

TABLE OF CONTENTS / CREDITS



MEDIA SERVICES

Media Information	2
Spartan Sports Network	3
BTN	4
Big Ten Conference	4
2011 Schedule/2010 Results/Future Schedule	5

2011 OUTLOOK

2011 Outlook	6-9
2011 Capsule Outlook	10
2011 Personnel Breakdown	11
2011 Numerical Roster	12-13
2011 Alphabetical Roster	13
2011 Preseason Depth Chart	14

2011 SPARTANS

2011 Spartans	15-52
---------------	-------

COACHING STAFF

Mark Dantonio	53-54
Pat Narduzzi	55
Dan Roushar	55
Harlon Barnett	56
Ted Gill	56
Brad Salem	57
Terrence Samuel	57
Mark Staten	58
Mike Tressel	58
Dave Warner	59
Ken Mannie	59
Tommy Hoke	60
Tim Allen	60
Dino Folino	61
Brad Lunsford	61
Graduate Assistants/Football Support Staff	62

2010 RECAP

2010 Honors & Awards	63
2010 Final Statistics	64-65
2010 Game-By-Game Individual Statistics	66
2010 Game-By-Game Team Statistics	67
2010 Starting Lineups	67
2010 Red Zone Statistics/Superlatives	68
2010 Final Big Ten Standings	69
2010 Big Ten Statistics	69-71
2010 All-Big Ten Teams	72
Game 1: Western Michigan	73
Game 2: Florida Atlantic	73
Game 3: Notre Dame	74
Game 4: Northern Colorado	74
Game 5: Wisconsin	75
Game 6: Michigan	75
Game 7: Illinois	76
Game 8: Northwestern	76
Game 9: Iowa	77
Game 10: Minnesota	77
Game 11: Purdue	78
Game 12: Penn State	78
Game 13: Alabama	79

SPARTAN RECORDS

Individual Rushing Records	80
Individual Passing Records	81-82
Individual Receiving Records	83
Individual Scoring/Total Offense Records	84
Individual Defensive Records	85-86

Individual Special Teams Records	87
Longest Plays	88
MSU Team Single-Game Records	89
MSU Team Single-Season Records	90
Opponent Individual Records	91
Opponent Team Single-Game Records	92
Big Ten Stat Champions	93-94
Big Ten Record Book	95
100-Yard Rushers	96-98
200-Yard Passers	99-100
100-Yard Receivers	101-102
Year-By-Year Statistical Leaders	103-108
Statistical Trends	109-110

SPARTAN HISTORY

All-Time Results	111-121
National Champions	122
Year-By-Year Record	123-124
Series Scores	125-129
Trophy Games	129
Series Records	130
Record vs. Conferences	131
MSU vs. Ranked Opponents	132-134
Final Polls	135-137
All-Time Coaching Record	138
All-Time Assistant Coaches	139
Spartans In The NFL Draft	140-142
Spartans By Pro Team	143-144
All-Time Pro Roster	145-146
All-Time Letterwinners	147-160
Winning Streaks/Misc. Records	161

HONORS & AWARDS

All-Americans	162-170
All-Big Ten	171-173
Academic All-Americans	174
Academic All-Big Ten	175
Miscellaneous Awards	176-182
Spartans In All-Star Games	183-184

BOWL HISTORY

Bowl History	185
1938 Orange Bowl	185
1954 Rose Bowl	186
1956 Rose Bowl	186
1966 Rose Bowl	187
1984 Cherry Bowl	187
1985 All-American Bowl	188
1988 Rose Bowl	188
1989 Gator Bowl	189
1989 Aloha Bowl	189
1990 Sun Bowl	190
1993 Liberty Bowl	190
1995 Independence Bowl	191
1996 Sun Bowl	191
1997 Aloha Bowl	192
2000 Citrus Bowl	192
2001 Silicon Valley Football Classic	193
2003 Alamo Bowl	193
2007 Champs Sports Bowl	194
2009 Capital One Bowl	194
2010 Valero Alamo Bowl	195
2011 Capital One Bowl	195
Team Bowl Records	196-197
Individual Bowl Records	198-200
Opponent Individual Bowl Records	201-202

THE UNIVERSITY

Board of Trustees	203
President Lou Anna K. Simon	203
Athletics Director Mark Hollis	204
Spartan Stadium	205-206
2011 Big Ten Composite Schedule	207
Bowl Championship Series	208

CREDITS

The **2011 Michigan State Football Media Guide** is a production of MSU Athletic Communications. This publication was compiled, written, and edited by Associate Athletics Director for Communications John Lewandowski and Assistant Director/Athletic Communications Ben Phlegar. Editorial assistance provided by Director of New Media Matt Larson, Assistant Director/Athletic Communications Jim Donatelli and Athletic Communications intern Vince Baker. Publication layout and design by Kate Kingsley and Sean Harrington, Foresight Group, Lansing, Mich. Printing by BRD Printing Inc., Lansing, Mich.

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2011
OUTLOOK

2011
SPARTANS

COACHING
STAFF

2010
RECAP

SPARTAN
RECORDS

SPARTAN
HISTORY

HONORS &
AWARDS

BOWL
HISTORY

THE
UNIVERSITY



MEDIA INFORMATION

2011
OUTLOOK

2011
SPARTANS

COACHING
STAFF

2010
RECAP

SPARTAN
RECORDS

SPARTAN
HISTORY

HONORS &
AWARDS

BOWL
HISTORY

THE
UNIVERSITY

PRESS BOX

The Spartan Stadium expansion project, completed in August 2005, included the construction of a new press box. Level 8 is the working press deck that features 193 seats and four radio broadcast booths. Level 6 is the television camera deck as well as the broadcast location for national and regional telecasts.

Admission to the press box is through Gate F on the west side of the stadium. All press personnel are subject to search prior to entering Spartan Stadium.

WORKING CREDENTIALS

All requests for working press, photo and broadcast credentials for Michigan State's 2011 home football games should be submitted online. Please contact athletic communications office assistant Paulette Martis at (517) 355-2271 for the URL.

Priority for the issuance of credentials will be given to daily newspapers and television stations which cover MSU football on a regular basis. All other credentials for print media are issued on basis of circulation. Upon acceptance of application, appropriate credentials are mailed out or held for pickup at media will-call, located at Gate F on the west side of Spartan Stadium. All members of the media picking up credentials at media will-call will be required to provide photo identification and the name must match the one listed on the credential. Working press tickets contain specific seat locations. Reporters requiring exclusive phone service should have their own lines and instruments installed. Others may use a limited number of telephones on a first-come, first-served basis.

ROAD GAME CREDENTIALS

Writers covering the Spartans on a regular basis may request media credentials for road games through the MSU Athletic Communications Department. Credential requests are submitted to opponent SIDs on Mondays two weeks prior to the game.

PHONE LINES

An adequate number of phone lines and phone instruments are available, but media members needing to order their own lines should contact Ameritech at (800) 321-8152. Those ordering personal phones should provide Ameritech with the following street address for installation, One Michigan State University. To use existing lines, dial 8-0-area code-number. For toll free numbers, dial 8-1-800-number. Only collect, toll free and credit card calls are accepted.

INTERNET ACCESS

Wireless Internet is available for the working media in the press box on Level 8. **Ethernet connections are available at each of the 193 seats in the press box, but only a limited number of cords are available. Please plan on bringing an Ethernet cord to use high-speed access. It is recommended for print outlets to use wireless access and photographers to use high-speed access.**

RADIO

Each originating broadcasting station will be issued a maximum of eight booth credentials. Spotters' credentials must come from this allotment. Home team spotters are provided on advance notice only, and visiting team spotters must be arranged with visitors.

Only local radio stations with a full-time sports director conducting a daily sports show receive consideration for credentials. A post-game report service will be available from an athletic communications staffer after each home game at no charge.

PHOTOGRAPHERS

Field passes are issued on the basis of circulation with priority granted to media agencies covering the participating schools on a regular basis. Photographers may work from either sideline (except in the team area) and beyond both end zones. Press box photo passes for assigned locations

are issued to television station crews. A maximum of three working tickets is allowed per TV station. With the return of natural grass in Spartan Stadium, field access is limited to still photographers, camera operators and sideline reporters for "live" radio/TV network coverage.

MSU follows the guidelines established by the NCAA Communications Committee regarding sideline control, which ensure the sideline is a working press area. The following guidelines are adhered to: 1. Each photographer is required to wear an armband at all times; 2. Armbands must be secured at the photographer's credential pickup; 3. After kickoff, no photographers are permitted in the bench area, on the playing field, or in the 12-foot area between the limit line and sideline; 4. Cutline writers, messengers and equipment carriers are not permitted in the sideline armband area; 5. Tripods are not permitted on the sidelines.

MEDIA PARKING

Media parking passes are available for \$15 per game and \$105 for the 2011 season (seven home games). The designated lots for media parking are all within easy walking distance of Spartan Stadium. Media parking passes will be assigned by the MSU Athletic Communications Department. Priority for lot assignment will be given to daily newspapers and TV stations that cover Spartan football on a regular basis. All other media parking will be issued on the basis of circulation or market size (TV/radio). **Additional parking fees are required to accommodate TV satellite trucks and "live" radio remotes.**

STATISTICAL SERVICES

Live stats for the 2011 season will be available at the following web site: www.livestats.ath.msu.edu. The interactive page will remain active following the conclusion of the game. **Media members are encouraged to use this site as their main reference point for statistics; only a limited number of copies will be printed following each quarter.**

Prior to kickoff, all media members will be provided a flip card and other pertinent information. Last-minute line-up changes, pregame weather conditions and other information will be relayed through the internal public address system. **Updated game notes for both teams and Big Ten Conference notes and stats will be available for media members upon request in the media workbook. Game notes for both teams also will be posted in the Football Media Center on the front page of www.msuspartans.com on game day.**

Following the conclusion of the game, a complete post-game stats package will be available in the press box and will contain a scoring summary, final team statistics, final individual statistics, complete play-by-play, drive charts, defensive statistics, player participation list, post-game quotes from both head coaches and selected players plus post-game notes.

Upon request, a final statistics book, quotes and notes can be e-mailed to media members approximately one hour after the conclusion of the game. To be added to the list, please e-mail Associate Athletics Director John Lewandowski at lewski@ath.msu.edu.

In addition, game notes and quotes will be posted on Michigan State's official web site promptly after the conclusion of the game (www.msuspartans.com).

MEDIA HOSPITALITY

Food will be sold from the concession area, located on Level 8 (press box). The concession area will open approximately two hours before kickoff and remain open through the conclusion of the third quarter. Complimentary coffee and soft drinks are available throughout the game.

Following the post-game press conferences and interviews, complimentary pizzas will be served on Level 8.

HOTEL ROOMS

Hotel rooms are booked far in advance of Michigan State home football weekends. The Michigan State Athletic Communications Department has set aside a limited number of rooms at local hotels for accredited media representatives. Arrangements should be made through sports information office assistant Paulette Martis at (517) 355-2271. Some area hotels require a two-night stay for Michigan State home football weekends and a valid credit card is required for reservations being made through the MSU Athletic Communications Department. Media members are responsible for making their own lodging arrangements when Michigan State plays on the road.

WEEKLY PRESS CONFERENCES

A weekly press conference with MSU head coach Mark Dantonio will be held each Tuesday during the season, beginning at 11:30 a.m. on Level 4 (Spartan Club) in Spartan Stadium. **Parking is available in Lot 79 – the gated, pay lot – located south of Spartan Stadium, off of Shaw Lane.**

WEEKLY INTERVIEWS

Outside the weekly press conference, interviews during the week with head coach Mark Dantonio or any Spartan players should be arranged through the MSU Athletic Communications Department. The MSU Athletic Communications Department requests that all player interviews be arranged through this office and that media members are prohibited from contacting players in their apartments or dormitory rooms. **The best time for player interviews is following practice Tuesday at approximately 5:30 p.m.** All player interviews should be completed by the conclusion of practice on Wednesday of game week. Please contact the MSU Athletic Communications Department for all player interview requests at least 24 hours in advance.

Media parking is available in Lot 79 – the gated, pay lot – located south of Spartan Stadium, off of Shaw Lane.

