

“Right now, our skill level just **breaks down** at different times with a good defensive team. Their defense just took us out of what we wanted to do and **we don’t counter very well** right now.” ... *Michigan coach John Beilein, on what went wrong at Duke*

Few teams go through an entire season without some adversity; hopefully Michigan has gotten its share out of the way early. A late stall to end a back-and-forth game doomed the Wolverines against Harvard, and after sticking with Duke for the first 13 minutes they allowed a 14-0 Blue Devil run on the way to a 95-67 loss. The season, however, is far from over. The Maize and Blue has an opportunity to get back on the right track against an Oakland team that should not be overlooked. The Golden Grizzlies were picked to finish third in the Summit League preseason poll and made the NCAA tournament as recently as 2005. Forget about finals and support the Michigan basketball team when they need it most.

This **special edition** of The Rage Page features photographs of your favorite Golden Grizzlies. Those photos marked with an asterisk (*) are taken from an album on Brandon Cassise’s (#12) Facebook profile entitled “Lookalikes.” In it, Cassise posts funny pictures that he claims resemble his teammates.

Here is the projected starting lineup for the Oakland University Golden Grizzlies (4-5, 1-1 Summit League):

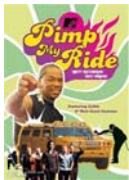


23 Johnathon Jones 5’11” G

Sophomore changed his number from 3 to 23 this year; favorite TV shows include the cartoons “Recess” and “Fillmore;” created a Facebook group called “Superman dat hoe”

30 Erik Kangas 6’3” G

Nickname is “Roo,” and favorite non-sports hero is Batman; in case you cannot tell, in the picture at right, the junior is clutching a plastic duck

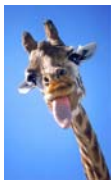


***1 Derick Nelson** 6’5” F

Was born and raised in Lansing and went to prep school in Maine, but lists his hometown on Facebook as Zimbabwe; the photo on the right is Nelson, not a lookalike

***20 Shane Lawal** 6’10” C

Spent ’04-’05 at Michigan (but did not participate in athletics); first name is pronounced Shane-EE; Cassise claims that this photo depicts Lawal with B-Jay Walker (5’8”)



***34 Keith Benson** 6’11” C

Nicknamed “Kito,” redshirt freshman’s father and two uncles played basketball in college; girlfriend is named Tiara; went to elementary school with your humble Rage Page editor

Coach Greg Kampe

His father, Kurt, won a National Championship as a guard on the 1947 Michigan football team; his brother (also Kurt) played defensive back for the Wolverines in 1974-75



Bum of the Game: Johnathon Jones – Give a nice Maize Rage welcome to tonight’s Bum of the Game. Chant “JJ” whenever he touches the ball.

And the rest of the Oakland roster:

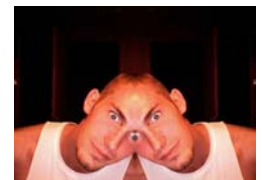


***21 Ricky Bieszki** 6’2” G

Infamous on the team for doing terrible impressions; Dan Waterstradt (#45) describes them as “god-awful;” “Ricky you do these impressions and they drive everyone crazy,” he writes; sister Bobbie played women’s basketball at OU

2 Peter Bunn 6’1” G

On Myspace, claims to be from Kazakhstan (he actually hails from Lansing); lists major as Basket Making—either a clever play on words or an utter waste of four years

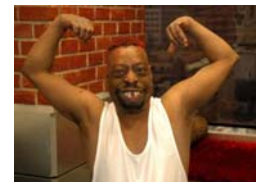


***32 John Kast** 6’2” G

Has not played basketball in two years (redshirted last year and sat out senior year of HS with injury); HS coach was Dan Fife (former UM player and father of Dugan Fife)

***11 B-Jay Walker** 5’8” G

A full foot shorter than five of his teammates; he aspires to star in a movie with Halle Berry and Jennifer Lopez; if there was a love scene, would he have to stand on a ladder?



***45 Dan Waterstradt** 6’10” C

“Stradt” or “Dubs” transferred from Rutgers the same year that our own Zack Gibson did; the best moment of his college career? “Hitting two free throws with 27.4 seconds left” vs. #4 Syracuse in 2005; but Rutgers lost that game!

33 Tim Williams 6’2” G

Claims to have “never read a book in [his] life; favorite TV shows are “whatever on that i can watch without falling asleep” [sic]



And the rest of the rest of the Oakland roster: #4 Will Hudson, #12 Brandon Cassise, #22 Ray Goodson, #44 Patrick McCloskey

Keep it classy, Rage: As we work toward becoming a great student section, it’s important that we refrain from swearing and making other negative slurs throughout the game. The University of Michigan is an institution of class, and as a collective representative of the University, we need to uphold this standard. It’s cool to razz the opposition, but keep it clean, Ragers.

