

# THE SKIFF



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TCU GETS 100 MORE  
COVID-19 VACCINES  
FOR STUDENTS &  
EMPLOYEES

A STUDENT MEDIA PUBLICATION OF TEXAS CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

FORT WORTH, TEXAS



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DRIVE-THROUGH  
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THIS SATURDAY

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TCU RIFLE TEAM, RANKED #1,  
EYES CHAMPIONSHIP AND  
ENTERS POST SEASON

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## CAMPUS NEWS

# Drive-thru COVID-19 vaccination site to open Saturday outside of Amon G. Carter Stadium

By **ALEXANDRA PREUSSER**

LINE EDITOR, TCU360

The parking lots at TCU's Amon G. Carter Stadium will become a weekend COVID-19 vaccination site starting this Saturday.

Officials expect the site to vaccinate up to 2,500 people a day. It will be opened on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays.

The site was announced by Chancellor Victor Boschini in an email to the TCU community. It will be a collaborative effort between the university, Baylor Scott & White All Saints Medical Center, Fort Worth and Tarrant County Public Health.

"The new drive-thru COVID-19 vaccination location will provide a safe and fast way for people to receive their

immunization," said Vinny Taneja, Tarrant County Public Health director, in a news release. "Tarrant County Public Health and its partners have provided more than 135,000 vaccinations. Adding, Baylor Scott & White and TCU is a win for us all."

The site will be drive-in and recipients will not have to leave their car to receive the vaccine. It will serve those who registered for the COVID-19 vaccine through Tarrant County Public Health and Baylor Scott & White Health, according to the news release.

Only people with appointments will be permitted to receive the vaccine.

"Vaccinations allow us to play offense – instead of defense – in the fight against COVID-19,"



PHOTO HEESOO YANG

TCU COVID-19 testing site in the Schollmaier parking lot.

Boschini said in the email. "Our talented staff and clinical professionals have worked diligently to make this a smooth process so we can help protect the wider community."

Baylor Scott & White employees will initially be administering the vaccines. Faculty and students of TCU's Department of Nursing

and UNTHSC School of Medicine will also get the opportunity to help with the vaccinations.

The state of Texas is allocating the vaccines to Tarrant County Public Health and Baylor Scott & White Health for the site. These are not part of the allocation given to TCU.

However, students and employees who register with TCU "will be put on a waitlist in priority order for any end-of-day vaccines that go unused due to appointment no-shows," Boschini said in the email.

TCU students and employees are able to register for the vaccine through the Tarrant County Public Health site or through TCU's registration site.

TCU has received 200 doses of the Moderna vaccine to vaccinate TCU Health Center staff and other campus members.



PHOTO COURTESY OF TCU PD

A map of where the vaccination area will be outside of Amon G. Carter Stadium.



## The Skiff

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## CAMPUS NEWS

# Faculty Senate continue discussing response to Rep. Roger Williams

By **AMANDA VASQUEZ**

STAFF WRITER, TCU360

The Faculty Senate has called a special session for Thursday to discuss its response to comments by Rep. Roger Williams, R-Texas, who said TCU faculty are trying to get rid of free speech and teach socialism.

Williams, who is on TCU's Board of Trustees, has been at odds with some faculty members since the unrest at the Capitol on Jan. 6. In the aftermath, Williams voted to object to the certification of the electoral votes from Arizona and Pennsylvania.

In response, some faculty called for his removal from the board of trustees.

The initial agenda for the Feb. 4 Faculty Senate meeting included the consideration of a motion to ask the board for his removal.

The motion was later withdrawn after the Faculty Senate learned the board plans to consider whether elected officials should serve as trustees at its April meeting.

Before the motion was withdrawn, Williams appeared on WBAP in Dallas and made critical comments about TCU faculty. He said that they are teaching a "socialistic agenda" and "trying to dumb down the future of our kids."

He described the faculty as "liberal" and said that free speech is under attack.

In this image from video, Rep. Roger Williams, R-Texas,

speaks as the House debates the objection to confirm the Electoral College vote from Pennsylvania, at the U.S. Capitol early Thursday, Jan. 7, 2021.

