



RICE OWLS

Basketball at TCU

Nov. 13, 2007 - 7 pm

Daniel-Meyer Coliseum • Ft. Worth, Texas

2007-08 Rice Results, Schedule

Date	Opponent
N13	at TCU
N17	Duquesne (Merrell Center), 8 pm
N20	Richmond (Reliant Arena), 7 pm
N27	UALR (Reliant Arena), 7 pm Hawkeye Challenge
N30	vs. Eastern Illinois, 5:45
D1	vs. Iowa/Louisiana-Monroe
D5	at Texas State, 7 pm
D8	vs. Texas, Toyota Center, 7 pm
D22	at Lamar, 7 pm
D29	TCU (Merrell Center), 2 pm
D31	at Texas A&M, 1 pm
J3	at Vanderbilt, 7 pm
J5	at Oklahoma, 2 pm
J9	Marshall (Reliant Arena), 7 pm
J12	at UTEP, 8:05 pm
J16	Memphis (Reliant Arena), 7 pm
J19	at Tulane, 5 pm
J23	Houston (Reliant Arena) 7 pm
J26	at Southern Miss, 4 pm
F2	Tulane (Merrell Center), 7 pm
F6	at East Carolina, 6 pm
F9	at SMU, 7 pm
F13	UAB (Reliant Arena), 7 pm
F16	UCF, 7 pm
F20	at Tulsa, 7 pm
F23	at Houston, 7 pm
M1	at UCF, 6 pm
M5	East Carolina (Merrell Center), 7:30 pm
M8	SMU (Merrell Center), 2 pm

All times listed are Central.

Rice Athletic Media Relations

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Interview Procedures: On non-game-days, Rice players are available for interviews after practice. Note that a Rice student-athlete will not miss a class, practice, conditioning session or team meeting to participate in an interview. Coach **Willis Wilson** and the team are not available to the media on game-days until the post-game interview session. At home, Rice's locker room is closed, interviews will only be conducted in the Autry Club Room (adjacent to Autry Court).

Requests should be directed to assistant sports information director **Jay Jameson**. Coach Wilson and requested players will answer questions from the media after a cooling off period.

Game 1: Rice Owls (0-0) at TCU (1-0)

Radio: All games on ESPN 97.5 FM - The Ticket, Houston with **David Saltzman** and **Jay Jameson**

Internet Audio: www.riceowls.com ALL ACCESS

Series: Rice leads 88-83

RICE OWLS (0-0 • 0-0 Home • 0-0 Road • 0-0 Neutral • 0-0 C-USA)

PROBABLE STARTERS

	PPG	RPG	A	2006-07 averages
13 Paulius Packevicius, F 6-9, 230, Sr.-3L, Kaunas, Lithuania	3.4	4.1	25	Paw-LEE-us PUH-skavish-ish
41 Patrick Britton, F 6-8, 200, Sr.-3L, San Antonio, Texas	5.1	4.0	21	
1 Chris Hagan, G 5-9, 165, So.-1L, Houston, Texas	5.1	1.3	77	
21 Rodney Foster, G 6-1, 185, Jr.-2L, Katy, Texas	4.4	1.3	47	
32 Cory Pflieger, G 6-2, 175, Jr.-2L, Dickson, Tenn.	6.3	2.1	41	FLAY-ger

Rice Reserves

5 Jasen Williams, G 6-1, 165, Fr.-HS, Houston, Texas	-	-	-	
11 Suleiman Braimoh, F 6-8, 230, Fr.-HS, Baldwin, N.Y.	-	-	-	SUE-lee-mon BRAY-moh
12 Bryan Beasley, G 6-0, 185, Fr.-HS, Pflugerville, Texas	-	-	-	
33 Lawrence Ghoram, G 6-5, 195, So.-1L, Zachary, La.	1.9	1.0	3	
34 Scott Saunders, C 6-9, 240, Fr.-HS, New Orleans, La.	-	-	-	
43 Aleks Perka, F 6-8, 205, Jr.-2L, Houston, Texas	3.0	2.4	4	

vs. the TCU Horned Frogs

The Owls and TCU meet for the first time since Feb. 10, 2001, when Rice defeated the Horned Frogs 76-72 to sweep the season series after winning 73-66 in Ft. Worth. Rice is 31-51 vs. TCU in games played in Ft. Worth. The Owls lead the overall series 88-83.

TCU is 1-0 on the year after defeating Angelo State 89-70 this past Saturday. **Brent Hackett** (19 points) and **Alvarado Parker** (18 points) led TCU in scoring.

Rice defeated Incarnate Word 76-63 in an exhibition game last Wednesday. The Owls placed five players in double-figures. Guards **Cory Pflieger** and **Chris Hagan** each scored 16 points, while **Patrick Britton** tallied 14 and **Bryan Beasley** added 13. **Paulius Packevicius** led the Owls with 7 rebounds.

Head Coach Willis Wilson

Rice is coached by **Willis Wilson**, who is in his 16th season as head coach of his alma mater. Wilson's school and career record stands at 216-219. Overall, he is in his 23rd year at the University. After enrolling in 1978 and playing basketball for four years, Wilson earned his

degree in political science in 1982. He served five years as an assistant at Rice and one at Stanford before being named head coach in 1992. In 2004, he was named the NABC District 9 Coach of the Year.

Autry Court Renovations

Autry Court will finally undergo major renovations starting July 13, 2007. A \$7 million gift from Rice University trustee and alumnus **Bobby Tudor** and his wife, **Phoebe**, allows Rice to move forward with a renovation of Autry Court. The Tudors' gift goes toward a \$23 million renovation of Autry Court that will reconfigure and modernize its seating layout and support facilities. At the same time, the adjoining offices and locker room complex will be demolished and replaced by a new structure. Noted sports architectural firm HOK has been retained to design and implement the renovations.

Seniors

Rice's only two seniors are **Patrick Britton** and **Paulius Packevicius**. Britton is a three-year starter and a top defender in Conference USA, while Packevicius started 20 games last season for the Owls. The duo are Rice's leading returning rebounders with Packevicius averaging 4.1 rebounds and Britton just behind at 4.0.



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Rice Coaching Wins

Coach (Seasons)	Wins
1. Willis Wilson (16th)	216
2. Don Suman (10)	131
3. Buster Brannon (5)	85
4. Joe Davis (7)	82
5. Don Knodel (8)	73

Rice in the C-USA Statistics

Sharp Shooter

Junior Cory Pflieger ranked second in 3FG percentage at 46.3 percent during C-USA action and he ranked third overall at 42 percent. Pflieger also ranked 15th in 3FGs made per game at 1.56.

Foster Introduced

Junior **Rodney Foster** started the last three games of last season, all in the C-USA Championship for his first career starts. The Owls went 2-1 in those games.

Assist Man

Sophomore **Chris Hagan** is the Owls' leading returning assist man. Hagan passed out 77 assists as a freshman last season to rank second on the team behind Lorenzo Williams (146).

2006-07 Capsule

The 93rd season of Rice basketball saw the Owls finish with a 16-16 overall record and an 8-8 mark in Conference USA. Rice's all-time record now stands at 982-1,190.

Head Coach Willis Wilson

Rice head coach **Willis Wilson** concluded his 15th year at Rice with a 16-16 record. His overall and school record now stands at 216-219.

DNP-INJ

A total of 41 games were missed by key personnel during the 2006-07 season due to injury. Point guard **Lorenzo Williams** missed three games (Oregon, Utah, and UT Permian Basin) early in the season, while starting center senior **Greg Killings** missed the last 12 games of the season. Furthermore, center **Matt Hagen** did not play in the last 26 games of the season.

2006-07 Team Awards

Morris Almond was named as recipient of the Billy Wohn Award as the squad's most valuable player for the second consecutive year. Sophomore **Rodney Foster** received the Coach's Award, while senior **Greg Killings** earned the Most Improved Award.

Almond Awards

- Named AP All-America honorable mention.
- Selected as the 2007 Conference USA

Player of the Year.

- Named to the All-Conference USA first team for the second straight year.
- Named to the CollegeInsider.com All-America squad.
- Top 30 finalist for the Wooden Award, Naismith Award, and the Senior Class Award.
- Became the first-ever Owl named to the *Playboy* magazine All-America team.

• NABC All-District

Morris Almond was named to the NABC All-District 9 first team. The team is selected and voted upon by member coaches of the National Association of Basketball Coaches.

• USBWA All-District

Morris Almond was named to United States Basketball Writers Association All-District 7 first team.

Almond Records Set in 2007

Morris Almond set the following school records during the 2006-07 campaign:

Points (844)

FTs Made (241)

FTs Made-game (18 vs. Colorado State and vs. Houston-J17, 2007).

Almond set the following C-USA records during the 2006-07 season: Scoring Average (26.4)

Points (844)

FTs Made (241)

Points-game (44 vs. Vanderbilt)

FTs Made-game (18)

Williams No. 2

Point guard **Lorenzo Williams** concluded his career ranked second on the assist chart with 442 assists.

C-USA Team Ranks All-Games

The Owls were second in three-point field goal shooting at 38.9 percent, ranked third in C-USA in free throw shooting at 72 percent, and third in field goal percentage at 45 percent. The Owls scored the most points in a game last year for amongst C-USA teams by scoring 118 vs. Paul Quinn College (N11, 2006). Also Rice sported a league-high shooting percentage by making 71.7 percent of its shots vs. Paul Quinn (43-60). Also the the 43 field goals made was tops in C-USA as were the 28 assists against Paul Quinn.



Starts/Games Played

No.	Player	Season		Career	
		GP	GS	GP	GS
1	Chris Hagan	32	17	32	17
5	Jasen Williams	-	-	-	-
11	Suleiman Braimah	-	-	-	-
12	Bryan Beasley	-	-	-	-
13	Paulius Packevicius	32	20	79	26
21	Rodney Foster	32	3	60	3
32	Cory Pflieger	32	22	54	27
33	Lawrence Ghoram	27	-	27	-
34	Scott Saunders	-	-	-	-
41	Patrick Britton	32	19	91	66
43	Aleks Perka	22	6	40	6

THIS & THAT

STARTING LINEUPS:

FIRST OWL TO SCORE:

DOUBLE-DIGIT SCORING (-):

DOUBLE-DIGIT REBOUNDING (-):

LEADING SCORER:

LEADING REBOUNDER:

DOUBLE-DOUBLES (-):

Team Ranks C-USAGames Only

The Owls ranked third in free throw percentage (71.8), fourth in field goal percentage (44.2), second in three-point field goal percentage (37.7), fourth in assists (13.25), third in assist/turnover ratio (0.97), and fourth in turnover margin (+1.31).

C-USA Individual Ranks All Games

Morris Almond led C-USA in scoring (26.4) ppg and in three-point FG percentage (45.6), fourth in rebounding (6.6), 10th in field goal percentage (48.3), third in free throw percentage (84.6), second in three-pointers made (2.41 a game), first in defensive rebounds (5.22), and eighth in minutes played (33.44).

Lorenzo Williams ranked third in CUSA in assists (5.03) and fourth in assist/turnover ratio (1.90). Sophomore Cory Pflieger ranked third in the league in three-point field goal percentage (41.9).

Individual Ranks Conference Games Only

During the 16-game C-USA schedule the following Owls were among the league's leaders:

Morris Almond led C-USA in scoring (24.1), fifth in rebounding (6.6), free throw percentage (84.6), fourth in three-point field goal percentage (45.2), sixth in three-point field goals made (2.06), and first in defensive rebounds (5.50).

Lorenzo Williams ranked first in the league in assists (5.56), eighth in steals (1.50), and third in assist/turnover ratio (2.17).

Cory Pflieger ranked second in threepoint field goal percentage (46.3) and 15th in three-pointers made (1.56).

Rice Post-Season

The longest current waits to make the NCAA tournament:

School	Last Appearance
Harvard	1946
Dartmouth	1959
Yale	1962
Tennessee Tech	1963

Bowling Green	1968
Columbia	1968
Rice	1970
Drake	1971
Duquesne	1977
VMI	1977

NCAA Appearances (4; 2-5)

1940	1942
1954	1970

NIT Appearances (5; 1-5)

1943	1991
1993	2004
2005	

1940-NCAA Western Regional (1-1)

March 22: Kansas 50, Rice 44
March 23: Rice 60, Colorado 56 (OT)

1942-NCAA Western Regional (1-1)

March 20: Stanford 53, Rice 47
March 21: Kansas 55, Rice 53

1943-NIT (0-1)

March 22: St. John's 51, Rice 49 (OT)

1954-NCAA Western Regional (1-1)

March 13: Oklahoma State-h 52, Rice 45
March 14: Rice 78, Colorado 55

1970-NCAA Midwest Regional (0-1)

New Mexico State 101, Rice 77

1991-NIT (0-1)

March 14: Arkansas State-h 78, Rice 71

1993-NIT (1-1)

March 17: Rice 77, Wisconsin-h 73
March 22: Boston College-h 101, Rice 68

2004-NIT (0-1)

March 17: Wis.-Milwaukee-h 91, Rice 63

2005-NIT (0-1)

March 16: Southwest Missouri-h 105, Rice 82

2006-07 RICE OWLS Results, Schedule

2006-07

Home Attendance

All Dates (15; 22,160):

Average: 1,477

High: 2,389 vs. Houston

C-USA Dates Only (8; 12,417):

Average: 1,552

High: 2,389 vs. Houston

Overall Record: 16-16 **Home:** 10-5 **Road:** 2-8 **Neutral:** 4-3
C-USA Record: 8-8 **Home:** 6-2 **Road:** 2-6

Date	Score/Opponent	Rice Leaders	Opponent Leaders	Attendance
N11	Rice-h 118, Paul Quinn College 66	Almond 24p, Britton 6r	Chisholm 22p, Brooks 6r	1,154
N14	*Gonzaga 88, Rice 55	Killings 18p, Killings 8	Heytvelt 25p, Heytvelt 11r	n/a
N15	*Rice 71, Colorado State 61	Almond 31p, Killings 7r	Jason Smith 19p, 11r	n/a
N18	North Texas 71, Rice-h 69	Almond 38p, Almond 12r	Watson 26p, Young 7r	1,496
N20	Oregon 79, Rice-h 73, OT	Almond 28p, Britton 8r	Brooks 30p, Taylor 12, Leunen 12	1,395
N25	Utah-h 80, Rice 64	Almond 42p, Killings 5r	Bryant 28p, Nevill 10r	7,868
D2	Rice-h 80, UT-Permian Basin 46	Almond 29p, Britton 10r	Mbye 16p, Mbye 8r	1,450
D6	Rice-h 83, Lamar 71	Almond 36p, Killings 7r	Sanders 18p, Davis 11r	1,297
D20	Rice-h 82, Prairie View A&M 65	Almond 28p, Almond 11r	Gaines 23p, Ezeh 6r, Clementino 6r	1,175
D28	#Belmont 87, Rice 85	Almond 28p, Almond 8r	Hare 22p, Hemdon 7r	n/a
D29	#Rice 67, Western Carolina 62	Almond 36p, Almond 6r, Britton 6r, Packevicius 6r	Aldridge 15p, Aldridge 9r	n/a
J2	Vanderbilt 74, Rice-h 69	Almond 44p, Almond 12r	Foster 29p, Neltner 7r	1,776
J6	Princeton-h 51, Rice 28	Almond 9p, Almond 4r, Hagan 4r	Owings 13p, Schroeder 6r	2,522
J10	Rice-h 75, Tulane 70	Almond 17p, Killings 13r	Louisme 19p, 11r	1,295
J13	Rice 64, East Carolina-h 47	Almond 18p, Almond 10r	Captain 18p, Fields 13r	4,902
J17	Rice-h 76, Houston 71	Almond 28p, Almond 11r	McKiver 21p, Thorpe 6r	2,389
J20	UCF-h 72, Rice 67	Almond 20p, Almond 8r	Peppers 14p, Payne 6r	3,807
J24	Rice-h 73, UTEP 67	Almond 29p, Almond 10r	Thomas 17p, Thomas 9r	1,401
J27	Tulane-h 75, Rice 55	Almond 22p, Killings 6r, Packevicius 6r	Gomez 17p, Louisme 9r	1,532
J31	Houston-h 70, Rice 63	Almond 21p, Killings 12r	McKiver 21p, Dowell 12r	6,115
F3	Rice-h 83, East Carolina 74	Almond 34p, Almond 7r	Captain 21p, Blair 7r	1,543
F7	Rice-h 70, Southern Miss 55	Almond 35p, Packevicius 6r	Stone 17p, Wise 17p, Green 6r	1,305
F10	Rice 63, SMU-h 60	Almond 29p, Packevicius 7r	Ofoegbu 16p, Ofoegbu 12r	2,588
F11	UAB-h 84, Rice 73	Almond 28p, Almond 6r, Williams 6r	Kinnard 21p, Mukubu 10r	3,131
F17	UCF 74, Rice-h 63	Williams 16p, Almond 6r	Peppers 18p, Three with 6r	1,074
F22	#7 Memphis-h 99, Rice 63	Almond 15p, Almond 10r	Kemp 20p, Dozier 7r	15,020
F24	Rice-h 75, SMU 66	Almond 19p, Almond 5p, Perka 5p	Ofoegbu 30p, Ofoegbu 10r, Rackauskas 10r	1,579
F28	Marshall-h 69, Rice 64	Almond 29p, Almond 9r	Dorris 18p, Humphrey 7r	3,488
M3	Tulsa 73, Rice-h 65	Almond 29p, Almond 6r	Uzoh 14p, Ramsdell 7r, Walls 7r	1,831
M7	@Rice 77, UTEP 74	Almond 31p, Almond 8r, Williams 8r	Jackson 17p, Jackson 7r, Vanwright 7r	n/a
M8	@Rice 53, UCF 51	Almond 30p, Almond 6r	Peppers 18p, Payne 14r	n/a
M9	@Houston 77, Rice 62	Williams 16p, Almond 7r	McKiver 25p, Dowell 8r	11,002

*NIT Season Tip-Off, Spokane, Wash.

#Shamrock Office Solutions Classic (Saint Mary's College)

@Conference USA Tournament, Memphis, Tenn.

2006-07 RICE OWLS Basketball Statistics

Overall Record: 16-16 Home: 10-5 Road: 2-8 Neutral: 4-3
C-USA Record: 8-8 Home: 6-2 Road: 2-6

All Games

No.	Player	GP	GS	Min	Avg	---TOTAL---			---3-PTS---			FT	FTA	Pct	---REBOUNDS---				PF-D	Ast	TO	Blk	Stl	Pts	Avg
						FG	FGA	Pct	3FG	FGA	Pct				Off	Def	Tot	Avg							
22	ALMOND, Morris	32	32	1069	33.4	263	544	.483	77	169	.456	241	285	.846	43	167	210	6.6	68-1	37	109	24	38	844	26.4
05	WILLIAMS, Lorenzo	29	22	830	28.6	95	208	.457	28	81	.346	45	63	.714	9	64	73	2.5	46-0	146	77	0	38	263	9.1
31	KILLINGS, Greg	20	19	412	20.6	56	108	.519	0	0	.000	25	53	.472	50	74	124	6.2	59-4	11	24	19	5	137	6.9
32	PFLIEGER, Cory	32	22	580	18.1	69	152	.454	49	117	.419	14	23	.609	12	55	67	2.1	45-0	41	23	1	14	201	6.3
41	BRITTON, Patrick	32	19	788	24.6	54	128	.422	0	0	.000	55	85	.647	44	85	129	4.0	107-6	21	49	19	28	163	5.1
01	HAGAN, Chris	32	17	600	18.8	59	169	.349	17	69	.246	28	40	.700	7	34	41	1.3	45-0	77	54	1	40	163	5.1
21	FOSTER, Rodney	32	3	547	17.1	44	117	.376	25	70	.357	29	46	.630	6	34	40	1.3	42-0	47	42	1	21	142	4.4
13	PACKEVICIUS, Paulius	32	20	646	20.2	40	88	.455	0	0	.000	30	46	.652	52	79	131	4.1	101-5	25	34	13	18	110	3.4
43	PERKA, Aleks	22	6	315	14.3	30	62	.484	0	1	.000	6	12	.500	17	35	52	2.4	32-1	4	16	3	2	66	3.0
12	CRACIUN, Marius	6	0	59	9.8	5	11	.455	3	3	1.000	1	2	.500	3	9	12	2.0	7-0	1	6	0	2	14	2.3
33	GHORAM, Lawrence	27	0	183	6.8	21	52	.404	3	10	.300	7	13	.538	11	16	27	1.0	29-0	3	12	4	8	52	1.9
30	BELTON, Charles	31	0	321	10.4	22	48	.458	0	0	.000	7	14	.500	16	29	45	1.5	24-0	14	18	5	7	51	1.6
03	SZALAY, Christopher	4	0	18	4.5	1	2	.500	1	2	.500	3	4	.750	0	1	1	0.3	2-0	4	2	0	0	6	1.5
04	HAGAN, Matt	6	0	71	11.8	3	7	.429	0	0	.000	0	1	.000	1	11	12	2.0	17-0	2	4	2	1	6	1.0
15	BAILEY, Jonathan	4	0	10	2.5	2	2	1.000	0	0	.000	0	0	.000	0	0	0	0.0	2-0	1	0	0	0	4	1.0
TM	TEAM														42	39	81	2.6	0			6			
	Total	32				764	1698	.450	203	522	.389	491	687	.715	313	732	1045	32.7	626-17	434	476	92	222	2222	69.4
	Opponents	32				764	1765	.433	239	682	.350	462	694	.666	401	728	1129	35.3	619-14	443	498	91	231	2229	69.7

SCORE BY PERIODS:	1st	2nd	OT	Total
Rice	1010	1193	19	2222
Opponents	1069	1140	20	2229

