

THE SKIFF



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MEN'S TENNIS TO
HEAD TO CHICAGO
AFTER TOURNAMENT
WIN

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FORT WORTH, TEXAS



BASEBALL PREVIEW

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PHOTO COURTESY OF JACK WALLACE

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Experienced players hold
off Kansas State Jayhawks

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GROUNDHOG DAY

It's that time of year again, is
winter coming?

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COMMUNITY

Groundhog Day: what to know

BY TAYLOR BOSER

EXECUTIVE EDITOR, TCU 360

Happy Feb. 2, also known as Groundhog Day! The groundhog, Punxsutawney Phil, has been hibernating all winter and is ready to come out to determine if there will be six more weeks of winter or if spring is upon us.

Here are some fun facts about the holiday to get you ready for Groundhog Day:

If the groundhog sees his shadow, there will be six more weeks of winter. If he doesn't, then spring will arrive soon. He has seen his shadow 103 times and not seen his shadow 18 times.

The groundhog's real name is "Punxsutawney Phil, Seer of Seers, Sage of Sages, Prognosticator of Prognosticators, and Weather Prophet Extraordinary."

The first Groundhog Day ceremony was in 1886.

The average groundhog lives six to eight years, but Punxsutawney Phil drinks a magical potion that gives him seven more years of life. He is at least 133 years old, according to the Inner Circle of the Groundhog Club.

Punxsutawney Phil makes his prediction at Gobbler's Knob in Punxsutawney, Pa. The prediction happens around 7:20 a.m. EST.

The groundhog tells his prediction to the president of the Inner Circle of the Groundhog Club in Groundhogese,



PHOTO COURTESY OF GROUNDHOG.ORG

Punxsutawney Phil being raised in the air at last year's Groundhog Day Festival.

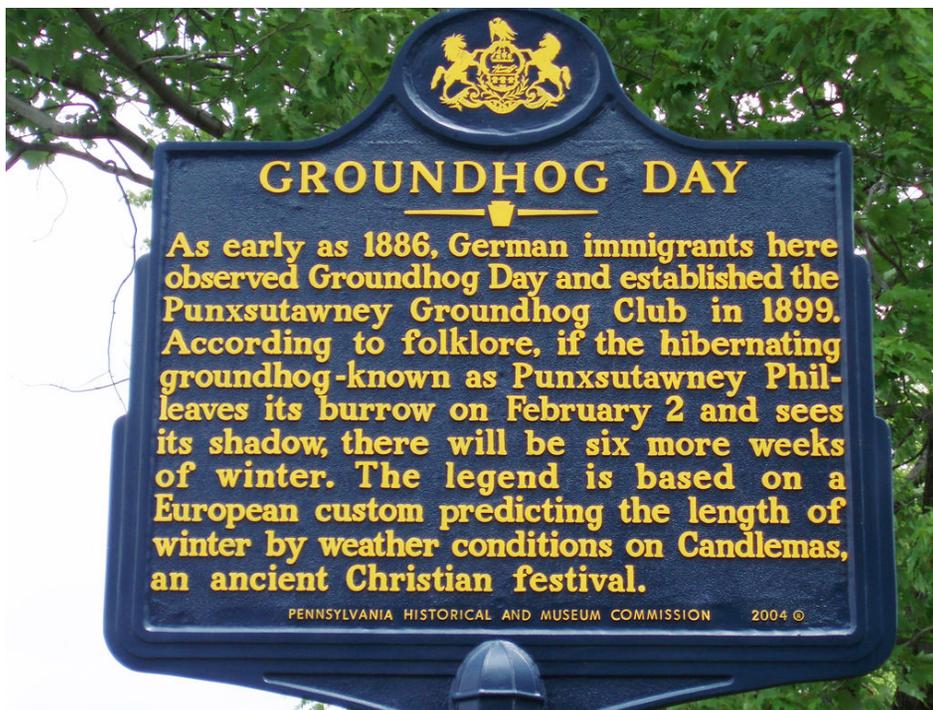


PHOTO CUTOSEY OF GORNDHOG.ORG

A plaque describing the legend of Punxsutawney Phil.

the language spoken between the two.

Groundhog Day with Bill Murray did not

use Punxsutawney Phil for the movie. Instead, a groundhog named Scooter was used and he

bit Murray three times during filming.



