

2020 Kent State Football Preview



Head Coach (Yr)
Sean Lewis (3)
Offensive Coord.
Andrew Sowder (3)
Defensive Coord.
Tom Kaufman (3)
Conference/Div
MAC/East

Team Profile	#	Rk
2020 Team Power Rating	56.6	107
Power Ratings Diff vs Last Year	-2.6	105
2020 Strength of Schedule	65.9	78
2020 Season Win Projection	4.7	105
Returning Starters (OFF/DEF)	13 (7/6)	69
Return Starting QB (YES/NO)	YES	
Returning Production %	62%	73
Returning Offense Production	68%	58
Returning Defense Production	57%	90
2020 Recruiting (Signees)	23	108
2020 Roster Talent Rank		114

2020 Offense/Defense Analysis

Kent St's football history is not good. Prior to last season, the Golden Flashes had only managed three winning seasons since 1977! The 2019 campaign was also on the brink as Kent St was 3-6 and they trailed Buffalo 27-6 in the fourth quarter. However, the Golden Flashes pulled off the huge comeback and used that momentum to win each of their final 3 games of the regular season (all as an underdog). Then in the bowl, Kent St got their first bowl win in school history!

On paper, Kent St looks to be in good shape this season thanks to the return of QB Dustin Crum who completed 69% of his passes with a 20-to-2 TD-to-INT ratio while also leading the Golden Flashes in rushing with 707 yards. His top receiver Isaiah McKoy (872 yards, 15.6 ypc and 8 TD's) returns but they do have to replace their top RB Will Matthews. Four starters are back on the offensive line. The defense has more room for improvement especially vs the run as they allowed 244.7 rush ypg (No. 127). The Flashes do return each of their top three tacklers led by LB Mandela Lawrence-Burke (104 tackles, 4 sacks). They do lose DE Theo Majette (8.5 TFL's). On special teams, kicker Matthew Trickett returns after being named the MAC Special Teams Player of the Year.

The biggest issue facing Kent State in 2020 is a schedule that easily ranks as the toughest in the MAC. Non-conference games at Penn State, Kentucky and Alabama along with MAC cross-over games vs Western and Central Michigan may see Kent State taking a step back in the win/loss column in 2020.

2020 Schedule with BP Projected Lines

Date	Opponent	Line	Win %	Line	Total	Score	W/L/O/U
9/5	at Penn State	37.5	2%				
9/12	Kennesaw St	-5.2	65%				
9/19	at Kentucky	23.8	6%				
9/26	at Alabama	45.3	0%				
10/3	at No. Illinois	2.5	45%				
10/10	Akron	-16.4	89%				
10/17	at Buffalo	10.4	26%				
10/24	W. Michigan	3.7	39%				
10/31							
11/4	at Bowl Green	-12.1	80%				
11/11	Ohio	3.5	39%				
11/17	at Miami (OH)	6.2	34%				
11/24	C. Michigan	1.2	48%				
Projected Wins		4.73					

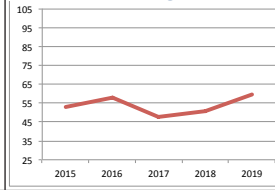
Last 5 Year Records

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Total
Straight Up	3-9	3-9	2-10	2-10	7-6	17-44
Home	2-4	1-5	2-3	1-4	4-1	10-17
Away	1-5	2-4	0-7	1-6	2-5	6-27
Neutral	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	1-0	1-0
Conference	2-6	2-6	1-7	1-7	5-3	11-29
Non-Conf	1-3	1-3	1-3	1-3	2-3	6-15
ATS	4-8	6-6	4-8	7-5	9-4	30-31
Home Fav	1-1	1-1	0-1	1-0	1-2	4-5
Home Dog	1-3	2-2	1-3	3-1	2-0	9-9
Away Fav	0-0	1-2	0-0	0-0	1-0	2-2
Away Dog	2-4	2-1	3-4	3-4	4-2	14-15
Conference	2-6	4-4	3-5	4-4	7-1	20-20
Non-Conf	2-2	2-2	1-3	3-1	2-3	10-11
O/U	4-8	7-5	6-6	5-7	7-6	29-32

ATS Stat

Kent St pulled 4 straight outright upsets last season. No team has done that in CFB since Tulane did it in 2013.

