Samford Bulldogs (0-0) at Arkansas (0-0)

Nov. 10 | 7 PM (CT) | Fayetteville, Ark.

#00 CHRISTEN CUNNINGHAM
PG Sr.
6-2 | 190 | Georgetown, Ky. ~ Henry Clay HS
- Finished last season ranked FIFTH in the nation in assists with 225.
- Making his 102nd career start (All at PG). | No. 14 in Samford scoring (1,214).

#3 JOSH SHARKEY
G Sr.
5-10 | 170 | Philadelphia, Pa. ~ Archbishop Carroll
- Set the school's all-time freshman record in assists with 150.
- Named to the 2017 All-SoCon Freshman Team by the coaches and media.

#22 DEMETRIUS DENZEL-DYSON
SF Sr.
6-5 | 205 | Covington, Tenn. ~ UMass
- Led the team in scoring last year with an average of 16.1 points per game.
- Last year's total of 580 points proved to be seventh-best in school history.

#20 ALEX THOMPSON
PF Sr.
6-8 | 210 | Dothan, Ala. ~ Auburn University
- Led Samford in scoring in exhibition play with an average of 19.5 ppg.
- Posted career-highs in points (35) & assists (11) vs. The Citadel on Feb. 25.

#55 ALEX PETERS
C Sr.
6-8 | 225 | Mountain Brook, Ala. ~ Mountain Brook HS
- Earned significant playing time in 32 of the team's 36 games last season.
- Started both exhibition contests this year and averaged 4.0 RPG.

BULLDOG BITES

- Against Chattanooga on Feb. 22, 2017, Samford’s Christen Cunningham handed out three assists and became the Bulldogs’ all-time career leader in the category with 434. Cunningham, who is beginning his senior season, achieved the feat in less than three full years and easily surpassed the previous school record of 433 assists, which was set by Jerry Smith in 2007. Cunningham now boasts a Samford-best mark of 478 assists.
- Samford assistant coach Sidney Ball played for Arkansas’ head coach Mike Anderson at UAB and proved to be a key factor in the Blazers’ victory over No. 1-ranked Kentucky to advance to the second round of the NCAA Tournament in 2004.
- Samford was preseason picked to finish second in the Southern Conference this year. The Bulldogs were listed second behind Mercer in the coaches’ poll and second after Furman in the media poll.
- Junior Wyatt Walker was named to the Lou Henson Award preseason Watch List. The Lou Henson Award is presented annually to the nation’s top Division I mid-major player.
- Samford’s Christen Cunningham is the only player in school history to record three straight 125-assist seasons. Last year, he set the Bulldogs’ single-season record with 225.
- Friday’s game marks only the Bulldogs’ third all-time meeting with the Arkansas Razorbacks. Samford is 0-2 in the all-time series between the teams.

@SamfordHoopsFOE

QUICK HITTERS

- Last season, Samford reached the 20-win plateau for only the seventh time in school history, which dates back to 1901. It was also the Bulldogs’ fifth time since moving to D1 in 1972-73.
- Samford’s Christen Cunningham set the school’s single-season record in assists last year with 225.
- Also last season, the Bulldogs’ Josh Sharkey set the school’s single-season record in steals with 71.
- Samford’s Demetrius Denzel-Dyson scored 580 points last year, a total that ranked seventh in Bulldog history, as well as the highest total since 1984-85.
### 2017-18 ROSTER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NO.</th>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>POS.</th>
<th>HT.</th>
<th>WT.</th>
<th>CL.</th>
<th>HOMETOWN/PREVIOUS SCHOOL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>00</td>
<td>Christen Cunningham</td>
<td>PG</td>
<td>6-2</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
<td>Georgetown, Ky./Henry Clay HS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>Brandon Austin*</td>
<td>G</td>
<td>6-5</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
<td>Montgomery, Ala./University of Alabama</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Kevion Nolan</td>
<td>G</td>
<td>6-2</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>Fr.</td>
<td>Anniston, Ala./Sacred Heart Catholic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Justin Coleman</td>
<td>PG</td>
<td>5-10</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
<td>Birmingham, Ala./University of Alabama</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Josh Sharkey</td>
<td>PG</td>
<td>5-10</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>So.</td>
<td>Philadelphia, Pa./Archbishop Carroll HS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Triston Chambers</td>
<td>G</td>
<td>6-2</td>
<td>185</td>
<td>So.</td>
<td>Cold Springs, Ala./Cold Springs HS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Eric Adams</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>6-7</td>
<td>215</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
<td>Hoover, Ala./Hoover HS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Tanner Tapp</td>
<td>G</td>
<td>6-2</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
<td>Brentwood, Tenn./Brentwood HS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Stefan Lakic</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>6-7</td>
<td>220</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
<td>Visegrad, Bosnia/Missouri State-West Plains</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Alex Thompson</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>6-8</td>
<td>210</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
<td>Dothan, Ala./Auburn University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Demetrious Denzel-Dyson</td>
<td>G</td>
<td>6-5</td>
<td>205</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
<td>Covington, Tenn./University of Massachusetts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Gerald Smith</td>
<td>G</td>
<td>6-4</td>
<td>185</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
<td>Carbon Hill, Ala./Carbon Hill HS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Luke Touliatos</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>6-4</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>Fr.</td>
<td>Homewood, Ala./Homewood High School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>Ruben Guerrero*</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>7-0</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
<td>Marbella, Spain/USF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>Wyatt Walker</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>6-9</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>Jr.</td>
<td>Jacksonville, Fla./Providence School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>43</td>
<td>JT Mumber</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>6-7</td>
<td>205</td>
<td>Fr.</td>
<td>Rome, Ga./Darlington High School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55</td>
<td>Alex Peters</td>
<td>F/C</td>
<td>6-8</td>
<td>225</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
<td>Mountain Brook, Ala./Mountain Brook HS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Will redshirt the 2017-18 season due to NCAA transfer rules

### COACHING STAFF

Head Coach:  Scott Padgett (Kentucky, 1999)
Assistant Coaches:  Jake Headrick (Montevallo, 2005), Sidney Ball (UAB, 2005),
                 Charles Newton (Tennessee Tech, 2011)
Director of Basketball Operations:  Brandon Gilbert (Florida, 2012)
Director of Strength and Conditioning:  Jonathan Farris (Lipscomb, 2010)
Athletic Trainer:  Karl Smith (Central Arkansas, 2013)
Video Coordinator:  Matthew Powell (Samford, 2014)
Director of Player Development:  Trae Cunningham (Louisville, 2011)
Graduate Student Manager:  Crawford Burton (Auburn, 2016)
Director of Communications:  Zac Schrieber (LSU, 2002)
Special Assistant to the Head Coach:  Michael Grant

### PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

Triston Chambers ............ TRIST-in
Christen Cunningham ..... KRIST-in
Kevion Nolan............... KAY-vee-on
Stefan Lakic............... Steff-ON LAH-kitch
JT Mumber .................. MUM-ber not Mummer
Luke Touliatos ............. TOO-lee-AH-tose
BULLDOGS COMING OFF HISTORIC SEASON

Last year, Samford reached the 20-victory mark in 35 games and achieved the feat on March 14. Therefore, the Bulldogs turned in their best season since 2005-06, when Samford finished the season with a 20-11 overall record.

SCORING IS KEY

Since the beginning of the 2015-16 campaign, Samford has registered a 17-5 record when scoring at least 80 points.

PADGETT IN HIS FOURTH SEASON

Samford head coach Scott Padgett is in his fourth season at the helm of the Bulldogs. He currently owns a 47-54 record at Samford and recently led the Bulldogs to the school's winningest season in 11 years, dating all the way back to the 2005-06 campaign.

Two years ago, the Bulldogs compiled an impressive 10-5 record in non-conference play and registered a pivotal 69-58 road victory at Nebraska. The win proved to be Samford's first triumph against a Big Ten opponent in school history.

SAMFORD SHATTERS FOUR ALL-TIME RECORDS

Last year, Samford shattered four all-time school records in the following statistical categories: points scored, field-goal attempts, free throws and assists. The Bulldogs scored a school-record 2,834 points last season and shattered the previous record of 2,335, which was set during the 1970-71 campaign.

Additionally, Samford has already totaled 2,038 field-goal attempts this year, a mark that proved to be 54 attempts more than the previous all-time record of 1,984 that was set in the 1969-70 season. The Bulldogs have also set single-season team records in both free throws (645) and assist (581). Samford's totals well surpassed the school's previous records of 564 and 543, respectively.

QUICK POINTS ON WALKER

- Registered a double-double in 17 of the 34 games he competed in last year.
- One of only 10 players named to the 2017-18 SoCon Preseason Team.
- Named a Third-Team All-SoCon performer by the league's head coaches in 2017.
- Named a Third-Team All-SoCon performer by the league's media.
- Earned SoCon Player of the Month honors for November by averaging 14.3 points and 13.1 rebounds per game.
- Closed out the 2016-17 season ranked No. 15 in the nation with 17 double-doubles.
- Finished the year ranked No. 25 in the country in rebounds (329) & No. 26 in RPG (9.7).

