

# MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY

## 2007-08 MEN'S BASKETBALL

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**Game #10 - Mississippi State (5-4) vs. South Alabama (6-3)**  
**Saturday, December 15, 2007 • 7 p.m. CT • Mobile, Alabama**  
**Mitchell Center (10,000) • CSS**

PROBABLE STARTERS & TOP SUBSTITUTES

### MISSISSIPPI STATE BULLDOGS (5-4)

| Pos. | No. | Name           | Ht. | Wt. | Cl. | Hometown         | PPG  | RPG | APG     |
|------|-----|----------------|-----|-----|-----|------------------|------|-----|---------|
| F    | 23  | Charles Rhodes | 6-8 | 245 | Sr. | Jackson, MS      | 15.2 | 7.1 | 1.6 bpg |
| C    | 32  | Jarvis Varnado | 6-9 | 210 | So. | Brownsville, TN  | 5.2  | 7.7 | 4.6 bpg |
| G    | 11  | Ben Hansbrough | 6-3 | 205 | So. | Poplar Bluff, MO | 8.9  | 3.1 | 2.4     |
| G    | 22  | Barry Stewart  | 6-2 | 170 | So. | Shelbyville, TN  | 11.6 | 4.8 | 2.6     |
| G    | 44  | Jamont Gordon  | 6-4 | 230 | Jr. | Nashville, TN    | 18.3 | 6.3 | 3.9     |
| F/C  | 21  | Brian Johnson  | 6-9 | 245 | Jr. | Laurinburg, NC   | 4.0  | 2.8 | 0.2     |
| G    | 25  | Phil Turner    | 6-3 | 170 | Fr. | Grenada, MS      | 2.4  | 1.7 | 0.7     |

### SOUTH ALABAMA JAGUARS (6-3)

| Pos. | No. | Name             | Ht.  | Wt. | Cl. | Hometown           | PPG  | RPG | APG     |
|------|-----|------------------|------|-----|-----|--------------------|------|-----|---------|
| F    | 1   | DeAndre Coleman  | 6-7  | 233 | Jr. | Stone Mountain, GA | 6.1  | 6.6 | 1.6     |
| F    | 21  | Brandon Davis    | 6-6  | 205 | Jr. | Birmingham, AL     | 10.2 | 5.7 | 1.2     |
| G    | 3   | Domonic Tilford  | 5-10 | 171 | Jr. | Louisville, KY     | 15.4 | 2.3 | 2.1     |
| G    | 5   | Daon Merritt     | 5-8  | 193 | Sr. | Jamaica, NY        | 12.9 | 3.0 | 4.7     |
| G    | 10  | Demetric Bennett | 6-4  | 205 | Sr. | Albany, GA         | 18.1 | 5.9 | 2.1     |
| C    | 54  | Ronald Douglas   | 6-8  | 225 | Jr. | Baton Rouge, LA    | 6.1  | 5.0 | 1.8 bpg |
| G    | 22  | B.J. Ford        | 6-0  | 165 | Jr. | Grand Rapids, MI   | 4.7  | 0.7 | 0.7     |

Officials: TBA

### MSU BEGINS WEEK-LONG, THREE-GAME ROAD SWING AT SOUTH ALABAMA

The Bulldogs of Mississippi State (5-4) embark on a week-long, three-game road swing by first taking on the South Alabama Jaguars (6-3) Saturday evening in Mobile as the nightcap of the ninth annual Coors Classic held at the 10,000-seat Mitchell Center. Auburn and Southern University tip off this year's doubleheader event at 5 p.m. CT, followed by the MSU-USA contest at approximately 7:20 p.m. CT. Both contests will be regionally televised live by CSS.

With 10th-year MSU head coach **Rick Stansbury** (190-108) just one win away from tying his former mentor **Richard Williams** (191-163; 1987-98) for the top spot on the school's career wins list, the Bulldogs enter their pre-Christmas road swing with a 5-4 record after dropping a 64-58 home decision to the Miami Hurricanes this past Thursday. MState opened its recently completed three-game homestand with victories over Murray State (78-61) and Southeastern Louisiana (84-59).

Junior all-America candidate **Jamont Gordon** paces a trio of double-figure State scorers on the year at 18.3 points per game, while also averaging 6.3 rebounds and 3.9 assists. Senior all-SEC forward **Charles Rhodes** ranks second on the team in both scoring (15.2 ppg) and rebounding (7.1 rpg), while sophomore guard **Barry Stewart** contributes 11.6 points an outing and leads the club with 18 made 3-pointers following Thursday's 18-point effort against Miami in which he hit 5-of-9 treys.

Guided by **Ronnie Arrow**, who is in his first season of his second term (eighth year overall) as head coach at South Alabama, the Jaguars are 6-3 on the year after posting recent back-to-back home triumphs over Houston Baptist (66-62) and Southern Miss (75-68). Two of South Alabama's setbacks on the season have come on the road to SEC teams, having fallen 81-78 at Ole Miss on Nov. 13 and 91-88 in double overtime at Vanderbilt on Nov. 29. Picked in the preseason to finish second in the Sun Belt Conference's East Division, the Jaguars are paced by preseason first-team all-league selection **Demetric Bennett** at 18.1 points per game. Junior guard **Domonic Tilford** averages 15.4 points an outing and is shooting 46 percent from behind the three-point arc on the year.

Despite going 1-3 last season on the home floors on non-conference opponents, the Bulldogs have prevailed in 16 of their last 19 non-conference road outings dating back to the 2000-01 season. From Mobile, MSU plays at Loyola Marymount on Dec. 19 and at Texas A&M-Corpus Christi on Dec. 21.

♦ The Bulldogs own a 10-0 all-time series record against South Alabama, including a 7-0 mark in Starkville meetings and a 3-0 ledger in games played in Mobile through the years.

♦ Though they did not meet during the four-day inaugural event, South Alabama and Mississippi State placed fourth and fifth, respectively, at last month's Anaheim Classic in California.

♦ As they prepare for three straight non-SEC road games prior to Christmas, the Bulldogs have prevailed in 16 of their last 19 non-conference road games dating back to the 2000-01 season, includ-

ing a then-nation's best, 15-game winning streak in non-conference road outings that was snapped last season at Clemson.

♦ MSU most recently played three straight non-SEC road games in 2003-04, winning at Santa Clara, Tulane and Arkansas-Little Rock.

♦ In addition to closing in on Richard Williams' career wins mark at MSU, 10th-year head coach Rick Stansbury (190-108) is also battling LSU's John Brady (189-129) and Alabama's Mark Gottfried (186-111) in becoming the 20th all-time member of the SEC's 200-win club.

### 2007-08 MSU RESULTS (5-4)

| DATE     | OPPONENT (TV)                     | SCORE/TIME |
|----------|-----------------------------------|------------|
| Nov. 10  | LOUISIANA TECH                    | W 75-45    |
| Nov. 15  | CLEMSON (FSN/SUN)                 | L 82-84    |
| Nov. 17  | UT MARTIN                         | W 86-70    |
| Nov. 22  | #UC Irvine (ESPN2)                | W 68-53    |
| Nov. 23  | #Southern Illinois (ESPN2)        | L 49-63    |
| Nov. 23  | #Miami (OH) (ESPN2)               | L 60-67    |
| Dec. 1   | MURRAY STATE                      | W 78-61    |
| Dec. 8   | SOUTHEASTERN LA. (CSS)            | W 84-59    |
| Dec. 13  | MIAMI (FL) (FSN/SUN)              | L 58-64    |
| Dec. 15  | *at South Alabama (CSS)           | 7 p.m.     |
| Dec. 19  | at Loyola Marymount               | 9 p.m.     |
| Dec. 21  | at Texas A&M-Corpus Christi (CSS) | 7 p.m.     |
| Dec. 29  | MISSOURI (FSN/SUN)                | 4 p.m.     |
| Jan. 5   | *Lafayette College                | 2 p.m.     |
| Jan. 9   | at LSU                            | 7 p.m.     |
| Jan. 12  | GEORGIA (RS)                      | 1 p.m.     |
| Jan. 15  | KENTUCKY (ESPN)                   | 8 p.m.     |
| Jan. 19  | at Alabama (RS)                   | 2 p.m.     |
| Jan. 26  | MISSISSIPPI (FSN/SUN)             | 4 p.m.     |
| Jan. 30  | at Arkansas (RS)                  | 7 p.m.     |
| Feb. 2   | TENNESSEE (FSN/SUN)               | 6 p.m.     |
| Feb. 6   | ALABAMA                           | 7 p.m.     |
| Feb. 9   | at Auburn (FSN/SUN)               | 6 p.m.     |
| Feb. 16  | ARKANSAS (ESPN)                   | 3 p.m.     |
| Feb. 20  | at Mississippi                    | 7 p.m.     |
| Feb. 23  | at South Carolina (RS)            | 3 p.m.     |
| Feb. 27  | AUBURN                            | 7 p.m.     |
| Mar. 1   | at Florida (CBS)                  | 3 p.m.     |
| Mar. 5   | at Vanderbilt                     | 7 p.m.     |
| Mar. 8   | LSU                               | TBA        |
| M. 13-16 | +at SEC Tournament (RS/CBS)       | TBA        |

# - Anaheim Classic (Anaheim, CA)

\* - Coors Classic (Mobile, AL)

^ - at Jackson, MS (Mississippi Coliseum)

+ - at Atlanta, GA (Georgia Dome)

All Times CT

### MSU-SOUTH ALABAMA GAME FACTS

#### MISSISSIPPI STATE BULLDOGS

Coach: Rick Stansbury  
Alma Mater: (Campbellsville, 1982)  
MSU Record: 190-108 (10th year)  
Career Record: 190-108 (10th year)

#### SOUTH ALABAMA JAGUARS

Coach: Ronnie Arrow  
Alma Mater: (Southwest Texas State, 1969)  
School Record: 120-96 (8th year overall)  
Career Record: 254-187 (17th year)

#### SERIES INFORMATION

Series Record: MSU leads, 10-0  
at Starkville: MSU leads, 7-0  
at Mobile: MSU leads, 3-0  
Last Meeting: MSU, 84-46 (12-9-06 @ MSU)  
Last Time @ USA: MSU, 85-74 (12-30-02 @ USA)

#### TELEVISION: CSS

PLAY-BY-PLAY: PAT GREENWOOD; COLOR: WIMP SANDERSON

RADIO: XM RADIO - 200 (MSU FEED)

Available on MSU's 29-station radio network throughout Mississippi and via [www.msstateathletics.com](http://www.msstateathletics.com)  
PxP: Jack Cristil (51st year); Color: Jim Ellis (25th year)

## STATISTICAL COMPARISON MSU vs. SOUTH ALABAMA

|                       | MSU  | USA   |
|-----------------------|------|-------|
| Overall Record        | 5-4  | 6-3   |
| Conference Record     | 0-0  | 0-0   |
| Scoring               | 71.1 | 75.1  |
| Scoring Defense       | 62.9 | 65.0  |
| Scoring Margin        | +8.2 | +10.1 |
| Field Goal Pct        | 45.4 | 46.2  |
| Opp. Field Goal Pct.  | 37.2 | 41.3  |
| 3-Point FG Percentage | 32.4 | 37.4  |
| Opp. 3-Point FG Pct.  | 30.8 | 34.5  |
| Free Throw Percentage | 66.5 | 69.4  |
| Opp. Free Throw Pct.  | 72.4 | 69.4  |
| Rebounding Average    | 41.1 | 36.2  |
| Opp. Rebounding Ave.  | 34.7 | 32.4  |
| Rebound Margin        | +6.4 | +3.8  |
| Turnovers             | 16.2 | 14.4  |
| Turnover Margin       | -2.1 | +1.8  |
| Assists               | 12.3 | 14.9  |
| Blocked Shots         | 7.8  | 3.2   |
| Steals                | 6.4  | 5.4   |

## STATISTICAL LEADERS MSU vs. SOUTH ALABAMA

| SCORING |      |         |      |
|---------|------|---------|------|
| MSU     | PPG  | USA     | PPG  |
| Gordon  | 18.3 | Bennett | 18.1 |
| Rhodes  | 15.2 | Tilford | 15.4 |
| Stewart | 11.6 | Merritt | 12.9 |

| REBOUNDING |     |         |     |
|------------|-----|---------|-----|
| MSU        | RPG | USA     | RPG |
| Varnado    | 7.7 | Coleman | 6.6 |
| Rhodes     | 7.1 | Bennett | 5.9 |
| Gordon     | 6.3 | Davis   | 5.7 |

| ASSISTS    |     |         |     |
|------------|-----|---------|-----|
| MSU        | APG | USA     | APG |
| Gordon     | 3.9 | Merritt | 4.7 |
| Stewart    | 2.6 | Bennett | 2.1 |
| Hansbrough | 2.4 | Tilford | 2.1 |

| BLOCKS  |     |         |     |
|---------|-----|---------|-----|
| MSU     | BPG | USA     | BPG |
| Varnado | 4.6 | Douglas | 1.8 |
| Rhodes  | 1.6 | Davis   | 1.1 |
| Gordon  | 0.8 | Coleman | 0.2 |

| STEALS  |     |               |     |
|---------|-----|---------------|-----|
| MSU     | SPG | USA           | SPG |
| Stewart | 1.3 | Bennett       | 1.1 |
| Gordon  | 1.0 | Tilford       | 1.0 |
| Rhodes  | 1.0 | Three players | 0.8 |

| FIELD GOAL PERCENTAGE |      |         |      |
|-----------------------|------|---------|------|
| MSU                   | FG%  | USA     | FG%  |
| B. Johnson            | 62.5 | Davis   | 69.6 |
| Varnado               | 59.5 | Douglas | 56.8 |
| Bailey                | 54.5 | Tilford | 48.5 |

| THREE-POINT FG PERCENTAGE |      |         |      |
|---------------------------|------|---------|------|
| MSU                       | 3FG% | USA     | 3FG% |
| Benock                    | 38.5 | Ford    | 47.6 |
| Stewart                   | 38.3 | Tilford | 46.0 |
| Gordon                    | 32.6 | Bennett | 38.0 |

| FREE THROW PERCENTAGE |      |         |      |
|-----------------------|------|---------|------|
| MSU                   | FT%  | USA     | FT%  |
| Hansbrough            | 89.5 | Merritt | 78.4 |
| B. Johnson            | 85.7 | Tilford | 78.3 |
| Stewart               | 84.2 | Bennett | 72.3 |

## BULLDOGS BID TO MAINTAIN PERFECT RECORD VS. SOUTH ALABAMA

Having renewed the series six years ago (2001-02) after more than a two-decade hiatus between games, the Mississippi State Bulldogs are unbeaten in 10 previous hardwood meetings against the University of South Alabama Jaguars through the years. A year ago in Starkville (Dec. 9, 2006), MSU claimed its largest victory margin of the series by posting an 84-46 home triumph over South Alabama. With the Bulldogs limiting the Jaguars to 30-percent field-goal shooting and owning a 51-37 rebounding advantage last season, **Jamont Gordon** and **Reginald Delk** paced a quintet of double-digit MState scorers with 14 points apiece. **Charles Tabet's** 11 points off the bench led USA.

Previously, MSU knocked off South Alabama four straight years (2001-04), including a 66-52 home triumph over the Jaguars three years ago (Dec. 2, 2004) in Starkville. Prior to that, State prevailed in Starkville during the 2003-04 (71-62) and 2001-02 (73-66) seasons, while also claiming an 85-74 road victory over South Alabama in MSU's first visit to the Jaguars' 10,000-seat Mitchell Center.

The first five games of this series all took place during a previous 10-year span (1969-78), as State and South Alabama met annually during the first four seasons of the 1970s. The Bulldogs prevailed in Starkville during the 1969-70 (93-71) and 1971-72 (71-66) seasons at MSU's New Gym (later called McCarthy Gym), while also winning on the road during the 1970-71 (50-38) and 1972-73 (72-67) campaigns at Mobile Municipal Auditorium (later called Mobile Civic Center). Mississippi State, guided by coach **Jim Hatfield**, also recorded an 86-78 home win over coach **Cliff Ellis'** South Alabama squad during the 1978-79 season opener (Nov. 30, 1978) held at MSU's Humphrey Coliseum.

