



2003-04 MIAMI BASKETBALL

2002-03 IN REVIEW



2002-03
East Division Champions

2002-03 RECAP NOTES

ROLLER COASTER SEASON CARRIES 2002-03 REDHAWKS TO FIRST MAC EAST DIVISION CHAMPIONSHIP: While the 2002-03 season may not have brought Miami's women's basketball team all of the success it wanted, it did deliver the program's first Mid-American Conference East Division Championship and will go down as one of the most memorable seasons in Miami history.

The season started with a bang, as the RedHawks knocked off eventual NCAA Tournament qualifiers Valparaiso and Michigan State on the way to the Spartan Chevrolet Classic title. A week later, Miami upped its record to 3-0 with a defeat of Arkansas State, becoming only the third team in program history to start its season with three straight wins. Georgia Tech, another eventual NCAA qualifier, ended Miami's hot start one game later with a defeat of the RedHawks in the championship game of the Atlanta Marriott NW Classic.

After scoring a program-record 110 points in a dominant defeat of Wright State on Dec. 7, the Red and White encountered a rugged stretch of its schedule, dropping five of its last six non-conference games, including three versus eventual NCAA and WNIT participants and two other against opponents from the powerhouse SEC and ACC.

Miami's road to its first MAC East Division title got off to a slow start, as the RedHawk alternated wins and losses over their first four league games. A three-game winning streak, including a dramatic overtime comeback defeat of Eastern Michigan, put Miami back in the hunt, but after back-to-back heartbreaking losses to MAC title contenders Kent State and Ball State, the 5-4 RedHawks once again had their backs to the wall.

Not to be denied, the RedHawks caught fire down the stretch, winning five straight games, including an overtime thriller at Kent State. A loss to Buffalo with one game to play in the regular season placed Miami in a must-win situation in its final contest, but the RedHawks overcame a double-digit deficit to nip Marshall in overtime, clinching its first MAC East title, a first-round tournament bye and the No. 2 seed for the MAC Tournament.

In the MAC Quarterfinals, Miami turned in its best performance of the season, ousting Eastern Michigan, 80-66, and advancing to its third straight MAC Semifinal. Unfortunately, the RedHawks' road would end there as a dramatic comeback in the final five minutes was not enough in a 93-84 season-ending loss to Ball State.

FIXTURE IN THE (MAC) FINAL

FOUR: Over the past three seasons, Miami's women's basketball team has become a fixture in the MAC Semifinal round. Though it has not been able to advance out of the round, the Red and White is the only team in the league to advance to the semifinals in each of the last three seasons—Kent State's string of seven consecutive appearances ended with a loss in the 2003 MAC Quarterfinals. The RedHawks' current string of MAC semifinal appearances ties the program record, which was set from 1995-97.

THE VIEW FROM ON TOP: With its defeat of Marshall in its regular-season finale, Miami achieved what no MAC East team other than Kent State had been able to achieve since divisional play began in 1997-98, winning the 2002-03 MAC East Division title. Entering the game, Miami had not been poised atop

a MAC race so late in the season since its last MAC regular-season championship in 1989-90. Since starting MAC play during the 1981-82 campaign, Miami has claimed a total of four MAC regular-season titles—three overall titles and this season's East Division crown—including the first two in 1981-82 and 1982-83. After its quick start, however, Miami raised just one championship banner during the next 18 years, ending a program-long 11-year drought this season.

BODIES WORKING OVERTIME: Miami, which had never played more than three overtime games in a season prior to last season, doubled that total in 2002-03, posting a 4-2 record in a whopping six overtime outings. Miami and Marshall, who ironically finished the 2002-03 campaign with an overtime contest, went into the extra period a league-leading six times in 2002-03, while no other MAC unit made more than three overtime appearances. Miami, which won four of its last five overtime contests, played in a total of 10 overtime contests with its graduated senior class, posting an impressive 8-2 record.

A FINE LINE: The difference between winning and losing was an exceptionally fine line for Miami's 2002-03 women's basketball team. Out of 29 games, a whopping 15 were decided by five points or fewer at the end of regulation, including six that went into overtime. Four other games were decided by 10 points or fewer, meaning that 19 of Miami's 29 games came down to the final two minutes.

The RedHawks posted a 10-9 record in games separated by 10 or fewer points in 2002-03 and a 6-6 record in those where the final margin was five points or fewer. Excluding Miami's convincing win over Ohio on Feb. 26 and its 14-point defeat of Eastern Michigan on March 12, 11 of Miami's last 13 games came down to the last minute with the average margin standing at a meager 5.2 points.

OFFENSE WINS: When the offense was working, everything was working for Miami in 2002-03. Aside from overtime losses at Kentucky and Ball State, Miami was 15-2 in 2002-03 when scoring at least 70 points and 13-1 when outshooting or matching the opposition from the field. On the flip side, Miami was 1-8 when scoring less than 70 points and



Heather Cusick garnered first-team all-MAC honors and was second in voting for MAC Player of the Year.

2002-03 RECAP NOTES

4-11 when being outshot from the field. The RedHawks averaged 78.5 ppg and shot 45 percent from the floor and 36 percent from the 3-point arc in 17 wins.

Excluding overtime losses to Ball State and Kentucky, in which it tallied 94 and 102 points, respectively, Miami averaged just 63.0 points and shot 37 percent from the floor in losses.

AS THE BALL TURNS: One of the biggest differences for the 2002-03 Miami team from the past four seasons was its ability to take care of the ball. After averaging 19.1 turnovers per game over the previous four seasons, Miami committed just 16.4 miscues per game this season, while forcing a league-high 19.7 turnovers an outing. The RedHawks' turnover margin, +3.3, ranked third in the MAC. The trend was best represented by Miami's point guard, **Heather Cusick**, who averaged a career-low 3.4 turnovers per game last season. During the MAC Tournament, Miami averaged just 9.5 miscues per game, including a season-low seven in its quarterfinal defeat of Eastern Michigan—Miami's lowest total ever under head coach **Maria Fantanarosa**.

STRING OF TREYS: As testament to what has become a fine 3-point shooting tradition, the RedHawks are working to maintain a string of games with at least one 3-point field goal that dates back to March of 1993. Since that game, a MAC Semifinal loss to Kent State, Miami has drained a 3-point bucket in 282 consecutive games—the longest such streak in the MAC. Louisville holds the current NCAA record, which is at 349 games.

MILLETT MAGIC: The magic of Miami's home court faded a bit last season but not enough to prevent the Red and White from securing its 11th consecutive season with a record of .500 or better at home. The RedHawks have won 22 of their last 30 contests in Millett Hall and finished at 6-5 in 2002-03. Last year, Miami finished at 10-3 in Millett Hall overall and 6-2 in league play, closing the season with seven consecutive home wins. The RedHawks are 35-12 (.745) at home over the past four seasons.

CUSICK EARNS KODAK/WBCA ALL-REGION ACCOLADES: Following a brilliant career that will go down as arguably the best in Miami women's basketball history, senior guard **Heather Cusick** earned her most prestigious honor when she was selected as one of

48 NCAA Division I women's basketball players nationwide to be named a finalist for the Kodak/WBCA All-America team. The senior, who earned the honor via her selection as one of six Region 4 honorees, is the first Miami player to earn national mention since **Linda Mallender** (1982-85) merited third-team all-America status in 1983.

CUSICK NAMED FIRST-TEAM ALL-MAC:

For the second consecutive season, Miami's **Heather Cusick** was honored at the Mid-American Conference's postseason banquet as a first-team all-MAC selection. The first player in RedHawk history to earn first-team all-MAC honors in back-to-back seasons, Cusick joined Tamara Bowie (Ball State), Tia Davis (Toledo), Kristen Koetsier (Western Michigan) and Casey Rost (Western Michigan). Cusick, who was second in voting for MAC Player of the Year, is the only player in Miami history to earn some form of all-MAC recognition in each of her four seasons, meriting honorable mention plaudits as a freshman and sophomore and first-team honors as a junior and senior.

LANCASTER NAMED MAC'S FIRST SIXTH MAN AWARD WINNER:

After coming off the bench in all 25 games she dressed and averaging 10.3 ppg in MAC play, junior forward **Kim Lancaster** was honored on March 11 as the MAC's inaugural Sixth Man Award winner by the league coaches. Lancaster, who averaged 20.3 minutes per game, provided Miami with a spark off the bench all season, leading the team in field goal percentage (.536), ranking second in rebounds (4.8 rpg) and rating third in scoring (9.8 ppg). She totaled in double digits in nine of her final 13 games and overcame a knee injury late in the season to average 10.0 ppg over Miami's last three games.

ROEDERER NAMED A FINALIST FOR THE V-FOUNDATION COMEBACK PLAYER OF THE YEAR AWARD:

One of the most inspirational players in Miami women's basketball history, senior guard **Beth Roederer** was recognized for her dedication and sacrifice when she was named one of 10 finalists for the V-Foundation's Comeback Player of the



Beth Roederer was named one of 10 finalists for the V-Foundation's Comeback Player of the Year Award.

Year Award. The award which recognizes the late Jimmy Valvano and his ideal of "never giving up," is presented annually to a men's or women's basketball player at the college level. Roederer earned the recognition after enduring a laundry list of medical conditions that put her through multiple surgeries and a barrage of medical tests during her four-year career.

A GREAT DAY: After a two-game stretch when she started on the bench in early February Miami junior **Colleen Day** returned to the starting lineup with a vengeance. Over the last 10 games, Day was Miami's top scorer, averaging 15.3 points per game and shooting 48 percent from the floor and 90 percent from the free throw line. The junior, who tallied four 20-point games in 2002-03, poured in at least 20 in two of Miami's last three games. Day was named MAC East Player of the Week twice during the last month of the season.

Day also has been Miami's most consistent rebounder over the past two seasons, leading the team and ranking among the MAC's Top 15 last season. Day became just the 14th player in Miami history to surpass the 500 career rebound plateau on Feb. 19 at Central Michigan.

2002-03 SEASON RESULTS

RECORD:	OVERALL	HOME	AWAY	NEUTRAL			
ALL GAMES	17-12	6-5	8-6	3-1			
CONFERENCE	11-5	5-3	6-2	0-0			
DATE	TIME	OPPONENT	SCORE	ATTEND	HIGH POINTS	HIGH REBOUNDS	
11/23/02	4:05 p.m.	vs Valparaiso	W 77-54	2941	(15)LANCASTER, Kim (15)BUTLER, Jana	(9)BUTLER, Jana (9)LANCASTER, Kim	
11/24/02	2:00 pm	at Michigan State	W 86-84	3089	(36)CUSICK, Heather	(7)CUSICK, Heather	
11/29/02	3:15 p.m.	vs Arkansas State	W 72-67	724	(17)Cusick, Heather	(8)DAY, Colleen	
11/30/02	3:15 p.m.	% at Georgia Tech	62-78	L 643	(17)KOZLOWSKI, Melanie	(8)DAY, Colleen	
12/07/02	2:00 PM ET	WRIGHT STATE	W 110-69	1569	(18)CUSICK, Heather	(7)SMITH, Kim (7)LANCASTER, Kim	
12/15/02	2 p.m.	at Saint Louis	55-58	L 486	(19)CUSICK, Heather	(10)DAY, Colleen	
12/18/02	7:00 PM ET	SAINT FRANCIS	67-74	L 379	(17)DAY, Colleen	(6)SMITH, Kim	
12/21/02	1:00 pm	at Kentucky	102-108	LOT 682	(22)DAY, Colleen	(7)MERRILL, Cindi	
12/28/02	2:00 pm	at Butler	W 72-61	426	(21)CUSICK, Heather	(14)DAY, Colleen	
12/30/02	6:00 PM ET	CLEMSON	50-55	L 1281	(10)CUSICK, Heather	(8)DAY, Colleen	
01/03/03	7:00 p.m.	at TCU	58-83	L 1960	(18)LANCASTER, Kim	(6)DAY, Colleen	
01/07/03	7:00 PM ET	* AKRON	W 84-56	623	(16)DAY, Colleen	(8)DAY, Colleen	
01/11/03	4:42 p.m.	* at Western Michigan	60-75	L 1075	(12)LANCASTER, Kim	(8)MERRILL, Cindi	
01/14/03	7 p.m.	* at Ohio	WOT 80-78	279	(29)CUSICK, Heather	(10)KOZLOWSKI, Melanie	
01/18/03	2:00 PM ET	* TOLEDO	72-77	L 808	(15)CUSICK, Heather (15)KOZLOWSKI, Melanie	(11)DAY, Colleen	
01/20/03	7 p.m.	* at Marshall	W 72-53	387	(14)CUSICK, Heather	(8)SMITH, Kim	
01/25/03	7:00 pm	* at Buffalo	W 50-45	691	(10)LANCASTER, Kim	(8)DAY, Colleen	
01/28/03	7:00 PM ET	* EASTERN MICHIGAN	WOT 83-79	412	(26)CUSICK, Heather	(7)LANCASTER, Kim	
02/03/03	7:00 p.m.	* at Ball State	94-97	LOT 3214	(28)CUSICK, Heather	(6)BUTLER, Jana (6)LANCASTER, Kim (6)KOZLOWSKI, Melanie	
02/08/03	2:00 PM ET	* KENT STATE	60-61	L 1012	(13)DAY, Colleen (13)LANCASTER, Kim	(7)LANCASTER, Kim	
02/13/03	7:05 p.m.	* at Northern Illinois	W 70-64	1353	(17)DAY, Colleen (17)CUSICK, Heather	(7)BUTLER, Jana	
02/15/03	4:30 p.m.	* at Bowling Green	W 75-65	2837	(21)DAY, Colleen	(8)LANCASTER, Kim (8)DAY, Colleen	
02/19/03	7:00 PM ET	* CENTRAL MICHIGAN	W 73-70	703	(14)ROEDERER, Beth (14)MERRILL, Cindi	(10)DAY, Colleen	
02/23/03	4 p.m.	* at Kent State	WOT 78-71	3516	(23)CUSICK, Heather	(8)MERRILL, Cindi (8)KOZLOWSKI, Melanie	
02/26/03	7:00 PM ET	* OHIO	W 84-51	706	(13)DAY, Colleen	(6)BUTLER, Jana	
03/01/03	2:00 PM ET	* BUFFALO	64-69	L 630	(16)CUSICK, Heather	(9)SMITH, Kim	
03/04/03	7:00 PM ET	* MARSHALL	WOT 89-81	625	(24)DAY, Colleen	(6)SMITH, Kim	
03/12/03	5:30 PM ET	vs. Eastern Michigan	W 80-66	2394	(21) Butler, Jana	(7) Butler, Jana	
03/14/03	3:30 PM ET	vs. Ball State	84-93	L 1812	(20) Day, Colleen	(8) Cusick, Heather	

2002-03 INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

2002-03 OVERALL STATISTICS

##	Player	GP	GS	Min	FG	FGA	Pct	3FG	FGA	Pct	FT	FTA	Pct	Off	Def	Tot	Avg	PF	FO	A	TO	Blk	Stl	Pts	Avg
05	Heather Cusick	29	29	918	164	422	.389	51	161	.317	74	93	.796	12	98	110	3.8	67	1	140	98	3	90	453	15.6
35	Colleen Day	29	27	793	110	252	.437	16	47	.340	92	107	.860	84	102	186	6.4	92	6	52	70	9	43	328	11.3
42	Kim Lancaster	25	0	508	111	207	.536	0	0	.000	22	42	.524	44	77	121	4.8	37	0	20	30	12	15	244	9.8
03	Cindi Merrill	29	13	683	82	200	.410	12	40	.300	53	75	.707	48	41	89	3.1	70	3	37	37	1	37	229	7.9
15	Melanie Kozlowski	29	12	711	72	204	.353	38	118	.322	38	60	.633	48	61	109	3.8	53	0	27	29	6	23	220	7.6
21	Beth Roederer	29	24	625	74	171	.433	23	65	.354	38	47	.809	10	48	58	2.0	66	3	51	79	6	18	209	7.2
30	Jana Butler	28	28	649	76	164	.463	0	0	.000	49	72	.681	55	68	123	4.4	57	2	28	34	26	21	201	7.2
24	Kim Smith	29	12	516	55	110	.500	0	0	.000	24	40	.600	43	74	117	4.0	79	3	27	46	11	34	134	4.6
14	Nicole Motto	29	0	374	34	98	.347	28	86	.326	1	4	.250	5	40	45	1.6	31	0	48	35	1	14	97	3.3
11	Hillary Beck	16	0	69	6	19	.316	5	13	.385	8	8	1.000	2	5	7	0.4	4	0	8	8	1	8	25	1.6
22	Kelsey Sullivan	10	0	37	5	12	.417	1	1	1.000	0	0	.000	0	2	2	0.2	3	0	2	2	2	3	11	1.1
50	Amber Miller	18	0	66	4	8	.500	0	0	.000	4	4	1.000	4	8	12	0.7	5	0	0	2	0	3	12	0.7
TM TEAM																									
	Total	29			793	1867	.425	174	531	.328	403	552	.730	420	687	1107	38.2	564	18	440	476	78	309	2163	74.6
	Opponents	29			719	1653	.435	128	390	.328	476	663	.718	352	733	1085	37.4	473	-	390	572	90	247	2042	70.4

SCORE BY PERIODS:	1st	2nd	OT	Total
Miami University	956	1140	67	2163
Opponents	955	1032	55	2042

