

FIGHTING ILLINI

FOOTBALL



ILLINOIS FIGHTING ILLINI (1-0) vs. KANSAS JAYHAWKS (1-0)

Friday, Sept. 8, 2023 // 6:30 p.m. CT // ESPN2
Lawrence, Kansas // David Booth Kansas Memorial Stadium



GAME DAY INFO

TV | ESPN2

» Anish Shroff (play-by-play), Andre Ware (analyst), and Paul Carcaterra (reporter)

RADIO | Busey Bank Illini Sports Network

» Brian Barnhart (play-by-play), Martin O'Donnell (analyst), Michael Martin (sideline), and Steve Kelly (pregame/halftime/postgame)



» The broadcast can be heard live on **TuneIn** online radio, **SiriusXM** (138/196), **SiriusXM App**, and at **FightingIllini.com**.

FOLLOW THE ILLINI

» Website: FightingIllini.com
» Twitter: [@IlliniFootball](https://twitter.com/IlliniFootball)
» Instagram: [@IlliniFootball](https://www.instagram.com/IlliniFootball)
» Facebook: [/IlliniFootball](https://www.facebook.com/IlliniFootball)

ALL-TIME SERIES vs. KANSAS

Series: 3-2

Last: Kansas 47, Illinois 7 (9/21/68 at Illinois)

Streak: L1

at Lawrence: 0-1 (L, 26-4 in 1892)

Bielema vs. Kansas: 0-0

ILLINOIS FIGHTING ILLINI (1-0)

Sept. 2	Toledo	W, 30-28
Sept. 8	at Kansas	6:30 p.m. CT (ESPN2)
Sept. 16	#7 Penn State	11 a.m. CT (FOX)
Sept. 23	Florida Atlantic	TBA
Sept. 30	at Purdue	2:30/3 or 6:30 p.m. CT
Oct. 6	Nebraska	7 p.m. CT (FS1)
Oct. 14	at Maryland	11 a.m. or 2:30/3 p.m. CT
Oct. 21	#19 Wisconsin	11 a.m. or 2:30/3 p.m. CT
Nov. 4	at Minnesota	TBA
Nov. 11	Indiana	TBA
Nov. 18	at #25 Iowa	TBA
Nov. 25	Northwestern	TBA
Dec. 2	Big Ten Championship	7 p.m. CT (FOX)

Rankings are AP Poll

Illinois Starts 2023 with Win Over Toledo

- Illinois is off to a 1-0 start for the third straight season under head coach Bret Bielema after a 30-28 win over reigning MAC champion Toledo last Saturday night in Champaign.
- New Illinois QB Luke Altmyer led Illinois on a 12-play, 64-yard drive in the final minutes to get the Illini within field goal range for the 29-yard game-winner from K Caleb Griffin. It was Illinois' first game-winning drive in the final two minutes of a season opener in program history.
- Altmyer went 18-26 with 211 passing yards, 69 rushing yards, and two passing touchdowns - both to WR Pat Bryant - in his Illini debut. Altmyer's QBR of 79.2 last week was 25th in the nation and fourth among Big Ten QBs, behind only J.J. McCarthy (MICH), Taulia Tagovailoa (MD), and Drew Allar (PSU).
- DB Miles Scott, making his debut on defense, took his first career interception to the house for a 48-yard pick six in the third quarter to change the game. Scott was the #1 graded defensive back in the nation by PFF and the #3 overall defender in the nation (#1 in the Big Ten).
- Illinois trailed by as many as 12 points (19-7 in the third quarter), marking its largest comeback win since the school-record 25-point come-from-behind win at Michigan State on Nov. 9, 2019.

Illini on the Rise - 2022 Recap

- Last year, Illinois had its first 8-win season since the Rose Bowl team in 2007 went 9-4.
- Illinois played in the ReliaQuest Bowl, the Illini's first January bowl game since the 2008 Rose Bowl.
- Illinois finished 5-4 in the Big Ten, the Illini's first finish above .500 in the Big Ten since the 2007 team went 6-2.
- Illinois' SP+ rating by ESPN was 43 spots better than 2021 (21st from 64th). According to SP+, the Fighting Illini were the most improved team in the Big Ten and Illinois' 14.8 rating was its best since the 2001 Big Ten championship team had a 14.9 rating.
- Bielema's five Big Ten road wins in his first two seasons are the most since Lou Tepper also won five Big Ten road games in his first two seasons from 1992-93.
- Illinois was 4-0 in October 2022, completing its first undefeated October since going 3-0 in 2001. The Illini won four games in October for the first time since 1990.
- After winning at Wisconsin for the first time since 2002, Illinois beat Iowa for the first time since 2008. The win over Iowa snapped an eight-game losing streak against the Hawkeyes.
- Illinois beat Iowa, Wisconsin, and Minnesota in the same season for the first time since 1983.
- Illinois returned 10 All-Big Ten players from a year ago, the most returning All-Big Ten players in the Big Ten West and the fourth-most in the conference behind only Michigan, Ohio State, and Penn State.
- Illinois led the nation in scoring defense (12.8) for the first time in program history in 2022.
- Illinois ranked in the top 10 in 15 other major defensive categories during the regular season: 1st in interceptions (24), 1st in takeaways (32), 1st in fewest touchdowns allowed (16), 1st in passing efficiency defense (92.6), 1st in red zone touchdown percentage (35.5%), 2nd in passing touchdowns allowed (9), 2nd in rushing touchdowns allowed (6), 2nd in yards per pass attempt (5.4), 3rd in total defense (273.5), 3rd in passes defended (90), 5th in fewest first downs allowed per game (15.2), 7th in fewest red zone attempts allowed (31), 8th in passing defense (173.8), 9th in third down defense (30.1%), and 10th in rushing defense (99.8).
- Illinois and Air Force were the only teams in the nation that ranked in the top 10 of both passing defense and rushing defense.
- Illinois set a program record and led the nation with 24 interceptions.
- Illinois' defense was ranked second in the nation by ESPN's SP+ metric and fourth by PFF.
- Illinois allowed 13.8 points per game in road/neutral site games, the fewest in the country.
- Illinois held six opponents to single digit points, the most of any team in the country.
- Illinois returned six starters and 23 letterwinners from last year's record-setting defense, including Preseason All-American defensive tackles Jer'Zhan Newton and Keith Randolph.

QUICK FACTS

UNIVERSITY INFORMATION

Location: Urbana-Champaign (140,000)
Founded: 1867
Enrollment: 56,644
Colors: Orange & Blue
Nickname: Fighting Illini
Conference: Big Ten (West Division)
President: Timothy L. Killeen
Chancellor: Robert J. Jones
Director of Athletics: Josh Whitman
Stadium: Memorial Stadium (FieldTurf – 60,670)

COACHING STAFF

Head Coach: Bret Bielema
 Overall Record: 111-70 (.613) in his 15th season
 Record at Illinois: 14-12 (.538) in his third season

Assistant Coaches:

Aaron Henry: Defensive Coordinator
Barry Lunney Jr.: Offensive Coordinator/Quarterbacks
Andy Buh: Linebackers
Charlie Bullen: Pass Rush Coordinator/Outside Linebackers
Robby Discher: Special Teams Coordinator/Tight Ends
Antonio Fenelus: Defensive Backs
Terrance Jamison: Co-Def. Coordinator/Defensive Line
George McDonald: Assistant Head Coach/Wide Receivers
Bart Miller: Offensive Line
Thad Ward: Running Backs

FOOTBALL INFORMATION

2022 Record: 8-5, 5-4 (2nd, Big Ten West Division)
2022 Starters Returning/Lost: 15/10
 Off: 6/5 Def: 6/5 ST (K/P/LS): 3/0
2022 Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 48/28
All-Time Record: 628-618-51 (134th year in 2023)
All-Time Big Ten Record: 359-453-32 (128th year)
Memorial Stadium Record: 282-252-14 (101st year)
Big Ten Championships (Last): 15 (2001)
National Championships (Last): 5 (1951)
Bowl Appearances (Last): 20 (2023 ReliaQuest Bowl)
All-Time Bowl Record: 8-12
National Championships (Last): 5 (1951)

ATHLETICS COMMUNICATION

BRETT MOORE, Assistant AD, Athletics Communication

Cell: 309-212-6367
 Email: btmoore3@illinois.edu

DANNY MATTIE, Asst. Director of Athletics Communication

Cell: 970-217-3140
 Email: mattie2@illinois.edu

TWITTER: @IlliniStats

CREDENTIAL WEBSITE: FightingIllini.com/media

FIGHTINGILLINI.COM

COLLEGEPRESSBOX.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.

ILLINI NOTES

Week 1 Notables

- Caleb Griffin kicked a game-winning 29-yard field goal with five seconds remaining.
- Griffin's field goal was Illinois' first game-winner since James McCourt made a 47-yarder with :03 in a 23-20 victory at Rutgers (11/14/20).
- Griffin's field goal was Illinois' first game-winner at Memorial Stadium since McCourt nailed a 39-yarder at :00 in a 24-23 win over No. 6 Wisconsin (10/19/19).
- Luke Altmyer was the first QB to throw for 200+ yards in an Illini debut since Wes Lunt had 285 yards passing against Youngstown State (8/30/14).
- DB Miles Scott's 48-yard pick-6 was the longest in the Big Ten so far this season and the fifth-longest in college football last week.
- WR Pat Bryant had a game-high six catches for 69 yards and two touchdowns, marking the first two-TD game of his career.

The Law Firm of Newton and Randolph

- Defensive tackles Jer'Zhan "Johnny" Newton and Keith Randolph Jr., who go by the nickname "The Law Firm," were one of the top defensive tackle duos in the nation in 2022 and both were named Preseason All-Americans by multiple outlets entering 2023.
- Johnny Newton was the No. 9 graded defender in the nation by PFF (91.5) in 2022.
- Newton led the nation in QB hits (19) and ranked sixth in the nation in pressures (54) in 2022.
- Newton and Randolph led the nation in TFLs (27.0) and QB pressures (81) among defensive line partners (81) in 2022.
- Newton and Randolph were second and third in the Big Ten in TFLs (14.0, 13.0) and ranked first and second among interior defensive linemen in 2022.
- Newton tied Pitt's Calijah Kancey (14.0) for the most TFLs by any Power-5 interior defensive linemen in 2022, and Randolph was third (13.0). Kancey was the ACC Def. Player of the Year.

Offensive Improvement

- Illinois improved 48.2 yards per game from 2021 to 2022, the second-best improvement in the Big Ten behind only Penn State's 57.2 yards per game improvement.
- Illinois ranked third in the nation in team completion percentage (69.6%) in 2022, an 18.4% improvement of the 2021 team's completion percentage (51.2%) and a jump of 119 spots in the national rankings.
- Illinois ranked 56th in the nation in passing efficiency (138.2) in 2022, an improvement of 65 spots in the national rankings year-over-year.

Altmyer Follows DeVito's Career Year

- Illinois turned to new starting quarterback Luke Altmyer after 2022's starting QB Tommy DeVito ran out of eligibility and is now on the New York Giants' practice squad. Altmyer transferred to Illinois in January from Ole Miss.
- DeVito, who transferred from Syracuse for one year in Champaign, set career highs in completions (257), passing yards (2,650), completion percentage (69.6%), passing efficiency (141.22), and rushing touchdowns (6) under first-year offensive coordinator Barry Lunney.
- DeVito ranked fourth in the nation and first in the Big Ten in completion percentage (69.6%).
- DeVito's 141.2 passer rating ranked second in Illinois history behind West Lunt's 141.6 in 2014.

Watch Lists

- Illinois has 11 players on the Reese's Senior Bowl watch list, the most in the Big Ten West and fourth-most in the Big Ten behind only Michigan (18), Penn State (13), and Ohio State (12).
- Illinois had eight players featured across 15 national watch lists.
 - » OL Isaiah Adams (Outland)
 - » RB Reggie Love III (Doak Walker)
 - » RB Josh McCray (Doak Walker)
 - » DT Jer'Zhan Newton (Bednarik, Lombardi, Nagurski, Walter Camp)
 - » DT Keith Randolph Jr. (Bednarik, Lombardi, Nagurski, Outland)
 - » TE Tip Reiman (Mackey)
 - » WR Casey Washington (Earl Campbell Tyler Rose)
 - » WR Isaiah Williams (Maxwell, Wuerffel)

ILLINI NOTES

Bielema's New Six-Year Deal

- Illinois head coach Bret Bielema signed a new six-year contract, Illinois AD Josh Whitman announced Dec. 20, 2022, after Bielema engineered one of the most impressive turnarounds in college football since his hiring on Dec. 19, 2020. Bielema will be under contract through the 2028 season.
- As part of the contract, Bielema has a non-compete against any program in the Big Ten.
- Bielema: "Even though I've had a lot of success as a coach, I can't really say that Wisconsin is my legacy or Arkansas I definitely don't want that to be my legacy. But I could see Illinois as when my girls are at like age to go to college, this is something I would like to see them do, grow up in a community like this."
- Whitman: "It's exciting for me. I think when you have that long-term commitment from him and from me, it puts us in a position to make long-term decisions. That can be different. Occasionally, you have to make decisions about what's in the best long-term interest of Illinois football and what might be in the best interest of the next month and the next season. It aligns us in terms of our vision for the future of the program. It gives us both a sense of security and stability. We're able to lock arms and really be able to walk down this path together. It's exciting. It's exciting."

2023 NFL Draft Results

Drafted

- » DB Devon Witherspoon, Seattle (1st round, 5th overall)
- » DB Jartavius Martin, Washington (2nd round, 47th overall)
- » DB Sydney Brown, Philadelphia (3rd round, 66th overall)
- » RB Chase Brown, Cincinnati (5th round, 163rd overall)

Free Agent Signings

- » DT Calvin Avery, Minnesota (free agent signing)
- » LB Isaac Darkangelo, Detroit (free agent signing, now with Las Vegas)
- » QB Tommy DeVito, New York Giants (free agent signing)
- » OL Alex Palczewski, Denver (free agent signing)
- » OL Alex Pihlstrom, New Orleans (free agent signing)
- » DB Kendall Smith, Washington (free agent signing)
- » WR Kody Case, Indianapolis (mini camp invite then free agent signing)
- » DT Jamal Woods, Indianapolis (mini camp invite then free agent signing, now with Miami)

2023 NFL Draft Notes

- Illinois was the only team in the nation to have three defensive backs off the board in the first three rounds, as Devon Witherspoon, Quan Martin, and Sydney Brown went in the first two days.
- Illinois had three DBs drafted for the first time in history dating back to the NFL-AFL merger.
- Illinois had two defensive backs drafted in the top 50 for the first time since the NFL-AFL merger.
- Illinois had two top-50 picks for the first time since A.J. Jenkins and Whitney Mercilus went in the first round of the 2012 NFL Draft.
- Illinois' four picks in the first five rounds tied the program record set in 2003 and 2012.
- Devon Witherspoon was the highest drafted defensive back in Illinois history.
- Devon Witherspoon was the sixth Fighting Illini in history to be drafted in the top-5, joining Jeff George (No. 1, 1990), Kevin Hardy (No. 2, 1996), Simeon Rice (No. 3, 1996), Dick Butkus (No. 3, 1965), and Joe Rutgens (No. 3, 1961).
- Chase and Sydney became the ninth twins to be selected in the same NFL Draft and only the third set to be picked within the first five rounds. The Browns joined Ronde and Tiki Barber (1997) and Mike and Mark Bell (1979) as the only twins to be selected within the first five rounds of the same NFL Draft.
- Illinois head coach Bret Bielema has 51 NFL Draft picks during his head coaching career, which is among the top 10 in the nation for active head coaches.
- Witherspoon was Bielema's seventh first-rounder and the second-highest pick of Bielema's head coaching career.
- Chase Brown was the 11th running back to have played under Bielema to make it to the NFL.

PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

STUDENT-ATHLETES

Zach Aamland	.AM-lan
Jared Badie	BAY-dee
Zachary Barlev	BAR-luv
Tarique Barnes	ta-REEK
Keion Battle	.KEE-on
Hank Beatty	BAY-dee
Matt Bobak	BO-BACK
Jaheim Clarke	.jah-HEEM
Zy Crisler	.CRISS-ler
Kionte Curry	.KEE-on-tay
Denzel Daxon	dehn-ZEHL DAX-uhn
Declan Duley	DEHK-luhn DOO-lee
TeRah Edwards	.TEE-rah
Luciano Elias	.lew-CHEE-ON-oh ee-LEYE-us
Malik Elzy	.muh-LEEK EHLL-zee
Joep Engbers	.YOOP
Preston Engel	EN-gull
Pat Farrell	.FAIR-uhl
Kaden Feagin	KAY-dihn FAY-gihn
Nick Fedanzo	fa-DON-zo
Josh Gesky	guess-KEE
Nate Guinn	.GWIN
Nicario Harper	.nih-KAR-EE-oh
Ezekiel Holmes	ee-ZEE-kee-uhl
Malachi Hood	.MEL-uh-KY
Gabe Jacas	.ACK-us
Saboor Karriem	.suh-BOR kuh-REEM
James Kreutz	.krew-tz
Josh Kreutz	.krew-tz
Aidan Laughery	LAW-fer-ree
Will Leys	.LEES
Elijah Mc-Cantos	mih-KANT-ohs
Alex McLaughlin	muh-GLAWK-lihn
Kirkland Michaux	mih-SHO
Magnus Møller	MOU-nus MOE-lar
Mason Muragin	mur-AH-ghin
Jer'Zhan Newton	jer-ZAWN
Tahveon Nicholson	TAH-vee-ON
Kenenna Odeluga	.kuh-NEN-uh OH-duh-LOO-guh
David Olano	oh-LAW-noh
Fabrizio Pinton	fuh-BREE-ZEE-oh
Eian Pugh	EE-ihn PYOO
Tip Reiman	RY-min
Mac Resetich	ruh-SEHT-itch
Dylan Rosiek	ROH-zee-ek
Dezmond Schuster	SHOO-ster
Xavier Scott	EX-ay-veer
Zachary Tobe	.TOH-bee
Sam Tsagalis	suh-GAWL-is
Kenari Wilcher	.kuh-NAR-EE

COACHES

Bret Bielema	.BEEL-ma
Barry Lunney Jr.	.LUN-ee
Andy Buh	.BOO
Antonio Fenelus	FUH-nel-us

