TRESTAN EBNER

“*I want to enjoy this as much as I can with these guys I’ve grown to love.*”

---

**Here Come the Bears**

**Football Preview**

Coach Dave Aranda finding his stride

MARQUIS COOLEY
Sports Editor

Being a first-year head coach is hard. It’s even harder in the midst of a pandemic, which is what Baylor football head coach Dave Aranda had to deal with when he took the job in 2020. COVID-19 took away everything a first-year head coach in a new program would need to be successful, such as practice time and face-to-face interactions, which resulted in the Bears finishing with a 2-7 record.

Now in his second year with fewer restrictions, Aranda is happy just to get a chance to be close to his team.

“Excited to be back and excited to be in normal spaces. It’s a big difference.”

Dave Aranda | Head Coach

---

“Excited to be back and excited to be in normal spaces. It’s a big difference.”

---

**Gerry Bohanon set as QB1**

**GIO GENNERO**

Junior Gerry Bohanon is ready to start as the new quarterback for Baylor after having competed for the spot against sophomore Jacob Zeno and sophomore Blake Shapiro. Bohanon spent most of his time at Baylor as a backup to previous quarterback Charlie Brewer. Now that it’s his time to shine, Bohanon has said he has continued to work on his game.

“I’m working on everything,” Bohanon said.

The youngest Earl High School QB from Jacksonville has since spent his time as a backup at Baylor. However, he became a fan favorite during his earliest freshman year. The crowd would chant his name at games, often referring to him as “RJB.”

This reference is to Baylor icon and Heisman winner Roger Staubach. Bohanon’s play style is similar to Staubach’s, and his given number, 10, is one higher than RJB.

As Bohanon prepares to be the new leader of the Bears’ offense, Aranda is excited to see what he can do.

“I’d like to see Gerry get into a rhythm,” Aranda said in his press conference. “I’d like to see him take control of the team on a Saturday night ... and full confidence that he’s going to do that, and excited to see him do that.”

---

**4&5 Reese’s Senior Watchlist**

---

**That Good Old Baylor Line protocols Offensive line bounces back**

---

**Sneak peek of 2022 recruits**

---

**Season record predictions Football Game Schedule**

---

**What’s Inside?**

---

2 Ebner ready for big year New offensive scheme

3 Wide receivers return Watch out for defense

---

© 2021 Baylor University
Ebner ready for big year

MICHAEL HAAG
Sports Editor

Senior running back Tristan Ebner has seen it all. For the last five years, he has put on his pads, shined on display time and time again, and has accumulated more than 3,000 rushing yards.

After a 2019 campaign in which he put up great numbers as a true freshman running back, Ebner was set to get better in the 2020 season. Amid the down year with COVID-19 and other team issues, he did not return to the extent that he was expected.

The plan for the upcoming season are for that to change. Ebner is set to be a big piece of the new Baylor offense. With head coach Dave Aranda and offensive coordinator Jeff Grimes implementing a wide zone offense, the quick and shifty Ebner will get lots of opportunities to get out in the open field and make plays for the team.

“There is a lot of space in the wide zone, especially if you block it upright,” Ebner said. “You can’t get too close to the safeties and a lot of big plays waiting to happen.”

Ebner has shown that he can get past the second level of a defense, can cause problems for the opposing teams. It’s difficult for safeties and corners to make a tackle in open space against the 5-11, 215-pound running back. If all goes according to plan with the offensive scheme, he could find a lot of breakthrough plays out of the backfield with Ebner taking a handoff.

“Ebner and I believe the offense is a good fit for him,” Aranda said during one practice.

Ebner has always played on the wild side, and he plans to continue the role for the team. With Ebner being a quick player, he works well with the special teams unit and plans on helping the offense through explosive returns.

“Every time you have a chance to change the game,” Ebner said. “If I can get on the 50 (yard line), that just increases our chances of scoring on offense.”

He has also been taking laps as a leader for the team.

