

2022-23 Quick Facts

2022-23 MEN'S BASKETBALL ORAL ROBERTS GOLDEN EAGLES



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ORU ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS | 7777 S. LEWIS AVE., TULSA, OK 74171 | CONTACT • JARRETT HARDWICK | PHONE: (918) 495-7094 | EMAIL: JHARDWICK@ORU.EDU

GENERAL INFORMATION

Location	Tulsa, Okla.
Founded	1963
Enrollment	5,051
Nickname	Golden Eagles
Colors	Navy Blue, Vegas Gold, White
Affiliation	NCAA Division I
Conference	Summit League
President	Dr. William Wilson
Athletic Director	Tim Johnson
Athletic Department Phone	(918) 495-7151
Athletic Department Fax	(918) 495-7123
Home Arena	Mabee Center (8,781)

ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS

Assistant A.D./Athletic Communications	Jarrett Hardwick
Men's Basketball Contact	
Office Phone	(918) 495-7094
Cell Phone	(918) 344-2881
Email Address	jhardwick@oru.edu
Twitter	@jarreth70
Director of Athletic Communications	Kyle Stafford
Director of Creative Content/Branding	Duncan White
Play-by-Play Voice of the Golden Eagles	Adam Hildebrandt
Athletic Communications Fax	(918) 495-7142
Website	www.oruathletics.com
Mailing Address	7777 S. Lewis Ave., Tulsa, OK 74171

COACHING STAFF

Head Coach	Paul Mills
Record At ORU (Years)	76-79 (5)
Career Record (Years)	same
Alma Mater	Texas A&M '96
Assistant Coach	Sam Patterson - 6th season (Baylor '08)
Assistant Coach	Russell Springmann - 5th season (Salisbury St. '90)
Assistant Coach	Kenton Paulino - 2nd season (Texas '08)
Director of Operations	Steve Upshaw - 21st season (Northeastern St. '92)
Director of Player Dev.	Iain Laymon - 6th season (Indiana '17)
Director of Player Personnel	Mike Herrington - 3rd season (Evangel '18)

TEAM INFORMATION

2021-22 Overall Record	19-12
2021-22 Summit League Record	12-6 (4th)
2021-22 Postseason	N/A
Starters Returning/Lost	4/1
Letterwinners Returning/Lost	8/5
Newcomers	5

BASKETBALL HISTORY

First Year of Men's Basketball	1965-66
All-Time Record	983-720 (.577)
Regular Season Conference Championships	3
Conference Tournament Championships	6
NCAA Tournament Appearances	6
All-Time Record	4-6 (.400)
Last Appearance	2021 Indianapolis Sweet Sixteen (15 seed)
Result	vs. No. 2 Ohio State • W, 75-72 vs. No. 7 Florida • W, 81-78 vs. No. 3 Arkansas • L, 70-72
NIT Appearances	8
All-Time Record	2-8 (.200)
Last Appearance	2012 First Round
Result	vs. Nevada • L, 59-68

NUMERICAL ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Cl.	Ht.	Hometown	Previous School
0	Demari Williams	G	So.	6-6	Houston, Texas	Arizona State
2	Kareem Thompson	G	Sr.	6-5	Florence, Ala.	East Central CC
3	Max Abmas	G	Sr.	6-0	Rockwall, Texas	Jesuit Dallas HS
4	Jake Shannon	G	So.	6-4	Ada, Okla.	Ada HS
5	Cam Amboree	G	Fr.	6-2	Pearland, Texas	Shadow Creek HS
10	Issac McBride	G	Jr.	6-2	Little Rock, Ark.	Vanderbilt
11	Carlos Jurgens	G	R-Sr.	6-5	Tartu, Estonia	Tartu Art Gymnasium
13	Nate Clover III	C	Jr.	6-8	Port Arthur, Texas	Port Arthur Memorial
14	DeShang Weaver	F	R-Sr.	6-7	Houston, Texas	Cypress Falls HS
20	Trey Phipps	G	Jr.	6-2	Tulsa, Okla.	Oklahoma
23	Sir Issac Herron	F	So.	6-9	Houston, Texas	Legacy Sports Sciences
25	Elijah Lawrence	G	So.	5-11	Bellaire, Texas	Bellaire HS
32	Patrick Mwamba	F	Jr.	6-7	Kinshasa, Congo	UT Arlington
35	Connor Vanover	F	Sr.	7-5	Little Rock, Ark.	Arkansas