Chancellor Victor Boschini, who was in attendance at the Faculty Senate meeting, said that Williams's comments represented the "uncomfortable" part of free speech.

"But, I do agree with free speech and this is the uncomfortable bad part of free speech in my opinion," he said. "Do I even agree with what he did to begin all this? No, and you know the whole election thing and all of that is, I am the most apolitical person in the world. I know I didn't agree with that either. But again it's free speech in my opinion."

Some faculty members disagreed with the framing of the issue as a free speech one, saying that it was a red herring. Boschini disagreed.

Multiple faculty members at the meeting wanted to condemn Williams's comments. The Faculty Senate debated whether it should endorse a statement written by faculty members who are launching a chapter of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP).

That statement said Williams was "using the TCU faculty as a punching bag to rile up his base and fundraise for his political campaigns," and urged the Board of Trustees to disavow his statements.

The motion to endorse



PHOTO COURTESY OF AP

Rep. Roger Williams, R-Texas, speaks as the House of Representatives debates the articles of impeachment against President Donald Trump at the Capitol in Washington, Wednesday, Dec. 18, 2019.

the statement failed with only 33% of senate members voting to approve. After its failure, the Faculty Senate decided to call next week's special session.

## Statement condemning Capitol attacks is endorsed

The Faculty Senate did endorse a statement condemning the attacks on the U.S. Capitol that

occurred on Jan. 6.

The statement was endorsed with 79% approval and said in part: "As teacher scholars committed to the mission of the University, the faculty at Texas Christian University have the responsibility to ensure that we educate our students to become 'ethical leaders and responsible citizens.' The actions of those involved in this attack

demonstrate neither of these values."

Faculty Senate Chair Sean Atkinson said the motivation behind the statement was to show how a group of leaders in a community can stand up against things that are perceived as wrong.

## In other business

Provost Teresa Abi-Nader Dahlberg addressed faculty to outline upcoming vacancies and plans to try to maintain the university's student-faculty ratio.

Dahlberg outlined four types of vacant positions that are being eliminated: new positions for the upcoming fiscal year that weren't filled; positions that became vacant this year; positions that were vacated in December as a part of the voluntary staff retirement incentive

plan; and positions that will be vacated over the next three years by retiring faculty who choose to participate in the phased teaching mode plan.

The provost said eliminations will reduce the faculty size by around 6%, but cautioned that the figure may fluctuate.

Dahlberg also touched on what she called the "spring analysis," which will enable TCU to project where future growth will occur and plan for allocating new faculty positions.

If enrollment remains the same, then the university will be able to maintain its current 14:1 student-faculty ratio. As it grows, Dahlberg said new positions will be allocated to maintain the ratio.



PHOTO COURTESY OF AP

Wednesday, Jan. 6, 2021, Trump supporters try to break through a police barrier at the Capitol in Washington.

## COMMUNITY

# Tarrant County emergency shelters face cold weather with reduced capacity

By **HAEVEN GIBBONS**

LINE EDITOR, TCU360

Temperatures dipping below 40 have long triggered the opening of cold weather shelters for the homeless. But COVID-19 and the economy have complicated the situation.

In 2020, there was a 6 percent increase overall in the number of people who experienced homelessness, compared to 2019, according to the executive director of TCHC Lauren King. The nonprofit and its partners have served 11,439 people, up from 10,645 in 2019.

“Last year (2019) we saw a big increase in unsheltered homelessness,” said King. “We saw this huge increase, but then we also saw a decrease in the number of outreach teams we had, so we had fewer resources.”

The eight shelters that partner with the Tarrant County Homeless Coalition have reduced their bed capacity by 40% to be in line with social distancing requirements.

However, the pandemic has also contributed to an increase in the homeless population because of the economic downturn and spike in unemployment.

Unemployment was the leading cause for homelessness in 2018, according to TCHC. That year, the jobless rate peaked at 3.8; by April of this year, the rate climbed to 13.4, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

When the Vickery station overflow site closed at the end of September, 100 people were left unsheltered.

“Many shelters are still not offering programming or emergency shelter services due to capacity limitations and other COVID-19 related reasons,” said Lezlee Kinney, volunteer coordinator at Union Gospel Mission Tarrant County.

