

# Preseason Notes



**Welcome Back:** Returning to Big Ten fields in 2008 are 25 All-Conference players from last season, including 12 first-team honorees and 13 second-team selections. The first-team returnees are comprised of four offensive, six defensive and two special teams standouts. The second-team picks include seven players on offense, five on defense and one kicker. In addition, 29 honorable mention honorees from last season also return to campus.

## ALL-BIG TEN FIRST-TEAM RETURNEES

### OFFENSE

**Todd Boeckman, SR, QB, OSU (Media only)**

*STATS: 190-298, 2,372 yards, 25 TDs*

In first season as starter, led Big Ten and ranked 13th nationally with a pass efficiency rating of 148.9 while ranking third in the conference with 25 passing TDs to lead OSU to a third straight title.

**Beanie Wells, JR, RB, OSU**

*STATS: 274-1,609 yards, 15 TDs*

Named second-team All-American by *Sporting News* after ranking third in the Big Ten and 11th nationally with 123.8 rushing yards per game, with 1,609 yards and 15 TDs.

**A.Q. Shipley, SR, C, PSU (Coaches only)**

Became first PSU center to earn first-team All-Big Ten honors after anchoring a line that ranked among the top five in the conference in scoring and rushing offense while allowing only 20 sacks.

**Travis Beckum, SR, TE, WIS**

*STATS: 75-982 yards, 6 TDs*

First-team Walter Camp All-American led all Big Ten tight ends and ranked fifth among all receivers with 75 receptions for 982 yards while adding six TDs.

### DEFENSE

**Vontae Davis, JR, DB, ILL (Coaches only)**

*STATS: 76 tackles (56 solo), 4 INTs*

Leading returning tackler for Illini with 76 stops after ranking second on the team with four interceptions and breaking up eight other passes.

**Greg Middleton, JR, DL, IND**

*STATS: 50 tackles (26 solo), 17 TFLs, 16 sacks*

First-team *Sporting News* All-American led the nation with 16.0 sacks (1.23 per game), part of a defense which tied for eighth nationally with 42 QB drops.

**Mitch King, SR, DL, IOWA (Coaches only)**

*STATS: 58 tackles (25 solo), 14.5 TFLs, 4.5 sacks*

Tied for ninth in the Big Ten with 14.5 TFLs to anchor an Iowa defense ranked 12th in the country (third in conference) by allowing only 18.8 points per game.

**Malcolm Jenkins, SR, DB, OSU**

*STATS: 47 tackles (27 solo), 4 INTs, 5 TFLs*

Named second-team All-American by Associated Press and *Sporting News* as part of a defensive backfield which ranked first in the country in scoring, passing and total defense.

**James Laurinaitis, SR, LB, OSU**

*STATS: 121 tackles (51 solo), 5 sacks, 2 INTs*

Two-time consensus All-American and winner of the 2007 Butkus Award and 2006 Nagurski Trophy

## STARTERS RETURNING/LOST FOR 2008

School	Starters Returning				Starters Lost			
	Off.	Def.	ST	Total	Off.	Def.	ST	Total
Illinois	6	6	1	13	5	5	1	11
Indiana	6	7	1	14	5	4	1	10
Iowa	8	5	2	15	3	6	0	9
Michigan*	3	7	2	12	9	4	0	13
Michigan State*	7	7	2	16	5	6	0	11
Minnesota*	8	7	2	17	4	5	0	9
Northwestern	8	7	2	17	3	4	0	7
Ohio State	9	9	2	20	2	2	0	4
Penn State	8	7	2	17	3	4	0	7
Purdue	6	6	1	13	5	5	1	11
Wisconsin	8	9	0	17	3	2	2	7

\* some players split time as starters

named Big Ten Defensive Player of the Year after helping OSU top the conference in scoring, rushing, passing and total defense with 9.3 tackles per outing, good for second among all returning players.

**Maurice Evans, JR, DL, PSU**

*STATS: 54 tackles (31 solo), 21.5 TFLs, 12.5 sacks*

Ranked eighth nationally (third in conference) with 12.5 sacks, sixth in the country (second in conference) with five forced fumbles and second in the Big Ten with 21.5 TFLs.

