

# TROJAN FOOTBALL

11 National Championships  
34 Bowl Victories  
168 All-Americans  
6 Heisman Trophy Winners



494 NFL Players  
80 NFL 1st Round Draftees  
5 No. 1 Overall NFL Draft Picks  
22 Academic All-Americans

## 2017 SCHEDULE (11-2)

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Sept. 2	W. Michigan	W 49-31
Sept. 9	Stanford	W 42-24
Sept. 16	Texas	W 27-24 (2OT)
Sept. 23	at California	W 30-20
Sept. 29 (Fr.)	at Wash. St.	L 27-30
Oct. 7	Oregon St.	W 38-10
Oct. 14	Utah	W 28-27
Oct. 21	at Notre Dame	L 14-49
Oct. 28	at Arizona St.	W 48-17
Nov. 4	Arizona	W 49-35
Nov. 11	at Colorado	W 38-24
Nov. 18	UCLA	W 28-23
Dec. 1 (Fr.)	Stanford (P12CG)	W 31-28
Dec. 29 (Fr.)	Ohio St. (Cotton)	7:30 p.m. CT (ESPN)

USCTROJANS.COM/FOOTBALL



@USC\_Athletics



/USCTrojans

#FIGHTON

#TEAM125

#ALLABOUTBALL

#FAITHFAMILYFOOTBALL

## TROJANS ON THE AIR

**Live national TV:** 5:30 p.m. (PT), ESPN/ESPN Deportes, Bob Wischusen, Brock Huard, Allison Williams.

**Live national radio:** 5:30 p.m. (PT), ESPN Radio, Brad Sham, Rod Gilmore, Quint Kessenich. Also on SiriusXM satellite radio (channels 80/80 and online channel 80).

**Live local radio:** 1:30 p.m. (PT), pre-game shows on ESPNLA 710 Radio (KSPN-AM)/game broadcast and post-game show on AM 690 (XEWV-AM), Pete Arbogast, John Jackson, Jordan Moore, Shaun Cody, Chris Fisher, Travis Rodgers, Dennis Thurman, Rachel Frain (includes 4-hour pre-game and 2-hour post-game shows). Also on the Trojan Radio Network--KSZL-AM 1230 in Barstow, KPXS-AM 1010 in Palm Springs and KFNN-AM 1580 in Phoenix--as well as on USCTrojans.com and ESPNLA.com, on SiriusXM satellite radio and on the TuneIn Radio app.

**USC Trojan Talk:** 7 p.m. (PT), Thursdays, KSHP-AM 1400, and 11 a.m. (PT), Saturdays, KMET-AM 1490, Harvey Hyde.

**Trojan Football Report:** 9:30 p.m. (PT), Saturdays, KDWN-AM 720, Harvey Hyde.

Release Date: Dec. 21, 2017



## GAME 14

82nd Goodyear Cotton Bowl Classic

USC

(11-2 overall, 8-1 Pac-12 South)

vs.

Ohio State

(11-2 overall, 8-1 Big Ten East)



Friday, Dec. 29, 2017, 7:30 p.m. CT, AT&T Stadium, Arlington, Tex.

## NO. 8 USC FOOTBALL FACES NO. 5 OHIO STATE IN COTTON BOWL

### THEMES

\*In a matchup between traditional college football powers, Pac-12 champion No. 8 USC and Big Ten champ No. 5 Ohio State will travel to Texas to battle in the 82nd annual Goodyear Cotton Bowl Classic. This is the earliest date that a Cotton Bowl has been played.

\*It's the 24th meeting between the teams (the first since 2009), including the eighth time they've squared off in a bowl (but the first non-Rose). Troy has won the last 7 clashes and also historically has fared well against Big Ten competition and in season enders.

\*USC is one of the nation's premier bowl teams (51 bowls, 34 wins), as is Ohio State (47, 22). But it's just the second time each team has appeared in a Cotton Bowl.

\*It's a rare indoor game for USC, but the second year in a row that the Trojans have played in 80,000-seat AT&T Stadium.

\*Traveler will be at the game, a rare road trip for USC's white horse mascot.

\*Five USC players hail from Texas, as does Trojan head coach **Clay Helton**. USC defensive coordinator **Clancy Pendergast** used to work for the Cowboys and Trojan ILB **Levi Jones'** dad was a well-known Cowboy. Even the state's governor has a USC link.

\*Five previous USC head coaches have an Ohio background, as does USC's running backs coach **Deland McCullough**.

\*USC, which has won 20 of its last 22 games, is going after its fifth-ever 12-win season.

\*Head coach **Clay Helton's** Trojan team, which played its 12 regular season games in 2017 without a bye, was the first South Division representative to win the Pac-12 Championship Game when it defeated Stanford. USC's offense, which is averaging 489.5 total yards (its highest average since 2005) and 34.5 points, has had 600-plus yards of total offense 3 times this season (the other Pac-12 teams combined have done so just 6 times). QB **Sam Darnold**, 20-3 as a starter, is Troy's season total offense record holder and is on the verge of becoming the first Trojan signalcaller to throw for 4,000 yards in a season (he is at 3,787, while completing 63.7% of his passes with 26 TDs). All-American TB **Ronald Jones II**, who has 1,486 rushing yards with 18 TDs in 2017 and 9 100-yard games, is fifth on USC's prestigious career rushing list (3,555 yards), with 2 Heisman Trophy winners and 2 Heisman runners-up ahead of him. WR **Deontay Burnett**, with 74 receptions and 9 TDs in 2017, is 25 yards shy of 1,000 receiving yards. USC's defense, which leads the nation in sacks (43) and has 24 takeaways in 2017, is led by ILB **Cameron Smith** (Troy's tackle leader--102--for the second year in a row), All-American OLB **Uchenna Nwosu** (13 deflections in 2017, the most by a Trojan linebacker since 1998), OL **Rasheem Green** (9 sacks in 2017) and S **Chris Hawkins** (24 tackles the past 2 games). Darnold, Jones, Smith, Nwosu and Green were among USC's 7 All-Pac-12 first teamers in 2017.

\*Ohio State's **Urban Meyer** (the nation's winningest active coach) guides a strong, balanced team that is sixth nationally in total offense (523.6), fifth in scoring offense (42.5), eighth in total defense (292.3) and seventh in rushing defense (108.8). Dynamic QB **J.T. Barrett**, the winningest (37) quarterback in OSU history, has thrown for nearly 3,000 yards with 35 TDs in 2017 and run for another 732 yards with 10 scores. He owns 35 school and Big Ten records. RB **J.K. Dobbins** has rushed for a school freshman record 1,364 yards and is complemented by RB **Mike Weber** (608 yards). Eleven OSU players have caught touchdowns, with WR **K.J. Hill** the leader in receptions (55). Three All-Big Ten first teamers--All-American C **Billy Price**, the 2017 Rimington Trophy winner, OG **Michael Jordan** and OT **Jamarco Jones**--anchor the Buckeye offensive line. Ohio State's top tacklers include LB **Jerome Baker**, S **Jordan Fuller** and S **Damon Webb**, along with All-Americans in CB **Denzel Ward** and DL **Nick Bosa** (14.5 tackles for loss, 7 sacks).

\*The game will be broadcast live in primetime on ESPN and ESPN Radio

### RANKINGS

USC is ranked eighth in the AP sports media poll and seventh in the Amway coaches poll. Ohio State is fifth in both polls.



## PAC-12 STANDINGS

(pre-bowls)

	PAC-12		OVERALL	
	W	L	W	L
<b>SOUTH</b>				
USC	8	1	11	2
ASU	6	3	7	5
ARIZ	5	4	7	5
UCLA	4	5	6	6
UTAH	3	6	6	6
COLORADO	2	7	5	7
<b>NORTH</b>				
STAN	7	2	9	4
WASH	7	2	10	2
WSU	6	3	9	3
ORE	4	5	7	5
CAL	2	7	5	7
OSU	0	9	1	11

### AP POLL

- Clemson
- Oklahoma
- Georgia
- Alabama
- Ohio State
- Wisconsin
- Auburn
- USC
- Penn State
- Central Florida
- Miami (Fla.)
- Washington
- TCU
- Notre Dame
- Stanford
- LSU
- Oklahoma State
- Michigan State
- Memphis
- Northwestern
- Washington St.
- Virginia Tech
- South Florida
- Mississippi St.
- Boise State

### COACHES POLL

- Clemson
- Oklahoma
- Georgia
- Alabama
- Ohio State
- Wisconsin
- USC
- Auburn
- Penn State
- Central Florida
- Miami (Fla.)
- Washington
- TCU
- LSU
- Notre Dame
- Stanford
- Oklahoma State
- Memphis
- Michigan State
- Northwestern
- Washington St.
- Virginia Tech
- Mississippi St.
- South Florida
- Boise State

### FUN FACT I

In its history, USC only has had 18 lettermen from Ohio: E **Allen Behrendt** (1924-25-26, East Cleveland HS), RHB **Ron Calabria** (1954, Wooster HS), C **Tom Cox** (1984-85, Xenia HS), All-American and Mackey Award-winning TE **Fred Davis** (2004-05-06-07, Rogers HS), LE **Roscoe Geller** (1908-09, Toledo), RG **Earl Haas** (1936, McKinley HS), LB **Erick Herrin** (1994-95, Central-Hower HS), All-American DT **Gary Jeter** (1973-74-75-76, Cathedral Latin HS), G **Nick O'Brovac** (1950, McKinley HS), P **Billy O'Malley** (2009, St. Ignatius HS), LG **Russell Powers** (1934, West HS), LG **Ed Pucci** (1951-52-53, McKinley HS), FB-LB **Ralph Pucci** (1948-49-50, McKinley HS), OT-OG **Aundrey Walker** (2011-12-13-14, Glenville HS), LT **Tom Weber** (1952-53, McKinley HS), RT **Chuck Weeks** (1951-52, West HS), LHB **Harry Welch** (1951-52, Kenmore HS) and C-LB **Lou Welsh** (1950-51-52, Steubenville). Incidentally, USC also has had just 35 lettermen from Texas.

### FUN FACT II

USC has played just once before on Dec. 29, a 24-7 loss to Fresno State in the 1992 Freedom Bowl.

### FUN FACT III

One of the participants in last year's Cotton Bowl was Western Michigan, which then opened its 2017 season with a 49-31 loss to USC in the Coliseum. The other Cotton Bowl participant last year was Wisconsin, which Ohio State defeated in the 2017 Big Ten Championship Game, 27-21.

## SERIES

\*USC holds a 13-9-1 series edge over Ohio State. The Trojans have won the past 7 meetings and 8 of the last 9.

\*Seven of the 23 USC-OSU games have been decided by a TD or less and there have been 7 shutouts in the series (5 by Ohio State).

\*At least one of the teams has been ranked in 17 of the previous meetings (including 13 times when both were ranked), with 10 of the games featuring an AP Top 5 team (and 4 with an AP No. 1 squad).

\*Seven of the meetings have been on New Year's Day in the Rose Bowl, where Troy owns a 4-3 mark. Five of those Rose Bowl meetings carried national championship implications for one of the teams (USC won the 1972 and 1974 national crowns after Rose Bowl wins over Ohio State, while the Buckeyes won the 1954 and 1968 titles after beating Troy in Pasadena; and a USC Rose Bowl win knocked Ohio State out of the 1979 top ranking).

\*The teams have met in September, October and January, but never in December until now.

\*In the latest meeting between the teams, USC beat Ohio State, 18-15, in Columbus in 2009. That came a year after a 35-3 Trojan victory in Los Angeles. See page 4 for a complete recap of that 2009 game.

## VERSUS BIG TEN CONFERENCE

\*USC is 75-28-3 (.722) against current Big Ten opponents, most recently posting a 52-49 win over Penn State in the 2017 Rose Bowl. Before that, USC had won 13 consecutive games against Big Ten foes before losing to Wisconsin in the 2015 Holiday Bowl, 23-21. Troy has won 35 of its last 44 games (and 42 of its last 52) versus the Big Ten. USC is 20-10 against the Big Ten in bowls and has won 9 of the last 10 bowl meetings.

\*On the other hand, Ohio State is 59-26-2 (.690) against current Pac-12 members. The Buckeyes' most recent game against a Pac-12 foe was a 42-20 win over Oregon in the 2015 CPF final (following the 2014 season). Ohio State has faced USC more times (23) than any other Pac-12 team; the Trojans (13-9-1) and Stanford (3-2) are the only Pac-12 schools with a winning record against the Buckeyes. In bowls, Ohio State is 9-7 against the Pac-12 (most recently, the 2015 CFP final win over Oregon), including a 3-4 mark versus USC.

## SEASON ENDERS

USC is 69-42-11 (.611) in all season finales (not including 1 win and 1 loss vacated due to NCAA penalty; original record: 70-43-11, .609.).

## 10-/11-/12-WIN SEASONS

\*With an 11-2 overall mark in 2017, USC is going after its fifth-ever 12-win season (not including 2004, when 2 of its 13 wins were vacated due to NCAA penalty, and 2005, when all 12 wins were vacated due to NCAA penalty). USC won 12 games in 1972, 1978, 2003 and 2008.

\*USC now has had 11-win seasons 13 times (not including 2005, when all 12 wins were vacated due to NCAA penalty).

\*USC has posted at least 10 wins in a season 27 times (not including 2005, when all 12 wins were vacated due to NCAA penalty). Of those, USC hit the 10-win mark by the end of the regular season on 17 occasions (not including 2005, when all 12 wins were vacated due to NCAA penalty). The 2016 and 2017 seasons are the first time since 2007 and 2008 that USC has had back-to-back 10-win seasons.

## 14 GAMES

This is just the third time that USC has played 14 games in a season, along with 2013 (10-4) and 2015 (8-6).

## FRIDAY GAMES

This will be USC's third Friday game of 2017 and second consecutive. USC has played just 8 Friday games since 1990: versus Syracuse in the 1990 Kickoff Classic in East Rutherford, N.J., versus Louisiana Tech in 1999 in the Coliseum, at Colorado in 2011, at Oregon State in 2013, at Colorado in 2015, at Utah in 2016, at Washington State in 2017 and against Stanford in the 2017 Pac-12 Championship Game (all wins except the 2016 Utah and 2017 Washington State contests). In the 1950s and 1960s, the Trojans played occasional Friday night games in the Coliseum when sharing the stadium with UCLA.

## AT NIGHT

USC owns a 171-58-4 (.742) record at night, including 101-27-4 in the Coliseum, 55-25 on the road and 15-6 at neutral sites. (Does not include 5 wins and 1 loss vacated due to NCAA penalty; original record: 176-59-4, .745 overall, 104-27-4 in the Coliseum, 17-7 at neutral sites.)

## USC-OHIO STATE ON FRIDAY NIGHT

This will be the first USC-Ohio State bowl game to be played at night and their second bowl meeting to be played on a Friday (along with the 1954 Rose Bowl). Interestingly, Ohio State's first-ever night game was against USC on a Friday in 1959 in the Coliseum (a 17-0 Trojan win). The 1959 contest originally was scheduled for a Saturday (Oct. 3), but was moved a day earlier to allow time to prepare the stadium and field once the Dodgers--who were using the Coliseum while Dodger Stadium was being built--advanced to the World Series and Game 3 was set for Sunday (Oct. 4)

## IN DECEMBER

USC has a 42-27-7 (.599) all-time record while playing in the month of December (not including 2 wins vacated due to NCAA penalty; original record: 44-27-7, .609).

## ARTIFICIAL TURF

USC is 41-25-1 in its last 67 games on artificial turf (not including 3 wins vacated due to NCAA penalty; original record: 44-25-1).

## INSIDE

USC is 3-1 inside domed (or closed roof) stadiums, beating Washington State in Seattle's Kingdome in 1976, Texas A&M in the 1977 Bluebonnet Bowl in Houston's Astrodome and Houston in the Astrodome in 1996, but losing to Alabama in 2016 in AT&T Stadium.

## NFL STADIUMS

This is the fourth consecutive year that USC has played in a current NFL stadium besides the Los Angeles Coliseum (temporary home of the Los Angeles Rams). It beat Nebraska, 45-42, in the 2014 Holiday Bowl in Qualcomm Stadium, lost to Stanford, 41-22, in the 2015 Pac-12 Championship Game in Levi's Stadium and to Wisconsin, 23-21, in the 2015 Holiday Bowl in Qualcomm Stadium, lost to Alabama, 52-6, in AT&T Stadium in the 2016 season opener and beat Stanford, 31-28, in the 2017 Championship Game in Levi's Stadium.



## USC VS. OHIO STATE

(13-9-1)

1937	W	13-12	H
1938	W	14-7	A
1941	L	0-33	H
1942	L	12-28	A
1946	L	0-21	H
1947	W	32-0	A
1948	L	0-20	A
1949	T	13-13	H
1954*	L	7-20	N1
1959	W	17-0	H
1960	L	0-20	A
1963	W	32-3	H
1964	L	0-17	A
1968*	L	16-27	N1
1972*	W	42-17	N1
1973*	L	21-42	N1
1974*	W	18-17	N1
1979*	W	17-16	N1
1984*	W	20-17	N1
1989	W	42-3	H
1990	W	35-26	A
2008	W	35-3	H
2009	W	18-15	A

N1-Rose Bowl, Pasadena, California

\*-Rose Bowl of following calendar year

## COTTON BOWL HISTORY

Jan. 1, 1937--No. 16 TCU 16, No. 20 Marquette 6  
Jan. 1, 1938--Rice 28, Colorado 14  
Jan. 2, 1939--St. Mary's (CA) 20, No. 11 Texas Tech 13  
Jan. 1, 1940--Clemson 6, Boston College 3  
Jan. 1, 1941--No. 6 Texas A&M 13, No. 12 Fordham 12  
Jan. 1, 1942--No. 20 Alabama 29, No. 9 Texas A&M 21  
Jan. 1, 1943--No. 11 Texas 14, Georgia Tech 7  
Jan. 1, 1944--No. 14 Texas 7, Randolph Field 7  
Jan. 1, 1945--Oklahoma A&M 34, TCU 0  
Jan. 1, 1946--No. 10 Texas 40, Missouri 27  
Jan. 1, 1947--No. 8 LSU 0, No. 16 Arkansas 0  
Jan. 1, 1948--No. 10 SMU 13, No. 18 Penn State 13  
Jan. 1, 1949--No. 10 SMU 21, No. 9 Oregon 13  
Jan. 2, 1950--No. 5 Rice 27, No. 16 North Carolina 13  
Jan. 1, 1951--No. 4 Tennessee 20, No. 3 Texas 14  
Jan. 1, 1952--No. 15 Kentucky 20, No. 11 TCU 7  
Jan. 1, 1953--No. 10 Texas 16, No. 8 Tennessee 0  
Jan. 1, 1954--No. 6 Rice 28, No. 13 Alabama 6  
Jan. 1, 1955--Georgia Tech 14, No. 10 Arkansas 6  
Jan. 2, 1956--No. 10 Mississippi 14, No. 6 TCU 13  
Jan. 1, 1957--No. 14 TCU 28, No. 8 Syracuse 27  
Jan. 1, 1958--No. 5 Navy 20, No. 8 Rice 7  
Jan. 1, 1959--No. 10 TCU 0, No. 6 Air Force 0  
Jan. 1, 1960--No. 11 Syracuse 23, No. 4 Texas 14  
Jan. 2, 1961--No. 10 Duke 7, No. 7 Arkansas 6  
Jan. 1, 1962--No. 3 Texas 12, No. 5 Mississippi 7  
Jan. 1, 1963--No. 7 LSU 13, No. 4 Texas 0  
Jan. 1, 1964--No. 1 Texas 28, No. 2 Navy 6  
Jan. 1, 1965--No. 2 Arkansas 10, No. 6 Nebraska 7  
Jan. 1, 1966--LSU 14, No. 2 Arkansas 7  
Dec. 31, 1966--No. 4 Georgia 24, No. 10 SMU 9  
Jan. 1, 1968--Texas A&M 20, No. 8 Alabama 16  
Jan. 1, 1969--No. 5 Texas 36, No. 8 Tennessee 13  
Jan. 1, 1970--No. 1 Texas 21, No. 9 Notre Dame 17  
Jan. 1, 1971--No. 6 Notre Dame 24, No. 1 Texas 11  
Jan. 1, 1972--No. 10 Penn State 30, No. 12 Texas 6  
Jan. 1, 1973--No. 7 Texas 17, No. 4 Alabama 13  
Jan. 1, 1974--No. 12 Nebraska 19, No. 8 Texas 3  
Jan. 1, 1975--No. 7 Penn State 41, No. 12 Baylor 20  
Jan. 1, 1976--No. 18 Arkansas 30, No. 12 Georgia 10  
Jan. 1, 1977--No. 6 Houston 30, No. 4 Maryland 21  
Jan. 2, 1978--No. 5 Notre Dame 38, No. 1 Texas 10  
Jan. 1, 1979--No. 10 Notre Dame 35, No. 9 Houston 34  
Jan. 1, 1980--No. 8 Houston 17, No. 7 Nebraska 14  
Jan. 1, 1981--No. 9 Alabama 30, No. 6 Baylor 2  
Jan. 1, 1982--No. 6 Texas 14, No. 3 Alabama 12  
Jan. 1, 1983--No. 4 SMU 7, No. 6 Pittsburgh 3  
Jan. 2, 1984--No. 7 Georgia 10, No. 2 Texas 9  
Jan. 1, 1985--No. 8 Boston College 45, Houston 28  
Jan. 1, 1986--No. 11 Texas A&M 35, No. 16 Auburn 16  
Jan. 1, 1987--No. 11 Ohio State 28, No. 8 Texas A&M 12  
Jan. 1, 1988--No. 13 Texas A&M 35, No. 12 Notre Dame 10  
Jan. 2, 1989--No. 9 UCLA 17, No. 8 Arkansas 3  
Jan. 1, 1990--No. 8 Tennessee 31, No. 10 Arkansas 27  
Jan. 1, 1991--No. 4 Miami 46, No. 3 Texas 3  
Jan. 1, 1992--No. 5 Florida State 10, No. 9 Texas A&M 2  
Jan. 1, 1993--No. 5 Notre Dame 28, No. 4 Texas A&M 3  
Jan. 1, 1994--No. 4 Notre Dame 24, No. 7 Texas A&M 21  
Jan. 2, 1995--No. 21 USC 55, Texas Tech 14  
Jan. 1, 1996--No. 7 Colorado 38, No. 12 Oregon 6  
Jan. 1, 1997--No. 5 BYU 19, No. 14 Kansas State 15  
Jan. 1, 1998--No. 5 UCLA 29, No. 20 Texas A&M 23  
Jan. 1, 1999--No. 20 Texas 38, No. 25 Mississippi St. 11  
Jan. 1, 2000--No. 24 Arkansas 27, No. 14 Texas 6  
Jan. 1, 2001--No. 11 Kansas St. 35, No. 21 Tennessee 21  
Jan. 1, 2002--No. 10 Oklahoma 10, Arkansas 3  
Jan. 1, 2003--No. 9 Texas 35, LSU 20  
Jan. 2, 2004--No. 16 Mississippi 31, No. 21 Oklahoma St. 28  
Jan. 1, 2005--No. 15 Tennessee 38, No. 22 Texas A&M 7  
Jan. 2, 2006--No. 8 Alabama 13, No. 20 Texas Tech 10  
Jan. 1, 2007--No. 10 Auburn 17, No. 22 Nebraska 14  
Jan. 1, 2008--No. 7 Missouri 38, No. 12 Arkansas 7  
Jan. 2, 2009--No. 20 Mississippi 47, No. 8 Texas Tech 34  
Jan. 2, 2010--Mississippi 21, No. 21 Oklahoma State 7  
Jan. 7, 2011--No. 11 LSU 41, No. 18 Texas A&M 24  
Jan. 6, 2012--No. 7 Arkansas 29, No. 11 Kansas St. 16  
Jan. 4, 2013--No. 9 Texas A&M 41, No. 11 Oklahoma 13  
Jan. 3, 2014--No. 9 Missouri 41, No. 13 Oklahoma St. 31  
Jan. 1, 2015--No. 7 Michigan State 42, No. 4 Baylor 41  
Dec. 31, 2015--No. 2 Alabama 38, No. 3 Michigan St. 0  
Jan. 2, 2017--No. 8 Wisconsin 24, No. 12 W. Michigan 16

## IN TEXAS

\*This will be USC's second consecutive year visiting AT&T Stadium, the Metroplex area and the state of Texas, as the Trojans opened the 2016 season playing Alabama there. That 2016 Alabama game was USC's first-ever time in AT&T Stadium, its first trip to the Metroplex area since playing in the 1995 Cotton Bowl versus Texas Tech and its first visit to the state of Texas since the 2012 Sun Bowl in El Paso versus Georgia Tech.

\*USC is 9-5 in games played in Texas: 2-0 at Texas, 2-0 against Texas Tech (1 game in Lubbock and 1 in the Cotton Bowl in Dallas), 1-1 at Baylor, 1-0 each versus Texas A&M (in the Bluebonnet Bowl in Houston), Rice, SMU and Houston, and 0-1 each versus Michigan State in the John Hancock Bowl, TCU in the Sun Bowl, Georgia Tech in the Sun Bowl and Alabama in AT&T Stadium (a 52-6 loss in 2016, USC's most recent game in Texas).

\*USC will return to the state for a regular season contest against Texas in Austin in 2018, on Sept. 15 (Troy defeated the Longhorns in the Coliseum this season, 27-24 in 2 overtimes).

\*This also will be the second time that Ohio State has played in AT&T Stadium. The Buckeyes beat Oregon there in the 2015 CFP final, 42-20.

## TRAVELER IN DALLAS

Traveler, USC's white horse mascot that appears at all home football games with a Trojan warrior astride, will make an appearance in Dallas at the 2017 Cotton Bowl. Traveler rarely attends road games, but also was at the 1995 Cotton Bowl. The farthest Traveler has traveled was the 2005 Orange Bowl in Miami.

## WIN STREAKS

USC is riding a:

--16-game home winning streak, its longest since 21 in a row from 2001 to 2004 (not including 6 wins later vacated due to NCAA penalty; original record: 35 in a row from 2001 to 2007) and currently the second longest regular season home winning streak in the nation (behind Alabama's 19).

--18-game winning streak in the Greater Los Angeles area, its longest since 23 in a row from 2001 to 2004 (not including 7 wins later vacated due to NCAA penalty; original record: 30 in a row from 2001 to 2005).

## INJURED STARTERS

Thirteen Trojan starters have missed games because of injuries this year: PK **Michael Brown** (10 games), OLB **Porter Gustin** (9), OG **Viane Talamaivao** (8), TE **Daniel Imatorbhebhe** (5), WR **Steven Mitchell Jr.** (2), WR **Jalen Greene** (2), OT **Chuma Edoga** (2), OL **Christian Rector** (2), CB **Iman Marshall** (2), DT **Josh Fatu** (1), OL **Toa Lobendahn** (1), TB **Ronald Jones II** (1) and ILB **John Houston Jr.** (1). Brown and Talamaivao are out for the year.

## USC-OHIO STATE CONNECTIONS

\*USC has no players from Ohio, but the Buckeyes have 2 Californians (OL **Wyatt Davis** from St. John Bosco High in Bellflower and TE **Marcus Baugh** from North High in Riverside).

\*USC running backs coach/run game coordinator **Deland McCullough** prepped at Campbell (Ohio) High and was a running back at Miami (Ohio) from 1992 to 1994 and with the Cincinnati Bengals (1996-97), then was the head coach at Harmony Community School in Cincinnati before serving as a football intern at Miami (Ohio) in 2010.

\*USC defensive coordinator **Clancy Pendergast** was an assistant coach with the Cleveland Browns in 2003.

\*On Jan. 18, 2018, the USC and Ohio State men's volleyball teams will meet in the Pac-12/Big Ten Challenge at UCLA.

## USC HEAD COACHES WITH OHIO ROOTS

Five former USC football head coaches have Ohio roots. **Howard Jones**, who guided the Trojans to 4 national championships, was born in Exello, Ohio, and coached the Buckeyes in 1910 to a 6-1-3 record. **Pete Carroll**, who led USC to a pair of national titles, was the secondary coach under Earle Bruce at Ohio State in 1979 (that top-ranked Buckeye squad lost to No. 3 USC in the 1980 Rose Bowl, 17-16). **Larry Smith** spent much of his early career in Ohio, playing at Van Wert High and then Bowling Green, then coaching at Lima Shawnee High and Miami of Ohio (he met his wife at a Woody Hayes coaching clinic at Ohio State). **Elmer "Gloomy Gus" Henderson**, who won 86.5% of his games at USC, graduated from Oberlin. **Paul Hackett** was an assistant coach with the Cleveland Browns for 2 seasons (1981-82).

## TEXAS CONNECTIONS

\*USC has 5 players from Texas: TB **Ronald Jones II** of McKinney North HS, TB **Aca'Cedric Ware** of Cedar Hill HS, ILB **Levi Jones** of Westlake High in Austin, QB **Thomas Fitts** of Episcopal School of Dallas and TB **Chris Edmondson** of Clemens High in Schertz.

\*USC head coach **Clay Helton** prepped at Clements HS in Sugar Land, Tex. He played quarterback at Houston (1993-94) and was an assistant coach there (1997-99).

\*USC defensive coordinator **Clancy Pendergast** was an assistant coach with the Dallas Cowboys (1996-2002) and a defensive assistant with the Houston Oilers (1995).

\*USC offensive line coach **Neil Callaway** was Houston's offensive coordinator from 1993 to 1996.

\*ILB-OLB **Levi Jones'** father, Robert Jones, was drafted in the first round by the Dallas Cowboys and played 4 years with the Cowboys (1992-95, including winning NFC Rookie of the Year in 1992 and winning 3 Super Bowls). Levi's brother, Cayleb, was a wide receiver at Texas (2011).

\*Former USC DT **Tyron Smith** (2008-10) plays for the Dallas Cowboys, as does WR **Brice Butler**, who played at USC (2009-11) before transferring to San Diego State. Cowboys defensive coordinator/defensive line coach **Rod Marinelli** was an assistant at USC in 1995. Cowboys team physician **Dr. Drew Dosssett** was a linebacker on the 1979 and 1980 Trojans.

\***Imani Ervins**, catering coordinator for Legends Hospitality at AT&T Stadium, is the daughter of former USC TB **Ricky Ervins** (1987-90).

\*Texas governor **Greg Abbott's** daughter, Audrey, is a student at USC.

\***Fred Williams**, head coach of the WNBA's Dallas Wings, was head coach of the USC women's basketball team (1996-97).

\*USC has 9,000 alumni in the state of Texas, more than any state besides California, with 3,000 of those living in the Dallas area.





## 2009 USC VS. OHIO STATE

### GAME 2 – September 12, Columbus, Ohio

USC 18, Ohio State 15

Att: 106,033

USC	7	3	0	8	—	18
Ohio State	7	3	5	0	—	15

No. 3 USC put together a memorable 86-yard drive, capped by TB Stafon Johnson's 2-yard touchdown scamper with 1:05 to play, to overcome No. 8 Ohio State, 18-15, before a capacity Ohio Stadium record crowd of 106,033 deafening fans and a national ESPN cable audience. Troy had to fight challenging field position all night in the defense-oriented contest.

It was the Trojans' first visit to Columbus since 1990. It was their seventh consecutive win over the Buckeyes (and 10<sup>th</sup> straight over a Big Ten squad). It was also Troy's 14<sup>th</sup> non-conference victory in a row, 12<sup>th</sup> consecutive win and 10<sup>th</sup> straight non-conference road game win. It was Ohio State's sixth straight loss to an AP Top 5 team.

In its 14-play game-winning drive that erased a 5-point deficit, USC used some key plays by QB Matt Barkley (55 passing yards, 2 sneaks for first downs) and TB Joe McKnight (32 yards rushing, 21 receiving yards and a 2-point conversion catch). In the game, McKnight had a game-best 60 rushing yards on 16 carries and added 2 catches for 45 yards to earn Pac-10 Offensive Player of the Week honors, while Barkley completed 15-of-31 passes for 195 yards despite suffering a bruised throwing shoulder in the second half.

The Trojans got off to a quick start after LB Chris Galippo returned an interception 51 yards on the game's third play to set up a 1-yard TD run by Johnson with just 3:32 off the clock. But Ohio State responded on its ensuing possession when WR Dane Sanzenbacher's 56-yard reception of a throw by QB Terrelle Pryor led 2 plays later to a 2-yard scoring run by TB Dan Herron.

The Buckeyes, who dominated the first quarter statistics (5-0 in first downs, 148-5 in total yards, 20-10 in plays, 10:31-4:29 in possession time), then took the lead on PK Aaron Pettrey's 18-yard field goal on the first play of the second quarter (OSU had first-and goal at the 2, but couldn't get into the end zone).

But the Trojans tied the game at the first half gun on PK Jordan Congdon's 21-yard field goal that culminated an 8-play, 77-yard, 48-second drive (on USC's previous series, Congdon's 44-yard field goal attempt bounced off the crossbar). USC held OSU to just 12 yards and no first downs in the second quarter.

The Buckeyes then took a 15-10 lead in the third quarter on a safety (USC snapped the ball out of the end zone on a punt attempt) and a 22-yard Pettrey field goal on their next possession, necessitating Troy's dramatic finish.

The Trojans held a healthy advantage in the final statistics: 18-10 in first downs, 313-265 in total yards, 72-55 in plays and 32:27-27:33 in possession time. The Buckeyes converted just 4-of-13 third downs. In the final 3 quarters, OSU had just 5 first downs and 117 yards. USC was able to contain the multi-threat Pryor, who completed just 11-of-25 passes for 177 yards and ran for just 36 yards on 10 tries. Herron had 44 yards on 18 carries, while WR DeVier Posey caught 6 passes for 81 yards.

The Buckeyes won the field possession battle all night, as 10 of Troy's 12 possessions started at no better than its 26-yard line.

WR Damian Williams led USC with 5 catches for 51 yards. S Taylor Mays topped the Trojans in tackles with 8, despite spraining his knee in the first half, while LB Michael Morgan added 7 stops (2 for losses) and DE Everson Griffen had 6 tackles (with a sack).

It was the largest crowd USC has played in front of since the 106,182 in the 1977 Rose Bowl and the Trojans' largest road game (non-neutral site) crowd. It was ESPN's most viewed college football game ever (7.3 rating). ESPN also showed the game in 3D in select nationwide theaters.

#### SCORING

##### First Quarter

USC – S. Johnson 1-yard run (Congdon kick)

OHIO – Herron 2-yard run (Pettrey kick)

##### Second Quarter

OHIO – Pettrey 18-yard field goal

USC – Congdon 21-yard field goal

##### Third Quarter

OHIO – Safety, USC snapped ball out of end zone on punt attempt

OHIO – Pettrey 22-yard field goal

##### Fourth Quarter

USC – S. Johnson 2-yard run (McKnight pass from Barkley)

USC	STATISTICS	OHIO ST.
18	First Downs	10
118	Net Yards Rushing	88
195	Net Yards Passing	177
32	Passes Attempted	25
15	Passes Completed	11
1	Had Intercepted	1
72	Total Plays	55
313	Total Yards	265
5/37.6	Punts/Avg	6/38.7
0/0	Fumbles-Lost	1/0
4/30	Penalties/Yards	5/37
32:27	Time of Possession	27:33

#### TOP INDIVIDUALS

RUSHING – McKnight (USC) 16-60; S. Johnson (USC) 11-50; Herron (OHIO) 18-44; Pryor (OHIO) 10-36.

PASSING – Barkley (USC) 15-31-195; Pryor (OHIO) 11-25-177.

RECEIVING – Posey (OHIO) 6-81; Williams (USC) 5-51; Ausberry (USC) 3-28; Sanzenbacher (OHIO) 2-58; McKnight (USC) 2-45; McCoy (USC) 2-45; Saine (OHIO) 2-33; Havili (USC) 2-24.

## GRIDIRON POWERS

USC and Ohio State are among the nation's traditional college football powerhouses. To wit:

\*USC has won 11 national championships, Ohio State 8.

\*Both teams rank among the nation's Top 10 in career wins (Ohio State is tied for third with 897, USC is ninth with 834).

\*Troy has produced 6 Heisman Trophy winners and OSU has 7.

\*The Buckeyes claim 200 All-American first teamers, while the Trojans have 168.

\*USC has won 38 league titles and Ohio State has 36.

\*USC has 51 bowl appearances (with 34 wins), while Ohio State has made it to 47 bowls (with 22 victories).

\*The schools have been guided previously by legendary coaches, including USC's Howard Jones, John McKay, John Robinson and Pete Carroll and Ohio State's Paul Brown, Woody Hayes, Earle Bruce and Jim Tressel.

\*Both programs have nationally-recognized marching bands, famous mascots (Traveler with Tommy Trojan, Brutus Buckeye) and distinctive colors (USC's cardinal and gold, OSU's scarlet and gray).

## #TEAM125

The 2017 Trojans are USC's 125<sup>th</sup> football team. Troy has produced some of college football's most legendary players, coaches, games and moments. There have been 11 national championships, 34 bowl victories, 168 All-Americans, 6 Heisman Trophy winners, 43 College Football Hall of Famers, 22 Academic All-Americans, 494 NFL players and 15 Pro Football Hall of Famers.

## LAST GAME

Go to page **38** for a recap of USC's 31-28 win over Stanford in the Pac-12 Championship Game on Dec. 1.

## 2017 SCHEDULE

\*The 2017 USC schedule is currently ranked the nation's 16th most difficult by USA Today/Sagarin.

\*USC's 2017 slate features 9 teams that earned bowl bids this season (the Trojans played one of them, Stanford, twice). Troy had 7 home games in the Coliseum, beginning with three straight to open the season. Overall, USC's 12-game regular season schedule featured 5 teams that played in bowls last season and won at least 8 games. The Trojans played 9 league foes in the 2017 regular season (all but Oregon and Washington). However, for the first time since the 1995 season, the Trojans did not have a bye between any of its regular-season games, only getting a week off on the final weekend of November before they advance to the Pac-12 Championship Game on Dec. 1.

\*Troy opened its 2017 slate with a 3-game homestand, as Western Michigan of the Mid-American Conference on Sept. 2 and the Big 12's Texas on Sept. 16 sandwiched league foe Stanford's Sept. 9 appearance. The Broncos won 13 games in 2016 and played in the Cotton Bowl, while the Longhorns made their first Coliseum visit versus Troy since 1967. The Cardinal clash marked the seventh year in a row that USC played the Pac-12's first conference game of the year. After Texas, the Trojans took to the road for a pair of Pac-12 encounters, at California on Sept. 23 (led by former USC defensive coordinator Justin Wilcox) and then at Washington State for a Friday night game on Sept. 29. USC returned to the Coliseum for 2 league contests, hosting Oregon State on Oct. 7 (like WSU, the Beavers are back on the schedule after a 2-year hiatus) and Utah on Oct. 14. USC then went back on the road for its traditional intersectional battle with Notre Dame on Oct. 21 before finishing with a stretch of 4 Pac-12 games, first playing at Arizona State on Oct. 28. Arizona came to the Coliseum on Nov. 4, then USC went to defending Pac-12 South Division champion Colorado on Nov. 11 before hosting crosstown rival UCLA on Nov. 18. USC had a rematch with Stanford in the Pac-12 Championship Game on Dec. 1.

## USC BOWL HISTORY

USC has a remarkable record in bowl games. Entering the 2017 bowl season, the Trojans have the nation's fourth highest bowl winning percentage (.667) among the 91 schools that have made at least 10 bowl appearances (behind Marshall's .846, Utah's .800 and San Jose State's .700). USC's 34 bowl victories are second behind Alabama's 37 for most in the nation (not including 1 win for both teams vacated due to NCAA penalty; original record: 35 for USC, 38 for Alabama). Troy's 51 bowl appearances are sixth most, behind Alabama (66), Texas and Nebraska (53) and Tennessee and Georgia (52) (not including 2 USC appearances and 1 Alabama appearance vacated due to NCAA penalty; original record: 54 for USC, 66 for Alabama). USC once won 9 consecutive bowl games (the 1923-30-32-33-39-40-44-45 Rose Bowls and 1924 Christmas Festival); only Florida State has won more in a row (11).

USC's overall post-season record is 34-17 (not including 1 win and 1 loss later vacated due to NCAA penalty; original record: 35-18). The Trojans were a bowl participant each year they were eligible from 1972 to 1990 (USC was banned from bowl participation in 1980-82-83).



## 1995 COTTON BOWL

### USC 55, Texas Tech 14

USC (ranked 20th by UPI, 21st by AP and 22nd by USA Today/CNN) made quite an impression in its first visit to the Mobil Cotton Bowl Classic, smashing Texas Tech, 55-14, in a record-filled performance before a sellout crowd of 70,218 and an NBC-TV national audience.

It was USC's 24th bowl victory, its 37th bowl appearance (in 10 different bowls), its 17th win in the last 19 games against Southwest Conference opponents, its third win in 3 tries over Texas Tech, and coach John Robinson's sixth bowl win in 7 trips (giving Robinson at least 8 wins in each of his 9 seasons at Troy). After 59 years, it was also the last Cotton Bowl where an SWC team served as host. Texas Tech was making only its second visit to the Cotton Bowl (the first was in 1939).

The game was over quickly, as it was 28-0 after the first quarter and 34-0 at halftime. USC led 48-0 before Texas Tech scored against the Trojan reserves late in the third quarter.

USC set Cotton Bowl records for most points in a game, most points in a quarter (USC's most since also scoring 28 in the second quarter against California in 1978) and most touchdowns (7), while scoring its most points ever in a bowl and posting its biggest bowl victory margin (second in Cotton Bowl history). It was the most points scored against Texas Tech since Miami had 61 in 1986.

Troy's first 3 scores came in a 1:16 span. After tailback Shawn Walters, 1 of 8 Texans on the Trojan roster, ran 11 yards for a TD, USC recovered a fumble on the ensuing kickoff and, on the next play, quarterback Rob Johnson hit fullback Terry Barnum for a 19-yard score. Three plays later, cornerback John Herpin, another Texas native, intercepted a Zebbie Lethridge pass and returned it 26 yards for a TD. Herpin, who intercepted another pass in the second quarter to set up a field goal, was named the game's Outstanding Defensive Player.

USC's next 3 TDs came on aerials to wide receiver Keyshawn Johnson of 12, 22 and 86 yards (the 86-yarder was 1 yard shy of the longest pass in Cotton Bowl and USC history), the first 2 from Rob Johnson and the third from quarterback Brad Otton. Keyshawn Johnson, selected as the game's Outstanding Offensive Player, had 8 catches overall for a Cotton Bowl-record 222 yards (just 7 yards shy of the Trojan single game record). His 3 TD catches set a Cotton Bowl record and equalled a Trojan mark. Rob Johnson, who became USC's career passing yardage leader and the Pac-10 and USC recordholder for career completion percentage, was 16-of-21 for 289 yards (the second most yards in Cotton Bowl history).

The other Trojan scores came on a late 2-yard Otton pass to tight end Jeff Diltz and second quarter field goals by placekicker Cole Ford of 39 and a career-best 42 yards. Ford's 7 PAT kicks was a Cotton Bowl record.

Walters ran for a game-best 82 yards on 14 carries. Otton was 8-of-14 for 146 yards.

USC thoroughly dominated the statistics, more than doubling Texas Tech in total yardage (578-260) and possession time (40:02-19:58) while also having more first downs (21-14) and plays (80-63). USC, which averaged 7.2 yards per play, set Cotton Bowl records for total yards, passing yards (a USC record 435) and completions (24). USC did this against a Texas Tech defense which entered the game third nationally in pass efficiency defense (88.6), 10th in scoring defense (17.4) and 22nd in total defense (311.0). The Red Raiders had held 5 foes to single digits in scoring and had given up just 47 points in their previous 5 games.

Inside linebacker Jeff Kopp led USC in tackles with 7, while safety Sammy Knight added 6. Texas Tech, which punted 10 times, advanced into USC territory on just 4 of its 16 possessions.

<b>USC</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>55</b>
<b>Texas Tech</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Scoring:</b>	USC--Touchdowns, K. Johnson (3), Herpin, Walters, Barnum, Diltz. PAT, Ford (7). Field Goals, Ford (2). Texas Tech--Touchdowns, Lethridge, Mitchell. PAT, Davis (2).					
<b>Attendance:</b>	70,218		<b>Date:</b> Jan. 2			

Troy has appeared in an unprecedented 33 Rose Bowls, where it has a 25-8 mark (.758) (not including 1 appearance and 1 loss later vacated due to NCAA penalty; original record: 34 Rose Bowls, 25-9, .735). That's not only the most Rose Bowl wins of any team, but also the most wins by a school in a single bowl. USC has won 12 of its last 14 Rose Bowls (not including 1 appearance and 1 loss later vacated due to NCAA penalty; original record: 12 of its last 15). USC is the only team to have won 3 consecutive Rose Bowls (2007-08-09). USC twice played in 4 consecutive Rose Bowl games (1967 to 1970 and 2006 to 2009); Ohio State (1973-76) is the only other team to have done so.

USC has also appeared in 13 other bowls--the Christmas Festival, Liberty Bowl, Bluebonnet Bowl, Fiesta Bowl, Aloha Bowl, Florida Citrus Bowl, Sun (John Hancock) Bowl (3 times), Freedom Bowl (twice), Cotton Bowl, Las Vegas Bowl (twice), Orange Bowl (twice), Emerald Bowl and Holiday Bowl (twice).

USC made 5 BCS bowl appearances (2003 Orange Bowl vs. Iowa, 2004 Rose Bowl vs. Michigan, 2007 Rose Bowl vs. Michigan, 2008 Rose Bowl vs. Illinois, 2009 Rose Bowl vs. Penn State) (not including 2 appearances--2005 Orange Bowl vs. Oklahoma, 2006 Rose Bowl vs. Texas--vacated by NCAA penalty; original record: an unprecedented 7 consecutive BCS bowl appearances). USC's 5 overall BCS bowl trips tied for seventh most, behind Ohio State's 9, Oklahoma's 9, Florida State's 8, Florida's 7, Virginia Tech's 6 and Alabama's 6 (not including 2 appearances vacated by NCAA penalty; original record: 7 appearances, tied for fourth most; also, 1 Ohio State appearance vacated by NCAA penalty). USC's 5 BCS bowl wins tied with Ohio State for the most of any school (not including 1 win vacated due to NCAA penalty; original record: 6 victories, tied with Ohio State for most; also, 1 Ohio State win vacated by NCAA penalty).

#### USC's Rose Bowl Record

1923--USC 14, Penn State 3	1973--USC 42, <b>Ohio State</b> 17
1930--USC 47, Pittsburgh 14	1974-- <b>Ohio State</b> 42, USC 21
1932--USC 21, Tulane 12	1975--USC 18, <b>Ohio State</b> 17
1933--USC 35, Pittsburgh 0	1977--USC 14, Michigan 6
1939--USC 7, Duke 3	1979--USC 17, Michigan 10
1940--USC 14, Tennessee 0	1980--USC 17, <b>Ohio State</b> 16
1944--USC 29, Washington 0	1985--USC 20, <b>Ohio State</b> 17
1945--USC 25, Tennessee 0	1988--Michigan State 20, USC 17
1946--Alabama 34, USC 14	1989--Michigan 22, USC 14
1948--Michigan 49, USC 0	1990--USC 17, Michigan 10
1953--USC 7, Wisconsin 0	1996--USC 41, <b>Northwestern</b> 32
1955-- <b>Ohio State</b> 20, USC 7	*2004--USC 28, Michigan 14
1963--USC 42, Wisconsin 37	*2006--Texas 41, USC 38** [BCS Champ. Game]
1967--Purdue 14, USC 13	*2007--USC 32, Michigan 18
1968--USC 14, Indiana 3	*2008--USC 49, Illinois 17
1969-- <b>Ohio State</b> 27, USC 16	*2009--USC 38, Penn State 24
1970--USC 10, Michigan 3	2017--USC 52, Penn State 49

#### USC's Record in Other Bowls

1924--USC 20, Missouri 7 (Christmas Festival)  
 1975--USC 20, Texas A&M 0 (Liberty Bowl)  
 1977--USC 47, Texas A&M 28 (Bluebonnet Bowl)  
 1982--Penn State 26, USC 10 (Fiesta Bowl)  
 1985--Alabama 24, USC 3 (Aloha Bowl)  
 1987--Auburn 16, USC 7 (Florida Citrus Bowl)  
 1990--Michigan State 17, USC 16 (John Hancock Bowl)  
 1992--Fresno State 24, USC 7 (Freedom Bowl)  
 1993--USC 28, Utah 21 (Freedom Bowl)  
**1995--USC 55, Texas Tech 14 (Cotton Bowl)**  
 1998--TCU 28, USC 19 (Sun Bowl)  
 2001--Utah 10, USC 6 (Las Vegas Bowl)  
 \*2003--USC 38, Iowa 17 (Orange Bowl)  
 \*2005--USC 55\*\*, Oklahoma 19 (Orange Bowl, BCS Championship Game)  
 2009--USC 24, Boston College 13 (Emerald Bowl)  
 2012--Georgia Tech 21, USC 7 (Sun Bowl)  
 2013--USC 45, Fresno State 20 (Las Vegas Bowl)  
 2014--USC 45, Nebraska 42 (Holiday Bowl)  
 2015--Wisconsin 23, USC 21 (Holiday Bowl)

\*BCS Bowl game

\*\*2005 win and 2006 loss later vacated due to NCAA penalty

#### USC IN 1995 COTTON BOWL

See the lefthand column of this page (p. 5) for a recap of USC's 55-14 victory over Texas Tech in the 1995 Cotton Bowl, the Trojans' only other appearance in that game.

