

ARIZONA 69, STANFORD 60

## CATS AGAIN FLATTEN CARDINAL



PHOTOS BY BEN MARGOT / THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Arizona's Zeke Nnaji falls onto Stanford's James Keefe during the second half. Nnaji had 21 points and 11 rebounds as UA continued its long mastery of the Cardinal.

## UA beats Stanford for 20th straight time

By Bruce Pascoe

ARIZONA DAILY STAR

STANFORD, Calif. — Their 3-point shot was still largely broken, their point guard was in foul trouble, and they couldn't keep guys from scoring in the paint.

But the Arizona Wildcats were playing at Stanford, so there was nothing really to worry about.

The Wildcats beat the Cardinal 69-60 at Maples Pavilion on Saturday, thanks in part to 21 points and 11 rebounds from freshman center Zeke Nnaji, collecting their 20th straight win over Stanford.

Their streak dates back to 2008-09 and remains the Pac-12's longest between conference teams.

Josh Green added 14 points and four rebounds for the Wildcats, while Dylan Smith had 10 points, hitting 2 of 7 3-pointers.

They helped Arizona survive despite getting just five points and two assists from point guard Nico Mannion, who played just 24 minutes because of foul trouble, and the fact that Arizona shot just 37% overall, hitting only 3 of 21 3-pointers.

"It's really precisely what we've talked about a lot this year," UA coach Sean Miller said. "We have to be able to win different ways. We have to be able to overcome a poor shooting night. Foul trouble, injuries, illness. I think the definition of a really good season has a lot of those moments in it but yet you still find a way and tonight was our defense and rebounding that allowed us to win a tough game."

Free throws helped, too. UA hit 26 of 31 from the line, taking six more trips than Stanford did and getting seven more points from free throws. Nnaji led the way there, hitting 9 of 12.

Nnaji's 11 rebounds also led a spirited UA effort on the glass. The Wildcats outrebounded Stanford 39-25 overall, while scoring 10 second-chance points off 13 offensive rebounds.

In the backcourt, Jemarl Baker helped overcome Mannion's foul trouble.

Mannion picked up his fourth foul with 11:42 left in the half and sat out for the next seven minutes, but made a layup with 1:30 left to give UA a 67-55 lead, with the 1,000 or so UA fans chanting wildly in the half-full Maples Pavilion, Stanford's 7,233-seat arena.

As a team, UA held Stanford to 41.9% shooting and outrebounded the Cardinal 36-24.



Josh Green dunks for two of his 14 points in the Wildcats' 69-60 win at Stanford on Saturday night. UA held Cal and the Cardinal to a combined 132 points in the road sweep. UA is now 18-7 overall.

### PAC-12 STANDINGS

Team	Conf.	Overall
Colorado	9-4	20-6
Oregon	8-4	19-6
<b>Arizona</b>	<b>8-4</b>	<b>18-7</b>
Arizona State	7-4	16-8
USC	8-5	19-7
UCLA	8-5	15-11
Stanford	5-7	16-9
Oregon State	5-8	15-10
Utah	5-7	14-10
Washington State	5-8	14-12
California	4-7	10-14
Washington	2-11	12-14

"They have a lot of tricky stuff that they run but we just did a good job defending them," said Baker, who had four points and one assist while playing 27 minutes in part because of Mannion's foul trouble. "We had a good week of practice. We've been focused and locked in."

Bryce Wills had 25 points and five rebounds to lead Stanford while Oscar da Silva had 13 points and four rebounds in his first game back after suffering a head injury on Feb. 8 at Colorado.

The win moved Arizona to 18-7 overall and 8-4 in the Pac-12, where the Wildcats remain in a loss-column tie for first place. Stanford dropped to 16-9 and 5-7, having lost seven of its past eight games.

"Everything is still on the table, but the reality is we still need something to flip," Stanford coach Jerod Haase said. "Don't be surprised if things flip at some point." Arizona was up by 10 at half-



Arizona's Nico Mannion, right, passes the ball away from Stanford's Oscar da Silva during the second half. The Wildcats moved within a half-game of first-place in the Pac-12 with the Bay Area sweep.