King said in years past, shelters crowded people into dining halls and other warm spaces when faced with an overflow. This winter, homeless people are bussed to cold weather shelter location sites, including Vickery station, Sycamore and Riverside community centers.

To combat the reduced capacity in shelters, long-term homeless advocates are looking to use additional money through the CARES Act to help people find permanent homes.

TCHC has a new initiative called the “Housing 500 Challenge.” The goal was to house 500 people before the end of 2020. TCHC housed 88 people in October and aimed to house 200 people in November and December. TCHC successfully housed 465 people by the end of the year. They will continue the effort into 2021, aiming to house 50 people a week, according to King.

“The whole point of this challenge is to figure out how we need to get our system up and

running again,” said King. “In addition to that, we’re also trying to get as many people out of congregate settings as we can because we don’t want to have a significant outbreak (of COVID-19).”

Before the extra funding from the CARES Act, TCHC’s outreach team was a group of 11 people who were tasked with serving all of Tarrant County. Now, outreach teams will have about 50 people, according to King.

“That should make a significant difference in how we’re able to serve people who are unsheltered,” King said.

## Coming in from the cold

Cold weather shelters officially opened on November 1.

In Fort Worth, shelters open if the weather is below 40 degrees in wet conditions, below 35 degrees in dry conditions or if the wind-chill is below 32 degrees for three or more hours. Arlington’s trigger is a temperature below 39 degrees for more than 4 hours.

The shelters have been activated 15 times since opening in November.

Coalition officials text alerts to homeless people who subscribe to their cold weather updates when temperatures are expected to drop. Everyone is screened for COVID-19 before being allowed in a shelter. If shelters are full, they get a wristband indicating they have been screened



PHOTO COURTESY OF JOSH JORDAN

Homeless people near Union Gospel Mission Tarrant County try to stay warm.

and are bussed to a cold weather station.

The shelters assign people to socially distant cots to make contact tracing easier. Families receive motel vouchers to spend the night in a single room.

“I don’t think we’ve had the demand we thought we would have,” said King. Even though safety protocols are followed and everyone is socially distanced, King said TCHC has heard from some people that they’re worried about being inside with a group of people due to COVID-19.

“Demand seems to have dropped,” said King. Typically, by this point in time, cold weather shelters would be reaching capacity every night, but capacity has not been met so far, she said.

The eight shelters partnered with TCHC take extra cleaning precautions, perform regular temperature checks and space out dining times.

“We still have not

seen a significant outbreak,” said King. “We’ve had a couple of clusters of cases, but, other than that, our shelters are doing a great job at keeping people safe.”

All decisions are consistent with the Centers for Disease Control recommendations and have been carefully made to support the prevention of the COVID-19 virus from being spread in the community, said Don Shisler, Union Gospel Mission president, in a letter on March 13.

The CARES Act also provided additional money to help buy extra cleaning supplies for emergency shelters.

“We went through a whole process to figure out what the weekly use rate was, so each of the emergency shelters have their specific amount that they use, and the homeless coalition coordinates that effort,” said King.

TCHC is currently working on a vaccination plan, so, as more people

get vaccinated, King said TCHC will hopefully be able to increase bed capacity.

How Union Gospel Mission has changed its operations amid COVID-19

Union Gospel Mission of Tarrant County is one of the eight shelters that cut its capacities to follow government mandates on social distancing, leaving many without a place to go. Their residents usually stay with them for 6 months to a year. But, due to COVID-19, that timeline was cut short for some.

The men’s overnight dorm, which usually houses 67 men, is not open.

UGM-TC has taken in eight single women to stay in the women’s overnight dorm. The dorm normally holds 16 women.

Initially, they referred overnight guests to the temporary overflow shelters opened by the city of Fort Worth, but these overflow shelters have since closed.

Before checking into

an emergency shelter, guests get a health screen to make sure they are not showing symptoms of COVID-19. Photo: ALS, True Worth agencies

UGM-TC also houses some permanent residents. Normally, they can house up to 400 individuals, including families. Now, UGM-TC can house a max of 70 men and 65 women and children, according to Lezlee Kinney, volunteer coordinator at UGM-TC.