For **Cotton Bowl** information, contact Cotton Bowl media relations staffers Charlie Fiss (charlie@cottonbowl.com), Michael Konradi (michael@cottonbowl.com) or David Waller (david@cottonbowl.com)

For **Ohio State** information, contact Ohio State athletic communications staffers Jerry Emig (emig.2@osu.edu) or Mike Basford (basford.16@osu.edu)



## USC IN BOWL LAST YEAR

After QB **Sam Darnold** threw a Rose Bowl-record 5 touchdowns, PK **Matt Boermeester** rebounded from a pair of earlier missed field goal attempts to nail a 46-yarder at the gun to help No. 9 USC overcome a 14-point fourth quarter deficit and propel the Trojans to a wild and legend-making 52-49 victory over No. 5 Penn State in the 2017 Rose Bowl. It was the highest scoring Rose Bowl in history (by 18 points), as well as the largest fourth quarter deficit a team has overcome to win a Rose Bowl (USC also was down by 15 points in the third quarter, marking the largest victorious comeback from any point in a Rose Bowl). Darnold, the game's Offensive MVP, was 33-of-53 passing for 453 yards (all were the second most ever in a Rose Bowl) and he set a Rose Bowl total offense record of 473 yards. He was 10-of-10 for 135 yards in the fourth quarter while leading USC on 2 long scoring drives in the final 9 minutes to tie the score and set the stage for Boermeester's game winner. WR **Deontay Burnett** caught 13 passes for 164 yards, with a Rose Bowl record-tying 3 TDs (all career bests). His 13 receptions were the second most ever in a Rose Bowl. Boermeester, who hit a pair of first quarter field goals but also missed 51- and 44-yarders in the first half, tied a Rose Bowl record with his trio of 3-pointers. It was only the fourth time ever that USC won a game on a field goal at 0:00.

## OHIO STATE'S BOWL HISTORY

Ohio State has a 22-25 all-time bowl record, including 1-0 in the Cotton Bowl (28-12 over Texas A&M in the 1987 Cotton Bowl).

2016--Fiesta Bowl CFB Playoff, Clemson 31, Ohio St. 0  
2015--Fiesta Bowl, Ohio St. 44, Notre Dame 28  
2014--CFB Championship, Ohio St. 42, Oregon 20  
2014--Sugar Bowl, Ohio St. 43, Alabama 35  
2013--Orange Bowl, Clemson 40, Ohio St. 35  
2011--Gator Bowl, Florida 24, Ohio St. 17  
2010--Sugar Bowl, Ohio St. 31, Arkansas 26  
2009--Rose Bowl, Ohio St. 26, Oregon 17  
2008--Fiesta Bowl, Texas 24, Ohio St. 21  
2007--BCS Title Game, LSU 38, Ohio St. 24  
2006--BCS Title Game, Florida 41, Ohio St. 14  
2005--Fiesta, Ohio St. 34, Notre Dame 20  
2004--Alamo, Ohio St. 33, Oklahoma State 7  
2003--Fiesta, Ohio St. 35, Kansas State 28  
2002--BCS Title Game, Ohio St. 31, Miami 24 (2OT)  
2001--Outback, South Carolina 31, Ohio St. 28  
2000--Outback, South Carolina 24, Ohio St. 7  
1998--Sugar, Ohio St. 24, Texas A&M 14  
1997--Sugar, Florida St. 31, Ohio St. 14  
1996--Rose, Ohio St. 20, Arizona St. 17  
1995--Citrus, Tennessee 20, Ohio St. 14  
1994--Citrus, Alabama 24, Ohio St. 17  
1993--Holiday, Ohio St. 28, BYU 21  
1992--Citrus, Georgia 21, Ohio St. 14  
1991--Hall of Fame, Syracuse 24, Ohio St. 17  
1990--Liberty, Air Force 23, Ohio St. 11  
1989--Hall of Fame, Auburn 31, Ohio St. 14  
**1986--Cotton, Ohio St. 28, Texas A&M 12**  
1985--Citrus, Ohio St. 10, BYU 7  
1984--Rose, **USC** 20, Ohio St. 17  
1983--Fiesta, Ohio St. 28, Pittsburgh 23  
1982--Holiday, Ohio St. 47, BYU 17  
1981--Liberty, Ohio St. 31, Navy 28  
1980--Fiesta, Penn St. 31, Ohio St. 19  
1979--Rose, **USC** 17, Ohio St. 16  
1978--Gator, Clemson 17, Ohio St. 15  
1977--Sugar, Alabama 35, Ohio St. 6  
1976--Orange, Ohio St. 27, Colorado 10  
1975--Rose, UCLA 23, Ohio St. 10  
1974--Rose, **USC** 18, Ohio St. 17  
1973--Rose, Ohio St. 42, **USC** 21  
1972--Rose, **USC** 42, Ohio St. 17  
1970--Rose, Stanford 27, Ohio St. 17  
1968--Rose, Ohio St. 27, **USC** 16  
1957--Rose, Ohio St. 10, Oregon 7  
1954--Rose, Ohio St. 20, **USC** 7  
1949--Rose, Ohio St. 17, California 14  
1920--Rose, California 28, Ohio St. 0

## NATIONAL AWARD CONTENDERS

QB **Sam Darnold** is a finalist for the Manning Award and was a semifinalist for the Maxwell Award, Walter Camp Award and Davey O'Brien Award. TB **Ronald Jones II** is a semifinalist for the Earl Campbell Tyler Rose Award and was a semifinalist for the Doak Walker Award. ILB **Cameron Smith** was a semifinalist for the Butkus Award and the Lott IMPACT Trophy. WR **Deontay Burnett** was a semifinalist for the Biletnikoff Award. SNP **Jake Olson** was a semifinalist for the Jason Witten Collegiate Man of the Year Award. Head coach **Clay Helton** is a finalist for the Paul "Bear" Bryant Coach of the Year Award. Assistant coach **Tee Martin** was a semifinalist for the Broyles Award.

## ALL-AMERICANS

TB **Ronald Jones II** (Pro Football Focus) and OLB **Uchenna Nwosu** (Sports On Earth) were named to All-American first teams, becoming USC's 167th and 168th All-American first teamers. ILB **Cameron Smith** (CollegeFootballMadness.com) made All-American second team. CB **Jack Jones** (AP) was an All-American third teamer. WR **Deontay Burnett** (Phil Steele) was named All-American fourth team.

## ALL-PAC-12

Seven USC players—more than from any other school—were named to the first team of the 2017 All-Pac-12 football team. USC's first teamers are quarterback **Sam Darnold**, tailback **Ronald Jones II**, defensive lineman **Rasheem Green**, outside linebacker **Uchenna Nwosu**, inside linebacker **Cameron Smith**, safety **Marvell Tell III** and wide receiver **Michael Pittman Jr.**, who was chosen as a special teams player. This is USC's most first team honorees since 2011, when Troy also had 7. Darnold is the first Trojan quarterback on the first team since Mark Sanchez in 2008, Jones is just the second USC tailback named to the first team since 2005 (along with Javorius Allen in 2014) and Smith is Troy's first inside linebacker on the first team since Rey Mauluga in 2008. USC's All-Pac-12 second team honorees are wide receiver **Deontay Burnett**, offensive tackle **Toa Lobendahn**, defensive lineman **Christian Rector** and safety **Matt Lopes**, who made it as a special teams player. Trojan honorable mention selections are offensive guard **Chris Brown**, tailback **Stephen Carr**, defensive tackle **Josh Fatu**, safety **Chris Hawkins**, cornerback **Iman Marshall**, wide receiver **Steven Mitchell Jr.**, tight end **Tyler Petite**, defensive tackle **Brandon Pili** and wide receiver **Tyler Vaughns**.

## USC TEAM AWARDS

QB **Sam Darnold** and OLB **Uchenna Nwosu** shared USC's Most Valuable Player Award. Darnold and Nwosu also shared USC's Lifter of the Year Award with C **Nico Falah**, junior OT **Toa Lobendahn**, ILB **Cameron Smith** and S **Marvell Tell III**. SNP **Jake Olson** was the Most Inspirational Player. Smith also was the Defensive Perimeter Player of the Year, while TB **Ronald Jones II** was the Offensive Perimeter Player of the Year. OG **Chris Brown** was Offensive Lineman of the Year, while DL **Rasheem Green** was Defensive Lineman of the Year. WR **Michael Pittman Jr.** and S **Matt Lopes** shared Special Teams Player of the Year. Falah and OG **Viane Talamaivao** shared the Trojan Commitment Award. Lobendahn and WR **Steven Mitchell Jr.** shared the Chris Carlisle Courage Award. S **Chris Hawkins** won the Trojan Way Leadership Award and Player of the Game Vs. UCLA Award. C **Richie Wenzel** and DLs **Jacob Lichtenstein** and **Jay Tufe** were the Service Team Players of the Year. WR **Deontay Burnett** won the Bob Chandler Award and DT **Josh Fatu** won the John McKay Award. P **Reid Budrovich** and PK **Chase McGrath** won the Joe Collins Walk-On Award. CB **Yoofi Quansah** won the Howard Jones/Football Alumni Club Academic Award. OG **Jordan Austin** won the Community Service Award.

## LOOKING TO 2018

On USC's current 48-man 2-deep (including the punter and kicker), 41 players (20 offense, 17 defense, 4 specialists) are non-seniors, including 20 starters (10 offense, 8 defense, 2 specialists). That does not include potential non-senior 2-deepers who are injured. USC's graduating starters are OLB **Uchenna Nwosu**, S **Chris Hawkins**, C **Nico Falah** and NT **Josh Fatu**.

## 2018 SCHEDULE

The 2018 USC football schedule, announced in November by the Pac-12, features 6 home games in the Coliseum, with visits from non-conference opponents Notre Dame and UNLV and league foes Washington State (on a Friday night), Arizona State, California and Colorado. The Trojans' road games will be at Texas, UCLA, Stanford, Arizona, Utah and Oregon State. USC, which has a bye following the fifth game of the season, will play 9 league foes in the 2018 regular season (all but Oregon and Washington). Eight opponents are headed to bowl games this year and 3 have posted at least 9 wins in 2017. The Oct. 13 Colorado game is Trojan Family Weekend, while the Nov. 10 California game is Homecoming/Reunion Weekend. New season ticket deposits can be placed now and current season ticket holders may place a renewal deposit, both by calling 213-740-GOSC (4672). Season ticket renewals will officially launch in early January of 2018. Here is the 2018 schedule:

Sept. 1 - UNLV  
Sept. 8 - at Stanford  
Sept. 15 - at Texas  
Sept. 21 (Fri.) - Washington State  
Sept. 29 - at Arizona  
Oct. 13 - Colorado

Oct. 20 - at Utah  
Oct. 27 - Arizona State  
Nov. 3 - at Oregon State  
Nov. 10 - California  
Nov. 17 - at UCLA  
Nov. 24 - Notre Dame





## WATCH LISTS

**P Reid Budrovich**  
Ray Guy Award (top punter)  
Burlsworth Trophy (top one-time walk-on)

**WR Deontay Burnett**  
Biletnikoff Award (top receiver)\*\*

**QB Sam Darnold**  
Walter Camp Player of the Year (top player)\*\*  
Maxwell Award (top player)\*\*  
CFPA National Performer of the Year (top player)  
Davey O'Brien Award (top quarterback)\*\*  
Manning Award (top quarterback)\*\*\*

**C Nico Falah**  
Wuerffel Trophy (top player/community service)

**DL Rasheem Green**  
Bednarik Award (top defensive player)  
Nagurski Trophy (top defensive player)  
Outland Trophy (top interior lineman)  
Hendricks Award (top defensive end)

**DLB Porter Gustin**  
Bednarik Award (top defensive player)  
Butkus Award (top linebacker)  
Lott IMPACT Trophy (defensive impact player)

**TE Daniel Imatorbhebhe**  
Mackey Award (top tight end)

**TB Ronald Jones II**  
CFPA National Player of the Year (top player)  
Doak Walker Award (top running back)\*\*  
Earl Campbell Tyler Rose Award (top Texas off. player)\*\*\*

**C-OG Toa Lobendahn**  
Polynesian Player of the Year Award

**TB Vavae Malepeai**  
Polynesian Player of the Year Award

**CB Iman Marshall**  
Nagurski Trophy (top defensive player)  
Bednarik Award (top defensive player)  
Thorpe Award (top defensive back)

**DLB Uchenna Nwosu**  
Bednarik Award (top defensive player)  
Butkus Award (top linebacker)

**SNP Jake Olson**  
Witten Collegiate Man of Year Award (top leader)\*\*

**ILB Cameron Smith**  
Nagurski Trophy (top defensive player)  
Bednarik Award (top defensive player)  
Butkus Award (top linebacker)\*\*  
Lott IMPACT Trophy (defensive impact player)\*\*

**OG Viane Talamaivao**  
Polynesian Player of the Year Award

**TB Aca'Cedric Ware**  
Earl Campbell Tyler Rose Award (top Texas off. player)

**Head Coach Clay Helton**  
Dodd Trophy (top head coach)  
Bryant Award (top head coach)\*\*\*

**Assistant Coach Tee Martin**  
Broyles Award (top assistant coach)\*\*

\*Quarterfinalist \*\*Semifinalist \*\*\*Finalist

## PRE-SEASON HONORS

**QB Sam Darnold** (AP, ESPN, Lindy's, Sporting News, Phil Steele, CollegeFootballNews.com, CollegeSportsMadness.com) and **ILB Cameron Smith** (Sports Illustrated, Sporting News) were named 2017 pre-season All-American first teamers. **TB Ronald Jones II** (Lindy's) and **CB Iman Marshall** (AP, Phil Steele) were pre-season All-American second team picks. Head coach **Clay Helton** was named pre-season National Coach of the Year by CollegeSportsMadness.com [Darnold was National Offensive Player of the Year]. Darnold, Smith, Jones, Marshall, WR **Deontay Burnett**, TE **Daniel Imatorbhebhe**, DL **Rasheem Green** and DLB **Porter Gustin** were selected to various pre-season All-Pac-12 first teams.

## IN-SEASON HONORS

**WR Deontay Burnett**  
Rose Bowl Game Pac-12 Player of the Week (9/18)

**QB Sam Darnold**  
CollegeSportsMadness.com Pac-12 Off. Player of Week (9/10)  
Pac-12 Offensive Player of the Week (9/11)  
O'Brien Award Great 8 (9/11)  
Pac-12 Championship Game MVP (12/1)  
CFPA National Player of Week hon. men. (12/4)

**ILB John Houston Jr.**  
CollegeSportsMadness.com Pac-12 Def. Player of Week (11/5)

**CB Jack Jones**  
Pac-12 Defensive Player of the Week (9/25)  
Thorpe Award Player of the Week hon. men. (9/26)

**TB Ronald Jones II**  
E. Campbell T. Rose Award Player of Week hon. men. (9/5)  
E. Campbell T. Rose Award Player of Week hon. men. (10/31)  
CollegeSportsMadness.com Pac-12 Off. Player of Week (11/5)  
E. Campbell T. Rose Award Player of Week hon. men. (11/7)  
Rose Bowl Game Pac-12 Player of the Week (11/20)  
E. Campbell T. Rose Award Player of Week hon. men. (11/21)

**DLB Uchenna Nwosu**  
CollegeSportsMadness.com Pac-12 Def. Player of Week (10/29)

**SNP Jake Olson**  
Pac-12 Special Teams Player of the Week (9/5)

**WR Michael Pittman Jr.**  
Pac-12 Special Teams Player of the Week (11/20)

**DL Christian Rector**  
AP Midseason All-American second team

**HLD Wyatt Schmidt**  
Mortell Award Holder of the Week (9/18)

**ILB Cameron Smith**  
CBS Sports.com Midseason All-American first team  
Lott IMPACT Trophy Player of the Week (9/25)  
Lott IMPACT Trophy Player of the Week (10/16)

**S Marvell Tell**  
CollegeSportsMadness.com Pac-12 Def. Player of Week (11/19)

## TYSON HELTON TO TENNESSEE; BRYAN ELLIS TO COACH QBS

USC quarterbacks coach/pass game coordinator **Tyson Helton**, the brother of USC head coach **Clay Helton**, left USC in early December to become Tennessee's offensive coordinator. **Bryan Ellis**, who has served as USC's offensive quality control assistant in 2017, will handle the quarterbacks coach duties for the Cotton Bowl. The 29-year-old Ellis was an offensive quality control coach in his first year at Western Kentucky in 2014, assisting quarterbacks coach Tyson Helton. WKU's Brandon Doughty led the nation in passing yards (4,380) and TDs (49) in 2014 while winning the Sammy Baugh Award as the nation's top quarterback. Ellis then was WKU's running backs coach in 2015, as Anthony Wales ran for 1,086 yards and D'Andre Ferby made the Conference USA All-Freshman team. In 2016, Ellis was the Hilltoppers' wide receivers coach and passing game coordinator, as Taywan Taylor had 98 catches for 1,730 yards with 17 TDs and Nicholas Norris added 76 receptions for 1,318 yards with 14 TDs (the Hilltoppers threw for 4,715 yards and 42 scores). Due to a coaching change, Ellis served as WKU's offensive coordinator in the 2016 Boca Raton Bowl and helped the Hilltoppers roll up 51 points and 598 total yards in a victory over Memphis. Before WKU, he was an offensive graduate assistant at Alabama-Birmingham, his alma mater, for 2 seasons (2012-13). He played quarterback at UAB (2007-11) for head coach **Neil Callaway** (currently USC's offensive line coach). He started the final 9 games of his 2010 junior season, completing 231-of-411 passes (56.2%) for 2,940 yards and 25 TDs to rank 18th nationally in passing yards (267.3). His 2011 senior year was cut short by a concussion and season-ending wrist injury. He finished his UAB career in the school's all-time Top 5 in passing yards (3,697) and TD passes (27). He spent his 2006 senior year of high school at Peach County High in Fort Valley [Ga.], where he was the Atlanta Journal Constitution's AAA State Offensive Player of the Year while leading his team to the Class AAA state championship.

## OFFENSIVE OVERVIEW

\*Six starters returned on offense from 2016: quarterback **Sam Darnold**, tailback **Ronald Jones II**, wide receiver **Deontay Burnett**, guard **Viane Talamaivao**, center **Nico Falah** and tight end **Daniel Imatorbhebhe**. Other offensive players back with starting experience are wide receivers **Steven Mitchell Jr.** and **Jalen Greene**, center-guard **Toa Lobendahn**, tackle **Chuma Edoga**, guard-tackle **Chris Brown** and tight end **Tyler Petite**.

\*USC returned its top rusher (in fact, 5 of its top 6 runners) and its top passer from 2016, and 9 of the 17 players who caught passes last fall are back. In 2016, Troy improved upon its offensive numbers from the previous season, averaging 200.7 yards on the ground (+32.5) and 276.4 yards through the air (+6.7) for 477.1 yards of total offense (+39.2) and 34.4 points (+0.5). The rushing and total offense figures were USC's best since 2005. The Trojans had at least 400 total yards in each of their final 10 games of 2016 and tallied 40-plus points 7 times. In its 10 victories last year (when it scored at least 35 points 8 times), USC's average victory margin was 19.8 points and the Trojans held the halftime lead in each contest. Last year, USC ranked sixth nationally in sacks allowed (0.9), seventh in tackles for loss allowed (4.4), ninth in completion percentage (.657), 11<sup>th</sup> in third down conversions (.478), 15<sup>th</sup> in first downs (322), 20<sup>th</sup> in total offense and 25<sup>th</sup> in both passing efficiency (149.6) and pass offense.

\*USC's offense, coordinated by wide receivers coach **Tee Martin** with new running backs coach **Deland McCullough** as the run game coordinator, features multiple formations, often with extra wideouts and no fullback.

## DARNOLD

\*In sophomore **Sam Darnold** (277-of-435, 63.7%, 3,787 yds, 26 TD, 12 int in 2017, plus 64 tcb, 100 yds, 1.6 avg, 5 TD and 2 tac), USC has one of the nation's elite quarterbacks.

\*He already is seventh on USC's career passing list (523 completions) and seventh on its all-time total offense chart (7,223 yards).

\*He has won 20 of his 23 career starts and is 12-0 at home.

\*He has thrown for at least 200 yards in 22 games (and 11 times in his career over 300 yards).

\*He has thrown at least 3 TD passes in a game 10 times in his career (and 4 times with at least 4 TDs).

\*In his past 8 games, he has thrown 17 TDs and just 4 interceptions.

\*He is USC's season recordholder in total offense (3,887 yards in 2017).

\*His 277 completions in 2017 puts him seventh on the USC season list (28 shy of Cody Kessler's record of 315 in 2014) and he is on the verge of becoming the first Trojan to throw for 4,000 yards in a season (he has 3,787, just 155 yards shy of Carson Palmer's 3,942 in 2002).

\*He currently is 13th nationally in passing yards (291.3, third in Pac-12), 16th in passing TDs (26, second in Pac-12), 18th in total offense (299.0, third in Pac-12), 21st in completions (21.3, fourth in Pac-12) and 23rd in passing efficiency (151.0, second in Pac-12).

\*He made 2017 CollegeFootballNews.com All-American honorable mention, All-Pac-12 first team, AP All-Pac-12 first team, Athlon All-Pac-12 first team, Phil Steele All-Pac-12 first team, CollegeFootballNews.com All-Pac-12 first team, won USC's Co-MVP and Co-Lifter of the Year Award, is a semifinalist for the Manning Award and was a semifinalist for the 2017 Maxwell Award, Walter Camp Award and Davey O'Brien Award.

\*Known for his poise and mobility, Darnold sparked the Trojans last year as just a redshirt freshman when he became the starter in the fourth game and led Troy to a 9-1 record. He won the 2016 Archie Griffin Award, was a finalist for the Manning Award, made Freshman All-American first team and was the Pac-12 Offensive Freshman of the Year.

\*He was second nationally in 2016 in ESPN's Total Quarterback Rating (behind Oklahoma's Baker Mayfield) and led all freshman signalcallers in passing efficiency (161.1), completion percentage and TD passes.

\*His 31 TD aeriels in 2016 was a USC freshman season record. He threw multiple scoring passes in 9 consecutive games, the most by a Trojan since Matt Leinart's 15 in 2003-04. Darnold threw 5 TDs in a game 3 times, including in his 453-yard passing performance in the Rose Bowl, when he set game records for TDs and total offense (473 yards) to earn Rose Bowl Offensive MVP honors, and back-to-back against Arizona and California (a USC first).

\*He was the first USC freshman to throw for 300 yards in consecutive games (Arizona State and Colorado) since Todd Marinovich in 1989.

\*Darnold's 250 rushing yards in 2016 were the most in a season by a USC quarterback since 1991.



## USC SID FOOTBALL CONTACTS



**Tim Tesselone**  
Sports Information Director  
Office: (213) 740-8480  
Cell: (213) 725-3572  
Email: tessalone@usc.edu  
Address: Heritage Hall 103,  
Los Angeles, CA 90089-0601



**Paul Goldberg**  
Senior Associate Director  
Office: (213) 740-3805  
Cell: (213) 725-3567  
Email: pgoldber@usc.edu



**Katie Ryan**  
Assistant Director  
Office: (213) 821-4528  
Cell: (213) 610-6295  
Email: katierya@usc.edu

## WEEKLY MEDIA SCHEDULE

### SATURDAY [Dec. 23]

\*\*Travel to Dallas.

\*\*3 p.m. CT--USC Welcome Press Conference, Gaylord Texan, coach Helton and players [Darnold, Ca. Smith].

### SUNDAY [Dec. 24]

\*\*12:30 p.m. CT--USC Practice, Coppell HS, closed to media, no interviews.

### MONDAY [Dec. 25]

\*\*2 p.m. CT--USC Practice, AT&T Stadium, 15 minutes open to media after pre-practice stretch, no interviews.

### TUESDAY [Dec. 26]

\*\*10 a.m. CT--USC Defensive Press Conference, Omni Dallas, DC Clancy Pendergast and players [Ca. Smith, Nwosu, Hawkins, Rector, Houston].

\*\*2 p.m. CT--USC Practice, AT&T Stadium, 15 minutes open to media after pre-practice stretch, no interviews.

### WEDNESDAY [Dec. 27]

\*\*10 a.m. CT--USC Offensive Press Conference, Omni Dallas, DC Tee Martin and players [Darnold, R. Jones, Burnett, Lobendahn, Petite].

\*\*12:30 p.m. CT--USC Hospital Visit, Texas Scottish Rite Hospital.

\*\*2 p.m. CT--USC Practice, AT&T Stadium, closed to media, no interviews.

### THURSDAY [Dec. 28]

\*\*8:30 a.m. CT--Head Coaches Press Conference, Omni Dallas.

\*\*11:30 a.m. CT--Goodyear Big Play Luncheon, Hilton Anatole.

\*\*4 p.m. CT--USC Practice, Coppell HS, closed to media, no interviews.

### FRIDAY [Dec. 29]

\*\*7:30 p.m. CT--USC vs. Ohio State, AT&T Stadium, Dallas, Tex.

*All times subject to change*

**USC ONLINE**--USC's official athletic website is [USCTrojans.com](http://USCTrojans.com) (for football specific news, go to [USCTrojans.com/football](http://USCTrojans.com/football)). Live GameTracker stats are available on the website. USC Athletics also can be followed on Twitter [Twitter.com/USC\_Athletics], Facebook [Facebook.com/USCTrojans], Instagram [Instagram.com/USC\_Athletics] and YouTube [YouTube.com/USCAthletics]. The USC Trojan Text Alert program allows fans to get real-time news about the Trojans (text "Trojans" to 51234). There also are free apps for [USCTrojans.com](http://USCTrojans.com) and USC Game Day.

**PAC-12 ONLINE**--The Pac-12's official website is [Pac-12.com](http://Pac-12.com).

--He completed 69.7% of his passes (23-of-33) for 289 yards against Western Michigan, but had 2 picked off, and he also ran for an 11-yard TD.

--He completed a career-best 80.8% of his passes (21-of-26), including the first 11 throws in the game, for 316 yards with 4 TDs (4, 11, 22 and 25 yards) and 2 picks against Stanford to earn Pac-12 Offensive Player of the Week, CollegeSportsMadness.com Pac-12 Offensive Player of the Week and O'Brien Award Great 8 honors.

--He hit 28-of-49 passes for 397 yards with 3 TDs (15, 56, 25 yards) and 2 picks against Texas, completing 3 straight passes under duress to lead USC 52 yards in the final 39 seconds of regulation to set up the game-tying field goal.

--He was 26-of-32 for 223 yards with 2 TDs (16 and 4 yards) and 1 interception and he also ran for 14 yards on 2 tries at California.

--At Washington State, he was 15-of-29 for 164 yards with a pick and also ran for 25 yards on 9 carries with 2 short TDs.

--He was 23-of-35 for 316 yards with 3 TDs (37, 16 and 30 yards) and an interception against Oregon State.

--He was 27-of-50 for 358 yards and 3 TDs (52, 17 and 1 yards) and also ran for 15 yards on 6 carries against Utah, but lost 3 fumbles.

--He completed 20-of-28 passes for 229 yards with 2 TDs (5 and 16 yards) at Notre Dame, but threw an interception and lost a fumble.

--He hit 19-of-35 passes for 266 yards with 3 TDs (32, 42 and 19 yards) at Arizona State and also ran for 19 yards on 4 tries (with a career-long 39-yard scramble), plus he had a tackle.

--He hit 76.9% of his passes (20-of-26) for 311 yards and 2 TDs (27 and 22 yards) with an interception against Arizona.

--He completed 21-of-34 passes for 329 yards with 2 TDs (10 and 18 yards) and also scrambled for a 24-yard touchdown at Colorado.

--He was 17-of-28 for 264 yards with an interception against UCLA and ran for 10 yards on 5 carries (with a 1-yard TD).

--He hit 70.8% of his passes (17-of-24) for 325 yards with 2 TDs (7 and 19 yards) against Stanford in the Pac-12 Championship Game to earn the game's MVP.

## WHAT THEY ARE SAYING ABOUT SAM DARNOLD

Kirk Herbstreit, ESPN: "On the football field, he is in a different galaxy."

Chris Fowler, ESPN: "Some people are born to do things, right? Some people are put on this earth to do one thing. Sam Darnold is a born quarterback."

Colin Cowherd, FOX: "I think he is the best quarterback I've ever seen at USC."

Kyle Bonagura, ESPN.com: "Darnold is a star, plain and simple...Darnold's poise and ability to create plays when they break down are incredible for any player, but even more so (when he did so as) a freshman...He has the ability to extend plays with his feet, both to buy time to pick out a receiver and to take off and run. He plays more on instinct because he's had less time in the program and because he's simply wired that way."

Daniel Jeremiah, NFL.com: "I thought Darnold was the best QB in the country entering the Texas game, and with the way he finished it, I feel emboldened in that opinion...In the most important moments of the game, he's unfazed by it all. He has a calm about him that is rare."

Legendary ABC announcer Keith Jackson: "He has some good in his gizzard. He's got some athletic ability, and those are the kind of guys who can beat you."

Former USC and NFL quarterback Sean Salisbury, now a sports broadcaster: "He has a chance to be the best USC has ever seen. He's that good."

David Lombardi, ESPN.com: "Darnold may well be the best quarterback in the Pac-12...He has a big arm, he's elusive and he hasn't made many mistakes so far."

Joel Klatt, FOX Sports: "Sam Darnold changed the face of a program in the middle of a season...There is something about Sam. It's the ruggedness with which he plays the game. It's the calmness with which he operates in the pocket. It's his accuracy down the field. But more importantly, it's his leadership in winning that sets him apart. This guy is a winner."

William Quimby, FanSided: "Darnold is a cool customer, who was 10-for-10 in the fourth quarter alone (in the Rose Bowl). Let the hype begin because he is a skilled, poised, tenacious competitor who will not disappoint as his reputation grows."

Rich Hammond, Orange County Register: "Darnold's on-field decisions suggest intelligence but also a level of instinct that can't be taught."

Stanford head coach David Shaw: "I think USC has the best quarterback in the nation....He's the best college quarterback I've seen at anticipating since Andrew Luck."

Penn State head coach James Franklin: "In Sam Darnold, you look at the Aaron Rodgers of the world."

Penn State defensive coordinator Brent Pry: "We knew he was athletic, but it wasn't the same as being out there on the field with him. Rushing four is not enough for a guy like that. He just kind of jimmy-jammed through and kept the play alive and found a seam."

Washington co-offensive coordinator Jimmy Lake: "I really believe this young quarterback is going to be a star in this conference."

Former UCLA head coach Jim Mora: "I watched him on film obviously, I've seen him on TV, had a lot of respect for him coming into the (UCLA) game, but when you see him in person he's a truly special one. I'll tell you, he reminds me of a younger Tony Romo. He's bigger, but that type of ability and he's smart and he's poised and confident...He's fun to watch. He's not fun to compete against."

Utah head coach Kyle Whittingham: "The guy is incredible, as far as his skill set to play the position. He's got everything, the size, the arm strength, the mobility, the pocket presence. He seems to be a great decision-maker."

USC head coach Clay Helton: "Part of his greatness is his creativity. His ability to extend plays is part of his game."

USC offensive coordinator Tee Martin: "Sam, he has that quiet confidence and very stern, direct leadership quality that a lot of guys have who win a lot of games."

Former USC wide receiver JuJu Smith-Schuster: "If you've ever seen Aaron Rodgers throw the ball, it's a fastball. It just goes there. That's what it (Darnold's throw) is."

Stanford defensive tackle Harrison Phillips: "I was asked for a word to describe him and I said, 'Incredible.' His arm strength, what he can do with the ball. He's the type of guy where getting close to a sack or getting him off his line isn't going to be good enough."

Colorado linebacker Derek McCartney: "The thing that was interesting to me was how hard it was to get him down when you got there. Guys would get to the quarterback, and he would make them miss and extend the play. He's got great playmaking ability."

Oregon linebacker Tony Dye: "He's a great athlete. He's a great ballplayer. He makes things happen."

Utah defensive tackle Filipo Mokofisi: "He's deceptively fast and deceptively strong."

USC safety Chris Hawkins: "When he's playing like this, I don't think there are too many teams in the country that really want to see us."

Former USC wide receiver Darreus Rogers: "The kid has grown up fast, on and off the field. He has become a natural leader and his instincts on the field are amazing. What more can you ask for?"

Former USC Heisman Trophy-winning quarterback and current NFLer Carson Palmer: "He's a great young quarterback...He's a gamer. When you watch him play, there are so many plays that break down, and all of a sudden he fires a ball to a crossing route or finds a way to get out of a sack and keeps his eyes downfield to throw the touchdown pass. He's just a natural gamer, and guys like that only get better with repetition. Obviously, he's new on the scene and doesn't have a ton of experience, but for him to come on the scene that quickly and have the success he's had, I'm really excited to see the future he is going to have."





# **USC CAREER PASSING LEADERS** (Based on Number of Completions — Includes bowl games)

	PA	PC	INT	NYG	Pct.	TD
1. Matt Barkley	1562	1001	48	12327	.641	116
2. Carson Palmer	1569	927	49	11818	.591	72
3. Cody Kessler	1261	851	19	10339	.675	88
4. Matt Leinart	1245	807	23	10693	.648	99
5. Rob Johnson	1046	676	28	8472	.646	58
6. Rodney Peete	1081	630	42	8225	.583	54
7. <b>Sam Darnold</b>	<b>801</b>	<b>523</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>6873</b>	<b>.653</b>	<b>57</b>

# **USC CAREER TOTAL OFFENSE LEADERS** (Includes bowl games)

	PLAYS	RUSH	PASS	TOTAL
1. Matt Barkley	1694	-113	12327	12214
2. Carson Palmer	1824	-197	11818	11621
3. Matt Leinart	1477	-70	10693	10623
4. Cody Kessler	1419	-425	10339	9914
5. Rodney Peete	1371	415	8225	8640
6. Rob Johnson	1305	-576	8472	7896
7. <b>Sam Darnold</b>	<b>921</b>	<b>350</b>	<b>6873</b>	<b>7223</b>

# **"SEASON OF SAM" PODCAST**

"Season of Sam," hosted by USC QB **Sam Darnold** and Pac-12 Network analyst **Yogi Roth**, is a first-of-its-kind podcast, where listeners are taken inside the mind of college football's most elite position, quarterback. Each week during the 2017 college football season, Darnold and Roth shared a conversation that detailed much more than just USC's most recent game; they unveiled untold stories of Darnold's life, discovered what makes a quarterback click and heard from special guests and Trojan teammates offering unique insights regarding leadership, team building and more. Guests included Will Ferrell, Pete Carroll, Luc Robitaille, Sam Hunt, Matt Leinart, Dr. Michael Gervais, Colin Cowherd, Justin Turner, Trent Dilfer, Jordan Palmer and Clay Helton. The podcast can be downloaded from the iTunes Store.

# **OTHER QUARTERBACKS**

\*Backing Sam Darnold are 4 underclassmen: redshirt freshman **Matt Fink** (6-of-9, 66.7%, 43 yds in 2017, plus 7 tcb, 82 yds, 11.7 avg, 1 TD), first-year freshman **Jack Sears**, a 2016 prep All-American who graduated a semester early from Darnold's alma mater (he threw for 2,602 yards and 37 TDs last fall on the state champs) and participated in 2017 spring practice, and walk-ons **Thomas Fitts**, a sophomore, and redshirt freshman **Holden Thomas**.

--Against Oregon State in his first collegiate action while playing the game's final 2 series, Fink ran for a 51-yard TD on his first career rush (the longest run by a USC quarterback since Carson Palmer's 54-yarder against California in 2001) and completed a 12-yard pass on his first career aerial (he also added a 1-yard run).

--Fink completed 5-of-8 passes for 31 yards and ran for 17 yards on 3 tries while playing most of the fourth quarter at Notre Dame.

--Fink played the final series at Arizona State and ran for 13 yards on 2 carries.

# **RUNNING BACKS**

\*Despite losing tailback Justin Davis, who ran for 2,465 yards and 19 touchdowns in his career along with catching 46 passes (he had 607 rushing yards in 2016), the 2017 Trojan backfield is deep.

\*It features one of the game's most exciting and productive runners in junior **Ronald Jones II** (242 tcb, 1,486 yds, 6.1 avg, 18 TD in 2017, plus 14 rec, 187 yds, 13.4 avg, 1 TD and 2 tac).

\*Jones has run for 3,555 yards (fifth on USC's career rushing list, with 2 Heisman Trophy winners and 2 Heisman runnersup ahead of him) with 38 TDs in his USC career (an impressive 6.2 yards per carry average), including eclipsing the 1,000-yard barrier last fall when he gained a team-leading 1,082 yards with 12 scores.

\*He has 14 career 100-yard rushing games (9 in 2017).

\*He has had at least 1 TD in 18 of the last 19 games he has played (including 13 consecutive games from 2016 to 2017 until he was shut out at Notre Dame in 2017, the most in a row since Anthony Davis' 17 in 1973-74).

\*His 1,486 rushing yards in 2017 puts him 10th on USC's season rushing list (and is the 30th time a Trojan has eclipsed 1,000 rushing yards in a season).

\*He is the seventh Trojan to have at least a pair of 1,000-yard rushing seasons (along with O.J. Simpson in 1967-68, Anthony Davis in 1972-73-74, Ricky Bell in 1975-76, Charles White in 1977-78-79, Marcus Allen in 1980-81 and LenDale White in 2004-05).

\*He currently is fifth nationally in rushing touchdowns (18, second in Pac-12), sixth in total touchdowns (19, second in Pac-12), ninth in rushing (123.8, third in Pac-12), 11th in scoring (9.5, third in Pac-12), 15th in all-purpose running (139.4, third in Pac-12) and 22nd in rushing yards per carry (6.1, fourth in Pac-12).

\*He made 2017 Pro Football Focus All-American first team, Sports On Earth All-American second team, AP All-American third team, CollegeSportMadness.com All-American third team, Phil Steele All-American fourth team, CollegeFootballNews.com All-American honorable mention, All-Pac-12 first team, AP All-Pac-12 first team, Athlon All-Pac-12 first team, Phil Steele All-Pac-12 first team, CollegeFootballNews.com All-Pac-12 first team and Pro Football Focus All-Pac-12 first team. He won USC's Offensive Perimeter Player of the Year Award.

\*He is a finalist for the Earl Campbell Tyler Rose Award and was a semifinalist for the Doak Walker Award.

\*His 223-yard rushing output versus California last year (averaging 12.4 yards per attempt) was the most by a Trojan since 2010 and the second most ever by a USC sophomore. Jones has sprinted for the USC track team.

\*Another returning experienced junior tailback is **Aca'Cedric Ware** (46 tcb, 238 yds, 5.2 avg, 1 TD in 2017, plus 6 rec, 62 yds, 10.3 avg), who rushed for 397 yards last season (he had back-to-back 100-yard games versus Arizona and California).

\*Also in the tailback mix are senior **James Toland IV** (4 tcb, 13 yds, 3.2 avg in 2017, plus 3 tac) and promising redshirt freshman **Vavae Malepeai** (48 tcb, 259 yds, 5.4 avg in 2017, plus 2 rec, 2 yds, 1.0 avg and 4 tac), who was sidelined most of last year with a broken shoulder blade, along with 3 walk-ons in senior **Corbin Jountti** (2 tcb, 5 yds, 2.5 avg in 2017), who transferred to USC this fall after graduating from Northern Arizona, where he ran for 1,041 yards and 13 TDs, and is eligible this fall, redshirt freshman **Chris Edmondson** and first-year freshman **Ben Easington**.

\*Joining the tailback corps in the fall as a freshman was prep All-American **Stephen Carr** (63 tcb, 363 yds, 5.8 avg, 3 TD in 2017, plus 16 rec, 189 yds, 11.8 avg and 3 KOR, 64 yds, 21.3 avg and 1 tac), a 210-pounder who had 2,123 rushing yards and another 466 receiving yards as a senior in high school in 2016. He made 2017 All-Pac-12 honorable mention.

\*USC rarely employed a traditional fullback last year. The only one on the 2017 roster is junior **Reuben Peters** (1 tcb, 0 yds, 0.0 avg in 2017, plus 1 tac), who like Toland came to USC as a walk-on but earned a scholarship last fall (he plays often on special teams).

--Jones ran for a game-high 159 yards with 3 TDs (16, 1, 37 yards) on 18 carries for an 8.8 average and added a 19-yard reception against Western Michigan to earn Earl Campbell Tyler Rose Award Player of the Week honorable mention, while Carr debuted with 69 yards and 2 scores (1 and 52 yards) on 7 carries for a 9.9 average (it was the most rushing TDs by a Trojan true freshman in an opener since Charles White had 93 in 1976 against Missouri) and he also caught 3 passes for 23 yards, Malepeai had 14 yards on 2 carries and a tackle and Ware had a 3-yard run and 4-yard catch.

--Carr had 119 yards on 11 carries (a 10.8 average), caught an 18-yard pass and had a tackle against Stanford, while Jones added 116 yards on 23 rushes with 2 TDs (1 and 23 yards) and also had a 10-yard reception, Malepeai had 49 yards on 6 carries, Ware had 18 yards on 3 tries and Toland had a tackle.

--Jones had a game-best 47 yards on 18 carries and scored a TD on a zig-zagging 56-yard TD pass at the first half gun against Texas (he also had a tackle), while Carr added 28 yards on 9 carries and had 3 catches for 42 yards and Malepeai had 8 yards on 4 rushes and caught a pass for minus 4 yards.

--At California, Carr had a game-high 82 yards on 29 carries, with a 2-yard TD, and also caught 6 passes for 47 yards as he became the first USC first-year freshman to start at tailback since Dillon Baxter did so against Arizona State in 2010, while Ware added 20 yards on 8 carries and had a 3-yard reception and Malepeai ran for 17 yards on 4 carries.

--At Washington State, Jones ran for a game-best 128 yards on 14 carries (a 9.1 average), including an 86-yard TD burst that was USC's longest rush since LaVale Woods' school record 96-yarder in 1996 versus Oregon State, while Carr had 11 yards on 5 carries and returned 2 kicks for 52 yards and Toland had a tackle.

--Jones had a game-high 79 yards on 12 carries with a 4-yard TD along with 2 catches for 17 yards and a tackle against Oregon State, while Malepeai added 32 yards on 8 carries and had a tackle, Ware had 28 yards on 6 carries plus a 37-yard reception and Toland had 9 yards on 3 carries.

--Against Utah, Jones had 111 yards on 17 carries, with an 11-yard somersaulting TD run late in the game for the decisive points, and he also caught a 10-yard pass, while Malepeai added 42 yards on 4 carries and Ware had 4 yards on 2 tries.

--At Notre Dame, Jones had 32 yards on 12 carries and a 1-yard catch, Malepeai had 12 yards on 4 attempts and also had a tackle, Ware had 8 yards on 3 tries and also had a catch for minus 3 yards and Toland and Malepeai each made a tackle.

--Jones ran for 216 yards on 18 carries (a 12.0 average) with 2 long touchdowns (67 and 64 yards) and he had a 1-yard catch at Arizona State to earn Earl Campbell Tyler Rose Award Player of the Week honorable mention, while Malepeai added 68 yards on 11 rushes, a 6-yard reception and a tackle, Ware had 22 yards on 6 attempts and also caught an 8-yard pass, Jountti had 5 yards on 2 tries, Toland had a 4-yard run and Peters had a rush for 0 yards.

--Jones ran for 194 yards on 27 tries (7.2 average) with 3 short TDs (5, 1, 1 yards, with the last 2 coming to seal the victory) and he caught 3 passes for 39 yards against Arizona to earn CollegeSportsMadness.com Pac-12 Offensive Player of the Week and Earl Campbell Tyler Rose Award Player of the Week honorable mention honors, while Ware added 122 yards on 14 carries (8.7 average) with a career-long 42-yard TD, Carr gained 10 yards on 3 rushes and also caught a 10-yard pass and Peters had a tackle.

--Jones rushed for 142 yards on 25 tries with a TD (a 22-yard cutback run) and added a 6-yard catch at Colorado, while Malepeai added 10 yards on 3 carries and Ware had 7 yards on 2 tries.



--Jones ran for a game-best 122 yards on a then-career-high 28 carries, with 2 short TDs, and also caught a 22-yard pass against UCLA to earn Rose Bowl Game Pac-12 Player of the Week and Earl Campbell Tyler Rose Award Player of the Week honorable mention, while Malepeai gained 7 yards on 2 attempts, Ware had a 6-yard run and Carr had a 2-yard run, caught 2 passes for 49 yards and returned a kickoff 12 yards.

--Jones had a game-best 140 yards on a career-high 30 carries with 2 TDs (1 and 8 yards) and he added a 6-yard reception against Stanford in the Pac-12 Championship Game, while Carr added 42 yards on 7 carries.

#### USC CAREER RUSHING LEADERS (Includes bowl games)

	TCB	YG	NYG	AVG.
1. Charles White	1147	6517	6245	5.44
2. Marcus Allen	932	5047	4810	5.16
3. Anthony Davis	784	3928	3724	4.75
4. Ricky Bell	710	3857	3689	5.20
5. <b>Ronald Jones II</b>	<b>572</b>	<b>3648</b>	<b>3555</b>	<b>6.22</b>

#### WIDE RECEIVERS

\*USC lost a lot of wideout firepower from 2016, including its top 2 receivers: JuJu Smith-Schuster declared for the NFL after his junior campaign (he was a second round pick) and Darreus Rogers' eligibility expired. Smith-Schuster ended as Troy's No. 4 career pass catcher with 213 receptions for 3,092 yards and 25 TDs, including a team-best 70 grabs with 10 scores last season. He caught a pass in all 40 games in which he played as a Trojan and he had 12 100-yard performances. Rogers added 127 career catches with 11 TDs, including 56 catches for 696 yards in 2016.

\*Junior **Deontay Burnett** (74 rec, 975 yds, 13.2 avg, 9 TD in 2017, plus 2 tcb, -2 yds, -1.0 avg) had an eye-opening sophomore campaign last fall when he tied Rogers for USC's second-most receptions (56). Burnett's showing in the Rose Bowl was magical (he caught 13 passes for 164 yards and 3 scores, including the game-tying TD in the final minutes). He has 140 career catches, 14th on the USC all-time list. He currently is 20th nationally in receiving TDs (9, second in Pac-12). His 74 catches in 2017 puts him 11th on USC's season receiving list. He is 25 yards shy of becoming the 18th time a Trojan has had 1,000-plus receiving yards in a season. He made 2017 Phil Steele All-American fourth team, All-Pac-12 second team, AP All-Pac-12 first team, Athlon All-Pac-12 first team, Phil Steele All-Pac-12 first team and Pro Football Focus All-Pac-12 first team. He was a semifinalist for the 2017 Biletnikoff Award. He won USC's Bob Chandler Award.

\*Three other experienced wide receivers return in 2017: senior **Steven Mitchell Jr.** (41 rec, 644 yds, 15.7 avg, 4 TD in 2017, plus 1 tcb, 10 yds, 10.0 avg), junior **Jalen Greene** (8 rec, 98 yds, 12.2 avg in 2017, plus 1 tcb, 4 yds, 4.0 avg and 0 PR, 11 yds, 1 TD) and sophomore **Michael Pittman Jr.** (20 rec, 335 yds, 16.8 avg, 2 TD in 2017, plus 2 PR, 89 yds, 44.5 avg, 1 TD and 5 tac, 1 BLK P). Mitchell made 2017 All-Pac-12 honorable mention and Phil Steele All-Pac-12 third team. He won USC's Chris Carlisle Courage Award. Mitchell, who has 109 career grabs (25th on USC's career list) and 11 TDs with 19 starts, caught 24 passes last year before a mid-season knee injury sidelined him. Greene, a one-time quarterback, has developed into an effective and often-employed wideout (with 26 career catches and 8 starts). Greene is 10th nationally in punt return TDs (1, third in Pac-12). Pittman made 2017 All-Pac-12 first team as a special teams player and was USC's Co-Special Teams Player of the Year. Pittman is 10th nationally in punt return TDs (1, third in Pac-12). Pittman had 6 catches as a rookie last fall and also made his mark on special teams with 7 tackles and a blocked punt.

