



POSTGAME NOTES

No. 17 USC vs. Arizona
Galen Center • Los Angeles, Calif.
Sat, February 20, 2021
Final: USC 72, Arizona 81

- With the 81-72 loss today, USC fell to 18-4, 12-3 and Arizona improved to 15-8, 9-8.
- The loss today for USC snapped a seven-game winning streak. USC's last loss was a 58-56 setback at Oregon State on Jan. 19. USC had won 13 of its previous 14 games entering today's action.
- The last time USC began a season 18-4 was the 2017. USC is 12-3 in Pac-12 play. The last time USC had a better start was when it began conference play with a 13-2 record in the 1992 season.
- USC trailed 37-31 at halftime. Arizona made 42.9 percent of its first-half shots and USC made 48.3 percent. USC was 2-for-10 from three-point range and 1-for-3 from the free throw line. Arizona outrebounded USC 21-16.
- For the game, USC was outrebounded 43-36, just the third game all season being outrebounded by the opposition. USC dropped to 0-3 in those games. The last time USC was outrebounded was when Colorado enjoyed a 38-35 advantage on the boards in a 72-62 win over the Trojans. USC tied Arizona in rebounds (32-32) in the 87-73 win in Tucson, Ariz. on Jan. 7.
- Evan Mobley scored 19 of his 23 points and collected all five of his rebounds in the second half.
- With his 4 blocks today, Evan Mobley now has 70 blocks this season to move into second on USC's all-time freshman blocks list, passing Taj Gibson (69) and just behind Onyeka Okongwu (76).
- USC was outscored 44-41 in the second half, only the third game all season that the Trojans were outscored after the break. USC had won the other two (vs. Montana, vs. Washington State). USC still has a 147-point advantage in points after halftime (including overtime).
- Tahj Eaddy continued his hot shooting, scoring 17 points today. In the last three games he has scored 66 points for an average of 22.0 points per game. He also has made 54.5 percent of his shots (24-for-44) in the three contests.
- USC started the lineup of guards Tahj Eaddy, Drew Peterson and Isaiah White and forwards Evan and Isaiah Mobley for the 17th consecutive game.
- USC's next will be vs. Oregon on Feb. 22 at 6 p.m. The game will air on FS1.

ANDY ENFIELD QUOTES, 2-20-21:

"Tough game, Arizona played very well offensively. We had our chances, but every time we'd tie the game, or get close, we couldn't get the defensive stops. Pretty unusual for us. Tonight we just didn't play our best game."

"There's a certain mentality you've got to have in both halves against a team as physically talented as Arizona. We played harder in the second half, got more physical, but for us to only draw three team fouls in the first half it means we weren't aggressive enough. They had a lot of offensive rebounds, so we've got to come out and be more physical from the opening jump."

"We've had a lot of physical games this year, and we were disappointed that we didn't play as well as we have been, but Arizona is a very talented team. They have great size and length, and what really hurt us is that some of their players made some key threes. It's hard to stop everybody, but they made shots when they had to, and I thought that was the difference in the game."

"We win and lose as a team. If you look at the stats in the first half, we didn't have enough rebounds, stops in the interior, and we didn't attack the rim like we normally do, or like we're capable of. We're not going to put this on our front line, we're going to put this on our whole team. We win and lose as a team. We were much more aggressive in the second half, attacking their bigger guys, instead of just letting them attack ours."

"Between Tahj Eaddy and Evan Mobley, they had 40 points. Some guys just aren't big scorers, but what we would like is to just shoot a good percentage. I thought Chevez Goodwin did a nice job, he was 4-6 from the field, and came in and gave us a nice offensive lift. We're not looking for huge scoring outputs for some people, but we generally have three or four guys in double figures, sometimes five or six, and tonight we only had 2. We just need to do a better job. Tonight offensively we didn't have it."



Evan Mobley Quotes

"We were very focused on our defense at halftime, and we just wanted to lock in on that. I knew I had to come out and be aggressive in order for us to win, and I tried to do that in the second half, but it wasn't enough to get us the win."

"At the beginning of the game, I could tell I was their main focus. Any time I got the ball, I could see the help from their guys right away. In the second half, they slipped on their focus a little as other players were heating up like Tahj Eaddy. It opened up more space for me to get buckets."

"Arizona is just as big as us, and a top rebounding team. A lot of times, we'd go up and they'd still end up with the rebounds. We needed a better team effort of getting the rebounds tonight."

"Every game from here on out will be a tough game, no matter the opponent. We've got to bring it from the start. The next few games we really have to lock in and hopefully secure the Championship."

Tahj Eaddy Quotes

"We have the ultimate confidence in ourselves individually, as well as ourselves as a collective. We know what we're capable of, we know how well we can defend, and we know how well we can be offensively. We've seen that over the last five or six games. We've got to put this game behind us, look at film, figure out where we can clean some things up. But, moving forward I think we'll be just fine."

"I don't think we played soft entirely, but I think there were certain possessions that we weren't as tough as we could've been. Specially to start the game, we didn't match their intensity when they came out. They got too many offensive rebounds, and that gave them confidence early and allowed the momentum to carry throughout the game. I do think we definitely could've been tougher and more physical in certain spots."

"We can't take any possession for granted every opportunity is special. Especially for what we're trying to accomplish, which is winning championships. We're playing against good teams; we can't relax or allow ourselves to get comfortable. We have to understand there is a target on our backs, and we have to be able to match everyone's best shot. We will look at the film and figure out where we can get better, but his is definitely a good learning experience for us."

ARIZONA HEAD COACH SEAN MILLER QUOTES:

"I was really excited for our team and for our coaching staff. It hasn't been easy, nothing has been easy. We've been in some really tough games recently in which I thought we played hard, played well, but weren't good enough to leave with a victory. Tonight, we were able to go from start to finish and I think it says a lot about our guys. They continue to fight, and we really had to play an outstanding game against a very good and talented team like USC."

"Every game down the stretch is sort of like a post-season matchup. Truth be told, I think our guys recognize that USC has had a great season, competing for the Pac-12 Championship. What is it that we have to play for? Well, we're playing for each other, for our program, for a pride and love for the game. If we can beat some of these teams down the stretch, it gives us something to feel good about, it gives our players something to feel good about."

"Tonight, being able to actually breakthrough and win, it's a way to give everybody a lot of confidence. I could feel it at the four-minute mark, that everyone was still unsure, because we've been in this situation a number of times this year and it hasn't always worked out. But, it was good to see us finish the game."