

NFL

Seahawks face a Giants team that has changed

By TOM CANAVAN
Associated Press

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — Heading into their bye, the Seattle Seahawks had a good idea about the team they would be facing in a couple of weeks.

The New York Giants were winless. Their offense relied on Eli Manning and the passing game, and the defense was having a down year after helping new coach Ben McAdoo end a four-year post-season drought.

The Seahawks (3-2) are going to see a much different opponent when they face the Giants (1-5) on Sunday at MetLife Stadium.

New York obviously has a win after stunning the Broncos 23-10 in Denver last Sunday night. The pass-happy offense has become a run-first group with coordinator Mike Sullivan now calling the plays, and Manning throwing sparingly to young receivers who have replaced the injured Odell Beckham Jr., Brandon Marshall and Dwayne Harris.

Despite injuries and the suspension of veteran cornerback Dominique Rodgers-Cromartie, Steve Spagnuolo's defense rediscovered itself in Denver. Rodgers-Cromartie is also back this week.

"We have players who aren't selfish," McAdoo said. "Talented men of integrity who want to win football games, and I believe they



Seattle Seahawks
(3-2)



New York Giants
(1-5)

• Sunday, 1:25 p.m. (TV: CBS)
• at MetLife Stadium

all see the best way for us to win football games is to be physical in all three phases, heavy-handed, stop the run, run the ball, get timely conversions and timely stops on third down, and play good special teams play."

Seahawks cornerback Richard Sherman isn't ready to say the Giants are now a run-first team, even though they have rushed for 300 yards in the past two games.

"It's the NFL; every week, some teams are totally different in their personnel and the way they attack defenses, so they could go from being a majority 12-personnel team (with two tight ends) against Denver to all 11," Sherman said.

The Giants' passing game might pick up this week if Sterling Shepard returns after missing a game with an ankle injury.

Seattle quarterback Russell Wilson never had doubts about the Giants' defense, which blew fourth-quarter leads against the Buccaneers, Eagles and Chargers.



At left, in an Oct. 8, 2017, Seattle Seahawks quarterback (3) Russell Wilson runs with the ball during the fourth quarter against the Los Angeles Rams, Los Angeles. At right, in a Sept. 10, 2017, New York Giants safety Landon Collins (21) lines up to defend against the Dallas Cowboys in Arlington, Texas.

"The reality is all their games have been super close against some tough teams, against some really good players, too," Wilson said. "They have been right in pretty much every game, and unfortunately for them, they have lost a couple tight ones. We know they are going to be ready to roll and they just came off a big win."

Safety Landon Collins isn't ready to say the Giants' defense is back.

"Not yet. I mean we got to showcase it again," Collins said. "Once we showcase it again, then we can possibly say that, but not yet. We got to just put it on film one

more time."

Things to watch for this weekend:

RUN GAME WOES: Seattle is still struggling to find consistency in the run game. It was held to 62 yards on 25 carries in the victory over the Rams prior to the bye. Thomas Rawls led Seattle with 20 yards rushing. Eddie Lacy was mostly ineffective as well. Seattle has been held under 100 yards rushing three times.

TOP TARGET: With all the injuries, rookie tight end Evan Engram has emerged as Manning's top target. He had five of the Giants' 11 receptions last week for

82 yards and a touchdown. The first-round draft pick has 24 catches for 282 yards and two touchdowns, second best on the team in all three categories.

EXCELLENT EARL: Seattle safety Earl Thomas continues to show why he's one of the best safeties in football. He had seven tackles, a pass breakup, an interception and a key forced fumble near the goal line against Rams. His chop on the arm of Todd Gurley as the halfback reached the ball for the pylon caused a touchback and was critical in Seattle's six-point victory.

GIANTS' O-LINE: After weeks of searching, the Giants seemingly have settled on an offensive line. The key was moving Justin Pugh from left guard to right tackle. John Jerry moved from right guard to left guard, and D.J. Fluker took over at right guard. Ereck Flowers has remained the left tackle and Brett Jones has taken over at center with Weston Richburg sidelined by a concussion. Bobby Hart lost his job at right tackle.

GOING EAST: Seattle has shown no problems going to the East Coast and playing at MetLife Stadium. The Seahawks are 4-0 at the stadium, including their Super Bowl victory over Denver. They have beaten the Giants twice — 36-25 in 2011 and 23-0 in 2013 — and knocked off the Jets last year 27-17.

DODGERS: Ex-Mariner Taylor named NLCS Co-MVP

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"Every night it is a different guy," Turner said, "and this is one of the most unbelievable teams I've ever been a part of."

Kershaw will be on the mound again when the Dodgers host the New York Yankees or Houston Astros in Game 1 of the World Series on Tuesday night. The Yankees have a 3-2 lead heading into Game 6 of the ALCS at Houston on Friday night, so one more New York win would set up another chapter in an old October rivalry between the Yankees and Dodgers.

