

AROUND THE BIG TEN • OPENING NIGHT PREVIEW



All 18 Big Ten openers. Sixteen tip tonight: 13 at home, Ohio State in Salt Lake City, and Purdue and UCLA in Las Vegas. Iowa opens Tuesday and Rutgers on Friday. Records and stats are 2025-26 unless marked; "new roster" numbers pool this year's players' 2025-26 lines, minutes weighted. Ranks are among Division I teams (shown as rank/total near the bottom); player ranks count players with 15+ games at 15+ minutes.

16 openers tonight

Champion Michigan starts over

2 Vegas games on TNT

5 league teams 12-0 in openers

MICH-UConn rematch Fri

2025-26 FINISH AND ESPN AUGUST RANK • SHARE OF 2025-26 MINUTES BACK

LAST SEASON • AUG. RANK

M MICH Michigan	Champion, 37-3 • No. 8	Most: M MINN Minnesota	60.5%
I ILL Illinois	Final Four • No. 3	M MSU Michigan State	60.4%
P PUR Purdue	Elite Eight • next five	M IOWA Iowa	56.4%
M IOWA Iowa	Elite Eight	I ILL Illinois	54.4%
M MSU Michigan State	Sweet 16 • No. 9	Fewest: P IU Indiana	17.2%
N NEB Nebraska	Sweet 16	W WASH Washington	19.6%
U UCLA UCLA	2nd round • No. 20	O ORE Oregon	20.7%

MINUTES BACK

TALKING POINTS

- The champion starts over.** Michigan (37-3) opens under Mike Boynton Jr., promoted July 10 after Dusty May left for the Mavericks. It brings back 36.0% of its minutes after Lendeborg, Johnson and Mara went in the first round.
- Continuity vs. the portal.** Minnesota (60.5%), Michigan State (60.4%) and Iowa (56.4%) return the most minutes in the league. Indiana (17.2%), Washington (19.6%) and Oregon (20.7%) return the fewest.
- Three real tests.** Purdue vs. Gonzaga and UCLA vs. Arizona are in Las Vegas on TNT; Ohio State plays BYU in Salt Lake City. The other 13 are home games against mid-majors.
- Opening-night streaks.** Michigan, Ohio State, Purdue, Maryland and Iowa have each won 12 straight openers (every season since 2014-15). Gonzaga has too, so one of the Purdue-Gonzaga streaks ends tonight.
- Rulings still pending.** Gayle and Noland (MICH), Tyson (MINN), Reed (PSU), Alexis (IU), Carrington (WIS), Ewin (ORE) and Comer (WASH) were awaiting eligibility decisions as of this morning.

GONZ Pac-12 **31-4** **TONIGHT** 7:30 PM ET • TNT 2025-26 RECORDS **30-9** Big Ten **PUR**

Hall of Fame Series, T-Mobile Arena • next: Valparaiso Fri 11/6 Series: PUR 5-0

A neutral-floor opener against a Gonzaga team that went 31-4 in its last WCC season. Purdue lost to Arizona in the Elite Eight and must replace its entire starting core.

Watch for: who runs Purdue's offense after Smith's 8.8 assists a game, and whether Gonzaga's new guards keep shooting at their 2025-26 volume.

Hit and added: Purdue lost its point guard, top shooter and post scorer (Smith, Loyer, Kaufman-Renn) and added Caden Pierce and Enzo Shahrvin. Gonzaga lost Graham Ike (19.9 ppg) and added four high-major starters: Bennett, Diop, Wiggins and Lee.

Matchup effect: last season's split (Gonzaga inside, Purdue outside) narrows. Gonzaga's newcomers took 41.6% of their shots from three, and 7-4 Jacobsen vs. 7-1 Diop decides who owns the paint.

STORYLINE Common opponent: Gonzaga lost **74-68 to Texas** in the second round; Purdue beat Texas 79-77 in the Sweet 16 before falling 79-64 to Arizona.

WHAT'S NEW **Caden Pierce** (6-7, Princeton) and **Enzo Shahrvin** (6-8, Paris Basketball) have no 2025-26 line on file. Also new: Antione West Jr. (6-3), Sam King (6-8), Raleigh Burgess (6-11), Sinan Huan (7-1).

WHAT'S NEW **Bennett** (Dayton: 15.8p, 90 threes); **Diop** (7-1, ASU: 13.6p 5.8r, +5.8 BPM); **Wiggins** (6-11, FSU: 13.3p, 72 threes, stretch big); **Xaivian Lee** (Florida: 11.6p 4.2a, +7.4 BPM, lead guard).

COACHING ADJ. Painter has never topped a 45.5 3PA rate in 22 seasons on file; his returners took **55.1%** of their shots from three. Expect Jacobsen post touches to pull that back toward his 35.1 average, with less passing (returners: 2.11 assists per 40 vs. 3.91 for last season's roster).

COACHING ADJ. Few averages a 32.2 3PA rate (high 39.4). At 41.6, the new roster would be his most perimeter-heavy team on file, with fewer offensive boards (1.63 per 40 vs. 2.13).

KEY MATCHUP Purdue's offense (**123.1 ORtg**, **1st nationally**, 38.3% from three) vs. Gonzaga's defense (**92.8 DRtg**, **also 1st nationally**), without Smith (8.8 apg, 2nd nationally) running it.

ROSTER Returns **41.1%**: C.J. Cox, Gicarri Harris, Jack Benter, Omer Mayer, 7-4 Daniel Jacobsen. Gone: Smith (14.3p), Loyer (112 threes, 13th nationally), Kaufman-Renn (14.2p 8.3r), Cluff (+11.1 BPM, 21st nationally).

ROSTER Returns 13.6%: Braden Huff (17.8 ppg in 18 games), Davis Fogle. Gone: Ike (19.9, led the WCC).

2025-26 PROFILE Carries over: Gonzaga's defense is Few's (16.6% forced TOV; his average 15.4). Resets: Purdue's 123.1 ORtg and 57.8 eFG% came largely from Smith, Loyer and Kaufman-Renn.

NUMBER **30.8 vs. 41.6:** Gonzaga's 3PA rate last season (344/365 nationally, last in the WCC) vs. its new roster's. Purdue's returners: 55.1.

HISTORY Both teams have won **12 straight openers**. One streak ends tonight.

UCLA Big Ten **24-12** **TONIGHT** 10:00 PM ET • TNT 2025-26 RECORDS **36-3** Big 12 **ARIZ**

Hall of Fame Series, T-Mobile Arena • next: UNF Fri 11/6 Last: ARIZ 69-65, 11/14/25

The late TNT game is UCLA against an Arizona team that went 36-3 and lost to Michigan in the Final Four. Arizona won last November's meeting by four.

