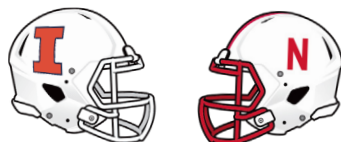


# I FIGHTING ILLINI<sup>®</sup>

## FOOTBALL

### ILLINOIS at NEBRASKA

Saturday, Nov. 21, 2020 // 11 a.m. CT // FS1  
Lincoln, Neb. // Memorial Stadium



#### TELEVISION | FS1

» Brian Custer (play-by-play) and Robert Smith (analyst) with Kevin Patterson (producer) and Rendardo Lowe (director)

#### RADIO | Busey Bank Illini Sports Network

» Brian Barnhart (play-by-play), Martin O'Donnell (analyst) and Steve Kelly (pregame/halftime/postgame)  
» The broadcast can be heard live on **TuneIn** online radio, **Sirius (Ch. 133)**, **XM (Ch. 387)**, **SiriusXM Internet**, and at **FightingIllini.com**.

#### GAMEDAY | FightingIllini.com/gameday

### ILLINOIS FIGHTING ILLINI (1-3)

Oct. 23 ... at #14 Wisconsin ... L, 7-45  
Oct. 31 ... Purdue ... L, 24-31  
Nov. 7 ... Minnesota ... L, 14-41  
Nov. 14 ... at Rutgers ... W, 23-20  
Nov. 21 ... at Nebraska ... 11 a.m. CT (FS1)  
Nov. 28 ... #3 Ohio State ... TBA  
Dec. 5 ... Iowa ... TBA  
Dec. 12 ... at #19 Northwestern ... TBA  
Dec. 19 ... Big Ten Champions Week ... TBA

*All times Central ... Rankings are AP poll*

### NEBRASKA CORNHUSKERS (1-2)

Oct. 24 ... at Ohio State ... L, 17-52  
Oct. 31 ... #9 Wisconsin ... Cancelled  
Nov. 7 ... at #23 Northwestern ... L, 13-21  
Nov. 14 ... Penn State ... W, 30-23  
Nov. 21 ... Illinois ... 11 a.m. CT (FS1)  
Nov. 27 ... at Iowa ... 12 p.m. CT (FOX)  
Dec. 5 ... at Purdue ... TBA  
Dec. 12 ... Minnesota ... TBA  
Dec. 19 ... Big Ten Champions Week ... TBA

#### ALL-TIME SERIES

**Series:** Nebraska leads, 13-3-1

**Last:** Nebraska 42, Illinois 38 (9/21/19 Champaign, Ill.)

**Streak:** Nebraska W4

**at Lincoln:** Nebraska leads, 9-1

### ILLINI AND HUSKERS MEET IN LINCOLN

#### BOTH TEAMS COMING OFF FIRST WINS

- Illinois is looking for back-to-back wins after beating Rutgers on **James McCourt's** 47-yard field goal with 0:03 left to win 23-20.
- Illinois was led by QB **Isaiah Williams'** 192 rushing yards in his first career start. It was the most rushing yards by a quarterback in program history.
- Illinois led for only the last 0:03 of the game at Rutgers. The Illini were down 10-0 after the first quarter.
- **Williams** was named the Big Ten Freshman of the Week and **McCourt** was named the Big Ten Special Teams Player of the Week.

#### FOUR GAMES, FOUR QBs

- Illinois has started four quarterbacks in the first four games.
  - » **Brandon Peters**, the season-opening starting QB, tested positive for COVID after one game played.
  - » **Matt Robinson** started against Purdue in place for Peters, but was hurt on the second drive.
  - » **Isaiah Williams** had 296 yards of total offense (192 rushing) at Rutgers, 67% of the team's total offense, in his first career start and was named Big Ten Freshman of the Week.
  - » **Coran Taylor** started against Minnesota, the first start of his career.
- This is the first time Illinois has started four quarterbacks in a single season since the program's starters records began being kept in 1975.

#### HANSEN LEADS THE DEFENSE AGAIN

- Senior LB **Jake Hansen** is the only 2019 Butkus Award semifinalist that returned to college football in 2020.
- Team-high 15 tackles at Rutgers last week, along with 1.0 sack, one interception and one pass breakup
  - » Top-graded linebacker in Power-5 last week by PFF (81.3)
- Tied for third in Illinois history in forced fumbles (10), behind only Illinois legends Simeon Rice (13) and Whitney Mercilus (11)
- Nine forced fumbles in the last 13 games
- Led the nation in forced fumbles (7) and ranked fifth in fumbles recovered (3) in 2019
- No. 17 graded linebacker in the nation by PFF and No. 5 in the Big Ten (79.6) in 2019
- Walter Camp National Defensive Player of the Week and Big Ten Defensive Player of the Week after two forced fumbles vs. No. 6 Wisconsin 10/19/19 to help Illinois win 24-23 and complete one of the biggest upsets in Big Ten History

#### 100+ ON THE GROUND

- Illinois has had three 100-yard rushers in the last two games after QB **Isaiah Williams** (192) and RB **Chase Brown** (131) both went over 100 yards at Rutgers.
  - » **Williams** and **Brown** combined to become the second QB/RB duo to both rush for 130+ yards in a game in Illinois history. RB Rashard Mendenhall (201) and QB Isaiah "Juice" Williams (133) both ran for 130+ at Minnesota 11/3/2007.
- RB **Mike Epstein** ran for 108 yards two weeks ago against Minnesota.
  - » **Epstein** ranks fifth in the Big Ten in yards per carry (5.36).

#### PETERS RETURNS AFTER POSITIVE COVID-19 TEST

- Senior QB **Brandon Peters** and redshirt freshman TE **Griffin Moore** were both sidelined for 21 days following positive test results Oct. 29 for the COVID-19 virus. Per Big Ten Conference protocol, following recovery both players are eligible to return for the Nov. 21 game at Nebraska.
- Contact tracing also sidelined several other players for the Purdue and Minnesota games.
- Illinois was missing 14 potential contributors for the Purdue game due to a combination of COVID-19 positives, contact tracing, and injuries: DB Christian Bobak, LB Shammond Cooper, OL Brevyn Jones, WR Kerby Joseph, OL Doug Kramer, DB Michael Marchese, K James McCourt, TE Griffin Moore, OL Moses Okpala, QB Brandon Peters, DL Keith Randolph, WR Trevon Sidney, OL Jordyn Slaughter, QB Isaiah Williams
- Illinois was missing 15 potential contributors for the Minnesota game due to a combination of COVID-19 positives, contact tracing, and injuries: DB Marquez Beason, DB Christian Bobak, LB Shammond Cooper, DB Nate Hobbs, OL Doug Kramer, DB Michael Marchese, K James McCourt, TE Griffin Moore, QB Brandon Peters, DL Keith Randolph, QB Matt Robinson, WR Trevon Sidney, OL Jordyn Slaughter, QB Isaiah Williams, DL Jamal Woods



## QUICK FACTS

### UNIVERSITY INFORMATION

**Location:** Urbana-Champaign (135,000)

**Founded:** 1867

**Enrollment:** 52,331

**Colors:** Orange & Blue

**Nickname:** Fighting Illini

**Conference:** Big Ten (West Division)

**President:** Timothy L. Killeen

**Chancellor:** Robert J. Jones

**Director of Athletics:** Josh Whitman

**Stadium:** Memorial Stadium (FieldTurf – 60,670)

### COACHING STAFF

**Head Coach:** Lovie Smith

**Assistant Coaches:**

**Rod Smith:** Offensive Coordinator / Quarterbacks

**Bob Ligashesky:** Special Teams Coordinator

**Mike Bellamy:** Running Backs

**Al Davis:** Defensive Tackles

**Andrew Hayes-Stoker:** Wide Receivers

**Keynodo Hudson:** Cornerbacks

**Jimmy Lindsey:** Defensive Ends

**Bob McClain:** Offensive Line

**Cory Patterson:** Tight Ends

**Miles Smith:** Linebackers

**John Kyle Davis:** Offensive Graduate Assistant

**Rob Delaney:** Offensive Graduate Assistant

**Aaron Gonzales:** Defensive Graduate Assistant

**Carson Hall:** Defensive Graduate Assistant

### FOOTBALL INFORMATION

**2019 Record:** 6-7, 4-5 (4th Big Ten West Division)

**Offensive Formation:** Multiple

**Defensive Formation:** 4-3

**2019 Starters Returning/Lost:** 15/9

Off: 8/3    Def: 5/6    ST (K/P): 2/0

**2019 Letterwinners Returning/Lost:** 35/18

**All-Time Record (Years):** 612-600-51 (130) entering 2020

**All-Time Big Ten (Years):** 347-438-32 (124) entering 2020

**Memorial Stadium (Years):** 276-243-14 (97) entering 2020

**Big Ten Championships (Last):** 15 (2001)

**National Championships (Last):** 5 (1951)

**Bowl Appearances (Last):** 19 (2019 Redbox Bowl)

## ATHLETICS COMMUNICATION

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Email: ska4@illinois.edu

**TWITTER:** @IlliniStats

**CREDENTIAL WEBSITE:** FightingIllini.com/media

**FIGHTINGILLINI.COM**

### IN THE NATIONAL RANKS

- Illinois » 3rd in the nation in fumble recoveries (8)
- **Devon Witherspoon** » 9th in the nation in INTs per game (0.7)
- **Jake Hansen** » 5th in the nation in forced fumbles per game (0.5)
- **Jake Hansen** » 47th in the nation in tackles per game (9.3)

### NEXT MAN UP

- Starting LG **Kendrick Green** was forced to move to center for two games with starting C **Doug Kramer** out. Kramer returned to the starting lineup against Rutgers.
- OL **Alex Pihlstrom** started at left guard against Purdue and Minnesota with Green moving to center. Pihlstrom is a former walk-on tight end that gained 45 pounds (240 to 285) from the 2019 season to 2020 in order to switch to offensive line. He was awarded a scholarship by head coach Lovie Smith after practice on Nov. 5, 2020.
- Fourth-string QB **Coran Taylor** shined against Purdue after being thrown into action following Peters' positive COVID test, **Isaiah Williams** being out, and **Matt Robinson's** injury early in the Purdue game. Taylor was 17-of-29 passing for 273 yards and two touchdowns along with 32 rushing yards in the first significant playing time of his career. Taylor made his first career start against Minnesota.
- Backup K **Caleb Griffin** was 5-for-5 on extra points in two games and made a 28-yard field goal against Purdue with starting K **James McCourt** out.
- LB **Jake Hansen** left the season opener in the first half with an injury and was replaced by **Tarique Barnes**, who received his first significant playing time. Barnes had a team-high 11 tackles (seven solo), 1.5 TFLs, 1.0 sack, and a 39-yard fumble return for a touchdown.
  - » Barnes was the No. 6 graded linebacker in the nation during Oct. 23/24 according to PFF
  - » Barnes made his first career start at Rutgers

### ALL-ILLINOIS OFFENSIVE LINE

- The offensive line returned four starters from one of the best groups in the Big Ten in 2019. Junior **Kendrick Green** (Peoria, Ill.), senior **Doug Kramer** (Hinsdale, Ill.), senior **Vederian Lowe** (Rockford, Ill.), and senior **Alex Palczewski** (Mount Prospect, Ill.) are back.
  - » In addition to the returning four, Illinois starts an all-Illinois offensive line. Sophomore **Verdis Brown** (Chicago, Ill.) was announced as the starting right guard by head coach Lovie Smith on Oct. 19.
  - » With C **Doug Kramer** and G **Jordyn Slaughter** (Belleville, Ill.) out for the Purdue and Minnesota games, former tight end **Alex Pihlstrom** (Glen Ellyn, Ill.) started at guard.
  - » Palczewski-Kramer-Green-Lowe have started 27 games together (all 12 in 2018, 12 of 13 in 2019, 2 in 2020). The group had started 24 straight games together before Kramer missed the Redbox Bowl with an injury.
  - » The starting group of Palczewski-Brown-Kramer-Green-Lowe has combined for 143 career starts, the most in the Big Ten and the fifth-most in the nation among starting offensive lines.
  - » Illinois has the highest rated returning offensive line in the Big Ten according to Pro Football Focus. The Illini's returners grade 81.6, ahead of second place Ohio State (80.1) and third place Iowa (79.8).
- **Kendrick Green** is the highest graded lineman in the Big Ten this season according to PFF.

### YOUTH BECOMES EXPERIENCE

- The Illini put one of the youngest teams in the nation on the field in Lovie's first few years at Illinois. Now, those young rosters have turned to a veteran 2020 squad.
  - » Illinois has more seniors on the 2020 roster (25) than 2018 and 2019 combined (21).
  - » In 2019, the Illini started a true-freshman just eight times (DB Devon Witherspoon three games and WR Casey Washington five games) after totaling 118 true-freshman starts over the previous two seasons (86 in 2017 and 32 in 2018).
  - » 2018's roster featured just eight seniors and 24 total upperclassmen, both the fewest in the nation, while the 2019 roster had 13 seniors and 48 upperclassmen. In 2020, Illinois has 25 seniors and 44 upperclassmen.
  - » The 2018 Illini roster had the highest percentage of underclassmen in the nation – 76.5% (78 of 102), while the 2019 roster had 55.1% of the roster as underclassmen (59 of 107) and 2020 has 56.9% (58 of 102).
  - » 2020 class breakdown: 25 seniors, 19 juniors, 21 sophomores, 37 freshmen (21 true-frosh, 16 RS frosh)

### TRANSFER U

- The Illini have had huge success in the transfer market. Some of the notables...
  - » RB **Chase Brown** – Brother of DB Sydney Brown transferred from WMU and has competed for the starting running back spot
  - » LB **Milo Eifler** – Second-year starter for the Illini after transferring from Washington
  - » TE **Luke Ford** – Former No. 1 TE recruit in the nation sat out last year after transferring from Georgia
  - » WR **Brian Hightower** – Former four-star recruit transferred from Miami (Fla.)
  - » TE **Daniel Imatorbhebhe** – Brother of Josh and former USC TE is a grad transfer
  - » WR **Josh Imatorbhebhe** – Illini's leading receiver last year after transferring from USC
  - » WR **Donny Navarro** – Valpo transfer had a big second-half of the season in 2019
  - » DL **Roderick Perry** – NFL Draft prospect grad transferred from South Carolina State
  - » QB **Brandon Peters** – Second-year starter for the Illini after transferring from Michigan
  - » WR **Trevon Sidney** – USC transfer had 16 catches for 123 yards last year before an injury
  - » DB **Derrick Smith** – Potential starter sat out last year after transferring from Miami (Fla.)

## #LOVIEBALL

- In each of the last four seasons the Illini's defense has created different ways to play "#LovieBall."
- Illinois is currently third in the nation in fumbles recovered (8) despite playing only four games. The only teams with more are Boston College (10 in 9 games) and UCF (10 in 7 games).
  - » Illinois is the only team in the nation averaging 2.0+ fumble recoveries per game after 3 or more games.
- Illinois' first touchdown of the 2020 season was a 39-yard return on a fumble recovery by LB **Tarique Barnes**, who was in for the injured Jake Hansen.
- In 2019, the Illini forced 28 turnovers in 13 games, 12 interceptions and 16 fumbles, ranking fourth in FBS in turnovers gained. The Illini's 18 forced fumbles ranked fourth in FBS.
- Illinois forced at least one turnover in every regular season game in 2019. It was the third-longest streak in FBS until it was snapped in the Redbox Bowl.
  - » Illinois forced at least two turnovers in seven of nine Big Ten games in 2019.
  - » In conference play, the Illini forced 22 turnovers, third-most in most in the nation and three more than any other Big Ten team in 2019. The +10 turnover margin in BIG play was the best in the league by two (Ohio State, +8).
  - » The Illini have forced at least one turnover in 38 of their last 41 games.
- The 2018 defense ranked 20th in FBS in interceptions (15) and 18th in interceptions per game (1.25).
- In 2017, forced fumbles were the Illini's forte. The defense forced 17 fumbles in 2017 to rank second in the nation (1.42 per game). The total of 17 forced fumbled tied for fourth-most.

## BIG TEN PUNTER OF THE YEAR

- Senior P **Blake Hayes** has been a field-flipper for the Fighting Illini.
  - » 2019 Eddleman-Fields Big Ten Punter of the Year
  - » 2019 First-team All-Big Ten by coaches, media, AP & Phil Steele
  - » 2019 Honorable mention All-American by Phil Steele
  - » 77 punts, 3,437 punt yards (44.6 yards/punt), 32 punts inside the 20, 22 punts of 50+ yards in 2019
  - » Led the Big Ten and ranked 18th in the nation in punting average (44.6) in 2019
  - » Illinois single-season record 32 punts downed inside the 20 in 2019
  - » Illinois single-season record 41.6% (32/77) of punts downed inside the 20 in 2019
  - » Illinois single-season record 22 punts of 50+ yards in 2019
  - » Illinois single-season record low two touchbacks and 2.6% touchback rate (2/77) in 2019
  - » Third-best single-season punting average in Illinois history (44.6) in 2019

## BIG PLAY BHEBHE

- Senior WR **Josh Imatorbhebhe** made an immediate impact after transferring from USC.
  - » Leads the Illini in receptions (11) and receiving yards (144) in 2020
  - » 2019 All-Big Ten honorable mention (media)
  - » 33 receptions, 634 receiving yards, nine receiving touchdowns in 2019
  - » Third in Illinois history in touchdown receptions in a single season (9) in 2019
  - » Fifth in the Big Ten and 32nd in the nation in receiving touchdowns (9) in 2019
  - » Third in the Big Ten and 20th in the nation in yards per reception (19.2) in 2019
  - » Big Ten Offensive Player of the Week after four receptions for a career-high 178 yards, including a career-long 83-yard TD, at Michigan State 11/9/19 to help Illinois win 37-34 in the biggest comeback in Illini history

## QB BP

- Michigan transfer QB **Brandon Peters** has been a key addition for the Illini since arriving in 2019.
  - » Peters tested positive for COVID-19. He will be out 21 days, per Big Ten rules and could return for the Nov. 21 game at Nebraska.
  - » 75 rushing yards in the opener at Wisconsin 10/23/19, one short of his career high
  - » 152-of-275 passing for 1,884 yards and 18 touchdowns in 2019
  - » 74 carries for 213 yards and three touchdowns in 2019
  - » Fifth in the Big Ten in passing TDs (18), eighth in yards per completion (12.4), ninth in completion percentage (55.3), ninth in passing efficiency (128.6), 10th in passing yards (1,884), and 10th in total offense (190.6) in 2019
  - » Career-high 368 passing yards and three touchdowns against Michigan State 11/9/19 in a 25-point comeback, the biggest comeback in Illinois history, to win 37-34 on a last second touchdown pass to TE Daniel Barker
  - » Four touchdown passes at UConn 9/7/19, tied for the second-most TD passes in a road game in Illinois history
  - » Threw for 174 yards and two touchdowns vs. No. 6 Wisconsin 10/19/19 to help Illinois win 24-23 and complete one of the biggest upsets in Big Ten History

## CAREER STARTS LIST

PLAYER	'20	'19	'18	'17	'16	TOT
Palczewski, Alex	4	13	12	11	--	40
Lowe, Vederian	4	13	12	7	--	36
Kramer, Doug	2	12	12	8	--	34
Hobbs, Nate	3	13	7	10	--	33
Green, Kendrick	4	13	12	--	--	29
Hansen, Jake	4	9	12	--	1	26
Brown, Sydney	4	10	10	--	--	24
Adams, Tony	4	10	7	2	--	23
Imatorbhebhe, Josh	4	11	--	--	--	15
Barker, Daniel	3	8	3	--	--	14
Eifler, Milo	2	12	--	--	--	14
Woods, Jamal	2	5	4	4	--	14
Martin, Jartavius	0	5	8	--	--	13
Gay, Isaiah	3	5	3	2	--	13
Carney Jr., Owen	4	0	8	0	--	12
Peters, Brandon	1	11	--	--	--	12
Ware, Delano	2	1	8	--	--	11
Epstein, Mike	3	0	2	3	--	8
Navarro, Donny	2	6	--	--	--	8
Tolson, Khalan	4	4	0	--	--	8
Washington, Casey	0	5	--	--	--	5
Witherspoon, Devon	2	3	--	--	--	5
Brown, Verdis	4	0	--	--	--	4
Hightower, Brian	4	--	--	--	--	4
Perry, Roderick	4	--	--	--	--	4
Marchese, Michael	--	0	3	0	--	3
Robinson, Matt	1	2	0	--	--	3
Sidney, Trevon	--	3	--	--	--	3
Brown, Chase	2	0	0	--	--	2
Joseph, Kerby	0	2	0	--	--	2
Newton, JerZhan	2	--	--	--	--	2
Pihlstrom, Alex	2	0	--	--	--	2
Smith, Derrick	2	--	--	--	--	2
Ford, Luke	1	--	--	--	--	1
Mondesir, Marc	1	0	0	0	--	1
Pate, Deon	0	0	1	--	--	1
Sandy, Carlos	0	0	1	--	--	1
Taylor, Coran	1	0	--	--	--	1
Williams, Isaiah	1	--	--	--	--	1

-- = Redshirted/did not play/not on squad; 0 = Played, didn't start



## MCCOURT'S BIG LEG

- Senior K **James McCourt** had one of the biggest legs in the nation in 2019.
  - » Game-winning 47-yard field goal with 0:03 left at Rutgers 11/14/20
  - » One of only four kickers in Illini history with two game-winning field goals in the final minute
  - » 13-19 field goals, 42-43 extra points, 65.2% touchback percentage (43/66) in 2019
  - » No. 11 kickoff grade in the nation and No. 2 in the Big Ten by PFF (87.6) in 2019
  - » 39-yard field goal as time expired beat No. 6 Wisconsin 10/19/19 to finish the largest upset over a ranked team in the Big Ten in the last 40 seasons
  - » Three 50+ yard field goals made is fourth-most in a career in Illinois history
  - » 50-yard field goal vs. Michigan, 10/12/19, his third 50+ yard field goal of 2019
  - » 57-yard field goal against EMU 9/14/19 tied for the longest in school history
  - » 53-yard field goal at UConn 9/7/19 tied for the longest road field goal in Illinois history

## IRONMAN ALEX PALCZEWSKI

- Senior OL **Alex Palczewski** has started 40 straight games, the longest streak on the team.
- Palczewski has started every game of his Illini career except for the season-opener as a freshman in 2017.

## DEEP TIGHT ENDS ROOM

- Junior TE **Daniel Barker** » 18 catches for 273 yards and four touchdowns in 2019
- Junior TE **Luke Ford** » Former top tight end recruit in the nation (No. 1 by Rivals, No. 3 by 247Sports)
- Senior TE **Daniel Imatorbhebe** » USC grad transfer had first career Illini TD against Purdue

## THREE TWO-TIME CAPTAINS

- Five captains for the season: Doug Kramer, Brandon Peters, Jake Hansen, Nate Hobbs, and Blake Hayes.
- The captains were selected by a vote of the student-athletes and staff.
- Kramer, Hansen, and Hayes were named captains for the second consecutive year.
  - » It is the first time in program history the Illini have had three two-time captains on the roster.

## OCTOBER START

- Oct. 23 was the latest start date in Illinois football history. The previous latest start date was Oct. 19, 1907 (L, 42-6 vs. Chicago).
- It was the first time Illinois has started the season in October since Oct. 4, 1941, a 45-0 win over Miami (Ohio).

## THE SCHEDULE

- The Big Ten will play a 9-game conference-only schedule in 2020 due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.
- Illinois has not played a conference-only schedule since 1919, when the Illini went 6-1 to win the Big Ten title and claim to the national championship during the 1918 Flu Pandemic.



- **#97Strong**: All-Big Ten defensive end **Bobby Roundtree** suffered a severe spinal injury on May 18, 2019, in a swimming accident near his home of Largo, Florida. The Illini have kept Roundtree close to the team while recovering. Roundtree regularly FaceTimes into the defensive line meetings and had joined in the post-win celebrations via Facetime. The Illini are wearing '97' stickers on their helmets and touch a '97 Strong' sign before entering the field each home game. Coach Smith and Illinois Athletics setup a GoFundMe page to help raise money toward Roundtree's medical expenses that reached the \$97,000 goal within four days. It has raised over \$130,000.

## 2020 ILLINOIS HONORS

## DB Sydney Brown

- Athlon Preseason All-Big Ten second team
- Phil Steele Preseason All-Big Ten fourth team

## LB Milo Eifler

- Phil Steele Preseason All-Big Ten fourth team

## OG Kendrick Green

- Outland Trophy watch list
- Athlon Preseason All-Big Ten third team
- Phil Steele Preseason All-Big Ten fourth team

## LB Jake Hansen

- Butkus Award watch list (linebacker)
- Bednarik Award watch list (Defensive Player of the Year)
- Nagurski Award watch list (Defensive Player of the Year)
- Phil Steele Preseason All-Big Ten second team
- Athlon Preseason All-Big Ten third team

## P Blake Hayes

- Ray Guy Award watch list
- Phil Steele Preseason All-American third team
- Phil Steele Preseason All-Big Ten first team
- Athlon Preseason All-Big Ten first team

## WR Josh Imatorbhebe

- Athlon Preseason All-Big Ten fourth team

## C Doug Kramer

- Wuerffel Award watch list
- Rimington Trophy watch list
- Phil Steele Preseason All-Big Ten third team
- Athlon Preseason All-Big Ten fourth team

## K James McCourt

- Big Ten Special Teams Player of the Week 11/16/20

## OT Alex Palczewski

- Outland Trophy watch list
- Athlon Preseason All-Big Ten third team
- Phil Steele Preseason All-Big Ten third team

## QB Brandon Peters

- Maxwell Award watch list (Offensive Player of the Year)

## LS Ethan Tabel

- Mannelly Award watch list (long snapper)

## QB Isaiah Williams

- Big Ten Freshman of the Week 11/16/20





## ILLINI FIGHT FOR CHANGE

### THE MARCH

- Kendrick Green and members of the Illini football team organized a peaceful march on Aug. 31 that included many members of the Illinois athletics department and community.
- The team was supposed to have practice, but instead went to head coach Lovie Smith with the idea of uniting the athletic student body with a march from Memorial Stadium to Champaign's downtown police station.
- The march was athlete-driven and backed by Lovie Smith, athletic director Josh Whitman, and the athletic department.
- **Kendrick Green:** "We're athletes. We have a platform in our community — especially here at this university. I think that speaks volumes. We need to use our platform in the right, positive way, and this is a great way to do it. I feel like we should have done something like this a long time ago."
- **Kendall Smith:** "Black people have been protesting for years, so I think the most important part today is that it's not just Black people here. I appreciate you guys who are not Black who are here and who are supporting us and who are helping us fight. That's when the change is going to happen."
- **Nate Hobbs:** "Practice don't matter. Football games don't matter compared to a life being taken away and a life being undervalued. There's probably been some stuff that happened to ya'll, but none of that stuff happened to us. We're here for other people. You feel me? If we all can keep doing this and bring other people along, that's how we stop this. That's how we stop systemic racism. That's how we stop people getting killed for the color of their skin. I don't care what anybody says. Love will always be stronger than hatred. This right here is love."

### ILLINOIS EMPOWER

- EMPOWER (Enlightened Minorities Pursuing Opportunities Where Everyone Rises), was established within the Division of Intercollegiate Athletics in the Fall of 2019.
- EMPOWER's mission is to provide a family oriented-safe space and support personal development for student-athletes of color as a community. This organization aims to encourage athletes of color at the U of I to be more than an athlete.
- The organization has three primary goals
  - » Provide a comfortable environment that encourages dialogue around local and global issues as well as highly sensitive subjects.
  - » Provide arenas where student-athletes may network with other students, student-athletes, and business professionals.
  - » Host events that promote fun, educational, and engaging interactions between student-athletes of various ethnicities, cultures, and personal ideology.
- Illinois WR Dalevon Campbell is the Public Relations Chair for EMPOWER

### ILLINI ALLIES

- Illini Allies serves to create a community to affirm the experiences and rights of LGBTQ+ student-athletes and staff at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Its mission is to provide a safe space for the DIA community to engage in conversation surrounding sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression, and other issues facing the LGBTQ+ community within athletics.

### I FIGHT AGAINST RACISM

- Illinois student-athletes received "I FIGHT AGAINST RACISM" shirts and many teams hosted practices with their entire team wearing the shirts.

### DIA DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

- The Illinois Division of Intercollegiate Athletics is currently working on a diversity and inclusion strategic plan that will be launched in 2021. A culture climate survey was recently sent to all DIA staff members and student-athletes to collect information that will be used for the strategic plan. We received a 65% response rate from staff and a 50% response rate from student-athletes.
- The DIA Diversity and Inclusion committee has been working collaboratively with the University of Illinois Office of Inclusion and Intercultural Relations to support diversity, equity, inclusion, and civic engagement programming for students and staff.

### VOTING

- 100% of eligible Illinois football student-athletes are registered to vote.
- **Lovie Smith:** "If we talk about social justice, what's happening in our world, I want our guys to be involved in it. The best way to be involved, where you can really make a difference, is at the ballot box, by voting. So it's kind of as simple as that. It's a right. You know, there were a lot of people who really fought hard for some of us to have a right to vote, so it would be a shame not to use that. It's not like we had to twist their arms. Our guys are involved. It seems like young people today, more young people, are involved in the process as much as ever before."
- Nov. 3 is an NCAA-mandated off day from athletic activities.

### EQUIPMENT

- Illinois wore a solid black Block I decal on its helmets for the season opener at Wisconsin.
- The back of Illinois' helmets have a black fist sticker for the 2020 season.
- Each player could choose one of five messages for the back bumper of their helmets, all of which were selected by a group of student-athletes. The messages are Black Lives Matter, I Fight Against Racism, Together, Equality, and United.
- These initiatives are not supportive of any particular organization, but a belief in equality for all individuals.
- All uniform decisions were student-athlete driven and approved by head coach Lovie Smith and athletic director Josh Whitman.

## FIGHTING ILLINI PLAYER NOTES

**18 BRANDON PETERS****QB, 6-5, 220, SR.****AVON, IND. / AVON / MICHIGAN**

- » 2020 Maxwell Award watch list
- » Earned bachelor's degree in general studies from Michigan in June 2019
- » Enrolled in the recreation, sport, and tourism master's program
- » Threw for a career-high 368 yards and three touchdowns against Michigan State 11/9/19 in a 25-point comeback, the biggest comeback in Illinois history, to win 37-34 on a last second touchdown pass to TE Daniel Barker
- » Played in 10 games for Michigan from 2017-18 with four starts (all four starts were in 2017)
- » No. 34 recruit in the nation, No. 3 pro style quarterback in the nation coming out of Avon HS (Ind.) by 247Sports Composite

**PASSING STATISTICS**

YEAR	G	ATT	CMP	INT	YDS	TD	LG	PCT	AVG/P	AVG/G	EFFIC
2017*	6	108	57	2	672	4	48	52.8	6.2	112.0	113.6
2018*	4	2	1	1	8	0	0	50.0	4.0	2.0	-16.4
2019	11	275	152	8	1884	18	83	55.3	6.9	171.3	128.6
2020	1	19	8	0	87	0	26	42.1	4.6	87.0	80.6
TOTAL	12	294	160	8	1971	18	83	54.4	6.7	164.2	125.5
All*	22	404	218	10	2651	22	83	54.0	6.6	120.5	122.1

**RUSHING STATISTICS**

YEAR	G	ATT	YDS	TD	LG	AVG/C	AVG/G
2017*	6	17	-36	0	6	0.0	0.0
2018*	4	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
2019	11	74	213	3	54	2.9	19.4
2020	1	7	75	0	31	10.7	75.0
TOTAL	12	81	288	3	54	3.6	24.0
All*	22	102	252	3	54	2.5	11.5

\* - stats include Michigan (2017-18)

**1 ISAIAH WILLIAMS****QB, 5-10, 180, R-FR.****ST. LOUIS, MO. / TRINITY**

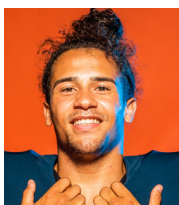
- » 195 rushing yards at Rutgers 11/14/20 set the Illinois program record for rushing yards by a QB
- » Illinois' highest ranked quarterback recruit since Juice Williams in 2006
- » Four-star recruit by 247Sports, Rivals and ESPN
- » Ranked No. 47 recruit in the nation by Rivals, No. 93 by ESPN and No. 295 by 247Sports
- » Ranked as high as No. 25 overall recruit in the nation in February 2018 according to 247Sports Composite
- » High school coach was Illinois tight ends coach Cory Patterson

**PASSING STATISTICS**

YEAR	G	ATT	CMP	INT	YDS	TD	LG	PCT	AVG/P	AVG/G	EFFIC
2019	4	10	3	1	38	0	25	30.0	3.8	9.5	41.9
2020	2	21	7	1	104	0	22	33.3	5.0	52.0	65.4
TOTAL	6	31	10	2	142	0	25	32.3	4.6	23.7	57.8

**RUSHING STATISTICS**

YEAR	G	ATT	YDS	TD	LG	AVG/C	AVG/G
2019	4	9	16	0	5	1.8	4.0
2020	2	32	197	1	26	6.2	98.5
TOTAL	6	41	213	1	26	5.2	35.5

**2 CHASE BROWN****RB, 5-11, 195, R-SO.****LONDON, ONTARIO / ST. STEPHENS EPISCOPAL (FLA.) / WESTERN MICHIGAN**

- » Played in four games and redshirted the 2019 season
- » Played his freshman season at Western Michigan
- » Identical twin brother, Sydney, is a safety for the Illini

**RUSHING STATISTICS**

YEAR	G	ATT	YDS	TD	LG	AVG/C	AVG/G
2018*	13	71	352	0	29	5.0	27.1
2019	4	3	18	0	14	6.0	4.5
2020	4	35	247	0	39	7.1	61.8
TOTAL	8	38	265	0	39	7.0	33.1
All*	21	109	617	0	39	5.7	29.4

\* - stats include Western Michigan (2018)

**26 MIKE EPSTEIN****RB, 6-0, 205, SR.****FT. LAUDERDALE, FLA. / ST. THOMAS AQUINAS**

- » Trained with NFL running back Frank Gore during the summer of 2020
- » Injured knee during the season opener against Akron and missed the remainder of the 2019 season
- » Has missed 24 games at Illinois due to injuries (7 in 2017, 5 in 2018, 12 in 2019)

**RUSHING STATISTICS**

YEAR	G	ATT	YDS	TD	LG	AVG/C	AVG/G
2017	5	57	346	3	58	6.1	69.2
2018	7	60	411	3	43	6.8	58.7
2019	1	8	45	0	14	5.6	45.0
2020	4	42	225	3	63	5.4	56.2
TOTAL	17	167	1027	9	63	6.1	60.4

**14 BRIAN HIGHTOWER****WR, 6-3, 220, JR.****LEIMERT PARK, CALIF. / IMG ACADEMY / MIAMI (FLA.)**

- » Transfer from Miami (Fla.) was granted immediate eligibility by the NCAA
- » Played in 11 games in regular season and made three starts as a freshman at Miami (Fla.) in 2018
- » Caught first touchdown pass of career in debut vs. LSU 9/2/18

**RECEIVING STATISTICS**

YEAR	G	REC	YDS	TD	LG	REC/G	AVG/C	AVG/G
2018*	11	4	60	1	32	0.4	15.0	5.5
2019*	7	8	88	0	19	1.1	11.0	12.6
2020	4	6	129	1	44	1.5	21.5	32.2
TOTAL	4	6	129	1	44	1.5	21.5	32.2
All*	22	18	277	2	44	0.8	15.4	12.6

\* - stats include Miami (2018-19)

**9 JOSH IMATORBHEBHE****WR, 6-2, 220, SR.****SUWANEE, GA. / NORTH GWINNETT / USC**

- » Earned bachelor's degree in business administration from USC in May 2019
- » Grad transfer is pursuing a master's degree in strategic brand communication at Illinois
- » Nine touchdown receptions in 2019 is tied for the third-most in a season in Illinois history, one back of the Illinois record

**RECEIVING STATISTICS**

YEAR	G	REC	YDS	TD	LG	REC/G	AVG/C	AVG/G
2017*	6	2	11	0	9	0.3	5.5	1.8
2019	11	33	634	9	83	3.0	19.2	57.6
2020	4	11	144	1	52	2.8	13.1	36.0
TOTAL	15	44	778	10	83	2.9	17.7	51.9
All*	21	46	789	10	83	2.2	17.2	37.6

\* - stats include Southern California (2017-18)

**86 DONNY NAVARRO****WR, 5-11, 185, JR.****NAPERVILLE, ILL. / NEUQUA VALLEY / VALPARAISO**

- » Walk-on was awarded scholarship by Lovie Smith on Nov. 7, 2019
- » First career Illini touchdown on a 48-yard reception vs. No. 6 Wisconsin 10/19/19 to help Illinois win 24-23 and complete one of the biggest upsets in Big Ten history
- » Led Valparaiso in receptions (32), receiving yards (539), receiving touchdowns (5) as a freshman

**RECEIVING STATISTICS**

YEAR	G	REC	YDS	TD	LG	REC/G	AVG/C	AVG/G
2017*	11	32	539	5	79	2.9	16.8	49.0
TOTAL*	11	32	539	5	79	2.9	16.8	49.0

\* - stats include Valparaiso (2017)

YEAR	G	REC	YDS	TD	LG	REC/G	AVG/C	AVG/G
2019	13	27	345	2	48	2.1	12.8	26.5
2020	4	2	20	0	15	0.5	10.0	5.0
TOTAL	17	29	365	2	48	1.7	12.6	21.5





**8 CASEY WASHINGTON****WR, 6-2, 190, SO.****ROUND ROCK, TEXAS / PFLUGERVILLE**

- » Played in 10 games and started five at wide receiver as a true freshman in 2019
- » Five starts was the sixth-most in Illinois history by a true freshman wide receiver
- » Father played football at Kansas State from 1987-89

**87 DANIEL BARKER****TE, 6-4, 250, JR.****FORT LAUDERDALE, FLA. / DEERFIELD BEACH**

- » Last-second TD catch at Michigan State 11/9/19 to finish the biggest comeback in Illinois history
- » Became Illinois' second true freshman tight end to start a season opener in program history in 2018, joining Evan Wilson in 2010

**88 DANIEL IMATORBHEBHE****TE, 6-3, 240, SR.****SUWANEE, GA. / NORTH GWINNETT / USC**

- » Earned bachelor's degree in social science (economics) from USC in Summer 2018
- » Grad transfer is pursuing master's degree in recreation, sport, and tourism at Illinois
- » Appeared in 22 games in his USC career, with nine starts
- » Brother, Josh, was Illinois' leading receiver in 2019

**82 LUKE FORD****TE, 6-6, 250, JR.****CARTERVILLE, ILL. / CARTERVILLE / GEORGIA**

- » Illinois native sat out last season after transferring from Georgia, where he played nine games in 2018
- » Ranked No. 42 recruit in the nation in the class of 2018 by Rivals, No. 51 by 247Sports, No. 63 by ESPN
- » Ranked No. 1 tight end in the nation by Rivals and No. 3 by 247Sports and ESPN

**79 VEDERIAN LOWE****LT, 6-6, 320, SR.****ROCKFORD, ILL. / AUBURN HS**

- » 30 straight starts entering the Nebraska game
- » 2017 BTN.com All-Freshman Team honorable mention
- » Son, Kingston Lowe, was born in June 2019

**53 KENDRICK GREEN****LG/C, 6-4, 315, JR.****PEORIA, ILL. / PEORIA**

- » 2020 Outland Trophy watch list
- » No. 3 interior offensive lineman in the Big Ten by PFF (76.6) in 2020
- » No. 9 graded offensive guard in the nation and No. 3 in the Big Ten by PFF (78.3) in 2019
- » 29 straight starts entering the Nebraska game

**65 DOUG KRAMER****C, 6-2, 300, SR.****HINSDALE, ILL. / HINSDALE CENTRAL**

- » 2020 Phil Steele Preseason All-Big Ten third team
- » No. 8 graded center in the nation and No. 3 in Power-5 by PFF (79.2) in 2019
- » Missed the 2019 Redbox Bowl with an injury, snapping a streak of 27 straight starts

**63 ALEX PALCZEWSKI****RT, 6-6, 310, SR.****MOUNT PROSPECT, ILL. / PROSPECT**

- » 2020 Phil Steele Preseason All-Big Ten third team
- » 2020 Outland Trophy watch list
- » 40 straight starts entering the Nebraska game

**99 OWEN CARNEY JR.****DL, 6-3, 260, SR.****MIAMI, FLA. / MIAMI CENTRAL**

- » Graduated with a degree in communication
- » Enrolled in the recreation, sport, and tourism master's program
- » 3.0 sacks against Purdue 10/31/20 are tied for seventh-most in a single game in Illinois history

**RECEIVING STATISTICS**

YEAR	G	REC	YDS	TD	LG	REC/G	AVG/C	AVG/G
2019	10	11	132	0	20	1.1	12.0	13.2
2020	4	4	60	0	20	1.0	15.0	15.0
TOTAL	14	15	192	0	20	1.1	12.8	13.7

**RECEIVING STATISTICS**

YEAR	G	REC	YDS	TD	LG	REC/G	AVG/C	AVG/G
2018	12	9	84	1	30	0.8	9.3	7.0
2019	13	18	273	4	52	1.4	15.2	21.0
2020	4	9	132	0	22	2.2	14.7	33.0
TOTAL	29	36	489	5	52	1.2	13.6	16.9

**RECEIVING STATISTICS**

YEAR	G	REC	YDS	TD	LG	REC/G	AVG/C	AVG/G
2016*	13	17	250	4	37	1.3	14.7	19.2
2017*	9	8	144	0	48	0.9	18.0	16.0
2020	3	3	54	1	28	1.0	18.0	18.0
TOTAL	3	3	54	1	28	1.0	18.0	18.0
All*	25	28	448	5	48	1.1	16.0	17.9

\* - stats include Southern California (2015-19)

**RECEIVING STATISTICS**

YEAR	G	REC	YDS	TD	LG	REC/G	AVG/C	AVG/G
2018*	9	1	4	0	4	0.1	4.0	0.4
2019	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
2020	4	1	4	0	4	0.2	4.0	1.0
TOTAL	4	1	4	0	4	0.2	4.0	1.0
All*	13	2	8	0	4	0.2	4.0	0.6

\* - stats include Georgia (2018)

**START STATISTICS**

YEAR	G	START
2017	8	7
2018	12	12
2019	13	13
2020	4	4
TOTAL	37	37

**START STATISTICS**

YEAR	G	START
2018	12	12
2019	13	13
2020	4	4
TOTAL	29	29

**START STATISTICS**

YEAR	G	START
2017	8	8
2018	12	12
2019	12	12
2020	2	2
TOTAL	34	34

**START STATISTICS**

YEAR	G	START
2017	12	11
2018	12	12
2019	13	13
2020	4	4
TOTAL	41	40

**DEFENSIVE STATISTICS**

YEAR	G	UA	A	TOT	TFL	YDS	PD	FF	FR	BLK	QBH
2017	10	4	2	6	0.0	0	0	0	1	0	1
2018	12	10	11	21	4.5	17	1	0	1	0	6
2019	13	6	9	15	2.0	8	1	0	0	0	3
2020	4	7	6	13	4.0	24	0	1	0	0	2
TOTAL	39	27	28	55	10.5	49	2	1	1	0	12

**SACKS STATISTICS**

YEAR	G	UA	A	TOTAL	YDS
2017	10	0	0	0.0	0
2018	12	2	1	2.5	13
2019	13	2	0	2.0	8
2020	4	5	0	3.0	23
TOTAL	39	7	1	7.5	44

**94 JER'ZHAN NEWTON****DL, 6-2, 270, FR.****ST. PETERSBURG, FLA. / CLEARWATER CENTRAL CATHOLIC**

- » Goes by "Johnny" but chose to be listed on the roster as his real name, Jer'Zhan
- » Forced fumble against Purdue 10/31/20
- » Graded as the No. 1 true freshman defender in the nation and No. 15 overall defender in the nation the week of Oct. 31 (vs. Purdue)

**96 RODERICK PERRY II****DL, 6-3, 300, SR.****RALEIGH, N.C. / CARY / SOUTH CAROLINA STATE**

- » Transferred to Illinois from South Carolina State as a one year graduate transfer
- » Highest rated draft-eligible defensive tackle in the Big Ten by Phil Steele
- » Was a 2020 Preseason FCS All-American before transferring

**91 JAMAL WOODS****DL, 6-2, 275, JR.****HUEYTOWN, ALA. / HUEYTOWN**

- » 10 career starts entering the Rutgers game
- » Started first four games in 2018 at defensive tackle before a season-ending injury
- » 2017 BTN.com All-Freshman Team honorable mention

**92 ISAIAH GAY****DL, 6-3, 240, SR.****NASHVILLE, N.C. / NORTHERN NASH**

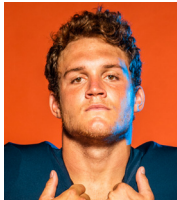
- » Third-youngest player in FBS to start a game as a freshman in 2017
- » Fumble recovery vs. No. 6 Wisconsin 10/19/19 to help Illinois win 24-23 and complete one of the biggest upsets in Big Ten history

**44 TARIQUE BARNES****LB, 6-1, 230, SO.****MEMPHIS, TENN. / CORDOVA**

- » First career start at Rutgers 11/14/20
- » First significant playing time Friday at Wisconsin after Jake Hansen left the game with an injury
- » Career-high 11 tackles, 1.5 TFLs, 1.0 sack, and a 39-yard fumble return for a TD at Wisconsin
- » Second on the team in special teams tackles (8) in 2019

**5 MILO EIFLER****LB, 6-2, 225, SR.****BERKELEY, CALIF. / BISHOP O'DOWD / WASHINGTON**

- » 2020 Phil Steele Preseason All-Big Ten fourth team
- » Sat out the 2018 season due to NCAA transfer rules after transferring from Washington
- » Uses a pink mouth piece for his mother after she beat breast cancer
- » Former #118 high school prospect in the nation by Rivals, #142 by 247Sports and #280 by ESPN

**35 JAKE HANSEN****LB, 6-1, 225, SR.****TARPON SPRINGS, FLA. / EAST LAKE**

- » The only 2019 Butkus Award semifinalist playing college football in 2020
- » Led the nation in forced fumbles (7) and forced fumbles per game (0.78) in 2019
- » 10 career forced fumbles are tied for third-most in program history (dating back to 1990)
- » Nine forced fumbles in his last 13 games played

**45 KHALAN TOLSON****LB, 6-0, 220, JR.****ST. PETERSBURG, FLA. / ADMIRAL FARRAGUT ACADEMY**

- » Eight straight starts entering the Nebraska game
- » Started the final four games of 2019 after Butkus Award semifinalist Jake Hansen was injured
- » Tied for the team lead in kickoff tackles (4) and third on the team in special teams tackles (6) in 2019

**6 TONY ADAMS****DB, 6-0, 205, SR.****BELLEVILLE, ILL. / ST. LOUIS UNIVERSITY HS**

- » Fourth-quarter interception vs. No. 6 Wisconsin 10/19/19 led to Illinois' game-winning field goal in one of the biggest upsets in Big Ten history
- » Interceptions against Wisconsin and at Purdue in 2019 to become the first Illini with interceptions in back-to-back Big Ten games since Vontae Davis and Kevin Mitchell in 2007

**DEFENSIVE STATISTICS**

YEAR	GP	UA	A	TOT	TFL-YD	SACKS-YD	INT	PD	FF	FR	BLK
2020	4	4	4	8	1-10	1-10	0	0	1	0	0
TOTAL	4	4	4	8	1.0-10	1.0-10	0	0	1	0	0

**DEFENSIVE STATISTICS**

YEAR	GP	UA	A	TOT	TFL	YDS	PD	FF	FR	BLK	QBH
2017*	8	11	5	16	4.0	4	1	0	0	0	0
2018*	10	13	4	17	2.5	4	1	0	0	0	1
2019*	11	26	8	32	14.5	57	0	1	1	0	3
TOTAL*	29	50	17	65	21	65	2	1	1	0	4

\* - stats include South Carolina State (2017-19)

2020	4	4	6	10	0.5	14	1	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	4	4	6	10	0.5	14	1	0	0	0	0

**DEFENSIVE STATISTICS**

YEAR	GP	UA	A	TOT	TFL-YD	SACKS-YD	INT	PD	FF	FR	BLK
2017	11	12	12	24	3.5-7	0-0	0	0	0	0	1
2018	4	11	2	13	4-12	1-2	0	3	0	0	0
2019	9	10	4	14	5.5-19	0.5-3	0	0	1	0	0
2020	2	1	1	2	0.5-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	26	34	19	53	13.5-38	1.5-5	0	3	1	0	0

**DEFENSIVE STATISTICS**

YEAR	GP	UA	A	TOT	TFL-YD	SACKS-YD	INT	PD	FF	FR	BLK
2017	12	12	8	20	4-17	1-13	0	0	0	0	1
2018	9	14	6	20	1-9	1-9	0	0	0	0	0
2019	11	13	14	27	3.5-5	1-2	0	3	1	1	0
2020	3	4	5	9	0.5-1	0-0	0	1	0	1	0
Total	35	43	33	76	9.0-32	3.0-24	0	4	1	2	1

**DEFENSIVE STATISTICS**

YEAR	GP	UA	A	TOT	TFL-YD	SACKS-YD	INT	PD	FF	FR	BLK
2019	13	8	5	13	0-0	0-0	0	0	1	0	0
2020	4	9	9	18	1.5-10	1-9	0	0	0	1	0
TOTAL	17	17	14	31	1.5-10	1.0-9	0	0	1	1	0

**DEFENSIVE STATISTICS**

YEAR	GP	UA	A	TOT	TFL	YDS	PD	FF	FR	BLK	QBH
2017*	5	4	2	6	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2019	13	39	24	63	10.0	29	1	0	1	0	0
2020	3	7	4	11	1.5	1	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	16	46	28	74	11.5	30	1	0	1	0	0
All*	21	50	30	80	11.5	30	1	0	1	0	0

\* - stats include Washington (2017)

**DEFENSIVE STATISTICS**

YEAR	GP	UA	A	TOT	TFL-YD	SACKS-YD	INT	PD	FF	FR	BLK
2016	12	2	6	8	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
2017	DNP - Injured										
2018	12	48	47	95	8.5-18	1-6	0	1	1	1	0
2019	9	41	31	72	7.5-38	3.5-27	1	1	7	3	0
2020	4	19	18	37	4-11	1-3	1	2	2	1	0
TOTAL	37	110	102	212	20.0-67	5.5-36	2	4	10	5	0

**DEFENSIVE STATISTICS**

YEAR	GP	UA	A	TOT	TFL-YD	SACKS-YD	INT	PD	FF	FR	BLK
2018	12	3	2	5	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
2019	11	23	15	38	1.5-4	0-0	0	2	0	1	0
2020	4	9	18	27	4-12	0.5-4	0	1	1	0	0
TOTAL	27	35	35	70	5.5-16	0.5-4	0	3	1	1	0

**DEFENSIVE STATISTICS**

YEAR	GP	UA	A	TOT	TFL-YD	SACKS-YD	INT	PD	FF	FR	BLK
2017	5	4	4	8	1-1	1-1	1	1	0	0	0
2018	8	29	14	43	3.5-10	1-1	1	5	0	0	0
2019	10	29	10	39	3-6	0-0	2	3	0	0	0
2020	4	14	14	28	0-0	0-0	0	1	0	0	0
Total	27	76	42	118	7.5-17	2.0-2	4	10	0	0	0



**3 MARQUEZ BEASON****DB, 5-11, 195, R-FR.****DALLAS, TEXAS / DUNCANVILLE**

- » Missed the 2019 season after suffering a knee injury during training camp
- » Four-star recruit by 247Sports, Rivals and ESPN
- » Ranked No. 91 recruit in the nation by ESPN, No. 108 by 247Sports and No. 108 by Rivals
- » Beason and Isaiah Williams were Illinois' two highest ranked recruits since 2009 (Terry Hawthorne)

**30 SYDNEY BROWN****DB, 6-0, 200, JR.****LONDON, ONTARIO / ST. STEPHENS EPISCOPAL (FLA.)**

- » 2019 All-Big Ten third team (coaches)
- » Father played in CFL for three seasons, mother was a figure skater
- » Identical twin brother, Chase, played football at Western Michigan one season before transferring to Illinois in 2019

**8 NATE HOBBS****DB, 6-0, 195, SR.****LOUISVILLE, KY. / LOUISVILLE MALE**

- » 2019 All-Big Ten honorable mention (media)
- » 33 career starts entering the Nebraska game
- » 2017 BTN.com All-Freshman Team

**2 DERRICK SMITH****DB, 6-2, 220, JR.****JACKSONVILLE, FLA. / TRINITY CATHOLIC / MIAMI (FLA.)**

- » First career Illini start in the season opener at Wisconsin
- » Participated in training camp at Miami (Fla.) in 2019 before transferring to Illinois in August 2019 and sitting out the season due to NCAA transfer rules
- » Has been boxing since middle school

**15 DELANO WARE****DB, 6-0, 220, JR.****RICHMOND, CALIF. / EL CERRITO**

- » Moved from safety/nickel to linebacker for the first three weeks of 2020, now back to safety
- » Nine starts at defensive back in his first two seasons ... Started the season opener at linebacker in 2020 and started at Rutgers at safety
- » Second true-freshman safety to start a season opener since 1980, joining Bennett Williams (2017)

**31 DEVON WITHERSPOON****DB, 6-0, 170, SO.****PENSACOLA, FLA. / PINE FOREST**

- » Only true freshman defender to start a game for Illinois in 2019
- » Chase-down tackle at the goal line in the fourth quarter vs. No. 6 Wisconsin 10/19/19 led to goal-line stop to help Illinois win 24-23 and complete one of the biggest upsets in Big Ten history
- » Joined the Illini during 2019 training camp after initially attending Hutchinson CC (Kan.)

