WEEK ONE
HOUSTON at OKLAHOMA

Hurts has 6 TDs, No. 4 Oklahoma beats Houston 49-31

NORMAN, Okla. -- Even one of the best nights ever for an Oklahoma player wasn't good enough for Jalen Hurts.

The new Sooners quarterback passed for three touchdowns and ran for three more, and No. 4 Oklahoma rolled past Houston 49-31 on Sunday night.

It was Hurts' first game for the Sooners since he transferred from Alabama. He put on a show as his predecessor, 2018 Heisman Trophy winner Kyler Murray, watched. He posted 508 total yards, the fifth-most in school history.

Hurts was not impressed. And at a school that has produced back-to-back Heisman-winning quarterbacks in Baker Mayfield and Murray, nitpicking has become the norm at that position.

"We did some really good things out there tonight, but there are a lot of things we can improve on," he said. "We've got to take that next step."

Hurts started at Alabama for two years before losing the job to Tua Tagovailoa. He stayed as a backup at Alabama last season, then transferred to Oklahoma and won the starting job in preseason camp.

He looked at home in the opener -- he completed 20 of 23 passes for 332, ran for 176 yards on 16 carries and helped the Sooners gain 686 total yards.

Oklahoma coach Lincoln Riley liked how Hurts handled the situation.

"He played good," Riley said. "There were things he could do better, but I thought he handled the moment good. You could tell out there that he'd been in it, certainly. I'm sure he had some nerves, but he did a good job managing them."

Houston coach Dana Holgorsen, who coached at West Virginia before making his Houston debut on Sunday night, said he sees no drop-off in Oklahoma's play.

"Four years ago, they were good," Holgorsen said. "A year later, they were the best offense in college football. A year later, with a new quarterback, they're the best offense in college football. A year later, with a new quarterback, they looked the same to me."

Charleston Rambo caught three passes for 105 yards and a touchdown and Trey Sermon ran for 91 yards for Oklahoma.

Oklahoma's defense was sharp too, constantly pressuring Houston quarterback D'Eriq King and limiting him to 87 yards passing in the first half. King, one of the nation's top quarterbacks last season, finished with just 167 yards passing. Though King rushed for 103 yards, Riley felt the Sooners kept him and the Cougars under control.

"I thought our defense flew around, was extremely active, extremely disruptive for the majority of the game," Riley said.

THE TAKEAWAY

Houston: The offensive and defensive lines struggled, and that decided the game. The Cougars couldn't keep the Sooners away from King early in the game. He had his moments, but he couldn't produce when Oklahoma established itself in the first half. Oklahoma's offense was only stopped when it self-destructed.

Oklahoma: The offense looked sharp with Hurts, and Riley showed he can still get results from a very different quarterback than he has used in the past. The defense was more aggressive and tackled better than in recent years in its first game under new coordinator Alex Grinch. The Sooners forced three-and-outs on Houston's first two possessions to set the tone.

ELITE COMPANY

Jalen Hurts' 128 yards rushing in the first half matched a school record for a quarterback in a first half. He tied Jamelle Holieway's performance in 1985 against Kansas. Hurts' full-game total was the second-best for an Oklahoma quarterback. Thomas Lott ran for 195 yards against Kansas State in 1976, when the Sooners were running the wishbone.

SPEED D
Oklahoma linebacker Kenneth Murray took advantage of Oklahoma's new approach. The junior captain finished with 13 tackles, including 2.5 for loss.
Murray, the preseason Big 12 Defensive Player of the Year, led the team with 155 tackles last year.

NO REPEAT
Oklahoma had its College Football Playoff hopes derailed in 2016 when Houston defeated the Sooners 33-23 in the season opener. Oklahoma was never threatened in this game after the first quarter.

"We knew we weren't going to catch these guys sleeping today, so it is what it is," Holgorsen said. "They're a top-five team, deservedly so."

POLL IMPLICATIONS

There's nowhere to go for the Sooners because the teams above them won, but they solidified their position.

