



# KNIGHTS<sup>™</sup>

FOOTBALL



## × TEAM NOTES

- UCF is now 1-0 on the season.
- UCF is now 290-226-1 all-time and 193-140 at the FBS level.
- UCF is now 79-24 all-time at FBC Mortgage Stadium.
- Gus Malzahn is now 96-47 all-time and 19-9 at UCF.
- UCF is now 3-2 against Kent State all-time. The Knights move to 2-1 against the Golden Flashes in Orlando, though tonight's victory is the first in FBC Mortgage Stadium as the previous two meetings were held at the Florida Citrus Bowl.
- The 56-6 triumph is the Knights first as a member of the Big 12.
- The win marks the eight consecutive season the Knights have opened the season with a win, dating back to 2016.
- The Knights secured their 34th home opener triumph, with the win UCF currently stands at 34-10 all-time.
- Gus Malzahn remains undefeated in home openers as a head coach, recording his 13th consecutive win.
- The win is Malzahn's second over Kent State in his career. His first came on Sept. 14, 2019, at his previous institution.
- In its first-ever home game televised on Fox Sports 1, UCF moves to 2-1 on the channel all-time (previous televised games on FS1: 2015 at Stanford and 2017 at Maryland).

## × OFFENSIVE NOTES

- UCF set a program record with 8.5 rushing yards per carry, besting the previous high of 8.3, set on Nov. 11, 1986.
- UCF tallied 723 total yards, the first time the Knights have surpassed 700 since last season's 73-10 victory versus Temple where UCF had 737 yards of total offense.
- UCF rushed for 389 yards and passed for 334.
- Five Knights recorded a rushing touchdown (John Rhys Plumlee, RJ Harvey, Demarcus Bowman, Jordan McDonald, and Marc-Antony Richards). It marked the first time five Knights rushed for touchdowns since Sept. 7, 2019, at FAU (Greg McCrae, Bentavious Thompson, Otis Anderson, Adrian Killins, and Dillon Gabriel).
- Xavier Townsend's first-quarter nine-yard receiving touchdown was the first of his career. In 2022, Townsend recorded 127 receiving yards on 23 receptions in 14 games, his first career touchdown came on a five-yard rush in the AAC Championship game at Tulane.
- Townsend's 81 receiving yards led the Knights, the first performance in his career leading the Knights receiving core. The mark is also Townsend's career high, besting his previous tally of 53 at Florida Atlantic on Sept. 17, 2022.
- McDonald's second-quarter two-yard rushing touchdown was the second of his career. His first came on Oct. 13, 2022 in the Knights 70-13 win over Temple in Orlando.
- John Rhys Plumlee's first quarter 17-yard rushing touchdown was the 24th of his career and 11th as a Knight. Plumlee currently has 24 career rushing touchdowns in his career.
- Alec Holler's second quarter 18-yard receiving touchdown was the fifth of his career. Holler recorded 21 yards during the win, moving his career tally to 489.
- Harvey's third quarter 50-yard receiving touchdown was the first of his career. Harvey finished the game with 50 receiving yards, the second-highest tally in his career. In the third quarter, Harvey rushed for his sixth career touchdown on a 48-yard carry. The game marks the second time in his career Harvey scored two total touchdowns (two rushing touchdowns vs. Cincinnati on Oct. 29, 2022).
- Richardson recorded his third career 100-yard rushing game, accumulating exactly 100 in the win. He's currently second on the active roster in 100-yard rushing games, trailing only Plumlee with five.
- Richards' fourth quarter seven-yard rushing touchdown was the sixth of his career and first since 2021.
- Bowman's fourth quarter five-yard rushing touchdown was the first of his career as a Knight. Bowman also recorded a career high with 46 rushing yards on eight attempts.
- Plumlee finished with 281 passing yards, the sixth time in his career that he's surpassed 200 plus.

## × DEFENSIVE NOTES

---

- The Knights defense held Kent State to just six points, the fewest allowed since Aug. 29, 2019, against Florida A&M.
- Under Gus Malzahn, tonight's victory marks the fewest points allowed (previous is seven: Oct. 22, 2022, vs. Memphis and Oct. 30, 2022, versus Temple). Tonight also marks the first time under Malzahn that the Knights defense held their opponent from scoring a touchdown.
- The UCF defense held Kent State to just one red zone attempt.
- DeJordan Mask recorded his fifth career interception and first as a Knight. His last interception came in his final game at Texas State against Louisiana on Nov. 26, 2022.
- Lee Hunter set a career high in tackles with eight, besting his previous career high of three (2x, last vs. Navy, 11/19/22).
- Josh Celiscar set a career high in tackles with seven, besting his previous career high of six (2x, last vs. Cincinnati, 10/29/22).

## × SPECIAL TEAMS NOTES

---

- Mitch McCarthy's lone punt went 42 yards, moving his career tally to 1,740.
- Colton Boomer converted on all eight of his PAT attempts, moving his career total to 50 made from 51 attempts.

×

×