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2002-03 Ole Miss Rebel Basketball



Game #11
Samford (4-6)
 vs.
Ole Miss (8-2)



December 31, 2002 • 3:00 p.m. (CT)
Tad Smith Coliseum • Oxford, Miss.

REBELS ON TELEVISION & RADIO

Television: None

Radio: Ole Miss Radio Network (David Kellum, play-by-play; Gary Darby, color analyst)

SETTING THE SCENE

- ☞ The Rebels' game versus Samford will be their final non-conference encounter of 2002-03.
- ☞ Senior Emmanuel Wade is averaging 12.5 points and 3.5 boards in the last 4 games. He is also shooting 51.7 percent from the field, 50 percent from the three-point line and 75 percent from the charity stripe in those 4 contests.
- ☞ Ole Miss will look to extend its homecourt win streak to 20 straight Tuesday.

OLE MISS TO CONCLUDE FOUR-GAME HOMESTAND VERSUS SAMFORD

The Rebels wrap up their four-game home-stand in Tad Smith Coliseum Tuesday, Dec. 31 when they host Samford. Game time is 3:00 p.m. (CT).

Ole Miss (8-2) enters Tuesday's contest with a 3-game win streak with victories over Nicholls State 63-52, Evansville 87-69 and Arkansas-Pine Bluff 71-38. The Samford Bulldogs (4-6) come into Tuesday's encounter having lost 4 straight, with all being on the road. Samford fell at South Alabama 74-51 in its last outing Dec. 28. The Bulldogs' last victory came on Dec. 7, a 64-54 win over Florida International.

BARNES IN FIFTH SEASON AS REBEL MENTOR

Rod Barnes is in his fifth season at the helm of the Ole Miss Rebel basketball program. **The 2001 Naismith and CollegeInsider.com National Coach of the Year, Barnes has a 94-48 record (662 winning percentage). He is 8-2 in 2002-03.** The 86 wins in his first four seasons were the most by a Rebel coach in that span of time in Ole Miss history. Last year, Barnes, the 2001 Southeastern Conference Coach of the Year, guided Ole Miss to a 20-11 overall record and a berth in the NCAA Tournament. The winning season and postseason tournament both were the sixth straight for the Ole Miss program.

Ole Miss Probables	<i>(Based on previous game's starters)</i>							
	No.	Player (Yr.)	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	PPG/RPG	Hometown	Notes
	1	Aaron Harper (Jr.)	F	6-7	217	13.2/4.3	Jackson, Miss.	☞ No. 3 on 3-pters made list; over 800 pts.
	23	Justin Reed (Jr.)	F	6-8	240	14.0/6.3	Jackson, Miss.	☞ Avg. 16.0 pts, 7.0 rebs since eye injury
	40	Derrick Allen (Sr.)	F	6-8	238	8.8/4.9	Gadsden, Ala.	☞ 10.3 pts, 5.0 rebs 3 gms prior to Dec. 28
	2	Trey Pearson (Fr.)	G	6-4	165	5.2/3.7	South Fulton, Tenn.	☞ Career-high 6 asts vs. Nicholls State
	15	David Sanders (Sr.)	G	6-3	185	10.2/3.8	Jackson, Miss.	☞ 8 asts vs. Evansville; 39 asts for season
TOP RESERVES								
	12	Justin Johnson (So.)	G	6-0	200	3.0/0.7	Fayetteville, N.C.	☞ Top-scoring game vs. Evansville (11 pts.)
	31	John Gunn (RJr.)	F/C	6-10	260	4.8/2.9	Oxford, Miss.	☞ Had 9 pts, 4 rebs vs. Ark.-Pine Bluff
	32	Emmanuel Wade (Sr.)	G	6-3	185	8.8/3.2	Marianna, Ark.	☞ Avg. 12.5 pts, 3.5 rebs in last 4 games

Samford Probables	<i>(Based on previous game's starters)</i>							
	No.	Player (Yr.)	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	PPG/RPG	Hometown	Notes
	44	Phillip Ramelli (Jr.)	F	6-10	230	12.8/4.8	New Orleans, La.	☞ Shooting 63.8 pct. FG, 75 pct. FT
	52	Sebastian Sachse (Jr.)	C	6-8	235	2.6/2.8	Chemnitz, Germany	☞ Has started the last 3 games
	5	Eddie Harper (Jr.)	G	6-5	200	7.4/2.7	Laurel, Miss.	☞ Avg. 7.0 pts in last 3 starts
	32	Cornell Felton (Sr.)	G	5-11	195	8.6/2.7	Alexandria, Va.	☞ 1 of 2 Bulldogs to start all 10 games
	33	Tyson Dorsey (Jr.)	G	6-3	180	10.8/1.9	Brantford, Ontario	☞ Avg. 14.0 pts., 3.0 rebs in last 2 games
TOP RESERVES								
	4	J. Robert Merritt (Fr.)	F	6-6	190	8.9/3.5	Oklahoma City, Okla.	☞ Team's top 3-pt. threat at 51.3 pct.
	14	Jon Mills (So.)	F	6-6	225	6.0/3.0	Winfield, Ala.	☞ Played in 8 games, made 2 starts
	42	Josh Hare (So.)	F	6-6	220	4.6/3.3	Cleveland, Tenn.	☞ Shooting 83.3 pct. from the FT line

2002-03 Schedule/Results

8-2, 0-0 SEC

Date	Opponent	Time
Nov. 9	West Alabama (Exh.)	97-35 W
<i>Freshman Trey Pearson scores 18 pts</i>		
Nov. 16	Athletes In Action (Exh.)	70-67 W
<i>Harper - 16 pts, 5 rebs, 6 asts; Allen - 16 points</i>		
Nov. 24	East Carolina	58-65 L
<i>Harper - 15 pts, 6 rebs; Pearson gets 1st start</i>		
Nov. 27	Alabama State	74-58 W
<i>Gunn starts, scores career-high 16 pts. (8-11 FG)</i>		
Nov. 30	George Mason	56-49 W
<i>Rebels hold GMU to 38.5 FG pct, 20.5 3-pt FG pct</i>		
Dec. 4	Austin Peay	74-46 W
<i>4 Rebels in dbl figures; APSU held to 26.8 pct FG</i>		
Dec. 14	VCU (FXSNS-TV)	82-68 W
<i>Posse scores 58 of 82 points; Pearson 8 rebs, 5 asts</i>		
Dec. 17	Louisiana-Monroe	80-57 W
<i>Reed's 2nd-straight 20 -point game; Harper has 14</i>		
Dec. 19	Memphis (ESPN2)	51-58 L
<i>Wade leads with 13 pts, 4 steals; Allen 13, Harper 10</i>		
Dec. 21	Nicholls State	63-52 W
<i>Harper's 21 puts him over 800 for career; hits 5 treys</i>		
Dec. 23	Evansville	87-69 W
<i>Reed returns to lineup; 6 Rebels in double figures</i>		
Dec. 28	Arkansas-Pine Bluff	71-38 W
<i>Wade has 12 pts, career-high 8 boards in the win</i>		
Dec. 31	Samford	3 pm
Jan. 8	South Carolina*	6:30 pm
Jan. 11	Tennessee* (JP-TV)	12 pm
Jan. 18	LSU* (JP-TV)	1 pm
Jan. 21	Alabama* (ESPN-TV)	8 pm
Jan. 25	Arkansas* (FXSNS-TV)	5 pm
Jan. 29	Mississippi State*	7 pm
Feb. 1	Vanderbilt*	7 pm
Feb. 5	Auburn*	7 pm
Feb. 8	Kentucky* (JP-TV)	2 pm
Feb. 12	Florida* (JP-TV)	7 pm
Feb. 15	Mississippi St.* (FXSNS-TV)	6 pm
Feb. 22	Auburn* (FXSNS-TV)	4 pm
Feb. 26	Georgia*	7 pm
Mar. 2	Alabama* (CBS-TV)	1 pm
Mar. 5	LSU*	7 pm
Mar. 8	Arkansas*	2 pm
Mar. 13-16	SEC Tournament (JP, CBS-TV) TBA	
<i>(Louisiana Superdome)</i>		

* SEC Game

All Times Central

Home games in bold

— 2002-03 Numerical Roster —

No.	Player	Pos.	Ht.	Ht.	Yr.	Hometown/High School
1	Aaron Harper	F/G	6-7	217	Jr.	Jackson, Miss./Provine HS
2	Trey Pearson	G	6-4	165	Fr.	South Fulton, Tenn./South Fulton HS
4	Kendrick Fox	F/G	6-7	210	So.	Oxford, Miss./Lafayette HS
10	Patrick Fields*	G	6-5	190	Fr.	San Antonio, Texas/John Jay HS
12	Justin Johnson	G	6-0	200	So.	Fayetteville, N.C./Seventy-First HS
15	David Sanders	G	6-3	185	Sr.	Jackson, Miss./Provine HS/ Tallahassee (Fla.) C.C.
21	Cavadas Nunnery	G	5-9	165	So.	Magnolia, Miss./South Pike HS
23	Justin Reed	F	6-8	240	Jr.	Jackson, Miss./Provine HS
25	Bryan Brown#	G	5-10	185	Fr.	Corinth, Miss./Corinth HS
31	John Gunn	F/C	6-10	260	RJr.	Oxford, Miss./Oxford HS
32	Emmanuel Wade	G	6-3	185	Sr.	Marianna, Ark./Lee HS
33	Chris Rhodes	F	6-7	220	So.	Houston, Texas/Westbury Christian HS
34	Shaun Holtz	F	6-8	250	Sr.	Crystal Springs, Miss./Crystal Springs HS/ Towson (Md.) University
35	Kendall Granderson*	G	6-2	195	Fr.	Yazoo City, Miss./Yazoo City HS
40	Derrick Allen	F	6-8	238	Sr.	Gadsden, Ala./Gadsden HS/ Southern Union State (Ala.) C.C.
44	Jonathan Loe	G	6-3	185	RFr.	Memphis, Tenn./Bartlett HS
45	Richard Kirklin*	F	6-9	215	Sr.	Pine Bluff, Ark./Watson Chapel HS
54	Lonnice Jackson*	F	6-8	195	So.	Montgomery, Ala./G.W. Carver HS/ Okaloosa-Walton C.C.