Watch for: UCLA's new backcourt without Dent's 7.6 assists, against Arizona's 6-11 bigs and freshman wings.

Hit and added: UCLA lost Dent, Bilodeau (17.6) and Clark and added Petty, Jović, Macura, Robinson and freshman Kusturica. Arizona lost Burries, Peat, Bradley and Awaka and added Godfrey, Dixon, Mandaquit, Jarusevicius and freshmen Holt and Holmes.

Matchup effect: Arizona keeps its rim-and-line identity (new roster: 24.3 3PA rate, 44.4 FTA rate). UCLA passes less (2.42 assists per 40 vs. 3.19) and must score in the half court against a defense that held opponents to a 45.3 eFG%.

STORYLINE Arizona's run went LIU, Utah State, **Arkansas 109-88** and **Purdue 79-64** before a 91-73 loss to Michigan. UCLA beat UCF, then lost 73-57 to UConn.

WHAT'S NEW **Petty** (Texas Tech: 9.9p, 69 threes, +4.1 BPM, spot-up); **Jović** (6-8, Auburn: 6.3p 4.0r); **Macura** (6-9, Mississippi State: 4.8r); **Azavier Robinson** (Butler: 2.5a). Also new: Markell Alston, Nikola Kusturica (6-9), Joe Philon III, Javonte Floyd.

WHAT'S NEW **Godfrey** (6-8, Clemson: 12.0p 5.3r, +6.7 BPM); **Dixon** (UNC: 50 threes); **Mandaquit** (Washington: 3.2a); **Jarusevicius** (6-11, Nebraska); freshmen Caleb Holt, Cameron Holmes.

COACHING ADJ. Cronin's tempo (65.9 average) and forced turnovers (16.8 average vs. 15.0 last season) carry over. The new roster rebounds more (2.08 offensive boards per 40 vs. 1.67): expect UCLA to crash harder and pass less.

COACHING ADJ. Lloyd has run fast every year (73.4 average pace, never below 71.9). Same attack at the rim and line, with more shot-blocking (1.42 per 40 vs. 0.84).

KEY MATCHUP UCLA's ball security (**10.9 TOV%**, **7th nationally**, 37.9% from three) vs. an Arizona defense that held opponents to a **45.3 eFG%** (**5th nationally**) and rebounded 37.8% of its misses.

ROSTER Returns **47.6%**: Trent Perry (12.6), Eric Dailey Jr. (11.6). Gone: Dent (13.3p, 7.6a, 3rd nationally nationally), Bilodeau (17.6), Clark (11.5).

ROSTER Returns 27.5%: Kharchenkov and Krivas (10.4 each). Gone: Burries (16.1), Peat (14.1), Bradley (13.3), Awaka (9.1 rpg).

2025-26 PROFILE Carries over: Arizona's 72.7 pace and 33.3 FT rate (8th nationally) under Lloyd. Resets: UCLA's 10.9 TOV% leaned on Dent; Arizona's 95.1 DRtg loses Awaka's rebounding.

NUMBER **26.3:** Arizona's 3PA rate, 363/365 nationally and the lowest on the slate. It lived at the rim and the line.

HISTORY UCLA is **62-49** in 111 meetings on file since 1951, but Arizona has won three of the last four and **12 straight openers**.

Horizon

16-16

TONIGHT

Time TBA

2025-26 RECORDS

37-3

Big Ten

MICH

Boynnton's debut · next: CONN UConn in Boston, Fri 11/6

Series: MICH 9-1

Michigan raises its national title banner tonight with a rebuilt roster and a new head coach. Oakland lost 121-78 here in last season's opener.

Watch for: Boynnton's defense. Michigan forced turnovers on 12.4% of possessions; his Oklahoma State teams averaged 16.2.

Hit and added: Michigan lost three first-rounders (Lendeborg, Johnson, Mara: 40.3 ppg) and freshman McCoy Jr. (ACL), and added Thiam, Estrella, Reed, Noland and 7-3 freshman Møller. Oakland lost Robinson, Naivalurua and Garrett and added El Shakery, Fields and Swartz.

Matchup effect: Michigan's rim protection thins (new roster: 0.73 blocks per 40 vs. 1.20) while Oakland adds rebounders (El Shakery 8.2, Fields 6.9). Expect a closer glass battle than last year's 43-point game.

STORYLINE

WHAT'S NEW

COACHING ADJ.

COACHING ADJ.

KEY MATCHUP

ROSTER

ROSTER

2025-26 PROFILE

NEWS

HISTORY

Mike Boynnton Jr. gets his first game since Dusty May left for the Mavericks on June 22. The title run: Howard, Saint Louis, Alabama, Tennessee 95-62, Arizona 91-73, UConn 69-63.

Thiam (7-2, Cincinnati: 12.8p 7.1r, 15-52 from three, +5.3 BPM); **Estrella** (6-11, Tennessee: 10.0p in 18.3 min, +6.9 BPM); **Noland** (Columbia: 17.1p, 72 threes, ruling pending); **Reed** (6-9, LSU: 9.5p in 6 games); **Ricky Liburd** (So.); freshmen **Møller** (7-3), **Cosby** and **Costello** (6-10).

Boynnton's teams (7 seasons, Oklahoma State) forced turnovers at a 16.2 average, never below 14.2. Expect more pressure, a slightly slower pace (his 70.3 vs. Michigan's 72.8) and fewer free throws (new roster: 31.1 FTA rate vs. 38.0).

Kampe's new roster rebounds (2.78 offensive boards per 40 vs. 1.79) but passes less (2.17 assists vs. 3.03): a bigger, more half-court Oakland.

A new frontcourt (Thiam, Estrella, Møller) replaces Lendeborg, Johnson and Mara: **40.3 ppg**, and 2nd, 17th and 5th nationally in BPM. Returns **36.0%**: Elliot Cadeau (10.5p 5.8a), Trey McKenney (9.9), Roddy Gayle Jr. Gone: Lendeborg, Johnson, Mara.

Returns 9.4%: Nassim Mashhour (9.3). Gone: Robinson (17.6p, 6.7a, led the Horizon), Naivalurua (14.2), Garrett (13.7). In: Belal El Shakery (UNH, 8.2r, led AmEast), Chris Fields Jr. (Campbell, 9.7), Brady Swartz (WMU, 29 threes).

