The skid is over. It’s time for a new streak. A winning streak, that is. After beating Penn State 63-48 on Wednesday night, it’s a fact that two more regular season wins will give us some solid momentum going into the Big Ten Tournament, where we will undoubtedly win four games in four days and qualify for the Big Dance with an automatic bid. From there, it’s just a simple six wins in three weeks, and we’ll be parading down South University and State St. in early April. It’s our job to keep that going from Section 211 of Welsh-Ryan Arena this evening. Let’s be classy like we have been the last two seasons on this road trip and help our Wolverines to victory.

Here is the starting lineup for the Northwestern Wildcats (13-13, 5-8 Big Ten Conference):

1. T.J. Parker 6’2” G | The brother of NBAer Tony would rather be called “Terence”; wears disproportionately large shorts for his rail-thin frame
5. Michael Jenkins 5’9” G | A shorty from beautiful Pasadena, California who went scoreless against the Illini on Wednesday night
11. Vedran Vukusic 6’8” F | Experienced a $50,000 fire in his apartment in December, likely started by a candle
31. Davor Duvancic 6’8” F | The lone senior on the NU squad wears “Lucky 31” because it is the opposite of “Unlucky 13”; averages 7.0 ppg this season
52. Vince Scott 6’10” C | Made his first collegiate start ever in Ann Arbor in 2004, scoring four points and fouling out in 20 minutes; scored just one point against Illinois on 2/23

Coach Bill Carmody

Tough times for Mr. Quebec: Mohamed Hachad (#14), a junior guard, has averaged just 6.8 ppg in his career, and he has barely half of that total in four games against the Wolverines, including two scoreless outings in Crisler. Mo has 14 career points against the Maize and Blue.

Dee didn’t see: Here’s an interesting testament to how short Michael Jenkins is: “Asked whether he was contested on any of his 3-point attempts, (Dee) Brown said NU guard Michael Jenkins may have had a hand up for one of his shots.

‘I shot it...and said to Jenkins, ‘I didn't see you right there.’ I came down and he was just so little. I thought I was little,’ Brown said. ‘He maybe got a hand in my chest area. That counts.’” (From Thursday’s Daily Northwestern after Northwestern’s 84-48 loss at Illinois)

Oh, Michael, you’re so little for college basketball. It’s so funny. Fire up, 5’9”.

Suspensions galore:
-Freshman guard Brandon Lee (#22) was suspended on January 13, the day after the game at Crisler, for an unspecified violation of team rules.
-Michael Thompson (#3), the Duke transfer center who may be out today with an injury, was suspended on January 19 for missing class. “You have to go to class. This is a school. You have to go to class here,” said Bill Carmody. Thanks for clearing that up, Bill.
-Freshman guard Gary Lee (#21) has been declared academically ineligible for the winter quarter.

Good old high school signs: Tim Doyle (#00), a transfer from St. John’s, was harassed in high school by opposing fans who held up signs saying “grandpa” and “Doyle you’re old enough to buy us beer”, in reference to his age. Doyle graduated high school at over 19 years and 7 months old. In his trip to Ann Arbor in January, he befriended the Maize Rage before the game and agreed that his former coach at St. John’s, Mike Jarvis, is indeed very obnoxious.

The rest of the roster: 2 – Joe Kennedy, 10 – Ivan Tolic, 12 – Bernard Coté, 24 – Evan Seacat, 32 – Sterling Williams

Histo’s Corner: Michigan has won 5 in a row and 32 of its last 36 matchups with Northwestern, dating back to 1985.

Michigan is 2-0 when the Maize Rage makes a bus trip to Welsh-Ryan Arena.

Twelve consecutive wins from here on out will clinch the NCAA Championship. St. Louis, here we come!