

TCU 2010 FOOTBALL



TCU

Frogs mean serious business



Madison Pelletier

A Horned Frog shoots blood out of its eye as a defense mechanism a Beaver hides in its dam when danger is near. Well, Beavers, it is time to hide in your dam.

The long-anticipated TCU football season opener against Oregon State will bring a rush of adrenaline to the Horned Frogs that without doubt will result in a win for TCU.

TCU opens its 2010 season with the highest preseason ranking in school history, while OSU opens the season ranked 24th in the AP poll.

Although the Horned Frogs and Beavers have never met together on the football field, they had a recent match-up on the baseball diamond. During the 2009 Fort Worth Regional in the NCAA tournament, TCU beat OSU 5-4, advancing to the super regional.

OSU football head coach Mike Riley's teams have a history of starting slow. For the last three years OSU

has lost two of the first four games, while Gary Patterson's team has not lost a season opener since 2002.

Last year, the Beavers had their worst season record in the past three years at 8-5. The Horned Frogs had their best season record during the 2009 season at 12-1, the only loss coming in their first BCS bowl appearance.

A Horned Frog shoots blood out of its eye as a defense mechanism a Beaver hides in its dam when danger is near. Well, Beavers, it is time to hide in your dam.

Speaking of bowl games, despite the 17-10 Horned Frog loss against Boise State in the Tostitos Fiesta Bowl, the Beavers had a harder time in the Las Vegas Bowl, losing to the Frogs' fellow Mountain West Conference team Brigham Young University, 44-20.

TCU beat BYU by a whopping 31 points, 38-7, in a conference match-up last season.

The Beavers are starting a new kitten (term for a newborn Beaver) during the season opener in sophomore quarterback Ryan Katz.

Katz cannot be compared to the Frogs' senior returning quarterback Andy Dalton. Competing with Dalton's experience will be difficult for Katz. In the last 19 games Dalton had 34 touchdown passes and only 11 picks.

In addition to returning Dalton, TCU returns 16 starters and 54 lettermen from last season's 12-1 team. Dalton said in an August press conference that the amount of returning seniors and starting players will help out the team tremendously.

"It is great to have all the guys back," Dalton said. "You feel the chemistry with them... We've all really matured as each season has gone on, so we are really going to be on the same page."

OSU returns 15 starters, who cannot make up for the lack of a returning quarterback.

Playing in a venue as large as Cowboys Stadium is not a daunting task for TCU, as the Frogs have played their past five bowl games at a former Super Bowl host stadium.

The Horned Frogs will not leave it to the Beavers and will capture their eighth season opening win Saturday at Cowboys Stadium.

Sports Editor Madison Pelletier is a junior broadcast journalism major from Keller.

OSU

Beavers due for win



Colin Huber

Disclaimer: In no way is the following article written with bias opinion, despite the fact that its author is an OSU student and avid Beaver fan. Oh, who am I kidding? Let's do this.

Your honor, I'd like to address The Court of the Football Gods, climb into the Frog den and say exactly what I, and most Beaver fans, are thinking: "Oregon State is going to beat Texas Christian Saturday."

Exhibit A: We're Due: For the last three seasons, we have lost two of our first four games. Now is when it all should come together. It's like golf. Most of the time, when you're putting well, then you're hitting your irons poorly, or vice-versa. But when it all comes together you shoot yourself a nice round. OSU has been due a hole-in-one for a while now.

Exhibit B: The Team Has Been Busy: All the players are high on their effort in offseason workouts. Multiple members have commented

on the sheer number of teammates that stayed in town for the summer studying and working on their games. Spirits are high and confidence is booming.

Exhibit C: Brand New Quarterback With Loads Of Talent: Mentally, he's no senior TCU man Andy Dalton, not yet. But OSU's Ryan Katz can flat out play. I'm talking raw talent. As a sophomore, Katz has stepped into his role with grace, proving quickly to everyone that he's the man for the job. A physical specimen, Katz throws a professional-type football, complete with velocity and range. And if he can get his balls on target, watch out.