## MSU'S ALL-TIME SERIES HISTORY VERSUS SOUTH ALABAMA (10-0)

| Date          | Site       | Result               | Date          | Site       | Result     |
|---------------|------------|----------------------|---------------|------------|------------|
| Dec. 1, 1969  | Starkville | MSU, 93-71           | Dec. 2, 2001  | Starkville | MSU, 73-66 |
| Dec. 3, 1970  | Mobile     | MSU, 50-38           | Dec. 30, 2002 | Mobile     | MSU, 85-74 |
| Dec. 1, 1971  | Starkville | MSU, 71-66           | Nov. 26, 2003 | Starkville | MSU, 71-62 |
| Dec. 6, 1972  | Mobile     | MSU, 72-67 <i>ot</i> | Dec. 2, 2004  | Starkville | MSU, 66-52 |
| Nov. 30, 1978 | Starkville | MSU, 86-78           | Dec. 9, 2006  | Starkville | MSU, 84-46 |

## MSU OWNS 65-12 COMPOSITE MARK AGAINST CURRENT SUN BELT FOES

As the Bulldogs prepare to take on their lone Sun Belt Conference opponent (South Alabama) of the 2007-08 regular season Saturday in Mobile, Mississippi State owns a 65-12 all-time composite record against the 13 teams that currently comprise the SBC. A season ago, MState knocked off Sun Belt foes South Alabama (84-46 in Starkville) and New Orleans (89-63 in Jackson, Miss.).

The only current Sun Belt Conference member institution that Mississippi State has not played on the hardwood through the years is Florida Atlantic. Louisiana-Lafayette (11-4) and Louisiana-Monroe (11-2) rank as MSU's most common current Sun Belt Conference foes, followed by Arkansas State (9-2) and South Alabama (10-0).

In his 10th season at the Mississippi State helm, coach **Rick Stansbury** holds a 22-2 collective career record versus the 13 schools presently affiliated with the Sun Belt Conference. In addition to being 5-0 against South Alabama, Stansbury is also 4-0 versus New Orleans; 3-0 against Arkansas-Little Rock; 2-0 versus Arkansas State, Louisiana-Monroe and Western Kentucky; 1-0 against Troy; and 3-2 versus Louisiana-Lafayette.

## ALL-TIME MSU AND RICK STANSBURY MARKS VERSUS SUN BELT FOES

| Opponent              | MSU Record | Stansbury | Opponent         | MSU Record   | Stansbury   |
|-----------------------|------------|-----------|------------------|--------------|-------------|
| Arkansas-Little Rock  | 3-1        | 3-0       | Middle Tennessee | 1-0          | 0-0         |
| Arkansas State        | 9-2        | 2-0       | New Orleans      | 7-1          | 4-0         |
| Denver                | 1-0        | 0-0       | North Texas      | 1-0          | 0-0         |
| Florida Atlantic      | 0-0        | 0-0       | South Alabama    | 10-0         | 5-0         |
| Florida International | 2-0        | 0-0       | Troy             | 7-0          | 1-0         |
| Louisiana-Lafayette   | 11-4       | 3-2       | Western Kentucky | 2-2          | 2-0         |
| Louisiana-Monroe      | 11-2       | 2-0       | <b>TOTALS</b>    | <b>65-12</b> | <b>22-2</b> |

## STANSBURY'S DOGS BID TO MAINTAIN DECEMBER AND HOME EXCELLENCE

Under **Rick Stansbury's** guidance, Mississippi State owns an overall record of 58-11 (.841) in games played during the month of December since the 1998-99 campaign, including a 30-2 (.938) mark in December home games. Prior to Thursday's 64-58 home loss to the Miami Hurricanes, MSU's only other previous December home setback since Stansbury took over State's head coaching duties in 1998 was an 83-72 home loss to Richmond on Dec. 2, 2000. Dating back to the 2000-01 season, the Bulldogs own a 48-6 (.889) composite record in December contests.

The Bulldogs have now compiled a composite 10-year record of 114-27 (.809) at Humphrey Coliseum under Stansbury's direction, including a 53-19 (.736) SEC mark and 61-8 (.884) home record versus non-SEC competition. Dating back to the start of the 2001-02 campaign, MState is collectively 79-17 (.823) at Humphrey Coliseum, which includes a 37-11 (.771) home mark versus SEC opponents and a 42-6 (.875) home record against non-SEC foes.

The team's 84-82 home loss to Clemson earlier this season snapped MSU's eight-game home winning streak that had dated back to this past February and had included four SEC wins and MasterCard NIT victories over Mississippi Valley State, Bradley and Florida State. Prior to this season's setback to Clemson, MState's last home defeat was a 66-63 loss to South Carolina at Humphrey Coliseum on Jan. 27, 2007. Prior to last month's Clemson contest, the Bulldogs' most recent non-conference home loss came a year ago against NCAA Tournament entry Winthrop (74-63) on Nov. 18.

In addition, the Bulldogs of Mississippi State have compiled an impressive 106-31 (.774) composite record against non-conference opponents during the Stansbury era (since 1998-99), including a 98-24 (.803) regular-season mark versus non-league foes.

## MISCELLANEOUS WIN-LOSS RECORDS DURING RICK STANSBURY ERA

| Season          | Non-SEC       |             | Non-SEC Home |             | Overall Home  |             | December     |             |
|-----------------|---------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|
|                 | W-L           | Pct.        | W-L          | Pct.        | W-L           | Pct.        | W-L          | Pct.        |
| 1998-99         | 10-4          | .714        | 6-0          | 1.000       | 12-2          | .857        | 5-3          | .625        |
| 1999-00         | 9-4           | .692        | 6-0          | 1.000       | 10-4          | .714        | 5-2          | .714        |
| 2000-01         | 11-3          | .786        | 7-2          | .778        | 13-4          | .765        | 5-1          | .833        |
| 2001-02         | 14-2          | .875        | 6-0          | 1.000       | 13-1          | .929        | 8-1          | .889        |
| 2002-03         | 10-2          | .833        | 5-1          | .833        | 12-2          | .857        | 7-0          | 1.000       |
| 2003-04         | 12-1          | .923        | 6-0          | 1.000       | 12-2          | .857        | 7-0          | 1.000       |
| 2004-05         | 13-3          | .813        | 5-0          | 1.000       | 11-2          | .846        | 7-1          | .875        |
| 2005-06         | 10-3          | .769        | 6-2          | .750        | 11-5          | .688        | 6-1          | .857        |
| 2006-07         | 12-5          | .706        | 10-1         | .909        | 16-3          | .842        | 6-1          | .857        |
| 2007-08         | 5-4           | .556        | 4-2          | .667        | 4-2           | .667        | 2-1          | .667        |
| <b>10 Years</b> | <b>106-31</b> | <b>.774</b> | <b>61-8</b>  | <b>.884</b> | <b>114-27</b> | <b>.809</b> | <b>58-11</b> | <b>.841</b> |

## THE LAST MEETING...

### MSU 84, SOUTH ALABAMA 46 DEC. 9, 2006 • STARKVILLE, MS

Despite having a week away from game competition due to final exams, the Bulldogs showed no signs of the layoff by concluding a successful three-game homestand with an 84-46 victory over South Alabama last season at MSU's Humphrey Coliseum.

As both teams struggled with their perimeter shooting (MSU hit just 2-13 treys & USA hit only 2-16 treys) but combined for just five turnovers through the opening 20 minutes of play, MSU (5-2) built a nine-point advantage (20-11) by the 11:34 mark. The Bulldogs increased the cushion to 16 points (38-22) by the intermission.

The visiting Jaguars (5-4) never really got back into the contest, as they continued to struggle with their shooting in the second stanza. With State hitting 53 percent from the field in the closing period, including 5-of-10 from three-point range, in contrast to USA's 31-percent shooting (0-of-8 treys), the Bulldogs went on an 18-1 run early in the half to essentially put the game out of reach. MState's lead grew to 31 points (57-26) four minutes into the half.

The final score of 84-46 was MSU's largest lead of the contest, as Charles Rhodes hit a game-ending 3-pointer to give him his 24th consecutive double-digit scoring effort dating back to last season.

Jamont Gordon and Reginald Delk paced a quintet of double-figure State scorers with 14 points apiece. Gordon's game-high nine rebounds highlighted a 51-37 rebounding advantage for the winners. Charles Tabet's 11 points off the bench led South Alabama.

#### SOUTH ALABAMA (5-4)

| Player        | FG           | 3FG         | FT          | RB        | PF        | PT        | A        | Min        |
|---------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|------------|
| Davis         | 2-3          | 0-0         | 1-2         | 1         | 3         | 5         | 1        | 8          |
| Tabet, P.     | 2-8          | 0-0         | 0-2         | 5         | 5         | 4         | 0        | 16         |
| Merritt       | 1-4          | 0-3         | 0-0         | 1         | 2         | 2         | 3        | 16         |
| Bennett       | 2-9          | 1-3         | 0-0         | 7         | 0         | 5         | 1        | 26         |
| Smith         | 2-6          | 0-3         | 0-0         | 1         | 1         | 4         | 1        | 17         |
| Taylor        | 0-3          | 0-2         | 0-0         | 2         | 0         | 0         | 1        | 13         |
| Grigsby       | 1-3          | 0-0         | 0-0         | 3         | 0         | 2         | 0        | 13         |
| Buboltz       | 1-6          | 1-6         | 0-0         | 5         | 0         | 3         | 0        | 14         |
| Cowherd       | 2-7          | 0-5         | 0-0         | 0         | 2         | 4         | 1        | 29         |
| Cloud         | 0-3          | 0-2         | 0-0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 1        | 12         |
| Hooks         | 2-4          | 0-0         | 2-4         | 4         | 2         | 6         | 0        | 22         |
| Tabet, C.     | 4-7          | 0-0         | 3-4         | 4         | 2         | 11        | 0        | 13         |
| Team          |              |             |             | 4         |           |           |          |            |
| <b>TOTALS</b> | <b>19-63</b> | <b>2-24</b> | <b>6-12</b> | <b>37</b> | <b>17</b> | <b>46</b> | <b>9</b> | <b>200</b> |

#### MISSISSIPPI STATE (5-2)

| Player        | FG           | 3FG         | FT           | RB        | PF        | PT        | A         | Min        |
|---------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| Delk, Ri.     | 4-8          | 2-4         | 0-0          | 5         | 2         | 10        | 2         | 31         |
| Gordon        | 6-13         | 0-2         | 2-4          | 9         | 1         | 14        | 4         | 27         |
| Varnado       | 2-4          | 0-0         | 3-4          | 6         | 3         | 7         | 0         | 22         |
| Hansbrough    | 2-7          | 0-2         | 2-3          | 6         | 1         | 6         | 6         | 30         |
| Delk, Re.     | 5-10         | 4-8         | 0-0          | 2         | 0         | 14        | 0         | 24         |
| Begley        | 1-2          | 0-1         | 0-0          | 0         | 0         | 2         | 1         | 3          |
| Stewart       | 4-9          | 0-5         | 2-2          | 2         | 1         | 10        | 2         | 24         |
| Iupe          | 0-0          | 0-0         | 0-0          | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 1          |
| Rhodes        | 3-5          | 1-1         | 3-4          | 6         | 2         | 10        | 1         | 16         |
| Rimmer        | 2-4          | 0-0         | 1-2          | 3         | 1         | 5         | 0         | 11         |
| Goodridge     | 2-3          | 0-0         | 2-5          | 8         | 3         | 6         | 0         | 11         |
| Team          |              |             |              | 4         |           |           |           |            |
| <b>TOTALS</b> | <b>31-65</b> | <b>7-23</b> | <b>15-24</b> | <b>51</b> | <b>14</b> | <b>84</b> | <b>16</b> | <b>200</b> |

Halftime: MSU 38, USA 22. FG%: MSU 47.7%, USA 30.2%. 3FG%: MSU 30.4%, USA 8.3%. FT%: MSU 62.5%, USA 50.0%. Turnovers: MSU 8 (Hansbrough, Rimmer 2), USA 10 (Bennett 3). Blocked Shots: MSU 8 (Varnado, Goodridge 3), USA 0. Steals: MSU 6 (Gordon, Hansbrough 2), USA 2 (Smith, Cowherd 1). Officials: Antinio Petty, Tracy Woodson, Lee Cassell. Technicals: None. Attendance: 8,248.

## MSU HAS PREVAILED IN 16 OF ITS LAST 19 NON-SEC ROAD CONTESTS

Despite going 1-3 last season on the home floors of non-conference opponents (a win at Miami of Florida, and losses at Clemson, George Mason and Missouri), the Bulldogs have still prevailed in 16 of their last 19 non-conference road outings dating back to the 2000-01 campaign. That success will be challenged in the coming week, as MSU will play road contests at South Alabama (this Saturday), Loyola Marymount (next Wednesday, Dec. 19) and Texas A&M-Corpus Christi (Dec. 21) during an upcoming seven-day period.

In an impressive streak that had dated back to the 2000-01 season, the Bulldogs had their then-NCAA best, 15-game road winning streak against non-conference competition snapped last season at Clemson (69-66 loss to the Tigers on Nov. 21, 2006). What had made MSU's previous streak even more notable was that the second-longest, non-conference road win string (five games) at the time had belonged to Syracuse, according to STATS, Inc.

State's non-SEC road success began during the 2000-01 season with a 75-74 victory over the Arizona Wildcats at the McKale Center in the championship game of the Bank One Fiesta Bowl Classic. Other subsequent notable MSU road triumphs included wins at Pittsburgh (2001 NIT), Richmond (2001-02), Western Kentucky (2003-04), Xavier (2004-05), and Charlotte (2005-06).

Overall during the **Rick Stansbury** era of MState basketball (since 1998-99), the Bulldogs have compiled a noteworthy 17-6 (.739) composite record on the home floors of non-conference opponents, including last year's 70-52 road win over Miami (Fla.). Three of MSU's six non-SEC road setbacks during the Stansbury era came during his first three seasons at the Bulldog helm (1999 NIT at Colorado State; 1999-2000 season at Montana State; and 2000 Preseason NIT at California).

### STANSBURY SET TO BECOME MSU'S ALL-TIME WINNINGEST COACH

Now in his 10th season at the Mississippi State helm with a career head coaching record of 190-108 (.638), **Rick Stansbury** stands just two victories shy of surpassing his former mentor **Richard Williams** (191-163; 1987-98) to become the all-time winningest basketball coach in school history.

In addition to closing in on Williams' career wins mark at MSU, Stansbury is also battling LSU's **John Brady** (189-129) and Alabama's **Mark Gottfried** (186-111) in becoming the 20th all-time member of the SEC's 200-win club. Ranking as the third-longest tenured head basketball coach in the SEC (behind Florida's **Billy Donovan** and Brady of LSU), Stansbury presently ranks 18th among the all-time winningest SEC coaches by percentage (.638) and stands 22nd all-time by victories (190-108).

The Bulldogs have averaged 20.6 wins per season and have participated in postseason tournament play seven times (4 NCAA & 3 NIT) in the nine previous seasons since Stansbury became MSU's head coach in 1998. Prior to Stansbury's hiring as MState's head coach, the Bulldogs had made seven total prior postseason tournament appearances in the school's 86 previous seasons of basketball competition.

As the 2007-08 conference season gets underway next month, Stansbury currently trails only Williams (89) and **Babe McCarthy** (88) for career SEC coaching wins in school history. Having guided the Bulldogs to the 2002 SEC Tournament title, SEC Western Division crowns in 2007, 2004 and 2003, and an outright SEC overall championship in 2004, Stansbury will enter this year's league play sporting a career coaching mark of 75-69 (.521) in regular-season conference action.

