

NFL Roundup

Pats' Lee, LaCrosse opt outs

Eagles coach Doug Pederson tests 'positive' for coronavirus

PHILADELPHIA, Aug 3, (AP): Philadelphia Eagles coach Doug Pederson has tested positive for COVID-19.

The Eagles released a statement Sunday night saying Pederson hasn't experienced any symptoms, is feeling well and under self-quarantine. The team also said any person who was in close contact with Pederson has been notified and will be tested daily.

Per NFL protocols, Pederson can return to the team's practice facility after waiting 10 days since his first positive test if he remains asymptomatic or at least five days if he has consecutive negative tests at least 24 hours apart during that five-day span.

The 52-year-old Pederson is the second NFL head coach known to test positive. New Orleans Saints coach Sean Payton said he had the coronavirus in March.



Pederson

The number of New England Patriots who have decided to sit out the season because of concerns over the coronavirus continues to grow.

On Sunday, receiver Marjise Lee and tight end Matt LaCrosse joined a list of six other Patriots players who have already declared their intentions to sit out this season.

Lee signed a one-year deal in April coming off two injury-filled seasons in Jacksonville. LaCrosse is entering his second season in New England.

Linebacker Dont'a Hightower, safety Patrick Chung, tackle Marcus Cannon and Najee Toran, running back Brandon Bolden and fullback Danny Vitale previously opted out.

After a series of coronavirus pandemic-related setbacks, the Buffalo Bills are moving forward with their official start to training camp.

All 80 players have reported for camp, according to general manager Brandon Beane, and veterans began acclimating to their new environment at the team's Orchard Park facilities on Saturday.

Beane and coach Sean McDermott spoke Sunday on a Zoom conference call for the first time since camp activities began.

"We've got to be smart," McDermott said. "It's important that we onboard these players and staff in the right way with a methodical approach. ... There's a lot of planning, and we've got to be razor-sharp on that end."

The New York Jets released right guard Brian Winters on Sunday.

The Jets will save \$7.28 million - Winters' entire salary due this season - on the salary cap.



In this Dec 17, 2018 file photo, New Orleans Saints' Alvin Kamara (41) is tackled by Carolina Panthers' Kawann Short (99) in the first half of an NFL football game in Charlotte, N.C. (AP)

The 29-year-old Winters was the Jets' longest-tenured player and had been mostly a solid starter for New York, which drafted him in the third round out of Kent State in 2013.

He finished the past two seasons on injured reserve. Winters had an abdominal injury in 2018 that he played through for most of the year, and a dislocated shoulder last year that limited him to nine games.

Panthers two-time Pro Bowler Kawann Short thought about opting out, but the 6-foot-3, 315-pound defensive tackle simply couldn't bear the thought of missing another football season.

Short sat out the final 14 games of 2019 with a partially torn rotator cuff.

Although he said there were days during the seven-month recovery process that left him wondering if his shoulder was healing correctly, he now calls the surgery an "awesome success" and feels as strong as ever.

Now he can't wait to get back to practice.

New York Giants defensive tackle Leonard Williams has been designated with a non-football injury as the team made several moves to get to the 80-player limit.

Williams was acquired from the Jets in October for two draft picks. He has 17-1/2 sacks in five seasons but finished with a career-low half-sack last year. He was the No. 6 overall pick in the 2015 draft by the Jets.

The Giants also waived eight players, including running back Jon Hilliman, linebacker Chris Peace, safety Rashaan Gaulden and cornerback Shakial Taylor, who was awarded to the Giants off waivers on Tuesday.

Green Bay general manager Brian Gutekunst says Devin Funchess' decision to opt out for this season isn't necessarily causing the Packers to get more aggressive in seeking help at the wide receiver position.

Funchess announced Tuesday he isn't playing this season for the safety of himself and his family while noting that some of his closest relatives "have experienced the life-threatening impact of COVID-19 first hand."

The 26-year-old was the only major offseason addition to Green Bay's receiving group.

Cleveland Browns star wide receiver Jarvis Landry has been placed on the active/physically unable to perform list following off-season hip surgery.

