



2024-25 UCF MEN'S BASKETBALL POSTGAME NOTES



UCF Knights

- ◆ 1-0 (0-0 Big 12)
- ◆ Johnny Dawkins
- ◆ 149-103 | 305-218

64  × ¹³  61

Texas A&M Aggies

- ◆ 0-1 (0-0 Big 12)
- ◆ Buzz Williams
- ◆ 95-63 | 348-218

November 4, 2024 | Addition Financial Arena | Orlando, Fla.

Game Info

- 7:00 p.m.
- ESPN+
- 8,808

SERIES HISTORY

Overall	1-0
Orlando	1-0
Streak	W1

Team Notes

- The Knights tallied their 11th ranked win in program history and the fourth over the past two seasons, with nine having come under the guidance of head coach **Johnny Dawkins**. The victory also marks the sixth against SEC opposition since 2016-17.
- UCF opens the season with a ranked win for the first time in program history. Texas A&M, tabbed 13th in the AP Preseason Poll, is the fourth-highest-ranked team the Knights have overcome in the school's history.
- After hitting a pair of free throws in the first half, the Aggies were affected by the frond-waving faithful in the second half, missing half of their 12 attempts to close the game. Since the first "Fear the Fronds" game against Kansas on January 10, 2024, opponents have missed 50 free throws when facing the student section.
- UCF attained 62 percent of its first-half tally from beyond the arc, scoring 18 points on six shots, as opposed to the Aggies who in turn scored 62 percent of their points on two-pointers, shooting 9 of 16 from the field.

Starters

No.	Player	Season	Career
0	Jordan Ivy-Curry	1	38
3	Darius Johnson	1	68
4	Keshawn Hall	1	29
6	Dallan Coleman	1	37
52	Moustapha Thiam	1	1

Top Performers

UCF KNIGHTS

Player	Pts	Ast	Reb	+/-
Darius Johnson	24	5	3	+2
Jordan Ivy-Curry	16	3	5	+13
JJ Taylor	10	0	3	+5

TEXAS A&M AGGIES

Player	Pts	Ast	Reb	+/-
Pharrel Payne	15	1	6	-5
Wade Taylor IV	13	7	3	-3
Jace Carter	7	1	6	-1

Stat Comparison

	Knights		Aggies
1st Half	8-32 (25%)	FG	12-27 (44.4%)
	6-19 (31.6%)	3PT	3-11 (27.3%)
	7-9 (77.8%)	FT	2-2 (100%)
2nd Half	9-18 (50%)	FG	11-36 (30.6%)
	2-7 (28.6)	3PT	4-12 (33.3%)
	15-22 (68.2%)	FT	6-12 (50%)
Full Game	17-50 (34%)	FG	23-63 (36.5%)
	8-26 (30.8%)	3PT	7-23 (30.4%)
	22-31 (71%)	FT	8-14 (57.1%)

Player Notes

- Darius Johnson's 24-point performance marked his ninth career 20+ point game and now has three 20+ point performances in his last six outings (33 at TCU, March 9, 2024; 32 vs. BYU, March 13, 2024). With five assists, the senior has led the Knights in dishes 53 games since his arrival in 2021.
- With the start, Johnson matched his career-high for consecutive starts, securing his second 24-game streak.
- Johnson jumped UCF legend Mike O'Donnell (2005-08), who was the analyst for tonight's ESPN+ broadcast, in the all-time assists charts, leading the team with his five assists. Previously marked at eight, he now ranks seventh all-time in program history. Johnson's three steals now tie him with Calvin Lingelbach (1973-77) all-time for career steals at sixth.
- Under Dawkins, the record for most points a UCF player has scored in a home opener was held by Jaylin Sellers and Taylor Hendricks with 23 points each, Johnson's 24 marks the new record for most points in a home opener during the Dawkins era.
- Freshman Moustapha Thiam was dominant on the boards, securing six blocks in his first collegiate appearance, the most by a Knight since Omar Payne tallied six of his own at West Virginia earlier this year (2/20/24) and the most by a freshman since former Knight Taco Fall blocked six shots against Florida Atlantic on Dec. 12, 2015.

Dawkins' Perspective

"I don't think we'd win this game if our student section and our fans weren't how they were. I really don't. We did some really good things, but we still couldn't have done it without our fans."