) has thrown fewer interceptions than Illinois over the last two seasons.
- Illinois is 10-0 when it has committed zero or one turnover over the last two seasons (2024-25).
- Illinois is 10-1 when it has forced one or more turnovers over the last two seasons (2024-25).

THE ILLINOIS OFFENSE

- Illinois ranks 15th in the nation and seventh in the Big Ten in scoring at 45.0 points per game.
- QB **Luke Altmeyer** is 14th in the nation and fifth in the Big Ten in passing efficiency (182.0).
- **Altmeyer** is one of three Big Ten quarterbacks with 8+ passing touchdowns and zero interceptions, along with Indiana's Fernando Mendoza (9/0) and Nebraska's Dylan Raiola (8/0).
- **Altmeyer** is 14th in the nation and second in the Big Ten in passing touchdowns (8).
- WR **Hank Beatty** is 16th in the nation and fourth in the Big Ten in receiving yards (289).
- **Beatty** is third in the nation and leads the Power-4 and Big Ten in all-purpose yards (466).
- Illinois has scored 38 or more points in six of its last seven games dating back to last season.
- Illinois has scored 38 or more points in each of its first three games of a season for the first time since 1999.

THE ILLINOIS DEFENSE

- Illinois is fifth in the nation and third in the Big Ten in scoring defense, allowing only 7.3 points per game.
- Illinois is tied for the national lead in fumble recoveries (5) and tied for third in the nation in forced fumbles (4).
- Illinois forced five turnovers at Duke, four fumble recoveries (3 forced) and one interception.
- Preseason All-American OLB **Gabe Jacas** leads the Big Ten and ranks sixth in the nation in sacks (6.5), while tying for the national lead in forced fumbles (2).

FAMILLY

QUICK FACTS

UNIVERSITY INFORMATION

Location: Urbana-Champaign (140,000)

Founded: 1867

Enrollment: 60,848

Colors: Orange & Blue

Nickname: Fighting Illini

Conference: Big Ten

President: Timothy L. Killeen

Chancellor: Charles Lee Isbell Jr.

Director of Athletics: Josh Whitman

Stadium: Gies Memorial Stadium (60,670)

Stadium Surface: FieldTurf

HEAD COACH

Bret Bielema

Overall Record: 128-80 (.615), 17th season

Record at Illinois: 30-22 (.585), 5th season

Position Coaches:

Aaron Henry: Defensive Coordinator/Safeties

Barry Lunney Jr.: Offensive Coordinator/QBs

Terrance Jamison: Co-Def. Coordinator/DL

Robby Discher: Special Teams Coordinator/TEs

Archie McDaniel: Linebackers

Bart Miller: Offensive Line

Corey Parker: Defensive Backs

Trent Harris: Outside Linebackers

Justin Stepp: Wide Receivers

Thad Ward: Assistant Head Coach/RBs

FOOTBALL INFORMATION

2024 Record: 10-3, 6-3 (T-5th, Big Ten)

2024 Starters Returning/Lost: 16/6

Off: 9/2 Def: 7/4

2024 Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 48/27

All-Time Record: 642-628-51 (136th year in 2025)

All-Time Big Ten Record: 368-462-32 (130th year)

Gies Memorial Stadium Record: 290-257-14 (102nd year)

Big Ten Championships (Last): 15 (2001)

National Championships (Last): 5 (1951)

Bowl Appearances: 21

All-Time Bowl Record: 9-12

Last Bowl Appearance: 2024 Cheez-It Citrus Bowl

National Championships (Last): 5 (1951)

ATHLETICS COMMUNICATION

BRETT MOORE, Assistant AD, Athletics Communication

Cell: 309-212-6367

Email: btmoores3@illinois.edu

DANNY MATTIE, Assoc. Director of Athletics Communication

Cell: 970-217-3140

Email: mattie2@illinois.edu

X: @IlliniStats

MEDIA SITE: FightingIllini.com/media

FIGHTINGILLINI.COM

COLLEGE PRESSBOX.COM

collegepressbox is the official media website for Division I football. Access and download game notes, quotes, statistics, media guides, headshots, logos and more for all FBS schools, conferences, postseason games, awards and the College Football Playoff. For access, please register for an account at collegepressbox.com/register.

THE ILLINOIS SPECIAL TEAMS

- **Hank Beatty** ranks sixth in the nation in yards per punt return (25.3) and fourth in punt return yards (152).
- **Beatty** and Iowa's Kaden Wetjen are the only players in the nation with a receiving touchdown, rushing touchdown, and punt return touchdown this season.
- **Keelan Crimmins** averaged 48.0 yards per punt at Duke, including a 60-yard punt and a punt inside the 20-yard line that was muffed and set up Illinois' first touchdown.

FAMILIAR FACES

- Illinois returned 18 starters from its Cheez-It Citrus Bowl victory over #14 South Carolina, tied with Michigan for the most returning starters of any bowl team in the nation, and ahead of Arizona State, Clemson and Penn State with 16.
- Illinois returned 16 season starters from last year's 10-win campaign, which is tied with Arizona State, Clemson, and Penn State for the most returning starters in the nation. Alabama, Boise State, Duke, San Diego State, and Texas A&M are next with 14 returning season starters.
- Illinois offensive coordinator Barry Lunney Jr., who returned for his fourth season, is the longest-tenured offensive coordinator in the Big Ten.
- Illinois defensive coordinator Aaron Henry, who returned for his third season, is the third-longest-tenured defensive coordinator in the Big Ten behind only Iowa's Phil Parker (14th season) and Oregon's Tosh Lupoi (fourth season).
- Illinois is the only Power-4 team that returned its offensive coordinator, defensive coordinator, and starting quarterback for a third straight season in 2025.
- Illinois was the only Big Ten team to have the same head coach, offensive coordinator, defensive coordinator, strength coach, and starting quarterback in 2023 and 2024. All five are back again in 2025.
- Illinois is one of six Big Ten teams that returned both its offensive and defensive coordinators in 2025, along with Indiana, Iowa, Michigan State, Northwestern, and Oregon.
- Illinois and Oregon were the only Big Ten teams to return both their off. and def. coordinator for at least the third straight season.
- Illinois returned nine of its 10 primary position coaches in 2025.

THE BIELEMA ERA

- **Bret Bielema** is 31-22 during his Illinois career. Since Robert Zuppke went undefeated in two of his first three seasons at Illinois from 1913-15, Bielema's 31-22 start is the second-best through 53 games by an Illini head coach, behind only Mike White (31-21-1, 1980 through 1984 Week 7).
- Among head coaches that have led Illinois to 30+ wins, Bielema's .585 winning percentage is the third-best of all-time, behind only Robert C. Zuppke (.618) and John Mackovic (.663).
- **Bielema** was the fourth-fastest to 30 wins in Illinois history (52 games), behind only Robert Zuppke (44 games, 1914-19), John Mackovic (45 games, 1988-91), and Mike White (50 games, 1980-84).
- **Bielema's** 18 Big Ten wins through his first four seasons at Illinois are the most since John Mackovic won 22 in his first four seasons from 1988-91.
- **Bielema's** six ranked wins (AP/Coaches/CFP) during his first four seasons are the second-most in program history, behind only John Mackovic (8, 1988-91).
- **Bielema's** four road/neutral ranked wins (AP/Coaches/CFP) are the most of any coach in Illini history during his first four seasons in Champaign (2021 Penn State, 2021 Minnesota, 2024 Nebraska, 2024 South Carolina).
- **Bielema** has had the Illini ranked in 21 AP polls during his first five seasons in Champaign. It is the most weeks ranked for the Illini during a five-year stretch in 35 years.
- **Bielema** joined John Mackovic (1988-91) and Lou Tepper (1992-95) as the only head coaches in Illinois history to win 5+ games in each of their first four seasons leading the Fighting Illini.
- **Bielema** has won at least eight games in two of his first four seasons at Illinois, becoming the first Illini head coach since John Mackovic (1988-91) to reach eight wins twice in his first four seasons in Champaign.
- **Bielema** is 10-8 in Big Ten road games at Illinois. His 10 Big Ten road wins are tied for the second-most by an Illini head coach in his first four seasons, behind only Mike White (11, 1980-83) and tied with Lou Tepper (10, 1992-95) and John Mackovic (10, 1988-91).

ATTENDANCE GROWTH

- Illinois announced on May 21 that its season tickets had sold out for the first time in at least 20 years.
- The Fighting Illini's final season ticket total is over 42,000.
- Student season tickets sold out on Aug. 18.
- Illinois' matchups against Western Michigan (Sept. 13), USC (Sept. 27), and Ohio State (Oct. 11) sold out.
- Over the last four seasons, Illinois has experienced the largest growth in attendance in the nation and the largest growth in the Big Ten by a wide margin. Average attendance increased by nearly 20,000 from 2021 to 2024, ranking Illinois #1 in the nation in three-year growth (+19,403 average attendance gained) and #9 in the nation in percentage growth (+54.89% attendance increase).

PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

STUDENT-ATHLETES

18	Michael Bartolotta	BAR-toh-LAW-tuh
80	Hank Beatty	BAY-dee
0	Justin Bowick	BOH-ick
6	Jaheim Clarke	jah-HEEM
13	Hudson Clement	cluh-MENT
31	Murphy Clement	cluh-MENT
96	Eli Coenen	KOO-nehn
32	Tywan Cox	ty-WAWN
36	Tomiwa Durojaiye	TOH-me-wah dur-oh-JEYE-AY
8	Malik Elzy	muh-LEEK EHLL-zee
3	Kaden Feagin	KAY-dihn FAY-gihn
76	Dylan Frechette	freh-SHETT
56	Guillermo Gallardo	ghee-AIR-moh ghy-ARD-doh
73	Josh Gesky	GUESS-kee
83	TySean Griffin	TY-shawn
16	Tanner Heckel	HECK-uhl
56	JJ Hirdes	HUR-duss
89	Tanner Hollinger	HAWL-ing-er
45	Malachi Hood	MEL-uh-KY
17	Gabe Jacas	ACK-us
54	Demetrius John	DUH-me-TREE-us
26	Ismael Kante	IHZ-mayl kan-TAY
2	Saboor Karriem	suh-BOR kuh-REEM
72	Ayden Knapik	kuh-NAP-ick
71	Nathan Knapik	kuh-NAP-ick
41	James Kreutz	KREW-tz
64	Josh Kreutz	KREW-tz
21	Aidan Laughery	LAW-fer-ree
87	Tyler McClure	muh-CLEWR
68	Michael McDonough	mick-DUHN-uh
18	Mason Muragin	mur-AH-ghin
15	Jershaun Newton	jur-SHAWN
39	Kenenna Odeluga	kuh-NEN-uh OH-duh-LOO-guh
24	David Olano	oh-LAW-noh
27	Lucas Osada	oh-SAY-duh
27	Corey Rashad	ruh-SHAWD
81	Lars Rau	ROW (like cow)
0	Mac Resetich	ruh-SEHT-itch
12	Amar Reynolds	uh-MAR
28	Dylan Rosiek	ROH-zee-ek
54	Griffin Rousseau	ROO-soh
63	Dezmond Schuster	SHOO-ster
13	Xanai Scott	zuh-NEYE
14	Xavier Scott	EX-ay-veer
79	Zafir Stewart	zah-FEAR
88	Davin Stoffel	STAW-ful
25	Des Straughton	STRAWT-uhn
78	Eddie Tuerk	TERK
5	Ca'Lil Valentine	kuh-LEEL
22	Cedric Wyche II	WHY-ch

COACHES

Bret Bielema	BEEL-ma
Barry Lunney Jr.	LUN-ee

STADIUM

Gies Memorial Stadium	GEESE
-----------------------	-------

BEATTY BREAKS RED'S RECORD VS. WESTERN ILLINOIS

- Hank Beatty broke Illinois' 102-year-old single-game punt return record in the season opener against Western Illinois when he totaled 133 yards on four returns. The previous record of 125 yards was set by Red Grange vs. Nebraska (10/6/1923).

Rank	Player	Punt Return Yards
1.	Hank Beatty vs. Western Illinois, 8/29/2025	133
2.	Red Grange vs. Nebraska, 10/6/1923	125
3.	Eugene Wilson vs. San Diego St., 9/11/1999	109
4.	Dike Eddleman vs. Minnesota, 10/18/1947	102

- Highlighting Beatty's returns was a 69-yard TD in the third quarter, Illinois' first punt returned for a touchdown since V'Angelo Bentley vs. Ohio State (11/16/2013).
- Beatty's 69-yard touchdown was Illinois' longest punt return touchdown since Christian Morton (80 yards) vs. Indiana (11/4/2000), 25 years ago.
- Beatty added five receptions for 108 yards to total 241 all-purpose yards in the game.

2024 - ONE OF THE BEST SEASONS IN ILLINOIS HISTORY

- Tied the program record for wins in a season (10).
- Highest final AP Top 25 ranking since 2001 (#16).
- Tied the program record for AP Top 25 wins in a season (4).
- Cheez-It Citrus Bowl champions, the program's first bowl win since 2011.
- Led the nation in fourth-quarter comebacks (5).
- Tied the program record for one-score wins in a season (5).
- Won six Big Ten games for the first time since 2007.
- Best home attendance since 2009 (54,750).

CHEEZ-IT CITRUS BOWL CHAMPIONS

- In one of the biggest bowl wins in program history, #20 Illinois took down #14 South Carolina, 21-17, at Camping World Stadium in Orlando on Dec. 31, 2024 to cap a historic 10-win season.
- Illinois completed its nation-leading fifth fourth-quarter comeback of the 2024 season in the victory.
- Illinois won a bowl game for the first time since Dec. 31, 2011 (Kraft Fight Hunger vs. UCLA, W, 20-14).
- Illinois defeated an SEC team for the first time in program history (previously 0-6).
- The Citrus Bowl was Illinois' second New Year's bowl game in the last three seasons, along with the 2023 ReliaQuest Bowl following Illinois' 8-4 regular season in 2022. The last time Illinois played in two New Year's bowls in a three-year span was 1990-91, when the program played in the 1990 Citrus Bowl and the 1991 Hall of Fame Bowl (now the ReliaQuest Bowl).
- Illinois played in two bowls over a three-year stretch for the first time since back-to-back bowl seasons in 2010 and 2011.
- Bret Bielema** was the first Illini coach to go to two bowl games in his first four seasons since Lou Tepper from 1991-94.
- With South Carolina ranked #14 in the AP Top 25, the win marked Illinois' highest ranked win over a nonconference opponent since defeating #9 Colorado, 23-22, Sept. 15, 1990.
- DB **Matthew Bailey** tied the Illinois bowl record with 13 tackles in the victory over South Carolina.

10-WIN ILLINOIS

- Illinois tied the program record for wins in a season with 10, set four times previously in 1902, 1983, 1989, and 2001.
- Illinois won 9+ regular season games for the eighth time in program history (1892, 1902, 1904, 1983, 1989, 2001, 2007).
- Illinois won 23 games over the three-year span from 2022-24, tying the program's most wins in a three-year span since winning 24 games from 1988-90. Illinois also won 23 games from 1999-2001.
- Illinois had six Big Ten wins for the first time since going 6-2 in Big Ten games in 2007 on the way to the 2008 Rose Bowl.
- Illinois had its third six-win Big Ten season in the last 30 years (2001, 2007, 2024).
- Illinois tied the program record with four ranked wins in 2024, joining the 1946 and 1983 teams as the only squads in Illini history to defeat four AP Top 25 ranked teams.

BIG COMEBACKS AND BIG WINS

- Illinois led the nation with five fourth-quarter comeback wins in 2024. The Illini pulled off fourth-quarter comeback wins over #19 Kansas, at #22 Nebraska, Purdue, at Rutgers, and against #14 South Carolina in the Citrus Bowl.
- Illinois had a 10-4 record in one-score games from 2023-24, including a 5-1 record in one-score games in 2024. The Illini had one-score wins over #19 Kansas, #22 Nebraska, Purdue, Rutgers, and #14 South Carolina in 2024.
- Seven of Illinois' 10 one-score wins from 2023-24 came in the final minute or overtime.
- Illinois was underdogs in six of its 10 one-score wins from 2023-24, including five as road/neutral dogs.
- In 2024, **Luke Altmyer** led the nation in game-winning touchdown passes with three (at Nebraska, Purdue, at Rutgers).
- Altmyer** has led five game-winning drives in the final minute or OT during his Illini career, including four in Big Ten wins. He leads the nation in career game-winning drives of all active quarterbacks in 2025.

RETURNING STARTERS

FROM THE CITRUS BOWL VICTORY (18)

No.	Player	Pos.	Yr.
1	Kaleb Patterson	DB	Jr.
3	Alec Bryant	OLB	Sr.
5	Torrie Cox Jr.	DB	Sr.
7	Matthew Bailey	DB	Jr.
7	Alexander Capka-Jones	WR	Sr.
9	Luke Altmeyer	QB	Sr.
10	Miles Scott	DB	Sr.
14	Xavier Scott	DB	Sr.
17	Collin Dixon	WR	So.
17	Gabe Jacas	OLB	Sr.
21	Aidan Laughery	RB	Jr.
41	James Kreutz	LB	Jr.
58	Melvin Priestly	OL	Sr.
64	Josh Kreutz	OL	Sr.
73	Josh Gesky	OL	Sr.
74	J.C. Davis	OL	Sr.
75	Brandon Henderson	OL	Jr.
85	Tanner Arkin	TE	Sr.

ILLINI IN THE NFL

Active Roster

OL Isaiah Adams, Arizona Cardinals
 DB Tony Adams, New York Jets
 OL Nick Allegretti, Washington Commanders
 RB Chase Brown, Cincinnati Bengals
 DB Sydney Brown, Philadelphia Eagles
 WR Pat Bryant, Denver Broncos
 QB Tommy DeVito, New York Giants
 LB Jake Hansen, Houston Texas
 DB Nate Hobbs, Green Bay Packers
 DB Kerby Joseph, Detroit Lions
 OL Ted Karras, Cincinnati Bengals
 OL Vederian Lowe, New England Patriots
 DB Jartavius Martin, Washington Commanders
 K Chase McLaughlin, Tampa Bay Buccaneers
 DL Jer'Zhan Newton, Washington Commanders
 OL Alex Palczewski, Denver Broncos
 LB Del'Shawn Phillips, Los Angeles Chargers
 OL Tip Reiman, Arizona Cardinals
 DL Dawuane Smoot, Jacksonville Jaguars
 WR Casey Washington, Atlanta Falcons
 DL Jihad Ward, Tennessee Titans
 WR Isaiah Williams, New York Jets
 CB Devon Witherspoon, Seattle Seahawks

Practice Squad

DL TeRah Edwards, Los Angeles Chargers
 OL Kendrick Green, Buffalo Bills
 WR Malik Turner, San Francisco 49ers

FOUR RANKED WINS IN 2024

- Illinois tied the program record with four ranked wins in 2024, joining the 1946 and 1983 teams as the only squads in Illini history to defeat four AP Top 25 ranked teams.
- Illinois had ranked wins over Kansas (#19), Nebraska (#22), Michigan (#24), and South Carolina (#14).
- Illinois went 4-2 against AP Top 25 teams in 2024. From the 2008 Rose Bowl game through the 2023 season, Illinois went 3-40 against AP Top 25 teams.
- All four of Illinois' ranked wins came as underdogs.
- Illinois had two AP Top 25 wins during September for the first time in program history.
- Against Michigan, Illinois won a ranked vs. ranked game at Gies Memorial Stadium for the first time since 1991, when #20 Illinois defeated #11 Ohio State, 10-7 (Oct. 12, 1991).
- Illinois won two ranked vs. ranked games in a single season for the first time since 2001 (Nebraska, Michigan).
- The Sept. 15 AP Top 25 poll marked the earliest in a season that Illinois had been voted into the top 25 since 2008.
- Illinois was ranked #11 in the nation by ESPN's strength of record metric.

SUCCESS IN CLOSE GAMES

- Illinois is 10-4 in one-score games over the last three seasons (2023-25), tying the program record for one-score wins (5) in back-to-back seasons in 2023 and 2024. The five one-score wins in 2023 and 2024 tied the program record first set in 1934.
- Illinois was 5-1 in one-score games in 2024 with wins over #19 Kansas, at #22 Nebraska, Purdue, at Rutgers, and #14 South Carolina (Cheez-It Citrus Bowl).
- Illinois was an underdog in six of its 10 one-score wins over the past two seasons, including five as road/neutral dogs.
- Illinois' five one-score wins in 2023 tied for the third-most in the nation during the regular season, behind only Old Dominion and Washington, which each had six one-score wins during the 2023 regular season.
- Illinois is 4-0 in overtime games under **Bret Bielema** with wins against #7 Penn State (9 OT, 2021, road), Indiana (1 OT, 2023, home), #22 Nebraska (1 OT, 2024, road), and Purdue (1 OT, 2024, home).
- Seven of Illinois' 10 one-score wins over the last two seasons have come in the final minute or overtime. In 2024, Illinois topped Nebraska and Purdue in overtime and beat Rutgers with 0:04 left. In 2023, K **Caleb Griffin** had game-winning field goals to beat Toledo (0:05) and Maryland (0:00), and WR **Isaiah Williams** had game-winning TD receptions from QB **John Paddock** at Minnesota (0:50) and against Indiana (OT) in back-to-back weeks in November.
- QB **Luke Altmeyer** has led five game-winning drives in the final minute or overtime during his Illini career, the most in the nation during that span. He led the Illini on last-second field goal drives against Toledo (0:05) and Maryland (0:00) in 2023. In 2024, he threw the deciding touchdown to Pat Bryant in the opening drive of overtime wins over #22 Nebraska and Purdue, plus hit Bryant with 0:04 left at Rutgers for a game-winning 40-yard touchdown.

FIVE BROTHERS

- Illinois leads the nation in brothers on the roster with five sets, one more set than Auburn (4), Kentucky (4), and USC (4).

Older Brother	Younger Brother	Hometown
WR Hudson Clement (Jr.)	RB Murphy Clement (R-Fr.)	Martinsburg, W.Va.
DB Torrie Cox Jr. (Sr.)	DB Tywan Cox (Fr.)	Miami, Fla.
OL Ayden Knapik (Jr.)	OL Nathan Knapik (R-Fr.)	Kennewick, Wash.
DB Xavier Scott (Sr.)	DB Xanai Scott (Fr.)	Riviera Beach, Fla.
OL Josh Kreutz (Sr.)	LB James Kreutz (Jr.)	Bannockburn, Ill.

- Illinois also has true freshman QB JerShaun Newton, who is the younger brother of former Illinois All-American and 2023 Big Ten Defensive Player of the Year Jer'Zhan Newton.
- Bielema famously recruited J.J. Watt to Wisconsin, then his brother, Derek.
- Bielema also coached twins Chase and Sydney Brown at Illinois. Both were selected in the 2023 NFL Draft to become the sixth set of twins drafted in the same NFL Draft.

RECENT NFL DRAFT SUCCESS

- Illinois WR **Pat Bryant** was selected by the Denver Broncos in the third round of the 2025 NFL Draft.
- **Bryant** was the Illini's eighth top-100 pick among the 12 NFL Draft selections during **Bielema's** four years at Illinois.
- Illinois is one of only three Big Ten programs to have a wide receiver drafted in each of the last two NFL Drafts, along with Ohio State and Oregon.
- Since **Bielema** arrived at Illinois, the Illini's eight top-100 NFL Draft picks ranks fourth in the Big Ten behind only Michigan, Ohio State, and Penn State (among teams in the league the last four years).
- **Bret Bielema** has the most top-100 picks of any coach in Illini history during their first four seasons as head coach.
- **Bielema** has had 56 NFL Draft selections during his 16 seasons as a head coach.

2025 AWARD AND HONORS

QB Luke Altmyer

- » Phil Steele Preseason All-Big Ten Second Team
- » Athlon Preseason All-Big Ten Third Team
- » Maxwell Award Watch List
- » Walter Camp Player of the Year Watch List
- » Davey O'Brien Award Watch List
- » Manning Award Watch List
- » Johnny Unitas Golden Arm Watch List

TE Tanner Arkin

- » John Mackey Award Watch List

DB Matthew Bailey

- » Phil Steele Preseason All-Big Ten Fourth Team

WR Hank Beatty

- » Big Ten Special Teams Player of the Week vs. WIU
- » Athlon Preseason All-Big Ten Second Team (Punt Returner)
- » Phil Steele Preseason All-Big Ten Second Team (Punt Returner)
- » Paul Hornung Award Watch List

WR Hudson Clement

- » Athlon Preseason All-Big Ten Third Team

P Keelan Crimmins

- » Athlon Preseason All-Big Ten Fourth Team
- » Phil Steele Preseason All-Big Ten Fourth Team

OL J.C. Davis

- » Athlon Preseason All-Big Ten First Team
- » Phil Steele Preseason All-Big Ten Fourth Team
- » Outland Trophy Watch List

RB Kaden Feagin

- » Athlon Preseason All-Big Ten Third Team
- » Doak Walker Award Watch List
- » Comeback Player of the Year Watch List

LS Lane Hansen

- » Patrick Mannelly Award Watch List

OLB Gabe Jacas

- » Senior Bowl Player of the Week at Duke
- » ESPN Preseason All-America First Team
- » Athlon Preseason All-America Third Team
- » Phil Steele Preseason All-America Fourth Team
- » Athlon Preseason All-Big Ten First Team
- » Phil Steele Preseason All-Big Ten First Team
- » Lott IMPACT Trophy Watch List
- » Bronko Nagurski Trophy Watch List
- » Chuck Bednarik Award Watch List
- » Lombardi Award Watch List

RB Aidan Laughery

- » Doak Walker Award Watch List

LB Kenenna Odeluga

- » Allstate Good Works Team nominee
- » Wuerffel Trophy Watch List

DB Kaleb Patterson

- » Athlon Preseason All-Big Ten Fourth Team

OL Melvin Priestly

- » Athlon Preseason All-Big Ten Fourth Team

LB Dylan Rosiek

- » Athlon Preseason All-Big Ten Third Team
- » Phil Steele Preseason All-Big Ten Third Team

TE Cole Rusk

- » Comeback Player of the Year Watch List

DB Xavier Scott

- » Athlon Preseason All-America Third Team
- » Phil Steele Preseason All-America Fourth Team
- » Athlon Preseason All-Big Ten First Team
- » Phil Steele Preseason All-Big Ten First Team
- » Paycom Jim Thorpe Award Watch List
- » Bronko Nagurski Trophy Watch List
- » Chuck Bednarik Award Watch List

DL James Thompson Jr.