* expected to redshirt in 2002-03

will join team following the football season

Barnes was hired as the Rebel head coach on April 9, 1998. A 1988 graduate of Ole Miss, Barnes served as an assistant under Evans from 1993-98. During his time as an assistant coach, the Rebels compiled a record of 76-63 and won back-to-back Southeastern Conference Western Division titles and received consecutive NCAA Tournament berths in 1997 and 1998. Barnes played at Ole Miss from 1984-88 and was named All-SEC his senior season. He still ranks on the Ole Miss career charts in scoring (17th; 1,201 points), assists (2nd; 456) and steals (7th; 154).

OLE MISS-SAMFORD SERIES

Tuesday's game will be the 8th meeting between the two schools. Ole Miss holds an all-time series lead of 7-0 over the Bulldogs. The last time the two schools played was the 1984-85 campaign when Ole Miss posted an 80-66 victory over Samford in Oxford (Dec. 8, 1984). The Rebels have won all 5 previous encounters that have been played in Oxford.

SCOUTING SAMFORD

The Bulldogs bring a 4-6 record into Tuesday's game. Samford has lost 4 straight games, with all being on the road. The Bulldogs' last win was a 64-54 victory over Florida International Dec. 7. The junior tandem of Phillip Ramelli and Tyson Dorsey leads the Samford offense. Ramelli is tops on the team in scoring with a 12.8 average, while Dorsey is second at 10.8 points per game. Ramelli also leads the Bulldogs on the boards with a 4.8 rebounding average. Ramelli shoots 63.8 percent from the floor, which is tops on the team, and J. Robert Merritt is Samford's top threat from the arc, hitting 51.3 percent of his attempts. The Bulldogs are shooting 46.1 percent from the floor, 38.1 percent from the three-

point line and 76.7 percent from the charity stripe. Opponents are out-rebounding the Bulldogs by an average of 2.8 boards per game (32.2-29.4).

1000 AND COUNTING

The Ole Miss Rebel basketball program reached a milestone Dec. 28 when it recorded the 1000th win in its 93-year history with a 71-38 victory over Arkansas-Pine Bluff. Ole Miss entered the season with 992 all-time victories, needing only 8 to reach 1,000. **The Rebels' all-time record is now 1000-1082.**

REBELS VERSUS THE ATLANTIC SUN

The Rebels have an all-time record of 24-1 (.960 winning percentage) against current members of the Atlantic Sun Conference. Ole Miss is 7-0 versus Samford, 5-0 versus Mercer, 4-0 versus Troy State, 2-0 versus Belmont and Stetson, 1-0 versus Campbell and Florida Atlantic and 2-1 versus Jacksonville. The last time the Rebels faced an Atlantic Sun foe was the 2000-01 season when they defeated Troy State 92-65 in Oxford.

REED RETURNS!!

Junior Wooden Award candidate **Justin Reed (Jackson, Miss.)** returned to the Rebel starting lineup Dec. 23 versus Evansville, after missing the first game of his collegiate career Dec. 21 when he did not play against Nicholls State. The 6-foot-8 forward suffered an injury to his right eye in the first half of the Dec. 19 game at Memphis.

Against Evansville, Reed netted 17 points (7-of-10 FG, 2-of-3 3-point FG, 1-4 FT). He followed that with a double-double performance of 15 points and 11 boards in the Rebels' victory over Arkansas-Pine Bluff Dec. 28. Reed hit a career-high tying 11 free throws in the victory. **Prior to missing the Nicholls**

State contest, Reed had played in 73-consecutive games.

WADE'S ON FIRE

After getting off to a slow start, senior Emmanuel Wade (Marianna, Ark.) is settling back into his role as the Rebels' 6th man. Last year, Wade took over that role and thrived, giving the Rebels a spark off the bench. And, he has done the same in Ole Miss' last 8 games.

In those games, the 6-foot-3 guard averaged 9.6 points and 3.1 rebounds. He shot 53.8 percent from the field, 45 percent from the arc and 75 percent from the free throw line in the 8 games.

In the last 4 games, Wade averaged 12.5 points and 3.5 boards, and scored in double figures in 3 games, including a season-high 17 points versus Evansville. The following shows how Wade has done in the last 4 games:

Opp.	FG	3PT	FT	Pts	Reb
Memphis	5-10	1-3	2-3	13	2
Nicholls St.	3-7	2-2	0-0	8	1
Evansville	6-9	2-3	3-3	17	3
Ark.-PB	4-9	0-2	4-6	12	8
Totals	18-35	5-10	9-12	50	14
Pct/Avg.	51.4	50.0	75.0	12.5	3.5

REBELS TOUGH ON NON-CONFERENCE FOES IN RECENT YEARS

In the last 10 years (including 2002-03), the Rebels have posted a 93-30 record (.756 winning percentage) versus non-conference opponents. **Non-conference foes have found Ole Miss especially tough the last eight seasons (1995-96 through 2002-03), as the Rebels have an impressive 81-22 mark (.786 winning percentage) against out-of-conference teams.** The following shows Ole Miss' non-conference record the last 10 years:

Year	Record
1993-94	7-3
1994-95	5-5
1995-96	6-4
1996-97	8-3
1997-98	9-2
1998-99*	11-4
1999-2000*	14-2
2000-01*	14-2
2001-02*	11-3
2002-03*	8-2
Totals	93-30
*Totals Under Barnes	58-13

"TAD PAD" SWEET "TAD PAD"

Yes, most of the home win streaks are over, but Tad Smith Coliseum (a.k.a. the "Tad Pad") is still one of the toughest arenas in the nation for opposing teams to play. **Ole Miss has won 98 of its last 107 games (.916 winning percentage) at home, including homecourt winning streaks of 29, 19 (current) and 15 games.** Ole Miss is 7-0 at home this year, and was 13-1 at the "Tad Pad" in 2001-02.

In the past 11 seasons (1992-93 through 2002-03), Ole Miss has an overall home record of 126-30 (.808 winning percentage).

In head coach Rod Barnes' era, the Rebels have a home record of 61-8 (.884 winning percentage). The following shows Ole Miss' home record under Barnes:

Year	Record
1998-99	13-3
1999-2000	13-3
2000-01	15-1
2001-02	13-1
2002-03	7-0
Totals	61-8

REBELS ALL-TIME AT THE "TAD PAD"

The Rebels posted their 300th victory in Tad Smith Coliseum in 2000-01, and have kept on winning at home. Ole Miss has an all-time record of 331-156 (.680 winning percentage) at the "Tad Pad." Tad Smith Coliseum opened in the 1965-66 season.

STARTING ANOTHER STREAK?

Don't look now but the Ole Miss Rebels are beginning another homecourt win streak. **Entering Tuesday's game versus Samford, Ole Miss has a homecourt win streak of 19, which is the second longest in Rebel basketball history.** The following shows the longest homecourt win streaks in Rebel history:

Win Streak	Years
29	1996-97 to 1998-99
19	2001-02 to present
16	1925-26 to 1927-28
15	1995-96 to 1996-97
14	1935-36 to 1937-38

BARNES BECOMES SECOND WINNINGEST COACH IN REBEL HISTORY

With the Rebels' 56-49 victory over George Mason Nov. 30, **Rod Barnes** became the second-winningest head coach in Ole Miss basketball history. That win gave him 88 for his career, and **his record now stands at 94-48.** The 94 victories are second most in Ole Miss history, trailing only B.L. "Country" Graham's (1950-62) 145 wins.

Up next for Barnes is the 100-win milestone, and with 6 more victories, he will reach that. If Barnes is successful in reaching 100 victories, he

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2002-03 Media Services**

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FAX-ON-DEMAND

Call 1-770-558-6000 from the handset of your fax machine. Enter your Personal Identification Number (PIN). To receive a PIN, contact Pivotal Communications at 770-399-0096. Enter the pass-code 732 (SEC). The following are the catalogue numbers for information:

Game Release	1920
Updated player bios	1921
Cumulative Stats	1922
Schedule/Roster	1923
Previous Game Box	1924

MEDIA TEAMLINK

Media Teamlink is another way to access Ole Miss basketball information. To use Media Teamlink, you must have access to the internet and must have Adobe Acrobat 4.0 on your computer. To get Adobe Acrobat 4.0, you can download it off the web. To use Media Teamlink, go to their website at mediateamlink.com and set up your account. **The catalogue numbers are the same as fax-on-demand. If you need assistance, please call the Ole Miss SID office.**

REBEL BASKETBALL ON THE WEB

The Ole Miss athletics page address is:
www.OleMissSports.com/

ROD BARNES TELEVISION SHOW

"Ole Miss Basketball With Rod Barnes" begins in January. Check local listings for day and time in your area.

ROD BARNES RADIO CALL-IN SHOW

The Rod Barnes Radio Call-In Show begins in January. The show will be held every Thursday from 6-7:00 p.m. (CT) at the Downtown Grill on the Oxford Square throughout the season. Check the radio affiliates in your area.

— 2002 REBEL SIGNEES —

No.	Player	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Hometown/JC/HS	Notes
	Byron Burnett	F	6-9	250	Anniston, Ala./ Southern Union CC	☞ Avg. 12.7 pts, 13.3rebs in 1st 5 games of 2002-03 season; did not play HS hoops
	Bam Doyne	G	6-4	170	Little Rock, Ark./ Mills HS	☞ 2002 Gatorade Player of the Year in Ark.; 2001 Ark. Democrat-Gazette Sophomore of the Year

2002-03 REBEL RECAP
Game #10 • Dec. 28, 2002
Ole Miss 71, Ark.-Pine Bluff 38

Junior Justin Reed posted a double-double of 15 points and 11 rebounds and senior Emmanuel Wade added 12 points and a career-high 8 boards to lead Ole Miss to a 71-38 non-conference victory over Arkansas-Pine Bluff. The win was Ole Miss' 1000th in its history.

Chris Parker led the Golden Lions with 12 points, and Justin Lloyd grabbed a team-best 4 rebounds.

Arkansas-Pine Bluff stayed with Ole Miss in the first 3 minutes, with the contest tied at 4-all with 16:52 left. Over the next 8 minutes, the Rebels put together a 13-0 run to grab a 17-4 advantage and put the game out of reach. Wade keyed the spurt with 4 points (dunk, 2 FT). From that point, the Rebels continued to build on their advantage.

After the break, the Golden Lions could get no closer than 15 points the rest of the way.

Ole Miss hit 39.6 percent from the floor, 38.5 percent from the arc and 70 percent from the charity stripe. The Rebel defense held Arkansas-Pine Bluff to 28 percent from the field and 0 percent (0-of-13) from the three-point line. Ole Miss held a commanding 47-24 advantage on the boards.