### SPECIAL TEAMS

**Austin Starr, SR, K, IND (Media only)**

*STATS: 21-23 FGs, 91.3 pct., Long of 49 yards*

First-team Academic All-American and second-team All-American by Associated Press after connecting on 21-of-23 field goals, including a season-long 49-yarder with 30 seconds left to knock off in-state rival Purdue and send IU to first bowl game since 1993.

**Jeremy Boone, JR, P, PSU**

*STATS: 59-2,538 yards, 43.0 avg., Long of 70*

Ranked 19th nationally with 43.0 yards per boot, including a long of 70 yards, to become first PSU player to lead the Big Ten in punting for all games.

## ALL-BIG TEN SECOND-TEAM RETURNEES

### OFFENSE

**Xavier Fulton, SR, OT, ILL (Coaches only)**

**Ryan McDonald, SR, C, ILL**

**Kellen Lewis, JR, QB, IND**

*STATS: 265-442, 3,043 yards, 28 TDs*

**Javon Ringer, SR, RB, MSU**

*STATS: 245-1,447 yards, 6 TDs*

**Alex Boone, SR, OT, OSU**

**Rich Ohrnberger, SR, OG, PSU**

**Kraig Urbik, SR, OG, WIS**

### DEFENSE

**Will Davis, SR, DL, ILL (Media only)**

*STATS: 41 tackles (29 solo), 12.5 TFLs, 9.5 sacks*

**Terrance Taylor, SR, DL, MICH (Coaches only)**

*STATS: 55 tackles (28 solo), 8.5 TFLs, 3.5 sacks*

**Marcus Freeman, SR, LB, OSU (Coaches only)**

*STATS: 109 tackles (66 solo), 9.5 TFLs, 2 FF*

**Sean Lee, SR, LB, PSU**

*STATS: 138 tackles (54 solo), 10.5 TFLs, 1 INT*

**Matt Shaughnessy, SR, DL, WIS**

*STATS: 60 tackles (41 solo), 18 TFLs, 5 sacks*

### SPECIAL TEAMS

**Justin Kucek, SR, P, MINN (Media only)**

*STATS: 62-2,645 yards, 42.7 avg., Long of 61 yards*

**Familiar Faces in Starting Lineup:** For the first time since 2003, all 11 Big Ten teams return at least half of their starters from a season ago, with defending Big Ten champion and national runner-up Ohio State leading the way with an impressive 20 of 24 starters back on the field in 2008. The Buckeyes bring back nine starters on both offense and defense along with their kicker and punter. Four Big Ten teams are tied for second with 17 starters returning including Minnesota, Northwestern, Penn State and Wisconsin. The Badgers are the only other team to return nine starters on one side of the ball, equaling the Buckeyes with nine defensive stalwarts back on the field. On the offensive side of the ball, Wisconsin joins Iowa, Minnesota, Northwestern and Penn State to rank second behind OSU with eight players returning. The breakdown of starters returning and lost appears above while a complete list is located on each team page.

2008 Big Ten  
Kickoff Luncheon  
and Football Media Days

The 2008 Big Ten  
Kickoff Luncheon and  
football media days  
will be held from  
July 24-25 at the  
Hyatt Regency Chicago.

# Preseason Notes



**Buckeyes Make Run for Four Straight Titles:** Ohio State has won the last three Big Ten Championships and will look to join Michigan as the only school to win four or more straight crowns on multiple occasions during the 2008 campaign. The Buckeyes shared the crown with Penn State in 2005 before

CONSECUTIVE BIG TEN TITLES	
Titles	School (Years)
6	OSU (1972-77)
5	MICH (1988-92)
4	MICH (1901-04)
4	MICH (1930-33)
4	MICH (1947-50)
4	MICH (1971-74)
3	OSU (2005-07)

ending the 2006 and 2007 seasons alone atop the standings to compile a Big Ten mark of 22-2 over the last three years. OSU is the first conference team in more than a decade to claim three straight titles since Michigan won at least

a share of five consecutive championships from 1988-92. Ohio State has clinched three consecutive crowns for the first time since posting a Big Ten-record six straight titles from 1972-77. The Wolverines are the only team in Big Ten annals to post four or more consecutive first-place finishes on multiple occasions, accomplishing the feat five different times including the five-title string from 1988-92. and four different four-year runs.

