

FRISCO BOWL
KENT ST vs UTAH ST

Kent State beats Utah State 51-41 for 1st bowl victory

FRISCO, Texas (AP) Kent State football players, as coach Sean Lewis said Thursday, haven't been able to call themselves winners for seven years. On Friday night, the Golden Flashes not only became winners but also achieved something that no other team in school history could claim - a bowl victory.

Dustin Crum passed for 289 yards and two touchdowns and ran for a career-high 147 yards and the clinching score to help Kent State beat Utah State 51-41 in the Frisco Bowl.

"I'm just so happy for the university," said Crum, who also was Kent State's leading rusher during the season. "We weren't supposed to be here, but here we are."

Kent State (7-6) closed with four straight wins to finish with a winning record for the first time since 2012.

"I love these boys," said second-year coach Lewis, whose first Kent State team finished 2-10. "Just tremendous resolve by them. It was a testament to their character."

Matthew Trickett kicked five field goals to set a Kent State game record.

Crum threw a 78-yard touchdown pass to Isaiah McKoy down the right sideline on Kent State's third play from scrimmage. Crum flipped a 1-yard scoring pass to Antwan Dixon with 9:36 to play to put the Golden Flashes ahead for good, then scored with 1:56 left on a fourth-and-1 run from the 4.

"This is a group that fights together," said Lewis, the youngest head coach in the FBS at 33 years old. "They bolt tight when things get hard. They showed that tonight and, man, do they finish strong. They finished this game strong, the right way. They finished the season the right way."

Jordan Love passed for 308 yards and three touchdowns, two of them to Siaoisi Mariner, in his final game for Utah State (7-6). The junior announced last week that he'll bypass his senior season to enter the NFL draft.

Deven Thompkins scored on a 57-yard run and a 17-yard reception for the Aggies.

"That was our goal, to get home and take that trophy with us, and it didn't happen," Utah State coach Gary Andersen said. "So, that's extremely disappointing."

"We played hard the entire game but couldn't finish it," Thompkins said.

LATE IMPACT

Kent State cornerback Jamal Parker sat out the first half because of a targeting penalty in the second half of the season finale against Eastern Michigan. With Utah State executing a pooch kick trailing 44-41 with 3:06 to play, Parker not only fielded the kick at Kent State's 41, he returned it 46 yards to Utah State's 13 to set up Crum's touchdown run.

LOVE BY THE NUMBERS

Jordan Love's 333 yards of total offense and 30 completions pushed him past Chuckie Keeton in both categories to become the school leader with 9,003 yards and 293 completions. Love is second to Keeton in passing yardage and attempts.

THE TAKEAWAY

Utah State: The first season of Andersen's second stint as head coach resulted in the program's eighth bowl game in nine seasons and the sixth winning season of the decade, the most since the 1970s (seven).

Kent State: The Golden Flashes' previous bowl appearances were losses in the 1952 Refrigerator Bowl, the 1972 Tangerine Bowl and the 2012 team falling in the 2013 GoDaddy.com Bowl.

