

BAYLOR 42, SAMFORD 7

SEPT. 13, 2025 • McLANE STADIUM

BAYLOR ATHLETICS COMMUNICATIONS: 1500 S. University Parks Drive | WACO, TX 76706 | BAYLORBears.COM | @BUFOOTBALL

POSTGAME NOTES

BAYLOR (2-1, 0-0 Big 12) 42, SAMFORD (0-3, 0-0 SoCon) 7

McLANE STADIUM • WACO, Texas • 11 a.m. • ATTENDANCE: 41,215

UP NEXT: Baylor vs. Arizona State (9/20/25) • 6:30 p.m. CT • Waco, Texas • FOX

TEAM NOTES

- This was the third all-time matchup between Baylor and Samford, with the Bears having the series lead over the Bulldogs 3-0.
 - This was the first time the two faced off since the 2005 season.
- Baylor head coach **Dave Aranda** is 33-31 in his sixth year with Baylor.
- Baylor is 640-629-44 all-time.
- Baylor is 12-7 in non-conference games under Aranda, ending the 2025 non-conference season 2-1.
- Baylor is 19-13 at home under Aranda.
- BU is 22-17 during day games under Aranda.
- First time starters for Baylor: **Adonis Friloux, Travion Barnes, Jacob Redding, Koltin Sieracki.**
- Baylor captains: **Omar Aigbedion, Devyn Bobby, Cooper Lanz, and Bryson Washington.**

OFFENSIVE NOTES

- The Baylor offense ended the day with 468 yards with an even 223 coming on the ground and 245 coming in through the air.
- BU hit the ground running to open the game, putting up 14 points in back-to-back scoring drives of less than two minutes and five or less plays.
 - It was the first time since at Texas Tech last season Baylor scored two consecutive touchdowns in drives that were less than two minutes long.
- Senior QB **Sawyer Robertson** went 23-37-2 for 211 passing yards and three touchdowns.
 - Robertson had his 11th 200+ passing yard game of career and third of the season.
 - Robertson jumped Shawn Bell (2003-06) take the No. 6 spot in program history with 40 career passing touchdowns.
 - Robertson is only one touchdown away from entering the top-five list.
- Sophomore RB **Bryson Washington** put up 135 yards on 21 carries with two rushing touchdowns.
 - This marks Washington's second consecutive 100-yard game this season, eighth in career.
 - It was Washington's sixth multi-TD game of his career.
 - Washington ran for a season-long rush of 31 yards, his longest rush since versus Kansas (11/30/24).
- Freshman RB **Caden Knighten** put up a career-high 34 yards on 10 carries with his first rushing TD of his career.
- Freshman RB **Michael Turner** made his collegiate debut with six carries for 36 yards.
- Sixth-year senior **Ashtyn Hawkins** led the team in receiving yards with 42 yards on three catches, including a tie for season-long reception of 36 yards.
- Redshirt senior **Josh Cameron** brought down his 13th career receiving TD, third of the season.
 - Cameron finished with 39 yards on four receptions and five targets and one TD.
- Senior WR **Kobe Prentice** also had a touchdown for the Bears off four receptions and 16 total yards.
- Senior WR **Louis Brown IV** hauled in his first TD for the Green and Gold on an 11-yard reception to the back corner of the endzone.
 - Brown finished with three receptions and 34 yards and a touchdown, averaging 11.3 yards per catch.
- Redshirt-freshman QB **Nate Bennett** made his third career appearance, first for the season, throwing 5-for-7 for 34 yards.
- First career receptions were caught by **Mason Dossett** (11 yards) and **Jacorey Watson** (two receptions for six yards).
- Baylor spread the ball around in the receiver room with 12 different receivers hauling in at least one catch of the day.

DEFENSIVE NOTES

- Baylor's defense held Samford to 195 yards, 95 rushing and 100 passing, keeping the Bulldogs at only 68 offensive yards in the second half.
 - It was the first time since BU faced off against Tarleton State to open the 2024 season that the Bears held a team to under 200 offensive yards.
 - It was the first time since versus Air Force (9/14/24) that BU held a team scoreless in the second half.
- The defense forced four total turnovers, three off of interceptions, and one forced fumble.
 - It was the most turnovers forced (4) and interceptions (3) since at Houston last year (11/23/24).
- A total of 24 Bears recorded tackles on the day.
- The Bears brought down seven tackles for a loss of 21 yards on the day - the most TFLs brought down since at West Virginia last season (11/16/24).
- Senior LB **Travion Barnes** led the Bears with a season-high of six total tackles, all being solo.
- Redshirt junior LB **Keaton Thomas** was right behind Barnes with five total tackles, four being solo.
- Senior DL **Jackie Marshall** made his comeback appearance since being injured in the first game of the season with two solo tackles, including one for a loss of one yard.
 - It was Marshall's first TFL of the season, 9.5 of career.
- Senior S **Kendrick Simpkins** had a solid game with two solo tackles, one for the loss of two yards, and a QBH.
 - Marked Simpkins' second TFL of the season and 13.5 of career.
- Junior S **Micah Gifford** put up big numbers with two solo tackles, including a sack for a loss of five yards, and an interception.
 - Marked Gifford's first interception and first sack of his career.
- Sophomore CB **LeVar Thronton Jr.** brought down a solo tackle, a pass breakup and an interception - his first for both of the season and second of career.
- Junior S **DJ Coleman** brought down one solo tackle for a loss of one yard, broke up one pass, rushed a quarterback hurry and forced a fumble to be recovered by Baylor.
 - It was his first forced fumble in his career.

SPECIAL TEAMS NOTES

- Junior P **Palmer Williams** put up four punts for 194 yards, two inside the 20 and two for 50+ yards, with a long of 59 yards, averaging 48.5 yards per punt.
 - Williams has 31 career 50+ yard punts and needs just two more to enter the top-10 in program history.
- Redshirt senior S **Placide Djungu-Sungu** blocked his first punt of his career on special teams.
 - It was BU's first blocked punt since versus Air Force (9/14/24).