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POSTGAME NOTES

USC vs. California

Galen Center • Los Angeles, Calif.

Sunday, January 28, 2018

Final: USC 77, California 59

- With the win today, USC improved to 17-6, 8-2 and California fell to 7-15, 1-8.
- USC's 8-2 start to conference play is its best since also starting 8-2 in 2002.
- January finished the month of January 7-1, its most wins in the month since going 7-2 in the 1982 season. The last time USC had a better winning percentage in January was the 1973 season when it was 6-0.
- The six-game winning streak in conference play is USC's longest since winning 9-straight during the 1992 season.
- USC led 31-29 at halftime. USC made 32.4 percent of its first-half shots, while California made 47.8 percent of its shots. California outrebounded USC 21-16 in the first half.
- USC began the game making 3 of its first 15 shots (20 percent) and trailed 16-8 10 minutes into the first half.
- Jordan McLaughlin had 10 assists today, his fourth game this season with 10 or more assists. He now has 634 career assists which rank 10th on the Pac-12 all-time list. Darrick Martin (UCLA) is ninth on the list with 636 career assists.
- Jonah Mathews scored 16 points on 6 of 8 shooting and has averaged 12.3 points (74 total points) in the 6 games since he started back coming off the bench on Jan. 10 vs. Colorado.
- Elijah Stewart scored all 16 of his points in the second half today and played in his 125th career game as a Trojan, moving him past Brandon Granville into second place on the Trojans' most career games played list. Dwight Lewis is USC's all-time leader in games played at 133.
- Stewart had missed 7 consecutive 3-pointers dating back to the game at Oregon State on Jan. 20, before hitting his first 3 3-pointers in the second half today. He finished making 4 of 8 3-point baskets today and has now made 220 in his career, second on USC's all-time list. Lodrick Stewart is USC's all-time leader with 232 3-point baskets made.
- USC's bench outscored California's bench 31-4 today. In the last nine games, USC's bench has outscored the opponent's bench 238-144.
- Thornton was 4-for-4 from the free throw line and is a perfect 13-for-13 this season.
- Devin Fleming's driving layup late in the game was his first points as a Trojan.
- USC improved to 8-0 when holding the opponent to under 40 percent shooting and 10-1 when forcing 15 or more turnovers.
- Bennie Boatwright missed his second consecutive game with soreness in his right foot. It is the same foot injury which caused him to miss the games vs. UC Santa Barbara on Dec. 17 and Princeton on Dec. 19.
- USC's next game will at UCLA on Feb. 3 at 3 p.m. The game will be broadcast on the ESPN2 and air on ESPNLA 710.

ANDY ENFIELD QUOTES:

"That was a good game for us. We played well, good defense for 40 minutes. We struggled in the first half, then we played like we have in the second half. We played great defense, zone and man. We got lots of deflections, get turnovers. That gives us a chance to stay in the game when the ball isn't going in. It was poor shot selection (in the first half).

"Jonah has played great the last four, five, six games. He scores coming off the bench and is playing terrific basketball. Elijah is a great shooter when his feet are set. When he's making shots, he's very effective and that means we usually make a run.

"Being 8-2 in the Pac-12 is a compliment and credit to our players. Now we have to go on the road for the next 3 games.

"Lee played great. He's a really good player. We let him get too many touches close to the basket.



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"In the first half, we took some terrible shots. We needed to do a better job and in the second half we did that. Our quickness and length give teams trouble."

ELIJAH STEWART QUOTES:

"My teammates rattled me up at halftime and told me to shoot it."

"That's the payoff spot, the corner 3. If you're a shooter, you've got to make that shot."

"Despite the score, that was the hardest 20-point game I've played in in a while."

"On the road, people are going to talk about our mommas and grandmas. I don't ever remember it being a good time going to Pauley. They heckle you coming off the bus."

JORDAN MCLAUGHLIN QUOTES:

"Once we get our defense going, we get steals, we get into transition, and that generates our offense, and the rim looks bigger. We had more energy in the second half, we had ball movement and played together."

"It's hard to win in the Pac-12. Anytime you win is big. We have six in a row, we've got to keep it going."

"Jonah gives us scoring and defense."

CALIFORNIA HEAD COACH WYKING JONES QUOTES:

"The first half was promising. There were a few turnover we could have scored on but we have to be able to put together a 40-min game. You have Metu down the block. They (SC) is strong and athletic. They are a tough team to score against."