

TEXAS SOUTHERN

MEN'S BASKETBALL

14 SWAC CHAMPIONSHIPS • 9 SWAC TOURNAMENT TITLES

GAME 23 | TSU AT MISSISSIPPI VALLEY STATE | 4 P.M. (CST) | R.W. HARRISON HPER COMPLEX | ITTA BENA, MISS.

TEXAS SOUTHERN TIGERS

11-11 (9-4)

Head Coach: Johnny Jones

Record at TSU: 60-50 / 4th year

Career Record: 363-284 / 21st year

vs. MVSU: 7-0

VS.

MISSISSIPPI VALLEY STATE

2-21 (2-11)

Head Coach: Lindsey Hunter

Record at MVSU: 7-70 / 3rd year

Career Record: 7-70 / 3rd year

vs. TSU: 0-4

SERIES HISTORY

Series.....TSU leads 89-56* (no records for 1956, '66, '67)

Last Meeting.....TSU 85, Mississippi Valley 58 (1/10/22)

Jones vs. MVSU.....7-0

Jones vs. SWAC Teams.....52-12



BROADCAST INFORMATION

TV: N/A

VIDEO STREAM: YouTube

RADIO: KTSU 90.9 FM



67.4

POINTS

67.0

.426

FG%

.383

.309

3FG%

.303

39.8

REBOUNDS

32.0

4.4

BLOCKS

2.5

STARTING LINEUP (Projected)

No.	Name.	Pos.	Ht./Wt.	Cl.	PPG	RPG	Notes
4	Bryson Etienne	G	6-3/190	Sr.	8.3	2.7	Averaging 15 points over past 5 games
11	Jordan Gilliam	G	6-6/175	Sr.	5.3	3.2	Second on team in steals (18)
15	Justin Hopkins	F	6-5/205	Gr.	6.4	2.1	Tied for team lead with 15 starts
24	John Walker III	F	6-9/200	Gr.	9.6	4.6	Tied for leading scorer
44	Brisson Gresham	C	6-9/240	Gr.	7.1	6.4	Leading shot blocker and rebounder

PREGAME

• TSU looks to rebound after a tough loss on Monday as they prepare for its final road trip of the regular season starting at Mississippi Valley State on Saturday at 4 p.m.

• TSU's six-game winning streak came to a tough end on Monday at Southern as they also fell back into a second-place tie. TSU is currently a game behind Southern at 9-4 and tied with Alcorn State.

• Head coach **Johnny Jones** hit a career milestone late in 2021 with his 350th career win after the SWAC Tournament semifinal win on March 12. He just achieved his 360th win at Prairie View A&M on Jan. 29

• Jones is 7-0 lifetime against Mississippi Valley State and 6-0 at TSU.

• This marks the fourth year for TSU head coach **Johnny Jones**. TSU returned to the NCAA Tournament after the 2020-21 season and won its second NCAA Tournament contest in school history. Jones went 24-14 in his inaugural year as head coach with three Power 5 conference wins. TSU fell in the finals of the 2019 SWAC Tournament and advanced to the semifinals of the CIT in 2019. In 2019-20, the Tigers made it back to the semifinals of the SWAC Tournament after a third-place

2021-22 SCHEDULE

NOVEMBER

Thur.	4	TEXAS COLLEGE (exhibition)	W, 97-55
Tue.	9	at Oregon	L, 83-66
Fri.	12	at Saint Mary's	L, 67-58
Mon.	15	at Washington	L, 72-65
Wed.	17	at Air Force	L, 61-57
Sun.	21	at NC State	L, 65-57
Wed.	24	at BYU	L, 81-64

DECEMBER

Wed.	1	at Louisiana Tech	L, 87-60
Mon.	6	at Florida	W, 69-54
Tue.	14	at UTRGV	W, 70-60
Sat.	18	at Cincinnati	Canceled
Sat.	29	at TCU	Canceled

JANUARY

Mon	3	*at Southern	L, 63-50
Wed.	5	*at Grambling State	W, 67-61
Sat.	8	*ARKANSAS-PINE BLUFF	W, 90-71
Mon.	10	*MISSISSIPPI VALLEY STATE	W, 95-58
Sat.	15	*at Alcorn State	L, 73-72
Mon.	17	*at Jackson State	L, 61-58
Sat.	22	*ALABAMA A&M	W, 78-44
Mon.	24	*ALABAMA STATE	W, 73-66
Sat.	29	*at Prairie View A&M	W, 75-74

FEBRUARY

Sat.	5	*at Florida A&M	W, 67-55
Mon.	7	*at Bethune-Cookman	W, 66-63
Sat.	12	*GRAMBLING STATE	W, 68-65
Mon.	14	*SOUTHERN	L, 70-58
Sat.	19	*at Mississippi Valley State	4 p.m.
Mon.	21	*at Arkansas-Pine Bluff	7:30 p.m.
Sat.	26	*JACKSON STATE	7:30 p.m.
Mon.	28	*ALCORN STATE	7:30 p.m.

MARCH

Sat.	5	*PRAIRIE VIEW A&M	7:30 p.m.
Wed.	9	SWAC TOURNAMENT	TBA

• TSU faced off against teams from seven conferences in 2021-22. TSU squared off against teams from the Pac-12 (2), WCC (2), Mountain West, ACC, Conference USA, SEC and WAC.

• TSU has won nine straight over MVSU dating back to 1-23-17 and also has won 17 of the past 18 games.

• MVSU is 2-11 in SWAC play and would have to win out in order to even have a chance at the final berth in the SWAC Tournament as only the top eight teams qualify. Leading scorer **Robert Carpenter** hasn't played since Jan. 8 which meant **Caleb Hunter** has picked up the slack with 14.5 points and 63 three-pointers. Devin Gordom follows with 10.9 points and 2.9 rebounds.

• Jones is 86-74 all-time in the month of February and 20-6 at TSU.

• TSU was picked to finish first by the Southwestern Athletic Conference while the duo of **John Walker III** and **Justin Hopkins** both earned preseason honors. Experience won't be an issue as four starters return along with eight letterwinners from 2020-21.

TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

TEXAS SOUTHERN

MEN'S BASKETBALL

SPORTS INFORMATION / MEDIA POLICIES

QUICK FACTS

Founded: 1946
Location: Houston, Texas
Enrollment: 10,500
Nickname: Tigers
Colors: Maroon & Gray
Affiliation: NCAA Division I
Conference: SWAC
President: Dr. Lesia Crumpton-Young
VP/Intercollegiate Athletics: Kevin Granger
SWA: Dr. Dwalah Fisher
Faculty Athletic Rep: Dr. Howard Henderson
Facility: H&PE Arena (8,100)

INTERVIEWS & POLICIES

DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW

The Texas Southern Office Of Sports Information is located in the H&PE Building located at the corner of Blodgett and Ennis Street on the campus of Texas Southern. The main number is 713-313-6829.

PRACTICE COVERAGE

All practices are closed to the public. Media members wishing to attend the beginning or conclusion of practice (interviews only) should contact the SID office for exact starting times and location.

ADDITIONAL INTERVIEWS

Head coach **Johnny Jones** will be available for in-person or phone interviews during a specified window. All interview requests must be coordinated through the TSU Sports Information Office **24 hours** in advance. Student-athlete's phone numbers will not be given out. Coaches and student-athletes are not available for interviews the day before a game or on gameday unless arrangements are made in advance.

VISITING RADIO INFORMATION

The official radio broadcast network for the visiting team must be designated in writing by the opposing team SID. For information on radio lines, contact the Texas Southern Sports Information Office at 713/313-6829.

TEXAS SOUTHERN SID OFFICE

3100 Cleburne Street
Houston, TX 77004

Sports Information Director: Ryan McGinty
Phone: (713) 313-6829
Email: ryan.mcginity@tsu.edu

TSUSPORTS.com



TEXAS SOUTHERN ROSTER

#	Player	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Class	Hometown (Previous School)
0	Yahuza Rasas	F	6-7	200	Sr.	St. Louis, Mo. / Mineral Area College
1	Galen Alexander	F	6-6	220	Gr.	Breaux Bridge, La. / Georgetown
2	AJ Lawson	G	6-5	205	Gr.	Bryan, Texas / McNeese State
3	PJ Henry	G	5-10	175	Jr.	Houston, Texas / Hartford
4	Bryson Etienne	G	6-3	190	Sr.	Houston, Texas / Temple College
5	Jordon Karl Nicholas	F	6-9	220	Sr.	Pearland, Texas / Stephen F. Austin
11	Jordan Gilliam	G	6-5	175	R-Sr.	Houston, Texas / UC Riverside
12	John Jones	G	6-0	165	Gr.	Baton Rouge, La. / Nevada
14	Kolby Granger	G	6-5	180	Fr.	Missouri City, Texas / Ridge Point
15	Justin Hopkins	F	6-5	205	Gr.	Huntsville, Ala. / Samford
20	Kehlin Farooq	G	6-5	180	So.	Houston, Texas / Hampton
23	Shaqir O'Neal	F	6-7	185	Fr.	Los Angeles, Calif. / Union Grove
24	John Walker III	F	6-9	200	R-Sr.	Houston, Texas / Texas A&M
25	Grayson Carter	F	6-10	225	R-Jr.	Dallas, Texas / UTA
32	Andrew Malveaux III	G	5-10	170	R-Jr.	Houston, Texas / Strake Jesuit
42	Davon Barnes	F	6-5	215	Fr.	Memphis, Tenn. / Collierville
44	Brison Gresham	F	6-9	240	Sr.	New Orleans, La. / Houston

COACHING STAFF

HEAD COACH: Johnny Jones (LSU '85) 4th year at TSU

ASSISTANT COACH: Shyrone Chatman (Memphis '02) 5th year at TSU

ASSISTANT COACH: Randy Peele (Virginia Wesleyan '80) 4th year at TSU

ASSISTANT COACH: Josh White (North Texas '11) 3rd year at TSU

PLAYER DEVELOPMENT: Ansu Sesay (Ole Miss '19) 1st year at TSU

VIDEO COORDINATOR: Shelby Tse (Texas '15) 2nd year at TSU

TSU GAME WEEK SCHEDULE

14 MONDAY	15 TUESDAY	16 WEDNESDAY	17 THURSDAY	18 FRIDAY	19 SATURDAY
Southern Houston, Texas 7:30 p.m.	TRAVEL	PRACTICE	PRACTICE	PRACTICE	Mississippi Valley Itta Bena, Miss. 4 p.m.

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SEASON ACCOLADES

SWAC PLAYER of the WEEK

John Walker III (12/8)

SWAC IMPACT PLAYER of the WEEK

Bryson Gresham (12/21)

Karl Nicholas (12/8)

DOUBLE-DOUBLES

Karl Nicholas 15p/11r at BCU (2/7/22)

Yahuza Rasas 10p/11r vs. PVAMU (1/29/22)

Bryson Gresham 11p/16r vs. Alabama State (1/24/22)

Karl Nicholas 11p/12r at Alcorn State (1/15/22)

Karl Nicholas 16p/12r at Southern (1/3/22)

Bryson Gresham 18p/12r at UTRGV (12/14/21)

John Walker III 15p/10r at LA Tech (12/1/21)

20+ POINTS

Bryson Etienne 22 at Alcorn (1/15/22)

Bryson Etienne 21 vs. UAPB (1/8/22)

Bryson Etienne 20 at PVAMU (1/29/22)

30+ POINTS

10+ REBOUNDS

Bryson Gresham 16 vs. Alabama State (1/24/22)

Karl Nicholas 12 at Alcorn State (1/15/22)

Karl Nicholas 12 at Southern (1/3/22)

Bryson Gresham 13 at Florida (12/8/21)

Yahuza Rasas 13 at NC State (11/21/21)

Bryson Gresham 12 at UTRGV (12/14/21)

Karl Nicholas 11 at Alcorn State (2/7/22)

Yahuza Rasas 11 at PVAMU (1/29/22)

John Walker III 10 at LA Tech (12/1/21)

Bryson Gresham 10 at NC State (11/21/21)

5+ STEALS

5+ BLOCK

Bryson Gresham 7 at UTRGV (12/14/21)

Bryson Gresham 6 vs. Grambling State (2/12/22)

5+ ASSISTS

Jordan Gilliam 6 vs. Alabama State (1/24/22)

Jordan Gilliam 5 vs. AAMU (1/22/22)

Bryson Etienne 5 vs. MVSU (1/10/22)

A.J. Lawson 5 vs. UAPB (1/8/22)

LAST TIME THEY MET

TSU 95

MVSU 58

1/10/22 • Houston, Texas

Five players scored in double figures as Texas Southern shot above 50 percent for the second consecutive game as the Tigers rolled to a 95-58 win over Mississippi Valley State Monday night.

