



UMKC ATHLETICS

CONTACT INFORMATION

Shelby Hild
Director of Strategic Communications
e: hilds@umkc.edu
o: 816.235.1053 | c: 309.241.9801
UMKCKangaroos.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 16, 2017

Big Day by UMKC's Bench, Bishop Not Enough in Loss to UIW

SAN ANTONIO, Texas – Five players off the bench for the UMKC men's basketball team (3-9) contributed 37 points, as the Roos were edged 77-73 by the Incarnate Word Cardinals (5-3) to close a three-game road trip.

A 7-0 run, guided by five points from **Xavier Bishop** (Springfield, Ill.), forced Incarnate Word to burn its first timeout within the first two minutes of the game. The Cardinals responded with seven straight points of their own, before a 3-pointer at the top of the key by Bishop put the Roos back out in front going into the first media break.

Incarnate Word took its largest lead of the game – five points – at the midway point of the first half, before **Jordan Giles** (Tuscaloosa, Ala.) knocked down his first jumper of the game on the other end.

Sophomore **Isaiah Ross** (Davenport, Iowa) picked a pocket to force Incarnate Word's seventh turnover of the game and found Giles at the other end to bring the Roos back within three points of the Cardinals. Moments later, Ross banged home his first 3-pointer of the game to knot the game at 33-all with two minutes left in the half. A layup at both ends of the court made it a tied game going into the locker room.

Bishop led all scorers at the break with 14 points, while grabbing three rebounds alongside teammates Giles and **Marvin Nesbitt Jr.** (Chicago, Ill.). Half of UMKC's points came off the bench after the first 20 minutes of action, including seven from Giles and six from **Brandon McKissic** (Ferguson, Mo.)

The Cardinals opened the half on a 7-0, before a layup by Giles squashed their offensive momentum. After a UMKC called timeout, Nesbitt Jr. blocked his third shot of the game – and seventh for the Roos as a team – as Ross knocked down his second 3-pointer of the game to bring UMKC within two points.

Incarnate Word led by as many as 12 points in the second half approaching the halfway point. UMKC continued to shoot the ball from behind the arc, as McKissic, **Marco Smith** (Kansas City, Kan.) and **Tony Jackson** (Montgomery, Ala.) all connected from long range over the next two minutes. Another layup by Bishop brought the Roos back within four with less than 10 minutes left in the game.

A pair of free throws by Bishop brought UMKC within three, but the Cardinals held on for the 77-73 win. Along with UMKC's bench, Bishop had a big game for the Roos, scoring a career-high 25 points to lead all scorers in the game and to go along with a career-high eight rebounds. Giles led the way off the bench with 15 points, while Ross and McKissic each tallied nine points. As a team, the Roos blocked a program-record 10 shots with three apiece by freshmen Smith and Nesbitt Jr.

UMKC will return to Municipal Auditorium in downtown Kansas City for a matchup with Central Michigan as a part of Kansas City Day on Dec. 19. Tip-off between the Roos and the Chippewas is slated for 7 p.m. CT. For the second-consecutive year, the Roos will be wearing customized Kansas City inspired jerseys, courtesy of Charlie Hustle.

For more information on UMKC men's basketball, like us on [Facebook](#) and follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

- UMKC -