Los Angeles made the playoffs eight times in the previous 13 seasons and came up short of its 22nd pennant each time, often with Kershaw shouldering much of the blame. The three-time NL Cy Young Award winner took the loss when his team was eliminated by the Cubs in Game 6 of last year's NLCS at Wrigley Field.

The ace left-hander was just OK during his first two starts in this year's postseason, but Los Angeles' offense picked him up each time. Backed by Hernandez's powerful show in Chicago, Kershaw turned in an efficient three-hit performance with five strikeouts and improved to 6-7 in the playoffs — matching Burt Hooton's club record for postseason wins.

"To get to be on the mound tonight and get to be going to the World Series on the same night, it's a special thing," Kershaw said. "Who knows how many times I'm going to get to go to the World Series? I know more than anybody how hard it is to get there. So, I'm definitely not taking this one for granted."

When Kenley Jansen retired Willson Contreras on a liner to



The Los Angeles Dodgers players celebrate after Game 5 of baseball's National League Championship Series against the Chicago Cubs, Thursday in Chicago.

shortstop for the final out, the party was on. The Dodgers poured out of the dugout and mobbed their dominant closer near the mound, and a small but vocal group of Los Angeles fans gathered behind the visitors' dugout and chanted "Let's go Dodgers! Let's go Dodgers!"

On the field, manager Dave Roberts hugged Lasorda and told the iconic skipper the win was for him.

"I bleed Dodger blue just like you," Roberts said. "Thank you, Tommy."

Hernandez connected on the first two pitches he saw, belting a solo drive in the second for his first career playoff homer and then a grand slam in the third against Hector Rondon. Hernandez added a two-run shot in the ninth against Mike Montgomery.

The 26-year-old Hernandez became the fourth player with a three-homer game in a league championship series, joining Bob Robertson (1971 NLCS), George Brett (1978 ALCS) and Adam Kennedy (2002 ALCS). Hernandez's seven RBIs tied

a postseason record shared by four other players who all did it in a Division Series.

Troy O'Leary was the previous player to have seven RBIs in a playoff game, for Boston at Cleveland in the 1999 ALDS.

It was a stunning display for a player with 28 career homers who remains concerned about his native Puerto Rico, which is recovering from a devastating hurricane. He delivered a historic performance in front of his father, Enrique Hernandez Sr., who was diagnosed with a blood cancer related to leukemia in December 2015, but got word last November that he was in remission.

"For me to be able to come here and do something like this is pretty special," said Hernandez, who also goes by Kiké. "My body's here, but my mind's kind of back home. It's hard being away from home with what's going on."

"All I want to do right now is go to my dad and give him a big hug."

Kris Bryant homered for Chicago, but the NL Central

champions finished with just four hits in another tough night at the plate. Each of their eight runs in the NLCS came via the long ball, and they batted just .156 for the series with 53 strikeouts.

Long playoff runs in each of the last two years and a grueling five-game Division Series against Washington seemed to sap Chicago of some energy, and its pitching faltered against sweet-swinging Los Angeles. Jose Quintana was pulled in the third inning of the final game, and the Cubs never recovered.

"They executed their plan," Bryant said. "They pitched great and the bullpen was lights out. That makes for a tough time scoring runs."

Turner and Taylor helped put it away for Los Angeles, contributing to a 16-hit outburst while closing out a pair of impressive performances.

Turner singled home Taylor in the Dodgers' five-run third, giving him seven RBIs in the series and 24 throughout his postseason career. Taylor finished with two hits and scored two runs as the Dodgers, who have won five straight NL West titles, improved to 7-1 in this postseason.

Taylor's versatility helped Los Angeles cover for the loss of All-Star shortstop Corey Seager, who missed the series with a back injury, but is expected to return in the next round. Coming off a breakout season, the 27-year-old Taylor hit .316 with two homers and scored five times against the Cubs.

"I couldn't be happier to be a part of this and be with these guys," Taylor said. "It's been an unbelievable year, and I'm just super excited."

NFL: Lynch ejected for shoving official

Continued from 1B

included Oakland running back Marshawn Lynch getting ejected in the second quarter for shoving an official.

HOT TEMPERERS: The game took an odd turn midway through the second quarter after Kansas City's Marcus Peters hit Carr late, angering the Raiders. Offensive linemen Kelechi Osemele and Donald Penn confronted Peters and Lynch sprinted off the Oakland sideline to join the fray. Lynch, a close friend of Peters, ended up shoving line judge Julian Mapp and getting ejected. Peters also was called for a personal foul on the play. Lynch congratulated his teammates in the locker room after the game but didn't speak to reporters.

