

**GASPARILLA BOWL  
MARSHALL VS UCF**

TAMPA, Fla. -- Central Florida is best known for a high-powered offense, but the Knights are capable of big plays on defense, too.

Richie Grant and Tre'mon Morris-Brash had first-quarter defensive touchdowns, Dillon Gabriel led three third-quarter scoring drives and UCF beat Marshall 48-25 in the Gasparilla Bowl on Monday.

"We finished the season the right way," UCF coach Josh Heupel said. "The turnovers were critical. I thought defensively we started about as fast as you can."

Grant had a 39-yard interception return on Marshall's third play from scrimmage 56 seconds into the game, and Morris-Brash recovered a fumble and ran it 55 yards for a score that helped UCF go up 21-0 with 7 minutes left in the first quarter.

Gabriel threw a 35-yard touchdown pass to Otis Anderson, connected on a 75-yard score with Marlon Williams, and added a 3-yard TD run as UCF went ahead 45-22 with 6:39 remaining in the third.

Gabriel completed 14 of 24 passes for 260 yards as the Knights (10-3) reached 10 or more wins in a school-record third consecutive season. Williams caught seven passes for 132 yards and Greg McCrae had 80 rushing yards on 14 carries.

"We're happy with the 10-3, but at the same time we know what we could have done," Gabriel said.

Isaiah Green went 9 of 23 for 173 yards with a TD and had a rushing touchdown for Marshall (8-5). Brenden Knox, the Conference USA MVP, had 103 yards on 26 carries.

"I thought our kids fought their tail off," Marshall coach Doc Holliday said. "They fought the entire game."

Green had a 3-yard rushing touchdown and hit Willie Johnson on a 70-yard TD pass, and Justin Rohrwasser made a 50-yard field goal during the third quarter.

Marshall got within 21-7 with 12:28 to go in the second when Micah Abraham picked off backup quarterback Darriell Mack Jr.'s pass and returned it 75 yards for a touchdown.

Abraham's father, Donnie, played his home games with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers (1996-01) at Raymond James Stadium, the site of the Gasparilla Bowl.

McCrae had a 26-yard TD run early in the first and Dylan Barnas made a 36-yard field goal as time expired as UCF took a 24-7 half-time advantage.

**THE TAKEAWAY**

UCF: The Knights had no letdown after playing in New Year's Day bowl games the previous two seasons, beating Auburn two years ago in the Peach Bowl and losing to LSU in the last season's Fiesta Bowl.

"You look at this season, there's goals that we didn't accomplish, right?" Heupel said. "But I hope we never get to the point as a program and a fan base where fans and outside voices aren't really appreciative of what our kids do every single day."

Marshall: It was the first bowl loss for the Thundering Herd under Holliday, who entered 6-0 in bowls at the school. Knox, a sophomore, topped 100 yards rushing for the seventh time.

**STRANGE STATS**

UCF lead 21-0 after the first quarter despite being outgained 133-86. Marshall, however, had three turnovers. The Knights had a 168-0 yardage advantage during the second quarter and were outscored 7-3.

**STANDOUT `D`**

UCF linebacker Nate Evans finished with 12 tackles and a sack. Defensive back Antwan Collier made six tackles, recovered two fumbles and had an interception.

