

HAITH'S FAITHFUL GAMEDAY REPORT



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OSU* makes first ever visit to Coral Gables

Fresh off a third-place showing in the Paradise Jam Tournament in the Virgin Islands and a Thanksgiving Weekend victory over Stetson, the Canes come into tonight celebrating a series of firsts. Today is Ohio State's first ever trip to the BUC, as well as UM's first ever game hosted in the ACC-Big Ten Challenge, and UM's first game this year on ESPN.



Sophomore Evan Turner (21) leads OSU in scoring and rebounding this year.

Led by F **Cyrus McGowan's** 14 points and 8 rebounds, the Canes didn't have too much trouble with Stetson last weekend. However, Miami played sloppily at times, and star G **Jack McClinton** never really got going, only scoring 12 points, most of them once the game had already been decided. In order to beat OSU and win Miami's first game in the ACC-Big Ten Challenge, the Hurricanes must have big games from **McClinton, McGowan,** and F **Dwayne Collins**, who has played great so far this year. In addition, PG **Lance Hurdle** will need to efficiently run the offense in only his second start of the season, as his sprained ankle has finally healed.

Ohio State faces Miami in basketball for the first time since the 1999-2000 season, when the Hurricanes whooped the Buckeyes in the 2nd round of the NCAA Tournament, advancing to the Sweet Sixteen for the only time in program history.

This Ohio State team is not the same team that went deep into the NCAA Tournament two years ago with **Greg Oden, Mike Conley,** and **Daequan Cook**. They all left for the pros, and OSU was left to rebuild, which Coach Thad Matta has done. While Ohio State has a very young team with no seniors and five freshmen, the Buckeyes have some experience on the roster, as they won the NIT last year.



Leading OSU in scoring and rebounding is F **Evan Turner**, who averages 12 points and almost 8 boards per game. G **John Diebler** and G **Jeremie Simmons** are both lethal from downtown, shooting 44% from three on the year. C **Dallas Lauderdale** (not named after either city, alas) is the guy in the middle - he has one block less (16) than UM's entire team this season (17), so the Canes will have to be careful when driving the paint. OSU also has a pair of young 7-footers - look for C **BJ Mullens** to bring some energy off the bench, while C **Zisis Sarikopoulos** likely won't play.

UM is favored in tonight's game, but it won't be an easy one. Despite being young, OSU has a lot of talent and one of the nation's top freshman classes. The Buckeyes like to play zone defense, and Big Ten ball tends to get ugly pretty quickly, so the Canes will have to shoot well from the perimeter and hustle on defense to come out with a victory.

Tale of the Tape



VS



3-0 (0-0) RECORD 4-1 (0-0)

NR RANKING #22/#21
(Coaches/AP Polls)

Big Ten CONFERENCE ACC

44% SHOOTING % 44%

35.3 REBOUNDS/GAME 43.2

73% FT % 72%

33% 3 PT % 37%

Miami leads the series, 2-1.

Next Home Game

FIU GOLDEN PANTHERS

Friday, 12/12/08 7:30 PM

WEAR ORANGE!