### UP NEXT

- **Who:** Oregon State (15-10, 5-8) at Arizona (18-7, 8-4)
- **When:** 6 p.m. Thursday
- **TV:** Pac-12 Arizona
- **Radio:** 1290-AM, 107.5-FM

time but struggled to contain Wills inside.

The Cardinal's athletic forward took advantage of the Wildcats' interior defense to score 15 points over the first 12 minutes after half-time, cutting UA's lead to just 46-42 with 10:28 remaining when he drove in for a layup.

But Green stole a pass from da Silva and raced in for a dunk that made it 56-48 while Smith hit a 3



Arizona's Jemarl Baker Jr., right, drives the ball past Stanford's Spencer Jones during the second half. UA improved to 8-4 in Pac-12 play.

See WILDCATS, AB2

# ARIZONA WILDCATS

ARIZONA DAILY STAR | SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2020 | PAGE AB2

Editor: Ryan Finley | 520-573-4312 | sportsed@tucson.com

## SEEN AND HEARD AT MAPLES PAVILION

### Birthdays boy

The starting point guard for last season's Wildcats, Justin Coleman may be more behind the scenes this season as a graduate assistant. But he hasn't been forgotten.

During the Wildcats' team dinner Friday night at a nearby Palo Alto steakhouse, as shared via video on Instagram, waiters banged utensils and teammates sang while Coleman received a special sundae with a candle in it.

Coleman, who hasn't been made available for comment this season, posted a birthday wish of sorts to himself on Twitter earlier Friday.

"Dang I'm getting old lol #ValentineBaby" Coleman tweeted. He turned 24.

### Da Silva returns

When Stanford forward Oscar da Silva collided with Colorado's Evan Battey on Feb. 8 in Boulder, both his short- and long-term health immediately appeared uncertain.

Battey's elbow had inadvertently pushed da Silva's head toward the floor as they fell together; blood oozed from da Silva's head and, according to Colorado's McKinley Wright, his eyes rolled back.

"I just got down on my knee and said a prayer," said Wright, who also led a group prayer between Stanford and Colorado players before that game resumed.

Maybe all that support helped. Da Silva received stitches in his forehead and had to undergo testing all week with Stanford's sports medicine department. But he was cleared to play Saturday, exactly a week after the collision, the bare minimum of time generally needed to play after entering a concussion protocol (though Stanford never labeled it a concussion).

Da Silva didn't practice fully all week, and his timing may have been off — but not his aggressiveness. Wearing a headband around where his stitches were, da Silva scored inside just 70 seconds into the game and was called for a charge while driving against Josh Green a minute later.

Then, just four minutes into the game, he was called for a defensive foul against Stone Gettings, and took a seat on the bench, playing just seven minutes in the first half.

### Happy Father's day

In between attending Arizona's games at Cal on Thursday and at Stanford on Saturday, Arizona AD Dave Heeke spent Valentine's Day in Las Vegas.

But it wasn't what you might think. First, Heeke was working remotely as he usually does. Second, he was there to take his son's baseball game: Zach Heeke is an infielder for Central Michigan, which recorded a 12-9 win over UNLV on Friday in the season opener for both teams. "Just trying to be Dad for once," Dave Heeke said.

### UA offers (another) West Coast Elite player

During the Wildcats' trip to the Bay Area, word surfaced that they also offered a scholarship to a Southern Californian.

Not surprisingly, their latest target plays for the West Coast Elite club. WCE director Ryan Silver tweeted Friday that four-star guard K.J. Simpson of Chaminade Prep in the San Fernando Valley was offered a scholarship from the Wildcats.

Already, half of UA's active playing roster is West Coast Elite alums: Nico Mannion, Josh Green, Stone Gettings, Ira Lee and Jemarl Baker all played for the same California-based club ahead of Simpson.