- » Athlon Preseason All-Big Ten Fourth Team

Head Coach Bret Bielema

- » Allstate Good Works Team nominee
- » Dodd Trophy Watch List

RECRUITING THE STATE

- Illinois native **Bret Bielema** has made a dedicated effort to recruit the state of Illinois since his arrival in Champaign.
- The Illini have 50 players on the roster that played IHSA football.

FLORIDA TO ILLINOIS TO THE NFL

- Over the last four years, Illinois is #3 in the nation in taking Florida high school recruits and getting them drafted.
- Six Illini have come from Florida high schools, then were drafted out of Illinois since Bielema's arrival.

Floridian Illini	Florida HS Town	NFL Draft
WR Pat Bryant	Jacksonville, Fla.	2025, Denver (3rd, 74)
DT Jer'Zhan Newton	St. Petersburg, Fla.	2024, Washington (2nd, 36)
DB Devon Witherspoon	Pensacola, Fla.	2023, Seattle (1st, 5)
DB Jartavius Martin	Lehigh Acres, Fla.	2023, Washington (2nd, 47)
DB Sydney Brown *	Bradenton, Fla.*	2023, Philadelphia (3rd, 66)
DB Kerby Joseph	Orlando, Fla.	2022, Detroit (3rd, 97)

* - Sydney Brown is originally from Canada, attended high school in Florida.

* - Sydney's brother, Chase Brown, is not on this list because he played at Western Michigan out of high school.

- The Illini (6) trail only Miami (8) and Florida (7) at producing Florida draft picks over the last four years.
- No out-of-state program has had more Floridians that they signed out of high school drafted over past four years than Illinois.

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT SUCCESS

- Illinois was one of only five schools to win a bowl game and at least one game in the NCAA men's and women's basketball tournaments in 2024-25, along with Connecticut, Iowa State, Michigan, and Mississippi.
- Illinois was one of only 16 schools to qualify for a bowl game and the NCAA men's and women's basketball tournaments in 2024-25, along with Alabama, Baylor, Connecticut, Duke, Iowa State, Liberty, Louisville, Michigan, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Oregon, Tennessee, Texas, and Vanderbilt.

ACADEMIC SUCCESS

- Illinois has 24 college graduates on its 2025 roster (full list on Page 15), the fourth-most in the Big Ten behind only Northwestern (34), UCLA (31), and Minnesota (25). Illinois' 24 graduates ranks as the 16th-most in the nation.
- Illinois has had five straight semesters above a 3.0 team GPA, the most consecutive semesters over 3.0 in program history.

REST UP

- Illinois is 16-5 in games with more than six days rest since **Bielema's** arrival in 2021, including 14-3 over the last four seasons (2022-25) and a 6-1 record over the last two seasons (2024-25).

14 ILLINI EARN ALL-BIG TEN ACCOLADES IN 2024

- Of Illinois' 14 All-Big Ten honorees in 2024, 12 returned to the Illini in 2025, including All-Big Ten First Team selection **Xavier Scott** and third-team picks **J.C. Davis**, **Gabe Jacas**, and **Hank Beatty**.
- All four full-time Illini offensive line starters earned All-Big Ten status. OT **J.C. Davis** was named to the All-Big Ten Third Team, while C **Josh Kreutz**, OG **Josh Gesky**, and OT **Melvin Priestly** earned honorable mention accolades.
- 2024 was the third consecutive year that every full-time starter on the offensive line earned All-Big Ten honors. Illinois and Penn State are the only programs in the Big Ten to accomplish that feat in each of the last three seasons.

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	ELIG.	HOMETOWN	HIGH SCHOOL	PREVIOUS COLLEGE
0	Justin Bowick	WR	6-4	210	Jr.	Powder Springs, Ga.	Pace Academy	Ball State
0	Mac Resetich	DB	6-0	210	Jr.	Spring Valley, Ill.	Spring Valley Hall	
1	Kaleb Patterson	DB	6-1	195	Jr.	Jackson, Miss.	Terry	Pearl River CC
1	Mario Sanders II	WR	5-10	195	Jr.	Minneapolis, Minn.	Minneapolis North	Iowa Central CC
2	Ashton Hollins	WR	6-5	195	Jr.	Lucedale, Miss.	George County	
2	Saboor Karriem	DB	6-3	210	Jr.	West Orange, N.J.	West Orange	
3	Alec Bryant	OLB	6-3	250	Sr.	Houston, Texas	Shadow Creek	Virginia Tech
3	Kaden Feagin	RB	6-3	255	Jr.	Atwood, Ill.	ALAH	
4	Carson Boyd	QB	6-0	190	Fr.	St. Louis, Mo.	Cardinal Ritter	
4	Daniel Brown	OLB	6-1	250	Jr.	Kansas City, Kan.	Bishop Ward	Hutchinson CC
5	Torrie Cox Jr.	DB	5-9	170	Sr.	Miami, Fla.	Chaminade-Madonna Prep	Ohio
5	Ca'Lil Valentine	RB	5-11	200	So.	Hayward, Calif.	Chandler (Ariz.)	
6	Jaheim Clarke	DB	6-1	175	Jr.	Ft. Myers, Fla.	Riverdale	
7	Matthew Bailey	DB	6-2	215	Jr.	Moline, Ill.	Moline	
7	Alexander Capka-Jones	WR	6-4	195	Sr.	Oak Park, Calif.	Oak Park	Moorpark College
8	Malik Elzy	WR	6-2	225	Jr.	Chicago, Ill.	Simeon	
8	Jeremiah Warren	DL	6-3	310	So.	Belleville, Mich.	Belleville	
9	Luke Altmeyer	QB	6-2	215	Sr.	Starkville, Miss.	Starkville	Mississippi
9	Leon Lowery Jr.	OLB	6-3	255	Sr.	Elizabeth, N.J.	North Brunswick	Wisconsin
10	Ethan Hampton	QB	6-3	230	Jr.	Elburn, Ill.	Aurora Christian	Northern Illinois
10	Miles Scott	DB	5-11	210	Sr.	Dolton, Ill.	St. Thomas More (Conn.)	
11	Brayden Trimble	WR	6-1	190	Fr.	Mt. Zion, Ill.	Mt. Zion	
11	Donovan Turner	DB	6-2	190	Jr.	Long Beach, Calif.	Long Beach Poly	Long Beach City College
12	Trey Petty	QB	6-0	205	R-Fr.	Starkville, Miss.	Starkville	
12	Amar Reynolds	DB	6-0	190	R-Fr.	Fort Pierce, Fla.	Vero Beach	
13	Hudson Clement	WR	6-1	215	Jr.	Martinsburg, W.Va.	Martinsburg	West Virginia
13	Xanai Scott	DB	5-11	205	Fr.	Riviera Beach, Fla.	Cardinal Newman	
14	Cole Rusk	TE	6-5	250	Sr.	Rock Island, Ill.	Rock Island	Murray State
14	Xavier Scott	DB	5-11	195	Sr.	Riviera Beach, Fla.	Dwyer	
15	Andre Lovett Jr.	DB	6-1	190	Fr.	Blue Island, Ill.	Eisenhower	
15	Jershaun Newton	QB	6-0	215	Fr.	St. Petersburg, Fla.	Clearwater Central Catholic	
16	Logan Farrell	TE	6-2	260	Fr.	Arlington Heights, Ill.	John Hersey	
16	Tanner Heckel	DB	5-11	195	So.	Lyndon, Kan.	Lyndon	
17	Collin Dixon	WR	6-1	215	So.	Tallmadge, Ohio	Tallmadge	
17	Gabe Jacas	OLB	6-3	270	Sr.	Port St. Lucie, Fla.	Fort Pierce Central	
18	Michael Bartolotta	WR	6-2	215	Sr.	Orland Park, Ill.	Marist	Iowa Central CC
18	Mason Muragin	OLB	6-4	250	So.	Macomb, Mich.	De La Salle	
19	Tyson Rooks	DB	6-4	205	Jr.	St. Simons Island, Ga.	Glynn Academy	
20	John Forster	RB	5-10	195	Fr.	Montvale, N.J.	St. Joseph Regional	
20	Tyler Strain	DB	5-9	200	Sr.	Pace, Fla.	Pace	
21	Ben Clawson	DB	6-0	205	Jr.	Arlington Heights, Ill.	Hersey	
21	Aidan Laughery	RB	5-11	200	Jr.	Gibson City, Ill.	GCMS	
22	RJ Jones III	DB	6-0	175	Fr.	Fort Pierce, Fla.	Vero Beach	
22	Cedric Wyche II	RB	5-10	215	Fr.	Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.	St. Thomas Aquinas	
23	Jordan Anderson	TE	6-4	240	Jr.	Naperville, Ill.	Joliet Catholic	
24	David Olano	K	5-11	180	Jr.	Naperville, Ill.	Naperville North	
24	Vernon Woodward III	DB	6-1	200	R-Fr.	DeLand, Fla.	Winter Park	
25	Aaron Ball	RB	5-11	205	R-Fr.	Chicago, Ill.	St. Laurence	
25	Des Straughton	DB	6-0	210	Fr.	Detroit, Mich.	Roseville	
26	Ismael Kante	OLB	6-2	235	Jr.	Brooklyn Park, Minn.	Park Center	Iowa Central CC
27	Lucas Osada	K/P	6-1	200	So.	Charlottesville, Va.	Woodberry Forest	North Carolina
27	Corey Rashad	RB	5-8	185	So.	Chicago, Ill.	Marist	
28	Karson Kaiser	WR	6-1	170	R-Fr.	Weston, Fla.	Champaign Centennial (Ill.)	
28	Dylan Rosiek	LB	6-1	235	Sr.	East Lake, Fla.	East Lake	
29	TJ Griffin	LB	6-0	220	Jr.	Hickory Hills, Ill.	Amos Alonzo Stagg	
30	Jojo Hayden	LB	6-2	245	So.	East St. Louis, Ill.	East St. Louis	
31	Murphy Clement	RB	6-0	215	R-Fr.	Martinsburg, W.Va.	Martinsburg	West Virginia
32	Tywan Cox	DB	5-10	175	Fr.	Miami, Fla.	Miami Northwestern	

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	ELIG.	HOMETOWN	HIGH SCHOOL	PREVIOUS COLLEGE
33	Grant Beerman	LB	6-5	230	Fr.	West Chester, Ohio	Lakota West	
34	Erik Gayle	OLB	6-3	230	Fr.	Cincinnati, Ohio	Withrow	
35	Grayson Griffin	DB	5-11	200	Sr.	Aurora, Ill.	St. Francis	
36	Tomiwa Durojaiye	DL	6-5	300	Jr.	Philadelphia, Pa.	Middletown (Del.)	Florida State
36	Lane Hansen	LS	6-0	235	Sr.	East Lake, Fla.	East Lake	
38	Jack Paris	LB	6-2	220	Fr.	River Forest, Ill.	Fenwick	
39	Kenenna Odeluga	LB	6-1	235	Sr.	South Holland, Ill.	Mount Carmel	
39	Trey Peters	TE	6-5	230	Fr.	Mahomet, Ill.	Mahomet-Seymour	
40	Keelan Crimmins	P	6-3	230	Sr.	Spotswood, Australia	Victoria University	Purdue
41	James Kreutz	LB	6-2	225	Jr.	Bannockburn, Ill.	Loyola Academy	
42	Luke Zardzin	LB	6-0	225	Sr.	Mount Prospect, Ill.	Prospect	
43	Joe Barna	OLB	6-4	265	So.	Wheaton, Ill.	Wheaton North	
44	Patrick Mahoney III	LS	6-2	225	So.	Northbrook, Ill.	Glenbrook North	
44	Angelo McCullom	DL	6-2	300	So.	Pickerington, Ohio	Pickerington North	
45	Malachi Hood	LB	6-2	235	Jr.	Plainfield, Ill.	Joliet Catholic	
47	Easton Baker	LB	6-0	220	R-Fr.	Stansbury, Utah	Stansbury	
48	Carter Smith	OLB	6-3	245	R-Fr.	Rolling Meadows, Ill.	Fremd	
51	Clayton Leonard	OLB	6-4	250	Jr.	Danforth, Ill.	Iroquois West	
52	Pat Farrell	DL	6-5	280	So.	Oak Lawn, Ill.	St. Rita	
54	Demetrius John	DL	6-3	280	R-Fr.	Columbus, Ohio	Dublin Coffman	
54	Griffin Rousseau	OL	6-7	320	Fr.	Stoughton, Wis.	Stoughton	
55	TJ McMillen	OL	6-3	295	So.	Naperville, Ill.	St. Francis	
56	Guillermo Gallardo	DL	6-3	320	Jr.	Bloomington, Ill.	Normal Community	New Mexico Military Institute
56	JJ Hirdes	OL	6-6	290	Fr.	Coopersville, Mich.	Coopersville	
57	Zach Barrett	OL	6-3	295	R-Fr.	Orland Park, Ill.	Carl Sandburg	
58	Melvin Priestly	OL	6-4	305	Sr.	St. Louis, Mo.	East St. Louis (Ill.)	Grambling State
63	Dezmond Schuster	OL	6-5	335	Sr.	Gonzales, La.	East Ascension	Hutchinson CC (Kan.)
64	Josh Kreutz	OL	6-2	290	Sr.	Bannockburn, Ill.	Loyola Academy	
65	Kellen Francis	OL	6-5	320	So.	Princeville, Ill.	Princeville	Butler CC (Kan.)
66	Brandon Hansen	OL	6-6	335	So.	Mundelein, Ill.	Mundelein	
68	Michael McDonough	OL	6-3	310	Fr.	Tinley Park, Ill.	Andrew	
70	Tyler McMillan	OL	6-5	335	Jr.	Detroit, Mich.	River Rouge	Southeast Missouri
71	Nathan Knapik	OL	6-7	300	R-Fr.	Kennewick, Wash.	Kennewick	Idaho
72	Ayden Knapik	OL	6-6	305	Sr.	Kennewick, Wash.	Kennewick	Idaho
73	Josh Gesky	OL	6-5	335	Sr.	Manteno, Ill.	Manteno	
74	J.C. Davis	OL	6-5	335	Sr.	Oakland, Calif.	McClymonds	New Mexico
75	Brandon Henderson	OL	6-5	335	Jr.	East St. Louis, Ill.	East St. Louis	
76	Dylan Frechette	OL	6-6	310	Fr.	Central Falls, R.I.	Cardinal Newman (Fla.)	
78	Eddie Tuerk	OL	6-4	320	R-Fr.	La Grange, Ill.	Lyons Township	
79	Zafir Stewart	OL	6-6	350	R-Fr.	Philadelphia, Pa.	Imhotep Charter	
80	Hank Beatty	WR	5-11	185	Sr.	Rochester, Ill.	Rochester	
81	Lars Rau	P	6-3	215	So.	Novato, Calif.	San Marin	Texas State
82	Jake Furtney	TE	6-4	250	R-Fr.	St. Charles, Ill.	St. Charles North	
83	TySean Griffin	WR	5-10	180	R-Fr.	Chicago, Ill.	Morgan Park	
84	Grant Smith	TE	6-5	225	Fr.	Forsyth, Ill.	Maroa-Forsyth	
85	Tanner Arkin	TE	6-4	265	Sr.	Fort Collins, Colo.	Fossil Ridge	Colorado State
86	Christian Abney	TE	6-6	255	Jr.	Zionsville, Ind.	Zionsville	Ball State
87	Tyler McClure	WR	6-2	205	Sr.	Champaign, Ill.	Centennial	Kaskaskia College
88	Davin Stoffel	TE	6-6	260	So.	Mosinee, Wis.	Mosinee	South Dakota State
89	Tanner Hollinger	TE	6-5	230	R-Fr.	Stromsburg, Neb.	Cross County	
90	James Thompson Jr.	DL	6-6	310	Sr.	Cincinnati, Ohio	Roger Bacon	Wisconsin
91	Cameron Brooks	DL	6-3	305	Fr.	Chicago, Ill.	Homewood-Flossmoor	
92	Gentle Hunt	DL	5-11	295	Sr.	High Springs, Fla.	Gainesville	Florida A&M
94	Carter Hewitt	DL	6-5	300	Sr.	Jewell, Iowa	South Hamilton	Northern Iowa
95	Isaiah White	DL	6-2	335	Fr.	Indianapolis, Ind.	Ben Davis	
96	Eli Coenen	DL	6-7	290	So.	Baldwin, Wis.	Baldwin-Woodville	Bemidji State
99	Curt Neal	DL	6-0	310	Jr.	Cornelius, N.C.	Hough	Wisconsin

**74 J.C. DAVIS**

LT, 6-5, 335, SR.

OAKLAND, CALIF. / McClymonds / New Mexico

- » 2025 Athlon Preseason All-Big Ten First Team
- » 2024 All-Big Ten Third Team (coaches) and Honorable Mention (media)
- » Entered 2025 with 37 consecutive starts
- » No. 11-graded pass-blocking lineman in bowl games according to PFF (87.6, min. 59 snaps) in Cheez-It Citrus Bowl victory over No. 14 South Carolina (12/31/24)
- » Two-Time All-Mountain West at New Mexico (2022 honorable mention, 2023 first team)
- » 2021 All-CCCA first team at Contra Coast College
- » Communication major at Illinois

OUTLAND TROPHY WATCH LIST
SENIOR BOWL 300**START STATISTICS**

YEAR	TEAM	G	START
2022	UNM	12	12
2023	UNM	12	12
2024	ILL	13	13
2025	ILL	3	3
CAREER		40	40

**73 JOSH GESKY**

LG, 6-5, 335, SR.

MANTENO, ILL. / MANTENO

- » 2025 Academic All-American candidate
- » 2024 All-Big Ten Honorable Mention (coaches & media) and 2023 All-Big Ten Honorable Mention
- » Two-time Academic All-District
- » No. 12-graded pass-blocking lineman in bowl games according to PFF (87.4, min. 59 snaps) in Cheez-It Citrus Bowl victory over No. 14 South Carolina (12/31/24)
- » Started 2023 at RG and moved to LG prior to Week 3 vs. #7 Penn State (9/16/23)
- » Kinesiology major at Illinois

START STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	START
2021	ILL	--	--
2022	ILL	11	0
2023	ILL	11	8
2024	ILL	13	13
2025	ILL	3	3
CAREER		38	24

**64 JOSH KREUTZ**

C, 6-2, 290, SR.

BANNOCKBURN, ILL. / LOYOLA ACADEMY

- » Two-time team captain
- » 2024 All-Big Ten Honorable Mention (coaches & media)
- » Entered 2025 with 25 consecutive starts
- » Father, Olin, was a six-time Pro Bowler with the Chicago Bears
- » Brother, James, is a linebacker for the Illini
- » Graduated from the University of Illinois in May 2025 with a degree in recreation, sport, & tourism

**START STATISTICS**

YEAR	TEAM	G	START
2021	ILL	3	0
2022	ILL	13	0
2023	ILL	12	12
2024	ILL	13	13
2025	ILL	3	3
CAREER		44	28

**75 BRANDON HENDERSON**

RG, 6-5, 335, JR.

EAST ST. LOUIS, ILL. / EAST ST. LOUIS (ILL.)

- » Started the final seven games of the 2024 season at right guard
- » Caught game-tying touchdown pass from Luke Altmyer on fourth-and-2 from the Nebraska 6-yard line in the fourth quarter of Illinois' OT road win over the #22 Cornhuskers (9/20/24)
- » Helped East St. Louis to the 2022 IHSA 6A state championship at Gies Memorial Stadium
- » 2022 IHSFCA 6A All-State honorable mention
- » High school teammate of Illini teammates Jojo Hayden and Melvin Priestly
- » Recreation, sport, & tourism major at Illinois

START STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	START
2023	ILL	9	0
2024	ILL	13	7
2025	ILL	3	2
CAREER		25	9

**58 MELVIN PRIESTLY**

RT, 6-4, 305, SR.

ST. LOUIS, MO. / EAST ST. LOUIS (ILL.) / GRAMBLING STATE

- » 2024 All-Big Ten Honorable Mention (coaches)
- » No. 78 overall player in college football according to CBS.com's spring rankings
- » Transferred to Illinois in January 2024 from Grambling State
- » Enters 2025 with 28 career starts (13 at Illinois)
- » Helped East St. Louis to a 2021 IHSA 6A state runner-up finish
- » Sociology major at Illinois

START STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	START
2022	GRAM	11	5
2023	GRAM	11	10
2024	ILL	13	13
2025	ILL	3	3
CAREER		38	31

MOST OL GAMES PLAYED

- Illinois has one of the most experienced offensive lines in the nation, ranking #4 in the nation in games played among offensive linemen and #1 in the Big Ten entering 2025.

Rank	Team	Games Played (Entering 2025)
1.	Virginia	334
2.	UTSA	288
3.	Florida State	265
4.	Illinois	259
5.	Oregon	253

MOST OL GAMES STARTED

- Illinois' offensive line entered the 2025 season with the second-most starts in the nation, behind only Virginia. The list below includes FBS and FCS starts only.

Rank	Team	Games Started (Entering 2025)
1.	Virginia	213
2.	Illinois	169
3.	Kentucky	166
4.	Texas Tech	165
5.	Texas A&M	156

ILLINOIS O-LINE

- Four of Illinois' five starting linemen played high school football in the state of Illinois.

QUARTERBACKS



9 LUKE ALTMYER

QB, 6-2, 215, SR.

STARKVILLE, MISS. / STARKVILLE / OLE MISS

- » 2024 All-Big Ten Honorable Mention (Coaches and Media)
- » Third-year starter (26 career starts, 25 at Illinois)
- » Leads the nation in career game-winning drives in the final minute/OT among active quarterbacks with five
- » 14th in the nation and second in the Big Ten in passing touchdowns (8) entering the Indiana game
- » Last 22 games at Illinois (after 4 INT game vs. Penn State in 2023): 390-613 (63.6%), 4,738 yards, 40 passing TDs, 9 interceptions, 6 rushing TDs, and has led Illinois to a 16-6 record
- » Illinois is 12-1 when he throws 2+ touchdown passes
- » Passing efficiency of 144.0 in 2024 was the second-best single-season mark in Illinois history
- » Only QB in the nation with four touchdown passes in a top-25 road win in 2024 (at Nebraska)
- » Transferred to Illinois with three years of eligibility prior to the 2023 season
- » Unanimous four-star recruit and the No. 11-ranked pro-style QB in the nation coming out of high school
- » Graduated from the University of Illinois in December 2024 with a degree in communication



MAXWELL AWARD WATCH LIST
WALTER CAMP AWARD WATCH LIST
DAVEY O'BRIEN AWARD WATCH LIST
MANNING AWARD WATCH LIST
UNITAS GOLDEN ARM WATCH LIST
SENIOR BOWL 300

PASSING STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	CMP	ATT	CMP%	YDS	YD/ATT	TD	INT	LNG	SACK	RTG
2021	MISS	5	20	37	54.1	192	5.2	1	2	37	9	95.8
2022	MISS	4	8	17	47.1	125	7.4	2	1	36	1	135.9
2023	ILL	9	175	270	64.8	1,883	7.0	13	10	54	34	131.9
2024	ILL	13	211	347	60.8	2,717	7.8	22	6	64	32	144.0
2025	ILL	3	56	78	71.8	709	9.1	8	0	59	9	182.0
CAREER		34	407	749	62.8	5,626	7.5	46	19	64	85	141.0

RUSHING STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	CAR	YDS	AVG	TD	LNG
2021	MISS	5	21	0	0.0	0	14
2022	MISS	4	4	3	0.8	1	5
2023	ILL	9	94	282	3.0	3	72
2024	ILL	13	99	217	2.2	4	37
2025	ILL	3	17	-12	-0.7	1	25
CAREER		34	235	490	2.1	9	72



10 ETHAN HAMPTON

QB, 6-3, 230, JR.

ELLBURN, ILL. / AURORA CHRISTIAN / NORTHERN ILLINOIS

- » Started 10 games at quarterback for Northern Illinois in 2024
- » Led NIU to one of the biggest upsets in program history when he threw for 198 yards and one touchdown in a 16-14 win at #5 Notre Dame (9/7/2024)
- » Graduated from Northern Illinois in December 2024 with a degree in management & marketing
- » Enrolled in the recreation, sport, & tourism master's program at Illinois



PASSING STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	CMP	ATT	CMP%	YDS	YD/ATT	TD	INT	LNG	SACK	RTG
2021	NIU	2	4	10	40.0	23	2.3	0	0	14	2	59.3
2022	NIU	4	72	122	59.0	798	6.5	7	6	70	6	123.1
2023	NIU	4	19	33	57.6	147	4.5	2	2	17	0	102.9
2024	NIU	11	144	247	58.3	1,600	6.5	12	6	83	13	123.9
2025	ILL	2	1	1	100.0	14	14.0	0	0	14	0	217.6
CAREER		23	240	413	58.1	2,582	6.3	21	14	83	21	120.6

RUSHING STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	CAR	YDS	AVG	TD	LNG
2021	NIU	2	5	-10	-2.0	0	9
2022	NIU	4	12	-6	-0.5	0	9
2023	NIU	4	4	6	1.5	0	6
2024	NIU	11	53	129	2.4	2	32
2025	ILL	2	0	0	0	0	0
CAREER		23	223	486	2.2	8	72

RUNNING BACKS



3 KADEN FEAGIN

RB, 6-3, 255, JR.