**Buckeyes Aiming for Big Ten First:** In 112 years of Big Ten football, no team has ever stood alone atop the standings in three straight seasons, a feat Ohio

CONSECUTIVE OUTRIGHT TITLES	
Titles	School (Years)
2	WIS (1896-97)
2	CHI (1907-08)
2	OSU (1916-17)
2	MINN (1937-38)
2	MINN (1940-41)
2	MICH (1947-48)
2	OSU (1954-55)
2	MSU (1965-66)
2	MICH (1988-89)
2	MICH (1991-92)
2	OSU (2006-07)

State will look to accomplish in 2008. The Buckeyes have won three straight Big Ten Championships, including outright crowns in 2006 and 2007, the first back-to-back outright champs since Michigan in 1991-92. Only six Big Ten programs have produced consecutive

## 2008 BIG TEN FOOTBALL SPRING PRACTICE AND GAME DATES

	Beginning of Spring Practice	Date of Spring Game
Illinois	March 26	April 19
Indiana	March 25	April 19
Iowa	March 26	April 19*
Michigan	March 15	None#
	(ends April 12)	
Michigan State	March 17	April 19
Minnesota	March 26	April 25
Northwestern	April 1	April 26
Ohio State	March 27	April 19
Penn State	March 24	April 19
Purdue	March 26	April 19
Wisconsin	March 8	April 19

\* controlled scrimmage # due to stadium construction

outright titles, including Chicago (1907-08), Michigan (1947-48, 1988-89, 1991-92), Michigan State (1965-66), Minnesota (1937-38, 1940-41), Ohio State (1916-17, 1954-55, 2006-07) and Wisconsin (1896-97). The Buckeyes are the third conference school to accomplish the feat on multiple occasions along with the Wolverines and Golden Gophers.

**Big Ten Winning Streaks:** A season after Ohio State set a Big Ten record by extending its conference winning streak to 20 games, the team that snapped that string of success will open the 2008 campaign tied for the longest active Big Ten victory streak. Both Illinois and Iowa enter the upcoming season with three-game winning streaks in conference play. The Illini's three-game streak included a road victory over the Buckeyes on Nov. 10 that ended OSU's 28-game regular-season winning streak, which matched a conference record set by Michigan from 1901-03. Michigan State and Wisconsin enter the 2008 season with two straight Big Ten triumphs.

**Painter Ready to Chase Records in 2008:** Purdue quarterback Curtis Painter will enter his senior season among the top 10 in four offensive categories in the Big Ten career records book. The Boilermakers signal caller boasts 8,763 passing

yards (9th in Big Ten history), 1,269 attempts (7th), 760 completions (9th) and 9,101 total offensive yards (8th). He is also near the top 10 with 1,450 total offensive plays and 54 touchdown passes.

**Veterans Under Center:** After returning only six starters at the quarterback position entering the 2007 campaign, two of which were sophomores, eight Big Ten teams could have a familiar face behind center at the start of the 2008 campaign. The conference's top five players in passing yards per game will be back on the field including Northwestern's C.J.

**Bachér** (1st with 304.7 ypg), Purdue's **Curtis Painter** (2nd with 295.8), Minnesota's **Adam Weber** (3rd with 241.2), Indiana's **Kellen Lewis** (4th with 234.1) and Michigan State's **Brian Hoyer** (5th with 109.6). In addition, Ohio State's **Todd Boeckman** topped the conference with a pass efficiency rating of 148.9 to lead OSU to the national championship game while Illinois' **Juice Williams** was the only quarterback to rank among the top 10 in both rushing and pass efficiency to return the Illini to the Rose Bowl. Iowa's **Jake Christensen** will also be back after tossing 17 TDs in his first year as the starter.

