

SPORTS

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MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Oregon hangs on to beat Stanford

STANFORD, Calif. — Chris Duarte had 17 of his 24 points in the final 10 minutes and Oregon held off Stanford for a 71-68 win on Thursday night.

Duarte's 3-pointer with 3:55 left gave the Ducks (15-5, 10-4 Pac-12) the lead for good at 65-64. Chandler Lawson followed 48 seconds later with a dunk for a three-point lead and Oregon made 4 of 6 from the foul line to hang on.

Oregon kept its conference title hopes alive with four regular season games remaining on its schedule.

L.J. Figueroa added 13 points, Eugene Omoruyi had 12 points and 10 rebounds, and Eric Williams Jr. scored 10 for the Ducks.

Ziaire Williams scored seven of his 12 points during a 13-4 run that gave the Cardinal (14-10, 10-8) their largest lead of the game at 56-50 with 9:06 to go.

Jaiden Delaire led Stanford with 15 points. Daejon Davis scored 13 and Spencer Jones added 11.

The Cardinal's leading scorer and rebounder, Oscar da Silva, missed the game due to a lower extremity injury.

The Ducks visit California on Saturday before returning to Eugene to host Arizona on Monday and UCLA on Wednesday.

— Associated Press

NBA

League suspends Timberwolves Beasley

MINNEAPOLIS — Minnesota Timberwolves shooting guard Malik Beasley has been suspended for 12 games without pay by the NBA for his recent guilty plea to a felony charge of threats of violence.

The league announced Thursday the punishment, which will begin with Minnesota's game Saturday at Washington. Beasley is eligible to return March 27 against Houston.

Beasley, in his fifth NBA season, is averaging a career-best 20.5 points.

He was sentenced earlier this month to 120 days in jail for the Sept. 26 incident, when he pointed a rifle outside his home in suburban Minneapolis at a family on a house-hunting tour. Police later found weapons and marijuana in the home.

As part of Beasley's plea deal, prosecutors dropped a felony fifth-degree drug possession charge. The Hennepin County Attorney's Office said Beasley can serve his stay in the workhouse after his season is over; COVID-19 precautions could require the county to release him on electronic home monitoring for the duration of the sentence.

Speaking at his remote sentencing, he said, "I am not that person. I humbly apologize for my actions."

Timberwolves president of basketball operations Gersson Rosas, in a statement distributed by the team, said the organization fully supports the NBA's decision.

"As we work together with Malik to advance his development as a player and a person, we look forward to seeing his growth," Rosas said.

— Associated Press

NFL COMMENTARY

TRADE WINDS

Seahawks probably aren't trading Russell Wilson, but here's a look at his reported list of teams

BY BOB CONDOTTA
The Seattle Times

SEATTLE —

So, we may not really know if Russell Wilson wants to be traded.

Despite several reports of unhappiness with the Seahawks, neither Wilson nor his agent, Mark Rodgers, have publicly said he wants out and the Seahawks have made no comment one way or the other.

Both of ESPN's Adam Schefter's reports noted that if Wilson were to be traded he has four preferred destinations — the Dallas Cowboys, New Orleans Saints, Las Vegas Raiders or Chicago Bears, a somewhat oddly specific list considering Wilson reportedly says he wants to stay in Seattle.

It continues to be worth noting that it seems really unlikely Wilson will actually be traded.

The team doesn't want to trade Wilson and never has, and it would also be really cost prohibitive to do so. Seattle would take a \$39 million hit



Jennifer Stewart/AP file

Seattle Seahawks quarterback Russell Wilson prior to a game against the San Francisco 49ers in January in Glendale, Arizona.

against its 2021 cap if he is dealt before June 1.

After June 1, that changes. The \$39 million (which is what is remaining for Seattle to account for against its cap of bonus money Wilson has already been paid) could then be spread out over the last three years of his contract with Seattle. So, that would mean Seattle taking a \$13 million cap hit for each of the 2021, 2022 and 2023 seasons if Wilson were traded after June 1.

However, unlike with cutting players, where two players can be designated as post-June 1 cuts for salary cap purposes even if they are cut after the new league year begins (which this

year is March 17), trades cannot be executed earlier but then designated as post-June 1.

The team doesn't want to trade Wilson and never has, and it would also be really cost prohibitive to do so.

So, if Seattle were to trade Wilson before June 1 — which most logically is when any trade would probably happen — it would hugely torpedo the team's chances of being competitive in 2021.

With Pete Carroll turning 70 in September and having signed a new five-year deal with the team last fall, the last thing any-

one wants is what could amount to a resetting or rebuilding year, which the dead cap hit would make more likely than not regardless of the quarterback Seattle might get in return (and we're going on the assumption the Sea-

hawks would definitely want a ready-made QB in any trade).

