



POSTGAME NOTES

No. 15 USC vs. Arizona State
Galen Center • Los Angeles, Calif.
Saturday, January 24, 2022
Final: USC 78, Arizona State 56

- With the 78-56 win tonight, USC improved to 17-2 (7-2) and Arizona State fell to 6-11 (2-5).
- USC's 17-2 start is its best since the 1971 team began 18-1, en route to a 24-1 start and a 24-2 overall record.
- USC improved to 8-1 at the Galen Center this season.
- Arizona State jumped out to a 12-2 lead 6 minutes into the game. USC had 6 turnovers in that stretch. USC began 3-for-16 from the field and trailed 20-8 at the 7:28 mark of the first half. USC made 5 of its next 7 shots, including four straight 3-pointers (2 each by Reese Dixon-Waters and Isaiah Mobley) to tie the game at 22 with 4:10 remaining in the first half. USC closed the half making 8 of its last 12 shots, including a 3-pointer just before the buzzer by Kobe Johnson to lead 31-24 at the break. USC built the lead to 25 points in the second half.
- Drew Peterson was 6-for-8 tonight and finished with 16 points and 8 rebounds. In the last two games he has scored 39 points on 15 of 18 shooting (83.3 percent), including 7-for-8 from three-point range. He also has 15 rebounds in the two games.
- USC made 10 of 22 three-point shots tonight (45.5 percent). In the last two games USC has made 19 of 42 shots from beyond the arc (45.2 percent).
- USC held Arizona State to 34.4 percent shooting. It was the 15th time in 19 games this season holding the opposition to under 40 percent shooting.
- After being outscored 10-6 on points in the paint in the first half, USC outscored ASU 24-12 in the paint in the second half.
- USC's bench outscored Arizona State's bench 36-6 tonight.
- Guard Reese Dixon-Waters helped lead the Trojans back by hitting a pair of three-pointers during a 16-0 run in the first half. He finished with 8 points and 2 rebounds.
- Forward Boubacar Coulibaly had 3 rebounds and 3 points off the bench tonight. It was his first game since Dec. 1 and third overall this season.
- Guard Kobe Johnson scored 3 points and had a career-best and team-leading 5 assists tonight.
- USC had 17 assists tonight and 18 in its last game. Those two assists totals are the best by the Trojans since registering a season-best 23 on Dec. 7 vs. Eastern Kentucky.
- Forward Joshua Morgan missed tonight's game with right knee tendinitis. He is listed as day-to-day.
- USC's next game will be Thursday, Jan. 27 vs. Stanford. The game is at 8:00 p.m. and will air on FS1.

ANDY ENFIELD QUOTES:

"It was a good team win. We struggled on offense at the start, but after that we started sharing the ball. We played good team basketball on both ends the rest of the game. The bench really helped us. It was a big factor in uplifting our energy at the end of the first half and into the second half."

"Arizona State is a very dangerous team because they shoot a lot of threes. We did a nice job taking care of the basketball and increasing our defensive intensity after a tough start."

ARIZONA STATE ASSISTANT COACH JERMAINE KIMBROUGH:

"You know, Coach Justus did a great job handling on offense. I focused a little bit more on the defensive. To be honest with you it was pretty good to have that situation where you got two assistants that can help run the team".

"For the first 15 minutes of this game we were right there. You have to give a lot of credit to our team, but they fell short. When you're shorthanded like that, you run out of gas after that 15-minute mark. You saw it in how our player defense broke down. We went to the two-three zone a little bit to give our guys some rest. We have to be excited about how they played this game. We want to focus on what these guys did, not the score."

"We just have to continue to build off of this. We have guys coming back, our leader Coach Hurley coming back, and we have to build off these last two losses. This team can be dangerous. We're going to continue to get better each day, and hopefully you'll see that by the end of this season."