

2007 GAME RECAPS

† **Missouri 40 Illinois 34** - St Louis. IL ret'd a blk'd punt for a TD, 6-0 (xp blk'd). MU drove 80/9pl for a TD. IL lost QB Williams after an uncalled blow to the head. MU had a 0 yd punt but IL QB McGee fmb'l'd at the goal line and Brown ret'd it 104 yds for a TD, 13-6 MU. McGee fmb'l'd at the MU32 and MU went 69/12pl for a TD with :20 left 1H. IL fmb'l'd the KO and MU added a 27 yd FG, 23-6. IL opened the 3Q with a 79/9pl TD drive and MU went 80/7pl for a TD. MU's Maclin added a 66 yd PR TD to lead 37-13. IL drove 72/7pl for a TD & after a fmb'l McGee hit a 41 yd TD pass, 37-27 after 3Q's. MU was sk'd & fmb'l'd and IL's Walker ret'd it to the 4 which set up a TD, 37-34. MU went on a 46/9pl drive for a 32 yd FG, 40-34. McGee was int'd at the MU23 (6:52). MU missed a 49 yd FG (2:51). IL went 48/7pl to the MU22 but McGee was int'd at the 1 (:51).

ILLINOIS 21 W Illinois 0 - IL finished with a 21-4 FD and a 400-152 yd edges. The first 7 poss were punts. A 34 yd PR set up IL for a 32 yd TD run by Dufrene. The teams exchanged int's with Williams being picked off at the 8. IL took its opening drive of the 3Q 71/9pl for a TD. After 7 punts, IL drove 64/5pl for a TD (7:04). WI missed a 38 yd FG with 5:09 left.

Illinois 41 SYRACUSE 20 - IL led 14-0 after the 1Q when SU got its 1st FD but was SOD at the IL28. IL went 72/9pl for a 32 yd FG with :49 left 1H to lead 17-0 with a 253-114 yd edge. IL kicked the ball OOB at its own 30 to open the 2H which set up a SU 44 yd FG. IL went on an 11pl drive for a 50 yd FG. SU's Brinkley broke a tackle and raced 62 yds for a TD to cut it to 20-10. IL went 80/9pl and 76/4pl for TD's, 34-10 after 3Q's. QB McGee came in and IL went 67/9pl for a TD. SU went 50/13pl for a 43 yd FG and 23/6pl for a TD after rec'd the onside kick.

Illinois 27 INDIANA 14 - IL went on 9, 11 and 12 play drives but settled for 45 & 38 yd FG's and got a TD to lead 13-0 (10:25 2Q). IN went 79/10pl for a TD. IL went 68/8pl for a TD with :44 left, 20-7. IN had a punt blk'd but IL was int'd at the 11. IN fmb'l'd at its own 27 (14:10 4Q) which set IL up for a TD and a 27-7 lead. On 3&11 IN's Lewis got a 31 yd TD pass (7:48) and then IL fmb'l'd with 5:24 left at the IN38. IN was SOD at midfield and later went 75/14pl but Lewis was int'd in the EZ for a TB with 1:55 left. IL dominated both lines of scrimmage with a 288-134 rush yd edge (career high 214 for Mendenhall) while sk'g Lewis 7 times.

ILLINOIS 27 Penn St 20 - PSU went 74/11pl for a 26 yd FG. IL's Benn got a 90 yd KR TD. IL added a 70/13pl TD drive, 14-3. PSU went 73/3pl for a TD. IL's Williams was int'd in the EZ. PSU fmb'l'd at its own 40 which set up an IL TD, 21-10. PSU went 63/4pl for a TD. PSU missed a 51 yd FG with :53 left 1H. IL went 40/7pl for a 47 yd FG, 24-17. IL was int'd at its own 40 which set up a PSU 20 yd FG. PSU started at the IL27 on a penalty but Morelli was int'd at the 3. PSU then went 39/8pl but Morelli was int'd at the 18. IL went 66/9pl for a 33 yd FG. PSU went 77/11pl but Morelli, on 4&13, ran for the FD but fmb'l'd and IL rec'd at the 13 with 2:12 left. Morelli's 3&19 pass was int'd at the 9 with :09 left.

ILLINOIS 31 Wisconsin 26 - IL went 80/6pl for a TD. UW went 57/8pl but missed a 38 yd FG. IL drove 42/10pl nailing a 50 yd FG. IL then went 76/7pl for a TD, 17-0. UW went 57/7pl for a 38 yd FG and then added a 26 yd FG after a 43/10pl drive with :05 left 1H, 17-6. The first 3 poss of the 3Q were all long drives for TD's with UW scoring the 1st and the 3rd to make it 24-19 IL. UW went 48/5pl but Donovan was int'd at the 16. On the next drive, Donovan's deep pass was int'd at the 29 and IL went 71/9pl for a TD, 31-19. UW went 82/12pl for a TD with 1:31 left. IL rec'd the onside kick and converted on 4&1 at the UW34 before taking a knee.