POST-GAME INTERVIEWS

Media representatives may attend MSU's post-game press conference, featuring head coach Mark Dantonio and the coordinators, in the interview trailer, located outside the stadium tunnel entrance after a short post-game cooling-off period. Requested Spartan players also will be available for post-game comments in the interview trailer following Coach Dantonio's press conference. The Spartan locker room is closed to the media. Coach Dantonio's comments will be hooked into an amplification system and audio feeds can be obtained through use of connector cords (standard 1/4-inch connector). TV stations should bring a recording deck, standard BNC video cable and XLR audio cable. TV cameramen will be asked to set up their equipment at the back of the room. Coach Dantonio's post-game press conference can also be seen live on closed circuit in the press box. The visiting coach press conference, held in another trailer outside the tunnel, will be shown on a tape-delay basis following Coach Dantonio's press conference.

PRACTICE SCHEDULE

Tuesday practices are normally open to the working media for approximately 30 minutes, beginning at 3:30 p.m. TV cameras and still photographers are permitted to shoot flex and the first few periods. The remainder of practice is closed.

WEEKLY RELEASE VIA E-MAIL

To receive the weekly football release via electronic mail, members of the media can send an e-mail message to Associate Athletics Director John Lewandowski: lewski@ath.msu.edu. The release is also posted on the athletics department official web site (www.msuspartans.com) in text format and Adobe PDF format.



For the 12th consecutive season, the Spartan Sports Network (Holt, Mich.) will produce and distribute Michigan State football broadcasts. The Network, which is the largest and most listened to in the state, is powered by seven 50,000-watt stations and two 100,000-watt stations for 100 percent coverage of the state of Michigan. For the fifth consecutive year, the Spartan Sports Network was the most honored in the state, garnering 10 Michigan Association of Broadcasters' "Broadcast Excellence Awards." Network flagship stations are WJIM Radio (AM 1240) and WMMQ (FM 94.9) in Lansing and WJR Radio (AM 760) in Detroit.



George Blaha has anchored Spartan football broadcasts as play-by-play voice for over three decades. A 2008 inductee into the Michigan Sports Hall of Fame, Blaha is a Michigan broadcast icon, recently completing his 35th season as radio and television play-by-play voice of the National Basketball Association's Detroit Pistons. The longest tenured play-by-play broadcaster in the state, he has been the recipient of many prestigious awards, including Michigan Sports Broadcaster of the Year (1998 and 2007) from the National Sportscasters and Sportswriters Association. In 2002, he also was presented the Ty Tyson Award for "Excellence in Sports Broadcasting" by the Detroit Sports Broadcasters Association.

Born in Detroit, Blaha was raised in Marshalltown, Iowa, and Grayling, Mich. He and his father attended Michigan State's first-ever Big Ten football game, played at Iowa in 1953. Blaha earned a bachelor's degree in economics from Notre Dame in 1966 and later received his MBA from Michigan.



Jim Miller, a three-year starter at quarterback for Coach George Perles at Michigan State from 1991-93, enters his sixth season as color analyst for the Spartan Sports Network. Miller still ranks among MSU's all-time leaders in pass attempts (seventh at 746), pass completions (fourth at 467), completion percentage (second at .629) and passing yards (seventh at 5,037). As a senior, Miller shared team MVP honors after completing 215-of-336 passes (.640) for 2,269 yards and nine touchdowns. A three-time Academic All-Big Ten selection from 1990-92, he earned his bachelor's degree in supply chain management from Michigan State in 2002. Prior to signing a National Letter of Intent to attend Michigan State in February 1989, Miller earned All-America and all-state honors at Kettering High School in Waterford, Mich.

A sixth-round selection by the Pittsburgh Steelers in the 1994 National Football League Draft, Miller threw for 6,387 yards and 36 TDs during his nine-year pro career (Pittsburgh, 1995-96; Atlanta, 1997; Chicago, 1998-2002; New England, 2004). He earned 27 career starts at quarterback, compiling a 15-11 record as a starter in Chicago. In five seasons with the Bears, Miller recorded three 300-yard passing games. In his first career start against Minnesota on Nov. 14, 1999, he completed 34-of-48 throws for 422 yards and three scores. His 422 passing yards represent the fourth-highest single-game total in Chicago history. In 2001, Miller led the Bears' charge to the playoffs, posting an 11-2 record as a starter during the regular season while establishing career highs in pass attempts (395), pass completions (228), passing yards (2,299) and TDs (13). In 2002, he threw for 1,944 yards while matching his career best with 13 TD tosses.

Additional on-air responsibilities for Miller include providing NFL analysis for Sirius Satellite Radio and serving as a studio analyst for Comcast SportsNet Chicago's "Bears Post Game Live." Miller is the co-founder of GoBigRecruiting.com and owns JMK Custom Homes in Clarkston, Mich.



Former Michigan State All-Big Ten center Jason Strayhorn begins his sixth season as the sideline reporter for the Spartan Sports Network. A native of Indianapolis, Ind., Strayhorn started 24 consecutive games at center for Coach Nick Saban in 1997-98. As a senior, he earned first-team All-Big Ten honors from the coaches and media after grading out as a winner (better than 70 percent) in 11 of the 12 games in 1998. The former team captain also received the Up Front Award as the team's outstanding interior lineman in 1998, consistently posting the unit's top grade for pass protection by not allowing a sack the entire season. Strayhorn turned in one of the best performances of his career in MSU's 28-24 victory over top-ranked Ohio State in Columbus in 1998. He was selected Spartan Offensive Player of the Week after grading out 80 percent overall against the Buckeyes, including 89 percent in his pass-blocking assignments.

Strayhorn, who received his bachelor's degree in business management from Michigan State in 1998, owns a real estate investment company.



Will Tieman returns for his 14th year on the Spartan football broadcast team, serving as the broadcast host. During home games at Spartan Stadium, Tieman broadcasts from the network's on-field set, located in the north end zone. His other football-related activities include: hosting a daily statewide series, called "In the Huddle with Mark Dantonio" and handling play-by-play duties for the national broadcast of the Little Caesars Pizza Bowl. For the 21st year, Tieman serves as host for the syndicated series "This Week in College Football and Basketball." Three times Tieman has been honored with the "Best Network Play-by-Play" award by the Michigan Association of Broadcasters. He was recognized in 2008 and 2010 for his work as voice of the Michigan State basketball team and in 2007 for his presentation of the Motor City Bowl. Tieman currently serves as the president of the Detroit Sports Broadcasters Association.

2011 SPARTAN SPORTS NETWORK AFFILIATES

City	Call Letters	City	Call Letters
Alma	WQBX (FM 104.9)	Newberry	WMJT (FM 96.7)
Ann Arbor	WLBV (AM 1290)	Ontonagon	WUPY (FM 101.1)
Bad Axe	WLEW (AM 1340)	Petoskey	WJML (AM 1110)
Battle Creek	WBCK (FM 95.3)	Port Huron	WPHM (AM 1380)
Benton Harbor	WCSY (FM 103.7)	Saginaw	WNEM (AM 1250)
Detroit	WJR (AM 760)	Sturgis	WBET (AM 1230)
Escanaba	WUPF (FM 107.3)	Tawas City	WKJC (FM 104.7)
Flint	WWCK (AM 1570)	Traverse City	WLDR (FM 101.9)
Gaylord	WMJZ (FM 101.5)	Note: Radio affiliate listing is subject to change.	
Grand Haven	WGHN (FM 92.1)	Sirius/XM Radio	
Grand Rapids	WBBL (FM 107.3)	Streaming available at	
Greenville	WGLM (FM 106.3)	www.spartansportsnetwork.com	
Hastings	WBCH (AM 1220)	Free Mobile App for iPhone and Android	
	WBCH (FM 100.1)		
Holland	WPNW (AM 1260)		
Iron Mountain	WMIQ (AM 1450)		
Ishpeming	WUPG (FM 96.7)		
Jackson	WBIM (AM 1450)		
Kalamazoo	WKZO (AM 590)		
Lansing	WJIM (AM 1240)		
	WMMQ (FM 94.9)		
Ludington	WKLA (AM 1450)		
Midland	WLUN (FM 100.9)		

THE MARK DANTONIO SHOW

The Spartan Sports Network produces and distributes Mark Dantonio's weekly radio program Thursdays from 7-8 p.m. ET. Originating from Reno's East at 1310 Abbot Road in East Lansing. Spartan play-by-play announcer George Blaha hosts this live show, featuring insight from Coach Dantonio, special guests, features and phone calls. The Mark Dantonio Show can be heard statewide as well as locally on flagship station WJIM Radio (AM 1240) and WMMQ (FM 94.9).



SPARTAN FOOTBALL ALL-ACCESS

"Spartan Football All-Access" provides fans with a behind-the-scenes, inside look at the Michigan State football program. From the opening of preseason camp and each week throughout the regular season, the show will take viewers into team and position meeting rooms, video sessions, out to the practice field, into the classroom as well as into the post-game locker room.

"Spartan Football All-Access" debuts the 2011 Spartan season preview show on Friday, Aug. 26 at 7 p.m. on FOX Sports Detroit. The preview show will air throughout the rest of the month of August, leading up to the Sept. 2 season opener against Youngstown State.

Starting on Sunday, Sept. 4 and continuing throughout the season, "Spartan Football All-Access" will debut Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. on FOX Sports Detroit and re-airs throughout each week. The program also airs multiple times each week on BTN.

2011 OUTLOOK
2011 SPARTANS
COACHING STAFF
2010 RECAP
SPARTAN RECORDS
SPARTAN HISTORY
HONORS & AWARDS
BOWL HISTORY
THE UNIVERSITY



BIG TEN NETWORK



Company Profile

Headquartered in Chicago, BTN is the first internationally distributed television network dedicated to covering one of America's premier collegiate conferences.

With more than 350 live sports events, and virtually all of them in high definition, BTN is the ultimate destination for Big Ten fans and alumni across the country. The network is on the air 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Where to Find Us

The network is available to an estimated 80 million households, through agreements with more than 300 cable, satellite and telco affiliates in all 50 states and Canada. To get the channel number specific to your area and provider, visit www.bigtennetwork.com/channelfinder.

BTN Programming

BTN is on the air 24 hours per day, 365 days a year. The network annually televises nearly 400 live events and streams an additional 300+ events. Each year's schedule is comprised of approximately 40-45 football games, 105 regular season men's basketball games, Big Ten Men's Basketball Tournament games, 55 women's basketball games, Big Ten Women's Basketball Tournament games, hundreds of additional Olympic sports events and dozens of Big Ten championship events.

Every BTN football game telecast is surrounded by Big Ten Football Saturday, the network's pre-game, halftime and post-game show hosted by Dave Revsine and analysts Gerry DiNardo and Howard Griffith.

The fall programming lineup will include Big Ten Icons, Tailgate 48, Behind the Schemes, Big Ten's Best, Big Ten Breakdown, Big Ten Football & Beyond, The Big Ten's Greatest Games and much more.

In addition to live events, the network also airs coaches' shows and classic games. Each campus also has the opportunity to produce original, campus programming highlighting various aspects of campus life and the qualities that make each university unique.

Some of BTN's streamed events are also televised on delay as part of the network's Student U initiative. Big Ten students on each campus produce and announce these events, offering a unique opportunity to gain real-world television experience.

Why the Network Was Created

BTN was created to provide the conference with more national exposure for Big Ten sports while enhancing its existing television agreements with its other television partners.

The conference wanted to control more fully the advertising environment in which its events were aired (the network accepts no alcohol or gambling advertising), dramatically increase exposure for women's sports and other NCAA sports that had not previously been widely televised and improve distribution for football and men's basketball games that were previously available only on a local or regional basis.

Considered to be one of the most successful launches in cable television history, BTN became the first network in cable or satellite television history to reach 30 million subscribers within its first 30 days on the air. BTN is a joint venture between subsidiaries of the Big Ten Conference and Fox Cable Networks.

BTN's Impact

The network has provided an additional revenue source at a time of continued decreases in state support. The network has also provided significant and additional exposure for all Big Ten men's and women's sports, some of which previously received little or no television exposure. It also helps with recruiting in all sports as the ability for parents to watch their children compete from anywhere across the country is a major selling point.

BIG

HONORING LEGENDS. BUILDING LEADERS.

The mission of the Big Ten Conference has always been to excel athletically without compromising the priority our member institutions assign to their academic standards and to their commitment to student academic success. We seek to celebrate the many accomplishments of Big Ten student-athletes while continuously reinforcing each of our member institutions' high academic standards. Striking that important balance between academics and athletics is integral to the Big Ten's identity, and that philosophy led to the genesis of the new football division names. Both names link directly to the Big Ten mission.

LEGENDS DIVISION



A respectful acknowledgement of the 18 Heisman Trophy winners and 215 College Football Hall of Famers that have graced our fields and sidelines for the past 115 years.

