2004 GAME RECAPS

ILLINOIS 52 Florida A&M 13 - FAM was w/o 4 starters serving susp. The Illini scored 7 TD's & 1 FG on 8 consecutive possessions before freely substituting up 52-0 mid 3Q. FAM got a 59 yd drive before being SOD at the UI 28. In the 4Q vs Illini backups FAM went 80 & 79 yds for TD's, 52-13 (xpng).

Ucla 35 ILLINOIS 17 - UI opened with a 76 yd drive but was SOD at the UCLA 4. The Bruins marched 96 yds including a 41 yd TD pass. A 47 yd TD run by UCLA's Drew made it 14-0. UI went 66 yds for a TD. UCLA was int'd at the UI 34. UI fmbl'd and UCLA drove 48 yds for a TD with 3:58 left 1H, 21-7. On UI's last offensive play of the 1H QB Beutjer inj'd his ribs and Bower hit 11 of 15 for 102 yds in the 2H. The Bruins blk'd a 40 yd FG and it went to the half. UCLA opened the 3Q with an 80 yd TD drive. Bower answered with a 58 yd TD drive which included a 4th & 4 conversion at the UCLA 29. UCLA went 63 yds but on 4th & goal at the 1 was sk'd. IL went 75 yds but settled for a 34 yd FG with 11:23 left, 28-17. Bower was int'd and Horton ret'd it to the UCLA 15 where the Bruins added a TD pass. UI was SOD on 4th & 1 at the UCLA 13 with 2:22 left. ILLINOIS 30 W Michigan 27- Both teams were missing their starting QB's. UI's Thomas ret'd the opening KO 99 yds for a TD. UI Bower was int'd

on his first pass and WM's McIntosh ret'd it to the Broncos 19. Six plays later WM got a TD, 7-7. UI answered with an 80 yd TD drive. WM went 44 yds in 11 plays and nailed a 50 yd FG, 14-10. UI was sk'd & fmbl'd at the WM 26 & WM went 69 yds but settled for a 22 yd FG. UI went 66 yds in just 4 plays with a 28 yd TD pass making it 20-13 (xpng). WM went 85 yds for a TD with 5:59 left 3Q to tie it. UI went 48 yds and nailed a 34 yd FG to lead 23-20. Bower was int'd in the EZ and Blake ret'd it 56 yds setting up a WM TD 8 plays later for the lead, 27-23. Halsey got a 40 yd PR to the WM 40 which set up the Illini's game winning TD with 1:02 left. IL rec'd a Cubit fmbl at the WM 19 with 0:00 left.

Purdue 38 ILLINOIS 30-UI ran a reverse on the game's 1st play and WR Adeyemo fmbl'd and broke his leg. Three plays later PU had a TD. UI went 67 yds in 13 plays but settled for a 24 yd FG. PU answered with a 45 yd FG, 10-3. IL got a 72 yd KR and went 28 yds for a TD to tie it. PU converted on 3rd & 21 for a FD on a 73 yd TD drive. UI went 62 yds and nailed a 48 yd FG, 17-13. PU went 87 yds and a 49 yd TD pass on 3rd & 10 made it 24-13. UI answered with a 57 yd TD drive. At the half PU had a 272-195 yd edge but UI had a 138-39 rush edge. PU got off just a 27 yd punt down to the PU 39 but UI had a 45 yd FG blk'd. PU went 72 yds for a TD, 31-20. UI settled for a 22 yd FG after having a 1st & goal at the 4. UI blk'd a punt but PU picked it up and ran for a FD. PU later went 91 yds scoring on a 34 yd TD pass on 3rd & 8, 38-23. UI went 80 yds in 12 plays for a TD with 4:42 left. PU got 1 FD & punted with just :45 left. UI started at their 14. They fmbl'd and PU rec'd all the way back at the 1 yd line. With :34 left PU actually ran the ball trying for the TD but was stopped.

WISCONSIN 24 Illinois 7-UW RB Davis had his biggest game of the year with 213 yds. UI used 3 QB's due to ineffective play. UW went 73 yds for a TD early 2Q. UW went 58 yds and nailed a 48 yd FG, 10-0 at the half. UI opened the 3Q with a 51 yd drive but missed a 47 yd FG. UW went 70 yds got a Davis TD run, 17-0. After a Stocco fmbl set IL up at the UW 34, 3rd QB Pazan came in to lead the team 6 plays for a TD with 7:29 left. On the next drive Davis got a 31 yd TD run on 4th & 3 to ice it.

MICHIGAN ST 38 Illinois 25-MSÜ went 49 yds and later 71 yds for TD's but on the 2nd TD the xp was fmbl'd and Hayden ret'd it 90 yds for a 2 pt conv, 13-2. The teams traded 80 yd TD drives, 20-9. MSU went 62 yds but missed a 35 yd FG with 2:15 left 1H. Beutjer was sk'd & fmbl'd on IL's 26. MSU nailed a 21 yd FG with :04 left to lead 23-9. In the 3Q UI got a 69 yd run by Thomas which set up his short TD run, 23-16. UI later went 66 yds but missed a 28 yd FG. MSU went 80 yds for a TD and UI answered with a 64 yd FG drive, 30-19. UI blk'd a punt & rec'd it for a TD, 30-25 (2 pt ng). MSU went 62 yds for a TD with 5:47 left to put it out of reach, 38-25 (2 pt good). MSU ran out the clock on a 60 yd drive.

