

~LIVE! Arizona vs UCF Live Stream NCAA Basketball Game On TV Channel 2026

The T-Mobile Center in Kansas City is the focal point of the college basketball world this afternoon as the No. 1 seed Arizona Wildcats (29–2) officially begin their postseason journey against the No. 8 seed UCF Knights (21–10). Arizona enters as the reigning Big 12 regular-season champions, while UCF is fresh off a dramatic overtime escape against Cincinnati yesterday, looking to pull off the shock of the tournament.

March 12, 2026



Game Information

	Feature	Details
Matchup	No. 1 Arizona	vs. No. 8 UCF
Event	2026 Big 12 Championship Quarterfinal	
Location	T-Mobile Center, Kansas City, MO	
Tip-Off	Thursday, March 12, 2026 – 3:00 PM ET	
TV Channel	ESPN	
Betting Line	Arizona -16.5 (O/U 159.5)	
	The Regular Season Rematch	

While Arizona is a massive double-digit favorite, history suggests this won't be a cakewalk. The teams met once this season on January 17, and the Knights pushed the Wildcats to the brink. Arizona eventually secured an 84–77 victory, but UCF actually won the battle on the glass and forced Arizona into a season-low three-point shooting night (3-of-13).

The Lead Cat: Jaden Bradley (the Big 12 Player of the Year) was the difference-maker in that first meeting, scoring 23 points and proving why he's the most difficult guard to contain in the conference.

The Knight's Charge: Themus Fulks went toe-to-toe with Bradley, dropping a career-high 30 points. If he can replicate that scoring output today, UCF could keep this within a single possession late.

Tactical Breakdown

Arizona: Efficiency Personified

Tommy Lloyd's squad is arguably the most complete team in the nation. They rank in the top 10 for both offensive and defensive efficiency.

The "Twin Towers": Tobe Awaka (Big 12 Sixth Man of the Year) and Motiejus Krivas anchor a defense that allows opponents to shoot just 38.8% from the field.

Freshman Sensation: Brayden Burries leads the team in scoring (16.0 PPG) and provides a perimeter threat that opens up the floor for Bradley's drives.

The Strategy: Run. Arizona averages nearly 87 points per game. They will try to exhaust a UCF team that played an extra period of basketball less than 24 hours ago.

UCF: The "Overtime Fumes" Factor

UCF is the ultimate "bend but don't break" team. They have five double-digit comeback wins this season, including yesterday's 66–65 OT thriller over Cincinnati.

The Anchor: Jamichael Stillwell is coming off a massive 17-point, 15-rebound performance. For UCF to win, he must mitigate Arizona's second-chance opportunities.

The Scoring Threat: Riley Kugel (14.7 PPG) needs to find his rhythm early. UCF cannot afford a slow start against a team as explosive as Arizona.

The Strategy: Control the glass. UCF's only path to victory is repeating their 14-offensive-rebound performance from January and limiting Arizona's fast-break points.

Key Matchup: Jaden Bradley vs. Themus Fulks

This is the "heavyweight" battle of the backcourts. Bradley is a master of the pick-and-roll, while Fulks is one of the quickest guards in transition. The team that wins this individual matchup likely controls the pace of the game.

What's at Stake?

For Arizona, this is a business trip. A win keeps them in the driver's seat for a No. 1 seed in the NCAA Tournament. For UCF, they are currently on the "bubble." A win today wouldn't just be an upset—it would be an automatic ticket to the Big Dance.

The winner moves on to the Big 12 Semifinals on Friday, March 13, to face the winner of the No. 4 Baylor vs. No. 5 BYU/Texas Tech matchup.

Can UCF's tired legs hold up against Arizona's pace?

Will Jaden Bradley solidify his POY status?

Is an upset brewing in Kansas City?