DEADBALL REBOUNDS:	OFF	DEF	TOTAL
Miami University	62	2	64
Opponents	80	8	88

2002-03 MID-AMERICAN CONFERENCE STATISTICS

##	Player	GP	GS	Min	FG	FGA	Pct	3FG	FGA	Pct	FT	FTA	Pct	Off	Def	Tot	Avg	PF	FO	A	TO	Blk	Stl	Pts	Avg
05	Heather Cusick	16	16	526	91	236	.386	27	90	.300	41	51	.804	5	52	57	3.6	38	1	80	53	0	54	250	15.6
35	Colleen Day	16	14	463	65	144	.451	8	24	.333	57	66	.864	49	51	100	6.3	50	3	32	38	5	21	195	12.2
21	Beth Roederer	16	11	348	45	100	.450	16	41	.390	28	32	.875	4	24	28	1.8	31	1	20	44	4	11	134	8.4
25	Cindi Merrill	16	6	372	45	117	.385	3	15	.200	31	40	.775	28	25	53	3.3	32	0	19	15	0	19	124	7.8
42	Kim Lancaster	12	0	278	56	105	.533	0	0	.000	11	22	.500	20	43	63	5.3	19	0	12	15	10	9	123	10.3
15	Melanie Kozlowski	16	9	393	32	96	.333	20	57	.351	20	30	.667	23	35	58	3.6	24	0	17	17	3	10	104	6.5
24	Kim Smith	16	9	310	38	65	.585	0	0	.000	14	24	.583	27	43	70	4.4	46	2	15	26	8	21	90	5.6
30	Jana Butler	15	15	346	33	80	.413	0	0	.000	17	28	.607	32	39	71	4.7	33	2	18	16	13	9	83	5.5
14	Nicole Motto	16	0	184	19	58	.328	14	49	.286	0	1	.000	4	21	25	1.6	17	0	21	12	1	5	52	3.3
11	Hillary Beck	10	0	51	4	13	.308	3	9	.333	6	6	1.000	1	3	4	0.4	2	0	6	6	1	6	17	1.7
50	Amber Miller	11	0	42	4	7	.571	0	0	.000	4	4	1.000	4	6	10	0.9	4	0	0	2	0	3	12	1.1
22	Kelsey Sullivan	4	0	11	2	5	.400	0	0	.000	0	0	.000	0	0	0	0.0	1	0	0	1	0	1	4	1.0
TM TEAM																									
	Total	16			434	1026	.423	91	285	.319	229	304	.753	228	379	607	37.9	297	9	240	247	45	169	1188	74.2
	Opponents	16			387	906	.427	73	230	.317	245	342	.716	192	405	597	37.3	262	-	207	313	42	131	1092	68.2

SCORE BY PERIODS:	1st	2nd	OT	Total
Miami University	491	640	57	1188
Opponents	524	529	39	1092

DEADBALL REBOUNDS:	OFF	DEF	TOTAL
Miami University	32	0	32
Opponents	45	2	47

2002-03 MIAMI GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Date	Score	W/L	FG	FGA	Pct	3FG	FGA	Pct	FT	FTA	Pct	Off	Def	Tot	PF	A	TO	Blk	Stl	Pts	Avg
vs Valparaiso	11/23	77-54	W	34	68	.500	5	20	.250	4	13	.308	12	32	44	15	18	12	6	8	77	77.0
at Michigan State	11/24	86-84	W	29	60	.483	13	25	.520	15	19	.789	13	18	31	19	16	13	4	9	86	81.5
vs Arkansas State	11/29	72-67	W	27	67	.403	10	24	.417	8	19	.421	19	23	42	20	17	20	2	17	72	78.3
at Georgia Tech	11/30	62-78	L	24	62	.387	6	25	.240	8	14	.571	12	27	39	25	15	19	1	5	62	74.2
WRIGHT STATE	12/7	110-69	W	41	84	.488	13	26	.500	15	22	.682	26	25	51	16	25	13	3	15	110	81.4
at Saint Louis	12/15	55-58	L	19	58	.328	3	14	.214	14	21	.667	8	31	39	17	11	16	4	7	55	77.0
SAINT FRANCIS	12/18	67-74	L	19	53	.358	6	18	.333	23	26	.885	14	14	28	17	9	25	1	14	67	75.6
at Kentucky	12/21	102-108	Lot	39	80	.488	6	17	.353	18	24	.750	20	19	39	30	20	20	0	8	102	78.9
at Butler	12/28	72-61	W	30	58	.517	5	10	.500	7	11	.636	14	31	45	23	12	28	0	10	72	78.1
CLEMSON	12/30	50-55	L	18	53	.340	5	19	.263	9	13	.692	15	26	41	13	13	23	6	9	50	75.3
at TCU	1/3	58-83	L	20	62	.323	3	19	.158	15	22	.682	13	23	36	20	13	21	2	11	58	73.7
AKRON	1/7	84-56	W	32	65	.492	7	22	.318	13	17	.765	11	26	37	18	17	12	2	15	84	74.6
at W. Michigan	1/11	60-75	L	21	67	.313	6	21	.286	12	13	.923	15	22	37	17	15	18	2	9	60	73.5
at Ohio	1/14	80-78	Wot	30	80	.375	5	17	.294	15	18	.833	26	18	44	23	13	20	3	7	80	73.9
TOLEDO	1/18	72-77	L	30	72	.417	9	27	.333	3	4	.750	18	17	35	15	17	9	4	7	72	73.8
at Marshall	1/20	72-53	W	26	56	.464	6	20	.300	14	24	.583	12	26	38	26	17	13	2	8	72	73.7
at Buffalo	1/25	50-45	W	17	57	.298	3	14	.214	13	19	.684	13	25	38	13	12	13	7	13	50	72.3
E. MICHIGAN	1/28	83-79	Wot	31	72	.431	6	19	.316	15	22	.682	13	32	45	21	13	10	5	9	83	72.9
at Ball State	2/3	94-97	Lot	38	81	.469	11	27	.407	7	13	.538	15	32	47	24	20	15	1	9	94	74.0
KENT STATE	2/8	60-61	L	21	58	.362	5	19	.263	13	17	.765	8	18	26	19	10	14	1	13	60	73.3
at N. Illinois	2/13	70-64	W	26	53	.491	5	9	.556	13	19	.684	7	25	32	15	16	17	1	9	70	73.1
at Bowling Green	2/15	75-65	W	25	68	.368	3	13	.231	22	24	.917	19	28	47	21	12	19	4	8	75	73.2
C. MICHIGAN	2/19	73-70	W	26	60	.433	1	12	.083	20	21	.952	15	20	35	11	14	17	2	11	73	73.2
at Kent State	2/23	78-71	Wot	26	64	.406	8	18	.444	18	22	.818	13	31	44	23	13	17	3	7	78	73.4
OHIO	2/26	84-51	W	31	55	.564	4	11	.364	18	23	.783	11	19	30	14	18	16	4	18	84	73.8
BUFFALO	3/1	64-69	L	23	59	.390	6	20	.300	12	19	.632	18	23	41	21	14	21	2	10	64	73.5
MARSHALL	03/04	89-81	Wot	31	59	.525	6	16	.375	21	29	.724	14	17	31	16	19	16	2	16	89	74.0
vs E.Michigan	3/12	80-66	W	27	57	.474	3	11	.273	23	24	.958	10	19	29	22	19	7	2	10	80	74.2
vs Ball State	3/14	84-93	L	32	79	.405	5	18	.278	15	20	.750	16	20	36	30	12	12	2	17	84	74.6
Miami University		2163		793	1867	.425	174	531	.328	403	552	.730	420	687	1107	564	440	476	78	309	2163	74.6

POINTS-REBOUNDS-ASSISTS (GAMES 1-15)

OPPONENT	MERRILL	CUSICK	BECK	MOTTO	KOZLOWSKI	ROEDERER	SULLIVAN	SMITH	BUTLER	DAY	LANCASTER	MILLER
vs. Valparaiso	11-1-0	13-3-8	DNP	3-3-3	12-1-1	4-3-4	0-1-0	2-4-1	15-9-1	2-7-0	15-9-0	0-1-0
vs. Mich. St.	8-3-2	36-7-7	DNP	3-0-0	5-4-1	10-2-2	DNP	0-3-1	11-3-1	9-3-1	4-3-1	DNP
vs. Ark. St.	7-1-3	17-2-2	DNP	3-1-1	10-7-2	10-2-5	DNP	2-6-1	1-1-1	13-8-2	9-6-0	DNP
at Ga. Tech	3-1-0	9-4-6	2-2-1	6-0-0	17-5-0	4-4-1	2-0-0	1-3-2	4-2-1	2-8-4	12-6-0	0-0-0
WRIGHT ST.	14-3-1	18-3-7	6-1-1	14-2-7	13-5-1	3-6-2	5-1-2	7-7-1	9-6-1	16-6-1	5-7-1	0-0-0
at St. Louis	2-2-2	19-4-4	DNP	0-1-1	6-3-0	4-2-2	DNP	9-3-0	0-4-0	8-10-1	7-6-1	DNP
ST. FRANCIS	7-3-0	16-3-2	DNP	6-1-1	6-4-0	0-0-4	DNP	2-6-2	6-0-0	17-3-0	7-3-0	0-0-0
at Kentucky	13-7-5	16-1-3	DNP	0-3-3	9-2-0	8-6-4	DNP	4-3-1	20-6-1	22-2-1	10-5-0	DNP
at Butler	2-5-2	21-4-4	0-0-0	0-1-1	10-6-0	8-1-2	0-0-0	4-3-1	7-3-0	10-14-2	10-3-0	0-0-0
CLEMSON	5-2-0	10-4-7	DNP	3-4-2	8-2-1	5-1-0	DNP	5-5-1	8-3-2	0-8-0	6-2-0	DNP
at TCU	5-1-1	10-4-4	0-0-0	1-2-1	2-4-4	1-4-0	DNP	2-1-0	14-4-1	5-6-2	18-3-0	0-1-0
AKRON	15-6-2	8-3-2	0-1-2	11-3-1	0-2-1	13-0-2	DNP	6-4-2	DNP	16-8-1	9-2-4	6-6-0
at WMU	11-8-2	10-1-3	8-0-1	2-2-2	0-0-0	0-2-2	DNP	0-5-1	8-5-2	9-4-2	12-5-0	0-0-0
at Ohio	4-4-1	29-4-6	0-1-0	8-0-2	8-10-1	0-1-1	0-0-0	7-5-1	3-5-0	8-7-1	13-6-0	DNP
TOLEDO	8-3-0	15-3-4	0-0-0	3-2-0	15-2-0	9-1-4	DNP	4-3-1	2-3-1	12-11-6	4-4-1	0-0-0

2002-03 OPPONENT GAME-BY-GAME

Opponent	Date	Score	W/L	FG	FGA	Pct	3FG	FGA	Pct	FT	FTA	Pct	Off	Def	Tot	PF	A	TO	Blk	Stl	Pts	Avg
vs Valparaiso	11/23	77-54	W	19	57	.333	5	19	.263	11	14	.786	7	27	34	13	10	17	2	5	54	54.0
at Michigan State	11/24	86-84	W	29	66	.439	9	19	.474	17	24	.708	22	22	44	15	19	15	4	6	84	69.0
vs Arkansas State	11/29	72-67	W	26	56	.464	3	10	.300	12	21	.571	12	26	38	19	15	22	2	6	67	68.3
at Georgia Tech	11/30	62-78	L	29	74	.392	1	4	.250	19	29	.655	22	28	50	17	20	11	3	9	78	70.8
WRIGHT STATE	12/7	110-69	W	25	54	.463	2	12	.167	17	19	.895	6	21	27	15	14	25	4	6	69	70.4
at Saint Louis	12/15	55-58	L	24	59	.407	1	5	.200	9	17	.529	11	35	46	15	14	19	2	5	58	68.3
SAINT FRANCIS	12/18	67-74	L	28	46	.609	5	12	.417	13	22	.591	9	21	30	18	16	29	2	14	74	69.1
at Kentucky	12/21	102-108	Lot	36	63	.571	11	14	.786	25	41	.610	17	24	41	18	15	26	8	8	108	74.0
at Butler	12/28	72-61	W	19	56	.339	3	19	.158	20	30	.667	13	16	29	15	12	22	0	16	61	72.6
CLEMSON	12/30	50-55	L	22	53	.415	1	11	.091	10	10	1.000	5	21	26	13	15	14	6	14	55	70.8
at TCU	1/3	58-83	L	27	62	.435	4	14	.286	25	28	.893	14	33	47	19	14	19	11	15	83	71.9
AKRON	1/7	84-56	W	19	48	.396	5	10	.500	13	21	.619	8	24	32	14	10	24	2	6	56	70.6
at W. Michigan	1/11	60-75	L	26	60	.433	5	15	.333	18	26	.692	16	32	48	12	16	21	7	12	75	70.9
at Ohio	1/14	80-78	Wot	24	59	.407	4	18	.222	26	35	.743	21	27	48	19	10	27	2	7	78	71.4
TOLEDO	1/18	72-77	L	30	52	.577	4	9	.444	13	14	.929	6	24	30	8	15	12	3	2	77	71.8
at Marshall	1/20	72-53	W	17	63	.270	3	15	.200	16	28	.571	28	23	51	22	9	21	1	7	53	70.6
at Buffalo	1/25	50-45	W	19	50	.380	4	11	.364	3	4	.750	7	29	36	16	15	21	2	10	45	69.1
E. MICHIGAN	1/28	83-79	Wot	26	65	.400	7	20	.350	20	29	.690	12	32	44	17	11	14	2	9	79	69.7
at Ball State	2/3	94-97	Lot	33	72	.458	10	25	.400	21	35	.600	15	32	47	14	17	13	2	8	97	71.1
KENT STATE	2/8	60-61	L	22	47	.468	1	7	.143	16	18	.889	7	31	38	17	8	22	2	8	61	70.6
at N. Illinois	2/13	70-64	W	24	55	.436	3	18	.167	13	16	.813	8	23	31	16	12	18	7	8	64	70.3
at Bowling Green	2/15	75-65	W	20	55	.364	6	18	.333	19	24	.792	8	25	33	19	11	19	4	8	65	70.0
C. MICHIGAN	2/19	73-70	W	27	56	.482	6	16	.375	10	12	.833	10	20	30	15	15	20	1	9	70	70.0
at Kent State	2/23	78-71	Wot	26	64	.406	5	18	.278	14	22	.636	13	26	39	16	14	16	1	7	71	70.1
OHIO	2/26	84-51	W	19	49	.388	5	16	.313	8	15	.533	13	17	30	18	12	28	2	10	51	69.3
BUFFALO	3/1	64-69	L	24	52	.462	1	4	.250	20	24	.833	7	22	29	31	17	16	4	12	69	69.3
MARSHALL	03/04	89-81	Wot	31	59	.525	4	10	.400	15	19	.789	13	18	31	23	15	21	0	8	81	69.7
vs E. Michigan	3/12	80-66	W	19	45	.422	5	11	.455	23	28	.821	11	20	31	18	8	18	1	4	66	69.6
vs Ball State	3/14	84-93	L	29	56	.518	5	10	.500	30	38	.789	11	34	45	16	11	22	3	8	93	70.4
Opponents		2042		719	1653	.435	128	390	.328	476	663	.718	352	733	1085	473	390	572	90	247	2042	70.4

POINTS-REBOUNDS-ASSISTS (GAMES 16-29)

OPPONENT	MERRILL	CUSICK	BECK	MOTTO	KOZLOWSKI	ROEDERER	SULLIVAN	SMITH	BUTLER	DAY	LANCASTER	MILLER
at Marshall	9-3-1	14-3-6	0-0-0	6-4-0	5-1-1	2-0-1	DNP	10-8-1	8-3-1	6-4-3	10-7-3	2-1-0
at Buffalo	6-4-0	5-5-5	0-1-2	0-0-0	5-5-0	9-1-0	DNP	6-2-1	5-5-1	4-8-3	10-4-0	DNP
EMU	0-1-1	26-6-4	0-0-0	0-1-2	10-3-2	12-4-3	DNP	0-3-0	13-6-1	12-6-0	10-7-0	DNP
at Ball St.	7-2-4	28-2-4	0-0-0	8-2-4	8-6-4	7-5-0	0-0-0	12-4-1	8-6-3	4-6-0	12-6-0	DNP
KENT ST.	4-1-1	10-1-3	DNP	3-0-1	9-4-0	4-0-1	0-0-0	2-2-0	2-0-2	13-5-1	13-7-1	0-2-0
at N. Illinois	7-0-1	17-5-6	DNP	3-1-0	2-1-1	8-2-1	DNP	4-3-2	3-7-3	17-6-2	9-5-0	0-0-0
at BGSU	8-1-0	9-5-5	DNP	0-2-1	6-6-3	14-2-1	DNP	2-3-0	6-7-0	21-8-1	9-8-1	0-0-0
C. MICHIGAN	14-2-0	10-3-7	DNP	0-1-3	0-2-0	14-4-0	DNP	12-5-0	8-7-1	13-10-3	DNP	2-1-0
at Kent St.	10-8-2	23-6-6	DNP	6-1-1	9-8-2	5-1-0	DNP	10-8-2	7-6-1	14-3-0	DNP	0-0-0
OHIO	11-2-1	12-4-6	9-1-1	2-2-3	9-3-0	6-0-0	4-0-0	6-3-2	10-6-2	13-4-3	DNP	2-0-0
BUFFALO	4-3-2	16-6-5	0-0-0	0-3-1	13-3-1	9-2-1	DNP	13-9-0	0-2-0	9-5-4	DNP	0-0-0
MARSHALL	6-5-1	18-0-8	DNP	0-1-0	5-2-1	22-4-3	DNP	2-6-2	0-3-0	24-5-2	12-2-2	DNP
vs. EMU	10-3-1	7-6-4	0-0-0	0-0-5	11-3-0	10-0-1	0-0-0	4-1-0	21-7-1	9-4-3	8-3-4	0-0-0
vs. Ball St.	18-3-1	11-8-2	0-0-0	6-2-2	7-5-0	8-1-2	0-0-0	2-2-1	2-4-0	20-7-3	10-2-1	DNP