BULLDOGS RETURN A WELL-BALANCED ATTACK

Last season, five Samford players averaged at least 8.2 points per game, while as a team, the Bulldogs scored 78.7 points per contest in 36 outings. Below please find a chart that lists Samford's top five scorers and their points-per-game average last year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLAYER</th>
<th>PPG</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Demetrius Denzel-Dyson</td>
<td>16.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wyatt Walker</td>
<td>12.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alex Thompson</td>
<td>11.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christen Cunningham</td>
<td>11.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Josh Sharkey</td>
<td>8.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CUNNINGHAM REACHES HISTORIC 1,000-POINT MARK

Last season, Samford's Christen Cunningham scored six points against The Citadel on Jan. 14, 2017, and became the 27th player in school history to reach the prestigious 1,000-point plateau. Cunningham achieved the feat in the 84th game of his illustrious career. Below please find an up-to-date list of Samford's top scorers of all-time.

RECORDS WATCH - - ALL-TIME SCORING LEADERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLAYER</th>
<th>PPG</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Craig Beard</td>
<td>1,925</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steve Barker</td>
<td>1,826</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joey Davenport</td>
<td>1,651</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bill Lankford</td>
<td>1,621</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jim Moebes</td>
<td>1,493</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Al Walter</td>
<td>1,487</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jim Moebes</td>
<td>1,472</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Will Daniel</td>
<td>1,421</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robin Bumbry</td>
<td>1,290</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Randall Gulina</td>
<td>1,245</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christen Cunningham</td>
<td>1,214</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arnold Hamilton</td>
<td>1,207</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jim Sullivan</td>
<td>1,189</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tyler Hovsl</td>
<td>1,164</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darrel Hagler</td>
<td>1,119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rembert Martin</td>
<td>1,104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travis Peterson</td>
<td>1,103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Josh Davis</td>
<td>1,068</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rajon Kelly</td>
<td>1,064</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trey Montgomery</td>
<td>1,030</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mario Lopez</td>
<td>1,026</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tim Williams</td>
<td>1,018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tim Donlon</td>
<td>1,018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chris Weaver</td>
<td>1,009</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

QUICK POINTS ON SHARKEY

- 1) Samford's Josh Sharkey is cousins with 14-year NBA veteran and collegiate standout at St. Joe's Jameer Nelson.

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS OR WISH TO BEGIN A DISCUSSION ABOUT SAMFORD:"
Samford's 3-point shooting duo comprised of senior Demetrius Denzel-Dyson and Alex Thompson or Triston Chambers combined to knock down 159 three-point baskets last season. This year, all three players return for the 2017-18 season and are ranked No. 9 in the nation in the category. Below please find a listing of the top 15 teams in the nation in returning 3-point duos.

1 ..... 190 .... Montana State ............. Hall (120) and Frey (70)  
2 ..... 185 .... Campbell ..................... Clemons (118) and Burk (67)  
3 ..... 179 .... Lipscomb ..................... Moran (90) and Mathews (89)  
4 ..... 175 .... Murray State ............. Stark (108) and Miller (67)  
5 ..... 166 .... Troy .......................... Person (94) and Baker (72)  
6 ..... 165 .... Wofford ........................ Magee (112) and Hoover (53)  
7 ..... 164 .... Kansas ......................... Graham (94) and Mykhailiuk (70)  
8 ..... 163 .... St. Bonaventure ............. Mobley (86) and Adams (77)  
9 ..... 159 .... Samford .................... Denzel-Dyson (86) and Thompson/Chambers (73)  
10 ..... 157 .... UNCG ........................ Alonso (102) and Smith (55)  
11 ..... 153 .... Xavier ........................ Bluett (91) and Macura (64)  
12 ..... 154 .... Vanderbilt ................... Fisher-Davis (84) and Lachance (70)  
13 ..... 153 .... South Dakota State ....... Daum (79) and Tellinghuisen (77)  
14 ..... 153 .... Marquette .................. Howard (82) and Rowsey (71)  
15 ..... 151 .... BYU .......................... Haws (78) and Emery (76)
Scott Padgett, the former collegiate standout at the University of Kentucky, NCAA champion and first-round NBA draft pick, is in the midst of his fourth season as head coach of the Samford Bulldogs and his sixth as a member of the program. On June 6, 2014, he was officially named the 28th head basketball coach at Samford University.

As one of the top up-and-coming young coaches in the nation, Padgett has quickly transformed the Bulldogs’ basketball team into a Southern Conference championship competitor and rapidly revamped Samford’s recruiting efforts; turning the beautiful, head-turning Southern university to a destination campus.

On July 3, Padgett signed a five-year contract extension that protracted his deal to now last throughout the 2021-22 campaign.

“I’m thrilled to announce a five-year extension for Coach Padgett,” said Samford Director of Athletics Martin Newton. “Scott has brought a tremendous work ethic, passion and winning culture to our basketball program. He is a proven winner and has done so at every stage of his college and NBA playing career, and now in his coaching career. Scott is a tremendous asset to our university and community. He exemplifies the mission of this great university. He is a players-first coach and an outstanding role model for our student-athletes.”

Last season, Samford concluded the 2016-17 campaign with its most victories in 11 years (20), as well as the Bulldogs’ first winning season since 2005-06. Samford also set a number of school records last year, including points, field-goal attempts, free throws and assists.

The Bulldogs accumulated a school-record 2,834 points and shattered the previous record of 2,335, which was set during the 1970-71 campaign.

Additionally, Samford totaled 2,038 field-goal attempts; a mark that is 54 attempts more than the previous all-time record of 1,984 that was set 47 years ago in 1969-70.

The Bulldogs also set single-season team records in free throws (645) and assist (581). Samford’s totals this year well surpassed the school’s previous records of 564 and 543, respectively.

Under Padgett’s direction, Samford won its first postseason game in school history last season against Canisius in the 2017 College Insider.com Postseason Tournament, 78-74, and will return a predominant portion of last year’s roster in 2017-18, including all five starters. Terry Brutus, the Bulldogs’ lone senior on the squad last season, finished the 2016-17 campaign with an average of 2.7 points and 2.2 rebounds in 28 games.

With its postseason victory over Canisius, Samford reached the 20-win plateau for the first time since 2005-06 and notched its fifth 20-win posting in 44 years as a Division I athletic department.

In 2015-16, just Padgett’s second season at the helm, Samford vastly improved under his leadership and registered its best win total in six years, dating back to 2009.

With talented sophomore point guard Christen Cunningham and All-SoCon performers Darius Jones-Gibson, Matt Rose and Wyatt Walker leading the way, the Bulldogs opened the season with a brilliant 5-1 record and knocked off Nebraska on the road, 69-58, in Lincoln, Neb. Samford’s double-digit victory on the road at Nebraska proved to be the school’s first triumph against a Big 10
opponent.

Additionally, the Bulldogs finished the 2015-16 season with a solid 10-5 record against non-conference opponents.

Following his inaugural campaign as the Bulldogs' head coach, Padgett was named a finalist for the 2015 Joe B. Hall award, which is presented annually to the top first-year coach in college basketball. Padgett, during his first season as head coach at Samford University, compiled 13 wins and six SoCon victories with the Bulldogs.

Boasting a roster comprised of just three seniors and a trio of juniors, Padgett guided his young Bulldogs to early success in his initial season heading the program.

In 2015, Samford's Jones-Gibson was named a Third-Team All-SoCon performer, while Cunningham and Evan Taylor both earned SoCon All-Freshman Team honors. With a roster featuring five sophomores and four true freshmen in 2014-15, the future proved to be bright for the Bulldogs' basketball team.

The Samford University basketball team completed Padgett's first season as head coach with a 13-19 overall record. The Bulldogs steadily improved throughout the campaign and rattled off a five-game winning streak midway through the SoCon season.

Padgett, a Louisville, Ky., native was a first-round draft pick selected 28th overall by the Utah Jazz in 1999 and spent eight years in the NBA. The 6-foot-9 forward recorded 1,142 points in four years with the Jazz before spending the next two seasons with the Houston Rockets. He played the 2005-06 campaign with the New Jersey Nets. Padgett began the 2006-07 season with the Rockets before being traded to the Memphis Grizzlies, where he finished out his career.

During his time at Kentucky from 1995-99, Padgett played for legendary head coaches Rick Pitino and Tubby Smith. Padgett helped lead the Wildcats to the 1998 NCAA Championship, where he was named to the NCAA All-Final Four team, as well as the NCAA All-East Regional team and All-Southeastern Conference during the regular season.

In 1997, Padgett helped Kentucky to the NCAA championship game and was also named to the All-Final Four team. A true student-athlete, Padgett received All-SEC honors twice for his work on the hardwood, and he was also honored with Academic All-SEC honors in 1998 and 1999 for his success in the classroom. Padgett scored 1,252 points over his career, which ranks 32nd on Kentucky's all-time list.

