



SPECIAL FEATURE
TAYLOR DUCKS



PROGRAM PREVIEW



PLAYMAKER RECRUITING

Occasionally when we are looking for hidden prospects, we find a group of gems from a team on the rise. One such team was in Taylor, Texas; home to the 4-A Taylor Ducks football team.

Taylor was led by a lot of young talent in 2026, and That talent is going to be looked at to make a major step up this upcoming season as Taylor looks to turn their record around while taking on a harder schedule in 2026. In order to achieve such an accomplishment they are going to have to lean on three of their biggest (and youngest) playmakers from 2025: Eric Walker II, Elijah Afenkkena, and Jeremiah Caldwell. This threatening threesome of offensive weapons are going to have to deal with a lot of pressure and eyes as they come into the season already boasting several D1 offers including Texas Tech, The University of Washington, Vanderbilt, and Oklahoma.



The group is led by their veteran, Eric Walker II. Walker is a bulky, compact RB standing at 5'9" 200 pounds, but don't let that make you think he's just a power back. He is a big play waiting to happen out of the backfield, using quick feet and explosive acceleration to make the most out of open lanes. Walker posted an impressive 1,078 yards rushing, averaging 7.8 yards per carry and adding 11 TDs on the ground. The Taylor offense will have to run through their senior playmaker and leader on offense, and in his final season you know he is looking to leave a mark.



Photo of: Jeremiah Caldwell



Photo of: Elijah Afenkkena



Photo of: Eric Walker II

PLAYMAKER RECRUITING

The other two pieces of this trio come at the wide receiver position. Elijah Afenkhenah and Jeremiah Caldwell joined the Ducks as freshmen in 2025 and immediately made their presence known. The rookie duo led the Ducks in receiving yards last year, combining for 46 catches, 1,005 yards, and 13 TDs through the air. The two outside targets play off of each other very well, making life easier for their QB and play caller.

Afenkhenah has the physique of a classic big body X receiver in the making. Standing at 6’3” 195 pounds, Elijah can do the dirty work on the outside that you would expect a wideout of his stature to do, but his game offers much more as well. Elijah has the burst of a deep threat when getting out of his release, allowing him to be a threat vertically as well as underneath on screens and crossers.

Caldwell offers the counter to his partner, as a twitchy, shifty route runner and YAC threat. At 6’1” 165, he has the ball skills and length to make tough catches but isn’t the typical body you would want to run the more physical routes on the outside. In addition to his ability at WR this twitchy playmaker does have another rabbit in his hat. The Ducks also used the freshman at QB where he had 402 yards, 5 TDs, and only 1 INT on 37 attempts. He not only showcased his athletic upside navigating the pocket and scrambling downfield, but he also showed intriguing arm strength and touch as well.



It is a mystery whether the Ducks will lean heavier into this side of Caldwell’s game, but it is a threat opposing teams will definitely have to look out for. Regardless of his role, Caldwell, like Afenkhenah, will face the expectations of a veteran player this year. The pressure to not only perform for their team, but for their futures will be as heavy as their high school careers have been short. The two young wideouts and the senior back are not yet “the great show on turf” but they should be looked at as an exciting group looking to make their mark this season.

Featured Teams

	www.playmakerrecruiting.com
	www.taylorisd.org

Featured Players

Jeremiah Caldwell	@Jeremiah_Ca7
Elijah Afenkhenah	@Elijah_A14
Eric Walker II	@EricWalker24x