End of Season Power Rating 2015-19



2019 Stats

	KSt	Rk	Opp	Rk
Rushing				
YPC	4.4	65	5.1	115
YPG	186.7	39	244.7	127
Passing				
KSt				
Comp %	67.0%	11	64.2%	111
YPA	8.0	33	8.5	121
YPG	218.9	78	228.8	68
TD-INT	24-2		18-7	
Total				
KSt				
YPP	5.8	62	6.3	109
YPG	405.6	66	473.5	121
Scoring				
KSt				
PPG	29.2	63	31.8	95
3rd Down				
KSt				
%	43.9%	29	45.4%	114
Red Zone				
KSt				
TD %	50.0%	111	63.3%	85
Scoring %	89.6%	28	86.7%	94
KO Ret				
KSt				
Avg	22.6	34	18.2	22
Punt Ret				
KSt				
Avg	8.5	52	2.6	8
Sacks				
By				
#	25	76	41	122
TFL's				
By				
#	67	92	114	127
Net Punt				
KSt				
Avg	40.9	19		
4th Down				
Off				
At P/Gm	0.9	119		
Turnovers				
Margin	+6	27		
Penalties				
Rk				
Per Game	6.2	67		

Scoring Quarter-By-Quarter

	1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	OT	Total
KSt	96	86	54	141	3	380
Opp	102	119	81	112	0	414

2019 Stat Margins

Margins	+/-	Rk
Rush YPC	-0.7	100
Pass YPA	-0.5	82
YPP	-0.5	93
YPG	-67.9	106
Scoring	-2.6	88

2019 Individual Stats

	Att	Yds	%	Ratio
Passing				
Dustin Crum	313	2625	69.3	20-2
Woody Barrett	41	214	51.2	3-0
Rushing				
Att Yds				
Dustin Crum	168	707	4.2	6
Will Matthews	123	570	4.6	3
Receiving				
Rec Yds				
Isaiah McKoy	56	872	15.6	8
Mike Carrigan	44	570	13.0	5
Kavious Price	48	508	10.6	3
Defense				
Tkl				
Antwan Dixon	34	333	9.8	1
M. Lawrence-Burke	104	4	1.5	1
Cepeda Phillips	93	2	4.5	0
Keith Sherald	86	0	6	3
Nick Faulkner	80	1	2.5	0
Qwuantrezz Knight	74	1.5	9	0
Matt Bahr	62	0.5	2.5	0
Kicking				
FG				
LG				
XP				
Matthew Trickett	29-34	47	39-39	
Punting				
Avg				
Derek Adams	43.1	20	11	0

