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U.Va. report

MAURY GRAD PAYS HOMAGE TO EX-TEAMMATE

CHARLOTTESVILLE | Virginia outside linebacker La'Roy Reynolds has played with enough distinction in jersey No. 9 that few remember he once wore No. 26.

Reynolds claimed No. 9 after the 2009 season in honor of Charles Humphrey, one of his teammates at Maury High School in Norfolk.

Humphrey was killed in a drive-by shooting Jan. 4, 2009, months after his senior season at Maury, when he was an All-Eastern District running back.

"We were team-captains," said Reynolds. "Every time I put the jersey on, I think about (Humphrey's passing) and it helps me stay focused, understanding who I'm playing for and what I'm playing for."

"A lot of people from home understand why I wear it and about being able to go out and play and do something that you love doing and representing your friend who passed away."

Virginia (4-6, 2-4 ACC) will host North Carolina (6-4, 3-3) at 7:30 p.m. Thursday.

Humphrey had accepted a scholarship offer from Division II St. Augustine's.

"It's funny, because he always used to joke around about, that 'yeah, I'm coming up there with you to U.Va.,'" Reynolds said. "This last home game will be more dedication, more (concentration) on what am I doing this for?"

VIRGINIA FAMILIAR WITH FEDORA'S SYSTEM

Larry Fedora is in his first season as North Carolina's football coach but he's no stranger to the Cavaliers. His Southern Mississippi team came to Scott Stadium last season and won 30-24.

U.Va. head coach Mike London said he could get by without looking at the 2011 U.Va.-Southern Miss game, particularly this late in the season, when the Cavaliers have their choice of 10 UNC tapes from this season.

"He brought a large part – if not all – of his coaching staff to Carolina and implemented that scheme and that system that was successful for him," U.Va. coach Mike London said. "So, we have looked at some of the Southern Miss game."

DOMINIQUE TERRELL HAS CAREER DAY

Sophomore wide receiver Dominique Terrell had caught one pass in each of Virginia's previous two games, for a total of 6 yards, before he had a career-high nine receptions Saturday in a 41-40 victory over Miami.

"The day before the game, I told him he was going to have a career game," said U.Va. running back and cocaptain Perry Jones.

"He looked at me funny, like I was saying it just to be saying it. I've been saying all season that one of these younger guys was going to step up and he did that.

"I think that's just a preview of what you're going to see the next couple of years."

CAVS' KICK COVERAGE WOES CONTINUE

The Cavaliers dropped to 120th out of 120 FBS teams in kickoff-return coverage. In addition to a 95-yard kickoff return for a touchdown, Miami freshman Duke Johnson had returns of 59, 33 and 24 yards.

COACH UPDATES INJURIES, PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

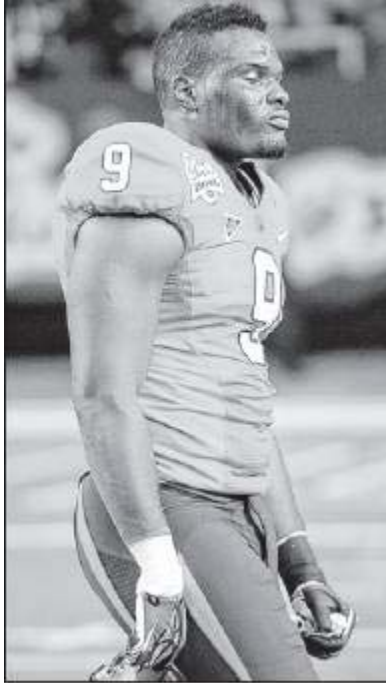
U.Va. head coach Mike London said original reports listing defensive end Eli Harold as "out" for the Miami game were the result of migraine headaches. Cleared by doctors prior to the game, Harold did not start but was on the field for 35 plays.

U.Va. players of the game were quarterback Michael Rocco and wide receiver Dominique Terrell on offense, linebacker Steve Greer on defense and returner Khalek Shepherd on special teams. Shepherd's 42-yard punt return was his second-longest of the year.

QUICK KICKS

In two career games against Miami, U.Va.'s Rocco is 40-of-57 for 526 yards and six touchdowns, with no interceptions. ... Virginia reported 19 NFL scouts have requested credentials for Thursday night's game.

– Doug Doughty, The Roanoke Times



AP FILE PHOTO

Virginia linebacker La'Roy Reynolds wears No. 9 in honor of Charles Humphrey, a former Maury teammate.