Overnight beds pose a difficulty shelters have not faced before. When people come into an emergency shelter to be in their program beds,

they can isolate for 14 days and then get a bed, but with overnight beds, people rotate in and out which cannot happen due to COVID-19, said Lauren King, executive director of Tarrant County Homeless Coalition.

UGM-TC is committed to keeping their doors open, despite capacity limitations, said Don Shisler, Union Gospel Mission president, in a letter on March 13.

“While some businesses or organizations may be able to temporarily close, we will have our doors open continuing to serve on

the front lines,” said Shisler.

Once Union Gospel Mission and another one of TCHC’s partners, Presbyterian Night Shelter, are able to open at full capacity, nearly 360 beds will become available, said King.

UGM-TC also provides food for those who need it. According to UGM-TC’s food services director, Robert Clethen, food donations have remained consistent since March. They have been serving seven to nine thousand meals a month.

But they are no longer allowed to serve guests

inside. The only people who can eat inside are UGM-TC’s residents.

“Volunteers serve trays through the plexiglass now, and we have plexiglass on our tables in the dining room,” said Clethen. Because of the divider only four people can fit at the table instead of six or seven.

To serve outside guests, UGM-TC vamped up a sack lunch program where they pass out sack lunches to people at breakfast lunch and dinner every day, said Kinney.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ALS, TRUE WORTH AGENCIES

Before checking into an emergency shelter, guests get a health screen to make sure they are not showing symptoms of COVID-19.

## CAMPUS NEWS

# TCU receives 100 more COVID-19 vaccines for students, employees

By **DREW MITCHELL**

LINE EDITOR, TCU360

Some TCU students are eager to receive the COVID-19 vaccine while others remain weary.

The university received its second round of 100 doses from Moderna last month, Brown-Lupton Health Center Medical Director Dr. Jane Torgerson said.

TCU will not require students to take the vaccine but will encourage those eligible to take it.

### Speculation around the vaccine

There are many speculations around the vaccines. Some say they were too rushed, they will permanently change your DNA, or are more dangerous than COVID-19, according to CNN.

Dr. Torgerson said she believes the science

behind the vaccines.

“The fact that they were developed quickly does not concern me,” she said. “I have received my first dose and will encourage my children to get the vaccine when it is their turn.”

First year nursing student, Temi Akande, said she also plans on taking the vaccine because she trusts the good they can do.

“If people took 5 minutes to research the COVID-19 vaccine, they would be able to come up with their own reasons to take or not to take the vaccine,” she said. “I plan on taking it because I care enough about my life and the lives of others to do my part in stopping the spread of COVID-19.”

First year pre-business accounting student, Se’myris Morris, said she doesn’t plan on taking the vaccine.

“At this point, I do not plan on taking the

vaccine because I am worried about how it will affect my reproductive system long term,” Morris said. “I do not think there is enough research done to take it yet.”

### A longing for normal

Both Parra and Morris spoke about how the pandemic has affected their college experience.

Parra said COVID-19 has negatively impacted her first-year on campus.

“Because of the pandemic, my class has had very limited opportunities to socialize and establish relationships, and we missed out on many of TCU’s traditions designed to help us integrate into the school,” she said.

Morris talked about how the pandemic has changed how she builds relationships.

“Before coming to TCU, I was visiting



PHOTO COURTESY OF AP

This May 4, 2020, file photo shows the first patient enrolled in Pfizer’s COVID-19 coronavirus vaccine clinical trial at the University of Maryland School of Medicine in Baltimore.

with my sister and I was excited about being on campus, and since COVID-19 has happened a lot of events were canceled and we were forced to build bonds virtually,” she said.

### No timeline for next shipment

Director of Emergency Management Sean Taylor

said TCU is following allocation guidance from the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

“We have asked the campus community to register with us and Tarrant County both,” he said. “Our primary goal is to improve immunity to COVID-19 at TCU and in

the greater community.”

There is a link to register for the COVID-19 vaccine on the TCU website.

The university began vaccinating Health Center staff and other campus priority members in December.

Taylor said there is no timeline on when TCU will receive its next shipment of vaccines.



