

# Sports

## Brawlers light up Sun Bowl, win 41-0

SPC. BROOKS FLETCHER

31st ADA Brigade Public Affairs Office

With 1,000 in attendance, the El Paso Brawlers defended their perfect 6-0 record in a blowout game against the Lea County Lightning Saturday at the University of Texas at El Paso's Sun Bowl Stadium.

Although the first series of plays for both teams resulted in three downs and a punt, the Brawlers began to build momentum as they marched down the field and Brawler's quarterback, Derrick Davis, completed a 13-yard touchdown pass to wide receiver, Klay Gardener. Followed by the successful point after by kicker, Roman Marciel, El Paso took the lead, 7-0.

After another pair of unsuccessful drives by both teams; the next series by the Lightning resulted in a fumble recovered by El Paso's defensive end, Lloyd Taylor, which the Brawlers capitalized on. Marciel completed a 32-yard field goal, raising the score, 10-0.

After a fourth unsuccessful drive by Lea County, the Lightning recovered a fumble, only to end the series, and the quarter, with a punt.

The Lightning received a second chance as defensive back Brandon Taylor intercepted the stray ball from Davis. But, Murphy's Law continued to affect the Lightning as Brawler's linebacker Jeremy Arnold caused a fumble which was recovered by teammate, Santiago Williams.



Making room for Derrick Davis to run, Brawler Chris Leyva knocks Lightning's Mark Martinez backward.

El Paso took a 17-0 lead after Davis completed another 13-yard touchdown pass to tight end, Jon Cruz and the PAT by Marciel. Brawler's momentum raised to full throttle as El Paso's defense back, Marcus Hodge intercepted a pass, giving the Brawlers one last possession before the half ended. A 47-yard run by running back, Tony Decquir, was fol-

lowed by Decquir running in a three-yard touchdown, ending the half at Brawlers, 24, Lightning, 0.

The second half began with the Lightning's seventh possession of the game, ending in a fumble, recovered by Brawler's safety, Miguel Abbud.

El Paso showed no mercy, as wide receiver Rene Balderama, on the receiving end of Davis' 33-yard touchdown pass, increased the lead to 31-0.

After a demoralizing rampage down the field, Marciel completed a 16-yard field goal, boosting the lead to 34-0 at the beginning of the fourth quarter.

During their eighth possession of the game, a series of penalties set the Lightning back to fourth and 20, forcing the punt.

Once again, Davis and the Brawlers capitalized on the series with a five-yard pass to Gardener. The successful PAT put the score at 41-0.

After a strong defensive hold, the Brawlers received the punt and began a drive that ended in a fumble recovered by the Lightning, who ended the game with a fumble of their own.



El Paso's minor league football team increased their regular season record to 7-0, leading the Southern Division of the Southwest Football Conference.

The Brawlers will play their last two games of the regular season at the Sun Bowl against the Roswell Invasion and the Rhinos, May 12 and 19, respectively.

For information on the Brawlers, visit [www.brawlersfootball.com](http://www.brawlersfootball.com).



Lea County's Derrick Butler receives a vicious stiff arm from El Paso's Tony Decquir.



Brawler's Rene Balderama holds the snap as Roman Marciel prepares to kick the point after.

PHOTOS BY SPC BROOKS FLETCHER