2023 ILLINOIS FOOTBALL ROSTER

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	ELIG.*	HOMETOWN / HIGH SCHOOL / PREVIOUS COLLEGE
0	Nicario Harper	DB	6-0	205	Sr.	Atlanta, Ga. / Carver / Jacksonville State/Louisville
0	Josh McCray	RB	6-1	235	So.	Enterprise, Ala. / Enterprise
1	Demetrius Hill	DB	6-2	195	So.	Miami, Fla. / Miami Springs / FIU
1	Isaiah Williams	WR	5-10	180	Jr.	St. Louis, Mo. / Trinity Catholic
2	Malik Elzy	WR	6-2	210	Fr.	Chicago, Ill. / Simeon
2	Saboor Karriem	DB	6-3	185	Fr.	West Orange, N.J. / West Orange
3	Kaden Feagin	RB	6-3	240	Fr.	Atwood, Ill. / ALAH
3	Tahveon Nicholson	DB	5-11	180	Jr.	Jacksonville, Fla. / Riverside
4	Jer'Zhan Newton	DL	6-2	295	Jr.	St. Petersburg, Fla. / Clearwater Central Catholic
4	John Paddock	QB	6-0	190	Sr.	Bloomfield Hills, Mich. / Bloomfield Hills / Ball State
5	Caleb Griffin	K	6-3	215	Sr.	Danville, Ill. / Danville
5	Zachary Tobe	DB	6-2	180	Fr.	Ocoee, Fla. / Ocoee
6	Denzel Daxon	DL	6-2	315	Sr.	Nassau, Bahamas / Carol City (Fla.) / Ohio
6	Ashton Hollins	WR	6-5	180	R-Fr.	Lucedale, Miss. / George County
7	Matthew Bailey	DB	6-2	205	So.	Moline, Ill. / Moline
7	Kenari Wilcher	WR	6-0	185	Fr.	Clewiston, Fla. / Moore Haven
8	Tarique Barnes	LB	6-1	230	Sr.	Memphis, Tenn. / Cordova
8	Shawn Miller	WR	6-1	195	R-Fr.	Chandler, Ariz. / IMG Academy (Fla.)
9	Luke Altmyer	QB	6-2	200	So.	Starkville, Miss. / Starkville
9	Tyson Rooks	DB	6-4	190	R-Fr.	St. Simons Island, Ga. / Glynn Academy
10	Donovan Leary	QB	6-2	215	R-Fr.	Sicklerville, N.J. / Timber Creek
10	Miles Scott	DB	5-11	200	So.	Dolton, Ill. / Thornton Fractional North
11	Alex Bray	DL	6-4	255	Fr.	Chesterfield, Mo. / Marquette
11	Jake Huber	QB	6-1	205	So.	Spring Grove, Ill. / Richmond-Burton
12	Elijah Mc-Cantos	DB	6-0	180	R-Fr.	Miami, Fla. / Edison
12	Kirkland Michaux	QB	6-4	225	So.	Austin, Texas / Westlake / Blinn JC
13	Pat Bryant	WR	6-3	195	Jr.	Jacksonville, Fla. / Atlantic Coast
13	Calvin Smith	OLB	6-4	225	Fr.	Ocoee, Fla. / Ocoee
14	Xavier Scott	DB	5-11	185	So.	Riviera Beach, Fla. / Dwyer
14	Casey Washington	WR	6-2	200	Sr.	Round Rock, Texas / Pflugerville
15	Jared Badie	OLB	6-3	225	R-Fr.	Aurora, Ill. / Oswego East
15	Alex Capka-Jones	WR	6-4	175	Jr.	Oak Park, Calif. / Oak Park / Moorpark College
16	Prince Ford	DB	5-11	165	Jr.	Concord, N.C. / Cox Mill / Golden West College (Calif.)
16	Cal Swanson	QB	6-3	190	Fr.	Ardmore, Okla. / Ardmore
17	Collin Dixon	WR	6-1	200	Fr.	Tallmadge, Ohio / Tallmadge
17	Gabe Jacas	OLB	6-3	265	So.	Port St. Lucie, Fla. / Fort Pierce Central
18	Chase Miller	WR	6-1	180	R-Fr.	Baltimore, Md. / IMG Academy (Fla.)
18	Mason Muragin	DL	6-4	240	Fr.	Macomb, Mich. / De La Salle
19	Eian Pugh	WR	6-3	170	R-Fr.	Naperville, Ill. / Fenwick
19	Hugh Robertson	P	6-2	225	So.	Melbourne, Australia / Assumption College Kilmore
20	Tyler Strain	DB	5-9	180	So.	Pace, Fla. / Pace
21	Clayton Bush	DB	6-1	195	Sr.	Bowling Green, Ky. / South Warren / S. Illinois/W. Kentucky
21	Aidan Laughery	RB	5-11	200	R-Fr.	Gibson City, Ill. / GCMS
22	Jean-Marc Etienne	RB	5-11	195	Jr.	Lincolnshire, Ill. / Stevenson
22	Kaleb Patterson	DB	6-1	180	So.	Jackson, Miss. / Terry / Pearl River CC
23	TeRah Edwards	DL	6-2	320	Jr.	Groveport, Ohio / Groveport Madison / Northwestern
23	Reggie Love III	RB	5-11	205	Jr.	St. Louis, Mo. / Trinity Catholic
24	Nick Fedanzo	DB	6-0	210	Jr.	Lombard, Ill. / Montini Catholic
24	David Olano	K	5-11	165	Fr.	Naperville, Ill. / Naperville North
25	Jordan Anderson	RB	6-4	240	R-Fr.	Naperville, Ill. / Joliet Catholic
25	Jaheim Clarke	DB	6-1	160	Fr.	Ft. Myers, Fla. / Riverdale
26	Mike Manning	DB	5-8	190	Jr.	Frankfort, Ill. / Lincoln-Way East/Butler
27	Matthew Bobak	DB	5-11	200	So.	Hinsdale, Ill. / Hinsdale Central
28	Dylan Rosiek	LB	6-1	225	So.	East Lake, Fla. / East Lake
29	TJ Griffin	DB	6-0	200	R-Fr.	Hickory Hills, Ill. / Amos Alonzo Stagg
30	Jojo Hayden	LB	6-2	230	Fr.	East St. Louis, Ill. / East St. Louis
31	Declan Duley	P	6-1	205	Fr.	El Paso, Ill. / El Paso-Gridley
32	CJ Bufkin	DB	5-11	195	Jr.	Chicago, Ill. / Montini Catholic
33	Ezekiel Holmes	OLB	6-5	245	Sr.	Wichita Falls, Texas / Hirschi
34	Ryan Meed	LB	6-1	230	Jr.	Brooklyn, N.Y. / Canarsie

2023 ILLINOIS FOOTBALL ROSTER

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	ELIG.*	HOMETOWN / HIGH SCHOOL / PREVIOUS COLLEGE
35	Grayson Griffin	DB	5-11	180	So.	Aurora, Ill. / St. Francis
36	Lane Hansen	LS	6-0	220	So.	East Lake, Fla. / East Lake
36	Ben Schultz	TE	6-3	230	Jr.	Champaign, Ill. / Central
37	Solo Turner	DB	6-2	220	Sr.	Frisco, Texas / Prestonwood Christian / Hawaii
38	Johnny Schmitt	DB	6-0	195	Fr.	Chicago, Ill. / St. Rita
39	Aidan Hall	LS	6-2	205	Jr.	Glen Ellyn, Ill. / Benet Academy
39	Kenenna Odeluga	LB	6-1	230	So.	South Holland, Ill. / Mount Carmel
40	Ronan Poynton	LB	6-2	215	Fr.	Solon, Iowa / Regina
41	James Kreutz	LB	6-0	210	R-Fr.	Bannockburn, Ill. / Loyola Academy
42	Alex McLaughlin	LS	5-10	220	So.	Weddington, N.C. / Weddington
42	Luke Zardzin	LB	6-0	205	So.	Mount Prospect, Ill. / Prospect
43	Nick True	LB	6-5	225	Fr.	Chicago, Ill. / Jacobs
44	Ben Clawson	DB	6-0	200	R-Fr.	Arlington Heights, Ill. / Hersey
45	Malachi Hood	LB	6-2	220	R-Fr.	Plainfield, Ill. / Joliet Catholic
46	Corey Rashad	DB	5-8	175	Fr.	Chicago, Ill. / Marist
47	Mac Resetich	DB	6-0	200	Fr.	Spring Valley, Ill. / Spring Valley Hall
48	Bryce Barnes	DL	6-2	280	Sr.	Gibson City, Ill. / GCMS
49	Seth Coleman	OLB	6-5	240	Jr.	Melbourne, Fla. / Holy Trinity Episcopal Academy
52	Pat Farrell	OLB	6-5	265	Fr.	Oak Lawn, Ill. / St. Rita
52	Patrick Mahoney III	LS	6-2	205	Fr.	Northbrook, Ill. / Glenbrook North
53	Devin Hale	OL	6-0	310	So.	Springfield, Ill. / Sacred Heart-Griffin
54	Julian Pearl	OL	6-6	315	Sr.	Danville, Ill. / Danville
55	Sed McConnell	DL	6-3	280	So.	Atlanta, Ga. / Westlake
55	TJ McMillen	OL	6-3	275	Fr.	Naperville, Ill. / St. Francis
56	Magnus Møller	OL	6-9	310	R-Fr.	Vejele, Denmark / Rødkilde Gymnasium
56	Jeremiah Warren	DL	6-3	295	Fr.	Belleville, Mich. / Belleville
57	Evan Kirts	DL	6-5	300	Jr.	Evergreen Park, Ill. / Brother Rice
62	Sam Tsagalis	OL	6-2	275	R-Fr.	Arlington Heights, Ill. / Prospect
63	Dezmond Schuster	OL	6-5	330	So.	Gonzales, La. / East Ascension
64	Josh Kreutz	OL	6-2	280	So.	Bannockburn, Ill. / Loyola Academy
65	Joey Okla	OL	6-2	325	R-Fr.	Hartland, Wis. / Arrowhead
66	Jordyn Slaughter	OL	6-5	325	Sr.	Belleville, Ill. / Althoff Catholic
67	Will Leys	OL	6-2	275	So.	Anaheim, Calif. / Servite
68	Zachary Barlev	OL	6-5	305	So.	Bolingbrook, Ill. / Plainfield East
70	Zach Aamland	OL	6-6	295	Fr.	South Brunswick, N.J. / The Hun School
71	Hunter Whitenack	OL	6-7	345	So.	New Carlisle, Ind. / New Prairie
72	Zy Crisler	OL	6-6	330	Jr.	Crystal Springs, Miss. / Copiah Academy
73	Josh Gesky	OL	6-5	325	So.	Manteno, Ill. / Manteno
75	Brandon Henderson	OL	6-5	315	Fr.	East St. Louis, Ill. / East St. Louis
76	Clayton Leonard	OL	6-4	290	R-Fr.	Danforth, Ill. / Iroquois West
78	Isaiah Adams	OL	6-5	315	Sr.	Ajax, Ontario / McLellan Catholic
79	Luciano Elias	OL	6-5	320	R-Fr.	Wilmette, Ill. / New Trier
80	Hank Beatty	WR	5-11	185	So.	Rochester, Ill. / Rochester
81	Griffin Moore	TE	6-4	250	Jr.	Bloomington, Ill. / Bloomington
82	Nate Guinn	TE	6-6	220	Fr.	Vero Beach, Fla. / Vero Beach
83	Keion Battle	WR	6-1	200	So.	Plainfield, Ill. / Oswego EastNorthern Illinois
84	Owen Anderson	TE	6-4	230	R-Fr.	Skillman, N.J. / The Hun School
85	Tanner Arkin	TE	6-4	255	So.	Fort Collins, Colo. / Fossil Ridge
86	Weston Adams	WR	5-11	195	R-Fr.	Shell, Wyo. / IMG Academy (Fla.)
87	Tyler McClure	WR	6-2	205	So.	Champaign, Ill. / Centennial / Kaskaskia College
88	Henry Boyer	TE	6-6	265	R-Fr.	Chicago, Ill. / Brother Rice
88	Keith Randolph Jr.	DL	6-5	305	Jr.	Belleville, Ill. / Belleville West
89	Tip Reiman	TE	6-5	265	Jr.	Rapid City, S.D. / O'Gorman
90	Alec Bryant	OLB	6-3	240	So.	Pearland, Texas / Shadow Creek
93	Henry Engel	DL	6-2	260	Fr.	Lena, Ill. / Lena-Winslow
94	Joep Engbers	DL	6-4	325	Fr.	Oak Park, Ill. / Fenwick
95	Dylan Davis	DL	6-4	300	So.	Sarasota, Fla. / St. Stephen's Episcopal / Furman
98	Fabrizio Pinton	K/P	6-3	230	So.	Houston, Texas / The Woodlands
99	Christian Lorenzo	DL	6-3	285	R-Fr.	Baton Rouge, La. / DeKalb (Ill.)

* - Denotes eligibility ... Fr. and R-Fr. differentiates between true and second- or third-year freshmen

OFFENSIVE LINE



78 ISAIAH ADAMS

OL, 6-5, 320, SR.

AJAX, ONTARIO, CANADA / MCLELLAN CATHOLIC / GARDEN CITY CC (KAN.)

- » 14 straight starts at to open Illini career: 13 at LG/1 at LT in 2022, 1 at RT in 2023
- » 12 starts at left guard and one at left tackle in 2022
- » 2022 All-Big Ten third team (media) and honorable mention (coaches)
- » Double-digit knockdowns in six of 13 games and led the team in knockdowns with 120.5 in 2022
- » No. 5 graded guard in the Big Ten (75.2) according to PFF in 2022
- » Began career at Wilfrid Laurier University in Waterloo, Ontario, Canada before transferring to Garden City CC
- » 2021 NJCAA D1 All-America first team, ranked No. 5 juco offensive lineman (No. 21 overall) by 247Sports
- » Sociology major

OUTLAND TROPHY WATCH LIST

START STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	START
2022	ILL	13	13
2023	ILL	1	1
CAREER		14	14



72 ZY CRISLER

OL, 6-6, 335, JR.

CRYSTAL SPRINGS, MISS. / COPIAH ACADEMY / MISSISSIPPI GULF COAST CC

- » 14 straight starts at to open Illini career: 13 at RG in 2022, 1 at RT in 2023
- » 2022 All-Big Ten honorable mention (coaches)
- » Three-star recruit by 247Sports, ESPN, and Rivals
- » Junior college national ranks: #16 (Rivals), #44 (247), #50 (ESPN)
- » Junior college position ranks: #3 (247), #6 (ESPN)
- » Recreation, Sport & Tourism major

START STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	START
2022	ILL	13	13
2023	ILL	1	1
CAREER		14	14



73 JOSH GESKY

OL, 6-5, 325, SO.

MANTENO, ILL. / MANTENO

- » Made first-career start at right guard vs Toledo (9/2/23)
- » Played in 12 games, primarily on special teams, as a redshirt freshman in 2022
- » Three-star recruit by 247Sports, ESPN, and Rivals
- » Also earned all-conference in track and field as a junior and senior at Manteno High School
- » Chose Illinois over an offer from Syracuse, among others
- » Kinesiology major

START STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	START
2021	ILL	--	--
2022	ILL	11	0
2023	ILL	1	1
CAREER		12	1



64 JOSH KREUTZ

OL, 6-2, 290, SO.

BANNOCKBURN, ILL. / LOYOLA ACADEMY

- » No. 11-graded center nationally according to PFF, in his first-career start vs. Toledo (9/2/23)
- » Three-star recruit by 247Sports, ESPN, and Rivals
- » Also earned all-conference in track and field as a junior and senior at Manteno High School
- » Brother, James, is a linebacker for the Fighting Illini
- » Father, Olin Kreutz, was a six-time Pro Bowler with the Chicago Bears
- » Led Loyola to the 2018 Illinois Class 8A State Championship at Illinois' Memorial Stadium
- » Recreation, Sport & Tourism major

START STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	START
2021	ILL	3	0
2022	ILL	13	0
2023	ILL	1	1
CAREER		17	1



54 JULIAN PEARL

OL, 6-6, 315, SR.

DANVILLE, ILL. / DANVILLE

- » 13 consecutive starts at left tackle since missing game at Indiana (9/2/22)
- » 2022 All-Big Ten honorable mention (coaches and media)
- » Started five games at guard and five games at tackle in 2021
- » Started three games at right tackle in 2020 after Alex Palczewski was injured
- » Played basketball in high school
- » Graduated in May 2023 with degree in sociology; pursuing graduate certificate in health communication

START STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	START
2018	ILL	2	0
2019	ILL	3	0
2020	ILL	8	4
2021	ILL	12	10
2022	ILL	12	12
2023	ILL	1	1
CAREER		38	27



66 JORDYN SLAUGHTER

OL, 6-5, 325, SR.

BELLEVILLE, ILL. / ALTHOFF CATHOLIC

- » Illinois' "sixth man" on the offensive line as junior in 2022, played 18 snaps in 2023 opener vs. Toledo (9/2/23)
- » Made second-career start, first since 2020, at left guard at Indiana (9/2/22) in place of injured Julian Pearl
- » Saw first action since 2020 in Illinois win over Wyoming (8/27/22) after missing the 2021 season due to injury
- » Three-star recruit, ranked as the No. 75 offensive tackle in the nation by ESPN and No. 83 by 247Sports
- » Also played basketball in high school
- » Graduated in May 2023 with a degree in sociology; now majoring in communication

START STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	START
2018	ILL	--	--
2019	ILL	1	0
2020	ILL	6	1
2021	ILL	--	--
2022	ILL	13	1
2023	ILL	1	0
CAREER		21	2

QUARTERBACKS



9 LUKE ALMYER

QB, 6-2, 200, SO.

STARKVILLE, MISS. / STARKVILLE / OLE MISS

- » Transferred to Illinois with three years of eligibility remaining
- » Enrolled at Illinois for the spring semester in 2023 and participated in spring football
- » Ranked #10 transfer quarterback in the nation, according to 247Sports' preseason rankings
- » Named Illinois' starting quarterback on Aug. 21
- » Led team to 30-28 win over Toledo (9/2/23) in Illinois debut, setting career-high marks in passing yards (211), completions (18), rushing yards (69), and longest rush (18), and tied his career mark with two touchdown passes.
- » Played in nine games with one start over two seasons (2021 and 2022) at Ole Miss
- » Unanimous four-star recruit out of high school, with offers from Offers included Florida State, LSU, Mississippi State, and Oregon, among others

PASSING STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	CMP-ATT-INT	YDS	TD	LNG	PCT	AVG/P	AVG/G	EFFIC.
2021	MISS	5	20-37-2	192	1	37	54.1	9.6	38.4	95.8
2022	MISS	4	8-17-1	125	2	36	47.1	15.6	31.3	135.9
2023	ILL	1	18-26-1	211	2	33	69.2	11.7	211.0	155.1
CAREER		10	46-80-4	528	5	37	57.5	11.5	52.8	123.6

RUSHING/RECEIVING STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	RSH	YDS	TD	LNG	AVG/R	REC	YDS	TD	LNG	AVG/R
2021	MISS	5	21	0	0	14	0.0	0	0	0	0	0.0
2022	MISS	4	4	3	1	5	0.8	0	0	0	0	0.0
2023	ILL	1	9	69	0	18	7.7	0	0	0	0	0.0
CAREER		18	34	72	1	18	7.2	0	0	0	0	0.0



10 DONOVAN LEARY

QB, 6-2, 205, R-FR.

