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[Home](#)

[Calendar](#)

[Student Life](#)

[Elementary Student Life](#)

[Student Handbook](#)

[Cafeteria Menus](#)

[My Grade Report\\*](#)

[Newsletter](#)

[Administration  
&  
Faculty](#)

[School Board](#)

[Contact Us](#)

[Staff Webmail\\*](#)

[Alex History](#)

♦ [High School football photos archive](#)

[Oklahoma Secondary Schools Activities Association - Football](#)

[Oklahoma Coaches Aid](#)

From the *Chickasha-Express Star*, 10-05-09, Chuck Larsen writer:

Alex football fans had two reasons to smile Friday night. Their ninth-ranked Longhorns brought home a tough 38-36 district road win from sixth-ranked and unbeaten Allen, but more importantly, Randy Alexander played.

Their senior tailback had dislocated his kneecap in the Central High game and was essentially scratched for last Friday and probably a few more.

"Randy went in for the MRI results Thursday and they told him he had a small tear in the tendon that holds his kneecap in place," coach Justin Savage explained. "They told him to rest it and come back in two weeks and if he could pass a strength test, they'd clear him to play. That wasn't good enough.

"Randy asked them if he could play Friday if he could take the test and pass it right then," his coach went on. "They said okay, he passed it and they told him that he could play if he wanted to. ♦

Play he did with an orthopedic support brace, and although he wasn't able to make some of his cuts as well as he had been, he still racked up 281 yards and three touchdowns on 41 carries.



**Alex High School Football**



**Alex Senior Football Captains**

**Head Coach: Justin Savage**

**Assistant Coaches: Charles Yacheyonny, Craig Halford and Mark Anderson**

**Managers: Holly Anderson, Tessa Langford, Cooper Savage and Jacob Otey**

**Statistics: Steve Allison**

**Film: Michael Cassmeyer and Bailey Hightower**

**The 2009 Alex Longhorns**

From the *Chickasha Express Star*, November 16, 2009, Chuck Larsen, writer:

**Second-ranked Canton brings end to Alex season -**

Second-ranked Canton's powerful running game was too much to handle for Alex in Friday night's season-ending 61-14 first-round playoff loss.

The Tigers put up 555 yards and 24 first downs of total offense to Alex's 346 and eleven, out-rushing the Longhorns 358-261 and out-passing them 197 yards to 85.

Tailback Kolby Hysell did most of the damage, running for 127 yards on ten carries, and the rest of the yardage was spread around. Backup quarterback Clayton Webb, who took over for starter Colby Haigler about halfway into the third quarter, finished with 71 yards, fullback Torre Mead had 50, Haigler had 39 and backup tailback Dillon Schoonmaker finished with 25.

Haigler threw for 95 yards and a touchdown on 7-of-14 and was picked off twice then Webb threw for 102 yards and two scores in relief.

"Haigler was a little gimped up on film but he looked really healthy tonight," Alex coach Justin Savage said after the game. "We knew he was good coming in. ♦

The game went bad early and the frustration bubbled over, with Savage sending his freshman son Dakota to the locker room for flinging his helmet coming off the field.

"We had too many mistakes and we have a few of our younger kids, my son included, that just don't handle things very well," he said. <

"Once it breaks down it snowballs. This is something we haven't done a good job on getting out of them this year but it's something we have to fix. We've got no future if we don't learn how to handle some adversity!

Alex senior Randy Alexander finished with a game-high 211 yards and one touchdown on 29 carries, but 68 of those yards and his lone score came on a burst in the third quarter with the 'Horns down 43-0 and most of the rest came later against the Tigers' second-team defense.

Senior quarterback Wayne Heffington was held to 85 yards on a 5-of-23 night. An interception at the Canton three on the 'Horns' second possession killed their only real solid drive of the night and the second, coming midway into the second quarter with Canton already in control of the game, set the tone for an old-fashioned whuppin'. < Heffington went in with an injured right hand that kept him from gripping the ball snugly, but there was no one to take over for him and no keeping the gamer off the field.

"He wasn't crisp but he didn't get much help with their linebackers coming at him right up the middle all night," the coach said about his quarterback. "He battled and never once said I couldn't do someth Alexander wrapped up a stellar high school career, finishing his senior year with 2,285 yards and 24 rushing touchdowns, averaging 9.1 yards per carry and 207.7 yards per game.