2002-03 MIAMI HIGHS/LOWS AND RECORDS

2002-03 SEASON HIGHS/LOWS

Most Points/Game	110 vs. Wright State, 12-7-02 (W, 110-69)
Fewest Points/Game	50, twice— last at Buffalo, 1-25-03 (W, 50-45)
Most Points Allowed/Game	108 at Kentucky, 12-21-02 (L, 102-108)
Fewest Points Allowed/Game	45 at Buffalo, 1-25-03 (W, 50-45)
Most Points/Half	58 (second half) vs. Wright State, 12-7-02 (W, 110-69)
Fewest Points/Half	15 (first half) at Western Michigan, 1-11-03 (L, 60-75)
Most Rebounds/Game	51 vs. Wright State, 12-7-02 (W, 110-69)
Fewest Rebounds/Game	25 at Michigan State, 11-24-02 (W, 86-84)
Most Assists/Game	25 vs. Wright State, 12-7-02 (W, 110-69)
Fewest Assists/Game	9 vs. Saint Francis, 12-18-02 (L, 67-74)
Most Steals/Game	18 vs. Ohio, 2-26-03 (W, 84-51)
Fewest Steals/Game	5 at Georgia Tech, 11-30-02 (L, 62-78)
Most Blocks/Game	7 at Buffalo, 1-25-03 (W, 50-45)
Fewest Blocks/Game	0, twice—last at Butler, 12-28-02 (W, 72-61)
Most Turnovers/Game	28 at Butler, 12-28-02 (W, 72-61)
Fewest Turnovers/Game	7 vs. Eastern Michigan, 3-12-03 (W, 80-66)
Most Field Goals Made/Game	41 vs. Wright State, 12-7-02 (W, 110-69)
Fewest Field Goals/Game	17 at Buffalo, 1-25-03 (W, 50-45)
Most 3-Pointers Made/Game	13, twice—last vs. Wright State, 12-7-02 (W, 110-69)
Fewest 3-Pointers Made/Game	1 vs. Central Michigan, 2-19-03 (W, 73-70)
Most Free Throws Made/Game	23, twice—last vs. Eastern Michigan, 3-12-03 (W, 80-66)
Fewest Free Throws Made/Game	3 vs. Toledo, 1-18-03 (L, 72-77)
Most Fouls/Game	30, twice—last vs. Ball State, 3-14-03 (L, 84-93)
Fewest Fouls/Game	11 vs. Central Michigan, 2-19-03 (W, 73-70)
Highest FG%/Game564 (31-of-55) vs. Ohio, 2-26-03 (W, 81-54)
Lowest FG%/Game298 (17-of-57) at Buffalo, 1-25-03 (W, 50-45)
Highest 3PT%/Game556 (5-of-9) at Northern Illinois, 2-13-03 (W, 70-64)
Lowest 3PT%/Game083 (1-of-12) vs. Central Michigan, 2-19-03 (W, 73-70)
Highest FT%/Game958 (23-of-24) vs. Eastern Michigan, 3-12-03 (W, 80-66)
Lowest FT%/Game308 (4-of-13) vs. Valparaiso, 11-23-02 (W, 77-54)

2002-03 INDIVIDUAL GAME HIGHS

Most Points/Game	36, Heather Cusick at Michigan State, 11-24-02 (W, 86-84)
Most Field Goals/Game	12, Heather Cusick at Michigan State, 11-24-02 (W, 86-84)
Field Goal Percentage/Game777 (7-of-9), Jana Butler vs. Valparaiso, 11-23-02 (W, 77-54)
Most 3-Pointers Made/Game	6, Heather Cusick at Michigan State, 11-24-02 (W, 86-84)
3-Pt. Percentage/Game750 (6-of-8), Heather Cusick at Ball State, 2-3-03 (W, 86-84)
Most Free Throws Made/Game	10, Colleen Day vs. Marshall, 3-4-03 (W, 89-91)
Free Throw Pct./Game	1.000 (10-of-10) Colleen Day vs. Ball State, 3-14-03 (L, 84-93)
Rebounds/Game	14, Colleen Day at Butler, 12-28-02 (W, 72-61)
Assists/Game	8, Heather Cusick, twice— last vs. Marshall, 3-4-03 (W, 89-91)
Steals/Game	7, Heather Cusick, twice—last vs. Ohio, 2-26-03 (W, 84-51)
Blocked Shots	3, five times—Jana Butler (4); Kim Lancaster (1)—last 1-25-03 (W, 50-45)
Double-Doubles	3, Colleen Day (3)
20-Point Games	13, Heather Cusick (6), Colleen Day (4), Jana Butler (2), Beth Roederer (1)

2002-03 RECORD WHEN...

Overall	17-12
MAC	11-5
Home	6-5
Away	8-6
Neutral	3-1
Overtime	4-2
Last 20 games	12-8
Last 10 games	7-3
Last five games	3-2
In games decided by 1-5 pts.	6-6
In games decided by 6-10 pts.	4-3
In games decided by 11-15 pts.	2-1
In games decided by 15 or more pts.	5-2
When scoring less than 60	1-4
When scoring 60-70	1-4
When scoring 71-80	9-1
When scoring 81 or more	6-3
When allowing less than 60	5-3
When allowing 60-70	7-1
When allowing 71-80	3-4
When allowing 81 or more	2-4
Leading at the half	12-4
Trailing at the half	5-8
Tied at the half	—
When outshooting opp. from field	11-1
When being tied or outshot from field ..	6-11
When shooting 45% or better	10-2
When shooting worse than 45%	7-10
Opponent shoots 45% or better	4-7
Opponent shoots worse than 45%	13-5
When outrebounding opponent	11-3
When being tied or outrebounded	6-9
Committing more turnovers	2-5
Committing same or fewer turnovers ..	15-7
Shooting more free throws	6-3
Shooting same or fewer free throws	11-9
November	3-1
December	2-4
January	5-3
February	5-2
March	2-2
Friday	1-2
Saturday	5-6
Sunday	2-1
Monday	1-2
Tuesday	4-0
Wednesday	3-1
Thursday	1-0
After a win	9-8
After a loss	7-4

2002-03 STAT BREAKDOWNS

20-POINT GAMES

Player	Pts.	Game	Result
Heather Cusick	36	11-24-02 at Michigan State	W, 86-84
Heather Cusick	29	1-14-03 at Ohio	W, 80-78 (OT)
Heather Cusick	28	2-3-03 at Ball State	L, 97-94 (OT)
Heather Cusick	26	1-28-03 vs. Eastern Michigan	W, 83-79 (OT)
Colleen Day	24	3-4-03 vs. Marshall	W, 89-81 (OT)
Heather Cusick	23	2-23-03 at Kent State	W, 78-71 (OT)
Beth Roederer	22	3-4-03 vs. Marshall	W, 89-81 (OT)
Colleen Day	22	12-21-02 at Kentucky	L, 102-108 (OT)
Jana Butler	21	3-12-03 vs. Eastern Michigan	W, 80-66
Colleen Day	21	2-15-03 at Bowling Green	W, 75-65
Heather Cusick	21	12-28-02 at Butler	W, 72-61
Colleen Day	20	3-14-03 vs. Ball State	L, 84-93
Jana Butler	20	12-21-02 at Kentucky	L, 102-108 (OT)

DOUBLE-DOUBLES

Player	Pts.	Reb.	Ast.	Game	Result
Colleen Day	10	14	—	12-18-02 at Butler	W, 72-61
Colleen Day	12	11	—	1-18-03 vs. Toledo	L, 72-77
Colleen Day	13	19	—	2-19-03 vs. C. Michigan	W, 73-70

STARTING LINEUPS/RECORDS

CUSICK—ROEDERER—KOZLOWSKI—DAY—BUTLER	7-3
CUSICK—ROEDERER—MERRILL—DAY—BUTLER	4-3
CUSICK—MERRILL—SMITH—DAY—BUTLER	4-1
CUSICK—ROEDERER—SMITH—DAY—BUTLER	1-3
CUSICK—ROEDERER—MERRILL—SMITH—DAY	1-0
CUSICK—KOZLOWSKI—ROEDERER—SMITH—BUTLER	0-2

THE LAST TIME MIAMI...

Scored 100 Points

12/21/02 at Kentucky (L, 102-108 OT)

Surrendered 100 Points

12/21/02 at Kentucky (L, 102-108 OT)

Scored 50 Points in a Half

3/14/03 vs. Ball State—55-point second half

Won in Overtime

3/4/03 vs. Marshall (W, 89-81 OT)

Lost in Overtime

2/3/03 at Ball State (L, 94-97)

Shot 60% From the Field

2/14/01 at Ohio—.667/32-of-48

Shot 50% From 3-Point Range (10 att.)

2/13/03 at N. Illinois—.556/5-of-9 (W, 70-64)

Shot 90% From the FT Line (15 att.)

3/12/03 vs. E. Michigan—.958/23-of-24 (W, 80-66)

Had 50 Rebounds in a Game

12/7/02 vs. Wright State—51

Had 25 Assists in a Game

12/7/02 vs. Wright State—25

Blocked 9 Shots in a Game

3/2/00 vs. Eastern Michigan—9

Recorded 20 Steals

12/2/01 vs. Butler—21

Committed Fewer Than 10 Turnovers in a Game

3/12/03 vs. Eastern Michigan—7

Player Scored 30 in a Game

11-24-02 Heather Cusick at Michigan State—36

Player Grabbed 20 Rebounds in a Game

11/4/98 AuBree Hamilton vs. Hampton—20

Player Had 10 Assists in a Game

11/25/00 Heather Cusick vs. Austin Peay—11

Player Blocked 5 Shots in a Game

2/5/00 Kelli Stamper vs. Akron—5

Player Had 7 Steals in a Game

1/7/03 Heather Cusick vs. Akron—7

Player Shot 100% From the Field (5 att.)

12/21/01 Colleen Day vs. St. Francis (Pa.)—6-of-6

Player Shot 100% From FT Line (10 att.)

3/14/03 Colleen Day vs. Ball State—10-of-10

CAREER GAMES

PLAYED/STARTED

Name	GP	GS
Heather Cusick	116	113
Jana Butler	112	77
Beth Roederer	109	72
Melanie Kozlowski	87	23
Colleen Day	83	75
Kim Lancaster	82	49
Kim Smith	57	12
Hillary Beck	34	0
Cindi Merrill	29	13
Nicole Motto	29	0
Amber Miller	18	-
Kelsey Sullivan	10	0

CAREER DOUBLE-FIGURE SCORING GAMES

Name	Career	Season
Heather Cusick	93	24
Kim Lancaster	52	14
Colleen Day	40	16
Beth Roederer	31	8
Jana Butler	27	7
Melanie Kozlowski	27	9
Kim Smith	10	4
Cindi Merrill	10	10
Nicole Motto	2	2



Jana Butler started 112 games during her four-year Miami career.

2002-03 GAME RECAPS

GAME 1

Miami 77 Valparaiso 54

Nov. 23, 2002—East Lansing, Mich.

Miami struggled out of the gates but found its touch down the stretch, rolling to a 77-54 defeat of Valparaiso University in its first contest of the 2002-03 campaign. The win was the Red and White's first season-opening victory in three seasons.

After a dismal first 10 minutes of play, Miami, which hit just four of its first 18 shots found itself with a slim 10-9 advantage. From there, both teams picked up the pace, with the RedHawks looking inside to forwards Kim Lancaster and Jana Butler, who helped propel the Red and White to a 37-30 halftime lead.

Miami took control early in the second half and was never really challenged again. A Valparaiso free throw at 16:49 closed the RedHawks' advantage to five points, 41-36, but 3-pointers by Heather Cusick and Melanie Kozlowski fueled a 12-1 Miami run that the Crusaders could not recover from. A 3-point field goal from freshman Cindi Merrill with under four minutes to play pushed the Miami advantage to a game-high 27 points.

The RedHawks shot 54 percent from the field in the second half and committed just 12 turnovers for the game while restricting Valparaiso to a 33 percent field goal percentage and forcing 17 Crusader miscues. The win was Miami's first in a season opener since it defeated Hampton, 81-80, to start the 1998-99 campaign.

Leading Miami were Lancaster and Butler, who contributed 15 points and nine rebounds apiece. Cusick, who tallied just two points in the first half, led Miami in the second half and tallied 13 points and eight assists for the game. Also tallying in double digits for the RedHawks were Kozlowski and Merrill, who poured in 12 and 11, respectively.

Miami	FG	3PT	FT	RB	PTS	A	S	MIN
Merrill, G	5-10	1-3	0-2	1	11	0	1	27
Cusick, G	6-13	1-3	0-0	3	13	8	3	27
Roederer, G	2-5	0-2	0-0	3	4	4	2	22
Butler, F	7-9	0-0	1-2	9	15	1	2	26
Day, F	1-2	0-1	0-0	7	2	0	0	15
Motto	1-6	1-5	0-1	3	3	3	0	19
Kozlowski	4-8	2-6	2-6	1	12	1	0	21
Sullivan	0-0	0-0	0-0	1	0	0	0	5
Smith	1-3	0-0	0-1	4	2	1	0	15
Lancaster	7-12	0-0	1-1	9	15	0	0	20
Miller	0-0	0-0	0-0	1	0	0	0	3
team	34-68	5-20	4-13	44	77	18	8	200
	.500	.250	.308					

Valparaiso	FG	3PT	FT	RB	PTS	A	S	MIN
Gutowski, G	2-9	1-5	3-4	0	8	2	0	35
Strangler, G	3-6	0-0	0-0	8	6	0	0	19
Knoester, C	1-5	0-2	0-0	5	2	4	1	31
Hammel, F	5-11	3-8	1-2	3	14	0	0	27
Gray, F	3-13	0-1	1-2	6	7	0	2	28
Bechtold	2-5	1-2	5-5	1	10	4	0	24
Reed	0-2	0-1	0-0	1	0	0	1	3
Taylor	2-3	0-0	1-1	2	5	0	0	12
Baughner	0-2	0-0	0-0	4	0	0	1	13
Vander Meer	1-1	0-0	0-0	1	2	0	0	8
team	19-57	5-19	11-14	34	54	10	5	200
	.333	.263	.786					

Miami	37	40	-	77
Valparaiso	30	24	-	54

GAME 2

Miami 86 Michigan State 84

Nov. 24, 2002—East Lansing, Mich.

Behind a career-high 36 points from senior guard Heather Cusick, Miami claimed the Spartan Chevrolet Classic Championship, defeating Michigan State University, 86-84.

Leading by double digits with six minutes to play, the RedHawks fought off a spirited rally, in which Michigan State buried two 3-point field goals in the final 1:09 to close to within one point. Cusick netted a free throw with 16 seconds remaining to boost Miami's lead to two points, and the RedHawks were able to keep the Spartans off the scoreboard in the closing seconds to collect the win.

Miami, which led most of the game, was sparked out of the gates by Beth Roederer, who tallied eight of Miami's first 10 points, including two 3-pointers. Miami trailed 11-10 with 15:50 remaining in the first half, but Colleen Day hit a layup to put the RedHawks ahead for good.

Michigan State closed early in the second half, trimming Miami's lead to 51-50 by the 15:56 mark, but Cusick, who scored 16 of the first 20 second-half points for Miami, drained one of her six 3-point field goals two possessions later to spark Miami on a 19-6 run. Trailing 74-60 at the 7:34 mark, the Spartans responded with a 14-2 surge over the next four minutes to close back to within two.

The win advanced Miami, which shot 48 percent from the field, to 2-0 for the first time since the 1994-95 campaign. Cusick led the way, totaling the second-highest single-game point total in Miami history while also snaring seven rebounds, dishing seven assists and swiping five steals. Also tallying in double figures for the RedHawks were senior forward Jana Butler, who contributed 11 points, and Roederer, who added 10 points.

Miami	FG	3PT	FT	RB	PTS	A	S	MIN
Day, F	4-8	1-2	0-0	3	9	1	1	22
Butler, F	2-6	0-0	7-8	3	11	3	1	29
Merrill, G	3-6	2-5	0-1	3	8	2	0	31
Cusick, G	12-22	6-11	6-8	7	36	7	5	38
Roederer, G	3-5	2-2	2-2	2	10	2	0	19
Motto	1-1	1-1	0-0	0	3	0	0	7
Kozlowski	2-6	1-4	0-0	4	5	1	0	26
Smith	0-2	0-0	0-0	3	0	1	1	13
Lancaster	2-4	0-0	0-0	3	4	1	1	15
team	29-60	13-25	15-19	31	86	16	9	200
	.483	.520	.789					

Michigan St.	FG	3PT	FT	RB	PTS	A	S	MIN
Bromfield, F	10-22	6-9	2-4	9	28	5	1	36
Shimek, F	3-7	0-0	4-6	11	10	0	1	32
Roehrig, C	6-12	0-0	1-2	8	13	1	0	28
Jackson, G	0-4	0-1	0-0	1	0	1	0	13
Bowen, G	3-9	2-8	2-2	0	10	3	1	38
Pagel	1-1	0-0	4-4	5	6	2	0	17
Haynie	5-9	1-1	4-6	1	15	7	3	28
Callier	1-2	0-0	0-0	2	2	0	0	8
team	29-66	9-19	17-24	44	84	19	6	200
	.439	.474	.708					

Miami	44	42	-	86
MSU	38	46	-	84

GAME 3

Miami 72 Arkansas State 67

Nov. 29, 2002—Atlanta, Ga.

Miami grabbed a big lead early and held off Arkansas State University, 72-67, in first-round action at Georgia Tech's Atlanta Marriott Classic. The win advanced the RedHawks to 3-0 for the just the third time in program history and the first time since 1994.

Things started off slowly for the RedHawks, who found themselves trailing 8-3 by the 16:31 mark of the first half. Miami gradually closed the margin until a Beth Roederer 3-point field goal put it up 16-14 at 11:03. The Lady Indians, who would never lead again, kept the defensive pressure on and managed to tie the game again at 28-28 with under four minutes to play in the half, but Miami, led by Heather Cusick's 14 first-half points, finished strong, building a 39-30 halftime lead.

Miami roared out of the gates in the second half, pushing its lead to double digits for the first time with a Cusick trey less than 30 seconds into the second half and pressing its advantage to a game-high 52-34 by the 16-minute mark. Arkansas State, powered by its athleticism and tenacious defense, managed to slow Miami's offense over the next nine minutes, outscoring the RedHawks 25-7 and forging 59-59 tie by the 7:55 mark.

Using the 3-point arc, Miami busted out of its offensive funk from there and held a 68-63 advantage after Motto rounded out a string of three straight RedHawk treys with her first bucket of the game at 5:23. Miami's defense rose to the occasion from there, restricting ASU to just five points over the final five minutes. Melanie Kozlowski and Day, each hit free throws in the final 30 seconds to put the game out of reach.

Leading Miami was Cusick, who contributed 17 points and five steals. Day added 13 points and eight boards, while Roederer, who contributed a game-high five assists, and Kozlowski each poured in 10 points.

