

REMOVING THE SOOT

Texas looks to clear the air around the one-sided rivalry.



THE DAILY
TEXAN PRESENTS

Double Coverage

VOL. 15 ISSUE 7 | Nov. 6, 2020

JUAN FIGUEROA / THE DAILY TEXAN FILE

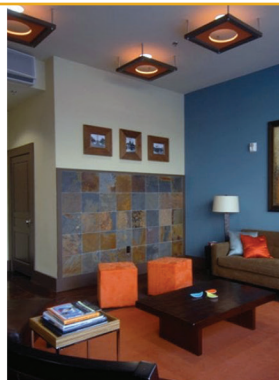
QUARTERS ON CAMPUS

WEST CAMPUS LIVING REDEFINED

- 1-4 BEDROOMS
- 24HR FITNESS CENTER
- 6 LOCATIONS
- 2-4 BLOCKS FROM CAMPUS
- BUSINESS CENTER
- SWIMMING POOL

512-531-0123

QUARTERSONCAMPUS.COM
2222 RIO GRANDE ST | AUSTIN, TX | 78705

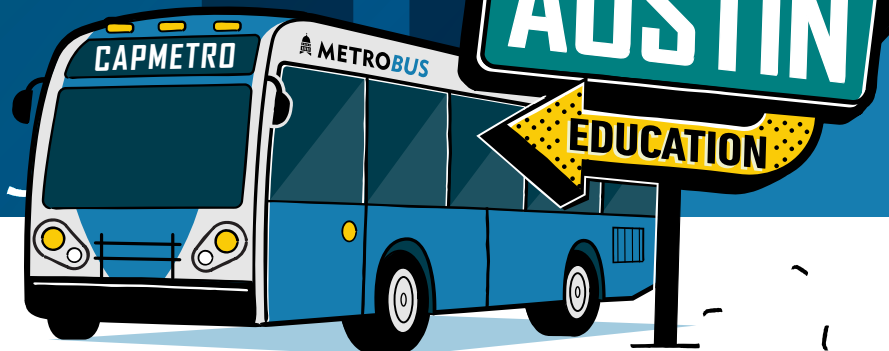


THE UNIVERSE DOESN'T END AT YOUR UNIVERSITY.

Become a scholar of
the city for free with
your UT Student ID and
discover what lies
beyond the 40 Acres!



Just swipe your
ID when you board.



Before embarking on your journey, remember to
ride with CARE! A face covering is required to use
CapMetro services. Ready to roll? Plan your trip at:

[CapMetro.org/planner](https://www.capmetro.org/planner)

University Extension

In College, **Time is Money**

Stay on track to graduate in four years with self-paced online UT Austin credit courses offered through University Extension. Talk to your advisor about options.

- ▶ Explore Course Options extension.utexas.edu



TEXAS Extended Campus

The University of Texas at Austin

Center for Professional Education

Add Some **Burnt Orange** to Your Resume

Advance your professional skills. Certificate programs and short courses available, all online.

- ▶ Start Anytime professionaled.utexas.edu



TEXAN STAFF PICKS

	Myah Taylor	Stephen Wagner	Nathan Han	Carter Yates	Brittany Archer	Matthew Boncosky	Daniela Perez	Brett Hintz	Jack Myer
West Virginia @ No. 22 Texas	Texas	Texas	Texas	Texas	Texas	Texas	Texas	Texas	Texas
No. 1 Clemson @ No. 4 Notre Dame	Clemson	Clemson	Clemson	Clemson	Clemson	Clemson	Clemson	Clemson	Notre Dame
No. 8 Florida @ No. 5 Georgia	Florida	Florida	Georgia	Florida	Georgia	Georgia	Georgia	Georgia	Georgia
No. 23 Michigan @ No. 13 Indiana	Michigan	Michigan	Michigan	Indiana	Indiana	Michigan	Indiana	Indiana	Indiana
No. 9 BYU @ No. 21 Boise State	BYU	Boise State	BYU	BYU	BYU	BYU	BYU	BYU	BYU
No. 7 Texas A&M @ South Carolina	Texas A&M	South Carolina	Texas A&M	South Carolina	Texas A&M	Texas A&M	Texas A&M	Texas A&M	Texas A&M
Houston @ No. 6 Cincinnati	Cincinnati	Cincinnati	Cincinnati	Cincinnati	Cincinnati	Cincinnati	Cincinnati	Cincinnati	Cincinnati
Arizona State @ No. 20 USC	USC	USC	USC	USC	USC	USC	USC	USC	USC
Tennessee @ Arkansas	Arkansas	Tennessee	Tennessee	Arkansas	Tennessee	Tennessee	Arkansas	Arkansas	Tennessee
Texas Tech @ TCU	TCU	TCU	TCU	TCU	TCU	TCU	TCU	TCU	TCU
Week 9 Results	4-5	5-4	6-3	3-6	3-6	5-4	4-5	3-6	6-3
Overall Record	33-24	33-24	33-24	33-24	31-26	30-27	33-24	31-26	34-23

OVERALL STANDINGS

1. Jack Myer
- T-2. Nathan Han, Carter Yates, Myah Taylor, Stephen Wagner, Daniel Perez
- T-7. Brittany Archer, Brett Hintz
9. Matthew Boncosky

