

# **FIGHTING ILLINI SOCCER**

## **ILLINI CELEBRATE SENIOR CLASS WITH DOMINANT VICTORY**

**CHAMPAIGN** – Fighting Illini soccer earned a dominant, 8-0, victory over the Northern Illinois Huskies on Sunday in its home opener. Seven Illini netted goals in the match, led by senior [Katie Murray](#) who posted two of Illinois' goals. The Orange and Blue improve to 2-2-0 on the season, and will stay at home to host Oklahoma State and SIUE next weekend.

"I think one of the things we wanted to see today, was that when we found some success offensively, we would keep putting the pressure on," head coach [Janet Rayfield](#) said of the team. "I give credit to Northern Illinois, they were really hard to break down. What I liked from our team is that we just kept going at it. We have to have that mentality for the rest of the season."

Illinois went on the attack immediately following the opening whistle. Junior [Kelly Maday](#) and senior [Lauren Ciesla](#) fired shots for UI within the first two minutes of play. Maday stayed strong, as she tallied four shots in the first 11 minutes of the match. She started the scoring for UI in the 21<sup>st</sup> minute, sending a ball from Murray into the back of the net. Maday put two shots on goal on Sunday, and tallied her second goal of the season in the contest.

Murray netted the second goal of the match in the 29<sup>th</sup> minute, as freshman [Ashley Cathro](#) used a header to get the ball to the Illini senior. Murray finished from there to record her first goal of the game. Her second score came in the 69<sup>th</sup> minute. Murray posted two goals and two assists on Sunday, also putting four shots on goal.

Illini sophomore [Madi Wolfbauer](#) scored her first-career goal in the match, as did senior [Caroline Ratz](#) and freshman [Peyton Willie](#). Sophomore [Hope Breslin](#) netted her first goal of the season, sending a penalty kick past the NIU keeper. Breslin added an assist to her tally in today's match, and also put two shots on goal.

Willie was credited with three assists on Sunday, and also posted five shots. Her three assists are tied for the most in a game by an Illinois freshman. The last time a newcomer dished three assists in a game was October 5, 2003 when Eva Strickland racked up three dimes.

Illinois' eight goals in today's match mark the third-most in a game in school history. The number is also the most scored by the Illini in a single game since also scoring eight on Oct. 27, 2000 against Western Illinois. The Illini tallied eight assists in the match as well, marking the second-most for the squad in a single-game in school history.

The Orange and Blue outshot Northern Illinois, 35-2 in the match. The Huskies put one shot on goal, saved by Illini junior [Jaelyn Cunningham](#). Illinois' 35 shots in the contest are just one shy of Illinois' single-game school record.

"We were really excited about moving senior day to the front of the season, so not only could we say, 'thank you for the three years of hard work', but also so we could say, 'we're on board, lead us to greatness'. I think this senior class appreciated that and we certainly appreciate their leadership," Rayfield said. "This is now a time for us to build on the momentum that they've created. What a great day for them to have this kind of success and see their team put balls in to the back of the net."

In its home opener, UI recognized its senior class prior to the match for senior celebration day. Seniors Murray, Ratz, Ciesla, [Sarah Warren](#), [Patricia George](#), and [Morgan Maroney](#) were honored in the ceremony.

"This team was excited to be at home," Rayfield said of the program's return from a three-game home stretch. "You could see that, from pregame meal in our own facility to getting out here on our own field. We're looking forward to continuing to play at home and grow this fan base. This was an exciting game to watch, and we're excited to showcase this team in front of our fans."

### **NEXT UP**

The Illini will host a pair of home matches next weekend, welcoming Oklahoma State on Friday, August 31 at 7 p.m. The game will mark Back to School Night, featuring a pregame tailgate for Illinois students. The First 200 fans in attendance will receive a free Illini cowbell. Illinois will host SIUE on Sunday at 2 p.m. for Camper Reunion day.

Stick around after the match as the Illini squad will sign autographs for the fans at the game.

