

WEEK ONE  
 UTAH ST at WAKE FOREST

**Utah State Football Opens 2019 Campaign with Heartbreaking 38-35 Loss at Wake Forest**

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. – For the second-consecutive year, Utah State proved it could go toe-to-toe with the big boys of college football, taking ACC-foe Wake Forest to the wire before falling short, 38-35, in the season opener for both teams Friday night at BB&T Field.

The Aggies, who opened the season with a 38-31 loss at No. 11 Michigan State in 2018, appeared to be headed for the potential game-tying field goal or game-winning touchdown in the waning moments Friday night.

Unfortunately for upset-minded Utah State, Wake Forest had other ideas as the Demon Deacons' Justin Strnad intercepted a pass by Utah State junior quarterback Jordan Love at the Aggies' 20-yard line with 17 seconds left in the game. The Demon Deacons kneeled on the ball once and ran out the remainder of the clock.

Love finished with 416 yards passing and three touchdowns, completing 33 of his 48 pass attempts – both career highs. His favorite target on the night was graduate transfer Siasoi Mariner, who caught eight passes for 118 yards and one touchdown. For Love, it was his third-career 400-yard passing game.

Utah State finished with 596 yards of total offense, including 180 on the ground. Junior college transfer Jaylen Warren led the way for the Aggies with 141 yards and one touchdown on 19 carries.

Warren's 4-yard touchdown run with 13:51 remaining in the fourth quarter gave Utah State its final lead of the night at 35-31.

After the go-ahead score, the Aggie defense forced two straight punts by the Demon Deacons, and turned them over on downs with 4:05 to go.

However, Utah State couldn't run out the remainder of the clock and punted back to Wake Forest, which took over on its own 11-yard line with 2:19 to go. Two plays later, after Demon Deacons quarterback Jamie Newman completed passes of 18 and 70 yards, respectively, the hosts were at the Aggies' 1.

But, Utah State's defense stuffed three straight running plays by Wake Forest and the Demon Deacons faced a fourth-and-goal situation from the 2. That's when Newman found Kendall Hinton in the right corner of the end zone for the touchdown.

Newman finished the night with 401 yards passing and three touchdowns, completing 34-of-47 passes. He also rushed the ball 21 times for 36 yards and a score.

Following Wake Forest's go-ahead touchdown, Love drove Utah State into Demon Deacons' territory, aided by a 24-yard pitch-and-catch to Mariner, and a targeting penalty on the hosts.

Senior running back Gerold Bright scored the Aggies' first touchdown of 2019 on a seven-yard run in the first quarter, while Love's first TD pass of the season came with 14:11 remaining in the second quarter when he found junior wide receiver Jordan Nathan from 27 yards out.

Love also threw a 17-yard touchdown pass to Mariner, who made an acrobatic grab in the right corner of the end zone to give the visitors a 21-17 lead at half, then found the speedy Deven Thompkins for a 56-yard touchdown pass midway through the third quarter.

Defensively, David Woodward had a career-high 24 tackles for the Aggies – two shy of tying the school record of 26 set by Brian Longuevan against Weber State in 1974. The junior linebacker had 3.5 tackles for loss and 1.0 sacks as part of his 24 stops, to go along with two forced fumbles.

Redshirt junior defensive end Justus Te'i recovered one of those fumbles and junior safety Shaq Bond had a game-high-tying two pass breakups and eight tackles.

