2026 TIAA BIG TEN MEN'S BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

Game #9 • Thursday, March 12, 2026
United Center • Chicago, Ill.
FINAL: #7 Purdue d. #15 Northwestern, 81-68
RECORDS: Purdue (24-8), Northwestern (15-19)
#7 Purdue advances to play #2 Nebraska at approx. 1:30 p.m. CT on Friday

GAME NOTES

PURDUE

- Braden Smith set a Big Ten Tournament record with 16 assists, tying his career-high.
- Smith also moved into second place in NCAA career assists and now stands at 1,045.
- Purdue's post combo of Trey Kaufman-Renn (19) and Oscar Cluff (19) combined for 38 points.
- Purdue finished with an assist-to-turnover ratio of 25:7
- The Boilermakers have the most wins (8) in the Big Ten tourney over the past six years (since 2021-22).

NORTHWESTERN

- Nick Martinelli scored 25 points in his final collegiate game and finishes his career with 1,787 points.
- Teammate Jayden Reid compiled 19 points and nine assists.
- Northwestern shot 62.1 percent from the floor (18-for-29) in the second half.
- The Wildcats played their third game in as many days, having recorded wins over Penn State (Tuesday) and Indiana (Wednesday).

MISCELLANEOUS/TOURNAMENT NOTES

- Tonight's game was the first meeting between Purdue-Northwestern in the Big Ten postseason since 2010.
- Purdue entered tonight's action ranked 18th nationally.