



2003-04 MIAMI BASKETBALL



SEASON PREVIEW

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Fielding one of its most talented teams and deepest benches in recent years, it is no wonder head coach Charlie Coles and his staff are excited about working with their current crop of student athletes. Not only does Miami return nine letterwinners, including four starters, it boasts one of the strongest freshman classes to hit the RedHawk hardwood.

"If we can stay healthy and play together, this team has the potential to do great things," says Coles. "We've got a great group of returners who are hungry to taste postseason play, and our freshman class is pointed in that same direction and ready to contribute."

Statistically, what the RedHawks return from the 2002-03 campaign is significant. Miami returns 91.5 percent of its scoring and 78.7 percent of its rebounding output from a year ago. Incumbent starters Juby Johnson, Chet Mason, Danny Horace and Josh Hausfeld accounted for 73 percent of Miami's scoring and 59 percent of its rebounding. Gene Seals, Tim Schenke, Larry Drake, Nate VanderSluis and William Hatcher, the RedHawks' other returning letterwinners, comprised an additional 19 percent of Miami's scoring and 20 percent of its rebounding.

Miami's freshman class—Monty St. Clair, Nathan Peavy, Eric Van Buskirk, Doug Penno and Tyler Jones—turned in impressive prep careers, and, according to Coles, is the most determined first-year group since the class highlighted by Wally Szczerbiak, Damon Frierson and Rob Mestas. Additionally, the St. Clair, Peavy, Van Buskirk trio adds size to a Miami front court which has been on the smaller end of the scale the last few years.

One of Miami's greatest strengths has been its defense, and the Coles' Philosophy is that a good defense starts with your offense. "If you have good offensive balance, you will have the start of a good defensive team," explains Coles.

A year into its new offense, Coles believes the system will play to each individual's strengths, and the outcome will be a well-balanced and well-versed offense. "For us, it allows all of our players to have equal opportunities to shoot, pass and dribble, so that will be a benefit for us ... that players get to use their all-around skills."

"Regardless of the offense you run, it usually takes two years to really understand a new system inside and out," continues Coles. "Our team has adapted well and really understands what we are trying to do with the offense. Because of this greater understanding, I think we will be able adapt the offense to our personnel much better this year."

Coles' defensive philosophy is four-part:

1. Don't throw the ball away on offense
2. When the other team has the ball, make sure you're playing 5-on-5
3. Contest every shot the other team makes
4. Limit a team to one shot ... no second-chance shots

Nothing too out of the ordinary.