“Honestly, I’ve never seen before,” junior quarterback Jacob Zeno said. “I’ve always looked at him as a leader — a vocal leader.”

Senior running back Abram Smith described Ebner as the perfect leader, “Senior running back Abram Smith said. “He’s really been leading this team. He’s been setting the foundation and the team is really following his lead.”

Aranda and Ebner have been in sync since last season. Unlike in 2019, when he was a true freshman, Ebner has been added to the Hornung Watch List and has been in the top 50 nationally in rushing and receiving.

“I always looked at him as a leader — a vocal leader,” senior running back Abram Smith said. “He’s really been leading this team. He’s been setting the foundation and the team is really following his lead.”

Aranda and Ebner have been in sync since last season. Unlike in 2019, when he was a true freshman, Ebner has been added to the Hornung Watch List and has been in the top 50 nationally in rushing and receiving.

“I always looked at him as a leader — a vocal leader,” senior running back Abram Smith said. “He’s really been leading this team. He’s been setting the foundation and the team is really following his lead.”

Aranda and Ebner have been in sync since last season. Unlike in 2019, when he was a true freshman, Ebner has been added to the Hornung Watch List and has been in the top 50 nationally in rushing and receiving.

“I always looked at him as a leader — a vocal leader,” senior running back Abram Smith said. “He’s really been leading this team. He’s been setting the foundation and the team is really following his lead.”

Aranda and Ebner have been in sync since last season. Unlike in 2019, when he was a true freshman, Ebner has been added to the Hornung Watch List and has been in the top 50 nationally in rushing and receiving.

“I always looked at him as a leader — a vocal leader,” senior running back Abram Smith said. “He’s really been leading this team. He’s been setting the foundation and the team is really following his lead.”

Aranda and Ebner have been in sync since last season. Unlike in 2019, when he was a true freshman, Ebner has been added to the Hornung Watch List and has been in the top 50 nationally in rushing and receiving.
Watch out for that Baylor defense

MICHAEL HAAG

The Baylor Bears are expected to have another strong defense this upcoming season. On all levels of the field, from the trenches to the secondary, the defense is filled with veterans who are ready to make plays.

Junior defensive lineman Bradyn Ullery and senior defensive tackle Cole Marshall will be on the defensive line with R.J. Sneed, who has a lot of confidence in them. 

“They’re hitters,” Sneed said in a press conference on Aug. 9. “They are strong in their numbers. We have some dudes coming back, from injuries, just having them back, being able to go through practices together, makes us better as a unit.”

Soldifying the Middle

The linebacker group is filled with experienced players in senior Ashton Logan, junior Dikembe Dobbs, Bernard and Pity, who also plays safety. Renewable is coming off a shoulder injury, resulting on the inside with Dobbs.

“It is definitely nice to have Travell back there with us,” Doyle said. “I love playing with 2 (Bernard).” He is just an awesome leader.

Junior running back Abram Smith, who converted from being a linebacker, also spoke about how important Bernard and the linebacker core will be for this team.

“They give us the standard,” Smith said. “You look at Travell and you’re like, ‘Man, he knows what he’s doing all the time — a high level, high speed.’ So, it’s like that when you want out of a football field."

Locking Down the Outside

Headed back to the secondary, another veteran group is looking to lockdown opposing receivers and control the aerial attack. Senior cornerback Raleigh Texada and Kalen Barnes will be shadowing opposing receivers, while senior safety T. Woods, Christian Morgan and Pete will be helping them out. The cornerbacks are ranked as “lockdown corners” and are expected to slow down receivers all season.

Senior safety Jalen Pitre said. “I feel like they’re the best in the nation. They’re coming out and they’re taking their stuff really seriously. I see it in the summer, they were hugging in extra hours and I definitely think it’s going to pay off for them coming into the season.”

The preparation has continued, the quarterbacks heading into the season, because they’ve won the receiver’s ability to throw the ball.