### TRACKING RICK STANSBURY'S STATUS ON MSU'S ALL-TIME COACHING CHARTS

| • CAREER COACHING WINS •         |         | • CAREER GAMES COACHED •         |               |
|----------------------------------|---------|----------------------------------|---------------|
| Coach (Tenure)                   | Record  | Coach (Tenure)                   | GC (Record)   |
| 1. Richard Williams (1987-1998)  | 191-163 | 1. Richard Williams (1987-1998)  | 354 (191-163) |
| 2. Rick Stansbury (1999-present) | 190-108 | 2. Rick Stansbury (1999-present) | 298 (190-108) |
| 3. Babe McCarthy (1956-1965)     | 169-85  | 3. Babe McCarthy (1956-1965)     | 254 (169-85)  |

### RHODES AND GORDON JOIN MSU'S 1,000-POINT CLUB THIS SEASON

For the first time since the 1990-91 season, two Mississippi State players have eclipsed the 1,000-point mark during the same season. This season for coach **Rick Stansbury**'s Bulldogs, both junior all-America candidate **Jamont Gordon** and senior all-SEC forward **Charles Rhodes** surpassed the 1,000-point plateau through the team's first six games of the current campaign.

Now in 21st place on the school's all-time scoring list with 1,139 career points, Gordon joined the prestigious club during his 23-point effort against the Clemson Tigers on Nov. 15. Most recently, Rhodes topped the 1,000-point barrier during the third-place game of the Anaheim Classic. On the way to posting his second double-double of the tournament (25 points & 10 rebounds), Rhodes became the 29th member of the school's acclaimed 1,000-point club (now 27th with 1,050 career points) while converting on a three-point play during a second-half stretch in which he scored nine straight points for the Bulldogs in their 67-60 loss to Miami of Ohio in Anaheim.

Prior to this season, the last State duo to reach 1,000 career points in the same season was the all-SEC senior forward tandem of **Cameron Burns** and **Greg Carter** during Mississippi State's SEC championship season of 1990-91.

### BULLDOGS SIGN OSBY AND BOST DURING EARLY-SIGNING PERIOD

Mississippi State University signed **Romero Osby** of Meridian's Northeast Lauderdale High School and **Dee Bost** of Hargrave Military Academy in Virginia during the early-signing period.

A 6-foot-8, 230-pound forward, Osby was named All-State First Team by *The Clarion-Ledger* newspaper a year ago after averaging 24.0 points, 11.3 rebounds, 3.6 assists and 3.0 blocks per game. The consensus top 50 national prospect helped lead coach **Lewis Lightsey**'s 2006-07 Trojans to a 25-10 record and a quarterfinal-round appearance in the North Mississippi 4A tournament. Most recently, Osby was selected as the most valuable defensive player of the 2007 Mississippi Association of Coaches All-Star Game after posting game-high totals of 21 points and 16 rebounds to help lead the North team to a 117-86 victory over the South squad.

Bost, a 6-foot-2, 170-pound guard out of Concord, N.C., currently competes as a post-graduate player for coach **Kevin Keatts** at Hargrave Military Academy in Chatham, Va. A two-sport standout at Concord (N.C.) High School, Bost became the first athlete in North Carolina history to collect championship-game MVP honors for both basketball and football in the same season. For his collective efforts last season, he was named the *Charlotte Observer*'s NCHSAA Male Athlete of the Year for 2006-07 after leading the Concord Spiders to North Carolina's 3A basketball and football state championships. Bost averaged 17.8 points, five rebounds and four assists per game this past year in leading coach **Andy Poplin**'s CHS team to the 3A state hoops crown.

## MSU CAREER LEADERS

### POINTS SCORED

| Name                   | Seasons | G   | Pts  | Avg  |
|------------------------|---------|-----|------|------|
| 1. Jeff Malone         | 1980-83 | 110 | 2142 | 19.5 |
| 2. Bailey Howell       | 1957-59 | 75  | 2030 | 27.1 |
| 3. Jim Ashmore         | 1954-57 | 93  | 1918 | 20.6 |
| 4. Rickey Brown        | 1977-80 | 107 | 1838 | 17.2 |
| 5. Ray White           | 1976-79 | 100 | 1652 | 16.5 |
| 6. Darryl Wilson       | 1994-96 | 93  | 1619 | 17.4 |
| 7. Jerry Jenkins       | 1973-75 | 78  | 1503 | 19.3 |
| 8. Tony Watts          | 1989-92 | 113 | 1491 | 13.2 |
| 9. Cameron Burns       | 1989-91 | 87  | 1460 | 16.8 |
| 10. Tang Hamilton      | 1998-01 | 123 | 1307 | 10.6 |
| 11. Rich Knarr         | 1973-76 | 97  | 1305 | 13.5 |
| 12. Timmy Bowers       | 2001-04 | 116 | 1300 | 11.2 |
| 13. Jack Bouldin       | 1970-72 | 75  | 1257 | 16.8 |
| 14. Jerry Graves       | 1959-61 | 74  | 1245 | 16.8 |
| 15. Erick Dampier      | 1994-96 | 93  | 1231 | 13.2 |
| 16. Dave Williams      | 1966-68 | 76  | 1219 | 16.0 |
| Leland Mitchell        | 1961-63 | 78  | 1219 | 15.6 |
| 18. Mario Austin       | 2001-03 | 91  | 1199 | 13.2 |
| 19. Marckell Patterson | 1999-02 | 122 | 1168 | 9.6  |
| 20. Gary Hooker        | 1976-78 | 80  | 1144 | 14.3 |
| 21. Jamont Gordon      | 2006-08 | 74  | 1139 | 15.4 |
| 22. Wiley Peck         | 1976-79 | 107 | 1136 | 10.6 |
| 23. Greg Carter        | 1988-91 | 114 | 1123 | 9.9  |
| 24. Tyrone Washington  | 1996-99 | 123 | 1119 | 9.1  |
| 25. W.D. "Red" Stroud  | 1961-63 | 74  | 1116 | 15.1 |
| 26. Larry Fry          | 1973-75 | 78  | 1079 | 13.8 |
| 27. Charles Rhodes     | 2005-08 | 88  | 1050 | 11.9 |
| 28. Lawrence Roberts   | 2004-05 | 62  | 1048 | 16.9 |
| 29. Greg Lockhart      | 1986-89 | 100 | 1042 | 10.4 |

### ASSISTS

| Name                 | Seasons | G   | Ast | Avg |
|----------------------|---------|-----|-----|-----|
| 1. Derrick Zimmerman | 2000-03 | 127 | 514 | 4.0 |
| 2. Al Perry          | 1975-78 | 102 | 510 | 5.0 |
| 3. Chuck Evans       | 1992-93 | 57  | 454 | 8.0 |
| 4. Doug Hartsfield   | 1988-91 | 114 | 413 | 3.6 |
| 5. Jack Bouldin      | 1970-72 | 75  | 357 | 4.8 |
| 6. Jamont Gordon     | 2006-08 | 74  | 351 | 4.7 |
| Detrick White        | 1998-99 | 63  | 351 | 5.6 |
| 8. Butch Pierre      | 1981-84 | 105 | 342 | 3.3 |
| 9. Rich Knarr        | 1973-76 | 97  | 326 | 3.4 |
| 10. Ray White        | 1976-79 | 100 | 314 | 3.1 |

### BLOCKED SHOTS

| Name                 | Seasons | G   | BS  | Avg |
|----------------------|---------|-----|-----|-----|
| 1. Erick Dampier     | 1994-96 | 93  | 249 | 2.7 |
| 2. Tyrone Washington | 1996-99 | 123 | 198 | 1.6 |
| 3. Kalpatrick Wells  | 1980-83 | 110 | 183 | 1.7 |
| 4. Rickey Brown      | 1977-80 | 107 | 163 | 1.5 |
| 5. Wiley Peck        | 1976-79 | 107 | 117 | 1.1 |
| 6. Charles Rhodes    | 2005-08 | 88  | 115 | 1.3 |
| 7. Jarvis Varnado    | 2007-08 | 44  | 108 | 2.5 |
| 8. Derrick Zimmerman | 2000-03 | 127 | 89  | 0.7 |
| 9. Marcus Campbell   | 2002-05 | 122 | 87  | 0.7 |
| 10. Marcus Grant     | 1992-95 | 105 | 72  | 0.7 |

### FIELD GOAL PERCENTAGE (MIN. 200 FGA)

| Name               | Seasons | FGM | FGA | Pct  |
|--------------------|---------|-----|-----|------|
| 1. Bill Singletary | 1972-74 | 192 | 305 | .630 |
| 2. Tony Robinson   | 1984-85 | 161 | 269 | .599 |
| 3. David Domingue  | 1991-94 | 125 | 210 | .595 |
| 4. Erick Dampier   | 1994-96 | 481 | 819 | .587 |
| 5. Cameron Burns   | 1989-91 | 563 | 959 | .587 |
| 6. Wiley Peck      | 1976-79 | 439 | 759 | .578 |
| 7. Ervin Dillon    | 1985-86 | 152 | 265 | .574 |
| 8. Larry Fry       | 1973-75 | 431 | 761 | .566 |
| 9. Robert Jackson  | 1999-01 | 323 | 574 | .563 |
| 10. Charles Rhodes | 2005-08 | 410 | 736 | .557 |

## UPDATED MSU NOTES

♦ After leading the SEC in field-goal percentage defense (.403) a year ago, the 2007-08 Bulldogs rank second in the SEC (behind Kentucky) and 20th nationally in field-goal percentage defense (.372)... MSU held each of its first four opponents to 35-percent shooting or less from the field.

♦ Having claimed their first-ever SEC team blocked shots title a year ago with a school record-shattering 222 rejects (6.34 bpg), this year's State squad stands second (behind LSU) in the conference and seventh nationally in blocks per game (7.78 bpg).

♦ Featuring 11 underclassmen (seven freshmen & four sophomores) on their current roster, the Bulldogs have had eight players make their respective playing debuts this season.

♦ The Bulldogs had their eight-game home winning streak, which had dated back to this past February and included four SEC wins and three NIT victories, snapped with last month's 84-82 home loss to the now-No. 15 Clemson Tigers.

♦ In their season-opening 75-45 home win over Louisiana Tech (Nov. 10), the Bulldogs matched a modern-day, single-game school standard by being credited with only four turnovers (one in the first half)... That mark tied the modern-day MSU record of four miscues set by the 1978-79 State squad in its 63-61 home triumph over the Kentucky Wildcats on Jan. 15, 1979.

♦ As they prepare for their upcoming week-long, three-game road trip (Dec. 15 at South Alabama; Dec. 19 at Loyola Marymount & Dec. 21 at Texas A&M-Corpus Christi), the Bulldogs have prevailed in 16 of their last 19 non-conference road games dating back to 2000-01... Their nation's-best, 15-game road win string was snapped last year at Clemson... MSU's Rick Stansbury owns a 17-6 (.739) career record in non-SEC road games, but was just 1-3 a year ago in winning at Miami of Florida but falling on the road to Clemson, George Mason and Missouri.

♦ In the midst of their upcoming week away from home, the Bulldogs will make their seventh trip (and second in a month's span) to the state of California since Rick Stansbury took over MSU's head coaching duties in 1998... Most recently, MState went 1-2 and collected fifth-place team honors at last month's (Nov. 22-25) inaugural Anaheim Classic.

♦ With two double-doubles already this season (both at the Anaheim Classic) and recent back-to-back, 20-point efforts (25 vs Miami of Ohio & 22 vs. Murray State), senior all-SEC forward Charles Rhodes is ranked 11th in the SEC in scoring (15.2 ppg) and tied for 10th in rebounding (7.1 rpg)... He also stands eighth in the league in field-goal percentage (.538) and 11th in blocked shots (1.56 bpg).

♦ With his 10 points against Miami of Florida, senior Charles Rhodes surpassed both Greg Lockhart (1,042 points) and Lawrence Roberts (1,048) to move into 27th place on the school's career scoring list with 1,050 career points... His next target is Larry Fry, who sits in 26th place with 1,079 career points... The Jackson, Miss., native also stands sixth in career blocks (115) at State and is three rejects shy of passing Wiley Peck (117) for fifth place, while also rating 10th in career field-goal percentage (55.7%)... With a team-high 20 dunks this season, Rhodes has 135 career dunks (33% of his career made FGs are dunks) and needs 14 more slams to move ahead of MSU career dunks leader Erick Dampier (148).

♦ Included on the preseason watch lists for the John R. Wooden Award, Bob Cousy Award and Naismith Trophy, junior all-America candidate Jamont Gordon currently ranks sixth in the SEC in scoring (18.3 ppg), ninth in assists (3.89 apg) and 15th in rebounding (6.3 rpg)... With four 20-point outings on the season, Gordon has moved into 21st place on MSU's all-time scoring list with 1,139 career points after Thursday's 18-point effort against Miami of Florida... Next up for Gordon is Gary Hooker, who stands in 20th place with 1,144 career points.

♦ Following Thursday's 18-point effort versus the Miami Hurricanes, junior guard/forward Jamont Gordon has scored in double figures in 66 of 74 career MSU outings (all starts), including 17 consecutive double-digit scoring efforts dating back to last season.... The Nashville native also ranks tied for sixth on MState's all-time chart with 351 career assists and is seven dishes shy of moving up to fifth place ahead of Jack Bouldin (357).

♦ Sophomore guard Barry Stewart ranks third on the MSU team in scoring (11.6 ppg), second in assists (2.6 apg) and fourth in rebounding (4.8 rpg), while leading the Bulldogs in steals (12), made 3-pointers (18) and minutes played (33.7 mpg)... After averaging 9.8 points per game and setting a new school freshman record with 68 made 3-pointers a year ago as a non-starter, the former Tennessee Class AAA Mr. Basketball began his sophomore season by registering his first collegiate double-double (13 points & career-high 11 rebounds) in this year's season opener against Louisiana Tech... Most recently, Stewart matched his season high with 18 points on 5-of-9 three-point shooting in Thursday's home loss to Miami of Florida.

♦ A year removed from breaking Erick Dampier's freshman-season school record with 67 blocked shots a year ago, sophomore Jarvis Varnado broke another of Dampier's school records by being credited with 10 blocks in Thursday's home loss to Miami of Florida... The previous single-game school standard of eight rejects was previously held jointly by three players (Dampier twice)... Nicknamed "SWAT", Varnado already ranks seventh on the school's all-time list with 118 career blocked shots in just 44 career collegiate contests (2.68 bpg)... He currently leads the SEC and ranked sixth nationally at the start of the week in blocks (41 total blocks & 4.56 bpg)... Having added some 15 pounds to his 6-foot-9 frame from his rookie season, the Brownsville, Tenn., native also ranks eighth in the league in rebounding (7.7 rpg) and is a 63-percent career shooter from the field.

♦ Now in his 10th season at the MSU basketball helm, Rick Stansbury ranks as the third-longest tenured head hoops coach currently in the SEC behind Florida's Billy Donovan (12th year) and LSU's John Brady (11th year)... Along with being just two victories away from surpassing his former mentor Richard Williams in becoming the school's all-time winningest basketball coach, Stansbury trails only Florida's Billy Donovan among the SEC's active winningest men's basketball coaches both by total victories and winning percentage... Stansbury presently ranks 18th among the all-time winningest SEC coaches by percentage (.638) and stands 22nd all-time by victories (190-108).

## GAME #1 RECAP

### MSU 75, LOUISIANA TECH 45 Nov. 10, 2007 • STARKVILLE, MS

The Bulldogs tipped off their 96th season of collegiate basketball competition by cruising to a 75-45 home triumph over Louisiana Tech at MSU's Humphrey Coliseum.