Resets: Michigan's **95.8 DRtg** (13th nationally, 1st in the Big Ten) and 44.9 opponent eFG% (2nd nationally) were built around Mara and Johnson. Translates: Cadeau's 5.8 assists and McKenney's scoring in a bigger role.

Freshman McCoy Jr. tore his ACL (out for the season). Gayle and Noland await eligibility rulings.

Michigan has won **12 straight openers**, including last year's 121, its most since 1990.

Big Ten

21-13

TONIGHT

Time TBA

2025-26 RECORDS

23-12

Big 12

BYU

Bad Boy Mowers Series, Delta Center, Salt Lake City

Series: OSU 4-3

Ohio State opens away from Columbus against a BYU team that lost AJ Dybantsa but added Jaxon Kohler from Michigan State. It is the first meeting since 1997.

Watch for: Pippen and Jimmie Williams as Ohio State's new backcourt, and Kohler against a Buckeye frontcourt he saw twice a year in the Big Ten.

Hit and added: Ohio State lost Thornton, Royal and Tilly and added Pippen, Williams, Givens, Jelavic and Ojaniwuna. BYU lost Dybantsa, Saunders and Keita and added Kohler, Chandler, Wahlin, Betsey and Stewart.

Matchup effect: both new rosters lean on the three (OSU 48.7 3PA rate, BYU 47.9) and get to the line less (30.1 and 24.3 FTA rates). Likely decided at the arc, with Kohler the main post option.

STORYLINE

WHAT'S NEW

WHAT'S NEW

COACHING ADJ.

COACHING ADJ.

KEY MATCHUP

ROSTER

ROSTER

2025-26 PROFILE

NUMBER

NEWS

HISTORY

Both lost in the first round: Ohio State **66-64 to TCU**, BYU 79-71 to Texas.

Pippen (Cal: 14.2p 4.6a, 54 threes); **Jimmie Williams** (Duquesne: 15.1p, 62 threes); **Givens** (Memphis: 9.4p); **Jelavic** (6-11, Kentucky: 21 threes); **Ojaniwuna** (6-10, Baylor); freshmen Anthony Thompson (6-9), LJ Smith, Alex Smith, Vuk Lazarevic (7-1).

Kohler (6-10, MSU: 12.5p 8.9r, 58 threes); **Chandler** (Kentucky: 9.7p, 73 threes); **Wahlin** (6-10, Clemson: 34 threes); **Betsey** (Syracuse: 50 threes); Adam Stewart (6-11, TCU).

Diebler's 3PA rate has run 34.6 to 40.1; the new roster's 48.7 would be his highest by far. It also steals more (1.45 per 40 vs. 0.96): expect more gambling and more transition.

Young's two seasons ran a 39.8 to 47.6 3PA rate; the new roster sits at 47.9. Without Dybantsa's drives, the FTA rate drops from 34.3 to 24.3.

Kohler knows the Buckeyes from Big Ten play. Robert Wright III (18.1p 4.6a) is BYU's top returner.

Returns **33.4%**: John Mobley Jr. (15.7, 97 threes), Amare Bynum. Gone: Thornton (19.9, +12.7 BPM, 9th nationally nationally), Royal (13.7), Tilly (11.0).

Returns 26.7%. Gone: Dybantsa (25.5, 1st nationally), Saunders (18.0), Keita (7.2 rpg).

Carries over: BYU's pace (71.9; Young's average 70.6) vs. Ohio State's 67.4. Resets: Ohio State's 56.6 eFG% (16th nationally) left with Thornton and Royal.

71.9 vs. 67.4: BYU's pace vs. Ohio State's. BYU wants about four more possessions a game.

Josh Ojaniwuna is cleared but has not played since Feb. 5, 2025.

Ohio State has won **12 straight openers**; BYU has won seven straight.

FDU NEC

11-21

TONIGHT

Time TBA

2025-26 RECORDS

28-9

Big Ten

ILL

Final Four team's first night · next: Penn Thu 11/5

Series: ILL 2-0

Illinois returns more of a Final Four rotation than anyone in the league but opens without Mirkovic. FDU went 11-21.

Watch for: how Illinois replaces Wagler's shot creation: Vaaks first, then freshman Quentin Coleman.

Hit and added: Illinois lost Wagler, Boswell and Humrichous, plus Mirkovic to injury, and added Vaaks, Quentin McCoy and six freshmen. FDU lost Niesman, Parnell and Jackson and added Stosic, Agu, Torain and junior-college transfers.

Matchup effect: Illinois is still big and still shooting (new roster: 52.8 3PA rate) against an FDU team that allowed a 54.1 opponent eFG%.

STORYLINE

WHAT'S NEW

COACHING ADJ.

KEY MATCHUP

ROSTER

ROSTER

The run: Penn 105-70, VCU 76-55, **Houston 65-55**, Iowa 71-59, then 71-62 to UConn.

Vaaks (6-7, Providence: 15.8p 3.2a, 91 threes, +4.2 BPM); **Quentin McCoy** (Arizona State); freshmen **Quentin Coleman** (top-25 recruit), Lucas Morillo (6-7), Lincoln Williams, Xavier Zens, Landon Davis (6-9), Ethan Brown.

Underwood's 49.2 3PA rate last season was his career high; the new roster (52.8) pushes it higher. Offensive rebounding (his average 33.3, last season 37.4) carries over with both Ivisics back, and shot-blocking rises (1.07 per 40 vs. 0.87).

Vaaks (91 threes, led the Big East) steps into Wagler's role (17.9 ppg, 87 threes, +12.0 BPM, 13th nationally).

Returns **54.4%**: Stojakovic (13.5), Tomislav Ivisic (10.4), Zvonimir Ivisic, Jake Davis. Gone: Wagler, Boswell (12.3), Humrichous.

Returns 25.2%: David Jevtic (6.6). Gone: Niesman (12.3), Parnell (10.7, 80 threes, led the NEC), Jackson (10.3p, 8.4r, led the NEC). In: Pavle Stosic (Pepperdine).

MAAC

19-13

TONIGHT

Time TBA

2025-26 RECORDS

27-8

Big Ten

MSU

Izzo's Sweet 16 core returns · next: Toledo Thu 11/5

First meeting

Michigan State returns 60.4% of its minutes, second in the league. Quinnipiac's point guard is Jayden Reid, who played at Northwestern last season.

Watch for: Fears vs. Reid at the point, and whether MSU's rebounding edge widens with Bonke.

Hit and added: MSU lost Kohler (12.5p 8.9r), Cooper and Fort and added Bonke, a healthy Glenn and 7-2 freshman Ethan Taylor. Quinnipiac lost Monroe, Zimmerman, Jones and Randall and added Reid, Pierre-Louis and Hart.