UAPB	FG	3P	FT	R	TP	A	B	S
Lloyd	1-4	0-1	1-2	4	3	0	0	0
McKee	2-6	0-1	2-2	2	6	2	1	2
Kendrick	1-4	0-2	0-0	2	2	0	0	0
Jones	1-2	0-0	1-2	1	3	0	0	0
Parker	5-14	0-5	2-2	3	12	0	0	1
Curry	0-2	0-1	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Blake	0-2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Fleming	3-5	0-0	1-2	1	7	0	0	1
Bell	1-3	0-1	0-0	1	2	1	0	1
Hall	0-1	0-0	0-0	1	0	0	0	0
Washington	0-4	0-2	1-2	1	1	0	0	0
Bibles	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Lee	0-2	0-0	2-4	3	2	0	1	0
Emsweller	0-1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
TEAM				5				
Totals	14-50	0-13	10-16	24	38	3	2	5

Ole Miss	FG	3P	FT	R	TP	A	B	S
Harper	1-5	0-2	1-2	3	3	1	0	1
Reed	2-9	0-0	11-12	11	15	0	3	2
Allen	1-4	0-0	1-2	5	3	0	0	0
Pearson	1-1	1-1	2-2	4	5	1	0	1
Sanders	3-5	2-3	1-3	1	9	1	0	1
Fox	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Johnson	1-2	1-2	0-0	1	3	1	0	0
Nunnery	0-1	0-0	0-0	0	0	1	0	0
Gunn	2-5	0-0	5-6	4	9	0	0	0
Wade	4-9	0-2	4-6	8	12	2	0	1
Rhodes	2-3	0-0	2-5	4	6	0	0	0
Holtz	2-4	1-3	1-2	3	6	0	1	3
Loe	0-0	0-0	0-0	1	0	3	0	0
TEAM				2				
Totals	19-48	5-13	28-40	47	71	10	4	9

Ark.-Pine Bluff 14 24 — 38
 Ole Miss 31 40 — 71
 Officials: Jones, Maxwell, Caldwell
 Attendance: 2,417

would be only the second Rebel mentor to do so. Barnes is the only coach in the program's history to average 20 or more wins per season entering the 2002-03 campaign. The following lists the winningest coaches in Rebel history:

Coach	Years	Wins
B.L. Graham	1950-62	145
Rod Barnes	1999-present	94
Cob Jarvis	1969-76	87
Rob Evans	1993-98	86
Bob Weltlich	1977-82	83
Ed Murphy	1987-92	76

REED DOUBLES HIS PLEASURE

Justin Reed doubled his pleasure for the first time this year when he posted 15 points and 11 rebounds in the Rebels' victory over Arkansas-Pine Bluff Dec. 28. **Reed now has 11 double-doubles for his career, including six versus SEC opponents.** The following lists Reed's career double-double performances:

2002-03 Season	Pts	Rebs
Arkansas-Pine Bluff	15	11

2001-02 Season	Pts	Rebs
Mississippi State	12	11
Florida	15	10
Auburn	17	10
Alabama	19	12
Lipscomb	12	10
Arkansas-Pine Bluff	16	10
Kansas State	15	11

2000-01 Season	Pts	Rebs
South Carolina	18	11
Georgia	21	12
VCU	16	13

DECEMBER'S NOT SO BAD

While the Rebels are nearly unbeatable in the month of November (31-5 record) since 1990-91, their record in the month of December in that same span of time isn't so bad either. **Ole Miss has a 64-28 record (.696 winning percentage) in December games since 1990-91. The Rebels are 26-4 (.867 winning percentage) in December the last four years (6-1 in 1999-2000; 8-1 in 2000-01; 6-1 in 2001-02; 6-1 in 2002-03).**

JJ'S DYNAMITE

Sophomore Justin Johnson (Fayetteville, N.C.) had his best offensive game of the 2002-03 season against Evansville Dec. 23. The 6-foot guard scored a season-best 11 points on 3-of-4 shooting from the field (all three-pointers) and 2-of-2 from the foul line. The 11 points were one shy of his career high of 12, which he scored last year in a Rebel victory over Tennessee-Martin. The 3 treys were a career high.

In the Rebels' 4 games prior to Arkansas-Pine Bluff Dec. 28, Johnson averaged 5.3 points

2002-03 Preseason Honors

JUSTIN REED

- John Wooden Award candidate
- Dick Vitale/ESPN.com All-America fifth team
- Athlon Sports All-SEC second team
- Athlon Sports No. 7 Inside-Out player in the nation
- Basketball News All-SEC second team
- Basketball News No. 14 Banger in the nation
- The Sporting News All-SEC second team
- The Sporting News No. 8 power forward in the nation
- Lindy's All-SEC first team
- Lindy's No. 3 small forward in the nation
- Lindy's SEC's Top NBA Prospect
- FOXSports.com No. 18 power forward in the nation

DAVID SANDERS

- The Sporting News SEC's Best Defender

OLE MISS (TEAM HONORS)

- Athlon Sports NCAA Tournament Predictions — One & Done
- Basketball News Best of the Best — No. 5 bench in the country
- Lindy's Field of 64

and shot 58.3 percent from the field, 57.1 percent from the three-point arc and 75 percent from the charity stripe.

HARPER MOVING UP THE CHARTS

Junior Aaron Harper (Jackson, Miss.) has expanded his game in 2002-03 with more drives to the basket and mid-range jumpers. However, that doesn't mean the Rebels' sharp-shooter has given up on the three-point shot.

After 10 games, Harper is 23-of-46 from the arc (50 percent) and leads the team in three-pointers made. With the 23 treys, Harper is moving up the career three-pointers made list, and the following shows that:

Career Three-Pointers Made

1. Keith Carter (1996-99)249
2. Joe Harvell (1990-93)214
3. **Aaron Harper (2001-present)169**
4. Jason Harrison (1999-2002)163
5. Joezon Darby (1996-98)131

IS HE REALLY A FRESHMAN?

The roster has **Trey Pearson (South Fulton, Tenn.)** listed as a true freshman, but he is sure not playing like one. The 6-foot-4 guard is only averaging 5.2 points per game, but it's his total floor game that has been impressive. **In his first 10 games (all starts), Pearson has only 12 turnovers while averaging nearly 28 minutes per contest. He is second on the team with 36 assists, and has an assist-to-**

turnover ratio of 3-to-1.

Pearson is only the fourth true freshman since 1995-96 to start his first college game at Ole Miss. Jason Smith did so in the 1995-96 season opener, and current Rebels **Aaron Harper** and **Justin Reed** also started their first collegiate game in Ole Miss' 2000-01 opener. The following shows how solid Pearson has been:

Game	Min	Pts	Rebs	Asts	TO
ECU	32	7	2	3	1
Ala. St.	24	6	5	5	1
GMU*	19	6	1	3	0
Austin Peay	26	4	7	5	1
VCU	26	2	8	5	1
La.-Monroe	29	9	1	2	2
Memphis	35	2	4	1	3
Nicholls St.	34	7	4	6	1
Evansville	28	4	1	5	1
Ark.-PB	24	5	4	1	1

bold italics indicate career high

* hit 3-of-4 FTs in final :09 to seal the win

FOUR PLUS DOUBLE FIGURES EQUALS WINS

It's a rather odd equation, but it is adding up for Ole Miss again in 2002-03. **The Rebels have had 4 games this year in which four or more players have scored in double figures. Ole Miss is 4-0 in those games.** Last year, the Rebels had 19 games in which four or more players netted double digits. Ole Miss was 16-3 in those games, including an 8-1 mark in SEC action.

HARPER'S OVER 800...

In the Nicholls State game Dec. 21, junior **Aaron Harper** moved not only up the three-point chart but also closer to 1,000-point milestone for his career. **Entering the game against the Colonels, the 6-foot-7 forward had 784 career points, and scored 21 points to go over 800 for his career. He now has 821 points.**

REED OVER 900...

Junior Wooden Award candidate **Justin Reed** entered the Dec. 14 VCU contest needing 18 points

to reach the 900-point milestone. Well, the 6-foot-8 forward wasted no time in getting there with a 22-point performance in the 82-68 win over the Rams. **Reed now has 964 points and needs 36 to become the 27th player in Rebel history to reach 1,000.**

...AND SANDERS OVER 700

Senior **David Sanders (Jackson, Miss.)** had 12 points in Ole Miss' victory over Louisiana-Monroe Dec. 17, and with that, he went over the 700-point plateau for his career. **Entering Tuesday's game versus Samford, Sanders has 731 career points.**

THRICE WOULD BE NICE

Entering the 2002-03 season, the Rebels have three players — **Justin Reed, David Sanders** and **Aaron Harper** — who could top 1,000 points for their careers. If all three reach the milestone this year, it would be the first time in Ole Miss basketball history that three Rebels hit the 1,000-point plateau in the same season. **After the Rebels' Dec. 23 game against Evansville, Reed has 964 points, Sanders 731 and Harper 821.**

Although he scored most of his points at Towson University, senior transfer **Shaun Holtz (Crystal Springs, Miss.)** — who saw his first action of the year versus VCU Dec. 14 after sitting out with a back injury — could also reach 1,000 points for his collegiate career. **He now has 752 points.** The last time Ole Miss had multiple players reach 1,000 points in the same season was 1997-98 when Ansu Sesay and Keith Carter did so.

GETTING DEFENSIVE

Defense has always been a trademark of the Ole Miss Rebel basketball program, and it is continuing in the early part of the 2002-03 campaign. After 7 games, **Ole Miss is holding opponents to 38 percent shooting from the field (5th in SEC) and 28.7 percent from the three-point arc (1st in SEC). The Rebels are also holding the opposition to 56.0 points per game (1st in SEC).**

Last year, Ole Miss finished third in the league in scoring defense, allowing only 64.3 points per contest.

