

**MUSIC CITY BOWL  
PURDUE VS AUBURN**

NASHVILLE, Tenn. -- Jarrett Stidham threw for 373 yards and five touchdowns in his final college game, and Auburn routed Purdue 63-14 in the Franklin American Mortgage Music City Bowl on Friday.

Auburn raced out to a 56-7 halftime lead, scoring TDs on its first eight possessions -- spanning only 11 minutes -- to set a record for points in any half of any bowl game, according to ESPN Stats & Information.

The Tigers also tied Music City Bowl records for most points and TDs -- set by West Virginia in 2000 -- with 5:36 left in the first half.

The 56 points by halftime were the most scored in any half in program history.

Auburn (8-5) rolled in the finale of a season in which it opened with a top-10 ranking, stumbled a bit in the middle and concluded with a record-setting performance. It was the Tigers' first post-season victory since beating Memphis in the 2015 Birmingham Bowl.

Auburn scored the most points by a Southeastern Conference team in a bowl, topping Alabama's 61-6 win over Syracuse in the Orange Bowl on Jan. 1, 1953. The Tigers had a chance to match the most points ever scored in a bowl (70), most recently reached by Army in the Armed Forces Bowl last week, but they took a knee at the Purdue 1-yard line with 61 seconds left.

"We've had some ups and downs this year," Auburn coach Gus Malzahn said, crediting his seniors for keeping the Tigers together. "This was a big win for us."

Stidham, a junior who already has declared his intention to leave school early for the NFL draft, got the Tigers off to a fast start, and they just poured it on from there.

"We just tried to make those explosive plays that we've needed all year," Stidham said.

Purdue (6-7) dropped three of its last four games in its second season under coach Jeff Brohm.

"That one snowballed faster than most," Brohm said. "I've been part of games that were a bad outcome, but that one happened fast. Credit to them, they made their breaks. Every little thing that went wrong seemed like it could. We got behind the eight-ball early."

Auburn started the game with the ball and needed only 63 seconds to set the tone, with Stidham finding JaTarvious Whitlow for a 66-yard TD pass. Whitlow also added a pair of short TD runs as Auburn led 28-7 at the end of the first quarter.

"I mean, it was a thing of beauty to watch from the sideline to watch the guys make plays," Malzahn said. "When we make explosive plays and we play fast, we're a pretty good offense, and today it all came together. I really believe that will carry over to next season."

The Tigers outgained Purdue 586-263 in total offense and had only one three-and-out late in the third quarter. Purdue was intercepted twice and turned it over on downs twice. Auburn punted once all game.

Darius Slayton set a bowl record with three TD catches of 74, 52 and 34 yards. Javaris Davis had a sack and an interception in the first quarter for Auburn, and Big Kat Bryant returned an interception 20 yards for a TD and a 45-7 lead with 12:29 left in the first half.

**THE TAKEAWAY**

Purdue: With defensive tackle Lorenzo Neal out after tearing an ACL in the regular-season finale against Indiana, the Boilermakers had few answers for anything Auburn tried on offense.

Auburn: It sure looks as if coach Malzahn made the right decision when he took back the playcalling duties he handled his first three seasons at Auburn.

<b>Final</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>T</b>
PUR	7	0	7	0	14
AUB	28	28	7	0	63