Matchup effect: MSU's size (Bonke and Taylor, both 7-2) against a Quinnipiac team that rebounded 32.9% of its misses but lost Monroe's 8.3 boards.

STORYLINE

WHAT'S NEW

COACHING ADJ.

COACHING ADJ.

KEY MATCHUP

ROSTER

ROSTER

MSU beat North Dakota State and Louisville, then lost **67-63 to UConn** in the Sweet 16.

Bonke (7-2, Charlotte: 10.6p 8.3r, 13 threes); **Glenn** (6-7, back from injury; 12.6 ppg at FAU in 2024-25); freshmen Ethan Taylor (7-2), Julius Avent (6-7), Carlos Medlock Jr., Jasiah Jervis.

Izzo's identity strengthens: the new roster draws more fouls (39.1 FTA rate vs. 35.9), rebounds more (2.34 offensive boards per 40 vs. 2.14) and blocks more (1.01 vs. 0.82). Pace stays near his 67.2 average.

Pecora's new roster passes more (4.01 assists per 40 vs. 2.69, mostly Reid) and shoots fewer threes (23.0 3PA rate vs. 34.1).

Reid (10.1p 5.0a at NU) vs. **Jeremy Fears Jr.** (15.2p, 9.4a, 1st nationally): a familiar Big Ten point guard matchup.

Back: Fears, Coen Carr (12.0), Jordan Scott, Kur Teng, Cam Ward. Gone: Kohler, Cooper, Fort.

Returns 25.9%: Keith McKnight (11.0). Gone: Monroe (15.6p 8.3r), Zimmerman (15.1), Asim Jones (12.5), Randall (11.4).

2025-26 PROFILE	Carries over: the glass (37.4 OREB% , 7th nationally , 1st in the Big Ten) and ball security (11.0 TOV%) with both Ivistics and Stojakovic back. Resets: the 121.5 ORtg (3rd nationally) leaned on Wagler.
NUMBER	9.7%: opponent turnover rate against Illinois, the lowest forced by any team in Division I. Illinois wins the possession game on the glass instead.
NEWS	David Mirkovic (13.3p 8.0r) is out long-term with a summer foot injury.
HISTORY	Illinois has won 10 straight openers .

2025-26 PROFILE	Carries over: MSU's 100.0 DRtg and 36.0 OREB% (13th nationally), with 60.4% of minutes back. Resets: Quinnpiac's 32.9 OREB% without Monroe (8.3 rpg).
NUMBER	23.6 and 16.0: points and rebounds per game MSU lost with Kohler and Cooper.
NEWS	Kaleb Glenn is back from the patellar tendon tear that cost him 2025-26.
HISTORY	MSU has won its last two openers but is 8-4 in them since 2014-15.

LE M

NEC

15-17

TONIGHT

Time TBA

2025-26 RECORDS

28-7

Big Ten

NEB

Hoiberg's Sweet 16 team retools · next: Providence Sat 11/7

First meeting

Nebraska keeps its best shooter but lost four rotation defenders from a Sweet 16 team. Le Moyne returns 4.0% of its minutes.

Watch for:

Leonhardt running the offense, and whether Nebraska keeps firing threes at last season's rate.

Hit and added:

Nebraska lost Hoiberg (4.5 apg), Mast, Lawrence and Buyuktuncel and added Leonhardt, Orme, Wilkinson, Kapke and DeGourville. Le Moyne lost Jackson, Mosquera, Garang and Sanders and added nine transfers.

Matchup effect:

Nebraska's frontcourt grows (Wilkinson 6-10, Kapke 6-11) against a Le Moyne roster that blocks more shots (1.45 per 40 vs. 0.66) but gets to the line far less.

STORYLINE

NEB beat Troy and **Vanderbilt 74-72**, then lost 77-71 to Iowa in the Sweet 16.

WHAT'S NEW

Leonhardt (Utah Valley: 11.9p, 6.0a, led the WAC); **Orme** (6-9, Belmont: 12.7p, 48 threes); **Wilkinson** (6-10, SDSU: 13.9p 6.4r, post scorer); **Kapke** (6-11, BC: 10.6p 5.7r, 29 threes); **DeGourville** (SDSU: 3.0a); Will Cooper (Air Force).

COACHING ADJ.

Last season's 51.1 3PA rate was Hoiberg's career high (40.6 average); the new roster sits at 42.7. Expect a reversion toward post touches through Wilkinson, and a push from Leonhardt toward Hoiberg's 71.0 average pace (67.5 last season).

COACHING ADJ.

Champion's new roster rebounds (2.44 offensive boards per 40 vs. 1.43) and blocks shots but draws fewer fouls (25.2 FTA rate vs. 38.5).

KEY MATCHUP

Sandfort's volume (**129 threes**, **3rd nationally**, 1st in the Big Ten) vs. a Le Moyne defense that held opponents to a 49.1 eFG%.

ROSTER

Returns **39.9%** (46.5% of points): Pryce Sandfort (18.1), Braden Frager (11.8). Gone: Hoiberg, Mast (13.3), Lawrence, Buyuktuncel.

ROSTER

Gone: Jackson (15.8p 8.0r), Mosquera (77 threes), Garang, Sanders. In: Jeremy Clayville (NJIT), Jayden Teat (Sac State, 35 threes), Kaden Stuckey (VMI).

2025-26 PROFILE

Carries over: forced turnovers (15.7%; Hoiberg's average 15.0). Resets: the **97.5 DRtg** (28th nationally) lost four rotation defenders, Hoiberg (+9.2 BPM) among them.

NUMBER

15.7% vs. 16.1%: Nebraska's forced turnover rate against Le Moyne's own.

HISTORY

Nebraska has won its last **4** openers.

DEN

Summit

15-17

TONIGHT

Time TBA

2025-26 RECORDS

24-11

Big Ten

WIS

Gard replaces two 19-ppg guards · next: Delaware Fri 11/6

Series: WIS 1-0 (1953)

Wisconsin lost Blackwell and Boyd after an 83-82 first-round loss to High Point. Denver's Carson Johnson scored 20.1 per game.

Watch for:

Elmer and Autry replacing 39.8 ppg from Blackwell and Boyd, and Winter's touches inside.

Hit and added:

Wisconsin lost Blackwell, Boyd and (pending a ruling) Carrington and added Elmer, Autry, Onuetu and Foxwell. Denver lost Burke, Nelson and Kinsey and added Rogers, Martin, Hyland and Cady.

Matchup effect:

Wisconsin keeps its three-point volume and adds size against a Denver defense that allowed 117.2 points per 100 (357/365 nationally), the most of any team on the slate.