"I was disappointed he ran out because I knew we had a 15-yard penalty and we'd be in good shape," Del Rio said.

LONG DRIVE: After Marquette King pinned the Chiefs at their own 1 with a perfect punt early in the second quarter, Kansas City needed little time to turn the momentum. Smith hit Demarcus Robinson on a 33-yard pass on the first play of the drive. After a short run, Tyreek Hill beat David Amerson for a 64-yard touchdown pass that gave the Chiefs their first 99-yard drive since doing it Dec. 3, 2006, against Cleveland.

DEEP CONNECTION: Carr had not connected on a single deep ball to Amari Cooper all season before the two teamed twice for long TDs in the opening quarter. On the first, Cooper appeared to push Terrance Mitchell but the officials picked up the flag and gave Cooper the 38-yard TD. Later in the quarter Carr and Cooper connected on a 45-yard score, making Cooper the first Raiders receiver with two TD catches in the first quarter since Mervyn Fernandez in 1989.

KICKING WOES: The Raiders were hurt last week when a bad snap by Jon Condo led to a missed extra point by Giorgio Tavecchio in a 17-16 loss to the Chargers. That was Tavecchio's first missed kick of any kind this season but he then had a 53-yarder blocked and missed a 45-yarder wide left in the second quarter. Tavecchio also had a false start on an extra point in the third quarter.

SCOREBOARD

Local slate

PREP FOOTBALL	
Friday	Redmond at Hermiston, 7 p.m. Pendleton at Bend, 7 p.m. Baker at Mac-Hi, 7 p.m. Nyssa at Riverside, 7 p.m. Irrigon at Umatilla, 7 p.m. Hepner at Stanfield, 7 p.m. Pilot Rock at Dufur, 7 p.m. Echo at Cove, 7 p.m. Arlington at Sherman, 7 p.m.
PREP VOLLEYBALL	
Saturday	Condon/Wheeler vs. TBD (Big Sky District tournament at The Dalles), 10 a.m. Helix vs. Joseph (Old Oregon districts at La Grande), 10:30 a.m. Tone vs. TBD (Big Sky District tournament at Sherman), Noon Weston-McEwen at Pilot Rock (CBC districts at Pilot Rock), Noon Echo vs. TBD (Old Oregon League districts at La Grande), TBD
PREP BOYS SOCCER	
Saturday	Mac-Hi at Baker, 1:30 p.m. Umatilla at Irrigon, 3 p.m. Riverside at Nyssa, 3 p.m.
PREP GIRLS SOCCER	
Saturday	Mac-Hi at Baker, Noon Umatilla at Irrigon, 1 p.m. Riverside at Nyssa, 1 p.m.
COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL	
Friday	Northwest at EOU, 7 p.m.
Saturday	BMCC at Grays Harbor Tournament, TBA Evergreen at EOU, 5 p.m.
Sunday	BMCC at Grays Harbor Tournament, TBA
COLLEGE MEN'S SOCCER	
Friday	EOU at College of Idaho, Noon
Saturday	BMCC at Wenatchee Valley, 2:15 p.m.
Sunday	EOU at Rocky Mountain, Noon

COLLEGE WOMEN'S SOCCER

Friday						
EOU at College of Idaho, 2:30 p.m.						
Saturday						
BMCC at Wenatchee Valley, Noon						
Sunday						
EOU at Rocky Mountain, 2 p.m.						
COLLEGE FOOTBALL						
Saturday						
EOU at Montana-Western, 1 p.m.						
Baseball						
MLB Postseason						
LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES						
(Best-of-7; x if necessary)						
American League						
New York 3, Houston 2						
Oct. 13: Houston 2, New York 1						
Oct. 14: Houston 2, New York 1						
Oct. 16: New York 8, Houston 1						
Oct. 17: New York 6, Houston 4						
Wednesday: New York 5, Houston 0						
Friday: New York at Houston, 5:08 p.m.						
(FS1)						
x-Saturday, Oct. 21: New York at Houston, 5:08 p.m. (FS1)						
National League						
Los Angeles 4, Chicago 1						
Oct. 14: Los Angeles 4, Chicago 2						
Oct. 15: Los Angeles 4, Chicago 1						
Oct. 16: Los Angeles 6, Chicago 1						
Oct. 18: Chicago 3, Los Angeles 2						
Thursday: Los Angeles 11, Chicago 1, LA advances to World Series						
Football						
NFL						
AMERICAN CONFERENCE						
East						
New England 4	2	0	667	172	159	
Buffalo	3	2	0	600	89	74
Miami	3	2	0	600	61	84
N.Y. Jets	3	2	0	500	109	130
South						
Jacksonville	3	3	0	500	156	110
Houston	3	3	0	500	177	147
Tennessee	2	3	0	400	110	142
Indianapolis	2	3	0	400	97	159
North						
W.L. T Pct PF PA						
Pittsburgh	4	2	0	667	118	102