Final	1	2	3	4	T
HOU	0	10	7	14	31
OKLA	7	14	21	7	49

Scoring Summary ---------------

FIRST QUARTER   **HOU**   **OKLA**
OKLA TD 12:21 Jeremiah Hall 14 Yd pass from Jalen Hurts (Calum Sutherland Kick)
3 plays, 61 yards, 1:10   0   7
SECOND QUARTER   **HOU**   **OKLA**
OKLA TD 14:10 Jalen Hurts 1 Yd Run (Calum Sutherland Kick)
11 plays, 89 yards, 5:34   0   14
OKLA TD 8:09 CeeDee Lamb 45 Yd pass from Jalen Hurts (Calum Sutherland Kick)
8 plays, 77 yards, 4:13   0   21
HOU TD 4:58 Kyle Porter 23 Yd pass from D'Eriq King (Dalton Witherspoon Kick)
6 plays, 81 yards, 3:11   7   21
HOU FG 0:26 Dalton Witherspoon 34 Yd Field Goal
6 plays, 53 yards, 2:02   10   21
THIRD QUARTER   **HOU**   **OKLA**
OKLA TD 12:38 Charleston Rambo 56 Yd pass from Jalen Hurts (Calum Sutherland Kick)
5 plays, 75 yards, 2:22   10   28
OKLA TD 7:47 Jalen Hurts 3 Yd Run (Calum Sutherland Kick)
5 plays, 83 yards, 2:20   10   35
HOU TD 3:03 Mulbah Car 7 Yd Run (Dalton Witherspoon Kick)
12 plays, 87 yards, 4:44   17   35
OKLA TD 0:00 Jalen Hurts 1 Yd Run (Calum Sutherland Kick)
6 plays, 79 yards, 3:03   17   42
FOURTH QUARTER   **HOU**   **OKLA**
HOU TD 9:11 Marquez Stevenson 4 Yd pass from D'Eriq King (Dalton Witherspoon Kick)
12 plays, 87 yards, 5:49   24   42
HOU TD 2:11 D'Eriq King 5 Yd Run (Dalton Witherspoon Kick)
7 plays, 72 yards, 1:50   31   42
OKLA TD 1:17 Rhamondre Stevenson 21 Yd Run (Calum Sutherland Kick)
4 plays, 42 yards, 0:54   31   49

Team Stats	HOU	OKLA
First Downs	25	30
Passes for First	7	14
Rushes for First	13	15
Penalties for First	5	1
Third Down Efficiency	5-13	5-8
Fourth Down Efficiency	1-2	0-0
Total Yards	408	686
Total Plays	69	61
Avg Gain Per Play	5.9	11.2
Net Yards Rushing	241	354
Rushes	42	37
Yards Per Rush	5.7	9.6
Net Yards Passing	167	332
Comp-Att	14-27	20-24
Yards Per Pass	6.2	13.8
Times Sacked	3	0
Yds Lost To Sacks	-11	0
Interceptions	0	0
Punts	5	1
Punt Average	45.6	41.0
Penalties	6	7
Penalty Yards	48	94
Fumbles	1	2
Fumbles Lost	0	2
Time of Poss	31:40	28:20

Individual Stats
RUSHING

HOUSTON	Rush	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG
D'Eriq King	15	103	6.9	1	25
Mulbah Car	9	76	8.4	1	21
Kyle Porter	14	40	2.9	0	19
Marquez Stevenson	1	13	13.0	0	13
Chandler Smith	3	9	3.0	0	7
OKLAHOMA	**Rush**	**Yds**	**Avg**	**TD**	**LONG**
Jalen Hurts	16	176	11.0	3	43
Trey Sermon	11	91	8.3	0	31
Kennedy Brooks	4	46	11.5	0	40
Rhamondre Stevenson	6	41	6.8	1	25

PASSING

HOUSTON	Comp	Att	Yds	Y/A	TD	Int	QBRat
D'Eriq King	14	27	167	6.2	2	0	56.7
OKLAHOMA	**Comp**	**Att**	**Yds**	**Y/A**	**TD**	**Int**	**QBRat**
Jalen Hurts	20	23	332	14.4	3	0	98.7
Tanner Mordecai	0	1	0	0.0	0	0	0.1

RECEIVING

HOUSTON	Rec	Yds	Avg	TD	LONG
Marquez Stevenson	7	80	11.4	1	30
Kyle Porter	2	32	16.0	1	23
Keith Corbin	1	28	28.0	0	28
Christian Trahan	2	25	12.5	0	17
Jeremy Singleton	1	5	5.0	0	5
Cole McGowan	1	-3	-3.0	0	0
OKLAHOMA	**Rec**	**Yds**	**Avg**	**TD**	**LONG**
Charleston Rambo	3	105	35.0	1	56
CeeDee Lamb	2	46	23.0	1	45
Jadon Haselwood	2	46	23.0	0	42
Nick Basquine	3	31	10.3	0	14
Jeremiah Hall	3	25	8.3	1	14
Trey Sermon	2	25	12.5	0	20
Grant Calcaterra	2	20	10.0	0	14
A.D. Miller	1	15	15.0	0	15
Brayden Willis	1	14	14.0	0	14
Mykel Jones	1	5	5.0	0	5