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Weekly

2020 MLB Playoffs

Sept. 25 - Oct. 1, 2020

Vol. 19, Issue 5

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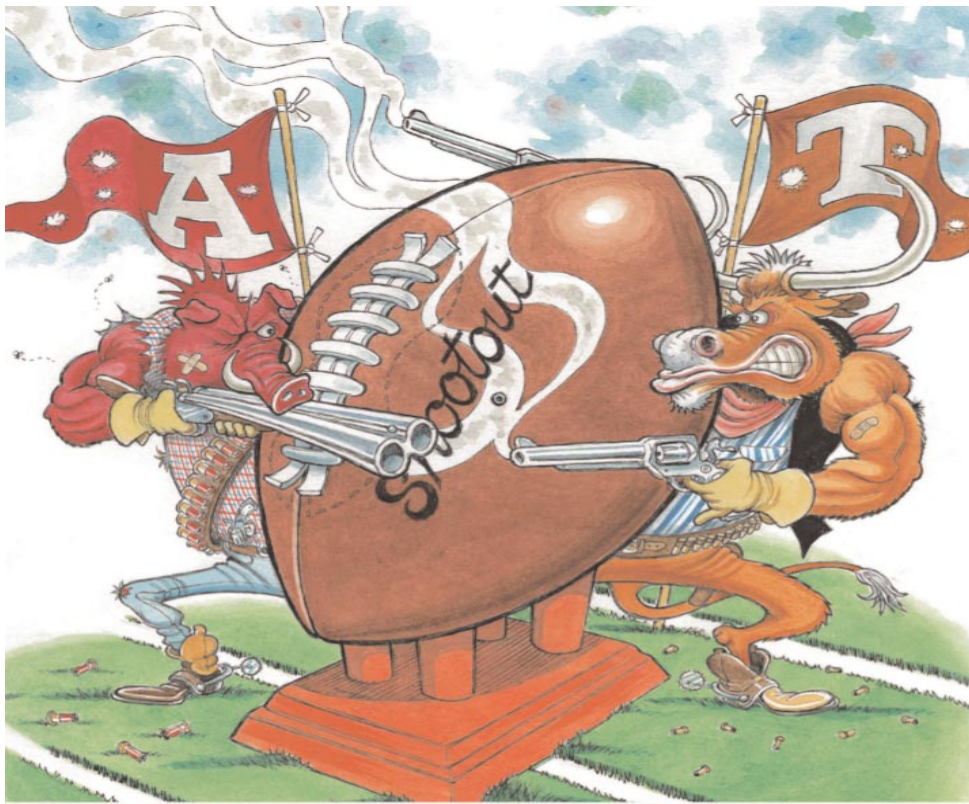
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BY MIKE LOONEY

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AROUND THE AREA

LOCAL NEWS OF INTEREST

TMS to serve as polling site for election



Texas Motor Speedway to serve as polling site for 2020 Presidential election

• Lone Star Tower Clubhouse to serve Precinct 4048 for Denton County, City of Fort Worth voters

The Lone Star Tower Condominium Clubhouse at Texas Motor Speedway will serve as a polling site for the 2020 United States presidential election on Nov. 3.

The clubhouse is located at 3565 Lone Star Circle in Fort Worth, just outside Turn 2 of the speedway property. The polling site will be open from 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.

"In anticipation of a very high voter turnout for the presidential election, we have been working for months to acquire polling sites throughout the county," said Frank Phillips, Denton County Elections Administrator. "We are excited that Texas Motor Speedway has offered the use of the Lone Star Tower Clubhouse as a polling site for the residents of Precinct 4048 which encompasses a large portion of the Denton County, City of Fort Worth voters.

"We can always rely on TMS to come through for Denton County residents; earlier this year they hosted many graduation ceremonies for high school graduates who could not hold traditional ceremonies due to COVID-19, and now they are helping Denton County Elections in what promises to be a historic election."

Local, state and CDC guidelines will be followed to ensure a sanitized, safe and socially distanced voter experience.



The remainder of FC Dallas' regular season just got a lot clearer.

MLS and FC Dallas announced the rest of its 2020 season which is set to end on Nov. 8.

FCD will be facing several teams it has already played this season, including Houston, Kansas City, and Minnesota. And for the first time ever, FCD will be facing new expansion team Inter Miami in late October at Toyota Stadium.

FCD will again face Nashville SC for a regular season game on Oct. 20 in Nashville. However, per the release, this game is not a replacement for the third game between the two clubs after both were removed from the MLS is Back Tournament in July after both teams had multiple positive COVID-19 tests. That reschedule date will still be announced at a later time.

FC Dallas Schedule

| DATE | OPPONENT |
|----------------|------------------|
| Wed., Sept. 23 | Atlanta United |
| Sun., Sept. 27 | Orlando City SC |
| Sat., Oct. 3 | Columbus Crew |
| Wed., Oct. 7 | Houston Dynamo |
| Sun., Oct. 11 | Minnesota United |
| Wed., Oct. 14 | Sporting KC |
| Tues., Oct. 20 | Nashville SC |
| Sat., Oct. 24 | Real Salt Lake |
| Wed., Oct. 28 | Inter Miami CF |
| Sat., Oct. 31 | Houston Dynamo |
| Sun., Nov. 8 | Minnesota United |

The Texas Derby between FCD and the Dynamo will conclude on Oct. 31 with a 2:30 p.m. start time.

FCD is currently in third place (5-2-4, 19 points) in the Western Conference and will travel to face Atlanta (3-7-2, 11 points) on Wednesday.



MLB will house NL teams at DFW's Four Seasons Resort, per sources

By 105.3 The Fan

The NBA "bubble" concept is about to be recreated by Major League Baseball, with Globe Life Field serving as the National League's postseason and World Series site - and with Las Colinas' Four Seasons Resort serving as the headquarters for all four NL teams, sources tell us.

The 400-acre resort, is already familiar to many of the MLB teams that come to DFW for road trips to play the Texas Rangers. MLB's tournament after the first round will be located in four spots, with the four AL teams traveling to Southern California (San Diego's Petco Park and Dodger Stadium) and the and the four NL teams to Texas (Minute Maid Park and Globe Life Field) the Four Seasons has committed the entire month of October to this, as the 16-team playoffs start with three-game wild-card series all taking place at the higher seed's ballpark before the moves to California and Texas ... and a bubble in Las Colinas.

NCAA Football - Top 25

| Coaches | AP |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Clemson | 1. Clemson |
| 2. Alabama | 2. Alabama |
| 3. Oklahoma | 3. Oklahoma |
| 4. Georgia | 4. Georgia |
| 5. Florida | 5. LSU |
| 6. LSU | 6. Florida |
| 7. Notre Dame | 7. Notre Dame |
| 8. Auburn | 8. Auburn |
| 9. Texas | 9. Texas |
| 10. Texas A&M | 10. Ohio State |
| 11. North Carolina | 11. Texas A&M |
| 12. Miami | 12. North Carolina |
| 13. UCF | 13. Penn State |
| 14. Cincinnati | 14. Miami |
| 15. Oklahoma State | 15. UCF |
| 16. Tennessee | 16. Cincinnati |
| 17. Memphis | 17. Wisconsin |
| 18. BYU | 18. Oklahoma State |
| 19. Louisiana | 19. Michigan |
| 20. Virginia Tech | 20. Memphis |
| 21. Pittsburgh | 21. Tennessee |
| 22. Army | 22. Minnesota |
| 23. Kentucky | 23. BYU |
| 24. Louisville | 24. Virginia Tech |
| 25. Marshall | 25. Louisiana |

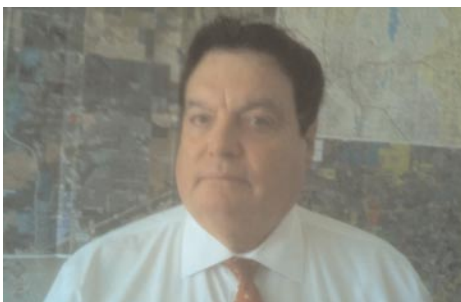
WEEKLY CALENDAR

| | SEPTEMBER 25 FRIDAY | SEPTEMBER 26 SATURDAY | SEPTEMBER 27 SUNDAY | SEPTEMBER 28 MONDAY | SEPTEMBER 29 TUESDAY | SEPTEMBER 30 WEDNESDAY | OCTOBER 1 THURSDAY |
|------------------|---|---|---|---|----------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| SMU | | SMU vs SFA 6:00 / KTCK | | | | | |
| TEXAS RANGERS | Rangers vs Angels 7:05 / FSSW | Rangers vs Angels 6:05 / FSSW | Rangers vs Angels 2:05 / FSSW | | | | |
| Stars | Stars vs TB Lightning 7:00 / NBC | Stars at TB Lightning 7:00 / NBC | | Stars vs TB Lightning 7:00 / NBC | | Stars at TB Lightning 7:00 / NBC | |
| Star | | | Cowboys at Seahawks 3:25 / FOX | | | | |
| FC DALLAS | | | FC Dallas at Orlando 7:30 | | | | |

MLB playoff outlook coming together



Oakland has won the West and appear to be the number two seed



BY DIC HUMPHREY
DHUMPHREY24@GMAIL.COM

Going into the final weekend of the regular season, seven of the eight post-season berths in the American League have been claimed, and Houston will almost certainly be the eighth team in the tournament.

Tampa Bay won the East Division and likely will finish with the best record in the league earning the number one seed.

Oakland has won the West, and as of Friday morning, they would be the number two seed.

The Central Division still has a race this weekend. Minnesota leads Chicago by one game and Cleveland by two, so all three teams are in the hunt for the Division Championship.

Chicago currently has the best record among the second place teams. They lead the Yankees by two games for the number four seed. This is an important race, as the winner gets to open the playoffs at home instead of on the road. New York has a two game lead over Toronto for second place in the East that likely makes them the five seed. Houston, assuming they hold off the Angels for second place in the West, will go into the playoffs with the worst record among the eight A. L. playoff teams, but will be the six seed by virtue of being a

second place team.

That leaves Toronto and Cleveland as the two Wild Card teams. Cleveland could still catch either, or both, Minnesota and Chicago for the Central Division title or second place and the four seed. However, assuming the standings aren't altered this weekend, Cleveland will be the seven seed, and Toronto will be the eight seed.

We all know the risks of the word "assume". However, "assuming" all of the scenarios above turn out the way they are as of Friday morning's standings, the first round of the American League Playoffs would match up as follows:
Toronto (8) at Tampa Bay (1)
Cleveland (7) at Oakland (2)
Houston (6) at Minnesota (3)
New York (5) at Chicago (4)

Actually, all of these are good matchups.

The format is a three game series played over three days, with all three games at the home field of the higher seeded team.

Tampa Bay looks to be the surest winner. They can roll out Blake Snell, Tyler Glasnow and Charlie Morton as starting pitchers, the best top three pitchers on any A. L. team. Toronto counters with Hyun Jin Ryu, Taijuan Walker and Robbie Ray. Clear advantage to Tampa Bay.

Cleveland looks good on paper with Shane Bieber, Carlos Carrasco and Zack Plesac for starting pitchers. That's probably the second best threesome among the eight teams, so Cleveland has a good chance to win no matter which seed and which opponent they end up with. The Tribe's offense has struggled most of the season, but they have had a good offensive week going into the playoffs. They are a very dangerous post-season team.

Oakland has four good starters, all of whom are pitching well. Their choice of starters will likely come from matchups with their opponent. The foursome is Jesus Luzardo, Chris Bassitt, Sean Manaea and Mike Fiers. The A's however have struggled offensively of late, so there is not much momentum going in to the playoffs.

Houston is certainly disappointed that Justin Verlander will not be back from injury to pitch in the playoffs. Worse for the Astros is that Verlander will likely miss most if not all the 2021 season after undergoing Tommy John surgery. Zack Greinke and Lance McCullers, Jr. are the top two Astro starters. If they get to a game three in the first round, Jose Urquiddy or Framber Valdez will be the choice. The Astros offense has disappointed for most of the season, but they have good hitters. They don't appear to be heading to the playoffs with much momentum, but don't count this experienced team out.

Minnesota's top three hurlers are Kenta Maeda, Jose Berrios and Michael Pineda. Maeda is their top starter. He's strong with a 6-1 record and 2.70 ERA. Berrios is 5-3, 3.75, but he has pitched five extremely strong outings. Pineda made just four starts after he completed a 60-game suspension for taking a banned diuretic. Rich Hill is another game three possibility. The Twins also have a powerful offense to support these pitchers.

The Yankees start with Gerrit Cole and Masahiro Tanaka for games one and two. Game three if needed gets dicey with at least three so-so candidates. Cole has not had the season he had last year in Houston when he finished second to Verlander in the Cy Young voting. However, he has been strong in recent starts. The Yankees gold plated offense has been at the top of their game the past two weeks, so they have the ability to out-score any team, no

matter who the opposing pitchers are.

Dallas Keuchel leads the White Sox' rotation. He's 6-2 with a 1.99 ERA, a lower ERA than his 2015 season when he won the Cy Young Award. Lucas Giolito, Dylan Cease and Dane Dunning will be the games two and three options. The Sox have both experienced hitters and talented young hitters. They can score a lot of runs.

