



Formal dedication of the new Michigan Stadium, October 22, 1927, against Ohio State University

scoreboards, making the stadium the first in US history to use them to keep the official game time.^[14]

From 1927 to 1968, the stadium's field was covered in natural grass. This was replaced with TartanTurf in 1969 to give players better traction. However, this surface was thought to be unforgiving on players' joints, and the stadium returned to natural turf in 1991. This too became problematic, as the field's below-surface location near the water table made it difficult for grass to permanently take root. The field was converted to FieldTurf, an artificial surface designed to give grass-like playing characteristics, in 2003.^[15]

On September 9, 2006, attendees of the Michigan Wolverines vs. Central Michigan Chippewas football game had to endure the first weather delay in the Stadium's history, after a lightning strike near the stadium occurred during the first quarter.^[16] The game was delayed for approximately one hour.

On March 11, 2008, as part of the settlement terms of a lawsuit filed against the university pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, the university announced that the official capacity of the stadium would be reduced to 106,201 to accommodate additional wheelchair-accessible seating beginning with the 2009 season.^[17]

Renovation plan

On June 21, 2007, the University's Board of Regents approved a \$226 million renovation and expansion project for Michigan Stadium which is expected to be completed by 2010. The project includes replacement of some bleachers, widening of individual seats, widening of the aisles and installing hand rails, and the addition of a new press box, 83 luxury boxes, 3,200 club seats, raising its total seating capacity from 106,201 to over 108,000.^[18] This renovation plan has garnered much opposition from students, alumni, and fans around the country.^[19] A disabled-veterans group filed a federal lawsuit against the University on April 17, alleging that the design of the project did not meet federal standards for wheelchair-accessible seating.^[20]

In March 2008, the University reached a settlement to drop the lawsuit in exchange for adding more accessible seating in place of current seating during the course of the renovation. As a result of this change, the capacity of the stadium will decrease to an estimated 106,201 seats for the 2008 and 2009 seasons, placing it second behind Penn State's Beaver Stadium. Following construction completion in 2010, Michigan Stadium will have a listed capacity of over 108,000.^[21]

Multiple webcams are set up on the stadium site that monitors the construction progress of Michigan Stadium <http://www.umaec.umich.edu/projects/Stadium/webcam.html>

Records

Michigan Stadium's record crowd of 112,118 saw a victory for Michigan over Ohio State with a score of 35–21. The game was also the 100th anniversary for the Michigan-Ohio State Rivalry game. ^[11]

In 2004 Michigan set an NCAA record for average attendance at home games, with an average of 111,025 fans. ^[22]

Michigan Stadium Attendance Records

Rank	Attendance	Date	Game result
1	112,118	Nov. 22, 2003	Michigan 35 , Ohio State 21
2	111,726	Sept. 13, 2003	Michigan 38 , Notre Dame 0
3	111,609	Oct. 30, 2004	Michigan 45 , Michigan State 37 (3OT)
4	111,591	Nov. 19, 2005	Michigan 21, Ohio State 25
5	111,575	Nov. 20, 1999	Michigan 24 , Ohio State 17
6	111,571	Nov. 24, 2001	Michigan 20, Ohio State 26
7	111,542	Nov. 2, 2002	Michigan 49 , Michigan State 3
8	111,349	Oct. 7, 2006	Michigan 31 , Michigan State 13

Images

Images



View from the student section during a game between Michigan and Miami University (OH), 2004.