The Skiff

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SPORTS

Men's tennis sweeps ITA kickoff

BY JACK WALLACE

STAFF WRITER, TCU 360

TCU Men's Tennis bounced back after their season-opening loss with two 4-0 wins over Loyola Marymount and No. 20 Oklahoma State.

The win sends TCU over .500 after an ugly loss at Tulsa last weekend.

"Everybody showed up," said senior Alex Rybakov. "Every single person, all the freshmen, all the upperclassmen, everybody. It was overall a great team effort."

Early Doubles Bumps Brushed Off

Saturday's doubles competition was a close call after sophomore Bertus Kruger and senior Reese Stalder lost 6-3. Rybakov and junior Alastair Gray followed with a 6-2 win and first-years Luc Fomba and Sander Jong clinched after a 6-4 win.

Sunday opened with the doubles competition, with Kruger/Stalder posting a 6-3 win. Fomba/Jong finished the sweep with a 6-3 win as well, clinching the doubles point for the Frogs.

Singles Continue the Sweep

TCU quickly claimed a title game spot on Saturday, with victories by Stalder (6-0, 6-2), Kruger (7-5, 6-1), and Fomba (6-4, 6-2) over Loyola Marymount.

Stalder's was a case of sweet revenge, avenging his doubles loss earlier that afternoon.

On Sunday, all TCU players again won in straight sets, with Stalder finishing first for the Frogs, winning 6-3, 6-1. Kruger came right after with a dominating 6-2, 6-1 win. Rybakov won the deciding match, 6-3, 6-1.

Rybakov Remains Relentless

Rybakov stands at No. 14 nationally in singles rankings, the highest of any TCU player and the second highest among Big 12 players.

His strong finish this weekend has his singles record at a still-undefeated 10-0.

Rybakov looks to continue to lead the Horned Frogs to a solid season once again, vying for their fourth-straight Big 12 regular-season title, and third Big 12 tournament championship in the last four years.

"Our potential is great," Rybakov said. "Obviously the goal is to keep the Big 12, as we've been doing, but we're going to take it match by match, one game at a time."

As one of the highest attended tennis teams in the Big 12, loyal Horned Frogs did not disappoint, with more than 850 fans in attendance over the two matches.

"We see different people from the community coming out," head coach David Roditi



Alastair Gray reaches to try and win a crucial point in TCU's win against Oklahoma State this Sunday.

PHOTO BY JACK WALLACE

said. "It's a beautiful tennis center on a beautiful day. Today, in my opinion, this was the place to be."

Up Next:

TCU came into the weekend ranked No. 22 in the nation and will surely climb after not only a tournament win but a win over a ranked conference foe.

PHOTO BY JACK WALLACE

Alex Rybakov makes his serve to open his doubles match this Sunday against Oklahoma State.



SPORTS

TCU men's basketball suffers worst loss of season

BY COLIN POST

STAFF WRITER, TCU 360

In a match-up with one of the Big 12's most high-flying offenses, TCU basketball shot just 45.7 percent from the field, falling to No. 16 Texas Tech 84-65.

The Red Raiders shot 54.2 percent as a team and got 68 of their 84 points from their starting five. Guards Matt Mooney and Jarrett Culver led the way for Texas Tech with 18 points each.

After guard Kouat Noi led the Horned Frogs to an early lead, the Red Raiders exploded, nailing seven shots from behind the arc and taking a 43-27 lead at halftime.

Noi finished with 17 points and a steal. This was his 18th-straight game to connect on a shot from deep.

Despite their deficit, TCU did not give up, climbing within 10 at one-point midway through the half. The comeback effort was largely due to guard Desmond Bane, who, after going 0-for-4 in the first half, went 5-for-7 for 13 points in the second half to give the Horned Frogs life.

Bane's offensive production was not enough though, as the Red Raiders shot 61.5 percent in the second half and cruised to an easy victory.

Center Kevin Samuel

poured in 10 points and 12 rebounds, making the contest the first time TCU has lost this season when the redshirt freshman records a double-double.

Not only were the Horned Frogs out-rebounded for just the fourth time this season (31-28), but they also had a season-low nine assists.