With MSU (1-0) trailing by four points (10-6) eight minutes into the contest, Charles Rhodes' back-to-back dunks helped spark the Bulldogs on a 24-4 run over the final nine minutes of the opening half to give the home team a comfortable 30-14 halftime advantage. The sluggish first half of play saw MState shoot just 32 percent from the field, while Louisiana Tech (0-1) struggled at 22 percent field-goal shooting.

The homestanding Bulldogs continued to remain in control during the second stanza, building a 20-point lead (37-17) by the 16:31 mark. With the visitors getting no close than 18 points (49-31 with 12:21 left) the rest of the way, the cushion increased to 30 points (61-31) by the 7:26 mark and ballooned to as many as 36 points (75-39) before MSU settled for the 30-point triumph. Five years ago in the last meeting between the two teams, MState pounded out an equally convincing 78-38 home victory over LTU.

While moving to 9-1 in season home openers during the Rick Stansbury era, the Bulldogs extended their home winning streak to eight consecutive games dating back to this past February. During that stretch, MSU's average margin of victory has been 20.1 points per home triumph.

Jamont Gordon paced four double-figure State scorers with a game-high 21 points. Charles Rhodes followed with 17 points, while Barry Stewart notched his first career double-double with 13 points and a career-high 11 rebounds. Kyle Gibson topped the visitors with his own double-double of 15 points and 15 boards.

#### LOUISIANA TECH (0-1)

| Player     | FG    | 3FG  | FT   | RB | PF | PT | A | Min |
|------------|-------|------|------|----|----|----|---|-----|
| Rogers     | 1-4   | 0-0  | 0-0  | 9  | 3  | 2  | 1 | 21  |
| Smith      | 3-11  | 0-0  | 0-0  | 7  | 1  | 6  | 0 | 29  |
| Washington | 2-6   | 1-3  | 0-0  | 3  | 1  | 5  | 1 | 31  |
| Clark      | 2-4   | 2-3  | 0-0  | 3  | 0  | 6  | 2 | 14  |
| Gibson     | 4-14  | 2-7  | 5-10 | 15 | 2  | 15 | 2 | 36  |
| Loe        | 2-7   | 0-1  | 0-0  | 2  | 2  | 4  | 1 | 24  |
| Mims       | 0-0   | 0-0  | 0-0  | 1  | 3  | 0  | 0 | 9   |
| Lathan     | 1-10  | 1-5  | 0-0  | 3  | 3  | 3  | 0 | 20  |
| Tims       | 2-6   | 0-1  | 0-0  | 4  | 3  | 4  | 0 | 16  |
| Team       |       |      |      | 5  |    |    |   |     |
| TOTALS     | 17-62 | 6-20 | 5-10 | 52 | 18 | 45 | 7 | 200 |

#### MISSISSIPPI STATE (1-0)

| Player     | FG    | 3FG  | FT    | RB | PF | PT | A  | Min |
|------------|-------|------|-------|----|----|----|----|-----|
| Rhodes     | 8-17  | 0-0  | 1-4   | 7  | 2  | 17 | 2  | 27  |
| Varnado    | 1-5   | 0-0  | 2-2   | 5  | 1  | 4  | 0  | 26  |
| Hansbrough | 3-8   | 3-6  | 2-2   | 3  | 1  | 11 | 3  | 27  |
| Stewart    | 5-10  | 1-5  | 2-3   | 11 | 2  | 13 | 3  | 26  |
| Gordon     | 7-14  | 3-7  | 4-4   | 5  | 1  | 21 | 3  | 29  |
| R. Johnson | 0-2   | 0-0  | 0-0   | 1  | 1  | 0  | 0  | 4   |
| Begley     | 0-1   | 0-0  | 0-0   | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 1   |
| Lupe       | 0-0   | 0-0  | 0-0   | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 1   |
| Bryant     | 0-0   | 0-0  | 0-0   | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 1   |
| Benock     | 1-3   | 1-3  | 0-0   | 1  | 1  | 3  | 0  | 11  |
| B. Johnson | 1-3   | 0-1  | 2-3   | 2  | 2  | 4  | 0  | 11  |
| Augustus   | 0-2   | 0-2  | 0-0   | 2  | 1  | 0  | 0  | 9   |
| Turner     | 0-3   | 0-1  | 0-0   | 4  | 1  | 0  | 2  | 18  |
| Bolen      | 0-0   | 0-0  | 0-0   | 1  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 1   |
| Bailey     | 1-3   | 0-0  | 0-2   | 1  | 0  | 2  | 0  | 8   |
| Team       |       |      |       | 3  |    |    |    |     |
| TOTALS     | 27-71 | 8-25 | 13-20 | 46 | 13 | 75 | 13 | 200 |

Halftime: MSU 30, LTU 14. FG%: MSU 38.0%, LTU 27.4%. 3FG%: MSU 32.0%, LTU 30.0%. FT%: MSU 65.0%, LTU 50.0%. Turnovers: MSU 4 (Gordon 2), LTU 22 (Clark 4). Blocked Shots: MSU 10 (Varnado 6), LTU 3 (Gibson 2). Steals: MSU 6 (Gordon, Turner 2), LTU 3 (Rogers 2). Officials: Ted Valentine, Rick Crawford, Eugene Jr. Crawford. Attendance: 10,153.

## GAME #2 RECAP

### CLEMSON 84, MSU 82 Nov. 15, 2007 • STARKVILLE, MS

The Bulldogs had their eight-game home winning streak snapped by dropping a hard-fought 84-82 home decision to reigning NIT runner-up Clemson at MSU's Humphrey Coliseum.

The visiting Tigers (2-0) led for most of the opening 20 minutes of play. Following a second tie (13-13) nine minutes into the contest, Clemson scored eight unanswered points to take an eight-point lead (21-13) with 9:18 remaining in the half. The Bulldogs (1-1) would cut the deficit to two points (23-21) two minutes later, but Clemson responded with a dunk and a 3-pointer to re-establish control of the game and go on to take a 39-32 halftime advantage.

The visitors continued to maintain the lead for the opening 11 minutes of the second stanza, before MSU went on a 9-0 run midway through the half to take a 54-52 lead on a Charles Rhodes dunk at the 8:17 mark. Seven lead changes and two ties ensued over the next four minutes.

Back-to-back dunks by Brian Johnson gave MState its final lead (71-70) with 2:23 left in the contest. A 3-pointer by Clemson's K.C. Rivers at the 1:11 mark was answered by a Barry Stewart trey with 43 seconds left to cut MSU's deficit to two points (78-76). However, Tiger freshman guard Demontez Stitt sealed the two-point Clemson victory with 6-of-6 free-throw shooting over the final 26 seconds.

Though Clemson struggled with 34-percent shooting from the field, State did not help its own cause with just 61-percent accuracy from the line.

Jamont Gordon led all scorers with 23 points and added a dozen rebounds to record his 11th career double-double for the Bulldogs. Rhodes tossed in 17 points despite first-half foul trouble. Rivers and freshman Terrence Oglesby paced the winners with 17 points each, while all-America candidate James Mays totaled 14 points, 11 rebounds and four assists.

#### CLEMSON (2-0)

| Player   | FG    | 3FG  | FT    | RB | PF | PT | A  | Min |
|----------|-------|------|-------|----|----|----|----|-----|
| Rivers   | 5-14  | 3-4  | 4-4   | 7  | 2  | 17 | 1  | 30  |
| Mays     | 5-13  | 0-1  | 4-8   | 11 | 4  | 14 | 4  | 34  |
| Booker   | 2-4   | 0-0  | 0-0   | 6  | 4  | 4  | 0  | 17  |
| Stitt    | 0-9   | 0-2  | 8-8   | 2  | 2  | 8  | 3  | 26  |
| Hammonds | 5-11  | 2-5  | 1-2   | 6  | 1  | 13 | 5  | 35  |
| Sykes    | 2-6   | 0-0  | 0-2   | 3  | 2  | 4  | 0  | 15  |
| Potter   | 0-1   | 0-0  | 2-2   | 0  | 3  | 2  | 0  | 11  |
| Oglesby  | 4-9   | 3-7  | 6-9   | 1  | 1  | 17 | 1  | 19  |
| Perry    | 0-0   | 0-0  | 0-0   | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 1   |
| Powell   | 0-2   | 0-2  | 0-0   | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 2   |
| Grant    | 1-1   | 0-0  | 3-3   | 1  | 3  | 5  | 0  | 10  |
| Team     |       |      |       | 5  |    |    |    |     |
| TOTALS   | 24-70 | 8-21 | 28-38 | 42 | 22 | 84 | 14 | 200 |

#### MISSISSIPPI STATE (1-1)

| Player     | FG    | 3FG  | FT    | RB | PF | PT | A  | Min |
|------------|-------|------|-------|----|----|----|----|-----|
| Rhodes     | 7-12  | 0-0  | 3-7   | 6  | 3  | 17 | 1  | 25  |
| Varnado    | 3-7   | 0-0  | 1-2   | 12 | 5  | 7  | 0  | 27  |
| Hansbrough | 1-4   | 1-4  | 3-4   | 2  | 4  | 6  | 3  | 37  |
| Stewart    | 3-10  | 2-6  | 4-4   | 6  | 5  | 12 | 2  | 36  |
| Gordon     | 7-16  | 3-9  | 6-10  | 12 | 4  | 23 | 3  | 33  |
| Benock     | 0-3   | 0-3  | 0-0   | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 5   |
| B. Johnson | 4-4   | 0-0  | 2-2   | 3  | 2  | 10 | 0  | 19  |
| Turner     | 2-6   | 1-2  | 0-2   | 4  | 3  | 5  | 1  | 15  |
| Bailey     | 1-2   | 0-0  | 0-0   | 1  | 2  | 2  | 0  | 3   |
| Team       |       |      |       | 5  |    |    |    |     |
| TOTALS     | 28-64 | 7-24 | 19-31 | 51 | 28 | 82 | 10 | 200 |

Halftime: CU 39, MSU 32. FG%: MSU 43.8%, CU 34.3%. 3FG%: MSU 29.2%, CU 38.1%. FT%: MSU 61.3%, CU 73.7%. Turnovers: MSU 19 (Gordon 6), CU 13 (Stitt 5). Blocked Shots: MSU 10 (Varnado 6), CU 3 (Booker 2). Steals: MSU 5 (Stewart 2), CU 9 (Rivers 3). Officials: Karl Hess, Tom Eades, Mike Eades. Technicals: MSU Bench. Attendance: 9,950.

## GAME #3 RECAP

### MSU 86, UT MARTIN 70 Nov. 17, 2007 • STARKVILLE, MS

The Bulldogs wrapped up their season-opening, three-game homestand by claiming an 86-70 victory over UT Martin at MSU's Humphrey Coliseum.

MState (2-1) scored the first dozen points of the contest before UT Martin's Lester Hudson gave the visiting Skyhawks (2-3) their first points of the game with a 3-pointer at the 15:34 mark of the opening period. UTM cut the deficit to four points (12-8) soon thereafter and kept the contest to within single digits until the 5:34 mark when Ben Hansbrough connected on a 3-pointer to give MSU an 11-point lead (32-21).

The Bulldogs increased their lead to 16 points (39-23) with 3:03 left in the half before settling for a 41-30 halftime advantage. State's Charles Rhodes tallied 15 first-half points on 7-of-8 shooting to lead the way for the home team.

MSU maintained its double-figure lead throughout the second stanza, stretching the comfortable margin to as many as 27 points over the final minutes before coming away with the 16-point triumph.

The Bulldogs shot 55 percent from the field for the game, including 10-of-22 (46%) treys. In the second half, MSU picked up the pace in shooting 65 percent (17-26 FGs) overall and connecting on 5-of-9 second-half trey attempts. Defensively, MState limited the Skyhawks to just 32-percent field-goal shooting and had nine blocked shots for the contest.

Hansbrough paced four double-digit State scorers with 20 points on 4-of-6 triples. Hudson and Marquis Weddle led the visitors with 27 and 24 points, respectively.

#### UT MARTIN (2-3)

| Player       | FG    | 3FG   | FT   | RB | PF | PT | A  | Min |
|--------------|-------|-------|------|----|----|----|----|-----|
| Hay          | 0-0   | 0-0   | 0-0  | 0  | 3  | 0  | 0  | 14  |
| Irrarrazabal | 0-2   | 0-0   | 0-0  | 3  | 1  | 0  | 0  | 16  |
| Wright       | 1-8   | 1-4   | 0-0  | 0  | 3  | 3  | 0  | 22  |
| Weddle       | 10-23 | 4-10  | 0-1  | 2  | 2  | 24 | 3  | 35  |
| Hudson       | 9-22  | 4-12  | 5-5  | 11 | 4  | 27 | 4  | 39  |
| Riedewald    | 1-1   | 0-0   | 0-0  | 2  | 3  | 2  | 1  | 18  |
| Simmons      | 0-1   | 0-0   | 2-2  | 1  | 2  | 2  | 0  | 2   |
| Robinson     | 4-16  | 2-8   | 0-2  | 11 | 1  | 10 | 1  | 30  |
| Pearson      | 0-3   | 0-1   | 2-4  | 4  | 0  | 2  | 1  | 16  |
| Bailey       | 0-2   | 0-1   | 0-0  | 2  | 2  | 0  | 1  | 8   |
| Team         |       |       |      | 2  |    |    |    |     |
| TOTALS       | 25-78 | 11-36 | 9-14 | 38 | 21 | 70 | 11 | 200 |

#### MISSISSIPPI STATE (2-1)

| Player     | FG    | 3FG   | FT    | RB | PF | PT | A  | Min |
|------------|-------|-------|-------|----|----|----|----|-----|
| Rhodes     | 7-9   | 0-0   | 1-2   | 5  | 3  | 15 | 2  | 24  |
| Varnado    | 4-4   | 0-0   | 0-0   | 16 | 1  | 8  | 1  | 27  |
| Hansbrough | 6-8   | 4-6   | 4-4   | 5  | 2  | 20 | 3  | 25  |
| Stewart    | 3-12  | 0-4   | 3-4   | 4  | 1  | 9  | 4  | 26  |
| Gordon     | 4-8   | 2-4   | 0-1   | 4  | 1  | 10 | 6  | 29  |
| R. Johnson | 1-3   | 0-0   | 0-0   | 0  | 0  | 2  | 0  | 6   |
| Begley     | 0-0   | 0-0   | 0-0   | 1  | 1  | 0  | 0  | 2   |
| Lupe       | 0-0   | 0-0   | 0-0   | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 1   |
| Bryant     | 1-1   | 0-0   | 0-1   | 1  | 0  | 2  | 0  | 1   |
| Benock     | 3-3   | 3-3   | 1-2   | 2  | 0  | 10 | 4  | 15  |
| B. Johnson | 0-3   | 0-1   | 0-0   | 4  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 12  |
| Augustus   | 0-1   | 0-0   | 0-0   | 0  | 2  | 0  | 0  | 7   |
| Turner     | 2-6   | 1-4   | 1-2   | 0  | 1  | 6  | 1  | 16  |
| Bolen      | 0-0   | 0-0   | 0-0   | 0  | 1  | 0  | 0  | 1   |
| Bailey     | 2-2   | 0-0   | 0-0   | 2  | 1  | 4  | 0  | 8   |
| Team       |       |       |       | 6  |    |    |    |     |
| TOTALS     | 33-60 | 10-22 | 10-16 | 50 | 14 | 86 | 21 | 200 |

Halftime: MSU 41, UTM 30. FG%: MSU 55.0%, UTM 32.1%. 3FG%: MSU 45.5%, UTM 30.6%. FT%: MSU 62.5%, UTM 64.3%. Turnovers: MSU 25 (Rhodes, Stewart 4), UTM 14 (Robinson 5). Blocked Shots: MSU 9 (Rhodes, Varnado 3), UTM 1 (Robinson 1). Steals: MSU 6 (Stewart 2), UTM 9 (Hudson 3). Officials: Mike Stuart, Brent Barnaky, Everett Summers. Attendance: 9,950.

