

# Texas Tech

## RED RAIDER FOOTBALL

### POSTGAME NOTES

GAME

3



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TEXAS TECH RED RAIDERS

2-1, 0-0 Big 12

VS

NORTH TEXAS MEAN GREEN

2-1, 0-0 AAC

21



Sept. 14, 2024 | 11:03 a.m. CT | Jones AT&T Stadium | Lubbock, Texas | FS1

#### TEXAS TECH

Record	2-1 Overall; 0-0 Big 12
Streak	W1
Head Coach	Joey McGuire
Career Record	17-12 (3rd Season)
Record vs. UNT	1-0
Today's attendance	57,865
Kickoff temperature	83 degrees
Length of Game	3:47

#### TODAY'S STARTERS

**(Offense)** - (LT) Dalton Merryman, (LG) Caleb Rogers, (C) Sheridan Wilson, (RG) Davion Carter, (RT) Ty Buchanan, (QB) Behren Morton, (RB) Tahj Brooks, (TE) Mason Tharp, (WR) Coy Eakin, (WR) Caleb Douglas, (WR) Josh Kelly  
**(Defense)** - (DT) De'Braylon Carroll, (DT) E'Maurion Banks, (OLB) Isaac Smith, (LB-WILL) Jacob Rodriguez, (LB-MIKE) Ben Roberts, (OLB) Braylon Rigsby, (STAR) A.J. McCarty, (CB) Bralyn Lux, (S) Chapman Lewis, (S) C.J. Baskerville, (CB) Maurion Horn

#### NOTING THE RED RAIDERS

##### OFFENSE

###### QB, Behren Morton (Jr.)

- Improves to 6-1 in his career in games he started and finished at Jones AT&T Stadium.
- Completed 14 of his final 16 passes - after starting 1-of-3. Finished the game 15-of-19 (79 completion percentage) - all in the first half. DNP in second half.
- Recorded explosive passing plays of 70, 45 and 42 yards; it was the most explosive plays of 40 yards or better in Morton's career. Two of the three went for scores.  
→ The 70-yd pass play with the longest pass play of his career.
- Entered season owning a single-game career-high of three passing touchdowns; has opened 2024 season with five TD passes in game one and four TD pass versus North Texas.
- His 10 passing touchdowns over the first three games is the most to start a season since Patrick Mahomes II started the 2016 season with 14 touchdowns over the first three games.

###### RB, Tahj Brooks (Sr.)

- Rushed for 109 yards on 17 carries in the first half; did not see the field in the second half as Tech led 52-7 at the break.
- Moved to No. 6 on Texas Tech's all-time career rushing yardage list, moving his career total to 3,314. He moved past Taureon Henderson (3,241) and is now 97 yards shy of matching DeAndre Washington (3,411) at No. 5.
- Scored his 30th career rushing TD. His 30 career TDs rank as the ninth-most in program history.
- Registered his 14th career 100-yard game. Has recorded a 100-yard game in 10 out of his last 13 games played.
- Had three carries for 34 yards on the opening drive.

###### RB, Cameron Dickey (Fr.)

- Scored first career rushing touchdown.

###### RB, J'Koby Williams (Fr.)

- Scored first career rushing touchdown.

###### WR, Micah Hudson (Fr.)

- Recorded a career-high 3 receptions with a career-high 43 yards.

###### WR, Coy Eakin (So.)

- Had one catch for 70 yards and a touchdown. It was the longest pass play of his career.

###### WR, Josh Kelly (Sr.)

- Was limited to two receptions (only played first half). It upped his season total to 21 receptions through his first three games, which is the most catches by a Red Raider through three games since Kesean Carter's 21 receptions in 2020.

##### DEFENSE

###### LB, Bryce Ramirez (Sr.)

- Had first career interception of his career, hauling in a pass in the second quarter.
- Shared team-lead in tackles (5) with John Curry.

###### DB, Chapman Lewis (So.)

- Recorded an interception for the second-straight game. The last time a Red Raider had a pick in back-to-back games was Malik Dunlap (Sept. 16, 2023 vs. Tarleton State/Sept. 23, 2023 at West Virginia).
- Had a season-high four tackles.

###### DB, Bralyn Lux (Sr.)

- Returned an interception 44 yards for a touchdown in the second quarter. It was the first pick-6 for the Red Raiders since Malik Dunlap returned an interception for a touchdown on Sept. 16, 2023 versus Tarleton State.
- It was the fourth interception of his career and the first career touchdown of his career.

#### GETTING STARTED

- Today's weather at kickoff: 83 degrees, 13 mph winds from the southwest and partly cloudy skies.
- Texas Tech won the coin toss and chose to defer the kickoff in the first half. North Texas started the second half with the ball.
- Texas Tech wore black helmets with red jerseys and white pants against North Texas.
- Today's game captains were Tahj Brooks, Joseph Plunk, Jacob Rodriguez and Isaac Smith.

#### TODAY'S WIN...

- Gives Texas Tech a 5-4 all-time record against North Texas.  
→ Today's game marked the first matchup against the Mean Green since Sept. 22, 2001.  
→ Today's game is the first of a home-and-home series; Tech is scheduled to travel to Denton on Sept. 11, 2027.
- Gives Texas Tech four-straight wins at home.
- Gives Texas Tech its 50th nonconference win in games played at Jones AT&T Stadium since the start of 2000 season.  
→ Tech owns a 50-3 record (94.3%) in nonconference games played at Jones AT&T Stadium since the start of 2000 season.
- Gives Joey McGuire an 17-12 career record as head coach at Texas Tech.
- Gives Joey McGuire a 7-1 career record as head coach in home games played in August/September at Texas Tech.
- Gives Joey McGuire an 14-6 career record versus opponents that are unranked.
- Gives Joey McGuire an 12-3 career record in games played at Jones AT&T Stadium.
- Gives the Texas Tech football program its 599th all-time victory after its first game of its 100th season of football.

