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POSTGAME NOTES

No. 16/15 USC vs. Eastern Kentucky Galen Center • Los Angeles, Calif. Tuesday, December 7, 2021

Final: USC 80, Eastern Kentucky 68

- With the 80-68 win tonight, USC improved to 9-0 (2-0) and Eastern Kentucky fell to 5-5 (0-0).
- USC's 9-0 start is its longest winning streak to start the season since winning the first 14 games of the 2017 season.
- USC led 41-25 at halftime. USC shot 53.3 percent and held EKU to 26.5 percent shooting in the first half. USC outrebounded EKU 26-14 at the break. Isaiah Mobley led all players with 15 points and 8 rebounds in the first half.
- USC outscored EKU 44-18 on points in the paint. USC now has outscored the opposition 394-226 on
 points in the paint this season.
- USC committed a season-high 18 turnovers. USC's previous high for turnovers in a game was 11 done twice. USC had 8 first-half turnovers, after coming into the game averaging 8.9 per contest, sixth-fewest in the country. EKU outscored USC 21-2 on points off turnovers.
- Isaiah Mobley scored a career-high 23 points and matched a career-best with 13 rebounds for his third double-double of the season and ninth of his career. It is his third double-double in the last four games. Mobley also made a career-best 5 three-pointers (5-for-6).
- USC's leading scorer entering tonight's action Boogie Ellis (14.0 points per game) went 0-for-10 tonight, but impacted the game with 5 assists, 5 rebounds and 2 steals.
- Chevez Goodwin scored 14 points and grabbed 7 rebounds. Goodwin has scored in double figures in seven of nine games this season. He also has had 7 rebounds or more in six of the nine games.
- Drew Peterson scored 15 points and had 6 rebounds. He has scored in double figures in six of the nine games and has had 7 or more rebounds seven times.
- USC held Eastern Kentucky to 32.4 percent shooting tonight. USC has held all nine opponents under 40 percent shooting this season.
- Guard Isaiah White had to prep for grad school finals which start tomorrow, so he did not suit up. He did make it back in time for the game and sat on the bench.
- USC's next game will be Sunday, Dec. 12 vs. Long Beach State at 2 p.m.

ANDY ENFIELD QUOTES:

"It was a good game for us to play a team with a different style. We handled it pretty well, then it got sloppy and we let them come back. Eastern Kentucky is a good team. They are challenging to guard and chase their shooters all over the floor. We can learn from this.

"We had 23 assists and shot good shots. Offensively, other than the turnovers, we played well and shared the basketball.

"Boogie was 0-for-10. It wasn't his night. When your leading scorer goes scoreless and ou score 80, it's okay.

"Isaiah is letting the game come to him. He is playing at a high level, shooting when he needs to and not forcing things. When he was on the court, we were pretty good. He's a 6-10 guard. And our other bigs were 10-for-10.

"Our press break was fine. Our turnovers were in the front court."





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ISAIAH MOBLEY QUOTES:

"It was a feel-out game. We knew they were going to press. We had lots of press breaks put in.

"We have good chemistry going with this team. We have a lot of weapons. Everyone is getting better each game. Tonight was my night, Sunday might be someone else's.

"I feel like I had a solid start to the season and let the games come to me. I'm still learning."

DREW PETERSON QUOTES:

"Isaiah was playing great tonight, hitting everything. He was a good centerpiece for us tonight.

"Anyone on our team can step up. We have so many weapons. On any given night, someone can make plays.

"We knew they were a dangerous team. We played it well until it got close at the end.

(On the freshmen)--"Every opportunity is a good opportunity, even bad ones. They can learn off the film from this.

"The turnovers were a credit to their style. They play chaotic, high risk and high reward."

EASTERN KENTUCKY HEAD COACH A.W. HAMILTON:

"This was a good basketball team to play. They have so much length and knew when to take shots. It is really tough to get team turnovers against such length."

"We wanted them to shoot threes. If you told me before the game starts they were going to shoot 25 threes, I would have said it's ok, that's good even. We thought, let them shoot 25 threes, but USC shot the ball really well tonight, especially at the start."

"We just haven't seen length like USC, we didn't see that at West Virginia and you can't simulate that at practice. It's hard to guard someone like Mobley, and it shows. He had 23 points, 13 rebounds and 5 assists."