The Tigers took control of the game early as they jumped out to a 21-6 lead within the first seven minutes. During the run, the Tigers sizzled from the field as they shot 9-of-13 while connecting on a trio of three-pointers. The Delta Devils struggled from the field as the TSU defense forced them to miss eight of its first nine baskets.

The contest would turn into a shootout over the next six minutes as MVSU began to heat up from the outside. The Delta Devils hit four three-pointers to get back into the game while TSU cooled off from the field but did damage from the free throw line as they hit 6-of-8 from the charity stripe as TSU led 35-23 at the 4:58 mark.

Aside from lull offensively, the Tigers woke back up in a huge way as they closed out the half on a 19-2 run which saw them connect on seven straight shots. Defensively, the Tigers kept the heat on as MVSU finished the half 1-of-7 en route to a 54-25 halftime lead.

Both teams were pretty much even to open the second half as TSU led by as much as 33 after **A.J. Lawson's** layup at the 14:16 mark. The Tigers never let their guard down on both ends as they led by as much as 41 en route to their ninth straight win over MVSU dating back to Jan. 23, 2017. In addition, TSU has also won 17 of the past 18 games over the Delta Devils.

John Walker III led TSU with 16 points, six rebounds and two blocks while **AJ Lawson** added 15 with five rebounds. **Bryson Etienne** had another solid game with 10 points and six boards followed by 10 each from Justin Hopkins and **Bryson Gresham**. Gresham also had eight rebounds while **Yahuza Rasas** and **PJ Henry** had two blocks.

THE SERIES

TSU has won nine straight over MVSU dating back to 1-23-17 and also has won 17 of the past 18 games.

HISTORY WAS MADE (AGAIN)

Texas Southern men's basketball made history once again as they became the first team in SWAC history to defeat a ranked opponent from the SEC after an impressive 69-54 win over No. 20 Florida on Dec. 6. While the win was monumental, TSU has been there before as this was its first win over a ranked team since a win at Oregon in 2018 and its second ranked win since 2014. In addition, the win also marked the first against an SEC opponent since 2018 (Texas A&M).

PRO MENTALITY

TSU's non-schedule resembled an NBA schedule with 11 straight games away from campus.

TSU spent its first three games on the West Coast against Oregon and Saint Mary's from the West Coast Conference. On Nov. 15, TSU traveled to the state of Washington for the fifth consecutive year to face the University of Washington for the first time since 2008 in Seattle. TSU also traveled to Air Force, North Carolina State, BYU, Louisiana Tech, Florida and UTRGV. Games against Cincinnati and TCU were canceled due to COVID-19.

TSU plays four games in seven days as they opened the 2022 SWAC slate at Southern followed by a trip to Grambling State. TSU will make its 2022 home debut on Saturday, Jan. 8 against Arkansas-Pine Bluff.

HOT, HOT, HOT

Senior guard **Bryson Etienne** has been an instant spark plug since SWAC play began. Etienne has scored 20-plus points in three SWAC games this season and averages 12.2 points in league play.

JONES NAMED CHAIR OF SWAC MEN'S BASKETBALL COACHES

Texas Southern head men's basketball coach **Johnny Jones** has been named Chair of the Southwestern Athletic Conference men's basketball coaches.

Jones' role will span two years as he'll serve as the liaison to the SWAC Office and other conference committees on all issues pertaining to men's basketball. He will also provide feedback to the league's presidents/chancellors and various administrators as the position calls for him to research and collect data from the league's head coaches and other sources when

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it comes to spearheading various initiatives to be voted on or discussed.

PAC-12 AND SWAC PARTNERSHIP

The Pac-12 and Southwestern Athletic Conferences announced in October the formation of a basketball educational and scheduling partnership that will feature a first-of-its-kind annual home-and-home series between member institutions.

The men's and women's basketball partnership is aimed at creating both a forum for competition, as well as promotion and education around issues of anti-racism and social justice. The partnership is set to begin in Nov. 2022, with six match-ups for the initial men's cycle determined in the coming weeks.

MEN'S BASKETBALL PICKED TO FINISH 1ST, WALKER III, HOPKINS EARN PRESEASON ALL-SWAC HONORS

The Texas Southern University men's basketball team was picked to finish first by the Southwestern Athletic Conference while the duo of **John Walker III** and **Justin Hopkins** both earned preseason honors.

The poll was conducted by the league's head coaches and sports information directors.

Led by fourth-year head coach **Johnny Jones**, TSU returns four starters from last year's NCAA Tournament and SWAC Tournament Championship squad. A total of eight letterwinners return while the team also adds eight newcomers in addition to one redshirt.

Walker III, who was named second team All-SWAC, averaged 12.1 points per game last season while shooting 59 percent from the field. The 6-9 redshirt senior forward from Houston also grabbed 5.5 rebounds per game while blocking 26 shots.

Hopkins averaged 8.3 points and four rebounds per game while also shooting 75 percent from the charity stripe. The 6-5 grad student from Huntsville, Ala. was also named to the second team and had nine games with double digit points and is one of the most versatile players on the team with the ability to play multiple positions.

FINAL 4 EXPERIENCE

Former University of Houston forward/center **Brisson Gresham** joined the TSU program prior to the 2021-22 season and is having an immediate impact.

The 6-8, 230-pound Gresham is a native of New Orleans, La. and closed out non-conference play with a career highs in points (18) and blocks (7) in a win over UTRGV on Dec. 14. He has averaged 9.2 points and grabbed 10 rebounds over last five games.

He started 19 games at UH in 2020-21 while seeing action in 31 games as UH advanced to the Final Four for the first time since 1984. Gresham also adds an additional veteran with postseason experience with an appearance in the 2019 NCAA Sweet 16 round against Kentucky. In 2018-19, Gresham tied a school record with 37 games played.

A true defensive presence at the rim, Gresham has 76 career blocks as he started his career at UMass before transferring to UH. This past season, Gresham led UH and ranked third in the American Athletic Conference with 46 blocks (1.5 per game). Gresham had 17 games with two or more blocks including four at SMU. In 2019-20, Gresham had a career-high six blocks against UTEP along with five at Wichita State. He also blocked five shots against Oregon in 2018. As a freshman at UMass, Gresham blocked 28 shots.

Classified as a senior entering the 2021-22 campaign, Gresham is also solid around the basket as he averages 64 percent from the field for his career with a career-best 70.4 percent in 2018-19.

WHO'LL STEP UP

With the loss of leading scorer and point guard **Michael Weathers** to SMU following the offseason, fans will wonder who'll step up and replace his 16.5 points per game average.

TSU signed a pair of experienced guards in the offseason led by former McNeese State transfer **AJ Lawson**. Lawson averaged 11.8 points per game at McNeese State last season and was second on the team in rebounding (3.8) and minutes played (29.1). Lawson also led the team in assists with 5.5.

PJ Henry comes over from the University of Hartford after a NCAA Tournament run as he averaged 4.2 points and 1.5 assists. Also back is **Bryson Etienne**, who

missed the 2020-21 season with an injury, as he averaged 7.2 points with 32 three-pointers made in 2019-20.

FATHER FIGURES

A pair of TSU freshmen both have fathers who played a significant role in basketball during their playing days.

Freshman **Shaqir O'Neal** is the son of Basketball Hall of Famer

Shaquille O'Neal and is the second O'Neal to grace the TSU campus as his sister, **Amirah**, plays for the women's team. TSU head coach **Johnny Jones** coached Shaquille during his playing days at LSU.

Freshman **Kolby Granger** is the son of TSU Vice President of Intercollegiate Athletics **Kevin Granger** and is the third Granger to play basketball for TSU as his older brother **Kevin, Jr.** played several years ago.

Kevin Granger, Sr. was a standout student-athlete at Texas Southern from 1992-96 as he was a SWAC Freshman of the Year (1992), two-time Black College All-American, MVP of SWAC Tournament (1994) and a member of two SWAC Tournament Championship Teams (1994 and 1995). In 1996, Granger was the NCAA's Division I scoring leader with 27 points per game and his number (10) was retired by Texas Southern in 2002.

Also, TSU graduate student **John Jones**, is the father of TSU head coach **Johnny Jones**.

UPDATED COVID-19 POLICY

The SWAC has announced its updated policy regarding Men's and Women's basketball games that are unable to be played due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

If an institution has a minimum of seven available student-athletes and one countable coach, it must participate in the scheduled basketball contest. If an institution does not have the requisite number of participants, it may still elect at its own discretion to play the contest.

If a team is unable to compete due to COVID-19 related issues the game will be counted as a forfeit for the purpose of the conference standings resulting in a loss for the team that caused the cancellation and a win for the opposing team.

If two opponents are unable to compete due to COVID-19 issues, both teams shall be deemed to have forfeited and each team will

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be charged with a loss. Institutions at their discretion, can work with each other and the conference office to reschedule the conference contest.

As per NCAA policy, a COVID-19 related forfeit will not change a team's official won-lost record, nor will it impact statistics or coaching records. It will only count for the purpose of the conference standings.

H&PE IS THE PLACE TO BE

TSU takes the term "home, sweet home" to heart as the Tigers are 112-26 inside the H&PE Arena since 2008. TSU has won nine-plus games at home every year since the 2010-11 season as COVID-19 prevented the streak from continuing in 2021.

BLOCK THEM OUT

TSU will be a force on the inside as all of its shot blockers return from 2020-21 while also adding another big shot blocker in **Brison Gresham** from the University of Houston.

Karl Nicholas blocked 28 shots last season followed by 26 from **John Walker III** and 11 each from **Galen Alexander** and **Yahuza Rasas**. Gresham blocked 46 shots at UH last season.

As a team, TSU is tied for first in the SWAC with 4.35 blocks per game led by 1.9 from **Brison Gresham**.

D-FENCE

TSU has held its ground defensively this season as they rank second in the SWAC in scoring defense (66.6). TSU is also first in opponent field goal percentage (.408). TSU ranks first in rebounds (39.7), opponent rebounds (33.5), team offensive rebounds (12.4) and team defensive rebounds (27.3). TSU also ranks first in rebound margin (6.2) and second in three-point defense (.300).

RADIO/INTERNET

All of Texas Southern's SWAC contests and selected non-conference contests will broadcast live on KTSU 90.9 FM or the Maroon & Gray network. The station can be heard via the airwaves or Internet at www.ktsufm.org.

Smartphone and tablet users can also hear the game live by downloading the TuneIn application for their respective devices

and selecting KTSU 90.0 FM.

WELCOME TO THE SWAC

In the summer of 2020, the history of the SWAC changed tremendously as Florida A&M and Bethune-Cookman were admitted as the 11th and 12th members, respectively. The SWAC now extends from Texas to Florida as both institutions will add depth across all sports.

UP NEXT

TSU will face Arkansas-Pine Bluff in Pine Bluff, Ark. on Monday at 7:30 p.m.

BET YOU DIDN'T KNOW

- The entire nation had a opportunity to find out about Texas Southern University this fall as the university hosted the third Democratic presidential primary debate on Sept. 12, 2020 inside the H&PE Arena. President **Joe Biden** and Vice President **Kamala Harris** both participated in the event.

- TSU was formally established in 1947 with a mission to establish a credible college for African-American students.

- Texas Southern University (TSU) is one of the nation's largest historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs). TSU provides a first class educational experience, offering over 120 baccalaureate, masters and doctoral degree programs in nine schools and colleges. The University has assets exceeding \$250 million and currently has over 10,800 students enrolled.

- The Thurgood Marshall School of Law, was created as a consequence of a 1946 lawsuit brought by **Heman M. Sweatt**. Under the Texas Constitution, which required separate but equal treatment, Mr. Sweatt was refused admission to the University of Texas School of Law because he was black. As a result, the legislature provided for an interim and separate law school for Negroes.