The National League playoff picture is still in limbo as only four of the eight playoff berths have been claimed. The Dodgers are the overwhelming favorite to go to the World Series. They lead the Majors with 40 wins going into the weekend and will be the number one seed. Atlanta is the East Division Champion and likely number two seed. The Cubs are in first place in the Central and likely will win the Division Championship to be the three seed. San Diego has a better record than the Braves and Cubs, but they are in the West, so they go into the playoffs as the four seed since they are in second place.

In the East, Miami and Philadelphia are neck and neck for second place. In the Central, St. Louis and Cincinnati are in a close race for second place. San Francisco and Milwaukee join the third place teams in the East and Central to fill the seven and eight seeds. The final playoff berths likely won't be set until the final day of the season.

As for the Rangers, they finished the road portion of their schedule with a 6-24 road record after losing two games against the Diamondbacks in Phoenix this past Tuesday and Wednesday. Arizona won the first game 7-0, the first time this season the Rangers have been shutout this year. All six of the Ranger hits came from Anderson Tejeda (one), Sam Huff (two) and Eli White (three); three players that have made their Major League debuts this year.

(continued on page 6)

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(Dic Humphrey continued)

Per Rangers publicist John Blake, the starting lineup on Wednesday was the youngest the Rangers have fielded all season. It averaged 24 years and 116 days. The Rangers got off to a good start scoring single runs in the first, fourth and fifth innings to lead 3-0. The D-Backs got a run back in their half of the fifth inning, but the roof fell in on Texas in the sixth inning. Wes Benjamin had thrown five solid innings allowing the run on five hits. He gave up singles to Arizona's first two batters in the sixth inning ending his night.

Nick Goody replaced Benjamin, but he retired just one of the four batters he faced. When the smoke had cleared, Arizona led 7-3 after six innings. That was the final score. Goody took the loss to go to 0-2, and he was designated for assignment the next day.

On Thursday, the Rangers began their final series of the season in Arlington with a 12-4 loss to Houston. On paper, Thursday's game was the Rangers' most likely to win in the series with Lance Lynn making his final start of the year. It didn't go well. Lynn was shelled for 10 runs and was the losing pitcher. He claimed it was the worst start of his career afterward. Lynn finishes the season with a 6-3 record and 3.32 ERA. Lynn did extend his streak of 100 pitch games to 37 by throwing 104 pitches. This might have been his final start for the Rangers.

The series with the Astros continues

this weekend with games at 7:05 PM on Friday, 6:05 PM on Saturday and 2:05 PM on Sunday. The announced starting pitchers for Texas are Kyle Cody (1-1, 1.53 ERA) on Friday night, Kyle Gibson (2-6, 5.87 ERA) on Saturday, and Jordan Lyles (1-5, 7.07 ERA) on Sunday.

NOTABLE:

- Texas finished interleague play with a 6-14 record.
- The Rangers go into the weekend with a 19-38 record. They need to win all three games to avoid finishing with the worst winning percentage in any Ranger season. The current record was a .351 winning percentage in 1972.
- As the losses pile up, the good news for the Rangers is next year's amateur draft. Texas goes into the weekend with the worst in the American League. They are however, one game better than Pittsburgh in the National League. They still could finish with a worse record than the Pirates, but the likelihood is the Rangers will end up with the number two pick in next year's amateur draft. This assumes the usual method of inverse order of the overall standings determines the draft position, which is not yet determined.
- The game time temperature in Arlington Thursday night was 74 degrees. The Rangers thus opened the retractable roof for the fourth time this season; and for the fourth time this season, the Rangers lost when the roof was open, and their opponent scored 10 or more runs.

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Fall Quick Tips



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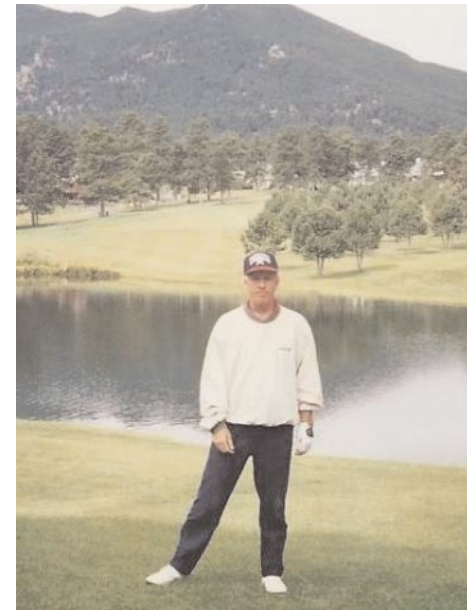
Now that fall has officially arrived and cooler weather is in the forecast, it's a great time to play and work on your game.

The experience of teaching and playing golf for over 45 years has led me to some general observations that can affect players performances. The main question being, why is golf so difficult for most everyone?

Well, sports are based on body motions and golf is a sport. After analyzing the body motions in other sports, I am convinced there are reasons golf is so frustrating to players from all walks of life.

First, body position: The body is facing parallel to the target. Second, the eyes are on the ball and not the target. Third, starting from stationary position, with the body facing parallel to the target, the body motion is more difficult than if the body was facing the target. With the eyes staring at the golf ball on the ground, the player becomes more ball conscious which will encourage body motion to the ball instead of to the target which is the fairway or the green. Starting your swing from a stationary position is also a major cause of problems in the swing. It's always easier to continue a motion than start one. Which leads me to a very simple answer for all of these errors mentioned. Get some part of your body in motion prior to starting your swing, and project to your target, not the ball. Remember, golf is a game of motion, not a series of abrupt actions.

Shadow Drill: The simplest way to learn the proper feel of your swing center is to place a golf ball on the ground and, with sun to your back, take your stance in a position whereby the shadow of your head covers the ball. As you swing, keep your eyes on the shadow. During the swing the shadow will move slightly, however if it moves off the ball you have lost the correct swing center. If the shadow remains on the ball you have kept the swing in the correct position. Repeat this excellent drill daily so as to reinforce good habits that will yield the results you seek. Swing the club by feel, and learn feel through good motion. Keeping an eye on your shadow will teach the feel of your upper body staying in position - neither moving to the right or left- nor up or down. To keep other body movements from moving the



swing center, keep your weight to the inside of your feet. Never allow this weight to transfer outside as this will pull you out of position. Allow the rotation of the shoulders and arms to carry the club to the top of the backswing.

Putting: There are two prevalent schools of thought regarding putting. "Never up, never in," and "Let the ball die at the hole."

Never up, never in may work well on slow greens, but it will be responsible for many three-putts on fast greens. With this approach, the ball has only one door to enter the hole.

The die at the hole approach, meanwhile, has three doors it can enter.. the front, and both sides. A good putter learns to read the greens by studying the contour, speed, texture of the grass and the grain. I recommend scanning the green as you approach it. From this angle and distance, you can get a more accurate view of the contour. Once on the green, check the sight from both sides. Check the grass while sighting the line of your putts to the hole. The ball will travel faster on fine, close-cut turf and when the grain is with you. A cross grain will curve the ball in the direction of the grain. The grass will appear shiny with the grain, and darker against the grain. Take a closer look at the area around the cup of the hole, where the most break is likely to occur. Speed can affect break. Your first judgment on speed and break is usually the best. The longer you stand over your putts, the more tension can build up. Once you make up your mind, don't start second guessing yourself and go ahead and pull the trigger.

So take advantage of the nice weather and I hope my tips will help you have fun on the course.

Tom Ward can be contacted at www.tee-timewithtom.com.

Corales Puntacana Resort & Club Championship



Graeme McDowell looks to become the first golfer to defend his title at Corales

STORYLINES: The event started as a Korn Ferry Tour event before becoming an opposite-field event in 2018. Now it offers full FedExCup points to the winner ... The Corales course is one of the longest the TOUR plays every season ... The event was originally scheduled for March 23-29 but was moved due to COVID-19 ... Mackenzie Hughes, who finished 14th on the FedExCup standings last season, will look to improve on his T2 from a year ago at Corales. He's the highest-ranked finisher from the 2019-20 FedExCup in the field.

72-HOLE RECORD: 264, Dominic Bozzelli (2016 Korn Ferry Tour). As PGA TOUR event: 270, Brice Garnett (2018), Graeme McDowell (2019).

18-HOLE RECORD: 62, Stephan Jaeger (2nd round, 2016 Korn Ferry Tour), Scott Harrington (2nd round, 2016 Korn Ferry Tour), Alexandre Rocha (3rd round, 2016 Korn Ferry Tour). As PGA TOUR event: 63, Brice Garnett (1st round, 2018), Chip McDaniell (4th round, 2019).

LAST TIME: After struggling to an opening-round 73 Graeme McDowell's putter

heated up through the weekend (he took only 20 putts on Saturday) and he captured his first PGA TOUR win since 2015. McDowell topped Mackenzie Hughes and Chris Stroud by one shot after a final-round 69 that included a key birdie on the penultimate hole. His birdie on the par-3 17th to Stroud's bogey was the late-round swing McDowell needed. Jonathan Byrd finished fourth, while Kelly Kraft and Monday qualifier Chip McDaniell rounded out the top five.

HOW TO FOLLOW

Television: Thursday-Friday, 3 p.m.-6 p.m. ET (Golf Channel). Saturday-Sunday, 3 p.m.-6 p.m. (NBC)

Radio: Thursday-Friday, 12 p.m.-6 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, 1 p.m.-6 p.m. (PGA TOUR Radio on SiriusXM and PGA-TOUR.com/liveaudio).



Corales Puntacana Resort & Club Championship

September 24 - September 27, 2020

Corales Golf Club

Punta Cana La Altagracia, D.R

Purse - \$3,000,000

Winners share: \$540,000

Defending Champ - Graeme McDowell

By Adam Stanley
PGATOUR.COM

For the first time, the Corales Puntacana Resort & Club Championship will offer full FedExCup points to the winner. The TOUR's stop in the Dominican Republic has continued to move up in stature since it debuted on the Korn Ferry Tour schedule in 2016.

Graeme McDowell is back to defend his title from 2019 – his first TOUR victory in nearly five years.

FIELD NOTES: Will Zalatoris, who is tops on the Korn Ferry Tour's Points List and made the cut in the U.S. Open, is in the field on a sponsor exemption. Zalatoris is hitting a KFT-leading 81% of his greens

this season. He has 11 straight top-20s on that circuit, the longest streak in KFT history... Past FedExCup champion Henrik Stenson makes his debut in the Dominican ... Graeme McDowell looks to become the first golfer to defend his title at Corales ... The three other past champions – Brice Garnett, Nate Lashley and Dominic Bozzelli (the latter two were winners when the event was on the Korn Ferry Tour) will look to reclaim some Caribbean magic ... 18-year-old Akshay Bhatia will tee it up at Corales after his top-10 at the Safeway Open. He was the youngest player to finish in the top 10 of a stroke-play event on the PGA TOUR since Justin Rose at the 1998 Open Championship ... Rafa Campos – from nearby Puerto Rico – will be in the field. He teed it up at the Safeway Open for his first TOUR start since January because of injury ... Corales club pro Julio Santos will lead a nice contingent of Dominican golfers in the field.

FEDEXCUP: Winner receives 500 FedExCup points.

COURSE: Puntacana Resort & Club (Corales Golf Course), par 72, 7,666 yards (yardage subject to change). The Tom Fazio design from 2008 is a beautiful beast, culminating in the final three-hole stretch dubbed "The Devil's Elbow" with a dramatic forced carry over the Bay of Corales on 18. The front nine also wraps up along the coastline. While fairly open off the tee, when the wind blows it's difficult to nail down yardages into the difficult green complexes.

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Johnson voted 2020 Player of the Year



FedExCup Champion Dustin Johnson voted 2020 PGA TOUR Player of the Year
Scottie Scheffler voted PGA TOUR Rookie of the Year

By Sean Martin
 PGATOUR.COM

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, Fla. – The PGA TOUR announced that Dustin Johnson has been named the 2020 PGA TOUR Player of the Year as voted by the TOUR's membership for the 2019-20 season. Scottie Scheffler was voted 2020 PGA TOUR Rookie of the Year.

PGA TOUR members who played at least 10 official FedExCup events during the 2019-20 season were eligible to vote. Johnson, 36, of Jupiter, Florida, won the FedExCup for the first time in his career, winning twice in the FedExCup Playoffs and three times on the season. The three victories, which came at the Travelers Championship, THE NORTHERN TRUST and the TOUR Championship, tied Johnson with Justin Thomas for the most on TOUR and marked his fourth season with at least three wins. Johnson moved to 27th on the all-time wins list with 23 career PGA TOUR victories and extended his streak of consecutive seasons with a win to start his career to 13, becoming the fourth player to reach that mark (others: Jack Nicklaus, Arnold Palmer, Tiger Woods).

"On behalf of the PGA TOUR, my congratulations to Dustin Johnson on being

voted the 2020 PGA TOUR Player of the Year by his peers, the ultimate compliment a player can receive," said PGA TOUR Commissioner Jay Monahan. "Dustin made it known throughout the season that the FedExCup was a priority and his performances in the FedExCup Playoffs were nothing short of spectacular with two wins and a playoff runner-up at the BMW Championship. His demeanor and athleticism on the course make it look very easy, but behind the scenes, he's worked incredibly hard coming back from injury and his 2019-20 season speaks for itself in further bolstering his World Golf Hall of Fame resume."