"Randy set a new school record last year (season yards) and should have broken it tonight," Savage said. "We're losing a kid that has close to 6,000 yards rushing since getting to play six games into his sophomore year. Heffington finished his senior season with 926 passing yards, 15 touchdowns and seven picks on 61-of-134 for a quarterback rating of 130.1.

"He's done so much more for us than his stats will ever show," his coach said. "He got

The Horns jumped out to a 24-0 first quarter lead but two turnovers allowed the Mustangs to climb back in it 30-14 at halftime. The momentum carried over into the second half.

They went up top and got within ten at 38-28 after three and scored the lone touchdown in the fourth quarter, but they burned up too much clock on their final drive and Alex got out with a two-point win.

Kenton Baker got things started quickly with an 88-yard kickoff return for the first Horn touchdown. The defense forced a fumble and got the ball back on downs on Allen's first two possessions and the offense went 22 yards for one score and 55 for another. Alexander set up the first one with a 16-yard run then punched it in from the six then Wayne Heffington went airborne for a 49-yard strike to freshman receiver Dakota Savage for the 24-0 lead.

Allen sophomore Brady Caldwell hooked up with Scott Manuel for two second-quarter touchdowns, a 60-yarder and a 34-yarder, but Alexander broke one for 43 yards, his longest run of the night, to keep Alex up 30-14 at the half.

The Horns fumbled the ball away on the Allen five to start the third quarter and Caldwell drove the team 95 yards and finished the drive with a three-yard run.

Alex answered with a 44-yard drive that Alexander finished with an eight-yard run but Caldwell struck again with a 74-yard bomb to Brett Edens to get within ten after three.

Caldwell finished a seven-play, 56-yard fourth quarter drive with a 24-yard touchdown toss to Manuel to get within two but Alex got the ball back and ran the final minute or so out to get out with the win.

Alex stayed with their running game and Alexander was the workhorse with 41 carries. Heffington only threw the ball ten times, connecting on five of them for 116 yards, a touchdown and one interception. Savage was on the receiving end of all five for 116 yards and a score.

Allen stayed with their passing game and Caldwell was on top of his with 403 yards and four touchdowns on a 20-of-34 night. Manuel had 264 reception yards and three touchdowns on 14 receptions. Edens added 129 yards and a touchdown on five catches.

**From the Chickasha Express Star, September 28, 2009, Chuck Larsen, writer:**  
ALEX – Quarterback Wayne Heffington hooked up with freshman receiver Dakota Savage for two touchdowns and tailback Randy Alexander ran for two more Friday as No. 12 Alex put a game and upset-minded Central High away 28-24.

The young and much-improved Bronchos gave their heavily-favored hosts a game and actually led halfway through the fourth quarter after back-to-back fumbles spotted the host Longhorns to a 16-0 halftime lead.

Neither team could get anything going in the first quarter but Alex got a break early in the second when Alexander's junior cousin, Caullen, covered Craig Bernard's fumble at the Broncho 34. Randy finished the short drive with a twenty-yard touchdown run for an 8-0 lead.

Central responded, moving the ball deep into the Horn red zone, but tailback Antonio King coughed it up at the five and Cody Otey got it back for Alex in the shadow of their goal posts.

Randy exploded for a 36-yard gain to get Heffington some room to work and the senior responded, unloading a 40-yard strike to Savage for a 16-0 halftime lead.

After forcing a punt on Alex's first possession of the second half, Central got on the board with a 78-yard bomb from sophomore quarterback Kyle Newton to freshman wideout Jeremy Russell.

The Horns answered on a 38-yard touchdown run from Randy to cap off a 61-yard drive and extend to 22-8 but Central didn't flinch.