ROSTER BREAKDOWN

STARTERS RETURNING (4)

Name	Pos.	Cl.	GP-GS	PPG	FG%	RPG	APG	SPG
Max Abmas	G	Sr.	30-30	22.8	.422	3.4	3.6	1.0
Carlos Jurgens	G	R-Sr.	30-25	6.6	.419	3.7	1.4	0.5
Kareem Thompson	G	Sr.	31-31	7.6	.465	5.6	1.7	0.8
DeShang Weaver	F	R-Sr.	31-28	8.2	.457	4.1	0.3	0.3

OTHER LETTERWINNERS RETURNING (4)

Name	Pos.	Cl.	GP-GS	PPG	FG%	RPG	APG	SPG
Nate Clover III	C	Jr.	15-0	2.1	.565	2.2	0.0	0.1
Sir Issac Herron	F	So.	25-1	2.3	.545	1.8	0.1	0.4
Elijah Lawrence	G	So.	6-0	0.8	.250	0.5	0.8	0.5
Issac McBride	G	R-Jr.	17-2	1.7	.227	1.4	0.1	0.7

NEWCOMERS (5)

Name	Pos.	Cl.	Hometown	Previous School
Cam Amboree	G	Fr.	Pearland, Texas	Shawdow Creek HS
Patrick Mwamba	F	Jr.	Kinshasa, Congo	UT Arlington
Jake Shannon	G	So.	Ada, Okla.	Ada HS/Oral Roberts*
Connor Vanover	F	Sr.	Little Rock, Ark.	Arkansas
Demari Williams	G	So.	Houston, Texas	Arizona State

*Completed in Track & Field for ORU

STARTERS LOST (1)

Name	Pos.	Cl.	GP-GS	PPG	FG%	RPG	APG	SPG
Francis Lacis	G	Gr.	30-30	6.9	.425	6.3	1.3	1.0

OTHER LETTERWINNERS LOST (4)

Name	Pos.	Cl.	GP-GS	PPG	FG%	RPG	APG	SPG
Jonathan Alexandre	G	So.	DNP					
Jamie Bergens	G	So.	14-1	2.4	.367	0.8	1.1	0.4
Elijah Lufile	C	Sr.	28-3	7.9	.712	7.0	0.1	0.1
Ismael Plet	F	So.	18-0	0.6	.417	1.1	0.0	0.2
Luka Tekavcic	F	Fr.	6-0	1.2	.600	1.2	0.5	0.0

ATHLETICS STAFF TO MEN'S BASKETBALL

Athletic Communications Contact	Jarrett Hardwick (7th season)
MBB Sports Medicine	Tony Rossi (3rd season)
MBB Sports Performance	Ashtin Meerpohl (6th season)





2022-23 SCHEDULE

* SUMMIT LEAGUE GAME | ALL TIMES CT | TIMES AND DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

NOVEMBER

Mon.	Nov. 7	at Saint Mary's	Moraga, Calif.	University Credit Union Pavilion	9 p.m.
Fri.	Nov. 11	John Brown	Tulsa, Okla.	Mabee Center	7 p.m.
Mon.	Nov. 14	at Houston	Houston, Texas	Fertitta Center	7 p.m.
Tue.	Nov. 15	at Texas Southern	Houston, Texas	H&PE Arena	TBA
Sat.	Nov. 19	Oklahoma Baptist	Tulsa, Okla.	Mabee Center	7 p.m.
Tue.	Nov. 22	at Utah State	Logan, Utah	Dee Glen Smith Spectrum	8 p.m.
Sun.	Nov. 27	Rogers State	Tulsa, Okla.	Mabee Center	4 p.m.
Tue.	Nov. 29	Bacone	Tulsa, Okla.	Mabee Center	7 p.m.

