

MIAMI UNIVERSITY FOOTBALL

GAME 1: AT BALL STATE

THURSDAY, AUG. 30 • 7 P.M.
SCHEUMANN STADIUM • MUNCIE, IND.



230 Millet Hall • Oxford, OH 45056 • Phone: 513.529.4327 • Fax: 513.529.6729

REDHAWKS ON THE AIRWAVES

MIAMI ISP SPORTS NETWORK

Entering its first year of its partnership with ISP Sports Marketing, the Miami ISP Sports Network continues its coverage of Miami Football with a group of affiliates blanketing most of Southwest Ohio and Southeast Indiana. "The Voice of the RedHawks" **Steve Baker** will deliver the play-by-play coverage, while **Tim Bray** will provide color commentary and **Neil Dougherty** will give sideline updates. Tune-in to one of Miami's game-day affiliates:

WMOH-AM 1450 (Hamilton, OH)
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WONE-AM 980 (Dayton, OH)
WHK-AM 1420 (Cleveland, OH)

TELEVISION COVERAGE

Tonight's game is being televised live on **Comcast Local** and carried in the Muncie, Indianapolis, Fort Wayne markets and also in parts of Michigan. **Ben Holden** will deliver the play-by-play, while **Rob Otto** will handle the color commentary.

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MIAMI REDHAWKS (0-0; 0-0 MAC EAST; 0-0 MAC) BALL STATE CARDINALS (0-0; 0-0 MAC WEST; 0-0 MAC)

THE COACHES

MIAMI HEAD COACH SHANE MONTGOMERY (North Carolina State, '90) is in his third season at the helm of the Miami program, owning a 9-14 record ... Montgomery led the RedHawks to a share of the MAC East Division title in his first season (2005) ... also serves as the offensive coordinator and has since 2001 ... since that time, Miami has consistently ranked among the top 30 in passing offense and has ranked among the top 45 nationally in total offense five times.

BALL STATE HEAD COACH BRADY HOKE (Ball State, '82) enters his fifth season guiding Ball State, recording a 15-31 record with the Cardinals ... Hoke is one of just 18 head football coaches nationally coaching his alma mater in 2007.

QUICK HITS

- Historically, Miami has been solid in season openers. Since its first game in 1888, the Red and White has posted a 78-34-6 (.686) record in season openers.
- Three players will serve as captains for the 2007 season: senior quarterback **MIKE KOKAL**, senior running back **BRANDON MURPHY** and junior linebacker **JOEY HUDSON**.
- Thursday's game marks the first time since 1997 that Miami has opened its regular season against a MAC opponent. Exactly 10 years ago—August 30, 1997—the RedHawks topped Ball State by a score of 27-10 in Oxford.
- Of the 65 Miami players who likely will be dressing for the Ball State game, 20 are either true freshmen or redshirt freshmen (31 percent).
- A total of 18 Miami players who are likely travel-squad members were starters at one point in 2006. Eight of the 18 play on the offensive side of the ball, six are defensive players, and four others are special teams contributors.

| Date | Day | Opponent | Time/Result | TV |
|--|-------|---------------|-------------|-----------------|
| | | | | Comcast Local |
| 8/30 | Thur. | at Ball State | 7 p.m. | Comcast Local |
| <i>First MAC season opener since 1997; Miami leads the series 15-9-1</i> | | | | |
| 9/8 | Sat. | at Minnesota, | Noon | Big Ten Network |
| <i>Lone meeting was in 1988; Minnesota leads the series 1-0</i> | | | | |
| 9/15 | Sat. | Cincinnati | Noon | ESPN Regional |
| <i>One of college football's most-played rivalries; Miami leads the series 59-45-7</i> | | | | |
| 9/22 | Sat. | at Colorado | 3:30 p.m. | — |
| <i>Return 16 starters from a 2-10 team; First Meeting</i> | | | | |
| 9/29 | Sat. | Syracuse | 3 p.m. | ONN |
| <i>FAMILY WEEKEND: Syracuse's first visit to Oxford; Syracuse leads the series 3-0</i> | | | | |
| 10/6 | Sat. | at Kent State | 3 p.m. | FSN Ohio |
| <i>Miami has won 16 of the last 18 meetings; Miami leads the series 43-11</i> | | | | |
| 10/13 | Sat. | Bowling Green | 3 p.m. | FSN Ohio |
| <i>HOME COMING; MU has won seven of last eight; Miami leads the series 39-19-5</i> | | | | |
| 10/20 | Sat. | at Temple | Noon | ESPN Regional |
| <i>Lone meeting was in 2005 in Philadelphia; Miami leads the series 1-0</i> | | | | |
| 10/27 | Sat. | at Vanderbilt | 2 p.m. | — |
| <i>MU won 33-30 in 2000 and Vanderbilt won 12-0 in 1899; Series tied 1-1</i> | | | | |
| 11/3 | Sat. | Buffalo | 3 p.m. | ONN |
| <i>RedHawks lead 5-0 when playing in Oxford; Miami leads the series 9-0</i> | | | | |
| 11/14 | Wed. | Akron | 7:35 p.m. | ESPN2 |
| <i>Miami has won eight of the last 10 meetings; Miami leads the series 12-5-1</i> | | | | |
| 11/24 | Sat. | at Ohio | 2 p.m. | — |
| <i>Second-most played series in program history; Miami leads the series 51-30-2</i> | | | | |