**Crowded Backfield:** The Big Ten's backfields will also feature some of the nation's top running backs, including four players that have earned first- or sec-

## Big Ten Network to Present Spring Football Showcase on April 19



Football-starved fans will have a unique opportunity to get a first glimpse of future Big Ten stars at 1 PM ET Saturday, April 19, during the 3½ hour BIG TEN TONIGHT: SPRING FOOTBALL SHOWCASE presented by Jimmy John's. Dave Revsine, Gerry DiNardo and Howard Griffith will host the program from Chicago with

live look-ins from that afternoon's eight spring games in the Big Ten.

The show will take fans to Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan State, Ohio State, Penn State, Purdue and Wisconsin. At each stop, the Big Ten Network football analysts will give their early opinions on the 2008 season, break down important position battles and discuss which players could have breakout seasons.

Fans who want to watch their team's spring game without interruption can log onto to BigTenNetwork.com for a live web stream. The service will be provided free of charge by the Big Ten Network in conjunction with PlayON! Sports. Big Ten Network worked with PlayON! Sports last winter to stream 10 men's basketball games on BigTenNetwork.com.

Three Big Ten schools - Michigan, Minnesota and Northwestern - will conduct their spring games on different dates, and the Big Ten Network also will be on-hand to cover those events. BigTenNetwork.com will stream the spring games for Minnesota (7 PM CT on Friday, April 25) and Northwestern (noon CT on Saturday, April 26). Due to stadium renovations, Michigan's spring game will be held on Saturday, April 12, at Saline High School, near Ann Arbor. Highlights and interviews from the game will appear on that evening's Big Ten Tonight as well as on BigTenNetwork.com.

Last fall, the Big Ten Network became the first network in cable or satellite television history to reach 30 million homes within its first 30 days. The network is available through distribution agreements with DIRECTV, DISH Network, AT&T U-Verse, Insight Communications, WideOpenWest, RCN, Service Electric and more than 240 other cable operators.

# 2008 Football Prospectus

## Preseason Notes



ond-team all-conference laurels and two former national freshman of the year honorees. Six of the Big Ten's top 10 rushers in yards per conference game will return, including Ohio State's **Beanie Wells**, who led the Big Ten with 140.2 yards per outing last season on his way to first-team All-Big Ten and *Sporting News* second-team All-American laurels. Michigan State's **Javon Ringer** rated third with 118.4 yards per conference game to pick up second-team All-Big Ten accolades. Wisconsin's **P.J. Hill**, a 2006 first-team All-Big Ten selection and CBS Sportsline.com National Freshman of the Year, ranked fifth in conference play in 2007 with 82.8 yards per game despite missing two games due to injury. Northwestern's **Tyrell Sutton**, a 2005 second-team All-Conference pick and *Sporting News* National Freshman of the Year, also returns after missing time due to injury last season. Three other returning players ranked among the top 10 rushers in conference action last season. Illinois quarterback **Juice Williams** rated seventh with 69.8 yards per game, Wisconsin's **Zach Brown** filled in for Hill and ranked eighth with 69.4 yards per outing as a freshman and Purdue's **Kory Sheets** rounded out the top 10 with 53.5 yards per contest.

**Strong on Defense:** On the defensive side of the ball, three players who earned first- or second-team All-American accolades will be back on the field, highlighted by Ohio State's **James Laurinaitis**. The Buckeyes' linebacker is a two-time consensus All-American, winner of the 2007 Butkus Award and 2006 Nagurski Trophy and reigning Big Ten Defensive Player of the Year. Fellow Buckeye **Malcolm Jenkins** was a second-team All-American in the defensive backfield while Indiana defensive end **Greg Middleton** was a *Sporting News* first-team All-American after leading the country in sacks as a sophomore. Penn State linebacker **Sean Lee** is the Big Ten's top returning tackler after averaging 10.6 stops per game to rank second behind only former teammate and Bednarik Award winner Dan Connor. While Middleton topped the nation with 16.0 sacks, PSU's **Maurice Evans** also ranked among the country's top 10 with 12.5 sacks (third in the Big Ten, eighth nationally) while rating second in the confer-

ence with 21.5 tackles for loss. Wisconsin defensive back **Shane Carter** led the Big Ten and ranked ninth nationally with seven interceptions. Illinois defensive back **Vontae Davis** and Iowa defensive lineman **Mitch King** also return after being named first-team All-Big Ten by the coaches.