TCU will look to get back in the win column on Saturday when they travel to Waco, Texas, to face Baylor. Tip-off against the Bears is scheduled for 7 p.m., and the game will be broadcast on ESPNU.



PHOTO COURTESY OF GOFROGS.COM

Although Desmond Bane scored all 13 of his points in the second half, it wasn't enough for the Frogs to come back.



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02/07/2019

SPORTS

Experience leads basketball to victory over Kansas

BY BENTON MCDONALD

SPORTS EDITOR, TCU 360

The best teams find their best players when they need them the most.

Facing a storming Kansas team, who ended the third quarter on an 11-0 run and trailed by just three, TCU turned to senior Jordan Moore who reeled off the Horned Frogs first eight points of the fourth quarter, out-scoring the Jayhawks by six during that stretch.

Moore's eight along with four straight free throws by Amy Okonkwo down the stretch would give the Horned Frogs a 58-53 victory Sunday.

It was the lowest points the team has scored in a victory all season, highlighting what head coach Raegan Pebley called an "uncharacteristic" offensive performance.

The Horned Frogs shot 42.2 percent from the field and made just two of their three-pointers.

More complicit in their offensive woes was the season-high 26 turnovers they committed, including 18 in the second half.

"That's uncharacteristic of us but I know its characteristic of Kansas's defense," said Pebley. "We just didn't have great flow."

Lacking the offensive execution that usually guides them to victories, the team leaned on experience and size to hold off the Jayhawks late.

Moore would finish with 22 points and 10 rebounds, her third consecutive game with



PHOTO BY PORTER BURNS

The team scored 30 points from the paint Sunday, part of their game plan to attack the Jayhawk defense.

20 points and second straight double-double.

"I wouldn't really say its a zone," Moore said of her recent performances. "I just do what I'm supposed to do. I'm supposed to get rebounds, I'm supposed to score, I'm supposed to be where my teammates need me to be at all times and that's what I did tonight."

Eight of her 22 points came at the line, indicative of the Horned Frogs emphasis on getting the ball inside and drawing whistles.

Forty-seven of the team's 58 points came from either inside the paint or at the free-throw line, a commitment to the game plan that resulted in the win.

"We did feel like

we could look at some penetration and there were some seams we could try and expose and attack," Pebley said.

Along with Moore's fourth quarter offense, the team relied on a defense that attacked the ball all game long.

Jayde Woods led the way with four steals, including one off of a Kansas inbounds pass



PHOTO BY PORTER BURNS

Moore's play on both ends was pivotal to the team's victory.

with 12 seconds left that gave TCU the ball back with just a one-point lead.

The Jayhawks would foul Okonkwo after the steal, allowing her to go to the line and sink two free throws to push the lead to three.

Okonkwo would return to the line and effectively end the game with two more free throws after another Kansas turnover with 10 seconds remaining.

The offense of Moore, defense of Woods and composure of Okonkwo all culminated in a gritty win that younger, more inexperienced Horned Frog teams may not have been able to pull off.

"Experience helps

you so much in this conference," Pebley said. "In the past, we've been one of the more youthful teams and I think their experience, as well as players like Kianna [Ray], has just helped us so much."

The team will look to build on the confidence that comes with closing out a tight game as they head into the final stretch of their season.

With 10 games remaining, they stand at 14-5 overall with a 4-4 record in the Big 12.

They will get the chance to get over the .500 hump in conference play against Kansas State at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 30 in Manhattan, Kansas.

Horoscope

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

for Thursday, Jan. 31, 2019:

This year you can swing between a work-related mentality and a devil-may-care attitude. You will enjoy your life and each facet of it more completely.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★ You might be more exacting and demanding than you realize. Your feelings need to be positively directed to keep you from feeling frustrated or angry. Understand that others care about how you feel but might be limited in meeting your demands. Tonight: Take a strong role in making plans.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★★ One-on-one relating remains a strong suit of yours during the workday. You prefer that type of exchange, as it makes you feel more complete. Find out, if you can, what is bothering the other party. This person might not want to open up or might not feel secure enough to reveal what is going on. Do not make it a big deal. Tonight: Weigh the pros and cons of taking a long-talked-about vacation.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★★ Your sense of direction needs to suffice for the moment. Getting feedback from a loved one or an associate might be difficult at the moment. Others seek you out, resulting in a need to screen calls. Postpone socializing. You have a lot to do. You need to clear out present work before you can relax. Tonight: Now, catch up with friends.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★★ Your emotional depth helps you identify with a loved one or partner. You might not agree with him or her. However, you do understand where this person is coming from. Keep the