Fall Head Over Heels with Our Great Deals!

FOCUS
With close calls, steady hands and laser focus, R.J. Sneed returns to Baylor this season as a senior wide receiver.

With close calls, steady hands and laser focus, R.J. Sneed returns to Baylor this season as a senior wide receiver.

With close calls, steady hands and laser focus, R.J. Sneed returns to Baylor this season as a senior wide receiver.

With close calls, steady hands and laser focus, R.J. Sneed returns to Baylor this season as a senior wide receiver.
THE REESE’S SENIORS

TERREL BERNARD
Bernard has racked up 214 total tackles with nine sacks and 19 tackles for loss in his career as linebacker. Through five games last season, Bernard led Baylor in tackles, sacks and TFL before his season ended with a shoulder injury.

JALEN PITRE
Pitre was a leader for the Bears’ secondary that ranked second in the Big 12 in pass defense last season. As a safety for the Bears, he has won many awards, including 2020 First-Team All-Big 12 and honorable mention for Big 12 Defensive Player of the Year.

KALON BARNES
Barnes has appeared in 31 of Baylor’s 36 games since his freshman season, posting two career interceptions with 45 total tackles, one forced fumble and 11 pass breakups throughout his career as cornerback.
JUNIOR WATCHLIST

CONNOR GALVIN
Galvin has been an anchor for the offensive line, playing at left tackle for the Bears three years in a row, starting in 23 of the 31 career games he has played in. In his senior season, he looks to lead a revamped offensive line.

TRESTAN EBNER
Ebner, a dynamic running back and return man, is the only running back in Baylor history to go over 1,000 yards receiving and ranks second all-time among BU running backs with 99 receptions.

R.J. SNEED
Sneed has caught 87 passes for 991 yards and six touchdowns throughout his career as a wide receiver for the Bears. He has posted back-to-back 400-yard seasons and averaged 11.5 yards per catch since his junior season and has become a leader for the wide receiver group.
### Baylor offensive line ready to bounce back

**GIO GENNERI**
Sports Writer

Baylor’s offensive line had a tough season last year, including constant injuries and players having to move games that were demoted to their reserves last year. But unfortunately, in the lead-up to the start of the conference, the offensive line was looking to have their best season in a long time. "After last year, 2-7, we’ve all addressed it, we’ve all taken it on," Galvin said. "So now it’s just about playing as one and playing hard as we can every single game.

"Going through all of this is a great history lesson for the初3 and seniors," Head Coach Dave Aranda said. After a disappointing 2020 season, the team knows it is important to start strong and play as a team. There wasn’t a practice last season when every single offensive lineman was able to participate. The constant ins and outs caused them to never quite get comfortable with the scheme. Galvin said they “have improved each day” and “have gotten more and more comfortable with the linework and the new scheme in place.” There is confidence surrounding the new look of the offensive line from everyone on the team. “I’m confident in them,” sophomore quarterback Jacob Zeno said. "They’re really getting better and improving every day.”

A big reason for their improvements has been new offensive coordinator Jeff Grimes and new offensive line coach Eric Matson. Grimes comes to Baylor from Brigham Young University after winning the 2020 Broyles Award as the nation’s top assistant coach. Matson also comes from BYU, where he coached the very successful offensive line that was the backbone of their elite offense in 2019-2020. Players and coaches had nothing but praise for the new coaches and really believe in them.

“Coach [Grimes] has got a great hold on these guys,” Aranda said. "They believe in him and listen to him.”

“I can feel the energy and charisma that Coach Matos injects into these guys’ veins every single day.”

**GRANT MILLER | OFFENSIVE LINEMAN**

With the lineups and the new scheme in place, Galvin said they have “improved each day” and believe in the unit and the improvements they have made day in and day out, which will determine the offensive line’s success this season.

“Every package is completely built upon the offensive line,” Aranda said. "I think that is the team we need to be, we have to be big-men drivers.”

