USC vs. CS Fullerton
Galen Center • Los Angeles, Calif.  
Wednesday, December 7, 2022

Final: USC 64, CS Fullerton 50

- With the 64-50 win tonight, USC improved to 7-3 and CS Fullerton fell to 4-5. USC improved to 7-0 all-time against CS Fullerton.
- USC allowed a season-low 50 points. It was the fewest points allowed by USC since holding San Diego State to 43 in a 58-43 win on Nov. 26, 2021 in Anaheim, Calif. in the Wooden Legacy championship game.
- USC has held 4 opponents this season to under 60 points scored.
- USC made 5 of its first 8 shots tonight and jumped out to a 14-0 lead 5 minutes into the game. All 5 USC starters had a basket in the first 5 minutes. The 14-0 run to start a game was the best by the Trojans since scoring the first 15 points of the game vs. Oregon on Feb. 22, 2021. USC took a 29-21 lead into halftime.
- For the second consecutive game USC outscored the opposition 32-18 on points in the paint, making USC’s advantage 64-36 on points in the paint the last two games. USC improved to 6-1 when outscoring the opposition on points in the paint.
- Freshman guard Tre White scored a season-best 15 points tonight. White also had 6 rebounds, 2 assists and 2 steals.
- Sophomore guard Kobe Johnson followed up his career-best scoring effort of 17 points vs. Oregon State on Dec. 4, with his second-best career output of 14 points. He also 5 assists, 5 rebounds and 3 steals.
- Fifth-year guard Drew Peterson scored 9 points, had 8 rebounds, 3 assists, a block and a steal.
- USC had 9 steals for the second consecutive game. USC outscored CS Fullerton 14-2 on fastbreak points and has outscored its last 2 opponents 30-2 on fastbreak points.

ANDY ENFIELD QUOTES:

Opening Statement:

“It was a good game for us. We played very well offensively most of the game, especially sharing the ball. We had a lot of hockey assists, we made the extra pass. We didn’t make a lot of shots when we were wide open...so we could have had more than 16 assists, that number could have easily been 23 or 24. I thought we played a pretty solid game. They’re hard to guard so we had to chase them around all night and try to use our size and length to challenge every shot and make them shoot a lower percentage than they normally would.”

On Tre White:

“You can say whatever you need to say to try to get your point across and he’s going to take it and get better; he’s a very impressive young man. He’s very talented. He can put the ball on the floor. He is a very unselfish passer. He doesn’t turn it over a lot. Look at his turnover numbers, they are probably the lowest in the team per minute played. He does a lot of really good things, he’s developing as a player. I thought tonight he showed his IQ of how to read what the defense was giving him.”

On the defense:

“They understand that they have to defend, we did have a couple of lapses, but that’s just sports in general. You’re not going to play perfect but our players play hard. They know where to be defensively. They cover for each other, so I’m proud, Cal State Fullerton scored 50 points, this experienced team was in the NCAA tournament last year, so they have really good guards. Our defense has not been our issue. We held Tennessee to 62, Tennessee scored 25 points in the second half, they are a top five team in the country. So, someone’s got to step up and score the ball for us in close games. I thought the Oregon State game on Sunday, we showed a lot of mental toughness. We played terrific defense, played very hard and our guys stepped up offensively. We are developing but I’m very proud of our team, because they’ve improved a lot in the last two or three weeks.”
DREW PETERSON QUOTES:

On being more vocal this year:
“Being the older guy, we got a young team with a lot of freshmen and sophomores and someone with my experience you know, especially with March Madness and everything and everywhere I’ve been, I’m just trying to help anywhere I can. Try and be vocal and hopefully show the guys potentially the right things to do and where to be in the right spots, right rotations and I try to have any positive influence I can within the team.”

On trying help gather rebounds:
“I try to impact the game anytime I can, especially with being a little bit of a short squad without two bigs on the floor at the same time. I try to impact the game on that as well and hopefully be able to help the bigs out with rebounds. Tre is another good rebounder and Kobe. We try to help any way we can.”

On starting the game 14-0:
“There’s definitely a sense of urgency. You know, we’re trying to emphasize our starts to games and it was awesome that we were able to come out to an early lead. Next step is being able to push that and not having them get back close. I think we were stuck at 24 for a while, but it was awesome to be able to come out hot and definitely be aggressive with them.”

TRE WHITE QUOTES:

On being coachable:
“Really I like coaches who get into me, I feel like coaches who really just get into me and show emotion. It shows they care and I always just take the message.”

On his confidence when his shots go in:
“When I see a couple of shots go through it definitely boosts me, but I really don’t try to base my whole game on whether I’m making shots or not, but it definitely helps.”

On the difference between HS and college:
“I really feel like it’s all just principles. In high school, you got two to three players on the court who know what they’re doing, but in college it’s scouting this week or practice, and everybody on the court knows what they’re doing. So just being strategic with everything. Just being locked in is the biggest difference.”

CS FULLERTON HEAD COACH DEDRIQUE TAYLOR:

“You know, we’re just trying to find ourselves. There’s lots and lots of good things out there in terms of us. We were still trying to find ourselves with early turnovers, I think we had 11 turnovers in the first half, which is not us. I think USC’s length and the way they were playing bothered us a little and took us out of rhythm. And that kind of dictated the game. You know, there were some moments where we played hard and we were able to execute, but USC has length I think in their athleticism had bothered us.”

On settling down after the first couple of minutes of the game:
“At the end of the day, everybody wants to play well. And that’s what we got to commit to. We have to commit to playing harder. Even though we didn’t shoot a high percentage, we got some good looks when we played hard. We just have to find ourselves and find our rhythm, possession by possession.”

On Latrell:
“He carried us. From an offensive standpoint, I think he was only reason we got in double digits. And so we got to understand that we need to support him and find rhythm offensively.”

On takeaways heading into SUU on Saturday:
“We need to play hard and find our rhythm. We need to read SUU both offensively and defensively. You know, SUU is a tough team. They’re athletic. They’re experienced. Fighting for who we are and what we want is going to be it.”