

## Report: About 1 in 4 of USS Murphy sailors tested positive this month

BY CAITLIN DOORNBOS  
*Stars and Stripes*

Nearly one in four sailors aboard the USS Michael Murphy tested positive for coronavirus this month, NBC News reported Friday, citing unnamed Navy officials.

The guided-missile destroyer has been in port at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, since before the outbreak and is now being cleaned, according to the report.

Members of the 300-person crew who tested positive have moved ashore; none have been hospitalized.

The Michael Murphy's crew had been un-

dergoing the basic phase of training after finishing a maintenance period. Unnamed Navy officials told NBC News that "the ship and its crew can make up the time" lost to the outbreak "before the end of the year."

"Some of the training events are conducted out at sea, but the ship has not been able to leave port since the Covid outbreak," the report said.

Many Navy ships have reported sailors contracting the coronavirus, but the Navy has acknowledged only one other with such a high infection rate, the aircraft carrier USS Theodore Roosevelt. Nearly 27% of the

carrier's 5,000-person crew tested positive during the outbreak in March, according to updated data in a report in the *New England Journal of Medicine* published Nov. 11.

Of the 1,271 Theodore Roosevelt sailors who tested positive, nearly 77% showed no symptoms at the time they were tested and 45% experienced no symptoms at any point during their illness, according to the report. About 2% were hospitalized, 0.3% were placed in intensive care and one sailor died.

Pacific Fleet and Surface Forces Pacific did not respond Friday to emailed requests from Stars and Stripes for comment.

## Georgia to certify Biden's win after hand count stemming from mandatory audit

*Associated Press*

ATLANTA — Georgia's top elections official said he will certify that Joe Biden won the state's presidential election after a hand tally stemming from a mandatory audit affirmed the Democrat's lead over Republican President Donald Trump.

"Working as an engineer throughout my life, I live by the motto that numbers don't lie," Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger said during a news conference at the state Capitol. "As secretary of state, I believe that the numbers that we have presented today are correct. The numbers reflect the verdict of the people, not a decision by the secretary of state's office or of courts or of either campaign."

In the end, the hand count affirmed Biden won by more than 12,000 votes out of about 5 million cast, according to data released by Raffensperger's office Thursday.

State law says Raffensperger must certi-

fy the election results by 5 p.m. Friday. Then, Gov. Brian Kemp has until 5 p.m. Saturday to certify the state's slate of 16 presidential electors. Once Raffensperger certifies the results, Trump's campaign will have two business days to request a recount since the margin is within 0.5%.

That recount would be done using scanning machines that read and tally the votes and would be paid for by the counties, the secretary of state's office has said.

The hand tally stemmed from an audit required by a new state law and wasn't in response to any suspected problems with the state's results or an official recount request.

The audit was meant to confirm that the voting machines correctly tabulated the votes.

The hand count produced some slight differences from the previous machine tally, but no individual county showed a variation in margin larger than 0.73%, and the varia-

tion in margin in 103 of the state's 159 counties was less than 0.05%, the secretary of state's office said.

During the audit, several counties also discovered previously uncounted ballots and were recertifying their results.

It is the totals certified by the counties, not the results of the hand tally, that will be certified by the state.

Raffensperger also said Friday that he plans to propose legislative changes aimed at increasing trust in the results.

Those include allowing state officials to intervene in counties that have systemic problems in administering elections, requiring photo ID for absentee voting and adding stricter controls to allow for challenges to voters who might not live where they say.

"These measures will improve the security of our elections, and that should lead to greater public trust," he said.

# Senior DOD official Tata tests positive

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A Pentagon official installed in a top policy job last week has tested positive for COVID-19, the Pentagon said Thursday, just days after he met with the Lithuanian defense minister, who had contracted the virus.

Jonathan Hoffman, the chief Pentagon spokesperson, said Anthony Tata, who is serving as the undersecretary of defense, was tested Thursday after learning that Defense Minister Raimundas Karoblis had tested positive. Tata and other senior defense leaders, including Acting Defense Secretary Christopher Miller and the secretaries of the Army, Navy and Air Force, all met with Karoblis last week.

Hoffman said the department is doing contact tracing and conducting rapid testing for those who came in contact with the

delegation. Miller and other senior staff and a media contingent traveled Wednesday to meet with troops and leaders at Fort Bragg, N.C., and then flew out to the aircraft carrier USS Gerald R. Ford, off the coast of Virginia. Video of the visit showed Miller shaking hands and hugging people at Fort Bragg, and he met with sailors on the ship.

Tata is just the latest top Trump administration member to become infected. White House chief of staff Mark Meadows tested positive after attending an election night party at the White House. Trump himself was treated at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in October when he contracted the virus. Among others in Trump's orbit who have tested positive include his wife, Melania, his son Barron and press secretary Kayleigh McEnany.

There also was an outbreak at the Penta-

gon last month when Adm. Charles W. Ray, the vice commandant of the Coast Guard, found out he tested positive after meeting in the Pentagon with members of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. The assistant commandant of the Marine Corps later also tested positive, and all the chiefs were forced to quarantine at home for at least 10 days.