SICKLERVILLE, N.J. / TIMBER CREEK

- » Did not play in a game and redshirted during the 2022 season
- » Three-star recruit by 247Sports, ESPN, On3, and Rivals
- » Position ranks: #42 (On3), #50 (247), #53 (ESPN)
- » State ranks: #9 (On3), #14 (247), #25 (Rivals), #26 (ESPN)
- » Brother, Devin, plays quarterback at Kentucky after previously playing at NC State
- » Offers included Boston College, Maryland, Rutgers, and Virginia Tech, among others

PASSING STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	CMP-ATT-INT	YDS	TD	LNG	PCT	AVG/P	AVG/G	EFFIC.
2022	ILL	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
2023	ILL	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
CAREER		--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

RUSHING/RECEIVING STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	RSH	YDS	TD	LNG	AVG/R	REC	YDS	TD	LNG	AVG/R
2022	ILL	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
2023	ILL	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
CAREER		--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--



4 JOHN PADDOCK

QB, 6-0, 190, SR.

BLOOMFIELD HILLS, MICH. / BLOOMFIELD HILLS / BALL STATE

- » Transferred to Illinois after five years at Ball State (2018-22) with one year of eligibility remaining
- » Started all 12 games at Ball State as a senior, throwing for 2719 yards and 18 TDs
- » Enrolled at Illinois for the spring semester in 2023 and participated in spring football
- » Fourth-generation Illini: Great grandfather Robert C. Wright was a 1935 letterman; grandfather John Wright Sr. lettered at Illinois from 1965-67 and was a two-time All-American, Academic All-American, two-time All-Big Ten selection, and went on to play in the NFL for the Atlanta Falcons and Detroit Lions; and uncle John Wright Jr. lettered at Illinois in 1990 and 1991.

PASSING STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	CMP-ATT-INT	YDS	TD	LNG	PCT	AVG/P	AVG/G	EFFIC.
2018	BSU	1	5-6-0	43	0	15	83.3	8.6	43.0	143.5
2019	BSU	2	1-2-0	5	0	5	50.0	5.0	2.5	71.0
2020	BSU	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
2021	BSU	2	18-26-1	132	0	28	69.2	7.3	66.0	104.2
2022	BSU	12	286-480-14	2719	18	43	59.6	9.5	226.6	113.7
2023	ILL	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
CAREER		17	310-514-15	2899	18	43	60.3	9.4	170.5	113.4

RUSHING/RECEIVING STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	RSH	YDS	TD	LNG	AVG/R	REC	YDS	TD	LNG	AVG/R
2018	BSU	1	2	-10	0	0	-5.0	0	0	0	0	0.0
2019	BSU	2	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0.0
2020	BSU	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
2021	BSU	2	-9	0	0	-4.5	-4.5	0	0	0	0	0.0
2022	BSU	12	27	-84	0	15	-3.1	0	0	0	0	0.0
2023	ILL	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
CAREER		17	31	-103	0	15	-3.3	0	0	0	0	0.0



RUNNING BACKS



25 JORDAN ANDERSON

RB, 6-4, 245, R-FR.

NAPERVILLE, ILL. / JOLIET CATHOLIC

- » Three-star recruit by 247Sports, ESPN, On3, and Rivals
- » Redshirted as a true freshman in 2022
- » 306 rushing yards in the 2021 IHSA Class 4A championship game to set the 4A state record and ran for four touchdowns and caught another touchdown
- » 2021 Spring Illinois High School Football Coaches Association 5A All-State first team



3 KADEN FEAGIN

RB, 6-3, 250, FR.

ATWOOD, ILL. / ALAH

- » Four-star recruit by ESPN and Rivals
- » Ranked as No. 202 recruit in the nation by Rivals and Top 400 by the 247Sports Composite
- » Illinois' highest ranked running back recruit since 2009
- » Holds ALAH school records in rushing yards and rushing touchdowns in a single season and career
- » Offers included Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Notre Dame, Purdue, Rutgers, and Wisconsin
- » General studies major



21 AIDAN LAUGHERY

RB, 5-11, 200, R-FR.

GIBSON CITY, ILL. / GCMS

- » aMade his Illinois debut against Chattanooga (9/22/22)
- » Three-star recruit by 247Sports, ESPN, On3, and Rivals
- » Played with fellow Illini Bryce Barnes in high school, leading GCMS to an IHSA 2A state title
- » Also ran track in high school
- » Offers included Iowa, Michigan State, Minnesota, Rutgers, and Washington State
- » Recreation, sport & tourism major



23 REGGIE LOVE III

RB, 5-11, 205, JR.

ST. LOUIS, MO. / TRINITY CATHOLIC

- » Made second straight start at running back vs. Toledo (9/2/23), after also starting ReliaQuest Bowl (1/2/23)
- » Career highs in carries (12), and longest kick return (30) in the ReliaQuest Bowl
- » Scored first-career touchdown, a 33-yard carry, vs. Wyoming (8/27/22)
- » Four-star recruit by Rivals, three-star recruit by 247 and ESPN
- » 2021 Academic All-Big Ten selection
- » Majoring in recreation, sport & tourism

DOAK WALKER AWARD WATCH LIST



0 JOSH MCCRAY

RB, 6-1, 235, SO.

ENTERPRISE, ALA. / ENTERPRISE

- » Athlon Preseason All-Big Ten third team
- » Battled injuries throughout 2022, limiting him to four games following his breakout freshman season in 2021
- » 142 rushing yards at #7 Penn State (10/23/21) are most by an Illini true freshman against a Top-25 team
- » 156 rushing yards at Purdue 9/25/21 ranked nationally as the fifth-most by a true freshman in 2021 and the most by a true freshman in a road game in 2021
- » High school coach was Jed Kennedy, the same high school coach as Bielema product Melvin Gordon
- » Chose Illinois over offers from Arkansas, Kentucky, Mississippi, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Washington State, among others
- » Communication major

DOAK WALKER AWARD WATCH LIST

RUSHING/RECEIVING STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	RSH	YDS	TD	LNG	AVG/R	REC	YDS	TD	LNG	AVG/R
2022	ILL	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
CAREER		--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

RUSHING/RECEIVING STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	RSH	YDS	TD	LNG	AVG/R	REC	YDS	TD	LNG	AVG/R
2023	ILL	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
CAREER		--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

RUSHING/RECEIVING STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	RSH	YDS	TD	LNG	AVG/R	REC	YDS	TD	LNG	AVG/R
2022	ILL	1	3	9	0	5	3.0	0	0	0	0	0.0
2023	ILL	1	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0.0
CAREER		2	3	9	0	5	3.0	0	0	0	0	0.0

RUSHING/RECEIVING STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	RSH	YDS	TD	LNG	AVG/R	REC	YDS	TD	LNG	AVG/R
2020	ILL	7	10	12	0	8	1.2	0	0	0	0	0.0
2021	ILL	10	44	158	0	33	3.6	2	12	0	7	6.0
2022	ILL	13	70	316	2	33	4.5	4	16	0	7	4.0
2023	ILL	1	12	58	0	29	4.8	1	9	0	9	9.0
CAREER		31	136	544	2	33	4.0	7	37	0	9	5.3

RUSHING/RECEIVING STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	RSH	YDS	TD	LNG	AVG/R	REC	YDS	TD	LNG	AVG/R
2021	ILL	11	112	549	2	38	4.9	2	43	0	40	21.5
2022	ILL	4	19	56	0	9	2.9	4	19	0	9	4.8
2023	ILL	1	11	30	1	6	2.7	0	0	0	0	0.0
CAREER		16	142	635	3	38	4.5	6	62	0	40	10.3



WIDE RECEIVERS



80 HANK BEATTY

WR, 5-11, 185, SO.
ROCHESTER, ILL. / ROCHESTER

- » Played in 12 games with seven catches for 25 yards as a true freshman in 2022
- » Led Rochester to the 2019 IHSA 5A state title with 12 receptions for 212 yards and three TDs to earn player of the game honors; Also played basketball and ran track in high school
- » 2021-22 Gatorade Illinois Football Player of the Year
- » Also played basketball and ran track in high school
- » Business major



13 PAT BRYANT

WR, 6-3, 200, JR.
JACKSONVILLE, FLA. / ATLANTIC COAST

- » Tallied six catches, including first two-TD game of his career, in Illini's victory over Toledo (9/2/23)
- » Part of first game in program history with two 100-yard receivers (with Isaiah Williams) and a 100-yard rusher (Chase Brown), vs. Chattanooga on 9/22/22
- » Led Illini and ranked 16th among BIG receivers at 13.3 yards per catch in 2022
- » 14th Illini in program history to start 3+ games at wide receiver as a true freshman in 2021
- » Three-star recruit by 247Sports, ESPN, and Rivals with offers from Iowa, Indiana, Nebraska, Miami, Minnesota, Penn State, Florida State and Virginia
- » Brother, Brandon Harris, played linebacker at USF
- » Recreation, sport & tourism major



14 CASEY WASHINGTON

WR, 6-2, 200, SR.
ROUND ROCK, TEXAS / PFLUGERVILLE

- » Caught game-saving 33-yard pass from Luke Altmyer on fourth-down to sustain fourth quarter drive that resulted in game-winning FG vs. Toledo (9/2/23)
- » Career-high seven receptions and tied career high with 68 receiving yards in ReliaQuest Bowl vs. (1/2/23)
- » Six receptions for 53 yards at #3 Michigan 11/19/22
- » Caught game-winning two-point conversion at #7 Penn State 10/23/21 to win the longest game in college football history (20-18, 9 OT); sent gloves to the College Football Hall of Fame for display
- » 2022 Academic All-Big Ten selection
- » Graduated in May 2023 with a degree in recreation, sport & tourism; working toward graduate certificate in health communication



1 ISAIAH WILLIAMS

WR, 5-10, 185, JR.
ST. LOUIS, MO. / TRINITY CATHOLIC

- » Nickname: "One" or "Uno"
- » 2022 All-Big Ten honorable mention (coaches and media)
- » 2023 preseason All-Big Ten first team (Athlon, Phil Steel, PFF)
- » Voted team captain in 2022 and 2023
- » At least one catch in all 26 games over the last three seasons since converting from QB to WR full time
- » Ranked in the top 10 in the Big Ten in receptions per game (2nd, 6.3), receiving yards (7th, 715), receiving touchdowns (10th, 5), and receiving yards per game (10th, 55) in 2022
- » 82 receptions in 2022 rank fourth in a single season in program history
- » Part of first offensive game in program history with two 100-yard receivers (with Pat Bryant) and a 100-yard rusher (Chase Brown) in a single game (vs. Chattanooga on 9/22/22).
- » Converted QB, set Illinois record for rushing yards by a QB in a game (195) at Rutgers in 2020
- » Switched to wide receiver for the final two practices of spring ball in 2021
- » Four-star recruit by 247Sports, Rivals and ESPN; Illinois' highest ranked QB recruit since Juice Williams (2006)
- » Ranked No. 47 recruit in the nation by Rivals, No. 93 by ESPN and No. 295 by 247Sports
- » Graduated in August 2023 with degree in recreation, sport & tourism; pursuing graduate certificate in strategic brand communication

EARL CAMPBELL TYLER ROSE AWARD WATCH LIST

MAXWELL AWARD WATCH LIST
WUERFFEL AWARD WATCH LIST
AFCA GOOD WORKS TEAM NOMINEE

RUSHING/RECEIVING STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	RS	YDS	TD	LNG	AVG/R	REC	YDS	TD	LNG	AVG/R
2022	ILL	12	0	0	0	0	0.0	7	25	0	8	3.6
2023	ILL	1	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0.0
CAREER		13	0	0	0	0	0.0	7	25	0	8	3.6

RUSHING/RECEIVING STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	RS	YDS	TD	LNG	AVG/R	REC	YDS	TD	LNG	AVG/R
2021	ILL	10	0	0	0	0	0.0	6	98	0	45	16.3
2022	ILL	12	0	0	0	0	0.0	34	453	2	43	13.3
2023	ILL	1	0	0	0	0	0.0	6	64	2	18	10.7
CAREER		23	0	0	0	0	0.0	46	615	4	45	13.4

RUSHING/RECEIVING STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	RS	YDS	TD	LNG	AVG/R	REC	YDS	TD	LNG	AVG/R
2019	ILL	10	0	0	0	0	0.0	11	132	0	20	12.0
2020	ILL	8	0	0	0	0	0.0	10	106	0	20	10.6
2021	ILL	12	0	30	1	30	0.0	21	294	0	56	14.0
2022	ILL	13	0	0	0	0	0.0	31	306	0	25	9.9
2023	ILL	1	0	0	0	0	0.0	4	54	0	33	13.5
CAREER		44	0	30	1	30	0.0	77	892	0	56	11.6

RUSHING/RECEIVING STATISTICS

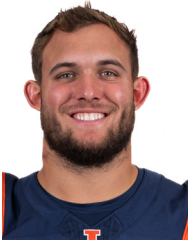
YEAR	TEAM	G	RS	YDS	TD	LNG	AVG/R	REC	YDS	TD	LNG	AVG/R
2019	ILL	4	9	16	0	5	1.8	3	9	0	4	3.0
2020	ILL	6	63	389	1	64	6.2	0	0	0	0	0.0
2021	ILL	12	12	61	2	21	5.1	47	525	4	52	11.2
2022	ILL	13	7	5	0	13	0.7	82	715	5	63	8.7
2023	ILL	1	2	7	0	5	3.5	5	51	0	20	10.2
CAREER		36	93	478	3	64	5.1	137	1300	9	3.8	9.5

PASSING STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	COMP	ATT	INT	YDS	TD	LNG	PCT	AVG/P	AVG/G	EFFIC.
2019	ILL	4	3	10	1	38	0	25	30.0	12.7	9.5	41.9
2020	ILL	6	26	63	2	393	4	46	41.3	15.1	65.5	108.3
2021	ILL	12	0	1	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
2022	ILL	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
2023	ILL	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
CAREER		36	29	74	3	431	4	46	39.2	14.9	12.3	97.8



TIGHT ENDS



85 TANNER ARKIN

TE, 6-4, 265, SO.

FORT COLLINS, COLO. / FOSSIL RIDGE / COLORADO STATE

- » Made Illini debut on special teams in season-opening win vs. Toledo (9/2/23)
- » Transferred to Illinois with three years of eligibility remaining and participated in 2023 spring football
- » Three-star recruit by 247Sports Composite
- » Three-sport letterman in high school, also competing in basketball and track & field
- » Placed third in the state of Colorado in the discus in 2020
- » Kinesiology major



88 HENRY BOYER

TE, 6-5, 270, R-FR.

CHICAGO, ILL. / BROTHER RICE

- » Three-star recruit by 247Sports, ESPN, On3, and Rivals
- » Played in three games and redshirted as a true freshman in 2022
- » 2021 All-Chicago Catholic League



81 GRIFFIN MOORE

TE, 6-4, 250, JR.

BLOOMINGTON, ILL. / BLOOMINGTON

- » First career reception in the ReliaQuest Bowl against Mississippi State (1/2/23) went for 17 yards
- » Played mostly quarterback in high school, throwing for 1,957 yards and 31 touchdowns as a senior
- » Three-star recruit by 247Sports and ESPN
- » Ranked as No. 84 tight end in the nation by 247Sports and No. 139 athlete in the nation by ESPN
- » Two-time Academic All-Big Ten selection, graduated in May 2023 with a degree in recreation, sport & tourism, and is pursuing a graduate degree in management



89 TIP REIMAN

TE, 6-5, 265, JR.

RAPID CITY, S.D. / O'GORMAN

- » Caught two passes for 33 yards in season-opener vs. Toledo (9/2/23)
- » Led Illinois tight ends in receptions (19) and yards (174)
- » Recorded a career-high four receptions for 29 yards vs. Michigan State (11/5/22)
- » Scored second career TD on a 2-yard reception to give Illinois a 21-3 lead vs. Virginia (9/10/22)
- » First career touchdown in Illinois' upset win at #20 Minnesota 11/6/21
- » Two-time Academic All-B1G, majoring in kinesiology and wants to be a strength and conditioning coach
- » Awarded with a scholarship by head coach Bret Bielema during team meeting 9/8/21
- » Married his wife Maddy, an alumna of the Illinois swimming & diving program, in March 2022

MACKEY AWARD WATCH LIST

RUSHING/RECEIVING STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	RSH	YDS	TD	LNG	AVG/R	REC	YDS	TD	LNG	AVG/R
2021	CSU	3	0	0	0	0	0.0	1	9	0	9	9.0
2022	CSU	12	1	1	0	1	1.0	14	116	0	26	8.3
2023	ILL	1	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0.0
CAREER		16	1	1	0	1	1.0	15	125	0	26	8.3

RUSHING/RECEIVING STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	RSH	YDS	TD	LNG	AVG/R	REC	YDS	TD	LNG	AVG/R
2022	ILL	2	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0.0
2023	ILL	1	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0.0
CAREER		3	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0.0

RUSHING/RECEIVING STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	RSH	YDS	TD	LNG	AVG/R	REC	YDS	TD	LNG	AVG/R
2019	ILL	1	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0.0
2020	ILL	2	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0.0
2021	ILL	1	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0.0
2022	ILL	6	0	0	0	0	0.0	1	17	0	17	17.0
2023	ILL	1	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0.0
CAREER		12	0	0	0	0	0.0	1	17	0	17	17.0

RUSHING/RECEIVING STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	RSH	YDS	TD	LNG	AVG/R	REC	YDS	TD	LNG	AVG/R
2020	ILL	8	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0.0
2021	ILL	11	0	0	0	0	0.0	3	43	1	24	14.3
2022	ILL	13	0	0	0	0	0.0	19	174	1	20	9.2
2023	ILL	1	0	0	0	0	0.0	2	33	0	17	16.5
CAREER		33	0	0	0	0	0.0	24	250	2	24	10.4



DEFENSIVE LINE



48 BRYCE BARNES

DL, 6-2, 285, SR.
GIBSON CITY, ILL. / GCMS

- » Recorded a career-high four tackles vs. Toledo (9/2/23)
- » Began as a tight end in 2019 before moving to defensive tackle in 2020, then to outside linebacker in 2021 before moving back to defensive line in the spring of 2022
- » Helped lead GCMS to back-to-back IHSA Class 2A State Championships in 2017 and 2018
- » Also played basketball at GCMS, scoring 1,000+ career points and helping team to IHSA 2A third place finish
- » Graduated in May 2023 with degree in advertising; pursuing graduate certificate in health communication



6 DENZEL DAXON

DL, 6-2, 320, SR.
NASSAU, BAHAMAS / CAROL CITY (FLA.) / OHIO

- » Started at nose in Illini debut, and tallied three tackles and a half-tackle for loss vs. Toledo (9/2/23)
- » Transferred to Illinois for final year of eligibility
- » Participated in 2023 spring football practice
- » Graduating from Ohio in December 2022 with a degree in physical activity & sports coaching; pursuing a master's degree in recreation, sport & tourism from Illinois
- » Played in a combined 24 games at Ohio in 2021 and 2022



23 TERAH EDWARDS

DL, 6-2, 315, JR.
GROVE PORT, OHIO / GROVE PORT MADISON / NORTHWESTERN

- » Recorded first-career sack for the Illini vs. Wisconsin (10/1/22)
- » Two-year letterman in wrestling in high school earning a pair of Ohio Capital Conference (OCC) titles
- » Offers out of high school included Indiana, Iowa State, Michigan, Michigan State, Minnesota, Missouri, Penn State, Pittsburgh, Purdue, Rutgers, Tennessee and Vanderbilt
- » Graduate in August 2023 with degree in communication; pursuing master's degree in strategic brand communication