### A New Face in Ann Arbor:

The Big Ten will welcome one new head coach in 2008 in Michigan's **Rich Rodriguez**. Rodriguez joins the Wolverines after spending seven years as head coach at West Virginia, where he led the Mountaineers to a 60-26 record, four Big East titles and six consecutive bowl game bids. Following a 10-2 season when his team won the Big East title and a Bowl Championship Series berth, he was a finalist for the 2007 Liberty Mutual Coach of the Year Award. Rodriguez was the 2003 and 2005 Big East Coach of the Year. Under his guidance, WVU claimed four of the last five Big East championships and recorded three consecutive seasons (2005-07) of double-digit victories for the first time in school history. A member of West Virginia's 1981-84 teams, Rodriguez was a three-year letterwinner (1982-84) as a defensive back for coach Don Nehlen, who served as an assistant coach at Michigan for Bo Schembechler from 1977-79. Rodriguez will begin his Michigan tenure with a home game against Utah on August 30.

### Tiller Enters Final Year in West Lafayette:

Purdue head coach **Joe Tiller** will begin his 12th and final season at the helm of the Boilermakers only two victories away from becoming the school's all-time winningest coach. Tiller enters the 2008 season with an 83-54 record in 11 seasons in West Lafayette. Jack Mollenkopf set the school record with 84 victories over 14 seasons from 1956-69. In January, Tiller announced that he would retire at the end of the 2008 campaign and Purdue introduced

### BIG TEN COACHING RECORDS

Coach, School	Career (Yrs)	At School (Yrs)	Big Ten Only
Ron Zook, ILL	36-37 (6)	13-23 (3)	7-17
Bill Lynch, IND	88-73-3 (15)	7-6 (1)	3-5
Kirk Ferentz, IOWA	73-70 (12)	61-49 (9)	38-34
Rich Rodriguez, MICH	105-62-2 (15)	0-0	0-0
Mark Dantonio, MSU	25-23 (4)	7-6 (1)	3-5
Tim Brewster, MINN	1-11 (1)	1-11 (1)	0-8
Pat Fitzgerald, NU	10-14 (2)	10-14 (2)	5-11
Jim Tressel, OSU	208-73-2 (22)	73-16 (7)	45-11
Joe Paterno, PSU	372-125-3 (42)	372-125-3 (42)	73-47
Joe Tiller, PUR	122-84-1 (17)	83-54 (11)	51-37
Bret Bielema, WIS	21-5 (2)	21-5 (2)	12-4

### Danny Hope as associate head football coach.

Hope, who served as an assistant under Tiller at Purdue from 1997-2001, will assume the position of head coach at the end of the season. Hope returns to the Boilermakers from Eastern Kentucky, where he served as head coach from 2003 to 2007. His five-year record was 35-22, including 32-8 in Ohio Valley Conference games.

### Paterno Chases All-Time Win Record:

Penn State's **Joe Paterno** hit the 500-mark in career games as a head coach at the end of last season and enters this year just one game behind the NCAA record for career victories. Paterno became just the second mentor in NCAA history to coach in 500 or more games during the Nittany Lions' bowl victory over Texas A&M at the end of last season. He joins former Big Ten coach Amos Alonzo Stagg, who coached in 548 games from 1890-1946 with Springfield, Chicago and Pacific. Paterno enters the 2008 campaign with 372 wins to rank second all-time among Football Bowl Subdivision coaches in total victories, trailing only current Florida State head coach Bobby Bowden, who wrapped up last season with 373 triumphs.

### Big Ten Mentors Near Coaching Landmarks:

In addition to Penn State's **Joe Paterno** chasing the all-time victory record, two more Big Ten coaches are on the verge of coaching landmarks. Iowa's **Kirk Ferentz** will spend his 150th game as a head coach on Oct. 11 at Indiana. Ferentz has built a mark of 73-70 in his first 12 seasons with the Hawkeyes and Maine, which is Iowa's opponent in the season opener on August 30. In addition, Michigan State's **Mark Dantonio** enters the 2008 campaign with 48 career games as a head coach and will stand on the sidelines for his 50th game on Sept. 6 against Eastern Michigan.

