



POSTGAME NOTES

USC vs. South Dakota State
Galen Center • Los Angeles, Calif.
Tuesday, November 12, 2019

Final: USC 84, South Dakota State 66

- With the 84-66 win tonight, USC improved to 3-0 and South Dakota State fell to 3-1.
- USC improved to 32-4 in its last 36 home nonconference games.
- USC's 84 points were its most scored in a game this season
- USC led 38-31 at halftime despite shooting 35.0 percent (14-for-40). South Dakota State made 40.7 percent (11-for-27) of its first half shots. USC outrebounded the Jackrabbits 25-19.
- USC made 46.4 percent of its shots in the second half (13-for-28), while holding SDSU to 36.4 percent shooting (12-for-33).
- Senior guard Jonah Mathews scored a season-best 14 points tonight, making 3 of 7 three-point baskets. He now has made 185 career three-point baskets, tying Jordan McLaughlin for sixth on USC's all-time list. Mathews' jumper with 12:38 left in the second half gave him 1,000 career points. He added 9 points after that to finish the night with 1,009 career points scored.
- Senior forward Nick Rakocevic matched a career high with 27 points scored tonight, done two other times. He also grabbed 16 rebounds for his first double-double of the season and 21st of his career. His two free throws at 8:42 of second half gave him 1,000 career points and he ended the game with 1,007 career points scored. He now has 692 career rebounds which ranks 15th on USC's all-time rebound list.
- Rakocevic also had a career-high five steals tonight and made and took a career high free throws (11-for-17).
- Freshman forward Max Agbonkpolo hit his first 3 three-pointers tonight and finished the game with 9 points and three rebounds.
- Redshirt senior guard Quinton Adlesh tonight made his first start as a Trojan. Adlesh made 37 starts while at Columbia. He finished with 6 points tonight.
- Freshman forward Onyeka Okongwu scored in double-figures for the third straight game with 12, but he fell two rebounds short of his third consecutive double-double.
- USC had 12 steals tonight and outscored South Dakota State 28-6 on points off turnovers.
- USC's next game will be at Nevada on Nov. 16 at 8 p.m.

ANDY ENFIELD QUOTES:

"It was a nice win. South Dakota State played well most of the game. We wore them down late with our depth and length.

"It was special. I've never had that. To have two guys (Nick Rakocevic and Jonah Mathews) getting 1,000 points on the same evening is pretty cool. If they continue to work hard and lead us, we have a chance to have a good team.

"We had a size advantage. Our challenge was to get out on their shooters.

"Nick used his skill set and size to have a good game.

"Our guys executed the game plan well. Any team we play can beat us. South Dakota State went to the NIT last year, won 25 games, they're an excellent program. Our players knew they could beat us. It was good for our guys. They did a great job in the last part of the game to get the W.

"When Nick does what he does well, he looks good, he's an all-league player."

NICK RAKOCEVIC QUOTES:

"To be part of those great players (who have scored 1,000 points) is special.

"Being aggressive down low and crashing the offensive glass has always been part of my game. I had mismatches against them and my teammates got me the ball to score. Coach has always motivated me



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to do things like this. He's my biggest fan when I play to my strengths. You saw the results tonight. I have to stick to what I'm good at doing."

JONAH MATHEWS QUOTES:

"It's crazy. Nick and I came in together. To have it (both get 1,000 points) on the same night is special.

"Tonight, we had to come together, makes plays and get stops."

SOUTH DAKOTA STATE HEAD COACH ERIC HENDERSON:

"I am disappointed in the finish. Enfield did a great job tonight. We lost our minds and had silly fouls and were out of character. We wanted to win and they wanted to in however, I think that we just need to mature and get better.

"We could have rebounded better. We have some work to do. Overall, we will continue to work hard and grow as a team"