OLE MISS AMONG SEC LEADERS

(as of Dec. 30)

TEAM STATISTICS

Scoring Offense	10th (69.6)
Scoring Defense	1st (56.0)
Scoring Margin	6th (+13.6)
FG Percentage	5th (.481)
FT Percentage	4th (.706)
FG Percentage Defense	5th (.380)
3-Pt. FG Percentage	2nd (.395)
3-Pt. FG Made	7th (5.80)
3-Pt. FG Percentage Defense	1st (.287)
Rebounding Margin	8th (+3.9)
Assists	9th (15.10)
Blocked Shots	11th (3.10)
Steals	11th (7.00)
Turnover Margin	3rd (+2.00)
Assist/Turnover Ratio	3rd (1.13)

INDIVIDUAL LEADERS

Scoring

1. Ron Slay, UT	20.4
17. Justin Reed, OM	14.0
20. Aaron Harper, OM	13.2

Rebounding

1. Erwin Dudley, UA	10.9
16. Justin Reed, OM	6.3

Field Goal Percentage

1. Marquis Estill, UK	67.1
10. Justin Reed, OM	51.1

Free Throw Percentage

1. Brandon Crump, UT	90.0
9. Justin Reed, OM	73.0

3-Point Field Goal Percentage

1. Darrel Mitchell, LSU	52.2
3. Aaron Harper, OM	50.0

3-Pointers Made Per Game

1. Matt Walsh, UF	2.58
4. Aaron Harper, OM	2.30

Blocks

1. Kyle Davis, AU	4.09
7. Justin Reed, OM	1.67

Assist/Turnover Ratio

1. Blake Eddins, AR	4.00
3. Trey Pearson, OM	3.00

OLE MISS/SAMFORD TEAM COMPARISONS

Ole Miss	Statistical Category	Samford
69.6	Scoring Offense	65.0
56.0	Scoring Defense	72.2
35.1	Rebound Avg.	29.4
31.2	Opponent Rebound Avg.	32.2
+3.9	Rebound Margin	-2.8
48.1	Field Goal Percentage	46.1
38.0	Opponent Field Goal Percentage	45.7
39.5	Three-Point Field Goal Percentage	38.1
28.7	Opp. Three-Point Field Goal Percentage	35.9
70.6	Free Throw Percentage	76.7
134	Turnovers	168
154	Opponent Turnovers	110
151	Assists	169
31	Blocks	10
70	Steals	40

Rebels' Record When...

- Leading at the half 7-1
- Tied at the half 0-0
- Behind at the half 1-1
- Playing at home 7-0
- Playing on the road (includes neutral) 1-2
- Playing a night game
(6:00 p.m. or later local time) 6-1
- Playing a day game 2-1
- Scores 70 points or more 6-0
- Scores less than 70 points 2-2
- Out-rebounds opponent 6-0
- Out-rebounded by opponent 1-2
- Ties opponents in rebounds 1-0
- Shoots 50 percent or better
from the field 5-0
- Shoots between 40-49 percent
from the field 2-1
- Shoots under 40 percent
from the field 1-1
- Shoots 30 percent or better
from 3-pt. arc 7-1
- Shoots under 30 percent from arc 1-1
- Shoots 70 percent or better
from FT line 6-1
- Shoots 60-69 percent from FT line 1-0
- Shoots under 60 percent from
FT line 1-1
- Opponent shoots 50 percent or
better from the field 1-0
- Opponent shoots 40-49 percent
from the field 2-0
- Opponent shoots under 40 percent
from the field 5-2
- Opponent shoots 30 percent or
better from 3-pt. arc 4-0
- Opponent shoots under 30 percent
from the 3-pt. arc 4-2
- Commits 15 turnovers or more 2-2
- Commits less than 15 turnovers 6-0
- Forces 15 turnovers or more 5-1
- Forces less than 15 turnovers 3-1

AT THE HEAD OF THE CLASS(ES)

As a result of the Rebels' success the last six seasons, the recent seniors have taken their places at the top of the charts for the most wins by a senior class. The 2002-03 senior class of **Derrick Allen (Gadsden, Ala.), Shaun Holtz, David Sanders and Emmanuel Wade** entered the year with 66 victories, which was 22 shy of tying the record of 88. **After the Rebels' win over Arkansas-Pine Bluff Dec. 28, the 2002-03 senior class now has 74 victories.** The record of 88 wins was set by the 2000-01 class of John Engstrom, Jason Flanigan, Jason Holmes and Rahim Lockhart. Last year's senior class of Jason Harrison posted the second-most victories with 86 in a four-year span. The 2002-03 senior class has also been a part of the 2001 SEC Western Division championship squad and has been to three-straight post seasons (2 NCAA, 1 NIT). The following chart lists the most successful classes:

Four-Year Span	No. of Wins
1997-98 to 2000-01	88
1998-99 to 2001-02	86
1999-2000 to present	74
1995-96 to 1998-99	74
1979-80 to 1982-83	70
1935-36 to 1938-39	63
1994-95 to 1997-98	62
1978-79 to 1981-82	62
1923-24 to 1926-27	62

OLE MISS SECOND MOST WINS SINCE 1996-97

The Rebels have, indeed, been one of the Southeastern Conference's most successful teams in recent years — especially since 1996-97. Ole Miss has won 136 games (overall games) since 1996-97, the most by any team in the SEC Western Division. The 136 victories are also second among all league teams, only trailing Kentucky's 173 wins. The following charts show the Rebels' success:

Most Overall/SEC Wins By SEC West Teams (1996-97 to present)

Team	Overall Wins	SEC Wins
Ole Miss	136	56
Auburn	123	47
Arkansas	123	51
Alabama	120	44
Mississippi State	113	40
LSU	99	29

Most Overall/SEC Wins By SEC Teams (Top 6) (1996-97 to present)

Team	Overall Wins	SEC Wins
Kentucky	173	72
Ole Miss	136	56
Florida	134	55
Auburn	123	47
Arkansas	123	51
Tennessee	120	52
Alabama	120	44

MORE ON THE REBEL DEFENSE

Ole Miss held Austin Peay Dec. 4 and George Mason Nov. 30 to below 50 points. The Rebels held George Mason to 49 points and Austin Peay to 46 points. **The last time the Rebels held opponents to less than 50 points in consecutive games was Ole Miss head coach Rod Barnes' first season in 1998-99. In Barnes' first two games as the Rebel mentor, Ole Miss defeated Alabama State 87-45 Nov. 13, 1998, and Belmont 91-42 Nov. 16, 1998.**

OLE MISS PICKED FOURTH IN WEST

The Ole Miss Rebels were picked to finish in fourth place in the Southeastern Conference Western Division in a vote by media members at the annual conference media day Oct. 30 in Birmingham, Ala. Alabama was picked to win the SEC overall title and the Western Division crown, while Florida was selected to win the Eastern Division championship. The following shows the media's picks for the 2002-03 campaign (first-place votes in parentheses):

Eastern Division	Western Division
1. Florida (26)	1. Alabama (30)
2. Georgia (9)	2. Mississippi St. (8)
3. Kentucky (5)	3. LSU
4. South Carolina	4. Ole Miss (1)
5. Tennessee	5. Arkansas
6. Vanderbilt	6. Auburn (1)

REBELS IN GOOD COMPANY

Some say you are judged by the company you keep. If that is true, then the Rebels should be considered among the nation's elite, especially the last six years (1997-2002). Ole Miss is one of only two teams from the Southeastern Conference to post a winning record and participate in postseason play each of the last six seasons. The Rebels played in the NCAA Tournament in 1997, 1998, 1999, 2001 and 2002 and participated in the NIT in 2000. Kentucky is the only other SEC school to have a winning record and play in the postseason (6 NCAA) each of the last six years.

NOT ONLY AN OLE MISS FIRST

When junior forward **Justin Reed** was named a candidate for the 2002-03 John Wooden Award this past summer, it was the second-consecutive year that his name was on the list for the prestigious honor. The Jackson, Miss., native is first player in Ole Miss history to be a two-time Wooden candidate, and is also the first player among all Mississippi Division I state colleges to be a candidate two-straight years. Reed is Ole Miss' third player to be up for the honor, as John Stroud (1980) and Ansu Sesay (1998) were candidates. Stroud and Sesay both earned Wooden All-America distinction.

GAME - BY - GAME TEAM STATISTICS

<u>OPPONENT</u>	<u>SCORE</u>	<u>FG-FGA</u>	<u>PCT</u>	<u>3P-3PA</u>	<u>PCT</u>	<u>FT-FTA</u>	<u>PCT</u>	<u>OFF-DEF-TOT</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>BLK</u>	<u>ST</u>
Ole Miss	58	22-55	.400	5-15	.333	9-11	.818	8-22-30	14	18	1	3
at EAST CAROLINA	65	19-48	.396	4-14	.286	23-31	.742	11-28-39	8	18	6	7
Alabama State	58	23-59	.390	3-19	.158	9-16	.563	13-15-28	7	18	1	12
at OLE MISS	74	28-49	.571	4-12	.333	14-18	.778	8-28-36	18	20	5	7
Ole Miss	56	22-49	.449	5-18	.278	7-16	.438	8-24-32	14	8	4	7
at GEORGE MASON	49	18-49	.367	2-11	.182	11-23	.478	15-24-39	6	14	1	3
Austin Peay	46	15-56	.268	3-14	.214	13-18	.722	11-22-33	9	16	5	7
at OLE MISS	74	25-57	.439	8-18	.444	16-21	.762	12-34-46	15	13	4	3
Louisiana-Monroe	57	19-54	.352	6-16	.375	13-21	.619	15-16-31	10	17	4	7
at OLE MISS	80	29-54	.537	5-12	.417	17-21	.810	10-26-36	13	12	1	14
Ole Miss	51	19-49	.388	3-11	.273	10-17	.588	13-25-38	12	19	7	6
at MEMPHIS	58	23-61	.377	2-9	.222	10-15	.667	16-23-39	12	12	9	10
Nicholls State	52	18-41	.439	7-18	.389	9-17	.529	7-19-26	11	12	0	4
at OLE MISS	63	22-44	.500	8-20	.400	11-17	.647	6-20-26	18	7	2	5
Evansville	69	24-45	.533	9-14	.643	12-16	.750	7-13-20	16	16	0	6
at OLE MISS	87	29-49	.592	12-22	.545	17-24	.708	11-14-25	20	12	1	9
Arkansas-Pine Bluff	38	14-50	.280	0-13	.000	10-16	.625	4-20-24	3	18	2	5
at OLE MISS	71	19-48	.396	5-13	.385	28-40	.700	12-35-47	10	15	4	9

2002-03 Ole Miss Basketball
 Ole Miss Combined Team Statistics (as of Dec 28, 2002)
 All games

RECORD:	OVERALL	HOME	AWAY	NEUTRAL
ALL GAMES.....	(8-2)	(7-0)	(1-2)	(0-0)
CONFERENCE.....	(0-0)	(0-0)	(0-0)	(0-0)
NON-CONFERENCE.....	(8-2)	(7-0)	(1-2)	(0-0)

