

Terps Hope To Take Advantage Of Miami Woes

Contributed by Benton Vale
Wednesday, 08 November 2006
Last Updated Wednesday, 08 November 2006

The University of Miami Hurricane's football team is suffering as a team on the field and as a family off the field as they head north to play the No.23 University of Maryland Terrapins in College Park, MD Saturday without 22- year-old defensive end Bryan Pata who lost his life Tuesday in a shooting at the apartment complex where he resided near the university campus.

On the field, the Hurricanes are facing setbacks because of an unsure quarterback situation. Kyle Wright has a small fracture on the inside of his right thumb and may miss the game against the Terps. Wright, injured on the third play of Miami's 17-10 loss to Virginia Tech last weekend, said he would have his cast removed Wednesday and attempt to practice. If he can't play against the Terrapins, Kirby Freeman will start for Miami (5-4, 2-3 Atlantic Coast Conference), which still needs one victory to become bowl eligible. Freeman has completed 10 of 19 passes for 127 yards, one touchdown and two interceptions as a backup this season. Also, the Hurricanes will be without starting safety Kenny Phillips because of a broken bone in his hand.

Bet on College Football at BetRoyal and receive 50% in sign-up bonuses!!

As of Wednesday morning (Nov 8) Maryland was favored over Miami by a 2.5-point chalk with 88% of the betting action going on the Terps. It's our opinion at Point-Spreads.com that this line will change as odds makers make adjustments due to Wright and Phillips' injuries and Pata's death, all of which could negatively affect the teams performance on the field. Get the latest college football point spreads here.

The Terps are surging at this point in the season having won four straight games and their last five games at home, a streak going back to 2005. The four game winning streak is the longest of any current ACC team.

Maryland head coach Ralph Friedgen has his Terrapins leading the Atlantic Division of the ACC with Wake Forest. Maryland cannot afford to slip against Miami while looking ahead to games with Boston College and co-Atlantic division leader Wake Forest.

The Maryland offense is explosive behind the throwing of senior quarterback Sam Hollenbach who torched Clemson last week completing 23-of-34 passes for 247 yards.