Final	1	2	3	4	T
USU	7	14	7	7	35
WAKE	10	7	14	7	38

**Scoring Summary -----**

	USU	WAKE
<b>FIRST QUARTER</b>		
WAKE TD 11:54 Sage Surratt 22 Yd pass from Jamie Newman (Nick Sciba Kick)		
8 plays, 75 yards, 3:06	0	7
USU TD 9:23 Gerold Bright 7 Yd Run (Dominik Eberle Kick)		
8 plays, 75 yards, 2:31	7	7
WAKE FG 0:27 Nick Sciba 21 Yd Field Goal		
10 plays, 77 yards, 3:10	7	10
<b>SECOND QUARTER</b>		
USU TD 14:11 Jordan Nathan 27 Yd pass from Jordan Love (Dominik Eberle Kick)		
5 plays, 90 yards, 1:16	14	10
WAKE TD 6:27 Scotty Washington 9 Yd pass from Jamie Newman (Nick Sciba Kick)		
7 plays, 44 yards, 2:13	14	17
USU TD 0:25 Siasoi Mariner 17 Yd pass from Jordan Love (Dominik Eberle Kick)		
7 plays, 80 yards, 1:42	21	17
<b>THIRD QUARTER</b>		
WAKE TD 9:08 Jamie Newman 1 Yd Run (Nick Sciba Kick)		
14 plays, 65 yards, 4:26	21	24
USU TD 5:42 Deven Thompkins 56 Yd pass from Jordan Love (Dominik Eberle Kick)		
2 plays, 73 yards, 0:33	28	24
WAKE TD 0:49 Christian Beal-Smith 12 Yd Run (Nick Sciba Kick)		
1 play, 12 yards, 0:06	28	31
<b>FOURTH QUARTER</b>		
USU TD 13:51 Jaylen Warren 4 Yd Run (Dominik Eberle Kick)		
7 plays, 75 yards, 1:58	35	31
WAKE TD 1:08 Kendall Hinton 2 Yd pass from Jamie Newman (Nick Sciba Kick)		
6 plays, 89 yards, 1:11	35	38

Team Stats	USU	WAKE
First Downs	23	30
Passes for First	16	18
Rushes for First	6	10
Penalties for First	1	2
Third Down Efficiency	6-16	13-24
Fourth Down Efficiency	0-1	2-5
Total Yards	596	579
Total Plays	79	105
Avg Gain Per Play	7.5	5.5
Net Yards Rushing	180	178
Rushes	31	58
Yards Per Rush	5.8	3.1
Net Yards Passing	416	401
Comp-Att	33-48	34-47
Yards Per Pass	8.7	8.5
Times Sacked	1	3
Yds Lost To Sacks	-2	-19
Interceptions	3	0
Punts	7	5
Punt Average	39.0	42.6
Penalties	8	1
Penalty Yards	84	15
Fumbles	0	2
Fumbles Lost	0	1
Time of Poss	23:47	36:13

**Individual Stats**

<b>RUSHING</b>					
UTAH ST	Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG
Jaylen Warren	19	141	7.4	1	59
Gerold Bright	9	37	4.1	1	11
Jordan Love	3	2	0.7	0	3
<b>WAKE FOREST</b>					
	Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG
Cade Carney	25	105	4.2	0	26
Christian Beal-Smith	11	38	3.5	1	12
Jamie Newman	21	36	1.7	1	10

<b>PASSING</b>							
UTAH ST	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
Jordan Love	33	48	416	8.7	3	3	64.1
<b>WAKE FOREST</b>							
	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
Jamie Newman	34	47	401	8.5	3	0	66.4

<b>RECEIVING</b>					
UTAH ST	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG
Siasoi Mariner	8	118	14.8	1	28
Jordan Nathan	6	83	13.8	1	27
Deven Thompkins	2	59	29.5	1	56
Caleb Repp	5	59	11.8	0	23
Savon Scarver	3	49	16.3	0	35
Gerold Bright	4	30	7.5	0	19
Carson Terrell	3	17	5.7	0	10
Jaylen Warren	1	1	1.0	0	1
Taylor Compton	1	0	0.0	0	0
<b>WAKE FOREST</b>					
	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG
Sage Surratt	7	158	22.6	1	70
Steven Claude	6	70	11.7	0	20
Kendall Hinton	9	66	7.3	1	18
Scotty Washington	4	46	11.5	1	19
Jack Freudenthal	4	31	7.8	0	15
Brandon Chapman	3	24	8.0	0	19
Cade Carney	1	6	6.0	0	6