## Player	GP-GS	---TOTAL---		---3-PTS---		---REBOUNDS---				PF		FO		A		TO		Blk		Stl		Pts		Avg	
		Min	Avg	FG-FGA	Pct	3FG-FGA	Pct	FT-FTA	Pct	Off	Def	Tot	Avg												
23 REED, Justin.....	9-8	234	26.0	47-92	.511	5-9	.556	27-37	.730	16	41	57	6.3	30	0	11	18	15	7	126	14.0				
01 HARPER, Aaron.....	10-10	296	29.6	44-82	.537	23-46	.500	21-30	.700	9	34	43	4.3	18	0	15	19	0	8	132	13.2				
15 SANDERS, David.....	10-10	305	30.5	36-68	.529	8-23	.348	22-30	.733	9	29	38	3.8	27	0	39	22	5	12	102	10.2				
40 ALLEN, Derrick.....	10-9	223	22.3	34-69	.493	0-0	.000	20-33	.606	17	32	49	4.9	23	0	6	11	5	6	88	8.8				
32 WADE, Emmanuel.....	10-1	238	23.8	31-60	.517	9-23	.391	17-22	.773	16	16	32	3.2	16	0	19	10	0	11	88	8.8				
02 PEARSON, Trey.....	10-10	277	27.7	17-34	.500	6-14	.429	12-16	.750	3	34	37	3.7	28	0	36	12	1	8	52	5.2				
31 GUNN, John.....	9-1	106	11.8	17-43	.395	0-0	.000	9-12	.750	4	22	26	2.9	14	0	3	7	4	4	43	4.8				
12 JOHNSON, Justin....	10-0	77	7.7	10-21	.476	6-14	.429	4-6	.667	2	5	7	0.7	9	0	5	7	0	3	30	3.0				
34 HOLTZ, Shaun.....	6-0	36	6.0	2-10	.200	1-5	.200	4-6	.667	4	4	8	1.3	6	0	0	4	1	7	9	1.5				
33 RHODES, Chris.....	7-0	23	3.3	3-5	.600	0-0	.000	4-7	.571	3	5	8	1.1	5	0	0	3	0	0	10	1.4				
44 LOE, Jonathan.....	9-0	87	9.7	5-15	.333	0-4	.000	2-3	.667	5	4	9	1.0	8	0	7	10	0	2	12	1.3				
04 FOX, Kendrick.....	10-1	43	4.3	1-9	.111	0-6	.000	2-2	1.000	0	7	7	0.7	5	0	3	3	0	1	4	0.4				
25 BROWN, Bryan.....	4-0	33	8.3	0-4	.000	0-3	.000	0-0	.000	0	1	1	0.3	2	0	5	2	0	1	0	0.0				
21 NUNNERY, Cavadas...	8-0	22	2.8	0-2	.000	0-0	.000	0-0	.000	0	4	4	0.5	2	0	2	1	0	0	0	0.0				
TEAM.....										10	15	25	2.5	0		5									
Total.....	10	2000		247-514	.481	58-147	.395	144-204	.706	98	253	351	35.1	193	0	151	134	31	70	696	69.6				
Opponents.....	10	2000		200-526	.380	41-143	.287	119-186	.640	111	201	312	31.2	197	-	93	154	33	65	560	56.0				

TEAM STATISTICS	UM	OPP	DATE	OPPONENT	W/L	SCORE	ATTEND
SCORING.....	696	560	11/24/02	at East Carolina	L	58-65	6332
Points per game.....	69.6	56.0	11/27/02	ALABAMA STATE	W	74-58	3392
Scoring margin.....	+13.6	-	11/30/02	at George Mason	W	56-49	3040
FIELD GOALS-ATT.....	247-514	200-526	12/04/02	AUSTIN PEAY	W	74-46	2517
Field goal pct.....	.481	.380	12/14/02	VCU	W	82-68	3118
3 POINT FG-ATT.....	58-147	41-143	12/17/02	LOUISIANA-MONROE	W	80-57	2532
3-point FG pct.....	.395	.287	12/19/02	at Memphis	L	51-58	18230
3-pt FG made per game..	5.8	4.1	12/21/02	NICHOLLS STATE	W	63-52	2249
FREE THROWS-ATT.....	144-204	119-186	12/23/02	EVANSVILLE	W	87-69	1933
Free throw pct.....	.706	.640	12/28/02	ARKANSAS-PINE BLUFF	W	71-38	2417
REBOUNDS.....	351	312					
Rebounds per game.....	35.1	31.2					
Rebounding margin.....	+3.9	-					
ASSISTS.....	151	93					
Assists per game.....	15.1	9.3					
TURNOVERS.....	134	154					
Turnovers per game.....	13.4	15.4					
Turnover margin.....	+2.0	-					
Assist/turnover ratio..	1.1	0.6					
STEALS.....	70	65					
Steals per game.....	7.0	6.5					
BLOCKS.....	31	33					
Blocks per game.....	3.1	3.3					
WINNING STREAK.....	3	-					
Home win streak.....	7	-					
ATTENDANCE.....	18158	27602					
Home games-Avg/Game....	7-2594	3-9201					
Neutral site-Avg/Game..	-	0-0					

SCORE BY PERIODS:	1st	2nd	Total
Ole Miss.....	325	371	- 696
Opponents.....	254	306	- 560

2002-03 Ole Miss Basketball
 Ole Miss Game-by-Game Points-Rebounds-Assists (as of Dec 28, 2002)
 All games

Opponent	Date	Score	WL	01 HARPER,AA	02 PEARSON,T	04 FOX,KENDR	12 JOHNSON,J	15 SANDERS,D	21 NUNNERY,C	23 REED,JUST	25 BROWN,BRY	31 GUNN,JOHN
at East Carolina	11/24/02	58-65	L	15- 6- 1	7- 2- 3	0- 0- 1	0- 1- 1	10- 5- 4	0- 2- 0	11- 5- 1	DNP	DNP
ALABAMA STATE	11/27/02	74-58	W	12- 3- 5	6- 5- 5	4- 1- 0	0- 0- 0	13- 1- 5	0- 0- 0	12- 8- 1	DNP	16- 4- 0
at George Mason	11/30/02	56-49	W	12- 5- 1	6- 1- 3	0- 0- 0	0- 0- 0	10- 3- 3	DNP	8- 7- 1	DNP	0- 3- 0
AUSTIN PEAY	12/04/02	74-46	W	17- 6- 0	4- 7- 5	0- 4- 0	6- 1- 1	10- 9- 2	0- 1- 1	13- 5- 3	DNP	5- 2- 0
VCU	12/14/02	82-68	W	15- 5- 2	2- 8- 5	0- 0- 0	0- 0- 0	21- 4- 7	DNP	22- 6- 1	0- 0- 1	4- 3- 0
LOUISIANA-MONROE	12/17/02	80-57	W	14- 3- 2	9- 1- 2	0- 1- 0	6- 1- 2	12- 7- 3	0- 1- 0	21- 7- 0	0- 0- 0	2- 2- 2
at Memphis	12/19/02	51-58	L	10- 7- 2	2- 4- 1	0- 0- 0	4- 1- 0	0- 4- 2	0- 0- 0	7- 5- 2	0- 0- 1	2- 4- 1
NICHOLLS STATE	12/21/02	63-52	W	21- 3- 0	7- 4- 6	0- 0- 1	0- 1- 0	4- 2- 4	0- 0- 0	DNP	0- 1- 3	3- 1- 0
EVANSVILLE	12/23/02	87-69	W	13- 2- 1	4- 1- 5	0- 1- 1	11- 1- 0	13- 2- 8	0- 0- 0	17- 3- 2	DNP	2- 3- 0
ARKANSAS-PINE BLUFF	12/28/02	71-38	W	3- 3- 1	5- 4- 1	0- 0- 0	3- 1- 1	9- 1- 1	0- 0- 1	15-11- 0	DNP	9- 4- 0

Opponent	Date	Score	WL	32 WADE,EMMA	33 RHODES,CH	34 HOLTZ,SHA	40 ALLEN,DER	44 LOE,JONAT
at East Carolina	11/24/02	58-65	L	4- 2- 2	0- 1- 0	DNP	11- 5- 1	DNP
ALABAMA STATE	11/27/02	74-58	W	7- 5- 2	0- 0- 0	DNP	2- 5- 0	2- 1- 0
at George Mason	11/30/02	56-49	W	9- 2- 4	DNP	DNP	11- 9- 1	0- 1- 1
AUSTIN PEAY	12/04/02	74-46	W	9- 5- 2	DNP	DNP	10- 4- 0	0- 0- 1
VCU	12/14/02	82-68	W	0- 2- 0	DNP	2- 3- 0	16- 2- 0	0- 1- 1
LOUISIANA-MONROE	12/17/02	80-57	W	9- 2- 2	0- 1- 0	1- 1- 0	4- 4- 0	2- 1- 0
at Memphis	12/19/02	51-58	L	13- 2- 1	0- 0- 0	0- 1- 0	13- 5- 1	0- 2- 1
NICHOLLS STATE	12/21/02	63-52	W	8- 1- 2	4- 2- 0	0- 0- 0	8- 6- 2	8- 1- 0
EVANSVILLE	12/23/02	87-69	W	17- 3- 2	0- 0- 0	0- 0- 0	10- 4- 1	0- 1- 0
ARKANSAS-PINE BLUFF	12/28/02	71-38	W	12- 8- 2	6- 4- 0	6- 3- 0	3- 5- 0	0- 1- 3

2002 - 03 REBEL GAME - BY - GAME RECAPS

Game #1 • Nov. 24, 2002
East Carolina 65, Ole Miss 58
Greenville, N.C.

East Carolina's Erroyl Bing had 11 points and 6 boards to lead the Pirates to a 65-58 non-conference victory over Ole Miss, before a crowd of 6,332 at Williams Arena. Gabriel Mikulas also scored 11 points, while Travis Holcomb-Faye added 10 points and 5 assists.

Aaron Harper led Ole Miss with 15 points and 6 boards. Derrick Allen (11 points), Justin Reed (11) and David Sanders (10) also netted double figures. Sanders also dished out 4 assists.

The Rebels held a narrow 27-24 lead at the break, but East Carolina began the second half with a 20-9 spurt to take a 44-36 advantage. The Pirates used the three-point shot to grab the lead as Belton Rivers, Jonathan Moore, Mikulas and Holcomb-Faye each hit a trey in the run.

The Rebels were able to cut the Pirate lead to two at 45-43 on an Allen layup at the 7:23 mark. East Carolina, however, put together a 10-3 run to grab a 55-46 lead with 2:43 left and put the game out of reach. From that point, the Pirates held on to the lead from the foul line.