2007 REDHAWK SCHEDULE

MIAMI VS. BALL STATE—AUG. 30, 2007

SERIES NOTES

- Miami and Ball State are meeting for the 65th time since 1931, when Miami opened the series with a 47-6 win in Oxford.
- The teams are meeting for the second consecutive year but the first time in Muncie since 2003.
- Ball State won the last meeting between the teams, but Miami has won five of the last seven games.
- The teams are meeting in Muncie for the 12th time, with Miami holding a 6-5 edge and having won the last four meetings in Muncie.
- Miami's last series win came, 49-3, in 2003, when the RedHawks returned two interceptions for touchdowns and Ben Roethlisberger passed for 215 yards and two touchdowns.
- Ball State's last series victory came in Oxford in 2006, when the Cardinals downed the RedHawks 20-17 in a come-from-behind win after scoring a touchdown on a fourth-and-goal play with 1:11 remaining.

TALE OF THE TAPE

| Miami | Ball State |
|-------|------------|
| 18.5 | 27.2 |
| 318.2 | 351.2 |
| 86.7 | 91.9 |
| 32.2 | 30.5 |
| 2.7 | 3.0 |
| 231.6 | 259.3 |
| 35.0 | 31.1 |
| 11.5 | 13.4 |
| 25.3 | 25.8 |
| 331.8 | 433.5 |
| 173.4 | 175.7 |
| 4.8 | 4.9 |
| 158.3 | 257.8 |
| 11.7 | 12.3 |

*2006 Averages

MIAMI VS. BALL STATE SERIES HISTORY

Series Record: Miami leads 15-9-1
 At Oxford: Miami leads 9-4-1
 At Muncie: Miami leads 6-5
 Most Miami points: 49 (49-3) in 2003
 Most Ball State points: 45 (45-14) in 1988
 Combined points: 60 (35-25) in 1975
 Biggest Miami win: 47 (47-0) in 1933
 Biggest Ball State win: 31 (45-14) in 1988
 Current streak: Ball State—1

Last 25 Meetings

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1931..... H..... W..... 47-6 | 1991..... H..... W..... 15-7 |
| 1940..... H..... T..... 0-0 | 1992..... A..... L..... 9-19 |
| 1975..... H..... W..... 35-28 | 1993..... A..... L..... 0-21 |
| 1976..... H..... L..... 6-23 | 1994..... H..... W..... 24-21 |
| 1978..... A..... L..... 14-38 | 1995..... H..... L..... 15-17 |
| 1979..... H..... W..... 27-3 | 1996..... A..... W..... 16-6 |
| 1980..... A..... W..... 42-9 | 1997..... H..... W..... 27-10 |
| 1985..... A..... W..... 17-13 | 1998..... A..... W..... 28-17 |
| 1986..... H..... W..... 45-17 | 2000..... H..... L..... 10-15 |
| 1987..... H..... W..... 30-20 | 2001..... A..... W..... 28-20 |
| 1988..... A..... L..... 14-45 | 2003..... A..... W..... 49-3 |
| 1989..... A..... L..... 9-37 | 2006..... H..... L..... 17-20 |
| 1990..... H..... W..... 24-10 | |

THE LAST MEETING

BALL STATE **20**
MIAMI **17**

October 28, 2006
 Yager Stadium • Oxford, OH
 Attendance 17,134

| | | | | | | |
|------------|---|---|---|----|---|----|
| Ball State | 7 | 0 | 3 | 10 | — | 20 |
| Miami | 0 | 7 | 3 | 7 | — | 17 |

SCORING SUMMARY

First Quarter

10:45 BSU - Moss 19-yd pass from Davis (Jackson kick)

Second Quarter

9:45 MIA - Robinson 11-yd pass from Kokal (Cook kick)

Third Quarter

10:46 BSU - Jackson 37-yd FG

4:48 MIA - Cook 20-yd FG

Fourth Quarter

13:31 MIA - Kokal 1-yd run (Cook kick)

7:02 BSU - Jackson 50-yd FG

1:11 BSU - Grant 1-yd pass from Davis (Jackson kick)

TEAM STATISTICS BSU.....MIA

| | | |
|-------------------|---------|---------|
| First Downs | 14 | 20 |
| Rushes-Yards | 38-128 | 36-133 |
| Passes (C-A-I) | 11-24-1 | 20-35-1 |
| Passing Yards | 98 | 226 |
| Plays-Total Yards | 62-226 | 71-359 |
| Punts-Average | 7-38.3 | 6-30.8 |
| Fumbles-Lost | 1-1 | 1-1 |
| Penalties-Yards | 5-39 | 8-79 |
| Third Down Conv. | 5/16 | 7/16 |
| Possession Time | 28:38 | 31:22 |

INDIVIDUAL LEADERS

Rushing — BSU: Bostic 16-85, Hill 10-45, Miller 1-17, Love 4-(1), Davis 6-(16); MIA: Bratton 17-48, Kokal 11-39, Sykes 7-40, Robinson 1-6.

Passing — BSU: Davis 11-24-1-98-1; MIA: Kokal 19-34-1-205-1; Robinson 1-1-0-21-0.