2007 Conference USA Games

No.	Player	GP	GS	Min	Avg	---TOTAL---			---3-PTS---			FT	FTA	Pct	---REBOUNDS---				PF-D	Ast	TO	Blk	Stl	Pts	Avg
						FG	FGA	Pct	3FG	FGA	Pct				Off	Def	Tot	Avg							
22	ALMOND, Morris	16	16	535	33.4	119	265	.449	33	73	.452	115	136	.846	18	88	106	6.6	35-0	16	58	10	17	386	24.1
05	WILLIAMS, Lorenzo	16	16	498	31.1	62	138	.449	19	57	.333	32	44	.727	8	39	47	2.9	27-0	89	41	0	24	175	10.9
31	KILLINGS, Greg	7	7	172	24.6	22	48	.458	0	0	.000	6	16	.375	22	36	58	8.3	23-2	3	8	7	2	50	7.1
32	PFLIEGER, Cory	16	10	281	17.6	35	70	.500	25	54	.463	3	8	.375	4	30	34	2.1	22-0	15	9	1	8	98	6.1
41	BRITTON, Patrick	16	6	377	23.6	30	73	.411	0	0	.000	31	46	.674	19	32	51	3.2	55-4	11	25	8	13	91	5.7
13	PACKEVICIUS, Paulius	16	16	376	23.5	26	53	.491	0	0	.000	22	33	.667	32	43	75	4.7	49-1	13	16	5	12	74	4.6
21	FOSTER, Rodney	16	0	235	18.4	22	62	.355	14	41	.341	16	23	.696	3	22	25	1.6	18-0	28	23	1	12	74	4.6
43	PERKA, Aleks	14	3	206	14.7	27	45	.600	0	0	.000	4	7	.571	13	25	38	2.7	25-1	4	11	3	2	58	4.1
01	HAGAN, Chris	16	6	236	14.8	22	60	.367	6	31	.194	4	9	.444	4	12	16	1.0	22-0	27	16	0	16	54	3.4
30	BELTON, Charles	16	0	173	10.8	9	24	.375	0	0	.000	4	8	.500	9	14	23	1.4	14-0	5	7	3	4	22	1.4
33	GHORAM, Lawrence	13	0	74	5.7	5	20	.250	0	1	.000	0	0	.000	6	4	10	0.8	12-0	1	4	2	5	10	0.8
15	BAILEY, Jonathan	1	0	2	2.0	0	0	.000	0	0	.000	0	0	.000	0	0	0	0.0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
TM	TEAM														19	12	31	2.1	0			1			
	Total	16				379	858	.442	97	257	.377	237	330	.718	157	357	514	32.1	302-8	212	219	40	115	1092	68.2
	Opponents	16				391	880	.444	120	338	.355	224	333	.673	194	373	567	35.4	299-8	229	240	53	118	1126	70.4

SCORE BY PERIODS:	1st	2nd	OT	Total
Rice	477	603	12	1092
Opponents	554	565	7	1126

2006-07 RICE OWLS Individual Points-Rebounds-Assists

<i>Opponent</i>	<i>1 Hagan</i>	<i>3 Szalay</i>	<i>4 Hagen</i>	<i>5 Williams</i>	<i>13 Packevicius</i>	<i>15 Bailey</i>	<i>21 Foster</i>
N11 vs. Paul Quinn	13-0-5	5-0-4	2-3-0	11-3-7	0-2-0	4-0-1	16-0-1
N14 vs. Gonzaga	3-3-2	DNP	0-2-0	5-0-2	0-0-0	DNP	0-1-0
N15 vs. Colorado State	8-1-1	DNP	0-1-1	2-1-4	0-2-1	DNP	0-1-0
N18 North Texas	4-0-0	DNP	2-4-1	3-1-4	6-6-0	DNP	0-0-1
N20 Oregon	6-3-7	DNP	0-1-1	DNP-INJ	0-4-1	DNP	7-2-1
N25 at Utah	7-0-3	DNP	2-1-0	DNP-INJ	0-1-0	DNP	0-1-3
D2 UT-Permian Basin	12-4-8	0-0-0	DNP-INJ	DNP-INJ	2-5-3	0-0-0	8-0-1
D6 Lamar	10-2-6	DNP	DNP-INJ	8-0-4	3-4-1	DNP	4-0-3
20 Prairie View A&M	17-2-3	0-0-0	DNP-INJ	9-2-2	4-5-2	0-0-0	4-1-1
D28 vs. Belmont	16-0-4	DNP	DNP-INJ	6-0-6	6-2-3	DNP	4-1-1
D29 vs. Western Carolina	2-3-2	DNP	DNP-INJ	0-3-1	2-6-0	DNP	3-1-0
J2 Vanderbilt	3-2-4	DNP	DNP-INJ	5-3-7	4-8-0	DNP	5-0-2
J6 at Princeton	4-4-0	0-1-0	DNP-INJ	4-1-1	0-1-0	DNP	1-0-0
J10 Tulane	6-2-3	DNP	DNP-INJ	15-4-5	1-6-0	DNP	9-2-1
J13 at East Carolina	4-24	DNP	DNP-INJ	17-3-5	1-6-2	0-0-0	2-0-2
J17 Houston	5-0-2	DNP	DNP-INJ	6-0-6	11-5-1	DNP	3-2-2
J20 at UCF	4-0-1	DNP	DNP-INJ	6-2-4	4-3-0	DNP	3-1-0
J24 UTEP	0-2-3	DNP	DNP-INJ	10-1-8	0-5-1	DNP	4-3-4
27 at Tulane	0-1-1	DNP	DNP-INJ	10-4-7	6-6-0	DNP	2-0-2
31 at Houston	3-0-2	DNP	DNP-INJ	8-2-4	4-3-1	DNP	11-1-2
F3 East Carolina	0-1-1	DNP	DNP-INJ	20-4-6	9-4-0	DNP	1-1-4
F7 Southern Miss	2-0-4	DNP	DNP-INJ	11-3-4	6-6-2	DNP	0-2-3
F10 at SMU	2-1-0	DNP	DNP-INJ	14-6-6	2-7-2	DNP	5-1-2
F14 at UAB	0-0-0	DNP	DNP-INJ	10-6-7	4-3-0	DNP	6-1-0
F17 UCF	11-0-3	DNP	DNP-INJ	16-2-3	8-3-0	DNP	2-2-1
F22 at Memphis	6-2-1	DNP	DNP-INJ	8-6-4	4-5-1	DNP	6-2-2
F24 SMU	3-1-2	DNP	DNP-INJ	10-3-0	6-3-1	DNP	8-3-0
F28 at Marshall	0-0-0	DNP	DNP-INJ	8-3-6	4-7-2	DNP	5-3-3
M3 Tulsa	8-4-0	DNP	DNP-INJ	6-0-3	4-3-0	DNP	7-1-0
M7 vs. UTEP	4-1-3	DNP	DNP-INJ	15-8-8	0-4-0	DNP	3-0-2
M8 vs. UCF	0-0-0	DNP	DNP-INJ	4-2-7	7-5-0	DNP	4-4-1
M9 vs. Houston	0-1-1	DNP	DNP-INJ	16-2-4	2-1-1	DNP	9-3-2

<i>Opponent</i>	<i>22 Almond</i>	<i>30 Belton</i>	<i>31 Killings</i>	<i>32 Pflieger</i>	<i>33 Ghoram</i>	<i>41 Britton</i>	<i>43 Perka</i>
N11 vs. Paul Quinn	24-2-2	6-2-2	8-3-2	17-1-1	4-5-1	3-6-1	DNP
N14 vs. Gonzaga	13-7-0	4-1-1	18-8-1	6-2-1	1-2-0	0-3-0	DNP
N15 vs. Colorado State	31-5-0	2-2-2	12-7-2	12-1-1	DNP	0-4-0	DNP
N18 North Texas	38-12-2	6-1-1	6-3-0	2-4-3	0-0-0	2-4-1	DNP
N20 Oregon	28-5-0	2-1-0	8-7-1	10-4-3	2-2-0	7-8-0	DNP
N25 at Utah	42-4-2	0-1-0	0-5-1	6-2-3	0-0-0	4-3-1	DNP
D2 UT-Permian Basin	29-2-1	2-4-1	6-4-0	4-2-3	8-3-0	9-10-2	0-3-1
D6 Lamar	36-5-2	0-1-1	11-7-0	3-4-1	0-1-0	8-6-0	0-2-0
D20 Prairie View A&M	28-11-5	2-1-1	6-7-0	7-3-2	2-0-0	2-5-0	0-1-0
D28 vs. Belmont	28-8-3	0-2-0	4-5-1	6-3-2	5-0-0	10-2-1	0-1-0
D29 vs. Western Carolina	36-6-1	2-1-0	3-3-0	9-2-2	5-1-0	5-6-1	DNP
J2 Vanderbilt	44-12-0	0-0-0	0-4-0	2-0-0	3-0-0	3-4-0	DNP
J6 at Princeton	9-4-0	DNP	5-3-0	5-1-1	0-0-1	0-3-0	0-0-0
J10 Tulane	17-2-1	5-4-2	7-13-0	9-2-1	0-0-0	6-4-0	0-1-0
J13 at East Carolina	18-10-0	2-3-0	4-6-0	6-3-1	0-1-0	10-7-0	DNP
J17 Houston	28-11-1	0-1-0	11-9-0	6-2-2	DNP	6-2-1	DNP
J20 at UCF	20-8-0	1-5-0	15-6-1	6-4-2	0-2-0	6-3-0	2-2-0
J24 UTEP	29-10-1	2-2-0	3-6-0	15-3-1	0-0-0	10-5-1	0-0-0
27 at Tulane	22-2-1	2-0-2	4-6-0	1-1-0	6-2-0	0-1-0	4-2-0
31 at Houston	21-8-1	2-2-1	6-12-2	1-2-1	DNP	7-7-1	0-0-0
F3 East Carolina	34-7-2	0-0-0	DNP-INJ	3-1-0	0-1-0	8-2-0	8-4-0
F7 Southern Miss	35-2-0	2-1-0	DNP-INJ	8-3-1	2-1-0	0-1-1	4-5-1
F10 at SMU	29-4-0	0-0-0	DNP-INJ	3-1-0	0-0-0	4-3-0	4-2-0
F14 at UAB	28-6-1	2-1-0	DNP-INJ	17-4-1	0-1-0	6-0-1	0-5-1
F17 UCF	13-6-2	2-1-0	DNP-INJ	0-3-0	0-1-0	5-3-1	6-1-0
F22 at Memphis	15-10-3	2-1-1	DNP-INJ	10-2-2	0-0-0	6-0-0	6-3-0
F24 SMU	19-5-2	2-1-1	DNP-INJ	5-2-1	0-0-0	10-4-1	12-5-1
F28 at Marshall	29-9-0	0-1-0	DNP-INJ	8-2-2	DNP	4-5-3	6-5-0
M3 Tulsa	29-6-1	0-0-0	DNP-INJ	0-1-1	2-1-1	3-4-1	6-3-1
M7 vs. UTEP	31-8-1	3-1-0	DNP-INJ	9-1-2	8-3-0	0-4-1	4-0-0
M8 vs. UCF	30-6-0	0-1-0	DNP-INJ	0-2-0	DNP	6-5-2	2-5-0
M9 vs. Houston	11-7-2	0-3-0	DNP-INJ	5-1-1	4-0-0	13-5-0	2-2-0

The Last Time It Happened...

INDIVIDUAL

A player scored 40 points ...
RICE OWLS Morris Almond (44) vs. Vanderbilt, Jan. 2, 2007
Opponent Shane Lungwitz (43) Dallas, Dec. 30, 2003

A player scored 30 points ...
RICE OWLS Morris Almond (30) vs. UCF, March 8, 2007
Opponent Aaron Brooks (30) Oregon, Nov. 20, 2006

A player grabbed 20 rebounds ...
RICE OWLS Michael Harris (24) vs. Hawaii, Feb. 27, 2005
Opponent Greg Anderson (24) Houston, Feb. 7, 1987

A player grabbed 15 rebounds ...
RICE OWLS Michael Harris (18) vs. San Jose State, Feb. 25, 2005
Opponent Shawn Witherspoon (15) Murray State, Dec. 30, 2005

A player had a triple-double ...
RICE OWLS Jason McKrieth (15p, 14r, 10a) vs. SMU, Dec. 30, 2004
Opponent ?

A player had a double-double ...
RICE OWLS Morris Almond (15p, 10r), at Memphis, Feb. 22, 2007
Opponent Wen Mukubu (20p, 10r), at UAB, Feb. 14, 2007

A player made five three-pointers ...
RICE OWLS Cory Pflieger (5) at UAB, Feb. 14, 2007
Opponent Ike Ofoegbu (5) SMU, Feb. 24, 2007

A player made 10 free throws ...
RICE OWLS Morris Almond (13-17) vs. Tulsa, March 3, 2007
Opponent Dave Noel (11-12) vs. UCF, Feb. 17, 2007

A player had 15 free throw attempts ...
RICE OWLS Morris Almond (13-17) vs. Tulsa, March 3, 2007
Opponent Kirk Snyder (15) Nevada, January 24, 2004

A player had 10 assists ...
RICE OWLS Lorenzo Williams (10) at SMU, Jan. 21, 2006
Opponent Chris Ross (11), at Marshall, Feb. 8, 2006

A player had five steals ...
RICE OWLS Morris Almond (5) at Tulane, Jan. 14, 2006
Opponent Derek Johnson (5), Prairie View A&M, Dec. 20, 2006

A player blocked five shots ...
RICE OWLS Patrick Britton (5) at Houston, March 1, 2006
Opponent Paul Millsap (6) La. Tech, March 4, 2004

TEAM

A team scored 100 points ...
RICE OWLS 118 vs. Paul Quinn College, Nov. 11, 2006
Opponent Southwest Missouri (105), March 16, 2005

A team made 35 field goals ...
RICE OWLS 43 vs. Paul Quinn College, Nov. 11, 2006
Opponent Memphis (38-69), Feb. 22, 2007

A team had 75 field goal attempts ...
RICE OWLS vs. Tulsa (38-76), Feb. 14, 2004
Opponent Prairie View A&M (23-77), Dec. 20, 2006

A team shot 50 percent from the field ...
RICE OWLS 519 (28-54) vs. UTEP, March 7, 2007
Opponent 551 (38-69) at Memphis, Feb. 22, 2007

A team made 10 three-point field goals ...
RICE OWLS 10-21, at UAB, Feb. 14, 2007
Opponent 12-33, SMU, Feb. 24, 2007

A team had 20 three-point field goal attempts ...
RICE OWLS 20 at Marshall, Feb. 28, 2007
Opponent 26 vs. Houston, March 7, 2007

A team shot 50 percent on three-pointers ...
RICE OWLS 533 (8-15) vs. Prairie View A&M, Dec. 20, 2006
Opponent 545 UCF (6-11), Feb. 17, 2007

A team made 30 free throws ...
RICE OWLS 30-38 vs. East Carolina, Feb. 3, 2007
Opponent at Nevada (30-38), Jan. 24, 2004

A team had 25 assists ...
RICE OWLS 28 vs. Paul Quinn College, Nov. 11, 2006
Opponent UTEP (26), Jan. 6, 2004

A team had 15 steals ...
RICE OWLS vs. La.-Lafayette (15), Feb. 21, 2004
Opponent Prairie View A&M (16), vs. Prairie View A&M, Dec. 20, 2006

A team had blocked 10 shots ...
RICE OWLS vs. Murray State (11), Feb. 19, 2005
Opponent at UConn (10), Dec. 19, 2004

Rice's 2006-07 Record When...

Overall	16-16
Conference USA	8-8
Playing Nationally Ranked Teams	0-1
Leading at the Half	10-3
Trailing at the Half	6-12
Tied at the Half	0-1
Leading with 5:00 to Play	8-2
Trailing with 5:00 to Play	8-13
Tied with 5:00 to Play	0-1
In Overtime	1-1
Rice out-rebounds the opponent	7-4
Opponents out-rebound Rice	6-11
Equal amount of rebounds	3-1
Rice has 15 or fewer Turnovers	8-10
Rice has fewer Turnovers than Opp	10-6
Rice has same Turnovers as Opp	0-2
Rice shoots 50 Percent or Better	7-1
Rice shoots 40 Percent or Better	5-8
Opponents shoot less than 40 Percent	5-2
Oponents shoot 40 Percent or Better	11-14
Rice shoots better than Opponent	11-4
Opponents shoot the same or better than Rice	5-12
Rice has same/more FG Attempts than Opponent	4-8
Opponents have more FG Attempts than Rice	12-8
Rice Shoots 35% or Better on 3's	12-7
Rice attempts more 3's	2-7
Opponents attempt more 3's	10-8
Equal amount of 3's	4-1
Rice has more/same FT Attempts than Opponent	12-5
Opponents have more FT Attempts than Rice	4-11
Rice scores 100 or More	1-0
Rice scores 90 or More	0-0
Rice scores 80 or More	4-1
Rice scores 70 or More	7-2
Rice scores 60 or More	3-10
Rice scores less than 60	1-3
Opponent scores 100 or More	0-0
Opponent scores 90 or More	0-1
Opponent scores 80 or More	0-4
Opponent scores 70 or More	5-9
Opponent scores 60 or More	7-1
Opponent scores less than 60	4-1
In Game Decided by Five Points or Less	5-5
In Games Decided by 6-10 Points	5-3
In Games Decided by 11-20 Points	4-5
In Games Decided by 21+ Points	2-3
Day Games	2-2
Night Games	14-14
When Rice Scores First	9-6
In November	2-4
In December	4-1
In January	3-5
In February	4-4
In March	2-2
On Sunday	0-0
On Monday	0-1
On Tuesday	1-1
On Wednesday	8-3
On Thursday	1-2
On Friday	1-1
On Saturday	6-7

2006-07 Margin of Victory

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20+
Wins	1	2		3	1				3			1			1		2			2
Losses	2			3	1	1	1				2				1	1				4

2006-07 RICE OWLS Team Game-By-Game Totals

	Score	By Periods	FGM-A=Pct.	3-Pt.FG	FTM-A=Pct.	Rebounds	PF-DQ	Ast.	TO	BK	ST	1HFG%	2HFG%	Bench
Rice	118	54-64	43-60=.717	14-22=.636	18-25=.717	35	24-1	28	12	3	9	.750	.688	53
Paul Quinn	66	33-33	20-50=.400	7-15=.467	19-28=.679	22	17-0	11	18	0	5	.435	.370	17
Rice	50	28-22	18-61=.295	4-20=.200	10-13=.769	33	31-1	7	14	6	3	.355	.233	10
Gonzaga	88	42-46	30-66=.455	6-17=.353	22-34=.647	52	19-0	14	11	4	6	.469	.441	25
Rice	70	33-37	17-49=.347	6-10=.600	30-36=.833	29	21-1	11	15	1	8	.333	.357	13
Colorado State	61	30-31	20-47=.426	3-12=.250	18-28=.643	36	26-0	9	23	5	7	.455	.400	12
Rice	69	33-36	28-64=.438	4-16=.250	9-15=.600	41	18-1	13	19	3	7	.483	.542	18
North Texas	71	33-38	27-55=.491	7-15=.467	10-21=.476	34	17-0	11	19	6	11	.452	.400	34
Rice	73	31-35-7	27-58=.466	3-13=.231	16-30=.533	42	26-0	14	23	5	8	.462	.500	14
Oregon	79	27-39-13	26-69=.377	8-29=.276	19-28=.679	44	23-0	12	17	0	11	.308	.389	2
Rice	64	39-25	21-47=.447	8-16=.500	14-18=.778	23	28-1	13	15	3	4	.542	.348	5
at Utah	80	30-50	24-49=.490	6-18=.333	26-37=.703	36	20-1	18	12	1	5	.400	.583	21
Rice	80	42-38	33-60=.550	6-14=.429	8-14=.571	38	17-0	19	18	2	10	.531	.571	20
UTPB	46	26-20	15-45=.333	3-16=.188	13-17=.765	27	16-0	6	24	1	4	.409	.261	14
Rice	83	33-50	24-53=.453	12-20=.600	23-29=.793	39	16-0	18	20	7	6	.323	.636	15
Lamar	71	30-41	25-60=.417	9-24=.375	12-16=.750	30	26-2	16	17	1	8	.393	.438	31
Rice	82	44-38	27-38=.711	8-15=.533	20-28=.714	42	20-1	16	32	7	5	.700	.722	22
Prairie View A&M	65	25-40	23-77=.299	8-27=.296	11-21=.524	37	24-0	16	15	1	16	.270	.325	29
Rice	85	40-45	32-64=.500	8-17=.471	13-14=.929	26	17-1	21	7	2	10	.500	.500	21
Belmont	87	45-42	31-57=.544	12-29=.414	13-18=.722	36	14-0	15	17	1	3	.483	.607	35
Rice	67	30-37	18-50=.360	9-28=.321	22-29=.759	38	19-1	8	19	4	9	.333	.400	12
Western Carolina	62	25-37	21-54=.389	8-23=.348	12-19=.632	36	23-1	13	16	2	10	.320	.448	15
Rice	69	27-42	21-57=.368	6-20=.300	21-27=.778	36	22-1	13	13	2	11	.308	.419	17
Vanderbilt	74	45-29	24-46=.522	8-19=.421	18-30=.600	32	20-1	19	14	4	7	.643	.333	10
Rice	28	14-14	10-30=.333	2-9=.222	6-14=.429	19	11-0	3	18	0	5	.357	.313	11
at Princeton	51	27-24	19-47=.404	10-30=.333	3-4=.750	31	14-0	15	17	3	8	.409	.400	16
Rice - OT	75	30-33-12	21-64=.328	7-18=.389	26-38=.684	45	19-2	12	13	4	8	.313	.346	29
Tulane	70	38-25-7	27-64=.422	6-18=.333	10-25=.400	47	27-2	15	20	5	7	.483	.370	22
Rice	64	34-30	23-54=.426	9-19=.474	9-19=.474	42	16-0	14	7	2	4	.393	.462	20
at East Carolina	47	18-29	16-60=.267	7-28=.250	8-13=.615	42	13-0	11	6	2	4	.161	.379	19
Rice	76	24-52	22-51=.431	5-13=.385	27-34=.794	34	19-0	15	16	1	10	.269	.600	15
Houston	71	42-29	23-55=.418	12-31=.387	13-21=.619	34	26-3	11	18	3	11	.467	.360	11
Rice	67	32-35	20-59=.339	4-18=.222	23-26=.885	37	19-0	8	10	1	7	.313	.370	18
at UCF	72	35-37	23-43=.500	9-18=.500	17-20=.850	26	24-0	16	17	3	6	.476	.591	22
Rice	73	34-39	25-51=.490	7-17=.412	16-23=.696	39	25-2	19	20	5	7	.609	.393	31
UTEP	67	31-36	24-57=.421	5-17=.294	14-27=.519	30	18-1	14	17	5	9	.393	.448	21
Rice	55	12-43	21-54=.389	1-9=.111	12-20=.600	26	20-0	11	11	3	8	.208	.533	13
at Tulane	75	35-40	28-58=.483	3-8=.375	16-23=.696	45	18-0	21	12	7	9	.452	.519	24
Rice	63	23-40	25-56=.446	7-17=.412	6-15=.400	38	24-0	15	14	2	8	.370	.517	23
at Houston	70	36-34	21-56=.375	7-33=.212	21-30=.700	38	15-0	12	10	4	8	.483	.259	0
Rice	83	37-46	24-46=.522	5-17=.294	30-38=.789	26	19-0	13	14	1	7	.545	.500	9
East Carolina	74	42-32	27-48=.563	9-17=.529	11-17=.647	27	27-2	16	21	1	7	.583	.542	12
Rice	70	30-40	28-48=.583	7-12=.583	7-7=1.000	26	16-0	16	17	4	10	.591	.577	10
Southern Miss	63	22-33	21-50=.420	2-12=.167	11-13=.846	25	16-0	12	19	2	10	.391	.444	13
Rice	63	28-35	23-48=.479	8-17=.471	9-14=.643	25	12-1	10	10	3	7	.407	.571	11
at SMU	60	34-26	22-51=.431	7-23=.304	9-12=.750	31	14-0	11	15	0	2	.520	.346	12
Rice	73	35-38	27-58=.466	10-21=.476	9-10=.900	27	27-2	11	12	0	6	.484	.444	8
at UAB	84	38-46	29-53=.547	9-23=.391	17-29=.586	37	13-0	18	13	4	5	.500	.609	12
Rice	63	31-32	24-51=.471	3-17=.176	12-14=.857	22	26-0	10	14	4	10	.435	.500	21
UCF	74	41-32	22-48=.458	6-11=.545	24-31=.774	37	17-0	13	18	0	10	.556	.333	14
Rice	63	34-29	22-59=.373	5-16=.313	14-17=.824	33	12-0	16	20	3	6	.393	.355	20
at Memphis	99	52-47	38-69=.551	15-32=.469	8-11=.727	38	17-0	22	12	9	11	.571	.529	34
Rice	75	34-41	30-49=.612	5-14=.357	10-14=.714	30	14-0	18	13	2	2	.600	.625	23
SMU	66	28-38	22-59=.373	12-33=.364	10-11=.909	30	14-0	14	12	1	5	.348	.389	2
Rice	64	33-31	23-50=.460	9-20=.450	9-15=.600	38	18-0	16	22	2	3	.500	.423	9
at Marshall	69	30-39	24-58=.414	5-18=.278	16-25=.640	32	19-0	14	10	3	11	.344	.500	28
Rice	65	26-39	21-60=.350	5-12=.417	18-26=.692	26	19-0	8	6	3	12	.320	.371	20
Tulsa	73	32-41	24-51=.471	6-16=.375	19-25=.760	48	21-0	9	20	4	3	.467	.476	26
Rice	77	37-40	28-54=.519	8-17=.471	13-19=.684	32	19-1	17	12	3	2	.455	.619	24
vs. UTEP	74	39-35	24-60=.400	9-25=.360	17-25=.680	38	21-1	18	13	1	6	.483	.323	22
Rice	53	25-28	17-47=.362	3-10=.300	16-25=.640	31	13-0	10	9	4	9	.320	.409	6
vs. UCF	51	29-22	20-53=.377	6-19=.316	5-8=.625	40	19-0	13	17	2	2	.364	.400	10
Rice	62	23-39	21-48=.438	5-18=.278	15-21=.714	27	22-0	11	11	0	1	.375	.500	22
vs. Houston	77	29-48	24-50=.480	9-26=.346	20-27=.741	32	21-0	8	8	5	4	.345	.667	1