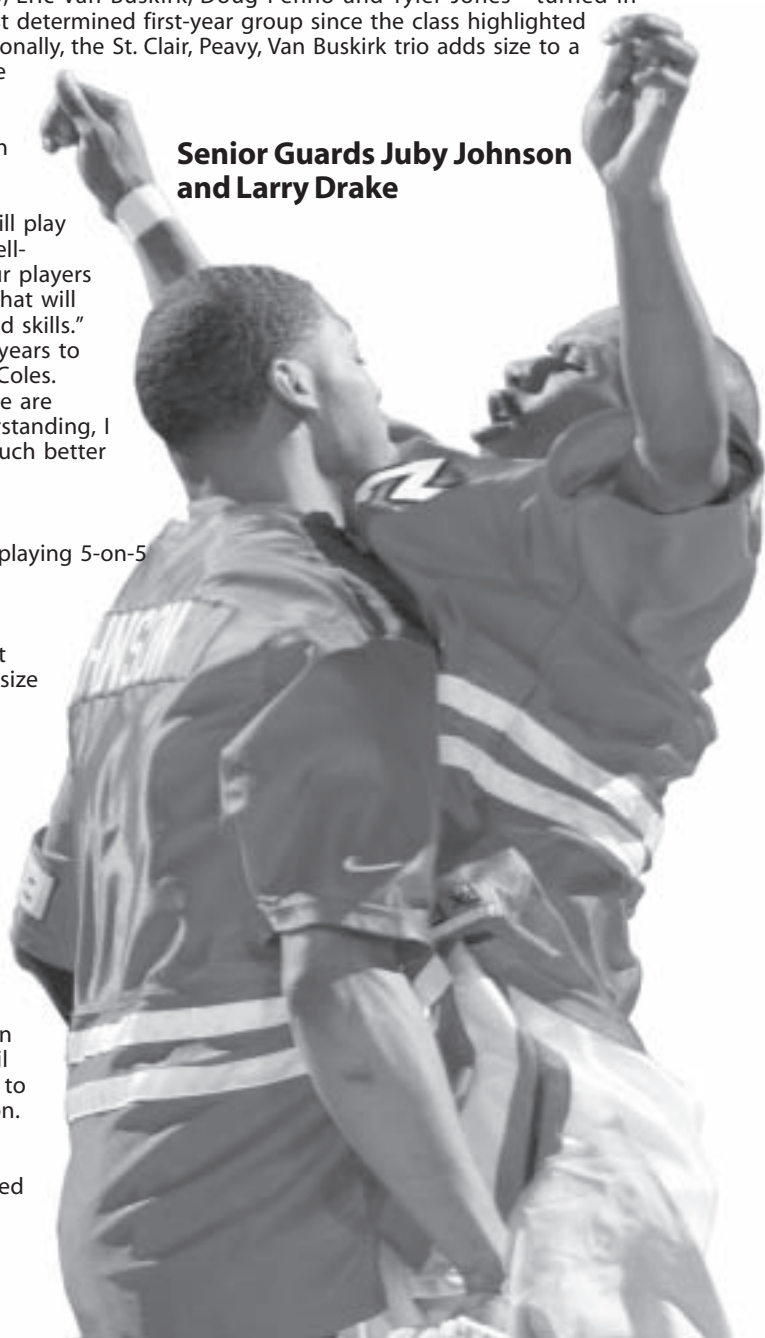
"Those are the things that hopefully we can do, and that every team wants to do," says Coles. "But we kind of emphasize it."

His emphasis on defense has led to Miami's national ranking in scoring defense the past two years, and, more important to Coles, Miami leading the Mid-American Conference in field-goal percentage defense last season. Additionally, the last four seasons, Miami has posted four of the school's top six marks for fewest turnovers, including a program-low 327 last season.

While last year's team attained program-best marks and other various accolades, the way the season ended serves as a motivator for this year's squad. For the first time since the MAC went to divisional play, Miami earned a first-round bye with a third-place overall finish. The RedHawks, however, were tied for first with Central Michigan at 11-4 heading into the final two weeks of the season until they went on a four-game slide, including an overtime loss to Ohio in the MAC Tournament Quarterfinal, to end the season.

"We did have our highest finish since the Sweet 16 season, which was good in a 13-team conference that's a good league," says Coles. "But the way we finished has served as great motivation over the spring and summer for our coaches and our basketball team. We are hoping to turn a sad note into a very positive thing for our basketball team this year."

Senior Guards Juby Johnson and Larry Drake



SEASON PREVIEW

THE GUARDS

Miami returns three starters at the guard position: Johnson, Mason and Hausfeld.

Johnson, the RedHawks' leading scorer in 2002-03 (14.8 ppg), was a second-team all-MAC selection last season and needs just 46 points to become the 28th player in school history to reach the 1,000-point plateau. One of the MAC's top defensive players, Johnson held his defensive assignment under his respective scoring average in 21 contests last season.

"Juby came in here as an offensive player," says Coles. "He maintained his offensive reputation but also has become a very good defensive player. I think Juby's in for a phenomenal year."

Mason again was one of the nation's top small rebounders, leading the RedHawks with 6.2 rpg. The 6-foot-3 junior also paced the Red and White in steals, assists and minutes played, while tying for sixth on Miami's single-season steal chart with 51.

"Chet had a very strong year last year," says Coles. "At times, Chet was one of the better point guards in the league. This year, we need for Chet to finish the season much better than he did last year."

