

# Herbert, Chargers top Raiders in duel of former Duck QBs

By **W.G. Ramirez**  
Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — Justin Herbert's brilliant rookie season is now a record-setting campaign.

Herbert scored on a 1-yard plunge to give the Los Angeles Chargers a 30-27 overtime victory over the Las Vegas Raiders on Thursday night.

"It was pretty crazy," said Herbert, who set an NFL rookie record with his seventh 300-yard game and has 27 passing scores on the year, tying Baker Mayfield (2018) for the most by a rookie in NFL history. "I kind of waited to see the replay and guys didn't really know what had

happened. So I got up and started shaking hands and kind of saw the game was over."

The Chargers (5-9) snapped a nine-game losing streak against their AFC West counterparts, and snapped a three-game skid against the Raiders. Las Vegas (7-7) lost quarterback Derek Carr to a left groin injury in the first quarter. It has lost four of five, all but killing its playoff chances.

Moments after Daniel Carlson's 23-yard field goal on the Raiders' first possession put Las Vegas ahead 27-24, Herbert found wideout Jalen Guyton streaking by cornerback

Keisean Nixon for a 53-yard reception to set up the winning score.

Los Angeles improved to 1-2 in overtime games, while all four of its games against division foes have come down to the final play.

Herbert, who targeted nine receivers and completed at least one pass with seven, was 22 for 32 with 314 yards and two touchdowns.

"I've seen a lot of growth over the past couple weeks," Chargers coach Anthony Lynn said. "He's doing it with young receivers on the field and spreading the ball around."

With five receptions for 65 yards and a touchdown, Los Angeles'

Hunter Henry now has a career-high 60 receptions on the year, third-highest among tight ends this season.

The Chargers got revenge from the first meeting on Nov. 8, when Herbert's apparent TD pass to Donald Parham was overturned by replay to end the game.

For the Raiders, the storyline quickly changed from must-win to stay alive in the playoff hunt, to how to win with backup Marcus Mariota seeing his first action as a Raider, while setting up a showdown of former University of Oregon quarterbacks.

"It was a pretty crazy experience," Herbert said. "I grew up watching Marcus. He was my favorite player. To see him on the field and play against him was really cool. It's everything I've ever wanted."

Just four days after firing defensive coordinator Paul Guenther, plus missing four starters on defense, and having their offensive coordinator Greg Olson sidelined after testing positive for COVID-19, the Raiders lost Carr when he came up lame on a third-down scramble near the goal line in the first quarter. Carr immediately went to the locker room and did not return.

## Picking the NFL: week 15

Overall record: 116-66-1

**Buffalo Bills (10-3) vs. Denver Broncos (5-8)**

Coming off consecutive wins, the Bills travel to the Mile High City to take on the Broncos. Hanging on for dear life to their playoff hopes, Broncos' fans vocabulary will once again include "maybe next year." The Bills, who have a stellar red zone offense, will crush Denver's playoff hopes, 35-17.

**Carolina Panthers (4-9) vs. Green Bay Packers (10-3)**

The Panthers are also on the cusp of playoff elimination. Although Carolina would benefit from having star running back Christian McCaffrey available as he recovers from a thigh injury, even his contributions wouldn't overcome the Packers' strong offense as they win, 42-24.

**San Francisco 49ers (5-8) vs. Dallas Cowboys (4-9)**

The Cowboys are coming off a big victory against the Bengals, and they're at home, but I think their lack of depth is worse than the 49ers'. The game will be close but I see Robbie Gould giving San Francisco the edge with a field goal, 10-7.

**Seattle Seahawks (9-4) vs. Washington Football Team (6-7)**

As with the previous pick, I'm siding with the road team. Behind Russell Wilson, the Seahawks' aerial offense is scary, and Washington is going back to Dwayne Haskins at quarterback after being benched earlier this year. Seattle is going to overwhelm Washington on both sides of the ball, and will win their 10th game of the year, 27-14.

**Chicago Bears (6-7) vs. Minnesota Vikings (6-7)**

These two NFC North teams are struggling, but I really like what the Vikings have to offer, plus they've already beaten the Bears this season. Chicago can't rely on Mitchell Trubisky at quarterback, and the Vikings will win, albeit barely, 24-21.

**New England Patriots (6-7) vs. Miami Dolphins (8-5)**

As the Dolphins seek to rebound from a loss to the Chiefs, they return home to take on a divisional opponent in the Patriots. The Dolphins' offense is unpredictable, but their defense had a really strong showing against the Chiefs' potent attack, and the Patriots are too inconsistent. The Dolphins will win, 21-14.

**Jacksonville Jaguars (1-11) vs. Baltimore Ravens (8-5)**

The Ravens are coming off a big morale-boosting win on Monday night against the Browns, and this week's opponent, the one-win Jaguars, is much less daunting. For the first time in a month, the Ravens looked good with Lamar Jackson behind center. I see a similar outcome this week, with Baltimore winning 31-10.

