TEXAS TECH BIO

National Championships - 0

XO   XO

Big 12 Championships: **0**

Location: **Lubbock, TX**

All-Time Record: **559-449-24**

2022 Results: **8-5**
Won Texas Bowl

Head Coach: **Joey McGuire**
2nd Year (8-5)

5-YEAR WIN TREND

Year	Wins
2018	5
2019	4
2020*	4
2021	7
2022	8

Jones AT&T Stadium (60,454)

Red Raiders Ready to Sow Chaos in Big 12

Joey McGuire quietly guided Texas Tech to their first 8-win season since 2013 in his first season with the program by claimed a resounding victory over Mississippi in the Texas bowl. While all of the attention in the conference last season was primarily focused on Oklahoma's precipitous drop-off, TCU's meteoric rise, Kansas State's Big 12 Championship, and Texas' continual struggles to reach national contention, McGuire orchestrated one of the best passing attacks in the country despite having to utilize three different quarterbacks due to injuries. Once again, heading into 2023, much of the preseason coverage is zeroed in on Texas' revamped roster and TCU is understandably getting a lot of love too. It's safe to say that Texas Tech is being overlooked both in the Big 12 conference and within their own state. The vast majority of last year's offense returns which should excite the fans in Lubbock considering the Red Raiders scored 34.2 points per game.

Tyler Shough was named the starting quarterback for the third straight season but he's played in just 11 games the past two seasons combined due to injury. He played well after missing the better part of the 2022 season with a collarbone injury and guided the Red Raiders to four straight wins to end the year. There's optimism that, if Shough can stay healthy, he'll be one of the better quarterbacks in the conference. In case he can't, **Behren Morton** is also back after throwing for 1,117 yards and 7 touchdowns. As a unit, the quarterbacks threw a combined 18 interceptions last season which contributed to the team's -6 turnover margin. If Texas Tech is to take the next step, Shough and company need to take better care of the football.

The Red Raiders will be without SaRodorick Thompson at running back but **Tahj Brooks** matched Thompson's performance almost exactly with 691 yards and 7 touchdowns on 147 carries. While Texas Tech may miss the one-two punch, Thompson's departure allows Brooks to take a majority of the carries which could ultimately work in the Red Raiders' favor. **Cam'Ron Valdez** added 169 yards on the ground in just 18 carries including a 38-yard scamper against TCU and a 29-yard run against Mississippi. The running backs should benefit from a vastly experienced offensive line that brings back five starters plus a two-year starter in Western Kentucky transfer **Rusty Staats**. **Landon Peterson** was named to the honorable mention All-Big-12 team last season and several more will likely follow in 2023.

Outside of Trey Cleveland, the entire receiver unit is back from 2022 and it was a productive one. Texas Tech spread the ball around to several players and **Jerald Bradley**, **Xavier White**, and **Myles Price** all topped 500 yards and **Loic Fouonji** wasn't far behind. Tight end **Nehemiah Martinez** was also a significant contributor. While Bradley was the leader last season, defenses can't focus too much on one receiver or the others will burn them.

While the offense could be flat out dangerous this season, the defense faces the challenge of replacing five of the top six tacklers including first round pick and All-American Tyree Wilson. **Joseph Adedire** and **Tony Bradford** combined for 9.5 sacks last season and will lead the defensive line. Safety **Dadrion Taylor-Demerson** is the team's leading returning tackler with 73 and he's had three interceptions in each of the past three seasons. One of those picks was in the Texas Bowl victory and he recovered a fumble in that game too. **Josiah Pierre** is the most expereienced linebacker and that unit and will move from inside linebacker to outside linebacker also welcomes San Diego State transfer **CJ Baskerville**.