LEADERS DIVISION



A hopeful and aspirational acknowledgment that we believe the college athletics experience helps to develop the characteristics that Big Ten student-athletes will need to become leaders for the rest of their lives - in their homes, jobs and in their communities.

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ASSISTANT DIRECTOR



JIM DONATELLI
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR



BOB ARMSTRONG
VIDEO PRODUCER



DAVID DIFFENDERFFER
VIDEO PRODUCER



DAVE ELLIS
VIDEO PRODUCER



JAKE HUBER
VIDEO PRODUCER



PAULETTE MARTIS
OFFICE ASSISTANT



VINCE BAKER
INTERN

2011
OUTLOOK

2011
SPARTANS

COACHING
STAFF

2010
RECAP

SPARTAN
RECORDS

SPARTAN
HISTORY

HONORS &
AWARDS

BOWL
HISTORY

THE
UNIVERSITY

2011 SCHEDULE / 2010 RESULTS



2011 SCHEDULE

DATE	OPPONENT (2010 RECORD)	2010-11 BOWL	SERIES RECORD	LAST MEETING
SEPT. 2	YOUNGSTOWN STATE (6-5)			FIRST MEETING
SEPT. 10	FLORIDA ATLANTIC (4-8)		MSU LEADS 2-0	2010: MSU 30, FLORIDA ATLANTIC 17
SEPT. 17	AT NOTRE DAME (8-5)	SUN	NOTRE DAME LEADS 45-28-1	2010: MSU 34, NOTRE DAME 31 (OT)
SEPT. 24	CENTRAL MICHIGAN (3-9)		MSU LEADS 4-3	2009: CENTRAL MICHIGAN 29, MSU 27
OCT. 1	AT OHIO STATE (0-0)	SUGAR	OHIO STATE LEADS 27-12	2008: OHIO STATE 45, MSU 7
OCT. 15	MICHIGAN (7-6)	GATOR	MICHIGAN LEADS 67-31-5	2010: MSU 34, MICHIGAN 17
OCT. 22	WISCONSIN (11-2)	ROSE	MSU LEADS 28-21	2010: MSU 34, WISCONSIN 24
OCT. 29	AT NEBRASKA (10-4)	HOLIDAY	NEBRASKA LEADS 5-0	2003: NEBRASKA 17, MSU 3
NOV. 5	MINNESOTA (3-9)		MSU LEADS 26-17	2010: MSU 31, MINNESOTA 8
NOV. 12	AT IOWA (8-5)	INSIGHT	IOWA LEADS 22-18-2	2010: IOWA 37, MSU 6
NOV. 19	INDIANA (5-7)		MSU LEADS 40-15-2	2008: MSU 42, INDIANA 29
NOV. 26	AT NORTHWESTERN (7-6)	TICKETCITY	MSU LEADS 35-16	2010: MSU 35, NORTHWESTERN 27

2010 RESULTS

DATE	OPPONENT	RESULT	ATTENDANCE	SITE
SEPT. 4	WESTERN MICHIGAN	W, 38-14	75,769 (C)	SPARTAN STADIUM, EAST LANSING, MICH.
SEPT. 11	FLORIDA ATLANTIC	W, 30-17	36,124	FORD FIELD, DETROIT, MICH.
SEPT. 18	NOTRE DAME	W, 34-31 (OT)	78,411 (C)	SPARTAN STADIUM, EAST LANSING, MICH.
SEPT. 25	NORTHERN COLORADO	W, 45-7	70,926	SPARTAN STADIUM, EAST LANSING, MICH.
OCT. 2	WISCONSIN	W, 34-24	73,108	SPARTAN STADIUM, EAST LANSING, MICH.
OCT. 9	AT MICHIGAN	W, 34-17	113,065 (C)	MICHIGAN STADIUM, ANN ARBOR, MICH.
OCT. 16	ILLINOIS	W, 26-6	74,441	SPARTAN STADIUM, EAST LANSING, MICH.
OCT. 23	AT NORTHWESTERN	W, 35-27	41,115	RYAN FIELD, EVANSTON, ILL.
OCT. 30	AT IOWA	L, 6-37	70,585 (C)	KINNICK STADIUM, IOWA CITY, IOWA
NOV. 6	MINNESOTA	W, 31-8	71,128	SPARTAN STADIUM, EAST LANSING, MICH.
NOV. 20	PURDUE	W, 35-31	71,111	SPARTAN STADIUM, EAST LANSING, MICH.
NOV. 27	AT PENN STATE	W, 28-22	102,649	BEAVER STADIUM, STATE COLLEGE, PA.
JAN. 1	ALABAMA (1)	L, 7-49	61,519	FLORIDA CITRUS BOWL STADIUM, ORLANDO, FLA.

(1) CAPITAL ONE BOWL

FUTURE SCHEDULE

DATE	OPPONENT
2012	
AUG. 31	BOISE STATE
SEPT. 8	AT CENTRAL MICHIGAN
SEPT. 15	NOTRE DAME
SEPT. 22	EASTERN MICHIGAN
SEPT. 29	OHIO STATE
OCT. 6	AT INDIANA
OCT. 13	IOWA
OCT. 20	AT MICHIGAN
OCT. 27	AT WISCONSIN
NOV. 3	NEBRASKA
NOV. 17	NORTHWESTERN
NOV. 24	AT MINNESOTA



2011
OUTLOOK

2011
SPARTANS

COACHING
STAFF

2010
RECAP

SPARTAN
RECORDS

SPARTAN
HISTORY

HONORS &
AWARDS

BOWL
HISTORY

THE
UNIVERSITY



2011 OUTLOOK

2011
OUTLOOK

2011
SPARTANS

COACHING
STAFF

2010
RECAP

SPARTAN
RECORDS

SPARTAN
HISTORY

HONORS &
AWARDS

BOWL
HISTORY

THE
UNIVERSITY

Under fifth-year head coach Mark Dantonio, Michigan State has solidified itself as a perennial Top 25 program and one of the top teams in the Big Ten Conference.

The Spartans are coming off the winningest season in program history after going 11-2 in 2010 while claiming their first Big Ten Championship in 20 years. MSU has appeared in four consecutive bowl games, including two on New Year's Day, and finished No. 14 in both of the major polls last season. This season, the Spartans are stocked with talent and depth at nearly every position as they prepare to defend their Big Ten title and attempt to reach the Rose Bowl for the first time since defeating USC in 1988. Michigan State welcomes back 15 starters – including eight who earned All-Big Ten recognition last season – and a total of 47 letterwinners overall. In addition, several rising players who redshirted in 2010 and stood out during spring practice will get to vie for key spots on both offense and defense.

Dantonio, who has won more games (33) than any Spartan coach in his first four seasons, takes a position-by-position look at the 2011 Spartans.

QUARTERBACKS

Fifth-year senior Kirk Cousins, who will likely become just the second three-time captain in Michigan State football history, returns for his third season as the starting quarterback.

In his two seasons as the starter, Cousins (6-3, 205) has posted impressive numbers. He enters his final year wearing the Green and White as the most accurate passer in school history, completing 64 percent of his attempts, and also owns with the best pass efficiency rating of any Spartan quarterback (146.7 rating).

Cousins already ranks among MSU's career leaders in passing yards (fourth; 5,815 yards), total offense (fourth; 5,727 yards), pass completions (sixth; 456), touchdown passes (sixth; 41) and pass attempts (eighth; 709).

As a junior, Cousins was named a semifinalist for the Davey O'Brien Award (nation's top quarterback), thanks to one of the best statistical seasons in Spartan history. His 66.9 completion percentage, 226 pass completions, 2,825 passing yards and 20 touchdown passes all ranked among the top five in the MSU single-season record book.

But statistics are just one side of the story when looking at Cousins. His leadership skills are invaluable, from mentoring the younger players, to uniting the team during offseason workouts, to his decision-making on the field. He truly exemplifies what it means to be a leader.

"There's no substitute for experience, especially at the quarterback position," Dantonio said. "Over the last four years, Kirk Cousins has grown and matured into becoming a premier quarterback. Kirk is a great student of the game and really understands the importance of paying close attention to detail when it comes to game preparation. He watches a ton of video each week and applies what he sees and learns in those video sessions to the practice field. As a result, Kirk makes great decisions with the football on game days. He will make all of the throws. In addition, Kirk has a great presence in the huddle



Kirk Cousins, who has compiled a 16-9 record in 25 career starts, already ranks as MSU's all-time leader in completion percentage (.643) and passing efficiency rating (146.7).

and truly knows his teammates and how to energize them. With all that said, the bottom line is: Kirk is a proven winner."

Backing up Cousins for the second-straight year will be sophomore Andrew Maxwell (6-3, 208). Maxwell appeared in five games as a red-shirt freshman in 2010, completing 44 percent of his passes for 123 yards in limited action. Maxwell continued his development throughout spring practice, including one scrimmage in which he went 21-for-27 passing for 253 yards and two TDs.

"Andrew played very, very well in the spring – he showed great control of the offense," Dantonio said. "He's got confidence, a live arm, and the size to be an extremely successful quarterback. He's been in the system for two years and he's really grown, plus he has game experience. I feel that Andrew would start at a lot of places."

Junior Peter Badovinac (6-2, 215) and true freshman Conner Cook (6-4, 200), who participated in the Elite 11 Quarterback camp during the summer, provide depth at quarterback.

Dantonio also mentioned the possibility that former quarterback Keith Nichol – now a wide receiver – could see some snaps depending on the situation.

"Keith Nichol needs to be a guy who can play some as a third quarterback in an emergency situation," said Dantonio. "He is a great wide receiver, but he also has to take some reps at quarterback along the way in case we need him for any reason."

RUNNING BACKS/FULLBACKS

Michigan State features one of the best running back trios in the nation in junior Edwin Baker (5-9, 210), junior Larry Caper (5-11, 223) and sophomore Le'Veon Bell (6-2, 237).

A first-team All-Big Ten selection by the media as a sophomore in 2010, Baker had a breakthrough season after playing in just eight games as a true freshman. The Highland Park, Mich., product rushed for a team-best 1,201 yards (92.4 yards per game), which ranked fourth in the Big Ten and 30th in the nation, and became just the sixth sophomore at MSU to pass the 1,000-yard rushing mark. Baker also led the team with 13 rushing touchdowns.

"Heading into his third year, Edwin has a mature outlook on things," Dantonio said. "He's a very explosive player and can take it the distance. He always has gotten himself ready to play, and I think that's a big part of his game."

After leading the team in rushing as a freshman in 2009, Caper entered last season as one of the starters at running back, but a hand injury kept him out of the first two games. With Baker and Bell collecting most of the carries, Caper saw a majority of his action in third-down situations, primarily due to his receiving and pass-blocking skills. Caper led all Spartan running backs with 12 receptions for 133 yards, and he also rushed for 144 yards.

As a true freshman, Bell had an outstanding first half of the season with 549 yards and eight TDs in his first six games, including a season-best 141-yard effort with three touchdowns in his Spartan debut against Western Michigan. Baker's emergence as the lead back in the second half of the year, however, slowed Bell's production, but he was still named to the All-Big Ten Freshman Team by both ESPN.com and Rivals.com after finishing with 605 rushing yards (46.5 ypg.). This season, the coaching staff is looking for consistent numbers from Bell throughout the entire season.

"I think you have to run the football," Dantonio said, regarding MSU's rushing philosophy. "I don't think you can be a football team that's going to line up and throw the ball every time, at least not for us here. You have to look at guys like Edwin Baker, Larry Caper and Le'Veon Bell. Those are guys that can make plays on the offensive side; we have to get those guys involved in space and allow them to go to work." In addition to the three experienced backs, Nick Hill (5-7, 180, R-Fr.) and Jeremy Langford (5-11, 205, R-Fr.), who both redshirted last season, also will compete for playing time in the backfield.

At fullback, a converted defensive player will once again enter preseason camp in the starting role. Fifth-year senior Todd Anderson (6-2, 260), who earned his first letter in 2010 as a defensive end, moved to fullback during spring practice and showed promising signs at his new position.

"Todd found his home at fullback during the spring,"



All-Big Ten running back Edwin Baker rushed for 1,201 yards and 13 touchdowns in 2010, including five 100-yard rushing games.



Dantonio said. “We were encouraged by what we saw from him and look for him to improve even more during preseason camp.”

Niko Palazeti (6-1, 250, R-Fr.), Adam Setterbo (6-3, 245, Sr.-5) and Jeff Bobek (6-1, 245, Jr.) will provide depth at fullback.