Hausfeld became the third RedHawk in three years to garner MAC All-Freshman Team accolades. Earning a starting role at the start of MAC play, Hausfeld energized the RedHawks, especially from beyond the three-point arc, knocking down 40.2 percent of his treys.

"Josh was one of the better freshmen in the league last year," says Coles. "When Josh was added to the starting lineup, he instantly made us a better basketball team offensively. If Josh can improve his defense this year, I expect him to be one of the better players in the Mid-American Conference."

Also returning at the guard position are Drake and Hatcher. Drake played in 19 games for the RedHawks and is a solid perimeter shooter. Hatcher saw limited action as a freshman but has the potential to make an impact for the RedHawks this season.

"We are hoping that Larry can be more consistent on offense this year and give the team more energy when he's in the game," remarks Coles. "We're counting on Larry to have a great year."

"William is the most improved player on the team over the off-season," continues Coles. "If he continues his workman-like ways, he will see considerable action this year."

Jones and Penno are the two newcomers at the guard position. Jones averaged an impressive 23.6 ppg and was Grant County High School's all-time leading scorer. Penno was an all-state selection and helped Alter to the state finals as a senior, averaging 13.0 ppg, 6.0 rpg and 3.2 apg.

"Tyler had a great shooting reputation in high school, and we are counting on him being a great shooter at Miami," says Coles. "Doug could be a key player for us this year. We are hoping he will come in and give us some valuable minutes."

FORWARDS AND CENTERS

Horace, Seals, Schenke and VanderSluis bolster a RedHawk frontcourt that has great promise in 2003-04. While there is just one returning starter in the frontcourt, the depth at the position is one of Miami's greatest strengths according to Coles.

Horace is Miami's lone returning starter at the forward position. In just two short years, Horace, a two-year starter, already has placed his name eighth on Miami's career blocked shot chart. He ranked second on the team in scoring (11.5 ppg) and rebounding (6.1 rpg) in 2002-03.

"Danny is a very strong individual and has tremendous potential," says Coles. "If he plays to his full potential, the RedHawks will be a mighty fine basketball team."

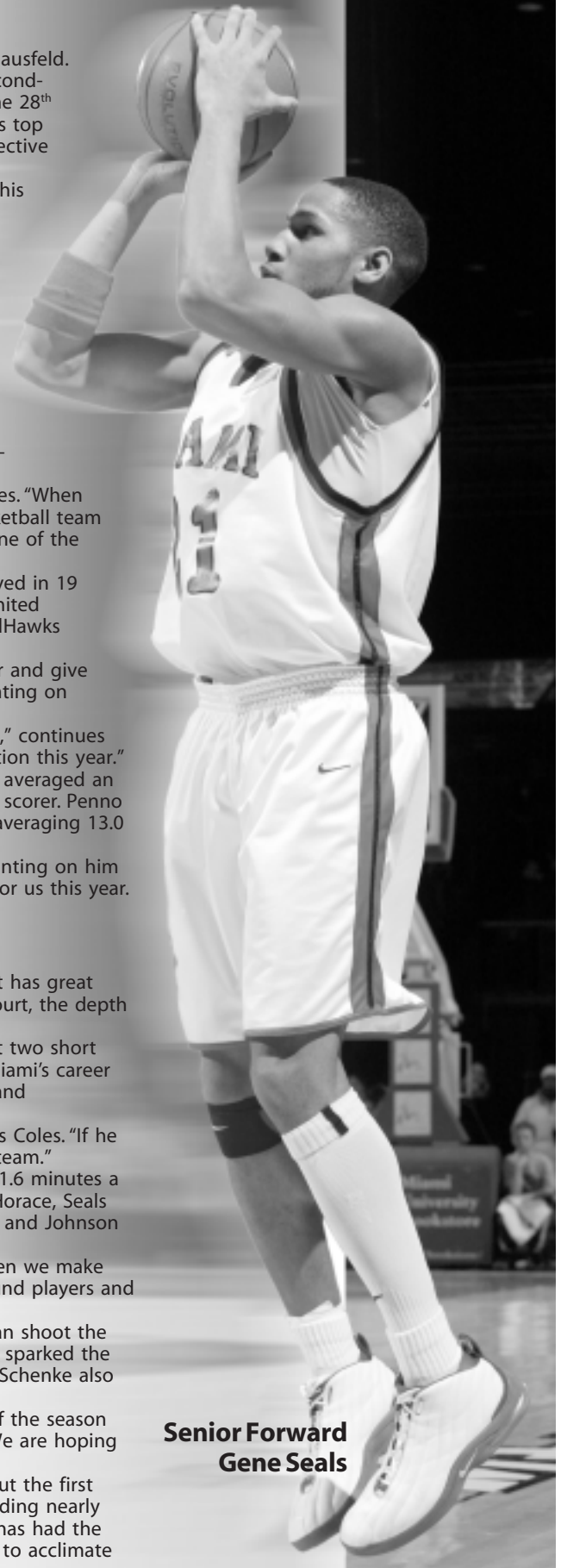
Seals was a solid sixth man for the RedHawks last season, averaging 21.6 minutes a game, and looks to be more of an impact player this season. Along with Horace, Seals led the RedHawks in blocked shots, amassing 12 during the season. Seals and Johnson will repeat as captains for this year's team.