Here is the projected starting lineup for YOUR Michigan Wolverines (3-6, 0-0 Big Ten):

44	Kelvin Grady	5'11" G	Besides KG's 2.9 assist-to-turnover ratio and team-leading three-point shooting, he is a perfect 10-for-10 from the free throw line
3	Manny Harris	6'5" G	Manny leads the team in scoring with 15.7 ppg; in fact, he's scored in double-digits in eight of his nine career games
24	Ron Coleman	6'6" W	Rockin' the headband, R.C. is one of only two seniors on the roster; he has played in all 108 games in his four years at Michigan
34	DeShawn Sims	6'8" F	Peedi has created turnovers all year with tenacious defense, and we've found out that he has a talent he hid from us last year: the three-point shot
22	Ekpe Udoh	6'10" F	Sophomore cracked the starting lineup for the first time this year at Duke; he now ranks in the Michigan top ten in career blocks
Coach	John Beilein		Is he available to coach football too? The 1-3-1 zone is guaranteed to befuddle opposing quarterbacks

'Fresh' men: Freshmen Manny "Fresh" Harris and Kelvin "Smooth" Grady have wasted no time adjusting to the college game. Both have started each game of their Wolverine careers and made an instant impact. Of Michigan's 108 assists, Harris and Grady are responsible for 52. Harris leads the team in scoring, assists, and steals, and is second in minutes played. Grady has not done so bad himself, shooting a blistering 52% from three-point range, which leads the Big Ten.

Future looks bright: Two recruits have signed National Letters of Intent to play for Michigan in the 2008-09 season. Ben Cronin, from Syracuse, NY, is a 7-foot center with a 7'5" wingspan. Cronin averaged 12.0 points, 12.0 rebounds, 8.0 assists, and 5.0 blocks as a junior for the Henninger HS Black Knights. Gotta love a player that puts up round numbers like that. Stu Douglass, a 6'3" shooting guard from Carmel, Indiana, also signed with the Wolverines. Douglass put up 10.0 points, 3.0 rebounds, 2.0 assists, and 1.0 steal per game last season, and is a 92% free throw shooter. He has played high school games against the likes of Greg Oden, Mike Conley, and Eric Gordon.

H-BOMB: When Manny Harris, our new H-Bomber, hits a three, drop back in your seats as if a bomb has violently shaken Crisler Arena. Simultaneously, yell "Fresh" (Manny's nickname), holding the -SH at the end.

Chants: Be steady and don't speed up, or the chants will become disorganized and ineffective...

Offense:

- Here we go Michigan, here we go! (clap clap)
- Let's Go Michigan! (clap, clap, clap clap clap)
- Go, Blue, Go! (clap clap clap)
- Let's Go Blue! (clap)
- Go Blue! (clap clap)

Defense:

- De-fense! (clap clap)
- D-D-D-Defense! D-D-D-Defense!
- Popcorn (Jump up and down while screaming OHHHH!!)
- Bounce! Bounce! Pass! (Yell "bounce" when the opposition dribbles, and "pass" when they pass)

Bum of the Game goes to the bench: -NaNaNana! NaNaNana! Hey Hey Hey, You Suck!

Upcoming home games:

Sat, December 15	vs. Central Michigan	2:00pm	Gates open one hour before game time
Sat, December 22	vs. #8 UCLA	2:00pm	Nationally televised on CBS
Wed, January 2	vs. Wisconsin	7:00pm	Big Ten opener



STUDENTS! E-MAIL LIST: To sign up for weekly newsletters and important Rage tidbits, go to MaizeRage.org and click the link on the left side of the page, or send an email to vinnyc@umich.edu requesting that your name be added.

Histo's Corner:

Michigan is 18-4 all-time on December 12, including an 11-1 mark on this date against teams from the state of Michigan.

Michigan is 3-1 all-time against Oakland University.

When Michigan has played Oakland, the home team has won every game. Michigan beat the Golden Grizzlies at Crisler Arena in 1999, 2001, and 2003. Oakland beat the Wolverines in 2000 on Oakland's home court.

The last time Oakland and Michigan met, in 2003, Michigan triumphed, 84-58.

Histo's RPI Update:

Michigan - #143, Oakland - #206

The Rage Page is produced by the Maize Rage, an independent student group, for University of Michigan students only. It is funded by the Michigan Student Assembly and does not reflect the views of the Michigan Athletic Department or the University of Michigan.

Have questions, comments, or potential future Rage Page material? Contact Craig Johnson, Rage Page Editor, at craigjoh@umich.edu