WIDE RECEIVERS

Perhaps the most experienced unit on the team, Michigan State returns four players who have started games at wide receiver, including three seniors: B.J. Cunningham (6-2, 215), Keshawn Martin (5-11, 189) and Keith Nichol (6-2, 220).

Cunningham and Nichol will be the featured receivers at split end. A fifth-year senior, Cunningham will likely end his career atop the Michigan State record book for receptions, as he needs just 10 more to pass Matt Trannon to become the school’s all-time leader in that category. Cunningham enters 2011 with 139 catches, currently third in MSU history, to go along with 1,780 receiving yards and 13 touchdowns. Although he missed the Capital One Bowl with a broken foot, Cunningham still led the team with a career-high nine TD receptions, which tied for fourth most in an MSU season. Cunningham participated in spring practice and is 100 percent healthy at the onset of preseason camp.

Nichol played his first full season as a receiver in 2010. A converted quarterback, Nichol split time with Cousins in 2009 before making the move to wideout during bowl practice of that season out of personnel necessity. One of the most athletic players on the team, Nichol flourished in his new position, and after a strong showing during spring practice, he quickly moved into a starting role for the 2010 season. Nichol went on to record 22 catches for 262 yards (11.9 avg.), while also proving to be a threat with his arm in specific situations, completing 4-for-7 passes for 62 yards and two TDs. His physicality also has paid dividends as one of his greatest strengths has proven to be his run-blocking ability.

Martin is a versatile option and a scoring threat every time he touches the ball, accounting for touchdowns in five different ways in his career (rushing, receiving, passing, punt return, kick return). He was third on the team in both receiving (32 catches for 394 yards) and rushing (157 yards; 8.7 avg.) in 2010 and has led the team in all-purpose yards the last two seasons.

Bennie Fowler (6-1, 215, So.) emerged as a multi-dimensional playmaker during the second half of last season following an Achilles injury that sidelined Martin for two games. Fowler made an immediate contribution in Martin’s absence, scoring a touchdown on a reverse and catching a key reception on a fake punt during MSU’s 17-point comeback win at Northwestern. He finished the season with 573 all-purpose yards, including 175 receiving yards on 14 catches.

In addition to the players with starting experience, talented red-shirt freshmen Keith Mumphery (6-0, 202) and Tony Lippett (6-2, 189) will each see playing time following their impressive performances during spring practice. Lippett also could see action on the defense as a cornerback.



B.J. Cunningham enters the 2011 season with 139 career receptions for 1,780 yards and 13 touchdowns.

Brad Sonntag (5-8, 176) and Chris D. Rucker (5-9, 178), who have both earned letters, also return for their final season as fifth-year seniors.

“We have more depth than in the past at wide receiver,” Dantonio said. “Our receivers could be a very special group, especially when you add Keith Mumphery and Tony Lippett to the mix with the three seniors along with Bennie Fowler. Keith Nichol looks more comfortable out there; B.J. has always been consistent, and Keshawn is a true playmaker.”

OFFENSIVE LINE

One of the challenges for the Spartans will be filling the holes left by three starters on the offensive line, including second-team All-Big Ten left tackle D.J. Young, center John Stipek and right tackle J’Micheal Deane.

The good news is that there appears to be plenty of promising candidates ready for expanded roles this season.

The anchor of the line will be fifth-year senior Joel Foreman (6-4, 315), who will return for his fourth year as the starting left guard. Foreman was an honorable mention All-Big-Ten selection last season and has started 36 career games, including 22 straight. Although he sat out in the spring to rest his wrist and ankle, Foreman provided leadership to the young line during the offseason and spring practice.

John Deyo (6-6, 300, Jr.) took reps with the first team all spring and will support Foreman at left guard, along with Nate Klatt (6-4, 290, So.) and Shawn Kamm (6-7, 310, R-Fr.).

Junior Chris McDonald (6-5, 300) holds down the spot at right guard after starting 12 games last season. In his first year as a starter in 2010, McDonald did not allow a sack during the regular season.

“Chris was our most consistent offensive lineman during the spring,” Dantonio said. “He did a tremendous job in his first year as a starter, and now he’s become one of the leaders of that group. We’re expecting another great year from him on the right side of the line.”

An inspirational player to the entire team, Arthur Ray Jr. (6-3, 299) returned to the football field in the spring for the first time in four years following a battle with cancer and will be a reserve at right guard.

The remaining three starting positions will be fought for during preseason camp.

At left tackle, Dan France (6-6, 315, So.) made quite an impression during spring practice while competing at the position for just a few weeks. A converted defensive lineman who earned a letter in 2010, France played tight end in high school, but never on the offensive line. His athleticism and upside at the position has made him the leading candidate to start prior to the season.

Battling France at left tackle will be fifth-year senior Jared McGaha, a two-year letterman who has seen action in 23 career games and can play at either guard or tackle. McGaha (6-6, 298) appeared in nine games last season, including starts at right guard against Minnesota and left tackle against Purdue. Red-shirt freshman Michael Dennis (6-7, 307) provides depth behind France and McGaha.

The race for center was crowded at the beginning of spring ball, but two contenders separated themselves following the 15 practices: Travis Jackson (6-3, 275, R-Fr.) and Blake Treadwell (6-3, 295, Jr.). After redshirting in the fall and playing on the scout team, Jackson saw his role change drastically in the spring, taking snaps with the first and second teams.

“Travis had a tremendous winter conditioning program and played well in the spring,” Dantonio remarked. “He’s very athletic, intelligent, and tough.” Treadwell changed roles as well, lining up on the offensive side of the ball after spending his first two seasons on the defensive line; however, Treadwell has experience on the offensive line, as he was one of the most touted centers in the nation coming out of high school. He also can play guard if necessary and is listed behind McDonald on the preseason depth chart at right guard.

“Blake was an outstanding offensive lineman coming out of high school,” Dantonio said. “We need to make sure we have guys that are athletic enough to play center and offensive guard, so we wanted to provide that opportunity for him to get in that mix. I think Blake will bring a tremendous amount of toughness and effort to our offensive line.”

Ethan Ruhland (6-5, 290, Jr.) will also get snaps at center in preseason camp.

Red-shirt freshman Skyler Burkland (6-7, 305) is full of potential and appears ready to push for a starting position at right tackle after an excellent spring season.

“Skyler had an outstanding freshman year, and he’s everything you want as an offensive tackle,” Dantonio said. “He’s very active with great feet, he’s got toughness, and he’s extremely athletic. We’re going to give him the opportunity right from the outset, and we’ll build it from there.”

Zach Hueter (6-6, 310, Jr.), Henry Conway (6-6, 318, So.) and junior college transfer Fou Fonoti (6-4, 300, Jr.) also will have a chance to compete at right tackle during preseason camp.

“We’re rebuilding three positions on the offensive line, but I think we have a nucleus of some outstanding players,” Dantonio said. “We have depth, which is always so crucial, and we’re bringing in some outstanding players as well. We’ve got some guys in there that show the ability to play.”

- 2011 OUTLOOK
- 2011 SPARTANS
- COACHING STAFF
- 2010 RECAP
- SPARTAN RECORDS
- SPARTAN HISTORY
- HONORS & AWARDS
- BOWL HISTORY
- THE UNIVERSITY



2011 OUTLOOK

2011
OUTLOOK

2011
SPARTANS

COACHING
STAFF

2010
RECAP

SPARTAN
RECORDS

SPARTAN
HISTORY

HONORS &
AWARDS

BOWL
HISTORY

THE
UNIVERSITY

TIGHT ENDS

The Spartans will once again feature one of the best tight end units in the nation, as four players who have earned letters at the position return in 2011.

Although the leading tight end from the past three seasons, Charlie Gantt, was lost due to graduation, fifth-year senior Brian Linthicum (6-5, 245) is more than capable of taking over that role this fall. Named to the preseason watch list for the Mackey Award, Linthicum has 49 catches for 572 yards (11.7 avg.) and six TDs in 38 collegiate games. After playing his freshman year at Clemson, Linthicum has played in 25 games at MSU, including 12 starts, and has 38 receptions for 496 yards (13.1 avg.).

Also returning for his third season in the playing rotation is fellow fifth-year senior Garrett Celek (6-5, 252), who has battled shoulder injuries the past two years and was limited to just two games of action in 2010. Celek has proven to be a solid run blocker and a viable pass threat when healthy, with 11 catches for 100 yards (9.1 avg.) and two TDs in his career.

After sitting out last season, Dion Sims (6-5, 276, So.) is back and ready to make an impact in 2011. A Big Ten All-Freshman selection in 2009, Sims led the Spartan tight ends that season with three touchdowns to go along with 11 catches for 133 yards.

Sophomore Derek Hoebing (6-7, 270), who earned his first letter in 2010 after playing primarily on special teams, also could see action in the rotation this season. Andrew Gleichert (6-5, 250, R-Fr.) and Drew Stevens (6-4, 242, Jr.) will provide depth at the position.

DEFENSIVE LINE

The Spartans have the potential for one of their best defensive lines in years as three starters and eight lettermen return in 2011.

Leading the way up front is junior defensive tackle Jerel Worthy (6-3, 310), who has been named to preseason watch lists for the Bednarik, Lombardi and Nagurski Awards as well as Outland Trophy. An honorable mention All-Big Ten selection as a sophomore by both the coaches and media, Worthy ranked first among Spartan defensive linemen in



Jerel Worthy led the Spartan defensive linemen with 40 tackles in 2010, including a team-best four sacks (27 yards).

2010 with 40 tackles, including eight for losses (42 yards) and a team-best four sacks (27 yards). In two seasons, Worthy has collected 17 tackles for loss and 8.5 sacks.

Backing up Worthy will be fifth-year senior Johnathan Strayhorn, a former defensive end who moved to the inside during spring practice. Strayhorn (6-0, 272) ranked second only to Worthy last season with 3.5 sacks while recording a career-high 27 tackles.

Both Kevin Pickelman (6-4, 288, Sr.-5) and Anthony Rashad White (6-2, 316, Jr.) will see significant time in the rotation at nose tackle. Pickelman started seven games last season and responded with a career-best 31 tackles. He sat out spring practice for precautionary reasons with a neck injury, but he's healthy as he begins his final season at MSU.

White was one of the surprises of spring practice, emerging as a legitimate force on the defensive line. After transferring from Fort Scott Community College and then getting a season of Big Ten football under his belt in 2010, he showed significant improvement in the spring, spending a majority of his time with the first team.

"Rashad became a dominant player in the spring," Dantonio said. "He now needs to transition that effort into the season."

Blake Pacheco (6-1, 264, Sr.-5), Micajah Reynolds (6-5, 320, So.), Jordan Sanders (6-1, 288, R-Fr.) and Dave Curtis (6-2, 250, Jr.) will add depth on the interior.

Tyler Hoover (6-7, 290), in his first year as a full-time starter at defensive end, tallied a career-high 36 tackles. During a highly productive two-game stretch against Illinois and Northwestern, he compiled 18 stops and three sacks; he was named the Big Ten Co-Defensive Player of the Week following his nine-tackle, two-sack performance against the Wildcats.

Opposite of Hoover will be a combination of William Gholston (6-7, 280) and Denzel Drone (6-2, 262), two rising sophomores that could have breakthrough seasons in 2011. Before a shoulder injury caused him to miss the final three games of the year, Gholston had 13 tackles and five quarterback hurries. Drone started four contests and also finished his first season with 13 stops.

"At 6-7, 280-290 pounds, both Tyler Hoover and William Gholston can be very good defensive ends," Dantonio said. "Tyler has been in the program for four years, so he has a good understanding of our system. William has a lot of talent, and he really benefitted greatly by playing last season as a true freshman."

Marcus Rush (6-2, 250, R-Fr.) and Corey Freeman (6-2, 250, Jr.) will see time in the rotation behind Hoover, while Taylor Calero (6-3, 245, R-Fr.) also adds depth at the position.

LINEBACKERS

MSU's linebacker corps will have a new look in 2011 following the departure of two of the top linebackers in school history: two-time All-American Greg Jones and Eric Gordon. Jones and Gordon combined for 796 tackles and 95 starts in their careers, staggering numbers that will have to be replaced; however, MSU has stockpiled talent at the position the past few years and is in good shape entering the season.



In his first year as a starter, Chris Norman ranked sixth on the team with 59 tackles.