Exhibit D: Stephen Paea Lifts Cars For Fun: Put his name into a YouTube search bar, and the top hit is Paea benching 225 pounds, 44 times. 44 times! A ball carrier might want to steer his head away from this first-round draft pick, because he just might rip it off.

Exhibit X - The Rodgers Brothers: No, the "X" is not a typo. It stands for what exactly the Rodgers brothers are to us: our X-factors. The pride of Corvallis, Ore.

James, the oldest, made his debut at Oregon State as a pure speedster on the ground, running the "fly

sweep," a play brand new to Beaver football. Let's just say 586 yards is a lot of rushing for a receiver. Becoming the ultimate Mr. Versatile in large part due to little brother Jacquizz.

The running back doesn't stand tall, but he packs a bowling ball strike like Maurice Jones-Drew and shifts laterally like Reggie Bush, but without the NCAA violations. In two years at OSU, Jacquizz has banged out 2,793 yards on over 500 carries to go along with 769 receiving yards. Jacquizz is on just about every Heisman list out there, but for him and James, that doesn't matter. All they want to do is win big football games, games against TCU. James and Jacquizz feed off each other.

Your honor, in closing argument, I'd like to reiterate that the above exhibits are facts that OSU will leave the south with a win over the Horned Frogs. For further proof, looking at the Las Vegas prediction lines, OSU is merely a 13.5 point underdog — wait —

Objection!

Final Prediction: Beavers: 35 - TCU: 32

Colin Huber is the sports editor for Oregon State University.

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Cowboys warm up before a game at the new Dallas stadium.

FOOTBALL

Long line yields good tickets

By Mary Sue Greenleaf

Staff Writer

After two hours under the sweltering Texas sun, sophomore speech pathology major Lacey Gardell slowly moved forward in a line wrapping around the parking lot of TCU's Daniel-Meyer Coliseum. She was hot, tired and frustrated, but stayed in the line for another hour hoping to procure the best seats available for Saturday's Cowboys Classic against Oregon State University at Cowboys Stadium in Arlington.

Tickets were made available online to students for \$35 from August 21-25 but due to the overwhelming amount of student interest, TCU requested additional student tickets.

"I ordered my ticket the day they went on sale to make sure I got one," Gardell said. "Not only is it the season opener, it's at Cowboys Stadium."

Sean Conner, the director of ticket operations at the university said the first three levels of seating at Cowboys Stadium, which has a total capacity of over 80,000, are being made available for Saturday's game. As of Wednesday, ticket sales were expected to reach over 40,000 and student ticket sales for TCU were nearing 4,000.

"I knew we would have a great turnout from the student body," Conner said.

Although student interest exceeded the original allotment of student tickets, Conner said the number of student tickets sold did not exceed his expectations.

"We've had tremendous student support over

the last few years," Conner said. "The success that Coach Patterson and the team have had the students are extremely supportive and interested in watching the games."

"We're expecting 40,000 plus for the game. It's definitely expected to look full and is expected to be about 90 percent purple."

Mark Cohen

Director of Athletics Media Relations

Director of Athletics Media Relations Mark Cohen said the community helped break previous ticket sales records for Saturday's game, as well as season ticket sales.

"Thanks to the TCU community and Fort Worth community...we've shattered the previous mark in season ticket sales. It does not go unnoticed," Cohen said. "It's incredibly rewarding...to know that we have that kind of support from the student body."

"We're expecting 40,000 plus for the game," Conner said. "It's definitely expected to look full and is expected to be about 90 percent purple."

The TCU ticket office no longer has public tickets available for Saturday's game. All public tickets must be purchased in person at Cowboys Stadium or online at the ticketmaster.com website according to the TCU ticket office.