Hoffman said in a statement that the department has recently "recommitted to fastidiously following the CDC guidelines with respect to mitigation measures — face coverings, social distancing, contact tracing, hand washing and virtual engagements among others." Hoffman said Miller and the service secretaries aren't going to quarantine "based on testing and mitigation measures that were in place during the Lithuanian delegation's visit and CDC guidelines."

## Pfizer seeking emergency use of its coronavirus vaccine in US

Associated Press

Pfizer said Friday it is asking U.S. regulators to allow emergency use of its COVID-19 vaccine, starting the clock on a process that could bring limited first shots as early as next month and eventually an end to the pandemic — but not until after a long, hard winter.

The action comes days after Pfizer Inc. and its German partner BioNTech announced that its vaccine appears 95% effective at preventing mild to severe COVID-19 disease in a large, ongoing study.

The companies said that protection plus a good safety record means the vaccine should qualify for emergency use authorization, something the Food and Drug Administration can grant before the final testing is fully complete. In addition to Friday's FDA submission, they have already started "rolling" applications in Europe and the U.K. and intend to submit similar information soon.

"Our work to deliver a safe and effective vaccine has never been more urgent," Pfizer CEO Albert Bourla said in a statement.

With the coronavirus surging around the U.S. and the world, the pressure is on for regulators to make a speedy decision.

"Help is on the way," Dr. Anthony Fauci, the top U.S. infectious disease expert said on the eve of Pfizer's announcement, adding that it's too early to abandon masks and oth-

er protective measures. "We need to actually double down on the public health measures as we're waiting for that help to come."

Friday's filing would set off a chain of events as the FDA and its independent advisers debate if the shots are ready.

If so, still another government group will have to decide how the initial limited supplies are rationed out to anxiously awaiting Americans.

How much vaccine is available and when is a moving target, but initial supplies will be scarce and rationed. Globally, Pfizer has estimated it could have 50 million doses available by year's end.

About 25 million may become available for U.S. use in December, 30 million in January and 35 million more in February and March, according to information presented to the National Academy of Medicine this week. Recipients will need two doses, three weeks apart.

Not far behind is competitor Moderna Inc.'s COVID-19 vaccine. Its early data suggests the shots are as strong as Pfizer's, and that company expects to also seek emergency authorization within weeks.

If there's an emergency green light, "that vaccine is still deemed investigational. It's not approved yet," Dr. Marion Gruber, chief of FDA's vaccine office, told the National Academy of Medicine this week.

## 6 locations in final running for SPACECOM HQ

BY COREY DICKSTEIN

Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The Pentagon has narrowed its choices on the permanent headquarters location for the U.S. Space Command to six finalists, Air Force officials announced Thursday.

The remaining candidates to house the newest combatant command are Kirtland Air Force Base in New Mexico, Offutt Air Force Base in Nebraska, Patrick Air Force Base in Florida, Peterson Air Force Base in Colorado, Port San Antonio in Texas, and Redstone Arsenal in Alabama, according to the Air Force.

A final decision is expected in early 2021, said Ann Stefanek, a spokeswoman for the service charged with making the final basing decision for SPACECOM.

"The Department of the Air Force evaluated each location and will now conduct both virtual and on-site visits at each candidate location to assess which location is best suited to host the U.S. Space Command Headquarters," Stefanek said. "This assessment will be based on factors related to mission, infrastructure capacity, community support and costs to the Department of Defense."

Stefanek said they considered locations in 24 states before naming the finalists.

# Rule excluding US asylum for convicts halted

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — A federal judge on Thursday blocked a Trump administration rule about to take effect that would have put up new roadblocks for asylum-seekers convicted of a variety of crimes.

U.S. District Judge Susan Illston in San Francisco said the rule “sweeps too broadly” and was unnecessary because current federal law already includes a host of disqualifying crimes such as drug trafficking, money laundering and counterfeiting.

Pangea Legal Services, a legal service provider for immigrants, and other non-profits sued after the rule was announced last month by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and U.S. Department of Justice. It was set to take effect Friday.

The judge issued a temporary restraining order without an expiration date. She scheduled a Dec. 9 hearing on the plaintiffs’ motion for a preliminary injunction.

Illston agreed with the plaintiffs’ contention that the two government agencies exceeded their authority and said the rule was “substantively and procedurally defective.”

The departments of Homeland Security and Justice did not immediately respond to requests for comment on the ruling.

The White House has instituted a slew of measures to make asylum more difficult to obtain.

President-elect Joe Biden said on his campaign website that he will end Trump’s “detrimental asylum policies” but has not commented on this specific rule.

While asylum has long been denied to people convicted of “particularly serious crimes,” the new rule would have added a litany of crimes that would have been disqualifying. They included convictions for domestic violence — whether a felony or misdemeanor — assault or battery, re-entering the country illegally, identify theft, public benefits fraud, immigrant smuggling and driving under the influence.

The rule would have also denied asylum to people convicted of crimes that an adjudicator “knows or has reason to believe” was committed to supporting a criminal street gang.

Asylum is for people fleeing persecution for their race, religion, nationality, political beliefs or membership in a social group.