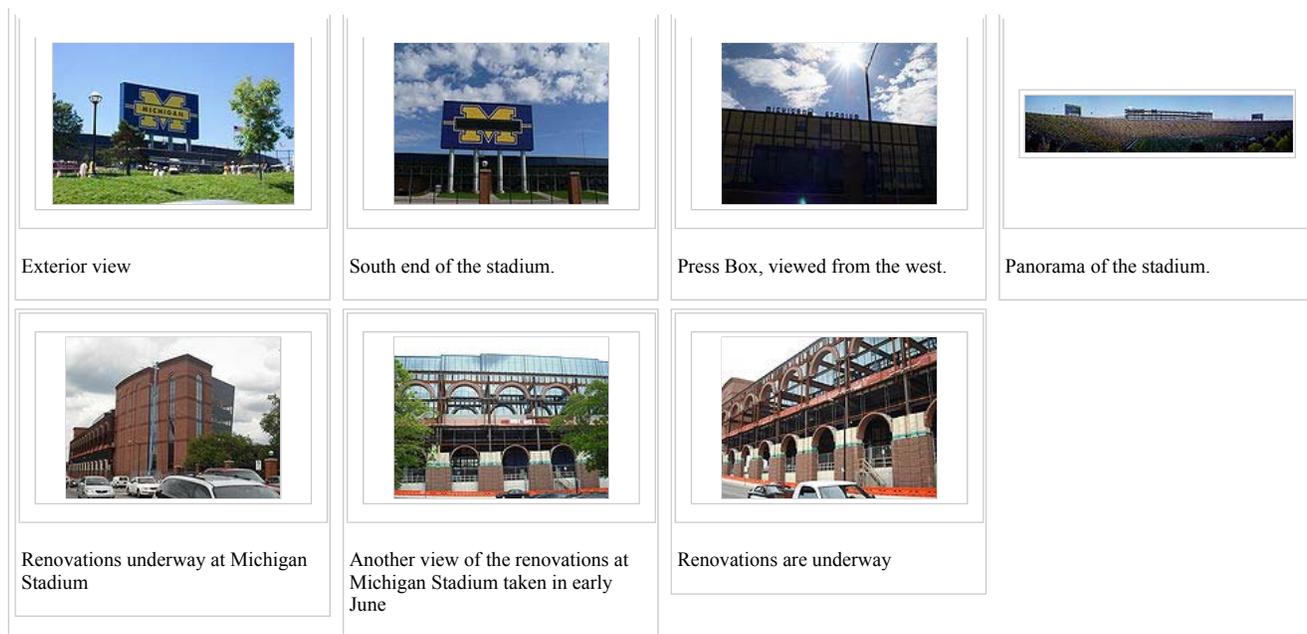
Michigan Stadium, winter 2002.



Graduation ceremony at Michigan Stadium, 2003.



The stadium filled for a football game



Notes

- ↑ "Big Ten Football Stadiums", *BigTen Online*, retrieved 2-14-2008
- ↑ Stadium info from mgoblue.com
- ↑ "Navarre tosses two TDs to Edwards - NCAA College Football Recap". *ESPN.com*. Associated Press. November 22, 2003. http://sports.espn.go.com/ncf/recap?gameId=233260130&confId=5. Retrieved 2008-01-08.
- ↑ Shamus, Kristen Jordan. "U-M sued to halt stadium upgrades." Detroit Free Press. 18 Apr 2007: 1B.
- ↑ www.worldstadiums.com list of 100,000+ capacity stadiums. Accessed January 11, 2006.
- ↑ What's the real capacity? Accessed November 11, 2006.
- ↑ "Cost of Liberty Bowl ADA Improvements: \$40 million or \$4.7 million?", John Branston, *The Memphis Flyer*, February 19, 2009
- ↑ The Biggest House Again. Accessed July 13, 2006.
- ↑ University of Michigan 2008 Graduation (Story and Video) | Michigan Today
- ↑ Reid, Andy (March 4, 2009). "The Cold War II?". *The Michigan Daily*. http://thegame.blogs.michigandaily.com/2009/03/04/the-cold-war-ii/. Retrieved 2009-04-03.
- ↑ *abc* "Michigan Stadium Game Attendance Records". MGoBlue. http://bentley.umich.edu/athdept/stadium/stadtext/mattend.htm. Retrieved 2008-04-23.
- ↑ "For 200th Straight Game, 100,000 Will Pack Michigan Stadium", by the Associated Press, *CSTV.com*, Nov. 1, 2006
- ↑ Steve Rom, Rod Payne (2006). *Centered by a Miracle*. Sports Publishing. p. 45. ISBN 9781596701458.
- ↑ "Stadium History" (in English). Regents of the University of Michigan. 2006. http://www.umich.edu/stadium/history/. Retrieved 2009-02-22.
- ↑ "FieldTurf receives praise from Carr", Michael Nisson, *The Michigan Daily*, August 10, 2003
- ↑ "Michigan: The season", Dave Wharton, *Los Angeles Times*, p. S-12, January 1, 2007
- ↑ "Michigan Stadium lawsuit settled". 2008-03-11. http://media.www.michigandaily.com/media/storage/paper851/news/2008/03/11/UAdministration/Michigan.Stadium.Lawsuit.Settled-3262801.shtml.
- ↑ University of Michigan Expansion Project Press Release
- ↑ U-M is making a mistake
- ↑ Suit filed against 'U' for stadium renovation plan
- ↑ MGoBlue
- ↑ "Michigan Stadium Season Records". MGoBlue. http://bentley.umich.edu/athdept/stadium/stadtext/mattend.htm. Retrieved 2008-04-23.

External links

- Official Michigan Stadium information page
- Michigan Stadium Renovation
- History of Michigan football stadiums
- Michigan Daily article detailing the Yost expansion, with illustrations
- SaveTheBigHouse.com
- MichiganFansite.com Stadium Page
- 1927 Stadium Dedication

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Categories: College football venues | Michigan Wolverines football | Sports venues in Michigan | University of Michigan athletics | University of Michigan sports venues

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