



### POSTGAME NOTES

USC vs. Mount St. Mary's  
Galen Center • Los Angeles, Calif.  
Friday, November 18, 2022  
**Final: USC 83, Mount St. Mary's 74**

- With the 83-74 win tonight, USC improved to 3-1 and Mount St. Mary's fell to 1-3. Tonight was the first-ever meeting between the two schools in men's basketball.
- USC led 32-28 at halftime. Neither team led by more than 4 points in the first half. USC made 37.9 percent of its first half shots, while the Mountaineers made 42.9 percent of their shots before the break.
- USC made 57.7 percent of its second-half shots and 47.3 percent for the game. USC opened up a 17-point second-half lead at 75-58 with 4:40 remaining. USC had 5 turnovers the final 4:40 and which helped lead to the 9-point margin at the end.
- USC made 75.0 percent of its free throws (24-for-32) and has made 76.4 percent (42-for-55) of its shots from the free throw line the last two games.
- Fifth-year guard Drew Peterson came close to a triple-double with 15 points, a career-high 12 assists and 8 rebounds. He now has 32 assists in USC's first four games (8.0 pg).
- Freshman guard Tre White made his first career start tonight and scored a career-best 10 points. He also had an assist and a steal.
- Freshman forward Iaroslav Niagu scored his first basket as a Trojan with a layup at 14:54 in the first half. He finished with 2 points and 2 rebounds in 9 minutes.
- Redshirt junior forward Joshua Morgan posted his Trojan highs of 15 points and 12 rebounds. He now has three career double-doubles and his first one since March 5, 2020 vs. Cal Poly while with Long Beach State. He also had 5 dunks and 5 blocks in the game. He now has 16 blocks in the first four games (4.0 blocks per game).
- Senior guard Boogie Ellis scored a team-high 19 points tonight to give him 1,010 career points. He has scored 761 points as a Trojan. He is also the only USC player to score in double figures each game this season.
- USC held Mount St. Mary's to 36.8 percent shooting and has held all four opponents this season to under 40 percent shooting. For the year, USC has held the opposition to 36.1 percent shooting (92-for-255).
- USC had four players score in double-figures tonight and is 3-0 this season when 3 or more players register double-figures in points. USC is now 46-6 the last 52 games when at least 3 players score 10 or more points in the same game.
- Nine of 10 Trojans who saw action tonight scored at least 2 points..
- USC wore the gold uniforms for the first time this season. Last season, USC was 5-0 when wearing the gold uniforms.
- Freshman forward Kijani Wright was not at the game tonight due to a respiratory illness. He is listed as day-to-day.
- USC's next game will be on November 23, when it plays BYU in a first-round game at the Battle 4 Atlantis at the Atlantis Paradise Island Resort in the Bahamas. The game will air on ESPN2 at 2 p.m. PT.

### ANDY ENFIELD QUOTES:

Opening Statement:

We are 3-1 and heading to the Bahamas on Monday morning. So we got a big tournament next week, so our team is developing and improving. We played really well in the second half until about the last four and a half minutes when we were up 17 and I was very happy with how we're playing. All of a sudden things got a little careless and we made some mistakes, but other than the last four and a half minutes, I thought we played a pretty solid game.



#### On the three point shooting

We actually executed pretty well in the first half. We got a lot of open looks and just could not make a shot. The 2-11 is not very good. Unfortunately, we were 3-19 our first game and I think 3-16 against Vermont. That puts a lot of pressure on your defense, it puts a lot of pressure on your playmaking and in the second half I thought we kept getting open shots and then we started making some. Boogie is shooting very extremely well from the three-point line, I think he shot about 50% even from three tonight, and we need some somebody else to make threes consistently. It's one of those things we're still learning, because we have two senior guards and those guys have been relied upon last year for us. However, I was very impressed with our team through the first 36 minutes, I thought they played well together. They shared the ball, they defended.

#### On Boogie's 1000 point milestone

Boogie is a pleasure to coach. He plays so hard. He works out so hard. He practices hard. He just leads by example. You never have to question his effort. He's improved as a lead guard and so 1000 points is a really great milestone. It's nice to do it that early in your senior year.

#### **BOOGIE ELLIS QUOTES:**

On his 1000 point milestone

It's a great accomplishment. It shows that I have had a great career, I honestly didn't even realize that but it's a great accomplishment.

On his leadership

I feel like I have to be a better leader, and continue to help the guys get those results. We were up by 17 with four minutes left and then they ended up cutting it to a five-point game. So that definitely reflects our leadership and I just am taking accountability. You know, we have a young group of guys, so we've been in those situations before, so we just got to calm the group now.

#### **DREW PETERSON QUOTES:**

On the size of the team:

I think the smaller team and you know our shooting numbers don't reflect it right now, but everyone can shoot on the floor and at worse even when we're not shooting the ball it opens up driving lanes for us. We're potentially a little undersized, but we can make up for it with the spacing we get on the floor. So it's something that we can really take advantage of. I thought we got a lot of great looks tonight. I'm hoping to shoot better than 2-7 from the three-point line. Other than that, you know we're getting guys like Reece, Kobe and Oziyah those open jumpers, so it's something we're really looking to continue to on.

On his 12-assist game:

I'm feeling like the rest of the guys trust me to take care of the ball. Still had too many turnovers tonight, six turnovers, but you know we push the pace really well. I try to find guys open and I thought our spacing was great in the second half. That was something that we really tried to work on is if the teams look to double team in the post were trying to space the floor. Boogie, he was always in the right spot and was able to knock down the shot especially late in the game and just like the other day when he knocked down that dagger shot from three pointer against Vermont. We're reading the defense's, we know how they're going to play these double teams, so as long as we get space, we have good shooters for open shots.



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On Joshua Morgan's game:

I mean he just keeps getting better every game. We know what he's capable of. Tonight, he played great and we expect that out of him. You know, he's always going to block shots and rebound. Then it's our job to get him the ball. We want him to score and look to score, because we need that inside presence in the paint. So we just got to keep looking for him more and getting him more involved offensively, because he does a great job on defense and then a great job rebounding, so sometimes we got to reward him.

**MOUNT ST. MARY'S HEAD COACH DAN ENGELSTAD:**

How are you feeling with today's result?

"Well, you never feel good after a loss, but I'm proud of some of the things we were emphasizing. I'm proud that we had more assists than turnovers tonight. I thought when we were disciplined defensively, we did a really good job of guarding a really talented offensive team. We had some lapses in transition, and they make you pay. Good teams like USC, you have got to be on your game for a full forty, and we were close, but we fought back. We got down 15 and the guys got back after it and made some plays, so I'm glad to see that we had our fight tonight."

What are you looking for in your next games?

"This is going to be a big trip for us, being out here in California. We knew this was going to be a tough one, and now we have to play on the road for these next two, but we want to come closer together and get better as a basketball team and this game will prepare us for that. We had to guard some really good players and a really good coach that puts them in good spots. We are excited for the challenge ahead, and know that we have got a quick turnaround to get ready for Cal Poly."