#### **FOLLOW THE ILLINI**

Fans can keep up with the Fighting Illini Soccer squad on social media for an even more inside look at the program. Follow the team on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

## **2018-19 B1G WBB Schedule Announced**

*The Boilermakers open conference play December 28*

Read full release: <https://purduesports.com/news/2018/8/21/womens-basketball-2018-19-b1g-schedule-announced.aspx>

**WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind.** - The Big Ten Conference announced the 2018-19 women's basketball schedule Tuesday, unveiling the dates and locations of the final 18 regular-season games for the Boilermakers this season. Purdue opens conference play Friday, December 28, hosting Ohio State at Mackey Arena.

The conference expanded the women's basketball schedule back to 18 games after playing the last two seasons at 16, culminating with the Big Ten Tournament at Bankers Life Fieldhouse in Indianapolis, starting March 6.

The Boilermakers open conference play at home for the first time since the 2011-12 season, holding a 20-16 all-time record in conference openers, including a 10-5 mark in Mackey Arena and an 8-4 record under head coach Sharon Versyp. The game will be the first time Purdue and Ohio State open the Big Ten slate against each other since 2014, when the Boilermakers traveled to Columbus, falling 89-78.

Purdue rings in the New Year at Wisconsin, playing the Badgers on New Year's Eve, and then returns home for consecutive home games at Mackey Arena against Michigan on Jan. 5 and Iowa on Jan. 10. After playing three of their first four at home, the Boilermakers turn around and play four of the next five on the road, heading to Northwestern on Jan. 13 and Rutgers on Jan. 16, before returning to Mackey to host archrival Indiana on Sunday, Jan. 20. The road swing wraps up at Minnesota and Iowa, playing the Hawkeyes for the second time in 17 days in Iowa City on Jan. 27.

The Boilermakers finish off January, hosting Nebraska on the final day of the month and then head to East Lansing, Michigan for a Feb. 3 tilt at Michigan State. Purdue hosts Illinois on Feb. 7 and turns around and goes to Lincoln, Nebraska for their second meeting with the Cornhuskers in an 11-day stretch.

Minnesota visits Mackey Arena on Valentine's Day, for the first of back-to-back home games as Purdue then hosts Northwestern on Feb. 17. The Boilermakers head to State College, Pennsylvania to face the Lady Lions on Feb. 21, and conclude the home schedule on Feb. 25 against Maryland, set to celebrate seniors Abby Abel and Nora Kiesler. The regular-season finale is scheduled for March 3, heading to Indiana to close out the schedule before the Big Ten Tournament. The game at Indiana will be played for the Barn Burner Trophy and is the first time Purdue and Indiana have finished the regular season against each other since 2012, a 90-58 victory at Mackey Arena.

Purdue opens its season Nov. 4, hosting Ashland University for an exhibition game, and starts the regular season on the road, heading to Ball State on Wednesday, Nov. 7.

## **Big Ten Announces 2018-19 Men's Basketball Conference Schedule**

**ROSEMONT, Ill.** – The Big Ten announced its 2018-19 men's basketball conference schedule Tuesday afternoon on BTN. The conference season begins on Nov. 30 and culminates with the 22nd annual Big Ten Tournament at United Center in Chicago from March 13-17. Teams will compete in a 20-game conference schedule for the first time, playing seven teams both home and away and six teams once (three home and three away).

The Big Ten schedule gets underway with all 14 teams playing one conference home and road game between Nov. 30 and Dec. 6. The conference season starts on Friday, Nov. 30 as Rutgers will host defending Big Ten Champion Michigan State, while Iowa will entertain Wisconsin. The conference season will resume on Jan. 2, and conclude on Sunday, March 10.

The Big Ten Men's Basketball Tournament will be held in Chicago for the 10th time. All 14 teams will advance to the tournament, with two first-round games slated for Wednesday, March 13. The top four teams will receive first- and second-round byes and advance to the quarterfinals on Friday, March 15.

Television designations and tip times for the Big Ten men's basketball conference schedule and Big Ten Men's Basketball Tournament will be announced at a later date. For the second-consecutive season, the conference will feature games broadcast by four national television partners: BTN, CBS Sports, ESPN and FOX Sports.

### **2018-19 Schedule**

**WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind.** – Purdue head wrestling coach Tony Ersland has revitalized the Boilermakers' schedule for 2018-19. The schedule features new tournaments, renewed opponents and 17 duals—the most since Ersland's first season at Purdue in 2014-15.