DECEMBER

Sat.	Dec. 3	at Tulsa	Tulsa, Okla.	Reynolds Center	TBA
Sat.	Dec. 10	Central Arkansas	Tulsa, Okla.	Mabee Center	7 p.m.
Mon.	Dec. 12	Liberty	Tulsa, Okla.	Mabee Center	7 p.m.
Fri.	Dec. 16	Missouri State	Tulsa, Okla.	Mabee Center	7 p.m.
Mon.	Dec. 19	South Dakota State*	Tulsa, Okla.	Mabee Center	7 p.m.
Wed.	Dec. 21	South Dakota*	Tulsa, Okla.	Mabee Center	7 p.m.
Thur.	Dec. 29	at Omaha*	Omaha, Neb.	Baxter Arena	7 p.m.
Sat.	Dec. 31	at Denver*	Tulsa, Okla.	Hamilton Gymnasium	3 p.m.

JANUARY

Sat.	Jan. 7	at Kansas City*	Tulsa, Okla.	Mabee Center	7 p.m.
Thur.	Jan. 12	Western Illinois*	Tulsa, Okla.	Mabee Center	7 p.m.
Sat.	Jan. 14	St. Thomas*	Tulsa, Okla.	Mabee Center	7 p.m.
Thurs.	Jan. 19	at North Dakota State*	Fargo, N.D.	Scheels Center	7 p.m.
Sat.	Jan. 21	at North Dakota*	Grand Forks, N.D.	Engelstad Center	1 p.m.
Thurs.	Jan. 26	Denver*	Tulsa, Okla.	Mabee Center	7 p.m.
Sat.	Jan. 28	Omaha*	Tulsa, Okla.	Mabee Center	7 p.m.

FEBRUARY

Sat.	Feb. 4	at Kansas City*	Kansas, City Mo.	Swinney Center	7 p.m.
Thurs.	Feb. 9	at St. Thomas*	St. Paul, Minn.	Schoenecker Arena	7 p.m.
Sat.	Feb. 11	at Western Illinois*	Macomb, Ill.	Western Hall	2 p.m.
Thur.	Feb. 16	North Dakota*	Tulsa, Okla.	Mabee Center	7 p.m.
Sat.	Feb. 18	North Dakota State*	Tulsa, Okla.	Mabee Center	7 p.m.
Thur.	Feb. 23	at South Dakota*	Vermillion, S.D.	Coyotes Sports Center	7 p.m.
Sat.	Feb. 25	at South Dakota State*	Brookings, S.D.	Frost Arena	2 p.m.

MARCH

Fri.-Tues.	March 3-7	Summit League Tournament	Sioux Falls, S.D.	Denny Sanford Premier Center	TBA
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*Summit League Contest

Pronunciation Guide

Demari Williams	De-MAR-EE Williams	Paul Mills	Paul Mills
Max Abmas	Max ACE-miss	Kenton Paulino	Kenton Paul-EE-no
Patrick Mwamba	Patrick Muh-Wumba		





PAUL MILLS

Head Coach
6th Season • 76-79 (.490)
Texas A&M, 1996

Paul Mills was named the head coach for ORU basketball on April 28, 2017 after 14 years on staff at Baylor, becoming the 11th head coach in program history. In four years leading the Golden Eagles, he has a career record of 76-79 (.490) with back-to-back winnings seasons.

Mills led a remarkable resurgence for the program in 2020-21 culminating in a run as just the second-ever No. 15 seed to reach the NCAA Sweet 16 after taking down No. 2 seed Ohio State and No. 7 seed Florida on the national stage. The win over the seventh-ranked Buckeyes was just the fourth time in Golden Eagles history to take down a top 10 team. ORU claimed its first Summit League tournament championship and NCAA appearance since 2008 winning three games in three days in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, finishing with an 18-11 overall record and a 10-5 mark in league play.

Behind the one-two punch of Max Abmas, CBS Sports Third-Team All-American, Summit League Player of the Year and the nation's leading scorer (24.5 ppg), and Kevin Obanor, a College Insider Mid-Major All-American, the Golden Eagles were the Cinderella story of March. They were the highest scoring duo in the country combining to post 43.2 points per game, including an incredible 50.0 points per game during the NCAA Tournament. ORU closed the season leading the NCAA in 3-pointers made per game (11.1) and free-throw percentage (82.1), while having the 14th-highest scoring offense in the nation (81.1).