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PREVIEW

Team utilizes preseason honors

By Chris Blake
TCU News Now

Last season, the Horned Frog football team raised its expectations with a second-straight one-loss season and an appearance in its first Bowl Championship Series game.

This summer, the team piled up individual and team accolades, culminating in a No. 6 preseason ranking in the Associated Press Top 25 — the highest preseason ranking in the history of the program, according to TCU Athletics Media Relations.

Head football coach Gary Patterson has led the Frogs to an 85-28 record in his nine seasons at the helm.

He attributed his success to the strength of the program, rather than the strength of one season's team.

"What we've tried to be is not be a good football team every once in a while — we want to be a good program," Patterson said. "That's what good programs do — the next guy steps up and finds a way."

Senior quarterback Andy Dalton, who is on the watch lists for several major quarterback awards, will lead an offense that returns nine starters. He said that although the individual recognition is nice, winning as a team is his first priority.

"Our ultimate goal is to finish undefeated, win the conference

and see where we go," Dalton, the preseason Mountain West Conference Offensive Player of the Year, said. "We know we can't get there unless we take it one game at a time."

Dalton is not the only Horned Frog to earn a preseason award, as players at almost every position were recognized by publications across the country. With all but one offensive starter returning, Dalton has more veteran players this year than in his three previous years as the starting quarterback.

"We've got a great opportunity. We've got a lot of potential," Dalton said. "We've got a lot of guys coming back, so we're excited to get started."

A pair of seniors who will protect Dalton on the offensive line are on watch lists for awards: senior offensive tackle Marcus Cannon and senior center Jake Kirkpatrick are both on the Outland Trophy Watch List, awarded to the nation's top interior lineman. Kirkpatrick is a consensus preseason First-Team All-American, while Cannon is listed as a Second-Team and Third-Team All-American by various publications.

Senior return specialist Jeremy Kerley is also a consensus preseason First-Team All-American and is the preseason Special Teams Player of the Year in the MWC after a 2009 season in which he broke loose for a pair of punt returns for touchdowns, both of which made ESPN

SportsCenter's nightly Top-10 plays segment.

"We know we walk around with a bull's-eye on our back," Kerley said. "That's kind of the great thing about it you know, just being a target."

Despite the potential for a high-powered offense this season, Patterson's trademark is defense and plenty of Horned Frog defenders have earned preseason honors as well. Senior defensive tackles Kelly Griffin and Cory Grant have garnered attention from *Sporting News* and *Dave Campbell's Texas Football* publications. New starting cornerbacks junior Greg McCoy and senior Jason Teague were both recognized by *Rivals.com* as potential breakout defensive stars.

The top returning tackler and defensive back will be junior linebacker Tank Carder and senior safety Tejay Johnson. Both are members of a defense which has ranked first in the Football Bowl Subdivision in total defense for two straight years. Carder made 89 tackles in 2009, while Johnson was fourth on the team with 59 stops to go with three interceptions.

Carder and Johnson are both on the Bronko Nagurski Trophy Watch List, given to the top defensive player in college football, while both were named to watch lists for awards at their respective positions: the Dick Butkus Award for linebackers and the Thorpe Award for defensive backs.

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	TENNESSEE TECH Fort Worth, Texas Sept. 11 6:00 p.m.
	BAYLOR Fort Worth, Texas Sept. 18 3:30 p.m.
	SMU Dallas, Texas Sept. 24 7:00 p.m.
	COLORADO STATE Fort Collins, Colo. Oct. 2 1:00 p.m.
	WYOMING Fort Worth, Texas Oct. 9 2:30 p.m.
	BYU Fort Worth, Texas Oct. 16 3:00 p.m.
	AIR FORCE Fort Worth, Texas Oct. 23 7:00 p.m.
	UNLV Las Vegas, Nev. Oct. 30 10:00 p.m.
	UTAH Salt Lake City, Utah Nov. 6 2:30 p.m.
	SAN DIEGO STATE Fort Worth, Texas Nov. 13 3:00 p.m.
	NEW MEXICO Albuquerque, N.M. Nov. 27 3:00 p.m.