Receiving — BSU: Love 5-58, Steinhaus 2-11, Moss 1-19, Johnson 1-6, Bostic 1-3, Grant 1-1; MIA: Robinson 5-84, Crabtree 5-33, Bratton 4-33, Sykes 2-21, McVay 2-14, Kokal 1-21, Woods 1-20.

NOTES

Senior Ryne Robinson became the third player in Miami history to amass 20 career touchdowns, hauling in an 11-yard touchdown catch in the second quarter ... Joey Card made his fifth career interception in the first half and later added a punt block ... Miami lost for the third time in four games despite owning second-half leads in all three losses ... the RedHawks dropped to 0-4 at home and lost their fifth straight home game overall ... Tom Crabtree had a career-high five receptions.



AT A GLANCE...

Stadium..... Scheumann Stadium
 Capacity..... 22,500
 Surface..... FieldTurf
 Kickoff..... 7 p.m.

| Miami | vs. | Ball State |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Oxford, Ohio | Location | Muncie, IN |
| 16,300 | Enrollment | 17,285 |
| Mid-American (East Division) | Conference | Mid-American (West Division) |
| Yager Stadium (24,286) | Stadium | Scheumann Stadium (22,500) |
| Shane Montgomery (N.C. State '90) | Head Coach | Brady Hoke (Ball State '82) |
| Third Season | Years at School | Fifth Season |
| 9-14 | Overall Record | 15-31 |
| Same | Record at School | Same |
| 2-10 | 2006 Record | 5-7 |
| 2-6 (5th, East) | Conference Record | 5-3 (t-3rd, West) |
| 18-11 | Starters Returning/Lost | 13-9 |
| 40-16 | Letterwinners Returning/Lost | 37-21 |

2007 MIAMI FOOTBALL — TWO-DEEP (AS OF AUG. 25, 2007)

| OFFENSE (MULTIPLE) | |
|---------------------------|---|
| WR 1 | Dustin Woods5-11, 190, So., Cincinnati, OH |
| 17 | Chris Givens.....6-2, 198, Fr., Chillicothe, OH |
| LT 76 | Charlie Norden 6-6, 300, Sr., Dublin, OH |
| 70 | Nate Williams 6-5, 292, Fr., Parma, OH |
| LG 68 | Dave DiFranco 6-3, 303, Jr., LaGrange, OH |
| 75 | Bob Gulley.....6-4, 295, R-Fr., Berea, OH |
| C 72 | Steve Meister6-2, 291, Sr., Allison Park, PA |
| 61 | Kyle Lovas.....6-2, 291, Jr., Westerville, OH |
| RG 50 | Matt McKeown..... 6-4, 271, Jr., Cincinnati, OH |
| 52 | Josh Satterthwait6-4, 302, Jr., Roswell, GA |
| or 73 | Pete Walters..... 6-6, 315, Sr., Columbus, OH |
| RT 55 | Steve Sutter6-6, 278, Jr., Saint Henry, OH |
| 78 | Zachary Marshall 6-7, 323, So., Mason, OH |
| TE 80 | Tom Crabtree 6-5, 235, Jr., Carroll, OH |
| 83 | Jake O'Connell.....6-4, 252, Jr., Naples, FL |
| QB 3 | Mike Kokal6-2, 213, Sr., Warren, OH |
| 12 | Daniel Raudabaugh.....6-4, 216, So., Coppell, TX |
| TB 24 | Brandon Murphy..5-8, 177, Sr., Strongsville, OH |
| 29 | Austin Sykes6-0, 245, Sr., Coraopolis, PA |
| or 10 | Andre Bratton5-11, 185, So, Woodbridge, VA |
| WR 11 | Armand Robinson... 6-1, 197, Fr., Reynoldsburg, OH |
| 2 | Eugene Harris..... 5-10, 185, Fr., Atlanta, GA |
| WR 14 | Jared Elliott 6-5, 232, Jr., Franklin, TN |
| 86 | Donovan Potter.....6-2, 180, R-Fr., Trotwood, OH |
| PK 19 | Trevor Cook..... 6-2, 184, So., Sioux Falls, SD |
| 35 | Nathan Parseghian 6-2, 198, Jr., Sylvania, OH |

| SPECIALISTS | |
|--------------------|---|
| KO 35 | Nathan Parseghian... 6-2, 198, Jr., Sylvania, OH |
| 19 | Trevor Cook 6-2, 184, So., Sioux Falls, SD |
| LS 62 | Mike Rummeler6-2, 208, R-Fr., Cincinnati, OH |
| 54 | Chase Collins..... 6-2, 228, So., Germantown, OH |
| HD 17 | Kyle Decker 6-3, 217, Jr., Granville, OH |
| 18 | Sean McVay..... 5-10, 185, Jr., Marietta, GA |
| KR 1 | Dustin Woods 5-11, 190, So., Cincinnati, OH |
| 18 | Sean McVay 5-10, 185, Jr., Marietta, GA |
| 10 | Andre Bratton5-11, 185, So., Woodbridge, VA |
| 6 | Robbie Wilson..... 6-0, 210, Jr., Cincinnati, OH |
| PR 2 | Eugene Harris 5-10, 181, So., Atlanta, GA |
| 3 | Jeff Thompson..... 5-10, 185, So., Worthington, OH |