Padgett spent two seasons as an assistant coach at Samford. He joined the Bulldogs' staff in April of 2012 after spending the previous two seasons at Manhattan College. During his valuable stint at Manhattan, Padgett assisted in the development of the Jaspers' post and front court players.

During the 2011-12 campaign, he played a key role in Manhattan's 15-game win improvement as the Jaspers' finished 21-13 and played in the CollegeInsider.com Tournament, the program's first

THE PADGETT FILE

COACHING EXPERIENCE

2014-present Head Coach  
Samford University

2012-14 Assistant Coach  
Samford University

2010-12 Assistant Coach  
Manhattan College

2009-10 Assistant Coach  
University of Kentucky

PLAYING CAREER

NBA

1999-2003 Utah Jazz (28th pick in 1999)
2003-05 Houston Rockets
2005-06 New Jersey Nets
2006-07 Memphis Grizzlies

NCAA

1995-99 University of Kentucky  
(National Champions in 1998)

EDUCATION

1999 B.A., social work  
University of Kentucky  
(Two-time Academic All-SEC)

PERSONAL

Born  April 19, 1976
Hometown  Louisville, Ky.
Wife  Cynthia
Kids  Logan (16)  
Lucas (14)  
Layla (11)
CHRISTEN CUNNINGHAM

Position:  Point Guard  
Height:  6-2  
Weight:  190  
Year:  Senior  
Hometown:  Georgetown, Ky.  
Previous School:  Henry Clay HS

ENTERED 2017-18 AS THE SCHOOL'S ALL-TIME ASSIST LEADER WITH 478
ENTERED 2017-18 RANKED NO. 14 ON SAMFORD'S ALL-TIME SCORING LIST WITH 1,214 POINTS
ONLY PLAYER IN SCHOOL HISTORY TO RECORD THREE STRAIGHT 125-ASSIST SEASONS
2016-17 SET SAMFORD'S SINGLE-SEASON RECORD IN ASSISTS (225)
2016-17 RANKED FIFTH IN THE FINAL NCAA RANKINGS IN ASSISTS (225)
2016-17 RANKED 10TH IN THE FINAL NCAA RANKINGS IN ASSISTS PER GAME (6.3)
2015 COLLEGE SPORTS MADNESS SOCON FRESHMAN OF THE YEAR
2015 SOCON ALL-FRESHMAN TEAM

Senior (2017-18):  Entered the season as the school's all-time leader in assists with a total of 478 . . . entered the year ranked No. 14 on Samford's all-time scoring list with 1,214 points . . . has started at the point guard position in every game of his collegiate career (101) . . . entered the season as the only player in Samford history to register three straight 125-assist campaigns.

Junior (2016-17):  Closed out the season ranked No. 5 in the nation in assists (225) and No. 10 in the country in assists per game (6.3) . . . set the school's single-season record in assists with 225 . . . against Chattanooga on Feb. 22, he handed out three assists and became Samford's all-time leader in the category with 434 . . . concluded the year with a Bulldog-record total of 478 assists as a junior . . . finished the season ranked first in the Southern Conference in total minutes (1250:00) and minutes per game (34:70) . . . against The Citadel on Jan. 14, he tallied six points and became the 27th player in school history to reach the prestigious 1,000-point plateau . . . scored 29 points in the Bulldogs’ 81-77 victory against eventual NCAA Tournament participant Jacksonville State on Dec. 4 . . . finished 8-of-14 from the field and a perfect 13-of-13 from the free throw line in the win . . . started at the point guard position in every game of his collegiate career (101 straight) . . . played a key role in the Bulldogs finishing the season ranked first in the SoCon in defensive rebounds per game (26.5), free throws made (645) and total rebounds (154) . . . Samford also closed out the year ranked No. 4 in the nation in free throw attempts (868), No. 17 in assists (581) and No. 18 in 3-point field-goal percentage (39.5) . . . finished the season with four 20-point outings . . . tallied three double-doubles; 12 points and 12 assists versus Wofford on Jan. 8, 21 points and 12 assists at Wofford on Feb. 9, and 10 points and 10 assists at Mercer on Feb. 27 . . . averaged 11.4 points, 6.3 assists and 2.8 rebounds per game . . . scored a career-high 30 points against ETSU in the second round of the SoCon Tournament on March 5 . . . proved to be one of five Samford players last season to average at least 8.2 points per game . . . logged a career-high 53 minutes of playing time on the road at Wofford on Feb. 9 . . . earned his third varsity letter.
Sophomore (2015-16): Exploded for a career-high 27 points at Western Carolina on Feb. 13, as he went 7-of-15 from the field and a perfect 13-of-13 from the charity stripe . . . also tallied two assists against the Catamounts . . . scored 26 points on Feb. 11 on the road against ETSU as he finished 9-of-17 from the field and 6-of-8 from the charity stripe . . . also added a two rebounds, two assists and a steal . . . tallied 26 points against Idaho on Nov. 25, as the Bulldogs clinched the championship title of the 2015 Mean Green Showcase . . . finished 8-of-11 from the field in the win . . . tallied a game-high 20 points in Samford’s 69-58 road victory at Nebraska on Dec. 20 . . . added six assists and four rebounds . . . nearly earned a double-double on Feb. 8 at The Citadel by scoring 19 points and handing out a career-high eight assists . . . registered 19 points and six assists at home against Wofford on Feb. 6, in a game-high 39 minutes of playing time . . . finished 7-of-10 from the field and 4-of-4 from the free-throw line . . . earned his second varsity letter.

Freshman (2014-15): Named the 2015 College Sports Madness Southern Conference Freshman of the Year . . . earned SoCon All-Freshman honors . . . started all 32 games for the Bulldogs at the point guard position . . . logged a team-high 962 minutes of playing time and averaged 30.1 minutes per contest . . . handed out a team-best 125 assists and finished the season averaging 10.3 points, 3.9 assists and 2.4 rebounds per game . . . turned in a 43.1-percent shooting mark from the field and a 79.1 percentage from the free-throw line . . . finished first on the team in assists (125) and third in both points (329) and points per game (10.3) . . . named the SoCon Freshman of the Week five times . . . on March 2, earned the weekly accolade after averaging 20.5 points, 5.0 rebounds and 4.0 assists in games at UNCG and VMI . . . turned in one of the best all-around performances of his young up-and-coming career at VMI on Feb. 28, as he scored a career-high 22 points on 10-of-16 shooting from the field . . . also added five rebounds and four assists in the 80-69 win . . . scored 20 points against Wofford on Jan. 3, as he finished 6-of-12 from the field and 3-of-4 from beyond the arc . . . earned his second SoCon Freshman of the Week honor of the season on Dec. 2 after averaging 12 points, four assists and three rebounds in a trio of games the prior week . . . named the CRONS SoCon Freshman of the Week on Nov. 18 after averaging nine points, six rebounds and four assists per game in road contests at Purdue and Pittsburgh . . . earned his first varsity letter.

High School: Turned in a stellar prep career at Henry Clay High School in Lexington, Ky. . . . lauded as a three-star recruit by VerbalCommits.com . . . chose to attend Samford over interest from nearly 20 Division I schools, including Houston, Western Kentucky, Marshall and Wright State . . . averaged 20 points per game as a senior and proved to be a varsity starter at both Cordia and Henry Clay High School since his sophomore season . . . represented Kentucky in the annual Kentucky-Indiana All-Star Game in 2013 . . . finished his prep career as the 18th-ranked guard in the talent-rich state . . . as a team leader, his squad finished his senior season with a brilliant 23-9 record and as the “All-A” champions . . . led the team with 17 points in the title game and earned first-team all-region and all-district honors . . . also proved to be an all-star in the classroom and finished his high school career with a remarkable 3.85 grade-point average . . . for his AAU team, the Louisville Magic, he helped pilot his squad to the 2014 17U Kentucky State Championship . . . averaged 12 points per game as a junior at HCHS.

Personal: Born Sept. 24, 1995 . . . parents are Marilyn Wilson and Shirley Cunningham . . . brother, Christopher, played football at Florida A&M University . . . majoring in public administration.

CAREER STATS

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2017-18: Transferred to Samford from the University of Alabama and will redshirt the season due to NCAA transfer rules.

Sophomore (2016-17): Saw action in six games . . . missed a majority of the season with a back injury . . . earned a season-high 10 minutes and finished with two points and two rebounds versus Clemson (Dec. 18) . . . scored his first point of the season in the Crimson Tide’s victory over Charleston Southern (Nov. 30) . . . missed the first two games of the season due to a bone bruise . . . did not play in Las Vegas Main Event due to an illness . . . registered the first block (1) of the season in six minutes of action in the victory over Stetson (Dec. 29) . . . received the team’s Commitment to Service Award.

