

# 2008 GAME RECAPS

**MINNESOTA 31 N Illinois 27** - UM opened with a 90/18pl TD drive which took 8:57. NI went 74/9pl for a TD, 7-7. NI fmbld at its own 49 which set UM up for a 40 yd FG, 10-7 (6:02 2Q). NI blk'd a P with 2:40 left 1H and got a 39 yd FG, 10-10. UM got a 53 yd TD pass and NI went 40/8pl for a 49 yd FG, 17-13. UM got a 61 yd TD run by Bennett to lead 24-13. On 3rd & 10 NI got a 91 yd TD pass to Palmer, 24-20. Later on 3rd & 10 NI got a 52 yd TD pass to Palmer to lead 27-24 (8:09). UM went 74/10pl incl a 4th & 1 conversion at the 1 and got a TD with :22 left. NI got to the UM30 but 2 Hail Mary passes fell incomplete.

**Minnesota 42 BOWLING GREEN 17** - BG's 5 TO's were the story. UM opened with a 71/8pl TD drive and BG went 63/11pl but missed a 34 yd FG. BG went 69/11pl for a TD mid-2Q, 7-7. UM went 48/5pl for a TD (6:48). BG went 43/12pl and hit a 26 yd FG with :15 left 2Q. BG fmbld away the 2H's opening KO which led to a 23/5pl Gopher TD drive, 21-10. BG went 80/8pl for a TD, 21-17. Threatening to take the lead BG's Sheehan was int'd at the UM27 early 4Q and UM then went 73/9pl for a TD. After a pair of BG fmbld's, UM got 28 and 18 yd TD drives for a misleading final.

**MINNESOTA 35 Montana St 23** - MS controlled the 1Q with a 134-21 yd edge and had a 41 yd FG blk'd, was SOD at the 33 and got a 69/3pl TD drive to lead 6-0. UM went 88/11pl and after an int, 18/3pl for TD's, 14-6. MS got a 100 yd KR TD, 14-13 (3:33). UM went 47/3pl for a TD, 21-13 (1:23 left 2Q). MS faked a punt on 4th & 4 at its own 25 and converted and went 49/11pl for a 49 yd FG, 21-16. UM went 50/6pl for a TD. MS went to backup Iddins who hit just 2-10 for 26 yds and UM, after an int off Iddins, went 12/4pl for a TD, 35-16. MS went 77/14pl for a TD and MS's last drive ended on an int at the 50 with 1:08 left.

**MINNESOTA 37 Florida Atlantic 3** - UM got an int on the 3rd pl and went 27/4pl for a TD. UM went 38/8pl for a 34 yd FG, 10-0. FAU went 46/7pl but dropped a TD pass on 3rd & 3 and settled for a 35 yd FG, 10-3. UM went 62/9pl but Weber was int'd in the EZ. FAU went 51/8pl but was SOD on 4th & 1 at the UM29. UM went 71/5pl for a TD, 16-3. FAU went on a 9pl drive but Smith was int'd at the 12. UM had a 218-125 yd 1H edge. UM went 52/11pl but missed a 48 yd FG. After a 34 yd PR, UM went 41/6pl for a TD, 23-3. FAU went on a 9pl drive but Smith was int'd and ret'd 41 yds to the FAU37 and 8pl later UM got a TD, 30-3. UM got a 50 yd IR TD with 9:47 left and ended the game at the FAU28 on a 54/9pl drive.

**OHIO ST 34 Minnesota 21** - OSU led 20-3 even with an 82/14pl drive settling for a 22 yd FG early 2Q. They had 224-93 yd and 11-4 FD 1H edges. The Bucks increased it to 34-6 early 4Q with UM having 125 yds. UM then went 69/15pl for a TD incl two 4th down conv. The Gophers later went 80/10pl and got a 22 yd TD pass on 4th & 14 in the back of the EZ for the final.

**MINNESOTA 16 Indiana 7** - UM opened with a 68/16pl drive but missed a 28 yd FG. UM later went 72/6pl for a TD as QB Weber hit his first 12 passes. A bad pitch by Weber was rec'd by IU at the 34 but Chappell was int'd at the 26. IU got their first FD on a 77 yd TD pass to Thigpen, 7-7 (2:29 left 2Q). At the half UM had 11-2 FD and 164-101 yd edges. IU drove 56/8pl but Lewis fmbld at the UM24 and the Gophers went 64/7pl for a 29 yd FG. After an exchange of fmbld's UM got a 42 yd FG, 13-7 after 3Q's. IU went 32/8pl but Lewis pooch punted to the 19. UM went 50/15pl and got a 38 yd FG with :22 left.