WHAT'S NEW

Elmer

(6-6, Miami OH: 12.7p 5.9r, 72 threes);

Autry

(GW: 11.0p, 84 threes);

Onuetu

(6-11, Hofstra: 6.9r in 17.9 min);

Owen Foxwell

(South East Melbourne, NBL);

freshmen Jackson Ball,

Isaac Riddle,

Josh Manchester,

LaTrevion Fenderson.

COACHING ADJ.

Last season's 52.1 3PA rate was Gard's career high (40.0 average). The new roster stays there (53.6) and rebounds more (2.22 offensive per 40 vs. 1.71) but passes less (2.06 assists vs. 3.15): more catch-and-shoot, fewer guard-created looks.

COACHING ADJ.

Bergstraser's year 2 roster shoots more threes (43.1 vs. 38.6) and rebounds less (1.23 offensive per 40 vs. 1.84).

KEY MATCHUP

Johnson (20.1 ppg; 87 threes, led the Summit) vs. a Badger backcourt with no returning starter.

ROSTER

Returns

36.0%:

Nolan Winter (13.1p 8.5r),

Austin Rapp (9.7). Gone:

Blackwell (19.1),

Boyd (20.7, 22nd nationally),

Carrington (8.3).

ROSTER

Returns

27.0%:

Johnson, Shaun Wysocki. Gone:

Burke (14.6),

Nelson (13.3),

Kinsey (11.4). In:

Jordan Rogers (NJIT),

Kam Martin (Samford, 29 threes),

CJ Hyland (Western Carolina).

2025-26 PROFILE

Carries over:

Gard's ball security (10.7 TOV%, 4th nationally, 1st in the Big Ten). Resets:

the 117.1 ORtg (23rd nationally) leaned on Boyd and Blackwell (96 threes).

NUMBER

226:

threes Wisconsin lost with Blackwell (96),

Boyd (61) and Carrington (69).

NEWS

Carrington is awaiting an eligibility ruling and is not on the posted roster.

HISTORY

Wisconsin has won 6 straight openers. First meeting since 1953.

 MILW Horizon	12-20	TONIGHT Time TBA 2025-26 RECORDS	18-14 Big Ten	USC 
Musselman's rebuilt backcourt · next: Wichita State, Lake Tahoe			First meeting	
USC returns 24.0% of its minutes and adds four double-digit scorers from the portal. Milwaukee went 12-20.				
Watch for: how Musselman splits one ball among four high-usage newcomers plus Rice and Arenas.				
Hit and added: USC lost Mazara, Ausar, Woods and Marsh and added Cox, Bruns, Lewis, Jones, Hughes, Hunkin-Claytor, Reibe and four freshmen. Milwaukee lost Augillard, Elam and Dixon and added Tre Norman (Marquette) and Al Amadou.				
Matchup effect: USC's new roster draws fouls (40.1 FTA rate) and attacks inside against a Milwaukee defense that allowed a 55.7 eFG%.				
STORYLINE Rodney Rice (20.3 ppg in 6 games) and Alijah Arenas (14.1 in 14) return from injury. Jacob Cofie (9.9p 6.8r) is the returning big.				
WHAT'S NEW  Cox (Colgate: 17.9p, 5.3a, led the Patriot); Bruns (South Dakota: 20.8p, led the Summit); Lewis (Georgetown: 14.9p, +5.3 BPM); Jadis Jones (Lindenwood: 15.3p 8.5r); Hughes (6-10, Evansville: 43 threes); Reibe (7-1, UConn); freshmen Adonis Ratliff (6-11), Darius Ratliff (7-0).				
COACHING ADJ.  Musselman's FTA rate (39.8 average) holds with this roster (40.1). The shift is the arc: the new roster's 24.5 3PA rate would be his lowest on file (27.7). Expect drives and post-ups, with more steals (1.53 per 40 vs. 1.25).				
COACHING ADJ.  Lundy's newcomers pass more (3.72 assists per 40 vs. 2.66) and shoot fewer threes (31.0 vs. 37.5), on a small sample (2,162 minutes).				
KEY MATCHUP USC's new scorers vs. a Milwaukee defense that allowed 113.8 points per 100 (343/365 nationally).				


MONT

Big Sky

18-16

TONIGHT
 Time TBA
 2025-26 RECORDS

12-20

Big Ten

ORE


Altman's rebuild after a 5-15 Big Ten year · next: EWU Fri 11/6

Series: ORE 16-3

Oregon returns 20.7% of its minutes after its top four scorers left. Montana turned it over on 17.1% of possessions last season (342/349 nationally).

Watch for: Payne running Oregon's offense, and whether Altman's pressure returns with a new roster.

Hit and added: Oregon lost Bittle, Shelstad, Evans and Simpkins and added eight transfers led by Payne, Riley and Meadow. Montana lost Money Williams and Sawyer and added Jalen Brown (Georgia State) and Josiah Sanders (Colorado).

Matchup effect: Montana's turnover problem meets an Oregon coach whose teams average a 17.6% forced rate. Both new rosters protect the ball better on paper (Oregon 1.73 turnovers per 40 vs. 2.23; Montana 2.08 vs. 2.65).

WHAT'S NEW


COACHING ADJ.


COACHING ADJ.


KEY MATCHUP

Payne (BC: 15.8p, 67 threes); **Riley** (USF: 12.2p, 42 threes); **Meadow** (Boise State: 12.1p, +4.8 BPM); **Bol Bowen** (Alabama: 29 threes); **Compton** (SDSU: +6.4 BPM); **Aristode** (Arizona: 30-65 from three, +8.5 BPM); Jasper Johnson (Kentucky); Jerry Easter II (USC).

Altman's teams average a 17.6% forced turnover rate (high 26.4); Oregon forced 12.6 last season, near his low. With eight transfers who protect the ball, expect more press and zone and fewer free throws (new roster: 30.1 FTA rate vs. 35.0).

DeCuire's new roster takes 46.8% of its shots from three, above his career high of 41.8.

Montana's shooting (56.1 eFG%, 23rd nationally) vs. an Oregon defense that allowed a 51.3 eFG%.

ROSTER 	Gone: Mazara (18.5), Ausar (14.8), Woods, Marsh.
ROSTER 	Returns 28.8%: Danilo Jovanovich (12.4p 6.1r in 17 games), Chandler Jackson (9.7). Gone: Augillard (12.6), Elam (10.5), Dixon (9.0).
2025-26 PROFILE	Carries over: Musselman's pace (72.1) and FT rate (32.6, 1st in the Big Ten). Resets: the 106.9 ORtg, with 24.0% of minutes back.
NUMBER	68.9 : combined 2025-26 ppg of USC's four portal guards and wings.
NEWS	UConn transfer Eric Reibe had foot surgery in July.
HISTORY	USC has won its last 3 openers.