BUSINESS & ADVERTISING

(512) 471-8590
advertise@texasstudentmedia.com

Director
Gerald Johnson

Business/Operations Manager
Frank Serpas III

Advertising Manager
Emily Cohen

Assistant Advertising Manager
Grant Daniels

Production
Michael Gammon

Account Executives
Diane Byram, Pam Garner, Julianne Phillip

Design
Tillie Policastro

THE DAILY TEXAN MAIL SUBSCRIPTION RATES

One Semester (Fall/Spring)
\$60.00

Two Semesters (Fall & Spring)
\$120.00

Summer Session
\$40.00

One Year (Fall, Spring and Summer)
\$150.00

To charge by VISA or MasterCard, call 471-5083. Send orders and address changes to Texas Student Media, P.O. Box D, Austin, TX 78713-8904.

ADVERTISING DEADLINES

Ad space is reserved by noon at least two business days before regular publications. For special editions and other advertising opportunities please speak with a TSM account executive for deadlines and additional details. **The Fall 2020 publication schedule is Tuesday and Friday.**

Contact advertise@texasstudentmedia.com.

COPYRIGHT

Copyright 2020 Texas Student Media. All articles, photographs and graphics, both in the print and online editions, are the property of Texas Student Media and may not be reproduced or republished in part or in whole without written permission.

The Daily Texan, a student newspaper at The University of Texas at Austin, is published by Texas Student Media, 2500 Whitis Ave., Austin, TX 78712. Our work is made possible by support from our advertising partners and donors. To provide individual support, please visit The Daily Texan page at supportstudentvoices.org. To highlight your business, please email advertise@texasstudentmedia.com. The Daily Texan does not publish during academic breaks, most Federal Holidays and exam periods. News contributions will be accepted by telephone (471-4591), or at the editorial office (HSM 2.120). Entire contents copyright 2020 Texas Student Media.

THE DAILY TEXAN DOUBLE COVERAGE

Double Coverage Editors

Myah Taylor, Stephen Wagner

Design Editor Christina Peebles
Photo Editor Jack Myer
Copy Editor Brittany Miller

Writers
Nathan Han Matthew Boncosky
Carter Yates Daniela Perez
Brittany Archer Brett Hintz

Issue Designers
Minka Atkinson Isabella Waltz

Management

Jason Lihuang, Megan Menchaca

EDITOR'S NOTE

Beating No. 6 Oklahoma State last Saturday in Stillwater didn't bring Texas "back," though it was a step in the right direction. The win means the Longhorns can hang on to their Big 12 championship hopes, as far-fetched as they may seem. The march back to conference relevance continues this week against a West Virginia team that has historically gotten the best of Texas and certainly has revenge in mind after last year's Longhorn win in Morgantown.

Myah Taylor & Stephen Wagner

RECYCLE YOUR COPY OF THE DAILY TEXAN

GAMES **TO** WATCH

By Brittany Archer | @brittanyarcher_

NO. 1 CLEMSON AT NO. 4 NOTRE DAME

Nov. 7, 6:30 p.m. CT, NBC

Clemson heads to Notre Dame for its toughest game of the season but without star quarterback Trevor Lawrence after he was sidelined last weekend with a COVID-19 diagnosis. Lawrence will travel with the team but not play until the precautionary cardiovascular tests are completed. Clemson missed Lawrence in last weekend's game against Boston College, where they came back from an 18-point deficit. Clemson goes into the game as the favorite but will have to rely on freshman quarterback D.J. Uiagalelei while Notre Dame turns to senior quarterback Ian Book and its nationally ranked defense. Can the Fighting Irish take advantage, or will the Tigers work their magic?

WEST VIRGINIA AT NO. 22 TEXAS

Nov. 7, 11 a.m. CT, ABC

After an overtime thriller in Stillwater, the Longhorns are back in Austin to face the West Virginia Mountaineers. While the win last weekend was a fresh breath of air for Texas, the Mountaineers are coming off a statement win against the Kansas State Wildcats last weekend. The Longhorns are 4-5 all time against West Virginia and only 1-4 at Darrell K Royal-Texas Memorial Stadium.

HOUSTON AT NO. 6 CINCINNATI

Nov. 7, 2:30 p.m. CT, ESPN

The No. 6 Cincinnati Bearcats continue their dark horse run into the College Football Playoff as they host the Houston Cougars. The 5-0 Bearcats look to remain unbeaten, and the 2-2 Cougars are hoping to bounce back from their 44-21 loss to UCF last weekend. The Bearcat defense obliterated both SMU and Memphis in back-to-back weeks, while the Cougar offense often stalled against UCF.

NO. 12 OREGON AT STANFORD

Nov. 7, 6:30 p.m. CT, ABC

In the first prime-time matchup of the year, the No. 20 Oregon Ducks head down to Palo Alto, California, to face the Stanford Cardinal. The Ducks have kept mum on who will replace former quarterback Justin Herbert, but return most of last year's squad. The Cardinal find themselves in a rebuild as a majority of their roster from last season transferred in the offseason, including current Mississippi State quarterback K.J. Costello.