In the first half, the Rebels jumped out to a 13-7 lead. Harper hit two treys and Sanders had a dunk in the game-opening spurt. East Carolina responded with a 7-0 run to regain the lead, and the remainder of the first half was close with neither team holding a lead larger than 3 points.

The Rebels hit 40 percent from the field and 81.8 percent from the foul line. East Carolina shot 39.6 percent from the field and 74.2 percent from the line. The Pirates won the battle on the boards 39-30.

Ole Miss	FG	3P	FT	R	TP	A	B	S
Harper	6-9	3-6	0-0	6	15	1	0	2
Fox	0-2	0-2	0-0	0	0	1	0	0
Allen	4-15	0-0	3-4	5	11	1	0	0
Pearson	2-5	1-1	2-3	2	7	3	0	0
Sanders	4-6	0-1	2-2	5	10	4	0	1
Johnson	0-1	0-1	0-0	1	0	1	0	0
Nunnery	0-0	0-0	0-0	2	0	0	0	0
Reed	5-13	1-3	0-0	5	11	1	1	0
Wade	1-4	0-1	2-2	2	4	2	0	0
Rhodes	0-0	0-0	0-0	1	0	0	0	0
TEAM				1				
Totals	22-55	5-15	9-11	30	58	14	1	3

E. Carolina	FG	3P	FT	R	TP	A	B	S
Bing	5-5	0-0	1-3	6	11	1	1	1
Mikulas	3-6	1-1	4-4	4	11	0	0	1
Rivers	4-12	1-5	0-0	5	9	2	0	0
Wiley	3-10	0-1	2-2	5	8	0	0	4
Holcomb-Faye	2-7	1-4	5-8	3	10	5	0	0
MacKay	0-0	0-0	0-0	1	0	0	0	0
Badiane	1-4	0-0	5-6	5	7	0	5	0
Moore	1-4	1-3	6-8	1	9	0	0	1
TEAM				9				
Totals	19-48	4-14	23-31	39	65	8	6	7

Ole Miss 27 31 — 58
 East Carolina 24 41 — 65
 Officials: Burr, Sitton, Higgins
 Attendance: 6,332

Game #2 • Nov. 27, 2002
Ole Miss 74, Alabama St. 58
Oxford, Miss.

Redshirt junior forward John Gunn scored a career-high 16 points to lead Ole Miss to a 74-58 non-conference victory over Alabama State before a crowd of 3,392 at Tad Smith Coliseum. The contest was the home opener for the Rebels.

Gunn netted his 16 points on a career-best 8 field goals. David Sanders (13 points), Aaron Harper (12) and Justin Reed (12) also scored in double figures for Ole Miss. Reed grabbed a team-best 8 boards.

Lamar Clark led the Hornets with 15 points, while Cedric Mitchell added 14 points and a team-best 7 rebounds. Alvin Pettway had 13 points and 6 boards.

Alabama State jumped out to a 2-0 lead and stayed with the Rebels throughout the first half. The Rebels' largest lead in the first half was 5 points, and the Hornets even had a one-point lead at 30-29 with only 1:56 remaining before intermission. Ole Miss, though, regained the lead before the break on a Harper three-point play.

In the second half, Ole Miss picked up its defense and used a 22-8 run in the first nine minutes to push the lead to 54-38. The Rebels forced Alabama State into 6 turnovers during the second-half opening spurt. From that point, Ole Miss maintained its double-digit advantage.

The Rebels shot 57.1 percent from the field and 77.8 percent from the foul line. The Ole Miss defense held Alabama State to 39 percent shooting from the floor and 15.8 percent from the arc.

Ala. State	FG	3P	FT	R	TP	A	B	S
Pettway	5-10	0-0	3-5	6	13	1	0	2
Oliver, X.	0-3	0-0	2-2	3	2	2	1	3
Clark	7-12	0-1	1-4	3	15	1	0	1
Gamble	2-5	1-3	0-0	0	5	0	0	1
Campbell	3-11	1-6	0-1	1	7	1	0	3
Harris	0-1	0-1	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Smith	1-3	0-2	0-0	0	2	2	0	0
Mitchell	5-13	1-6	3-4	7	14	0	0	2
West	0-1	0-0	0-0	2	0	0	0	0
Oliver, A.	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Green	0-0	0-0	0-0	1	0	0	0	0
Russell	0-0	0-0	0-0	1	0	0	0	0
TEAM				4				
Totals	23-59	3-19	9-16	28	58	7	1	12

Ole Miss	FG	3P	FT	R	TP	A	B	S
Harper	5-8	1-2	1-2	3	12	5	0	1
Reed	4-7	0-0	4-5	8	12	1	2	0
Gunn	8-11	0-0	0-0	4	16	0	1	0
Pearson	2-4	2-3	0-0	5	6	5	0	1
Sanders	4-4	1-1	4-5	1	13	5	2	0
Fox	1-2	0-1	2-2	1	4	0	0	1
Johnson	0-1	0-1	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Nunnery	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Wade	2-4	0-2	3-4	5	7	2	0	2
Rhodes	0-1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Allen	1-3	0-0	0-0	5	2	0	0	1
Loe	1-4	0-2	0-0	1	2	0	0	1
TEAM				3				
Totals	28-49	4-12	14-18	36	74	18	5	7

Alabama State 30 28 — 58
 Ole Miss 32 42 — 74
 Officials: Stuart, Clougherty, Reyes
 Attendance: 3,392

Game #3 • Nov. 30, 2002
Ole Miss 56, George Mason 49
Fairfax, Va.

Junior Aaron Harper led three Rebels in double figures with 12 points, and freshman Trey Pearson hit 3-of-4 from the free throw line in the final 9 seconds to lift Ole Miss to a 56-49 victory over George Mason. Derrick Allen added 11 points and a team-high 9 boards, while David Sanders had 10 points.

Jesse Young led the Patriots with a double-double of 14 point and 13 rebounds. Jon Larranaga had a team-best 16 points, and Mark Davis added 11 points.

The Rebels held a 29-21 lead at the break, and doubled that advantage to 16 points at 49-33 with 5:47 to play. George Mason, though, did not go away. Over the next four minutes, the Patriots used a 12-1 run to cut the Ole Miss lead to five at 50-45 with 1:19 on the clock. Allen ended the Rebel drought with a layup to make the score 52-45 Ole Miss with 49 ticks remaining. From that point, the Rebels sealed the game at the foul line.

In the first half, Ole Miss jumped out to a 2-0 lead and never trailed. The Rebels built a 22-10 lead midway through the first half on back-to-back treys by Harper and Emmanuel Wade. The Patriots then put together an 11-5 spurt to close to within six, but still trailed 29-21 at the break.

Ole Miss shot 44.9 percent from the field, and the Rebel defense held George Mason to 36.7 percent from the floor and 18.2 percent from the three-point line. The Patriots out-rebounded Ole Miss 39-32.

Sanders also did a solid defensive job on the Patriots' leading scorer, Mark Davis. Sanders held Davis, who entered the game averaging 23.0 points, to only 11 points for the game.

Ole Miss	FG	3P	FT	R	TP	A	B	S
Harper	4-6	2-4	2-5	5	12	1	0	0
Reed	4-7	0-0	0-2	7	8	1	2	2
Allen	5-8	0-0	1-2	9	11	1	1	0
Pearson	1-2	0-0	4-5	1	6	3	0	1
Sanders	4-10	2-7	0-2	3	10	3	0	1
Fox	0-1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Johnson	0-1	0-1	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Gunn	0-5	0-0	0-0	3	0	0	1	1
Wade	4-8	1-5	0-0	2	9	4	0	1
Loe	0-1	0-1	0-0	1	0	1	0	1
TEAM				1				
Totals	22-49	5-18	7-16	32	56	14	4	7

G. Mason	FG	3P	FT	R	TP	A	B	S
Larranaga	7-12	0-0	2-4	5	16	0	0	0
Young	5-11	0-1	4-6	13	14	0	1	0
Lewis	1-3	0-0	0-1	5	2	1	0	0
Heinen	1-6	1-2	0-0	2	3	2	0	1
Davis	3-13	1-7	4-10	4	11	0	0	0
Tynes	1-3	0-1	1-1	4	3	2	0	0
Wurtz	0-1	0-0	0-1	2	0	1	0	2
TEAM				4				
Totals	18-49	2-11	11-23	39	49	6	1	3

Ole Miss 29 27 — 56
 George Mason 21 28 — 49
 Officials: Cofer, Natili, Luckie
 Attendance: 3,040

2002 - 03 REBEL GAME - BY - GAME RECAPS

Game #4 • Dec. 4, 2002
Ole Miss 74, Austin Peay 46
Oxford, Miss.

Junior Aaron Harper led four Rebels in double figures with a game-high 17 points to lift Ole Miss to a 74-46 non-conference victory over Austin Peay. Justin Reed (13 points), Derrick Allen (10) and David Sanders (10) also scored in double figures. Sanders also grabbed a game-high tying 9 boards.

Corey Gipson was the only Austin Peay player in double figure scorer with 12 points. Josh Lewis had 9 rebounds for the Governors.

The Rebels opened the game with a 3-0 lead on a Harper trey and never fell behind the rest of the contest. Austin Peay was able to stay close, trailing only 21-16 at the 7:56 mark of the first half. From that point, the Rebels closed the half with a 15-4 run to take a 36-20 advantage into the break. The Rebels' spurt was sparked by three-pointers from Harper (2) and Sanders (1).

After the intermission, the Governors cut the Rebel lead to 36-23 on a Lewis three-point play, but could get no closer the remainder of the game.

The Rebels shot 43.9 percent from the floor, 44.4 percent from the three-point and 76.2 percent from the foul line. The Ole Miss defense held Austin Peay to 26.8 percent shooting from the field, including 21.4 percent from the three-point arc. The Rebels won the battle on the boards 46-33.

Emmanuel Wade added 9 points, 5 rebounds and 2 assists off the bench for Ole Miss. Justin Johnson had 6 points, 1 board and 1 assist.

