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Bowen's Sizzling Second Half Propels Men's Basketball Past Davidson, 76-67

Flames hold nation's third-best scoring team to nearly 20 points below their average.

Dec. 29, 2005

[Box Score](#)

Chicago, Ill.- Senior [Justin Bowen](#) scored 21 of his career high-tying 23 points in the second half, and the UIC men's basketball team held the nation's third-best scoring squad to nearly 20 points under their average as the Flames picked up a 76-67 victory over Davidson at the UIC Pavilion on Thursday night.

The win moved the Flames to 7-5 overall, while the Wildcats fell to 7-4.

After being saddled by two fouls early in the first half that forced him to the bench, Bowen responded with a scorching second half. The UIC forward shot 8-for-12 (67%) from the field in the final stanza, helping put the game out of reach for the visitors by throwing down a thunderous dunk off an inbound play with :41 left to increase the Flames' lead to 70-66.

Following the Bowen jam, sophomore [Karl White](#) stole the ball from Kenny Grant and converted a layup that served as the dagger, pushing the UIC lead to six with only 26 seconds on the clock.

Senior forward [Elliott Poole](#) chipped in a strong night off the bench with nine points and a game-high and season-best nine rebounds. Poole led a charge of UIC reserves, including White (seven points) and fellow sophomore [Kevin Bond](#) (six points), that outscored Davidson's bench 26-21.

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Senior Justin Bowen matched his career-high with 23 points on

Sophomores [Othyus Jeffers](#) and [Robert Bush](#) each pitched in eight points.



Davidson came into the contest scoring an average of 86.6 points per game, falling well short of that margin against UIC's defense by generating only 67 points.

Ian Johnson led the Wildcats with a game-high 24 points.

UIC shot 50.8% (30-for-59) from the field, marking the first time this year that the Flames have won a game when shooting 50% or better. The Flames were 0-3 when shooting 50% or higher prior to Thursday's performance.

The game also marked the first time this season that UIC did not out-rebound its opponent, but the Flames were not beaten on the glass, either. Both teams picked up 34 boards.

UIC returns to action this Saturday, opening up the Horizon League slate against Youngstown State on New Year's Eve at the UIC Pavilion beginning at 2:00 p.m.

Thursday, scoring 21 in the second half.

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