NO. 9 BYU AT NO. 21 BOISE STATE

Nov. 6, 8:45 p.m. CT, FS1

The 7-0 BYU Cougars haven't faced much of a challenge this season. After the majority of their opponents canceled the fall season or adjusted to a conference-only season, the Cougars scrambled to throw together a schedule. While the No. 9 Cougars have benefited from their adjusted, but weak, schedule, they travel to the blue turf of Boise State as the 2-0 Broncos look to avenge last season's upset. Will the Broncos benefit from a late start, or will the Cougars' momentum carry on?

NO. 8 FLORIDA AT NO. 5 GEORGIA

Nov. 7, 2:30 p.m. CT, CBS

Saturday will be the unofficial SEC East championship game as the top two in the SEC East are set for a showdown in Jacksonville, Florida. While a trip to the SEC championship is on the line, both team's college football playoff dreams are also on the line. Florida has had a bit of a roller-coaster season. After suspending all program activity for two weeks following a program COVID-19 outbreak, the Gators ended up in a brawl with Missouri in last weekend's emotion-filled return to the field. Will the Gators be able to control their emotions, or will the Bulldogs be able to get under their skin?



Begin Your Journey

Whether you are a star on the field or a star in the classroom, start thinking about your future and stay an additional year to earn your master's degree at McCombs. Choose from accounting, finance, business analytics, marketing, or information technology and management.

[Explore now](#)



The University of Texas at Austin
McCombs School of Business

HORNS DOWN: ONE-SIDED RIVALRY



WALRY



JUAN FIGUEROA / THE DAILY TEXAN FILE

The Mountaineers will look to earn their sixth win all-time over self-proclaimed conference rival Texas.

By Myah Taylor
@t_myah

The only Big 12 team that might love flashing “Horns Down” more than Oklahoma is West Virginia. For the Mountaineers, the hand gesture is the best way to mock their biggest

conference rival: Texas.

West Virginia has faced the Longhorns just nine times in program history, and the Mountaineers didn’t join the Big 12 until 2012. Aside from the thrilling 2018 matchup in Austin that culminated in WVU quarterback Will Grier flashing “Horns Down” at the UT student section, nothing has elicited a bitter rivalry between the two teams like the ones Texas holds with Oklahoma and Texas A&M.

Longhorn fans and players may not think about West Virginia outside of the teams’ annual matchup, but the Mountaineers have chosen Texas to fill their void.

“I think it stems back to the fact that we don’t really have rivals anymore,” said Tyler Redding, the executive director of WVU’s official student section, the Mountaineer Maniacs. “When the Big East folded, we lost our rivals in Pitt and Virginia Tech and the games that we used to play against Penn State.”

Texas’ blue blood status and the “Horns Down” signal made the Longhorns an easy target, Redding said. West Virginia fans go all in because it gives them something to be excited about.

Saturday’s matchup against the Mountaineers will be just another must-win game for the Longhorns. Texas senior quarterback Sam Ehlinger won’t be thinking about the teams’ rivalry, or lack thereof, this weekend.

“We always enjoy competing against West Virginia. Incredible team,” Ehlinger said. “We look at every game as the next one. I don’t know in regards to rivalry what we think about that, but we know it’s another Big 12 game against a really good opponent.”

The rivalry may seem one-sided, but the Mountaineers lead the all-time series over Texas 5-4.

Even in Austin, West Virginia will be a challenge for the Longhorns. The Mountaineers have the No. 1-ranked defense in the Big 12, a solid head coach in Neal Brown and a playmaking quarterback in redshirt junior

quarterback Jarret Doege.

West Virginia might play Texas harder than any of its other opponents this season, too.

It’s a common theme for the Longhorns, whom 11 college football teams consider a rival, according to a study done at the University of Memphis.

“I think that’s pretty cool that a lot of teams think that we’re rivals,” senior defensive lineman Ta’Quon Graham said. “It’s kind of like a badge of honor for teams to hold us to that regard.”

Mountaineer fans can say their team was a catalyst that turned “Horns Down” into a penalty. During the 2018 matchup between Texas and West Virginia, officials penalized the team twice for flashing the hand gesture.

Conference officials announced at the 2019 Big 12 Media Days that referees would flag Big 12 players who flash the “Horns Down.” These regulations haven’t stopped fans from utilizing the gesture, especially not in West Virginia. The inverted Hook ‘Em Horns is a staple, from T-shirts to bumper stickers.



I think that’s pretty cool that a lot of teams think that we’re rivals. It’s kind of like a badge of honor for teams to hold us to that regard.”

TA’QUON GRAHAM

SENIOR DEFENSIVE LINEMAN

Other teams blast “Take Me Home, Country Roads” when they beat West Virginia, so “Horns Down” should be fair game, Redding said. He and a sprinkling of other Mountaineers fans will travel to Austin for the game Saturday, and “Horns Down” just might make an appearance.

“We were looking for not a rivalry because we’ll probably never be able to figure out a rivalry with someone that’s over a 1,000 miles or 800 miles away, but it’s just something that we’re trying to hold on to,” Redding said.

NOTES FROM THE OPPONENT

By Stephen Wagner
@stephenwag22

The Daily Texan spoke with Matthew Digby, sports editor of The Daily Athenaeum, ahead of this week's matchup between Texas and West Virginia.

The Daily Texan: This week was obviously very complex because NCAA student-athletes were given Election Day off. Do you think the off day is going to end up affecting West Virginia's performance Saturday?