### Baylor Line guarantees spots to freshmen

**EMILY COUSINS**
Staff Writer

The Baylor Line return several wins and capacity restrictions this year. Freshman students will be processed to one of the first three home games to ensure they get to participate.

Matt Burchett, director of Student Athletics, told Lariat TV News that all online first-year student sessions last year will be included in the pool of current freshmen and transfers who will be assigned to the first three home games.

“Two big objectives in the Baylor Line here is to ensure every first-year student, ‘B22’, has the opportunity to run the line and make sure that students are who are ‘B22’, our sophomores who were freshmen last year in the middle of the pandemic, knowing we had a very disrupted 2020 football season, to give them an opportunity to run the line as well," Burchett said. Burchett said the second-year students will be put in a lottery for the Oklahoma State and University of Texas games. He also stated that the bussing games will be considered a general lottery, and the final home game against Texas Tech University will be for the seniors.

“We want to provide as many opportunities as we possibly can have for students to have that really special moment of running across the field and lining up for the football team.”

**MATT BURCHETT | DIRECTOR OF STUDENT ACTIVITIES**

Jennifer Hernandez said she is looking forward to bringing the Baylor Line back. She said when they practiced at Line Camp, she enjoyed the excitement and energy around them. “I’m amazed that things were somewhat, normal.” Hernandez said “We can actually do more, especially more than last year.”

Burchett said even in the chaos of the last school year brought, Baylor found creative ways to include students in the traditions. “I think all of our students felt the weight of those challenges, that we were facing as a community, living this institution and they were facing individually,” Burchett said. “I think one of the great characteristics of the Baylor family and of our students in general is that perseverance and resilience that we display due in and day out, year in and year out.”

### Baylor Offense Preview

**As football season approaches, students get excited about running the line.**

**I think that is the team we need to be, we have to be big-men drivers.**

**WHAT GOOD OLD BAYLOR LINE IS**

As football season approaches, students get excited about running the line.
Bright future for Bears
Take a look at new 2022 recruits

KAIAAN ROBERTS-DAY
DE | Festus, MO
Festus High School

JEREMY PATTON
LB | Tenaha, TX
Tenaha High School

GALE MAILE
OL | South Jordan, UT
Bingham High School

DEVYN BOBBY
S | DeSoto, TX
DeSoto High School

ALVIN EBOSELE
OT | Coppell, TX
Coppell High School

ZACH PYRON
QB | Pinson, AL
Pinson Valley High School

QB1 from Page 1
Bohanon’s confidence has grown during his career. He spoke on this multiple times during his press conference, and he appears to be very level-headed during tough situations.

“The more he takes the field in games and practices, the more comfortable he becomes in his role,” Bohanon said. “He’s getting more and more reps, some confidence, and at times he’s really comfortable with what you’re doing.” Bohanon said, “I’ve built my confidence up and given him a person.”

Bohanon didn’t get much playing time last season, but the season prior, he contributed a lot in his role as QB2. He threw two passing touchdowns and had 272 rushing yards for the Bears last year.

“I’m coming into every day just focused on learning more and more,” Bohanon said. “I’m getting a lot of reps both on and off the field. He’s been named to the First Team Academic, All-Big 12 for the past two seasons.

He said he loves picking the brains of his coaches and spoke on a specific meeting when he sat down with Aranda to discuss plays and ask all in.

“He’s a true athlete for football, and you could not feed him enough,” Aranda said. “He’s so wise, so intuitive. He’s really able to connect the dots and take whatever information he has and then apply it and teach others.”

Bohanon said he takes all of Aranda’s coaching to heart and learns from it. He said he loves picking the brains of his coaches and spoke on a specific meeting when he sat down with Aranda to discuss plays and ask all in.

“He has a great appetite for football, and he can’t get enough of this stuff. He’s always gone the extra mile,” Bohanon said.

He said he loves picking the brains of his coaches and spoke on a specific meeting when he sat down with Aranda to discuss plays and ask all in.