Upcoming Schedule

12/6 @ Kentucky

12/12 vs. FIU

12/14 vs. Robert Morris

12/21 vs. Clemson



The Lineups



#	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Yr.	Hometown	#	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Yr.	Hometown
2	Jeremie Simmons*	G	6-2	JR	Chicago, IL	00	Jimmy Graham	F	6-8	SR	Goldsboro, NC
3	Walter Offutt	G	6-3	FR	Indianapolis, IN	1	Lance Hurdle*	G	6-2	SR	San Diego, CA
4	P.J. Hill	G	6-1	JR	Minneapolis, MN	3	Malcolm Grant#	G	6-1	SO	Brooklyn, NY
10	Anthony Crater	G	6-1	FR	Flint, MI	5	Eddie Rios	G	6-0	SO	Miami, FL
15	Kyle Madsen	C	6-9	JR	Dublin, OH	10	Mark Warren	F	6-5	JR	Pensacola, FL
21	Evan Turner*	F	6-7	SO	Chicago, IL	20	Cyrus McGowan*	F	6-9	JR	Brooksville, MS
23	David Lighty*	G	6-5	JR	Cleveland, OH	21	Dwayne Collins*	F	6-8	JR	Miami, FL
24	Nikola Kecman	F	6-8	SO	Belgrade, Serbia	23	James Dews*	G	6-3	JR	Cincinnati, OH
32	B.J. Mullens	C	7-0	FR	Columbus, OH	25	Ryan Quiglar	G	5-11	FR	Skyway, WA
33	John Diebler*	G	6-6	SO	Upper Sandusky, OH	30	Adrian Thomas	F	6-7	JR	Pembroke Pines, FL
34	Mark Titus	G	6-4	JR	Brownsburg, IN	31	DeQuan Jones	F	6-6	FR	Stone Mountain, GA
40	J.J. Grycko	F	6-9	FR	Cincinnati, OH	32	Brian Asbury	F	6-7	SR	Miami, FL
44	William Buford	G	6-5	FR	Toledo, OH	33	Jack McClinton*	G	6-1	SR	Baltimore, MD
45	Zisis Sarikopoulos	C	7-0	SO	Athens, Greece	42	Reggie Johnson	C	6-9	FR	Winston-Salem, NC
52	Dallas Lauderdale*	F	6-8	SO	Solon, OH	45	Julian Gamble	C	6-9	FR	Durham, NC

* DENOTES LIKELY STARTERS

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Head Coach: Thad Matta (5th year at OSU)

Assistant Coaches: Alan Major, Archie Miller, Brandon Miller

Head Coach: Frank Haith (5th year at the U)

Assistants: Jorge Fernandez, Jake Morton, Michael Schwartz



SEBASTIAN'S CORNER

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Started in 1999, the ACC has won every year of the annual ACC-Big Ten Challenge, much to the dismay of the Big Ten schools. The ACC won the last two years, 8 games to 3, while the year before that was the closest the Big Ten has ever come to winning the Challenge, losing 5 games to 6. Of the eleven Big Ten schools, only Michigan State has a winning record in the challenge, going 5-3. For the ACC, 8 of its 12 schools have winning records, with Duke (9-0) and Boston College (2-0) being undefeated.



As a relative newcomer to the ACC, the Canes have only played two games in this series, losing both of them. Miami went down against Michigan in 2005, losing 74-53, and lost a heartbreaker against Northwestern in 2006, 61-59.

The Canes didn't play in last year's challenge due to an uneven number of teams. Ohio State has also lost its last two games in the Challenge, but both of them were against the Tar Heels of UNC.

This year, Wisconsin has already beaten VT to start off the challenge, 74-72 on a last-second shot. UM has the next game, and Boston College, Clemson, Duke, and Virginia all play tonight as well. Tomorrow should see some good games on the ESPN family of networks, as Maryland takes on Michigan and UNC battles Michigan State at Ford Field.

New Cheers:

THE HURRICANE

-Done during the first free throw of the opposing team.

-Immediately sit down and have hands in the air while screaming.

-Move your hands the same direction as Sebastian while yelling "Whoosh" at each motion.

-At the end, get up, scream with hands in the air, and go into the C-A-N-E-S spellout with Sebastian.

Cheering 101

Don't be silent when the Canes are hoopin' it up! Make the Bank-United Center an imposing place to play with cheers like these:

OFFENSE:

- "Let's Go Canes!" with claps on each word.
- "Goooo Miami Go!" with 3 claps afterwards.
- "Let's Go UM!" with 5 claps after.

DEFENSE:

- "Ohhhhh!" while jumping up and down for the entire possession.

FREE THROWS:

- Hold one finger in the air for a Canes FT; if it's made, go "Whoosh! Ohhh!" and then jump and stomp. Stomp twice if he makes both FTs.

ENEMY PLAYER INTROS:

- Turn around, with your back to the court, and hold up the "U."

