12/25/2006 – Week #09 – Bah, Humbug!

The Week In Review

The University of Michigan men's basketball team only played one game this week, and they lost it. On Saturday (12/23/2006), they lost at (#1) UCLA, 92-55. Actually, they didn't just lose, they got trounced. It was an ugly game, but fortunately, it only counts as one loss. This loss drops Michigan's overall record to 11-2.

There is no shame in losing to the #1 team in the nation, on their home court, but it would have been nice to put a more of a fight. The Wolverines never got comfortable out there, and they looked panicked and rushed. Not good.

Game Statistics

Let's look at the shooting statistics from the UCLA game:

Team	Field goals	3-Pointers	Free throws
Michigan	23-50 (46.0%)	1-10 (10.0%)	8-11 (72.7%)
UCLA	33-56 (58.9%)	11-20 (55.0%)	15-19 (78.9%)
Advantage	UCLA	UCLA	UCLA

The game was a blowout, and these stats show why: UCLA dominated, especially from 3-point range. Michigan's 3-piont shooting percentage (10%) is really sad.

Now, let's look at the non-shooting statistics from the UCLA game:

Team	Rebounds	Assists	Turnovers	Blocks	Steals
Michigan	24	9	23	6	2
UCLA	28	19	13	4	12
Advantage	UCLA	UCLA	UCLA	Michigan	UCLA

At least Michigan had more Blocks, and the Rebounds were close, because everything else was a disaster. The worst number here is the 23 Turnovers. That is just miserable.

Individual Statistics

Coach Amaker went with his regular starting lineup in the UCLA game, and here's how they did:

Player	Field Goals	3-Pointers	Free Throws	Points
Lester Abram	4-6	0-3	3-4	11
Ron Coleman	1-3	0-1	0-0	2
Dion Harris	1-6	0-4	0-0	2
Brent Petway	3-3	0-0	2-2	8
Courtney Sims	6-10	0-0	1-1	13
Totals	15-28 53.6%	0-8 0.0%	6-7 85.7%	36

As a group, the starters did OK, except for 3-point shooting and overall scoring.

Individually, Sims, Abram, and Petway all played pretty well, but Coleman and Harris were terrible.

Coach Amaker seems to have settled on 5 bench players. They each got at least 11 minutes of playing time, and here's how they did:

Player	Field Goals	3-Pointers	Free Throws	Points
Reed Baker	0-3	0-1	0-0	0
Jevohn Shepherd	1-2	1-1	0-0	3
DeShawn Sims	2-8	0-0	1-2	5
Jerret Smith	2-4	0-1	0-0	4
Ekpe Udoh	3-5	0-0	1-2	7
Totals	8-22 36.4%	1-3 33.3%	2-4 50.0%	19

As a group, the bench players did pretty well. Their shooting percentages are decent, and they did account for the lone UM 3-pointer.

Individually, DeShawn Sims and Udoh played pretty well, considering the conditions, but the rest of the bench players didn't contribute much.

The Big Picture

The UCLA game is one best just forgotten. Just as I said "a win is a win" earlier in the season, "a loss is only one loss". Sure, it was embarrassing, but it's over.

The non-conference portion of the schedule is almost over. So far, Michigan has played 11 "easy" teams, and beaten them all. They have played one tough team (UCLA), and lost badly. They've played one "toss-up" game (against NC State), and they lost that, also pretty badly. They have 2 non-conference games left, both in Crisler Arena. First, they play Army, then they play formerly-ranked Georgetown. They should beat Army, but the Georgetown game is going to be another tough one.

Here's the 2006-2007 schedule/results:

Date	Opponent	Site	Result	Score	Record
11/02/2006 (Thu)	Wayne State (exh)	Ann Arbor	W	85-51	0-0
11/05/2006 (Sun)	Michigan Tech (exh)	Ann Arbor	W	85-50	0-0
John Thompson Challenge					
11/10/2006 (Fri)	Central Connecticut State	Ann Arbor	W	60-40	1-0
11/11/2006 (Sat)	Davidson	Ann Arbor	W	78-68	2-0
11/12/2006 (Sun)	Eastern Michigan	Ann Arbor	W	80-51	3-0
11/15/2006 (Wed)	Wisconsin-Milwaukee	Ann Arbor	W	66-59	4-0
11/17/2006 (Fri)	Harvard	Ann Arbor	W	82-50	5-0
11/22/2006 (Wed)	Youngstown State	Ann Arbor	W	65-56	6-0
11/25/2006 (Sat)	Maryland-Baltimore County	Ann Arbor	W	66-54	7-0
ACC/Big Ten Challenge					
11/27/2006 (Mon)	North Carolina State	Raleigh, NC	L	67-74	7-1
12/02/2006 (Sat)	Wofford	Ann Arbor	W	83-49	8-1
12/07/2006 (Thu)	Miami (OH)	Oxford, OH	W	62-56	9-1
12/09/2006 (Sat)	Delaware State	Ann Arbor	W	70-43	10-1
12/16/2006 (Sat)	Northern Illinois	Ann Arbor	W	67-52	11-1
12/23/2006 (Sat)	UCLA	Los Angeles, CA	L	92-55	11-2
12/28/2006 (Thu)	Army	Ann Arbor			
12/30/2006 (Sat)	Georgetown	Ann Arbor			
01/03/2007 (Wed)	Illinois	Ann Arbor			
01/06/2007 (Sat)	Northwestern	Evanston, IL			
01/13/2007 (Sat)	Purdue	West Lafayette, IN			

Date	Opponent	Site	Result	Score	Record
01/17/2007 (Wed)	Penn State	Ann Arbor			
01/20/2007 (Sat)	Purdue	Ann Arbor			
01/24/2007 (Wed)	Wisconsin	Madison, WI			
01/27/2007 (Sat)	Indiana	Bloomington, IN			
01/31/2007 (Wed)	Iowa	Ann Arbor			
02/06/2007 (Tue)	Ohio State	Columbus, OH			
02/10/2007 (Sat)	Minnesota	Ann Arbor			
02/13/2007 (Tue)	Michigan State	East Lansing, MI			
02/17/2007 (Sat)	Indiana	Ann Arbor			
02/21/2007 (Wed)	Illinois	Champaign, IL			
02/24/2007 (Sat)	Minnesota	Minneapolis, MN			
02/27/2007 (Tue) or 02/28/2007 (Wed)	Michigan State	Ann Arbor			
03/03/2007 (Sat)	Ohio State	Ann Arbor			
Big Ten Tournament					
03/08/2007 (Thu)	First Round	Chicago, IL			
03/09/2007 (Fri)	Quarterfinals	Chicago, IL			
03/10/2007 (Sat)	Semifinals	Chicago, IL			
03/11/2007 (Sun)	Finals	Chicago, IL			

The Upcoming Week

As you can see in the schedule above, Michigan has two games this week. On Thursday (12/28/2006, 8:00 p.m.), they play Army, then on Saturday (12/30/2006, 2:00 p.m. EST), they play Georgetown. Both games are in Crisler. Come on down, and cheer for the Wolverines.

Go Blue!