

WEEK TEN
UTAH STATE AT HAWAII

Thompson, Bright lead No. 18 Utah State past Hawaii 56-17

HONOLULU -- Utah State extended its winning streak Saturday, while Hawaii tried to keep its season from slipping away.

Darwin Thompson and Gerold Bright each ran for three touchdowns as No. 18 Utah State won its eighth straight game, 56-17 over Hawaii on Saturday night.

The Aggies (8-1, 5-0 Mountain West) amassed 601 yards of total offense, including 426 rushing, and had a pair of 28-point quarters to pull away from the Rainbow Warriors (6-5, 3-3).

"We've started well lately," Utah State coach Matt Wells said. "I thought we were prepared right and our guys had the right emotion, the right energy and we came out and executed right out of the gate."

Thompson rushed 13 times for a career-best 141 yards and scored on a pair of 1-yard runs, as well as a 26-yard sprint. Bright carried a career-high 16 times for 121 yards and found the end zone on runs of 18, 47 and 9 yards.

"I just think our guys up front, our O-line and our tight ends did a nice job and obviously any time you have long runs like we did there's some good blocking down the field and I saw a few by the receivers, but our running backs, both Gerold Bright and Darwin Thompson both ran behind their pads, they got their legs up, they're tough to bring down and they're a load," Wells said.

Jordan Love threw a 16-yard touchdown pass to Ron'quavion Tarver and ran in a 1-yard score on the final play of the first quarter.

Cole McDonald threw a pair of touchdown passes for Hawaii, which finished with 390 yards of total offense and a season-low in points scored.

"Against a team like this, we needed to start fast," Rainbow Warriors coach Nick Rolovich said. "We all gotta do our part and I don't think any facet of this team did its part to beat a good football team."

The Aggies rushed for 400 or more yards for the first time since the 2016 season, when they recorded 428 rushing yards in a win over Weber State.

Utah State built a 28-3 halftime lead.

It has now matched its 8-1 record to start the 1963 season. Utah State was playing its first game as a nationally ranked team since 2012, when it went 11-2 to set a school record for wins and ended the season ranked 16th.

"I think we're in a good spot. I mean, we're going to have to take each week one at a time -- and I understand that's coaches' talk -- but to come over here and win in Hawaii against a good Hawaii team, it's a hard win," Wells said.

The Aggies have won their last five meetings against Hawaii and lead the all-time series 10-6, including a 5-4 record in Honolulu.

THE TAKEAWAY

Utah State: Despite the lopsided score, the Aggies were dealt a blow when Love, a sophomore quarterback, sustained an undisclosed injury in the second quarter. Love kept the ball on a run play and was upended at the Hawaii 6-yard line after a short gain. Although he landed firmly on his back, Love finished the series, but was replaced by freshman Henry Colombi on Utah State's next series. Love, who has thrown for 2,185 yards and 19 touchdowns on the season, did not return to the game. "He'll be fine. I think he'll be good next week," Wells said of Love.

Hawaii: Since a 6-1 start to the season, the Rainbow Warriors have lost their last four games. It was their 10th consecutive loss against a nationally ranked opponent. They are now 10-43 all-time against ranked opponents, including 9-26 at home.

Hawaii averaged 42 points and 495.8 yards per contest through its first seven games this season, but is managing just 20.5 points and 361.5 yards of total offense during its current losing streak.

"We're not playing like a very good football team right now," Rolovich said. "I don't think any side of the ball should feel good about themselves, I don't think any coach should feel good about themselves, starting with myself. Utah State is a very good football team, but I just wish we had put up a little bit of a better fight."

POLL IMPLICATIONS

With losses by six teams ranked above them -- including No. 14 Penn State, No. 15 Texas, No. 16 Utah and No. 17 Houston -- the Aggies will likely climb a few spots in the next poll.

PILING IT ON

Utah State entered the game ranked third nationally in scoring offense, averaging 49.4 points per game. Saturday was the seventh time it eclipsed the 40-point mark this season, the fifth time it went over 50 points in a game and the fourth time it scored 60 or more points.

DISQUALIFIED

Aside from Love's injury, about the only other thing that didn't go the Aggies' way was Deante Fortenberry's ejection about three minutes into the game. Fortenberry, a senior cornerback, was penalized for targeting on a Hawaii pass play and was disqualified for the rest of the contest.

