

Nothing But 'Net – Week #05 (11/16/2009) – A Stress-Free Opener

The Week In Review

The (#15) University of Michigan men's basketball team played their regular season opener this week, and they won it. [On Saturday \(11/14/2009\), they beat Northern Michigan \(NMU\) in Crisler Arena, 97-50.](#) It was a game that UM should have won easily, and they did. Everyone played (except for a couple potential redshirts), and lots of players scored. It was a nice stress-free way to ease into the new season. The game was only close for the first few minutes, and once UM opened up a 10-point lead, they never looked back. The lead continued to grow, and Michigan countered every NMU run quickly and easily.

Game Statistics

Let's look at the shooting [statistics from the NMU game](#):

Team	Field goals	3-Pointers	Free throws
Michigan	35-61 (57.4%)	9-25 (36.0%)	18-22 (81.8%)
NMU	21-68 (30.9%)	6-31 (19.4%)	2-6 (33.3%)
Advantage	Michigan	Michigan	Michigan

Wow. Talk about domination, in all 3 aspects. Michigan had good percentages in overall field goals and free throws, and an acceptable percentage shooting 3-pointers, but NMU's numbers are sad.

Now, let's look at the non-shooting [statistics from the NMU game](#):

Team	Rebounds	Assists	Turnovers	Blocks	Steals
Michigan	48	24	10	3	6
NMU	28	10	10	0	4
Advantage	Michigan	Michigan	Even	Michigan	Michigan

More domination, especially in rebounding and assists. These are great numbers.

Individual Statistics

Coach Beilein went with the same starting lineup in the NMU game that he used in [the exhibition game against Wayne State](#): [Manny Harris](#), [Laval Lucas-Perry](#), [Darius Morris](#), [Zack Novak](#), and [DeShawn Sims](#). Here's how the starters did:

Player	Field Goals	3-Pointers	Free Throws	Points
Manny Harris	6-10	1-4	5-6	18
Laval Lucas-Perry	1-4	1-4	1-2	4
Darius Morris	5-7	0-1	1-1	11
Zack Novak	2-4	0-2	0-0	4
DeShawn Sims	7-13	1-2	7-8	22
Totals	21-38 55.3%	3-13 23.1%	14-17 82.4%	59

As a group, the starters did pretty well. Their percentages are good, except for 3-point shooting, and they scored more points than the whole NMU team.

Individually, it was great to get three starters into double figures: Harris, Morris, and Sims. However, there's more to the story: Manny Harris not only hit double figures in scoring, but

he also hit double figures in rebounds (13) and assists (10), for only the second triple-double in Michigan basketball history (the other was by my favorite player, Gary Grant, back in 1987)! Sims was the leading scorer, and he had a double-double (10 rebounds). He looked very poised and confident out there. Morris played much better than he did in the Wayne State game. He ran the team well, and he showed us some scoring. The other two starters (LLP and Novak) played OK, but nowhere near their potential. Novak did have a few rebounds (7), and he hustled all over the court, like usual. Even when he doesn't score much, he brings a lot of energy to the game.

The game was a blowout, so Coach Beilein played almost everyone (except [Jordan Morgan](#), who is recovering from knee surgery and might end up redshirting and [Blake McLimans](#), who will probably be redshirted). Here's how the bench players did:

Player	Field Goals	3-Pointers	Free Throws	Points
Eso Akunne	1-1	0-0	0-0	2
Josh Bartelstein	0-0	0-0	0-0	0
Ben Cronin	1-1	0-0	0-0	2
Stu Douglass	1-4	1-3	0-0	3
Zack Gibson	5-5	0-0	1-1	11
Corey Person	0-0	0-0	0-0	0
Eric Puls	0-2	0-1	0-0	0
Matt Vogrich	5-5	5-5	0-0	15
Anthony Wright	1-5	0-3	3-4	5
Totals	14-23 60.9%	6-12 50.0%	4-5 80.0%	38

As a group, the bench players made a big contribution. Their shooting percentages are excellent, and they scored a very respectable number of points.