## GAME #4 RECAP

### MSU 68, UC IRVINE 53 Nov. 22, 2007 • ANAHEIM, CA ANAHEIM CLASSIC • FIRST ROUND

In their first road competition of the season, the Bulldogs opened the inaugural Anaheim Classic with a 68-53 victory over UC Irvine at the Anaheim Convention Center.

Opening the contest hitting eight of their first nine shots from the field, including their first five three-point shot attempts, the Bulldogs (3-1) mounted a double-digit lead (19-9) by the 13:11 mark on a Phil Turner trey. MSU pretty much controlled the opening 20 minutes of play with its continued hot shooting, though UC Irvine (2-2) managed to cut the deficit to five points (39-34) with under a minute left in the half.

Hitting 58 percent (15-26 FGs) from the field, including 6-of-9 treys (67%) in the opening period, the Bulldogs settled for a 41-34 halftime lead.

After the Anteaters pulled to within five points on two occasions during the first four minutes of the second stanza, MSU ran off 10 unanswered points over a three-minute span to take a 15-point advantage (55-40) by the 12:53 mark. The Bulldogs also stepped up their defensive intensity in the closing period to re-establish control of the contest.

Limiting UCI to just six second-half field goals on 24 attempts (25%) and owning a commanding 27-16 rebounding advantage during the final 20 minutes, the Bulldogs went on to claim their 15-point triumph and earn the right to face 18th-ranked Southern Illinois in the semifinals.

As a team, MState held UCI to 35-percent shooting from the field (only 3-17 treys) on the day, while owning a 43-31 lead on the boards.

Barry Stewart paced four double-digit State scorers with 18 points (4-7 treys). Jamont Gordon added 15 points, while Charles Rhodes notched his seventh career double-double with 11 points and 11 rebounds. Patrick Sanders led UC Irvine with 18 points and five rebounds.

#### MISSISSIPPI STATE (3-1)

| Player     | FG    | 3FG  | FT    | RB | PF | PT | A  | Min |
|------------|-------|------|-------|----|----|----|----|-----|
| Rhodes     | 3-14  | 0-2  | 5-6   | 11 | 2  | 11 | 1  | 35  |
| Varnado    | 1-2   | 0-0  | 0-1   | 6  | 4  | 2  | 1  | 19  |
| Hansbrough | 4-8   | 1-4  | 4-5   | 4  | 1  | 13 | 1  | 34  |
| Stewart    | 6-10  | 4-7  | 2-2   | 6  | 1  | 18 | 2  | 38  |
| Gordon     | 7-12  | 1-2  | 0-2   | 6  | 4  | 15 | 4  | 25  |
| R. Johnson | 0-1   | 0-0  | 0-0   | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 1   |
| Benock     | 0-0   | 0-0  | 0-0   | 1  | 1  | 0  | 1  | 6   |
| B. Johnson | 2-4   | 0-0  | 2-2   | 5  | 3  | 6  | 1  | 21  |
| Augustus   | 0-0   | 0-0  | 0-0   | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 1   |
| Turner     | 1-4   | 1-3  | 0-0   | 2  | 1  | 3  | 2  | 16  |
| Bailey     | 0-0   | 0-0  | 0-2   | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 4   |
| Team       |       |      |       | 2  |    |    |    |     |
| TOTALS     | 24-55 | 7-18 | 13-20 | 43 | 17 | 68 | 13 | 200 |

#### UC IRVINE (2-2)

| Player    | FG    | 3FG  | FT    | RB | PF | PT | A  | Min |
|-----------|-------|------|-------|----|----|----|----|-----|
| Sanders   | 6-13  | 1-3  | 5-9   | 5  | 4  | 18 | 0  | 31  |
| Rodenberg | 0-1   | 0-0  | 0-0   | 1  | 2  | 0  | 1  | 17  |
| Bland     | 0-8   | 0-0  | 2-2   | 4  | 4  | 2  | 3  | 31  |
| Hunter    | 1-8   | 0-5  | 0-0   | 3  | 2  | 2  | 3  | 27  |
| DeCasas   | 1-4   | 1-3  | 0-0   | 0  | 1  | 3  | 0  | 12  |
| Awaji     | 6-8   | 0-2  | 1-2   | 3  | 3  | 13 | 0  | 22  |
| Lauer     | 0-3   | 0-2  | 0-0   | 3  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 15  |
| Harris    | 0-0   | 0-0  | 0-0   | 2  | 1  | 0  | 3  | 14  |
| Fells     | 5-9   | 1-2  | 4-5   | 4  | 4  | 15 | 1  | 31  |
| Team      |       |      |       | 6  |    |    |    |     |
| TOTALS    | 19-54 | 3-17 | 12-18 | 31 | 21 | 53 | 11 | 200 |

Halftime: MSU 41, UCI 34. FG%: MSU 43.6%, UCI 35.2%. 3FG%: MSU 38.9%, UCI 17.6%. FT%: MSU 65.0%, UCI 66.7%. Turnovers: MSU 17 (Rhodes, Gordon 5), UCI 13 (Rodenberg 3). Blocked Shots: MSU 5 (Gordon, Varnado 2), UCI 1 (Sanders 1). Steals: MSU 6 (Rhodes 3), UCI 7 (Fells 2). Officials: Don Daily, Jeff Malham, Brad Ferrie. Attendance: 1,387.

## GAME #5 RECAP

### #18 SOUTHERN ILLINOIS 63, MSU 49 Nov. 23, 2007 • ANAHEIM, CA ANAHEIM CLASSIC • SEMIFINALS

The Bulldogs dropped a 63-49 decision to 18th-ranked Southern Illinois in the semifinals of the inaugural Anaheim Classic played at the Anaheim Convention Center.

In a first half that featured five ties and three lead changes, MState (3-2) owned the upper hand for the first 10 minutes of the opening period. Midway through the half, the Salukis (3-0) scored six unanswered points to take a brief 19-15 lead. MSU countered with eight straight points to pull ahead by four points (23-19) with 3:28 remaining in the half. En route to scoring 15 first-half points, Jamont Gordon's third 3-pointer of the half put the Bulldogs on top by five points (26-21) with just under three minutes left before the half.

However, Joshua Bone came off the SIU bench to drill a trio of treys over the final 1:46, including one with time running out in the period, to give the Salukis a 32-28 halftime advantage.

Southern Illinois maintained its momentum by scoring the first half-dozen points of the second stanza to increase the margin to double figures (38-28) two minutes into the half. With Randal Falker scoring 13 of SIU's first 15 second-half points, the Salukis again went ahead by twin digits (45-35) with 13:14 remaining.

MSU's Gordon cut the deficit in half (47-42) with another 3-pointer at the 9:44 mark, but SIU's Bone put a damper on the Bulldogs' comeback attempt by nailing back-to-back triples to give the Salukis an 11-point cushion (53-42) with 8:23 left in the contest. MState would get no closer than nine points the rest of the way, as Southern Illinois coasted to the 14-point victory in advancing to the championship contest.

Gordon, held to five second-half points, was MSU's lone double-figure scorer with 20 points. Falker tallied a game-high 23 points on 7-of-9 field goals and 9-of-10 free throws for the winners, while Bone added 15 points off the Saluki bench with his 5-of-6 three-point shooting effort.

#### MISSISSIPPI STATE (3-2)

| Player     | FG    | 3FG  | FT  | RB | PF | PT | A  | Min |
|------------|-------|------|-----|----|----|----|----|-----|
| Rhodes     | 2-5   | 0-0  | 0-1 | 6  | 5  | 4  | 0  | 21  |
| Varnado    | 3-3   | 0-0  | 0-2 | 7  | 3  | 6  | 0  | 36  |
| Hansbrough | 1-8   | 1-7  | 2-2 | 3  | 1  | 5  | 6  | 33  |
| Stewart    | 3-9   | 1-3  | 2-2 | 3  | 2  | 9  | 3  | 38  |
| Gordon     | 7-12  | 4-8  | 2-2 | 4  | 3  | 20 | 2  | 35  |
| B. Johnson | 1-2   | 0-0  | 0-0 | 2  | 0  | 2  | 0  | 14  |
| Turner     | 1-3   | 1-2  | 0-0 | 1  | 2  | 3  | 0  | 17  |
| Bailey     | 0-0   | 0-0  | 0-0 | 1  | 2  | 0  | 0  | 6   |
| Team       |       |      |     | 2  |    |    |    |     |
| TOTALS     | 18-42 | 7-20 | 6-9 | 29 | 18 | 49 | 11 | 200 |

#### SOUTHERN ILLINOIS (3-0)

| Player    | FG    | 3FG  | FT    | RB | PF | PT | A  | Min |
|-----------|-------|------|-------|----|----|----|----|-----|
| Falker    | 7-9   | 0-0  | 9-10  | 5  | 3  | 23 | 2  | 33  |
| Shaw      | 3-12  | 1-6  | 4-4   | 5  | 3  | 11 | 1  | 36  |
| Boyle     | 4-7   | 0-0  | 0-0   | 4  | 3  | 8  | 1  | 33  |
| Mullins   | 1-5   | 0-1  | 4-4   | 2  | 2  | 6  | 8  | 37  |
| Green     | 0-3   | 0-1  | 0-0   | 2  | 2  | 0  | 2  | 29  |
| Bone      | 5-6   | 5-6  | 0-0   | 0  | 2  | 15 | 1  | 16  |
| Armstrong | 0-0   | 0-0  | 0-0   | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 1   |
| Coopwood  | 0-2   | 0-2  | 0-0   | 0  | 1  | 0  | 0  | 1   |
| Wood      | 0-1   | 0-1  | 0-0   | 2  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 5   |
| Cornelius | 0-0   | 0-0  | 0-0   | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 1   |
| Fay       | 0-0   | 0-0  | 0-0   | 0  | 1  | 0  | 0  | 8   |
| Team      |       |      |       | 4  |    |    |    |     |
| TOTALS    | 20-45 | 6-17 | 17-18 | 24 | 17 | 63 | 15 | 200 |

Halftime: SIU 32, MSU 28. FG%: MSU 42.9%, SIU 44.4%. 3FG%: MSU 35.0%, SIU 35.3%. FT%: MSU 66.7%, SIU 94.4%. Turnovers: MSU 21 (Gordon 5), SIU 12 (Falker 4). Blocked Shots: MSU 3 (Varnado 2), SIU 2 (Falker, Shaw 1). Steals: MSU 5 (Varnado 2), SIU 9 (Mullins 6). Officials: Gerry Pollard, Don Daily, Brad Ferrie. Attendance: 1,447.

## GAME #6 RECAP

### MIAMI (OH) 67, MSU 60 Nov. 25, 2007 • ANAHEIM, CA ANAHEIM CLASSIC - 3RD-PLACE GAME

The Bulldogs went 1-2 in the inaugural Anaheim Classic after dropping a 67-60 decision to Miami University in the tournament's third-place game played at the Anaheim Convention Center.

After MSU's Charles Rhodes scored the game's first two points, the RedHawks (3-1) went on a 14-3 run, keyed by a pair of 3-pointers apiece by Michael Bramos and Alex Moosman, to take a 14-5 lead by the 15:38 mark of the opening half. Spurred by 5-of-9 three-point shooting during the first 20 minutes of play, Miami maintained control of the contest throughout the first period. The Bulldogs (3-3) did tighten things up a bit late in the half by outscoring MU, 7-1, over the final three minutes to cut the deficit to just five points (29-24) by the intermission.

Despite coming up empty on their first four offensive possessions of the second stanza, the Bulldogs outscored Miami, 12-6, through the first five minutes of the half and regained a brief 36-35 lead on a Ben Hansbrough 3-pointer at the 14:52 mark. Following a fifth tie in the opening nine minutes of second-half play, MState went on an 8-1 run to take a five-point advantage (48-43) midway through the closing period.

With Rhodes scoring 17 of his team-high 25 points in the second half and going over the 1,000-point mark for his career during a three-minute stretch in which he scored nine straight points for MSU, the Bulldogs seemed to grab the momentum in pulling ahead by a half-dozen points (53-47) with 7:06 remaining in the game. However, MU's Tim Pollitz answered with back-to-back buckets to get the RedHawks to within a basket (53-51) by the 5:46 mark.

Following a seventh deadlock of the half (58-58) with 1:46 left, Miami's Tyler Dierkers tipped in the go-ahead basket with 1:03 left on the clock. MU's Bramos, who finished the contest with a game-high 30 points, then converted on a three-point play and hit four additional free throws over the final 42 seconds to seal the victory.

Jamont Gordon added 18 points for MState, while Miami's Pollitz scored all 15 of his points during the second half of play.

#### MISSISSIPPI STATE (3-3)

| Player     | FG    | 3FG  | FT   | RB | PF | PT | A  | Min |
|------------|-------|------|------|----|----|----|----|-----|
| Rhodes     | 11-15 | 0-0  | 3-4  | 10 | 3  | 25 | 1  | 37  |
| Varnado    | 1-3   | 0-0  | 0-2  | 6  | 3  | 2  | 0  | 30  |
| Hansbrough | 2-6   | 2-6  | 0-0  | 2  | 4  | 6  | 1  | 38  |
| Stewart    | 2-9   | 1-5  | 0-0  | 3  | 3  | 5  | 4  | 36  |
| Gordon     | 6-17  | 0-5  | 6-7  | 6  | 1  | 18 | 4  | 40  |
| Benock     | 0-0   | 0-0  | 0-0  | 1  | 1  | 0  | 0  | 4   |
| B. Johnson | 2-3   | 0-0  | 0-0  | 3  | 3  | 4  | 0  | 11  |
| Turner     | 0-1   | 0-0  | 0-0  | 3  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 4   |
| Team       |       |      |      | 2  |    |    |    |     |
| TOTALS     | 24-54 | 3-16 | 9-13 | 36 | 18 | 60 | 10 | 200 |

#### MIAMI, OH (3-1)

| Player     | FG    | 3FG  | FT    | RB | PF | PT | A  | Min |
|------------|-------|------|-------|----|----|----|----|-----|
| Dierkers   | 3-7   | 0-1  | 1-4   | 9  | 1  | 7  | 10 | 33  |
| Bramos     | 9-18  | 3-6  | 9-11  | 2  | 2  | 30 | 0  | 40  |
| T. Pollitz | 6-13  | 0-0  | 3-6   | 4  | 4  | 15 | 2  | 31  |
| Hayes      | 0-4   | 0-2  | 0-0   | 2  | 1  | 0  | 3  | 30  |
| Moosman    | 4-6   | 2-3  | 0-0   | 3  | 2  | 10 | 1  | 30  |
| E. Pollitz | 2-4   | 0-0  | 1-2   | 4  | 5  | 5  | 2  | 24  |
| McCombs    | 0-0   | 0-0  | 0-0   | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 12  |
| Team       |       |      |       | 5  |    |    |    |     |
| TOTALS     | 24-52 | 5-12 | 14-23 | 29 | 15 | 67 | 18 | 200 |

Halftime: MU 29, MSU 24. FG%: MSU 44.4%, MU 46.2%. 3FG%: MSU 18.8%, MU 41.7%. FT%: MSU 69.2%, MU 60.9%. Turnovers: MSU 15 (Stewart 5), MU 7 (T. Pollitz 3). Blocked Shots: MSU 8 (Varnado 5), MU 1 (Dierkers 1). Steals: MSU 4 (Gordon 2), MU 5 (Five with 1). Officials: Gerry Pollard, Brent Meaux, Don Daily. Attendance: 2,447.

## GAME #7 RECAP

### MSU 78, MURRAY STATE 61 DEC. 1, 2007 • STARKVILLE, MS

The Bulldogs broke a two-game losing streak and successfully tipped off a three-game December homestand by posting a 78-61 home triumph over Murray State at Humphrey Coliseum.

