

GOPHER GAZETTE

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF: THE BARNYARD, 1925 UNIVERSITY AVE. SE, TUBBYTOWN, USA



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
GOLDEN GOPHERS (12-1)

VS.

OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
BUCKEYES (10-1)



1/3/2008



YOUR 2008-2009 GOLDEN GOPHERS:

No.	Name	Pos.	Year	Height	Weight	Notable season statistics
0	Al Nolen	G	So.	6-1	180	8.5 ppg, 4 rpg, 6.3 apg, 2.2 spg, 60% FT, 29% 3PFG
1	Paul Carter	F	So.	6-8	195	3.6 ppg, 3 rpg, 1 apg, 1 bpg, 14 mpg, 69% FT
3	Kevin Payton	G/F	RJr.	6-5	215	4.4 mpg, 1 rpg
4	Travis Busch	G/F	Jr.	6-4	220	6 ppg, 2.3 rpg, 54% FG, 70% FT, 14 mpg
5	Devoe Joseph	G	Fr.	6-3	170	4 ppg, 2 rpg, 1.6 apg, 50% FT, 39% 3PFG
11	Jonathan Williams	C	5Sr.	6-9	250	2 ppg, 2.2 rpg, 55% FG, 9 mpg
20	Lawrence Westbrook	G	Jr.	6-0	195	13 ppg, 1 spg, 43% FG, 81% FT, 35% 3PFG
22	Devron Bostick	G	Jr.	6-5	210	3.5 ppg, 1.3 rpg, 1 apg, 47% FG, 50% FT, 10 mpg
24	Blake Hofferber	G	So.	6-4	200	10.3 ppg, 4 rpg, 49% FG, 77% FT, 44% 3PFG, 24 mpg
33	Jamal Abu-Shamala	G/F	Sr.	6-5	210	5 ppg, 2.5 rpg, 51% FG, 73% FT, 33% 3PFG, 16 mpg
34	Damian Johnson	F	RJr.	6-7	195	10 ppg, 4 rpg, 3 apg, 56% FG, 50% FT, 26 mpg
45	Colton Iverson	F/C	Fr.	6-10	235	7.5 ppg, 4.5 rpg, 2 bpg, 61% FG, 60% FT, 19 mpg
50	Ralph Sampson III	F/C	Fr.	6-11	220	6.5 ppg, 3.7 rpg, 1.6 bpg, 52% FG, 79% FT, 17 mpg

Head Coach: Tubby Smith. Assistant coaches: Ron Jirsa, Vince Taylor, Saul Smith.

THE BARNYARD POLL

Q: How many wins do you predict for the Gophers in conference play? (out of 18 Big Ten games)

- A. 14 wins or +
- B. 13 wins
- C. 11-12 wins
- D. 9-10 wins
- E. 7-8 wins
- F. <7 wins

Log on to www.umnbarnyard.com to vote and view the results!

The Golden Dunkers

We would like to thank the Golden Dunkers – the booster club for the men's basketball team – for their support of the Golden Gophers and The Barnyard!



Check in with our website www.umnbarnyard.com for the latest news on the team! Check out The Barnyard photo gallery, catch up on past Gazettes, and vote on our weekly polls. Keep The Barnyard rocking after the final horn!

BIG TEN CONFERENCE The Barnyard's Big Ten Roundup BIG TEN CONFERENCE

Current Standings

	Conf.	Overall
Illinois	1-0	13-1
Ohio State	1-0	10-1
Penn State	1-0	12-2
Michigan St.	1-0	10-2
Wisconsin	1-0	10-3
Indiana	0-0	5-7
Minnesota	0-1	12-1
Purdue	0-1	11-3
Michigan	0-1	10-3
Northwestern	0-1	8-3
Iowa	0-1	10-4

Results & Schedule

Tuesday

Illinois 71, Purdue 67, OT

Wednesday

Michigan St. 70, Gophers 58
Penn State 61, Northwestern 57
Wisconsin 73, Michigan 61
Ohio State 68, Iowa 65

Today

Ohio State at Gophers, 11 am
Penn St. at Wisconsin, 1 pm
Indiana at Iowa, 3:35 pm
Mich. St. at Northwestern, 6 pm

Sunday

Illinois at Michigan, 11 am

Who's Up: Illinois

The Illini stole a road win at No. 11 Purdue in overtime Tuesday, while limiting Purdue's leading scorer Robbie Hummel to seven points.

Who's Down: Michigan

No. 23-ranked Michigan had its five-game winning streak snapped at home by Wisconsin. The Badgers got 16 points from Marcus Landry and Trevon Hughes. Wisconsin rebounded following a five-point loss to Texas last week.

Better Wash those Hands:

Three Penn State players missed all or part of its 61-57 win over Northwestern because of the flu bug. Taylor Battle led the way with 26 points.

FAN OF THE GAME

vs. Michigan St. – Charles Fiergola

Barnyard: Who is your favorite Gopher?

CF: D.J.

Barnyard: How do you get so pumped up before every game?

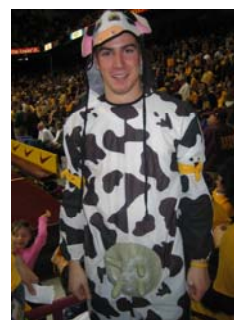
CF: Watching highlight tapes of the Final Four team

Barnyard: What is a random fact about you?

CF: I can do the “Shwanky” Adrian Peterson walk

Barnyard: What are you most looking forward to this season?

