

**WEEK THIRTEEN**

**ARIZONA ST AT ARIZONA**

TUCSON, Ariz. -- Arizona State trailed its biggest rival by 19 points heading into the fourth quarter.

On the Sun Devils' sideline, quarterback Manny Wilkins told his teammates to treat it like a basketball game: get a stop, get a bucket, get a stop, get a bucket.

Arizona State's defense held up its end with two turnovers. The offense got the buckets. And when one last-second Arizona field goal attempt sailed right, the Sun Devils had the Territorial Cup back in their hands.

Eno Benjamin scored on a 22-yard touchdown as Arizona State rallied from a 19-point deficit to beat rival Arizona 41-40 on Saturday.

"We were just poised, trusted the game plan, nobody pointing fingers when something went wrong," said Wilkins, who threw for 265 yards and a touchdown. "That's why we finished with one more point than they did."

Arizona (5-7, 4-5 Pac-12) led 40-21 heading in the fourth quarter after Khalil Tate threw his third TD pass of the game, 8 yards to Tony Ellison.

Arizona State (7-5, 5-4) started its rally with Wilkins' 11-yard touchdown run and 2-point conversion. Aashari Crosswell's interception return to Arizona's 22-yard line set up Brandon Ruiz's 39-yard field goal, then the Sun Devils recovered J.J. Taylor's fumble at Arizona's 22-yard line.

Benjamin burst up the middle, cut outside and finished off his third touchdown of the game to put the Sun Devils up 41-40 with 3:08 left.

The Wildcats got the ball back and marched down the field, but Josh Pollack, who made four field goals, pushed a 45-yard attempt wide right with 11 seconds left.

"This will sound crazy, but we're comfortable there; we're not in a panic," Arizona State coach Herm Edwards said. "We just kind of keep fighting. That's the DNA of the players."

The Wildcats leave with an excruciating loss in their biggest game of the season. Arizona not only blew a big lead to lose to its biggest rival, it lost a chance to play a bowl game in coach Kevin Sumlin's first season.

Tate threw for 282 yards and three touchdowns, and Taylor had 144 yards on 28 carries for Arizona.

"The biggest issue was the two turnovers on your side of the 50," Sumlin said.

Left with one final shot at a bowl game, Arizona jumped on it early, racking up yards in good-sized chunks.

Tate hit Ellison on a 28-yard touchdown in the first quarter and Shawn Poindexter scaled over ASU cornerback Kobe Williams in the end zone for a 23-yard score.

The Wildcats had to settle for Pollack field goals on three trips into the red zone, though, including a 36-yarder on the final play of the first half to put Arizona up 22-14.

Wilkins hit Brandon Aiyuk on a 58-yard scoring pass and Benjamin bulled his way in for a 10-yard TD to keep the Sun Devils within reach.

Arizona started quickly in the second half as well.

PJ Johnson tackled Benjamin in the end zone for a safety, then Taylor returned the kickoff 66 yard to set up Pollack's fourth field goal.

Benjamin scored on a 14-yard run, but Gary Brightwell answered with a 35-yard scoring run. Tate then hit Ellison on a jump pass for an 8-yard score to put the Wildcats up 40-21.

Seemingly on their way to a bowl game, the Wildcats couldn't hold the lead, losing the game and their postseason bid.

"The circumstances of this year were different, we wanted to be better," Sumlin said. "We had a lot of moving parts this year."

**THE TAKEAWAY**

**The Sun Devils** defense struggled all game before coming up with the biggest plays when they needed them most.

**The Wildcats** had bowl eligibility within their grasp, only to let it slip through in the fourth quarter. This one will hurt.

**BENJAMIN'S DAY**

Benjamin entered the game third nationally with 1,444 yards rushing and needing 122 yards to break the school single-season record. He came up short, finishing with 80 yards on 21 carries, but ended up with the winning TD run.

**TATE'S RETURN**

Sumlin said the team would gather information before Tate makes a decision whether to return for his senior season in 2019. Tate threw for more than 2,500 yards and 26 TDs this season, but was far less of a running threat in Sumlin's system than he was last season, finishing with 224 yards after racking up more than 1,400 yards a year ago.