55 SED McCONNELL

DL, 6-3, 285, SO.
ATLANTA, GA. / WESTLAKE

- » Played in seven games with three tackles on the season as a redshirt freshman in 2022
- » Three-star recruit by 247Sports, ESPN, and Rivals
- » Also played basketball and lacrosse in high school
- » Chose Illinois over offers from Duke, Minnesota, Pittsburgh, Wake Forest, and West Virginia, among others



4 JER'ZHAN NEWTON

DT, 6-2, 295, JR.
ST. PETERSBURG, FLA. / CLEARWATER CENTRAL CATHOLIC

- » 2023 Preseason All-America first team by AP, ESPN, The Athletic, Athlon, and CBS Sports/247 Sports
- » 2022 All-American by Walter Camp (2nd team), CBS (2nd), and PFF (2nd)
- » 2022 All-Big Ten first team (coaches and media)
- » Goes by "Johnny" but chose to be listed on the roster as his real name, Jer'Zhan
- » Half of the starting defensive tackle duo, along with Keith Randolph Jr., nicknamed "The Law Firm"
- » Tied for the national lead in quarterback hits (19), according to PFF in 2022
- » Led Power-5 interior defensive linemen in pressures (59), seven more than any Power-5 interior defensive lineman, and ranked seventh overall in the nation, according to PFF in 2022
- » Recreation, sport & tourism major

BEDNARIK AWARD SEMIFINALIST
LOMBARDI AWARD WATCH LIST
NAGURSKI AWARD WATCH LIST
WALTER CAMP AWARD WATCH LIST



88 KEITH RANDOLPH JR.

DT, 6-5, 300, JR.
BELLEVILLE, ILL. / BELLEVILLE WEST

- » 2023 Preseason All-American by Athlon (third team) and Phil Steele (fourth team)
- » 2022 All-Big Ten third team (coaches and media)
- » Half of the starting defensive tackle duo, along with Jer'Zhan Newton, nicknamed "The Law Firm"
- » No. 10 defensive tackle in the nation, according to The Athletic's preseason draft rankings
- » Did not start playing football until his junior year of high school
- » Also played basketball in high school and led Belleville West to two state titles alongside former Ohio State star, and current New Orleans Pelicans forward E.J. Liddell
- » Recreation, sport & tourism major

BEDNARIK AWARD SEMIFINALIST
LOMBARDI AWARD WATCH LIST
NAGURSKI AWARD WATCH LIST
OUTLAND TROPHY WATCH LIST

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	UA	A	TOTAL	TFL-YDS	PD	FF	FR	BLK	SCK	INT
2019	ILL	13	0	0	0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2020	ILL	8	0	3	3	0.5-1	0	0	0	0	0	0
2021	ILL	11	3	0	3	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2022	ILL	12	4	4	8	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2023	ILL	1	3	1	4	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CAREER		45	10	8	18	0.5-1	0	0	0	0	0	0

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	UA	A	TOTAL	TFL-YDS	PD	FF	FR	BLK	SCK	INT
2019	OHIO	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
2020	OHIO	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
2021	OHIO	12	3	5	8	1-10	0	0	0	0	1	0
2022	OHIO	12	2	1	3	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2023	ILL	1	1	2	3	0.5-1	0	0	0	0	0	0
CAREER		25	6	8	14	1.5-11	0	0	0	0	1	0

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	UA	A	TOTAL	TFL-YDS	PD	FF	FR	BLK	SCK	INT
2020	NU	2	1	0	1	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2021	NU	4	1	0	1	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2022	ILL	13	6	8	14	1.5-10	0	0	1	0	1	0
2023	ILL	1	2	0	2	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ILL TOTAL		14	8	8	16	1.5-10	0	0	1	0	1	0
CAREER		20	10	8	18	1.5-10	0	0	1	0	1	0

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	UA	A	TOTAL	TFL-YDS	PD	FF	FR	BLK	SCK	INT
2021	ILL	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
2022	ILL	7	1	2	3	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2023	ILL	1	0	1	1	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CAREER		8	1	3	4	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	UA	A	TOTAL	TFL-YDS	PD	FF	FR	BLK	SCK	INT
2020	ILL	8	6	17	23	1.5-11	0	1	0	0	1.5	0
2021	ILL	12	20	31	51	4.5-33	0	0	0	0	3.5	0
2022	ILL	13	29	33	62	14-66	3	0	2	0	5.5	0
2023	ILL	1	2	1	3	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CAREER		34	57	82	139	20-110	3	1	2	0	10.5	0

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	UA	A	TOTAL	TFL-YDS	PD	FF	FR	BLK	SCK	INT
2019	ILL	4	3	4	7	0.5-2	0	0	0	0	0	0
2020	ILL	5	4	4	8	0-0	1	0	0	0	0	0
2021	ILL	10	21	21	42	5.5-13	1	1	0	0	4	1
2022	ILL	13	23	30	53	13-43	1	0	0	1	4.5	1
2023	ILL	1	3	3	6	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CAREER		33	54	62	116	19-58	3	1	0	1	8.5	2

OUTSIDE LINEBACKERS



90 ALEC BRYANT

OLB, 6-3, 245, SO.

PEARLAND, TEXAS / SHADOW CREEK / VIRGINIA TECH

- » 11 tackles, 3.5 TFLs, 1.5 sacks, one pass breakup, and two quarterback hurries in 2022
- » Transferred from Virginia Tech with four years of eligibility remaining; sat out 2021 due to NCAA transfer rules
- » Played in one game as a freshman for Virginia Tech, at Virginia 12/12/20
- » Won Texas 5A state championship at Shadow Creek High School in 2019
- » Four-star recruit by Rivals was rated as the No. 13 weak-side defensive end in the country by 247Sports
- » Communication major



49 SETH COLEMAN

OLB, 6-5, 245, JR.

MELBOURNE, FLA. / HOLY TRINITY EPISCOPAL ACADEMY

- » 2022 All-Big Ten honorable mention (media)
- » Posted big game in win vs. Iowa (10/8/22) with 5 tackles (4 solo), 2.0 TFLs, 2.0 sacks, four QB hurries and a pass breakup that led to a fourth quarter interception on the drive following Illinois' go-ahead field goal
- » Ranked second on the team in QB hurries (10) and tied for second in sacks (4.5) in 2022
- » Key PBU led to Tarique Barnes interception in Illinois' win at No. 20 Minnesota (11/6/21)
- » Broke into the starting lineup in 2020 with four starts; Played 10 games (three starts) in 2021



33 EZEKIEL HOLMES

OLB, 6-5, 245, JR.

WICHITA FALLS, TEXAS / HIRSCHI

- » Played in first three games, including one start, before a season-ending injury vs. Virginia (9/10/22)
- » Played in all 12 games with five tackles and 1.0 TFL as a sophomore in 2021
- » Earned bachelor's degree in sociology and pursuing second bachelor's in communication
- » Plays the piano and drums, and also played basketball and threw shot put in high school
- » Three-star recruit rated as the NO. 60 weak-side defensive end in the nation by 247Sports



17 GABE JACAS

OLB, 6-3, 265, FR.

PORT ST. LUCIE, FLA. / FORT PIERCE CENTRAL

- » Only returning Big Ten West player that earned 2022 FWAA Freshman All-American honors
- » Ranked #69 on The Athletic's Freaks List
- » 2023 Preseason All-Big Ten fourth team (Athlon and Phil Steele)
- » 2022 All-Big Ten honorable mention (media)
- » Tied for the team lead with eighth tackles including two 1/2 sacks vs. Chattanooga (9/22/22)
- » Recorded 2.0 sacks vs. Virginia (9/10/22), becoming the first Illini true freshman with 2.0+ sacks in a game since Bobby Roundtree vs. Western Kentucky in 2017
- » Three-star recruit ranked No. 60 by 247Sports and No. 70 by On3 among edge rushers
- » Also a state champion and all-state wrestler at Fort Pierce Central
- » Community health major

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	UA	A	TOTAL	TFL-YDS	PD	FF	FR	BLK	SCK	INT
2020	VT	1	0	0	0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2021	ILL	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
2022	ILL	12	8	3	11	3.5-12	1	0	0	0	1.5	0
2023	ILL	1	0	1	1	0.5-1	0	0	0	0	0	0
ILL TOTAL		13	8	4	12	4-13	1	0	0	0	1.5	0
CAREER		14	8	4	12	4-13	1	0	0	0	1.5	0

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	UA	A	TOTAL	TFL-YDS	PD	FF	FR	BLK	SCK	INT
2019	ILL	3	0	0	0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2020	ILL	8	7	6	13	3.5-8	0	0	0	0	0	0
2021	ILL	10	13	9	22	3-14	2	1	1	0	2	0
2022	ILL	12	24	21	45	5-26	6	0	0	0	4.5	0
2023	ILL	1	2	0	2	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CAREER		34	46	36	82	11.5-48	8	1	1	0	6.5	0

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	UA	A	TOTAL	TFL-YDS	PD	FF	FR	BLK	SCK	INT
2019	ILL	1	0	0	0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2020	ILL	4	0	1	1	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2021	ILL	12	2	3	5	1-1	0	0	0	0	0	0
2022	ILL	3	2	1	3	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2023	ILL	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
CAREER		20	4	5	9	1-1	0	0	0	0	0	0

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	UA	A	TOTAL	TFL-YDS	PD	FF	FR	BLK	SCK	INT
2022	ILL	13	14	21	35	5-36	0	0	0	0	4	0
2023	ILL	1	2	1	3	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CAREER		14	16	22	38	5-36	0	0	0	0	4	0



LINEBACKERS



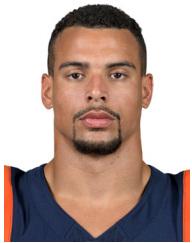
8 TARIQUE BARNES

LB, 6-1, 230, SR.
MEMPHIS, TENN. / CORDOVA

- » 2022 All-Big Ten honorable mention (coaches and media)
- » Voted team captain in 2022 and 2023
- » Recorded seven tackles including a sack and two TFLs in win over Toledo (9/2/23)
- » First on the team with a combined 125 tackles in 2021 (79) and 2022 (46) seasons
- » Recorded a career-high 12 tackles (six solo) at Wisconsin (10/9/21)
- » Two-time Academic All-Big Ten selection completed degree in advertising in May 2023, and is pursuing a master's in strategic brand communication

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	UA	A	TOTAL	TFL-YDS	PD	FF	FR	BLK	SCK	INT
2019	ILL	13	8	5	13	0-0	0	1	0	0	0	0
2020	ILL	5	12	13	25	1.5-10	0	0	1	0	1	1
2021	ILL	12	44	35	79	5.5-38	5	2	0	0	2	1
2022	ILL	13	35	11	46	8.5-26	2	0	0	0	1.5	0
2023	ILL	1	5	2	7	2-17	0	0	0	0	1	0
CAREER		44	104	66	170	17.5-91	7	3	1	0	5.5	2



34 RYAN MEED

LB, 6-1, 230, JR.
BROOKLYN, N.Y. / CANARSIE

- » Played in all 13 games in 2022, primarily on special teams
- » Made Illinois debut on special teams against Michigan State to help Illinois win 37-34 in the biggest comeback in program history
- » Two-time Academic All-Big Ten selection graduated with a degree in kinesiology in May 2023, and is pursuing a graduate certificate in strategic leadership & management
- » Also participated in track and field in high school

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	UA	A	TOTAL	TFL-YDS	PD	FF	FR	BLK	SCK	INT
2019	ILL	4	0	0	0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2020	ILL	4	1	0	1	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2021	ILL	7	0	0	0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2022	ILL	13	2	1	3	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2023	ILL	1	1	1	2	1-1	0	0	0	0	0	0
CAREER		29	4	2	6	1-1	0	0	0	0	0	0



39 KENENNA ODELUGA

LB, 6-1, 240, SO.
SOUTH HOLLAND, ILL. / MOUNT CARMEL

- » Played in all 13 games in 2022 and ranked seventh on the team in TFLs (3.5)
- » Led Mount Carmel to an undefeated season and a 7A State Championship as a junior in 2019
- » 2022 Academic All-Big Ten selection, majoring in finance
- » Cousin, Abuchi Obinwa, plays professional soccer for FC Tulsa of the USL

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	UA	A	TOTAL	TFL-YDS	PD	FF	FR	BLK	SCK	INT
2021	ILL	3	0	0	0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2022	ILL	13	5	3	8	3.5-15	1	0	0	0	2	0
2023	ILL	1	1	1	2	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CAREER		17	6	4	10	3.5-15	1	0	0	0	2	0



28 DYLAN ROSIEK

LB, 6-1, 230, SO.
EAST LAKE, FLA. / EAST LAKE

- » Tallied a career-high eight tackles, all solo, in first-career start vs. Toledo (9/2/23)
- » Played in all 13 games, primarily on special teams in 2022
- » Played in three games and redshirted as a true freshman in 2021
- » Three-star recruit by 247Sports and ESPN
- » Also ran wrestled in high school
- » Pursuing bachelor's degree in kinesiology

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	UA	A	TOTAL	TFL-YDS	PD	FF	FR	BLK	SCK	INT
2021	ILL	3	0	0	0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2022	ILL	13	4	4	8	1-2	0	0	0	0	0	0
2023	ILL	1	8	0	8	1-3	0	0	0	0	0	0
CAREER		17	12	4	16	2-5	0	0	0	0	0	0



DEFENSIVE BACKS



7 MATTHEW BAILEY

DB, 6-2, 205, SO.
MOLINE, ILL. / MOLINE

- » Recorded second-career interception in fourth quarter of Illinois' 9-6 win over Iowa (10/8/22)
- » Against Virginia (9/10/22), became the first true freshman in the nation to record a fumble recovery for a TD and an interception in the same game since 2006 (Jerrett Sanderson of Bowling Green vs. FIU)
- » 2021 Illinois High School Coaches Association 7A All-State first team
- » Three-star recruit by 247Sports, ranked No. 130 safety nationally, and the No. 37 player in Illinois
- » Set Moline records for single-season receiving yards (802) and touchdown receptions (10) as a senior



21 CLAYTON BUSH

DB, 6-1, 210, SR.
BOWLING GREEN, KY. / SOUTH WARREN / WESTERN KENTUCKY/SOUTHERN ILLINOIS

- » Started and tallied three tackles in Illini debut vs. Toledo (9/2/23)
- » Came to Illinois as a graduate transfer from SIU with one season of eligibility remaining
- » Started 34 games in three seasons at SIU after transferring from WKU following freshman season in 2019
- » Led South Warren High to a 15-0 record and a state championship as a senior in 2018
- » Completed graduate degree in university studies from Southern Illinois (May 2023) before transferring to Illinois where he is pursuing a graduate certificate in strategic brand communication



12 ELIJAH MC-CANTOS

DB, 6-0, 185, R-FR.
MIAMI, FLA. / EDISON

- » Played in four games and redshirted as a true freshman in 2022
- » First career tackle at Northwestern (11/26/22)
- » Three-star recruit by 247Sports, On3, and Rivals
- » Also participated in basketball, track, and wrestling in high school
- » Offers included Arizona St., Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Penn St., Syracuse, Wake Forest, & Washington St., among others



10 TAHVEON NICHOLSON

DB, 5-11, 180, JR.
JACKSONVILLE, FLA. / RIVERSIDE

- » Goes by "Taz"
- » Preseason All-Big Ten selection by PFF (third team) and Athlon (fourth team)
- » Started first 10 games at cornerback before missing the final three, including ReliaQuest Bowl, due to injury
- » Recorded first-career interception, and ranked second on the team with six tackles (all solo) in Illinois' 34-10 victory at Wisconsin (10/1/22)
- » Two-time Academic All-Big Ten performer pursuing bachelor's in recreating, sport & tourism
- » Attended Palmetto Prep Academy for one year following high school and played defensive back and wide receiver



10 MILES SCOTT

DB, 5-11, 210, SO.
DOLTON, ILL. / ST. THOMAS MORE

- » Scored 48-yard Pick-6 in first career game on defense in Illini's 30-28 win over Toledo (9/2/23), and was graded by PFF as the No. 1 DB and No. 3 defensive player overall (first in BIG) in Week 1 by to PFF
- » Began career at Illinois as a wide receiver before switching to defensive back during 2023 spring practice
- » Played in four games and redshirted as a true freshman in 2021
- » Also ran track in high school
- » Pursuing bachelor's degree in kinesiology



14 XAVIER SCOTT

DB, 5-11, 190, SO.
RIVIERA BEACH, FLA. / DWYER

- » Led the Illinois secondary with two PBUs in season-opening win over Toledo (9/2/23)
- » Played in 11 games during the 2022 season
- » Made first start of career in the ReliaQuest Bowl (1/2/23)
- » Career-high six tackles at Michigan (11/19/22), and in bowl game vs. Mississippi State (1/2/23)
- » Also played basketball in high school and was an all-county selection
- » Majoring in general studies



20 TYLER STRAIN

DB, 5-9, 190, SO.
PACE, FLA. / PACE

- » Played in 12 games during the 2022 season, and made first start of career in the ReliaQuest Bowl (1/2/23)
- » Played in four games and redshirted as a true freshman in 2021
- » Recorded interceptions against Purdue (11/12/22) and at Northwestern (11/26/22)
- » Three-star recruit by 247Sports and ESPN, ranked No. 114 CB nationally by 247Sports
- » Pursuing bachelor's degree in recreation, sport, & tourism.

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	UA	A	TOTAL	TFL-YDS	PD	FF	FR	BLK	SCK	INT
2022	ILL	13	7	3	10	0-0	2	0	1	0	0	3
2023	ILL	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
CAREER		13	7	3	10	0-0	2	0	1	0	0	3

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	UA	A	TOTAL	TFL-YDS	PD	FF	FR	BLK	SCK	INT
2019	WKU	13	2	2	4	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2020	SIU	10	31	14	45	1-8	1	1	0	0	1	1
2021	SIU	13	40	23	63	1.5-1	4	0	1	0	0	3
2022	SIU	11	34	14	48	1-2	3	0	0	0	1	1
2023	ILL	1	1	2	3	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CAREER		48	108	55	163	3.5-11	8	1	1	0	2	5

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	UA	A	TOTAL	TFL-YDS	PD	FF	FR	BLK	SCK	INT
2022	ILL	4	0	1	1	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2023	ILL	1	2	2	4	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CAREER		5	2	3	5	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	UA	A	TOTAL	TFL-YDS	PD	FF	FR	BLK	SCK	INT
2021	ILL	8	9	2	11	0-0	2	0	0	0	0	0
2022	ILL	10	18	1	19	1-3	6	1	0	0	0	1
2023	ILL	1	3	2	5	0-0	0	1	0	0	0	0
CAREER		19	30	5	35	1-3	8	2	0	0	0	1

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	UA	A	TOTAL	TFL-YDS	PD	FF	FR	BLK	SCK	INT
2021	ILL	4	0	0	0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2022	ILL	13	0	0	0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2023	ILL	1	5	1	6	0-0	1	0	0	0	0	1
CAREER		18	5	1	6	0-0	1	0	0	0	0	1

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	UA	A	TOTAL	TFL-YDS	PD	FF	FR	BLK	SCK	INT
2022	ILL	11	13	2	15	0-0	1	1	0	0	0	0
2023	ILL	1	4	0	4	0-0	2	0	0	0	0	0
CAREER		12	17	2	19	0-0	3	1	0	0	0	0

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	UA	A	TOTAL	TFL-YDS	PD	FF	FR	BLK	SCK	INT
2021	ILL	4	1	1	2	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2022	ILL	12	8	6	14	0.5-0	3	0	0	0	0	2
2023	ILL	1	1	0	1	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CAREER		17	10	7	17	0.5-0	3	0	0	0	0	2

SPECIALISTS



5 CALEB GRIFFIN

K, 6-3, 220, SR.