ROSTER 	Gone: Bittle (16.8), Shelstad (15.6), Evans (13.3), Simpkins (12.5, now at Lipscomb).
ROSTER 	Returns 32.0%: Tyler Thompson (69 threes), Kenyon Aguino (8.4). Gone: Money Williams (20.6, led the Big Sky), TeJon Sawyer (11.4).
2025-26 PROFILE	Coach-driven: Altman's tempo (68.4 average) and pressure. Resets: Oregon's 104.2 ORtg and 109.6 DRtg , with 20.7% back.
NUMBER	58.2 : points per game Oregon lost from Bittle, Shelstad, Evans and Simpkins.
NEWS	Ewin's eligibility ruling is still pending.
HISTORY	Oregon has won the last 4 meetings, all by 14 or more, and its last 5 openers.

 COLG Patriot 18-15	TONIGHT Time TBA 2025-26 RECORDS	16-17 Big Ten WASH 
Sprinkle's year 3, nearly all new · next: MVSU Mon 11/9		First meeting
Washington returns 19.6% of its minutes after Steinbach, Diallo, Kepnang, Tucker and Mandaquit left. Colgate lost Jalen Cox (17.9 ppg) to USC but returns 53.5% of its minutes.		
Watch for: Andrew Alekseyenko (14.8p 6.7r as a freshman) against a Washington frontcourt without Steinbach.		
Hit and added: Washington lost Steinbach, Diallo and Peterson and added Beasley, Watts, Friedrichsen, Comer, Zrno and Venters. Colgate lost Cox, Tweedy and Carlesimo and added Parker Jones, Blake Forrest, Isaiah Skinn and freshmen Kingston McKoy and Jayden Harrington.		
Matchup effect: Washington goes small and perimeter (new roster: 49.2 3PA rate, 0.30 blocks per 40), which opens the paint for Alekseyenko and a Colgate roster that rebounds more than last season's.		
WHAT'S NEW 	Beasley (USF: 13.6p 4.0a); Watts (Texas Tech: 11.8p 6.0r); Friedrichsen (Davidson: 68 threes); Comer (Nevada: 11.0p 3.6a, ruling pending); Zrno (Rutgers: 52 threes); Venters (Gonzaga: 36 threes); freshmen Tristan Devers (NBL), Lattimore Ford, Boris Tisma, Wini Braga.	
COACHING ADJ. 	Sprinkle's 3PA rate has stayed between 32.8 and 36.5 in 7 seasons on file; this roster took 49.2% of its shots from three. The biggest style shift in the league: blocks fall to 0.30 per 40 (0.79) and offensive boards to 1.15 (2.08).	
COACHING ADJ. 	Langel (15 seasons on file) gets a bigger, slower team: the returners rebound more (2.05 offensive per 40 vs. 1.43) and shoot fewer threes (31.5 3PA rate vs. 35.0) without Carlesimo and Tweedy.	
KEY MATCHUP	Washington's new backcourt vs. Colgate's shooting (54.4 eFG%, 35.9% from three).	
ROSTER 	Back: Wesley Yates III (12.7). Gone: Steinbach (18.5p 11.8r), Diallo (15.7), Peterson (71 threes).	
ROSTER 	Returns 53.5% : Alekseyenko (41 threes), Sam Wright (12.3), Josh Ahayere (7.8), Cooper Wright, Ayomi Odetoyinbo. Gone: Cox (17.9p, 5.3a, led the Patriot), Tweedy (9.4), Carlesimo (7.8, 59 threes).	
2025-26 PROFILE	Carries over: Colgate's core (Alekseyenko, Sam Wright and Ahayere started 90 games). Resets: Washington's 32.0 OREB% left with Steinbach.	
NUMBER	11.8 : rebounds per game Washington lost with Steinbach, the most in Division I.	
NEWS	Comer's eligibility ruling is still pending.	

 CAN MAAC 10-21	TONIGHT Time TBA 2025-26 RECORDS	12-20 Big Ten PSU 
Rhoades' year 4 after a 3-17 league finish · next: UTC Thu 11/5 Series: PSU 4-0		
Penn State finished last in the Big Ten and returns 26.4% of its minutes. Canisius returns 0.3%.		
Watch for: Rodgers and Bowen sharing the point, and whether the defense climbs off the league floor.		
Hit and added: Penn State lost Dilione, Mingo and (pending a ruling) Reed and added Byers, Blums, Rodgers, Bowen and Oboh. Canisius lost Singleton, Ndjonga and Evbagharu and added Sigona, Ryan, Efinda and Wilson.		
Matchup effect: Penn State's new roster gets to the line (43.0 FTA rate) against a Canisius roster with almost no rim protection (0.16 blocks per 40).		
WHAT'S NEW 	Byers (6-8, Miami OH: 14.2p, 69 threes); Blums (Davidson: 12.4p, 77 threes); Rodgers (CCSU: 11.0p, 6.9a, led the NEC, 8th nationally); Bowen (St. Bonaventure: 10.9p 4.8a); Oboh (6-11, Buffalo: 8.5p 4.9r); also Roko Prkačin, Aleksandar Zečević, François Wibaut.	
COACHING ADJ. 	Rhoades' teams average a 17.4% forced turnover rate (high 20.0); Penn State forced 14.5. Two true point guards push assists to 3.18 per 40 (2.54) and the FTA rate to 43.0 (33.8).	
COACHING ADJ. 	Christian's new roster shoots more threes (47.8 3PA rate vs. 39.7).	

