



USC vs. UCLA
Galen Center • Los Angeles, Calif.
Thursday, January 26, 2023
Final: USC 77, UCLA 64

- With the 77-64 win tonight, USC improved to 15-6 (7-3) and UCLA fell to 17-4 (8-2).
- USC has now won 6 of its last nine games against UCLA
- USC has won its last five home games against UCLA, its longest home winning streak against the Bruins since also winning five straight home games from 1960-63
- The win over the No. 8 Bruins was USC's first over and AP Top 10 team since beating No. 8 UCLA on Jan. 25, 2017.
- USC was called for 7 fouls to UCLA's 1 to start the game, including a flagrant 1 on Drew Peterson in the first 11 minutes of the game. At the 11:24 mark of the first half, UCLA began a 11-0 run to take a 20-14 lead. UCLA upped its lead to 37-25 at the break. USC made 41.7 percent of its first-half shots, while UCLA made 41.4 percent. UCLA made 6 of 11 (54.5 percent) from three-point range and outrebounded USC 19-11. USC began the second half on a 27-6 run to take a 52-43 at the 9:23 mark of the second half.
- USC improved to 10-1 at home this season, winning its last 10 following the 74-61 loss in the opener to FGCU on Nov. 7. USC's 10 consecutive home wins in one season is its most since winning the first 15 home games of the 2015-16 season.
- Senior guard Boogie Ellis led with a career-high 31 points. His previous high for points in a game was 28 vs. Auburn on Dec. 18 this season. Ellis scored 27 of his points in the second half, matching UCLA's second-half total. Ellis also had 6 assists and no turnovers. Ellis' 31 points were the most in a game by a Trojan since Onyeka Okongwu scored 33 points on Nov. 19, 2019.
- Sophomore guard Kobe Johnson scored 10 points, had a team-high 5 rebounds and had 5 assists. He also had a team-high 3 steals.
- Fifth-year guard Drew Peterson scored 16 points and had 4 rebounds. He was 3-for-4 from three-point range.
- Freshman guard Tre White scored 7 points and grabbed 4 rebounds.
- USC made 10 of 22 three-point shots (45.5 percent).
- USC had three players score in double-figures tonight. USC improved to 14-1 this season when at least three players score 10 or more points.
- USC made 17 of 18 free throws tonight (94.4 percent) and have made 31 of its last 32 free throws (96.9 percent) over the last two games.
- After being outrebounded 19-11 in the first half, the Trojans even things out in the second half with both teams registering 15 rebounds.
- USC's next game will be on February 2 vs. Washington State. The game will air at 8 p.m. on Fox Sports 1.

ANDY ENFIELD QUOTES:

Opening Statement:

"Thanks for coming out. This is a typical USC UCLA rivalry game, very physical. Both teams played extremely hard. Now they're an outstanding team, very well coached. Coach Cronin does a great job, and their players are really hard to guard. I thought our guys did an amazing job in the second half. Being down 12 at halftime, coming out a lot of fire. I thought the key was to get back in the game pretty quickly, which we did. Then we just defended and tried to rebound the best we could. Very, very proud of our players. We've really improved as a team and hopefully everybody saw that."

On Boogie Ellis' big game:

"Six assists and no turnovers; 31 points and 27 in the second half, that's a pretty special game. We started to isolate him. We tried to set ball screens and get him on some of the defenders that we thought he could attack. He did a nice job of making the right decision. Made a couple of big, big shots for us. Boogie was upset last game at Poly, where he missed a shot to tie it up at the end and also was called for an offensive screen with 15 seconds left in the game; so he was disappointed, but we're a team one play doesn't decide a game usually. But when you have close games down in the last minute, you'd like to win some, so tonight didn't come down to the last minute, and our guys did their job."



On the defensive adjustments at halftime:

"We really started to hard hedge the ball screens, tried to put pressure on their guards, so (Tyger) Campbell couldn't get in the lane and the other guys. Our big players, our centers Josh (Morgan) and Vince (Iwuchukwu) did a really good job of getting out on the ball screens and getting back before they could reverse the ball or throw it into their bigs at the rim. Our other players tagged on the ball screen roll and got back to the perimeter and the three-point line was a huge factor."

BOOGIE ELLIS QUOTES:

On the demeanor at halftime:

"Me and Drew told the guys that we've been in this position before. We're the leaders. So we told them, 'We can't panic, you know, we're going to come out, we're gonna hit him in the mouth in the second half. You know, forget it. Forget what happened in the first half. And then, I mean, we've been through it. Me and Drew, we've played in big games, we've played in big atmospheres, so it was really our job to calm the team down.'"

On redeeming the team's loss earlier in the season to the Bruins:

"I felt like the UCLA game, that definitely was on me. But, it's basketball. You will have your highs and lows, but you always gotta stay right in the middle. So I'm blessed and I'm glad that I was able to help get this one from my team."

DREW PETERSON QUOTES:

On Boogie Ellis' performance:

"When you get a guy who's hot like that you just ride it. We started calling plays, and I think what was good about tonight is we started attacking mismatches very well. And especially when we've kind of haven't shot the ball totally well as a team a lot. When we hit 10 threes, hit nearly a little over 40% of those, we're really hard to beat. And when you got a guy like Boogie I who gets hot like that, and just keep getting mismatches and playing off that so it was awesome to ride that to the end of the second half."

On trying to win the conference title:

"For sure. You know, obviously, you know, that's, you know, the first goal in mind is to take care of the conference regular season, then obviously the PAC 12 tournament, then potentially a tournament run. But it's a big thing. You know, we're taking it a step at a time because, you know, each game weighs the same, so we got to take care of next week. You know, defend our home court again. And, you know, just keep moving along. Like Boogie said, you know, tomorrow's a new day and you know, we got to take care of next week."

UCLA HEAD COACH MICK CRONIN

"Their defense was great. They made the game an extreme fight, a rough swallow. We didn't respond."

On How unexpected was Boogie's performance...

"How unexpected was it? About as unexpected as traffic tomorrow morning on the 405"

"We have to give the team [USC] some credit. The guys played great in the second half. They made some great shots. Give the Trojans credit."

On Boogie shooting in the 2nd half...

"We were supposed to be more aggressive on him. We played him soft and he made his play. And that's what he does when you are playing soft."

"We just didn't get the job done. They turned up the heat, they created deflections. We didn't handle it. Then they got going. Once they got going, the crowd got behind them. They made some un-guardable shots."