Watch List

Check out this season's top players



Andy Dalton QB
Johnny Unitas Award
Davey O'Brien Award
Maxwell Award
Manning Award



Jeremy Kerley RS
Paul Hornung Award



Tejay Johnson S
Thorpe Award
Lott Trophy
Bronko Nagurski Trophy



Ross Evans PK
Lou Groza Award

Tank Carder LB
Bronko Nagurski Trophy
Rotary Lombardi Award
Chuck Bednarik Award

Wayne Daniels DE
Rotary Lombardi Award

Marcus Cannon OT
Outland Trophy
Rotary Lombardi Award

Jake Kirkpatrick C
Outland Trophy
Rimington Trophy
Rotary Lombardi Award

Ed Wesley TB
Doak Walker Award

Matthew Tucker TB
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TCU offensive tackle Nic Richmond holds up the Mountain West Conference Championship trophy shortly after the Frogs' 51-10 victory over the University of New Mexico Lobos.

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Stronger Frog lines should mean victory



Josh Davis

Former Clemson standout C.J. Spiller may be a distant memory to the TCU defense, but this year's team could learn a lot from TCU's top out-of-conference opponent last season.

Like last year's Tigers, Oregon State will come into the game with a game-breaking running back, a playmaking receiver who will be used in multiple ways, and an experienced offensive line.

TCU scraped out a 14-10 win at Clemson last season despite Spiller's 191 offensive yards. The Frogs' offense is stronger than last year's edition and their defense should be near the level of last year's squad, which led the country in total defense.

With that in mind, the main questions coming into Saturday's game will be on the offensive and defensive lines of the Frogs and Beavers.

TCU Offensive Line vs. Oregon State Defensive Line

This matchup is all about the interior. Oregon State defensive tackle Stephen Paea has been mentioned by TCU coach Gary Patterson several times leading up to the weekend, with good reason. Paea is on the Lombardi, Outland and Nagurski Award watch lists and is the strongest Beaver on defense. He will call for a double team, and he and his line are run stoppers. The question will be the Beavers' ability to pressure TCU quarterback Andy Dalton.

The TCU interior line is powerful with all three starters returning, led by All-American center Jake Kirkpatrick. As long as a combination of Kirkpatrick and help are available to negate Paea, the Frogs should hold an advantage. Establishing the run is a concern, but if they can do that, they have a big advantage in skill positions.

Oregon State Offensive Line vs. TCU Defensive line

The Frogs' defense will function a little differently this year. Head coach Gary Patterson said his defense won't have a singular standout like in years prior, but will bring pressure from different looks. Experienced senior defensive end Wayne Daniels (5.5 sacks in 2009) should provide steady

outside pressure, but the team may look to more zone blitzing with much of the first and second string defense returning.

The Beavers return nine of their top 10 offensive linemen. Oregon State Running back Jacquizz Rodgers has Heisman aspirations for a reason — it won't take him a huge hole to escape to the defensive secondary. The Horned Frog defense should hope to contain the small and evasive back, while putting pressure on OSU sophomore quarterback Ryan Katz.

TCU Offensive Skill Positions vs. Oregon State Defensive Backfield

Oregon State usually has a strong defense under coach Mike Riley. However, Riley, much like Patterson, is used to having star linebackers who can cover the field. After last year, he lost the defense's top two tacklers, both linebackers. The TCU offense is simply loaded at the skill positions. They can match the Beavers' defensive backs in man-to-man coverage, and use speed at receiver and running back to test OSU's linebackers' ability to cover the field.