Freshman (2015-16): Played in 30 games and averaged 8.9 minutes per game . . . averaged 1.5 points per game . . . finished 2-of-2 from the field for five points against Ole Miss (March 10) while matching season highs in assists, steals and blocks . . . was 2-of-3 from the field to finish with four points and grabbed a season-high tying three rebounds and 18 minutes of action at Mississippi State (Feb. 2) . . . set a season high with seven points against Winthrop (Dec. 16) on 3-of-6 shooting in 18 minutes . . . scored four points in four minutes against then-No. 17 Notre Dame (Nov. 29) . . . played 15 minutes against then-No. 23 Xavier (Nov. 26) and scored four points . . . scored three points in the win over Texas A&M (Feb. 10) . . . played 14 minutes and tallied three points against Dayton (Nov. 17) . . . grabbed a season-high three rebounds while recording his first block against Oregon (Dec. 21) . . . saw first collegiate action and scored his first basket versus Kennesaw State (Nov. 13).

High School: Played at Carver-Montgomery High School under head coach and former Crimson Tide basketball player J.J. Jackson . . . named the 6A state-tournament MVP and led his team to the 2015 state championship . . . selected to the 2015 Alabama Boys All-Star Basketball Team . . . named as a 6A First Team All-State honoree by the Alabama Sports Writers Association . . . nominated to play in the McDonald’s All-American Game . . . ranked No. 2 in the state of Alabama by MaxPreps and No. 5 by 247Sports . . . invited to Nike’s Elite 100 camp . . . averaged 18 points per game as a senior including a game-high 16 point performance in the Alabama-Mississippi Classic . . . averaged 15 points, seven rebounds and four assists a game as a junior . . . led his team to the state Final Four all four years . . . played in the 2014 AHSAA North-South All-Star game and was named the MVP of the South team with a game-high 15 points.

KEVION NOLAN

Position: Guard  
Height: 6-2  
Weight: 170  
Year: Freshman  
Hometown: Anniston, Ala.  
Previous School: Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic School

“Has been a part of winning for a long time . . . member of three state championship teams at Sacred Heart Academy and also won a national title with his AAU team, the Alabama Challenge . . . comes in with a winning pedigree and goes about his business . . . works hard every day . . . doesn’t complain about anything and he just goes to work . . . big-time shooter with really long arms . . . has the ability to play multiple positions . . . also does a great job in the classroom.”

High School: First commit of the 2017 recruiting cycle . . . proved to be an integral part of his signing class since Sept. 2, 2016 . . . at 6-foot-2, he proved to be a sharpshooter in the high school ranks . . . tabbed as a 3-star recruit from ESPN.com and was listed as the sixth best player in Alabama . . . led Sacred Heart to a perfect 10-0 record in region play, as well as a remarkable 28-8 overall mark . . . as one of the top players in the state, he averaged 19.2 points, 6.2 rebounds and 4.3 assists per contest . . . connected on six 3-point baskets and accumulated 30 points in a matchup against Pebblebrook High School on Nov. 12.
Justin Coleman

Position: Point guard
Height: 5-10
Weight: 170
Year: Junior
Hometown: Birmingham, Ala.
Previous School: Alabama

Redshirt (2016-17): Transferred to Samford from the University of Alabama and redshirted the season due to NCAA transfer rules.

Sophomore (2015-16): In his second season at Alabama, he played in 33 games, starting seven times … led the team shooting .890 from the free throw line (73-of-82) which ranks as the second-highest percentage in school history … also averaged a team-best 3.3 assists per game … led team in assists in 21 contests, had 12 games with five or more assists and 11 double-figure scoring games … scored a career-high 24 points against Oregon (12/21) while setting a career high in field goals made (7) and matched his highs in field goal attempts (16) … finished with 21 points at LSU (2/17) while dishing out five assists and matching his career high with five threes … scored 18 points and collected a career-high eight assists to go along with a game-high three steals vs. Louisiana-Lafayette (11/20) … led team with 18 points on four three-pointers in NIT game at Creighton (3/15) … scored 18 points against Winthrop (12/16), while also dishing out five assists … finished with 15 points to go along with five assists in the win over Ole Miss (3/10) … scored 15 points and had four rebounds while shooting 3-of-5 from beyond the arc at Mississippi State (2/2) … scored 14 points against Missouri (2/6) while recording five assists and going 5-of-6 at the free throw line … scored 14 points, going a perfect 5-of-5 from the free throw line and added six dimes while also matching his career high with five rebounds against South Carolina (1/16) … finished with nine points at Auburn (1/19) while leading the team with five assists … made first start of the season at Clemson (12/13) and dished out five assists while grabbing a career-high five rebounds … finished with 10 points while going a perfect 4-of-4 from the free throw line win the win at Florida (2/13) … scored a team-high 10 points against then-No. 23 Xavier (11/26) … had five assists and added six points in 27 minutes in the season opener against Kennesaw State (11/13).

Freshman (2014-15): A member of the SEC First Year Academic Honor Roll … played in all 34 games, starting in nine contests … finished third on the team with 48 assists … led UA in three-pointers and assists six times and in steals five times … set a career-high in points (22) while sinking five three-point baskets in the second half at Arkansas (1/22) … also set career-highs in three-pointers attempted (7), steals (3), free throws made (7) and free throws attempted (8) in that game … recorded 14 points and three steals in the win over Stillman (12/19) … led the team in assists (3) and scored nine points against Southern Miss (11/20) … scored 10 points off the bench in the NIT win over Illinois (3/17) … was a perfect 6-of-6 from the free throw line and finished with nine points at Auburn (2/17).

High School: Played under head coach Cedric Lane at Wenonah High School … ranked No. 1 on AL.com’s A-list of top seniors in the state of Alabama … named the SA boys Player of the Year by the Alabama High School Athletics Association.
… a two-time member of the boys basketball “Super Five” team awarded to the top five players in the state … averaged 28 points, six assists, six steals and five rebounds senior year … the Final 48 MVP in 2013 … was a four-time all-state honoree, including first-team honors in each of his last two seasons (2013 and 2014) … also a four-time team most valuable player … helped lead Wenonah to a 34-2 record, the Alabama 5A state championship and finished the year nationally ranked during his junior season in 2012-13 … averaged 20.3 points, 7.7 assists, 4.0 rebounds and 4.2 steals a game as a junior … holds school record for career triple-doubles, including recording 40 points, 15 assists and 12 steals in a game … rated by 247Sports.com as the No. 43 prospect in the nation, the ninth-best player in the nation at his position and the No. 1 prospect in the state of Alabama … rated by ESPN.com as the No. 22 in the region and 75th-best overall player, while both Rivals.com and Scout.com gave him a four star rating.

Josh Sharkey

3

Position: Point Guard
Height: 5-10
Weight: 170
Year: Sophomore
Previous School: Archbishop Carroll High School

2016-17 SET THE SCHOOL’S SINGLE-SEASON RECORD IN STEALS (71)
2016-17 SET THE SCHOOL’S SINGLE-GAME RECORD IN STEALS (7)
2016-17 SET THE SCHOOL’S SINGLE-SEASON FRESHMAN RECORD IN ASSISTS (150)
2016-17 SCON ALL-FRESHMAN TEAM (COACHES)
2016-17 SCON ALL-FRESHMAN TEAM (MEDIA)

A true Northeast point guard . . . tenacious defender and hard-nosed competitor . . . has the ability to both run an offense and break down defenses off the dribble . . . played against a very high level of competition on both the EYBL circuit and the Philadelphia Catholic School league . . . those experiences have served him well in the Southern Conference.

Freshman (2016-17): Named to the SoCon’s All-Freshman Team as voted by the league’s head coaches . . . named to the SoCon’s All-Freshman Team as voted by the league’s media . . . finished the season ranked first in the conference in steals with 71 . . . set the school’s single-season record in steals with 71 . . . set Samford’s single-game record in steals with seven on the road at Western Carolina (Jan. 2) . . . closed out the year ranked No. 14 in the nation in total steals with 71 . . . set the school’s all-time freshman record in assists with 150 . . . proved to be one of five Samford players last season to average at least 8.2 points per game . . . tallied the first double-double of his collegiate career on Dec. 28, by scoring 11 points and adding 10 assists . . . played a key role in the Bulldogs finishing the season ranked first in the SoCon in defensive rebounds per game (26.5), free throws made (645) and total rebounds (1,300) . . . Samford also closed out the year ranked No. 4 in the nation in free throw attempts (868), No. 17 in assists (581) and No. 18 in 3-point field-goal percentage (39.5) . . . scored a career-high 23 points on the road against Furman on Feb. 11 . . . he also pulled down a career-high nine rebounds against the Paladins . . . earned key playing time in all 36 of the team’s games on the season . . . averaged 22.5 minutes per outing . . . finished the year scoring 8.2 points per contest . . . logged a career-high 39 minutes on the road against ETSU on Jan. 25 . . . earned his first varsity letter.

