



UMKC ATHLETICS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Roos Hit the Road for Nonconference Matchup at USC Upstate

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – The UMKC men’s basketball team will travel to USC Upstate for its final road nonconference contest of the season to open the 2018 calendar year on Tuesday. Tip-off between the Roos and the Spartans is set for 6 p.m. CT.

UMKC Roos (4-11) vs. USC Upstate Spartans (5-11)

Date | Time: Tuesday, January 2 | 6 p.m. CT

Location: Spartanburg, S.C.

Site: G.B. Hodge Center (837)

Live Stats: www.upstatespartans.com

Live Stream: [ESPN3](#)

UMKC: [Notes for USC Upstate Game](#) | [Men’s Basketball Homepage](#)

USC Upstate: [Men’s Basketball Homepage](#)

Live In-Game Updates: [@UMKCbmbb](#)

#TeamKC Notes:

Tuesday’s meeting between the Roos and the Spartans marks the third-consecutive year that the two programs have met on January 2nd.

In the Roos game at Incarnate Word on Dec. 16, UMKC blocked 10 shots as a team - just one shy of the program record of 11 that was set against Nicholls State in 1991.

UMKC is led on the court this season by **Xavier Bishop** (Springfield, Ill.), who is currently averaging 13.1 points and 3.3 rebounds per game. The sophomore has hit double-figure scoring in seven-consecutive contests for the Roos. He has also contributed a team-high 49 assists.

Senior **Broderick Robinson** (Grand Junction, Colo.) is averaging 11.5 points and 4.8 rebounds per game. He was named to the Gulf Coast Showcase All-Tournament Team after averaging 19.3 points, 5.3 rebounds and 3.0 assists, while going 15-for-16 at the free throw line, in three games at the tournament.

In UMKC’s 65-55 win at UT Martin on Nov. 26, sophomore **Isaiah Ross** (Davenport, Iowa) became the first Roo since standout LaVell Boyd against South Dakota in 2015 to connect on 10-plus field goals in a single game.

As a team, the Roos are shooting 70.4 percent from the free throw line, with Bishop, Robinson and **Jordan Giles** (Tuscaloosa, Ala.) all shooting better than 75 percent at the charity stripe.

The Roos are averaging 7.4 steals per game, compared to their opponents at 5.5 per contest. Robinson leads the team with 22 on the year, while **Marco Smith** (Kansas City, Kan.) has 17 and Bishop has 16.

In the Western Athletic Conference, Bishop is currently 10th in scoring, while Robinson is 10th in free throw percentage and the leader in steals. Ross has the fifth-most 3-pointers in the WAC with 37.

Aleer Leek (Juba, South Sudan) has the sixth-most blocked shots in the WAC, averaging 1.1 a game with a team-high 17 on the season.

Kareem Richardson's troop features six returning letterwinners and welcomes nine newcomers this season. The Roos will look to the senior leadership of Robinson, as UMKC lost all five of its starters from 2016-17. Robinson, along with Bishop played in all 35 games for the Roos last season, while Ross made an appearance in 34 contests. Richardson enters his fifth year at the helm of the Roos program.

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