**Scoring Summary -----**

	PUR	AUB
<b>FIRST QUARTER</b>		
AUB TD 13:57		
JaTarvious Whitlow 66 Yd pass from Jarrett Stidham (Anders Carlson Kick)		
3 plays, 75 yards, 1:03	0	7
AUB TD 8:18		
JaTarvious Whitlow 2 Yd Run (Anders Carlson Kick)		
9 plays, 87 yards, 2:10	0	14
AUB TD 6:59		
JaTarvious Whitlow 1 Yd Run (Anders Carlson Kick)		
3 plays, 18 yards, 0:28	0	21
PUR TD 3:25		
Rondale Moore 7 Yd Run (Spencer Evans Kick)		
12 plays, 78 yards, 3:34	7	21
AUB TD 2:48		
Darius Slayton 74 Yd pass from Jarrett Stidham (Anders Carlson Kick)		
2 plays, 75 yards, 0:37	7	28
<b>SECOND QUARTER</b>		
AUB TD 12:54		
Darius Slayton 52 Yd pass from Jarrett Stidham (Anders Carlson Kick)		
2 plays, 44 yards, 0:41	7	35
AUB TD 12:29		
Big Kat Bryant 20 Yd Interception Return (Anders Carlson Kick)		
2 plays, 4 yards, 0:25	7	42
AUB TD 5:36		
Anthony Schwartz 6 Yd Run (Anders Carlson Kick)		
12 plays, 65 yards, 4:51	7	49
AUB TD 2:01		
Darius Slayton 34 Yd pass from Jarrett Stidham (Anders Carlson Kick)		
4 plays, 49 yards, 1:03	7	56
<b>THIRD QUARTER</b>		
AUB TD 7:16		
Ryan Davis 5 Yd pass from Jarrett Stidham (Anders Carlson Kick)		
12 plays, 78 yards, 6:28	7	63
AUB TD 5:29		
David Blough 22 Yd Run (Spencer Evans Kick)		
6 plays, 65 yards, 1:47	14	63

Team Stats	PUR	AUB
First Downs	17	24
Total Yards	263	586
Total Plays	65	75
Avg Gain Per Play	4.0	7.8
Net Yards Rushing	79	208
Rushes	27	52
Yards Per Rush	2.9	4.0
Net Yards Passing	184	378
Comp-Att	22-38	16-23
Yards Per Pass	4.8	16.4
Times Sacked	3	0
Yds Lost To Sacks	-24	0
Interceptions	2	0
Punts	6	1
Punt Average	38.2	49.0
Penalties	6	3
Penalty Yards	60	35
Fumbles	0	0
Fumbles Lost	0	0
Possession	25:49	34:11

**Individual Stats**

**RUSHING**

PUR	Rush	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
8 Markell Jones	10	35	3.5	9	0
11 David Blough	7	19	2.7	22	1
1 D.J. Knox	7	15	2.1	13	0
4 Rondale Moore	3	10	3.3	7	1
AUB	Rush	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
9 Kam Martin	11	58	5.3	15	0
14 Malik Willis	3	52	17.3	30	0
25 Shaun Shivers	11	33	3.0	13	0
13 Joey Gatewood	3	28	9.3	20	0
5 Anthony Schwartz	4	12	3.0	11	1
28 JaTarvious Whitlow	7	10	1.4	4	2
37 C.J. Tolbert	6	9	1.5	4	0
8 Jarrett Stidham	1	6	6.0	6	0
32 Malik Miller	2	4	2.0	2	0
19 Matthew Hill	1	-1	-1.0	0	0

**PASSING**

PUR	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
11 David Blough	22	37	184	5.0	0	2	90.4
4 Rondale Moore	0	1	0	0.0	0	0	0.0
AUB	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
8 Jarrett Stidham	15	21	373	17.8	5	0	299.2
14 Malik Willis	1	1	5	5.0	0	0	142.0
13 Joey Gatewood	0	1	0	0.0	0	0	0.0

**RECEIVING**

PUR	Rec	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
4 Rondale Moore	11	94	8.5	27	0
7 Isaac Zico	3	31	10.3	16	0
8 Markell Jones	3	23	7.7	12	0
89 Brycen Hopkins	2	19	9.5	14	0
88 Cole Herdman	3	17	5.7	7	0
AUB	Rec	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
81 Darius Slayton	3	160	53.3	74	3
28 JaTarvious Whitlow	1	66	66.0	66	1
18 Seth Williams	2	55	27.5	40	0
5 Anthony Schwartz	3	50	16.7	33	0
23 Ryan Davis	5	23	4.6	7	1
80 Sal Cannella	1	16	16.0	16	0
89 Griffin King	1	8	8.0	8	0