



POSTGAME NOTES

No. 16 USC vs. No. 2 Arizona
Galen Center • Los Angeles, Calif.
March 1, 2022

Final: USC 71, Arizona 91

- With the 91-71 loss tonight, USC fell to 25-5 (14-5) and Arizona improved to 26-3 (16-2). Arizona clinched the regular season Pac-12 title with the win. USC and UCLA will play for second place on Saturday at UCLA.
- USC's student crowd of 2,960 set a Galen Center record. The previous USC student crowd record was 2,681 set against UCLA on Feb. 17, 2022.
- Tonight was the first time USC hosted an opponent ranked No. 2 or above since it played then No. 1 Arizona at the Galen Center on January 12, 2014.
- The 20-point loss was USC's biggest against Arizona since losing 87-57 in 2015. The loss was USC's biggest final score deficit of the season (previous biggest final deficit in a loss was 10 vs. Oregon on Jan. 15, 79-69).
- USC never led in tonight's game. The only other game all season USC never had a lead was the 79-69 home loss to Oregon on Jan. 15.
- Arizona led 51-27 at halftime. The Wildcats made 55 percent of its first half shots (22 of 40), while USC made 32.1 percent (9 of 28). Arizona made 9 of its first 13 shots (69.2) and led 21-8 just over 7 minutes into the first half and USC got no closer than 9 points the rest of the half. USC cut the lead to 27-18, but Kerr Kriisa hit back-to-back 3-pointers to give Arizona a 33-18 lead at the 7:18 mark of the first half.
- USC's previous biggest deficit of the season was 18 points vs. Oregon on Jan. 15 and it lost that game by 10 points.
- Arizona made a USC opponent high 55.6 percent of its field goals tonight. The previous field goal percentage high by a Trojan opponent this season was 53.8 percent at Oregon State on Feb. 24. Arizona became the fourth team to make 50 percent or more of its shots against USC. USC entered the game sixth in the country in field goal percentage defense at 38.1 percent.
- Max Agbonkpolo led USC with 14 points tonight. He was 6 of 10 from the floor, including 2-for-2 from 3-point range.
- Reese Dixon-Waters scored nine points tonight and has averaged 8.0 points the last 7 games.
- Josh Morgan scored 8 points tonight, his most since also scoring 8 points vs. Eastern Kentucky on Dec. 7.
- USC had 19 offensive rebounds tonight and outscored Arizona 23-4 on second-chance points.
- USC's next game will be Saturday, March 5 at UCLA. The game is at 7:00 p.m. and it will air on ESPN with Roxy Bernstein and Bill Walton calling the action.

ANDY ENFIELD QUOTES:

"The fans were terrific. It was an outstanding crowd. They were special this year. Our program is growing and it's impressive how we've been supported. Unfortunately, we didn't reciprocate tonight. Arizona looked like the No. 2 team in the country. They played really well and we didn't."

"Our best players have to play well in big games. They didn't do that tonight. They had off nights. Tonight we were not very good. Our offense hurt our defense. They got in transition and it really hurt us. It was frustrating and it was frustrating for our players."

"To beat a team like Arizona, you have to play better offensively. And Arizona played really well. We played a very close game in Tucson last month, it was very physical, but we finished 1-of-15. This game we started slowly. You're not going to hold Arizona down. They're hard to guard."

"It was uncharacteristic for us, usually we don't give up transition baskets."

"We turned down shots in the first half. We didn't play with pace in the first half and had turnovers. We need to bounce back and play with more togetherness and efficiency."



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"We're 25-5 We just won 6 in a row. The disappointing thing is when you have a great crowd you don't want to lose by 20. Whatever we did or didn't do, that's on me. We've got to bounce back, we have a lot to play for with UCLA on Saturday and then the Pac-12 tournament."

"We've been winning for 7 years. It was nice to see our students come out. The trajectory of our program is going up. People realize it's fun to go to the Galen Center."

ISAIAH MOBLEY QUOTES:

"(The problems tonight) We were not getting back on defense and some of the shots they made weren't easy."

"It's disappointing, but it's over now. We got UCLA, the Pac-12 Tournament and March Madness."

"We've only lost 5 games. So we need to learn from it. I'd rather lose now than in the tournament."

"We had defensive lapses. Once we got way behind, it was hard to come back."

DREW PETERSON QUOTES:

"I didn't shoot too well. I just missed shots. I'm not going to lose any confidence. We'll come back against UCLA."

"They like to run. A bad offense for us was an easy offense for them."

"We'll be ready for Saturday. We'll clean things up. Sometimes these games can help a season and get your head on straight."

ARIZONA HEAD COACH TOMMY LLOYD:

Q: You had a tough loss against Colorado. How hard was it for you guys to get back on track?

A: I mean... when you're playing in the regular season you don't want to pull all or nothing on a single game and I wasn't today. If USC beat us today, we would go home and win two games... that was the plan. So, to get it done here today was pretty special.

Q: Last time you played USC it was a tighter, stronger defense. What did you do differently this time?

A: I think our defense got us going. We got out of transition a little bit and then we shot the ball better from three and it was good. So, we tighten some things up on offense.

Q: This is your first regular season conference title in four years. What does that mean and how do you compartmentalize that?

A: Well, I've been here for eight months so, I'm just focused on moving forward and I'm really proud of the guys. They're deserving. Obviously, a lot of people probably didn't anticipate this but I also understand that a conference championship is a standard in Arizona so, we're going to act like we've been there before and we're going to hopefully be a mature team and play two good games this week.