DANVILLE, ILL. / DANVILLE

- » 2023 preseason All-Big Ten second team (PFF) and third team (Athlon, Phil Steele)
- » 2022 All-Big Ten honorable mention (coaches)
- » Game-winning 29-yard FG in Illinois' 30-28 win over Toledo (9/2/23) with 5 seconds left in game; marked first game-winning FG by an Illini kicker since James McCourt made a 47-yarder with 3 seconds left in a 23-20 victory at Rutgers (11/14/20), and first at Memorial Stadium since McCourt hit from 39 as time expired to defeat No. 6 Wisconsin, 24-23 (10/19/19)
- » Recorded career-long 52-yard field goal vs. Mississippi State in the 2023 ReliaQuest Bowl (1/2/23)
- » Also played wide receiver during 2021 spring practices
- » Four sport athlete at Danville High School (football, baseball, basketball, soccer)
- » Holds bachelor's degree in marketing and master's degree in management; pursuing second master's in strategic brand communication



36 LANE HANSEN

LS, 6-0, 220, SO.

EAST LAKE, FLA. / EAST LAKE

- » Handled long-snapping duties on both punts and field goal/PAT situations in season-opener vs. Toledo
- » Brother, Jake, played linebacker at Illinois from 2016-21 and now plays in the NFL for the Houston Texans
- » Father, Shad Hansen, played football at BYU from 1989-92 and is the school's all-time leading tackler (408)
- » Majoring in kinesiology



19 HUGH ROBERTSON

P, 6-2, 225, SO.

MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA / ASSUMPTION COLLEGE KILMORE

- » Holder in place-kicking situations, including Caleb Griffin's last-minute game winner vs. Toledo (9/2/23)
- » Recorded career-long 64-yard punt at No. 3 Michigan (11/19/22)
- » Placed four punts inside the 20-yard line in Illinois' 9-6 victory over Iowa (10/8/22)
- » Born in 1993 and graduated high school in 2011; enters 2023 with three years of eligibility remaining
- » Former member of the Australian Army, also played Australian rules football before coming to Illinois
- » Chose Illinois, in part, because fellow Australian and former Illini punter Blake Hayes spoke so highly of the university and football program
- » Majoring in management

KICKING STATISTICS

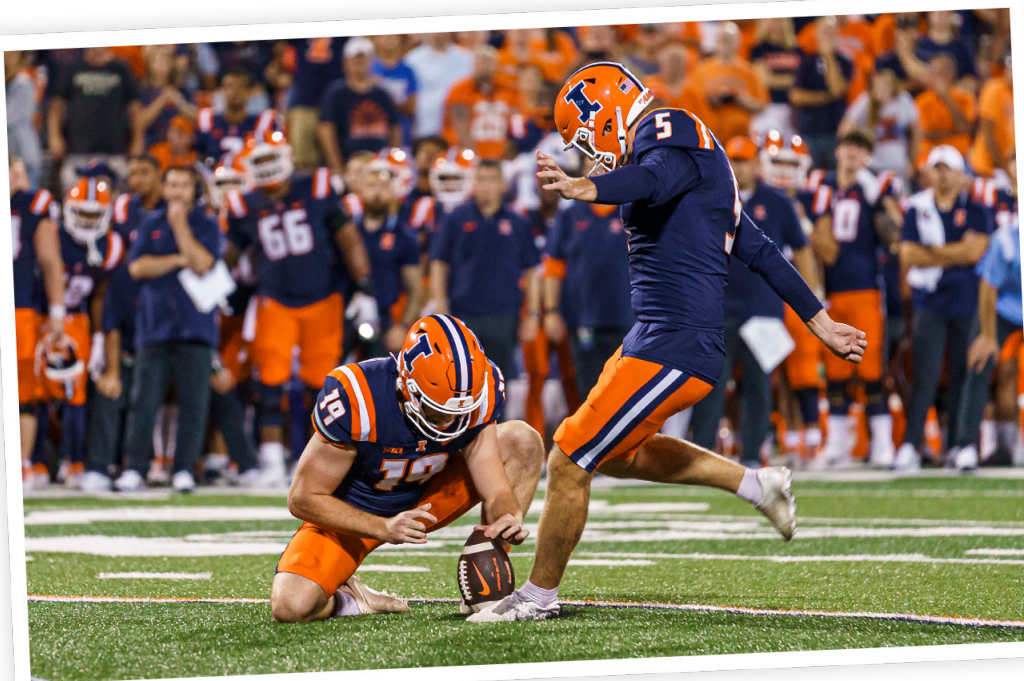
YEAR	TEAM	G	PAT	FG	I20	0-29	30-39	40-49	50+	PTS	LG
2019	ILL	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
2019	ILL	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
2020	ILL	4	5-5	1-1	0-0	1-1	0-0	0-0	0-0	8	28
2021	ILL	2	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0
2022	ILL	11	32-32	14-19	0-0	5-5	4-5	4-6	1-3	74	52
2023	ILL	1	3-3	1-1	0-0	1-1	0-0	0-0	0-0	3	29
CAREER		18	40-40	16-21	0-0	7-7	4-5	4-6	1-3	85	52

START STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	START
2021	ILL	--	--
2022	ILL	10	0
2023	ILL	1	1
CAREER		1	1

PUNTING STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	NO.	YDS	LNG	AVG	TB	FC	I20	50+	BLK
2020	ILL	2	1	38	38	38.0	0	1	0	0	0
2021	ILL	1	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0
2022	ILL	13	61	2440	64	40.0	5	25	18	10	0
2023	ILL	1	3	132	47	44.0	0	2	1	0	0
CAREER		17	65	2610	64	40.2	5	28	19	10	0



EXCELLENCE IN THE CLASSROOM

The 2023 Fighting Illini roster features 17 student-athletes that already earned undergraduate degrees and are currently pursuing second bachelor's degree's or are enrolled in master's or certificate programs at the University of Illinois. Three Illini have already earned a post-graduate degree or certificate.

STUDENT-ATHLETE	UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE EARNED	POST-GRAD DEGREE EARNED
Bryce Barnes	August 2023 Graduate: Community Health	
Tarique Barnes	May 2023 Graduate: Advertising	
Clayton Bush	May 2023 Graduate: University Studies (Southern Illinois University)	
Denzel Daxon	December 2022 Graduate: Physical Activity & Sports Coaching (Ohio University)	
TeRah Edwards	August 2023 Graduate: Communication	
Caleb Griffin	August 2021 Graduate: Marketing	May 2022 Graduate: Master of Science, Management
Aidan Hall	May 2023 Graduate: Systems Engineering & Design	
Nicario Harper	May 2022 Graduate: Integrated Studies (Jacksonville State University)	May 2023: Earned Certificate in Health Communication
Ezekiel Holmes	August 2022 Graduate: Sociology	
Evan Kirts	May 2023 Graduate: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism	
Ryan Meed	May 2023 Graduate: Kinesiology	
Griffin Moore	May 2023 Graduate: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism	
John Paddock	May 2022 Graduate: Professional Selling (Ball State University)	May 2023: Earned Certificate in Health Communication
Julian Pearl	May 2023 Graduate: Sociology	
Jordyn Slaughter	May 2022 Graduate: Sociology	
Casey Washington	August 2023 Graduate: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism	
Isaiah Williams	August 2023 Graduate: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism	

ACADEMIC MAJORS — FALL 2023

Aamland, Zach: General Studies
 Adams, Isaiah: Sociology
 Adams, Weston: Engineering Tech. & Management for Ag Systems
 Altmyer, Luke: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism
 Anderson, Jordan: General Studies
 Anderson, Owen: General Studies
 Arkin, Tanner: Kinesiology
 Badie, Jared: Communication
 Bailey, Matthew: Kinesiology
 Barlev, Zach: Kinesiology
 Barnes, Bryce: Health Communication (certificate)
 Barnes, Tarique: Strategic Brand Communication (master's)
 Battle, Keion: Interdisciplinary Health Sciences
 Beatty, Hank: Business Undeclared
 Bobak, Matthew: Advertising
 Boyer, Henry: Business Undeclared
 Bush, Clayton: Health Communication (certificate)
 Bray, Alexander: General Studies
 Bryant, Alec: Communication
 Bryant, Patrick: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism
 Bufkin, CJ: Advertising
 Capka-Jones, Alexander: Communication
 Clarke, Jaheim: Urban Studies & Planning
 Clawson, Ben: Advertising
 Coleman, Seth: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism
 Crisler, Zylon: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism
 Davis, Dylan: History
 Daxon, Denzel: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism (master's degree)
 Dixon, Collin: General Studies
 Duley, Declan: Community Health
 Edwards, TeRah: Strategic Brand Communication (master's)
 Elias, Luciano: General Studies
 Elzy, Malik: General Studies
 Engbers, Joep: General Studies
 Engel, Henry: Mechanical Engineering
 Etienne, Jean-Marc: Economics
 Farrell, Patrick: General Studies
 Feagin, Kaden: General Studies
 Fedanzo, Nick: Advertising
 Ford, Prince: Communication

Gesky, Josh: Kinesiology
 Griffin, Caleb: Strategic Brand Communication (master's)
 Griffin, Grayson: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism
 Griffin, TJ: Organizational & Community Leadership
 Guinn, Nathan: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism
 Hale, Devin: Community Health
 Hall, Aidan: Systems and Entrepreneurial Engineering (master's)
 Hansen, Lane: Kinesiology
 Harper, Nicario: Strategic Brand Communication (certificate)
 Hayden, Jolo: General Studies
 Henderson, Brandon: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism
 Hill, Demetrius: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism
 Hollins, Ashton: General Studies
 Holmes, Ezekiel: Communication
 Hood, Malachi: Political Science
 Huber, Jacob: Mechanical Engineering
 Jacas, Gabe: Community Health
 Karriem, Saboor: Financial Planning
 Kirts, Evan: Management (master's)
 Kreutz, James: General Studies
 Kreutz, Josh: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism
 Laughery, Aidan: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism
 Leary, Donovan: General Studies
 Leonard, Clayton: Kinesiology
 Leys, Will: Biochemistry
 Lorenzo, Christian: English
 Love, Reggie: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism
 Mahoney, Patrick: Journalism
 Manning, Mike: Psychology
 Mc-Cantos, Elijah: General Studies
 McClure, Tyler: Financial Planning
 McConnell, Sedarius: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism
 McCray, Josh: Communication
 McLaughlin, Alex: Financial Planning
 McMillen, TJ: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism
 Meed, Ryan: Strategic Leadership & Management (certificate)
 Michaux, Kirkland: Agribusiness, Markets, & Management
 Miller, Chase: Communication
 Miller, Shawn: Communication
 Moeller, Magnus: Philosophy

Moore, Griffin: Management (master's)
 Muragin, Mason: General Studies
 Newton, Johnny: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism
 Nicholson, Taz: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism
 Odeluga, Kenenna: Finance
 Okla, Joey: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism
 Olano, David: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism
 Paddock, John: Strategic Leadership & Management (certificate)
 Patterson, Kaleb: Community Health
 Pearl, Julian: Health Communication (certificate)
 Pinton, Fabrizio: Public Policy & Law
 Poynton, Ronan: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism
 Pugh, Eian: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism
 Randolph, Keith: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism
 Rashad, Corey: Engineering Undeclared
 Reiman, Tip: Kinesiology
 Resetich, Mac: General Studies
 Robertson, Hugh: Management
 Rooks, Tyson: General Studies
 Rosiek, Dylan: Kinesiology
 Schmitt, John: Special Education
 Schultz, Ben: Agribusiness, Markets, & Management
 Schuster, Dezmund: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism
 Scott, Miles: Kinesiology
 Scott, Xavier: General Studies
 Slaughter, Jordyn: Communication
 Smith, Calvin: ACES Undeclared
 Strain, Tyler: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism
 Swanson, Cal: Communication
 Tobe, Zach: General Studies
 True, Nick: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism
 Tsagalis, Sam: Integrative Biology
 Turner, Solomon: Organizational & Community Leadership
 Warren, Jeremiah: ACES Undeclared
 Washington, Casey: Health Communication (certificate)
 Whitenack, Hunter: General Studies
 Wilcher, Kenari: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism
 Williams, Isaiah: Strategic Brand Communication (certificate)
 Zardzin, Luke: Recreation, Sport, & Tourism

SERIES vs. KANSAS

Series: 3-2

Last: Kansas 47, Illinois 7 (9/21/68 at Illinois)

Streak: L1

at Lawrence: 0-1 (L, 26-4 in 1892)

Bielema vs. Kansas: 0-0



ILLINOIS
KANSAS

"I" Men's Day - Illinois Loyalty Day

Saturday, Sept. 21, 1968
Kickoff 1:30 P.M.

PROGRAM
50c
MAGAZINE

The 1968 Illinois-Kansas game program.

The Illinois-Kansas Series

- Saturday's game will be the sixth meeting between Illinois and Kansas.
- The teams have not met since 1968 in Champaign, when Illinois snapped a three-game winning streak over Kansas with a 47-7 loss.
- Illinois will visit Lawrence, Kansas for the first time in 131 years.
- The last time Illinois visited Lawrence, it was the 16th game in program history. Saturday's game will be the 1,298th game in Illini history.
- When Illinois last visited Lawrence in 1892, it was part of a three-game, four-day swing through the state of Kansas. The Illini played Baker in Baldwin City on Oct. 26 (W, 26-10), then played at KU the next day on Oct. 27 (L, 26-4), before taking a day off Oct. 28 and playing Kansas City Athletic Club in Kansas City, Kansas on Oct. 29 (W, 42-0).

Illinois-Kansas all-time results:

Saturday, September 21	1968	Home	Champaign, Ill.	L	7-47
Saturday, October 5	1929	Home	Champaign, Ill.	W	25-0
Saturday, October 6	1917	Home	Champaign, Ill.	W	22-0
Saturday, October 7	1916	Home	Champaign, Ill.	W	30-0
Thursday, October 27	1892	Away	Lawrence, Kan.	L	4-26

Illinois-Kansas Connections

- Illinois and Kansas will also meet in men's basketball next month. The Jayhawks travel to Champaign for an Oct. 29 exhibition game in Bill Self's return to State Farm Center. The matchup will benefit the Maui Strong relief efforts, as both teams are frequent visitors to the Maui Invitational.
- Illinois Director of College Personnel and NFL Liaison Jay Kaiser is a native of Liberal, Kansas.



BRET BIELEMA

- HEAD COACH
- IOWA '92
- THIRD SEASON AT ILLINOIS

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 COACHING EXPERIENCE

2023 ReliaQuest Bowl

2016 Belk Bowl

2015 Liberty Bowl

2014 Texas Bowl

2012 Rose Bowl

2011 Rose Bowl

2009 Champs Sports Bowl

2008 Champs Sports Bowl

2008 Outback Bowl

2007 Capital One Bowl

2006 Capital One Bowl

2005 Outback Bowl

2004 Fiesta Bowl

2002 Holiday Bowl

2001 Alamo Bowl

1997 Sun Bowl

1996 Alamo Bowl

1995 Sun Bowl

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 25 years of collegiate coaching experience and compiled a 14-year record of 110-70 (.611) as head coach at Wisconsin, Arkansas, and Illinois.

From 2006-12 Bielema was the head coach at Wisconsin, where he led the Badgers to three 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.

Bielema, who signed a six-year agreement in 2022 that will keep him at Illinois through 2028, guided the Fighting Illini to an 8-5 record in 2022 and led Illinois back to a bowl game in just his second season in Champaign. In 14 years as a Power 5 head coach, Bielema has led 11 of his teams - including last year's Illinois squad - to bowls.

Bielema's coaching pedigree and list of football mentors matches that of any coach in the nation. He played for and coached under Hall-of-Famer Hayden Fry at Iowa, spent two years as Co-Defensive Coordinator at Kansas State under Hall-of-Famer

Bill Snyder, served as defensive coordinator at Wisconsin under Hall-of-Famer Barry Alvarez before taking over as head coach when Alvarez retired, and helped six-time Super Bowl champion head coach Bill Belichick to the Super Bowl LIII title with New England.

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 Nichole.

YEAR-BY-YEAR

2021-	Illinois	Head Coach (14-12)
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	W-L	POSTSEASON
2006	Wisconsin	12-1 (.923)	Capital One Bowl
2007	Wisconsin	9-4 (.692)	Outback Bowl
2008	Wisconsin	7-6 (.538)	Champs Sports Bowl
2009	Wisconsin	10-3 (.769)	Champs Sports Bowl
2010	Wisconsin	11-2 (.846)	Rose Bowl
2011	Wisconsin	11-3 (.786)	Rose Bowl
2012	Wisconsin	8-5 (.615)	(Did not coach Rose Bowl)
2013	Arkansas	3-9 (.250)	
2014	Arkansas	7-6 (.538)	Texas Bowl
2015	Arkansas	8-5 (.615)	Liberty Bowl
2016	Arkansas	7-6 (.538)	Belk Bowl
2017	Arkansas	4-8 (.333)	
2021	Illinois	5-7 (.417)	
2022	Illinois	8-5 (.636)	ReliaQuest Bowl
2023	Illinois	1-0 (1.000)	

TOTAL: 15TH YEAR // OVERALL: 111-70 // BIG TEN: 47-28



OFFENSIVE ASSISTANTS



BARRY LUNNEY JR. OFFENSIVE COORDINATOR/QUARTERBACKS

GAME DAY LOCATION: BOOTH

Barry Lunney Jr. is in his second season as Illinois' offensive coordinator. Lunney and Illinois head coach Bret Bielema were reunited after Lunney spent five years as the tight ends coach at Arkansas under Bielema from 2013-17. Lunney's position group - the quarterbacks - was the most improved position for the Illini year-over-year, as the Illini ranked third in the nation in completion percentage (69.6%), a rise of 122 spots in the national rankings. Starting quarterback Tommy DeVito ranked third in the nation individually in completion percentage, and his 141.22 pass efficiency rating ranked second in Illinois history and sixth in the Big Ten. DeVito, a former starter at Syracuse, posted career highs in completions (257), passing yards (2,650), completion percentage (69.6%), passing efficiency (141.22), and rushing touchdowns (6) under Lunney's offense. Lunney came to Champaign from UTSA, where he served as associate head coach/offensive coordinator/quarterbacks coach in 2020 and 2021. Lunney helped bring UTSA to new heights during his time in San Antonio, reaching No. 15 in the national rankings in 2021. UTSA opened the 2021 season with 11 straight wins, won its first Conference USA championship with a 49-41 win over Western Kentucky in the C-USA title game, and appeared in the Frisco Bowl. Lunney and his wife, Janelle, have two sons, Luke and Levi.



