

WEEK NINE
SOUTH FLORIDA AT HOUSTON

HOUSTON -- D'Eriq King had a hand in a career-high seven touchdowns, throwing for 419 yards and five scores and running for 134 yards and two more touchdowns in Houston's 57-36 victory over No. 21 South Florida on Saturday.

King threw touchdown passes of 15, 38, 30, 52 and 27 yards and had scoring runs of 47 and 36 yards. He finished 28 of 41 passing. The seven total touchdowns set a career high.

Marquez Stevenson caught six passes for 106 yards and two touchdowns, Jeremy Singleton had five receptions for 125 yards and a touchdown and Courtney Lark caught four passes for 85 yards before exiting early in the fourth quarter with an injury. Houston (7-1, 4-0 American) won its fifth straight, totaling a season-high 684 yards of offense.

Johnny Ford rushed for 106 yards and two touchdowns, and Jordan Cronkrite rushed for 73 yards and a touchdown to lead USF (7-1, 3-1), which saw its eight-game winning streak snapped. Blake Barnett finished 26 of 39 for 263 yards and a touchdown.

After a safety on King for intentional grounding in the end zone, USF cut the lead to 28-26 on a 23-yard field goal by Coby Weiss with 10:47 remaining in the third quarter, but the Bulls would not get any closer.

King responded by breaking four tackles up the middle, spinning out of the final tackle, on a 4th and 7 for the 36-yard touchdown run to give Houston a 35-26 lead with 8:25 remaining in the third.

After USF cut the lead to six with a field goal, King hit Jeremy Singleton for a 52-yard touchdown pass before converting on a two-point conversion pass from Bryson Smith to Singleton to up the lead to 43-29 with 2:43 left in the third.

USF cut the lead in half with a 39-yard touchdown pass from Blake Barnett to DeAngelo Antoine with 36 seconds left in the third, but Mulbah Car rushed for an 11-yard touchdown a minute into the fourth to up the lead back to 14.

King found Raelon Singleton for a 27-yard touchdown pass with eight minutes left to up the lead to 21.

THE TAKEAWAY

USF: The Bulls rebounded from another sluggish start to tie the game twice in the second quarter but were unable to stop King. USF rushed for 176 yards in the first half, but were held to 28 yards in the second half.

Houston: The Cougars' offense led by King was able to beat USF both in the air and on the ground. Houston had six rushers total 265 yards. The defense forced two fourth quarter turnovers to seal the win.

OLIVER OUT

Houston All-American defensive tackle Ed Oliver missed the first game of his career Saturday with a bruised right knee. Oliver, who has 51 tackles, 13 1/2 tackles for loss and three sacks this season, saw his streak of 32 straight starts end.

POLL IMPLICATIONS

With the loss, South Florida will likely drop out of the Top 25. Houston, which received votes in the poll this week, should receive more votes and could possibly sneak in.

| | | | | | |
|--------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Final | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | T |
| USF | 0 | 21 | 15 | 0 | 36 |
| HOU | 14 | 14 | 15 | 14 | 57 |

