TROJANS BLAST

Men's basketball stuns record Troy State crowd with 13th straight win

ASHLEY GUNES

UCF's men's basketball team has been good at slugging opposing offenses all season.

Friday night in Troy, Ala., the Knights silenced their critics.

The Knights (15-2, 10-0 Atlantic Sun Conf.) improved to 13-straight wins.

“It's a good win against a tough team,” UCF Coach Kurt Maesri said. “I'm not going to get complacent about ourselves at this point. The thing the kids have to realize is that they're good.”

Davis, who entered the game as the nation's leader in steals, recorded 15 assists and knocked down three三分s, but his performance was dwarfed by the play of Dexter Lyons. Lyons scored 17 points, however that was just in the first half. Lyons was held to only seven points in the second half, but center Roberto Morenor was taken out of the lineup as the senior turned in 10 points and led the Knights with three steals.

Despite the high- scoring performances, the spotlight was stolen by Marcus Avant on the play in the final seconds of the game, as the Knights tied a point to lead, Davis took Troy State's lead into his own hands. Avant knocked out Davis and took the point guard to hand a foul, and the point guard was taken out of the lineup. The ball fell short and went the Knights their fifth Atlantic Sun win.

“I heard their coach from the other team yell out there, 'That can't be,'” Avant said. “I told him I was going to go one-on-one at the end, no way. I knew he was going to take it off me. I wanted to go out like this.”

Avant was going to go one-on-one at the end; 74-72 victory over Troy State.

“We've been working defense and protecting the ball,” Lyons said. “I think we did a good job of moving the ball to open people up and get them into their game. That was the key for us.”

UCF's only loss this season was against Dayton, 90-75, but the Knights have recovered from that one.

The Knights dominated defense, outscoring the Trojans 78-53 in the first half. Troy State had 13 points and were 12-for-39 from the field in the first half. The Knights won the turnover battle 14-7.

UCF had its share of big leads throughout the game, but the Trojans rallied to make it a one-point game at 52-51 with 1:19 left in the game. Troy State was predicted to finish the season 4-21, but it was a one-point win for UCF.

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Lyon’s leads with 17 first-half points

O’Leary and his staff are busy trying to add tasks of also having the offensive line. The former University of South Carolina offensive line coach, Tumahaved, was staying at UCF and were actively pursuing coaching opportunities. However, Green Intern O’Leary that he was staying at UCF. Already UCF has commitments for three other offensive line jobs, yet it is speculative if these moves will affect those athletes’ decisions. O’Leary will still have hard recruiting over the weekend, but he will proceed normally even without an offensive line coach. O’Leary admitted he had already received interest in the vacant position and he will begin scheduling interviews this week.

Good will stay at UCF after much speculation, former football interim coach Allan Groves has accepted a new position within the athletic department and will remain at UCF. Athletic director Dee Dee Griffin announced that Groves, a former runningback and assistant coach, would take over the director of athletic operations for Groves is the right person for the job, due to his relationship with the players and ability to engage in various aspects of the team. Groves will oversee the boosters and fundraising, including potential scholarship funds for student-athletes. Good said, “I am very happy to continue to help support the growth of UCF athletics.”

Women drop to fourth in Atlantic Sun standings

UCF men’s basketball looks to roll on despite a missed opportunity in the season opener. The Knights, led by head coach Patric O’Leary, are off to a 2-0 start after earning victories over Hofstra and Mercer. UCF is riding a five-game winning streak and is currently fifth in the Atlantic Sun standings. Despite the recent success, the Knights are looking to improve in other areas of the game.

Around the A-Sun

The Knights will take on the Mercer Bears on Wednesday night in a crucial matchup for both teams. Mercer is currently third in the conference standings and is looking to make a statement against UCF. The game is set to tip-off at 7:00 PM at Disney’s ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex.

Men’s tennis improve to 2-4 all-time against Eagles

The Eagles men’s tennis team fell to 2-4 all-time against The Citadel with a 6-1 loss on Saturday. The Citadel won all five singles matches and all three doubles matches. The Eagles have yet to win a singles match in their history against The Citadel.

From the Sports Desk

C-Men stay afloat as coach

UCF coach O’Leary and his staff are busy trying to add offensive line coaches as well. O’Leary has been actively pursuing coaching opportunities. The former University of South Carolina offensive line coach, Tumahaved, was staying at UCF and were actively pursuing coaching opportunities. However, Green Intern O’Leary that he was staying at UCF. Already UCF has commitments for three other offensive line jobs, yet it is speculative if these moves will affect those athletes’ decisions. O’Leary will still have hard recruiting over the weekend, but he will proceed normally even without an offensive line coach. O’Leary admitted he had already received interest in the vacant position and he will begin scheduling interviews this week.

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Intramural fields may get fake turf, see A5

Lewis corner (The Juice) Staffing, UF women edge it from start in the Southeastern. Super Sunday, the third installment of the year-tender, Jan 5-6. The second court was played in the rain against the University of Georgia.

but it didn't help enough after Justin Griffin scored the goal on a late goal to make the final score 4-1. Carlos Hernandez did his best. Jorge Camara improved, slowed 14 shots by the Sunds.

Move, dodgeball season underway! On Friday 40 rounds were to conclude on the opening night of the DM Progress Dodgeball season. Come out this Friday to the Recreation and Wellness Center basketball courts from 5:30 to 9 p.m. to check out some of this week's dodgeball action. Look for the first release of the DM Progress Dodgeball season standings this week in the IM Sports Web site.

Floor hockey approaching This deadline to register Floor Hockey is a week away. Floor Hockey is a 5-on-5 indoor hockey league, minus the referee, with men's and women's divisions available. Defending champ Delta Upsilon (Men's Competitive), Phi DE (Women's) and Lambda Chi Alpha (Men's Recreational) will be on the look-out for those teams this year looking to take away their crown. The last day to sign up is Feb. 2. If you don't have a team, register as a free agent on the DM Progress Web site.

The deadline to register Floor Hockey is a week away.

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GMAT: Classes Begin Tues, February 3, 2004
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Intramural fields may get fake turf, see A5.

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