- **Good Morning America** host and NFL Hall of Famer **Michael Strahan** played at TSU from 1989-92.

- Grammy award winner music superstar **Megan Thee Stallion** is a current student at TSU and set to graduate in December 2021.

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RECAPS

GAME 1

Oregon 83

TSU 66

11/9/21 • Eugene, Ore.

A 10-2 run early in the second half allowed Oregon to pull away from Texas Southern as the Tigers dropped their 2021-22 season opener by an 83-66 margin Tuesday night.

Oregon jumped out to a 13-4 lead six minutes into the contest but TSU cut it to 13-8 after baskets from AJ Lawson and John Walker III over the next minute. The scoring would cease by both teams for nearly two minutes until an Oregon basket while TSU wouldn't return to the scoring column until the 9:47 mark after a Karl Nicholas layup. John Jones' trey drew TSU to within 16-14 with 9:17 remaining but again, scoring was at a premium for both teams as TSU was held to only five points over the next five minutes while Oregon increased its lead to 24-19. Yahuza Rasas' layup drew TSU within 24-21 but Oregon answered with a 12-3 surge behind 5-of-6 shooting to lead 36-24 with time winding down. PJ Henry would close out the half on a strong note with four points over the final 48 seconds to keep TSU close as they trailed 36-26 at the half.

A Justin Hopkins' basket would draw TSU to within 36-28 to open the second half but consecutive treys from the Ducks upped the margin back to 16 over the next two minutes. TSU managed to stay within 14 over the next few possessions but the Ducks upped their lead to 63-40 and never looked back from that point.

Walker III led TSU with 19 points, six rebounds and two blocks while Henry also finished in double digits with 10 points, a team-high three assists and four rebounds.

GAME 2

Saint Mary's 67

TSU 58

11/12/21 • Moraga, Calif.

Saint Mary's used a big second-half run to break open a tight game as Texas Southern fell 67-58 Friday night.

The first half was neck-and-neck from the opening tip as there were eight lead changes. TSU would take a 22-18 lead with 5:38 left after Karl Nicholas' layup but SMC answered with a three-pointer to draw within 22-21. The Gaels would reclaim a 23-22 margin on its next possession and led until the 3:25 mark as TSU's John Walker III hit a jumper to knot the contest at 26-all. TSU regained the lead at the 2:51 mark after a pair of Nicholas' free throws but SMC would knot it at 28-all. The Tigers would fight back to close out

the half ahead 31-28 after PJ Henry's three-pointer with a second left.

The beginning of the second half resembled the first as neither team could separate from each other. Down 41-40 with 13:04 remaining, TSU fought back and tied it at 43-all after John Walker III's trey. Over the next 5:43, the tide of the contest would change as SMC went on a 17-2 run as they were aided by five free throws and 6-of-9 shooting. On the opposite end, TSU shot 1-of-7 as SMC would hold on to its double digit lead until a pair of Justin Hopkins' free throws in the closing seconds.

Nicholas led TSU with 16 points and seven rebounds while also blocking two shots with two steals. Walker III added 15 points and six rebounds while Henry scored 13 points with five assists and five rebounds.

GAME 3

Washington 72

TSU 65

11/15/21 • Seattle, Wash.

The Texas Southern men's basketball team fought to end but Washington held on in the final 1:40 to secure a 72-65 win Monday night.

The first half was intense and set the tone for what was going to happen late in the contest as there were a total of eight lead changes in the half. TSU would lead by as much as four points on four occasions in the half as Justin Hopkins' trey with 47 seconds left would give TSU a 37-33 half-time lead.

Karl Nicholas' layup with 19 minutes left gave TSU a 39-34 lead which would hold until the 17:43 mark after a game-tying trey from Washington. A TSU turnover and missed three-pointer led to Washington reclaiming a 43-41 lead but TSU would take the lead back with 13:14 left after Hopkins' jumper. Nicholas recorded a big block on the ensuing defensive possession which led to his own layup and a 50-47 lead with 12:50 left. The Tigers suffered two untimely turnovers over the next minute which led to UW regaining a 51-50 lead after Daejon Davis' jumper.

The lead would flip on several occasions over the next few minutes with UW regaining a 58-56 lead after a three-pointer with 7:08 left. A TSU turnover led to a UW basket and a 60-56 deficit at the 6:44 mark. TSU would miss its next five shots and was held scoreless for three minutes in addition to three costly turnovers which led to a 63-56 deficit with 4:26 left. Jordan Gilliam's layup ended the drought with 3:17 remaining and the TSU offense found its groove as Nicholas' layup cut the deficit to 63-60 as the clock read 2:07. A TSU foul led to a pair of Husky free throws but TSU would counter with John Walker III's jumper to remain

within three at 65-62 with 1:40 left. UW's three-point attempt was short on the next possession but a TSU foul flipped the game as UW recorded a pair of free throws to move ahead 67-62. TSU would commit a shot clock violation right after and Washington went 5-of-6 from the charity stripe down the stretch to secure the win in the first-ever meeting between both schools.

Nicholas led TSU with 16 points and six boards while Hopkins scored 11. PJ Henry chipped in with 10 points, four rebounds and three assists. John Walker III added nine points with three blocks.

GAME 4

Air Force 61

TSU 57

11/17/21 • Colorado Springs, Colo.

For the second straight contest, TSU went down to the wire as Air Force pulled out a 61-57 win Wednesday night.

TSU jumped out to a fast start as they led 23-10 nearly 12 minutes in and would push its lead to as much as 15 (29-14) with 5:24 remaining. The double digit margin would hold for nearly three minutes until an 11-0 run by Air Force cut the lead to 33-28 at the half.

Air Force claimed its first lead of the game with 16:58 remaining in the second half after a three-pointer from Joseph Octave but Justin Hopkins reclaimed the lead after his dunk gave TSU a 37-36 lead at the 16:44 mark. TSU would remain out front over the next minute as the lead grew to 41-36 but an offensive foul by TSU led directly to a three-pointer by the Falcons and a 41-38 lead. TSU's A.J. Lawson answered with a layup for a 43-39 margin but the Tigers missed prime opportunity to pad the lead after missing three consecutive shots while Air Force's Jake Heidbreder hit a trey to draw within 43-42 with 11:42 on the clock.

The scoring would nearly cease for TSU as they went 1-of-9 from the field over the next seven minutes while Air Force went 6-for-11 en route to reclaiming a 53-46 lead. A PJ Henry basket would end TSU's drought as the Tigers began chipping away at the end. TSU responded with a 7-2 run to get back within 57-55 after Jordan Gilliam's three-pointer.

Air Force responded with a layup off a reverse dribble in the paint to make it a two-possession game (59-55). TSU was whistled for a turnover on the ensuing possession as Karl Nicholas was bumped by the Air Force defender while attempting to catch the ball in the paint. TSU was forced to foul as a result and Air Force bumped the lead to 61-55 after a pair of free throws. With time winding down and a two-possession Air Force lead, TSU would miss its next three shots unfortu-

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nately before scoring on a late basket with a second left.

John Walker III scored 16 points and grabbed four rebounds while Hopkins and Nicholas also had 10 points each. Nicholas also led TSU with six rebounds and had two steals.

GAME 5 **NC State 65** **TSU 57**

11/21/21 • Raleigh, N.C.

NC State would pull away in the closing minutes of the second half as Texas Southern dropped another tough road decision by 65-57 margin Sunday evening at PNC Arena.

TSU would trail six minutes into the contest but took its first lead (8-7) with 13:26 left after PJ Henry's layup. NC State would regain the lead and pushed its margin to as much as nine (20-11) with 7:41 remaining but TSU responded with a 15-6 surge to regain a 26-25 lead after Brison Gresham's layup with 3:01 left. NC State's Breon Pass connected on two free throws to move the Wolfpack back ahead, but TSU fought back and closed out the half aided by PJ Henry's five points over the final 50 seconds to claim a 31-28 halftime lead.

TSU would lead by five on two occasions within the first two minutes of the second half but NC State would tie it at 37-all at the 16:32 mark. The Tigers regained the lead (38-37) after a Karl Nicholas free throw and would hold on to the lead for nearly two minutes. After clawing back and holding a 41-37 margin right before the 14-minute mark, the Tigers hit a wall shooting wise and missed their next seven shots as NC State would reclaim and up the lead to as much as six (47-41) following Terquavion Smith's three-pointer. The Tigers kept the game close on the defensive end before cutting its deficit in half after Bryson Etienne's three-pointer as they trailed 47-44 with 9:11 left. The Wolfpack hit a pair of free throws with 8:49 left to move ahead 49-44 but Henry kept TSU close with another three-pointer to keep TSU within striking distance at 49-47.

However, TSU would only hit three shots over the final eight minutes while NC State went 6-of-8 to pull away for the win.

Henry led TSU with 12 points while Yahuza Rasas and Gresham had double-digit rebounds with 13 and 10, respectively.

GAME 6 **BYU 81** **TSU 64**

11/24/21 • Provo, Utah

PJ Henry scored a career-high 21 points but a big second half run by BYU was the difference as TSU fell 81-64 at #18 BYU Wednesday night at the Marriott Center.

Both teams hung tough with each other until the midway point of the first half as BYU went on a 14-3 run which turned a 9-7 contest into a 23-10 BYU lead. TSU refused to back down as John Jones ended the drought with a jumper as TSU began to heat up and cut BYU's lead to 26-20 behind the strength of 5-of-6 shooting from the field. The Cougars pushed their lead back to 10 on several occasions as the half went on but the Tigers remained in the hunt by getting to the free throw line and converting.

TSU would trail by seven (34-27) with 3:24 remaining as the flow of the contest would change over the final three minutes. Both teams traded three-pointers during the two-minute mark but BYU would add two more treys before the buzzer to go into the half ahead 43-30.

The Tigers would stay close for most of the second half as they trailed 59-49 after Brison Gresham's and-one with 12:57 remaining. However, BYU went on a 12-3 run to move ahead 71-52 at the 8:25 mark. The Tigers put together an 8-0 run over the next minute to get within 11 but that would be the closest they would get as BYU pulled away at the end.

PJ Henry led TSU with 21 points and four rebounds while Gresham added 12 points, nine rebounds and two blocks. Karl Nicholas and John Walker III both scored nine points.

GAME 7 **LA Tech 87** **TSU 60**

12/1/21 • Ruston, La.

A big first half run by Louisiana Tech created a hurdle too high for TSU climb as they claimed an 87-60 win Wednesday night.

The Tigers were down by only three (9-6) with 15:38 left in the first half but saw the deficit grow to 13-6 after four straight from Tech. A Karl Nicholas jumper cut the gap to 13-8 but the tide of the contest would turn over the next 7:16 as LA Tech went on an 18-5 run to increase its lead to 31-13. During that span, the Bulldogs shot 66 percent (8-of-12) from the field while TSU was only 2-for-9 with four turnovers. Tech would lead by as much as 21 late in the half until a John Walker III layup

with 28 seconds left sent TSU into the locker room down 42-23.

TSU would get as close as 15 on three occasions within the first six-and-a-half minutes of the second half but Tech once again was hot from the field as they went 13-of-18 over the next nine minutes to pull away good after a 32-13 surge.

Walker III had TSU's first double-double of the year with 15 points and 10 rebounds. Nicholas added 13 points along with 10 from John Jones.

GAME 8 **TSU 69** **Florida 54**

12/14/21 • Gainesville, Fla.

Texas Southern men's basketball made history once again as they became the first team in SWAC history to defeat a ranked opponent from the SEC after an impressive 69-54 win over No. 20 Florida Monday night.

Aside from a Brison Gresham layup at the 19:05 mark, Florida would remain out front during a seven-minute span as they would lead by as much as six on several occasions. TSU would reverse the outcome around the 12 minute mark as PJ Henry drained a three-pointer which kick started a 10-3 run aided by 5-of-6 shooting as TSU jumped ahead 22-18 with 9:04 left.

TSU turned to the aggressor once they had the lead and stepped up its play on both ends as they held Florida to only three field goals the remainder of the half while connecting on 50 percent of their baskets (6-of-12) en route to a 35-25 halftime lead. In addition to TSU's offense, they also doubled the Gators on the glass by a 22-11 rebound margin.