The team made the roster move Sunday while stressing that Landry remains on schedule to return this season. Landry, who has not missed a game during six NFL seasons with Miami and Cleveland, has said he expects to be back on the field sometime in August.

On Thursday, first-year coach Kevin Stefanski said Landry was still on track "based on everything he has done post-surgery."

Red-hot Judge powers Yankees past Red Sox



Tampa Bay Rays catcher Mike Zunino (right), applies a tag on Baltimore Orioles' Anthony Santander, who is attempting to score on a single by pinch-hitter Jose Iglesias during the fifth inning of a baseball game, on Aug 2, in Baltimore. (AP)

Reds sweep Tigers, Astros edge Angels

NEW YORK, Aug 3, (AP): Aaron Judge homered twice and drove in five runs, connecting for the fifth straight game and breaking an eighth-inning tie with a tape-measure shot that powered the New York Yankees past the Boston Red Sox 9-7 on Sunday night for their sixth consecutive victory.

Judge then launched a no-doubt drive that landed several rows up in the raised bleachers beyond the left-center bullpen for his sixth home run already this year. The big slugger socked a three-run shot in the second, making him the first Yankees player since Alex Rodriguez in September 2007 to homer in five straight games.

Xander Bogaerts went 4 for 4 with two home runs and a double for Boston. Rafael Devers put the Red Sox ahead 7-6 with a titanic drive of his own to right-center in the seventh. Devers also had an RBI single. Zack Britton got three quick outs for his third save.

It was Judge's 10th career multi-home game and first since July 5 last year at Tampa Bay.

Reds 4, Tigers 3, 7 innings, 1st game

Reds 4, Tigers 0, 7 innings, 2nd game

In Detroit, Trevor Bauer made short work of the Detroit Tigers, capping Major League Baseball's first seven-inning doubleheader with a shutout.

Bauer threw a two-hitter in Cincinnati's 4-0 victory in the second game. The Reds beat the Tigers 4-3 in the opener. MLB recently decided to use doubleheaders of seven-inning games, which have been commonplace in the minor leagues and colleges, to help teams alleviate an expected crush of twinbills caused by weather and coronavirus-related postponements.

Shogo Akiyama hit an RBI single in the top of the seventh to lift the Reds to the win in the first game.

The Reds-Tigers game was rained out Saturday. Bauer was supposed to pitch, and he was furious when there was a delay so close to the start time. But the postponement meant he only had to throw seven innings for his shutout. He finished with 111 pitches.

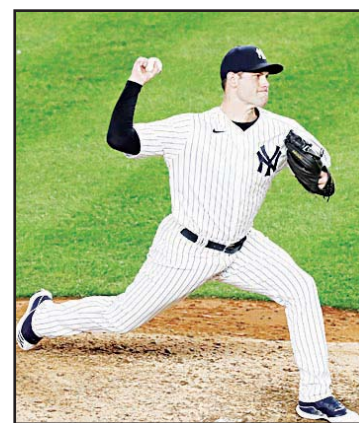
Astros 6, Angels 5

In Anaheim, California, Alex Bregman hit an RBI single in the 11th inning, and the Houston Astros rallied for a 6-5 victory over the Los Angeles Angels on Sunday.

Bregman also homered, and Josh Reddick delivered the tying RBI single in the ninth as the Astros took two of three at Angel Stadium. Blake Taylor (1-0) retired Brian Goodwin on a soft fly to center with the bases loaded to end it.

Albert Pujols hit a grand slam for the Angels, who got another rocky start from Shohei Ohtani in his first home mound appearance since June 2018.

Pujols' blast in the third inning



New York Yankees relief pitcher Adam Ottavino winds up during the eighth inning of the team's baseball game against the Boston Red Sox on Aug 2, at Yankee Stadium in New York. (AP)

was his 658th career homer, but the Astros' injury-plagued pitching staff came up big for the rest of the day.

Athletics 3, Mariners 2

In Seattle, Ramon Laureano broke out of a slump with a three-run homer, Chris Bassitt became the first Oakland starter to earn a victory this season and the Athletics beat the Seattle Mariners 3-2.

Laureano's two-out home run snapped a string of 23 1/3 innings by Mariners starters without allowing an earned run and helped the A's win their second game in a row after a three-game losing streak.