Matthew Digby: I wouldn't think that it would, not significantly at least. I feel like they've been planning for (Election Day) so far in advance,

so I don't think it would have that great of an impact on the game itself. I'm sure the coaching staff has planned that out way ahead of time.

“

I will be very curious to see how it goes against Texas because Texas is definitely the best offense we've seen this year.”

MATTHEW DIGBY
DAILY ATHENAEUM
SPORTS EDITOR

DT: We've heard all about the Mountaineer defense ranked fourth in the

nation in total defense, first in the Big 12 and coming off a blowout victory against then-No. 16 Kansas State. Is this defense for real, or do you have concerns as it goes up against Texas, Oklahoma and Iowa State in the second half of its schedule?

MD: I will be very curious to see how it goes against Texas because Texas is definitely the best offense we've seen this year, and I don't even think it's really that close. The closest West Virginia played would be Oklahoma State, and I think they played fairly well against Oklahoma State. The offense just couldn't get going. I think it's for real in a lot of ways, but I think it also will

be very telling as to how they match up with Texas this weekend.

DT: How does head coach Neal Brown's coaching style differ from Dana Holgorsen, the previous head coach, now that he's had time to start making his mark on the program?

MD: It's really clear with the way Neal just talks about the way he wants to build his offense is (through) the running game. He wants to establish the running game immediately, and Dana definitely was trying to get those guys out of space as much as possible and just heave it long with (former quarterback) Will Griner and all those great

quarterbacks that he had. Neal Brown wants to get on the ground as much as he possibly can, and (junior running back) Leddie Brown has really stepped up tremendously this year. I think he's definitely taking steps in the right direction for the running game, and I think it can only go up from here.

DT: Last season, West Virginia was very much in a rebuild, but it seems to have turned things around pretty quickly. Did you expect the Mountaineers to have this level of success in Neal Brown's second season?

MD: I was saying when the season started that if they could make a bowl game, I think it would be a great

step in the right direction. Hopefully, it's still going that way. I think the addition of a guy like (graduate transfer linebacker) Tony Fields (II), who is like a senior, (is helpful). He's played ball for a long time. And then having the Stills brothers on defense and just having that kind of upper-classmen leadership just helps so much. I wasn't expecting this defense to come out the way it has. I am really impressed with the way the defense has looked. And they're so young offensively that I think that there's so much potential there, but they (haven't) completely found their footing yet. But they did take a step up last week against Kansas State.

Research Study Enrolling Now

Compensation up to \$4,600



PPD is using **COVID-Smart practices** to promote the safety of our volunteers and staff.



COPYRIGHT WVU ATHLETICS, AND REPRODUCED WITH PERMISSION

PPD®

Sign up today!
austinresearchstudy.com

HEAD -TO- HEAD

HISTORY

By Nathan Han | @NathanHan13

After the great Big 12 exodus of 2012 when Colorado, Nebraska, Missouri and Texas A&M left the conference, West Virginia took the opportunity to join the Big 12.

It didn't take long for the Mountaineers to become acclimated to the Big 12 style of football. West Virginia's first Big 12 matchup against Texas was a 48-45 shootout, with West Virginia quarterback Geno Smith and Texas quarterback David Ash trading blow after blow before the Mountaineers eventually prevailed.

But that wasn't the first time the two schools played. All the way back in 1956, West Virginia traveled down to Austin and won

7-6, beating a Longhorn team that ended 1-9 on the season.

That 1956 West Virginia victory is the critical game separating the two teams on the all-time series record, with the Mountaineers leading 5-4. The two teams match up evenly at 4-4 in their eight Big 12 games starting since 2012, and the Mountaineers boast a 3-1 all-time record in Austin.

This Saturday, Texas will have its shot to even up the series and improve to 5-2. But if there's one thing to learn from this series' meager history, it's that there are no favorites. The Longhorns have upset multiple ranked West Virginia teams, and the Mountaineers have returned the favor when Vegas leaned toward Texas winning.

The Mountaineers' last win in Austin was the 2018 thriller where quarterback Will Grier led West Virginia to a last-minute victory and threw the Horns Down in front of the Texas student section.

While Texas is favored in the spread to take this Saturday's game at home, don't be surprised if West Virginia mounts its own upset scare.

GAME TO REMEMBER:

This week's game to remember is the 2013 matchup between the two teams. Texas was still searching for its first win all-time against West Virginia after losing in 1956 and 2012. The Longhorns also were

traveling to Morgantown to play at Mountaineer Field for the first time in team history.

The Mountaineers had a home-field advantage, but they were in the middle of a down year after losing all-time passing leader Geno Smith to the NFL.

Nevertheless, West Virginia would take an early lead and keep it through halftime at 19-13. But the Longhorn defense kept the game close, and Texas safety Adrian Phillips intercepted Mountaineers quarterback Paul Millard on the Mountaineers' first possession of the half.

The two teams traded scores in a back-and-forth affair. Texas

quarterback Case McCoy threw a 49-yard touchdown pass to Mike Davis on one drive to get within 26-23, then dropped another touchdown pass for 29 yards to Davis on the next drive, which gave Texas a 30-26 lead.