Game 1

Nov. 11, 2006 at Autry Court

Rice 118, Paul Quinn 66

Rice's Morris Almond led five Owls in double-figures with 24 points as Rice crushed Paul Quinn College, 118-66, in the season-opening game for Rice in front of 1,154 fans at Autry Court.

In scoring 24 points on 7-11 from the field and 9-12 at the free throw line, Almond became the 28th Owl to score over 1,000 points. He now has 1,005 career points. He also had three steals, two assists, two rebounds, and 1 block.

Also scoring in double-digits for Rice were Cory Pflieger with a career-high 17 points (6-8 FGs), Rodney Foster with a career-high 16 points (5-5 FGs), freshman Chris Hagan, in his first career-start, scored 13 points (6-9 FGs) with five assists, and Lorenzo Williams scored 11 points with 7 assists. Thirteen of 14 Rice players that played scored at least two points. Scoring their first-ever field goals for Rice were sophomores Chris Szalay and Jonathan Bailey, freshmen Charles Belton and Lawrence Ghoram, and junior college transfer Marius Craciun.

The Owls out-rebounded the Tiges 35-22 as Patrick Britton led Rice with 6 boards. Defensively, Rice totaled 9 steals and 3 blocks, while committing only 12 turnovers.

For the night, Rice set a school record in field goal percentage by making 43-60 shots for 71.7 percent. The old record was 67.7 percent set on Dec. 30, 2003, vs. Dallas. The Owls blistered the nets in the first-half at 75 percent (21-28) and shot 68.8 percent (22-32) in the second-half.

The Owls also set a school scoring record with 118 points, surpassing the 113 scored upon Grambling State on Dec. 6, 2004. And, the 14 three-pointers canded by Rice ties the school record of 14 made at UNLV (Jan. 14, 1999). The Owls also had 28 assists on the night one shy of the school record (29) set vs. Dallas (Dec. 30, 2003).

Rice 118, Paul Quinn College 66 Nov. 11, 2006 at Autry Court

Paul Quinn	Min	FG-A	FT-A	OF-REB	A	PF	TP
Brooks f	28	3-9	4-4	3-6	2	0	10
Lewis f	30	2-4	5-7	1-2	0	4	9
Edwards g	15	1-3	2-2	0-1	1	3	5
Miller g	18	1-2	1-2	1-1	1	3	3
Chisholm g	27	9-13	0-1	0-2	1	1	22
Alexander	24	0-3	2-3	0-0	1	2	2
Ivey	16	2-6	0-0	0-2	0	2	6
Strawther	20	1-5	2-2	0-4	4	0	4
Williams	22	1-5	3-7	1-2	1	2	5
TEAM				1-2			
Totals		20-50	19-28	7-22	11	17	66

Team Pct.: FG - .400, FT - .679; **3-Pt.:** 7-15, .467 (Chisholm 4-6, Ivey 2-3, Edwards 1-3, Alexander 0-1, Strawther 0-2); **Blocks:** 0; **Turnovers:** 18 (Brooks 3, Chisholm 3, Strawther 3, Williams 3, Lewis 2, Edwards 2, Miller 2); **Steals:** 5 (Chisholm 2, Brooks, Miller, Alexander)

Rice	Min	FG-A	FT-A	OF-REB	A	PF	TP
Britton, f	19	1-3	0-0	1-6	1	1	3
Killings, c	9	4-4	0-0	1-3	2	5	8
Hagan, g	15	6-9	0-0	0-0	5	2	13
Almond, g	21	7-11	9-12	1-2	2	0	24
Pflieger, g	17	6-8	1-3	1-1	1	0	17
Szalay	8	1-2	2-2	0-0	4	2	5
Hagen	17	1-1	0-0	0-3	0	2	2
Williams	16	3-3	3-4	0-3	7	1	11
Craciun	20	2-2	0-0	0-3	1	2	5
Packevicius	15	0-2	0-0	0-2	0	2	0
Bailey	6	2-2	0-0	0-0	1	1	4
Foster	12	5-5	2-2	0-0	1	2	16
Belton	12	3-3	0-0	0-2	2	3	6
Ghoram	13	2-5	0-0	0-5	1	1	4
TEAM				2-5			
Totals		43-60	18-25	6-35	28	24	118

Team Pct.: FG - .717, FT - .720; **3-Pt.:** 14-22, .636 (Pflieger 4-5, Foster 4-4, Williams 2-2, Hagan 1-2, Almond 1-4, Szalay 1-2, Craciun 1-1, Ghoram 0-2); **Blocks:** 3 (Ghoram, Almond, Killings); **Turnovers:** 12 (Almond 2, Craciun 2, Foster 2, Belton 2, Killings, Hagan, Hagen, Williams); **Steals:** 9 (Almond 3, Britton, Hagan, Craciun, Foster, Belton, Ghoram); **Halftime Score:** Rice 54, PQC 33; **Officials:** Brent Meaux, Roderick Dixon, Bobby Jacobs; **Technical Fouls:** PQC bench; **Attendance:** 1,154

Game 2

Nov. 14, 2006 at Spokane, Wash.

Gonzaga 88, Rice 50

Sophomore Josh Heytvelt scored 25 points and grabbed 11 rebounds as Gonzaga routed Rice in the first round game. Heytvelt, who scored 22 in the season opener for Gonzaga (2-0), continued to make Zags fans forget the early departure of Adam Morrison to the NBA.

Morris Almond, the leading scorer in Conference USA last year with an average of 21.9 points per game, was held to 13 points.

"He's a great player. We did not leave one guy out there with him," Sean Mallon said.

Greg Killings led Rice with 18 points.

Heytvelt scored 10 quick points as Gonzaga jumped to a 25-8 lead. The Bulldogs led 42-28 at halftime, after holding Rice to just 11-of-31 shooting for 35 percent in the first.

A 16-2 Gonzaga run early in the second gave them a 58-32 lead. After Rice scored seven straight points, the Zags replied with a 13-0 run - seven by Heytvelt - for a 71-39 lead.

Gonzaga 88, Rice 50 Nov. 14, 2006 at Spokane, Wash.

Rice	Min	FG-A	FT-A	OF-REB	A	PF	TP
Britton, f	-	0-4	0-0	0-3	0	3	0
Killings, c	-	7-12	4-5	5-8	1	3	18
Hagan, g	-	1-9	0-0	0-3	2	2	3
Almond, g	-	4-15	5-5	1-7	0	4	13
Pflieger, g	-	2-3	2-3	0-2	1	4	6
Hagen	-	0-2	0-0	0-2	0	3	0
Williams	-	2-6	0-1	0-0	2	3	5
Craciun	-	0-1	0-0	0-1	0	2	0
Packevicius	-	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	5	0
Foster	-	0-2	0-1	0-1	0	2	0
Belton	-	2-4	0-0	1-1	1	0	4
Ghoram	-	0-3	1-2	1-2	0	0	1
TEAM				1-3			
Totals		18-61	10-13	9-33	7	31	50

Team Pct.: FG - .295, FT - .769; **3-Pt.:** 4-20, .200 (Pflieger 2-3, Williams 1-4, Hagan 1-7, Almond 0-4, Foster 0-1, Ghoram 0-1); **Blocks:** 6 (Killings 3, Hagen 2, Ghoram); **Turnovers:** 14 (Almond 3, Britton 3, Williams 2, Packevicius 2, Pflieger, Belton); **Steals:** 3 (Britton, Hagen, Ghoram)

Gonzaga	Min	FG-A	FT-A	OF-REB	A	PF	TP
Mallon, f	-	5-7	3-3	3-5	2	1	14
Heytvelt, c	-	10-19	5-7	2-11	2	1	25
Pargo, g	-	3-7	3-5	0-6	1	3	9
Altidor-Cespedes g	-	3-5	0-2	1-4	0	2	9
Raivo, g	-	3-11	0-1	0-2	4	0	6
Sorenson	-	0-1	1-2	1-1	0	1	1
Mast	-	0-1	0-0	0-1	0	0	0
Bouldin	-	2-7	2-2	2-7	4	4	7
Pendergraft	-	3-4	0-0	1-4	0	2	7
Kuso	-	1-3	8-12	3-3	1	4	10
Foster	-	0-1	0-0	0-1	0	1	0
TEAM				4-7			
Totals		30-66	22-34	17-52	14	19	88

Team Pct.: FG - .455, FT - .647; **3-Pt.:** 6-17, .353 (Altidor-Cespedes 3-4, Bouldin 1-2, Pendergraft 1-2, Mallon 1-2, Raivo 0-4); **Blocks:** 4 (Foster 2, Kuso, Heytvelt); **Turnovers:** 11 (Bouldin 3, Pargo 2, Altidor-Cespedes 2, Raivo 2, Sorenson, Kuso); **Steals:** 6 (Pargo 2, Altidor-Cespedes 2, Raivo 2); **Halftime Score:** Gonzaga 42, Rice 28; **Officials:** Bob Steffen, Bobby McRoy, Mike Reed; **Technical Fouls:** None; **Attendance:** n/a

Game 3

Nov. 15, 2006 at Spokane, Wash.

Rice 70, Colorado St. 61

All-America candidate Morris Almond scored 31 points as Rice beat Colorado State 70-61 on Wednesday in the consolation game at the NIT Season Tip-Off West Regional at the Spokane Arena.

Rice (2-1) shot just 34 percent in the game, but made 30-of-36 free throws, including 7-of-8 in the last minute. Almond made 18-of-20 from the line. The 18 free throws made by Almond is a new Rice record. The previous record was 17 set by Temple Tucker vs. Texas A&M (Dec. 28, 1955) and by Kendall Rhine vs. Baylor (Feb. 22, 1964).

Jason Smith scored 19 points and grabbed 15 rebounds for Colorado State (1-2), which outrebounded and outshot the Owls.

The teams traded the lead throughout the second half. After Almond tied the score at 52 with a pair of free throws, Tyler Smith sank a 3-pointer for Colorado State and Cory Lewis made a layup for a 57-52 lead with 6:15 left.

But Rice went on a 12-2 run, including a pair of 3-pointers by Cory Pflieger, for a 64-59 lead with 56 seconds left.

Jason Smith made a pair of free throws for CSU to cut the lead to 64-61. But Almond replied with a pair of free throws for a 66-61 Rice lead that held up.

Tyler Smith finished with 16 points for Colorado State, which was 18-of-28 from the line.

In the first, Rice was trailing 21-20 when Almond shot a string of eight consecutive free throws - making seven - to lift the Owls to a 27-21 lead with 2:31 left.

Chris Hagen's free throw with 1 second left gave Rice a 33-30 halftime lead, even though the Owls shot just 33 percent in the half. Rice made 17-of-20 free throws in the first half, while Colorado State made 9-of-18.

Almond, held to 13 points by Gonzaga on Tuesday night, scored 18 in the first half alone.

Rice 70, Colorado State 61

Nov. 15, 2006 at Spokane, Wash.

Rice	Min	FG-A	FT-A	OF-REB	A	PF	TP
Britton, f	17	0-2	0-0	2-4	0	4	0
Killings, c	32	3-9	6-8	3-7	2	1	12
Williams, g	22	1-2	0-0	0-1	4	1	2
Almond, g	27	6-18	18-20	3-5	0	1	31
Pflieger, g	16	3-4	3-4	0-1	1	3	12
Hagan	26	2-6	3-4	0-1	1	1	8
Hagen	11	0-1	0-0	0-1	0	4	0
Craciun	3	1-1	0-0	0-0	0	1	3
Packevicius	16	0-2	0-0	1-2	1	5	0
Foster	11	0-2	0-0	1-1	0	0	0
Belton	19	1-2	0-0	0-2	2	0	2
TEAM				2-4			
Totals		17-49	30-36	12-29	11	21	70

Team Pct.: FG - .347, FT - .833; **3-Pt.:** 6-10, .600 (Pflieger 3-3, Almond 1-5, Hagan 1-1, Craciun 1-1); **Blocks:** 1 (Almond); **Turnovers:** 15 (Williams 4, Almond 3, Hagan 2, Belton 2, Britton, Craciun); **Steals:** 8 (Almond 3, Williams 2, Killings, Hagan, Belton)

Colo. State	Min	FG-A	FT-A	OF-REB	A	PF	TP
Robinson, f	21	1-2	0-0	0-0	1	4	2
Smith, Ja., f	36	4-9	11-14	4-15	1	3	19
Creason, c	30	2-5	1-4	5-8	0	2	5
Smith, T., g	30	7-11	1-1	1-2	0	2	16
Denson, g	18	2-9	2-2	0-0	1	4	7
Kilby	7	0-0	2-4	0-0	0	3	2
Lewis	32	2-6	1-3	0-2	6	2	5
Robinson A.11	1-2	0-0	0-0	0	3	2	
Gilling	15	1-3	0-0	1-1	0	3	3
TEAM				4-8			
Totals		20-47	18-28	9	26	61	

Team Pct.: FG - .426, FT - .643; **3-Pt.:** 3-12, .250 (T. Smith 1-3, Denson 1-5, Gilling 1-2); **Blocks:** 5 (Ja. Smith 4, T. Smith); **Turnovers:** 23 (Ja. Smith 6, Denson 5, Lewis 4, T. Smith 2, Creason 2, A. Robinson 2, Gilling, Kilby); **Steals:** 7 (Lewis 3, Robinson, Ja. Smith 1, T. Smith); **Halftime Score:** Rice 33, Colo. State 30; **Officials:** Bill Gracey, Larry Spaulding, Mike Scyphers; **Technical Fouls:** None; **Attendance:** n/a

Game 4

Nov. 18, 2006, at Autry Court

North Texas 71, Rice 69

Calvin Watson scored 26 points, including five of North Texas' last six, for a 71-69 victory over Rice. Rice's All-America candidate, Morris Almond, scored a game and season-high 38 points which is two shy of his career-high 40 set last season vs. SMU (March 4, 2006). He also had a game-high 12 rebounds to record his first double-double of the season. The 38 points is the third-highest output in Almond's Rice career.

Rice was down 15-11 early in the first-half, but went on a 18-0 run for a 29-15 lead. In that stretch Almond nailed two three-pointers and two other field goals. North Texas then rallied in the final 5:52 of the half by going on a 18-4 run to close out the period.

The Owls came into the contest with a season-high 15 turnovers for a game, but committed 14 alone in the first-half and finished with 19 miscues.

Almond scored the Owls' first seven points in the second-half to give Rice a 40-35 lead. But, North Texas (3-1) used a 17-4 run over a six-minute span to grab a 52-44 lead. Quincy Williams and Watson combined for 15 points on the run, and Michael Sturns capped the run with a jumper with 11:27 left in the game. <

The Mean Green had their biggest lead at 65-52 with 6:01 remaining following a Williams lay-up, but Rice went on an 11-0 run over the next 5:10 to close within two at 65-63 with 51 seconds left. Morris Almond scored seven in the run, and Paulius Packevicius capped the run with a lay-up.

With 51 seconds left, Watson hit a jumper and three free throws in the final 30 seconds. Sturns made one-of-two free throws with six seconds left to extend the Mean Green lead to 71-67 and seal the win.

North Texas 71, Rice 69

Nov. 18, 2006 at Autry Court

North Texas	Min	FG-A	FT-A	OF-REB	A	PF	TP
Wooden, f	29	1-7	0-0	1-5	2	2	2
Stewart, f	22	0-1	0-3	1-2	1	2	0
Bell, g	31	1-5	0-0	2-5	4	3	3
Watson, g	29	10-19	3-5	0-4	0	4	26
Sturns, g	22	8-10	2-4	2-3	2	0	21
Mangrum	8	0-1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Williams	25	4-5	3-7	4-5	1	2	11
Howerton	4	0-0	2-2	0-0	0	0	2
TEAM			0-3				
Totals		27-55	10-21	12-34	11	17	71

Team Pct.: FG - .491, FT - .476; **3-Pt.:** 7-15, .467 (Watson 3-7, Sturns 3-4, Bell 1-3); **Blocks:** 6 (Wooden 3, Young, Watson, Howerton); **Turnovers:** 19 (Young 6, Sturns 5, Wooden 2, Stewart 2, Williams 2, Howerton, Bell); **Steals:** 11 (Young 5, Bell 2, Williams, Mangrum, Watson, Stewart)

Rice	Min	FG-A	FT-A	OF-REB	A	PF	TP
Britton, f	20	1-4	1-4	1-4	1	5	2
Killings, c	15	3-5	0-0	2-3	1	2	6
Williams, g	25	0-2	1-2	0-1	4	1	3
Almond, g	37	15-29	4-7	5-12	2	0	38
Pflieder, g	24	1-6	0-0	3-4	3	1	2
Hagan	16	1-6	2-2	0-0	0	1	4
Hagen	12	1-2	0-1	1-4	1	3	2
Craciun	5	0-0	0-0	0-2	0	0	0
Packevicius	26	2-3	2-2	2-6	0	4	6
Foster	8	0-3	0-0	0-0	1	1	0
Belton	11	3-3	0-0	1-1	1	0	6
Ghoram	1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
TEAM				4-8			
Totals		28-64	9-15	17-41	13	18	69

Team Pct.: FG - .438, FT - .600; **3-Pt.:** 4-16, .250 (Almond 4-9, Williams 0-2, Pflieder 0-3, Hagan 0-2); **Blocks:** 3 (Britton, Packevicius, Foster); **Turnovers:** 19 (Almond 6, Williams 3, Hagan 3, Packevicius 2, Killings, Foster, Belton); **Steals:** 7 (Almond 2, Britton 2, Foster, Packevicius, Hagan); **Halftime Score:** Rice 33, North Texas 33; **Officials:** Ted Hillary, Steve Welmer, Warren Evans; **Technical Fouls:** None; **Attendance:** 1,496

Game 5

Nov. 20, 2006, at Autry Court

Oregon 79, Rice 73 OT

Oregon senior guard Aaron Brooks scored six of his game-high 30 points in overtime to rally the Ducks to a 79-73 win over Rice Monday night.

The Owls led 65-57 with 56 seconds left in regulation, but Oregon freshman guard Tajuan Porter made two 3-pointers and Brooks added another to tie the game at 66-66 and force overtime.

After Rice's Morris Almond scored the first basket of the extra period, Oregon went on a 7-0 run to open a 73-68 lead it wouldn't relinquish. Duck junior forward Maarty Leunen put in a follow shot and added a 3-pointer in that decisive spurt.

The Owls, who were led by Almond's 28 points, held a 60-50 lead with 1:43 left in regulation before watching it quickly disappear.

Brooks made 8 of 11 shots from the field in the second half when he scored 22 points. Rice hurt itself at the free throw line in the final 20 minutes, making only 12 of 24 attempts.

The biggest lead for either team in the first half came when Rice sophomore guard Cory Pflieger hit a 3-pointer with 42 seconds left to give the Owls a 31-24 lead.

The Ducks trimmed the deficit to three by halftime when Oregon junior Bryce Taylor answered with a 3-pointer from the corner to pull the Ducks within 31-27.

Oregon, picked to finish fourth this year in the PAC-10 media poll, made just eight of 26 shots from the field in the first 20 minutes.

Almond, in his last three games, has scored 31 (vs. Colorado State), 38 (vs. North Texas), and 28 vs. Oregon for a 32.3 average. Almond's five-game scoring average is at 26.8 ppg and he sports a team leading 6.2 rebounding average.

