



## ARIZONA DIAMONDBACKS (8-12-0) @ KANSAS CITY ROYALS (7-12-1)

RHP Merrill Kelly (First Start) vs. RHP Michael Wacha (1-0, 2.25)

Fri., March 13, 2026 • 6:05 p.m. AZT • Surprise Stadium • Surprise, Ariz.

Game No. 21 • Road Game No. 11 • Home: 3-7 • Road: 5-5

TV: DBACKS.TV (Royals feed) | Livestream: ---

English Radio: --- | Spanish Radio: ---



Banner Sports Medicine Performance Center • Salt River Fields at Talking Stick • 7555 N. Pima Road, Scottsdale, Ariz., 85258

### D-BACKS 29TH SPRING TRAINING BREAKDOWN

- ◆ Arizona is in its 29th Cactus League season and 16th at Salt River Fields at Talking Stick (Tucson from 1998-2010).
- ◆ 5 home games against NL West rivals: Rockies (Feb. 21, March 12), Dodgers (Feb. 25), Giants (March 7) and Padres (March 15).
- ◆ 5 home games against 2025 Postseason contenders: Guardians (March 1), Mariners (March 9), Reds (March 16), Cubs (March 18) and Brewers (March 20).
- ◆ World Baseball Classic exhibition game vs. Team Mexico (March 3).

### SINGLE-GAME TICKETS ON SALE NOW

- ◆ 2026 single-game tickets can now be purchased at [dbacks.com/tickets](https://dbacks.com/tickets), via the MLB Ballpark App or by phone at 602.462.4600.
- ◆ Opening Week features the Home Opener on Monday, March 30 vs. Tigers, Postgame Fireworks on Friday, April 3 and The All-American Rejects Postgame Concert on Saturday, April 4.
- ◆ The AL-champion Blue Jays will visit the desert for just the sixth time, from April 17-19: Postgame Fireworks on Friday, Ketel Marte Tee courtesy of State Farm on Saturday.
- ◆ Rivalry series vs. Dodgers (June 1-4, August 7-9) and a nostalgic pennant-race series vs. Yankees (Sept. 18-20).
- ◆ Holidays include Mother's Day Jersey courtesy of Dignity Health (May 10), Father's Day Polo (June 21) and Fourth of July Weekend (July 3-4) with back-to-back Fireworks Spectaculars presented by Bar-S.
- ◆ Full promotional schedule at [dbacks.com/promotions](https://dbacks.com/promotions).

### "WHAT'S NEW AT CHASE FIELD" - MARCH 17

- ◆ On March 17 Derrick Hall, Luis Gonzalez and Chef Stephen Tilder will preview the 2026 season's newest food and concession areas, promotional giveaways, special events and more at Chase Field.

### SPRING SNAKEBITES

- ◆ **Merrill Kelly** makes his Spring debut tonight @ Royals after recovering from intercostal nerve irritation.
- ◆ The D-backs face NL West opponents in 2 of their next 3 games (March 14 @ Giants and March 15 vs. Padres).
- ◆ **Pavin Smith** has hit safely in his last 7 games at a .381 clip (8-for-21)/1.238 OPS with 2 doubles, 1 triple, 2 homers and 4 RBI.
- ◆ **Gabriel Moreno** has hit safely in 5 of his last 6 games (5 H, 1 BB).
- ◆ **Ildemaro Vargas** is batting .345 (10-for-29)/.862 OPS with 2 doubles, 1 homer and 5 RBI...has made starts at shortstop, second base and third.
- ◆ **Jordan Lawlar** is batting .323 (10-for-31)/.1.174 OPS with 1 double, a team-leading 4 homers, 5 RBI and 6 walks...has hit safely in his last 5 games.
- ◆ **Tim Tawa** has reached base safely in 8 of his 9 games.

### YESTERDAY'S RECAP

- ◆ The D-backs lost 13-2 vs. Rockies yesterday.
  - **Tim Tawa** went 1-for-2 with 1 homer and 2 RBI and has reached base safely in 9 of his 10 games (8 H, 5 BB)/.389 OBP.
  - **Jordan Lawlar** went 1-for-4 with 1 run and has hit safely in his last 5 games at a .316 clip (6-for-19)/1.000 OPS with 1 double, 2 homers and 3 RBI.
  - **LuJames Groover** went 2-for-3 with 1 double and is batting .316 (12-for-38)/.763 with 5 doubles and 4 RBI in 13 games.
  - **Taylor Clarke** made his fifth appearance of Spring (second opener start)...has not allowed a run over 6.0 innings.