Oregon State Offensive Skill Positions vs. TCU Defensive Backfield

Both TCU cornerbacks, senior Jason Teague and junior Greg McCoy, are "new" starters but

both come in experienced, as does sophomore linebacker Tanner Brock, replacing Arizona Cardinals draftee Daryl Washington. Overall, the pass defense may not be quite what it was last year, but it still has the potential to be a top-10 unit nationally. Junior linebacker Tank Carder was a second team All-MWC selection as a first year starter last season.

The Beavers live and die on the impact of the Rodgers brothers, junior running back Jacquizz and senior wide receiver James. The pair combined to gain 62 percent of OSU's rushing and receiving offense last year, but those rates are likely to rise with a young quarterback this year. Keeping the pair from turning the game into a track meet is the key to the game.

The Rodgers brothers may gain a fair amount of yards in the game, but if the TCU defensive line can make plays behind the line of scrimmage, they will not be able to keep up with the TCU offense over four quarters. The Oregon State defense will be under pressure to make plays. Steady offensive line play and management of Paea should leave Dalton free to assess his numerous weapons and move the ball.

Josh Davis is a senior broadcast journalism major from Dallas.

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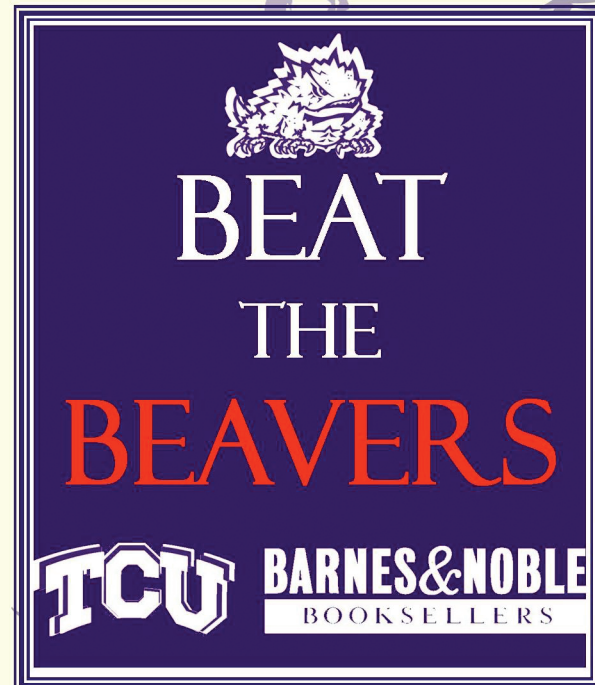
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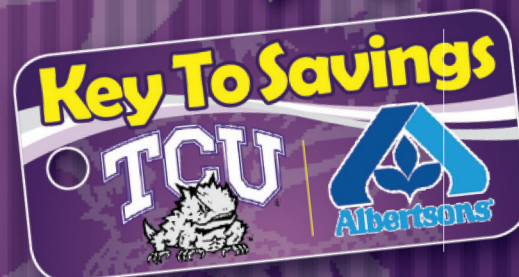
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OSU VS. TCU

OSU head coach would prefer a warm-up game before TCU

RALPH D. RUSSO

AP College Football Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Coach Mike Riley and his No. 24 Oregon State players would like nothing better than to squeeze in a pre-season tune-up before taking on No. 6 TCU Saturday night in Texas.

"I think that'd be awesome," Riley said recently.

This might be Oregon State's toughest game of the season and it will be the first time the Beavers have blocked or tackled an opponent since they played BYU in the Las Vegas Bowl in December.

While the NFL is considering cutting its exhibition schedule from four to two games (and lengthening its regular season), Riley and some other college coaches are in favor of a preseason game or even a scrimmage.

"I think a preseason scrimmage would give you the chance to get through some of the those hurdles and get your team to understand that that's the way it is every week. You've got to take what you do and adapt it," Riley said.

Of course, Oregon State is the exception among top

teams in major college football, many of which will open the season this week-end toying with weak opponents and playing their starters for a half.