The Spartans do return Chris Norman (6-1, 227, Jr.), who started 10 games last year at Star (weak side) linebacker and finished sixth on the team with 59 tackles (4.9 avg.). With 11 career starts, the two-year letterman is the team's most experienced linebacker in a unit that does not have a senior and features only one other upperclassmen in Steve Gardiner. After ranking second on the team in 2010 with 13 special teams tackles, Gardiner (6-1, 222, Jr.) is looking to have a larger role on the defense this fall. He enters preseason camp slated to be Norman's back-up at Star while also possibly having a chance to play at Mike (middle) linebacker. Danny Folino (5-9, 195, So.) will provide depth behind Norman and Gardiner.

The heir apparent to Jones in the middle is sophomore Max Bullough (6-3, 245). In limited action as a true freshman, Bullough still managed to record 23 tackles and was named to the ESPN.com Big Ten All-Freshman Team. During an impressive spring season, Bullough cemented his role as the starting Mike linebacker and become more of a vocal leader on the field for the defense.

"I don't think Greg Jones is a guy that you can easily replace, but Max has been playing very well," Dantonio said. "He has a great command of our defense and has awareness out there on the field. Max has a great future ahead of him."

Sophomore TyQuan Hammock (6-0, 230) will also see time in the rotation at middle linebacker. Hammock had an excellent offseason in terms of conditioning and returned to his natural position of linebacker in the spring after spending the 2010 campaign at fullback. He led the Spartans with 16 tackles on special teams a year ago and tied for the lead in tackles at the spring game with eight.

At Sam (strong side) linebacker, Denicos Allen (5-10, 220, So.) appears ready to take over a starting role after seeing significant playing time as red-shirt freshman in 2010. Allen saw action in all 13 games and compiled 18 tackles, and also made one of the plays of the year with a blocked punt against Purdue in the fourth quarter that helped spark MSU's 15-point comeback victory.

"Denicos has always been a great tackler, and he had a good year on special teams as a red-shirt



freshman,” Dantonio said. “He played in a lot of different situations. Denicos had a great spring and is in excellent condition, so he’ll be a factor out there.” Sophomores Jeremy Gainer (6-1, 228) and Kyler Elsworth (6-1, 215) along with red-shirt freshman Ty Hamilton (6-0, 230) also could see time in the rotation at Sam linebacker.

DEFENSIVE BACKS

Michigan State was one of just two schools in the Big Ten last season to have all four starters in the secondary earn all-conference recognition. Two of those players return this fall, as Johnny Adams (5-11, 175, Jr.) will line up at field corner and Trenton Robinson (5-10, 192, Sr.) at free safety.

Robinson, a second-team All-Big Ten selection by the coaches in 2010, blossomed his junior season, ranking among the Big Ten leaders in passes defended (tied for second with 12), pass break-ups (tied for third with 8) and interceptions (tied for fourth with 4). He also was fourth on the team with a career-high 76 tackles. With the departure of several key players from last year’s defense, Robinson will be looked to as a leader in his senior season.

“Trenton Robinson is a solid player who provides great leadership in the secondary,” Dantonio said. “He has grown significantly every year he’s been in our program. In order for us to be successful on defense, we need him to be a leader and a playmaker.”

Adams started every game last season and earned second-team All-Big Ten accolades by the coaches. He showed promise as a true freshman in 2008 but was granted a medical redshirt after he missed 10 games in 2009. The Akron, Ohio, native bounced back in a big way as he ranked sixth in the league in both interceptions (3) and pass break-ups (7), while also compiling 50 tackles. This spring, he elevated his game even further and was cited by the coaching staff as one of the standouts on the defense.

A number of younger players will also get a chance to make their mark in the secondary this season.



Trenton Robinson, who heads into his third season as the starting free safety, recorded career highs in tackles (76), interceptions (4) and pass break-ups (8) in 2010.

At boundary corner, sophomore Darqueze Dennard (5-11, 185) is projected to be the starter heading into preseason camp. Dennard appeared in six games as a true freshman last year before missing the final five games due to a knee injury. In his two starts against Northwestern and Illinois, he combined for nine tackles, including two tackles for loss, while also forcing and recovering a fumble. In addition, Mitchell White (5-11, 180, Jr.), a two-year letterwinner, will be in the rotation at boundary corner.

One player that could see time on both sides of the ball is Tony Lippett, a red-shirt freshman who has impressed the coaches with his versatility and athleticism. Lippett (6-2, 189) split his time in spring practice with the offense and defense, and enters camp listed on the depth chart at both flanker and field corner.

“Tony is a guy that can make plays for us,” Dantonio said. “I think we have to play him more than 15 to 20 snaps, and with our depth at wide receiver, you have to look at him on defense. He got enough reps at both positions in the spring, so we’ll just have to make those decisions as a coaching staff during preseason camp.”

Dana Dixon (6-2, 170, So.) and Arjen Colquhoun (6-0, 187, Fr.) add depth at cornerback.

Isaiah Lewis (5-10, 195, So.) has the inside track at strong safety following a solid showing during the spring. Lewis appeared in all 13 games as a true freshman and made 15 tackles to earn a spot on the Rivals.com Big Ten All-Freshman Team.

Jairus Jones (6-1, 209, So.) was in line to be in the rotation this fall at strong safety, but an Achilles injury toward the end of spring practice sidelined him for the spring game and summer conditioning. There is still a possibility Jones could see the field this fall.

A pair of red-shirt freshmen, Mylan Hicks (5-11, 191) and Kurtis Drummond (6-1, 196), will support Robinson and Lewis at safety, respectively.

SPECIAL TEAMS

Michigan State has consistently fielded one of the top special teams units in the Big Ten during Dantonio’s tenure, and last year was no exception. The Spartans featured first-team All-Big Ten honorees at both placekicker (Dan Conroy) and punter (Aaron Bates), while punt returner Keshawn Martin was rated the best in the conference by several media outlets.

In his first year as the starting placekicker last season, Conroy (5-10, 190, Jr.) had to replace Brett Swenson, MSU’s all-time leader in scoring, field goals and extra points. The Spartans didn’t miss a beat with Conroy, as he was a sensational 14-for-15 in field-goal attempts to lead the conference and rank fifth nationally with a .993 field-goal percentage. Conroy, who also led the team in scoring with 87 points, set a school record by hitting his first 13 field-goal attempts of the season.

Kevin Muma (6-0, 189, So.) also returns this season after taking over the kickoff duties for the first time in 2010. Muma, who averaged 64.5 yards on kickoffs and had 13 touchbacks last season, also will serve as the back-up placekicker, behind Conroy.

A starter for four years, Bates was more than just a quality punter for MSU – he was a clutch player who

was a threat on fake attempts, which included his game-winning touchdown pass in overtime against Notre Dame last season, and he was also a leader, becoming the first punter in school history to be named a captain. Red-shirt freshman Mike Sadler (6-0, 182), a lefty, will look to replace Bates and continue MSU’s long-standing tradition at punter. The Spartans have had five punters in the NFL in the past 30 years.

“When we recruited Mike Sadler, he was one of the top punters in the country,” Dantonio said. “I thought he showed a tremendous amount of maturity by coming here and then sitting out a year. He watched Aaron Bates and really grew. He’ll do an outstanding job. He’s got a big-time leg, good command of the snap, and the ball spins a little differently coming off his left foot.”

One of the most overlooked aspects of special teams is the long snapper. Following the loss of four-year starter Alex Shackleton, Steve Moore (6-3, 223, R-So.) enters his first year in the role and will look to maintain the consistency of the unit.

Martin, who will anchor the return team, already ranks eighth in MSU history in kick return yards (1,070) and 12th in punt return yards (385). He became the first Spartan to lead the Big Ten in punt returns last season with his 14.2-yard average, which ranked 11th nationally. Martin returned a punt 74 yards for a touchdown in the win over Wisconsin and ran back a kickoff 93 yards for a score in 2009 against Minnesota.

Bennie Fowler also will get a chance to return kickoffs. Fowler became MSU’s top kick returner at the end of last season following Martin’s Achilles injury, and finished second on the team with 336 kick return yards on 15 attempts (22.4 avg.).

OVERALL

The goal remains the same every year in East Lansing: the Rose Bowl. In just four years, Dantonio and his staff have built a solid foundation that continues to improve each season, and that work paid off with a Big Ten Championship in 2010. Now, the Spartans are looking to stay on top. With a key group of veterans returning from last year’s championship team along with a talented mix of newcomers, the program is in position to make a run for another Big Ten title during the 2011 season. “We need to continue raising our level of play,” Dantonio said. “When you look at it, every program has the things that they weigh and can look at as positives, and every program has things they need to continue to improve on. I think it needs to get to the point where we play against anybody, any place, and compete. We’re very, very close to being able to do that.”

“I think the process has always been here and that we will always challenge ourselves to be the best at what we’re doing, whether that’s academically, athletically or off the field. We want to try to do our very best – that’s how we always set it up around here.”



2011 CAPSULE OUTLOOK

2011
OUTLOOK

2011
SPARTANS

COACHING
STAFF

2010
RECAP

SPARTAN
RECORDS

SPARTAN
HISTORY

HONORS &
AWARDS

BOWL
HISTORY

THE
UNIVERSITY

Offense Formation: Multiple

Defense Formation: Multiple 4-3

Lettermen Lost: 19 (10 offense, 7 defense, 2 specialists)

Lettermen Returning: 47 (21 offense, 24 defense, 2 specialists)

Starters Lost: 12 (5 offense, 5 defense, 2 specialists)

Starters Returning: 15 (7 offense, 6 defense, 2 specialists)

Offensive Starters Lost (5): WR Mark Dell, LT D.J. Young, C John Stipek, RT J'Micheal Deane, TE Charlie Gantt

Offensive Starters Returning (7): LG Joel Foreman, RG Chris McDonald, TE Brian Linthicum, WR Keith Nichol, WR B.J. Cunningham, QB Kirk Cousins, TB Edwin Baker

Defensive Starters Lost (5): RE Colin Neely, LB Eric Gordon, LB Greg Jones, SS Marcus Hyde, BC Chris L. Rucker

Defensive Starters Returning (6): LE Tyler Hoover, DT Jerel Worthy, NT Kevin Pickelman, LB Chris Norman, FC Johnny Adams, FS Trenton Robinson

Starting Specialists Lost (2): P Aaron Bates, SN Alex Shackleton

Starting Specialists Returning (2): PK Dan Conroy, KO Kevin Muma

TOP LOSSES

OT J'MICHEAL DEANE: Saw action in 17 career games, including 14 starts . . . started all 13 games at right tackle in 2010.

WR MARK DELL: Finished his career ranked sixth in MSU history with 2,136 receiving yards (16.1 avg.), tied for seventh in receptions with 133, and tied for 13th in TD receptions with 12 . . . four-year letterwinner appeared in 47 career games with 27 starts to his credit . . . honorable mention All-Big Ten selection by the coaches and media in 2010 . . . led the team with career highs in receiving yards (788) and receptions (51).

TE CHARLIE GANTT: Four-year letterwinner played in 43 career games, including 39 consecutive starts at tight end . . . had 65 catches for 951 yards and nine touchdowns in his career . . . among all Spartan tight ends in program history, finished his career ranked tied for third in TD receptions (9) and sixth in both receptions (65) and receiving yards (951) . . . All-Big Ten second-team pick as a senior by the media.

LB ERIC GORDON: Started 49 of 51 career games at linebacker, including 40 consecutive starting assignments . . . finished his career with more starts than any other player in Michigan State history (49) . . . ranks among MSU's all-time leaders in tackles for loss (10th with 29), tackles (12th with 331) and sacks (21st with 9.5) . . . ranked second on the team and 13th in the Big Ten with 92 tackles (7.1 avg.) in 2010 . . . named to the All-Big Ten second team by the coaches and media as a senior.

S MARCUS HYDE: Four-year letterwinner played in 49 games, including 21 starts at safety . . . started all 13 games at strong safety in 2010 and was named second-team All-Big Ten by the media . . . tied for fourth in the Big Ten with 11 passes defensed (three interceptions, eight pass break-ups).

LB GREG JONES: Became the first Spartan to earn back-to-back consensus first-team All-America honors (2009-10) since Bubba Smith and George Webster in 1965-66 . . . only the fourth two-time consensus first-team All-American in program history (Smith, Webster and Lorenzo White: 1985 and 1987) . . . just the seventh Spartan to earn first-team All-Big Ten honors three times . . . ranks among MSU's all-time leaders in tackles for loss (second with 46.5), tackles (third with 465) and sacks (tied for sixth with 16.5) . . . started 46 of 52 career games, including 40 consecutive starts . . . led the team in tackles four straight years, becoming only the second Spartan to accomplish that feat.