Oregon 79, Rice 73

Nov. 20, 2006 at Autry Court

Oregon	Min	FG-A	FT-A	OF-REB	A	PF	TP
Taylor, f	44	1-7	8-12	6-12	1	4	11
Leunen, f	44	6-11	2-3	5-12	0	4	15
Brooks, g	44	10-16	7-10	0-6	7	2	30
Porter, g	40	6-21	0-0	4-5	2	4	15
Oguchi, g	24	2-11	2-2	1-2	2	4	6
Platt	11	1-2	0-1	0-1	0	3	2
Akwenuke	3	0-1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Stelly	1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Zahn	13	0-0	0-0	0-3	0	2	0
Schafer	1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
TEAM				1-3			
Totals		26-69	19-28	17-44	12	23	79

Team Pct.: FG - .377, FT - .679; **3-Pt.:** 8-29, .276 (Porter 3-10, Brooks 3-5, Taylor 1-3, Leunen 1-3, Oguchi 0-7, Akwenuke 0-1); **Blocks:** 0; **Turnovers:** 17 (Porter 6, Brooks 4, Taylor 3, Oguchi 2, Zahn 2); **Steals:** 11 (Leunen 3, Taylor 2, Brooks 2, Porter 2, Oguchi 2)

Rice	Min	FG-A	FT-A	OF-REB	A	PF	TP
Britton, f	27	2-3	3-4	4-8	0	4	7
Killings, c	30	3-4	2-6	0-7	1	1	8
Hagan, g	30	0-6	6-8	1-3	7	2	6
Almond, g	40	13-25	2-2	1-5	0	2	28
Pflieder, g	28	4-10	0-0	1-4	3	2	10
Hagen	7	0-0	0-0	0-1	1	2	0
Craciun	15	1-4	1-2	2-4	0	2	3
Packevicius	11	0-0	0-1	2-4	1	4	0
Foster	16	2-3	2-6	0-2	1	4	4
Belton	17	1-2	0-1	0-1	0	1	2
Ghoram	4	1-1	0-0	0-2	0	2	2
TEAM				1-1			
Totals		27-58	16-30	12-42	14	26	73

Team Pct.: FG - .466, FT - .533; **3-Pt.:** 3-13, .231 (Pflieder 2-7, Foster 1-2, Hagan 0-1, Almond 0-3); **Blocks:** 5 (Killings 2, Almond, Packevicius, Belton); **Turnovers:** 23 (Britton 6, Pflieder 5, Hagan 3, Craciun 2, Packevicius 2, Belton, Ghoram, Killings); **Steals:** 8 (Pflieder 3, Almond 2, Foster, Killings, Craciun); **Halftime Score:** Rice 31, Oregon 27; **Officials:** Scott Thornley, Verne Harris, David Hall; **Technical Fouls:** None; **Attendance:** 1,395

Game 6

Nov. 25, 2006, at Salt Lake City, Utah

Utah 80, Rice 64

Johnnie Bryant tied his career-high of 28 points as Utah defeated Rice 80-64 on Saturday night. Rice's Morris Almond put forth a superb effort by scoring a career-high 42 points. Almond, who entered the game with a 26.8 points per game scoring average, made his first eight field-goal attempts and first seven foul shots. For the game he shot 13-16 from the field (81 percent) and 12-14 from the free throw line, in addition to making 4 of 6 three-point bombs. Almond is now averaging 29.3 points a game this season.

The 42 points scored by Almond ties him with Tom Robitaille for fourth on the single-game scoring chart at Rice. Almond's previous career-high was 40 set last year in game two vs. SMU. He has now scored over 30 points three times this season and 10 times in his career.

Early on, it looked as if the Utes were on their way to the historically bad start. Utah shot 40 percent in the first half and trailed by nine points at halftime. In the first half, Rice shot 54 percent.

But Bryant and Shaun Green were hot in the second half and the Utes made a bigger commitment to playing defense. Bryant scored 17 points and Green had 12 points and two 3-pointers in the second half.

Utah also held Rice to 25 points and 35 percent shooting from the field in the second half.

Utah took the game's momentum early in the second half after Rice's Paulius Packevicius picked up a technical foul for shoving Green. At the time, the Utes were closing the gap on Rice's big halftime lead, and only trailed by three points.

After Packevicius' shove, Utah closed out a 15-0 run to take a 55-46 lead with less than 10 minutes remaining.

Green finished with a career-high 17 points and nine rebounds.

Utah 80, Rice 64

Nov. 25, 2006, at Salt Lake City, Utah

Rice	Min	FG-A	FT-A	OF-REB	A	PF	TP
Britton, f	32	2-6	0-1	1-3	1	2	4
Killings, c	22	0-4	0-0	2-5	1	4	0
Hagan, g	27	2-6	2-2	0-0	3	3	7
Almond, g	39	13-16	12-14	0-4	2	3	42
Pflieder, g	28	2-6	0-0	0-2	3	3	6
Hagen	14	1-1	0-0	0-1	0	3	2
Craciun	6	1-3	0-0	1-2	0	0	3
Packevicius	6	0-1	0-0	0-1	0	4	0
Foster	16	0-1	0-1	0-1	3	2	0
Belton	8	0-0	0-0	1-1	0	2	0
Ghoram	3	0-1	0-0	0-0	0	2	0
TEAM				1-3			
Totals		21-47	14-18	6-23	13	28	64

Team Pct.: FG - .447, FT - .778; **3-Pt.:** 8-16, .500 (Almond 4-6, Pflieder 2-6, Craciun 1-1, Hagan 1-2, Foster 0-1); **Blocks:** 3 (Almond 2, Packevicius); **Turnovers:** 15 (Foster 5, Almond 2, Pflieder 2, Belton 2, Hagan, Packevicius, Ghoram); **Steals:** 4 (Hagan 3, Pflieder)

Utah	Min	FG-A	FT-A	OF-REB	A	PF	TP
Weigh, f	22	1-4	2-4	0-1	2	2	4
Deane, f	15	0-3	3-4	4-8	1	0	3
Nevill, c	30	7-9	6-9	4-10	1	2	20
Bryant, g	36	7-12	11-13	0-3	7	1	28
Borha, g	17	2-3	0-1	0-1	2	5	4
Eatmon	5	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	2	0
Grant	12	0-1	0-0	0-0	3	3	0
Tillie	8	1-4	0-0	0-0	1	2	2
Green	31	6-12	2-2	3-9	1	3	17
Johns	22	0-0	0-0	1-3	0	2	2
Foster	3	0-1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
TEAM				1-1			
Totals		24-49	26-37	13-36	18	20	80

Team Pct.: FG - .490, FT - .703; **3-Pt.:** 6-18, .333 (Green 3-7, Bryant 3-7, Weigh 0-3, Borha 0-1); **Blocks:** 1 (Nevill); **Turnovers:** 12 (Nevill 5, Borha 2, Weigh, Bryant, Eatmon, Grant, Johns); **Steals:** 5 (Green 2, Deane, Nevill, Borha); **Halftime Score:** Rice 39, Utah 30; **Officials:** Verne Harris, Bill Kennedy, Eric Curry; **Technical Fouls:** Rice-Packevicius; Utah-Borha; **Attendance:** 7,868

Game 7

Dec. 2, 2006, at Autry Court

Rice 80

UT-Permian Basin 46

All-America Morris Almond scored a game-high 29 points to help the Rice Owls beat Texas-Permian Basin 80-46 on Saturday night. Chris Hagan added 12 points and a career-high eight-assists for Rice (3-4) high eight-assists for Rice.

In only 26 minutes of action, Almond hit 11 of 17 shots from the field, scored 18 in the first half and made all four of his 3-point attempts.

He is now averaging a Conference USA leading 29.3 points a game in addition to 5.3 rebounds a game and sports a 53 percent shooting percentage from the field.

Rice's Patrick Britton pulled down a season-high 10 boards to go with his 9 points, 2 steals, and 2 blocks. Rodney Foster and Lawrence Ghoram each contributed 8 points off the bench.

The Owls shot 55 percent from the field and held UTMB to just 33 percent shooting.

Mansour Mbye led Texas-Permian Basin (2-4) with 16 points and Rashad Pride had 10.

Rice 80, UT-Permian Basin 46

Dec. 2, 2006, at Autry Court

UTPB	Min	FG-A	FT-A	Of-REB	A	PF	TP
Mbye, f	32	3-9	8-9	2-8	2	3	16
Pride, f	24	4-7	2-2	2-4	0	3	10
Settles, g	21	1-1	0-0	0-2	2	0	2
Morgan, g	22	1-4	0-0	1-2	0	3	2
Simmons, g	32	1-11	0-0	0-1	2	4	2
Davis	21	3-5	0-0	0-2	0	0	7
Landry	4	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Trejo	3	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Manchester	5	0-0	0-0	1-0	0	0	0
Dastrup	10	0-2	0-0	0-1	0	1	0
McKenzie	6	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Brittain	5	1-2	0-0	1-1	0	0	2
Zaney	4	0-1	0-0	1-2	0	1	0
Kerns	11	1-3	3-6	1-3	0	1	5
TEAM				1-3			
Totals		15-45	3-16	13-17	6	24	16

Team Pct.: FG - .333, FT - .765; **3-Pt.:** 3-16, .188 (Mbye 2-5, Davis 1-1, Morgan 0-2, Manchester 0-2); **Blocks:** 1 (Pride); **Turnovers:** 24 (Simmons 7, Morgan 6, Mbye 3, Davis 2, Landry 2, Settles, Dastrup, McKenzie, Brittain); **Steals:** 4 (Mbye, Pride, Landry, Kerns)

Rice	Min	FG-A	FT-A	Of-REB	A	PF	TP
Britton, f	27	4-4	1-3	1-10	2	4	9
Killings, c	8	3-3	0-3	2-4	0	4	6
Hagan, g	32	6-11	0-0	2-4	8	2	12
Almond, g	26	11-17	3-4	0-2	1	0	29
Pflieder, g	25	2-8	0-0	1-2	3	1	4
Szalay	3	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Packevicius	16	0-3	2-2	2-5	3	3	2
Bailey	1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Foster	19	2-7	2-2	0-0	1	2	8
Belton	14	1-1	0-0	2-4	1	0	2
Ghoram	15	4-5	0-0	2-3	0	1	8
Perka	14	0-1	0-0	1-3	0	0	0
TEAM				1-1			
Totals		24-49	26-37	13-36	18	20	80

Team Pct.: FG - .550, FT - .571; **3-Pt.:** 6-14, .429 (Almond 4-4, Foster 2-3, Pflieder 0-5, Ghoram 0-1, Hagan 0-1); **Blocks:** 2 (Britton); **Turnovers:** 18 (Britton 3, Hagan 3, Foster 3, Almond 2, Packevicius 2, Ghoram 2, Pflieder, Szalay, Belton); **Steals:** 10 (Britton 2, Hagan 2, Almond 2, Pflieder, Packevicius, Foster, Ghoram); **Halftime Score:** Rice 42, UTPB 26; **Officials:** Brad Ferrie, Troy Raymond, Roderick Dixon; **Technical Fouls:** None; **Attendance:** 1,450

Game 8

Dec. 6, 2006, at Autry Court

Rice 83, Lamar 71

Morris Almond scored 36 points to lead Rice to an 83-71 victory over Lamar on Wednesday night.

Almond, who came into the contest averaging 29.3 points per game, made 11 of 17 shots from the field (65 percent), including 21 points on 7-of-9 (78 percent) shooting from 3-point range. He scored 20 of his 36 points in the second half. The 36 points by Almond marks the fourth time this season that the silky smooth shooter has eclipsed the 30-point mark.

Lamar (3-6) led 42-40 with 14:45 left in the game after a Lamar Sanders basket, but Rice (4-4) then went on an 8-0 run and led the remainder of the way.

The Owls' biggest lead was 13 points, the last time at 76-63 on a basket by Paulius Packevicius with 3:14 left.

Lamar was led by Sanders with 18 points. James Davis added 16.

Greg Killings added 11 points and three blocks, while Chris Hagan scored 10 with 6 assists for Rice.

Although Rice led just 33-30 at halftime, it never trailed in the first half.

The Owls scored the first six points of the game and held Lamar scoreless until the 16:49 mark when Matthew Barrow scored on a layup.

Rice eventually opened a 12-2 advantage on a Rodney Foster 3-pointer with 15:54 showing. The Owls held their biggest lead of the half at 25-14 when Almond connected on consecutive 3-pointers, the last with 7:21 remaining.

Rice 83, Lamar 71

Dec. 6, 2006, at Autry Court

Lamar	Min	FG-A	FT-A	Of-REB	A	PF	TP
Murray, f	2	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	1	0
Todd, f	24	3-11	0-1	1-1	3	4	8
Sanders, g	31	7-11	4-6	3-6	0	5	18
Hopkins, g	28	2-5	2-3	2-4	1	5	8
Barrow, g	39	3-7	0-0	1-4	4	4	6
Chappell	32	5-9	0-0	0-1	0	1	15
Davis	32	5-16	6-6	5-11	7	3	16
Musa	8	0-0	0-0	0-1	1	2	0
Nwevo	3	0-0	0-0	0-1	0	0	0
TEAM				1-1			
Totals		25-60	12-16	12-30	16	26	71

Team Pct.: FG - .417, FT - .750; **3-Pt.:** 9-24, .375 (Chappell 5-8, Hopkins 2-4, Todd 2-7, Barrow 0-3, Davis 0-1, Sanders 0-1); **Blocks:** 1 (Sanders); **Turnovers:** 17 (Davis 5, Todd 3, Sanders 3, Hopkins 2, Barrow 2, Chappell 2); **Steals:** 8 (Todd 2, Hopkins 2, Sanders 1, Barrow 1, Mahoney 1, Davis 1)

Rice	Min	FG-A	FT-A	Of-REB	A	PF	TP
Britton, f	25	2-5	4-4	2-6	0	4	8
Killings, c	19	3-4	5-7	3-7	0	3	11
Hagan, g	32	3-9	2-2	0-2	6	1	10
Almond, g	37	11-17	7-9	2-5	2	3	36
Pflieder, g	15	1-2	0-0	0-4	1	0	3
Williams	17	2-7	3-3	0-0	4	1	8
Packevicius	27	1-2	1-2	2-4	1	3	3
Foster	16	1-3	1-2	0-0	3	0	4
Belton	3	0-0	0-0	0-1	1	0	0
Ghoram	1	0-1	0-0	1-0	0	0	0
Perka	8	0-3	0-0	1-2	0	1	0
TEAM				3-7			
Totals		24-53	23-29	14-39	18	16	83

Team Pct.: FG - .453, FT - .793; **3-Pt.:** 12-20, .600 (Almond 7-9, Hagan 2-4, Pflieder 1-2, Williams 1-2, Foster 1-3); **Blocks:** 7 (Britton 3, Killings 3, Packevicius 1); **Turnovers:** 20 (Killings 4, Hagan 4, Almond 4, Britton 3, Williams 2, Pflieder, Packevicius, Team); **Steals:** 6 (Hagan 3, Williams 2, Packevicius); **Halftime Score:** Rice 33, Lamar 30; **Officials:** Steve Welmer, Warren Evans, Bill Kennedy; **Technical Fouls:** Lamar: Roccaforte; **Attendance:** 1,297

Game 9

Dec. 20, 2006, at Autry Court

Rice 82, PVAM 65

Rice's All-America guard Morris Almond notched his second double-double of the season with 26 points and 11 rebounds as the Owls beat Prairie View A&M 82-65 in front of 1,175 fans at Autry Court.

Almond for the night, took only eight shots but converted on six of them including 3-of-5 from three-point range. He also made 13-of-15 from the free throw line.

For the game, the Owls made 71.1 percent of their shots (27-38) which is the second-highest field goal percentage in a game, behind the 71.7 percent made in the season's first game vs. Paul Quinn College. The Owls did commit a season-high 32 turnovers against a hustling PVAM squad, but held the Panthers to just 30 percent shooting from the floor.

Rice led 44-25 at the half after shooting 70 percent from the field and limited Prairie View A&M to 27 percent shooting percentage.

Chris Hagan added 17 points on 7-of-9 shooting and Lorenzo Williams scored 9 points.

Chris Gaines led Prairie View A&M (1-9) with 23 points.

Rice 82, Prairie View A&M 65

Dec. 20, 2006, at Autry Court

Prairie View	Min	FG-A	FT-A	Of-REB	A	PF	TP
Ezeh, f	26	2-4	4-6	2-6	4	3	8
Clementino, c	23	1-3	0-1	3-6	0	2	2
Gaines, g	28	9-16	0-0	2-3	0	4	23
Ellison, g	26	1-10	1-2	4-0	4	2	3
McGilvery, g	16	0-10	0-0	0-0	1	1	0
Johnson	26	4-7	2-4	1-1	2	1	11
Sharpe	14	2-6	0-0	1-2	0	3	4
Genao	13	0-6	0-0	0-0	1	1	0
Satterwhite	6	0-0	3-4	0-0	4	2	3
Dixon	8	3-7	0-0	0-1	0	2	8
Cobb	11	1-8	1-4	4-5	0	3	3
Moore	3	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
TEAM				8-9			
Totals		23-77	11-21	25-37	16	24	65

Team Pct.: FG - .299, FT - .524; **3-Pt.:** 8-27, .296 (Gaines 5-8, Dixon 2-6, Johnson 1-1, Ellison 0-4, McGilvery 0-4, Genao 0-3, Ezeh 0-1); **Blocks:** 1 (Sharpe); **Turnovers:** 15 (Ezeh 4, Ellison 3, Clementino 2, Gaines 2, Johnson, Genao, Satterwhite, Team); **Steals:** 16 (Johnson 5, Gaines 4, Ezeh 2, Ellison 2, Sharpe, Satterwhite, Dixon)

Rice	Min	FG-A	FT-A	Of-REB	A	PF	TP
Britton, f	27	1-3	0-1	2-5	0	3	2
Killings, c	16	3-3	0-0	0-7	0	5	6
Hagan, g	26	7-9	1-3	0-2	3	1	17
Almond, g	32	6-8	13-15	2-11	5	3	28
Pflieder, g	19	2-5	2-2	0-3	2	2	7
Szalay	1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	1
Williams	19	3-3	2-2	0-2	2	2	9
Packevicius	22	2-2	0-0	2-5	2	1	4
Bailey	1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	1	0
Foster	15	1-2	1-2	0-1	1	1	4
Belton	7	1-1	0-1	0-1	1	0	2
Ghoram	3	1-2	0-0	0-0	0	0	2
Perka	12	0-0	0-0	0-1	0	1	0
TEAM				0-4			
Totals		27-38	20-28	6-42	16	20	82

Team Pct.: FG - .711, FT - .714; **3-Pt.:** 8-15, .533 (Almond 3-5, Hagan 2-2, Williams 1-1, Foster 1-2, Pflieder 1-4, Ghoram 0-1); **Blocks:** 7 (Packevicius 3, Almond 2, Britton, Killings); **Turnovers:** 32 (Hagan 9, Almond 5, Britton 3, Killings 3, Williams 3, Foster 2, Perka 2, Pflieder, Szalay, Ghoram); **Steals:** 5 (Williams 2, Britton 2, Hagan); **Halftime Score:** Rice 44, Prairie View A&M 25; **Officials:** Ted Hillary, Roderick Dixon, Larry Rose; **Technical Fouls:** None; **Attendance:** 1,175

GAME 10

Dec. 28, 2006, at Moraga, Calif.

Belmont 87, Rice 85

Justin Hare scored nine of his 22 points, including the game-winning basket with 1.1 seconds left as Belmont overcame a 10-point deficit to defeat Rice 87-85 in the first round of the Shamrock Classic at Saint Mary's College.

Rice's Morris Almond led all scorers with 28, and Chris Hagan contributed 16 to the losing effort. Almond also led the Owls with 8 rebounds to go with 3 assists, 2 blocks, and a steal. He is now averaging a nation-leading 29.7 points a game.

Belmont (8-4) saw a five-point halftime lead evaporate, as Rice (5-5) turned up its defensive pressure midway through the second half.

Hare scored a basket after Hagan's two free throws put Rice ahead 81-71. He then sank a 3-pointer - one of 12 by the winning Bruins - to cut the lead to five.

Andrew Preston failed on a three-point play for Belmont after Almond's basket, but Andy Wicke hit a 3-pointer after Belmont got the rebound. After a Rice miss, Preston tied the game with 1:27 to play.

Almond put Rice back on top with a 12-footer from the paint with 1:13 left before Hare tied the game with an eight-foot leaper with 36 seconds to play.

Chris Hagan lost the ball on a drive and was called for a double dribble as Belmont got the last shot. Hare connected on a 12-footer, and Rice's long inbounds attempt was knocked loose.

The Bruins shot 54 percent from the field and closed-out the last 4:13 of the game on a 16-4 run.

Boomer Herndon had 14 and Preston, who went 6-for-6 from the floor, had 13 for Belmont. Patrick Britton added 10 for Rice.

Belmont 87, Rice 85

Dec. 28, 2006, at Moraga, Calif.

Belmont	Min	FG-A	FT-A	OF-REB	A	PF	TP
Goodwin, f	25	2-6	2-2	0-3	1	1	7
Hare, f	31	9-13	0-0	1-1	5	0	22
Preston, c	19	6-6	1-4	1-1	2	3	13
Dotson, g	21	1-3	0-0	1-2	1	3	3
Harris, g	19	2-4	2-2	1-3	1	2	7
Dansby	11	3-5	0-0	1-4	0	1	7
Belcher	8	2-3	0-0	1-4	0	0	6
Wicke	27	3-8	0-0	3-6	3	1	8
Herndon	18	3-7	8-10	4-7	1	2	14
Peebles	21	0-2	0-0	1-2	1	1	0
TEAM		2-3					
Totals		31-57	13-18	16-36	15	14	87

Team Pct.: FG - .544, FT - .722; **3-Pt.:** 12-29, .414 (Hare 4-7, Belcher 2-3, Wicke 2-7, Goodwin 1-4, Dotson 1-3, Harris 1-1, Dansby 1-3); **Blocks:** 1 (Preston); **Turnovers:** 17 (Dansby 3, Harris 3, Dotson 3, Peebles 2, Hare 2, Goodwin, Preston, Wicke, Herndon); **Steals:** 3 (Hare)

Rice	Min	FG-A	FT-A	OF-REB	A	PF	TP
Britton, f	27	5-9	0-0	0-2	1	2	10
Killings, c	17	2-5	0-0	5-5	1	4	4
Hagan, g	24	5-10	3-3	0-0	4	3	16
Almond, g	35	10-22	7-7	4-8	3	1	28
Pflieder, g	21	2-5	0-0	1-3	2	0	6
Williams	19	2-2	1-2	0-0	6	0	6
Packevicius	16	3-3	0-0	1-2	3	5	6
Foster	16	1-3	2-2	0-1	1	0	4
Belton	5	0-2	0-0	0-2	0	0	0
Ghoram	11	2-2	0-0	0-0	0	2	5
Perka	9	0-1	0-0	0-1	0	0	0
TEAM		1-2					
Totals		32-64	13-14	12-26	21	17	85

Team Pct.: FG - .500, FT - .929; **3-Pt.:** 8-17, .471 (Hagan 3-4, Pflieder 2-4, Almond 1-5, Williams 1-1, Ghoram 1-1, Foster 0-2); **Blocks:** 2 (Almond 2); **Turnovers:** 7 (Packevicius 2, Hagan, Almond, Britton, Ghoram); **Steals:** 10 (Hagan 3, Williams 2, Almond, Pflieder, Britton, Packevicius, Foster); **Halftime Score:** Belmont 45, Rice 40; **Officials:** Jim Giron, Melvin Landry, Paul Simpkins; **Technical Fouls:** None. **Attendance:** n/a

GAME 11

Dec. 29, 2006, at Moraga, Calif.