Ranked No. 112 overall in the class of 2021 by 247 Sports and 115th in composite rankings, Simpson is now a junior at Chaminade College Prep High School in West Hills, California.

According to 247, Simpson also has offers from ASU, Georgia Tech, LMU and Pacific so far.

### Stoudamire's Tigers rising

Across the Bay on Saturday, Pacific lost 71-63 at Saint Mary's, but Damon Stoudamire's resurgent Tigers have already won 20 games for the first time in a decade — including a 107-99 quadruple-overtime win over the Gaels at Pacific on Jan. 4.

The former UA star and assistant coach took over the Pacific program in 2016-17 amid an NCAA investigation that resulted in 2017 sanctions for the actions of a previous staff.

UOP went 11-22 in Stoudamire's first season, 14-18 in each of the past two and is now 20-9.

"No doubt he's having a great season," UA coach Sean Miller said, noting that former UA graduate manager Jaydee Luster is also on Stoudamire's staff. "We're really happy for him. They already have 20 wins and he's built the program (despite that) when he first went there they had to get through a couple things."

Stoudamire spent the 2013-14 and 2014-15 seasons as an assistant at Arizona. One of his assistants, Jaydee Luster, was on the UA staff as a graduate assistant in 2012-13 and 2013-14 after being named the 2012 Mountain West defensive player of the year.

### Mathurin under NBA eyes

Arizona commit Benedict Mathurin is being coached by former UA forward Lauri Markkanen and others during the Basketball Without Borders Global Camp that is being held this weekend in Chicago in conjunction with the NBA All-Star Game.

A total of 64 boys and girls players from 34 countries were invited to the camp, which is being held at the Quest Multisport complex that also hosts the NBA Combine every May.

A 6-foot-6-inch wing from Montreal with Haitian roots who committed to UA on Jan. 15, Mathurin has been playing for the NBA Global Academy. He has played for the NBA Academy Latin America club and the NBA Global Academy Australia.

### Quotable

"THANK YOU FOR COMING" — Signs adjacent to the Maples Pavilion box office and inside the arena concourse. Stanford was averaging just 3,586 fans entering Saturday's game, when the 7,233-seat arena was more than half full thanks — in part to UA fans.

— Bruce Pascoe



PHOTOS BY BEN MARGOT / THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Arizona's Stone Gettings, right, looks to pass the ball away from Stanford's Jaiden Delaire during the second half.

## WILDCATS

Continued from Page AB1

from the right wing to give UA a 59-50 lead with 5:30 left.

In the first half, Nnaji had 14 points and eight rebounds in the first half alone to lead Arizona to a 30-23 halftime lead.

The Wildcats shot just 27.3% in the first 20 minutes, making just 1 of 13 3-pointers, but made all 11 free throws they took while holding Stanford to 31.8% shooting and crushing the Cardinal on the glass, 15-13.

Leading 7-2 early after getting a 3-pointer from Green, the Wildcats missed their next 12 3-point attempts while Stanford initially kept it close by going inside often.

Through the first 16

minutes of the half, Stanford scored 10 points in the paint but also couldn't hit from outside, hitting just 1 of 8 from 3-point range in the half.

Arizona took a 22-15 lead after a stretch in which Max Hazzard was fouled beyond the 3-point line and hit all three ensuing free throws, while Mannion and Nnaji also scored.

Stanford pulled within 24-20 but missed nine straight field goals while UA took a 30-20 lead into the final two minutes of the half after Nnaji hit both ends of a one-and-one with 2:08 left.

Stanford's da Silva was cleared to play Saturday after suffering a head injury last Saturday.

He collected six points and a rebound in the first half, even though he had not practiced fully all week.



Arizona's Stone Gettings goes up for a shot in the Wildcats' win. He finished with four points in 23 minutes.