Miami	FG	3PT	FT	RB	PTS	A	S	MIN
Day, F	5-10	2-5	1-2	8	13	2	2	33
Butler, C	0-2	0-0	1-2	1	1	1	1	16
Merrill, G	3-6	1-2	0-0	1	7	3	2	15
Roederer, G	3-7	2-3	2-2	2	10	5	2	31
Cusick, G	7-18	2-5	1-2	2	17	2	5	29
Motto	1-4	1-4	0-0	1	3	1	0	14
Kozlowski	3-9	2-5	2-6	7	10	2	2	25
Smith	1-3	0-0	0-0	6	2	1	3	20
Lancaster	4-8	0-0	1-5	6	9	0	0	17
team	27-67	10-24	8-19	42	72	17	17	200
	.403	.417	.421					

ASU	FG	3PT	FT	RB	PTS	A	S	MIN
Abraham, F	1-3	1-3	0-0	2	3	6	2	34
Humphries, F	5-10	0-0	1-1	8	11	0	0	30
McKeirman, C	6-9	0-0	5-7	9	17	1	0	36
Porter, G	3-6	0-1	1-2	4	7	3	0	18
Lowman, G	6-9	2-4	0-0	1	14	2	2	28
Williams	2-5	0-1	0-0	1	4	0	0	5
Webster	3-12	0-1	5-11	3	11	1	1	27
Freeman	0-2	0-0	0-0	2	0	0	0	1
Carter	0-0	0-0	0-0	1	0	0	1	9
Shelby	0-0	0-0	0-0	1	0	2	0	12
team	26-56	3-10	12-21	38	67	15	6	200
	.464	.300	.571					

Miami	39	33	-	72
Arkansas St.	30	37	-	67

2002-03 GAME RECAPS

GAME 4

Miami 62
Georgia Tech 78

Nov. 30, 2002—Atlanta, Ga.

Doomed by a slow start and the interior presence of Georgia Tech's Sonja Mallory, Miami suffered its first loss of the season, falling to the Yellow Jackets in the championship game of the Atlanta Marriott NW Classic, 78-62.

The RedHawks struggled out of the gates, failing to light the scoreboard until a Melanie Kozlowski 3-point field goal at 13:35 ended a 12-0 game-opening run by the Yellow Jackets. Miami fought on even terms for the remainder of the half, closing to within six by the 11:22 mark, but could not assemble a substantial first-half run. Led by 13 points from Mallory, the Yellow Jackets led 37-25 at the half.

Sparked by 10 combined points from Kozlowski and Kim Lancaster, Miami closed to 45-35 by the 14:55 mark but would get no closer. Georgia Tech used a 6-0 run over the next 1:10 and led by 22 points at the 6:45 mark. The RedHawks made their last serious run over the next several minutes, out-scoring the Yellow Jackets, 10-0, to close the margin to 61-50 with just over seven minutes to play. Mallory took control from there, pouring in nine of her game-high 33 points over the next five minutes.

Leading Miami were Kozlowski, who poured in 17 points, and Lancaster, who netted 12 points.

Miami	FG	3PT	FT	RB	PTS	A	S	MIN
Day,F	0-3	0-1	2-2	8	2	4	1	24
Butler,C	2-6	0-0	0-0	2	4	1	0	14
Merrill,G	1-3	0-0	1-1	1	3	0	0	18
Roederer,G	2-7	0-2	0-0	4	4	1	0	17
Cusick,G	4-9	0-2	1-3	4	9	6	1	29
Beck	0-0	0-0	2-2	2	2	1	0	4
Motto	2-8	2-8	0-0	0	6	0	1	25
Kozlowski	6-15	4-12	1-1	5	17	0	0	27
Sullivan	1-1	0-0	0-0	0	2	0	1	3
Smith	0-2	0-0	1-2	3	1	2	0	16
Lancaster	6-8	0-0	0-3	6	12	0	1	20
Miller	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	3
team	24-62	6-25	8-14	39	62	15	5	200
	.387	.240	.571					

GT	FG	3PT	FT	RB	PTS	A	S	MIN
Stokes,F	6-20	0-0	4-7	8	16	2	1	35
Mallory,F	12-27	0-0	9-12	12	33	1	2	35
Terry,C	3-5	0-0	1-4	7	7	2	1	23
Stewart,G	3-4	0-0	0-0	3	6	5	2	35
Isom,G	3-7	1-4	2-2	3	9	10	2	31
Winn	0-0	0-0	0-0	2	0	0	0	3
Walker	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	3
Pacariz	0-0	0-0	0-0	1	0	0	0	1
Harpring	2-2	0-0	0-0	2	4	0	0	10
Monroe	0-1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	1
Johnson	0-5	0-0	0-0	2	0	0	2	14
Williams	0-1	0-0	2-2	1	2	0	1	3
Guerrant	0-1	0-0	1-2	1	0	0	0	5
Phillips	0-1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	1
team	29-74	1-4	19-29	50	78	20	9	200
	.392	.250	.655					

Miami	25	37	-	62
Ga.Tech	37	41	-	78

GAME 5

Wright State 69
Miami 110

Dec. 7, 2002—Oxford, Ohio

Miami christened the new scoreboard at Millett Hall in grand fashion, lighting up the scoreboard and the Wright State University Raiders for a RedHawk single-game record 110 points in a 110-69 home-opening win.

Paced by Colleen Day, who scored eight of Miami's first 16 points, the RedHawks got off to a quick start, scoring the first six points of the game and building a 16-4 lead by the 14:51 mark. Wright State, which got 19 first-half points from Tiffany Webb, rallied briefly to close the score to 20-12 over the next three minutes, but freshman Cindi Merrill reeled off Miami's next 10 points, including back-to-back treys, as the RedHawks rebuilt their lead to 30-17 by the nine-minute mark.

Powered by a 29-15 first-half rebounding edge and 15 first-half Raider turnovers, Miami continued to pull away, assembling a 42-31 edge by halftime.

Miami refused to let up in the second half, burying eight of its first 12 shots and building the lead to 71-41 by 14:33. Wright State would get no closer than 24 points the remainder of the game, as Miami continued to dominate the boards and shot a smoldering 61 percent from the field in the second half.

Heather Cusick, who netted just six first-half points hit all five of her second-half shots to total 18 for the game. A Hillary Beck 3-point field goal with 45 seconds remaining pushed Miami past its 1982 single-game record of 108 points, while also giving the RedHawks a program-record 58 points in a half.

WSU	FG	3PT	FT	RB	PTS	A	S	MIN
Bussan,F	1-3	1-1	0-0	1	3	0	0	15
Ott,F	2-3	0-1	3-3	3	7	0	0	18
Mays,G	1-5	0-2	0-0	2	2	1	0	19
Webb,G	13-22	1-3	9-9	2	36	2	3	40
Agee,G	0-6	0-0	0-1	4	0	8	2	30
Ransdell	3-7	0-2	3-3	3	9	2	1	31
Krueger	2-3	0-0	0-0	3	4	1	0	22
Glance	1-2	0-0	0-1	2	2	0	0	12
Gray	2-3	0-0	2-2	0	6	0	0	13
team	25-54	2-12	17-19	27	69	14	6	200
	.463	.167	.895					

Miami	FG	3PT	FT	RB	PTS	A	S	MIN
Roederer,F	1-3	1-2	0-1	6	3	2	1	15
Day,F	6-8	0-1	4-5	6	16	1	2	21
Butler,C	3-10	0-0	3-6	6	9	1	2	17
Cusick,G	8-15	2-5	0-0	3	18	7	2	24
Merrill,G	5-11	2-3	2-2	3	14	1	1	17
Beck	2-3	2-3	0-0	1	6	1	1	8
Motto	5-9	4-8	0-0	2	14	7	3	21
Kozlowski	5-9	1-3	2-2	5	13	1	1	19
Sullivan	2-6	1-1	0-0	1	5	2	1	15
Smith	3-6	0-0	1-2	7	7	1	0	17
Lancaster	1-4	0-0	3-4	7	5	1	1	18
Miller	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	8
team	41-84	13-26	15-22	51	110	25	15	200
	.488	.500	.682					

WSU	31	38	-	69
Miami	52	58	-	110

GAME 6

Miami 55
Saint Louis 58

Dec. 15, 2002—St. Louis, Mo.

Defense prevailed over offense, as the host Saint Louis Billikens held Miami to a season low in points and picked up a 58-55 win, dropping the RedHawks to 4-2 on the year.

Junior forward Colleen Day led Miami out of the gates, scoring the RedHawks' first six points as they grabbed a 6-2 lead by the 16:39 mark. Saint Louis rallied briefly, gaining a 10-9 lead by the 13-minute mark, but Miami regained the lead with a Kim Lancaster jumper and would not trail again in the first half.

Following back-to-back buckets from Beth Roederer, Miami grabbed its largest lead of the first half at 25-16, but the Billiken defense stiffened from there, holding Miami without a field goal for the last 8:50 of the half. Saint Louis rallied to tie the game at 25 apiece with 1:07 remaining, but Miami was able to put itself ahead, 27-25, going into the locker room after Heather Cusick sank two free throws.

After a 3-point field goal gave Saint Louis a 28-27 lead to start the second-half scoring, Cusick drained a short jumper in the lane at 18:01 to end Miami's nearly 11-minute stretch without a field goal and put Miami back in front by a point. After exchanging baskets over the next several minutes, Saint Louis applied its full-court pressure defense, and capitalized on a handful of Miami turnovers to pull away for good.

The RedHawks never gave up, closing to within 58-55 after a 25-foot Cusick 3-pointer with 20 seconds to play, but could not get off a quality shot in its final attempt to send the game into overtime.

Miami	FG	3PT	FT	RB	PTS	A	S	MIN
Butler,C	0-3	0-0	0-0	4	0	0	0	15
Day,F	3-12	0-2	2-3	10	8	1	2	35
Merrill,G	0-4	0-1	2-4	3	2	2	2	27
Cusick,G	7-22	1-7	4-5	4	19	4	2	34
Roederer,G	2-6	0-1	0-1	2	4	2	0	16
Motto	0-0	0-0	0-0	1	0	1	0	7
Kozlowski	2-3	2-3	0-0	3	6	0	0	22
Smith	3-4	0-0	3-4	3	9	0	1	16
Lancaster	2-4	0-0	3-4	6	7	1	0	28
team	19-58	3-14	14-21	39	55	11	7	200
	.328	.214	.667					

SLU	FG	3PT	FT	RB	PTS	A	S	MIN
Jones,F	1-3	0-0	1-1	7	3	0	0	15
Lewis,F	5-12	0-0	0-1	16	10	0	0	22
King,G	5-9	1-3	3-4	0	14	3	1	27
Haywood,G	5-15	0-1	2-2	5	12	0	0	27
Jackson,G	3-7	0-1	2-4	3	8	6	1	39
Greer	1-2	0-0	0-0	5	2	0	0	17
Oliver	3-7	0-0	0-3	3	6	4	2	26
Holloway	0-1	0-0	1-2	0	1	0	0	8
Van Deurzen	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	3
Solomon	1-3	0-0	0-0	3	2	1	1	16
team	24-59	1-5	9-17	46	58	14	5	200
	.407	.200	.529					

Miami	27	28	-	55
SLU	25	33	-	58

2002-03 GAME RECAPS

GAME 7

Saint Francis (Pa.) 74 Miami 67

Dec. 18, 2002—Oxford, Ohio

Miami showed remarkable resilience despite battling a cold shooting touch and double-digits deficits for much of the night, but a late comeback charge was not enough to avoid a 74-67 loss to Saint Francis (Pa.) University.

Miami found itself in trouble early, as Saint Francis hit six of its first seven shots and stormed out to a 12-3 lead. Heather Cusick ended a 10-0 Red Flash run with a 3-point field goal at 15:02, but Saint Francis, continued its torrid pace and pressed its advantage to 13 points by 11:34.

The Red Flash cooled briefly over the next five minutes, and Nicki Motto brought the RedHawks to within 23-16 with a 3-pointer at 8:13. The teams battled back and forth for the remainder of the half, with Saint Francis leading by as many as 12 with 1:57 remaining and Miami closing to within six with 25 seconds remaining. Saint Francis, which shot 59 percent from the field, led 38-30 at the half.

Miami's shooting woes continued early in the second half, as the RedHawks slid to a 44-32 deficit by the 16:42 mark. Miami's largest deficit of the night came at 14:38 when it trailed 49-34, but the RedHawks, who went nearly six minutes without a field goal to start the half, responded with eight unanswered points. Three-point plays by Kim Lancaster and Colleen Day brought Miami to within four points by the 11-minute mark.

Saint Francis responded with eight unanswered points, but Day brought the Red and White charging back, tallying 10 of Miami's next 12 and knotting the score at 60-60 with a layup at the 4:47 mark. Miami took the lead briefly at 62-60 off a Jana Butler field goal, but Saint Francis took advantage of three consecutive RedHawk miscues and rebuilt a seven-point advantage with less than two minutes to play that proved too much for Miami to overcome.

SFU	FG	3PT	FT	RB	PTS	A	S	MIN
Chesick,F	5-9	1-4	6-8	3	17	1	1	33
Van Der Leest,F	0-0	0-0	3-4	6	3	4	4	23
Swink,C	8-8	0-0	0-1	8	16	1	3	30
Hewitt,G	4-7	1-2	1-2	2	10	7	3	35
Ward,G	5-11	0-2	3-5	1	13	1	3	39
Enyeart	0-0	0-0	0-2	0	0	0	0	1
Gompers	0-1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	4
Allison	0-2	0-1	0-0	1	0	1	0	16
Mason	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	1
Schlichter	6-8	3-3	0-0	3	15	1	0	18
team				6				
	28-46	5-12	13-22	30	74	16	14	200
	.609	.417	.591					

Miami	FG	3PT	FT	RB	PTS	A	S	MIN
Roederer,F	0-1	0-0	0-0	0	0	4	1	16
Day,F	4-9	0-1	9-11	3	17	0	3	25
Butler,C	3-5	0-0	0-0	0	6	0	0	26
Cusick,G	4-13	3-6	5-6	3	16	2	4	35
Kozlowski,G	0-6	0-5	6-6	4	6	0	2	28
Motto	2-3	2-3	0-0	1	6	1	0	18
Smith	1-4	0-0	0-0	6	2	2	2	19
Merrill	2-5	1-3	2-2	3	7	0	2	21
Lancaster	3-6	0-0	1-1	3	7	0	0	10
Miller	0-1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	2
team				5				
	19-53	6-18	23-26	28	17	67	14	200
	.358	.333	.885					

SFU	38	36	-	74
Miami	30	37	-	67

GAME 8

Miami 102 Kentucky 108 (OT)

Dec. 21, 2002—Lexington, Ky.

What started off as a dream performance by the Miami women's basketball team ended in a nightmare when the Kentucky Wildcats rallied from an 18-point deficit in the last 14 minutes of regulation and recorded a 108-102 overtime victory over the RedHawks.

After spotting Kentucky a 5-0 lead to start the contest, Miami got behind Colleen Day, who netted seven of the RedHawks' next nine points, and claimed its first lead at 13-11 after a pair of Jana Butler free throws at 14:17. Tied 20-20 at the 10:45 mark, the Red and White took charge with a 14-5 run in which six RedHawks scored.

A Melanie Kozlowski 3-point field goal at 4:03 pressed Miami's advantage into double digits at 45-32 and the RedHawks took a 53-41 advantage into the half. Miami shot 51 percent from the field in the half and forced 17 Wildcat turnovers.

Miami continued to assert a balanced inside attack in the second half, surging to a game-high 68-50 lead with 14:35 to play.

The RedHawks held an 84-73 lead with 3:47 remaining, but Sara Potts and Rita Adams led the Wildcats on a furious rally over the next three minutes, combining for 16 points and knotting the score on an Adams trey with 48 seconds to play. Kentucky took its first lead on a pair of Potts free throws with 32 seconds to play, but Miami sent the game into overtime with a Butler shot with 12 seconds to play.

The Red and White climbed out to an early three-point lead in overtime, but Kentucky had an answer, and took the lead at 99-98 off an Adams three-point play. The RedHawks, who fouled out four players in the overtime period, took the lead for the last time with a Cusick jumper at 100-99, but Kentucky scored the next four points and would never trail again.

Miami	FG	3PT	FT	RB	PTS	A	S	MIN
Day,F	8-12	2-2	4-4	2	22	1	3	26
Roederer,F	3-8	0-2	2-4	4	8	6	0	27
Butler,C	8-13	0-0	4-4	6	20	1	0	33
Merrill,G	4-10	1-2	4-6	7	13	5	1	33
Cusick,G	6-17	0-5	4-4	1	16	3	1	31
Motto	0-1	0-1	0-0	3	0	3	0	14
Kozlowski	3-7	3-5	0-2	2	9	0	0	30
Smith	2-4	0-0	0-0	3	4	1	0	9
Lancaster	5-8	0-0	0-0	5	10	0	3	23
team				6				
	39-80	6-17	18-24	39	102	20	8	225
	.488	.353	.750					

UK	FG	3PT	FT	RB	PTS	A	S	MIN
Potts,F	5-10	4-5	7-9	5	21	3	1	33
Humphrey,F	6-10	0-0	3-7	11	15	3	0	27
Helm,C	4-9	0-0	4-3	8	12	1	1	33
Adams,G	11-13	2-2	5-7	4	29	8	3	37
Pfeiffer,G	5-14	4-6	0-0	3	14	0	2	39
Ellis	0-0	0-0	2-4	1	2	0	1	12
Payne	2-2	1-1	1-4	1	6	0	0	14
Jones	3-5	0-0	0-0	5	6	0	0	18
Tate	0-0	0-0	3-4	2	3	0	0	12
team				2				
	36-63	11-14	25-41	40	108	15	8	225
	.571	.786	.610					

Miami	53	39	10	-	102
Kentucky	41	51	16	-	108

GAME 9

Miami 72 Butler 61

Dec. 28, 2002—Indianapolis, Ind.

Miami refused to let lightning strike twice, withstanding a furious Butler Bulldog rally in historic Hinkle Fieldhouse and snapping a three-game losing streak with a 72-61 win.

Driven by an efficient offensive attack and stingy defense, the RedHawks patiently assembled an 18-6 lead over the games' first eight minutes. From there, the Miami offense hit high gear, taking off on an 18-3 run and building a 30-9 advantage by the eight-minute mark. During the stretch, Miami held Butler without a field goal for more than seven minutes.

Butler turned up its defensive intensity over the final seven minutes of the half, slowing Miami's offense and creating a flurry of turnovers. After brief runs by both teams, Butler rallied at the end of the half, closing to within 41-26. The Red and White shot 58 percent from the field in the half while restricting Butler to just six field goals and 29 percent shooting.

A back-and-forth battle consumed the first nine minutes of the second half, until a Cusick 3-pointer sparked an 11-0 RedHawk run that gave Miami a game-high 27-point lead. As fast as Miami had built its seemingly back-breaking 64-37 lead, however, a feisty Butler squad erased it with a 15-0 run. Down by just 12 points with under four minutes to play, Butler continued to fluster the RedHawks, who committed 17 second-half turnovers.