**14 BLAKE HAYES****P, 6-6, 215, SR.****MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA / BRIGHTON GRAMMAR**

- » Top NFL Draft punting prospect in the nation by Mel Kiper
- » 2020 USA TODAY Preseason All-American second team
- » 2019 Big Ten Punter of the Year
- » Has broken or on pace to break nearly every Illinois punting record

**17 JAMES MCCOURT****K, 6-1, 215, SR.****PARKLAND, FLA. / ST. THOMAS AQUINAS**

- » Born in Ireland (Illinois' 2021 opener is scheduled to be in Dublin, Ireland against Nebraska)
- » 39-yard field goal as time expired beat No. 6 Wisconsin 10/19/19 to finish the largest upset over a ranked team in Big Ten history
- » Enrolled in the management graduate program

**56 ETHAN TABEL****LS, 6-0, 210, SR.****BARRINGTON, ILL. / BARRINGTON**

- » 40 games as starting long snapper entering the Nebraska game
- » Bilingual in German
- » Talented sketch artist
- » Graduated with a degree in advertising, enrolled in the technology management graduate program

**DEFENSIVE STATISTICS**

YEAR	GP	UA	A	TOT	TFL-YD	SACKS-YD	INT	PD	FF	FR	BLK
2019	DNP	Injured									
2020	3	1	1	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	3	1	1	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0

**DEFENSIVE STATISTICS**

YEAR	GP	UA	A	TOT	TFL-YD	SACKS-YD	INT	PD	FF	FR	BLK
2018	10	25	30	55	2-4	0-0	1	6	0	0	0
2019	11	51	37	88	2.5-3	0-0	3	4	0	0	0
2020	4	17	10	27	0.5-2	0-0	0	0	1	0	0
TOTAL	25	93	77	170	5.0-9	0-0	4	10	1	0	0

**DEFENSIVE STATISTICS**

YEAR	GP	UA	A	TOT	TFL-YD	SACKS-YD	INT	PD	FF	FR	BLK
2017	12	31	17	48	2-8	1-7	0	2	1	0	0
2018	9	13	9	22	3-8	0-0	1	2	0	0	0
2019	13	44	23	67	5.5-15	0-0	1	11	0	1	0
2020	3	18	4	22	2-3	0-0	1	3	0	0	0
TOTAL	37	106	53	159	12.5-34	1.0-7	3	18	1	1	0

**DEFENSIVE STATISTICS**

YEAR	G	UA	A	TOT	TFL	YDS	PD	FF	FR	BLK	QBH
2017*	13	10	3	13	1.0	11.5	0	0	0	0	0
2018*	12	6	5	11	0.5	8.5	0	0	0	0	0
2020	4	5	3	8	1.0	1	0	0	0	0	1
TOTAL	4	5	3	8	1.0	1	0	0	0	0	1
All*	29	21	11	32	2.5	31	0	0	0	0	1

\* - stats include Miami (2017-18)

**DEFENSIVE STATISTICS**

YEAR	GP	UA	A	TOT	TFL-YD	SACKS-YD	INT	PD	FF	FR	BLK
2018	11	21	14	35	2.5-16	1-11	1	3	0	0	0
2019	9	12	10	22	0-0	0-0	0	2	1	0	0
2020	4	6	3	9	0-0	0-0	0	1	0	0	0
TOTAL	24	39	27	66	2.5-16	1.0-11	1	6	1	0	0

**DEFENSIVE STATISTICS**

YEAR	GP	UA	A	TOT	TFL-YD	SACKS-YD	INT	PD	FF	FR	BLK
2019	13	23	10	33	0-0	0-0	0	2	0	0	0
2020	3	11	7	18	1-4	0-0	2	2	0	1	0
TOTAL	16	34	17	51	1.0-4	0-0	2	4	0	1	0

**PUNTING STATISTICS**

YEAR	G	NO.	YDS	LG	AVG
2017	12	77	3231	64	42.0
2018	12	62	2701	69	43.6
2019	13	77	3437	70	44.6
2020	4	19	819	59	43.1
TOTAL	41	235	10188	70	43.4

**KICKING STATISTICS**

YEAR	PAT	FG	0-29	30-39	40-49	50+	PTS	LG
2018	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0
2019	42-43	13-19	2-2	4-6	3-6	4-5	81	57
2020	3-3	3-5	2-2	0-0	1-2	0-1	11	0
TOTAL	45-46	16-24	4-4	4-6	4-8	4-6	92	57

**GAMES PLAYED STATISTICS**

YEAR	G
2017	11
2018	12
2019	13
2020	4
TOTAL	40





# LOVIE SMITH

HEAD FOOTBALL COACH

UNIVERSITY OF TULSA, 1980

FIFTH SEASON AT ILLINOIS



## THE SMITH FILE

### HOMETOWN

Big Sandy, Texas

### BIRTHDATE

May 8, 1958

### FAMILY

Wife: MaryAnne

Sons: Mikal and wife Kristen, Matthew,  
Miles and wife Kara

### EDUCATION

B.S., Tulsa, 1980

### PLAYING EXPERIENCE

Tulsa, 1976-79

### NFL HIGHLIGHTS

2007 Super Bowl XLI  
2001 Super Bowl XXXVI  
2005 AP Coach of the Year  
2010 NFC Championship Game  
2006 NFC Championship Game  
2010 NFC North Division Champions  
2006 NFC North Division Champions  
2005 NFC North Division Champions

### BOWL EXPERIENCE

2019 Redbox Bowl  
1996 Citrus Bowl  
1994 Gator Bowl  
1994 Citrus Bowl

## COACHING EXPERIENCE

2016-	Illinois	Head Coach
2014-15	Tampa Bay Buccaneers	Head Coach (8-24)
2004-12	Chicago Bears	Head Coach (81-63)
2003	St. Louis Rams	Asst. Head Coach/Defensive Coordinator
2001-02	St. Louis Rams	Defensive Coordinator
1996-2000	Tampa Bay Buccaneers	Linebackers
1995	Ohio State	Defensive Backs
1993-94	Tennessee	Defensive Backs
1992	Kentucky	Linebackers
1988-1991	Arizona State	Linebackers
1987	Wisconsin	Linebackers
1983-86	Tulsa	Linebackers
1981-82	Cascia Hall Prep HS (Tulsa, OK)	Assistant Coach/Defensive Backs/Wide Receivers
1980	Big Sandy HS (Big Sandy, Texas)	Defensive Coordinator

## LOVIE'S HEAD COACHING RECORD

YEAR	TEAM	REG. SEASON	POSTSEASON	HIGHLIGHTS
2004	Chicago Bears	5-11		
2005	Chicago Bears	11-5	0-1	NFC North Champions, AP Coach of the Year
2006	Chicago Bears	13-3	2-1	NFC Champions, NFC North Champions
2007	Chicago Bears	7-9		
2008	Chicago Bears	9-7		
2009	Chicago Bears	7-9		
2010	Chicago Bears	11-5	1-1	NFC North Champions
2011	Chicago Bears	8-8		
2012	Chicago Bears	10-6		
2014	Tampa Bay Buccaneers	2-14		
2015	Tampa Bay Buccaneers	6-10		
<b>NFL</b>	<b>11 SEASONS</b>	<b>89-87</b>	<b>3-3</b>	<b>1 SUPER BOWL APPEARANCE</b>

YEAR	TEAM	OVERALL	BIG TEN	BIG TEN FINISH
2016	Illinois	3-9	2-7	6th (B1G West)
2017	Illinois	2-10	0-9	7th (B1G West)
2018	Illinois	4-8	2-7	7th (B1G West)
2019	Illinois	6-7	4-5	4th (B1G West)
2020	Illinois	1-3	1-3	-
<b>COLLEGE</b>	<b>5TH SEASON</b>	<b>16-37</b>	<b>9-31</b>	

## COACHING STAFF

### On the Field

Lovie Smith ..... Head Coach  
 Bob Ligashesky ..... Special Teams Coordinator  
 Mike Bellamy ..... Running Backs  
 Al Davis ..... Defensive Tackles  
 Andrew Hayes-Stoker ..... Wide Receivers  
 Keynodo Hudson ..... Cornerbacks  
 Jimmy Lindsey ..... Defensive Ends  
 Bob McClain ..... Offensive Line  
 Cory Patterson ..... Tight Ends  
 Miles Smith ..... Linebackers

### In the Coaches Booth

Rod Smith ..... Offensive Coordinator/Quarterbacks

## SERIES VS. NEBRASKA

**Series:** Nebraska leads, 13-3-1

**Last:** Nebraska 42, Illinois 38  
(at Champaign, 9/21/19)

**Streak:** Nebraska W4

**at Lincoln:** Nebraska leads, 9-1

## LAST MEETING

NEBRASKA ..... 42  
ILLINOIS ..... 38

SEPT. 21, 2019

MEMORIAL STADIUM // CHAMPAIGN, ILL. // 44,512

### SCORING BY QUARTER

Team	1	2	3	4	F
Nebraska	7	7	13	15	42
Illinois	14	7	14	3	38

### SCORING SUMMARY

#### First Quarter

ILL: Corbin 66 yd run (McCourt kick), 14:12 (2-71, 0:48)  
ILL: Imatorbhebhe 26 yd pass from Peters (McCourt kick), 8:12 (5-37, 1:45)  
NEB: Stoll 6 yd pass from Martinez (McCallum kick), 5:07 (10-75, 3:05)

#### Second Quarter

ILL: Bonner 2 yd run (McCourt kick), 11:16 (1-2, 0:05)  
NEB: Robinson 27 yd pass from Martinez (McCallum kick), 8:20 (6-79 2:27)

#### Third Quarter

ILL: Brown 36 yd run (McCourt kick), 11:16 (6-78, 1:51)  
NEB: Robinson 3 yd pass from Martinez (McCallum kick), 9:41 (7-75 1:35)  
ILL: Peters 10 yd run (McCourt kick), 5:40 (2-14, 0:40)  
NEB: Mills 14 yd run (kick blocked), 2:11 (9-75 3:29)

#### Fourth Quarter

NEB: Mills 14 yd run (Martinez run), 14:29 (6-64, 1:35)  
ILL: McCourt 47 yd field goal, 12:08 (7-30, 2:14)  
NEB: Robinson 1 yd run (McCallum kick), 8:00 (11-75, 4:08)

### TEAM STATISTICS

Category	NEB	ILL
First Downs	32	14
Rushes-Yards	64-346	38-221
Passing Yards	328	78
Comp-Att-Int	22-34-0	9-24-1
Total Yards	674	299
Punts-Avg	4-46.5	8-46.0
Kickoff Returns	1-18	6-158
Penalties-Yards	10-70	4-30
Fumbles-Lost	5-4	1-0
Sacks By	2-14	2-7
Third-down Conv.	11-19	1-12
Time of Possession	37:04	22:56

### INDIVIDUAL LEADERS

**RUSHING (Carries-Yards-TD):** NEB - Martinez 8-118-0, Robinson 19-89-1, Washington 10-89-0. ILL - Corbin 20-134-1, Brown, D. 6-59-1, Norwood 1-16-0.

**PASSING (Comp-Att-INT-TD-Yds):** NEB - Martinez 22-34-0-3-328. ILL - Peters 9-22-1-1-78.

**RECEIVING (Rec-Yards-TD):** NEB - Spielman 7-159-0, Robinson 8-79-2, Stoll 3-45-1. ILL - Smalling 5-41-0, Imatorbhebhe 1-26-1, Bonner 1-8-0.

**TACKLE LEADERS (Tackles, TFL-Yds):** NEB - Dismuke 7, 0-0, Domann 5, 1.5-11; Barry 5, 0.0-0. ILL - Hansen 12, 1.0/5; Adams 12, 1.0-2; Harding 11, 0.5-1.

### GAME NOTES

- Illinois had four fumble recoveries, tied for the second-most fumble recoveries in a single game in FBS this season (South Florida had six vs. South Carolina State 9/14/19).
- Illinois recovered four fumbles for the first time since at Rutgers 10/15/16.
- Senior RB Reggie Corbin ran 20 times for 134 yards and one touchdown. It was his sixth career 100-yard rushing game and second in a row. Corbin became the 18th Illini in history to gain 2,000 career rushing yards, as he sits at exactly 2,000. Corbin broke a 66-yard touchdown run on Illinois' second snap of the game. The run was the Illini's longest play from scrimmage this season.
- Junior DL Oluwole Betiku Jr. had five tackles (all solo), 1.0 sack, 3.0 TFLs and one fumble recovery. He entered the week as the national leader in sacks (6.0) and TFLs (7.5).
- Sophomore DB Jartavius Martin recovered two fumbles, becoming the first Illini with two fumble recoveries in one game since James Crawford vs. Rutgers 10/14/2017.



### THE ILLINOIS-NEBRASKA SERIES

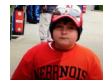
- Illinois trails the all-time series against Nebraska, 3-13-1.
- Despite rushing for 383 yards and five touchdowns, the Fighting Illini couldn't overcome five turnovers and fell to the Cornhuskers, 54-35, in their last trip to Lincoln in 11/10/2018.
- Illinois is 0-5 in Lincoln since winning 9-6 in 1924, when the Huskers held **Red Grange** scoreless for the first time in his career but **Earl Britton's** field goal with Grange holding won the game for the Illini in the fourth quarter.
- Illinois' 14-13 win in Champaign 10/3/2015 was the Illini's first against the Cornhuskers since 1924.
- The 2015 Illini win over the Huskers ended in dramatic fashion, as QB **Wes Lunt** found WR **Geronimo Allison** for a 1-yard touchdown with 10 seconds remaining to give the Illini a 14-13 victory in Champaign. Illinois went 72 yards in the final 41 seconds for the winning score.

### NEBRASKA SUPERLATIVES

- A.J. Bush Jr.** set Illinois' record for rushing yards by a quarterback (187) in 2018 at Nebraska, which **Isaiah Williams** broke last week at Rutgers (195)
- Red Grange** set Illinois' punt return yardage record (125) against Nebraska in 1923.
- Illinois' most rushing yards vs. Nebraska: 187 **A.J. Bush Jr.** 10/10/2018, 142 **J.C. Caroline** 9/26/1953
- Illinois' most receiving yards vs. Nebraska: 119 **David Williams** 9/21/1985, 118 **Geronimo Allison** 9/27/2014
- Illinois' most passing yards vs. Nebraska: 292 **Jack Trudeau** 9/21/1985
- Illinois' longest rush vs. Nebraska: 73 **J.C. Caroline** 9/26/1953, 65 **Red Grange** 10/6/1923
- Illinois' longest pass vs. Nebraska: 58 **Reilly O'Toole** to **Geronimo Allison** 9/27/2014

### NEBRASKA CONNECTIONS

- Fighting Illini associate strength and conditioning coach **Wille Jones** spent seven seasons at Nebraska as assistant strength coach (2009-2015) before coming to Illinois in the spring of 2016.
- Illinois head football athletic trainer **Jeremy Busch** spent two years at Nebraska as an assistant football athletic trainer/rehabilitation coordinator.
- Fans with split allegiances created "NEBRNOIS" shirts, as made famous by **@FauxPelini's** distaste for the apparel. The NEBRNOIS shirt debuted on ESPNU during the third quarter of Illinois' trip to Lincoln in 2013.





## ILLINI NCAA &amp; BIG RANKINGS (2020)

## TEAM RANKINGS (130 teams ranked)

CATEGORY	NCAA	BIG	STAT
3rd Down Conversion Pct	97th	10th	0.346
3rd Down Conversion Pct Defense	114th	14th	0.510
4th Down Conversion Pct	95th	12th	0.444
4th Down Conversion Pct Defense	83rd	5th	0.667
Completion Percentage	122nd	14th	0.451
Defensive Touchdowns	24th	1st	1
Fewest Penalties	49th	12th	28
Fewest Penalties Per Game	82nd	9th	7.00
Fewest Penalty Yards	63rd	13th	295
Fewest Penalty Yards Per Game	105th	13th	73.75
First Downs Defense	49th	14th	97th
First Downs Offense	88th	8th	74
Fumbles Lost	71st	12th	4
Fumbles Recovered	3rd	1st	8
Kickoff Return Defense	34th	7th	18.17
Kickoff Returns	86th	7th	18.33
Net Punting	20th	2nd	41.68
Passes Had Intercepted	43rd	4th	3
Passing Offense	111th	14th	148.0
Passing Yards Allowed	105th	14th	277.3
Passing Yards per Completion	19th	1st	14.44
Punt Return Defense	23rd	3rd	2.33
Punt Returns	23rd	4th	12.00
Red Zone Defense	72nd	9th	0.850
Red Zone Offense	124th	14th	0.615
Rushing Defense	87th	11th	188.3
Rushing Offense	27th	4th	206.8
Sacks Allowed	81st	11th	2.50
Scoring Defense	88th	10th	34.3
Scoring Offense	114th	13th	17.0
Tackles for Loss Allowed	24th	2nd	4.50
Team Passing Efficiency	116th	13th	103.99
Team Passing Efficiency Defense	119th	14th	175.35
Team Sacks	63rd	6th	2.00
Team Tackles for Loss	69th	7th	5.8
Time of Possession	121st	14th	24:28
Total Defense	104th	13th	465.5
Total Offense	95th	11th	354.8
Turnover Margin	10th	3rd	1.25
Turnovers Gained	22nd	1st	12
Turnovers Lost	51st	11th	7
Winning Percentage	92nd	9th	0.250

## NCAA INDIVIDUAL RANKINGS (Top-75)

CATEGORY	PLAYER	STAT	RANK
Forced Fumbles	Hansen	0.50	5th
Fumbles Recovered	Barnes	1	39th
	Hansen	1	39th
	Witherspoon	1	39th
	Gay	1	39th
Interceptions per game	Witherspoon	0.7	9th
	Hobbs	0.3	72nd
Kickoff Returns	Thompson	19.4	53rd
Punting	Hayes	43.1	34th
Rush Yards Per Carry	Epstein	5.36	59th
Sacks	Carney Jr.	0.75	48th
Solo Tackles	Hobbs	6.3	12th
Total Interceptions	Witherspoon	2	37th
Total Tackles	Hansen	9.3	47th

## BIG TEN INDIVIDUAL RANKINGS (TOP 10)

CATEGORY	PLAYER	STAT	RANK
Forced Fumbles	Hansen	0.50	1st
Fumbles Recovered	Barnes	1	3rd
	Hansen	1	3rd
	Witherspoon	1	3rd
	Gay	1	3rd
Interceptions Per Game	Witherspoon	0.7	5th
Kickoff Returns	Thompson	19.4	5th
Punting	Hayes	43.1	4th
Rush Yards Per Carry	Epstein	5.36	5th
Rushing TDs	Epstein	3	6th
Rushing Yards	C. Brown	247	7th
	Epstein	225	8th
Rushing Yards Per Game	C. Brown	61.8	10th
Sacks	Carney Jr.	0.75	4th
Solo Tackles	Hobbs	6.3	1st
Total Interceptions	Witherspoon	2	5th
Total Tackles	Hansen	9.3	6th

## AP TOP 25

Rk	Last	Team	Conf.	W-L	Pts.	Coaches Poll	Last Week
1	< 1	Alabama (60)	SEC	6-0	1548	*1	DNP
2	< 2	Notre Dame (1)	ACC	8-0	1467	*2	W 45-31 A Boston College
3	< 3	Ohio State (1)	Big Ten	3-0	1445	*3	DNP
4	< 4	Clemson	ACC	7-1	1355	4	DNP
5	< 5	Texas A&M	SEC	5-1	1240	6	DNP
6	< 6	Florida	SEC	5-1	1222	5	W 63-35 H Arkansas
7	< 7	Cincinnati	AAC	7-0	1198	7	W 55-17 H East Carolina
8	< 8	BYU	Ind	8-0	1094	8	DNP
9	< 10	Indiana	Big Ten	4-0	997	10	W 24-0 A Michigan State
10	< 13	Wisconsin	Big Ten	2-0	950	12	W 49-11 A Michigan
11	< 11	Oregon	Pac-12	2-0	949	13	W 43-29 A Washington State
12	< 9	Miami (FL)	ACC	7-1	940	9	W 25-24 A Virginia Tech
13	< 12	Georgia	SEC	4-2	824	11	DNP
14	< 14	Oklahoma State	Big 12	5-1	750	14	DNP
15	< 15	Coastal Carolina	Sun Belt	7-0	557	18	DNP
15	< 16	Marshall	C-USA	7-0	557	15	W 42-14 H Middle Tennessee
17	< 17	Iowa State	Big 12	5-2	498	16	DNP
18	< 18	Oklahoma	Big 12	5-2	497	17	DNP
19	< 23	Northwestern	Big Ten	4-0	378	20	W 27-20 A Purdue
20	< 20	USC	Pac-12	2-0	377	19	W 34-30 A Arizona
21	< 22	Liberty	Ind	8-0	307	22	W 58-14 H Western Carolina
22	< 21	Texas	Big 12	5-2	296	23	DNP
23	< 24	Auburn	SEC	4-2	187	21	DNP
24	< 25	Louisiana	Sun Belt	7-1	177	25	W 38-10 H South Alabama
25	< NR	Tulsa	AAC	4-1	155	RV	W 28-24 H #19 SMU

## 2020 BIG TEN STANDINGS

WEST DIVISION	BIG TEN		OVERALL		PF	PA
	W	L	W	L		
Northwestern	4	0	4	0	112	56
Wisconsin	2	0	2	0	94	18
Purdue	2	1	2	1	75	71
Iowa	2	2	2	2	124	59
Nebraska	1	2	1	2	60	96
Minnesota	1	3	1	3	116	143
Illinois	1	3	1	3	68	137
EAST DIVISION	W	L	W	L	PF	PA
Indiana	4	0	4	0	135	77
Ohio State	3	0	3	0	139	69
Maryland	2	1	2	1	83	106
Michigan State	1	3	1	3	61	135
Rutgers	1	3	1	3	106	136
Michigan	1	3	1	3	105	138
Penn State	0	4	0	4	102	139





2020 ILLINOIS BIG PLAYS

(Rush/Pass/Rec/PR over 20 yds & KOR/Def over 40 yds)

Player	Run	Pass	Rec	Def	ST	Tot
Peters	2	2	0	0	0	4
Epstein	2	0	1	0	0	3
Hightower	0	0	4	0	0	4
Taylor	1	9	0	0	0	8
C. Brown	3	0	0	0	0	3
Barker	0	0	5	0	0	5
D. Imatorbhebhe	0	0	1	0	0	1
J. Imatorbhebhe	0	0	1	0	0	1
Williams	3	1	0	0	0	4
TOTAL	11	12	12	0	0	23

WISCONSIN (5)

1Q	23	Peters rush
2Q	51	Peters rush
2Q	20	Epstein rush
3Q	26	Hightower reception (from Peters)
3Q	22	Epstein reception (from Peters)

PURDUE (9)

1Q	33	Taylor rush
1Q	30	C. Brown rush
2Q	24	Hightower reception (from Taylor)
2Q	20	Hightower reception (from Taylor)
2Q	44	Hightower reception (from Taylor)
3Q	20	Barker reception (from Taylor)
4Q	21	Barker reception (from Taylor)
4Q	28	D. Imatorbhebhe reception (from Taylor)
4Q	20	Barker reception (from Taylor)

MINNESOTA (3)

2Q	63	Epstein rush
4Q	39	Barker reception (from Taylor)
4Q	52	J. Imatorbhebhe reception (from Taylor)

RUTGERS (6)

1Q	22	Barker reception (from Williams)
3Q	39	C. Brown rush
3Q	22	Williams rush
4Q	25	Williams rush
4Q	20	C. Brown rush
4Q	26	Williams rush

ILLINOIS SCORING DRIVES

WISCONSIN

2nd	03:22	TD	Barnes, Tarique 39 yd fumble recovery (McCourt kick)	-
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PURDUE

2nd	04:46	TD	Epstein, Mike 7 yd run (Griffin kick)	7-49-2:32
2nd	00:23	FG	Griffin, Caleb 28 yd field goal	6-69-0:44
4th	11:44	TD	Imatorbhebhe, Daniel 28 yd pass from Taylor (Griffin kick)	8-75-4:10
4th	06:36	TD	Hightower, Brian 9 yd pass from Taylor (Griffin kick)	7-55-2:44

MINNESOTA

2nd	05:32	TD	Epstein, Mike 1 yd run (Griffin kick)	6-83-2:37
4th	11:30	TD	Imatorbhebhe, Josh 52 yd pass from Taylor (Griffin kick)	3-79-0:54

RUTGERS

2nd	13:45	TD	Williams, Isaiah 3 yd run (McCourt kick)	12-87-5:48
3rd	08:59	FG	McCourt, James 24 yd field goal	12-69-6:01
3rd	04:54	TD	Epstein, Mike 1 yd run (McCourt kick)	6-60-2:43
4th	13:02	FG	McCourt, James 23 yd field goal	12-57-4:31
4th	00:03	FG	McCourt, James 47 yd field goal	6-25-1:14



## TEAM GAME-BY-GAME STATISTICS

Team	Score	First Downs	Rushing Att-Yd-TD	Passing C-A-Int-TD	Passing Yards	Total Offense	Punt	Fumbles	Penalties	Time Poss
Illinois	7	8	25-131-0	8-22-1-0	87	218	5-216	1-1	5-60	16:32
at Wisconsin	45	23	54-182-1	20-21-0-5	248	430	4-184	1-1	3-15	43:28
Illinois	24	27	44-177-1	20-33-2-2	295	472	2-83	3-2	7-75	29:22
vs Purdue	31	26	31-85-1	29-35-0-2	371	456	3-98	3-2	11-103	30:38
Illinois	14	14	36-181-1	6-17-0-1	106	287	8-336	2-0	12-120	22:25
vs Minnesota	41	30	47-325-5	17-27-1-1	216	541	2-51	1-1	2-22	37:35
Illinois	23	23	59-338-2	7-18-0-0	104	442	4-184	2-1	4-40	34:38
at Rutgers	20	19	33-166-0	21-34-3-2	256	422	4-182	1-0	7-56	25:22

## GAME-BY-GAME STARTERS

## OFFENSIVE STARTERS

GAME	T	G	C	G	T	QB	RB	WR	WR	WR/TE	TE/RB
Wisconsin	Lowe	K. Green	Kramer	V. Brown	Palczewski	Peters	Epstein	Hightower	J. Imatorbhebhe	Navarro	Barker
Purdue	Lowe	Philstrom	Green	V. Brown	Palczewski	Robinson	C. Brown	Hightower	J. Imatorbhebhe	Ford	Barker
Minnesota	Lowe	Philstrom	Green	V. Brown	Palczewski	Taylor	Epstein	Hightower	J. Imatorbhebhe	D. Imatorbhebhe	Barker
Rutgers	Lowe	Green	Kramer	V. Brown	Palczewski	Williams	Epstein	Hightower	J. Imatorbhebhe	Navarro	C. Brown

<i>Consecutive</i>	29	29	1	4	40	1	2	4	4	1	1
<i>Career</i>	35	29	34	4	40	1	8	4	15	8	2

## DEFENSIVE STARTERS

GAME	DE	DT	DT	DE	LB	LB	LB	CB	S	S	CB
Wisconsin	Carney Jr.	Woods	Perry	Mondesir	Hansen	Tolson	Ware	Hobbs	S. Brown	D. Smith	Adams
Purdue	Carney Jr.	Woods	Perry	Gay	Hansen	Tolson	Eifler	Hobbs	S. Brown	Adams	Witherspoon
Minnesota	Carney Jr.	Newton	Perry	Gay	Hansen	Tolson	Eifler	Adams	S. Brown	D. Smith	Witherspoon
Rutgers	Carney Jr.	Newton	Perry	Gay	Hansen	Tolson	Barnes	Adams	S. Brown	Ware	Hobbs

<i>Consecutive</i>	4	2	4	3	4	8	1	3	13	1	1
<i>Career</i>	12	2	4	13	26	8	1	23	24	11	33



## RECORDS TO WATCH

*Through the Rutgers game*

## ILLINOIS INDIVIDUAL CAREER

## CAREER PUNTING AVERAGE

1. Steve Weatherford, 2002-05 ..... 43.5 (193-8,402)
2. **Blake Hayes, 2017-present** ..... **43.4 (235-10,188)**
3. Steve Fitts, 1998-2001 ..... 41.68

## CAREER PUNTING YARDAGE

1. Steve Fitts, 1998-2001 ..... 10,671
2. Justin DuVernois, 2011-14 ..... 10,571
3. **Blake Hayes, 2017-present** ..... **10,188**
4. Anthony Santella, 2007-10 ..... 9,964
5. Phil Vierneisel, 1973-76 ..... 9,008
6. Chris Sigourney, 1979-83 ..... 8,935
7. Steve Weatherford, 2002-05 ..... 8,402
8. Chad Little, 1984-87 ..... 8,354
9. Terry Masar, 1969-71 ..... 7,587
10. Brett Larsen, 1992-95 ..... 7,547

CAREER FORCED FUMBLES *(since 1990)*

1. Simeon Rice, 1992-95 ..... 13
2. Whitney Mercilus, 2009-11 ..... 11
3. **Jake Hansen, 2016-present** ..... **10**
- Stanley Green, 2016-19 ..... 10
5. Dana Howard, 1990-94 ..... 8
6. Mason Monheim, 2012-15 ..... 7
- Earnest Thomas III, 2011-2014 ..... 7
- Kevin Hardy, 1992-95 ..... 7

## CAREER 50+ YARD FIELD GOALS

1. Chase McLaughlin, 2014-18 ..... 5
2. **James McCourt, 2019-present** ..... **4**
- Jason Reda, 2004-07 ..... 4
- Dan Beaver, 1973-76 ..... 4

## ILLINOIS ACADEMICS

## GRADS ON GRADS ON GRADS

The 2020 Fighting Illini roster features 13 student-athletes that already earned degrees prior to the season.

Student-Athlete	Bachelor's Degree	Degree Pursuing
Christian Bobak	Finance (May '20)	Technology Management
Owen Carney Jr.	Communication (May '20)	Recreation, Sport & Tourism
Desmond Dan Jr.	Individualized Studies (2020 at New Mexico State)	Recreation, Sport & Tourism
Jake Hansen	Kinesiology (May '20)	Recreation, Sport & Tourism
Daniel Imatorbhebhe	Social Sciences (Econ) (Summer '18 at USC)	Recreation, Sport & Tourism
Josh Imatorbhebhe	Business Administration (May '19 at USC)	Strategic Brand Communication
Blake Jerasaty	Economics and Finance (2020 at Wofford)	Finance
Doug Kramer	Finance (May '20)	Recreation, Sport & Tourism
James McCourt	Finance (May '20)	Management
Roderick Perry	(2020 at South Carolina State)	Recreation, Sport & Tourism
Brandon Peters	General Studies (June '19 at Michigan)	Recreation, Sport & Tourism
Trevon Sidney	Communication (June '19 at USC)	Recreation, Sport & Tourism
Ethan Tabel	Advertising (May '20)	Technology Management

## ILLINOIS ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT ACADEMIC SUCCESS

- During the Spring 2020 semester, 18 of 19 Fighting Illini programs posted team GPAs of 3.00
- During the Spring 2020 semester an Illinois record 78% of student-athletes earned GPAs above 3.00
- In the last three years, Illinois student-athletes have garnered a total of 641 Academic All-Big Ten selections
- Illinois' GSR score of 92 in 2019 was the best in school history.

## UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS ACADEMIC RANKS

- #15 Public School in the Nation
- #6 Best Undergraduate Engineering Programs
- #5 in Computer Science
- #3 Accounting Program
- #9 Public Undergraduate Business Programs

\* from U.S. News and World Report

## ACADEMIC MAJORS – FALL 2020

Tony Adams . . . . . Political Science  
 Bryce Barnes . . . . . Community Health  
 Josh Beetham . . . . . Recreation, Sport, and Tourism  
 John Bickel . . . . . Kinesiology  
**Christian Bobak . . . Technology Management (Master's)**  
 Matt Bobak . . . . . Community Health  
 Chase Brown . . . . . Communication  
 Sydney Brown . . . . . Recreation, Sport, and Tourism  
 Verdis Brown . . . . . African American Studies  
**Owen Carney Jr. . . Recreation, Sport, and Tourism (Master's)**  
 Edwin Carter . . . . . Community Health  
 Sean Coghlan . . . . . Accountancy and Finance (Double)  
 Thomas Cronin . . . . . English  
**Desmond Dan Jr. . . Recreation, Sport, and Tourism (Master's)**  
 Isaac Darkangelo . . . . . Communication  
 Cooper Davis . . . . . Community Health  
 Milo Eifler . . . . . Sociology  
 Preston Engel . . . . . Recreation, Sport, and Tourism  
 Mike Epstein . . . . . Marketing  
 Luke Ford . . . . . Communication  
 Isaiah Gay . . . . . Learning & Education Studies  
 Kendrick Green . . . . . Sociology  
 Caleb Griffin . . . . . Marketing & Management (Double)  
 Aidan Hall . . . . . Systems Engineering and Design  
**Jake Hansen . . . . . Recreation, Sport, and Tourism (Master's)**  
 Blake Hayes . . . . . Kinesiology  
 Brian Hightower . . . . . Recreation, Sport, and Tourism  
 Nate Hobbs . . . . . Sociology

Ezekiel Holmes . . . . . Sociology  
**Daniel Imatorbhebhe . . Recreation, Sport, and Tourism (Master's)**  
**Josh Imatorbhebhe . . Strategic Brand Communication (Master's)**  
 Ryan Ingold . . . . . Business  
**Blake Jerasaty . . . Finance (Master's)**  
 Brevyn Jones . . . . . Kinesiology  
 Kerby Joseph . . . . . Community Health  
**Doug Kramer . . . . . Recreation, Sport, and Tourism (Master's)**  
 Tailon Leitzsey . . . . . Kinesiology  
 Conner Lillig . . . . . Economics  
 Ty Lindenman . . . . . Agriculture and Consumer Economics  
 Vederian Lowe . . . . . Communication  
 Michael Marchese . . . . . Economics  
 Jartavius Martin . . . . . Communication  
**James McCourt . . . Management (Master's)**  
 Alec McEachern . . . . . Management & Finance (Double)  
 Ryan Meed . . . . . Kinesiology  
 Hayden Metcalf . . . . . Recreation, Sport, and Tourism  
 Marc Mondesir . . . . . Communication  
 Donny Navarro . . . . . Information Sciences  
 Jakari Norwood . . . . . Recreation, Sport, and Tourism  
 Brett Novak . . . . . Natural Resources and Environmental Science  
 Moses Okpala . . . . . Psychology  
 Nick O'Neal . . . . . Economics  
 Alex Palczewski . . . . . Kinesiology  
 Deon Pate . . . . . Sociology  
 Julian Pearl . . . . . Sociology  
**Roderick Perry . . . Recreation, Sport, & Tourism (Master's)**

**Brandon Peters . . Recreation, Sport, & Tourism (Master's)**  
 Alex Pihlstrom . . . . . Recreation, Sport, & Tourism  
 Keith Randolph Jr. . . . . Journalism  
 Tip Reiman . . . . . Kinesiology  
 Matt Robinson . . . . . Recreation, Sport, & Tourism  
 Carlos Sandy . . . . . Communication  
 Ben Schultz . . . . . Agricultural and Consumer Economics  
 Anthony Shipton . . . . . Communication  
**Trevon Sidney . . . Recreation, Sport, & Tourism (Master's)**  
 Kenyon Sims . . . . . Communication  
 Jordyn Slaughter . . . . . Sociology  
 Derrick Smith . . . . . Communication  
 Kendall Smith . . . . . Learning and Education Studies  
**Ethan Tabel . . . . . Technology Management (Master's)**  
 Dylan Thomas . . . . . Finance  
 Khmari Thompson . . . . . Sociology  
 Khalan Tolson . . . . . Communication  
 Kevin Tyler . . . . . Communication  
 Nick Walker . . . . . Sociology  
 Delano Ware . . . . . Community Health  
 Casey Washington . . . . . Recreation, Sport, & Tourism  
 Jamal Woods . . . . . Community Health  
 Terry Zapf . . . . . Economics

*unlisted = undeclared*



## 2020 STARTERS BY POSITION

## OFFENSE

Pos.	#	Player	Starts
QB	18	Brandon Peters	1
	12	Matt Robinson	1
	7	Coran Taylor	1
	<b>1</b>	<b>Isaiah Williams</b>	<b>1</b>
RB	<b>2</b>	<b>Chase Brown</b>	<b>2</b>
	<b>26</b>	<b>Mike Epstein</b>	<b>3</b>
WR	<b>14</b>	<b>Brian Hightower</b>	<b>4</b>
	<b>9</b>	<b>Josh Imatorbhebhe</b>	<b>4</b>
	<b>86</b>	<b>Donny Navarro</b>	<b>2</b>
TE	87	Daniel Barker	3
	82	Luke Ford	1
	88	Daniel Imatorbhebhe	1
OL	<b>52</b>	<b>Verdis Brown</b>	<b>4</b>
	<b>55</b>	<b>Kendrick Green</b>	<b>4</b>
	<b>79</b>	<b>Vederian Lowe</b>	<b>4</b>
	<b>63</b>	<b>Alex Palczewski</b>	<b>4</b>
	<b>65</b>	<b>Doug Kramer</b>	<b>2</b>
	75	Alex Pihlstrom	2

## DEFENSE

Pos.	#	Player	Starts
DE	<b>99</b>	<b>Owen Carney</b>	<b>4</b>
	<b>92</b>	<b>Isaiah Gay</b>	<b>3</b>
	54	Marc Mondesir	1
DT	<b>96</b>	<b>Roderick Perry</b>	<b>4</b>
	<b>96</b>	<b>Jer'Zhan Newton</b>	<b>2</b>
	91	Jamal Woods	2
LB	<b>35</b>	<b>Jake Hansen</b>	<b>4</b>
	<b>45</b>	<b>Khalan Tolson</b>	<b>4</b>
	5	Milo Eifler	2
	<b>44</b>	<b>Tarique Barnes</b>	<b>1</b>
	15	Delano Ware	1
CB	<b>8</b>	<b>Nate Hobbs</b>	<b>3</b>
	<b>6</b>	<b>Tony Adams</b>	<b>3</b>
	31	Devin Witherspoon	2
S	<b>30</b>	<b>Sydney Brown</b>	<b>4</b>
	2	Derrick Smith	2
	6	Tony Adams	1
	<b>15</b>	<b>Delano Ware</b>	<b>1</b>

## SPECIAL TEAMS

Pos.	#	Player	Starts
K	11	Caleb Griffin	2
	<b>17</b>	<b>James McCourt</b>	<b>2</b>
P	<b>14</b>	<b>Blake Hayes</b>	<b>4</b>
LS	<b>56</b>	<b>Ethan Tabel</b>	<b>4</b>

**Bold = started last game**

## PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

Tarique Barnes	...ta-REEK
Marquez Beason	...mar-KEZ
Christian Bobak	...bo-BACK
Matt Bobak	...bo-BACK
Verdis Brown	...ver-dis
Dalevon Campbell	...DALE-von
Thomas Cronin	...CROW-nin
Kyron Cumby	...KY-run
Milo Eifler	...MEE-LOW EYE-Fler
Preston Engel	...EN-gull
Mike Epstein	...ep-STEEN
Nick Fedanzo	...fa-DON-zo
Daniel Imatorbhebhe	...ee-MAT-or-bay-bay
Josh Imatorbhebhe	...ee-MAT-or-bay-bay
Tailon Leitzsey	...TAY-lon LIT-see
Vederian Lowe	...vuh-DARE-ee-an
Michael Marchese	...mar-CASE
Jartavius Martin	...jar-TAY-vee-us
Alec McEachern	...Mc-CARE-un
Marc Mondesir	...mon-duh-SEER
Jer'Zhan Newton	...jur-ZHON
Tahveon Nicholson	...TAH-vee-on
Jakari Norwood	...juh-CAR-ee
Moses Okpala	...oak-PAH-la
Alex Palczewski	...pal-CHESS-key
Alex Pihlstrom	...PILL-strum
Tre'Von Riggins	...TRAY-von
Trevon Sidney	...TRAY-von SID-nee
Blaise Sparks	...(Blaze)
Ethan Tabel	...tuh-BELL
Coran Taylor	...kor-AHN
Khari Thompson	...kuh-MAR-ee
Khalan Tolson	...KAY-lahn
Delano Ware	...dee-LAY-no
Devin Witherspoon	...DEV-in

## 2020 ILLINOIS FOOTBALL ROSTER

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	YR.	HOMETOWN/LAST SCHOOL
1	Isaiah Williams	QB	5-10	180	R-Fr.	St. Louis, Mo./Trinity Catholic
2	Chase Brown	RB	5-11	195	So.	London, Ontario/Western Michigan
2	Derrick Smith	DB	6-2	220	Jr.	Jacksonville, Fla./Miami (Fla.)
3	Marquez Beason	DB	5-11	195	R-Fr.	Dallas, Texas/Duncanville
3	Jakari Norwood	RB	5-10	180	So.	Pompano Beach, Fla./Deerfield Beach
4	KhMari Thompson	DB	6-1	210	So.	Lawrenceville, Ga./Central Gwinnett
5	Milo Eifler	LB	6-2	225	Sr.	Berkeley, Calif./Bishop O'Dowd/Washington
5	Trevon Sidney	WR	5-11	180	Sr.	Pasadena, Calif./Bishop Amat/USC
6	Tony Adams	DB	6-0	205	Sr.	Belleville, Ill./St. Louis University HS
6	Deuce Spann	QB	6-4	195	Fr.	St. Petersburg, Fla./Lakewood
7	Coran Taylor	QB	6-2	190	So.	Peoria, Ill./Peoria
8	Nate Hobbs	DB	6-0	195	Sr.	Louisville, Ky./Louisville Male
8	Casey Washington	WR	6-2	190	So.	Round Rock, Texas/Pflugerville
9	Josh Imatorbhebhe	WR	6-2	220	Sr.	Suwanee, Ga./North Gwinnett/USC
10	Desmond Dan Jr.	WR	6-3	195	Sr.	Muskogee, Okla./Checotah/New Mexico State
11	Caleb Griffin	PK	6-3	215	So.	Danville, Ill./Danville
11	Carlos Sandy	WR	5-9	180	So.	Dania Beach, Fla./Cardinal Gibbons
12	Matt Robinson	QB	6-1	190	So.	San Juan Capistrano, Calif./J Serra Catholic
13	James Frenchie Jr.	WR	5-10	175	Fr.	St. Louis, Mo./Trinity Catholic
14	Blake Hayes	P	6-6	215	Sr.	Melbourne, Australia/Brighton
14	Brian Hightower	WR	6-3	220	Jr.	Leimert Park, Calif./IMG Academy (Fla.)/Miami (Fla.)
15	Ty Lindenman	WR	5-6	160	Fr.	Shawnee, Kan./Shawnee Mission Northwest
15	Delano Ware	LB	6-0	220	Jr.	Richmond, Calif./El Cerrito
16	Josh Beetham	QB	6-5	235	Fr.	Yorkville, Ill./Yorkville
17	James McCourt	PK/P	6-1	215	Sr.	Parkland, Fla./St. Thomas Aquinas
17	Kendall Smith	DB	6-1	200	Sr.	Bolingbrook, Ill./Bolingbrook
18	Brandon Peters	QB	6-5	220	Sr.	Avon, Ind./Avon/Michigan
19	Dalevon Campbell	WR	6-4	205	So.	Missouri City, Texas/Fort Bend Marshall
19	Hugh Robertson	P	6-2	225	Fr.	Castlemaine, Australia/Assumption College Kilmore
20	Kyron Cumby	WR	5-8	180	R-Fr.	Plano, Texas/Plano
21	Jartavius Martin	DB	6-0	195	Jr.	Lehigh Acres, Fla./Lehigh Acres
22	Kenyon Sims	RB	5-11	215	So.	San Diego, Calif./Lincoln
23	Conner Lillig	RB	5-10	190	Jr.	Oak Park, Ill./Fenwick
23	Tahveon Nicholson	DB	5-11	170	Fr.	Jacksonville, Fla./Lee
24	Nick Fedanzo	RB	6-0	205	R-Fr.	Lombard, Ill./Montini Catholic
25	Kerby Joseph	WR	6-1	200	Jr.	Orlando, Fla./Jones
26	Mike Epstein	RB	6-0	205	Jr.	Ft. Lauderdale, Fla./St. Thomas Aquinas
27	Matt Bobak	RB	5-11	185	Fr.	Hinsdale, Ill./Hinsdale Central
28	Reggie Love III	RB	5-11	200	Fr.	St. Louis, Mo./Trinity Catholic
29	Christian Bobak	DB	6-0	200	Sr.	Hinsdale, Ill./Hinsdale Central
30	Sydney Brown	DB	6-0	200	Jr.	London, Ontario/St. Stephens Episcopal School (Fla.)
31	Devon Witherspoon	DB	6-0	170	So.	Pensacola, Fla./Pine Forest
32	Tailon Leitzsey	DB	6-0	190	Sr.	Laurel, Md./Riverside/Missouri Baptist University
33	Ezekiel Holmes	DL	6-5	240	So.	Wichita Falls, Texas/Hirschi
34	Ryan Meed	LB	6-1	220	R-Fr.	Brooklyn, N.Y./Canarsie
35	Jake Hansen	LB	6-1	230	Sr.	Tarpon Springs, Fla./East Lake
36	Ben Schultz	DB	6-3	195	R-Fr.	Champaign, Ill./Central
37	Jaden Jones-Watkins	DB	6-0	175	So.	Fisher, Ill./Fisher
38	Isaac Darkangelo	LB	6-1	225	Fr.	Brighton, Mich./Detroit Catholic Central
39	Aidan Hall	LS	6-2	205	R-Fr.	Glen Ellyn, Ill./Benet Academy
40	Shammond Cooper	LB	6-2	220	R-Fr.	St. Louis, Mo./Trinity Catholic
41	Tre'Von Riggins	DL	6-3	270	Fr.	Bradenton, Fla./Lakewood
42	Michael Marchese	DB	6-4	210	Sr.	Vernon Hills, Ill./Stevenson
43	Cooper Davis	DL	6-6	235	Fr.	Melbourne, Fla./Viera
43	Griffin Moore	TE	6-4	235	R-Fr.	Bloomington, Ill./Bloomington
44	Tarique Barnes	LB	6-1	230	So.	Memphis, Tenn./Cordova
45	Khalan Tolson	LB	6-0	220	Jr.	St. Petersburg, Fla./Admiral Farragut Academy
46	Alec McEachern	LB	6-1	235	Jr.	Plainfield, Ill./Benet Academy

## 2020 ILLINOIS FOOTBALL ROSTER

47	Quinton McCoy	DL	6-3	280	Fr.	Valrico, Fla./Bloomington
48	Bryce Barnes	DL	6-2	270	So.	Gibson City, Ill./Gibson City-Melvin-Sibley
49	Seth Coleman	DL	6-5	230	R-Fr.	Melbourne, Fla./Holy Trinity Episcopal Academy
51	Sean Coghlan	LB	6-0	225	Jr.	Chicago, Ill./St. Rita
52	Verdis Brown	OL	6-4	320	So.	Chicago, Ill./IMG Academy (Fla.)
53	Kendrick Green	OL	6-4	315	Jr.	Peoria, Ill./Peoria
54	Marc Mondesir	DL	6-2	240	Sr.	Chicago, Ill./St. Rita
54	Julian Pearl	OL	6-6	305	So.	Danville, Ill./Danville
55	Blake Jeresaty	OL	6-2	295	Sr.	Charleston, S.C./Bishop England/Wofford
56	Ethan Tabel	LS	6-0	210	Sr.	Barrington, Ill./Barrington
57	Evan Kirts	OL	6-5	285	R-Fr.	Evergreen Park, Ill./Brother Rice
58/38	Preston Engel	OL	6-0	270	So.	Normal, Ill./Normal Community
59	Josh Plohr	OL	6-3	300	R-Fr.	St. Louis, Mo./Christian Brothers College HS
62	Terry Zapf	OL	6-6	300	So.	Winnetka, Ill./New Trier/Williams (Mass.)
63	Alex Palczewski	OL	6-6	310	Sr.	Mount Prospect, Ill./Prospect
65	Doug Kramer	OL	6-2	300	Sr.	Hinsdale, Ill./Hinsdale Central
66	Jordyn Slaughter	OL	6-5	305	So.	Belleville, Ill./Althoff Catholic
68	Ryan Ingold	OL	6-5	305	Fr.	Batavia, Ill./Batavia
69	Moses Okpala	OL	6-7	295	R-Fr.	St. Louis, Mo./Ladue Horton Watkins
70	Thomas Cronin	OL	6-4	290	R-Fr.	Oak Park, Ill./Oak Park River Forest
71	Brett Novak	OL	6-6	300	Fr.	Maquon, Ill./Brimfield
72	Phifer Griffin	OL	6-6	300	Fr.	Monroe, N.C./Union Academy
74	Blaise Sparks	OL	6-7	290	Fr.	North Fort Myers, Fla./North Fort Myers
75/95	Alex Pihlstrom	OL	6-6	285	Jr.	Glen Ellyn, Ill./Glenbard West
76	Brevyn Jones	OL	6-5	270	R-Fr.	Center Point, Ala./Huffman/Mississippi State
78	Kevin Tyler	OL	6-3	330	Fr.	St. Louis, Mo./Ritenour
79	Vederian Lowe	OL	6-6	320	Sr.	Rockford, Ill./Auburn
82	Luke Ford	TE	6-6	250	Jr.	Carterville, Ill./Carterville/Georgia
83	John Bickel	WR	5-9	170	Fr.	Tinley Park, Ill./Andrew
84	Owen Hickey	WR	6-2	165	Fr.	Des Plaines, Ill./Saint Viator
85	Dylan Thomas	WR	5-11	185	So.	Monticello, Ill./Monticello
86	Donny Navarro	WR	5-11	185	Jr.	Naperville, Ill./Neuqua Valley/Valparaiso
87	Daniel Barker	TE	6-4	250	Jr.	Fort Lauderdale, Fla./Deerfield Beach
88	Daniel Imatorbhebhe	TE	6-3	240	Sr.	Suwanee, Ga./North Gwinnett/USC
88	Keith Randolph Jr.	DL	6-5	270	R-Fr.	Belleville, Ill./Belleville West
89	Tip Reiman	TE	6-5	230	Fr.	Rapid City, S.D./O'Gorman
90	Anthony Shipton	DL	6-4	305	Jr.	Orange, Calif./Villa Park
91	Jamal Woods	DL	6-2	275	Sr.	Hueytown, Ala./Hueytown
92	Isaiah Gay	DL	6-3	240	Sr.	Nashville, N.C./Northern Nash
93	Calvin Avery	DL	6-2	340	Jr.	Dallas, Tex./Bishop Dunne
94	Jer'Zhan Newton	DL	6-2	270	Fr.	St. Petersburg, Fla./Clearwater Central Catholic
96	Roderick Perry II	DL	6-2	300	Sr.	Raleigh, N.C./Cary/South Carolina State
98	Deon Pate	DL	6-2	280	Jr.	Jacksonville, Fla./Trinity Christian Academy
99	Owen Carney Jr.	DL	6-3	260	Sr.	Miami, Fla./Miami Central

### COACHING STAFF

Lovie Smith	Head Coach
Rod Smith	Offensive Coordinator/Quarterbacks
Bob Ligashesky	Special Teams Coordinator
Mike Bellamy	Running Backs
Al Davis	Defensive Tackles
Andrew Hayes-Stoker	Wide Receivers
Keynodo Hudson	Defensive Backs
Jimmy Lindsey	Defensive Ends
Bob McClain	Offensive Line
Cory Patterson	Tight Ends
Miles Smith	Linebackers

## THE LAST TIME

## AN ILLINOIS PLAYER HAD ...

## Rushing

## 250 yards rushing:

330, Mikel Leshoure vs. Northwestern, 11/20/2010

## 200 yards rushing:

213, Reggie Corbin vs. Minnesota, 11/3/2018

## 150 yards rushing:

192, Williams at Rutgers, 11/14/2020

## 125 yards rushing:

192, Williams at Rutgers, 11/14/2020

## 100 yards rushing:

192, Williams at Rutgers, 11/14/2020

## Back-to-back 175-yard rushing games:

Rashard Mendenhall (189 vs. Ball State, 10/27/2007 & 201 at Minnesota, 11/3/2007)

## Three consecutive 100-yard rushing games:

Reggie Corbin, 10/20/2018-11/3/2018 (3 games)

## Five consecutive 100-yard rushing games:

Mikel Leshoure, 11/6/2010-12/29/2010 (5 games)

## 2 rushers with 175 yards:

Harvey (215), Havard (175) vs. Middle Tennessee, 9/12/1998

## 2 rushers with 100 yards:

Williams (192) and C. Brown (131) at Rutgers, 11/14/2020

## 80+ yard rushing play:

80, Reggie Corbin at Wisconsin, 10/20/2018

## 70+ yard rushing play:

77, Reggie Corbin vs. Minnesota, 11/3/2018 (3rd quarter)

## Two 40+ runs in one quarter:

56 and 56 (2nd), Kendrick Foster vs. Murray State, 9/3/2016

## True-freshman rushed for 100 yards:

Mike Epstein, 111 vs. Western Kentucky, 9/9/2017

## True-freshman rushed for 100 yards in first career game:

E.B. Halsey, 139 vs. Missouri, 8/30/2003

## 40 rushing attempts:

40, Antoinio Harris at Wisconsin, 11/9/2002

## 30 rushing attempts:

31, Williams at Rutgers, 11/14/2020

## 2 rushers with 2 TDs:

Corbin (2) & Bush, Jr. (2) vs. Minnesota, 11/3/2018

## 8 TDs rushing: Howard Griffith (8) vs. Southern Illinois, 9/22/1990

## 4 TDs rushing: Antoinio Harris (4) vs. Indiana, 10/27/2002

## 3 TDs rushing: A.J. Bush, Jr. (3) at Nebraska, 11/10/2018

## 2+ TDs rushing by a QB: A.J. Bush, Jr. (3) at Nebraska, 11/10/2018

## Receiving

## 200 yards receiving:

200, Mike Dudek vs. Purdue, 10/4/2014

## 150 yards receiving:

178, Josh Imatorbhebhe at Michigan State, 11/9/2019

## 100 yards receiving:

178, Josh Imatorbhebhe at Michigan State, 11/9/2019

## 2 receivers with 100 yards receiving:

Turner (164) and Hardee (125) at Northwestern, 11/26/2016

## Running back with 100+ yards receiving:

100, Josh Ferguson vs. Northwestern, 10/27/2015

## 70+ yard pass play:

83, Josh Imatorbhebhe from Brandon Peters at Michigan State, 11/9/2019

## 60+ yard pass play:

83, Josh Imatorbhebhe from Brandon Peters at Michigan State, 11/9/2019

## 50+ yard pass play:

52, Josh Imatorbhebhe from Coran Taylor vs. Minnesota, 11/7/2020

## 10+ receptions: 11, Malik Turner at Northwestern, 11/26/2016

## 2 receivers with 2 TDs:

Will Judson and Chris Duval vs. Missouri, 8/30/2008

## 3 receiving TDs: A.J. Jenkins (3) vs. Northwestern, 10/1/2011

## Offensive lineman caught a pass:

Jeff Allen, (1 rec., 2 yds) vs. Southern Illinois, 9/11/2010

## Offensive lineman scored a TD:

Corey Lewis, fumble recovery in end zone at Indiana, 11/9/2013

## Passing

## 600 yards passing: 621, Dave Wilson at Ohio State, 11/8/1980

## 500 yards passing: 621, Dave Wilson at Ohio State, 11/8/1980

## 400 yards passing: 456, Wes Lunt vs. Western Kentucky, 9/6/2014

## 300 yards passing: 369, Brandon Peters. at Michigan State, 11/9/2019

## Consecutive 300-yard passing games:

Nathan Scheelhaase at Penn State (321, 11/2/2013) and at Indiana (450, 11/9/2013)