ARIZONA 69, STANFORD 60											
	FG	FT	Reb	A	PF	PTS					
Arizona	Min	M-A	M-A	O-T	A	PF	PTS				
Gettings	23	2-4	0-1	0-2	0	3	4				
Nnaji	28	6-10	9-12	4-11	0	4	21				
Green	27	3-6	8-8	0-6	3	4	15				
Mannion	27	2-10	3-3	0-1	2	4	7				
Smith	34	3-10	3-4	2-6	1	2	11				
Baker	28	2-6	0-0	2-3	1	3	4				
Hazzard	11	0-4	3-3	1-2	1	1	3				
Lee	11	1-3	0-0	0-2	0	2	2				
Koloko	10	1-1	0-0	0-2	0	2	2				
<b>Totals</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>20-54</b>	<b>26-31</b>	<b>9-35</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>69</b>				
Percentages: FG .370, FT .760, 3-Point Goals: 3-21, 143 (Smith 2-8, Green 1-3, Baker 0-1, Nnaji 0-1, Gettings 0-2, Hazzard 0-2, Mannion 0-4).											
Team Rebounds: 7 Team Turnovers: 1 Blocked Shots: 3 (Gettings, Green, Koloko), Turnovers: 15 (Mannion 3, Baker 2, Gettings 2, Green 2, Lee 2, Nnaji 2, Smith 2), Steals: 9 (Koloko 3, Green 2, Mannion 2, Nnaji 2), Technical Fouls: None.											
Stanford	Min	M-A	M-A	O-T	A	PF	PTS				
S.Jones	30	1-6	0-0	0-3	1	4	3				
da Silva	20	3-7	9-10	0-5	1	4	15				
Delaire	35	1-6	0-0	0-4	2	1	2				
Terry	26	1-5	0-0	0-0	1	1	3				
Wills	37	10-13	5-7	0-5	1	2	25				
White	21	1-4	0-0	1-3	1	2	3				
Delaire	17	2-4	3-4	0-1	0	2	7				
Keefe	8	0-0	2-4	0-1	1	4	2				
Kisunas	7	0-1	0-0	1-1	1	0	0				
<b>Totals</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>19-46</b>	<b>19-25</b>	<b>2-23</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>60</b>				
Percentages: FG .413, FT .760, 3-Point Goals: 3-17 (Terry 1-2, White 1-4, S.Jones 1-6, Davis 0-1, Wills 0-1, da Silva 0-1, Delaire 0-2), Team Rebounds: 2 Team Turnovers: 1 Blocked Shots: 4 (S.Jones 2, Keefe, da Silva), Turnovers: 13 (da Silva 4, Delaire 2, S.Jones 2, Terry 2, Wills 2, Davis), Steals: 4 (White 2, Keefe, S.Jones), Technical Fouls: None.											
Arizona							<b>30</b>	<b>39-69</b>			
Stanford							<b>23</b>	<b>37-60</b>			
A: 4,839, Officials: Larry Spaulding, Mike Reed, John Higgins											

## PAC-12 ROUNDUP

# Buffaloes move back into first place

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CORVALLIS, Ore. — Colorado's Tyler Bey said he "lost sleep" in anticipation of Saturday's matchup at Oregon State.

The Buffaloes' 6-foot-8 junior forward was coming off a season-low four points in Thursday's 68-60 loss at No. 17 Oregon and was "super fired up" to make amends for that performance.

Bey returned to form with 21 points and 15 rebounds to lead No. 16 Colorado (20-6, 9-4 Pac-12) to a 69-47 rout of Oregon State.

"I wanted to get back on the court and compete, and get back to what I do," said Bey, who came into the game averaging 13.2 points and 9.0 rebounds.

The Buffaloes moved into sole possession of first place in the Pac-12 Conference. Oregon, which started the day tied for the league lead, hosts Utah on Sunday.

McKinley Wright joined Bey in double figures for Colorado with 13 points, 10 rebounds and six assists.

Ethan Thompson led the Beavers (15-10, 5-8) with 17 points.

Tres Tinkle added 10 points and a season-high 13 rebounds, and set a school record with 90 consecutive double-figure scoring games.

