



POSTGAME NOTES

USC vs. UC Davis

Galen Center • Los Angeles, Calif.

Sunday, December 30, 2018

Final: USC 73, UC Davis 55

- With the 73-55 win tonight, USC improved to 7-6 and UC Davis fell to 3-10.
- USC led 32-30 at halftime. USC made 43.4 percent of its first-half shots and UC Davis made 37.9 percent. The score was tied seven times and the lead changed eight times before the break.
- Senior forward Bennie Boatwright scored a game-high 19 points and has scored 37 points and grabbed 18 rebounds in the last two games.
- Freshman guard Elijah Weaver, who was celebrating his birthday today, scored a career-high 13 points tonight. He made 5 of 6 shots, including 2 of 3 from three-point range.
- Junior guard Jonah Mathews had a career-best 7 assists tonight. He also scored 11 points.
- Junior guard Derryck Thornton scored 16 points tonight. He also had six assists.
- USC had 20 assists tonight and is averaging 20.4 assists in its wins and 11.2 assists in its losses this season.
- USC had 9 steals tonight and has 20 steals in the last two games.
- USC won its 36th consecutive game when holding the opposition to 70 points or less.
- USC made 64.0 percent of its shots in the second half and finished the game with a 52.7 shooting percentage. USC held UC Davis to 40.0 percent shooting.
- USC made 7 of 10 three-point attempts in the second half and made 43.5 percent from beyond the arc (10-for-23) for the game. It was USC's third game this season with 10 or more three-pointers made and first since also making 10 vs. CSU Bakersfield on Nov. 25.
- Sophomore guard Charles O'Bannon Jr. is still out recovering from left pinky surgery. Freshman guard Kevin Porter Jr. is still out recovering from a right quadriceps contusion.
- Sophomore guard/forward Jordan Usher did not suit up for tonight's game and is suspended indefinitely due to conduct issues.
- USC's next game will be vs. California at the Galen Center on Jan. 3 at 7 p.m.

ANDY ENFIELD QUOTES:

"That was a good win. UC Davis is a good team. We knew it'd be a grind-it-out type win. I'm proud of our defensive effort and we were able to make shots.

"Elijah is improving as a player. He'll play a lot of minutes for us. We need him to play like this for us to be successful.

"Tonight we made shots. It's frustrating when you miss and miss, but tonight we made some shots in a row.

"Jordan Usher was suspended for conduct issues. It was issued by the coaching staff. It's an indefinite suspension.

"We're used to being down a player. We have to play who's healthy and who's available. It is challenging with the rotations and it's hard to practice. Our players played hard tonight.

"We're improving as a team, especially the last couple weeks. We know the formula for success, we just have to execute it. When we shoot well, we're a good team. We just have to defense and share the ball.

"We're confident. The players know we're playing well. We still have an opportunity to have a good season, but there are things we have to do on the court to do that."



DERRYCK THORNTON QUOTES:

"We worked a lot in practice on our shots and focused in. We played harder, shared the ball and had more open shots.

"We had a couple days off, then got back in the groove and focused in quick. The coaches did a good job.

"It's good before conference to end it with a bang and end the year with a win. It feels good."

ELIJAH WEAVER QUOTES:

"We worked on our shots and that helped in the transition to the game.

"My ankle feels good. The less I focus on it, the better it gets.

"I definitely was confident after hitting that 3. I was in a groove then.

"What we wanted to do tonight started to work. We said at the end, 'Let's get stops.'"

UC DAVIS HEAD COACH JIM LES:

"We had a good turnout tonight. It was good to turnaround and see familiar faces amongst enemy fire."

"I thought our team really battled. The execution for the most part was really solid. I have to give USC credit, because when we turned it up, they turned it up another notch and they made some tough shots. They got it going and they have a multitude of good players to turn to, to get points. It's hard for us to keep up with that. I can't necessarily fault our defense, the shots were contested, a lot of times we were in the right area, but they are long, athletic and skilled and they made plays when they needed to, so I give them credit."

"It was a step in the right direction for us. Our New Year's resolution it to play with consistency defensively. I know some of them they made good contested shots, but others our effort, intensity defensively needed to be ramped up."