



MIAMI REDHAWKS

2024 Record: 9-5 (7-1 MAC)

Mid-American Conference

Oxford, OH

Preseason Ranking

98

HC: Chuck Martin
(12th Year, 65-67)

OC: Pat Welsh
(3rd Year)

DC: Bill Brechin
(4th Year)

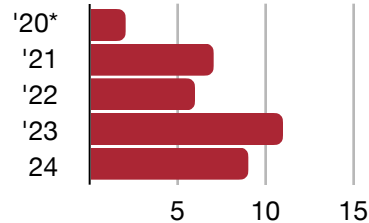
2025 Class Rankings

Recruiting
83

Transfer Portal
94

Via 24/7 Sports

MIAMI WIN TREND



2024 Results (9-5)

- @ Northwestern (L 6-13)
- Cincinnati (L 16-27)
- @ Notre Dame (L 3-28)
- UMass (W 23-20 OT)**
- @ Toledo (L 20-30)
- @ Eastern Michigan (L 14-38)
- Ohio (W 30-20)**
- Central Michigan (W 46-7)**
- @ Ball State (W 27-21)
- Kent State (W 34-7)**
- Northern Illinois (W 20-9)**
- @ Bowling Green (W 28-12)
- vs. Ohio* (L 3-38)
- MAC Championship Game*
- vs. Colorado St.* (W 43-17)**
- Arizona Bowl*

Can New-Look RedHawks Reach Detroit Again?

If you take a trip to Yager Stadium, you'll find a collection of statues that make up the "Cradle of Coaches." Those statues represent players and coaches who were a part of the Miami program that went on to have highly successful coaching careers. That list includes Paul Brown, Woody Hayes, Bo Schembechler, John Harbaugh, and Sean McVay. Of all the coaches that have come through Oxford, Chuck Martin has claimed the most wins. The RedHawks have won 20 games in just the past two seasons, the most in a two-year stretch in nearly half a century.

After winning the MAC title in 2023, Miami returned to Detroit in 2024 for a repeat attempt, but ended up on the wrong end of a 38-3 landslide against rival Ohio. Last year's team was senior laden with a significant amount of talent and experience, and the 2025 roster will look quite different. The RedHawks face their typically grueling non-conference schedule, but Martin has been able to get this team on a roll the past two seasons once in conference play. Miami looks to reload through the portal and get back to Detroit for a third straight season.

OFFENSE

Brett Gabbert gave the RedHawks great quarterback play. His stay in Oxford was extended due to injuries. He just missed out on a 3,000 yard season, and finished his career third in all-time passing in program history, just behind Ben Roethlisberger. Miami will turn to a familiar face to replace Gabbert. The RedHawks faced **Dequan Finn** multiple times the past few seasons from his time at Toledo, including in the 2023 MAC Championship. After a brief stop at Baylor, he returns to the MAC and helps Miami retain a talented veteran presence at quarterback.

The RedHawks complemented Gabbert's arm with a physical run game led by Keyon Mozee. Mozee gave Miami back-to-back 1,000 yard rushers and now departs via the portal. **Kenny Tracy** has been a part of the program since 2020, but has dealt with injuries including an ACL that forced him to miss all of the 2024 season. His return, along with **Jordan Brunson** (299 yards, 4 touchdowns), will pace the run game this season, but it will be difficult to match the explosiveness of last year's group. Miami must break in five new starters at offensive line, but the good news is that most of the players who are likely to fill the new roles have been in the program for some time. **Gavin Rorhs** has appeared in 23 games. **Austin Uke** is a veteran transfer from Stanford.

The receiver room gets a complete overhaul, too. Because so much production left via graduation and the portal, Martin and company had little choice but to portal in their own group. **Kam Perry** returns 166 yards, but otherwise, there will be plenty of new faces in **Deion Colzie** (Notre Dame), **Keith Reynolds** (Washington), **Darion Williamson** (Florida State) and tight end **Grant Leeper** (Iowa). The wide receiver room would have been new to Finn anyways, so it's possible the RedHawks could still approach Gabbert's 2,921 yards from 2024.

DEFENSE

There are a lot of losses to absorb on defense, but none more impactful as Matt Salopek. The captain, leader of the defense, and former MAC defensive player of the year had a wonderful college career, capped by 122 tackles, 8 tackles for loss, and 3 interceptions last year. Ty Wise is also gone from a linebacker room that has been the best in the MAC. Luckily, Miami can rely on a couple players who have been in the program and will help Bill Brechin's typically salty defense. **Corban Hondru** registered 70 tackles and **Oscar McWood** was a reliable contributor at nickel.

The secondary should be one of the MAC's best with the dynamic senior safety pairing of **Eli Blakey** and **Silas Walters**. That duo combined for 184 tackles, 3 tackles for loss, and 14 pass breakups. There's returning talent at the corner position, too, with **Luke Evans** and **Mychal Yharbrough**.