Baltimore	3	3	0	500	114	124
Cincinnati	2	3	0	400	84	83
Cleveland	0	6	0	000	94	157
West						
Kansas City	5	2	0	714	207	161
Denver	3	2	0	600	108	97
Oakland	3	4	0	429	155	156
L.A. Chargers	2	4	0	333	116	131
NATIONAL CONFERENCE						
East						
Philadelphia	5	1	0	833	165	122
Washington	3	2	0	600	117	113
Dallas	2	3	0	400	125	132
N.Y. Giants	1	5	0	167	105	132
South						
Carolina	4	2	0	667	128	122
New Orleans	3	2	0	600	145	116
Atlanta	3	2	0	600	121	109
Tampa Bay	3	2	0	400	118	121
North						
Minnesota	4	2	0	667	122	103
Green Bay	4	2	0	667	147	135
Detroit	3	3	0	500	161	149
Chicago	2	4	0	333	105	148
West						
L.A. Rams	4	2	0	667	179	138
Seattle	3	2	0	600	110	87
Arizona	3	3	0	500	119	158
San Francisco	0	6	0	000	113	146
Week 7						
Thursday's Game						
Oakland 31, Kansas City 30						
Sunday's Games						
Tampa Bay at Buffalo, 10 a.m.						
New Orleans at Green Bay, 10 a.m.						
Baltimore at Minnesota, 10 a.m.						
Tennessee at Cleveland, 10 a.m.						
N.Y. Jets at Miami, 10 a.m.						
Jacksonville at Indianapolis, 10 a.m.						
Arizona vs L.A. Rams at London, UK, 10 a.m.						
Carolina at Chicago, 10 a.m.						
Dallas at San Francisco, 1:05 p.m.						
Cincinnati at Pittsburgh, 1:25 p.m.						
Seattle at N.Y. Giants, 1:25 p.m.						
Atlanta at New England, 5:30 p.m.						
Open: Detroit, Houston						
Monday's Game						
Washington at Philadelphia, 5:30 p.m.						

NCAA

Top 25 Schedule Thursday							
No. 25 Memphis at Houston, 5 p.m. (ESPN)							
Saturday							
No. 1 Alabama vs. Tennessee, 12:30 p.m. (CBS)							
No. 2 Penn State vs. No. 19 Michigan, 4:30 p.m. (ABC)							
No. 4 TCU vs. Kansas, 5 p.m. (FOX)							
No. 5 Wisconsin vs. Maryland, 9 a.m. (FOX)							
No. 8 Miami vs. Syracuse, 12:30 p.m. (ESPN)							
No. 9 Oklahoma at Kansas State, 1 p.m. (FOX)							
No. 10 Oklahoma State at Texas, 9 a.m. (ABC)							
No. 11 USC at No. 13 Notre Dame, 4:30 p.m. (NBC)							
No. 14 Virginia Tech vs. North Carolina, 12:30 p.m. (ESPN2)							
No. 15 Washington State vs. Colorado, 7:45 p.m. (ESPN)							
No. 16 So. Florida at Tulane, 4 p.m. (ESPN2)							
No. 18 Michigan State vs. Indiana, 12:30 p.m. (ABC)							
No. 20 UCF at Navy, 12:30 p.m.							
No. 21 Auburn at Arkansas, 4:30 p.m.							
No. 23 West Virginia at Baylor, 5 p.m.							
No. 24 LSU at Mississippi, 4:15 p.m.							
Hockey							
NHL							
EASTERN CONFERENCE							
Atlantic Division							
Tampa Bay	8	6	1	0	13	29	23
Toronto	7	6	1	0	12	34	22
Ottawa	7	3	0	3	9	24	18
Detroit	7	4	3	0	8	23	21
Boston	6	3	0	6	20	21	
Florida	5	2	3	0	4	17	20
Buffalo	7	1	4	2	4	18	28
Montreal	7	1	5	1	3	11	27
Metropolitan Division							
New Jersey	7	6	1	0	12	31	21
Columbus	7	5	2	0	10	21	15
Pittsburgh	7	4	2	1	9	25	29
Philadelphia	7	4	3	0	8	26	17
Columbus	5	3	1	1	7	14	12
N.Y. Islanders	7	3	3	1	7	19	21

Washington	7	3	1	7	23	24	
N.Y. Rangers	8	1	5	2	4	20	30
WESTERN CONFERENCE							
Central Division							
St. Louis	8	6	2	0	12	27	21
Chicago	8	4	2	2	10	28	20
Nashville	7	4	2	1	9	19	17
Dallas	7	4	3	0	8	19	18
Colorado	8	4	4	0	8	23	21
Winnipeg	6	3	3	0	6	18	23
Minnesota</							