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TOP STORY

EDITOR'S PICK

## Arlington hangs on to beat Roughnecks 11-9

**BILL MCCAUGHEY** For The Eagle

Apr 7, 2025



The Arlington Renegades hosted the Houston Roughnecks Sunday and held on to win 11-9. The teams are pictured here in a game played in 2023 at Houston's TDECU Stadium.

Joe Southern

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BILL MCCAUGHEY For The Eagle

**W**ith 1:13 remaining in the game, Arlington's Emmanuel Butler caught a 17-yard touchdown pass from Anthony Brown, closing the gap for the Houston Roughnecks against the Arlington Renegades to 11-9.

Houston attempted the two-point conversion with Brown running the ball, but he was stopped short and the Renegades hung on for their second win of the season on Sunday in Arlington.

Both offenses were ineffective for most of the game on a cold, blustery day in front of 9,582 hardy fans. The teams traded field goals in the first half for a 3-3 halftime score. The Renegades (1-1) scored with 10:31 to go in the game as Deontay Burnett caught a 9-yard touchdown pass from Luis Perez. The two-point conversion was successful as Perez found Burnett again, wide open in the back of the end zone.

"It's a good football team we just played," Roughnecks head coach C.J. Johnson said. "I think Coach [Bob] Stoops and his staff don't make any mistakes. They do a great job. Defensively, they don't let you run, and they don't let you throw it. Offensively, they create explosive plays. They got a quarterback (Luis Perez) that's knowledgeable, does a great job. They do a heck of a job.

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"Right now, we're not starting fast enough and we're not sustaining. Anytime there's a negative yardage play or penalty over there, we can't sustain anything. But that's coming. Each week I see improvements. I thought Anthony (Brown) started off a little slow, but man he got going a little bit at the end. I thought the defense played outstanding," Johnson said.

Brown completed 14 of 30 passes for 179 yards with one touchdown. Brown also ran three times for 20 yards, leading Houston (1-1) in the category. The Roughnecks generated 225 yards of total offense.

Perez, a multi-year starter for the Renegades, completed 19 of 27 passes for 211 yards and one touchdown. Dae Dae Hunter rushed 14 times for 63 yards and Isaiah Winstead caught seven passes for 73 yards. The Renegades racked up 298 yards of total offense.

The Roughnecks travel to play the Memphis Showboats (0-2) in Memphis on Saturday at 1:30 p.m. The game will be televised on ESPN. The Showboats are coached by Ken Whisenhunt. After taking a one-week leave of absence at the start of the season, Whisenhunt returned to the team for week two. Previously, he served as the head coach of the Arizona Cardinals for six seasons where he took them to the Super Bowl in 2009. Whisenhunt also served as the head coach of the Tennessee Titans for two seasons.

The UFL announced this week that they will add two new teams for the 2026 season. While no cities were mentioned, the leading candidates are Seattle and Columbus, Ohio.