The line is the biggest question mark on the defense. The RedHawks will probably need a committee to replace the one-man wrecking crew that was Brian Ugwu (7.5 sacks, 14.5 tackles for loss). **Kam Wilson** and **Adam Trick** are likely starters at end while **Nasir Washington** is back at tackle.



CORBAN HONDURU – LB

Photo via Miami RedHawks Athletics

2025 Miami Schedule

Wk	Date	Location
1	Thu, Aug 28	@ Wisconsin
2	Sat, Sept 6	@ Rutgers
4	Sat, Sept 20	vs. UNLV
5	Sat, Sept 27	vs. Lindenwood
6	Sat, Oct 4	@ No. Illinois
7	Sat, Oct 11	@ Akron
8	Sat, Oct 18	vs. E. Michigan
9	Sat, Oct 25	vs. W. Michigan
11	Tue, Nov 4	@ Ohio
12	Wed, Nov 12	vs. Toledo
13	Wed, Nov 19	@ Buffalo
14	Sat, Nov 29	vs. Ball State

■ Home ■ Away ■ Neutral

Key Games

Sept 20 vs. UNLV: A meeting of two "runner-ups" in their respective conferences. Dan Mullen brings the Rebels to town for the first-ever meeting between Miami and UNLV.

Nov 4 @ Ohio: The "Battle of the Bricks" rivalry was played twice last year with the Bobcats getting the last laugh in the MAC Championship. The last time these two played in Athens, the RedHawks went on a 30-0 run to spring a win.

Nov 12 vs. Toledo: A rematch of the 2023 MAC Championship game and the "Dequan Finn" bowl. The last time the Rockets were in town, the RedHawks held control of the game until a Brett Gabbert injury eventually cost the team.

Player Spotlight

Photo via WCPO



DEQUAN FINN – QB

The MAC's most veteran quarterback makes his return to the conference with the RedHawks in his seventh and final season. He's a constant threat with his legs and his arm is plenty strong. With 7,390 passing yards, 1,907 rushing yards, 93 touchdowns, and a MAC championship to his name, he'll give the RedHawks a chance to remain very competitive despite a lot of turnover at other positions.

2024 Stats: 53.5%, 307 YDS, 3 TD, 2 INT (Baylor)

Photo via Miami RedHawks Athletics



DOM DZIOBAN – K/P

The punter turned kicker posted a successful season last year that landed him as a semifinalist for the Lou Groza award. He became the hero against UMass with a 43-yard field goal to win in sudden death and his five-field goal performance against Central Michigan broke a school record and included a career-high 51 yarder. He went a perfect 3 for 3 in front of Snoop Dogg in the Arizona Bowl for good measure.

2024 Stats: 26/30 FG, 51 YD LONG, 33/34 XP



via @exclusive_eli on Instagram



**Eli
BLAKEY**

SPECIAL TEAMS

Special teams have been a hallmark of Chuck Martin's teams with a Lou Groza Award winner in 2023 and a first-team All-MAC performer in 2024. That All-MAC kicker (and now the likely punter) returns in **Dom Dzioban**. Martin is very traditional when it comes to analytics and isn't afraid to kick field goals (30 attempts last season) and punt the ball away to flip the field. The RedHawks will need to find a candidate who can help replace 501 kick return yards from Kevin Davis.

THE BOTTOM LINE

There were a lot of seniors last season who returned to Oxford in pursuit of a second-straight MAC Championship, and they finished just one win away from that goal. The downside, if you want to call it that, is that there is now a lot to replace in 2025 on both sides of the ball. This will be the fewest returning starters Martin has had heading into a season in quite some time. The good news is that there is continuity throughout the coaching staff and there's a clear blueprint of what makes Miami football successful.

The non-conference schedule is brutal with two road games at Big Ten opponents before a tough challenge against UNLV. The RedHawks will need to start conference play strong before facing three of the MAC's preseason favorites in three straight midweek November games. Martin's squad faces a challenge in 2025, but Miami has become a reliable commodity in the MAC and will be a tough out.

Photo via Wikipedia



Yager Stadium (30,087)

Appointment Television



vs.



Wed, Nov 12 - 7:00 PM ET (TV TBD)

DeQuan Finn faces his former team? Check. A rematch of the 2023 MAC Championship? Check. This mid-week MAAction game has the makings of a classic, especially if these two teams are at or near the top of the conference standings. The Rockets avenged the aforementioned MAC Championship last year, handing the RedHawks their lone regular season conference loss in Toledo.

2024 Statistics

Offense			Defense		
Statistic	Per Game	FBS Rank	Statistic	Per Game	FBS Rank
Points	24.1	96	Points	18.8	15
Rushing	135.3	91	Rushing	137.1	47
Passing	217.4	80	Passing	194.3	34
Total	352.7	98	Total	331.4	33
Sacks	29	68	Sacks	30	59

2025 Projection

6-6

5th in MAC



XO

National
Champions



X17

MAC
Champions

Trophy Case

'48 '50 '54
'55 '57 '58
'65 '66 '73
'74 '75 '77
'86 '03 '10
'19 '23



9-7

Bowl
Record



0

Playoff
Appearances