

Written by Written by Andre Willis

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It's that time of the year again when proud alums, supportive families, and enthusiastic Tucson residents converge on the University of Arizona's campus to celebrate Homecoming. This tradition dates back to 1914, giving UA the honor of being one of first universities to host homecoming festivities.



This year marks a very important celebration in Tucson—Wilbur Wildcat's 50th birthday! The beloved mascot was created in 1959 to replace the live desert bobcat UA previously used. The Wildcats defeated their first Homecoming opponent, Pomona College, by a score of 7-6 on Thanksgiving Day. We've provided a rundown of some this weekend's Homecoming activities.

### Class of 1959 Reunion Reception

Where: Tucson Marriott University Park Hotel

When: Thursday, Nov. 5, 6-10 p.m.

The class of '59 will come together for a golden year reunion beginning with an opening reception at Tucson Marriott University Park Hotel atrium from 6-7 p.m. The activities will move into the ballroom for dinner and dancing from 7-10 p.m. Tickets are \$60 per person. To learn more, visit [www.arizonaalumni.com/reunions](http://www.arizonaalumni.com/reunions).

### Homecoming Keynote Lecture: Hope on the Horizon

Where: Student Union Memorial Center Gallagher Theater

When: Friday, Nov. 6, 10 a.m.

Dr. Fayez Ghishan, Pediatrics Professor and Director of Steele Children's Research Center, will share some of the latest innovations and breakthroughs by the UA medical faculty and staff. There's no charge to hear this presentation. Visit the [Alumni Association's web site](http://Alumni Association's web site) to register and reserve a \$10 parking spot.



### International Beer Tasting

Where: Maynards Market & Kitchen

When: Friday, Nov. 6, 4-7 p.m.

The College of Humanities is holding its inaugural Homecoming event on the patio of Maynards's Downtown patio Admission is \$10 at the door, cash-only, and buys samples of beers from various regions and appetizers. Attendees must be 21 years or older. RSVP by Nov. 4 to [cohinfo@u.arizona.edu](mailto:cohinfo@u.arizona.edu).

### The Game Day Grill

Where: UA Mall

When: Saturday, Nov. 7, 10:30 a.m to 1:30 p.m.

This premiere Homecoming tailgate party is open for \$20 per person. Fans will be treated to food and beverages from Metro Grill Restaurants, Coca-Cola and Golden Eagle Distributors. Television will be on-site to watch the early games. To reserve your spot, contact Roberta Quiroz at 520.626.2331, or [raq@arizona.edu](mailto:raq@arizona.edu).

### Homecoming Parade

Where: UA Mall

When: Saturday, Nov. 7, 11 a.m. to Noon

The first Homecoming parade took place in 1949. A festive cavalry of floats, bands, pep groups, and past and present royalty will circle the UA Mall from Campbell Avenue to Old Main and back.

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## **University Libraries Junior Scientists Kids' Day**

Where: Science-Engineering Library

When: Saturday, Nov. 7, 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

40 interactive stations will teach kids about renewable energy, marine conservation, human DNA and more. The open ceremony kicks-off with a performance by the Utterback Jazz Ensemble, and stations open at 10 a.m. The activities will end with enough time to spare for families to get to the big game. For a detailed list of activities and information about parking, visit: [jrscientist.library.arizona.edu/activities](http://jrscientist.library.arizona.edu/activities).

## **Wildcats Football vs. Washington State**

Where: Arizona Stadium

When: Saturday, Nov. 7, 1:30 p.m.

Fresh off a bye week, the UA football team is on a three-game winning streak, and ranked in the AP Top 25 Poll for the first time since 2000. The Wildcats are led by Sophomore Quarterback Nick Foles who, despite not starting the first three games of the season, has thrown for 1,399 yards and 11 touchdowns. Tailgating permits will be available at 8:30 a.m. on game day on a first-come, first-served basis. To purchase tickets, visit [www.arizonaathletics.com](http://www.arizonaathletics.com).

To see a list of all Homecoming events, visit [www.arizonaalumni.com/Homecoming](http://www.arizonaalumni.com/Homecoming).