Those who were there remember the game well. Those who weren’t there were missing out. The atmosphere in Crisler Arena on March 24, 2004 was electric. With thousands of additional students joining season-ticket-holding Maize Ragers, the crowd was louder and more energetic than ever. And they saw quite a show put on by the Wolverine basketball team, as the Maize and Blue soundly defeated Hawaii 88-73 to advance to the NIT Final Four in NYC. Michigan fans, tonight has the potential to be even greater. With extra buses running and free admission for students, the house will be packed tonight for the Big Ten/ACC Challenge. Michigan comes into the game with a 3-0 record, having beaten CMU, Boston, and Butler. The visiting Miami Hurricanes, dubbed as preseason contenders for an NCAA Tournament spot, are 4-2, coming off of a 73-56 loss at Temple. The Hurricanes are led by junior guard Guillermo Diaz, a preseason All-ACC and third team All-America selection. Last year, Diaz led the team to an NIT birth after being picked to finish last in the ACC. Miami boasts several other weapons besides Diaz, and they will be playing for ACC bragging rights. Let’s provide the noise, energy, and enthusiasm tonight to propel our Wolverines to a victory for the Big Ten!

Here is the projected starting lineup for the Miami Hurricanes (4-2, 0-0 ACC):

13 Guillermo Diaz 6’2” G “Superman” has a 41 inch vertical leap, which helped him become a star spiker on the Puerto Rico Junior National Volleyball team
15 Denis Clemente 6’0” G Freshman, also from Puerto Rico, is related to baseball’s Roberto Clemente
22 Robert Hite 6’2” G “Flight” is considered the Most Underrated Player in the ACC by The Sporting News (which also picked 3-2 State as the nation’s preseason #1)
00 Jimmy Graham 6’8” F Afro-haired freshman is nicknamed “Big Red” for good reason
50 Anthony King 6’9” C ACC All-Defensive selection loves eating lasagna and surfing the internet

Coach Frank Haith

Object of (no) affection: Miami was involved in a bizarre incident on Sunday at Temple. After Mardy Collins’ slam dunk put Temple up 73-56, an object was tossed onto the court by a fan, temporarily halting play. This reckless action enraged Temple coach John Chaney, who proceeded to grab the microphone from the scorer’s table and call his own fans “idiots”, telling them “stupid is forever.” Be sure to hold onto your belongings, Rage, and let’s show the Hurricanes that we can rattle them without any flying objects.

No Diez for Diaz: Preseason National Player of the Year candidate Guillermo Diaz was held to 6 points against Temple, snapping his string of consecutive games of double-figure scoring at 32 games.

Butlers getting served: Ann Arbor has not been very kind to Butlers in the past few months. One Butler, the Bulldog basketball team, was defeated 78-74 by the Michigan basketball team on Saturday. The Wolverines face another Butler tonight in Miami senior guard Lee Butler (#3). Interestingly enough, Lee’s brother, Deon (also a #3), is a star freshman wideout for the Penn State football team. In October, Deon, who has 36 catches and 9 TDs for the Nittany Lions on the year, was completely shut down by Leon Hall and the Michigan secondary, mustering only one catch for 6 yards in the Maize and Blue’s 27-25 triumph over JoePa and BCS-bound PSU.

What’s in a name?: We all know real names are overrated these days. When these Hurricanes are “partying in the city where the heat is on,” they go by a variety of entertaining nicknames. In addition to those listed in the starting lineup info, senior forward Gary Hamilton (#2) is known as “G”, sophomore forward Raymond Hicks (#42) goes by “Big Tex”, freshman guard Jonathan Stratton (#21) prefers “J-Strat”, senior guard Eric Wilkins (#11) goes by “E”, freshman guard Brian Asbury (#32) is also known as “B-Smooth”, and sophomore guard Jack McClinton (#33) is known as “Apples”. Use these nicknames at will, vocal Ragers.

THE REST OF THE MIAMI ROSTER: #44 Keaton Copeland, #12 Anthony Harris, #30 Adrian Thomas.