The Bottom Line: Sleep on Texas Tech at your own risk this season. The offense, assuming the injury bug doesn't bite, should be in contention as one of the best in the conference. If the defense is able to fill the holes left by key departures quickly then the Red Raiders' potential only goes higher. The Red Raiders draw Oregon out of the non-conference but do draw three of the Big 12 newcomers and they avoid Oklahoma. While I personally don't think Texas Tech will ultimately end up finishing the season as a true championship contender in the conference, they are certainly talented enough to make life miserable for the top teams and I wouldn't be surprised if the Red Raiders end with double digit wins.

Projection: 8-4 (5th in Big 12)

2022 Statistics

Points Scored	Rush Yards	Pass Yards	Turnover Margin
34.2	**158.9**	**302.5**	**-6**
27th in FBS	62nd in FBS	12th in FBS	108th in FBS

Points Allowed	Rush YDS Allowed	Pass YDS Allowed	
29.2	**168.8**	**256.8**	
94th in FBS	91st in FBS	104th in FBS	

2023 Texas Tech Schedule		
Week	Date	Team
1	Sat, Sept 2	@ Wyoming
2	Sat, Sept 9	vs. Oregon
3	Sat, Sept 16	vs. Tarleton
4	Sat, Sept 23	**@ West Virginia**
5	Sat, Sept 30	**vs. Houston**
6	Sat, Oct 7	**@ Baylor**
7	Sat, Oct 14	**vs. Kansas State**
8	Sat, Oct 21	**@ BYU**
9		Bye Week
10	Thu, Nov 2	**vs. TCU**
11	Sat, Nov 11	**@ Kansas**
12	Sat, Nov 18	**vs. UCF**
13	Fri, Nov 24	**@ Texas**

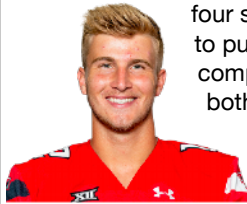**Conference Games in Bold**

KEY GAMES

Sat, Sept 9: vs. Oregon - Tyler Shough gets to face his old team as Bo Nix and the Oregon Ducks come rolling into Lubbock. The Ducks have lofty expectations of a PAC-12 title and even a CFP bid which means Texas Tech could make an early and decisive statement with a victory.

Thu, Nov 2: vs. TCU - Both teams are off of bye weeks heading into an intriguing Thursday night clash between in-state foes. The Red Raiders played the Horned Frogs but couldn't quite get the job done, will that change at home?

Fri, Nov 24: @ Texas - A Black Friday season finale showdown against the Longhorns. Imagine if both teams are playing for a Big 12 title game bid!
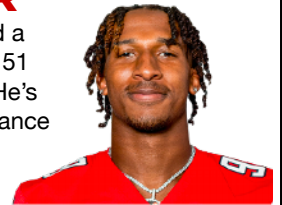
KEY PLAYERS

Tyler Shough - QB

Shough has made an appearance in each of the last four seasons (the first two with Oregon) but has yet to put together a full season on the field. His 106 completions and 177 attempts last season were both tops in his career but it's imperative he stay healthy if at all possible. If he can accomplish that task, he'll have the opportunity to put together the best Texas Tech quarterback season since some guy named Patrick Mahomes left in 2016.

Jerand Bradley - WR

After taking a redshirt in 2021, Bradley had a breakout season in 2022 where he caught 51 passes for 744 yards and 6 touchdowns. He's a big target at 6'5" which gives him the chance to win contested passes and he could top last year's production if there's better stability at quarterback. He was named to the honorable mention All-Big-12 team last season and I expect more awards in 2023.

2022 RESULTS (8-5)

Murray State (W 63-10)
Houston (W 33-30)
@ NC State (L 14-27)
Texas (W 37-34)
@ Kansas State (L 28-37)
@ Oklahoma State (L 31-41)
West Virginia (W 48-10)
Baylor (L 17-45)
@ TCU (L 24-34)
Kansas (W 43-28)
@ Iowa State (W 14-10)
Oklahoma (W 51-48)
Mississippi (W 42-25)

TEXAS TECH.

RECRUITING

2023 Class Ranking

27th

(Via 24/7 Sports)