Scoring Summary -----

| | USF | HOU |
|---|--------|--------|
| FIRST QUARTER | | |
| HOU TD 13:07 | | |
| D'Eriq King 47 Yd Run (Dalton Witherspoon Kick) | 0 | 7 |
| 7 plays, 75 yards, 1:53 | | |
| HOU TD 9:38 | | |
| Marquez Stevenson 15 Yd pass from D'Eriq King (Dalton Witherspoon Kick) | | 14 |
| 8 plays, 74 yards, 2:31 | 0 | |
| SECOND QUARTER | | |
| USF TD 10:33 | | |
| Jordan Cronkrite 1 Yd Run (Coby Weiss Kick) | 7 | 14 |
| 15 plays, 79 yards, 5:13 | | |
| USF TD 10:20 | | |
| Johnny Ford 32 Yd Run (Coby Weiss Kick) | 14 | 14 |
| 1 play, 32 yards, 0:08 | | |
| HOU TD 8:42 | | |
| Marquez Stevenson 38 Yd pass from D'Eriq King (Dalton Witherspoon Kick) | 14 | 21 |
| 5 plays, 84 yards, 1:38 | | |
| USF TD 3:50 | | |
| Johnny Ford 17 Yd Run (Coby Weiss Kick) | 21 | 21 |
| 13 plays, 83 yards, 4:52 | | |
| HOU TD 1:06 | | |
| Courtney Lark 30 Yd pass from D'Eriq King (Dalton Witherspoon Kick) | 21 | 28 |
| 8 plays, 75 yards, 2:44 | | |
| THIRD QUARTER | | |
| USF SF 12:56 | | |
| Team Safety | | |
| 2 plays, -1 yard, 0:30 | 23 | 28 |
| USF FG 10:47 | | |
| Coby Weiss 23 Yd Field Goal | 26 | 28 |
| 4 plays, 20 yards, 2:09 | | |
| HOU TD 8:25 | | |
| D'Eriq King 36 Yd Run (Dalton Witherspoon Kick) | 26 | 35 |
| 8 plays, 75 yards, 2:22 | | |
| USF FG 4:11 | | |
| Coby Weiss 25 Yd Field Goal | 29 | 35 |
| 11 plays, 67 yards, 4:14 | | |
| HOU TD 2:43 | | |
| Jeremy Singleton 52 Yd pass from D'Eriq King (Bryson Smith Pass to Jeremy Singleton for Two-Point Conversion) | 29 | 43 |
| 6 plays, 75 yards, 1:28 | | |
| USF TD 0:36 | | |
| DeAngelo Antoine 39 Yd pass from Blake Barnett (Coby Weiss Kick) | 36 | 43 |
| 6 plays, 75 yards, 2:07 | | |
| FOURTH QUARTER | | |
| HOU TD 13:47 | | |
| Mulbah Car 11 Yd Run (Dalton Witherspoon Kick) | 36 | 50 |
| 8 plays, 75 yards, 1:49 | | |
| HOU TD 8:05 | | |
| Raelon Singleton 27 Yd pass from D'Eriq King (Dalton Witherspoon Kick) | 36 | 57 |
| 2 plays, 30 yards, 0:45 | | |
| Team Stats | | |
| First Downs | USF 29 | HOU 35 |
| Total Yards | 467 | 684 |
| Total Plays | 81 | 89 |
| Avg Gain Per Play | 5.8 | 7.7 |
| Net Yards Rushing | 204 | 265 |
| Rushes | 42 | 48 |
| Yards Per Rush | 4.9 | 5.5 |
| Net Yards Passing | 263 | 419 |
| Comp-Att | 26-39 | 28-41 |
| Yards Per Pass | 6.7 | 10.2 |
| Times Sacked | 2 | 0 |
| Yds Lost To Sacks | -10 | 0 |
| Interceptions | 1 | 2 |
| Punts | 5 | 3 |
| Punt Average | 47.2 | 50.0 |
| Penalties | 8 | 5 |
| Penalty Yards | 85 | 52 |
| Fumbles | 2 | 0 |
| Fumbles Lost | 1 | 0 |
| Possession | 31:26 | 28:34 |

Individual Stats

RUSHING

| USF | Rush | Yds | Avg | TD | Long |
|------------------|------|-----|------|----|------|
| Johnny Ford | 16 | 106 | 6.6 | 2 | 32 |
| Jordan Cronkrite | 19 | 72 | 3.8 | 1 | 12 |
| Blake Barnett | 6 | 25 | 4.2 | 0 | 16 |
| HOU | | | | | |
| | Rush | Yds | Avg | TD | Long |
| D'Eriq King | 12 | 132 | 11.0 | 2 | 47 |
| Patrick Carr | 16 | 68 | 4.3 | 0 | 10 |
| Terence Williams | 11 | 35 | 3.2 | 0 | 11 |
| Mulbah Car | 7 | 28 | 4.0 | 1 | 11 |
| Keith Corbin | 1 | 2 | 2.0 | 0 | 2 |
| Bryson Smith | 1 | -3 | -3.0 | 0 | 0 |

PASSING

| USF | Comp | Att | Yds | Y/A | TD | Int | QBRat |
|---------------|------|-----|-----|------|----|-----|-------|
| Blake Barnett | 26 | 39 | 263 | 6.7 | 1 | 1 | 126.6 |
| HOU | | | | | | | |
| | Comp | Att | Yds | Y/A | TD | Int | QBRat |
| D'Eriq King | 28 | 40 | 419 | 10.5 | 5 | 2 | 184.6 |

RECEIVING

| USF | Rec | Yds | Avg | TD | Long |
|-------------------|-----|-----|------|----|------|
| Ryeshene Bronson | 5 | 52 | 10.4 | 0 | 26 |
| Darnell Salomon | 5 | 43 | 8.6 | 0 | 11 |
| Stanley Clerveaux | 5 | 42 | 8.4 | 0 | 12 |
| DeAngelo Antoine | 3 | 40 | 13.3 | 1 | 39 |
| Zion Roland | 3 | 39 | 13.0 | 0 | 17 |
| Mitchell Wilcox | 2 | 24 | 12.0 | 0 | 18 |
| Tyre McCants | 2 | 18 | 9.0 | 0 | 14 |
| Jernard Phillips | 1 | 5 | 5.0 | 0 | 5 |
| HOU | | | | | |
| | Rec | Yds | Avg | TD | Long |
| Jeremy Singleton | 5 | 125 | 25.0 | 1 | 52 |
| Marquez Stevenson | 6 | 106 | 17.7 | 2 | 45 |
| Courtney Lark | 4 | 85 | 21.3 | 1 | 30 |
| Romello Brooker | 5 | 46 | 9.2 | 0 | 18 |
| Raelon Singleton | 2 | 36 | 18.0 | 1 | 27 |
| D'Eriq King | 0 | 12 | 0.0 | 0 | 12 |
| Keith Corbin | 1 | 11 | 11.0 | 0 | 11 |
| Terence Williams | 1 | 3 | 3.0 | 0 | 3 |
| Bryson Smith | 4 | -5 | -1.3 | 0 | 2 |