Colorado led by 12 points in the second half of the teams' first meeting on Jan. 5 in Boulder, but the Beavers rallied for a 76-68 win.

There was no second-half comeback for Oregon State in the rematch. Colorado squandered a nine-point halftime lead in Thursday's loss at Oregon.

"We just had to stay solid and come out and keep being solid on defense," sophomore guard Eli Parquet said.

Thompson converted a three-point play on a drive and



AMANDA LOMAN / THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Colorado's Eli Parquet (24) fights for possession of a rebound with Oregon State's Jarod Lucas, right, and Ethan Thompson.

dunk to cut the lead to 41-32 with 14:48 left. The Beavers didn't get any closer than nine points the rest of the game.

Parquet's fast-break dunk gave the Buffaloes a 53-34 advantage with 9:23 remaining and capped a 12-2 run.

The lead grew to as many as 24 points.

"We started slow," Tinkle said. "We were getting open looks, missing shots and over 40 minutes that wears on you."

The Beavers, who shot 33.3 percent for the game, were 1 of 17 from 3-point range. The Buffaloes were 9 of 20 from long distance. Colorado also had a 45-35 advantage on the boards.

"Take away 3's and play with energy. That's what we did today," Bey said. "We definitely redeemed ourselves from last game and we took care of business."

The Buffaloes scored the last five points of the first half and led 31-22 at the break, helped by Bey's 10 points.

Oregon State struggled from the field in the first half against Colorado's man-to-man de-

fense, connecting on just 33.3% of its shots, including 1 of 10 on 3-pointers.

Colorado has reached 20 wins for the second season in a row, and seventh time under coach Tad Boyle.

"When you get there you know you've had a decent year," said Boyle, who is in his 10th year. "But we're not satisfied with decent. We want great."

### UCLA 67, WASHINGTON 57

LOS ANGELES — Chris Smith scored 20 points and Cody Riley added 15 points and seven rebounds as UCLA rallied from a 12-point second-half deficit for a 67-57 win over Washington on Saturday night.

It was UCLA's second consecutive comeback victory. The Bruins rallied from a 50-38 deficit to beat Washington State 86-83 in overtime on Thursday.

UCLA went on a 9-0 run to take a 58-51 lead. Tyger Campbell's steal led to a Smith 3-pointer, that gave the Bruins their first lead of the second half at 53-51 with 6:11 left.

Smith and David Singleton each had 3-pointers in that run.

UCLA (15-11, 8-5 Pac-12) has won three straight games and seven of its last nine after a 1-3 start in conference play.

Isaiah Stewart and Jaden McDaniels each had 15 points for Washington (12-14, 2-11), which has lost eight consecutive games. Stewart added 10 rebounds and two blocks.

The Huskies closed the first half with a 9-2 run to take a 34-27 halftime lead before Marcus Tsohonis hit a 3-pointer and Stewart threw down a dunk to make it a 12-point lead about 90 seconds after the break.

UCLA scored 11 of the next 13 points to cut its deficit to 41-38. Riley made a 3-pointer, a tough basket inside and two free throws during that stretch.

### USC 70, WASHINGTON ST. 51

LOS ANGELES — Daniel Utomi scored a season-high 23 points and the Southern California defense did the rest in a 70-51 victory Saturday night over Washington State.

Ethan Anderson scored 12 points while Isaiah Mobley had nine points and 11 rebounds as the Trojans (19-7, 8-5 Pac-12) earned a home sweep of the Washington schools after a victory over Washington on Thursday.

CJ Elleby scored 22 points with 13 rebounds for the Cougars (14-12, 5-8), who lost for the third time in their past four games while losing both games in the Los Angeles area after they fell to UCLA in overtime on Thursday.

It was Elleby's 10th career double-double.

Utomi reached the 20-point mark for the second time this season, with both coming in the past four games. It was the lowest scoring game for a USC opponent in Pac-12 play this season.