ATWOOD, ILL. / ALAH

- » Hometown of Atwood is 30 miles south of Gies Memorial Stadium
- » 2025 Athlon Preseason All-Big Ten Third Team
- » Missed the final eight games of 2024 after hip surgery on 10/18/24
- » 2023 All-Big Ten Honorable Mention as a true freshman
- » Began career with 74 consecutive carries without a negative rush, and was only stopped behind the line of scrimmage twice in 95 attempts during his true freshman season in 2023
- » Placed second in long jump at the 2021 IHSA track and field state finals
- » Recreation, sport, & tourism major at Illinois

DOAK WALKER AWARD WATCH LIST
COMEBACK PLAYER OF THE YEAR WATCH LIST

RUSHING STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	CAR	YDS	AVG	TD	LNG
2023	ILL	9	95	438	4.6	2	25
2024	ILL	5	67	306	4.6	3	34
2025	ILL	3	50	222	4.4	3	26
CAREER		17	212	966	4.6	8	34

RECEIVING STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	REC	YDS	AVG	TD	LNG
2023	ILL	9	9	116	12.9	1	54
2024	ILL	5	5	37	7.4	0	12
2025	ILL	3	2	13	6.5	0	13
CAREER		17	14	153	10.9	1	54



21 AIDAN LAUGHERY

RB, 5-11, 200, JR.

GIBSON CITY, ILL. / GCMS

- » Hometown of Gibson City is 32 miles north of Gies Memorial Stadium
- » Rushed 16 times for 67 yards in Cheez-It Citrus Bowl win over No. 14 South Carolina (12/31/24)
- » Big Ten Co-Offensive Player of the Week after rushing 12 times for a career-best 172 yards and career-high three touchdowns in win at Northwestern (11/30/24)...was first 100-yard game of his career and the first multi-score game of his career...all three touchdowns were over 30 yards, including a career-long 64-yarder in the third quarter
- » Led GCMS to IHSA 2A state title; also ran track in high school
- » Graduated from Illinois in August 2025 with a degree in recreation, sport, & tourism
- » Enrolled in the management master's program at Illinois



DOAK WALKER AWARD WATCH LIST

RUSHING STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	CAR	YDS	AVG	TD	LNG
2022	ILL	1	3	9	3.0	0	5
2023	ILL	9	16	81	5.1	1	19
2024	ILL	12	97	589	6.1	4	64
2025	ILL	2	15	106	7.1	2	57
CAREER		24	131	785	6.0	7	64

RECEIVING STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	REC	YDS	AVG	TD	LNG
2022	ILL	1	0	0	0	0	0
2023	ILL	9	2	24	12.0	0	12
2024	ILL	12	9	32	3.6	0	10
2025	ILL	2	2	22	11.0	0	17
CAREER		24	13	78	6.0	0	17



5 CA'LIL VALENTINE

RB, 5-11, 190, SO.

HAYWARD, CALIF. / CHANDLER (AZ)

- » Touchdowns against Duke (9/6/25) and Western Michigan (9/13/25) this season
- » Scored first-career touchdown at #1 Oregon (10/26/24) as a true freshman
- » Four-star recruit by ESPN, On3, and Rivals
- » #20 overall running back recruit in the nation by On3
- » Played high school football at Chandler (Ariz.), where he starred with now Nebraska QB Dylan Raiola
- » Rushed for 3,242 yards and 42 rushing touchdowns during three-year high school career
- » Recreation, sport, & tourism major at Illinois

RUSHING STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	CAR	YDS	AVG	TD	LNG
2024	ILL	12	53	212	4.0	1	22
2025	ILL	3	25	158	6.3	2	23
CAREER		15	78	370	4.7	3	23

RECEIVING STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	REC	YDS	AVG	TD	LNG
2024	ILL	12	5	30	6.0	0	15
2025	ILL	3	2	14	7.0	0	12
CAREER		15	7	44	6.3	0	15

1A RUNNING BACKS

- Illinois running backs Kaden Feagin and Aidan Laughery represent two of the smallest football-playing schools in the state of Illinois. Both are from the state's smallest division, 1A:
 - » Feagin played at Arthur-Lovington-Atwood-Hammond (ALAH) High School, 30 miles south of Gies Memorial Stadium. ALAH's enrollment was 298 during Feagin's senior season.
 - » Laughery played at Gibson City-Melvin-Sibley (GCMS) High School, 32 miles north of Gies Memorial Stadium. GCMS's enrollment was 282 during Laughery's senior season.

**80 HANK BEATTY****WR, 5-11, 185, SR.****ROCHESTER, ILL. / ROCHESTER**

- » Third in the nation and leads the Power-4 and Big Ten in all-purpose yards (466)
- » 16th in the nation and third in the Big Ten in receiving yards (289)
- » Back-to-back 100-yard receiving games to start the 2025 season, the first two of his career
- » 25-yard rushing touchdown at Duke after lining up at quarterback
- » Set the Illinois single-game punt return yardage record (133) against WIU (8/29/25), breaking Red Grange's 102-year-old program record (125) set in 1923 vs. Nebraska
- » 2024 Phil Steele All-America Honorable Mention as a punt returner
- » 2024 All-Big Ten Third Team (media) and Honorable Mention (coaches) as a return specialist
- » Led the Big Ten and ranked third in the nation with 14.1 yards per punt return in 2024
- » Finished with 310 punt return yards in 2024, the second-most in a single season in program history and finished just 13 yards shy of equaling Dike Eddleman's program record set in 1947
- » Led Rochester to the 2019 IHSA 5A state title with 12 receptions for 212 yards and three touchdowns to earn player of the game honors
- » 2021-22 Gatorade Illinois Football Player of the Year
- » Played quarterback in high school
- » Marketing major at Illinois

RECEIVING STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	REC	YDS	AVG	TD	LNG
2022	ILL	12	7	25	3.6	0	8
2023	ILL	12	8	65	8.1	0	26
2024	ILL	13	20	294	14.7	1	59
2025	ILL	3	19	289	15.2	1	59
CAREER		40	54	673	12.5	2	59

RUSHING STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	CAR	YDS	AVG	TD	LNG
2022	ILL	12	0	0	0	0	0
2023	ILL	12	0	0	0	0	0
2024	ILL	13	1	11	11.0	0	11
2025	ILL	3	1	25	25.0	1	25
CAREER		40	2	36	18.0	1	25

PUNT RETURN STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	ATT	YDS	TD	FC	LNG
2022	ILL	12	2	2	0	0	2
2023	ILL	12	1	6	0	0	6
2024	ILL	13	22	310	0	0	59
2025	ILL	3	6	152	1	0	69
CAREER		40	31	470	1	0	69

**0 JUSTIN BOWICK****WR, 6-4, 210, JR.****POWDER SPRINGS, GA. / PACE ACADEMY / BALL STATE**

- » Signed with Illinois in Dec. 2024 and transferred with two seasons of eligibility remaining
- » Started four games at Ball State in 2024 and redshirted the season
- » Third on Ball State's team in receiving yards (383) and touchdown receptions (3) despite only playing in four games in 2024
- » Started collegiate career at Eastern Illinois in 2022 and 2023
- » Communication major at Illinois

RECEIVING STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	REC	YDS	AVG	TD	LNG
2022	EIU	7	13	250	19.2	3	63
2023	EIU	11	30	459	15.3	5	52
2024	BALL	4	20	383	19.1	3	57
2025	ILL	3	8	86	10.8	3	21
CAREER		25	71	1,178	16.6	14	63

**13 HUDSON CLEMENT****WR, 6-1, 215, JR.****MARTINSBURG, W. VA. / MARTINSBURG / WEST VIRGINIA**

- » 2025 Athlon Preseason All-Big Ten Third Team
- » Transferred to Illinois with two years of eligibility remaining
- » Signed with Illinois on Jan. 2, 2025, on the same day as his brother, Murphy
- » No. 2-graded transfer wide receiver in the nation, according to PFF
- » 20 career starts at West Virginia
- » Career-high 11 receptions for a season-high 166 receiving yards and two touchdowns against Memphis in the 2024 Scooter's Coffee Frisco Bowl (12/17/24)
- » Majoring in recreation, sport, & tourism at Illinois

RECEIVING STATISTICS

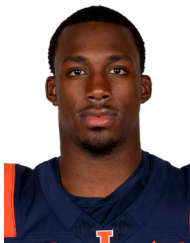
YEAR	TEAM	G	REC	YDS	AVG	TD	LNG
2022	WV	0	0	0	0	0	0
2023	WV	11	22	480	21.8	4	70
2024	WV	12	51	741	14.5	5	44
2025	ILL	3	5	75	15.0	0	27
CAREER		26	78	1,296	16.6	9	70

**17 COLLIN DIXON****WR, 6-1, 215, SO.****TALLMADGE, OHIO / TALLMADGE**

- » Played in all 13 games as a redshirt freshman in 2024 as Illinois' No. 3 receiver
- » Started 10 games in 2024 as a redshirt freshman
- » Redshirted during the 2023 season as a true freshman
- » Earned three first-team Suburban League honors in football, and track and field, and was a two-time all-conference selection in basketball
- » Caught 201 passes for 3,561 yards and 43 touchdowns during his high school career
- » Marketing major at Illinois

RECEIVING STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	REC	YDS	AVG	TD	LNG
2023	ILL	0	0	0	0	0	0
2024	ILL	13	18	264	14.7	0	41
2025	ILL	3	6	65	10.8	1	33
CAREER		16	24	329	13.7	1	41

**8 MALIK ELZY****WR, 6-2, 225, JR.****CHICAGO, ILL. / SIMEON**

- » Recorded career-long 34-yard touchdown reception in 2024 opener vs. Eastern Illinois (8/29/24)
- » Caught first-career touchdown against #7 Penn State (9/16/23)
- » Played in nine games as a true freshman at Illinois in 2023
- » Four-star recruit by 247Sports Composite, Rivals, and On3 Consensus
- » Highest-rated wide receiver to commit to Illinois since Arrelious Benn in 2007
- » Brother, Devonta, played football at Division II Northwood University in Michigan
- » Recreation, sport, & tourism major at Illinois

RECEIVING STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	REC	YDS	AVG	TD	LNG
2023	ILL	9	5	52	10.4	1	19
2024	ILL	10	4	77	19.3	1	34
2025	ILL	3	5	71	14.2	0	25
CAREER		22	14	200	14.3	2	34



86 CHRISTIAN ABNEY

TE, 6-6, 255, JR.

ZIONSVILLE, IND. / ZIONSVILLE / BALL STATE

- » Transferred to Illinois in May 2025 with two years of eligibility remaining
- » High school quarterback, switched to tight end at Ball State
- » Nine starts at tight end at Ball State (3 in 2023, 6 in 2024)
- » Management major at Illinois

RECEIVING STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	REC	YDS	AVG	TD	LNG
2023	BALL	7	3	16	5.3	0	10
2024	BALL	12	5	50	10.0	1	22
2025	ILL	3	0	0	0	0	0
CAREER		22	8	66	8.3	1	22



23 JORDAN ANDERSON

TE, 6-4, 240, JR.

NAPERVILLE, ILL. / JOLIET CATHOLIC

- » Missed 2023 season with knee injury sustained during fall camp
- » Did not play in a game and redshirted in first season at Illinois in 2022
- » Three-star recruit by 247Sports, ESPN, On3, and Rivals
- » Set IHSA record with 306 rushing yards in the 2021 Class 4A championship game, adding four rushing touchdowns and a receiving touchdown
- » Recreation, sport, & tourism major at Illinois

RECEIVING STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	REC	YDS	AVG	TD	LNG
2022	ILL	0	0	0	0	0	0
2023	ILL	0	0	0	0	0	0
2024	ILL	13	0	0	0	0	0
2025	ILL	3	0	0	0	0	0
CAREER		16	0	0	0	0	0



85 TANNER ARKIN

TE, 6-4, 265, SR.

FORT COLLINS, COLO. / FOSSIL RIDGE / COLORADO STATE

- » Two-time team captain
- » Caught his third touchdown pass of the season and also rushed for a career-long 36 yards on a fake punt in win vs. #24 Michigan (10/19/24)
- » Career highs in receptions (4) and yards (28) to go along with one touchdown at #22 Nebraska (9/20/24)
- » Scored first collegiate TD on first reception as an Illini vs. Wisconsin (10/21/23)
- » Transferred to Illinois with three seasons of eligibility remaining prior to the 2023 season
- » Three-star recruit by 247Sports Composite
- » Three-sport letterman in high school, also competed in basketball and track & field and won the Colorado state discus championship in 2020
- » Graduated from the University of Illinois in May 2025 with a degree in kinesiology



RECEIVING STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	REC	YDS	AVG	TD	LNG
2021	CSU	4	1	9	9.0	0	9
2022	CSU	12	14	116	8.3	0	26
2023	ILL	12	1	1	1.0	1	1
2024	ILL	13	16	111	6.9	3	16
2025	ILL	3	2	14	7.0	1	11
CAREER		44	34	251	7.4	5	26



14 COLE RUSK

TE, 6-5, 250, SR.

ROCK ISLAND, ILL. / ROCK ISLAND / MURRAY STATE

- » Touchdown reception at Duke was his first career reception for the Illini
- » Missed the 2024 season with a torn ACL suffered in Fall Camp
- » 2023 FCS All-American Third Team at Murray State
- » Grew up an Illini fan
- » Father, Steve, lettered in wrestling at Illinois from 1994-95 and was a two-time NCAA qualifier
- » Graduated from the University of Illinois in May 2025 with a degree in communication



COMEBACK PLAYER OF THE YEAR WATCH LIST

RECEIVING STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	REC	YDS	AVG	TD	LNG
2022	EIU	1	0	0	0	0	0
2023	MURR	11	39	512	13.1	6	47
2024	ILL	0	0	0	0	0	0
2025	ILL	3	2	7	3.5	1	8
CAREER		15	41	519	12.7	7	47



88 DAVIN STOFFEL

TE, 6-6, 260, SO.

MOSINEE, WIS. / MOSINEE / SOUTH DAKOTA STATE

- » Transferred to Illinois in January 2025 with three years of eligibility remaining
- » 2024 MVFC All-Newcomer Team at South Dakota State
- » Played in two games in 2023 as part of South Dakota State's FCS national championship team
- » 2022 AI Toon Award winner as the top high school receiver in the state of Wisconsin
- » Mechanical engineering major at Illinois

RECEIVING STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	REC	YDS	AVG	TD	LNG
2023	SDSU	2	0	0	0	0	0
2024	SDSU	14	14	177	12.6	1	41
2025	ILL	3	1	12	12.0	0	12
CAREER		19	14	177	12.6	1	41

**36 TOMIWA DUROJAIYE**

DL, 6-5, 300, JR.

PHILADELPHIA, PA. / MIDDLETOWN (DEL.) / FLORIDA STATE

- » Played at Kentucky (2022), West Virginia (2023), and Florida State (2024) prior to Illinois
- » Played in 20 games in three seasons before transferring to Illinois
- » Transferred to Illinois with two seasons of eligibility remaining
- » No. 1 recruit in the state of Delaware by Rivals coming out of high school
- » Father, Bayo, is from Nigeria
- » Communication major at Illinois

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	TKLS	SOLO	AST	PD	SACK	FF	INT	YDS	TD
2022	UK	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2023	WV	13	23	9	14	0	3.5	0	0	0	0
2024	FSU	4	3	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
2025	ILL	3	5	4	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
CAREER		23	31	16	15	0	5.5	0	0	0	0

**52 PAT FARRELL**

DL, 6-5, 280, SO.

OAK LAWN, ILL. / ST. RITA

- » Played in all 13 games in 2024 with one start
- » Did not play in a game and redshirted the 2023 season
- » 2022 All-Chicago Catholic League first team selection and CCL Green Defensive MVP
- » Advertising major at Illinois

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	TKLS	SOLO	AST	PD	SACK	FF	INT	YDS	TD
2023	ILL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2024	ILL	13	4	2	2	0	0.5	1	0	0	0
2025	ILL	3	3	1	2	0	1	0	0	0	0
CAREER		16	7	3	4	0	1.5	0	0	0	0

**92 GENTLE HUNT**

DL, 5-11, 295, SR.

HIGH SPRINGS, FLA. / GAINESVILLE / FLORIDA A&M

- » Played in five games in 2024, including the Cheez-It Citrus Bowl, and redshirted the season
- » Transferred to Illinois in the Summer 2024 with one year of eligibility remaining
- » 2023 All-SWAC Second Team
- » Helped Florida A&M to the 2023 Celebration Bowl title
- » Graduated Florida A&M University in August 2024 with a degree in psychology
- » Crop sciences major at Illinois



DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	TKLS	SOLO	AST	PD	SACK	FF	INT	YDS	TD
2021	FAMU	10	27	18	9	0	5	0	0	0	0
2022	FAMU	11	23	14	9	1	1	1	0	0	0
2023	FAMU	12	30	16	14	0	5.5	1	0	0	0
2024	ILL	5	2	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
2025	ILL	3	7	4	3	0	1.5	0	0	0	0
CAREER		41	89	53	36	2	13	2	0	0	0

**44 ANGELO McCULLOM**

DL, 6-2, 300, SO.

PICKERINGTON, OHIO / PICKERINGTON NORTH

- » Played in seven games as a true freshman in 2024
- » OCC Ohio Defensive Player of the Year as a senior in high school
- » First played high school varsity football at age 13 as a freshman
- » Also played basketball, wrestled, and threw shot put in high school
- » Has seven siblings (three brothers, four sisters)

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	TKLS	SOLO	AST	PD	SACK	FF	INT	YDS	TD
2024	ILL	13	2	1	1	0	0.5	0	0	0	0
2025	ILL	3	5	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
CAREER		16	7	3	4	0	0.5	0	0	0	0

**99 CURT NEAL**

DL, 6-0, 310, JR.

CORNELIUS, N.C. / HOUGH / WISCONSIN

- » Transferred to Illinois with two seasons of eligibility in December 2024
- » Played in 29 games with 13 starts at Wisconsin from 2022-24
- » Led all Wisconsin defensive linemen with 29 tackles in 2024
- » Redshirted the 2022 season after four games played
- » Social work major at Illinois

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	TKLS	SOLO	AST	PD	SACK	FF	INT	YDS	TD
2022	WIS	4	3	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
2023	WIS	13	13	6	7	0	0	0	0	0	0
2024	WIS	12	29	14	15	0	0.5	0	0	0	0
2025	ILL	3	3	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
CAREER		32	48	23	25	0	0.5	0	0	0	0

**90 JAMES THOMPSON JR.**

DL, 6-6, 310, SR.

CINCINNATI, OHIO / ROGER BACON / WISCONSIN

- » 2025 Athlon Preseason All-Big Ten Fourth Team
- » Transferred to Illinois with one year of eligibility remaining in January 2025
- » Missed 10 games with an injury in 2024 and redshirted the season
- » Played in 38 games with 18 starts at Wisconsin
- » Led all Wisconsin defensive linemen with 29 tackles in 2023
- » Graduated from the University of Wisconsin in December 2024 with a degree in community & organizational development



DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	TKLS	SOLO	AST	PD	SACK	FF	INT	YDS	TD
2020	WIS	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2021	WIS	10	7	1	6	0	0	0	0	0	0
2022	WIS	13	22	10	12	0	2	0	0	0	0
2023	WIS	13	29	19	10	2	3	0	0	0	0
2024	WIS	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2025	ILL	3	8	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	0
CAREER		41	66	30	36	2	5	0	0	0	0

**8 JEREMIAH WARREN**

DL, 6-3, 310, SO.

BELLEVILLE, MICH. / BELLEVILLE

- » Played in all 12 regular season games as a redshirt freshman in 2024
- » Attended the Big Ten's "Big Life Series: Selma to Montgomery" educational experience in July 2024
- » Serves as a SAAC representative for Illinois football
- » Played in two games and redshirted the season as a true freshman in 2023
- » Communication major at Illinois

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	TKLS	SOLO	AST	PD	SACK	FF	INT	YDS	TD
2023	ILL	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2024	ILL	13	10	3	7	0	0	0	0	0	0
2025	ILL	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CAREER		18	11	4	7	0	0	0	0	0	0

**43 JOE BARNA****OLB, 6-4, 265, SO.****WHEATON, ILL. / WHEATON NORTH**

- » Career-high five tackles (three solo, two assisted) against #9 Penn State (9/28/24)
- » 0.5 sack with three tackles (2 solo) in homecoming win over Central Michigan (9/14/24)
- » Three tackles (1 solo) with a sack for a loss of five yards in college debut vs. EIU (8/29/24)
- » Helped Wheaton North to state titles in 2021 and 2022
- » 2023 IHSFCA 7A All-State, DuKane Conference Defensive Lineman of the Year, and Wheaton North Defensive Player of the Year as a senior
- » General Studies major at Illinois

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	TKLS	SOLO	AST	PD	SACK	FF	INT	YDS	TD
2024	ILL	10	16	8	8	0	1.5	0	0	0	0
2025	ILL	3	3	1	2	2	0	0	0	0	0
CAREER		13	19	9	10	2	1.5	0	0	0	0

**4 DANIEL BROWN****OLB, 6-1, 250, JR.****KANSAS CITY, KAN. / BISHOP WARD / HUTCHINSON CC**

- » Played in two games in 2024 and redshirted the season
- » Missed the first 11 games of the 2024 season with an injury
- » 2023 NJCAA All-American First Team
- » 2023 Jayhawk Conference Defensive Player of the Year
- » National leader in sacks among juco players with 18.0 in 11 games in 2023
- » Community health major at Illinois

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	TKLS	SOLO	AST	PD	SACK	FF	INT	YDS	TD
2024	ILL	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2025	ILL	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
CAREER		4	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0

**3 ALEC BRYANT****OLB, 6-3, 250, SR.****HOUSTON, TEXAS / SHADOW CREEK / VIRGINIA TECH**

- » Entered 2025 with 37 career games played at Illinois and six career starts
- » Five starts at outside linebacker in 2025, including the Cheez-It Citrus Bowl
- » Sixth season of college football, sat out the 2021 season per NCAA transfer rules
- » Led Shadow Creek High School to the Texas 5A state championship as a senior in 2019
- » Communication major at Illinois

**DEFENSIVE STATISTICS**

YEAR	TEAM	G	TKLS	SOLO	AST	PD	SACK	FF	INT	YDS	TD
2020	VT	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2021	ILL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2022	ILL	12	11	8	3	1	1.5	0	0	0	0
2023	ILL	12	26	8	18	0	0.5	0	0	0	0
2024	ILL	13	22	15	7	2	2	0	0	0	0
2025	ILL	3	6	1	5	0	0.5	0	0	0	0
CAREER		41	65	32	33	3	4.5	0	0	0	0

**17 GABE JACAS****OLB, 6-3, 270, SR.****PORT ST. LUCIE, FLA. / FORT PIERCE CENTRAL**

- » 2025 ESPN Preseason All-America First Team
- » 2024 Phil Steele All-America Third Team
- » 2024 All-Big Ten Third Team (coaches & media)
- » 2022 Freshman All-American and All-Big Ten honorable mention
- » Ranks fifth in career sacks in Illinois program history with 19.5 entering Week 4 at #19 Indiana
- » Top-25 nationally in forced fumbles (t-21st, 3) and sacks (t-24th, 8.0) during 2024 regular season
- » Tied for lead in the Big Ten in forced fumbles and fifth in sacks during the 2024 regular season
- » Tied with Oregon DE Matayo Uigalelei for second-most sacks in Big Ten games (7.0) in 2024
- » Career-high 13 tackles (six solo) with a career-high 2.5 sacks, 2.5 TFLs, two QB hurries, and a forced fumble vs. #24 Michigan (10/19/24) to earn Walter Camp National Player of the Week honors
- » No. 2 in Illinois history in sacks by a true freshman with 4.0 in 2022, behind only Simeon Rice
- » State champion and all-state wrestler in high school
- » Community health major at Illinois



BEDNARIK AWARD WATCH LIST
NAGURSKI TROPHY WATCH LIST
LOMBARDI WATCH LIST
LOTT IMPACT WATCH LIST
SENIOR BOWL 300

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	TKLS	SOLO	AST	PD	SACK	FF	INT	YDS	TD
2022	ILL	13	36	14	22	0	4	0	0	0	0
2023	ILL	12	31	22	9	1	4	1	0	0	0
2024	ILL	13	74	39	35	0	8	3	0	0	0
2025	ILL	3	8	5	3	1	3.5	2	0	0	0
CAREER		41	149	80	69	2	19.5	6	0	0	0

**9 LEON LOWERY JR.****OLB, 6-3, 255, SR.****ELIZABETH, N.J. / NORTH BRUNSWICK / WISCONSIN**

- » Started 22 of 24 games over the previous two seasons at Wisconsin (2024) and Syracuse (2023)
- » Entered 2025 with 24 career starts
- » Sixth season of college football
- » Led all Wisconsin outside linebackers with 29 tackles in 2024
- » Enrolled in the recreation, sport, & tourism master's program at Illinois

**DEFENSIVE STATISTICS**

YEAR	TEAM	G	TKLS	SOLO	AST	PD	SACK	FF	INT	YDS	TD
2020	SYR	3	5	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
2021	SYR	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2022	SYR	12	22	14	8	1	1.5	0	0	0	0
2023	SYR	12	46	26	20	1	3.5	0	0	0	0
2024	WIS	12	29	18	11	0	1	0	0	0	0
2025	ILL	3	9	4	5	0	1	0	0	0	0
CAREER		44	113	67	46	2	7	0	0	0	0



45 MALACHI HOOD

LB, 6-2, 235, JR.