## Three consecutive 300-yard passing games:

Jason Verduzco vs East Carolina (352, 8/31/1991), at Missouri (431, 9/14/1991) and vs. Houston (341, 9/21/1991)

## 6 TDs passing: Dave Wilson at Ohio State, 11/8/1980

## 5 TDs passing: Nathan Scheelhaase (5) vs. Miami (Ohio), 9/28/2013

## 4 TDs passing: Brandon Peters (4) at UConn, 9/7/2019

## 3 TDs passing: Brandon Peters (3) at Michigan State, 11/9/2019

## Two 65-plus yard TD passes in the same game:

N. Scheelhaase, 77 & 67 yds to A.J. Jenkins at Indiana, 10/8/11

## 10+ consecutive completions in a game:

Brandon Peters (10) at UConn, 9/7/2019

## Non-QB with passing TD: Trenard Davis vs. Penn State, 9/21/2018

## Defense

## 20 Tackles: J. Leman (20) vs. Missouri, 9/1/2007

## 19 Tackles: Clayton Fejedelem (19) vs. Wisconsin, 10/24/2015

## 4 interceptions: Mike Gow (4) vs. Stanford, 9/21/1974

## 3 interceptions: Eugene Wilson (3) vs. Penn State, 11/10/2001

## 2 interceptions: Sydney Brown (2) at Michigan State, 11/9/2019

## 3+ sacks in a game: Owen Carney, Jr. (3.0) vs. Purdue, 10/31/2020

## 5+ TFLs in a game: Jake Hansen (6.0) vs. Kent State, 9/1/2018

## 4+ TFLs in a game: Jamal Milan (4.0) at Purdue, 10/26/2019

## 4+ PBUs in a game: Jaylen Dunlap (4) vs. Michigan State, 11/5/2016

## 3+ PBUs in a game: Jaylen Dunlap (4) vs. Michigan State, 11/5/2016

## 3+ PBUs in back-to-back games: Jaylen Dunlap vs. Minnesota (3) and Michigan State (4), 10/29/16-11/5/16

## Interception by a lineman:

Michael Buchanan vs. Western Michigan, 9/1/2012

## Interception return for TD:

Sydney Brown (76 yards) at Michigan State, 11/9/2019

## Two players with interception returns for TD in a game:

Pat Nixon-Youman (68 yards), Jonathan Brown (66 yards) vs. Indiana, 10/23/2010

## Fumble recovery for TD:

Tarique Barnes (39 yards) at Wisconsin, 10/23/2020

## Scored on a safety: Smoot TFL vs. North Carolina 9/10/2016

## Defensive extra point: Nate Hobbs (75 yards) at USF, 9/15/2017

## Total Offense/All-Purpose

## 500 yards total offense:

503, Juice Williams vs. Minnesota, 10/11/2008

## 400 yards total offense: 439, Wes Lunt vs. WKU, 9/6/2014

## 300 yards passing and 100 yards rushing:

431 (310-121), Juice Williams at Michigan, 10/4/2008

## 300 all-purpose yards: 328, A.J. Jenkins vs. Northwestern, 10/1/2011

## 200 all-purpose yards: 213, Reggie Corbin vs. Minnesota, 11/3/2018

## 4 total TDs: Brandon Peters (4 pass) at UConn, 9/7/2019

## 2 TDs in 1 minute: Ke'Shawn Vaughn at Purdue (3rd quarter), 11/7/2015

## Special Teams

## 5 field goals: Doug Higgins vs. Michigan State, 10/20/1990

## 4 field goals: Chase McLaughlin (4) at Maryland 10/27/2018

## 3 field goals: James McCourt (3) at Rutgers, 11/14/2020

## Made 50+ yard field goal:

James McCourt (50) vs. Northwestern 11/30/2019

## Blocked a punt: Dawson DeGroot vs. Western Illinois, 9/8/2018

## Blocked punt for a touchdown:

Dawson DeGroot (block), Stanley Green (TD) vs. Western Illinois, 9/8/2018

## Blocked two field goals: Terrell Washington vs. NIU, 9/8/2001

## Blocked two PATs: Rob Bain at Penn State, 10/31/2015

## Blocked a field goal: Isaiah Gay at USF, 9/15/2017

## Blocked a PAT: Calvin Avery vs. Nebraska, 9/21/2019

## Punt return for TD: V'Angelo Bentley (67 yards) vs. OSU, 11/16/2013

## Kickoff return for TD:

V'Angelo Bentley (100 yards) vs. Southern Illinois, 8/31/2013

## Blocked FG returned for TD:

Travis Williams (66 yards) vs. Illinois State, 9/6/2003

## Two-point conversion:

Dre Brown run vs. Michigan, 10/12/2019

## Two two-point conversions in the same game:

2 at Ohio State, 11/3/2012 (Russell pass to LaCrosse; Russell rush)

## AN OPPOSING PLAYER HAD ...

## 250 yards rushing: 256, Jordan Canzeri, Iowa, 10/10/2015

## 200 yards rushing: 224, Mohamed Ibrahim, Minnesota, 11/7/2020

## 150 yards rushing:

224, Mohamed Ibrahim, Minnesota, 11/7/2020

## Three 100-yard rushers:

J. Jackson (106), J. Moten IV (105), D. Johnson (101) at USF 9/15/2017

## 75+ yard rushing play: 79, Justin Jackson, vs. Northwestern, 11/25/17

## 50+ yard rushing play: 53, Mohamed Ibrahim, Minnesota, 11/7/2020

## Two 40+ TD runs in one quarter:

Carlos Hyde (51, 55 in 4th), Ohio State, 11/16/2013

## 400 yards passing: 408, Scott Rislav, San Jose State, 9/21/2002

## 300 yards passing: 371, Aidan O'Connell, Purdue, 10/31/2020

## 80+ yard pass play:

86, Minnesota (Tanner Morgan to Rashod Bateman), 11/3/2018

## 70+ yard pass play:

71, Michigan (Shea Patterson to Ronnie Bell), 10/12/2019

## 50+ yard pass play:

66, Rutgers (Noah Vedral to Bo Melton), 11/14/2020

## Non-QB with passing TD:

Nick Scott to Christian Hackenberg at Penn State, 10/31/2015

## 200 receiving yards: 246, Roy Roundtree, Michigan, 11/6/2010

## 150 receiving yards: 105, Makai Polk, California, 12/30/2019

## 100 receiving yards: 140, Bo Melton, Rutgers, 11/14/2020

## Two 100-yard receivers: David Bell (122), Milton Wright (100), Purdue, 10/31/2020

## 4 field goals: Keith Duncan, Iowa 11/23/2019

## Three 50+ yard field goals: Tim Douglas (51, 58, 51), Iowa, 9/26/1998

## Punt return for TD: K. Groeneweld (61 yards), Iowa, 11/17/2018

## Kickoff return for TD: J. Leake (97 yards), Maryland, 10/27/2018

## INT return for TD: Tyler Coyle (52 yards), at UConn, 9/7/2019

## Blocked punt for a TD: A.J. Epenesa (19 yards), Iowa, 11/17/2018

## Fumble recovery for TD:

Grant Marvin (4 yards), Purdue, 10/31/2020

## Safety: Team (tackle in end zone), Minnesota, 10/29/2016

## AN ILLINOIS TEAM HAD ...

## 80 points: 87 vs. Illinois Wesleyan (87-3), 10/5/1912

## 70 points: 79 vs. Illinois State (79-6), 9/16/1944

## 60 points: 65 at Michigan (65-67), 11/6/2010

## 50 points: 55 vs. Minnesota (55-31), 11/3/2018

## 40 points: 42 vs. Akron (42-3), 8/31/2019

## 30 points: 37 at Michigan State, 11/9/2019

## 0 points: Iowa (0-63), 11/17/2018

## 0 points in 1st half: vs. Iowa (0-35), 11/17/2018

## 0 points in 2nd half: at Wisconsin (7-45), 10/23/2020

## Did not score a touchdown: vs. Iowa (0-63), 11/17/2018

## 400 rushing yards: 430 vs. Minnesota, 11/3/2018

## 300 rushing yards: 341 at Rutgers, 11/14/2020

## 200 rushing yards: 341 at Rutgers, 11/14/2020

## Fewer than 100 rushing yards: 14 vs. Northwestern 11/30/2019

## Negative yards net rushing: -27 vs. Arizona, 9/18/1993

## Three 70+ yard runs: 3 (72, 72, 77) vs. Minnesota, 11/3/2018

## 400 passing yards: 450 vs. Purdue, 10/4/2014

## 300 passing yards: 369 at Michigan State, 11/9/2019

## Fewer than 100 passing yards: 87 at Wisconsin, 10/23/2020

## 4 TD catches by tight ends: 4 vs. Miami (Ohio), 9/28/2013

## 700 total net yards: 723 vs. Illinois-Normal, 9/16/1944

## 600 total net yards: 646 vs. Minnesota, 11/3/2018

## 500 total net yards: 509 at Nebraska, 11/10/2018

## 400 total net yards: 445 at Rutgers, 11/14/2020

## Fewer than 100 total net yards: 78 at Wisconsin, 10/8/1977

## Consecutive games, 500 total net yards:

at Minnesota (646, 11/11/2008), at Nebraska (509, 11/11/2008),

## Five field goals: 5 vs. Wisconsin, 10/20/2001

## Shut Out opponent: Western Illinois (44-0), 9/12/2015

## 9+ sacks in a game: 9 at Purdue, 11/3/2001

## 6+ sacks in a game: 6 vs. Akron, 8/31/2019

## 15+ TFL in a game: 15 vs. San Jose St., 9/21/2002

## 10+ TFL in a game: 10 vs. Rutgers, 11/2/2019

## Missed extra point kick: at Michigan State, 11/9/2019

## Successful two-point conversion: vs. Michigan, 10/12/2019

## 2 successful two-point conversions: at Ohio State (2), 11/3/2012

## Forced 5+ turnovers: 5 at Wisconsin, 10/20/2018

## Turned ball over 5+ times: 6 vs. Louisiana Tech, 9/22/2012

## 10+ passes broken up: 11 vs. Illinois State, 9/12/2009

## Blocked two kicks: 2 at South Florida, 9/15/2017

## Blocked two punts: 2 vs. Indiana, 10/23/2010

## Entire game without punting: vs. Miami (Ohio), 9/28/2013

## No penalties: vs. Arkansas State, 9/3/2011

## No turnovers: vs. Rutgers, 11/2/2019

## Back-to-back games with no turnovers:

at Purdue, 10/26/2019 and vs. Rutgers, 11/2/2019

## No sacks allowed: at Northwestern, 11/24/2018

## Back-to-back games with no sacks allowed:

vs. Michigan State, 11/5/2016 and at Wisconsin, 11/12/2016

## A successful on-side kick: vs. Penn State, 11/22/2014

## Overtime game: Loss vs. Purdue, 34-31 (OT), 10/8/2016

## Overtime game at home: Loss vs. Purdue, 34-31 (OT), 10/8/2016

## A game with a weather delay: at South Florida, 9/15/2017 (0:37 delay)

## A game was postponed: vs. Kent State, 9/4/2015 (2:50 delay)

Eventually postponed and played next day on 9/5/2015

## AN OPPOSING TEAM HAD ...

## 200 yards rushing: 325, vs. Minnesota, 11/7/2020

## 300 yards





# SMITH FOOTBALL CENTER



## The Standard of Excellence

*Opened in 2019, The Henry Dale and Betty Smith Football Center is a 107,650 square foot facility adjoining the south end of the Irwin Indoor Practice Facility. The facility features new and expanded strength and conditioning and sports medicine space, coaches' offices, position meeting rooms, player development areas, locker rooms, and other areas for recruiting and prospect hosting.*





GAME SUMMARIES

GAME 1	
ILLINOIS.....	7
WISCONSIN.....	45
OCT. 23, 2020	
CAMP RANDALL STADIUM // MADISON, WIS. // 0	

SCORING BY QUARTER

Team	1	2	3	4	F
Illinois	0	7	0	0	7
Wisconsin	7	21	0	17	45

SCORING SUMMARY

**First Quarter**  
WIS: Stokke 10 yd pass from Mertz (Larsh kick), 11:37 (6-33, 2:58)

Second Quarter

WIS: Ferguson 5 yd pass from Mertz (Larsh kick), 11:54 (14-88, 8:17)  
ILL: Barnes 39 yd fumble recovery (McCourt kick), 03:22  
WIS: Ferguson 14 yd pass from Mertz (Larsh kick), 01:06 (5-72, 2:10)  
WIS: Davis 53 yd pass from Mertz (Larsh kick), 00:28 (1-53, 0:08)

Fourth Quarter

WIS: Chenal 2 yd run (Larsh kick), 12:23 (10-66, 5:44)  
WIS: Ferguson 3 yd pass from Mertz (Larsh kick), 04:53 (11-74, 6:46)  
WIS: Larsh 19 yd fg, 00:56 (7-15)

TEAM STATISTICS

Category.....	ILL.....	WISCONSIN.....
First Downs.....	8.....	23
Rushes-Yards.....	25-131.....	54-182
Passing Yards.....	87.....	248
Comp-Att-Int.....	8-22-1.....	20-21-0
Total Yards.....	218.....	430
Punts-Avg.....	5-43.2.....	4-46.0
Kickoff Returns.....	6-89.....	2-28
Penalties-Yards.....	5-60.....	3-15
Fumbles-Lost.....	1-1.....	1-1
Sacks By.....	2-16.....	3-12
Third-down Conv.....	2-10.....	8-14
Time of Possession.....	16:32.....	43:28

INDIVIDUAL LEADERS

**RUSHING (Carries-Yards-TD):** WISCONSIN - Groshek 13-70-0, Wtason 19-62-0.  
ILL - Peters 7-75-0, Epstein 8-36-0, C. Brown 3-12-0.  
**PASSING (Comp-Att-Int-TD-Yds):** WISCONSIN - Mertz 20-21-0-248. ILL - Peters 8-19-0-0-87.  
**RECEIVING (Rec-Yards-TD):** WISCONSIN - Davis 2-72-1, Ferguson 7-72-3, Pryor 3-44-0.  
ILL - Imatorbhebe 3-26-0, Hightower 1-26-0, Epstein 1-22-0.  
**TACKLE LEADERS (Tackles, TFL-Yds):** WISCONSIN - Wilder 4, 0.0, 0, Chenal 4, 0.0, 0; Benton 4, 0.0, 0. ILL - Barnes 11, 1.5, 10; Hobbs 9, 2.0-3; S. Brown 9, 0.0-0.

GAME NOTES

- Illinois is 42-39-7 all-time against Wisconsin, including a 16-24-4 record in Madison.
- Illinois is 2-12 all-time against Wisconsin teams ranked in the AP Poll. Illinois beat No. 5 Wisconsin, 31-26, on 10/6/2007, and beat No. 6 Wisconsin, 24-23, on 10/19/2019.
- Illinois started an all-Illinois offensive line of LT Vederian Lowe,, LG Kendrick Green, C Doug Kramer, RG Verdis Brown, and RT Alex Palczewski
- Oct. 23 was the latest start date in Illinois football history. The previous latest start date was Oct. 19, 1907 (L, 42-6 vs. Chicago).
- Illinois started the season in October for the first time since Oct. 4, 1941, a 45-0 win over Miami (Ohio).
- Illinois played its second game ever without fans. Illinois' only previous game without fans was a 7-0 loss to Great Lakes on Oct. 12, 1918. The game was limited to players, coaches, and staff for health concerns during the 1918 Flu Pandemic.
- Five players made their first Illini career start - OL Verdis Brown, WR Brian Hightower, DE Marc Mondesir, DT Vederian Lowe (33rd), DB Nate Hobbs
- Illinois started six transfers - QB Brandon Peters, WR Brian Hightower, WR Josh Imatorbhebe, WR Donny Navarro, DL Roderick Perry II, DB Derrick Smith
- Eight of Illinois' 22 starters at Wisconsin have 20+ starts: OT Alex Palczewski (37th), C Doug Kramer (33rd), OT Vederian Lowe (33rd), DB Nate Hobbs (31st), OG Kendrick Green (26th), LB Jake Hansen (23rd), DB Sydney Brown (21st), DB Tony Adams (20th)
- Illinois captains: LB Jake Hansen, P Blake Hayes, CB Nate Hobbs, OL Doug Kramer, QB Brandon Peters

GAME 2	
PURDUE.....	31
ILLINOIS.....	24
OCT. 31, 2020	
MEMORIAL STADIUM // CHAMPAIGN, ILL. // 838	

SCORING BY QUARTER

Team	1	2	3	4	F
Purdue	7	10	14	0	31
Illinois	0	10	0	14	24

SCORING SUMMARY

**First Quarter**  
PUR: Horvath 1 yd run (Dellinger kick), 09:26 (5-80, 1:21)

Second Quarter

PUR: Wright 45 yd pass from O'Connell (Dellinger kick), 11:01 (7-91, 3:28)  
ILL: Epstein 7 yd run (Griffin kick), 04:46 (7-49, 2:32)  
PUR: Dellinger 36 yd field goal, 01:13 (8-51, 3:33)  
ILL: Griffin 28 yd field goal, 00:23 (6-69, 00:44)

Third Quarter

PUR: Bell 3 yd pass from O'Connell (Dellinger kick), 08:47 (4-23, 1:47)  
PUR: Grant 3 yd fumble recovery (Dellinger kick), 00:54

Fourth Quarter

ILL: Imatorbhebe 28 yd pass from Tylor (Griffin kick), 11:44 (8-75, 3:16)  
ILL: Hightower 9 yd pass from Taylor (Griffin kick), 06:36 (7-55, 2:44)

TEAM STATISTICS

Category.....	ILL.....	PURDUE.....
First Downs.....	27.....	26
Rushes-Yards.....	44-177.....	31-85
Passing Yards.....	295.....	371
Comp-Att-Int.....	20-33-2.....	29-35-0
Total Yards.....	472.....	456
Punts-Avg.....	2-41.5.....	3-32.7
Kickoff Returns.....	3-24.7.....	1-14.0
Penalties-Yards.....	7-75.....	11-103
Fumbles-Lost.....	3-2.....	3-2
Sacks By.....	4-33.....	2-12
Third-down Conv.....	4-13.....	5-11
Time of Possession.....	29:22.....	30:38

INDIVIDUAL LEADERS

**RUSHING (Carries-Yards-TD):** PURDUE - Horvath 22-102-1, Anderson. 1-8-0, O'Connell 5--21-0.  
ILL - C. Brown 11-73-0, Epstein 13-63-1, Taylor 17-32-0.  
**PASSING (Comp-Att-Int-TD-Yds):** PURDUE - O'Connell 29-35-0-371. ILL - Taylor 17-29-2-273.  
**RECEIVING (Rec-Yards-TD):** PURDUE - Bell 9-122-1, Wright 6-100-1, Durham 4-52-0.  
ILL - Hightower 4-97-1, Barker 5-74-0, J. Imatorbhebe 4-43-0, D. Imatorbhebe 2-43-1.  
**TACKLE LEADERS (Tackles, TFL-Yds):** PURDUE - Mitchell 11, 1.0-11, Barnes 8, 0.0, 0; Thienman 7, 0.0, 0. ILL - Hansen 14, 2.0, 3; Adams 9, 0.0-0; Witherspoon 9, 0.0-0.

GAME NOTES

- Illinois is 42-40-7 all-time against Purdue, including a 16-25-4 record at home.
- Illinois is 92-34-5 all-time in home-openers.
- Illinois is 10-8-1 all-time on Halloween.
- Illinois forced the Boilermakers to turn the ball over twice within their own five-yard line - one on downs and one on a forced fumble from Jer'Zhan Newton, with Jake Hansen recovering the ball.
- Illinois started an all-Illinois offensive line of LT Vederian Lowe (Rockford, Ill.), C Kendrick Green (Peoria, Ill.), RG Verdis Brown (Chicago, Ill.), RT Alex Palczewski (Mount Prospect, Ill.) and LG Alex Pihlstrom (Glen Ellyn, Ill.).
- Illinois started six transfers - RB Chase Brown , WR Brian Hightower, WR Josh Imatorbhebe, TE Luke Ford, WR Donny Navarro, DL Roderick Perry II,
- Seven of Illinois' 22 starters against Purdue have 20+ starts: OT Alex Palczewski (38th), OT Vederian Lowe (34rd), DB Nate Hobbs (32st), OG Kendrick Green (27th), LB Jake Hansen (24rd), DB Sydney Brown (22nd), DB Tony Adams (21st).
- Illinois captains: LB Jake Hansen, P Blake Hayes, CB Nate Hobbs, - other captians QB Brandon Peters and C Doug Kramer were out.
- Illinois senior quarterback Brandon Peters and redshirt freshman tight end Griffin Moore were both sidelined for 21 days following positive test results Thursday for the COVID-19 virus. Per Big Ten Conference protocol, following recovery both players will be eligible to return for the Nov. 21 game at Nebraska.

GAME 3	
MINNESOTA.....	41
ILLINOIS.....	14
NOV. 7, 2020	
MEMORIAL STADIUM // CHAMPAIGN, ILL. // 863	

SCORING BY QUARTER

Team	1	2	3	4	F
Minnesota	7	21	7	6	41
Illinois	0	7	0	7	14

SCORING SUMMARY

**First Quarter**  
MINN: Potts 9 yd run (Lantz kick), 03:29 (11-93, 4:24)

Second Quarter

MINN: Bateman 5 yd pass from Morgan (Lantz kick), 13:23 (6-61, 1:58)  
MINN: Ibrahim 1 yd run (Lantz kick), 08:09 (8-77, 4:08)  
ILL: Epstein 1 yd run (Griffin kick), 05:32 (6-83, 2:37)  
MINN: Ibrahim 2 yd run (Lantz kick), 00:24 (10-75, 5:08)

Third Quarter

MINN: Ibrahim 1 yd run (Lantz kick), 00:21 (7-71, 3:53)

Fourth Quarter

ILL: J. Imatorbhebe 52 yd pass from Taylor (Griffin kick), 11:30 (3-79, 0:54)  
MINN: Ibrahim 4 yd run (Lantz kick), 08:27 (5-62, 2:58)

TEAM STATISTICS

Category.....	ILL.....	MINNESOTA.....
First Downs.....	14.....	30
Rushes-Yards.....	36-181.....	47-325
Passing Yards.....	216.....	106
Comp-Att-Int.....	6-17-0.....	17-27-1
Total Yards.....	287.....	541
Punts-Avg.....	8-42.0.....	2-25.5
Kickoff Returns.....	3-17.7.....	1-27.0
Penalties-Yards.....	12-120.....	2-22
Fumbles-Lost.....	2-0.....	1-1
Sacks By.....	1-10.....	4-23
Third-down Conv.....	3-12.....	8-10
Time of Possession.....	22:25.....	37:35

INDIVIDUAL LEADERS

**RUSHING (Carries-Yards-TD):** MINNESOTA - Ibrahim 30-224-4, Wiley 9-57-0, Potts 3-49-1.  
ILL - Epstein 11-108-1, Taylor 19-42-0, C. Brown 4-31-0.  
**PASSING (Comp-Att-Int-TD-Yds):** MINNESOTA - Morgan 17-27-1-1216. ILL - Taylor 6-17-0-1106.  
**RECEIVING (Rec-Yards-TD):** MINNESOTA - Bateman 10-139-1, Ibrahim 2-31-0, Geary 1-18-0.  
ILL - J. Imatorbhebe 2-60-1, Barker 1-21-0, D. Imatorbhebe 1-11-0.  
**TACKLE LEADERS (Tackles, TFL-Yds):** MINNESOTA - Howden 6, 0.0-0.0, Mafe 6, 2.0-13; Nubin 5, 0.0, 0. ILL - Adams 11, 0.0, 0; Eifler 7, 0.5-0; Martin 7, 0.0-0.

GAME NOTES

- Illinois is 39-31-3 all-time against Minnesota, including a 19-16-1 record at home.
- Illinois started an all-Illinois offensive line of LT Vederian Lowe (Rockford, Ill.), C Kendrick Green (Peoria, Ill.), RG Verdis Brown (Chicago, Ill.), RT Alex Palczewski (Mount Prospect, Ill.) and LG Alex Pihlstrom (Glen Ellyn, Ill.).
- Illinois started six transfers - WR Brian Hightower, LB Milo Eifler, WR Josh Imatorbhebe, TE Daniel Imatorbhebe, DL Roderick Perry II, DB Derrick Smith
- Seven of Illinois' 22 starters against Minnesota have 20+ starts: OT Alex Palczewski (39th), OT Vederian Lowe (35th), OL Kendrick Green (28th), LB Jake Hansen (25rd), DB Sydney Brown (23rd), DB Tony Adams (22nd).
- Illinois captains: LB Jake Hansen, P Blake Hayes, CB Nate Hobbs - other captains QB Brandon Peters and C Doug Kramer were out.
- Sophomore QB Coran Taylor and freshman DL Jer'Zhan Newton made their first career starts.
- Senior P Blake Hayes moved into third all-time in career punting average with 10,004 yards. He trails Steve Fitts (10,671) and Justin DuVernois (10,571).
- Senior LB Jake Hansen had his 10th career forced fumble, his ninth in the last 12 games. He now trails only Simeon Rice and Whitney Mercilus for the most
- Jer'Zhan Newton became the first Illinois true freshman defensive lineman to start a game since Bobby Roundtree, Isaiah Gay, and Jamal Woods in 2017. He is the 18th true freshman to start a game on the defensive line in Illinois history. Some of the notables include Bobby Roundtree (2017), Corey Liuget (2008), Fred Wakefield (1997), and Mark Butkus (1980).



GAME SUMMARIES

GAME 4

ILLINOIS.....	23
RUTGERS .....	20

NOV. 14, 2020  
SHI STADIUM // PISCATAWAY, N.J. // 0

SCORING BY QUARTER

Team	1	2	3	4	F
Illinois	0	7	10	6	23
Rutgers	10	3	7	0	20

SCORING SUMMARY

First Quarter	
RU:	Melton 29 yd pass from Vedral (Ambrosio kick), 13:03 (6-75, 1:57)
RU:	Ambrosio 29 yd field goal, 04:33 (6-18, 3:19)
Second Quarter	
ILL:	Williams 3 yd run (McCourt kick), 13:45 (12-87, 5:48)
RU:	Ambrosio 26 yd field goal, 04:19 (9-75, 4:02)
Third Quarter	
ILL:	McCourt 24 yd field goal, 08:59 (12-69, 6:01)
RU:	Melton 66 yd pass from Vedral (Ambrosio kick), 07:43 (5-80, 1:10)
ILL:	Epstein 1 yd run (McCourt kick), 04:54 (6-60, 2:43)
Fourth Quarter	
ILL:	McCourt 23 yd field goal, 13:02 (12-57, 4:31)
ILL:	McCourt 47 yd field goal, 00:03 (6-25, 1:14)

TEAM STATISTICS

Category .....	ILL.....	RUTGERS
First Downs .....	23	19
Rushes-Yards.....	59-338	33-166
Passing Yards .....	104	256
Comp-Att-Int .....	7-18-0	21-34-3
Total Yards .....	445	422
Punts-Avg .....	4-46.0	4-45.5
Kickoff Returns.....	3-13.0	2-19.5
Penalties-Yards .....	4-40	7-56
Fumbles-Lost .....	2-1	0-0
Sacks By .....	1-3	1-1
Third-down Conv.....	7-16	4-14
Time of Possession .....	34:38	25:22

INDIVIDUAL LEADERS

RUSHING (Carries-Yards-TD): RUTGERS - Pacheco 21-138-0, Vedral 5-17-0, Adams 3-6-0.	
ILL - Williams 31-192-1, C. Brown 17-131-0, Epstein 10-18-1.	
PASSING (Comp-Att-INT-TD-Yds): RUTGERS - Vedral 21-34-3-2-256.	
ILL - Williams 7-18-0-0-104.	
RECEIVING (Rec-Yards-TD): RUTGERS - Melton 4-140-2, Washington 3-55-0, Young 2-18-0.	
ILL - Hobbs 2-36-0, Barker 1-22-0, , Washington 1-16-0.	
TACKLE LEADERS (Tackles, TFL-Yds): RUTGERS - Fogg 14, 0.0-0.0, Izien 11, 0.0-0; Fatukasi 9, 1.5, 2. ILL - Hansen 15, 1.0, 3; Tolson 10, 2.5-4; Hobbs 7, 0.0-0.	

GAME NOTES

- Illinois is 5-2 all-time against Rutgers, including a 3-1 record in New Jersey.
- Illinois has won three straight against Rutgers.
- Illinois forced 3+ Rutgers' turnovers for the fifth straight year.
- Illinois started an all-Illinois offensive line of LT **Vederian Lowe** (Rockford, Ill.), LG **Kendrick Green** (Peoria, Ill.) , C **Doug Kramer** (Hinsdale, Ill.) RG **Verdis Brown** (Chicago, Ill.), RT **Alex Palczewski** (Mount Prospect, Ill.) .
- Illinois started five transfers - RB **Chase Brown**, WR **Brian Hightower**, WR **Josh Imatorbhebhe**, WR **Donny Navarro**, DL **Roderick Perry II**,
- Seven of Illinois' 22 starters against Minnesota have 20+ starts: OT Alex Palczewski (**40th**), OT Vederian Lowe (**36th**), OL Kendrick Green (**29th**), LB Jake Hansen (**26th**), DB Sydney Brown (**24th**), CB Nate Hobbs (**33rd**), DB Tony Adams (**23rd**)
- Illinois captains: LB **Jake Hansen**, P **Blake Hayes**, CB **Nate Hobbs**, C **Doug Kramer** - other captain, QB **Brandon Peters** was out.
- Redshirt-Freshman QB **Isaiah Williams** and Sophomore LB **Tarique Barnes** made thier first career starts.
- QB **Isaiah William** rushed for an Illinois record 192 yards. The most single-game rushing yards by a quarterback.
- Isaiah Williams (192) and Chase Brown (131) ran for 100 yards. The last game Illinois had two rushers with over 100 yards vs. Minnesota, 11/3/2018 with RB Reggie Corbin (213) and QB A.J. Bush, Jr. (127)
- **Jer'Zhan Newton** is the 16th true freshman to start 2+ games on the defensive line in Illinois history.



## 2019 SEASON IN REVIEW

## 6-7 overall, 4-5 Big Ten (4th – West Division)

- **Bowling:** The Fighting Illini (6-7, 4-5 Big Ten), played in a bowl game for the first time since 2014, falling to California (7-6, 4-5 Pac-12) in the Redbox Bowl at Levi's Stadium in Santa Clara on Monday, Dec. 30, 2019.
- **It's Been A While:** The Illini did things in 2019 that have not been done at Illinois in years.
  - » Illinois won four Big Ten games in a single season for the first time since 2010 (4-4).
  - » Illinois won two Big Ten road games in a single season for the first time since 2010 when the Illini won at Penn State and beat Northwestern at Wrigley Field.
  - » Illinois won three road games in a single season for the first time since 2007 (Four games: at Syracuse, at Indiana, at Minnesota, at Ohio State).
- **Signature Wins:** Illinois had two of the most memorable wins in its 130-year history in 2019.
  - » The last-second 24-23 win over No. 6 Wisconsin on Oct. 19 marked the Fighting Illini's first victory over a top-10 team since beating No. 1 Ohio State 28-21 on 11/10/2007. It also snapped a string of 24 straight losses to AP-ranked opponents dating back to a 17-14 win over No. 22 Arizona State on Sept. 17, 2011.
  - » The 25-point comeback win at Michigan State on Nov. 9 was biggest comeback in program history, spanning 1,260 games. The previous mark was 20 points, which happened twice – at Michigan, 10/25/1999 (27-7 deficit), 35-29 and 20 points vs. Rutgers, 9/3/2005 (27-7 deficit), 33-30 OT.
- **Comeback Kids:** The Fighting Illini overcame double-digit deficits to win in the final seconds against both Wisconsin and Michigan State.
  - » In East Lansing Nov. 9, Illinois trailed 28-3 in the second quarter and 31-10 entering the fourth quarter, at which time ESPN's win probability calculator gave the Spartans a 99.6% chance to win. The 21-point deficit entering the fourth quarter is tied for the largest fourth-quarter comeback in a Big Ten game in the last 40 seasons (21 points, MSU at NW, 2006; 21 points, MICH at MIN, 2003).
  - » Against No. 6 Wisconsin on Oct. 19, Illinois trailed by as many as 13 points and faced a deficit of 23-14 with six minutes to play before rallying for a 24-23 victory on James McCourt's walk-off 39-yard field goal to complete the biggest upset in college football last season.
- **The Cannon Comes Home:** With an Oct. 26 victory at Purdue, the Fighting Illini claimed 'The Cannon' rivalry trophy for the first time since 2015. The Illini dominated from the start, especially defensively, to break a tie in the 95-year old series against the Boilermakers. Illinois now holds a 45-44-6 edge all-time against Purdue.
- **Back-to-back:** The wins over Wisconsin and Purdue in October gave the Illini wins in back-to-back Big Ten games in the same season for the first time since beating Penn State, 16-14, Nov. 22, 2014, and Northwestern, 47-33, Nov. 29, 2014, to end the 2014 season.
- **Fantastic Fourth:** Illinois scored 27 fourth-quarter points in the comeback win at Michigan State, the most by an opponent in the 96-year, 544-game history of Michigan State's Spartan Stadium and tied for the second-most allowed in a fourth quarter in Michigan State history (34 in October 1912 at Michigan). Illinois outscored Michigan State 27-3 in the fourth quarter to win 34-31.
- **Putting Up Points:** The Illini averaged 26.7 points per game in year two under OC Rod Smith. The Illini averaged 26.0 points per game in Smith's first season in 2018, up from 15.4 ppg in 2017.
  - » Illinois opened the season with four straight games scoring 30 or more points, which tied for the third-longest streak of 30+-point games in program history and the first since a program-record seven-game streak to end the 2001 season (includes Sugar Bowl).
- **Defensive Improvement:** The Illinois defense, directed by head coach/defensive coordinator **Lovie Smith**, made huge improvements in 2019, making huge jumps in the national rankings from 2018 to 2019 in several key defensive categories.

## ILLINOIS DEFENSIVE IMPROVEMENT IN 2019

Category	2018 (FBS Rank)	2019 (FBS Rank)	Improvement	Nat'l Rk Diff.
Fumbles Recovered (total)	5 (113)	16 (2)	+11	+111
Forced Fumbles (total)	8 (92)	18 (4)	+10	+88
Turnover Margin (average)	-0.33 (90)	+0.77 (12)	+1.00	+78
Passing Defense (ypg)	263.1 (114)	212.9 (45)	-50.2	+69
TFLs (per game)	5.4 (88)	7.5 (15)	+2.1	+73
Scoring Defense (ppg)	39.4 (123)	26.2 (54)	-13.2	+69
Takeaways (total)	20 (56)	28 (4)	+8	+52
Total Defense (ypg)	508.3 (127)	408.5 (77)	-99.8	+50

- **NCAA Stats:** Lovie Smith's Fighting Illini finished in the top-25 in eight statistical categories (out of 130 FBS teams), including an FBS-best six defensive touchdowns. The Illini also finished in the top-five as a team in fumbles recovered (2nd), fumbles forced (2nd), turnovers gained (4th) and kickoff return defense (4th). Individually, LB Jake Hansen led nation in forced fumbles (7) despite missing the final four games of the season, while LB Dele Harding (11.8 tackles per game) and Stanley Green (4 FR) ranked second in the nation in tackles and fumble recoveries, respectively.

## » 2019 Top-15 FBS Stat Rankings (Team)

- 1st – Defensive Touchdowns (6)
- 2nd – Fumbles Recovered (16)
- 2nd – Fumbles Forced (18)
- 4th – Turnovers Gained (28)
- 4th – Kickoff Return Defense (16.33 ypr)
- 12th – Turnover Margin (+0.77 per game)
- 15th – Tackles for Loss (7.5 TFLs per game)

## » 2019 Top-10 FBS Stat Rankings (Individual)

- 1st – Jake Hansen - Fumbles Forced (7)
- 2nd – Dele Harding - Tackles (11.8 per game)
- 2nd – Stanley Green - Fumbles Recovered (4)
- 6th – Jake Hansen - Fumbles Recovered (3)

## 2019 ILLINOIS RESULTS

Aug. 31	..... Akron	..... W, 42-3
Sept. 7	..... at UConn	..... W, 31-23
Sept. 14	..... Eastern Michigan	..... L, 31-34
Sept. 21	..... Nebraska	..... L, 38-42
Oct. 5	..... at Minnesota	..... L, 17-40
Oct. 12	..... #16/16 Michigan	..... L, 25-42
Oct. 19	..... #6/6 Wisconsin	..... W, 24-23
Oct. 26	..... at Purdue	..... W, 24-6
Nov. 2	..... Rutgers	..... W, 38-10
Nov. 9	..... at Michigan State	..... W, 37-24
Nov. 23	..... at #17/19/20 Iowa	..... L, 10-19
Nov. 30	..... Northwestern	..... L, 10-29
Dec. 30	..... California (Redbox Bowl)	..... L, 20-35

Rankings are AP/Coaches poll week of game prior to November.  
CFP/AP/Coaches from November on.



6 TONY ADAMS

DB, 6-0, 205, SR.  
BELLEVILLE, ILL. / ST. LOUIS UNIVERSITY HS

2020 Senior:  
» Starting defensive back

2019 Junior:  
» Played and started 10 games at defensive back  
» Missed three games with injuries  
» 39 tackles, 3.0 TFLs, two interceptions on the season  
» First Illini with interceptions in back-to-back Big Ten games since Vontae Davis and Kevin Mitchell both did it against Penn State and Wisconsin in 2007  
» Interception returned 13 yards for a touchdown at Purdue 10/26/19, the first touchdown of his career  
» Fourth-quarter interception vs. No. 6 Wisconsin 10/19/19 led to Illinois' game-winning field goal in one of the biggest upsets in Big Ten history  
» Career-high 2.0 TFLs at UConn before leaving the game with an injury in the second half

2018 Sophomore:  
» Played eight games with seven total starts, five starts at safety and two starts at corner  
» Switched from corner to safety during the season  
» 43 tackles, 3.5 TFLs, 1.0 sack, 4 PBUs and 1 INT on the season  
» Third on team in PBUs (4) and sixth in tackles (43)  
» Second career interception at Nebraska 11/10/18  
» Career highs in tackles (10), TFLs (1.0), sacks (1.0) and PBUs (3) against Minnesota 11/3/18  
» Missed four games with injuries  
» Academic All-Big Ten

2017 Freshman:  
» Played in five games with two starts at cornerback  
» Missed the last seven games with an injury  
» Eight tackles, 1.0 TFL, 1.0 sack, one interception on season  
» Played both corner and nickel  
» First career interception and sack at South Florida  
» Career-high four tackles against Ball State  
» First Illini true freshman cornerback to start the season opener since Vontae Davis in 2006 against Eastern Illinois

High School:  
» Three-star recruit by 247Sports, Rivals, ESPN and Scout  
» Ranked No. 81 defensive back in the nation by Scout  
» Ranked No. 130 WR in nation by 247Sports  
» Ranked No. 6 recruit in Missouri by 247Sports, No. 7 by ESPN and No. 10 by Rivals  
» High school coach was Gary Kornfeld

Personal:  
» Born Jan. 24, 1999  
» Majoring in political science

CAREER HIGHS  
Tackles: 12 vs. Nebraska, 9/21/19  
TFLs: 2.0 at UConn, 9/7/19  
Sacks: 1.0, twice (last vs. Minnesota, 11/3/18)  
PBUs: 3 vs. Minnesota, 11/3/18  
Interception: 1, four times (last at Purdue, 10/26/19)  
Interception Return Yards: 13 at Purdue, 10/26/19  
Touchdowns: 1 at Purdue, 10/26/19

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	G	UA	A	TOT	TFL	YDS	PD	FF	FR	BLK	QBH
2017	5	4	4	8	1.0	1	1	0	0	0	0
2018	8	29	14	43	3.5	10	5	0	0	0	0
2019	10	29	10	39	3.0	6	3	0	0	0	0
2020	4	14	14	28	0.0	0	1	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	27	76	42	118	7.5	17	10	0	0	0	0

INTERCEPTION STATISTICS

YEAR	G	INT	YDS	TD	LG	AVG/R	AVG/G
2017	5	1	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
2018	8	1	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
2019	10	2	13	1	13	6.5	1.3
2020	4	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL	27	4	13	1	13	3.2	0.5

SACKS STATISTICS

YEAR	G	UA	A	TOTAL	YDS
2017	5	1	0	1.0	1
2018	8	1	0	1.0	1
2019	10	0	0	0.0	0
2020	4	0	0	0.0	0
TOTAL	27	2	0	2.0	2

DEFENSIVE GAME-BY-GAME

2020	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
@WIS	3	3	6	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
PUR	3	6	9	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
MIN	6	5	11	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	1
@RUT	2	0	2	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@NEB										
OSU										
IOWA										
@NW										

2019	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
AKRON	1	1	2	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@UCONN	5	0	5	2.0-4	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
EMU				DNP - Injured						
NEB	11	1	12	1.0-2	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	1
@MIN	3	3	6	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
MICH	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
WIS	2	1	3	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	1-0	0	0
@PUR	2	2	4	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	1-13	0	0
RUT	0	1	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@MSU	4	1	5	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@IOWA	1	0	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
NW				DNP - Injured						
vs. CAL				DNP - Injured						

2018	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
KENT ST				DNP - Injured						
WIU				DNP - Injured						
USF	3	3	6	1.0-1	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	1
PENN ST	1	0	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@RUT	5	1	6	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
PUR	2	0	2	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@WIS				DNP - Injured						
@MD				DNP - Injured						
MINN	5	5	10	1.0-1	1.0-1	0	0-0	0-0	0	3
@NEB	5	4	9	0.5-1	0.0-0	0	0-0	1-0	0	0
IOWA	3	1	4	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@NW	5	0	5	1.0-7	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0

2017	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
BALL ST	2	2	4	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
WKU	0	1	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@USF	1	0	1	1.0-1	1.0-1	0	0-0	1-0	0	0
NEB	0	1	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@IOWA	1	0	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
RUT				DNP - Injured						
@MIN				DNP - Injured						
WIS				DNP - Injured						
@PUR				DNP - Injured						
IND				DNP - Injured						
@OSU				DNP - Injured						
NW				DNP - Injured						

93 CALVIN AVERY

DL, 6-2, 340, JR.  
DALLAS, TEXAS. / BISHOP DUNNE

2020 Junior:  
» Backup defensive lineman

2019 Sophomore:  
» Played in 12 games at defensive tackle  
» Eight tackles, 1.0 TFL, one blocked kick on the season  
» Blocked extra point against Nebraska 9/21/19

2018 Freshman:  
» Played all 12 games  
» 18 tackles, 1.5 TFLs and one blocked kick on the season  
» Made Illinois debut in season opener vs. Kent State 9/1/18  
» First career tackle against Penn State 9/21/18  
» Blocked extra point against Purdue 10/13/18

High School:  
» Four-star recruit by 247Sports, ESPN and Rivals  
» Ranked No. 156 recruit in the nation by Rivals, No. 232 by ESPN and No. 299 by 247Sports  
» Ranked No. 9 defensive tackle in the nation by Rivals, No. 16 by ESPN and No. 23 by 247Sports  
» Ranked No. 34 recruit in Texas by 247Sports

» Ranked No. 7 recruit in the Dallas-Fort Worth area by the Star-Telegram  
» 2017 Under Armour All-America Game participant  
» 2017 US Army All-American Game invitation  
» 68 tackles, 12 sacks as a junior  
» 2017 3A Texas Associated Press Sports Editors All-State  
» 2017 Texas Assn. of Private and Parochial Schools All-State  
» Verbally committed to Illinois in August 2017  
» Offers included Arizona State, Arkansas, Cal, Colorado, Florida State, Indiana, Missouri, Nebraska, Notre Dame, Oklahoma, Oklahoma State, Oregon State, TCU, Texas, Texas A&M, Texas Tech, USC and Washington

Personal:  
» Born Sept. 4, 1999  
» Enrolled in general curriculum

CAREER HIGHS  
Tackles: 4 vs. Minnesota, 11/3/18  
TFLs: 1.0, twice (last vs. Rutgers, 11/2/2019)  
Sacks: 1.0 vs. Rutgers, 11/2/2019  
Blocked Kicks: 1, twice (last vs. Nebraska, 9/21/19)

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	G	UA	A	TOT	TFL	YDS	PD	FF	FR	BLK	QBH
2018	12	6	12	18	1.5	4	0	0	0	1	0
2019	12	2	6	8	1.0	4	0	0	0	1	0
2020	3	1	2	3	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	27	9	20	29	2.5	8	0	0	0	2	0

SACKS STATISTICS

YEAR	G	UA	A	TOTAL	YDS
2018	12	0	0	0.0	0
2019	12	1	0	1.0	4
2020	3	0	0	0.0	0
TOTAL	27	1	0	1.0	4

DEFENSIVE GAME-BY-GAME

2020	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
@WIS	1	0	1	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
PUR	0	1	1	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
MIN	0	1	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@RUT				DNP - Injured						
@NEB										
OSU										
IOWA										
@NW										

2019	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
AKRON	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@UCONN				DNP						
EMU	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
NEB	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@MIN	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
MICH	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
WIS	0	3	3	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@PUR	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
RUT	2	0	2	1.0-4	1.0-4	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@MSU	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@IOWA	0	1	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
NW	0	2	2	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
vs. CAL	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0

2018	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
KENT ST	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
WIU	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
USF	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
PENN ST	1	1	2	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@RUT	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
PUR	1	2	3	1.0-2	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@WIS	0	1	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@MD	0	1	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
MINN	2	2	4	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@NEB	1	1	2	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
IOWA	1	1	2	0.5-2	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@NW	0	3	3	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0

87 DANIEL BARKER

TE, 6-4, 250, JR.  
FORT LAUDERDALE, FLA. / DEERFIELD BEACH

2020 Junior:  
» Part of the tight end rotation

2019 Sophomore:  
» Played in all 13 games and started eight at tight end  
» 18 receptions, 273 receiving yards, four touchdowns on the season  
» 25th in the Big Ten in receiving touchdowns (4)





- » Second on the team in receiving touchdowns (4) and third in receiving yards (273)
- » Game-winning last-second touchdown catch at Michigan State 11/9/19 to help Illinois finish the biggest comeback in program history in 37-34 win
- » Three receptions for 37 yards vs. No. 6 Wisconsin 10/19/19 to help Illinois win 24-23 and complete one of the biggest upsets in Big Ten history
- » Career-highs in receptions (4, tied), receiving yards (90), and long reception (52) against Eastern Michigan 9/14/19
- » Caught a touchdown at UConn 9/7/19, his second straight game with a TD to start the season

2018 Freshman:

- » Played all 12 games with three starts at tight end
- » Sixth-most starts at TE by a true freshman in Illinois history
- » Nine receptions for 84 yards and one touchdown on season
- » First career touchdown against Minnesota 11/3/18 on a career-long 30-yard reception
- » First career reception against South Florida 9/15/18
- » First career start in season opener against Kent State 9/1/18
- » Second true freshman tight end to start a season opener in program history, joining Evan Wilson in 2010

High School:

- » Three-star recruit by 247Sports, ESPN and Rivals
- » Ranked No. 66 tight end in the nation by 247Sports
- » Ranked No. 237 recruit in Florida by 247Sports
- » 2017 Sun Sentinel honorable mention
- » High school teammate of fellow Illini Jakari Norwood
- » Verbally committed to Illinois in July 2017
- » Offers included Kentucky, Pittsburg, FIU, FAU, Marshall, Southern Miss, Toledo, UAB and UCF

Personal:

- » Born Sept. 23, 1999
- » Enrolled in general curriculum

CAREER HIGHS

Receptions: 5 vs. Purdue, 10/31/20  
Receiving Yards: 90 vs. Eastern Michigan, 9/14/19  
Long Reception: 52 vs. Eastern Michigan, 9/14/19  
Receiving Touchdowns: 1, three times (last at Michigan State, 11/9/19)  
All-Purpose Yards: 90 vs. Eastern Michigan, 9/14/19

RECEIVING STATISTICS

YEAR	G	REC	YDS	TD	LG	REC/G	AVG/C	AVG/G
2018	12	9	84	1	30	0.8	9.3	7.0
2019	13	18	273	4	52	1.4	15.2	21.0
2020	4	9	132	0	22	2.2	14.7	33.0
TOTAL	29	36	489	5	52	1.2	13.6	16.9

RUSHING/RECEIVING GAME-BY-GAME

2020	CAR	YDS	TD	LG	REC	YDS	TD	LG
@WIS	0	0	0	0	2	15	0	9
PUR	0	0	0	0	5	74	0	21
MIN	0	0	0	0	1	21	0	21
@RUT	0	0	0	0	1	22	0	22

@NEB  
OSU  
IOWA  
@NW

2019	CAR	YDS	TD	LG	REC	YDS	TD	LG
AKRON	0	0	0	0	1	2	1	2
@UCONN	0	0	0	0	2	44	1	26
EMU	0	0	0	0	4	90	0	52
NEB	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
@MIN	0	0	0	0	2	15	0	11
MICH	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
WIS	0	0	0	0	3	37	0	19
@PUR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
RUT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
@MSU	0	0	0	0	2	21	1	16
@IOWA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NW	0	0	0	0	1	9	0	9
vs. CAL	0	0	0	0	3	55	1	40

2018	CAR	YDS	TD	LG	REC	YDS	TD	LG
KENT ST	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
WIU	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
USF	0	0	0	0	4	30	0	11
PENN ST	0	0	0	0	3	19	0	20
@RUT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PUR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
@WIS	0	0	0	0	1	5	0	5
@MD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MINN	0	0	0	0	1	30	1	30

@NEB	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
IOWA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
@NW	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

## 48 BRYCE BARNES

DL, 6-2, 270, SO.

GIBSON CITY, ILL. / GIBSON CITY-MELVIN-SIBLEY

2020 Sophomore:

- » Plays primarily on special teams

2019 Freshman:

- » Played in all 13 games, primarily on special teams
- » Made Illinois debut in the season opener against Akron

High School:

- » Champaign News-Gazette 2018-19 Male Athlete of the Year
- » Helped lead GCMS to back-to-back IHSA Class 2A State Championships in 2017 and '18
- » Played for head coach Mike Allen at GCMS
- » Also played basketball at GCMS, scoring over 1,000 career points and
- » Helping basketball team to third place at IHSA 2A state finals

Personal:

- » Born Aug. 18, 2000
- » Picked Illinois because, "it is a top University and earning a degree from this school will be my ticket to any job I would like to get in the future."
- » Majoring in community health

## 44 TARIQUE BARNES

LB, 6-1, 230, SO.

MEMPHIS, TENN. / CORDOVA

Pronunciation: ta-REEK

2020 Sophomore:

- » Made first career start at Rutgers 11/14/20
- » First career fumble recovery, touchdown, and sack at Wisconsin 10/23/20

2019 Freshman:

- » Played in all 13 games, primarily on special teams
- » 13 tackles, one forced fumble on the season
- » Tied for the team lead in kickoff tackles (4)
- » Second on the team in special teams tackles (8)
- » Second on the team in punt return tackles (4)
- » Career-high four tackles at Michigan State 11/9/19 to help Illinois win 37-34 in the biggest comeback in program history
- » First career forced fumble at UConn 9/7/19 on kickoff coverage
- » Made Illinois debut in the season opener against Akron

High School:

- » Played for head coach Marcus Wimberly at Cordova
- » Led Cordova to the 2017 Tennessee 4A state title
- » Also wrestled and participated in track and field in high school
- » Principals List
- » Honor Roll

Personal:

- » Born Nov. 23, 2000
- » Son of Darlene Shinault and Melvin Barnes
- » Four brothers, Tyler, Justyn, Meltavious, and Darriion
- » Picked Illinois because, "I felt that it would give me a good opportunity to grow and excel after college."
- » Enrolled in general curriculum

CAREER HIGHS

Tackles: 11 at Wisconsin, 10/23/20  
Sacks: 1.0 at Wisconsin, 10/23/20  
TFL: 1.5 at Wisconsin, 10/23/20  
Fumbles Forced: 1 at UConn, 9/7/19  
Fumbles Recovered: 1 at Wisconsin, 10/23/20

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	G	UA	A	TOT	TFL	YDS	PD	FF	FR	BLK	QBH
2019	13	8	5	13	0.0	0	0	1	0	0	0
2020	4	9	8	17	1.5	10	0	0	1	0	0
TOTAL	17	17	13	30	1.5	10	0	1	1	0	0

DEFENSIVE GAME-BY-GAME

2020	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
@WIS	7	4	11	1.0-9	1.5-10	0	1-39	0-0	0	0
PUR	0	1	1	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
MIN	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@RUT	2	4	6	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0

@NEB  
OSU  
IOWA  
@NW

2019	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
AKRON	0	2	2	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@UCONN	1	1	2	0.0-0	0.0-0	1	0-0	0-0	0	0
EMU	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
NEB	1	0	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@MIN	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
MICH	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
WIS	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@PUR	1	0	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
RUT	1	0	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@MSU	2	2	4	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@IOWA	1	0	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
NW	1	0	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
vs. CAL	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0

## 3 MARQUEZ BEASON

DB, 5-11, 195, R-FR.

DALLAS, TEXAS / DUNCANVILLE

Pronunciation: mar-KEZ

2020 Redshirt Freshman:

- » Backup defensive back
- » Mayo Clinic Comeback Player of the Year watch list

2019 Freshman:

- » Missed the season after suffering a knee injury during training camp

High School:

- » Four-star recruit by 247Sports, Rivals and ESPN
- » Ranked No. 91 recruit in the nation by ESPN, No. 108 by 247Sports and No. 108 by Rivals
- » Ranked No. 4 athlete in the nation by 247Sports and No. 12 by Rivals
- » Ranked No. 11 cornerback in the nation by ESPN
- » Ranked No. 14 recruit in Texas by Rivals and ESPN and No. 15 by 247Sports
- » No. 8 recruit in Illinois' last 17 years according to 247Sports
- » Beason and Isaiah Williams are Illinois' two highest ranked recruits since Terry Hawthorne in 2009 and the highest combo since Arrelious Benn and Martez Wilson in 2007
- » Ranked as high as No. 54 overall recruit in the nation in March 2018 according to 247Sports Composite
- » Four-year letterwinner in football
- » Played for head coach Reginald Samples at Duncanville
- » 2019 Under Armour All-American selection
- » 2018 The Opening Finals participant
- » 2019 Polynesian Bowl All-Star
- » Led Duncanville to the 2018 6A Division 1 state title runner-up finish at AT&T Stadium in Arlington, Texas and a 14-1 record
- » Helped Duncanville upset USA Today's No. 1-ranked team in the country, Allen, in the 2018 6A Division 1 state semifinals at AT&T Stadium in Arlington, Texas
- » Played defense and offense in high school
- » 207 receiving yards and two TDs on 11 receptions as a senior
- » 520 receiving yards and eight touchdowns on 35 receptions as a junior
- » 320 rushing yards and four touchdowns on 36 carries as a junior
- » Also ran track in high school with a personal best 10.46 in the 100-meter dash
- » Verbally committed to Illinois in March 2018





» Offers included Arizona, Arizona State, Arkansas, Baylor, Colorado, Florida, Florida State, Georgia, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kansas State, Louisville, LSU, Michigan, Michigan State, Mississippi State, Missouri, Nebraska, Notre Dame, Ohio State, Oklahoma, Oklahoma State, Ole Miss, Oregon, Oregon State, Purdue, Rutgers, TCU, Tennessee, Texas, Texas A&M, Texas Tech, UCF, USC, Utah, Washington, Washington State, and Wisconsin

Personal:

- » Born April 6, 2001
- » Son of Ketra and Archie Beason
- » One brother, Zeriaah, one sister, Rayshauna
- » Nicknamed “ezmoneyquez” and “playstation”
- » Chose No. 3 because he is the youngest of three
- » Picked Illinois because of the, “family environment and great coaches.”
- » Enrolled in general curriculum with plans to major in communication
- » Plans to become a sports analyst following his playing career

CAREER HIGHS

Tackles: 2 at Wisconsin, 10/23/20

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	G	UA	A	TOT	TFL	YDS	PD	FF	FR	BLK	QBH
2020	3	1	1	2	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	3	1	1	2	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0

DEFENSIVE GAME-BY-GAME

2020	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
@WIS	1	1	2	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
PUR	0	0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
MIN					DNP					
@RUT	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@NEB										
OSU										
IOWA										
@NW										

16 JOSH BEETHAM

QB, 6-5, 235, FR.

