

COMEBACK: Seattle expects Sherman, Thomas to play in Super Bowl

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for its chance at a second straight championship facing New England.

Seattle is keeping the same schedule as last year with three days of practice this week before heading to Arizona on Sunday.

Seattle coach Pete Carroll intends on having most of the game plan in place before the Seahawks leave.

"We do have to get a lot done. This is a very heightened time for us. This is not sit back and take a couple of days. We're going after it," Carroll said. "Wednesday, Thursday, Friday we're game planning and we'll have the game plan in before we leave. That's an old Bill Walsh way.

"That's the way we've always done the bowl games and stuff since we've been doing it. It's a really good way for the coaches and players to focus before the distractions that naturally come up when you get on the road."

Seattle still expects both safety Earl Thomas and cornerback Richard Sherman to be available to play in two weeks even though Carroll did not have results of MRIs on Monday. Thomas separated his shoulder in the first half, but returned before half-time and played with a brace.

Sherman injured his left elbow when his arm was sandwiched between teammate Kam Chancellor and Green Bay's James Starks

on the first play of the fourth quarter. Sherman played the rest of the game with his arm pinned against his chest, but while it was obvious Sherman was limited the Packers rarely challenged him.

Rodgers threw at Sherman only once in the fourth quarter.

"Both those guys were in dire straits could they play. They didn't flinch, not for a second," Carroll said. "When they played, they played their hearts out.

"The courage and the toughness and standing up for who they are and what they mean to this team couldn't have been more evident and the willingness to throw their body out there again and try

to finish this game and would not allow it to be any other way. It was so impressive. It really was and there were a lot of guys who do that but it was just really symbolic."

According to STATS, Seattle is just the second team to trail by 12 or more points to rally in the final 2:10 of regulation to win. On Dec. 23, 1972, the Cowboys trailed San Francisco 28-16, but scored twice in the final 1:20 to win 30-28.

Seattle's improbable comeback started when it trailed 19-7 after Russell Wilson threw his fourth interception of the game with about five minutes remaining.

But the interception started the chain of events that

helped Seattle pull off its rally, beginning with Morgan Burnett's decision to slide down in the open field rather than trying to return the pick as far as possible.

Seattle was able to force Green Bay into a three-and-out with the Seahawks using only two of their timeouts and just 1:12 lapsing off the clock. The Seahawks needed only 1:43 to go 69 yards and score on Wilson's 1-yard touchdown with 2:09 remaining.

Then came the inside kick, which Carroll said Monday gets practiced once a week. Just 44 seconds later, Marshawn Lynch was in the end zone after a 24-yard run and the ensuing 2-point

conversion pass from Wilson to tight end Luke Willson, who wasn't supposed to be involved in the original play.

And lastly, on the first drive of overtime, Wilson made a check at the line of scrimmage and recognizing there was no safety in the middle of the field and Kearsae had single coverage. All Kearsae had to do was win his matchup.

"We're all real grateful that we were a part of it and had the opportunity to be faced with so much adversity and so much of a challenge and see guys really play through it and come through," Carroll said. "It wasn't a one play thing. A lot of stuff had to happen."