ROBBY DISCHER SPECIAL TEAMS COORDINATOR/TIGHT ENDS

GAME DAY LOCATION: FIELD

Robby Discher is in his first season as Illinois' special teams coordinator/tight ends coach in 2023. Discher came to Illinois from Tulane, where he helped the Green Wave to AAC and Cotton Bowl championships as special teams coordinator last season. Discher spent one season at Tulane, one of the best in program history, as Green Wave finished 12-2 and ranked No. 9 in the final AP Poll. Tulane's special teams ranked in the top 30 in six major categories, including punt return defense (3rd, 1.1), blocked kicks (19th, 3), yards per kick return (20th, 22.9), kickoff touchbacks (23rd, 47), yards per punt return (28th, 9.9), and kick return defense (29th, 17.6). Discher had individuals rank in the top 10 in the nation in both kickoff and punt returns, as Lawrence Keys III averaged 27.1 yards per kickoff return to rank eighth in the nation and Jha'Quan Jackson averaged 10.1 yards per punt return to rank 10th in the nation. Tulane's return units combined to outgain their opponents by 478 yards in 2022, with the kick units going +260 yards (754-494) and the punt units posting a margin of +218 yards (227-9) on the season. Discher arrived at Tulane following a season as the special teams quality control coach for the 14-1 National Champion Georgia Bulldogs in 2021. Discher and the former Erin Wilson were married in July 2017. He has two stepchildren, Connor and Sydney. The couple has a baby girl, Quinn, who was born in February 2018.



GEORGE MCDONALD ASSISTANT HEAD COACH/WIDE RECEIVERS

GAME DAY LOCATION: FIELD

George McDonald is in his third season as assistant head coach/wide receivers coach at the University of Illinois in 2023. McDonald returned to his alma mater following six seasons at North Carolina State and with experience in three Power-5 conferences and the NFL. In 2022, McDonald's wide receivers group was led by All-Big Ten wide receiver Isaiah Williams, who ranked in the top 10 in the Big Ten in receptions per game (2nd, 6.3), receiving yards (7th, 715), receiving touchdowns (10th, 5), and receiving yards per game (10th, 55). Williams was second in the nation in yards after catch (683), according to PFF, and ranked 15th in the nation in receiving yards (6.3). Illinois was the only team in the Big Ten that featured four wide receivers with 30+ receptions. McDonald was a four-year letterwinner at receiver for the Fighting Illini and completed his Illinois football career with 57 receptions for 589 yards and four touchdowns. He led the Big Ten in kickoff return yardage in 1996 (736) while returning 57 kickoffs for 1,276 yards (22.4 avg.) during his career. McDonald also ran track his freshman and senior years. He and his wife, the former Heather Anderson, have two sons, Roman and Maverick.



BART MILLER OFFENSIVE LINE

GAME DAY LOCATION: FIELD

Bart Miller is in his third season as offensive line coach at the University of Illinois in 2023. Miller joined Bret Bielema's coaching staff for the second time and came to Champaign-Urbana after two successful seasons as offensive line coach and offensive run-game coordinator at Wyoming. Miller's offensive line group was one of the most dominant for the Illini in 2022, as Illinois' offensive line was named a Joe Moore Award semifinalist for the first time in program history. All five starters on the offensive line earned All-Big Ten honors and RT Alex Palczewski was the first tackle in Illinois history to earn a first-team All-American selection. The offensive line also paved the way for running back Chase Brown, who ranked fourth in the nation in rushing and was Illinois' first ever Doak Walker Award finalist. As a player at the University of New Mexico from 2003-07 under head coach Rocky Long, Miller was a starter and two-year letterman on the offensive line. He played football and graduated from Elk Grove High School in the Chicago area prior to completing his bachelor's degree in organizational communication from New Mexico in 2007. Originally from Omaha, Nebraska, Miller and his wife, Amy, have two sons, Barrett and Gunner.



THAD WARD RUNNING BACKS

GAME DAY LOCATION: FIELD

Thad Ward is in his fourth season and second stint as running backs coach at Illinois in 2023. Ward brought over 20 years of college football coaching experience back to Champaign, including three years as running backs coach at Illinois from 2016-18, when he was rehired in January 2023. Ward rejoins the Fighting Illini from Kansas State, where he was the wide receivers coach in 2022 for K-State's Big XII championship team. Kansas State went 10-4, including a 31-28 win over eventual national runner-up TCU in the Big XII title game, and earned a spot in the New Year's Six (Sugar Bowl) before finishing the season ranked No. 14 in the final AP Top 25. Ward's wideouts were the top three receivers for the Wildcats, combining for 139 receptions for 1,768 and 11 receiving touchdowns, and two were signed to NFL clubs following the season - Malik Knowles (Minnesota) and Kade Warner (Tampa Bay). Ward has deep roots in the state of Illinois with over a decade of coaching experience in the state. He first spent time in the state of Illinois for six seasons at Western Illinois (2005-10), then for three seasons at both Northern Illinois (2013-15) and Illinois (2016-18). He and his wife, Jocelyn, have two daughters, Jayda and Journie, and one son, Thaddaeus, Jr.

GRADUATE ASSISTANTS / ANALYSTS

Vincent Jefferies Jr. - Graduate Assistant Coach, Offense
Tyler King - Graduate Assistant Coach, Offense
Artur Sitkowski - Student Assistant Coach
Ben Miller - Head Coach Analyst
Adam Kleffner - Offensive Analyst
Danny Cameron - Offensive Quality Control
Max Rosenthal - Offensive/Special Teams Quality Control

DEFENSIVE ASSISTANTS



AARON HENRY DEFENSIVE BACKS

GAME DAY LOCATION: FIELD

Aaron Henry was promoted to Illinois' defensive coordinator in December 2022 after spending two seasons as the Illini's defensive backs coach. Henry led one of the nation's best defensive backs units in his first two seasons in Champaign and was the 2022 FootballScoop Defensive Backs Coach of the Year. He was the youngest coordinator in the Big Ten when he took over for Illinois at the 2023 ReliaQuest Bowl. Henry's unit was the best in the nation against the pass in 2022, as Illinois led the nation in scoring defense (12.8), interceptions (24), takeaways (32), and passing efficiency defense (92.64). The Illini's pass efficiency defense of 92.64 was more than 10 points better than the next-best defense (Penn State, 103.24), nearly 40 points better than the median pass defense, and trailed only 2013 Michigan State (92.28) for the best in the last decade. Illinois also ranked second in the nation in fewest passing touchdowns allowed (9), second in fewest yards per passing attempt (5.4), eighth in fewest passing yards allowed per game (173.8), as well as seventh in fewest first downs allowed (199), ninth in third down defense (30.1%), and 10th in rushing defense (99.8). Henry and his wife, Camille, married in January 2022 and welcomed twins, Harlow Madison and Dakota Savoy, in 2023.



TERRANCE JAMISON CO-DEFENSIVE COORDINATOR/DEFENSIVE LINE

GAME DAY LOCATION: FIELD

Terrance Jamison was promoted to co-defensive coordinator/defensive line coach in 2023 following two seasons as defensive line coach for the Fighting Illini. Jamison led one of the best defensive line units in the nation in 2022, helping Illinois to its best season in 15 years. Illinois led the nation in scoring defense (12.8), takeaways (32), and passing efficiency defense (92.6) with the defensive line playing a major role in the unit's success. Illinois also ranked in the top 10 in the nation in total defense (3rd, 273.5), rushing defense (10th, 99.8), fewest first downs allowed (7th, 199), and third down defense (9th, 30.1%). In Jamison's defensive line room, All-American DT Jer'Zhan Newton tied for the national lead in QB hits (19), ranked seventh in the nation in pressures (59), and together with All-Big Ten DT Keith Randolph the duo led the nation in quarterback pressures among defensive line partners with 81. Newton tied for the nation lead in TFLs among interior defensive linemen with 14.0, while Randolph ranked third in the country among interior d-line players with 13.0 TFLs. A native of Harvey, Illinois, who graduated from Thornton Township High School. He and his wife, Ashley, have two daughters, Ava and Mackenzie, and one son, Jayce.



ANDY BUH LINEBACKERS

GAME DAY LOCATION: FIELD

Andy Buh enters his third season at Illinois in 2022. Buh enters 2023 with 25 years of collegiate coaching experience, including four different stops as defensive coordinator in three Power-5 conferences. Last year, Buh's linebacker group was led by All-Big Ten honorable mention performers Isaac Darkangelo and Tarique Barnes. Darkangelo led the Illini in tackles with 71 and Illinois' rotation of three main linebackers combined for 139 tackles and 17.5 tackles for loss. Bielema and Buh spent the 2012 season together at Wisconsin helping the Badgers win the Big Ten Championship. Buh also spent time in the Big Ten as defensive coordinator and linebackers coach at Rutgers in 2019 and three years as defensive coordinator at Maryland from 2016-18. He also served as a coordinator earlier in his career at California, Nevada and Stanford. Buh had a successful three-year run at Maryland, guiding a Terrapins defense that collected 37 sacks in 2016. Buh's defense allowed just one 300-yard passer in his first season at Maryland and allowed just 212.3 passing yards per game on the season. The following year, Buh's defense collected 10 interceptions and saw four players earn All-Big Ten honors. A native of Escondido, California, Buh and his wife, Kelly, have two sons, Luke and Logan. He earned his bachelor's degree in physical education at Nevada in 1995.



CHARLIE BULLEN PASS RUSH COORDINATOR/OUTSIDE LINEBACKERS

GAME DAY LOCATION: BOOTH

Charlie Bullen is in his first season as the Illinois football program's outside linebackers coach/pass rush coordinator after being hired by head coach Bret Bielema in January 2023. Bullen joined the Fighting Illini with 11 years of NFL coaching experience, including the last four years with the Arizona Cardinals. Bullen spent the last three seasons as the Cardinal's outside linebackers coach after originally joining the Cardinals staff as assistant linebackers coach for the 2019 season. He also has seven years of NFL experience with the Miami Dolphins from 2012-18 working with the linebackers and defensive line. With the help of Bullen's outside linebacker group, the Cardinals ranked fifth in the NFL with 89 total sacks during the two-year span from 2020-21. Of those, 50 came via the outside linebackers position. During that span, three Cardinals outside linebackers posted 10+ sacks: Markus Golden, Chandler Jones, and Haason Reddick. Bullen is native of Palatine, Illinois, and a graduate of Fremd High School. Bullen and his wife, Megan, have three daughters, Elle, Berkley and Nellie, and are expecting their fourth child and first son.



ANTONIO FENELUS DEFENSIVE BACKS

GAME DAY LOCATION: FIELD

Antonio Fenelus was named Illinois' new defensive backs coach on Dec. 30, 2022. A former All-Big Ten first-team selection at Wisconsin, Fenelus has spent the 2021 and 2022 seasons as a defensive analyst at LSU. Fenelus is with Bielema, his college head coach, and defensive coordinator Aaron Henry, his college teammate. A four-year letterwinner at Wisconsin, Fenelus helped Wisconsin to Big Ten titles in 2010 and 2011, including a win in the inaugural Big Ten Football Championship Game in 2011. He was a two-time All-Big Ten first-team selection, earning the honor after 56 tackles, four interceptions, and seven pass breakups as a junior, then again as a senior when he had 51 tackles, 3.0 TFLs, four interceptions, and nine pass breakups. In his career, Fenelus recorded 155 tackles, 22 passes defensed, nine interceptions and three forced fumbles in 52 games (32 starts). As a senior, he earned UW's Jimmy Demetral Team MVP award for defense. Following his collegiate career, Fenelus signed as an undrafted free agent with the Indianapolis Colts before stints with the Saskatchewan Roughriders of the Canadian Football League and the Arizona Rattlers of the Arena Football League. Fenelus and his wife, Jordan, have four children, Alani, Arrow, Ace, and A.J.

GRADUATE ASSISTANTS / ANALYSTS

- Grant Morgan - Graduate Assistant Coach, Defense
- Alex Panos - Graduate Assistant Coach, Defense
- Jim Leonhard - Senior Football Analyst
- Kevin Laeone Richardson II - Defensive Analyst
- Chris Hurd - Special Teams Analyst
- Ryan Simerson - Defensive Quality Control

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing

Player	gp	att	gain	loss	net	avg	td	lg	avg/g
Luke Altmeyer	1	9	77	8	69	7.7	0	18	69.0
Reggie Love III	1	12	65	7	58	4.8	0	29	58.0
Josh McCray	1	11	30	0	30	2.7	1	6	30.0
Isaiah Williams	1	2	7	0	7	3.5	0	5	7.0
Team	1	1	0	1	-1	-1.0	0	0	-1.0
Total	1	35	179	16	163	4.7	1	29	163.0
Opponents	1	42	208	22	186	4.4	1	24	186.0

Passing

Player	gp	effic	comp-att-int	pct	yds	td	lg	avg/g
Luke Altmeyer	1	155.1	18-26-1	69.2	211	2	33	211.0
Total	1	155.1	18-26-1	69.2	211	2	33	211.0
Opponents	1	118.7	20-37-1	54.1	230	2	36	230.0

Receiving

Player	gp	no.	yds	avg	td	lg	avg/g
Pat Bryant	1	6	64	10.7	2	18	64.0
Isaiah Williams	1	5	51	10.2	0	20	51.0
Casey Washington	1	4	54	13.5	0	33	54.0
Tip Reiman	1	2	33	16.5	0	17	33.0
Reggie Love III	1	1	9	9.0	0	9	9.0
Total	1	18	211	11.7	2	33	211.0
Opponents	1	20	230	11.5	2	36	230.0

Scoring

Player	td	fg	PAT				dxp	saf	pts
			kick	rush	rcv	pass			
Pat Bryant	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	
Caleb Griffin	-	1-1	3-3	-	-	-	-	6	
Josh McCray	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	
Miles Scott	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	
Total	4	1-1	3-3	0	0	0	0	30	
Opponents	3	3-3	1-1	0	0	0	0	28	

Field Goals

Player	fg	pct.	01-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-99	lg	blk
Caleb Griffin	1-1	100.0	0-0	1-1	0-0	0-0	0-0	29	0
Opponents	3-3	100.0	0-0	2-2	0-0	1-1	0-0	44	0

FG Sequence

Team Name	Illinois	Opponents
Toledo	(29)	(27),(25),(44)

Numbers in (parentheses) indicate field goal was made

Punt Returns

Player	no.	yds	avg	td	lg
Total	0	0	0.0	0	0
Opponents	1	4	4.0	0	4

Interceptions

Player	no.	yds	avg	td	lg
Miles Scott	1	48	48.0	1	48
Total	1	48	48.0	1	48
Opponents	1	0	0.0	0	0

Kick Returns

Player	no.	yds	avg	td	lg
Pat Bryant	2	39	19.5	0	24
Reggie Love III	1	7	7.0	0	7
Aidan Laughery	1	17	17.0	0	17
Henry Boyer	1	14	14.0	0	14
Total	5	77	15.4	0	24
Opponents	4	61	15.3	0	20

Fumble Returns

Player	no.	yds	avg	td	lg
Total	0	0	0.0	0	0
Opponents	0	0	0.0	0	0

Total Offense

Player	g	plays	rush	pass	total	avg/g
Luke Altmeyer	1	35	69	211	280	280.0
Reggie Love III	1	12	58	0	58	58.0
Josh McCray	1	11	30	0	30	30.0
Isaiah Williams	1	2	7	0	7	7.0
Team	1	0	-1	0	-1	-1.0
Total	1	61	163	211	374	374.0
Opponents	1	79	186	230	416	416.0

Punting

Player	no.	yds	avg	lg	tb	fc	i20	50+	blk
Hugh Robertson	3	132	44.0	47	0	2	1	0	0
Total	3	132	44.0	47	0	2	1	0	0
Opponents	3	107	35.7	43	0	2	1	0	0

Kickoffs

Player	no.	yds	avg	tb	ob	retn	net	ydln
Caleb Griffin	6	383	63.8	2	0			
Total	6	383	63.8	2	0	4	45.3	19
Opponents	7	395	56.4	2	0	5	38.3	26

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

##	Player	gp	Tackles				Sacks	Pass defense			Fumbles		blkd	
			ua	a	tot	tfl/yds		no-yds	int-yds	brup	qbh	fr-yds	ff	kick	saf
28	Dylan Rosiek	1	8	.	8	1-3	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
8	Tarique Barnes	1	5	2	7	2-17	1-16	.	.	1	.	.	.	
10	Miles Scott	1	5	1	6	.	.	1-48	1	.	.	.	.
88	Keith Randolph Jr.	1	3	3	6	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
3	Tahveon Nicholson	1	3	2	5	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.
14	Xavier Scott	1	4	.	4	.	.	.	2	.	.	.	.
48	Bryce Barnes	1	3	1	4	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
12	Elijah Mc-Cantos	1	2	2	4	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
6	Denzel Daxon	1	1	2	3	0.5-1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
17	Gabe Jacas	1	2	1	3	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
21	Clayton Bush	1	1	2	3	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
4	Jer'Zhan Newton	1	2	1	3	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
49	Seth Coleman	1	2	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
34	Ryan Meed	1	1	1	2	1-1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
41	James Kreutz	1	1	1	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
39	Kenenna Odeluga	1	1	1	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
23	TeRah Edwards	1	2	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
83	Keion Battle	1	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
20	Tyler Strain	1	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
13	Calvin Smith	1	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
90	Alec Bryant	1	.	1	1	0.5-1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
55	Sed McConnell	1	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
47	Mac Resetich	1	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Totals		1	50	22	72	5-23	1-16	1-48	3	1	0-0	1	0	0
Opponents		1	44	14	58	4-15	2-8	1-0	3	2	0-0	0	0	0

TEAM STATISTICS

	ILLINI	OPP
Scoring	30	28
Points per game	30.0	28.0
Points Off Turnovers	7	0
First Downs	20	27
Rushing	10	11
Passing	9	11
Penalty	1	5
Rushing Yardage	163	186
Yards gained rushing	179	208
Yards lost rushing	16	22
Rushing attempts	35	42
Average per rush	4.7	4.4
Average per game	163.0	186.0
TDs Rushing	1	1
Passing Yardage	211	230
Comp-Att-Int	18-26-1	20-37-1
Average per pass	8.1	6.2
Average per catch	11.7	11.5
Average per game	211.0	230.0
TDs Passing	2	2
Total offense	374	416
Total plays	61	79
Average per play	6.1	5.3
Average per game	374.0	416.0
Kick returns: #-Yards	5-77	4-61
Punt returns: #-Yards	0-0	1-4
Int returns: #-Yards	1-48	1-0
Kick return average	15.4	15.3
Punt return average	0.0	4.0
Int return average	48.0	0.0
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	2-0
Penalties-Yards	10-100	7-40
Average per game	100.0	40.0
Punts-Yards	3-132	3-107
Average per punt	44.0	35.7
Net punt average	42.7	35.7
Kickoffs-Yards	6-383	7-395
Average per kick	63.8	56.4
Net kick average	45.3	38.3
Time of possession / game	27:03	32:57
3rd-down conversion	3/9	7/15
3rd-down pct	33%	47%
4rd-down conversion	2/3	2/2
4rd-down pct	67%	100%
Sacks by-Yards	1-16	2-8
Misc Yards	0	0
Touchdowns scored	4	3
Field goals - attempts	1-1	3-3
On-Side kicks	0-0	0-0
Red-zone scores	(4-4) 100%	(5-5) 100%
Red-zone touchdowns	(3-4) 75%	(3-5) 60%
PAT-attempts	(3-3) 100%	(1-1) 100%
2-point conversion-attempts	(0-1) 0%	(0-2) 0%
Attendance	48898	0
Games / Avg per game	1/48898	0/0
Neutral site games	-	0/0