West Virginia didn't wilt under the Longhorn comeback and then took a 33-30 lead. But Texas answered, with McCoy finding receiver Jaxon Shipley for a 36-yard gain on third-and-14. Later in the drive, McCoy again went to Shipley for a 10-yard touchdown.

Not to be outdone, Millard hit his wide receiver Mario Alford for a 72-yard pass to put West Virginia up 40-37 with 7:39 left in

the fourth quarter.

But the McCoy-Shipley connection came in clutch for the Longhorns again, with the quarterback throwing to the wide receiver to convert a critical fourth-and-7 that allowed Texas to tie up the game with 13 seconds left in regulation.

In overtime, the Longhorns drove down the field with ease, and the defense did what it had done all night: come up with big plays.

Texas linebacker Steve Edmond intercepted Millard in the end zone on fourth down to win the game for the Longhorns. Edmond led a Texas defense that forced four fumbles, recovered three, and snagged two interceptions and six sacks.

Oct. 5, 2019

UT-Austin @ West Virginia University, Milan Puskar Stadium, 42-31

Nov. 18, 2017

UT-Austin @ West Virginia University, Milan Puskar Stadium, 28-14

Nov. 14, 2015

UT-Austin @ West Virginia University, Milan Puskar Stadium, 20-38

HISTORY IN THE MAKING:

Nov. 3, 2018

UT-Austin vs. West Virginia University, DKR Memorial Stadium, 41-42

Nov. 12, 2016

UT-Austin vs. West Virginia University, DKR Memorial Stadium, 20-24

ATX FLOOD SAFETY

IN JUST MINUTES A SMALL CREEK
CAN TURN INTO A RAGING BEAST.



- Central Texas is called 'Flash Flood Alley' due to its frequent heavy rainstorms.
- Texas has the most flash flood deaths annually in the U.S.
- Flash floods can happen with 30 minutes of rainfall.
- Never drive or walk across a flooded roadway!

For more information, go to ATXfloods.com



It's not uncommon to think you can make it through a low water crossing. However, consider 75% of flood-related deaths in Texas occur in vehicles. It only takes six inches of water to knock you off your feet and twelve inches to sweep away your vehicle. So stay informed about bad weather before you leave the house. And, don't take chances.

Turn Around - Don't Drown!

DANIELA'S DIGS

Chris Ash, Texas defense to thank for win against Oklahoma State.

By Daniela Perez
@danielap3rez

The Texas defense allowed the Oklahoma State Cowboys to rack up 530 total yards of offense last Saturday. The number was primarily made up of 400 passing yards from redshirt sophomore quarterback Spencer Sanders, who exploited Texas' issues in zone coverage on OSU's first drive with an open-field pass to senior wide receiver Tylan Wallace.

But this stat is not representative of the progress Texas' defense has made since the start of the season. Texas has been knocked for playing down to its opponents, but Saturday's performance showed its ability to play with a top-10 opponent. The defense still needs work, but a gritty win over then-No. 6 Oklahoma State showed that if the defense and offense can land on the same page performance-wise, the Longhorns' Big 12 championship hopes are still alive.

"If you're going to win football games, you stop the run, get the ball back and be good on third down, you have a chance to win games," defensive coordinator Chris Ash said in a Wednesday press conference. "We did that more so (on Saturday) than any other game so far this year."



ANTHONY MIRELES / THE DAILY TEXAN FILE

People argued that the Cowboys were overhyped and underperformed, but Sanders, Wallace and redshirt junior running back Chuba Hubbard are a lethal trio destined to make any NFL team happy. Sanders and Wallace both saw season highs Saturday. Sanders threw for 400 passing yards and Wallace snagged 11 receptions for 187 receiving yards. The 530 yards of total offense are nothing to sneer at.

However, Texas' defense showed up when it mattered.

In the past, the defense has settled in after the first half. On Saturday, it was just getting started.

Oklahoma State's third-down efficiency against opponents sat at 44% before Saturday. Against Texas, it was just 25%. Oklahoma State fumbled three times, threw one interception and allowed five sacks. Texas' defense applied an impressive amount of pressure and capitalized on each situation. The unit was responsible for 20 of Texas' 41 points.

The Longhorns mostly

contained Hubbard and held him to a season-low 72 rushing yards. The explosive back, who averages one rushing touchdown per game, couldn't get through Texas' trenches for most of the afternoon, consistently running into a wall of defensive linemen eager to tackle him.