“My goal when building our schedule is thinking about March,” Ersland said. “I want to schedule teams that will help us get on the podium. We want to see a variety of competition, styles and abilities from different teams that span from coast to coast.”

“Overall, we have a very strong schedule,” the fifth-year head coach stated. “We will be tested, but that will be a good thing for us with five returning NCAA qualifiers and the addition of Devin Schroder, who had a very strong year last year, in our lineup.”

The Boilermakers will wrestle six duals on its home mat, with five of those contests set for a Friday night.

“I’m excited we have the majority of home duals on Friday nights,” Ersland said. “Personally, I love Friday night duals; I think it’s a better environment for our fans.”

For a second consecutive season, Purdue will start out making back-to-back trips to the East Coast. The doors open on the 2018-19 campaign at the Princeton Open (11/4), followed by a trip to Troy, New York, for the Journeymen Northeast Duals (11/10) and Collegiate Classic (11/11). The Boilermakers will get two duals while in New York, taking on Drexel and Bloomsburg.

Purdue then hits the road for an early Big Ten Conference dual, traveling to Iowa City to take on the Hawkeyes on Nov. 24. A short week awaits the Boilermakers coming out of Iowa with the highly acclaimed 37th Annual Cliff Keen Las Vegas Collegiate Wrestling Invitational on Nov. 30 and Dec. 1.

The most notable change to the schedule comes at the end of December. Ersland will take his squad to The Sunshine State for the South Beach Duals. While in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, Purdue will have a pair of duals on both Dec. 29 and 30. Although the order of opponents has not yet been announced, the Boilermakers know they will face Missouri, NC State, Utah Valley and West Virginia.

“My goal in going to the South Beach Duals was to see teams we have not seen in a long time; I want our guys to be tested and see different competition,” Ersland said. “It’s a given we are going to have a difficult schedule with the Big Ten being as strong as it is. With it being in the middle of winter, it will be nice to get down south and give our guys a new experience. It should be fun.”

The dual schedule kicks into high gear in January. Purdue makes its home debut in its first of five Friday night duals against Maryland on Jan. 11, followed by a showdown with Indiana a week later (1/18). The Friday night lineup continues with Penn State (1/25), a non-conference tilt with Stanford (2/8) and closes with Ohio State (2/15). Rutgers is the lone home Sunday opponent, visiting Holloway Gymnasium on Feb. 10.

Road trips scattered throughout January and February include Michigan (1/20), Minnesota (2/3) and Michigan State (2/17). The regular season will come to a close on Feb. 24 as the Boilermakers trek to Central Michigan, their first dual in Mount Pleasant against the Chippewas since 1996.

March Matness has the Boilermakers returning to Minnesota for the Big Ten Championships at Williams Arena on March 9 and 10. The NCAA Championships will descend upon PPG Paints Arena in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, from March 21 to 23. It will be the second time Pittsburgh has hosted the NCAA Championships, the first being in 1957.

#### BY THE NUMBERS

- 10: Of the 17 dual opponents, 10 appeared in the final 2017-18 USA Today/NWCA Division I Coaches Poll.

- 17: The 17 duals are the most since 2014-15, Ersland's first year at Purdue, when the Boilermakers wrestled 18 duals.
- 64: Purdue's last meeting with West Virginia was on Jan. 27, 1954 ... the 64-year span since Purdue's one and only meeting with West Virginia stands as the longest among the Boilermakers' all-time and currently active wrestling programs.
- 153: Utah Valley becomes the 153rd opponent in Purdue's all-time history.

#### 2018-19 BIG TEN OPPONENTS

Home Road

Maryland (1/11) Iowa (11/24)  
 Indiana (1/18) Michigan (1/20)  
 Penn State (1/25) Minnesota (2/3)  
 Rutgers (2/10) Michigan State (2/17)  
 Ohio State (2/15)

#### 2018-19 NON-CONFERENCE OPPONENTS

Drexel (11/10)  
 West Virginia (12/29 or 30)  
 Bloomsburg (11/10) Missouri (12/29 or 30)  
 NC State (12/29 or 30) Stanford (2/8)  
 Utah Valley (12/29 or 30) Central Michigan (2/24)