Final	1	2	3	4	T
USU	10	7	10	14	41
KENT	17	6	3	25	51

Scoring Summary -----

	USU	KENT
FIRST QUARTER		
USU TD 12:02 Gerold Bright 4 Yd Run (Dominik Eberle Kick)		0
10 plays, 75 yards, 2:58	7	
KENT TD 11:10 Isaiah McKoy 78 Yd pass from Dustin Crum (Matthew Trickett Kick)		7
3 plays, 81 yards, 0:52	7	
KENT TD 5:37 Xavier Williams 2 Yd Run (Matthew Trickett Kick)		14
12 plays, 77 yards, 4:23	7	
KENT FG 2:50 Matthew Trickett 40 Yd Field Goal		17
6 plays, 20 yards, 2:08	7	
USU FG 0:03 Dominik Eberle 41 Yd Field Goal		17
6 plays, 46 yards, 2:47	10	17
SECOND QUARTER		
USU TD 8:24 Siaoisi Mariner 25 Yd pass from Jordan Love (Dominik Eberle Kick)		17
8 plays, 68 yards, 2:36	17	
KENT FG 5:07 Matthew Trickett 22 Yd Field Goal		20
4 plays, 3 yards, 1:33	17	
KENT FG 0:00 Matthew Trickett 36 Yd Field Goal		23
8 plays, 67 yards, 0:58	17	23
THIRD QUARTER		
KENT FG 11:41 Matthew Trickett 29 Yd Field Goal		26
8 plays, 41 yards, 3:19	17	
USU TD 7:52 Deven Thompkins 17 Yd pass from Jordan Love (Dominik Eberle Kick)		26
13 plays, 75 yards, 3:49	24	26
USU FG 2:27 Dominik Eberle 45 Yd Field Goal		26
9 plays, 44 yards, 3:31	27	26
FOURTH QUARTER		
KENT TD 13:31 Will Matthews 4 Yd Run (Will Matthews Run for Two-Point Conversion)		34
2 plays, 57 yards, 0:26	27	34
USU TD 12:48 Deven Thompkins 57 Yd Run (Dominik Eberle Kick)		34
3 plays, 58 yards, 0:43	34	
KENT TD 9:36 Antwan Dixon 1 Yd pass from Dustin Crum (Matthew Trickett Kick)		41
8 plays, 64 yards, 3:12	34	41
KENT FG 4:56 Matthew Trickett 37 Yd Field Goal		44
8 plays, 24 yards, 3:50	34	44
USU TD 3:06 Siaoisi Mariner 11 Yd pass from Jordan Love (Dominik Eberle Kick)		44
8 plays, 75 yards, 1:50	41	44
USU TD 1:56 Dustin Crum 4 Yd Run (Matthew Trickett Kick)		51
4 plays, 13 yards, 1:10	41	51

Team Stats	USU	KENT
First Downs	29	26
Passes for First	16	10
Rushes for First	11	15
Penalties for First	2	1
Third Down Efficiency	6-13	7-15
Fourth Down Efficiency	0-1	1-2
Total Yards	506	550
Total Plays	79	83
Avg Gain Per Play	6.4	6.6
Net Yards Rushing	189	252
Rushes	40	56
Yards Per Rush	4.7	4.5
Net Yards Passing	317	298
Comp-Att	30-39	22-27
Yards Per Pass	8.1	11.0
Times Sacked	4	2
Yds Lost To Sacks	-12	-9
Interceptions	1	0
Punts	3	2
Punt Average	26.0	38.5
Penalties	4	6
Penalty Yards	36	60
Fumbles	4	2
Fumbles Lost	2	1
Time of poss	27:41	32:19

Individual Stats

RUSHING

UTAH ST	Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG
Gerold Bright	21	94	4.5	1	13
Deven Thompkins	1	57	57.0	1	57
Jordan Love	10	16	1.6	0	9
Jordan Nathan	2	14	7.0	0	12
Jaylen Warren	6	8	1.3	0	5
KENT ST					
Dustin Crum	23	147	6.4	1	30
Will Matthews	17	56	3.3	1	12
Xavier Williams	6	19	3.2	1	5
Woody Barrett	1	17	17.0	0	17
Joachim Bangda	3	10	3.3	0	5
Antwan Dixon	2	3	1.5	0	3
Kavious Price	2	3	1.5	0	9
Team	2	-3	-1.5	0	0

PASSING

UTAH ST	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
Jordan Love	30	39	317	8.1	3	1	81.3
KENT ST							
Dustin Crum	21	26	289	11.1	2	0	93.9
Woody Barrett	1	1	9	9.0	0	0	2.7

RECEIVING

UTAH ST	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG
Siaoisi Mariner	7	113	16.1	2	25
Jordan Nathan	9	71	7.9	0	15
Deven Thompkins	4	51	12.8	1	17
Jaylen Warren	1	26	26.0	0	26
Gerold Bright	4	23	5.8	0	13
Savon Scarver	2	12	6.0	0	9
Carson Terrell	2	12	6.0	0	9
Travis Boman	1	9	9.0	0	9
KENT ST					
Isaiah McKoy	6	103	17.2	1	78
Antwan Dixon	5	99	19.8	1	53
Mike Carrigan	4	35	8.8	0	14
Will Matthews	2	24	12.0	0	19
Adam Dulka	1	12	12.0	0	12
Ja'Shaun Poke	1	9	9.0	0	9
Joachim Bangda	1	7	7.0	0	7
Woody Barrett	1	5	5.0	0	5
Kavious Price	1	4	4.0	0	4