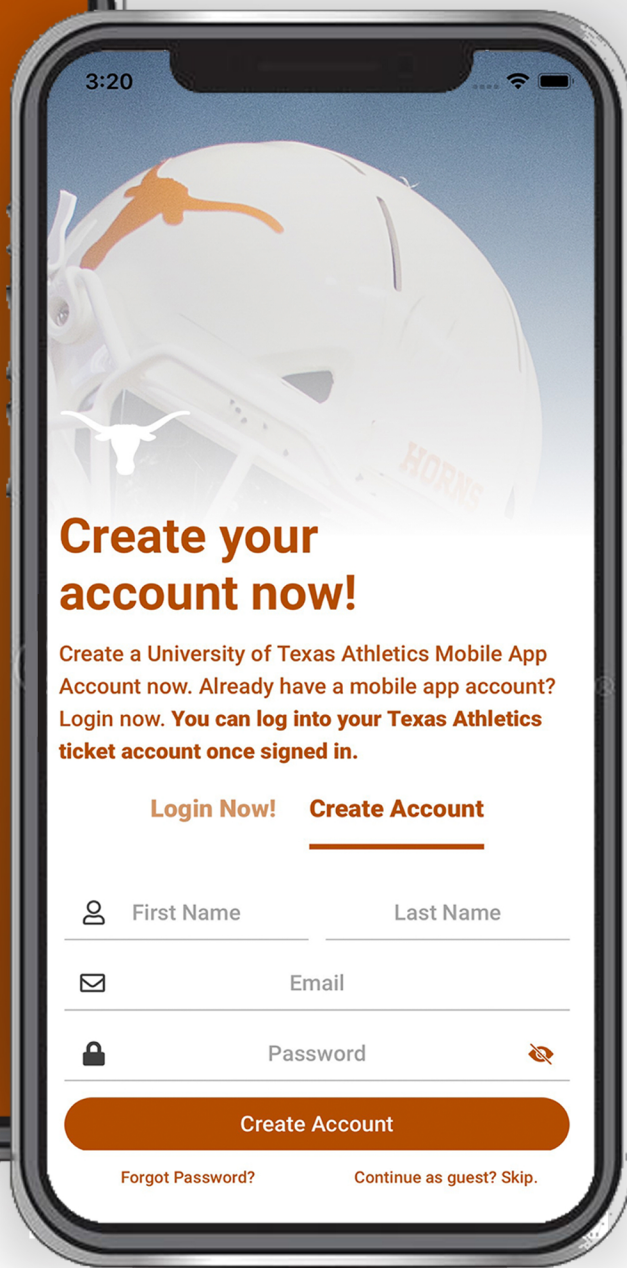
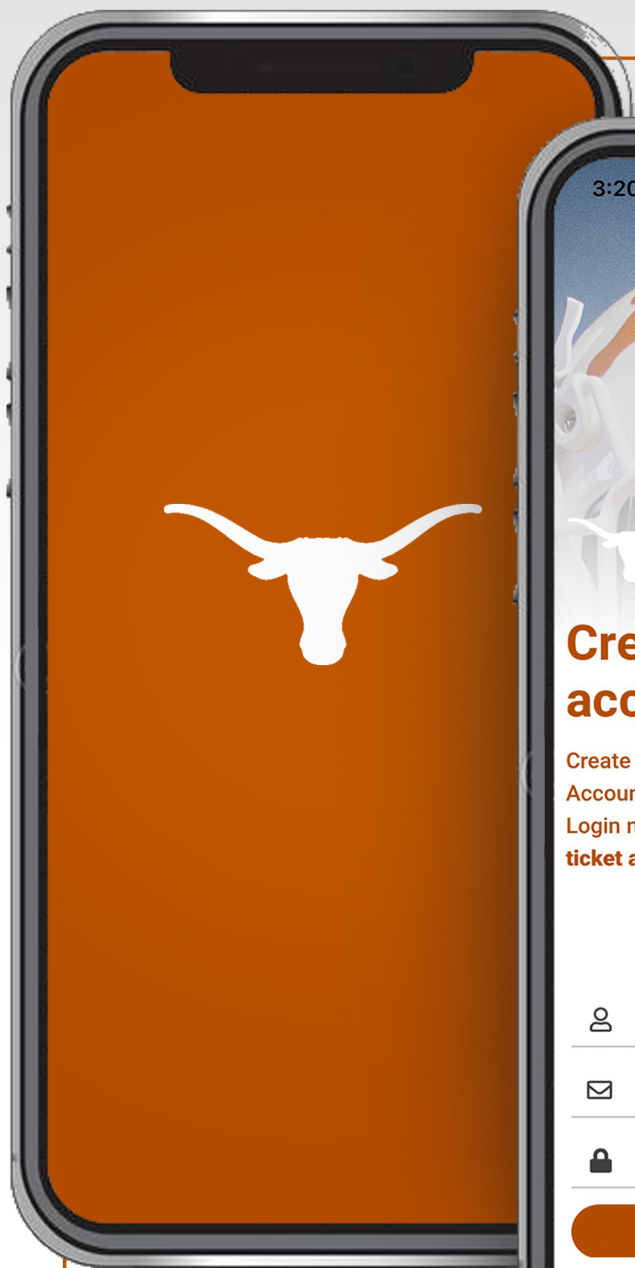
"(Stopping the run) has been a major, major emphasis for us," Ash said. "We wanted to try to make offenses one-dimensional and stop the run. ... Instead of being a third-and-two, third-and-three, third-and-four where

those pass rush opportunities aren't there, we've created more third-and-long situations because we can stop the run. That's a testament to the D-line as well."

Texas' improved defensive performance was aided by its strongest defensive weapon, junior jack Joseph Ossai. A career performance that totaled 12 tackles, six tackles for 30 yards lost and three sacks showed what he's always been — a fast, hard-hitting linebacker who can make an impact anywhere on the field. In

overtime, he and junior linebacker DeMarvion Overshown crumpled Sanders in a brutal tackle.