### TUNE IN TO THE ACTION

- ◆ This weekend features 3 DBACKS.TV broadcasts starting today @ Royals (Royals feed), Saturday @ Giants (Giants feed) and Sunday vs. Padres (D-backs broadcast), hosted by Steve Berthiaume alongside Tom Candiotti and Todd Walsh on the field.
- ◆ On the radio, Saturday @ Giants and Sunday vs. Padres will be broadcast on Arizona Sports 98.7 FM, hosted by Braiden Bell alongside Josh Collmenter.
- ◆ The D-backs have 26 total Spring Training broadcasts with 8 free telecasts on DBACKS.TV (by registering with an email address) and local television providers, 11 radio broadcasts across Arizona Sports 98.7 FM and ESPN 620 AM, 3 Spanish-language broadcasts on La Campesina 101.9 FM & 860 AM and Sí Se Puede app, and 4 [dbacks.com/livestreams](https://dbacks.com/livestreams)...visit [dbacks.com/broadcast](https://dbacks.com/broadcast).
- ◆ DBACKS.TV subscriptions are \$99.99 for the full season or watch via local TV providers at [dbacks.com/channelfinder](https://dbacks.com/channelfinder).

### WBC ROUNDUP - MARCH 13

- ◆ DOM vs. KOR: **Ketel Marte**, **Geraldo Perdomo** and **Carlos Santana** continue their WBC run tonight vs. Team Korea in the Quarterfinals @ loanDepot Park (6:30 p.m. EDT).
- ◆ CAN vs. USA: **Michael Soroka** gets the start today vs. Team USA in the Quarterfinals @ loanDepot Park (8:00 p.m. EDT).

### WORLD BASEBALL CLASSIC PARTICIPATION

- ◆ The D-backs began WBC action with 12 total players – 10 from big league camp (bold are 40-man; underline is non-roster; no mark is Minor Leaguer) – playing in the World Baseball Classic:
  - DOM: 2B **Ketel Marte**, SS **Geraldo Perdomo**, 1B **Carlos Santana**; PR: 3B **Nolan Arenado**; VEN: LHP **Eduardo Rodriguez**; MEX: OF **Alek Thomas**; CAN: RHP **Michael Soroka**, RHP Indigo Diaz; GBR: OF Kristian Robinson; TPE: LHP Yu-Min Lin; NED: OF Druw Jones, Jakey Joseph, RHP Jaitoine Kelly

### SPRING BREAKOUT ON MARCH 21

- ◆ On March 21 at 5:00 p.m. AZ, the D-backs will host the Rockies at Salt River Fields at Talking Stick for the third annual "Spring Breakout" prospect game.
- ◆ Featured D-backs prospects include OF **Ryan Waldschmidt** (No. 1 prospect), INF **Kayson Cunningham** (No. 2), OF **Slade Caldwell** (No. 3), OF **Tommy Troy** (No. 4), INF **Demetrio Crisantes**, RHP **Daniel Eagen** (No. 7), LHP **Kohl Drake** (No. 12) and OF **Druw Jones** (No. 16).

### TWO SPECIAL FANS TO TAKE CENTER STAGE AT HOME OPENER

- ◆ The D-backs home opener on March 30 vs. Tigers features 2 special fans who were personally invited from D-backs President, CEO & General Partner, Derrick Hall:
  - Throwing out the ceremonial first pitch will be **Beauden Baumkirchner**, who, at just 3 years old, developed a rare and aggressive staph infection that led to septic shock and months in intensive care and underwent more than 20 surgeries, including the amputation of both legs...in January, he visited MLB Network with Challenged Athletes Foundation, which included a FaceTime with **Corbin Carroll**...today, he plays baseball at Lake Havasu Little League using prosthetic legs, continuing to inspire those around him.
  - Performing the National Anthem will be **Joe Giacinto**, an Arizona clarinetist born blind and autistic...completely self-taught, he learns and performs music entirely by ear and has memorized hundreds of pieces, and dreams of performing alongside Andrea Bocelli.

### CAMP UPDATES

- ◆ Camp roster now has 40 players (7 non-roster invitees): 21 pitchers (3), 4 catchers (1), 11 infielders (3) and 4 outfielders.
- ◆ **Merrill Kelly** was scratched from his first Opening Day start due to intercostal nerve irritation, announced by Torey Lovullo on Feb. 25...threw his first bullpen on March 5 and threw in a live BP on March 8.
- ◆ **Corbin Carroll** made his Spring debut on March 11...suffered a broken right hamate hook during live batting practice on Feb. 10...had surgery performed on Feb. 11...took live BP swings off of Merrill Kelly on March 8.