**Tampa Bay Buccaneers (8-5) vs. Atlanta Falcons (4-9)**

The Falcons are looking to next season, and Tom Brady and the Bucs offense can't be taken lightly.

This game is destined to be high-scoring, but Tampa Bay is just way better equipped



**COREY KIRK**

and the Bucs will get their ninth win of the season, 38-28.

**Detroit Lions (5-8) vs. Tennessee Titans (9-4)**

Battling the Indianapolis Colts for the top spot in the AFC South, the Titans are fortunate to get the Lions, and their sketchy defense, this week. The Titans offense will overwhelm that defense and secure their 10th win of the year, 31-24.

**Houston Texans (4-9) vs. Indianapolis Colts (9-4)**

I just don't see how the Colts lose this game. Their offense continues to shine, and their run defense is the most underrated component in the league. The Colts will keep pace with the Titans in the AFC South race with a 28-14 win.

**Philadelphia Eagles (4-8-1) vs. Arizona Cardinals (7-6)**

The most interesting narrative going into this week is the quarterback situation in Philadelphia. Rookie Jalen Hurts looked impressive in the Eagles' upset over the Saints, leaving former starter Carson Wentz's future uncertain. The Cardinals are back to a winning record after their game against the Giants, and I see them being the winners in this game, 31-24.

**New York Jets (0-13) vs. Los Angeles Rams (9-4)**

The Rams, currently atop the NFC West, get a stroke of luck this week against the winless Jets. The Rams will win 38-7, close to the 40-3 margin that Seahawks, their rival for divisional supremacy, had last week against the hapless Jets.

**Kansas City Chiefs (12-1) vs. New Orleans Saints (10-3)**

Arguably the most exciting game of the week, this could be a preview of the Super Bowl. With two of the more prolific offenses in the league, it will feature a lot of points. I'm going with the Chiefs, which don't have the Saints' injury problems, in a 28-24 game.

**Cleveland Browns (9-4) vs. New York Giants (5-8)**

After a devastating loss to the Ravens on Monday night, the Browns are back on the road to take on the Giants on Sunday Night Football. Though the Giants continue to show promise, I can't see them handling the Browns' offense. Cleveland will bounce back behind the arm of Baker Mayfield, who I see having a big game against a mediocre secondary. The Browns will secure their 10th win of the year, defeating the Giants, 17-10.

**Pittsburgh Steelers (11-2) vs. Cincinnati Bengals (2-10-1)**

Going into Monday night, the Steelers, after winning their first 11 games, have lost two straight. The Bengals, meanwhile, haven't won since Nov. 1. The Steelers overwhelmingly are the favorites, as their offense is destined to dismantle the Bengals' defense, 38-14.

### OREGON MEN'S BASKETBALL

## Ducks turn back Dons' rally

EUGENE (AP) — Eugene Omoruyi scored 19 points, Eric Williams Jr. added 16 and Oregon defeated San Francisco 74-64 on Thursday night.

The Ducks scored the first 11 points of the second half to take a 52-31 lead. The Dons scored nine straight to pull within six with 91 seconds to go but didn't score again.

San Francisco missed its first 10 shots of the second half to fall behind. An offensive rebound for USF and four straight Oregon turnovers led to the closing rally.

Chris Duarte and Amauri Hardy scored

11 points apiece for Oregon (5-1), which added the game on Tuesday.

Raavi Jurkatamm led the Dons (5-4) with a career-high 15 points. Khalil Shabazz added 11 points and Jamaree Bouyea and Damari Milstead 10 apiece.

Oregon has won five straight after dropping its opener and was coming off a Pac-12 opening win at Washington, 74-71. Williams has scored at least 11 points in every game for the Ducks, and after scoring 909 points in two seasons at Duquesne, is 10 points from reaching 1,000.

### PAC-12 FOOTBALL WRAPS UP SEASON

## Beavers to host Arizona State

CORVALLIS (AP) — Arizona State won an emotional game last week, setting a record by scoring the most points ever in its 121-year series against Arizona.

In any other year, the annual Territorial Cup game would be the regular-season finale.

This, in nearly every aspect, is not a typical year.

Instead of preparing for a bowl game or the offseason, the Sun Devils have another game to close out the regular season.

The 70-7 win over Arizona last weekend was a huge moment for the program, not to mention Arizona State's first win of this pandemic-affected season, but now the Sun Devils have to refocus for what should be a

chilly Saturday night against Oregon State in Corvallis. The game kicks off at 7:30 p.m. and will be televised on ESPN.

Arizona State (1-2) had a wild ride through the 2020 season, one the Pac-12 decided would be conference-only games due to the pandemic.

Oregon State (2-4) didn't have the same disruptions as the Sun Devils, playing every game on the schedule so far, but the Beavers have been up and down on the field.

The Beavers opened the season with two straight losses, won two straight — one over rival Oregon — and lost their last two games, including 27-24 last week to Stanford. Oregon State beat Arizona State 35-34 last season in an upset.

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