\*Sophomore **Keyshawn "Pie" Young**, who converted this past spring from cornerback (he also might see some time there in 2017), will battle to get into the wide receiver playing rotation, as will 4 redshirt freshmen: **Tyler Vaughns** (51 rec, 690 yds, 13.5 avg, 5 TD in 2017, plus 1 PR, 9 yds, 9.0 avg and 1 tac), **Josh Imatorbhebhe** (2 rec, 11 yds, 5.5 avg in 2017), **Velus Jones Jr.** (6 rec, 46 yds, 7.7 avg in 2016, plus 26 KOR, 682 yds, 26.2 avg and 5 tcb, 15 yds, 3.0 avg) and **Trevon Sidney** (3 rec, 35 yds, 11.7 avg in 2017), who had 2016 post-season surgery on his hips. Vaughns made 2017 All-Pac-12 honorable mention. Jones ranks 15th on USC's career kickoff return list (682 yards). Jones is 15th nationally in kickoff returns (26.2, first in Pac-12). Jones made 2017 CollegeFootballNews.com All-Pac-12 first team, Athlon All-Pac-12 second team and Phil Steele All-Pac-12 second team (all as a kick returner).

\*There also is a quintet of walk-ons in seniors **Jackson Boyer** and **Milo Stewart**, sophomore **Jake Russell** (1 tac in 2017) and first-year freshmen **Matt Nyman** and **Jack Webster**, but none have caught a pass.

\*Bolstering the wide receiver group as freshmen this fall is prep All-American **Joseph Lewis IV** (4 rec, 39 yds, 9.8 avg in 2017, plus 2 tac), who had 142 career receptions as a prepster, along with **Randal Grimes** (2 rec, 17 yds, 8.5 avg in 2017), who like Greene has quarterback skills in his background.

--Burnett had 7 catches for 142 yards (both game bests) against Western Michigan, while Mitchell added 4 grabs for 39 yards, Green had an 11-yard catch, Vaughns had an 8-yard catch and a tackle, Sidney had a 7-yard catch and Jones had 2 kickoff returns for 61 yards and a rush for -7 yards.

--Burnett had 9 catches for 121 yards (both game highs) with 2 TDs (22 and 25 yards) and added a 3-yard rush against Stanford, while Mitchell had 4 catches for 94 yards with 2 scores (22 and 25 yards), Greene had 2 grabs for 22 yards, Jones had a 16-yard reception and Lewis had a tackle.

--Burnett had a game-best 8 catches for 123 yards with 2 TDs (15 and 25 yards) against Texas to earn Rose Bowl Game Pac-12 Player of the Week honors, while Mitchell added 6 for 90 yards, Vaughns had 4 for 25 yards, Greene had a 23-yard reception, Lewis had a 12-yard catch and Jones had a 9-yard grab and returned 3 kickoffs for 88 yards.

--Burnett had a game-best 9 catches for 76 yards with a 4-yard TD at California, while Vaughns added 3 grabs for 32 yards, Greene had 2 catches for 12 yards and Jones had a 3-yard run and returned 2 kickoffs for 55 yards.

--Vaughns had 6 catches for 89 yards at Washington State, Burnett had 6 grabs for 45 yards, Lewis had 2 receptions for 21 yards and a tackle, Imatorbhebhe had a 9-yard catch and Jones returned 2 kickoffs for 52 yards.

--Against Oregon State, Vaughns had 5 catches for 68 yards with a 37-yard TD, Mitchell added 4 catches for 46 yards, Pittman had 2 catches for 24 yards and a tackle, Burnett had 2 catches for 20 yards with a 16-yard TD, Sidney had a 23-yard catch, Grimes had a 12-yard catch, Jones had a 5-yard catch, a 4-yard run and 2 kick returns for 45 yards and Imatorbhebhe had a 2-yard grab.

--Burnett had 8 catches for 99 yards (both game highs) against Utah, Vaughns added 6 grabs for 65 yards, Mitchell had 5 grabs for 64 yards, Pittman had a 17-yard catch and a tackle and Jones had a 4-yard catch and a 25-yard kick return.

--Burnett had 8 catches for 113 yards (both game highs) with a 16-yard TD at Notre Dame, Mitchell added 7 catches for 71 yards with a 5-yard TD, Vaughns had 6 receptions for 65 yards, Jones had an 8-yard catch and 6 kickoff returns for 144 yards, Grimes had a 5-yard grab and Pittman made a tackle.

--Vaughns had 6 catches for 126 yards with 2 TDs (42 and 19 yards) at Arizona State, while Burnett added 4 grabs for 49 yards with a 32-yard TD, Pittman had 2 receptions for 23 yards and a tackle, Lewis had a 6-yard catch, Sidney had a 5-yard catch, Jones returned a kickoff for 17 yards and Russell had a tackle.

--Vaughns caught 4 passes for 59 yards, with a 22-yard TD, against Arizona, while Pittman had 3 grabs for 59 yards, blocked a punt (that USC returned for a TD) and made a tackle, Burnett had 2 receptions for 44 yards, Greene had 2 catches for 30 yards and ran 11 yards for a TD with a blocked punt, Mitchell caught a 27-yard TD and Jones returned 5 kickoffs for 115 yards.

--Burnett had 6 catches for 79 yards, with a 18-yard TD, at Colorado, while Vaughns had 5 catches for 90 yards and a 9-yard punt return, Mitchell had 4 grabs for 91 yards, Pittman had 4 catches for 59 yards (including a 10-yard TD), Jones had a 4-yard catch, a 3-yard run and a 23-yard kickoff return and Greene had a 4-yard run.

--Mitchell had 4 catches for 56 yards and a 10-yard rush against UCLA, while Burnett added 4 grabs for 55 yards, Vaughns had 2 catches for 37 yards, Pittman had a 7-yard catch and returned a punt on a trick play for a 72-yard touchdown to earn Pac-12 Special Teams Player of the Week honors and Jones had 2 kickff returns for 85 yards.

--Pittman had game bests and career highs in receptions (7) and receiving yards (a Pac-12 Championship Game record 146) with a 7-yard TD against Stanford in the Pac-12 Championship Game, while Vaughns added 3 catches for 26 yards with a 19-yard TD, Mitchell had 2 grabs for 26 yards and Burnett had a 9-yard catch.

#### TIGHT ENDS

\*USC's tight end room is without the dependable Taylor McNamara, who graduated along with his 24 Trojan career catches (with 5 TDs) in 15 starts.

\*But there is a wealth of talented tight ends in 2017. Sophomore **Daniel Imatorbhebhe** (6 rec, 119 yds, 19.8 avg in 2017, plus 1 tac), the older brother of USC wide receiver Josh Imatorbhebhe, showed his ability to be an impact pass catcher, especially down the field, as he had 4 scores among his 17 grabs last season while starting 5 times. The same can be said of junior **Tyler Petite** (22 rec, 305 yds, 13.9 avg, 3 TD in 2017), who has 47 career receptions. Petite made 2017 All-Pac-12 honorable mention. Also available are junior walk-ons **Alec Hursh** and **Austin Applebee**. Applebee joined the Trojans this past spring after transferring from Arizona Western Junior College (the NJCAA national runner-up) following a 2-year stint at NCAA Division II McKendree.

\*Coming aboard in the fall as freshmen were prep All-American **Josh Faló** (4 rec, 65 yds, 16.2 avg, 2 TD in 2017, plus 1 tac), who caught 8 TDs in his high school senior year, along with **Erik Krommenhoek** (2 rec, 11 yds, 5.5 avg in 2017), who also had 8 scoring catches last year as a prepster. Faló has 2 brothers who have played collegiately.

--Petite had 3 catches for 24 yards against Western Michigan and Imatorbhebhe added a 12-yard catch.

--Petite had 3 catches for 35 yards against Stanford.

--Petite had 2 catches for 21 yards against Texas and Faló had a tackle.

--Petite had 4 catches for 46 yards, with a 16-yard TD, at California, while Krommenhoek added a 7-yard reception.

--Petite had 2 catches for 40 yards against Oregon State, Faló caught a 30-yard TD on his first career reception and Krommenhoek had a 4-yard catch.

--Petite had 3 catches for 79 yards against Utah, with TDs of 52 and 17 yards, while Faló added 2 grabs for 20 yards, with a 1-yard TD.

--Imatorbhebhe had a tackle at Notre Dame.

--Petite caught 2 passes for 42 yards at Arizona State.





--Imatorbhebe had 2 catches for 25 yards against Arizona and Petite added a 5-yard reception.

--Imatorbhebe had 2 catches for 34 yards against UCLA and Petite had a 4-yard grab.

--Against Stanford in the Pac-12 Championship Game, Imatorbhebe had a 48-yard reception, Falo had a 15-yarder and Petite had a 9-yarder.

## OFFENSIVE LINEMEN

\*USC's offensive line, a strong point in 2016 (Troy averaged 200 rushing yards and allowed less than 1 sack per contest), had to be retooled in 2017 with the loss of 3 key starters. Gone are both tackles, Zach Banner (a 3-year starter on the right side) and Chad Wheeler (a 4-year starter on the left side), and 2-year starting left guard Damien Mama. Banner (a 2016 Senior CLASS Award finalist and NFL Draft fourth rounder) and Wheeler both made All-American first team and All-Pac-12 first team last year, while Mama declared for the NFL following his junior season.

\*Senior **Viane Talamaivao** returned for his fourth season as the starting right guard (he has 37 career starts), while senior **Nico Falah** was solid in 2016 as the starting center (he has 26 career starts). Talamaivao, however, suffered a torn pectoral muscle at Washington State and is out for the year. Talamaivao won USC's Trojan Commitment Award. Falah won USC's Trojan Commitment Award and Co-Lifter of the Year Award. The wild card on Troy's offensive line in 2017 is versatile junior **Toa Lobendahn** (1 tac in 2017), a starter in every game in which he has appeared. Lobendahn made 2017 All-Pac-12 second team. He has 33 career starts at 4 positions (17 at left tackle, 8 at left guard, 5 at right guard, 3 at center). He is at left tackle this year. Lobendahn made 2017 CollegeFootballNews.com All-Pac-12 first team, Athlon All-Pac-12 second team and Phil Steele All-Pac-12 second team. He won USC's Chris Carlisle Courage Award and Co-Lifter of the Year Award. Lobendahn started the 2016 opener at center but suffered a season-ending knee injury in that game (it was the second consecutive year that his season was cut short by a knee injury).

\*Two other juniors have starting experience on the line: **Chuma Edoga** at tackle (15 career starts) and **Chris Brown** at guard (16 career starts). Brown also could be used at tackle. Brown made 2017 All-Pac-12 honorable mention. He won USC's Offensive Lineman of the Year Award.

\*Looking to break into the playing rotation are junior guard-tackle **Jordan Austin**, junior guard **Jacob Daniel**, who moved this fall from defensive tackle, and sophomores **Roy Hemsley** at tackle-guard, **Clayton Johnston** at tackle and **Cole Smith** at center. All have seen limited playing time to date. Austin made 2017 Pac-12 All-Academic honorable mention and won USC's Community Service Award. Then there is a pair of redshirt freshmen in guard **Frank Martin II** and tackle **Nathan Smith**, but Smith suffered a late-season knee injury in 2016 and could be sidelined in 2017, plus junior walk-on center **Richie Wenzel**. Wenzel won USC's Offensive Service Team Player of the Year Award.

\*Prep All-American tackle-guard **Andrew Vorhees** (1 tac in 2017) graduated from high school a semester early and enrolled at USC this spring as a freshman, able to participate in 2017 spring drills. He has moved into the starting right guard spot after Talamaivao's injury. Tackle **Austin Jackson** (3 tac, 1 BLK FG in 2017) and guard-tackle **Alijah Vera-Tucker** and center **Brett Neilon**, all prep All-Americans, came aboard in the fall as freshmen, along with tackle **Jalen McKenzie**. Jackson's grandfather played on USC's 1974 national championship squad and then in the NFL, while Neilon's aunts were USC golfers and McKenzie's father, Reggie, is the general manager of the NFL's Oakland Raiders (Reggie and his brother played in the NFL).

--Lobendahn, Brown, Falah, Talamaivao and Edoga started against Western Michigan, Stanford, Texas and California.

--Johnston, Brown, Falah, Talamaivao and Edoga started at Washington State.

--Lobendahn, Brown, Falah, Vorhees and Johnston started against Oregon State and Utah.

--Lobendahn, Brown, Falah, Vorhees and Edoga started against Notre Dame, Arizona State, Arizona, Colorado, UCLA and Stanford in the Pac-12 Championship Game.

## DEFENSIVE OVERVIEW

\*Seven defensive starters returned from 2016: inside linebacker **Cameron Smith**, cornerback **Iman Marshall**, outside linebackers **Porter Gustin** and **Uchenna Nwosu**, lineman **Rasheem Green** and safety **Marvell Tell III**, along with a trio of players who shared starts in safety **Chris Hawkins** and cornerbacks **Ajene Harris** and **Jonathan Lockett**. Other defensive players back with career starts are outside linebacker **Olajuwon Tucker** and tackles **Malik Dorton** and **Josh Fatu**.

\*USC returned its top 2 tacklers from 2016, plus its leaders in tackles for loss, sacks and forced fumbles. Like on the offensive side of the ball, Troy saw improvement last fall in its defensive numbers from 2015, surrendering 367.2 total yards (-33.6), including 139.6 rushing (-9.7) and 227.5 (-24.0) passing, and 24.2 points (-1.5). Seven times in 2016, USC held the opponent to a season low in points. The Trojans allowed just 50 points in the first quarter last fall (and only 71 in the second quarter).

\***Clancy Pendergast**, who returned last year for his second stint as Troy's defensive coordinator, employs an attacking 5-2 system that morphs into a 3-4 and a 4-3. USC played most of 2016 with 5 defensive backs.

## DEFENSIVE LINEMEN

\*The rock of USC's 2016 interior defensive line--tackle Stevie Tu'ikolovatu, who had transferred as a graduate from Utah last season--is gone. He had 53 tackles last season while clogging up the middle of Troy's defensive front. He was the Rose Bowl Defensive Player of the Game with 8 tackles, then was a seventh round pick of the NFL Draft.

\*However, Tu'ikolovatu's inside linemate in the starting lineup returned in 2017, junior **Rasheem Green** (39 tac, team-best 11.5 for loss, team-high 9 sack, 4 dfl, 1 FF in 2017). He made 2017 CollegeFootballNews.com All-American second team, All-Pac-12 first team, AP All-Pac-12 first team, Athlon All-Pac-12 first team, Phil Steele All-Pac-12 first team and CollegeFootballNews.com All-Pac-12 first team. He won USC's Defensive Lineman of the Year Award. He currently is 21st nationally in sacks (0.7, third in Pac-12). Green had 55 tackles last year, including a team-high 6 sacks.

\*Looking to replicate Tu'ikolovatu's immovable force will be challenging. The replacements include senior **Josh Fatu** (30 tac, 8 for loss, 6 sack, 1 FF, 1 dfl in 2017), who made 21 tackles while playing often last fall (he even started once) after coming to USC from a junior college, and junior **Malik Dorton** (24 tac, 3.5 for loss, 2.5 sack, 5 dfl, 1 FF in 2017), who started once last year and notched 9 tackles. Fatu made 2017 All-Pac-12 honorable mention and won USC's John McKay Award. Then there is walk-on redshirt freshman **Connor Rossow**, who sat out 2016 with a shoulder injury.

\*Two touted freshmen will get a look here, too: prep All-American **Marlon Tuipulotu** (2 tac in 2017), who enrolled at USC this spring after graduating early from high school (where he had 269 career tackles, with 64 for a loss and 31 sacks) and was impressive throughout spring drills, and **Brandon Pili** (14 tac, 1 BLK FG in 2017), who previously prepped in Alaska and came aboard this fall. Tuipulotu, however, is sidelined with a back injury. Pili made 2017 All-Pac-12 honorable mention.

\*Working to get into the rotation are sophomore **Christian Rector** (35 tac, 11 for loss, 7.5 sacks, 2 FR, 2 FF in 2017, plus 1 KOR, 10 yds, 10.0 avg), a pass rush specialist, and redshirt freshman **Liam Jimmons** (5 tac in 2017). Rector was named to the 2017 AP Midseason All-American second team. Rector made 2017 All-Pac-12 second team, AP All-Pac-12 second team, Athlon All-Pac-12 second team and Phil Steele All-Pac-12 second team. Rector currently is 23rd nationally in fumbles recovered (2, third in Pac-12) and 24th in sacks (0.7, fourth in Pac-12).

\*Joining the fray here in the fall as freshmen were prep All-American **Jay Tufele**, along with **Jacob Lichtenstein**. Tufele and Lichtenstein shared USC's Defensive Service Team Player of the Year Award.

--Green had a game-high 9 tackles (1 for a loss) with a deflection against Western Michigan. Fatu added 3 stops, Tuipulotu and Dorton each had 2 tackles and Kenny Bigelow and Rector each had 1 tackle.

--Green had 3 tackles (0.5 for loss) and 2 deflections against Stanford. Fatu had 2 tackles for a loss (with a sack) and Rector and Dorton each had a tackle.

--Rector stripped the ball from a Longhorn in the second overtime and USC recovered to set up the game-winning field goal, to go along with an earlier fumble recovery and 6 tackles (2.5 for losses, with 1.5 sacks) against Texas, while Green had 3 tackles (with a sack) before leaving late in the first half with an ankle sprain, Fatu had 4 tackles (0.5 for loss) and Dorton had 2 tackles (0.5 for loss).

--Green had 5 tackles at California. Fatu had 3 stops (with a sack), a forced fumble and a deflection, Rector had 2 sacks and a forced fumble and Dorton had a tackle.

--Fatu had 6 tackles (1.5 sacks) at Washington State. Rector had 6 tackles (0.5 sack), Green had 3 tackles (1.5 sacks) and Dorton had 2 tackles.

--Rector had 7 tackles, including 1 for a loss (with 0.5 sack), recovered a fumble and returned a short kickoff 10 yards against Oregon State. Green had 3 tackles (2 for a loss, with a sack), Pili had 3 tackles in his first career action, Fatu had 2 tackles and Dorton had a tackle and 2 deflections.

--Fatu had 7 tackles, with 2 for a loss (1 sack), against Utah. Rector had 6 tackles (with 2 sacks), Green had 3 tackles (0.5 sack) and a deflection, Dorton had 3 tackles (0.5 sack) and Pili and Jimmons each had a tackle.

--Two of Rector's 3 tackles were for losses at Notre Dame, while Jimmons had 3 tackles and Dorton and Pili each added 2 tackles.

--Three of Green's 4 tackles were sacks at Arizona State, while Pili had 3 tackles and Dorton had a tackle.

--Dorton had 3 tackles (with a sack) against Arizona, while Green had 2 tackles.

--Dorton had 3 tackles at Colorado. Pili had 2 stops and blocked a field goal, Rector had 2 tackles (1 for a loss, with a sack), Jimmons had 2 tackle and Green had a sack.

--Dorton had 2 tackles (with a sack), a forced fumble and a deflection against UCLA, while Fatu had 2 tackles (with a sack) and Rector and Pili both had a tackle.

--Green had 3 tackles (with a sack) and a forced fumble against Stanford in the Pac-12 Championship Game, while Pili had 2 tackles, Dorton had a tackle and 2 deflections and Rector and Fatu each had a tackle.





## OUTSIDE LINEBACKERS

\*Both of USC's 2016 starting outside linebackers, who play standing up at the line, returned this year and both are good ones: frenetic junior **Porter Gustin** (16 tac, 3 for loss, 3 sack in 2017), who led Troy in tackles for loss (13) last season and was second in tackles (68), and reliable senior **Uchenna Nwosu** (71 tac, 9.5 for loss, 7.5 sack, team-high 13 dfl, 1 int, 1 FR in 2017), who had 7.5 tackles for losses among his 53 total stops last fall. Nwosu's 13 deflections are tied for the most at USC since 2003 and are the most by a USC linebacker since Chris Claiborne's 16 in 1998. Nwosu made 2017 Sports On Earth All-American first team, All-Pac-12 first team, AP All-Pac-12 first team, Athlon All-Pac-12 first team, Phil Steele All-Pac-12 first team, CollegeFootballNews.com All-Pac-12 first team and Pro Football Focus All-Pac-12 first team. He was USC's Co-MVP and won USC's Co-Lifter of the Year Award. He has been invited to play in the 2018 Senior Bowl.

\*Their backups from last season also are back in 2017 in senior **Olajuwon Tucker**, who started 3 times in 2015 at an inside spot, and sophomores **Connor Murphy** (3 tac in 2017) and **Oluwale Betiku Jr.** (2 tac, 0.5 for loss in 2017). Soph **Matt Bayle** and first-year freshman **Bryce Matthews**, both walk-ons, also are available.

\*Enrolling in the fall as freshmen were prep All-American **Hunter Echols**, who had 54 tackles for a loss and 26 sacks in his prep career, along with **Juliano Falaniko** (6 tac in 2017), the first Trojan footballer from an American Samoa high school since the mid-2000s.

--Gustin (with a sack) and Nwosu (with a deflection) each had 7 tackles against Western Michigan.

--Nwosu had 4 tackles (with a sack) and 5 deflections (the most by a Trojan since Will Poole's 5 versus Michigan in the 2004 Rose Bowl) against Stanford, while Gustin also had 4 stops.

--Nwosu had a team-high 9 tackles (1 for a loss) with a deflection against Texas, while Gustin had 2 sacks among his 4 tackles while playing only the first half after having 2 pins inserted into his broken big toe several days prior and Betiku had a tackle.

--Nwosu had 4 tackles, a fumble recovery and a deflection at California, while Falaniko had 2 tackles and Betiku had a tackle (0.5 for loss).

--Nwosu had 6 tackles (0.5 sack) and an interception at Washington State.

--Nwosu had 4 tackles against Oregon State, Murphy added 3 stops and Falaniko had 2.

--Nwosu had 3 tackles against Utah.

--Nwosu had 2 tackles at Notre Dame and Falaniko added 1 stop.

--Nwosu had a team-best 8 tackles, including 3 sacks, and a deflection at Arizona State to earn CollegeSportsMadness.com Pac-12 Defensive Player of the Week honors, while Gustin and Falaniko each added a tackle.

--Nwosu had 8 tackles, including 2 for losses (with a sack), against Arizona.

--Nwosu had 5 tackles and 2 deflections at Colorado.

--Nwosu had 8 tackles (with a sack) and 2 deflections against UCLA.

--Nwosu had 3 tackles (with a sack), including a goal line stop on fourth-and-1 in the fourth quarter, against Stanford in the Pac-12 Championship Game.

## INSIDE LINEBACKERS

\*Michael Hutchings, who was the heart of USC's defense last year while starting at middle linebacker and posting 66 tackles (third on the team), has graduated.

\*But always-around-the-ball junior **Cameron Smith** (team-best 102 tac, 10 for loss, 0.5 sack, 1 int, 1 FR, 3 dfl in 2017, plus 1 KOR, 2 yds, 2.0 avg) returned as a starter and is among the nation's best. Known for his intense, punishing style, he earned Sophomore All-American first team status in 2016, a year after being a Freshman All-American. He led the Trojans in tackles last year with 83 and now has 263 stops in his career with 34 starts. He is the first Trojan since 2012 to have 100-plus tackles (and just the third since 2004). Smith was named to the 2017 CBSSports.com Midseason All-American first team (unanimous pick). He made 2017 Phil Steele All-American third team, CollegeSportMadness.com All-American third team, All-Pac-12 first team, Athlon All-Pac-12 first team, Phil Steele All-Pac-12 first team and AP All-Pac-12 second team and was named a semifinalist for the 2017 Butkus Award and Lott IMPACT Trophy. He won USC's Defensive Perimeter Player of the Year Award and Co-Lifter of the Year Award.

\*Looking to move into a starting role are sophomores **John Houston Jr.** (76 tac, 3.5 for loss, 1.5 sack, 3 dfl, 1 int, 1 FR in 2017) and **Jordan Iosefa** (29 tac, 3 for loss, 1 sack, 2 dfl, 1 FF in 2017). Iosefa also has seen action as an outside linebacker. Also available are senior **Grant Moore** (2 tac in 2017), a former walk-on who earned a scholarship in the fall of 2017, and walk-on senior **Christian Herrera**.

\***Taylor Katoa** graduated a semester early from high school and began at USC this spring as a freshman but suffered a knee injury that likely will sideline him in 2017, while prep All-American **Levi Jones** (15 tac in 2017) arrived in the fall as a frosh. Katoa played quarterback in high school in addition to defense, while Jones recorded 238 prep tackles (his father, brother and uncle all starred in the NFL).

--Smith had 6 tackles (2 for losses) against Western Michigan despite having to sit the first half because of a targeting penalty in the 2017 Rose Bowl, while Houston had 6 tackles and a deflection, Iosefa had 4 stops while starting in Smith's place and Jones and Moore each had a tackle.

--Smith had 8 tackles (0.5 for a loss) against Stanford and Houston added 3 stops.

--Smith had a team-best 9 tackles (0.5 for loss) against Texas, while Iosefa filled in for an injured Houston and had 5 tackles and a deflection.

--Smith had a team-best 12 tackles (1.5 for losses) and a fumble recovery at California to earn Lott IMPACT Trophy Player of the Week honors, Houston added 6 tackles and Jones had 2 stops.

--Houston had 6 tackles (1 sack) at Washington State, Smith had 6 tackles (1 for loss) and Jones had 2 tackles.

--Smith had 5 tackles (0.5 sack) against Oregon State, Houston added 4 tackles and Jones had 1.

--Smith had a game-best 16 tackles (0.5 for a loss) against Utah (the most stops by a Trojan since Hayes Pullard had 16 against Georgia Tech in 2012) and he also had a point-blank interception (the fourth of his career, all coming against Utah) to earn Lott IMPACT Trophy Player of the Week honors, Houston added 6 tackles and Jones had 1 stop.

--Smith had a team-leading 10 tackles (1.5 for loss) at Notre Dame, Houston added 8 tackles, Jones had 3 stops and Iosefa had a tackle.

--Smith had 7 tackles at Arizona State, Houston had 5 stops and a deflection and Iosefa had 4 tackles while starting at an outside linebacker spot.

--Houston had a team-high 10 tackles (0.5 sack) and had an interception against Arizona to earn CollegeSportsMadness.com Pac-12 Defensive Player of the Week honors, while Iosefa added 8 tackles (with a sack) and a forced fumble, Smith had 4 tackles and returned a short kickoff 2 yards, Jones had 3 tackles and Moore had a tackle.

--Houston had a game-best 11 tackles (2 for losses), plus a deflection, at Colorado, while Smith and Iosefa each added 4 tackles.

--Smith had 8 tackles (1 for a loss) and a deflection against UCLA, while Houston added 7 tackles and a fumble recovery, both of Iosefa's tackles were for losses and Jones had a tackle.

--Smith had 7 tackles (1 for a loss) and 2 deflections against Stanford in the Pac-12 Championship Game, while Houston added 4 tackles, Iosefa had a tackle and deflection and Jones had a tackle.

## DEFENSIVE BACKS

\*USC lost a pair of big-play starters from its 2016 secondary, cornerback Adoree' Jackson (who also was a dangerous returner and saw action on offense as a wide receiver) and safety Leon McQuay III. Last year, Jackson won the Thorpe Award and Jet Award (he also was a finalist for the Hornung Award and Lott IMPACT Trophy), earned consensus All-American first team notice and was the Pac-12 Defensive Player of the Year when he had 55 tackles and led USC in interceptions (5), deflections (11) and fumble recoveries (2). Jackson started at corner for 3 seasons, getting 139 tackles, 29 deflections and 6 interceptions in his career while also scoring 8 touchdowns as a punt and kick returner and 6 TDs as a wideout. He was an All-American long jumper, too, twice winning the Pac-12 title (he was fifth in the past 2 NCAA Meets). He left USC after his junior year and declared for the NFL, where he was a first round pick. McQuay, who had 24 career starts and 5 interceptions, made 50 stops and 2 picks last year while starting at strong safety or nickelback. He long will be remembered for his interception in the Rose Bowl with 27 seconds to play to set up USC's game-winning field goal. He was an NFL Draft sixth round pick.

\*But the Trojans have plenty of returning talent in the 2017 secondary. Most prominent is physical junior cornerback **Iman Marshall** (47 tac, 1 for loss, 10 dfl in 2017), a starter the past 2 years while logging 6 interceptions and 118 tackles. Marshall made 2017 All-Pac-12 honorable mention and Phil Steele All-Pac-12 third team. He had 51 stops and 3 thefts in 2016. Rangy junior **Marvell Tell III** (79 tac, 2.5 for loss, 1 sack, 2 dfl, 3 int with 1 for TD in 2017) returned as the starting free safety. He made 43 tackles last fall. Tell made 2017 All-Pac-12 first team, Athlon All-Pac-12 first team and Phil Steele All-Pac-12 second team. He won USC's Co-Lifter of the Year Award. The starting strong safety is veteran senior **Chris Hawkins** (82 tac, 6.5 for loss, 3 sack, 1 int, 2 dfl, 1 FF in 2017), who alternated with McQuay there last season and got 44 stops and 4 starts. Hawkins has 35 career starts with 228 tackles and 4 interceptions. Hawkins made 2017 All-Pac-12 honorable mention, AP All-Pac-12 second team and Pro Football Focus All-Pac-12 first team. He won USC's Trojan Way Leadership Award and Player of the Game Versus UCLA Award.

\*USC often employed a fifth defensive back in 2016 and both players who earned starts in that nickelback role last year are on the 2017 team: junior cornerback **Ajene Harris** (55 tac, 1.5 for loss, 0.5 sack, 1 FR, 6 dfl, 3 int with 1 TD in 2017, plus 12 FR, 70 yds, 5.8 avg and 1 KOR, 20 yds, 20.0 avg) and senior corner **Jonathan Lockett**. Harris, a one-time wide receiver, had 4 starts at nickelback in 2016 when he made 30 tackles and returned an interception for a score. Lockett had 17 tackles with 5 starts in 2016, but had late-season hip surgery and then more hip surgery at the start of fall camp that will sideline him in 2017.

\*Sophomore cornerback **Jack Jones** (40 tac, 8 dfl, team-high 4 int, 1 FR, 1 FF, 1 BLK FG in 2017, plus 3 KOR, 45 yds, 15.0 avg and 4 PR, 48 yds, 12.0 avg) also saw significant playing time off the bench as a rookie last fall and looks to add to that this season. Jones made 2017 AP All-American third team and AP All-Pac-12 second team. Three other Trojan defensive backs who have seen action return and will battle for playing time: senior safety **Matt Lopes** (26 tac, 1 for loss, 1 dfl in 2017), a one-time walk-on who received a scholarship last year, junior cornerback **Isaiah Langley** (32 tac, 6 dfl in 2017) and sophomore safety **Ykili Ross** (13 tac, 1 for loss,



2 int with 1 TD in 2017). Lopes made 2017 All-Pac-12 second team as a special teams player. Lopes was USC's Co-Special Teams Player of the Year. Speedy junior **Dominic Davis**, who picked up 132 rushing yards in 2016 as a tailback (his 85-yard run at Arizona was the longest by a Trojan since 1996), was moved to cornerback in 2017 fall camp and could see action on either side of the ball. Davis has also sprinted for the USC track team. Then there are redshirt freshman safeties **Jamel Cook** (2 tac in 2017) and **C.J. Pollard** (4 tac, 1 for loss in 2017). Also available are 4 walk-ons: senior cornerback **Yoofi Quansah**, junior cornerback **Jalen Jones** (1 tac in 2017), junior safety **Davonte Nunnery** and redshirt freshman safety **Richard Hagestad**. Quansah and Jones have seen brief action in their careers. Quansah won USC's Trojan Football Alumni Club Award

\*Four freshmen will fight for action this fall: prep All-Americans **Bubba Bolden** (8 tac in 2017) and **Isaiah Pola-Mao** at safety, prep All-American **Greg Johnson**, who will begin as a cornerback but is multi-talented enough to also play on offense and as a returner on special teams (a mid-season shoulder injury has sidelined him), and cornerback **Je'Quari Godfrey**. Bolden had 11 interceptions while playing on 3 consecutive USA Today national championship prep teams. Pola-Mao, who had 21 thefts as a high schooler, is the nephew of USC and NFL safety legend Troy Polamalu, but he likely is sidelined this season with a shoulder injury. Johnson had 10 picks in his high school career along with more than 6,000 yards on offense and special teams. Godfrey had 7 prep interceptions.

--*Tell had 8 tackles, a deflection and returned an interception for a 37-yard TD against Western Michigan, while Marshall had 6 tackles and a deflection, Hawkins had 5 tackles, Jack Jones had 2 tackles and a deflection and returned 2 kickoffs for 14 yards, Harris had 2 stops and returned a punt 15 yards and Lopes and Pollard each had a tackle.*

--*Jack Jones and Hawkins each had 6 tackles against Stanford, Harris had 4 stops (1 for a loss), Marshall had 4 tackles and 3 deflections, Tell had 3 tackles, Lopes had 2 tackles and Ross and Langley each had a tackle.*

--*Harris recovered a fumble in the second overtime to set up USC's game-winning field goal to go along with his 8 tackles and he returned 2 punts for no yards against Texas, while Marshall had 8 tackles (1 for loss), Jack Jones had 5 tackles, an interception and a deflection, Hawkins had 5 tackles, Tell had 4 tackles and an interception and Bolden had 2 tackles.*

--*Tell had a team-high 12 tackles at California, Hawkins had 5 tackles, an interception and 2 deflections, Jack Jones had 2 interceptions to earn Pac-12 Defensive Player of the Week and Thorpe Award Player of the Week honorable mention honors, Lopes had 4 tackles, Marshall had 3 tackles, Ross had 2 tackles and an interception, Langley had 2 tackles and a deflection, Pollard had a tackle for a loss and Cook had a tackle.*

--*Tell and Harris each had a team-best 7 tackles at Washington State (Harris also returned a punt for 0 yards), Marshall had 6 tackles and a deflection, Hawkins had 4 tackles, Jack Jones had 2 tackles, Langley had a tackle and deflection and Lopes and Ross each had a tackle.*

--*Tell had a game-high 10 tackles (0.5 for loss) and a deflection against Oregon State, Hawkins had 7 tackles, Harris had 4 tackles and returned a punt for minus 1 yard, Jack Jones had 3 tackles, an interception, a forced fumble, a blocked field goal and a deflection, Marshall had 3 tackles and 2 deflections, Ross had 3 tackles, Langley had a tackle and a deflection and Pollard had a tackle.*

--*Jack Jones had 7 tackles and 2 deflections against Utah, Hawkins had 7 tackles (1 for a loss), Ross had 5 tackles (1 for a loss), Tell had 4 tackles, Marshall had 3 tackles and a deflection, Harris had 2 tackles and a deflection and Lopes and Bolden each had a tackle.*

--*Tell and Langley each had 5 tackles at Notre Dame, Hawkins had 4 tackles (1.5 for losses, with a sack), Jack Jones had 3 tackles, a deflection and returned 4 punts for 48 yards, Harris had 3 tackles and a deflection, Lopes had 2 tackles and a deflection and Bolden had a tackle.*

--*Langley had 6 tackles at Arizona State while making his first career start, Tell also had 6 stops, Harris had 3 tackles and returned 3 punts for 22 yards, Hawkins and Lopes each had 2 tackles, Pollard, Cook and Jalen Jones each had a tackle, Jack Jones had a deflection and Ykili Ross returned an interception 37 yards for a TD.*

--*Hawkins had 8 tackles (1 sack) against Arizona, Tell had 7 tackles (0.5 sack), Jack Jones had 5 tackles and a fumble recovery, Langley had 5 tackles and a deflection, Harris had 4 tackles, an interception, a deflection and a 9-yard punt return and Lopes had 4 tackles.*

--*Langley had 9 tackles at Colorado, Harris had 5 tackles (0.5 sack), 2 deflections and 2 interceptions (returning 1 for a 34-yard TD), Lopes had 5 tackles (1 for a loss), Hawkins had 5 tackles, Tell had 4 tackles (0.5 sack) and Jack Jones had 2 tackles and a deflection.*

--*Hawkins had a game-best 10 tackles (with a sack) against UCLA, while Harris had 9 tackles, a 17-yard punt return and a 20-yard kickoff return, Marshall had 9 tackles and a deflection, Tell had 6 tackles (1 for a loss) and returned an endzone interception for 27 yards to earn CollegeSportsMadness.com Pac-12 Defensive Player of the Week honors, Jack Jones, Lopes and Bolden each had 3 tackles, Langley had a tackle and 2 deflections and Ross had a tackle.*

--*Hawkins had a game-best and career-high 14 tackles (2 for losses) and forced a fumble against Stanford in the Pac-12 Championship Game (after learning that morning of his grandmother's passing), Marshall had 5 tackles and a deflection, Harris had 3 tackles and a deflection and lost 5 yards on a punt return, Tell had 3 tackles, Jack Jones had 2 stops and Bolden, Langley and Lopes each had a tackle.*

## SPECIAL TEAMS OVERVIEW

\*USC returned its punter (**Chris Tilbey**) and holder (**Wyatt Schmidt**) from 2016. But the Trojans have new faces in 2017 at placekicker and snapper and both the primary punt returner and kickoff returner.

\*In 2016 under special teams coordinator **John Baxter** (who returned to Troy last fall), USC ranked fourth among all schools in FootballOutsiders.com's Special Teams Efficiency rating. In NCAA stats, the Trojans were sixth nationally in punt returns (15.3) and 23rd in kickoff returns (23.2), blocked kicks (3) and blocked punts (1). Troy returned 2 punts (for the fourth consecutive year) and 2 kickoffs for touchdowns last fall, and blocked 2 field goals and a punt. USC's 18 field goals last year were 1 shy of the school season record. USC kicked 43 touchbacks in 2016 after having only 11 the previous season. Opponents returned just 8 of USC's 50 punts last year (for just 50 yards).

## SPECIALISTS

\*Junior **Chris Tilbey** of Australia returned after starting last season as USC's punter. His 38.3 punting average last season was adequate, but he excelled in his ability to limit runbacks. Opponents returned only 8 of his 50 punts for just 50 yards (USC was allowing just 4.6 yards per runback until Penn State had an 18-yarder in the Rose Bowl). Eighteen of Tilbey's punts last fall pinned opponents within their 20-yard line, while 20 were fair caught. But junior walk-on **Reid Budrovich** (49 P, 42.5 avg in 2017, plus 2 tac), a lefty who can also placekick, beat out Tilbey in 2017 fall camp. Some 19 of Budrovich's 49 punts have pinned opponents within the 20-yard line and 10 have traveled at least 50 yards. Budrovich won USC's Joe Collins Walk-on Award. Also available to punt is junior walk-on **James Bermingham Jr.**

\*USC is without placekicker Matt Boormeester, whose 46-yard field goal with no time remaining dramatically won the Rose Bowl last year, because of a student code of conduct issue. Known for his accuracy and strong leg, his 18 field goals last year were 1 shy of the school season record. Eight of his field goals were 40-plus yards. His 3 field goals against Penn State tied a Rose Bowl record and his game winner was just the fourth time ever that USC won a game on a field goal with no time left. He was 53-of-54 on PATs. He also had 43 touchbacks on his 86 kickoffs last fall after the Trojans had only 11 touchbacks in 2015. That leaves redshirt freshman **Michael Brown** and first-year freshman walk-on **Chase McGrath** (57-of-58 PAT, 12-of-16 FG in 2017, plus 1 tac, 1 FR) as the only kickers on Troy's 2017 roster, but Brown is out for the season with a torn knee ligament suffered in the second game of the year. After missing his first career field goal (in the Texas game), McGrath hit his next 8 consecutive before missing. McGrath won USC's Joe Collins Walk-on Award.

\*After 4 years of flawless long snapping by Zach Smith, USC broke in a new snapper: first-year freshman **Damon Johnson**, who enrolled at USC in the spring of 2017 after spending the fall of 2016 not playing football at Citrus Junior College in Glendora (Calif.) following a prep career at Glendora (Calif.) High. Another snapper on the roster is blind walk-on sophomore **Jake Olson**. He was born with retinoblastoma (a cancer of the retina) and had both of his eyes removed as a youth. He snapped in high school for 2 years despite his blindness. Although USC currently prevents contact during any practice drills in which Olson is involved to make sure he is protected, he did snap the final PAT in the Western Michigan opener and versus Oregon State in 2017. He was a semifinalist for the Jason Witten Collegiate Man of the Year Award. He was USC's Most Inspirational Player.

\*Junior **Wyatt Schmidt** (1 tac in 2017) returned as the holder on placekicks. He also is able to long snap, punt and placekick. Schmidt made 2017 Pac-12 All-Academic honorable mention. Soph quarterback **Sam Darnold** held a few times in 2016 and is available, although others could be used for the backup holder role, including junior punter **Reid Budrovich** and freshman quarterback **Jack Sears**.

\*USC will be hard-pressed to find a returner as dynamic as Adoree' Jackson, who declared for the NFL after his junior season and was a first round selection. In his career, Jackson returned 4 punts and 4 kickoffs for touchdowns (including a school record-tying pair of 100-yard kick runbacks). He set the USC career records for kickoff return yardage (2,141 yards) and returns (79) and his 271 career kick return average is second best in Trojan history. He also averaged 12.6 yards on his 46 career punt returns. Last year, he averaged 29.5 yards (sixth nationally) on 26 kickoff returns with 2 TDs and 15.8 yards (third nationally) on 20 punt returns with another 2 scores. Against Notre Dame last fall, he became the first Trojan since records were available in 1953 to have scoring punt and kick runbacks in a game. He won the 2016 Jet Award as the nation's top punt returner and many of his All-American accolades were as a returner.

\*Several Trojans are involved in the return game, including redshirt freshman wide receiver **Velus Jones Jr.** (26 KOR, 682 yds, 26.2 avg in 2017), junior cornerback **Ajene Harris** (12 PR, 70 yds, 5.8 avg in 2017), sophomore cornerback **Jack Jones** (3 KOR, 45 yds, 15.0 avg in 2017, plus 4 PR, 48 yds, 12.0 avg), freshman tailback **Stephen Carr** (3 KOR, 64 yds, 21.3 avg in 2017), soph wide receiver **Michael Pittman Jr.** (1 PR, 17 yds, 17.0 avg in 2017) and redshirt freshman wide receiver **Tyler Vaughns** (1 PR, 9 yds, 9.0 avg in 2017). Jones currently is 15th nationally in kickoff returns (26.2, first in Pac-12).



--Budrovich averaged 51.0 yards on his 4 punts against Western Michigan (with a 59-yarder and 2 that pinned the Broncos within the 20), while McGrath hit all 7 of his PATs and Olson snapped on the final PAT to earn Pac-12 Special Teams Player of the Week honors.

--Budrovich had a 45-yard punt against Stanford, while McGrath hit all 6 of his PATs and took over the kickoff duties when Brown was injured early in the game.

--McGrath hit the first 2 field goals of his career in highlight fashion against Texas, the first a 31-yarder with no time remaining to send the game into overtime and the second the game winner from 43 yards in the second overtime (he missed a 46-yarder in the second quarter; his first ever attempt) as well as connecting on all 3 PATs, kicking off twice and making a tackle, while Budrovich averaged 46.2 yards on 6 punts, with 2 pinning the Longhorns within the 20 and 3 traveling 50-plus yards and Schmidt was named the Mortell Award Holder of the Week.

--At California, McGrath hit all 3 of his field goal tries (37, 34 and a career-long 46 yards) and all 3 of his PATs, plus 2 of his 7 kickoffs were touchbacks (another pinned the Golden Bears within the 20), while Budrovich averaged 42.3 yards on 3 punts with a 50-yarder.

--At Washington State, Budrovich averaged 43.2 yards on 6 punts, including a 63-yarder, and pinned the Cougars within the 20 4 times, while McGrath hit both field goals (20 and 29 yards) and all 3 PATs and had touchbacks on 3 of 6 kickoffs.

--Against Oregon State, McGrath hit a 29-yard field goal and all 5 of his PATs, had touchbacks on 3 of his 7 kickoffs (2 others pinned the Beavers within the 20) and he recovered a fumble, while Budrovich averaged 39.0 on his 2 punts.

--Against Utah, McGrath hit all 4 of his PATs and 2 of his 5 kickoffs were touchbacks, while Budrovich averaged 42.5 yards on his 4 punts (with 1 pinning the Utes within the 20).

--Budrovich averaged 43.0 yards on his 6 punts at Notre Dame (with 1 pinning the Irish within the 20), while McGrath hit both of his PATs but missed a short field goal and he also had 2 of his 3 kickoffs pin the Irish within the 20.

--At Arizona State, McGrath hit 2 of his 3 field goals (51 and 33 yards) and all 6 of his PATs and 5 of his 9 kickoffs were touchbacks (another pinned the Sun Devils within the 20), while Budrovich averaged 48.0 yards on his 2 punts (with 1 pinning ASU within the 20).

--Against Arizona, Budrovich averaged 42.8 yards on his 4 punts (with a 62-yarder and another that pinned the Wildcats within the 20) and he also had touchbacks on his 4 kickoffs, while McGrath hit all 7 of his PATs and kicked off 4 times (with 1 pinning UA within the 20).

--At Colorado, Budrovich averaged 44.7 yards on 3 punts (with a 57-yarder) and all 3 pinned the Buffaloes within the 20 but he had 1 blocked and he also had touchbacks on 4 of his 7 kickoffs (with 2 others pinning CU within the 20), while McGrath hit 1-of-2 field goals (a 26-yarder) and 3-of-4 PATs.

--Against UCLA, Budrovich averaged 33.4 yards on 5 punts (with 2 pinning the Bruins within the 20), he kicked off 5 times and he made a tackle, while McGrath hit all 4 of his PATs.

--Against Stanford in the Pac-12 Championship Game, McGrath hit a 24-yard field goal and all 4 of his PATs and 2 of his 6 kickoffs were touchbacks and another pinned the Cardinal within the 20, while 2 of Budrovich's 3 punts pinned Stanford within the 20.

## STATS OF NOTE

### RANKINGS

\*\*\*USC has been ranked in the AP Top 25 for 160 of its past 207 games.

\*\*\*USC has been in the AP Top 10 for 101 of its past 200 games, including a since-snapped school record of 62 consecutive games.

\*\*\*USC has been in the AP Top 5 in 69 of the last 193 games.

### SCORING

\*\*\*USC has scored 170 of its 449 total points in the fourth quarter in 2017.

\*\*\*USC has entered the fourth quarter either trailing or tied 5 times in 2017, but the Trojans won 4 of them.

\*\*\*USC has scored at least 20 points in 1845 of its past 211 contests (including a since-broken NCAA record 63 consecutive games, a streak that was snapped in the 2006 UCLA game).

\*\*\*USC has scored at least 30 points in 130 of its last 201 games.

\*\*\*USC has scored at least 40 points 82 times since the start of the 2001 season (including 27 times with at least 50 points).

\*\*\*Since 2003, USC has scored touchdowns of 20-plus yards 344 times.

\*\*\*USC has scored in its past 246 games dating to 1997, a school record (not including 15 scoring games later vacated due to NCAA penalty; revised record streak: 261 games).

### OFFENSE

\*\*\*USC is sixth nationally in first downs (317, first in Pac-12), 15th in total offense (489.5, second in Pac-12), 19th in passing offense (294.6, third in Pac-12), 20th in tackles for loss allowed (4.5, first in Pac-12), 23rd in passing efficiency (149.4, second in Pac-12), 24th in scoring offense (34.5, fourth in Pac-12) and 25th in completion percentage (.635, fifth in Pac-12).

\*\*\*USC's 489.5 yards of total offense in 2017 is its highest average since 2005 (and that is on the heels of last year's 477.1, the previous high since 2005).

\*\*\*USC has had at least 600 yards of total offense 3 times in 2017 (the other Pac-12 teams combined have 6).

\*\*\*USC has had at least 400 yards of total offense in 19 of its past 22 games (including 15 with 500-plus yards).

\*\*\*USC's 194.9 rushing average in 2017 is just off last year's 200.7, which was the program's highest since 2005.

### DEFENSE

\*\*\*USC is fourth nationally in red zone defense (.700, first in Pac-12), sixth in sacks (3.3, first in Pac-12), 11th in interceptions (16, second in Pac-12) and 17th in defensive touchdowns (3, first in Pac-12).