**Minnesota 27 ILLINOIS 20** - UM opened with a 60/6pl TD drive and IL went 70/12pl but missed a 45 yd FG. In the 2Q IL went 57/10pl for a 33 yd FG, 7-3 at half. Dufrene fmbld at IL's 7 which set UM up for a TD, 14-3. IL went 69/9pl for a 28 yd FG, 14-6. IL went 79/10pl but was SOD on 4th & goal at the 1 as a review showed Williams' knee was down at the 1. UM went 80/6pl as Eskridge got a 46 yd TD run, 20-6. IL went 79/5pl for a TD. UM ret'd a Williams fmbld 9 yd for a TD, 27-13. IL went 79/3pl for a TD, 27-20. UM fmbld at the IL48 and the Illini got to the 25 but Williams was int'd at the 19 (1:02). IL was SOD at the UM46 and finished with a 546-312 yd edge.

**Minnesota 17 PURDUE 6** - PU QB Painter was inj'd in the 1Q and #3 QB Siller, who had been playing RB, was forced into action. UM got a 71 yd pass which set up a TD. PU got a 58 yd KR to the UM27 which set up a 31 yd FG, 7-3. With Siller at QB, PU went 55/11pl for a 40 yd FG, 7-6. UM went 54/14pl but missed a 44 yd FG. Painter came back in but was int'd and ret'd 23 yds to the PU38. Eight plays later UM added a 41 yd FG, 10-6. PU fmbld at the UM46. PU opened the 3Q with a 60/11pl drive but RB Sheets fmbld at the UM18. UM went 52/11pl but was SOD at the PU30 on 4th & 1. PU went 32/10pl but a 41 yd FG hit the upright. UM went 76/9pl for a TD, 17-6. PU was SOD on 4th & 13 at its own 39 but after UM was int'd, PU was SOD on 4th & 23 at its own 26 with 2:08 left.

**Northwestern 24 MINNESOTA 17** - NU was w/o staring QB Bacher and RB Sutton but Kafka rushed for 217 yds, a Big Ten QB record. NU took its opening 2 drives 78/7pl and 52/9pl for a TD and a FG, 10-0. UM went 80/7pl for a TD, 10-7. Kafka was int'd and Simmons ret'd it 23 yd for a TD and UM led 14-10. Kafka had 53 yd run which set up a TD, 17-14. UM went 76/13pl for a 21 yd FG, 17-17 at the half. UM went 92/16pl but missed a 20 yd FG. NU went 41 yds but Kafka was int'd at the 9 and ret'd 35 yds. Five plays later UM came up short on a fake FG at the NU31. NU got a 38 yd run by Kafka but 4 plays later missed a 47 yd FG. UM took over at its 14 with :47 left and got 1 FD but with :26 left Smith int'd a tipped pass and raced 48 yds for a TD with :12 left to deliver NU the win.

**Michigan 29 MINNESOTA 6** - Sheridan started at QB as Threet DNP. Mich went 39/7pl for a 44 yd FG and then 64/8pl but fmbld at the Minn17. Mich went 31/10pl for a 35 yd FG, 6-0. Mich went 69/7pl for a 26 yd FG, 9-0. Mich went 78/9pl for a TD (1:49) and led 16-0 at the half with 257-46 yd and 11-1 FD edges. Both opened the 3Q with a FG drive. Mich went 85/10pl for a FG, 22-3. Minn went 53/14pl for a 32 yd FG but later Weber was int'd at the Mich46. Mich went 54/11pl for a TD with :34 left.

**WISCONSIN 35 Minnesota 32** - UW rec'd a Weber fmbld and drove 10/4pl for a TD. The Badgers drove 65/11pl but missed a 33 yd FG. UM, after a fmbld and pers foul, drove 11 yds for a TD to tie it. The Gophers took the lead on a 43 yd TD pass. After a 31 yd PR, UM added a 39/3pl TD drive, 21-7. UW's Hill fmbld at the UW29 and after a 44 yd PR, the Badgers fmbld it away at the UM21. UW opened the 3Q with 59/9pl and 72/11pl drives for a FG and a TD, 21-17. UM went 48/8pl for a 30 yd FG, 24-17 after 3Q's. UW went 75/7pl for a TD. UM fmbld the KO and fell on it in the EZ for a safety. UM was pinned at its 7 and Weber was sk'd in the EZ for another safety, 28-24. UM fmbld at its own 11 and UW got a TD 2pl later, 35-24. UM got a 4th & 18, 26 yd pass to the Badger30 and continued on a 60/11pl drive for a TD with 4:15 left. UM's last drive ended on an int at their 29.

**Iowa 55 MINNESOTA 0** - UM's last game at the Metrodome and their most lopsided Big Ten loss ever. Iowa had 23-6 FD and 483-134 yd edges. UI settled for 35 & 29 yd FG's and only led 6-0 (12:50 2Q) but Iowa went 73/3pl and 91/12pl for TD's, the latter with 1:13 left and added a 57 yd IR TD to lead 27-0 at the half with a 264-44 yd edge. UM fmbld a punt at its 29 and Iowa got a TD. Iowa then went 79/7pl and 62/5pl for TD's and after a 58 yd IR got an 18 yd TD run to make it 55-0 (11:13).