

UTEP MINERS FOOTBALL

UTEP vs. Nevada | 6 p.m. MT | Saturday, Sept. 21, 2019 | Sun Bowl Stadium (51,500) | El Paso, Texas

POSTGAME NOTES

GAME NOTES

- Announced attendance was 10,493.
- The Miners are now 7-9 versus Mountain West programs since the league's inception for the 1999 season, including 4-3 in the Sun Bowl.

SCORING PLAYS

- RB Treyvon Hughes accounted for both first-half touchdowns for UTEP, giving him four scores in two home games this season. Hughes rushed five times for 41 yards on the Miners' first TD drive, and four times for 14 yards on their second TD drive.
- The Miners scored a touchdown on their first offensive series of a home game for the first time since Nov. 5, 2016 versus Houston Baptist.
- The Miners put together a 17-play, 75-yard scoring drive in the third quarter that elapsed 9:59 in time. It was the most plays on a UTEP drive since Sept. 22, 2018 versus NM State (19), and the most time on a UTEP drive since Nov. 8, 2014 at WKU (11:20).
- QB Kai Locksley has now scored seven rushing touchdowns in only 11 games for the Miners.

OFFENSE

- RB Treyvon Hughes is the first Miner to score multiple touchdowns in the first two home games of a season since Aaron Jones in 2014 (versus Texas Tech and NM State).
- The Miners' top two rushers, Hughes and Josh Fields, combined for 124 yards on 27 carries and were not tackled behind the line of scrimmage tonight.
- TE Jess Trussell continued his strong play to start the season with three catches for 53 yards. He has caught a pass in three consecutive games for the Miners, including his long reception of 37 yards tonight. Trussell had no catches in 22 games for Purdue from 2016-18.
- QB Brandon Jones completed 8-of-11 passes. The .727 completion percentage was his best in a Miner uniform (previous .560 versus WKU last season). Overall, it was the best completion percentage by a UTEP quarterback (minimum 10 attempts) since Ryan Metz's .762 (16-for-21) versus Houston Baptist on Nov. 5, 2016.
- WR Devaughn Cooper snagged a season-high three catches, and matched his season best with 35 yards receiving. He is averaging 16 yards per reception in 2019.
- The Miners are averaging 43.7 rushing attempts this season. They ran the ball 46 times in the opener versus Houston Baptist and 47 times tonight. The last time UTEP had 46+ rushing attempts in consecutive home games was in 2014 versus Texas Tech (53) and NM State (58).

DEFENSE

- The Miners forced two turnovers in the first half, duplicating their output from the first two games of the season combined.
- USC transfer DB Ykili Ross picked off a pass for the second straight game, making him the first UTEP player to achieve the feat since Dashone Smith at UTSA and versus Old Dominion in 2016.
- The forced fumble by DB Miles Banks and fumble recovery by DB Michael Lewis in the second quarter were the firsts of their respective Miner careers.
- DB Justin Prince led the Miners in tackles for the second consecutive game with 10 stops.
- LB Sione Tupou tied his UTEP best with nine tackles.
- DL Dedrick Simpson had the most productive game of his Miner career with a UTEP-best seven stops. He also had a tackle for loss (tied UTEP high) and blocked a kick.

SPECIAL TEAMS

- All four of PK Gavin Baechle's kickoffs were touchbacks tonight.

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