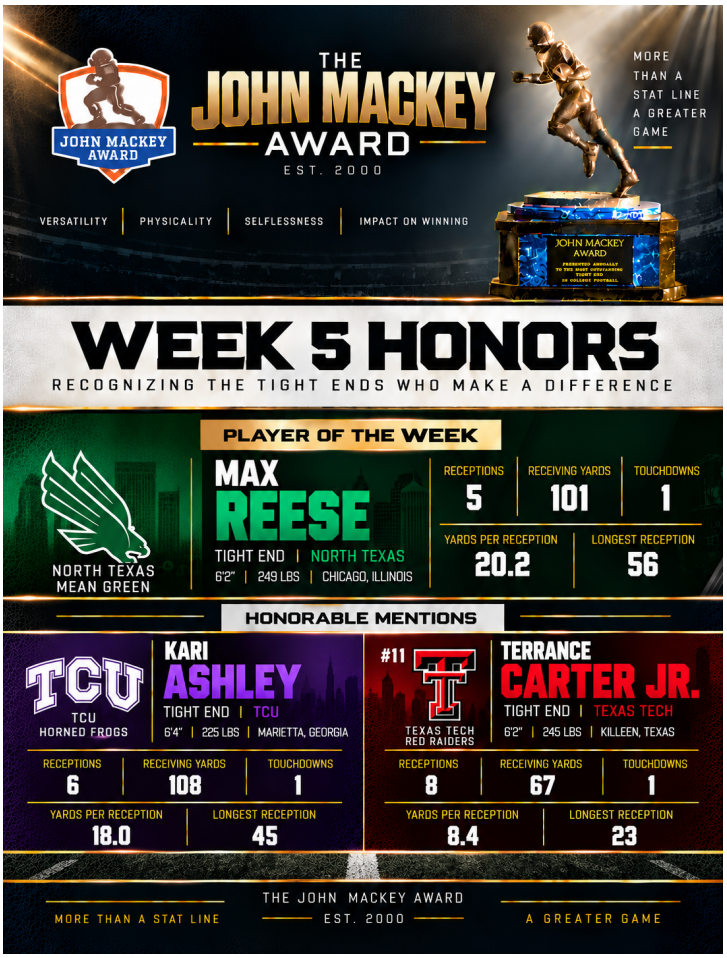
JOHN MACKEY AWARD NAMES MAX REESE WEEK 5 PLAYER OF THE WEEK

North Texas tight end delivers first career 100-yard performance in dramatic overtime victory



Baltimore, MD — October 6, 2026 — The John Mackey Award has named **North Texas tight end Max Reese** its **Week 5 Player of the Week** following a career performance in the Mean Green's thrilling 45–44 overtime road victory over Tulsa.

Reese finished the game with **five receptions for 101 yards and one touchdown**, averaging **20.2 yards per reception**. The performance marked the first 100-yard receiving game of his career and came when North Texas needed it most in a one-point overtime victory.

Reese's combination of production and explosiveness stood out during another strong week for tight ends across college football. His performance continued to demonstrate the growing importance of the position and the many ways tight ends can impact winning — as receivers, blockers, matchup problems and playmakers in critical moments.

HONORABLE MENTION

KARI ASHLEY — TCU

Ashley delivered a strong performance against No. 9 BYU, finishing with **six receptions for 108 yards and one touchdown**. He led TCU in receiving and accounted for the Horned Frogs' lone touchdown in the 17–10 loss.

TERRANCE CARTER JR. — TEXAS TECH

Carter played an important role in No. 12 Texas Tech's **29–7 road victory over Colorado**, recording **eight receptions for 67 yards and one touchdown**. Carter led the Red Raiders in both receptions and receiving yards, while his 11-yard touchdown reception gave Texas Tech its first lead of the game as the Red Raiders took control.

THE TIGHT END POSITION CONTINUES TO SHINE

Week 5 provided another reminder of the impact tight ends are having throughout college football.

From Reese producing explosive plays in an overtime victory, to Ashley leading his team in receiving against a top-10 opponent, to Carter helping spark a ranked team to a conference road win, tight ends continue to show why the position has become one of the most versatile and important on the field.

That evolution reflects the legacy of **John Mackey**, whose combination of size, speed, physicality and receiving ability helped revolutionize what was possible at the tight end position.

The John Mackey Award will continue evaluating tight ends throughout the 2026 season, with an emphasis on identifying the player who best represents the complete nature of the position and its impact on winning.

ABOUT THE JOHN MACKEY AWARD

The **John Mackey Player of the Week** is an honor distinct from the annual John Mackey Award. The weekly honor was established in 2004 to draw attention to outstanding individual performances by tight ends throughout the college football season.

The Player of the Week recognition does not have a direct bearing on the final John Mackey Award selection process. The weekly honor will continue through the announcement of the eight John Mackey Award semifinalists.

The **John Mackey Award** was established in 2000 by the Nassau County Sports Commission and is presented annually to the tight end who performs at the highest level on and off the field.

The John Mackey Award is a member of the **National College Football Awards Association (NCFAA)**, which encompasses the most prestigious awards in college football, dating back to 1935.

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