### VETERAN SNAKES

- ◆ **Ketel Marte** (since 2017) becomes just the second D-back to play 10 seasons, joining Nick Ahmed (2014-23).
- ◆ Among D-back pitchers all-time, **Zac Gallen**, **Merrill Kelly** and **Kevin Ginkel** enter their franchise-record-tying eighth season with Randy Johnson (1999-2004, '07-08) and Andrew Chafin (2014-20, '23).
- ◆ **Torey Lovullo** enters as the winningest and longest-tenured skipper in franchise history, and his 10th season as Manager as only the second manager/head coach in Phoenix professional sports history to reach double-digits (Cardinals, Coyotes, Mercury, Suns), joining the Suns' John MacLeod (14 seasons, 1974-87).

### COACHING STAFF

- ◆ **Torey Lovullo** returns 9 coaches and added 1 new coach...returnees: **Jeff Banister** (bench coach, fifth season), **Dave McKay** (first base coach, 13th season), **Joe Mather** (hitting coach, fifth season), **Damion Easley** (assistant hitting coach, fifth season), **Brian Kaplan** (pitching coach, second season), **Wellington Cepeda** (bullpen coach, second season), **Travis Denker** (assistant hitting coach, second season), **Owen Dew** (assistant pitching coach, second season) and **Shaun Larkin** (infield coach, second season...new coach: **J.R. House** (third base & catching coach) rejoins the organization (previously 2012-18 in player development).

**SCHEDULED PITCHERS**

**STARTING PITCHER**

**No. 29 - RHP Merrill Kelly**

- Makes his Spring debut tonight in his eighth season with Arizona.
- In 2025, went a combined 12-9 with a 3.52 ERA (72 ER in 184.0 IP), 48 walks and 167 strikeouts over 32 starts with the D-backs and Rangers in his seventh season in the Majors.
- Last season posted 12+ wins and 175.0+ innings for the third time in his last 4 seasons.
- In 22 starts with Arizona, went 9-6 with a 3.22 ERA (46 ER in 128.2 IP), 1.06 WHIP, opponent .206 AVG, 38 walks and 121 strikeouts.
- Acquired by the Rangers for Minor League LHP Mitch Bratt, LHP Kohl Drake and RHP David Hagaman on July 31.
- In 10 starts with Texas, went 3-3 with a 4.23 ERA (26 ER in 55.1 IP), 10 walks and 46 strikeouts.

**ADDITIONAL PITCHERS**

**No. 22 - RHP Paul Sewald**

- In 2025, was limited to 18 games with the Guardians after 2 stints on the IL (strained right shoulder)...went 1-1 with 2 saves, a 4.70 ERA (8 ER in 15.1), 4 walks and 18 strikeouts.
- Acquired at trade deadline by the Tigers but was limited to 4 games to close out the regular season (0-0, 4.15 ERA, 2 BB, 2 K).
- Returns for second stint with Arizona (2023-24)...in 2023, was acquired at the trade deadline and helped the D-backs to their second-ever National League Pennant and World Series appearance.

DATE	OPP	DEC	ERA	G-GS	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2/28	@LAA	-	9.00	1-0	1.0	1	1	1	0	0	1
3/4	@ATH	-	9.00	1-0	1.0	2	1	1	0	0	0
TOTALS		-	9.00	2-0	2.0	3	2	2	0	0	1

**No. 24 - RHP Kade Strowd**

- In 2025, made his MLB debut on May 18 vs. Nationals...in 25 games over 3 stints with the Orioles, went 0-1 with a 1.71 ERA (5 ER in 26.1 IP), opponent .178 AVG, 1.10 WHIP, 13 walks and 24 strikeouts.
- Was scoreless in 19 of his final 22 appearances last season from July 26-Sept. 28, going 0-1 with a 1.09 ERA (3 ER in 22.0 IP), opponent .162 AVG, 12 walks and 21 strikeouts.
- Acquired with RHP Wellington Arcena and INF José Mejía from the Orioles for INF Blaze Alexander.