High School: Starred throughout his prep career at Archbishop Carroll High School in Philadelphia . . . an excellent ballhandler and impressive floor general . . . named to the roster of the annual Philly/New York City Classic, which features some of the best high school talent in the Northeast . . . proved to be one of only 10 players in the Philadelphia area to earn the distinction . . . competed for Team Final on the AAU circuit and turned quite a few heads during the summer, especially after shining at the Peach Jam in July . . . received heavy interest from Dayton, Penn State, East Carolina, Wofford, Tulsa, James Madison, Boston University, Penn, Quinnipiac and Fairleigh Dickinson . . . at the 2015 Peach Jam, which is one of the big-
gest AAU tournaments in the nation, he averaged 9.8 points, 4.5 assists, 4.0 rebounds and 1.8 steals per contest ... during his entire AAU season, he averaged 7.1 points per game and shot 44 percent from the floor in 20 appearances ... boosting his stock was the ability to hold his own against Alterique Gilbert, who is listed as one of the best point guards in the country and signed to play at UConn ... entered his senior season ranked as the ninth best player in Pennsylvania by ESPN.com and boasts top-notch defensive skills that fit perfectly in Samford’s up-tempo, full-court pressing style of play.

Personal: His cousin, Jameer Nelson, is in the midst of his 14th season in the NBA and is currently playing with the New Orleans Pelicans ... Nelson starred at St. Joe’s and also spent time with the Orlando Magic (2004-14), Dallas Mavericks (2014-15), Boston Celtics (2014-15) and Denver Nuggets (2014-17) ... undeclared major.

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TRISTON CHAMBERS

Position: Guard
Height: 6-2
Weight: 185
Year: Sophomore
Hometown: Cold Springs, Ala.
Previous School: Cold Springs High School

2016-17 SOCON ALL-FRESHMAN TEAM (MEDIA)

Big-time scorer with unlimited range ... has the ability to create his own shot or score off the catch and shoot.

Freshman (2016-17): Named to the Southern Conference All-Freshman Team as voted by the league’s media ... scored a career-high 24 points on 6-of-9 shooting from the field versus Nicholls State on Nov. 27 ... played a key role in the Bulldogs finishing the season ranked first in the SoCon in free throws made (645) ... Samford also closed out the year ranked No. 4 in the nation in free throw attempts (868), No. 17 in assists (581) and No. 18 in 3-point field-goal percentage (39.5) ... proved to be one of four Bulldogs shooting at least 40 percent from 3-point range on the season ... earned significant playing time in all 36 games and started in all but one of the Bulldogs’ matchups ... averaged 22.6 minutes per outing and shot 42.7 percent from the field ... averaged 7.3 points per game and turned in a sizzling 41.2-percent mark from 3-point range, which proved to be second best tally on the team ... handed out a career-high five assists against Nicholls State on Nov. 27 ... logged a career-high 46 minutes of playing time at Wofford on Feb. 9 ... earned his first varsity letter.

High School: All-state guard from Cold Springs, Ala. ... finished his breakout junior campaign averaging 29 points, eight rebounds and five assists per game ... registered a head-turning, 53-point performance against rival Holly Pond ... to conclude his junior season, he led Cold Springs High School to the AHSAA Class 2A Northwest Regional tournament ... started his senior campaign in style by scoring a game-high 31 points in CSHS’s season-opener against Vinemont High School ... named a Sweet 16 Stock Riser and attended the 2015 Alabama Elite Preview where he garnered the attention of many collegiate recruiters ... opted to attend Samford University over offers from UAB, Mercer, Appalachian State, Furman and IUPUI, as well as heavy interest from Wichita State, Georgia, Army, The Citadel, Belmont, South Alabama and Murray State ... lauded as “one of the best shooters in the South” by HoopSeen.com, he played his AAU ball with the Bledsoe Ice, a Birmingham-based travel team sponsored by former Kentucky standout and current NBA star Eric Bledsoe.

Personal: Majoring in pre-business.

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ERIC ADAMS

13

Position: Forward
Height: 6-7
Weight: 215
Year: Senior
Hometown: Hoover, Ala.
Previous School: Hoover High School

Junior (2016-17): Earned playing time in 30 of the team’s 36 games and started in outings against ETSU (Feb. 15) and VMI (Feb. 18). Tallied a double-double with 13 points and a career-high 11 rebounds at home against VMI on Feb. 18, as the Bulldogs posted a key 80-61 victory in Southern Conference action. Played a key role in the Bulldogs finishing the season ranked first in the SoCon in defensive rebounds per game (26.5) and total rebounds (1,300). Samford also closed out the year ranked No. 4 in the nation in free throw attempts (868), No. 17 in assists (581) and No. 18 in 3-point field-goal percentage (39.5). Averaged 2.4 points and 2.8 rebounds per game in an average of 8.4 minutes per contest. Tallied three blocked shots at home against Chattanooga on Feb. 22. Logged a career-high 36 minutes of playing time at Wofford on Feb. 9. Earned his third varsity letter.

Sophomore (2015-16): Nearly tallied the first double-double of his young, up-and-coming career on Nov. 16, as he finished with career-highs in points (10) and rebounds (9) versus Auburn-Montgomery. Against AUM, he also added two assists, two blocked shots and a steal in only 18 minutes of playing time. Turned in one of his best all-around games against Miles College on Dec. 29, as he compiled five points, three rebounds and a trio of blocks in only 11 minutes of action. Scored five points and added three rebounds in the Bulldogs’ 83-79 victory over Troy on Nov. 23. Notched five points and a pair of rebounds in only 17 minutes of playing time at North Texas on Nov. 24. Made his first collegiate start Nov. 13 at Louisville and played nine minutes at the center position. Finished the game with two points, three rebounds and a blocked shot. Earned his second varsity letter.


Freshman (2013-14): Looked good in his first playing time of the regular season on Nov. 15, as he registered career-highs in points (2), rebounds (1) and blocked shots (1) at No. 23-ranked Indiana. Played a minute against Davidson on Feb. 6 in his first Southern Conference action of the season. Earned three minutes of playing time against Miles College on Nov. 5 and finished with a blocked shot. Earned his first varsity letter.


TANNER TAPP

14

Position: Guard
Height: 6-2
Weight: 190
Year: Junior
Hometown: Brentwood, Tenn.
Previous School: Brentwood High School

Sophomore (2016-17): Earned playing time in eight games and tallied three rebounds and two points on the season . . . averaged 2.9 minutes per outing . . . scored two points and pulled down a rebound against Bethune-Cookman on Nov. 26 . . . grabbed a pair of rebounds at home against Fort Valley State on Dec. 28 . . . logged a season-high eight minutes of playing time versus Bethune-Cookman on Nov. 26 . . . earned his second varsity letter.

Freshman (2015-16): Turned in the best game of his young, up-and-coming collegiate career on Dec. 29 by posting personal bests in points (5), assists (2), field goals (2) and 3-point field goals (1) at home versus Miles College . . . also logged a career-high four minutes of playing time in the 104-76 win . . . scored two points on a fast-break layup against The Citadel on Jan. 5, as he logged a minute of game action in the Bulldogs’ 94-74 home win . . . played the final minute of action in Samford’s 75-58 victory over Idaho on Nov. 25 and tallied the first rebound of his college career . . . one of the original founders of “The Kennel”, Samford’s popular bench crew . . . earned his first varsity letter.

High School: Played an integral role at Brentwood High School where his squad earned a 32-3 overall record and advanced to the semifinals of the state championship . . . a cerebral player who understands the game well . . . possesses an extremely high basketball IQ and is a very good shooter . . . capable of running a team and boasts solid man-to-man defensive skills . . . willing to make the extra pass on offense . . . plays with passion every time he is on the floor.

Personal: Born Sept. 3, 1996 . . . parents are Chuck and Tawny Tapp . . . has a brother, Carson, and a sister, Taylor . . . majoring in business.

CAREER STATS

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Had a number of opportunities to play professionally over in Europe straight out of high school, but he decided to come over here to the U.S., to play in college . . . 4.0 student and extremely smart, especially on the basketball court . . . epitome of a European No. 4-No. 3 position player who's 6-foot-7, strong and can shoot the ball, handle the ball and pass the ball with ease . . . really knows how to play . . . skilled and can beat you in a lot of different ways.

Junior (2017-18): Transferred to Samford from Missouri State-West Plains and is eligible to compete immediately.

Prior to Samford: Last season, he competing for the Missouri State-West Plains Grizzlies and started in 27 games . . . averaged 13.9 points and 6.1 rebounds per contest . . . shot 49 percent from the field and 86.7 percent from the free-throw line . . . spent his freshman season at Odessa Community College where he earned playing time in 12 games . . . turned in a brilliant 56-percent shooting mark from the field and didn't miss a single free throw on the year.