BOLD denotes returning starters.

| DEFENSE (4-3) | |
|----------------------|---|
| LE 51 | Joe Coniglio 6-2, 249, Jr., Rockford, IL |
| 58 | Craig Mester 6-5, 262, Sr., Grand Rapids, MI |
| LT 94 | Ben Huddle..... 6-4, 277, Jr., Columbus, OH |
| 90 | Sean Redwine.....6-4, 275, R-Fr., Reading, OH |
| NT 98 | Mark Paun 6-3, 272, So., Strongsville, OH |
| 93 | Martin Channels6-0, 335, So., Xenia, OH |
| RE 99 | Travis Craven6-4, 261, So., Ft. Wayne, IN |
| 21 | Jordan Stevens.....6-4, 262, R-Fr., Monroeville, PA |
| SLB 44 | Caleb Bostic.....6-3, 222, So., Galloway, OH |
| 47 | Dexter Korto.....6-2, 222, Fr., Germantown, MD |
| MLB 48 | Joey Hudson6-2, 230, Jr., Piqua, OH |
| 20 | Chris Shula5-11, 226, Jr., Cooper City, FL |
| WLB 9 | Clayton Mullins.....6-2, 231, Jr., Fairborn, OH |
| 49 | Mickey Mann6-0, 230, Jr., Amherst, OH |
| CB 33 | Jerrid Gaines..... 5-11, 192, Sr., Springfield, OH |
| 26 | Wendell Brunson 5-11, 180, So., Ft. Pierce, FL |
| 30 | Brandon Stephens ... 5-10, 192, Fr., Strongsville, OH |
| Apache 6 | Robbie Wilson..... 6-0, 210, Jr., Cincinnati, OH |
| 27 | Peris Edwards.....6-1, 201, R-Fr., Toledo, OH |
| FS 22 | Jordan Gafford 6-0, 202, So., Columbus, OH |
| 23 | Ben Bennett.... 5-11, 193, R-Fr., Capitol Heights, MD |
| CB 3 | Jeff Thompson..... 5-10, 185, So., Worthington, OH |
| 16 | Bryan Roland5-10, 198, Jr., Detroit, MI |
| P 4 | Jake Richardson6-1, 201, Jr., Oxford, OH |
| 95 | Chris DiCesare 6-2, 219, So., St. Clairsville, OH |

| PRONUNCIATION GUIDE | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|
| Jordain Brown | JOR-dan |
| Wendell Brunson..... | wen-DELL |
| Kendrick Bruton | BROO-ton |
| Joe Coniglio | con-IG-leo |
| Nick DeBartolo | dee-BART-uh-lo |
| Dave DiFranco | dee-FRANK-oh |
| Matt Kajmowicz | kuh-MO-vich |
| Mike and Anthony Kokal | KOKE-al |
| Kevin Koncelik | kon-CELL-ik |
| Matt McKeown | mc-Q-in |
| Steve Meister | MICE-ter |
| Tersee Nande | ter-SEE • NON-day |
| Brian Palascak | PAL-a-sac |
| Nathan Parseghian | par-SEEG-ee-an |
| Daniel Raudabaugh..... | ROWD-a-bah |
| Sean Redwine | SHAWN • RED-wine |
| Rob Reiland | REE-land |
| Josh Satterthwait | SAT-er-thwait |
| Ken Staudinger | STAH-ding-er |
| Steve Sutter | SUT-ter |
| D.J. Svabik..... | SWAB-ik |
| Jerrell Wedge..... | jur-REL |

2007 MAC Preseason Poll

EAST DIVISION

| Team (First-Place Votes) | Points |
|--------------------------|--------|
| 1. Ohio (15) | 216 |
| 2. Kent State (13) | 203 |
| 3. Akron (6) | 171 |
| 4. Miami (1) | 163 |
| 5. Bowling Green | 130 |
| 6. Temple (1) | 64 |
| 7. Buffalo | 61 |

WEST DIVISION

| Team (First-Place Votes) | Points |
|--------------------------------|--------|
| 1. Western Michigan (15) | 175 |
| 2. Central Michigan (10) | 173 |
| 3. Toledo (6) | 138 |
| 4. Ball State (4) | 134 |
| 5. Northern Illinois (1) | 90 |
| 6. Eastern Michigan | 46 |

Championship Game Winner:

Western Michigan (11)
 Central Michigan (10)
 Ohio (6)
 Toledo (5)
 Kent State (2)
 Akron (1)
 Temple (1)

AROUND THE MAC:

Thursday, Aug. 30 (All times EST)

*Miami at Ball State, 7 p.m. Comcast Local
 Buffalo at Rutgers, 7 p.m.
 Kent State at Iowa State, 7 p.m.