Michigan 30 ILLINOIS 19-IL fmbl'd on the game's 1st play at their own 20 which UM turned into 31 yd FG. UM then added a 62 yd TD drive. UI went 50 yds but were SOD on 4th & 1 at the UM 30. UI went 77 yds for a TD, 10-7. UM drove 65 yds but Harrison int'd it in the EZ & ret'd it 72 yds. IL got a TD 4 plays later for the stunning 14-10 lead. UM's Henne was int'd again and it was ret'd to the Wolves 37. IL nailed a 40 yd FG on the 1H's final play for a 17-10 lead. UM drove 46 yds but was SOD at the UI 20. Beutjer was int'd and McClintock ret'd it to the IL 6. UM got a TD 2 plays later, 17-16 (xpng). UM went 86 yds for a late 3Q TD, 22-17 (2 pt ng). UM added a 91 yd TD drive with 8:54 left, 30-17. Beutjer was int'd at the UM 18. IL went 76 yds but Beutjer was int'd for the 3rd time in the EZ on 3rd & goal from the 4 with 1:37 left. UM took an intentional safety with :03 left.

MINNESOTA 45 Illinois 0-Bower was the surprise starter but IL was shutout for the 1st time since Oct 31, 1998. UM went 76 yds and hit a 34 yd FG. UM went 95 yds and a Barber 44 yd TD run made it 10-0. Pazan came in at QB for UI but was int'd with 2:04 left 2Q. UM went 56 yds for a TD with :58 left, 17-0. Bower ret'd in the 3Q and drove IL 71 yds but a 28 yd FG hit the left upright. UM then scored 3 3Q TD's on 80 and 88 yd drives and a Hamilton 82 yd rec, 38-0. Pazan was sk'd & fmbl'd and UM tacked on a TD with 12:05 left.

Iowa 23 ILLINOIS 13 - Windy Conditions. Bower started and led IL 49 yds for a TD. Iowa went 84 yds and on 3rd & 8 got a 19 yd TD pass to tie it. In the 3Q IL fmbl'd at their own 37 setting up another Iowa 19 yd TD pass, 14-7. Iowa blk'd a punt out of the EZ for a safety. Following the free kick the Hawks went 46 yds for a TD, 23-7. Ex-Hawkeye Beutjer came in at QB for IL. The Illini went 64 yds but Beutjer was int'd. IL went 65 yds in 17 plays and got a TD with :49 left after 3 4th down conversions (2 pt ng). Iowa rec'd the onside kick and took a knee.

ILLINOIS 26 Indiana 22-On the game's 1st play Indy's LoVecchio hit an 80 yd TD pass, 6-0 (xp ng). After a 31 yd PR Indy drove 45 yds for a TD, 13-0. Indy ran a reverse to Roby for a 31 yd TD, 19-0 (2 pt ng) with 7:24 left 1Q. IL got a FD via a fake punt which set up a 56 yd TD pass, 19-7. IL went 65 yds for a TD with :48 left 1Q, 19-14. After a scoreless 2Q Indy went 69 yds in 17 plays for a 1st down at the IL 16 but LoVecchio was KO'd. With Powers at QB they settled for a 37 yd FG, 22-14. With Beutjer at QB, IL went 80 yds in 4 plays on a 44 yd TD run by Thomas, 22-20 (2 pt ng). Powers was int'd and Hayden ret'd it to the IL 30 with 4:22 left. With :30 left IL got a 2 yd TD pass to Jones (2 pt ng). Indy ret'd the KO to the 42 but Powers was int'd at the Illini 48.

NORTHWESTERN 28 Illinois 21 (OT)- IL was trying to save HC Turner's job and surprisingly QB Pazan got the start. IL RB Thomas fmbl'd at the NW 20. NW would go 78 yds as Herron ran untouched up the middle for a 23 yd TD. IL went 53 yds for a TD. Morris int'd a Basanez pass & ret'd it to the NW 26. Thomas got a 14 yd TD run with 1:12 left 1H, 14-7. NW went 78 yds for a TD to tie it. IL went 59 yds in 11 plays. On 4th & goal at the 2 they lined up for a FG but faked it and Weatherford ran it in, 21-14. NW's Backes ret'd a punt 73 yds for a TD with 2:12 left to knot it up again. IL's Thomas ret'd the KO 62 yds to the NW 30. They got 1 FD but true frosh Reda missed a 31 yd FG on the last play of regulation. In OT NW needed 5 plays for a TD while IL's 4th & 6 pass at the NW 11 fell incomplete.