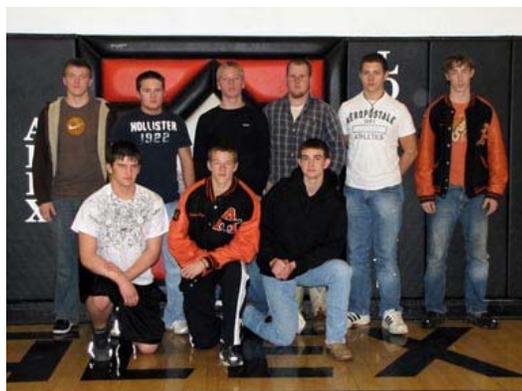
Newton engineered a thirteen-play, 75-yard scoring drive and finished it with an eight-yard pass to King to get the Bronchos within six points with plenty of time left in the fourth quarter. After forcing another Alex punt, Newton did it again, marching the ball 57 yards and hitting Russell from the six for the 24-22 lead.

But Alex answered, moving the ball from their own 23 to Central's 24, then Heffington went up top to Savage for what would be the winning touchdown. The Bronchos went down swinging, though, marching from their 45 to the Longhorn 29 before the clock ran out on them.

Alex coach Justin Savage said earlier in the week that they'd have to slow down the Central

	No.	Class	Ht.	Wt.	Off. Pos.	Def. Pos.
Dakota Reid	1	10	5'10"	129	SE	DB
Kenton Baker	4	10	5'8"	157	RB	DB
Dakota Savage	7	9	6'1"	170	SE	DB
Wayne Heffington	10	12	5'11"	164	QB	DB
Trey Anderson	11	11	6'	150	SE	DB
Reese Mitchell	13	9	5'11"	156	SE	DB
Braden Hines	21	10	5'7"	145	RB	LB
Austin Smith	24	11	6'2"	171	TE	DE
Randy Alexander	27	12	5'9"	163	RB	LB
Cody Alexander	32	9	5'9"	175	G	DL
Caullen Alexander	33	11	6'	188	RB	DE
Zach Mainka	34	9	6'2"	204	G/C	DL
Dustin Deaton	40	9	5'8"	165	RB	LB
Matt Culver	45	11	5'8"	166	G	DL
Cody Otey	65	10	5'10"	183	TE	LB
Sean Landrum	72	12	5'10"	204	G/C	LB
Daniel Thurston	76	12	5'11"	248	G	DL
Caleb Lehman	77	10	6'3"	76	G	DL

**December 2009: Ten Alex players receive High School football honors**



Back row, left to right: Seniors Sean Landrum, Randy Alexander, Wayne Heffington and Daniel Thurston; Juniors Caullen Alexander and Trey Anderson. Not shown: Sophomore Braden Hines. Front row, left to right: Freshmen Zach Mainka, Dakota Savage and Reese Mitchell.

**The best of the best of Oklahoma football players were announced in mid-December 2009, and Alex left its mark on the list.**

**Seniors**

**Randy Alexander** was chosen District B-2 Offensive Player of the Year for 2009 and Oklahoma All-State for High School Football. Alexander was designated an Oklahoma All-Star by Class as one of the best running backs in all of Oklahoma Class B.  
**Wayne Heffington** was chosen First Team All-District Quarterback and awarded Honorable Mention All-State Quarterback.  
**Sean Landrum** received First Team All-District Center honors and Honorable Mention All-State Center.  
**Daniel Thurston** was named First Team All-District Defensive Tackle.

**Juniors**

**Caullen Alexander** was named First Team All-District Defensive End.  
**Trey Anderson** was chosen Second Team All-District Defensive Back.

**Sophomores**

**Braden Hines** was named Second Team All-District Linebacker

**Freshmen**

**Zach Mainka** was chosen Honorable Mention All-District Guard.  
**Reese Mitchell** was named Second Team All-District Utility Player.  
**Dakota Savage** was chosen First Team All-District Wide Receiver and received the Newcomer of the Year Award presented to the top first year player in the district.

**11-13-09: Alex ends 2009 season with first round playoff loss to 2nd ranked Canton**

us into position every game and made the right calls at the line even when we sent in the wrong ones  
 "One's got tons of stats and the other one was the real team leader out there. It's going to be tough to replace those two guys. Real tough."

**From the Chickasha Express Star, October 13, 2009, Chuck Larsen, writer: 'Horns stamped Macomb ALEX– Sometimes eight-man's 45-point mercy rule just isn't enough. < Ninth-ranked Alex beat Macomb 70-0 in 24 minutes Friday night, the minimum amount of time allowed by rule in such a lopsided mismatch.**

The Hornet defense, which has given up 316 points in five games, had absolutely no answer for Alex's rushing game and the Longhorns were up 57-0 after the first quarter.