moment light, if possible. The other party could feel uncomfortable otherwise. Tonight: Say "yes" to a special offer.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★★ Allow your adventurous spirit to dominate. You enjoy relating to others. Be careful -- a flirtation could begin out of nothing, or the other party might misinterpret your attention. Be aware of how much your charisma draws others toward you and also fuels your fantasies. Tonight: Try to make it an early night.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★ You could feel as if you cannot move in one direction or another. Use this semi-stalemate to open up conversations and see where movement is possible. Feelings flow, and suddenly ideas pop up. The unexpected marks a new choice. Tonight: Tap into your imagination when making plans.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★★ Make an effort to have much-needed discussions. You might like agreements, but you need to accept your differences first. Talks help a negotiation. However, you find someone you are dealing with to be out of sorts or erratic. You will see eye to eye soon enough. Tonight: Head home early.

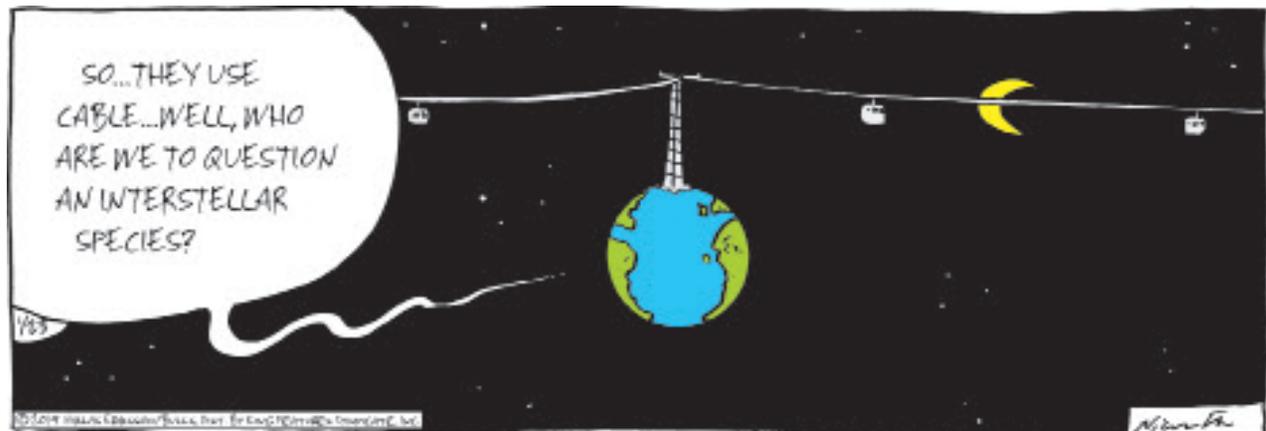
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★★ Stay in touch with your financial limitations when shopping. You could feel confused by a child or a loved one. Actually, this person works well when a haze surrounds an issue. Goodwill flows between you. You soon will be on the same page. Tonight: Hang out with friends.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★★ No one can stop you when you decide to go

Carpe Diem by Niklas Eriksson



Dustin by Steve Kelley and Jeff Parker



for something. Confusion surrounds others who would like to interfere but cannot. Caring evolves, and with it, people feel less threatened. A family member or a matter around your home could shake up the status quo. Tonight: Make it your treat.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★ Use the morning to

center yourself and rethink a decision. Your gentle manner comes through when dealing with others. It draws a positive response. You could bring others around to your way of thinking if you do not make a hard push. Tonight: Nap, then decide.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ Use the daylight hours

to focus in on high priorities. A meeting will be successful if scheduled midday. Listen to different opinions. Your caring evolves the more you understand what worries others. Surprises surround you. Tonight: Let it be just for you.