It is imperative the program maintains this defensive momentum against West Virginia on Saturday. Oklahoma State showed that the Baylor game wasn't just a glimpse; Texas' defense has improved under Chris Ash and his new scheme. And if Texas can secure a win against West Virginia, those glimpses will become reality.



Available on the
App Store



Get it on
Google play

DOWNLOAD THE NEW TEXAS LONGHORNS APP

MORE INFO: [TEXASSPORTS.COM/GOMOBILE](https://www.texassports.com/gomobile)

BIG 12

By Matthew Boncosky | @mboncosky

POWER RANKINGS



1. IOWA STATE CYCLONES

Iowa State took the top spot in the power rankings after its 52-22 victory over Kansas last week. The Cyclones are 4-1 in conference play, and their only loss came in a competitive game against Oklahoma State. Sophomore running back Breece Hall put up 185 yards on the ground for the second straight game against Kansas and will look to continue his dominant season against Baylor this week.

2. OKLAHOMA STATE COWBOYS



Oklahoma State got in its own way last week, losing to Texas in overtime despite outgaining the Longhorns by 243 yards. Redshirt sophomore quarterback Spencer Sanders was careless with the ball, committing three turnovers that helped Texas stay in the game. The Cowboys will need to be more protective of the ball going into their matchup with Kansas State this week.



3. OKLAHOMA SOONERS

Oklahoma had no trouble with Texas Tech last week, beating the Red Raiders 62-28. Redshirt freshman quarterback Spencer Rattler continued his weekly improvement, throwing for two touchdowns and no interceptions against Texas Tech. The Sooners will likely improve to 5-2 against Kansas this week before taking on No. 14 Oklahoma State later this month.

4. TEXAS LONGHORNS



Texas pulled off a huge win over No. 6 Oklahoma State last week, led by junior linebacker Joseph Ossai. He had 12 tackles and three sacks, including the game-ending sack in overtime. The sloppiness of the game kept Texas from climbing higher, but the Longhorns got the confidence boost they needed to get the season back on track.



5. WEST VIRGINIA MOUNTAINEERS

West Virginia manhandled Kansas State last week in its 31-10 victory. The Mountaineers defense continues to impress, allowing the Wildcats just 225 yards of total offense. However, West Virginia's defense will be tested this week as it travels to Austin to face No. 22 Texas.

6. KANSAS STATE WILDCATS



Kansas State fell out of the AP Top 25 after its loss to West Virginia. The Wildcats gave up 485 yards to the Mountaineers in the loss, which ended a four-game winning streak. Kansas State remains 4-1 in the Big 12, but another tough test for the Wildcats' offense lies ahead this week in No. 14 Oklahoma State.



7. TCU HORNED FROGS

TCU beat Baylor 33-23 last week. The Horned Frogs jumped out to a big lead in the first half and held on to it the rest of the way, getting their second win of the season. TCU is still looking for a consistent offensive weapon outside of sophomore quarterback Max Duggan. The Horned Frogs take on Texas Tech this week at home.

8. BAYLOR BEARS



Baylor fell to 1-3 last week after its loss to TCU. The Bears still haven't found a running game, only rushing for 75 yards last week behind a struggling offensive line. Head coach Dave Aranda will need to figure out how to jump-start the run game if Baylor is to have any chance of winning at No. 17 Iowa State this week.



9. TEXAS TECH RED RAIDERS

It wasn't a surprise that Texas Tech was no match for Oklahoma last week. The Red Raiders are giving up 41 points per game and haven't been able to keep up on offense. However, Texas Tech has a couple of winnable games coming up against TCU and Baylor in the next two weeks.

10. KANSAS JAYHAWKS



Yes, Kansas is still winless. Those who were hopeful that Kansas would take the next step under head coach Les Miles have been disappointed this season. The Jayhawks have lost by double digits in every game so far and travel to Norman to face Oklahoma this week, a game that ESPN gives Kansas just a 1.3% chance of winning.

Donate Sperm, Get Paid!

Healthy men, age 18-39

apply at

beaspermndonor.com

NOTES ON THE COACH

By Brett Hintz
@BHintzUT

Consistently winning games against opponents with much more talent on paper is one of the best ways college head coaches can quickly rise up the ranks and make a name for themselves.

While the Mountaineers will stroll into Austin this Saturday as 6.5-point underdogs to face a Texas team that appears much more talented on paper, West Virginia head coach Neal Brown has developed a knack for being able to come out victorious as a heavy underdog in a hostile environment.

In just his second year at the helm for West Virginia, Brown is still waiting for a program-defining road upset for his Mountaineers. His extensive track record as head coach at Troy University shows that he is plenty capable of pulling one off.

During a 2017 campaign where Brown led Troy to a program-record 11 wins and a Sun Belt Conference championship, he ended LSU's 49-game home nonconference winning streak with a 24-21 win over the heavily favored Tigers in Baton Rouge.

Brown again showcased his ability to win against a more talented opponent on the road when his Trojans shocked the heavily favored Nebraska Cornhuskers 24-19 in front of 89,360 fans at Memorial Stadium in 2018.

Although it came in a losing effort, Brown showed that his team should never be counted out as a road underdog when his far less talented Troy squad narrowly lost to eventual national champions Clemson 30-24 during his second year as head coach in 2016.