DE COLIN NEELY: Three-year letterwinner appeared in 39 career games, including 27 starts . . . had 75 career tackles and 19.5 tackles for loss, including 6.0 sacks . . . started 12 games at defensive end in 2010 and tied for the team lead with a career-high 10 tackles for loss (53 yards) .

CB CHRIS L. RUCKER: Four-year letterwinner played in 42 career games, including 34 starts at cornerback . . . career numbers included 191 tackles (10.5 for loss) and 25 passes defensed (six interceptions, 19 pass break-ups) . . . his 19 pass break-ups are tied for 18th most in MSU history . . . named to the All-Big Ten second team by the coaches as a senior.

C JOHN STIPEK: Three-year letterwinner saw action in 26 games, including 16 starts at center . . . started all 13 games in 2010 in his first year as the starting center.

OT D.J. YOUNG: Two-year letterwinner started 23 games on the offensive line in his two-year Spartan career . . . started 12 games at left tackle and saw action in all 13 games in 2010 . . . named second-team All-Big Ten by the coaches as a senior.

TOP RETURNÉES

JOHNNY ADAMS (CB, 5-11, 175, Jr.) | 2010 SEASON: Started all 13 games at cornerback . . . All-Big Ten second-team pick by the coaches and honorable mention selection by the media . . . tied for sixth in the Big Ten in both interceptions (3) and pass break-ups (7) . . . **CAREER NOTES:** Two-year letterman has 71 career tackles in 28 career games, including 15 starts . . . has 16 passes defensed (five interceptions, 11 PBUs) in his career.

EDWIN BAKER (RB, 5-9, 210, Jr.) | 2010 SEASON: Selected first-team All-Big Ten by the media and was an honorable mention selection by the coaches . . . ranked fourth in the Big Ten and 30th in the nation with his 92.4-yard rushing average . . . became just the sixth sophomore in school history to record a 1,000-yard rushing season . . . his 1,201 yards rushing rank 13th in MSU single-season history . . . had five 100-yard rushing games . . . **CAREER NOTES:** Has rushed for 1,628 yards in 21 career games, including 13 starts . . . enters his junior season ranked among MSU's all-time leaders in rushing yards (22nd with 1,628), rushing attempts (24th with 292) and rushing average (eighth at 5.6 yards per carry).

DAN CONROY (K, 5-10, 190, Jr.) | 2010 SEASON: Earned first-team All-Big Ten honors from the coaches and media in his first year as the starter . . . led the team in scoring with 87 points, converting 14-of-15 field-goal attempts and 45-of-46 extra-point tries . . . led the Big Ten and ranked fifth in the NCAA FBS in field-goal accuracy (.933) . . . also ranked among the Big Ten leaders in kick scoring (fourth at 7.2 points per game), field goals (eighth at 1.2 made per game) and overall scoring (eighth) . . . **CAREER NOTES:** Has made 94 percent of his field goals (15-for-16) and 98 percent of his PATs (45-for-46).

KIRK COUSINS (QB, 6-3, 205, Sr.-5) | 2010 SEASON: Named one of 16 semifinalists for the Davey O'Brien Award (nation's top quarterback) . . . honorable mention All-Big Ten selection by the coaches and media . . . his .669 completion percentage (second), 150.7 passing efficiency rating (fifth), 226 pass completions (third), 2,825 passing yards (third), 20 TD passes (tied for fourth), 2,689 total yards (fourth), 338 pass attempts (sixth) and seven 200-yard passing games (seventh) rank among the Top 10 single-season totals in MSU history . . . **CAREER NOTES:** Has compiled a 16-9 record in 25 career starts . . . currently ranks first in MSU history in completion percentage (.643; 456-of-709) and passing efficiency rating (146.7) . . . listed among MSU's career leaders in passing yards (fourth with 5,815 yards), total offense (fourth with 5,727 yards) pass completions (sixth with 456), TD passes (sixth with 41) and pass attempts (eighth with 709).

B.J. CUNNINGHAM (WR, 6-2, 215, Sr.-5) | 2010 SEASON: Saw action in all 12 regular-season games, including seven starts at flanker receiver . . . missed the 2011 Capital One Bowl with a broken foot . . . honorable mention All-Big Ten selection by the media . . . led team with a career-high nine touchdown receptions, which tied for fourth most in an MSU season . . . ranked second on the team in receptions (career high 50) and receiving yards (611) . . . **CAREER NOTES:** Three-year letterman ranks third in MSU history in catches (139), tied for 10th in TD receptions (13), and 13th in receiving yards (1,780) in 37 career games.

JOEL FOREMAN (OG, 6-4, 315, Sr.-5) | 2010 SEASON: Earned third-team All-America honors by Phil Steele . . . honorable mention All-Big Ten selection by the coaches and media . . . **CAREER NOTES:** Three-year letterman has played in 38 career games, including 36 starts (22 consecutive) at left guard.

TYLER HOOVER (DE, 6-7, 290, Jr.) | 2010 SEASON: Appeared in all 13 games, including nine starts at left end . . . had a career-high 36 tackles, including three sacks (12 yards) . . . **CAREER NOTES:** Two-year letterman has played in 28 career games and has made 49 tackles, including four for losses (13 yards) and three sacks (12 yards).

BRIAN LINTHICUM (TE, 6-5, 245, Sr.-5) | 2010 SEASON: Saw action in all 13 games, including five starts when MSU lined up in a double-tight end formation . . . had 18 catches for 230 yards (12.8 avg.) . . . **CAREER NOTES:** Has 49 catches for 572 yards (11.7 avg.) and six TDs in 38 collegiate games, including 17 starts . . . has played in 25 career games at MSU, including 12 starts, and has 38 receptions for 496 yards (13.1 avg.) and three scores.

KESHAWN MARTIN (WR, 5-11, 189, Sr.) | 2010 SEASON: Named first-team All-Big Ten as a punt returner by Rivals.com, CollegeFootballNews.com and Phil Steele . . . appeared in 11 games, including five starts at flanker . . . ranked first in the Big Ten and No. 11 nationally in punt returns (14.2 avg.) . . . finished eighth in the Big Ten in all-purpose yards (103.1 ypg.) . . . ranked third on the team with 32 receptions and 394 receiving yards . . . **CAREER NOTES:** Three-year letterman already ranks eighth in MSU history in kick return yards (1,070), 12th in punt return yards (385) and 18th in all-purpose yards (2,819) . . . has appeared in 34 career games, including seven starts . . . has 61 career catches for 937 yards (15.4 avg.) with six TDs . . . has accounted for TDs in five different ways during his career (rushing, receiving, passing, punt return and kickoff return).

CHRIS McDONALD (OG, 6-5, 300, Jr.) | 2010 SEASON: Started 12 games at right guard . . . did not allow a sack during the regular season.

KEITH NICHOL (WR, 6-2, 220, Sr.-5) | 2010 SEASON: Saw action in all 13 games, including eight starts . . . ranked fifth on the team with 22 catches for 262 yards (11.9 avg.) . . . also completed 4-of-7 passes (57 percent) for 62 yards and two touchdowns . . . **CAREER NOTES:** Two-year letterman has played in 23 games at MSU after transferring from Oklahoma in 2008 . . . has 24 career recep-tions for 273 yards (11.4 avg.) and one score . . . has completed 54 percent of his passes (53-of-98) at MSU for 826 yards and nine TDs.

CHRIS NORMAN (LB, 6-1, 227, Jr.) | 2010 SEASON: Appeared in 12 games, including 10 starts at star linebacker . . . finished sixth on the team with 59 tackles (4.9 avg.) . . . **CAREER NOTES:** Two-year letterman has made 70 tackles (29 solo, 41 assists) in 25 games, including 11 starts at linebacker.

KEVIN PICKELMAN (NT, 6-4, 288, Sr.-5) | 2010 SEASON: Played in 11 games, including seven starts at nose tackle . . . compiled a career-high 31 tackles, including 2.5 for losses (8 yards) . . . **CAREER NOTES:** Three-year letterman has played in 36 games, including eight starts on the defensive line . . . has 56 career tackles with 4.5 resulting in losses (19 yards).

TRENTON ROBINSON (S, 5-10, 192, Sr.) | 2010 SEASON: Named second-team All-Big Ten by the coaches and was an honorable mention selection by the media . . . appeared in all 13 games, including 12 starts at free safety . . . ranked fourth on the team with a career-high 76 tackles . . . listed among the Big Ten leaders in passes defensed (tied for second with 12), pass break-ups (tied for third with 8) and interceptions (tied for fourth with 4) . . . **CAREER NOTES:** Three-year letterman has 149 tackles, five interceptions and 10 pass break-ups in 32 games, including 19 starts.

JEREL WORTHY (DT, 6-3, 310, Jr.) | 2010 SEASON: Honorable mention All-Big Ten selection by the coaches and the media . . . started all 13 games at defensive tackle . . . led all Spartan defensive linemen with 40 tackles, including 8.0 for losses (42 yards) and a team-best 4.0 sacks (27 yards) . . . **CAREER NOTES:** Two-year letterman has played in 26 career games, including 24 starts at defensive tackle . . . has recorded 77 career tackles (33 solo, 44 assists), with 17 resulting in losses (76 yards) including 8.5 sacks (50 yards).

2011 PERSONNEL BREAKDOWN



OFFENSE (11 LOST, 23 RETURNING)

LOST	POSITION	RETURNING
MARK DELL (4)	X	KEITH NICHOL (2)
Donald Spencer (1)		Brad Sonntag (1)
Cam Martin (1)		
D.J. YOUNG (2)	LT	John Deyo (2)
David Barrent (1)		
	LG	JOEL FOREMAN (3)
		Ethan Ruhland (2)
JOHN STIPEK (3)	C	Nate Klatt (1)
	RG	CHRIS McDONALD (2)
		Micajah Reynolds (1)
J'MICHEAL DEANE (2)	RT	Jared McGaha (2)
CHARLIE GANTT (4)	TE	BRIAN LINTHICUM (2)
		Derek Hoebing (1)
	Z	B.J. CUNNINGHAM (3)
		Keshawn Martin (3)
		Bennie Fowler (1)
	QB	KIRK COUSINS (3)
		Andrew Maxwell (1)
Nick Bendzuck (4)	FB	TyQuan Hammock (1)
Fred Smith (2)		Adam Setterbo (1)
	TB	EDWIN BAKER (2)
		Le'Veon Bell (1)
		Larry Caper (2)
	PK	DAN CONROY (1)
		Kevin Muma (1)
ALEX SHACKLETON (4)	SN	

2010 STARTERS IN BOLD CAPS

(#) Indicates letters earned

Note: Positions listed according to final 2010 depth chart.

DEFENSE (8 LOST, 24 RETURNING)

LOST	POSITION	RETURNING
	LE	TYLER HOOVER (2)
		Johnathan Strayhorn (3)
		William Gholston (1)
	DT	JEREL WORTHY (2)
		Anthony Rashad White (1)
		Dan France (1)
	NT	KEVIN PICKELMAN (3)
		Blake Treadwell (2)
		Antonio Jeremiah (3)
COLIN NEELY (3)	RE	Denzel Drone (1)
		Corey Freeman (1)
		Todd Anderson (1)
ERIC GORDON (4)	SAM	Steve Gardiner (2)
GREG JONES (4)	MIKE	Max Bullough (1)
Jon Misch (4)	STAR	CHRIS NORMAN (2)
		Denicos Allen (1)
		Kyler Elsworth (1)
	FC	JOHNNY ADAMS (2)
		Darqueze Dennard (1)
		Dana Dixon (1)
Jesse Johnson (4)	FS	TRENTON ROBINSON (3)
		Isaiah Lewis (1)
MARCUS HYDE (4)	SS	Jairus Jones (1)
CHRIS L. RUCKER (4)	BC	Mitchell White (2)
AARON BATES (4)	P	

2010 STARTERS IN BOLD CAPS

(#) Indicates letters earned

Note: Positions listed according to final 2010 depth chart.



In his first season at wide receiver, Keith Nichol had 22 receptions for 262 yards (11.9 avg.) and one touchdown.



Tyler Hoover, who started nine games at left end in 2010, recorded a career-best 36 tackles, including three sacks (12 yards).

