



TEXAS TECH FOOTBALL

POSTGAME NOTES

GAME
1



HOUSTON
Sept. 4, 2021



NRG Stadium (72,220)
Houston, Texas

6 p.m. CT
ESPN
TTU Sports Network

GETTING STARTED

- Today's weather: Dome. NRG Stadium Roof was closed for today's game.
- Texas Tech won the coin toss and elected to defer to the second half. Houston received the ball to start the game.
- Today's game was televised nationally on ESPN. It was Texas Tech's first appearance on the worldwide leader of sport's main platform since traveling to face Arizona on Sept. 14, 2019.
- Today's game marked the 33rd all-time between Texas Tech and Houston. It was the third time two programs met at a neutral site. The previous two were at the Alamodome in San Antonio, Texas.
- Today's game marked the second time Texas Tech has appeared in the Texas Kickoff - vs. Ole Miss, Sept. 1, 2018.
- Today's game marked the third time Texas Tech has appeared in a game at NRG Stadium - vs. LSU (L, 56-27), Dec. 29, 2015 AdvoCare Texas Bowl / vs. Ole Miss (L, 47-27), Sept. 1, 2018 Texas Kickoff
- Texas Tech wore black helmets, white jerseys and black pants for the season opener. Since 2009, it is the most used combination behind the Tech's all-black combo (24). The Red Raiders are now 13-9 in the combination used today.
- Today's game captains were McLane Mannix, Tony Bradford Jr. and Marques Waters. As part of Texas Tech's entrance pregame, Eric Monroe carried the U.S. flag, while Adrian Frye ran out with the state of Texas flag.
- Today's attendance: 43,478.

Starters - (Offense) - (LT) T.J. Storment, (LG) Weston Wright, (C) Dawson Deaton, (RG) Josh Burger (RT) Caleb Rogers, (QB) Tyler Shough, (RB) Tahj Brooks, (TE) Travis Kountz, (WR) Kaylon Geiger Sr., (WR) Myles Price, (WR) Erik Ezukanma; **(Defense)** - (DE) Tyree Wilson, (N) Jaylon Hutchings, (T) Devin Drew, (SAM) Colin Schooler, (MIKE) Riko Jeffers, (WILL) Brandon Bouyer-Randle, (CB) Adrian Frye, (SPUR) Reggie Pearson Jr., (CB) DaMarcus Fields, (S) Eric Monroe, (S) Marquis Waters.

TEXAS TECH'S WIN...

- Gives Texas Tech a 1-0 overall record, and is 18-2 in its last 20 season openers.
- Gives Texas Tech a 14-18-1 all-time record against Houston, including a 3-0 mark in games played at a neutral site.
- Gives Texas Tech nine wins in its last 10 games over Houston.
- Gives Texas Tech a 16-3 record in games against former Southwest Conference foe (since league disbanded in 1995).
- Gives Texas Tech a 67-27-3 all-time record in season opening games.
- Gives Matt Wells a career record of 9-14 at Texas Tech.
- Gives Matt Wells a 53-48 career record all-time as a head coach.
- Gives Matt Wells a 1-0 career record all-time against Houston.

TEXAS TECH'S TEAM NOTES

- Texas Tech extended its scoring streak to 293-consecutive games with Tahj Brooks' 41-yard TD run in the second quarter. The streak currently ranks as the eighth-longest active streak in the FBS and the second-longest in the Big 12 Conference. The Red Raiders currently boast the 11th-longest streak in FBS history.
- Texas Tech surrendered a touchdown in the game's opening drive. The Red Raiders allowed just one touchdown on an opening drive in 2020 (vs. Texas, Sept. 26). The Raiders held UH to 1-of-4 on third down but UH was 3-for-3 on 4th downs that aided a 16-play, 75-yard scoring drive.
- The first takeaway of the season for the Red Raiders belonged to Reggie Pearson Jr. An interception in the second quarter.
- Texas Tech trailed, 21-7, at halftime. Matt Wells improves 2-12 in games at Tech, and 6-35 in his career, when trailing at the half.
- Texas Tech overcame a 14-point deficit for the second time in the last four games (Baylor, 2020). Prior to Baylor, Texas Tech had not overcome such a deficit since defeating Kansas in 2011.
- Texas Tech recorded its first defensive touchdown of the season. Matt Wells' defensive units are no stranger to finding the end zone as it's the 25th defensive score under his watch in his nine-year career. Texas Tech ranked tied for seventh in the FBS with three defensive TDs in 2020.
- Texas Tech's four interception game is its most in a single game since racking up five versus SMU in 2008. The Red Raiders recorded five INTs total in 2020.
- Texas Tech posted 11.0 tackles for a loss. The most since recording 11.0 TFLs against Baylor on Oct. 12, 2019.
- Texas Tech has forced at least three takeaways against Houston in three of the last four games they've faced off.
- Texas Tech's 17 points in the third quarter were the most points in a single frame since facing Texas on Sept. 26, 2020, recording 21 in the third quarter of the game.
- Texas Tech shutout Houston in the second half, outscoring UH 31-0. It was the first time the Red Raiders shutout its opponent in a half since shutting out No. 15 Oklahoma State in the second half on Sept. 22, 2018.

NOTING THE RED RAIDERS

- Six players saw their first career starts as Red Raiders - five of six were transfers seeing their first action at Tech. First career starts: QB Tyler Shough, RB Tahj Brooks, WR Kaylon Geiger Sr., LT T.J. Storment, SPUR Reggie Pearson Jr. and S Marques Waters.
- Tahj Brooks burst for a career-long 41-yard rush for the Red Raiders' first touchdown in the game. It narrowed the deficit to 14-7 with 11:47 remaining in the first half.
- Brooks finished with a career-high 134 yards rushing. The sophomore's previous single game high was 79, set at Kansas in the finale last season.
- Wisconsin transfer Reggie Pearson Jr. logged his first career interception as a collegiate player in the second quarter.
- QB Tyler Shough was 8-of-9 passing for 83 yards in the first half. He finished 17-of-24 for 231 yards, one touchdown and zero interceptions. He added 21 yards and a rushing score.
- Shough's first touchdown as a Red Raider was a rushing score. The junior-transfer scrambled for an 8-yard score for his third career rushing touchdown as he found the end zone twice on the ground at Oregon in 2020.
- Four Red Raiders tallied their first sacks of the season, respectively - Tony Bradford Jr., Riko Jeffers, Jaylon Hutchings and Tyree Wilson.
- With his first career interception, Riko Jeffers' registered Texas Tech first pick-6 since Adrian Frye posted a pick-6 versus Lamar on Sept. 8, 2018.
- Erik Ezukanma led all receivers with 179 yards and registered his third career 100-yard receiving game. He was four yards shy of matching his career-high of 183.
- Eric Monroe recorded his first career interception with under two minutes in the third quarter. It led to three points for the Red Raiders and their first lead of the game, 24-21.
- Colin Schooler recorded double-digit tackles. Is is the second time doing so at Texas Tech, and 15th time in his collegiate career.