



PHOTOS BY TYLER TYRE

Kosi Okpala poses for a photo after Mayde Creek's win over Fort Bend Austin on Saturday.



Cole Jensen poses for a photo after Mayde Creek's win over Fort Bend Austin on Saturday.

## RAMS

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strength of this defense is all of us can adapt and play how we need to against any team. No matter what the offense throws at us, we feel like we are a step ahead. We just have to keep getting better as well."

The defense's impact not only helped keep Austin off the board, but it allowed the offense to grow into the game after a slow start. After Austin scored on its first drive on a 44-yard run by David Bishop to go up 6-0, the Mayde Creek defense forced a fumble that the Rams recovered and then a turnover on downs on the next two drives and the Rams' offense finally found its footing late in the half, going on a 74-yard drive and scoring on a 13-yard pass from Cole Jensen to Trey Williams that gave Mayde Creek a one-point lead going into the half.

The Rams forced a turnover on downs on Austin to start the second half and on Mayde Creek's first play from scrimmage in the half Christian Bradford took a handoff and scored what would end up being the winning touchdown, racing 80 yards past the defense and putting Mayde Creek up by eight points.

"We had talked at halftime how we need to embrace the physicality at halftime and how we were the faster more physical team if we just chose to be," said senior quarterback Cole Jensen. "We knew that is how we could win this game was by being physical, so it was huge because it set the tone for the rest of the half and after that it just lifted the whole team up. We knew that we were going to fight and find a way to come out with the win."

Austin answered back on its next drive, going 60 yards on its

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— KOSI OKPALA

drive and scoring on a 14-yard run from Koen Herrmann, but the Rams' defense came up big again and stopped the two-point conversion, keeping Mayde Creek up 14-12 in what would end up being the final score.

Mayde Creek had chances to extend its lead and dropped two passes in the endzone in the game on drives that ended up with no points, but the defense came up huge again down the stretch, causing a turnover on downs with just over two minutes left in the game, also stopping Austin's final drive of the game in the final seconds to seal the win.

"It's been huge to see the way these guys are learning how to win games," said Mayde Creek head coach Mike Arogbonlo. "They're finding ways to win, however that is. Last week we didn't score a touchdown on offense, but we found a way to win. This week, we score two touchdowns on offense and you can see these guys starting to get it and grow together and pick things up. If we can get all three phases clicking the way I believe we can, this can be a really special group."

The offense for Mayde Creek

took a step forward in the game. They had 170 rushing yards and 110 passing yards and finished two drives while moving the ball well, but the team knows there is still a ways to go to reach their full potential.

"It's a process and it can take a while on offense for a team to get down those intricacies, especially since I only got here in June," Arogbonlo said. "You can see these guys though — they're all getting on the same page and learning how things should run and what we can do. We executed a lot better tonight and I'm proud of those guys for that, but we still have some work to do. We're driving the ball but once we get into district, we have to finish drives a bit better."

It was a special moment for Arogbonlo as he went up against the team he coached for four years before leaving to become the quarterbacks coach at Duncanville last year. Austin players and coaches went up to him after the game and he shared moments with them and his family after.

But Arogbonlo's focus is on the Creek. The Rams get Taylor next week in the first week of District 19-6A action in what might be a matchup of sheer strength and will between the teams. The one thing that the Rams know is that they will be ready for the challenge.

"We have to be even more physical than we have been," Okpala said. "We know how tough Taylor is and we have to match that. We're going to come out here and lock in every day in practice and keep working. We want to start out district hot and we have to be locked in if we want to do that."