#### TEAM NOTES

- Texas Tech set the modern-era school record for the most points scored in the first half of play, leading 52-7 at the break.  
→ It was the most points in a first half since scoring 49 versus Indiana State on Sept. 24, 2005. The Red Raiders had scored 49 points three times in a first half -- back-to-back games in 2005 with Sam Houston on Sept. 17 and Indiana State on Sept. 24 as well as the first time on Oct. 27, 2001 versus Baylor.  
→ Tech's 52 points was the most in a first half by any Big 12 team since Baylor scored 52 to open its game versus Kansas on Oct. 10, 2015.
- Tech scored on seven straight drives to open the game. Tech scored on seven of its eight possessions in the first half.
- Texas Tech won by 45 points, defeating North Texas 66-21. It was the Red Raiders' largest margin of victory since its 53-point win versus Murray State on Sept. 3, 2022.
- Texas Tech has never lost a game under McGuire when scoring 40+ points. The Red Raiders improved to 9-0 in those games.
- Texas Tech improves to 11-1 under McGuire in games holding opponents under 25 points.
- Texas Tech's defense recorded three interceptions. The Red Raiders have produced three interceptions in two of their last four games played (Dec. 16, 2023 vs. Cal).
- With today's win, McGuire improves to 17-12 as head coach of the Red Raiders, which matches Tommy Tuberville (2010-12) for the best record through 29 games since Steve Sloan (1975-77). Sloan was 21-8 at the same point of his Texas Tech tenure, which is the best of any head coach in school history followed by E.Y. Freeland (18-6-5, 1925-28), Pete Cawthon (19-10, 1951-60) and then the trio of McGuire, Tuberville and Jim Carlen (1970-74).
- Texas Tech led the turnover margin 3 to 1. The Red Raiders improve to 9-2 under McGuire when winning the turnover margin and 5-0 when have three or more takeaways.
- The UNT defense entered the game allowing just 3.4 yards per carry; the Red Raiders averaged 6.3 yards per carry on 37 attempts on Saturday led by Tahj Brooks' 17 carries for a 6.4 average.
- Texas Tech had 11 different pass catchers for the second-straight game.
- Tech's starting lineup featured two first time starters in junior Dalton Merryman (OL) and RS-freshman Braylon Rigsby (DL).
- Texas Tech was a perfect 1-for-1 on 4th downs today - turning that attempt into a touchdown. The Red Raiders are now 3-for-9 this season on fourth-down tries.



**CAPTAINS LOG**

*Breakdown of week-by-week game captains for Texas Tech*

**1 Abilene Christian**

Tony Bradford Jr. (1)	Austin McNamara (1)	Bryce Ramirez (1)	Cole Spencer (1)
<b>2 at Washington State</b>			
Jaylon Hutchings (1)	Myles Price (1)	Tyler Shough (1)	Dadrian Taylor-Demerson (1)

**RB, Tahj Brooks (Sr.) Yards By the Half**

<b>1st H (Car./Yds/TD)</b>	<b>2nd H (Car./Yds/TD)</b>
1. ACU: 13/83/1	1. ACU: 14/70/0
2. WSU: <i>dnp</i>	2. WSU: <i>dnp</i>

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TEXAS TECH'S LOSS...

- Gives Texas Tech a 2-1 all-time record against Washington State.  
→ Today's game marked the first matchup against the Cougars since Nov. 14, 1964.  
→ Today's game marked the first time Texas Tech traveled to Pullman having played the Cougars in Lubbock twice (1963 & 1964).
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- Gives Joey McGuire an 13-6 career record versus opponents that are unranked.
- Gives Joey McGuire an 3-9 career record in true road games.

	Name (Years) - CAREER	Yards	
6.	Taurean Henderson (2002-05)	3,241	561
7.	James Hadnot (1976-79)	2,794	114
8.	Tahj Brooks (2020-present)	2,680	

	Name (Years) - SINGLE	Yards	
8.	James Hadnot (1978)	1,369	203
9.	Byron Morris (1992)	1,279	113
10.	Tahj Brooks (2023)	1,166	

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- Tech enters UCF game having used 39 different starters in 2023; 10 of those were underclassmen.
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- Fourth down success/attempts?
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- Tech is 3-10 if scoring 34 or less in a game in the last two seasons.
- Record when leading turnover margin?

- By eclipsing 2,500 rushing yards and 25 rushing touchdowns, Tahj Brooks would be the ninth Red Raider to do so.

1.	Byron Hanspard (1994-96)	4,219 / 29
2.	James Gray (1986-89)	4,066 / 52
3.	Ricky Williams (1997-01)	3,661 / 36
4.	Byron Morris (1991-93)	3,545 / 37
5.	Taurean Henderson (2002-05)	3,241 / 50
6.	SeRoderick Thompson Jr. (2018-22)	2,664 / 40
7.	Larry Isaac (1973-76)	2,633 / 31
8.	Baron Batch (2006, 2008-10)	2,501 / 25