YORKVILLE, ILL. / YORKVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

High School:

- » Named All-Conference and All-Area his junior and senior seasons
- » Named All-State honorable mention 2019
- » Played basketball and named All-Conference and All-Area
- » Honor roll and member of the National Honor society

Personal:

- » Son of Brad and Jeni Beetham
- » Born June 29, 2001
- » Two sisters, Madi and Addi, and two brothers, Jake and Jack
- » Majoring in recreation, sport, and tourism

83 JOHN BICKEL

WR, 5-9, 170, FR.

TINLEY PARK, ILL / PROSPER HIGH SCHOOL

High School:

- » Named All-Conference senior year
- » 2019 Defensive player of the year
- » 2019 Offensive player of the year
- » Named All-State for track and field in 100m and 4x100m

Personal:

- » Son of John and Lynn Bickel
- » Younger brother, Shane
- » Majoring in kinesiology
- » Chose Illinois because of “great academics and the coaches made me feel wanted here.”
- » Wants to be physical therapist

29 CHRISTIAN BOBAK

DB, 6-0, 200, SR.

HINSDALE, ILL. / HINSDALE CENTRAL

Pronunciation: bo-BACK

2020 Senior:

- » Plays primarily on special teams

2019 Junior:

- » Played in all 13 games, primarily on special teams
- » Three tackles on the season

2018 Sophomore:

- » Played all 12 games, primarily on special teams
- » Nine tackles on season
- » Career-high two tackles three times (WIU, Penn State, Maryland)
- » Spent most of his first two seasons as a running back before moving to the defensive backfield late in the 2017 season
- » Academic All-Big Ten

2017 Redshirt Freshman:

- » Walkon played in all 12 games, primarily on special teams
- » Practiced as both a running back and as a safety at different points in the season
- » Three tackles on season
- » Made Fighting Illini debut in the opener against Ball State
- » First career carry in the season finale vs. Northwestern
- » Academic All-Big Ten

2016 Freshman:

- » Member of UI squad
- » Joined team as a walkon in summer 2016

High School:

- » 2015 West Suburban Conference All-Silver Division
- » Rushed for 1,133 yards and 12 TDs as senior to earn Team MVP and *Suburban Life* All-Area
- » Averaged 125.9 rushing yards per game a senior
- » Six 100-yard games a senior, including two 230+ yard games
- » Zero fumbles in 149 carries as a senior
- » Rushed for 374 yards on 77 carries as a junior
- » Averaged 6.7 yards per rush during his high school career
- » Led Hinsdale Central to a 7-3 record & state playoffs as senior
- » Played for head coach Dan Hartman at Hinsdale Central
- » Also ran track (three years) and played hockey (two years) in high school
- » Qualified for the state track meet and was team captain

Personal:

- » Born May 30, 1998
- » Full name is Christian Francis Bobak
- » Son of Stan and Stella Bobak
- » Has two brothers, Dominic and Matthew
- » Brother, Matthew, plays football at Illinois
- » Illinois State Scholar and Honor Roll student in high school
- » Lists Michael Jordan as favorite athlete because “his work ethic and success are models for the mindset I want to emulate.”
- » Graduated with an undergraduate degree in finance
- » Enrolled in the technology management master’s program

CAREER HIGHS

Carries: 1 vs. Northwestern, 11/25/17  
Rushing Yards: -1 vs. Northwestern, 11/25/17  
Long Run: -1 vs. Northwestern, 11/25/17  
Kick Returns: 1, five times (last at Northwestern, 11/24/18)  
Kick Return Yards: 15 at Northwestern, 11/24/18  
Long Kick Return: 15 at Northwestern, 11/24/18  
All-Purpose Yards: 15 at Northwestern, 11/24/18  
Tackles: 2, three times (last at Maryland, 10/27/18)

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	G	UA	A	TOT	TFL	YDS	PD	FF	FR	BLK	QBH
2017	12	2	1	3	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2018	12	6	3	9	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2019	13	2	1	3	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2020	1	0	1	1	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	38	10	6	16	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0

DEFENSIVE GAME-BY-GAME

2020	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
@WIS	0	1	1	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
PUR	0	0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
MIN										
@RUT										
@NEB										
OSU										
IOWA										
@NW										

2019	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
AKRON	0	1	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@UCONN	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
EMU	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
NEB	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@MIN	1	0	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
MICH	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
WIS	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@PUR	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
RUT	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@MSU	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@IOWA	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
NW	1	0	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
vs. CAL	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0

2018	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
KENT ST	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
WIU	1	1	2	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
USF	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
PENN ST	1	1	2	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@RUT	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
PUR	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@WIS	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@MD	1	1	2	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
MINN	1	0	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@NEB	1	0	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
IOWA	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@NW	1	0	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0

2017	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
BALL ST	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
WKU	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@USF	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
NEB	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@IOWA	1	0	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
RUT	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@MIN	0	1	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
WIS	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@PUR	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
IND	1	0	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@OSU	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
NW	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0

27 MATT BOBAK

RB, 5-11, 185, FR.

HINSDALE, ILL. / HINSDALE CENTRAL

High School:

- » Three-year letterwinner
- » 2018 All-West Suburban Conference
- » 2018 All-Area Honorable Mention
- » 2018 Hinsdale Centrall MVP
- » School record three touchdowns in a single playoff game
- » 2018 team rushing and scoring leader
- » Rushed for 1,132 yards and 11 touchdowns as a senior
- » Averaged 103 rushing yards per game as a senior
- » Averaged 5.4 yards per rush during his high school career
- » Led Hinsdale Central to a 8-3 record and state playoffs as a senior
- » Hinsdale Central Athlete of the Month October 2018
- » Also ran track and qualified for the state track meet
- » Honor Roll student

Personal:

- » Born February 16, 2001
- » Son of Stan and Stella Bobak
- » Has two brothers, Dominic and Christian
- » Brother, Christian, plays football at Illinois
- » Majoring in community health
- » Plans to attend med school
- » Plays the violin and guitar
- » Chose Illinois because, “Illinois has always been my dream school and I had a great opportunity to play on the same team as my brother Christian.”



2 CHASE BROWN

RB, 5-11, 195, R-SO.  
LONDON, ONTARIO / ST. STEPHENS EPISCOPAL (FLA.) / WMU

2020 Redshirt Sophomore:

- » Part of the running back rotation
- » Ran for a career high 131 yards on 17 carries at Rutgers 11/14/20
- » Carried the ball 11 times for 73 yards in his first start for Illinois against Purdue 10/31/20

2019 Sophomore:

- » Played in four games and redshirted the season
- » Three carries for 18 rushing yards on the season
- » Made his Illinois debut against Michigan 10/12/19
- » Granted a waiver on appeal to become immediately eligible to play in 2019, starting with the Michigan game 10/12/19
- » Transferred to Illinois with three years of eligibility remaining

2019 Freshman (Western Michigan):

- » Played in all 13 games
- » Season-high 15 carries and 52 rushing yards against Ohio 11/1/18
- » 71 carries for 352 yards (5.0 ypr), 10 rec. for 75 yards (7.5 ypc) and 12 kickoff returns for 227 yards (18.9 ypr) on season

High School:

- » Three-star recruit by 247Sports Composite
- » No. 59 running back in the nation by 247Sports Composite
- » No. 144 recruit in Florida by 247Sports Composite
- » State champion and leading rusher in Manatee County
- » 2017 Offensive MVP, first team all-conference and second team all-state
- » School's all-time leading rusher, as a senior
- » 1,508 yards on 98 carries (15.9 yards/carry) and 150 yards per game with 27 touchdowns
- » Anchored the state champion 400-meter relay in track and field and holds school record in the 100-meter dash
- » Offers included Purdue, UCF, Syracuse, Illinois, Ole Miss, Indiana, Tulane and Wake Forest

Personal:

- » Born March 21, 2000
- » Son of Darren Issac and Raechel Brown
- » Twin brother, Sydney and one sister, Mya
- » Brother, Sydney, also plays football at Illinois
- » Father played in CFL for three seasons
- » Mother was a figure skater
- » Majoring in communication

CAREER HIGHS (ILLINOIS)

Rush attempts: 17, at Rutgers 11/14/20  
Rush yards: 131, at Rutgers 11/14/20  
Long rush: 39, at Rutgers 11/14/20  
Receptions: 1, twice (last vs. Purdue 10/31/20)  
Receiving yards: 5, Purdue 10/31/20  
Long reception: 5, Purdue 10/31/20  
All-purpose yards: 131, at Rutgers 11/14/20  
Kick returns: 4, at Wisconsin 10/23/20  
Kick return yards: 62, at Wisconsin 10/23/20  
Long kick return: 20, at Wisconsin 10/23/20

RUSHING STATISTICS

YEAR	G	ATT	YDS	TD	LG	AVG/C	AVG/G
2019	4	3	18	0	14	6.0	4.5
2020	4	35	247	0	39	7.1	61.8
TOTAL	8	38	265	0	39	7.0	33.1

RECEIVING STATISTICS

YEAR	G	REC	YDS	TD	LG	REC/G	AVG/C	AVG/G
2019	4	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
2020	4	2	3	0	5	0.5	1.5	0.8
TOTAL	8	2	3	0	5	0.2	1.5	0.4

KICK RETURN STATISTICS

YEAR	G	NO.	YDS	TD	LG	AVG/R	AVG/G
2019	4	1	15	0	15	15.0	3.8
2020	3	4	62	0	20	15.5	20.7
TOTAL	7	5	77	0	20	15.4	11.0

RUSHING/RECEIVING GAME-BY-GAME

2020	CAR	YDS	TD	LG	REC	YDS	TD	LG
@WIS	3	12	0	12	1	-2	0	0

PUR	11	73	0	30	1	5	0	5
MIN	4	31	0	16	0	0	0	0
@RUT	17	131	0	39	0	0	0	0
@NEB								
OSU								
IOWA								
@NW								

2019	CAR	YDS	TD	LG	REC	YDS	TD	LG
AKRON					DNP - NCAA rules			
@UCONN					DNP - NCAA rules			
EMU					DNP - NCAA rules			
NEB					DNP - NCAA rules			
@MIN					DNP - NCAA rules			
MICH	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
WIS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
@PUR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
RUT	3	18	0	14	0	0	0	0
@MSU					DNP			
@IOWA					DNP			
NW					DNP			
vs. CAL					DNP			

KICK RETURN/PUNT RETURNS GAME-BY-GAME

2019	KR-YDS	AVG	TD	LG	PR-YDS	AVG	TD	LG
AKRON					DNP - NCAA rules			
@UCONN					DNP - NCAA rules			
EMU					DNP - NCAA rules			
NEB					DNP - NCAA rules			
@MIN					DNP - NCAA rules			
MICH	1-15	15.0	0	15	0-0	0	0	0
WIS	0-0	0	0	0	0-0	0	0	0
@PUR	0-0	0	0	0	0-0	0	0	0
RUT	0-0	0	0	0	0-0	0	0	0
@MSU					DNP			
@IOWA					DNP			
NW					DNP			

30 SYDNEY BROWN

DB, 6-0, 200, JR.  
LONDON, ONTARIO / ST. STEPHENS EPISCOPAL (FLA.)

2020 Junior:

- » Starting defensive back
- » First career forced fumble at Wisconsin 10/23/20
- » Athlon Preseason All-Big Ten second team
- » Phil Steele Preseason All-Big Ten fourth team

2019 Sophomore:

- » Played in 11 games and started 10 at safety
- » All-Big Ten third team (coaches)
- » All-Big Ten honorable mention (media)
- » 88 tackles, 2.5 TFLs, three interceptions on the season
- » Second in the Big Ten in interceptions (3) and sixth in tackles per game (8.0)
- » Tied for the team lead in interceptions (3) and was second in tackles (88)
- » Career-high 13 tackles, two interceptions, and a 76-yard interception returned for a touchdown at Michigan State 11/9/19 to help Illinois win 37-34 in the biggest comeback in program history
- » Did not play the first two games of the season due to injury

2018 Freshman:

- » Played and started in 10 games (seven starts at safety and three at nickel)
- » Tied for second-most starts by an Illinois true freshman defensive back, behind only Vontae Davis' 11
- » Second on the team in PBUs (5) and fifth in tackles (55)
- » 55 tackles, 2.0 TFLs, five PBUs, one interception and one QB hurry on season
- » First career interception against Purdue 10/13/18
- » First career start in the season opener vs. Kent State 9/1/18
- » Missed the South Florida and Iowa games with injuries

High School:

- » Transferred to St. Stephen's Episcopal School from London South Collegiate Institute
- » Played for head coach Todd Creneti at St. Stephen's
- » Led St. Stephen's Episcopal to back-to-back Sunshine State Athletic Conference independent state championships

- » 51 tackles, 7.0 TFLs, two interceptions, five passes defended, one fumble recovery and one forced fumble as a senior
- » 81 tackles, 2.0 TFLs, one INT and five PBUs as a junior
- » Also ran track in high school
- » Florida state finalist in 400m, 4x400m and 4x100m as asenior
- » Florida state finalist in the 4x100m as a junior

Personal:

- » Born March 21, 2000
- » Son of Darren Issac and Raechel Brown
- » Twin brother, Chase and one sister, Mya
- » Hometown is London, Ontario, Canada
- » Father played in CFL for three seasons
- » Mother was a figure skater
- » Twin brother, Chase, played football at Western Michigan one season before transferring to Illinois in 2019
- » Picked Illinois because, "I personally choose to attend the University of Illinois because of how much the University had to offer as a student and as an athlete. From all the schools that I had visited before coming to visit Illinois, none of them could compete with how special the University is itself."
- » Majoring in recreation, sport, and tourism

CAREER HIGHS

Tackles: 13 at Michigan State, 11/9/19  
TFLs: 1.0, three times (last at Iowa, 11/23/19)  
QB Hurries: 1 vs. Minnesota, 11/3/18  
Fumbles Forced: 1 at Wisconsin, 10/23/20  
PBUs: 2 vs. Purdue, 10/13/18  
Interception: 2 at Michigan State, 11/9/19  
Interception Return Yards: 76 at Michigan State, 11/9/19  
Long Interception Return: 76 at Michigan State, 11/9/19  
Touchdowns: 1 at Michigan State, 11/9/19

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	G	UA	A	TOT	TFL Yds	PD	FF	FR	BLK	QBH
2018	10	25	30	55	2.0	4	6	0	0	1
2019	11	51	37	88	2.5	3	4	0	0	0
2020	4	17	10	27	0.5	2	0	1	0	0
TOTAL	25	93	77	170	5.0	9	10	1	0	1

INTERCEPTION STATISTICS

YEAR	G	INT	YDS	TD	LG	AVG/R	AVG/G
2018	10	1	2	0	2	2.0	0.2
2019	11	3	84	1	76	28.0	7.6
2020	4	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL	25	4	86	1	76	21.5	3.4

DEFENSIVE GAME-BY-GAME

2020	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
@WIS	8	1	9	0.0-0	0.0-0	1	0-0	0-0	0	0
PUR	3	4	7	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
MIN	3	3	6	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@RUT	3	2	5	0.5-2	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@NEB										
OSU										
IOWA										
@NW										

2019	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
AKRON					DNP - Injured					
@UCONN					DNP - Injured					
EMU	4	3	7	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
NEB	1	2	3	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@MIN	3	4	7	0.5-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
MICH	6	4	10	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
WIS	3	8	11	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@PUR	6	2	8	1.0-2	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
RUT	1	4	5	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@MSU	8	5	13	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	2-76	0	1
@IOWA	6	0	6	1.0-1	0.0-0	0	0-0	1-8	0	0
NW	5	5	10	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
vs. CAL	8	0	8	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0

2018	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
KENT ST	2	3	5	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
WIU	1	2	3	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
USF					DNP - Injured					
PENN ST	3	2	5	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	1
@RUT	4	2	6	1.0-2	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	1
PUR	4	8	12	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	1-2	0	2
@WIS	2	3	5	0.5-1	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@MD	5	3	8	0.5-1	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
MINN	1	5	6	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	1	0
@NEB	3	2	5	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	1
IOWA					DNP - Injured					
@NW	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0



52 VERDIS BROWN

OL, 6-4, 320, SO.  
CHICAGO, ILL. / IMG ACADEMY (FLA.)

Pronunciation: ver-dis

2020 Sophomore:

- » Won battle for starting right guard

2019 Redshirt Freshman:

- » Played in all 13 games, primarily on special teams

High School:

- » Four-star recruit by ESPN and Rivals
- » Three-star recruit by 247Sports
- » Ranked No. 199 recruit in the nation by ESPN and No. 397 by 247Sports
- » Ranked No. 2 center in the nation by Rivals, No. 3 by ESPN and No. 7 by 247Sports
- » Ranked No. 36 recruit in Florida by Rivals, No. 54 by 247Sports and No. 65 by ESPN
- » 2017 Under Armour All-America Game invitation
- » Announced his commitment to Illinois on December 22, 2017
- » Offers included Florida State, Indiana, LSU, Michigan, Michigan State, Mississippi, Missouri, Ohio State, Oklahoma, Purdue, Tennessee, UCF, UCLA and Wisconsin

Personal:

- » Born Jan. 12, 2000
- » Majoring in African-American studies

19 DALEVON CAMPBELL

WR, 6-4, 205, R-FR.  
MISSOURI CITY, TEXAS / FORT BEND MARSHALL

Pronunciation: DALE-von

2019 Freshman:

- » Played in five games, primarily on special teams
- » Made Illinois debut in the season opener against Akron

High School:

- » 21 catches for 545 yards and seven TDs as a senior
- » Also ran track at Fort Bend Marshall, winning the Texas 5A 4x200 meter relay state title with a school record time of 1:23.52 helping Fort Bend Marshall to the team title.

Personal:

- » Born Dec. 7, 2000
- » Enrolled in general curriculum

99 OWEN CARNEY JR.

DL, 6-3, 260, SR.  
MIAMI, FLA. / MIAMI CENTRAL

2020 Senior:

- » Starting defensive end
- » Career high three sacks against Purdue 10/31/20 is tied for 7th all-time in a game for an Illini player

2019 Junior:

- » Played in all 13 games at defensive end
- » 15 tackles, 2.0 TFLs, 2.0 sacks on the season

2018 Sophomore:

- » Played all 12 games with eight starts on DL
- » 21 tackles, 4.5 TFLs, 2.5 sacks, one PBU, one fumble recovery and six QB hurries on season
- » Career-high 2.0 TFLs and 1.0 sack vs. Iowa 11/17/18
- » Career-high five tackles at Nebraska 11/10/18
- » First career start against South Florida 9/15/18

2017 Freshman:

- » Played in 10 games at defensive end as a true freshman

- » Six tackles, one QB hurry on the season
- » Made his Illinois debut against Western Kentucky
- » Enrolled at Illinois for spring semester and participated in 2017 spring practices

High School:

- » Four-star recruit by Rivals
- » Three-star recruit by 247Sports, ESPN & Scout
- » Ranked as a top 500 recruit in the nation by 247Sports
- » Ranked No. 16 weakside DE by Rivals and No. 30 by 247Sports
- » Ranked No. 43 DE in the nation by Scout and No. 54 by ESPN
- » Ranked No. 46 recruit in Florida by Rivals, No. 78 by 247Sports and No. 90 by ESPN
- » Ranked No. 13 recruit in Miami by the Miami Herald
- » Helped Miami Central win fourth straight state title in 2015
- » Played football at Miami Central for head coach Roland Smith
- » Honor Roll in high school

Personal:

- » Born Feb. 8, 1999
- » Son of Owen Carney Sr. and Valeria Elmore-Carney
- » Has one sister, O'Neshia, and one brother, O'Juan
- » Relatives Keir Thomas (South Carolina) and Da'Mario Jackson-Smith (Kansas State) play college football
- » Picked Illinois because, "of the relationship developed with the coaching staff."
- » Graduated with a degree in communication
- » Enrolled in the recreation, sport, and tourism master's program

CAREER HIGHS

Tackles: 6 vs Purdue 10/31/20  
Sacks: 3.0 vs Purdue 10/31/20  
TFLs: 3.5 vs Purdue 10/31/20  
QB Hurries: 1, twice (last vs. South Florida, 9/15/18)  
Fumbles Forced: 1vs Purdue 10/31/20  
Fumbles Recovered: 1 at Nebraska, 11/10/18  
PBUs: 1, twice (last vs. Michigan, 10/12/19)

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	G	UA	A	TOT	TFL	YDS	PD	FF	FR	BLK	QBH
2017	10	4	2	6	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	1
2018	12	10	11	21	4.5	17	1	0	1	0	6
2019	13	6	9	15	2.0	8	1	0	0	0	3
2020	4	7	6	13	4.0	24	0	1	0	0	2
TOTAL	39	27	28	55	10.5	49	2	1	1	0	12

SACKS STATISTICS

YEAR	G	UA	A	TOT	TFL	YDS
2017	10	0	0	0.0	0	
2018	12	2	1	2.5	13	
2019	13	2	0	2.0	8	
2019	13	2	0	2.0	8	
2020	4	3	0	3.0	23	
TOTAL	39	7	1	7.5	44	

DEFENSIVE GAME-BY-GAME

2020	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
@WIS	0	0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
PUR	4	2	6	3.5-23	3-23	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
MIN	1	4	5	0.5-1	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	2	0
@RUT	2	0	2	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@NEB										
OSU										
IOWA										
@NW										

2019	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
AKRON	1	1	2	1.0-7	1.0-7	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@UCONN	0	0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
EMU	0	2	2	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	1	0
NEB	2	1	3	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@MIN	0	0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
MICH	0	0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	1	0
WIS	0	3	3	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	1
@PUR	3	1	4	1.0-1	1.0-1	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
RUT	0	0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@MSU	0	0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	1	0
@IOWA	0	0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
NW	0	1	1	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
vs. CAL	0	0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0

2018	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
KENT ST	1	3	4	0.5-2	0.5-2	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
WIU	1	0	1	1.0-2	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	1	0
USF	0	1	1	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	1	0
PENN ST	1	0	1	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@RUT	2	0	2	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	2	1
PUR	2	0	2	1.0-9	1.0-9	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@WIS	0	0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@MD	0	1	1	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
MINN	0	0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	1	0

@NEB	2	3	5	0-0	0-0	0	1-2	0-0	0	0
IOWA	1	3	4	2-0	1-2	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@NW	0	0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	1	0

2017	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
BALL ST					DNP					
WKU	0	0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@USF	1	0	1	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
NEB	0	0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@IOWA	0	0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
RUT					DNP					
@MIN	2	1	3	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	1	0
WIS	0	0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@PUR	0	0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
IND	0	1	1	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@OSU	0	0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
NW	1	0	1	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0

51 SEAN COGHLAN

LB, 6-0, 225, JR.  
CHICAGO, ILL. / ST. RITA

2020 Junior:

- » Plays primarily on special teams

2019 Sophomore:

- » Played 12 games, primarily on special teams

208 Redshirt Freshman:

- » Played four games, primarily on special teams
- » Made his Illinois debut against Minnesota 11/3/18
- » Academic All-Big Ten

2017 Freshman:

- » Walkon redshirted the 2017 season

High School:

- » Played for head coach Todd Kuska at St. Rita
- » 2016 CCL Blue Defensive Player of the Year
- » Gold Honor Roll
- » Two-time Heaney Award winner (straight A's)
- » Also played volleyball in high school

Personal:

- » Born Jan. 31, 1999
- » Son of Dennis and Peggy Coghlan
- » One brother, Quinn, and three sisters, Erin, Emma and Kara
- » Father attended the University of Illinois
- » Sister, Erin, plays club lacrosse at Wisconsin
- » Chose Illinois because, "There is a history of my family coming here, Illinois is a very prestigious school with a meaningful degree and I could not turn down the opportunity to play Big Ten football."
- » Plans to pursue a career in the business world following his playing career
- » Double majoring in accountancy and finance

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	G	UA	A	TOT	TFL	YDS	PD	FF	FR	BLK	QBH
2018	4	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2019	12	4	1	5	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2020	4	1	0	1	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	20	5	1	6	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0

49 SETH COLEMAN

DL, 6-5, 230, R-FR.  
MELBOURNE, FLA. / HOLY TRINITY EPISCOPAL ACADEMY

2020 Sophomore:

- » Backup defensive lineman

2019 Freshman:

- » Played in three games and redshirted the season
- » Made Illinois debut against Nebraska

High School:

- » Three-star recruit by 247Sports and ESPN
- » Two-star recruit by Rivals
- » Ranked No. 110 weak side DE in nation by 247Sports



- » Ranked No. 74 outside linebacker in the nation by ESPN
- » Ranked No. 135 recruit in Florida by ESPN and No. 265 by 247Sports
- » 101 tackles, 28.0 TFL and 13.0 sacks as a senior
- » Played for coach Nate Hooks at Holy Trinity Episcopal Academy
- » Also played basketball at Holy Trinity Episcopal Academy
- » Verbally committed to Illinois in July 2018
- » Offers included Baylor, Navy, Nebraska, Pitt, Rutgers, South Florida, TCU, Utah, and Virginia

Personal:

- » Born Dec. 7, 2000
- » Enrolled in general curriculum

CAREER HIGHS

Tackles: 2 at Rutgers 11/14/20

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	G	UA	A	TOT	TFL	YDS	PD	FF	FR	BLK	QBH
2019	3	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2020	4	2	0	2	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	7	2	0	2	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0

DEFENSIVE GAME-BY-GAME

2020	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
@WIS	0	0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
PUR	0	0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
MIN	0	0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@RUT	1	1	2	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@NEB										
OSU										
IOWA										
@NW										

40 SHAMMOND COOPER

LB, 6-2, 220, R-FR.

ST. LOUIS, MO. / TRINITY CATHOLIC

2020 Sophomore

- » Backup linebacker

2019 Freshman:

- » Played in three games and redshirted the season
- » Five tackles on the season
- » Made Illinois debut in the season opener against Akron

High School:

- » Four-star recruit by 247Sports and ESPN
- » Three-star recruit by Rivals
- » Ranked No. 149 recruit in the nation by ESPN and No. 531 by 247Sports
- » Ranked No. 26 inside LB in the nation by 247Sports and No. 30 by Rivals
- » Ranked No. 13 outside linebacker in the nation by ESPN
- » Ranked No. 4 recruit in Missouri by ESPN and No. 10 by 247Sports and Rivals
- » Ranked as high as No. 128 overall recruit in the nation in May 2017 according to 247Sports Composite
- » 2019 Under Armour All-American Game
- » 2018 St. Louis Post-Dispatch Defensive Player of the Year
- » 2018 USA TODAY All-USA Missouri first team
- » 2018 Missouri Football Coaches Association Class 3 All-State first team
- » 2018 The Opening Finals participant
- » 137 tackles, 16.0 TFL and 5.0 sacks as a senior
- » Led Trinity Catholic to Missouri Class 3 state title as a senior
- » Led Trinity Catholic with 8.0 tackles in 2018 Missouri Class 4 state title game to help Trinity Catholic beat Cardinal Ritter
- » Led Trinity Catholic in tackles for four years
- » Played for coach Cory Patterson through junior year when Patterson left Trinity Catholic to become TE coach at Illinois
- » Played for coach Terrence Curry at Trinity Catholic as a senior
- » High school teammate of fellow Illinois signee Isaiah Williams
- » Offers included Arkansas, Auburn, Clemson, Florida, Florida State, Indiana, Iowa, Iowa State, Kansas State, Kentucky, Louisville, LSU, Michigan State, Minnesota, Nebraska, Notre Dame, Ohio State, Oklahoma, Oklahoma State, Ole Miss,

Oregon, Oregon State, South Carolina, Syracuse, Tennessee, Texas, Texas A&M, and Wisconsin

Personal:

- » Born March 15, 2001
- » Enrolled in general curriculum

CAREER HIGHS

Tackles: 5 vs. Akron, 8/31/19  
TFLs: - 0.5 at Wisconsin 10/23/20

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	G	UA	A	TOT	TFL	YDS	PD	FF	FR	BLK	QBH
2019	3	2	3	5	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2020	1	1	1	2	0.5	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	4	3	4	7	0.5	0	0	0	0	0	0

DEFENSIVE GAME-BY-GAME

2020	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
@WIS	1	1	2	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
PUR					DNP					
MIN					DNP					
@RUT					DNP					
@NEB										
OSU										
IOWA										
@NW										

2019	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
AKRON	2	3	5	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@UCONN					DNP					
EMU	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
NEB	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@MIN					DNP					
MICH					DNP					
WIS					DNP					
@PUR					DNP					
RUT					DNP					
@MSU					DNP					
@IOWA					DNP					
NW					DNP					
vs. CAL					DNP					

70 THOMAS CRONIN

OL, 6-4, 290, R-FR.

OAK PARK, ILL. / OAK PARK RIVER FOREST

Pronunciation: CROW-nin

2019 Freshman:

- » Redshirted the 2019 season

High School:

- » Lettered in football as a senior
- » Played for head coach John Hoerster at Oak Park River Forest
- » Also played baseball and golf in high school
- » Did not start playing football until senior year

Personal:

- » Born May 25, 2001
- » Son of Regan and Thomas Cronin
- » Eight sisters, Caroline, Anne-Claire, Jilly, Tamsen, Rory, Regan Mary, Tess, Eileen, and one brother, Marshall
- » Aunt swam at Illinois
- » Picked Illinois because he, “connected with the coaching staff right away, Illinois is my home town state, I have family here, and I love the colors orange and blue.”
- » Plans to own his own business or become a lawyer following his playing career
- » Majoring in English

20 KYRON CUMBY

WR, 5-8, 180, R-FR.

PLANO, TEXAS / PLANO

Pronunciation: KY-run

2020 Sophomore:

- » Backup wide receiver

2019 Freshman:

- » Played in four games and redshirted the season
- » Two receptions for 31 yards and two punt returns for 11 yards on the season

- » Made Illinois debut in the season opener against Akron

High School:

- » Three-star recruit by 247Sports, Rivals and ESPN
- » Ranked No. 16 all-purpose back in the nation by 247Sports
- » Ranked No. 33 running back in the nation by ESPN
- » Ranked No. 61 recruit in Texas by ESPN and No. 184 by 247Sports
- » 897 rushing yards on 119 carries and 17 touchdowns as a senior
- » 523 receiving yards on 43 receptions and five receiving touchdowns as a senior
- » Played for head coach Jaydon McCullough at Plano
- » Verbally committed to Illinois in June 2018
- » Offers included Colorado, Iowa State, Kansas, Texas Tech and Washington State
- » Also ran track at Plano

Personal:

- » Born Feb. 10, 2001
- » Enrolled in general curriculum

CAREER HIGHS

Carries: 1 vs Purdue 10/31/20  
Rushing Yards: 9 vs Purdue 10/31/20  
Long Run: 9 vs Purdue 10/31/20  
Receptions: 1, twice (last at Minnesota, 10/5/19)  
Receiving Yards: 31 vs. Akron 8/31/19  
Long Reception: 31 vs. Akron 8/31/19  
All-Purpose Yards: 31 vs. Akron 8/31/19

RECEIVING STATISTICS

YEAR	G	REC	YDS	TD	LG	REC/G	AVG/C	AVG/G
2019	4	2	31	0	31	0.5	15.5	7.8
2020	4	1	17	0	17	0.2	17.0	4.2
TOTAL	8	3	48	0	31	0.4	16.0	6.0

RUSHING STATISTICS

YEAR	G	ATT	YDS	TD	LG	AVG/C	AVG/G
2019	4	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
2020	4	2	11	0	9	5.5	2.8
TOTAL	8	2	11	0	9	5.5	1.4

PUNT RETURN STATISTICS

YEAR	G	NO.	YDS	TD	LG	AVG/R	AVG/G
2019	4	2	11	0	6	5.5	2.8
2020	4	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL	8	2	11	0	6	5.5	1.4

RUSHING/RECEIVING GAME-BY-GAME

2020	CAR	YDS	TD	LG	REC	YDS	TD	LG
@WIS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PUR	1	9	0	9	1	17	0	17
MIN	1	2	0	2	0	0	0	0
@RUT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
@NEB								
OSU								
IOWA								
@NW								

2019	CAR	YDS	TD	LG	REC	YDS	TD	LG
AKRON	0	0	0	0	1	31	0	31
@UCONN				DNP				
EMU				DNP				
NEB	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
@MIN	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
MICH	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
WIS				DNP				
@PUR				DNP				
RUT				DNP				
@MSU				DNP				
@IOWA				DNP				
NW				DNP				
vs. CAL				DNP				

2019	KR-YDS	AVG	TD	LG	PR-YDS	AVG	TD	LG
AKRON	0-0	0	0	0	1-6	6.0	0	6
@UCONN				DNP				
EMU				DNP				
NEB				DNP				
@MIN	0-0	0	0	0	1-5	5.0	0	5
MICH	0-0	0	0	0	0-0	0	0	0
WIS				DNP				
@PUR				DNP				
RUT				DNP				
@MSU				DNP				
@IOWA				DNP				
NW				DNP				
vs. CAL				DNP				

KICK/PUNT RETURN GAME-BY-GAME

2020	KR-YDS	AVG	TD	LG	PR-YDS	AVG	TD	LG
@WIS	0	0	0	0	0-0	0	0	0





PUR	0	0	0	0	0-0	0	0	0
MIN	0	0	0	0	0-0	0	0	0
@RUT	0	0	0	0	0-0	0	0	0
@NEB								
OSU								
IOWA								
@NW								

10 DESMOND DAN JR.

WR, 6-3, 190, SR.  
MUSKOGEE, OKLA. / CHECOTAH HS / NEW MEXICO STATE

- 2019 Redshirt Junior (New Mexico State):**
- » Played in three games with one start before suffering a season-ending injury
  - » Finished his shortened season with five catches for 49 yards
  - » Caught two passes for 27 yards in the season opener at #23 Washington State (8/31)
  - » Two receptions for 22 yards at #2 Alabama (9/7)
  - » Ran the ball two times for 22 yards against the nationally ranked Crimson Tide.

- 2018 Redshirt Sophomore (New Mexico State):**
- » Played in all 12 games with 11 starts
  - » Fourth on the team in receptions and receiving yards with 37 catches for 491 yards
  - » Tied for the team lead with three receiving touchdowns
  - » Began the season with two catches for 60 yards and a touchdown in the opener against Wyoming 8/25/18
  - » Season-high seven catches and a season-high 85 receiving yards in the season finale at Liberty 11/24/18

- 2017 Redshirt Freshman (New Mexico State):**
- » Played in all 13 games
  - » Completed the season with 11 catches for 91 yards
  - » Breakout game at Appalachian State 10/7/17 with five catches for 44 yards
  - » Began the season with five combined catches in the first three weeks of the season
  - » Season-long catch was 15 yards at Appalachian State.

- 2016 Freshman (New Mexico State):**
- » Redshirted the season

- High School:**
- » Played at Checotah HS under Chad Hendricks
  - » Selected First Team All-State as a wide receiver by OCA
  - » Named First Team All-State as a kickoff returner for OK Preps after finishing No. 1 in state in return yards
  - » Amassed 888 return yards and four touchdowns on 33 returns with a 26.9 return yard average
  - » Finished as No. 3 wide receiver in state of Oklahoma by OK Preps
  - » Racked up 1,150 receiving yards and 13 touchdowns on 54 receptions
  - » Had a 21.3 average for receiving yards
  - » #27 overall prospect in state by OK Preps
  - » 4.0 GPA
  - » National Honor Society

- Personal:**
- » Son of Desmond Drew Dan Sr. and Jennifer McMann
  - » Has six brothers and one sister
  - » Enrolled in the recreation, sport, and tourism master's program

38 ISAAC DARKANGELO

LB, 6-1, 225, FR.  
BRIGHTON, MICH. / DETROIT CATHOLIC CENTRAL

- High School:**
- » Named First team All-State 2016
  - » First team All Catholic league in 2016 and 2017
  - » Team captain in 2017

- » Three time district champion
- » State-runner up 2016
- » Also played golf, lacrosse and wrestling

- Personal:**
- » Born April 26, 2000
  - » Son of Anthony and JoAnn
  - » Majoring in communication
  - » Has two brothers and three sisters
  - » Brother, Anthony, played college football at Ferris State for four years, then professionally in Germany
  - » Sister, Shiann, is a professional women's hockey player who is a world champion with Team USA (2016)
  - » Mother, JoAnn, is a national champion in college volleyball
  - » Chose to wear 38 because "my older Brother Anthony Darkangelo II has always been 38. I've always looked up to him and he is someone that inspires me."

43 COOPER DAVIS

DE, 6-5, 245, FR.  
MELBOURNE, FLA. / VIERA

- High School:**
- » Three-star recruit by 247, ESPN, and Rivals
  - » National ranks: #903 (247 Composite), #1349 (247)
  - » Strong-side defensive end ranks: #34 (Rivals), #46 (247 Composite), #52 (ESPN), #68 (247)
  - » Florida ranks: #90 (ESPN), #120 (247 Composite), #155 (247)
  - » Finished fourth in Florida 7A Player of the Year voting
  - » 103 tackles, 22.0 sacks, 39.0 TFLs, 18 quarterback hurries, one interception as a senior
  - » 97 tackles, 21.0 sacks, 29.0 TFLs, one forced fumble, two fumble recoveries as a junior
  - » Also played basketball in high school
  - » Committed to Illinois on Dec. 11, 2019

- Personal:**
- » Born Sept. 24, 2001
  - » Majoring in community health

5 MILO EIFLER

LB, 6-2, 225, SR.  
BERKELEY, CALIF. / BISHOP O'DOWD / WASHINGTON

- Pronunciation:** MEE-low EYE-fler
- 2020 Senior:**
- » Starting linebacker
  - » Phil Steele Preseason All-Big Ten fourth team

- 2019 Junior:**
- » Played in all 13 games and started 12 at linebacker
  - » 69 tackles, 10.0 TFLs, one PBU, one fumble recovery on the season
  - » Sack on the first defensive play of the game in the Redbox Bowl against California
  - » Career-highs in tackles (10), TFLs (2.5), and sacks (1.0) in 38-10 win against Rutgers 11/2/2019
  - » Eight tackles vs. No. 6 Wisconsin 10/19/19 to help Illinois win 24-23 and complete one of the biggest upsets in Big Ten history
  - » First career touchdown on a fumble recovery return at Minnesota 10/5/19
  - » Made Illinois debut in the season opener against Akron

- 2018 Sophomore:**
- » Sat out the season due to NCAA transfer rules
  - » Two years of eligibility remaining beginning in 2019

- 2017 Redshirt Freshman (Washington)**
- » Played in all 13 games at Washington
  - » Six tackles (four solo)
  - » Washington Special Teams Player of the Game at Oregon State

- » Two tackles in the Apple Cup win over Washington State
- 2016 Freshman (Washington)**
- » Redshirted the season at Washington

- High School:**
- » Played linebacker and running back at Bishop O'Dowd
  - » Played for Napoleon Kaufman at Bishop O'Dowd
  - » First-team All-West Alameda County Conference-Foothill League at outside linebacker as a senior
  - » Helped Bishop O'Dowd to a 7-6 record and the semi-finals of the CIF North Coast Section Division 3 playoffs as a senior
  - » 2015 U.S. Army All-American Bowl invitation
  - » Helped Bishop O'Dowd to the North Coast Section playoffs as a junior
  - » First-team All-WACC, third-team All-East Bay and honorable mention San Francisco Chronicle All-Metro as a junior
  - » 2014 CalHiSports.com junior-class all-state
  - » Tacoma News Tribune "Western 100"
  - » No. 94 prospect in the nation by Scout, No. 118 by Rivals, No. 142 by 247Sports and No. 280 by ESPN
  - » No. 21 prospect in California by 247Sports, No. 23 by Rivals and No. 31 by ESPN
  - » No. 6 outside linebacker prospect in the nation by Scout, No. 11 by Rivals, No. 11 by 247Sports and No. 15 by ESPN
  - » Participated in the shot, discus, high jump and long jump for the track team, winning league titles in the shot put as a sophomore and junior

- Personal:**
- » Born Feb. 13, 1998
  - » Majoring in sociology

<b>CAREER HIGHS</b>												
<b>Tackles:</b> 10 vs. Rutgers, 11/2/19												
<b>TFLs:</b> 2.5 vs. Rutgers, 11/2/19												
<b>Sacks:</b> 1.0, twice (last vs. California, 12/30/19)												
<b>Fumbles Recovered:</b> 1 at Minnesota, 10/5/19												
<b>PBUs:</b> 1 vs. Akron, 8/31/19												
<b>Touchdowns:</b> 1 at Minnesota, 10/5/19												
<b>DEFENSIVE STATISTICS</b>												
<b>YEAR</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>UA</b>	<b>AS</b>	<b>TOT</b>	<b>TFL</b>	<b>YDS</b>	<b>PD</b>	<b>FF</b>	<b>FR</b>	<b>BLK</b>	<b>QBH</b>	
2017*	5	4	2	6	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
2019	13	39	24	63	10.0	29	1	0	1	0	0	
2020	3	7	4	11	1.5	1	0	0	0	0	0	
TOTAL	16	46	28	74	11.5	30	1	0	1	0	0	
All*	21	50	30	80	11.5	30	1	0	1	0	0	
* - stats include Washington (2017)												

<b>DEFENSIVE GAME-BY-GAME</b>												
<b>2020</b>	<b>UA</b>	<b>AS</b>	<b>TOT</b>	<b>TFL-Yds</b>	<b>QBS-Yds</b>	<b>FF</b>	<b>FR-Yds</b>	<b>INT-Yds</b>	<b>QBH</b>	<b>PBU</b>		
@WIS	1	0	1	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0		
PUR	2	1	3	1-1	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0		
MIN	4	3	7	0.5-0	0-0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0		
@RUT												
@NEB												
OSU												
IOWA												
@NW												
DNP - Injured												

<b>2019</b>	<b>UA</b>	<b>AS</b>	<b>TOT</b>	<b>TFL-Yds</b>	<b>QBS-Yds</b>	<b>FF</b>	<b>FR-Yds</b>	<b>INT-Yds</b>	<b>QBH</b>	<b>PBU</b>		
AKRON	1	2	2	1.0-5	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0		
@UCONN	5	2	7	0.5-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0		
EMU	1	3	4	1.0-1	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0		
NEB	1	4	5	1.0-3	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0		
@MIN	3	2	5	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	1-7	0-0	0	0		
MICH	3	1	4	1.0-4	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0		
WIS	3	5	8	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0		
@PUR	2	0	2	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0		
RUT	7	3	10	2.5-6	1.0-2	0	0-0	0-0	0	0		
@MSU	0	1	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0		
@IOWA	5	0	5	2.0-4	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0		
NW	4	2	6	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0		
vs. CAL	4	0	4	1.0-6	1.0-6	0	0-0	0-0	0	0		

<b>2017-UW</b>	<b>UA</b>	<b>AS</b>	<b>TOT</b>	<b>TFL-Yds</b>	<b>QBS-Yds</b>	<b>FF</b>	<b>FR-Yds</b>	<b>INT-Yds</b>	<b>QBH</b>	<b>PBU</b>		
@RUT												
MONT	1	0	1	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0		
FRESNO	0	1	1	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0		
@COL	1	0	1	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0		
@ORST	1	0	1	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0		
CAL												
@ASU												
UCLA												
OREGON												
@STAN												
WASHST	1	1	2	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0		
vs. PSU												



58 PRESTON ENGEL

OL, 6-0, 270, SO.

NORMAL, ILL. / NORMAL COMMUNITY

Pronunciation: EN-gull

2020 Sophomore:

- » Plays primarily on special teams

2019 Redshirt Freshman:

- » Played in two games, primarily as an extra blocker
- » Made Illinois debut against Rutgers

2018 Freshman:

- » Redshirted the 2018 season (Did not play)

High School:

- » Three-year letterwinner in football
- » Played for head coach Wes Temples at Normal Community
- » 2018 All-Big 12 Conference first team
- » 2018 senior captain
- » Also played basketball as a freshman and sophomore

Personal:

- » Born March 14, 2000
- » Son of Melissa and Greg Engel
- » Father played center at Illinois from 1989-94 and was captain of the 1993 team before playing in the NFL
- » Mother is the Director of Internal Operations for Advancement at the University of Illinois
- » Older brother, McClain, is a manager for the Illinois men's basketball team
- » Picked Illinois because, "it is the school I've always been a fan of. It also has a lot more to offer than just a great football program, the academics here are outstanding as well."
- » Plans to major in business
- » Lists LeBron James as his favorite athlete because, "no matter where he goes, he makes everyone around him a better player and person."
- » Majoring in recreation, sport, and tourism

26 MIKE EPSTEIN

RB, 6-0, 205, SR.

FT. LAUDERDALE, FLA. / ST. THOMAS AQUINAS

Pronunciation: ep-STEEN

2020 Senior:

- » Part of running back rotation
- » Hasv scored a touchdown in each of the Illini's last three games
- » Scored his first touchdown since Rutgers 10/5/18 against Purdue 10/31/20
- » Mayo Clinic Comeback Player of the Year watch list

2019 Junior:

- » Injured knee during the season opener against Akron and missed the remainder of the season
- » Eight carries for 45 yards against Akron

2018 Sophomore:

- » Played seven games with two starts at running back
- » 411 rushing yards on 60 carries (6.8 yards per carry) and three touchdowns on season
- » 10 receptions for 86 yards on season
- » Missed the last five games and most of the game at Wisconsin 10/20/18 due to injury
- » Third on the team in rushing yards (411) and tied for third in rushing touchdowns (3)
- » Career-high five receptions for career-high 56 receiving yards against South Florida 9/15/18
- » Back-to-back 100-yard rushing games against Western Illinois 9/8/18 and South Florida 9/15/18
- » Career-high 113 rushing yards against South Florida 9/15/18 for third career 100-yard game

- » Second career 100-yard game (eight carries for 105 yards) against Western Illinois 9/8/18
- » Touchdown in the season opener against Kent State 9/1/18
- » Academic All-Big Ten

2017 Freshman:

- » Played in the first five games of the season with three starts at running back
- » Missed the last seven games with an injury
- » 57 carries for 346 rushing yards and three touchdowns, along with 4 catches for 59 yards and one touchdown on season
- » Led Illinois in rushing yards (346) and yards per carry (6.1)
- » Fifth true freshman in program history to lead the team in rushing yards
- » Tied for the team lead in touchdowns (4; 3 rushing, 1 receiving)
- » Third on the team in all-purpose yards (424)
- » Led Illinois in all-purpose yards per game (84.8)
- » Team-high 111 rushing yards vs. Western Kentucky, his first career 100-yard game
- » Two touchdowns and 105 all-purpose yards in his Illinois debut in the opener against Ball State
- » One of six true freshmen in the nation to score multiple touchdowns during the season opener
- » Two touchdowns against South Florida (one receiving, one rushing)
- » Team-long 58-yard rush at Iowa
- » First career start vs. Western Kentucky Sept. 9

High School:

- » Three-star recruit by Rivals, ESPN and Scout
- » Ranked No. 58 running back in the nation by Scout, No. 59 by 247Sports and No. 89 by ESPN
- » Ranked No. 92 recruit in Florida by Rivals, No. 143 by 247Sports and No. 197 by ESPN
- » Played at St. Thomas Aquinas for head coach Roger Harriott
- » 2016 Sun Sentinel All-Broward Football Player of the Year
- » 2016 Sun Sentinel 7A All-State first team
- » 2016 Sun Sentinel 7A All-County
- » Led St. Thomas Aquinas to 2016 Florida 7A state championship with 45-6 win over Tampa Plant in title game
- » Scored four touchdowns in the state semifinal against Venice
- » Helped St. Thomas Aquinas beat Bingham (Utah) 33-25 in State Champions Bowl Series on ESPN
- » Rushed for 1,173 yards on 156 carries (7.5 yards per rush) and 16 touchdowns as a senior
- » Totaled over 1,500 yards as a senior
- » Lettered three years in high school
- » Missed his junior season with a knee injury
- » Spent his first two years of high school at Cypress Bay (Weston, Florida)

Personal:

- » Born Aug. 6, 1998
- » Son of Elizabeth and David Epstein
- » Has one sister, Melanie, and one brother, Danny
- » Brother, Danny, played football at Colgate (2011-12) and Bryant (2012-15)
- » Picked Illinois because, "of the great coaching staff, great fit for me, being one of the top academic schools in the country and the opportunity to play Big Ten football."
- » Majoring in marketing

CAREER HIGHS

Touchdowns: 2, twice (last at South Florida, 9/15/17)  
Carries: 21 vs. Western Kentucky, 9/9/17  
Rushing Yards: 113 vs. South Florida, 9/15/18  
Long Run: 63 vs. Minnesota, 11/7/20  
Rushing Touchdowns: 2 vs. Ball State, 9/2/17  
Receptions: 5 vs. South Florida, 9/15/18  
Receiving Yards: 56 vs. South Florida, 9/15/18  
Long Reception: 32 vs. South Florida, 9/15/18  
Receiving Touchdowns: 1 at South Florida, 9/15/17  
Kickoff Returns: 1 vs. Ball State, 9/2/17  
Kickoff Return Yardage: 19 vs. Ball State, 9/2/17  
All-Purpose Yards: 169 vs. South Florida, 9/15/18

RUSHING STATISTICS

YEAR	G	ATT	YDS	TD	LG	AVG/C	AVG/G
------	---	-----	-----	----	----	-------	-------

2017	5	57	346	3	58	6.1	69.2
2018	7	60	411	3	43	6.8	58.7
2019	1	8	45	0	14	5.6	45.0
2020	4	42	225	3	63	5.4	56.2
TOTAL	17	167	1027	9	63	6.1	60.4

RECEIVING STATISTICS

YEAR	G	REC	YDS	TD	LG	REC/G	YDS/C	YDS/G
2017	5	4	59	1	21	0.8	14.8	11.8
2018	7	10	86	0	32	1.4	8.6	12.3
2019	1	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
2020	4	2	29	0	22	0.5	14.5	7.2
TOTAL	17	16	174	1	32	0.9	10.9	10.2

KICK RETURN STATISTICS

YEAR	G	NO.	YDS	TD	LG	AVG/R	AVG/G
2017	5	1	19	0	19	19.0	3.8
2018	7	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
2019	1	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
2020	4	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL	17	1	19	0	19	19.0	1.1

RUSHING/RECEIVING GAME-BY-GAME

2020	CAR	YDS	TD	LG	REC	YDS	TD	LG
@WIS	8	36	0	20	1	22	0	22
PUR	13	63	1	33	1	7	0	7
MIN	11	108	1	63	0	0	0	0
@RUT	10	18	1	11	0	0	0	0
@NEB								
OSU								
IOWA								
@NW								

2019	CAR	YDS	TD	LG	REC	YDS	TD	LG
AKRON	8	45	0	14	0	0	0	0
@UCONN					DNP - Injured			
EMU					DNP - Injured			
NEB					DNP - Injured			
@MIN					DNP - Injured			
MICH					DNP - Injured			
WIS					DNP - Injured			
@PUR					DNP - Injured			
RUT					DNP - Injured			
@MSU					DNP - Injured			
@IOWA					DNP - Injured			
NW					DNP - Injured			
vs. CAL					DNP - Injured			

2018	CAR	YDS	TD	LG	REC	YDS	TD	LG
KENT ST	8	33	1	6	0	0	0	0
WIU	8	105	0	38	1	5	0	5
USF	19	113	1	43	5	56	0	32
PENN ST	13	73	0	18	2	19	0	13
@RUT	9	63	1	41	0	0	0	0
PUR	1	10	0	10	2	6	0	4
@WIS	2	14	0	11	0	0	0	0
@MD					DNP - Injured			
MINN					DNP - Injured			
@NEB					DNP - Injured			
IOWA					DNP - Injured			
@NW					DNP - Injured			

2017	CAR	YDS	TD	LG	REC	YDS	TD	LG
BALL ST	11	54	2	14	2	32	0	17
WKU	21	111	0	13	0	0	0	0
@USF	8	56	1	45	2	27	1	21
NEB	10	42	0	13	0	0	0	0
@IOWA	7	83	0	58	0	0	0	0
RUT					DNP - Injured			
@MIN					DNP - Injured			
WIS					DNP - Injured			
@PUR					DNP - Injured			
IND					DNP - Injured			
@OSU					DNP - Injured			
NW					DNP - Injured			

KICK RETURN/PUNT RETURNS GAME-BY-GAME

2017	KR-YDS	AVG	TD	LG	PR-YDS	AVG	TD	LG
BALL ST	1-19	19.0	0	19	0-0	0	0	0
WKU	0-0	0	0	0	0-0	0	0	0
@USF	0-0	0	0	0	0-0	0	0	0
NEB	0-0	0	0	0	0-0	0	0	0
@IOWA	0-0	0	0	0	0-0	0	0	0
RUT					DNP - Injured			
@MIN					DNP - Injured			
WIS					DNP - Injured			
@PUR					DNP - Injured			
IND					DNP - Injured			
@OSU					DNP - Injured			
NW					DNP - Injured			



## 24 NICK FEDANZO

RB, 6-0, 205, R-FR.