Johnson, who did not make a start in the fall due to injury, returned to competition in December 2019, representing the United States at the Presidents Cup for the fourth time. He opened the season with a T7 at the Sentry Tournament of Champions and recorded a T10 at The Genesis Invitational, before the season was halted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. When the season resumed in June, Johnson remained outside the top 100 in the FedExCup until his win at the Travelers Championship in his third start, which moved him to No. 22 in the standings.

Three starts later, Johnson began a streak of 12 rounds in the 60s, starting with the World Golf Championships-FedEx St. Jude Invitational (T12). In the first major championship held since the TOUR

resumed, Johnson took the lead into the final round of the PGA Championship at TPC Harding Park before finishing runner-up for the second consecutive year, becoming the first player to finish second in the event in consecutive years since Jack Nicklaus (1964, 1965).

Johnson won THE NORTHERN TRUST with a 72-hole total of 30-under 254 and by 11 strokes, the largest margin of victory on TOUR since 2006 (13/Phil Mickelson/BellSouth Classic). The victory, his fifth in the FedExCup Playoffs, moved him to No. 1 in the FedExCup and back to World No. 1 for the first time since May 2019. At the BMW Championship, Johnson fell to Jon Rahm in a playoff, after making a 43-foot, 3-inch birdie putt on the 72nd hole to force extra holes, but maintained the top spot in the FedExCup standings to begin the TOUR Championship on top of the FedExCup Starting Strokes.

Johnson entered the final round at the TOUR Championship leading by five strokes, becoming the first player since Tiger Woods in 1999 to hold the 54-hole lead/co-lead in four consecutive starts (PGA Championship, THE NORTHERN TRUST, BMW Championship, TOUR Championship). After five top-five finishes in the FedExCup in 11 previous seasons, Johnson claimed the FedExCup for the first time and won the TOUR Championship for his sixth career Playoffs title, the most of any player.

In all, Johnson recorded seven top-10s, with three wins and two runner-up finishes (PGA Championship, BMW Championship), and made 11 cuts in 14 starts, ending the season No. 1 in the Official World Golf Ranking.

Johnson, who will receive the Jack Nicklaus Award for winning PGA TOUR Player of the Year, was selected for the honor over (alphabetically) Collin Morikawa, Jon Rahm, Webb Simpson and Justin Thomas. This marks the second time he has been named PGA TOUR Player of the Year (2016, 2020) and the third time in the last four seasons the FedExCup champion has been named Player of the Year.

Scheffler, 24, of Dallas, finished No. 5 in the FedExCup as one of eight PGA TOUR rookies to qualify for the FedExCup Playoffs and one of two to advance to the TOUR Championship. With his fifth-place finish, Scheffler became the second rookie in the FedExCup era to finish the season in the top five of the standings (Xander Schauffele/2016-17). In 23 starts, Scheffler recorded seven top-10s, six of which were top-fives, highlighted by a third-place finish at The American Express. Scheffler recorded his first top-five in a major (T4/PGA Championship) in his fourth major championship start, and he became

the 11th different player (12 times) to record a sub-60 score on the PGA TOUR, with a second-round 59 at THE NORTHERN TRUST for a second consecutive T4. In all, Scheffler made 18 cuts in 23 starts.

"Our congratulations to Scottie Scheffler on a standout rookie season that saw him excel when it mattered most, in the FedExCup Playoffs," said Monahan. "To follow up Korn Ferry Tour Player of the Year with being voted PGA TOUR Rookie of the Year by the PGA TOUR membership is an extraordinary achievement and speaks to Scottie's dedication and work ethic. I'm certain Mr. Palmer would be thrilled with all of the young talent we have on TOUR and how they are conducting themselves, with Scottie leading the way in 2020."

After two wins on the Korn Ferry Tour in 2019, Scheffler claimed 2019 Korn Ferry Tour Player of the Year honors. He becomes the second consecutive player, and third overall, to be named the Korn Ferry Tour Player of the Year and PGA TOUR Rookie of the Year in successive seasons (1996-97/Stewart Cink, 2018-19/Sungjae Im).

Scheffler, who will receive the Arnold Palmer Award for winning PGA TOUR Rookie of the Year, was selected for the honor over (alphabetically) Harry Higgs, Viktor Hovland and Maverick McNealy.

PGA TOUR Player of the Year

| | |
|---------|--------------------|
| 2019-20 | Dustin Johnson (2) |
| 2018-19 | Rory McIlroy (3) |
| 2017-18 | Brooks Koepka |
| 2016-17 | Justin Thomas |
| 2015-16 | Dustin Johnson |
| 2014-15 | Jordan Spieth |
| 2013-14 | Rory McIlroy (2) |
| 2013 | Tiger Woods (11) |
| 2012 | Rory McIlroy |
| 2011 | Luke Donald |
| 2010 | Jim Furyk |
| 2009 | Tiger Woods (10) |
| 2008 | Pádraig Harrington |
| 2007 | Tiger Woods (9) |
| 2006 | Tiger Woods (8) |
| 2005 | Tiger Woods (7) |
| 2004 | Vijay Singh |
| 2003 | Tiger Woods (6) |
| 2002 | Tiger Woods (5) |
| 2001 | Tiger Woods (4) |
| 2000 | Tiger Woods (3) |
| 1999 | Tiger Woods (2) |
| 1998 | Mark O'Meara |
| 1997 | Tiger Woods |
| 1996 | Tom Lehman |
| 1995 | Greg Norman |
| 1994 | Nick Price |
| 1993 | Nick Price |
| 1992 | Fred Couples |
| 1991 | Fred Couples |
| 1990 | Wayne Levi |

SEC football weekend picks - Week 1



ROBERT CORTINEZ
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The time has come my friends. This Saturday, college football “officially” kicks off, as the SEC boys shake off the rust with all fourteen SEC schools contesting against each other in this wild and wacky football season. To make things even more “normal”, the Big 10 and PAC 12 have bowed to the football gods and begun to crawl back into the 2020 season to crown a legitimate champion in Covid time.

As of this writing, there have been no “reported” outbreaks of Covid infections by any SEC football program. However, the college campuses where the football programs are located are rife with infections. Some news media have even indicated that under-reported cases are running rampant on SEC campuses. More power to the football players if they can stay disciplined and focused, adhere to the CDC guidelines, and avoid the “party” peer pressure that may close their schools before the start of the football season.

The team rankings below reflect the current AP Top 25 rankings which omits any teams not playing now. Hence the rapid rise by Tennessee to #15 and the inclusion of #23 Kentucky in this week’s poll.

My resident expert picker, M&M was 5-2-1 last week, 71%. This week he likes Central Fla.. -27; Central Fla.-under 74; parley Central Fla/under; Florida -13.5; Army +13.5; Alabama -27.5; Baylor -17.5; and Syracuse +8

#5 Florida (0-0) at Ole Miss (0-0)

Line: Gators -14.5 / 57

Time/TV: 11:00 a.m / ESPN

The Florida Gators welcome back grinning Lane Kiffin and his Ole Miss Rebels to the revitalized SEC East division. Coach Kiffin’s previous SEC tenure was in the East division in 2010 when he coached Tennessee to a 7-3 record. The East was in a down period and Kiffin still didn’t do that good of a job before he bolted for USC in the middle of the recruiting period after his first year. Now Lane gets to try and bring Ole Miss to the top of the West division which has been the dominant division in the SEC, and all of College football, for the past 10 years.

Florida HC Dan Mullen knows how to coach and simply will not allow a road game let-down in this shortened Covid slate. In only two years at Florida he’s won 21 games and been ranked #6 and #7 in the final AP top 25 poll. Florida has the best skill players in the SEC, starting with junior QB, Kyle Trask. If

the Gators can fill the holes on defense due to the NFL draft, Florida will finish in the top 10 again. Gators throttle the Rebels in Oxford.
Florida 33 Ole Miss 10

#23 Kentucky (0-0) at #8 Auburn (0-0)

Line: Tigers -7.5 / 49.5

Time/TV: 12:00, SECN

This game will be a huge indicator for Auburn’s success level in 2020. In years past, the War Eagle faithful would have circled in a “W” against the Wildcats. But these days, the football comfort level of Kentucky HC, Mark Stoops, is on full display. In the last four years, the ‘Cats have gone to four bowl games which included a double-digit win season, 10-3, in 2018-2019. Kentucky has quietly become a reliable and steady force in the upper middle of the SEC East division.

The Auburn Tigers are still trying to get back to the form they had during HC Gus Malzahn’s first season in 2013 which was the season of Gus’s national championship game appearance. That 2013 championship appearance led directly to Gus’s raise in 2017 to six million dollars per year to coach that other good football team in Alabama.

Auburn lost a lot of players including a whopping eight starters on offense. The Tigers do return starting QB, Bo Nix, the reigning SEC freshman of the year, and this team seems poised to do some good in 2020. Auburn still has to beat the cream of the competition in the SEC West, Bama and LSU and also has to play Georgia in Athens. A successful 2020 season’s blueprint starts with a solid win on the Plains this Saturday.
Pick: Auburn 27 Kentucky 13

Mississippi State (0-0) at #6 LSU (0-0)

Line: Tigers -16.5 / 56

Time/TV: 2:30 / CBS

The CBS SEC game of the week between the Tigers and Bulldogs way down Louisiana way will be a doozie..

New Bulldog HC, Mike Leach, brings his pirate style to a State program that figured it had hired a keeper two years ago in Joe Morehead who was the former OC at Penn St. No one expected Morehead getting fired for no good reason other than his lack of southern charm, but it did allow Leach to inherit a pretty good football team. State’s offense is led by Kylin Hill, the best returning back in the SEC and a preseason Doak Walker award nominee for best running back in the nation. This past Monday, Leach ended the quarterback battle and named Stanford transfer, K.J. Costello, as his starter.

LSU’s HC, Cajun Ed Ogeron, must use all his powers of persuasion to will his team to laser focus and get past last year’s national championship in this brutal SEC only schedule. An incredible 14 players from LSU’s 2019 championship team were drafted into the NFL and five more signed on as undrafted free agents. Lots of shoes to fill for Coach “O” on both sides of the ball. The Bayou Bengals home field may be the only advantage LSU has on Saturday and they gonna need it.
Pick: LSU 26, Mississippi St. 23

#4 Georgia (0-0) at Arkansas (0-0)

Line: Bulldogs -26 / 52.5

Time/TV: 3:00 / SECN

Arkansas has won four games and lost twenty games while playing eight different quarterbacks in the last two years. The Razorbacks lost four of their eight non-conference games and lost all their conference games in the last two years. Arkansas’s coach for the last two years was Chad Morris, a wannabe from SMU whose 14-22 losing record didn’t prevent him from being hired by the athletic department in Fayetteville.

Georgia has won 23 games and lost five games in the last two years. The Bulldogs have won every non-conference game and won 14 out of 16 conference games the last two years. Georgia’s coach for the last four years is Kirby Smart, who’s been to the SEC championship game the last three years and led Georgia to the brink of a national championship in 2017.

The only common denominator between these two clubs is Georgia’s former O-line coach, Sam Pittman, who was hired to lead the hapless Hogs in 2020. Coach Pittman knows Georgia’s defensive and offensive schemes better than some of Georgia’s current assistant coaches. Coach Pittman loves Razorback nation, loves his team, the team loves him, but love ain’t enough to win this game. The Hogs got the right man for the job but it’ll be next year before we see the results of Pittman’s labors.

Pick: Georgia 37 Arkansas 17

#2 Alabama (0-0) at Missouri (0-0)

Line: Bama -27 / 56

Time/TV: 6:00 / ESPN

The Crimson Tide produces NFL caliber offensive and defensive linemen like Willy Wonka makes candy at the Chocolate Factory. Coach Saban isn’t interested in rebuilds or down years, his focus is always on another ring. Bama named redshirt junior Mac Jones as the starting QB for this contest. Jones led the Tide to a 35 -16 Citrus Bowl victory over Michigan after Tua Taglaviola went down with a hip injury in last year’s Iron bowl.

In 2019, Missouri’s new HC, Eli Dirkwitz, won the whole Sun Belt shebang, regular season and conference championship, in his first and only year as Appalachian State’s head coach. Some say his coaching success was due to the talent he took over from Scott Satterfield who left Appalachian State to go to Louisville. We’ll find out soon enough as the SEC will test the mettle of every player and every coach, who step onto the field of an SEC football program.

Missouri’s defense does bring back eight starters but that’s from a team that lost six games last year and it won’t be nearly enough to stem the Tide. Alabama will greet Mizzou’s new coach with a physicality not known or seen in any other conference in the land.

Pick: Alabama 37 Missouri 13

Vanderbilt (0-0) at Texas A&M (0-0)

Line: Aggies -30.5 / 46.5

Time/TV: 6:30 / SEC Alternate

The largest underdog betting line of the SEC’s first week schedule falls to the Commodores, +30.5, who beat out Missouri, and Arkansas for this dubious honor. This is either indicative of Texas A&M’s continued improvement, Vanderbilt’s continued decline, or a combination of both.