ORU was dominant at home in the 2019-20 campaign posting a 13-1 record to earn the second-most home wins in the 21st century on its way to Mills' first winning season as head coach. The Golden Eagles were invited to a postseason tournament for the first time since 2015 earning a spot in the CollegenInsider.com Postseason Tournament (CIT) before the event was canceled due to COVID-19. A 17-14 overall mark, including a 9-7 record in league play, was highlighted by ORU's ability to protect the basketball setting a school record for fewest turnovers in a single season (321). The Golden Eagles ranked second in the NCAA as only 13.9% of possessions resulted in a turnover according to KenPom and finished ninth in the nation turning the ball over just 10.4 times per contest. Emmanuel Nzekwesi landed NABC All-District Second Team and First Team All-Summit League honors leading ORU in scoring and rebounding in his final collegiate season, while Deondre Burns and Abmas earned recognition on the All-Newcomer Team.

In 2018-19, ORU big men Nzekwesi and Obanor were both named to the All-Summit League Second Team, while Obanor picked up Freshman of the Year, Sixth Man of the Year and All-Newcomer Team honors. The awards marked the second year in a row in which ORU took home the Sixth Man of the Year award and the second time in three years to have the league's Freshman of the Year. ORU's season was highlighted by a regular season sweep of Omaha, and key non-conference victories over James Madison and Richmond. ORU boasted the only duo (Nzekwesi and Obanor) to rank in the top 10 in The Summit League in both scoring and rebounding.

In his first season in south Tulsa, Mills led ORU to a fifth-place finish in The Summit League, while earning four postseason honors from the league. Albert Owens was the Sixth Man of the year, Austin Ruder was the Transfer of the Year, Nzekwesi was an honorable mention All-Summit League selection and Sam Kearns was named to the All-Newcomer team. Additional honors for the Golden Eagles included Owens earning DI-AAA ADA Scholar-Athlete and Academic All-Summit League recognition.

Highlights from Mills' first season on the sidelines included a 19-point road win against Florida Gulf Coast and an ESPN SportsCenter number one play



on a buzzer-beater from Ruder to beat North Dakota State.

Before making the trip to south Tulsa, Mills was on the staff at Baylor with Head Coach Scott Drew helping the Bears graduate 36 of 38 seniors and a pair of NCAA Elite Eights, four Sweet 16's and four-straight NCAA Tournament appearances. The Bears were ranked in the top 25 for 10-straight seasons and were ranked number one in the country for the first time in school history during the 2016-17 season.

Mills was on the Rice staff from 2002-03 and the head coach at Fort Bend Christian Academy from 1999-2002, taking them to the TAPPS 4A Final Four for the first time in school history and was the South Region Coach of the Year and a four-time District Coach of the Year. Prior to his time in Sugar Land, Texas, Mills won three straight district championships as the head coach at North Belt Christian.

Mills served as the Big 12 representative for the National Association of Basketball Coaches and was a board member for the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches from 2001-03. He is a 1996 graduate of Texas A&M with a degree in finance and completed a Master of Biblical and Theological Studies from Dallas Theological Seminary in the summer of 2020. He and his wife, Wendy Scott-Mills, have two daughters, Audrey and Abbey.

ABOUT MILLS	
EDUCATION	
B.A., (Finance) Texas A&M, 1996	
M.S., (Biblical & Theological Studies) Dallas Theological Seminary, 2020	
PERSONAL	
Wife: Wendy (Scott)	
Children: Audrey and Abbey	
COACHING EXPERIENCE	
1996-99	North Belt Christian Academy, head coach
1999-02	Fort Bend Baptist Academy, head coach
2002-03	Rice, operations
2003-09	Baylor, coordinator of operations
2009-17	Baylor, assistant coach
2017-pres.	ORU, head coach
POSTSEASON EXPERIENCE	
2007-08	NCAA, first round (Baylor)
2008-09	NIT, finals (Baylor)
2009-10	NCAA, Elite Eight (Baylor)
2011-12	NCAA, Elite Eight (Baylor)
2012-13	NIT, champions (Baylor)
2013-14	NCAA, Sweet 16 (Baylor)
2014-15	NCAA, first round (Baylor)
2015-16	NCAA, first round (Baylor)
2016-17	NCAA, Sweet 16 (Baylor)
2019-20	CIT Invite (ORU) *Canceled due to COVID-19*
2020-21	NCAA, Sweet 16 (ORU)





Overall Record: 19-12

Summit League: 12-6

Home: 10-5

Away: 8-6

Neutral: 1-1

ALL GAMES

Table with columns: No., Player, GP-GS, MIN, AVG, Total (FG-FGA, FG%), 3-Point (3FG-3FGA, 3FG%), F-Throw (FT-FTA, FT%), Rebounds (OFF, DEF, TOT, AVG), PF, DQ, A, TO, BLK, STL, PTS, AVG. Includes rows for individual players and Team/Opponents totals.