PLAINFIELD, ILL. / JOLIET CATHOLIC

- » Forced first- and second-career fumbles and sacks against Northwestern (11/30/24)
- » Recovered first-career fumble against #24 Michigan (10/19/24)
- » Missed 2023 season following injury during Fall Camp
- » Played in one game and redshirted the 2022 season
- » Led Joliet Catholic to the 2021 IHSA 4A state championship
- » Cousin, Marcus Hood, played linebacker at Illinois from 1997-2000
- » Political science major at Illinois

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	TKLS	SOLO	AST	PD	SACK	FF	INT	YDS	TD
2022	ILL	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2023	ILL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2024	ILL	12	14	8	6	1	2	2	0	0	0
2025	ILL	3	14	9	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
CAREER		16	28	17	11	1	2	2	0	0	0



41 JAMES KREUTZ

LB, 6-2, 225, JR.

BANNOCKBURN, ILL. / LOYOLA ACADEMY

- » Career-high 12 tackles (two solo, 10 assisted) against Rutgers (11/23/24)
- » Named Illinois' Defensive Look Team Player of the Year during redshirt season in 2022
- » 2021 Illinois High School Football Coaches Association 8A All-State first team and Chicago Catholic League Blue Defensive Player of the Year
- » Brother of Illinois' starting center and team captain Josh Kreutz
- » Father, Olin Kreutz, was a six-time Pro Bowler for the Chicago Bears
- » Recreation, sport, & tourism major at Illinois

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	TKLS	SOLO	AST	PD	SACK	FF	INT	YDS	TD
2022	ILL	3	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
2023	ILL	12	18	9	9	0	1	0	0	0	0
2024	ILL	13	54	26	28	1	0	0	0	0	0
2025	ILL	3	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
CAREER		31	75	36	39	1	1	0	0	0	0



39 KENENNA ODELUGA

LB, 6-1, 235, SR.

SOUTH HOLLAND, ILL. / MOUNT CARMEL

- » 2024-25 Big Ten Jackie Robinson Community & Impact Award nominee
- » 2024 Big Ten Sportsmanship Award recipient
- » Career-high two sacks against Michigan State (11/16/24)
- » Three-time Academic All-Big Ten
- » Ranked among the Big Ten's leaders during the 2023 season in fumbles recovered (t-2nd, 2) and forced fumbles (t-5th, 2)
- » Graduated from the University of Illinois in May 2025 with a degree in finance



ALLSTATE AFCA GOOD WORKS TEAM NOMINEE
WUERFFEL TROPHY WATCH LIST

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	TKLS	SOLO	AST	PD	SACK	FF	INT	YDS	TD
2021	ILL	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2022	ILL	13	8	5	3	1	2	0	0	0	0
2023	ILL	11	37	24	13	1	1	2	0	0	0
2024	ILL	12	8	6	2	0	3	0	0	0	0
2025	ILL	3	6	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
CAREER		40	59	38	21	2	6	2	0	0	0



28 DYLAN ROSIEK

LB, 6-1, 235, SR.

EAST LAKE, FLA. / EAST LAKE

- » Two-time team captain
- » 2024 All-Big Ten Honorable Mention (coaches & media)
- » Finished the 2024 regular season 10th in the Big Ten in tackles per game (7.0)
- » Missed the final four games of the 2024 season with a leg injury
- » Had played in 35 consecutive games with 11 straight starts prior to injury in November 2024
- » 2023 All-Big Ten Honorable Mention (coaches & media)
- » Led the Big Ten and tied for third in the nation in forced fumbles (4) during the 2023 regular season, the fourth-most forced fumbles in Illinois single-season history
- » Ranked 14th in the BIG in tackles (82), eighth in conference games (70), during the 2023 regular season
- » Graduated from the University of Illinois in May 2025 with a degree in kinesiology



DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	TKLS	SOLO	AST	PD	SACK	FF	INT	YDS	TD
2021	ILL	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2022	ILL	13	8	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
2023	ILL	12	82	52	30	3	1	4	0	0	0
2024	ILL	9	60	25	35	1	1.5	2	0	0	0
2025	ILL	2	8	2	6	0	0	0	0	0	0
CAREER		39	158	83	75	4	2.5	6	0	0	0



6 JAHEIM "JUICE" CLARKE

DB, 6-1, 175, JR.

FT. MYERS, FLA. / RIVERDALE

- » Missed first three games of 2025 season with a hamstring injury
- » Played in 24 games over his first two seasons in Champaign
- » First-career fumble recovery in the Cheez-It Citrus Bowl against South Carolina (12/31/24)
- » Career-high 12 tackles (eight solo) in first-career start against Northwestern (11/30/24)
- » Majoring in recreation, sport, & tourism at Illinois

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	TKLS	SOLO	AST	PD	SACK	FF	INT	YDS	TD
2023	ILL	12	5	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
2024	ILL	12	34	26	8	5	0	0	0	0	0
2025	ILL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CAREER		24	39	29	10	5	0	0	0	0	0



5 TORRIE COX JR.

DB, 5-9, 170, SR.

MIAMI, FLA. / CHAMINADE-MADONNA PREP / OHIO

- » Finished the 2024 regular season tied for sixth in the Big Ten in interceptions (3), 45th nationally
- » Season-high seven tackles (six solo) in the Cheez-It Citrus Bowl against South Carolina (12/31/24)
- » Interceptions against Northwestern (11/30/24), #22 Nebraska (9/20/24) and EIU (8/29/24) in 2024
- » Transferred to Illinois in Summer 2024 with two seasons of eligibility remaining
- » Played in 29 games over three seasons at Ohio, with 91 total tackles, 1.5 sacks, and four interceptions
- » Named a third team College Football News Freshman All-American as a redshirt freshman in 2022 at Ohio
- » Father, Torrie Cox Sr., played five years in the NFL with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers after getting drafted in the sixth round of the 2003 NFL Draft
- » Communication major at Illinois

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	TKLS	SOLO	AST	PD	SACK	FF	INT	YDS	TD
2021	OHIO	4	3	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
2022	OHIO	13	52	37	15	6	0	2	3	39	0
2023	OHIO	12	36	21	15	1	1.5	1	1	22	0
2024	ILL	13	26	20	6	4	0	0	3	4	0
2025	ILL	3	8	5	3	1	0	0	0	0	0
CAREER		45	125	86	39	13	1.5	3	7	65	0



16 TANNER HECKEL

DB, 6-1, 195, SO.

LYNDON, KAN. / LYNDON

- » Recorded first career sack, forced fumble, and interception at Duke (9/6/25)
- » Played in all 13 games as a true freshman, primarily on special teams
- » Led Lyndon to a 13-0 record and the program's first-ever Kansas Eight-Man Division I State Championship as a senior
- » 2023 Kansas 8-Man Offensive Player of the Year
- » Won the Kansas state title in the long jump and triple jump, while also finishing second in the 100-meter dash, and third in the javelin as a junior
- » Majoring in recreation, sport & tourism at Illinois

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	TKLS	SOLO	AST	PD	SACK	FF	INT	YDS	TD
2024	ILL	13	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
2025	ILL	3	4	3	1	1	1	1	1	-1	0
CAREER		16	6	4	2	1	1	1	1	-1	0



1 KALEB PATTERSON

DB, 6-1, 195, JR.

JACKSON, MISS. / TERRY / PEARL RIVER CC

- » 2025 Athlon Preseason All-Big Ten Fourth Team
- » Started 12 games at cornerback in 2024
- » Played in four games and redshirted the season in 2023
- » Three-star juco recruit by 247Sports, ESPN and On3
- » 2022 All-MACCC first team (at Pearl River CC)
- » Played in all nine games, recording 12 tackles, two forced fumbles, and four PBUs as freshman at PRCC
- » Community health major at Illinois

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	TKLS	SOLO	AST	PD	SACK	FF	INT	YDS	TD
2023	ILL	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2024	ILL	12	32	25	7	3	0	1	0	0	0
2025	ILL	3	7	5	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
CAREER		19	39	30	9	3	0	1	0	0	0



14 XAVIER SCOTT

DB, 5-11, 195, SR.

RIVIERA BEACH, FLA. / DWYER

- » 2025 Athlon Preseason All-America Fourth Team
- » 2024 Phil Steele All-America Honorable Mention
- » 2024 All-Big Ten First Team (media)
- » 2024 All-Big Ten Second Team (coaches)
- » One of 15 semifinalists for the 2024 Paycom Jim Thorpe Award, given to the nation's best defensive back
- » Finished the 2024 regular season tied for second in the Big Ten in INTs (4), 15th nationally
- » Picked off sixth-career pass (fourth of the season) against Northwestern (11/30/24)
- » Forced three turnovers against #19 Kansas (9/7/24)
- » Recorded his first-career pick six and his first-career two-interception game against #19 Kansas
- » 2023 All-Big Ten honorable mention (coaches and media)
- » Led the Big Ten in pass breakups (11) and tied for the league lead in passes defended (14) during the 2023 regular season
- » Recorded two interceptions in 2023: at Kansas (9/8/23) and vs. Nebraska (10/6/23)
- » Made first start of his career in the 2023 ReliaQuest Bowl (1/2/23)
- » Recreation, sport, & tourism major at Illinois

BEDNARIK WATCH LIST
NAGURSKI TROPHY WATCH LIST
PAYCOM JIM THORPE AWARD WATCH LIST
SENIOR BOWL 300

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	TKLS	SOLO	AST	PD	SACK	FF	INT	YDS	TD
2022	ILL	11	15	13	2	1	0	1	0	0	0
2023	ILL	12	57	48	9	11	0	1	2	0	0
2024	ILL	13	49	43	6	6	1	1	4	55	1
2025	ILL	3	6	3	3	2	0	0	0	0	0
CAREER		39	127	107	20	20	1	3	6	55	1



7 MATTHEW BAILEY

DB, 6-2, 215, JR.

MOLINE, ILL. / MOLINE

- » 2025 Phil Steele Preseason All-Big Ten Fourth Team
- » 2024 All-Big Ten Honorable Mention (media)
- » Tied Illinois bowl record with a career-high 13 tackles (five solo, eight assisted) in the Cheez-It Citrus Bowl against South Carolina (12/31/24)
- » Finished the 2024 regular season 14th in the Big Ten in tackles per game (6.8)
- » Recorded 11 tackles (six solo, five assisted), an interception (first of season, fourth of career) and a forced fumble against #24 Michigan (10/19/24)
- » Redshirted the 2023 season after missing 11 of 12 games due to injury
- » Three interceptions as a freshman ranked eighth in the Big Ten
- » Kinesiology major at Illinois

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	TKLS	SOLO	AST	PD	SACK	FF	INT	YDS	TD
2022	ILL	13	10	7	3	2	0	0	3	22	0
2023	ILL	1	5	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
2024	ILL	13	93	43	50	5	0	2	1	20	0
2025	ILL	3	13	12	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
CAREER		30	121	65	56	7	0	3	4	42	0



0 MAC RESETICH

DB, 6-0, 210, JR.

SPRING VALLEY, ILL. / SPRING VALLEY HALL

- » Interceptions against Northwestern in 2024 and Indiana in 2023
- » First-career sack in the Cheez-It Citrus Bowl against #14 South Carolina (12/31/24)
- » Originally committed to Black Hawk Community College to play baseball
- » Top 500 baseball recruit in the nation, according to Perfect Game
- » Scored 1,000 career points during high school basketball career
- » Only offer to play Division I football was from Illinois
- » Recreation, sport & tourism major at Illinois

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	TKLS	SOLO	AST	PD	SACK	FF	INT	YDS	TD
2023	ILL	11	7	5	2	0	0	0	1	0	0
2024	ILL	13	20	16	4	0	1	0	1	28	0
2025	ILL	3	6	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
CAREER		27	33	25	8	0	1	0	2	28	0



10 MILES SCOTT

DB, 5-11, 210, SR.

DOLTON, ILL. / ST. THOMAS MORE

- » Two-time team captain
- » Started 25 of the last 26 games (2023-25)
- » Three-time Academic All-Big Ten (2022, 2023, 2024)
- » Played wide receiver in 2021 and 2022; switched to defensive back during 2023 spring practice
- » Recovered first fumble of the season, second of career, against #24 Michigan (10/19/24)
- » Recorded fourth-career interception and career-high nine tackles against #19 Kansas (9/7/24)
- » Recorded first-career forced fumble and third-career interception against EIU (8/29/24)
- » 5+ tackles in 10/12 games in 2023, ranking as the team's second-leading tackler (63)
- » Two pick-sixes of 48 yards vs. Toledo (9/2/23) and 55 yards vs. Northwestern (11/25/23) in 2023
- » Graduated from the University of Illinois in May 2025 with a degree in kinesiology



DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	TKLS	SOLO	AST	PD	SACK	FF	INT	YDS	TD
2021	ILL	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2022	ILL	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2023	ILL	12	63	48	15	3	0	0	2	103	2
2024	ILL	13	55	33	22	4	0	1	2	0	0
2025	ILL	3	14	11	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
CAREER		45	132	92	40	7	0	1	4	103	2



40 KEELAN CRIMMINS

P, 6-3, 230, SR.

SPOTSWOOD, AUSTRALIA / VICTORIA UNIVERSITY / PURDUE

- » 2024 All-Big Ten Honorable Mention (coaches and media) at Purdue
- » Transferred to Illinois with one year of eligibility remaining, as the NCAA initially granted him three years when he first moved to the United States and attended Mississippi State
- » Ranked 13th in the nation and third in the Big Ten in yards per punt (44.9) in 2024
- » No. 2 single-season punting average in Purdue history (44.9) in 2024
- » Product of Prokick Australia
- » Also played cricket in Australia



PUNTING STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	PUNTS	AVG	LNG	YDS
2023	MSST	12	49	40.9	55	2,003
2024	PUR	12	64	44.9	64	2,871
2025	ILL	3	8	44.9	60	359
CAREER		27	121	43.1	64	5,233



36 LANE HANSEN

LS, 6-0, 235, SR.

EAST LAKE, FLA. / EAST LAKE

- » Long snapper for punts
- » 2024 All-Big Ten Honorable Mention (coaches & media)
- » Three-time Academic All-Big Ten
- » Handled long-snapping duties in all 12 games for punt, field goal, and PAT situations in 2023 and 2024 after splitting time in 2022
- » Brother, Jake, played linebacker at Illinois from 2016-21 and now plays in the NFL for the Houston Texans
- » Father, Shad Hansen, is BYU's all-time leading tackler (408 from 1989-92)
- » Graduated from the University of Illinois in May 2025 with a degree in kinesiology



GAMES PLAYED STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G
2021	ILL	0
2022	ILL	10
2023	ILL	12
2024	ILL	13
2025	ILL	3
CAREER		38



44 PATRICK MAHONEY III

LS, 6-2, 225, SO.

NORTHBROOK, ILL. / GLENBROOK NORTH

- » Long snapper for field goals and extra points
- » Made Illinois debut in the 2025 season opener against Western Illinois
- » 2024 Academic All-Big Ten
- » Father played baseball at Central Michigan (1992-95)
- » Grandfather, Patrick Sr., played football and baseball at Vanderbilt
- » Journalism major at Illinois

GAMES PLAYED STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G
2023	ILL	0
2024	ILL	0
2025	ILL	3
CAREER		3



24 DAVID OLANO

K, 5-11, 180, JR.

NAPERVILLE, ILL. / NAPERVILLE NORTH

- » 2024 All-Big Ten Honorable Mention (coaches)
- » Missed field goal in 2025 vs. Western Illinois was blocked
- » Career-long 50-yard field goal against #19 Kansas (9/7/24)
- » 19-for-22 inside of 50 yards and 15-for-16 inside of 40 yards during his career
- » Played in nine games as Illinois' kickoff specialist as a true freshman in 2023
- » Ranked as the No. 3 kicker in the nation according to Sailer Kicking coming out of high school
- » Hit a 50-yard field goal at the All-American Bowl in the Alamodome, the longest in the event's history
- » DuPage Valley Conference Special Teams Player of the Year as a senior in 2022
- » Recreation, sport, & tourism major at Illinois

KICKING STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	FGM	FGA	FG%	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	LNG	XP	PTS
2023	ILL	9	0	0	0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
2024	ILL	13	17	20	85.0	0-0	6-6	6-6	4-6	1-2	50	38-39	89
2025	ILL	3	3	4	75.0	0-0	1-2	2-2	0-0	0-0	35	18-18	27
CAREER		25	20	24	83.3	0-0	7-8	8-8	4-6	1-2	50	56-57	116

Abney, Christian: Management
 Altmeyer, Luke: Crop Science
 Anderson, Jordan: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism
 Arkin, Tanner: Health Communication
 Bailey, Matthew: Kinesiology
 Baker, Easton: Exploratory Studies
 Ball, Aaron: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism
 Barna, Joe: Exploratory Studies
 Barrett, Zach: Political Science
 Bartolotta, Michael: Management (Master's)
 Beatty, Hank: Marketing
 Beerman, Grant: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism
 Bowick, Justin: Communication
 Boyd, Carson: Exploratory Studies
 Cameron Brooks: Exploratory Studies
 Brown, Daniel: Community Health
 Bryant, Alec: Health Communication
 Capka-Jones, Alex: Management (Master's)
 Clarke, Jaheim: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism
 Clawson, Ben: Agribusiness, Markets, & Management
 Clement, Hudson: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism
 Clement, Murphy: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism
 Coenen, Eli: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism
 Cox, Torrie: Communication
 Cox, Tywan: Communication
 Crimmins, Keelan: Ed. Policy, Organization, & Leadership (Master's)
 Davis, J.C.: Communication
 Dixon, Collin: Marketing
 Durojaiye, Tomiwa: Communication
 Elzy, Malik: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism
 Farrell, Logan: Business Undeclared
 Farrell, Patrick: Advertising
 Feagin, Kaden: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism
 Forster, John: Exploratory Studies
 Francis, Kellen: History
 Frechette, Dylan: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism
 Furtney, Jake: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism
 Gallardo, Guillermo: Kinesiology
 Gayle, Erik: Exploratory Studies
 Gesky, Josh: Public Health (Master's)
 Griffin, Grayson: Management (Master's)
 Griffin, TJ: Organizational & Community Leadership
 Griffin, Tysean: Urban Studies & Planning
 Hampton, Ethan: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism (Master's)
 Hansen, Brandon: Communication
 Hansen, Lane: Health Communication
 Hayden, Jolo: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism
 Heckel, Tanner: Accountancy
 Henderson, Brandon: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism
 Hewitt, Carter: Crop Sciences
 Hirdes, Jack: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism
 Hollinger, Tanner: Exploratory Studies
 Hollins, Ashton: Kinesiology
 Hood, Malachi: Strategic Leadership & Management
 Hunt, Gentle: Crop Science
 Jacas, Gabe: Community Health
 John, Demetrius: Communication
 Jones III, Robert: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism

Kaiser, Karson: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism
 Kante, Ismael: Communication
 Karriem, Saboor: Communication
 Knapik, Ayden: Agribusiness, Markets, & Management
 Knapik, Nathan: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism
 Kreutz, James: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism
 Kreutz, Josh: Health Communication
 Laughery, Aidan: Management (Master's)
 Leonard, Clayton: Kinesiology
 Lovett, Andre: Communication
 Lowery, Leon: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism (Master's)
 Mahoney, Patrick: Journalism
 McClure, Tyler: Strategic Leadership & Management
 McCullom, Angelo: Exploratory Studies
 McDonough, Michael: Mechanical Engineering
 McMillan, Tyler: Sociology
 McMillen, TJ: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism
 Muragin, Mason: Communication
 Neal, Curtis: Social Work
 Newton, Jershaun: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism
 Odeluga, Kenenna: Strategic Leadership & Management
 Olano, David: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism
 Osada, Lucas: Communication
 Paris, Jack: Business Undeclared
 Patterson, Kaleb: Community Health
 Peters, Trey: ACES Undeclared
 Petty, Trey: Exploratory Studies
 Priestley, Melvin: Sociology
 Rashad, Corey: Engineering Undeclared
 Rau, Lars: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism
 Resetich, Mac: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism
 Reynolds, Amar: Exploratory Studies
 Rooks, Tyson: Kinesiology
 Rosiek, Dylan: Health Communication
 Rousseau, Griffin: Exploratory Studies
 Rusk, Cole: Management (Master's)
 Sanders, Mario: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism
 Schuster, Dezmond: Sociology
 Scott, Miles: Health Communication
 Scott, Xanai: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism
 Scott, Xavier: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism
 Smith, Carter: Mechanical Engineering
 Smith, Grant: Engineering Undeclared
 Stewart, Zafir: Exploratory Studies
 Stoffel, Davin: Mechanical Engineering
 Strain, Tyler: Health Communication
 Straughton, Desmond: Kinesiology
 Thompson, James: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism (Master's)
 Trimble, Brayden: Communication
 Tuerk, Eddie: Exploratory Studies
 Turner, Donovan: Psychology
 Valentine, Ca'Lil: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism
 Warren, Jeremiah: Communication
 White, Isaiah: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism
 Woodward, Vernon: Sociology
 Wyche, Cedric: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism
 Zardzin, Luke: Management (Master's)

COLLEGE GRADUATES (24)

QB Luke Altmeyer

» December 2024 Graduate: Communication

TE Tanner Arkin

» May 2025 Graduate: Kinesiology

WR Michael Bartolotta

» May 2025 Graduate: Communication

OLB Alec Bryant

» December 2024 Graduate: Communication

WR Alex Capka-Jones

» May 2025 Graduate: Communication

P Keelan Crimmins

» December 2021 Graduate (Victoria College): Educational Studies

DB Grayson Griffin

» May 2025 Graduate: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism

QB Ethan Hampton

» December 2024 Graduate (NIU): Management & Marketing

LS Lane Hansen

» August 2025 Graduate: Kinesiology

DL Carter Hewitt

» August 2025 Graduate (Northern Iowa): Finance

LB Malachi Hood

» August 2025 Graduate: Political Science

DL Gentle Hunt

» August 2024 Graduate (Florida A&M): Psychology

RB Aidan Laughery

» August 2025 Graduate: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism

OLB Leon Lowery

» May 2024 Graduate (Wisconsin): Human Development & Family Studies

C Josh Kreutz

» August 2025 Graduate: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism

WR Tyler McClure

» May 2025 Graduate: Financial Planning

OL Tyler McMillan

» August 2025 Graduate (Southeast Missouri): Professional Studies

LB Kenenna Odeluga

» May 2025 Graduate: Finance

LB Dylan Rosiek

» May 2025 Graduate: Kinesiology

TE Cole Rusk

» May 2025 Graduate: Communication

DB Miles Scott

» May 2025 Graduate: Kinesiology

DB Tyler Strain

» August 2025 Graduate: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism

DL James Thompson Jr.