## More than 100 displaced after fire in California

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — A week before Thanksgiving, more than 100 residents were displaced Thursday by a wind-whipped wildfire that ravaged a remote mountain community in California and killed one person, authorities said.

The inferno struck with sudden ferocity midday Tuesday during strong winds high in the eastern Sierra Nevada, destroying more than 80 structures, including homes in the unincorporated town of Walker near the Nevada state line, according to the Mono County Sheriff’s Office.

By early Wednesday, rain and snow were falling, reducing the fire to smoldering remnants after it scorched over 32 square miles.

By then, grave damage had been done to Walker, a community of widely spaced homes and businesses perched in a valley

along a highway and the West Walker River, a six-hour drive north of Los Angeles. Homes and outbuildings were reduced to charred rubble. One person was dead, but authorities haven’t released details yet.

The same ferocious winds, part of winter-like weather that blew into California and Nevada, also sent a wildfire roaring through a neighborhood about 100 miles north in Reno, Nev. The flames forced more than 1,000 people to evacuate Tuesday — including the mayor — destroyed five houses and damaged 24. People began returning home Wednesday.

Though the fire burned a little less than 1 square mile, the damage there also was swift and then tempered by rain.

Reno Fire Chief David Cochran said extremely dry conditions helped fuel the blaze in rugged, hard-to-reach canyons that run

between homes in the densely populated neighborhood.

The parts of California and Nevada where the wildfires flared are experiencing drought.

Numerous studies have linked bigger wildfires in America to climate change from the burning of coal, oil and gas, which has made parts of the U.S. West much drier and more flammable.

In California, firefighters faced extreme fire pushed by strong and erratic winds gusting over 70 mph, Don Shoemaker, a Bureau of Land Management official, said in an online video briefing.

“Our first priority was life safety and evacuations as well as doing point protection to try to save as many residences as possible,” Shoemaker, said, describing “heavy structure loss” in Walker and nearby.

## Pompeo wraps up Israel trip with visit to museum

Associated Press

JERUSALEM — Secretary of State Mike Pompeo wrapped up a trip to Israel on Friday with a visit to a museum in Jerusalem that honors Christian Zionists and was founded by a prominent evangelical adviser to the Trump administration.

The museum visit came a day after Pompeo became the first secretary of state to visit an Israeli settlement in the occupied West Bank. He also announced a new policy allowing settlement products exported to

the U.S. to be labeled “made in Israel” and a new initiative to combat the Palestinian-led international boycott movement.

Christian Zionism is a belief by some Christians that the return of the Jews to the Holy Land and the establishment of the state of Israel in 1948 were in accordance with biblical prophecy.

The Friends of Zion Museum was founded by Mike Evans, a prominent evangelical supporter of Israel. Evangelical Christians are among President Donald Trump’s most

loyal supporters and have hailed his unprecedented support for Israel. They would also be an important constituency should Pompeo pursue elected office following Trump’s presidency.

Pompeo did not deliver any public remarks at the museum and departed Israel midday.

The Trump administration has broken with decades of U.S. policy to support Israel’s claims to territory seized in war and to isolate and weaken the Palestinians.



# Some Calif. sheriffs say they won't enforce curfew

*Associated Press*

SACRAMENTO — California is imposing a nighttime curfew as its coronavirus figures soar but it will lean heavily on voluntary compliance and sheriffs of some counties say they won't enforce it.

What officials are calling a limited stay-at-home order requires people who are not on essential errands to stay home from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. starting Saturday. The order will last until Dec. 21 but could be extended if disease trends don't improve.

The curfew is less strict than the near-total ban on nonessential business and travel that Gov. Gavin Newsom imposed in March and which he credited with flattening the rate of COVID-19 cases, despite a summer peak.

The first lockdown affected all residents, day and night, but Dr. Mark Ghaly, the state's top health officer, said late at night is the time most likely to involve social activities that bring increased risk of infection, particularly if people drink and let down their guard on precautions such as wearing masks and staying a safe distance apart.

The curfew covers 94% of the state's nearly 40 million residents. It's in place in 41 of the state's 58 counties that have the most significant increases in virus cases and face the most severe restrictions under California's four-tier system for reopening the economy.

The curfew comes just days after the state imposed tougher restrictions limiting business operations in the 41 counties.

The new health order does not close any businesses. However, nonessential businesses must shut their doors by 10 p.m., though restaurants will be permitted to offer takeout and delivery after that time. People can still shop for groceries, get medical care, pick up prescriptions and take care of other essential needs during the curfew hours.

Sheriffs in counties including El Dorado, Orange and Sacramento were quick to say they would not enforce the curfew.

Los Angeles County Sheriff Alex Villanueva has also said he wouldn't enforce the nighttime curfew in the nation's most populous county, where cases more than doubled in the last two weeks and hospitalizations rose 30%. The county has seen more than 350,000 cases and nearly 7,400 deaths.

Villanueva tweeted that since the first stay-at-home orders were issued in March, "we have focused on education and voluntary compliance, with criminal enforcement measures being an extreme last resort."

"We trust in the community and rely on people to assess risk and take precautions as appropriate," he tweeted.