The Aggies bring back eight starters on offense and eight starters on defense for a program that may finally click under third year HC Jimbo Fisher’s reign. A&M’s Senior QB Kellen Mond, who averaged 3,000 yds passing and 22 TD’s in his two years as a starter, will absolutely thrash Vanderbilt’s defense which ranked near the bottom of the barrel in 2019. The overall team speed and size of the Aggies could give Coach Jimbo’s defense a first game shut -out. Vanderbilt’s HC, Derek Mason, returns 15 starters, but that’s from a team that went 3-9 last year. Converted wide-out Cam Johnson is Vanderbilt’s new quarterback after four QBs were lost to graduation or transfer. Any version of a new offensive should score more than the 198 points put up by the Vandy in last year’s twelve games, but it won’t happen in College Station.

HC Jimbo Fisher looks for a statement game and keeps the pedal to the metal to the bitter end.

Pick: Texas A&M 48 Vanderbilt 13

#16 Tennessee (0-0) at S. Carolina (0-0)

Line: -3.5 / 42.5

Time/TV: 6:30 / SECN

This one could be the most competitive or the most lopsided game on Saturday’s slate. The Vols are looking to continue their red hot six-game winning streak from last season, while the Gamecocks are looking for a turnaround after losing five of their last six games. Coincidentally, Tennessee started their 2019 winning streak with 41-21 victory over South Carolina in Knoxville.

South Carolina HC Will Muschamp has benched last year’s starting QB, Ryan Hilinski and inserted Colorado State transfer QB, Colin Hill, as this week’s starter. Former Colorado State HC, Mike Bobo is now the OC for South Carolina which probably has a lot to do with the QB change. Risky move, since Hilinski is liked by his teammates and performed well last year throwing for 2357, yds, 11 TD’s and only 5 oskies as a true freshman.

Tennessee HC Jeremy Pruitt has no excuses this year. This is his third year, these are his players, his team, and the Tennessee’s players have garnered a slew of pre-season, All- American and All-SEC honors. Leading the way is senior offensive lineman Trey Smith, (6’ 6”, 330 lbs) who should be a top 5 pick in next year’s NFL draft. The Vols also have the services of 5th year, QB Jarett Guarantano, a three-year starter at quarterback. Not to mention that Coach Pruitt has molded a defense reminiscent of his days as Alabama’s DC.

South Carolina keeps it close for a while on their home field, then it’s all Vols.

Pick: Tennessee 30 South Carolina 16

Big 12 football weekend - Week 4



Texas Tech's secondary in for a long afternoon Saturday

By Jeff Bartl

#8 Texas (1-0) at Texas Tech (1-0)
Line: Horns -18 / 70.5
Time/TV: 2:30 / FOX

Here comes the Texas passing game. Sam Ehlinger threw for 426 yards and five touchdowns in barely a half of work in the 59-3 over UTEP. Texas Tech? It got hammered by Bailey Zappe and Houston Baptist for 567 passing yards and four scores in the 35-33 Red Raider win.

The Longhorn offense was red-hot from the start, it's got the offensive depth to keep the pressure on Texas Tech's secondary throughout, and it's going to let the running game eat, too. Basically, the team had its tune-up game.

Houston Baptist didn't get any pressure on Red Raider QB Alan Bowman. Texas will. Texas Tech got its tune-up game out of the way, too. It might have been a rough second half against HBU, but it got to feel the pressure of a tight game, and it got the win. Texas went through a light scrimmage and wasn't tested in any way.

Bowman threw for 430 yards and two touchdowns – he was sharp after missing most of last year – and SaRodorick Thompson provided a running game to balance things out a bit. Thompson was arrested after getting into a car race earlier this summer, but he's expected to go.

The Texas Tech defense might have issues, but the offense will keep pushing all game long.

Texas Tech will get its yards, and it will make things interesting, but the Texas offense will hit on all cylinders. It's not going to be Ehlinger throwing for 400 yards, but the attack will blow past the 500-yard mark with the running game tak-

ing over as the game goes on.
Pick: Texas 44, Texas Tech 24

Kansas State (0-1) at #3 Oklahoma (1-0)
Line: Sooners -28 / 61
Time/TV: 11:00 A.M / FOX

The Oklahoma Sooners are looking for revenge against the reeling Wildcats.

Opening week couldn't have gone much differently for the Oklahoma Sooners and Kansas State Wildcats. While OU was blasting the outclassed Missouri State Bears from the FCS ranks, head coach Chris Klieman's team fell to the Arkansas State Red Wolves of the Sun Belt.

Does that raise the likelihood that Oklahoma head coach Lincoln Riley and his Sooners will underestimate their visitors on Saturday? After Kansas State's upset over OU a year ago in Manhattan, don't count on it.

More important than motivation, however, OU needs to see how its untested quarterback prodigy holds up against a solid defense in the Sooners' first game of Big 12 play.

The Wildcats appeared discombobulated in their season-opening loss to Arkansas State, but it would be a mistake for the Sooners to expect to see the same Kansas State team take the field on Saturday. K-State has enough weapons for Skylar Thompson to punish the OU defense, especially given the depleted state of the Sooners on the DL.

Chris Klieman will probably try to maul OU's undersized defensive personnel with a patient rushing attack. Add in some one-on-one throws to physical receivers and timely QB draws for Thompson. Maybe that keeps the Wildcats close enough to make things interesting in the fourth quarter.

Finding ways to slow down OU's offense won't be so easy. Spencer Rattler appeared intent on finding receivers deep in patterns versus Missouri State, which may mean he forces some throws into coverage or leaves himself prone to the Kansas State pass rush. Forcing those mistakes from the first-year starter is a must for the Wildcats to have a shot at winning.

K-State can probably keep this contest from getting out of hand, but a win seems unlikely.

Prediction: Oklahoma 38, K-State 17

Iowa State (0-1) at TCU (0-0)
Line: Cyclones -2.5 / 44.5
Time/TV: 12:30 / FS1

You think Iowa State is a wee bit fired up after having to sit back and groove on that ugly 31-14 loss to Louisiana over the last few weeks?

The rough part about the defeat is that the D was fine. It kept the great Ragin' Cajun offense in check, but a few special teams breakdowns – and too many offensive misfires – were too much to overcome. TCU has yet to get its season going. It still has to work out its kinks.

Horned Frog QB Max Duggan is supposed to see a little time after getting diagnosed with a heart issue this offseason, but it's Matthew Downing's first start. He's a walk-on about to go against a salty Cyclone D.

The Horned Frog defense was the best in the Big 12 last season, and if the corners rise up fast, it should be every bit as strong. The linebacking corps is going to be outstanding, and the line should be decent enough to bring a little pressure to Brock Purdy, who struggled way too much against Louisiana hitting 16-of-35 passes. Yeah, Iowa State has a game under its belt and TCU doesn't, but TCU has tape on Iowa State. It's also had weeks to adapt and adjust.

Be shocked if there are a whole lot of fireworks.

Iowa State lit up the Horned Frogs in a 49-24 win at home, but this should be more like the 17-14 TCU win in Fort Worth in 2018.

Points will come at a premium, and Iowa State has the better quarterback with the veteran chops, but TCU's defense will be slightly stronger in the fourth quarter. TCU will win the turnover battle to overcome a rough day from the O.slightly stronger in the fourth quarter. TCU will win the turnover battle to overcome a rough day from the O.

Pick: TCU 23, Iowa State 20

Kansas (0-1) at Baylor (0-0)
Line: Bears -17 / 62
Time/TV: 6:30 / ESPNU

Kansas was outclassed and outplayed in

the 38-23 loss to Coastal Carolina, but the passing game wasn't bad, the rushing attack averaged close to five yards per carry, and the offense woke up in the second half.

2007. That was the last time Kansas was able to beat Baylor.

Not only have the Jayhawks had problems with the Bears over the last several years, they've been obliterated.

How bad has this series been? Baylor has won ten in a row, and in nine of those wins, Kansas failed to score more than 14 points. Over the last five years the Jayhawks failed to score double digit points.

Baylor has outscored Kansas by an average of around 49-11 over the last ten years, including a 61-6 blasting last year.

The Bears haven't played yet, but they'll be just fine.

Pick: Baylor 40, Kansas 14

West Virginia (1-0) at #15 Ok. State (1-0)
Line: Cowboys -8 / 52
Time/TV: 2:30 / ABC

The Oklahoma State offense that was expected to be among the nation's most dangerous stalled out of the gate. Starting QB Spencer Sanders was knocked out early against Tulsa with an ankle injury, and it took a 13-point fourth quarter to get by 16-7.

Meanwhile, West Virginia rolled up 42 first half points in a blowout scrimmage over Eastern Kentucky with all the parts working just fine.

Hubbard was held to 106 yards and no touchdowns – the only time all regular season he didn't score – in a 20-13 Oklahoma State win, and this year's West Virginia team is a whole lot better.

West Virginia will press and make things even tougher for Oklahoma State than Tulsa did, but the Cowboy offense will be a whole lot sharper and crisper. It'll have to win in the fourth quarter again, but it'll get it done in a fun battle.

Pick: OSU 26, WVU 20

| Big 12 STANDINGS | | |
|------------------|-------|---------|
| Team | Conf. | Overall |
| Oklahoma | 0-0 | 1-0 |
| Oklahoma St | 0-0 | 1-0 |
| Texas | 0-0 | 1-0 |
| Texas Tech | 0-0 | 1-0 |
| WestVirginia | 0-0 | 1-0 |
| Kansas State | 0-0 | 0-1 |
| Iowa State | 0-0 | 0-1 |
| Kansas | 0-0 | 0-1 |
| TCU | 0-0 | 0-0 |
| Baylor | 0-0 | 0-0 |

Mustangs welcomes SFA Saturday



This is the fourth meeting between SMU and SFA, with SMU holding the 3-0 all-time advantage

BY DIC HUMPHREY
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Stephen F. Austin (0-2) at SMU (2-0)
Line: Mustangs -34.5 / 68
Time/TV: 6:00 / ESPN+

UNIVERSITY PARK, Texas – SMU plays their 2020 home opening football game this Saturday against the Stephen F. Austin Lumberjacks in Ford Stadium at 6:00 PM. The game will be televised on ESPN+. This will be the fourth meeting between SMU and SFA, and the Mustangs have won the three previous games. The last time these teams met was in 2017, when SMU won 58-14. SMU is favored by 34-1/2 points.

SMU Head Football Coach Sonny Dykes expects a good game from the Lumberjacks. “Coach Carthel is a really good young coach. He has an “Air Raid” background on offense. They can score fast.”

Colby Carthel is in his second year as the Lumberjacks’ head football coach. SFA was 3-9 in Carthel’s first season and come into this game with an 0-2 record. Prior to last season, Carthel was 59-19 in six years at Division II Texas A&M-Commerce, which included three conference championships and one Division II National Championship.

Dykes elaborated on his opponent, “They have speed at wide receiver. I’ve

been really impressed with their defense. They have a lot of transfers. They’ve got a good team. They play hard. They had a chance to win both games they’ve played.”

Dykes also talked about SMU’s win at North Texas last Saturday saying, “You never really know how these things are gonna go. So much of it depends really on how the team starts. We started with a three and out (on defense), and then got off to a fast start (on offense) and had a really quick scoring drive. And got some momentum. From there, we executed really well.”

An important play in the game was Brandon Stephens’ interception in the end zone. “I thought Brandon’s interception was a turning point. It kept them (UNT) off the board, and then we went and scored.” SMU also stopped the Mean Green on a fake punt. They were up 14-0 with little more than five minutes elapsed in the game and extended the lead to 21-0 by the end of the first quarter. At halftime, the Ponies led 34-7 in route to the 65-35 win.

“I thought it (the first half) was the best half of football that we’ve played on defense since I’ve been here,” Dykes said.

Mustang quarterback Shane Buechele completed passes to nine different receivers. Dykes commented, “He’s more comfortable with our personnel and with our scheme. He showed some big improvements from week one to week two.

He made some good decisions. Overall, I thought Shane played well.”

Danny Gray showed off his plus-plus speed with a 62 yard touchdown catch. “I thought Danny made a big jump from week one to week two. I think he’s going to be a really be a big player for us.”

Rashee Rice also had a good game catching five passes for 102 yards. “Shane’s got more confidence in him,” Dykes said. “He’s been really consistent. He’s performed at a high level.”

Reggie Roberson also reached the 100 yard mark with nine catches for 103 receiving yards and two touchdowns. Roberson, in just his second season with SMU, is now ninth in SMU history with 15 touchdown receptions, tied with Ron Morris. Tight end Kylen Granson also caught a touchdown pass to take over first place in SMU history for touchdowns by a tight end with 10 eclipsing Rickey Bolden’s nine.

This week, Buechele was named the “National Performer of the Week” in college football by the College Football Performance Awards organization, which is based in Charleston, South Carolina. Buechele completed 24 of 33 passes against the University of North Texas that went for 344 yards and four touchdowns. He also rushed for 29 yards and a touchdown.