DATE	OPP	DEC	ERA	G-GS	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2/22	vs. LAA	-	0.00	1-0	1.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2/26	vs. KC	-	10.80	1-0	0.2	3	2	2	0	0	1
3/4	@ATH	-	6.75	1-0	1.0	1	0	0	0	0	1
3/7	vs. SF	-	9.82	1-0	1.0	1	2	2	0	1	1
3/10	@LAD	L	11.57	1-0	1.0	3	2	2	0	0	0
TOTALS		0-1	11.57	5-0	4.2	8	6	6	0	1	3

**No. 43 - RHP Jonathan Loaisiga**

- Began his eighth season with the Yankees on the IL (recovering from right elbow surgery)...made 6 rehab appearances between Single-A Tampa and Triple-A Scranton/Wilkes-Barre.
- Reinstated in mid-May and appeared in 30 games, going 0-1 with 1 save, a 4.25 ERA (14 ER in 29.2 IP), 10 walks and 25 strikeouts...placed on the IL on Aug. 2 (right thoracic spine muscle spasm) and did not pitch in the Majors the rest of the season.
- In 2024, was limited to 3 games due to a season-ending strained right elbow and surgery.
- Pitched parts of 8 seasons (2018-25) with the Yankees, going a combined 19-12 with 8 saves, a 3.54 ERA (98 ER in 249.1), opponent .244 AVG, 82 walks and 232 strikeouts in 193 games (11 starts).

DATE	OPP	DEC	ERA	G-GS	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2/28	@LAA	W	9.00	1-0	1.0	2	1	1	0	1	1
3/4	@ATH	-	4.50	1-0	1.0	1	0	0	0	1	0
3/7	vs. SF	-	6.00	1-0	1.0	2	1	1	0	0	1
3/10	@LAD	-	4.50	1-0	1.0	0	0	0	0	0	2
TOTALS		1-0	4.50	4-0	4.0	5	2	2	0	2	4

**No. 50 - LHP Philip Abner**

- In 2025, over 5 games in his first season with Arizona, went 0-0 with a 4.91 ERA (2 ER in 3.2 IP), 3 walks and 5 strikeouts...selected from Triple-A Reno on Sept. 18...made his MLB debut on Sept. 19 vs. Phillies, becoming the D-backs first call-up from the 2023 class.
- Played across 3 levels last season, going a combined 3-2 with 7 saves, a 3.07 ERA (20 ER in 58.2 IP), opponent .216 AVG, 16 walks and 70 strikeouts in 53 games between Triple-A Reno (8 G), Double-A Amarillo (34 G) and High-A Hillsboro (11 G).
- Spent majority of last season with Amarillo, going 3-1 with 1 save, a 4.21 ERA (17 ER in 36.1 IP), 7 walks and 42 strikeouts in 34 games.

DATE	OPP	DEC	ERA	G-GS	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2/20	@COL	-	0.00	1-0	1.0	0	0	0	0	0	1
2/24	@TEX	-	0.00	1-0	1.0	0	0	0	0	0	1
2/28	@LAA	-	0.00	1-0	1.0	1	0	0	0	1	2
3/4	@ATH	-	0.00	1-0	1.0	1	0	0	0	0	1
3/7	vs. SF	-	1.80	1-0	1.0	1	1	1	0	2	1
3/11	vs. ATH	-	1.50	1-0	1.0	0	0	0	0	0	1
TOTALS		-	1.50	6-0	6.0	3	1	1	0	3	7

**PROBABLES (italics denotes D-backs Minor Leaguer)**

**MARCH 13 @ ROYALS @ 6:05 P.M.**

**RHP Merrill Kelly vs. RHP Michael Wacha**

- AZ: RHP Andrew Hoffmann, LHP Philip Abner, RHP Kade Strowd, RHP Paul Sewald, RHP Isaiah Campbell, RHP Jonathan Loaisiga, RHP Bryce Jarvis  
 KC: RHP Steven Cruz, LHP Helcris Olivarez, RHP Shane Panzini

**MARCH 14 @ GIANTS @ 1:05 P.M.**

**RHP Zac Gallen vs. RHP Adrian Houser**

- AZ: RHP Joe Ross, RHP Kevin Ginkel, RHP Ryan Thompson, RHP Juan Morillo  
 SF: RHP Keaton Winn, RHP Spencer Bivens, LHP Joey Lucchesi, RHP Michael Fulmer