LOMBARD, ILL. / MONTINI CATHOLIC

Pronunciation: fa-DON-zo

### 2020 Sophomore:

- » Plays primarily on special teams

### 2019 Freshman:

- » Played in three games and redshirted the season
- » Made Illinois debut against Eastern Michigan

### High School:

- » Three-star recruit by 247Sports and ESPN
- » Two-star recruit by Rivals
- » Ranked No. 81 running back in the nation by 247Sports and No. 97 by ESPN
- » Ranked No. 25 recruit in Illinois by ESPN and No. 28 by 247Sports
- » Played for head coach Mike Bukovsky at Montini
- » 2018 USA TODAY All-USA Illinois second team
- » 2018 Class 5A IHSFCA All-State
- » Led Montini to an IHS 5A state runner-up finish as a senior at Memorial Stadium
- » 17 carries for 186 yards and three touchdowns in the 2018 state championship game against Joliet Catholic
- » Also ran track in high school

### Personal:

- » Born Nov. 13, 2000
- » Son of Natalie and Joe Fedanzo
- » One brother, Michael, and one sister, Danielle
- » Nicknamed "Zo"
- » Picked Illinois because of, "the family atmosphere."
- » Enrolled in general curriculum

## 82 LUKE FORD

TE, 6-6, 250, JR.

CARTERVILLE, ILL. / CARTERVILLE / GEORGIA

### 2020 Junior:

- » Made Illinois debut at Wisconsin 10/23/20

### 2019 Sophomore:

- » Sat out 2019 season due to NCAA transfer rules after hardship waiver request was denied
- » Enrolled at Illinois for spring 2019 semester and participated in 2019 spring practices

### 2018 Freshman (Georgia):

- » Played in nine of 14 games for the Bulldogs
- » One reception for four yards in collegiate debut against Austin Peay 9/1/18

### High School:

- » Four-star recruit by 247Sports, Rivals and ESPN
- » Ranked No. 42 recruit in the nation in the class of 2018 by Rivals, No. 51 by 247Sports and No. 63 by ESPN
- » Ranked No. 1 tight end in the nation by Rivals and No. 3 by 247Sports and ESPN
- » Ranked No. 1 recruit in Illinois by 247Sports, Rivals and ESPN
- » 2018 U.S. Army All-America Bowl
- » The Opening 2017 Finals
- » PrepStar Magazine Top 150 Dream Team
- » 2017 Illinois High School Football Coaches Association All-State honorable mention
- » 2017 MaxPreps Preseason Medium School All-America First Team offense
- » Two-time News-Gazette All-State Special Mention 100
- » Played for head coach Dennis Drust at Carterville
- » Also played basketball in high school, helping Carterville to the IHSAA Regional Finals each of the last three seasons

- » Also competed in the long jump and 200 meters for the Carterville track and field team
- » Offers included Alabama, Arkansas, Auburn, Baylor, Florida, Florida State, Illinois, Iowa, Louisville, LSU, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, NC State, Oklahoma, Oklahoma State, Oregon, Pitt, Rutgers, Syracuse, Tennessee, Texas, Texas A&M, and West Virginia

### Personal:

- » Born Sept. 27, 1999
- » Majoring in communication

### CAREER HIGHS

Receptions: 1 vs Purdue 10/23/20

Receiving yards: 4 vs Purdue 10/23/20

Long reception: 4 vs Purdue 10/23/20

All-purpose yards: 4 vs Purdue 10/23/20

### RECEIVING STATISTICS

YEAR	G	REC	YDS	TD	LG	REC/G	YDS/C	YDS/G
2018*	9	1	4	0	4	0.1	4.0	0.4
2020	4	1	4	0	4	0.2	4.0	1.0
TOTAL	4	1	4	0	4	0.2	4.0	1.0
ALL*	13	2	8	0	4	0.2	4.0	0.6

\* - stats include Georgia (2018)

### RUSHING/RECEIVING GAME-BY-GAME

2020	CAR	YDS	TD	LG	REC	YDS	TD	LG
@WIS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PUR	0	0	0	0	1	4	0	4
MIN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
@RUT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

@NEB

OSU

IOWA

@NW

## 13 JAMES FRENCH JR.

WR, 5-10, 175, FR.

ST. LOUIS, MO. / TRINITY CATHOLIC

### 2020 Freshman:

- » Plays primarily on special teams
- » Made Illinois debut at Wisconsin 10/23/20

### High School:

- » Four-star recruit by ESPN, three-star recruit by 247 and Rivals
- » National ranks: #203 (ESPN), #408 (247 Composite), #646 (247)
- » Wide receiver ranks: #32 (ESPN), #40 (Rivals), #68 (247 Composite), #111 (247)
- » Missouri ranks: #5 (ESPN), #6 (247 Composite), #11 (247), #15 (Rivals)
- » 2019 Missouri Football Coaches Association Class 3 All-State First Team
- » 1,524 receiving yards, 821 rushing yards, 3,204 all-purpose yards, 40 total touchdowns during his high school career
- » 33 receptions, 453 receiving yards, five receiving touchdowns, 43 carries, 264 rushing yards, six rushing touchdowns, two kick return touchdowns, 1,052 all-purpose yards as a senior
- » 10 receptions, 310 receiving yards, three receiving touchdowns, 30 carries, 400 rushing yards, nine rushing touchdowns, one punt return touchdown, 798 all-purpose yards as a junior
- » 13 receptions, 444 receiving yards, seven receiving touchdowns, 715 all-purpose yards as a sophomore
- » 19 receptions, 317 receiving yards, three receiving touchdowns, 18 carries, 150 rushing yards, two rushing touchdowns, 639 all-purpose yards as a freshman
- » Played for head coach Cory Patterson, who is now an Illinois assistant, during his first two high school seasons
- » Missed most of his senior season with an injury
- » Committed to Illinois on Aug. 24, 2019
- » Offers included Iowa State, Kansas, Kansas State, Kentucky, Louisville, Missouri, Nebraska, Purdue, South Carolina, Syracuse, and Tennessee

### Personal:

- » Born Nov. 10, 2001

- » Enrolled in general curriculum

### CAREER HIGHS

All-purpose yards: 8 at Wisconsin, 10/23/20

Punt returns: 1 at Wisconsin, 10/23/20

Punt return yards: 8 at Wisconsin, 10/23/20

Long punt return: 8 at Wisconsin, 10/23/20

### PUNT RETURN STATISTICS

YEAR	G	NO.	YDS	TD	LG	AVG/R	AVG/G
2020	4	1	8	0	8	8.0	2.0
TOTAL	4	1	8	0	8	8.0	2.0

### KICK/PUNT RETURN GAME-BY-GAME

2020	KR-YDS	AVG	TD	LG	PR-YDS	AVG	TD	LG
@WIS	0	0	0	0	1-8	8	0	8
PUR	0	0	0	0	1-16	16	0	16
MIN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
@RUT	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

@NEB

OSU

IOWA

@NW

## 92 ISAIAH GAY

DL, 6-3, 240, SR.

NASHVILLE, N.C. / NORTHERN NASH

### 2020 Senior:

- » Starting defensive end

### 2019 Junior:

- » Played in 11 games and started five at defensive end
- » 27 tackles, 3.5 TFLs, 1.0 sack, three PBUs, one forced fumble, one fumble recovery on the season
- » Career-high six tackles, career-high two pass breakups, his first career forced fumble, and 1.0 sacks in 38-10 win over Rutgers 11/2/2019
- » Season-high three tackles (all solo) in Illinois' 24-6 win at Purdue 10/26/19
- » Fumble recovery vs. No. 6 Wisconsin 10/19/19 to help Illinois win 24-23 and complete one of the biggest upsets in Big Ten history

### 2018 Sophomore:

- » Played nine games with three starts at defensive end
- » 20 tackles, 1.0 TFL and 1.0 sack on season
- » Tied career high with four tackles against South Florida 9/15/18 and Penn State 9/21/18 in back-to-back games
- » Career-high four solo tackles against South Florida 9/15/18
- » Sack and three tackles in win over Western Illinois 9/8/18

### 2017 Freshman:

- » Played in all 12 games with two starts at defensive end
- » 20 tackles (12 solo), 4.0 TFLs, 1.0 sack, two quarterback hurries on season
- » Third-youngest player in FBS to start a game in 2017
- » Made his Illinois debut in the opener against Ball State
- » First career start in the second game of the season against Western Kentucky
- » Blocked a field goal at South Florida

### High School:

- » Played at Northern Nash for head coach Randy Raper
- » 117 tackles, 25 TFLs, 17 sacks and three forced fumbles as a senior
- » 2016 Big East Conference Co-Defensive Player of the Year
- » Two-time all-conference and three-time letterwinner
- » Led Northern Nash to a 5-7 record and trip to the state playoffs as a senior
- » Team captain
- » Also played basketball and competed in track & field in HS

### Personal:

- » Born Dec. 17, 1999
- » Son of Derek and Chirley Gay
- » Has two brothers and three sisters
- » Picked Illinois because, "of the program fit — academically and in sports. Big Ten, big stage."



- » Four-year honor roll student in high school
- » Majoring in learning and education studies

CAREER HIGHS

**Tackles:** 6 vs. Rutgers, 11/2/2019  
**TFLs:** 1.0, six times (last vs. Rutgers, 11/2/2019)  
**Sacks:** 1.0, three times (last vs. Rutgers, 11/2/2019)  
**QB Hurries:** 1, twice (last vs. Western Kentucky, 9/9/17)  
**Fumbles Forced:** 1, twice (last vs. Minnesota, 11/7/20)  
**Fumbles Recovered:** 1 vs. Wisconsin, 10/19/19  
**PBU's:** 2 vs. Rutgers, 11/2/2019  
**Blocked Kicks:** 1 at South Florida, 9/15/17

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	G	UA	A	TOT	TFL	YDS	PD	FF	FR	BLK	QBH
2017	12	12	8	20	4.0	17	0	0	0	1	2
2018	9	14	6	20	1.0	9	0	0	0	0	0
2019	11	13	14	27	3.5	5	3	1	1	0	2
2020	3	4	5	9	0.5	1	1	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	35	43	33	76	9.0	32	4	1	1	1	4

SACKS STATISTICS

YEAR	G	UA	A	TOTAL	YDS
2017	12	1	0	1.0	13
2018	9	1	0	1.0	9
2019	11	1	0	1.0	2
2020	3	0	0	0.0	0
TOTAL	35	3	0	3.0	24

DEFENSIVE GAME-BY-GAME

2020	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
@WIS				DNP	DNP - Suspended					
PUR	1	2	3	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	1
MIN	3	1	4	0-0-0	0-0-0	0	1-0	0-0	0	0
@RUT	0	2	2	0.5-1	0-0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@NEB										
OSU										
IOWA										
@NW										

2019	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
AKRON	0	1	1	0-0-0	0-0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@UCONN	0	2	2	0-0-0	0-0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
EMU	0	1	1	0-0-0	0-0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
NEB					DNP - Injured					
@MIN					DNP - Injured					
MICH	0	0	0	0-0-0	0-0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
WIS	0	1	1	0-0-0	0-0-0	0	1-6	0-0	0	0
@PUR	3	0	3	0-0-0	0-0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
RUT	5	1	6	1.0-2	1.0-2	1	0-0	0-0	0	2
@MSU	0	4	4	1.0-1	0-0-0	0	0-0	0-0	2	0
@IOWA	1	0	1	0-0-0	0-0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
NW	2	3	5	0.5-1	0-0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
vs. CAL	2	1	3	1.0-1	0-0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	1

2018	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
KENT ST	1	2	3	0-0-0	0-0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
WIU	3	0	3	1.0-9	1.0-9	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
USF	4	0	4	0-0-0	0-0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
PENN ST	3	1	4	0-0-0	0-0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@RUT	0	1	1	0-0-0	0-0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
PUR	0	0	0	0-0-0	0-0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@WIS					DNP					
@MD	2	1	3	0-0-0	0-0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
MINN	1	1	2	0-0-0	0-0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@NEB	0	0	0	0-0-0	0-0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
IOWA					DNP - Injured					
@NW					DNP - Injured					

2017	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
BALL ST	2	2	4	1.0-13	1.0-13	0	0-0	0-0	1	0
WKU	2	0	2	1.0-2	0-0-0	0	0-0	0-0	1	0
@USF	0	3	3	0-0-0	0-0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
NEB	1	0	1	0-0-0	0-0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@IOWA	0	0	0	0-0-0	0-0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
RUT	1	0	1	1.0-1	0-0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@MIN	0	1	1	0-0-0	0-0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
WIS	0	0	0	0-0-0	0-0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@PUR	3	0	3	0-0-0	0-0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
IND	1	2	3	0-0-0	0-0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@OSU	2	0	2	1.0-1	0-0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
NW	0	0	0	0-0-0	0-0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0

53 KENDRICK GREEN

OL, 6-4, 315, JR.  
PEORIA, ILL. / PEORIA

2020 Junior:

- » Starting left guard
- » Athlon Preseason All-Big Ten third team
- » Phil Steele Preseason All-Big Ten fourth team
- » Outland Trophy watch list
- » Organized Black Lives Matter march for Illini student-athletes on Aug. 31, 2020

2019 Sophomore:

- » Started 12 games at left guard and one game at center
- » Pro Football Focus All-America honorable mention
- » All-Big Ten honorable mention (media)
- » No. 9 graded offensive guard in the nation and No. 3 in the Big Ten by PFF (78.3)
- » Ended the season with 25 straight starts
- » Played 866 snaps

2018 Redshirt Freshman:

- » Started all 12 games at left guard
- » Part of an OL that paved the way for the most-improved runnig game in the nation (+137.4 ypg from 2017 to '18), finishing 12th in FBS and second in the Big Ten at 243.0 ypg.
- » First career start and Illinois debut in the season opener against Kent State
- » Moved to OL prior to the season after practicing at defensive tackle during his freshman season in 2017

2017 Freshman:

- » Redshirted 2017 season as a defensive tackle

High School:

- » Four-star recruit by Scout
- » Three-star recruit by 247Sports, Rivals and ESPN
- » Ranked as a top 500 recruit in the nation by 247Sports
- » Ranked No. 22 defensive tackle in the nation by Scout, No. 30 by Rivals, No. 31 by 247Sports and No. 50 by ESPN
- » Ranked No. 5 recruit in Illinois by Scout, No. 8 by 247Sports, No. 9 by ESPN and No. 14 by Rivals
- » Played at Peoria High School for head coach Tim Thornton
- » USA Football U-19 team member for IFAF World Championships in Harbin, China
- » Blue-Grey All-American
- » Led Peoria to 2016 IHSA 5A state championship
- » 111 tackles, 33.0 TFLs, 15.0 sacks as a senior
- » 2016 Illinois High School Football Coaches Association all-state first team
- » 2016 Preps Plus All-State first team
- » 2016 ALL-USA Illinois Football Team
- » 2016 Big 12 all-conference
- » High school teammate of Illini sophomore Coran Taylor

Personal:

- » Born Dec. 22, 1998
- » Picked Illinois because, “the coaching staff is awesome and I would love to represent my home state.”
- » Majoring in sociology

11 CALEB GRIFFIN

K, 6-3, 215, SO.  
DANVILLE, ILL. / DANVILLE

2020 Sophomore:

- » Made first career start and went 1-1 on field goals and 3-3 on PATs against Purdue 10/31/20
- » University of Illinois Student-Athlete Advisory Committee Vice President

2019 Redshirt Freshman:

- » Backup kicker, did not kick in a game

2018 Freshman:

- » Redshirted the 2018 season (Did not play)

High School

- » Lettered four years in football in high school
- » Played for head coach Marcus Forrest at Danville
- » Three-time All-Big 12 PK
- » Four-time Commercial News All-Area
- » Two-time News-Gazette All-Area first team
- » Kohl's Kicking Player of the Week 10/23/17
- » 2017 all-state honorable mention

- » Four-sport athlete at Danville (football, baseball, basketball, soccer)
- » Four-year letterwinner in baseball
- » Four-year letterwinner in soccer
- » Three-year letterwinner in basketball
- » Three-time All-Big 12 in baseball
- » Two-time all-state in soccer
- » Two-time all-area in basketball

Personal

- » Born Oct. 20, 1999
- » Son of Chris and Erin Griffin
- » Older brother, Cameron, and younger sister, Kedzie
- » Brother played soccer at Quincy University for one year
- » Father played soccer at Illinois College for two years
- » Chose No. 38 because his home is 38 miles from Memorial Stadium
- » Chose Illinois because, “The relationship I was able to build with all of the coaches.”
- » Plans to work in sports following his playing career
- » Double major in marketing and management

CAREER HIGHS

**Points:** 6 vs Purdue 10/31/20  
**PATs Made:** 3 vs Purdue 10/31/20  
**Field goals made:** 1 vs Purdue 10/31/20  
**Longest field goal:** 28 vs Purdue 10/31/20

KICKING STATISTICS

YEAR	PAT	FG	0-29	30-39	40-49	50+	PTS	LG
2018	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0
2019	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0
2020	3-3	1-1	1-1	0-0	0-0	0-0	6	28
TOTAL	3-3	1-1	1-1	0-0	0-0	0-0	6	28

KICKOFF STATISTICS

YEAR	G	KO	YDS	AVG.	TB	TB%	OB	ONSIDE
2018	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2019	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2020	2	8	503	62.9	5	63%	1	0
TOTAL	2	8	503	62.9	5	63%	1	0

KICKING GAME-BY-GAME

2020	FG		KICKOFF					OB
	MD-ATT	LG	BLKD	NO	YDS	AVG	TB	
@WIS				DNP				
PUR	1-1	28	0	5	319	63.8	3	1
MIN	0-0	0	0	3	184	61.3	2	0
@RUT				DNP				
@NEB								
OSU								
IOWA								
@NW								

72 PHIFER GRIFFIN

OT, 6-6, 300, FR.  
MONROE, N.C. / UNION ACADEMY

High School:

- » Three-star recruit by 247 and ESPN, two-star recruit by Rivals
- » National ranks: #945 (247), #1341 (247 Composite)
- » Offensive tackle ranks: #77 (247), #96 (ESPN), #109 (247 Composite)
- » North Carolina ranks: #28 (247), #34 (ESPN), #42 (247 Composite)
- » 2019 Greater Charlotte Offensive Lineman of the Year
- » Committed to Illinois on July 21, 2019
- » Offers included Air Force, Eastern Kentucky, Georgia State, Liberty, Marshall, and West Virginia

Personal:

- » Born Oct. 28, 2001
- » Enrolled in general curriculum





39 AIDAN HALL

LS, 6-2, 205, R-FR.  
GLEN ELLYN, ILL. / BENET ACADEMY

2019 Freshman:

- » Redshirted the 2019 season

High School:

- » Played for head coach Pat New at Benet Academy
- » Two-year letterwinner
- » 2018 Benet Special Teams MVP
- » Graduated with Honors
- » Honor Roll all eight semesters

Personal:

- » Born Oct. 27, 2000
- » Son of Brian and Patty Hall
- » Two brothers, Colin and Brogan
- » Majoring in systems engineering and design
- » Picked Illinois because, "I had the opportunity to study engineering at a top tier university while participating in Big Ten athletics."

35 JAKE HANSEN

LB, 6-1, 225, SR.  
TARPON SPRINGS, FLA. / EAST LAKE

Career Notes:

- » Hansen's 10 career forced fumbles are tied for third-most in program history (dating back to 1990)

2020 Senior:

- » Matched career high 15 tackles and one interception in Illinois' win at Rutgers 11/14/20
- » 14 tackles, 2.0 TFLs, forced fumble and fumble recovery against Purdue 10/31/20
- » Phil Steele Preseason All-Big Ten second team
- » Athlon Preseason All-Big Ten third team
- » Bednarik Award watch list
- » Butkus Award watch list
- » Nagurski Award watch list

2019 Junior:

- » Butkus Award semifinalist
- » Played and started nine games at linebacker
- » Missed the final four games with an injury
- » All-Big Ten honorable mention (coaches)
- » All-Big Ten honorable mention (media)
- » 72 tackles, 7.5 TFLs, 3.5 sacks, one interception, seven forced fumbles, three fumble recoveries on the season
- » Led the nation in forced fumbles (7) and forced fumbles per game (0.78)
- » Ranked sixth in the nation in fumbles recovered (3)
- » As many or more forced fumbles (7) than 30 FBS teams on the season
- » No. 17 graded linebacker in the nation and No. 5 in the Big Ten by PFF (79.6)
- » Walter Camp National Defensive Player of the Week and Big Ten Defensive Player of the Week after two forced fumbles vs. No. 6 Wisconsin 10/19/19 led Illinois to one of the biggest upsets in Big Ten history

2018 Sophomore:

- » Started all 12 games at linebacker
- » 95 tackles, 8.5 TFLs, 1.0 sack, one PBU, one forced fumble, one fumble recovery, one QB hurry on season
- » Tied for the Illinois lead in tackles (95) and led Illinois in solo tackles (48)
- » Second on the team in TFLs (8.5)
- » First career forced fumble against Minnesota 11/3/18
- » First career sack at Maryland 10/27/18
- » First career PBU at Rutgers 10/6/18

- » Illinois single-game record-tying 6.0 TFLs in the season opener against Kent State 9/1/18
- » The 6.0 TFLs against Kent State 9/1/18 tied for the seventh-most in Big Ten history
- » Game-high and career-high 15 tackles (10 solo) against Kent State 9/1/18
- » PFF National Team of the Week and Big Ten Co-Defensive Player of the Week after 15 tackle, 6.0 TFL performance vs. Kent State.
- » Won team's Bruce Capel Award for courage

2017 Sophomore:

- » Did not play in 2017 after suffering season-ending injury during training camp.

2016 Freshman:

- » Played in all 12 games, primarily on special teams, with one start at linebacker
- » Eight tackles and one QB hurry on the season
- » First career start vs. Minnesota
- » Two tackles against Minnesota and Northwestern
- » QB hurry at Northwestern

High School:

- » Three-star recruit by Scout
- » Ranked among the top 100 O LBs nationally by Scout (No. 99)
- » Ranked among the top 100 inside linebackers nationally by ESPN.com (No. 60) and 247Sports (No. 98)
- » Totaled 103 tackles (75 solo) and 2.0 sacks as a senior
- » Class 7A Associated Press All-State second team in 2015
- » Also played basketball and ran track and field in high school
- » Honor roll student (4.3 GPA)

Personal:

- » Born June 19, 1998
- » Son of Shad and Lori Hansen
- » Has two younger siblings, Lane (brother) and Jessie (sister)
- » Father, Shad Hansen, played football at BYU from 1989-92 and is the school's all-time leading tackler (408)
- » Graduated with a degree in kinesiology
- » Enrolled in the recreation, sport, and tourism master's program

CAREER HIGHS

**Tackles:** 15, twice (last at Rutgers, 11/14/20)  
**TFLs:** 6.0 vs. Kent State, 9/1/18  
**Sacks:** 1.0, three times (last at Minnesota, 10/5/19)  
**QB Hurries:** 1 at Northwestern, 11/26/16  
**Fumbles Forced:** 2, twice (last vs. Wisconsin, 10/19/19)  
**Fumbles Recovered:** 2 vs. Nebraska, 9/21/19  
**PBUs:** 1 at Rutgers, 10/6/18  
**Interception:** 1 vs. Akron, 8/31/19  
**Long interception return:** 4, at Rutgers 11/14/20  
**Pass breakups:** 1, twice (last at Rutgers 11/14/20)

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	G	UA	A	TOT	TFL	YDS	PD	FF	FR	BLK	QBH
2016	12	2	6	8	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	1
2017					DNP - Injured						
2018	12	48	47	95	8.5	18	1	1	1	0	1
2019	9	41	31	72	7.5	38	1	7	3	0	0
2020	4	20	16	36	4.0	11	2	2	1	0	0
TOTAL	25	109	94	203	20.0	67	4	10	5	0	1

INTERCEPTION STATISTICS

YEAR	G	INT	YDS	TD	LG	AVG/R	AVG/G
2016	12	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
2017					DNP - Injured		
2018	12	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
2019	9	1	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
2020	4	1	4	0	4	4.0	1.0
TOTAL	25	2	4	0	4	2.0	0.2

SACKS STATISTICS

YEAR	G	UA	A	TOTAL	YDS
2016	12	0	0	0	0
2017					DNP - Injured
2018	12	1	0	1.0	6
2019	9	3	1	3.5	27
2020	4	1	0	1.0	3
TOTAL	25	5	1	5.5	36

DEFENSIVE GAME-BY-GAME

2020	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH PBU
@WIS	2	0	2	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0 0
PUR	8	6	14	2.0-3	0-0	1	1-0	0-0	0 0
MIN	3	3	6	1.0-5	0.0-0	1	0-0	0-0	0 0
@RUT	6	9	15	1.0-3	1.0-3	0	0-0	1-4	0 1

@NEB  
OSU  
IOWA  
@NW

2019	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH PBU
AKRON	5	2	7	0.5-4	0.5-4	1	1-0	1-0	0 0
@UCONN	3	4	7	1.0-9	1.0-9	0	0-0	0-0	0 0
EMU	4	3	7	1.5-3	0.0-0	0	1-0	0-0	0 0
NEB	11	1	12	1.0-5	0.0-0	2	1-0	0-0	0 0
@MIN	2	4	6	1.5-9	1.0-8	1	0-0	0-0	0 0
MICH	3	6	9	0.0-0	0.0-0	1	0-0	0-0	0 0
WIS	6	5	11	1.0-6	1.0-6	2	0-0	0-0	0 0
@PUR	4	1	5	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0 0
RUT	3	6	9	1.0-2	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0 0

@MSU  
@IOWA  
NW  
vs. CAL  
DNP - Injured  
DNP - Injured  
DNP - Injured  
DNP - Injured

2018	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH PBU
KENT ST	10	5	15	6.0-8	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0 0
WIU	2	1	3	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0 0
USF	5	3	8	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0 0
PENN ST	1	2	3	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0 0
@RUT	6	3	9	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0 1
PUR	3	5	8	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	1 0
@WIS	5	4	9	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0 0
@MD	8	3	11	1.5-7	1.0-6	0	0-0	0-0	0 0
MINN	4	4	8	0.0-0	0.0-0	1	1-0	0-0	0 0
@NEB	0	3	3	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0 0
IOWA	3	7	10	0.5-1	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0 0
@NW	1	7	8	0.5-2	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0 0

2016	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-YDS	QBS-YDS	FF	FR-YDS	INT-YDS	QBH PBU
MUR ST	0	1	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0 0
UNC	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0 0
WMU	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0 0
@NEB	0	1	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0 0
PUR	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0 0
@RUT	0	1	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0 0
@MICH	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0 0
MINN	1	1	2	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0 0
MICH ST	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0 0
@WIS	0	1	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0 0
IOWA	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0 0
@NW	1	1	2	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	1 0

14 BLAKE HAYES

P, 6-6, 215, SR.  
MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA / BRIGHTON GRAMMAR

2020 Senior:

- » Top NFL Draft punting prospect in the nation by Mel Kiper
- » USA TODAY Preseason All-American second team
- » Campbell Trophy nominee
- » Athlon Preseason All-American second team
- » Phil Steele Preseason All-American third team
- » Phil Steele Preseason All-Big Ten first team

2019 Junior:

- » 2019 Big Ten Punter of the Year
- » All-Big Ten first team (coaches)
- » All-Big Ten first team (media)
- » 77 punts, 3,437 punt yards (44.6 yards/punt), 32 punts inside the 20, 22 punts of 50+ yards, only two touchbacks on the season
- » Led the Big Ten and ranked 18th in the nation in punting average (44.6)
- » Illinois single-season record 32 punts downed inside the 20
- » Illinois single-season record 41.6% (32/77) of punts downed inside the 20
- » Illinois single-season record 22 punts of 50+ yards
- » Illinois single-season record 3,437 punt yards
- » Illinois single-season record low two touchbacks
- » Illinois single-season record low 2.6% (2/77) touchback percentage
- » Third-best single-season punting average in Illinois history (44.6)
- » Second on Illinois' career punting average list (43.4 ypp)
- » Fourth on Illinois' career punting yardage list (9,369)
- » Sixth on Illinois' career punts list (216)

2018 Sophomore:



- » All-Big Ten third team (media)
- » All-Big Ten honorable mention (coaches)
- » Started all 12 games at punter
- » Averaged 43.6 yards per punt (62 punts for 2,701 yards) with 21 downed inside the 20-yard line
- » Career average of 42.7 ranks second on Illinois career list
- » 23rd in the nation in punting average (43.6) during the regular season
- » Season average of 43.6 ypp ranks fifth-best in Illinois history
- » Career-high four 50+-yard punts against South Florida 9/15/18
- » Career-high five punts downed inside the 20 against Western Illinois 9/8/18
- » Placed 11 punts inside the 20 in the first three games
- » 53.4 ypp against Kent State was the fourth-best single-game average in program history
- » Also served as primary holder for field goals and PATs
- » Academic All-Big Ten

2017 Freshman:

- » All-Big Ten honorable mention (media)
- » BTN.com All-Freshman Team
- » Starting punter for all 12 games
- » 77 punts, 3,231 yards (42.0 ave.), 10 punts of 50+ yards, 22 punts inside the 20-yard line on the season
- » Voted team's Dike Eddleman Outstanding Special Teams Player
- » 42.0 yards per punt ranked fourth in FBS among true freshmen and was the ninth-best single-season average in Illinois history
- » Ranked third in the Big Ten in punting average (42.7) and third net punting (40.0) in conference games
- » 59 punts, 2,519 yards (42.7 yards/punt), eight punts of 50+ yards, 18 punts inside the 20-yard line during Big Ten games
- » Booted season-long 64 yard punt at Ohio State on Nov. 18
- » Made his Illinois debut in the opener against Ball State
- » College debut was the first football game he ever attended
- » Third-tallest punter in FBS (one inch shorter than Bowling Green's Joseph Davidson and Houston's Dane Roy)

High School:

- » Played Australian rules football for three years high school
- » Captained the 2016 Brighton Grammar School AFL team
- » Valedictorian
- » High School Vice Captain
- » ProKick Australia product

Personal:

- » Born Aug. 13, 1998
- » Son of Ronan and Georgina Hayes
- » One older brother, Max
- » Chose Illinois because, "It gives me the best opportunity to be successful on and off the field. From great academic facilities and staff to a coaching staff with the most NFL experience, I couldn't have asked for another school that has everything I need to provide me with the best opportunity to succeed."
- » Majoring in kinesiology

CAREER HIGHS

Punts: 11, twice (last at Ohio State, 11/18/17)  
Punt Yards: 469 at Ohio State, 11/18/17  
Longest Punt: 70 vs. Michigan, 10/12/19  
Punt Average: 53.4 vs. Kent State, 9/1/18  
50+ Yard Punts: 4 vs. South Florida, 9/15/18  
Punts Inside the 20: 5, three times (last at Minnesota, 10/5/19)

PUNTING STATISTICS

YEAR	G	NO.	YDS	LG	AVG
2017	12	77	3231	64	42.0
2018	12	62	2701	69	43.6
2019	13	77	3437	70	44.6
2020	4	19	819	59	43.1
TOTAL	41	235	10188	70	43.4

PUNTING GAME-BY-GAME

2020	No	Yds	Avg	Long	Blkd	TB	FC	50+	I20
@WIS	5	216	43.2	54	0	0	2	1	2
PUR	2	83	41.5	53	0	1	0	1	1
MIN	8	336	42.0	54	0	0	2	1	2
@RUT	4	184	46.0	59	0	0	3	1	3
@NEB									
OSU									

IOWA  
@NW

2019	No	Yds	Avg	Long	Blkd	TB	FC	50+	I20
AKRON	4	184	46.0	51	0	0	0	1	2
@UCONN	4	155	38.8	47	0	0	1	0	3
EMU	7	338	48.3	55	0	0	1	3	2
NEB	8	368	46.0	59	0	0	2	3	5
@MIN	7	302	43.1	53	0	0	2	1	5
MICH	7	328	46.9	70	1	1	0	4	2
WIS	5	233	46.6	55	0	0	1	2	1
@PUR	8	342	42.8	64	0	0	0	1	2
RUT	5	227	45.4	55	0	0	0	2	2
@MSU	9	401	44.6	60	0	1	3	1	3
@IOWA	4	154	38.5	49	0	0	2	0	0
NW	4	197	49.2	61	0	0	0	2	1
vs. CAL	5	208	41.6	55	0	0	1	2	4

2018	No	Yds	Avg	Long	Blkd	TB	FC	50+	I20
KENT ST	5	267	53.4	69	0	1	0	3	2
WIU	7	287	41.0	51	0	0	0	1	5
USF	7	322	46.0	62	0	1	2	4	4
PENN ST	4	179	44.8	54	0	0	0	1	1
@RUT	4	176	44.0	51	0	1	1	1	2
PUR	9	391	43.4	53	0	1	3	2	2
@WIS	6	219	36.5	48	0	0	1	0	1
@MD	4	167	41.8	48	0	0	1	0	1
MINN	2	82	41.0	49	0	0	1	0	1
@NEB	3	129	43.0	45	1	1	0	0	0
IOWA	8	359	44.9	62	1	0	1	2	1
@NW	3	123	41.0	48	0	0	0	0	1

2017	No	Yds	Avg	Long	Blkd	TB	FC	50+	I20
BALL ST	4	184	46.0	54	0	0	0	1	1
WKU	7	243	34.7	52	0	0	1	1	2
@USF	7	285	40.7	49	0	0	0	0	1
NEB	5	185	37.0	44	0	0	3	0	3
@IOWA	2	88	44.0	51	0	0	0	1	0
RUT	6	259	43.2	47	0	1	1	0	1
@MIN	5	262	52.4	59	0	0	0	3	2
WIS	4	164	41.0	46	0	0	3	0	2
@PUR	5	185	37.0	44	0	0	3	0	3
IND	11	455	41.4	53	0	0	3	1	3
@OSU	11	469	42.6	64	0	0	2	2	2
NW	9	393	43.7	52	0	0	0	1	3

84 OWEN HICKEY

WR, 6-2, 165, FR.

DES PLAINES, ILL. / SAINT VIATOR HIGH SCHOOL

High School:

- » Named All-Conference 2019
- » Played four years of basketball and baseball
- » Honor Roll student
- » Also was the kickoff specialist as a junior and punter as a senior

Personal:

- » Born May 8, 2002
- » Son of Thomas and Jeanne
- » Older brother, Patrick, and older sister, Catherine
- » Enrolled in general curriculum

14 BRIAN HIGHTOWER

WR, 6-3, 220, JR.

LEIMERT PARK, CALIF. / IMG ACADEMY / MIAMI (FLA.)

2020 Sophomore:

- » First Illinois career catch, four catches for 97 yards in home opener against Purdue 10/31/20
- » Made Illinois debut in the season opener at Wisconsin 10/23/20
- » Starting wide receiver
- » Immediate eligible after receiving an NCAA waiver

2018 Freshman (Miami, Fla.):

- » Played in 11 games in regular season and made three starts
- » Finished with four catches for 60 yards and one touchdown
- » Caught first touchdown pass of career in debut vs. LSU 9/2/18, hauling in 32-yard pass in end zone for first career catch
- » 8-yard reception at Toledo 9/15/18
- » 13-yard reception in win over North Carolina 9/27/18

- » 7-yard catch in come-from-behind win vs. Florida State 10/6/18
- » Played in games versus Boston College 10/26/18 and Duke 11/3/18
- » Played in wins over Virginia Tech 11/17/18 and Pittsburgh 11/24/18
- » Started New Era Pinstripe Bowl vs. Wisconsin 12/27/18

High School:

- » Consensus four-star prospect by ESPN, 247Sports.com and Rivals.com
- » #36 wide receiver in the nation and #32 prospect in state of Florida by 247Sports
- » Ranked among top 300 recruits by ESPN.com
- » Participated in The Opening in summer of 2017
- » Selected to 2018 U.S. Army All-American Bowl in San Antonio
- » As senior at IMG, led team with 35 catches for 445 yards and five touchdowns
- » Posted breakout sophomore season at Calabasas High School (Calif.) in 2015, as he caught 71 passes for 1,344 yards and 14 touchdowns before transferring to IMG Academy in 2016
- » Chose Miami over offers from Alabama, Clemson and USC, among others
- » Majoring in recreation, sport, and tourism

Personal:

- » Born July 17, 1999
- » Majoring in recreation, sport, and tourism

CAREER HIGHS (ILLINOIS)

Touchdowns: 1 vs Purdue 10/31/20  
Receptions: 4 vs Purdue 10/31/20  
Receiving Yards: 97 vs Purdue 10/31/20  
Long Reception: 44 vs Purdue 10/31/20  
All-purpose Yards: 97 vs Purdue 10/31/20

RECEIVING STATISTICS

YEAR	G	REC	YDS	TD	LG	REC/G	AVG/C	AVG/G
2018*	11	4	60	1	32	0.4	15.0	5.5
2019*	7	8	88	0	19	1.1	11.0	12.6
2020	4	6	129	1	44	1.5	21.5	32.2
TOTAL	4	6	129	1	44	1.5	21.5	32.2
ALL*	22	18	277	2	44	0.8	15.4	12.6

\* - stats include Miami (2018-19)

RUSHING/RECEIVING GAME-BY-GAME

2020	CAR	YDS	TD	LG	REC	YDS	TD	LG
@WIS	0	0	0	0	1	26	0	26
PUR	0	0	0	0	4	97	1	44
MIN	0	0	0	0	1	6	0	6
@RUT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
@NEB								
OSU								
IOWA								
@NW								

8 NATE HOBBS

DB, 6-0, 195, SR.

LOUISVILLE, KY. / LOUISVILLE MALE

2020 Senior:

- » Starting defensive back
- » Fourth-quarter interception at Rutgers 11/14/20 led to Illinois' game-winning field goal
- » Phil Steele Preseason All-Big Ten third team

2019 Junior:

- » Started all 13 games at cornerback
- » All-Big Ten honorable mention (media)
- » 67 tackles, 5.5 TFLs, one interception, one fumble recovery on the season
- » Four tackles and a career-high 2.0 TFLs at Michigan State 11/9/19 to help Illinois win 37-34 in the biggest comeback in program history
- » First career touchdown on a 36-yard fumble return in a 38-10 win over Rutgers 11/2/2019
- » Career-high 10 tackles vs. No. 6 Wisconsin 10/19/19 to help Illinois win 24-23 and complete one of the biggest upsets in Big Ten history



» Career-high six solo tackles at UConn 9/7/19

2018 Sophomore:

- » Played nine games with seven starts at corner
- » 22 tackles, 3.0 TFLs, one interception and one PBU
- » Returned four punts for seven yards and returned two kickoffs for 27 yards
- » PBU against Iowa 11/17/18
- » First career interception at Rutgers 10/6/18
- » Missed the first three games of the season due to suspension

2017 Freshman:

- » BTN.com All-Freshman Team
- » Played in all 12 games with 10 starts at cornerback
- » 48 tackles (31 solo), 2.0 TFLs, 1.0 sack, two pass breakups, one forced fumble on the season
- » Led Illinois in defensive snaps
- » Seventh on the team in tackles (48)
- » 10 kick returns for 223 yards (22.3 yards per kick return)
- » Four punt returns for five yards (1.2 yards per punt return)
- » Scored a defensive extra point on a blocked extra point at South Florida
- » Made his Illinois debut in the opener against Ball State
- » First career start against Western Kentucky
- » First career sack at Iowa

High School:

- » Three-star recruit by Scout
- » Ranked No. 233 corner back in the nation by 247Sports
- » Ranked No. 15 recruit in Kentucky by 247Sports
- » High jumped 6-9 and long jumped 22' 11.25 in high school

Personal:

- » Born June 24, 1999
- » Majoring in sociology

CAREER HIGHS

**Tackles:** 10 vs. Wisconsin, 10/19/19  
**TFLs:** 2.0, twice (last at Wisconsin 10/23/20)  
**Sacks:** 1.0 at Iowa, 10/7/17  
**Fumbles Forced:** 1 vs. Nebraska, 9/29/17  
**Fumbles Recovered:** 1 vs. Rutgers, 11/2/2019  
**PBUs:** 2, three times (last at Michigan State, 11/9/19)  
**Interception:** 1, three times (last at Rutgers, 11/14/20)  
**Kick Returns:** 4 vs. Indiana, 11/11/17  
**Kick Return Yards:** 92 vs. Indiana, 11/11/17  
**Long Kick Return:** 31 vs. Rutgers, 10/14/17  
**All-Purpose Yards:** 96 vs. Indiana, 11/11/17  
**Punt Returns:** 2, twice (last vs. Iowa, 11/17/18)  
**Punt Return Yards:** 4, twice (last vs. Iowa, 11/17/18)  
**Long Punt Return:** 4, twice (last vs. Iowa, 11/17/18)  
**All-Purpose Yards:** 96 vs. Indiana, 11/11/17  
**Touchdowns:** 1 vs. Rutgers, 11/2/2019  
**Defensive Extra Point:** 1 at South Florida, 9/15/17

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	G	UA	A	TOT	TFL	YDS	PD	FF	FR	BLK	QBH
2017	12	31	17	48	2.0	8	2	1	0	0	0
2018	9	13	9	22	3.0	8	2	0	0	0	0
2019	13	44	23	67	5.5	15	11	0	1	0	0
2020	3	19	4	23	3.0	5	3	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	37	107	53	160	13.5	36	18	1	1	0	0

INTERCEPTION STATISTICS

YEAR	G	INT	YDS	TD	LG	AVG/R	AVG/G
2017	12	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
2018	9	1	27	0	27	27.0	3.0
2019	13	1	29	0	29	29.0	2.2
2020	3	1	27	0	27	27.0	9.0
TOTAL	37	3	83	0	29	27.7	2.2

SACKS STATISTICS

YEAR	G	UA	A	TOTAL	YDS
2017	12	1	0	1.0	7
2018	9	0	0	0.0	0
2019	13	0	0	0.0	0
2020	3	0	0	0.0	0
TOTAL	37	1	0	1.0	7

KICK RETURN STATISTICS

YEAR	G	NO.	YDS	TD	LG	AVG/R	AVG/G
2017	12	10	223	0	31	22.3	18.6
2018	9	2	27	0	15	13.5	3.0
2019	12	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
2020	2	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL	36	12	250	0	31	20.8	7.1

PUNT RETURN STATISTICS

YEAR	G	NO.	YDS	TD	LG	AVG/R	AVG/G
2017	12	4	5	0	4	1.2	0.4
2018	9	4	7	0	4	1.8	0.8

2019	12	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
2020	2	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL	36	9	15	0	4	1.7	0.4

DEFENSIVE GAME-BY-GAME

2020	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH PBU
@WIS	8	1	9	2.0-3	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0 0
PUR	3	3	6	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0 1
MIN				DNP - Injured					
@RUT	7	0	7	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	1-26	0 1
@NEB									
OSU									
IOWA									
@NW									

2019	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH PBU
AKRON	4	2	6	1.0-1	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0 0
@UCONN	6	2	8	1.0-3	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0 0
EMU	3	1	4	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0 2
NEB	3	2	5	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0 1
@MIN	2	2	4	0.5-2	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0 0
MICH	2	2	4	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0 2
WIS	4	6	10	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0 0
@PUR	3	1	4	0.0-0	0.0-0	1	0-0	0-0	0 1
RUT	2	0	2	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	1-36	0-0	0 0
@MSU	2	2	4	2.0-5	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0 1
@IOWA	4	1	5	1.0-4	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0 1
NW	1	2	3	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	1-29	0 0
vs. CAL	9	0	9	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0 1

2018	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH PBU
KENT ST				DNP - Suspended					
WIU				DNP - Suspended					
USF				DNP - Suspended					
PENN ST	1	1	2	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0 0
@RUT	1	0	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	1-27	0 0
PUR	1	2	3	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0 0
@WIS	2	2	4	1.0-4	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0 0
@MD	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0 0
MINN	2	1	3	1.0-3	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0 0
@NEB	2	1	3	1.0-1	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0 0
IOWA	2	1	3	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0 1
@NW	2	1	3	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0 0

2017	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH PBU
BALL ST	3	0	3	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0 0
WKU	5	1	6	1.0-1	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0 1
@USF	4	1	5	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0 0
NEB	3	5	8	0.0-0	0.0-0	1	0-0	0-0	0 0
@IOWA	5	0	5	1.0-7	1.0-7	0	0-0	0-0	0 0
RUT	1	2	3	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0 0
@MIN	2	2	4	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0 0
WIS	0	1	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0 0
@PUR	2	0	2	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0 0
IND	2	3	5	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0 0
@OSU	1	1	2	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0 1
NW	3	1	4	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0 0

KICK RETURN/PUNT RETURNS GAME-BY-GAME

2019	KR-YDS	AVG	TD	LG	PR-YDS	AVG	TD	LG
AKRON	0-0	0.0	0	0	0-0	0.0	0	0
@UCONN	0-0	0.0	0	0	0-0	0.0	0	0
EMU	0-0	0.0	0	0	0-0	0.0	0	0
NEB	0-0	0.0	0	0	0-0	0.0	0	0
@MIN	0-0	0.0	0	0	0-0	0.0	0	0
MICH	0-0	0.0	0	0	0-0	0.0	0	0
WIS	0-0	0.0	0	0	0-0	0.0	0	0
@PUR	0-0	0.0	0	0	0-0	0.0	0	0
RUT	0-0	0.0	0	0	0-0	0.0	0	0
@MSU	0-0	0.0	0	0	0-0	0.0	0	0
@IOWA	0-0	0.0	0	0	0-0	0.0	0	0
NW	0-0	0.0	0	0	0-0	0.0	0	0
vs. CAL	0-0	0.0	0	0	1-3	3.0	0	3

2018	KR-YDS	AVG	TD	LG	PR-YDS	AVG	TD	LG
KENT ST				DNP - Suspended				
WIU				DNP - Suspended				
USF				DNP - Suspended				
PENN ST	2-27	13.5	0	15	0-0	0.0	0	0
@RUT	0-0	0.0	0	0	0-0	0.0	0	0
PUR	0-0	0.0	0	0	0-0	0.0	0	0
@WIS	0-0	0.0	0	0	0-0	0.0	0	0
@MD	0-0	0.0	0	0	1-1	1.0	0	1
MINN	0-0	0.0	0	0	0-0	0.0	0	0
@NEB	0-0	0.0	0	0	1-2	2.0	0	2
IOWA	0-0	0.0	0	0	2-4	2.0	0	4
@NW	0-0	0.0	0	0	0-0	0.0	0	0

2017	KR-YDS	AVG	TD	LG	PR-YDS	AVG	TD	LG
BALL ST	0-0	0.0	0	0	0-0	0.0	0	0
WKU	0-0	0.0	0	0	0-0	0.0	0	0
@USF	0-0	0.0	0	0	0-0	0.0	0	0
NEB	0-0	0.0	0	0	0-0	0.0	0	0
@IOWA	1-15	15.0	0	15	0-0	0.0	0	0
RUT	3-75	25.0	0	31	0-0	0.0	0	0
@MIN	0-0	0.0	0	0	0-0	0.0	0	0
WIS	0-0	0.0	0	0	0-0	0.0	0	0
@PUR	2-41	20.5	0	23	0-0	0.0	0	0
IND	4-92	23.0	0	28	1-4	4.0	0	4

@OSU	0-0	0.0	0	0	1-1	1.0	0	1
NW	0-0	0.0	0	0	2-0	0.0	0	0

33 EZEKIEL HOLMES

DL, 6-5, 240, SO.

WICHITA FALLS, TEXAS / HIRSCHI

2020 Sophomore:

- » Backup defensive lineman

2019 Redshirt Freshman:

- » Played in one game
- » Made Illinois debut in the season opener against Akron

2018 Freshman:

- » Redshirted 2018 season (Did not play)

High School:

- » Three-star recruit by 247Sports
- » Ranked No. 60 weakside defensive end in the nation by 247Sports
- » Played for head coach Danny Youngs at Hirschi
- » Three-time all-district
- » 2017 all-state second team
- » 96 tackles, 38.0 TFLs, 6.0 sacks, two interceptions, two forced fumbles, two fumble recoveries and two touchdowns as senior
- » 39 tackles, 1.0 sack, one interceptions and two fumble recoveries as a junior
- » Also played basketball and threw shot put in high school
- » Verbally committed to Illinois in February 2018
- » Offers included Air Force and Washington State

Personal:

- » Born July 7, 2000
- » Son of Enez and Ronnie Holmes
- » One older brother, Ronnie A. Holmes, one older sister, Alexis Brown, and one younger sister, Miracle Holmes
- » Plans to be an accountant or work with kids following his playing career
- » Picked Illinois because, "Illinois was the best option for me to develop into a good young man."
- » Plays the piano and drums
- » Majoring in sociology

DEFENSIVE GAME-BY-GAME

2020	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH PBU
@WIS	0	0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0 0
PUR	0	0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0 0
MIN				DNP					
@RUT	0	0	0	0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0 0
@NEB									
OSU									
IOWA									
@NW									

88 DANIEL IMATORBHEBHE

TE, 6-3, 240, SR.

SUWANEE, GA. / NORTH GWINNETT / USC

Pronunciation: ee-MAT-or-bay-bay

- » Earned bachelor's degree in social science (economics) from USC in Summer 2018
- » Grad transfer is pursuing master's degree in recreation, sport, and tourism at Illinois

USC Career:

- » 25 receptions for 394 yards (15.8 avg) with four touchdowns
- » Appeared in 22 games in his career, with nine starts
- » Missed the last two seasons with an injury,
- » Granted sixth year of eligibility by the NCAA

2020 Senior:

- » Two catches for 43 yards and first touchdown as an Illini in his Illinois debut against Purdue 10/31/20

2019 Senior (USC):

- » Sat out 2019 while continuing to recover from a leg injury



**2018 Junior (USC):**

- » Sat out 2018 with a upper leg muscle injury
- » Held out of 2018 spring practice to rest a nagging hip injury
- » Won USC's Community Service Award.

**2017 Sophomore (USC):**

- » Fought through an early-season injury to make an impact in the second half of his sophomore year in 2017
- » Suffered a hip flexor injury prior to the Stanford game and missed the next five games (Stanford, Texas, California, Washington State, Oregon State)
- » Appeared in nine games (all but Stanford, Texas, California, Washington State, Oregon State) and starting the last four (Colorado, UCLA, Stanford in the Pac-12 Championship Game and Ohio State)
- » Eight catches for 144 yards (18.0 avg)
- » 48-yard catch against Stanford in the Pac-12 Championship Game
- » Two catches for 25 yards against Ohio State in the Cotton Bowl

**2016 Redshirt Freshman (USC):**

- » Appeared in all 13 games with five starts
- » 17 catches for 250 yards (14.7 avg) and four touchdowns
- » 2016 Campus Insiders Freshman All-American second team
- » All-Pac-12 honorable mention

**2015 Freshman (Florida/USC):**

- » Sat out the 2015 season because of NCAA transfer rules
- » Transferred to USC in the fall of 2015 from Florida
- » Enrolled at Florida in the spring of 2015 after graduating a semester early from high school and participated in 2015 spring practice

**High School:**

- » 32 catches for 487 yards (15.2 avg) and eight touchdowns as a senior
- » 29 receptions for 358 yards (12.3 avg) and two touchdowns as a junior
- » Helped North Gwinnett advance to the Class AAAAAA state championship game
- » Also played basketball at North Gwinnett

**Personal:**

- » Received his bachelor's degree in social sciences (economics) in the summer of 2018 from the University of Southern California
- » Was working on a master's degree in social entrepreneurship at USC
- » Enrolled in the recreation, sport, and tourism master's program
- » Born in Los Angeles, then moved to Virginia and Georgia
- » Brother, Josh, was his teammate at USC and now plays at Illinois

**CAREER HIGHS (ILLINOIS)**

**Touchdowns:** 1 vs Purdue 10/23/20  
**Receptions:** 2 vs Purdue 10/23/20  
**Receiving yards:** 43 vs Purdue 10/23/20  
**Long Reception:** 28 vs Purdue 10/23/20  
**All purpose yards:** 43 vs Purdue 10/23/20

**RECEIVING STATISTICS**

YEAR	G	REC	YDS	TD	LG	REC/G	AVG/C	AVG/G
2016*	13	17	250	4	37	1.3	14.7	19.2
2017*	9	8	144	0	48	0.9	18.0	16.0
2020	3	3	54	1	28	1.0	18.0	18.0
TOTAL	3	3	54	1	28	1.0	18.0	18.0
All*	25	28	448	5	48	1.1	16.0	17.9

\* - stats include Southern California (2016-17)

**RUSHING/RECEIVING GAME-BY-GAME**

2020	CAR	YDS	TD	LG	REC	YDS	TD	LG
@WIS				DNP				
PUR	0	0	0	0	2	43	1	28
MIN	0	0	0	0	1	11	0	11
@RUT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
@NEB								
OSU								
IOWA								
@NW								

# 9 JOSH IMATORBHEBHE

WR, 6-2, 220, SR.