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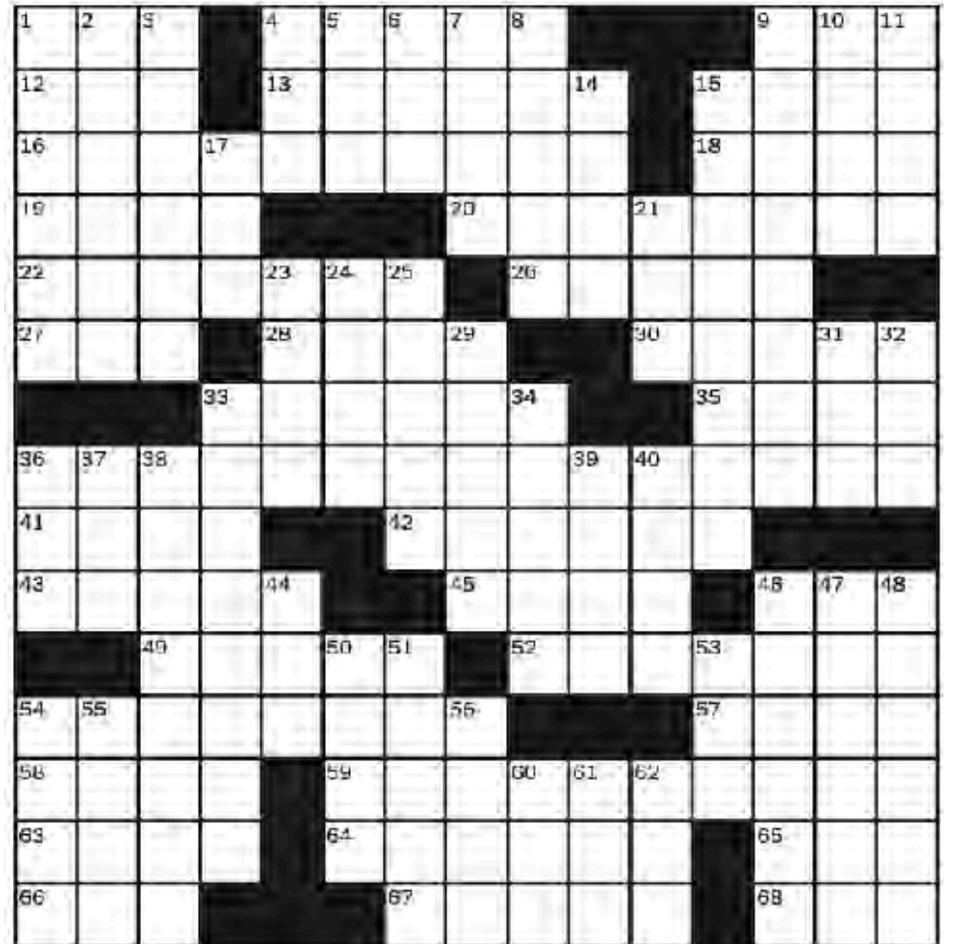
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**The New York Times Edited by Will Shortz**