"Gene is the perfect team player," remarks Coles. "Most of the time when we make good team plays, Gene Seals is on the floor. He is one of our best all-around players and is a good leader."

Schenke is a versatile player who can defend the post well but also can shoot the outside shot. Last season, he made the move to the forward position, but sparked the RedHawks from the three-point arc in several games. According to Coles, Schenke also could see some time at center this year.

"Tim gave us some great games last year," says Coles. "The highlight of the season was when he hit three three-pointers to help us beat Central Michigan. We are hoping Tim can take last year's good games and be more consistent for us."

VanderSluis made his comeback from trying injuries which held him out the first part of last season and forced him to redshirt his first year at Miami. Standing nearly seven-feet tall, VanderSluis gives Miami a different look at center than it has had the past few seasons. Last year, VanderSluis played in 14 games and was able to acclimate



**Senior Forward
Gene Seals**

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to the collegiate game. Being able to participate in games late last season is what Coles believes will make him ready to step in this year.

"We believe Nate can be a difference maker," states Coles. "The last two years have been trying for him, but if he can stay healthy, we are going to be very solid at the center position."

Three newcomers—Peavy, St. Clair and Van Buskirk—could prove to be key factors at the forward and center positions for the RedHawks as well.

Peavy was an all-state selection and averaged 16.0 ppg and 9.0 rpg at Dayton's Chaminade-Julienne. While his 6-foot-8 frame makes him a natural at forward, Peavy's early grooming as a guard allows him to step out and take the outside shot and gives him solid ball-handling skills.

"Nathan has loads of potential," exclaims Coles. "He is a very versatile player, who can play inside and outside, and he is also proving to be one of our top defenders."

St. Clair, who will challenge for time at both the forward and center positions, was an all-state selection at Roger Bacon, averaging 19.0 ppg and 9.0 rpg for the Spartans. St. Clair's 6-foot-9, 244-pound stature makes him a much-needed physical presence in the post for the RedHawks.

"We definitely need Monty to play like a veteran this year," says Coles. "Monty is a good offensive player. He can shoot from the outside, and he can score from the inside. He's also a fierce competitor."

Van Buskirk hails from Loveland High School and became the Tiger's all-time leading rebounder and fourth all-time leading scorer. As a senior, Van Buskirk averaged 20.6 ppg and 13.4 rpg. The 6-foot-8 Van Buskirk also looks to be a factor for the RedHawks this season.

"Eric is blessed with great speed," says Coles. "He gets up and down the floor as well as any player on our roster. We look for Eric to be a player who gives the team energy and also a player who becomes a great rebounder and good inside defender."

THE SCHEDULE

Annually, Miami's strength of schedule has been ranked among the nation's toughest at the end of non-conference play. Over the past three seasons, Miami's strength of schedule has been among the top 15 nationally, and the RedHawks are looking to continue a competitive non-conference slate in 2003-04.