Buechele and running back Ulysses Bentley, IV were both named to the American Athletic Conference weekly

Honor Roll. Bentley, IV rushed for 229 yards, just 15 yards fewer than Mike Richardson’s school record of 244 set in 1967 against Texas A&M. Bentley, IV ran the ball 19 times and scored three touchdowns.

Bentley, IV is a redshirt freshman that weighed around 160 pounds when he arrived on the hilltop. He now weighs more than 190 pounds. “He’s gotten stronger, and he’s held on to his speed,” Dykes noted.

For the second week in a row, SMU kicker Chris Naggar was named AAC Special Teams Player of the Week. Naggar kicked eight extra points and three field goals. He has not missed a PAT or field goal this season. (12-12 on PATs and 4-4 on field goals.) He also recorded five touchbacks on ten kickoffs.

“That (the kicking game) was a little bit of a weakness of ours last year and the year before,” Dykes commented. “We went out and addressed it. I think the biggest impact he’s had honestly has been the kickoffs.” Dykes likes the opposing team not getting a chance to start in good field position because there are so few run-backs.

SMU plays Memphis after SFA. The Tigers are ranked 17th in the nation this week, so that game is EXTREMELY important to the Mustangs. That qualifies this week’s game against the Lumberjacks as a “trap game”. The Mustangs must guard against looking ahead to Memphis leading to a flat performance against a lesser opponent this weekend.

NOTABLE:

- SMU has received votes in both Major Polls for all three weeks of the season.
- Three Mustangs were named to the watch list for the Earl Campbell Tyler Rose Award Honorable Mention – Shane Buechele, Ulysses Bentley, IV and Reggie Roberson. SPORTyler and the Tyler Chamber of Commerce sponsor the Award and named eight players total to this week’s honor roll.
- The Mustangs’ football team gets tested for the Coronavirus frequently. There have been no positives for Covid-19 in the last 1,500 tests.
- For this week’s game, the defense will be in the locker room and the offense will be dressing in the weight room to manage the social distancing aspects of the Covid protocols.
- The 65 points scored last weekend against UNT is the fifth highest total in SMU history and the highest point total in a road game. The 710 total yards the Mustangs racked up is the second highest total in SMU history.

College Football News and Notes



The Big 10 will start on Oct. 23 and play an eight-game schedule



BO CARTER

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The Big Ten Conference will reopen 2020 football season Friday-Saturday, Oct. 23-24, as all 14 members will play an eight-game schedule. Big Ten teams will be required to have a team COVID-19 positivity rate of less than five percent and a staff positivity rate of less than 7.5 percent weekly to compete in football. The Big Ten Championship contest now is scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 19...The American Athletic Conference and Virtual Care for Families are providing COVID-19 antigen testing on each day prior to AAC teams' competition with 15-minute finalized testing results ...The Pacific-12 Conference is scheduled to hold a meeting with executives and medical authorities Thursday to determine the feasibility of playing Pac12 football this fall ...Pac-12 Conference commissioner Larry Scott said Pac-12 members in California and Oregon did not have formal approval yet from their state officials to begin contact practices. Several colleges pointed out to the conference and state administrators that two NFL Los Angeles teams and the San Francisco 49ers have begun regular-season 2020 activity with no fans attending.

NFF College Hall of Fame Facts

Some notable birthdates in NFF

College Hall of Fame annals in the Sept. 22-28 time period are Sept. 22 (1898) Hunk Anderson, Tamrack, Mich.; (1905) Larry Bettencourt, Newark, Calif.; (1907) Thad "Pie" Vann, Magnolia, Miss.; (1922) Ray Evans, Kansas City, Kan.; (1959) Bob Crable, Cincinnati, Ohio; Sept. 23 (1918) George Franck, Davenport, Iowa; Sept. 24 (1909) George Munger, Elkins Park, Pa.; (1946) Joe Greene, Temple, Texas; (1953) Joe Washington, Crockett, Texas; (1973) Eddie George, Philadelphia, Pa.; Sept. 25 (1902) Scrappy Moore, Chattanooga, Tenn.; (1907) Ralph "Shug" Jordan, Selma, Ala.; (1975) Dat Ngyuen, Fort Chaffee, Ark.; Sept. 26 (1871) Joe Thompson, County Down, Ireland; (1922) Creighton Miller, Cleveland, Ohio; (1951) Dave Casper, Bemidji, Minn.; Sept. 27 (1862) Alex Moffat, Princeton, N.J.; (1912) Bill Shakespeare, Staten Island, N.Y.; Sept. 28 (1881) Harry Van Surdam, Hoosick Falls, N.Y.; (1907) Glen Edwards, Mold, Wash.; (1919) Tom Harmon, Rensselaer, Ind.; (1935) Lou Michaels, Swoyersville, Pa.

Notable anniversary death dates for Hall of Famers are Sept. 24 (1977) Harry Young, Richmond, Va.; (2000) Jerry Claiborne, Nashville, Tenn.; (2002) Leon Hart, South Bend, Ind.; (2018) Tommy McDonald, Audubon, Pa.; Sept. 25 (1987) Duffy Daugherty, Santa Barbara, Calif.; Sept. 27 (1998) Doak Walker, Steamboat Springs, Colo.

Happy birthdays to NFF College Hall of Fame members Sept. 22 Bob Crable, Sept. 24 Joe Greene (a spry 74), Joe Washington, Eddie George, Sept. 25 Dat Ngyuen, Sept. 26 Dave Casper...

Charlotte and North Carolina had to cancel last Saturday's contest in Chapel Hill because of COVID-19 depletion on the 49ers roster. Florida Atlantic and Georgia Southern cancelled their contest as GSU continues to tangle with COVID-19 posi-

tive tests...The hastily-arranged Baylor-Houston matchup in Waco, Texas, was postponed indefinitely as the Bears did not meet one of the Big 12 Conference's protocols for healthy players in the offensive line ranks...The two schools will face off in later seasons during a 2- or 3-game agreement...Virginia Tech's home ACC football matchup with Virginia has been rescheduled for Dec. 12 – the week before the Dec. 19 Dr Pepper ACC Championship contest...Saturday's Oklahoma State-West Virginia will be a 3:30 p.m. (CDT) telecast on ABC Sports...Navy edged Tulane on a final-second field goal for the second season in succession last Saturday...There must be something about Apogee Stadium in Denton, Texas. On Sept. 12 North Texas rolled to a nation-leading 721 yards of total offense in a win over Houston Baptist. Then last week SMU put 710 yards of total offense on the board in a victory over UNT. In the first two contests at the stadium this season, the four teams have combined for 188 points...Historian Mike Burrows charted that 22 states have all NCAA FBS schools competing in 2020, and there are now 81 FBS members playing for a possible 82 positions in post-2020 bowls...UNC Greensboro, North Texas, SMU, Houston, UNLV, and Nevada are working on cross-sectional scheduling in a variety of sports.

The CAA has established the CAA Family - United For Change Executive Committee, which will provide opportunities for dialogue for social justice and inclusion efforts...Troy athletics and the Trojans student-athlete advisory committee has started TroyCARES to foster communication, action, respect, education, and social responsibility on campus...UNC Greensboro athletics has established the S.H.I.E.L.D. program (Spartans Honor, Inclusion, Equity, Love and Diversity), which will seek to a united voice with the UNCG athletics staff and student-athletes for cultural diversity, student-athlete engagement, internal and external inclusion functions, and hiring practices....The Oregon's Health Authority has allowed Oregon & Oregon State permission to practice and play games with some new health plans going into effect.

Georgia head Kirby Smart and his family are giving back \$1 million of his 2020-21 compensation to assist the UGA athletics budget...LSU AD head coach Ed Orgeron told media he believes most of LSU's football student-athletes have had possibly mild forms of COVID-19 and that the team medical and SEC protocols have been followed. Orgeron also was a featured guest on CBS' 60 Minutes news program ...NC State head football coach Dave Doeren told media the Wolfpack had 105 players at practice on Sept. 15, and two

weeks earlier on Sept. 15, the Pack had just 45 players available...Sports Illustrated has reported that Jackson State may be negotiating with NFF College Hall of Fame player and MLB standout Deion Sanders of Florida State as head coach.

Hometowns of more 2020 college head coaches – Miami (Ohio): Chuck Martin, Park Forest, Ill.; Michigan: Jim Harbaugh, Toledo, Ohio; Michigan State: Mel Tucker, Cleveland, Ohio; Middle Tennessee: Rick Stockstill, Sidney, Ohio; Millsaps: Isaac Carter, Las Vegas, N.M.

Syracuse director of athletics John Wildhack is donating \$1 million back to SU athletics to support the financial future of the program...California Baptist named former Indiana State director of athletics and NCAA managing director of championships Ron Prettyman as interim AD ...Maryland AD Damon Evans indicated the each Big Ten school is responsible for paying for the required COVID-19 football testing with an estimated will cost between \$700,000 and \$1 million...Florida AD Scott Stricklin had a preview of possible crowd noise for the Gators home opener Oct. 3 against South Carolina and noted that there will be a marching band on hand in smaller numbers than previous years due to social distancing and crowd limitations ...The Central Michigan AD search has been narrowed to three finalists: Texas executive senior associate AD Amy G. Folan, Michigan State deputy AD Alan Haller and Arizona athletics administrator /chief operating officer Derek van der Merwe, a former CMU football student-athlete...The San Jose, Calif., Mercury News newspaper reported that UCLA AD Martin Jarmond and USC AD Mike Bohn had a recent Zoom call to discuss with local health authorities the earliest possible dates to return to practice...Former Louisiana Tech AD Tommy McClelland has become the new deputy AD for external affairs and revenue generation at Vanderbilt while former Dartmouth executive associate AD for varsity sports Dr. Kristine Kelly is now VU's deputy AD for internal affairs and senior woman administrator...Air Force named former Washington senior associate AD Shondell Reed as associate AD starting Oct. 12 ...Former Tulsa AD Derrick Gragg officially left for his new position at the NCAA last Thursday, and former Tulsa/Tulane /Washington State AD Rick Dickson has been mentioned as both an interim or full-time AD possibility as well as some current members of the staff...Miami (Fla.) Senior Associate AD for Facilities & Event Operations Tim Wise, Southern Miss Associate AD Tim Atkinson and UAB Senior Director of Athletics Facilities & Events Brendan Dwyer spoke about game

preparation, in-game safety and cleanup /wrapup at a recent seminar...

Big Ten Conference commissioner Kevin Warren told the Wall Street Journal about the importance of alignment and that is no such thing as over-communication ...The Southeastern Conference is expected to mandate a healthy, 53-man scholarship squad in order to play weekly games with approval pending...The Mid-American Conference office reiterated that it will put a hold on all autumn sports, but MAC directors of athletics told media they may rethink fall competition after the decision by the Big Ten to start play Oct. 24. They also support a possible championship game at Ford Field in Detroit on a date to be determined in December...Mountain West Conference commissioner Craig Thompson noted last week that there several medical and related groups working on the possibility of a return for all fall sports in coming days for the MWC, and an eight-game slate with a conference championship clash is a possibility...Eight Conference USA contests were either shown live nationally or were webstreamed on ESPN3 last Saturday. The Appalachian State-Marshall contest last weekend was moved to mid-afternoon for a CBS national telecast ...Lone Star Conference and Lubbock Christian scholar-athlete Maddi Chitsey-Crisler has been chosen as a Top 30 honoree among 605 national nominees for the 2020 NCAA Woman of the Year Award ...The Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference revealed its tentative schedules for men's and women's basketball in 2020-21...The CAA may release its 2021 spring football schedule in late October or early November

College Football Playoff executive director Bill Hancock explained that more time is needed before the CFP selection committee and post-2020 bowls can gauge the impact of the Big Ten's return to gridiron competition...The Goodyear Cotton Bowl and Cotton Bowl Foundation partnered on National and Texas Giving Day last Thursday to give \$100,000 in grants to Catch Up & Read and Urban Teachers as a part the charitable cause for educators. Nationwide \$4 million-plus was raised for these two educational funds.

Cincinnati QB Desmond Ritter was 13-for-19 for 194 yards with two TDs as the nationally-ranked Bearcats downed FCS opponent Austin Peat of the Ohio Valley Conference...Houston transfer D'Eriq King ran and passed No. 17 Miami (Fla.) past No. 18 Louisville 47-34 with 18-for-30 passing for 325 yards and three TDs. King's record streak of 16 games with a rushing and passing TD came to an end, but the Hurricanes helped second-year head coach Manny Diaz roll to a 2-0 start ...QB Dillon Gabriel threw four touchdown passes in UCF's intersectional triumph over Georgia Tech of the ACC 49-21 last week in Atlanta...Georgia Tech DE Curtis Ryans had two sacks and a fumble recovery in a big ACC road win at Florida Stat to notch FWAA Bronko Nagurski

Defensive Player of the Week kudos..WKU punter John Haggerty was the Ray Guy Award National Punter of the Week after averaging 46.2 yards on five punts against Louisville...Baylor LB Terrel Bernard, QB Charlie Brewer, RB Jon Lovett, and DB Raleigh Texada were mentioned prominently in a recent preseason preview...SMU quarterback Shane Buechele passed for 344 yards and five touchdowns while RB Ulysses Bentley IV had a career-best 227 yards rushing on 19 carries to assist the Mustangs in a 65-point game against North Texas. SMU is averaging 48 markers through two encounters...Conference USA standouts UTSA running back Sincere McCormick (197 yards rushing vs. Texas State), Charlotte LB Tyler Murray (14 tackles and a hand in three turnovers forced against Appalachian State) and UTSA kicker Hunter Duplessis (game winning field goal vs. Texas State) were featured in recent game updates...The Earl Campbell Tyler Rose Award for games of Sept. 10-12 went to Texas QB Sam Ehlinger after he passed for 426 yards and five touchdowns against UTEP...Former Texas A&M standout Tyree Wilson gained football eligibility for Texas Tech last week against Texas after a NCAA ruling...Arlington (Texas) Lamar HS safety Harold West verbally committed to North Texas...Former Rhode Island standout Tyrese Martin has gained an immediate waiver for 2020-21 eligibility at Connecticut...