Coming off consecutive losses to No. 18 Southern Illinois and Miami of Ohio during the Anaheim Classic over the Thanksgiving holiday weekend, MState (4-3) built a 39-24 halftime advantage on the strength of 58-percent shooting through the opening 20 minutes of play. The visiting Racers (3-2) were limited to 32-percent first-half accuracy from the field.

After the visitors cut the deficit to single digits (47-38) three minutes into the second stanza, MSU went on a 17-4 run to increase the margin to a game-high 22 points (64-42) midway through the closing period. The Racers never got any closer than 16 points the rest of the way, as the Bulldogs breezed to their 22nd consecutive December home victory dating back to the 2000-01 campaign.

For the contest, MState shot 52 percent overall from the field as a team, while outscoring the Racers, 18-3, from the charity stripe. The Bulldogs connected on 78 percent of their 23 free throw attempts, in contrast to Murray State attempting just four charity tosses the entire game.

State senior Charles Rhodes tallied a game-high 22 points on 8-of-14 field goals and 6-of-6 free throws to post his second straight 20-point effort of the season. Jamont Gordon and Barry Stewart followed with 15 and 14 points, respectively, for the winners. Tony Easley paced the visitors with 17 points and seven rebounds.

#### MURRAY STATE (3-2)

| Player    | FG    | 3FG  | FT  | RB | PF | PT | A | Min |
|-----------|-------|------|-----|----|----|----|---|-----|
| Carter    | 3-9   | 1-3  | 2-2 | 4  | 4  | 9  | 2 | 25  |
| Easley    | 8-10  | 0-0  | 1-2 | 7  | 1  | 17 | 0 | 29  |
| Holloway  | 2-8   | 0-3  | 0-0 | 2  | 2  | 4  | 2 | 27  |
| K. Thomas | 0-2   | 0-2  | 0-0 | 4  | 1  | 0  | 3 | 28  |
| D. Thomas | 6-11  | 2-4  | 0-0 | 1  | 3  | 14 | 1 | 27  |
| George    | 5-11  | 1-2  | 0-0 | 1  | 2  | 11 | 0 | 24  |
| Williams  | 3-8   | 0-1  | 0-0 | 1  | 0  | 6  | 0 | 12  |
| Long      | 0-1   | 0-0  | 0-0 | 1  | 0  | 0  | 1 | 11  |
| Sanders   | 0-0   | 0-0  | 0-0 | 1  | 2  | 0  | 0 | 5   |
| Fotso     | 0-2   | 0-0  | 0-0 | 3  | 3  | 0  | 0 | 12  |
| Team      |       |      |     | 4  |    |    |   |     |
| TOTALS    | 27-62 | 4-15 | 3-4 | 29 | 18 | 61 | 9 | 200 |

#### MISSISSIPPI STATE (4-3)

| Player     | FG    | 3FG  | FT    | RB | PF | PT | A  | Min |
|------------|-------|------|-------|----|----|----|----|-----|
| Rhodes     | 8-14  | 0-0  | 6-6   | 5  | 2  | 22 | 2  | 25  |
| Varnado    | 1-1   | 0-0  | 0-0   | 7  | 1  | 2  | 1  | 24  |
| Hansbrough | 3-7   | 2-5  | 1-1   | 2  | 1  | 9  | 2  | 28  |
| Stewart    | 5-6   | 2-3  | 2-2   | 5  | 1  | 14 | 2  | 36  |
| Gordon     | 5-12  | 0-3  | 5-6   | 4  | 1  | 15 | 4  | 30  |
| R. Johnson | 0-0   | 0-0  | 0-0   | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 5   |
| Begley     | 0-0   | 0-0  | 0-0   | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 1   |
| Lupe       | 0-0   | 0-0  | 0-0   | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 1   |
| Bryant     | 0-0   | 0-0  | 0-0   | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 1   |
| Benock     | 1-3   | 0-1  | 0-0   | 2  | 0  | 2  | 1  | 9   |
| B. Johnson | 3-3   | 0-0  | 0-0   | 4  | 2  | 6  | 1  | 16  |
| Augustus   | 0-0   | 0-0  | 3-5   | 1  | 1  | 3  | 0  | 4   |
| Turner     | 1-5   | 0-3  | 0-0   | 1  | 0  | 2  | 0  | 11  |
| Bolen      | 0-1   | 0-0  | 0-0   | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 1   |
| Bailey     | 1-2   | 0-0  | 1-3   | 3  | 1  | 3  | 0  | 8   |
| Team       |       |      |       | 2  |    |    |    |     |
| TOTALS     | 28-54 | 4-15 | 18-23 | 36 | 10 | 78 | 13 | 200 |

Halftime: MSU 39, MUR 24. FG%: MSU 51.9%, MUR 43.5%. 3FG%: MSU 26.7%, MUR 26.7%. FT%: MSU 78.3%, MUR 75.0%. Turnovers: MSU 14 (B. Johnson 3), MUR 15 (K. Thomas, D. Thomas 3). Blocked Shots: MSU 7 (Varnado 3), MUR 4 (Williams 3). Steals: MSU 11 (Stewart 4), MUR 9 (Easley 3). Officials: Doug Simons, Joe Lindsay, Tim Clougherty. Attendance: 7,787.

## GAME #8 RECAP

### MSU 84, SOUTHEASTERN LOUISIANA 59 DEC. 8, 2007 • STARKVILLE, MS

In the midst of final exams within a three-game homestand, the Bulldogs claimed an 84-59 victory over Southeastern Louisiana at MSU's Humphrey Coliseum.

Well rested after having a week off from game competition, MState (5-3) built a double-digit lead over the visiting Lions (5-3) by the 11:41 mark of the opening period on a Barry Stewart 3-pointer. In limiting Southeastern to 37-percent shooting and owning a 22-13 advantage on the boards through the first 20 minutes of play, the Bulldogs maintained their double-figure cushion throughout the remainder of the half en route to opening up a comfortable 41-27 halftime lead.

SLU did manage to cut the deficit to single digits (48-39) five minutes into the second stanza, before Charles Rhodes helped MSU reclaim the momentum by scoring four of his 12 second-half points over the next minute to increase the margin back up to 13 points with 14:09 left. The Lions would not get any closer than 11 points the rest of the way, as MState went up by 20 points with 7:11 left and eventually built a 27-point cushion before settling for the 25-point triumph.

For the contest, the Bulldogs benefitted from a 39-24 rebounding advantage, while holding Southeastern Louisiana to just 1-of-11 shooting from beyond the arc. The win marked MSU's 23rd straight December home victory.

MSU's Jamont Gordon registered his fourth 20-point effort of the season with a game-high 25 points, while Rhodes finished with 16 points on 7-of-8 accuracy from the field. Both players also added a game-best seven rebounds apiece. Patrick Sullivan paced the visitors with 16 points on 6-of-8 field goals and 4-of-4 free throws.

#### SOUTHEASTERN LOUISIANA (5-3)

| Player    | FG    | 3FG  | FT    | RB | PF | PT | A | Min |
|-----------|-------|------|-------|----|----|----|---|-----|
| Span      | 4-10  | 0-1  | 2-2   | 3  | 2  | 10 | 0 | 31  |
| Nance     | 4-9   | 0-1  | 0-0   | 4  | 2  | 8  | 3 | 27  |
| Sullivan  | 6-8   | 0-0  | 4-4   | 1  | 3  | 16 | 0 | 22  |
| Green     | 2-9   | 0-4  | 3-3   | 2  | 0  | 7  | 2 | 30  |
| Nicks     | 3-6   | 1-2  | 0-0   | 3  | 4  | 7  | 2 | 35  |
| Dunbar    | 0-1   | 0-1  | 0-0   | 1  | 1  | 0  | 0 | 9   |
| Arnold    | 4-9   | 0-2  | 1-2   | 2  | 1  | 9  | 0 | 23  |
| Ndombamba | 0-2   | 0-0  | 2-4   | 5  | 3  | 2  | 0 | 18  |
| Austin    | 0-0   | 0-0  | 0-0   | 1  | 1  | 0  | 0 | 5   |
| Team      |       |      |       | 2  |    |    |   |     |
| TOTALS    | 23-54 | 1-11 | 12-15 | 24 | 17 | 59 | 7 | 200 |

#### MISSISSIPPI STATE (5-3)

| Player     | FG    | 3FG  | FT    | RB | PF | PT | A  | Min |
|------------|-------|------|-------|----|----|----|----|-----|
| Rhodes     | 7-8   | 0-0  | 2-2   | 7  | 5  | 16 | 0  | 30  |
| Varnado    | 4-6   | 0-0  | 0-0   | 3  | 5  | 8  | 0  | 17  |
| Hansbrough | 4-7   | 1-2  | 1-1   | 3  | 1  | 10 | 1  | 28  |
| Stewart    | 2-6   | 2-5  | 0-0   | 1  | 1  | 6  | 2  | 30  |
| Gordon     | 8-18  | 1-3  | 8-10  | 7  | 1  | 25 | 4  | 32  |
| R. Johnson | 0-1   | 0-1  | 1-2   | 0  | 0  | 1  | 1  | 6   |
| Begley     | 0-0   | 0-0  | 0-0   | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 1   |
| Lupe       | 0-0   | 0-0  | 0-0   | 1  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 1   |
| Bryant     | 1-1   | 0-0  | 0-0   | 0  | 0  | 2  | 0  | 1   |
| Benock     | 1-4   | 1-3  | 0-0   | 4  | 0  | 3  | 1  | 14  |
| B. Johnson | 1-1   | 0-0  | 0-0   | 0  | 0  | 2  | 0  | 2   |
| Augustus   | 3-5   | 2-2  | 0-0   | 6  | 1  | 8  | 0  | 11  |
| Turner     | 0-2   | 0-2  | 1-2   | 0  | 1  | 1  | 0  | 12  |
| Bolen      | 0-0   | 0-0  | 0-0   | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 1   |
| Bailey     | 1-2   | 0-0  | 0-2   | 4  | 0  | 2  | 1  | 14  |
| Team       |       |      |       | 3  |    |    |    |     |
| TOTALS     | 32-61 | 7-18 | 13-19 | 39 | 15 | 84 | 10 | 200 |

Halftime: MSU 41, SLU 27. FG%: MSU 52.5%, SLU 42.6%. 3FG%: MSU 38.9%, SLU 9.1%. FT%: MSU 68.4%, SLU 80.0%. Turnovers: MSU 21 (Rhodes 5), SLU 22 (Span, Green 5). Blocked Shots: MSU 6 (Varnado 4), SLU 2 (Sullivan, Green 1). Steals: MSU 11 (Rhodes 3), SLU 11 (Nance 5). Officials: Doug Shows, Antinio Petty, Kevin Scott. Attendance: 7,719.

## GAME #9 RECAP

### MIAMI (FL) 64, MSU 58 DEC. 13, 2007 • STARKVILLE, MS

In closing out a three-game homestand, the Bulldogs had their 23-game winning streak in December home contests snapped by dropping a 64-58 decision to the unbeaten Miami Hurricanes at MSU's Humphrey Coliseum.

The visitors held the upper hand for the better part of the opening 15 minutes of the contest, going on top by as many as seven points on two different occasions. However, MState (5-4) went on a 10-2 run late in the half to take a five-point lead (28-23) with 1:23 remaining. Miami (9-0) responded by scoring the final two baskets of the period to cut the deficit to a single point (28-27) by the break.

Following six lead changes and two ties through the first six minutes of the second stanza, the Bulldogs reclaimed the lead at the 14:29 mark on a Jamont Gordon layup. MSU maintained the advantage for nearly the next dozen minutes and held a five-point lead (56-51) when Barry Stewart nailed his fifth 3-pointer of the night at the 5:29 mark. Despite State's two subsequent turnovers over the next two minutes of scoreless basketball, Charles Rhodes stepped to the line for a one-and-one opportunity with 3:36 left and failed to lengthen MSU's margin.

Instead, UM's Jack McClinton sandwiched his second and third 3-pointers over a two-minute stretch around a pair of Rhodes free throws to give the Hurricanes a two-point lead (60-58) with 1:26 remaining. After Dwayne Collins' two charity tosses gave Miami a four-point lead, Gordon couldn't convert on the front end of his one-and-one with 29 seconds left. Scoring 11 of his game-high 29 points (20 in the second half) over the game's final 3:22, McClinton sealed Miami's six-point road victory with a pair of free throws.

McClinton was the only Hurricane in double figures on the night, while Gordon and Stewart paced MSU with 18 points apiece. Gordon also added a game-best nine rebounds and five assists, while State's Jarvis Varnado established a new single-game school standard with 10 blocks.

#### MIAMI, FL (9-0)

| Player    | FG    | 3FG  | FT    | RB | PF | PT | A | Min |
|-----------|-------|------|-------|----|----|----|---|-----|
| Graham    | 2-6   | 0-0  | 0-0   | 6  | 3  | 4  | 0 | 27  |
| Asbury    | 2-7   | 0-2  | 4-4   | 6  | 0  | 8  | 2 | 32  |
| King      | 2-11  | 0-0  | 1-2   | 7  | 1  | 5  | 1 | 26  |
| Dews      | 3-9   | 3-7  | 0-0   | 3  | 3  | 9  | 2 | 33  |
| McClinton | 11-22 | 5-10 | 2-2   | 5  | 2  | 29 | 2 | 35  |
| Hurdle    | 1-4   | 0-0  | 0-0   | 1  | 1  | 2  | 0 | 12  |
| Rios      | 0-2   | 0-1  | 0-0   | 1  | 0  | 0  | 0 | 8   |
| Collins   | 2-5   | 0-0  | 3-4   | 7  | 1  | 7  | 0 | 16  |
| Hicks     | 0-0   | 0-0  | 0-0   | 2  | 1  | 0  | 1 | 11  |
| Team      |       |      |       | 5  |    |    |   |     |
| TOTALS    | 23-66 | 8-20 | 10-12 | 43 | 12 | 64 | 8 | 200 |

#### MISSISSIPPI STATE (5-4)

| Player     | FG    | 3FG  | FT   | RB | PF | PT | A  | Min |
|------------|-------|------|------|----|----|----|----|-----|
| Rhodes     | 4-12  | 0-0  | 2-3  | 7  | 2  | 10 | 1  | 35  |
| Varnado    | 4-6   | 0-0  | 0-0  | 7  | 2  | 8  | 1  | 31  |
| Hansbrough | 0-8   | 0-8  | 0-0  | 4  | 3  | 0  | 2  | 33  |
| Stewart    | 6-12  | 5-9  | 1-2  | 4  | 1  | 18 | 1  | 37  |
| Gordon     | 7-19  | 1-5  | 3-5  | 9  | 3  | 18 | 5  | 38  |
| Benock     | 0-0   | 0-0  | 0-0  | 1  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 7   |
| B. Johnson | 1-1   | 0-0  | 0-0  | 2  | 2  | 2  | 0  | 14  |
| Turner     | 1-3   | 0-2  | 0-0  | 0  | 1  | 2  | 0  | 5   |
| Team       |       |      |      | 6  |    |    |    |     |
| TOTALS     | 23-61 | 6-24 | 6-10 | 40 | 14 | 58 | 10 | 200 |

Halftime: MSU 28, UM 27. FG%: MSU 37.7%, UM 34.8%. 3FG%: MSU 25.0%, UM 40.0%. FT%: MSU 60.0%, UM 83.3%. Turnovers: MSU 10 (Gordon 6), UM 9 (McClinton 4). Blocked Shots: MSU 12 (Varnado 10), UM 6 (Graham 4). Steals: MSU 4 (B. Johnson 2), UM 3 (Three with 1). Officials: Mike Stuart, Ed Corbett, Doug Simons. Attendance: 7,912.