IOWA 10 Illinois 6 - Iowa went on a 45/12pl drive but passed up a 50 yd FG and was SOD on 4&7. IL drove 39/10pl for a 46 yd FG. Iowa went 46/11pl and passed up a 45 yd FG and was SOD on 4&6. Iowa went 57/10pl and got a 28 yd FG to tie it with :26 left 2Q. IL went 74/12pl for a 23 yd FG, 6-3. Iowa drove to the IL15 where Christensen threw incomplete on 3&2. Zook accepted a penalty however and on 3&7 Christensen hit Myers with a 20 yd TD pass, 10-6. IL's Williams fmb'l'd at the Iowa46. Zook again accepted a penalty on an incompletion which Iowa cashed into a FD but a fmb'l at the IL11 ended the drive. IL QB McGee came in and had an 83 yd TD pass called back. McGee led IL to the 11 on its last drive but he was int'd at the goal line with 1:12 left.

Michigan 27 ILLINOIS 17 - IL's Davis got a 66 yd KR to the UM33 which set up an Illini TD. UM's Henne was inj'd and Mallett led a 44/10pl drive for a 25 yd FG, 7-3. IL went 90/13pl for a TD but UM, under Henne, answered with an 80/6pl TD drive. On 4&27 a roughing the P kept a UM drive alive and they went 81/14pl for a TD with just :14 left 1H to lead 17-14. IL missed a 47 yd FG in the 3Q. UM's Mallett fmb'l'd at the IL28 and IL, with QB McGee in, went 50/9pl for a 38 yd FG to tie it. Mallett was int'd at the IL4. IL's Hudson muffed a punt at his own 13 with 8:58 left which set up UM for a TD on a WR pass to Manningham, 24-17. After a 27 yd punt, UM added a 39 yd FG with 3:49 left. IL was SOD at its own 47 (2:18) and Williams was int'd at the IL47 (1:03).

ILLINOIS 28 Ball St 17 - BS went 39/8pl but missed a 35 yd FG. IL drove 43 yds but Williams was int'd at the BS24. IL went 77/10pl all on run plays for a TD. BS went 65/17pl settling for a 22 yd FG, 7-3 at the half. Williams was int'd & ret'd 35 yds for a TD by Dorulla for a stunning 10-7 BS lead. IL went 65/7pl and 58/3pl for TD's, 21-10. BS went 76/10pl for a TD, 21-17. BS went 67/13pl but missed a 26 yd FG and IL went 80/5pl for a TD, 28-17. IL went on a 14pl drive which ran out the final 8:41 and ended the game at the BS3.

Illinois 44 MINNESOTA 17 - UM's HC Brewster is an ex-IL player and campaigned for the Illini job. IL had a 434-196 yd 1H edge. IL got an int which set up a 57 yd TD drive and then went 88/11pl for a TD. After an int, UM got a 36 yd FG on a 13 yd drive but Mendenhall then got a 64 yd TD run, 21-3. UM went 48/4pl for a TD but IL answered with a 77/9pl TD drive, 28-10. UM was SOD at the IL32 and 44 which set up IL FG's from 47 & 37 yds to lead 34-10. IL extended it to 44-10 early 4Q and UM gained 120 of its yds on its L/2 drives. Mendenhall finished with 201 yds.

Illinois 28 OHIO ST 21 - #1 OSU had UM on deck. OSU got a 65 yd pass keying a 76/2pl TD drive. IL answered with an 80 yd run by Dufrene in which he fmb'l'd in bounds and OSU rec'd in the EZ for a TB. It was not reviewed and IL retained poss for an 83/3pl TD drive. OSU went 76/9pl and M Wells' 19 yd TD run made it 14-7 (9:37). OSU was int'd and IL went 55/7pl for a TD, 14-14 (4:04). With 4:33 left 2Q, IL took over at its 48 and converted on 4&1 with a 25 yd run by Mendenhall and 4 pl later Williams got a 7 yd TD pass with :17 left for a 21-14 HT lead. OSU went 34/13pl but on 3&gl from the 9, Boeckman was int'd in the EZ. IL went 80/9pl for a TD, 28-14. OSU went 76/8pl for an 18 yd TD run by C Wells, 28-21. IL went on an 11pl drive and punted (9:23). Boeckman was int'd at the IL24 with 8:09 left and IL ran off the rest of the clock with a 42/16pl drive converting on 4&1, 3&7, 3&10 & 3&2. IL was going to punt on the 4&1 but when OSU called TO, Williams convinced Zook to go for it.

ILLINOIS 41 Northwestern 22 - IL had a 311-159 yd edge in the 1H and led 21-7. NU was int'd at the IL21 and IL went 71/8pl and then 89/9pl for TD's, 14-0. Two poss later IL went 97/10pl for a TD, 21-0. NU went 56/6pl for a TD. IL was int'd at the NU9. IL opened the 3Q with a 76/4pl & 94/14pl drives for TD's, 35-7. NU went 87/11pl for a TD, 35-14 after 3Q's. Two poss later IL went 58/9pl but settled for a 27 yd FG. NU was SOD at its 46 after a fmb'l then went 44/5pl for a TD, 38-22 (6:15). IL rec'd the onside kick & got a 49 yd FG (4:37). NU was SOD at the IL33 (3:05).