



USK MEN'S BASKETBALL

OVERALL: 23-8 | CONFERENCE: 14-6 | HOME: 14-3 | AWAY: 7-4 | NEUTRAL: 2-1

Results

10.27	Justice College.....	W, 74-64
10.28	Bethesda.....	W, 97-82
11.11	SAGU AIC.....	L, 49-57
11.16	CSU Bakersfield#.....	L, 44-77
11.18	Stanton.....	W, 94-74
11.24	CETYS.....	W, 81-53
11.25	CETYS.....	W, 95-71
11.30	Pacific Union*	W, 100-78
12.2	Cal Maritime*	W, 71-55
12.5	Westcliff*	W, 65-46
12.7	Antelope Valley*	L, 73-81
12.16	Thompson Rivers.....	W, 86-57
12.19	San Diego State#.....	L, 57-91
12.30	Life Pacific.....	W, 93-74
1.4	Park-Gilbert*	W, 87-77
1.6	Benedictine Mesa*	W, 87-78
1.11	Embry-Riddle*	W, 77-57
1.13	La Sierra*	W, 83-81
1.18	Simpson*	W, 70-56
1.20	UC Merced*	L, 68-85
1.23	Westcliff*	L, 70-73
1.27	#19 Antelope Valley* ...	L, 93-101
2.1	Cal Maritime*	L, 64-80
2.3	Pacific Union*	W, 88-55
2.8	Benedictine Mesa*	L, 68-84
2.10	Park-Gilbert*	W, 82-61
2.15	La Sierra*	W, 84-65
2.17	Embry-Riddle*	W, 64-55
2.22	UC Merced*	W, 64-63
2.24	Simpson*	W, 100-81
3.1	La Sierra@.....	W, 99-62
3.3	Westcliff@.....	W, 67-65
3.4	#25 Antelope Valley@..	L, 76-99

Home Game

* = Conference # = Exhibition

@ = Cal Pac Tournament (Merced, Calif.)

Filling the Gaps

USK welcomed 12 new players this year as the team replaced five of its top six scorers from last season.

Hitting the Portal

Head coach Kevin Williamson recruited 14 of his 19 players from the transfer portal or junior colleges.

Top Dog

Last year's leading scorer, Chris Harper (14.3 ppg), is once again leading the team in scoring this season (12.7 ppg).

Farewell Tour

2023-24 is USK's final year in the California Pacific Conference, with a move to the GSAC upcoming on July 1, 2024. Men's basketball has both a regular season and tournament conference championship in the Cal Pac era, with both coming in the 2021-22 season.

Conference Connections

First round opponent Arizona Christian will be a GSAC opponent next year for USK, while potential second round foe Antelope Valley is currently in the Cal Pac with the Firebirds.

A Familiar Face

Sixth-year graduate senior Xavier Cooper played at Arizona Christian from 2020-22, winning two GSAC championships and playing in the NAIA Tournament both seasons.

Homecoming

Three Firebirds are Arizona natives: Jason Amador (Parker), Logan Phillips (Phoenix) and Tampa Scott IV (Mesa).

Mr. Triple-Double

Xavier Cooper had 13 rebs, 10 asts and 10 pts at home vs La Sierra on February 15 to record the first triple-double in program history.

QUICK FACTS

Affiliation - NAIA

Conference - California Pacific (Cal Pac)

Location - San Marcos, California

Enrollment - 267

Founded - 2010

Started Athletics - 2017

Joined NAIA - 2019

Religious Affiliation - Orthodox Christian

NAME GUIDE

Full - University of Saint Katherine

Common - USK

Alternate - Saint Katherine

Mascot - Firebird

Inaccurate - SKU, Any abbreviations of "Saint" or "Katherine"

HOW THEY GOT HERE

As conference tournament runner-up, USK received one of two automatic bids given to the California Pacific Conference.