## 2007-08

### PRESEASON SEC MEDIA POLL

#### EASTERN DIVISION

|                         |     |
|-------------------------|-----|
| 1. Tennessee* (30)..... | 180 |
| 2. Kentucky .....       | 142 |
| 3. Florida .....        | 103 |
| 4. Vanderbilt .....     | 98  |
| 5. Georgia .....        | 69  |
| 6. South Carolina ..... | 38  |

#### WESTERN DIVISION

|                                 |     |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Arkansas (18).....           | 168 |
| 2. Mississippi State (10) ..... | 148 |
| 3. Alabama (1) .....            | 111 |
| 4. Auburn (1) .....             | 94  |
| 5. LSU .....                    | 63  |
| 6. Mississippi.....             | 46  |

*First-place votes are listed in parentheses;*

*\* - Unanimous selection*

*SEC Champion: Tennessee (28); Miss. State (2)*

#### FIRST TEAM PRESEASON ALL-SEC

Richard Hendrix, Alabama

Patrick Beverley, Arkansas

Jamont Gordon, Mississippi State (2)

Chris Lofton, Tennessee (27)

Shan Foster, Vanderbilt

#### SECOND TEAM PRESEASON ALL-SEC

Steven Hill, Arkansas

Charles Rhodes, Mississippi State

Tasmin Mitchell, LSU

Dwayne Curtis, Mississippi

Tyler Smith, Tennessee (1)

*Player of the Year votes are listed in parentheses.*

## 2007-08

### PRESEASON COACHES ALL-SEC

#### FIRST TEAM PRESEASON ALL-SEC

Richard Hendrix, Alabama#

Patrick Beverley, Arkansas

Ramel Bradley, Kentucky

Tasmin Mitchell, LSU#

Jamont Gordon, Mississippi State#

Charles Rhodes, Mississippi State

Chris Lofton, Tennessee#

Shan Foster, Vanderbilt#

#### SECOND TEAM PRESEASON ALL-SEC

Alonzo Gee, Alabama

Steven Hill, Arkansas

Charles Thomas, Arkansas

Sonny Weems, Arkansas

Marreese Speights, Florida

Sundiata Gaines, Georgia

Joe Crawford, Kentucky

Dwayne Curtis, Mississippi

JaJuan Smith, Tennessee

Tyler Smith, Tennessee

*# - Unanimous Selection; Ties are not broken*

## 2007-08 MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY BULLDOGS

| <u>No</u> | <u>NAME</u>    | <u>Pos</u> | <u>Ht</u> | <u>Wt</u> | <u>Cl</u> | <u>Exp</u> | <u>HOMETOWN (PREVIOUS SCHOOL)</u>        |
|-----------|----------------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|--|
| 2         | Ravern Johnson | G/F        | 6-7       | 175       | Fr.       | HS         | Lyon, MS (Coahoma County HS)             |
| 3         | Billy Begley   | G          | 6-1       | 190       | Sr.       | 3L         | Henderson, KY (Notre Dame Prep [MA])     |
| 10        | Joseph Iupe    | G          | 6-1       | 160       | So.       | 1L         | Madison, MS (Madison Central HS)         |
| 11        | Ben Hansbrough | G          | 6-3       | 205       | So.       | 1L         | Poplar Bluff, MO (Poplar Bluff HS)       |
| 14        | Rod Bryant     | G          | 6-1       | 165       | Fr.       | HS         | Birmingham, AL (G.W. Carver HS)          |
| 15        | Riley Benock   | G          | 6-4       | 180       | Fr.       | HS         | Battletown, KY (Meade County HS)         |
| 21        | Brian Johnson  | F/C        | 6-9       | 245       | Jr.       | TR         | Laurinburg, NC (Univ. of Louisville)     |
| 22        | Barry Stewart  | G          | 6-2       | 170       | So.       | 1L         | Shelbyville, TN (Shelbyville Central HS) |
| 23        | Charles Rhodes | F/C        | 6-8       | 245       | Sr.       | 3L         | Jackson, MS (Lanier HS)                  |
| 24        | Kodi Augustus  | F          | 6-8       | 220       | Fr.       | PS         | Baton Rouge, LA (Maine Central Inst.)    |
| 25        | Phil Turner    | G          | 6-3       | 170       | Fr.       | RS         | Grenada, MS (Grenada HS)                 |
| 32        | Jarvis Varnado | F/C        | 6-9       | 210       | So.       | 1L         | Brownsville, TN (Haywood HS)             |
| 33        | Brandon Bolen  | G          | 6-3       | 195       | Fr.       | HS         | Madison, MS (Madison-Ridgeland Acad.)    |
| 44        | Jamont Gordon  | G/F        | 6-4       | 230       | Jr.       | 2L         | Nashville, TN (Oak Hill Academy [VA])    |
| 45        | Elgin Bailey   | F/C        | 6-8       | 265       | Fr.       | HS         | New Orleans, LA (Belaire HS)             |

Head Coach: Rick Stansbury (Campbellsville, 1982 - 10th year)

Asst. Coach: Robert Kirby (Pan American, 1983 - 10th year)

Asst. Coach: Phil Cunningham (Campbellsville, 1990 - 8th year)

Asst. Coach: Marcus Grant (Mississippi State, 1995 - 4th year)

Coord. of BB Ops: Talvis Franklin (Miss. State, 2007 - 1st year)

#### PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

Riley Benock: BEE-knock

Ben Hansbrough: HANDS-bro

Joseph Iupe: Eye-YOOP

Ravern Johnson: Ray-VERN

Jarvis Varnado: Vur-NAR-doe

### MISSISSIPPI STATE BASKETBALL ROSTER BREAKDOWN

#### By Class:

| <i>Seniors</i> | <i>Juniors</i> | <i>Sophomores</i> | <i>Freshmen</i> |
|----------------|----------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Begley         | Gordon         | Hansbrough        | Augustus        |
| Rhodes         | B. Johnson     | Iupe              | Bailey          |
|                |                | Stewart           | Benock          |
|                |                | Varnado           | Bolen           |
|                |                |                   | Bryant          |
|                |                |                   | R. Johnson      |
|                |                |                   | Turner          |

#### By State/Country:

Mississippi (5): Bolen, Iupe, R. Johnson, Rhodes, Turner  
Tennessee (3): Gordon, Stewart, Varnado  
Kentucky (2): Begley, Benock  
Louisiana (2): Augustus, Bailey  
Alabama (1): Bryant  
Missouri (1): Hansbrough  
North Carolina (1): B. Johnson

### 2007-08 PRESEASON MISSISSIPPI STATE BASKETBALL HONORS

#### JAMONT GORDON

*John R. Wooden Award Candidate*

*Naismith Trophy Candidate*

*Bob Cousy Award Candidate*

*First-team All-American (Rivals.com)*

*All-America Team (CollegeInsider.com)*

*Third-team All-American (Athlon Sports)*

*Third-team All-American (Collegehoops.net)*

*Nation's No. 1 Point Guard (Rivals.com)*

*Nation's Top Penetrator (Rivals.com)*

*Nation's No. 2 Shooting Guard (Lindy's)*

*Nation's No. 3 Slasher (Athlon Sports)*

*Consensus First-team All-SEC*

*SEC's Best Athlete (Sporting News Yearbook)*

*SEC's Best Penetrator (Sporting News Yearbook)*

*SEC's Most Versatile Player (Lindy's)*

#### CHARLES RHODES

*Honorable Mention All-American (Athlon Sports)*

*Nation's No. 8 Post Man (Athlon Sports)*

*Nation's No. 15 Center (Collegehoops.net)*

*Nation's No. 22 Center (Lindy's)*

*First-team All-SEC (Coaches poll)*

*Second-team All-SEC (Media poll)*

#### MISSISSIPPI STATE TEAM

*No. 17 (Rivals.com)*

*No. 23 (Collegehoops.net)*

*No. 25 (ESPN.com/Dick Vitale)*

*No. 30 (CBS Sportsline College Preview)*

## MISSISSIPPI STATE HEAD BASKETBALL COACH RICK STANSBURY

Now in his 10th season as head coach of the Mississippi State Bulldogs, Rick Stansbury currently stands just two victories shy of passing his former mentor **Richard Williams** in becoming the all-time winningest basketball coach in school history. Stansbury previously spent eight seasons on Williams' State staff prior to being named his successor in 1998.

In his 19th season overall with the MSU hoops program, Stansbury has now been associated with 11 postseason tournament teams (7 NCAA & 4 NIT), two SEC Tournament title clubs and six regular-season league/divisional championship squads. With career head coaching records of 190-108 (.638) overall and 75-69 (.521) in SEC games, Stansbury trails only Williams (191-163; 1987-98) on the school's all-time lists for career games coached and career coaching victories.

During his nine-plus seasons at the Mississippi State helm, Stansbury has doubled the school's all-time postseason tournament appearances from seven to 14 with four consecutive NCAA Tournament berths (2002-05) along with last year's third NIT showing (2007, '01 & '99). With six 20-win seasons under Stansbury's guidance, MSU has also claimed an overall SEC championship (2004), three SEC West crowns (2007, '04 & '03) and an SEC Tournament title (2002) over the past six seasons.

With his 2006-07 MSU team securing the school's seventh postseason tournament appearance (4 NCAA & 3 NIT) in his first nine seasons at the State helm, Stansbury most recently guided the 21-14 Bulldogs to a berth in last year's NIT Semifinals as well as a third SEC West title in the last five years.

Three years ago in 2004-05, Stansbury further extended all-time school marks by directing the 23-11 Bulldogs to a fourth consecutive NCAA Tournament appearance as well as a fourth straight 20-win season. Prior to the current decade, the Bulldogs had neither previously reached 20 wins in three straight seasons, made four consecutive postseason tournaments nor earned three straight NCAA Tournament berths in the program's basketball history.

During the 2003-04 season, Stansbury guided State to its first outright SEC title since 1962-63 with a 14-2 league mark en route to posting a 26-4 overall record (12-0 on the road) and earning a school-first third straight NCAA Tournament appearance. In doing so, Stansbury was named The Associated Press SEC Coach of the Year, while earning district coaching honors from both the National Association of Basketball Coaches and United States Basketball Writers Association. He piloted the 21-10 Bulldogs to an NCAA Tournament berth in 2002-03 after advancing to the title game of the SEC Tournament for a second consecutive year.

In his rookie season at the Bulldog helm (1998-99), Stansbury became the school's all-time winningest first-year head basketball coach (20-13). During the 2001-02 season, he directed MSU to a school-record 27 wins, including an SEC Tournament title and NCAA appearance.

Previously as an eight-year assistant/associate head coach on Williams' staff, Stansbury played an integral role in helping guide Mississippi State University to three NCAA Tournaments, including a Final Four berth in 1996 and Sweet 16 showing in 1995, one NIT appearance (1994), one SEC Tournament title (1996), one regular-season SEC overall co-championship (1991), and back-to-back SEC Western Division crowns in 1995 and 1996.

Prior to his move to Starkville, Stansbury served a six-year stint (1985-90) as an assistant coach at Austin Peay State. Born in Louisville, Ky., and raised in Brandenburg, Ky., he is a 1982 graduate of Campbellsville (Ky.) College and was inducted into his alma mater's Athletic Hall of Fame in 2003. Stansbury then went on to earn a master's degree in 1984 from Cumberland (Ky.) College. Stansbury, 47, is married to the former Meo Mellen of Roanoke, Va., and they are the proud parents of three sons - Isaac, 7, Noah, 5, and Luke, 3.

### RICK STANSBURY'S CAREER RECORD AS AN ASSISTANT COACH

| <u>Season (School)</u>        | <u>W-L</u>     | <u>Pct.</u> | <u>Postseason Highlights</u>  | <u>Conference Highlights</u>        |
|-------------------------------|----------------|-------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1981-82 (Campbellsville)      | 12-13          | .480        |   |                                     |
| 1983-84 (Cumberland)          | 31-5           | .861        | NAIA Tourney (2nd Round)  | Won KMAC Tourney championship       |
| <b>2-year NAIA totals</b>     | <b>43-18</b>   | <b>.705</b> | <b>Also helped Campbellsville to NAIA Tourney as a senior (1980-81)</b>     |                                     |
| 1984-85 (Austin Peay)         | 8-19           | .296        |   |                                     |
| 1985-86 (Austin Peay)         | 14-14          | .500        |   |                                     |
| 1986-87 (Austin Peay)         | 20-12          | .625        | NCAA Tourney (2nd Round)  | Won OVC Tourney championship        |
| 1987-88 (Austin Peay)         | 17-13          | .567        | OVC Tourney runners-up  | T-3rd in OVC with 10-4 record       |
| 1988-89 (Austin Peay)         | 18-12          | .600        | OVC Tourney runners-up  | 3rd in OVC with 8-4 record          |
| 1989-90 (Austin Peay)         | 10-19          | .345        |   |                                     |
| <b>6-year APSU totals</b>     | <b>87-89</b>   | <b>.494</b> | <b>1 NCAA bid; 1 OVC tourney title &amp; 2 OVC trny runner-up finishes</b>  |                                     |
| 1990-91 (Miss. State)         | 20-9           | .690        | NCAA Tourney (1st Round)  | T-1st in SEC with 13-5 record       |
| 1991-92 (Miss. State)         | 15-13          | .536        |   |                                     |
| 1992-93 (Miss. State)         | 13-16          | .448        |   |                                     |
| 1993-94 (Miss. State)         | 18-11          | .621        | NIT (1st Round)   | 3rd in SEC West with 9-7 record     |
| 1994-95 (Miss. State)         | 22-8           | .733        | NCAA Sweet 16   | T-1st in SEC West with 12-4 record  |
| 1995-96 (Miss. State)         | 26-8           | .765        | NCAA Final Four   | 1st in SEC West; Won SEC Trny title |
| 1996-97 (Miss. State)         | 12-18          | .400        |   |                                     |
| 1997-98 (Miss. State)         | 15-15          | .500        |   |                                     |
| <b>8-year MSU totals</b>      | <b>141-98</b>  | <b>.590</b> | <b>3 NCAA &amp; 1 NIT; 1 SEC Tourney title; 3 reg-season league titles</b>  |                                     |
| <b>14-year NCAA totals</b>    | <b>228-187</b> | <b>.549</b> | <b>4 NCAA &amp; 1 NIT; 2 league trny titles; 3 reg-season league titles</b> |                                     |
| <b>16-year overall totals</b> | <b>271-205</b> | <b>.569</b> | <b>4 NCAA, 1 NIT &amp; 1 NAIA Tournament berths; 3 league trny titles</b>   |                                     |

### RICK STANSBURY'S CAREER RECORD AS MSU HEAD COACH

| <u>Season</u>         | <u>Overall</u>      | <u>SEC/Finish</u>   | <u>Postseason Highlights</u>   | <u>Conference Highlights</u>            |
|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--|---|
| 1998-99 (MSU)         | 20-13 .606          | 8-8/t-3rd (W)       | NIT (1st Round)  | Semis of SEC Tournament                 |
| 1999-00 (MSU)         | 14-16 .467          | 5-11/t-5th (W)      |  |   |
| 2000-01 (MSU)         | 18-13 .581          | 7-9/t-4th (W)       | NIT (Quarterfinals)  |   |
| 2001-02 (MSU)         | 27-8 .771           | 10-6/2nd (W)        | NCAA Tourney (2nd Round)   | 2nd in SEC West; Won SEC Trny title     |
| 2002-03 (MSU)         | 21-10 .677          | 9-7/1st (W)         | NCAA Tourney (1st Round)   | 1st in SEC West; Finals of SEC Tourney  |
| 2003-04 (MSU)         | 26-4 .867           | 14-2/1st            | NCAA Tourney (2nd Round)   | 1st in SEC; 1st in SEC West             |
| 2004-05 (MSU)         | 23-11 .676          | 9-7/3rd (W)         | NCAA Tourney (2nd Round)   | 4th straight winning season in SEC play |
| 2005-06 (MSU)         | 15-15 .500          | 5-11/4th (W)        |  |   |
| 2006-07 (MSU)         | 21-14 .600          | 8-8/t-1st (W)       | NIT (Semifinals)   | T-1st in SEC West; Semis of SEC Trny    |
| 2007-08 (MSU)         | 5-4 .556            |                     |  |   |
| <b>10-year totals</b> | <b>190-108 .638</b> | <b>75-69 (.521)</b> | <b>4 NCAA &amp; 3 NIT; 1 SEC title; 3 SEC West titles; 1 SEC tourney title</b> |   |