Personal: Highly-skilled, 6-foot-7 forward from Visegrad, Bosnia.
ALEX THOMPSON

20

Position: Forward
Height: 6-8
Weight: 210
Year: Senior
Hometown: Dothan, Ala.
Previous School: Auburn

Junior (2016-17): Earned playing time in all 36 games and started in 33 outings for the Bulldogs... averaged 11.7 points and 4.3 rebounds per game, while shooting 40.3 percent from 3-point range... closed out the season ranked second on the team with an 80.3-percent tally from the free throw line... posted career-highs in points (35) and assists (11) against The Citadel on Feb. 25... finished the season with four 20-point outings and proved to be one of only 15 players in the Southern Conference to score at least 30 points in a game... tallied two double-doubles on the season; 35 points and 11 rebounds versus The Citadel (Feb. 25) and 10 points and 11 rebounds versus Furman in the SoCon Tournament (March 4)... played a key role in the Bulldogs finishing the season ranked first in the SoCon in defensive rebounds per game (26.5), free throws made (645) and total rebounds (154)... Samford also closed out the year ranked No. 4 in the nation in free throw attempts (868), No. 17 in assists (581) and No. 18 in 3-point field-goal percentage (39.5)... drained a season-high six 3-point baskets at home against Western Carolina on Feb. 2... proved to be one of five Samford players last season to average at least 8.2 points per game... earned his first varsity letter as a Bulldog.

Redshirt (2015-16): Transferred to Samford from Auburn University and was forced to redshirt the season due to NCAA transfer rules.

Sophomore (2014-15): In his second season at Auburn University, he played in 23 games for Head Coach Bruce Pearl and averaged 2.7 points and 1.9 rebounds per contest... scored a career-high 16 points in the Tigers' opening-round Southeastern Conference Tournament victory over Mississippi State... turned in a 6-of-7 shooting performance against the Bulldogs, including a perfect 3-for-3 outing from 3-point range... tallied a career-best two blocks and three rebounds in regular-season finale against Georgia... scored two points and added four rebounds at Texas A&M... finished with three points and five rebounds against LSU... tallied seven points and three rebounds (all on the defensive end) versus Florida... against Winthrop, he matched his career high in points (8) and grabbed a career-best six rebounds in 15 minutes of action.

Freshman (2013-14): In his first season at Auburn University, he played in 20 games and averaged 1.0 points and 1.5 rebounds in 7.8 minutes per contest... a total of 12 of his 24 field-goal attempts (50 percent) came from 3-point range... started his collegiate career as a walk-on, but was awarded a scholarship prior to the game at Tennessee... pulled down four rebounds and added a career-high two assists against Mississippi State... grabbed a career-high five rebounds against Kentucky... scored five points on 2-of-6 shooting at LSU while also grabbing a career-high four rebounds... notched a career-best three steals at South Carolina... handed out a career-high two assists at Mississippi State... registered a career game against Missouri, coming off the bench to score eight points on 3-of-4 shooting (2-of-3 from 3-point range), two re-
bounds and a steal in 22 minutes . . . first career field goal was a 3-pointer that gave Auburn a 21-19 lead with 7:10 to go in the first half against Missouri . . . scoreless in eight minutes against Arkansas-Pine Bluff, grabbing a rebound . . . scoreless in eight minutes at Iowa State, grabbing a rebound . . . saw his first action of the season against Jacksonville State, scoring one point in nine minutes . . . came off the bench to pull down three rebounds in nine minutes of the exhibition win over Victory.

High School: Played at Houston Academy for the 2012-13 season . . . Dothan Eagle Player of the Year . . . Alabama Sports Writers Association Class 2A Player of the Year . . . one of three finalists for Alabama Mr. Basketball . . . scored over 2,000 points in his high school career . . . averaged 25.0 points, 12.8 rebounds, 2.8 assists, 2.6 blocks and 2.0 steals per game at Houston Academy . . . his 25.0 points per game was tops among all 2A all-state candidates and his 12.8 rebounds were second-most . . . helped Houston finish the year 25-7, advancing to the regional postseason tournament . . . Third-Team Class 5A All-State selection out of Jensen Beach, Fla., after averaging 24.0 points, 10.4 rebounds and 1.8 blocks per game for Jenson Beach High School in 2011-12 . . . averaged 20.6 points and 9.3 rebounds as a sophomore . . . academic all-state.

Personal: Son of Paul and Cecilia Thompson . . . majoring in political science.

CAREER STATS

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<tr>
<th>SEASON</th>
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DEMETRIUS DENZEL-DYSON

Position: Guard  
Height: 6-5  
Weight: 205  
Year: Senior  
Hometown: Covington, Tenn.  
Previous School: UMass

2017-18 PRESEASON ALL-SOCON TEAM
2016-17 SCORED 580 POINTS (SEVENTH HIGHEST TOTAL IN SCHOOL HISTORY)
2016-17 THIRD-TEAM ALL-SOCON TEAM (COACHES)
2016-17 THIRD-TEAM ALL-SOCON TEAM (MEDIA)
2016-17 SOCON PLAYER OF THE WEEK (NOV. 29)

Senior (2017-18): Proved to be one of 10 players named to the Preseason All-Southern Conference Team as voted on by the league’s head coaches.

Junior (2016-17): Named a Third-Team All-SoCon performer by the league’s head coaches . . . named a Third-Team All-SoCon performer by the league’s media . . . led Samford in scoring last season with an average of 16.1 points per game . . . has affectionately earned the moniker “3D” from the Bulldog faithful . . . shot a sizzling 46-percent from 3-point range and 49.5-percent from field en route to scoring a team-high 580 points . . . his 580 points ranked seventh in the history of Samford basketball and proved to be the highest single-season output since 1984-85, when the Bulldogs’ all-time leader scorer Craig Beard tallied a school-record tally of 703 . . . registered the fourth-best 3-point shooting percentage in the nation . . . wasn’t officially ranked by the NCAA, because he didn’t compile enough attempts per game . . . named the SoCon’s Player of the Week on Nov. 29, after averaging 22.7 points and 7.0 rebounds per outing, while shooting 54.5 percent from 3-point range in games against Cincinnati, Nicholls State and Bethune-Cookman . . . scored a career-high 40 points against Nicholls State on Nov. 27 . . . shot 15-of-20 from the field, finished 7-of-11 from beyond the arc and registered a double-double with 11 rebounds . . . added double-double performances against Chattanooga (22 points and 10 rebounds on Jan. 21) and UNCG (18 points and 10 rebounds on Feb. 4) . . . proved to be one of only three players to score 40 or more points throughout the season . . . tallied three games of 30 points or more . . . played a key role in the Bulldogs finishing the season ranked first in the SoCon in defensive rebounds per game (26.5), free throws made (645) and total rebounds (1,300) . . . Samford also closed out the year ranked No. 4 in the nation in free throw attempts (868), No. 17 in assists (581) and No. 18 in 3-point field-goal percentage (39.5) . . . averaged a team-high 16.1 points and 4.8 rebounds per game . . . led Samford with a 46-percent shooting mark from 3-point range . . . led the team with single-game totals of points (40), field goals made (15) and 3-point field goals made (7) . . . earned his first varsity letter as a Bulldog.

Redshirt (2015-16): Transferred to Samford from the University of Massachusetts and was forced to redshirt the season due to NCAA transfer rules.
Sophomore (2014-15): In his second season at UMass, he appeared in 29 games, including all 18 Atlantic 10 contests . . . scored 96 points (3.3 ppg), grabbed 58 rebounds (2.0 rpg) and handed out 14 assists (0.5 apg) . . . averaged 10.7 minutes per game to rank eighth on the team . . . committed just 11 turnovers in 310 minutes, averaging just one every 28.2 minutes of action . . . recorded three double-figure scoring games . . . had 10 points on 4-of-5 shooting with a pair of 3-pointers in 15 minutes against Davidson (Jan. 14) . . . best game of his career came at VCU (Feb. 21) with his first career double-double, setting career marks with 12 points and 10 rebounds in 29 minutes . . . proved to be a key figure in the first half, scoring five of his 10 first-half points in the final 6:35 to keep the margin within five at the break . . . added a second-straight 12-point effort, along with seven boards, four days later at home against Saint Joseph’s (Feb. 15).

Freshman (2013-14): In his first season at UMass, he earned playing time in 20 games off the bench . . . finished the season with 12 points and 24 rebounds, while averaging 3.5 minutes per game . . . saw action in 11 A-10 regular-season games for 3.8 minutes per contest . . . tallied a rebound in four minutes in his first college game against Providence (Nov. 15) in the opening game of the Puerto Rico Tip-Off . . . scored his first career points on a put-back two games later against Tennessee (Nov. 18) . . . finished with two points, a rebound and a steal in four minutes at Fordham (Jan. 13) . . . played solid minutes at Charlotte (Feb. 2) where he finished with two rebounds and two blocks in a career-best eight minutes . . . posted two points and a rebound in six minutes at VCU (Feb. 14).