### Paterno Continues Climb Up Big Ten Century Club:

With the departure of Michigan's Lloyd Carr, Penn State's **Joe Paterno** is the lone active coach appearing among the list of 12 mentors to collect 100 or more wins at a Big Ten school.

### BIG TEN'S TOP STATISTICAL RETURNEES FOR ALL GAMES

Category	Player, School	2007 Stats (Big Ten-National ranking)
Rushing	Beanie Wells, OSU	274 for 1,609 yards, 15 TDs, 123.8 ypg (3rd-11th)
Passing Avg.	C.J. Bachér, NU	318 of 521 for 3,656 yards, 19 TDs, 304.7 ypg (1st-10th)
Passing Efficiency	Todd Boeckman, OSU	190 of 298 for 2,372 yards, 25 TDs, 148.9 efficiency (1st-13th)
Total Offense	C.J. Bachér, NU	607 plays, 3,687 yards (3,656 pass/31 rush), 307.2 ypg (1st-12th)
Receptions	Travis Beckum, WIS	75 for 982 yards, 6 TDs, 5.77 rpg (5th-T41st)
Receiving Yards	Eric Decker, MINN	67 for 909 yards, 9 TDs, 75.8 ypg (4th-44th)
All-Purpose Yards	Javon Ringer, MSU	1,447 rush, 295 rec., 1,742 yards total, 134.0 ypg (5th-48th)
Tackles	Sean Lee, PSU	138 total (54 solo), 10.6 per game (2nd-T17th)
Sacks	Greg Middleton, IND	16.0 for 102 yards, 1.23 per game (1st-1st)
Tackles For Loss	Maurice Evans, PSU	21.5 for 117 yards, 1.65 per game (2nd-6th)
Interceptions	Shane Carter, WIS	7 interceptions (1st-9th)
Punting	Jeremy Boone, PSU	59 punts for 2,538 yards, 43.0 avg. (1st-19th)
Field Goal Pct.	Austin Starr, IND	21 field goals on 23 attempts, 91.3 pct. (1st-NA)

# 2008 Football Prospectus

## Preseason Notes



Paterno posted nine triumphs last season to move past current Wisconsin Director of Athletics Barry Alvarez, who wrapped up his 16-year coaching tenure in Madison following the 2005 campaign with a record of 118-73-4. Paterno has built a mark of 125-58 since the Nittany Lions joined the conference in 1993 to rank eighth, just six wins shy of Illinois' Robert Zuppke (131-81-13) for seventh place. Carr concluded his 13-year career with 122 victories to appear ninth on the list. Among other active Big Ten coaches, Purdue's **Joe Tiller** boasts 83 wins in 11 years in West Lafayette while Ohio State's **Jim Tressel** has racked up 73 victories in seven seasons with the Buckeyes. The complete list of coaches in the Big Ten century club appears to the right.

**Spreading the Love:** Parity has reigned over the Big Ten landscape for the last decade (1998-2007) with eight different teams winning the conference title either outright or as a co-champion: Illinois ('01), Iowa ('02, '04), Michigan ('98, '00, '03, '04), Northwestern ('00), Ohio State ('98, '02, '05, '06, '07), Penn State ('05), Purdue ('00) and Wisconsin ('98, '99). The title has been shared by at least two teams five times in this span, with a pair of three-team ties in 1998 and 2000 and two teams atop the standings in 2002, 2004 and 2005.

**Big Ten Takes on Bowl Teams:** The 2008 Big Ten non-conference schedule features 13 games against 2007-08 bowl opponents, as nine of the 11 conference programs will face at least one bowl team. Indiana, Michigan State, Minnesota and Purdue will be challenged by a pair of bowl programs. Both the Hoosiers and Boilermakers will host Central Michigan (Motor City Bowl) of the Mid-American Conference (MAC). Purdue and CMU will meet for the third time in a 14-game stretch, after the Boilermakers earned victories last season during the regular season and in the 2007 Motor City Bowl. Indiana will take on another MAC bowl team in Ball State (International) while Purdue will be challenged by Oregon (Sun) out of the Pac-10. The Spartans and Golden Gophers will both host Florida Atlantic (New Orleans) out of the Sun Belt. Michigan State will also hit the road to battle the Pac-10's California

