02/22/2000 – Wolverines Beat Penn State, End Losing Streak

The University of Michigan Wolverines finally ended their 7-game losing streak on Saturday (02/19/2000) by beating Penn State in Crisler Arena, 89-87, in overtime. UM opened up a 20-point lead in the first half, and appeared to be cruising to an easy victory. The lead was still 17 points at halftime, but the second half was all PSU. They tied the game up near the end of regulation, and had a good chance to win it. The overtime period was also close, and once again, PSU had a good chance to pull the game out. Fortunately for the Wolverines, they got the breaks, finally.

Kevin Gaines had a very good all-around game, with a team-high 17 points, and only 2 turnovers in 43 minutes of action. LaVell Blanchard and Brandon Smith were right behind him, with 16 points each, and LaVell was the leading rebounder, with 11. Chris Young also had a very good game, with a career-high 13 points.

So, now the losing streak is over, and the Wolverines can concentrate on finishing the season strong. Purdue is up next, on Thursday (02/24/2000) in Crisler Arena. Barring any further complications, Jamal Crawford should be back in action, and that's very good news. UM beat Purdue in West Lafayette early in the season, and there's no reason they can't do it again.