



### POSTGAME NOTES

No. 10/9 USC vs. UC Irvine  
Galen Center • Los Angeles, Calif.  
Wednesday, December 15, 2021  
**Final: USC 66, UC Irvine 61**

- With the 66-61 win tonight, USC improved to 11-0 (2-0) and UC Irvine fell to 5-3 (0-0).
- USC's 11-0 start is its longest winning streak to start the season since winning the first 14 games of the 2017 season.
- The 11-game winning streak ties for the 9th-longest winning streak in school history.
- USC trailed 36-28 at the half, just the second game all season it was behind at the break. UC Irvine started 1-for-11 from the field and trailed 12-2. UC Irvine made 8 of its next 9 shots to lead 24-18. UCI made 43.3 percent of its first-half shots and USC made 40.7 percent. USC trailed by 10 points in the first half, its largest deficit of the season.
- Forward Chevez Goodwin led USC with 23 points, his best scoring game as a Trojan. His career best for points in a game is 27 at VMI on Feb. 5, 2020. He made 7 free throws tonight, his most since making a career-high 11 in the game at VMI in 2020.
- Forward Isaiah Mobley scored 22 points and had 12 rebounds for his fifth double-double of the season and 11th of his career. It is his fifth double-double in the last six games.
- USC held UC Irvine to 37.5 percent shooting tonight, including 32.4 percent in the second half. USC has held all 11 opponents under 40 percent shooting this season.
- USC had 11 turnovers tonight, but only 3 came in the second half.
- USC outrebounded UCI 46-33, including a 28-18 advantage on the boards in the second half. USC outscored UCI 15-6 on second-half points after the break.
- USC outscored UCI 10-0 on fastbreak points tonight and 38-28 on points in the paint.
- USC's next game will be Saturday, Dec. 18 vs. Georgia Tech at the Jerry Colangelo Classic to be held at the Footprint Center in Phoenix, Ariz. at 1 p.m. PT.

### ANDY ENFIELD QUOTES:

"It was a good win under the circumstances, being down 8 at half. Irvine played a terrific half and we didn't. Our defense did a good job after half. When we defend at that level, we're a pretty good team.

"We didn't take them lightly. We came out ready to play, took a 12-2 lead, then the hit three 3s and we had a lot of turnovers and our defense didn't look like an elite defensive team. We made adjustments at the half and they defended like they have to defend.

"Chevez missed 2 jump shots and turned the ball over early, we took him out and Josh Morgan did a great job in the first half. Chevez then came out ready to play in the second half and was dominant. I'm proud of him. We need more efforts like that.

"There are nights we our bigs don't play well and the guards do. Tonight, the bigs played well.

"I'm proud of Boogie. He ran the team like we needed in the second half.

"We worked with Chevez on his skill sets. He spent a lot of time in the offseason working on his game. You're seeing an incredibly improved player. He's one of the hardest workers we've coached and he has an incredible passion for the game.

"You need to be challenged. Irvine is a very good team, with great size. We knew it'd be a tough game and it was. We've had a few close games this year.

"This game will help us, being down 8 at halftime and then defending at the level you have to. The players realized they had to come together. There's a lot of maturity on this team. It's 'what can I do to help the team win.' Boogie did a great job running the team in the second half, played great defense, ran the team. Everyone came together. It was all about winning. That was fun to watch."



#### **ISAIAH MOBLEY QUOTES:**

"I love playing with Chevez and Josh and everyone. Tonight we showed we're a team, an elite team.

"At the half, I said some stuff to the team and so did Chevez. That energy carried over, the little things defensively too. Then the energy spread.

"Us playing defense and getting out faster made it hard for them to match up with us in the second half.

"We took it to heart as a team. We didn't want to lose to them, especially going into the next games."

#### **CHEVEZ GOODWIN QUOTES:**

"If Isaiah isn't in Pac-12 Player of the Year consideration, he's been lights out.

"My approach this past offseason was the same as it was when I was a kid working with my dad. Just work, outwork everyone, always be in the gym, stay confident in myself. I'm happy that the work is showing. I bet everything on myself. Last year I just wanted to fit into the team and play. This year, I enjoy the moment, enjoy the day.

"The leadership tonight came from within. We embraced the challenge at halftime. Pressure is a privilege, we get everyone's best shot. When it was 40-38 and we couldn't score, I said they're going to break. We banded together and showed what we are as a team.

"The first 3 minutes of my game were terrible. But I can make a difference offensively and defensively by playing hard. Three minutes don't define a game."

#### **UC IRVINE HEAD COACH RUSS TURNER:**

"I think that USC was engaged and this played like an NCAA tournament game. We're going to hopefully put ourselves in a position to have a chance to play in a game like this in the NCAA tournament. We got ourselves dominated on the glass in the second half, and I'm not used to seeing that. I'm frustrated by that."

"Tonight we didn't do the things that you have to do to win tough games against good teams on the boards. We can be really good, especially as everyone gets healthy and gains more experience. We're going to have to make some layups to be as good as I think we can be."

"We will have to shoot free throws better than we did tonight and will have to do the things that go into being a good team. Credit to USC, they're good."