Team Stats	ASU	ARIZ
First Downs	20	26
Total Yards	401	520
Total Plays	62	83
Avg Gain Per Play	6.5	6.3
Net Yards Rushing	136	238
Rushes	31	44
Yards Per Rush	4.4	5.4
Net Yards Passing	265	282
Comp-Att	18-31	21-39
Yards Per Pass	8.5	7.2
Times Sacked	0	2
Yds Lost To Sacks	0	-7
Interceptions	0	1
Punts	5	3
Punt Average	0.0	0.0
Penalties	9	7
Penalty Yards	74	62
Fumbles	2	1
Fumbles Lost	0	1
Possession	27:43	32:17

Final	1	2	3	4	T
ASU	7	7	7	20	41
ARIZ	10	12	18	0	40

**Scoring Summary -----**

	ASU	ARIZ
<b>FIRST QUARTER</b>		
ARIZ FG 7:06		
Josh Pollack 29 Yd Field Goal		
9 plays, 86 yards, 3:47	0	3
ARIZ TD 3:33		
Tony Ellison 28 Yd pass from Khalil Tate (Josh Pollack Kick)		
6 plays, 78 yards, 1:45	0	10
ASU TD 2:28		
Brandon Aiyuk 58 Yd pass from Manny Wilkins (Brandon Ruiz Kick)		
3 plays, 75 yards, 1:05	7	10
<b>SECOND QUARTER</b>		
ARIZ FG 10:18		
Josh Pollack 23 Yd Field Goal		
5 plays, 21 yards, 2:21	7	13
ARIZ TD 4:25		
Shawn Poindexter 23 Yd pass from Khalil Tate		
9 plays, 70 yards, 4:13	7	19
ASU TD 1:27		
Eno Benjamin 10 Yd Run (Brandon Ruiz Kick)		
9 plays, 75 yards, 2:58	14	19
ARIZ FG 0:00		
Josh Pollack 36 Yd Field Goal		
6 plays, 44 yards, 1:18	14	22
<b>THIRD QUARTER</b>		
ARIZ SF 13:14		
Team Safety		
2 plays, -8 yards, 0:30	14	24
ARIZ FG 12:17		
Josh Pollack 40 Yd Field Goal		
4 plays, 3 yards, 0:46	14	27
ASU TD 9:23		
Eno Benjamin 14 Yd Run (Brandon Ruiz Kick)		
5 plays, 65 yards, 2:54	21	27
ARIZ TD 7:51		
Gary Brightwell 35 Yd Run (Two-Point Pass Conversion Failed)		
4 plays, 75 yards, 1:32	21	33
ARIZ TD 2:44		
Tony Ellison 8 Yd pass from Khalil Tate (Josh Pollack Kick)		
9 plays, 58 yards, 3:26	21	40
<b>FOURTH QUARTER</b>		
ASU FG 13:05		
Brandon Ruiz 27 Yd Field Goal		
12 plays, 66 yards, 4:39	24	40
ASU TD 6:36		
Manny Wilkins 11 Yd Run (Manny Wilkins Pass to Tommy Hudson for Two-Point Conversion)		
8 plays, 80 yards, 2:25	32	40
ASU FG 3:33		
Brandon Ruiz 39 Yd Field Goal		
4 plays, 1 yard, 1:26	35	40
ASU TD 3:08		
Eno Benjamin 22 Yd Run (Two-Point Pass Conversion Failed)		
1 play, 22 yards, 0:07	41	40

**Individual Stats**

**RUSHING**

ASU	Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	Long
Eno Benjamin	21	80	3.8	3	22
Manny Wilkins	9	57	6.3	1	13
Team	1	-1	-1.0	0	0
ARIZ	Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	Long
J.J. Taylor	28	144	5.1	0	18
Khalil Tate	9	46	5.1	0	21
Gary Brightwell	4	36	9.0	1	35
Darrius Smith	3	12	4.0	0	6

**PASSING**

ASU	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
Manny Wilkins	18	31	265	8.5	1	0	73.0
ARIZ	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
Khalil Tate	21	39	282	7.2	3	1	66.8

**RECEIVING**

ASU	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	Long
Brandon Aiyuk	5	106	21.2	1	58
N'Keal Harry	4	55	13.8	0	38
Kyle Williams	4	48	12.0	0	20
Eno Benjamin	2	33	16.5	0	17
Isaiah Floyd	2	17	8.5	0	13
Tommy Hudson	1	6	6.0	0	6
ARIZ	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	Long
Shawn Poindexter	6	99	16.5	1	47
Shun Brown	5	76	15.2	0	26
Tony Ellison	3	50	16.7	2	28
Stanley Berryhill III	3	27	9.0	0	11
J.J. Taylor	1	18	18.0	0	18
Bryce Wolma	1	9	9.0	0	9
Cedric Peterson	2	3	1.5	0	2