

Nothing But 'Net – Week #02 – 11/08/2010 – Exhibit A

I hate exhibition games. They're always choppy, Michigan is usually playing some crappy Division 2 team that they should beat handily, and they just don't tell us much about the team. Take [Friday night's exhibition game vs. Saginaw Valley State](#) (please):

- Choppy? Check.
- Crappy opponent? Check.
- Didn't learn much? Check.
- Win handily? Not so much. They grunted out a 68-59 win.

At times, UM looked pretty good; other times, they stunk up the joint. They led the whole way, but there were times when they let SVSU get a lot closer than they should have.

Most of the players got to play, except for the "ABC guys" ([Eso Akunne](#), [Josh Bartelstein](#), and [Corey Person](#)), and we got to see what the newcomers look like. In general, they looked OK:

- [Jordan Morgan](#) looked the best of the "young bigs". He almost had a double-double (9 points, 15 rebounds).
- [Tim Hardaway, Jr.](#) had some good moments, but 3-point shooting wasn't among them (1-for-7 from 3-point range).
- [Evan Smotrycz](#) hit his first 3-point attempt, then missed his next 5 attempts. He was one of only two Michigan players in double figures (12 points).
- The other newcomers ([Colton Christian](#), [Jon Horford](#), and [Blake McLimans](#)) got some minutes, but they didn't do much with them. Horford and McLimans looked lost out there.

The "returning veterans" were unimpressive:

- [Darius Morris](#) was the leading scorer (18 points, 12 of them on free throws). He did show nice flashes of speed and ballhandling, but he didn't really run the offense that well, which is what UM needs from a point guard. He tried to do too much by himself.
- [Matt Vogrich](#) was the only player with a respectable 3-point shooting percentage (1-for-2).
- [Stu Douglass](#) looked lost out there, which is not good for one of the team leaders.
- [Zack Novak](#) was Zack Novak. He only had 5 points, but he played hard, hustled, and tried to "herd the cats" when the newcomers started wandering off into the weeds.

As a team, Michigan put up some lousy numbers: 35% shooting overall (19-for-54), and a breathtaking 14% (3-for-21) from 3-point land. On the "good news" side, they did have 49 rebounds, but they should out-rebound SVSU, and they did a good job taking care of the ball, with only 5 turnovers. [Complete stats here](#).

Next up for Michigan: [South Carolina Upstate](#) at 7:00 p.m. on Saturday (11/13/2010) in Crisler. They wear green and white, their team nickname is the Spartans, and it's Michigan's big chance to beat (Up)State this season.

Go Blue!