Knowing the Gators would come out fired up with their SEC streak on the line, TSU was up for the task to open the second half. Justin Hopkins opened the second half with a backdoor cut to the rim for a 37-25 lead. The Gators would eventually knock the lead down to eight (39-31) but TSU turned to its rebounding to generate its next basket as TSU picked up a pair of offensive rebounds which led to a John Walker III trey with the shot clock winding down for a huge 42-31 lead with 16:13 remaining.

The possession took the wind out of Florida's sails as TSU began to assert themselves on both ends. The Tigers took it to the Gators offensively with near-perfect (7-of-8) shooting over the next six minutes while holding Florida to 2-of-8 shooting which eventually led to a 19-point (55-36) lead at the 10:17 mark. Unlike the past few games which saw the team lose second half leads, the Tigers refused to budge this time as they upped

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GAME 10

SU 63

TSU 50

1/3/22 • Baton Rouge, La.

Texas Southern overcame a slow start early but couldn't close down the stretch as Southern claimed the 2022 SWAC men's basketball opener 63-50 Monday night.

It took time for TSU to regain its footing after being off for nearly a month as TSU committed an uncharacteristic eight turnovers within the first 5:35 as Southern stormed out to a 13-2 lead. Forced to use the bench earlier than normal due to the troubles, the Tigers would commit three more turnovers from that point before ending the drought on PJ Henry's three-pointer with 13 minutes remaining.

Henry would guide TSU through troubled waters over the next seven minutes as he scored six more points coupled with four from Karl Nicholas as TSU settled down with a 10-4 run which cut the deficit to 17-15 with 5:55 remaining. Southern would answer with a layup as Jayden Saddler got behind the defense in the paint to move ahead 19-15 on the ensuing possession.

The roles would reverse over the final 5:54 as Southern went 5-of-7 from the field which also included a 7-2 run over the final 3:50. Despite the run, TSU hung tough but couldn't make more of a dent as they couldn't capitalize from the free throw line with five missed attempts as SU claimed a 30-22 halftime lead.

Southern came out of the locker room hot as they connected on five of its first nine shots during an early 10-6 surge which pushed its lead to 40-28 at the 13:20 mark. However, TSU began to regroup and went to work on both ends of the floor as they put together an 11-3 run over the next three minutes.

With the deficit cut to 43-39 at the 9:54 mark, Southern's Brion Whitley nailed a three-pointer from the corner for a 46-39 margin. A technical foul was issued to TSU several seconds later and Saddler scored the next three points for SU as the close contest now turned into a 49-39 SU lead with 9:04 left. The deficit grew to as much as 11 (51-40) with 7:54 left but TSU once again made a late push with three straight baskets over the next 2:29 to trail 52-46 which led to a timeout.

The Tigers had SU on the ropes at that point as the Jaguars missed its next shot attempt following the timeout but turned the ball over on the next offensive possession on a jump ball. TSU would force a turnover immediately after, but Whitley read the pass all the way on the defensive end and scored an easy dunk as SU went ahead 54-46 with 3:55 left. TSU would miss a three-pointer and a free

throw on its next two possessions but stayed close after AJ Lawson drew a charge off an SU offensive rebound. However, TSU turned the ball over on its next possession and committed an intentional foul to prevent the fast break score. Saddler hit both free throws to up the margin back to double digits (56-46) and two more SU free throws with 2:23 left created a 12-point deficit. From that point, TSU wouldn't recover as SU closed out the contest.

Nicholas led TSU with 16 points and 12 rebounds and a block. Henry added 11 with three assists.

GAME 11

TSU 67

Grambling State 61

1/5/22 • Grambling, La.

History says TSU and Grambling State would play a close game and they did just that as TSU went on a 10-3 run over the final two minutes to claim a 67-61 win Wednesday night in Grambling.

TSU would lead for nearly seven minutes to open the first half but Grambling State kept chipping away and tied it at 12-all on a Quintin Murell layup. TSU would miss its next four shots over the next three minutes but kept GSU scoreless until a Shawndarius Coward layup moved the lead (14-12) to GSU with 10:43 remaining. TSU would end its drought six minutes later after a Justin Hopkins' free throw. Hopkins would miss his second attempt but make up for it as his offensive rebound led to a John Jones' three-pointer and a 16-16 tie.

That was the spark TSU needed as the game turned into a back-and-forth affair from that point as the lead changed hands three times. With 6:28 left, John Walker III hit a much-needed three-pointer to shift the lead back to TSU as the Tigers were near-perfect (6-of-7) from the field going into the half. GSU managed to knot the contest at 29-all late in the half but PJ Henry scored the final five points for TSU as they claimed a 34-29 halftime lead.

TSU upped its lead to six early in the second half but GSU would outscore TSU 24-9 over the next 8:31 to lead by as much as nine (53-44) with 9:41 remaining. Sensing the game slipping away, TSU picked up a big steal and John Jones was fouled on a three-point attempt. Jones hit all three attempts to narrow the gap to six (53-47).

Fueled by timely free throw shooting and defense, TSU fought back with a vengeance as they outscored GSU 14-5 over the next 6:31 to knot the score at 58-all after 1-of-2 free throws from Karl Nicholas with 2:27 left. The TSU defense stepped up again and forced a GSU turnover on its next possession and capitalized as Nicholas scored off a Henry assist which ultimately turned into a three-

their margin to 20 points twice down the stretch as Florida would draw no closer than 15 points.

While the win was monumental, TSU has been there before as this was its first win over a ranked team since a win at Oregon in 2018 and its second ranked win since 2014. In addition, the win also marked the first against an SEC opponent since 2018 (Texas A&M).

Three players scored in double figures led by PJ Henry's 16 points followed by 14 from Karl Nicholas and 13 from John Walker III. Brison Gresham led TSU on the board with 13 rebounds while Nicholas and Walker both had two blocks.

GAME 9

TSU 70

UTRGV 60

12/14/21 • Edinburg, Texas

Brison Gresham posted career highs in points and and blocks while recording a double-double as TSU won its second straight following a 70-60 road win at UTRGV on Tuesday night.

TSU would lead from start to finish as they set the tone early. They led 7-5 after a John Jones' jumper with 14:50 remaining before turning up the heat on both ends as they outscored UTRGV 13-5 over the next 6:54. TSU went 6-of-9 from the field while forcing seven turnovers defensively as the lead grew to 18-10 after Justin Hopkins' trey.

The Tigers shut the paint down defensively led by Gresham's seven blocks in the half as UTRGV was left to generate offense from the perimeter. On the opposite end, TSU pretty much had its way inside and outside as they upped the lead to double digits with 4:55 left. UTRGV drew to within seven on two occasions down the stretch but TSU managed to regain a double-digit lead at the half as they led 32-21.

TSU enjoyed a double-digit lead early in the second half but UTRGV began to settle into an offensive rhythm and went 8-from-11 from the field over the next 7:16. UTRGV outscored TSU 20-10 as they were able to get within six on several occasions. Holding a 54-48 lead, Yahuza Rasas scored four of the next six points for TSU as they pushed its lead to 60-51 with 6:10 left. TSU would outscore UTRGV 6-2 from that point and regain control of the contest as they kept a double-digit lead over the final 4:15.

Gresham had a memorable night with career-best performances in points (18) and blocks (7). John Jones added a season-high 15 points while Justin Hopkins scored 12 points.

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point play and a 61-58 lead with 1:50 left. Grambling State missed its next two shot attempts and with 23 seconds left, Henry hit a crucial jumper to make it a two-possession (63-58) game followed by two additional free throws as the lead grew to 65-58.

GSU refused to go away as A.J. Taylor hit a three-pointer to draw within 65-61 with 11 seconds left but Henry hit two more free throws to close out the game and earn the road split.

Henry led TSU with 16 points followed by 12 points and eight rebounds from Walker III. John Jones closed out the double-digit scorers with 10.

GAME 12

TSU 90

UAPB 71

1/8/22 • Houston, Texas

A 24-9 first half run by Texas Southern set the tone for the remainder of the game as the Tigers won their home opener by a 90-71 margin Saturday night inside the H&PE Arena.

UAPB would claim an early lead as they led by four on two occasions within the first six minutes. The contest was a back-and-forth affair from that point with a pair of ties but UAPB continued to hold on as they led 23-20 with 8:19 left. Both teams would commit turnovers on the ensuing possession but TSU took full advantage of its steal as Karl Nicholas dunked home the basket for a 23-22 deficit.

UAPB would miss its next layup attempt and senior guard Bryson Etienne made his presence known with a three-pointer off a Jordan Gilliam assist. UAPB missed its next shot and Etienne once again buried a trey to move TSU ahead 28-23 with 7:03 left. Etienne's trey kick started both TSU's offense and defense as the Tigers went on a 24-9 run over the next seven minutes. During the run, Etienne scored eight points followed by five from Justin Hopkins as the TSU defense held UAPB to 2-of-8 shooting from the field while TSU was 8-of-12, including 3-for-6 from beyond the arc. Once the damage was done, TSU claimed a 44-32 halftime lead.

UAPB would draw within 44-35 early in the second half but TSU turned up the heat with a 13-2 run fueled by perfect shooting (5-for-5) from the Tigers. Ahead 57-37, TSU would never look back as the lead would grow to as much as 28 with 6:01 remaining. Everyone would contribute for TSU on the evening as 11 of 12 players would score en route to a 90-point night.

Etienne led the way with 21 points on 7-of-10 shooting while PJ Henry and Karl Nicholas had 13 points apiece. Yahuza Rasas finished with seven rebounds and two blocks followed by five

assists from A.J. Lawson.

GAME 13

TSU 95

MVSU 58

1/10/22 • Houston, Texas

Five players scored in double figures as Texas Southern shot above 50 percent for the second consecutive game as the Tigers rolled to a 95-58 win over Mississippi Valley State Monday night.

The Tigers took control of the game early as they jumped out to a 21-6 lead within the first seven minutes. During the run, the Tigers sizzled from the field as they shot 9-of-13 while connecting on a trio of three-pointers. The Delta Devils struggled from the field as the TSU defense forced them to miss eight of its first nine baskets.

The contest would turn into a shootout over the next six minutes as MVSU began to heat up from the outside. The Delta Devils hit four three-pointers to get back into the game while TSU cooled off from the field but did damage from the free throw line as they hit 6-of-8 from the charity stripe as TSU led 35-23 at the 4:58 mark.

Aside from lull offensively, the Tigers woke back up in a huge way as they closed out the half on a 19-2 run which saw them connect on seven straight shots. Defensively, the Tigers kept the heat on as MVSU finished the half 1-of-7 en route to a 54-25 halftime lead.

Both teams were pretty much even to open the second half as TSU led by as much as 33 after A.J. Lawson's layup at the 14:16 mark. The Tigers never let their guard down on both ends as they led by as much as 41 en route to their ninth straight win over MVSU dating back to Jan. 23, 2017. In addition, TSU has also won 17 of the past 18 games over the Delta Devils.

John Walker III led TSU with 16 points, six rebounds and two blocks while AJ Lawson added 15 with five rebounds. Bryson Etienne had another solid game with 10 points and six boards followed by 10 each from Justin Hopkins and Brison Gresham. Gresham also had eight rebounds while Yahuza Rasas and PJ Henry had two blocks.

GAME 14

Alcorn State 73

TSU 72

1/15/22 • Lorman, Miss.

Texas Southern fell behind early and nearly pulled off a major comeback from a double-digit deficit but Alcorn State held on for a 73-72 win Saturday afternoon.

The contest was tight early on as ASU turned a 12-7 deficit to a 12-12 tie and began a track meet as the Braves moved ahead 20-16 but TSU tied it at 20-all after Karl Nicholas' layup off a Jordan Gilliam steal with 10:19 remaining. TSU moved on top 22-20 on Justin Hopkins' layup but ASU got hot late and outscored TSU 26-10 over the final 9:42 to lead 46-32.

ASU went ahead by 18 (50-34) with 17:33 remaining but TSU refused to go down easily as they went on a 10-2 run sparked by Yahuza Rasas' five points and Bryson Etienne's three. The Braves would regroup and up the lead back to 14 but TSU continued to fight.