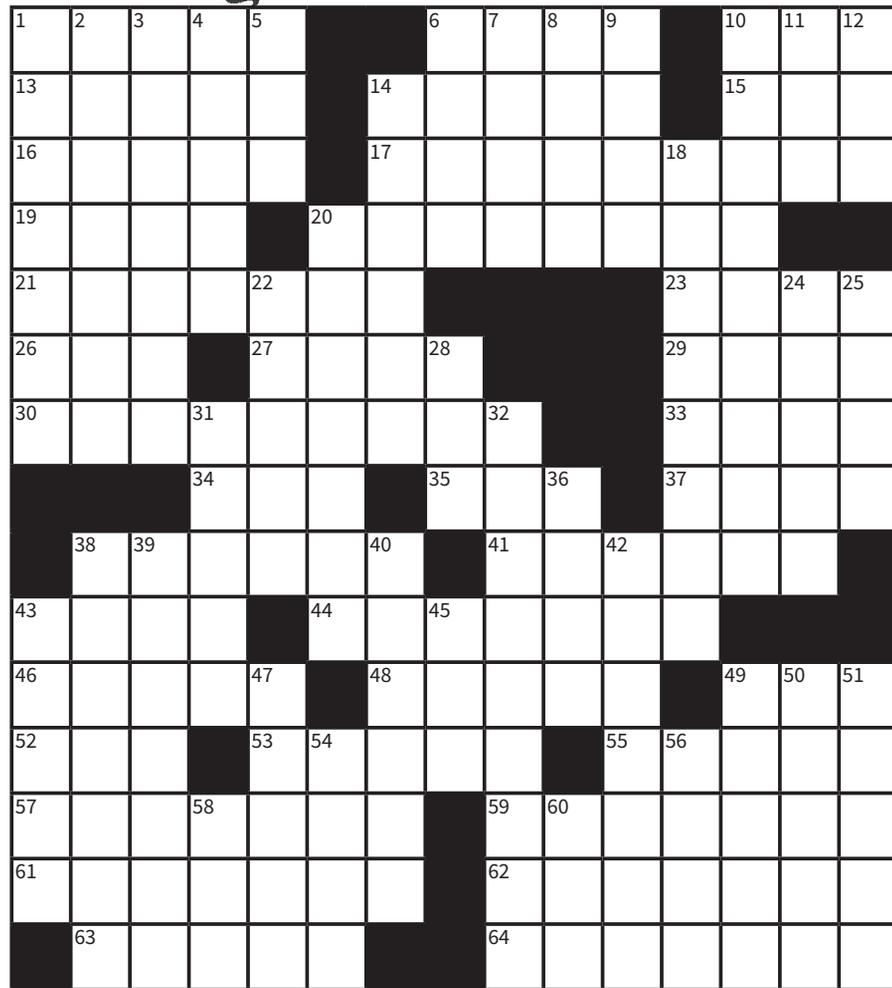
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★ You take charge in work-related matters. As a

result, you finally see flow and acknowledgment. You express your appreciation for a job well done. Know that you did make a difference here. Finances go back and forth, figuratively speaking. Make a decision accordingly. Tonight: The more people around you, the more fun you will have.

The New York Times

Edited by Will Shortz



PUZZLE BY MARY LOU GUIZZO AND JEFF CHEN

ACROSS

- 1 ___ billiards, game on a pocketless table
- 6 Mount whose name means, literally, "I burn"
- 10 Something with teeth
- 13 In the course of
- 14 Detached
- 15 Fed. science org.
- 16 Family symbol
- 17 Flier with a message
- 19 Monomaniac of fiction
- 20 Divisions in the Congressional Record
- 21 View remotely?
- 23 Sunroof alternative
- 26 "You sti-i-i-ink!"
- 27 Follower of clear or cross
- 29 "Forever, ___" (1996 humor book)
- 30 Drone's job
- 33 Rod's partner
- 34 Realm with an Imperial Diet: Abbr.
- 35 Rods' partners
- 37 Rival of Cassio
- 38 One might have a wink or a smile
- 41 Foreign-born musician with a Presidential Medal of Freedom
- 43 Trough filler

- 44 Tin or glass

- 46 Business meeting that participants dial into, informally
- 48 Bunch of lovers?
- 49 "Just like that!"
- 52 Gray
- 53 Words before "a good night"
- 55 Author Calvino
- 57 Former Yankees manager Joe
- 59 Crafty person?
- 61 It helps keep the machinery running
- 62 Does something to a T
- 63 Clichéd
- 64 "A tyrant's authority for crime and a fool's excuse for failure," per Ambrose Bierce