CF: Bo Ryan’s face when we beat the Badgers



GOPHER UPDATE

Dec. 31 – No. 10 Michigan State 70, No. 23 Minnesota 58

A seemingly endless array of second-chance opportunities for Michigan State helped power the Spartans past the Gophers to open Big Ten play for both teams. Offensive statistics aside, the story of the game was defense. For the Gophers, the story was their lack of rebounding. Minnesota was out rebounded 49-27, including 23 Michigan State offensive rebounds. The second-chance possessions and subsequent scoring chances plagued the Gophers all day, particularly in the second half. An early free throw by Colton Iverson knotted the score at 30 in the second half, but the Spartans went on a 14-4 run and never looked back, regularly pushing the ball up the court quickly and capitalizing on missed shots. Point guard Kalin Lucas burned the Gophers for a game-high 24 points. Minnesota was led by Al Nolen with 14 points and seven assists. Lawrence Westbrook chipped-in with 11 points.

Today’s opponent – Ohio State University Buckeyes

The Buckeyes are ranked No. 24 in the AP Poll. Ohio State is led by Evan Turner (16 ppg, 7 rpg) and Jon Diebler (12 ppg, 3 rpg). 7-foot freshman center B.J. Mullens is averaging seven points and four rebounds. The Buckeyes have been without the services of junior guard David Lighty since mid-December following a break in his left foot. Lighty is the most experienced Buckeye with 83 career appearances and 51 starts. In seven games this season, he averaged 9.7 points and 5.7 rebounds. The Buckeyes lone loss is to West Virginia 76-48 on Dec. 27. Ohio State notched five-point road wins over Miami and Notre Dame in early December. Ohio State defeated Bowling Green 61-57 on Nov. 24. The Gophers defeated Bowling Green 68-61 on Nov. 15 in the NABC Classic.

Roster: 2 Jeremie Simmons (G, 6-2, Jr), 3 Walter Offutt (G, 6-3, Fr), 4 P.J. Hill (G, 6-1, Jr), 10 Anthony Carter (G, 6-1, Fr), 13 Danny Peters (G, 6-2, Jr), 15 Kyle Madsen (C, 6-9, Jr), 21 Evan Turner (F, 6-7, So), 23 David Lighty (G, 6-5, Jr), 24 Nikola Kecman (F, 6-8, So), 32 B.J. Mullens (C, 7-0, Fr), 33 Jon Diebler (G, 6-6, So), 34 Mark Titus (G, 6-4, Jr), 40 J.J. Grycko (F, 6-9, Fr), 44 William Buford (G, 6-5, Fr), 45 Zisis Sarikopoulos (C, 7-0, So), 52 Dallas Lauderdale (F, 6-8, So). **Head coach:** Thad Matta.

Next Up – The Gophers play at Iowa at 6 p.m. Thursday, then host Penn State Jan. 11 at 2:30 p.m.

BARNYARD SPOTLIGHT: PAUL CARTER

From Diapers to Dunks:

Paul Carter is originally from California and moved to New Orleans as a junior. When Hurricane Katrina devastated the area, he was forced to relocate to Little Rock, Ark., where he graduated from Little Rock Mills. Carter redshirted his freshman year at Connors State (Okla.) CC before transferring to Missouri State University – West Plains. Before his first year of collegiate basketball even began, Carter entered the radar of Gophers coach Tubby Smith after a strong performance at the Jerry Mullen Camp in Tulsa. In the season opener against Labette CC, Carter scored a season-high 28 points, grabbed 14 rebounds, and added four blocked shots and two assists. Much like he began the season, Carter ended the regular season on a high note, recording 21 points and seven rebounds in a 92-84 win over Moberly Area CC. Carter’s season ended with a 10-point, 10-rebound performance in a 80-61 loss to Three Rivers CC in the Region 16 Championship. The Grizzlies finished with a 27-5 mark.

The Barnyard Quiz:

1) Why did you choose the Gophers?

It is a great school and a great environment

2) What are you most looking forward to as a Gopher?

Big Ten competition

3) How do you get ready before a game?

Pray and clown around with my teammates

4) What’s a little known fact about you?

One of my favorite snacks is french fries & salsa

5) Who is your favorite former Gopher? Why?

Bobby Jackson – I love his work ethic!

6) The Gophers are down 1 with :05 left & Coach Smith is locked in the bathroom – what play do you run?

“Get the ball to Carter!”

7) After winning the 2009 NCAA’s, what song do you dance to at the welcome home celebration?

Tye Tribbett – Victory

8) When your career as a Gopher is over, what would you like to be remembered for?

Being a true man of God and one of the greatest players to set foot in The Barn

ON THIS DAY IN GOPHERS HISTORY

Jan. 3, 1987 – Minnesota 69, Wisconsin 67

First-year head coach Clem Haskins earned his first Big Ten win in the season opener for both programs at The Barn. The Gophers came out flat against the Badgers, shooting 39 percent in the first half and trailing 35-27 at halftime. The second half wasn’t much easier, as Wisconsin pushed its lead to double digits throughout the half. Sophomore Kelvin Smith led the Gophers with 22 points, including 10 points in the final 8:19. His pair of free throws with 1:57 left extended Minnesota’s lead to 67-62. The Badgers eventually pulled even at 67 with just seconds remaining, but all of the previous deficits were finally erased for good when junior guard Kim Zurcher hit a 15-foot jumper with three seconds remaining, capping an 18-point performance in his first Big Ten game. “I’ve always dreamed of playing in the Big Ten, and you always dream about scoring the winning basket,” Zurcher said. “It was unbelievable. I’ll never forget it.” After the opening win, Minnesota defeated Northwestern two days later, then lost 16 straight Big Ten games to end the Big Ten season 2-16, 9-19 overall, and ninth place in the Big Ten.