\*\*\*USC's 43 sacks in 2017 are the most in the nation.

\*\*\*USC's 24 takeaways are tied for 16th most in the nation in 2017.

\*\*\*USC has intercepted a pass in 144 of the last 205 games.

\*\*\*USC has held 103 of its last 201 opposing teams to 100 rushing yards or less.

\*\*\*Only 49 opposing runners have rushed for 100 yards against USC in the past 192 games (most recently, Stanford's Bryce Love with 125 in 2017).

\*\*\*Since the start of the 2001 season, USC is 73-7 when holding opponents to 300 yards of total offense or less (the losses were against UCLA in 2006, Stanford in 2007, Washington in 2009, Notre Dame in 2010, Washington State and Notre Dame in 2013 and Washington in 2015).

### MISCELLANEOUS

\*\*\*USC is 11th nationally in blocked kicks (4, second in Pac-12), 18th in punt returns (12.0, third in Pac-12) and 22nd in kickoff returns (23.5, third in Pac-12).

\*\*\*USC has won 20 of its last 22 games.

\*\*\*USC has won 16 of its last 17 games against teams from the Pac-12.

\*\*\*Five of USC's wins have been by 10 points or less (including 4 by 5 points or less) and one of its losses was by 3 points.

\*\*\*USC has won its last 16 home games, its longest streak since 21 in a row in 2001-04 (not including 6 wins later vacated due to NCAA penalty; original record 35 in a row from 2001 to 2007) and currently the second longest regular season home winning streak in the nation (behind Alabama's 19).

\*\*\*USC has won its last 18 games in the greater Los Angeles area, its longest streak since winning 23 straight in 2001-04 (not including 7 wins later vacated due to NCAA penalty; original record 30 in a row from 2001 to 2005).

\*\*\*Thirteen first-year freshmen have played in 2017, while 14 other Trojans have seen action for the first time in their USC careers this season.

\*\*\*USC has blocked 36 kicks/punts since 2010 (4 in 2017).

\*\*\*USC has appeared on live national, regional or local telecasts 503 times, including 370 of the past 372 games (Troy's last 210 games have been televised live, a school record).



## RANDOM NOTES

\*\*\*USC's 2017 team captains, as elected by their teammates prior to the season, are QB **Sam Darnold**, S **Chris Hawkins**, OLB **Uchenna Nwosu** and ILB **Cameron Smith**. This is the first time since 2004 that USC has only one offensive player as a captain.

\*\*\*For the first time since the 1995 season, USC did not have a bye between any of its regular-season games, only getting a week off on the final weekend of November before it advanced to the Pac-12 Championship Game on Dec. 1.

\*\*\*USC's Nov. 18 regular-season finale against UCLA this year was the earliest that the Trojans concluded a regular season since 2001 (Nov. 17).

\*\*\*USC is the only FBS school never to have had surnames on the back of its jerseys. The Trojan uniform was named the nation's seventh best in college football by USA Today in 2014.

\*\*\*USC is one of only 3 NCAA FBS (formerly Division I-A) schools that has never played an FCS (formerly non-Division I-A) opponent since the divisions were established in 1978. The other schools are UCLA and Notre Dame, both Trojan opponents every season.

\*\*\*USC's future non-conference schedule features Texas in 2018 (away) and BYU in 2019 (away), 2021 (home) and 2023 (home), plus home games versus UNLV (2018), Fresno State (2019, 2022, 2025), New Mexico (2020) and Rice (2022). Since 1926, USC has annually (except during World War II) played Notre Dame in a home-and-home series that currently runs through 2023. Since 2000, Troy also has had Alabama, Ohio State, Texas, Auburn, Nebraska, Penn State, Arkansas, Virginia Tech, Kansas State, Syracuse, Boston College, Hawaii, Minnesota, Virginia, Fresno State, Utah State, Western Michigan, Idaho and Arkansas State on its regular season non-conference slate.

\*\*\*USC's 2 conference "misses" in 2017 were Oregon and Washington. The last time that USC played neither the Ducks nor the Huskies in a season was 2014.

\*\*\*Five Trojans previously attended other 4-year schools: TE **Austin Applebee** (McKendree), WR **Jackson Boyer** (North Carolina), TE **Daniel Imatorbhebhe** (Florida), TB **Corbin Jountti** (Northern Arizona) and CB **Yoofi Quansah** (UC San Diego).

\*\*\*Nine Trojans played at Serra High in Gardena (Calif.): OLB **Olajuwon Tucker**, WR **Jalen Greene**, CB **Jalen Jones**, DL **Rasheem Green**, ILB **John Houston Jr.**, WR **Deontay Burnett**, OLB **Oluwale Betiku Jr.**, S **C.J. Pollard** and ILB **Christian Herrera**.

\*\*\*Six Trojans already earned their bachelor's degrees. WR **Steven Mitchell Jr.** received his bachelor's degree in communication from USC in the spring of 2016 and is now working towards a master's degree in communication management, OG-OT **Jordan Austin** received his bachelor's degree in international relations from USC in the spring of 2017 and is now working on a master's degree in studies in law, S **Chris Hawkins** received his bachelor's degree in policy, planning and development from USC in the spring of 2017 and is working on a second bachelor's degree, DT **Malik Dorton** received his bachelor's degree in communication from USC in the summer of 2017 and is now working on a master's degree in communication management, C **Nico Falah** received his bachelor's degree in non-governmental organizations from USC in the fall of 2017 and TB **Corbin Jountti** received his bachelor's degree in psychology (minor in ethnic studies) from Northern Arizona in December of 2016 before transferring to USC this fall. Each wears a "Graduate" patch on their uniform jersey in 2017.

\*\*\*USC currently has 18 players who graduated a semester early from high school and enrolled at USC that spring. S **Chris Hawkins** enrolled in the spring of 2013. OG-OT **Jordan Austin**, WR **Jalen Greene** and C-OG **Toa Lobendahn** all enrolled in the spring of 2014. OT **Chuma Edoga**, OT-OG **Roy Hemsley** and ILB **Cameron Smith** all enrolled in the spring of 2015. OLB **Oluwale Betiku Jr.**, QB **Matt Fink**, WR **Josh Imatorbhebhe**, DL **Liam Jimmons**, WR **Michael Pittman Jr.**, S **C.J. Pollard** and OT **Nathan Smith** all enrolled in the spring of 2016. ILB **Taylor Katoa**, QB **Jack Sears**, DT **Marlon Tuipulotu** and OT-OG **Andrew Vorhees** all enrolled in the spring of 2017. Since 1999, 47 Trojans have graduated at least a semester early from high school and come to USC (including 1 who graduated a full year early). Also, TE **Daniel Imatorbhebhe** graduated a semester early from high school and enrolled at Florida before transferring to USC.

\*\*\*SNP **Jake Olson** has been an inspiration to and involved with the USC football program since the age of 12 in 2009 when he lost his eyesight to cancer. Olson was born with retinoblastoma, a cancer of the retina. He lost his left eye when he was 10 months old and, despite numerous procedures on his other eye, he had his right eye removed when he was 12 in 2009 (he spent the day before his 2009 surgery at a USC football practice). His story was chronicled nationally, including several ESPN stories. After long snapping in high school as a junior and senior in 2013 and 2014 (he also played golf in high school and usually shot in the 80s), he received a scholarship in 2015 to attend USC from Swim With Mike's Physically Challenged Athletes Scholarship Fund (because that scholarship is regarded as athletic aid, USC sought and received a waiver from the NCAA so that he did not count against the Trojans' NCAA-mandated 85 scholarship roster limit). Now a walk-on redshirt sophomore, USC prevents contact during practice drills in which he is involved to make sure he is protected. He is guided onto the field and positioned over the ball by a teammate. In the 2017 season opener against Western Michigan, he got into the game to snap the final PAT and did so again mid-season against Oregon State. He is a motivational speaker and has co-authored 2 books about overcoming adversity. His guide dog's name is Quebec. The Swim With Mike swim-a-thon fundraiser has raised nearly \$20 million for 200-plus physically challenged athletes' scholarships at more than 100 universities for students who have overcome life-challenging accidents or illnesses. Olson won the 2016 Rare Disease Champion Award and was a nominee for the 2015 Orange Bowl-FWAA Courage Award.

\*\*\*Defensive line coach **Kenechi Udeze** was diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukemia (a blood cancer) in 2008 while playing for the NFL's Minnesota Vikings and he was placed on injured reserve that season. He received chemotherapy treatments and had a bone marrow transplant from his brother. He was the Vikings' recipient of the 2008 NFL Ed Block Courage Award, as voted by his teammates. After attempting to return to the playing field in 2009 but struggling with peripheral neuropathy in his feet as a result of chemotherapy, Udeze retired from the NFL that summer. His leukemia is in remission. He has been involved with charities that raise money for cancer research.

\*\*\*S **Chris Hawkins** is USC's 2017 representative on the Pac-12's Student-Athlete Leadership Team and also was 1 of 2 student-athletes to represent the Pac-12 at the 2017 NCAA Legislation meeting in Chicago.

\*\*\*Who's the fastest among the 2017 Trojans? TB **Ronald Jones II**, who sprinted briefly with the 2016 Trojan tracksters, had high school bests of 10.37 in the 100 meters and 21.88 in the 200 meters. CB-TB **Dominic Davis** has posted lifetime bests of 10.47 in the 100 meters (10.39 wind-aided) and 21.48 (21.27 wind-aided) in the 200 meters. He set a USC freshman indoor record in the 60 meters (6.78) at the 2016 MPSF Championships. He was fourth in the 100 (10.51) at the 2014 California high school state meet as a junior and third in the event as a 2015 senior (10.56). Jones and Davis have sprinted for USC's track team.

\*\*\*Besides TB **Ronald Jones II** and CB-TB **Dominic Davis** (above), a number of other Trojans competed in track and field in high school: OLB **Matt Bayle**, WR **Jackson Boyer**, TB **Ben Easington** (shot put, discus), WR **Randal Grimes** (sprints, high jump, long jump), OLB **Porter Gustin** (javelin, shot put), OT **Austin Jackson** (shot put, discus), OLB **Connor Murphy** (shot put, discus), S **Davonte Nunnery** (sprints, long jump), OT **Brandon Pili** (shot put, discus), S **Isaiah Pola-Mao** (sprints, hurdles, long jump, high jump), CB **Yoofi Quansah** (long jump), P-HLD **Wyatt Schmidt**, C **Cole Smith** (shot put, discus), OT **Nathan Smith** (shot put, discus), TB **Aca Cedric Ware** (sprints), WR **Jack Webster** (sprints), WR-CB **Keyshawn Young**.

\*\*\*As high schoolers, USC football players also competed in a wide range of other sports. In addition to track (above), they played primarily basketball (TE **Austin Applebee**, OLB **Matt Bayle**, S **Jamel Cook**, OG **Jacob Daniel**, QB **Sam Darnold**, C **Nico Falah**, QB **Thomas Fitts**, WR **Randal Grimes**, OLB **Porter Gustin**, CB **Ajene Harris**, OT-OG **Roy Hemsley**, TE **Daniel Imatorbhebhe**, WR **Josh Imatorbhebhe**, OT **Austin Jackson**, OLB **Bryce Matthews**, C **Brett Neilson**, S **Davonte Nunnery**, OLB **Uchenna Nwosu**, DL **Christian Rector**, S **Ykili Ross**, WR **Jake Russell**, S **Isaiah Pola-Mao**, P **Chris Tilbey**, OLB **Olajuwon Tucker**, WR **Tyler Vaughns**) and baseball (TE **Austin Applebee**, PK **Michael Brown**, P **Reid Budrovich**, OLB **Porter Gustin**, TE **Alec Hursh**, CB **Jalen Jones**, S **Matt Lopes**, ILB **Cameron Smith**, WR **Milo Stewart**, WR **Tyler Vaughns**). They also participated in soccer (P **James Birmingham Jr.**, PK **Michael Brown**, WR **Matt Nyman**, WR **Milo Stewart**), lacrosse (WR **Jackson Boyer**, QB **Thomas Fitts**, S **Richard Hagestad**, TE **Alec Hursh**), wrestling (OT **Brandon Pili**, ILB **Cameron Smith**, DT **Marlon Tuipulotu**), diving (WR **Jackson Boyer**), volleyball (S **Richard Hagestad**), golf (SNP **Jake Olson**), ice hockey (P-HLD **Wyatt Schmidt**) and rugby (DL **Jay Tufele**).

\*\*\*DT **Marlon Tuipulotu** was the Oregon state Class 5A 285-pound wrestling champion as a junior in high school.



\*\*\*P-HLD **Wyatt Schmidt** was on a 3-time Minnesota state champion ice hockey team in high school, then played junior ice hockey in South Dakota in 2013 before coming to USC.

\*\*\*P **Chris Tilbey**, a Melbourne native who played Australian Rules Football (as well as cricket), is the first Trojan football letterman from Australia. Former Trojan Riki (Gray) Ellison (1978-82) was born in New Zealand, but claimed Tucson, Ariz., as his home.

\*\*\*DT **Brandon Pili** is USC's first football letterman from Alaska.

\*\*\*DLB **Oluwale Betiku Jr.** was born in Lagos, Nigeria, where he participated in soccer and boxing. He moved to the United States when he was a sophomore in high school.

\*\*\*C **Brett Neilon** grew up in Japan, home of his mother, where he participated in baseball, basketball and the martial art of aikido.

\*\*\*ILB-DLB **Juliano Falaniko**, who attended Leone High in Pago Pago, American Samoa, is the first Trojan footballer who prepped in American Samoa since Travis Tofi (2003-06).

\*\*\*Adding to the foreign feel of USC's 2017 football team: assistant strength and conditioning coach/sports performance **Danny van Dijk** is from Australia, where he worked with rugby teams; assistant athletic director/recruiting and player personnel **Eric Ziskin** spent 2015 in Norway working for a business and technology services company; assistant coach **Tee Martin** played professionally in Canada (CFL's Winnipeg Blue Bombers) and Europe (NFL Europe's Rhein Fire); and assistant coach **Deland McCullough** played with the CFL's Winnipeg Blue Bombers.

\*\*\*WR **Josh Imatorbhebhe** traveled to Santiago, Chile, in May of 2017 as part of the USC Marshall School of Business' Learning About International Commerce (LINC) program that exposes USC freshmen business students to business practices outside of the United States.

\*\*\*Seventeen-year-old CB **Je'Quari Godfrey** is the first USC football player born in the 21st Century (Jan. 23, 2000). P **Chris Tilbey** is USC's oldest player (23, born Dec. 31, 1993).

\*\*\*OG-DT **Chris Brown** is an accomplished guitarist, specializing in the blues (he also plays several other instruments). DT **Josh Fatu** plays the ukelele.

\*\*\*ILB **Cameron Smith** played youth football against eighth graders when he was in fourth grade. At USC, he interned in the summer of 2017 at a winery.

\*\*\*P **Reid Budrovich's** brother, Evan, was a student journalist at USC who covered the Trojan football team.

\*\*\*Both of TE **Erik Krommenhoek's** parents attended USC's crosstown rival, UCLA.

\*\*\*Two former USC players--**Jonathan Labonty** and **Kevin Carrasco**--are serving the 2017 Trojans as undergraduate student coaches.

\*\*\*USC has 5 players with the surname of Jones (CB **Jack Jones**, CB **Jalen Jones**, ILB-DLB **Levi Jones**, TB **Ronald Jones II**, WR **Velus Jones Jr.**) and 3 named Smith (ILB **Cameron Smith**, C **Cole Smith**, DT **Nathan Smith**), but none are related.

\*\*\*USC's roster features players who are a Jr. (WR **Steven Mitchell Jr.**, ILB **John Houston Jr.**, DLB **Oluwale Betiku Jr.**, WR **Michael Pittman Jr.**, WR **Velus Jones Jr.**, P **James Bermingham Jr.**), a II (TB **Ronald Jones II**, OG **Frank Martin II**), a III (S **Marvell Tell III**) and a IV (TB **James Toland IV**, WR **Joseph Lewis IV**).

\*\*\*USC's roster palette has OG-DT **Chris Brown** and PK **Michael Brown**, as well as DL **Rasheem Green** and WR **Jalen Greene**.

\*\*\*No USC football letterman in history has a longer non-hyphenated single word surname than the 12-letter last names of TE **Daniel Imatorbhebhe**, WR **Josh Imatorbhebhe** and DL **Jacob Lichtenstein**. Two former lettermen also have 12-letter surnames: TE Dean Lingenfelter (1973) and P Mike MacGillivray (1998-2001). Also on the 2017 Trojan roster is the 11-letter surnamed TE **Erik Krommenhoek**. Fortunately, USC does not put players' last names on the back of its jerseys.

\*\*\*TE **Daniel Imatorbhebhe** and WR **Josh Imatorbhebhe** are USC's only brothers.

\*\*\*TE **Tyler Petite's** real first name is John, S **C.J. Pollard's** is Christopher, ILB **Jordan Iosefa's** is Loveni, S **Bubba Bolden's** is Damuzhea, head coach **Clay Helton's** is Charles and assistant coach **Tee Martin's** is Tamaurice. OLB **Olajuwon Tucker's** nickname is "Boodah," CB **Iman Marshall's** is "Biggie," WR-CB **Keyshawn Young's** is "Pie" (given to him by his late grandmother, who wanted him to be "Perfect In Everything") and WR **Joseph Lewis IV** is "Jody." Defensive line coach **Kenechi Udezze's** first name means "God's love will always be with me" in Nigerian; his nickname as a USC player was "BKU," which stood for Big Kenechi Udezze (he enrolled at USC weighing 375 pounds, but left at 275).

\*\*\*USC has 6 players who "blueshirted," which by NCAA rule allows a non-recruited student-athlete to receive athletic financial aid after beginning practice and have that student-athlete count towards the next year's signing class if the school has reached its NCAA-maximum aid limit for the current year. TE **Daniel Imatorbhebhe**, DT **Clayton Johnston**, WR **Deontay Burnett** and P **Chris Tilbey** all arrived in the fall of 2015, while PK **Michael Brown** joined in the fall of 2016 and DT **Jalen McKenzie** joined in the fall of 2017.

\*\*\*Assistant coach **Tee Martin's** wife, Toya, is a recording artist with hit singles "I Do!" (2001) and "No Matta What (Party All Night)" (2002).

\*\*\*Offensive line coach **Neil Callaway** served as the head coach at Alabama Birmingham (2007-11). As a player at Alabama (1974-77), he played under legendary head coach Paul "Bear" Bryant. He played against USC in 1977, a 21-20 Crimson Tide victory in the Coliseum over the No. 1 Trojans.

\*\*\*Head coach Clay Helton played for his father, Kim, at Houston (1993-94). In 1993, Clay completed 1-of-3 passes in late duty in the Cougars' 49-7 loss to USC in the Coliseum.

\*\*\*An all-USC alumni NFL starting lineup, based on the current highest paid ex-Trojans at all 22 positions, would be worth just under \$150 million annually, according to research by HeroSports.com in August of 2017.

\*\*\*Assistant coach **Ronnie Bradford** played in Super Bowl XXXIII with the Atlanta Falcons, defensive coordinator **Clancy Pendergast** coached in Super Bowl XLIII with the Arizona Cardinals, WR **Michael Pittman Jr.'s** father, Michael Pittman, played in Super Bowl XXXVII with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, ILB-DLB **Levi Jones' father**, Robert Jones, played in Super Bowls XXVII, XXVIII and XXX with the Dallas Cowboys, S **Isaiah Polamalu's** uncle, Troy Polamalu, played in Super Bowls XLIII and XLV with the Pittsburgh Steelers and OT **Jalen McKenzie's** uncle, Raleigh McKenzie, played in Super Bowls XXII and XXVI with the Washington Redskins.

\*\*\*In 2007 while playing with the San Diego Chargers, defensive quality control assistant **Mike Goff** cut his signature long hair and donated it to Locks of Love.

\*\*\*USC's fan base was ranked best in the Pac-12, ninth in college football and 107th in the world in the 2017 FanSided.com Fandom 250.

\*\*\*A new Traveler, the famous white horse that appears at all USC home football games with a Trojan warrior astride, debuted in 2017. Traveler IX took over for Traveler VII, which had been handling that duty since the 2003 season. Traveler first made an appearance at USC football games in 1961. Ever since, whenever USC scores, the Trojan Marching Band plays "Conquest" and Traveler gallops around the Coliseum.

\*\*\*The NFL's Rams, who returned to Los Angeles in 2016, shared the Coliseum with USC for a second consecutive year in 2017 (they also did so for part of their previous stint in L.A.) until their new stadium is completed in Inglewood in 2020. The Rams and Trojans previously shared the Coliseum for 34 years, from 1946 through 1979 (the Rams moved to Los Angeles from Cleveland and then departed L.A. for Anaheim). UCLA also played in the Coliseum during that 34-year span. Since the stadium opened in 1923, USC has been its sole football tenant in 25 seasons (1923-27, 1995-2000, 2002-15). There were 3 weekends this fall when the Trojans and Rams played back-to-back games in the Coliseum: Sept. 9 (USC hosted Stanford)/Sept. 10 (Rams hosted Indianapolis), Sept. 16 (USC hosted Texas)/Sept. 17 (Rams hosted Washington) and Oct. 7 (USC hosted Oregon State)/Oct. 8 (Rams hosted Seattle).

\*\*\*The Trojan Athletic Fund, founded in 1923, provides the funding necessary to sustain USC's athletic excellence. The TAF motto is "Investing In Today's Champions and Tomorrow's Leaders." TAF members form a global group of more than 5,000 alumni, parents, former student-athletes and friends who directly contribute to the success of our student-athletes. TAF members who join the Trojan Club, Cardinal & Gold, Women of Troy, Cardinal & Gold Premier, Committee or Scholarship Club receive a variety of benefits and event invitations. For more information, go to: <http://www.trojanathleticfund.com>.



\*\*\*Several Trojan staffers have played on national championship teams.

- Assistant coach **Tee Martin** quarterbacked Tennessee to the 1998 national championship.

- Assistant coach **Kenechi Udeze** was an All-American defensive end on USC's 2003 national championship team.

- Assistant coach **Ronnie Bradford** played on Colorado's 1990 national championship team.

- Football executive assistant **Cheryl Taplin** was a sprinter on 7 of LSU's NCAA champion outdoor and indoor women's track and field teams.

\*\*\*Several Trojans have relatives with USC football connections.

- ILB **Grant Moore's** father, Rex, was a 4-year (1984-87) letterman linebacker at USC, leading the Trojans in tackles in 1986 while earning team Most Inspirational Player accolades.

- S **C.J. Pollard's** father, Marvin, was a cornerback at USC (1988-91).

- S **Isaiah Pola-Mao's** uncle is former USC 2-time All-American safety Troy Polamalu (1999-2002), while his great uncle is former USC fullback (1982-85) and assistant coach (2000-03, 2010-12) Kennedy Polamalu.

- OT **Austin Jackson's** grandfather, Melvin Jackson, was a 1974 and 1975 letterman offensive tackle at USC (he played on the Trojans' 1974 national championship team and in 1975 he won the team's Lineman of the Year Award and Football Alumni Club Award for the team's top cumulative grade point average).

- DT **Marlon Tuipulotu's** cousin is former USC defensive tackle Fili Moala (2005-08).

- C **Cole Smith's** father, Doug, was an assistant coach at USC (1993-97, the first 2 years handling the defensive line and the last 3 working with the offensive line).

- C-OG **Toa Lobendahn's** second cousin, Faaesaa Mailo, was a USC offensive lineman (1996-2001).

- S **Matt Lopes's** mother, Helaine, was an assistant athletic trainer at USC in the 1980s and 1990s, including working with the Trojan football program.

- Assistant coach **Johnny Nansen** is the cousin of former USC wide receiver JuJu Smith-Schuster (2014-16).

- Special teams quality control assistant **Mike Tuiaosopo** is the brother of former USC offensive guard Titus Tuiaosopo (1990-92).

\*\*\*Speaking of genes:

- TE **Austin Applebee's** sister, Alyssa, was a pole vaulter at Missouri (2014-16) and then competed at Tulane as a graduate student in 2017 (earning All-American honors with seventh place finishes at the 2016 and 2017 NCAA Meets).

- OG-OT **Jordan Austin's** father, Ray, played football at UNLV and Southern Utah.

- S **Jamel Cook's** cousin is former Florida State running back Dalvin Cook (2014-16), now with the Minnesota Vikings.

- QB **Sam Darnold's** father, Mike, played football (guard) at Redlands and his mother, Chris, played volleyball at Long Beach City College; his sister, Franki, played volleyball at Rhode Island (2012-15); his late grandfather, Dick Hammer, played basketball at USC (lettering in 1952 and on the Trojans' 1954 NCAA Final Four team) and was a member of the USA's 1964 Olympic volleyball team, then appeared in films, television (including in "Emergency!") and commercials (including as the Marlboro Man) and also was a captain in the L.A. County Fire Department; his grandmother, Betty Hammer, played volleyball (including training with the U.S. National Team) and softball; his great grandmother, Juanita, was a noted tennis player in Southern California; his uncle, Dan Hammer, played volleyball at Long Beach State (1980-81); his cousin, Allie Hammer, played volleyball at Irvine Valley College (2009-10) and American (2010-11), his cousin, Michele Hammer, played volleyball at Chapman (2012-15) and his cousin, A.J. Hammer, played volleyball at Concordia (2015-17).

- TE **Josh Falo's** brother, N.J., was an outside linebacker at Colorado (2015-16), while brother, Nate, was a defensive tackle at San Jose State (2013-15).

- WR **Randal Grimes's** brother, Nate, is a redshirt freshman forward on Fresno State's basketball team.

- OLB **Porter Gustin's** father, John Gustin, played quarterback at Wyoming (1991-94), while his mother, Scarlett Overly Gustin, and his aunt, Amberli Gustin, were the Gatorade Idaho Girls High School Basketball Players of the Year in 1987 and 1989, respectively (they both played basketball at BYU, Scarlett from 1987 to 1989 and Amberli from 1989 to 1994).

- S **Richard Hagestad's** brother, Stewart, was a golfer at USC (2010-13) who now competes in national amateur tournaments, including the U.S. Amateur (he won the 2016 Met Amateur), and was the low amateur at the 2017 Masters (he also played in the 2017 U.S. Open).

- S **Chris Hawkins's** brother, Armond Jr., is a senior defensive back at Idaho.

- ILB-OLB **Levi Jones's** father, Robert Jones, was an All-American linebacker at East Carolina (1988-91) and then was drafted in the first round by the Dallas Cowboys and played 10 years in the NFL with the Cowboys (1992-95, including winning NFC Rookie of the Year in 1992 and winning 3 Super Bowls), St. Louis Rams (1996-97), Miami Dolphins (1998-2000) and Washington Redskins (2001); his brother, Cayleb, was a wide receiver at Texas (2011) and Arizona (2012-15) and then in the NFL with the Minnesota Vikings (2016), while brother, Isaiah (Zay), was a wide receiver at East Carolina (2013-16) who set NCAA career (399) and season (158 in 2016) reception records and now is with the Buffalo Bills; his uncle, Jeff Blake, was a quarterback at East Carolina and then in the NFL with the New York Jets (1992-93), Cincinnati Bengals (1994-99), New Orleans Saints (2000-01), Baltimore Ravens (2002), Arizona Cardinals (2003), Philadelphia Eagles (2004) and Chicago Bears (2005); his cousin, Emory Blake, was a wide receiver at Auburn (2009-11, including on the Tigers' 2010 national championship team).

- TB **Ronald Jones's** grandfather, Charles Dockery, was on the Texas Southern track team in the mid-1960s.

- ILB **Taylor Kataoa's** father, Fotu, was a tight end at BYU (1985, 1988-90), his mother, Elizabeth, was a distance runner at BYU in 1990, his sister, Eliza, is a senior outside hitter on Utah's volleyball team, his brother-in-law, Rhett Nelson, pitched at Santa Clara (2010) and BYU (2014) and his uncle, Fred Kataoa, was a nose guard at BYU (1989-90).

- C-OG **Toa Lobendahn's** father, Vince, was a lineman at Utah (1990-93) and then in the Arena League with the Albany Firebirds (1994) and St. Louis Stampede (1995) before coaching at BYU as a graduate assistant (1998-99) and as an assistant and head coach at the high school level.

- S **Matt Lopes's** father, Steve, is a senior associate athletic director and chief operating officer at USC who was a 1983 College Division All-American offensive lineman at Linfield College, which won the NAIA national championship in his 1982 junior season (he also wrestled and played golf at Linfield), while his uncle, Lance Lopes, also played football at Linfield and was a senior associate athletic director at Washington (he previously was a senior vice president and general counsel of the Seattle Seahawks and before that held a similar position with the Green Bay Packers).

- TB **Vavae Malepeai's** uncles, Silila (1990-94), Pulou (1993-95) and Tasi (1994-96), played football at Oregon.

- OT **Jalen McKenzie's** father, Reggie McKenzie, was a linebacker at Tennessee (1981-84) and then played in the NFL with the Los Angeles Raiders (1985-88), Phoenix Cardinals (1989-90) and San Francisco 49ers (1992) and in the World League of American Football with the Montreal Machine (1992), then was an assistant coach at Tennessee in 1993, worked in the Green Bay Packers' front office from 1994 to 2011 and now is the general manager of the Oakland Raiders since 2012, while his brother, Kahlil, is a junior defensive lineman at Tennessee and his uncle, Raleigh McKenzie (Reggie's twin brother), was a center at Tennessee (1981-84) and then played in the NFL with the Washington Redskins (1985-94, where he won 2 Super Bowls), Philadelphia Eagles (1995-96), San Diego Chargers (1997-98) and Green Bay Packers (1999-2000), and now is a scout with the Oakland Raiders.

- OLB **Connor Murphy's** brother, Trent, was a consensus All-American outside linebacker at Stanford (2010-13) and now plays for the Washington Redskins, while his sister, Kayli, played women's basketball at Arizona State (2007-10) and competed in the 2011 Miss Arizona USA pageant.

- C **Brett Neilon's** aunts were on the USC golf team (Kim Saiki from 1985-88, who played on the LPGA Tour, and Laura Saiki from 1988-91).

- WR **Michael Pittman Jr.'s** father, Michael, was a running back at Fresno State (1993, 95-97) and then in the NFL with the Arizona Cardinals (1998-2001), Tampa Bay Buccaneers (2002-07), including on the Super Bowl XXXVII champion in the 2002 season, and Denver Broncos (2008).

- S **Isaiah Pola-Mao's** father, Tracey, played football at San Diego State (1988-90, 1992, where he was the 1992 team captain and Most Inspirational Player) and with the Arena League's Arizona Rattlers (1994-96).

- DL **Christian Rector's** grandfather, Ron Rector, was a member of the 1950 Long Beach City College football team that won the Junior Rose Bowl and the national championship, while his uncle, Morgan Rector, was a defensive end at Harvard (1982-83).

- P-HLD **Wyatt Schmidt's** father, Paul, played tennis at Minnesota, while his brother, Foley, was a 3-year (2009-11) All-Ivy League placekicker at Dartmouth and his brother, Macalaster, is a freshman kicker and punter at Chicago.

- C **Cole Smith's** father, Doug, played at Bowling Green (1974-77) and then was a 6-time Pro Bowl center for the Los Angeles Rams (1978-91) before serving as a volunteer coach with the Rams (1992) and then at USC (1993-97, the first 2 years handling the defensive line and the last 3 working with the offensive line) and since 2000 as the offensive line coach at Orange Coast Junior College.

- OLB **Olajuwon Tucker's** brother, Tim, played fullback and linebacker at Washington in 2010 and 2011.

- Head coach **Clay Helton's** father, Kim, was Houston's head coach from 1993 to 1999, as well as an assistant in college (Florida, Miami and Alabama Birmingham), the NFL (Tampa Bay Buccaneers, Houston Oilers, Los Angeles Raiders, Washington Redskins) and the CFL (Toronto Argonauts) following his playing career at Florida.





•Special teams coordinator/tight ends coach **John Baxter's** father-in-law is former Utah and Weber State head coach Ron McBride.

•Defensive graduate assistant **Brett Arce's** father, Mark, is the athletic director and head men's basketball coach at West Hills Community College in Coalinga (Calif.) after previously serving as an assistant coach at Utah State and Cal State Bakersfield and the head coach at Bakersfield Junior College.

•Defensive graduate assistant **Austin Clark's** sister, Adrienne, is an assistant softball coach at Connecticut after previously serving as an assistant at Delaware, Columbia and her alma mater Hofstra, where she starred as a pitcher (she once went 31.0 consecutive innings in the NCAA tournament without allowing a run, second most in NCAA history).

•Special teams quality control assistant **Mike Tuiaosopo's** brother, Navy Tuiaosopo, was an offensive lineman at Utah State (1983-86), his uncle is Bob Apisa, was a 2-time (1965-66) All-American fullback at Michigan State, his nephew Conan Amituanai, was an offensive lineman at Arizona (2008-11), his cousin, Manu Tuiaosopo, was a 2-time (1977-78) All-American defensive lineman at UCLA, second cousins John (1977-80) and Terry (1974-75) Tautolo played offensive line and linebacker, respectively, at UCLA, and his second cousins, Marques and Zach Tuiaosopo, played quarterback (1997-2000) and fullback/linebacker (201-04) at Washington, while another second cousin, Matt Tuiaosopo, played major league baseball with the Seattle Mariners (2008-10), Detroit Tigers (2013) and Atlanta Braves (2016) and another second cousin, Ashley Tuiaosopo, played softball at Washington (2008-11).

\*\*\*USC took control of the management of the Coliseum in the summer of 2013, becoming responsible for the operation, maintenance and upgrading of the facility. USC is required to spend \$70 million over a 10-year period for enhancements and improvements to the Coliseum's infrastructure (\$100 million by 2054). In October of 2015, USC announced plans to renovate and restore the Coliseum, including building a new structure on the stadium's south side (with suites, loge boxes, club seats, a new concourse and new press box), replacing every seat with wider ones, increasing leg room, adding aisles, restoring the iconic peristyle, upgrading Wi-Fi, improving audio and video with two new large screens, adding concession stands and installing new lighting. Work will begin after the 2017 USC season and be completed for the 2019 home opener, although some renovation to the Coliseum has already begun. New field and stadium lighting was installed for the 2016 season. New videoboards and scoreboards throughout the stadium were in place for the 2017 season, replacing the boards that sat atop the peristyle and thereby restoring the iconic peristyle to more closely resemble the stadium's original design. The renovation will be privately funded by USC and will preserve the Coliseum's historic nature. Improvements will reduce seating capacity to approximately 77,500 (from the current 92,348). USC has been a tenant in the Coliseum since the historic stadium opened in 1923. For more information, go to [www.ColiseumRenovation.com](http://www.ColiseumRenovation.com).

\*\*\*To provide a safer environment for the public and significantly expedite guest entry into the venue, the Coliseum has a "clear bag policy" that limits the size and type of bags that may be brought into the stadium for all events (one clear bag no larger than 12" x 6" x 12" per person). The policy does not affect other items that fans normally bring to a game, which still can be carried in their pockets or openly in their arms. The clear bag policy is detailed further at <http://www.lacoliseum.com/beclear>. Also, for increased security, all guests entering the Coliseum walk through metal detector screening with arms raised (guests should remove metal items from pockets). Because some tailgating space has been lost due to construction, fans are encouraged to tailgate by their cars and be considerate of the space they use.

\*\*\*USC Gameday is the official app for fans following the Trojans and going to a Trojan event at the Coliseum, Galen Center or any other USC athletic venue. The free app for iOS and Android devices is available for download on iTunes and Google Play. Among the app's features: customized sport selection, countdown to the next games, schedules and scores, game day related alerts (traffic, tailgating, etc.), live stats (for football and basketball), detailed Coliseum and Galen Center seating maps (with concession stands, restrooms, gate locations, etc.), USC area maps (with parking lots, official USC events, restaurants), A to Z guide for frequently asked game day questions, USC Athletics' social media links, safety information, USC Fan Shop, USC ticket information and USC videos and photos. The app also incorporates information about USC teams, including rosters, biographical, statistical and historical information and exclusive videos, as well as a virtual tour of USC's athletic facilities, including the McKay Center and the Coliseum. USC merchandise and tickets also are available for purchase within the app, which has new video and elements added throughout the year.

\*\*\*For USC's game day campus policies, go to [gameday.usc.edu](http://gameday.usc.edu). The site allows fans to reserve a tailgating location on campus. Tailgating and open containers in public areas are not allowed in the new USC Village, where a variety of food and retail options will be available.

## ANNIVERSARIES

The 2017 season marks the anniversary of several notable USC teams:

--The 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of USC's 1967 national championship team. The 1967 Trojans relied on the running of tailback O.J. Simpson, the blocking of Outland Trophy-winning tackle Ron Yary, and a stifling defense to win USC's sixth national championship. Simpson's weaving 64-yard touchdown run, perhaps the most famous run in college football history, was the difference in a 21-20 victory over UCLA. The showdown between the top-ranked Bruins and the No. 4-ranked Trojans remains one of the greatest games in the history of the Crosstown series. USC's only blemish on the season was a 3-0 loss in the rain and mud to Oregon State in Corvallis. The Trojans would not be shut out again for 26 years and did not lose again to the Beavers until 2000. The other key victory for Troy, a 24-7 win over Notre Dame, was USC's first win at South Bend since 1939. Linebacker Adrian Young's four interceptions (a USC record) helped to repel the Irish. The Trojans celebrated New Year's Day 1968 with a 14-3 victory over Indiana in the Rose Bowl. Simpson, the Heisman runner-up that year, ran for a then-NCAA-record 1,543 regular-season yards (1,709 overall) to go with 13 touchdowns. Mike Battle, Tim Rossovich, and Young led a defense that allowed only 87 points. A record five Trojans were selected in the first round of the 1968 NFL draft, with Yary going first overall. (1967 was also the last time that 2017 opponent Texas faced USC in the Coliseum.)

--The 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Carson Palmer's 2002 Heisman Trophy season. After a 21-year drought, Carson Palmer became USC's fifth Heisman Trophy winner (and the first from the West Coast since 1981), as well as Troy's first quarterback winner ever. Palmer--a 4-year starter--set or tied 33 Pac-10 and USC total offense and passing records, including becoming the league's career leader in total offense and passing yards. In 2002, he completed 309-of-489 passes (63.2%) for 3,942 yards and 33 TDs, all USC records. He threw for 300-plus yards in a USC-record 7 games that season, including 3 in a row. He completed at least 60.0% of his passes 9 times. After leading USC to convincing regular-season ending wins over UCLA and Notre Dame to land the Trojans their first-ever Bowl Championship Series bid, Palmer earned Orange Bowl MVP honors (21-of-31 passing for 303 yards and 2 TDs) as Troy posted a 38-17 win over No. 3 Iowa.

--The 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of USC's Rose Bowl season in 2007. Pete Carroll's Trojans went 11-2 and finished fourth nationally, highlighted by a 49-17 win over Illinois in the 2008 Rose Bowl as USC piled up a Rose Bowl-record 633 total yards. It gave USC an NCAA record 6 consecutive 11-win seasons.

## LEINART 2017 COLLEGE FOOTBALL HALL OF FAMER

Three-time All-American first team quarterback **Matt Leinart**, USC's 2004 Heisman Trophy winner who led the Trojans to a pair of national championships, was named to the College Football Hall of Fame in 2017. He is the 43rd inductee with USC ties, including 32 players. A Trojan has been elected into the Hall in 12 of the past 18 years. He was inducted at a Dec. 5 dinner in New York City. Leinart completed 64.8% of his passes for 10,693 yards and 99 TDs during his 3 seasons (2003-05), guiding Troy to a 37-2 record. USC won the 2003 and 2004 national titles and played for the crown in 2005. He was MVP of the 2004 Rose Bowl and 2005 Orange Bowl. A 3-time All-Pac-10 first teamer, he was the Pac-10 Offensive Player of the Year in 2003 and 2004, winning the Archie Griffin Award both seasons. In 2004, he also won the Walter Camp Player of the Year Award, AP Player of the Year and Manning Award, while in 2005 he won the Unitas Golden Arm Award and Pop Warner Award. In his career, he set 16 USC records and 11 Pac-10 records (including career completion percentage and TD passes). A first-round NFL draftee, he played 7 seasons in the NFL with the Arizona Cardinals (2006-09), Houston Texans (2010-11) and Oakland Raiders (2012), appearing in Super Bowl XLIII with the Cardinals. He was inducted into the USC Athletic Hall of Fame in 2007 and made the Pac-12 All-Century Team in 2015. He now is a college football studio analyst with FOX Sports. He also established the Matt Leinart Foundation to create athletic opportunities for underprivileged youth.

## IN THE NFL

USC is always well-represented in the NFL.

\*Twelve former Trojan players are in the Pro Football Hall of Fame (tied for most of any other school).

\*A Trojan has appeared in all but 6 of the 51 Super Bowls and Trojans have been selected to play in the Pro Bowl 232 times.

\*Troy has produced more NFL draft picks (501) than any school (USC and Michigan are the only schools with a draftee every year since 1939) and there have been 494 USC players who have played in the NFL or its sister leagues.

\*USC has had more first round NFL draft picks (80) than any school and is tied with Notre Dame and Auburn for most players selected as the top pick in the NFL draft (5).

\*Going into the 2017 regular season, there were 37 ex-Trojans on NFL active rosters. Currently, there are 38 USC alums on 2017 rosters.

\*There were 35 Trojans on 2016 opening day rosters, tied for second most of any school (since records were available, USC has been first 19 of the last 41 years) and USC was tied for the most quarterbacks and linebackers.



\*Among USC's NFLers are QBs Carson Palmer, Cody Kessler, Matt Cassel and Mark Sanchez, RB Javorius Allen, LBs Clay Matthews, Brian Cushing, Rey Maualuga, Nick Perry, Devon Kennard and Hayes Pullard, DBs Nickell Robey-Coleman and Shareece Wright, DLs Jurrell Casey, Leonard Williams, Everson Griffen and Froste Rucker, WRs Robert Woods, Marqise Lee and Nelson Agholor, OLs Ryan Kalil, Matt Kalil, Tyron Smith and Marcus Martin and TEs Rhett Ellison, Xavier Grimble and Randall Telfer.

\*Four NFL head coaches have USC ties (either as former players or coaches): Seattle's Pete Carroll (Super Bowl XLVIII champion), Oakland's Jack Del Rio, Cleveland's Hue Jackson and Indianapolis' Chuck Pagano.

\*Nine current USC players have relatives with NFL playing backgrounds: OLB **Connor Murphy** (brother, Trent Murphy), WR **Michael Pittman Jr.** (father, Michael Pittman), C **Cole Smith** (father, Doug Smith), S **Jamel Cook** (cousin, Dalvin Cook), DT **Marlon Tuipulotu** (cousin, Fili Moala), S **Isaiah Pola-Mao** (uncle, Troy Polamalu), ILB-OLB **Levi Jones** (father, Robert Jones, brothers Cayleb and Isaiah Zay Jones, uncle, Jeff Blake), OT **Jalen McKenzie** (father, Reggie McKenzie, uncle, Raleigh McKenzie) and OT **Austin Jackson** (grandfather, Melvin Jackson). Also, C-OG **Toa Lobendahn's** father, Vince, was an offensive lineman in the Arena League with the Albany Firebirds (1994) and St. Louis Stampede (1995). Additionally, assistant coaches **Ronnie Bradford** and **Kenechi Udezue** played in the NFL, while assistant coach **Tee Martin** played in the NFL, NFL Europe and CFL and assistant coach **Deland McCullough** played in the NFL, CFL and XFL. Defensive quality control assistant **Mike Goff** played in the NFL (Cincinnati Bengals, San Diego Chargers, Kansas City Chiefs) and offensive quality control coach **Keary Colbert** (Carolina Panthers, Denver Broncos, Seattle Seahawks, Detroit Lions) played in the NFL and the United Football League. Assistant coaches Bradford, Udezue and **Clancy Pendergast** were NFL assistants. Special teams quality control assistant **Mike Tuiaosopo's** brother, Navy (Los Angeles Rams, St. Louis Cardinals), cousins, Manu Tuiaosopo (Seattle Seahawks, San Francisco 49ers), John (New York Giants, New England Patriots) and Terry (Philadelphia Eagles, Detroit Lions, San Francisco 49ers, Miami Dolphins) Tautolo, second cousin, Marques Tuiaosopo (Oakland Raiders, New York Jets) and uncle, Bob Apisa (Green Bay Packers) played in the NFL. Defensive intern **Joe Willie Laufenberg's** father, Babe Laufenberg, played in the NFL and World League and now is a radio analyst for the Dallas Cowboys.

## ACADEMICS

\*The USC football team posted an all-time high NCAA Academic Progress Rate of 968, which exceeded the national average, according to data released by the NCAA in May. A team's APR accounts for eligibility, retention and graduation to generate a measure of academic performance of each student-athlete on scholarship. The APR is a multiyear rate based on scores from the 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16 academic years.

\*The Trojan football team also posted an all-time high Graduation Success Rate, according to data released by the NCAA this November. The GSR measures how many players in the classes of 2007-10 graduated within 6 years of enrollment. The 2017 football rate (73%) is 6 percentage points higher than 2016, which at the time was a program high. USC Athletics' overall GSR hit an all-time high (86%) for the fourth consecutive year.

\*Sixteen Trojans have cumulative grade point averages of 3.00 or higher (through spring 2017 semester). Among the top scholars on the 2017 Trojan squad are: QB **Jack Sears** (3.67, business administration), DT **Marlon Tuipulotu** (3.55, history), QB **Holden Thomas** (3.37, business administration), CB **Yoofi Quansah** (3.24, computer science), S **Richard Hagestad** (3.23, business administration), C **Cole Smith** (3.21), P-HLD **Wyatt Schmidt** (3.18, real estate development), WR **Milo Stewart** (3.12, human biology), P **James Birmingham Jr.** (3.12, business administration), SNP **Damon Johnson** (3.10, human biology), OLB **Matt Bayle** (3.10, communication), SNP **Jake Olson** (3.09, business administration), WR **Jackson Boyer** (3.04, social sciences/economics), OG-OT **Jordan Austin** (3.03, international relations/studies in law), TE **Alec Hursh** (3.01, biomedical engineering/mechanical engineering) and TE **Austin Applebee** (3.00, sociology).

\*OG-OT **Jordan Austin** and P-HLD **Wyatt Schmidt** made 2017 Pac-12 All-Academic honorable mention.

\*Six Trojans already earned their bachelor's degrees: WR **Steven Mitchell Jr.** received his bachelor's degree in communication from USC in the spring of 2016 and is now working towards a master's degree in communication management, OG-OT **Jordan Austin** received his bachelor's degree in international relations from USC in the spring of 2017 and is now working on a master's degree in studies in law, S **Chris Hawkins** received his bachelor's degree in policy, planning and development from USC in the spring of 2017 and is working on a second bachelor's degree, DT **Malik Dorton** received his bachelor's degree in communication from USC in the summer of 2017 and is now working on a master's degree in communication management, C **Nico Falah** received his bachelor's degree in non-governmental organizations from USC in the fall of 2017 and TB **Corbin Jountti** received his bachelor's degree in psychology (minor in ethnic studies) from Northern Arizona in December of 2016 before transferring to USC this fall.

\*In its history, USC football has produced 22 Academic All-American first teamers (tied for tops in the Pac-12 and among the Top 10 in the nation), 20 NCAA Post-Graduate Scholarship winners, 13 National Football Foundation Scholar-Athletes, 7 NCAA Silver Anniversary Award winners, 4 NCAA Today's Top 10 winners, 1 Rhodes Scholar (Pat Haden) and 2 Academic All-American Hall of Famers (Haden and Dick Nunis).