NCAA rules allow Division I college football teams to play 12 contests, including scrimmages against other teams. Since no school is about to give up a regular-season game to play a game that doesn't count, the first step would be a rule change.

NCAA spokesman Erik Christianson said in an e-mail that "there have not been any proposals from member schools or conferences to change the rule on scrimmages or exhibition football games."

But maybe one might be coming.

Michigan coach Rich Rodriguez is a proponent of playing a preseason tuneup and apparently he's turned his new boss, athletic director David Brandon, on to the idea.

"Our coaches and I believe this is something worth considering," Brandon said. "We need to look at all of the issues carefully, and get input from other coaches and programs. However, it could be beneficial to provide a

scrimmage opportunity versus another team during the preseason practice period to better prepare the team for competition. This would be for the same reasons that basketball, hockey, and other sports do the same thing."

At the lower levels of college football, it's not uncommon for teams to work in preseason intersquad scrimmages.

"We're probably one of the only levels of football that doesn't have preseason games," said Rodriguez, whose first college head coaching job was at Division II Glenville State.

"The uniqueness of college football is a good thing, understanding that your going to see more fumbled snaps, more blocked punts, more miscommunication in the secondary, more missed tackles in that first game."

Rich Rodriguez
Michigan coach

Indiana coach Bill Lynch also coached in Division II.

"We'd find another school that was close, so it was relatively inexpensive and I thought it was really good. We used to really kind of make a day of it and it was really a practice against each other broken down into individual drills as well as 11 on 11."

Rodriguez suggested limiting access so a preseason game doesn't turn into "a big event."

As Ohio State coach Jim Tressel put it, "If we were to play a preseason game, there would be 100,000-some people here."

When intrasquad spring games draw tens of thousands of fans at schools like Nebraska, Alabama and Ohio State, it seems inevitable that even a bulked-up practice would become a major deal at the football factories.

While Rodriguez said he thinks most coaches would welcome an exhibition game of sorts, certainly not everyone would.

OVERVIEW

Despite strong matchups, TCU predicted to win

The Associated Press

Line: TCU by 13½.

Series Record: First meeting.

What's at Stake

After finally becoming a BCS buster last season, but losing the Fiesta Bowl, TCU wants a do-over. The Horned Frogs will almost certainly have to go undefeated in the regular season to have that chance. A tough opening test for new QB Ryan Katz and Oregon State, which got close to the Rose Bowl last season. The Beavers still have the Rodgers brothers, RB Jacquizz and WR James.

Key Matchup

Quizz Show vs. TCU defense. Jacquizz Rodgers ran for 1,440 yards and a Beavers-record 21 rushing TDs last season. Is he worthy of Heisman Trophy consideration? A strong showing in the nationally televised matchup could plant an early seed in the minds of Heisman voters. TCU is without All-American DE Jerry Hughes and LB Daryl Washington, both picked in the first two rounds of NFL draft.

Players to Watch

TCU: QB Andy Dalton's 29 victories are tied with Slingin' Sammy Baugh for most in school history — a mark set in the 1930s. Dalton has only 24 interceptions in 1,001 pass attempts.

Oregon State: Katz, the sophomore QB making his first career start, and doing so in a big-time game. James Rodgers enters senior season with 5,077 all-purpose yards, second-most in Beavers history and second-most among active NCAA players. Often double-teamed, DT Stephen Paea had 43 tackles and three sacks last season.

Facts & Figures

Oregon State opens the season in the Top 25 for first time since 2001. ... TCU is 13-3 its past 16 games against teams from conferences with automatic BCS bids. ... Beavers are only team to finish top three in the Pac-10 standings each of past four seasons. ... Oregon State's other September road game is at No. 3 Boise State. ... Frogs have won seven consecutive openers. ... TCU has 27 seniors, tied with Hawaii and Louisville for the most on any FBS roster.



JOE JASZEWSKI / MCT

Boise State quarterback Kellen Moore is hit by TCU defensive end Jerry Hughes during the Tostitos Fiesta Bowl in Glendale, Arizona, on Monday, Jan. 4, 2010.