“Gerry’s been so good with you, and that’s the culture we’re trying to build here at Baylor.”

QB1 from Page 1

Heads Coach from Page 1

sitting back and getting to listen to him talk, and he can go on and on about plays that happened years and years ago. Just being able to talk about that, and me being able to understand it too, is really, really amazing.”

However, it’s not always about football with Aranda. One of his biggest points is teaching players that they’re more than athletes.

“He’s taught me a lot,” senior safety Jalen Pitre said. “I think the biggest thing he’s taught me is just the whole ‘person over player’ thing. Just knowing that I do play football, but I’m not necessarily a football player; it’s what I do, but it’s not who I am. He’s always big on that, and he’s always looking after football into the future. He’s a long-term type of guy, and I think that’s definitely going to help all of us in the long run.”

The entire time has also given the players a chance to get to know their head coach better.

“The players probably have a better understanding of what I’m talking about,” Aranda said. “[I’m] not talking as much because it’s out of Aranda’s control. It should be in his shell a little bit just to be helpful and they get it. So far, the players have been liking what they’ve seen from Aranda in his second year.”

“I think he’s been doing an amazing job,” Woods said in a press conference. “He’s been teaching us. He’s been tailoring things toward us. He’s really opened up his shell a little. When he first got here — at least to me — it was kind of like he was closed off, but he’s definitely blossomed, and I just love seeing him growing each and every day as a head coach.”

The lifting of restrictions has given Aranda more practice time. With spring camp, summer workouts and fall camp, Aranda has had ample time to instill his philosophy of mastering the simple things in his players.

“Getting more and more reps, some confidence, and at times he’s really comfortable with what you’re doing.” Bohanon said, “I’ve built my confidence up and given him a person.”

“Getting more and more reps, some confidence, and at times he’s really comfortable with what you’re doing.” Bohanon said, “I’ve built my confidence up and given him a person.”

Bohanon did not get much playing time last season, but the season prior, he contributed a lot in his role as QB2. He threw two passing touchdowns and had 272 rushing yards for the Bears last year.

“Getting more and more reps, some confidence, and at times he’s really comfortable with what you’re doing.” Bohanon said, “I’ve built my confidence up and given him a person.”

Bohanon didn’t get much playing time last season, but the season prior, he contributed a lot in his role as QB2. He threw two passing touchdowns and had 272 rushing yards for the Bears last year.

“I’m coming into every day just focused on learning more and more,” Bohanon said. “I’m getting a lot of reps both on and off the field. He’s been named to the First Team Academic, All-Big 12 for the past two seasons.

He said he loves picking the brains of his coaches and spoke on a specific meeting when he sat down with Aranda to discuss plays and ask all in.

“He’s a true athlete for football, and you could not feed him enough,” Aranda said. “He’s so wise, so intuitive. He’s really able to connect the dots and take whatever information he has and then apply it and teach others.”

Bohanon said he takes all of Aranda’s coaching to heart and learns from it. He said he loves picking the brains of his coaches and spoke on a specific meeting when he sat down with Aranda to discuss plays and ask all in.

“He has a great appetite for football, and he can’t get enough of this stuff. He’s always gone the extra mile,” Bohanon said.

He said he loves picking the brains of his coaches and spoke on a specific meeting when he sat down with Aranda to discuss plays and ask all in.

“Getting more and more reps, some confidence, and at times he’s really comfortable with what you’re doing.” Bohanon said, “I’ve built my confidence up and given him a person.”

“Getting more and more reps, some confidence, and at times he’s really comfortable with what you’re doing.” Bohanon said, “I’ve built my confidence up and given him a person.”

He said he loves picking the brains of his coaches and spoke on a specific meeting when he sat down with Aranda to discuss plays and ask all in.

“He has a great appetite for football, and he can’t get enough of this stuff. He’s always gone the extra mile,” Bohanon said.