Kim Lancaster finally ended a more than five-minute scoring drought for the RedHawks with back-to-back field goals, and Cusick netted four free throws down the stretch as Miami held off the Bulldogs during a wild final three minutes.

Miami	FG	3PT	FT	RB	PTS	A	S	MIN
Smith,F	2-4	0-0	0-1	3	4	1	1	24
Day,F	4-10	1-2	1-2	14	10	2	2	29
Butler,C	3-6	0-0	1-1	3	7	0	1	21
Roederer,G	4-4	0-0	0-0	1	8	2	0	24
Cusick,G	7-13	3-7	4-4	4	21	4	3	30
Merrill	1-3	0-0	0-2	5	2	2	2	20
Beck	0-1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	1	2
Motto	0-0	0-0	0-0	1	0	1	0	10
Kozlowski	4-7	1-1	1-1	6	10	0	0	23
Sullivan	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	1
Lancaster	5-10	0-0	0-0	3	10	0	0	11
Miller	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	5
team				5				
	30-58	5-10	7-11	45	72	12	10	200
	.517	.500	.636					

Butler	FG	3PT	FT	RB	PTS	A	S	MIN
Mason,F	5-9	0-0	5-6	4	15	1	3	23
Urquhart,C	6-11	0-0	2-6	4	14	1	0	35
Bowden,G	2-7	0-2	2-3	5	6	6	1	35
Monaco,G	1-4	0-2	1-2	3	3	1	1	25
Boeke,G	1-7	0-4	0-0	4	2	2	0	25
Leighton	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	1
Smith	3-8	2-5	6-9	2	14	1	6	21
Pryor	1-10	1-5	2-2	4	5	0	5	27
Budgake	0-0	0-0	2-2	0	2	0	0	8
team				3				
	19-56	3-19	20-30	29	61	12	16	200
	.339	.158	.667					

Miami	41	31	-	72
Butler	26	35	-	61

2002-03 GAME RECAPS

GAME 10
Clemson 55
Miami 50

Dec. 30, 2002—Oxford, Ohio

Miami made the ACC's first visit to Oxford a scary one, but the RedHawks could not hold off a second-half charge by Clemson University that lifted the Tigers to a 55-50 win in Millett Hall.

Looking inside early, Miami leapt out to a strong start, leading 7-4 after a Jana Butler layup prior to the first media timeout. Heather Cusick became the first player in Miami women's basketball history to reach 500 career assists with the dish on the Butler scoring play. In a very even start, neither team was able to locate its shooting touch, and the score was just 10-9 in favor of Clemson with under nine minutes to play in the opening half.

Miami continued its strong defensive presence throughout the first half, slowing the Clemson offense and two-time Kodak District II All-American Chrissy Floyd, while building a 15-10 advantage. Despite chilly shooting, Miami claimed its largest lead of the game, 22-16, at 2:15 when Cusick drained the Red and White's first trey. Beth Roederer's trey shortly before the break sent Miami into the break with a 27-16 advantage.

Though Miami maintained its aggressive defense, Clemson converted some tough shots out of the gates and rallied to within five by the 16-minute mark. A Cindi Merrill three-point play temporarily stalled the Lady Tiger rally, but Clemson, which hit 11 of its first 15 second-half shots, surged once again and staked their first lead at 38-37. Miami grabbed its last lead 49-48, but Clemson regained the advantage on the next possession and iced its free throws down the stretch.

CLEMSON	FG	3PT	FT	RB	PTS	A	S	MIN
Sanders,F	3-6	0-0	0-0	4	6	0	0	19
Roper,F	2-5	0-0	0-0	4	4	3	3	27
White,C	2-5	0-0	4-4	5	8	2	2	36
Queen,G	2-5	0-0	0-0	0	4	3	3	27
Floyd,G	7-17	1-5	6-6	4	21	3	1	36
Slosser	0-1	0-0	0-0	1	0	0	0	1
Talley	1-4	0-2	0-0	1	2	1	2	12
Stokes	3-6	0-2	0-0	4	6	2	3	21
Vasilis	1-3	0-2	0-0	1	2	1	0	8
Shafer	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	8
Andrew	1-1	0-0	0-0	1	2	0	0	4
Blackmon	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	1
team				1				
	22-53	1-11	10-10	26	55	15	14	200
	.415	.091	1.000					

Miami	FG	3PT	FT	RB	PTS	A	S	MIN
Smith,F	2-6	0-0	1-2	5	5	1	0	23
Day,F	0-7	0-3	0-0	8	0	0	0	24
Butler,C	3-5	0-0	2-4	3	8	2	2	30
Cusick,G	3-10	1-4	3-4	4	10	7	5	30
Roederer,G	2-3	1-2	0-0	1	5	0	0	18
Motto	1-1	1-1	0-0	4	3	2	2	12
Kozlowski	3-12	2-7	0-0	2	8	1	0	25
Merrill	1-3	0-2	3-3	2	5	0	0	22
Lancaster	3-6	0-0	0-0	2	6	0	0	16
team				10				
	18-53	5-19	9-13	41	50	13	9	200
	.340	.263	.692					

Clemson	16	39	-	55
Miami	27	23	-	50

GAME 11
Miami 58
TCU 83

Jan. 3, 2003—Ft. Worth, Texas

Doomed by dismal starts in each half, Miami was unable to derail a red-hot TCU squad Friday night at the Lady Frogs' Daniel-Meyer Coliseum, falling 83-58 to finish a difficult non-conference schedule at 5-6.

Miami started on a positive note, striking paydirt on its first possession and grabbing a 2-0 lead on a Jana Butler layup at 19:37. Butler's field goal would be Miami's last for nearly nine minutes, however, as TCU erupted on a 17-2 run and held a 25-5 lead when Colleen Day finally ended Miami's drought at 10:35.

TCU, which shot a blistering 56 percent from the field in the half, continued to roll and pushed its lead as high as 35-11. Miami finally settled down following a timeout and chipped away at the Lady Frogs' lead to close to 49-27 at the half.

The second half continued along the same line as the first, with TCU quickly finding its stride and Miami continuing to struggle. While Miami was held without a field goal for the first six minutes, TCU netted 13 unanswered points and built a 62-27 advantage. Butler finally ended the RedHawk drought with a pair of buckets that keyed a 9-2 Miami run.

Kim Lancaster helped Miami continue its run by scoring nine points over the next three minutes as the Red and White rallied back to within 25 with under eight minutes to play. Miami continued to press for the remainder of the contest but never got closer than 22 points in its worst loss of the season.

Miami	FG	3PT	FT	RB	PTS	A	S	MIN
Smith,F	0-1	0-0	2-2	1	2	0	2	17
Day,F	2-4	1-2	0-0	6	5	2	1	19
Butler,C	5-8	0-0	4-8	4	14	1	2	22
Cusick,G	3-11	2-7	2-2	4	10	4	0	28
Roederer,G	0-8	0-2	1-2	4	1	0	0	24
Merrill	1-5	0-3	3-4	1	5	1	2	29
Beck	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	+0
Motto	0-2	0-2	1-2	2	1	1	0	15
Kozlowski	1-7	0-3	0-0	4	2	4	4	20
Lancaster	8-15	0-0	2-2	3	18	0	0	24
Miller	0-0	0-0	0-0	1	0	0	0	2
team				6				
	20-62	3-19	15-22	36	58	13	11	200
	.323	.158	.682					

TCU	FG	3PT	FT	RB	PTS	A	S	MIN
Evans,F	5-9	0-1	7-9	4	17	3	2	30
Irvin,C	5-8	0-0	5-5	16	15	0	0	23
Baldwin,G	1-3	0-1	0-0	3	2	2	2	20
Shaw,G	4-10	2-4	2-2	5	12	0	0	26
Payne,G	0-4	0-2	0-0	0	0	3	0	23
Browning	1-1	0-0	0-0	3	2	1	0	5
Ortega	3-7	1-4	2-2	1	9	4	3	19
Honer	0-0	0-0	0-0	3	0	0	0	1
Newton	0-1	0-0	3-4	4	3	0	1	9
Pack	1-3	0-0	6-6	2	8	0	5	13
Gantt	5-6	1-2	0-0	1	11	1	2	15
Winn	2-6	0-0	0-0	2	4	0	0	15
Prewitt	0-1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	1
team				3				
	27-62	4-14	25-28	47	83	14	15	200
	.435	.286	.893					

Miami	27	31	-	58
TCU	49	34	-	83

GAME 12
Akron 56
Miami 84

Jan. 7, 2003—Oxford, Ohio

Miami ended a two-game losing streak and notched its first Mid-American Conference victory, rolling to an 84-56 win over the University of Akron.

In control from the start, the RedHawks held Akron without a field goal for the first six minutes of the game and held a 12-2 advantage by the 14-minute mark. Miami continued to build on its advantage throughout the half, racing to a 24-8 edge following a Cindi Merrill layup with six minutes to play and leading by as many as 31-10 after a Nicki Motto 3-pointer at the five-minute mark.

Akron forged a small rally at the end of the half to narrow Miami's halftime edge to 39-22. The RedHawks shot a balmy 52 percent from the field while restricting the Zips to 25 percent shooting.

Miami got off to a quick start in the second half, scoring the first nine points and forcing Akron to call a timeout after falling behind 48-22 with 17:22 to play. The Zips closed the gap to 21 points within two minutes, but the RedHawks quickly recovered and continued to steadily pull away, taking their first 30-point lead with a Motto jumper at 10:39.

The Zips once again chipped away at Miami's lead, narrowing the deficit to 24 points with less than six minutes to play, but they would get no closer. Despite cooling to 47 percent shooting in the second half, Miami got 28 points off 24 Zip turnovers.

AKRON	FG	3PT	FT	RB	PTS	A	S	MIN
Bell,F	0-2	0-0	0-0	3	0	0	0	18
Martin,C	5-10	0-0	3-5	7	13	1	1	32
Carter,G	0-0	0-0	1-2	0	1	0	0	7
Johnson,G	5-6	1-1	1-2	10	12	2	2	30
Harris,G	4-14	2-3	1-2	3	11	1	2	33
Dopoulos	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	3
Hemmelgarn	1-6	1-3	2-2	3	5	1	1	31
Arnold	1-3	0-0	0-0	2	2	1	0	14
Caranfa	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	2
Marco	0-0	0-0	5-6	1	5	0	0	2
Vujas	2-4	1-3	0-0	0	5	4	0	15
Booms	1-1	0-0	0-0	0	2	0	0	2
Overton	0-2	0-0	0-2	0	0	0	0	9
Crews	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	2
team				3				
	19-48	5-10	13-21	32	56	10	6	200
	.396	.500	.619					

Miami	FG	3PT	FT	RB	PTS	A	S	MIN
Smith,F	2-4	0-0	2-4	4	6	2	1	21
Day,F	6-12	1-3	3-3	8	16	1	1	26
Cusick,G	3-9	0-3	2-3	3	8	2	7	27
Roederer,G	4-5	3-4	2-2	0	13	2	1	19
Merrill,G	7-10	0-2	1-1	6	15	2	1	30
Beck	0-3	0-2	0-0	1	0	2	1	9
Motto	4-6	3-5	0-0	3	11	1	0	15
Kozlowski	0-4	0-3	0-0	2	0	1	1	16
Lancaster	4-8	0-0	1-2	2	9	1	0	23
Miller	2-4	0-0	2-2	6	6	0	2	14
team				2				
	32-65	7-22	13-17	37	84	17	15	200
	.492	.318	.765					

Akron	22	34	-	56
Miami	39	45	-	84

2002-03 GAME RECAPS

GAME 13

Miami 60

Western Michigan 75

Jan. 11, 2003—Kalamazoo, Mich.

It was a tale of two halves, but the damage caused by a dismal first half was too much for Miami University's women's basketball team to overcome in a 75-60 loss at Western Michigan.

Western Michigan raced out to an 11-2 lead by the 15:50 mark and continued a blistering attack from which Miami could not recover. The Broncos, who shot 49 percent from the field in the first half restricted Miami to a season-low five first-half field goals while snaring a devastating 48-15 half-time advantage. Miami went without a field goal for the final 7:19 of the half.

The RedHawks, who hit just 16 percent from the field and were 0-of-10 from beyond the 3-point arc, were led by Kim Lancaster's seven first-half points. Western Michigan, which out-rebounded Miami by a commanding 32-15 edge in the first half, was led by Kristin Koetsier, who tallied 13 points, seven rebounds and five blocked shots.

Facing its largest deficit of the season, Miami went to work in the second half outscoring the Broncos by 14 points in the first eight minutes of the half and closing to 57-38 by the 11:54 mark. Miami scored the same amount of points in the first 5:48 of the second half as it did in the entire first half.

It was a wide-open contest from there, with WMU pushing its lead back to the mid-20's and Miami once again rallying to within 19 with 2:44 to play. The RedHawks held the Broncos without a field goal for the final 5:55 of the game in trimming the final margin to 15 points.

Miami	FG	3PT	FT	RB	PTS	A	S	MIN
Smith,F	0-2	0-0	0-0	5	0	1	1	21
Day,F	3-6	1-1	2-2	4	9	2	1	16
Butler,C	2-10	0-0	4-4	5	8	2	2	24
Cusick,G	4-12	2-6	0-0	1	10	3	2	24
Roederer,G	0-4	0-2	0-0	2	0	2	0	22
Beck	2-4	2-4	2-2	0	8	1	1	6
Motto	1-5	0-4	0-0	2	2	2	2	20
Kozlowski	0-2	0-2	0-0	0	0	0	0	9
Merrill	4-13	1-2	2-2	8	11	2	0	29
Lancaster	5-9	0-0	2-3	5	12	0	0	25
Miller	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	4
team				5				
	21-67	6-21	12-13	37	60	15	9	200
	.313	.286	.923					

WMU	FG	3PT	FT	RB	PTS	A	S	MIN
Koetsier,F	8-13	1-1	2-5	11	19	2	5	31
Crisman,F	0-3	0-0	3-6	6	3	4	2	31
Jillian,G	4-8	0-2	7-8	1	15	4	4	39
Harris,G	4-11	1-4	2-2	4	11	0	2	25
Rost,G	6-12	1-3	2-2	6	15	2	1	30
Doyle	0-0	0-0	2-2	0	2	0	0	1
Verseput	2-2	1-1	0-0	7	5	3	0	13
Shay,Jackson	0-3	0-0	0-0	5	0	0	1	6
Shan,Jackson	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	1
Thelen	1-3	1-3	0-1	2	3	1	0	13
Drigget	0-1	0-1	0-0	0	0	0	0	2
Koerber	1-4	0-0	0-0	1	2	0	1	8
team				5				
	26-60	5-15	18-26	48	75	16	12	200
	.433	.333	.692					

Miami	15	45	-	60
WMU	48	27	-	75

GAME 14

Miami 80

Ohio 78 (OT)

Jan. 14, 2003—Athens, Ohio

It took an overtime period and 29 points from senior guard Heather Cusick, but Miami rebounded to 2-1 in the MAC with a hard-fought 80-78 overtime win over Ohio University in The Convo.

In a game that took on a physical tone from the beginning, baskets were at a premium in the early going. Ohio pulled out to a 10-5 lead three minutes into the game but was held without a basket for the next six minutes as the RedHawks rallied to stake a 14-10 lead.

Miami would maintain a razor-thin edge for much of the first half, but could never provide itself with any more than a four-point cushion. Trailing 29-26 after a Nicki Motto 3-pointer, Ohio finished with a flurry, outscoring Miami 14-5 and seizing a 40-34 halftime edge.

Ohio scored the first four points of the half to secure a 10-point lead by the 18:32 mark, but the RedHawks, sparked by a long Cusick trey, stormed back with a 14-2 run.

Tied at 62-62 with less than six minutes to play, Ohio scored five unanswered points over the next two minutes, but Miami responded with a run of its own to knot the score again at 67-67. After Ohio regained the lead, Miami went inside to Jana Butler, who netted her first field goal to send the game into overtime.

It was more of the same in overtime, as Miami grabbed a four point lead but Ohio rattled off a 6-0 run of its own. With 1:58 to play, Ohio held a 76-74 lead, but Colleen Day hit a jumper to once again knot the score. After a defensive stop, Melanie Kozlowski was fouled going for an offensive rebound and drained two free throws to put the Red and White back in front for good.

Miami	FG	3PT	FT	RB	PTS	A	S	MIN
Smith,F	3-4	0-0	1-2	5	7	1	1	25
Day,F	3-12	0-2	2-2	7	8	1	0	35
Butler,C	1-3	0-0	1-2	5	3	0	0	21
Merrill,G	2-13	0-0	0-0	4	4	1	1	32
Cusick,G	11-20	3-7	4-4	4	29	6	3	44
Beck	0-0	0-0	0-0	1	0	0	0	2
Motto	3-7	2-6	0-0	0	8	2	1	13
Kozlowski	1-8	0-1	6-6	10	8	1	1	26
Roederer	0-1	0-1	0-0	0	0	1	0	5
Sullivan	0-1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	2
Lancaster	6-11	0-0	1-2	6	13	0	0	20
team				2				
	30-80	5-17	15-18	44	80	13	7	225
	.375	.294	.833					

OHIO	FG	3PT	FT	RB	PTS	A	S	MIN
Isbell,F	3-4	0-0	3-6	12	9	1	2	27
Wight,F	4-10	2-7	3-3	7	13	1	1	30
Kirkpatrick,F	1-3	0-0	0-0	2	2	1	1	13
Bates,G	2-11	1-4	8-10	6	13	0	0	33
Gay,G	2-8	1-2	5-7	4	10	5	0	45
Johnson	4-13	0-4	3-5	3	11	1	2	27
Oriold	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	9
Bagley	8-9	0-0	4-4	9	20	1	1	32
Byrd	0-1	0-1	0-0	0	0	0	0	9
team				5				
	24-59	4-18	26-35	48	78	10	7	225
	.407	.222	.743					

Miami	34	35	11	-	80
Ohio	40	29	9	-	78

GAME 15

Toledo 77

Miami 72

Jan. 18, 2003—Oxford, Ohio

A dramatic comeback was not enough to overcome a 16-point second-half deficit as Miami fell to the University of Toledo for the 14th straight time, 77-72.

Neither team led by more than a 3-point basket in the first eight minutes, and the score was just 10-9 in favor of Miami by the second media timeout at 11:47. The back-and-forth battle continued until Toledo picked up the tempo with under five minutes to play.