Individually, Gibson and Vogrich both hit double figures, and they were both on fire! They both went 5-for-5, but all of Gibson's shots were 2-pointers, while all of Vogrich's shots were 3-pointers. None of the rest of the bench players contributed much. It was all Gibson and Vogrich. Douglass ran the point a few times, and he looked OK, but not as good as last season. Wright played a decent amount of time (13 minutes), but didn't do much. The rest of the bench players only got in during "garbage time".

Now that I've seen Cronin a few times, I can see that he's more of a "project" than I had expected/hoped.

The Big Picture

Michigan took care of business, and dominated a team they should have dominated. They should also beat their next opponent (Houston Baptist) just as easily. We'll get a much better idea of how good they are in [the Old Spice Classic](#) over the long Thanksgiving weekend.

Here's the 2009-2010 schedule/results:

Date	Opponent	Site	Result	Score	Record
11/06/2009 (Fri)	Wayne State (exh)	Ann Arbor	W	73-54	0-0
11/14/2009 (Sat)	Northern Michigan	Ann Arbor	W	97-50	1-0
11/20/2009 (Fri)	Houston Baptist	Ann Arbor			
Old Spice Classic					

11/26/2009 (Thu)	vs. Creighton	Orlando, FL			
11/27/2009 (Fri)	vs. Marquette/Xavier	Orlando, FL			
11/29/2009 (Sun)	Final/Consolation game	Orlando, FL			
ACC/Big Ten Challenge					
12/02/2009 (Wed)	Boston College	Ann Arbor			
12/05/2009 (Sat)	Arkansas - Pine Bluff	Ann Arbor			
12/09/2009 (Wed)	at Utah	Salt Lake City, UT			
12/13/2009 (Sun)	Detroit - Mercy	Ann Arbor			
12/19/2009 (Sat)	at Kansas	Lawrence, KS			
12/22/2009 (Tue)	Coppin State	Ann Arbor			
12/31/2010 (Thu)	at Indiana	Bloomington, IN			
01/03/2010 (Sun)	Ohio State	Ann Arbor			
01/07/2010 (Thu)	at Penn State	State College, PA			
01/10/2010 (Sun)	Northwestern	Ann Arbor			
01/14/2010 (Thu)	Indiana	Ann Arbor			
01/17/2010 (Sun)	Connecticut	Ann Arbor			
01/20/2010 (Wed)	at Wisconsin	Madison, WI			
01/23/2010 (Sat)	at Purdue	West Lafayette, IN			
01/26/2010 (Tue)	Michigan State	Ann Arbor			
01/30/2010 (Sat)	Iowa	Ann Arbor			
02/02/2010 (Tue)	at Northwestern	Evanston, IL			
02/06/2010 (Sat)	Wisconsin	Ann Arbor			
02/11/2010 (Thu)	at Minnesota	Minneapolis, MN			
02/16/2010 (Tue)	at Iowa	Iowa City, IA			
02/20/2010 (Sat)	Penn State	Ann Arbor			
02/23/2010 (Tue)	Illinois	Ann Arbor			
02/27/2010 (Sat) or 02/28/2010 (Sun)	at Ohio State	Columbus, OH			
03/02/2010 (Tue) or 03/03/2010 (Wed)	Minnesota	Ann Arbor			
03/06/2010 (Sat) or 03/07/2010 (Sun)	at Michigan State	East Lansing, MI			
Big Ten Tournament					
03/11/2010 (Thu)	First Round	Indianapolis, IN			
03/12/2010 (Fri)	Quarterfinal	Indianapolis, IN			
03/13/2010 (Sat)	Semifinal	Indianapolis, IN			
03/14/2010 (Sun)	Championship	Indianapolis, IN			

The Upcoming Week

As you can see in the schedule above, Michigan has one game this week. On Friday (11/20/2009, 7:00 p.m.), they play Houston Baptist (who?) in Crisler Arena. Come on down and cheer on the Wolverines. Be sure to drop by Sections 8/11 and say hi to the usher (me).

Go Blue!