Rice 67 Western Carolina 62

Morris Almond scored a game-high 36 points including 29 of Rice's 37 second-half points to lead the Owls in a come-from-behind 67-62 victory over Western Carolina in the third-place game of the Shamrock Office Solutions Classic hosted by Saint Mary's College. Almond is now averaging a nation-leading 30.3 points per game. It was also the fifth time this season that Almond has scored 30 or more points in a game and the 12th time in his career.

The Owls were down 46-36 when Rice outscored the Catamounts 19 to 9 to forge a 55-55 tie with 3:32 left in the game. Almond scored 17 of Rice's 19 points in that run.

WCU's Nick Aldridge then sank two free throws to give WCU a 57-55 lead before Rice's Lawrence Ghoram dropped a jumper to tie it up.

Almond then drilled a three-pointer to give Rice a 60-59 lead. Aldridge answered with a layup to give the lead back to WCU. On the ensuing possession, Almond was fouled on a three-point attempt and he converted on all three free throws to give the Owls the lead for good at 63-61.

In two games at the Shamrock Office Solutions Classic, Almond scored 64 points and averaged 7 rebounds.

Cory Pflieder nailed three treys for nine points for Rice.

Aldridge led WCU with 15 points and 9 rebounds.

Rice 67, Western Carolina 62

Dec. 29, 2006, at Moraga, Calif.

Rice	Min	FG-A	FT-A	OF-REB	A	PF	TP
Britton, f	34	1-2	3-3	4-6	1	2	5
Killings, c	17	1-5	1-5	2-3	0	1	3
Hagan, g	27	0-7	2-3	0-2	3	2	2
Almond, g	34	9-20	13-13	2-6	1	2	36
Pflieder, g	14	3-7	0-0	0-2	2	0	9
Williams	17	0-0	0-0	0-3	1	4	3
Packevicius	16	1-2	0-0	0-6	0	5	2
Foster	21	1-4	1-1	0-1	0	0	3
Belton	7	0-0	2-2	0-1	0	1	2
Ghoram	13	2-3	0-2	0-1	0	2	5
TEAM				3-6			
Totals		18-50	22-29	12-38	8	19	67

Team Pct.: FG - .360, FT - .759; **3-Pt.:** 9-28, .321 (Almond 5-11, Pflieder 3-7, Ghoram 1-2, Foster 0-3, Hagan 0-5); **Blocks:** 4 (Hagan, Almond, Killings, Packevicius); **Turnovers:** 18 (Hagan 4, Almond 2, Killings 2, Pflieder 2, Britton 2, Williams 2, Foster 2, Belton, Ghoram); **Steals:** 9 (Hagan 3, Almond 2, Killings, Williams, Foster, Belton)

W. Carolina	Min	FG-A	FT-A	OF-REB	A	PF	TP
Gore, f	28	2-5	0-0	3-3	3	5	4
Russell, f	30	4-14	1-3	1-8	2	4	11
Aldridge, c	32	4-10	7-11	3-9	1	2	15
Greathouse, g	32	3-6	0-0	0-1	4	2	9
Robinson, g	25	2-6	2-3	1-3	1	0	8
Giles	14	5-6	2-2	1-2	0	4	12
Wagner	11	0-1	0-0	0-2	2	2	0
McKenna	24	1-5	0-0	1-4	0	3	3
Wilson	4	0-1	0-0	0-0	0	1	0
TEAM				1-2			
Totals		21-54	12-19	11-36	13	23	62

Team Pct.: FG - .389, FT - .632; **3-Pt.:** 8-23, .348 (Greathouse 3-6, Russell 2-5, McKenna 1-4, Gore 0-1, Aldridge 0-1, Wilson 0-1); **Blocks:** 2 (Aldridge, Giles); **Turnovers:** 16 (Gore 5, Aldridge 5, Russell, Robinson, Giles, Wagner, McKenna, Wilson); **Steals:** 10 (Aldridge 3, McKenna 3, Russell 2, Greathouse, Wagner); **Halftime Score:** Rice 30, Western Carolina 25; **Officials:** Randy Burkhardt, Melvin Landry, Chad Johnson; **Technical Fouls:** None. **Attendance:** n/a

GAME 12

Jan. 2, 2007, at Autry Court

Vanderbilt 74, Rice 69

Vanderbilt jumped out to an 18 to 0 lead to start the game and then held off a second-half Rice rally to win 74-69 over the Rice Owls in front of 1,776 fans at Autry Court. Rice, now 6-6, was led by All-America Morris Almond's game-high and career-high 44 points.

The 44 points by Almond ties Kendall Rhine for the second-most points in a game in school history. Rhine scored 44 vs. Arkansas on Jan. 12, 1963. The school record is held by Doug Kendrick, when poured in 47 vs. Georgia Tech on Dec. 6, 1965. It is also Almond's third game in his career in which he has tallied 40 or more points and second time this season. Almond was 11 for 23 from the field, including 5-9 three-pointers, and 17-19 at the free throw line. He also snared 12 rebounds for his second double-double of the season.

Vanderbilt (10-4) was led by Shan Foster's 29 points. Foster scored 26 of his 29 points in the first-half as the Commodores shot 64 percent from the field and held the Owls scoreless until Almond nailed a trey at the 11:42 mark.

The Commodores got off to an excellent start in part due to Foster scoring 12 of Vandy's first 14 points. He finished the first-half shooting 10 of 12 from the field. Meanwhile, Rice began the contest by missing its first 11 field goal attempts and shot only 30 percent in the first-half and concluded the game making only 37 percent. Rice did outscore Vanderbilt 69 to 56 (42 to 29 in the second-half) following the 18-point deficit.

An Almond three-pointer with 1:05 remaining brought Rice to within four points (67-63) but Dan Cage hit two free throws to extend the lead to 6. It was a three-point game at 72-69 following a lay-up by Almond with four ticks on the clock remaining, but Cage secured the game for Vanderbilt by making two free throws. The Commodores made 7 of 10 free throws in the final 50 seconds of the game, with Cage going 4 for 6 at the line.

Vanderbilt 74, Rice 69

Jan. 2, 2007, at Autry Court

Vanderbilt	Min	FG-A	FT-A	OF-REB	A	PF	TP
Byars, f	19	1-3	0-0	1-4	5	5	3
Foster, f	38	11-17	2-2	1-6	2	3	29
Neltner, c	27	2-3	2-3	0-7	1	2	6
Gordon, g	22	3-6	1-4	0-0	3	0	8
Cage, g	24	1-3	8-10	0-3	2	4	11
Beal	19	2-6	3-3	0-3	3	0	7
Metcalfe	7	1-1	0-0	0-2	1	0	2
Brown	13	0-0	1-2	0-0	0	1	1
Drake	13	2-4	0-0	0-1	2	4	4
Skuchas	18	1-3	1-6	2-4	0	1	3
TEAM				0-2			
Totals		24-56	18-30	4-32	19	20	74

Team Pct.: FG - .522, FT - .600; **3-Pt.:** 8-19, .421 (Foster 5-8, Byars 1-2, Gordon 1-3, Cage 1-3, Beal 0-2, Drake 0-1); **Blocks:** 4 (Foster 3, Skuchas); **Turnovers:** 14 (Beal 4, Cage 3, Foster 2, Skuchas, Drake, Metcalfe, Gordon, Byars); **Steals:** 7 (Metcalfe 3, Gordon 2, Byars, Beal)

Rice	Min	FG-A	FT-A	OF-REB	A	PF	TP
Britton, f	31	1-2	1-2	2-4	0	4	3
Killings, c	15	0-0	0-0	1-4	0	2	0
Hagan, g	24	1-8	1-2	0-2	4	1	3
Almond, g	37	11-23	17-19	2-12	0	5	44
Pflieder, g	15	1-5	0-0	0-0	0	2	2
Williams	33	2-8	1-2	0-3	7	0	0
Packevicius	19	2-5	0-0	4-8	0	4	4
Foster	13	2-3	1-2	0-0	2	1	5
Belton	2	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Ghoram	10	1-3	0-0	0-0	0	3	3
TEAM				2-3			
Totals		21-57	21-27	11-36	13	22	69

Team Pct.: FG - .368, FT - .778; **3-Pt.:** 6-20, .300 (Almond 5-9, Ghoram 1-1, Pflieder 0-4, Hagan 0-3, Williams 0-3); **Blocks:** 2 (Almond, Killings); **Turnovers:** 13 (Almond 4, Hagan 3, Killings 2, Williams 2, Packevicius, Foster); **Steals:** 11 (Williams 3, Hagan 3, Almond 2, Foster 2, Britton); **Halftime Score:** Vanderbilt 45, Rice 27; **Officials:** J.B. Caldwell, Rick Randall, Antinio Petty; **Technical Fouls:** None. **Attendance:** 1,776

Game 13

Jan. 6, 2007, at Princeton, N.J.

Princeton 51, Rice 28

Luke Owings scored 13 points and Princeton's top-ranked defense held Morris Almond, the nation's top scorer, to nine points in taking a 51-28 victory over Rice Saturday.

Almond, who entered the game leading NCAA Division I with a 31.4 average and was coming off a 44-point effort against Vanderbilt, was still the leading scorer for Rice (6-7) against the Tigers (9-4).

Princeton held Almond to 3-for-8 shooting and 1-for-5 from 3-point range. Almond averaged 18.4 field goal attempts and 10.6 free throw attempts, but had just two foul shots. He committed four turnovers and left the game for good with 8:37 remaining.

Noah Savage and Lincoln Gunn each had nine points for the Tigers, while Marcus Schroeder had seven points, six rebounds, five assists and two steals. Justin Conway had five rebounds and six assists.

Princeton held the Owls to their lowest output since a 42-28 loss to Oklahoma State in 1944, and it was the lowest total by a Tigers Division I opponent since a 55-27 win over Yale in 1991.

Kyle Koncz's 3-pointer gave Princeton a 6-3 lead it would never relinquish. Princeton took 12 of its first 13 shots from 3-point range against Rice's zone, making five en route to a 17-7 lead. Koncz hit another three to give the Tigers a 22-11 advantage, and Rice never got the deficit under double figures from that point.

The Owls came out of their zone, but it did not help as Princeton continued to pull away. Rice shot 10-for-30, committed 18 turnovers, and got just three offensive rebounds as Princeton held a 31-19 advantage on the boards.

Princeton 51, Rice 28

Jan. 6, 2007, at Princeton, N.J.

Rice	Min	FG-A	FT-A	OF-REB	A	PF	TP
Britton, f	24	0-1	0-2	0-3	0	2	0
Packevicius, f14	0-2	0-0	0-1	0	1	0	0
Hagan, g	27	2-7	0-0	0-4	0	0	4
Williams, g	32	2-4	0-0	0-1	1	0	4
Almond, g	31	3-8	2-2	0-4	0	1	9
Szalay	6	0-0	0-0	0-1	0	0	0
Foster	16	0-0	1-3	0-0	0	0	1
Killings	15	2-2	1-3	2-3	0	1	5
Pflieder	20	1-4	2-2	0-1	1	1	5
Ghoram	11	0-2	0-2	0-0	1	1	0
Perka	4	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
TEAM				1-1			
Totals		10-30	6-14	3-19	3	11	28

Team Pct.: FG - .333, FT - .429; **3-Pt.:** 2-9, .222 (Almond 1-5, Pflieder 1-4); **Blocks:** 0; **Turnovers:** 18 (Williams 9, Almond 4, Hagan 2, Pflieder, Ghoram, Packevicius); **Steals:** 5 (Almond 2, Hagan 2, Packevicius)

Princeton	Min	FG-A	FT-A	OF-REB	A	PF	TP
Koncz, f	20	2-6	0-0	0-0	0	2	6
Owings, f	25	5-9	0-0	0-4	1	3	13
Conway, c	25	0-2	0-0	2-5	6	3	0
Schroeder, g38	3-6	0-0	1-6	5	0	7	
Gunn, g	24	3-6	1-2	1-3	0	1	9
Sargeant	2	0-0	0-0	0-1	0	0	0
Buffmire	16	1-2	0-0	1-3	1	2	2
Steuerer	2	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Finley	12	1-1	0-0	1-2	0	3	2
Woolridge	1	0-1	0-0	1-1	0	0	0
Strittmatter	15	0-3	0-0	0-0	1	0	0
Savage	16	3-9	2-2	2-2	0	0	9
Petrie	2	1-1	0-0	0-1	0	0	3
Buczak	2	0-1	0-0	0-0	1	0	0
TEAM				2-3			
Totals		19-47	3-4	11-31	15	14	51

Team Pct.: FG - .404, FT - .750; **3-Pt.:** 10-30, .300 (Owings 3-6, Gunn 2-5, Koncz 2-6, Savage 1-5, Petrie 1-1, Schroeder 1-3, Strittmatter 0-2, Conway 0-1); **Blocks:** 3 (Owings 2, Buffmire); **Turnovers:** 17 (Schroeder 5, Koncz 2, Owings 2, Conway 2, Gunn 2, Finley 2, Strittmatter, Buczak); **Steals:** 8 (Koncz 2, Schroeder 2, Owings, Conway, Savage); **Halftime Score:** Princeton 27, Rice 14; **Officials:** Tom DeFelicce, Bill McCarthy, Wally Rutecki; **Technical Fouls:** None. **Attendance:** 2,522

Game 14

Jan. 10, 2007, at Atruy Court

Rice 75, Tulane 70 OT

Morris Almond atoned for a poor shooting night by scoring five points in overtime to rally the Owls to a 75-70 win over Tulane in a Conference USA opener.

The Owls trailed by as many as 10 points in the second half, but took the lead for good in the extra period on Cory Pflieder's 3-pointer for a 67-66 score. Almond then made a 15-foot jumper and added two free throws with 1:06 showing for a 71-66 Owl lead.

Rodney Foster sank one of two free throws for a 72-66 Rice lead with 46 seconds showing. The Green Wave missed six of seven free throws in overtime.

Almond made just 4 of 17 shots from the field and sat out almost 12 minutes in the second half before entering the game in overtime. He still led Rice in scoring with 17 points, 12 below his season average.

Tulane had an opportunity to take the lead near the end of regulation, but sophomore center Robinson Louisme missed two free throws with 14 seconds left with the teams tied at 63. Rice then called timeout to set up the final shot, but Greg Killings was short on an 8-foot baseline shot at the buzzer.

Robinson's 19 points led four Green Wave players in double digits. Daniel Puckett added 14. David Gomez scored 11 and Matt Wheaton had 10.

Though the Green Wave outscored Rice 27 to 21 in field goals, it only made 10 of 25 free throw attempts on the night, while the Owls, C-USA's leading free throw shooting team, converted on 26 of 38 attempts.

Lorenzo Williams scored a season-high 15 for Rice, while Greg Killings added 7 points and a career-high 13 rebounds. Pflieder and Foster each scored 9 points off the bench.

The Green Wave led 44-34 early in the second half and still had a 59-52 lead with 5:45 remaining when Rice rallied to force overtime at 63-44.

Rice 75, Tulane 70

Jan. 10, 2007, at Atruy Court

Tulane	Min	FG-A	FT-A	OF-REB	A	PF	TP
Stith, f	26	0-4	3-6	5-8	1	3	3
Puckett, f	36	5-12	0-2	2-7	3	5	14
Louisme, c	23	8-13	3-7	6-11	0	5	19
Garcia, g	29	1-6	0-0	1-3	3	1	2
Wheaton, g	31	3-5	3-6	3-6	3	4	10
Sims	26	3-9	0-1	0-0	3	3	7
Moore	21	1-3	0-0	0-3	1	1	2
McQueen	11	1-2	0-1	0-1	0	1	2
Gomez	22	5-10	1-2	0-5	1	4	11
TEAM				1-3			
Totals		27-64	10-25	18-47	15	27	70

Team Pct.: FG - .422, FT - .400; **3-Pt.:** 6-18, .333 (Puckett 4-9, Wheaton 1-2, Sims 1-4, Garcia 0-1, Moore 0-2); **Blocks:** 5 (Louisme 2, Stith, Puckett, Moore); **Turnovers:** 20 (Garcia 5, Sims 4, Stith 2, Puckett 2, Louisme 2, Moore 2, McQueen 2); **Steals:** 7 (Wheaton 3, Stith, Louisme, Sims, Moore)

Rice	Min	FG-A	FT-A	OF-REB	A	PF	TP
Packevicius, f	18	0-2	1-2	2-6	0	3	1
Killings, c	32	3-7	1-4	4-13	0	5	7
Hagan, g	20	2-6	0-0	1-2	3	0	6
Williams, g	40	4-12	6-8	1-4	5	3	15
Almond, g	28	4-17	9-10	0-2	1	1	17
Foster	15	1-5	6-8	1-2	1	0	9
Pflieder	12	3-6	0-0	0-0	0	0	9
Belton	23	1-2	3-4	2-4	2	1	5
Ghoram	2	0-1	0-0	0-0	0	1	0
Britton	33	3-6	0-2	2-4	0	5	6
Perka	2	0-0	0-0	1-1	0	0	0
TEAM				2-3			
Totals		21-64	26-38	19-45	19	12	75

Team Pct.: FG - .328, FT - .684; **3-Pt.:** 7-18, .389 (Pflieder 3-5, Hagan 2-5, Williams 1-3, Almond 0-3); **Blocks:** 4 (Packevicius, Killings, Almond, Britton); **Turnovers:** 13 (Williams 3, Hagan 2, Almond 2, Foster, Belton, Packevicius, Killings); **Steals:** 8 (Almond 2, Williams 2, Packevicius, Hagan, Foster, Pflieder); **Halftime Score:** Tulane 38, Rice 30; **Officials:** Steve Welmer, Rick Randall, Jackie Sanders; **Technical Fouls:** None. **Attendance:** 1,295

Game 15

Jan. 13, 2007, at Greenville, N.C.

Rice 64, East Carolina 47

Morris Almond had a double-double with 18 points and 10 rebounds and Lorenzo Williams scored 17 to lead the Rice Owls to a 64 to 47 Conference USA victory over East Carolina in front of 4,902 fans at Williams Arena at Minges Coliseum in Greenville, N.C.

With the game tied at 10-10 the Owls went on a 10-0 run and were never threatened by the Pirates. ECU came back to within 8 at 22-14 but Almond drained two long-range bombs on consecutive trips to quell the Pirate uprising.

The Owls played solid defense, especially in the first-half as ECU only shot 16 percent from the field (5 of 31). For the game, ECU shot a paltry 27 percent (16-60) compared to the Owls at 43 percent (23-54).

Williams was back to his usual explosiveness following rehabilitation of a foot injury as he made 6 of 10 shots including 3 from beyond the arc and several swift drives to the bucket. Patrick Britton came off the bench to contribute to the Rice cause with 10 points and 7 rebounds.

The Pirates were led in scoring Courtney Captain's 18 points.

Rice 64, East Carolina 47

Jan. 13, 2007, at Greenville, N.C.

Rice	Min	FG-A	FT-A	OF-REB	A	PF	TP
Packevicius, f25	0-0	1-2	2-6	2	3	1	
Killings, c	23	2-4	0-0	2-6	0	3	4
Hagan, g	19	2-6	0-1	0-2	4	0	4
Williams, g	26	6-10	2-2	0-3	5	1	17
Almond, g	31	5-15	3-4	2-10	0	0	18
Bailey	2	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Foster	13	1-4	0-0	0-0	2	0	2
Belton	14	1-3	0-2	1-3	0	2	2
Pflieder	19	2-4	1-2	0-3	1	0	6
Ghoram	6	0-2	0-0	1-1	0	3	0
Britton	22	4-6	2-6	4-7	0	4	10
TEAM				0-1			
Totals		23-54	9-19	12-42	14	16	64

Team Pct.: FG - .426, FT - .474; **3-Pt.:** 9-19, .474 (Almond 5-7, Williams 3-6, Pflieder 1-2, Foster 0-2, Hagan 0-2); **Blocks:** (Killings 2); **Turnovers:** 7 (Killings, Hagan, Williams, Almond, Foster, Belton, Britton); **Steals:** 4 (Williams 2, Almond, Hagan)

East Carolina	Min	FG-A	FT-A	OF-REB	A	PF	TP
Fields, f	28	0-5	0-2	7-13	1	1	0
Blair, f	28	2-7	0-0	2-7	0	3	4
Captain, g	32	6-15	2-2	2-5	1	2	18
Ingram, g	16	0-5	0-0	1-2	0	3	0
Jenkins, g	31	2-11	0-0	0-1	6	1	6
Dilliard	19	2-4	2-5	2-3	0	2	6
Farmer	25	0-5	0-0	2-4	0	1	0
Gagnon	3	2-2	0-0	0-1	0	0	4
Ramsey	2	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Sargent	3	0-2	2-2	0-1	1	0	2
Evans	13	2-4	2-2	1-1	2	0	7
TEAM				0-4			
Totals		16-60	8-13	17-42	11	13	47

Team Pct.: FG - .267, FT - .615; **3-Pt.:** 7-28, .250 (Captain 4-11, Jenkins 2-7, Evans 1-2, Farmer 0-2, Ingram 0-4); **Blocks:** 2 (Fields, Ramsey); **Turnovers:** 6 (Blair 2, Captain 2, Jenkins, Team); **Steals:** 4 (Blair, Captain, Evans, Dillard); **Halftime Score:** Rice 34, ECU 18; **Officials:** Kyle Neve, James Durham, Mike Ashurst; **Technical Fouls:** None. **Attendance:** 4,902

Game 16

Jan. 17, 2007, at Autry Court

Rice 76, Houston 71

Morris Almond scored 19 of his 28 points in the second half as Rice overcame a 24-point Houston lead in the final 15 minutes for a 76-71 win Wednesday night. Almond also grabbed 11 rebounds for his fifth double-double of the season and ninth in his career. The Owls outscored Houston 52 to 29 in the second half.