SUMMIT LEAGUE GAMES

Table with columns: No., Player, GP-GS, MIN, AVG, Total (FG-FGA, FG%), 3-Point (3FG-3FGA, 3FG%), F-Throw (FT-FTA, FT%), Rebounds (OFF, DEF, TOT, AVG), PF, DQ, A, TO, BLK, STL, PTS, AVG. Includes rows for individual players and Team/Opponents totals.

2021-22 INDIVIDUAL GAME HIGHS

Table listing individual game highs for various statistics: Points (38), Field Goals Made (11), Field Goal Att. (25), FG Pct. (1.000), 3-Point FG Made (7), 3-Point FG Att. (16), 3-Pt FG Pct. (1.000), Free Throws Made (13), Free Throw Att. (15), Free Throw Pct. (1.000), Rebounds (16), Assists (11), Steals (5), Blocked Shots (4), Turnovers (7), Minutes (45:00).

2021-22 TEAM GAME HIGHS

Table listing team game highs for various statistics: Points (121), Field Goals Made (42), Field Goal Att. (80), Field Goal Pct. (.541), 3-Point FG Made (21), 3-Point FG Attempts (42), 3-Point FG Pct. (.500), Free Throws Made (25), Free Throw Att. (42), Free Throw Pct. (1.000), Rebounds (62), Assists (21), Steals (20), Blocked Shots (8), Turnovers (17), Fouls (23).

Team Results

Date	Opponent		Score	Att.	High Points	High Rebounds
11/09/2021	at Colorado St.	L	80-109	7287	(20) ABMAS, Max	(8) THOMPSON, Kareem
11/12/2021	Southwestern Christ.	W	121-50	3714	(16) ABMAS, Max	(12) LĂCIS, Francis
11/18/2021	Haskell	W	89-46	3112	(22) PHIPPS, Trey	(11) JÜRGENS, Carlos
11/20/2021	at Central Ark.	L	67-70	685	(25) MCBRIDE, Issac	(9) THOMPSON, Kareem
11/23/2021	Rogers St.	W	91-31	2974	(23) ABMAS, Max	(8) THOMPSON, Kareem
11/26/2021	Oklahoma St.	Lot	77-78	6094	(29) ABMAS, Max	(7) WEAVER, DeShang (7) LĂCIS, Francis
11/29/2021	Tulsa	W	87-80	5239	(38) ABMAS, Max	(10) LĂCIS, Francis
12/02/2021	at TCU	L	63-71	5023	(20) ABMAS, Max	(7) WEAVER, DeShang
12/04/2021	at Houston Christian	W	85-67	1000	(18) ABMAS, Max	(11) LUFILÉ, Elijah
12/11/2021	at Missouri St.	L	60-69	4002	(19) ABMAS, Max	(12) THOMPSON, Kareem
12/16/2021	UT Arlington	W	71-62	3238	(21) LĂCIS, Francis	(11) LĂCIS, Francis
12/20/2021	at South Dakota	W	82-73	1516	(32) ABMAS, Max	(5) LĂCIS, Francis (5) THOMPSON, Kareem
12/22/2021	at South Dakota St.	L	76-82	1955	(19) ABMAS, Max (19) THOMPSON, Kareem	(9) LĂCIS, Francis
12/30/2021	Denver	W	83-66	2896	(24) ABMAS, Max	(10) THOMPSON, Kareem
01/01/2022	Omaha	W	107-62	2136	(20) ABMAS, Max	(9) LUFILÉ, Elijah
01/06/2022	at St. Thomas (MN)	W	81-66	1241	(38) ABMAS, Max	(10) LUFILÉ, Elijah
01/08/2022	at Western Ill.	W	87-86	1022	(32) ABMAS, Max	(6) LĂCIS, Francis
01/15/2022	at Kansas City	W	84-72	766	(26) ABMAS, Max	(10) LUFILÉ, Elijah
01/20/2022	North Dakota	W	80-76	3819	(19) ABMAS, Max	(11) THOMPSON, Kareem
01/22/2022	North Dakota St.	L	71-72	4233	(18) ABMAS, Max	(6) JÜRGENS, Carlos (6) THOMPSON, Kareem
01/27/2022	at Omaha	W	100-88	1688	(28) ABMAS, Max	(10) WEAVER, DeShang (10) LĂCIS, Francis
01/29/2022	at Denver	W	89-80	839	(28) ABMAS, Max	(8) LUFILÉ, Elijah
02/03/2022	Western Ill.	L	85-90	4136	(33) ABMAS, Max	(10) THOMPSON, Kareem
02/05/2022	St. Thomas (MN)	W	88-66	4412	(25) LUFILÉ, Elijah	(13) LUFILÉ, Elijah
02/12/2022	Kansas City	W	91-86	4453	(19) ABMAS, Max	(15) LUFILÉ, Elijah
02/17/2022	at North Dakota St.	L	59-77	2601	(23) MCBRIDE, Issac	(6) LĂCIS, Francis
02/19/2022	at North Dakota	W	87-73	1400	(18) ABMAS, Max	(6) LUFILÉ, Elijah (6) MCBRIDE, Issac
02/24/2022	South Dakota St.	Lot	102-106	4894	(34) ABMAS, Max	(16) LUFILÉ, Elijah
02/26/2022	South Dakota	L	87-92	5364	(15) LĂCIS, Francis (15) LUFILÉ, Elijah	(12) LUFILÉ, Elijah
03/06/2022	vs Western Ill.	W	80-68	7364	(22) ABMAS, Max	(14) LUFILÉ, Elijah
03/07/2022	vs North Dakota St.	L	72-92	10418	(28) ABMAS, Max	(10) LĂCIS, Francis