NFF College Hall of Fame player and NFL Pro Bowl defensive lineman Russell Maryland of Miami (Fla.) is part of a committee to advance diversity and inclusion issues in the Southlake (Texas)Independent School District...Gary Steele, father of ESPN personality Sage Steele and the first Black football student-athlete for Army West Point football from 1967-69, was remembered in a recent story. Steele also was one of the first Black standouts to compete against Vanderbilt of the SEC during the 1968 season in a game at Michie Stadium...The NFL Kansas City Chiefs confirmed earlier in the week that a fan present at the Sept. 10 opener tested positively for COVID-19... Former Oklahoma head coach Bob Stoops has sold his Gold Coast area home in Chicago, Ill....Penn State athletics had 859 COVID-19 tests in recent days with 50 positives through Sept. 11...Louisiana-Monroe is allowing 25 percent capacity with no on-campus tailgating for its home contests...Florida Atlantic returned to full practices last week prior to its game with Georgia Southern after a short respite due to health concern....Memphis athletics had 46 active COVID-19 at one point last week, but it was not totally clear how many actually were attributed to football student-athletes...Massachusetts will not play football as a FBS independent this year and hopes to compete in spring 2021...Nebraska-Kearney reports a record domestic fall enrollment and total listing of 6,225 students – many of them college football

fanatics...Texas Woman's U. has enrollment for the fall semester approaching 16,000 total and a current endowment of \$79.6 with Carnegie Classification for its doctoral research degrees...Duquesne athletics is partnering with Paciolan on ticketing and financial updates...UC San Diego has unveiled its new 2020-21 court at RIMAC Arena...UNI has organized the UNI Fight Initiative to help offset a \$2.5 million budget shortfall...Robert Morris athletics has unveiled its new brand identity and creative strategy with the RMU UNITE campaign to engage students, fans, donors, and the community...San Diego State football officially will begin playing its home football games at Dignity Health Sports Park in 2021... Florida A&M athletics has repaid a four-year debt of \$1.1 million to auxiliary groups...Yum Brands and the Louisville Yum Arena is finishing a 10-year contract with strong possibilities of a renewal...Toledo athletics has inked a multi-year partnership with INFLCR ...Sports agency Rubicon Talent is beginning a college sports division, which will be called Rubicon-U...SMU has moved some of its equipment to an upper concourse to maintain six-foot social distancing between players and staff members ...Ole Miss will feature new powder blue uniforms for its home opener with Florida Saturday...North Texas again has offered youngsters 12 and under membership in the popular Scrappy Squad named for the Eagles mascot...Missouri expects 12 student-athletes to miss its opener with Alabama due to COVID-19 while 'Bama ended last week with no active cases...UT Arlington athletics has paused team workouts after three positive COVID-19 cases ...Montana reopened its Champions Center after a four-day precautionary shutdown for health and safety measures...Boise State athletics is in a second round of furloughs and salary updates with furlough from 4-12 weeks and salary changes for as many as 120 employees...Georgia Tech athletics estimated that are \$29.3 million of the school's projected \$80.5 million total budget for 2020-21 is associated with personnel and benefits...Boston College, Harvard,

MIT, Northeastern, and other colleges in the Boston, Mass., area are utilizing new tracing methods against COVID-19 spread ...Highland Park (Texas) cancelled last week's scrimmage against fellow traditional Texas powerhouse Euless Trinity HS due to possible health concerns and also had to cancel its first two regular-season games slated for Sept. 25 and Oct. 2...Krum (Texas) HS has locked down all athletics' activities and in-person classes after a recent upsurge in COVID-19 in the Denton County burg...Longtime athletics sponsor Papa John's Pizza is moving its corporate HQ from Louisville to Atlanta next year ...Wagner will add men's swimming and diving as its 26th varsity sport for the 2021-22 school year...Pennsylvania athletics has launched Set the Future in Motion: The Final Year of the Game Onward Campaign to urge donors to make a continued investment in scholarships and the education of Quakers student-athletes.....Louisiana athletics has had a solid early response to the GEAUX Beyond Fund to aid the Ragin' Cajuns department...Air Force athletics has initiated the Ascend to Thin Air campaign to help raise \$1.25 million for operations over the next five years ...Saint Mary's (Calif.) athletics just completed the Student Athlete Performance Center, which has 7,000 square feet of workout space in its indoor and outdoor areas, 20 work stations, a 30-yard turf runway, six flat screen televisions, and rolling glass garage doors for access and air flow ...UAB is renovating its basketball practice facility and several other areas for \$8.5 million with all funding coming from private gifts and sponsorships...Illinois athletics' golf course, formerly known as Stone Creek Golf Club, has been renamed to the Atkins Golf Club after an anonymous gift to the course of \$5 million...UCLA athletics has named Ready Nutrition to serve as the official protein of UCLA athletics ...Louisville athletics expanded its relationship with Opendorse to assist with names, images and likenesses compensation in upcoming NCAA measures (2023)..Indiana State athletics has signed with Collegiate

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Sports Associates to conduct an extensive athletics program written review...East Tennessee State athletics ordered a complete quarantine for the men's basketball team after recent COVID-19 testing...The Battle 4 Atlantis basketball tournaments will take a one-year hiatus due to health concerns and return in November 2021 ...Penn State will not allow tailgating on-campus for 2020 football games this fall.. ...Nine players from the 19th-ranked-nationally Louisiana football squad were unavailable last Saturday against Georgia State, but the Ragin' Cajuns downed Georgia State on the road 34-28 in overtime...Houston athletics has partnered with Loop Insights for COVID-19 contact tracing ...Elon football has taken a practice break with 21 student-athletes having positive COVID-19 tests and 18 others have with symptoms...Massachusetts athletics is facing a potential \$5 million budget shortfall and will reduce hours and request furloughs for 57 fulltime staff members ...Penn State athletics generated \$164.6 million and grew its reserve fund to \$15.7 million for fiscal year 2020. The Nittany Lions have had pay cuts for top-level administrators and have been told about possible loans for athletics in case of 2020-21 deficits...Oklahoma State athletics is eliminating operations directors for men's basketball, women's basketball, football, wrestling, equestrian, and baseball as part of slices in the 2020-21 budget deficit.

ABC Sports averaged 3.46 million viewers during Clemson's primetime matchup with Wake Forest on Saturday and 3.52 million during its coverage of lightning-delayed Florida State and Georgia Tech on Sept. 12...ESPN mulled over the Patriot League has reached a multiyear broadcast rights agreement with ESPN+ to broadcast 800-plus events each academic year...*The Athletic* reported that ESPN Game Day decided to go to live campus settings after examining the possibility of having virtual Game Day programs from multiple studio and home locations...Clemson football has added the Death Valley Live streaming video program during pregame and halftime of each home football game with sponsorship by Wells Fargo and availability on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and the official Clemson website...D1Baseball.com offered several intra-conference baseball scenarios for 2021 as virtually every college league will cut back its overall slates and weekend circuit activity...Outfront Media Sports has been acquired by Playfly Sports Properties, which has nationwide Sinclair Broadcast Group and Access Holdings as key investors...Texas Wesleyan athletics and BlueFrame Technology will team with BFT as the official streaming provider for Wesleyan. All events will be streamed free of charge on the official website Ramsports.com...The San Jose, Calif., Mercury News newspaper reported that the main hurdles for Pac-12 Conference return might be local health restrictions, consensus on a training camp

schedule and approval from campus presidents and chancellors to proceed.

The FWAA has published a special online directory for the first times in its 79-year history. Webmaster Ted Eiden of Sportswriters.net and the FWAA.com was instrumental in the update, which will result in thousands of dollars saved in mailing and printing costs...Kyle Parkinson of Arkansas, Michael Clark of Ball State, Art Chase of Duke, Kent Brown of Illinois, and Ben Kessler of Maryland were featured subjects and opinion makers in the CoSIDA Open Forum online newsletter...Arizona State, Colorado State, Kansas, Louisville, Michigan State, NC State, San Jose State, and UCLA are working with NCAA enforcement and compliance officials concerning possible issues and reports at their respective schools...The NCAA plans to begin Division men's and women's basketball in full competition Nov. 25 with all practices beginning Oct. 14...NCAA senior vice president of basketball operations Dan Gavitt explained why the executive committee decided to open the 2020-21 season on Nov. 25 instead of Nov. 21...The 2020 Preseason Women's NIT has been canceled due to the delayed start (Nov. 25) of the college basketball schedule...The NCAA Executive Council also has extended the 2020-21 recruiting dead period through Jan. 1, 2021 ...NCAA Chief Medical Officer Dr. Brian Hainline continues to make talks throughout the nation on safety measures and prevention of the spread of COVID-19...The NCAA Council has approved the format for the spring NCAA FCS season and playoffs. The eight maximum spring games will be played anytime from Jan. 23-April 17 with the playoffs set to begin April 24 and finish on May 15 or 16. The '21 post-season field also will be cut from 24 to 16...The Society of Professional Journalists has been working with hundreds of newspapers and media outlets on celebration of SPJ Professional Ethics Month in September.

2020-21 College Football Playoff Bowl Schedule with New Year's Six Games (All Games Televised by ESPN, EST)

CFP

Friday, Jan. 1, 2021 (CFP Semifinals)
Rose Bowl presented by Northwestern Mutual, Rose Bowl, Pasadena, Calif., 5 p
Allstate Sugar Bowl, Mercedes-Benz Stadium, New Orleans, La., 8:45 p.m.

Monday, Jan. 11 - CFP Championship,
Hard Rock Stadium, Miami, Fla., 8 p.m.
Wednesday, Dec. 30-Jan. 2 (Other New Year's Six Bowls)

Wednesday, Dec. 30 - Goodyear Cotton Bowl – AT&T Stadium, Arlington, TBD
Friday, Jan. 1 – Chick-Fil-A Peach Bowl, Mercedes-Benz Stadium, Atlanta, Saturday, Jan. 2 - PlayStation Fiesta Bowl, State Farm Stadium, Glendale, Az, Capital One Orange Bowl, Hard Rock Stadium, Miami, Fla., TBD

In My Opinion...By Bo Carter



Pure-D Texas High School Football (And a Good One at That...Maybe)

By Bo Carter
– Sept. 20, 2020

PROSPER, Texas - Nothing is better than watching two nearby Texas high school football rivals duke it out in a tussle of towns – Gunter and Pilot Point – separated by some 17 miles.

And this one took place on a grand stage – Children's Health Stadium in Prosper with a capacity of 12,000 and a \$53 million price tag – plus one of a handful of dedicated Texas high school football stadiums with a corporate sponsor.

Well, the teams gave it all on the artificial turf and provided the 25 percent allowed turnout (maybe just a little less) quite a few thrills and chills.

But...

Gosh, can the audio-visual people at CHS turn up the volume any louder? Was wondering if the competing teams asked for the loud array of rap and heavy metal music that drowned out two nifty bands and hard-working drum corps and band directors many times.

As it ended, Gunter advanced to 3-1 with a hard-fought 30-14 triumph, and a "witty" public address guy kept the crowd in stitches (not really).

His loud semi-East Texas twang rang loudly through the 75 percent empty behemoth of a high school facility, and the hearty "thank yewwwws" were reminiscent of one of our favorite, retired college baseball coaches – Florida State Hall of Fame mentor Mike Martin.

Yes, there were frequent scripted kudos for teachers, administrators and masked and distanced fans, bands and spirit groups and the peremptory Texas University Interscholastic League pregame announcements about sportsmanship ("Don't boo the game officials or the opposing team" – very appropriate), and then came the kabooms.

Every time one of the two teams dented the end zone, here came the exploding graphics and key seconds of whatever drowning out cheering fans and the hard-working but outnumbered band members.

Even the police siren sound effect (shades of old friend and former Houston head coach John Jenkins and the piercing air raid sound effects inside the Astrodome – always a blast when the Cougars scored) when Gunter took the field to start the fra-

cas and after halftime was a bit of a welcome relief, though it might have been a first in 12 seasons of covering and 34 years of watching Texas high school football.

In between the artificial noise, the two teams – with many players going both ways for a GHS team with 37 players (including a handful of freshmen) listed on the roster and Pilot Point with 69 football student-athletes on the preseason roster but with numbers seemingly dwindling – had an evening to remember.