Sparked by consecutive 3-point field goals by Tia Davis and Kelly Walker, Toledo hit eight consecutive field goals and assembled the first true run of the game to lead 33-26 by halftime.

Despite snaring 10 offensive rebounds in the half, Miami shot just 33 percent from the floor while Toledo drained 48 percent of its attempts.

Toledo's shooting touch carried into the second half, as it drained its first four shots on the way to its first double-digit lead, 41-30, by 17:16. Miami, which connected on just one of its first nine shots in the second half found itself behind by 16 with 6:44 to play.

A 6-0 RedHawk run with under six minutes to play closed the gap back to within 10 points and a Beth Roederer 3-pointer at 2:58 pulled Miami to its closest point in nearly 10 minutes at 69-61. Following a Toledo turnover, Kim Smith scored and trimmed the Toledo edge to just six points with under two minutes to play.

Toledo, which finished the day shooting 58 percent from the floor and 93 percent from the free throw line, had the answers when it needed them most, draining its last eight free throws to hold off a furious Miami rally that included three treys in the final 51 seconds.

TOLEDO	FG	3PT	FT	RB	PTS	A	S	MIN
T.Davis,F	9-13	1-1	4-4	8	23	3	0	33
Kahle,F	2-6	0-0	1-2	5	5	0	0	27
A.Davis,C	0-2	0-0	0-0	5	0	4	0	29
Blessing,G	5-5	0-0	4-4	2	14	5	1	29
Walker,G	7-15	3-7	2-2	0	19	1	0	36
Gonnella	1-1	0-0	0-0	0	2	0	0	4
Hillis	2-2	0-0	0-0	2	4	0	0	11
Hoogendam	3-5	0-0	2-2	2	8	0	0	13
Young	1-2	0-0	0-0	1	2	2	1	12
McDonnell	0-1	0-1	0-0	2	0	0	0	6
team				3				
	30-52	4-9	13-14	30	77	15	2	200
	.577	.444	.929					

Miami	FG	3PT	FT	RB	PTS	A	S	MIN
Day,F	4-10	1-1	3-4	11	12	6	3	33
Smith,F	2-3	0-0	0-0	3	4	1	0	19
Butler,C	1-3	0-0	0-0	3	2	1	0	18
Cusick,G	7-20	1-9	0-0	3	15	4	1	32
Merrill,G	4-9	0-1	0-0	3	8	0	1	22
Beck	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	2
Motto	1-2	1-2	0-0	2	3	0	0	9
Kozlowski	5-11	5-10	0-0	2	15	0	0	13
Roederer	4-9	1-4	0-0	1	9	4	2	30
Lancaster	2-5	0-0	0-0	4	4	1	0	21
Miller	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	1
team				3				
	30-72	9-27	3-4	35	72	17	7	200
	.417	.333	.750					

Toledo	33	44	-	77
Miami	26	46	-	72

2002-03 GAME RECAPS

GAME 16

Miami 72
Marshall 53

Jan. 20, 2003—Huntington, W.Va.

Miami showed the ability to bounce back once again, rebounding from an emotional loss by picking up a key MAC East Division road win over Marshall University, 72-53.

Bolstered by a strong effort out of the gates, Miami looked to have the game in control with less than eight minutes to play. The RedHawks were strong on defense and controlled the boards while holding the Thundering Herd to just one field goal over a nearly 10-minute span and building a 25-9 lead. Offensively, Miami exhibited a balanced attack that included four 3-point field goals.

Just as quickly as Miami's lead was constructed, however, Marshall, which seized control of the offensive glass, broke it back down with a 12-2 run over the next four minutes. The teams exchanged baskets over the remainder of the half, with Miami taking a 33-27 halftime lead to the locker room.

Marshall, which entered the game as the MAC's leader in field goal percentage defense and rebounding, continued to show why early in the second half, rallying to within 41-40 by the 10:03 mark. With the momentum in Marshall's favor and Miami struggling to maintain a razor-thin lead, Heather Cusick stepped to the forefront, tallying eight of Miami's next 11 points and expanding the RedHawk advantage into double digits.

With the momentum back on its side, Miami continued to press its advantage, holding Marshall without a field goal over the final 7:57 of the game, and earning its 11th consecutive win over the Herd.

Miami	FG	3PT	FT	RB	PTS	A	S	MIN
Smith,F	2-3	0-0	6-10	8	10	1	2	20
Day,F	2-4	0-1	2-2	4	6	3	0	20
Butler,C	4-7	0-0	0-2	3	8	1	0	24
Merrill,G	3-6	1-3	2-2	3	9	1	0	27
Cusick,G	5-13	2-7	2-4	3	14	6	4	31
Beck	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0+
Motto	2-4	2-3	0-0	4	6	0	0	9
Kozlowski	2-6	1-5	0-1	1	5	1	0	25
Roederer	1-6	0-1	0-0	0	2	1	0	15
Lancaster	5-7	0-0	0-1	7	10	3	1	29
Miller	0-0	0-0	2-2	1	2	0	0	0+
team				4				
	26-56	6-20	14-24	38	72	17	8	200
	.464	.300	.583					

MAR	FG	3PT	FT	RB	PTS	A	S	MIN
Knable,F	2-5	0-0	1-3	10	5	2	2	31
Reed,C	0-3	0-0	2-5	4	2	0	0	20
Shepard-Hall,G	2-11	1-5	1-2	1	6	2	0	33
Harbin,G	5-13	2-6	2-4	11	14	4	4	35
Dotson,G	2-15	0-1	9-6	1	13	0	0	27
Smith	3-5	0-0	0-0	5	6	1	1	17
Kellerman	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	2
Shiflett	0-0	0-0	0-2	1	0	0	0	0+
Fry	0-1	0-0	0-0	1	0	0	0	3
Hackworth	0-4	0-3	0-0	1	0	0	0	7
Swanigan	3-6	0-0	1-3	9	7	0	0	25
team				4				
	17-63	3-15	16-28	51	53	9	7	200
	.270	.200	.571					

Miami	33	39	-	72
Marshall	27	26	-	53

GAME 17

Miami 50
Buffalo 45

Jan. 25, 2003—Buffalo, N.Y.

On a night when the shooting inside the University at Buffalo's Alumni Arena was as chilly as the blustery Buffalo winter outside, Miami overcame season lows in points and field goal percentage to earn its first back-to-back win two months, defeating Buffalo 50-45.

Tied just 6-6 at 11:59, neither team was able to generate much offense in the early going. Behind six straight points by Kate McMeeken-Rusco, however, Buffalo began showing signs of life at the 10-minute mark and surged to a 14-11 advantage by 8:09.

Sparked by five points from Beth Roederer over the next two minutes, the RedHawks turned the tide, scoring 10 unanswered points and holding the Bulls without a field goal for nearly six minutes while building a 21-14 advantage. An Erin Lawrenson 3-point field goal ended UB's scoring drought at 2:21 but could not prevent Miami from going into the half with a 23-17 edge.

Behind two buckets from Kim Smith, Miami expanded its lead to nine points early in the second half, but Buffalo rallied behind McMeeken-Rusco, who scored the Bulls' first 11 points and closed to within one point, 29-28, with 14:12 to play. Miami recovered quickly and rebuilt its lead to five, but with 7:59 remaining Buffalo was back within a point.

The RedHawks once again expanded their lead, scoring five straight points and holding the Bulls without a basket for nearly four minutes, but Buffalo answered with another rally, trimming Miami's advantage to two with less than three minutes to play. Behind two free throws from Cusick and a Cindi Merrill layup, Miami pushed its advantage back to six points and held on from there.

Miami	FG	3PT	FT	RB	PTS	A	S	MIN
Smith,F	2-3	0-0	2-2	2	6	1	2	19
Day,F	1-5	1-2	1-2	8	4	3	3	23
Butler,C	2-4	0-0	1-2	5	5	1	1	27
Merrill,G	2-11	0-3	2-2	4	6	0	1	27
Cusick,G	0-12	0-4	5-6	5	5	5	3	34
Beck	0-1	0-0	0-0	1	0	2	0	7
Motto	0-1	0-1	0-0	0	0	0	0	3
Kozlowski	2-5	1-2	0-3	5	5	0	1	25
Roederer	3-5	1-2	2-2	1	9	0	2	15
Lancaster	5-10	0-0	0-0	4	10	0	0	20
team				3				
	17-57	3-14	13-19	38	50	12	13	200
	.298	.214	.684					

UB	FG	3PT	FT	RB	PTS	A	S	MIN
Burd,F	1-2	0-0	0-0	4	2	0	1	14
Kochendorfer,F	1-8	0-0	2-2	8	4	3	0	28
Rusco,G	9-15	2-4	1-1	5	21	1	2	40
Lawrenson,G	2-9	2-6	0-0	2	6	1	1	27
Bennett,G	1-6	0-1	0-0	5	2	2	0	34
Martin	0-1	0-0	0-0	1	0	0	0	5
Meunier	0-0	0-0	0-0	1	0	1	1	7
Cook	2-5	0-0	0-1	4	4	6	4	33
Hedges	3-4	0-0	0-0	3	6	1	1	12
team				3				
	19-50	4-11	3-4	36	45	15	10	200
	.380	.364	.750					

Miami	23	27	-	50
Buffalo	17	28	-	45

GAME 18

Eastern Michigan 79
Miami 83 (OT)

Jan. 28, 2003—Oxford, Ohio

In a story that had been written too many times earlier in the season, Miami wrote a different ending, rallying from a 21-point first-half deficit to nip Eastern Michigan, 83-79, in overtime and extend a three-game winning streak.

Coming off its worst shooting performance of the season, Miami remained ice cold in the first half as Eastern Michigan rolled to a commanding 23-8 advantage. Miami hit just two of its first 12 field goal attempts and found itself down by 21 points with 1:09 remaining in the half. EMU, which shot 47 percent from the floor, led 43-25 at the half.

Heather Cusick, who was coming off a season-low five points at Buffalo, got Miami off to a quick start in the second half, single-handedly taking the RedHawks on a 6-2 run out of the gates and closing the Red and White to within 14 points by the 17:15 mark. Miami's offense picked up steam in the second half, closing to within 11 by the 12-minute mark, but the Eagles, who continued to get to the basket, made it difficult to gain ground and rebuilt their lead to 15 with under 11 minutes to play.

Not about to go down without a fight, Cusick drained back-to-back treys and brought Miami back to within single digits, 57-48, for the first time since the 13-minute mark of the first half. With less than three minutes remaining, Miami surged again, getting a Jana Butler put-back and a three-point play from Cusick that knotted the score with 2:08 to play. Both teams missed shots on their final possessions and the game went into overtime.

In the extra period the RedHawks built a 70-67 lead with a Day free throw and Butler jumper. After an EMU layup closed the margin back to within one point, Roederer bagged a back-breaking 24-foot trey.

EMU	FG	3PT	FT	RB	PTS	A	S	MIN
Knapp,F	6-12	0-0	10-13	13	22	1	3	38
Wiseman,F	2-6	0-0	4-5	8	8	3	2	42
Bishop,G	7-14	3-7	0-1	7	17	1	3	41
Ford,G	1-5	0-2	4-5	1	6	5	0	43
Coleman,G	8-21	3-7	2-3	5	21	1	0	37
Crandall	1-3	1-3	0-2	3	3	0	0	14
Ulker	1-4	0-1	0-0	1	2	0	1	10
team				6				
	26-65	7-20	20-29	44	79	11	9	225
	.400	.350	.690					

Miami	FG	3PT	FT	RB	PTS	A	S	MIN
Smith,F	0-2	0-0	0-0	3	0	0	1	15
Day,F	4-9	1-3	3-4	6	12	0	0	24
Butler,C	5-10	0-0	3-4	6	13	1	2	34
Cusick,G	11-19	3-4	1-1	6	26	4	3	42
Merrill,G	0-6	0-1	0-0	1	0	1	1	12
Beck	0-2	0-2	0-0	0	0	0	0	5
Motto	0-2	0-2	0-0	1	0	2	1	10
Kozlowski	2-4	1-3	5-6	3	10	2	0	32
Roederer	4-8	1-3	3-4	4	12	3	0	28
Lancaster	5-10	0-0	0-2	7	10	0	1	23
team				8				
	31-72	6-19	15-22	45	83	13	9	225
	.431	.316	.682					

EMU	43	24	12	-	79
Miami	25	42	16	-	83

2002-03 GAME RECAPS

GAME 19

Miami 94 Ball State 97 (OT)

Feb. 3, 2003—Muncie, Ind.

Fresh off its most thrilling win in recent memory, Miami suffered one of its most crushing losses, tumbling at Ball State 97-94 in overtime after losing a 16-point lead.

In a fast-paced first half, Miami seized the early momentum but could not hold it, and a late RedHawk drought allowed Ball State to stake a 45-38 halftime lead.

Miami, which was led by Heather Cusick's 14 first-half points, shot 35 percent from the field in the first half but grabbed 10 offensive rebounds. Ball State shot 50 percent from the floor in the half but hit just 9-of-19 free throws.

The RedHawks responded early in the second half, outscoring the Cardinals 9-1 over the first two minutes to regain the lead and taking a 54-52 lead into the first media timeout. In the midst of a 20-7 run that included nine points from Cusick, Miami held a 58-52 lead when Cusick drew her fourth foul with 14:59 remaining. In the ensuing moments, Ball State made a brief run closing to within 58-56 with 14:04 remaining.

With its leader on the bench in foul trouble and momentum slowly shifting, Miami rose to the occasion, outscoring Ball State 12-4 over the next five minutes and staking a 76-60 lead. The Cardinals responded with a run of their own, trimming Miami's advantage to 78-71 and forcing a RedHawk timeout with 5:57 to play.

Ball State refused to die and was back within 86-84 following back-to-back 3-pointers by Johna Goff. Two possessions later, Tamara Bowie hit a layup with eight seconds remaining to knot the score and send the game into overtime.

Miami	FG	3PT	FT	RB	PTS	A	S	MIN
Smith,F	5-6	0-0	2-4	4	12	1	1	17
Roederer,F	2-8	1-4	2-2	5	7	0	1	25
Butler,C	4-8	0-0	0-0	6	8	3	0	24
Cusick,G	11-18	6-8	0-1	2	28	4	1	26
Kozlowski,G	3-7	2-4	0-0	6	8	4	3	35
Merrill	2-6	0-1	3-4	2	7	4	1	23
Beck	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	2
Motto	3-10	2-7	0-1	2	8	4	0	21
Sullivan	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0+
Day	2-7	0-3	0-0	6	4	0	0	24
Lancaster	6-11	0-0	0-1	6	12	0	2	28
team				8				
	38-81	11-27	7-13	47	94	20	9	225
	.469	.407	.538					

BSU	FG	3PT	FT	RB	PTS	A	S	MIN
Bowie,F	7-10	0-1	2-7	10	16	1	2	30
Endress,F	6-17	2-6	6-8	7	20	2	0	42
Reiter,C	5-11	3-6	13	13	13	1	1	38
Goff,G	8-18	4-8	6-10	4	26	6	1	36
Collins,G	5-8	1-3	2-2	4	13	4	2	40
Hampton	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	8
Just	0-0	0-0	0-0	1	0	2	0	10
Cotton	1-7	0-1	5-8	5	7	1	2	18
Sutton	1-1	0-0	0-0	0	2	0	0	3
team				3				
	33-72	10-25	21-35	47	97	17	8	225
	.458	.400	.600					

Miami	38	48	8	-	94
Ball State	45	41	11	-	97

GAME 20

Kent State 60 Miami 61

Feb. 8, 2003—Oxford, Ohio

A string of thrilling games continued for Miami but unfortunately a string of heartbreaks carried on as well, as the RedHawks fell 61-60 to Mid-American Conference East Division rival Kent State after the Golden Flashes buried two free throws with four seconds left.

Defense dominated the early going, as Kent State grabbed the lead out of the gates and protected a razor-thin margin for the first nine minutes. Miami grabbed its first lead at 12-11 after Kim Lancaster stole the ball and went coast-to-coast to tally the go-ahead layup. The Golden Flashes took off on another run over the next three minutes, building a 25-19 advantage, their largest lead of the half. Led by Lancaster and Colleen Day, Miami responded again, pulling to within a point after a Lancaster jumper and Day three-point play. KSU finished the half on a 5-1 run and led 32-28 going into the locker room.

Kent State came out fast in the second half and quickly built its largest lead of the game, 36-28, by 18:11. Miami finally got on the board at 17:19 with a Jana Butler field goal and a Cindi Merrill 3-pointer put the RedHawks up 37-36 with under 16 minutes to play.

From there a back-and-forth battle ensued. Steady throughout the afternoon, Jamie Rubis scored with 45 seconds remaining to put the Flashes ahead by a point, but Day buried two free throws on the RedHawks' next possession to rebuild Miami's lead to 60-59. Kent State lost the ball out of bounds with less than 10 seconds to play, but the RedHawks committed a turnover and a foul on the in-bounds play, and Kollat buried two free throws to give the Flashes the lead with four seconds remaining.

KSU	FG	3PT	FT	RB	PTS	A	S	MIN
Shearer,F	0-1	0-1	2-2	6	2	0	0	26
Rubis,F	10-18	1-1	0-0	7	21	0	0	38
Kollat,C	6-8	0-0	7-8	12	19	1	4	35
O'Hara,G	1-6	0-2	0-0	4	2	2	3	35
Zona,G	4-11	0-3	7-8	4	15	2	1	38
Vavrek	1-1	0-0	0-0	1	2	2	0	7
Kelly	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	2
Clark	0-1	0-0	0-0	0	0	1	0	10
Hager	0-1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	9
team				4				
	22-47	1-7	16-18	38	61	8	8	200
	.362	.263	.765					

Miami	FG	3PT	FT	RB	PTS	A	S	MIN
Smith,F	1-3	0-0	0-0	2	2	0	0	14
Roederer,F	1-4	1-2	1-2	0	4	1	1	18
Butler,C	1-3	0-0	0-0	0	2	2	0	15
Kozlowski,G	3-11	1-6	2-2	4	9	0	1	32
Cusick,G	4-13	1-3	1-1	1	10	3	3	29
Motto	1-5	1-5	0-0	0	3	1	0	15
Sullivan	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	1
Merrill	1-5	1-2	1-2	1	4	1	4	18
Day	4-7	0-1	5-5	5	13	1	3	30
Lancaster	5-7	0-0	3-5	7	13	1	1	24
Miller	0-0	0-0	0-0	2	0	0	0	4
team				4				
	21-58	5-19	13-17	26	60	10	13	200
	.362	.263	.765					

Kent State	32	29	-	61
Miami	28	32	-	60

GAME 21

Miami 70 Northern Illinois 64

Feb. 13, 2003—DeKalb, Ill.