Final	1	2	3	4	T
USU	28	0	28	0	56
HAW	3	0	14	0	17

Scoring Summary -----

	USU	HAW
FIRST QUARTER		
USU TD 11:54 Ron'quavion Tarver 16 Yd pass from Jordan Love (Dominik Eberle Kick)	7	0
USU TD 9:27 Darwin Thompson 1 Yd Run (Dominik Eberle Kick)	14	0
4 plays, 62 yards, 0:51		
USU TD 4:57 Gerold Bright 18 Yd Run (Dominik Eberle Kick)	21	0
9 plays, 68 yards, 2:35		
HAW FG 3:19 Ryan Meskell 41 Yd Field Goal		3
5 plays, 53 yards, 1:33	21	
USU TD 0:00 Jordan Love 1 Yd Run (Dominik Eberle Kick)	28	3
7 plays, 34 yards, 0:00		
third Quarter		
USU TD 11:31 Darwin Thompson 26 Yd Run (Dominik Eberle Kick)	35	3
9 plays, 80 yards, 3:29		
HAW TD 9:17 John Ursua 54 Yd pass from Cole McDonald (Cole McDonald Pass to JoJo Ward for Two-Point Conversion)		11
7 plays, 75 yards, 2:14	35	
USU TD 7:19 Darwin Thompson 1 Yd Run (Dominik Eberle Kick)	42	11
7 plays, 47 yards, 1:55		
USU TD 4:51 Gerold Bright 47 Yd Run (Dominik Eberle Kick)	49	11
4 plays, 59 yards, 1:23		
USU TD 3:16 Gerold Bright 9 Yd Run (Dominik Eberle Kick)	56	11
2 plays, 50 yards, 0:25		
HAW TD 0:43 Devan Stubblefield 38 Yd pass from Cole McDonald (Two-Point Pass Conversion Failed)		17
7 plays, 80 yards, 2:24	56	

Team Stats

	USU	HAW
First Downs	29	18
Total Yards	601	390
Total Plays	78	68
Avg Gain Per Play	7.7	5.7
Net Yards Rushing	426	43
Rushes	54	20
Yards Per Rush	7.9	2.2
Net Yards Passing	175	347
Comp-Att	19-24	19-48
Yards Per Pass	7.3	7.2
Times Sacked	0	3
Yds Lost To Sacks	0	-9
Interceptions	0	2
Punts	2	4
Punt Average	31.5	38.5
Penalties	12	10
Penalty Yards	105	75
Fumbles	3	0
Fumbles Lost	1	0
Possession	33:33	26:27

Individual Stats

RUSHING

USU	Rush	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
5 Darwin Thompson	13	141	10.8	43	3
8 Gerold Bright	16	121	7.6	47	3
11 Aaren Vaughns	2	53	26.5	41	0
22 Eltoro Allen	7	39	5.6	14	0
3 Henry Colombi	3	34	11.3	25	0
34 Justen Hervey	8	26	3.3	9	0
10 Jordan Love	4	13	3.3	9	1
HAW	Rush	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
13 Cole McDonald	9	17	1.9	8	0
21 Fred Holly III	7	15	2.1	6	0
7 Dayton Furuta	4	11	2.8	5	0

PASSING

USU	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
10 Jordan Love	10	13	127	9.8	1	0	184.4
3 Henry Colombi	9	11	48	4.4	0	0	118.5
HAW	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
13 Cole McDonald	18	45	331	7.4	2	2	107.6
18 Jeremy Moussa	1	3	16	5.3	0	0	78.1

RECEIVING

USU	Rec	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
1 Ron'quavion Tarver	5	40	8.0	22	1
5 Darwin Thompson	2	37	18.5	34	0
11 Aaren Vaughns	2	24	12.0	13	0
16 Jordan Nathan	2	17	8.5	9	0
87 Dax Raymond	2	17	8.5	11	0
8 Gerold Bright	2	13	6.5	13	0
19 Devan Thompkins	2	11	5.5	6	0
17 Taylor Compton	1	11	11.0	11	0
81 Savon Scarver	1	5	5.0	5	0

HAW

	Rec	Yds	Avg	Long	TD
Marcus Armstrong-Brown	4	85	21.3	42	0
5 John Ursua	3	78	26.0	54	1
6 Cedric Byrd	3	66	22.0	51	0
9 Devan Stubblefield	3	55	18.3	38	1
19 JoJo Ward	3	33	11.0	15	0
Jason-Matthew Sharsh	1	16	16.0	16	0
7 Dayton Furuta	2	14	7.0	7	0