### MAYDE CREEK 14, FORT BEND AUSTIN 12

Fort Bend Austin	6	0	6	0	--	12
Mayde Creek	0	7	7	0	--	14

#### First quarter

A: David Bishop 44 run, 7:35

#### Second quarter

MC: Cole Jensen 13 pass to Trey Williams (Michael Garcia kick) 3:41

#### Third quarter

MC: Christian Bradford 80 run (Garcia kick) 7:02

A: Koen Herrmann 14 run, 4:37

#### Team stats

	AUSTIN	MAYDE CREEK
First downs	15	13
Yards rushing	35-137	26-169
Yards passing	218	111
Passes	16-38-0-0	12-23-1-0
Punts	N/A	3-36
Fumbles-lost	3-1	0-0
Penalty-yards	7-60	1-5

#### Individual Statistics

Rushing – Mayde Creek: Christian Bradford, 4-90-1; Ansel Carter, 10-45; Daylin Robinson 6-39; Michael Shifatu, 2-5; Cole Jensen, 5-16; Austin: David Bishop, 21-93-1; Koen Herrmann, 14-44-1;  
 Passing – Mayde Creek: Cole Jensen, 12-23-110-1-0; Austin: Koen Herrmann, 16-38-207-0-0;  
 Receiving – Mayde Creek: Daylin Robinson, 3-59; Trey Williams, 2-27-1; Chad Nelson, 7-22; Ansel Carter, 1-3; Austin: Mo Poko, 4-64; Michael Abboud, 2-52; Titus Anasti, 3-40; Chrishun Fitch, 3-31; David Bishop, 5-31;

## Water District Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The FORT BEND COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 57 will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2024 on Monday, September 23, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. at Pine Mill Ranch Community Center, 26810 Pine Mill Ranch Drive, Katy, Texas. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

Visit [Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes](https://www.texas.gov/PropertyTaxes) to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

<b>FOR</b> the proposal:	Bill Lyle, Randy Rodriguez, Chris Tolle, Gina Babineaux, Steve McConnell
<b>AGAINST</b> the proposal:	None
<b>PRESENT</b> and not voting:	None
<b>ABSENT:</b>	None

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	Last Year	This Year
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.76800 /\$100 Adopted	\$0.72600 /\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value		\$ -0.04200 /\$100
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)		-5.47%
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$472,334.00	\$516,682.00
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person's exemptions)	\$0.00	\$0.00
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$472,334.00	\$516,682.00
Tax on average residence homestead	\$3,627.53	\$3,751.11
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)		\$123.59 3.41%

#### NOTICE OF VOTE ON TAX RATE

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than 3.5 percent, an election must be held to determine whether to approve the operation and maintenance tax rate under Section 49.23602, Water Code.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

Should you have any questions concerning this notice, please contact the tax office at 281-482-0216.

## Water District Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The BROOKSHIRE - KATY DRAINAGE DISTRICT will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2024 – 2025 on MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2024 AT 8:30A.M. at 1111 KENNEY STREET, BROOKSHIRE, TEXAS 77423. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

Visit [Texas.gov/Property Taxes](https://www.texas.gov/PropertyTaxes) to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

<b>FOR</b> the proposal:	ARNOLD ENGLAND, DAVID WELCH, BLAKE BECKENDORF, JOHN CHISUM
<b>AGAINST</b> the proposal:	PAT KEELING
<b>PRESENT</b> and not voting:	NONE
<b>ABSENT:</b>	NONE

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	Last Year	This Year
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	<u>0.060420</u> /\$100 Adopted	<u>0.057898</u> /\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value		\$ - 0.0025 /\$100
Percentage increase/decrease in rates(+/-)		<u>-4.17 %</u>
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$ <u>392,390</u>	\$ <u>442,158</u>
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person's exemptions)	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>0</u>
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$ <u>392,390</u>	\$ <u>442,158</u>
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ <u>237.08</u>	\$ <u>256.00</u>
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted and percentage of decrease	\$ <u>18.92</u> <u>-7.98 %</u>	

#### NOTICE OF TAXPAYERS' RIGHT TO ELECTION TO REDUCE TAX RATE

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance, and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than eight percent, the qualified voters of the district by petition may require that an election be held to determine whether to reduce the operation and maintenance tax rate to the voter-approval tax rate under Section 49.23603, Water Code..

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

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