Score by Periods

Team	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	OT	TOT
Illinois	7	0	13	10	0	30
Opponents	3	9	7	9	0	28

RED ZONE STATISTICS

Illinois Inside Opponent Red-Zone

Date	Opponent		Score	Times	Times	Total		Rush	Pass	FGs	Failed to score inside RZ					
				In RZ	Scored	Pts	TDs	TDs	TDs	Made	FGA	Down	Int	Fumb	Half	Game
09/02/2023	Toledo	W	30-28	4	4	23	3	1	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Totals 4 of 4 (100.0%)				4	4	23	3	1	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0

Opponents Inside Illinois Red-Zone

Date	Opponent		Score	Times	Times	Total		Rush	Pass	FGs	Failed to score inside RZ					
				In RZ	Scored	Pts	TDs	TDs	TDs	Made	FGA	Down	Int	Fumb	Half	Game
09/02/2023	Toledo	W	30-28	5	5	25	3	1	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	0
Totals 5 of 5 (100.0%)				5	5	25	3	1	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	0

BALL CONTROL STATISTICS

3rd-Down Conversions

Date	Opponent	Score	Overall	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	Overtime
09/02/2023	Toledo	W 30-28	3-9 33.3	1-2 50.0	0-2 0.0	1-1 100.0	1-4 25.0	0-0 0.0
Illinois			3-9 33.3	1-2 50.0	0-2 0.0	1-1 100.0	1-4 25.0	0-0 0.0
Opponents			7-15 46.7	2-3 66.7	2-6 33.3	1-3 33.3	2-3 66.7	0-0 0.0

4th-Down Conversions

Date	Opponent	Score	Overall	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	Overtime
09/02/2023	Toledo	W 30-28	2-3 66.7	0-0 0.0	0-1 0.0	0-0 0.0	2-2 100.0	0-0 0.0
Illinois			2-3 66.7	0-0 0.0	0-1 0.0	0-0 0.0	2-2 100.0	0-0 0.0
Opponents			2-2 100.0	0-0 0.0	2-2 100.0	0-0 0.0	0-0 0.0	0-0 0.0

Time of Possession

Date	Opponent	Score	Overall	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	Overtime
09/02/2023	Toledo	W 30-28	27:03	08:02	04:40	06:24	07:57	00:00
Illinois			Total 27:03	08:02	04:40	06:24	07:57	00:00
			Avg. 27:03	08:02	04:40	06:24	07:57	00:00
Opponents			Total 32:57	04:43	12:35	08:12	07:27	00:00
			Avg. 32:57	04:43	12:35	08:12	07:27	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			
Toledo	30-28	20 / 27	10 / 11	9 / 11	1 / 5	35-163 / 42-186	18-26-1 / 20-37-1	211 / 230	61-374 / 79-416	125 / 65	1 / 1
Totals	30-28	20 / 27	10 / 11	9 / 11	1 / 5	35-163 / 42-186	18-26-1 / 20-37-1	211 / 230	61-374 / 79-416	125 / 65	1 / 1

Opponents	3rd Down	4th Down	Time of Possession	TOP Margin	Avg Yds/Rush	Avg Yds/Pass	Avg Yds/Play	Punting Number-Avg	Penalties Number-Yards	Sacks
	Conversion	Conversion								
Toledo	3-9 / 7-15	2-3 / 2-2	27:03 / 32:57	-05:54	4.7 / 4.4	8.1 / 6.2	6.1 / 5.3	3-44.0 / 3-35.7	10-100.0 / 7-40.0	1 / 2
Totals	3-9 / 7-15	2-3 / 2-2	27:03 / 32:57	-05:54	4.7 / 4.4	8.1 / 6.2	6.1 / 5.3	3-44.0 / 3-35.7	10-100.0 / 7-40.0	1 / 2

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	WR	WR	WR/TE
Toledo	Pearl	Adams	Kreutz	Gesky	Crisler	Altmyer	Love III	Reiman	Williams	Bryant	Washington
<i>Consecutive</i>	12	14	1	1	14	1	1	14	14	4	1
<i>Career</i>	28	14	1	1	14	1	2	17	23	15	15

DEFENSIVE STARTERS

GAME	OLB	DT	NT	DT	LB	LB	FS	SS	DB	DB	DB
Toledo	Coleman	Randolph	Daxon	Newton	T. Barnes	Rosiek	M. Scott	Bush	X. Scott	Strain	Nicholson
<i>Consecutive</i>	4	2	1	23	22	1	1	1	2	2	1
<i>Career</i>	20	20	1	28	26	1	2	1	2	2	13

2023 ILLINOIS BIG PLAYS

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

Player	Run	Pass	Rec	Def	ST	Tot
Altmyer	0	2	0	0	0	2
Love III	1	0	0	0	0	1
Williams	0	0	1	0	0	1
Washington	0	0	1	0	0	1

Toledo (3)

2Q	29	Love III rush
2Q	20	Altmyer pass to Williams
4Q	33	Altmyer pass to Washington

ILLINOIS SCORING DRIVES

Toledo

1st	9:47	TD	McCray, Josh 1 yd rush (Griffin, Caleb kick)	10/75/5:13
3rd	8:13	TD	Scott, Miles 48 yd interception return	
3rd	1:23	TD	Bryant, Pat 4 yd reception thrown by Altmyer, Luke	11/55/4:59
4th	13:05	TD	Bryant, Pat 9 yd reception thrown by Altmyer, Luke (Griffin, Caleb kick)	7/63/02:19
4th	:05	FG	Griffin, Caleb 29 yd Field Goal	12/64/02:50

SUPERLATIVE STATISTICS

ILLINOIS TEAM GAME HIGHS

RUSHES	35	Toledo (09/02/2023)
YARDS RUSHING	163	Toledo (09/02/2023)
YARDS PER RUSH	4.7	Toledo (09/02/2023)
TD RUSHES	1	Toledo (09/02/2023)
PASS ATTEMPTS	26	Toledo (09/02/2023)
PASS COMPLETIONS	18	Toledo (09/02/2023)
YARDS PASSING	211	Toledo (09/02/2023)
YARDS PER PASS	8.1	Toledo (09/02/2023)
TD PASSES	2	Toledo (09/02/2023)
TOTAL PLAYS	61	Toledo (09/02/2023)
TOTAL OFFENSE	374	Toledo (09/02/2023)
YARDS PER PLAY	6.1	Toledo (09/02/2023)
POINTS	30	Toledo (09/02/2023)
SACKS BY	1	Toledo (09/02/2023)
FIRST DOWNS	20	Toledo (09/02/2023)
PENALTIES	10	Toledo (09/02/2023)
PENALTY YARDS	100	Toledo (09/02/2023)
TURNOVERS	1	Toledo (09/02/2023)
PUNTS	3	Toledo (09/02/2023)
PUNTING AVG	44.0	Toledo (09/02/2023)
LONG PUNT	47	Toledo (09/02/2023)
PUNTS INSIDE 20	1	Toledo (09/02/2023)
LONG PUNT RETURN	0	Toledo (09/02/2023)

OPPONENT TEAM GAME HIGHS

RUSHES	42	Toledo (09/02/2023)
YARDS RUSHING	186	Toledo (09/02/2023)
YARDS PER RUSH	4.4	Toledo (09/02/2023)
TD RUSHES	1	Toledo (09/02/2023)
PASS ATTEMPTS	37	Toledo (09/02/2023)
PASS COMPLETIONS	20	Toledo (09/02/2023)
YARDS PASSING	230	Toledo (09/02/2023)
YARDS PER PASS	6.2	Toledo (09/02/2023)
TD PASSES	2	Toledo (09/02/2023)
TOTAL PLAYS	79	Toledo (09/02/2023)
TOTAL OFFENSE	416	Toledo (09/02/2023)
YARDS PER PLAY	5.3	Toledo (09/02/2023)
POINTS	28	Toledo (09/02/2023)
SACKS BY	2	Toledo (09/02/2023)
FIRST DOWNS	27	Toledo (09/02/2023)
PENALTIES	7	Toledo (09/02/2023)
PENALTY YARDS	40	Toledo (09/02/2023)
TURNOVERS	1	Toledo (09/02/2023)
PUNTS	3	Toledo (09/02/2023)
PUNTING AVG	35.7	Toledo (09/02/2023)
LONG PUNT	43	Toledo (09/02/2023)
PUNTS INSIDE 20	1	Toledo (09/02/2023)
LONG PUNT RETURN	4	Toledo (09/02/2023)

SUPERLATIVE STATISTICS

ILLINOIS INDIVIDUAL GAME HIGHS

RUSHES	12	Reggie Love III vs Toledo (09/02/2023)
YARDS RUSHING	69	Luke Altmeyer vs Toledo (09/02/2023)
TD RUSHES	1	Josh McCray vs Toledo (09/02/2023)
LONG RUSH	29	Reggie Love III vs Toledo (09/02/2023)
PASS ATTEMPTS	26	Luke Altmeyer vs Toledo (09/02/2023)
PASS COMPLETIONS	18	Luke Altmeyer vs Toledo (09/02/2023)
YARDS PASSING	211	Luke Altmeyer vs Toledo (09/02/2023)
TD PASSES	2	Luke Altmeyer vs Toledo (09/02/2023)
LONG PASS	33	Luke Altmeyer vs Toledo (09/02/2023)
RECEPTIONS	6	Pat Bryant vs Toledo (09/02/2023)
YARDS RECEIVING	64	Pat Bryant vs Toledo (09/02/2023)
TD RECEPTIONS	2	Pat Bryant vs Toledo (09/02/2023)
LONG RECEPTION	33	Casey Washington vs Toledo (09/02/2023)
PUNTS	3	Hugh Robertson vs Toledo (09/02/2023)
PUNTING AVG	44.0	Hugh Robertson vs Toledo (09/02/2023)
LONG PUNT	47	Hugh Robertson vs Toledo (09/02/2023)
PUNTS INSIDE 20	1	Hugh Robertson vs Toledo (09/02/2023)
LONG PUNT RETURN	none	
LONG KICKOFF RETURN	24	Pat Bryant vs Toledo (09/02/2023)
TACKLES	8	Dylan Rosiek vs Toledo (09/02/2023)
SACKS	1	Tarique Barnes vs Toledo (09/02/2023)
TACKLES FOR LOSS	2	Tarique Barnes vs Toledo (09/02/2023)

OPPONENT INDIVIDUAL GAME HIGHS

RUSHES	20	Dequan Finn vs Toledo (09/02/2023)
YARDS RUSHING	82	Jacquez Stuart vs Toledo (09/02/2023)
TD RUSHES	1	Dequan Finn vs Toledo (09/02/2023)
LONG RUSH	24	Dequan Finn vs Toledo (09/02/2023)
PASS ATTEMPTS	36	Dequan Finn vs Toledo (09/02/2023)
PASS COMPLETIONS	20	Dequan Finn vs Toledo (09/02/2023)
YARDS PASSING	230	Dequan Finn vs Toledo (09/02/2023)
TD PASSES	2	Dequan Finn vs Toledo (09/02/2023)
LONG PASS	36	Dequan Finn vs Toledo (09/02/2023)
RECEPTIONS	6	Junior Vanderross III vs Toledo (09/02/2023)
YARDS RECEIVING	80	Junior Vanderross III vs Toledo (09/02/2023)
TD RECEPTIONS	1	Jerjuan Newton vs Toledo (09/02/2023)
	1	Peny Boone vs Toledo (09/02/2023)
LONG RECEPTION	36	Junior Vanderross III vs Toledo (09/02/2023)
FIELD GOALS	3	Luke Pawlak vs Toledo (09/02/2023)
LONG FIELD GOALS	44	Luke Pawlak vs Toledo (09/02/2023)
PUNTS	3	Emilio Duran vs Toledo (09/02/2023)
PUNTING AVG	35.7	Emilio Duran vs Toledo (09/02/2023)
LONG PUNT	43	Emilio Duran vs Toledo (09/02/2023)
PUNTS INSIDE 20	1	Emilio Duran vs Toledo (09/02/2023)
LONG PUNT RETURN	4	Adam Beale vs Toledo (09/02/2023)
LONG KICKOFF RETURN	20	Jacquez Stuart vs Toledo (09/02/2023)
TACKLES	9	Dallas Gant vs Toledo (09/02/2023)
SACKS	1.5	Terrance Taylor vs Toledo (09/02/2023)
TACKLES FOR LOSS	3	Terrance Taylor vs Toledo (09/02/2023)
INTERCEPTIONS	1	Maxen Hook vs Toledo (09/02/2023)

GAME SUMMARIES



GAME 1

TOLEDO28
 ILLINOIS.....30

SEPT. 2, 2023

MEMORIAL STADIUM // CHAMPAIGN, ILL. // 48,898

SCORING BY QUARTER

Team	1	2	3	4	F
Toledo	3	9	7	9	28
Illinois	7	0	13	10	30

SCORING SUMMARY

First Quarter

ILL: McCray 1 yd rush (Griffin kick) 9:47 (10/75/5:13)
 TOL: Pawlak 27 yd FG 5:04 (11/78/4:40)

Second Quarter

TOL: Pawlak 25 yd FG 4:37 (14/77/06:28)
 TOL: Newton 15 yd pass from Finn (9/73/1:23)

Third Quarter

TOL: Boone 9 yd pass from Finn (Pawlak kick) 11:23 (9/75/3:37)
 ILL: M. Scott 48 yd INT return (Griffin Kick) 8:13
 ILL: Bryant 4 yd pass from Altmyer 1:23

Fourth Quarter

ILL: Bryant 9 yd pass from Altmyer (Griffin Kick) 13:05 (7/63/2:19)
 TOL: Pawlak 44 yd FG 9:38 (8/52/3:22)
 TOL: Finn 1 yd rush 2:59 (8/60/3:55)
 ILL: Griffin 29 yd FG :05 (12/64/2:50)

TEAM STATISTICS

Category	TOL	ILL
First Downs	28	20
Rushes-Yards	42-186	35-163
Passing Yards	230	211
Comp-Att-Int	20-37-1	18-26-1
Total Yards	416	374
Punts-Avg	3-35.7	3-44
Kickoff Returns	4-61	5-77
Penalties-Yards	7-40	10-100
Fumbles-Lost	2-0	0
Sacks By	2	1
Third-down Conv.	7-15	3-9
Time of Possession	32:57	25:37

INDIVIDUAL LEADERS

PASSING (Comp-Att-Yds-TD-INT): ILL - Altmyer 18-26-211-2-1
 TOL - Finn 20-36-230-2-1

RUSHING (Carries-Yards-TD): ILL - Altmyer 9-69-0
 TOL - Stuart 12-82-0

RECEIVING (Rec-Yards-TD): ILL - Bryant 6-64-2
 TOL - Vanderross III 6-80-0

TACKLE LEADERS (Tackles, TFL-Yds): ILL - Rosiek 8, 1-3 Barnes 7, 2-17
 TOL - Gant 9, 0 Taylor 6, 3-12

GAME NOTES

- Illinois trailed by as many as 12 points (19-7), marking its largest comeback win since the school-record 25-point come-from-behind win at Michigan State on Nov. 9, 2019.
- Illinois' defense held Toledo to just 57 second-half rushing yards, after the Rockets rushed for 129 yards in the first half.
- DB Miles Scott recorded his first-career interception with a 48-yard TD return in the third quarter.

NCAA RANKINGS
TEAM RANKINGS (131 teams ranked)

CATEGORY	NCAA	BIG	STAT
3rd Down Conversion Pct	.83	7	0.33
3rd Down Conversion Pct Defense	.99	10	0.467
4th Down Conversion Pct	.42	4	0.667
4th Down Conversion Pct Defense	.101	11	1.000
Completion Percentage	.44	4	0.692
Defensive TDs	1	1	1
Fewest Penalties	107	12	100
Fewest Penalties Per Game	115	12	10
Fewest Penalty Yards	111	12	100
Fewest Penalty Yards Per Game	120	12	100.00
First Downs Defense	101	11	27
First Downs Offense	75	6	20
Fumbles Lost	1	1	0
Fumbles Recovered	NR	NR	0
Kickoff Return Defense	.41	5	15.25
Kickoff Returns	.86	9	15.40
Net Punting	.38	7	42.67
Passes Had Intercepted	.58	8	1
Passes Intercepted	.34	2	1
Passing Offense	.74	7	211.0
Passing Yards Allowed	.75	10	230.0
Passing Yards per Completion	.61	4	11.72
Punt Return Defense	.78	5	4.0
Punt Returns	.72	10	0.00
Red Zone Defense	.71	9	1.000
Red Zone Offense	.1	1	1.000
Rushing Defense	.103	12	186.0
Rushing Offense	.56	4	163.0
Sacks Allowed	.76	9	2.00
Scoring Defense	.86	11	28.0
Scoring Offense	.65	6	30
Tackles for Loss Allowed	.31	2	4
Team Passing Efficiency	.44	3	155.09
Team Passing Efficiency Defense	.62	10	118.70
Team Sacks	.71	7	1.00
Team Tackles for Loss	.65	4	5.0
Time of Possession	.97	10	27:03
Total Defense	.95	11	416.0
Total Offense	.71	7	374.0
Turnover Margin	.53	7	0.00
Turnovers Gained	.48	2	1
Turnovers Lost	.40	8	1
Winning Percentage	.1	1	1.000

NCAA INDIVIDUAL RANKINGS (Top-50)

CATEGORY	PLAYER	STAT	RANK
All Purpose Yards	N/A		
Completion Percentage	Altmyer	69.2	42
Field Goal Per Game	Griffin	1.0	35
Fumbles Recovered	N/A		
Interceptions Per Game	M. Scott	1.0	8
Passes Defended	X. Scott	2.0	9
Passing Efficiency	Altmyer	155.1	44
Punt Returns	N/A		
Receptions Per Game	N/A		
Rushing TDs	N/A		
Rushing Yards	N/A		
Rushing Yards Per Game	N/A		
Interceptions	M. Scott	1	10
Total Touchdowns	C. Brown	2	19