## SCOUTING OHIO STATE

No. 5 Ohio State won its league title, defeating previously-unbeaten Wisconsin, 27-21, in the Big Ten Championship Game. The Buckeyes, under sixth-year head coach **Urban Meyer** (the nation's winningest active coach at 85.0% and third all-time), are sixth nationally in total offense (523.6) and fifth in scoring offense (42.5), as well as eighth in total defense (292.3) and seventh in rushing defense (108.8). Dynamic All-Big Ten first team senior QB **J.T. Barrett** (229-of-354, 64.7%, 2,939 yds, 35 TD, 9 int in 2017, plus 149 tcb, 732 yds, 4.9 avg, 10 TD), a finalist for the O'Brien Award and Earl Campbell Tyler Rose Award and the winningest (37) quarterback in OSU history, ranks eighth nationally in passing efficiency (162.0) and fourth in passing TDs (35). He owns 35 school and Big Ten records. The Buckeyes' ground attack is led by true freshman RB **J.K. Dobbins** (181 tcb, 1,364 yds, 7.5 avg, 7 TD in 2017, plus 22 rec, 135 yds, 6.1 avg, 1 TD), who owns the school's freshman rushing yardage record, and sophomore RB **Mike Weber** (96 tcb, 608 yds, 6.3 avg, 10 TD in 2017, plus 9 rec, 78 yds, 8.7 avg and 9 KOR, 143 yds, 15.9 avg). Eleven OSU players have caught touchdowns, with soph WR **K.J. Hill** (55 rec, 546 yds, 9.9 avg, 3 TD in 2017, plus 25 PR, 143 yds, 5.7 avg and 6 KOR, 150 yds, 25.0 avg) the top pass catcher in a deep receiving corps. Three All-Big Ten first teamers--All-American senior C **Billy Price**, the 2017 Rimington Trophy winner, soph OG **Michael Jordan** and senior OT **Jamarco Jones**--anchor the Buckeye offensive line. Among Ohio State's leading defenders are junior LB **Jerome Baker** (team-best 67 tac, 6.5 for loss, 3 sack, 3 dfl, 1 FR, 1 FF in 2017), soph S **Jordan Fuller** (60 tac, 3 for loss, 2 int, 2 dfl in 2017) and senior S **Damon Webb** (56 tac, 2 for loss, 4 int, 3 dfl, 1 FR in 2017), along with 3 All-Big Ten first teamers in All-American junior CB **Denzel Ward** (37 tac, 2 for loss, 2 int, 15 dfl, 1 BLK in 2017), All-American soph DL **Nick Bosa** (32 tac, 14.5 for loss, 7 sack, 2 dfl, 1 FF in 2017) and senior DL **Tyquan Lewis** (15 tac, 7.5 for loss, 6 sack, 2 dfl, 1 FF in 2017).

## OTHER USC SPORTS IN DEC. 29 ACTION

The **USC men's and women's basketball teams** begin Pac-12 play on Dec. 29. The men host Washington at 7:30 p.m. PT in the Galen Center, while the women are at California at 6 p.m. PT.

## INJURY/STATUS UPDATE

**OUT:** DT **Marlon Tuipulotu** (back), OG **Viane Talamaivao** (pectoral muscle), CB **Greg Johnson** (shoulder), PK **Michael Brown** (knee), S **Isaiah Pola-Mao** (shoulder), CB **Jonathan Lockett** (hip), ILB **Taylor Katoa** (knee).

## ROSTER UPDATES

Here are updates to the roster in the 2017 USC football regular season media guide:

\*Possible jersey number change: P/HLD **Wyatt Schmidt** might wear jersey #86 (instead of #46).

\*Slip on jersey: USC uses **#92** as an in-game slip-on jersey to avoid duplicate numbers on the field at the same time.

\*Change jersey numbers: SNP **Damon Johnson** is now #58, CB **Jack Jones** is now #25, CB **Yoofi Quansah** is now #30 and OG **Jacob Daniel** is now #52.

\*Change position: **Jacob Daniel** is now an OG and **Dominic Davis** is now a CB-TB.

\*Change height and weight: C **Richie Wenzel** is now 6-3 and 285.

\*Change hometown: WR **Trevon Sidney** is now from Pasadena.

\*Now on scholarship: Former walk-on ILB **Grant Moore** was awarded a scholarship in the fall of 2017.

\*Add 6 new walkons: #30 **Corbin Jountti** (TB, 6-0, 205, 2/2/95, Sr./Sr., TR, Bakersfield, Liberty/Northern Arizona); #36 **Jack Webster** (WR, 6-0, 185, 8/20/98, Fr./Fr., --, La Canada Flintridge, Loyola); #37 **Ben Easington** (TB, 5-10, 205, 4/23/99, Fr./Fr., --, Evanston, IL, Evanston); #40 **Chase McGrath** (PK, 6-0, 190, 9/13/98, Fr./Fr., --, Newport Beach, Mater Del); #53 **Bryce Matthews** (OLB, 6-3, 220, 4/30/99, Fr./Fr., --, Los Angeles, Bishop Montgomery); #87 **Matt Nyman** (WR, 6-2, 185, 11/11/98, Fr./Fr., --, Los Angeles, Brentwood).

\*Delete: DT **Kenny Bigelow Jr.** (retired), TE **Cary Angeline** (quit).



## USC IN NCAA/PAC-12 STAT RANKINGS

NAME	CATEGORY	AVG	NCAA RANK*	PAC-12 RANK**
Ronald Jones	Rushing TDs	18	5	2
Ronald Jones	Total Touchdowns	19	6	2
Jalen Greene	Punt Return TDs	1	10	3
Michael Pittman	Punt Return TDs	1	10	3
Ronald Jones	Rushing Yards	123.8	9	3
Ronald Jones	Scoring	9.5	11	3
Sam Darnold	Passing Yards	291.3	13	3
Velus Jones	Kickoff Returns	26.2	15	1
Ronald Jones	All-Purpose Running	139.4	15	3
Sam Darnold	Passing TDs	26	16	2
Sam Darnold	Total Offense	299.0	18	3
Deontay Burnett	Receiving TDs	9	20	2
Sam Darnold	Completions	21.3	21	4
Rasheem Green	Sacks	0.7	21	3
Ronald Jones	Rushing Yards Per Carry	6.1	22	4
Sam Darnold	Passing Efficiency	151.0	23	2
Christian Rector	Fumbles Recovered	2	23	3
Christian Rector	Sacks	0.7	24	4
Sam Darnold	Points Responsible For	14.5	--	3
Jack Jones	Interceptions	0.3	--	4
Sam Darnold	Completion Percentage	.637	--	4
Deontay Burnett	Receptions	5.7	--	5
Deontay Burnett	Receiving Yards	75.0	--	5
USC	Red Zone Defense	.700	4	1
USC	Sacks	3.3	6	1
USC	First Downs Offense	317	6	1
USC	Interceptions	16	11	2
USC	Blocked Kicks	4	11	2
USC	Total Offense	489.5	15	2
USC	Defensive Touchdowns	3	17	1
USC	Punt Returns	12.0	18	3
USC	Tackles For Loss Allowed	4.5	20	1
USC	Passing Offense	294.6	19	3
USC	Kickoff Returns	23.5	22	3
USC	Passing Efficiency	149.4	23	2
USC	Scoring Offense	34.5	24	4
USC	Completion Percentage	.635	25	5
USC	Pass Efficiency Defense	121.6	--	4
USC	Time of Possession	30:36	--	4
USC	Third Down Conversion Defense	.369	--	4
USC	Rushing Offense	194.9	--	4
USC	Rushing Defense	158.3	--	5
USC	Scoring Defense	26.3	--	5
USC	Sacks Allowed	1.7	--	5
USC	Tackles For Loss	6.2	--	5

\*Top 25 only

\*\*Top 5 only

## RED ZONE PRODUCTION

GAME	USC	OPPONENT
WMU	4-of-4 (TD, TD, TD, TD)	2-of-2 (TD, TD)
STAN	3-of-4 (TD, TD, TD, end game)	3-of-3 (TD, FG, TD)
TEX	2-of-4 (fail 4th, miss FG, TD, FG)	3-of-6 (fail 4th, FG, int, TD, TD, fum)
CAL	5-of-5 (FG, TD, FG, TD, TD)	4-of-5 (FG, TD, FG, fum, TD)
WSU	4-of-4 (TD, FG, FG, TD)	3-of-4 (TD, FG, FG, end game)
OSU	3-of-4 (TD, TD, FG, end game)	2-of-5 (miss FG, FG, fail 4th, fum, TD)
UTAH	3-of-4 (fum, TD, TD, TD)	2-of-4 (int, miss FG, TD, TD)
ND	2-of-3 (miss FG, TD, TD)	4-of-4 (TD, TD, TD, TD)
ASU	2-of-4 (TD, miss FG, FG, fail 4th)	1-of-1 (TD)
ARIZ	3-of-6 (fail 4th, int, TD, TD, end game)	2-of-3 (fum, TD, TD)
COLO	3-of-3 (TD, TD, FG)	2-of-3 (TD, FG, fail 4th)
UCLA	3-of-4 (TD, end half, TD, TD)	3-of-5 (TD, fum, int, TD, FG)
STAN	5-of-6 (TD, FG, TD, TD, end game)	4-of-5 (TD, TD, TD, fail 4th, TD)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>42-of-55 (.764)</b>	<b>35-of-50 (.700)</b>
	33--TD	26--TD
	9--FG	9--FG
	4--end of game	1--end game
	3--fail 4th	4--fail 4th
	3--miss FG	5--fum
	1--fum	3--int
	1--int	2--miss FG
	1--end of half	

## REID BUDROVICH PUNTS

GAME	PUNTS	WITHIN 20	50+ YARDS
WMU	4	2	2
STAN	1	0	0
TEX	6	2	3
CAL	3	0	1
WSU	6	4	1
OSU	2	0	0
UTAH	4	1	0
ND	6	1	1
ASU	2	1	0
ARIZ	4	1	1
COLO	3	3	1
UCLA	5	2	0
STAN	3	2	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>10</b>

## REID BUDROVICH KICKOFFS

GAME	KICKOFFS	WITHIN 20 (TOUCHBACKS)
ARIZ	4	0 (4)
COLO	7	2 (4)
UCLA	5	1 (0)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>3 (8)</b>

## CHASE McGRATH KICKOFFS

GAME	KICKOFFS	WITHIN 20 (TOUCHBACKS)
STAN	6	0 (1)
TEX	2	1 (0)
CAL	7	1 (2)
WSU	6	2 (3)
OSU	7	2 (3)
UTAH	5	1 (2)
ND	3	2 (0)
ASU	9	1 (5)
ARIZ	4	0 (1)
STAN	6	1 (2)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>11 (19)</b>

## MICHAEL BROWN KICKOFFS

GAME	KICKOFFS	WITHIN 20 (TOUCHBACKS)
WMU	8	1 (3)
STAN	1	1 (0)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>2 (3)</b>

## TROJANS IN THE NFL (38)

(As Of 12/12/17)

**ARIZONA CARDINALS**  
Matt Barkley, QB  
Frostee Rucker, DT  
Max Tuerk, C

**BALTIMORE RAVENS**  
Javorius Allen, RB  
**BUFFALO BILLS**  
Shareece Wright, CB

**CAROLINA PANTHERS**  
Wes Horton, DE  
Matt Kalil, T  
Ryan Kalil, C

Kevon Seymour, CB  
**CHICAGO BEARS**  
Mark Sanchez, QB  
**CINCINNATI BENGALS**  
Josh Shaw, CB

**CLEVELAND BROWNS**  
\*Zach Banner, OL  
Cody Kessler, QB  
Marcus Martin, OL

Randall Telfer, TE  
**DALLAS COWBOYS**  
Tyron Smith, T  
**GREEN BAY PACKERS**  
Clay Matthews, LB

Nick Perry, LB  
**JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS**  
Marqise Lee, WR  
**KANSAS CITY CHIEFS**  
\*Leon McQuay III, S

**LOS ANGELES CHARGERS**  
Hayes Pullard, LB  
**LOS ANGELES RAMS**  
\*Justin Davis, RB

Nickell Robey-Coleman, DB  
Robert Woods, WR  
**MIAMI DOLPHINS**  
Rey Mualuga, LB

T.J. McDonald, S  
**MINNESOTA VIKINGS**  
Everson Griffen, DE  
**NEW YORK GIANTS**  
Rhett Ellison, TE

Devon Kennard, LB  
\*Damien Mama, OL  
\*Chad Wheeler, T  
**NEW YORK JETS**  
Leonard Williams, DL

**PHILADELPHIA EAGLES**  
Nelson Agholor, WR  
**PITTSBURGH STEELERS**  
Xavier Grimble, TE

\*JuJu Smith-Schuster, WR  
**TENNESSEE TITANS**  
Jurrell Casey, DT  
Matt Cassel, QB

\*Adoree' Jackson, CB  
  
\*2017 Rookie





# CLAY HELTON



\*After starting the 2015 season as the offensive coordinator/quarterbacks coach, Clay Helton was named USC's permanent head coach on Nov. 30 of that year, dropping the interim head coach title he had held for USC's final 7 regular season games.

\*The 45-year-old Helton, who has been at USC since 2010, is 27-9 (.750) as the Trojan head coach with 9 victories over AP Top 25 teams, including 3 Top 5 teams. He went 11-2 in 2017 with wins over No. 14 Stanford twice (including in the Pac-12 Championship Game) and No. 23 Arizona, 10-3 in 2016 with wins over No. 4 Washington, No. 5 Penn State in a legendary Rose Bowl thriller and No. 21 Colorado, 5-4 in 2015 with wins over No. 3 Utah and No. 22 UCLA, and 1-0 in 2013, beating No. 21 Fresno State. He is the first USC head coach to have 10-win seasons in each of his first 2 full seasons and he has more wins (21) in his first 2 full seasons than any USC coach. He has led USC to an active 16-game home winning streak (its longest since 2001-04) and a since-snapped 13-game overall winning streak from 2016 to 2017 (its longest since 2003-04). He is 16-0 in the Coliseum. Two of his career losses came while he was serving as USC's interim head coach.

\*In 2017, his Trojans are 11-2 (ranked eighth) despite playing all 12 regular season games without a bye and are headed to the Cotton Bowl Classic. He led USC to an 8-1 Pac-12 record (the loss was by 3 points on Friday night on the road on a late

field goal) and its first Pac-12 title since 2008 by winning the Pac-12 Championship Game (the first ever by a South Division team). He was the **2017 AP Pac-12 Coach of the Year and Athlon Pac-12 Coach of the Year** and a **finalist for the Paul "Bear" Bryant Coach of the Year Award** (the second consecutive year he has been a finalist).

\*After his Trojans started off 1-3 in 2016 in his first full season as head coach (all 3 losses were to AP Top 25 teams away from home), USC closed with a 9-game winning streak (its longest since 2008-09) while rising to a final No. 3 national AP ranking (USC's highest since 2008 and the highest ever of any 3-loss team) and earning a berth in the Rose Bowl (finishing second in the Pac-12 South at 7-2) as it played a schedule ranked among the 10 most difficult in the nation. He was named a **finalist for the 2016 Paul "Bear" Bryant Coach of the Year Award** and won the **Football Writers First Year Co-Coach of the Year Award**.

\*He guided the 2015 Trojans to 5 wins in the last 6 regular-season games (including victories over No. 3 Utah and No. 22 UCLA), the co-championship of the challenging Pac-12 South Division, a berth in the Pac-12 Championship Game and a trip to the Holiday Bowl. He was named the **2015 Los Angeles Sports Council Coach of the Year**.

\*Helton joined the USC staff in February of 2010 as the quarterbacks coach after spending 10 seasons as an assistant at Memphis. He added the passing game coordinator role in 2012 and became the Trojans' offensive coordinator in 2013 (he served as USC's interim head coach in its victory over No. 21 Fresno State in the 2013 Las Vegas Bowl).

\*He began his 10-year (2000-09) Memphis career as the running backs coach for 3 seasons, then coached the Tigers' receivers for the next 4 seasons before becoming the offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach the final 3 years. He served as Memphis' interim head coach for several months in early 2006 when head coach Tommie West had off-season heart surgery.

\*Before Memphis, he was the running backs coach at Houston, his alma mater, for 3 seasons (1997-99) under his father, head coach Kim Helton.

\*He began his coaching career at Duke, serving as a graduate assistant in 1995 and then the running backs coach in 1996.

\*He played quarterback at Houston in 1993 and 1994, playing for his father both seasons and captaining the Cougars as a 1994 senior. He spent 1991 and 1992 at Auburn, where he earned 1992 SEC All-Academic honors. He redshirted there in 1990.

\*He prepped at Clements High in Sugar Land (Tex.).

\*He and wife, Angela, have 3 children. Besides being Houston's head coach from 1993 to 1999, his father, Kim, was an assistant in college, the NFL and CFL. His brother, Tyson, was USC's quarterbacks coach and pass game coordinator (2016-17) until becoming Tennessee's offensive coordinator.

## ASSISTANT COACHES

USC's 2017 assistant coaching staff stayed nearly intact from 2016, with the only newcomer being running backs coach **Deland McCullough**, who joined USC after 6 seasons at Indiana, where the Hoosiers set 19 school rushing records and sent 3 runners to the NFL. The fulltime holdovers: **Tee Martin** (offensive coordinator/wide receivers), **Clancy Pendergast** (defensive coordinator), **John Baxter** (special teams coordinator/tight ends), **Johnny Nansen** (assistant head coach/linebackers/recruiting coordinator), **Ronnie Bradford** (defensive backs), **Neil Callaway** (offensive line) and **Kenechi Udeze** (defensive line). Martin was a semifinalist for the 2017 Broyles Award. Three of last year's graduate assistant coaches returned—**Brett Arce** (defense), **Austin Clark** (defense) and **Prentice Gill** (offense)—with former USC walk-on offensive lineman **Dane Stevens** (offense) joining them in 2017. **Tyson Helton** (quarterbacks/pass game coordinator) was on staff until being named Tennessee's offensive coordinator in early December, so offensive quality control assistant **Bryan Ellis** will handle the quarterbacks coach duties in the Cotton Bowl.

### Assistant Coaches



**Tee Martin**

**Offensive Coordinator/Wide Receivers**

**In the Booth**



**Neil Callaway**

**Offensive Line**

**On the Field**



**Bryan Ellis**

**Quarterbacks**

**In the Booth**



**Deland McCullough**

**Running Backs/Run Game Coordinator**

**On the Field**



**Clancy Pendergast**

**Defensive Coordinator**

**On the Field**



**Ronnie Bradford**

**Secondary**

**On the Field**



**Johnny Nansen**

**Linebackers/Assistant Head Coach**

**On the Field**



**Kenechi Udeze**

**Defensive Line**

**In the Booth**



**John Baxter**

**Special Teams Coordinator/Tight Ends**

**On the Field**

# DEPTH CHART

## OFFENSE

Pos.	No.	Name	Twitter • Instagram	Major
WR	21	Tyler Vaughns (6-2, 185, Fr.)*	@tswag03 • @tvaughns_21	Communication
	10	Jalen Greene (6-2, 200, Jr.)*	– • @classic.jg	Communication
	17	Josh Imatorbhebhe (6-2, 215, Fr.)*	@JoshBhebhe • @josh_bhebhe	Business Administration
	<u>9</u>	Randal Grimes (6-4, 205, Fr.)	@RandaRandal • @therandalgrimes	Sociology
	85	Jackson Boyer (6-2, 195, Sr.)*	– • @jackson_boyer	Social Sciences (Economics)
	36	Jack Webster (6-0, 185, Fr.)	– • –	
WR	80	Deontay Burnett (6-0, 170, Jr.)	@Deontay_Burnett • @tay.80	Communication
	23	Velus Jones Jr. (6-0, 190, Fr.)*	@VelusJr • @iam_vjj	Psychology
	<u>81</u>	Trevon Sidney (5-11, 170, Fr.)*	@TrevonSidney • @t.sid2	Communication
	15	Keyshawn "Pie" Young (5-11, 170, So.)	@youngpie_1 • @miami_pie	Communication
	24	Jake Russell (5-11, 170, So.)*	@jakeruss5 • @jake_russ	Business Administration
	41	Milo Stewart (5-9, 165, Sr.)*	– • @miloclark41	Human Biology
TE	88	Daniel Imatorbhebhe (6-3, 235, So.)* <b>OR</b>	@_bhex2 • @1bhebhe5	Social Sciences (Economics)
	82	Tyler Petite (6-4, 250, Jr.)	@TylerPetite • @tylerpetite	Communication
	84	Erik Krommenhoek (6-5, 245, Fr.) <b>OR</b>	@ekromme11 • @erik_krommenhoek	Human Biology
	<u>83</u>	Josh Falo (6-6, 235, Fr.)	@Josh_falo • @philthyj_	Communication
	89	Austin Applebee (6-6, 245, Jr.)*	@AAApplebee24 • @austinapplebee	Sociology
	87	Alec Hursh (6-3, 220, Jr.)*	– • –	Biomedical Engineering (Mech. Eng.)
RT	70	Chuma Edoga (6-4, 295, Jr.)	@edogawd • –	Political Economy
	76	Clayton Johnston (6-5, 295, So.)* <b>OR</b>	@KingClayton76 • @kingclayton76	Communication
	73	Austin Jackson (6-6, 290, Fr.)	@ChocoDro • @austindjackson	Political Science
	54	Jalen McKenzie (6-5, 305, Fr.)	@pcBjaypee2 • @jay_peek54	
	78	#Nathan Smith (6-6, 285, Fr.)*	@Nathan7099 • @nathansmith70	Business Administration
RG	72	Andrew Vorhees (6-6, 310, Fr.)	@Andrew_Vorhees • @andrew_vorhees	Business Administration
	<u>56</u>	Jordan Austin (6-5, 290, Jr.)*	@jaustin0056 • @jaustin56	Studies In Law • Master's
	65	Frank Martin II (6-4, 300, Fr.)*	@IAMFMII • @iamfmii	Communication
	60	#Viane Talamaivao (6-2, 325, Sr.)	– • @vianetalamaivao	Non-Governmental Organizations
C	74	Nico Falah (6-4, 285, Sr.)*	@NicoFalah • @nicofalah	Non-Governmental Organizations
	<u>66</u>	Cole Smith (6-3, 275, So.)*	@coledsmith56 • @coledsmith66	
	62	Brett Neilon (6-2, 295, Fr.)	@brettn110 • @brettn110	Business Administration
	64	Richie Wenzel (6-3, 285, Jr.)*	– • @r_wenzel3	Real Estate Development
LG	77	Chris Brown (6-5, 310, Jr.)*	@ChrisBrown77 • @chrisryanbrown77	Real Estate Development
	<u>63</u>	Roy Hemsley (6-5, 315, So.)*	@leagueme_roy • @bigsmooth_63	Psychology
	52	Jacob Daniel (6-4, 305, Jr.)	@559JDan • @jminivanjdan	Political Science
	68	Alijah Vera-Tucker (6-4, 300, Fr.)	@yung_lijh • @yung_lijh	Communication
LT	50	Toa Lobendahn (6-3, 290, Jr.)*	@T_Lo55 • @godswarriorr	Policy, Planning and Development
	73	Austin Jackson (6-6, 290, Fr.) <b>OR</b>	@ChocoDro • @austindjackson	Political Science
	<u>76</u>	Clayton Johnston (6-5, 295, So.)*	@KingClayton76 • @kingclayton76	Communication
WR	6	Michael Pittman Jr. (6-4, 215, So.) <b>OR</b>	@MikePitt_Jr • @michael_pittman_jr	
	4	Steven Mitchell Jr. (5-10, 195, Sr.)*	@smj_vii • @smj.iv	Communication Mgmt. • Master's
	1	Joseph Lewis IV (6-2, 205, Fr.)	@jodyforthewin • @getoff.jody	Communication
	87	Matt Nyman (6-2, 185, Fr.)	– • –	
QB	14	Sam Darnold (6-4, 220, So.)*	– • @samdarnold	Communication
	<u>19</u>	Matt Fink (6-3, 190, Fr.)*	@FinkMattfink • @matt_fink12	Communication
	13	Jack Sears (6-3, 200, Fr.)	@jackpsears12 • @jack_sears12	Business Administration
	16	Holden Thomas (6-6, 195, Fr.)*	@holdenthomas12 • @holdenthomass	Business Administration
	18	Thomas Fitts (6-1, 200, So.)*	@thomasfitts12 • @thomasfitts	Business Administration
FB	<u>47</u>	Reuben Peters (6-0, 230, Jr.)*	– • @reubenrpeters	Real Estate Development
TB	25	Ronald Jones II (6-0, 200, Jr.)	@RonaldJones25 • @rojo	Communication
	7	Stephen Carr (6-0, 210, Fr.) <b>OR</b>	@yt_deon • @yt_deon	Communication
	28	Aca'Cedric Ware (6-0, 195, Jr.) <b>OR</b>	@ware_ced • @acacedric.ware.jr	Real Estate Development
	29	Vavae Malepeai (6-0, 210, Fr.)*	@vavaeee • @vavaeee	Communication
	<u>26</u>	James Toland IV (5-11, 195, Sr.)*	@Toland25 • @jtoland26	Social Sciences (Psychology)
	30	Corbin Jountti (6-0, 205, Sr.)*	– • –	
	38	Chris Edmondson (5-9, 195, Fr.)*	@ChrisEdmondson_ • @cie210	
	37	Ben Easington (5-10, 205, Fr.)	– • –	

Players connected with "OR" are considered equal

\*Used redshirt year

#Entered game week with an injury or uncertain status

Players listed above underlined numbers are in primary playing rotation



# DEPTH CHART

## DEFENSE

Pos.	No.	Name	Twitter • Instagram	Major
OLB	42	Uchenna Nwosu (6-2, 240, Sr.)	@UchennaN_42 • @42nwosu	Political Science
	99	Oluwole Betiku Jr. (6-3, 250, So.)	@oluwolebetiku • @kingwolehoudini	
	41	Juliano Falaniko (6-4, 220, Fr.)	@julianofalaniko • @julianofalaniko_17	Communication
DE	94	Rasheem Green (6-4, 275, Jr.)	@ras_green • @ras_green	Sociology
	44	Malik Dorton (6-2, 280, Jr.*)	@theeEliteMalik • –	Communication Mgmt. • Master's
	78	Jay Tufele (6-3, 295, Fr.)	@tufele123 • @jay_tufele	Sociology
NT	98	Josh Fatu (6-2, 315, Sr.)	@jayfatu • @jayfatu	Sociology
	91	Brandon Pili (6-4, 320, Fr.)	@BrandonPili • @brandonpili_55	
	79	Connor Rossow (6-1, 315, Fr.*)	@connorw52 • @connorw	
	51	#Marlon Tuipulotu (6-3, 295, Fr.)	@marlont_51 • @mtuipulotu51	History
DE	44	Malik Dorton (6-2, 280, Jr.*)	@theeEliteMalik • –	Communication Mgmt. • Master's
	89	Christian Rector (6-4, 275, So.*)	@the_real_rector • @christian_rector	Economics
	93	Liam Jimmons (6-4, 285, Fr.*)	@LJblack98 • @liam_usc93	Real Estate Development
	97	Jacob Lichtenstein (6-5, 255, Fr.)	– • –	
OLB	56	Jordan Iosefa (6-2, 225, So.)	@JordanIosefa • @iosefa_4	Economics
	89	Christian Rector (6-4, 275, So.*) OR	@the_real_rector • @christian_rector	Political Science
	45	#Porter Gustin (6-5, 255, Jr.) OR	@portergustin • @portergustin	Communication
	90	Connor Murphy (6-7, 260, So.)	@CMurph_90 • @cmurphy_90	Communication
	31	Hunter Echols (6-5, 240, Fr.)	@hunter_tyb • @hunteryb	
ILB	35	Cameron Smith (6-2, 250, Jr.)	@CamSc35 • @camusc35	Communication
	56	Jordan Iosefa (6-2, 225, So.)	@JordanIosefa • @iosefa_4	
	50	Grant Moore (6-0, 210, Jr.*)	@gmoore_10 • @grantmoore_50	Real Estate Development
	34	Olajuwon Tucker (6-2, 220, Sr.)	@BThree4 • @bthree4	Int. Relations (Global Business)
	49	Matt Bayle (6-0, 215, So.*)	@realmattbayle • @matthewbayle3	Communication
ILB	10	John Houston Jr. (6-3, 210, So.*)	@Official_John10 • @johnhouston10	Sociology
	13	Levi Jones (6-3, 220, Fr.)	@TheViJones • @thevijones	
	52	Christian Herrera (6-0, 215, Sr.*)	– • @christian_herrera94	Social Sciences (Economics)
	53	Bryce Matthews (6-3, 220, Fr.)	– • –	
	56	#Tayler Katooa (6-2, 230, Fr.)	@taylerkatooa • @taylerkatooa	Business Administration
CB	8	Iman Marshall (6-1, 205, Jr.)	@iman_marshall8 • @biggie	Political Science
	24	Isaiah Langley (6-0, 175, Jr.)	@_IsaiahLangley • @_isaiahlangley	Sociology
	21	Jamel Cook (6-4, 190, Fr.*)	@_retiremom21 • @_retiremom21	
	18	Jalen Jones (5-8, 165, Jr.*)	– • @jay.bo	Real Estate Development
	22	Je'Quari Godfrey (6-2, 185, Fr.)	@Jay_Godfrey22 • @jaygodfrey22	Psychology
	9	#Greg Johnson (5-11, 195, Fr.)	@quick6gjohanson • @ykg.three	Communication
NK	27	Ajene Harris (5-10, 190, Jr.*)	@ajeneharris • @harristhechosen1	Communication
	14	Ykili Ross (6-1, 190, So.*)	@TheRealYK_7 • @bilix30	Sociology
SS	4	Chris Hawkins (5-11, 190, Sr.*)	@CHawk_4 • @chawk_4	Sociology • Second Bachelor's
	2	Bubba Bolden (6-3, 190, Fr.)	@BubbBolden • @b_.bold	
	28	C.J. Pollard (6-1, 185, Fr.*)	@CJPollard1 • @cjpollard_28	Communication
	26	Davonte Nunnery (5-10, 215, Jr.*)	@USC_26 • –	Sociology
FS	7	Marvell Tell III (6-2, 195, Jr.)	@MarvellTell_7 • @marvelltell7	Real Estate Development
	37	Matt Lopes (5-11, 200, Sr.*)	– • @lopeseyy	Business Administration
	31	Richard Hagestad (6-1, 195, Fr.*)	– • @bighag	Business Administration
	6	#Isaiah Pola-Mao (6-4, 200, Fr.)	@The_Real_Zay • @isaiah_pola_mao	Sociology
CB	25	Jack Jones (5-11, 170, So.)	@presidentjacc • @presidentjacc	Sociology
	24	Isaiah Langley (6-0, 175, Jr.)	@_IsaiahLangley • @_isaiahlangley	Communication
	16	Dominic Davis (5-9, 190, Jr.)	@dominicadjr • @domo_fast	Computer Science
	30	Yoofi Quansah (5-7, 170, Sr.*)	@stemyoof • @yquansah_	Non-Governmental Organizations
	23	#Jonathan Lockett (5-11, 180, Sr.)	@Jlock_23 • @jlock23_	

Players connected with "OR" are considered equal

\*Used redshirt year

#Entered game week with an injury or uncertain status

Players listed above underlined numbers are in primary playing rotation





# DEPTH CHART

## SPECIALISTS

Pos.	No.	Name	Twitter • Instagram	Major
<b>P</b>	46	Reid Budrovich (5-11, 185, Jr.*)	@Reid_Bud • @reidbud	Business Administration
	36	Chris Tilbey (6-5, 215, Jr.*)	@Chris36Tilbey • @christilbey	Political Economy
	47	James Bermingham Jr. (6-4, 185, Jr.*)	— • @biggamejamesb	Business Administration
<b>PK</b>	40	Chase McGrath (6-0, 190, Fr.)--PAT, FG, KO	— • —	Political Science
	46	Reid Budrovich (5-11, 185, Jr.*)--KO	@Reid_Bud • @reidbud	Business Administration
	49	#Michael Brown (6-1, 195, Fr.*)--KO	@michaelbrown15 • @brownieboi15	Real Estate Development
<b>SNP</b>	58	Damon Johnson (6-0, 200, Fr.)	@damon_james24 • @damonj24	Human Biology
	46/86	Wyatt Schmidt (6-3, 205, Jr.*)	@yitschmidt • @yitschmidt	Real Estate Development
	61	Jake Olson (6-3, 225, So.*)	@JakeOlson61 • @jakethesnakeolson	Business Administration
<b>HLD</b>	46/86	Wyatt Schmidt (6-3, 205, Jr.*)	@yitschmidt • @yitschmidt	Real Estate Development
	46	Reid Budrovich (5-11, 185, Jr.*)	@Reid_Bud • @reidbud	Business Administration
	14	Sam Darnold (6-4, 220, So.*)	— • @samdarnold	Communication
<b>RETURNERS</b>				
<b>KOR</b>	23	Velus Jones Jr. (6-0, 190, Fr.*) <b>AND</b>	@VelusJr • @iam_vjj	Psychology
	7	Stephen Carr (6-0, 210, Fr.) <b>OR</b>	@yt_deon • @yt_deon	Communication
	25	Jack Jones (5-11, 170, So.) <b>OR</b>	@presidentjacc • @presidentjacc	Communication
	27	Ajene Harris (5-10, 190, Jr.*)	@ajeneharris • @harristhechosen1	Communication
<b>PR</b>	27	Ajene Harris (5-10, 190, Jr.*)	@ajeneharris • @harristhechosen1	Communication
	25	Jack Jones (5-11, 170, So.)	@presidentjacc • @presidentjacc	Communication
	80	Deontay Burnett (6-0, 170, Jr.)	@Deontay_Burnett • @tay.80	Communication

Players connected with “**OR**” are considered equal

\*Used redshirt year

#Entered game week with an injury or uncertain status

Players listed above underlined numbers are in primary playing rotation

## PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

### PLAYERS

APPLEBEE, Austin  
 BAYLE, Matt  
 BERMINGHAM Jr., James  
 BETIKU, Oluwale  
 BOLDEN, Bubba  
 BOYER, Jackson  
 BUDROVICH, Reid  
 BURNETT, Deontay  
 CARR, Stephen  
 COOK, Jamel  
 DARNOLD, Sam  
 DAVIS, Dominic  
 DORTON, Malik  
 EASINGTON, Ben  
 ECHOLS, Hunter  
 EDMONDSON, Chris  
 EDOGA, Chuma  
 FALAH, Nico  
 FALANIKO, Juliano  
 FALO, Josh  
 FATU, Josh  
 GODFREY, Je-Quari  
 GREEN, Rasheem  
 GREENE, Jalen  
 GRIMES, Randal  
 GUSTIN, Porter  
 HAGESTAD, Richard  
 HARRIS, Ajene  
 HEMSLEY, Roy  
 HERRERA, Christian  
 HURSCH, Alec  
 IMATORBHEBHE, Daniel/Josh  
 IOSEFA, Jordan  
 JACKSON, Austin  
 JIMMONS, Liam  
 JOHNSON, Damon  
 JONES, Jalen/Levi/Velus  
 JOUNTTI, Corbin  
 KATOA, Tayler  
 KROMMENHOEK, Erik  
 LANGLEY, Isaiah  
 LICHTENSTEIN, Jacob  
 LOEBENDAHN, Toa  
 LOPES, Matt

APP-ul-bee  
 BAIL  
 BUR-ming-ham  
 buh-TEE-koo, OE-loo-WOE-lee  
 BOWL-dun, BUB-uh  
 BOY-ur  
 BUD-roe-vitch  
 bur-NET, dee-ON-tay  
 CAR, STEEV-un  
 COOK, juh-MEL  
 DAR-nuld  
 DAY-vis, DOM-in-ick  
 DOOR-tun, muh-LEEK  
 EEZ-ing-tun  
 ECK-olz  
 ED-mun-sun  
 uh-DOE-guh, CHOO-muh  
 FAA-laa, NEE-coe  
 fah-lah-NEE-coe, jew-lee-AH-no  
 FALL-oe  
 FAH-too  
 GAWD-free, juh-CAR-ee  
 GREEN, ruh-SHEEM  
 GREEN, JAY-lin  
 GRYMZ  
 GUS-tin  
 HAG-uh-stad  
 HAIR-us, uh-JAY-nay  
 HEMS-lee  
 huh-RARE-uh  
 HERSH, AL-eck  
 ee-MAT-tor-bay-bay  
 ee-oe-SEF-uh  
 JAX-sun, AWE-stin  
 JIM-uns, LEE-um  
 JON-sun, DAY-mun  
 JOENS, JAY-lin/LEE-vye/VAY-lus  
 JUN-tee, CORE-ben  
 kuh-TOE-uh, TAY-lur  
 krome-mun-HOKE  
 LANG-lee, eye-ZAY-uh  
 LICK-tun-styne  
 low-ben-DON, TOE-uh  
 LOEPS (as in Copes)

MALEPEAI, Vavae  
 MARSHALL, Iman  
 McGRATH, Chase  
 McKENZIE, Jalen  
 NEILON, Brett  
 NUNNERY, Davonte  
 NWOSU, Uchenna  
 NYMAN, Matt  
 PETERS, Reuben  
 PETITE, Tyler  
 PILI, Brandon  
 POLA-MAO, Isaiah  
 POLLARD, C.J.  
 QUANSEH, Yoofi  
 RECTOR, Christian  
 ROSS, Ykili  
 ROSSOW, Connor  
 SCHMIDT, Wyatt  
 SIDNEY, Trevon  
 STEWART, Milo  
 TALAMAIVAO, Viane  
 TELL III, Marvell  
 TILBEY, Chris  
 TOLAND IV, James  
 TUCKER, Olajuwon  
 TUFELE, Jay  
 TUIPULOTU, Marlon  
 VAUGHNS, Tyler  
 VERA-TUCKER, Alijah  
 VORHEES, Andrew  
 WARE, Aca'Cedric  
 WENZEL, Richie  
 YOUNG, Keyshawn

mah-lay-PAY-eye, vah-VYE  
 MAR-shull, EE-mon  
 muh-GRATH  
 muh-KEN-zee, JAY-lin  
 NEE-lun  
 NONE-ur-ee, duh-VON-tay  
 noo-WOE-sue, oo-CHEN-uh  
 NIE-mun  
 PEE-turs, RUE-bin  
 puh-TEET  
 PEE-lee  
 POE-luh MOW (as in Cow), eye-ZAY-uh  
 PAUL-urd  
 KWAN-suh, YO-fee  
 RECK-tur  
 ROSS, eye-KEE-lee  
 ROSS-oe  
 SHMIT, WHY-ut  
 SID-nee, TRAY-von  
 STU-urt, MY-low  
 tal-uh-MY-vow, vee-ON-ee  
 TELL, mar-VELL  
 TILL-bee  
 TOE-lund  
 TUCK-ur, uh-LAW-juh-wawn  
 too-FAY-lay  
 TOO-ee-poo-LOE-too  
 VONS  
 VARE-uh TUK-ur, uh-LIE-jhuh  
 VORE-heez  
 WEAR, awk-uh-SAID-rick  
 WEN-zul  
 YUNG, KEY-shon

### COACHES/STAFF

ARCE, Brett  
 CALLAWAY, Neil  
 GILL, Prentice  
 HELTON, Clay  
 LEWIS, Ivan  
 McCULLOUGH, Deland  
 NANSSEN, Johnny  
 PENDERGAST, Clancy  
 UDEZE, Kenechi

ARE-see  
 CAL-uh-way  
 GIL, PREN-tis  
 HELL-tun  
 LOO-is, EYE-vun  
 muh-CULL-uh, DEE-land  
 NAN-sun  
 PEN-dur-gassed  
 oo-DEZ-zay, kun-EE-chee



# 2017 USC ROSTER - ALPHABETICAL

No.	Name	Pos	Hgt	Wgt	Birthday	Cl (Ath/Ac)	Exp.	Hometown(High School/JC/College)
89	APPLEBEE, Austin	TE	6-6	245	3/23/96	Jr.*/Sr.	TR	Seneca, IL (Seneca/McKendree/Arizona Western)
56	AUSTIN, Jordan	OG-OT	6-5	290	5/4/96	Jr.*/Sr.	1V	Claremont (Claremont)
49	BAYLE, Matt	OLB	6-0	215	2/27/97	So.*/Jr.	SQ	San Marino (St. Francis)
47	BERMINGHAM JR., James	P	6-4	185	6/12/96	Jr.*/Sr.	SQ	Laguna Beach (Dana Hills)
99	BETIKU JR., Oluwole	OLB	6-3	250	6/22/97	So./So.	1V	Lagos, Nigeria (Serra)
2	BOLDEN, Bubba	S	6-3	190	5/28/99	Fr./Fr.	--	Las Vegas, NV (Bishop Gorman)
85	BOYER, Jackson	WR	6-2	195	6/22/94	Sr.*/Sr.	1V	Chapel Hill, NC (East Chapel Hill/North Carolina)
77	BROWN, Chris	OG-OT	6-5	310	4/26/96	Jr.*/Sr.	2V	Los Angeles (Loyola)
49	BROWN, Michael	PK	6-1	195	12/23/97	Fr.*/So.	SQ	Temecula (Linfield Christian)
46	BUDROVICH, Reid	P	5-11	185	5/1/96	Jr.*/Sr.	SQ	Torrance (St. John Bosco)
80	BURNETT, Deontay	WR	6-0	170	10/4/97	Jr./Jr.	2V	Compton (Serra)
7	CARR, Stephen	TB	6-0	210	1/16/99	Fr./Fr.	--	Gardena (Summit)
21	COOK, Jamel	S	6-4	190	12/11/97	Fr.*/So.	SQ	Miami, FL (Miami Central)
52	DANIEL, Jacob	OG	6-4	305	4/7/97	Jr./Jr.	2V	Fresno (Clovis North)
14	DARNOLD, Sam	QB	6-4	220	6/5/97	So.*/Jr.	1V	Capistrano Beach (San Clemente)
16	DAVIS, Dominic	CB-TB	5-9	190	12/8/96	Jr./Jr.	2V	Los Angeles (Bishop Alemany)
44	DORTON, Malik	DT	6-2	280	5/23/96	Jr.*/Sr.	2V	Los Angeles (St. John Bosco)
37	EASINGTON, Ben	TB	5-10	205	4/23/99	Fr./Fr.	--	Evanston, IL (Evanston)
31	ECHOLS, Hunter	OLB	6-5	240	11/1/99	Fr./Fr.	--	Los Angeles (Cathedral)
38	EDMONDSON, Chris	TB	5-9	195	3/5/98	Fr.*/So.	SQ	Cibola, TX (Clemens)
70	EDOGA, Chuma	OT	6-4	295	5/25/97	Jr./Jr.	2V	Atlanta, GA (McEachern)
74	FALAH, Nico	C	6-4	285	1/6/95	Sr.*/Sr.	3V	Hermosa Beach (St. John Bosco)
41	FALANIKO, Juliano	ILB-OLB	6-4	220	3/27/99	Fr./Fr.	--	Pago Pago, American Samoa (Leone)
83	FALD, Josh	TE	6-6	235	8/10/99	Fr./Fr.	--	Sacramento (Inderkum)
98	FATU, Josh	DT	6-2	315	3/8/96	Sr./Sr.	1V	Long Beach (Lakewood/Long Beach CC)
19	FINK, Matt	QB	6-3	190	12/13/97	Fr.*/So.	SQ	Rancho Cucamonga (Glendora)
18	FITTS, Thomas	QB	6-1	200	9/24/96	So.*/Jr.	SQ	Dallas, TX (Episcopal School of Dallas)
22	GODFREY, Je'Quari	CB	6-2	185	1/23/00	Fr./Fr.	--	Oakland (Bishop O'Dowd)
94	GREEN, Rasheem	DL	6-4	275	5/15/97	Jr./Jr.	2V	Los Angeles (Serra)
10	GREENE, Jalen	WR	6-2	200	6/13/96	Jr.*/Sr.	2V	Inglewood (Serra)
9	GRIMES, Randal	WR	6-4	205	7/27/99	Fr./Fr.	--	Las Vegas, NV (Desert Pines)
45	GUSTIN, Porter	OLB	6-5	255	2/8/97	Jr./Jr.	2V	Elk Ridge, UT (Salem Hills)
31	HAGESTAD, Richard	S	6-1	195	3/21/97	Fr.*/So.	SQ	Del Mar (Bishop's School)
27	HARRIS, Ajene	CB	5-10	190	6/1/96	Jr.*/Sr.	2V	Los Angeles (Crenshaw)
4	HAWKINS, Chris	S	5-11	190	3/11/95	Sr.*/Sr.	3V	Rancho Cucamonga (Rancho Cucamonga)
63	HEMSLEY, Roy	OT-OG	6-5	315	3/4/97	So.*/Jr.	SQ	Los Angeles (Windward School)
52	HERRERA, Christian	ILB	6-0	210	7/15/94	Sr.*/Sr.	SQ	Manhattan Beach (Serra/Harbor JC/El Camino JC)
10	HOUSTON JR., John	ILB	6-3	210	6/25/97	So.*/Jr.	1V	Carson (Serra)
87	HURSH, Alec	TE	6-3	220	4/26/96	Jr.*/Sr.	SQ	Kansas City, KS (Pembroke Hill)
88	IMATORBHEBHE, Daniel	TE	6-3	235	12/9/96	So.*/Jr.	1V	Suwanee, GA (North Gwinnett/Florida)
17	IMATORBHEBHE, Josh	WR	6-2	215	4/12/98	Fr.*/So.	SQ	Suwanee, GA (North Gwinnett)
56	IOSEFA, Jordan	ILB	6-2	225	9/20/98	So./So.	1V	Waipahu, HI (St. Louis)
73	JACKSON, Austin	OT	6-6	290	8/11/99	Fr./Fr.	--	Phoenix, AZ (North Canyon)
93	JIMMONS, Liam	DL	6-4	285	1/6/98	Fr.*/So.	SQ	Huntington Beach (Huntington Beach)
58	JOHNSON, Damon	SNP	6-0	200	10/7/97	Fr./Fr.	JC	Glendora (Glendora/Citrus JC)
9	JOHNSON, Greg	CB	5-11	195	1/12/99	Fr./Fr.	--	Los Angeles (Hawkins)
76	JOHNSTON, Clayton	OT	6-5	295	10/7/96	So.*/Jr.	1V	Orange (Servite)
25	JONES, Jack	CB	5-11	170	12/20/97	So./So.	1V	Long Beach (Long Beach Poly)
18	JONES, Jalen	CB	5-8	165	2/10/96	Jr.*/Sr.	SQ	Los Angeles (Serra)
13	JONES, Levi	ILB-OLB	6-3	220	5/5/98	Fr./Fr.	--	Austin, TX (Westlake)
25	JONES II, Ronald	TB	6-0	200	8/3/97	Jr./Jr.	2V	McKinney, TX (McKinney North)
23	JONES JR., Velus	WR	6-0	190	5/11/97	Fr.*/Fr.	SQ	Saraland, AL (Saraland)
30	JOUNTTI, Corbin	TB	6-0	205	2/2/95	Sr.*/Sr.	TR	Bakersfield (Liberty/Northern Arizona)
54	KATO, Tayler	ILB	6-2	230	7/27/98	Fr./Fr.	--	Layton, UT (Layton)
84	KROMMENHOEK, Erik	TE	6-5	245	11/12/98	Fr./Fr.	--	Danville (Monte Vista)
24	LANGLEY, Isaiah	CB	6-0	175	10/13/96	Jr./Jr.	2V	Hayward (Foothill)
1	LEWIS IV, Joseph	WR	6-2	205	11/22/98	Fr./Fr.	--	Los Angeles (Hawkins)
97	LICHTENSTEIN, Jacob	DL	6-5	255	11/6/98	Fr./Fr.	--	Weston, FL (Cypress Bay)
50	LOBENDAHN, Toa	C-OG	6-3	290	2/14/96	Jr.*/Sr.	2V	Cerritos (La Habra)
23	LOCKETT, Jonathan	CB	5-11	180	4/18/96	Sr./Sr.	3V	Bellflower (Mater Dei)
37	LOPES, Matt	S	5-11	200	5/12/95	Sr.*/Sr.	3V	Palos Verdes Estates (Palos Verdes)