SERIES HISTORY

Arizona Christian

Series Record: 0-1

Last Meeting: No. 10 ACU wins 96-84 in Glendale, Arizona on November 1, 2019

Antelope Valley

Series Record: 2-7

Last Meeting: No. 25 UAV wins 99-76 in Merced, California on March 4, 2024 (Final round of Cal Pac Championship)

Huntington

Series Record: First Meeting

2024 Cal Pac Championship

Tournament Hosted by UC Merced in Merced, California

Opening Round - Friday, March 1

#4 UC Merced defeats #5 Benedictine Mesa 62-55

#3 USK defeats #6 La Sierra 99-62

Semifinals - Sunday, March 3

#1 Antelope Valley defeats #4 UC Merced 73-55

#3 USK defeats #2 Westcliff 67-65

Final - Monday, March 4

#1 Antelope Valley defeats #3 USK 99-76

CONFERENCE AWARDS - ACTIVE PLAYERS

2023-24

Xavier Cooper - Newcomer of the Year, First Team All-Conference (Unanimous), All-Defensive Team

Chris Harper - Sixth Player of the Year, First Team All-Conference

David Odinigwe - All-Academic Team

Tampa Scott IV - Honorable Mention All-Conference

2022-23

Jason Amador - All-Academic Team

Chris Harper - Second Team All-Conference

Jayden Swanson - All-Academic Team

Maur Tablada - Freshman of the Year, Honorable Mention All-Conference

USK NAIA CHAMPIONSHIP HISTORY

Men's Basketball

Appearances: 2 (2022, 2024)

2024

Seed: 14 (Duer Quadrant)

Location: Glendale, Arizona

2022

Seed: 16 (Liston Quadrant)

Location: Park City, Kansas

Record: 0-1 (Lost 71-54 in the first round to No. 3 Oklahoma Wesleyan, a one seed)

Baseball

Appearances: 2 (2021, 2022)

Record: 1-4

Women's Tennis

Appearances: 2 (2021, 2022)

Record: 1-2

Women's Volleyball

Appearances: 1 (2023)

Record: 1-2

BRACKET AND SCHEDULE

First Round

3 Arizona Christian

March 15 - 6:00 p.m.

14 Saint Katherine

6 Antelope Valley

March 15 - 3:30 p.m.

11 Huntington

Second Round

March 16 - 5:30 p.m.
Glendale, Arizona

Future Schedule

All remaining games to be played at Municipal Auditorium in Kansas City, Missouri

Round of 16: March 21-22

Quarterfinals: March 23

Semifinals: March 25

Championship: March 26

TEAM STATS - AVERAGE PER GAME

USK	OPPONENTS
Points - 79.6	Points - 70.0
FG% - 46.0%	FG% - 44.3%
FG Made - 28.7	FG Made - 25.5
3PT% - 33.8%	3PT% - 34.6%
3PT Made - 7.4	3PT Made - 6.4
FT% - 75.1%	FT% - 65.7%
FT Made - 14.9	FT Made - 12.6
Rebounds - 34.7	Rebounds - 30.8
Assists - 15.0	Assists - 11.3
Turnovers - 13.3	Turnovers - 15.7
A/T Ratio - 1.1	A/T Ratio - 0.7
Points off Turnovers - 18.8	Points off Turnovers - 11.7
Steals - 8.8	Steals - 6.2
Blocks - 2.5	Blocks - 2.3

SEASON HIGHS

Points - 100 (11/30 at Pacific Union, 2/24 vs Simpson)
 FG% - 59.6% (12/16 vs Thompson Rivers)
 FG Made - 41 (2/24 vs Simpson)
 FG Attempts - 79 (10/28 vs Bethesda)
 3PT% - 61.1% (12/16 vs Thompson Rivers)
 3PT Made - 15 (2/24 vs Simpson)
 3PT Attempts - 32 (2/24 vs Simpson)
 FT% - 100% (2/24 vs Simpson)
 FT Made - 27 (1/6 vs Benedictine Mesa, 1/27 at Antelope Valley)
 FT Attempts - 35 (10/27 vs Justice College, 3/4 vs Antelope Valley)
 Rebounds - 49 (10/27 vs Justice College)
 Assists - 24 (2/24 vs Simpson)
 Steals - 14 (1/23 vs Westcliff, 2/3 vs Pacific Union, 2/22 vs UC Merced)
 Blocks - 7 (1/6 vs Benedictine Mesa, 2/25 vs La Sierra)

