

# UTEP MINERS FOOTBALL

UTEP vs. Houston Baptist | 6 p.m. MT | Saturday, Aug. 31, 2019 | Sun Bowl Stadium (51,500) | El Paso, Texas

## POSTGAME NOTES

### GAME NOTES

- Tonight's game captains were C Derron Gatewood, QB Brandon Jones, WS Michael Lewis and NT Chris Richardson.
- Announced attendance was 34,646.
- The crowd was the largest for UTEP in a home opener since 2014 versus Texas Tech (35,422), and the largest audience for a Miner game in the Sun Bowl since Sept. 17, 2016 against Army (37,893).
- The Miners won the coin toss and deferred to the second half.

### OPENERS

- UTEP improved to 44-53-5 in season openers and 36-22-3 in home openers.
- The Miners posted their first home win since the 2016 season finale, and they're 1-0 to start a season for the first time in three years.

### OFFENSE

- First-time starters for the Miners tonight were WR Alan Busey, WR Jacob Cowing and TE Jess Trussell.
- WR Jacob Cowing became the first true freshman WR to start for the Miners since Eddie Sinegal in the 2016 season finale versus North Texas.
- QB Brandon Jones and RB Treyvon Hughes both posted career-long runs of 23 and 32 yards respectively.
- Jones and Hughes accounted for 73 of the Miners' 75 yards, all of the rushing variety, on UTEP's second TD drive of the night.
- Hughes rushed 23 times for a career-high 144 yards. His previous UTEP best was 76 yards rushing at Rice on Nov. 3, 2018.
- Grad transfer Jess Trussell picked up his first collegiate catch (13 yards) in the third quarter. Trussell was playing in his 23rd collegiate game after transferring from Purdue.
- The Miners rushed for 200+ yards in a game for the fourth time under coach Dana Dimel, moving to 2-2 in those contests. The 240 rushing yards were the second-most in the Dimel era (high of 265 yards at UNLV on Sept. 8, 2018).
- UTEP compiled 508 total yards, most under Dimel and most in a game since the 2016 season finale versus North Texas (555). UTEP has posted six consecutive wins when tallying 500 yards or more dating back to the 2013 season.

### SCORING PLAYS

- PK Gavin Baechle lifted UTEP into a 3-0 lead in the first quarter with a 30-yard field goal, his first as a Miner. Baechle added a 21-yard field goal right before halftime.
- The 80-yard TD pass from Brandon Jones to Tre'shon Wolf in the second quarter was the longest pass play for UTEP in the Sun Bowl since Nov. 18, 2017 versus LA Tech (Ryan Metz 83-yard TD pass to Tyler Batson), and Wolf's first TD as a Miner.
- RB Treyvon Hughes tallied his first rushing TD in the Sun Bowl with a three-yard scamper in the second quarter.
- Hughes tacked on a 19-yard rushing TD late in the third quarter, giving him two rushing scores in a game for the first time at UTEP.

### DEFENSE

- First-time starters for the Miners tonight were DE Praise Amaewhule, SAM Kalaii Griffin, CB Duron Lowe, SS Justin Prince and WILL Joe Jay Smith.
- DE Praise Amaewhule and DE Josh Ortega posted their first career sacks in the first quarter. The Miners' third sack of the night went to NT Chris Richardson in the fourth quarter; it was also his first at UTEP.
- FS Justin Rogers led UTEP with a career-high 10 tackles. It marked the first time in his career that he was the Miners' leading tackler.

### SPECIAL TEAMS

- Gavin Baechle became the first Miner to make three field goals in a game since Dakota Warren at Tulane on Oct. 15, 2011. He is the first UTEP player to connect on three field goals in the Sun Bowl since Warren versus Memphis on Sept. 25, 2010.

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