

GAME

26

2023-24 UCF MEN'S BASKETBALL POSTGAME NOTES

UCF Knights

14-12 (5-9 Big 12)

Johnny Dawkins

145-99 | 301-214

75



61

#23 Texas Tech Red Raiders

19-8 (8-6 Big 12)

Grant McCasland

16-7 | 227-96

February 24, 2024 | Addition Financial Arena | Orlando, Fla. | Attendance - 8,771

Starters

Player	Starts
3 Darius Johnson (G)	25
24 Jaylin Sellers (G)	25
2 Shemarri Allen (G)	23
11 Ibrahima Diallo (F)	12
21 CJ Walker (F)	9

Series History

Overall	1-1
In Orlando	1-0
Streak	W1

Top Performers

UCF Knights	
Darius Johnson	16 PTS 5 AST 4 STL
Jaylin Sellers	15 PTS 2-3 3PT
Texas Tech Red Raiders	
Darrion Williams	19 PTS 11 REB 3 AST
Kerwin Walton	18 PTS 6-12 FG

Comparison

	Knights		Red Raiders	
1st Half	13-27 (48.1%)	FG	11-30 (36.7%)	1st Half
	3-8 (37.5%)	3PT	4-14 (28.6%)	
	7-11 (63.6%)	FT	6-8 (75%)	
2nd Half	14-31 (45.2%)	FG	9-24 (37.5%)	2nd Half
	3-4 (75%)	3PT	4-14 (28.6%)	
	8-8 (100%)	FT	7-12 (58.3%)	
Full Game	27-58 (46.6%)	FG	20-54 (37%)	Full Game
	6-12 (50%)	3PT	8-28 (28.6%)	
	15-19 (78.9%)	FT	13-20 (65%)	

Team Notes

- UCF is now: 14-12 on the season, 5-9 in Big 12 Conference play, 145-99 under Johnny Dawkins, and 164-78 at AFA
- With the win, UCF now boasts victories over three ranked opponents this season, the first time accomplishing the feat in program history. The Knights beat No. 3/3 Kansas and No. 23/24 Oklahoma earlier this season.
- The victory was technically the 10th over a ranked opponent in program history. An 11th ranked victory was vacated by the NCAA, one that saw UCF knock off No. 16 Florida 57-54 on Dec. 1, 2019 in what is now the Kia Center in downtown Orlando. All UCF wins in the 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11 seasons were vacated due to NCAA sanctions.
- Head Coach Johnny Dawkins is now responsible for eight of UCF's ranked wins.
- UCF improves to 5-7 against ranked opponents inside Addition Financial Arena under Coach Dawkins.
- The Knights tied their season high in points-in-the-paint differential of 20 for the fifth time this season, with a record of 4-1 when achieving that margin.
- The Knights held Texas Tech leading scorer Pop Isaacs to 5-for-25 from the field in both contests combined this season.
- UCF's 75-61 win over Texas Tech is the highest final score differential over a ranked opponent this season.
- UCF's 14-point win against Texas Tech is the second-largest margin of victory over a ranked opponent, the first being UCF's 18-point win over No. 25 College of Charleston on Dec. 12, 2002, which was the first ranked win in program history.
- The Knights have committed fewer than 10 turnovers for the fifth game in a row.
- UCF is the second team to shoot 50% or better from three-point range against Texas Tech this season.
- This is the 10th game for the Knights this season collecting 10 or more steals.
- UCF used a 20-3 run over an 8:33 span to help put the game away, allowing no made field goals during that span.

Player Notes

- Tonight marked Jaylin Seller's 18th game with 15+ points and 24th game of 10 or more points this season.
- This was Darius Johnson's third game in a row with four steals. He has 13 games with 3+ steals this season.
- Tonight was Darius Johnson's seventh game with five or more assists.
- Darius Johnson is in ninth place all-time in terms of assists with 298. He is four behind UCF Hall of Famer Bo Clark (1975-77, 78-80) who has 302.
- Darius Johnson is in sole possession of eighth place on the all-time UCF steals list with 144, passing Mike O'Donnell (2005-08) and Cleveland Jackson (1977-79).
- Jaylin Sellers has shot 50% or better seven times this season.
- Darius Johnson set a season-high with 59 steals on this year's campaign besting his previous high of 55 last season.

Dawkins' Perspective

"You could see the weight lifted off of them. It's tough. This league is really unforgiving, and so if you don't find ways to respond right away, it can snowball quickly. It can go either way, good or bad. We had a tough patch. Whenever I've faced adversity as a coach or player, you have to use it as an opportunity. There's something you can grow from within it. Nobody likes to lose and I can't stand it...but there were some things we had to learn to become a better team. I thought that experience, as tough as it was, I think it helped us get better in a lot of ways. Now, we have to carry that forward and not forget those lessons that we learned."