SCOREBOARD

Local Slate			
PREP BOYS BASKETBALL			
Today			
Helix at Joseph, 6:30 p.m.			
Sherman at Riverside, 7 p.m.			
Pendleton at Irrigon, 7 p.m.			
La Grande at Mac-Hi, 7:30 p.m.			
Stanfield at Umatilla, 7:30 p.m.			
PREP GIRLS BASKETBALL			
Today			
Helix at Joseph, 5 p.m.			
Sherman at Riverside, 5:30 p.m.			
Stanfield at Umatilla, 6 p.m.			
La Grande at Mac-Hi, 6 p.m.			
Nixyaawii at Pendleton JV, 7 p.m.			
Football			
NFL			
Conference Championships			
Sunday, Jan. 18			
Seattle 26, Green Bay 22, OT			
New England 45, Indianapolis 7			
Sunday, Jan. 25			
Team Invin vs. Team Carter, 5 p.m. (ESPN)			
Super Bowl			
Sunday, Feb. 1			
At Glendale, Ariz.			
New England vs. Seattle, 3:30 p.m. (NBC)			
Basketball			
OSAA			
BOYS			
Class 5A CRC			
Pendleton	0-0	9-4	5
Hood River	0-0	7-7	26
Hermiston	0-0	3-11	24
The Dalles	0-0	1-14	30
Class 4A GOL			
La Grande	0-0	10-4	11
Baker	0-0	8-8	30
Ontario	0-0	3-12	40
Mac-Hi	0-0	2-10	27
Class 3A EOL			
Umatilla	2-0	8-8	20
Nyssa	1-1	6-8	19
Vale	1-1	4-9	24
Riverside	0-2	5-10	33
Class 2A CBC			
Irrigon	3-0	13-1	2
Stanfield	3-0	11-2	1
Heppner	1-2	10-3	3
Weston-McEwen	1-2	6-9	20
Pilot Rock	1-2	5-7	25
Culver	0-3	2-13	40
Class 1A BSL			
Horizon Christian	5-0	13-3	1
Dufur			
Sherman	4-2	9-3	9
South Wasco	3-3	7-7	22
Mitchell/Spray	2-3	6-7	30
Arlington	1-4	3-12	49
Ione	1-4	2-9	44
Condon/Wheeler	0-4	3-10	53
Class 1A OOL			
Nixyaawii	4-0	9-6	5
Echo	4-2	8-7	29
Pine Eagle	3-1	4-8	24
Powder Valley	2-3	6-8	37
Wallowa	2-3	6-8	42
Joseph	1-3	5-7	34
Helix	0-4	2-11	62
GIRLS			
Class 5A CRC			
Hermiston	0-0	12-3	1
Pendleton	0-0	10-5	7
The Dalles	0-0	8-6	9
Hood River	0-0	4-10	30
Class 4A GOL			
La Grande	0-0	8-5	7
Baker	0-0	5-9	25
McLoughlin	0-0	3-9	26
Ontario	0-0	3-13	34
Class 3A EOL			
Umatilla	2-0	13-3	5
Vale	2-0	12-1	4
Riverside	0-2	7-8	25
Nyssa	0-2	5-10	26
Class 2A CBC			
Weston-McEwen	3-0	10-4	13
Pilot Rock	3-0	7-5	11
Culver	1-2	9-8	26
Heppner	1-2	6-8	27
Stanfield	1-2	5-8	22
Irrigon	0-3	5-8	29
Class 1A BSL			
Condon/Wheeler	4-0	13-1	1
Dufur	5-1	8-5	13
Sherman	4-2	6-6	24
Arlington	3-2	9-6	18
Ione	3-2	3-9	32
Horizon Christian	1-4	4-10	49
South Wasco	1-5	3-12	34
Mitchell/Spray	0-5	5-9	41
Class 1A OOL			
Echo	5-1	13-3	7
Nixyaawii	3-1	10-4	9
Powder Valley	3-2	7-7	22
Wallowa	3-2	7-7	27
Helix	1-3	5-8	35
Joseph	1-3	4-8	40
Pine Eagle	0-4	2-9	51
NBA			
EASTERN CONFERENCE			
Atlantic Div.			
Toronto	27	14	659
Brooklyn			
Boston	17	24	415
Philadelphia	13	26	333
New York	8	33	195
Washington	6	36	143
Southwest Div.			
Atlanta	34	8	810
Washington	29	13	690
Miami	18	22	450
Charlotte	17	25	405
Orlando	15	29	341
Central Div.			
Chicago	27	16	628
Cleveland	22	20	524
Milwaukee	21	20	512
Detroit	16	26	381
Indiana	15	28	349
WESTERN CONFERENCE			
Southwest Div.			
Memphis	29	12	707
Houston	29	13	690
Dallas	29	13	690
San Antonio	26	16	619
New Orleans	20	21	488
Northwest Div.			
Portland	31	11	738
Oklahoma City	20	20	500
Denver	18	23	439
Utah	14	27	341
Minnesota	7	33	175
Pacific Div.			
Golden State	33	6	846
L.A. Clippers	28	14	667
Phoenix	25	18	581
Sacramento	16	25	390
L.A. Lakers	12	30	286
Sunday's Games			
New Orleans 95, Toronto 93			
Oklahoma City 127, Orlando 99			
San Antonio 89, Utah 69			
Monday's Games			
Washington 111, Philadelphia 76			
Charlotte 105, Minnesota 80			
Atlanta 93, Detroit 82			
L.A. Clippers 102, Boston 93			
Golden State 122, Denver 79			
Dallas 103, Memphis 95			
