WEEK THIRTEEN USM AT UTEP

EL PASO, Texas -- Rachuan Mitchell picked off a Brandon Jones pass and returned it 41 yards for a touchdown to spark Southern Mississippi to a 39-7 win over UTEP Saturday that earned the Golden Eagles bowl eligibility for the fourth straight season and 22nd time in the last 25 years.

The Golden Eagles finished the regular season with back-to-back wins of the first time this season, knocking off Louisiana Tech, 21-20 in their home finale last week.

Briggs Bourgeois connected on two 39-yard field goals in the first half and Steven Anderson punched in from the 1 at the end of the first quarter to send Southern Miss into intermission with a 19-0 advantage. De'Michael Harris pulled in a 17-yard pass from Jack Abraham for a third-quarter touchdown and Tate Whatley and Trivenskey Mosley had scoring runs of 16- and 24-yards, respectively.

Southern Miss (6-5, 5-3 Conference USA) came into the game ranked No. 10 nationally at stopping the run and the Golden Eagles checked UTEP (1-11, 1-7) on just 73 yards on the ground on 31 carries.

Team Stats	USM	UTEP
First Downs	21	12
Total Yards	378	187
Total Plays	69	54
Avg Gain Per Play	5.5	3.5
Net Yards Rushing	252	73
Rushes	48	31
Yards Per Rush	5.3	2.4
Net Yards Passing	126	114
Comp-Att	15-21	11-23
Yards Per Pass	6.0	5.0
Times Sacked	2	5
Yds Lost To Sacks	-13	-22
Interceptions	0	3
Punts	5	6
Punt Average	0.0	0.0
Penalties	2	2
Penalty Yards	15	15
Fumbles	3	1
Fumbles Lost	0	1
Possession	33:32	26:28

USM	16	3	7	13	39		
UTEP	0	0	0	7	7		
Scoring Summary							
FIRST QUARTER					USM	UTEP	
USM FG 10:57							
Briggs Bourgeois	39 Yd	Field	Goal				
10 plays, 53 yar	ds, 4:	03			3	0	
USM TD 9:18							
Rachuan Mitchell	41 Yd	Inter	ception	Return	(Briggs	Bourgeois	
PAT blocked)							
3 plays, 5 yards	s, 1:39				9	0	
USM TD 0:23							
Steven Anderson	1 Yd R	un (Br	iggs Bou	rgeois	Kick)		
12 plays, 80 yar	ds, 4:	32			16	0	
SECOND QUARTER					USM	UTEP	
USM FG 14:12							
Briggs Bourgeois	39 Yd	Field	Goal				
4 plays, -2 yard	ls, 0:5	1			19	0	
THIRD QUARTER					USM	UTEP	
USM TD 10:35							
De'Michael Harris 17 Yd pass from Jack Abraham (Briggs Bour-							
geois Kick)							
6 plays, 44 yard	ds, 2:2	9			26	0	
FOURTH QUARTER					USM	UTEP	
USM TD 10:57							
Tate Whatley 16 Yd Run (Briggs Bourgeois Kick)							
1 play, 16 yards	, 0:08				33	0	
USM TD 5:35							
Trivenskey Mosley 24 Yd Run (Briggs Bourgeois PAT failed)							
7 plays, 82 yard	ds, 4:0	5			39	0	
UTEP TD 0:07							
Erik Brown 41 Yo	l pass	from B	randon J	ones (Jason Fi	lley Kick)	
3 plays, 58 yard	ds, 0:2	0		•	39	7	
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Final

Individual State		_					
USM	Rush				TD	Lon	-
Trivenskey Mosle	-	107			1	24	
Steven Anderson	19	92	4.8		1	17	
Tate Whatley	_	6 46 7.7 1		-	23		
Tyler Barnes	3	7	2.3		0	3	
Quez Watkins	1	1	1.0		0	1	
Jack Abraham	4	1	0.3		0	8	
Team	1	-2	-2.0		0	0	
UTEP	Rush				TD	Lon	g
Quardraiz Wadley	-	31	2.8		0	18	
Brandon Jones	14	29	2.1		0	19	
Treyvon Hughes	6	13	2.2		0	4	
PASSING							
USM	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
Jack Abraham	14	20	92	4.6	1	0	125.1
Tate Whatley	1	1	34	34.0	0	0	385.6
UTEP	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
Brandon Jones	11	23	114	5.0	1	3	77.7
RECEIVING							
USM	Rec	Yds	Avg	T	'D	Long	
Quez Watkins	5	58	11.6	(0	34	
De'Michael Harri		21	10.5	:	1	17	
Tim Jones	3	17	5.7	(0	20	
Jay'Shawn Washington	1	10	10.0	(0	10	
Trevor Terry	1	10	10.0	(0	10	
Jordan Mitchell	1	7	7.0	(0	7	
Trivenskey Mosley	2	3	1.5	(0	5	
UTEP	Rec	Yds	Avg	T	'D	Long	
Erik Brown	3	55	18.3	:	1	41	
Warren Redix	3	30	10.0	(0	13	
Tre'Shon Wolf	2	17	8.5	(0	17	
David Lucero	1	11	11.0	(0	11	
Quardraiz Wadley	1	1	1.0	(0	1	
Terry Juniel	1	0	0.0	(0	0	