## Hawaii

HONOLULU — Anyone flying to Hawaii will be required to have a negative COVID-19 test result prior to their departure for the state, with the new rule going into effect two days before Thanksgiving, Gov. David Ige announced Thursday.

Until now, passengers flying to the islands using a pre-travel testing program were permitted to arrive and then upload their negative test results to a state database, allowing them to skip two weeks of quarantine.

However, some travelers who arrived in Hawaii without their test results wound up later testing positive. That, in part, prompted the rule change, Ige said at a news conference.

The new program goes into effect Tuesday, just ahead of the holiday. The Wednesday before Thanksgiving is traditionally one of the busiest travel days of the year. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has urged people not to travel this year because of a surge in coronavirus cases nationwide.

To bypass the 14-day quarantine, travelers must have the correct type of COVID-19 negative test results from one of the state's trusted testing partners, Ige said.

Those who arrive without having their negative test results before departure will not be able to skip quarantine, even if their negative results become available shortly after they arrive.

## South Carolina

COLUMBIA — In his first public briefing on the coronavirus pandemic in more than two months, South Carolina Gov. Henry McMaster on Thursday doubled down on his pledge to not impose new restrictions to curb COVID-19.

Instead, the governor debuted a new slogan ahead of the Thanksgiving holiday, calling on South Carolinians to take personal responsibility by wearing masks, washing their hands and otherwise trying to limit the spread of the coronavirus.

"Get tested before turkey," McMaster said. "It's easy to remember."

McMaster noted the state has about 300 testing locations and that people could easily get test results back before Thanksgiving. He also suggested people adopt measures such as gathering outside, dividing a

large table of guests into two smaller tables, or making a short visit to elderly family members to deliver food.

Though McMaster has sustained a state of emergency since March, the governor says he won't impose a mask order or restrict businesses further. He also lifted rules requiring restaurants to operate at 50% capacity last month. The state still has some restrictions in place on large gatherings.

South Carolina, which saw a peak in COVID-19 cases in July, has not seen as marked a jump in recent cases as other states have. Still, the rolling average number of daily new cases has increased by 439 over the past two weeks, an increase of 41.6%, according to researchers from Johns Hopkins.

## Oregon

SALEM — Working long shifts while trying to save coronavirus patients without getting sick themselves, health care workers are facing incredible stress as Thanksgiving approaches.

"In addition to the challenges of working on the front lines of a pandemic, nurses are also confronting the same challenges everyone in their community does. That means day care and school closures, personal health risks. In southern Oregon — wildfires, sick family members. And they're just exhausted," said Kevin Mealy, spokesman for the Oregon Nurses Association.

An interview with an emergency room nurse gives a picture of what kind of strains they're working under. He spoke on condition of anonymity to avoid possible retaliation. Mealy said hospitals have threatened to discipline or fire nurses who discuss hospital operations during the pandemic.

Once the shift of the nurse — who works at Asante Rogue Regional Medical Center in Medford — ends, he disposes of his personal protective equipment and drives home, where he finds it almost impossible to relax. He can't go out. He can't see his grown daughter or his mother. Indoor service at restaurants and bars is prohibited under a state-wide lockdown, and gyms are closed. Even if they were open, he'd avoid going.

"I have to self-quarantine because I'm exposed to COVID nonstop. So it would be irresponsible of me to go around other people, except for essential groceries and stuff," he said. "You're working 12-hour shifts and then you're at home, and for sleep pretty much."

## Suspect rescued by police after escape attempt

**LA** HOUMA — Things turned soggy for a suspect in Louisiana when a chase ended with law enforcement officers jumping into a bayou to save the man as he tried to swim away from arrest.

Narcotics agents were patrolling a Terrebonne Parish neighborhood when they saw a driver commit a traffic violation, the sheriff's office said.

The agents tried to pull the driver over, but he sped away, officials said. Deputies chased the motorist into another neighborhood, where the driver got out of the car and ran toward Bayou Little Caillou and hopped into the water, investigators said.

The suspect, identified as Keith Myers Jr., 25, "encountered difficulty" and called for the deputies to save him.

## Dog journeys across national border, now back with owner

**ME** FORT KENT — A lost dog's journey across the Canadian border and back was complicated by coronavirus restrictions limiting movement from a town on one side of the St. John River to a Maine town on the other.

Diamond, a German shepherd, escaped from her home in New Brunswick and crossed a border bridge into Fort Kent, Maine, where coronavirus restrictions prevented her caretakers from following, the Bangor Daily News reported. Over the next six hours, Michaud received updates from people in Maine tracking the dog, the newspaper reported.

Diamond was reunited with Michaud and her family after being handed off at a border station, the newspaper reported.

## Whale with mangled tail traveled 3,000 miles, photos show

**CA** SANTA ANA — A whale watching crew in Southern California has discovered a humpback whale with a disfigured tail had traveled more than 3,000 miles from Russia, an unheard-of journey in the whale world.

The whale watchers spotted the animal off Catalina island and sought photos to help tell its story and maybe reveal how its tail was damaged, The Orange County Register reported.

