

UTEP MINERS FOOTBALL

UTEP at NM State | 2 p.m. MST | Saturday, Nov. 30, 2024 | Aggie Memorial Stadium (15,358) | Las Cruces, N.M.

POSTGAME NOTES

GAME NOTES

FINAL: UTEP 42, NM State 35 - 101st Battle of I-10

- Announced attendance was 15,358

QUICK HITS

- UTEP improved to 60-39-2 overall against NM State.
- UTEP is now 21-21-1 in Las Cruces.
- UTEP rallied from 17 points down (24-7) to beat NM State.

BLUE BLAZE OFFENSE

- RB **Jevon Jackson** scored a season-high two rushing touchdowns. It's the second time recording a pair of TDs in a single game this season after he rushed for one and hauled in another against FIU. Jackson last scored two rushing touchdowns in a game on Nov. 25, 2023, against Chattanooga while playing at Austin Peay.
- MB **Kam Thomas** made his way back to the gridiron after missing the last three games and responded with 90 yards on four receptions, including a collegiate career-long 69-yard reception led to a UTEP touchdown during the third quarter.
- WR **Kenny Odom** had a 30-yard touchdown reception that gave the Miners the go-ahead 28-24 lead late in the third. It was Odom's eighth touchdown reception this season, the most receiving scores by a UTEP player in eight seasons (TE **Hayden Plinke** had eight in 2016).
- WR **Trey Goodman** tallied 44 yards on four receptions. He tied for the team lead with 47 receptions in 2024.

ORANGE SWARM DEFENSE

- DL **Kyran Duhon** tied his career best with 2.0 sacks, bringing his total to 7.0 sacks in his true freshman season. Duhon's 7.0 sacks were second best on the team and the most by a UTEP freshman since 1990 (**Gonzalo Floyd**).
- Bandit **Maurice Westmoreland** tied his career best with 2.5 sacks. Westmoreland finished with a team-best 8.0 sacks. It was also his 15.5th career sack, now ranking sixth on the program's all-time sack list.
- NT **Sione Tonga'uiha** recorded a career-best 1.5 sacks.
- The UTEP defense tallied a season-high eight sacks and finished with 36 in 2024, the most by the Miners since 2004.
- Spur **Kory Chapman** registered his second INT of the season - tied for the team lead.
- UTEP finished with 11 interceptions in 2024, the most since picking off 11 passes in 2014.
- DL **KD Johnson** tallied another sack, upping his total to 3.5 sacks in his final season.
- DL **Hunter Rapolla** tallied his first half sack in a UTEP uniform.
- S **Xavier Smith** led the defense with nine tackles.

WEFENSE

- P **Adam Jacklin** averaged 43.4 yards on five punts (217 yards) including a long of 52 yards and one inside the 20.
- MB **Kam Thomas** tied a school record with a 93-yard punt return for a touchdown (**Reggie Matthews** did it twice, the first in 1966 vs. San Jose State, and then in 1967 vs. UCSB). It was also the first touchdown scored on a punt return since 2023 (**Torrance Burgess** at Middle Tennessee).
- K **Buzz Flabino** set a career high with six made PATs.