The Cougars led 55-31 after Dion Dowell's 3-pointer with exactly 15 minutes remaining. Rice then went on a 37-12 run over the next 12:36 to take a 68-67 lead on Chris Hagan's steal and layup off an inbounds pass with 2:24 left.

Robert McKiver hit two free throws to give Houston a 69-68 lead. But the Owls responded with six straight points for the victory as Almond made two free throws with 1:06 left for a 70-69 Rice lead and Lorenzo Williams hit a 3-pointer with 33 seconds remaining for a 73-69 Owl lead after Dowell missed two free throws.

Almond then made three of four free throws in the final 19 seconds. He hit 18 of 20 free throws for the game to tie his own Rice and C-USA record for most free throws made in a game.

The Cougars used runs of 11-0 and 14-0 in the first half, helping them open a 42-24 lead at halftime.

Houston made 8 of 18 3-point attempts in the first half with McKiver connecting on four of nine attempts.

McKiver led Houston with 21 points. Oliver Lafayette added 15 and Jahmar Thorpe and Dowell each scored 11 for the Cougars.

Paulius Packevicius scored a career-high 11 points and Greg Killings also tallied 11 points and nine rebounds for the Owls.

Rice 76, Houston 71

Jan. 17, 2007, at Autry Court

Houston	Min	FG-A	FT-A	Of-REB	A	PF	TP
Thorpe, f	36	5-8	1-2	3-6	2	5	11
Dowell, g	28	4-6	0-2	1-5	1	5	11
McKiver, c	40	6-20	5-8	0-5	4	1	21
Malone, g	27	0-2	2-2	0-2	1	3	2
Lafayette, g	40	4-11	3-4	1-5	2	3	15
Lee	14	2-5	0-1	1-1	1	5	5
Mosley	13	2-3	0-0	1-4	0	3	4
Jones	2	0-0	2-2	1-1	0	0	2
TEAM				2-5			
Totals		23-55	13-21	10-34	11	26	71

Team Pct.: FG - .418, FT - .619; **3-Pt.:** 12-31, .387 (McKiver 4-14, Lafayette 4-9, Dowell 3-5, Lee 1-2, Malone 0-1); **Blocks:** 3 (Thorpe, Dowell, Lee); **Turnovers:** 18 (McKiver 6, Lafayette 5, Thorpe 2, Malone, Lee, Mosley, Jones, Team); **Steals:** 11 (Thorpe 4, Malone 3, McKiver 2, Lee 2)

Rice	Min	FG-A	FT-A	Of-REB	A	PF	TP
Packevicius, f	24	4-7	3-4	3-5	1	1	11
Killings, c	25	5-9	1-2	2-9	0	2	11
Hagan, g	20	2-4	0-0	0-0	2	3	5
Williams, g	26	1-6	3-6	0-0	6	3	6
Almond, g	37	5-14	18-20	2-11	1	4	28
Foster	14	1-2	0-0	0-2	2	1	3
Belton	12	0-0	0-0	0-1	0	1	0
Pflieder	18	2-5	0-0	0-2	2	2	6
Britton	24	2-4	2-2	0-2	1	2	6
TEAM				1-2			
Totals		22-51	27-34	8-34	15	19	76

Team Pct.: FG - .431, FT - .794; **3-Pt.:** 5-13, .385 (Pflieder 2-4, Hagan 1-2, Foster 1-1, Williams 1-3, Almond 0-3); **Blocks:** 1 (Killings); **Turnovers:** 16 (Almond 5, Foster 3, Hagan 3, Williams 2, Packevicius 2, Killings); **Steals:** 10 (Pflieder 3, Williams 2, Packevicius, Killings, Hagan, Almond, Britton); **Halftime Score:** Houston 42, Rice 24; **Officials:** Ted Hillary, Gerry Pollard, Ruben Ramos; **Technical Fouls:** None. **Attendance:** 2,389

Game 17

Jan. 20, 2007, at Orlando, Fla.

UCF 72, Rice 67

Dave Noel scored eight of his 10 points in the second half, including two with 5.6 seconds remaining, to help UCF preserve a 72-67 Conference USA victory over Rice on Saturday night in front of 3,807 fans, the third largest attended game in UCF history.

The Knights almost blew a 12-point second half lead, but went on to win its 12th straight game at home.

Rice led throughout most of the first half. Jermaine Taylor's slam dunk with 2:19 remaining brought the near-capacity crowd to its feet and gave UCF a 33-31 lead. The Knights took a 35-32 advantage into the locker room at halftime.

The Owls shot 31 percent from the floor in the first half, but out-rebounded the Knights, 31-22, including 13 on the offensive end.

In the second half, Rice pulled within 68-67 on a pair of free throws by Morris Almond with 53 seconds left. Lavell Payne had a slam dunk with 22 seconds remaining to put the Knights back up by three.

Almond attempted to tie the game but missed two 3-pointers before UCF's Dave Noel grabbed the rebound. Noel's two free throws sealed the victory.

Josh Peppers led UCF with 14 points. Mike O'Donnell added 11 points. Noel finished with eight assists.

Almond finished with 20 points, but was only 3-for-15 from the floor. Greg Killings had 15 points for Rice, which shot only 34 percent from the floor.

UCF 72, Rice 67

Jan. 20, 2007, at Orlando, Fla.

Rice	Min	FG-A	FT-A	Of-REB	A	PF	TP
Packevicius, f	29	1-4	2-2	3-3	0	3	4
Killings, c	21	6-8	3-4	5-6	1	2	15
Hagan, g	22	2-7	0-0	0-0	1	1	4
Williams, g	30	3-8	0-0	1-2	4	1	6
Almond, g	27	3-15	13-14	3-8	0	3	20
Foster	14	1-3	0-0	1-1	0	2	3
Belton	14	0-4	1-2	4-5	0	1	1
Pflieder	16	2-5	0-0	0-4	2	2	6
Ghoram	3	0-1	0-0	1-2	0	1	0
Britton	19	1-2	4-4	2-3	0	3	6
Perka	5	1-2	0-0	1-2	0	0	2
TEAM				1-1			
Totals		20-59	23-26	22-37	8	19	67

Team Pct.: FG - .339, FT - .885; **3-Pt.:** 4-18, .222 (Pflieder 2-5, Foster 1-1, Almond 1-7, Hagan 0-4, Williams 0-1); **Blocks:** 1 (Killings); **Turnovers:** 10 (Killings 3, Williams 2, Packevicius, Almond, Pflieder, Ghoram, Foster); **Steals:** 7 (Packevicius 2, Hagan 2, Killings, Williams, Almond)

UCF	Min	FG-A	FT-A	Of-REB	A	PF	TP
Payne, f	26	3-5	1-2	3-6	1	3	7
Peppers, f	34	3-7	6-8	0-2	0	3	14
Zondervan, c	24	4-5	0-0	0-3	1	2	8
Noel, g	30	2-2	6-6	1-3	8	3	10
O'Donnell, g	36	4-11	0-0	0-3	5	1	11
Taylor	21	3-6	0-0	0-1	1	4	8
Cartwright	1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Davis	11	3-3	0-0	0-2	0	3	8
Billings	6	0-3	2-2	2-2	0	1	2
Gill	8	1-1	0-0	1-1	0	3	2
Loucks	3	0-0	2-2	0-1	0	1	2
TEAM				0-2			
Totals		23-43	17-20	7-26	16	24	72

Team Pct.: FG - .535, FT - .850; **3-Pt.:** 9-18, .500 (O'Donnell 3-7, Taylor 2-4, Davis 2-2, Peppers 2-5); **Blocks:** 3 (Peppers, Zondervan 1, Gill); **Turnovers:** 17 (Payne 3, Taylor 3, Peppers 2, Davis 2, Noel, Zondervan, O'Donnell, Gill, Loucks); **Steals:** 6 (Payne 2, Zondervan, Noel, O'Donnell, Davis); **Halftime Score:** UCF 35, Rice 32; **Officials:** Andrew Walton, Warren Evans, Kyle Chambers; **Technical Fouls:** None. **Attendance:** 3,807

Game 18

Jan. 24, 2007, at Autry Court

Rice 73, UTEP 71

Morris Almond scored 29 points and grabbed a team-high 10 rebounds to help lead Rice to a 73-67 victory over UTEP before 1,401 fans on Wednesday night in Autry Court.

Almond was 11-of-18 from the field and 5-of-6 from the free throw line.

The Owls held UTEP to one field goal in the final five minutes.

Rice took the lead for good at 65-63 with 3:05 left on a basket by Almond. The Miners pulled to within two at 67-65 when Stefon Jackson made one of two free throws with 1:56 left.

But Lorenzo Williams scored on a layup for a 69-65 Owl lead and teammate Rodney Foster added a free throw with 47 seconds left to make it 70-65.

Maurice Thomas scored inside for UTEP with 32 seconds remaining for a 70-67 score, but Rice answered with a Cory Pflieger layup and a Foster free throw.

Pflieger finished with 15 points while Williams and Patrick Britton added 10 for the Owls. Williams also passed out a game-high 8 assists.

Thomas led UTEP with 17 points. Kevin Henderson scored 14 and Malik Alvin and Jackson each added 12.

UTEP led by as many as five points in the second half, and held a 57-52 lead before Rice's Pflieger hit two three straight 3-pointers to bring the Owls to within one at 59-58, then Williams hit a trey to tie the game at 61 with 4:05 remaining.

Rice 73, UTEP 67

Jan. 24, 2007, at Autry Court

UTEP	Min	FG-A	FT-A	Of-REB	A	PF	TP
Vanwright, f	11	0-1	1-2	1-1	1	1	1
Thomas, f	32	8-12	1-3	4-9	1	1	17
Alvin, g	29	2-8	7-8	1-1	3	1	12
Jackson, g	33	4-14	4-10	3-5	3	3	12
Kilgore, g	20	2-4	0-0	0-0	3	2	4
Henderson	32	5-9	0-0	1-2	2	2	14
Sampson	24	2-5	0-1	0-1	1	5	4
Clarke	12	0-2	0-0	0-0	0	1	0
Ramalho	7	1-2	1-3	3-7	0	3	3
TEAM				4-4			
Totals		24-57	14-27	13-30	14	18	67

Team Pct.: FG - .421, FT - .519; **3-Pt.:** 5-17, .294 (Henderson 4-7, Alvin 1-3, Vanwright 0-1, Clarke 0-1, Jackson 0-3, Sampson 0-2); **Blocks:** 5 (Sampson 2, Kilgore 2, Alvin); **Turnovers:** 17 (Alvin 5, Kilgore 2, Sampson 2, Clarke 2, Ramalho 2, Vanwright, Thomas Jackson, Henderson); **Steals:** 9 (Alvin 2, Jackson 2, Vanwright, Thomas, Henderson, Clarke, Ramalho)

Rice	Min	FG-A	FT-A	Of-REB	A	PF	TP
Packevicius, f	21	0-1	0-2	3-5	1	4	0
Killings, c	23	1-4	1-2	3-6	0	5	3
Hagan, g	18	0-3	0-0	0-2	3	3	0
Williams, g	31	4-11	0-0	1-1	8	3	10
Almond, g	36	11-18	5-6	3-10	1	2	29
Foster	16	0-2	4-7	0-3	4	2	4
Belton	9	1-1	0-0	0-2	0	0	2
Pflieder	20	6-8	0-0	0-3	1	1	15
Ghoram	1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Britton	23	2-3	6-6	0-5	1	5	10
Perka	2	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
TEAM				2-2			
Totals		25-51	16-23	12-39	19	25	73

Team Pct.: FG - .490, FT - .696; **3-Pt.:** 7-17, .412 (Pflieder 3-5, Almond 2-3, Williams 2-6, Foster 0-2, Hagan 0-1); **Blocks:** 5 (Killings 2, Almond, Belton, Britton); **Turnovers:** 20 (Almond 5, Williams 5, Packevicius 2, Britton 2, Foster 2, Hagan, Killings, Belton, Pflieder); **Steals:** 7 (Britton 3, Hagan 3, Williams); **Halftime Score:** Rice 34, UTEP 31; **Officials:** Michael Eggers, Jackie Sanders, Kevin Mathis; **Technical Fouls:** None. **Attendance:** 1,401

Game 19

Jan. 27, 2007, at New Orleans, La.

Tulane 75, Rice 55

The Tulane Green Wave jumped out to a 24-4 lead to start the game en route to defeating Rice 75-55 in front of 1,532 fans at Tulane's Fogelman Arena.

The Green Wave (9-9, 2-4) shot 45 percent in the first half and held Rice (10-9, 4-2) to just 20.8 percent shooting to post a 35-12 half time lead. Tulane limited the nation's third-leading scorer, Morris Almond, to 0-2 from the field in the first half and to only 1 point. Almond did score 21 second half points to lead all scorers on 8-15 shooting.

Tulane was led in scoring by David Gomez (17), Robinson Louisme (12), and Kevin Sims (11).

Loreno Williams added 10 points for Rice.

Tulane 75, Rice 55

Jan. 27, 2007, at New Orleans, La.

Rice	Min	FG-A	FT-A	OF-REB	A	PF	TP
Packevicius, f	26	2-4	2-4	1-6	0	3	6
Killings, c	17	2-8	0-0	2-6	0	3	4
Hagan, g	14	0-2	0-0	1-1	1	4	0
Williams, g	31	3-7	4-5	2-4	7	0	10
Almond, g	33	8-15	5-9	0-2	1	1	22
Foster	17	1-2	0-0	0-0	2	4	2
Belton	8	0-2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Pflieger	19	0-1	1-2	1-1	0	2	1
Ghoram	15	3-7	0-0	1-2	0	2	6
Britton	9	0-3	0-0	1-1	0	1	0
Perka	11	2-3	0-0	1-2	0	0	4
TEAM				0-1			
Totals		21-54	12-20	10-26	11	20	55

Team Pct.: FG - .389, FT - .600; **3-Pt.:** 1-9, .111 (Almond 1-3, Williams 0-3, Foster 0-1, Hagan 0-1); **Blocks:** 3 (Perka, Almond, Belton); **Turnovers:** 11 (Foster 3, Pflieger 2, Almond 2, Packevicius, Hagan, Williams, Britton); **Steals:** 8 (Hagan 2, Ghoram 2, Almond, Williams, Pflieger, Perka)

Tulane	Min	FG-A	FT-A	OF-REB	A	PF	TP
Gomez, f	28	7-14	3-3	1-4	2	3	17
Louisme, f	22	6-8	0-1	1-9	1	2	12
Sims, g	30	4-8	2-3	2-2	6	2	11
Moore, g	31	2-6	2-4	2-4	3	3	6
Wheaton, g	29	2-4	0-0	4-9	2	0	5
McQueen	12	1-2	3-4	0-2	0	2	5
Stith	15	3-6	0-0	2-5	2	0	6
Garcia	17	1-4	5-6	1-4	3	3	8
Castine	1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Puckett	16	2-6	1-2	1-3	2	3	5
TEAM				3-3			
Totals		28-58	16-23	17-45	21	18	75

Team Pct.: FG - .483, FT - .696; **3-Pt.:** 3-8, .375 (Sims 1-2, Wheaton 1-2, Garcia 1-1, Moore 0-2, Puckett 0-1); **Blocks:** 7 (Louisme 4, Stith 2, Wheaton); **Turnovers:** 12 (Moore 3, Gomez 2, Sims 2, Garcia 2, Wheaton, McQueen, Puckett); **Steals:** 9 (Sims 3, Garcia 3, Gomez, Moore, Stith); **Halftime Score:** Tulane 35, Rice 12; **Officials:** Steve Olson, James Breeding, Don Daily; **Technical Fouls:** None. **Attendance:** 1,532

Game 20

Jan. 31, 2007, at Autry Court

Houston 70, Rice 63

Despite not scoring a field goal in the final 7:34 of the game, the Houston Cougars held on to beat visiting Rice 70-63 in front of a season-best 6,115 fans at Hofheinz Pavilion.

Houston scored its last field goal, a trey by Robert McKiver, for a 56-49 lead at 7:34. The Cougars did make 14 of 20 free throws to finish the game.

The Owls were down 36-23 at the half as they committed 10 turnovers and only shot 37 percent from the field. In the second half, Rice rallied and a Morris Almond three-pointer brought Rice to within four at 65-61 at 3:02. Following at McKiver made free throw, the Owls' Lorenzo Williams drove and scored to cut the lead to three at 66-63 with 44 ticks on the clock. Houston's Jahmar Thorpe then made two free throws to push it back to a five-point contest.

Morris Almond led Rice (10-10, 4-3) with 21 points and 8 rebounds, while Rodney Foster scored 11 points off the bench. Greg Killings led the Owls on the glass with 12 rebounds.

UH, which received zero points from its reserves, was led by McKiver's 21 points. Dion Dowell and Jahmar Thorpe each scored 16 for Houston.

Houston 70, Rice 63

Jan. 31, 2007, at Hofheinz Pavilion

Rice	Min	FG-A	FT-A	OF-REB	A	PF	TP
Packevicius, f	19	2-2	0-0	1-3	1	4	4
Killings, c	31	3-8	0-4	4-12	2	3	6
Williams, g	29	3-10	2-4	0-2	4	2	8
Almond, g	36	8-16	2-3	1-8	1	4	21
Pflieger, g	17	0-2	1-2	0-2	1	2	1
Hagan	13	1-3	0-0	0-0	2	1	3
Foster	19	4-8	0-0	0-1	2	2	11
Belton	6	1-1	0-0	1-2	1	1	2
Britton	28	3-6	1-2	5-7	1	4	7
Perka	2	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	1	0
TEAM				0-1			
Totals		25-56	6-15	12-38	15	24	63

Team Pct.: FG - .446, FT - .400; **3-Pt.:** 7-17, .412 (Almond 3-4, Foster 3-5, Hagan 1-3, Williams 0-3); **Blocks:** 2 (Britton, Almond); **Turnovers:** 14 (Foster 3, Williams 2, Almond 2, Belton 2, Britton 2, Pflieger, Packevicius, Killings); **Steals:** 8 (Williams 3, Britton 3, Foster 2)

Houston	Min	FG-A	FT-A	OF-REB	A	PF	TP
Dowell, f	36	5-8	5-9	5-12	0	4	16
Thorpe, f	40	6-11	4-4	2-5	1	2	16
McKiver, g	38	4-15	10-14	1-6	4	2	21
Malone, g	34	2-5	0-0	1-4	1	3	5
Lafayette, g	38	4-16	2-3	4-7	5	4	12
Lee	7	0-1	0-0	0-0	1	0	0
Mosley	5	0-0	0-0	0-2	0	0	0
Jones	2	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
TEAM				1-2			
Totals		21-56	21-30	14-38	12	15	70

Team Pct.: FG - .375, FT - .700; **3-Pt.:** 7-33, .212 (McKiver 3-12, Lafayette 2-11, Dowell 1-4, Malone 1-4, Lee 0-1, Thorpe 0-1); **Blocks:** 4 (Dowell 2, Thorpe, Lafayette); **Turnovers:** 10 (McKiver 5, Lafayette 2, Dowell, Thorpe, Malone); **Steals:** 8 (Lafayette, Malone 2, Dowell, Thorpe, McKiver); **Halftime Score:** Houston 36, Rice 23; **Officials:** Terry Moore, Rick Randall, Randy Heinerman; **Technical Fouls:** None. **Attendance:** 6,115

Game 21

Feb. 3, 2007, at Autry Court

Rice 83, East Carolina 74

Rice's Morris Almond scored a game-high 34 points as the Owls came from behind to beat East Carolina 83-74 in front of 1,543 fans at Autry Court. The Owls were down 42-37 at the half but outscored the Pirates 46 to 32 in the second half for the win.

By scoring 34 points, Almond now has moved into fifth place on the career Rice scoring chart with 1,556 points. Also it was his sixth game this season in which he has scored 30 or more points and 13th in his career.

The Owls were down 51-45 at the 16 minute mark in the second half when they went on a 13-2 run to forge a 58-53 lead that they would not surrender to. In that stretch Almond tallied 7 points, while Aleks Perka scored four of his career-high 8 points and Patrick Britton started the run with a bucket.

ECU battled back to make it 73-70, but Lorenzo Williams, who scored a season-high 20 points, converted two free throws to start a late 6-0 run as Britton made two free throws and Almond two free throws as well to give Rice a 79-70 lead with 30 seconds remaining.

Rice made 12 of 14 free throws in the final 3:35 of the game.

The Pirates were led in scoring by Courtney Captain's 21 points, while John Fields and Cory Farmer each added 15. ECU shot 56.3 percent from the field, including 9 of 17 from beyond the arc.

Rice shot the ball equally well by making 52.2 percent for the game. The Owls made 30 of 38 free throws to the Pirates' 11 of 17.

Rice 83, East Carolina 74

Jan. 31, 2007, at Autry Court

East Carolina	Min	FG-A	FT-A	OF-REB	A	PF	TP
Fields, f	29	5-6	5-7	1-6	0	5	15
Blair, f	28	2-5	1-2	1-7	2	5	5
Farmer, g	35	5-8	2-3	0-4	3	4	15
Captain, g	33	8-14	0-0	0-2	2	3	21
Jenkins, g	20	3-7	0-0	1-2	5	4	6
Dillard	1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Gagnon	19	2-2	3-4	1-2	1	3	7
Ingram	16	1-4	0-0	2-2	2	2	3
Sweeley	1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Ramsey	3	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Sargent	1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Evans	14	1-2	0-1	0-0	1	1	2
TEAM				0-2			
Totals		27-48	11-17	6-27	16	27	74

Team Pct.: FG - .563, FT - .647; **3-Pt.:** 9-17, .529 (Captain 5-9, Farmer 3-4, Ingram 1-2); **Blocks:** 1 (Fields); **Turnovers:** 21 (Jenkins 5, Captain 5, Farmer 4, Fields, Blair, Dillard, Gagnon, Ingram, Ramsey, Evans); **Steals:** 7 (Evans 2, Blair 2, Gagnon 2, Fields)

Rice	Min	FG-A	FT-A	OF-REB	A	PF	TP
Packevicius, f	28	2-3	5-7	2-4	0	3	9
Britton, f	25	3-5	2-3	1-2	0	3	8
Williams, g	33	4-10	10-12	1-4	6	2	20
Almond, g	31	10-16	12-14	1-7	2	3	34
Pflieger, g	13	1-3	0-0	0-1	0	1	3
Hagan	22	0-2	0-0	0-1	1	2	0
Foster	23	0-3	1-2	0-1	4	0	1
Belton	3	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Ghoram	4	0-0	0-0	0-1	0	2	0
Perka	18	4-4	0-0	0-4	0	3	8
TEAM				1-1			
Totals		24-46	30-38	6-26	13	19	83

Team Pct.: FG - .522, FT - .789; **3-Pt.:** 5-17, .294 (Almond 2-3, Williams 2-6, Pflieger 1-3, Hagan 0-2, Foster 0-3); **Blocks:** 1 (Britton); **Turnovers:** 14 (Perka 4, Almond 3, Williams 2, Britton 2, Packevicius); **Steals:** 7 (Williams 2, Almond 2, Foster 2, Ghoram); **Halftime Score:** ECU 42, Rice 37; **Officials:** Jeff Malham, Greg Renegar, Warren Evans; **Technical Fouls:** None. **Attendance:** 1,543

Game 22

Feb. 7, 2007, at Autry Court

Rice 70, Southern Miss 50

Morris Almond abused the Southern Miss defense by scoring 35 points as the Rice Owls defeated Southern Miss by 15, 70 to 55 in front of 1,305 fans at Autry Court.