West Virginia signed head coach Neal Brown to a six-year, \$19 million dollar contract in 2019 with the hopes that he would be able to come out victorious in road matchups like the one he will be coaching in on Saturday against Texas.

Being able to win tough road games isn't the only thing that Brown has proven to be highly skilled at throughout his 18-year coaching career, though. The coach from Danville, Kentucky, has also proven to be a highly effective offensive mastermind.

Before his tenure at Troy, where he became one of six FBS head coaches to win 10 or more games in 2016, 2017 and 2018, he was exceptional in his role as offensive coordinator at the University of Kentucky in 2013-2014.

In 2014, the Wildcats scored 21 offensive touchdowns in SEC play, a drastic improvement from when the Wildcats only scored 21 touchdowns combined in the two years before Brown took over.

Brown also proved to be effective against Big 12 defenses during his stint as Texas Tech's offensive coordinator in 2010-2012.

Using his signature "NASCAR spread" offense — where his offenses aim to snap the ball just eight seconds after the previous play to catch the defense off guard — the Red Raiders ranked in the nation's top seven teams in passing offense, top 15 in total offense and top 25 in scoring offense throughout his three-year tenure.

While the Mountaineers will be heavy underdogs against Texas on the road, Neal Brown's proven effectiveness in these kinds of situations combined with his ability to run a powerful offense make Saturday's matchup anything but a sure victory for the Longhorns.



COPYRIGHT WVU ATHLETICS, AND REPRODUCED WITH PERMISSION

"We Rock"

Nature's Treasures

4103 N. Interstate 35 • Austin, TX 78722 • 512.472.5015

15th Annual Denver Trunk Show

New Treasures Throughout November

2-Ply Mask Required for In-Store Shopping

FREE Next-Day No-Contact Curbside Pick-Up for Online Orders

OPPONENTS TO WATCH

By Carter Yates
@Carter_Yates16

Like Texas, the West Virginia Mountaineers are sitting at 4–2 on the season and are riding high after upsetting the then-No. 16 Kansas State Wildcats last Saturday. Despite being ranked No. 8 in the Big 12 Football Media Preseason Poll, the

Mountaineers have clawed and scratched their way to No. 4 at the midseason mark behind a stout defense and surprisingly good quarterback play. After the Longhorns' miraculous victory in Stillwater, Oklahoma, last weekend, Saturday's contest has all the fixings for a trap game.

Here are four Mountaineers to watch for Saturday:

COPYRIGHT WVU ATHLETICS, AND REPRODUCED WITH PERMISSION



No. 1 Tony Fields II — Linebacker

There's not much that Tony Fields II can't do on a football field. The graduate transfer from Arizona has been performing well all over the place during the first half of the season, compiling 53 total tackles, two pass breakups, an interception and a sack. The 6-foot-1-inch, 220-pound linebacker was also named the Big 12 Newcomer of

the Week for his performance against Kansas State last Saturday, where he made a career-high 15 tackles. The fact that he leads the Mountaineers in tackles is even more impressive when considering he was suspended for a combined three quarters as a result of a targeting penalty. If the Longhorns want to establish a run game this Saturday, they need to make sure they always have a blocker or two accounting for No. 1.



No. 90 Akheem Mesidor — Defensive line

West Virginia's sack leader is not All-Big 12 first team senior defensive lineman Darius Stills, but true freshman Akheem Mesidor. The 6-foot-2-inch, 268-pounder out of Ottawa, Ontario, has compiled four sacks and 19 total

tackles in six games. Thus far, Mesidor has more than lived up to his three-star ranking as a recruit. Mesidor has also entrenched himself as a mainstay on the Mountaineers' defensive line after starting the season as a backup. While he is still raw in the fundamentals

of the game after playing mostly defensive end in high school, Mesidor has a high motor and consistently plays at maximum effort. Look for Mesidor to cause disruption in the backfield this weekend, as Texas is currently allowing 2.5 sacks per game.



No. 4 Laddie Brown — Running back

A junior out of Philadelphia, Laddie Brown has been a pleasant surprise for a Mountaineer offense that averaged only 73.3 rushing yards per game in 2019. Brown is second in the Big 12 in both rushing yards with 694 and touchdowns with eight. The 5-foot-11-inch, 210-pound back was referred to as the "Baddest Man in Morgantown" by announcer Gus Johnson during a game against the Kansas Jayhawks on Oct. 17. Brown has more than earned that nickname this season, as he leads the team in rushing and is fourth on the team in receiving yards. After several busted coverages allowed Oklahoma State running back Chuba Hubbard to snag four catches and a touchdown, look for West Virginia coach Neal Brown to get his running back involved in the passing game.



No. 2 Jarret Doege — Quarterback

Jarret Doege relieved then-starter Austin Kendall during a loss to Texas Tech in November 2019 and hasn't looked back since. The redshirt junior quarterback has piloted the Mountaineers to a 4–2 record this season and is second in the Big 12 in passing with 281.7 yards per game. He also has tossed 11 touchdown passes compared to only three interceptions. The 6-foot-2-inch, 208-pound signal-caller out of Lubbock is a huge reason the Mountaineers are averaging 33 points per game this season compared to only 20.6 last year. Look for Doege to attempt to take the top off of a Texas defense that gave up 400 passing yards against Oklahoma State.