A track meet would ensue from that point as TSU would outscore ASU 19-17 over the next 10:23 as six Tigers would score. In addition to the track meet, the tone of the contest changed drastically as it turned physical in the paint between both teams. Despite the physicality and whistles blown, TSU would overcome it as they outscored ASU 12-4 over the next three minutes as Etienne scored seven to move TSU within 73-72 with 54 seconds left after A.J. Lawson's tip-in.

ASU came up with several key offensive rebounds off missed shots to extend possessions late but the TSU defense stepped up as they forced a long inbound pass with 16 seconds left which turned into an ASU travel and turnover.

Having a chance to win or tie on its potential final possession, TSU missed the go-ahead three-pointer with seven seconds left. However, the Tigers picked up the offensive rebound with five seconds left but the layup attempt fell short. TSU was forced to foul with two seconds left but ASU missed the free throw attempt. However, the desperation three-pointer fell short as ASU won its second straight in Lorman.

Etienne led TSU with 22 points while Karl Nicholas had a double-double with 11 points and 12 boards. PJ Henry added 10 points with two steals.

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GAME 15

JSU 61

TSU 58

1/17/22 • Jackson, Miss.

A late run by Jackson State in the second half flipped the tide of the game as TSU dropped a 61-58 decision Monday evening on the road.

The first half was nip-and-tuck as neither team would lead by three points within the first 12:15 of the contest. John Jones took control from that point with a back-to-back three-pointers as TSU led 27-21 at the 4:24 mark. Points were hard to come by for both teams the remainder of the half as the teams combined to make only three field goals en route to a 30-25 TSU lead at halftime.

For the second game in a row, Yahuza Rasas came out with a strong second half as he scored four of the team's next six points as TSU led by nine with 17:16 left. In what would be a common occurrence from this point, Jackson State scored six straight as TSU missed its next five baskets which cut the deficit to 36-33 three minutes later. TSU recovered with a John Walker III trey as the team went on a 7-0 run to move back ahead by nine with 7:32 on the clock after Jordan Gilliam's basket.

TSU kept a sizeable lead over the next two minutes as they led by nine once again on PJ Henry's three-pointer. However, Jackson State turned it up a notch as they went on a 10-0 run over the next 1:43 to move ahead 52-51. TSU would fight off the run as they regained a 53-52 lead after Bryson Etienne's basket and moved ahead 55-52 after a pair of Henry free throws with 2:55 remaining.

Jackson State's Terence Lewis II scored off his own miss to cut TSU's lead to 55-54 and a TSU turnover led to a JSU basket and a 56-55 deficit. JSU would add a free throw to move ahead 57-55 but Karl Nicholas tied the game with a jumper at the 1:01 mark. A TSU foul led to a free throw by JSU and a 58-57 JSU lead but another critical TSU turnover led to a TSU foul and a JSU free throw as JSU led 59-57 with 27 seconds remaining.

Etienne was fouled on the ensuing possession and hit 1-of-2 free throws to cut the margin to 59-58 at the 14 second mark. JSU would move ahead by a 61-58 score after a dunk but TSU's game-tying three-point attempt fell short.

Walker III led TSU with 13 points followed by 12 from Jones and 10 from Etienne. Brison Gresham had five rebounds and a pair of blocks while Walker III, Henry and Etienne had four rebounds each.

GAME 16

TSU 78

AAMU 44

1/22/22 • Houston, Texas

Texas Southern returned to the winner's column in a big way as they led from start-to-finish during a 78-44 win over Alabama A&M Saturday night at home.

Texas Southern started off the contest strong with a 9-0 run led by four points from Karl Nicholas. The Bulldogs would respond with an 8-0 surge of their own which led to a TSU timeout with 13:27 remaining.

After the timeout, it took a total team effort to get the Tigers back on track as six players scored over the next five minutes. Behind the strength of a 15-4 run, TSU turned a one-point lead into a 24-12 lead. Defensively, cooled AAMU off as they held them to only 2-of-10 shooting. From there it was all TSU as the Tigers turned up the intensity even more as they remained hot from the field going 7-of-12 down the stretch. Brison Gresham led the charge with nine points over the final 6:28 as TSU took control en route to a 42-20 halftime lead.

The Tigers were never threatened in the second half as they maintained a 20-point plus lead for the remainder of the half. TSU would claim a lead as high as 34 at the 23 second mark after Andrew Malveaux's three-pointer.

John Jones led the way with 15 points on 5-of-9 shooting while Brison Gresham followed with 11. A.J. Lawson led the Tigers with eight boards along with five assists from Jordan Gilliam.

With the win, TSU head coach Johnny Jones improves to 8-0 lifetime against Alabama A&M. As a team, the Tigers have won 17 straight over AAMU and 28 of the past 29 match-ups.

GAME 17

TSU 73

ALABAMA STATE 66

1/24/22 • Houston, Texas

TSU swept its recent homestand behind a gritty team performance as Brison Gresham led the way with a double-double in a 73-66 win over Alabama State on Monday night.

TSU once again got off to a fast start with an 8-0 lead before ASU would find the scoreboard at the 14:56 mark. The Tigers kept the pace up as they responded with a 7-2 surge to move the margin up to 15-6.

The game would slow down as TSU was whistled for five consecutive fouls as Alabama State went on a 10-2 run to close the gap to 17-14 after Trace Young's jumper. With 7:57 left, the Ti-

gers went back inside as A.J. Lawson found Brison Gresham in the meat of the paint for a 19-14 lead. Gresham's free throw was successful as TSU led 20-14.

TSU found itself in early foul trouble as Alabama State was in the bonus as early as the 10-minute mark. The Hornets would take advantage from the charity stripe along with timely shooting as they trailed 20-19 with 6:52 remaining after a three-pointer.

The contest turned physical quickly as TSU ended a two-minute scoreless drought with a free throw from Justin Hopkins as they led 21-19. ASU would tie it at 21-all after a layup but once again, it turned physical as a total of six technical were called within the first four minutes. With 4:26 left, TSU's A.J. Lawson scored a three-point play the old-fashioned way for a 24-21 lead but ASU's Jordan O'Neal responded with a basket to stay within one at 24-23 at the 4:12 mark.

ASU moved ahead 25-24 at the 3:34 mark as head coach Johnny Jones did his best to protect his big men over that span as he was forced to go with a smaller lineup. Lawson found Hopkins with an acrobatic pass to move TSU on top 26-25 with 1:44 left but ASU tied it at 26-all on Isaiah Range's free throw. TSU's P.J. Henry nailed a much-needed trey with 56 seconds left to move on top 29-26 as ASU missed a three-pointer on the ensuing possession. Both teams would miss its final attempts as the Tigers led 29-26 at the break.

TSU rode two big dunks from Karl Nicholas during an early 8-4 run as they upped its lead to 37-30 prior to the first media timeout of the second half. TSU would score five quick points after the media timeout for a double-digit lead (42-32) and led by as much as 10 after an acrobatic move from John Walker III.

Alabama State wouldn't go away as the contest turned into a track meet. Both teams matched point production (21-19) over the next nine minutes as TSU's Brison Gresham turned up his play with eight points during that span as TSU upped the lead to 61-53 with 4:30 remaining.

Both teams cooled over the next 2:41 with a combined two shots made. ASU scored a layup with 1:52 left but A.J. Lawson ended the drought for TSU with a layup at the 1:37 mark as TSU led 63-55. ASU would miss its next shot and was forced to foul TSU to preserve clock. The Tigers missed their first attempt which led to an ASU trey and a 63-58 lead. TSU missed its next attempt at the line but ASU couldn't capitalize after a missed trey.

TSU would attempt to put the game away with a layup from John Jones coupled with three straight free throws from Jones due to a double technical by Alabama State's head coach with 37 seconds remaining as they led 68-58. Both

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teams would score eight points each from that point as TSU went 8-for-11 from the line down the stretch.

Gresham led TSU with 11 points and 16 boards while Walker III added 11. John Jones scored 10 while Jordan Gilliam added eight rebounds.

GAME 18

TSU 75

PVAMU 74 (OT)

1/29/22 • Prairie View, Texas

Texas Southern overcame a double-digit deficit in the second half and survived a back-and-forth overtime as they earned its first win at Prairie View A&M in five years after a 75-74 decision Saturday night.

As expected, the TSU-PVAMU rivalry was in full force early as the first half featured nine lead changes and seven ties within the first 17:12. The tide of the contest would turn with 3:12 remaining as PVAMU closed out the half on a 10-0 run for a 40-33 halftime lead. During the run, TSU would miss its final three shots while committing four turnovers while PVAMU hit on three attempts for the difference.

Bryson Etienne ended the TSU drought with a trey to open the second half to draw within 40-36 but PVAMU answered with a backdoor basket to move ahead 42-36. Two PVAMU free throws and a missed TSU shot led to another Panther basket and a 10-point (46-36) deficit prior to the first media timeout. The ball wouldn't fall for whatever reason for the Tigers from that point while PVAMU's lead increased to 50-37 after a four-point play at the 14:10 mark.

Jordan Gilliam put the team on its back to keep the game from slipping away as he personally sparked a 7-0 run with four free throws and a three-pointer off Yahuza Rasas' offensive rebound as the deficit decreased to six at 50-44 prior to a called PVAMU timeout with 12:09 left. With one second left on the shot clock on PVAMU's next possession, the Panthers received a dose of luck as Markedric Bell hit a trey after he was left open on a double team. TSU would answer quickly on A.J. Lawson's layup to stay within seven (53-46). TSU kept up its defensive pressure and kept on chipping away at the PVAMU lead over the next four minutes as they closed to 53-51 after another Gilliam three-pointer at the 8:32 mark.

PVAMU scored on a layup after a TSU miss but the Tigers started to assert themselves inside as Karl Nicholas drew a pair of fouls and hit 3-of-4 free throws to get within 55-54 with 6:51 remaining. After another defensive stop, Bryson Etienne hit a huge three-pointer for TSU's first lead

(57-55) of the second half. PVAMU would commit a traveling violation and Yahuza Rasas upped the margin to 59-55 with 5:48 left before a pair of Panther free throws cut the lead to 59-57.

In typical TSU-PVAMU fashion, the intensity picked up late as baskets from Lawson and Etienne gave TSU a 63-57 lead with 4:32 left but PVAMU's Jawaun Daniels hit a three-pointer with time winding down on the shot clock to cut the lead to 63-60 prior to the media timeout at 3:50.

Lawson, who grew up 45 minutes down the highway from Prairie View in Bryan, Texas, began to feel at home as he would hit two free throws on the next possession for a 65-60 lead but PVAMU hit two of its own to stay within 65-62 at the 2:53 mark. The Tigers missed a prime opportunity to move ahead with a close miss on its next possession but the defense came up big as PVAMU missed a wide open three-pointer. Lawson was fouled on the next possession and hit both free throws for a 67-62 lead with 1:54 left.

Defensively, TSU kept the pressure as PVAMU missed its next shot and free throw attempt but TSU couldn't capitalize as they as missed a three-pointer and two free throws to keep the Panthers in the game. William Douglas would drain a three-pointer with 48 seconds left to cut TSU's lead to 67-65 and TSU once again left the door open with a missed shot which gave the Panthers a chance at a tie or win. The Panthers played the possession out and sent it into overtime as Douglas hit a jumper with 1.2 seconds left.

Despite the setback, the Tigers didn't panic as Lawson opened OT with a big basket down in the paint. PVAMU answered on a putback but Lawson again had a hand in the next play as he drew a double team and found a wide open Bryson Etienne for a 72-69 lead. Douglas was again a thorn in TSU's side with game-tying three-pointer but Yahuza Rasas hit 1-of-2 free throws to give TSU a 73-72 lead with 2:49 left.

The TSU defense forced another turnover on the next possession and Etienne made them pay with another driving layup in the paint for a 75-72 margin. Karl Nicholas came up with a huge block several seconds later and the TSU defense again forced another turnover on the inbound pass. TSU would miss its layup attempt to go ahead by two possessions and PVAMU had two opportunities to score but misfired. However, TSU was whistled for a loose ball foul but PVAMU missed the front end of the one-and-one with 46.6 left. The Tigers missed another shot with time winding down which left the door open for PVAMU to tie.

After a PVAMU timeout with 7.7 left, Douglas was forced by the TSU defense to take a desperation three-pointer which led to a PVAMU putback that took too much time off the clock as

TSU sealed the win.