2011
OUTLOOK

2011
SPARTANS

COACHING
STAFF

2010
RECAP

SPARTAN
RECORDS

SPARTAN
HISTORY

HONORS &
AWARDS

BOWL
HISTORY

THE
UNIVERSITY



2011 NUMERICAL ROSTER

2011 OUTLOOK
2011 SPARTANS
COACHING STAFF
2010 RECAP
SPARTAN RECORDS
SPARTAN HISTORY
HONORS & AWARDS
BOWL HISTORY
THE UNIVERSITY

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	ELIG.	CL.	EXP.	HOMETOWN (PREVIOUS SCHOOL)
2	William Gholston	DE	6-7	280	So.	So.	1L	Detroit, Mich. (Southeastern)
3	B.J. Cunningham	WR	6-2	215	Sr.	Sr.-5	3L	Westerville, Ohio (Westerville South)
3	Mike Sadler	P	6-0	182	Fr.	So.	RS	Grand Rapids, Mich. (Forest Hills Northern)
4	Edwin Baker	RB	5-9	210	Jr.	Jr.	2L	Highland Park, Mich. (Oak Park)
4	Dan Conroy	K	5-10	190	Jr.	Sr.	1L	Wheaton, Ill. (Wheaton Warrenville South)
5	Johnny Adams	CB	5-11	175	Jr.	Sr.	2L	Akron, Ohio (Buchtel)
6	Mylan Hicks	S	5-11	191	Fr.	So.	RS	Detroit, Mich. (Renaissance)
7	Keith Nichol	WR	6-2	220	Sr.	Sr.-5	2L	Lowell, Mich. (Oklahoma)
8	Kirk Cousins	QB	6-3	205	Sr.	Sr.-5	3L	Holland, Mich. (Holland Christian)
8	Lawrence Thomas	LB	6-3	275	Fr.	Fr.	HS	Detroit, Mich. (Renaissance)
9	Isaiah Lewis	S	5-10	195	So.	So.	1L	Indianapolis, Ind. (Ben Davis)
10	Andrew Maxwell	QB	6-3	208	So.	Jr.	1L	Midland, Mich. (Midland)
10	Chris Norman	LB	6-1	227	Jr.	Jr.	2L	Detroit, Mich. (Renaissance)
11	Juwan Caesar	WR	6-3	197	Fr.	Fr.	HS	Miami, Fla. (Miami Coral Park Senior)
12	Dana Dixon	CB	6-2	170	So.	Jr.	1L	Detroit, Mich. (Renaissance)
12	Peter Badovinac	QB	6-2	215	Jr.	Sr.	SQ	Inverness, Ill. (Drake)
13	Bennie Fowler	WR	6-1	215	So.	Jr.	1L	Bloomfield, Mich. (Detroit Country Day)
14	Tony Lippett	CB/WR	6-2	189	Fr.	So.	RS	Detroit, Mich. (Crockett)
15	Trae Waynes	CB	6-0	165	Fr.	Fr.	HS	Kenosha, Wis. (Bradford)
16	Chris D. Rucker	WR	5-9	178	Sr.	Sr.-5	2L	Detroit, Mich. (Detroit Country Day)
16	Tommy Vento	QB	6-1	180	Fr.	Fr.	HS	Farmington Hills, Mich. (Harrison)
17	Kevin Muma	K	6-0	189	So.	Jr.	1L	Troy, Mich. (Troy)
17	Kyle Nichol	WR	5-9	184	So.	Jr.	SQ	Lowell, Mich. (Lowell)
18	Connor Cook	QB	6-4	200	Fr.	Fr.	HS	Hinckley, Ohio (Walsh Jesuit)
19	Danny Folino	LB	5-9	195	So.	Jr.	SQ	Okemos, Mich. (East Lansing)
19	AJ Troup	WR	6-2	209	Fr.	Fr.	HS	Minneapolis, Minn. (Wayzata)
20	Nick Hill	RB	5-7	180	Fr.	So.	RS	Chelsea, Mich. (Chelsea)
20	Kyle Selden	P	6-5	206	Sr.	Sr.-5	SQ	Waterford, Mich. (Our Lady of the Lakes)
21	Andre Sims Jr.	WR	5-8	180	Fr.	Fr.	HS	Snellville, Ga. (Brookwood)
22	Larry Caper	RB	5-11	223	Jr.	Jr.	2L	Battle Creek, Mich. (Battle Creek Central)
23	Jairus Jones	S	6-1	209	So.	Jr.	1L	Tampa, Fla. (Wharton)
24	Le'Veon Bell	RB	6-2	237	So.	So.	1L	Reynoldsburg, Ohio (Groveport Madison)
25	Keith Mumphery	WR	6-0	202	Fr.	So.	RS	Vienna, Ga. (Dooly County)
26	RJ Williamson	S	5-10	182	Fr.	Fr.	HS	Middletown, Ohio (Dunbar)
27	Kurtis Drummond	S	6-1	196	Fr.	So.	RS	Masury, Ohio (Hubbard)
28	Denicos Allen	LB	5-10	220	So.	Jr.	1L	Hamilton, Ohio (Hamilton)
29	Spencer Elliott	DB/WR	6-0	181	Fr.	Fr.	HS	Ada, Mich. (Forest Hills Eastern)
31	Darqueze Dennard	CB	5-11	185	So.	So.	1L	Dry Branch, Ga. (Twiggs County)
32	Mitchell White	CB	5-11	180	Jr.	Sr.	2L	Livonia, Mich. (Stevenson)
33	Jeremy Langford	RB	5-11	205	Fr.	So.	RS	Wayne, Mich. (John Glenn)
34	Taiwan Jones	LB	6-3	234	Fr.	Fr.	HS	New Baltimore, Mich. (Anchor Bay)
35	Chris Laneaux	DB	5-11	180	Fr.	Fr.	HS	Kalamazoo, Mich. (Portage Northern)
36	Arjen Colquhoun	CB	6-0	187	Fr.	Fr.	HS	Windsor, Ontario (W.F. Herman Secondary School)
37	Trevon Pendleton	FB	5-11	230	Fr.	Fr.	HS	Lucasville, Ohio (Portsmouth West)
38	Niko Palazeti	FB	6-1	250	Fr.	So.	RS	Northville, Mich. (Detroit Catholic Central)
39	Trenton Robinson	S	5-10	192	Sr.	Sr.	3L	Bay City, Mich. (Bay City Central)
40	Max Bullough	LB	6-3	245	So.	So.	1L	Traverse City, Mich. (St. Francis)
41	Kyler Elsworth	LB	6-1	215	So.	Jr.	1L	Goodrich, Mich. (Goodrich)
42	Todd Anderson	FB	6-2	260	Sr.	Sr.-5	1L	Napoleon, Mich. (Napoleon)
42	Ty Hamilton	LB	6-0	230	Fr.	So.	RS	Fenton, Mich. (Fenton)
43	Ed Davis	LB	6-3	215	Fr.	Fr.	HS	Detroit, Mich. (Southeastern)
44	Marcus Rush	DE	6-2	250	Fr.	So.	RS	Cincinnati, Ohio (Archbishop Moeller)
45	Darien Harris	LB	6-0	206	Fr.	Fr.	HS	Silver Spring, Md. (DeMatha Catholic)
45	Jeff Bobek	FB	6-1	245	Jr.	Jr.	SQ	Palatine, Ill. (William Fremd)
47	Jeremy Gainer	LB	6-1	228	So.	Jr.	SQ	Detroit, Mich. (Clarenceville)
47	Adam Setterbo	FB	6-3	245	Sr.	Sr.-5	1L	Spring Lake, Mich. (Spring Lake Senior)
48	Drew Stevens	TE	6-4	242	Jr.	Sr.	1L	Delaware, Ohio (Olentangy)
48	Pat Rhomburg	LB	6-0	218	Fr.	Fr.	HS	Columbus, Ohio (Bishop Watterson)
49	TyQuan Hammock	LB	6-0	230	So.	Jr.	1L	Fort Wayne, Ind. (Bishop Luers)
50	Steve Gardiner	LB	6-1	222	Jr.	Sr.	2L	Dublin, Ohio (Coffman)
51	Fou Fonoti	OT	6-4	300	Jr.	Jr.	JC	Lakewood, Calif. (Cerritos College)
51	Tony Bryant	LB	6-0	215	Fr.	Fr.	HS	Flint, Mich. (Powers Catholic)
52	Denzel Drone	DE	6-2	262	So.	Jr.	1L	Plant City, Fla. (Plant City)
52	Steve Moore	SN	6-3	223	So.	Jr.	RS	Pinconning, Mich. (Pinconning Area)
53	Kyle Lints	OG	6-3	275	Fr.	Fr.	HS	Traverse City, Mich. (St. Francis)
54	Connor Kruse	OL	6-5	300	Fr.	So.	RS	Lowell, Mich. (Lowell)
55	Corey Freeman	DE	6-2	250	Jr.	Jr.	1L	Cleveland Heights, Ohio (Cleveland Heights)
56	Matt Ramondo	DT	6-5	328	Fr.	Fr.	HS	Las Cruces, N.M. (Mayfield)
57	Johnathan Strayhorn	DL	6-0	272	Sr.	Sr.-5	3L	Detroit, Mich. (Oak Park)
57	Matt Giampapa	SN	6-2	222	Fr.	Fr.	HS	Jackson, Tenn. (University School of Jackson)
58	Jordan Sanders	DT	6-1	288	Fr.	So.	RS	Rochester, Mich. (Adams)
59	Dan France	OT	6-6	315	So.	Jr.	1L	North Royalton, Ohio (North Royalton)

2011 NUMERICAL ROSTER



NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	ELIG.	CL.	EXP.	HOMETOWN (PREVIOUS SCHOOL)
60	Micajah Reynolds	NT	6-5	320	So.	Jr.	1L	Lansing, Mich. (Sexton)
61	Antonio Jeremiah	NT	6-5	345	Sr.	Sr.-5	3L	Hilliard, Ohio (Hilliard Darby)
62	Chris McDonald	OG	6-5	300	Jr.	Sr.	2L	Sterling Heights, Mich. (Henry Ford II)
63	Travis Jackson	C	6-3	275	Fr.	So.	RS	New Albany, Ohio (St. Francis DeSales)
64	Blake Treadwell	OL	6-3	295	Jr.	Jr.	2L	East Lansing, Mich. (East Lansing)
65	Michael Dennis	OT	6-7	307	Fr.	So.	RS	Carey, Ohio (Carey)
65	Doug Curtis	NT	6-2	250	Jr.	Jr.	SQ	Weston, Conn. (Weston)
66	Jack Allen	C	6-1	291	Fr.	Fr.	HS	Hinsdale, Ill. (Hinsdale Central)
67	Joel Foreman	OG	6-4	315	Sr.	Sr.-5	3L	Highland, Mich. (Milford)
68	Ethan Ruhland	OL	6-5	290	Jr.	Sr.	2L	Lake Orion, Mich. (Lake Orion)
69	Blake Pacheco	DT	6-1	264	Sr.	Sr.-5	SQ	Salinas, Calif. (Monterey Peninsula College)
69	Shawn Kamm	OL	6-7	310	Fr.	So.	RS	Saginaw, Mich. (Nouvel Catholic Central)
70	Skyler Burkland	OT	6-7	305	Fr.	So.	RS	Sunbury, Ohio (Big Walnut)
71	John Deyo	OG	6-6	300	Jr.	Sr.	2L	Battle Creek, Mich. (Gull Lake)
72	Nate Klatt	OL	6-4	290	So.	Jr.	1L	Clinton, Ohio (Northwest)
73	Arthur Ray Jr.	OG	6-3	299	Sr.	Sr.	SQ	Chicago, Ill. (Mount Carmel)
74	Zach Hueter	OL	6-6	310	Jr.	Sr.	SQ	Columbiaville, Mich. (North Branch)
75	Jared McGaha	OT	6-6	298	Sr.	Sr.-5	2L	Powell, Tenn. (Powell)
76	Donavon Clark	OL	6-3	294	Fr.	Fr.	HS	Cincinnati, Ohio (Finneytown)
77	Henry Conway	OT	6-6	318	So.	Jr.	SQ	Shaker Heights, Ohio (Shaker Heights)
80	Dion Sims	TE	6-5	276	So.	Jr.	1L	Detroit, Mich. (Orchard Lake St. Mary's)
81	Brad Sonntag	WR	5-8	176	Sr.	Sr.-5	1L	Saginaw, Mich. (Nouvel Catholic Central)
81	James Kittredge	DL	6-4	270	So.	So.	TR	Ramsey, N.J. (Vanderbilt)
82	Keshawn Martin	WR	5-11	189	Sr.	Sr.	3L	Inkster, Mich. (John Glenn)
83	Paul Lang	TE	6-5	247	Fr.	Fr.	HS	Pittsburgh, Pa. (Mount Lebanon)
84	Derek Hoebing	TE	6-7	270	So.	Jr.	1L	Vermilion, Ohio (Vermilion)
85	Garrett Celek	TE	6-5	252	Sr.	Sr.-5	2L	Cincinnati, Ohio (LaSalle)
86	Chris Nash	DE	6-3	240	Fr.	Fr.	HS	Roseville, Mich. (Roseville)
87	Brandon Clemons	DL	6-3	262	Fr.	Fr.	HS	Milford, Pa. (Delaware Valley)
88	Brian Linthicum	TE	6-5	245	Sr.	Sr.-5	2L	St. Louis, Mo. (Clemson)
89	Shilique Calhoun	DE	6-4	220	Fr.	Fr.	HS	Middletown, N.J. (Middletown North)
91	Tyler Hoover	DE	6-7	290	Jr.	Sr.	2L	Novi, Mich. (Novi)
92	Joel Heath	DE	6-5	270	Fr.	Fr.	HS	Cincinnati, Ohio (Mount Healthy)
92	Andrew Gleichert	TE	6-5	250	Fr.	So.	RS	Ann Arbor, Mich. (Huron)
93	Damon Knox	DE	6-4	274	Fr.	Fr.	HS	Muskegon, Mich. (Muskegon)
94	Taylor Calero	DE	6-3	245	Fr.	So.	RS	Beverly Hills, Mich. (Southfield Christian)
96	Kevin Pickelman	NT	6-4	288	Sr.	Sr.-5	3L	Marshall, Mich. (Marshall)
97	Mark Scarpinato	DT	6-3	270	Fr.	Fr.	HS	Milwaukee, Wis. (Marquette University)
98	Anthony Rashad White	NT	6-2	316	Jr.	Jr.	1L	Battle Creek, Mich. (Fort Scott CC)
99	Jerel Worthy	DT	6-3	310	Jr.	Sr.	2L	Huber Heights, Ohio (Wayne)