SUWANEE, GA. / NORTH GWINNETT / USC

**Pronunciation:** ee-MAT-or-bay-bay

- » **Earned bachelor's degree in business administration from USC in May 2019**
- » **Grad transfer is pursuing a master's degree in strategic brand communication at Illinois**

**2020 Redshirt Senior:**

- » Starting wide receiver
- » Athlon Preseason All-Big Ten fourth team

**2019 Redshirt Junior:**

- » Played and started the first 11 games at wide receiver
- » Missed the last three games with an injury
- » All-Big Ten honorable mention (media)
- » 33 receptions, 634 receiving yards, nine receiving touchdowns on the season
- » Second in Illinois history in touchdown receptions in a single season (9), one behind the record of 10 set by David Williams in 1985 and Brandon Lloyd in 2001
- » Fifth in the Big Ten and 32nd in the nation in receiving touchdowns (9)
- » Third in the Big Ten and 20th in the nation in yards per reception (19.2)
- » 16th in the Big Ten in receiving yards (634)
- » Led Illinois in receptions (33), receiving yards (634), and touchdowns (9)
- » Big Ten Offensive Player of the Week after four receptions for a career-high 178 yards, including a career-long 83-yard touchdown, at Michigan State 11/9/19 to help Illinois win 37-34 in the biggest comeback in program history
- » 52-yard touchdown reception in 38-10 win over Rutgers 11/2/2019
- » Two receptions for 42 yards and a touchdown vs. No. 6 Wisconsin 10/19/19 to help Illinois win 24-23 and complete one of the biggest upsets in Big Ten history
- » Career-high five receptions and 102 receiving yards against Michigan 10/12/19, including one touchdown
- » 91 receiving yards against Eastern Michigan 9/14/19
- » First career touchdown as part of a two-touchdown game at UConn 9/7/19
- » Made Illinois debut in the season opener against Akron
- » Immediately eligible as a graduate transfer with two years of eligibility remaining

**2018 Redshirt Sophomore (USC):**

- » Played in one game for the Trojans

**2017 Redshirt Freshman (USC):**

- » Backup wide receiver as a redshirt freshman
- » Played in six games (Stanford, Texas, Washington State, Oregon State, Notre Dame, Ohio State)
- » Two receptions for 11 yards on season
- » Nine-yard reception at Washington State and a two-yard catch against Oregon State

**2016 Freshman (USC):**

- » Redshirted the 2016 season
- » Enrolled at USC in the spring of 2016 after graduating a semester early from high school

**High School:**

- » Four-star recruit by 247Sports Composite
- » No. 123 recruit in the nation by 247Sports Composite
- » No. 18 wide receiver in the nation by 247Sports Composite
- » No. 13 recruit in Georgia by 247Sports Composite
- » 2015 Prep Star All-American Dream Team
- » 2015 Gwinnett Daily Post All-County third team
- » Caught 31 passes for 452 yards (14.6 yards/catch) with three touchdowns as a senior

- » Also threw a touchdown, had a 66-yard rush and averaged 19.0 yards on five kickoff returns as a senior
- » 2014 All-Region 7-AAAAA first team
- » Helped North Gwinnett advance to the 2014 Class AAAAAA state championship game
- » 59 receptions for 1,072 yards (18.2 yards/catch) with 15 touchdowns as a junior
- » Five receptions for 55 yards (11.0 yards/catch) with a touchdown as sophomore
- » Also played basketball at North Gwinnett

**Personal:**

- » Born April 12, 1998
- » Brother, Daniel, played football at USC and transferred to Illinois for the 2020 season
- » Majored in business administration at USC
- » Enrolled in the strategic brand communication master's program
- » Traveled to Santiago, Chile, as part of the USC Marshall School of Business' Learning About International Commerce (LINC) program

**CAREER HIGHS**

**Receptions:** 5 vs. Michigan, 10/12/19  
**Receiving Yards:** 178 at Michigan State, 11/9/19  
**Long Reception:** 83 at Michigan State, 11/9/19  
**Rec. Touchdowns:** 2, twice (last at Michigan State, 11/9/19)  
**All-Purpose Yards:** 178 at Michigan State, 11/9/19

**RECEIVING STATISTICS**

YEAR	G	REC	YDS	TD	LG	REC/G	AVG/C	AVG/G
2017*	6	2	11	0	9	0.3	5.5	1.8
2019	11	33	634	9	83	3.0	19.2	57.6
2020	4	11	144	1	52	2.8	13.1	36.0
TOTAL	15	44	778	10	83	2.9	17.7	51.9
All*	21	46	789	10	83	2.2	17.2	37.6

\* - stats include Southern California (2017-18)

**RUSHING/RECEIVING GAME-BY-GAME**

2020	CAR	YDS	TD	LG	REC	YDS	TD	LG
@WIS	0	0	0	0	3	26	0	11
PUR	0	0	0	0	4	43	0	17
MIN	0	0	0	0	2	60	1	52
@RUT	0	0	0	0	2	15	0	9
@NEB								
OSU								
IOWA								
@NW								

2019	CAR	YDS	TD	LG	REC	YDS	TD	LG
AKRON	0	0	0	0	2	34	0	22
@UCONN	0	0	0	0	4	42	2	14
EMU	0	0	0	0	4	91	1	36
NEB	0	0	0	0	1	26	1	26
@MIN	0	0	0	0	4	27	0	10
MICH	0	0	0	0	5	102	1	35
WIS	0	0	0	0	2	42	1	29
@PUR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
RUT	0	0	0	0	3	56	1	52
@MSU	0	0	0	0	4	178	2	83
@IOWA	0	0	0	0	4	36	0	14
NW					DNP - Injured			
vs. CAL					DNP - Injured			

2017-USC	CAR	YDS	TD	LG	REC	YDS	TD	LG
WMU				DNP				
STAN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TEXAS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
@CAL				DNP				
@WASHST	0	0	0	0	1	9	0	9
ORST	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	2
@ND	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
@ASU				DNP				
ARIZ				DNP				
@COL				DNP				
UCLA				DNP				
vs. STAN				DNP				
vs. OSU	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

# 68 RYAN INGOLD

OL, 6-5, 305, FR.

BATAVIA, ILL. / BATAVIA

**High School:**

- » 2019 DuKane Conference Champs
- » Played golf and baseball for three years
- » Honor Roll student



Personal:

- » Son of Barry and Barb
- » Older Brother, Kevin
- » Chose Illinois because it was “perfect match for me to continue athletics and get a great education. Coaches make you feel at home.”
- » Enrolled in the Gies College of Business

55 BLAKE JERESATY

OL, 6-2, 295, R-SR.  
CHARLESTON, S.C. / BISHOP ENGLAND / WOFFORD

2020 Senior:

- » Will miss the 2020 season with an injury

Wofford Career:

- » Played in 35 games with 29 games started at center
- » Recorded 275 career knockdown blocks

2019 Redshirt Junior (Wofford):

- » Started all 12 games at center
- » Led the team with 127 knockdown blocks
- » Recipient of the Southern Conference Jacobs Blocking Award »
- » Named All-Southern Conference first team by the coaches and second team by the media
- » Named first team Associated Press All-America, second team STATS FCS and AFCA All-America, and third team Phil Steele All-America
- » Led the team in knockdown blocks in six games
- » In the season opener at South Carolina State (8/31) had ten knockdown blocks
- » Against Samford (9/14) had 14 knockdown blocks
- » Recorded nine knockdown blocks each against Gardner-Webb (9/21) and at VMI (9/28)
- » At ETSU (10/5) had 22 knockdown blocks
- » Against Chattanooga (10/26) recorded 12 knockdown blocks
- » Against Furman (11/16) had 15 knockdown blocks
- » In the NCAA FCS Playoffs against Kennesaw State (11/30) had ten knockdown blocks
- » Recipient of the Southern Conference Pinnacle Award for the highest GPA on the championship team
- » Named CoSIDA Academic All-District
- » Named to the Southern Conference Fall All-Academic Team
- » Named to the Southern Conference Academic Honor Roll

2018 Redshirt Sophomore (Wofford):

- » Started 12 games at center
- » Recorded 68 knockdown blocks on the season
- » Tied for the team high with seven knockdown blocks in the season opener against The Citadel (9/1)
- » Ten knockdown blocks at Gardner-Webb (9/29) to lead the team
- » Added seven knockdown blocks each at Chattanooga (10/6) and against Mercer (10/27)
- » At Western Carolina (11/10) had eight knockdown blocks »
- » In the NCAA FCS Playoffs against Elon (11/24) had seven knockdown blocks
- » Named to the Southern Conference Academic Honor Roll and the Southern Conference Fall All-Academic Team
- » Recipient of the Southern Conference Pinnacle Award for the highest GPA on the championship team
- » CoSIDA Academic All-District

2017 Redshirt Freshman (Wofford):

- » Played in 11 games with five starts at center
- » Finished season with 80 knockdown blocks
- » Made first career start in the season opener against Furman (9/2) and had 15 knockdown blocks
- » Added 12 knockdown blocks at Mercer (9/9) and ten against Gardner-Webb (9/23)
- » At The Citadel (10/14) had 12 knockdown blocks
- » Against Samford (10/21) had seven knockdown blocks

- » Recipient of the Southern Conference Pinnacle Award for the highest GPA on the championship team
- » Named to the Southern Conference Academic Honor Roll and the Southern Conference Fall All-Academic Team

2016 Freshman (Wofford):

- » Redshirted the season
- » Named to the Southern Conference Academic Honor Roll

High School:

- » A three-year starter at center for Bishop England High School
- » A three-time All-Region selection, during his senior season he was named Region Lineman of the Year, first team All-Low Country, first team All-State, and a North-South All-Star
- » Team won the 6AA region championship his freshman, sophomore and senior seasons, with a state title his freshman year as the squad was 13-1 overall
- » Also played basketball for three seasons and lacrosse for two seasons

Personal:

- » Born April 21, 1998
- » Enrolled in the finance graduate program

76 BREVYN JONES

OL, 6-5, 270, R-FR.  
CENTER POINT, ALA. / HUFFMAN / MISSISSIPPI STATE

2020 Sophomore:

- » Immediate eligible after receiving an NCAA waiver

2019 Freshman (Mississippi State):

- » Redshirted the season

High School:

- » Three-star offensive tackle by 247Sports, Rivals and ESPN
- » #33 recruit from the state of Alabama by ESPN
- » #56 offensive tackle in the 2019 recruiting class by ESPN
- » Played at Huffman High under head coach Alex Wilson
- » Originally committed to Mississippi State on Oct. 31, 2018

Personal:

- » Born Jan. 6, 2001
- » Son of Beverly and Brantley Jones
- » Majoring in kinesiology

37 JADEN JONES-WATKINS

DB, 6-0, 175, SO.  
FISHER, ILL. / FISHER

2020 Sophomore:

- » Joined the team as a walk-on

High School:

- » Two-year letterwinner after beginning football as a junior
- » 2017 all-state
- » 2017 Illinois Shrine Game participant
- » Two-time all-conference
- » Two-time team offensive player of the year
- » Also played basketball and ran track
- » Four-year starter for the basketball team
- » Four-time Honor Roll
- » Graduated in May 2018

Personal:

- » Born June 6, 1999
- » Son of Kevin Jones and Miranda Watkins
- » Two younger brothers, Chandler and Kai, and two younger sisters, Reese and Juliana
- » Chose Illinois because, “It is one of the best schools in the country and I know I will be able to leverage my degree to obtain a great job post graduation.”
- » Majoring in communication

25 KERBY JOSEPH

WR, 6-1, 200, JR.  
ORLANDO, FLA. / JONES

2020 Junior:

- » Moved to wide receiver after practicing at the position during bowl prep in 2019

2019 Sophomore:

- » Played in 12 games and started two at safety
- » 17 tackles, 1.0 TFL, three PBUs on the season
- » Career-high two PBUs at UConn 9/7/19 despite missing the first half due to targeting penalty suspension
- » Targeting penalty in the second half against Akron 8/31/19 and did not play in the first half at UConn 9/7/19

2018 Freshman:

- » Played 10 games
- » Nine tackles and one PBU on season
- » First career PBU against Minnesota 11/3/18
- » Career-high three tackles against Kent State 9/1/18
- » Made his Illinois debut in the season opener against Kent State 9/1/18
- » Missed the Wisconsin and Maryland games with an injury

High School:

- » Three-star recruit by Rivals
- » Two-way player
- » Four interceptions and 7.0 TFLs as a senior, plus five touchdown receptions
- » Played for head coach Elijah Williams at Jones
- » Also ran track and played volleyball in high school
- » Volleyball team's MVP
- » Verbally committed to Illinois in December 2017
- » Offers included Mississippi State, Syracuse, USF and FAU

Personal:

- » Born Nov. 14, 2000
- » Picked Illinois because, “I love the chemistry.”
- » Plans to major in elementary education
- » Majoring in community health

CAREER HIGHS

Tackles: 11 vs. Nebraska, 9/21/19  
TFLs: 0.5, twice (last at UConn, 9/7/19)  
Fumbles Forced: 1 vs. Iowa, 11/17/18  
Fumbles Recovered: -  
PBUs: 2 at UConn, 9/7/19

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	G	UA	A	TOT	TFL	YDS	PD	FF	FR	BLK	QBH
2018	10	8	1	9	0.0	0	1	0	0	0	0
2019	10	13	17	30	1.0	2	3	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	20	21	18	39	1.0	2	4	0	0	0	0

DEFENSIVE GAME-BY-GAME

2019	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
AKRON	2	4	6	0.5-1	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@UCONN	1	2	3	0.5-1	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
EMU	4	4	8	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
NEB	4	7	11	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	1
@MIN	2	0	2	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
MICH	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
WIS				DNP						
@PUR				DNP						
RUT				DNP						
@MSU	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@IOWA	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
NW	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
vs. CAL	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0

2018	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
KENT ST	3	0	3	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
WIU	1	0	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
USF	1	0	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
PENN ST	1	0	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@RUT	0	1	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
PUR	1	0	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@WIS				DNP - Injured						
@MD				DNP - Injured						
MINN	1	0	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	1
@NEB	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
IOWA	1	0	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@NW	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0



## 57 EVAN KIRTS

OL, 6-5, 285, R-FR.

EVERGREEN PARK, ILL. / BROTHER RICE

### 2019 Freshman:

- » Did not play in a game and redshirted

### High School:

- » Three-star recruit by 247Sports, Rivals and ESPN
- » Ranked No. 116 offensive tackle in the nation by ESPN and No. 141 by 247Sports
- » Ranked No. 24 recruit in Illinois by ESPN and No. 42 by 247Sports
- » Two-year letterwinner in football
- » Played for coaches Tim Lyons and Brian Badke at Brother Rice
- » 2018 USA TODAY All-USA Illinois second team
- » 2018 EdgyTim.com All-State 5A-8A
- » 2018 Daily Southtown All-Area First Team
- » Led Brother Rice to an IHSA 8A state runner-up finish as a senior at Memorial Stadium
- » Helped Brother Rice score 405 points as a senior
- » Also played rugby in high school and was a state champion and all-conference selection
- » High Honor Roll & National Honor Society
- » Verbally committed to Illinois in November 2018
- » Offers included Ball State, Eastern Michigan, Northern Illinois, Virginia, and Western Michigan

### Personal:

- » Born Sept. 19, 2000
- » Son of Dawn and Evan Kirts
- » One brother, Tyler, and one sister, April
- » Nicknamed "Cheese"
- » Picked Illinois because he, "loved my visit, coaches were awesome, liked the idea of playing for my home state."
- » Enrolled in general curriculum with plans to major in psychology

## 65 DOUG KRAMER

OL, 6-2, 300, SR.

HINSDALE, ILL. / HINSDALE CENTRAL

### 2020 Senior:

- » Starting center
- » Phil Steele Preseason All-Big Ten third team
- » Athlon Preseason All-Big Ten fourth Team
- » Wuerffel Trophy watch list

### 2019 Junior:

- » Started all 12 regular season games at center
- » Missed the Redbox Bowl with an injury, snapping a streak of 27 straight starts
- » All-Big Ten honorable mention (coaches)
- » All-Big Ten honorable mention (media)
- » No. 8 graded center in the nation and No. 3 in Power-5 by PFF (79.2)
- » Did not allow a sack in 751 snaps

### 2018 Sophomore:

- » Started all 12 games at center
- » Part of an OL that paved the way for the most-improved runnig game in the nation (+137.4 ypg from 2017 to '18), finishing 12th in FBS and second in the Big Ten at 243.0 ypg.
- » Academic All-Big Ten

### 2017 Redshirt Freshman:

- » BTN.com All-Freshman Team honorable mention
- » Played and started eight games at center
- » Missed four games with an injury
- » Made his Illinois debut and first career start in the opener against Ball State
- » Academic All-Big Ten

### 2016 Freshman:

- » Member of the Illinois squad

### High School:

- » Three-year letterwinner at Hinsdale Central
- » Played for head coach Dan Hartman
- » 2015 West Suburban Conference Offensive Lineman of the Year
- » 2015 All-West Suburban Conference
- » 2015 All-State honorable mention
- » Also was a member of the track and field team at Hinsdale Central
- » Dean's List all four years of high school

### Personal:

- » Born June 4, 1998
- » Son of Lisa Kramer and Doug Kramer Sr.
- » Both parents graduated from the University of Illinois
- » Has one brother, Dan, and one sister, Carrie
- » Lists Dee Brown as his favorite athlete
- » Plans to coach following his playing career
- » Graduated with a degree in finance
- » Enrolled in the recreation, sport, and tourism master's program

## 32 TAILON LEITZSEY

DB, 6-0, 190, SR.

LAUREL, MD. / RIVERSIDE / MISSOURI BAPTIST

### Pronunciation: TAY-lon LIT-see

### 2019 Junior:

- » Did not play in a game

### 2018 Sophomore:

- » Redshirted 2018 season (Did not play)
- » Joined squad in September after walk-on tryouts

### Personal:

- » Born Feb. 6, 1999
- » Majoring in kinesiology

## 23 CONNER LILLIG

RB, 5-10, 190, JR.

OAK PARK, ILL. / FENWICK

### 2019 Sophomore:

- » Played in one game at running back
- » First career carries against Rutgers 11/2/19

### 2018 Redshirt Freshman:

- » Member of Illinois team (Did not play)
- » Joined squad in September after walkon tryouts
- » Academic All-Big Ten

### Personal:

- » Born June 8, 1999
- » Majoring in economics

## 15 TY LINDENMAN

WR, 5-6, 160, FR.

SHAWNEE, KAN. / SHAWNEE MISSION NORTHWEST

### High School:

- » Named 1st team All-State, All-Metro, and Sunflower League
- » Gatorade player of the year nominee
- » Played basketball and baseball all four years
- » Sunflower league champions sophomore year (baseball)
- » 72 receptions for 1,491 yards and 19 touchdowns, he also returned 15 kickoffs for 455 yards (30.3) and a touchdown his senior year
- » Finalist for the Otis Taylor Award

- » Honor Roll, 4.2 GPA

### Personal:

- » Son of Andrew and Kris Lindenman
- » One brother, Blake, and two sisters, Sydney and Andi
- » Born December 15, 2001
- » Majoring in agriculture and consumer economics

## 28 REGGIE LOVE III

RB, 5-11, 200, FR.

ST. LOUIS, MO. / TRINITY CATHOLIC

### 2020 Freshman:

- » Plays primarily on special teams as punt returner
- » Made Illinois debut at Wisconsin 10/23/20

### High School:

- » Four-star recruit by Rivals, three-star recruit by 247 and ESPN
- » National ranks: #178 (Rivals), #430 (247 Composite), #815 (247)
- » Running back ranks: #8 (Rivals), #31 (247 Composite), #56 (247), #65 (ESPN)
- » Missouri ranks: #4 (Rivals), #8 (247 Composite), #15 (247), #17 (ESPN)
- » 108 carries for 668 rushing yards and 10 touchdowns during his high school career
- » Played for head coach Cory Patterson, who is now an Illinois assistant, during his first two high school seasons
- » 2019 all-state, all-district, and all-metro
- » National Honor Society
- » Elizabeth Seton Scholar
- » Committed to Illinois on April 4, 2019, becoming the first commit to the Illini's class
- » Offers included Arkansas, Indiana, Iowa, Iowa State, Kansas, Kansas State, Kentucky, Louisville, Minnesota, Nebraska, Notre Dame, Penn State, Purdue, Syracuse, TCU, Tennessee, Utah, Vanderbilt, and Wisconsin

### Personal:

- » Born Oct. 11, 2001
- » Son of Reginald Love Jr. and Kimberly Dennis
- » One brother, Reginald, and three sisters, Reindra, Reginae, and Jordyn
- » Chose Illinois because it, "felt like home."
- » Plans to run his own business following his playing career
- » Enrolled in general curriculum

### RUSHING STATISTICS

YEAR	G	ATT	YDS	TD	LG	AVG/C	AVG/G
2020	4	1	-2	0	0	-2.0	-0.5
TOTAL	4	1	-2	0	0	-2.0	-0.5

### RUSHING/RECEIVING GAME-BY-GAME

2020	CAR	YDS	TD	LG	REC	YDS	TD	LG
@WIS	1	-2	0	0	0	0	0	0
PUR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MIN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
@RUT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
@NEB								
OSU								
IOWA								
@NW								

## 79 VEDERIAN LOWE

OL, 6-6, 320, SR.

ROCKFORD, ILL. / AUBURN

### Pronunciation: vuh-DARE-ee-an

### 2020 Senior:

- » Starting left tackle

### 2019 Junior:

- » Started all 13 games at left tackle
- » Ended the season with 26 straight starts

### 2018 Sophomore:

- » Started all 12 games at left tackle
- » Part of an OL that paved the way for the most-improved running game in the nation (+137.4 ypg from 2017 to '18), finishing 12th in FBS and second in the Big Ten at 243.0 ypg

**2017 Freshman:**

- » BTN.com All-Freshman Team honorable mention
- » Played in eight games with seven starts at tackle
- » Teamed with Alex Palczewski and Larry Boyd to be Illinois' first ever true-freshmen trio to start the same game on the offensive line
- » Made his Illinois debut and first career start at Iowa

**High School:**

- » Three-star recruit by 247Sports, Rivals, ESPN and Scout
- » Ranked No. 68 offensive guard in nation by Scout
- » Ranked No. 108 OT in nation by 247Sports
- » Ranked No. 16 recruit in Illinois by Rivals, No. 25 by ESPN, No. 26 by Scout and No. 29 by 247Sports
- » Three-time all-conference
- » Led Auburn to a 10-2 record and the Illinois state quarterfinals as a senior
- » Helped Auburn rush for 271.1 yards per game in 2016
- » Played for head coach Dan Appino

**Personal:**

- » Born April 17, 1999
- » Son of Eric Lowe and Veneka Cockrell
- » Son, Kingston Lowe, was born in June 2019
- » Chose Illinois because, "I love this program, the coaches, the school and my teammates."
- » Majoring in communication

## 42 MICHAEL MARCHESE

DB, 6-4, 210, SR.

VERNON HILLS, ILL. / STEVENSON

**Pronunciation:** mar-CASE**2019 Junior:**

- » Played in 12 games, primarily on special teams
- » Five tackles, one interception on the season
- » Second career interception at UConn 9/7/19

**2018 Sophomore:**

- » Played 11 games with three starts at safety
- » 21 tackles, two PBUs, one interception, one fumble recovery and one QB hurry on season
- » Career-high 11 tackles at Northwestern 11/24/18
- » First career start and first career interception against Western Illinois 9/8/18
- » Missed the season opener with an injury
- » Academic All-Big Ten

**2017 Freshman:**

- » Walkon played in five games, primarily on special teams
- » Two tackles, one fumble recovery on the season
- » Made his Illinois debut against Wisconsin in the eighth game of the season
- » First career fumble recovery on a muffed punt at Purdue

**High School:**

- » Two-year letterwinner in football
- » Three-year letterwinner in baseball
- » All-conference and all-area selection in football
- » Four-time member of the Green Honor Roll

**Personal:**

- » Born October 23, 1998
- » Son of John and Julie Marchese
- » Three brothers, Joe, Jim and Henry
- » Father played football at Iowa from 1982-86
- » Twin brother Henry plays football at Iowa
- » Brother, Jimmy, played football at Illinois 2015-18

- » Brother, Joe, played football at Maryland from 2013-17
- » Uncle, Dan, played football at Army from 1978-82
- » Chose Illinois because, "The academic and athletic excellence of the school and I loved the campus, the people and the coaching staff."
- » Plans to work in football or business/law after playing career
- » Majoring in economics

**CAREER HIGHS****Tackles:** 11 at Northwestern, 11/24/18**Fumbles Recovered:** 1, twice (last vs. Penn State, 9/21/18)**PBUs:** 1, twice (last vs. South Florida, 9/15/18)**Interception:** 1, twice (last at UConn, 9/7/19)**DEFENSIVE STATISTICS**

YEAR	G	UA	A	TOT	TFL	YDS	PD	FF	FR	BLK	QBH
2017	5	1	1	2	0.0	0	0	0	1	0	0
2018	11	12	9	21	0.0	0	3	0	1	0	1
2019	12	3	2	5	0.0	0	1	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	28	16	12	28	0.0	0	4	0	2	0	1

**INTERCEPTION STATISTICS**

YEAR	G	INT	YDS	TD	LG	AVG/R	AVG/G
2017	5	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
2018	11	1	42	0	42	42.0	3.8
2019	12	1	29	0	29	29.0	2.4
TOTAL	28	2	71	0	42	35.5	2.5

**DEFENSIVE GAME-BY-GAME**

2019	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
AKRON	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@UConn	2	1	3	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	1-29	0	0
EMU	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
NEB	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@MIN				DNP - Injured						
MICH	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
WIS	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@PUR	1	0	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
RUT	0	1	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@MSU	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@IOWA	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
NW	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
vs. CAL	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0

2018	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
KENT ST				DNP - Injured						
WIU	1	2	3	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	1-42	1	1
USF	2	3	5	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
PENN ST	1	0	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	1-11	0-0	0	0
@RUT	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
PUR	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@WIS	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@MD	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
MINN	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@NEB	1	0	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
IOWA	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@NW	7	4	11	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0

2017	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
BALL ST				DNP						
WKU				DNP						
@USF				DNP						
NEB				DNP						
@IOWA				DNP						
RUT				DNP						
@MIN				DNP						
WIS	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@PUR	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	1-0	0-0	0	0
IND	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@OSU	1	1	2	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
NW	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0

## 21 JARTAVIUS MARTIN

DB, 6-0, 195, JR.

LEHIGH ACRES, FLA. / LEHIGH ACRES

**Pronunciation:** jar-TAY-vee-us**Nickname:** Quan**2020 Junior:**

- » Backup defensive back

**2019 Sophomore:**

- » Played in 12 games with five starts at cornerback
- » 23 tackles, 2.0 TFLs, two fumbles recovered on the season
- » Fourth in the Big Ten in fumble recoveries (2)
- » Moved from cornerback to safety in the middle of the season

**2018 Freshman:**

- » Played 10 games with eight starts at corner
- » 42 tackles, 1.5 TFLs, three PBUs and three interceptions

- » Second on the team in interceptions (3)
- » Tied for the fifth-most starts by an Illinois true freshman DB (8)
- » Career-high seven tackles against Nebraska 11/10/18 and at Rutgers 10/6/18
- » Third interception of the season against Rutgers 10/6/18
- » One of two true freshmen in the nation with multiple interceptions in the first three weeks of the season (Andre Cisco, Syracuse)
- » Second career interception against South Florida in the third game of the season
- » First career interception in his first career game, the season opener against Kent State
- » Started the season opener and made his Illinois debut against Kent State 9/1/18
- » Second Illinois true freshman cornerback to start the first two games of the season since 1980, joining Vontae Davis (2006)

**High School:**

- » Three-star recruit by 247Sports and ESPN
- » Two-star recruit by Rivals
- » Ranked No. 101 safety in the nation by ESPN and No. 105 by 247Sports
- » Ranked No. 206 recruit in Florida by ESPN and No. 206 by 247Sports
- » 87 tackles, one interception and one fumble recovery as senior
- » 38 tackles and two interceptions as a junior
- » Verbally committed to Illinois in July 2017

**Personal:**

- » Born April 17, 2000
- » Majoring in communication

**CAREER HIGHS****Tackles:** 7, three times (last vs. Minnesota, 11/7/20)**TFLs:** 2.0 vs. Eastern Michigan, 9/14/19**Fumbles Recovered:** 2 vs. Nebraska, 9/21/19**PBUs:** 1, three times (last at Nebraska, 11/10/18)**Interception:** 1, three times (last at Rutgers, 10/6/18)**DEFENSIVE STATISTICS**

YEAR	G	UA	A	TOT	TFL	YDS	PD	FF	FR	BLK	QBH
2018	10	25	17	42	1.5	4	6	0	0	0	0
2019	12	14	9	23	2.0	6	0	0	2	0	0
2020	4	7	6	13	0.0	0	1	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	26	46	32	78	3.5	10	7	0	2	0	0

**INTERCEPTION STATISTICS**

YEAR	G	INT	YDS	TD	LG	AVG/R	AVG/G
2018	10	3	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
2019	12	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
2020	4	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL	26	3	0	0	0	0.0	0.0

**DEFENSIVE GAME-BY-GAME**

2020	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
@WIS	2	2	4	0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
PUR	1	0	1	0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
MIN	3	4	7	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@RUT	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	1
@NEB				DNP						
OSU				DNP						
IOWA				DNP						
@NW				DNP						

2019	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
AKRON	1	0	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@UConn	1	2	3	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
EMU	2	3	5	2.0-6	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
NEB	2	1	3	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	2-10	0-0	0	0
@MIN	2	3	5	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
MICH	2	0	2	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
WIS	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@PUR				DNP						
RUT	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@MSU	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@IOWA				DNP						
NW	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
vs. CAL	3	0	3	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0

2018	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
KENT ST	2	2	4	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	1-0	0	1
WIU	2	1	3	1.0-4	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	1
USF	6	0	6	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	1-0	0	0
PENN ST	0	1	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@RUT	6	1	7	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	1-0	0	0
PUR	4	2	6	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@WIS	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@MD	1	1	2	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
MINN	2	4	6	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0

@NEB	2	5	7	0.5-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	1
IOWA				DNP - Injured						
@NW				DNP - Injured						

17 JAMES McCOURT

K, 6-1, 215, SR.

PARKLAND, FLA. / ST. THOMAS AQUINAS

2020 Senior:

- » Hit game winning field goal at Rutgers to give the Illini their first win of the season
- » Starting kicker

2019 Junior:

- » Started all 13 games at kicker
- » 13-19 field goals, 42-43 extra points, 65.2% touchback percentage (43/66) on the season
- » Ninth in the Big Ten in scoring (81 points)
- » No. 11 kickoff grade in the nation and No. 2 in the Big Ten by PFF (87.6)
- » 39-yard field goal as time expired beat No. 6 Wisconsin 10/19/19 to finish the largest upset over a ranked team in Big Ten history
- » Three 50+-yard field goals made is the fourth-most in a career in Illinois history
- » 50-yard field goal against Michigan 10/12/19, his third 50+-yard field goal of the season
- » 57-yard field goal against EMU 9/14/19 tied for the longest in school history and was tied the second-longest in the nation in 2019
- » 53-yard field goal at UConn 9/7/19, his first career made field goal, tied for the longest road field goal in Illinois history and tied for the fifth-longest field goal overall in program history

2018 Sophomore:

- » Backup kicker and punter
- » Made his Illinois debut with a kickoff against Minnesota 11/3/18

2017 Freshman:

- » Member of the Illinois squad

2016 Freshman:

- » Member of the Illinois squad

High School:

- » Three-star recruit by Scout, 247Sports, and ESPN.com
- » No. 9 kicker recruit in nation and No. 2 in Florida by Scout
- » Ranked as No. 16 kicker recruit in the nation by 247 Sports
- » Florida Class 7A AP first-team All-State and All-Broward County in 2015
- » Helped team to state championships in 2012, 2014 and 2015
- » Attended same high school as fellow 2016 Illinois signee Dom Thieman, former Illini LB James Crawford and former Illini punter Justin DuVernois
- » Also played lacrosse in high school (two years)

Personal:

- » Born Nov. 9, 1997 in Ireland
- » Son of Ciaran and Margaret McCourt
- » Has one older sister, Ellen, and two younger brothers, Marcus and Alex
- » National Honor Society
- » Lists rugby payer Brian O'Driscoll as his favorite athlete because of his "outstanding work ethic on and off the field"
- » Graduated with a degree in finance
- » Enrolled in the management graduate program

CAREER HIGHS

Points: 11, at Rutgers 11/14/20  
PATs Made: 6 vs. Akron, 8/31/19  
Field Goals Made: 3, at Rutgers 11/14/20  
Long Field Goal: 57 vs. Eastern Michigan, 9/14/19

KICKING STATISTICS

YEAR	PAT	FG	0-29	30-39	40-49	50+	PTS	LG
2018	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0

2019	42-43	13-19	2-2	4-6	3-6	4-5	81	57
2020	3-3	3-5	2-2	0-0	1-2	0-1	12	47
TOTAL	42-43	13-19	2-2	4-6	3-6	4-5	81	57

KICKOFF STATISTICS

YEAR	G	KO	YDS	AVG.	TB	TB%	OB	ONSIDE
2018	1	1	65	65.0	1	100.0	0	0
2019	13	66	4203	63.7	43	65.2	1	0
2020	1	8	514	64.3	4	50%	0	0
TOTAL	15	69	4366	63.3	44	65.7	1	0

KICKING GAME-BY-GAME

2020	FG	MD-ATT	LG	BLKD	KICKOFF	NO	YDS	AVG	TB	OB
@WIS	0-0	0	0	0	2	126	63		0	0
PUR					DNP					
MIN					DNP					
@RUT	5-3	47	0	0	6	388	64.7		4	0
@NEB										
OSU										
IOWA										
@NW										

2019	FG	MD-ATT	LG	BLKD	KICKOFF	NO	YDS	AVG	TB	OB
AKRON	0-1	0	0	0	7	454	64.9		4	0
@UConn	1-1	53	0	3	314	62.8			2	0
EMU	1-1	57	0	6	390	65.0			6	0
NEB	1-1	47	0	7	455	65.0			6	0
@MIN	1-2	46	0	4	252	63.0			2	0
MICH	1-1	50	0	5	324	64.8			4	0
WIS	1-2	39	0	4	255	63.8			3	0
@PUR	1-2	38	0	5	302	60.4			3	0
RUT	1-1	33	0	7	447	63.9			6	0
@MSU	1-1	40	0	6	384	64.0			4	0
@IOWA	1-2	28	0	3	195	65.0			2	0
NW	1-2	50	0	3	181	60.3			1	0
vs. CAL	2-2	30	0	4	250	62.5			0	0

47 QUINTON McCOY

DL, 6-3, 280, FR.

VALRICO, FLA. / BLOOMINGDALE

High School:

- » Three-star recruit by 247 and ESPN, two-star recruit by Rivals
- » National ranks: #1440 (247), #1650 (247 Composite)
- » Defensive tackle ranks: #109 (247), #121 (247 Composite)
- » Defensive end ranks: #146 (ESPN)
- » Florida ranks: #167 (247), #214 (247 Composite), #222 (ESPN)
- » 117 tackles, 9.0 sacks, 20.5 TFLs during his high school career
- » 37 tackles, 2.0 sacks, 3.0 TFLs, one blocked punt as a senior
- » 34 tackles, 2.5 sacks, 7.5 TFLs, one fumble recovery as a junior
- » Committed to Illinois on June 10, 2019
- » Offers included Bowling Green, FIU, Georgia Southern, Iowa State, Louisville, Southern Miss, Toledo, USF, and Kentucky

Personal:

- » Born March 20, 2002
- » Enrolled in general curriculum

46 ALEC McEACHERN

TE, 6-1, 235, JR.

PLAINFIELD, ILL.. / BENET ACADEMY

Pronunciation: Mc-CARE-un

2020 Junior:

- » Plays primarily on special teams

2019 Sophomore:

- » Played in all 13 games, primarily on special teams
- » Four tackles on the season

2018 Redshirt Freshman:

- » Played four games, primarily on special teams
- » Made his Illinois debut against Minnesota 11/3/18, making one tackle
- » Also played against Nebraska, Iowa and Northwestern
- » Academic All-Big Ten

2017 Freshman:

- » Walk-on redshirted the 2017 season

High School:

- » All-state honorable mention as a senior
- » Two-time all-conference and all-area selection
- » Two-time Benet Co-Offensive MVP
- » Lettered three years
- » Played for coach Pat New
- » Also lettered in baseball (3), basketball (1) and lacrosse (1) in high school

Personal:

- » Born Feb. 2, 1999
- » Son of TJ and Tess McEachern
- » One brother, Hayes, and one sister, Avery
- » Father, TJ, played football at North Central
- » Uncle played football at Aurora
- » Chose Illinois because, "Illinois was my favorite team as a kid and was always a dream school of mine. I also wanted to be coached by a man who has great integrity and is known by his players to be a players dream coach. Finally, Illinois has some of the best academics in the country."
- » Plans to start his own business following his playing career
- » Double majoring in management and finance

34 RYAN MEED

LB, 6-1, 220, R-FR.

BROOKLYN, N.Y. / CANARSIE

2019 Freshman:

- » Played the final four games and redshirted the season
- » Made Illinois debut on special teams against Michigan State to help Illinois win 37-34 in the biggest comeback in program history

High School:

- » Played for head coach Brian Ellis at Canarsie
- » 70 tackles, 10 TFLs, five sacks as a senior
- » 2018 All-City Conference
- » 2018 All-City
- » 2018 Defensive Player of the Year
- » Also participated in track and field in high school

Personal:

- » Born Sept. 30, 2001
- » Son of Regina and Tony McWilliams
- » Two sisters, Raina and Madison, and one brother, Christopher
- » Picked Illinois because, "from my first contact with Coach Ligashesky to my visit, it felt like family. That in addition to the academic prestige and the great school community, it was a no brainer."
- » Majoring in kinesiology

54 MARC MONDESIR

DL, 6-2, 240, SR.

CHICAGO, ILL. / ST. RITA

Pronunciation: mon-duh-SEER

2020 Senior:

- » Made switch to defensive line during the off-season

2019 Junior:

- » Played three games at defensive end
- » Two tackles on the season
- » Missed most of the season with an injury

2018 Sophomore:

- » Played 10 games
- » Three tackles, 1.0 TFL, 1.0 sack on season
- » First career sack against Minnesota 11/3/18

2017 Freshman:





- » Played in 11 games, primarily on special teams
- » Four tackles on the season
- » Made his Illinois debut against Western Kentucky

High School:

- » Three-star recruit by 247Sports and Scout
- » Ranked No. 50 linebacker in the nation by Scout and No. 109 by 247Sports
- » Ranked No. 22 recruit in Illinois by Scout, No. 25 by Rivals, No. 32 by ESPN
- » Played at St. Rita High School for head coach Todd Kuska
- » Lettered three years in football
- » 44 tackles, 1.0 TFL in 10 games as a senior
- » 2016 Illinois High School Football Coaches Association academic all-state team
- » 2016 All-CCL Blue
- » Also played basketball for one year and ran track for two years in high school

Personal:

- » Born April 1, 1999
- » Son of Yves and Myrline Mondesir
- » Has two brothers, Eddy Mondesir and Phil Leonard
- » Picked Illinois because, “it provides me with the total package to be successful in line.”
- » Majoring in communication

CAREER HIGHS

Tackles: 2 at Wisconsin, 10/23/20  
TFLs: 1.0 vs. Minnesota, 11/3/18  
Sacks: 1.0 vs. Minnesota, 11/3/18

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	G	UA	A	TOT	TFL	YDS	PD	FF	FR	BLK	QBH
2017	11	2	2	4	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2018	10	3	0	3	1.0	9	0	0	0	0	0
2019	3	1	1	2	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2020	3	2	1	3	0.5	2	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	27	8	4	12	1.5	11	0	0	0	0	0

SACKS STATISTICS

YEAR	G	UA	A	SACKS	YDS
2017	11	0	0	0.0	0
2018	10	1	0	1.0	9
2019	3	0	0	0.0	0
2020	3	0	0	0.0	0
TOTAL	27	1	0	1.0	9

DEFENSIVE GAME-BY-GAME

2020	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
@WIS	2	0	2	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
PUR	0	0	0	0-0-0	0-0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
MIN	0	1	1	0.5-2	0-0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@RUT				DNP - Injured						
@NEB										
OSU										
IOWA										
@NW										

2019	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
AKRON	0	0	0	0-0-0	0-0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@UCONN					DNP					
EMU					DNP					
NEB	1	0	1	0-0-0	0-0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@MIN	0	1	1	0-0-0	0-0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
MICH				DNP - Injured						
WIS				DNP - Injured						
@PUR				DNP - Injured						
RUT				DNP - Injured						
@MSU				DNP - Injured						
@IOWA				DNP - Injured						
NW				DNP - Injured						
vs. CAL				DNP - Injured						

2018	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
KENT ST	0	0	0	0-0-0	0-0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
WIU	0	0	0	0-0-0	0-0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
USF	0	0	0	0-0-0	0-0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
PENN ST				DNP - Injured						
@RUT				DNP - Injured						
PUR	0	0	0	0-0-0	0-0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@WIS	0	0	0	0-0-0	0-0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@MD	1	0	1	0-0-0	0-0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
MINN	1	0	1	1-0-9	1-0-9	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@NEB	0	0	0	0-0-0	0-0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
IOWA	1	0	1	0-0-0	0-0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@NW	0	0	0	0-0-0	0-0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0

2017	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
BALL ST					DNP					
WKU	0	0	0	0-0-0	0-0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@USF	0	0	0	0-0-0	0-0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0

NEB	1	0	1	0-0-0	0-0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@IOWA	0	0	0	0-0-0	0-0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
RUT	0	0	0	0-0-0	0-0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@MIN	0	0	0	0-0-0	0-0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
WIS	0	0	0	0-0-0	0-0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@PUR	1	0	1	0-0-0	0-0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
IND	0	1	1	0-0-0	0-0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@OSU	0	1	1	0-0-0	0-0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
NW	0	0	0	0-0-0	0-0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0

43 GRIFFIN MOORE

TE, 6-4, 235, R-FR.

BLOOMINGTON, ILL. / BLOOMINGTON

2019 Freshman:

- » Redshirted the 2019 season

High School:

- » Three-star recruit by 247Sports and ESPN
- » Two-star recruit by Rivals
- » Ranked No. 84 tight end in the nation by 247Sports
- » Ranked No. 139 athlete in the nation by ESPN
- » Ranked No. 31 recruit in Illinois by ESPN and No. 46 by 247Sports
- » Two-year letterwinner in football
- » Played for head coach Scott Godfrey as a senior and head coach Joe Walters as a junior at Bloomington
- » 2018 Class 6A IHSFCA All-State
- » 2018 USA TODAY All-USA Illinois second team
- » Played mostly quarterback in high school, throwing for 1,957 yards and 31 touchdowns as a senior and 857 yards and five touchdowns as a junior
- » Averaged 37.7 yards per punt with eight down inside the 20-yard line as a senior
- » 2018 all-conference first-team quarterback and second-team punter
- » 2018 Pantagraph All-Area first-team punter and honorable mention quarterback
- » Also played basketball at Bloomington
- » Verbally committed to Illinois in March 2018
- » Offers included Illinois State

Personal:

- » Born Aug. 1, 2000
- » Son of Angie and Tim Moore
- » Father is the principal at Bloomington High School
- » Father played football at Eastern Illinois
- » One younger brother, London
- » Nicknamed “Griff”
- » Chose No. 13 because of his friend Kai Bates Diop (younger brother of NBA player Keita), who had a heart attack while playing basketball and can no longer play competitive sports
- » Picked Illinois because, “The opportunity to represent my home state and help turn around the program.”
- » Plans to work in sports following his playing career as an agent, front office administrator or coach
- » Enrolled in general curriculum with plans to major in business

86 DONNY NAVARRO

WR, 5-11, 185, JR.

NAPERVILLE, ILL. / NEUQUA VALLEY / VALPARAISO

2020 Junior:

- » Starting wide receiver

2019 Sophomore:

- » Played in all 13 games and started six at wide receiver
- » Walk-on was awarded scholarship by Lovie Smith on Nov. 7, 2019
- » 27 receptions, 345 receiving yards, two receiving touchdowns on the season
- » Five punt returns for 25 yards on the season

- » Second on the team in receptions (27) and receiving yards (345)
- » Career-high seven receptions for 49 yards at Michigan State 11/9/19 to help Illinois win 37-34 in the biggest comeback in program history
- » Career-high 57 receiving yards and tied career high with 48-yard reception in 38-10 win over Rutgers 11/2/2019
- » First career start in 24-6 win at Purdue 10/26/19
- » First career Illini touchdown on a 48-yard reception vs. No. 6 Wisconsin 10/19/19 to help Illinois win 24-23 and complete one of the biggest upsets in Big Ten history
- » Made Illinois debut in the season opener against Akron

2018 Sophomore:

- » Sat out the season due to NCAA transfer rules
- » Three years of eligibility remaining starting in 2019

2017 Freshman (Valparaiso):

- » Led Valparaiso in receptions (32), receiving yards (539), yards per catch (16.8), touchdown receptions (5) and receiving yards per game (49.0)
- » Transferred to Illinois following his freshman season with three years of eligibility left
- » Led all PFL freshmen in receiving yards per game, total receiving yards and yards per catch
- » 50-yard reception at Montana on Sept. 2 for first career catch
- » 33-yard touchdown at Montana for his first collegiate score
- » Finished his collegiate debut with three catches for 93 yards
- » First career two-touchdown game on Sept. 30, helping Valpo to a 27-24 win over Stetson
- » Totaled 100 receiving yards against Stetson, which stood as his season high
- » Fourth Crusader in the last 10 years to surpass 500 yards receiving in a season
- » Longest catch of the season was a 79-yarder on Oct. 28 against Morehead State
- » Season-high six receptions Sept. 16 at Trinity International

High School:

- » Played for head coach Bill Ellinghaus at Neuqua Valley
- » Unanimous all-conference selection
- » All-DuPage County
- » Naperville Sun All-Area first team
- » Neuqua Valley Football Athlete of the Year
- » Team captain
- » Also played basketball as a freshman and sophomore
- » Two-time national qualifier in Business Professionals of America

Personal:

- » Born Aug. 25, 1999
- » Son of Don Navarro, Jr. and Shirley Navarro
- » Younger brother, Donovan, and younger sister, Zoe
- » Picked Illinois because of the, “it was a great fit for me as a student-athlete. Academically, it is one of the top universities in the country. The football program has great coaching, is a good fit, and competes in the Big Ten Conference.”
- » Plans to, “design and implement digital technologies that promote learning through the use of web technologies and mobile applications,” following his playing career
- » Majoring in information sciences

CAREER HIGHS

Carries: 1 vs. Michigan, 10/12/19  
Rushing Yards: 6 vs. Michigan, 10/12/19  
Long Run: 6 vs. Michigan, 10/12/19  
Receptions: 7 at Michigan State, 11/9/19  
Receiving Yards: 77 vs. California, 12/30/19  
Long Reception: 48, twice (last vs. Rutgers, 11/2/2019)  
Rec. Touchdowns: 1, twice (last at Iowa, 11/23/19)  
Punt Returns: 2 at UConn, 9/7/19  
Punt Return Yards: 16, twice (last vs Purdue 10/23/20)  
Long Punt Return: 16, twice (last vs Purdue 10/23/20)  
All-Purpose Yards: 80 vs. California, 12/30/19

RECEIVING STATISTICS

YEAR	G	REC	YDS	TD	LG	REC/G	AVG/C	AVG/G
2019	13	27	345	2	48	2.1	12.8	26.5
2020	4	2	20	0	15	0.5	10.0	5.0



TOTAL	17	29	365	2	48	1.7	12.6	21.5
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RUSHING STATISTICS

YEAR	G	ATT	YDS	TD	LG	AVG/C	AVG/G
2019	13	1	6	0	6	6.0	0.5
2020	4	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL	16	1	6	0	6	6.0	0.4

PUNT RETURN STATISTICS

YEAR	G	NO.	YDS	TD	LG	AVG/R	AVG/G
2019	13	5	25	0	13	5.0	1.9
2020	4	1	16	0	16	16.0	4.0
TOTAL	17	6	41	0	16	6.8	2.4

RUSHING/RECEIVING GAME-BY-GAME

2020	CAR	YDS	TD	LG	REC	YDS	TD	LG
@WIS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PUR	0	0	0	0	1	5	0	5
MIN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
@RUT	0	0	0	0	1	15	0	15
@NEB								
OSU								
IOWA								
@NW								

2019	CAR	YDS	TD	LG	REC	YDS	TD	LG
AKRON	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
@UCONN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
EMU	0	0	0	0	1	10	0	10
NEB	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
@MIN	0	0	0	0	3	33	0	16
MICH	1	6	0	6	3	18	0	9
WIS	0	0	0	0	1	48	1	48
@PUR	0	0	0	0	1	17	0	17
RUT	0	0	0	0	2	57	0	48
@MSU	0	0	0	0	7	49	0	12
@IOWA	0	0	0	0	3	36	1	31
NW	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
vs. CAL	0	0	0	0	6	77	0	29

KICK RETURN/PUNT RETURNS GAME-BY-GAME

2019	KR-YDS	AVG	TD	LG	PR-YDS	AVG	TD	LG
AKRON	0-0	0	0	0	1-13	13.0	0	13
@UCONN	0-0	0	0	0	2-7	3.5	0	5
EMU	0-0	0	0	0	0-0	0.0	0	0
NEB	0-0	0	0	0	0-0	0.0	0	0
@MIN	0-0	0	0	0	0-0	0.0	0	0
MICH	0-0	0	0	0	0-0	0.0	0	0
WIS	0-0	0	0	0	0-0	0.0	0	0
@PUR	0-0	0	0	0	0-0	0.0	0	0
RUT	0-0	0	0	0	0-0	0.0	0	0
@MSU	0-0	0	0	0	0-0	0.0	0	0
@IOWA	0-0	0	0	0	0-0	0.0	0	0
NW	0-0	0	0	0	0-0	0.0	0	0

94 JER'ZHAN NEWTON

DL, 6-2, 270, FR.

ST. PETERSBURG, FLA. / CLEARWATER CENTRAL CATHOLIC

2020 Freshman:

- » Highest rated true freshman defender (85.8) by PFF after his first career forced fumble and two tackles against Purdue 10/31/20
- » Made Illinois debut at Wisconsin 10/23/20

High School:

- » Three-star recruit by 247, ESPN, and Rivals
- » National ranks: #821 (247), #1024 (247 Composite)
- » Defensive tackle ranks: #42 (247), #56 (247 Composite)
- » Defensive end ranks: #86 (ESPN)
- » Florida ranks: #94 (247), #125 (ESPN), #134 (247 Composite)
- » Played for head coach Chris Harvey at Clearwater Central Catholic
- » 2019 MaxPreps All-American
- » 244 tackles, 24.0 sacks, 45.0 TFLs, five forced fumbles in his high school career
- » 104 tackles, 16.0 sacks, 29.5 TFLs, three forced fumbles as a senior
- » Honor Roll
- » Also played basketball in high school
- » Offers included Boston College, Cincinnati, Colorado State, Florida, Florida State, Georgia Tech, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas State, Kentucky, Maryland, Miami (Fla.), North Carolina, Rutgers, Syracuse, UCF, USF, Virginia Tech, and West Virginia

Personal:

- » Born Aug. 31, 2002

- » Son of Jervon Newton and Jovita Rich
- » Four brothers, Jervon, Jerquan, Jerjuan, Jershaun
- » Brothers, Jervon and Jerquan, play football at West Florida
- » Brother, Jerjuan, plays football at Toledo
- » Cousin, Pro Wells, plays football at TCU
- » Chose Illinois because, "the coaching staff is great, Lovie made me feel like I would be home with him, one of the best engineering programs."
- » Plans to design and build cars following his playing career
- » Enrolled in general curriculum
- » Played for the same little league team and attended same middle school as Illinois

CAREER HIGHS

Tackles: 3, twice (last at Rutgers 11/14/20)

Sacks: 1.0 vs. Minnesota, 11/7/20

TFL: 1.0 vs. Minnesota, 11/7/20

Fumbles Forced: 1 vs. Purdue 10/31/20

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	G	UA	A	TOT	TFL	YDS	PD	FF	FR	BLK	QBH
2020	4	4	4	8	1.0	10	0	1	0	0	0
TOTAL	4	4	4	8	1.0	10	0	1	0	0	0

SACKS STATISTICS

YEAR	G	UA	A	SACKS	YDS
2020	4	1	0	1.0	10
TOTAL	4	1	0	1.0	10

DEFENSIVE GAME-BY-GAME

2020	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
@WIS	0	0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
PUR	1	1	2	0-0	0-0	1	0-0	0-0	0	0
MIN	2	1	3	1.0-10	1.0-10	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@RUT	1	2	3	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@NEB										
OSU										
IOWA										
@NW										

23 TAHVEON NICHOLSON

DB, 5-11, 170, FR.

JACKSONVILLE, FLA. / LEE HS / PALMETTO PREP

High School:

- » Three-star recruit by 247
- » Two-star recruit by Rivals
- » National prep school ranks: #7 (247 Composite), #8 (247)
- » No. 1 prep school athlete in the nation by 247 Composite
- » Four interceptions and one forced fumble at Palmetto Prep Academy
- » Also played wide receiver for Palmetto Prep Academy
- » Enrolled at Palmetto Prep Academy after high school career at Lee HS
- » Five interceptions and one forced fumble during his high school career
- » 28 touchdowns during his high school career, including two interception returns and one punt return
- » Offers included Florida Atlantic

Personal:

- » Enrolled in general curriculum

3 JAKARI NORWOOD

RB, 5-10, 180, SO.