DOWN

- 1 Carolina tribe that allied with the colonists in the American Revolution
- 2 Song sung by Elvis in "Blue Hawaii"
- 3 Muscle with a palindromic name
- 4 End of an era?
- 5 Company that released "2001: A Space Odyssey"
- 6 ___ Club
- 7 Department store department
- 8 "___ get it"
- 9 It was once big for Aretha Franklin
- 10 It's indicated by arrows on a map
- 11 Parody, in a way
- 12 Newspaper headline of 12/8/1941
- 14 Alternative to "Sincerely"
- 18 Department with a buffalo on its seal
- 20 One frequently pictured in GQ or Vogue
- 22 Symbol on many a bumper sticker
- 24 Rolex rival
- 25 Texas' ___ Duro Canyon
- 28 Radiation cleanup, briefly
- 31 "Fingers crossed!"
- 32 Brooklyn attraction
- 36 Acoustic measure
- 38 Sad songs
- 39 Burrowing rodent
- 40 Follower of a plane ... or a hint to this puzzle's theme
- 42 "Most definitely!"
- 43 Amos Alonzo ____, coach in the College Football Hall of Fame
- 45 I.S.P. option
- 47 Dominate
- 49 Lowest parts
- 50 Author Locke of the Harlem Renaissance, the first African-American Rhodes scholar (1907)
- 51 Hall of fame
- 54 Comic strip canine
- 56 Bias
- 58 Celestial altar
- 60 Norma ___ (Oscar-winning role of 1979)

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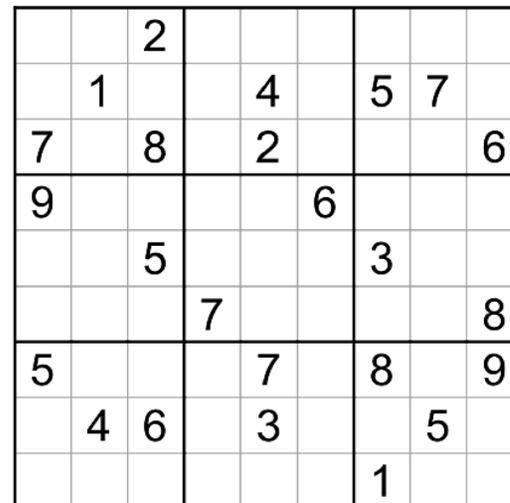
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Sudoku



DIRECTIONS

Fill in the grid so that every 3x3 box, row, and column contains the digits 1 through 9 without repeating numbers.

SOLUTION FROM 1/24

1	7	9	8	6	3	4	5	2
2	8	3	1	5	4	9	7	6
6	4	5	2	7	9	3	8	1
8	9	7	4	2	6	5	1	3
4	1	2	5	3	7	8	6	9
3	5	6	9	8	1	7	2	4
9	6	1	7	4	8	2	3	5
7	2	4	3	1	5	6	9	8
5	3	8	6	9	2	1	4	7

TCU Trivia

Anniversary: What was the starting price for a class ring 50 years ago in 1969?

SOLUTION FROM 1/24

The solution from 1/24 is not available.

TCU TRIVIA ANSWER

The starting price for a TCU class ring in 1969 was \$32.00 for men's ring and \$26.00 for women's rings.

SPORTS

Baseball looks to return to winning reputation in 2019

BY ROBBIE VAGLIO

MANAGING EDITOR TCU 360

Led by veteran pitcher Jared Janczak and outfielder Josh Watson, TCU Baseball will look to return to their winning ways after failing to reach the NCAA Tournament last season and ending their four-year streak of College World Series appearances.

Janczak and Watson returned to TCU for their senior seasons after being selected in last season's MLB Draft.

Watson, a force at the plate, enters the 2019 season with a career hitting clip of .274 with 187 hits, 20 home runs and 114 runs batted in. Watson led the team last season with a .305 batting average and 64 hits.

Janczak has posted 17 career victories with a 2.56 ERA in his three seasons as a Horned Frog. In 218 innings pitched, he has allowed 173 hits and 62 earned runs while forcing an opponent's batting average of .218.

"You can't beat a place like TCU, especially for your bonus round," said Janczak. "I'm excited."

