

Defense Spurs Rams to Win Over Bryant

KINGSTON, R.I. – A suffocating second-half defense and dominant performance in the paint by the front court led Rhode Island (2-0) to an 83-64 win over in-state rival Bryant in the first game of the Sunshine Slam Friday night.

Bryant (1-1) led by as many as six in the second half following a pair of Charles Pride free throws that made the score 44-38. After a Pride 3-pointer made the score 49-46, Rhode Island forced the Bulldogs to miss 15 consecutive field goal attempts. The Rams went on a 24-4 run over the next 8:10, with seven different players scoring for Rhody during the run.

With Bryant pressured into quick shots, the Mitchell twins controlled the boards. Makhi Mitchell had 18 rebounds and Makhel added seven boards to help the Rams to a 55-31 edge on the glass.

Rhode Island outscored the Bulldogs by 25 points over the final 15:10 to cruise to its second win of the season.