



UMKC ATHLETICS

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CONTACT INFORMATION

Tyler Wall
Strategic Communications Graduate Assistant
e: tlw4g5@mail.umkc.edu
o: 816.235.1053 | c: 573.268.5162
UMKCKangaroos.com

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UMKC Closes Regular Season on the Road at Chicago State

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – The UMKC women’s basketball team (10-18, 6-7 WAC) finishes their 2017-18 regular season on the road contest at Chicago State (1-27, 1-12 WAC) on Saturday, Mar. 3 at 1 p.m. CT.

#TeamKC Notes:

UMKC heads into the weekend showdown after a home split last week against UT Rio Grande Valley and New Mexico State. The Roos claimed a convincing victory over UTRGV with a 79-59 final score before falling to New Mexico State 76-67 in a tightly contested Senior Day game.

The team currently sits in fifth place in the Western Athletic Conference (WAC) holding a 6-7 conference record. A win over the Cougars would secure a fifth-place finish in the league, tied for the best conference finish in program history, and would match the highest WAC victory total for the program in head coach **Jacie Hoyt**’s first season at the helm.

The Roos’ offense has been stellar of late, averaging 84 points per game over their past three contests which includes a 106 point output in the first matchup with Chicago State. UMKC now leads the WAC in scoring offense on the year (68.2 points per game) and in league games (67.7 points per game).

Three-point shooting has been a staple within the offensive success as UMKC ranks second in the WAC in shots made from beyond the arc (197) and fourth in three-point field goal percentage (.318). Senior guard **Samantha Waldron** (Omaha, Neb.) has been the team’s primary long-range threat, leading the league with 79 makes from distance on the year, second-most in UMKC single-season history and trailing the top spot by just eight.

Another major factor in scoring production has been terrific passing and finding teammates for open looks. UMKC leads the conference with 382 assists on the season, led by senior point guard **Daijane Dillard** (Los Angeles, Calif.) whose 116 assists on the year are third-most in the WAC. Dillard is averaging over five assists per game in WAC

play continues to climb the national ranks in assist to turnover ratio, now up to seventh in the NCAA at 3.31.

Senior guard **Aries Washington** (Kansas City, Mo) is coming off an enormous week that saw her pour in 52 points combined in the team's two matchups. The team's leading scorer ranks fourth in the conference at 17.3 points per game and has jumped to eight on the UMKC all-time scoring list with 1,243 career points.

Kristen Moore (Chicago, Ill.) came out with a pair of impressive performances last week, recording 21 points and six rebounds against UTRGV before a 15 point and six rebound showing against New Mexico State. Moore is one of five players in the conference to rank amongst the top-10 in both scoring and rebounding, averaging 14 points and 6.2 rebounds per game.

UMKC Roos @ Chicago State Cougars

Date: Saturday, March 3

Tipoff: 1:00 p.m. CT

Location: Chicago, Ill. (Swinney Recreation Center)

Series: UMKC leads 6-5

Live Stats: [Statbroadcast](#)

TV: [WAC Digital Network](#)

Radio: [UMKCKangaroos.com](#)

Live In-Game Update: [@umkcwbb](#)

Scouting the Cougars

Chicago State enters the matchup looking to snap a four-game losing streak after narrowly falling to UTRGV in their most recent contest. The regular season finale with UMKC will be the last of a three-game home stand and will serve as Senior Day for the Cougars.

The team has proven to be effective at the foul line within conference play, connecting on 71.8% of their free throw attempts as a team. Getting to the line has been an issue however, as their 174 attempts ranks last in the conference. Staying out of foul trouble will be a key factor for the Roos to pick up the win.

Chicago State boasts a pair of guards that the team has relied upon throughout the 2017-18 campaign. Freshman Tyeshia Bowers has been phenomenal in her first season on campus, leading the team in scoring at 11.9 points per game to pair with a team-best 2.5 assists per game.

Senior guard Phylicia Johnson trails closely behind Bowers in both scoring and distributing. Johnson has accounted for 11.8 points and 2.4 assists per game. Both players rank just outside the WAC top-10 in scoring and assists on the season.

The Cougars have been overly susceptible to defensive lapses, an area that the high-powered UMKC offense will look to exploit. The team is allowing 70.7 points per game to conference foes, the highest total in the league.

Up Next

UMKC will head to Las Vegas, Nev., to compete in the WAC Tournament following their regular season finale. The first round, set to begin on Wednesday, Mar. 7, will most likely hold a matchup with either Seattle U or Grand Canyon. The Roos claimed the program's first ever season sweep of Grand Canyon this year but dropped both games against Seattle U.

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