APSU	FG	3P	FT	R	TP	A	B	S
Henning	2-9	0-2	4-4	7	8	0	3	0
Lewis	1-8	0-0	3-3	9	5	1	2	0
Gipson	3-7	3-4	3-4	4	12	3	0	1
Davis	3-15	0-3	0-0	4	6	0	0	1
Wierzba	1-4	0-3	2-4	4	4	1	0	1
Schlader	0-0	0-0	0-0	1	0	0	0	0
Carmichael	2-6	0-2	0-1	1	4	0	0	1
Hampton	2-4	0-0	1-2	0	5	1	0	2
Graham	0-0	0-0	0-0	1	0	1	0	0
Macura	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	1	0	1
Hill	1-3	0-0	0-0	2	2	1	0	0
TEAM				0				
Totals	15-56	3-14	13-18	33	46	9	5	7

Ole Miss	FG	3P	FT	R	TP	A	B	S
Harper	5-11	4-8	3-4	6	17	0	0	0
Reed	6-13	0-0	1-1	5	13	3	1	1
Allen	2-5	0-0	6-7	4	10	0	2	1
Pearson	2-2	0-0	0-0	7	4	5	0	0
Sanders	3-7	1-2	3-3	9	10	2	1	0
Fox	0-2	0-2	0-0	4	0	0	0	0
Johnson	2-4	1-2	1-2	1	6	1	0	0
Nunnery	0-0	0-0	0-0	1	0	1	0	0
Gunn	2-7	0-0	1-2	2	5	0	0	1
Wade	3-4	2-3	1-2	5	9	2	0	0
Loe	0-2	0-1	0-0	0	0	1	0	0
TEAM				2				
Totals	25-57	8-18	16-21	46	74	15	4	3

Game #5 • Dec. 14, 2002
Ole Miss 82, VCU 68
Oxford, Miss.

Junior Justin Reed scored a game-high 22 points and freshman Trey Pearson grabbed a season-high 8 boards to lead Ole Miss to an 82-68 victory over VCU. Reed's 22-point performance pushed him over 900 points for his career. He now has 904.

Joining Reed in double figures were David Sanders (21 points), Derrick Allen (16) and Aaron Harper (15). Sanders also dished out a game-high 7 assists.

Willie Taylor led four Rams in double figures with 20 points. Domic Jones (13), Troy Godwin (12) and Antoine Willie (12) also netted double digits for VCU. Godwin had 12 rebounds.

The visitors from Richmond, Va., stayed with the Rebels in the early going and even took a 2-point lead at 17-15 on a Willie layup with 9:17 on the clock. Ole Miss, though, responded with a 22-6 run over the next 5:23 to take a 37-23 advantage and take control of the contest. Sanders started the run with a dunk, and Harper (2 treys) and Reed (3 hoops) each added 6 points in the spurt. The Rebels led 42-30 at the break.

After intermission, Ole Miss was able to hold a double-digit lead throughout the second half. VCU was able to cut the Rebel lead to 11 points with 7:39 left, but Ole Miss answered with a 15-4 run to push the advantage up to 22 at 78-56 with only 3:38 to play.

The Rebels shot 53.3 percent from the field, 50 percent from the arc and 78.9 percent from the stripe. Ole Miss won the battle on the boards 35-33.

VCU	FG	3P	FT	R	TP	A	B	S
Taylor	6-12	2-5	6-7	5	20	2	1	2
George	2-6	0-0	1-2	3	5	1	0	1
Godwin	6-12	0-0	0-2	12	12	1	3	0
Jones	5-15	1-3	2-2	1	13	3	0	0
Mathis	2-6	0-3	0-0	1	4	2	1	0
Adams	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Reid	0-1	0-0	0-0	1	0	0	0	0
Moore	1-1	0-0	0-0	3	2	0	0	0
Willie	5-10	2-4	0-0	2	12	2	0	1
TEAM				5				
Totals	27-63	5-15	9-13	33	68	11	5	4

Ole Miss	FG	3P	FT	R	TP	A	B	S
Harper	4-8	2-3	5-5	5	15	2	0	1
Reed	8-14	1-1	5-6	6	22	1	1	0
Allen	8-13	0-0	0-2	2	16	0	0	1
Pearson	0-0	0-0	2-2	8	2	5	0	1
Sanders	10-15	0-2	1-2	4	21	7	1	1
Fox	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Johnson	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Brown	0-1	0-0	0-0	0	0	1	0	1
Gunn	2-9	0-0	0-0	3	4	0	0	1
Wade	0-0	0-0	0-0	2	0	0	0	0
Holtz	0-0	0-0	2-2	3	2	0	0	1
Loe	0-0	0-0	0-0	1	0	1	0	0
TEAM				1				
Totals	32-60	3-6	15-19	35	82	17	2	7

VCU	30	38	—	68
Ole Miss	42	40	—	82
Officials:	Thibodeaux, Maxwell, Ayers			
Attendance:	3,118			

Game #6 • Dec. 17, 2002
Ole Miss 80, La.-Monroe 57
Oxford, Miss.

Junior Wooden Award candidate Justin Reed scored a game-high 21 points and added a team-best 7 boards to lead Ole Miss to an 80-57 non-conference victory over Louisiana-Monroe. It was the second-straight game in which Reed netted 20 or more points.

Aaron Harper scored 14 points, and David Sanders added 12 points and 7 rebounds. Mark Keith led the Indians with 15 points. Brandon Horn and Kirby Lemons each scored 12 points apiece. Lemons led Louisiana-Monroe on the boards with 8 rebounds.

The Rebels held a 37-27 lead at the break, but the pesky Indians would not go quietly. Louisiana-Monroe began the second half with consecutive three-pointers by Reggie Griffin and Keith to pull to within 4 at 37-33 with 18:21 left. Three minutes later, a Horn trey kept the Rebel lead at 4 at 42-38 with 15:34 remaining. Over the next 6 minutes, the Rebels went on a 14-5 run to increase their advantage to 56-43 and take control of the contest.

In the first half, the teams traded baskets to an 8-all tie early. Ole Miss then put together a 24-5 spurt to take a commanding 32-13 lead. The Indians, though, did not fold, finishing the first half on a 14-5 run to pull to within 10 at 37-27 at the break.

Ole Miss hit 53.7 percent from the floor and 81 percent from the charity stripe. The Indians shot 35.2 percent from the field. The Rebels won the battle on the boards 36-31.

La.-Monroe	FG	3P	FT	R	TP	A	B	S
Griffin	3-8	1-4	0-0	3	7	4	2	2
Lemons	2-10	0-0	8-12	8	12	2	0	2
Thompson	2-5	0-0	0-1	7	4	0	0	1
Horn	4-9	2-5	2-2	1	12	3	0	2
Keith	5-9	2-4	3-3	3	15	0	0	0
Branch	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Andrews	2-5	1-1	0-0	0	5	0	0	0
Cooper	0-2	0-1	0-0	1	0	0	0	0
Bransom	1-3	0-0	0-3	5	2	1	2	0
Ciskiewicz	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Parker	0-3	0-1	0-0	3	0	0	0	0
TEAM				0				
Totals	19-54	6-16	13-21	31	57	10	4	7

Ole Miss	FG	3P	FT	R	TP	A	B	S
Harper	5-9	2-4	2-2	3	14	2	0	1
Reed	8-10	0-0	5-7	7	21	0	1	2
Allen	2-6	0-0	0-0	4	4	0	0	1
Pearson	3-6	1-3	2-2	1	9	2	0	2
Sanders	4-6	0-0	4-4	7	12	3	0	2
Fox	0-0	0-0	0-0	1	0	0	0	0
Johnson	2-4	1-2	1-2	1	6	2	0	2
Nunnery	0-1	0-0	0-0	1	0	0	0	0
Brown	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Gunn	1-2	0-0	0-0	2	2	2	0	1
Wade	3-5	1-2	2-2	2	9	2	0	1
Rhodes	0-0	0-0	0-0	1	0	0	0	0
Holtz	0-3	0-1	1-2	1	1	0	0	2
Loe	1-2	0-0	0-0	1	2	0	0	0
TEAM				4				
Totals	29-54	5-12	17-21	36	80	13	1	14

La.-Monroe	27	30	—	57
Ole Miss	37	43	—	80
Officials:	Stuart, Lindsay, Spainhour			
Attendance:	2,532			

2002 - 03 REBEL GAME - BY - GAME RECAPS

Game #7 • Dec. 19, 2002
Memphis 58, Ole Miss 51
Memphis, Tenn.

Memphis' Billy Richmond and Anthony Rice each scored 14 points apiece to lead the Tigers to a 58-51 non-conference victory over Ole Miss, before a crowd of 18,230 at The Pyramid. Duane Erwin led Memphis with 10 boards.

Emmanuel Wade and Derrick Allen each scored 13 points to lead Ole Miss. Aaron Harper added 10 points and a team-best 7 rebounds. Wade also had 4 steals.

Memphis held a 30-24 halftime lead and pushed it up to 11 at 44-33 with 11:57 left in the contest. Rice (5 points) and Rodney Carney (3) led the charge in the 14-9 run.

The Rebels, though, responded with an 11-4 spurt of their own to close the gap to 4 points at 48-44 with 8:00 on the clock. Wade scored 8-of-11 points in the run. However, Ole Miss could get no closer the rest of the game as Memphis hit 6-of-10 from the charity stripe in the final 3:02 to seal the win.

The first half was nip-and-tuck the entire way with the largest lead 8 points (30-22 by Memphis) at the 1:31 mark. The contest was tied at 18-all with 5:53 before intermission, but the Tigers closed with a 12-6 run to take a 30-24 lead into the locker room.

The Rebels shot 38.8 percent from the field and committed 19 turnovers. Memphis hit 37.7 percent from the floor and 22.2 percent from the arc. The Tigers won the battle on the boards by a narrow 39-38 margin.

Ole Miss	FG	3P	FT	R	TP	A	B	S
Harper	2-8	1-4	5-7	7	10	2	0	1
Reed	3-9	1-2	0-0	5	7	2	3	0
Allen	5-8	0-0	3-7	5	13	1	0	0
Pearson	1-3	0-1	0-0	4	2	1	1	0
Sanders	0-2	0-0	0-0	4	0	2	1	1
Fox	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Johnson	2-4	0-1	0-0	1	4	0	0	0
Nunnery	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Brown	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	1	0	0
Gunn	1-2	0-0	0-0	4	2	1	2	0
Wade	5-10	1-3	2-3	2	13	1	0	4
Rhodes	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Holtz	0-2	0-0	0-0	1	0	0	0	0
Loe	0-1	0-0	0-0	2	0	1	0	0
TEAM				3				
Totals	19-49	3-11	10-17	38	51	12	7	6

Memphis	FG	3P	FT	R	TP	A	B	S
Carney	6-10	0-0	1-2	5	13	1	2	1
Grice	1-8	0-3	1-2	5	3	1	0	0
Diarra	0-1	0-0	0-0	2	0	0	0	1
Richmond	6-14	0-2	2-3	3	14	0	0	2
Rice	6-11	2-4	0-0	4	14	4	0	0
Wade	1-1	0-0	0-0	0	2	0	0	0
Burks	0-3	0-0	2-2	1	2	6	0	2
Erwin	1-4	0-0	0-1	10	2	0	4	2
Thiero	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Barron	2-9	0-0	4-5	5	8	0	3	2
TEAM				4				
Totals	23-61	2-9	10-15	39	58	12	9	10

Ole Miss 24 27 — 51
 Memphis 30 28 — 58
 Officials: Higgins, Kitts, Valentine
 Attendance: 18,230

Game #8 • Dec. 21, 2002
Ole Miss 63, Nicholls St. 52
Oxford, Miss.