### RICK STANSBURY'S CAREER RECORD AS A COLLEGIATE COACH

|                               |                |             |   |  |
|-------------------------------|----------------|-------------|---|--|
| <b>18-year MSU totals</b>     | <b>331-206</b> | <b>.616</b> | <b>7 NCAA &amp; 4 NIT; 2 SEC &amp; 5 SEC West titles; 2 SEC Tourney titles</b>    |  |
| <b>24-year NCAA totals</b>    | <b>418-295</b> | <b>.586</b> | <b>8 NCAA &amp; 4 NIT; 2 SEC &amp; 5 SEC West titles; 3 league tourney titles</b> |  |
| <b>26-year overall totals</b> | <b>461-313</b> | <b>.596</b> | <b>8 NCAA, 4 NIT &amp; 1 NAIA Trny; 2 SEC/5 West titles; 4 league trny titles</b> |  |

## MSU COACHING LEADERS

### OVERALL COACHING WINS

| <u>Coach (Tenure)</u>                      | <u>Record</u> |
|--|---------------|
| 1. Richard Williams (1987-98) . . . . .    | 191-163       |
| 2. Rick Stansbury (1999-present) . . . . . | 190-108       |
| 3. Babe McCarthy (1956-65) . . . . .       | 169-85        |
| 4. E.C. Hayes (1912-24) . . . . .          | 124-54        |
| 5. Kermit Davis (1971-77) . . . . .        | 91-91         |
| 6. Stanfield Hitt (1940-47) . . . . .      | 68-69         |
| 7. Paul Gregory (1948-55) . . . . .        | 58-100        |
| 8. Bob Boyd (1982-86) . . . . .            | 55-87         |
| 9. Joe Dan Gold (1966-70) . . . . .        | 51-74         |
| 10. Frank Carideo (1936-39) . . . . .      | 43-39         |

### OVERALL WINNING PERCENTAGE

| <u>Coach (Tenure)</u>                      | <u>Pct.</u> | <u>W-L</u> |
|--|-------------|------------|
| 1. E.C. Hayes (1912-24) . . . . .          | .697        | 124-54     |
| 2. Bernie Bierman (1926-27) . . . . .      | .674        | 31-15      |
| 3. Ron Greene (1978) . . . . .             | .667        | 18-9       |
| 4. Babe McCarthy (1956-65) . . . . .       | .665        | 169-85     |
| 5. Rick Stansbury (1999-present) . . . . . | .638        | 190-108    |
| 6. K.P. Gatchell (1925) . . . . .          | .609        | 14-9       |
| 7. Edwin Hale (1934-35) . . . . .          | .541        | 20-17      |
| 8. Richard Williams (1987-98) . . . . .    | .540        | 191-163    |
| 9. Frank Carideo (1936-39) . . . . .       | .524        | 43-39      |
| 10. Kermit Davis (1971-77) . . . . .       | .500        | 91-91      |
| T.H. Werner (1909) . . . . .               | .500        | 5-5        |

### OVERALL GAMES COACHED

| <u>Coach (Tenure)</u>                      | <u>GC</u> | <u>Record</u> |
|--|-----------|---------------|
| 1. Richard Williams (1987-98) . . . . .    | 354       | 191-163       |
| 2. Rick Stansbury (1999-present) . . . . . | 298       | 190-108       |
| 3. Babe McCarthy (1956-65) . . . . .       | 254       | 169-85        |
| 4. Kermit Davis (1971-77) . . . . .        | 182       | 91-91         |
| 5. E.C. Hayes (1912-24) . . . . .          | 178       | 124-54        |
| 6. Paul Gregory (1948-55) . . . . .        | 158       | 58-100        |
| 7. Bob Boyd (1982-86) . . . . .            | 142       | 55-87         |
| 8. Stanfield Hitt (1940-47) . . . . .      | 137       | 68-69         |
| 9. Joe Dan Gold (1966-70) . . . . .        | 125       | 51-74         |
| 10. Ray G. Dauber (1928-33) . . . . .      | 90        | 37-53         |

### SEC COACHING WINS

| <u>Coach (Tenure)</u>                      | <u>Record</u> |
|--|---------------|
| 1. Richard Williams (1987-98) . . . . .    | 89-113        |
| 2. Babe McCarthy (1956-65) . . . . .       | 88-54         |
| 3. Rick Stansbury (1999-present) . . . . . | 75-69         |
| 4. Kermit Davis (1971-77) . . . . .        | 44-82         |
| 5. Stanfield Hitt (1940-47) . . . . .      | 41-55         |
| 6. Paul Gregory (1948-55) . . . . .        | 33-83         |
| 7. Joe Dan Gold (1966-70) . . . . .        | 32-56         |
| 8. Bob Boyd (1982-86) . . . . .            | 29-61         |
| 9. Frank Carideo (1936-39) . . . . .       | 27-31         |
| 10. Jim Hatfield (1979-81) . . . . .       | 21-33         |

### SEC WINNING PERCENTAGE

| <u>Coach (Tenure)</u>                      | <u>Pct.</u> | <u>W-L</u> |
|--|-------------|------------|
| 1. Ron Greene (1978) . . . . .             | .722        | 13-5       |
| 2. Babe McCarthy (1956-65) . . . . .       | .620        | 88-54      |
| 3. Rick Stansbury (1999-present) . . . . . | .521        | 75-69      |
| 4. Frank Carideo (1936-39) . . . . .       | .466        | 27-31      |
| 5. Richard Williams (1987-98) . . . . .    | .441        | 89-113     |
| 6. Stanfield Hitt (1940-47) . . . . .      | .427        | 41-55      |
| 7. Edwin Hale (1934-35) . . . . .          | .409        | 9-13       |
| 8. Jim Hatfield (1979-81) . . . . .        | .389        | 21-33      |
| 9. Joe Dan Gold (1966-70) . . . . .        | .364        | 32-56      |
| 10. Kermit Davis (1971-77) . . . . .       | .349        | 44-82      |

**Mississippi State Men's Basketball**  
**Mississippi State Combined Team Statistics (as of Dec 13, 2007)**  
**All games**

|                            |                |              |              |                |
|----------------------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|
| <b>RECORD:</b>             | <b>OVERALL</b> | <b>HOME</b>  | <b>AWAY</b>  | <b>NEUTRAL</b> |
| <b>ALL GAMES.....</b>      | <b>(5-4)</b>   | <b>(4-2)</b> | <b>(0-0)</b> | <b>(1-2)</b>   |
| <b>CONFERENCE.....</b>     | <b>(0-0)</b>   | <b>(0-0)</b> | <b>(0-0)</b> | <b>(0-0)</b>   |
| <b>NON-CONFERENCE.....</b> | <b>(5-4)</b>   | <b>(4-2)</b> | <b>(0-0)</b> | <b>(1-2)</b>   |

| ## Player              | GP-GS | Min--Avg | ---TOTAL--- |       | ---3-PTS--- |      | FT-FTA  | Pct  | ---REBOUNDS--- |     |     |      | PF  | FO | A   | TO  | Blk | Stl | Pts | Avg  |
|------------------------|-------|----------|-------------|-------|-------------|------|---------|------|----------------|-----|-----|------|-----|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|
|                        |       |          | FG-FGA      | Pct   | 3FG-FGA     | Pct  |         |      | Off            | Def | Tot | Avg  |     |    |     |     |     |     |     |      |
| 44 Gordon, Jamont..... | 9-9   | 291 32.3 | 58-128      | .453  | 15-46       | .326 | 34-47   | .723 | 13             | 44  | 57  | 6.3  | 19  | 0  | 35  | 35  | 7   | 9   | 165 | 18.3 |
| 23 Rhodes, Charles.... | 9-9   | 259 28.8 | 57-106      | .538  | 0-2         | .000 | 23-35   | .657 | 25             | 39  | 64  | 7.1  | 27  | 2  | 10  | 23  | 14  | 9   | 137 | 15.2 |
| 22 Stewart, Barry..... | 9-9   | 303 33.7 | 35-84       | .417  | 18-47       | .383 | 16-19   | .842 | 8              | 35  | 43  | 4.8  | 17  | 1  | 23  | 21  | 2   | 12  | 104 | 11.6 |
| 11 Hansbrough, Ben.... | 9-9   | 283 31.4 | 24-64       | .375  | 15-48       | .313 | 17-19   | .895 | 3              | 25  | 28  | 3.1  | 18  | 0  | 22  | 16  | 1   | 8   | 80  | 8.9  |
| 32 Varnado, Jarvis.... | 9-9   | 237 26.3 | 22-37       | .595  | 0-0         | .000 | 3-9     | .333 | 22             | 47  | 69  | 7.7  | 25  | 2  | 4   | 13  | 41  | 3   | 47  | 5.2  |
| 21 Johnson, Brian..... | 9-0   | 120 13.3 | 15-24       | .625  | 0-2         | .000 | 6-7     | .857 | 16             | 9   | 25  | 2.8  | 14  | 0  | 2   | 12  | 3   | 3   | 36  | 4.0  |
| 25 Turner, Phil.....   | 9-0   | 114 12.7 | 8-33        | .242  | 4-19        | .211 | 2-6     | .333 | 5              | 10  | 15  | 1.7  | 10  | 0  | 6   | 6   | 0   | 8   | 22  | 2.4  |
| 15 Benock, Riley.....  | 8-0   | 71 8.9   | 6-16        | .375  | 5-13        | .385 | 1-2     | .500 | 1              | 11  | 12  | 1.5  | 3   | 0  | 7   | 1   | 0   | 2   | 18  | 2.3  |
| 24 Augustus, Kodi..... | 5-0   | 32 6.4   | 3-8         | .375  | 2-4         | .500 | 3-5     | .600 | 2              | 7   | 9   | 1.8  | 5   | 0  | 0   | 6   | 1   | 0   | 11  | 2.2  |
| 45 Bailey, Elgin.....  | 7-0   | 51 7.3   | 6-11        | .545  | 0-0         | .000 | 1-9     | .111 | 6              | 6   | 12  | 1.7  | 6   | 0  | 1   | 6   | 1   | 3   | 13  | 1.9  |
| 14 Bryant, Rod.....    | 4-0   | 4 1.0    | 2-2         | 1.000 | 0-0         | .000 | 0-1     | .000 | 0              | 1   | 1   | 0.3  | 0   | 0  | 0   | 1   | 0   | 0   | 4   | 1.0  |
| 02 Johnson, Ravern.... | 5-0   | 22 4.4   | 1-7         | .143  | 0-1         | .000 | 1-2     | .500 | 1              | 0   | 1   | 0.2  | 1   | 0  | 1   | 2   | 0   | 1   | 3   | 0.6  |
| 03 Begley, Billy.....  | 4-0   | 5 1.3    | 0-1         | .000  | 0-0         | .000 | 0-0     | .000 | 0              | 1   | 1   | 0.3  | 1   | 0  | 0   | 1   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0.0  |
| 10 Iupe, Joseph.....   | 4-0   | 4 1.0    | 0-0         | .000  | 0-0         | .000 | 0-0     | .000 | 0              | 1   | 1   | 0.3  | 0   | 0  | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0.0  |
| 33 Bolen, Brandon..... | 4-0   | 4 1.0    | 0-1         | .000  | 0-0         | .000 | 0-0     | .000 | 0              | 1   | 1   | 0.3  | 1   | 0  | 0   | 2   | 0   | 0   | 0   | 0.0  |
| TEAM.....              |       |          |             |       |             |      |         |      | 13             | 18  | 31  | 3.4  | 0   |    |     | 1   |     |     |     |      |
| -----                  |       |          |             |       |             |      |         |      |                |     |     |      |     |    |     |     |     |     |     |      |
| Total.....             | 9     | 1800     | 237-522     | .454  | 59-182      | .324 | 107-161 | .665 | 115            | 255 | 370 | 41.1 | 147 | 5  | 111 | 146 | 70  | 58  | 640 | 71.1 |
| Opponents.....         | 9     | 1800     | 202-543     | .372  | 52-169      | .308 | 110-152 | .724 | 111            | 201 | 312 | 34.7 | 161 | -  | 100 | 127 | 23  | 65  | 566 | 62.9 |

| TEAM STATISTICS         | MS      | OPP     | DATE                                  | OPPONENT               | W/L | SCORE | ATTEND |
|-------------------------|---------|---------|---------------------------------------|------------------------|-----|-------|--------|
| -----                   |         |         |                                       |                        |     |       | -----  |
| SCORING.....            | 640     | 566     | 11-10-07                              | LOUISIANA TECH         | W   | 75-45 | 10153  |
| Points per game.....    | 71.1    | 62.9    | 11-15-07                              | CLEMSON                | L   | 82-84 | 9950   |
| Scoring margin.....     | +8.2    | -       | 11-17-07                              | UT MARTIN              | W   | 86-70 | 9950   |
| FIELD GOALS-ATT.....    | 237-522 | 202-543 | #11-22-07                             | vs UC Irvine           | W   | 68-53 | 1387   |
| Field goal pct.....     | .454    | .372    | #11-23-07                             | vs Southern Illinois   | L   | 49-63 | 1447   |
| 3 POINT FG-ATT.....     | 59-182  | 52-169  | #11-25-07                             | vs Miami (OH)          | L   | 60-67 | 2447   |
| 3-point FG pct.....     | .324    | .308    | 12-01-07                              | MURRAY STATE           | W   | 78-61 | 7787   |
| 3-pt FG made per game.. | 6.6     | 5.8     | 12-08-07                              | SOUTHEASTERN LOUISIANA | W   | 84-59 | 7719   |
| FREE THROWS-ATT.....    | 107-161 | 110-152 | 12-13-07                              | MIAMI (FL)             | L   | 58-64 | 7912   |
| Free throw pct.....     | .665    | .724    |                                       |                        |     |       |        |
| REBOUNDS.....           | 370     | 312     | # - Anaheim Classic (Anaheim, Calif.) |                        |     |       |        |
| Rebounds per game.....  | 41.1    | 34.7    |                                       |                        |     |       |        |
| Rebounding margin.....  | +6.4    | -       |                                       |                        |     |       |        |
| ASSISTS.....            | 111     | 100     |                                       |                        |     |       |        |
| Assists per game.....   | 12.3    | 11.1    |                                       |                        |     |       |        |
| TURNOVERS.....          | 146     | 127     |                                       |                        |     |       |        |
| Turnovers per game..... | 16.2    | 14.1    |                                       |                        |     |       |        |
| Turnover margin.....    | -2.1    | -       |                                       |                        |     |       |        |
| Assist/turnover ratio.. | 0.8     | 0.8     |                                       |                        |     |       |        |
| STEALS.....             | 58      | 65      |                                       |                        |     |       |        |
| Steals per game.....    | 6.4     | 7.2     |                                       |                        |     |       |        |
| BLOCKS.....             | 70      | 23      |                                       |                        |     |       |        |
| Blocks per game.....    | 7.8     | 2.6     |                                       |                        |     |       |        |
| WINNING STREAK.....     | 0       | -       |                                       |                        |     |       |        |
| Home win streak.....    | 0       | -       |                                       |                        |     |       |        |
| ATTENDANCE.....         | 53471   | 5281    |                                       |                        |     |       |        |
| Home games-Avg/Game.... | 6-8912  | 0-0     |                                       |                        |     |       |        |
| Neutral site-Avg/Game.. | -       | 3-1760  |                                       |                        |     |       |        |

| SCORE BY PERIODS:      | 1st | 2nd | Total |
|------------------------|-----|-----|-------|
| -----                  |     |     |       |
| Mississippi State..... | 304 | 336 | - 640 |
| Opponents.....         | 256 | 310 | - 566 |