» December 2024 Graduate (Wisconsin): Community & Organizational Development

TE Luke Zardzin

» August 2025 Graduate: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism

SERIES vs. INDIANA

All-Time Series: Illinois leads, 46-25-3

- » at Champaign: 30-9-1
- » at Bloomington: 13-16-0
- » Neutral Sites: 3-1-2

Last: W, 48-45 OT (11/11/2023 at Illinois)

Streak: W1

- » at Champaign: W1

Bielema vs. Indiana: 8-1



LAST MEETING

INDIANA	.....45
ILLINOIS	.....48

NOV. 11, 2023

MEMORIAL STADIUM // CHAMPAIGN, ILL. // 53,157

SCORING BY QUARTER

Team	1	2	3	4	OT	F
Indiana	7	20	0	15	3	45
Illinois	9	17	7	9	6	48

SCORING SUMMARY

First Quarter

ILL: Griffin 24 yd FG 8:59 (10/71/4:16)
 IND: Howland 1 yd rush 3:54 (9/32/3:40)
 ILL: Love III 8 yd rush 3:19 (2/75/3:35)

Second Quarter

IND: McCulley 6 yd pass from Sorsby 14:32 (7/74/3:41)
 ILL: Griffin 27 yd FG 11:24 (7/64/3:03)
 IND: McCulley 6 yd pass from Sorsby 8:22 (6/69/2:52)
 IND: Sorsby 18 yd rush 5:44 (4/52/2:01)
 ILL: Washington 20 yd pass from Paddock 3:05 (5/92/2:28)
 ILL: Bryant 13 yd pass from Paddock :18 (6/73/1:14)

Third Quarter

ILL: Williams 42 yd pass from Paddock 5:18 (5/86/2:00)

Fourth Quarter

ILL: Love III 37 yd rush 14:53 (7/81/3:32)
 IND: Sorsby 5 yd rush 12:25 (6/52/2:17)
 ILL: Griffin 21 yd FG 5:04 (14/72/7:21)
 IND: Carter 26 yd pass from Sorsby :28 (6/85/1:09)

Overtime

IND: Freeman 41 yd FG (4/2)
 ILL: Williams 21 yd pass from Paddock (3/25)

TEAM STATISTICS

Category	IND	ILL
First Downs	29	31
Rushes-Yards	43-162	35-155
Passing Yards	289	507
Comp-Att-Int	22-33-1	24-36-1
Total Yards	451	662
Punts-Avg	4-37.5	3-40.3
Kickoff Returns	4-108	3-54
Penalties-Yards	7-80	14-139
Fumbles-Lost	1-1	2-1
Sacks By	1	3
Third-down Conv.	7-13	3-10
Time of Possession	29:51	30:09

INDIVIDUAL LEADERS

PASSING (Comp-Att-Yds-TD-INT): ILL - Paddock 24-36-507-4-1
 IND - Sorsby 22-33-289-3-1

RUSHING (Carries-Yards-TD): ILL - Love III 24-140-2
 IND - Howland 13-72-1

RECEIVING (Rec-Yards-TD): ILL - Williams 9-200-2
 IND - McCulley 11-137-2

TACKLE LEADERS (Tackles, TFL-Yds): ILL - Bush 11, 1.5-3 X, Scott 9-0
 IND - Moore 10, 0 Mangum-Farrar 9, 1-1

THE ILLINOIS-INDIANA SERIES

- Illinois holds a 46-25-3 lead in the all-time series vs. Indiana.
- The Illini are 13-16-0 against the Hoosiers in Bloomington.
- The first meeting between the two squads dates back to 1899, when Indiana won 5-0 in Champaign.
- Illinois earned its first win of the series in 1901 with an 18-0 shutout in Indianapolis.
- The Illini's longest win streak of six came during the years of 1981-86.
- The most recent matchups was an overtime thriller where Illinois won 48-45 in Champaign, snapping Indiana's longest win streak in the series of four. John Paddock found Isaiah Williams for a game-winning 21-yard touchdown in overtime as Illinois took down Indiana. Paddock set Illinois' Gies Memorial Stadium passing record with 507 yards, with 200 passing yards going to Williams.
- Illinois fell 23-20 to Indiana in the Fighting Illini's last visit to Bloomington 9/2/2022. Following the loss, Illinois went on a six-game winning streak.
- Illinois and Indiana are tied 5-5 over the last 10 meetings.
- The two teams all-time series records are different due to a discrepancy in the 1931 result: During the Great Depression, Iowa, Indiana, Illinois and Chicago agreed to meet for a "charity football bazaar" to be played at the University of Chicago's Stag Field. It was a four-team tournament format with the winners of the first games moving on to play each other in a "title" game. Since a winner needed to be declared to play against the winner of the Iowa-Chicago game, it was decided that despite tying 0-0, Indiana would advance on the fact the Hoosiers had eight first downs and the Illini just four. Illinois counts the game as a tie, while Indiana counts the game as a win.
- Illinois' most receiving yards vs. IND: 224, Steve Hull, 11/9/2013
- Illinois' most rushing yards vs. IND: 214, Rashard Mendenhall, 9/22/2007
- Illinois' most passing yards vs. IND: 507, John Paddock, 11/11/2023
- Illinois' longest rush vs. IND: 83, John Karras, 10/27/1951
- Illinois' longest pass vs. IND: 77, Scheelhaase to Jenkins, 10/8/2011
- Last 100-yard receiving game vs. IND: Isaiah Williams (200) and Pat Bryant (131), 11/11/2023
- Last 100-yard rushing game vs. IND: Reggie Love, 140, 11/11/2023
- Last 300-yard passing game vs. IND: John Paddock, 507, 11/11/2023

ILLINOIS-INDIANA CONNECTIONS

- Illinois assistant tight ends coach **Danny Cameron** played three seasons at Indiana from 2014-16. His father, Cam Cameron, was Indiana's head coach from 1997-2001.
- Junior tight end **Christian Abney** (Zionsville) and freshman defensive linemen **Isaiah White** (Indianapolis) are the only two players on the Illinois roster from Indiana.
- Senior offensive assistant **Mike Neu** (Indianapolis) and player personnel assistant **Ben Dessaur** (Noblesville) are Indiana natives.
- Indiana's quarterbacks coach/co-offensive coordinator **Chandler Whitmer** began his collegiate career as a quarterback at Illinois in 2010.
- Indiana defensive ends coach **Buddha Williams** was a graduate assistant at Illinois from 2014-15 for the defense.



BRET BIELEMA

HEAD FOOTBALL COACH

IOWA, 1992

FIFTH SEASON AT ILLINOIS

Bret Bielema was named as the 26th Fighting Illini Head Football Coach in the history of the program in December 2020. A native of Prophetstown, Illinois, Bielema has 27 years of collegiate coaching experience and compiled a 17-year record of 128-80 (.615) as head coach at Wisconsin, Arkansas, and Illinois.

Bielema, who signed a six-year agreement in 2025 that will keep him at Illinois through 2030, has elevated Illinois to new heights during his first four seasons with 28 wins, 18 Big Ten victories, and a victory in the 2024 Cheez-It Citrus Bowl to give Illinois its fifth 10-win season in program history. He has brought national relevance to the Fighting Illini program with continued appearances in the AP Top 25 and College Football Playoff rankings, two New Year's Bowls, three national award finalists, 11 All-Americans, and 12 NFL Draft picks since he arrived in 2021. In 16 years as a Power-4 head coach, Bielema has led 12 of his teams - including the 2024 Illinois squad - to bowl games.

In 2024, Illinois tied the program record for wins with 10, was ranked by the CFP selection committee for a program-record four straight weeks, appeared in 12 AP Top 25 polls, and tied the program record for ranked wins with four. The Fighting Illini capped one of the best seasons in program history by beating #14 South Carolina in the Cheez-It Citrus Bowl, 21-17, in one of the top bowl game victories in Illinois history and finished the season ranked #16 in the AP Top 25.

In addition to the program's on-the-field success, Illinois has experienced the largest growth in attendance in the nation and the largest growth in the Big Ten by a wide margin since Bielema's arrival. Average attendance increased by nearly 20,000 from 2021 to 2024, ranking Illinois #1 in the nation in three-year growth (+19,403 average attendance gained). This season, Illinois announced on May 21 that its season tickets had sold out for the first time in at least 20 years. The Fighting Illini's final season ticket total for kickoff against Western Illinois on Friday, Aug. 29, is expected to exceed 43,000.

Bielema was the first Illini coach to go to two bowl games in his first four seasons since Lou Tepper (1991-94), after guiding Illinois to the 2023 ReliaQuest Bowl, Illinois' first January bowl in 15 years, in just his second season in Champaign and the 2024 Cheez-It Citrus Bowl. The 2022 Illini won eight games, were ranked by the CFP committee for the first time in program history, reached as high as #14 in the AP poll, led the nation in scoring defense (12.8) for the first time in program history, and led the nation and set a school record in interceptions (24).

Two Illini were national awards finalists in 2022 in RB Chase Brown (Doak Walker Award) and CB Devon Witherspoon (Paycom Jim Thorpe Award), representing the first time an Illini finished in the top three of either the Doak Walker Award or Thorpe Award. Witherspoon was also Illinois' first winner of the Big Ten's Tatum-Woodson Defensive Back of the Year, one of five Illini to be named an All-American, and one of 19 Illini to earn All-Big Ten honors, the most in program history. Illinois' five All-Americans



included Witherspoon, who was the first Illini defensive back in history to be named a Consensus All-American, RB Chase Brown; DB Sydney Brown; DT Jer'Zhan Newton; and OL Alex Palczewski, who was the first Illini offensive tackle in history to earn a first team All-America honor. A year later in 2023, Newton became the program's next Consensus All-American and was a finalist for the Nagurski Trophy.

Bielema has also turned Illinois into one of the top programs in producing NFL talent. Illinois was one of five schools with three or more players drafted in the first three rounds in both the 2023 and 2024 NFL Drafts, along with Alabama, Georgia, Michigan, and Penn State. Of Bielema's 12 NFL Draft picks at Illinois, eight have been selected within the top-100 picks, the fourth-best mark in the Big Ten behind only Michigan, Ohio State, and Penn State among teams that have been in the league since 2021. Overall, Bielema has sent over 165 players to the NFL during his career as a head coach.

After the success of the 2022 season, Illinois had one of its most impressive NFL Drafts in recent history. Witherspoon was selected #5 overall to become the highest-drafted defensive back in Illinois history, and fellow DBs Jartavius Martin (No. 47 overall, Washington) and Sydney Brown (No. 66 overall, Philadelphia) went in the second and third rounds, respectively. The Illini were the only team in the nation to have three defensive backs off the board in the first three rounds of the 2023 NFL Draft. RB Chase Brown (No. 163 overall, Cincinnati) was also selected in the fifth round, Bielema's 11th running back coached in college to make it to the NFL.

The Illini followed up its success in the 2023 NFL Draft with four more selections in the 2024 NFL Draft. DT Jer'Zhan Newton (No. 36 overall, Washington) was the third-highest drafted defensive tackle in Illinois history, OL Isaiah Adams (No. 71 overall, Arizona) was the highest-drafted Illini offensive lineman since 2012, TE Tip Reiman (No. 82 overall, Arizona) was the second-highest drafted tight end in Illinois history, and WR Casey Washington (No. 187 overall, Atlanta) was the first Fighting Illini wide receiver drafted since 2012.

THE BIELEMA FILE

HOMETOWN

Prophetstown, Illinois

BIRTHDATE

January 13, 1970

FAMILY

Wife: Jen

Daughters: Briella and Brexli

EDUCATION

B.S., marketing - Iowa, 1992

PLAYING EXPERIENCE

Iowa, 1989-92

Signed free-agent contract with the Seattle Seahawks, 1993

Milwaukee Mustangs, Arena Football League, 1994

BOWL EXPERIENCE (HEAD COACH)

2024 Cheez-It Citrus Bowl

2023 ReliaQuest Bowl

2016 Belk Bowl

2015 Liberty Bowl

2014 Texas Bowl

2013 Rose Bowl *

2012 Rose Bowl

2011 Rose Bowl

2009 Champs Sports Bowl

2008 Champs Sports Bowl

2008 Outback Bowl

2007 Capital One Bowl

* - did not coach in the game

In Bielema's first season in Champaign, Illinois went 5-7 overall with a 4-5 Big Ten record, including ranked road wins over #7 Penn State in the longest game in college football history (9 OT) and #20 Minnesota, the Illini's first-ever win over a College Football Playoff ranked opponent. Illinois' scoring defense (31st from 97th), third-down defense (31st from 89th), and total defense (52nd from 114th) all improved more than 50 spots in the national rankings from 2020. The Illini made massive gains in the Big Ten defensive rankings as well, jumping 9+ spots in scoring defense (4th from 14th), touchdowns allowed (t-3rd from 14th), yards allowed per game (5th from 14th), and passing yards allowed per game (1st from 10th).

From 2006-12 Bielema was the head coach at Wisconsin, where he led the Badgers to three straight Big Ten championships (2010-12), six consecutive bowl games, and a 68-24 record (.739). Bielema then spent five seasons as head coach at Arkansas from 2013-17. After inheriting a depleted roster and enduring a difficult first season, he led the Razorbacks to three consecutive bowl games, including victories against Texas in 2014 and Kansas State in 2015.

In Bielema's debut season at Wisconsin in 2006, the Badgers finished 12-1, including a victory in the Capital One Bowl against Arkansas. He was the first coach in Big Ten history to win 10 games in his first season, the first Wisconsin coach to win 11 games prior to a bowl game, and he became the third coach in NCAA history to win 12 games in his first season. Bielema won 17 of his first 18 games with the Badgers. The Badgers shared or won Big Ten championships three straight seasons from 2010-12, and he led Wisconsin to victories in the first two Big Ten championship games.

Bielema's coaching pedigree and list of football mentors match that of any coach in the nation. He played for and coached under Hall-of-Famer Hayden Fry, helping the Hawkeyes share the 1990 Big Ten title with Illinois. After two years as a graduate assistant and six seasons as linebackers coach at Iowa, Bielema spent two years as co-defensive coordinator at Kansas State under Hall-of-Famer Bill Snyder, helping the Wildcats win the 2003 Big 12 Championship. Two seasons later, he was named defensive coordinator at Wisconsin under Hall-of-Famer Barry Alvarez and moved into the head coaching role of the Badgers in 2006 when Alvarez retired.

Bielema spent the previous three seasons before Illinois in the National Football League. His first two seasons in the NFL were with the New England Patriots as a consultant to six-time Super Bowl champion head coach Bill Belichick in 2018 and as the team's defensive line coach in 2019, when the Patriots won the AFC East with a 12-4 record and had the NFL's best defense. In Bielema's first season with the Patriots, New England went 11-5 and defeated the Los Angeles Rams in Super Bowl LIII. He was the outside linebackers coach and senior assistant for the New York Giants during the 2020 season.

Bielema was a defensive lineman at Iowa from 1989-92, when he was a four-time letterman under Fry. After joining the team as a walk-on, Bielema earned a scholarship after his first year, started as a junior, and was named a team captain for his senior season. Bielema graduated from Iowa in 1992 with a bachelor's degree in marketing.

Following his graduation, Bielema signed a free-agent contract with the Seattle Seahawks and ended his playing career in 1994 as a member of the Milwaukee Mustangs of the Arena Football League.

He and his wife, Jen, have two daughters, Briella Nicole and Brexli Nicole.



Josh Whitman introduced Bret Bielema as Illinois head coach on Dec. 21, 2020.

COACHING EXPERIENCE

2021-	Illinois	Head Coach
2020	New York Giants	Outside Linebackers, Senior Assistant Coach
2019	New England Patriots	Defensive Line
2018	New England Patriots	Consultant to the Head Coach
2013-17	Arkansas	Head Coach (29-34)
2006-12	Wisconsin	Head Coach (68-24)
2004-05	Wisconsin	Defensive Coordinator
2002-03	Kansas State	Co-Defensive Coordinator
1996-2001	Iowa	Linebackers
1994-95	Iowa	Graduate Assistant

HEAD COACHING RECORD

YEAR	TEAM	RECORD	POSTSEASON
2006	Wisconsin	12-1	Capital One Bowl
2007	Wisconsin	9-4	Outback Bowl
2008	Wisconsin	7-6	Champs Sports Bowl
2009	Wisconsin	10-3	Champs Sports Bowl
2010	Wisconsin	11-2	Rose Bowl
2011	Wisconsin	11-3	Rose Bowl
2012	Wisconsin	8-5	Rose Bowl (did not coach game)
2013	Arkansas	3-9	
2014	Arkansas	7-6	Texas Bowl
2015	Arkansas	8-5	Liberty Bowl
2016	Arkansas	7-6	Belk Bowl
2017	Arkansas	4-8	
2021	Illinois	5-7	
2022	Illinois	8-5	ReliaQuest Bowl
2023	Illinois	5-7	
2024	Illinois	10-3	Cheez-It Citrus Bowl
2025	Illinois	3-0	
OVERALL	17TH SEASON	128-80 (.615)	BIG TEN: 55-37 (.598)

OFFENSIVE ASSISTANTS



BARRY LUNNEY JR. GAME DAY LOCATION: FIELD
OFFENSIVE COORDINATOR / QUARTERBACKS
FOURTH SEASON IN 2025

- » Longest-tenured offensive coordinator in the Big Ten
- » Averaged 27.7 points per Big Ten game last season, the 7th-best total in Illinois history and the 3rd-best over the last 35 seasons
- » In first three seasons, coached three of the top four single-season quarterback efficiencies in the Fighting Illini history (2022 DeVito, 2023 Paddock, 2024 Altmyer)
- » Spent seven seasons as an assistant at his alma mater, Arkansas, from 2013-19, including five seasons under Bret Bielema
- » Came to Champaign from UTSA, where he served as associate head coach/offensive coordinator/quarterbacks coach in 2020 and 2021



BART MILLER GAME DAY LOCATION: FIELD
OFFENSIVE LINE
FIFTH SEASON IN 2025

- » 17 of Illinois starters during his first four seasons have earned All-Big Ten honors, including all five starters in both 2022 and 2023, and all four full-time starters in 2024
- » 17 all-conference linemen over the last four seasons rank fourth in the Big Ten over that timeframe, just two behind Ohio State and Penn State, and one behind Michigan
- » Coached under Bret Bielema at Wisconsin in 2011 (graduate assistant) and 2012 (offensive line coach)
- » Played offensive line at New Mexico from 2003-07
- » Played at Elk Grove High School in the Chicago area



JUSTIN STEPP GAME DAY LOCATION: FIELD
WIDE RECEIVERS
SECOND SEASON IN 2025

- » Over the past seven seasons coaching at Illinois, South Carolina, and Arkansas, he has helped eight receivers to 500+-yard seasons
- » Seven of Stepp's former wide receivers are currently on professional rosters, including six in the NFL
- » Produced top-100 NFL Draft picks in back-to-back seasons with Pat Bryant going in the third round of the 2025 NFL Draft to the Denver Broncos and Xavier Legette in the first round of the 2024 NFL Draft by the Carolina Panthers
- » Coached Courtland Sutton at SMU, who is now teammates with fellow Stepp product Pat Bryant on the Denver Broncos
- » Played college football at Furman from 2003-06



THAD WARD GAME DAY LOCATION: FIELD
ASSISTANT HEAD COACH / RUNNING BACKS
SIXTH SEASON IN 2025

- » Sixth season, and second stint, as running backs coach at Illinois in 2025
- » Elevated to Assistant Head Coach/ Running Backs Coach in March 2024
- » Spent three years as running backs coach at Illinois from 2016-18, then rejoined the Illini in January 2023
- » Wide receivers coach with Kansas State's 2022 Big XII championship team
- » Played college football at UCF (1999-2001) and Coffeyville Community College (1997-98)



ARTUR SITKOWSKI
CO-QUARTERBACKS
THIRD SEASON IN 2025



BYRON BELL
ASSISTANT OFFENSIVE LINE
SECOND SEASON IN 2025



DANNY CAMERON
ASSISTANT TIGHT ENDS
FOURTH SEASON IN 2025



DAN ELLINGTON
ASSISTANT WIDE RECEIVERS
FIRST SEASON IN 2025



JAMES WHITE
ASSISTANT RUNNING BACKS
FIRST SEASON IN 2025



BLAKE SMITHBACK
OFFENSIVE FRONT ASSISTANT
FIRST SEASON IN 2025

SPECIAL TEAMS ASSISTANTS

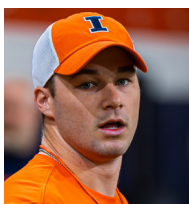


ROBBY DISCHER GAME DAY LOCATION: FIELD
SPECIAL TEAMS COORDINATOR / TIGHT ENDS
THIRD SEASON IN 2025

- » Fighting Illini special teams unit ranked #16 in the nation by ESPN's special teams efficiency metric in 2024
- » PFF ranked Illinois' overall special teams unit as the seventh-best in the nation in 2023
- » Illinois led the nation in blocked kicks/punts (7) and had three more blocked kicks/punts than any other team in the nation during the 2023 regular season
- » Came to Illinois from Tulane, where he helped the Green Wave to AAC and Cotton Bowl championships as special teams coordinator in 2022
- » 2014 FootballScoop Special Teams Coordinator of the Year at Oklahoma State, becoming FootballScoop's first graduate assistant winner of any Coach of the Year award



CHRIS HURD
SENIOR SPECIAL TEAMS ASST.
THIRD SEASON IN 2025



HARPER COLE
OFFENSIVE SKILL AND
SPECIAL TEAMS ASSISTANT
FIRST SEASON IN 2025

**AARON HENRY** **GAME DAY LOCATION: FIELD**

DEFENSIVE COORDINATOR / SECONDARY

FIFTH SEASON IN 2025 (THIRD AS DEFENSIVE COORDINATOR)

- » Third-longest tenured defensive coordinator in the Big Ten, behind only Iowa's Phil Parker (14th season) and Oregon's Tosh Lupoi (fourth season)
- » Illinois led the Big Ten and ranked t-10th in the nation in forced fumbles (15) in 2024
- » 2022 FootballScoop Defensive Backs Coach of the Year
- » Coached Illinois defensive back Devon Witherspoon into becoming the No. 5 overall pick in the 2023 NFL Draft
- » Played under Bielema at Wisconsin, where he was an All-Big Ten first team defensive back and led the Badgers to consecutive Big Ten titles

**TERRANCE JAMISON** **GAME DAY LOCATION: FIELD**

DEFENSIVE LINE

FIFTH SEASON IN 2025

- » Has led one of the best defensive line units in the Big Ten and the nation through his first four years in Champaign
- » Coached Jer'Zhan Newton to back-to-back All-American seasons in 2022 and 2023 and to the 2023 Big Ten Defensive Player of the Year award
- » Coached several outstanding players in his career before joining the Illini, including 2015 C-USA Defensive Player of the Year Trey Hendrickson, multiple-Pro Bowler J.J. Watt at Wisconsin, fifth-round NFL Draft pick Broderick Washington at Texas Tech, and first-round pick George Karlaftis at Purdue
- » Two degrees from Wisconsin, a bachelor's in agricultural business management (2009) and a master's in educational leadership and policy analysis (2011)
- » Native of Harvey, Illinois, and graduated from Thornton Township High School

**ARCHIE McDANIEL** **GAME DAY LOCATION: BOOTH**

LINEBACKERS

SECOND SEASON IN 2025

- » 20th year of coaching, including 19 years in college
- » Helped Illinois to a 10-win season in 2024, his first season in Champaign
- » Came to Illinois from Houston, where he was the linebackers coach from 2021-23
- » Helped Houston to two bowl wins in three seasons and a top-20 finish in 2021
- » Played at Texas A&M and recorded 213 tackles, five sacks, and two interceptions during his three-year career from 2003-05

**COREY PARKER** **GAME DAY LOCATION: FIELD**

DEFENSIVE BACKS

SECOND SEASON IN 2025

- » Illinois ranked fourth in the Big Ten with 12 interceptions during the 2024 regular season, his first season in Champaign
- » Illinois' defense posted a PFF coverage grade of 87.8 during the 2024 season, ranking 23rd nationally
- » Joined the Fighting Illini from Toledo, where he was the Rockets' cornerbacks coach from 2022-23, helping Toledo to two MAC Championship Game appearances
- » Coached Toledo cornerback Quinyon Mitchell into a two-time All-American and first-round pick in the 2024 NFL Draft
- » Had a 113-34 head coaching record in 13 years at River Rouge High School in Detroit, highlighted by winning a state title in 2019

**TRENT HARRIS** **GAME DAY LOCATION: FIELD**

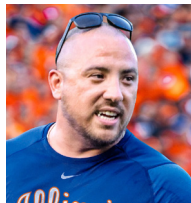
OUTSIDE LINEBACKERS

SECOND SEASON IN 2025 (FIRST AS OUTSIDE LINEBACKERS COACH)

- » Spent the 2024 season as the Illini's assistant outside linebackers coach
- » Took over leadership of the outside linebackers room for the final four games of 2024, helped guide one of the most productive outside linebacker groups in the Big Ten
- » Came to Illinois following a seven-year professional career that included stints in the NFL (2018-22), XFL (2023), and UFL (2024)
- » Played in the NFL under Bret Bielema for the New England Patriots (2018) and New York Giants (2020)
- » Played college football at Miami from 2014-17, earning All-ACC Third Team honors in 2017



ALEX PANOS
CO-OUTSIDE LINEBACKERS
FOURTH SEASON IN 2025



MATT ELLERBROCK
ASSISTANT LINEBACKERS
FIRST SEASON IN 2025



HOUSTON GRIFFITH
ASSISTANT DEFENSIVE BACKS
THIRD SEASON IN 2025



ANTONIO JAMES
ASSISTANT DEFENSIVE LINE
FIRST SEASON IN 2025



RYAN SIMERSON
ASSISTANT SECONDARY
FIFTH SEASON IN 2025



BEN MILLER
SENIOR HEAD COACH ANALYST
FIFTH SEASON IN 2025



MYERS HENDRICKSON
SENIOR ANALYST
SECOND SEASON IN 2025



MIKE NEU
SENIOR OFFENSIVE ASSISTANT
FIRST SEASON IN 2025



JOE KIM
SKILL DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR
FIRST SEASON IN 2025

Rushing

Player	gp	att	gain	loss	net	avg	td	lg	avg/g
Kaden Feagin	3	50	226	4	222	4.4	3	26	74.0
Ca'Lil Valentine	3	25	164	6	158	6.3	2	23	52.7
Aidan Laughery	2	15	116	10	106	7.1	2	57	53.0
Hank Beatty	3	1	25	0	25	25.0	1	25	8.3
Jordan Anderson	3	1	1	0	1	1.0	0	1	0.3
Luke Altmyer	3	17	50	62	-12	-0.7	1	25	-4.0
Team	3	7	0	6	-6	-0.9	0	0	-2.0
Total	3	116	582	88	494	4.3	9	57	164.7
Opponents	3	84	279	57	222	2.6	0	21	74.0

Passing

Player	gp	effic	comp-att-int	pct	yds	td	lg	avg/g
Luke Altmyer	3	182.0	56-78-0	71.8	709	8	59	236.3
Ethan Hampton	3	217.6	1-1-0	100.0	14	0	14	4.7
Total	3	182.4	57-79-0	72.2	723	8	59	241.0
Opponents	3	114.6	52-92-1	56.5	581	2	62	193.7

Receiving

Player	gp	no.	yds	avg	td	lg	avg/g
Hank Beatty	3	19	289	15.2	1	59	96.3
Justin Bowick	3	8	86	10.8	3	21	28.7
Collin Dixon	3	6	65	10.8	1	33	21.7
Hudson Clement	3	5	75	15.0	0	27	25.0
Malik Elzy	3	5	71	14.2	0	25	23.7
Tanner Arkin	3	2	14	7.0	1	11	4.7
Cole Rusk	3	2	7	3.5	1	8	2.3
Ashton Hollins	3	2	41	20.5	1	35	13.7
Aidan Laughery	2	2	22	11.0	0	17	11.0
Kaden Feagin	3	2	13	6.5	0	13	4.3
Ca'Lil Valentine	3	2	14	7.0	0	12	4.7
Alexander Capka-Jones	3	1	12	12.0	0	12	4.0
Mario Sanders II	2	1	14	14.0	0	14	7.0
Total	3	57	723	12.7	8	59	241.0
Opponents	3	52	581	11.2	2	62	193.7

Punt Returns

Player	no.	yds	avg	td	lg
Hank Beatty	6	152	25.3	1	69
Total	6	152	25.3	1	69
Opponents	2	4	2.0	0	4