Gunter quarterback Hudson Graham carried the oval seven times on the first 12 plays from scrimmage and ended with 84 yards rushing while PPHS quarterback Max Hollar was the star of that show on offense with 10-for-17 passing night and 102 yards, two touchdowns and 14 carries for a net of 23 yards while being sacked three times.

Though time of possession was not available, Gunter piled up 19 first downs to 13 for the designated visiting Pilot Point eleven and had a large chunk of ball control time during the second half after building a 16-7 advantage at intermission.

All-in-all, it was a great night for weather (76 degrees at kickoff – a rarity for mid-September in Texas) and sheer on-field gridiron pageantry but a little sad that some fans missed getting inside the fantastic structure.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, all ticketing was online and through cell phones, and some fans could not get a good enough WiFi connection to scan the ticketing bar codes at the closed ticket windows. One of my favorite lines of the evening from a very polite ticket taker: "maybe if you walk around a little, you can get a good signal."

Oh, well, fun high school football is fun high school football in the Lone Star State despite noise distractions and shortage of WiFi for walkup tickets, and the players and fans seemed to enjoy the big city atmosphere.

Gunter finished the year 2-0 at Children's Health Stadium after a Sept. 11 neutral site 42-10 win over Whitesboro (sometimes confused with Patrick Mahomes' alma mater Whitehouse HS in East Texas) and heads to Whitewright Friday night with a 3-1 overall mark while Pilot Point hosts 3-0 Peaster in a key district showdown.

Postlude: In the column about the two Decatur – Texas and Alabama – the DHS Eagles of the Lone Star State fell to another talented team on the road in a 31-14 loss to Graham. The Eagles travel to Glen Rose, Texas, to meet the 4-0 Tigers Friday. The DHS Red Raiders of North Alabama dropped to 0-5 after a 13-7 edging against New Market (Ala.) Buckhorn HS and have to meet tradition-rich and 5-0 Cullman in the River City Friday.

NFL Picks and Predictions: Week 3



By Mike McFee

NFL game picks and predictions for Week 3 of the 2020 season are tricky now that desperation is setting in for the remaining winless teams.

Of the 11 teams that enter Week 3 with 0-2 records, all but two are underdogs this week based on the point spreads. They'll be fighting against those odds knowing an 0-3 start to the season is all but a fork in what a few weeks ago was the promise of a fresh start.

The pair of winless teams entering Week 3 as favorites to win are the Eagles and Falcons against the Bengals and Bears, respectively. Both have the advantage of playing at home. The odds also suggest the Dolphins and Vikings have strong chances to pick up their first wins of the season based on the tight lines for their games against the Jaguars and Titans, respectively. With that as the background, below are our picks and predictions for Week 3 of the NFL season.

Miami (0-2) at Jacksonville (1-1)
Thursday, 7:20 p.m., NBC
Line: Jaguars -3 / 47.5

Unless the Dolphins decide now is the time to start Tua Tagovialoa at quarterback, we can't see Miami outscoring Jacksonville in this game, especially if Byron Jones is out of the Dolphins' lineup. Gardner Minshew's strong start to the season combined with Miami's relative struggles defensively tilts the scale toward the Jaguars.

Pick: Jaguars 30, Dolphins 26

Chicago (2-0) at Atlanta (0-2)
Sunday, 12 p.m., FOX
Line: Falcons -3 / 47.5

The Falcons' unthinkable loss to the Cowboys last week makes it easy to forget this team, though winless, has been lighting it up offensively. Which makes Matt Ryan and Co. a tough matchup for a Bears defense that has been good-but-not-great through their two wins. Chicago will do some scoring against Atlanta's shaky defense, but not enough.

Pick: Falcons 34, Bears 24

L.A. Rams (2-0) at Buffalo (2-0)
Sunday, 12 p.m., FOX
Line: Bills -2.5 / 47.5

The Bills have taken care of business in the division thus far with wins over the Jets and Dolphins, which is a good sign for Buffalo regarding its AFC East title hopes. This game will tell us more about the Bills' chances beyond the division. The Rams are off to a hot start, and Sean McVay's teams tend to play well in this early window for a west coast team. This feels like a toss-up.

Pick: Bills 28, Rams 2

Washington (1-1) at Cleveland (1-1)
Sunday, 12 p.m., Fox
Line: Browns -7 / 44

Washington through two weeks has proven it will not be an easy out under new coach Ron Rivera this season no matter its roster limitations. The Browns, meanwhile, are still trying to prove their relatively stacked roster can play well enough together to win on a consistent basis. Cleveland can't afford to drop this one at home and spoil all of the positive vibes that came from their Week 2 win over Cincinnati.

Pick: Browns 27, Washington 17

Tennessee (2-0) at Minnesota (0-2)

Sunday, 12 p.m., CBS
Line: Titans -2.5 / 47.5

This is a surprising line even though the Vikings are 0-2 with a struggling quarterback in Kirk Cousins. Minnesota returns home following its clunker in Indianapolis last week and draws a team it's built to beat as long as the offense can stay on schedule. The combination of desperation and better ball protection should get the Vikings on the board with a win.

Pick: Vikings 28, Titans 23

Las Vegas (0-2) at New England (1-1)
Sunday, 12 p.m., CBS
Line: Patriots -6 / 47.5

The Patriots probably would prefer to win games the way they did against the Dolphins in Week 1, controlling the line of scrimmage and the game tempo with the power running game. But they proved in the Week 2 loss to the Seahawks they can compete in high-scoring games with Cam Newton's passing, too. The Raiders game could go either way, but the Patriots will be prepared regardless.

Pick: Patriots 30, Raiders 24

San Francisco (1-1) at N.Y. Giants (0-2)
Sunday, 12 p.m., FOX
Line: 49ers -4 / 41

This is quite literally the last place the 49ers would want to play in Week 3. That has nothing to do with the Giants and everything to do with the field at MetLife Stadium, which may or may not have led to the alarming injuries San Francisco suffered last week when it beat up on the Jets at the same venue. Jimmy Garoppolo being out of the lineup will help make this a close game, but the 49ers will be the better

team regardless.

Pick: 49ers 23, Giants 20

Cincinnati (0-2) at Philadelphia (0-2)
Sunday, 12 p.m., CBS
Line: Eagles -6 / 46.5

Barring a tie, one of these teams is going to leave Lincoln Financial Field on Sunday in an 0-3 hole and with the inevitable feeling that its hopes for the season are dashed. The spread suggests the home team should be an easy pick, but the Eagles' brutal performances in their two losses suggest otherwise. The trends for these teams are moving in a way that's good for Cincinnati and bad for Philly.

Pick: Bengals 27, Eagles 23

Houston (0-2) at Pittsburgh (2-0)
Sunday, 1 p.m., CBS
Line: Steelers -4 / 45

This is a tough game to predict in part because the two-week samples for these teams don't provide enough information. The Steelers are 2-0 after wins against bad teams, and the Texans are 0-2 after losses to good teams. Houston will be in desperation mode, but Deshaun Watson can only do so much. The Steelers' complete roster and coaching advantages will outweigh the Texans' QB advantage.

Pick: Steelers 27, Texans 21

N.Y. Jets (0-2) at Indianapolis (1-1)
Sunday, 3:05 p.m., CBS
Line: Colts -10.5 / 43.5

This is the biggest line of Week 3, which reflects how poorly the Jets have played through the first two weeks of the season. They have to at least compete against the Colts, or the calls for coach Adam Gase's job will become louder than they already are. The only chance for that, though, is a bunch of Philip Rivers turnovers, which is not out of the realm of possibility.

Pick: Colts 34, Jets 23

Carolina (0-2) at L.A. Chargers (1-1)
Sunday, 3:05 p.m., CBS
Line: Chargers -6.5 / 44

The Chargers are dealing with a strange quarterback situation, insisting they'll put Tyrod Taylor back in the lineup if he can play following the chest-pain scare that led to rookie Justin Herbert's impressive first start last week. Regardless, the Panthers' chances in this game depend on Christian McCaffrey's availability, and he'll be out.

Pick: Chargers 26, Panthers 20

Tampa Bay (1-1) at Denver (0-2)
Sunday, 3:25 p.m., FOX
Line: Bucs -6 / 43.5

(continued on page 16)

Todd Bowles' defense is not what Jeff Driskel needs to see in his first start in place of the injured Drew Lock. The Todd Bowles' defense is not what Jeff Driskel needs to see in his first start in place of the injured Drew Lock. The matchup on that side of the ball makes what Tom Brady does on the other side almost irrelevant, though the Bucs' offense looked much better in Week 2 than it did in Week 1.

Pick: Buccaneers 24, Broncos 16

Detroit (0-2) at Arizona (2-0)
Sunday, 3:25 p.m., FOX
Line: Cardinals -6 / 54.5

Based mostly on the incredible play of Kyler Murray through the first two weeks of the season, this game for the Lions has gone from winnable to challenging in a hurry. Detroit's defense doesn't have enough to slow down Arizona, which will put Mathew Stafford in more bad spots.

Pick: Cardinals 31, Lions 21

Dallas (1-1) at Seattle (2-0)
Sunday, 3:25 p.m., FOX
Line: Seahawks -5 / 55.5

Fox's Game of the Week is a dandy, especially with the Cowboys riding the high of their historic comeback win over the Falcons last week. The Seahawks are coming off an exhilarating win of their own with a red-hot quarterback. This should be tight. We like the team former Jets safety Jamal Adams wanted to play for to edge the team he ended up joining via trade.

Pick: Cowboys 28, Seahawks 24

Green Bay (2-0) at New Orleans (2-0)
Sunday, 7:20 p.m., NBC
Line: Saints -3 / 54.5

This game understandably will be teased as a matchup of future Hall of Fame quarterbacks in Aaron Rodgers and Drew Brees even though the best players on the field might end up being running backs Aaron Jones and Alvin Kamara. The Saints will be missing the edge that would have been a prime-time Superdome crowd, which is a big deal against Rodgers. The Packers QB getting to use his hard count on the road in 2020 isn't fair.

Pick: Packers 30, Saints 24

Kansas City (2-0) at Baltimore (2-0)
Monday, 7:20 p.m., ESPN
Line: Ravens -3.5 / 53.5

ESPN for years has been angling to get a better NFL TV package, so this "Monday Night Football" gem should be extra satisfying for the network. It's the rare big game where, barring catastrophic injury, the loser can't feel too bad about itself. The Ravens have looked better than the Chiefs thus far in 2020, so we'll take the home team. Kansas City obviously will be fine in the long run should it drop this one in Week 3.

Pick: Ravens 33, Chiefs 27

Cowboys: 5 bold predictions for Week 3



The Cowboys Seahawks matchup will be highly entertaining

By Jake Nichols

The Dallas Cowboys and Seattle Seahawks will face off in Week 3 of the 2020 NFL season in what will be a highly anticipated matchup.

After experiencing a controversial loss to the Rams in their season opener, the Cowboys pulled off an improbable comeback against the Falcons. Dallas displayed real potential in how they rallied back from an early 20-0 deficit against Atlanta.

The Seahawks will look to remain undefeated after they take on the Cowboys. Like Dallas, Seattle also faced the Falcons but did so during their season opener and won by a comfortable margin. The Seahawks followed that up by defeating the Patriots on Sunday Night Football with no shortage of dramatic flare involved.

For either of these two teams, managing to get a win this head-to-head matchup would send a message. The Cowboys would show the rest of the NFC East they are to be feared. Meanwhile, the Seahawks would further make their case for being legitimate Super Bowl contenders.

With that being said, let's take a look at five bold predictions for the Dallas Cowboys vs. Seattle Seahawks matchup in Week 3 of the 2020 NFL season.

5. Zeke Finishes with 125+ All-Purpose Yards, 2+ TDs

The excellence Ezekiel Elliott provides the Cowboys' offense on a weekly basis has become something to be expected. However, his consistency does not diminish the impressive nature of his achievement.

So far this season, Elliott has averaged 92.5 rushing yards along with 22.0 receiving yards. He's not going to put up career-best numbers with how many weapons the Cowboys' offense now has, but regardless,

he sets the tone for Dallas out of the backfield.

The Seahawks' defense is no easy unit to go up against. The level of impact Jamal Adams makes as a run-stopper is truly game-changing and can make things difficult for most running backs. It will be a highly entertaining matchup to watch for that reason.

It won't be easy, but Elliott is the type of talent to transcend tough matchups. He will end up exceeding 125 all-purpose yards while racking up multiple touchdowns.

4. Jamal Adams Records 10+ Tackles, 1+ Sack

It's rare to find a talent that has the level of versatility that Jamal Adams possesses in his skill-set. The Seahawks have been able to benefit from this and it's been on full display even in just his first two performances with the organization.

Adams has managed to reach double-figures in tackles in his first two games of the season — combining for 22 total tackles with 3.5 being for a loss. Additionally, he has managed to record a sack in each of his outings.

As previously mentioned, Ezekiel Elliott will play a pivotal role for the Cowboys' offense as he always does. There will be a real need for Adams to slow him down along with the rest of Dallas' weapons in the open field — providing no shortage of potential tackles.

With the Seahawks needing to send pressure to Dak Prescott using different looks, Adams will be sent as a pass rusher at times. Expect the All-Pro safety to find a way to get to Prescott and bring him down for a sack at least once in this matchup.