As has become the signature of Miami's non-conference slate, the RedHawks' strength of schedule at the end of 2002-03 non-conference play was among the nation's top five according to CollegeRPI.com and in the Sagarin Index (No. 4 in CollegeRPI.com and No. 5 in the Sagarin Index). Heading into its game against Cincinnati on Dec. 28, 2002, Miami's strength of schedule was No. 1 in both indexes.

According to Coles, this season's schedule is just as challenging in some ways as last year's non-league ledger. "There is still a possibility we could play Purdue (in the second round of the Purdue Invitational). The difference is we just don't play Purdue and Maryland to open the season this year.

"When you take Dayton, Cincinnati, Xavier, SMU and then possibly Purdue, and you add in an ESPN Bracket Buster game and throw in Liberty, Wright State and possibly IPFW—that's a pretty competitive non-conference schedule."

Using this challenging non-league schedule as a precursor to an always-challenging league slate, Coles looks to prepare his troops for the rigors of the Mid-American Conference season.

"Overall, I think the MAC is going to be a better league than it was last year," remarks Coles. "A win in the MAC is going to be much tougher than it was last year, and I believe this is going to be a banner year for the MAC as a league. As a conference, we've been wanting to get at least two teams back into the NCAA Tournament, and I think this is going to be the year it happens."

With a solid core of veterans and a talented group of newcomers, Miami hopes to be one of those teams come March.

THE REDHAWKS AT A GLANCE

Letterwinners Returning (9)

Player	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	El.	GP/GS	PPG	RPG	Hometown (HS/Last School)
Larry Drake***	G	6-5	186	Sr.	19/0	1.7	0.9	Groveport, OH (Groveport-Madison)
William Hatcher*	G	6-2	177	So.	14/0	1.1	0.4	Flint, MI (Carman-Ainsworth)
Josh Hausfeld* (S)	G	6-3	212	So.	27/19	7.4	2.4	Cincinnati, OH (Roger Bacon)
Danny Horace** (S)	F	6-6	242	Jr.	26/25	11.5	6.1	Cincinnati, OH (Western Hills)
Juby Johnson*** (S)	G	6-5	205	Sr.	28/28	14.8	3.0	Warrensville Heights, OH (W. Heights)
Chet Mason** (S)	G	6-4	179	Jr.	28/28	10.0	6.2	Cleveland, OH (South)
Tim Schenke**	F	6-6	212	Jr.	24/4	3.6	1.6	Cincinnati, OH (Elder)
Gene Seals***	F/G	6-6	210	Sr.	28/5	5.4	2.9	Saginaw, MI (Saginaw)
Nate VanderSluis*	C	6-11	290	So.	14/0	1.6	1.4	Oak Harbor, OH (Oak Harbor)

Letterwinners Lost (3)

Player	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	El.	GP/GS	PPG	RPG	Hometown (HS/Last School)
Matt Jameson****	G	6-1	185	—	19/9	1.4	0.8	Newport Beach, CA (Newport Harbor)
Bryan Reed**** (S)	F	6-6	210	—	27/22	2.4	1.9	Terre Haute, IN (North)
Doug Williams***	G/F	6-4	215	—	22/0	2.1	0.7	Piketon, OH (Piketon)

Newcomers (5)

Player	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	El.	GP/GS	PPG	RPG	Hometown (HS/Last School)
Tyler Jones	G	6-2	165	Fr.	31/31	23.6	3.5	Dry Ridge, KY (Grant County)
Nathan Peavy	F	6-8	200	Fr.	26/26	16.0	9.0	Dayton, OH (Chaminade-Julienne)
Doug Penno	G/F	6-5	195	Fr.	27/27	13.0	6.0	Kettering, OH (Alter)
Monty St. Clair	F/C	6-9	244	Fr.	26/26	19.0	9.0	Cincinnati, OH (Roger Bacon)
Eric Van Buskirk	F	6-8	228	Fr.	21/21	20.6	13.4	Loveland, OH (Loveland)

* Letters earned at Miami
(S)—starter

2003-04 SCHEDULE/TRAVEL PLANS

November

8	Sat.	UPSTATE BASKETBALL (Exhibition)	2 p.m.
13	Thur.	FINDLAY (Exhibition)	7 p.m.
21	Fri.	at Liberty	7 p.m.
24	Mon.	OHIO DOMINCAN (DH) <i>(Miami Women's Basketball vs. St. Louis, 6 p.m.)</i>	8 p.m.