In the search, photos taken of the whale a year ago off Palos Verdes by the Newport Coastal Adventure crew matched photos captured in 2015 off the Russian coast.

The whale was recognized because it had

big chunks of its tail missing. The photos from Russian show the whale's tail wounds look fresher, leading Girardeau to believe it was attacked by a killer whale when it was a calf.

## Man on LSD charged with Disney World disturbance

**FL** ORLANDO — A South Florida man who admitted to being on LSD was arrested after authorities said he tackled a security guard at Walt Disney World in Florida.

James Arvid, 19, of Pompano Beach, entered a plea of not guilty to a charge of battery on a uniformed security guard, and has asked for a jury trial.

According to an arrest report, Arvid tackled the uniformed security guard from behind and put him into a headlock while the guard was making his rounds at Animal Kingdom. Park guests pulled Arvid off the guard, who had managed to radio for help.

Responding deputies described Arvid as "in a state of excited delirium and unexpected strength." He was sweating profusely, not responding to commands and compulsively kicking his legs, according to the arrest report.

## Man dies days after ramming head into car during arrest

**IN** EVANSVILLE — A 20-year-old man has died three days after he rammed his head into an Evansville police car as officers were taking him into custody following a disturbance at a gathering, authorities said.

Evan Terhune died at Deaconess Midtown hospital and an autopsy is pending, said Vanderburgh County Coroner Steve Lockyear.

Police said Terhune reportedly became violent at a gathering where those in attendance told police the hallucinogenic drug LSD was used. Evansville Police Department spokesman Sgt. Nick Winsett said an officer had to use a Taser to subdue Terhune while taking him into custody but no other force was used.

Video shared by police showed Terhune was agitated and slamming himself against the walls of a police wagon after being taken into custody, Winsett said.

## Elderly man tricked out of \$550,000 in IRS scam

**SD** SIOUX FALLS — Authorities said an elderly Sioux Falls man was tricked out of about \$550,000 in a phone

scam.

A man claiming to be with the Internal Revenue Service called the victim and told him that drugs were found in a car he owned, police spokesman Sam Clemens said. The 82-year-old man was instructed to send money to resolve the issue, Clemens said. He sent a total of \$550,000 through money wires and gift cards.

The man was told by the scammers to not discuss it with anyone, Clemens said.

## Woman sentenced for setting up fake law firms

**FL** TAMPA — A Florida woman accused of setting up two fake law firms and pretending to be an attorney has been sentenced to four years and six months in prison.

Roberta Guedes, 41, was sentenced in Tampa federal court, according to court records. She pleaded guilty last year to mail fraud and aggravated identity theft. She was also ordered to pay \$14,318 in restitution to her victims.

According to court documents, Guedes graduated from Stetson University College of Law in 2014 but twice failed the Florida Bar exam. Despite never being licensed to practice law, Guedes incorporated two fake law firms and set up offices in downtown Tampa.

## Owl found in Rockefeller Center Christmas tree unharmed

**NY** NEW YORK — It wasn't quite a partridge in a pear tree, but a worker helping set up the Rockefeller Center Christmas tree found a holiday surprise — a tiny owl among the massive branches.

The little bird, now named what else but Rockefeller, was discovered dehydrated and hungry, but otherwise unharmed, said Ellen Kalish, director and founder of the Ravensbeard Wildlife Center in Saugerties, N.Y., where the bird was taken.

Kalish said the bird is an adult male Saw-whet owl, one of the tiniest owls.

## Squirrel causes power outage across state's capital city

**SC** COLUMBIA — A section of South Carolina's capital city was without power after a squirrel caused equipment damage that led to the blackout.

Dominion Energy said in a Twitter post that the animal caused the outages in downtown Columbia. Company spokesman Matt Long said power has since been repaired in downtown Columbia.

# Wilson leads Seahawks past Cardinals

*Associated Press*

SEATTLE — It was a flashback performance for the Seattle Seahawks, and coach Pete Carroll enjoyed the show.

A bruising running game. Russell Wilson making plays without being asked to do everything. And the Seahawks defense coming through in key moments to shut down Kyler Murray and the Arizona Cardinals for a 28-21 win Thursday night.

Wilson still did his part, throwing for two touchdowns and rebounding from his worst performance of the season just a few days ago. But he had help in the form of Carlos Hyde rushing for 79 yards and a touchdown, and a defense that sacked Murray three times, including Carlos Dunlap's clinching play inside the final minute.

"Our guys really wanted to turn things and get back on track," Carroll said. "And even with all of the situations, with all the guys in and out in the lineup and all that, it just didn't matter. Guys played really well across the board."

Wilson was flawless, erasing the mistakes from the past four weeks when Seattle dropped three of four, including losses in the past two weeks to Buffalo and the Los Angeles Rams. The skid left Seattle in a tie atop the NFC West with the Rams and Cardinals.

For a few days at least, Seattle (7-3) will be back on top alone until the Rams play on Monday night against Tampa Bay. It was an important victory for the Seahawks heading into the softest part of their schedule, with four upcoming games against teams with a combined 8-28-1 record.