Junior Aaron Harper scored a season-high 21 points to lead Ole Miss to a 63-52 non-conference victory over Nicholls State. Harper hit a career-high tying 5 three-pointers to move into third place on the Rebel career trey list with 166.

Trey Pearson led Ole Miss with 6 boards. Anthony Wilcher, who was averaging only 2.0 points coming into the contest, scored a team-best 18 points for Nicholls State. Earnest Porter led the Colonels with 6 rebounds.

The Rebels found themselves down 29-21 at the break, but opened the second half with a 17-2 run to take a 38-31 lead at the 13:34 mark. A Wilcher trey pulled Nicholls State to within 38-34, but Harper answered with consecutive three-pointers to push the Rebel advantage back to 10 at 44-34 with 12:24 left.

Wilcher answered with another trey to make the score 44-37, but from that point, Ole Miss steadily extended its lead, building the advantage to as many as 19 points at 62-43 with 2:51 remaining.

In the first half, the Rebels grabbed a 6-5 lead. The Colonels, though, went on an 8-5 spurt to take the first half lead for good at 13-10. Nicholls State led all the way until the intermission, taking its largest advantage at 29-21 at the horn.

Ole Miss hit 50 percent from the field and 40 percent from the three-point arc. Nicholls State shot 43.9 percent from the floor and 38.9 percent from the arc.

Nicholls St.	FG	3P	FT	R	TP	A	B	S
James	1-6	1-3	0-0	4	3	1	0	0
Jones, C.	3-4	1-1	0-0	0	7	0	0	0
Brown	1-4	0-3	4-4	2	6	3	0	0
O'Quin	2-5	1-2	0-0	1	5	2	0	1
Porter	2-5	0-1	1-2	6	5	3	0	1
Lennon	1-2	1-2	0-0	3	3	0	0	0
Jones, L.	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	1	0	1
Ruttley	0-3	0-3	0-0	1	0	0	0	0
Geason	2-6	0-0	1-2	4	5	0	0	0
Wilcher	6-6	3-3	3-9	3	18	1	0	1
TEAM				2				
Totals	18-41	7-18	9-17	26	52	11	0	4

Ole Miss	FG	3P	FT	R	TP	A	B	S
Harper	8-10	5-7	0-0	3	21	0	0	0
Allen	2-2	0-0	4-6	6	8	2	2	0
Pearson	3-7	1-3	0-2	4	7	6	0	1
Sanders	1-8	0-4	2-2	2	4	4	0	2
Wade	3-7	2-2	0-0	1	8	2	0	1
Fox	0-1	0-1	0-0	0	0	1	0	0
Johnson	0-0	0-0	0-0	1	0	0	0	0
Nunnery	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Brown	0-3	0-3	0-0	1	0	3	0	0
Gunn	1-2	0-0	1-2	1	3	0	0	0
Rhodes	1-1	0-0	2-2	2	4	0	0	0
Holtz	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	1
Loe	3-3	0-0	2-3	1	8	0	0	0
TEAM				4				
Totals	22-44	8-20	11-17	26	63	18	2	5

Nicholls State 29 23 — 52
 Ole Miss 21 42 — 63
 Officials: Day, Clougherty, Maxwell
 Attendance: 2,249

Game #9 • Dec. 23, 2002
Ole Miss 87, Evansville 69
Oxford, Miss.

Junior Justin Reed and senior Emmanuel Wade each scored 17 points apiece to lead Ole Miss to an 87-69 victory over Evansville. Aaron Harper (13 points), David Sanders (13), Justin Johnson (11) and Derrick Allen (10) also netted double figures for the Rebels. Allen led Ole Miss with 4 boards.

Clint Cuffle recorded game highs of 28 points and 9 rebounds for Evansville. Dan Lytle was the Purple Aces' only other double-figure scorer with 10 points.

The two teams battled in the early going, as 7 minutes into the game the score was tied at 15-all. From that point, Ole Miss went on an 18-5 run to take a 33-20 lead and control of the contest. The Rebels gained the large advantage by way of the three-point line, hitting 5 treys in the run. Ole Miss led 46-29 at the break.

The Rebels were able to maintain a double-digit lead throughout most of the second half. With the Rebels ahead 58-42 at the 14:18 mark, Evansville made its final run. The Purple Aces put together a 12-4 spurt over the next 6 minutes to cut the lead to 8 points at 62-54 with 8:48 remaining.

Ole Miss quickly rebuilt its advantage to double digits and maintained it en route to the win.

The Rebels shot a blistering 59.2 percent from the field and 54.5 percent from the arc. Evansville was also hot, hitting 53.3 percent from the floor and 64.3 percent from the three-point line. Ole Miss won the battle on the boards 25-20.

Evansville	FG	3P	FT	R	TP	A	B	S
Cuffle	11-14	5-6	1-2	9	28	2	0	3
Hanavan	2-4	1-2	1-1	1	6	2	0	1
Lytle	3-5	1-1	3-3	2	10	2	0	0
Burton	2-3	1-1	4-5	1	9	1	0	1
Wagner	2-4	0-1	3-5	1	7	4	0	1
Lee	3-9	0-0	0-0	3	6	4	0	0
Ottens	0-1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Long	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Watson	0-1	0-1	0-0	2	0	0	0	0
Gore	0-3	0-1	0-0	0	0	1	0	0
Ferguson	1-1	1-1	0-0	0	3	0	0	0
TEAM				1				
Totals	24-45	9-14	12-16	20	69	16	0	6

Ole Miss	FG	3P	FT	R	TP	A	B	S
Harper	4-8	3-6	2-3	2	13	1	0	1
Reed	7-10	2-3	1-4	3	17	2	1	0
Allen	4-5	0-0	2-3	4	10	1	0	2
Pearson	2-4	0-2	0-0	1	4	5	0	1
Sanders	3-5	2-3	5-7	2	13	8	0	3
Fox	0-1	0-0	0-0	1	0	1	0	0
Johnson	3-4	3-4	2-2	1	11	0	0	1
Nunnery	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Gunn	0-0	0-0	2-2	3	2	0	0	0
Wade	6-9	2-3	3-3	3	17	2	0	1
Rhodes	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Holtz	0-1	0-1	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Loe	0-2	0-0	0-0	1	0	0	0	0
TEAM				4				
Totals	29-49	12-22	17-24	25	87	20	1	9

Evansville 29 40 — 69
 Ole Miss 46 41 — 87
 Officials: Shows, Sirmons, Petty
 Attendance: 1,933

Game #10 • Dec. 28, 2002
Ole Miss 71, Ark.-Pine Bluff 38
Oxford, Miss.

Junior Justin Reed posted a double-double of 15 points and 11 rebounds and senior Emmanuel Wade added 12 points and a career-high 8 boards to lead Ole Miss to a 71-38 non-conference victory over Arkansas-Pine Bluff. The win was Ole Miss' 1000th in its history.

Chris Parker led the Golden Lions with 12 points, and Justin Lloyd grabbed a team-best 4 rebounds.

Arkansas-Pine Bluff stayed with Ole Miss in the first 3 minutes, with the contest tied at 4-all with 16:52 left. Over the next 8 minutes, the Rebels put together a 13-0 run to grab a 17-4 advantage and put the game out of reach. Wade keyed the spurt with 4 points (dunk, 2 FT). From that point, the Rebels continued to build on their advantage.

After the break, the Golden Lions could get no closer than 15 points the rest of the way.

Ole Miss hit 39.6 percent from the floor, 38.5 percent from the arc and 70 percent from the charity stripe. The Rebel defense held Arkansas-Pine Bluff to 28 percent from the field and 0 percent (0-of-13) from the three-point line. Ole Miss held a commanding 47-24 advantage on the boards.

UAPB	FG	3P	FT	R	TP	A	B	S
Lloyd	1-4	0-1	1-2	4	3	0	0	0
McKee	2-6	0-1	2-2	2	6	2	1	2
Kendrick	1-4	0-2	0-0	2	2	0	0	0
Jones	1-2	0-0	1-2	1	3	0	0	0
Parker	5-14	0-5	2-2	3	12	0	0	1
Curry	0-2	0-1	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Blake	0-2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Fleming	3-5	0-0	1-2	1	7	0	0	1
Bell	1-3	0-1	0-0	1	2	1	0	1
Hall	0-1	0-0	0-0	1	0	0	0	0
Washington	0-4	0-2	1-2	1	1	0	0	0
Bibles	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Lee	0-2	0-0	2-4	3	2	0	1	0
Emsweller	0-1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
TEAM				5				
Totals	14-50	0-13	10-16	24	38	3	2	5

Ole Miss	FG	3P	FT	R	TP	A	B	S
Harper	1-5	0-2	1-2	3	3	1	0	1
Reed	2-9	0-0	11-12	11	15	0	3	2
Allen	1-4	0-0	1-2	5	3	0	0	0
Pearson	1-1	1-1	2-2	4	5	1	0	1
Sanders	3-5	2-3	1-3	1	9	1	0	1
Fox	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0
Johnson	1-2	1-2	0-0	1	3	1	0	0
Nunnery	0-1	0-0	0-0	0	0	1	0	0
Gunn	2-5	0-0	5-6	4	9	0	0	0
Wade	4-9	0-2	4-6	8	12	2	0	1
Rhodes	2-3	0-0	2-5	4	6	0	0	0
Holtz	2-4	1-3	1-2	3	6	0	1	3
Loe	0-0	0-0	0-0	1	0	3	0	0
TEAM				2				
Totals	19-48	5-13	28-40	47	71	10	4	9

Ark.-Pine Bluff	14	24	—	38
Ole Miss	31	40	—	71

Officials: Jones, Maxwell, Caldwell
 Attendance: 2,417