December

3	Wed.	at Dayton	8 p.m.
6	Sat.	at Western Michigan*	2 p.m.
9	Tue.	XAVIER	7 p.m.
11	Thur.	WRIGHT STATE	7 p.m.
20-21	<i>at Purdue Invitational</i>		
20	Sat.	vs. SMU	1 p.m.
21	Sun.	vs. Purdue/IPFW	1 p.m./3:30 p.m.
27	Sat.	vs. Cincinnati (at U.S. Bank Arena)	8:36 p.m.

January

7	Wed.	at Buffalo* (DH) <i>(Miami Women's Basketball at Buffalo, 6 p.m.)</i>	8 p.m.
10	Sat.	AKRON*	2 p.m.
14	Wed.	KENT STATE*	7 p.m.
17	Sat.	BALL STATE*	2 p.m.
21	Wed.	at Central Michigan*	7 p.m.
24	Sat.	EASTERN MICHIGAN*	2 p.m.
28	Wed.	at Marshall*	7 p.m.

February

2	Mon.	at Ohio*	TBA
4	Wed.	BOWLING GREEN*	7 p.m.
7	Sat.	TOLEDO*	2 p.m.
11	Wed.	at Akron*	7:30 p.m.
16	Mon.	at Ball State*	7 p.m.
18	Wed.	OHIO*	7 p.m.
21	Sat.	ESPN BRACKET BUSTER (Home vs. TBA)	TBA
25	Wed.	at Northern Illinois*	7:05 p.m. (CT)
28	Sat.	BUFFALO* (DH) <i>(Miami Women's Basketball vs. Buffalo, 2 p.m.)</i>	4 p.m.

March

3	Wed.	at Kent State*	7 p.m.
6	Sat.	MARSHALL*	2 p.m.
8	Mon.	MAC Tournament First Round (at Campus Sites)	TBA
11-13	FirstEnergy MAC Men's Basketball Tournament (Gund Arena—Cleveland)		
11	Thur.	MAC Tournament Quarterfinals	TBA
12	Fri.	MAC Tournament Semifinals	TBA
13	Sat.	MAC Tournament Championship	TBA

ALL TIMES TENTATIVE AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE (ALL ARE LOCAL TO SITE)

Home games in BOLD CAPS

*** Denotes Mid-American Conference Games**

2003-04 TRAVEL PLANS

Nov. 21 at Liberty: Depart Dayton Airport at 8:45 a.m. Nov. 20 via Delta 2221K, arriving in Atlanta at 10:20 a.m. and departing for Lynchburg, Va., at 1:35 p.m. via Delta 4684K, arriving in Lynchburg, Va., at 3 p.m. ... Headquarter at Wingate Inn Conference Center (434-845-1700) ... Return Nov. 22 at 10:45 a.m. via Delta 4683Q, arriving in Atlanta at 12:15 p.m. and departing at 2:05 p.m. via Delta 2160Q and arriving in Dayton at 3 p.m.

Dec. 3 at Dayton: Depart Dec. 3 via Alpha Bus Lines to Dayton ... Return immediately following game.

Dec. 6 at Western Michigan: Depart Dec. 5 via Alpha Bus Lines to Kalamazoo ... Headquarter at Holiday Inn West (269-375-6000) ... Return immediately following game.

Dec. 20-21 at Purdue Invitational: Depart Dec. 19 via Alpha Bus Lines to West Lafayette ... Headquarter at University Inn Conference Center (800-777-9808) ... Return Dec. 21 following game.

Dec. 27 vs. Cincinnati (at U.S. Bank Arena): Depart Dec. 27 via Alpha Bus Lines to Cincinnati ... Return immediately following game.