Attendance Summary

	Games	Attend	Avg/Game
Home	15	60714	4048
Away	14	31025	2216
Neutral	2	17782	8891
Total	31	109521	3533





0
DEMARI WILLIAMS
So. | G | 6-6
HOUSTON, TEXAS



2
KAREEM THOMPSON
Sr. | G | 6-5
FLORENCE, ALA.



3
MAX ABMAS
Sr. | G | 6-0
ROCKWALL, TEXAS



4
JAKE SHANNON
Sr. | G | 6-4
ADA, OKLAHOMA



5
CAM AMBOREE
Fr. | G | 6-2
PEARLAND, TEXAS



10
ISSAC McBRIDE
Jr. | G | 6-2
LITTLE ROCK, ARK.



11
CARLOS JURGENS
RSr. | G | 6-5
TARTU, ESTONIA



13
NATE CLOVER III
Jr. | C | 6-8
PORT ARTHUR, TEXAS



14
DeSHANG WEAVER
RSr. | F | 6-7
HOUSTON, TEXAS



20
TREY PHIPPS
Jr. | G | 6-2
TULSA, OKLA.



23
SIR ISSAC HERRON
So. | F | 6-9
HOUSTON, TEXAS



25
ELIJAH LAWRENCE
Fr. | G | 5-11
BELLAIRE, TEXAS



32
PATRICK MWAMBA
Jr. | F | 6-7
KINSHASA, CONGO



35
CONNOR VANOVER
Sr. | F | 7-5
LITTLE ROCK, ARK.



HC
PAUL MILLS
HEAD COACH
6TH SEASON



AC
RUSSELL SPRINGMANN
ASSISTANT COACH
5TH SEASON



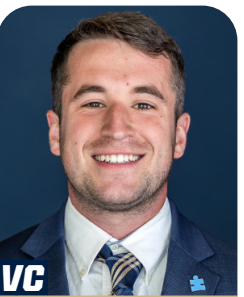
AC
SAM PATTERSON
ASSISTANT COACH
6TH SEASON



AC
KENTON PAULINO
ASSISTANT COACH
2ND SEASON



DO
STEVE UPSHAW
DIR. OF OPERATIONS
21ST SEASON



VC
IAIN LAYMON
VIDEO COORDINATOR
6TH SEASON



PP
MIKE HERRINGTON
PLAYER PERSONNEL
3RD SEASON