Wilson was 23-for-28 for 197 yards and TD passes of 25 yards to DK Metcalf and 11 yards to Tyler Lockett in the first half. Wilson had committed 10 turnovers in the previous four games combined, a stretch that started with Seattle's 37-34 overtime loss to Arizona in Week 7.

Lockett, who had 15 catches for 200 yards and three TDs in the first meeting with Arizona, had another nine catches for 67 yards.

But the biggest boost for Seattle was the return of its run game. Hyde had a 2-yard TD run in the third quarter, and Seattle finished with 165 yards rushing.

"It helped balance our offense out today," Hyde said. "We was able to hit passes, run the ball, move down the field."

Murray and DeAndre Hopkins couldn't rekindle the magic from their last-second touchdown to beat Buffalo last Sunday. Murray was 29-for-42 for 269 yards and two TDs, but Seattle was able to get the kind of pressure that was missing from the first meeting.

"They definitely played for me in certain situations but like I said, we put up 21, had a chance to win the game at the end, but throughout the game, we started slow and kept shooting ourselves in the foot," Murray said.

And that pressure came through in the final seconds. On fourth-and-10 at the Seattle 27 with 38 seconds left, Dunlap got around the edge to Murray for his second sack of the night. Seattle finished with three sacks and seven QB hits after not touching Murray in the first meeting.

"(Pete) was fired up. He almost tackled me on the sideline. That was crazy to see a head coach that involved," Dunlap said.

Arizona (6-4) closed to 23-21 with 13:19 left when Murray capped a 15-play, 90-yard drive with a 3-yard TD pass to Chase Edmonds. The Cardinals defense held, but backed up near their goal line, J.R. Sweezy was called for holding on L.J. Collier in the end zone, giving Seattle a safety with 9:12 left.

Arizona almost didn't get the ball back. Seattle ran nearly seven minutes off the clock and Jason Myers' 41-yard field goal gave the Seahawks a 28-21 lead with 2:19 to go.

**Injuries:** Arizona lost starting safety Jalen Thompson in the closing seconds of the first half with a right leg injury. Thompson had to be helped off the field and onto a cart, putting no weight on the leg.

Seattle TE Greg Olsen tumbled to the ground early in the fourth quarter with a left foot injury. Olsen went down before contact and was helped off the field without putting weight on the leg. Carroll said the team believes Olsen tore the fascia in his foot. Seattle also lost right tackle Brandon Shell in the fourth to a sprained ankle.

**Russell records:** Wilson is the fifth QB since the merger in 1970 to post 30 or more TD passes and a passer rating of 110 or higher over the first 10 games of a season. The previous four all went on to win the MVP award — Patrick Mahomes (2018), Peyton Manning (2013), Aaron Rodgers (2011) and Tom Brady (2007).

## Seattle 'D' puts clamps on Arizona QB Murray

*Associated Press*

SEATTLE — Kyler Murray was crunched on Arizona's second drive of the game. A rude hello from Seattle's L.J. Collier and Carlos Dunlap that left Murray with a sore right shoulder.

After not being touched by the Seahawks in their first meeting, Murray quickly knew this time was going to be different.

"They definitely played for me in certain situations but like I said, we put up 21, had a chance to win the game at the end, but throughout the game, we started slow and kept shooting ourselves in the foot," Murray said.

The Cardinals missed a chance to take

control of the NFC West, falling 28-21 to the Seahawks on Thursday night. Arizona had an opportunity to sweep the season series from Seattle for the first time since 2009 and hand the Seahawks a third straight loss.

Just a few days after Murray and DeAndre Hopkins connected for a last-second touchdown in a dramatic victory over Buffalo, the Cardinals offense was mostly shut down by a Seattle defense that had been the worst in the league. Murray was 29-for-42 passing for 269 yards and two touchdowns. But the Cardinals were held to just 57 yards rushing after entering the week as the top rushing team in the league.

"I think it was just flow of game," Murray

said. "We had what we had and like I said, we had our chances, we just didn't play well enough to win the game."

While Seattle was able to shut down Arizona's rushing attack, the biggest difference was the Seahawks' ability to get pressure on Murray. When they met in Week 7 — a 37-34 overtime Cardinals win — the Seahawks failed to record a quarterback hit against Murray and produced very little pressure.

Thursday night, the pressure was there nearly from the start. Murray was sacked three times and Seattle recorded seven quarterback hits. Dunlap had two sacks, including the clinching play on Murray on fourth down with 38 seconds left.



# Brinn leads No. 25 Tulsa past Tulane

Associated Press

TULSA, Okla. — Falling behind early is becoming a regular occurrence for Tulsa. So are late-game heroics.

Zaven Collins returned an interception 96 yards for a touchdown in the second overtime to give No. 25 Tulsa a 30-24 comeback victory over Tulane on Thursday night.

Tulsa (5-1, 5-0 American Athletic Conference) forced overtime when third-string quarterback Brinn Davis connected with JuanCarlos Santana for a Hail Mary 37-yard touchdown pass.

“Words can’t really explain that one,” Tulsa coach Philip Montgomery said. “I’m just so proud of our young men. That is just a special group of guys down there. I don’t know that we played our best ball tonight, but we found a way to win. They are going to fight for 60 minutes, every second of it, and it took every second of it tonight.”