Final	1	2	3	4	T
UCF	21	3	21	3	48
MRSB	0	7	18	0	25

**Scoring Summary -----**

	UCF	MRSB
<b>FIRST QUARTER</b>		
UCF TD 14:04		
Richie Grant 39 Yd Interception Return (Dylan Barnas Kick)		
3 plays, 1 yard, 0:56	7	0
UCF TD 9:12		
Greg McCrae 26 Yd Run (Dylan Barnas Kick)		
6 plays, 65 yards, 1:23	14	0
UCF TD 7:00		
Tre'Mon Morris-Brash 45 Yd Fumble Return (Dylan Barnas Kick)		
6 plays, 24 yards, 2:12	21	0
<b>SECOND QUARTER</b>		
MRSB TD 12:28		
Micah Abraham 75 Yd Interception Return (Justin Rohrwasser Kick)		
8 plays, 55 yards, 2:22	21	7
UCF FG 0:00		
Dylan Barnas 36 Yd Field Goal		
10 plays, 75 yards, 3:13	24	7
<b>THIRD QUARTER</b>		
UCF TD 12:50		
Otis Anderson 35 Yd pass from Dillon Gabriel (Dylan Barnas Kick)		
9 plays, 75 yards, 2:10	31	7
MRSB TD 9:33		
Isaiah Green 3 Yd Run (Justin Rohrwasser Kick)		
7 plays, 75 yards, 3:17	31	14
UCF TD 7:10		
Dillon Gabriel 3 Yd Run (Dylan Barnas Kick)		
8 plays, 75 yards, 2:23	38	14
MRSB TD 6:51		
Willie Johnson 70 Yd pass from Isaiah Green (Isaiah Green Pass to Obi Obialo for Two-Point Conversion)		
1 play, 70 yards, 0:19	38	22
UCF TD 6:39		
Marlon Williams 75 Yd pass from Dillon Gabriel (Dylan Barnas Kick)		
1 play, 75 yards, 0:12	45	22
MRSB FG 1:08		
Justin Rohrwasser 50 Yd Field Goal		
10 plays, 27 yards, 5:31	45	25
<b>FOURTH QUARTER</b>		
UCF FG 9:01		
Dylan Barnas 30 Yd Field Goal		
10 plays, 20 yards, 4:59	48	25

Team Stats	UCF	MRSB
First Downs	25	19
Passes for First	8	7
Rushes for First	14	8
Penalties for First	3	4
Third Down Efficiency	7-16	7-15
Fourth Down Efficiency	1-2	0-1
Total Yards	587	361
Total Plays	78	69
Avg Gain Per Play	7.5	5.2
Net Yards Rushing	310	167
Rushes	47	44
Yards Per Rush	6.6	3.8
Stat Name		
Net Yards Passing	277	194
Comp-Att	17-31	11-25
Yards Per Pass	8.9	7.8
Times Sacked	1	2
Yds Lost To Sacks	-3	-20
Interceptions	1	2
Punts	4	4
Punt Average	39.5	47.8
Penalties	10	8
Penalty Yards	93	67
Fumbles	2	4
Fumbles Lost	0	3
Possession	27:40	32:20

**Individual Stats**

<b>RUSHING</b>						
UCF	Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	Long	
Greg McCrae	14	80	5.7	1	26	
Bentavious Thompson	9	74	8.2	0	45	
Otis Anderson	9	61	6.8	0	26	
Darriell Mack Jr.	7	58	8.3	0	15	
Trillion Coles	2	40	20.0	0	38	
Nate Evans	2	10	5.0	0	9	
Dillon Gabriel	3	1	0.3	1	3	
Team	1	-14	-14.0	0	0	
<b>MRSB</b>						
	Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	Long	
Brenden Knox	26	103	4.0	0	22	
Willie Johnson	1	25	25.0	0	25	
Isaiah Green	10	19	1.9	1	13	
Xavier Gaines	3	19	6.3	0	8	
Alex Thomson	3	6	2.0	0	5	
Talik Keaton	1	-5	-5.0	0	0	

<b>PASSING</b>							
UCF	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
Dillon Gabriel	14	24	260	10.8	2	0	74.4
Darriell Mack Jr.	3	7	17	2.4	0	1	28.0
MRSB	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
Isaiah Green	9	23	173	7.5	1	2	16.8
Alex Thomson	2	2	21	10.5	0	0	76.0

<b>RECEIVING</b>						
UCF	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	Long	
Marlon Williams	7	132	18.9	1	75	
Otis Anderson	5	69	13.8	1	35	
Tre Nixon	2	54	27.0	0	46	
Greg McCrae	2	18	9.0	0	13	
Kyle Benkel	1	4	4.0	0	4	
MRSB	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	Long	
Willie Johnson	1	70	70.0	1	70	
Armani Levias	3	67	22.3	0	45	
Obi Obialo	4	45	11.3	0	16	
Xavier Gaines	3	12	4.0	0	9	