Jan. 7 at Buffalo: Depart Jan. 5 via Alpha Bus Lines to Ashtabula, Ohio ... Headquarter at Holiday Inn Express (440-275-2020) ... Jan. 6 Depart from Ashtabula for Buffalo ... Headquarter at Buffalo Marriott (716-689-6900) ... Jan. 7 depart for Ashtabula following game and stay at Holiday Inn Express ... Jan. 8 return to Oxford.

Jan. 21 at Central Michigan: Depart Jan. 20 via Alpha Bus Lines to Mt. Pleasant ... Headquarter at Comfort Inn (989-772-4000) ... Return immediately following game.

Jan. 28 at Marshall: Depart Jan. 27 via Alpha Bus Lines to Huntington ... Headquarter at Huntington Radisson (304-525-1001) ... Return immediately following game.

Feb. 2 at Ohio: Depart Feb. 1 via Alpha Bus Lines to Athens ... Headquarter at University Inn (740-593-6661) ... Return immediately following game.

Feb. 11 at Akron: Depart Feb. 10 via Alpha Bus Lines to Akron ... Headquarter at Crowne Plaza (330-253-5970) ... Return immediately following game.

Feb. 16 at Ball State: Depart Feb. 15 via Alpha Bus Lines to Muncie ... Headquarter at Radisson Hotel Roberts (765-741-777) ... Return immediately following game.

Feb. 25 at Northern Illinois: Depart Feb. 24 via Alpha Bus Lines to DeKalb ... Headquarter at Comfort Inn and Suite (815-562-5551) ... Return immediately following game.

March 3 at Kent State: Depart March 2 via Alpha Bus Lines to Kent ... Headquarter at Hilton Akron/Fairlawn (330-867-5000) ... Return immediately following game.

2003-04 REDHAWK ROSTER

Numerical

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Cl./El.	Hometown (HS)
1	Doug Penno	G/F	6-5	195	Fr./Fr.	Kettering, OH (Alter)
2	Larry Drake***	G	6-5	186	Sr./Sr.	Groveport, OH (Groveport-Madison)
3	Josh Hausfeld*	G	6-3	212	So./So.	Cincinnati, OH (Roger Bacon)
4	Chet Mason**	G	6-4	179	Sr./Jr.	Cleveland, OH (South)
5	Juby Johnson***	G	6-5	205	Sr./Sr.	Warrensville Heights, OH (Warrensville Heights)
11	Tyler Jones	G	6-2	165	Fr./Fr.	Dry Ridge, KY (Grant County)
21	Gene Seals***	F	6-6	210	Sr./Sr.	Saginaw, MI (Saginaw)
22	Nate VanderSluis*	C	6-11	290	Jr./So.	Oak Harbor, OH (Oak Harbor)
24	Tim Schenke**	F	6-6	212	Jr./Jr.	Cincinnati, OH (Elder)
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31	Nathan Peavy	F	6-8	200	Fr./Fr.	Dayton, OH (Chaminade-Julienne)
33	Danny Horace**	F	6-6	242	Jr./Jr.	Cincinnati, OH (Western Hills)
40	Eric Van Buskirk	F	6-8	228	Fr./Fr.	Loveland, OH (Loveland)

Alphabetical

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Cl./El.	Hometown (HS)
2	Larry Drake***	G	6-5	186	Sr./Sr.	Groveport, OH (Groveport-Madison)
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22	Nate VanderSluis*	C	6-11	290	Jr./So.	Oak Harbor, OH (Oak Harbor)

Head Coach: Charlie Coles (Eighth Season)

Assistant Coaches: James Whitford, Jermaine Henderson, Frankie Smith

Administrative Assistants: Ryan Himes

Athletic Trainer: Dave Donnelly

* Letters earned

PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

Josh Hausfeld	HOSS-feld
Nathan Peavy	PEE-vee
Doug Penno	PEN-oh
Tim Schenke	SHEN-key
Nate VanderSluis	VAN-dur-sloos