Playing its first game as a ranked team since 2008, Tulsa outgained Tulane 522

yards to 302, but turned the ball over three times. The Golden Hurricane trailed 14-0 entering the fourth quarter — the fourth game this season they have overcome a 14-point-or-more deficit to win.

Brinn entered with 2:09 left in the third quarter after backup Seth Boomer was carted off the field because of a left leg injury. Starter Zach Smith left with a torso injury late in the first quarter.

“It’s been an unbelievable night,” said Brinn, a redshirt sophomore who saw his first meaningful college action. “I’ve just prepared for the past three years and waiting on my opportunity to take advantage of it. I got that call and I knew that’s what I had to do and felt really confident about it.”

Brinn completed 18 of 28 passes for 266 yards and two touchdowns. His 18-yard TD run with 9:17 remaining got Tulsa’s comeback started.

“Obviously, you don’t prepare for the third-team guy coming in,” Tulane coach

Willie Fritz said. “We didn’t know much about him. I thought the young man came in and did a nice job.”

Corey Taylor II, carrying the ball for the first time in four games, gained 132 yards on 19 carries for the Golden Hurricane. Santana added eight receptions for 138 yards and the game-tying score.

Montgomery said that Collins, who also sealed Tulsa’s come-from-behind 28-24 win last week over then-No. 19 SMU, should be considered for the Heisman Trophy.

“Unbelievable kid, unbelievable teammate, great leader,” Montgomery said. “Why is that guy not in the running for the Heisman? Tell me someone that has affected more games than that guy. I mean, if we want to talk about the best football players in college football, in my opinion, he’s there.”

Tulane (5-5, 2-5) was coming off a 38-12 victory over then-No. 25 Navy last week, its first win over a ranked opponent in 36 years.

## Four unbeaten teams square off in Big Ten

Associated Press

The Big Ten’s four unbeaten teams square off Saturday in two games that could go a long way toward settling the division races.

No. 9 Indiana faces No. 3 Ohio State in a top-10 matchup featuring the conference’s overwhelming favorite against its best early season story.

The Hoosiers have already snapped a 24-game losing streak against Michigan. They’ll look to break a 25-game skid against the Buckeyes.

Over in the Big Ten West, it’s No. 10 Wisconsin at No. 19 Northwestern in a matchup of the conference’s two best defenses.

The Badgers have only played twice after a COVID-19 outbreak shut them down for two weeks. The Wildcats are looking to go 5-0 in the Big Ten for the first time since 1996.

Several other key conference games highlight this weekend’s schedule.

### Best game

**No. 14 Oklahoma State at No. 18 Oklahoma:** The Bedlam series is historically lopsided with the Sooners leading 81-18-7, and not much better than that recently.

Under coach Mike Gundy, the Cowboys have been more competitive with the Soon-

ers, yet have only won two of 15 meetings.

One of Gundy’s two victories against the Sooners came when he had the higher ranked team and another came when Oklahoma State was unranked.

The Sooners enter on a four-game winning streak, having scored 62 points in each of their last two games — albeit against Texas Tech and Kansas.

### Heisman watch

**Trevor Lawrence, QB, Clemson:** Lawrence hasn’t played in a while. He missed two games after testing positive for COVID-19, including the Notre Dame game, and then Clemson had a week off before playing at Florida State on Saturday.

The Seminoles have hit rock bottom so this isn’t really the type of game that will swing the Heisman race, but just having Lawrence back in the mix seems significant.

The Noles are definitely a stat-padding opponent at this point.

### Numbers to know

**3-0** — No. 20 Southern California will try to start 3-0 in the Pac-12 for the first time since 2006 when the Trojans visit Utah. USC has lost three straight in Salt Lake City.

**19** — Straight victories for Appalachian

State against Sun Belt teams not named Georgia Southern. The Mountaineers have mostly rolled through their conference other than their old FCS rivals from Statesboro, Ga. App State faces No. 15 Coastal Carolina in a key game in the Sun Belt East.

**28** — Touchdown passes for Florida quarterback Kyle Trask, an SEC record through six games. The Gators face Vanderbilt on Saturday.

**54** — Points scored by Mississippi State in five games since scoring 44 in a season-opening victory against LSU. The Bulldogs visit No. 13 Georgia on Saturday.

### Under the radar

**Georgia Southern at Army:** Any matchup of triple-option teams is worth a look. The Eagles and Black Knights average a combined 578 yards rushing per game. And the way the clock rolls for these grounded offenses, it shouldn’t take more than three hours for them to get the game in.

### Hot seat

**Jim Harbaugh, Michigan:** The Wolverines are 1-3, having lost three straight. Things look very bad in Ann Arbor. Now, take a moment and think about how much worse it would be if Michigan can’t beat Rutgers?

# Draft done, free agency window opens

*Associated Press*

NBA free agency is usually a weeklong frenzy. Deals get struck, then teams and players must wait a few days before they can sign those contracts. And from there, a few more months often pass before the player goes to work with his new club.

Not this year.