Interceptions

Player	no.	yds	avg	td	lg
Tanner Heckel	1	-1	-1.0	0	0
Total	1	-1	-1.0	0	0
Opponents	0	0	0.0	0	0

Kick Returns

Player	no.	yds	avg	td	lg
Ca'Lil Valentine	1	25	25.0	0	21
Total	1	25	25.0	0	21
Opponents	1	20	20.0	0	20

Fumbles Recovered

Player	no.	yds	avg	td	lg
Kaleb Patterson	2	0	0.0	0	0
Tyler Strain	1	0	0.0	0	0
Matthew Bailey	1	0	0.0	0	0
Malachi Hood	1	0	0.0	0	0
Total	5	0	0.0	0	0
Opponents	0	0	0.0	0	0

Scoring

Player			PAT							pts
	td	fg	kick	rush	rcv	pass	dxp	saf		
David Olano	-	3-4	18-18	-	-	-	-	-	-	27
Justin Bowick	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18
Hank Beatty	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18
Kaden Feagin	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18
Aidan Laughery	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
Ca'Lil Valentine	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
Tanner Arkin	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Cole Rusk	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Luke Altmyer	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Ashton Hollins	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Collin Dixon	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Total	18	3-4	18-18	0	0	0	0	0	0	135
Opponents	2	3-4	1-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	22

Field Goals

Player	fg	pct.	01-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-99	lg	blk
David Olano	3-4	75.0	0-0	1-2	2-2	0-0	0-0	35	1
Opponents	3-4	75.0	0-0	1-1	0-0	2-3	0-0	40	0

FG Sequence

Team Name	Illinois	Opponents
Western Ill.	(35),28	(20)
Duke	(35)	(40),(40)
Western Mich.	(28)	46

Numbers in (parentheses) indicate field goal was made

Total Offense

Player	g	plays	rush	pass	total	avg/g
Luke Altmyer	3	95	-12	709	697	232.3
Kaden Feagin	3	50	222	0	222	74.0
Ca'Lil Valentine	3	25	158	0	158	52.7
Aidan Laughery	2	15	106	0	106	53.0
Hank Beatty	3	1	25	0	25	8.3
Ethan Hampton	3	1	0	14	14	4.7
Jordan Anderson	3	1	1	0	1	0.3
Team	3	0	-6	0	-6	-2.0
Total	3	195	494	723	1217	405.7
Opponents	3	176	222	581	803	267.7

Punting

Player	no.	yds	avg	lg	tb	fc	i20	50+	blk
Keelan Crimmins	8	359	44.9	60	1	5	3	3	0
Total	8	359	44.9	60	1	5	3	3	0
Opponents	15	605	40.3	50	1	4	0	1	0

Kickoffs

Player	no.	yds	avg	tb	ob	retn	net	ydln
David Olano	23	1495	65.0	23	0			
Lucas Osada	1	65	65.0	0	0			
Total	24	1560	65.0	23	0	1	40.2	24
Opponents	8	454	56.8	6	1	1	38.6	26

All Purpose

Player	g	rush	rcv	pr	kr	ir	total	avg/g
Hank Beatty	3	25	289	152	0	0	466	155.3
Kaden Feagin	3	222	13	0	0	0	235	78.3
Ca'Lil Valentine	3	158	14	0	25	0	197	65.7
Aidan Laughery	2	106	22	0	0	0	128	64.0
Justin Bowick	3	0	86	0	0	0	86	28.7
Hudson Clement	3	0	75	0	0	0	75	25.0
Malik Elzy	3	0	71	0	0	0	71	23.7
Collin Dixon	3	0	65	0	0	0	65	21.7
Ashton Hollins	3	0	41	0	0	0	41	13.7
Tanner Arkin	3	0	14	0	0	0	14	4.7
Mario Sanders II	2	0	14	0	0	0	14	7.0
Alexander Capka-Jones	3	0	12	0	0	0	12	4.0
Cole Rusk	3	0	7	0	0	0	7	2.3
Jordan Anderson	3	1	0	0	0	0	1	0.3
Tanner Heckel	3	0	0	0	0	-1	-1	-0.3
Luke Altmyer	3	-12	0	0	0	0	-12	-4.0
Team	3	-6	0	0	0	0	-6	-2.0
Total	3	494	723	152	25	-1	1393	464.3
Opponents	3	222	581	4	20	0	827	275.7

Team Defense

			Tackles				Sacks	Pass defense			Fumbles	blkd		
##	Player	gp	ua	a	tot	tfl/yds	no-yds	int-yds	brup	qbh	fr-yds	ff	kick	saf
45	Malachi Hood	3	9	5	14	1-2	.	.	.	.	1-0	.	.	.
10	Miles Scott	3	11	3	14	1-1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
7	Matthew Bailey	3	12	1	13	.	.	.	.	1	1-0	1	.	.
9	Leon Lowery	3	4	5	9	2-3	1-2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
90	James Thompson Jr.	3	.	8	8	1-2	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.
28	Dylan Rosiek	2	2	6	8	1-1	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.
5	Torrie Cox Jr.	3	5	3	8	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.
17	Gabe Jacas	3	5	3	8	4-15	3.5-14	.	1	2	.	2	.	.
1	Kaleb Patterson	3	5	2	7	.	.	.	.	.	2-0	.	.	.
92	Gentle Hunt	3	4	3	7	1.5-9	1.5-9	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
30	Jojo Hayden	3	4	2	6	1-1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
0	Mac Resetich	3	4	2	6	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
14	Xavier Scott	3	3	3	6	1.5-2	.	.	2	.	.	.	.	.
39	Kenenna Odeluga	3	3	3	6	0.5-1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
3	Alec Bryant	3	1	5	6	1.5-4	0.5-3	.	.	2	.	.	.	.
36	Tomiwa Durojaiye	3	4	1	5	1-7	1-7	.	.	2	.	.	.	.
44	Angelo McCullom	3	2	3	5	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
42	Luke Zardzin	3	4	1	5	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
16	Tanner Heckel	3	3	1	4	1-2	1-2	1--1	1	.	.	1	.	.
99	Curt Neal	3	2	1	3	0.5-1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
52	Pat Farrell	3	1	2	3	1-5	1-5	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
96	Eli Coenen	3	1	2	3	0.5-2	0.5-2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
43	Joe Barna	3	1	2	3	.	.	.	2	.	.	.	.	.
41	James Kreutz	3	1	1	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
19	Tyson Rooks	3	1	1	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
20	Tyler Strain	3	2	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	1-0	.	.	.
2	Saboor Karriem	3	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
8	Jeremiah Warren	3	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
4	Daniel Brown	2	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.
Totals		3	96	70	166	20-58	10-44	1--1	7	10	5-0	4	0	0
Opponents		3	95	108	203	20-83	9-62	0-0	6	5	0-0	0	1	0

	ILLINI	OPP
Scoring	135	22
Points per game	45.0	7.3
Points Off Turnovers	21	0
First Downs	66	44
Rushing	28	12
Passing	29	26
Penalty	9	6
Rushing Yardage	494	222
Yards gained rushing	582	279
Yards lost rushing	88	57
Rushing attempts	116	84
Average per rush	4.3	2.6
Average per game	164.7	74.0
TDs Rushing	9	0
Passing Yardage	723	581
Comp-Att-Int	57-79-0	52-92-1
Average per pass	9.2	6.3
Average per catch	12.7	11.2
Average per game	241.0	193.7
TDs Passing	8	2
Total offense	1217	803
Total plays	195	176
Average per play	6.2	4.6
Average per game	405.7	267.7
Kick returns: #-Yards	1-25	1-20
Punt returns: #-Yards	6-152	2-4
Int returns: #-Yards	1--1	0-0
Kick return average	25.0	20.0
Punt return average	25.3	2.0
Int return average	-1.0	0.0
Fumbles-Lost	1-0	5-5
Penalties-Yards	17-157	20-196
Average per game	52.3	65.3
Punts-Yards	8-359	15-605
Average per punt	44.9	40.3
Net punt average	41.9	28.9
Kickoffs-Yards	24-1560	8-454
Average per kick	65.0	56.8
Net kick average	40.2	38.6
Time of possession / game	33:29	25:60
3rd-down conversion	16/34	12/38
3rd-down pct	47%	32%
4th-down conversion	4/4	1/6
4th-down pct	100%	17%
Sacks by-Yards	10-44	9-62
Misc Yards	0	0
Touchdowns scored	18	2
Field goals - attempts	3-4	3-4
On-Side kicks	0-0	0-0
Red-zone scores	(16-18) 89%	(4-6) 67%
Red-zone touchdowns	(13-18) 72%	(2-6) 33%
PAT-attempts	(18-18) 100%	(1-1) 100%
2-point conversion-attempts	(0-0) 0%	(0-1) 0%
Attendance	116710	23893
Games / Avg per game	2/58355	1/23893
Neutral site games	-	0/0

Score by Periods

Team	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	OT	TOT
Illinois	24	31	35	45	0	135
Opponents	3	10	6	3	0	22

Illinois Inside Opponent Red-Zone

Date	Opponent	Score	Times	Times	Total	TDs	Rush	Pass	FGs	Failed to score inside RZ						
			In RZ	Scored	Pts		TDs	TDs	Made	FGA	Down	Int	Fumb	Half	Game	
08/29/2025	Western Ill.	W 52-3	7	5	31	4	1	3	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	1
09/06/2025	at Duke	W 45-19	5	5	31	4	1	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
09/13/2025	Western Mich.	W 38-0	6	6	38	5	3	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals 16 of 18 (88.9%)			18	16	100	13	5	8	3	4	0	0	0	0	0	1

Opponents Inside Illinois Red-Zone

Date	Opponent	Score	Times	Times	Total	TDs	Rush	Pass	FGs	Failed to score inside RZ						
			In RZ	Scored	Pts		TDs	TDs	Made	FGA	Down	Int	Fumb	Half	Game	
08/29/2025	Western Ill.	W 52-3	1	1	3	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
09/06/2025	Duke	W 45-19	4	3	16	2	0	2	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
09/13/2025	Western Mich.	W 38-0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Totals 4 of 6 (66.7%)			6	4	19	2	0	2	2	2	1	0	1	0	0	0

3rd-Down Conversions

Date	Opponent		Score	Overall		1st Qtr		2nd Qtr		3rd Qtr		4th Qtr		Overtime	
08/29/2025	Western Ill.	W	52-3	4-9	44.4	3-4	75.0	0-2	0.0	0-1	0.0	1-2	50.0	0-0	0.0
09/06/2025	at Duke	W	45-19	5-13	38.5	1-3	33.3	2-4	50.0	1-3	33.3	1-3	33.3	0-0	0.0
09/13/2025	Western Mich.	W	38-0	7-12	58.3	4-6	66.7	0-2	0.0	2-2	100.0	1-2	50.0	0-0	0.0
Illinois				16-34	47.1	8-13	61.5	2-8	25.0	3-6	50.0	3-7	42.9	0-0	0.0
Opponents				12-38	31.6	2-8	25.0	4-12	33.3	4-10	40.0	2-8	25.0	0-0	0.0

4th-Down Conversions

Date	Opponent		Score	Overall		1st Qtr		2nd Qtr		3rd Qtr		4th Qtr		Overtime	
08/29/2025	Western Ill.	W	52-3	2-2	100.0	0-0	0.0	1-1	100.0	0-0	0.0	1-1	100.0	0-0	0.0
09/06/2025	at Duke	W	45-19	2-2	100.0	0-0	0.0	1-1	100.0	1-1	100.0	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0
09/13/2025	Western Mich.	W	38-0	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0	0-0	0.0
Illinois				4-4	100.0	0-0	0.0	2-2	100.0	1-1	100.0	1-1	100.0	0-0	0.0
Opponents				1-6	16.7	0-1	0.0	0-2	0.0	1-1	100.0	0-2	0.0	0-0	0.0

Time of Possession

Date	Opponent		Score	Overall		1st Qtr		2nd Qtr		3rd Qtr		4th Qtr		Overtime	
08/29/2025	Western Ill.	W	52-3	32:42		07:02		10:30		04:47		10:23		00:00	
09/06/2025	at Duke	W	45-19	36:12		07:07		08:58		06:42		13:25		00:00	
09/13/2025	Western Mich.	W	38-0	31:33		08:18		07:01		06:55		09:19		00:00	
Illinois				Total	100:27	22:27		26:29		18:24		33:07		00:00	
				Avg.	33:29	07:29		08:50		06:08		11:02		00:00	
Opponents				Total	77:59	16:15		24:49		11:55		25:00		00:00	
				Avg.	26:00	05:25		08:16		03:58		08:20		00:00	

GAME-BY-GAME STATISTICS



Opponent	Score	First Downs				Rushing Number-Yards	Passing		Total Offense Plays-Yards	Return Yards	Turn- Overs
		Total	Rush	Pass	Pen		Comp-Att.-Int	Yards			
Western Ill.	52-3	21 / 11	10 / 2	9 / 7	2 / 2	37-209 / 26-27	18-22-0 / 14-29-0	231 / 134	59-440 / 55-161	133 / 0	0 / 1
Duke	45-19	25 / 21	8 / 5	13 / 14	4 / 2	42-123 / 24-82	22-31-0 / 25-39-1	296 / 356	73-419 / 63-438	24 / 4	0 / 5
Western Mich.	38-0	20 / 12	10 / 5	7 / 5	3 / 2	37-162 / 34-113	17-26-0 / 13-24-0	196 / 91	63-358 / 58-204	19 / 20	0 / 0
Totals	135-22	66 / 44	28 / 12	29 / 26	9 / 6	116-494 / 84-222	57-79-0 / 52-92-1	723 / 581	195-1217 / 176-803	176 / 24	0 / 6

Opponents	3rd Down Conversion	4th Down Conversion	Time of Possession	TOP Margin	Avg Yds/Rush	Avg Yds/Pass	Avg Yds/Play	Punting Number-Avg	Penalties Number-Yards	Sacks
Western Ill.	4-9 / 5-14	2-2 / 0-2	32:42 / 27:18	05:24	5.6 / 1.0	10.5 / 4.6	7.5 / 2.9	1-29.0 / 6-40.2	5-60.0 / 8-59.0	5 / 3
Duke	5-13 / 4-10	2-2 / 1-2	36:12 / 23:48	12:24	2.9 / 3.4	9.5 / 9.1	5.7 / 7.0	3-48.0 / 1-45.0	7-51.0 / 6-69.0	2 / 4
Western Mich.	7-12 / 3-14	0-0 / 0-2	31:33 / 26:53	04:40	4.4 / 3.3	7.5 / 3.8	5.7 / 3.5	4-46.5 / 8-39.9	5-46.0 / 6-68.0	3 / 2
Totals	16-34 / 12-38	4-4 / 1-6	100:27 / 77:59	22:28	4.3 / 2.6	9.2 / 6.3	6.2 / 4.6	8-44.9 / 15-40.3	17-157.0 / 20-196.0	10 / 9

Note: Game totals are displayed in the format TEAM/OPPONENT for each category

GAME-BY-GAME STARTERS



OFFENSIVE STARTERS

GAME	LT	LG	C	RG	RT	QB	RB	TE	TE/WR	WR	WR
Western Illinois	Davis	Gesky	Kreutz	B. Hansen	Priestly	Altmyer	Laughery	Arkin	Abney	Dixon	Elzy
Duke	Davis	Gesky	Kreutz	Henderson	Priestly	Altmyer	Laughery	Arkin	Clement	Dixon	Beatty
Western Michigan	Davis	Gesky	Kreutz	Henderson	Priestly	Altmyer	Feagin	Arkin	Bowick	Dixon	Beatty
Indiana											
USC											
Purdue											
Ohio State											
Washington											
Rutgers											
Maryland											
Wisconsin											
Northwestern											
<i>Consecutive</i>	<i>40</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Career</i>	<i>40</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>31</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>29</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>2</i>

DEFENSIVE STARTERS

GAME	OLB	DL	DL/LB	DL	OLB	LB	CB/LB	CB	CB	FS	SS
Western Illinois	Jacas	Thompson Jr.	Neal	Durojaiye	Bryant	Rosiek	Patterson	Cox	X. Scott	M. Scott	Bailey
Duke	Jacas	Thompson Jr.	Hood	Durojaiye	Brown	Rosiek	Patterson	Cox	X. Scott	M. Scott	Bailey
Western Michigan	Jacas	Thompson Jr.	Neal	Durojaiye	Bryant	Hood	Odeluga	Cox	X. Scott	M. Scott	Bailey
Indiana											
USC											
Purdue											
Ohio State											
Washington											
Rutgers											
Maryland											
Wisconsin											
Northwestern											
<i>Consecutive</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>16</i>
<i>Career</i>	<i>34</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>34</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>18</i>

Opp.	Qtr.	-----DRIVE STARTED-----			-----DRIVE ENDED-----			-CONSUMED-	
		Spot	Time	Obtained	Spot	Time	Result	Ply-Yds.	TOP
WIU	1st	ILL41	10:57	DOWNS	WIU0	06:43	TD	8-59	04:14
WIU	1st	WIU26	06:36	FUMB	WIU0	03:48	TD	5-26	02:48
WIU	1st	ILL49	02:03	PUNT	WIU0	13:20	TD	7-51	03:43
WIU	2nd	ILL34	11:19	DOWNS	WIU17	07:54	FG	8-49	03:25
WIU	2nd	ILL38	05:43	PUNT	WIU0	03:09	TD	4-62	02:34
WIU	2nd	ILL43	01:32	PUNT	ILL31	00:44	PUNT	3-(-12)	00:48
WIU	3rd	ILL35	01:32	KO	WIU10	10:13	FGA	9-55	04:47
WIU	4th	ILL25	14:57	KO	WIU0	08:27	TD	10-75	06:30
WIU	4th	ILL33	06:22	PUNT	WIU0	05:27	TD	2-67	00:55
WIU	4th	WIU34	02:58	PUNT	WIU21	00:00	HALF	9-46	06:11
DUKE	1st	ILL25	10:26	KO	ILL40	08:09	PUNT	5-15	02:17
DUKE	1st	ILL27	06:41	PUNT	ILL38	04:05	PUNT	5-11	02:36
DUKE	1st	DUKE18	04:05	PUNT	DUKE0	01:51	TD	5-18	02:14
DUKE	2nd	ILL25	11:08	KO	DUKE0	05:01	TD	12-75	06:07
DUKE	2nd	ILL18	03:55	FUMB	ILL41	01:12	PUNT	6-23	02:43
DUKE	2nd	ILL25	00:08	KO	ILL24	00:00	HALF	1-(-1)	00:08
DUKE	3rd	ILL25	15:00	KO	DUKE0	09:34	TD	11-75	05:26
DUKE	3rd	ILL39	08:03	FUMB	DUKE0	06:54	TD	4-61	01:09
DUKE	3rd	ILL26	03:53	KO	DUKE17	14:04	FG	9-57	04:49
DUKE	4th	ILL11	10:59	INT	DUKE0	04:14	TD	12-89	06:45
DUKE	4th	DUKE23	04:04	FUMB	DUKE0	03:58	TD	1-23	00:06
DUKE	4th	ILL32	01:45	DOWNS	ILL29	00:00	HALF	3-(-3)	01:45
WMU	1st	ILL25	15:00	KO	WMU10	08:47	FG	14-65	06:13
WMU	1st	ILL29	05:23	PUNT	ILL36	03:18	PUNT	3-7	02:05
WMU	1st	ILL32	02:24	PUNT	WMU0	13:31	TD	9-68	03:53
WMU	2nd	ILL24	11:29	PUNT	ILL28	10:35	PUNT	3-4	00:54
WMU	2nd	ILL28	05:05	FGA	ILL31	02:51	PUNT	3-3	02:14
WMU	3rd	ILL47	13:00	PUNT	WMU0	10:59	TD	5-53	02:01
WMU	3rd	ILL20	07:42	PUNT	WMU0	02:48	TD	10-80	04:54
WMU	3rd	ILL47	01:14	PUNT	WMU0	14:06	TD	5-53	02:08
WMU	4th	ILL28	12:39	PUNT	ILL33	11:02	PUNT	3-5	01:37
WMU	4th	WMU42	09:39	PUNT	WMU0	05:15	TD	7-42	04:24
WMU	4th	ILL42	01:10	DOWNS	ILL41	00:00	HALF	2-(-1)	01:10

OPPONENT DRIVES



Team	Qtr.	-----DRIVE STARTED-----			-----DRIVE ENDED-----			-CONSUMED-	
		Spot	Time	Obtained	Spot	Time	Result	Ply-Yds.	TOP
WIU	1st	WIU25	15:00	KO	ILL41	10:57	DOWNS	9-34	04:03
WIU	1st	WIU25	06:43	KO	WIU26	06:36	FUMB	1-1	00:07
WIU	1st	WIU25	03:48	KO	WIU18	02:03	PUNT	3-(-7)	01:45
WIU	2nd	WIU15	13:20	KO	ILL34	11:19	DOWNS	5-41	02:01
WIU	2nd	WIU25	07:54	KO	WIU37	05:43	PUNT	5-12	02:11
WIU	2nd	WIU25	03:09	KO	WIU21	01:32	PUNT	3-(-4)	01:37
WIU	2nd	WIU40	00:44	PUNT	WIU40	00:00	HALF	2-0	00:44
WIU	3rd	WIU18	10:13	FGA	WIU19	08:00	PUNT	3-1	02:13
WIU	3rd	WIU25	08:00	KO	ILL02	14:57	FG	16-73	08:03
WIU	4th	WIU25	08:27	KO	WIU34	06:22	PUNT	6-9	02:05
WIU	4th	WIU25	05:27	KO	WIU29	02:58	PUNT	3-9	02:29
DUKE	1st	DUKE25	15:00	KO	ILL23	10:26	FG	9-52	04:34
DUKE	1st	DUKE20	08:09	PUNT	DUKE28	06:41	PUNT	3-8	01:28
DUKE	1st	DUKE25	01:51	KO	ILL23	11:08	FG	14-52	05:43
DUKE	2nd	DUKE25	05:01	KO	ILL18	03:55	FUMB	4-57	01:06
DUKE	2nd	DUKE23	01:12	PUNT	ILL0	00:08	TD	9-77	01:04
DUKE	3rd	DUKE25	09:34	KO	ILL39	08:03	FUMB	4-36	01:31
DUKE	3rd	DUKE25	06:54	KO	ILL0	04:00	TD	7-75	02:54
DUKE	4th	DUKE25	14:04	KO	ILL29	10:59	INT	7-46	03:05
DUKE	4th	DUKE25	04:14	KO	DUKE23	04:04	FUMB	1-(-2)	00:10
DUKE	4th	DUKE25	03:58	KO	ILL32	01:45	DOWNS	7-43	02:13
WMU	1st	WMU25	08:47	KO	WMU44	05:23	PUNT	6-19	03:24
WMU	1st	WMU24	03:18	PUNT	WMU23	02:24	PUNT	3-(-1)	00:54
WMU	2nd	WMU25	13:31	KO	WMU33	11:29	PUNT	3-8	02:02
WMU	2nd	WMU29	10:35	PUNT	ILL28	05:05	FGA	11-43	05:30
WMU	2nd	WMU19	02:51	PUNT	ILL1	00:00	DOWNS	11-80	02:51
WMU	3rd	WMU25	15:00	KO	WMU22	13:00	PUNT	3-(-3)	02:00
WMU	3rd	WMU25	10:59	KO	ILL44	07:42	PUNT	6-31	03:17
WMU	3rd	WMU13		PUNT	WMU10	01:14	PUNT	3-(-3)	00:00
WMU	4th	WMU25	14:06	KO	WMU32	12:39	PUNT	3-7	01:27
WMU	4th	WMU14	11:02	PUNT	WMU15	09:39	PUNT	3-1	01:23
WMU	4th	WMU20	05:08	KO	ILL42	01:10	DOWNS	7-38	03:58

RUSHES	42	at Duke (09/06/2025)
YARDS RUSHING	209	Western Ill. (08/29/2025)
YARDS PER RUSH	5.6	Western Ill. (08/29/2025)
TD RUSHES	3 3 3	Western Mich. (09/13/2025) at Duke (09/06/2025) Western Ill. (08/29/2025)
PASS ATTEMPTS	31	at Duke (09/06/2025)
PASS COMPLETIONS	22	at Duke (09/06/2025)
YARDS PASSING	296	at Duke (09/06/2025)
YARDS PER PASS	10.5	Western Ill. (08/29/2025)
TD PASSES	3 3	at Duke (09/06/2025) Western Ill. (08/29/2025)
TOTAL PLAYS	73	at Duke (09/06/2025)
TOTAL OFFENSE	440	Western Ill. (08/29/2025)
YARDS PER PLAY	7.5	Western Ill. (08/29/2025)
POINTS	52	Western Ill. (08/29/2025)
SACKS BY	5	Western Ill. (08/29/2025)
FIRST DOWNS	25	at Duke (09/06/2025)
PENALTIES	7	at Duke (09/06/2025)
PENALTY YARDS	60	Western Ill. (08/29/2025)
TURNOVERS	0 0 0	Western Mich. (09/13/2025) at Duke (09/06/2025) Western Ill. (08/29/2025)
PUNTS	4	Western Mich. (09/13/2025)
PUNTING AVG	48.0	at Duke (09/06/2025)
LONG PUNT	60	at Duke (09/06/2025)
PUNTS INSIDE 20	2	Western Mich. (09/13/2025)
LONG PUNT RETURN	69	Western Ill. (08/29/2025)