Friday, Aug. 31

Navy at Temple, 7:30 p.m., ESPNU

Saturday, Sept. 1

Iowa at Northern Illinois
 (Soldier Field), 3:30 p.m., ESPNU
 Western Michigan at West Virginia, 3:30 p.m.
 Central Michigan at Kansas, 7 p.m.
 Eastern Michigan at Pittsburgh, 6 p.m.
 Purdue at Toledo, 7 p.m., ESPNU
 Bowling Green at Minnesota, 7 p.m.
 Army at Akron
 (Cleveland Browns Stadium), 7 p.m.
 Gardner-Webb at Ohio, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 8

BGSU at Mich. State, Noon, Big Ten Network
 Miami at Minnesota, Noon, Big Ten Network
 Akron at Ohio State, Noon, Big Ten Network
 * Ball State at Eastern Michigan, 3:30 p.m.
 Southern Illinois at Northern Illinois, 7:30 p.m.
 Kent State at Kentucky, 6 p.m.
 Ohio at Louisiana-Lafayette, 7 p.m.
 *Toledo at Central Michigan, 7 p.m.
 Indiana at Western Michigan, 8 p.m., ESPNU
 *Buffalo at Temple, TBA

NOTES FROM THE CRADLE

IF MIAMI WINS ...: The RedHawks would be 1-0 for the 79th time in their history ... Miami would be 1-0 in MAC play for the 41st time in 60 tries ... MU would be 7-5 vs. Ball State in games played at Muncie ... it would mark Coach Shane Montgomery's first victory in a season opener as head coach of the RedHawks.

IF MIAMI LOSES ...: It would mark the third consecutive time that Miami has lost its season-opening game ... MU would be 0-1 in MAC play for only the 19th time in 60 conference seasons.

FOR STARTERS: Historically, Miami has been solid in season openers. Since its first game in 1888, the Red and White has posted a 78-34-6 (.686) record in season openers, including seven wins in the past 11 openers. However, that tempo has slowed recently with the RedHawks dropping four of their last six season openers—with all four losses coming versus the Big Ten. Thursday marks the 50th time that Miami's lid-lifter has been on the road. During the previous 49 season openers that were on the road, Miami's record is 24-22-3 (.520).

60TH ANNIVERSARY: The 2007 season marks Miami football team's 60th as a member of the Mid-American Conference. The school has won more MAC games than any other league program (253), and its all-time MAC winning percentage of .673 (253-120-11) is far and away the best. Miami has won or shared 14 MAC titles, four more than any other school.

CONFERENCE GAME OPENERS: Through its first 59 seasons as a member of the Mid-American Conference, Miami has a record of 40-18-1 in its MAC openers.

OPENING THE REGULAR SEASON IN MAC PLAY: Thursday's game marks the first time since 1997 that MU has opened its regular season against a MAC opponent. In that game 10 years ago, also played on Aug. 30, the RedHawks topped Ball State by a score of 27-10 in Oxford. Altogether, Miami has kicked off its regular season 20 times with a MAC game, compiling a 13-7 record (.650). In the 13 seasons that the RedHawks started 1-0 in MAC play, they have ended up with a winning league record 12 times. On four occasions, Miami won the conference race, and six other times it was the league's runner-up. MU is 5-2 against Ball State in MAC openers and 1-1 in conference openers at Muncie.

RETURNING STARTERS: A total of 18 Miami players who are likely travel-squad members were starters at one time or another in 2006. Eight of the 18 play on the offensive side of the ball, six are defensive players, and four others are special teams contributors. Offensive starters who return in 2007 include tight end **TOM CRABTREE** (Jr., Carroll), left guard **DAVE DIFRANCO** (So., LaGrange), quarterback **MIKE KOKAL** (Sr., Warren), right guard **MATT McKEOWN** (Jr., Cincinnati), center **STEVE MEISTER** (Sr., Allison Park, PA), running back **BRANDON MURPHY** (Sr., Strongsville), left tackle **CHARLIE NORDEN** (Sr., Dublin) and right tackle **STEVE SUTTER** (Jr., St. Henry). Returning defensive starters include end **JOE CONIGLIO** (Jr., Rockford, IL), cornerback **JERRID GAINES** (Sr., Springfield), middle linebacker **JOEY HUDSON** (Jr., Piqua), end **CRAIG MESTER** (Sr., Grand Rapids, MI), weakside linebacker **CLAYTON MULLINS** (Jr., Fairborn) and apache/strong safety **ROBBIE WILSON** (Jr., Cincinnati). Special team starters who return include placekicker **TREVOR COOK** (So., Sioux Falls, SD), kickoff specialist **NATE PARSEGHIAN** (Jr., Sylvania), holder **KYLE DECKER** (Jr., Granville) and punter **JAKE RICHARDSON** (Jr., Oxford).

BREAKING DOWN THE TRAVEL SQUAD: Of the 65 Miami players who likely will be dressing for the Ball State game, 20 are either true freshmen or redshirt freshmen (31 percent). Seven first-year players—including **CLAY BELTON** (QB, Fr., Dayton), **KEN-DRICK BRUTON** (TE, Fr., Miamisburg), **MORRIS COUNCIL** (DL, Fr., Decatur, GA), **De-ANDRE GILMORE** (DB, Fr., St. Louis, MO), **CHRIS GIVENS** (WR, Fr., Chillicothe), **JAMAL ROGERS** (WR, Fr., Fort Myers, FL) and **BRANDON STEVENS** (DB, Fr., Strongsville)—will likely be chosen to travel to Muncie for the season opener. Thirteen other RedHawk travel-squad members are sophomores (20 percent), 21 are juniors (32 percent), and 11 are seniors (17 percent).