BIG TEN CENTURY CLUB		
Coach, Team	Seasons	Record
Woody Hayes, OSU	28	205-61-10
Amos Alonzo Stagg, CHI*	37	199-94-22
Bo Schembechler, MICH	21	194-48-5
Fielding Yost, MICH	25	165-29-10
Hayden Fry, IOWA	20	143-89-6
Henry Williams, MINN	22	136-33-11
Robert Zuppke, ILL	29	131-81-13
<b>Joe Paterno, PSU*</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>125-58-0</b>
Lloyd Carr, MICH	13	122-40-0
Barry Alvarez, WIS	16	118-73-4
John Cooper, OSU	13	111-43-4
Duffy Daugherty, MSU	19	109-69-5

\* Record while member of Big Ten only

(Armed Forces) while Minnesota will face a road test at Bowling Green (GMAC) of the MAC. The Big Ten and Pac-10 will actually take part in four non-conference games with Ohio State playing at Southern California (Rose) and Penn State hosting Oregon State (Emerald). Other Big Ten squads challenging bowl teams out of conference include Illinois taking on the Big 12's Missouri (Cotton), Michigan hosting Utah (Poinsettia) of the Mountain West Conference and Wisconsin playing at Fresno State (Humanitarian) of the Western Athletic Conference.

**No Plays for 2008:** Each year, two Big Ten teams do not meet. Here is the breakdown of "no-plays" for 2008:

Team	Does not play
Illinois	Michigan State, Purdue
Indiana	Michigan, Ohio State
Iowa	Michigan, Ohio State
Michigan	Indiana, Iowa
Michigan State	Illinois, Minnesota
Minnesota	Michigan State, Penn State
Northwestern	Penn State, Wisconsin
Ohio State	Indiana, Iowa
Penn State	Minnesota, Northwestern
Purdue	Illinois, Wisconsin
Wisconsin	Northwestern, Purdue

ASSOCIATED PRESS -- FINAL			
Team (1st Place)	Rec.	PTS	Prev.
1. LSU (60)	12-2	1620	2
2. Georgia (3)	11-2	1515	4
3. USC (1)	11-2	1500	6
4. Missouri	12-2	1347	7
<b>5. Ohio State</b>	<b>11-2</b>	<b>1346</b>	<b>1</b>
6. West Virginia	11-2	1342	11
7. Kansas (1)	12-1	1303	8
8. Oklahoma	11-3	1139	3
9. Virginia Tech	11-3	1096	5
10. Texas	10-3	962	17
10. Boston College	11-3	962	14
12. Tennessee	10-4	904	16
13. Florida	9-4	685	9
14. Brigham Young	11-2	654	19
15. Auburn	9-4	648	22
16. Arizona State	10-3	587	12
17. Cincinnati	10-3	566	20
<b>18. Michigan</b>	<b>9-4</b>	<b>508</b>	<b>NR</b>
19. Hawaii	12-1	460	10
<b>20. Illinois</b>	<b>9-4</b>	<b>443</b>	<b>13</b>
21. Clemson	9-4	353	15
22. Texas Tech	9-4	308	NR
23. Oregon	9-4	253	NR
<b>24. Wisconsin</b>	<b>9-4</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>18</b>
25. Oregon State	9-4	110	NR

Others Receiving Votes: Virginia 66, Penn State 61, Kentucky 57, Wake Forest 53, Boise State 25, Arkansas 13, Utah 9, Mississippi State 7, Appalachian State 5, South Florida 5, Tulsa 4, Connecticut 3, Air Force 2, Rutgers 2.