He said he loves picking the brains of his coaches and spoke on a specific meeting when he sat down with Aranda to discuss plays and ask all in.

“Getting more and more reps, some confidence, and at times he’s really comfortable with what you’re doing.” Bohanon said, “I’ve built my confidence up and given him a person.”

He said he loves picking the brains of his coaches and spoke on a specific meeting when he sat down with Aranda to discuss plays and ask all in.

“Getting more and more reps, some confidence, and at times he’s really comfortable with what you’re doing.” Bohanon said, “I’ve built my confidence up and given him a person.”

He said he loves picking the brains of his coaches and spoke on a specific meeting when he sat down with Aranda to discuss plays and ask all in.

“Getting more and more reps, some confidence, and at times he’s really comfortable with what you’re doing.” Bohanon said, “I’ve built my confidence up and given him a person.”

He said he loves picking the brains of his coaches and spoke on a specific meeting when he sat down with Aranda to discuss plays and ask all in.

“Getting more and more reps, some confidence, and at times he’s really comfortable with what you’re doing.” Bohanon said, “I’ve built my confidence up and given him a person.”

He said he loves picking the brains of his coaches and spoke on a specific meeting when he sat down with Aranda to discuss plays and ask all in.

“Getting more and more reps, some confidence, and at times he’s really comfortable with what you’re doing.” Bohanon said, “I’ve built my confidence up and given him a person.”

He said he loves picking the brains of his coaches and spoke on a specific meeting when he sat down with Aranda to discuss plays and ask all in.

“Getting more and more reps, some confidence, and at times he’s really comfortable with what you’re doing.” Bohanon said, “I’ve built my confidence up and given him a person.”

He said he loves picking the brains of his coaches and spoke on a specific meeting when he sat down with Aranda to discuss plays and ask all in.

“Getting more and more reps, some confidence, and at times he’s really comfortable with what you’re doing.” Bohanon said, “I’ve built my confidence up and given him a person.”

He said he loves picking the brains of his coaches and spoke on a specific meeting when he sat down with Aranda to discuss plays and ask all in.

“Getting more and more reps, some confidence, and at times he’s really comfortable with what you’re doing.” Bohanon said, “I’ve built my confidence up and given him a person.”

He said he loves picking the brains of his coaches and spoke on a specific meeting when he sat down with Aranda to discuss plays and ask all in.

“Getting more and more reps, some confidence, and at times he’s really comfortable with what you’re doing.” Bohanon said, “I’ve built my confidence up and given him a person.”

He said he loves picking the brains of his coaches and spoke on a specific meeting when he sat down with Aranda to discuss plays and ask all in.

“Getting more and more reps, some confidence, and at times he’s really comfortable with what you’re doing.” Bohanon said, “I’ve built my confidence up and given him a person.”

He said he loves picking the brains of his coaches and spoke on a specific meeting when he sat down with Aranda to discuss plays and ask all in.

“Getting more and more reps, some confidence, and at times he’s really comfortable with what you’re doing.” Bohanon said, “I’ve built my confidence up and given him a person.”

He said he loves picking the brains of his coaches and spoke on a specific meeting when he sat down with Aranda to discuss plays and ask all in.

“Getting more and more reps, some confidence, and at times he’s really comfortable with what you’re doing.” Bohanon said, “I’ve built my confidence up and given him a person.”

He said he loves picking the brains of his coaches and spoke on a specific meeting when he sat down with Aranda to discuss plays and ask all in.

“Getting more and more reps, some confidence, and at times he’s really comfortable with what you’re doing.” Bohanon said, “I’ve built my confidence up and given him a person.”

He said he loves picking the brains of his coaches and spoke on a specific meeting when he sat down with Aranda to discuss plays and ask all in.

“Getting more and more reps, some confidence, and at times he’s really comfortable with what you’re doing.” Bohanon said, “I’ve built my confidence up and given him a person.”