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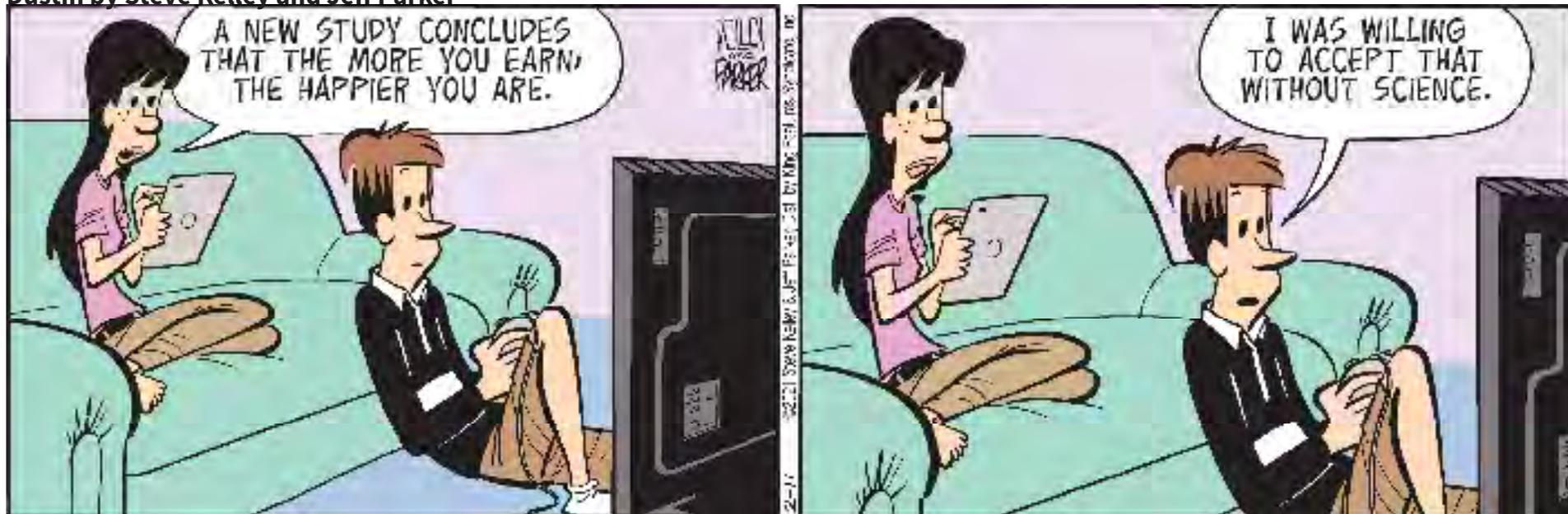


**Carpe Diem by Niklas Eriksson**



# WELCOME BACK, FROGS!

Dustin by Steve Kelley and Jeff Parker



## Horoscope

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19) ★★★★★ Friendships and group affiliations get you involved in an array of new interests. Those who lack confidence and experience welcome your kind words and courtesy. Tonight: Love and appreciation surround you.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20) ★★ Established patterns change slowly. Old memories are haunting. Let time be a healer. At work much is expected of you. Others rely on your skills. Tonight: You realize that a part of the past must end.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20) ★★★ Don't let others think for an instant that you would

take them for granted. When it comes to individual beliefs, allow others to search for their own truth. Tonight: Don't turn a conversation into a sermon.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22) ★★★ Today allows you to purge old financial debts or dilemmas. Others ask you for financial help and advice. This is truly a death and rebirth trend. New realities replace old attitudes and priorities. Tonight: You're aware of interconnections.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22) ★★★ Partnerships are growing. Others want commitment from you. Encourage others to communicate. Conversations help you explore the parameters of relationships. Tonight: Make every effort to understand and respect the views of others.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★ It's an emotionally charged day. You're expressive and especially sensitive. You can establish a more wholesome daily routine. Pets are especially important. They provide a new level of comfort. Tonight: Others are preoccupied and distracted.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) ★★★★★ Today brings delight in the company of younger people. A child you're close to seems very grown up. Past obligations melt away. It is easier to enjoy the present and to plan for the future. Tonight: Planning for the future.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) ★★★ Comfort factors at home are in your thoughts. You would relish a roomier, improved residence. You could seek a new apartment

or schedule home improvements. Tonight: There is a new aura of love and contentment coming into your residence and family life.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) ★★★★★ Today brings clarity and focus. You have self-confidence and marvelous persuasive talent. Your word skills are in top form. You produce impressive writing and speak eloquently. Tonight: Follow through with future travel opportunities. They are there.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) ★★★ You will enjoy a new perspective on old puzzles and problems. It is easier to view bittersweet memories with appreciation and to understand why certain situations occurred. Tonight: Reach out to an elderly family member who has been lonely.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) ★★★★★ Today outlines your options and illustrates what is most important. Your confidence and concern inspire others to seek your advice. A group discussion is especially fruitful in providing information and ideas. Tonight: Celebrate yourself.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20) ★★★ Today you cherish time alone. Subtle mystical energies are coming into play. You may have to cope with an exposed vulnerable feeling. A meticulous approach to details wins you admiration. Tonight: Relax.



## SPORTS

# No. 1 TCU Rifle eyes repeat as postseason starts

By RYAN BUNNELL

LINE EDITOR, TCU360

No. 1 ranked TCU Rifle is looking to defend their 2019 national championship title this season after the 2020 NCAA championship was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The path to the championships has been different than in previous years due to COVID-19 complications.