Almond, proved why is the C-USA Player of the Year, as he drained shots from all over the court despite being face-guarded and double-teamed. He shot 67 percent as he made 14 field goals in only 21 attempts. The senior also nailed 4 of 4 from three-point range and he converted all three free throw attempts. It is the seventh time this year that he has scored 30 or more points.

The Owls built a 30-22 halftime lead by shooting 59 percent and held the Golden Eagles to just 39 percent.

Rice went up by 10 (38-28) on a Cory Pflieger trey at the 17:09 mark in the second half, but Southern Miss, after calling timeout, went on a 8-0 run of its owns to be down only at 38-36. But, Almond gave Rice a 41-36 cushion by making an old fashion three-point play to quench the Golden Eagles mini-run.

For the game, the Owls made 58.3 percent from the field, including 7 of 12 from beyond the arc (58.3 percent). Southern Miss made 42 percent from the field but only 2 out of 12 from three-point range.

The Golden Eagles were led by Sai'Quon Stone and Jeremy Wise who each scored 17 points.

Lorenzo Williams totaled 11 points and four assists, while Pflieger added 8. Paulius Packevicius scored 6 and also led Rice with 6 rebounds.

Rice 70, Southern Miss 55

Feb. 7, 2007, at Autry Court

Southern Miss	Min	FG-A	FT-A	OF-REB	A	PF	TP
Bain, c	12	0-1	0-0	0-1	0	1	0
Beasley, g	16	3-8	0-0	1-1	0	4	6
Green, g	40	0-3	0-0	0-6	3	3	0
Wise, g	39	6-15	4-4	2-5	6	3	17
Stone, g	37	5-8	7-9	1-3	1	3	17
Craft	12	3-6	0-0	2-3	2	1	6
Hill	2	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Zuffa	14	1-4	0-0	0-0	0	0	3
Stephens	14	1-1	0-0	1-2	0	0	2
Dotson	14	2-4	0-0	1-1	0	1	4
TEAM				3-3			
Totals	21-50	11-3	11-25	12	16	55	

Team Pct.: FG - .420, FT - .846; **3-Pt.:** 2-12, .167 (Wise 1-5, Zuffa 1-3, Beasley 0-1, Green 0-1, Craft 0-2); **Blocks:** 2 (Bain 2); **Turnovers:** 19 (Wise 6, Green 4, Stone 3, Zuffa 3, Stephens, Hill, Craft); **Steals:** 10 (Green 4, Dotson 2, Zuffa 2, Wise 2)

Rice	Min	FG-A	FT-A	OF-REB	A	PF	TP
Packevicius, f	32	3-4	0-0	1-6	2	2	6
Britton, f	16	0-4	0-0	1-1	1	4	0
Williams, g	29	4-6	2-2	0-3	4	2	11
Almond, g	38	14-21	3-3	0-2	0	2	35
Pflieger, g	25	3-5	0-0	1-3	1	0	8
Hagan	8	0-0	2-2	0-0	4	2	2
Foster	18	0-3	0-0	0-2	3	0	0
Belton	13	1-1	0-0	1-1	0	1	2
Ghoram	7	1-1	0-0	1-1	0	1	2
Perka	14	2-3	0-0	1-5	1	2	4
TEAM				1-2			
Totals	28-48	7-7	6-26	16	16	70	

Team Pct.: FG - .583, FT - 1.000; **3-Pt.:** 7-12, .583 (Almond 4-4, Pflieger 2-3, Williams 1-2, Foster 0-3); **Blocks:** 4 (Britton 2, Packevicius 2, Almond 2, Hagan 2, Belton, Ghoram, Perka); **Turnovers:** 17 (Williams 4, Britton 2, Packevicius 2, Almond 2, Hagan 2, Belton, Ghoram, Perka); **Steals:** 10 (Packevicius 3, Williams, Almond, Pflieger, Hagan, Foster, Belton, Ghoram); **Halftime Score:** Rice 30, Southern Miss 22; **Officials:** Mike Thibodeaux, Larry Rose, Michael Eggers; **Technical Fouls:** None. **Attendance:** 1,305

Game 23

Feb. 10, 2007, at Dallas, Texas

Rice 63, SMU 60

Morris Almond scored a game-high 29 points including two three-pointers in the final two minutes to lead Rice to a 63 to 60 road victory over SMU in front of 2,588 fans at Moody Coliseum.

Almond scored 10 of Rice's final 12 points, with Lorenzo Williams scoring the other bucket for two of his 14 points.

The game was tied at 57-57 with 2:11 remaining when Almond nailed a dropped a deep trey from the left wing. But, SMU's Jon Killen tied it up when he was fouled on a made layup and he converted the ensuing free throw at 1:31. On the next possession, Almond again drilled a long three to give the Owls the win.

SMU had a chance to send the game to overtime, but Brian Epp's shot over Almond from 22 feet at the top of the key hit the front end of the rim.

The Mustangs got it rolling in the first half as it forged a 34-22 lead on a trey by Dez Willingham. The Owls did end the half on a 6-0 run to be down by only 6. SMU shot 52 percent in the first half to Rice's 40 percent, but in the second half the Owls heated up to shoot 57 percent and held the Mustangs to only 35 percent from the field.

Williams scored 10 of Rice's first 11 points in the second half to tie the game at 39, and then an Almond trey, his first of four in the second half gave Rice a 42-41 lead (13:51).

Rice 63, SMU 60

Feb. 10, 2007, at Dallas, Texas

Rice	Min	FG-A	FT-A	OF-REB	A	PF	TP
Packevicius, f	21	1-2	0-0	2-7	2	2	2
Britton, f	24	2-4	0-0	0-3	0	5	4
Williams, g	33	6-11	0-0	0-6	6	0	14
Almond, g	38	8-18	9-10	0-4	0	2	29
Pflieger, g	15	1-2	0-2	1-1	0	0	3
Hagan	3	1-1	0-2	0-1	0	0	2
Foster	23	2-3	0-0	0-1	2	0	5
Belton	12	0-1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Ghoram	8	0-1	0-0	0-0	0	1	0
Perka	23	2-5	0-0	1-2	0	2	4
TEAM				0-0			
Totals	23-48	9-14	4-25	10	12	63	

Team Pct.: FG - .479, FT - .643; **3-Pt.:** 8-17, .471 (Almond 4-8, Williams 2-5, Pflieger 1-2, Foster 1-2); **Blocks:** 3 (Britton, Perka, Packevicius); **Turnovers:** 10 (Almond 3, Foster 2, Williams 2, Pflieger); **Steals:** 7 (Belton 2, Foster 2, Williams 2, Packevicius)

SMU	Min	FG-A	FT-A	OF-REB	A	PF	TP
Ofoegbu, f	36	6-10	4-5	5-12	2	2	16
Epps, f	31	3-10	0-2	1-2	0	2	9
Fall, c	24	2-5	2-2	2-4	0	1	6
Willingham, g	33	3-6	0-0	0-0	4	1	1
Killen, g	29	3-6	1-1	0-1	4	4	8
Pearson	25	2-8	2-2	1-9	0	3	6
Robertson	12	1-3	0-0	0-0	1	0	2
Rackauskas	10	2-3	0-0	0-3	0	1	4
TEAM				0-0			
Totals	22-51	9-12	9-31	11	14	60	

Team Pct.: FG - .431, FT - .750; **3-Pt.:** 7-23, .304 (Epps 3-10, Willingham 3-5, Killen 1-4, Ofoegbu 0-2, Roberts 0-2); **Blocks:** 0; **Turnovers:** 15 (Killen 4, Ofoegbu 2, Epps 2, Fall 2, Willingham 2, Rackauskas 2, Pearson); **Steals:** 2 (Ofoegbu, Pearson); **Halftime Score:** SMU 34, Rice 28; **Officials:** David Maracich, Kelly Self, Terry Oglesby; **Technical Fouls:** None. **Attendance:** 2,588

Game 24

Feb. 14, 2007, at Birmingham, Ala.

UAB 84, Rice 73

Mawrence Kinnard scored 21 points and Wen Mukubu added 20 to lead UAB to an 83-74 victory over Rice Wednesday night.

Paul Delaney III scored 15 points and Mukubu added 10 rebounds, eight assists and three steals for UAB.

Morris Almond scored 28 points to lead Rice. Cory Pflieger scored 17 points, and Lorenzo Williams had 10 points and seven assists for the Owls.

UAB led 38-35 at halftime, but Rice got off to a quick start in the second half. Almond hit a jump shot in the lane and Pflieger hit two 3-pointers to help Rice take a 51-44 lead.

UAB used strong inside play to come back. Freshman reserve center Jeremy Mayfield scored three straight baskets inside to spark a 13-2 Blazer run. Two inside baskets by Frank Holmes and a 3-point play by Mukubu gave UAB a 57-53 lead.

The Blazers went on to lead by as many as 13 points. Rice pulled to within 75-66 with two minutes left on a 3-pointer by Williams. But the Owls could get no closer as Delaney, Mukubu and Kinnard combined to hit seven free throws down the stretch.

UAB 84, Rice 73

Feb. 14, 2007, at Birmingham, Ala.

Rice	Min	FG-A	FT-A	OF-REB	A	PF	TP
Packevicius, f	25	2-7	0-0	1-3	0	5	4
Britton, f	23	2-3	2-3	0-0	1	4	6
Williams, g	38	4-7	0-0	1-6	7	2	10
Almond, g	38	10-22	7-7	0-6	1	4	28
Pflieger, g	29	6-9	0-0	0-4	1	1	17
Hagan	2	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Foster	13	2-5	0-0	0-1	0	2	6
Belton	7	1-1	0-0	0-1	0	1	2
Ghoram	7	0-3	0-0	1-1	0	0	0
Perka	18	0-1	0-0	1-5	0	5	0
TEAM				0-0			
Totals	27-58	9-10	4-27	11	24	73	

Team Pct.: FG - .466, FT - .900; **3-Pt.:** 10-21, .476 (Pflieger 5-8, Foster 2-4, Williams 2-4, Almond 1-5); **Blocks:** 0; **Turnovers:** 12 (Almond 5, Packevicius 2, Britton, Pflieger, Hagan, Foster, Perka); **Steals:** 6 (Almond 4, Williams, Pflieger)

UAB	Min	FG-A	FT-A	OF-REB	A	PF	TP
Holmes, f	24	4-5	0-3	0-6	0	0	8
Kinnard, f	35	7-12	2-4	2-9	0	4	21
Mukubu, f	37	6-13	6-7	3-10	8	2	20
Gibbs, g	27	2-6	2-2	1-2	2	0	8
Delaney, g	37	5-8	5-8	0-4	7	2	15
Davis	10	0-0	0-0	1-2	1	0	0
Dortch	16	1-4	2-2	0-2	0	2	4
Mayfield	14	4-5	0-3	1-1	0	3	8
TEAM				1-1			
Totals	29-53	17-29	9-37	18	13	84	

Team Pct.: FG - .547, FT - .586; **3-Pt.:** 9-23, .391 (Kinnard 5-7, Mukubu 2-6, Gibbs 2-6, Delaney 0-2, Dortch 0-2); **Blocks:** 0; **Turnovers:** 13 (Mukubu 4, Kinnard 3, Dortch 3, Mayfield, Holmes, Delaney); **Steals:** 5 (Mukubu 3, Delaney 2); **Halftime Score:** UAB 38, Rice 35; **Officials:** Steve Olson, Terry Moore, Rick Crawford; **Technical Fouls:** None. **Attendance:** 3,131

Game 25

Feb. 17, 2007, at Autry Court

UCF 74, Rice 63

Josh Peppers scored 18 points to lead UCF to a 74-63 win over Rice on Saturday night in front of 1,074 fans at Autry Court.

Lavell Payne and Dave Noel added 16 points each for the Golden Knights, who scored 17 consecutive points from the free-throw line during a 7-minute stretch of the second half. The Golden Knights missed one attempt from the line during that run, extending a six-point lead to 11.

Rice made 24 field goals to UCF's 22, but the Golden Knights shot 31 free throws, including 20 in the second half, and made 24 of them to pull out the road win. The Owls went to the line 14 times and converted on 12.

Morris Almond was held to 13 points - 15 below his season average - and scored only two points in the second half for Rice. Lorenzo Williams scored a team-high 16 points and Chris Hagan finished with 11.

UCF led 41-31 at halftime, thanks to 12 points apiece from Payne and Peppers. The Golden Knights led by as many as 15 points before the break.

UCF 74, Rice 63

Feb. 17, 2007, at Autry Court

UCF	Min	FG-A	FT-A	OF-REB	A	PF	TP
Payne, f	34	4-7	7-7	3-6	2	4	16
Zondervan, f	17	2-5	0-0	2-6	1	3	4
Peppers, f	33	7-16	1-3	3-6	1	1	18
Noel, g	21	2-2	11-12	1-3	2	4	16
O'Donnell, g	31	2-5	1-3	0-2	1	1	6
Taylor	30	4-9	0-2	2-6	2	2	8
Cartwright	12	1-2	4-4	0-1	2	0	6
Battle	1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Davis	13	0-2	0-0	0-2	2	1	0
Billings	5	0-0	0-0	1-2	0	1	0
Gill	3	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
TEAM				1-3			
Totals		22-48	24-31	13-37	13	17	74

Team Pct.: FG - .458, FT - .774; **3-Pt.:** 6-11, .545 (Peppers 3-4, Noel 1-1, Payne 1-1, O'Donnell 1-3, Taylor 0-1, Cartwright 0-1); **Blocks:** 0; **Turnovers:** 18 (Payne 5, Peppers 4, O'Donnell 2, Taylor 2, Cartwright 2, Noel, Davis, Billings); **Steals:** 10 (Cartwright 3, Peppers 2, Noel 2, O'Donnell 2, Payne)

Rice	Min	FG-A	FT-A	OF-REB	A	PF	TP
Packevicius, f	23	4-4	0-0	2-3	0	4	8
Britton, f	18	0-5	5-6	1-3	1	4	5
Williams, g	26	7-9	0-1	0-2	3	2	16
Almond, g	32	3-13	6-6	0-6	2	2	13
Pflieder, g	17	0-3	0-0	0-3	0	3	0
Hagan	21	5-8	1-1	0-0	3	4	11
Foster	25	1-5	0-0	0-2	1	4	2
Belton	17	1-1	0-0	0-1	0	1	2
Ghoram	7	0-0	0-0	0-1	0	0	0
Perka	14	3-3	0-0	1-1	0	2	6
TEAM				0-0			
Totals		24-51	12-14	4-22	10	26	63

Team Pct.: FG - .471, FT - .857; **3-Pt.:** 3-17, .176 (Williams 2-4, Almond 1-4, Pflieder 0-3, Foster 0-4, Hagan 0-2); **Blocks:** 4 (Packevicius, Britton, Almond, Ghoram); **Turnovers:** 14 (Williams 3, Almond 3, Foster 3, Hagan 2, Belton, Perka, Packevicius); **Steals:** 10 (Hagan 3, Foster 2, Britton 2, Packevicius 2, Belton); **Halftime Score:** UCF 41, Rice 31; **Officials:** Duke Edsall, Bobby Jacobs, Tim Gattis; **Technical Fouls:** Rice: Williams; Team. **Attendance:** 1,074

Game 26

Feb. 22, 2007, at Memphis, Tenn.

#7 Memphis 99, Rice 63

Willie Kemp scored 20 points to help No. 7 Memphis beat Rice 99-63 on Thursday night and clinch its second-straight Conference USA title. The victory extended Memphis' winning streak to 16 straight, longest in the nation. Memphis also has won 28 straight at home.

Memphis, which started the game 0-for-7 from 3-point range, ended up shooting 47 percent from outside the arc. Kemp hit four of his six 3-pointers.

Jeremy Hunt finished with 16 points for Memphis, while Antonio Anderson and Chris Douglas-Roberts added 14 each. Robert Dozier scored 10 points. Anderson was also in charge of the defensive assignment on Rice guard Morris Almond, the conference's leading scorer, and third-best in the nation. Almond was held to just 15 points with 10 rebounds. Cory Pflieder scored 10 for the Owls.

The Tigers carried a 52-34 lead at the half after Hunt came off the bench to pull them out of an offensive funk with 12 first-half points, all of his field goals coming from 3-point range. Anderson added 11 points, while Douglas-Roberts scored 10.

Memphis struggled early when Rice went to a zone. The Tigers misfired from outside the defense, missing their first seven 3-pointers. That allowed Rice to put together a 14-2 run, erasing an early 9-0 Memphis lead.

With Almond on the bench with Rice holding a 19-16 lead, Memphis went on a run hitting eight 3-pointers and building the lead to 21.

Memphis continued to maintain the lead in the second half as Kemp was the one who started connecting from 3-point range, assuring Memphis of repeating as the outright C-USA regular season champions.

Memphis 99, Rice 63

Feb. 22, 2007, at Memphis, Tenn.

Rice	Min	FG-A	FT-A	OF-REB	A	PF	TP
Packevicius, f	29	0-4	4-4	3-5	1	3	4
Britton, f	28	2-7	2-3	0-0	0	2	6
Williams, g	29	2-6	3-3	0-4	6	0	8
Almond, g	31	5-14	4-5	1-10	3	2	15
Pflieder, g	18	4-6	0-0	0-2	2	1	10
Hagan	16	3-8	0-0	1-2	1	0	6
Foster	17	2-5	1-2	0-2	2	0	6
Belton	9	1-3	0-0	1-1	1	1	2
Ghoram	3	0-1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Perka	20	3-5	0-0	2-3	0	3	6
TEAM				3-4			
Totals		22-59	14-17	11-33	16	12	63

Team Pct.: FG - .373, FT - .824; **3-Pt.:** 5-16, .313 (Pflieder 2-4, Almond 1-3, Williams 1-2, Foster 1-2, Hagan 0-3, Ghoram 0-1); **Blocks:** 3 (Packevicius 2, Almond); **Turnovers:** 20 (Almond 6, Britton 5, Williams 4, Packevicius, Hagan, Foster, Belton); **Steals:** 6 (Britton 2, Packevicius, Williams, Almond, Perka)

Memphis	Min	FG-A	FT-A	OF-REB	A	PF	TP
Dozier, f	22	4-9	2-3	2-7	0	2	10
Dorsey, f	18	3-4	1-1	2-6	1	3	7
Kemp, g	25	8-10	0-0	0-0	2	0	20
Anderson, g	30	5-11	0-0	1-5	6	2	14
Douglas-Roberts, g	18	6-9	2-3	1-3	5	4	14
Wade	4	1-1	0-0	0-0	0	0	3
Willis	11	1-3	0-0	1-3	2	1	2
Niles	10	0-0	0-0	1-4	0	1	0
Hunt	26	5-13	1-2	0-2	1	1	16
Allen	21	1-3	2-2	0-2	5	2	4
Sandridge	3	1-1	0-0	1-1	0	0	3
Bailey	1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Cooper	10	3-4	0-0	1-4	0	1	6
McGrady	1	0-1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
TEAM				1-1			
Totals		38-69	8-11	10-38	22	17	99

Team Pct.: FG - .551, FT - .727; **3-Pt.:** 15-32, .469 (Hunt 5-11, Anderson 4-8, Kemp 4-6, Sandridge 1-1, Wade 1-1, Allen 0-2, Willis 0-1, Douglas-Roberts 0-1, Dozier 0-1); **Blocks:** 9 (Dorsey 7, Dozier 1, Anderson 1); **Turnovers:** 12 (Dozier 3, Douglas-Roberts 2, Hunt 2, Dorsey, Willis, Niles, Allen, Cooper); **Steals:** 11 (Kemp 3, Anderson 3, Dorsey 2, Douglas-Roberts, Allen); **Halftime Score:** Memphis 52, Rice 34; **Officials:** Jim Burr, Ted Hillary, Tim Higgins; **Technical Fouls:** Rice: Williams; Team. **Attendance:** 1,074

Game 27

Feb. 24, 2007, at Autry Court

Rice 75, SMU 66

Morris Almond scored nine of his 19 points in the final six minutes as Rice pulled away with a 75-66 win over SMU.

After the opening minute, Rice trailed only once, but the Mustangs stayed close much of the game. SMU tied the game at 52 on a Derrick Roberts jumper with 10:10 left only to have the Owls go on a 10-2 run to open a 62-54 cushion with 4:24 showing. Sophomore Aleks Perka, in his first career start hit two buckets to break the tie en route to a career-high 12 points.

Almond also scored four points in that surge and five points afterward to help seal the victory.

The win offset a 30-point performance by SMU's Ike Ofoegbu, who connected on 11 of 15 shots from the field. Jon Killen added 12 points for the Mustangs while Dez Willingham and Donatas Rackauskas each scored 10.

Also scoring in double digits for Rice were Lorenzo Williams and Patrick Britton, each with 10 points. The Owls shot 61 percent from the field and their defense held SMU to only 37 percent.

Rice reeled off 11 unanswered points to open a 13-3 advantage with 13:39 left in the half. The Owls maintained a comfortable lead much of the first half, opening their biggest lead at 30-18 on a Rodney Foster trey with 4:11 showing.

Rice eventually settled for a 34-28 lead at halftime.