MU  .COM

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NOTES FROM THE CRADLE

OH CAPTAIN, MY CAPTAIN: Three players have been named captains for the 2007 season: senior quarterback **MIKE KOKAL** (Warren), senior running back **BRANDON MURPHY** (Strongsville) and junior linebacker **JOEY HUDSON** (Piqua). With Hudson being named captain as a junior, he could become just the third player in the modern era of the program to serve as captain twice. Only Pat McDermott (1977-78) and Aaron Kromer (1988-89) have held the title of team captain for more than one season during the modern era.

HOME-STATE CONTRIBUTORS: Forty of the probable 65 Miami players traveling to play Ball State are Ohio natives. Cincinnati—**DUSTIN WOODS** (WR, So.), **ROBBIE WILSON** (DB, Jr.), **MATT McKEOWN** (OL, Jr.) and **MIKE RUMMLER** (LS, Fr.)—and Strongsville—**BRANDON MURPHY** (RB, Sr.), **BRANDON STEPHENS** (DB, Fr.) and **MARK PAUN** (DL, So.)—have the best representation among Ohio cities.

FINE LINE: The fine line between victory and defeat was especially fine for Miami during a trying 2006 campaign. The RedHawks, who missed out on at least a share of the MAC East title for the first time since 2002, went 2-6 in MAC play. The six losses came by a combined total of just 32 points (5.3 ppg). Miami either led or was tied in the fourth quarter in five of those six losses and lost four of the games by three points or less. The 2-10 overall record in '06 snapped Miami's streak of consecutive winning seasons at 12.

OFFENSIVE FRONT LINE LOOKS TO IMPROVE: Miami's offensive line surrendered a whopping 49 quarterback sacks a year ago, ranking 118th nationally. Playing without two starters for most of the year, their performance got steadily better as the year went on, allowing just nine sacks over the season's final four games. Miami's 2007 front five of **CHARLIE NORDEN** (LT, Sr. Dublin), **DAVE DiFRANCO** (LG, So., LaGrange), **STEVE MEISTER** (C, Sr., Allison Park, PA), **MATT McKEOWN** (RG, Jr., Cincinnati) and **STEVE SUTTER** (RT, Jr., St. Henry) have earned a combined total of 11 varsity letters.

PASSING FANCY: Since the arrival of **SHANE MONTGOMERY** as offensive coordinator in 2001, Miami has not ranked outside of the top 35 nationally in passing. Last season, the RedHawks ranked 32nd nationally in passing offense (231.6 ypg). Quarterback **MIKE KOKAL** (Sr., Warren) threw for 2,419 yards in 2006.

MURPHY'S LAW: Senior running back **BRANDON MURPHY** (Strongsville) was held to a career-worst 3.5 yards per carry in 2006 while struggling with an ankle injury. He was a second-team all-MAC performer as a sophomore in '05, gaining 1,070 yards.

YOUTHFUL RECEIVING CORPS: Five freshmen and a sophomore are among the eight Miami receivers who are expected to make the trip to Ball State for the 2007 opener. **DUSTIN WOODS** (So., Cincinnati) emerged as Miami's newest big-play threat in 2006, averaging 20.2 yards per catch. His 25 receptions ranked second on the team behind MAC all-star Ryne Robinson a year ago. **SEAN McVAY** (Jr., Marietta, GA), Miami's second-leading returning receiver, will miss the Ball State game due to a thumb injury. Newcomers on the travel squad who are expected to make a huge impact in 2007 include the redshirt freshman trio of **ARMAND ROBINSON** (Reynoldsburg), **EU-**

GENE HARRIS (Atlanta, GA) and **DONOVAN POTTER** (Trotwood). Other players who RedHawk coaches expect to be in the receiving rotation include junior **JARED ELLIOTT** (Franklin, TN) and true freshman **CHRIS GIVENS** (Chillicothe).

DEE-FENSE: Miami's defense, directed by first-year coordinator **JAY HOOD**, should be better than its 2006 squad. All-conference candidates include junior middle linebacker **JOEY HUDSON** (Jr., Piqua), one of 60 players on the watch list for the ROTARY LOMBARDI AWARD (top lineman in college football). A second-team all-MAC performer a year ago, Hudson led Miami in both tackles (97) and interceptions (5). He will be flanked by strong-side linebacker **CALEB BOSTIC** (So., Galloway) on one side and weak-side linebacker **CLAYTON MULLINS** (Jr., Fairborn) on the other side. The defensive front four is anchored by junior end **JOE CONIGLIO** (Rockford, IL) and senior end **CRAIG MESTER** (Grand Rapids, MI). All-league candidates in the secondary include senior cornerback **JERRID GAINES** (Springfield) and junior apache (strong safety) **ROBBIE WILSON** (Cincinnati).

COOK & RICHARDSON KEY TO KICKING GAME: Miami has two potential all-conference kickers in sophomore place-kicker **TREVOR COOK** (Sioux Falls, SD) and junior punter **JAKE RICHARDSON** (Oxford). Cook is a steely nerved kicker who made 10 of 13 field goals and 17 of 18 PATS in 2006, while Richardson averaged 41.1 yards per punt and pinned the opposition inside the 20-yard line 14 times.