POMPAHO BEACH, FLA. / DEERFIELD BEACH

Pronunciation: juh-CAR-ee

2020 Sophomore:

- » Part of the running back rotation

2019 Redshirt Freshman:

- » Played in six games at running back
- » 15 carries for 94 yards on the season
- » Career-long 50-yard run at UConn 9/7/19

2018 Freshman:

- » Played three games and redshirted the 2018 season
- » Five carries for 29 yards (5.8 yards per carry) on season

- » One reception for 11 yards on season

High School:

- » Three-star recruit by ESPN
- » Two-star recruit by 247Sports and Rivals
- » Ranked No. 96 running back in the nation by ESPN and No. 142 by 247Sports
- » Ranked No. 246 recruit in Florida by ESPN and No. 320 by 247Sports
- » 2016 and 2017 Sun Sentinel honorable mention
- » Played for head coach Jevon Glenn at Deerfield Beach
- » High school teammate of Illinois TE Daniel Barker
- » Also ran track in high school
- » Verbally committed to Illinois in June 2017

Personal:

- » Born Sept. 6, 1999
- » Son of Angelia McCutcheon
- » Older sister, Vertaisha Torres, and older brother, Israel Rutledge
- » Cousin, Lamar Jackson, played football at Louisville and was the 2016 Heisman Trophy winner
- » Picked Illinois because, "I believe I have a future here and can be apart of something special."
- » Majoring in recreation, sport, and tourism

CAREER HIGHS

Touchdowns: -

Carries: 6 at UConn, 9/7/19

Rushing Yards: 62 at UConn, 9/7/19

Long Run: 50 at UConn, 9/7/19

Receptions: 1, three times (last vs. Eastern Michigan, 9/14/19)

Receiving Yards: 11 vs. Iowa 11/17/19

Long Reception: 11 vs. Iowa 11/17/19

All-Purpose Yards: 64 at UConn, 9/7/19

RUSHING STATISTICS

YEAR	G	ATT	YDS	TD	LG	AVG/C	AVG/G
2018	3	5	29	0	12	5.8	9.7
2019	6	15	94	0	50	6.3	15.7
2020	1	2	1	0	1	0.5	1.0
TOTAL	10	22	124	0	50	5.6	12.4

RECEIVING STATISTICS

YEAR	G	REC	YDS	TD	LG	REC/G	YDS/C	YDS/G
2018	3	1	11	0	11	0.3	11.0	3.7
2019	6	2	-1	0	2	0.3	-0.5	-0.2
2020	1	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL	10	3	10	0	11	0.3	3.3	1.0

RUSHING/RECEIVING GAME-BY-GAME

2020	CAR	YDS	TD	LG	REC	YDS	TD	LG
@WIS	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
PUR				DNP				
MIN				DNP				
@RUT				DNP				
@NEB								
OSU								
IOWA								
@NW								

2019	CAR	YDS	TD	LG	REC	YDS	TD	LG
AKRON	4	3	0	3	0	0	0	0
@UCONN	6	62	0	50	1	2	0	2
EMU	1	4	0	4	1	-3	0	0
NEB	1	16	0	16	0	0	0	0
@MIN				DNP				
MICH				DNP				
WIS	1	3	0	3	0	0	0	0
@PUR				DNP				
RUT	2	6	0	5	0	0	0	0
@MSU				DNP				
@IOWA				DNP				
NW				DNP				
vs. CAL				DNP				

2018	CAR	YDS	TD	LG	REC	YDS	TD	LG
KENT ST				DNP				
WIU	1	(-1)	0	-	0	0	0	-
USF				DNP				
PENN ST				DNP				
@RUT				DNP				
PUR				DNP				
@WIS				DNP				
@MD				DNP				
MINN	0	0	0	-	0	0	0	-
@NEB				DNP				
IOWA	4	30	0	12	1	11	0	11
@NW				DNP				



71 BRETT NOVAK

OL, 6-6, 300, FR.  
MAQUON, ILL. / BRIMFIELD

**High School:**  
» Varsity letterwinner  
» Played basketball and is tied for 12th in IHSA for rebounds in a single game (30), and holds school records for most shots blocked per game, most rebounds per game, most offensive rebounds in a season, and most rebounds in a season

**Personal:**  
» Born March 14, 2002  
» Son of David and Anita  
» Three brothers, Bradley, Darren, and Jared  
» Father, David, played basketball at College of St. Francis for one year  
» Brother, Darren, was in ROTC at Illinois  
» Majoring in natural resources and enviromental sciences

69 MOSES OKPALA

OL, 6-7, 295, SO.  
ST. LOUIS, MO. / LADUE HORTON WATKINS

**Pronunciation:** oak-PAH-la

**2020 Sophomore:**  
» Made switch from defensive line to offensive line

**2019 Freshman:**  
» Played in one game and redshirted the season  
» Made Illinois debut in the season opener against Akron

**High School:**  
» Three-star recruit by 247Sports, Rivals and ESPN  
» Ranked No. 649 recruit in the nation by 247Sports  
» Ranked No. 37 strong side defensive end in the nation by Rivals and No. 47 by 247Sports  
» Ranked No. 38 defensive end in the nation by ESPN  
» Ranked No. 7 recruit in Missouri by Rivals and ESPN and No. 12 by 247Sports  
» No. 48 recruit in Illinois' last 19 years according to 247Sports  
» Four-year letterwinner in football and basketball  
» Played for head coaches Mike Tarpey and Chad Anderson and Ladue  
» Led Ladue Horton Watkins to 2018 Missouri Class 4 state title as a senior and 2017 state runner-up finish  
» 0.5 TFL and one QB hurry in the 2018 Missouri Class 4 state title game  
» 2018 USA TODAY All-USA Missouri first team  
» Two-time all-state defensive end  
» Four-year Honor Roll member  
» Four-year Ram Pride Award recipient  
» National Honor Society  
» Verbally committed to Illinois in November 2018  
» Offers included Arkansas, Iowa State, Kentucky, Michigan State, Minnesota, Mississippi State, Missouri, Nebraska, Northwestern, Ole Miss, Purdue, Vanderbilt, Virginia, and Wisconsin

**Personal:**  
» Born Sept. 19, 1999  
» Son of Moses E. Okpala and Ngozi Okpala  
» American parents are Kim and Gary Bussard  
» Five brothers, Chinedu Okpala, Chukwuebuka Okpala, Goodluck Okpala, Godsgift Okpala and Bryce Bussard, and three sisters, Onyinye Okpala, Haley Bussard and McKenzie Bussard.  
» Nicknamed "Big Mo"  
» Picked Illinois because, "The academics, the coaches and a welcoming environment."  
» Only played basketball before coming to the United States

» Plans to become a lawyer following playing career  
» Majoring in psychology

63 ALEX PALCZEWSKI

OL, 6-6, 310, SR.  
MOUNT PROSPECT, ILL. / PROSPECT

**Pronunciation:** pal-CHESS-key

**2020 Senior:**  
» Starting right tackle  
» Phil Steele Preseason All-Big Ten third team  
» Athlon Preseason All-Big Ten third team  
» Outland Trophy watch list

**2019 Junior:**  
» Started all 13 games at right tackle  
» Ended the season with 36 straight starts  
» All-Big Ten third team (coaches)  
» All-Big Ten honorable mention (media)

**2018 Sophomore:**  
» All-Big Ten honorable mention (media)  
» Pro Football Focus All-Big Ten first team  
» Started all 12 games at right tackle  
» 23 straight starts  
» No. 30 rated tackle in the nation by PFF  
» No. 4 rated tackle in the Big Ten by PFF  
» No. 9 rated run-blocking tackle in the nation by PFF  
» Part of an OL that paved the way for the most-improved runnig game in the nation (+137.4 ypg from 2017 to '18), finishing 12th in FBS and second in the Big Ten at 243.0 ypg.  
» PFF National Team of the Week 11/11/18  
» Academic All-Big Ten

**2017 Freshman:**  
» BTN.com All-Freshman Team honorable mention  
» Started the final 11 games at guard  
» Teamed with Vederian Lowe and Larry Boyd to be Illinois' first ever true-freshmen trio to start the same game on the offensive line  
» Missed the opener with an injury

**High School:**  
» Three-star recruit by Rivals and Scout  
» Ranked No. 45 offensive tackle in the nation by Scout and No. 120 by 247Sports  
» Ranked No. 12 recruit in Illinois by Scout and No. 39 by 247Sports  
» Ranked No. 2 offensive tackle in Illinois by Scout  
» Mid-Suburban League East All-Conference  
» Played for football coach Mike Sebestyen  
» Also wrestled (4 years), played water polo (2 years) and was on the track and field team (2 years) in high school

**Personal:**  
» Born Aug. 3, 1999  
» Son of Andrzej and Bozena Palczewski  
» Has two older brothers, Adam and Alan  
» Picked Illinois because, "It is the flagship of my hometown state, and I want to play for where I grew up."  
» Majoring in kinesiology

98 DEON PATE

DL, 6-2, 280, JR.  
JACKSONVILLE, FLA. / TRINITY CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

**2020 Junior:**  
» Backup defensive lineman

**2019 Sophomore:**  
» Played in nine games at defensive tackle  
» Seven tackles on the season

**2018 Redshirt Freshman:**  
» Played eight games with one start  
» First career start against Iowa 11/17/18  
» Made his Illinois debut at Rutgers 10/6/18

**2017 Freshman:**  
» Redshirted the 2017 season

**High School:**  
» Three-star recruit by 247Sports, Rivals and ESPN  
» Ranked No. 56 strong-side defensive end by 247Sports and No. 107 by ESPN  
» Ranked No. 165 recruit in Florida by 247Sports  
» Played at Trinity Christian Academy for head coach Verlon Dorminey  
» Lettered three years in football  
» Trinity Christian Academy won four straight state titles during his high school career  
» 32 TFLs and 15 sacks a senior  
» 2016 all-county first team  
» 2016 Florida 3A all-state second team  
» Honor Roll for three years

**Personal:**  
» Born Feb. 14, 1998  
» Son of Melinda and Deon Pate Sr.  
» Father, Deon Sr., was a member of the Chicago Bulls practice team  
» Has one brother, Dylan Pate  
» Picked Illinois because, "it was the best fit for me and I love the vision that the coaches have for the program."  
» Wants to go into law enforcement following his playing career  
» Majoring in sociology

**CAREER HIGHS**  
Tackles: 3 vs. Eastern Michigan, 9/14/19

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS												
YEAR	G	UA	A	TOT	TFL YDS	PD	FF	FR	BLK	QBH		
2018	8	0	3	3	0.0 0	0	0	0	0	0		
2019	9	2	5	7	0.0 0	0	0	0	0	0		
2020	4	1	1	2	0.0 0	0	0	0	0	0		
TOTAL	21	3	9	12	0.0 0	0	0	0	0	0		

DEFENSIVE GAME-BY-GAME										
2020	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
@WIS	0	1	1	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
PUR	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
MIN	1	0	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@RUT	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@NEB										
OSU										
IOWA										
@NW										

2019	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
AKRON	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@UCONN					DNP					
EMU	1	2	3	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
NEB	0	2	2	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@MIN					DNP					
MICH					DNP					
WIS	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@PUR	1	1	2	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
RUT	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@MSU	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@IOWA	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
NW	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
vs. CAL					DNP					

2018	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
KENT ST					DNP					
WIU					DNP					
USF					DNP					
PENN ST					DNP					
@RUT	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
PUR	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@WIS	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@MD	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
MINN	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@NEB	0	1	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
IOWA	0	1	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@NW	0	1	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0



54 JULIAN PEARL

OL, 6-6, 305, SO.

DANVILLE, ILL. / DANVILLE

2020 Sophomore:

- » Backup offensive lineman

2019 Freshman:

- » Played in three games as a backup lineman
- » Made Illinois debut in the season opener against Akron

2018 Freshman:

- » Redshirted 2018 season (Did not play)

High School:

- » Three-star recruit by 247Sports and ESPN
- » Two-star recruit by Rivals
- » Ranked No. 531 recruit in the nation by 247Sports
- » Ranked No. 41 OT in the nation by 247Sports and No. 107 by ESPN
- » Ranked No. 7 recruit in Illinois by 247Sports and No. 28 by ESPN
- » Played for head coach Marcus Forrest at Danville
- » 2017 USA Today All-USA Illinois second team
- » 2017 IHSFCA 6A All-State honorable mention
- » 2017 All-Big 12 first team
- » 2017 Champaign News-Gazette All-Area
- » Led Danville to back-to-back IHSAA playoff berths
- » High school teammate of fellow Illini Caleb Griffin
- » Also played basketball in high school
- » Verbally committed to Illinois in April 2017
- » Also offered by Northern Illinois

Personal:

- » Born Oct. 6, 1999
- » Son of Ronique Heard
- » Two older brothers, Tayvian Johnson and Avery Pearl, and one younger sister, Dasia Middlebrooks
- » Brother, Tayvian Johnson, played Division III football
- » Brother, Avery, played Division III basketball
- » Picked Illinois because, "it would give me a chance to represent and improve my hometown and state."
- » Majoring in sociology

96 RODERICK PERRY II

DL, 6-3, 300, SR.

RALEIGH, N.C. / CARY / SOUTH CAROLINA STATE

2020 Senior:

- » Starting defensive lineman
- » Transferred to Illinois as a graduate transfer
- » Highest rated draft-eligible defensive tackle in the Big Ten by Phil Steele
- » Was a 2020 Preseason FCS All-American before transferring

2019 Redshirt Junior (South Carolina State):

- » 34 tackles, 14.5 tackle for loss, 4.5 sacks
- » Graded 91.1 by Pro Football Focus

2018 Redshirt Sophomore (South Carolina State):

- » 17 tackles, 2.5 tackle for loss, 1.0 sacks

2017 Redshirt Freshman (South Carolina State):

- » 16 tackles, 4.0 tackle for loss

2016 Freshman (South Carolina State):

- » Redshirted the season

High School:

- » Three-year letterwinner
- » Two-time All-SWAC conference
- » Also played lacrosse, track and field, and wrestled in high school

- » Two-time regional champion in wrestling and state champion as a senior
- » Four-time academic all-conference with a GPA higher than 3.0

Personal:

- » Born Dec. 3, 1997
- » Son of Maria Lyons and Roderick Perry Sr.
- » One younger brother, Brenden
- » Plans to own a business or go into coaching following his playing career
- » Chose Illinois because it was, "best fit for what I was looking for and Coach Lovie called me personally, felt that I could really trust them."
- » Enrolled in the recreation, sport, and tourism master's program

CAREER HIGHS (ILLINOIS)

Tackles: 4 vs Purdue 10/31/20

Sacks: 1 vs Purdue 10/31/20

TFL: 1.5 vs Purdue 10/31/20

PBU: 1 vs. Minnesota 11/7/20

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	G	UA	A	TOT	TFL	YDS	PD	FF	FR	BLK	QBH
2020	4	4	6	10	0.5	14	1	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	4	4	6	10	0.5	14	1	0	0	0	0

SACKS STATISTICS

YEAR	G	UA	A	SACKS	YDS
2020	4	0	1	0.5	3
TOTAL	4	0	1	0.5	3

DEFENSIVE GAME-BY-GAME

2020	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
@WIS	1	2	3	0.5-3	0.5-3	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
PUR	2	2	4	1.5-11	1-10	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
MIN	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	1
@RUT	1	2	3	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@NEB										
OSU										
IOWA										
@NW										

18 BRANDON PETERS

QB, 6-5, 220, SR.

AVON, IND. / AVON / MICHIGAN

- » Earned bachelor's degree in general studies from Michigan in June 2019

2020 Redshirt Senior:

- » Maxwell Award watch list
- » Grad transfer working on a master's degree in recreation, sport, and tourism at Illinois

2019 Redshirt Junior:

- » Started 11 games at quarterback
- » Missed two games (Michigan, Northwestern) with injuries
- » 152-of-275 passing for 1,884 yards and 18 touchdowns on the season
- » 74 carries for 213 yards and three touchdowns on the season
- » Fifth in the Big Ten in passing touchdowns (18), eight in yards per completion (12.4), eighth in points responsible for (126), ninth in completion percentage (55.3), ninth in passing efficiency (128.6), 10th in passing yards (1,884), and 10th in total offense (190.6)
- » Threw for a career-high 368 yards and three touchdowns against Michigan State 11/9/19 in a 25-point comeback, the biggest comeback in Illinois history, to win 37-34 on a last second touchdown pass to TE Daniel Barker
- » Career-long 54-yard run, completed 6-of-11 passes for 120 yards and one touchdown, and ran three times for a career-high 41 yards in 38-10 win over Rutgers 11/2/2019
- » Threw for 174 yards and two touchdowns vs. No. 6 Wisconsin 10/19/19 to help Illinois win 24-23 and complete one of the biggest upsets in Big Ten history
- » Four touchdown passes at UConn 9/7/19, tied for the second-most TD passes in a road game in Illinois history
- » Made Illinois debut in the season opener against Akron
- » Immediately eligible as a graduate transfer

- » Two years of eligibility remaining starting in 2019

2018 Redshirt Sophomore (Michigan):

- » Played in five games
- » One pass for eight yards

2017 Redshirt Freshman (Michigan):

- » Played in six games with four starts at quarterback
- » Threw for 636 yards
- » First career start against Minnesota 11/4/17, completing eight of 13 pass attempts for 56 yards with one touchdown
- » Named Offensive Player of the Game for his performance in the win over Maryland 11/11/17 after completing nine of 18 passes for 145 yards and two touchdowns
- » Completed 10-of-14 passes for 124 yards with one touchdown against Rutgers 10/28/17
- » Completed 20-of-42 passes in the Outback Bowl against South Carolina 1/1/2018, totaling 186 yards

2016 Freshman (Michigan):

- » Redshirted the 2016 season

High School:

- » Four-star recruit by 247Sports Composite
- » No. 34 recruit in the nation, No. 3 pro style quarterback in the nation, and No. 1 recruit in Indiana by 247Sports Composite
- » Played for head coach Mark Bless at Avon
- » Led Avon to a state semi-final appearance as a senior
- » Threw for 6,843 yards and 79 touchdowns and just 17 interceptions in his high school career
- » Threw for 3,103 yards and 37 touchdowns with five interceptions as a senior
- » Completed 148-of-263 passes for 1,876 yards and 21 touchdowns while rushing for five touchdowns as a junior
- » 2015 Indiana Gatorade Player of the Year
- » 2015 Indiana Mr. Football
- » Finalist for the 2015 Maxwell Football Club's National High School Player of the Year
- » Finalist for the 2015 National Gatorade Player of the Year
- » 2015 U.S. Army Player of the Year finalist
- » Participated in the 2016 U.S. Army All-American Game
- » Two-time all-state

Personal:

- » Born Oct. 15, 1997
- » Sister, Brooke, played volleyball at Purdue
- » Enrolled in the recreation, sport, and tourism master's program

CAREER HIGHS

Attempts: 44 vs. South Carolina, 1/1/18

Completions: 24 at UConn, 9/7/19

Passing Yards: 369 at Michigan State, 11/9/19

Passing Touchdowns: 4 at UConn, 9/7/19

Long Pass: 83 at Michigan State, 11/9/19

Carries: 12 at Purdue, 10/26/19

Rushing Yards: 76 at Iowa, 11/23/19

Rushing Touchdowns: 1, three times (last at Purdue, 10/26/19)

Long Rush: 54 vs. Rutgers, 11/2/2019

Total Offense: 365 at Michigan State, 11/9/19

PASSING STATISTICS

YEAR	G	ATT	CMP	INT	YDS	TD	LG	PCT	AVG/P	AVG/G	EFFIC
2017*	6	108	57	2	672	4	48	52.8	6.2	112.0	113.6
2018*	4	2	1	1	8	0	0	50.0	4.0	2.0	83.6
2019	11	275	152	8	1884	18	83	55.3	6.9	171.3	128.6
2020	1	19	8	0	87	0	26	42.1	4.6	87.0	80.6
TOTAL	12	294	160	8	1971	18	83	54.4	6.7	164.2	125.5
All*	22	404	128	10	2651	22	83	54.0	6.6	120.5	122.1

RUSHING STATISTICS

YEAR	G	ATT	YDS	TD	LG	AVG/C	AVG/G
2017*	6	17	-36	0	6	0.0	0.0
2018*	4	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
2019	11	74	213	3	54	2.9	19.4
2020	1	7	75	0	31	10.7	75.0
TOTAL	12	81	288	3	54	3.6	24.0
All*	22	102	252	3	54	2.5	11.5

\* - stats include University of Michigan (2017-18)

PASSING GAME-BY-GAME

2020	ATT	CMP	INT	YDS	TD	LG
@WIS	19	8	0	87	0	26
PUR			DNP			
MIN			DNP			







89 TIP REIMAN

WR, 6-5, 230 FR.  
RAPID CITY, S.D. / O'GORMAN HIGH SCHOOL

2020 Freshman:  
» Plays primarily on special teams

High School:  
» State Champions 2019  
» Competed in track and field

Personal:  
» Born Spetember 17, 2001  
» Son of Scott anf Karen  
» Two older sisters, Mckenna and Kelly  
» Majoring in kinesiology  
» Wants to be strength and conditioning coach

41 TRE'VON RIGGINS

DT, 6-3, 270, FR.  
BRADENTON, FLA. / LAKEWOOD

High School:  
» Three-star recruit by 247, ESPN, and Rivals  
» National ranks: #811 (247 Composite), #1057 (247)  
» Defensive tackle ranks: #31 (Rivals), #70 (247 Composite), #77 (247), #107 (ESPN)  
» Florida ranks: #77 (Rivals), #111 (247 Composite), #117 (247), #153 (ESPN)  
» 74 tackles, 5.0 sacks, 20.0 TFLs, 11 quarterback hurries, three forced fumbles during his high school career  
» 38 tackles, 3.0 sacks, 13.0 TFLs, five quarterback hurries as a senior  
» Committed to Illinois on Dec. 15, 2019  
» Offers included Arizona State, Bowling Green, Colorado State, Florida, Liberty, Miami (Fla.), Syracuse, Temple, Tennessee, and USF

Personal:  
» Born Jan. 16, 2002  
» Enrolled in general curriculum

19 HUGH ROBERTSON

P, 6-2, 225, FR.  
CASTLEMAINE, AUSTRALIA / ASSUMPTION COLLEGE KILMORE

2020 Freshman:  
» Backup punter

High School:  
» Graduated from high school in 2011

Personal:  
» Born Jan. 16, 1993  
» Eighth oldest player on a college football roster in 2020  
» Second oldest freshman on a college football roster in 2020, behind fellow Australian Luke Larson of East Carolina (28 years old)  
» ProKick Australia product  
» Son of Peter and Judith Robertson  
» Two sisters, Alexandra and Amelia  
» Played Australian Rules Football  
» 2019 Bendigo Football League Senior Premiership playing for the Strathfieldsaye Football Netball Club  
» 2009 Essendon District Football League Premiership playing for Strathmore Football Club  
» Former Australian police officer  
» Former member of the Australian Army  
» Chose Illinois because, "I chose Illinois because the staff made me feel like family at the school and because Blake Hayes spoke so highly of the place."

» Would like to work in the finance industry after his playing career

12 MATT ROBINSON

QB, 6-1, 190, SO.  
SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO, CALIF. / J SERRA CATHOLIC

2020 Sophomore:  
» Backup quarterback

2019 Redshirt Freshman:  
» Backup quarterback played in eight games and started two (Michigan, Northwestern)  
» 42-of-77 passing for 475 yards and one touchdown on the season  
» First career start against Michigan 10/12/19  
» 15-of-29 passing for 125 yards at Minnesota 10/5/19 in the first extended playing time of his career after starter Brandon Peters was injured in the second quarter

2018 Freshman:  
» Played three games and redshirted the 2018 season  
» 3-of-6 passing for 11 yards on season  
» Eight carries for 24 yards on season  
» Played against Western Illinois, Penn State and Purdue

High School:  
» Three-star recruit by 247Sports Composite  
» Two-star recruit by 247Sports and Rivals  
» Ranked No. 53 dual-threat quarterback in the nation by 247Sports  
» Played for head coach Pat Harlow at Jserra Catholic in one of the best HS football conferences in the nation  
» Four years on varsity  
» Team MVP for three straight seasons  
» Three-year captain  
» School records for passing yards and passing touchdowns  
» Three-time All-Trinity first team  
» Threw for 2,417 yards and 22 touchdowns as a senior  
» Honor Roll  
» Verbally committed to Illinois in February 2018  
» Offers included Coastal Carolina, FIU, Dayton, Montana and Northern Arizona

Personal:  
» Born Dec. 3, 1999  
» Son of Jeoff and Betsy Robinson  
» Older brother, Nick, and younger sister, Kate  
» Uncle coached in the NFL  
» Picked Illinois because he wanted, "to play at the highest level."  
» Majoring in recreation, sport, and tourism

CAREER HIGHS  
Attempts: 29 at Minnesota, 10/5/19  
Completions: 16 vs. Michigan, 10/12/19  
Passing Yards: 192 vs. Michigan, 10/12/19  
Passing Touchdowns: 1 vs. Michigan, 10/12/19  
Long Pass: 35 vs. Michigan, 10/12/19  
Carries: 11 vs. Michigan, 10/12/19  
Rushing Yards: 17 vs. Penn State, 9/21/18  
Rushing Touchdowns: 1 vs. Michigan, 10/12/19  
Long Rush: 11 at Minnesota, 10/5/19  
Total Offense: 176 vs. Michigan, 10/12/19

PASSING STATISTICS												
YEAR	G	ATT	CMP	INT	YDS	TD	LG	PCT	AVG/P	AVG/G	EFFC	
2018	3	6	3	1	11	0	10	50.0	1.8	3.7	32.1	
2019	8	77	42	0	475	1	35	54.5	6.2	59.4	110.6	
2020	2	3-4-0	22	0	12	75.0	5.5	11.0	121.2			
TOTAL	13	48-87-1508	1	35	55.2	5.8	39.1	105.7				

RUSHING STATISTICS							
YEAR	G	ATT	YDS	TD	LG	AVG/C	AVG/G
2018	3	8	24	0	9	3.0	8.0
2019	8	30	-45	1	11	-1.5	-5.6
2020	12	4	5	0	8	1.2	2.5
TOTAL	13	42	-16	1	11	-0.4	-1.2

PASSING GAME-BY-GAME						
2020	ATT	CMP	INT	YDS	TD	LG

@WIS	0	0	0	0	0	0
PUR	4	3	0	22	0	12
MIN			DNP			
@RUT			DNP			
@NEB						
OSU						
IOWA						
@NW						

2019	ATT	CMP	INT	YDS	TD	LG
AKRON	2	1	0	31	0	31
@UCONN			DNP			
EMU			DNP			
NEB	1	0	0	0	0	0
@MIN	29	15	0	125	0	16
MICH	25	16	0	192	1	35
WIS			DNP			
@PUR			DNP			
RUT	0	0	0	0	0	0
@MSU			DNP			
@IOWA	3	2	0	19	0	14
NW	17	8	0	108	0	29
vs. CAL			DNP			

2018	ATT	CMP	INT	YDS	TD	LG
KENT ST			DNP			
WIU	0	0	0	0	0	0
USF			DNP			
PENN ST	2	0	1	0	0	0
@RUT			DNP			
PUR	4	3	0	11	0	10
@WIS			DNP			
@MD			DNP			
MINN			DNP			
@NEB			DNP			
IOWA			DNP			
@NW			DNP			

RUSHING/RECEIVING GAME-BY-GAME									
2020	CAR	YDS	TD	LG	REC	YDS	TD	LG	
@WIS	2	5	0	8	0	0	0	0	
PUR	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	
MIN				DNP					
@RUT				DNP					
@NEB									
OSU									
IOWA									
@NW									

2019	CAR	YDS	TD	LG	REC	YDS	TD	LG
AKRON	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
@UCONN				DNP				
EMU				DNP				
NEB	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
@MIN	7	-1	0	11	0	0	0	0
MICH	11	-16	1	9	0	0	0	0
WIS				DNP				
@PUR				DNP				
RUT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
@MSU				DNP				
@IOWA	2	-11	0	0	0	0	0	0
NW	8	-11	0	9	0	0	0	0
vs. CAL				DNP				

2018	CAR	YDS	TD	LG	REC	YDS	TD	LG
KENT ST				DNP				
WIU	2	10	0	5	0	0	0	0
USF				DNP				
PENN ST	4	17	0	9	0	0	0	0
@RUT				DNP				
PUR	2	-3	0	4	0	0	0	0
@WIS				DNP				
@MD				DNP				
MINN				DNP				
@NEB				DNP				
IOWA				DNP				
@NW				DNP				

97 BOBBY ROUNDTREE

DL, 6-5, 255, SR.  
LARGO, FLA. / LARGO

2019 Junior:  
» Missed the season after suffering a severe spinal injury on May 18, 2019, in a swimming accident near his home of Largo, Florida

2018 Sophomore:  
» All-Big Ten honorable mention (media)  
» Played all 12 games with 11 starts at defensive end  
» Won team's Dick Butkus Outstanding Defensive Player award  
» 66 tackles, 12.5 TFLs, 7.5 sacks, seven PBUs, one forced fumble and four QB hurries



- » Led Illinois in TFLs (12.5), sacks (7.5) and PBUs (7)
- » Led all FBS defensive linemen with 7 PBUs
- » Second on the team in QB hurries (4) and third on the team in tackles (66)
- » Career-high 12 tackles, including 10 solo, against Penn State 9/21/18
- » Career-high 3.0 TFLs at Nebraska 11/10/18
- » Multiple sacks against Penn State, Nebraska and Iowa
- » At least 0.5 TFLs in 10 of 12 games, including the last nine consecutive games

2017 Freshman:

- » BTN.com All-Freshman Team
- » Played in all 12 games with nine starts at defensive end
- » 50 tackles (28 solo), 4.0 TFLs, 4.0 sacks, three pass breakups, one QB hurry, one forced fumble on season
- » Tied for the team lead in sacks (4.0) with James Crawford
- » Tied for third on the team in pass breakups (3)
- » Sixth on the team in tackles (50)
- » First Illini true freshman defensive end to start the season opener since Terry Cole in 1980 vs. Northwestern
- » Team-high 2.0 sacks vs. Western Kentucky
- » Led the nation in sacks by a true freshman (0.75/game) through the first four games of the season

High School:

- » Three-star recruit by 247Sports, ESPN and Scout
- » Ranked No. 70 strong-side defensive end in the nation by 247Sports and No. 87 by ESPN
- » Played at Largo for head coach Marcus Paschal
- » Also played basketball in high school

Personal:

- » Born Feb. 7, 1998
- » Son of Bobby Roundtree and Jacqueline Hearn
- » Chose Illinois because, "I felt like the university was the best fit for me and I trusted the coaching staff to develop me to be the best I can be after graduating."
- » Enrolled in general curriculum

CAREER HIGHS

**Tackles:** 12 vs. Penn State, 9/21/18  
**TFLs:** 3.0 at Nebraska, 11/10/18  
**Sacks:** 2.0, four times (last vs. Iowa, 11/17/18)  
**QB Hurries:** 1, twice (last at Maryland 10/27/18)  
**Fumbles Forced:** 1, twice (last at Nebraska, 11/10/18)  
**PBUs:** 2, twice (last vs. South Florida, 9/15/18)

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	G	UA	A	TOT	TFL	YDS	PD	FF	FR	BLK	QBH
2017	12	28	22	50	4.0	31	3	1	0	0	1
2018	12	36	30	66	12.5	52	7	1	0	0	4
TOTAL	24	64	52	116	16.5	83	10	2	0	0	5

SACKS STATISTICS

YEAR	G	UA	A	TOTAL	YDS
2017	12	4	0	4.0	31
2018	12	7	1	7.5	43
TOTAL	24	11	1	11.5	74

DEFENSIVE GAME-BY-GAME

2018	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
KENT ST	3	2	5	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	1
WIU	3	0	3	1.0-6	1.0-6	0	0-0	0-0	0	1
USF	2	3	5	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	2
PENN ST	10	2	12	2.0-12	2.0-12	0	0-0	0-0	0	1
@RUT	2	2	4	1.0-2	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
PUR	3	2	5	1.0-2	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@WIS	2	2	4	1.0-2	1.0-2	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@MD	1	2	3	1.5-2	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	1	1
MINN	0	6	6	0.5-3	0.5-3	0	0-0	0-0	2	0
@NEB	4	4	8	3.0-13	2.0-12	1	0-0	0-0	0	1
IOWA	4	2	6	2.0-10	2.0-10	0	0-0	0-0	1	0
@NW	3	3	6	0.5-2	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	1	0

2017	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
BALL ST	3	2	5	1.0-5	1.0-5	0	0-0	0-0	0	2
WKU	2	1	3	2.0-20	2.0-20	1	0-0	0-0	0	0
@USF	3	2	5	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
NEB	3	3	6	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@IOWA	2	0	2	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
RUT	2	1	3	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@MIN	4	1	5	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	1	0
WIS	1	2	3	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@PUR	2	4	6	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	1
IND	0	1	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@OSU	5	0	5	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
NW	1	5	6	1.0-6	1.0-6	0	0-0	0-0	0	0

11 CARLOS SANDY

WR, 5-9, 180, JR.  
DANIA BEACH, FLA. / CARDINAL GIBBONS

2020 Junior:

- » Backup wide receiver

2019 Sophomore:

- » Played in the Redbox Bowl after missing the regular season with an injury
- » Redshirted the season
- » Four receptions for 22 yards in the Redbox Bowl

2018 Freshman:

- » Played in 10 games on season at wide receiver, kick and punt returner
- » Made one start at wide receiver
- » First career start was vs. Penn State on 9/21/18
- » First career reception against USF on 9/15/18
- » Made Illinois debut in season opener vs. Kent State

High School:

- » Three-star recruit by 247Sports, ESPN and Rivals
- » Ranked No. 147 wide receiver in the nation by ESPN and No. 270 by 247Sports
- » Ranked No. 131 recruit in Florida by ESPN and No. 285 by 247Sports
- » 2017 All-Broward 1A-5A first team
- » 32 receptions for 498 yards and five touchdowns as a senior
- » 43 receptions for 800 yards and seven touchdowns as a junior
- » High school teammate of fellow Illini Ron Hargde III
- » Verbally committed to Illinois in June 2017

Personal:

- » Born Dec. 7, 1999
- » Majoring in communication

CAREER HIGHS

**Receptions:** 4 vs. California, 12/30/19  
**Receiving Yards:** 22 vs. California, 12/30/19  
**Long Reception:** 8 vs. California, 12/30/19  
**Punt Returns:** 2, twice (last vs. Purdue, 10/13/18)  
**Punt Return Yardage:** 5 at Rutgers 10/6/18  
**Long Punt Return:** 5 at Rutgers 10/6/18  
**Kickoff Returns:** 3, twice (last at Northwestern, 11/24/18)  
**Kickoff Return Yardage:** 51 at Northwestern, 11/24/18  
**Long Kickoff Return:** 26 vs. Kent State, 9/1/18  
**All-Purpose Yards:** 51, twice (last at Northwestern, 11/24/18)

RECEIVING STATISTICS

YEAR	G	REC	YDS	TD	LG	REC/G	AVG/C	AVG/G
2018	10	1	3	0	3	0.1	3.0	0.3
2019	1	4	22	0	8	4.0	5.5	22.0
2020	1	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL	12	5	25	0	8	0.4	5.0	2.1

KICK RETURN STATISTICS

YEAR	G	NO.	YDS	TD	LG	AVG/R	AVG/G
2018	10	13	232	0	26	17.8	23.2
2019	1	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
2020	1	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL	12	13	232	0	26	17.8	19.3

PUNT RETURN STATISTICS

YEAR	G	NO.	YDS	TD	LG	AVG/R	AVG/G
2018	10	7	12	0	7	1.7	1.2
2019	1	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
2020	1	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL	12	7	12	0	7	1.7	1.0

RUSHING/RECEIVING GAME-BY-GAME

2020	CAR	YDS	TD	LG	REC	YDS	TD	LG
@WIS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PUR				DNP				
MIN				DNP				
@RUT				DNP				
@NEB								
OSU								
IOWA								
@NW								

2019	CAR	YDS	TD	LG	REC	YDS	TD	LG
AKRON				DNP - Injured				
@UCONN				DNP - Injured				
EMU				DNP - Injured				
NEB				DNP - Injured				

@MIN					DNP - Injured			
MICH					DNP - Injured			
WIS					DNP - Injured			
@PUR					DNP - Injured			
RUT					DNP - Injured			
@MSU					DNP - Injured			
@IOWA					DNP - Injured			
NW					DNP - Injured			
vs. CAL	0	0	0	0	4	22	0	8

2018	CAR	YDS	TD	LG	REC	YDS	TD	LG
KENT ST	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
WIU	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
USF	0	0	0	0	1	3	0	3
PENN ST	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
@RUT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PUR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
@WIS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
@MD				DNP				
MINN				DNP				
@NEB	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
IOWA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
@NW	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

KICK/PUNT RETURN GAME-BY-GAME

2018	KR-YDS	AVG	TD	LG	PR-YDS	AVG	TD	LG
KENT ST	1-26	26.0	0	26	0-0	0.0	0	0
WIU	1-19	19.0	0	19	2-3	1.5	0	3
USF	1-23	23.0	0	23	0-0	0.0	0	0
PENN ST	0-0	0.0	0	0	0-0	0.0	0	0
@RUT	3-46	15.3	0	17	1-5	5.0	0	5
PUR	2-42	21.0	0	23	2-1	0.5	0	7
@WIS	0-0	0.0	0	0	1-3	3.0	0	3
@MD				DNP				
MINN				DNP				
@NEB	0-0	0.0	0	0	1-0	0.0	0	0
IOWA	2-25	12.5	0	16	0-0	0.0	0	0
@NW	3-51	17.0	0	20	1-0	0.0	0	0

36 BEN SCHULTZ

DB, 6-3, 195, R-FR.  
CHAMPAIGN, ILL. / CENTRAL

2019 Freshman:

- » Redshirted the 2019 season

High School:

- » Played for head coach Tim Turner at Champaign Central
- » Three-year letterwinner
- » Helped Central to the state playoffs as a senior
- » Also participated in track and field in high school and played basketball for one year
- » Sectional champion and ninth at the state meet in long jump
- » National Honor Society and Honor Roll

Personal:

- » Born Jan. 6, 2001
- » Son of Rob and Juli Schultz
- » One brother, Grey, and one sister, Kendall
- » Brother, Grey, played baseball at Illinois
- » Picked Illinois because, "I have lived in Champaign my whole life. I love the environment and the University."
- » Majoring in agriculture and consumer economics

90 ANTHONY SHIPTON

DT, 6-4, 305, JR.  
ORANGE, CALIF. / VILLA PARK / CERRITOS COLLEGE

Junior College (Cerritos):

- » Three-star recruit by 247, ESPN, and Rivals
- » Juco national ranks: #85 (247 Composite), #119 (247)
- » Juco defensive tackle ranks: #9 (247 Composite), #12 (247)
- » Juco California ranks: #18 (247 Composite), #25 (247)
- » 2019 unanimous all-conference first team
- » 2019 Joe Kapp Real Estate Beach Bowl Defensive MVP
- » 2018 All-Northern Central Division second team
- » 40 tackles, 4.0 sacks, 5.5 TFLs, one forced fumble, and one fumble recovery as a sophomore
- » 28 tackles, 0.5 sack, 2.0 TFLs as a freshman
- » Committed to Illinois on Dec. 8, 2019
- » Offers included Arizona, Hawaii, and UTEP



Personal:

» Majoring in communication

5 TREVON SIDNEY

WR, 5-11, 180, SR.

PASADENA, CALIF. / BISHOP AMAT / USC

Pronunciation: TRAY-von SID-nee

- » Earned bachelor's degree in communications from USC in June 2019
- » Grad transfer working on a master's degree in recreation, sport, and tourism at Illinois

2020 Senior:

- » Missed first three games with an injury

2019 Junior:

- » Played in five games and started three at wide receiver
- » Missed the final nine games of the season with an injury
- » 16 receptions for 123 yards and one touchdown on the season
- » Injury against Minnesota 10/5/19 required season-ending surgery
- » Tied career high with five receptions at Minnesota 10/5/19
- » Made Illinois debut in the season opener against Akron
- » Immediately eligible as a graduate transfer with two years of eligibility remaining

2018 Sophomore (USC):

- » Played in 10 games
- » Seven receptions for 104 yards (14.9 yards/catch) on season
- » Three receptions for 72 yards in the season opener against UNLV 9/1/18
- » Two receptions for 12 yards against Texas 9/15/18

2017 Redshirt Freshman (USC):

- » Backup wide receiver as a redshirt freshman
- » Played in nine games (all but Texas, Washington State, Utah, Colorado, Stanford in the Pac-12 Championship Game)
- » Three receptions for 35 yards (11.7 yards/catch) on season
- » Seven-yard catch against Western Michigan, 23-yard catch against Oregon State and a five-yard catch at Arizona State

2016 Freshman (USC)

- » Redshirted the 2016 season
- » After the season, he had surgery on both hips

High School:

- » Four-star recruit by 247Sports Composite
- » No. 136 recruit and No. 21 wide receiver in the nation, and No. 16 recruit in California by 247Sports Composite
- » Wide receiver and cornerback at Bishop Amat High
- » 2015 Prep Star All-American Dream Team
- » 2015 Tacoma News Tribune Western 100
- » 31 receptions for 400 yards (12.9 yards/catch) with six touchdowns, 13 tackles, 13 kickoff returns for 246 yards (18.9 yards/return) and four punt returns for 43 yards (10.8 yards/return) as a senior
- » 2014 USA Today All-State first team
- » 2014 Cal-Hi Sports All-State Junior second team
- » 2014 San Gabriel Valley Tribune All-Area
- » 38 receptions for 540 yards (14.2 yards/catch) with three touchdowns, eight carries for 60 yards (7.5 yards/rush), 47 tackles and four interceptions and 12 kickoff returns for 381 yards (31.8 yards/return) as a junior
- » 2013 Student Sports Sophomore All-American first team
- » 2013 Max Preps Sophomore All-American second team
- » 2013 Cal-Hi Sports All-State Sophomore first team
- » 2013 San Gabriel Valley Tribune Newcomer of the Year
- » 15 receptions for 225 yards (15.0 yards/catch) with four touchdowns, plus 10 carries for 94 yards (9.4 yards/rush) with one touchdown, 30 tackles, eight interceptions, a PBU and

a fumble recovery and 12 kickoff returns for 302 yards (25.2 yards/return) as a sophomore

Personal:

- » Oct. 24, 1997
- » Cousin, Saniyya Sidney, is a young actress who has appeared in films such as "Fences" and "Hidden Figures" and television shows like "American Horror Story"
- » Majored in communication at USC
- » Enrolled in the recreation, sport, and tourism master's program

CAREER HIGHS

Carries: 1 vs. Akron, 8/31/19  
Rushing Yards: 2 vs. Akron, 8/31/19  
Long Run: 2 vs. Akron, 8/31/19  
Receptions: 5, twice (last at Minnesota, 10/5/19)  
Receiving Yards: 72 vs. UNLV, 9/1/19  
Long Reception: 41 vs. UNLV, 9/1/19  
Rec. Touchdowns: 1 vs. Akron, 8/31/19  
Punt Returns: 1, twice (last vs. Nebraska, 9/21/19)  
Punt Return Yardage: 6 vs. Eastern Michigan, 9/14/19  
Long Punt Return: 6 vs. Eastern Michigan, 9/14/19  
All-Purpose Yards: 72 vs. UNLV, 9/1/19

RECEIVING STATISTICS

YEAR	G	REC	YDS	TD	LG	REC/G	AVG/C	AVG/G
2017*	9	3	35	0	23	0.3	11.7	3.9
2018*	10	7	104	0	41	0.7	14.9	10.4
2019	5	16	123	1	16	3.2	7.7	24.6
TOTAL	5	16	123	1	16	3.2	7.7	24.6
ALL*	24	26	262	1	41	1.1	10.1	10.9

RUSHING STATISTICS

YEAR	G	ATT	YDS	TD	LG	AVG/C	AVG/G
2017*	9	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
2018*	10	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
2019	5	1	2	0	2	2.0	0.4
TOTAL	5	1	2	0	2	2.0	0.4
All*	24	1	2	0	2	2.0	0.1

PUNT RETURN STATISTICS

YEAR	G	NO.	YDS	TD	LG	AVG/R	AVG/G
2017*	9	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
2018*	10	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
2019	5	2	11	0	6	5.5	2.2
TOTAL	5	2	11	0	6	5.5	2.2
All*	24	2	11	0	6	5.5	0.5

\* - stats include Southern California (2017-18)

RUSHING/RECEIVING GAME-BY-GAME

2020	CAR	YDS	TD	LG	REC	YDS	TD	LG
@WIS					DNP- Injured			
PUR					DNP- Injured			
MIN					DNP- Injured			
@RUT					DNP- Injured			
@NEB								
OSU								
IOWA								
@NW								

2019	CAR	YDS	TD	LG	REC	YDS	TD	LG
AKRON	1	2	0	2	2	26	1	16
@UCONN	0	0	0	0	5	25	0	9
EMU	0	0	0	0	3	22	0	11
NEB	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
@MIN	0	0	0	0	5	50	0	13
MICH					DNP - Injured			
WIS					DNP - Injured			
@PUR					DNP - Injured			
RUT					DNP - Injured			
@MSU					DNP - Injured			
@IOWA					DNP - Injured			
NW					DNP - Injured			
vs. CAL					DNP - Injured			

2018-USC	CAR	YDS	TD	LG	REC	YDS	TD	LG
UNLV	0	0	0	0	3	72	0	41
@STAN					DNP			
@TEXAS	0	0	0	0	2	12	0	
WASHST	0	0	0	0	1	12	0	12
@ARIZ					DNP			
COL					DNP			
@UTAH					DNP			
ASU					DNP			
@ORST	0	0	0	0	1	8	0	8
CAL					DNP			
@UCLA					DNP			
vs. ND					DNP			

2017-USC	CAR	YDS	TD	LG	REC	YDS	TD	LG
WMU	0	0	0	0	1	7	0	7
STAN					DNP			
TEXAS					DNP			
@CAL					DNP			

@WASHST					DNP			
ORST	0	0	0	0	1	23	0	23
@ND					DNP			
@ASU	0	0	0	0	1	5	0	5
ARIZ					DNP			
@COL					DNP			
UCLA					DNP			
vs. STAN					DNP			
vs. OSU					DNP			

22 KENYON SIMS

RB, 5-11, 215, SO.

SAN DIEGO, CALIF. / LINCOLN

2019 Redshirt Freshman:

- » Played in five games, primarily on special teams
- » 14 carries for 52 yards on the season

2018 Freshman:

- » Played one game and redshirted the 2018 season
- » Two carries for six yards in his Illinois debut against Iowa 11/7/18

High School:

- » Three-star recruit by 247Sports, ESPN and Rivals
- » Ranked No. 87 running back in the nation by ESPN and No. 91 by 247Sports
- » Rushed for 1,396 yards (8.6 yards per carry) and 24 touchdowns as a senior
- » Verbally committed to Illinois in February 2018
- » Offers included Arizona, Colorado State, Hawaii, Nevada, Oregon State, Utah and Washington State

Personal:

- » Born May 5, 2000
- » Majoring in communication

CAREER HIGHS

Carries: 8 vs. Akron, 8/31/19  
Rushing Yards: 26 vs. Akron, 8/31/19  
Long Run: 9 vs. Akron, 8/31/19  
Receptions: 2 at UConn, 9/7/19  
Receiving Yards: 7 at UConn, 9/7/19  
Long Reception: 5 at UConn, 9/7/19  
All-Purpose Yards: 26 vs. Akron, 8/31/19

RUSHING STATISTICS

YEAR	G	ATT	YDS	TD	LG	AVG/C	AVG/G
2018	1	2	4	0	6	2.0	4.0
2019	5	14	52	0	9	3.7	10.4
TOTAL	6	16	56	0	9	3.5	9.3

RUSHING/RECEIVING GAME-BY-GAME

2019	CAR	YDS	TD	LG	REC	YDS	TD	LG
AKRON	8	26	0	9	0	0	0	0
@UCONN	2	7	0	5	1	13	0	13
EMU	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NEB	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
@MIN					DNP			
MICH					DNP			
WIS					DNP			
@PUR					DNP			
RUT	5	13	0	5	0	0	0	0
@MSU					DNP			
@IOWA					DNP			
NW					DNP			
vs. CAL					DNP			

66 JORDYN SLAUGHTER

OL, 6-5, 305, R-FR.

BELLEVIEW, ILL. / ALTHOFF CATHOLIC

2019 Redshirt Freshman:

- » Played in one game as a backup lineman
- » Made Illinois debut in the season opener against Akron

2018 Freshman:

- » Redshirted the 2018 season (Did not play)

High School:

- » Three-star recruit by 247Sports, ESPN and Rivals
- » Ranked No. 75 offensive tackle in the nation by ESPN and No. 83 by 247Sports





- » Ranked No. 20 recruit in Illinois by 247Sports, No. 22 by Rivals and No. 25 by ESPN
- » Played for head coach Ken Turner at Althoff Catholic
- » Led Althoff Catholic to the second round of the 2017 IHSA football playoffs
- » All-city and all-conference selection
- » Honor Roll as a senior
- » Also played basketball in high school
- » Verbally committed to Illinois in June 2017
- » Offers included Vanderbilt, Bowling Green and Toledo

Personal:

- » Born Aug. 7, 2000
- » Son of Vernon and Ja'Nerra Slaughter
- » One younger sister, Jade
- » Picked Illinois because he, "wanted to play for my state."
- » Majoring in sociology

2 DERRICK SMITH

LB, 6-2, 220, JR.  
JACKSONVILLE, FLA. / TRINITY CATHOLIC / MIAMI (FLA.)

2020 Senior:

- » Made Illinois debut at Wisconsin 10/23/20

2019 Junior:

- » Sat out 2019 season due to NCAA transfer rules
- » Participated in training camp at Miami (Fla.) before transferring to Illinois in August 2019

2018 Sophomore (Miami):

- » Played in 12 of 13 games
- » 11 tackles (six solo), 0.5 TFLs

2017 Freshman (Miami):

- » Played in all 13 games
- » 13 tackles (10 solo), 1.0 TFL
- » Made career debut in season opener against Bethune-Cookman 9/2/17
- » First two tackles of career against Georgia Tech 10/14/17
- » Career-best six tackles (four solo) in ACC Championship Game against Clemson 12/2/17

High School:

- » Three-star recruit by 247Sports, ESPN, Rivals and Scout
- » No. 77 athlete in the nation by ESPN
- » No. 124 recruit in Florida by 247Sports
- » Played for head coach Verlon Dorminey at Trinity Christian Academy
- » Led Trinity Christian Academy to an 11-3 record
- » Chose Miami over offers from USC, Mississippi State, North Carolina, Kentucky, and Cincinnati

Personal:

- » Born Jan. 19, 1999
- » Majoring in communication
- » Has enjoyed boxing since middle school

CAREER HIGHS (ILLINOIS)

Tackles: 5, at Wisconsin, 10/23/20  
TFL 1.0, at Wisconsin, Oct 23, 2020 (1-0)

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	G	UA	A	TOT	TFL	YDS	PD	FF	FR	BLK	QBH
2017*	13	10	3	13	1.0	12	0	0	0	0	0
2018*	12	6	5	11	0.5	18	0	0	0	0	0
2020	4	5	3	8	1.0	1	0	0	0	0	1
TOTAL	4	5	3	8	1.0	1	0	0	0	0	1
All*	29	21	11	32	2.5	31	0	0	0	0	1

\* - stats include Miami (2017-18)

DEFENSIVE GAME-BY-GAME

2020	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
@WIS	4	1	5	1.0-1	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
PUR	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
MIN	1	1	2	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@RUT	0	1	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	1	0
@NEB										
OSU										

IOWA  
@NW

17 KENDALL SMITH

DB, 6-1, 200, SR.  
BOLINGBROOK, ILL. / BOLINGBROOK

2020 Senior:

- » Plays primarily on special teams

2019 Junior:

- » Played in two games, primarily on special teams

2018 Sophomore:

- » Played 10 games, primarily on special teams
- » Former wide receiver moved to safety
- » 10 tackles and one forced fumble on season
- » Career-high three tackles at Maryland 10/27/18
- » First career forced fumble against Western Illinois 9/8/18

2017 Freshman:

- » Wide receiver played in all 12 games, primarily on special teams
- » Made one special teams tackle on the season
- » Made Illinois debut in the opener against Ball State

High School:

- » Three-star recruit by 247Sports, Rivals, ESPN and Scout
- » Ranked No. 100 wide receiver in the nation by Rivals, No. 118 by ESPN, No. 123 by Scout
- » Ranked No. 9 recruit in Illinois by ESPN, No. 15 by Rivals, No. 19 by 247Sports
- » Played at Bolingbrook High School for head coach John Ivlow
- » 2016 Illinois High School Football Coaches Association all-state honorable mention

Personal:

- » Born Jan. 3, 1999
- » Son of Vonetta Wade
- » Has two sisters, Sierra and Madison
- » Picked Illinois because, "it was always a favorite school of mine and I want to be a part of the change."
- » Majoring in learning and education studies

CAREER HIGHS

Tackles: 3 at Maryland, 10/27/18  
Fumbles Forced: 1 vs. Western Illinois, 9/8/18

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	G	UA	A	TOT	TFL	YDS	PD	FF	FR	BLK	QBH
2017	12	0	1	1	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2018	10	6	4	10	0.0	0	0	1	0	0	0
2019	2	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2020	4	2	1	3	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	28	8	6	14	0.0	0	0	1	0	0	0

DEFENSIVE GAME-BY-GAME

2020	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
@WIS	0	0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
PUR	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
MIN	1	0	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@RUT	1	1	2	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@NEB										
OSU										
IOWA										
@NW										

2019	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
AKRON	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@UCONN					DNP					
EMU					DNP					
NEB					DNP					
@MIN	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
MICH					DNP					
WIS					DNP					
@PUR					DNP					
RUT					DNP					
@MSU					DNP					
@IOWA					DNP					
NW					DNP					
vs. CAL					DNP					

2018	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
KENT ST	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
WIU	1	0	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	1	0-0	0-0	0	0
USF	2	0	2	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0

PENN ST	@RUT									
PUR	0	2	2	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@WIS	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@MD	3	0	3	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
MINN	0	1	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@NEB	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
IOWA	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@NW	0	1	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0

2017	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
BALL ST	0	1	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
WKU	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@USF	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
NEB	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@IOWA	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
RUT	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@MIN	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
WIS	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@PUR	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
IND	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@OSU	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
NW	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0

6 DEUCE SPANN

QB, 6-4, 195, FR.  
ST. PETERSBURG, FLA. / LAKEWOOD

High School:

- » Three-star recruit by 247, ESPN, and Rivals
- » National ranks: #905 (247 Composite), #1556 (247)
- » Dual-threat quarterback ranks: #22 (Rivals), #25 (247 Composite), #27 (ESPN), #32 (247)
- » Florida ranks: #81 (Rivals), #121 (247 Composite), #135 (ESPN), #178 (247)
- » 6,972 yards of total offense during his high school career
- » 4,771 passing yards, 45 passing touchdowns, 2,165 rushing yards, 27 rushing touchdowns during his high school career
- » Led Lakewood to the state semifinals as a senior
- » 117-253 passing, 1,937 passing yards, 25 passing touchdowns, 847 rushing yards, 10 rushing touchdowns as a senior
- » 122-270 passing, 1,860 passing yards, 12 passing touchdowns, 883 rushing yards, 9 rushing touchdowns as a junior
- » 63-142 passing, 974 passing yards, 8 passing touchdowns, 435 rushing yards, 8 rushing touchdowns as a sophomore
- » Father, Greg Spann Sr., played wide receiver at Jackson State and was drafted in the seventh round of the 1996 NFL Draft by the Jacksonville Jaguars. He went on to play professionally in the Arena League and XFL
- » Committed to Illinois on Dec. 13, 2019
- » Also ran track in high school
- » Offers included Auburn, Boston College, Cincinnati, Duke, Florida State, Georgia, Louisville, Maryland, Miami (Fla.), Mississippi, Pittsburgh, Purdue, Syracuse, UCF, USF, Utah, and Virginia Tech

Personal:

- » Born Jan. 27, 2002
- » Son of Greg and Kim Spann
- » First name is Gregory, nickname is Deuce
- » One brother, Diezel, and two sisters, Courtney and Conner
- » Cousin, Tom Carter, was the No. 17 overall draft pick by the Washington Redskins in 1993 and played nine seasons in the NFL
- » Chose Illinois because, "I wanted to help them win games and I knew I could make a name for myself here."
- » Enrolled in general curriculum

74 BLAISE SPARKS

OT, 6-7, 290, FR.  
NORTH FORT MYERS, FLA. / NORTH FORT MYERS

High School:

- » Three-star recruit by 247, ESPN, and Rivals
- » National ranks: #1947 (247 Composite), #2217 (247)



- » Offensive tackle ranks: #161 (247 Composite), #161 (247), #173 (ESPN)
- » Florida ranks: #263 (247 Composite), #274 (247), #299 (ESPN)
- » Committed to Illinois on July 31, 2019
- » Offers included Kent State, Pittsburgh, Southern Miss, Temple, USF

Personal:

- » Born Sept. 10, 2001
- » Enrolled in general curriculum

56 ETHAN TABEL

LS, 6-0, 210, SR.  
BARRINGTON, ILL. / BARRINGTON

Pronunciation: tuh-BELL

2020 Senior:

- » Patrick Mannely Award watch list

2019 Junior:

- » Started all 13 games at long snapper
- » Second on the team in punt return tackles (4)
- » Snapped for James McCourt's game-winning 39-yard field goal as time expired vs. No. 6 Wisconsin 10/19/19 to help Illinois win 24-23 and complete one of the biggest upsets in Big Ten history
- » Walk-on was awarded a scholarship by coach Lovie Smith at a team meeting on Aug. 26, 2019

2018 Sophomore:

- » Starting long snapper for all 12 games
- » Nolan's Long Snapping College Snapper of the Year
- » Academic All-Big Ten

2017 Redshirt Freshman:

- » Started 11 games as the long snapper for field goals and extra points
- » Walk-on made his Illinois debut in opener against Ball State

High School:

- » Started long snapping late in his junior season of high school
- » Two-year letterwinner
- » 2015 Barrington Unsung Hero Special Teams Award
- » 2015 Academic All-Conference
- » Helped Barrington to the second round of IHSA Playoffs in 2015
- » 2016 State Scholar
- » Four-year member of the honor roll

Personal:

- » Born August 27, 1997
- » Son of Todd and Tamara Tabel
- » One brother, Bryce
- » Father competed in javelin, shot put and discus at Winona State
- » Chose Illinois because, "Illinois gives student-athletes the tools to learn at one of the nation's best schools while also competing at an incredibly high level in the Big Ten. They were one of the only Division I programs to take a chance on me and I knew it would be a perfect fit."
- » Plans on working in international advertising or football after his playing career
- » Bilingual in German
- » Graduated with a degree in advertising
- » Enrolled in the technology management graduate program

7 CORAN TAYLOR

QB, 6-2, 190, SO.  
PEORIA, ILL. / PEORIA

Pronunciation: kor-AHN

2020 Sophomore:

- » Made first career start against Minnesota 11/7/20

- » 17-for-29 passing for 273 yards and two touchdowns and also ran for 32 yards in his first significant playing time as an Illini against Purdue 10/31/20

2019 Redshirt Freshman:

- » Played in the fourth quarter against Rutgers

2018 Freshman:

- » Redshirted the 2018 season (Did not play)

High School:

- » Three-star recruit by 247Sports, ESPN and Rivals
- » Ranked No. 22 dual-threat QB in the nation by ESPN, No. 23 by 247Sports and No. 29 by Rivals
- » Ranked No. 12 recruit in Illinois by ESPN, No. 20 by 247Sports
- » Completed 86 of 161 passes for 1,546 yards and 18 touchdowns as a senior
- » Rushed for 1,048 yards (9.7 yards per carry) and 14 touchdowns as a senior
- » 2016 Illinois Football Coaches Association First Team All-State
- » Led Peoria to 2016 Illinois 5A state championship as a junior
- » Threw for 215 yards and two touchdowns and ran for 134 yards and three touchdowns in the 5A state title game at Illinois' Memorial Stadium in a 62-48 win over Vernon Hills
- » Helped Peoria set Illinois state records in total points (805) and points per game (57.5) in 2016
- » Accounted for 3,215 yards of offense (1,548 passing & 1,662 rushing) and 39 total TDs (17 passing & 22 rushing) in 2016
- » Verbally committed to Illinois in April 2017
- » High school teammate of Illini OL Kendrick Green
- » Played for the same little league team and attended same middle school as Illini DL Jer'Zhan Newton

Personal:

- » Born Dec. 16, 1999
- » Enrolled in general curriculum

CAREER HIGHS

Rush attempts: 19 vs. Minnesota 11/7/20  
Rush yards: 42 vs. Minnesota 11/7/20  
Long rush: 33 vs. Purdue 10/31/20  
Pass attempts: 29 vs. Purdue 10/31/20  
Pass completions: 17 vs. Purdue 10/31/20  
Pass yards: 273 vs. Purdue 10/31/20  
Pass TDs: 2 vs. Purdue 10/31/20  
Long pass: 52 vs. Minnesota 11/7/20  
All-purpose yards: 42 vs. Minnesota 11/7/20

PASSING STATISTICS

YEAR	G	ATT	CMP	INT	YDS	TD	LG	PCT	AVG/P	AVG/G	EFFIC
2018	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
2019	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
2020	2	46	23	2	379	3	52	50.0	8.2	189.5	132.0
TOTAL	3	46	23	2	379	3	52	50.0	8.2	126.3	132.0

RUSHING STATISTICS

YEAR	G	ATT	YDS	TD	LG	AVG/C	AVG/G
2018	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
2019	1	2	11	0	6	5.5	11.0
2020	2	36	74	0	33	2.1	37.0
TOTAL	3	38	85	0	33	2.2	28.3

PASSING GAME-BY-GAME

2020	ATT	CMP	INT	YDS	TD	LG
@WIS			DNP			
PUR	29	17	2	273	2	44
MIN	17	6	0	106	1	52
@RUT			DNP			
@NEB						
OSU						
IOWA						
@NW						

RUSHING/RECEIVING GAME-BY-GAME

2020	CAR	YDS	TD	LG	REC	YDS	TD	LG
@WIS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PUR	17	32	0	33	0	0	0	0
MIN	19	42	0	16	0	0	0	0
@RUT				DNP				
@NEB								
OSU								
IOWA								
@NW								

85 DYLAN THOMAS

WR, 5-11, 185, SO.  
MONTICELLO, ILL. / MONTICELLO

2019 Redshirt Freshman:

- » Missed the season with an injury

2018 Freshman:

- » Redshirted the 2018 season (Did not play)

High School:

- » Four-year letterwinner in football and three-year letterwinner in track
- » Played for head coach Cully Welter at Monticello
- » Led Monticello to conference titles as a junior and senior
- » 2017 All-Illini Prairie Conference first team
- » High Honor Roll

Personal:

- » Born April 5, 2000
- » Son of Darcy and Bryan Thomas
- » Father attended the University of Illinois
- » Older sister, Danielle
- » Step-grandfather is Barry Alvarez
- » Picked Illinois because he, "it allows me to play Division I football and also get a degree from one of the best business schools in the world."
- » Majoring in finance

4 KHMARI THOMPSON

DB, 6-1, 210, SO.  
LAWRENCEVILLE, GA. / CENTRAL GWINNETT / MISSOURI

2020 Sophomore:

- » Plays primarily on special teams as kick off returner
- » Made the switch to defensive back before the start of the season

2019 Redshirt Freshman (Missouri):

- » Did not play in a game
- » Also ran track and finished fourth in the 200-meter dash at the Mizzou Open 1/25/19, setting a personal record
- » Ran in the 4x100-meter relay at the SEC Championships 5/11/19, finishing in seventh place and contributing to a relay personal record of 40.74

2018 Freshman (Missouri):

- » Played in three games and redshirted
- » Played against UT-Martin, Wyoming, and Tennessee

High School:

- » Three-star wide receiver by Rivals and 247Sports.com
- » Played for head coach Todd Wofford at Central Gwinnett
- » Did not play high school football as a sophomore or junior to focus on track
- » 83 receptions for 1,131 receiving yards and 12 touchdowns as a senior
- » Offers included Kansas State, Missouri, Purdue, Tulane, and Georgia Southern

Personal:

- » Born Aug. 3, 2000
- » Majoring in sociology

CAREER HIGHS

All-purpose yards: 74 vs. Purdue 10/31/20  
Kick returns: 3, three times (last at Rutgers 11/14/20)  
Kick return yards: 74 vs. Purdue 10/31/20  
Long kick return: 35 vs. Purdue 10/31/20

KICK RETURN STATISTICS

YEAR	G	NO.	YDS	TD	LG	AVG/R	AVG/G
2018*	3	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
2020	4	11	193	0	35	17.5	48.2
TOTAL	4	11	193	0	35	17.5	48.2
All*	7	11	193	0	35	17.5	27.6

\* - stats include Missouri (2018)



KICK RETURN/PUNT RETURNS GAME-BY-GAME

2017	KR-YDS	AVG	TD	LG	PR-YDS	AVG	TD	LG
@WIS	2-27	13.5	0	16	0	0	0	0
PUR	3-74	24.7	0	35	0	0	0	0
MIN	3-53	17.7	0	19	0	0	0	0
@RUT	3-59	19.7	0	24	0	0	0	0
@NEB								
OSU								
IOWA								
@NW								

45 KHALAN TOLSON

LB, 6-0, 220, JR.