OMITTED INFORMATION FROM TRACKING

Miami’s Free Throws: Listen in to the center of the Rage where the chant will be started, and follow along with one of these:
- You Will Miss! You Will Miss! You Will Miss! (And upon a miss, yell “Thank you!”)
- General noise (Popcorning without the jumping)
- Chanting a player’s name
- Absolute quietness, and then scream just as the player shoots
- Upon a made free throw, listen for the “It doesn’t matter!” prompt and yell “You still suck!”
Here is the projected starting lineup for YOUR Michigan Wolverines (3-0, 0-0 Big Ten):

4  Daniel Horton  6’3”  G  Stat line from Saturday speaks for itself:  28 points on 9-13 shooting, 9-9 from the stripe, 7 assists, 4 rebounds, 4 steals, and a block. Wow.

5  Dion Harris  6’3”  G  Needs 4 three pointers to move to #5 on Michigan’s all-time list

32 Lester Abram  6’6”  W  Quietly consistent, only player to score in double figures in each game

44 Courtney Sims  6’11”  F  Has scored at least 20 points in 2 of the 3 games this year, all while shooting an astounding 76.9% from the field

25 Graham Brown  6’9”  F  Hambone pulled down 11 rebounds in the game against CMU

Coach Tommy Amaker   Has responded well this season to our chants for more Amadou Ba

4’s a charm: Despite falling behind by 8 points in the second half, Daniel Horton and the Wolverines pulled out a tough 4-point win against a scrappy Butler team on Saturday. In the first half, it was #44 Courtney Sims who led the Maize and Blue with 18 of the team’s 37 points, and in the second half it was #4 Horton leading the comeback with 18 of the team’s 41 points.

Yeah, new guys: Jerret Smith had 9 assists against CMU, and Jevohn Shepherd had 5 points, a block, and a steal against Boston U.

Enter Hambone: Graham Brown, who affectionately garnered the nickname “Moose” from the Rage for the last year and a half, has admitted that he prefers to be called by his childhood nickname of “Hambone”, given by his father. We’re all family here, Ragers, so let’s make Graham feel at home this season with chants of “Ham-bone!”

H-BOMB: If Daniel hits a three, drop back in your seats as if a bomb has violently shaken Crisler Arena. It’s the H-BOMB!

Chants: Be steady and don’t speed up.

Offense:  
- Here we go, Michigan, here we go! (clap clap)
- Go, Blue, Go! (clap clap clap)
- Let’s Go Blue! (clap)
- Go Blue! (clap clap)

Defense:  
- De-fense! (clap clap)
- D-D-D-Defense! D-D-D-Defense!
- Popcorn (Jump up and down while screaming OHHHH!! at the tip or when Michigan is on defense)
- Bounce! Bounce! Pass! (Yell “bounce” when the opposition dribbles, and “pass” when they pass)

Turnovers:  
- You! You! You! (while pointing finger at the player)

Fouls:  
- It’s all your fault! It’s all your fault! It’s all your fault! (while pointing finger at the player)

Nothing but net(work): Tonight’s game marks Michigan’s first national television appearance this year. Sean McDonough and Bill Raftery are here to call the game for ESPN2. Let’s show the national audience that it’s great to be a Michigan Wolverine!

Straight (road) trippin’: All 100 spots for the free road trip to Notre Dame on December 3rd have been filled, but you can add your name to the waiting list by emailing Griff Hickman, Superfan VI (ghickman@umich.edu). PLEASE NOTE that the Notre Dame game time has been changed from noon to 2pm on Saturday (on ESPN2). Look here for info on future road trips!

Visit
MaizeRage.org

E-MAIL LIST: Just because you have tickets does not mean you are on the official Maize Rage e-mail list. To sign up for weekly newsletters and important Rage information, go to MaizeRage.org and click the link on the left side of the page, or simply send an email to tsuchii@umich.edu requesting that your name be added.

Histo’s Corner: Michigan is 2-0 all-time against Miami, having won by an average of 23.0 points. Most recently, Michigan defeated Miami 76-63 in Ann Arbor in the 1st round of the 1997 NIT.

Michigan is 2-2 in the Big Ten/ACC Challenge.

HISTO’S “STEALING” MOMENTUM FACT:
In all four games Michigan has played in the Big Ten/ACC Challenge, the team with the most steals has won the game.

On a related note, in all four of these games, the team with the most turnovers has lost the game.