Wilson also has a no-trade clause, something his side asked for when he signed a four-year, \$140 million extension in April 2019. Seattle put up zero fight on that, the Seahawks not envisioning having to even think about trading him at the time.

But it may suddenly be relevant now as the clause essentially gives Wilson veto power.

And with Wilson's side suddenly naming four preferred teams, we at least have some names to ponder. (None of which is Houston, which has a QB issue of its own with Deshaun Watson wanting out. But apparently any possible Watson-for-Wilson deal is off the table if Wilson doesn't want to go there.)

See **Wilson** / B4

WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL | OREGON STATE



Courtesy Oregon State Athletics

Oregon State's Ellie Mack (20) looks to pass around UCLA's Natalie Chou (23) after grabbing a rebound on Sunday in Los Angeles.

Ellie Mack's contributions key to Beavers' success

BY STEVE GRESS

Albany Democrat-Herald

When Ellie Mack decided to join the Oregon State women's basketball program as a grad transfer for this season, the Beavers expected the former Patriot League player of the year to be just that, even with a step up in competition in the Pac-12.

Mack, a 6-foot-3 forward, may not be putting up the same numbers she did at Bucknell last season when she was third in the league in scoring (15 points) and added 6.5 rebounds and 2.1 assists per game for the Bison, but she is making her presence known down the stretch.

And just in time as the Beavers are trying to play their way into the NCAA tournament.

Mack has started all 14 games and is averaging 7.3

points, 4.1 rebounds and 2.5 assists per game. She had what coach Scott Rueck said was the "best week of her career here at Oregon State" last weekend when she had 20 points, eight rebounds and five assists in a road sweep of USC and then-No. 8 UCLA.

It just took some time, especially with two pauses for the better part of six combined weeks, for Mack to come into her own at Oregon State.

"We've talked about her previously how she's very respectful," Rueck said. "I mean she's coming in as a fifth-year understanding she's one of the new people even though she has all this experience. She's kind of deferred and kind of tried to find her way within our system and within our program."

See **Mack** / B5

GOLF

Phil Mickelson eyeing record 3rd straight PGA Tour Champions win

BY JOHN MARSHALL

Associated Press

Phil Mickelson made history 30 years ago in Tucson, becoming one of seven amateurs to win a PGA Tour event since 1940.

Lefty is back in Arizona this weekend and he has a chance to stand alone in the record book.

A winner in his first two PGA Tour Champions starts, Mickelson could become the first player to win his first three starts on a PGA Tour-sanctioned tour this weekend in the Cologuard Classic at Tucson National.

"I think it's going to be a tough challenge for me here because the course allows you to play it a lot of different ways," Mickelson said Thursday. "Although I'm going to play it pretty aggressively, I'm going to bring in a lot of trouble, too. If I can kind of eliminate some of the big misses, I think I'm going to make a lot of birdies."

Mickelson had no trouble at Tucson National and TPC Starr Pass in 1991, overcoming a triple bogey in the final round to win the Northern Telecom Open as a 20-year-old amateur. The former Arizona State player is still the last amateur to win a PGA Tour event.

Mickelson returns to the desert with a chance to make it 3 for 3 on the senior tour. He won at Ozarks National in Missouri last August in his first start after turning 50 and followed that up with a win at the Country Club of Virginia in October.

Should he win in Tucson, the quest to make more history might have to wait a while. The five-time major



Joe Mahoney/Richmond Times-Dispatch via AP file

Winner Phil Mickelson gets a pat on the back from Jeff Johnson, the caddie for Retief Goosen, during final-round play in the Dominion Energy Charity Classic in Richmond, Virginia, in October. Lefty is back to the Champions Tour this weekend and has a chance to become the first player to win his first three career starts on a PGA-sanctioned tour.

champion still believes he can compete on the PGA Tour and his upcoming schedule includes The Players Championship, Honda Classic, Masters and possibly the Valero Texas Open.

Mickelson, who has 44 career PGA Tour wins, has made four cuts in eight events this 2021 season.

"I haven't really looked at Champions Tour schedule," he said. "I want to start playing on the regular tour with a little bit less stress. I've been really hard on myself when I make some mistakes and I've got to kind of ease up and play a little bit more free and a little bit lighter. If I can do that, I think I can shoot some pretty good scores out there."

Mickelson will have to put up some low numbers on Tucson National's Catalina

Course with a deep field set to tee it up starting Friday.

Schwab Cup money leader Bernhard Langer is still going strong at 63 and is the defending champion after coming from four strokes back to win last year.

Four-time major champion Ernie Els is second in the points standings. Major champions Davis Love III and Mike Weir also are in the field, as is former University of Arizona player Jim Furyk, who won his first two senior starts last year.

"The guys are still competitive and they are still hungry, and that's what we all enjoy," Furyk said. "We enjoy the competition and maybe I don't have to hit 320 yards anymore to do so. I'm enjoying it."

See **Mickelson** / B4