USA TODAY -- FINAL			
Team (1st Place)	Rec.	PTS	Prev.
1. LSU (60)	12-2	1500	2
2. USC	11-2	1380	6
3. Georgia	11-2	1370	4
<b>4. Ohio State</b>	<b>11-2</b>	<b>1287</b>	<b>1</b>
5. Missouri	12-2	1241	7
6. West Virginia	11-2	1239	9
7. Kansas	12-1	1217	8
8. Oklahoma	11-3	1016	3
9. Virginia Tech	11-3	979	5
10. Texas	10-3	924	17
11. Boston College	11-3	898	14
12. Tennessee	10-4	826	18
13. Arizona State	10-3	635	11
14. Auburn	9-4	624	21
14. Brigham Young	11-2	624	19
16. Florida	9-4	567	12
17. Hawaii	12-1	427	10
<b>18. Illinois</b>	<b>9-4</b>	<b>416</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>19. Michigan</b>	<b>9-4</b>	<b>413</b>	<b>NR</b>
20. Cincinnati	10-3	376	23
<b>21. Wisconsin</b>	<b>9-4</b>	<b>333</b>	<b>15</b>
22. Clemson	9-4	319	16
23. Texas Tech	9-4	242	NR
24. Oregon	9-4	192	NR
<b>25. Penn State</b>	<b>9-4</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>NR</b>

Others Receiving Votes: Oregon State 108, Virginia 71, Wake Forest 53, Boise State 33, Fresno State 11, Kentucky 11, California 8, Connecticut 8, Mississippi State 7, South Florida 6, Tulsa 5, UCF 4, Utah 2, Arkansas 1.

### BIG TEN IN THE POLLS (ASSOCIATED PRESS/USA TODAY/HARRIS)

	ILL	IND	IOWA	MICH	MSU	MINN	NU	OSU	PSU	PUR	WIS
Preseason	-/-	-/-	-rv	5/5	-/-	-/-	-/-	11/10	17/18	rv/-	7/7
Sept. 4	-/-	-/-	-rv	rv/rv	-/-	-/-	-/-	12/11	14/15	-/-	5/5
Sept. 9	-/-	-/-	rv/rv	-/-	-/-	-/-	-/-	10/10	12/12	rv/rv	7/7
Sept. 16	-/-	-/-	-/-	-/-	rv/rv	-/-	-/-	8/9	10/10	rv/rv	9/7
Sept. 23	-/-rv	-/-	-rv/-	rv/rv/rv	rv/23/25	-/-	-/-	8/8/7	21/19/19	rv/25/rv	9/9/9
Sept. 30	rv/rv/rv	-rv/rv	-/-	rv/rv/rv	rv/rv/25	-/-	-/-	4/4/4	rv/rv/rv	23/20/20	5/5/5
Oct. 7	18/19/19	rv/rv/rv	-/-	rv/rv/rv	-rv/rv	-/-	-/-	3/3/3	rv/rv/rv	rv/24/24	19/15/15
Oct. 14	rv/rv/rv	-/-	-/-	24/rv/25	-rv/rv	-/-	-/-	1/1/1	rv/25/rv	-rv/rv	rv/rv/rv
Oct. 21	-rv/rv	-/-	-/-	19/21/21	-/-	-/-	-/-	1/1/1	24/22/22	rv/rv/rv	rv/25/rv
Oct. 28	rv/rv/rv	-/-	-/-	15/14/15	-/-	-/-	-/-	1/1/1	rv/rv/rv	rv/rv/rv	rv/19/21
Nov. 4	rv/rv/rv	-/-	-/-	13/13/15	-/-	-/-	-/-	1/1/1	rv/25/rv	rv/rv/rv	rv/rv/rv
Nov. 11	20/21/20	-/-	-/-	23/23/22	-/-	-/-	-/-	7/7/7	rv/22/25	-/-	24/24/23
Nov. 18	18/18/18	-rv/-	-/-	rv/rv/rv	-rv/rv	-/-	-/-	5/5/5	rv/rv/rv	-/-	22/20/20
Nov. 25	15/14/14	-/-	-/-	rv/rv/rv	-rv/-	-/-	-/-	3/3/3	rv/rv/rv	-/-	19/16/16
Dec. 2	13/13/13	-/-	-/-	rv/rv/rv	-rv/-	-/-	-/-	1/1/1	rv/rv/rv	-/-	18/15/15
FINAL	20/18	-/-	-/-	18/19	-/-	-/-	-/-	5/4	rv/25	-/-	24/21

rv - Receiving Votes      NOTE: Harris Poll first released on Sept. 23; final release on Dec. 2