TSU erased its recent Baby Dome ghosts as the win marked the first time since 2017 TSU won on the PVAMU campus and the first for head coach Johnny Jones in four tries. The win also marked the first time since 2017-18 TSU has a two-winning streak over the Panthers.

Etienne led TSU with 20 points followed by 15 from Lawson and 10 each from Gilliam and Rasas. Rasas had a double-double with 11 boards while Brison Gresham had three blocks.

GAME 19

TSU 75

PVAMU 74 (OT)

2/5/22 • Tallahassee, Fla.

TSU used a team effort on both ends of the court and came up big down the stretch in the second half as they ended Florida A&M's seven-game win streak after a 67-55 road win Saturday afternoon on NBA TV.

The road to Tallahassee wasn't easy for the Tigers as their initial flight from Houston was delayed on Friday. TSU would eventually board but ran into another wall as they were forced to spend Friday night in a Miami airport terminal before making it to Tallahassee Saturday morning.

Despite the setbacks, the Tigers didn't show any signs of wear and tear early on as they jumped out to a 5-0 lead as Bryson Etienne hit a three-pointer. Florida A&M would draw within 7-5 with 16:33 left but TSU took their best punch over the next 3:40 as Yahuza Rasas and Brison Gresham scored four points each as TSU outscored FAMU 13-7 for a 20-12 lead after John Jones' three-pointer.

TSU would hit a cold spell while committing three turnovers over the next four minutes as FAMU heated up with a 13-0 run for a 25-20 lead. Rasas would end the drought with a free throw and one possession later, Etienne rattled home a three-pointer to draw within 25-24. FAMU's M.J. Randolph scored on driving layup but Etienne answered with another trey to knot the game at 27-all. Randolph would score off a TSU turnover to move them back ahead 29-27. TSU would miss its next two shots while FAMU extended its lead to 31-27 at the 4:29 mark.

However, TSU would take FAMU's best punch as P.J. Henry and A.J. Lawson hit baskets to tie the game at 31-all. The baskets sparked a 9-0 run while TSU forced five Rattler turnovers for a 36-31 halftime lead.

Lawson opened the second half with a three-pointer from the corner as TSU led 39-31. Randolph would answer with a three-point play to stay within five (39-34) and FAMU scored its fifth straight

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point after a TSU offensive foul to get within 39-36 but Karl Nicholas picked the perfect time to score his first points of the game with a nice post move to lead 41-36.

Both teams would have a scoring drought or nearly three minutes until Lawson's layup moved TSU back ahead by seven (43-36).

Etienne would serve as TSU's lone offensive threat over the next six minutes with six points as TSU would need every point. FAMU outscored TSU 13-7 over the next 6:34 to trail 50-49 with 7:52 left.

John Walker III gave TSU a 52-49 lead nearly two minutes later and the Tigers continued to frustrate FAMU defensively as a turnover led to a Jordan Gilliam trey and a 55-49 lead with 4:50 remaining. FAMU would miss its next two shots while Lawson added a free throw to up the margin to 56-49. TSU would draw a FAMU offensive foul and took full advantage offensively as Etienne nailed a trey for a 59-49 lead. TSU ultimately would wrap up the game and end FAMU's seven-game winning streak on a 15-6 run sparked by 5-of-6 shooting.

Etienne led TSU with 18 points on 6-of-8 shooting (5-of-6 three-pointers). Lawson added 11 points and four rebounds followed by nine points and seven rebounds from Rasas.

GAME 20

TSU 66

BETHUNE-COOKMAN 63

2/7/22 • Daytona Beach, Fla.

Bryson Etienne scored TSU's final four points and came up with a huge steal in the final 41 seconds as the Tigers held off a late Bethune-Cookman rally for its fifth straight win Monday night inside Moore Gymnasium.

Playing inside a venue that has proven to be a home court advantage for BCU in SWAC play, the Tigers quickly pulled the crowd out the game as they led from the opening tip. Both teams took time to feel each other out like a boxing match but TSU began to strike with a vengeance on both sides of the court as they outscored BCU 31-16 over the final 15 minutes for a 40-22 halftime lead.

TSU opened the first four minutes ready for BCU's early punch as they withstood a three-pointer from their leading scorer Joe French early as the lead was 17 (46-29) with 16:23 left. However, the Wildcats began to heat up from the field and slowly turned the contest around as they went on a 14-4 run over the next five minutes to find themselves down 50-43 at the 10:32 mark.

From there, it was about will and survival for the Tigers as they survived two turnovers over the next minute as Karl Nicholas dunked home a putback for an important bucket and a 52-43 lead. The Tigers regained the momentum after the dunk as it sparked

a 6-0 run which increased the lead to 56-43 after a Brison Gresham dunk off an A.J. Lawson assist. But once again, BCU charged back as TSU committed three turnovers over the next 2:14 and BCU heated up with a pair of three-pointers as a 9-0 run saw TSU's once-safe lead dwindle down to 56-52 at the 5:16 mark.

TSU would use the free throw line to hold BCU off over the next two minutes and Jordan Gilliam scored a big basket off a backdoor cut to keep TSU up 61-54 as the clock read 3:19. However, BCU's long-range shooting came up big as Kevin Davis nailed a top of the key three-pointer on the ensuing possession for a 61-57 TSU lead.

AJ Lawson drew a big foul driving to the basket and hit 1-of-2 free throws for a 62-57 lead but Davis was the thorn in TSU's side again with another three-pointer from the same location to cut the deficit to 62-60. TSU would miss a three-pointer on its next possession and Davis was fouled. Davis hit 1-of-2 free throws which prevented a tie.

TSU missed its next shot attempt and the Wildcats had a chance to move ahead or tie but Bryson Etienne forced BCU to call a timeout as he denied BCU to get the ball into the hands of its point guard to start the offense with 50.9 seconds left.

After the timeout, the TSU defense made the game's biggest stop as they forced BCU into a shot clock violation and a huge turnover. Etienne would take matters into his own hands once again as he drew a foul and scored the basket for 64-61 lead with 31 seconds left. The important free throw was missed and BCU drew a foul on the next possession with a chance to draw within a point.

The Wildcats missed the front end of the one-and-one but regained possession after TSU failed to secure the rebound. On the inbounds play, Etienne came up huge again with a steal and was fouled. He made both free throws for a 66-61 lead as BCU misfired on its next attempt. Unfortunately, TSU couldn't create further separation due to missed free throws which gave BCU another chance as they closed to 66-63 after a layup. Two more missed free throws allowed the Wildcats to have a shot at tying the game in the closing seconds but the shot was short as TSU picked up a big win with a huge stretch of games on the horizon.

Nicholas led TSU with 15 points, 11 rebounds and three assists while Etienne added 13 points and seven rebounds. Gilliam scored 11 as he was perfect from the field.

GAME 21

TSU 68

GRAMBLING STATE 65

2/12/22 • Houston, Texas

John Jones scored a game-high 15 points off the bench and TSU made a big defensive stop in the closing seconds to hold off Grambling State 68-65 Saturday evening inside the H&PE Arena.

History said both teams would engage in a hard-fought affair and it lived up to the billing as GSU would break open a 9-9 tie in the first half with a 9-2 run to lead 18-9 after Chans Robinson's basket. With a spirited crowd on hand, TSU would turn to Justin Hopkins to get things going as he scored six points during a stretch which saw TSU go 3-for-3 from downtown. Bryson Etienne also added five points during the stretch as TSU turned a nine-point deficit to a 27-21 lead with 3:29 remaining.

The good times would end for TSU unfortunately as they went 1-for-7 from the field as the half closed. Grambling State would claim a 31-29 halftime lead behind the strength of a 10-2 run as Robinson was a one-man wrecking crew with eight points.

The second half was back-and-forth and evenly played for the first 10 minutes. Both teams went 7-of-13 from the field and committed six turnovers while recording two steals as the contest was tied at 47-all with 9:36 left.

With everyone on the edge of their seats, the Tigers turned to veteran guard John Jones to liven up the building for the next 3:28. Jones was a one-man machine as he nailed a trio of three-pointers to spark a 15-5 run which gave TSU a 62-52 lead at the 5:08 mark.

TSU would keep pace with GSU from that point as they led by eight (66-58) but GSU would claw back and make it must-see TV live on NBA TV over the final 1:53. A TSU shot clock violation led to a Malik Lamin layup on the next possession. Another TSU turnover led to a GSU layup as the deficit was cut to 66-62 with 1:24 left. In a déjà vu moment again, TSU committed another costly turnover which led to an Eric Parrish steal and dunk as GSU closed to 66-64 at the 1:04 mark.

TSU would miss a jumper on the ensuing possession and GSU would go for the gusto as Prince Moss airballed a three-pointer. However, Grambling State's Tra'Michael Moton picked up the offensive rebound and Moss was fouled on a shooting attempt with 22 seconds left. Trailing 66-65, Moss missed the second free throw but Shawndaris Cowart picked up the offensive rebound. Moton went for the go-ahead jumper but TSU couldn't secure the rebound which led to GSU recovering the ball with 11.7 left.

Parrish lost control of the ball after the timeout and Jordan Gilliam recovered the ball and found a

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streaking Yahuza Rasas for a 68-65 lead with 1.8 left. Moton had a chance to tie the game late but his last-second heave fell short.

Jones led TSU with 15 points and was 5-for-5 from beyond the arc. Hopkins added 15 while Brison Gresham led TSU with eight rebounds and six blocks.

GAME 22

SOUTHERN 70

TSU 58

2/14/22 • Houston, Texas

A slow start in the second half created a hill too high to climb as TSU fell 70-58 to Southern on Monday night inside H&PE Arena.

The Tigers came out the gate on fire within the first five minutes as they drained four three-pointers while shooting 7-of-9 from the field to jump out to an 18-10 lead with 14:19 remaining in the first half. However, the roles would reverse as SU began to heat up and went on a 16-4 run to claim a 26-22 lead as TSU didn't hit a field goal while committing three turnovers.

TSU would outscore SU 6-2 over the next 1:37 to tie the contest at 28-all. The Tigers would turn to Karl Nicholas to keep them in the contest over the final four minutes as he scored the final eight points for TSU while SU had five players score as TSU trailed 39-36.

Nothing went right for TSU to begin the second half as they committed an uncharacteristic nine turnovers while shooting 0-for-7 from the three-point line. By the time the damage was done, TSU was on the other end of an 18-6 run as SU built a 57-42 lead with 7:25 left.

With the outside shot not falling, TSU would turn inside to generate offense as they outscored SU 13-6 over the next four minutes to draw within 63-55 after a Nicholas layup with 2:44 left. SU would answer with a dunk as TSU would not score a field goal the rest of the way as SU closed out the win.

Nicholas led TSU with 14 points while Walker III added 12 followed by 10 from Hopkins. Jordan Gilliam led TSU with seven rebounds.

