

Nothing But 'Net – Week #03 – 11/15/2010 – Michigan Beats Up State

Or, maybe that should read "Michigan Beats Upstate". They were the Spartans. They wore green and white. Michigan beat them. But, they weren't the Little Brothers from East Lansing, they were the South Carolina Upstate Spartans from Spartansburg, SC. They weren't very good, but neither was Michigan. Still, [the Wolverines were good enough to handle the Spartans easily, and they won 66-35 on Saturday night.](#)

Like the exhibition game, this one was kind of slow, kind of choppy, and kind of boring. There were flashes of good play, followed by typical young team mistakes. Still, Michigan shot pretty well (44% and 32%), had as many assists as turnovers (12 of each), and outrebounded the smaller Spartans, 45-32.

Since the game last week against Saginaw Valley State was just an exhibition, this was the first real game for a lot of Michigan's young players. Everyone played, even the brand new walk-on, [Darrick Ervin II](#), a 5'11", 160 pound guard from UD Jesuit, where he was a teammate of [Jordan Morgan](#). Highlights:

- [Tim Hardaway, Jr.](#) was the high scorer (19 points), and the first UM player to dunk this season. He shot pretty well (6-for-12 overall, 3-for-8 from 3-point land, 4-for-6 from the line), and he did a good job taking the ball to the rim a couple times.
- [Darius Morris](#) was the only other player in double figures, with 17 points. He shot even better: 7-for-10, 0-for-0, 3-for-5. He did a little of that point guard thing (4 assists), but he also did a little of that young player thing (3 turnovers).
- [Zack Novak](#) was the leading rebounder, with 8 boards. Even though he has moved to shooting guard (from small forward), he still crashes the boards. He didn't shoot very well (2-for-5, 1-for-3, 2-for-2, 7 points), but he did have 3 assists and no turnovers.
- [Stu Douglass](#) looked a little better than last game. He spelled Morris at point, and scored 8 points on decent shooting.

No one else did much. Morgan got 6 rebounds, but only 4 points. [Matt Vogrich](#) hit another 3-pointer. [Evan Smotrycz](#) played hard, but shot poorly. [Colton Christian](#) got 4 rebounds. [Here are the full stats.](#)

Now Michigan plays in the somewhat weird [2010 Legends Classic](#). The 4 "host teams" (Michigan, Syracuse, Georgia Tech, and UTEP) all play 2 "first round" games on their home courts, then they meet in Atlantic City, NJ after Thanksgiving for a "championship round". I guess the first round games don't matter, since the host teams move on to the championship round regardless of the outcomes. Strange. Anyway, Michigan plays 2 Legends Classic games next week, both in Crisler: [Bowling Green](#) on Thursday (11/18, 7:00 pm), and [Gardner-Webb](#) on Sunday (11/21, 2:00 pm). Michigan should win both of them, and hopefully start improving.

Go Blue!