 UND Summit 18-17	TONIGHT Time TBA 2025-26 RECORDS	15-18 Big Ten MINN 
Medved's year 2 · next: St. Thomas Fri 11/6 Series: MINN 3-0		
Minnesota returns 60.5% of its minutes, the most in the league. It also added two Michigan reserves from the title team.		
Watch for: Minnesota's shot mix without Tyson (ruling pending), and whether Kordel (7-2) gives it a rim presence.		
Hit and added: Minnesota lost Reynolds and, for now, Tyson and added Palmer, Evans, Groves, Grady, Kordel and four freshmen. North Dakota lost Uelmen, King and Anderson and added Jayden Thomas (UTEP), Hincapie and Wagner.		
Matchup effect: both new rosters are built on threes (Minnesota 61.1 3PA rate, UND 58.9), so variance is high. Minnesota's FTA rate falls to 21.7, which makes the arc even more decisive.		
WHAT'S NEW 	Palmer (Villanova: 28 threes, +2.8 BPM); Evans (UNC: 2.5a, 32 threes); Groves (Texas Tech); Grady (Michigan: 6-19 from three in 9 games); Kordel (7-2, Michigan); freshmen Cedric Tomes, Blake Nixon Jr., Nolen Anderson, Chadrack Mpoyi (6-11).	
COACHING ADJ. 	Medved's 3PA rate peaked at 47.1 last season (40.5 average); this roster took 61.1% of its shots from three and has a 21.7 FTA rate (35.8). Expect more spacing, fewer trips to the line, and pace near his 67.5 average (64.0 last season).	
COACHING ADJ. 	Sather's new roster took 58.9% of its shots from three, above his high of 44.5 (2,958 minutes on file).	

KEY MATCHUP	Penn State's defense (58.4 opponent eFG%, 364/365 nationally) vs. Canisius' offense (95.7 ORtg, 339/349 nationally).
ROSTER	Back: Ivan Jurić (10.2p 5.3r), the only returning starter. Gone: Dilione (14.0), Mingo (13.7).
ROSTER	Gone: Singleton (13.9, 87 threes), Ndjonga (13.9), Evbagharu (9.2p 7.0r). In: Vinny Sigona (East Texas A&M, 63 threes), Preist Ryan (Cleveland State).
2025-26 PROFILE	Coach-driven: pace (Rhoades' average 70.3; 67.9 last season) and pressure. Resets: the 117.0 DRTg (355/365 nationally, last in the Big Ten), with 26.4% back.
NUMBER	95.7 : Canisius' ORtg, the lowest of any opponent on the slate.
NEWS	Josh Reed (11.5 ppg) is awaiting an eligibility ruling.
HISTORY	Penn State has won 9 straight openers .

KEY MATCHUP	Minnesota's shooters (47.1 3PA rate) vs. a North Dakota defense that allowed a 56.5 eFG% (357/365 nationally, last in the Summit).
ROSTER	Back: Jaylen Crocker-Johnson (13.4), Isaac Asuma (10.9), Bobby Durkin (80 threes). Gone: Tyson, Reynolds (11.6).
ROSTER	Returns 20.4%: Zach Kraft (73 threes). Gone: Uelmen (16.8), King (11.9), Anderson (10.3).
2025-26 PROFILE	Carries over: Minnesota's 54.2 eFG%, with 60.5% back. Resets: UND's 17.0% forced TOV (23rd nationally, 1st in the Summit), with 20.4% back.
NUMBER	64.0 : Minnesota's pace, 348/349 nationally; only Iowa was slower.
NEWS	Cade Tyson (19.6 ppg) is awaiting an eligibility ruling and is not on the posted roster.
HISTORY	Minnesota has won 11 straight openers .

 BUCK Patriot	10-23	TONIGHT Time TBA 2025-26 RECORDS	12-21 Big Ten	MD 
Buzz Williams' year 2 · next: at Georgetown Sat 11/7				
Series: MD 9-0				
Maryland returns 21.3% of its minutes after a 4-16 Big Ten season. Bucknell went 10-23.				
Watch for: Payne and Buljan together inside, and McNair's volume shooting.				
Hit and added: Maryland lost Coit, Adams, Washington and Saunders and added McNair, Jennings, Buljan, Boswell, Wagner and Jabriel. Bucknell lost Dorries, Curtin and Spadone and added 11 newcomers, seven of them freshmen.				
Matchup effect: Maryland's new roster rebounds (2.16 offensive per 40) against a Bucknell group whose newcomers have little Division I data (2,327 minutes on file).				
WHAT'S NEW 	McNair (Boston U.: 16.9p; 110 threes, led the Patriot, 18th nationally); Jennings (6-8, App State: 15.2p); Buljan (6-9, New Mexico: 13.1p; 10.3r, led the MWC, 11th nationally); Boswell (Tennessee: 3.1a, +6.0 BPM); DJ Wagner (Arkansas: 7.4p); Jabriel (6-9, Queens: 48 threes); freshmen Austin Brown, Kaden House, Baba Oladotun.			
COACHING ADJ. 	Williams' 46.9 3PA rate last season was his career high (35.3 average); the new roster comes down to 42.6. His teams draw fouls (39.4 FTA rate average) and force turnovers (16.6 average; Maryland's 12.3 was his lowest on file). Expect more pressure.			
COACHING ADJ. 	Griffin's newcomers took 52.4% of their shots from three (42.8 last season).			
KEY MATCHUP	Pharrel Payne (17.5p 7.2r in 10 games) inside vs. a Bucknell defense that allowed a 54.9 eFG%.			
ROSTER 	Back: Payne, Andre Mills (12.2). Gone: Coit (13.5), Adams (10.8), Washington (9.2 rpg), Saunders.			
ROSTER 	Returns 34.8%: Jayden Williams (4.0 apg), Aleksander Pachucki (42 threes). Gone: Dorries (16.2, 5th in the Patriot), Curtin (12.8), Spadone (12.4).			
2025-26 PROFILE	Coach-driven: forced turnovers should climb toward Williams' 16.6 average. Resets: the 102.2 ORtg (last in the Big Ten) and 31.7% from three, with 21.3% back.			
NUMBER	10.3 : Buljan's rebounds per game at New Mexico (11th nationally), replacing Washington's 9.2 (25th nationally).			
HISTORY	Maryland has won 12 straight openers .			

 LIP ASUN	19-13	TUE 11/3 Time TBA 2025-26 RECORDS	24-13 Big Ten	IOWA 
McCollum's year 2 at Carver-Hawkeye · next: EIU Fri 11/6				
First meeting				
Iowa went from 10-10 in the league to the Elite Eight and returns 56.4% of its minutes, third in the league. Lipscomb plays at Southeast Missouri on Monday, then at Iowa on Tuesday.				
Watch for: McKeever (7-3) anchoring McCollum's slow half court, and Lipscomb's legs on the second night of a back-to-back.				
Hit and added: Iowa lost Stirtz, Banks, Folgueiras and Hausen and added McKeever, Ty'Reek Coleman and four other newcomers. Lipscomb lost Asman, Candelino, Duncan and Charlie Williams (46.0 ppg combined) and added Takai Simpkins, Truman Byrne and 10 freshmen.				
Matchup effect: Iowa's new roster is bigger (2.24 offensive boards per 40 vs. 1.52) and shoots fewer threes (33.9 3PA rate vs. 43.0). Lipscomb stays a jump-shooting team (49.0) with little rim protection (0.22 blocks per 40).				
STORYLINE	The run: Clemson 67-61, Florida 73-72 , Nebraska 77-71, then 71-59 to Illinois.			
WHAT'S NEW 	McKeever (7-3, Saint Mary's: 8.2p; 9.2r in 23.1 min, led the WCC); Ty'Reek Coleman (Illinois State: 10.0p, 37 threes); also new: Trey Thompson (6-8), Jaidyn Coon, Ethan Harris, Peyton McCollum.			
WHAT'S NEW 	Takai Simpkins (Oregon: 12.5p, 50 threes); Truman Byrne (6-10, Central Arkansas: 29 threes); 10 freshmen, including 7-0 Hendrix Loughridge, Zion Wells, Vuk Visnjic and Hugo Tidare.			