The first half flew by as the 'Horn defense forced turnover after turnover and the offense struck quickly after every one.

They converted right out of the blocks when freshman Dakota Savage picked off a John Wilson pass on Macomb's first play of the game for a 17-yard touchdown return.

Caullen Alexander intercepted Wilson on Macomb's second series at the Hornet 44 and Wayne Heffington hit Savage with a 17-yard touchdown pass to make it 16-0. Alexander picked Wilson again on the third series then cousin Randy Alexander took it 74 yards on the Longhorns' first play from scrimmage to get the hosts out to 22-0.

A Macomb punt led to another touchdown pass from Heffington to Savage, this one for 25 yards and a 28-0 score, then after Randy Alexander recovered a Hornet fumble at the Macomb 29, Heffington went to right back to Savage for another 25-yard strike to extend to 36-0.

The Hornets fumbled the ball away again then had to punt, leading to back-to-back touchdown runs by sophomore Kenton Baker, who finished off both drives punching it in from the one and then from the six for a 50-point cushion.

Macomb's third fumble of the quarter set the Horns up at the 29 and sophomore Braden Hines' one-yard plunge made the score 57-0 after 12 minutes of mayhem.

Baker got his third score of the night on a 95-yard interception return early in the second quarter, then, after a turnover on downs, he got number four on a 70 yard burst for Alex's 70th point.

The sophomore finished with 197 all-purpose yards and four rushing touchdowns on an eight-carry, 102-yard rushing night.

Randy Alexander, the Longhorns' leading rusher, finished with 133, also on eight carries, a 42-yard punt return and one touchdown.

Heffington was 3-for-5 for 67 yards and three touchdowns, all to Savage.

Alex finished with 267 yards of offense and limited Macomb to 69, picking Wilson off five times and forcing five fumbles.

**From the Chickasha Express Star, September 14, 2009, Kelly Wray, writer: ALEX – Aaron Holden scored two third quarter touchdowns and made two interceptions, leading Temple past Alex, 30-20, here Friday night.**

With the game in still in doubt Holden scored on runs of 9 and 44 yards to put Temple ahead. He then intercepted a pass near the goal-line late as Alex tried to rally.

In all, the Longhorns lost two fumbles and had two interceptions. The Longhorns fell to 1-1, while Temple, losers to Ryan last week, moved to 1-1.

Temple opened the scoring on its first series of the game. The Tigers quick-strike offense marched 53 yards in seven plays. Holden set up the touchdown with a 39-yard run on first down. One play later, running back Nick Brown took an option pitch from Holden, broke a tackle, and raced 4 yards for the score.

Near the end of the first quarter, Alex answered. The Longhorns marched 86 yards on six plays. Randy Alexander capped the drive with a 54-yard run. Alex's two-point conversion try failed but it still took a 14-8 lead into intermission.

After a sluggish opening half for both offenses, Alex and Temple exchanged quick touchdowns in the second half. Temple took the opening drive of the third stanza 59 yards in seven plays.

passing game and stop Newton's running to win. The sophomore finished with 86 rushing yards and 167 passing yards and three touchdowns on an 11-of-17 night. It was a heck of an effort, but just not quite enough.

Heffington countered with 150 yards and two touchdowns (both to young Savage) on a 9-of-16 night and Randy Alexander had 132 yards and two touchdowns on 26 carries.

Central actually had more overall yards (319-281), first downs (17-13), rushing yards (152-131) and passing yards (167-150). They just didn't win.

Alex hung on for the gut-check win and will take a 3-1 record to seventh-ranked and unbeaten Allen Friday for week five.

**Closing in on kickoff: A preseason rundown from the Alex Football coach August 12, 2009, Alex, OK** - "The 2008 season was great for Alex," noted Head Football Coach Justin Savage "but be warned that Alex returns a lot of experience for the 2009 season."

Alex football opens the 2009 season with key returning Senior starters **Wayne Heffington** at quarterback, **Randy Alexander** at offensive running back and defensive linebacker, and **Sean Landrum** at offensive outside linebacker and defensive linebacker.