3. Three Receivers Exceed 100 Yards

There will be no shortage of offensive

firepower on the field when the Cowboys and Seahawks face off with each other. The wide receiver position could end up featuring some dynamic performances during this matchup.

It was by a thin margin, but the Cowboys did have two receivers that surpassed the 100-yard mark in Week 2. For reference, CeeDee Lamb finished with 106 yards and Amari Cooper's total was at exactly 100 yards at the end of his performance.

The most likely option for the Seahawks to reach 100 receiving yards appears to be D.K. Metcalf. He is a dynamic deep-threat and can pull off truly dynamic sequences, such as the 54-yard catch he had against the Patriots.

2. Both QBs Combine for 750+ Yards, 7+ TDs

Both the Cowboys and Seahawks are coming off head-to-head matchups in Week 2 that featured phenomenal results from their quarterbacks. With both teams facing off in Week 3, they could end up combining for some truly impressive totals in key areas.

There isn't a quarterback with more passing touchdowns (9) than Russell Wilson through the initial two weeks of the 2020 season. Against the Patriots, he ended up tossing around five touchdown throws all to different receivers. There's little reason to expect the Seahawks' QB to slow down his pace.

Dak Prescott actually has more rushing touchdowns (3) than touchdown passes (2) so far this season. With Ezekiel Elliott being such a red-zone threat, Wilson will probably outproduce Prescott in touchdowns. However, Prescott should have more yards similar to the 450 yard performance he had against the Falcons.

It's going to require substantial production from the quarterback position in this matchup. When it's all said and done, both Wilson and Prescott will end up racking up combined totals in excess of 750 passing yards with eight touchdowns.

1. Cowboys Pull Out Surprise Win

It was a real struggle for the Cowboys to defeat winning teams last season. In fact, their inability to get the job done in such situations was essentially the cause for them failing to win the NFC East division title.

That's not going to be a problem for the Cowboys in 2020 and will play a pivotal role in their efforts of winning the NFC East. Meanwhile, the Seahawks will look to continue to rack up wins but may have to wait another week to get their next win.

The favorite in this matchup will almost surely be the Seahawks, but the Cowboys will be the ones to come out with the win. It won't be by a substantial margin, but regardless, Dallas will send a message with a win over an elite team.

The Swedish automaker's flagship SUV



Standard systems do everything from prevent a collision with a vehicle in your blind spot

By Matt Degen

The Volvo XC90 is the Swedish automaker's flagship SUV, a 3-row luxury vehicle that drips with alluring design and sophisticated features. As is Volvo's maxim, safety comes in spades in the XC90. Standard systems do everything from prevent a collision with a vehicle in your blind spot to automatically apply the brakes if an animal or other object is in the road. In addition to being a tech and safety powerhouse, the XC90 deftly competes with luxury-crossover SUVs like the Audi Q7, BMW X5 and Acura MDX thanks to innovative powertrains, including a plug-in hybrid variant. Pricing spans from a reasonable \$48,000 for a base model to \$67,000 for a plug-in hybrid. An exclusive, ultra-luxurious 4-passenger model is offered at an eye-popping \$105,000-plus.

If you need proof a small engine can power a big vehicle, see the Volvo's 4-cylinder as Exhibit A. While the automaker has announced its future vehicles will incorporate electrification, we hope its internal-combustion gem continues to play a role. In standard T5 form, the 2.0-liter engine is turbocharged, similar to rivals like the Audi Q7. With 250 horsepower, it does a competent but not remarkable job moving the XC90. Step up to the T6, though, and you'll be awed at what it can do. That's because the engine is turbocharged and supercharged, creating more power — 316 ponies — and stronger delivery. The third powertrain, the T8 plug-in hybrid model, is actually the most powerful but we found it in need of refinement. Transitions between the gasoline and electric powertrains were neither seamless nor predictable. Regardless of which engine you choose, expect a quiet and compliant ride. Not surprisingly, the XC90's handling

favors that of other European vehicles — taut and on the firmer side.

This standard system brings us one step closer to autonomous driving. In addition to offering adaptive cruise control that paces the vehicle ahead, the system has the ability to steer the vehicle to keep it in lanes. Together, they can take stress out of a commute.

This optional audio system is the epitome of premium sound. With 1,400 watts and 19 speakers it's loud, yes, but the quality is superb, even when playing music files from your phone.

Volvo's interiors continue to impress, and the XC90 is the model that led the way in the automaker's recent design makeover. Sleek, sophisticated and anchored by Swedish minimalism, it's all elegantly cohesive. From the moment you start the car with the twist of a jewel-like knob, you feel like you're in a special place. Optional leather and wood abound, while the standard 9-inch vertical center display reminds of a Tesla. With the 2-row/5-passenger option gone for, the XC90's standard form is a 3-row/7-passenger hauler. The front seats remain among our favorites. In back, the third row is sufficient for children, and cargo area is impressive with seats folded. For those willing to spend six figures on a Volvo, the \$105,000-plus Excellence trim feels like a private jet. Instead of seating for seven, it has four individual seats (a pair in back to complement the pair in front), and each is seat is heated, cooled and has a massaging function.

The Volvo XC90 SUV's exterior is equally elegant with no small dose of strength. Just look to those T-shaped LED running lights, dubbed "Thor's Hammer," or that significant grille with a large Volvo emblem floating in the middle. Around back, long and curvaceous taillights lend

grace. Wheels range in size from 18 to 21 inches. On the practical side, the tailgate is hands-free and power-operated, the door handles are illuminated, and the side mirrors are retractable. R-Design models have a sportier, more aggressive character with a unique grille, high-gloss black exterior bits, matte-silver mirror caps and larger, octagonal exhaust outlets.

Volvo's naming structure can be a little confusing, but for simplicity there are three major trims: Momentum, R-Design and Inscription. The other nomenclature is tied to powertrain: the base engine is T5, the uplevel powertrain is T6, and the plug-in hybrid is called T8. The least expensive XC90 Momentum is well-equipped with the Pilot Assist semi-autonomous driving system, active safety features like blind-spot monitoring and lane-keeping aid, and a new feature that can prevent an on-coming collision. Leatherette upholstery is the base seat covering, but each front seat has commendable 10-way-power operation.

Also included are a hands-free power tailgate, HomeLink universal garage remote, panoramic moonroof, and four years' complimentary service of Volvo On-Call, which allows you to control certain vehicle functions via a mobile phone. The XC90's standard infotainment system bundles a 9-inch touch screen with navigation, 10-speaker/330-watt audio system, and Apple Car Play/Android Auto smartphone integration.

Moving up to the R-Design trim adds features that are also optional on the Momentum. They include leather interior, 12.3-inch digital dashboard, larger wheels, and a new harman/kardon audio system. The Volvo XC90 Inscription includes higher-grade Nappa leather upholstery, ventilated front seats, unique wheels and other premium aesthetics. Other options include the wonderful Bowers & Wilkins audio system, 4-corner air suspension, heated steering wheel and heated rear seats, and a headlight pressure-washing system. If you're among the select few who opt for the Volvo XC90 Excellence trim, you will get four individual seats, Orrefors crystal glasses, folding tray tables and a rear-seat refrigerator.

All versions of the XC90 lineup use some form of a 2.0-liter 4-cylinder engine. In T5 models, it's turbocharged for a respectable 250 horsepower. T5 models come standard with front-wheel drive (FWD) and have all-wheel drive (AWD) optional. In the T6, with AWD standard, the engine is a supercharged and turbocharged 2.0-liter that makes a stout 316 horsepower and develops 295 lb-ft of torque. The T8 Twin Engine plug-in hybrid's electric-motor/gas-engine combo yields 400 horsepower and 472 lb-ft of torque. Recharging takes 2.5 to six hours,

depending on voltage. The gasoline tank in the T8 has been increased by over five gallons. That extends total range from 380 miles in last year's model to 490 for this current one. All models use an 8-speed automatic transmission and an engine start/stop system that cuts power at idle. In our tests, we opted to shut off that system to prevent rough restarts, and now you can set it to stay off by default (swipe left on the touch screen). Drive-mode settings allow you to optimize the XC90 for comfort, efficiency, sportiness and even off-road settings. The XC90 SUV is rated to tow up to 5,000 pounds.

2.0-liter turbocharged inline-4 (T5)

250 horsepower @ 5,500 rpm

258 lb-ft of torque @ 1,500 rpm

EPA city/highway fuel economy: 21/29 mpg (FWD), 20/27 mpg (AWD)

2.0-liter supercharged/turbocharged inline-4 (T6 AWD)

316 horsepower @ 5,700 rpm

295 lb-ft of torque @ 2,200 rpm

EPA city/highway fuel economy: 19/26 mpg

2.0-liter supercharged/turbocharged inline-4 + electric motor (T8 AWD)

Engine:

313 horsepower @ 5,700 rpm

295 lb-ft of torque @ 2,200-5,400 rpm

Electric Motor:

87 horsepower/177 lb-ft of torque

Net Output: 400 horsepower / 472 lb-ft of torque

EPA city/highway fuel economy: 25 mpg combined, 58 MPGe combined

Pure electric range on a full charge: Up to 17 miles

The Volvo XC90 SUV has a Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price (MSRP) starting at \$48,195 for a base T5 Momentum model. All-wheel drive, which is standard on every other model, is an extra \$2,500 on the T5. An XC90 T6 begins at \$56,695, while the T8 plug-in hybrid XC90 starts at \$67,295. These prices are where most XC90 buyers will land, but a small minority will opt for the loaded, 4-passenger Excellence plug-in hybrid model. That extravagant hauler comes with a price tag of nearly \$106,000. If it's any consolation, it's eligible for roughly \$5,000 in federal tax incentives (as are the other T8 plug-in hybrids). At these prices, the XC90 starts under the Audi Q7, Lexus GX, Land Rover Discovery and BMW X5, and above the Acura MDX, Infiniti QX60 and Buick Enclave. Before buying, be sure to check the KBB.com Fair Purchase Price to see what others in your area are paying. The Volvo XC90's resale value is expected to hold up quite well in the years ahead.



TICKET WINDOW



New discoveries worth writing about



By Richard Pollak
The Traveling Gourmet
dallasentertain@aol.com

There are more Restaurants per capita in Dallas than in New York City. We don't have a pudding, peanut butter or cereal only store but we have exceptional new discoveries to share! The Dallas dining scene expands the globe and yet makes good for the local yokels like me!



Sumo Shack made the American Hot Dog a Japanese import

Sumo Shack has made the American Hot Dog a Japanese import. It's really fun to dress a dog with Japanese tastes and traditions. There is no Ketchup or Yellow Mustard and they use a different roll, made from Potatoes, then sprinkle it with all things you don't want to ask about only enjoy. The off campus SMU hangout has an exceptional Bar atmosphere as well.



Sumo Shack also offers bao Sandwiches

The second half of the Sumo Shack menu is bao sandwiches. Bao is a white, warm soft bun....also known as steamed buns...and can be packed away with just about anything. Sumo Shack offers nine different options such as Philly Cheese Steak, Fried Chicken, Pork Belly, Shitake Mushroom, Fish or Soft Shell Crab. There is even a Tofu option.

You have to be skeptical that the freshest New England seafood can land in Addison Texas but it has at Hudson House!



Hudson House brings East Coast seafood to the neighborhood

The menu is extensive from breakfast specialties such as Pancakes, Bagels and Lox, Avacado Toast and Eggs Benedict to lunch and dinner. Seafood, Salads to grilled Entrees. The weekly Happy Hour is fantastic and offers half price Oysters and the Worlds Coldest Martinis. The 'Big



Lobster Roll at Hudson House

Brother' Lobster Roll at Hudson House is a quarter pound of fresh Atlantic lobster served New England style and a must try.



The Ribeye at Nelson's

Nelson's is a full service casual dining restaurant specializing in grilled seafood and steaks. But it doesn't stop there, they also offer fantastic fried seafood baskets such as Fried Catfish and Fried Shrimp.

The Ribeye at Nelsons adds an upscale experience to the menu, along with grilled Redfish and Salmon. Sandwiches and Salads are available as well. A unique feature to the Appetizer menu that you rarely



Meat Point is a gourmet kosher steakhouse



Oven roasted, slow-cooked Brisket Tacos at Mesero

find is Deviled Eggs topped with Bacon, Relish or Plain.

Meat Point is a gourmet kosher steakhouse created by an Israeli chef featuring Israeli-American fusion of flavors. The menu is extensive featuring dishes such as lamb chops, rib eye steaks, grilled chicken and wonderful Angus rib eye burgers. A wide variety that includes wings, grilled bone marrow pasta and salads as well.

Mesero continental Mexico City cuisine

an array of Mexican dishes such as Redfish En La Media Concha, Pollo La Brasa, Carne Asada and familiar Mexican favorites such as Enchiladas, Tacos, combination plates, Caldos, Ensaladas and Nachos. If not in the mood for Mexican food, Masero also serves a double Cheese Cheeseburger, quarter pound Wagu Beef Hot Dog and oven roasted Chicken.

Mesero now has five locations in the Dallas area.

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- 4 (4 oz.) Omaha Steaks Burgers
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