Playing in one of the MAC's toughest venues and trailing by a point with less than two minutes remaining, Miami stared adversity in the face and came out on top, defeating Northern Illinois University, 70-64.

Ignited by senior guard Heather Cusick, who netted the game's first four points, Miami built a 15-3 advantage by the 12:27 mark. With an efficient offense and stingy defense that frustrated the Huskies to the tune of 11 first-half turnovers, Miami pressed its advantage to as high as 24-5 with 7:34 remaining in the half.

Momentum changed in an instant, and Northern Illinois assembled a 10-2 run over the next three minutes. Miami scored just four points over the final 9:32 of the half, and the Huskies closed the halftime margin to 28-24.

NIU pulled to within 29-28 to start the second half, but Colleen Day lifted Miami out of its rut with a timely 3-pointer, and the Red and White regained its poise while rebuilding a 38-33 edge with 14:52 to play. Day struck with another trey at 11:21, putting the RedHawks ahead by double digits, 49-39, at 11:03.

Miami maintained its comfortable edge over the next three minutes, but, by the eight-minute mark, the sled dogs were on the move again, closing back to within a point and forcing Miami to protect a one-point lead six times with key defensive stops.

The seventh time was the charm for the Huskies, however, as a jumper gave NIU its first lead of the game at 60-59. Beth Roederer responded quickly for Miami, banking in a layup to put the RedHawks back in front by a point. After a Cusick steal, Day struck another blow for the RedHawks, draining her third trey of the half. Cusick and Roederer combined to hit six straight free throws in the final minute.

Miami	FG	3PT	FT	RB	PTS	A	S	MIN
Day,F	6-9	3-4	2-2	6	17	2	2	34
Roederer,F	3-7	0-0	2-2	2	8	1	0	22
Butler,C	1-2	0-0	1-2	7	3	3	1	21
Cusick,G	6-13	1-3	4-4	5	17	6	3	35
Kozlowski,G	1-4	0-0	0-2	1	2	1	2	24
Merrill	2-3	0-0	3-6	0	7	1	0	13
Motto	1-2	1-2	0-0	1	3	0	0	6
Smith	2-4	0-0	0-0	3	4	2	0	17
Lancaster	4-9	0-0	1-1	5	9	0	1	27
Miller	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	1
team				2				
	26-53	5-9	13-19	32	70	16	9	200
	.491	.556	.684					

NIU	FG	3PT	FT	RB	PTS	A	S	MIN
Youngblood,F	3-6	0-1	0-0	10	6	0	1	40
Secret,F	2-8	1-4	2-2	2	7	2	1	30
Scott,C	6-8	0-0	3-4	7	15	2	0	31
Knake,G	8-19	2-8	3-4	4	21	4	4	35
Davis,G	4-9	0-2	1-2	3	9	2	2	37
Sillar	0-1	0-0	0-0	1	0	2	0	9
Verdegan	0-0	0-0	4-4	0	4	0	0	4
Smith	1-4	0-3	0-0	3	2	0	0	14
team				1				
	24-55	3-18	13-16	31	64	12	7	200
	.436	.167	.813					

Miami	28	42	-	70
NIU	24	40	-	64

2002-03 GAME RECAPS

GAME 22

Miami 75 Bowling Green 65

Feb. 15, 2003—Bowling Green, Ohio

Miami won back-to-back road games versus the MAC West for the first time under head coach Maria Fantanarosa, improving to 12-10 and 7-4 in the MAC after a 75-65 win at Bowling Green.

Both teams struggled to find their rhythm out of the gates, and the score stood at just 7-4 in favor of Miami by the 14-minute mark. From there the tempo picked up, with the RedHawks getting their inside game going and BGSU finding its 3-point shooting touch. Sparked by Heather Cusick and Colleen Day, Miami built its largest lead of the half at 21-11 by the 11:58 mark, but the Falcons came soaring back with consecutive 3-point field goals.

BGSU trimmed Miami's lead to 32-29 with just 2:13 remaining in the half and took its first lead with a Stefanie Wenzel trey at 1:17. After a pair of Wenzel free throws with 12 seconds left, BGSU went to the locker room leading 36-32.

Beth Roederer led Miami out of the break with back-to-back layups, tying the score at 34-34, but BGSU quickly recovered and pushed its lead to a game-high five points two possessions later. The RedHawks rallied once again and claimed a 45-44 lead at the 14:31 mark after a Kim Lancaster three-point play.

After a Roederer 3-pointer and Day three-point play on consecutive possessions, Miami's advantage was at a game-high 66-55 with less than five minutes to play, but, BGSU responded with a vengeance, closing to within 68-65 with 1:45 to play. Bolstered by four straight free throws by Day, Miami was able to turn the tide again and pushed its advantage to 73-65 with 38 seconds left. A pair of Cindi Merrill free throws put the game on ice.

Miami	FG	3PT	FT	RB	PTS	A	S	MIN
Roederer,F	5-6	2-3	2-2	2	14	1	1	24
Day,F	7-13	0-0	7-7	8	21	1	2	33
Butler,C	3-8	0-0	0-0	7	6	0	0	25
Cusick,G	2-16	0-5	5-6	5	9	5	4	35
Kozlowski,G	1-5	1-4	3-4	6	6	3	0	29
Merrill	2-5	0-0	4-4	1	8	0	0	13
Motto	0-2	0-1	0-0	2	0	1	0	9
Smith	1-2	0-0	0-0	3	2	0	0	9
Lancaster	4-11	0-0	1-1	8	9	1	1	21
Miller	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	2
team				5				
	25-68	3-13	22-24	47	75	12	8	200
	.368	.231	.917					

BGSU	FG	3PT	FT	RB	PTS	A	S	MIN
Wenzel,F	3-6	1-2	6-6	11	13	0	1	26
Miller,F	7-18	2-5	6-6	4	22	1	2	33
Stocz,C	2-4	0-1	5-6	2	9	1	1	27
Austin,G	2-8	0-1	1-4	4	5	3	2	31
Greich,G	4-9	3-7	0-0	3	11	3	1	28
Anderson	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	3
Smith	0-1	0-1	0-0	0	0	0	0	3
Jerome	1-2	0-0	0-0	3	2	1	0	13
Lewis	0-2	0-0	1-2	2	1	2	0	15
Smith	1-4	0-1	0-0	1	2	0	0	14
Lause	0-1	0-0	0-0	1	0	0	1	7
team				2				
	20-55	6-18	19-24	33	65	11	8	200
	.364	.333	.792					

Miami	32	43	-	75
BGSU	36	29	-	65

GAME 23

Central Michigan 70 Miami 73

Feb. 19, 2003—Oxford, Ohio

Miami gave its fans their money's worth once again, outlasting a feisty Central Michigan squad, 73-70, for its third straight win.

Playing the transition game early, Miami was able to stake a 4-0 lead after buckets by Beth Roederer and Heather Cusick. Central Michigan responded with its controlled half-court game, temporarily frustrating the RedHawks and scoring the next six points. The tempo picked up for both teams after the 14-minute mark, with Miami, sparked by eight straight points from Kim Smith, building a 12-10 advantage with 11 minutes remaining.

Miami continued to press its advantage and led 18-10 at 8:49. CMU responded by outscoring the Red and White 9-4 over the next three minutes. After the final media timeout, the Chippewas rallied to regain the lead at 26-24. Miami closed out a roller coaster of a first half by scoring six of the final eight points and taking a 30-28 lead into the half.

The second half started off much like the first half, as the teams battled for momentum. The Chippewas, who hit eight of their first 15 second-half shots, bounced back, and were back in front, 46-43, with under 12 minutes to play. Miami temporarily grabbed a one-point lead, but the Chippewas drained back-to-back treys to gain their largest lead at 52-47.

With the clock winding down and the pressure building, Miami made a key push, outscoring the Chippewas 8-0 over the next four minutes to regain the lead at 55-52. The teams exchanged baskets over the remainder of the game, with Miami not able to put the game away until four Cusick free throws in the final 11 seconds.

CMU	FG	3PT	FT	RB	PTS	A	S	MIN
Eidson,F	11-16	2-4	4-4	6	28	2	1	36
Mecoli,F	2-6	1-3	0-0	3	5	1	1	20
Henderson,G	4-7	0-1	4-6	2	12	4	1	35
Kuhl,G	4-8	3-5	0-0	6	11	2	3	29
Manning,G	1-4	0-0	0-0	4	2	2	0	17
Hatfield	0-1	0-1	0-0	0	0	0	0	8
Harmon	0-3	0-0	0-0	2	0	1	1	20
Myers	3-5	0-0	2-2	1	8	0	1	18
Yops	1-4	0-2	0-0	1	2	3	1	10
Douglas	1-2	0-0	0-0	3	2	0	0	7
team				2				
	27-56	6-16	10-12	30	70	15	9	200
	.482	.375	.833					

Miami	FG	3PT	FT	RB	PTS	A	S	MIN
Roederer,F	4-9	1-4	5-6	4	14	0	0	27
Day,F	3-9	0-1	7-7	10	13	3	2	31
Butler,C	3-7	0-0	2-2	7	8	1	1	25
Cusick,G	3-11	0-5	4-4	3	10	7	3	33
Kozlowski,G	0-2	0-1	0-0	2	0	0	0	22
Motto	0-1	0-1	0-0	1	0	3	0	8
Smith	6-9	0-0	0-0	5	12	0	2	24
Merrill	6-11	0-0	2-2	2	14	0	2	28
Miller	1-1	0-0	0-0	1	2	0	1	2
team				0				
	26-60	1-12	20-21	35	73	14	11	200
	.433	.083	.952					

CMU	28	42	-	70
Miami	30	43	-	73

GAME 24

Miami 78 Kent State 71 (OT)

Feb. 23, 2003—Kent, Ohio

With the MAC East lead on the line and a record crowd of 3,516 packing Kent State's M.A.C. Center, Miami rose to the occasion, rallying from a nine-point deficit in the final nine minutes and claiming a 78-71 overtime defeat of the Golden Flashes.

Kent State came out quickly, scoring on its first four possessions and grabbing an 8-5 advantage out of the gates. Ignited by seven points from Heather Cusick, Miami turned the tables, grabbing a 9-8 lead by the 16-minute mark and protecting a narrow advantage over the next eight minutes.

The Golden Flashes turned the momentum in their favor with a Katalin Kollat 3-point field goal at 8:29. Miami's Melanie Kozlowski retaliated with a 3-point field goal of her own that knotted the score at 22-22, but Kent State erupted on a 12-0 run, pushing its advantage as high as 34-22 with under four minutes to play. Nicki Motto drained back-to-back 3-pointers for Miami just before the half to reduce the Flashes' halftime edge to 38-32.

Neither team could hit a field goal out of the gates, but Miami closed to within two points after a quartet of free throws. From there, the Golden Flashes got their offense back on track and pulled out to a 49-42 advantage by 15:08. Kent State continued to pound the ball inside, earning its way into the free throw bonus by 14:04 and building a double-digit edge, 55-45, by 12:03.

Miami continued to press and rallied to 69-67 with 1:36 on the clock. Jana Butler knotted the score on Miami's next possession as Cusick threaded a brilliant pass to Butler, who banked in the game-tying layup with under a minute to go.

In the overtime period, Kent State struck first with a 17-foot jumper. It was Cusick's game from there, as the senior drained two 3-point field goals, including a 24-footer with 22 seconds to play that pushed Miami ahead for good.

Miami	FG	3PT	FT	RB	PTS	A	S	MIN
Roederer,F	2-8	1-3	0-0	1	5	0	0	21
Day,F	5-13	0-1	4-5	3	14	0	0	36
Butler,C	2-4	0-0	3-4	6	7	1	0	31
Cusick,G	7-16	4-8	5-7	6	23	6	2	40
Kozlowski,G	3-8	1-3	2-2	8	9	2	1	38
Motto	2-3	2-3	0-0	1	6	1	0	7
Smith	2-6	0-0	0-0	5	4	1	4	20
Merrill	3-6	0-0	4-4	8	10	2	0	31
Miller	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	1
team				6				
	26-64	8-18	18-22	44	78	13	7	225
	.406	.444	.818					

KSU	FG	3PT	FT	RB	PTS	A	S	MIN
Rubis,F	5-10	3-6	1-2	5	14	0	3	45
Kollat,F	5-10	1-1	9-15	11	20	2	0	38
Shearer,C	2-8	0-0	0-0	7	4	3	1	28
O'Hara,G	2-10	1-5	3-3	3	8	5	1	42
Zona,G	9-21	0-6	1-1	1	19	3	1	43
Shibata	0-0	0-0	0-0	1	0	0	0	2
Kelly	1-3	0-0	0-0	1	2	0	0	3
Clark	2-2	0-0	0-1	3	4	1	1	15
Hager	0-0	0-0	0-0	1	0	0	0	9
team				6				
	26-64	5-18	14-22	39	71	14	7	225
	.406	.278	.636					

Miami	32	37	9	-	78
KSU	38	31	2	-	71

2002-03 GAME RECAPS

GAME 25

Ohio 51
Miami 84

Feb. 26, 2003—Oxford, Ohio

Miami made the first defense of its Mid-American Conference East Division lead a decisive one, roughing up the arch-rival Ohio University Bobcats, 84-51, and picking up its 10th MAC win for the third consecutive season.

The RedHawks worked the transition game out of the gates, scoring the first six points and grabbing a 9-5 lead by the first media timeout at 15:41. After the timeout, Miami embarked on a 7-0 run and pushed its advantage into double digits at 16-5. Miami hit eight of its first 13 shots.

Over the final 10 minutes, Miami began to assert itself on the glass and continued to simmer from the field, opening its lead to as many as 18 with under two minutes to play. After a Kelsey Sullivan jumper right before the half, Miami headed to the locker room with a 39-22 edge.

Melanie Kozlowski drained her second 3-pointer of the night out of the gates to push Miami's advantage to 20 points. After an Andrea Johnson 3-pointer at 16:13, the Bobcats rallied to within 15, but Jana Butler completed a three-point play on the next possession to stall the Bobcat run. A 6-0 Miami run soon followed and the Red and White pushed its lead as high as 22.

Ohio would never challenge again, as the RedHawks continued to frustrate their rival with aggressive defense while shredding the Bobcat defense with sharp passing. By the nine-minute mark, Miami's edge, fueled by 12-of-18 shooting from the floor, had grown to 27 points.

Colleen Day led a cast of four RedHawks in double figures, reaching the double-digit plateau for the sixth straight game with 13 points. Heather Cusick enjoyed a brilliant all-around effort, netting 12 points, seven steals and six assists.

OHIO	FG	3PT	FT	RB	PTS	A	S	MIN
Isbell,F	2-6	0-0	1-2	6	5	3	2	24
Bagley,F	4-8	0-0	1-2	3	9	0	0	15
Johnson,G	4-7	2-5	0-0	1	10	3	3	30
Bates,G	3-10	1-4	5-7	3	12	2	1	27
Gay,G	2-5	0-1	0-0	4	4	2	1	34
Smoot	1-1	1-1	0-0	0	3	0	0	6
Wight	2-5	1-3	1-3	2	5	0	2	20
Kirkpatrick	0-4	0-0	1-2	2	1	0	0	13
Musacchia	0-2	0-2	0-0	3	0	0	1	17
Oriold	1-1	0-0	0-0	2	2	2	0	14
team				4				
	19-49	5-16	8-15	30	51	12	10	200
	.388	.313	.533					

Miami	FG	3PT	FT	RB	PTS	A	S	MIN
Roederer,F	2-2	0-0	2-2	0	6	0	2	16
Day,F	4-6	0-0	5-6	4	13	3	1	27
Butler,C	4-6	0-0	2-3	6	10	2	0	25
Cusick,G	5-10	1-3	1-2	4	12	6	7	24
Kozlowski,G	3-6	2-3	1-2	3	9	0	0	17
Beck	2-2	1-1	4-4	1	9	1	3	15
Motto	1-5	0-4	0-0	2	2	3	1	18
Sullivan	2-4	0-0	0-0	0	4	0	1	8
Smith	3-4	0-0	0-0	3	6	2	2	18
Merrill	4-8	0-0	3-4	2	11	1	1	21
Miller	1-2	0-0	0-0	0	2	0	0	11
team				0				
	31-55	4-11	18-23	30	84	18	18	200
	.564	.364	.783					

Ohio	22	29	-	51
Miami	39	45	-	84

GAME 26

Buffalo 69
Miami 64

March 1, 2003—Oxford, Ohio

A collision between the MAC's two hottest programs resulted in two very different halves. Unfortunately for Miami, Buffalo finished with the stronger half and defeated Miami, 69-64.

Keyed by nine quick points from Beth Roederer, Miami roared out of the gates, connecting on its first four shots from the field and grabbing a 12-4 advantage less than three minutes into the game. The pace slowed from there, but Miami continued to attack the Bull defense and built its lead to as high as 20-8 with just over 13 minutes to play.

With Miami's shooting touch beginning to chill, the Bulls began chip away at the RedHawk advantage over the next six minutes, closing to within four points with under seven minutes to play. By the five-minute mark, the Bulls were within just two points, but Kim Smith snapped Miami out of a nearly seven-minute long field goal drought by scoring seven unanswered points and boosting the RedHawk edge to 40-30 by halftime.

Buffalo set the tone with its defense early in the second half, holding Miami without a field goal for more than three minutes to start the half and closing to within seven. Another Smith field goal ended Miami's shooting drought, starting a brief RedHawk surge, but the momentum was beginning to shift, and the Bulls were back within 47-40.

Buffalo continued to charge and claimed its first lead of the day, 50-49, with a pair of Allison Bennett free throws at 7:37. The Bulls continued to frustrate the RedHawks at the offensive end, and a Hollie Cook three-point play put the Bulls up for good with less than two minutes to play.