AP TOP 25 - PRESEASON

Rk	Last	Team	Conf.	W-L	Pts.	Poll	Coaches	Last Game
1	1	Georgia (60)	SEC	0-0	1572	*1		
2	3	Michigan (2)	Big Ten	0-0	1490	2		
3	4	Ohio State (1)	Big Ten	0-0	1400	*4		
4	5	Alabama	SEC	0-0	1398	*3		
5	16	LSU	SEC	0-0	1276	5		
6	12	USC	Pac-12	0-0	1245	6		
7	7	Penn State	Big Ten	0-0	1177	7		
8	11	Florida State	ACC	0-0	1147	8		
9	13	Clemson	ACC	0-0	1032	9		
10	8	Washington	Pac-12	0-0	977	11		
11	25	Texas	Big 12	0-0	882	12		
12	6	Tennessee	SEC	0-0	868	10		
13	18	Notre Dame	Ind	0-0	863	13		
14	10	Utah	Pac-12	0-0	811	14		
15	15	Oregon	Pac-12	0-0	732	15		
16	14	Kansas State	Big 12	0-0	501	17		
17	2	TCU	Big 12	0-0	416	16		
18	17	Oregon State	Pac-12	0-0	406	18		
19	NR	Wisconsin	Big Ten	0-0	386	21		
20	NR	Oklahoma	Big 12	0-0	296	19		
21	NR	North Carolina	ACC	0-0	292	20		
22	NR	Mississippi	SEC	0-0	281	22		
23	NR	Texas A&M	SEC	0-0	227	25		
24	9	Tulane	AAC	0-0	224	23		
25	NR	Iowa	Big Ten	0-0	131	RV		
RV NR		Texas Tech	Big 12		101	24		
RV 23		South Carolina	SEC		73	RV		
RV 21		UCLA	Pac-12		66	RV		
RV NR		UTSA	C-USA		64	RV		
RV NR		Arkansas	SEC		22	RV		
RV NR		Boise State	MWC		17	RV		
RV 22		Pittsburgh	ACC		16	RV		
RV NR		Kentucky	SEC		14	RV		
RV 19		Troy	Sun Belt		10	RV		
RV NR		Kansas	Big 12		10	RV		
RV NR		Louisville	ACC		10	NR		
RV NR		Auburn	SEC		7	RV		
RV NR		Minnesota	Big Ten		6	RV		
RV 20		Mississippi State	SEC		4	RV		
RV NR		Duke	ACC		4	RV		
RV NR		Florida	SEC		4	RV		
RV NR		Toledo	MAC		4	RV		
RV NR		Baylor	Big 12		3	RV		
RV NR		Coastal Carolina	Sun Belt		3	NR		
RV NR		Illinois	Big Ten		3	RV		
RV NR		James Madison	Sun Belt		1	RV		
RV NR		Liberty	Ind		1	NR		
RV NR		NC State	ACC		1	RV		
RV NR		South Alabama	Sun Belt		1	RV		

BIG TEN STANDINGS

WEST DIVISION	BIG	PCT.	ALL	PCT.	HOME	AWAY	NEUT	STREAK
Minnesota	1-0	1.000	1-0	1.000	1-0	0-0	0-0	W1
Illinois	0-0	.000	1-0	1.000	1-0	0-0	0-0	W1
Iowa	0-0	.000	1-0	1.000	1-0	0-0	0-0	W1
Wisconsin	0-0	.000	1-0	1.000	1-0	0-0	0-0	W1
Purdue	0-0	.000	0-1	.000	0-1	0-0	0-0	L1
Nebraska	0-1	.000	0-1	.000	0-0	0-1	0-0	L1
Northwestern	0-1	.000	0-1	.000	0-0	0-1	0-0	L1

EAST DIVISION	BIG	PCT.	ALL	PCT.	HOME	AWAY	NEUT	STREAK
Ohio State	1-0	1.000	1-0	1.000	0-0	1-0	0-0	W1
Rutgers	1-0	1.000	1-0	1.000	1-0	0-0	0-0	W1
Maryland	0-0	.000	1-0	1.000	1-0	0-0	0-0	W1
Michigan	0-0	.000	1-0	1.000	1-0	0-0	0-0	W1
Michigan State	0-0	.000	1-0	1.000	1-0	0-0	0-0	W1
Penn State	0-0	.000	1-0	1.000	1-0	0-0	0-0	W1
Indiana	0-1	.000	0-1	.000	0-1	0-0	0-0	L1

STARTERS BY POSITION

OFFENSE

Pos.	#	Player	Starts
QB	9	Luke Altmyer	1
RB	23	Reggie Love III	1
WR	1	Isaiah Williams	1
	13	Pat Bryant	1
	14	Casey Washington	1
TE	89	Tip Reiman	1
OL	54	Julian Pearl	1
	64	Josh Kreutz	1
	72	Zy Crisler	1
	73	Josh Gesky	1
	78	Isaiah Adams	1

DEFENSE

Pos.	#	Player	Starts
DL	4	Jer'Zhan Newton	1
	6	Denzel Daxon	1
	88	Keith Randolph Jr.	1
LB	8	Tarique Barnes	1
	28	Dylan Rosiek	1
OLB	49	Seth Coleman	1
DB	3	Tahveon Nicholson	1
	10	Miles Scott	1
	14	Xavier Scott	1
	20	Tyler Strain	1
	21	Clayton Bush	1

SPECIAL TEAMS

Pos.	#	Player	Starts
K	5	Caleb Griffin	1
P	19	Hugh Robertson	1
LS	36	Lane Hansen	1

CAREER STARTS ILLINOIS GAMES ONLY

PLAYER	'23	'22	'21	'20	'19	TOT
Newton, Jer'Zhan	1	13	11	3	--	28
Pearl, Julian	1	12	11	4	--	28
Barnes, Tarique	1	13	10	2	0	26
Williams, Isaiah	1	13	5	4	--	23
Coleman, Seth	1	12	3	4	0	20
Randolph, Keith	1	12	7	0	0	20
Reiman, Tip	1	13	3	0	--	17
Bryant, Pat	1	11	3	--	--	15
Washington, Casey	1	3	5	1	5	15
Adams, Isaiah	1	13	--	--	--	14
Crisler, Zy	1	13	--	--	--	14
Nicholson, Tahveon	1	10	2	--	--	13
Jacas, Gabe	0	8	--	--	--	8
Barnes, Bryce	0	0	0	2	--	2
Love III, Reggie	1	1	0	0	--	2
Scott, Miles	1	0	1	--	--	2
Scott, Xavier	1	1	--	--	--	2
Slaughter, Jordyn	0	1	0	1	--	2
Strain, Tyler	1	1	--	--	--	2
Altmyer, Luke	1	--	--	--	--	1
Bailey, Matthew	--	1	--	--	--	1
Barlev, Zach	0	0	1	--	--	1
Bush, Clayton	1	--	--	--	--	1
Daxon, Denzel	1	--	--	--	--	1
Gesky, Josh	1	0	0	--	--	1
Holmes, Ezekiel	--	1	--	--	--	1
Kreutz, Josh	1	0	--	--	--	1
McCray, Josh	0	0	1	--	--	1
Rosiek, Dylan	1	0	0	--	--	1

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

THE LAST TIME (TEAM)

	Illinois	Opponent
80 points:	87 vs. Illinois Wesleyan (87-3), 10/5/1912	--
70 points:	79 vs. Illinois State (79-6), 9/16/1944	70, Michigan (70-21), 11/7/1981
60 points:	65 at Michigan (65-67), 11/6/2010	63, Maryland (63-33), 10/27/2018
50 points:	55 vs. Minnesota (55-31), 11/3/2018	56, at Penn State (21-56), 12/19/2020
40 points:	47 vs. Northwestern, 11/27/2021	42, at Virginia (14-42), 9/11/2021
Allowed 0 points:	vs. Chattanooga, (31-0) 09/22/2022	
Allowed 0 points in 2nd half:	at Nebraska (26-9) 10/29/2022	
Did not score a touchdown:	vs. Iowa (9-6) 10/8/2022	Iowa (6-9) 10/8/2022
400 rushing yards:	430 vs. Minnesota, 11/3/2018	411, at Northwestern, 12/12/2020
300 rushing yards:	357 at Penn State 10/23/2021	330, at Indiana, 09/2/2022
200 rushing yards:	220 vs. Minnesota, 10/15/2022	253, at Penn State, 12/19/2020
Three 70+ yard runs:	3 (72, 72, 77) vs. Minnesota, 11/3/2018	
Fewer than 100 rushing yards:	35 vs. Mississippi State, 1/2/2023	60, Nebraska, 10/29/2022
Fewer than 50 yards rushing:	35 vs. Mississippi State, 1/2/2023	2, Wisconsin, 10/1/2022
Fewer than 20 yards rushing:	14 vs. Northwestern 11/30/2019	2, Wisconsin, 10/1/2022
Negative yards net rushing:	-27 vs. Arizona, 9/18/1993	-10, Murray State, 9/3/2016
One first down:		Missouri, 9/10/1994
Zero first downs:		Michigan, 10/27/1934
400 passing yards:	450 vs. Purdue, 10/4/2014	423, at Virginia, 9/11/2021
300 passing yards:	335 vs. Chattanooga, 09/22/2022	330, at Indiana, 9/2/2022
Fewer than 100 passing yards:	80 at Minnesota 11/3/2021	38, Minnesota, 10/15/2022
4 TD catches by tight ends:	4 vs. Miami (Ohio), 9/28/2013	
700 total net yards:	723 vs. Illinois-Normal, 9/16/1944	712, Maryland, 10/27/2018
600 total net yards:	646 vs. Minnesota, 11/3/2018	674, vs. Nebraska, 9/21/2019
500 total net yards:	502 vs. Chattanooga 09/22/2022	556, at Virginia, 9/11/2021
400 total net yards:	441 vs. Michigan State, 11/5/2022	416, Toledo 9/2/2023
Fewer than 200 total net yards:	93 vs. Wisconsin 10/9/2021	180, Minnesota 10/15/2022
Fewer than 100 total net yards:	93 vs. Wisconsin 10/9/2021	96, South Dakota State, 9/10/2011
9+ sacks in a game:	9 at Purdue, 11/3/2001	
6+ sacks in a game:	6 at Minnesota 11/3/2021	7, vs. Mississippi State, 1/2/2023
No sacks allowed:	vs. #3 Michigan 11/19/2022	7, vs. Mississippi State, 1/2/2023
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, vs. Mississippi State, 1/2/2023
10+ passes broken up:	11 vs. Illinois State, 9/12/2009	
Forced 5+ turnovers:	5 at Nebraska, 11/21/2020	
Turned ball over 5+ times:	6 vs. Louisiana Tech, 9/22/2012	
No turnovers:	vs. Minnesota 10/15/22	
Back-to-back games with no turnovers:	at Nebraska, 11/21/2020 and vs. Iowa, 12/5/2020	
Successful two-point conversion:	vs. Michigan State, 11/5/2022	Nebraska, 9/21/2019
Two successful two-point conversions:	at Ohio State (2), 11/3/2012	Northwestern (2), 11/29/2014
Five field goals:	5 vs. Wisconsin, 10/20/2001	
Missed extra point kick:	at Nebraska 10/29/2022	Michigan State, 11/5/2022
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 at Penn State, 20-8 (90T), 10/23/21	
Overtime game at home:	Loss vs. Purdue, 34-31 (OT), 10/8/2016	
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	

THE LAST TIME (INDIVIDUAL)

	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 10/23/21	224, Mohamed Ibrahim, Minnesota, 11/7/2020
150 yards rushing:	180, Chase Brown vs. Minnesota 10/15/2022	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	Mellusi (145), Allen (131), Wisconsin 10/9/2021
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, 09/25/2021 and at	
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:	Tommy DeVito (3) at Wisconsin, 10/1/2022	
2+ TDs rushing by a QB:	Tommy DeVito (3) at Wisconsin, 10/1/2022	
Receiving		
200 yards receiving:	200, Mike Dudek vs. Purdue, 10/4/2014	246, Roy Roundtree, Michigan, 11/6/2010
150 yards receiving:	178, Josh Imatorbhebe at Michigan State, 11/9/2019	156, Cam Camper, Indiana, 9/2/2022
100 yards receiving:	120, Isaiah Williams vs. Mississippi State, 1/2/2023	156, Cam Camper, Indiana, 9/2/2022
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:	83, Josh Imatorbhebe from Brandon Peters at Michigan State, 11/9/2019	75, Penn State (Sean Clifford to Jahan Dotson), 12/19/2020
60+ yard pass play:	63, Isaiah Williams from Tommy Devito vs. Chattanooga, 09/22/2022	62, Virginia (Brennan Armstrong to Lavel Davis Jr.), 9/10/2022
50+ yard pass play:	56, Casey Washington from Brandon Peters vs NW, 11/27/2021	62, Virginia (Brennan Armstrong to Lavel Davis Jr.), 9/10/2022
10+ receptions:	10, Isaiah Williams vs. Mississippi State, 1/2/2023	11, Cam Camper, Indiana, 9/2/2022
Two receivers with 2 TDs:	Will Judson and Chris Duval vs. Missouri, 8/30/2008	
Three receiving TDs:	A.J. Jenkins (3) vs. Northwestern, 10/1/2011	
Offensive lineman caught a pass:	Jeff Allen, (1 rec., 2 yds) vs. Southern Illinois, 9/11/2010	
Offensive lineman scored a TD:	Corey Lewis, fumble recovery in end zone at Indiana, 11/9/2013	
Passing		
600 yards passing:	621, Dave Wilson at Ohio State, 11/8/1980	
500 yards passing:	621, Dave Wilson at Ohio State, 11/8/1980	
400 yards passing:	456, Wes Lunt vs. Western Kentucky, 9/6/2014	405, Brennan Armstrong, at Virginia, 9/11/2021
300 yards passing:	329, Tommy Devito, vs. Chattanooga, 09/22/2022	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:	Nathan Scheelhaase (5) vs. Miami (Ohio), 9/28/2013	Brennan Armstrong (5) at Virginia, 9/11/2021
4 TDs passing:	Brandon Peters (4) at UConn, 9/7/2019	
3 TDs passing:	Tommy Devito (3) vs. Chattanooga, 09/22/2022	
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:	Tommy DeVito (11) at. Nebraska, 10/29/2022	
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:	Trenard Davis (WR) vs. Penn State, 9/21/2018	

THE LAST TIME (INDIVIDUAL)

	Illinois	Opponent
Defense		
20 Tackles:	J Lemam (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:	Sydney Brown (2), Devon Witherspoon (2) at Northwestern, 11/22/2022	
3+ sacks in a game:	Owen Carney, Jr. (3.0) vs Purdue, 10/31/2020	
5+ TFLs in a game:	Isaiah Gay (5.5) at Iowa, 11/20/21	
4+ TFLs in a game:	Jamal Milan (4.0) at Purdue, 10/26/2019	
4+ PBUs in a game:	Devon Witherspoon (4) vs. Nebraska, 8/28/2021	
3+ PBUs in a game:	Devon Witherspoon (3) vs. Virginia, 9/10/2022	Herbig (3), Wisconsin, 10/9/2021
3+ PBUs 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:	Miles Scott (48 yards) vs. Toledo, 9/3/2023	Tyler Coyle (52 yards), at UConn, 9/7/2019
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	Marcus Banks (60 yards), vs. Mississippi State, 1/2/2023
Fumble recovery TD, INT TD, 2 INTs in one game:	Sydney Brown at Northwestern, 11/26/2022	
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	Team (tackle in end zone), Minnesota, 10/29/2016
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, Wes Lunt vs. Western Kentucky, 9/6/2014	
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:	233, Chase Brown vs. Minnesota, 10/15/2022	
4 total TDs:	Brandon Peters (4 pass) at UConn, 9/7/2019	
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	Jake Moody, #3 Michigan 11/19/2022
3 field goals:	Fabrizio Pinton (3) vs. Minnesota, 10/15/2022	Luke Pawlak, Toledo, 9/2/2023
Made 50+ yard field goal:	Caleb Griffin (52) vs. Mississippi State, 1/2/2023	
Three 50+ yard field goals:	--	Tim Douglas (51, 58, 51), Iowa, 9/26/1998
Blocked a punt:	Dawson DeGroot vs. Western Illinois, 9/8/2018	
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:	Isaiah Gay at USF, 9/15/2017	
Blocked a PAT:	Keith Randolph Jr. at Nebraska, 10/29/2022	
Punt return for TD:	V'Angelo Bentley (67 yards) vs. Ohio State, 11/16/2013	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:	Tommy Devito pass vs. Michigan State, 11/5/2022	
Two two-point conversions in the same game:	2 at Ohio State, 11/3/2012 (Russell pass to LaCosse; Russell rush)	

TEAM/INDIVIDUAL COMBINED STATISTICS

Team Results

Date	Opponent		Score	Att.
09/02/2023	Toledo	W	30-28	48898

Rushing

Player	gp	att	gain	loss	net	avg	td	lg	avg/g
Luke Altmyer	1	9	77	8	69	7.7	0	18	69.0
Reggie Love III	1	12	65	7	58	4.8	0	29	58.0
Josh McCray	1	11	30	0	30	2.7	1	6	30.0
Isaiah Williams	1	2	7	0	7	3.5	0	5	7.0
Team	1	1	0	1	-1	-1.0	0	0	-1.0
Total	1	35	179	16	163	4.7	1	29	163.0
Opponents	1	42	208	22	186	4.4	1	24	186.0

Passing

Player	gp	effic	comp-att-int	pct	yds	td	lg	avg/g
Luke Altmyer	1	155.1	18-26-1	69.2	211	2	33	211.0
Total	1	155.1	18-26-1	69.2	211	2	33	211.0
Opponents	1	118.7	20-37-1	54.1	230	2	36	230.0

Receiving

Player	gp	no.	yds	avg	td	lg	avg/g
Pat Bryant	1	6	64	10.7	2	18	64.0
Isaiah Williams	1	5	51	10.2	0	20	51.0
Casey Washington	1	4	54	13.5	0	33	54.0
Tip Reiman	1	2	33	16.5	0	17	33.0
Reggie Love III	1	1	9	9.0	0	9	9.0
Total	1	18	211	11.7	2	33	211.0
Opponents	1	20	230	11.5	2	36	230.0

Game Records

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

Team Statistics

	ILLINI	OPP
First Downs	20	27
Rushing	10	11
Passing	9	11
Penalty	1	5
Rushing Yardage	163	186
Rushing attempts	35	42
Average per rush	4.7	4.4
Average per game	163.0	186.0
TDs Rushing	1	1
Passing Yardage	211	230
Comp-Att-Int	18-26-1	20-37-1
Average per pass	8.1	6.2
Average per catch	11.7	11.5
Average per game	211.0	230.0
TDs Passing	2	2
Total offense	374	416
Average per play	6.1	5.3
Average per game	374.0	416.0
Kick returns: #-Yards	5-77	4-61
Punt returns: #-Yards	0-0	1-4
Int returns: #-Yards	1-48	1-0
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	2-0
Penalties-Yards	10-100	7-40
Punts-Avg	3-44.0	3-35.7
Time of possession / game	27:03	32:57
3rd-down conversion	3/9	7/15
4rd-down conversion	2/3	2/2
PAT-attempts	(3-3) 100%	(1-1) 100%
2-point conversion-attempts	(0-1) 0%	(0-2) 0%

Interceptions

Player	no.	yds	avg	td	lg
Miles Scott	1	48	48.0	1	48
Total	1	48	48.0	1	48
Opponents	1	0	0.0	0	0