



The Rage Page



Sophomore guard Manny Harris, on Laval Lucas-Perry's 4-6 3-pt shooting against Oakland:
"Honestly, if you ask anybody they'll tell you he's about 90% from behind the arc in practice."

Ladies and gentlemen, "LL Cool P" has officially arrived. It didn't take long for the transfer from Arizona to get in on the Michigan shooting spree at the Palace on Saturday, hitting his first three triples and finishing with 14 points to help the Wolverines to an 89-76 win over a scrappy Oakland team. With an 8-2 record, two big wins over Top 5 teams and a wave of confidence from behind the arc, the Maize and Blue are two non-conference home games away from introducing themselves to the rest of the Big Ten. Tonight, former Wolverine Reed Baker brings the Florida Gulf Coast Eagles to town after losing by 20 at Butler over the weekend. FGCU is quite new on the scene – the school's first academic year finished up in spring of 1998 (the same time Michigan last made the NCAA Tournament), they didn't start athletics until 2000, and just moved up to Division I last year. Let's take care of business tonight!

Here is the projected starting lineup for the Florida Gulf Coast Eagles (4-7, 1-1 Atlantic Sun):

3	Reed Baker	6'1"	G	Reed makes his triumphant return to Crisler after transferring to FGCU when Beilein opted not to renew the one-year scholarship given to him by Tommy
4	Addison Smith	6'2"	G	Freshman from Lantana, FL is one of the few non-transfers on the team
20	Delvin Franklin*	6'2"	G	Sharpshooting senior from Houston is cousins with Vince Young and came to FGCU via Seminole State College and Lamar Community College; once hit 9 three pointers in a high school game
11	Chad Lutkenhaus	6'5"	F	Chose FGCU because "it's a program headed in the right direction," forgetting to add "and I didn't have many other options"
24	Derrick O'Neil	6'5"	F	Idolizes NBA MVP Kobe Bryant; did his best Kobe impersonation by winning team MVP at Florida Community College at Jacksonville last year
Coach	Dave Balza			U-M grad was a student manager on the 1989 NCAA Championship team; at FGCU, he has become the most successful (*and only) coach in school history

***BUM OF THE GAME:** Since his cousin has been such a bum this year in the NFL and fantasy leagues nationwide, it's only fitting that we make Delvin Franklin our Bum of the Game. Chant "Bum! Bum! Bum!" when he touches the ball, and if the center section asks "What's the matter with Delvin?" respond: "He's a bum! Bum-bum-bum-bum-bum-bum-bum!"

Reed Baker, we hardly knew ye: Long before Stu Douglass, Zack Novak, and Laval Lucas-Perry established themselves as three-point snipers for the Maize and Blue, there was the legendary Reed Baker, Southwest Florida's 2006 Mr. Basketball who was offered a late "temporary" scholarship by Tommy Amaker one year before being fired. Michigan fans may have fond memories of his debut at Crisler (a "Baker's Dozen" 13 points against Wayne State) and his game-high 19 points on 5-7 3pt shooting in a victory over Army. While John Beilein decided not to extend Baker's scholarship due to a desire to bring in his own recruits, Reed has landed on his feet at FGCU, where he leads the Eagles in scoring. Unlike the Al Legions of the world, Reed deserves a little love in his return to Crisler.

Air Florida: Freshman forward **Eddie Murray (#23)** won "numerous" slam dunk contests in high school, including the dunk contest at the Florida High School All Star Game. Murray attended Bishop Verot (North Fort Myers, FL) with Reed Baker, but has yet to demonstrate his leaping ability in game action this year (0 minutes played). If you get the chance, ask Reed if "Air Florida" can outjump former teammate "Air Georgia" Brent Petway.

Syrup, anyone?: If freshman guard **Carey Butterworth's (#25)** mom is in the house, be sure to ask if she's giving away free samples.

THE REST OF THE FGCU ROSTER: #5 Reggie Chambers, #10 Ben Vega, #12 Kyle Marks, #21 Matt Baker, #22 Ed Rolax, #32 Anthony Banks, #34 George Erkvania, #42 Christian Wolf

Upcoming games:			
Mon, December 29	vs. NORTH CAROLINA <small>central</small>	7:00pm	Free admission for students!
Wed, December 31	vs. Wisconsin (Big Ten opener)	2:00pm	Free admission for students!

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Histo's Corner:

This is the first ever meeting between Michigan and Florida Gulf Coast. The Wolverines are 1-0 against teams from the Atlantic Sun Conference, having beaten East Tennessee State in the 2nd round of the 1992 NCAA Tournament.

Michigan is 1-0 this season in games with a single-sided Rage Page.

Histo's RPI Update: Michigan - #16, Florida Gulf Coast - #300