**DAY-BY-DAY**

DATE	OPP	All Times Local	RESULT	REC.	* SRF Sellout	^ road telecast	ATT.
2/20	@COL	W, 3-2	1-0	Rashi (1-0)	Weigel (0-1)		10,033
2/21	vs. COL	L, 11-6	1-1	Gordon (1-0)	Bratt (0-1)		10,185
2/22	vs. LAA	L, 10-9	1-2	Murphy (1-0)	Angelo (0-1)		10,375
2/23	@CLE	L, 9-5	1-3	Festa (1-0)	Burgos (0-1)		3,385
2/24	@TEX	W, 6-4	2-3	Hoffmann (1-0)	Gomber (0-1)		3,464
2/25	vs. LAD	L, 10-7	2-4	Diaz (1-0)	Ray (0-1)		*11,065
2/26	vs. KC	W, 13-10	3-4	Dubin (1-0)	Panzini (0-1)		6,471
2/27	@SEA	W, 3-1	4-4	Nelson (1-0)	Castillo (0-1)		9,992
2/28	@LAA	W, 8-5	5-4	Loaisiga (1-0)	Sandridge (0-1)		7,445
3/1	vs. CLE	W, 9-6	6-4	Drake (1-0)	Denholm (0-1)		*11,068
3/2	OFF DAY						
3/3	vs. MEX	L, 6-3		Gastelum	Morillo		10,472
3/4	@ATH	W, 3-1	7-4	Carrillo (1-0)	Ferguson (0-1)		5,086
3/5	@CHC	L, 8-1	7-5	Rea (1-1)	Nelson (1-1)		12,824
3/6	vs. CWS (ss)	L, 6-0	7-6	Kay (2-0)	Eagen (0-1)		10,044
3/6	@MIL (ss)	L, 6-2	7-7	Fitzpatrick (1-0)	Burgos (0-2)		4,908
3/7	vs. SF	L, 7-4	7-8	Brubaker (1-0)	Drake (1-1)		12,815
3/8	@CIN	L, 13-4	7-9	Santillan (1-0)	Dubin (1-1)		6,007
3/9	vs. SEA	W, 2-1	8-9	Anderson (1-0)	Castaño (0-1)		*11,944
3/10	@LAD	L, 4-1	8-10	Glasnow (1-0)	Strowd (0-1)		8,636
3/11	vs. ATH	L, 13-3	8-11	Morales (2-1)	Russell (0-1)		9,244
3/12	vs. COL	L, 13-2	8-12	Sullivan (2-0)	Jameson (0-1)		10,481
3/13	@KC			6:05 PM	DBACKS.TV^		
3/14	@SF			1:05 PM	DBACKS.TV^   98.7 FM		
3/15	vs. SD			1:10 PM	DBACKS.TV   98.7 FM		
3/16	vs. CIN			1:10 PM			
3/17	OFF DAY						
3/18	vs. CHC			1:10 PM	dbacks.com livestream		
3/19	@CWS			6:05 PM			
3/20	vs. MIL			1:10 PM			
3/21	vs. TEX			1:10 PM	98.7 FM		
3/21	vs. COL (Spring Breakout)			5:00 PM	DBACKS.TV^		
3/22	@SD			1:10 PM	98.7 FM		
3/23	vs. CLE			6:40 PM	DBACKS.TV 98.7 FM KNAI 101.9 FM 860 AM		
3/24	vs. CLE			12:40 PM	KNAI 101.9 FM 860 AM		

**MISCELLANEOUS**

Home:	3-7-0
Away:	5-5-0
Day:	7-12-0
Night:	1-0-0
vs. NL:	1-8-0
vs. AL:	7-4-0

**ATTENDANCE**

HOME	ROAD
Total: 103,692	Total: 71,780
Avg: 10,369	Avg: 7,178
Largest: 12,815 (3/7)	Largest: 12,824 (3/5)

**RECENT TRANSACTIONS**

- 3/12 Reassigned to Minor League camp: RHP Isaiah Campbell, RHP Shawn Dubin, RHP Thomas Hatch, RHP Bryce Jarvis, C Matt O'Neill, OF Oscar Mercado, OF Kristian Robinson.

**SCHEDULED PITCHERS CONT.**

**No. 56 - RHP Andrew Hoffmann**

- In 8 games in his first stint with the D-backs, went 1-1 with a 7.36 ERA (6 ER in 7.1 IP), opponent .241 AVG, 6 walks and 7 strikeouts.
- Acquired from the Royals for OF Randal Grichuk on July 26 and optioned to Triple-A Reno.
- Made his MLB debut last season on May 30 vs. Tigers with the Royals (2.0 IP)...in 3 games over 2 stints with the Royals, went 0-0 with a 3.86 ERA (2 ER in 4.2 IP), 4 walks and 5 strikeouts.
- In 32 games with Triple-A Omaha (Royals) last season, went 3-3 with 2 saves, a 2.25 ERA (10 ER in 40.0 IP), opponent .230 AVG, 10 walks and 55 strikeouts.

DATE	OPP	DEC	ERA	G-GS	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2/20	@COL	-	0.00	1-0	1.0	0	0	0	0	0	2
2/24	@TEX	W	0.00	1-0	1.0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3/6	vs. CWS	-	0.00	1-0	1.0	1	0	0	0	0	3
3/9	vs. SEA	-	1.93	1-0	1.2	3	1	1	0	1	2
TOTALS		1-0	1.93	4-0	4.2	4	1	1	0	1	7