KEY – HS: High School; RS: Red-shirted; JC: Junior College; TR: Transfer; SQ: Squad member; L: Letters earned
+ Injured

2011 ALPHABETICAL ROSTER

NO.	NAME	POS.	NO.	NAME	POS.	NO.	NAME	POS.	NO.	NAME	POS.	NO.	NAME	POS.
5	Johnny Adams	CB	3	B.J. Cunningham	WR	49	TyQuan Hammock	LB	53	Kyle Lints	OG	16	Chris D. Rucker	WR
28	Denicos Allen	LB	65	Doug Curtis	NT	45	Darien Harris	LB	14	Tony Lippett	CB/WR	68	Ethan Ruhland	OL
66	Jack Allen	C	43	Ed Davis	LB	92	Joel Heath	DE	82	Keshawn Martin	WR	44	Marcus Rush	DE
42	Todd Anderson	FB	31	Darqueze Dennard	CB	6	Mylan Hicks	S	10	Andrew Maxwell	QB	3	Mike Sadler	P
12	Peter Badovinac	QB	65	Michael Dennis	OT	20	Nick Hill	RB	62	Chris McDonald	OG	58	Jordan Sanders	DT
4	Edwin Baker	RB	71	John Deyo	OG	84	Derek Hoebing	TE	75	Jared McGaha	OT	97	Mark Scarpinato	DT
24	Le'Veon Bell	RB	12	Dana Dixon	CB	91	Tyler Hoover	DE	52	Steve Moore	SN	20	Kyle Selden	P
45	Jeff Bobek	FB	52	Denzel Drone	DE	74	Zach Hueter	OL	17	Kevin Muma	K	47	Adam Setterbo	FB
51	Tony Bryant	LB	27	Kurtis Drummond	S	63	Travis Jackson	C	25	Keith Mumphery	WR	21	Andre Sims Jr.	WR
40	Max Bullough	LB	29	Spencer Elliott	DB/WR	61	Antonio Jeremiah	NT	86	Chris Nash	DE	80	Dion Sims	TE
70	Skyler Burkland	OT	41	Kyler Elsworth	LB	23	Jairus Jones	S	7	Keith Nichol	WR	81	Brad Sonntag	WR
11	Juwan Caesar	WR	19	Danny Folino	LB	34	Taiwan Jones	LB	17	Kyle Nichol	WR	48	Drew Stevens	TE
94	Taylor Calero	DE	51	Fou Fonoti	OT	69	Shawn Kamm	OL	10	Chris Norman	LB	57	Johnathan Strayhorn	DL
89	Shilique Calhoun	DE	67	Joel Foreman	OG	81	James Kittredge	DL	69	Blake Pacheco	DT	8	Lawrence Thomas	LB
22	Larry Caper	RB	13	Bennie Fowler	WR	72	Nate Klatt	OL	38	Niko Palazeti	FB	64	Blake Treadwell	OL
85	Garrett Celek	TE	59	Dan France	OT	93	Damon Knox	DE	37	Trevon Pendleton	FB	19	AJ Troup	WR
76	Donavon Clark	OL	55	Corey Freeman	DE	54	Connor Kruse	OL	96	Kevin Pickelman	NT	16	Tommy Vento	QB
87	Brandon Clemons	DL	47	Jeremy Gainer	LB	35	Chris Laneaux	DB	56	Matt Ramondo	DT	15	Trae Waynes	CB
36	Arjen Colquhoun	CB	50	Steve Gardiner	LB	83	Paul Lang	TE	73	Arthur Ray Jr.	OG	98	Anthony Rashad White	NT
4	Dan Conroy	K	2	William Gholston	DE	33	Jeremy Langford	RB	60	Micajah Reynolds	NT	32	Mitchell White	CB
77	Henry Conway	OT	57	Matt Giampapa	SN	9	Isaiah Lewis	S	48	Pat Rhomberg	LB	26	RJ Williamson	S
18	Connor Cook	QB	92	Andrew Gleichert	TE	88	Brian Linthicum	TE	39	Trenton Robinson	S	99	Jerel Worthy	DT
8	Kirk Cousins	QB	42	Ty Hamilton	LB									

2011
OUTLOOK

2011
SPARTANS

COACHING
STAFF

2010
RECAP

SPARTAN
RECORDS

SPARTAN
HISTORY

HONORS &
AWARDS

BOWL
HISTORY

THE
UNIVERSITY



2011 PRESEASON DEPTH CHART

Here is the way Michigan State plans to line up when preseason camp opens on Sunday, Aug. 7 for the 2011 season. This depth chart is primarily based upon ratings at the conclusion of spring practice. **It does not include incoming freshmen or first-year walk-ons.**

2011
OUTLOOK

2011
SPARTANS

COACHING
STAFF

2010
RECAP

SPARTAN
RECORDS

SPARTAN
HISTORY

HONORS &
AWARDS

BOWL
HISTORY

THE
UNIVERSITY

OFFENSE		
X	3	B.J. Cunningham (6-2, 215, Sr.-5) OR
.....	7	Keith Nichol (6-2, 220, Sr.-5)
.....	25	Keith Mumphery (6-0, 202, R-Fr.)
.....	81	Brad Sonntag (5-8, 176, Sr.-5)
.....	17	Kyle Nichol (5-9, 184, So.)
LT	59	Dan France (6-6, 315, So.)
.....	75	Jared McGaha (6-6, 298, Sr.-5)
.....	65	Michael Dennis (6-7, 307, R-Fr.)
LG	67	Joel Foreman (6-4, 315, Sr.-5)
.....	71	John Deyo (6-6, 300, Jr.)
.....	72	Nate Klatt (6-4, 290, So.)
.....	69	Shawn Kamm (6-7, 310, R-Fr.)
C	63	Travis Jackson (6-3, 275, R-Fr.) OR
.....	64	Blake Treadwell (6-3, 295, Jr.)
.....	68	Ethan Ruhland (6-5, 290, Jr.)
RG	62	Chris McDonald (6-5, 300, Jr.)
.....	64	Blake Treadwell (6-3, 295, Jr.)
.....	73	Arthur Ray Jr. (6-3, 299, Sr.)
RT	70	Skylar Burkland (6-7, 305, R-Fr.)
.....	74	Zach Hueter (6-6, 310, Jr.)
.....	77	Henry Conway (6-6, 318, So.)
.....	51	Fou Fonoti (6-4, 300, Jr.)
TE	85	Garrett Celek (6-5, 252, Sr.-5) OR
.....	88	Brian Linthicum (6-5, 245, Sr.-5) OR
.....	80	Dion Sims (6-5, 276, R-So.)
.....	84	Derek Hoebing (6-7, 270, So.) OR
.....	92	Andrew Gleichert (6-5, 250, R-Fr.) OR
.....	48	Drew Stevens (6-4, 242, Jr.)
Z	82	Keshawn Martin (5-11, 189, Sr.) OR
.....	13	Bennie Fowler (6-1, 215, So.)
.....	14	Tony Lippett (6-2, 189, R-Fr.)
.....	16	Chris D. Rucker (5-9, 178, Sr.-5)
QB	8	Kirk Cousins (6-3, 205, Sr.-5)
.....	10	Andrew Maxwell (6-3, 208, So.)
.....	12	Peter Badovinac (6-2, 215, Jr.)
FB	42	Todd Anderson (6-2, 260, Sr.-5)
.....	38	Niko Palazeti (6-1, 250, R-Fr.)
.....	47	Adam Setterbo (6-3, 245, Sr.-5)
.....	45	Jeff Bobek (6-1, 245, Jr.)
TB	4	Edwin Baker (5-9, 210, Jr.)
.....	22	Larry Caper (5-11, 223, Jr.)
.....	24	Le'Veon Bell (6-2, 237, So.)
.....	20	Nick Hill (5-7, 180, R-Fr.)
.....	33	Jeremy Langford (5-11, 205, R-Fr.)

DEFENSE		
DE	91	Tyler Hoover (6-7, 290, Jr.)
.....	44	Marcus Rush (6-2, 250, R-Fr.)
.....	55	Corey Freeman (6-2, 250, Jr.)
DT	99	Jerel Worthy (6-3, 310, Jr.)
.....	57	Johnathan Strayhorn (6-0, 272, Sr.-5)
.....	69	Blake Pacheco (6-1, 264, Sr.-5)
.....	58	Jordan Sanders (6-1, 288, R-Fr.)
NT	98	Anthony Rashad White (6-2, 316, Jr.) OR
.....	96	Kevin Pickelman (6-4, 288, Sr.-5)
.....	60	Micajah Reynolds (6-5, 320, So.)
.....	65	Dave Curtis (6-2, 250, Jr.)
DE	2	William Gholston (6-7, 280, So.) OR
.....	52	Denzel Drone (6-2, 262, So.)
.....	94	Taylor Calero (6-3, 245, R-Fr.)
SAM	28	Denicos Allen (5-10, 220, So.)
.....	47	Jeremy Gainer (6-1, 228, So.)
.....	41	Kyler Elsworth (6-1, 215, So.)
.....	42	Ty Hamilton (6-0, 230, R-Fr.)
MIKE	40	Max Bullough (6-3, 245, So.)
.....	49	TyQuan Hammock (6-0, 230, So.)
.....	50	Steve Gardiner (6-1, 222, Jr.)
STAR	10	Chris Norman (6-1, 227, Jr.)
.....	50	Steve Gardiner (6-1, 222, Jr.)
.....	19	Danny Folino (5-9, 195, So.)
FC	5	Johnny Adams (5-11, 175, Jr.)
.....	14	Tony Lippett (6-2, 189, R-Fr.)
.....	12	Dana Dixon (6-2, 170, So.)
FS	39	Trenton Robinson (5-10, 192, Sr.)
.....	6	Mylan Hicks (5-11, 191, R-Fr.)
SS	9	Isaiah Lewis (5-10, 195, So.)
.....	23	Jairus Jones (6-1, 209, So.) OR
.....	27	Kurtis Drummond (6-1, 196, R-Fr.)
BC	31	Darqueze Dennard (5-11, 185, So.)
.....	32	Mitchell White (5-11, 180, Jr.)
.....	36	Arjen Colquhoun (6-0, 187, Fr.)

SPECIALISTS		
KO	17	Kevin Muma (6-0, 189, So.)
.....	4	Dan Conroy (5-10, 190, Jr.)
PK	4	Dan Conroy (5-10, 190, Jr.)
.....	17	Kevin Muma (6-0, 189, So.)
P	3	Mike Sadler (6-0, 182, R-Fr.)
.....	20	Kyle Selden (6-5, 206, Sr.-5)
SN	52	Steve Moore (6-3, 223, R-So.)