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ARLINGTON

Restaurants offer game day specials

By Whitney Gipson
Staff Reporter

From free shuttles to reduced prices on food and drinks, hot spots around Cowboys Stadium offer both hospitality and discounts to fans on game days, including the Horned Frog football season opener this Saturday.

Arlington-area restaurants are preparing to make this weekend's game day memorable and convenient for fans.

Humperdink's Restaurant & Brewery is an American-style restaurant with a very versatile menu. Adam Hernandez, Humperdink's manager, said the restaurant is known for its burgers, pizzas and salads, along with its beer, which is fresh-brewed on the premises.

According to Humperdink's website, its award-winning Brewmasters create seasonal beers, many of which have been awarded medals at the Great American Beer Festival.

Humperdink's often provides shuttles for events in the Arlington area and plans to provide students and fans with a shuttle to and from Cowboys Stadium on Sat-

urday for \$10, with no food purchase necessary.

"We want fans not to have to pay much money on parking on game days," Hernandez said.

"We want fans not to have to pay much money on parking on game days."

Adam Hernandez
Humperdink's Restaurant & Brewery Manager

A guest services representative at Cowboys Stadium said parking at the venue costs anywhere from \$15 to \$30 on college game days.

Sherlock's Baker St. Pub & Grill is a British-themed hot spot with events planned before, during and after competitions on game days. The restaurant features several selections on drinks and also has a late-night menu. Manager Chance Johnson said that in addition to the menu's London grill specials, Sherlock's is known for great bands that perform nightly at the venue.

According to Sherlock's

website, the restaurant has a happy hour daily from 2:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. and all day on Sundays. It is cigar-friendly and has darts, pool tables and outdoor seating.

Olenjack's Grille is an option for fans who have not purchased tickets, but want to dine and enjoy the game. According to the Olenjack's website, the restaurant is the perfect place to watch the big game.

Olenjack's Manager Adam Jones said the venue is known for its shrimp and grits. Where parking is concerned, Jones said most Lincoln Square restaurants

require customers to purchase at least \$40 in fare from their restaurants and then place the receipt on their dashboards.

Though Olenjack's offers a shuttle service for free, Jones said he hopes customers who plan to use the shuttle stop in, buy a drink and see what the restaurant has to offer.

Many other restaurants and bars in the Arlington area plan to have specials on Saturday to celebrate the Horned Frog season opener. Students would need their ID on-hand in order to be eligible for these offers.



SKIFF ARCHIVES

TCU wide receiver Bart Johnson scores a touchdown against the New Mexico Lobos.

Humperdink's

When: Shuttle runs starting at 3 p.m.; \$10 per person

Where: 700 Six Flags Drive
Happy Hour 4 p.m.-7 p.m. and 10 p.m.-11 p.m.
Discounts on beer and drinks

Olenjack's Grille

Where: 770 Road to Six Flags East
Student drink specials
Free parking and shuttles
Eight TVs that students can watch if they have no tickets for the game

Sherlock's Baker St. Pub and Grill

When: Happy Hour 2 p.m.-9 p.m.

Live band begins at 9:45 p.m.
Where: 254 Lincoln Square Center

Airways Hamburgers.

Where: 1106 North Collins Street
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+ \$2 Import Bottles (open-close) + \$2.50 U "Call" It's (until 11pm)

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1. Alabama
2. Ohio State
3. Boise State
4. Florida
5. Texas
- 6. TCU**
7. Oklahoma
8. Nebraska
9. Iowa
10. Virginia Tech

USA Today Poll

1. Alabama
2. Ohio State
3. Florida
4. Texas
5. Boise State
6. Virginia Tech
- 7. TCU**
8. Oklahoma
9. Nebraska
10. Iowa



TCU fans cheer the Horned Frog football team to victory.

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