What promises to be a chaotic free-agent window opened in the NBA at 6 p.m. Eastern on Friday, just a couple of days after the NBA Draft, a mere 42 hours before signings can begin and about a week and a half before training camps around the league open. Asked what the player-movement landscape might look like in such a compressed timeframe, Philadelphia 76ers President Daryl Morey — looking exhausted early Thursday as the draft was winding down — offered a blunt prediction.

“Completely insane,” Morey said.

It's hard to find anyone who'll argue that.

Anthony Davis of the NBA champion Los Angeles Lakers is the biggest name on the free agency board; he turned down his option for this season with the Lakers but isn't expected to

go anywhere else. The most likely scenario for Davis is a three-year deal worth as much as \$105 million, the last year at his option. That way, when he completes his 10th year of service in 2021-22, he can cash in again for an even higher percentage of the salary cap than he can command now.

More than 100 other NBA players are unrestricted free agents; another 75 or so can be restricted free agents. That's a lot of players, who might be doing a lot of moving, with a season coming up very quickly — and only a few teams have plenty of available salary-cap space to sign players easily.

Plus, teams are still figuring out coronavirus protocols for training camp. Nobody has seen the NBA schedule for a regular season that starts Dec. 22. Pre-season games start Dec. 11; those haven't even been announced yet.

It's already hectic, and now free agency will ramp up the frenzy several more levels.

“With free agency starting as quickly as it does, we have some targets in mind there and we've got some other trade conversations going on as well,” said David Griffin, New Orleans' executive vice president of basket-

ball operations.

Really, things have already started. Plenty of names are already on the move, and the trade market is always an option for the teams that can't just go sign a player into nonexistent cap space.

The Lakers already have a new point guard in Dennis Schroder, acquired in a trade with Oklahoma City. The Thunder sent point guard Chris Paul in a trade to Phoenix, and with a brief stopover-on-paper-only in Oklahoma City, Ricky Rubio wound up leaving the Suns and ending up where his NBA career began in Minnesota. Jrue Holiday is heading from New Orleans to Milwaukee, where he'll play with two-time reigning MVP Giannis Antetokounmpo — and the Bucks still may wind up with restricted free agent Bogdan Bogdanovic as well.

Al Horford has been traded from Philadelphia to the Thunder. The Mavericks got Josh Richardson from the 76ers, in a deal that sent Seth Curry to Philly — where he'll play for new 76ers coach Doc Rivers, who just happens to be Curry's father-in-law.

Houston's star backcourt of scoring champion James Har-

den and former MVP Russell Westbrook have been mentioned in trade talks, though it would surely take a massive haul for the Rockets to part with either or both of those players. And Golden State may be very active on the trade market now, with the Warriors getting word Thursday that Klay Thompson — who missed last season with a torn ACL — will miss this season with a torn Achilles.

The Warriors have a \$17.2 million trade exception that will soon expire. It could be a handy chip for general manager Bob Myers, especially if Golden State — which plunged to the bottom of the NBA last season with Thompson, Stephen Curry and Draymond Green out for most of the season — decides it needs to make a big move quickly.

“We have the green light to do that,” Myers said. “We had it. We have it. Klay or no Klay, depending on what we hear. So, it's there. Got to find a way to make it work for us.”

Some players have even announced their free-agent plans: Udonis Haslem is going to re-sign with Miami for an 18th season, even though the Heat can't technically talk to him about that until Friday

## McGregor returning to UFC for rematch with Poirier

*Associated Press*

Conor McGregor has agreed to return to the UFC for a rematch with Dustin Poirier on Jan. 23 at UFC 257.

UFC President Dana White confirmed to The Associated Press on Thursday that McGregor has ended his latest retirement from mixed martial arts by signing an agreement for a 155-pound fight with Poirier.

White hasn't decided whether UFC 257 will be held in Las Vegas or in the UFC's coronavirus-secure bubble in Abu Dhabi.

“But if the world continues in the direction it looks like it's headed, it will 100% be Fight Island,” White told the AP.

McGregor (22-4) has fought in the UFC cage just twice since November 2016, but he dramatically stopped Donald “Cowboy” Cerrone in 40 seconds at UFC 246 last January. The 32-year-old Irish veteran remains the biggest star in combat sports despite retiring for the third time in four years last June amid frustration with his inability to book the fights he wanted due to the pandemic.

Poirier already signed his agreement for the rematch last week, according to ESPN, the UFC's broadcast partner.

McGregor was still a rising MMA star when he stopped Poirier just 1:46 into the first round at UFC 178 in September 2014.

McGregor won his next three fights, culminating in his 13-second victory over Jose Aldo to claim the UFC lightweight championship.

Poirier (26-6) rebounded from that loss and fought his way to a UFC title, recording wins over Justin Gaethje and Eddie Alvarez before outpointing Max Holloway for the interim UFC lightweight title in April 2019. Poirier lost his share of the belt to Khabib Nurmagomedov by submission in September 2019 in Abu Dhabi, but rebounded with a decision over Dan Hooker last June.

Nurmagomedov, who retired last month, is the last fighter to beat both McGregor and Poirier.