Houston 110, Indiana 98			
New York 99, New Orleans 92			
Cleveland 108, Chicago 94			
Toronto 92, Milwaukee 89			
Portland 98, Sacramento 90			
Phoenix 115, L.A. Lakers 100			
Today's Games			
Oklahoma City at Miami, 4:30 p.m.			
San Antonio at Denver, 6 p.m.			
NCAA			
Men			
NWAC East			
Big Bend	3-0	15-4	W4
Wenatchee Valley	3-0	14-4	W5
Spokane	2-1	12-6	W2
Walla Walla	2-1	10-8	L1
Columbia Basin	2-1	9-8	W1
Blue Mountain	0-3	4-11	L3
Treasure Valley	0-3	4-11	L5
Yakima Valley			
0-3	2-15	L12	
CCC			
C. of Idaho	7-2	18-3	W5
Southern Oregon	7-2	17-3	W4
Concordia	7-2	16-3	W4
Warner Pacific	7-2	17-4	W5
NW Christian	5-4	12-6	L1
Oregon Tech	5-4	12-7	L1
Eastern Oregon	3-6	11-8	W1
Northwest	2-7	12-9	L4
Corban	2-7	9-9	L6
Evergreen	0-9	3-13	L8
Pac-12			
Arizona	4-1	16-2	W2
Utah	4-1	14-3	L1
Stanford	4-1	13-4	W3
Oregon St.	3-2	12-5	W1
UCLA	3-2	11-7	W3
Washington St.	3-2	9-8	L1
Washington	2-3	13-4	W2
Oregon	2-3	12-6	L2
Colorado	2-3	9-8	L3
California	1-4	11-7	L4
USC	1-4	9-8	L2
Arizona St.	1-4	9-9	W1
Saturday's Games			
Arizona St. 78, Colorado 72			
Arizona 69, Utah 51			
Stanford 72, Connecticut 59			
Oregon St. 62, Washington St. 47			
Sunday's Games			
Washington 85, Oregon 77			
Washington St. at Utah, 6 p.m.			
Top 25			
USA Today Top 25 Poll			
The top 25 teams in the USA Today men's college basketball poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Jan. 18, points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote and previous ranking:			
	Record	Pts	Pvs
1. Kentucky (31)	17-0	799	1
2. Virginia (1)	17-0	768	2
3. Gonzaga	19-1	723	3
4. Villanova	17-1	697	5
5. Wisconsin	16-2	654	6
6. Duke	15-2	653	4
7. Arizona	16-2	602	9
8. Maryland	17-2	514	11
9. Notre Dame	17-2	504	12
10. Louisville	15-3	502	7
11. Utah	14-3	473	8
12. Iowa State	13-3	443	13
13. Wichita State	16-2	424	14
14. Kansas	14-3	422	10
15. North Carolina	14-4	390	16
16. VCU	15-3	317	17
17. West Virginia	15-3	273	15
18. Texas	13-4	233	20
19. Northern Iowa	16-2	202	22
20. Oklahoma	12-5	195	18
21. Baylor			
22. Dayton	13-4	120	23
23. Indiana	15-2	100	—
24. Seton Hall	14-4	56	—
25. Stanford	13-4	40	21
Others receiving votes: Arkansas 29, San Diego State 28, Iowa 27, Colorado State 26, Oklahoma State 24, Michigan State 17, Ohio State 15, Wyoming 14, Miami 13, SMU 12, Georgetown 11, Old Dominion 11, Butler 5, N.C. State 5, Saint Mary's 5, Mississippi 4, Providence 4, Valparaiso 4, Kansas State 3, Stephen F. Austin 3, LSU 2, St. John's 1.			
Monday's Games			
No. 4 Villanova at Georgetown, 9 p.m.			
No. 5 Duke vs. Pittsburgh, 7 p.m.			
No. 11 Kansas vs. No. 19 Oklahoma, 9 p.m.			
No. 17 Texas at TCU, 7 p.m.			
Today's Games			
No. 1 Kentucky vs. Vanderbilt, 6 p.m.			
No. 6 Wisconsin vs. No. 25 Iowa, 6 p.m.			
No. 9 Iowa State vs. Kansas State, 4 p.m.			
No. 22 Dayton at Davidson, 4:30 p.m.			
Women			
NWAC East			
Walla Walla	3-0	12-3	W5
Columbia Basin	3-0	11-6	W5
Blue Mountain	2-1	9-5	W2
Spokane	1-2	12-7	L1
Wenatchee Valley	1-2	10-6	L2
Treasure Valley	1-2	9-8	W1
Yakima Valley	1-2	4-13	L2
Big Bend	0-3	7-10	L3
CCC			
Southern Oregon	7-2	16-2	W4
Eastern Oregon	7-2	15-5	W1
Corban	6-3	12-9	L1
Oregon Tech	5-4	16-5	L1
C. of Idaho	5-4	6-12	W1
Evergreen	4-5	10-6	W2
Northwest	3-6	10-9	W1
Concordia	3-6	8-9	L3
NW Christian	3-6	7-10	L1
Warner Pacific	2-7	9-13	L1
Pac-12			
Arizona	6-0	17-1	W13
Oregon St.	6-0	16-1	W6
Stanford	5-1	13-5	L1
California	4-2	12-5	