Coach Savage pointed out that experience will be a key factor to Alex's performance this season, particularly early in the season. The leadership demonstrated by upper classmen combined with the talent of younger, emerging players will determine Alex's success.



The Alex Offense at Canton



The Alex Defense at Canton



11-06-09: Caullen Alexander wraps a Paoli Pug as Randy Alexander closes in.  
Photo by Tammy Baker

Quarterback Aaron Holden capped the drive with a nifty nine-yard scoring run down the right side.

Alex answered with one-play, 59-yard touchdown run by Randy Alexander. Alexander filtered through a hole up the middle, scooted to his left, and ran untouched into the end zone. The two-point conversion failed, but Alex led 20-16 with 9:07 left in the third.

Then Holden took over for awhile. Temple coaches abandoned any trace of the passing game and put the ball and the game into their running backs hands. On third-and-three, Holden raced up the middle and outran the Alex defense for a 44-yard touchdown. That capped just a three-play, 51-yard drive, and Temple led 22-20 at the 7:30 mark.

**TEMPLE 30, ALEX 20**

**Scoring Summary**

**1st Quarter**  
Temple (6:21) -- Nick Brown 4 run (Cody Littles run)  
Alex (:32) -- Randy Alexander 54 run (run failed)

**2nd Quarter**  
Alex (:42) -- Dakota Savage 7 pass from Wayne Heffington (Randy Alexander run)

**3rd Quarter**  
Temple (9:18) -- Aaron Holden 9 run (Run converted)  
Alex (9:07) -- Randy Alexander 59 run (Pass failed)  
Temple (7:30) -- Holden 44 run (pass failed)

**4th Quarter**  
Temple (9:54) -- Cody Little 5 yard run (Little run )



**11-06-09:** Braden Hines pulled his weight and then some during the Paoli game.  
Photos by Tammy Baker

**Determination, 10-30-09:** Austin Smith wraps up a Ryan Cowboy.



**Defense defines games:** Austin Smith, Cody Otey, Randy Alexander and Reese Mitchell are shown here swarming a Fox ball carrier on 10-23-09.



**No headline required:** 'Horns swat the Macomb Hornets 70-0 at half on 10-09-09.  
Photo by Teresa Moore



Dakota Savage strains for this pass as Alex annihilated Macomb on 10-09-09.  
Photo by Teresa Moore



Alex Senior Quarterback Wayne Heffington.  
Photo by Tammy Baker. Photo editing by Teresa Moore



Kenton Baker throws down a Macomb ball carrier on 10-09-09 in a play that placed the photographer at risk of tackle as well.  
Photo and photo editing by Teresa Moore



**10-02-09:** Caullen Alexander carries the football against Allen.  
Photo by Tammy Baker



Kenton Baker and Trey Anderson defend the pass as Alex took on Allen on 10-02-09.  
Photo by Tammy Baker



Alex fights for this fumble as they beat Central High on 09-25-09.  
Photo by Tammy Baker. Photo editing by Teresa Moore.



**09-11-09:** Smash-mouth football against Temple.  
 Photo by Tammy Baker. Photo editing by Teresa Moore

**2009 Alex High School Football Schedule**

Date	Team / Place	Result
Fri., 09-04-09	at Duke	<b>W 51-6</b>
Fri., 09-11-09	Temple at home	<b>L 20-30</b>
Fri., 09-18-09	Cyril* at home ( <b>Homecoming</b> )	<b>W 55-8</b>
Fri., 09-25-09	Central* at home	<b>W 28-24</b>
Fri., 10-02-09	at Allen*	<b>W 38-36</b>
Fri., 10-09-09	Macomb* at home	<b>W 70-0</b>
Thurs., 10-15-09	at Caddo*	<b>L 30-44</b>
Fri., 10-23-09	Fox* at home ( <b>Senior Night</b> )	<b>W 34-28</b>
Fri., 10-30-09	at Ryan*	<b>L 28-60</b>
Fri., 11-06-09	at Paoli*	<b>W 59-14</b>
Fri., 11-13-09	1st Round Playoffs at Canton	<b>L 61-14</b>

**\*Denotes Conference Games**

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