UCF 74, Rice 63

Feb. 24, 2007, at Autry Court

SMU	Min	FG-A	FT-A	OF-REB	A	PF	TP
Ofoegbu, f	40	11-15	3-3	4-10	0	3	30
Rackauskas, f	36	2-6	5-6	5-10	3	4	36
Willingham, f	35	3-12	2-2	1-2	0	4	10
Killen, g	40	4-14	2-2	0-2	6	3	12
Roberts, g	40	1-10	0-0	1-1	5	0	2
Ritter	5	1-2	0-0	1-2	0	0	2
Spencer	4	0-0	0-0	0-1	0	0	0
TEAM				1-2			
Totals		22-59	10-11	13-30	14	14	66

Team Pct.: FG - .373, FT - .909; **3-Pt.:** 12-33, .364 (Ofoegbu 5-7, Killen 4-10, Willingham 2-8, Rackauskas 1-1, Roberts 0-7); **Blocks:** 1; **Turnovers:** 12 (Killen 4, Rackauskas 3, Ofoegbu 2, Willingham 2, Spencer); **Steals:** 5 (Rackauskas 2, Ofoegbu 1, Killen, Roberts)

Rice	Min	FG-A	FT-A	OF-REB	A	PF	TP
Packevicius, f	22	2-3	2-4	1-3	1	2	6
Perka, f	26	6-7	0-1	1-5	1	3	12
Williams, g	30	5-7	0-0	0-3	9	2	10
Almond, g	30	7-11	3-3	0-5	2	1	19
Pflieder, g	17	2-5	0-0	0-2	1	2	5
Hagan	10	1-3	1-1	1-1	2	1	3
Foster	23	2-4	2-2	0-3	0	0	8
Belton	10	1-3	0-0	0-1	1	1	2
Ghoram	3	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Britton	29	4-6	2-3	2-4	1	2	10
TEAM				0-3			
Totals		30-49	10-14	5-30	18	14	75

Team Pct.: FG - .612, FT - .714; **3-Pt.:** 5-14, .357 (Almond 2-4, Foster 2-4, Pflieder 1-3, Williams 0-2, Hagan 0-1); **Blocks:** 2 (Almond, Britton); **Turnovers:** 13 (Almond 9, Britton 3, Hagan); **Steals:** 2 (Williams 2); **Halftime Score:** Rice 34, SMU 28; **Officials:** Rick Randall, Bobby Jacobs, David Maracich; **Technical Fouls:** None **Attendance:** 1,579

Game 28

Feb. 28, 2007, at Huntington, W.Va.

Marshall 69, Rice 64

Mark Dorris scored 18 points and had a key defensive play to lead Marshall to a 69-64 victory over Rice on Wednesday evening.

Markel Humphrey added 16 points, including two key baskets down the stretch, and Tre Whitted had 10 points for the Thundering Herd.

Morris Almond was the only Rice player in double figures with 29 points and a game-high nine rebounds. The senior is third in the nation in scoring.

After Almond dominated the early part of the second half, the two teams traded baskets in the final three minutes. Humphrey scored on consecutive layups in the final 90 seconds to give Marshall a 67-64 lead.

After calling a timeout, sophomore Cory Pflieger got Dorris in the air, but Jean-Francois Bro Grebe jumped out and forced Pflieger to hesitate his shot.

The hesitation was all Dorris needed to get back and block the shot while controlling the rebound. He then sank two free throws to give Marshall the victory.

Marshall 69, Rice 64

Feb. 28, 2007, at Huntington, W.Va.

Rice	Min	FG-A	FT-A	OF-REB	A	PF	TP
Packevicius, f	25	1-3	2-2	4-7	2	4	4
Perka, f	27	3-7	0-2	2-5	0	2	6
Williams, g	31	3-7	0-0	1-3	6	4	8
Almond, g	35	11-20	3-5	3-9	0	2	29
Pflieger, g	16	3-6	0-0	0-2	2	1	8
Hagan	7	0-2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Foster	26	1-2	2-2	1-3	3	1	5
Belton	5	0-0	0-0	0-1	0	2	0
Britton	28	1-3	2-4	0-5	3	2	4
TEAM				2-3			
Totals		23-50	9-15	13-38	16	18	64

Team Pct.: FG - .460, FT - .600; **3-Pt.:** 9-20, .450 (Almond 4-6, Pflieger 2-4, Williams 2-6, Foster 1-2, Hagan 0-2); **Blocks:** 2 (Pflieger, Almond); **Turnovers:** 22 (Williams 8, Almond 7, Perka 2, Packevicius, Hagan, Foster, Britton); **Steals:** 3 (Britton, Almond, Packevicius)

Marshall	Min	FG-A	FT-A	OF-REB	A	PF	TP
Aikens, f	17	0-4	2-2	2-2	1	3	2
Humphrey, f	37	7-15	2-5	2-7	3	3	16
Bro Grebe, g	18	2-4	0-1	0-2	1	3	4
Ross, g	37	3-6	2-2	0-1	6	1	9
Whitted, g	29	3-8	1-2	2-3	2	2	10
Merthie	3	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	1	0
Jackson	6	0-1	2-4	0-1	0	0	2
Marshall	8	0-0	1-2	0-1	0	1	1
Dorris	29	6-15	5-5	1-3	1	2	18
TEAM				1-1			
Totals		24-58	16-25	14-32	14	10	69

Team Pct.: FG - .414, FT - .640; **3-Pt.:** 5-18, .278 (Whitted 3-6, Ross 1-1, Dorris 1-5, Aikens 0-1, Humphrey 0-5); **Blocks:** 3 (Bro Grebe, Wilkerson, Dorris); **Turnovers:** 10 (Aikens 2, Ross 2, Merthie 2, Humphrey, Wilkerson, Dorris, Whitted); **Steals:** 11 (Dorris 3, Aikens 2, Humphrey 2, Bro Grebe, Marshall); **Halftime Score:** Rice 33, Marshall 30; **Officials:** Steve Pyatt, Curtis Shaw, Sam Croft; **Technical Fouls:** None. **Attendance:** 3,488

Game 29

March 3, 2007, at Autry Court

Tulsa 73, Rice 65

The Tulsa Golden Hurricane outscored Rice 19-4 to open up the second half and held on at the end to win 73-65 in front of 1,831 fans in the last game at Autry Court before July renovations begin.

Rice's Morris Almond scored a game-high 29 points and grabbed team-high 6 rebounds. It was the fifth time this season that Almond, the nation's third-leading scorer had tallied 29 points in a game.

With 29 points, Almond is now fourth all-time at Rice with 1,753 career points surpassing Elbert Darden (1,727). He now has 772 points on the year which is 33 away from tying Ricky Pierce's 1982 record of 805 (30 games).

The 772 season points by Almond is, however, a new Conference USA record for points in a season. The previous mark was 770 set by Cincinnati's Steve Logan in 2002 in 35 games.

Tulsa took a 24-13 lead to start the contest by hitting 11 of its first 18 shots, while the Owls struggled to convert 4 of 16 field goal attempts (25 percent). Rice freshman Chris Hagan hit a three-pointer to end the half at 32-26 in favor of Tulsa.

The Golden Hurricane made 7 of its first 9 field goals in the second half including 3 three-pointers to sport a 51-30 lead with 12:39 left to play.

The Owls did scramble and got back into the game and held Tulsa to without a made field goal for 7 minutes and after Rodney Foster drained a trey, the Owls only down 66-63 with 38 seconds left on the clock. But Rod Earls, Ray Reese, and Charles Ramsdell each made two free throws to put the game away.

Ben Uzoh led Tulsa with 14 points, while Brett McDade added 13. Uzoh went 6-8 from the field. Ramsdell, Darold Crow, and Earls each contributed 9 points.

Chris Hagan scored 8 points off the bench for Rice, which shot 35 percent from the field to Tulsa's 47 percent.

Tulsa 73, Rice 65

March 3, 2007, at Autry Court

Tulsa	Min	FG-A	FT-A	OF-REB	A	PF	TP
Ramsdell, f	18	2-5	4-4	2-7	1	1	9
Jordan, f	10	1-1	0-1	0-1	0	2	2
Uzoh, g	29	5-9	2-4	0-4	3	2	14
McDade, g	40	4-14	2-2	0-2	6	3	12
Earls, g	20	2-6	4-4	0-6	0	2	9
Hill	11	0-1	0-0	1-1	2	1	0
Walls	17	3-4	0-0	3-7	0	3	6
Crow	27	1-10	7-10	1-6	1	4	9
McLean	20	3-5	0-0	2-5	1	3	6
Mitchell	7	0-0	0-0	0-1	0	1	0
Reese	9	1-2	2-3	0-2	0	0	5
TEAM				1-2			
Totals		24-51	19-25	13-48	9	21	73

Team Pct.: FG - .476, FT - .760; **3-Pt.:** 6-16, .375 (Uzoh 2-3, Reese 1-2, Ramsdell 1-3, McDade 1-3, Earls 1-3, Crow 0-2); **Blocks:** 4 (Ramsdell, Uzoh, Crow, McLean); **Turnovers:** 20 (Uzoh 4, McDade 3, Hill 3, Ramsdell 2, Earls 2, Walls 2, Crow 2, Mitchell); **Steals:** 3 (Ramsdell, Walls, Crow)

Rice	Min	FG-A	FT-A	OF-REB	A	PF	TP
Packevicius, f	9	2-3	0-0	1-3	0	3	4
Perka, f	24	1-5	4-4	1-3	1	2	6
Williams, g	36	3-11	0-1	0-0	3	0	6
Almond, g	34	7-20	13-17	2-6	1	2	29
Pflieger, g	10	0-0	0-0	1-1	1	4	0
Hagan	21	3-5	0-2	0-4	0	1	8
Foster	19	3-6	0-0	0-1	0	0	7
Belton	11	0-1	0-0	0-0	0	1	0
Ghoram	8	1-3	0-0	1-1	1	1	2
Britton	28	1-6	1-2	0-4	1	5	3
TEAM				0-3			
Totals		21-60	18-26	9-26	8	19	65

Team Pct.: FG - .350, FT - .692; **3-Pt.:** 5-12, .417 (Hagan 2-3, Almond 2-6, Foster 1-1, Williams 0-2); **Blocks:** 3 (Almond 2, Foster); **Steals:** 12 (Williams 3, Almond 2, Foster 2, Pflieger, Ghoram, Britton); **Halftime Score:** Tulsa 32, Rice 26; **Officials:** Kyle Neve, Rick Crawford, Terry Oglesby; **Technical Fouls:** None. **Attendance:** 1,831

Game 30

March 7, 2007, at Memphis, Tenn.

Rice 77, UTEP 74

Rice's Morris Almond, the Conference USA Player of the Year, lived up to his reputation by scoring 31 points, including the go-ahead monster three-pointer from the left corner, to lead the Rice Owls past the UTEP Miners 77-74 in the first round of the Conference USA Championship presented by Aeropostale at the FedEx Forum.

The Owls were down by 10 62-52 at 11:47, but UTEP's star guard Stefon Jackson picked up his fourth foul and proceeded to sit the next nine minutes as Rice rallied.

The Owls' Chris Hagan made a floater in the lane and Lawrence Ghoram made two free throws and a power move in the paint to bring Rice to within six (64-58). Almond then scored the Owls' next six points as Rice was only down 68-64 (6:08).

UTEP's Kevin Henderson made one of two at the line and Rice senior point guard Lorenzo Williams answered with a trey from the top of the key to make it 69-67 UTEP. Almond, following the media timeout, drained a three with 3:20 remaining to give the Owls a 70-69 lead.

The Owls were up 71-70 following a made free throw by Cory Pflieger and on the ensuing possession UTEP coach Tony Barbee was assessed a technical foul following a travel call on Stefon Jackson who had reentered the game at 3:14. Almond made the second free throw attempt and Chris Hagan then drained two free throws on the same possession as Jackson was whistled for his fifth foul on Hagan's drive to the rim at 1:12.

Henderson then brought the Miners to within two (74-72) after making two free throws at 1:03.

Rice's Charles Belton then scored the Owls' final three points. Belton, a freshman, was wide open on the left wing and calmly drained a 14-footer to give the Owls a 76-72 lead with 32 ticks on the clock.

Stefon Jackson led UTEP with 17 points and seven rebounds before fouling out, while Henderson had 16 points. For the game, Rice shot 52 percent from the field including 8-17 from beyond the arc and held UTEP to 40 percent.

Rice 77, UTEP 74

March 7, 2007, at FedEx Forum

UTEP	Min	FG-A	FT-A	OF-REB	A	PF	TP
Vanwright, f	32	3-8	0-1	3-7	6	3	7
Ramallo, f	15	1-2	1-3	1-3	0	0	3
Henderson, g	33	4-13	5-8	2-5	2	2	16
Jackson, g	21	7-11	0-0	3-7	0	5	17
Kilgore, g	39	2-8	5-6	3-5	7	3	9
Alvin	26	1-7	0-0	1-4	2	1	3
Thomas	26	3-7	6-7	2-5	1	4	12
Sampson	8	3-4	0-0	2-2	0	2	7
TEAM				0-0			
Totals		24-60	17-25	17-38	18	21	74

Team Pct.: FG - .400, FT - .680; **3-Pt.:** 9-25, .360 (Jackson 3-5, Henderson 3-9, Sampson 1-1, Vanwright 1-3, Alvin 1-5, Kilgore 0-2); **Blocks:** 1 (Ramallo); **Turnovers:** 13 (Kilgore 5, Ramallo 2, Jackson 2, Henderson, Alvin, Thomas, Sampson); **Steals:** 6 (Vanwright 4, Jackson, Alvin)

Rice	Min	FG-A	FT-A	OF-REB	A	PF	TP
Packevicius, f	19	0-2	0-0	1-4	0	4	0
Perka, f	20	2-6	0-0	0-0	0	1	4
Williams, g	38	6-12	2-3	1-8	8	2	2
Foster, g	9	1-2	0-0	0-0	2	1	3
Almond, g	39	12-21	3-4	0-8	1	2	31
Hagan	15	1-3	2-2	0-1	3	0	4
Belton	11	1-1	1-2	0-1	0	3	3
Pflieger	17	3-4	1-2	0-1	2	0	9
Ghoram	14	2-2	4-4	1-3	0	1	8
Britton	18	0-1	0-2	2-4	1	5	0
TEAM				1-2			
Totals		28-54	13-19	6-32	7	19	77

Team Pct.: FG - .519, FT - .684; **3-Pt.:** 8-17, .471 (Almond 4-7, Pflieger 2-3, Foster 1-1, Williams 1-4, Hagan 0-2); **Blocks:** 3 (Almond 3); **Steals:** 2 (Almond, Britton); **Halftime Score:** UTEP 39, Rice 37; **Officials:** Tom O'Neil, David Hall, Larry Rose; **Technical Fouls:** Memphis-Barbee. **Attendance:** n/a

Game 31

March 8, 2007, Memphis, Tenn.

Rice 53, UCF 51

Morris Almond scored 30 points, including a 3-pointer with 2.8 seconds left, to lead seventh-seeded Rice to a 53-51 upset of second-seeded Central Florida in the quarterfinals of the Conference USA Tournament on Thursday.

Almond's winning shot came from just right of the top of the key under double coverage.

UCF tried to throw the ball long on the ensuing inbounds play, but the pass by reserve Mike Battle went out of bounds.

Almond connected on 10-of-20 shots from the field, and was the only player in double figures for the Owls.

Almond is averaging a C-USA Championship best 30.5 ppg, which is the highest of any player in C-USA Championship history.

Josh Peppers led the Golden Knights with 18 points and 10 rebounds.

Rice, which defeated Texas-El Paso 77-74 in the opening round, did not lead in the game until Lorenzo Williams hit a jumper with 3:20 left to give the Owls a 48-47 advantage, which they extended on a pair of free throws by Almond.

But UCF would reclaim the lead when Dave Noel, who had guarded Almond all day, hit a pair of free throws with 1:43 left for a 51-50 advantage.

Almond, C-USA's player of the year, scored 10 of Rice's last 12 points to carry the team into Friday's semifinal against the winner of Thursday's Southern Mississippi-Houston game.

The Golden Knights used balanced scoring to build the lead to as many as 10 in the first half and held a 29-25 lead at halftime.

The Owls controlled the tempo in the second half with different defensive looks.

Rice 53, UCF 51

March 8, 2007, Memphis, Tenn.

Rice	Min	FG-A	FT-A	Of-REB	A	PF	TP
Packevicius, f	22	3-5	1-4	2-5	0	0	7
Perka, f	24	0-4	2-5	2-5	0	3	2
Williams, g	37	2-7	0-0	0-2	7	1	4
Foster, g	22	2-6	0-0	2-4	1	0	4
Almond, g	36	10-20	7-10	2-6	0	3	30
Hagan	11	0-1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Belton	8	0-3	0-0	0-1	0	0	0
Pflieger	10	0-1	0-0	0-2	0	2	0
Britton	30	0-0	6-6	0-5	2	4	6
TEAM				1-1			
Totals		17-47	16-25	9-31	10	13	53

Team Pct.: FG - .362, FT - .640; **3-Pt.:** 3-10, .300 (Almond 3-5, Foster 0-2, Williams 0-1, Hagan 0-1, Pflieger 0-1); **Blocks:** 4 (Britton 4); **Turnovers:** 9 (Almond 4, Hagan 2, Packevicius, Perka, Williams); **Steals:** 9 (Britton 4, Packevicius, Williams, Hagan, Foster, Almond)

UCF	Min	FG-A	FT-A	Of-REB	A	PF	TP
Payne, f	32	3-11	0-0	3-14	2	4	6
Zondervan, f19	2-3	1-3	0-2	3	2	5	
Peppers, g	35	8-14	2-6	2-10	2	2	18
Noel, g	30	1-2	2-2	1-4	0	4	5
O'Donnell, g	31	3-10	0-0	0-0	3	2	7
Taylor	25	1-7	2-2	1-2	1	0	5
Cartwright	11	1-1	0-0	0-0	2	1	3
Battle	0+	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Davis	1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	2	0
Billings	16	1-5	0-1	2-5	0	2	2
TEAM				3-3			
Totals		20-53	5-8	12-40	13	19	51

Team Pct.: FG - .377, FT - .625; **3-Pt.:** 6-19, .316 (Peppers 2-6, Noel 1-1, Cartwright 1-1, Taylor 1-4, O'Donnell 1-6); **Blocks:** 2 (Payne, Zondervan); **Turnovers:** 17 (Peppers 3, Billings 3, Taylor 3, Noel 2, O'Donnell 2, Battle, Payne); **Steals:** 2 (O'Donnell, Davis); **Halftime Score:** UCF 29, Rice 25; **Officials:** Steve Welmer, James Breeding, Jeff Malham; **Technical Fouls:** None. **Attendance:** n/a

Game 32

March 9, 2007, Memphis, Tenn.

Houston 77, Rice 62

Robert McKiver scored 25 points and grabbed six rebounds Friday night as Houston defeated crosstown rival Rice 77-62 in the semifinals of the Conference USA tournament.

The Cougars (18-14) built the lead to as much as 22 in the second half behind 3-point shooting. Houston connected on 6-of-12 from long-range after the break and will play fifth-ranked Memphis, a 71-49 winner over Tulane, in the title game Saturday.

Oliver Lafayette finished with 17 points, Marcus Malone had 13, Jahmar Thorpe 10 and Dion Dowell added 11 for Houston.

But it was Malone's defense on Rice guard, Morris Almond, the conference's player of the year, that was most impressive. Almond, who led the league in scoring and was second in the nation averaging 26.9 points per game, was held to 11 points for Rice.

Almond finished the season with 844 points in 32 games for a 26.4 scoring average, which is a new C-USA record and one that ranks second in Rice history behind Ricky Pierce's 26.8 ppg in 1982. He also concluded his Rice career fourth in school history with 1,825 career points.

Lorenzo Williams led seventh-seeded Rice with 16 points, while Patrick Britton scored 13. Houston led 29-23 at the break behind 12 points from McKiver.

But the Owls still shot better than 50 percent and tied the game at 20 when Williams scored on a layup with 5:55 left in the half. Then Rice went cold, failing to score for more than 3 minutes, and Houston scored seven straight points for a 29-23 halftime lead.

Houston just kept pushing its lead to double figures when Lafayette hit a pair of free throws with 12:44 left. Houston led by as much as 56-39 on back-to-back 3-pointers 7:25 left, moving the Cougars to the championship game.

Houston 77, Rice 62

March 9, 2007, Memphis, Tenn.

Rice	Min	FG-A	FT-A	Of-REB	A	PF	TP
Packevicius, f	13	0-1	2-2	0-1	1	2	2
Perka, f	18	1-2	0-0	0-2	0	1	2
Williams, g	34	7-13	0-0	0-2	4	3	16
Foster, g	28	4-9	0-0	0-3	2	4	9
Almond, g	37	3-9	4-6	0-7	2	3	11
Hagan	15	0-2	0-0	0-1	1	2	0
Belton	9	0-2	0-0	2-3	0	0	0
Pflieger	7	1-2	2-2	1-1	1	2	5
Ghoram	8	1-2	5-8	0-0	0	2	4
Britton	31	4-6	5-8	3-5	0	3	13
TEAM				2-2			
Totals		21-48	15-21	8-27	11	22	62

Team Pct.: FG - .438, FT - .714; **3-Pt.:** 5-18, .278 (Williams 2-4, Foster 1-5, Almond 1-5, Pflieger 1-2, Perka 0-1, Hagan 0-1); **Blocks:** 0; **Turnovers:** 11 (Almond 5, Williams 3, Hagan, Pflieger, Packevicius); **Steals:** 1 (Williams)

Houston	Min	FG-A	FT-A	Of-REB	A	PF	TP
Dowell, f	31	4-9	1-1	2-8	0	4	11
Thorpe, f	37	3-6	2-2	4-6	0	3	10
McKiver, g	40	8-16	6-9	1-6	2	2	25
Malone, g	34	3-7	6-8	2-4	1	3	13
Lafayette, g	40	6-11	4-5	0-6	4	2	17
Lee	4	0-1	0-0	0-1	0	0	0
Jones	8	0-0	1-2	0-0	1	2	1
Toney	6	0-0	0-0	0-1	0	4	0
TEAM				0-0			
Totals		24-50	20-27	9-32	8	21	77

Team Pct.: FG - .480, FT - .741; **3-Pt.:** 9-26, .346 (McKiver 3-8, Dowell 2-6, Thorpe 2-3, Malone 1-4, Lafayette 1-4, Lee 0-1); **Blocks:** 5 (Dowell 2, Thorpe 1, Toney 1); **Turnovers:** 8 (McKiver 4, Thorpe 2, Malone 1, Lafayette 1); **Steals:** 4 (Dowell 1, McKiver 1, Lafayette, Toney 1); **Halftime Score:** Houston 29, Rice 23; **Officials:** Tom O'Neill, Duke Edsall, Hal Lusk; **Technical Fouls:** None. **Attendance:** 11,002