MIAMI AMONG COLLEGE FOOTBALL'S ELITE TEAMS: In college football history, Miami ranks 20th in terms of all-time victories with 641. MU is the only non-BCS-affiliated school in this rarified air. Among all-time collegiate teams with the best winning percentage, Miami ranks 16th at .6332 (641-362-44). MU ranks 13th in winning percentage among schools that have played 100 or more seasons, trailing only Michigan, Notre Dame, Texas, Oklahoma, Penn State, Ohio State, Alabama, Nebraska, Southern California, Tennessee, Georgia and LSU.



HUDSON ON LOMBARDI WATCH LIST: Miami junior middle linebacker **JOEY HUDSON** (Jr., Piqua) is among 60 players on the watch list for the ROTARY LOMBARDI AWARD (top lineman in college football). Ball State's Darius Hill also made the list.

The Montgomery File

BornMarch 14, 1967
Age40
HometownNewark, Ohio
Alma MaterNorth Carolina State '90

COACHING EXPERIENCE

Miami University

March 2001–Present

- Head Coach (December 2004–present)
- Offensive Coordinator and Quarterbacks Coach (2001–04)

Tennessee-Chattanooga

February 1993–March 2001

- Wide Receivers Coach (1997–2000), Quarterbacks Coach (1993–1996), Recruiting Coordinator (1995–2000), Co-Offensive Coordinator (1995–96).

North Carolina State

August 1991–February 1992

- Graduate Assistant Coach

PLAYING EXPERIENCE

Raleigh Durham Skyhawks 1990

- Quarterback during inaugural season of World League of American Football

North Carolina State 1985–1989

- Three-year letterwinner at QB
- Second-team all-ACC in 1989
- Offensive MVP of the '88 Peach Bowl and '89 Copper Bowl



QUOTING SHANE MONTGOMERY

(About injuries) “Everyone has been close to full strength in fall camp. That’s a lot different from last year when we had five guys out for the year, then by the time the season was done it was 10 or 11. For players like Charlie Norden and Matt McKeown who sat out spring ball due to injuries, we’ve tried to bring them back slowly. We are trying to get everyone as close to 100% as they can be for the first game.”

(About the freshman class) “It’s a tremendously talented class. This will be my seventh year at Miami, and we feel like we’ve recruited better and better players each year. There are between five and eight players who have a great chance to contribute as true freshmen. This fall, we have thrown the freshmen into the fire in terms of installing our packages. We wanted to see how many of them were going to play and how they reacted to game-type situations, both physically and mentally.”

(About the RedHawk offense) “Our success is all going to start up front. We struggled running the football last season because of injuries and a lack of continuity in the front line. We’ve moved Steve Meister to center (from guard) and Dave DiFranco to guard (from tackle), and they have adjusted very well. Charlie Norden and Matt McKeown are back playing well, and Steve Sutter and Zachary Marshall are both making real good progress. Brandon Murphy, our running back, is close to being completely healthy, and Andre Bratton is a young man who will play a lot at Ball State. Receiver-wise, I think the talent level could be as good as we’ve ever had here at Miami. Dustin Wood and Sean McVay (who will not play vs. Ball State) are the only two who’ve actually played in a college game. The others—Armand Robinson, Eugene Harris, Jared Elliott, Donovan Potter and Chris Givens—are inexperienced, but we’re really excited about their big-play potential. Our quarterback, Mike Kokal, learned a lot last year as a first-year starter, and we’re pleased with the progress that Daniel Raudabaugh and freshman Clay Belton have made as well. Clay has a chance to be a really, really good player. And our two tight ends—Tom Crabtree and Jake O’Connell—have played a lot of football for us. Overall, we think the offense will be improved.”

(About Miami’s defense) “We feel like we are very athletic, defensively. Though we do lack some experience in certain positions, we’re as athletic as we have been in a long time. Our linebackers—Joey Hudson, Clayton Mullins, Caleb Bostic and Chris Shula—are going to make a lot of plays. They play both the run and the pass well, and they’re good blitzers. On paper, the tackle positions are an inexperienced group. Ben Huddle, Mark Paun and Martin Channels are all going to play a lot. We feel good about their potential, but they need game experience. It’s a different story at defensive end where we do have experience with Joe Coniglio, Travis Craven and Craig Mester. They could be outstanding. In the secondary, Robbie Wilson at apache and Jordan Gafford at free safety are solid. The corners—Jerrid Gaines, Wendell Brunson, Brian Roland and Jeff Thompson—have all played a lot.”

(About MU’s special teams) “We lost two great special teams players in Ryne Robinson and long snapper Dave McClain. Eugene Wilson will replace Ryne as the punt returner. He’s wearing No. 2, so I hope he reminds our fans a lot of Ryne. Eugene is a very explosive player who, potentially, can take it to the end zone every time he touches it. Our kicking game should be solid. Trevor Cook kicked field goals and PATs very consistently last year, and Nate Parseghian will handle our kickoffs. At punter, Jake Richardson has gotten better and better each year. He could have a break-out year because he’s got a big-time leg.”

(About Ball State) “Ball State had a huge win at our place last year (20-17) that really got them going. They also won by three points at Toledo, and went up to Ann Arbor and gave a great Michigan team everything they could handle. Brady Hoke has done a great job coaching and recruiting. They’ve got a lot coming back on both sides of the ball, and they’re like us in that they have a few areas that are inexperienced. Anytime you go against a great quarterback like they have in Nate Davis, you’ve got to be ready to defend their passing game. Their tight end, Darius Hill, is outstanding, and they’ve got a great wide-out in Dante Love. Defensively, Courtlan Booker is their leader. We are going to have to know where he is on every play, because he will dictate what we’re going to do. Their punter, Chris Miller, is outstanding as well. I think this is going to be a great game.”

