

HAITH'S FAITHFUL GAMEDAY REPORT



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VT faces Canes after knocking off #1 team

While the Canes were busy winning a thrilling rivalry game against FSU on Wednesday night, the Virginia Tech Hokies gave Wake Forest, the #1 team in the country, their only loss of the season. The Hokies won, 78-71, in Winston-Salem, by far their biggest win of the season. VT will come into the BUC tonight with a lot of confidence, but it's up to the Canes to stem that and cook the Hokies for dinner.



A.D. Vassallo drives the ball against the Canes in a previous game.

Miami was led to victory against FSU by star G **Jack McClinton**, who poured in a season-high 28 points. He wasn't the only one scoring, however, as PG **Lance Hurdle** also tallied a season-high in points, scoring 16, most of them in the 2nd half. More importantly, the two guards only had one combined turnover for the entire game. To beat Virginia Tech, they will both need to have similar performances, with some help inside from PF **Dwayne Collins**, who had a double-double against the Noles with 10 points and 11 rebounds.



Virginia Tech is a very young team, returning only two seniors and starting three sophomores and one freshman. However, the young talent is good and the senior leadership is strong. Senior G **A.D. Vassallo** is the leader of the team and a thorn in the side of the Canes; he scores almost 18 points per game, shoots 38% from three, and pulls down 6.5 boards per game from the 2-guard spot. Sophomore G **Malcolm Delaney** shoots a little worse from the field, but he still averages 17 ppg and leads the team in assists. Holding down the middle for VT is sophomore C **Jeff Allen**; he almost averages a double-double, can shoot the three, and leads the team in blocked shots. In order to beat VT, the Canes must at least slow down the Hokies' "Big Three."

Under Coach **Seth Greenberg**, the Hokies have always been a tough team to play. While not the most talented of teams, they hit open and timely shots, play solid, pressure defense, and always bring the energy. VT won the teams' last meeting in the ACC Tournament last season, so now it's time for the Canes to get some revenge.



- Come out firing. VT is playing with confidence after knocking off #1 Wake Forest. Don't let them get a big lead early.
- Shut down A.D. Vassallo. He's hurt the Canes many times in the past.
- Give Jack some help. Someone other than McClinton needs to step up for the Canes. Last game it was Hurdle... who's next?

Tale of the Tape



13-5 (3-1) RECORD 14-4 (3-2)

NR RANKING NR
(Coaches/AP Polls)

ACC CONFERENCE ACC

4.4% SHOOTING % 43%

38.2 REBOUNDS/GAME 42.8

71% FT % 68%

34% 3 PT % 37%

Miami leads the series, 8-6.

Next Home Game

WAKE FOREST

Wednesday, 7:30 PM
2/4/09

WEAR ORANGE!

Upcoming Schedule

1/27 @ NC State
1/31 @ Maryland
2/4 vs. Wake Forest
2/7 @ Duke



The Lineups



#	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Yr.	Hometown	#	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Yr.	Hometown
0	Jeff Allen*	F	6-7	SO	Washington, D.C.	00	Jimmy Graham*	F	6-8	SR	Goldboro, NC
1	Terrell Bell	F	6-6	SO	Stone Mountain, GA	1	Lance Hurdle*	G	6-2	SR	San Diego, CA
4	Evan Synstad	G	6-3	SO	The Plains, VA	3	Malcolm Grant#	G	6-1	SO	Brooklyn, NY
5	Dorenzo Hudson	G	6-5	SO	Charlotte, NC	10	Mark Warren	F	6-5	JR	Pensacola, FL
10	Hank Thorns	G	5-9	SO	Las Vegas, NV	20	Cyrus McGowan	F	6-9	JR	Brooksville, MS
11	Chris Panneton	F	6-8	FR	Fairfax, VA	21	Dwayne Collins*	F	6-8	JR	Miami, FL
14	Victor Davila*	F	6-8	FR	Canovanas, P.R.	23	James Dews	G	6-3	JR	Cincinnati, OH
15	Terrance Vinson	F	6-8	JR	Valdosta, GA	25	Ryan Quiglar	G	5-11	FR	Skyway, WA
21	Lewis Witcher	F	6-9	JR	Rocky Mount, VA	30	Adrian Thomas	F	6-7	JR	Pembroke Pines, FL
23	Malcolm Delaney*	G	6-3	SO	Baltimore, MD	31	DeQuan Jones*	F	6-6	FR	Stone Mountain, GA
32	Paul Debnam	G	6-3	JR	Farmville, VA	32	Brian Asbury	F	6-7	SR	Miami, FL
33	J.T. Thompson*	F	6-6	SO	Monroe, NC	33	Jack McClinton*	G	6-1	SR	Baltimore, MD
34	Cheick Diakite	C	6-9	SR	Bamako, Mali	42	Reggie Johnson#	C	6-9	FR	Winston-Salem, NC
40	A.D. Vassallo*	G	6-6	SR	Toa Baja, P.R.	45	Julian Gamble	C	6-9	FR	Durham, NC
42	Gene Swindle	C	6-11	FR	Miami, FL						

* DENOTES LIKELY STARTERS

REDSHIRTING THIS YEAR

Head Coach: Seth Greenberg (6th year at VT)
Assistants: James Johnson, Ryan Odom, Stacey Palmore

Head Coach: Frank Haith (5th year at the U)
Assistants: Jorge Fernandez, Jake Morton, Michael Schwartz



SEBASTIAN'S CORNER

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This year, the BankUnited Center will be home to a very special event for the first time in its history: the McDonald's High School All-American Game. Held on April 1st, the All-American Game is annually the showcase event for many of the nation's top high school basketball talents. All-time greats such as Michael Jordan, Shaquille O'Neal, and Magic Johnson have played in the game, as well as more recent stars like Kevin Durant, Carmelo Anthony, and LeBron James. Last year, the Bradley Center in Milwaukee was home to the game, with participants including current standout freshmen Al-Farouq Alminu of Wake Forest, B.J. Mullens of Ohio State, Kemba Walker of UConn, and Chris Singleton of FSU.



The Hurricanes have had two alumni of the game. **Tito Horford** played in it in 1985, and **Darius Rice** played in the 2000 version of it.

Tickets for the game are already on sale, but if you're a student, you're in luck! Category 5 is giving away tickets to students, but you have to earn them. By going to men's games (starting against FSU), you get 1 point, and by going to women's games (starting against NC State this past Thursday), you get 3 points. Earn 10 points by the end of the season and you're eligible for a ticket. Cat 5 people will be taking attendance at every game prior to tipoff, so make sure you find them so you're counted.

New Cheer:

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 BankUnited 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:

- "Ohhhhhh!" 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."

