

GAMEDAY INTERCEPT / MCLANE STADIUM / 19 SEPTEMBER 2026

A drone flew over McLane Stadium during the game. Officers located and contacted the operator in under five minutes.

On 19 September 2026, during Baylor's home game against Louisiana Tech, a DJI Air 3 flew more than 500 feet over McLane Stadium while a federal flight restriction was in effect. Baylor University detected the aircraft in DroneView, identified the operator's location, and directed a patrol unit to him. Officers made contact in under five minutes, and federal partners interviewed the pilot on scene.



Snapshot Organization and deployment

ORGANIZATION	VENUE	CAPACITY	CONFERENCE	SOLUTION	CUSTOMER SINCE
Baylor University Athletics	McLane Stadium, Waco, Texas	45,140	Big 12	Three Guardian RF sensors, fixed and mobile, with DroneView	August 2025

"Without drone detection, we are blind to all this."

Drew Pittman, CSSP
Senior Associate Athletics Director
Event Management and Facilities, Baylor University

Goals and Outcomes What Baylor set out to do, and what the system delivered

GOAL	OUTCOME
01 Detect every drone over and around McLane Stadium on gameday.	Detected 41 drones and 144 flights in 30 days. 46 of those flights entered a Baylor geofence.
02 Locate drone operators on the ground.	Contacted Operators reached in under five minutes on 19 September and about two minutes on 26 September.
03 Provide federal partners with actionable flight records.	Preserved Aircraft and DroneView logs provided to federal partners.
04 Distinguish unknown flights from approved drone activity.	Flagged Approved drones whitelisted or named in DroneView to distinguish unknown flights.
05 Establish a shared view for campus, community and federal partners.	Briefed 80 campus and community partners briefed using the DroneView track.

Gameday, Minute by Minute Times are Central and based on the DroneView flight record.

1:01 PM

First Flight

DroneView detects the aircraft near its launch point, about a kilometer from the stadium, and tracks it across McLane at roughly 500 feet for four minutes. The flight restriction has not yet begun, so the command post monitors and logs the flight.

2:00 PM

Restriction in Effect

The FAA stadium flight restriction takes effect one hour before kickoff. Kickoff is at 3:00 PM.

3:49 PM

Back Over the Stadium

The same aircraft returns over McLane at more than 500 feet. DroneView's flight history identifies it as the second flight of the day associated with that serial number. DroneView locates the operator about 0.4 miles away, across the interstate behind a warehouse.

Under 5 min

Contact

A patrol unit drives to the operator's location and finds him as he lands the aircraft. Federal partners take over and interview him on scene. Flight logs from both the drone and DroneView are preserved.



What the Detection Made Possible In Baylor's words

BEFORE

Binoculars and Guesswork

Without the system, the command post would have scanned the sky from the front row while searching for an operator concealed across the interstate.

"We would have been looking for an operator we would never have found. If he had a payload, we would have had zero ability to respond."

Drew Pittman, Baylor Athletics

EVIDENCE

Two Logs, One Record

Investigators collected flight logs from the aircraft and the corresponding track from DroneView. Baylor's partners say prosecutors want both records because, together, they make the case straightforward to present.

PLAYBOOK

A Faster Response Every Week

Baylor used the DroneView track to brief its 80 campus and community partners at the weekly game management meeting. It is now establishing dedicated ground intercept teams equipped with DroneView on tablets. One week later, a second unapproved flight toward the stadium was intercepted in about two minutes.

BOTTOM LINE

Guardian RF helped Baylor locate and contact the operator of a drone over a full stadium in under five minutes, while preserving a complete flight record for federal partners. Baylor is building its gameday response around the system.

ABOUT GUARDIAN RF

Guardian RF develops passive radio frequency drone detection sensors and DroneView software for live drone and operator mapping, alerts, and flight records. An IACLEA Supporting Member, Guardian RF serves university campuses, athletics venues, law enforcement, and U.S. critical infrastructure.

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