NEBRASKA AT ILLINOIS · FAN EDITION CALL SHEET

WEEK 10 · FRI., NOV. 6, 2026 · 7:00 PM CT · FOX · CHAMPAIGN, ILL. · ILLINOIS 5-3 (3-2 Big Ten)

EARLY LOOK: tentative scouting, full updated report coming Wednesday.

GAME INFO

Kickoff	Fri., Nov. 6, 2026 · 7:00 PM CT
TV	FOX
Site	Champaign, Ill.
Illinois	5-3 (3-2 Big Ten)
Last out	W 20-17 at Maryland (Oct. 31)

ILLINOIS 2026 RESULTS

UAB	W 42-23
Duke	L 27-31
S. Illinois	W 48-10
at Ohio St.	L 19-42
Purdue	L 17-24
at Mich. St.	W 38-37 OT
Oregon	W 21-10
at Maryland	W 20-17

ILLINOIS OFFENSE: BY THE NUMBERS

Points/game	29.0
Total yds/game	394.3
Rush yds/game	164.3
Pass yds/game	230.0
Giveaways	6 (5 INT, 1 FL)

ILLINOIS OFFENSIVE TENDENCIES

Run rate	49% of scrimmage plays
Explosives	55 (10+ yd runs, 20+ yd completions)
QB return	Houser back at Maryland: 18/32, 223 yds, 1 TD, 1 INT
Run game	Lives between the tackles; watch the middle on early downs
Pass game	Short, quick throws to Dixon and Clement

KEY PLAYERS (THRU OCT. 24)

QB K. Houser	122/184, 1,440 yds, 12 TD, 4 INT
QB M. Clayton II	17/26, 172 yds, 4 TD, 0 INT
RB A. Laughery	75-514, 6.9 ypc, 2 TD rushing
WR C. Dixon	10 receiving TDs
WR H. Clement	27-404, 1 TD receiving
T. Robinson	12-164, 3 TD receiving

ILLINOIS DEFENSE HIGHLIGHTS

Points allowed/game	24.3
Yds allowed/game	370.6
Explosives allowed	51
Opp. 3rd downs	44/105 successful

ILLINOIS SPECIAL TEAMS

Field goals	12/15 made
Punt touchbacks	2
Punt returns	5 for 108 yds
Opp. FGs vs Illinois	11/14 made
Opp. punts	29 for 1327 yds

FAN WATCH LIST

1	Can Nebraska's defense win early downs and force 3rd-and-long?
2	Limit explosives: Illinois has 55 on the year
3	Win the turnover battle: Illinois has 6 giveaways
4	Points on every trip: Illinois kickers are 12/15 on FGs

FROM THE FILM: ILLINOIS OFFENSE AT MARYLAND

12 personnel	Two tight ends meant run: 11 of 12 snaps
Quick game	Short, fast throws worked on 5 of 6 tries
3rd down	Trips or bunch on 7 of 11 third/fourth downs, mostly dropback

FROM THE FILM: ILLINOIS DEFENSE

Look	Mostly a 3-down front, two deep safeties (30 of 58 snaps tagged, tentative)
Coverage	Quarters (Cover 4) on 27 of 30 tagged snaps; no disguise seen on those 30 (tentative)
Pressure	Blitzed 3 of 30 tagged snaps (tentative). Maryland had 9 completions of 10-19 yds

FROM THE FILM: SPECIAL TEAMS

Field goals	2 of 3 at Maryland: 45 and 26 (game-winner) good, 52 missed
Punting	Rau's 5 punts: zero return yards allowed
Returns	Tentative (film): fair catches, let it bounce

Film notes: one game (Illinois at Maryland, Oct. 31), low-res film; down, distance and results from CollegeFootballData.com and ESPN play-by-play. Team numbers: Illinois' 8 games through Oct. 31 (incl. Maryland). Key player lines: 7 games through Oct. 24. Season numbers: each checked Nov. 1 against CollegeFootballData.com (game stats or play-by-play) and ESPN (team stats or play-by-play). Down, distance and results: CFBD + ESPN play-by-play; items marked tentative are small-sample film reads. Explosives = 10+ yd runs and 20+ yd completions. Success = TD always, turnover never; otherwise 40% of the distance on 1st down, 60% on 2nd, 100% on 3rd/4th.

Unofficial fan analysis. Not affiliated with the University of Nebraska, the University of Illinois or the Big Ten.