No.	Name	Pos	Hgt	Wgt	Birthday	Cl (Ath/Ac)	Exp.	Hometown(High School/JC/College)
29	MALEPEAI, Vavae	TB	6-0	210	1/21/98	Fr.*/So.	SQ	Aiea, HI (Mililani)
8	MARSHALL, Iman	CB	6-1	205	2/27/97	Jr./Jr.	2V	Long Beach (Long Beach Poly)
65	MARTIN II, Frank	OG	6-4	300	9/5/97	Fr.*/So.	SQ	West Covina (Mater Dei)
53	MATTHEWS, Bryce	OLB	6-3	220	4/30/99	Fr./Fr.	--	Los Angeles (Bishop Montgomery)
40	McGRATH, Chase	PK	6-0	190	9/13/98	Fr./Fr.	--	Newport Beach (Mater Dei)
54	McKENZIE, Jalen	OT	6-5	305	7/10/99	Fr./Fr.	--	Concord (Clayton Valley)
4	MITCHELL JR., Steven	WR	5-10	195	5/2/94	Sr.*/Sr.	3V	Pasadena (Bishop Alemany)
50	MOORE, Grant	ILB	6-0	210	2/8/96	Jr.*/Sr.	SQ	Santa Ana (Mater Dei)
90	MURPHY, Connor	OLB	6-7	260	10/29/97	So./So.	1V	Mesa, AZ (Brophy Prep)
62	NEILON, Brett	C	6-2	295	7/7/98	Fr./Fr.	--	Rancho Santa Margarita (Santa Margarita)
26	NUNNERY, Davonte	S	5-10	215	10/12/95	Jr.*/Sr.	SQ	Oxnard (St. Bonaventure)
42	NWOSU, Uchenna	OLB	6-2	240	12/28/96	Sr./Sr.	3V	Carson (Narbonne)
87	NYMAN, Matt	WR	6-2	185	11/11/98	Fr./Fr.	--	Los Angeles (Brentwood)
61	OLSON, Jake	SNP	6-3	225	3/26/97	So.*/Jr.	SQ	Huntington Beach (Orange Lutheran)
47	PETERS, Reuben	FB	6-0	230	10/25/96	Jr.*/Sr.	2V	Westchester (Loyola)
82	PETITE, Tyler	TE	6-4	250	12/14/96	Jr./Jr.	2V	Lafayette (Campolindo)
91	PILI, Brandon	DT	6-4	320	4/2/99	Fr./Fr.	--	Anchorage, AK (Westview (OR))
6	PITTMAN JR., Michael	WR	6-4	215	10/5/97	So./So.	1V	Woodland Hills (Oaks Christian)
6	POLA-MAO, Isaiah	S	6-4	200	6/30/99	Fr./Fr.	--	Phoenix, AZ (Mountain Pointe)
28	POLLARD, C.J.	S	6-1	185	10/31/97	Fr.*/So.	SQ	Carson (Serra)
30	QUANSAH, Yoofi	CB	5-7	170	10/13/95	Sr.*/Sr.	SQ	Chino Hills (Chino Hills/UC San Diego)
89	RECTOR, Christian	DL	6-4	275	4/22/97	So.*/Jr.	1V	South Pasadena (Loyola)
14	ROSS, Ykili	S	6-1	190	9/17/96	So.*/Jr.	1V	Riverside (Riverside Poly)
79	ROSSOW, Connor	DT	6-1	315	4/23/98	Fr.*/So.	SQ	Tustin (Mater Dei)
24	RUSSELL, Jake	WR	5-11	170	12/18/96	So.*/Jr.	SQ	San Clemente (San Clemente)
46	SCHMIDT, Wyatt	P-HLD	6-3	205	12/25/94	Jr.*/Sr.	1V	Inver Grove Heights, MN (St. Thomas Academy)
13	SEARS, Jack	QB	6-3	200	4/17/98	Fr./Fr.	--	San Clemente (San Clemente)
81	SIDNEY, Trevon	WR	5-11	170	10/24/97	Fr.*/So.	SQ	Pasadena (Bishop Amat)
35	SMITH, Cameron	ILB	6-2	250	3/26/97	Jr./Jr.	2V	Roseville (Granite Bay)
66	SMITH, Cole	C	6-3	275	8/19/96	So.*/Jr.	SQ	Mission Viejo (Mission Viejo)
78	SMITH, Nathan	OT	6-6	285	4/17/98	Fr.*/So.	SQ	Murrieta (Murrieta Mesa)
41	STEWART, Milo	WR	5-9	165	10/29/94	Sr.*/Sr.	SQ	Palm Desert (Marywood-Palm Valley)
60	TALAMAIVAO, Viane	OG	6-2	325	12/13/95	Sr./Sr.	3V	Moreno Valley (Centennial)
7	TELL III, Marvell	S	6-2	195	8/2/96	Jr./Jr.	2V	Pasadena (Crespi)
16	THOMAS, Holden	QB	6-6	195	6/20/97	Fr.*/So.	SQ	Pacific Palisades (Brentwood)
36	TILBEY, Chris	P	6-5	215	12/31/93	Jr.*/Sr.	1V	Melbourne, Australia (Sandringham/ San Francisco CC)
26	TOLAND IV, James	TB	5-11	195	12/29/94	Sr.*/Sr.	2V	Indio (Shadow Hills)
34	TUCKER, Olajuwon	OLB	6-2	220	7/30/96	Sr./Sr.	3V	Harbor City (Serra)
78	TUFELE, Jay	DL	6-3	295	7/25/99	Fr./Fr.	--	Salt Lake City, UT (Bingham)
51	TUIPULOTU, Marlon	DT	6-3	295	5/31/99	Fr./Fr.	--	Independence, OR (Central)
21	VAUGHNS, Tyler	WR	6-2	185	6/1/97	Fr.*/So.	SQ	Pasadena (Bishop Amat)
68	VERA-TUCKER, Alijah	OG-OT	6-4	300	6/17/99	Fr./Fr.	--	Oakland (Bishop O'Dowd)
72	VORHEES, Andrew	OT-OG	6-6	310	1/21/99	Fr./Fr.	--	Kingsburg (Kingsburg)
28	WARE, Aca'Cedric	TB	6-0	195	6/29/97	Jr./Jr.	2V	DeSoto, TX (Cedar Hill)
36	WEBSTER, Jack	WR	6-0	185	8/20/98	Fr./Fr.	--	La Canada Flintridge (Loyola)
64	WENZEL, Richie	C	6-3	285	2/10/95	Jr.*/Sr.	SQ	Chevy Chase, MD (Our Lady of Good Counsel)
15	YOUNG, Keyshawn "Pie"	WR-CB	5-11	170	12/29/96	So./So.	1V	Miami, FL (Miami Senior)

\*Used up redshirt year

**HEAD COACH:** Clay HELTON (Houston, 1994), Fourth Year (*interim 1 game in 2013, 7 in 2015; permanent 2 games in 2015, all 2016 and 2017*)

**ASSISTANT COACHES:** Brett ARCE, Defensive Graduate Assistant (Stony Brook, 2011); John BAXTER, Special Teams Coordinator/Tight Ends (Loras College, 1985); Ronnie BRADFORD, Secondary (Colorado, 1995); Neil CALLAWAY, Offensive Line (Alabama, 1978); Austin CLARK, Defensive Graduate Assistant (California, 2014); Bryan ELLIS, Quarterbacks (Alabama-Birmingham, 2011); Prentice GILL, Offensive Graduate Assistant (Old Dominion, 2012); Tee MARTIN, Offensive Coordinator/Wide Receivers (Tennessee/U.S. Sports Academy, 2004); Johnny NANSEN, Assistant Head Coach/Linebackers/Recruiting Coordinator (Washington State, 1997); Clancy PENDERGAST, Defensive Coordinator (Arizona, 1990); Deland McCULLOUGH, Running Backs/Run Game Coordinator (Miami (Ohio), 1996); Dane STEVENS, Offensive Graduate Assistant (USC, 2016); Kenechi UDEZE, Defensive Line (USC, 2010)

**STRENGTH AND CONDITIONING COACH:** Ivan LEWIS (Idaho, 2000)





## 2017 USC ROSTER - NUMERICAL

No.	Name	Pos	Hgt	Wgt	Birthday	Cl (Ath/Ac)	Exp.	Hometown(High School/JC/College)
1	LEWIS IV, Joseph	WR	6-2	205	11/22/98	Fr./Fr.	--	Los Angeles (Hawkins)
2	BOLDEN, Bubba	S	6-3	190	5/28/99	Fr./Fr.	--	Las Vegas, NV (Bishop Gorman)
4	MITCHELL JR., Steven	WR	5-10	195	5/2/94	Sr.*/Sr.	3V	Pasadena (Bishop Alemany)
4	HAWKINS, Chris	S	5-11	190	3/11/95	Sr.*/Sr.	3V	Rancho Cucamonga (Rancho Cucamonga)
6	PITTMAN JR., Michael	WR	6-4	215	10/5/97	So./So.	1V	Woodland Hills (Oaks Christian)
6	POLA-MAO, Isaiah	S	6-4	200	6/30/99	Fr./Fr.	--	Phoenix, AZ (Mountain Pointe)
7	TELL III, Marvell	S	6-2	195	8/2/96	Jr./Jr.	2V	Pasadena (Crespi)
7	CARR, Stephen	TB	6-0	210	1/16/99	Fr./Fr.	--	Gardena (Summit)
8	MARSHALL, Iman	CB	6-1	205	2/27/97	Jr./Jr.	2V	Long Beach (Long Beach Poly)
9	GRIMES, Randal	WR	6-4	205	7/27/99	Fr./Fr.	--	Las Vegas, NV (Desert Pines)
9	JOHNSON, Greg	CB	5-11	195	1/12/99	Fr./Fr.	--	Los Angeles (Hawkins)
10	GREENE, Jalen	WR	6-2	200	6/13/96	Jr.*/Sr.	2V	Inglewood (Serra)
10	HOUSTON JR., John	ILB	6-3	210	6/25/97	So.*/Jr.	1V	Carson (Serra)
13	SEARS, Jack	QB	6-3	200	4/17/98	Fr./Fr.	--	San Clemente (San Clemente)
13	JONES, Levi	ILB-OLB	6-3	220	5/5/98	Fr./Fr.	--	Austin, TX (Westlake)
14	DARNOLD, Sam	QB	6-4	220	6/5/97	So.*/Jr.	1V	Capistrano Beach (San Clemente)
14	ROSS, Ykili	S	6-1	190	9/17/96	So.*/Jr.	1V	Riverside (Riverside Poly)
15	YOUNG, Keyshawn "Pie"	WR-CB	5-11	170	12/29/96	So./So.	1V	Miami, FL (Miami Senior)
16	DAVIS, Dominic	CB-TB	5-9	190	12/8/96	Jr./Jr.	2V	Los Angeles (Bishop Alemany)
16	THOMAS, Holden	QB	6-6	195	6/20/97	Fr.*/So.	SQ	Pacific Palisades (Brentwood)
17	IMATORBHEBHE, Josh	WR	6-2	215	4/12/98	Fr.*/So.	SQ	Suwanee, GA (North Gwinnett)
18	FITTS, Thomas	QB	6-1	200	9/24/96	So.*/Jr.	SQ	Dallas, TX (Episcopal School of Dallas)
18	JONES, Jalen	CB	5-8	165	2/10/96	Jr.*/Sr.	SQ	Los Angeles (Serra)
19	FINK, Matt	QB	6-3	190	12/13/97	Fr.*/So.	SQ	Rancho Cucamonga (Glendora)
21	COOK, Jamel	S	6-4	190	12/11/97	Fr.*/So.	SQ	Miami, FL (Miami Central)
21	VAUGHNS, Tyler	WR	6-2	185	6/1/97	Fr.*/So.	SQ	Pasadena (Bishop Amat)
22	GODFREY, Je'Quari	CB	6-2	185	1/23/00	Fr./Fr.	--	Oakland (Bishop O'Dowd)
23	LOCKETT, Jonathan	CB	5-11	180	4/18/96	Sr./Sr.	3V	Bellflower (Mater Dei)
23	JONES JR., Velus	WR	6-0	190	5/11/97	Fr.*/Fr.	SQ	Saraland, AL (Saraland)
24	LANGLEY, Isaiah	CB	6-0	175	10/13/96	Jr./Jr.	2V	Hayward (Foothill)
24	RUSSELL, Jake	WR	5-11	170	12/18/96	So.*/Jr.	SQ	San Clemente (San Clemente)
25	JONES II, Ronald	TB	6-0	200	8/3/97	Jr./Jr.	2V	McKinney, TX (McKinney North)
25	JONES, Jack	CB	5-11	170	12/20/97	So./So.	1V	Long Beach (Long Beach Poly)
26	TOLAND IV, James	TB	5-11	195	12/29/94	Sr.*/Sr.	2V	Indio (Shadow Hills)
26	NUNNERY, Davonte	S	5-10	215	10/12/95	Jr.*/Sr.	SQ	Oxnard (St. Bonaventure)
27	HARRIS, Ajene	CB	5-10	190	6/1/96	Jr.*/Sr.	2V	Los Angeles (Crenshaw)
28	WARE, Aca'Cedric	TB	6-0	195	6/29/97	Jr./Jr.	2V	DeSoto, TX (Cedar Hill)
28	POLLARD, C.J.	S	6-1	185	10/31/97	Fr.*/So.	SQ	Carson (Serra)
29	MALEPEAI, Vavae	TB	6-0	210	1/21/98	Fr.*/So.	SQ	Aiea, HI (Mililani)
30	QUANSAH, Yoofi	CB	5-7	170	10/13/95	Sr.*/Sr.	SQ	Chino Hills (Chino Hills/UC San Diego)
30	JOUNTTI, Corbin	TB	6-0	205	2/2/95	Sr.*/Sr.	TR	Bakersfield (Liberty/Northern Arizona)
31	ECHOLS, Hunter	OLB	6-5	240	11/1/99	Fr./Fr.	--	Los Angeles (Cathedral)
31	HAGESTAD, Richard	S	6-1	195	3/21/97	Fr.*/So.	SQ	Del Mar (Bishop's School)
34	TUCKER, Olajuwon	OLB	6-2	220	7/30/96	Sr./Sr.	3V	Harbor City (Serra)
35	SMITH, Cameron	ILB	6-2	250	3/26/97	Jr./Jr.	2V	Roseville (Granite Bay)
36	TILBEY, Chris	P	6-5	215	12/31/93	Jr.*/Sr.	1V	Melbourne, Australia (Sandringham/ San Francisco CC)
36	WEBSTER, Jack	WR	6-0	185	8/20/98	Fr./Fr.	--	La Canada Flintridge (Loyola)
37	LOPES, Matt	S	5-11	200	5/12/95	Sr.*/Sr.	3V	Palos Verdes Estates (Palos Verdes)
37	EASINGTON, Ben	TB	5-10	205	4/23/99	Fr./Fr.	--	Evanston, IL (Evanston)
38	EDMONDSON, Chris	TB	5-9	195	3/5/98	Fr.*/So.	SQ	Cibola, TX (Clemens)
40	McGRATH, Chase	PK	6-0	190	9/13/98	Fr./Fr.	--	Newport Beach (Mater Dei)
41	FALANIKO, Juliano	ILB-OLB	6-4	220	3/27/99	Fr./Fr.	--	Pago Pago, American Samoa (Leone)
41	STEWART, Milo	WR	5-9	165	10/29/94	Sr.*/Sr.	SQ	Palm Desert (Marywood-Palm Valley)
42	NWOSU, Uchenna	OLB	6-2	240	12/28/96	Sr./Sr.	3V	Carson (Narbonne)
44	DORTON, Malik	DT	6-2	280	5/23/96	Jr.*/Sr.	2V	Los Angeles (St. John Bosco)
45	GUSTIN, Porter	OLB	6-5	255	2/8/97	Jr./Jr.	2V	Elk Ridge, UT (Salem Hills)
46	SCHMIDT, Wyatt	P-HLD	6-3	205	12/25/94	Jr.*/Sr.	1V	Inver Grove Heights, MN (St. Thomas Academy)
46	BUDROVICH, Reid	P	5-11	185	5/1/96	Jr.*/Sr.	SQ	Torrance (St. John Bosco)
47	PETERS, Reuben	FB	6-0	230	10/25/96	Jr.*/Sr.	2V	Westchester (Loyola)
47	BERMINGHAM JR., James	P	6-4	185	6/12/96	Jr.*/Sr.	SQ	Laguna Beach (Dana Hills)



No.	Name	Pos	Hgt	Wgt	Birthday	Cl (Ath/Ac)	Exp.	Hometown(High School/JC/College)
49	BROWN, Michael	PK	6-1	195	12/23/97	Fr.*/So.	SQ	Temecula (Linfield Christian)
49	BAYLE, Matt	OLB	6-0	215	2/27/97	So.*/Jr.	SQ	San Marino (St. Francis)
50	LOBENDAHN, Toa	C-OG	6-3	290	2/14/96	Jr.*/Sr.	2V	Cerritos (La Habra)
50	MOORE, Grant	ILB	6-0	210	2/8/96	Jr.*/Sr.	SQ	Santa Ana (Mater Dei)
51	TUIPULOTU, Marlon	DT	6-3	295	5/31/99	Fr./Fr.	--	Independence, OR (Central)
52	DANIEL, Jacob	OG	6-4	305	4/7/97	Jr./Jr.	2V	Fresno (Clovis North)
52	HERRERA, Christian	ILB	6-0	210	7/15/94	Sr.*/Sr.	SQ	Manhattan Beach (Serra/Harbor JC/El Camino JC)
53	MATTHEWS, Bryce	OLB	6-3	220	4/30/99	Fr./Fr.	--	Los Angeles (Bishop Montgomery)
54	KATOA, Tayler	ILB	6-2	230	7/27/98	Fr./Fr.	--	Layton, UT (Layton)
54	McKENZIE, Jalen	OT	6-5	305	7/10/99	Fr./Fr.	--	Concord (Clayton Valley)
56	AUSTIN, Jordan	OG-OT	6-5	290	5/4/96	Jr.*/Sr.	1V	Claremont (Claremont)
56	IOSEFA, Jordan	ILB	6-2	225	9/20/98	So./So.	1V	Waipahu, HI (St. Louis)
58	JOHNSON, Damon	SNP	6-0	200	10/7/97	Fr./Fr.	JC	Glendora (Glendora/Citrus JC)
60	TALAMAIVAO, Viane	OG	6-2	325	12/13/95	Sr./Sr.	3V	Moreno Valley (Centennial)
61	OLSON, Jake	SNP	6-3	225	3/26/97	So.*/Jr.	SQ	Huntington Beach (Orange Lutheran)
62	NEILON, Brett	C	6-2	295	7/7/98	Fr./Fr.	--	Rancho Santa Margarita (Santa Margarita)
63	HEMSLEY, Roy	OT-OG	6-5	315	3/4/97	So.*/Jr.	SQ	Los Angeles (Windward School)
64	WENZEL, Richie	C	6-3	285	2/10/95	Jr.*/Sr.	SQ	Chevy Chase, MD (Our Lady of Good Counsel)
65	MARTIN II, Frank	OG	6-4	300	9/5/97	Fr.*/So.	SQ	West Covina (Mater Dei)
66	SMITH, Cole	C	6-3	275	8/19/96	So.*/Jr.	SQ	Mission Viejo (Mission Viejo)
68	VERA-TUCKER, Alijah	OG-OT	6-4	300	6/17/99	Fr./Fr.	--	Oakland (Bishop O'Dowd)
70	EDOGA, Chuma	OT	6-4	295	5/25/97	Jr./Jr.	2V	Atlanta, GA (McEachern)
72	VORHEES, Andrew	OT-OG	6-6	310	1/21/99	Fr./Fr.	--	Kingsburg (Kingsburg)
73	JACKSON, Austin	OT	6-6	290	8/11/99	Fr./Fr.	--	Phoenix, AZ (North Canyon)
74	FALAH, Nico	C	6-4	285	1/6/95	Sr.*/Sr.	3V	Hermosa Beach (St. John Bosco)
76	JOHNSTON, Clayton	OT	6-5	295	10/7/96	So.*/Jr.	1V	Orange (Servite)
77	BROWN, Chris	OG-OT	6-5	310	4/26/96	Jr.*/Sr.	2V	Los Angeles (Loyola)
78	SMITH, Nathan	OT	6-6	285	4/17/98	Fr.*/So.	SQ	Murrieta (Murrieta Mesa)
78	TUFELE, Jay	DL	6-3	295	7/25/99	Fr./Fr.	--	Salt Lake City, UT (Bingham)
79	ROSSOW, Connor	DT	6-1	315	4/23/98	Fr.*/So.	SQ	Tustin (Mater Dei)
80	BURNETT, Deontay	WR	6-0	170	10/4/97	Jr./Jr.	2V	Compton (Serra)
81	SIDNEY, Trevon	WR	5-11	170	10/24/97	Fr.*/So.	SQ	Pasadena (Bishop Amat)
82	PETITE, Tyler	TE	6-4	250	12/14/96	Jr./Jr.	2V	Lafayette (Campolindo)
83	FALO, Josh	TE	6-6	235	8/10/99	Fr./Fr.	--	Sacramento (Inderkum)
84	KROMMENHOEK, Erik	TE	6-5	245	11/12/98	Fr./Fr.	--	Danville (Monte Vista)
85	BOYER, Jackson	WR	6-2	195	6/22/94	Sr.*/Sr.	1V	Chapel Hill, NC (East Chapel Hill/North Carolina)
87	HURSH, Alec	TE	6-3	220	4/26/96	Jr.*/Sr.	SQ	Kansas City, KS (Pembroke Hill)
87	NYMAN, Matt	WR	6-2	185	11/11/98	Fr./Fr.	--	Los Angeles (Brentwood)
88	IMATORBHEBHE, Daniel	TE	6-3	235	12/9/96	So.*/Jr.	1V	Suwanee, GA (North Gwinnett/Florida)
89	RECTOR, Christian	DL	6-4	275	4/22/97	So.*/Jr.	1V	South Pasadena (Loyola)
89	APPLEBEE, Austin	TE	6-6	245	3/23/96	Jr.*/Sr.	TR	Seneca, IL (Seneca/McKendree/Arizona Western)
90	MURPHY, Connor	OLB	6-7	260	10/29/97	So./So.	1V	Mesa, AZ (Brophy Prep)
91	PILI, Brandon	DT	6-4	320	4/2/99	Fr./Fr.	--	Anchorage, AK (Westview (OR))
93	JIMMONS, Liam	DL	6-4	285	1/6/98	Fr.*/So.	SQ	Huntington Beach (Huntington Beach)
94	GREEN, Rasheem	DL	6-4	275	5/15/97	Jr./Jr.	2V	Los Angeles (Serra)
97	LICHTENSTEIN, Jacob	DL	6-5	255	11/6/98	Fr./Fr.	--	Weston, FL (Cypress Bay)
98	FATU, Josh	DT	6-2	315	3/8/96	Sr./Sr.	1V	Long Beach (Lakewood/Long Beach CC)
99	BETIKU JR., Oluwole	OLB	6-3	250	6/22/97	So./So.	1V	Lagos, Nigeria (Serra)

\*Used up redshirt year

**HEAD COACH:** Clay HELTON (Houston, 1994), Fourth Year (*interim 1 game in 2013, 7 in 2015; permanent 2 games in 2015, all 2016 and 2017*)

**ASSISTANT COACHES:** Brett ARCE, Defensive Graduate Assistant (Stony Brook, 2011); John BAXTER, Special Teams Coordinator/Tight Ends (Loras College, 1985); Ronnie BRADFORD, Secondary (Colorado, 1995); Neil CALLAWAY, Offensive Line (Alabama, 1978); Austin CLARK, Defensive Graduate Assistant (California, 2014); Bryan ELLIS, Quarterbacks (Alabama-Birmingham, 2011); Prentice GILL, Offensive Graduate Assistant (Old Dominion, 2012); Tee MARTIN, Offensive Coordinator/Wide Receivers (Tennessee/U.S. Sports Academy, 2004); Johnny NANSEN, Assistant Head Coach/Linebackers/Recruiting Coordinator (Washington State, 1997); Clancy PENDERGAST, Defensive Coordinator (Arizona, 1990); Deland McCULLOUGH, Running Backs/Run Game Coordinator (Miami (Ohio), 1996); Dane STEVENS, Offensive Graduate Assistant (USC, 2016); Kenechi UDEZE, Defensive Line (USC, 2010)

**STRENGTH AND CONDITIONING COACH:** Ivan LEWIS (Idaho, 2000)



# 2017 GAME-BY-GAME STATS

## INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

(USC game highs in bold face)

**Name**      **W. Mich.**   **Stanford**   **Texas**      **California**   **Wash. St.**   **Ore. St.**   **Utah**      **No. Dame**   **Ariz. St.**   **Arizona**   **Colorado**   **UCLA**      **Stanford**   **Ohio St.**

### Rushing: TCB-NET-TD

R. Jones	<b>18-159</b> -3	<b>23</b> -116-2	<b>18</b> -47-0	--	<b>14</b> -128-1	<b>12</b> -79-1	<b>17</b> -111-1	<b>12</b> -32-0	<b>18</b> -216-2	<b>27</b> -194-3	<b>25</b> -142-1	<b>28</b> -122-2	<b>30</b> -140-2
Carr	7-69-2	11- <b>119</b> -0	9-28-0	<b>20</b> -82-1	5-11-0	--	--	--	--	3-10-0	2-7-0	1-2-0	7-42-0
Malepeai	2-14-0	6-49-0	4-8-0	4-17-0	--	8-32-0	4-42-0	4-12-0	11-68-0	--	3-10-0	2-7-0	--
Ware	1-3-0	3-18-0	--	8-20-0	--	6-28-0	2-4-0	3-8-0	6-22-0	14-122-1	--	1-6-0	--
Darnold	5-[-6]-1	2-4-0	6-[-12]-0	2-14-0	9-25-2	4-[-18]-0	6-15-0	9-7-0	4-19-0	5-10-0	3-31-1	5-10-1	4-1-0
Fink	--	--	--	--	--	1-51-1	--	3-17-0	2-13-0	--	--	--	--
V. Jones	1-[-7]-0	--	--	1-3-0	--	1-4-0	1-12-0	--	--	--	1-3-0	--	--
Toland	--	--	--	--	--	3-11-0	--	--	1-4-0	--	--	--	--
Mitchell	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1-10-0	--
Jountti	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	2-5-0	--	--	--	--
Greene	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	11-4-0	--	--
Peters	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1-0-0	--	--	--	--
Burnett	--	1-3-0	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1-[-5]-0
Team	--	1-[-2]-0	--	3-[-3]-0	1-[-1]-0	1-[-2]-0	3-[-10]-0	--	1-[-6]-0	3-[-5]-0	3-[-4]-0	3-[-4]-0	1-[-2]-0

### Passing: PA-PC-INT-YDS-TD

Darnold	33- <b>23</b> -2	26- <b>21</b> -2	49- <b>28</b> -2	38- <b>26</b> -1	29- <b>15</b> -1	35- <b>23</b> -1	50- <b>27</b> -0	28- <b>20</b> -1	35- <b>19</b> -0	26- <b>20</b> -1	34- <b>21</b> -0	28- <b>17</b> -1	24- <b>17</b> -0
	<b>289</b> -0	<b>316</b> -4	<b>397</b> -3	<b>223</b> -2	<b>164</b> -0	<b>316</b> -3	<b>358</b> -3	<b>229</b> -2	<b>266</b> -3	<b>311</b> -2	<b>329</b> -2	<b>264</b> -0	<b>325</b> -2
Fink	--	--	--	--	--	1-1-0	--	8-5-0	--	--	--	--	--
						12-0		31-0					

### Receiving: NO-YDS-TD

Burnett	<b>7</b> -142-0	<b>9</b> -121-2	<b>8</b> -123-2	<b>9</b> -76-1	<b>6</b> -45-0	2-20-1	<b>8</b> -99-0	<b>8</b> -113-1	4-49-1	2-44-0	<b>6</b> -79-1	<b>4</b> -55-0	1-9-0
Vaughns	1-8-0	--	4-25-0	3-32-0	<b>6</b> -89-0	<b>5</b> -68-1	6-65-0	6-65-0	<b>6</b> -126-2	<b>4</b> -59-1	5-90-0	2-37-0	3-26-1
Mitchell	4-39-0	4-94-2	6-90-0	--	--	4-46-0	5-64-0	7-72-2	--	1-27-1	4- <b>91</b> -0	<b>4</b> -56-0	2-66-0
Petite	3-24-0	3-35-0	2-21-0	4-46-1	--	2-40-0	3-79-2	--	2-42-0	1-5-0	--	1-4-0	1-9-0
Pittman	--	--	--	--	--	2-24-0	1-17-0	--	2-23-0	3- <b>59</b> -0	4-59-1	1-7-0	<b>7</b> -146-1
Carr	3-23-0	1-18-0	3-42-0	6-47-0	--	--	--	--	--	1-10-0	--	2-49-0	--
R. Jones	1-19-0	1-10-0	1-56-1	--	--	2-17-0	1-10-0	1-1-0	1-1-0	3-39-0	1-6-0	1-22-0	1-6-0
Greene	1-11-0	2-22-0	1-23-0	2-12-0	--	--	--	--	--	2-30-0	--	--	--
D. Imatorbhebhe	1-12-0	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	2-25-0	--	2-34-0	1-48-0
Ware	1-4-0	--	--	1-3-0	--	1-37-0	--	1-[-3]-0	1-8-0	1-13-0	--	--	--
V. Jones	--	1-16-0	1-9-0	--	--	1-5-0	1-4-0	1-8-0	--	--	1-4-0	--	--
Falo	--	--	--	--	--	1-30-1	2-20-1	--	--	--	--	--	1-15-0
Lewis	--	--	1-12-0	--	2-21-0	--	--	--	1-6-0	--	--	--	--
Sidney	1-7-0	--	--	--	--	1-23-0	--	--	1-5-0	--	--	--	--
Grimes	--	--	--	--	--	1-12-0	--	1-5-0	--	--	--	--	--
J. Imatorbhebhe	--	--	--	--	1-9-0	1-2-0	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Krommenhoek	--	--	--	1-7-0	--	1-4-0	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Malepeai	--	--	1-[-4]-0	--	--	--	--	--	1-6-0	--	--	--	--

### Punting: NO-YDS-LONG

Budrovich	4-204-59	1-45-45.0	6-277-56	3-127-50	6-259-63	2-78-46	4-170-49	6-258-53	2-96-49	4-171-62	3-134-57	5-167-40	3-97-43
Team	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1-0-0	--	--

### Punt Returns: NO-YDS-LONG

Harris	1-15-15	--	2-0-3	1-13-113	1-0-0	1-[-1]-[-1]	--	--	3-22-21	1-9-9	--	1-17-17	1-[-5]-[-5]
Jac. Jones	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	4-48-21	--	--	--	--	--
Pittman	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1-17-0	--	1-72*-72	--
Greene	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	0-11*-11	--	--	--
Vaughns	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1-9-9	--	--

\*Includes 1 touchdown

### Kickoff Returns: NO-YDS-LONG

V. Jones	2-61-32	--	3-88-37	2-55-29	1-24-24	2-45-23	1-25-25	6-144-38	1-17-17	5-115-29	1-23-23	2-85-59	--
Carr	--	--	--	--	2-52-38	--	--	--	--	--	--	1-12-12	--
Jac. Jones	2-14-14	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1-31-31	--	--
Harris	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1-20-20	--
Rector	--	--	--	--	--	1-10-10	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Ca. Smith	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1-2-2	--	--	--

### Interceptions: NO-YDS-TD

Jac. Jones	--	--	1-0-0	2-15-0	--	1-2-0	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Tell	1-37-1	--	1-0-0	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1-27-0	--
Harris	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1-[-4]-0	2-35-1	--	--
Ross	--	--	--	1-49-0	--	--	--	--	1-37-1	--	--	--	--
Hawkins	--	--	--	1-7-0	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Ca. Smith	--	--	--	--	--	--	1-4-0	--	--	--	--	--	--
Nwosu	--	--	--	--	1-0-0	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Houston	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1-0-0	--	--	--





<i>Name</i>	<i>W. Mich.</i>	<i>Stanford</i>	<i>Texas</i>	<i>California</i>	<i>Wash. St.</i>	<i>Ore. St.</i>	<i>Utah</i>	<i>No. Dame</i>	<i>Ariz. St.</i>	<i>Arizona</i>	<i>Colorado</i>	<i>UCLA</i>	<i>Stanford</i>	<i>Ohio St.</i>
<b>Defensive Statistics: TAC-FOR LOSS-PASS DEF-FUM REC</b>														
Ca. Smith	6-2-0-0	8-0.5-0-0	9-0.5-0-0	12-1.5-0-1	6-1-0-0	5-0.5-0-0	16-0.5-0-0	10-1.5-0-0	7-0-0-0	4-0-0-0	4-0-0-0	8-1-1-0	7-1-2-0	
Hawkins	5-0-0-0	6-0-0-0	5-0-0-0	5-0-2-0	4-0-0-0	7-0-0-0	7-1-0-0	4-1.5-0-0	2-0-0-0	8-1-0-0	5-0-0-0	10-1-0-0	14-2-0-0	
Tell	8-0-1-0	3-0-0-0	4-0-0-0	12-0-0-0	7-0-0-0	10-0.5-1-0	4-0-0-0	5-0-0-0	6-0-0-0	7-0.5-0-0	4-0.5-0-0	6-1-0-0	3-0-0-0	
Houston	6-0-1-0	3-0-0-0	--	6-0-0-0	6-1-0-0	4-0-0-0	6-0-0-0	8-0-0-0	5-0-1-0	10-0.5-0-0	11-2-1-0	7-0-0-1	4-0-0-0	
Nwosu	7-0-1-0	4-1-5-0	9-1-1-0	4-0-1-1	6-0.5-0-0	4-0-0-0	3-0-0-0	2-0-0-0	8-3-1-0	8-2-0-0	5-0-2-0	8-1-2-0	3-1-0-0	
Harris	2-0-0-0	4-1-0-0	8-0-0-1	--	7-0-0-0	4-0-0-0	2-0-1-0	3-0-1-0	3-0-0-0	4-0-1-0	5-0.5-2-0	9-0-0-0	3-0-1-0	
Marshall	6-0-1-0	4-0-3-0	8-1-0-0	3-0-0-0	6-0-1-0	3-0-2-0	3-0-1-0	--	--	--	--	9-0-1-0	5-0-1-0	
Jac. Jones	2-0-1-0	6-0-0-0	5-0-1-0	--	2-0-0-0	3-0-2*-0	7-0-2-0	3-0-1-0	0-0-1-0	5-0-0-1	2-0-1-0	3-0-0-0	2-0-0-0	
Green	9-1-1-0	3-0.5-2-0	3-1-0-0	5-0-0-0	3-1.5-0-0	3-2-0-0	3-0.5-1-0	--	4-3-0-0	2-0-0-0	1-1-0-0	0-0-0-0	3-1-0-0	
Rector	1-0-0-0	1-0-0-0	6-2.5-0-1	2-2-0-0	6-0.5-0-0	7-1-0-1	6-2-0-0	3-2-0-0	--	--	2-1-0-0	1-0-0-0	1-0-0-0	
Langley	--	1-0-0-0	--	2-0-1-0	1-0-1-0	1-0-1-0	--	5-0-0-0	6-0-0-0	5-0-1-0	9-0-0-0	1-0-2-0	1-0-0-0	
Fatu	3-0-0-0	2-2-0-0	4-0.5-0-0	3-1-1-0	6-1.5-0-0	2-0-0-0	7-2-0-0	--	--	--	--	2-1-0-0	1-0-0-0	
Iosefa	4-0-0-0	--	5-0-1-0	--	--	--	--	1-0-0-0	4-0-0-0	8-1-0-0	4-0-0-0	2-2-0-0	1-0-0-0	
Lopes	1-0-0-0	2-0-0-0	--	4-0-0-0	1-0-0-0	--	1-0-0-0	2-0-1-0	2-0-0-0	4-0-0-0	5-1-0-0	3-0-0-0	1-0-0-0	
Dorton	2-0-0-0	1-0-0-0	2-0.5-0-0	1-0-0-0	2-0-0-0	1-0-2-0	3-0.5-0-0	2-0-0-0	1-0-0-0	3-1-0-0	3-0-0-0	2-1-1-0	1-0-0-0	
Gustin	7-1-0-0	4-0-0-0	4-2-0-0	--	--	--	--	--	1-0-0-0	--	--	--	--	
L. Jones	1-0-0-0	--	--	2-0-0-0	2-0-0-0	1-0-0-0	1-0-0-0	3-0-0-0	--	3-0-0-0	--	1-0-0-0	1-0-0-0	
Pili	--	--	--	--	--	3-0-0-0	1-0-0-0	2-0-0-0	3-0-0-0	--	2-0-1*-0	1-0-0-0	2-0-0-0	
Ross	--	1-0-0-0	--	2-0-0-0	1-0-0-0	3-0-0-0	5-1-0-0	--	--	--	--	1-0-0-0	--	
Bolden	--	--	2-0-0-0	--	--	--	1-0-0-0	1-0-0-0	--	--	--	3-0-0-0	1-0-0-0	
Falaniko	--	--	--	2-0-0-0	--	2-0-0-0	--	1-0-0-0	1-0-0-0	--	--	--	--	
Pittman	--	--	--	--	--	1-0-0-0	1-0-0-0	1-0-0-0	1-0-0-0	1-0-1**-0	--	--	--	
Jimmons	--	--	--	--	--	--	1-0-0-0	2-0-0-0	--	--	2-0-0-0	--	--	
Malepeai	1-0-0-0	--	--	--	--	1-0-0-0	--	1-0-0-0	--	--	--	--	--	
Pollard	1-0-0-0	--	--	1-1-0-0	--	1-0-0-0	--	--	1-0-0-0	--	--	--	--	
Jackson	--	--	1-0-0-0	--	--	1-0-0-0	--	--	--	1-0-0-0	0-0-1*-0	--	--	
Murphy	--	--	--	--	--	3-0-0-0	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	
Toland	--	1-0-0-0	--	--	1-0-0-0	--	--	1-0-0-0	--	--	--	--	--	
Tuipulotu	2-0-0-0	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	
Moore	1-0-0-0	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1-0-0-0	--	--	--	
Team	--	--	1-1-0-0	--	--	1-1-0-0	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	
Cook	--	--	--	1-0-0-0	--	--	--	--	1-0-0-0	--	--	--	--	
Lewis	--	1-0-0-0	--	--	1-0-0-0	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	
Darnold	--	--	--	--	--	1-0-0-0	--	--	1-0-0-0	--	--	--	--	
Betiku	--	--	1-0-0-0	1-0-0-0	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	
Budrovich	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1-0-0-0	--	1-0-0-0	--	
R. Jones	--	--	1-0-0-0	--	--	1-0-0-0	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	
Schmidt	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1-0-0-0	--	--	--	--	--	
McGrath	--	--	1-0-0-0	--	--	0-0-0-1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	
Bigelow	1-0-0-0	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	
Carr	--	1-0-0-0	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	
Falo	--	--	1-0-0-0	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	
Lobendahn	--	--	--	1-0-0-0	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	
D. Imatorbhebhe	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1-0-0-0	--	--	--	--	--	
Jal. Jones	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1-0-0-0	--	--	--	--	
Vorhees	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1-0-0-0	--	--	--	--	--	
Vaughns	1-0-0-0	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	
Russell	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1-0-0-0	--	--	--	--	
Peters	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1-0-0-0	--	--	--	

\*Includes 1 blocked field goal

\*\*Includes 1 blocked punt

## USC TEAM STATISTICS

<i>Name</i>	<i>W. Mich.</i>	<i>Stanford</i>	<i>Texas</i>	<i>California</i>	<i>Wash. St.</i>	<i>Ore. St.</i>	<i>Utah</i>	<i>No. Dame</i>	<i>Ariz. St.</i>	<i>Arizona</i>	<i>Colorado</i>	<i>UCLA</i>	<i>Stanford</i>	<i>Ohio St.</i>
First Downs	25	28	25	22	15	26	30	18	29	30	23	24	22	
Rush	12	14	6	8	6	10	10	5	16	14	9	10	9	
Pass	13	14	19	14	8	15	19	13	10	15	13	13	10	
Penalty	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	3	1	1	1	3	
Rush Attempts	34	48	37	38	29	37	33	31	46	52	38	41	43	
Yds Gain	262	310	108	151	192	216	193	111	367	349	209	168	192	
Yds Lost	30	3	37	18	29	32	19	35	26	18	16	15	16	
Net Yards	232	307	71	133	163	184	174	76	341	331	193	153	176	
Net Yds Pass	289	316	397	223	164	328	358	260	266	311	329	264	325	
Pass Att	33	26	51	38	29	36	50	36	35	26	34	28	24	
Pass Com	23	21	28	26	15	24	27	25	19	20	21	17	17	
Had Int	2	2	2	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	
Tot Off Plays	67	74	88	76	58	73	83	67	81	78	72	69	67	
Tot Net Yards	521	623	468	356	327	512	532	336	607	642	522	417	501	
Avg/Play	7.8	8.4	5.3	4.7	5.6	7.0	6.4	5.0	7.5	8.2	7.2	6.0	7.5	
Fumbles-Lost	1-0	0-0	0-0	1-1	2-1	4-2	3-3	2-2	1-1	1-0	2-0	0-0	1-1	
Penalties-Yds	9-94	8-90	8-49	5-53	9-80	4-46	3-35	7-40	8-60	14-123	9-79	11-115	9-76	
Punts-Yds	4-204	1-45	6-277	3-127	6-259	2-78	4-170	6-258	2-96	4-171	4-134	5-167	3-76	
Avg/Punt	51.0	45.0	46.2	42.3	43.2	39.0	42.5	43.0	48.0	42.8	33.5	33.4	32.3	
Punt Ret-Yds	1-15	0-0	2-0	1-13	1-0	1-(-1)	0-0	4-48	3-22	2-37	1-9	2-89	1-(-5)	
KO Ret-Yds	4-75	0-0	3-88	2-55	3076	3-55	1-25	6-144	1-17	6-117	2-54	4-117	0-0	
Int-Yards	1-37	0-0	2-0	4-71	1-0	1-2	1-4	0-0	1-37	2-(-4)	2-35	1-27	0-0	
Fum Ret-Yds	0-0	0-0	0-0	1-1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	1-9	0-0	
Poss Time	25:20	34:25	32:46	31:00	24:33	30:34	27:00	31:36	34:03	33:55	31:30	29:42	31:14	
3rd Down Con	7-11	10-12	6-18	6-15	2-11	6-13	7-14	4-13	7-15	5-12	4-14	2-10	6-13	
4th Down Con	0-0	0-0	0-3	0-2	1-1	1-2	1-2	1-2	1-3	1-2	1-3	1-2	2-2	
Sacks By-Yds	1-3	2-12	5-30	3-20	5-27	2-19	4-16	1-10	6-31	5-36	3-11	4-35	2-7	



## Game-By-Game Starters

<i>Name</i>	<i>W. Mich.</i>	<i>Stanford</i>	<i>Texas</i>	<i>California</i>	<i>Wash. St.</i>	<i>Ore. St.</i>	<i>Utah</i>	<i>No. Dame</i>	<i>Ariz. St.</i>	<i>Arizona</i>	<i>Colorado</i>	<i>UCLA</i>	<i>Stanford</i>	<i>Ohio St.</i>
<b>Offense</b>														
<b>WR</b>	Greene	Greene	Greene	Greene	Greene	Vaughns	Vaughns	Vaughns	Vaughns	Vaughns	Vaughns	Vaughns	Vaughns	Vaughns
<b>LT</b>	Lob'dahn	Lob'dahn	Lob'dahn	Lob'dahn	Johnston	Lob'dahn	Lob'dahn	Lob'dahn	Lob'dahn	Lob'dahn	Lob'dahn	Lob'dahn	Lob'dahn	Lob'dahn
<b>LG</b>	C. Brown	C. Brown	C. Brown	C. Brown	C. Brown	C. Brown	C. Brown	C. Brown	C. Brown	C. Brown	C. Brown	C. Brown	C. Brown	C. Brown
<b>C</b>	Falah	Falah	Falah	Falah	Falah	Falah	Falah	Falah	Falah	Falah	Falah	Falah	Falah	Falah
<b>RG</b>	Tal'm'vao	Tal'm'vao	Tal'm'vao	Tal'm'vao	Tal'm'vao	Tal'm'vao	Vorhees	Vorhees	Vorhees	Vorhees	Vorhees	Vorhees	Vorhees	Vorhees
<b>RT</b>	Edoga	Edoga	Edoga	Edoga	Edoga	Johnston	Johnston	Edoga	Edoga	Edoga	Edoga	Edoga	Edoga	Edoga
<b>TE</b>	Petite	Petite	Petite	Petite	Petite	Petite	Petite	Petite	Petite	Petite	Petite	D. Im'tor'bhe	D. Im'tor'bhe	D. Im'tor'bhe
<b>WR</b>	Mitchell	Mitchell	Mitchell	Burnett	Vaughns	Mitchell	Mitchell	Mitchell	Pittman	Pittman	Pittman	Mitchell	Pittman	Pittman
<b>QB</b>	Darnold	Darnold	Darnold	Darnold	Darnold	Darnold	Darnold	Darnold	Darnold	Darnold	Darnold	Darnold	Darnold	Darnold
<b>FB</b>	Burnett*	Burnett*	Burnett*	K'r'm'ho'k**	Burnett*	Burnett*	Pittman*	Burnett*	Burnett**	Burnett**	Burnett**	Burnett**	Burnett**	Burnett**
<b>TB</b>	R. Jones	R. Jones	R. Jones	Carr	R. Jones	R. Jones	R. Jones	R. Jones	R. Jones	R. Jones	R. Jones	R. Jones	R. Jones	R. Jones

\*USC started 3 wide receivers

\*\*USC started 2 tight ends

### Defense

<b>OLB</b>	Nwosu	Nwosu	Nwosu	Nwosu	Nwosu	Nwosu	Nwosu	Nwosu	Nwosu	Nwosu	Nwosu	Nwosu	Nwosu	Nwosu
<b>DE</b>	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
<b>NT</b>	Fatu	Tuipulotu	Fatu	Fatu	Fatu	Fatu	Fatu	Pili	Fatu	Fatu	Fatu	Fatu	Fatu	Fatu
<b>DE</b>	Harris^	Fatu	Harris^	Rector	Rector	Rector	Rector	Dorton	Harris^	Harris^	Harris^	Dorton	Dorton	Dorton
<b>OLB</b>	Gustin	Gustin	Murphy	Ross^	Harris^	Harris^	Harris^	Rector	Iosefa	Iosefa	Iosefa	Iosefa	Harris^	Harris^
<b>ILB</b>	Iosefa	Ca. Smith	Ca. Smith	Ca. Smith	Ca. Smith	Ca. Smith	Ca. Smith	Ca. Smith	Ca. Smith	Ca. Smith	Ca. Smith	Ca. Smith	Ca. Smith	Ca. Smith
<b>ILB</b>	Houston	Houston	Iosefa	Houston	Houston	Houston	Ross^^	Houston	Houston	Houston	Houston	Houston	Houston	Houston
<b>CB</b>	Marshall	Marshall	Marshall	Marshall	Marshall	Marshall	Marshall	Marshall	Langley	Langley	Langley	Marshall	Marshall	Marshall
<b>SS</b>	Hawkins	Hawkins	Hawkins	Hawkins	Hawkins	Hawkins	Hawkins	Hawkins	Hawkins	Hawkins	Hawkins	Hawkins	Hawkins	Hawkins
<b>FS</b>	Tell	Tell	Tell	Tell	Tell	Tell	Tell	Tell	Tell	Tell	Tell	Tell	Tell	Tell
<b>CB</b>	Jac. Jones	Jac. Jones	Jac. Jones	Jac. Jones	Jac. Jones	Jac. Jones	Jac. Jones	Jac. Jones	Jac. Jones	Jac. Jones	Jac. Jones	Jac. Jones	Jac. Jones	Jac. Jones

^USC started 5 defensive backs

^^USC started 6 defensive backs

## OPPONENT TEAM STATISTICS

<i>Name</i>	<i>W. Mich.</i>	<i>Stanford</i>	<i>Texas</i>	<i>California</i>	<i>Wash. St.</i>	<i>Ore. St.</i>	<i>Utah</i>	<i>No. Dame</i>	<i>Ariz. St.</i>	<i>Arizona</i>	<i>Colorado</i>	<i>UCLA</i>	<i>Stanford</i>	<i>Ohio St.</i>
First Downs	24	16	17	21	23	16	20	23	15	25	23	28	18	
Rush	15	5	3	9	7	8	9	17	5	13	7	10	8	
Pass	5	8	13	10	13	7	8	6	9	8	15	16	7	
Penalty	4	3	1	2	3	1	3	0	1	4	1	2	3	
Rush Attempts	48	26	35	33	30	36	41	47	30	43	34	31	38	
Yds Gain	272	193	109	144	155	147	192	394	119	271	131	125	182	
Yds Lost	9	23	41	31	33	25	23	17	40	37	21	45	31	
Net Yards	263	170	68	113	122	122	169	377	79	234	110	80	151	
Net Yds Pass	94	172	298	303	340	197	267	120	278	146	376	421	192	
Pass Att	23	28	40	52	51	29	28	22	31	31	49	52	22	
Pass Com	12	15	21	22	34	16	17	9	18	14	27	32	10	
Had Int	1	0	2	4	1	1	1	0	1	2	2	1	0	
Tot Off Plays	71	54	75	85	81	65	69	69	61	74	83	83	60	
Tot Net Yards	357	342	366	416	462	319	436	497	357	380	486	501	3443	
Avg/Play	5.0	6.3	4.9	4.9	5.7	4.9	6.3	7.2	5.9	5.1	5.9	6.0	5.7	
Fumbles-Lost	1-0	1-0	3-2	3-2	0-0	2-2	1-0	0-0	1-0	2-1	0-0	1-1	4-0	
Penalties-Yds	6-34	7-35	10-73	6-44	6-59	7-69	6-40	7-51	10-99	3-32	4-45	12-100	7-73	
Punts-Yds	5-220	4-205	7-289	2-87	6-198	3-126	6-281	6-250	8-337	5-146	3-134	4-181	5-228	
Avg/Punt	44.0	51.2	41.3	43.5	33.0	42.0	46.8	41.7	42.1	29.2	44.7	45.2	45.6	
Punt Ret-Yds	1-0	1-9	2-29	1-3	2-(-2)	1-33	1-0	3-34	1-0	3-39	1-33	0-0	1-2	
KO Ret-Yds	4-168	6-128	2-56	4-112	3-60	4-88	2-33	3-53	4-59	4-96	3-66	5-121	4-116	
Int-Yards	2-20	2-32	2-62	1-13	1-0	1-7	0-0	1-14	0-0	1-0	0-0	1-24	0-0	
Fum Ret-Yds	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	1-0	1-18	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	1-0	
Poss Time	34:40	25:25	27:14	29:00	35:27	29:26	33:00	28:24	25:57	26:05	28:30	30:18	28:46	
3rd Down Con	5-14	6-12	4-16	6-19	8-18	5-14	4-14	7-13	1-12	5-15	5-17	10-19	6-12	
4th Down Con	0-0	0-1	2-3	4-6	1-1	0-2	2-2	0-0	1-2	1-1	2-5	1-1	0-1	
Sacks By-Yds	2-17	1-1	3-27	1-5	2-21	1-21	0-0	5-28	3-20	1-5	1-8	1-9	1-8	



# GAME 1 – September 2, Los Angeles Coliseum

USC 49, Western Michigan 31

Att: 61,125

Western Michigan	7	7	7	10	--	31
USC	7	7	7	28	--	49

TB **Ronald Jones II** ran for 159 yards and 2 touchdowns, freshman TB **Stephen Carr** added a pair of TDs, S **Marellus Bellamy** returned a late interception for a score and blind SNP **Jake Olson** snapped on the final PAT as No. 4 USC tallied 28 fourth-quarter points to pull away from Western Michigan in the 2017 season-opener, 49-31, on a hot (98 degrees) afternoon in the Coliseum in front of 61,125 fans and a Pac-12 Network national audience.