RUSHES	34	Western Mich. (09/13/2025)
YARDS RUSHING	113	Western Mich. (09/13/2025)
YARDS PER RUSH	3.4	at Duke (09/06/2025)
TD RUSHES	0 0 0	Western Mich. (09/13/2025) at Duke (09/06/2025) Western Ill. (08/29/2025)
PASS ATTEMPTS	39	at Duke (09/06/2025)
PASS COMPLETIONS	25	at Duke (09/06/2025)
YARDS PASSING	356	at Duke (09/06/2025)
YARDS PER PASS	9.1	at Duke (09/06/2025)
TD PASSES	2	at Duke (09/06/2025)
TOTAL PLAYS	63	at Duke (09/06/2025)
TOTAL OFFENSE	438	at Duke (09/06/2025)
YARDS PER PLAY	7.0	at Duke (09/06/2025)
POINTS	19	at Duke (09/06/2025)
SACKS BY	4	at Duke (09/06/2025)
FIRST DOWNS	21	at Duke (09/06/2025)
PENALTIES	8	Western Ill. (08/29/2025)
PENALTY YARDS	69	at Duke (09/06/2025)
TURNOVERS	5	at Duke (09/06/2025)
PUNTS	8	Western Mich. (09/13/2025)
PUNTING AVG	45.0	at Duke (09/06/2025)
LONG PUNT	50	Western Ill. (08/29/2025)
PUNTS INSIDE 20	0 0 0	Western Mich. (09/13/2025) at Duke (09/06/2025) Western Ill. (08/29/2025)
LONG PUNT RETURN	4	at Duke (09/06/2025)

RUSHES	20	Kaden Feagin vs Western Mich. (09/13/2025)
YARDS RUSHING	101	Aidan Laughery vs Western Ill. (08/29/2025)
TD RUSHES	2	Aidan Laughery vs Western Ill. (08/29/2025)
LONG RUSH	57	Aidan Laughery vs Western Ill. (08/29/2025)
PASS ATTEMPTS	31	Luke Altmyer at Duke (09/06/2025)
PASS COMPLETIONS	22	Luke Altmyer at Duke (09/06/2025)
YARDS PASSING	296	Luke Altmyer at Duke (09/06/2025)
TD PASSES	3	Luke Altmyer at Duke (09/06/2025)
	3	Luke Altmyer vs Western Ill. (08/29/2025)
LONG PASS	59	Luke Altmyer vs Western Ill. (08/29/2025)
RECEPTIONS	8	Hank Beatty at Duke (09/06/2025)
YARDS RECEIVING	128	Hank Beatty at Duke (09/06/2025)
TD RECEPTIONS	2	Justin Bowick vs Western Ill. (08/29/2025)
LONG RECEPTION	59	Hank Beatty vs Western Ill. (08/29/2025)
PUNTS	4	Keelan Crimmins vs Western Mich. (09/13/2025)
PUNTING AVG	48.0	Keelan Crimmins at Duke (09/06/2025)
LONG PUNT	60	Keelan Crimmins at Duke (09/06/2025)
PUNTS INSIDE 20	2	Keelan Crimmins vs Western Mich. (09/13/2025)
LONG PUNT RETURN	69	Hank Beatty vs Western Ill. (08/29/2025)
LONG KICKOFF RETURN	21	Ca'Lil Valentine at Duke (09/06/2025)
TACKLES	6	Matthew Bailey vs Western Mich. (09/13/2025)
	6	Malachi Hood vs Western Mich. (09/13/2025)
	6	Dylan Rosiek at Duke (09/06/2025)
	6	Miles Scott at Duke (09/06/2025)
	6	Matthew Bailey at Duke (09/06/2025)
SACKS	2	Gabe Jacas vs Western Ill. (08/29/2025)
TACKLES FOR LOSS	2.5	Gabe Jacas vs Western Ill. (08/29/2025)

RUSHES	12	Markell Holman vs Western Ill. (08/29/2025)
YARDS RUSHING	46	Ofa Mataele vs Western Mich. (09/13/2025)
TD RUSHES	none	
LONG RUSH	21	Ofa Mataele vs Western Mich. (09/13/2025)
PASS ATTEMPTS	34	Darian Mensah at Duke (09/06/2025)
PASS COMPLETIONS	23	Darian Mensah at Duke (09/06/2025)
YARDS PASSING	334	Darian Mensah at Duke (09/06/2025)
TD PASSES	2	Darian Mensah at Duke (09/06/2025)
LONG PASS	62	Darian Mensah at Duke (09/06/2025)
RECEPTIONS	5	Andrel Anthony at Duke (09/06/2025)
YARDS RECEIVING	88	Cooper Barkate at Duke (09/06/2025)
TD RECEPTIONS	2	Andrel Anthony at Duke (09/06/2025)
LONG RECEPTION	62	Chase Tyler at Duke (09/06/2025)
FIELD GOALS	2	Todd Pelino at Duke (09/06/2025)
LONG FIELD GOALS	40	Todd Pelino at Duke (09/06/2025)
PUNTS	8	Ryan Millmore vs Western Mich. (09/13/2025)
PUNTING AVG	45.0	Kade Reynoldson at Duke (09/06/2025)
LONG PUNT	50	Luke Droegemueller vs Western Ill. (08/29/2025)
PUNTS INSIDE 20	none	
LONG PUNT RETURN	4	Que'Sean Brown at Duke (09/06/2025)
LONG KICKOFF RETURN	20	Devin Miles vs Western Mich. (09/13/2025)
TACKLES	10	Micah Davis vs Western Mich. (09/13/2025)
SACKS	3	Vincent Anthony Jr. at Duke (09/06/2025)
TACKLES FOR LOSS	3	Nick Morris Jr. at Duke (09/06/2025)
	3	Vincent Anthony Jr. at Duke (09/06/2025)
INTERCEPTIONS	none	



GAME 1

WESTERN ILLINOIS 3
#12 ILLINOIS 52

AUG. 29, 2025

GIES MEMORIAL STADIUM // CHAMPAIGN, ILL. // 56,040

SCORING BY QUARTER

Team	1	2	3	4	F
Western Illinois	0	0	0	3	3
Illinois	14	17	7	14	52

SCORING SUMMARY

First Quarter

ILL: Arkin 3 yd pass from Altmeyer (Olano kick), 6:43 (8/59/4:14)
ILL: Bowick 3 yd pass from Altmeyer (Olano kick), 3:48 (5/26/2:48)

Second Quarter

ILL: Laughery 25 yd rush (Olano kick), 13:20 (7/51/3:43)
ILL: Olano 35 yd FG, 3:09 (8/49/3:25)
ILL: Bowick 13 yd pass from Altmeyer (Olano kick), 3:09 (4/62/2:34)

Third Quarter

ILL: Beatty 69 yd punt return (Olano kick), 8:00

Fourth Quarter

WIU: Chadha 20 yd FG, 14:57 (16/73/8:03)
ILL: Feagin 7 yd rush (Olano kick), 8:27 (10/75/6:30)
ILL: Laughery 57 yd rush (Olano kick), 5:27 (2/67/0:55)

TEAM STATISTICS

Category	ILL	WIU
First Downs	21	11
Rushes-Yards	37-209	26-29
Passing Yards	231	134
Comp-Att-Int	18-22-0	14-29-0
Total Yards	440	163
Punts-Avg	1-29.0	6-40.2
Kickoff Returns	0-0	0-0
Punt Returns	4-133	0-0
Penalties-Yards	5-60	8-59
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	1-1
Sacks By	4	3
Third-down Conv.	4-9	5-14
Time of Possession	32:42	27:18

INDIVIDUAL LEADERS

PASSING (Comp-Att-Yds-TD-INT): ILL - Altmeyer 17-21-217-3-0

WIU - Irvin 14-29-134-0-0

RUSHING (Carries-Yards-TD): ILL - Laughery 9-101-2

WIU - Holman 12-20-0

RECEIVING (Rec-Yards-TD): ILL - Beatty 5-108-0

WIU - Davis 4-65-0

TACKLE LEADERS (Tackles, TFL-Yds): ILL - Jacas 5, 2.5-8; Durojaiye 4, 1.0-7

WIU - Moko 9, 0.0-0; Wright 7, 0.0-0

GAME NOTES

- Illinois is 5-0 in season openers under head coach Bret Bielema.
- Hank Beatty broke the school's 102-year-old single-game punt return record, totaling 133 yards on four returns. That eclipsed the record of 125 yards set by Red Grange vs. Nebraska (10/6/1923).
- Beatty's punt return TD was the first for an Illini player since V'Angelo Bentley vs. Ohio State (11/16/2013). The 69-yard score was Illinois' longest punt return touchdown since Christian Morton (80 yards) vs. Indiana (11/4/2000).
- Justin Bowick became the first player to record two receiving TDs in their Illini debut since Edwin Carter on Sept. 8, 2018.
- Aidan Laughery has posted a rushing score in three straight regular-season games for the Illini.
- Illinois moved to 18-0 against the other public universities in the state.



GAME 2

#11 ILLINOIS 45
DUKE 19

SEPT. 6, 2025

WALLACE WADE STADIUM // DURHAM, N.C. // 23,893

SCORING BY QUARTER

Team	1	2	3	4	F
Illinois	7	7	14	17	45
Duke	3	10	6	0	19

SCORING SUMMARY

First Quarter

DU: Pelino 40 yd FG, 10:26 (9/52/4:34)
ILL: Feagin 1 yd rush, 1:51 (5/18/2:14)

Second Quarter

DU: Pelino 40 yd FG, 11:08 (14/52/5:43)
ILL: Rusk 8 yd pass from Altmeyer (Olano kick), 5:01 (12/75/6:07)
DU: Anthony 5 yd pass from Mensah (Pelino kick), 0:08 (9/77/1:04)

Third Quarter

ILL: Bowick 4 yd pass from Altmeyer (Olano kick), 9:34 (11/75/5:26)
ILL: Beatty 25 yd rush (Olano kick), 6:54 (4/61/1:09)
DU: Anthony 6 yd pass from Mensah (2PTA failed), 4:00 (7/75/2:54)

Fourth Quarter

ILL: Olano 35 yd FG, 14:04 (9/57/4:49)
ILL: Dixon 2 yd pass from Altmeyer (Olano kick), 4:14 (12/89/6:45)
ILL: Valentine 23 yd rush (Olano kick), 3:58 (1/23/0:06)

TEAM STATISTICS

Category	ILL	DU
First Downs	25	21
Rushes-Yards	42-123	24-82
Passing Yards	296	356
Comp-Att-Int	22-31-0	25-39-1
Total Yards	419	438
Punts-Avg	3-48.0	1-45.0
Kickoff Returns	1-25	0-0
Punt Returns	0-0	1-4
Penalties-Yards	7-51	6-69
Fumbles-Lost	1-0	4-4
Sacks By	2	4
Third-down Conv.	5-13	4-10
Time of Possession	36:12	23:48

INDIVIDUAL LEADERS

PASSING (Comp-Att-Yds-TD-INT): ILL - Altmeyer 22-31-296-3-0

DU - Mensah 23-34-334-2-1

RUSHING (Carries-Yards-TD): ILL - Feagin 17-48-1

DU - Moore 6-30-0

RECEIVING (Rec-Yards-TD): ILL - Beatty 8-128-0

DU - Barkate 4-88-0

TACKLE LEADERS (Tackles, TFL-Yds): ILL - Bailey 6, 0.0-0; M. Scott 6, 0.0-0

DU - Weaver 9, 0.0-0; Morris 8, 3.0-7

GAME NOTES

- Head coach Bret Bielema won his 30th game at Illinois, passing Bob Blackman and moving into a tie with John Mackovic for the seventh-most wins in history by an Illinois head coach.
- The Illini defense recorded five takeaways, their most since forcing six at Northwestern on Nov. 26, 2022.
- Illinois' 45 points are its most in a road game since registering 48 at Purdue on Nov. 7, 2015.
- Illinois has scored 45+ points in the first two games of the season for the second time in program history and the first time since 1942.
- Illinois started the season with zero turnovers in its first two games for the first time since 2001.



GAME 3

WESTERN MICHIGAN 0
#9 ILLINOIS 38

SEPT. 13, 2025

GIES MEMORIAL STADIUM // CHAMPAIGN, ILL. // 60,670

SCORING BY QUARTER

Team	1	2	3	4	F
Western Michigan	0	0	0	0	0
Illinois	3	7	14	14	38

SCORING SUMMARY

First Quarter

ILL: Olano 28 yd FG, 8:47 (14/65/6:13)

Second Quarter

ILL: Beatty 6 yd pass from Altmeyer (Olano kick), 13:31 (9/68/3:53)

Third Quarter

ILL: Feagin 3 yd rush (Olano kick), 10:59 (5/53/2:01)
ILL: Altmeyer 2 yd rush (Olano kick), 2:48 (10/80/4:54)

Fourth Quarter

ILL: Hollins 6 yd pass from Altmeyer (Olano kick), 14:06 (5/53/2:08)
ILL: Valentine 2 yd rush (Olano kick), 5:15 (7/42/4:24)

TEAM STATISTICS

Category	ILL	WMU
First Downs	20	12
Rushes-Yards	37-162	34-113
Passing Yards	196	91
Comp-Att-Int	17-26-0	13-24-0
Total Yards	358	204
Punts-Avg	4-46.5	8-39.9
Kickoff Returns	0-0	1-20
Punt Returns	2-19	1-0
Penalties-Yards	5-46	6-68
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	0-0
Sacks By	3	2
Third-down Conv.	7-12	3-14
Time of Possession	31:33	28:27

INDIVIDUAL LEADERS

PASSING (Comp-Att-Yds-TD-INT): ILL - Altmeyer 17-26-196-2-0

WMU - Lowry 10-16-78-0-0

RUSHING (Carries-Yards-TD): ILL - Feagin 20-100-1

WMU - Mataele 8-46-0

RECEIVING (Rec-Yards-TD): ILL - Beatty 6-53-1

WMU - Brooks 3-24-0

TACKLE LEADERS (Tackles, TFL-Yds): ILL - Bailey 6, 0.0-0; Hood 6, 0.0-0

WMU - Davis 10, 0.0-0; Saipaia 6, 0.0-0

GAME NOTES

- Illinois extended its winning streak to seven games, tied for the longest active streak in the nation and the program's longest winning streak under Bret Bielema.
- The Illini started 3-0 with three straight nonconference victories for the second straight season.
- Illinois outscored the Broncos 28-0 in the second half on Saturday. Across the team's first three games, Illinois has outscored opponents 80-9 in the second half this season.
- The Illini recorded zero turnovers and have no turnovers across their first three games for the first time since at least 1995.
- The official attendance was 60,670, the Illini's first sellout of the season and the 78th in Gies Memorial Stadium history.
- Hank Beatty led the Illini in receiving with six catches for 53 yards and a touchdown, becoming the first Illini with a rushing TD, receiving TD, and punt return TD in the same season since E.B. Halsey in 2003.

AP TOP 25



RK	TEAM	LAST	FIRST	PTS.	RECORD
1	Ohio State	1	55	1631	3-0
2	Penn State	2	5	1490	3-0
3	LSU 3	2	1470	3-0	
4	Miami (Fla.)	5	3	1434	3-0
5	Georgia	6		1428	3-0
6	Oregon	4	1	1423	3-0
7	Florida State	10		1123	2-0
8	Texas	7		1111	2-1
9	Illinois	9		1110	3-0
10	Texas A&M	16		1101	3-0
11	Oklahoma	13		1056	3-0
12	Iowa State	14		820	4-0
13	Ole Miss	17		748	3-0
14	Alabama	19		599	2-1
15	Tennessee	15		583	2-1
16	Utah	20		573	3-0
17	Texas Tech	21		538	3-0
18	Georgia Tech	NR		511	3-0
19	Indiana	22		458	3-0
20	Vanderbilt	NR		397	3-0
21	Michigan	23		356	2-1
22	Auburn	24		344	3-0
23	Missouri	25		292	3-0
24	Notre Dame	8		207	0-2
25	USC	NR		105	3-0

BIG TEN STANDINGS



TEAM	BIG TEN		OVERALL		PF	PA	HOME	AWAY	STREAK
	W	L	W	L					
Southern California	1	0	3	0	165	50	2-0	1-0	Won 3
Oregon	1	0	3	0	162	30	2-0	1-0	Won 3
Indiana	0	0	3	0	156	23	3-0	0-0	Won 3
Nebraska	0	0	3	0	147	24	2-0	0-0	Won 3
Rutgers	0	0	3	0	139	58	3-0	0-0	Won 3
Illinois	0	0	3	0	135	22	2-0	1-0	Won 3
Penn St.	0	0	3	0	132	17	3-0	0-0	Won 3
Ohio St.	0	0	3	0	121	16	3-0	0-0	Won 3
Washington	0	0	2	0	108	31	2-0	0-0	Won 2
Michigan St.	0	0	3	0	106	70	3-0	0-0	Won 3
Maryland	0	0	3	0	103	33	3-0	0-0	Won 3
Michigan	0	0	2	1	110	44	2-0	0-1	Won 1
Minnesota	0	0	2	1	103	37	2-0	0-1	Lost 1
Iowa	0	0	2	1	94	30	2-0	0-1	Won 1
Purdue	0	1	2	1	82	50	2-1	0-0	Lost 1
Wisconsin	0	0	2	1	73	48	2-0	0-1	Lost 1
Northwestern	0	1	1	2	59	64	1-1	0-1	Lost 1
UCLA	0	0	0	3	43	108	0-2	0-1	Lost 3

NATIONAL RANKINGS (TEAM)



STATISTIC	NATIONAL RANK	BIG TEN RANK	ILLINOIS VALUE	NATIONAL LEADER	VALUE	BIG TEN LEADER	VALUE
3rd Down Conversion Pct (134 ranked)	39	11	0.471	Arkansas	0.719	Washington	0.704
3rd Down Conversion Pct Defense (133 ranked)	41	10	0.316	BYU	0.115	Nebraska	0.211
4th Down Conversion Pct (130 ranked)	1	1	1.000	22 teams tied	1.000	Illinois	1.000
					Southern California	1.000	
					Washington	1.000	
4th Down Conversion Pct Defense (124 ranked)	13	2	0.167	10 teams tied	0.000	Indiana	0.000
Completion Percentage (134 ranked)	16	5	0.722	Nebraska	0.793	Nebraska	0.793
Defensive TDs (12 ranked)				11 teams tied	2	4 teams tied	2
Fewest Penalties (134 ranked)	63	15	17	5 teams tied	7	Iowa	7
Fewest Penalties Per Game (132 ranked)	57	15	5.67	Iowa	2.33	Iowa	2.33
			New Mexico	2.33			
Fewest Penalty Yards (134 ranked)	71	15	157	Army West Point	45	Iowa	63
Fewest Penalty Yards Per Game (134 ranked)	67	15	52.33	New Mexico	15.67	Iowa	21.00
First Downs Defense (134 ranked)	39	10	44	BYU	15	Indiana	25
First Downs Offense (134 ranked)	52	11	66	Indiana	91	Indiana	91
Fumbles Lost (133 ranked)	1	1	0	38 teams tied	0	6 teams tied	0
Fumbles Recovered (56 ranked)	1	1	5	East Carolina	5	Illinois	5
			Illinois	5			
Kickoff Return Defense (134 ranked)	77	16	20.00	9 teams tied	0.00	Wisconsin	0.00
Kickoff Returns (129 ranked)	34	6	25.00	Wisconsin	60.00	Wisconsin	60.00
Net Punting (134 ranked)	45	10	41.88	Purdue	52.50	Purdue	52.50
Passes Had Intercepted (134 ranked)	1	1	0	22 teams tied	0	6 teams tied	0
Passes Intercepted (85 ranked)	85	14	1	Maryland	7	Maryland	7
Passing Offense (134 ranked)	57	11	241.0	Boston College	393.7	Nebraska	366.3
Passing Yards Allowed (134 ranked)	56	13	193.7	Nebraska	66.0	Nebraska	66.0
Passing Yards per Completion (134 ranked)	45	10	12.68	Florida St.	20.80	Southern California	17.90
Punt Return Defense (134 ranked)	31	10	2.00	SMU	-3.00	UCLA	-0.75
Punt Returns (134 ranked)	6	3	25.33	Iowa St.	39.33	Iowa	29.75
Red Zone Defense (101 ranked)	12	5	0.667	Ohio St.	0.000	Ohio St.	0.000
Red Zone Offense (134 ranked)	58	10	0.889	27 teams tied	1.000	4 teams tied	1.000
Rushing Defense (134 ranked)	13	5	74.0	BYU	7.0	Minnesota	41.3
Rushing Offense (134 ranked)	69	13	164.7	Navy	375.3	Indiana	307.7
Sacks Allowed (134 ranked)	122	18	3.00	5 teams tied	0.00	Oregon	0.00
Scoring Defense (134 ranked)	5	3	7.3	BYU	1.5	Ohio St.	5.3
Scoring Offense (134 ranked)	15	7	45.0	Texas Tech	58.0	Southern California	55.0
Tackles for Loss Allowed (134 ranked)	109	16	6.67	Ohio St.	1.33	Ohio St.	1.33
Team Passing Efficiency (134 ranked)	13	6	182.45	Florida St.	260.24	Southern California	206.86
Team Passing Efficiency Defense (134 ranked)	47	11	114.57	Arizona	70.84	Nebraska	72.17
Team Sacks (133 ranked)	10	2	3.33	Louisville	5.00	Southern California	4.67
Team Tackles for Loss (134 ranked)	38	8	6.7	Indiana	11.0	Indiana	11.0
Time of Possession (134 ranked)	20	6	33:29	Army West Point	38:32	Washington	35:56
Total Defense (134 ranked)	29	9	267.7	BYU	106.0	Minnesota	177.7
Total Offense (134 ranked)	61	11	405.7	Southern California	604.0	Southern California	604.0
Turnover Margin (134 ranked)	2	1	2.00	East Carolina	2.33	Illinois	2.00
					Maryland	2.00	
					Penn St.	2.00	
Turnovers Gained (117 ranked)	14	5	6	5 teams tied	8	Maryland	8
Turnovers Lost (134 ranked)	1	1	0	9 teams tied	0	Illinois	0
					Rutgers	0	
Winning Percentage (124 ranked)	1	1	1.000	39 teams tied	1.000	11 teams tied	1.000

NATIONAL RANKINGS (INDIVIDUAL)



STATISTIC	PLAYER	NATIONAL	BIG TEN		NATIONAL	VALUE	BIG TEN	
		RANK	RANK	VALUE	LEADER		VALUE	LEADER	VALUE
All Purpose (200 ranked)	Hank Beatty	5	2	155.33	Jonah Coleman, Washington	180.00	Jonah Coleman, Washington	180.00
Combined Kick Returns (198 ranked)	Hank Beatty	26	3	152	Bryce Noernberg, Kansas St.	339	Kaden Wetjen, Iowa	281
Completion Percentage (116 ranked)	Luke Altmeyer	20	7	0.718	Carson Beck, Miami (FL)	0.793	Julian Sayin, Ohio St.	0.789
Completions Per Game (99 ranked)	Luke Altmeyer	52	7	18.67	Dylan Loneragan, Boston College	30.00	Dylan Raiola, Nebraska	24.00
				Caden Veltkamp, Fla. Atlantic		30.00		
Field Goal Percentage (103 ranked)	David Olano	58	13	0.750	36 players tied	1.000	7 players tied	1.000
Forced Fumbles (29 ranked)	Gabe Jacas	1	1	0.67	11 players tied	0.67	Dani Dennis-Sutton, Penn St.	0.67
Matthew Bailey							Eric Gentry, Southern California	0.67
Tanner Heckel							Gabe Jacas, Illinois	0.67
Interceptions Per Game (56 ranked)	Tanner Heckel	56	10	0.33	5 players tied	1.00	Bishop Fitzgerald, Southern California	1.00
Kickoff Return TDs (1 ranked)					12 players tied	1	Vinny Anthony II, Wisconsin	1
Kickoff Returns (63 ranked)					Jaden Nixon, UCF	43.3	King Mack, Penn St.	30.8
Passes Defended (53 ranked)					Hezekiah Masses, California	3.00	5 players tied	1.33
Passing Efficiency (116 ranked)	Luke Altmeyer	14	5	182.0	Jayden Maiava, Southern California	215.5	Jayden Maiava, Southern California	215.5
Passing TDs (63 ranked)	Luke Altmeyer	14	2	8	Taylen Green, Arkansas	11	Fernando Mendoza, Indiana	9
				Behren Morton, Texas Tech		11		
Passing Yards (130 ranked)	Luke Altmeyer	41	7	709	Steve Angeli, Syracuse	1,072	Jayden Maiava, Southern California	989
Passing Yards Per Game (130 ranked)	Luke Altmeyer	43	8	236.3	Steve Angeli, Syracuse	357.3	Jayden Maiava, Southern California	329.7
Passing Yards per Completion (116 ranked)	Luke Altmeyer	44	10	12.66	Jayden Maiava, Southern California	20.60	Jayden Maiava, Southern California	20.60
Punt Return TDs (2 ranked)	Hank Beatty	2	1	1	Vicari Swain, South Carolina	3	7 players tied	1
Punt Returns (78 ranked)	Hank Beatty	6	3	25.3	Vicari Swain, South Carolina	33.0	Kaden Wetjen, Iowa	32.0
Punting (65 ranked)					Cole Maynard, Western Ky.	51.6	Bryce McFerson, Maryland	48.7
Receiving TDs (52 ranked)	Justin Bowick	11	2	3	Chris Brazzell II, Tennessee	5	Omar Cooper Jr., Indiana	4
				Beau Sparks, Texas St.	5			
Receiving Yards (200 ranked)	Hank Beatty	16	4	289	Mario Craver, Texas A&M	443	Jeremiah Smith, Ohio St.	315
Receiving Yards Per Game (199 ranked)	Hank Beatty	18	4	96.3	Mario Craver, Texas A&M	147.7	Jeremiah Smith, Ohio St.	105.0
Receptions Per Game (171 ranked)	Hank Beatty	19	2	6.33	Lewis Bond, Boston College	9.67	Jeremiah Smith, Ohio St.	6.67
Rush Yards Per Carry (142 ranked)	Kaden Feagin	94	14	4.44	Robert Henry, UTSA	10.21	Kaytron Allen, Penn St.	8.03
Rushing TDs (37 ranked)	Kaden Feagin	37	7	3	Jonah Coleman, Washington	7	Jonah Coleman, Washington	7
Rushing Yards (197 ranked)	Kaden Feagin	52	8	222	Robert Henry, UTSA	480	Justice Haynes, Michigan	388
Ca'Lil Valentine	118	21	158	Clev Lubin, Louisville		1.75	Gabe Jacas, Illinois	1.17
Sacks (120 ranked)	Gabe Jacas	9	1	1.17				
Solo Tackles (23 ranked)					Andon Thomas, Army West Point	8.50	Eric Gentry, Southern California	7.00
Tackles For Loss (64 ranked)	Gabe Jacas	45	8	1.33	Bryun Parham, UConn	2.33	Sidney Stewart, Maryland	1.83
Total Interceptions (34 ranked)	Tanner Heckel	34	8	1	5 players tied	3	Bishop Fitzgerald, Southern California	3
Total Offense (200 ranked)	Luke Altmeyer	68	12	232.3	Taylen Green, Arkansas	391.0	Jayden Maiava, Southern California	337.7
Kaden Feagin	182	26	74.0	Isaiah Chisom, UCLA		12.3	Isaiah Chisom, UCLA	12.3
Total Tackles (480 ranked)	Miles Scott	392	41	4.7				
Malachi Hood	392	41	4.7					
Matthew Bailey	480	49	4.3					
Yards per Pass Attempt (116 ranked)	Luke Altmeyer	23	7	9.09	Jayden Maiava, Southern California	14.13	Jayden Maiava, Southern California	14.13
Yards per Reception (200 ranked)	Hank Beatty	117	18	15.21	Cade Wolford, Kent St.	31.86	Ja'Kobi Lane, Southern California	26.56