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GAME-BY-GAME STARTERS

11-9	at Oregon	Lawson	Gilliam	Hopkins	Nicholas	Walker III
11-12	at Saint Mary's	Henry	Jones	Hopkins	Nicholas	Walker III
11-15	at Washington	Henry	Lawson	Hopkins	Nicholas	Walker III
11-17	at Air Force	Henry	Lawson	Hopkins	Nicholas	Walker III
11-21	at NC State	Henry	Gilliam	Hopkins	Nicholas	Walker III
11-24	at BYU	Henry	Gresham	Hopkins	Etienne	Rasas
12-1	at Louisiana Tech	Henry	Gilliam	Hopkins	Gresham	Walker III
12-6	at Florida	Jones	Gilliam	Hopkins	Gresham	Walker III
12-14	at UTRGV	Jones	Gilliam	Hopkins	Gresham	Nicholas
1-3	*at Southern	Jones	Gilliam	Hopkins	Gresham	Walker III
1-5	*at Grambling State	Henry	Gilliam	Lawson	Nicholas	Rasas
1-8	*ARKANSAS-PINE BLUFF	Henry	Gilliam	Lawson	Walker III	Rasas
1-10	*MISSISSIPPI VALLEY	Henry	Gilliam	Lawson	Walker III	Rasas
1-15	*at Alcorn State	Henry	Gilliam	Lawson	Walker III	Rasas
1-17	*at Jackson State	Henry	Etienne	Lawson	Nicholas	Rasas
1-22	*ALABAMA A&M	Etienne	Gilliam	Hopkins	Nicholas	Gresham
1-24	*ALABAMA STATE	Jones	Gilliam	Hopkins	Walker III	Gresham
1-29	*at Prairie View A&M	Etienne	Gilliam	Hopkins	Walker III	Gresham
2-5	*at Florida A&M	Etienne	Gilliam	Lawson	Nicholas	Rasas
2-7	*at Bethune-Cookman	Etienne	Henry	Lawson	Nicholas	Rasas
2-12	*GRAMBLING STATE	Etienne	Henry	Lawson	Nicholas	Rasas
2-14	*SOUTHERN	Etienne	Gilliam	Hopkins	Gresham	Rasas
2-19	*at Mississippi Valley State					
2-21	*at Arkansas-Pine Bluff					
2-26	*JACKSON STATE					
2-28	*ALCORN STATE					
3-5	*PRAIRIE VIEW A&M					
3-9	SWAC TOURNAMENT					

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NUMERICAL ROSTER

#	Player	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Class	Hometown (Previous School)
0	Yahuza Rasas	F	6-7	200	Sr.	St. Louis, Mo. / Mineral Area College
1	Galen Alexander	F	6-6	220	Gr.	Breaux Bridge, La. / Georgetown
2	AJ Lawson	G	6-5	205	Gr.	Bryan, Texas / McNeese State
3	PJ Henry	G	5-10	175	Jr.	Houston, Texas / Hartford
4	Bryson Etienne	G	6-3	190	Sr.	Houston, Texas / Temple College
5	Joirdon Karl Nicholas	F	6-9	220	Sr.	Pearland, Texas / Stephen F. Austin
11	Jordan Gilliam	G	6-5	175	R-Sr.	Houston, Texas / UC Riverside
12	John Jones	G	6-0	165	Gr.	Baton Rouge, La. / Nevada
14	Kolby Granger	G	6-5	180	Fr.	Missouri City, Texas / Ridge Point
15	Justin Hopkins	F	6-5	205	Gr.	Huntsville, Ala. / Samford
20	Kehlin Farooq	G	6-5	180	So.	Houston, Texas / Hampton
23	Shaqir O'Neal	F	6-7	185	Fr.	Los Angeles, Calif. / Union Grove
24	John Walker III	F	6-9	200	R-Sr.	Houston, Texas / Texas A&M
25	Grayson Carter	F	6-10	225	R-Jr.	Dallas, Texas / UTA
32	Andrew Malveaux III	G	5-10	170	R-Jr.	Houston, Texas / Strake Jesuit
42	Davon Barnes	F	6-5	215	Fr.	Memphis, Tenn. / Collierville
44	Brison Gresham	F	6-9	240	Sr.	New Orleans, La. / Houston

ALPHABETICAL ROSTER

#	Player	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Class	Hometown (Previous School)
1	Galen Alexander	F	6-6	220	Gr.	Breaux Bridge, La. / Georgetown
42	Davon Barnes	F	6-5	215	Fr.	Memphis, Tenn. / Collierville
25	Grayson Carter	F	6-10	225	R-Jr.	Dallas, Texas / UTA
4	Bryson Etienne	G	6-3	190	Sr.	Houston, Texas / Temple College
20	Kehlin Farooq	G	6-5	180	So.	Houston, Texas / Hampton
11	Jordan Gilliam	G	6-5	175	R-Sr.	Houston, Texas / UC Riverside
14	Kolby Granger	G	6-5	180	Fr.	Missouri City, Texas / Ridge Point
44	Brison Gresham	F	6-9	240	Sr.	New Orleans, La. / Houston
3	PJ Henry	G	5-10	175	Jr.	Houston, Texas / Hartford
15	Justin Hopkins	F	6-5	205	Gr.	Huntsville, Ala. / Samford
12	John Jones	G	6-0	165	Gr.	Baton Rouge, La. / Nevada
2	AJ Lawson	G	6-5	205	Gr.	Bryan, Texas / McNeese State
32	Andrew Malveaux III	G	5-10	170	R-Jr.	Houston, Texas / Strake Jesuit
5	Joirdon Karl Nicholas	F	6-9	220	Sr.	Pearland, Texas / Stephen F. Austin
23	Shaqir O'Neal	F	6-7	185	Fr.	Los Angeles, Calif. / Union Grove
0	Yahuza Rasas	F	6-7	200	Sr.	St. Louis, Mo. / Mineral Area College
24	John Walker III	F	6-9	200	R-Sr.	Houston, Texas / Texas A&M

COACHING STAFF

HEAD COACH: Johnny Jones (LSU '85) 4th year at TSU

ASSISTANT COACH: Shyrone Chatman (Memphis '02) 4th year at TSU

ASSISTANT COACH: Josh White (North Texas '11) 3rd year at TSU

SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE HEAD COACH: Randy Peele (Virginia Wesleyan '80) 4th year at TSU

PLAYER DEVELOPMENT: Ansu Sesay (Ole Miss '19) 1st year at TSU

VIDEO COORDINATOR: Shelby Tse (Texas '15) 2nd year at TSU

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PRONUNCIATION CHART

0	Yahuza Rasas	Yah – hoo – zuh
1	Galen Alexander	Ga - lin
4	Bryson Etienne	Eh – tee- in
5	Jairdon Nicholas	Jordan
11	Jordan Gilliam	Gil - ee -um
12	John Jones	
14	Kolby Granger	Kol - bee
15	Justin Hopkins	
20	Kehlin Farooq	Key - lin - Fuh - rook
23	Shaqir O'Neal	Shu - keer
25	Grayson Carter	Gray - sun
32	Andrew Malveaux III	Mal - vo
42	Davon Barnes	Day - von
44	Brisen Gresham	Bry - sun

TIGERS BY STATE / COUNTRY

ALABAMA (1)

15	Justin Hopkins	F	6-5	205	Gr.	Huntsville, Ala. / Samford
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CALIFORNIA (1)

23	Shaqir O'Neal	F	6-7	185	Fr.	Los Angeles, Calif. / Union Grove
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LOUISIANA (3)

1	Galen Alexander	F	6-6	220	Gr.	Breaux Bridge, La. / Georgetown
12	John Jones	G	6-0	165	Gr.	Baton Rouge, La. / Nevada
44	Brisen Gresham	F	6-9	240	Sr.	New Orleans, La. / Houston

MISSOURI (1)

0	Yahuza Rasas	F	6-7	200	Sr.	St. Louis, Mo. / Mineral Area College
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TENNESSEE (1)

42	Davon Barnes	F	6-5	215	Fr.	Memphis, Tenn. / Collierville
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TEXAS (10)

2	AJ Lawson	G	6-5	205	Gr.	Bryan, Texas / McNeese State
3	PJ Henry	G	5-10	175	Jr.	Houston, Texas / Hartford
4	Bryson Etienne	G	6-3	190	Sr.	Houston, Texas / Temple College
5	Jairdon Karl Nicholas	F	6-9	220	Sr.	Pearland, Texas / Stephen F. Austin
11	Jordan Gilliam	G	6-5	175	R-Sr.	Houston, Texas / UC Riverside
14	Kolby Granger	G	6-5	180	Fr.	Missouri City, Texas / Ridge Point
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25	Grayson Carter	F	6-10	225	R-Jr.	Dallas, Texas / UTA
32	Andrew Malveaux III	G	5-10	170	R-Jr.	Houston, Texas / Strake Jesuit

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JOHNNY JONES

HEAD COACH



Johnny Jones begins his fourth season as Texas Southern's head men's basketball coach. Prior to arriving at TSU, Jones served as the Nevada Wolf Pack's associate head coach for one season. Jones came to Nevada after five seasons as the head coach at LSU.

Jones quickly made his mark on the TSU program as he led the Tigers on a history-making season in 2018-19 which included wins over three teams from Power 5 Conferences.

He quickly set the tone with a win over Baylor in his TSU debut as it marked the first-ever loss by Baylor to a team from the Southwestern Athletic Conference. Several weeks later, Jones once again made headlines as the Tigers knocked off No. 18 Oregon on the road. The loss was only the fourth non-conference defeat for Oregon since the Ducks opened Matthew Knight Arena in 2011. The Tigers capped off non-conference play with a solid win over Texas A&M of the SEC as the Tigers recorded their first-ever win over Texas A&M since the series began.

The Tigers completed the 2018-19 regular season with a 14-4 SWAC mark and the No. 2 seed in postseason play. The Tigers advanced to the finals of the 2019 SWAC Tournament for the third consecutive season and was selected to participate in the CollegelInsider.com Postseason Tournament. TSU turned its play up another level in postseason play as they embarked on its longest postseason run

since winning the 1977 NAIA Tournament with a 3-1 record and an appearance in the semifinal round.

Under Jones, senior forward Jeremy Combs had a breakout year as he was named Honorable Mention All-American by the Associated Press and was the SWAC's Player and Newcomer of the Year. The 6-7 standout also earned the league's player of the week award five times.

Despite the loss of an All-American in Combs, TSU once again remained in the upper echelon of the SWAC as the Tigers finished in third place and continued their dominance inside the H&PE Arena with a 10-1 record. TSU won its 10th consecutive first round opener in the SWAC Tournament which ultimately would be its last contest due to COVID-19. Senior guard Tyrik Armstrong received NABC All-District 22 First Team and All-SWAC First Team honors while sophomore forward Yahuza Rasas earned both NABC and All-SWAC Second Team honors. For the second straight season, TSU had a player move on to the professional ranks as forward Eden Ewing was signed by Michelin Etha Engomis Nicosia of the OPAP Basketball League.

In 2020-21, Jones set another milestone as he returned TSU to the NCAA Tournament for the ninth time in university history and fourth time as a head coach following an impressive SWAC Tournament run. The Tigers also made history with its second NCAA Tournament win in school history following a 60-52 win over Mount St. Mary's.

TSU overcame a myriad of obstacles during the regular season and continued to persevere as the team picked up a Mountain West non-conference win over Wyoming. TSU enters the 2021 postseason as one of the hottest teams nationally by winning 14-of-15 heading into the NCAA Tournament. TSU also featured Jones' second SWAC's Newcomer of the Year and SWAC Tournament MVP in Michael Weathers in addition to an All-SWAC Tournament team member in Karl Nicholas.

Jones spent one season (2017-18) at the University of Nevada before moving on to TSU. Jones helped the Wolf Pack win a second consecutive Mountain West outright regular season title going 15-3 in conference play and 29-8 overall. The 29 wins tied the school record. The Pack made a second consecutive NCAA Tournament appearance and reached the Sweet 16 for the second time in school history.

Prior to Nevada, Jones spent five years as head coach at his alma mater, LSU. He won 90 games in his five years as the head coach at LSU, the most of any head coach at LSU in their first five years. He was the fourth-winningest coach in LSU

TEXAS SOUTHERN

MEN'S BASKETBALL

history. The DeRidder, La. native led the LSU Tigers to two postseason appearances, an NIT and NCAA tournament bid, and coached the 2016 No. 1 overall pick in the NBA draft Ben Simmons.

While at LSU, Coach Jones also recruited future NBA players Tim Quarterman, Johnny O'Bryant, Jordan Mickey and Jarrell Martin. Among those he helped recruit to LSU in his assistant days were NBA superstar and Naismith Hall of Famer, Shaquille O'Neal. He also was involved in the recruiting of two-time All-American Chris Jackson (now Mahmoud Abdul-Rauf) and national high school player of the year (and an assistant coach under Jones), Randy Livingston.

Jones was also a head coach at North Texas for 11 seasons from 2001-12. He led the Mean Green to two NCAA tournaments berths and five top-three conference finishes. Overall, Jones has 34 years of Division I coaching experience, including 18 seasons as a head coach.

During the 1999-2000 season Jones was the interim head coach at Memphis and led the Tigers to a 15-16 record.

Jones played his college ball at LSU. He was a part of the 1981 Final Four team and joined head coach Dale Brown's staff after his playing time, helping lead the Tigers to another Final Four in 1986. Jones and his wife Kelli have two children, John, a TSU graduate and current student-athlete, and Jillian.