A typical collegiate rifle season begins in late September with competitions occurring throughout the fall semester. This year, COVID-19 protocols pushed the start date back until Jan. 8, 2021.

Where a team can travel or how often they can practice has been

sport because we can social distance while we practice,” said senior Elizabeth Marsh.

The condensed schedule puts the athletes in a tougher traveling schedule than they are used to following. The team typically leaves on Thursday or Friday for a competition, competes on Saturday, then flies back Sunday.

In previous years, the competition schedule was spread out from September to March, but this season the team has traveled across the country every weekend since Jan. 8.

“To travel as much as we do, it requires a lot of discipline and structure in your everyday life,” said sophomore Stephanie Grundsoe.

on Jan. 17, the team earned the third-highest aggregate score and 12th highest air rifle score in TCU history.

Grundsoe topped her career highs in both smallbore (594) and air rifle (599) in the competition against Alaska Fairbanks, helping lead the Frogs to a win over a highly-rated conference opponent.

The smallbore portion of the competition is where each athlete fires 20 shots of a .22-caliber smallbore rifle in each of three positions — standing, kneeling, and prone — from 50 feet away. Shooters are given 95 minutes to complete the 60 shots.

In the air rifle portion of the competition, all 60 shots are fired in the



PHOTO COURTESY OF GOFROGS.COM

Elizabeth Marsh ready to shoot during a competition.

limited for many teams around the country. TCU Rifle has been fortunate to compete in a nearly full yet condensed schedule this season while traveling to places such as Ohio, South Carolina and Alaska.

“We are lucky that we are such an individual

## A record-breaking season

Through seven competitions, TCU Rifle has gone a perfect 7-0 and broken numerous program records along the way.

Against then-ranked No. 5 Alaska Fairbanks

standing position 10 meters from the target. Shooters are allotted 75 minutes to fire their 60 shots.

In a competition against The Citadel on Jan. 23, the Frogs posted the highest smallbore score and aggregate score in school history. The



PHOTO COURTESY OF GOFROGS.COM

TCU's rifle team is the only fully female squad to win a national championship.

team was led by Kristen Hemphill's personal best: 591 mark in smallbore and 597 in air rifle.

There have been numerous individual records broken this season as well. Grundsoe became the fourth Horned Frog and 11th athlete in NCAA history to post a perfect score (600) in Air Rifle.

The sophomore's 1,188 average aggregate score is good enough for second in the country, followed by Kristen Hemphill (1,181 average) in fifth and Elizabeth Marsh (1178.7) in seventh nationally.

Grundsoe said that seeing her name pop up in the record books has significantly increased her confidence and kept her motivated throughout each competition.

“To have a shooter of her [Grundsoe's] ability, her drive, her determination; it's everything,” said head coach Karen Monez. “She sets the example for what it takes to be a top competitor and a top

shooter.”

## Frogs set their eyes on national title

Already on a record-setting pace, the team is looking poised to compete for what would be their fourth national championship title since 2010.

Coach Monez said that the team's confidence is riding high at this point in the season.

“Our five counters that move forward to the NCAA Championships are prepared and ready to compete,” said Monez. “If the national championship was this weekend, they'd be ready.”

The NCAA Championship does not take place until March 12-13, but the team will face one of their toughest tests yet as they compete in the Patriot Rifle Conference (PRC) Championships this weekend.

The PRC was created for schools that sponsor rifle teams, but do not have rifle as a sponsored

sport in their primary conferences. TCU will compete against Air Force, Alaska-Fairbanks, Ohio State and UTEP this weekend, seeking to win its fifth PRC title since its formation in 2013.

A national title-defending season may come with some pressure to most, but that doesn't phase the Frogs.

“Whether it's the conference championships, the national championships, or just one of our regular season matches, we go into it with the mindset that we are going to give 100% and let the scoreboard do the talking,” said Monez.

After the PRC Championships in Columbus, Ohio, the Horned Frogs will travel to Lexington, Virginia to take on the Virginia Military Institute before finishing their regular season back in Fort Worth against Air Force on Feb. 18 and Feb. 20.

The team will compete in the NCAA Championships on March 12-13.