The temperature [which rose to 100 degrees mid-game] was the hottest at kickoff of a USC home game since the 1998 Purdue opener hit 99 degrees. It was the teams' first meeting, as well as USC's first-ever game against a current team from the Mid-American Conference. It was USC's 10th consecutive win overall and a Pac-12 Network national audience.

With the game tied at 21-21 midway through the final quarter, Carr put USC up on a 1-yard TD run. But WMU CB Darius Phillips returned the ensuing kickoff 100 yards for a score (the first 100-yarder allowed by USC since Arizona State did it in 2010). USC then countered on the next drive as Jones had a 37-yard scoring burst. The Broncos responded with a 43-yard field goal by PK Josh Grant with 4:37 to play to pull within 35-31 before Carr jetted 52 yards for a touchdown on the next possession and then Tell had his game-sealing interception runback (with Olson coming in to snap the PAT, earning Pac-12 Special Teams Player of the Week).

The game seasawed throughout the first 3 quarters. Jones culminated the game's opening drive with a 16-yard TD run, but WMU tied it midway through the first quarter on RB Jamauri Bogan's 4-yard run. QB Jon Wassink put the Broncos up at the top of the second quarter with his 7-yard TD run. Jones then tied it again late in the half with a 1-yard run. The Broncos used a trick play (a 27-yard throwback pass from WR Keishawn Watson to Wassink) to score on the initial drive of the second half. Then, late in the third quarter, QB **Sam Darnold's** 11-yard scamper knotted the score at 21-21.

Jones averaged 8.8 yards on his 18 carries, Carr had 69 yards on 7 rushes (9.9 average) and also caught 3 passes for another 23 yards (his 2 rushing TDs were the most in an opener by a Trojan true freshman since Charles White had 2 in 1976 versus Missouri). Darnold was 23-of-33 for 289 yards (but he threw 2 picks) and WR **Deontay Burnett** caught 7 passes for 142 yards. DL **Rasheem Green** led USC with 9 tackles, while Tell had 8 (LB **Cameron Smith** had to sit the first half because of a targeting penalty in the 2017 Rose Bowl, but had 6 tackles, including 2 for losses). P **Reid Budrovich** debuted by averaging 51.0 yards on 4 boots.

USC piled up 521 total yards (232 rushing) while averaging 7.8 yards per play and converted 7-of-11 third downs but had 9 penalties, while 263 of WMU's 357 total yards came on the ground (its 94 passing yards were the fewest by a Trojan foe since Boston College's 54 in 2014). USC's 6 rushing touchdowns were its most since getting 6 against San Jose State in 2009. WMU held the ball for 34:40.

Wassink was 11-of-22 for 67 yards, RB LeVante Bellamy gained 102 yards on 9 tries and Bogan added 77 yards on 15 carries.

It was the smallest home season opener crowd since 2001 (45,568 versus San Jose State) and fewest for any USC home game since 2002 (52,961 versus Washington). Traveler IX made its debut as USC's mascot. The 2017 USC team is Troy's 125th.

## SCORING

### First Quarter

USC -- R. Jones 16-yard run [McGrath kick]

WMU -- Bogan 4-yard run [Grant kick]

### Second Quarter

WMU -- Wassink 7-yard run [Grant kick]

USC -- R. Jones 1-yard run [McGrath kick]

### Third Quarter

WMU -- Wassink 27-yard pass from Watson [Grant kick]

USC -- Darnold 11-yard run [McGrath kick]

### Fourth Quarter

USC -- Carr 1-yard run [McGrath kick]

WMU -- Phillips 100-yard kickoff return [Grant kick]

USC -- R. Jones 37-yard run [McGrath kick]

WMU -- Grant 43-yard field goal

USC -- Carr 52-yard run [McGrath kick]

USC -- Tell 37-yard interception return [McGrath kick]

USC	STATISTICS	W. MICHIGAN
25	First Downs	24
232	Net Yards Rushing	263
289	Net Yards Passing	94
33	Passes Attempted	23
23	Passes Completed	12
2	Had Intercepted	1
67	Total Plays	71
521	Total Yards	357
4/51.0	Punts/Avg	5/44.0
1/0	Fumbles-Lost	1/0
9/94	Penalties/Yards	6/34
25:20	Time of Possession	34:40

## TOP INDIVIDUALS

RUSHING – R. Jones (USC) 18-159; Bellamy (WMU) 9-102; Bogan (WMU) 15-77; Carr (USC) 7-69; Franklin (WMU) 12-40; Wassink (WMU) 7-32.

PASSING – Darnold (USC) 23-33-289; Wassink (WMU) 11-22-67; Watson (WMU) 1-1-27.

RECEIVING – Burnett (USC) 7-142; Mitchell (USC) 4-39; Curtis (WMU) 3-30; Petite (USC) 3-24; Carr (USC) 3-23; Ernsberger (WMU) 3-15.

# GAME 2 – September 9, Los Angeles Coliseum

USC 42, Stanford 24

Att: 77,614

Stanford	7	10	0	7	--	24
USC	14	14	0	14	--	42

No. 6 USC rolled up 623 total yards behind 300-plus passing yards by QB **Sam Darnold** and 100-plus yard rushing outings by TBs **Stephen Carr** and **Ronald Jones II** while limiting No. 14 Stanford to just 342 total yards in the Trojans' 42-24 Pac-12 opening victory in front of 77,614 fans in the Coliseum and a FOX national audience.

It was USC's largest margin of victory over a ranked Cardinal team and its most total yards against Stanford since at least 1972.

Darnold completed a career-best 80.8% of his passes (21-of-26) for 316 yards with 4 TDs and 2 picks to earn Pac-12 Offensive Player of the Week honors, while first-year freshman Carr ran for 119 yards on 11 carries and Jones added 116 yards on 23 rushes and WR **Deontay Burnett** caught 9 passes for 121 yards with 2 TDs (WR **Steven Mitchell Jr.** also caught 2 TDs among his 4 receptions for 94 yards).

USC scored TDs on its first 3 possessions but couldn't shake the Cardinal. Darnold found Mitchell for a 4-yard scoring pass on its initial series to open the game's scoring, but RB Bryce Love jetted 75 yards for a TD on the first scrimmage play of Stanford's ensuing possession. USC answered with Jones' 1-yard TD run near the end of the first quarter. Stanford countered with a 1-yard scoring toss from QB Keller Chryst to TE Dalton Schultz, only to have USC respond on its next possession with Darnold's 22-yard scoring pass to Burnett. Stanford PK Jet Toner hit a 36-yard field goal late in the half, but USC drove right back for another Darnold-to-Burnett touchdown, this one 25 yards with 48 seconds to play to give USC a 28-17 halftime edge.

After a scoreless third quarter, Darnold found Mitchell on an 11-yard scoring strike, only to see the Cardinal respond with Chryst's 3-yard TD toss to WR JJ Arcega-Whiteside with 6:41 to play. But Jones' 23-yard TD scamper on the following drive sealed USC's victory.

USC had 28 first downs, converted 10-of-12 third downs and punted only once while holding the ball for 34:35 (including for 10:42 in the fourth quarter). Stanford had just 16 first downs and converted only 6-of-12 third downs while gaining only 342 yards. Just 25 of Stanford's 170 rushing yards came in the second half. USC's 74 plays were 20 more than Stanford.

ILB **Cameron Smith** led USC with 8 tackles, CB **Jack Jones** and S **Chris Hawkins** each added 6 stops and OLB **Uchenna Nwosu** had 5 deflections (the most by a Trojan since Will Poole's 5 versus Michigan in the 2004 Rose Bowl) to go with his 4 tackles (including a sack).

For Stanford, Chryst was 15-of-28 for 172 yards, Love ran for 160 yards on 17 carries and WR Arcega-Whiteside caught 4 passes for 67 yards.

## SCORING

### First Quarter

USC -- Mitchell 4-yard pass from Darnold [McGrath kick]

STAN -- Love 75-yard run [Toner kick]

USC -- R. Jones 1-yard run [McGrath kick]

### Second Quarter

STAN -- Schultz 1-yard pass from Chryst [Toner kick]

USC -- Burnett 22-yard pass from Darnold [McGrath kick]

STAN -- Toner 36-yard field goal

USC -- Burnett 25-yard pass from Darnold [McGrath kick]

### Fourth Quarter

USC -- Mitchell 11-yard pass from Darnold [McGrath kick]

STAN -- Arcega-Whiteside 3-yard pass from Chryst [Toner kick]

USC -- Jones 23-yard run [McGrath kick]

USC	STATISTICS	STANFORD
28	First Downs	16
307	Net Yards Rushing	170
316	Net Yards Passing	172
26	Passes Attempted	28
21	Passes Completed	15
2	Had Intercepted	0
74	Total Plays	54
623	Total Yards	342
1/45.0	Punts/Avg	4/51.2
0/0	Fumbles-Lost	1/0
8/90	Penalties/Yards	7/35
34:35	Time of Possession	25:25

## TOP INDIVIDUALS

RUSHING – Love (STAN) 17-160; Carr (USC) 11-119; R. Jones (USC) 23-116; Malepeai (USC) 6-49.

PASSING – Darnold (USC) 21-26-316; Chryst (STAN) 15-28-172.

RECEIVING – Burnett (USC) 9-121; Mitchell (USC) 4-94; Arcega-Whiteside (STAN) 4-67; Petite (USC) 3-35; Wedington (STAN) 3- 29; Smith (STAN) 2-25; Greene (USC) 2-22; Irwin (STAN) 2-21; Schultz (STAN) 2-7.



# GAME 3 – September 16, Los Angeles Coliseum

USC 27, Texas 24 (2OT)

Att: 84,714

Texas	0	7	3	7	7	--	24
USC	0	14	0	3	10	--	27

True freshman walk-on PK **Chase McGrath** hit the first 2 field goals of his career, the first with no time in regulation to send the game into overtime and the second the game winner in the second overtime to propel No. 4 USC to a dramatic, hard-fought 27-24 victory over Texas before 84,714 fans in the Coliseum and a national FOX audience.

It was Troy's first overtime win since 2001 (and its first overtime game since 2011). It also was USC's 12th consecutive victory and 12th straight home win. And it was the teams' first meeting in the Coliseum in 50 years.

After Texas freshman QB Sam Ehlinger drove the Longhorns 91 yards to a score (a 17-yard pass to WR Amanti Foreman) with 45 seconds to play in the game to give UT its first lead, 17-14, USC QB **Sam Darnold** completed 3 straight passes under duress to take USC 52 yards in the final 39 seconds to set up McGrath's game-tying 31-yard field goal, only the second attempt of his career (he missed a 46-yarder in the second quarter).

In the first overtime, Darnold hit WR **Deontay Burnett** for a 25-yard TD on USC's first play, only to have Ehlinger answer with a 3-yard TD toss to TE Cade Brewer. On UT's possession in the second overtime, DL **Christian Rector** stripped the ball from Ehlinger at the 3-yard line and CB **Ajene Harris** recovered it, setting up McGrath's 24-yard victorious field goal.

USC had 397 total yards, but only 71 rushing, while just 68 of UT's 298 total yards came on the ground. USC had 25 first downs to Texas' 17 and the Trojans held the ball for 32:46 while running 88 plays (UT had 75). But neither team was effective on third downs (USC converted 6-of-18, Texas 4-of-16) and Troy was 0-of-3 on fourth downs. Texas lost 4 turnovers to USC's 2, and the Longhorns were penalized 10 times and gave up 5 sacks.

Neither team could get untracked in the early going, as USC, then Texas and then USC again gave up the ball on failed fourth down tries, then Ehlinger threw a pick only to see USC have to punt after losing 15 yards in penalties before Ehlinger fumbled the ball back to USC (Rector recovered the errant snap) but McGrath then missed his initial field goal.

USC finally got on the board late in the second quarter on Burnett's diving 15-yard TD grab of Darnold's pass. Troy got the ball back with 30 seconds to go in the half, but Darnold's pass went through a receiver's hands and S DeShon Elliott returned it 38 yards for a score. Then with 5 seconds to play, Darnold found TB **Ronald Jones II** wide open in midfield and Jones jetted 56 yards (aided by a crushing block by WR **Steven Mitchell Jr.**) for a TD.

Texas pulled within 14-10 on the second half's opening drive on PK Joshua Rowland's 39-yard field goal, setting up the late game drama.

Darnold was 28-of-49 for 397 yards with the 3 scores, but threw 2 interceptions. Burnett had 8 catches for 123 yards, while Mitchell added 6 for 90 yards. Jones ran for a game-best 47 yards on 18 tries.

ILB Cameron Smith and OLB Uchenna Nwosu each had 9 tackles, while Harris and CB **Iman Marshall** added 8 stops apiece. CB **Jack Jones** and S **Marvell Tell III** each had an interception.

Ehlinger was 21-of-40 for 298 yards with 2 TDs and 2 picks. WR Collin Johnson had 7 receptions for 191 yards.

## SCORING

### Second Quarter

USC -- Burnett 15-yard pass from Darnold (McGrath kick)

TEX -- Elliott 38-yard interception return (Rowland kick)

USC -- R. Jones 56-yard pass from Darnold (McGrath kick)

### Third Quarter

TEX -- Rowland 39-yard field goal

### Fourth Quarter

TEX -- Foreman 17-yard pass from Ehlinger (Rowland kick)

USC -- McGrath 31-yard field goal

### Overtime

USC -- Burnett 25-yard pass from Darnold (McGrath kick)

TEX -- Brewer 3-yard pass from Ehlinger (Rowland kick)

USC -- McGrath 43-yard field goal

USC	STATISTICS	TEXAS
25	First Downs	17
71	Net Yards Rushing	68
397	Net Yards Passing	298
51	Passes Attempted	40
28	Passes Completed	21
2	Had Intercepted	2
88	Total Plays	75
468	Total Yards	366
6/46.2	Punts/Avg	7/41.3
0/0	Fumbles-Lost	3/2
8/49	Penalties/Yards	10/73
32:46	Time of Possession	27:14

## TOP INDIVIDUALS

RUSHING – R. Jones (USC) 18-47; Carr (USC) 9-28; Warren (TEX) 4-15.

PASSING – Darnold (USC) 28-49-397; Ehlinger (TEX) 21-40-298.

RECEIVING – Burnett (USC) 8-123; Johnson (TEX) 7-191; Mitchell (USC) 6-90; Foreman (TEX) 5-38; Vaughns (USC) 4-25; Carr (USC) 3-42.

# GAME 4 – September 23, Berkeley, California

USC 30, California 20

Att: 46,747

USC	3	10	0	17	--	30
California	3	10	0	7	--	20

No. 5 USC forced 6 turnovers and converted them into 17 points en route to a 30-20 road-opening victory at California before 46,747 fans and an ABC national audience.

The win was USC's 13th in a row, its longest streak since 2003-04.

Troy's 6 takeaways were its most since getting 6 versus Colorado in 2012. Four of the takeaways came on consecutive Cal possessions in the fourth quarter to help USC pull away from a 13-13 halftime tie that lingered into the final period.

After USC stopped the Golden Bears on a fourth down try near midfield, the Trojans drove into position for PK **Chase McGrath's** third field goal of the game, a career-long 46-yarder that gave Troy a 16-13 lead 55 seconds into the fourth quarter. Two plays later, DT **Josh Fatu** stripped the ball from Cal QB Ross Bowers and OLB **Uchenna Nwosu** recovered at the Cal 3-yard line, leading to TB **Stephen Carr's** 2-yard TD run to up the lead. Two plays after that, S **Ykili Ross** intercepted Bowers, setting up a Trojan drive that ended with QB **Sam Darnold's** 4-yard scoring pass to WR **Deontay Burnett**. CB **Jack Jones** then had his second pick of the day on Cal's next drive and S **Chris Hawkins** had a theft on the Bears' subsequent possession with less than 6 minutes to play.

Cal opened the game's scoring on a 36-yard field goal by PK Matt Anderson on its first possession. After Jones' interception on Cal's next drive, USC tied it late in the first quarter on McGrath's 37-yard field goal. The Bears answered on their ensuing series with RB Vic Enwere's 1-yard scoring run at the top of the second quarter, but USC responded on the next possession as Darnold hit TE **Tyler Petite** for a 16-yard TD. The teams then exchanged field goals on the final drives of the first half, first McGrath's 40-yarder and then Anderson's 21-yarder at the gun.

Cal scored late in the game against USC's reserves when Bowers hit WR Jordan Veasy for an 8-yard TD.

Cal outgained USC, 416 to 356 yards, and had more plays (85 to 76). Neither team was effective on third downs (USC was 6-of-15 and Cal was 6-of-19), but the Bears converted 4-of-6 fourth downs while USC failed on both of its tries.

Darnold was 26-of-38 for 223 yards, Burnett had a game-high 9 receptions for 76 yards and Carr ran for 82 yards on 20 carries and added 6 catches for 47 yards while becoming the first USC true freshman to start at tailback since Dillon Baxter did so in 2010 against Arizona State.

ILB **Cameron Smith** and S **Marvell Tell** each had a team-best 12 tackles, while Smith also recovered a Bowers fumble forced by DL **Christian Rector**, who had 2 sacks.

For Cal, Bowers was 22-of-50 for 303 yards with the 4 picks and 2 lost fumbles, RB Patrick Laird ran for 82 yards on 15 tries and WRs Kanawai Noa (110 yards) and Vic Wharton III (86 yards) each had 6 catches. LB Devante Downs made 14 tackles.

## SCORING

### First Quarter

CAL -- Anderson 36-yard field goal

USC -- McGrath 37-yard field goal

### Second Quarter

CAL -- Enwere 1-yard run (Anderson kick)

USC -- Petite 16-yard pass from Darnold (McGrath kick)

USC -- McGrath 34-yard field goal

CAL -- Anderson 21-yard field goal

### Fourth Quarter

USC -- McGrath 46-yard field goal

USC -- Carr 2-yard run (McGrath kick)

USC -- Burnett 4-yard pass from Darnold (McGrath)

CAL -- Veasy 8-yard pass from Bowers (Anderson kick)

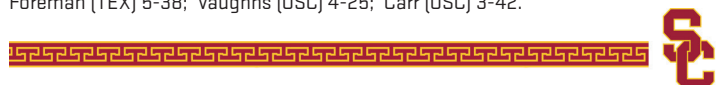
USC	STATISTICS	CALIFORNIA
22	First Downs	21
133	Net Yards Rushing	113
223	Net Yards Passing	303
38	Passes Attempted	52
26	Passes Completed	22
1	Had Intercepted	4
76	Total Plays	85
356	Total Yards	416
3/42.3	Punts/Avg	2/43.5
1/1	Fumbles-Lost	3/2
5/53	Penalties/Yards	6/44
31:00	Time of Possession	29:00

## TOP INDIVIDUALS

RUSHING – Carr (USC) 29-82; Laird (CAL) 15-82; Enwere (CAL) 8-44; Ware (USC) 8-20.

PASSING – Darnold (USC) 26-38-223; Bowers (CAL) 22-50-303; Wharton (CAL) 0-1-0.

RECEIVING – Burnett (USC) 9-76; Noa (CAL) 6-110; Wharton (CAL) 6-86; Carr (USC) 6-47; Veasy (CAL) 4-56; Petite (USC) 4-46; Vaughns (USC) 3-32; Laird (CAL) 3-4; Duncan (CAL) 2-18; Greene (2-12).



**GAME 5 – September 29, Pullman, Washington**  
**Washington State 30, USC 27**  
**Att: 33,773**

<b>USC</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Washington State</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>30</b>

PK Erik Powell hit a 32-yard field goal with 1:40 to play to give No. 16 Washington State a 30-27 upset win over No. 5 USC on a Friday night in Pullman before a sold-out crowd of 33,773 fans and an ESPN audience.

The loss snapped USC's 13-game winning streak and was Troy's first loss in Pullman since 2002 (by a similar 30-27 score on a Cougar field goal in overtime). It also was WSU's first win over an AP Top 5 team since 2003 (and first in the regular season since 1992), its first win over a Top 5 USC team in 12 tries and its first home win over a ranked opponent after 15 straight losses.

For most of the game, USC played without 3 starting offensive linemen and 2 starting wideouts because of injuries.

WSU dominated the statistics, getting more total yards (462-327), plays (81-58), first downs (23-15) and possession time (35:27-24:33). It was USC's fewest plays since getting 51 versus California in 2013. USC converted just 2-of-11 third downs.

The game was tied at 17-17 at halftime. Both teams scored on their initial drives of the game, with Powell getting a 44-yard field goal and then QB **Sam Darnold** running for a 4-yard touchdown. USC's next 2 series got into WSU territory but stalled.

Early in the second quarter, WSU QB Luke Falk hit WR Tavares Martin Jr. for a 28-yard TD to cap an 89-yard drive. But USC regained the lead several minutes later when TB **Ronald Jones II** burst 89 yards for a score, the longest rush by a Trojan since LaVale Woods' school-record 96-yarder in 1996 against Oregon State. On the ensuing possession, OLB **Uchenna Nwosu** picked off Falk at the WSU 3-yard line but the Trojans couldn't get the ball in the end zone and had to settle for a 20-yard field goal by PK **Chase McGrath**. WSU then drove 94 yards late in the half, with RB Jamal Morrow tying the score on a 1-yard run.

Powell hit a 33-yard field goal on WSU's first drive of the second half. USC knotted the score late in the third quarter on McGrath's 29-yard field goal (Troy took possession at WSU's 27 after a short Cougar punt, but the drive stalled).

The fourth quarter saw scores on the first 3 series, with Morrow taking a short Falk toss 23 yards for a TD only to have USC respond with Darnold's 2-yard scoring run. WSU then drove down the field to set up Powell's late game-winner. Any chance of a USC comeback was quashed when Darnold was stripped of the ball deep in USC territory.

Jones ran for a game-best 128 yards on 14 carries, Darnold was 15-of-29 for 164 yards with a pick and WRs **Tyler Vaughns** (89 yards) and **Deontay Burnett** (45 yards) each had a game-high 6 catches. It was the first time since the 1982 Arizona State game that the Trojans had neither a running back nor tight end catch a pass in a game. S **Marvell Tell** and CB **Ajene Harris** both made 7 tackles. USC sacked Falk 5 times.

Falk hit 34-of-51 throws for 340 yards en route to setting the Pac-12 career completion record. Morrow had 91 yards on 6 rushes and 47 yards on 5 receptions, while Martin had 6 grabs for 55 yards.

**SCORING**  
**First Quarter**

WSU -- Powell 44-yard field goal

**USC -- Darnold 4-yard run (McGrath kick)**

**Second Quarter**

WSU -- Martin 28-yard pass from Falk (Powell kick)

**USC -- R. Jones 86-yard run (McGrath kick)**

WSU -- Morrow 1-yard run (Powell kick)

**Third Quarter**

WSU -- Powell 33-yard field goal

**USC -- McGrath 29-yard field goal**

**Fourth Quarter**

WSU -- Morrow 23-yard pass from Falk (Powell kick)

**USC -- Darnold 2-yard run (McGrath kick)**

WSU -- Powell 32-yard field goal

<b>USC</b>	<b>STATISTICS</b>	<b>WASHINGTON ST.</b>
15	First Downs	23
163	Net Yards Rushing	122
164	Net Yards Passing	340
29	Passes Attempted	51
15	Passes Completed	34
1	Had Intercepted	1
58	Total Plays	81
327	Total Yards	462
6/43.2	Punts/Avg	6/33.0
2/1	Fumbles-Lost	0/0
9/80	Penalties/Yards	6/59
24:33	Time of Possession	35:27

**TOP INDIVIDUALS**

RUSHING – R. Jones (USC) 14-128; Morrow (WSU) 6-91; Williams (WSU) 10-34; Darnold (SC) 9-25.

PASSING – Falk (WSU) 34-51-340; Darnold (USC) 15-29-164.

RECEIVING – Vaughns (USC) 6-89; Martin (WSU) 6-55; Burnett (USC) 6-45; Johnson-Mack (WSU) 6-24; Morrow (WSU) 5-47; Sweet (WSU) 5-42; Bell (WSU) 3-101; Calvin (WSU) 3-35; Williams (WSU) 3-24; Lewis (USC) 2-21; Wicks (WSU) 2-6.

**GAME 6 – October 7, Los Angeles Coliseum**  
**USC 38, Oregon State 10**  
**Att: 60,314**

<b>Oregon State</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>USC</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>38</b>

QB **Sam Darnold** threw 3 touchdown passes and the Trojan defense was staunch all day as No. 14 USC posted an easy 38-10 victory over Oregon State on a hot afternoon (96 degrees) in front of 60,314 fans in the Coliseum and a Pac-12 Network audience.

It was USC's 24th consecutive victory over Oregon State in the Coliseum, as well as Troy's 13th straight home win over any opponent.

USC piled up 512 yards of total offense (averaging 7.0 per play) and 26 first downs while limiting the Beavers to 319 total yards and 16 first downs (OSU converted just 5-of-14 third downs and 0-of-2 fourth downs).

USC scored on its first 2 possessions of the game, as WR **Tyler Vaughns** caught his first career TD on a 37-yard Darnold strike and then TB **Ronald Jones II** ran 4 yards for a score 3 plays after CB **Jack Jones'** interception.

After Oregon State got on the board early in the second quarter on PK Jordan Choukair's 33-yard field goal, the Trojans responded on Darnold's 16-yard TD pass to WR **Deontay Burnett** for a 21-3 halftime lead.

USC scored on its initial possession of the second half when TE **Josh Falo's** first career reception was a 30-yard TD from Darnold. Oregon State got in the end zone at the top of the fourth quarter on RB Artavis Pierce's 6-yard TD run, but Troy countered on its next 2 drives, first a 29-yard field goal by PK **Chase McGrath** and then a 51-yard TD burst by backup QB **Matt Fink** on his first career rush (it was the longest rush by a USC quarterback since Carson Palmer's 54-yarder against California in 2001). Blind SNP **Jake Olson** snapped the ensuing PAT after Fink's TD.

The Beavers couldn't convert several scoring opportunities, including missing back-to-back field goal tries in the first quarter (the first was blocked by Jack Jones and DT **Kenny Bigelow Jr.** and the second missed wide left) and losing a third quarter fumble on USC's 6-yard line that was recovered by DL **Christian Rector**.

Darnold was 23-of-35 passing (but threw an interception and lost a fumble), Ronald Jones ran for a game-high 79 yards on 12 carries and Vaughns caught 5 passes for 68 yards. Thirteen Trojan receivers caught passes.

S **Marvell Tell III** had a game-best 10 tackles, while Rector and S **Chris Hawkins** each added 7 stops.

For OSU, QB Darell Garretson was 16-of-29 for 197 yards, Pierce ran for 60 yards on 12 tries and WR Seth Collins had 5 grabs for 91 yards.

It was USC's lowest home attendance since 52,961 versus Washington in 2002.

**SCORING**

**First Quarter**

**USC -- Vaughns 37-yard pass from Darnold (McGrath kick)**

**USC -- R. Jones 4-yard run (McGrath kick)**

**Second Quarter**

OSU -- Choukair 33-yard field goal

**USC -- Burnett 16-yard pass from Darnold (McGrath kick)**

**Third Quarter**

**USC -- Falo 30-yard pass from Darnold (McGrath kick)**

**Fourth Quarter**

OSU -- Pierce 6-yard run (Choukair kick)

**USC -- McGrath 29-yard field goal**

**USC -- Fink 51-yard run (McGrath kick)**

<b>USC</b>	<b>STATISTICS</b>	<b>OREGON STATE</b>
26	First Downs	16
184	Net Yards Rushing	122
328	Net Yards Passing	197
36	Passes Attempted	29
24	Passes Completed	16
1	Had Intercepted	1
73	Total Plays	65
512	Total Yards	319
2/39.0	Punts/Avg	3/42.0
4/2	Fumbles-Lost	2/2
4/46	Penalties/Yards	7/69
30:34	Time of Possession	29:26

**TOP INDIVIDUALS**

RUSHING – R. Jones (USC) 12-79; Pierce (OSU) 12-60; Fink (USC) 2-52; Malepeai (USC) 8-32; Ware (USC) 6-28; Tyner (OSU) 7-23; Collins (OSU) 4-23.

PASSING – Darnold (23-35-316; Garretson (OSU) 1-29-1; Fink (USC) 1-1-12.

RECEIVING – Collins (OSU) 5-91; Vaughns (USC) 5-68; Mitchell (USC) 4-26; Togiai (OSU) 4-21; Petite (USC) 2-40; Hawkins (OSU) 2-39; Pittman (USC) 2-24; Hodgins (OSU) 2-27; Burnett (USC) 2-20; R. Jones (USC) 2-17.

# GAME 7 – October 14, Los Angeles Coliseum

USC 28, Utah 27

Att: 72,382

Utah	7	14	0	6	--	27
USC	7	0	7	14	--	28

No. 13 USC strung together 3 long scoring drives to overcome a 14-point halftime deficit, then stopped a Ute 2-point conversion in the final minute to hold on for a 28-27 comeback victory over Utah before 72,382 fans in the Coliseum and a national ABC audience.

It was the largest halftime deficit that USC has overcome since coming back from 18 down at the half in 2005 against Arizona State. It was USC's first 1-point win since the 2010 Arizona State game. It was USC's 14th consecutive home victory. It was USC's eighth straight home win versus Utah (last losing at home in 1916).

Trailing 21-7 at halftime, USC drove a season-long 98 yards late in the third quarter for a touchdown (a 17-yard pass from QB **Sam Darnold** to TE **Tyler Petite**, their second scoring connection of the game). Then, early in the fourth quarter, USC went 88 yards, capped by Darnold's 1-yard TD toss to TE **Josh Falo** to tie the score. Troy then drove 93 yards on its next possession, with TB **Ronald Jones II** somersaulting into the end zone for an 11-yard score with less than 5 minutes to play to give USC the lead. Utah responded by going 75 yards, scoring on a 1-yard rush by QB Troy Williams with 42 seconds to go, but Williams' scramble on the 2-point conversion attempt was stopped short of the goal line by CB **Ajene Harris**.

Utah opened the game's scoring when S Marquise Blair took a Darnold fumble 18 yards for a touchdown midway through the first quarter. But USC answered quickly with Darnold's 52-yard aerial to Petite. Utah then used some trickery as WR Demari Simpkins caught a lateral and then fired a 5-yard TD pass to Williams early in the second quarter. Late in the half, after the Utes recovered a third Darnold lost fumble, Williams threw a 33-yard TD strike to Simpkins.

USC piled up 532 total yards (358 passing) and 30 first downs while holding the ball just 27:00 against a Utah defense that was allowing only 314.0 total yards and 18.4 points. The Trojans converted 7-of-14 third downs (6-of-9 in the second half).

Utah had 436 total yards and 20 first downs, but converted just 4-of-14 third downs (1-of-7 in the second half). The Utes managed only 165 total yards in the second half when they converted only 1-of-7 third downs.

Darnold was 27-of-50 for 358 yards and the 3 TDs. Jones ran for 111 yards on 17 carries. WR **Deontay Burnett** had 8 catches for 99 yards, WR **Tyler Vaughns** added 6 grabs for 65 yards and WR **Steven Mitchell Jr.** had 5 catches for 64 yards.

ILB **Cameron Smith** had a game-best and career-high 16 tackles and a point-blank interception (his fourth career pick, all versus Utah), while DE **Christian Rector** had 2 of USC's 4 sacks.

For Utah, Williams was 16-of-27 for 262 yards, RB Zack Moss rushed for a career-high 141 yards on 20 carries and Simpkins had 4 receptions for 58 yards.

## SCORING

### First Quarter

UTAH -- Blair 18-yard fumble return (Gay kick)  
USC -- **Petite 52-yard pass from Darnold (McGrath kick)**

### Second Quarter

UTAH -- Williams 5-yard pass from Simpkins (Gay kick)  
UTAH -- Simpkins 33-yard pass from Williams (Gay kick)

### Third Quarter

USC -- **Petite 17-yard pass from Darnold (McGrath kick)**

### Fourth Quarter

USC -- **Falo 1-yard pass from Darnold (McGrath kick)**  
USC -- **R. Jones 11-yard run (McGrath kick)**  
UTAH -- Williams 1-yard run (Williams run failed)

USC	STATISTICS	UTAH
30	First Downs	20
174	Net Yards Rushing	169
358	Net Yards Passing	267
50	Passes Attempted	28
27	Passes Completed	17
0	Had Intercepted	1
83	Total Plays	69
532	Total Yards	436
4/42.5	Punts/Avg	6/46.8
3/3	Fumbles-Lost	1/0
3/35	Penalties/Yards	6/40
27:00	Time of Possession	33:00

## TOP INDIVIDUALS

RUSHING – Moss (UTAH) 20-141; R. Jones (USC) 17-111; Malepeai (USC) 4-42; Henry-Cole (UTAH) 6-23; Darnold (USC) 6-15; Williams (UTAH) 14-8.

PASSING – Darnold (USC) 27-50-358; Williams (UTAH) 16-27-267; Simpkins (UTAH) 1-1-5.

RECEIVING – Burnett (USC) 8-99; Vaughns (USC) 6-65; Mitchell (USC) 5-64; Simpkins (UTAH) 4-58; Petite (USC) 3-79; Moss (UTAH) 3-26; Singleton (UTAH) 2-55; Wilson (UTAH) 2-51; Falo (USC) 2-20; Carrington (UTAH) 2-9.

# GAME 8 – October 21, South Bend, Indiana

Notre Dame 49, USC 14

Att: 77,622

USC	0	0	14	0	--	14
Notre Dame	14	14	14	7	--	49

Jumping out to a 28-point halftime lead, No. 13 Notre Dame--behind RB Josh Adams' 191 rushing yards with 3 touchdowns and QB Brandon Wimbush's 106 rushing yards with 2 scores along with 2 passing TDs--easily defeated No. 11 USC, 49-14, under the lights in South Bend in front of a sold-out crowd of 77,622 and an NBC audience.

It was the most points by the Irish against USC since also getting 49 in 1977, as well as their second largest victory margin over the Trojans since 1966 (51-0).

Notre Dame ran for 377 yards, the most allowed by USC since Boston College had 452 in 2014. USC had 336 total yards, but only 76 rushing. ND posted 5 sacks. Troy converted just 4-of-13 third downs.

The Irish jumped out to a 28-0 halftime lead, turning USC's 3 first-half turnovers into touchdowns. It was ND's second largest halftime lead in the series behind a 31-0 edge in 1966. The last time USC was shut out in the first half by an opponent was in 2010 by Oregon State. It was USC's largest halftime deficit since being down 35-0 at Penn State in 1994 and the most points Troy has surrendered in the first half since Oregon had 31 in 2015. Notre Dame had 262 total yards and 15 first downs on 46 plays at intermission, while USC had just 103 yards and 6 first downs on 28 plays (including minus 4 yards rushing).

Three plays after the Irish recovered a fumble on USC's first offensive play of the game, Wimbush threw a 26-yard TD to WR Equanimeous St. Brown. ND marched 79 yards on its next possession, capped by Wimbush's 23-yard scoring pass to WR Kevin Stepherson. USC got to the ND 3 early in the second quarter but came away empty, missing a short field goal. Then, midway through the second quarter, Notre Dame recovered a fumbled punt deep in USC territory and soon after Adams scored on a 3-yard run. QB **Sam Darnold** threw an interception on USC's subsequent possession and ND took advantage as Wimbush ran 7 yards for a score late in the half.

USC scored on the initial series of the second half, with Darnold hitting WR **Steven Mitchell Jr.** for a 5-yard score. But the Irish countered on their next drive, as Wimbush ran 7 yards for a TD. USC answered right back, with Darnold throwing a 16-yard scoring pass to WR **Deontay Burnett**, but ND responded as Adams raced 84 yards on the Irish's first play of the ensuing drive (the longest run by a Trojan opponent since Arizona State's J.R. Redmond had an 89-yarder in 1998). Notre Dame finished the scoring on its next series on Adams' 14-yard TD run.

Adams' rushing yardage came on 19 carries for a 10.1 average, while Wimbush's rush total was on 14 attempts (he also completed 9-of-19 passes for 120 yards).

Darnold was 20-of-28 for 229 passing yards, with Burnett catching 8 passes for 113 yards, Mitchell grabbing 7 for 71 yards and WR **Tyler Vaughns** getting 6 receptions for 65 yards. TB **Ronald Jones II** was held to 32 yards on 12 rushes.

ILB **Cameron Smith** led USC with 10 tackles.

## SCORING

### First Quarter

ND -- St. Brown 26-yard pass from Wimbush (Yoon kick)  
ND -- Stepherson 23-yard pass from Wimbush (Yoon kick)

### Second Quarter

ND -- Adams 3-yard run (Yoon kick)  
ND -- Wimbush 4-yard run (Yoon kick)

### Third Quarter

USC -- **Mitchell 5-yard pass from Darnold (McGrath kick)**  
ND -- Wimbush 7-yard run (Yoon kick)  
USC -- **Burnett 16-yard pass from Darnold (McGrath kick)**  
ND -- Adams 84-yard run (Yoon kick)

### Fourth Quarter

ND -- Adams 14-yard run (Yoon kick)

USC	STATISTICS	NOTRE DAME
18	First Downs	23
76	Net Yards Rushing	377
260	Net Yards Passing	120
36	Passes Attempted	22
25	Passes Completed	9
1	Had Intercepted	0
67	Total Plays	69
336	Total Yards	497
6/43.0	Punts/Avg	6/41.7
2/2	Fumbles-Lost	0/0
7/40	Penalties/Yards	7/51
31:36	Time of Possession	28:24

## TOP INDIVIDUALS

RUSHING – Adams (ND) 19-191; Wimbush (ND) 14-106; Jones (ND) 5-37; R. Jones (USC) 12-32.

PASSING – Darnold (USC) 20-28-229; Wimbush (ND) 9-19-120; Fink (USC) 5-8-31; Book (ND) 0-2-0.

RECEIVING – Burnett (USC) 8-113; Mitchell (USC) 7-61; Vaughns (USC) 6-65; Stepherson (ND) 3-58; St. Brown (ND) 3-29.





**GAME 9 – October 28, Tempe, Arizona**  
**USC 48, Arizona State 17**  
**Att: 53,446**

<b>USC</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>48</b>
<b>Arizona State</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>17</b>

TB **Ronald Jones II** ran for 216 yards with 2 long touchdowns, QB **Sam Darnold** threw 3 TD passes, including a pair to WR **Tyler Vaughns**, and the Trojan defense allowed just 79 rushing yards while posting 6 sacks as No. 21 USC rolled to a 48-17 bounceback victory at Arizona State on a warm Tempe evening in front of 53,446 fans and an ESPN audience.

USC played one of its most complete games of the season as it piled up 607 total yards, including 367 on the ground, and 29 first downs while limiting the Sun Devils to just 357 total yards, 15 first downs and 1-of-12 third down conversions. Troy had more plays (81 to 61) while holding the ball for 34:03.

The Trojans got off to a quick start, as Darnold hit WR **Deontay Burnett** on a 32-yard scoring pass on the game's opening series. After ASU PK Brandon Ruiz made a 39-yard field goal midway through the first quarter, USC scored the next 24 points. First, Darnold hit Vaughns for a 42-yard TD late in the first quarter, then Jones jetted 67 yards for a score at the top of the second quarter. It was Darnold to Vaughns again in the middle of the second quarter, this time for a 19-yard TD, before PK **Chase McGrath** nailed a career-long 51-yard field goal late in the half to give USC a 31-3 edge. However, ASU scored a touchdown at the halftime gun on QB Manny Wilkins' 47-yard Hail Mary pass to WR Kyle Williams on a play that initially was ruled short of the goal line but was overturned after a lengthy replay (both teams were called back from their locker rooms for the PAT).

After Wilkins scored on a 1-yard run on the opening drive of the second half, USC responded 3 plays later on Jones' 64-yard scoring burst. The Trojans would add a 33-yard McGrath field goal early in the final quarter and a 37-yard scoring interception return by S **Ykili Ross** late in the game.

Jones' 216 yards came on just 18 carries for a 12.0 average per rush. He was the first Trojan to have a pair of 60-plus yard runs in a game since Reggie Bush did so versus UCLA in 2004 (81- and 65-yard TDs). Darnold hit 19-of-35 passes for 266 yards and Vaughns had 6 catches for 126 yards. TB **Vavae Malapeai** added 68 yards on 11 carries.

OLB **Uchenna Nwosu** led USC with 8 tackles (3 were sacks on successive fourth quarter plays) and he had a deflection, while ILB **Cameron Smith** added 7 tackles. Three of DL **Rasheem Green's** 4 tackles were sacks. The last time USC had a pair of players with at least 3 sacks in a game was in the 1992 Arizona State game (Willie McGinest and David Webb had 3 each).

Wilkins completed 17-of-29 passes for 259 yards for ASU, including 7 to Williams for 121 yards. RB Demario Richard ran for 70 yards on 15 tries. LB Christian Sam had 15 tackles, with 2 sacks.

**SCORING**  
**First Quarter**

**USC -- Burnett 32-yard pass from Darnold (McGrath kick)**

**ASU -- Ruiz 39-yard field goal**

**USC -- Vaughns 42-yard pass from Darnold (McGrath kick)**

**Second Quarter**

**USC -- R. Jones 67-yard run (McGrath kick)**

**USC -- Vaughns 19-yard pass from Darnold (McGrath kick)**

**USC -- McGrath 51-yard field goal**

**ASU -- Williams 47-yard pass from Wilkins (Ruiz kick)**

**Third Quarter**

**ASU -- Wilkins 1-yard run (Ruiz kick)**

**USC -- R. Jones 64-yard run (McGrath kick)**

**Fourth Quarter**

**USC -- McGrath 33-yard field goal**

**USC -- Ross 37-yard interception return (McGrath kick)**

<b>USC</b>	<b>STATISTICS</b>	<b>ARIZONA STATE</b>
29	First Downs	15
341	Net Yards Rushing	79
266	Net Yards Passing	278
35	Passes Attempted	31
19	Passes Completed	18
0	Had Intercepted	1
81	Total Plays	61
607	Total Yards	357
2/48.0	Punts/Avg	8/42.1
1/1	Fumbles-Lost	1/0
8/60	Penalties/Yards	10/99
34:03	Time of Possession	25:57

**TOP INDIVIDUALS**

**RUSHING** – R. Jones (USC) 18-216; Richard (ASU) 15-70; Malepeai (USC) 11-68; Ware (USC) 6-22.

**PASSING** – Darnold (USC) 19-35-0; Wilkins (ASU) 17-29-259; Barnett (ASU) 1-2-19.

**RECEIVING** – Williams (ASU) 7-121; Vaughns (USC) 6-126; Burnett (USC) 4-49; Harry (ASU) 3-86; Petite (USC) 2-42; Pittman (USC) 2-23; Humphrey (ASU) 2-18; Newsome (ASU) 2-10.

**GAME 10 – November 4, Los Angeles Coliseum**  
**USC 49, Arizona 35**  
**Att: 70,225**

<b>Arizona</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>USC</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>49</b>

TB **Ronald Jones II** ran for 194 yards and 3 short TDs, including a pair late in the game after No. 23 Arizona rallied from a 22-point third quarter deficit to tie the score, to help No. 17 USC overcome the Wildcats, 49-35, in front of a Homecoming crowd of 70,225 fans under the lights in the Coliseum and an ESPN audience.

The victory, USC's 15th consecutive at home and fifth straight versus UA, put the Trojans in the driver's seat in the chase for the Pac-12 South Division championship.

USC held Arizona's potent offense, which was averaging 522.9 total yards (338.6 rushing), well under its averages. UA had just 94 yards on 35 first half plays, but the Wildcats--behind the play of QB Khalil Tate--came alive after the intermission.

After USC forged a 28-6 lead midway through the third period on Jones' 5-yard scoring run, the Wildcats scored 29 of the next 36 points to knot the game at 35-35 midway through the fourth quarter. On successive possessions, Tate ran 32 yards for a TD, then he threw a 30-yard scoring pass to WR Shun Brown late in the third quarter, then Tate hit RB J.J. Taylor for a 16-yard TD just 4 plays after USC had countered with TB **Aca'Cedric Ware's** career-long 42-yard TD burst early in the final period and finally RB Zach Green ran 3 yards for a score (Tate threw a 2-point conversion pass to WR Tony Ellison). But USC answered with a pair of 1-yard TD runs by Jones on its next 2 series, the second coming after CB **Ajene Harris'** interception. ILB **John Houston Jr.** sealed the win with a pick on Arizona's final drive.

USC got on the board first when WR **Michael Pittman Jr.** blocked a punt and WR **Jalen Greene** ran it 11 yards for a TD midway through the first quarter (it was the Trojans' first blocked punt for a TD since the 2012 California game). UA's only first half points came on second quarter field goals by PK Lucas Havrisik (45 and 43 yards) that sandwiched a pair of TD passes by QB **Sam Darnold** on successive drives, the first 22 yards to WR **Tyler Vaughns** and the next to WR **Steven Mitchell Jr.** for 27 yards.

USC rolled up 642 total yards (331 on the ground), its most since getting 737 yards versus Idaho in 2015, and averaged 8.2 yards on its 78 plays. Troy had 30 first downs, but was penalized 14 times for 123 yards (its most flags since getting 14 against California in 2014). Arizona finished with 380 total yards (234 rushing). The Trojan defense posted 5 sacks (doubling the Wildcats' 2017 total, allowed only 5-of-15 third down conversions and recovered a fumble at the USC 4-yard line on UA's first drive of the second half).

Darnold completed 20-of-26 passes for 311 yards, with Vaughns catching 4 for 59 yards and Pittman 3 for 59 yards. Ware had 122 yards on 14 carries. Jones became the first Trojan since LenDale White in 2004 and 2005 to have back-to-back 1,000-yard rushing seasons.

Houston led USC with 10 tackles, while ILB **Jordan Iosefa**, S **Chris Hawkins** and OLB **Uchenna Nwosu** each made 8 stops (Iosefa also caused the fumble).

For Arizona, Tate ran for 161 yards on 26 tries and threw for 146 yards on 14-of-31 passing. Brown caught 8 passes for 78 yards.