THE JONES FILE

PERSONAL

Birthdate: March 30, 1961
Hometown: DeRidder, La.
Family: **Wife:** Kelly
Children: John, Jillian

EDUCATION

High School: DeRidder High School, DeRidder, La.
College: LSU, BA, 1985

PLAYING EXPERIENCE

Four-year letterman (1980-84) at LSU, G

COACHING EXPERIENCE

2018-19 - present	Texas Southern (Head Coach)
2017-18	Nevada (Associate Coach)
2012-17	LSU (Head Coach)
2001-12	North Texas (Head Coach)
2000-01	Alabama (Assistant Coach)
1999-00	Memphis (Interim Head Coach)
1997-99	Memphis (Associate Coach)
1994-97	LSU (Associate Coach)
1988-94	LSU (Assistant Coach)
1987-88	LSU (Administrative Assistant)
1985-87	LSU (Assistant Coach)
1984-85	LSU (Student Assistant)

POSTSEASON EXPERIENCE AS HEAD COACH

2020-21	Texas Southern / NCAA (First Round)
2018-19	Texas Southern / CIT (Semifinals)
2014-15	LSU / NCAA (First Round)
2013-14	LSU / NIT (Second Round)
2009-10	North Texas / NCAA (First Round)
2006-07	North Texas / NCAA (First Round)

JONES BY MONTH

MONTH	UM	UNT	LSU	TSU	Total
November	2-2	29-19	21-9	6-17	58-47
December	4-5	54-29	21-6	7-13	85-53
January	3-4	46-41	20-22	18-8	87-76
February	3-4	43-33	19-21	16-5	86-75
March	3-1	18-13	9-14	17-5	47-33
April				0-1	0-1
Totals	15-16	190-146	90-72	68-50	363-284

2021-2022 Texas Southern University Men's Basketball Overall Statistics (as of Feb 16, 2022)

Overall Record: 11-11 Conf: 9-4 Home: 5-1 Away: 6-10 Neutral: 0-0

#	Player	GP-GS	MIN	AVG	FG		3PT		FT		Rebounds				PF	DQ	A	TO	BLK	STL	PTS	AVG
					FG-FGA	FG%	3FG-FGA	3FG%	FT-FTA	FT%	OFF	DEF	TOT	AVG								
05	Nicholas, Joirdon Karl	22-12	457	20.8	88-157	.561	0-3	.000	35-70	.500	47	81	128	5.8	56	2	20	51	14	21	211	9.6
24	Walker III, John	20-12	477	23.9	63-139	.453	10-28	.357	55-76	.724	30	61	91	4.6	47	0	25	37	18	10	191	9.6
04	Etienne, Bryson	20-8	402	20.1	56-165	.339	27-84	.321	26-36	.722	8	46	54	2.7	26	0	30	27	4	15	165	8.3
03	Henry, PJ	21-11	497	23.7	61-151	.404	22-59	.373	16-28	.571	9	39	48	2.3	41	2	34	35	2	17	160	7.6
15	Hopkins, Justin	22-15	482	21.9	45-104	.433	9-41	.220	41-54	.759	17	30	47	2.1	33	0	26	30	0	7	140	6.4
44	Gresham, Brison	21-9	380	18.1	55-91	.604	0-0	.000	25-37	.676	54	95	149	7.1	54	1	9	31	40	8	135	6.4
12	Jones, John	22-5	309	14.0	43-124	.347	27-82	.329	21-24	.875	6	15	21	1.0	23	0	11	19	0	6	134	6.1
02	Lawson, A.J.	19-9	384	20.2	41-109	.376	7-37	.189	16-34	.471	23	49	72	3.8	39	1	21	38	3	4	105	5.5
11	Gilliam, Jordan	21-15	549	26.1	40-114	.351	17-44	.386	15-22	.682	11	57	68	3.2	36	0	43	26	8	18	112	5.3
00	Rasas, Yahuza	20-9	367	18.4	36-80	.450	2-12	.167	22-34	.647	33	65	98	4.9	36	0	10	22	7	8	96	4.8
32	Malveaux III, Andrew	3-0	11	3.7	4-9	.444	4-7	.571	0-0	.000	0	1	1	0.3	1	0	1	1	0	2	12	4.0
42	Barnes, Davon	12-0	110	9.2	10-29	.345	0-7	.000	2-4	.500	8	12	20	1.7	6	0	4	2	1	2	22	1.8
Total		22	4425	201.1	542-1272	.426	125-404	.309	274-419	.654	280	596	876	39.8	398	6	234	338	97	118	1483	67.41
Opponents			4425	201.1	515-1270	.406	146-488	.299	278-437	.636	221	518	739	33.6	413	11	257	263	57	179	1454	66.09

Team Statistics	TSU	OPP
SCORING	1483	1454
Points Per Game	67.4	66.1
Scoring Margin	1.3	-
FIELD GOALS-ATT	542-1272	515-1270
Field Goal Pct	.426	.406
3 POINT FG-ATT	125-404	146-488
3PT FG Pct	.309	.299
3PT Made Per Game	5.7	6.6
FREE THROWS-ATT	274-419	278-437
FT Pct	.654	.636
FT Made Per Game	12.5	12.6
REBOUNDS	876	739
Rebounds Per Game	39.8	33.6
Rebounds Margin	6.2	-
ASSISTS	234	257
Assists Per Game	10.6	11.7
TURNOVERS	338	263
Turnovers Per Game	15.4	12.0
Turnovers Margin	-3.4	-
Assist/Turnover Ratio	0.7	1.0
STEALS	118	179
Steals Per Game	5.4	8.1
BLOCKS	97	57
Blocks Per Game	4.4	2.6
ATTENDANCE	13,884	65,353
Dates/Avg Per Date	6-2,314	16-4,085
Neutral Site #/Avg	-	0-0

Conf	Date	Opponent	W/L	Score	Att.
	11/09/21	at Oregon	L	66-83	7,037
	11/12/21	at Saint Mary's (CA)	L	58-67	2,602
	11/15/21	at Washington	L	65-72	5,315
	11/17/21	at Air Force	L	57-61	1,331
	11/21/21	at NC State	L	57-65	11,806
	11/24/21	at BYU	L	64-81	15,646
	12/01/21	at Louisiana Tech	L	60-87	2,286
	12/06/21	at Florida	W	69-54	7,623
	12/14/21	at UTRGV	W	70-60	1,189
*	01/03/22	at Southern U.	L	50-63	2,675
*	01/05/22	at Grambling	W	67-61	486
*	01/08/22	ARKANSAS-PINE BLUFF	W	90-71	878
*	01/10/22	MISSISSIPPI VALLEY STATE	W	95-58	580
*	01/15/22	at Alcorn State	L	72-73	312
*	01/17/22	at Jackson St.	L	58-61	500
*	01/22/22	ALABAMA A&M	W	78-44	1,042
*	01/24/22	ALABAMA STATE	W	73-66	2,163
*	01/29/22	at Prairie View	W (OT)	75-74	3,047
*	02/05/22	at Florida A&M	W	67-55	3,087
*	02/07/22	at Bethune-Cookman	W	66-63	411
*	02/12/22	GRAMBLING STATE	W	68-65	6,034
*	02/14/22	SOUTHERN	L	58-70	3,187

* = Conference game

Score by Periods	1st	2nd	OT	Total
Texas Southern	739	736	8	1483
Opponents	680	767	7	1454

2021-2022 Texas Southern University Men's Basketball

Overall Statistics (as of Feb 16, 2022)

Conference Games Only

Conf: 9-4 Home: 5-1 Away: 4-3 Neutral: 0-0

#	Player	GP-GS	MIN	AVG	FG		3PT		FT		Rebounds				PF	DQ	A	TO	BLK	STL	PTS	AVG
					FG-FGA	FG%	3FG-FGA	3FG%	FT-FTA	FT%	OFF	DEF	TOT	AVG								
04	Etienne, Bryson	12-7	324	27.0	50-135	.370	25-71	.352	21-30	.700	5	34	39	3.3	19	0	24	23	3	13	146	12.2
05	Nicholas, Joirdon Karl	13-6	262	20.2	46-84	.548	0-3	.000	20-44	.455	31	48	79	6.1	27	1	14	27	6	11	112	8.6
24	Walker III, John	12-5	244	20.3	32-66	.485	4-12	.333	22-31	.710	15	33	48	4.0	26	0	12	19	8	7	90	7.5
12	Jones, John	13-2	152	11.7	29-69	.420	20-49	.408	19-22	.864	3	8	11	0.8	12	0	5	11	0	6	97	7.5
02	Lawson, A.J.	13-6	288	22.2	30-80	.375	5-27	.185	16-29	.552	18	34	52	4.0	28	1	20	25	2	3	81	6.2
15	Hopkins, Justin	13-6	226	17.4	24-52	.462	5-22	.227	24-34	.706	10	16	26	2.0	15	0	11	14	0	4	77	5.9
03	Henry, PJ	13-5	257	19.8	26-70	.371	12-36	.333	11-16	.688	3	16	19	1.5	18	0	16	18	2	13	75	5.8
11	Gilliam, Jordan	13-10	355	27.3	24-70	.343	12-31	.387	14-20	.700	6	41	47	3.6	18	0	33	15	6	9	74	5.7
00	Rasas, Yahuza	13-8	240	18.5	27-53	.509	2-10	.200	16-24	.667	19	43	62	4.8	27	0	6	15	6	6	72	5.5
44	Gresham, Brison	13-5	221	17.0	29-43	.674	0-0	.000	13-22	.591	25	54	79	6.1	31	1	5	14	26	4	71	5.5
32	Malveaux III, Andrew	3-0	11	3.7	4-9	.444	4-7	.571	0-0	.000	0	1	1	0.3	1	0	1	1	0	2	12	4.0
42	Barnes, Davon	5-0	45	9.0	4-14	.286	0-3	.000	2-3	.667	1	7	8	1.6	1	0	3	0	1	0	10	2.0
Total		13	2625	201.9	325-745	.436	89-271	.328	178-275	.647	153	359	512	39.4	223	3	150	195	60	78	917	70.54
Opponents			2625	201.9	293-741	.395	79-251	.315	159-255	.624	127	305	432	33.2	260	9	137	172	23	108	824	63.38

Team Statistics	TSU	OPP
SCORING	917	824
Points Per Game	70.5	63.4
Scoring Margin	7.1	-
FIELD GOALS-ATT	325-745	293-741
Field Goal Pct	.436	.395
3 POINT FG-ATT	89-271	79-251
3PT FG Pct	.328	.315
3PT Made Per Game	6.8	6.1
FREE THROWS-ATT	178-275	159-255
FT Pct	.647	.624
FT Made Per Game	13.7	12.2
REBOUNDS	512	432
Rebounds Per Game	39.4	33.2
Rebounds Margin	6.2	-
ASSISTS	150	137
Assists Per Game	11.5	10.5
TURNOVERS	195	172
Turnovers Per Game	15.0	13.2
Turnovers Margin	-1.8	-
Assist/Turnover Ratio	0.8	0.8
STEALS	78	108
Steals Per Game	6.0	8.3
BLOCKS	60	23
Blocks Per Game	4.6	1.8
ATTENDANCE	13,884	10,518
Dates-Avg Per Date	6-2,314	7-1,503
Neutral Site #-Avg	-	0-0

Date	Opponent	W/L	Score	Att.
01/03/22	at Southern U.	L	50-63	2675
01/05/22	at Grambling	W	67-61	486
01/08/22	ARKANSAS-PINE BLUFF	W	90-71	878
01/10/22	MISSISSIPPI VALLEY STATE	W	95-58	580
01/15/22	at Alcorn State	L	72-73	312
01/17/22	at Jackson St.	L	58-61	500
01/22/22	ALABAMA A&M	W	78-44	1042
01/24/22	ALABAMA STATE	W	73-66	2163
01/29/22	at Prairie View	W (OT)	75-74	3047
02/05/22	at Florida A&M	W	67-55	3087
02/07/22	at Bethune-Cookman	W	66-63	411
02/12/22	GRAMBLING STATE	W	68-65	6034
02/14/22	SOUTHERN	L	58-70	3187

Score by Periods	1st	2nd	OT	Total
Texas Southern	461	448	8	917
Opponents	396	421	7	824