

TROY GAME NOTES

#23 TROY 18 (12-2) #22 UTSA 12 (11-3)



TROY CAPTAINS

• LB Carlton Martial, P Kyle Coale, OL Austin Stidham, CB Zion Williams

SERIES NOTES

• Troy improves to 1-0 all-time against UTSA and 53-26-1 against members over C-USA. The Trojans are 2-0 against C-USA this season and 3-1 all-time against the league in bowl games.

GENERAL NOTES

- Troy extended its winning streak to 11 games with the victory, Troy's longest winning streak since 1995 when that squad also won 11 straight games. Troy's winning streak is tied for the third longest in the country.
- Troy has now won 58 games since the start of the 2016 season; the 18th most wins nationally and the sixth most in the Group of Five over that time.
- Troy has now won five straight bowl games dating back to the 2010 New Orleans Bowl. The Trojans are 6-3 all-time in bowl games at the FBS level and 20-12 in the postseason (NAIA, DII, FCS, FBS).
- Troy's 12 wins are the most in program history at the FBS level and tied for the most in school history (1984, 1987, 1993, 1996)
- Troy improves to 3-28 all-time against ranked opponents -- No. 17 Missouri, 2004 (24-14); No. 22 LSU, 2017 (24-21); No. 22 UTSA (18-12).
- Troy lost the opening toss and received the opening kickoff ... Troy finished 5-9 on coin tosses this season.
- Linebacker KJ Robertson was named the game's MVP after recording nine tackles and returning an interception 61 yards setting up Troy's go-ahead touchdown in the third quarter. He is the second defensive player to earn the Cure Bowl MVP in the history of the game.
- Troy will finish the season ranked in the Top 25 in all three major polls -- Associated Press, USA Today and College Football Playoff.
- Left tackle Austin Stidham started his 62nd career game, which is the most in Troy history passing Cameron Kaye's 61 career starts; Dell Pettus' started his team-leading 47th straight game.
- Troy improved to 5-1 this season when trailing at the half and 5-1 when scoring less than 21 points; Troy was 11-73 when trailing at the half and 5-52 when scoring less than 21 points since 2005 prior to this season.
- Troy outscored UTSA 11-0 in the second half; the Trojans entered the game ranked 12th nationally with a +6.69 scoring margin in the second half.
- Troy extended its non-shutout streak to 108 games and 203 games against Non-Power Five teams; the last time Troy was shutout was a 66-0 loss at Georgia in 2014.
- Troy allowed a safety for the second time this year; the previous time was at App State when the Trojans intentionally took a safety late in the fourth quarter.

OFFENSIVE NOTES

- RaJae' Johnson caught two passes for 41 yards and the go-ahead touchdown in the third quarter. He caught four of his seven touchdown passes on the season in Troy's final three games.
- Troy's 169 yards of total offense was its fewest in a bowl game in program history; previous low was 292 in the 2004 Silicon Valley Classic vs. Northern Illinois.
- Kimani Vidal moved into a tie for 10th place all-time in Troy history with 19 career rushing touchdowns after Troy's first touchdown of the game.
- Gunnar Watson moved into a tie for eighth place in Troy history with 38 career touchdown passes after throwing one on Friday.
- Troy started four straight drives between the first and second quarters inside its own 8-yard line ... Troy's average starting field position for its first five drives was the 8.6-yard line. Four of Troy's next five possessions started in UTSA territory.

DEFENSIVE NOTES

- Carlton Martial recorded 14 tackles in the game and finished his career with 577; Martial set the Troy school record in the game and already held the NCAA FBS and Sun Belt career records
- Carlton Martial finished the season with double-digit tackles in seven games and 27 times in his career.
- Carlton Martial finishes his Troy career with 577 tackles, 50.5 tackles for loss, 10.5 sacks, six interceptions and eight forced fumbles.
- Troy forced five UTSA turnovers in the game, which is the fourth time in Troy's bowl history it has forced five turnovers in a game.
- Troy entered bowl season second nationally having forced 163 tackles since the start of the 2016 season, the Trojans are now tied with UCF for the most in that period. The Trojans were third averaging 1.63 turnovers forced per game.
- Troy intercepted C-USA MVP Frank Harris twice in the game and the Trojans now have 105 interceptions since the start of the 2016 season, the fourth most in the country
- Troy held UTSA scoreless in the second half; the Trojans entered the game holding opponents to 8.77 points per game in the second half (14th fewest in the country) and 3.92 points in the fourth quarter (sixth fewest).
- Troy held UTSA scoreless in the fourth quarter; the Trojans held 8-of-13 opponents scoreless in the fourth quarter this season.
- Troy held UTSA to just 12 points ... the Roadrunners lowest output since Oct. 31, 2020.
- Troy forced a turnover on four straight possessions to end the first half and start the second half ... 5-of-6 UTSA drives in the second half ended with a turnover or on downs.
- UTSA entered the game ranked 12th nationally in scoring offense averaging 38.7 points per game; its previous low scoring output this season was 20 points at No. 20 Texas.
- Richard Jibunor forced two turnovers in the game with an interception and a sack-fumble ... it was his third forced fumble of the season and sixth of his career. The interception was his first of the season and third of his career.
- Shakel Brown recorded his fourth sack of the season on UTSA's opening drive of the game.
- Troy finished with two sacks in the game marking the 10th time this season the Trojans had multiple sacks in a game.

SPECIAL TEAMS NOTES

- Brooks Buce improved to 17-of-19 on field goal attempts this season after booting a 27-yard kick against UTSA. His 89.5 field goal percentage is the highest in a single-season in school history.
- Brooks Buce finished his Troy career 25-of-28 after going 1,751 days in between field goal attempts (senior year of high school and ULM in 2021.