**SCORING**  
**First Quarter**

**USC -- Greene 11-yard return of blocked punt (McGrath kick)**

**Second Quarter**

**ARIZ -- Havrisik 45-yard field goal**

**USC -- Vaughns 22-yard pass from Darnold (McGrath kick)**

**USC -- Mitchell 27-yard pass from Darnold (McGrath kick)**

**ARIZ -- Havrisik 43-yard field goal**

**Third Quarter**

**USC -- R. Jones 5-yard run (McGrath kick)**

**ARIZ -- Tate 32-yard run (Pollack kick)**

**ARIZ -- Brown 30-yard pass from Tate (Pollack kick)**

**Fourth Quarter**

**USC -- Ware 42-yard run (McGrath kick)**

**ARIZ -- Taylor 16-yard pass from Tate (Pollack kick)**

**ARIZ -- Green 3-yard run (Ellison pass from Tate)**

**USC -- Jones 1-yard run (McGrath kick)**

**USC -- Jones 1-yard run (McGrath kick)**

<b>USC</b>	<b>STATISTICS</b>	<b>ARIZONA</b>
30	First Downs	25
331	Net Yards Rushing	234
311	Net Yards Passing	146
26	Passes Attempted	31
20	Passes Completed	14
1	Had Intercepted	2
78	Total Plays	74
642	Total Yards	380
4/42.8	Punts/Avg	5/29.2
1/0	Fumbles-Lost	2/1
14/123	Penalties/Yards	3/32
33:55	Time of Possession	26:05

**TOP INDIVIDUALS**

**RUSHING** – R. Jones (USC) 27-194; Tate (ARIZ) 26-161; Ware (USC) 14-122, Taylor (ARIZ) 12-51.

**PASSING** – Darnold (USC) 20-26-311; Tate (ARIZ) 14-31-146.

**RECEIVING** – Brown (ARIZ) 8-78; Vaughns (USC) 4-59; Pittman (USC) 3-59; R. Jones (USC) 3-39; Ellison (ARIZ) 3-36; Burnett (USC) 2-44; Greene (USC) 2-30; D. Imatorbhebhe (USC) 2-25.



# GAME 11 – November 11, Boulder, Colorado

USC 38, Colorado 24

Att: 49,337

USC	0	20	10	8	--	38
Colorado	0	0	14	10	--	24

QB **Sam Darnold** threw 2 touchdown passes and ran for another and CB **Ajene Harris** returned 1 of his 2 interceptions for a TD as No. 15 USC clinched a berth in the Pac-12 Football Championship Game by holding off Colorado's second-half rally en route to a 38-24 win at Boulder in front of 49,337 fans and a FOX audience.

It kept USC undefeated in its 12 meetings with Colorado.

USC held a 27-0 lead midway through the third quarter before the Buffs came alive. After a scoreless first quarter, Darnold hit WRs **Michael Pittman** (10 yards) and **Deontay Burnett** (18 yards) for scores on successive possessions in the second quarter. Then late in the half, Harris ran back an interception 34 yards for a TD.

After USC blocked its second field goal of the game on CU's opening drive of the second half (by DT **Austin Jackson** after DT **Brandon Pili** tipped one in the second quarter, the first time since the 2011 Colorado game that Troy blocked 2 field goals in a contest), Darnold scrambled for a 24-yard TD. Colorado then scored on its next 4 possessions: WR Juwann Winfree caught a 79-yard scoring bomb from QB Steven Montez, then TB Phillip Lindsay ran for a 1-yard TD 3 plays after the Buffaloes blocked a USC punt. USC PK **Chase McGrath** nailed a 26-yard field goal late in the third quarter, but Colorado answered with PK James Stefanou's 39-yard field goal early in the fourth quarter. USC countered with TB **Ronald Jones II's** 22-yard cutback scoring run, but Montez and Winfree hooked up for a 57-yard TD soon after.

Darnold was 21-of-34 passing for 329 yards, Jones ran for 142 yards on 25 carries (to move into sixth place on USC's career rushing chart), Burnett had 6 catches for 79 yards, WR **Tyler Vaughns** had 5 grabs for 90 yards and WR **Steven Mitchell Jr.** had 4 receptions for 91 yards. ILB **John Houston Jr.** had a game-high 11 tackles (2 for losses) plus a deflection, while CB **Isaiah Langley** added 9 stops.

Montez hit 27-of-49 passes for 376 yards, including 10 throws to WR Bryce Bobo for 113 yards and 5 to Winfree for 163 yards, while Lindsay rushed for 68 yards on 20 attempts.

USC had 522 total yards to CU's 486 (the Buffs had only 152 total yards at halftime).

## SCORING

### Second Quarter

USC -- Pittman 10-yard pass from Darnold (McGrath kick)

USC -- Burnett 18-yard pass from Darnold (McGrath kick)

USC -- Harris 34-yard interception return (McGrath kick missed)

### Third Quarter

USC -- Darnold 24-yard run (McGrath kick)

COLO -- Winfree 79-yard pass from Montez (Steanou kick)

COLO -- Lindsay 1-yard run (Stefanou kick)

USC -- McGrath 26-yard field goal

### Fourth Quarter

COLO -- Stefanou 39-yard field goal

USC -- R. Jones 22-yard run (Krommenhoek pass from Darnold)

COLO -- Winfree 57-yard pass from Montez (Stefanou kick)

USC	STATISTICS	COLORADO
23	First Downs	23
193	Net Yards Rushing	110
329	Net Yards Passing	376
x34	Passes Attempted	49
21	Passes Completed	27
0	Had Intercepted	2
72	Total Plays	83
522	Total Yards	486
4/33.5	Punts/Avg	3/44.7
2/0	Fumbles-Lost	0/0
9/79	Penalties/Yards	4/45
31:30	Time of Possession	28:30

## TOP INDIVIDUALS

RUSHING – R. Jones (USC) 25-142; Lindsay (COLO) 20-68; Montez (COLO) 12-40; Darnold (USC) 3-31.

PASSING – Montez (COLO) 27-49-376; Darnold (USC) 21-34-329.

RECEIVING – Bobo (COLO) 10-113; Burnett (USC) 6-79; Winfree (COLO) 5-163; Vaughns (USC) 5-90; Ross (COLO) 5-40; Mitchell (USC) 4-91; Pittman (USC) 4-59; MacIntyre (COLO) 3-33.

# GAME 12 – November 18, Los Angeles Coliseum

USC 28, UCLA 23

Att: 82,407

UCLA	7	0	7	9	--	23
USC	14	0	7	7	--	28

TB **Ronald Jones II** ran for 122 yards with 2 short TDs, QB **Sam Darnold** ran for another score while throwing for 264 yards, the Trojans used a trick play to score on a punt return and Troy's defense withstood Bruin QB Josh Rosen's 421-yard passing outing by getting 2 takeaways and 4 sacks as No. 12 USC held off crosstown rival UCLA, 28-23, on Senior Day in front of 82,407 fans and an ABC audience.

It was USC's third straight win over UCLA, which fired head coach Jim Mora the next day. It also gave USC another 10-win season. UCLA's 23 points tied its second-lowest output of 2017.

USC began the scoring on a successful misdirection punt return. USC PR **Ajene Harris** and the Trojan punt return team ran towards the Bruins' sideline as if to field UCLA's punt midway through the opening quarter. But USC gunner blocker **Michael Pittman Jr.** sprinted back to the USC sideline as the ball was snapped and fielded the punt, which actually went that direction. Pittman raced 72 yards untouched along the Trojan sideline for a touchdown.

The teams then traded touchdowns on the ensuing series. First, Rosen drove UCLA 80 yards, culminating with his 11-yard TD pass to WR Jordan Lasley, the first of Lasley's 3 TD catches. But USC answered as Jones scored on a 2-yard run.

The second quarter was scoreless as UCLA missed a field goal and lost a fumble in the red zone, while Darnold threw a pick and had the half run out on his scramble to the UCLA 5-yard line.

S **Marvell Tell III** picked off Rosen in the end zone after the Bruins got into the red zone on the opening drive of the second half. Late in the third quarter, Darnold scored on a 1-yard run only to see Rosen and Lasley connect for another TD (9 yards) on the following possession.

UCLA pulled within 21-17 early in the fourth quarter on PK JJ Molson's 26-yard field goal after its drive stalled in the red zone. But USC countered on its ensuing possession as Jones had another 2-yard TD run to cap a 90-yard drive. The Bruins, however, responded on their next drive, as Rosen hit Lasley for a 27-yard TD with 2:43 to play, but USC recovered the onside kick and ran out the clock.

UCLA outgained USC, 501 yards on 83 plays to 417 on 69 plays. UCLA, which ran for just 80 yards, was penalized 12 times and USC had 11 penalties. The Trojans converted just 2-of-10 third downs.

Darnold completed 17-of-28 passes, Jones had a career-high 28 carries and WRs **Steven Mitchell Jr.** (56 yards) and **Deontay Burnett** (55 yards) each had 4 receptions. S **Chris Hawkins** had a game-high 10 tackles, while Harris and CB **Iman Marshall** each added 9 stops.

For UCLA, Rosen was 32-of-52 passing, Lasley caught 10 balls for 204 yards, WR Theo Howard added 11 catches for 81 yards and TE Austin Roberts had 6 grabs for 70 yards. RB Soso Jamabo had 62 yards on 9 carries and RB Bolu Olorunfunmi added 56 yards on 13 rushes.

## SCORING

### First Quarter

USC -- Pittman 72-yard punt return (McGrath kick)

UCLA -- Lasley 11-yard pass from Rosen (Molson kick)

USC -- R. Jones 2-yard run (McGrath kick)

### Third Quarter

USC -- Darnold 1-yard run (McGrath kick)

UCLA -- Lasley 9-yard pass from Rosen (Molson kick)

### Fourth Quarter

UCLA -- Molson 26-yard field goal

USC -- R. Jones 2-yard run (McGrath kick)

UCLA -- Lasley 27-yard pass from Rosen (Rosen pass failed)

USC	STATISTICS	UCLA
24	First Downs	28
153	Net Yards Rushing	80
264	Net Yards Passing	421
28	Passes Attempted	52
17	Passes Completed	32
1	Had Intercepted	1
69	Total Plays	83
417	Total Yards	501
5/33.4	Punts/Avg	4/45.2
0/0	Fumbles-Lost	1/1
11/115	Penalties/Yards	12/100
29:42	Time of Possession	30:18

## TOP INDIVIDUALS

RUSHING – R. Jones (USC) 28-122; Jamabo (UCLA) 9-62; Olorunfunmi (UCLA) 13-56.

PASSING – Rosen (UCLA) 32-52-421; Darnold (USC) 17-28-264.

RECEIVING – Howard (UCLA) 11-81; Lasley (UCLA) 10-204; Roberts (UCLA) 6-70; Mitchell (USC) 4-56; Burnett (USC) 4-55; Carr (USC) 2-49; Jamabo (UCLA) 2-41; Vaughns (USC) 2-37; D. Imatorbhebhe (USC) 2-34.



**GAME 13 – December 1, Santa Clara, California**

**Pac-12 Championship Game**

**USC 31, Stanford 28**

**Att: 48,031**

<b>Stanford</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>USC</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>31</b>

QB **Sam Darnold** threw 2 touchdown passes, TB **Ronald Jones II** ran for a pair of short TDs and the Trojan defense made a huge goal line stand in the fourth quarter to spark a 99-yard scoring drive that provided the decisive points in No. 11 USC's 31-28 victory over No. 14 Stanford in the Pac-12 Championship Game in front of 48,031 fans in Levi's Stadium in Santa Clara and a national ESPN audience.

The win, the first time for a South Division team in the game's 7-year history, gave USC's its first Pac-12 title since 2008 and its first 11-win season since then. It also gave USC, which was coming off a bye after playing 12 regular season games without one, a season sweep over the Cardinal, which it had defeated in September.

USC entered the fourth quarter with a 24-21 lead, but the Cardinal drove to the Trojan 3-yard line on their first possession. Four plays and 2 penalties later, Stanford went for it on fourth-and-goal from the 1, but OLB **Uchenna Nwosu** swept in to stop Cardinal RB Cameron Scarlett short of the goal line. The Trojans took over with 8 minutes to play and drove 99 yards--aided by a 54-yard reception by WR **Michael Pittman Jr.** from Darnold, who had barely eluded a sack in the end zone--with Jones scoring on an 8-yard run with 4:22 to go.

But Stanford responded with a 90-yard scoring drive, with QB K.J. Costello hitting TE Kaden Smith on a 28-yard TD toss with 2:09 to play. However, Stanford's ensuing onside kick went out of bounds and USC ran out the clock for the win.

USC got on the board first on a 7-yard Darnold TD pass to Pittman late in the first quarter. Stanford answered on its following possession with RB Bryce Love's 9-yard scoring run at the top of the second quarter, only to see USC answer back on the next series with PK **Chase McGrath's** 24-yard field goal. USC extended its lead the next time it had the ball, driving 97 yards as Darnold hit WR Tyler Vaughns on a 19-yard TD aerial. Stanford closed the gap to 17-14 with 34 seconds left in the half on Scarlett's 1-yard TD run.

The Trojans had outgained Stanford at halftime, 265 yards to 140, while holding the ball for 17:19.

USC rebuilt a 10-point edge midway through the third quarter on Jones' 1-yard TD run, but the Cardinal responded on the next series as Costello connected with Smith for an 11-yard touchdown, setting up the fourth quarter drama.

USC had 501 total yards in the game to Stanford's 343. Darnold (named the game's MVP) was 17-of-24 for 325 yards, Jones ran for 140 yards on a career-high 30 carries and Pittman had career highs for catches (7) and receiving yards (a Pac-12 Championship Game record 146). S **Chris Hawkins** had a personal-best 14 tackles, while ILB **Cameron Smith** added 7 stops.

For Stanford, Love ran for 125 yards on 22 attempts, Costello was 10-of-22 for 192 yards and Smith had 4 grabs for 80 yards.

**SCORING**

**First Quarter**

**USC -- Pittman 7-yard pass from Darnold (McGrath kick)**

**Second Quarter**

**STAN -- Love 9-yard run (Toner kick)**

**USC -- McGrath 24-yard field goal**

**USC -- Vaughns 19-yard pass from Darnold (McGrath kick)**

**STAN -- Scarlett 1-yard run (Toner kick)**

**Third Quarter**

**USC -- R. Jones 1-yard run (McGrath kick)**

**STAN -- Smith 11-yard pass from Costello (Toner kick)**

**Fourth Quarter**

**USC -- R. Jones 8-yard run (McGrath kick)**

**STAN -- Smith 28-yard pass from Costello (Toner kick)**

<b>USC</b>	<b>STATISTICS</b>	<b>STANFORD</b>
22	First Downs	18
176	Net Yards Rushing	151
325	Net Yards Passing	192
24	Passes Attempted	22
17	Passes Completed	10
0	Had Intercepted	0
67	Total Plays	60
501	Total Yards	343
3/32.3	Punts/Avg	5/45.6
1/1	Fumbles-Lost	4/0
9/76	Penalties/Yards	7/73
31:14	Time of Possession	28:46

**TOP INDIVIDUALS**

**RUSHING** – R. Jones (USC) 30-140; Love (STAN) 22-125; Carr (USC) 7-42; Scarlett (STAN) 7-21.

**PASSING** – Darnold (USC) 17-24-325; Costello (STAN) 10-22-192.

**RECEIVING** – Pittman (USC) 7-146; Smith (STAN) 4-80; Vaughns (USC) 3-26; Arcega-Whiteside (STAN) 2-87; Mitchell (USC) 2-66; Wedington (STAN) 2-9.





COMING IN 2019  
COLISEUMRENOVATION.COM





**2017 USC Football**  
**USC Overall Team Statistics (as of Dec 02, 2017)**  
**All games**



<b>Team Statistics</b>	<b>USC</b>	<b>OPP</b>
SCORING	449	342
Points Per Game	34.5	26.3
Points Off Turnovers	54	48
FIRST DOWNS	317	269
Rushing	129	116
Passing	176	125
Penalty	12	28
RUSHING YARDAGE	2534	2058
Yards gained rushing	2828	2434
Yards lost rushing	294	376
Rushing Attempts	507	472
Average Per Rush	5.0	4.4
Average Per Game	194.9	158.3
TDs Rushing	28	18
PASSING YARDAGE	3830	3204
Comp-Att-Int	283-446-12	247-458-16
Average Per Pass	8.6	7.0
Average Per Catch	13.5	13.0
Average Per Game	294.6	246.5
TDs Passing	26	22
TOTAL OFFENSE	6364	5262
Total Plays	953	930
Average Per Play	6.7	5.7
Average Per Game	489.5	404.8
KICK RETURNS: #-Yards	35-823	48-1156
PUNT RETURNS: #-Yards	19-227	18-180
INT RETURNS: #-Yards	16-209	12-172
KICK RETURN AVERAGE	23.5	24.1
PUNT RETURN AVERAGE	11.9	10.0
INT RETURN AVERAGE	13.1	14.3
FUMBLES-LOST	18-11	19-8
PENALTIES-Yards	104-940	91-754
Average Per Game	72.3	58.0
PUNTS-Yards	50-2083	64-2682
Average Per Punt	41.7	41.9
Net punt average	36.9	36.8
KICKOFFS-Yards	80-5004	66-3879
Average Per Kick	62.5	58.8
Net kick average	39.0	36.8
TIME OF POSSESSION/Game	30:36	29:24
3RD-DOWN Conversions	72/171	72/195
3rd-Down Pct	42%	37%
4TH-DOWN Conversions	10/24	14/25
4th-Down Pct	42%	56%
SACKS BY-Yards	43-257	22-170
MISC YARDS	0	0
TOUCHDOWNS SCORED	59	43
FIELD GOALS-ATTEMPTS	12-16	14-22
ON-SIDE KICKS	0-0	0-1
RED-ZONE SCORES	(42-55) 76%	(35-50) 70%
RED-ZONE TOUCHDOWNS	(33-55) 60%	(26-50) 52%
PAT-ATTEMPTS	(57-58) 98%	(40-40) 100%
ATTENDANCE	508781	260925
Games/Avg Per Game	7/72683	5/52185
Neutral Site Games		1/48031

<b>Score by Quarters</b>	<b>1st</b>	<b>2nd</b>	<b>3rd</b>	<b>4th</b>	<b>OT</b>	<b>Total</b>
USC	94	123	76	146	10	449
Opponents	51	106	76	102	7	342



**2017 USC Football**  
**USC Overall Individual Statistics (as of Dec 02, 2017)**  
**All games**



<b>Rushing</b>	<b>gp</b>	<b>att</b>	<b>gain</b>	<b>loss</b>	<b>net</b>	<b>avg</b>	<b>td</b>	<b>lg</b>	<b>avg/g</b>
Jones, Ronald	12	242	1512	26	1486	6.1	18	86	123.8
Carr, Stephen	9	63	370	7	363	5.8	3	52	40.3
Malepeai, Vavae	12	48	264	5	259	5.4	0	26	21.6
Ware, Aca'Cedric	13	46	252	14	238	5.2	1	42	18.3
Darnold, Sam	13	64	281	181	100	1.6	5	39	7.7
Fink, Matt	3	7	90	8	82	11.7	1	51	27.3
Jones, Velus	13	5	22	7	15	3.0	0	12	1.2
Toland, James	9	4	15	2	13	3.2	0	6	1.4
Mitchell, Steven	11	1	10	0	10	10.0	0	10	0.9
Jountti, Corbin	8	2	5	0	5	2.5	0	3	0.6
Greene, Jalen	10	1	4	0	4	4.0	0	4	0.4
Peters, Reuben	12	1	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Burnett, Deontay	13	2	3	5	-2	-1.0	0	3	-0.2
TEAM	12	21	0	39	-39	-1.9	0	0	-3.2
Total	13	507	2828	294	2534	5.0	28	86	194.9
Opponents	13	472	2434	376	2058	4.4	18	84	158.3

<b>Passing</b>	<b>gp</b>	<b>effic</b>	<b>comp-att-int</b>	<b>pct</b>	<b>yds</b>	<b>td</b>	<b>lg</b>	<b>avg/g</b>
Darnold, Sam	13	151.01	277-435-12	63.7	3787	26	56	291.3
Fink, Matt	3	106.80	6-9-0	66.7	43	0	16	14.3
TEAM	12	0.00	0-2-0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0
Total	13	149.44	283-446-12	63.5	3830	26	56	294.6
Opponents	13	121.56	247-458-16	53.9	3204	22	79	246.5

<b>Receiving</b>	<b>gp</b>	<b>no.</b>	<b>yds</b>	<b>avg</b>	<b>td</b>	<b>lg</b>	<b>avg/g</b>
Burnett, Deontay	13	74	975	13.2	9	42	75.0
Vaughns, Tyler	13	51	690	13.5	5	42	53.1
Mitchell, Steven	11	41	644	15.7	4	49	58.5
Petite, Tyler	13	22	305	13.9	3	52	23.5
Pittman, Michael	10	20	335	16.8	2	54	33.5
Carr, Stephen	9	16	189	11.8	0	29	21.0
Jones, Ronald	12	14	187	13.4	1	56	15.6
Greene, Jalen	10	8	98	12.2	0	23	9.8
Imatorbhebhe, Daniel	8	6	119	19.8	0	48	14.9
Ware, Aca'Cedric	13	6	62	10.3	0	37	4.8
Jones, Velus	13	6	46	7.7	0	16	3.5
Falo, Josh	11	4	65	16.2	2	30	5.9
Lewis, Joseph	10	4	39	9.8	0	14	3.9
Sidney, Trevon	8	3	35	11.7	0	23	4.4
Grimes, Randal	3	2	17	8.5	0	12	5.7
Imatorbhebhe, Josh	5	2	11	5.5	0	9	2.2
Krommenhoek, Erik	13	2	11	5.5	0	7	0.8
Malepeai, Vavae	12	2	2	1.0	0	6	0.2
Total	13	283	3830	13.5	26	56	294.6
Opponents	13	247	3204	13.0	22	79	246.5

<b>Punt Returns</b>	<b>no.</b>	<b>yds</b>	<b>avg</b>	<b>td</b>	<b>lg</b>
Harris, Ajene	12	70	5.8	0	21
Jones, Jack	4	48	12.0	0	21
Pittman, Michael	2	89	44.5	1	72
Vaughns, Tyler	1	9	9.0	0	9
Greene, Jalen	0	11	0.0	1	11
Total	19	227	11.9	2	72
Opponents	18	180	10.0	0	33

<b>Interceptions</b>	<b>no.</b>	<b>yds</b>	<b>avg</b>	<b>td</b>	<b>lg</b>
Jones, Jack	4	17	4.2	0	15
Tell, Marvell	3	64	21.3	1	37
Harris, Ajene	3	31	10.3	1	34
Ross, Ykili	2	86	43.0	1	49
Nwosu, Uchenna	1	0	0.0	0	0
Houston, John	1	0	0.0	0	0
Smith, Cameron	1	4	4.0	0	4
Hawkins, Chris	1	7	7.0	0	7
Total	16	209	13.1	3	49
Opponents	12	172	14.3	1	38

<b>Kick Returns</b>	<b>no.</b>	<b>yds</b>	<b>avg</b>	<b>td</b>	<b>lg</b>
Jones, Velus	26	682	26.2	0	59
Jones, Jack	3	45	15.0	0	31
Carr, Stephen	3	64	21.3	0	38
Smith, Cameron	1	2	2.0	0	2
Rector, Christian	1	10	10.0	0	10
Harris, Ajene	1	20	20.0	0	20
Total	35	823	23.5	0	59
Opponents	48	1156	24.1	1	100

<b>Fumble Returns</b>	<b>no.</b>	<b>yds</b>	<b>avg</b>	<b>td</b>	<b>lg</b>
Houston, John	1	9	9.0	0	9
Nwosu, Uchenna	1	1	1.0	0	1
Total	2	10	5.0	0	9
Opponents	2	18	9.0	1	18





**2017 USC Football**  
**USC Overall Individual Statistics (as of Dec 02, 2017)**  
**All games**



Scoring	td	fg	PAT				dxd	saf	pts
			kick	rush	rcv	pass			
Jones, Ronald	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	114
McGrath, Chase	-	12-16	57-58	-	-	-	-	-	93
Burnett, Deontay	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	54
Vaughns, Tyler	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30
Darnold, Sam	5	-	-	-	-	1-1	-	-	30
Mitchell, Steven	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24
Carr, Stephen	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18
Pittman, Michael	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18
Petite, Tyler	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18
Falo, Josh	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
Ware, Aca'Cedric	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Greene, Jalen	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Tell, Marvell	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Ross, Ykili	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Fink, Matt	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Harris, Ajene	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Krommenhoek, Erik	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2
Total	59	12-16	57-58	-	1	1-1	-	-	449
Opponents	43	14-22	40-40	0-1	1	1-2	-	-	342

Total Offense	g	plays	rush	pass	total	avg/g
Darnold, Sam	13	499	100	3787	3887	299.0
Jones, Ronald	12	242	1486	0	1486	123.8
Carr, Stephen	9	63	363	0	363	40.3
Malepeai, Vavae	12	48	259	0	259	21.6
Ware, Aca'Cedric	13	46	238	0	238	18.3
Fink, Matt	3	16	82	43	125	41.7
Jones, Velus	13	5	15	0	15	1.2
Toland, James	9	4	13	0	13	1.4
Mitchell, Steven	11	1	10	0	10	0.9
Jountti, Corbin	8	2	5	0	5	0.6
Greene, Jalen	10	1	4	0	4	0.4
Burnett, Deontay	13	2	-2	0	-2	-0.2
TEAM	12	23	-39	0	-39	-3.2
Total	13	953	2534	3830	6364	489.5
Opponents	13	930	2058	3204	5262	404.8

Field Goals	fg	pct.	01-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-99	lg	blk
McGrath, Chase	12-16	75.0	0-0	5-6	4-5	2-4	1-1	51	0

FG Sequence	USC	Opponents
Western Michigan	-	38,(43)
Stanford	-	(36)
Texas	46,(31),(43)	(39)
California	(37),(34),(46)	(36),(21),29
Washington State	(20),(29)	(44),(33),(32)
Oregon State	(29)	46,37,(33)
Utah	-	33
Notre Dame	27	-
Arizona State	(51),38,(33)	(39)
Arizona	-	(45),(43)
Colorado	40,(26)	47,39,(39)
UCLA	-	47,(26)
Stanford	(24)	-

Punting	no.	yds	avg	lg	tb	fc	i20	50+	blk
Budrovich, Reid	49	2083	42.5	63	3	15	19	10	1
TEAM	1	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	50	2083	41.7	63	3	15	19	10	1
Opponents	64	2682	41.9	60	5	15	22	15	1

Kickoffs	no.	yds	avg	tb	ob	retn	net	ydln
McGrath, Chase	55	3400	61.8	18	2			
Budrovich, Reid	16	1022	63.9	8	0			
Brown, Michael	9	582	64.7	3	1			
Total	80	5004	62.5	29	3	24.1	39.0	25
Opponents	66	3879	58.8	25	2	23.5	36.8	28

Numbers in (parentheses) indicate field goal was made.



**2017 USC Football**  
**USC Overall Individual Statistics (as of Dec 02, 2017)**  
**All games**



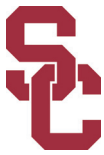
All Purpose	g	rush	rcv	pr	kr	ir	total	avg/g
Jones, Ronald	12	1486	187	0	0	0	1673	139.4
Burnett, Deontay	13	-2	975	0	0	0	973	74.8
Jones, Velus	13	15	46	0	682	0	743	57.2
Vaughns, Tyler	13	0	690	9	0	0	699	53.8
Mitchell, Steven	11	10	644	0	0	0	654	59.5
Carr, Stephen	9	363	189	0	64	0	616	68.4
Pittman, Michael	10	0	335	89	0	0	424	42.4
Petite, Tyler	13	0	305	0	0	0	305	23.5
Ware, Aca'Cedri	13	238	62	0	0	0	300	23.1
Malepeai, Vavae	12	259	2	0	0	0	261	21.8
Harris, Ajene	13	0	0	70	20	31	121	9.3
Imatorbhebhe, D	8	0	119	0	0	0	119	14.9
Greene, Jalen	10	4	98	11	0	0	113	11.3
Jones, Jack	13	0	0	48	45	17	110	8.5
Darnold, Sam	13	100	0	0	0	0	100	7.7
Ross, Ykili	13	0	0	0	0	86	86	6.6
Fink, Matt	3	82	0	0	0	0	82	27.3
Falo, Josh	11	0	65	0	0	0	65	5.9
Tell, Marvell	13	0	0	0	0	64	64	4.9
Lewis, Joseph	10	0	39	0	0	0	39	3.9
Sidney, Trevon	8	0	35	0	0	0	35	4.4
Grimes, Randal	3	0	17	0	0	0	17	5.7
Toland, James	9	13	0	0	0	0	13	1.4
Krommenhoek,	13	0	11	0	0	0	11	0.8
Imatorbhebhe, J	5	0	11	0	0	0	11	2.2
Rector, Christian	11	0	0	0	10	0	10	0.9
Hawkins, Chris	13	0	0	0	0	7	7	0.5
Smith, Cameron	13	0	0	0	2	4	6	0.5
Jountti, Corbin	8	5	0	0	0	0	5	0.6
TEAM	12	-39	0	0	0	0	-39	-3.2
Total	13	2534	3830	227	823	209	7623	586.4
Opponents	13	2058	3204	180	1156	172	6770	520.8



**2017 USC Football**  
**USC Overall Defensive Statistics (as of Dec 02, 2017)**  
**All games**



##	Defensive Leaders	gp	Tackles				Sacks	Pass defense			Fumbles		blkd	
			ua	a	tot	tfl/yds		int-yds	brup	qbh	rcv-yds	ff	kick	saf
35	Smith, Cameron	13	54	48	102	10.0-29	0.5-6	1-4	3	1	1-0	.	.	.
4	Hawkins, Chris	13	48	34	82	6.5-30	3.0-22	1-7	2	1	.	1	.	.
7	Tell, Marvell	13	40	39	79	2.5-9	1.0-6	3-64	2	2	.	.	.	.
10	Houston, John	12	38	38	76	3.5-19	1.5-12	1-0	3	2	1-9	.	.	.
42	Nwosu, Uchenna	13	43	28	71	9.5-40	7.5-36	1-0	13	8	1-1	.	.	.
27	Harris, Ajene	13	32	23	55	1.5-5	0.5-0	3-31	6	.	1-0	.	.	.
8	Marshall, Iman	10	31	16	47	1.0-2	.	.	10	.	.	.	.	.
25	Jones, Jack	13	31	9	40	.	.	4-17	8	.	1-0	1	1	.
94	Green, Rasheem	13	18	21	39	11.5-45	9.0-42	.	4	5	.	1	.	.
89	Rector, Christian	11	21	14	35	11.0-64	7.5-56	.	.	6	2-0	2	.	.
24	Langley, Isaiah	13	25	7	32	.	.	.	6	.	.	.	.	.
98	Fatu, Josh	12	15	15	30	8.0-39	6.0-33	.	1	1	.	1	.	.
56	Iosefa, Jordan	11	19	10	29	3.0-11	1.0-3	.	2	.	.	1	.	.
37	Lopes, Matt	13	20	6	26	1.0-2	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.
44	Dorton, Malik	13	11	13	24	3.5-30	2.5-29	.	5	.	.	1	.	.
45	Gustin, Porter	4	9	7	16	3.0-12	3.0-12	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
13	Jones, Levi	13	9	6	15	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.
91	Pili, Brandon	8	3	11	14	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.
14	Ross, Ykili	13	7	6	13	1.0-3	.	2-86	.	.	.	.	.	.
2	Bolden, Bubba	12	7	1	8	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
41	Falaniko, Juliano	11	4	2	6	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
93	Jimmons, Liam	9	2	3	5	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
0F	Pittman, Michael	10	4	1	5	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.
29	Malepeai, Vavae	12	2	2	4	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
28	Pollard, C.J.	4	2	2	4	1.0-10	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
2F	Toland, James	9	2	1	3	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
90	Murphy, Connor	13	1	2	3	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
73	Jackson, Austin	13	1	2	3	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.
2E	Jones, Ronald	12	2	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
4F	Budrovich, Reid	13	1	1	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
99	Betiku, Oluwole	9	.	2	2	0.5-0	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.
1D	Darnold, Sam	13	2	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
1	Lewis, Joseph	10	2	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
21	Cook, Jamel	3	2	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
TM	TEAM	12	2	.	2	2.0-5	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
50	Moore, Grant	4	1	1	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
51	Tuipulotu, Marlon	3	1	1	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
4G	Peters, Reuben	12	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
2D	Russell, Jake	2	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
2A	Vaughns, Tyler	13	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
72	Voorhees, Andrew	12	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
88	Imatorbhebhe, Daniel	8	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
18	Jones, Jalen	4	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
5J	Lobendahn, Toa	12	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
83	Falo, Josh	11	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
0G	Carr, Stephen	9	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
40	McGrath, Chase	13	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	1-0	.	.	.
46	Schmidt, Wyatt	13	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
95	Bigelow, Kenny	6	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Total		13	520	376	896	80-355	43-257	16-209	66	28	8-10	8	4	.
Opponents		13	562	360	922	59-268	22-170	12-172	37	20	11-18	10	1	.



**2017 USC Football**  
**USC Team Game-by-Game (as of Dec 02, 2017)**  
**All games**



**TEAM STATISTICS**

Date	Opponent	Rushing				Receiving				Passing				Kick Returns				Punt Returns				tot off
		no.	yds	td	lg	no.	yds	td	lg	cmp-att-int	yds	td	lg	no.	yds	td	lg	no.	yds	td	lg	
Sep 02	WESTERN MICHIGAN	34	232	6	52	23	289	0	42	23-33-2	289	0	42	4	75	0	32	1	15	0	15	521
Sep 09	STANFORD	48	307	2	52	21	316	4	49	21-26-2	316	4	49	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	623
Sep 16	TEXAS	37	71	0	11	28	397	3	56	28-51-2	397	3	56	3	88	0	37	2	0	0	3	468
Sep 23	at California	38	133	1	19	26	223	2	19	26-38-1	223	2	19	2	55	0	29	1	13	0	13	356
Sep 29	at Washington State	29	163	3	86	15	164	0	26	15-29-1	164	0	26	3	76	0	38	1	0	0	0	327
Oct 07	OREGON STATE	37	184	2	51	24	328	3	37	24-36-1	328	3	37	3	55	0	23	1	-1	0	0	512
Oct 14	UTAH	33	174	1	26	27	358	3	52	27-50-0	358	3	52	1	25	0	25	0	0	0	0	532
Oct 21	at Notre Dame	31	76	0	18	25	260	2	34	25-36-1	260	2	34	6	144	0	38	4	48	0	21	336
Oct 28	at Arizona State	46	341	2	67	19	266	3	42	19-35-0	266	3	42	1	17	0	17	3	22	0	21	607
Nov 04	ARIZONA	52	331	4	52	20	311	2	41	20-26-1	311	2	41	6	117	0	29	2	37	1	11	642
Nov 11	at Colorado	38	193	2	25	21	329	2	37	21-34-0	329	2	37	2	54	0	31	1	9	0	9	522
Nov 18	UCLA	41	153	3	23	17	264	0	29	17-28-1	264	0	29	4	117	0	59	2	89	1	72	417
Dec 1	vs Stanford	43	176	2	26	17	325	2	54	17-24-0	325	2	54	0	0	0	0	1	-5	0	0	501
		507	2534	28	86	283	3830	26	56	283-446-12	3830	26	56	35	823	0	59	19	227	2	72	6364
Opponents		472	2058	18	84	247	3204	22	79	247-458-16	3204	22	79	48	1156	1	100	18	180	0	33	5262

Games: 13 • Avg/rush: 5.0 • Avg/catch: 13.5 • Pass effic: 149.44 • KR avg: 23.5 • PR avg: 11.9 • All purpose avg/game: 586.4 • Total offense avg/gm: 489.5

		Tackles				Sacks	Fumble		Pass Defense			blkd	PAT Attempts			off		
Date	Opponent	ua	a	total	tfl-yds	no-yds	ff	fr-yds	int-yds	qbh	brup	kick	kick	rush	rcv	saf	t/o	pts
Sep 02	WESTERN MICHIGAN	41	36	77	4.0-9	1.0-3	0	0-0	1-37	0	6	0	7-7	0	0	0	7	49
Sep 09	STANFORD	34	22	56	5.0-23	2.0-12	0	0-0	0-0	1	10	0	6-6	0	0	0	0	42
Sep 16	TEXAS	32	48	80	10.0-45	5.0-30	1	2-0	2-0	2	3	0	3-3	0	0	0	0	27
Sep 23	at California	37	32	69	6.0-35	3.0-20	2	2-1	4-71	6	5	0	3-3	0	0	0	17	30
Sep 29	at Washington State	52	16	68	6.0-29	5.0-27	0	0-0	1-0	5	2	0	3-3	0	0	0	3	27
Oct 07	OREGON STATE	41	32	73	5.0-25	2.0-19	1	2-0	1-2	0	7	1	5-5	0	0	0	7	38
Oct 14	UTAH	32	46	78	8.0-26	4.0-16	0	0-0	1-4	3	5	0	4-4	0	0	0	0	28
Oct 21	at Notre Dame	35	28	63	5.0-16	1.0-10	0	0-0	0-0	4	3	0	2-2	0	0	0	0	14
Oct 28	at Arizona State	42	18	60	6.0-31	6.0-31	0	0-0	1-37	0	3	0	6-6	0	0	0	7	48
Nov 04	ARIZONA	40	36	76	6.0-37	5.0-36	1	1-0	2-4	1	2	1	7-7	0	0	0	7	49
Nov 11	at Colorado	46	18	64	6.0-20	3.0-11	0	0-0	2-35	3	6	2	3-4	0	1	0	6	38
Nov 18	UCLA	48	30	78	8.0-46	4.0-35	1	1-9	1-27	1	7	0	4-4	0	0	0	0	28
Dec 1	vs Stanford	40	14	54	5.0-13	2.0-7	2	0-0	0-0	2	7	0	4-4	0	0	0	0	31
		520	376	896	80.0-355	43.0-257	8	8-10	16-209	28	66	4	57-58	0	1	0	54	449
Opponents		562	360	922	59.0-268	22.0-170	10	11-18	12-172	20	37	1	40-40	0	1	0	48	342

		Punting									Field Goals			Kickoffs				
Date	Opponent	no.	yds	avg	long	blkd	tb	fc	50+	i20	md-att	long	blkd	no.	yds	avg	tb	ob
Sep 02	WESTERN MICHIGAN	4	204	51.0	59	0	0	1	2	2	0-0	0	0	8	517	64.6	3	1
Sep 09	STANFORD	1	45	45.0	45	0	0	0	0	0	0-0	0	0	7	422	60.3	1	0
Sep 16	TEXAS	6	277	46.2	56	0	1	1	3	2	2-3	43	0	2	130	65.0	0	0
Sep 23	at California	3	127	42.3	50	0	0	2	1	0	3-3	46	0	7	448	64.0	2	1
Sep 29	at Washington State	6	259	43.2	63	0	0	1	1	4	2-2	29	0	6	390	65.0	3	0
Oct 07	OREGON STATE	2	78	39.0	46	0	0	0	0	0	1-1	29	0	7	433	61.9	3	0
Oct 14	UTAH	4	170	42.5	49	0	1	1	0	1	0-0	0	0	5	302	60.4	2	1
Oct 21	at Notre Dame	6	258	43.0	53	0	1	2	1	1	0-1	0	0	3	187	62.3	0	0
Oct 28	at Arizona State	2	96	48.0	49	0	0	0	0	1	2-3	51	0	9	532	59.1	5	0
Nov 04	ARIZONA	4	171	42.8	62	0	0	1	1	1	0-0	0	0	8	482	60.2	4	0
Nov 11	at Colorado	4	134	33.5	57	1	0	1	1	3	1-2	26	0	7	453	64.7	4	0
Nov 18	UCLA	5	167	33.4	40	0	0	4	0	2	0-0	0	0	5	324	64.8	0	0
Dec 1	vs Stanford	3	97	32.3	43	0	0	1	0	2	1-1	24	0	6	384	64.0	2	0
		50	2083	41.7	63	1	3	15	10	19	12-16	51	0	80	5004	62.5	29	3
Opponents		64	2682	41.9	60	1	5	15	15	22	14-22	45	3	66	3879	58.8	25	2





**2017 USC Football**  
**USC Opponent Game-by-Game (as of Dec 02, 2017)**  
**All games**



**OPPONENT STATISTICS**

Date	Opponent	Rushing				Receiving				Passing				Kick Returns				Punt Returns				tot off
		no.	yds	td	lg	no.	yds	td	lg	cmp-att-int	yds	td	lg	no.	yds	td	lg	no.	yds	td	lg	
Sep 02	WESTERN MICHIGAN	48	263	2	48	12	94	1	27	12-23-1	94	1	27	4	168	1	100	1	0	0	0	357
Sep 09	STANFORD	26	170	1	75	15	172	2	39	15-28-0	172	2	39	6	128	0	46	1	9	0	9	342
Sep 16	TEXAS	35	68	0	14	21	298	2	48	21-40-2	298	2	48	2	56	0	32	2	29	0	27	366
Sep 23	at California	33	113	1	23	22	303	1	38	22-52-4	303	1	38	4	112	0	40	1	3	0	3	416
Sep 29	at Washington State	30	122	1	35	34	340	2	61	34-51-1	340	2	61	3	60	0	23	2	-2	0	0	462
Oct 07	OREGON STATE	36	122	1	14	16	197	0	38	16-29-1	197	0	38	4	88	0	32	1	33	0	33	319
Oct 14	UTAH	41	169	1	31	17	267	2	50	17-28-1	267	2	50	2	33	0	18	1	0	0	0	436
Oct 21	at Notre Dame	47	377	5	84	9	120	2	26	9-22-0	120	2	26	3	53	0	32	3	34	0	18	497
Oct 28	at Arizona State	30	79	1	17	18	278	1	70	18-31-1	278	1	70	4	59	0	25	1	0	0	0	357
Nov 04	ARIZONA	43	234	2	54	14	146	2	30	14-31-2	146	2	30	4	96	0	35	3	39	0	31	380
Nov 11	at Colorado	34	110	1	19	27	376	2	79	27-49-2	376	2	79	3	66	0	28	1	33	0	12	486
Nov 18	UCLA	31	80	0	21	32	421	3	43	32-52-1	421	3	43	5	121	0	31	0	0	0	0	501
Dec 1	vs Stanford	38	151	2	52	10	192	2	45	10-22-0	192	2	45	4	116	0	33	1	2	0	2	343
USC		472	2058	18	84	247	3204	22	79	247-458-16	3204	22	79	48	1156	1	100	18	180	0	33	5262
USC		507	2534	28	86	283	3830	26	56	283-446-12	3830	26	56	35	823	0	59	19	227	2	72	6364

Games: 13 • Avg/rush: 4.4 • Avg/catch: 13.0 • Pass effic: 121.56 • KR avg: 24.1 • PR avg: 10.0 • All purpose avg/game: 520.8 • Total offense avg/gm: 404.8

		Tackles				Sacks	Fumble		Pass Defense			blkd	PAT Attempts			off		
Date	Opponent	ua	a	total	tfl-yds	no-yds	ff	fr-yds	int-yds	qbh	brup	kick	kick	rush	rcv	saf	t/o	pts
Sep 02	WESTERN MICHIGAN	40	26	66	4.0-30	2.0-17	0	0-0	2-20	0	2	0	4-4	0	0	0	0	31
Sep 09	STANFORD	43	32	75	1.0-1	1.0-1	0	0-0	2-32	0	1	0	3-3	0	0	0	3	24
Sep 16	TEXAS	50	30	80	9.0-41	3.0-27	0	0-0	2-62	0	6	0	3-3	0	0	0	7	24
Sep 23	at California	42	44	86	5.0-15	1.0-5	1	1-0	1-13	3	4	0	2-2	0	0	0	0	20
Sep 29	at Washington State	36	14	50	5.0-28	2.0-21	1	1-0	1-0	5	1	0	3-3	0	0	0	0	30
Oct 07	OREGON STATE	42	30	72	4.0-30	1.0-21	2	2-0	1-7	0	2	0	1-1	0	0	0	0	10
Oct 14	UTAH	43	16	59	3.0-9	0.0-0	1	3-18	0-0	1	6	0	3-3	0	0	0	14	27
Oct 21	at Notre Dame	41	34	75	10.0-38	5.0-28	1	2-0	1-14	7	2	0	7-7	0	0	0	21	49
Oct 28	at Arizona State	48	28	76	4.0-26	3.0-20	1	1-0	0-0	0	1	0	2-2	0	0	0	0	17
Nov 04	ARIZONA	49	38	87	4.0-13	1.0-5	0	0-0	1-0	0	2	0	3-3	0	1	0	3	35
Nov 11	at Colorado	44	18	62	4.0-12	1.0-8	2	0-0	0-0	1	6	1	3-3	0	0	0	0	24
Nov 18	UCLA	45	20	65	3.0-11	1.0-9	0	0-0	1-24	0	3	0	2-2	0	0	0	0	23
Dec 1	vs Stanford	39	30	69	3.0-14	1.0-8	1	1-0	0-0	3	1	0	4-4	0	0	0	0	28
		562	360	922	59.0-268	22.0-170	10	11-18	12-172	20	37	1	40-40	0	1	0	48	342
USC		520	376	896	80.0-355	43.0-257	8	8-10	16-209	28	66	4	57-58	0	1	0	54	449

		Punting									Field Goals			Kickoffs				
Date	Opponent	no.	yds	avg	long	blkd	tb	fc	50+	i20	md-att	long	blkd	no.	yds	avg	tb	ob
Sep 02	WESTERN MICHIGAN	5	220	44.0	58	0	0	1	2	3	1-2	43	0	6	338	56.3	1	0
Sep 09	STANFORD	4	205	51.2	59	0	1	1	2	3	1-1	36	0	5	290	58.0	4	0
Sep 16	TEXAS	7	289	41.3	53	0	1	2	1	2	1-1	39	0	4	256	64.0	1	0
Sep 23	at California	2	87	43.5	51	0	0	1	1	0	2-3	36	0	4	210	52.5	1	1
Sep 29	at Washington State	6	198	33.0	53	0	1	0	1	1	3-3	44	0	7	446	63.7	4	0
Oct 07	OREGON STATE	3	126	42.0	43	0	0	2	0	1	1-3	33	1	3	175	58.3	0	0
Oct 14	UTAH	6	281	46.8	60	0	1	2	2	3	0-1	0	0	5	278	55.6	3	0
Oct 21	at Notre Dame	6	250	41.7	50	0	0	0	1	2	0-0	0	0	8	511	63.9	2	0
Oct 28	at Arizona State	8	337	42.1	52	0	0	3	1	2	1-1	39	0	3	189	63.0	2	0
Nov 04	ARIZONA	5	146	29.2	52	1	0	0	1	1	2-2	45	0	7	394	56.3	1	0
Nov 11	at Colorado	3	134	44.7	52	0	0	1	1	2	1-3	39	2	4	251	62.8	2	0
Nov 18	UCLA	4	181	45.2	48	0	1	0	0	0	1-2	26	0	5	271	54.2	0	0
Dec 1	vs Stanford	5	228	45.6	60	0	0	2	2	2	0-0	0	0	5	270	54.0	4	1
		64	2682	41.9	60	1	5	15	15	22	14-22	45	3	66	3879	58.8	25	2
USC		50	2083	41.7	63	1	3	15	10	19	12-16	51	0	80	5004	62.5	29	3



2017 USC Football  
USC Game Results (as of Dec 02, 2017)  
All games



Date	Opponent		Score	Overall	Conference	Time	Attend
Sep 02, 2017	WESTERN MICHIGAN	W	49-31	1-0	0-0	3:25	61125
*Sep 09, 2017	#14 STANFORD	W	42-24	2-0	1-0	3:11	77614
Sep 16, 2017	TEXAS	Wo	27-24	3-0	1-0	4:01	84714
*Sep 23, 2017	at California	W	30-20	4-0	2-0	3:35	46747
*Sep 29, 2017	at #16 Washington State	L	27-30	4-1	2-1	3:46	33773
*Oct 07, 2017	OREGON STATE	W	38-10	5-1	3-1	3:12	60314
*Oct 14, 2017	UTAH	W	28-27	6-1	4-1	3:30	72382
Oct 21, 2017	at #13 Notre Dame	L	14-49	6-2	4-1	3:10	77622
*Oct 28, 2017	at Arizona State	W	48-17	7-2	5-1	3:30	53446
*Nov 04, 2017	#23 ARIZONA	W	49-35	8-2	6-1	3:43	70225
*Nov 11, 2017	at Colorado	W	38-24	9-2	7-1	3:35	49337
*Nov 18, 2017	UCLA	W	28-23	10-2	8-1	3:38	82407
^Dec 1, 2017	vs #12 Stanford	W	31-28	11-2	8-1	3:33	48031

^ Pac-12 Championship Game | Santa Clara, Calif.