POSTGAME NOTES
USC vs. Stanford
Galen Center • Los Angeles, Calif.
Wednesday, March 3, 2021
Final: USC 79, Stanford 42

- With the 79-42 win tonight, USC improved to 20-6, 14-5 and Stanford fell to 14-12, 10-10. With UCLA’s 82-74 loss at Oregon tonight, the Trojans vaulted into second in the conference percentage points behind Oregon (13-4).
- USC reached 20 wins for the fifth time in the last six seasons.
- USC snapped its season-worse two-game losing streak.
- The 37-point win over Stanford was USC’s biggest over the Cardinal since also winning by 37 (93-56) in the 1953 season.
- The 42 points allowed to Stanford were the fewest USC had allowed to the Cardinal in a game since also holding them to 42 in a 65-42 win on Jan. 20, 2011. The last time USC held Stanford to fewer points was the 1948 season when it won 46-34, 41-40 and 39-33.
- The last time USC defeated any Pac-12 opponent by 37 points or more was when it defeated Oregon State by 45 (91-46) on Jan. 6, 2007 in Corvallis, Ore.
- The 42 points allowed were the fewest by a Trojan opponent this season and the fewest since also holding CS Fullerton to 42 (84-42 win) on Nov. 10, 2017.
- USC led 36-17 at halftime. USC made 53.3 percent (16-for-30) of its shots before the break, while Stanford was held to 22.2 percent (6-for-27). USC outscored the Cardinal 22-4 on points in the paint before the break.
- The 17 points by Stanford in the first half were the fewest by a Trojan opponent in the first half since USC also held Oregon State to 17 first-half points in a 70-63 win at Corvallis, Ore. on Dec. 28, 2016.
- USC’s defense held Stanford to a 2020-21 opponent low 25.4 percent shooting percentage (15-for-59). The previous season low was 27.5 percent by BYU on Dec. 1. The last time USC held an opponent to a lower field goal percentage was when it held CS Fullerton to 23.3 percent (14-for-60) on Nov. 10, 2017.
- Tahj Eaddy scored a team high 16 points and made 4 of 6 three-pointers tonight. In his last two games at the Galen Center (included Feb. 22 vs. Oregon), he has scored 40 points and made 10 of 17 three-point shots.
- Drew Peterson returned to the starting lineup after coming off the bench the last three games and scored 15 points, had 9 rebounds and six assists.
- Joshua Morgan played in his fifth game tonight and scored his first points by a Trojan with a dunk with 5:20 remaining.
- Max Agbonkpolo scored a season-best 8 points and made two three points to tie his season high also done on Dec. 31 vs. Colorado.
- USC started each of its last two home games with a 17-3 lead (also vs. Oregon on Feb. 22).
- Isaiah White sat out the second half with back spasms.
- USC’s next game will be at UCLA on March 6 at 1 p.m. The game will air on CBS. It will be the final regular season game for the Trojans.

ANDY ENFIELD QUOTES – 3-3-21
This was a great team win. We played very well on both sides of the ball. Our defense was outstanding. Our offense after a few costly turnovers early, we really shared the ball well tonight which we didn’t do on the roadtrip. It’s nice to play better basketball here at home.

Stanford is hard to prepare for because of their motion game plan. We had to be locked in. We were talking on defense and made the right switches. And we rebounded the ball. We challenged most shots the entire game.

Reese did a really good job in practice this week and did a nice job tonight.

We were really tired from the road trip, mentally and physically. We had 4 games in a week. We gave the guys a day off. We were very focused in practice. Our players responded and were ready to go.
It was very important for us to get off to a good start tonight defensively and keep that momentum throughout the game. Tonight meant something to our players.

We’re right there. We have to worry about our UCLA game, we can’t control anything else. UCLA is an exceptional team, they are very good defensively and very hard to beat at UCLA.

Drew has played very well lately. He’s a very good player. He’s out of his slump and playing at a high level. He showed his versatility tonight.

When Tahj shot the ball tonight, it went in. In the last few games, it didn’t go in. He played with confidence and showed his leadership. He’s a terrific shooter. It was very important for him to play like that All-Conference guard he has been all season.

UCLA is an exceptional defensive team, they play very hard. Offensively, they’ve been dangerous all season. They really share the ball and can score at all positions. It’s going to be a very challenging game for us to go into Pauley Pavilion and win that game.

Our players were very focused the last 2 days. They knew they had to play well and they wanted to play well. They made really good decisions after the first 5 minutes. They shared the ball and made the right pass. It was really fun to watch.

We had a lot more energy tonight. It was nice to see. For this group to win 20 games, we’re so impressed. To come together with a brand new team and have 20 wins is a credit to how our players have come together and played together.

CHEVEZ GOODWIN QUOTES:
It was very important. March is here. It’s very important to come in with some positive energy. This is the time of year to make or break. We had to get back on track and get some positive energy.

This win helps our confidence. Any win is a good win. We’re looking forward to Saturday and playing the Bruins and finishing our season with a win. It was a warmup for what’s coming on Saturday.

No one panicked. Everyone loses. Coming out of that week and losing 2 in a row was rough, but we bounced back quickly. We went back to the fundamentals and tonight proved that we got back to who we are. We’re on the right track now.

MAX AGBONKPOLO QUOTES:
My role off the bench is to come in and play defense and guard to best player and hit the open 3. Early in the season, I wasn’t shooting so well. Now I’ve gotten a feel and am hitting my shots. I feel good now. We’re good. It’s nice to surprise people.

STANFORD HEAD COACH JEROD HAASE QUOTES:
"I think it’s pretty simple. We were manhandled, early and often. Defensively, we couldn’t get stops, they were 14 of 17 in the first half and we were just trying to keep them out of the paint and their effectiveness down in the first half, so we failed in a big way there. On the offensive end, not making shots, especially a couple early that we could’ve made. I think that shook our confidence, but the reality is five of our first eight tonight were freshman, and it showed in terms of the physicality and ability to play in a man’s game out there."

"We need to get bigger, faster, stronger as soon as we can, especially leading up to this next week. This is a game that was very humbling, and we were a shell of ourselves tonight. What I have to do as head coach is figure out a way to get better and move forward."

"The tournament is a new opportunity, an opportunity for us to play well. Right now, I’m focused on finding a way to get better between now and then. If we can do that, then yes, it is a clean slate and an
opportunity to make something special happen. The reality is, if we don’t get better, we won’t be able to take advantage of that opportunity, so the goal is going to be to work and improve."