Janczak is returning to the diamond after having his junior season cut short due season-ending surgery to repair Thoracic Outlet Syndrome.

Janczak headlines an experienced pitching core ahead of the 2019 campaign. The Horned Frogs will return pitchers Charles King, Haylen Green, Jake Eissler, James Notary and Nick Lodolo, each with many games of

experience under their belt. Lodolo was named a Collegiate Baseball preseason second-team All-American in December.

The team's bullpen did take a major hit this offseason with injuries to both Caleb Sloan and Russell Smith. Head coach Jim Schlossnagle said Smith underwent Tommy John surgery in the fall and Caleb Sloan suffered an elbow injury. Both players are expected to miss the entire season.

Despite the losses, TCU will welcome a junior college transfer in Brandon Williamson, who Schlossnagle said could factor into the rotation.

"We all have talent," Janczak said. "Those guys last year that pitched a little bit, they all have experience now so they know what to expect and how our pitching staff operates. I think we're going to do a lot better than last year, have a little more fun with it too. Win some more ball games."

Five players from last season's starting lineup will return to the diamond this season: Watson, catcher Zach Humphreys, third baseman Conner Shepherd, center fielder Johnny Rizer and shortstop Adam Oviedo.

Schlossnagle said Oviedo may make a switch to third base this season because it will better suit his long-term career.

Schlossnagle expects Hunter Wolfe, a junior college transfer from Walters State Community College to begin the season at



PHOTO BY JACK WALLACE

TCU Baseball looks to return to the NCAA Tournament after failing to reach last season.

shortstop because he is "a dynamic athlete, has some power and is really fun to watch."

The Horned Frogs lost first baseman Luken Baker and pitchers Durbin Feltman and Sean Wymer to the MLB Draft. Designated hitter Michael Landestoy and right fielder A.J. Balta, whose batting power carried the Horned Frogs to last season's Big 12 Tournament championship game, graduated from TCU.

Schlossnagle will welcome nine transfers to Fort Worth to replace last season's lost talent.

Schlossnagle expects junior college transfer Andrew Keefer to join Watson and Rizer in the outfield, replacing Balta in right field. Keefer will be transitioning from the infield to right field, so his coach expects some learning pains to begin but expects him to thrive in his new role.

"He's going to be a tough guy to pitch to,"

Schlossnagle said. "He's a good athlete and can really throw."

The team will also add two new catchers to the rotation to join Humphreys: junior college transfer Alex Isola and freshman Nick Juaire. He expects each to play a big role this season and said this group is the "best catching situation" he's had in his 16 years at the helm.

A star-studded schedule stands between TCU Baseball and their hopeful return to the NCAA Tournament. Opening the season at No. 19 in the D1 Baseball Preseason rankings, the Horned Frogs will face six ranked opponents this season.

A total of five Big 12 teams are ranked in the preseason poll: No. 3 Texas Tech, No. 15 Baylor, No. 18 Oklahoma State and No. 23 Texas were ranked alongside the Horned Frogs.

TCU will play 21

games against 10 teams that played in last season's postseason.

"We're super excited about our 2019 schedule," Schlossnagle said in a press release. "The awesome experiences our players, staff and fans will be a part of— playing in two major league ballparks and one of the best spring training facilities in all of professional baseball as well. Add those games to what will certainly be an incredible season of baseball in the Big 12 and our team will be challenged at the highest level."

Schlossnagle's squad will open their season in the MLB Collegiate Baseball Tournament in Scottsdale, Ariz. with games against No. 25 California State Fullerton, Virginia and No. 1 Vanderbilt, three of college baseball's premier programs.

The tournament is the first of what is a road-heavy slate to start

the season, with the team playing 11 of their first 16 ballgames away from home. The Frogs will also participate in the Shriners Hospital for Children College Classic at Minute Maid Park against Houston, Texas A&M and Rice from March 1-3.

The Horned Frogs will open their home schedule Feb. 19 against Abilene Christian and will follow with a three-game series against Grand Canyon University.

"This is as excited I've been since I've been at TCU for a season," Schlossnagle said. "That's mainly because of the way things ended last year, and also the effort that this club to this point has put in. This group has really worked at a super high level of excellence since they've been here. Hopefully, that will show on the field."