TEAM LEADERS

Per Game

PTS - Chris Harper (12.7)	REB - Xavier Cooper (8.6)
FGA - Chris Harper (9.1)	O REB - Dorian Harris (2.4)
FGM - Chris Harper (4.6)	D REB - Xavier Cooper (6.6)
FG% - Logan Phillips (53.8%)	AST - Xavier Cooper (3.8)
3PTA - Xavier Cooper (4.3)	A/T - ElJay Gallegos (3.79)
3PTM - Chris Harper (1.5)	BLK - Logan Phillips (0.6)
3PT% - ElJay Gallegos and Chris Harper (38.5%)	STL - ElJay Gallegos (2.0)
FTA - Xavier Cooper (4.6)	MIN - Xavier Cooper (27.4)
FTM - Xavier Cooper (3.3)	
FT% - Logan Phillips (91.2%)	

RECENT CAREER MILESTONES

1,000 Points

Xavier Cooper - 1/18 at Simpson (Now at 1,169)
 Dorian Harris - 2/22 vs UC Merced (Now at 1,068)
 Chris Harper - 3/1 vs La Sierra (Now at 1,033)

200 Steals

Xavier Cooper - 2/17 at Embry-Riddle (Now at 210)

100 Steals

ElJay Gallegos - 12/5 at Westcliff (Now at 133)

INDIVIDUAL STATS

#	Player	GP-GS	AVG MIN	FG-FGA	FG%	3FG-FGA	3FG%	FT-FTA	FT%	OFF R	DEF R	TOT R	RPG	PF	A	TO	BLK	STL	PPG
0	Divine Nwoko	22-1	10.3	33-90	.367	8-35	.229	17-23	.739	12	34	46	2.1	25	11	20	3	10	4.1
2	Tampa Scott IV	31-29	25.7	90-220	.409	33-91	.363	57-65	.877	32	63	95	3.1	53	80	43	0	27	8.7
3	Maur Tablada	30-27	25.5	106-261	.406	29-90	.322	39-49	.796	26	50	76	2.5	52	31	38	7	21	9.3
4	ElJay Gallegos	25-15	25.7	61-134	.455	30-78	.385	11-16	.688	9	40	49	2.0	35	91	24	4	49	6.5
11	Zachary Asleson	20-0	3.7	6-16	.375	3-7	.429	2-2	1.000	1	12	13	0.7	11	1	7	0	2	0.9
12	Timothy Pakrer	23-4	19.5	50-111	.450	1-10	.100	34-47	.723	19	35	54	2.3	33	34	28	3	16	5.9
13	Logan Phillips	30-3	17.9	99-184	.538	17-59	.288	31-34	.912	19	84	103	3.4	42	27	28	17	32	8.2
15	David Odinigwe	23-5	8.7	13-28	.464	0-0	.000	15-30	.500	11	31	42	1.8	14	7	17	10	5	1.8
21	Jason Amador	20-1	8.2	8-26	.308	3-11	.273	3-3	1.000	4	3	7	0.4	9	7	2	0	4	1.1
22	Dorian Haris	31-31	23.4	137-262	.523	19-56	.339	61-82	.744	75	63	138	4.5	80	26	49	12	13	11.4
24	Jayden Swanson	4-0	2.3	1-2	.500	0-0	.000	0-2	.000	0	0	0	0.0	4	0	1	0	0	0.5
32	Xavier Cooper	31-28	27.4	121-274	.442	46-133	.346	102-143	.713	63	205	268	8.6	73	119	82	9	60	12.6
33	Chris Harper	26-8	19.9	119-237	.502	40-104	.385	53-68	.779	18	64	82	3.2	77	22	43	8	21	12.7