With the 72-62 loss tonight, USC fell to 5-2, 0-1 and Colorado improved to 7-2, 1-1. The loss by USC snapped a nine-game home winning streak dating back to last season.

USC is 4-6 in its last 10 Pac-12 openers.

USC is 7-14 all-time against Colorado, losing its last five games.

Colorado has won the last three meetings between the Trojans and the Buffaloes at the Galen Center and six of the last eight.

Colorado made 12 of its first 20 shots and led 31-21 with 8:36 remaining in the first half. Colorado made 5 of its first 8 three-point attempts. USC cut the lead to 32-31, but Colorado finished the half on a 12-2 run, culminating with a three-pointer at the buzzer by Jeriah Horne to take a 44-33 lead at the break. Colorado made 53.3 percent of its shots before the break, including 53.8 percent from three-point range. USC made 45.2 percent of its first-half shots.

USC regrouped defensively in the second half to hold Colorado to 31.0 percent shooting, but was still outshot for the first time this season. Colorado made 41.7 percent of its shots in the game, while USC made 38.3 percent.

In USC’s two losses it has made 37.2 percent of its shots (42-for-113), while making 51.5 percent in its five wins (158-for-307).

USC was outrebounded 38-35 and fell to 0-2 when being outrebounded this season.

USC fell to 0-2 in the gold uniforms this season. USC is 1-0 in the cardinal and 4-0 in the white uniforms.

Tahj Eaddy led USC in scoring tonight with 16 points. He made 4 of 9 three-pointers and led USC with 5 assists. He scored in double figures for the fifth time this season.

Ethan Anderson missed his fourth consecutive game with back spasms. He is listed as day-to-day. He started USC’s first three games, but was limited to only 9 minutes vs. BYU on Dec. 1 with the back spasms.

USC’s next game will be vs. Utah on Jan. 2 at 1:00 p.m. and it will air on the Pac-12 Network.

ANDY ENFIELD QUOTES, 12-31-20:

It was a tough game, we had our chances, our players fought back and we had a chance but we couldn’t make any shots in the last 6 or 7 minutes. Defensively, we played better in the second half. Offensively, we had our chances but we have to step up. Tahj Eaddy really did a great job and played well, but we need other guys to shoot at a higher percentage.

I’ll take some of the blame for Evan’s numbers tonight. I played him too many minutes. He got a little winded. He struggled a bit, but he’s a freshman and he’s learning. To beat a good team, we need better production from everyone on our roster. You can’t shoot 38% from the field.

McKinley Wright is an excellent decision maker. Once we made some adjustments in the second half, we limited some of the offensive explosiveness that he has. He and Tahj were about even statistically. We just need everyone else to step up. That was the difference in the game.

The energy level was fine. They made some tough shots to get their lead and we made some mistakes. We really missed Ethan Anderson in a game like this with his ball handling and defensive toughness. We missed some easy shots. Colorado did a great job of making shots early in the game.

That’s something we need to work on, our bigs have to draw fouls and our guards have to draw the ball.
Our frontline went 11-for-29 from the field and they had 9 turnovers. We have to finish shots. It’s a team game. We’ll learn from this. Our front line has been playing great all season. The surprise to me was the easy shots we were missing and we weren’t finishing, which we normally always do.

TAHJ EADDY QUOTES:

It came down to us executing and making shots. They did a better job of that, especially the last part of the game. We were able to cut it to 3 or 4 and then we’d have a lapse defensively.

It came down to them making shots. We just have to be sharper on defense.

McKinley is a solid player. We tried to make it tough on him. He’s a talented player and is going to make shot, but we have to do a better job containing him.

DREW PETERSON QUOTES:

Colorado came out with energy and got out to a lead. They were knocking down shots and we weren’t. They were playing physical. We sparked a run in the second half. We got looks late but weren’t knocking them down, and that ended up being the game. Tahj played his butt off but the rest of the team has to help him out.

It comes down to a guy like me has to play better. Same for some other guys. We have to make shots and can’t have lapses on defense.

COLORADO HEAD COACH TAD BOYLE:

“Well, it was good, you know obviously a road win against a quality team in this league is hard to come by, so we’ll take the win. We played well for most of the game except for a couple of stretches. There was a stretch in the first half, where we did not handle their zone. We had five turnovers in six possessions, and we can’t have that. The lead got cut to one, then we gain back control of the game. Same thing basically happened in the second half. We’ve got to take better care of the ball in crunch time. Overall, we battled them on the boards. USC is long and tall, and they have good athletes and I thought our guys really battled tonight and showed a lot of grit and toughness.”

On Defense:

“I am happy with our defense. They ran a couple of plays for shooters that we hadn’t seen on the scouting report, which happens in league play, but we have to do a better job of in game and halftime adjustments. We tried, but just didn’t do a very good job tonight. We got a 10-point win on the road against a quality team. We’ll take it and move on. USC was ready for us but this weekend we better be ready for UCLA.”