OFFENSE

Pos.	#	Player	Starts
QB	9	Luke Altmyer	3
RB	21	Aidan Laughery	2
	3	Kaden Feagin	1
WR	17	Collin Dixon	3
	80	Hank Beatty	2
	0	Justin Bowick	1
	8	Malik Elzy	1
	13	Hudson Clement	1
TE	85	Tanner Arkin	3
	86	Christian Abney	1
LT	74	J.C. Davis	3
LG	73	Josh Gesky	3
C	64	Josh Kreutz	3
RG	75	Brandon Henderson	2
	66	Brandon Hansen	1
RT	58	Melvin Priestly	3

DEFENSE

Pos.	#	Player	Starts
DL	36	Tomiwa Durojaiye	3
	90	James Thompson Jr.	3
	99	Curt Neal	2
LB	28	Dylan Rosiek	2
	39	Kenenna Odeluga	1
	45	Malachi Hood	1
OLB	17	Gabe Jacas	3
	3	Alec Bryant	2
	4	Daniel Brown	1
CB	5	Torrie Cox Jr.	3
	14	Xavier Scott	3
	1	Kaleb Patterson	2
SS	7	Matthew Bailey	3
FS	10	Miles Scott	3

SPECIAL TEAMS

Pos.	#	Player	Starts
K	24	David Olano	3
P	40	Keelan Crimmins	3
LS (K)	44	Patrick Mahoney III	3
LS (P)	36	Lane Hansen	3

CAREER STARTS

PLAYER	'25	'24	'23	'22	'21	TOT
Davis, J.C.	3	13	12*	12*	---	40
Knapik, Ayden	---	14*	13*	7*	---	34
Cox Jr., Torrie	3	8	11*	12*	0*	34
Jacas, Gabe	3	13	10	8	---	34
Priestly, Melvin	3	13	10*	5*	---	31
Arkin, Tanner	3	13	3	10*	0*	29
Kreutz, Josh	3	13	12	0	0	28
Scott, Miles	3	12	12	0	1	28
Scott, Xavier	3	13	11	1	---	28
Altmyer, Luke	3	13	9	1*	0*	26
Hunt, Gentle	0	0	8*	10*	8*	26
Gesky, Josh	3	13	8	0	---	24
Lowery Jr., Leon	0	10*	12*	2*	0*	24
Clement, Hudson	1	12*	8*	---	---	21
Thompson Jr., James	3	0*	11*	7*	0*	21
Rosiek, Dylan	2	9	8	0	0	19
Bailey, Matthew	3	13	1	1	---	18
Bowick, Justin	1	4*	10*	3*	---	18
McMillan, Tyler	---	11*	6*	0*	0*	17
Hewitt, Carter	0	12*	4*	0*	---	16
Neal, Curt	2	12*	1*	0*	---	15
Patterson, Kaleb	2	12	0	---	---	14
Stoffel, Davin	0	14*	0*	---	---	14
Dixon, Collin	3	10	0	---	---	13
Hampton, Ethan	0	10*	0*	3*	0*	13
Laughery, Aidan	2	9	0	0	---	11
Abney, Christian	1	6*	3*	---	---	10
Feagin, Kaden	1	4	4	---	---	9
Henderson, Brandon	2	7	0	---	---	9
Bryant, Alec	2	5	1	0	---	8
Odeluga, Kenenna	1	0	5	0	0	6
Kreutz, James	0	4	1	0	---	5
Durojaiye, Tomiwa	3	0	0	0	---	3
Beatty, Hank	2	0	0	0	---	2
Hood, Malachi	2	0	---	0	---	2
Brown, Daniel	1	---	---	---	---	1
Capka-Jones, Alex	0	1	0	---	---	1
Clarke, Jaheim	---	1	0	---	---	1
Elzy, Malik	1	0	0	---	---	1
Farrell, Pat	0	1	---	---	---	1
Hansen, Brandon	1	0	---	---	---	1
Karriem, Saboor	0	1	0	---	---	1
Resetich, Mac	0	1	0	---	---	1

--- = Did not play, not on squad, or lower level college;

0 = Played, didn't start

* - Previous FBS/FCS institution

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:	52 vs. Western Illinois (52-3), 8/29/2025
40 points:	45 at Duke (45-19), 9/6/2025
Allowed 0 points:	vs. Eastern Illinois (45-0), 08/29/2024
Allowed 0 points in 2nd half:	vs. #24 Michigan, 10/19/2024
Did not score a touchdown:	vs. Iowa (9-6) 10/8/2022
400 rushing yards:	430 vs. Minnesota, 11/3/2018
300 rushing yards:	357 at Penn State 10/23/2021
Three 70+ yard runs:	3 (72, 72, 77) vs. Minnesota, 11/3/2018
Fewer than 100 rushing yards:	24, vs. #19 Kansas, 09/07/2024
Fewer than 50 yards rushing:	34 at #9 Penn State, 09/28/2024
Fewer than 20 yards rushing:	19 vs. Nebraska 10/6/2023
Negative yards net rushing:	-27 vs. Arizona, 9/18/1993
One first down:	
Zero first downs:	
400 passing yards:	507 vs. Indiana, 11/11/2023
300 passing yards:	379 vs. Purdue, 10/12/2024
Fewer than 100 passing yards:	80 vs. #24 Michigan, 10/20/2024
4 TD catches by tight ends:	4 vs. Miami (Ohio), 9/28/2013
700 total net yards:	723 vs. Illinois-Normal, 9/16/1944
600 total net yards:	662 vs. Indiana, 11/11/2023
500 total net yards:	556 vs. Purdue, 10/12/2024
Fewer than 200 total net yards:	93 vs. Wisconsin 10/9/2021
Fewer than 100 total net yards:	93 vs. Wisconsin 10/9/2021
9+ sacks in a game:	9 at Purdue, 11/3/2001
6+ sacks in a game:	6 at Minnesota 11/3/2021
No sacks allowed:	vs. Michigan State, 11/16/2024
Back-to-back games with no sacks allowed:	vs. Iowa, 10/8/2022 and vs. Minnesota, 10/16/2022
15+ TFL in a game:	15 vs. San Jose St., 9/21/2002
10+ TFL in a game:	11 vs. Iowa 10/8/2022
10+ passes broken up:	11 vs. Florida Atlantic, 9/23/2023
Forced 5+ turnovers:	5 at Duke, 9/6/2025
No turnovers:	at Duke, 9/6/2025
Back-to-back games with no turnovers:	vs. Western Illinois, 8/29/2025 and at Duke, 9/6/2025
Two successful two-point conversions:	at Kansas (2), 9/8/2023
Five field goals:	5 vs. Wisconsin, 10/20/2001
Missed extra point kick:	at Rutgers, 11/23/2024
Blocked two kicks:	2 at South Florida, 9/15/2017
Blocked two punts:	2 vs. Indiana, 10/23/2010
Entire game without punting:	vs. Miami (Ohio), 9/28/2013
No penalties:	vs. Wisconsin 10/9/2021
A successful on-side kick:	vs. Penn State, 11/22/2014
Overtime game:	Win vs. Purdue, 50-49, 10/12/2024
Overtime game at home:	Win vs. Purdue, 50-49, 10/12/2024
A game with a weather delay:	at South Florida, 9/15/2017 (0:37 delay)
A game was postponed:	vs. Kent State, 9/4/2015 (2:50 delay)
	Eventually postponed and played next day on 9/5/2015

OPPONENT

--
 70, Michigan (70-21), 11/7/1981
 63, Maryland (63-33), 10/27/2018
 56, at Penn State (21-56), 12/19/2020
 49, Purdue (49-50, OT), 10/12/2024
 vs. Wisconsin (0-24), 10/9/2021
 at #9 Penn State (7-21), 09/28/2024
 Western Illinois (3-52), 8/29/25
 411, at Northwestern, 12/12/2020
 330, at Indiana, 09/2/2022

82, at Duke, 9/6/2025
 29, vs. Western Illinois, 8/29/2025
 2, Wisconsin, 10/1/2022
 -10, Murray State, 9/3/2016
 Missouri, 9/10/1994
 Michigan, 10/27/1934
 423, at Virginia, 9/11/2021
 329, at Northwestern, 11/30/2024
 38, Minnesota, 10/15/2022

712, Maryland, 10/27/2018
 674, vs. Nebraska, 9/21/2019
 527, at #1 Oregon, 10/26/2024
 163, vs. Western Illinois, 8/29/2025
 96, South Dakota State, 9/10/2011

7, at #9 Penn State, 9/28/2024
 at Rutgers, 11/3/2024

13, at #9 Penn State, 9/28/24
 13, Iowa, 11/18/23
 5 vs. Penn State, 9/16/2023
 vs. Michigan State, 11/16/2024

Northwestern (2), 11/29/2014

vs. Michigan State, 11/16/2024

at Nebraska, 10/1/2016

ILLINOIS

OPPONENT

Rushing

300 yards rushing:	330, Mikel Leshoure vs. Northwestern, 11/20/2010	
250 yards rushing:	257, Chase Brown vs. Charlotte, 10/2/2021	256, Jordan Canzeri, Iowa, 10/10/2015
200 yards rushing:	223, Chase Brown at Penn State 10/23/2021	224, Mohamed Ibrahim, Minnesota, 11/7/2020
150 yards rushing:	172, Aidan Laughery at Northwestern, 11/30/2024	224, Mohamed Ibrahim, Minnesota, 11/7/2020
Back-to-back 175-yard rushing games:	Rashard Mendenhall (189 vs. Ball State, 10/27/2007 & 201 at Minnesota, 11/3/2007)	
Back-to-back 150-yard rushing games:	Chase Brown (151 vs. Wyoming, 8/27/2022 & 199 at Indiana, 9/2/2022)	
Three Consecutive 140-yard rushing games:	Chase Brown (146 vs. Iowa, 10/8/22; 180 vs. Minnesota, 10/15/22; 149 at Nebraska, 10/29/22)	
10+ consecutive 100-yard rushing games:	Chase Brown, 11/27/2021-11/5/2022 (10 games)	
Two rushers with 175 yards:	Harvey (215), Havard (175) vs. Middle Tennessee, 9/12/1998	
Two rushers with 100 yards:	C. Brown. (223) and McCray (142) at Penn State, 10/23/2021	Browne (118), Mockabee (102), vs. Purdue, 10/12/2024
80+ yard rushing play:	80, Chase Brown vs. Charlotte, 10/2/2021	
75+ yard rushing play:	77, Reggie Corbin vs. Minnesota, 11/3/2018 (3rd quarter)	79, Justin Jackson, vs. Northwestern, 11/25/17
Two 40+ runs in one quarter:	56 and 56 (2nd), Kendrick Foster vs. Murray State, 9/3/2016	Carlos Hyde (51, 55 in 4th), Ohio State, 11/16/2013
True-freshman rushed for 100 yards:	Josh McCray, 156 at Purdue, 9/25/2021	
True-freshman rushed for 100 yards in first career game:	E.B. Halsey, 139 vs. Missouri, 8/30/2003	
40 rushing attempts:	41, Chase Brown vs. Minnesota, 10/15/2022	
30 rushing attempts:	33, Chase Brown vs. Michigan State, 11/5/2022	
Two rushers with 2 TDs:	Corbin (2) & Bush, Jr. (2) vs. Minnesota, 11/3/2018	
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:	Aidan Laughery (3) at Northwestern, 11/30/2024	
2+ TDs rushing by a QB:	Luke Altmeyer (2) at Kansas, 9/8/2023	Athan Kaliakmanis (2) at Rutgers, 11/23/2024

Receiving

200 yards receiving:	218, Casey Washington vs. Northwestern, 11/25/2023	246, Roy Roundtree, Michigan, 11/6/2010
150 yards receiving:	197, Pat Bryant at Rutgers, 11/23/2024	156, Cam Camper, Indiana, 9/2/2022
100 yards receiving:	108, Hank Beatty vs. Western Illinois, 8/29/2025	119, A.J. Henning, at Northwestern, 11/30/2024
Two 100-yard receivers:	Pat Bryant (112) and Isaiah Williams (103) vs. Chattanooga, 09/22/2022	Cam Camper (156), D.J. Matthews Jr (109), at Indiana, 9/2/2022
Running back with 100+ yards receiving:	100, Josh Ferguson vs. Northwestern, 10/27/2015	
70+ yard pass play:	80, Casey Washington from John Paddock vs. Northwestern, 11/25/2023	75, Penn State (Sean Clifford to Jahan Dotson), 12/19/2020
60+ yard pass play:	64, Pat Bryant from Luke Altmeyer at Rutgers, 11/23/2024	60, South Carolina (LaNorris Sellers to Dalevon Campbell), 12/31/2024
50+ yard pass play:	59, Hank Beatty from Luke Altmeyer vs. Western Illinois, 8/29/2025	52, Michigan St. (Aidan Chiles to Aziah Johnson), 11/16/2024
10+ receptions:	13, Isaiah Williams vs. Minnesota, 11/4/2023	10, A.J. Henning, at Northwestern, 11/30/2024
Two receivers with 2 TDs:	Will Judson and Chris Duval vs. Missouri, 8/30/2008	
Three receiving TDs:	Casey Washington (3) vs. Northwestern, 11/25/2023	
Offensive lineman caught a pass:	Brandon Henderson, (1 rec. 4 yds.), at #22 Nebraska, 09/20/24	
Offensive lineman scored a TD:	Brandon Henderson, 4-yard reception, at #22 Nebraska, 09/20/24	

Passing

600 yards passing:	621, Dave Wilson at Ohio State, 11/8/1980	
500 yards passing:	507, John Paddock vs. Indiana, 11/11/2023	
400 yards passing:	456, Wes Lunt vs. Western Kentucky, 9/6/2014	405, Brennan Armstrong, at Virginia, 9/11/2021
300 yards passing:	379, Luke Altmeyer, vs. Purdue, 10/12/2024	330, Connor Bazelak, at Indiana, 9/2/2022
Consecutive 300-yard passing games:	N. 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:	John Paddock (5) vs. Indiana, 11/11/2023	Brennan Armstrong (5) at Virginia, 9/11/2021
4 TDs passing:	Luke Altmeyer (4), at #22 Nebraska, 9/20/2024	Brennan Armstrong (5) at Virginia, 9/11/2021
3 TDs passing:	Luke Altmeyer (3) at Duke, 9/6/2025	Dillon Gabriel (3) at #1 Oregon, 10/26/2024
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:	Luke Altmeyer (10) vs. Minnesota, 11/2/2024	Dillon Gabriel (11) at #1 Oregon, (10/26/24)
Back-to-back games w/ 10+ consecutive completions:	Tommy DeVito (10) at Indiana, 9/2/2022 and (13) vs. Virginia, 9/10/2022	
Non-QB with passing TD:	Isaiah Williams (WR) vs. Northwestern, 11/25/2023	Trey Potts (RB) vs. Penn State, 9/16/2023

	ILLINOIS	OPPONENT
Defense		
20 Tackles:	J Leman (20) vs. Missouri, 9/1/2007	
19 Tackles:	Clayton Fejedelem (19) vs. Wisconsin, 10/24/2015	
4 interceptions:	Mike Gow (4) vs. Stanford, 9/21/1974	
3 interceptions:	Eugene Wilson (3) vs. Penn State, 11/10/2001	
2 interceptions:	Xavier Scott vs. #19 Kansas, 09/07/2024	Devin Turner at Northwestern, 11/30/2024
3+ sacks in a game:	Seth Coleman (3.0) at Maryland, 10/14/2023	
5+ TFLs in a game:	Isaiah Gay (5.5) at Iowa, 11/20/21	
4+ TFLs in a game:	Isaiah Gay (5.5) at Iowa, 11/20/21	
4+ PBU's in a game:	Devon Witherspoon (4) vs. Nebraska, 8/28/2021	Jermari Harris (4), Iowa, 11/18/2023
3+ PBU's in a game:	Xavier Scott (3) vs. Wisconsin, 10/21/2023	Cody Lindenberg (3), vs. Minnesota, 11/2/2024
3+ PBU's in back-to-back games:	Devon Witherspoon (3) at Indiana, 9/2/22 and (3) vs. Virginia, 9/10/22	
Interception by a lineman:	Keith Randolph, vs. Chattanooga, 9/22/2022	
Interception return for TD:	Xavier Scott (30 yards) vs. #19 Kansas, 09/07/2024	Devin Turner (13 yards) at Northwestern, 11/30/2024
Two players with interception returns for TD in a game:	Pat Nixon-Youman (68 yards), Jonathan Brown (66 yards) vs. Indiana, 10/23/2010	
Fumble recovery for TD:	Sydney Brown (53 yards) at Northwestern, 11/26/2022	Will Heldt, vs. Purdue, 10/12/2024
Fumble recovery TD, INT TD, 2 INTs in one game:	Sydney Brown at Northwestern, 11/26/2022	
Forced 3 turnovers:	Xavier Scott (2 INT, 1 FF) vs. #19 Kansas, 9/7/2024	
Two defensive touchdowns:	Sydney Brown (1 INT TD, 1 FR TD) at Northwestern, 11/26/2022	
Safety:	Kerby Joseph special teams tackle vs. Nebraska 8/28/2021	Joe Evans (tackle in end zone), Iowa, 11/18/2023
Defensive extra point:	Nate Hobbs (75 yards) at USF, 9/15/2017	
Total Offense/All-Purpose		
500 yards total offense:	503, Juice Williams vs. Minnesota, 10/11/2008	
400 yards total offense:	439, Luke Altmyer vs. Purdue, 10/12/2024	
300 yards passing and 100 yards rushing:	431 (310-121), Juice Williams at Michigan, 10/4/2008	
300 all-purpose yards:	328, A.J. Jenkins vs. Northwestern, 10/1/2011	
200 all-purpose yards:	241, Hank Beatty vs. Western Illinois, 8/29/2025	
4 total TDs:	Luke Altmyer (3 pass, 1 rush) vs. Purdue, 10/12/2024	Dillon Gabriel (3 pass, 1 rush) at #1 Oregon, 10/26/2024
2 TDs in 1 minute:	Ke'Shawn Vaughn at Purdue (3rd quarter), 11/7/2015	
Special Teams		
5 field goals:	Doug Higgins vs. Michigan State, 10/20/1990	
4 field goals:	James McCourt (4) vs. Northwestern, 11/27/21	Dragan Kesich, vs. Minnesota, 11/2/2024
3 field goals:	David Olano (3) vs. Purdue, 10/12/2024	Alex Felkins, Penn State, 9/16/2023
Made 50+ yard field goal:	Ethan Moczulski (59) vs. Central Michigan, 09/14/2024	
Three 50+ yard field goals:	--	Tim Douglas (51, 58, 51), Iowa, 9/26/1998
Blocked a punt:	Ashton Hollins at Purdue, 9/30/2023	
Blocked punt for a touchdown:	Dawson DeGroot (block), Stanley Green (TD) vs. Western Illinois, 9/8/2018	A.J. Epenesa (19 yards), Iowa, 11/17/2018
Blocked two field goals:	Terrell Washington vs. NIU, 9/8/2001	
Blocked two PATs:	Rob Bain at Penn State, 10/31/2015	
Blocked a field goal:	Ezekial Holmes vs. #24 Michigan, 10/19/2024	DJ Taylor, Western Illinois, 8/29/2025
Blocked a PAT:	Alec Bryant at Iowa, 11/18/2023	
Punt return for TD:	Hank Beatty (69 yards) vs. Western Illinois, 8/29/2025	K. Groenewed (61 yards), Iowa, 11/17/2018
Kickoff return for TD:	V'Angelo Bentley (100 yards) vs. Southern Illinois, 8/31/2013	C. Jones (100 yards), Iowa, 11/20/21
Blocked FG returned for TD:	Travis Williams (66 yards) vs. Illinois State, 9/6/2003	
Two-point conversion:	vs. #24 Michigan, 10/19/2024 (Leary pass to Frankflin)	Wisconsin, 10/21/23 (Nowakowski pass)
Two two-point conversions in the same game:	2 at Kansas, 9/8/2023 (McCray rush; Altmyer pass to Love III)	

Team Results

Date	Opponent		Score	Att.
08/29/2025	Western Ill.	W	52-3	56040
09/06/2025	at Duke	W	45-19	23893
09/13/2025	Western Mich.	W	38-0	60670

Game Records

Record	Overall	Home	Away	Neutral
ALL GAMES	3-0	2-0	1-0	0-0
CONFERENCE	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0
NON-CONFERENCE	3-0	2-0	1-0	0-0

Rushing

Player	gp	att	gain	loss	net	avg	td	lg	avg/g
Kaden Feagin	3	50	226	4	222	4.4	3	26	74.0
Ca'Lil Valentine	3	25	164	6	158	6.3	2	23	52.7
Aidan Laughery	2	15	116	10	106	7.1	2	57	53.0
Hank Beatty	3	1	25	0	25	25.0	1	25	8.3
Jordan Anderson	3	1	1	0	1	1.0	0	1	0.3
Luke Altmyer	3	17	50	62	-12	-0.7	1	25	-4.0
Team	3	7	0	6	-6	-0.9	0	0	-2.0
Total	3	116	582	88	494	4.3	9	57	164.7
Opponents	3	84	279	57	222	2.6	0	21	74.0

Passing

Player	gp	effc	comp-att-int	pct	yds	td	lg	avg/g
Luke Altmyer	3	182.0	56-78-0	71.8	709	8	59	236.3
Ethan Hampton	3	217.6	1-1-0	100.0	14	0	14	4.7
Total	3	182.4	57-79-0	72.2	723	8	59	241.0
Opponents	3	114.6	52-92-1	56.5	581	2	62	193.7

Receiving

Player	gp	no.	yds	avg	td	lg	avg/g
Hank Beatty	3	19	289	15.2	1	59	96.3
Justin Bowick	3	8	86	10.8	3	21	28.7
Collin Dixon	3	6	65	10.8	1	33	21.7
Hudson Clement	3	5	75	15.0	0	27	25.0
Malik Elzy	3	5	71	14.2	0	25	23.7
Tanner Arkin	3	2	14	7.0	1	11	4.7
Cole Rusk	3	2	7	3.5	1	8	2.3
Ashton Hollins	3	2	41	20.5	1	35	13.7
Aidan Laughery	2	2	22	11.0	0	17	11.0
Kaden Feagin	3	2	13	6.5	0	13	4.3
Ca'Lil Valentine	3	2	14	7.0	0	12	4.7
Alexander Capka-Jones	3	1	12	12.0	0	12	4.0
Mario Sanders II	2	1	14	14.0	0	14	7.0
Total	3	57	723	12.7	8	59	241.0
Opponents	3	52	581	11.2	2	62	193.7

Team Statistics

	ILLINI	OPP
First Downs	66	44
Rushing	28	12
Passing	29	26
Penalty	9	6
Rushing Yardage	494	222
Rushing attempts	116	84
Average per rush	4.3	2.6
Average per game	164.7	74.0
TDs Rushing	9	0
Passing Yardage	723	581
Comp-Att-Int	57-79-0	52-92-1
Average per pass	9.2	6.3
Average per catch	12.7	11.2
Average per game	241.0	193.7
TDs Passing	8	2
Total offense	1217	803
Average per play	6.2	4.6
Average per game	405.7	267.7
Kick returns: #-Yards	1-25	1-20
Punt returns: #-Yards	6-152	2-4
Int returns: #-Yards	1--1	0-0
Fumbles-Lost	1-0	5-5
Penalties-Yards	17-157	20-196
Punts-Avg	8-44.9	15-40.3
Time of possession / game	33:29	26:00
3rd-down conversion	16/34	12/38
4th-down conversion	4/4	1/6
PAT-attempts	(18-18) 100%	(1-1) 100%
2-point conversion-attempts	(0-0) 0%	(0-1) 0%

Interceptions

Player	no.	yds	avg	td	lg
Tanner Heckel	1	-1	-1.0	0	0
Total	1	-1	-1.0	0	0
Opponents	0	0	0.0	0	0