



POSTGAME NOTES

USC vs. Oregon State
Galen Center • Los Angeles, Calif.
Saturday, February 23, 2019
Final: USC 62, Oregon State 67

- With the 67-62 loss today, USC fell to 15-13, 8-7 and Oregon State improved to 17-9, 9-5.
- Oregon State led 31-27 at halftime. USC made 44.4 percent of its first-half shots and Oregon State made 41.9 percent of its shots before the break. Nick Rakocovic had two quick fouls and played just 2:46 minutes in the first half and 9:39 total before fouling out.
- The loss today dropped USC to 12-5 at home this season.
- USC fell to 52-2 in its last 54 games when the opponent scores under 70 points.
- USC was outscored 15-0 from the free throw line today. USC's zero makes (0-for-6) from the free throw line is a school record. The previous low was one free throw made four different times, last at UC Riverside in 2012.
- Senior Bennie Boatwright led USC with 13 points. It was his 18th consecutive game scoring in double figures. He made 3 of 7 shots from 3-point range tonight and has made 27 of 46 shots from beyond the arc over the last six games (58.7 percent).
- Boatwright now has 1,453 points scored in his career, 12th on USC's all-time list. Boatwright also now has made 224 3-point basket and ranks third on USC's all-time list, 8 behind Lodrick Stewart (232) who is second.
- Senior Shaquan Aaron had 12 points, 7 rebounds and 5 assists in his last career game at the Galen Center.
- Freshman Kevin Porter Jr. had his first career double-double with 11 points and a career-best 10 rebounds. He scored 9 of his points in the second half.
- Freshman Victor Uyaelunmo has one block in four of last five games.
- USC had 14 assists today and fell to 1-13 in games it does not get 16 or more assist.
- USC's next game will be at UCLA on Feb. 28 at 6 p.m.

ANDY ENFIELD QUOTES:

"It was a tough loss on senior day. I appreciate what our seniors have done. It's a tough way to go out on our home court.

"I've never been in a game where we didn't make a free throw. I don't know what to tell you. We also missed wide open 3s. We had open looks. We have to shoot better to beat a team like Oregon State.

"The only time I was disappointed was early in the second half, when we were soft defensively. We've been doing the job defensively, but offensively to not shoot the ball or not make plays catches up to us.

"It's hard on our team when things like that (Rakocovic flagrant foul) happen. When we take Nick out of the lineup, that affects our team. Our rotation is different. We had to play small. We gave them free points. You need to play with an even temperament whether you're successful or failed.

"I thought we were more aggressive when we made our run. We just missed so many open shots.

"(Nick's flagrant) It just changed the flow of the game, it changed our team significantly."



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BENNIE BOATWRIGHT QUOTES:

"I've been blessed to play here 4 years. You win game and you lose games.

"I thought I was going to get emotional, but I didn't. I saw my family there and the fans, it was a good feeling.

"It's just basketball. Guys playing hard. Our shots didn't go.

"We need Nick, so when he's not on the court it changes things. He finishes in the paint and he rebounds. He's our anchor down low. He is missed when he's not in the game."

OREGON STATE HEAD COACH WAYNE TINKLE:

"They missed some shots they normally make. It's always emotional, when you have senior night, and that sort of thing, so I think we dodged some bullets, but I think our intensity and our continued sustained focus on the defensive end got us the separation."

"It's a huge win. It could have been a real blow to come on this trip and lose two, drop to the middle of the pack... in years past, we don't come back and take the lead late against UCLA, and I don't think we come back from their run in the second half after they run up and win this."