ST. PETERSBURG, FLA. / ADMIRAL FARRAGUT ACADEMY

Pronunciation: KAY-lahn

2020 Junior:

- » Part of the linebacker rotation

2019 Sophomore:

- » Played in 11 games with four starts at linebacker
- » Started the final four games after Butkus Award semifinalist Jake Hansen was injured
- » 38 tackles, 1.5 TFL, two PBUs, one fumble recovery, one quarterback hurry on the season
- » Tied for the team lead in kickoff tackles (4)
- » Third on the team in special teams tackles (6)
- » Nine tackles, 0.5 TFLs, and one fumble recovery at Michigan State 11/9/19 in his first career start to help Illinois win 37-34 in the biggest comeback in program history

2018 Freshman:

- » Played all 12 games, primarily on special teams
- » Five tackles on season
- » Made his Illinois debut in the season opener against Kent State 9/1/18

High School:

- » Three-star recruit by 247Sports, ESPN and Rivals
- » Ranked No. 799 recruit in the nation by 247Sports
- » Ranked No. 55 OLB in nation by 247Sports and No. 83 by ESPN
- » Ranked No. 125 recruit in Florida by 247Sports and No. 197 by ESPN
- » 15.0 TFLs and 11.0 sacks as a junior
- » Played for Team Florida in the 2016 7-on-7 AAU Jr. Olympics
- » Verbally committed to Illinois in July 2017
- » Offers included Cincinnati, Indiana, Iowa State, Louisville, Michigan, Michigan State, Mississippi State, Pittsburgh, Rutgers, Syracuse, UCF and USF

Personal:

- » Born Dec. 27, 1999
- » Majoring in communication

CAREER HIGHS

Tackles: 10, at Rutgers 11/14/20

TFLs: 2.5, at Rutgers 11/14/20

Sacks: .5 at Wisconsin (10/23/20)

Fumbles Forced: 1 at Rutgers 11/14/20

Fumbles Recovered: 1 at Michigan State, 11/9/19

PBUs: 1, three times (last at Rutgers 11/14/20)

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	G	UA	A	TOT	TFL	YDS	PD	FF	FR	BLK	QBH
2018	12	3	2	5	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2019	11	23	15	38	1.5	4	2	0	1	0	1
2020	3	4	13	17	1.5	8	0	0	0	0	0
2020	4	9	14	23	3.0	10	0	0	0	0	1
TOTAL	27	35	31	66	4.5	14	2	0	1	0	2

SACKS STATISTICS

YEAR	G	UA	A	TOTAL	YDS
2018	12	0	0	0.0	0
2019	11	0	0	0.0	0
2020	4	0	1	0.5	4
TOTAL	27	0	1	0.5	4

DEFENSIVE GAME-BY-GAME

2020	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
@WIS	1	5	6	0.5-4	1.0-6	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
PUR	1	3	4	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
MIN	2	5	7	0.5-2	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0

@RUT	5	5	10	2.5-4	0.0-0	1	0-0	0-0	1	1
@NEB										
OSU										
IOWA										
@NW										

2019	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
AKRON	1	0	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@UCONN	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
EMU				DNP - Injured						
NEB				DNP - Injured						
@MIN	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
MICH	1	0	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
WIS	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@PUR	2	0	2	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
RUT	1	0	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@MSU	4	5	9	0.5-1	0.0-0	0	1-0	0-0	1	0
@IOWA	2	5	7	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	1
NW	4	4	8	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
vs. CAL	8	1	9	1.0-3	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0

2018	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
KENT ST	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
WIU	0	1	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
USF	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
PENN ST	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@RUT	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
PUR	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@WIS	0	1	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@MD	3	0	3	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
MINN	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@NEB	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
IOWA	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@NW	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0

78 KEVIN TYLER

OT, 6-3, 330, FR.

ST. LOUIS, MO. / RITENOUR

High School:

- » Three-star recruit by 247 and ESPN, two-star recruit by Rivals
- » National ranks: #1009 (247), #1373 (247 Composite)
- » Offensive tackle ranks: #86 (247), #111 (247 Composite)
- » Offensive guard ranks: #58 (ESPN)
- » Missouri ranks: #16 (ESPN), #24 (247), #25 (247 Composite)
- » 2019 Missouri Football Coaches Association Class 5 All-State First Team
- » 2018 Missouri Football Coaches Association Class 6 All-State Second Team
- » Committed to Illinois on July 28, 2019
- » Offers included Houston, Indiana, Iowa State, Kansas, Kansas State, Memphis, Minnesota, Missouri, Northern Illinois, Purdue, SMU, Syracuse, Western Michigan, and Wyoming

Personal:

- » Born Aug. 29, 2001
- » Majoring in communication

15 DELANO WARE

LB, 6-0, 220, JR.

RICHMOND, CALIF. / EL CERRITO

Pronunciation: dee-LAY-no

2020 Junior:

- » Part of the linebacker rotation

2019 Sophomore:

- » Played in nine games with one start at safety
- » 22 tackles, two PBUs, one forced fumble on the season

2018 Freshman:

- » Played 11 games with eight starts at defensive back, five at nickel and three at safety
- » 35 tackles, 2.5 TFLs, 1.0 sack, one interception, two PBUs, two QB hurries on season
- » First career sack at Northwestern 11/24/18
- » First career interception against Penn State 9/21/18
- » Started the season opener against Kent State 9/1/18
- » Second true-freshman safety to start a season opener since 1980, joining Bennett Williams (2017)

- » Tied for the fifth-most starts by an Illinois true freshman defensive back (8)
- » Missed the Western Illinois game with an injury

High School:

- » Three-star recruit by 247Sports and ESPN
- » Two-star recruit by Rivals
- » Ranked No. 115 cornerback in the nation by ESPN and No. 137 by 247Sports
- » Ranked No. 127 recruit in California by ESPN and No. 180 by 247Sports
- » Played for head coach Jacob Rincon at El Cerrito
- » Two-time all-league first team
- » Verbally committed to Illinois in December 2017

Personal:

- » Born Nov. 4, 2000
- » Picked Illinois because, "I know Illinois can make me the best football player I can be and student."
- » Majoring in community health

CAREER HIGHS

Tackles: 7 at Maryland, 10/27/18

TFLs: 1.0, twice (last at Northwestern, 11/24/18)

Sacks: 1.0 at Northwestern, 11/24/18

QB Hurries: 1 at Maryland, 10/27/18

Fumbles Forced: 1 vs. Eastern Michigan, 9/14/19

PBUs: 1, three times (last vs. California, 12/30/19)

Interception: 1 vs. Penn State 9/21/18

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	G	UA	A	TOT	TFL	YDS	PD	FF	FR	BLK	QBH
2018	11	21	14	35	2.5	16	3	0	0	0	2
2019	9	12	10	22	0.0	0	2	1	0	0	0
2020	4	6	3	9	0.0	0	1	0	0	0	1
TOTAL	24	39	27	66	2.5	16	6	1	0	0	3

INTERCEPTIONS STATISTICS

YEAR	G	INT	YDS	TD	LG	AVG/R	AVG/G
2018	11	1	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
2019	9	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
2020	4	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL	24	1	0	0	0	0.0	0.0

SACKS STATISTICS

YEAR	G	UA	A	TOTAL	YDS
2018	11	1	0	1.0	11
2019	9	0	0	0.0	0
2020	4	0	0	0.0	0
TOTAL	24	1	0	1.0	11

DEFENSIVE GAME-BY-GAME

2020	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
@WIS	3	1	4	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
PUR	0	1	1	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
MIN	2	1	3	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	1	0
@RUT	1	0	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	1
@NEB										
OSU										
IOWA										
@NW										
2019	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
AKRON	3	1	4	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@UCONN	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
EMU	4	1	5	0.0-0	0.0-0	1	0-0	0-0	0	0
NEB	1	2	3	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@MIN	3	3	6	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
MICH				DNP - Injured						
WIS				DNP - Injured						
@PUR				DNP - Injured						
RUT				DNP - Injured						
@MSU	0	2	2	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@IOWA	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
NW	0	1	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	1
vs. CAL	1	0	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	1

2018	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
KENT ST	3	1	4	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	1
WIU				DNP - Injured						
USF	2	0	2	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
PENN ST	1	2	3	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	1-0	0	0
@RUT	3	0	3	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
PUR	1	1	2	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@WIS	2	0	2	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@MD	3	4	7	0.5-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	1	0
MINN	2	1	3	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@NEB	1	2	3	1.0-5	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	1	0
IOWA	0	2	2	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	1
@NW	3	1	4	1.0-11	1.0-11	0	0-0	0-0	0	0



8 CASEY WASHINGTON

WR, 6-2, 190, SO.  
ROUND ROCK, TEXAS / PFLUGERVILLE

2020 Sophomore:

- » Part of the wide receiver rotation

2019 Freshman:

- » Played in 10 games and started five at wide receiver
- » 11 receptions for 132 yards on the season
- » Five starts was the sixth-most in Illinois history by a true freshman wide receiver
- » One reception for four yards at Michigan State 11/9/19 to help Illinois win 37-34 in the biggest comeback in program history
- » First career start in 24-6 win at Purdue 10/26/19
- » 18-yard reception on a fourth-quarter touchdown drive vs. No. 6 Wisconsin 10/19/19 to help Illinois win 24-23 and complete one of the biggest upsets in Big Ten history
- » First career catch against No. 16 Michigan 10/12/19

High School:

- » Three-star recruit by 247Sports and ESPN
- » Two-star recruit by Rivals
- » Ranked No. 138 wide receiver in the nation by ESPN and No. 190 by 247Sports
- » Ranked No. 175 recruit in Texas by ESPN and No. 201 by 247Sports
- » 42 receptions for 565 yards and five touchdowns as a senior
- » Played for head coach Charles Taylor at Pflugerville
- » Verbally committed to Illinois in July 2018
- » Offers included Kansas, South Alabama, Tulane, and UTSA

Personal:

- » Born March 6, 2001
- » Son of Jennifer and Greg Washington
- » Father played football at Kansas State from 1987-89
- » One older sister, Loren
- » Sister, Loren, played volleyball at Texas A&M-Kingsville
- » Picked Illinois because of the, “solid degree, family environment, make an impact ASAP.”
- » Majoring in recreation, sport and tourism
- » Plans to become a coach following his playing career

CAREER HIGHS

Receptions: 3 at Iowa, 11/23/19  
Long Reception: 20, three times (last at Rutgers 11/14/20)  
Receiving Yards: 21 at Iowa, 11/23/19  
All-Purpose Yards: 21 at Iowa, 11/23/19

RECEIVING STATISTICS

YEAR	G	REC	YDS	TD	LG	REC/G	AVG/C	AVG/G
2019	10	11	132	0	20	1.1	12.0	13.2
2020	4	2	24	0	16	0.5	12.0	6.0
TOTAL	14	13	156	0	20	0.9	12.0	11.1

RUSHING/RECEIVING GAME-BY-GAME

2020	CAR	YDS	TD	LG	REC	YDS	TD	LG
@WIS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PUR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MIN	0	0	0	0	1	8	0	8
@RUT	0	0	0	0	3	52	0	20
OSU								
IOWA								
@NW								

2019	CAR	YDS	TD	LG	REC	YDS	TD	LG
AKRON	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
@UCONN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
EMU				DNP				
NEB				DNP				
@MIN				DNP				
MICH	0	0	0	0	1	20	0	20
WIS	0	0	0	0	1	18	0	18
@PUR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
RUT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
@MSU	0	0	0	0	1	4	0	4
@IOWA	0	0	0	0	3	21	0	10
NW	0	0	0	0	4	55	0	20
vs. CAL	0	0	0	0	1	14	0	14

1 ISAIAH WILLIAMS

QB, 5-10, 180, R-FR.  
ST. LOUIS, MO. / TRINITY CATHOLIC

2020 Sophomore:

- » Set the Illinois single-game rushing record by a quarterback with 192 yards in his first career start Rutgers 11/14/20.

2019 Freshman:

- » Played in four games and redshirted the season
- » 3-of-10 passing for 38 yards, nine carries for 16 yards, and three receptions for nine yards on the season
- » Played wide receiver for the first time during the Redbox Bowl and had three receptions for nine yards
- » Made Illinois debut against Nebraska 9/21/19 on two designed quarterback runs

High School:

- » Four-star recruit by 247Sports, Rivals and ESPN
- » Ranked No. 47 recruit in the nation by Rivals, No. 93 by ESPN and No. 295 by 247Sports
- » Ranked No. 5 athlete in the nation by 247Sports, No. 8 by ESPN and No. 16 by Rivals
- » Ranked No. 1 recruit in Missouri by Rivals and ESPN and No. 5 by 247Sports
- » No. 9 ranked recruit in Illinois' last 17 years according to 247Sports
- » Williams and Marquez Beason are Illinois' two highest ranked recruits since Terry Hawthorne in 2009 and the highest combo since Arrelious Benn and Martez Wilson in 2007
- » Illinois' highest ranked quarterback recruit since Juice Williams in 2006
- » Ranked as high as No. 25 overall recruit in the nation in February 2018 according to 247Sports Composite
- » Played for head coach Cory Patterson through his junior year when Patterson left Trinity Catholic to become the tight ends coach at Illinois
- » Played for head coach Terrence Curry at Trinity Catholic as a senior
- » 2019 Under Armour All-American selection
- » 2018 Elite 11 Finals invitation
- » 2018 and 2019 Missouri Gatorade Player of the Year
- » 2018 USA TODAY Missouri Offensive Player of the Year
- » 2018 USA TODAY All-USA Missouri first team
- » 2018 Missouri Football Coaches Association Class 3 All-State first team

- » 2,470 passing yards and 33 touchdowns as a senior
- » 1,132 rushing yards and 11 touchdowns as a senior
- » 1,898 passing yards and 29 touchdowns as a junior
- » Threw for 175 yards and four touchdowns and ran for 23 yards in the 2018 Missouri Class 4 state title game to help Trinity Catholic beat Cardinal Ritter

- » Also played basketball and ran track at Trinity Catholic
- » Verbally committed to Illinois in March 2018
- » Offers included Alabama, Auburn, Clemson, Florida, Florida State, Indiana, Iowa, Iowa State, Kansas State, Kentucky, Louisville, LSU, Maryland, Michigan, Michigan State, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Carolina, Northwestern, Notre Dame, Ohio State, Oklahoma, Oklahoma State, Ole Miss, Oregon, Penn State, Purdue, South Carolina, Stanford, Syracuse, TCU, Tennessee, Texas, Texas A&M, UCF, Virginia, and Wisconsin

Personal:

- » Born Jan. 29, 2001
- » Son of Ashley Harris and Wendell Williams
- » One brother, Wendell Williams Jr., and two sisters, Zariyah Martin and Keira Williams
- » Nicknamed “1”
- » Has worn No. 1 since he started playing sports
- » Picked Illinois because it is a, “prestigious university and family oriented.”

- » Plans to open a training facility following his playing career
- » Enrolled in general curriculum

CAREER HIGHS

Touchdowns: 1, at Rutgers 11/14/20  
Attempts: 4 vs. Michigan, 10/12/19  
Pass attempts: 18, at Rutgers 11/14/20  
Pass completions: 7, at Rutgers 11/14/20  
Pass yards: 104, at Rutgers 11/14/20  
Long pass: 25, Northwestern, 11/30/20  
Carries: 31, at Rutgers 11/14/20  
Rushing Yards: 192, at Rutgers 11/14/20  
Long Rush: 5, three times (last at Wisconsin 10/23/20)  
Receptions: 3 vs. California, 12/30/19  
Receiving Yards: 9 vs. California, 12/30/19  
Long Reception: 4 vs. California, 12/30/19  
Total Offense: 299, at Rutgers 11/14/20  
All-Purpose: 195, at Rutgers 11/14/20

PASSING STATISTICS

YEAR	G	ATT	CMP	INT	YDS	TD	LG	PCT	AVG/P	AVG/G	EFFC
2019	4	10	3	1	38	0	25	30.0	3.8	9.5	41.9
2020	2	21	7	1	104	0	22	33.3	5.0	52.0	65.4
TOTAL	6	31	10	2	142	0	25	32.3	4.6	23.7	57.8

RUSHING STATISTICS

YEAR	G	ATT	YDS	TD	LG	AVG/C	AVG/G
2019	4	9	16	0	5	1.8	4.0
2020	2	32	200	1	26	6.2	100.0
TOTAL	6	41	216	1	26	5.3	36.0

RECEIVING STATISTICS

YEAR	G	REC	YDS	TD	LG	REC/G	AVG/C	AVG/G
2019	4	3	9	0	4	0.8	3.0	2.2
2020	2	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL	6	3	9	0	4	0.5	3.0	1.5

PASSING GAME-BY-GAME

2020	ATT	CMP	INT	YDS	TD	LG
@WIS	3	0	1	0	0	0
PUR			DNP			
MIN			DNP			
@RUT	18	7	0	104	0	22
@NEB						
OSU						
IOWA						
@NW						

2019	ATT	CMP	INT	YDS	TD	LG
AKRON			DNP			
@UCONN			DNP			
EMU			DNP			
NEB	0	0	0	0	0	0
@MIN			DNP - Injured			
MICH	4	0	0	0	0	0
WIS			DNP - Injured			
@PUR			DNP - Injured			
RUT			DNP			
@MSU			DNP			
@IOWA			DNP			
NW	6	3	1	38	0	25
vs. CAL	0	0	0	0	0	0

RUSHING/RECEIVING GAME-BY-GAME

2020	CAR	YDS	TD	LG	REC	YDS	TD	LG
@WIS	1	5	0	5	0	0	0	0
PUR				DNP				
MIN				DNP				
@RUT	31	192	1	26	0	0	0	0
@NEB								
OSU								
IOWA								
@NW								

2019	CAR	YDS	TD	LG	REC	YDS	TD	LG
AKRON				DNP				
@UCONN				DNP				
EMU				DNP				
NEB	2	-3	0	0	0	0	0	0
@MIN				DNP - Injured				
MICH	4	4	0	5	0	0	0	0
WIS				DNP - Injured				
@PUR				DNP - Injured				
RUT				DNP - Injured				
@MSU				DNP				
@IOWA				DNP				
NW	3	15	0	5	0	0	0	0
vs. CAL	0	0	0	0	3	9	0	4





31 DEVON WITHERSPOON

DB, 6-0, 170, SO.  
PENSACOLA, FLA. / PINE FOREST

2020 Sophomore:

- » Has an interception in back-to-back game this season
- » First career interception against Minnesota 11/7/20
- » Missed the season opener at Wisconsin with an injury
- » Part of defensive back rotation

2019 Freshman:

- » Played in all 13 games and started three at cornerback
- » 33 tackles, two PBUs on the season
- » Led the team in special teams tackles (13)
- » Led the team in kickoff tackles (11)
- » Only true freshman defender to start a game for Illinois in 2019
- » Chase-down tackle at the goal line in the fourth quarter vs. No. 6 Wisconsin 10/19/19 led to goal-line stop to help Illinois win 24-23 and complete one of the biggest upsets in Big Ten history
- » Joined the Illini during training camp after initially planning to attend Hutchinson Community College (Kan.)

High School:

- » Two-year letterwinner in football
- » Played for head coach Jason McDonald at Pine Forest
- » Helped Pine Forest to the 2018 District 1-6A championship and advance to the second round of the state playoffs
- » 2018 Pensacola News Journal Defensive Player of the Year
- » 2018 Pensacola News Journal All-Area first team
- » 74 tackles, nine PBUs, 2.0 TFLs, 1.0 sack, and an area-high seven interceptions as a senior
- » Scored two touchdowns as a senior, one on a fumble return and one on an interception return
- » 65 tackles, nine PBUs, 2.0 TFLs, 1.0 sack, and four interceptions as a junior, his first year playing football
- » Also played basketball and ran track in high school, helping three Pine Forest teams to district titles as a senior
- » Standout high jumper and part of multiple championship relay teams, including a Florida Class 3A state runner-up finish in the 4x100-meter relay
- » 2018 Pensacola News Journal Male Athlete of the Year for overall production in all three sports
- » Verbally committed to Illinois in July 2019, four days before training camp
- » Offers included Appalachian State, Georgia State, Massachusetts, Middle Tennessee, South Alabama, Southern Miss, Troy, Temple, and UAB
- » Originally committed to Hutchinson Community College (Kan.)

Personal

- » Born Dec. 11, 2000
- » Did not play football until his junior year of high school
- » Enrolled in general curriculum

CAREER HIGHS

**Tackles:** 9 vs. Purdue 10/31/20  
**Interceptions:** 1 vs. Minnesota 11/7/20  
**Fumbles Recovered:** 1 vs. Purdue 10/31/20  
**TFL:** 1 vs. Minnesota 11/7/20  
**PBUs:** 1, twice (last at Purdue, 10/26/19)

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	G	UA	A	TOT	TFL	YDS	PD	FF	FR	BLK	QBH
2019	13	23	10	33	0.0	0	2	0	0	0	0
2020	3	11	7	18	0.0	4	2	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	16	34	17	51	0.0	4	4	0	0	0	0

INTERCEPTIONS STATISTICS

YEAR	G	INT	YDS	TD	LG	AVG/R	AVG/G
2019	13	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
2020	3	2	0	0	0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL	16	2	0	0	0	0.0	0.0

DEFENSIVE GAME-BY-GAME

2020	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
@WIS					DNP - Injured					
PUR	3	9	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	1-0	0-0	0	0
MIN	3	3	6	1.0-4	0.0-0	0	0-0	1-0	0	0

@RUT	2	1	3	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	1-0	0	0
@NEB										
OSU										
IOWA										
@NW										

2019	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
AKRON	2	0	2	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	1
@UCONN	0	1	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
EMU	3	0	3	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
NEB	0	4	4	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@MIN	1	1	2	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
MICH	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
WIS	3	0	3	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@PUR	2	0	2	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	1
RUT	1	0	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@MSU	0	2	2	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@IOWA	4	2	6	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
NW	2	0	2	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
vs. CAL	5	0	5	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0

91 JAMAL WOODS

DL, 6-2, 275, SR.  
HUEYTOWN, ALA. / HUEYTOWN

2020 Senior:

- » Starting defensive tackle

2019 Junior:

- » Played in nine games and started four at defensive tackle
- » Missed four games with injuries
- » 14 tackles, 5.5 TFLs, 0.5 sack, one forced fumble on the season
- » Three tackles and 1.5 TFLs vs. No. 6 Wisconsin 10/19/19 to help Illinois win 24-23 and complete one of the biggest upsets in Big Ten history
- » First career forced fumble at UConn 9/7/19

2018 Sophomore:

- » Started first four games at defensive tackle before a season-ending injury
- » 13 tackles, 4.0 TFLs, 1.0 sack, three PBUs and one QB hurry on season
- » First career sack, five tackles, two PBUs and a QB hurry against Western Illinois 9/8/18
- » Season-high 2.0 TFLs against Kent State 9/1/18
- » At least 1.0 TFL in each of the first three games

2017 Freshman:

- » BTN.com All-Freshman Team honorable mention
- » Played in 11 games with four starts on the defensive line
- » 24 tackles (12 solo), 3.5 TFLs on the season playing both defensive end and tackle
- » Team-high 2.5 TFLs vs. Indiana
- » Made his Illinois debut against Western Kentucky
- » First career start against Nebraska

High School:

- » Three-star recruit by 247Sports
- » Two-star recruit by Rivals and Scout
- » Ranked No. 91 strong-side DE in the nation by 247Sports
- » Ranked No. 70 recruit in Alabama by 247Sports
- » Played at Hueytown for head coach Scott Mansell
- » Captained his high school team as a senior
- » 2016 Alabama Sports Writers Assoc. 6A all-state second team
- » 2016 all-city selection
- » 47 tackles, 8.0 TFLs, 2.0 sacks and one forced fumble as senior
- » Led Hueytown to an 8-3 record and the Alabama 6A state playoffs as a senior
- » Also wrestled in high school and placed in top six at state twice

Personal:

- » Born June 14, 1999
- » Son of Antonio and Felicia Weldon
- » Has two sisters, Jamiyah Weldon and Jameria Dubose, and two brothers, Malik Woods and Erskine Hawkins

- » Picked Illinois because, "the coaching staff is great, the players are great and it's somewhere that I could be a part of making a name."
- » Wants to own an athletic training facility or coach following his playing career
- » Majoring in community health

CAREER HIGHS

**Tackles:** 9 vs. Purdue, 10/31/20  
**TFLs:** 2.5 vs. Indiana, 11/11/17  
**Sacks:** 1.0 vs. Western Illinois, 9/8/18  
**Fumbles Forced:** 1 at UConn, 9/7/19  
**Fumbles Recovered:** 1, vs. Purdue 11/14/20  
**PBUs:** 2 vs. Western Illinois, 9/8/18  
**Interceptions:** 1, twice (last at Rutgers 11/14/20)

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

YEAR	G	UA	A	TOT	TFL	YDS	PD	FF	FR	BLK	QBH
2017	11	12	12	24	3.5	7	0	0	0	0	0
2018	4	11	2	13	4.0	12	3	0	0	0	1
2019	9	10	4	14	5.5	19	0	1	0	0	0
2020	2	1	2	5	0.5	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	26	34	19	53	13.5	3	1	0	0	0	0

SACKS STATISTICS

YEAR	G	UA	A	TOTAL	YDS
2017	11	0	0	0.0	0
2018	4	1	0	1.0	2
2019	9	0	1	0.5	3
2020	2	0	0	0.0	0
TOTAL	26	1	1	1.5	5

DEFENSIVE GAME-BY-GAME

2020	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
@WIS	1	1	2	0.5-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
PUR	0	0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
MIN					DNP					
@RUT					DNP					
@NEB										
OSU										
IOWA										
@NW										

2019	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
AKRON	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@UCONN	2	2	4	2.0-7	0.5-3	1	0-0	0-0	0	0
EMU					DNP - Injured					
NEB	2	0	2	2.0-11	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@MIN	1	1	2	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
MICH	1	0	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
WIS	2	1	3	1.5-1	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@PUR	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
RUT					DNP - Injured					
@MSU	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@IOWA					DNP - Injured					
NW					DNP - Injured					
vs. CAL	2	0	2	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0

2018	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
KENT ST	2	0	2	2.0-7	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
WIU	4	1	5	1.0-2	1.0-2	0	0-0	0-0	1	2
USF	3	1	4	1.0-3	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	1
PENN ST	2	0	2	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@RUT					DNP - Injured					
PUR					DNP - Injured					
@WIS					DNP - Injured					
@MD					DNP - Injured					
MINN					DNP - Injured					
@NEB					DNP - Injured					
IOWA					DNP - Injured					
@NW					DNP - Injured					

2017	UA	AS	TOT	TFL-Yds	QBS-Yds	FF	FR-Yds	INT-Yds	QBH	PBU
BALL ST					DNP					
WKU	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@USF	3	1	4	1.0-1	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
NEB	0	2	2	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@IOWA	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
RUT	0	1	1	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@MIN	0	0	0	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
WIS	0	2	2	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@PUR	1	1	2	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
IND	3	5	8	2.5-6	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
@OSU	3	0	3	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0
NW	2	0	2	0.0-0	0.0-0	0	0-0	0-0	0	0

62 TERRY ZAPF

OL, 6-6, 300, SO.  
WINNETKA, ILL. / NEW TRIER / WILLIAMS (MASS.)

2019 Freshman (Williams):

- » Starter as a freshman at Williams College



» All-NESCAC second team, the only freshman lineman named to an all-conference team

### High School:

» Played for head coach Brian Doll at New Trier  
» 2017 and 2018 all-area  
» 2018 All-CSL South  
» Also participated in track and field and rugby in high school  
» Honor Roll

### Personal:

» Born Aug. 30, 2000  
» Son of Matthew and Christine Zapf  
» Has two brothers, Matt and Brian, and two sisters, Tricia and Caitlin  
» Majoring in economics

## TEAM STATISTICS

**Illinois Overall Team Statistics (as of Nov 15, 2020)**  
All games

<b>Team Statistics</b>	<b>ILL</b>	<b>OPP</b>
SCORING	68	137
Points Per Game	17.0	34.2
Points Off Turnovers	27	34
FIRST DOWNS	72	98
Rushing	37	41
Passing	24	48
Penalty	11	9
RUSHING YARDAGE	827	758
Yards gained rushing	930	853
Yards lost rushing	103	95
Rushing Attempts	164	165
Average Per Rush	5.0	4.6
Average Per Game	206.8	189.5
TDs Rushing	4	7
PASSING YARDAGE	592	1091
Comp-Att-Int	41-90-3	87-117-4
Average Per Pass	6.6	9.3
Average Per Catch	14.4	12.5
Average Per Game	148.0	272.8
TDs Passing	3	10
TOTAL OFFENSE	1419	1849
Total Plays	254	282
Average Per Play	5.6	6.6
Average Per Game	354.8	462.2
KICK RETURNS: #-Yards	15-275	6-108
PUNT RETURNS: #-Yards	2-24	3-7
INT RETURNS: #-Yards	4-30	3-30
KICK RETURN AVERAGE	18.3	18.0
PUNT RETURN AVERAGE	12.0	2.3
INT RETURN AVERAGE	7.5	10.0
FUMBLES-LOST	8-4	6-4
PENALTIES-Yards	28-295	23-196
Average Per Game	73.8	49.0
PUNTS-Yards	19-819	13-515
Average Per Punt	43.1	39.6
Net punt average	41.7	37.8
KICKOFFS-Yards	16-1017	26-1616
Average Per Kick	63.6	62.2
Net kick average	42.8	42.9
TIME OF POSSESSION/Game	25:44	34:16
3RD-DOWN Conversions	16/51	25/49
3rd-Down Pct	31%	51%
4TH-DOWN Conversions	4/9	2/3
4th-Down Pct	44%	67%
SACKS BY-Yards	8-62	10-48
MISC YARDS	0	0
TOUCHDOWNS SCORED	8	18
FIELD GOALS-ATTEMPTS	4-6	4-4
ON-SIDE KICKS	0-0	0-0
RED-ZONE SCORES	(8-13) 62%	(17-20) 85%
RED-ZONE TOUCHDOWNS	(5-13) 38%	(13-20) 65%
PAT-ATTEMPTS	(8-8) 100%	(17-18) 94%
ATTENDANCE	1701	0
Games/Avg Per Game	2/850	2/0
Neutral Site Games		0/0

<b>Score by Quarters</b>	<b>1st</b>	<b>2nd</b>	<b>3rd</b>	<b>4th</b>	<b>OT</b>	<b>Total</b>
Illinois	0	31	10	27	0	68
Opponents	31	55	28	23	0	137



## INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Illinois Overall Individual Statistics (as of Nov 15, 2020)  
All games

<b>Rushing</b>	<b>gp</b>	<b>att</b>	<b>gain</b>	<b>loss</b>	<b>net</b>	<b>avg</b>	<b>td</b>	<b>lg</b>	<b>avg/g</b>
Brown, Chase	4	35	249	2	247	7.1	0	39	61.8
Epstein, Mike	4	42	228	3	225	5.4	3	63	56.2
Williams, Isaiah	2	32	199	2	197	6.2	1	26	98.5
Peters, Brandon	1	7	84	9	75	10.7	0	31	75.0
Taylor, Coran	2	36	149	75	74	2.1	0	33	37.0
Cumby, Kyron	4	2	11	0	11	5.5	0	9	2.8
Robinson, Matt	2	4	9	4	5	1.2	0	8	2.5
Norwood, Jakari	1	2	1	0	1	0.5	0	1	1.0
Love, Reggie	4	1	0	2	-2	-2.0	0	0	-0.5
Team	4	3	0	6	-6	-2.0	0	0	-1.5
Total	4	164	930	103	827	5.0	4	63	206.8
Opponents	4	165	853	95	758	4.6	7	53	189.5

<b>Passing</b>	<b>gp</b>	<b>effic</b>	<b>comp-att-int</b>	<b>pct</b>	<b>yds</b>	<b>td</b>	<b>lg</b>	<b>avg/g</b>
Taylor, Coran	2	132.03	23-46-2	50.0	379	3	52	189.5
Williams, Isaiah	2	65.41	7-21-1	33.3	104	0	22	52.0
Peters, Brandon	1	80.57	8-19-0	42.1	87	0	26	87.0
Robinson, Matt	2	121.20	3-4-0	75.0	22	0	12	11.0
Total	4	105.14	41-90-3	45.6	592	3	52	148.0
Opponents	4	174.05	87-117-4	74.4	1091	10	66	272.8

<b>Receiving</b>	<b>gp</b>	<b>no.</b>	<b>yds</b>	<b>avg</b>	<b>td</b>	<b>lg</b>	<b>avg/g</b>
Imatorbhebhe, J.	4	11	144	13.1	1	52	36.0
Barker, Daniel	4	9	132	14.7	0	22	33.0
Hightower, Brian	4	6	129	21.5	1	44	32.2
Washington, C.	4	4	60	15.0	0	20	15.0
Imatorbhebhe, D.	3	3	54	18.0	1	28	18.0
Epstein, Mike	4	2	29	14.5	0	22	7.2
Navarro, Donny	4	2	20	10.0	0	15	5.0
Brown, Chase	4	2	3	1.5	0	5	0.8
Cumby, Kyron	4	1	17	17.0	0	17	4.2
Ford, Luke	4	1	4	4.0	0	4	1.0
Total	4	41	592	14.4	3	52	148.0
Opponents	4	87	1091	12.5	10	66	272.8

<b>Punt Returns</b>	<b>no.</b>	<b>yds</b>	<b>avg</b>	<b>td</b>	<b>lg</b>
Frenchie, James	1	8	8.0	0	8
Navarro, Donny	1	16	16.0	0	16
Total	2	24	12.0	0	16
Opponents	3	7	2.3	0	8

<b>Interceptions</b>	<b>no.</b>	<b>yds</b>	<b>avg</b>	<b>td</b>	<b>lg</b>
Witherspoon, D.	2	0	0.0	0	0
Hansen, Jake	1	4	4.0	0	4
Hobbs, Nate	1	26	26.0	0	26
Total	4	30	7.5	0	26
Opponents	3	30	10.0	0	12

<b>Kick Returns</b>	<b>no.</b>	<b>yds</b>	<b>avg</b>	<b>td</b>	<b>lg</b>
Thompson, Khmari	11	213	19.4	0	35
Brown, Chase	4	62	15.5	0	20
Total	15	275	18.3	0	35
Opponents	6	108	18.0	0	28

<b>Fumble Returns</b>	<b>no.</b>	<b>yds</b>	<b>avg</b>	<b>td</b>	<b>lg</b>
Barnes, Tarique	1	39	39.0	1	39
Total	1	39	39.0	1	39
Opponents	0	0	0.0	1	0





## INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Illinois Overall Individual Statistics (as of Nov 15, 2020)  
All games

Scoring	td	fg	PAT				dpx	saf	pts
			kick	rush	rcv	pass			
Epstein, Mike	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18
McCourt, James	-	3-5	3-3	-	-	-	-	-	12
Griffin, Caleb	-	1-1	5-5	-	-	-	-	-	8
Imatorbhebhe, D.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Williams, Isaiah	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Hightower, Brian	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Imatorbhebhe, J.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Barnes, Tarique	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Total	8	4-6	8-8	-	-	-	-	-	68
Opponents	18	4-4	17-18	-	-	-	-	-	137

Total Offense	g	plays	rush	pass	total	avg/g
Taylor, Coran	2	82	74	379	453	226.5
Williams, Isaiah	2	53	197	104	301	150.5
Brown, Chase	4	35	247	0	247	61.8
Epstein, Mike	4	42	225	0	225	56.2
Peters, Brandon	1	26	75	87	162	162.0
Robinson, Matt	2	8	5	22	27	13.5
Cumby, Kyron	4	2	11	0	11	2.8
Norwood, Jakari	1	2	1	0	1	1.0
Love, Reggie	4	1	-2	0	-2	-0.5
Team	4	3	-6	0	-6	-1.5
Total	4	254	827	592	1419	354.8
Opponents	4	282	758	1091	1849	462.2

Field Goals	fg	pct.	01-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-99	lg	blk
Griffin, Caleb	1-1	100.0	0-0	1-1	0-0	0-0	0-0	28	0
McCourt, James	3-5	60.0	0-0	2-2	0-0	1-2	0-1	47	0

Punting	no.	yds	avg	lg	tb	fc	i20	50+	blk
Hayes, Blake	19	819	43.1	59	1	7	8	4	0
Total	19	819	43.1	59	1	7	8	4	0
Opponents	13	515	39.6	66	0	4	5	3	0

FG Sequence	Illinois	Opponents
Wisconsin	-	(19)
Purdue	(28)	(36)
Minnesota	-	-
Rutgers	(24),(23),54,46,(47)	(29),(26)

Kickoffs	no.	yds	avg	tb	ob	retn	net	ydln
McCourt, James	8	514	64.2	4	0			
Griffin, Caleb	8	503	62.9	5	1			
Total	16	1017	63.6	9	1	18.0	42.8	22
Opponents	26	1616	62.2	9	0	18.3	42.9	22

Numbers in parentheses indicate field goal was made.

# INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

## Illinois Overall Individual Statistics (as of Nov 15, 2020) All games

All Purpose	g	rush	rcv	pr	kr	ir	total	avg/g
Brown, Chase	4	247	3	0	62	0	312	78.0
Epstein, Mike	4	225	29	0	0	0	254	63.5
Thompson, Khm	4	0	0	0	213	0	213	53.2
Williams, Isaiah	2	197	0	0	0	0	197	98.5
Imatorbhebhe, J.	4	0	144	0	0	0	144	36.0
Barker, Daniel	4	0	132	0	0	0	132	33.0
Hightower, Brian	4	0	129	0	0	0	129	32.2
Peters, Brandon	1	75	0	0	0	0	75	75.0
Taylor, Coran	2	74	0	0	0	0	74	37.0
Washington, C.	4	0	60	0	0	0	60	15.0
Imatorbhebhe, D.	3	0	54	0	0	0	54	18.0
Navarro, Donny	4	0	20	16	0	0	36	9.0
Cumby, Kyron	4	11	17	0	0	0	28	7.0
Hobbs, Nate	3	0	0	0	0	26	26	8.7
Frenchie, James	4	0	0	8	0	0	8	2.0
Robinson, Matt	2	5	0	0	0	0	5	2.5
Hansen, Jake	4	0	0	0	0	4	4	1.0
Ford, Luke	4	0	4	0	0	0	4	1.0
Norwood, Jakari	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1.0
Love, Reggie	4	-2	0	0	0	0	-2	-0.5
Team	4	-6	0	0	0	0	-6	-1.5
Total	4	827	592	24	275	30	1748	437.0
Opponents	4	758	1091	7	108	30	1994	498.5

## DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

**Illinois Overall Defensive Statistics (as of Nov 15, 2020)**  
**All games**

#	Defensive Leaders	gp	Tackles			tfl/yds	Sacks no-yds	Pass defense			Fumbles		blkd kick	saf
			ua	a	tot			int-yds	brup	qbh	rcv-yds	ff		
35	Hansen, Jake	4	19	18	37	4.0-11	1.0-3	1-4	1	.	1-0	2	.	.
6	Adams, Tony	4	14	14	28	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.
30	Brown, Sydney	4	17	10	27	0.5-2	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.
45	Tolson, Khalan	4	9	18	27	4.0-12	0.5-4	.	1	1	.	1	.	.
8	Hobbs, Nate	3	18	4	22	2.0-3	.	1-26	2	.	.	.	.	.
31	Witherspoon, D.	3	11	7	18	1.0-4	.	2-0	.	.	1-0	.	.	.
44	Barnes, Tarique	4	9	9	18	1.5-10	1.0-9	.	.	.	1-39	.	.	.
99	Carney, Owen	4	7	6	13	4.0-24	3.0-23	.	.	2	.	1	.	.
21	Martin, J.	4	6	6	12	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.
5	Eifler, Milo	3	7	4	11	1.5-1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
96	Perry, Roderick	4	4	6	10	2.0-14	1.5-13	.	1	.	.	.	.	.
15	Ware, Delano	4	6	3	9	.	.	.	1	1	.	.	.	.
92	Gay, Isaiah	3	4	5	9	0.5-1	.	.	1	.	1-0	.	.	.
94	Newton, JerZhan	4	4	4	8	1.0-10	1.0-10	.	.	.	.	1	.	.
2	Smith, Derrick	4	5	3	8	1.0-1	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.
88	Randolph, Keith	2	4	2	6	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.
93	Avery, Calvin	3	1	2	3	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
54	Mondesir, Marc	3	2	1	3	0.5-2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
25	Joseph, Kerby	3	2	1	3	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
17	Smith, Kendall	4	2	1	3	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
91	Woods, Jamal	2	1	1	2	0.5-0	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
98	Pate, Deon	4	1	1	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
49	Coleman, Seth	4	1	1	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
40	Cooper, Shammond	1	1	1	2	0.5-1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
19	Campbell, D.	3	1	1	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
3	Beason, Marquez	3	1	1	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
63	Palczewski, Alex	4	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
87	Barker, Daniel	4	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
51	Coghlan, Sean	4	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
48	Barnes, Bryce	4	.	1	1	0.5-1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
26	Epstein, Mike	4	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
29	Bobak, Christian	2	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
2A	Brown, Chase	4	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Total		4	160	134	294	25-97	8-62	4-30	10	5	4-39	6	.	.
Opponents		4	145	106	251	19-61	10-48	3-30	10	11	4-0	4	.	.



## ILLINOIS GAME-BY-GAME

Date	Opponent	Rushing				Receiving				Passing				Kick Returns				Punt Returns				tot off
		no.	yds	td	lg	no.	yds	td	lg	cmp-att-int	yds	td	lg	no.	yds	td	lg	no.	yds	td	lg	
Oct 23	at Wisconsin	25	131	0	31	8	87	0	26	8-22-1	87	0	26	6	89	0	20	1	8	0	8	218
Oct 31	PURDUE	44	177	1	33	20	295	2	44	20-33-2	295	2	44	3	74	0	35	1	16	0	16	472
Nov 07	MINNESOTA	36	181	1	63	6	106	1	52	6-17-0	106	1	52	3	53	0	19	0	0	0	0	287
Nov 14	at Rutgers	59	338	2	39	7	104	0	22	7-18-0	104	0	22	3	59	0	24	0	0	0	0	442
Illinois		164	827	4	63	41	592	3	52	41-90-3	592	3	52	15	275	0	35	2	24	0	16	1419
		165	758	7	53	87	1091	10	66	87-117-4	1091	10	66	6	108	0	28	3	7	0	8	1849

Games: 4 • Avg/rush: 5.0 • Avg/catch: 14.4 • Pass effic: 105.14 • KR avg: 18.3 • PR avg: 12.0 • All purpose avg/game: 437.0 • Total offense avg/gm: 354.8

		Tackles				Sacks	Fumble		Pass Defense			blkd	PAT Attempts			off		
Date	Opponent	ua	a	total	tfl-yds	no-yds	ff	fr-yds	int-yds	qbh	brup	kick	kick	rush	rcv	saf	t/o	pts
Oct 23	at Wisconsin	52	26	78	7.0-24	2.0-16	1	1-39	0-0	0	0	0	1-1	0	0	0	7	7
Oct 31	PURDUE	36	38	74	8.0-38	4.0-33	3	2-0	0-0	0	2	0	3-3	0	0	0	7	24
Nov 07	MINNESOTA	37	36	73	5.0-24	1.0-10	1	1-0	1-0	3	2	0	2-2	0	0	0	7	14
Nov 14	at Rutgers	35	34	69	5.0-11	1.0-3	1	0-0	3-30	2	6	0	2-2	0	0	0	6	23
Illinois		160	134	294	25.0-97	8.0-62	6	4-39	4-30	5	10	0	8-8	0	0	0	27	68
		145	106	251	19.0-61	10.0-48	4	4-0	3-30	11	10	0	17-18	0	0	0	34	137

		Punting										Field Goals			Kickoffs				
Date	Opponent	no.	yds	avg	long	blkd	tb	fc	50+	i20	md-att	long	blkd	no.	yds	avg	tb	ob	
Oct 23	at Wisconsin	5	216	43.2	54	0	0	2	1	2	0-0	0	0	2	126	63.0	0	0	
Oct 31	PURDUE	2	83	41.5	53	0	1	0	1	1	1-1	28	0	5	319	63.8	3	1	
Nov 07	MINNESOTA	8	336	42.0	54	0	0	2	1	2	0-0	0	0	3	184	61.3	2	0	
Nov 14	at Rutgers	4	184	46.0	59	0	0	3	1	3	3-5	47	0	6	388	64.7	4	0	
Illinois		19	819	43.1	59	0	1	7	4	8	4-6	47	0	16	1017	63.6	9	1	
		13	515	39.6	66	0	0	4	3	5	4-4	36	0	26	1616	62.2	9	0	





## OPPONENT GAME-BY-GAME

Date	Opponent	Rushing				Receiving				Passing				Kick Returns				Punt Returns				tot off
		no.	yds	td	lg	no.	yds	td	lg	cmp-att-int	yds	td	lg	no.	yds	td	lg	no.	yds	td	lg	
Oct 23	at Wisconsin	54	182	1	13	20	248	5	53	20-21-0	248	5	53	2	28	0	28	1	0	0	0	430
Oct 31	PURDUE	31	85	1	35	29	371	2	45	29-35-0	371	2	45	1	14	0	14	0	0	0	0	456
Nov 07	MINNESOTA	47	325	5	53	17	216	1	32	17-27-1	216	1	32	1	27	0	27	1	8	0	8	541
Nov 14	at Rutgers	33	166	0	32	21	256	2	66	21-34-3	256	2	66	2	39	0	20	1	-1	0	0	422
Opponents		165	758	7	53	87	1091	10	66	87-117-4	1091	10	66	6	108	0	28	3	7	0	8	1849
		164	827	4	63	41	592	3	52	41-90-3	592	3	52	15	275	0	35	2	24	0	16	1419

Games: 4 • Avg/rush: 4.6 • Avg/catch: 12.5 • Pass effic: 174.05 • KR avg: 18.0 • PR avg: 2.3 • All purpose avg/game: 498.5 • Total offense avg/gm: 462.2

		Tackles				Sacks	Fumble		Pass Defense			blkd	PAT Attempts			off		
Date	Opponent	ua	a	total	tfl-yds	no-yds	ff	fr-yds	int-yds	qbh	brup	kick	kick	rush	rcv	saf	t/o	pts
Oct 23	at Wisconsin	30	10	40	6.0-17	3.0-12	1	1-0	1-10	2	2	0	6-6	0	0	0	10	45
Oct 31	PURDUE	42	36	78	4.0-16	2.0-12	1	2-0	2-20	3	3	0	4-4	0	0	0	21	31
Nov 07	MINNESOTA	31	18	49	4.0-23	4.0-23	1	0-0	0-0	3	4	0	5-6	0	0	0	0	41
Nov 14	at Rutgers	42	42	84	5.0-5	1.0-1	1	1-0	0-0	3	1	0	2-2	0	0	0	3	20
Opponents		145	106	251	19.0-61	10.0-48	4	4-0	3-30	11	10	0	17-18	0	0	0	34	137
		160	134	294	25.0-97	8.0-62	6	4-39	4-30	5	10	0	8-8	0	0	0	27	68

		Punting									Field Goals			Kickoffs				
Date	Opponent	no.	yds	avg	long	blkd	tb	fc	50+	i20	md-att	long	blkd	no.	yds	avg	tb	ob
Oct 23	at Wisconsin	4	184	46.0	60	0	0	1	1	2	1-1	19	0	8	470	58.8	1	0
Oct 31	PURDUE	3	98	32.7	51	0	0	0	1	0	1-1	36	0	6	389	64.8	3	0
Nov 07	MINNESOTA	2	51	25.5	30	0	0	0	0	2	0-0	0	0	7	454	64.9	4	0
Nov 14	at Rutgers	4	182	45.5	66	0	0	3	1	1	2-2	29	0	5	303	60.6	1	0
Opponents		13	515	39.6	66	0	0	4	3	5	4-4	36	0	26	1616	62.2	9	0
		19	819	43.1	59	0	1	7	4	8	4-6	47	0	16	1017	63.6	9	1

