



POSTGAME NOTES

USC vs. Santa Clara
Galen Center • Los Angeles, Calif.
Tuesday, December 29, 2020
Final: USC 86, Santa Clara 63

- With the 86-63 win today, USC improved to 5-1 and Santa Clara fell to 6-2. USC has won its last nine home games dating back to last season.
- USC improved to 23-9 all-time against Santa Clara.
- Today's game was USC's first since Dec. 8, the longest stretch within a season (20 days) without a game since the 1967 season (36 days).
- USC led 41-27 at halftime. USC made 47.1 percent of its shots, while Santa Clara made 38.7 percent of its shots before the break. Neither team made a three-point basket in the first half. Evan Mobley for USC and Josip Vrankic for Santa Clara each scored 11 points before the break.
- USC came into the game averaging a Pac-12 leading 79.8 points per game and scored 86 today.
- For the game, USC made 46.6 percent of its shots and Santa Clara made 38.3 percent.
- USC held Santa Clara to 11.8 percent shooting (2-for-17) from three-point range. USC has held its last five opponents to 23.5 percent shooting from beyond the arc (24-for-102).
- Freshman Evan Mobley led USC with 17 points and added 7 rebounds and 3 blocks.
- Junior Drew Peterson scored seven points and had a season-high nine assists. Peterson has a career best of 10 assists on March 1, 2020 vs. Middle Tennessee.
- USC outscored Santa Clara 44-26 on points in the paint.
- Sophomore forward Joshua Morgan and freshman guard Reese Waters both saw their first action as Trojans. Waters drained a three-pointer in his first collegiate shot. He graduated from high school early, enrolled at USC and became eligible on Dec. 12. He scored five points and had a rebound and 4+ minutes of action.
- Junior guard Amar Ross hit a three-pointer late in the game for his first points as a Trojan.
- Ethan Anderson missed his third consecutive game with back spasms. He is listed as day-to-day. He started USC's first three games, but was limited to only 9 minutes vs. BYU on Dec. 1 with the back spasms.
- USC's next game will be vs. Colorado on Dec. 31 at 6:00 p.m. The game will air on ESPN2 with Dave Pasch and Bill Walton calling the action.

USC COACH ANDY ENFIELD QUOTES, 12-29-20:

"It was a good team win after 3 weeks off. We played with a lot of energy in the first half to get the lead, shared the ball and our defense was where it needed to be. Santa Clara is a good team, we respected them. I'm proud of our players for going through the quarantine and coming out and giving the energy that we did."

"We were disappointed how we ended the half, with a couple defensive mistakes. We reminded our players that we had to play solid, get to the help side quicker and box out. We came out at halftime and we gave great effort on the defensive end."

"Isaiah Mobley gave us great energy. He played terrific. He was active on offense, made quick decision, finished his shots, made 3s and very active on defense. He had a very good all-around game. He's getting better. His balance was much better. He needs to play under control and use his skill."

"Ethan still has a slight back issue. By the end of this week we should know more, he should be back soon. He's still day-to-day. We're not sure if we'll have him Thursday or Saturday. He has improved tremendously."

"Drake London has decided to concentrate on football and won't be playing on our team this year. We wish him the best. He made the right decision. He's an All-Pac-12 receiver and is fun to watch him. As good of a basketball player as he could have been, he has decided to concentrate on football."



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"Reese Waters is getting acclimated to our system. He has only had 2 days of practice. I was impressed with him tonight. He performed. He just needs to learn our system and have confidence he can go in."

"Josh Morgan is an outstanding defender and been impressive in practice. We feel very confident to put him in in any situation."

"We executed our defensive assignments pretty well. It was difficult because we only had one day to prepare for this game."

"This wasn't a tune-up. Santa Clara is a very good team. We thought it was a little risky, but our players want to play basketball. We lost 4 games when we were shut down. They needed games and we needed games. This was a game we thought we had to perform well to win. It was nice to get a real game like this before Pac-12."

ISAIAH MOBLEY:

"I try to stay aggressive, both on the glass and in general. I try to go with the flow, but impose my will. If my opportunity comes, I take them."

"As a team, we've been anxious to play. The excitement took over as an energy and allowed us to stay focused and sharp and not be rusty after this three-week break."

"It's been more of a mental thing. I've played solid in practice. We did some individual workouts that helped me brush up on my skill. I tried to come out with energy. When the ball goes through the net, it boosts my confidence. Hopefully I can take this energy and bring it to Pac-12 play."

ISAIAH WHITE:

"We wanted to get a game under our belt before conference and play hard. We didn't want to use the three weeks we had off as an excuse. We wanted to play our hardest and get back to playing good basketball."

"We use our experience to our advantage."

"We have a lot of talent on this team. Iron sharpens iron at practice because everyone wants to play well and everyone plays well. We don't take any plays off, we stay locked in and stay focused."

SANTA CLARA HEAD COACH HERB SENDEK:

"Obviously we didn't play well today, but I give USC a lot of credit. They're a strong team and things just didn't go our way today. It happens."

"It's still early in the season but we're taking it day by day. Our schedule continually changes, seems hourly at times. Our guys have done a good job of staying positive and being resilient. We just look forward to the next opportunity to play."