

RAZORBACKS

COMMUNICATIONS

POSTGAME QUOTES

#18 Arkansas vs. UTEP

Sept. 5, 2015 – Fayetteville, Ark.

Donald W. Reynolds Razorback Stadium

ARKANSAS OFFENSIVE PLAYER QUOTES

Arkansas running back Alex Collins on play call balance: “I like the way the play calling is going. I like the ability for all of us to be able to pass and run the ball, especially down the long stretch. I don’t want to be one dimensional. I like the fact that we can go in and run the ball.”

Collins on Brandon Allen’s hot start: “I’m very impressed with Brandon. I see him practice every day and he’s come a long way, and he’s become so much better. For him to show everybody else what he can do it just makes me proud for him. He’s a good guy and he’s the most improved on this team.”

Arkansas quarterback Brandon Allen on Keon Hatcher’s performance: “Obviously we’ve thrown to each other for a long time. We’ve got that trust, that rapport within. I know where he’s going to be able to catch the ball it’s just up to me to give him a chance. He did well today.”

Allen on the balance of the offense: “I personally think we’re a balanced offense. We can run and we can pass. When one is working we’ll go with that, and when one is not we’ll go with the other one. I think that being a balanced offense is what it takes to win.”

ARKANSAS DEFENSIVE PLAYER QUOTES

Arkansas wide linebacker Brooks Ellis on turnovers after the half: “The turnovers were huge for us. We knew after the half that they were going to be coming out strong. With those two turnovers, it completely changed their momentum.”

Arkansas wide linebacker Brooks Ellis on defense: “We wanted to prove to everyone that we’re still a great defense even though we lost a lot of great guys. We’ve still got some work to do; we’ve got to prepare for next week. It is about keeping a winning mentality.”

Arkansas defensive end JaMichael Winston on defensive performance: “I felt that we did really well today. A couple of plays got by us in the beginning of the game. We knew we had to come back strong in the second half and that’s what we did.”

Arkansas defensive end JaMichael Winston on defensive line rotation: “The rotation that we had was very effective. We were able to keep guys fresh, and have more opportunities to go after their running back and quarterback.”

UTEP HEAD COACH QUOTES

UTEP Coach Sean Kugler Opening Statement: “We had some young guys, and they got us on some plays early. We’re going to roll with those guys all year and they will continue to get better. We need to clean up some things there. I was proud of the way the team competed. I had no issues with anybody, with their competitive nature. I thought they fought, even up to the end. Defense, they played on a short field the whole second half. We had some miscues on snaps that gave those guys a short field. I thought the defense battled hard in the second half. Offensively, I really felt we were going up against one of the better defenses in the nation. That was proven so last year. I felt we moved the ball effectively. The one interception, the batted ball for an interception really hurt us, and put our defense in a short field. I was proud of the guys and the way they competed. I feel good about the team. I feel we got through this game healthy, which was a concern of mine going into this game with a team as physical as Arkansas.”

Sean Kugler on Arkansas’ defensive transition from last season: “They looked like the same guys to me. They can fly around, they have a lot of talent. They have a good scheme, they’re a well-coached team. They’re physical on both sides of the ball. I told our team, you’ll be seeing these guys at the end of the year; and they might be standing there at the end of the year. That’s a good football team we played today. Excellent team.”

Sean Kugler on Arkansas Coach Bret Bielema: “They have a heck of a coach. I admire what they do. We really try to do a lot of the same things they do. They have a heck of a team. I’ll root for Arkansas. I like the way they do things.”

UTEP PLAYER QUOTES

UTEP senior middle linebacker Jimmy Musgrave on the Arkansas running game: “I’m proud of our defense and the physicality they maintained throughout the entire game. We came into this knowing that Arkansas was a big run team. We knew they were physical and we knew that they are known for that trait. We had heard that they had the biggest offensive line in the NCAA and the NFL, but I think considering the circumstances we played hard.”

UTEP junior running back Aaron Jones on team reaction to Arkansas: “We came into this knowing that Arkansas was going to be an incredible team. I think that their physicality helped us get better. Even with the crowd noise, we were able to stay calm and nobody gave up.”