

**UTEP Football vs. NM State  
October 6, 2018**

**North Texas Head Coach**

*Opening Statement...*

"I was proud of the way that they pulled through. Being on the road against a team that is building culture, coach Dimel does a great job. You have to give UTEP a lot of credit, they fought extremely hard. They made us work for everything that we got. We have to do a much better job in all three phases. Making sure we play more disciplined, and make sure that we are a lot more focused. Offense was putrid in the first half. Defense was doing some good things. You know they had a couple of mistakes. Come out of the second half, and the offense picks it up. They started to run the ball better getting into rhythm. We started catching the football and moving the chain. Defensively in the second half, we were giving up those third and longs. Third and 20's and 17's – it's unacceptable, so at the end of the day we will always be grateful for a win. We are always going to enjoy wins. They are very challenging especially on the road, but at the same time we know we have a lot to go back and work for and we have to get much better.

*On the Defense...*

"They came through at the end when we needed it there at the end. Should not have gotten to that point, and that is where we have to get much better. At the end we have to be more disciplined. The defense says that they want to be the reason that we win games. Tonight, they made enough plays and they had a huge four down stop there that gave us the ball back. That probably why the offense handled it when they did get the ball back. We had a third-and-6 or seven, and we knew we had to run the ball, and try to get the clock down. They did a good job of getting the first down, so I am proud of the way they fought. The kids fought hard, we just have to have more focus, attention to detail and we have to make more routine plays. You have to give them a lot of credit."