MIAMI UNIVERSITY MEDIA SERVICES

Shane Montgomery Interview Opportunities

MAC Teleconference

The 13 MAC coaches are featured on a weekly teleconference each Monday, starting at 9:30 a.m. (ET) during the regular season, beginning Aug. 27 Coach Montgomery speaks for eight minutes starting at 10:26 a.m. To access the teleconference, dial (719) 457-1566. A replay is available Monday after 5 p.m. by calling (719) 457-0820 and entering the passcode 6904022.

Weekly Press Conference

Head Coach Shane Montgomery's weekly press conference, which is typically every Tuesday at 11 a.m., has been moved to Monday this week to accommodate the weekday game. It takes place every week in the main football office, formerly the Cradle of Coaches Room, at Yager Stadium. Audio of the press conference is available on www.MURedHawks.com. A login and password are necessary to listen to the replay. Contact Director of Media Relations Mike Pearson for more details.

Post-Practice

Coach Montgomery and the entire coaching will be available for interviews after practice on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday this week.

By Appointment

Coach Montgomery and his entire coaching staff are available through Tuesday of this week for one-on-one interviews. Contact director of athletic media relations Mike Pearson to schedule an interview with any of the coaches.

Miami Player Interview Opportunities

Post-Practice

Player interviews can be conducted after practice on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday this week. Practice ends at approximately 5:30 p.m. Please contact Mike Pearson at least a day ahead of time to schedule a player interview.

By Appointment

Player interviews also can be conducted Monday and Tuesday of this week by scheduling an interview through the athletic media relations department. Home phone numbers of players are not available.

Whom To Contact ...

ATHLETIC MEDIA RELATIONS OFFICE
(513) 529-4327

Assistant AD/ Football Contact

Mike Pearson — pearsomg@muohio.edu

Associate Director/Secondary Contact

Angie Renninger — renninal@muohio.edu

ELECTRONIC MEDIA

(513) 529-7288

Director of Broadcasting

Steve Baker — bakersm@muohio.edu

BALL STATE INFORMATION

Football Contact:..... Joe Hernandez

Office Phone:..... (765) 285-8242

Mobile Phone:..... (765) 730-4614

SID Fax:..... (765) 285-8929

Email:..... jhernand@bsu.edu

Web Site:..... www.ballstatesports.com

MINNESOTA INFORMATION

Football Contact:..... Garry Bowman

Office Phone:..... (612) 625-4090

Mobile Phone:..... (612) 875-0154

SID Fax:..... (612) 625-0359


Email:..... gbowman@umn.edu

Web Site:..... www.gophersports.com

TV Interview Footage

Every Monday, Coach Montgomery tapes a five to 10 minute TV interview reviewing the previous week's game as well as previewing the upcoming opponent. This footage, along with highlight footage, is available to all TV media. Media interested in receiving the interview will need to provide exchange tape (Beta format) and a FedEx number to receive the interview. Contact Steve Baker (513.529.7288) for more details.

On the Web ...

Information on Miami football is available at www.MURedHawks.com. The **Miami Gameday Central** section, updated daily, has all of the relevant info for the upcoming games. Audio and video replays of Coach Montgomery's weekly teleconference, press conference and TV interviews are available from the site as well. Contact Mike Pearson for login and passwords that will enable you to retrieve the interviews. Media interested in receiving Miami's weekly football press release via email should contact Mike Pearson to request the service. 

BALL STATE WEEK

| Sunday | 26 | Monday | 27 | Tuesday | 28 | Wednesday | 29 | Thursday | 30 | Friday | 31 | Saturday | 1 |
|--|----|--|----|--------------------------------------|----|--------------------------------------|----|--|----|--------|----|----------|---|
| Open Practice 7:30-8:30 p.m. Coach/Player Interviews Available after practice | | MAC Teleconference Montgomery - 10:26 Shane Montgomery Weekly Press Conference, 11 a.m. Open Practice 9-11 p.m. Coach/Player Interviews Available after practice | | Closed Practice No Interviews | | Closed Practice No Interviews | | Miami at Ball State, 7 p.m. Scheumann Stadium (Comcast Local) | | | | | |

MINNESOTA WEEK

| Sunday | 2 | Monday | 3 | Tuesday | 4 | Wednesday | 5 | Thursday | 6 | Friday | 7 | Saturday | 8 |
|--------|---|---|---|---|---|--|---|--|---|------------|---|--|---|
| | | MAC Teleconference Montgomery - 10:26 Coach/Player Phone Interviews Available by appointment | | Shane Montgomery Weekly Press Conference, 11 a.m. Open Practice 3:30-5:30 p.m. Coach/Player Interviews Available after practice | | Open Practice 3:30-5:30 p.m. Coach/Player Interviews Available after practice | | Practice Closed HawkTawk Radio Coaches Show 7-8 p.m., Brick Street, Oxford, Ohio | | Travel Day | | Miami at Minnesota, Noon (ET) Hubert H. Humphrey Metrodome (Big Ten Network) | |