High School: Three-star recruit by Rivals and ESPN.com . . . ranked as the No. 85 shooting guard in the country and No. 17 overall in the state of Tennessee by ESPN Scouting Services . . . averaged 23.8 points and 10.4 rebounds as a senior at Covington (Tenn.) High School under the tutelage of Head Coach Dion Real . . . proved to be a Class AA all-state and all-metro honoree after leading the Chargers to a 25-4 mark . . . shot 50 percent from the field, 35 percent from outside and 78 percent from the free-throw line . . . a three-year letterman at Brighton High School before transferring prior to his senior year . . . played AAU ball for both Team Thad and MM33 out of Memphis.

Personal: Full name is Demetrius Denzel Dyson . . . born Feb. 22, 1995, in Covington, Tenn . . . son of Twyalla and Maurice Dyson . . . has a younger sister, Desiree’ (18), who is currently Miss Tennessee . . . cousins who have played college and pro sports include Rodney Carney (basketball at Memphis and professionally overseas), Ramon Foster (football at Tennessee and in the NFL with the Pittsburgh Steelers), Renardo Foster (football at Louisville) and Ron Slay (basketball at Tennessee and professionally overseas) . . . majoring in health sciences.

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GERALD SMITH

24

Position: Guard
Height: 6-4
Weight: 185
Year: Junior
Hometown: Carbon Hill, Ala.
Previous School: Carbon Hill High School

Sophomore (2016-17): Earned playing time in 23 of the team’s 36 games. Finished the season with a 44.4 shooting percentage from the field, as well as a solid 40-percent tally from 3-point range. Finished fourth on the team in 3-point shooting percentage and proved to be one of four Bulldogs with a tally of 40 percent or above from beyond the arc. Scored a season-high five points in games against Bethune-Cookman (Nov. 26) and Miles College (Dec. 10) earned his second varsity letter.

Freshman (2015-16): Suffered a season-ending injury in the first half against Auburn-Montgomery on Nov. 16, and was forced to miss the remainder of the year. Pulled down two rebounds and handed out a pair of assists versus Auburn-Montgomery on Nov. 16, as he earned 16 minutes of game action and added a steal. Logged 15 minutes of playing time in Samford’s season-opener at Louisville on Nov. 13, and finished the game with a pair of rebounds. Earned his first varsity letter.


High School: Excellled at Carbon Hill High School where he averaged 23.1 points, 6.7 rebounds, 3.4 blocks and 3.1 assists per game as a senior. In the 2013 state championship tournament, he scored 32 points against Bibb County, including eight straight points in the fourth quarter where he also drained four 3-point baskets. Earned 4A Second-Team All-Alabama honors as a senior and junior. Garnered honorable mention accolades as a sophomore. Concluded his prep career ranked among the top-25 seniors in Alabama by several recruiting services. Closed out his high school career with 2,033 points, 1,253 rebounds and 387 blocks. Led his team to 113 victories in four years. As a junior, he averaged 18.7 points, 14.0 rebounds, 5.0 blocks and 3.4 assists per game.


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Luke Touliaatos

Position: Forward
Height: 6-4
Weight: 180
Year: Freshman
Hometown: Homewood, Ala.
Previous School: Homewood High School

Quite honestly might have fallen through the cracks... great player... currently a preferred walk-on, but really has a chance to help this program out down the line... can definitely get in games, get in the rotation and have a chance to play... possesses great speed and has an uncanny knack for reading passing lanes, so he's really good at getting steals and starting the break... very good shooter and has a scorer's mentality.

High School: Starred at nearby Homewood High School... led the Patriots to a state title during his tenure at HHS and proved to be a key factor in every facet of his game... during his 2016 state championship run, he scored 31 points in a huge 64-51 victory over Huffman High School... following the game, he was tabbed the “Fast-Break Forward” after his head-turning performance included a mixture of 3-pointers, layups and of course, his great spin move... knocked down a number of 3-point shots at the Birmingham Main Event in May of 2017, and was able to space the defense and create driving lanes for his teammates.
RUBEN GUERRERO

32

Position: Center
Height: 7-0
Weight: 240
Year: Senior
Hometown: Marbella, Spain
Previous School: USF

2017-18: Transferred to Samford from the University of South Florida (USF) and will redshirt the season due to NCAA transfer rules.

Junior (2016-17): In his third season at USF, he earned significant playing time in 25 of the team's 30 games, including 25 starts at center . . . averaged 22.9 minutes per outing and shot 50.8 percent from the field . . . averaged 5.4 points and 5.1 rebounds per game . . . finished the season with a team-high 37 blocked shots.

Sophomore (2015-16): In his second season at USF, he was the recipient of the American Athletic Conference Sportsmanship Award . . . NCAA D1 Male Sportsmanship Award winner . . . played in 32 of 33 games, while starting 19 . . . averaged 5.1 points and 5.6 rebounds . . . ranked eighth in the conference with 1.3 blocks per game] . . . ranked 12th in the conference with 2.2 offensive rebounds per game . . . led the team with a field goal percentage of 59.1 . . . registered two double-doubles . . . recorded 14 points and 10 rebounds against Temple (Jan. 31) and 12 points and 10 rebounds versus UAB (Dec. 19) . . . recorded a season-high 11 rebounds and a career-high seven blocks versus Memphis (Feb. 20), the most blocks by a USF player since Kentrell Gransberry had seven against UAB on Dec. 8, 2007.

Freshman (2014-15): In his first season at USF, he played in 28 games while starting 22 . . . missed the first four games of the season due to a groin injury . . . did not play in the second half or overtime at Tulsa (Jan. 31) due to injury . . . ranked fourth in the conference (first among freshmen) and 100th in the NCAA (11th among freshmen) with 1.5 blocks per game . . . tied for third all-time at USF in blocked shots as a freshman with 43 . . . had a season-best 14 rebounds against Temple (Feb. 14) . . . averaged 4.6 rebounds per game, the second-best on the team . . . averaged 5.4 points per game . . . recorded four blocks three times . . . scored a season-best 17 points vs. Memphis (Feb. 14).

High School: A 3-star recruit by Scout.com . . . member of the 18U Spanish national team . . . ranked No. 33 on DraftExpress.com's International '95 list . . . averaged 9.3 points and 8.5 rebounds in 2013-14 at Sunrise Christian Academy in Wichita, Kan. . . . helped the Buffaloes finish with a national ranking of No. 14 by USA Today and a 19-7 record while playing an arduous national schedule.

Personal: Born Oct. 22, 1995 . . . son of Maria del Carmen Pino Diaz (mother) and Jacinto Guerrero Martinez (father) . . . has one younger brother, Adrian (by two years) . . . majoring in business.
Wyatt Walker

33

Position: Center
Height: 6-9
Weight: 240
Year: Junior
Hometown: Jacksonville, Fla.
Previous School: Providence School

2017-18 PRESEASON ALL-SOCON TEAM
2016-17 THIRD-TEAM ALL-SOCON TEAM (COACHES)
2016-17 THIRD-TEAM ALL-SOCON TEAM (MEDIA)
2016-17 SOCON PLAYER OF THE MONTH (NOVEMBER)
2016-17 SOCON PLAYER OF THE WEEK (JAN. 10)
2016-17 SOCON PLAYER OF THE WEEK (NOV. 22)
2015-16 SOCON ALL-FRESHMAN TEAM

Junior (2017-18): Proved to be one of 10 players named to the Preseason All-Southern Conference Team as voted on by the league's head coaches.

Sophomore (2016-17): Named a Third-Team All-SoCon performer by the league's head coaches . . . named a Third-Team All-SoCon performer by the league's media . . . earned SoCon Player of the Month honors for November by averaging 14.3 points and 13.1 rebounds per game, while shooting 55 percent from the floor . . . also tallied seven double-doubles in the month to lead the nation . . . named the SoCon Player of the Week on Jan. 10, after averaging 21.5 points and 8.5 rebounds per game, while shooting 61.5 percent from the field . . . scored the game-winning basket at the buzzer in a thrilling 91-89 home victory against Wofford on Jan. 8 . . . led the Bulldogs in the victory with 25 points on 8-of-12 shooting from the floor . . . named the SoCon Player of the Week on Nov. 22, after averaging 13.5 points and 15.0 rebounds per game . . . also tallied a 56-percent shooting mark from the field in matchups against New Mexico State and Campbell . . . finished the season ranked No. 1 in the SoCon in the following categories: Total rebounds (329), double-doubles (17), rebounds per game (9.7) and defensive rebounds per game (6.8) . . . registered a double-double in half of the games he played (17-of-34) . . . closed out the season ranked No. 15 in the nation with 17 double-doubles . . . finished the year ranked No. 25 in the country in total rebounds (329) and No. 26 in rebounds per game (9.7) . . . played a key role in the Bulldogs finishing the season ranked first in the SoCon in defensive rebounds per game (26.5), free throws made (645) and total rebounds (1,300) . . . Samford also closed out the year ranked No. 4 in the nation in free throw attempts (868), No. 17 in assists (581) and No. 18 in 3-point field-goal percentage (39.5) . . . proved to be one of five Samford players last season to average at least 8.2 points per game . . . finished the season averaging 12.9 points and 9.7 rebounds per game . . . started in 34 of the team’s 36 games and averaged 29.1 minutes per contest . . . registered a 58.6 shooting percentage from the field, as well as a team-high 329 rebounds . . . led the team with 29 blocked shots . . . turned in a season-high 16 rebounds against Campbell on Nov. 21 . . . earned his second varsity letter.
Freshman (2015-16): Earned SoCon All-Freshman honors . . . exploded for a career-high 30 points on 9-of-12 shooting from the field on Feb. 11 at ETSU . . . also pulled down eight boards and finished a stellar 12-of-14 from the free-throw line . . . named the SoCon Player of the Week on Jan. 19 after he averaged 20.0 points and 9.5 rebounds per game in a pair of SoCon matchups against ETSU and Western Carolina . . . Turned in a brilliant performance on Jan. 16 versus Western Carolina as he tallied 26 points, 12 rebounds and 11 field goals against the Catamounts . . . registered his fourth double-double of the season on Feb. 8 at The Citadel as he tallied team-highs in points (22), rebounds (11), blocked shots (5) and steals (2) . . . in 28 minutes of playing time, he finished 11-of-18 from the field . . . accumulated a team-high 17 points and six rebounds at UNCG on Jan. 24 in only 19 minutes of playing time . . . finished 5-of-7 from the field and 7-of-8 from the free-throw line . . . earned his first varsity letter.