BUFFALO	FG	3PT	FT	RB	PTS	A	S	MIN
Kochendorfer,F	3-6	0-0	4-4	7	10	2	1	27
Martin,F	5-9	0-0	1-2	3	11	2	2	31
Ruscoe,G	7-16	0-2	6-7	5	20	5	2	39
Bennett,G	2-7	0-1	2-2	4	6	1	0	34
Cook,G	3-8	1-1	1-2	3	8	6	6	40
Burd	0-1	0-0	2-2	1	2	0	0	3
Klipela	2-2	0-0	1-2	2	5	0	1	8
Lawrenson	1-1	0-0	1-1	0	3	1	0	5
Meunier	0-1	0-0	2-2	0	2	0	0	9
Hedges	1-1	0-0	0-0	0	2	0	0	4
team				4				
	24-52	1-4	20-24	29	69	17	12	200
	.462	.250	.833					

Miami	FG	3PT	FT	RB	PTS	A	S	MIN
Roederer,F	3-7	1-2	2-2	2	9	1	0	22
Day,F	4-12	0-1	1-3	5	9	4	0	33
Butler,C	0-2	0-0	0-0	2	0	0	1	21
Kozlowski,G	4-8	4-8	1-2	3	13	1	0	28
Cusick,G	5-16	1-6	5-6	6	16	5	4	31
Beck	0-1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	3
Motto	0-3	0-3	0-0	3	0	1	0	13
Smith	6-8	0-0	1-2	9	13	0	4	25
Merrill	1-2	0-0	2-4	3	4	2	1	22
Miller	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	2
team				8				
	23-59	6-20	12-19	41	64	14	10	200
	.390	.300	.632					

Buffalo	30	39	-	69
Miami	40	24	-	64

GAME 27

Marshall 81
Miami 89 (OT)

March 4, 2003—Oxford, Ohio

Miami finished the 2002-03 regular-season in an appropriate manner, rallying from a 10-point halftime deficit and pulling out an 89-81 overtime thriller over Marshall University. With

Miami struggling on the offensive end and Marshall controlling the offensive glass on its own end, the Thundering Herd powered its way to a 24-15 edge to start the game. The lead was extended into double digits by the five-minute mark, as Miami struggled through a drought in which it scored just four points over a six-minute span. The contest went into the half with the Thundering Herd protecting a stout 39-29 advantage.

Sparked by five unanswered points from Heather Cusick, who spent much of the first half in foul trouble, Miami rallied to within five points to start the second half. The RedHawks continued to press, and a Cusick trey at 14:09 closed the margin to just one point.

The lead swayed back-and-forth over the next two minutes but a Roederer trey followed by a Colleen Day three-point play gave the Red and White its largest lead at 64-59 with under eight minutes to play. Marshall stormed back, knotting the score at 65-65 and regaining the lead with a pair of free throws at 4:58. The Herd run continued and by 3:28, Miami found itself staring down a 71-67 deficit.

Seven straight points from Day brought Miami storming back and a free throw with 1:58 that completed a three-point play put Miami in front 74-73. Marshall followed with a three-point play of its own, but a Cindi Merrill bucket knotted the score at 76-76.

Trailing by three in overtime, Miami got a Merrill layup and six straight points from Day to finally take over the lead for good, improving its overtime mark to 4-2 on the season.

MARSHALL	FG	3PT	FT	RB	PTS	A	S	MIN
Knable,F	1-2	1-2	0-0	4	3	1	1	35
Reed,C	5-9	0-0	1-2	4	11	0	0	27
Shepard-Hall,G	7-13	2-5	8-9	3	24	6	2	38
Harbin,G	2-3	1-2	1-2	6	6	3	3	34
Dotson,G	5-10	0-0	0-0	2	10	4	0	29
Smith	9-16	0-0	2-2	4	20	1	1	32
Kellerman	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0+
Fry	0-1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	3
Hackworth	0-1	0-1	0-0	0	0	0	0	2
Swanigan	2-4	0-0	3-4	5	7	0	1	25
team				3				
	31-59	4-10	15-19	31	81	15	8	25
	.525	.400	.789					

Miami	FG	3PT	FT	RB	PTS	A	S	MIN
Roederer,F	7-11	3-6	5-6	4	22	3	1	39
Day,F	7-10	0-0	10-12	5	24	2	3	38
Butler,C	0-3	0-0	0-2	3	0	0	1	11
Cusick,G	7-18	2-8	2-2	0	18	8	4	39
Kozlowski,G	2-5	1-2	0-0	2	5	1	0	22
Motto	0-0	0-0	0-0	1	0	0	0	8
Smith	1-2	0-0	0-0	6	2	2	0	26
Merrill	2-3	0-0	2-3	5	6	1	5	25
Lancaster	5-7	0-0	2-4	2	12	2	2	17
team				3				
	31-59	6-16	21-29	31	89	19	16	225
	.525	.375	.724					

Marshall	39	37	5	-	81
Miami	29	47	13	-	89

2002-03 GAME RECAPS

GAME 28

Eastern Michigan 66
Miami 80

March 12, 2003—Cleveland, Ohio

In arguably its most impressive outing of the season, Miami did all of the little things well, knocking off seventh-seeded Eastern Michigan University, 80-66, in the Mid-American Conference Quarterfinals and advancing to its third consecutive MAC Semifinal.

Paced by senior forward Jana Butler, who netted a career-high 21 points, Miami seized the lead midway through the first half and never relinquished it, improving its record to 17-11 and advancing to face Ball State in the MAC Semifinals. Miami set a program-record by draining 23-of-24 (.958) free throw attempts while also establishing a season-low with just seven turnovers.

Though Miami controlled the majority of the contest, the momentum started in Eastern Michigan's favor. The RedHawks misfired on their first seven shots from the field and found themselves staring down a 10-3 deficit by the time Butler finally connected on Miami's first field goal more than five minutes into the game. EMU followed up Butler's bucket with a 3-pointer and led by a game-high 13-5 edge.

That was as big the Eagles' lead would grow, as Miami, which knocked down its next four shots, responded with a 9-2 run. Kim Lancaster gave Miami its first lead, 16-15, with a bucket at 9:52 and, after another 8-0 run, the RedHawks' edge had grown to 26-20. Miami's first-half advantage grew to as many as 11 points when Kim Smith knocked down a shot with five seconds remaining, but EMU's Dru Bishop drained a trey at the buzzer to close the halftime margin to 34-26.

Sparked by the return of second-team all-MAC honoree Ryan Coleman, who was in foul trouble in the first half, EMU found its offensive rhythm to start the second half. Miami's offense was able to match the Eagles blow for blow, however, and the Eagles could get no closer than 42-38. The RedHawks embarked on an important 12-2 run from there, capped by a Beth Roederer three-point play at 13:01 and led 54-40.

EMU used its long-range attack to claw back into the game, draining back-to-back treys and, after again exchanging runs with the RedHawks, closed to 69-63 with time winding down. Coleman fouled out at 5:18, however, and the Eagles' momentum went with her. Over the next four minutes, Miami embarked on a crushing 11-0 run, sparked by a Heather Cusick 3-pointer, that pushed its lead as high as 17.

The win marked Miami's seventh in the last eight games, and the RedHawks' third consecutive MAC Quarterfinal win. Head Coach Maria Fantanarosa continued a string of four consecutive seasons in which her program has won at least one MAC Tournament game.

Pacing Miami's attack was Butler, who netted a career-best nine-of-nine free throws and also grabbed a team-leading seven rebounds. Also scoring in double digits were Melanie Kozlowski, who tallied 11, and Roederer and Cindi Merrill, who each poured in 10. Sophomore Nicki Motto contributed a game-high five assists in her MAC postseason debut.

EMU	FG	3PT	FT	RB	PTS	A	S	MIN
Bishop,F	4-6	2-4	2-2	7	12	0	1	30
Wiseman,F	4-10	0-0	11-11	4	19	3	0	37
Ulker,C	2-6	0-1	3-6	6	7	0	1	25
Ford,G	1-5	1-1	3-4	2	6	2	0	35
Coleman,G	4-8	0-1	2-2	3	10	2	2	24
Crandall	4-8	2-4	2-3	3	12	0	0	29
Hupe	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	1
Knapp	0-2	0-0	0-0	3	0	1	0	19
team				3				
	19-45	5-11	23-28	31	66	8	4	200
	.422	.455	.821					

Miami	FG	3PT	FT	RB	PTS	A	S	MIN
Roederer,F	3-6	1-3	3-3	0	10	1	0	27
Day,F	3-9	1-1	2-2	4	9	3	1	26
Butler,C	6-7	0-0	9-9	7	21	1	1	28
Kozlowski,G	4-10	0-3	3-4	3	11	0	2	27
Cusick,G	2-9	1-3	2-2	6	7	4	1	29
Beck	0-2	0-1	0-0	0	0	0	0	4
Motto	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	5	2	11
Sullivan	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	2
Smith	2-3	0-0	0-0	1	4	0	2	10
Merrill	3-4	0-0	4-4	3	10	1	1	22
Lancaster	4-7	0-0	0-0	3	8	4	0	13
Miller	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	1
team				2				
	27-57	3-11	23-24	29	80	19	10	200
	.474	.273	.958					

EMU	FG	3PT	FT	RB	PTS	A	S	MIN
Miami	26	40	-	66				
	34	46	-	80				



BSU	FG	3PT	FT	RB	PTS	A	S	MIN
Bowie,F	4-9	0-0	7-9	8	15	3	2	26
Endress,F	5-12	1-2	6-6	8	17	1	1	32
Reiter,C	7-10	0-1	1-2	11	15	2	2	36
Goff,G	4-6	1-1	3-5	3	12	3	2	31
Collins,G	5-8	1-1	10-10	2	21	2	0	35
Hampton	2-2	0-0	1-2	5	5	0	1	15
Boehme	0-1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	1
Just	2-7	2-5	2-4	1	8	0	0	21
Cotton	0-1	0-0	0-0	1	0	0	0	3
team				6				
	29-56	5-10	30-38	45	93	11	8	200
	.518	.500	.789					

Miami	FG	3PT	FT	RB	PTS	A	S	MIN
Roederer,F	4-8	0-3	0-0	1	8	2	1	22
Day,F	5-13	0-0	10-10	7	20	3	4	31
Butler,C	1-4	0-0	0-0	4	2	0	0	26
Kozlowski,G	3-9	0-4	1-2	5	7	0	2	25
Cusick,G	4-14	2-6	1-2	8	11	2	4	28
Beck	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0+
Motto	2-5	2-4	0-0	2	6	2	1	17
Sullivan	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0+
Smith	0-3	0-0	2-2	2	2	1	1	7
Merrill	8-13	1-1	1-4	3	18	1	4	29
Lancaster	5-10	0-0	0-0	2	10	1	0	15
team				2				
	32-79	5-18	15-20	36	84	12	17	200
	.405	.278	.750					

BSU	FG	3PT	FT	RB	PTS	A	S	MIN
Miami	44	49	-	93				
	29	55	-	84				

GAME 29

Ball State 93
Miami 84

March 14, 2003—Cleveland, Ohio

A dramatic comeback in the final four minutes was not enough to overcome the previous 36 minutes, as Miami's women's basketball team bowed out of the 2003 MAC Semifinals with a 93-84 loss to Ball State.

Trailing by a game-high 21 points with 4:20 remaining in the game, the RedHawks made a furious late charge, outscoring the Cardinals 19-5 over the next three minutes to trail just 84-77 with 1:01 to play. It was not meant to be, however, as Ball State iced its free throws down the stretch and handed the RedHawks their third straight MAC Semifinal loss.

Ball State scored the game's first 13 points on perfect 6-of-6 shooting and led 19-4 less than six minutes into the game. Miami managed to cut the lead to as few as seven points (28-21) with just over five minutes left in the first half but the Cardinals ended the period on a 16-8 run to hold a 44-29 advantage at the break.

Miami closed to within 13 early in the second half but would get no closer until its late run. Ball State, which shot 52 percent from the field, pushed its lead over 20 points with 14 minutes to play and kept it between 17 and 21 points until the RedHawks came alive in the final five minutes.

The RedHawks last gasp was sparked by 10 unanswered points from Cindi Merrill and Colleen Day. A Jana Butler bucket closed the gap to nine points, and, after a quartet of Ball State free throws and a Heather Cusick jumpshot, Merrill brought the game to its closest point since 5:18 in the first half with a trey from the corner.

Day, who knocked down 10-of-10 free throws, scored a team-high 20 points for Miami, while Merrill finished with a career-high 18 points, including 11 in the second half. Cusick scored all 11 of her points in the final 12 minutes and also grabbed a team-high eight rebounds.

Miami lost despite forcing Ball State into 22 turnovers and outscoring the Cardinals 28-11 in points off turnovers. The RedHawks poured in a remarkable 55 second-half points despite shooting just .405 for the game.



2002-03 MAC REVIEW

2002-03 MAC STANDINGS

East Division				Overall		
School	W	L	Pct.	W	L	Pct.
Miami	11	5	.687	17	12	.586
Kent State	10	6	.625	16	13	.551
Buffalo	9	7	.600	18	11	.621
Marshall	7	9	.438	12	17	.413
Ohio	5	11	.313	9	19	.321
Akron	1	15	.063	2	26	.071

West Division				Overall		
School	W	L	Pct.	W	L	Pct.
Toledo	12	4	.750	20	10	.667
Ball State	12	4	.750	21	10	.677
W.Michigan	10	6	.625	20	12	.625
E. Michigan	9	7	.563	13	16	.448
N. Illinois	8	8	.500	12	16	.429
Bowling Green	5	11	.313	12	16	.429
C. Michigan	5	11	.313	11	17	.393

MAC Tournament First Round

No. 4 W. Michigan 104, No. 13 Akron 60
 No. 5 Kent State 83, No. 12 Ohio 60
 No. 6 Buffalo 72, No. 11 C. Michigan 53
 No. 7 E. Michigan 66, No. 10 BGSU 54
 No. 9 Marshall 70, No. 8 N. Illinois 58

MAC Quarterfinals

No. 1 Toledo 80, No. 9 Marshall 66
 No. 2 Miami 80, No. 7 E. Michigan 66
 No. 3 Ball State 81, No. 6 Buffalo 63

MAC Semifinals

No. 4 W. Michigan 60, No. Toledo 57
 No. 3 Ball State 93, No. 2 Miami 84

MAC Championship

No. 4 W. Michigan 81, No. 3 Ball State 76

NCAA Tournament

Stanford 82, W. Michigan 66

W.N.I.T. Tournament

Missouri 88, Ball State 77

MIAMI IN THE MAC RANKINGS

Scoring Offense

1. Ball State	79.8
3. <i>Miami</i>	74.6

Scoring Defense

1. Central Michigan	60.8
11. <i>Miami</i>	70.4

Scoring Margin

1. Western Michigan	+9.5
4. <i>Miami</i>	+4.2

Free Throw Percentage

1. Western Michigan	.790
6. <i>Miami</i>	.730

Field Goal Percentage

1. Ball State	.464
7. <i>Miami</i>	.425

Field Goal Percentage Defense

1. Buffalo	.382
10. <i>Miami</i>	.435

3-Point Field Goal Percentage

1. Ball State	.412
9. <i>Miami</i>	.328

Rebounding Offense

1. Marshall	42.6
3. <i>Miami</i>	38.2

Rebounding Defense

1. Northern Illinois	33.5
9. <i>Miami</i>	37.4

Rebounding Margin

1. Marshall	+7.5
5. <i>Miami</i>	+0.8

Blocked Shots

1. Buffalo	3.86
5. <i>Miami</i>	2.69

Assists

1. Ball State	17.74
4. <i>Miami</i>	15.17

Steals

1. Western Michigan	11.19
2. <i>Miami</i>	10.66

Turnover Margin

1. Western Michigan	+5.00
2. <i>Miami</i>	+3.31

Assist/Turnover Ratio

1. Western Michigan	1.14
4. <i>Miami</i>	0.92

Offensive Rebounds

1. Marshall	16.24
2. <i>Miami</i>	14.48

Defensive Rebounds

1. Ball State	27.77
6. <i>Miami</i>	23.69

3-Point Field Goals Made

1. Ball State	7.90
5. <i>Miami</i>	6.00

2002-03 ALL-MAC TEAMS

First Team

Name	School	Pos.	Yr.	Hometown (High School/College)
Tamara Bowie	Ball State	F	Sr.	Lansing, Mich. (Sexton HS)
Heather Cusick	<i>Miami</i>	G	Sr.	Kokomo, Ind. (Kokomo HS)
Tia Davis	Toledo	G	Sr.	Kokomo, Ind. (Kokomo HS)
Kristin Koetsier	Western Michigan	F	Jr.	Grandville, Mich. (Grandville HS)
Casey Rost	Western Michigan	G	So.	St. Johns, Mich. (St. Johns HS)

Second Team

Name	School	Pos.	Yr.	Hometown (High School/College)
Ryan Coleman	Eastern Michigan	G	So.	Detroit, Mich. (Com. & Media Arts HS)
Johnna Goff	Ball State	G	Jr.	Fortville, Ind. (Mount Vernon HS)
Kate McMeeken-Ruscoe	Buffalo	G	Sr.	Nelson, New Zealand (Hawai'i)
Jamie Rubis	Kent State	F	Sr.	North Canton, Ohio (Hoover HS)
Jennifer Youngblood	Northern Illinois	F	Jr.	Rock Island, IL (Rock Island)

Honorable Mention

Latrece Bagley	Ohio	F	Jr.	Dayton, Ohio (Dunbar HS)
Catie Knable	Marshall	F	Jr.	Floyd Knobs, Ind. (Assumption HS)
Katalin Kollat	Kent State	F	Sr.	Varpalota, Hungary (Petofi Sandor)
Cassandra Martin	Akron	C	Sr.	Struthers, Ohio (Struthers HS)
Francine Miller	Bowling Green	G	Sr.	Kalida, Ohio (Kalida)
Abby Wiseman	Eastern Michigan	F/C	Sr.	St. Johns, Mich. (St. Johns HS)
Valerie Zona	Kent State	G	Sr.	Cranberry, Pa. (West Virginia Univ.)

All-Freshman Team

Name	School	Pos.	Hometown (High School)
Dana Collins	Ball State	G	Indianapolis, Ind. (Decatur Central)
Nikki Knapp	Eastern Michigan	F	Blue Springs, Mo. (Blue Springs HS)
Erin Kuhl	Central Michigan	G	Rochester Hills, Mich. (Adams HS)
Joi Scott	Northern Illinois	F	Reynoldsburg, Ohio (Reynoldsburg HS)
Sikeetha Shepard-Hall	Marshall	G	Houston, Texas (Lutheran North HS)