



USC vs. Oregon
Galen Center • Los Angeles, Calif.
Thursday, February 1, 2024
Final: USC 69, Oregon 78

- With the 78-69 loss tonight, USC fell to 8-13, 2-8 and Oregon improved to 15-6, 7-3.
- USC has lost 6 consecutive games for the first time since losing nine consecutive games in the 2015 season.
- USC has lost its last three home games. The last time USC lost three consecutive home games was Jan. 29-Feb. 11, 2015. That was part of a five-game home losing streak (Jan. 11-Feb. 11, 2015).
- USC trailed 46-39 at the half and fell to 0-10 this season when trailing at halftime.
- USC opened the game with a 3-pointer by Boogie Ellis, but Oregon responded with an 8-0 run to take the lead. Jackson Shelstad scored 7 points in the 8-0 run and 10 of the Ducks' first 11 points. Oregon led 46-39 at the half. USC made 50.0 percent of its first-half shots, while Oregon made 40.0 percent of its shots in the first half. Oregon made 41.2 percent of its first-half three-pointers (7 of 17). After USC had tied the game at 37-all, Oregon finished the half on a 9-2 run. Oregon's 46 first-half points were the second-most by a USC opponent this season before the break (Auburn – 49).
- USC held Oregon to 36.9 percent shooting and over the last four games has held the opposition to 39.1 percent shooting (102-for-261).
- USC's 14 blocks tied the school record for blocks in a game, also done vs. Pepperdine on Dec. 11, 2016. USC's previous high for blocks in a game this season was 13 vs. Seton Hall on Nov. 23. USC has totaled 24 blocks in the last 2 games. Joshua Morgaon (4) and Arrinten Page (4) became the first pair of USC teammates with 4 or more blocks in the same game since Alex Stepheson and Nikola Vucevic both had 4 blocks vs. Northern Arizona on Dec. 11, 2010.
- Fifth-year guard Boogie Ellis scored a team-high 17 points tonight.
- Sophomore guard Oziyah Sellers made his fourth start of the season tonight. He finished with 12 points and 2 assists. Tonight was his sixth game this season Sellers scored in double figures. Sellers has averaged 11.4 points per game in USC's last five contests. Sellers was 2-for-3 from three-point range tonight and has made 18 of his last 32 three-point attempts (56.3 percent).
- USC started a lineup of guards Boogie Ellis, Kobe Johnson and Oziyah Sellers and forwards Josh Morgan and Arrinten Page for the first time.
- Freshman guard Bronny James scored 6 points, had 4 rebounds and a season-best 7 assists tonight. He has 18 assists in USC's last 4 games. His 2 3-pointers made matched a season best, done 3 times.
- Freshman Arrinten Page made his second start of the season tonight (also vs. UC Irvine on Nov. 14). He had a career-high 4 blocks tonight and scored 8 points. He entered the game with 4 blocks in his first 19 games.
- Redshirt senior forward Joshua Morgan scored 6 points, had 5 rebounds, 4 assists and 4 blocks. He now has 137 career blocks for USC which ranks fourth on USC's all-time career blocks list. Chimezie Metu with 168 blocks is in third.
- In USC's six-game losing streak, it has been outscored 93-55 at the free throw line. USC was outscored 18-6 from the free throw line tonight.
- Oregon's Jackson Shelstad has scored 20 and 21 points in his two games vs. USC this season. The 21 points vs. USC at Oregon is a career high and the 20 tonight matched his second-highest scoring game of the season. Shelstad made his first 6 shots tonight and scored 15 of the Ducks' first 29 points.
- USC's next game will be on Feb. 3 vs. Oregon State. The game will start at 4:00 p.m. and air on the Pac-12 Network.

ANDY ENFIELD QUOTES:

On getting to the foul line six times:

"Well we had 26 points in the paint to their 20. I thought the free throw line was a factor. I thought we got fouled a few more times than were actually called, but we only shot six free throws the whole game, and so there was a foul discrepancy and a free throw discrepancy which hurt us. We didn't help ourselves. We made some ill advised fouls that put them in the bonus early. Fouling them was a big part and second



chance points. We had 16 to their 14 even though they had more offensive rebounds, but we need to get to the foul line more than six times a game."