He said he loves picking the brains of his coaches and spoke on a specific meeting when he sat down with Aranda to discuss plays and ask all in.
Predicting Baylor’s 2021 Season Record

With all the excitement surrounding the start of the college football season, the Sports Desk of The Baylor Lariat — Marquis Cooley, Michael Haag and Gio Gennero — decided to try their hand at predicting this season’s outcome for the Bears.

Vs Iowa State
Marquis & Michael’s Prediction: Loss
Why: This will be Baylor’s first real test. The Bears will put up a good fight, but the Cyclones will be just a little too much to handle and will hand the Bears their first loss of the season.

Gio’s Prediction: Win
Why: Possibly coming off of three early wins, the Bears will be confident entering this game and can get a sneaky win at home against No. 7 Iowa State.

Vs BYU
Prediction: Win
Why: This should be an exciting game against a possible future conference member. It could be a really close game, but ultimately Baylor comes out of it with a victory in a fun and possibly high-scoring game.

Vs Oklahoma
Prediction: Loss
Why: Do we need to explain? It’s Oklahoma. Even at Baylor’s best, the Bears couldn’t handle them, so it’s incredibly tough to expect a different outcome this time around. The Bears are 3-27 against the Sooners and haven’t expected a different outcome this time around.

At Texas State
Prediction: Win
Why: Dave Aranda’s team will come out hungry and ready to show everyone that they aren’t the same team from last season. What better way to do that than to come out firing on all cylinders in their first game of the season?

Vs Texas Southern
Prediction: Win
Why: The Bears have too much firepower and will be riding the momentum from their first game into their home opener. Top to bottom, we outmatch them on all levels of the turf and should handle this one soundly.

At Oklahoma State
Prediction: Loss
Why: With this game being in Stillwater, Oklahoma, the likelihood of being able to garner momentum against a top 25 team will be difficult. The Bears will keep the score within two possessions but will likely drop this one in a slug-fest.

Vs Texas
Marquis and Gio’s Prediction: Win
Why: Being at home with all the conference realignment talk, the fans will give Baylor a big boost in play and the push they need to overcome Texas and send them off to the SEC with a loss.

Michael’s Prediction: Loss
Why: This is Texas’ year to show what it’s about, and a road game against an underrated Bears team is the perfect test. Baylor will put up a fight and the fans will greet their Big 12 rival with disrespect, but Texas pulls out the dub in this one.

At Kansas State
Prediction: Win
Why: Kansas State and Baylor are two teams that always seem to have a chance to win, but even with the Bears struggling last season, they were able to pull off a 32-31 comeback win. While this game may not be as exciting, we expect Dave Aranda to have his guys ready for a bounceback win after a tough loss to Oklahoma.

At TCU
Prediction: Loss
Why: With the Mountaineers at McLane Stadium, TCU’s home crowd will be a factor, and in what is expected to be a nail-biter, the Bears will fall in Fort Worth.

Vs Texas Tech
Prediction: Win
Why: The Bears will finish out the season with a win against the Red Raiders. With hopes of a bowl game bid, Dave Aranda’s squad will be ready for the challenge and will feed off the home crowd for a solid victory.

Final Record Predictions and Explanations

Despite a tough 2020 season going 2-7, the Bears have a lot going for them this upcoming season and will have a bounceback season. With a new offense and Dave Aranda’s second season, the Bears should look a lot better this season. Despite the tough schedules, I have to team returning 9-3 this season and finishing in the top three of the Big 12, and I predict the Bears will be playing in a bowl game. Sic ‘em Bears!

8-4 may see a little optimistic considering the 2-7 record last season, but this will not be the same Bears team we saw a year ago. The defense will continue to be solid, and new coaches Jeff Grimes and Eric Matsou will have the offense playing much better than last season. As long as there are no major injuries or COVID-19 breakdowns, I expect this to be a surprisingly exciting season culminating in a bowl game.

Marquis Cooley (8-4)

Gio Gennero (9-3)

Michael Haag (7-5)