High School: Played his prep career at the Providence School under the tutelage of legendary coach Jim Martin . . . helped lead the Stallions to the 2015 Florida High School Athletic Association State championship as a senior . . . named the Jacksonville.com Player of the Year . . . Providence School has been an elite college prep basketball program throughout the years and has produced a number of NCAA stars in Duke’s Grayson Allen, Florida alum Patrick Young, Temple’s Will Cummings and many more Division I players . . . won the 2013 FHSAA State championship and competed in four-consecutive Final Fours . . . finished his career with an amazing 138-10 record . . . a four-year starter, four-time district champion, four-time regional champion and didn’t lose a single home game . . . earned 2015 Prep Hoops Florida Class 3A Player of The Year honors . . . named to the 2015 All-First Coast First Team, the 2015 Arby’s Classic All-Tournament Team, the 2014 Beach Ball Classic All-Tournament Team and played AAU for five years with NikeTeamFlorida . . . finished his illustrious prep career at Providence School with 1,408 points, 1,015 rebounds, 316 assists, 113 blocks and 85 steals.

JT MUMBER

43

Position: Forward
Height: 6-7
Weight: 205
Year: Freshman
Hometown: Rome, Ga.
Previous School: Darlington High School

Polished offensively . . . plays with intensity and rebounds the ball extremely well . . . picks things up very quickly . . . does a really good job of listening, learning and taking coaching . . . understands his role and does a fantastic job of battling for a rebound and kicking it out to our guards in transition . . . definitely has a huge upside . . . will play a big role for this team and with his hard work and effort, he’s going to make it easy to earn playing time.

High School: Starred at Darlington High School in Rome, Ga. . . . a talented 6-foot-7 forward, he proved to be one of the best high school post players in Northwest Georgia . . . honored as January’s Player of the Month.
Position: Forward/Center
Height: 6-8
Weight: 225
Year: Senior
Hometown: Mountain Brook, Ala.
Previous School: Mountain Brook High School

Junior (2016-17): Earned playing time in 32 of the team’s 36 games on the season . . . finished the year with a team-best 69.0 shooting percentage from the field . . . knocked down 29-of-42 attempts from the floor . . . finished the season averaging 2.4 points and 0.9 rebounds per contest . . . tallied 28 rebounds, nine steals, eight blocks and six assists . . . scored a season-high seven points at home against Western Carolina in a Southern Conference matchup on Feb. 2 . . . also pulled down a season-high three rebounds in the contest as he logged 17 points against the Catamounts . . . earned his third varsity letter.

Sophomore (2015-16): Equaled his career-high total of 10 points on Jan. 5 versus The Citadel as he went 5-for-5 from the field and added five rebounds and a blocked shot in 21 minutes of playing time . . . turned in a solid performance at Jacksonville State on Dec. 1, as he scored a career-high 10 points and grabbed a pair of rebounds . . . also went 6-of-6 from the free-throw line . . . played a vital role in Samford’s 69-58 win at Nebraska on Dec. 2 by tallying four points, four rebounds and two steals . . . scored six points and added three rebounds and a pair of steals at home versus Miles College on Dec. 29 . . . finished 3-for-4 from the field in only 13 minutes of playing time . . . scored four points and pulled down three rebounds on Feb. 11 at ETSU in only five minutes of playing time on the road against the Buccaneers . . . collected four points, two assists, one rebound, a blocked shot and a steal in 18 minutes at Austin Peay on Nov. 28 . . . earned his second varsity letter.

Freshman (2014-15): Earned playing time in 31 of the team’s 32 games and averaged 9.3 minutes per contest . . . started in eight games and turned in a 55.2-percent shooting mark from the field, which ranked second on the team . . . averaged 1.1 points and 1.3 rebounds per game and tallied 12 blocked shots . . . earned the first start of his collegiate career at Presbyterian on Dec. 16, and finished with four points, two rebounds and a steal in 13 minutes of playing time . . . turned in the best game of his young, up-and-coming career on Nov. 28 at Louisiana Tech as he exploded for 10 points, eight rebounds, two blocks and finished 5-of-8 from the floor . . . tallied one of the best games of his freshman campaign against The Citadel on Feb. 12, as he posted six points, three rebounds, an assist, a block and a steal . . . registered three points and a trio of rebounds on Nov. 14 in the Bulldogs’ season-opening contest at Purdue . . . earned 11 key minutes of playing time and accumulated five rebounds, two points and two steals against Mercer on Feb. 21 . . . pulled down five huge rebounds at Western Carolina on Feb. 5, as the Bulldogs rallied for a 76-72 SoCon victory . . . earned his first varsity letter.

High School: Led Mountain Brook High School to a stunning 34-3 overall record as a senior en route to the 6A state championship title . . . MBHS finished the season as the top-ranked squad in Alabama . . . averaged 9.4 points, 5.4 rebounds and 3.0 blocks per game as a senior . . . improved tremendously from his junior to senior seasons and boasts a tremendous upside . . . competed in 66 total games at MBHS . . . proved to be an above-average shooter and finished his senior campaign with
a torrid 59-percent shooting mark from the field... against Woodlawn High School on Jan. 21, he scored a season-high 25 points on a near-perfect 7-of-8 shooting performance from the floor... in a huge game against Alabama's No. 1-ranked 5A team, Wenonah High School, he proved to be the driving force behind the victory with a career performance of 23 points, nine rebounds and nine blocked shots... made 11 of his 17 shots in the win against WHS.

Personal: Born June 1, 1996... majoring in international relations.

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### Team Statistics

**SCORING**
- Points per game: 79.5
- Scoring margin: +10.5
- Field goals-att: 57-121
**3 POINT FG-ATT**
- Field goal pct: .495
- 3-point fg pct: .495
**FREE THROWS-ATT**
- Free throw pct: .620
- F-Throw made per game: 12.0

**REBOUNDS**
- Rebounds per game: 29.0
- Rebounding margin: -9.0
- Blocks: 5

**TURNOVERS**
- Turnovers per game: 13.5
- Turnover margin: +9.5
- Assists: 40

**STEALS**
- Steals per game: 20.0
- Blocks per game: 2.5

**ATTENDANCE**
- Home games-Avg/Game: 1172
- Neutral site-Avg/Game: -

**Stats by Periods**
- 1st: 78
- 2nd: 81
- Total: 159

**Opponents**
- 1st: 58
- 2nd: 80
- Total: 138
### 2016-17 Samford Basketball
#### Samford Combined Team Statistics (as of Aug 09, 2017)

**Overall record:** 20-16  **Conf:** 8-10  **Home:** 10-6  **Away:** 8-9  **Neutral:** 2-1

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<tr>
<td>Free throw pct</td>
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<td>.718</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rebounds per game</td>
<td>1300</td>
<td>1277</td>
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<tr>
<td>Turnovers per game</td>
<td>493</td>
<td>444</td>
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<tr>
<td>Turnover margin</td>
<td>-1.4</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assist/turnover ratio</td>
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<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steals per game</td>
<td>221</td>
<td>245</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blocks per game</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>134</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home games-Avg/Game</td>
<td>16-1346</td>
<td>17-2886</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neutral site-Avg/Game</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3-4379</td>
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**Score by Periods**

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<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>1st</th>
<th>2nd</th>
<th>OT1</th>
<th>OT2</th>
<th>OT3</th>
<th>OT4</th>
<th>Totals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Samford</td>
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<td>1427</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>2834</td>
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<tr>
<td>Opponents</td>
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<td>1487</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>2733</td>
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* - Conference game