On the improving defensively

"Well, for the most part, we played hard tonight. We had a great effort at the end there to cut that lead down to seven with 45-50 seconds left. Look, everybody gets a chance to play and if they're competitors at this level, they play as hard as they can and try to keep improving. We've improved on defense tremendously over the last few weeks, I mean four straight games we've held teams to 40% or under from the field including tonight. So we made a lot of improvements when Josh, Boogie and Isaiah all got hurt and were out at the same time three weeks ago; It gave other guys an opportunity to play and I think it's helped our team defensively because guys now have gained minutes and some experience and so our defense has certainly improved."

On struggling for rebounds

"Rebounding, our four bigs are not very good defensive rebounders and in fact are poor, and you can't keep playing 15-20-25 minutes a game and having zero or one defensive rebound and so that really hurts us. Our guards have to come back and rebound, we have some guards that don't rebound the ball that well either and so when you have Arizona hurt us on the boards, UCLA crushed us on their offensive rebounds. Even when you play great defense, 36% tonight we held them, they had 17 offensive rebounds. Our four bigs are just not that good at defensive rebounding and they have to get better."

OZIYAH SELLERS QUOTES:

On his growing confidence in his shot

"With guys out, I had to step up, and that's what I've been trying to do. There's still another level I know I can get to, so I'm gonna keep trying to get to that. With guys down, that's my new role, so I'm trying to fulfill that as best as I can."

On what he wants to improve in his game

"Definitely rebounding. There's no way I should be able to play over 20 minutes and have no rebounds. That's definitely my biggest goal. Then just continuing to get better on both ends, offensively and defensively."

On the team's focus

"I feel like in practice, we've been focused, we've been locked in. We've been doing our best on the scout. I think we're all kind of trying to figure out ways we can get better individually. Once we figure that out, then everything will change for us."

ARRINTEN PAGE QUOTES:

On starting this game

"I'm just trying to make the best opportunities and just play hard when I'm on the floor."

On how to respond to being called a poor defensive rebounder

"By proving them wrong. [By] having a chip on [my] shoulder to go get it every time."

On what needs improvement

"Offensive rebounding. We need to limit the other team to one shot and then get the rebound. We're playing good defense, held them to 36% — they're just getting second chance opportunities. So it's evening out."

On if USC is overthinking on the court

"There's times, but at the end of the day, I have to be a basketball player."



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OREGON HEAD COACH DANA ALTMAN:

On competing against Boogie: "I thought we lost him a few times, but I thought a lot of times we were pretty close to him. He's just such an offensive threat. I don't think we gave him too many open looks, and the ones we gave him he hit."

On playing SC: "Andy does a great job and they've got some injuries right now that take them out of what they want to do. It's a tough place to play (The Galen Center), we won here a couple years ago, but we've struggled here the last few times. They're very athletic, really talented, so we knew we'd have our hands full."

On FR Jackson Shelstad (3): "He's a really good player. He just was aggressive tonight, got some good looks early which got his confidence going in and knocked them down. So we want him to be aggressive, he got a little too aggressive on a couple in the second half, got him punched and he's got to do a little better job picking when to go and when not to go but you know, he had a good game and did a lot of good things."

On staying out of foul trouble: "Part of its necessity. We were in a zone almost all night which should help some of that, but we couldn't get in foul trouble. We had eight scholarship athletes so we had to be a little careful there."

On SC closing the 20pt gap: "Winning game stops and their offensive rebounding the second half. They had two points at half on the second chance and 14 second half, we didn't do a very good job of cleaning up the defensive glass."

On prepping for the LA road trip: "This is a tough trip like they all are, you got two games, Thursday and Saturday, and depth usually helps you, if you if you're deep, but just have to take one game at a time and we'll have a light day tomorrow try to get ready for UCLA."