 NHVN NEC	14-17	FRI 11/6 Time TBA 2025-26 RECORDS	14-20 Big Ten	RUTG 
Last Big Ten team to open · next: NJIT Tue 11/10 (Francis' old team)				
First meeting				
Rutgers went 6-14 in the league and returns 53.4% of its minutes and 61.9% of its points. New Haven, in its second Division I season, returns 24.2%.				
Watch for: Francis and Darin Smith Jr. sharing one ball, and who replaces Ogbole's rebounding.				
Hit and added: Rutgers lost Grant, Zrno and Ogbole and added Smith, RaSheed Jones, Gurdak, Buca, Will Sydnor and four freshmen. New Haven lost Fitzpatrick, George, Pasha and Faloppa and added 11 newcomers with little Division I data (1,499 minutes on file).				
Matchup effect: Rutgers' new roster scored more last season (16.97 points per 40 vs. 13.94) but rebounds less (1.49 offensive per 40 vs. 1.85), against a New Haven defense that forced a 15.2% turnover rate.				
WHAT'S NEW 	Darin Smith Jr. (6-7, CCSU: 20.7p, led the NEC, 23rd nationally); RaSheed Jones (Coastal Carolina: 14.8p, 72 threes); Gurdak (6-10, Virginia Tech: 5.6p 4.4r); Buca (7-2, Kansas State); Will Sydnor (Manhattan); freshmen Imahri Wooten, Martin Tonejc, Mervedi Miteo (6-10), Diego Garavaglia.			
COACHING ADJ. 	Pikiell's teams average a 17.0% forced turnover rate and 31.4 OREB%; Rutgers was at 14.0 and 28.4 last season. The scoring should improve, but without Ogbole the glass may slip further.			
KEY MATCHUP	Rutgers' offense (47.4 eFG%, last in the Big Ten) vs. a New Haven defense that forced a 15.2% turnover rate.			

COACHING
ADJ.



McCollum's tempo is a fingerprint: 60.3 and 63.4 pace in his two seasons on file, with forced turnovers of 17.1 to 19.0. Expect both again. The change is inside: McKeever gives him a post anchor and the 3PA rate drops toward 33.9.

COACHING
ADJ.



Kevin Carroll (year 2): the new roster passes more (4.47 assists per 40 vs. 3.59, through Esmeraldo and Simpkins) and keeps shooting (49.0 3PA rate).

KEY
MATCHUP

Esmeraldo (7.0 apg, 7th nationally) and Sargiunas (48 threes) vs. Iowa's forced-turnover defense (17.1%, 19th nationally, 1st in the Big Ten).

ROSTER



Gone: **Bennett Stirtz** (19.8p 4.4a, 92 threes), Banks (10.2), Folgueiras, Hausen. Back: Cooper Koch (66 threes), Kael Combs, Cam Manyawu, Isaia Howard, Tate Sage.

ROSTER



Returns **42.6%**: Mateo Esmeraldo (9.9p 7.0a), Titas Sargiunas (9.7), Kennedy Okpara, Or Ashkenazi. Gone: Asman (14.2), Candelino (11.2, 66 threes), Duncan (10.5, 65 threes), Williams (10.1).

2025-26
PROFILE

Carries over: Iowa's **63.4 pace** (349/349, the slowest in Division I) and 17.1% forced TOV (McCollum traits). Resets: the 117.1 ORtg (24th nationally) leaned on Stirtz. Lipscomb's 48.2 3PA rate (26th nationally) should hold.

NUMBER

63.4 vs. 71.5: Iowa's pace, the league's slowest, vs. Lipscomb's.

HISTORY

Iowa has won **12 straight openers**.

ROSTER



Back: **Tariq Francis** (17.0), Jamichael Davis, Darren Buchanan Jr., Angelino Mark (5.9), Kaden Powers. Gone: Grant (9.5), Zrno (now at Washington), Ogbole (6.0 rpg).

ROSTER



Gone: Fitzpatrick (15.0), George (11.2), Pasha (10.7). Back: Kheni Briggs (6.9).

2025-26
PROFILE

Coach-driven: forced turnovers and the glass should drift back toward Pikiell's norms. Resets: the 47.4 eFG%, with Smith and Jones added.

NUMBER

30.6 and 32.1: usage rates for Francis and Smith last season. Two high-volume scorers share one ball.

HISTORY

Rutgers has won its last **2** openers after losing in 2023-24.

THE WEEK AHEAD

THU 11/5

Penn at  ILL, Toledo at  MSU, UTC at  PSU, Bellarmine at  IU.

FRI 11/6

 **MICH Michigan vs.**  **CONN UConn** at TD Garden, a rematch of the national title game.

SAT 11/7

 **MD at**  **GTWN** and  **NEB vs.**  **PROV** (Mohegan Sun, 7:00 PM ET).

SUN 11/8

 **USC vs.**  **WICH** (Lake Tahoe) and  **PSU vs.**  **PITT** at the Palestra.

MON 11/9

 **MINN at**  **CIN** and  **SYR vs.**  **IU** in Indianapolis.

ELIGIBILITY AND HEALTH WATCH

NEWS

Rulings pending:  **MICH** Gayle, Noland;  **MINN** Tyson;  **PSU** Reed;  **IU** Alexis;  **WIS** Carrington;  **ORE** Ewin;  **WASH** Comer.

NEWS

Out:  **MICH** McCoy Jr. (ACL, season);  **ILL** Mirkovic (foot, long-term).

NEWS

Recovering:  **USC** Reibe (July foot surgery).  **OSU** Ojianwuna is cleared after missing all of 2025-26.

STORYLINE

Back from injury:  **MSU** Glenn after missing 2025-26;  **USC** Rice and Arenas after 6 and 14 games.