

Nothing But 'Net – Week #19 (02/22/2010) – Hope, Then Despair

The Week In Review

The University of Michigan men's basketball team played two games last week, and they won one and lost one. [On Tuesday \(02/17/2010\), they won at Iowa 80-78 \(overtime\)](#), then [on Saturday \(02/20/2010\), they lost to Penn State 55-51, in Crisler Arena](#). The win and lost leave Michigan with a record of 13-13 (6-8 in the Big Ten).

It's tough winning on the road in the Big Ten, even against a weaker team like Iowa. It sure looked like Michigan was going to lose the game, down 5 points (65-60) with only 22 seconds left in regulation. But [DeShawn Sims](#) made a layup with 15 seconds left to cut the deficit to 3 points, and he was fouled. He made the free throw to cut the deficit to just 2 points. Iowa converted a free throw to push it back up to a 3 point lead, then Sims hit a tough 3-pointer with 7 seconds left to send the game into overtime. Actually, Sims was fouled on the 3-pointer, and he should have gotten a free throw for a chance to make it a 4-point play, but the refs didn't make the call. Michigan played well in overtime, and pulled out the win. It was very encouraging.

Then came the Penn State game.

There is no way Michigan should lose to Penn State this season. Coming into the week, Penn State was 0-12 in the Big Ten, before finally winning at Northwestern on Wednesday. Still, [Michigan beat PSU in Happy Valley back in early January](#), so they should have been able to beat them in Crisler Arena. Nope. They held PSU to just 4 points in the last 10 minutes of the game, but they kept missing shots and throwing the ball away, and couldn't overcome a 9 point deficit in 10 minutes.

It was one of the most embarrassing loss by a Michigan basketball team that I've seen in person.

Does anyone remember when it was fun to say "we own Penn State"? No more.

Game And Individual Statistics

Once again, here are the "streamlined" stats. If you want to see the full stats, check out MGoBlue.com for the [Iowa](#) and [Penn State](#) boxscores. Here are the highlights:

- Michigan shot great in the Iowa game: 27-for-62 (43.5%) overall, and an amazing 14-for-27 (51.9%) from 3-point range. Wow!
- The Wolverines were back to their poor shooting against Penn State, especially from 3-point range. They shot a respectable 5-for-16 (31.3%) from 3-point range in the 1st half, then they went 1-for-12 (8.3%) in the 2nd half, to lose the game.
- Rebounding: UM lost the rebounding battle at Iowa, but just by one rebound (36-35). Michigan was outrebounded badly by PSU, 39-25.
- The only players in double figures in both games were Sims (27 and 10) and [Manny Harris](#) (20 and 20). [Laval Lucas-Perry](#) hit double figures in the Iowa game, with 13 points. The rest of the bench scored 2 and 1 points.

The Big Picture

At the beginning of the season, we were looking at Michigan being ranked #15, and dreaming about a long, deep run into the NCAA Tournament. Now, Michigan is at 0.500

(13-13), and scrambling to get into the NIT. With 4 games left (2 at home, 2 on the road), even the NIT might be a stretch.

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	W	77-55	2-0
Old Spice Classic					
11/26/2009 (Thu)	vs. Creighton	Orlando, FL	W	83-76 (ot)	3-0
11/27/2009 (Fri)	vs. Marquette	Orlando, FL	L	79-65	3-1
11/29/2009 (Sun)	vs. Alabama	Orlando, FL	L	68-66	3-2
ACC/Big Ten Challenge					
12/02/2009 (Wed)	Boston College	Ann Arbor	L	62-58	3-3
12/05/2009 (Sat)	Arkansas - Pine Bluff	Ann Arbor	W	67-53	4-3
12/09/2009 (Wed)	at Utah	Salt Lake City, UT	L	68-52	4-4
12/13/2009 (Sun)	Detroit - Mercy	Ann Arbor	W	75-64	5-4
12/19/2009 (Sat)	at Kansas	Lawrence, KS	L	75-64	5-5
12/22/2009 (Tue)	Coppin State	Ann Arbor	W	76-46	6-5
12/31/2010 (Thu)	at Indiana	Bloomington, IN	L	71-65	6-6 (0-1)
01/03/2010 (Sun)	Ohio State	Ann Arbor	W	73-64	7-6 (1-1)
01/07/2010 (Thu)	at Penn State	State College, PA	W	64-55	8-6 (2-1)
01/10/2010 (Sun)	Northwestern	Ann Arbor	L	68-62	8-7 (2-2)
01/14/2010 (Thu)	Indiana	Ann Arbor	W	69-45	9-7 (3-2)
01/17/2010 (Sun)	Connecticut	Ann Arbor	W	68-63	10-7 (3-2)
01/20/2010 (Wed)	at Wisconsin	Madison, WI	L	54-48	10-8 (3-3)
01/23/2010 (Sat)	at Purdue	West Lafayette, IN	L	69-59	10-9 (3-4)
01/26/2010 (Tue)	Michigan State	Ann Arbor	L	57-56	10-10 (3-5)
01/30/2010 (Sat)	Iowa	Ann Arbor	W	60-46	11-10 (4-5)
02/02/2010 (Tue)	at Northwestern	Evanston, IL	L	67-52	11-11 (4-6)
02/06/2010 (Sat)	Wisconsin	Ann Arbor	L	62-44	11-12 (4-7)
02/11/2010 (Thu)	at Minnesota	Minneapolis, MN	W	71-63	12-12 (5-7)
02/16/2010 (Tue)	at Iowa	Iowa City, IA	W	80-78 (ot)	13-12 (6-7)
02/20/2010 (Sat)	Penn State	Ann Arbor	L	55-51	13-13 (6-8)
02/23/2010 (Tue)	Illinois	Ann Arbor			
02/27/2010 (Sat)	at Ohio State	Columbus, OH			
03/02/2010 (Tue)	Minnesota	Ann Arbor			
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			

See my [Big Ten Report](#) for a complete rundown of the Big Ten last week.

The Upcoming Week

As you can see in the schedule above, Michigan plays two games next week, one at home and on the road. On Tuesday (02/23/2010, 7:00 p.m., ESPN), they play Illinois in Crisler

Arena, then on Saturday (02/27/2010, noon, ESPN), they play at Ohio State. Tune by, and come on down to Crisler to cheer on the Wolverines.

Go Blue!