2019 Game-By-Game Recap

Teams	Open	Close	Score	ATS
Kent State		61.5	7	Cover: 1.5
Arizona State	-26	-24.5	30	Under: 24.5
-ASU controlled the game with a 455-200 yard edge.				
Kennesaw State	54	54	23	Cover: 0.5
Kent State		-3.5	26	Under: 5
-Kennesaw had 23-16 first down and 437-337 yard edges including 252-145 on the ground.				
Kent State	54	54	16	Over: 17
Auburn	-34.5	-36.5	55	Cover: 2.5
-Auburn had 32-19 first down and 633-321 yard edges including 467-92 on the ground.				
Bowling Green	62.5	62	20	Over: 20
Kent State	-8	-11.5	62	Cover: 30.5
-Kent State rolled up a school-record 750 yards -- 375 passing and 375 rushing.				
Kent State	58	58.5	0	Under: 10.5
Wisconsin	-37	-35	48	Cover: 13
-Wisconsin dominated just like the final would indicate as the Badgers had 29-10 first down and 520-124 yard edges including 348-60 on the ground.				
Kent State	-10	-14.5	26	Cover: 8.5
Akron	56	57	3	Under: 28
-Kent St had 24-19 first down and 382-288 yard edges including 233-86 on the ground.				
-Akron did miss a FG and were stopped on downs twice inside the Kent St 5-yard line!				
Kent State	58.5	63.5	38	Cover: 1
Ohio	-8.5	-8	45	Over: 19.5
-Ohio had 31-27 first down and 571-476 yard edges.				
Miami (OH)	57.5	54.5	23	Cover: 9.5
Kent State	-3	-2.5	16	Under: 15.5
-Miami, OH had a 467-336 yard edge including 289-127 on the ground.				
Kent State	61.5	62.5	33	Cover: 4.5
Toledo	-4	-6.5	35	Over: 5.5
-Toledo had 30-19 first down and 483-428 yard edges including 289-171 on the ground.				
-Kent St scored a TD on 4th&Goal with 5:27 left but their 2-point conversion attempt failed.				
Buffalo	-1.5	-6.5	27	Over: 2
Kent State	54.5	55	30	Cover: 9.5
Misleading Final: Buffalo had 22-18 first down and 379-284 yard edges including 245-119 on the ground.				
-Buffalo led 27-6 with 10 minutes left in the 4Q.				
-According to ESPN's win probability, Buffalo had a 99.3% chance to win with 7:57 left in the game.				
-Kent St got a TD, recovered the onside kick, got another TD to make it 27-20. Then Kent St blocked a punt that set up a 4-play 4-yard TD "drive" to tie it at 27-27 with 4:52 left. After a Buffalo punt, Kent St went 43 yards on 9 plays, getting a 44-yard FG on the final play for the win.				
-Kent State had 172 of its 284 total yards, and 10 of its 18 first downs, in the fourth quarter.				
Ball State	-2	-3	38	Over: 11.5
Kent State	65	67.5	41	Cover: 6
-Kent St had 29-28 first down and 635-538 yard edges.				
-Kent St QB Dustin Crum was 18 of 26 for 369 yards and 3 TD's. Kent St WR Mike Carrigan had 178 receiving yards while Isaiah McKoy had 159 yards and 3 TD's.				
-Kent St kicker Matthew Trickett kicked a 22-yard field goal with 19 seconds remaining.				
Kent State	65	68.5	34	Cover: 12
Eastern Michigan	-3	-4	26	Under: 8.5
-Kent St had a 25-23 first down edge but EMU a 509-450 yard edge. Kent did have a 253-123 rushing yard edge.				
-EMU threw an INT at the Kent 7-yard line in final minute.				
-Kent St got a 96-yard kickoff return TD on the first play of the second half to take a 31-14 lead.				
Kent State	67	68.5	51	Cover: 17
Utah State	-8	-7	41	Over: 23.5
-Utah St had a 29-26 first down edge but Kent St a 550-506 yard edge including 252-189 on the ground.				
-Kent St QB Dustin Crum threw for 289 yards and 2 TD's and also ran for 147 yards and a TD.				
First bowl win for Kent St. Their previous bowl appearances were losses in the 1952 Refrigerator Bowl, the 1972 Tangerine Bowl and the 2013 GoDaddy.com Bowl.				

2015 (SU: 3-9, ATS: 4-8, O/U: 4-8)				2016 (SU: 3-9, ATS: 6-6, O/U: 7-5)				2017 (SU: 2-10, ATS: 4-8, O/U: 6-6)				2018 (SU: 2-10, ATS: 7-5, O/U: 5-7)				2019 (SU: 7-6, ATS: 9-4, O/U: 7-6)			
Date	Opponent	Line	Score	W/L/O/U	Date	Opponent	Line	Score	W/L/O/U	Date	Opponent	Line	Score	W/L/O/U	Date	Opponent	Line	Score	W/L/O/U
9/5	at Illinois	+13	3-52	L	9/3	at Penn St	+22	13-33	W	9/2	at Clemson	+40	3-56	L	8/29	at Illinois	+17	24-31	W
9/12	Delaware St	-29	45-13	W	9/10	NC A&T-40t	-11	36-39	L	9/9	Howard	-24	38-31	L	9/8	Howard	-39	54-14	W
9/19	at Minnesota	+24	7-10	W	9/17	Monmouth	-15	27-7	W	9/16	at Marshall	+14	0-21	L	9/15	at Penn St	+35	10-63	L
9/26	Marshall-ot	+6	29-36	L	9/24	at Alabama	+43	0-48	L	9/23	at Louisville	+42	3-42	W	9/22	at Ole Miss	+28	17-38	W
10/3	Miami (OH)	-10	20-14	L	10/1	Akron	+7	27-31	W	9/30	Buffalo	+7	13-27	L	9/29	at Ball State	+7	24-52	L
10/10	at Toledo	+15	7-38	L	10/8	at Buffalo	-2	44-20	W	10/7	at No Illinois	+23	3-24	W	10/6	Ohio	+12	26-27	W
10/17	at Massachusetts	+7	15-10																