Bassitt (1-0) struck out seven and allowed three hits with no walks in 5 2/3 innings against the Mariners. A's starters had been 0-4 with a 4.75 ERA in the team's first eight games.

Laureano's home run came after Marcus Semien beat the throw from third baseman Dylan Moore for an infield single that would have been the third out of the fifth inning. The hit chased starter Kendall Graveman (0-2), who was pitching against his former team for the first time.

Dodgers 3, D-backs 0

In Phoenix, Clayton Kershaw threw 5 2/3 sharp innings in his season debut, NL MVP Cody Bellinger hit his first home run of the season and the Los Angeles Dodgers beat the Arizona Diamondbacks 3-0.

Mookie Betts homered and doubled before leaving early because of an injury. The Dodgers won three times in the four-game series, and have taken five of six overall.

Kershaw (1-0) gave up three hits, walked none and struck out six. The three-time Cy Young Award winner was supposed to make his ninth opening day start on July 23, but was scratched hours before the game because of a back injury suffered in the weight room.

In his return, the 32-year-old Kershaw threw 81 pitches. He retired his first 10 batters and his fastball was in the 92-94 mph range.

Cubs 2, Pirates 1

In Chicago, Javier Báez singled through a drawn-in infield in the 11th inning, scoring David Bote from third base and giving the Chicago Cubs a 2-1 victory over the Pittsburgh Pirates.

Bote, who made the last out in the 10th, started the inning on second base as mandated by Major League Baseball's extra-inning rule for the

pandemic-shortened season. He advanced to third on a deep fly to right by Anthony Rizzo and jogged home on Baez's first career game-ending hit against Cody Ponce (0-1).

Jeremy Jeffress (1-0) worked a scoreless 11th for the win.

Rangers 9, Giants 5

In San Francisco, Willie Calhoun hit a tiebreaking sacrifice fly after the Giants walked the bases loaded in the seventh inning, Joey Gallo followed with a three-run home run and the Texas Rangers beat San Francisco 9-5 to avoid a three-game sweep.

Shin-Soo Choo also went deep for Texas. Scott Heineman had a pair of hits including a two-run double and Jeff Mathis added an RBI single.

Evan Longoria and Chadwick Tromp homered for San Francisco. Tromp's was the first of his career, Hunter Pence tripled to snap a season-opening 0 for 23 funk.

The Rangers entered the day last in the AL in scoring and hits before getting season-highs in both against the Giants.

Samardzija gave up five runs and seven hits in 5 2/3 innings and became the first Giants pitcher to make it through five innings.

Rockies 9, Padres 6

In Denver, Antonio Senzatela pitched six innings of one-run ball, designated hitter Matt Kemp homered for a second straight game and the Colorado Rockies held off the San Diego Padres 9-6.

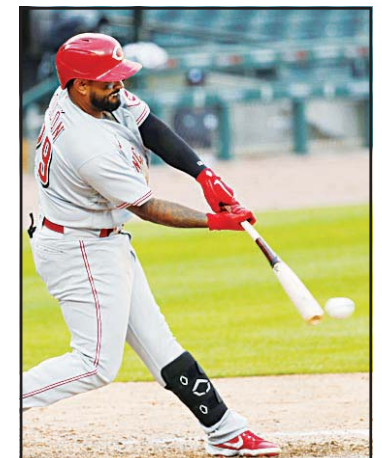
The Rockies moved to 6-2, which is tied for the team's second-best start in franchise history. They began 7-1 in 1995.

A comfortable eight-run lead nearly evaporated for Colorado. The Padres scored four in the eighth and another in the ninth to make it 9-6. With two outs and a runner on second, the Rockies called in Jairo Diaz, who got Manny Machado to fly out on the first pitch for his first save of the season.

Colorado star Nolan Arenado is still searching for his inaugural homer of the season after hitting 41 in 2019. He sent a high fly to deep center that Grisham caught at the wall.

Twins 3, Indians 1

In Minneapolis, Mitch Garver hit his first home run of the season and the Minnesota Twins used their bull-



Cincinnati Reds' Christian Colon hits a two-run single against the Detroit Tigers in the seventh inning of the second baseball game of a doubleheader in Detroit on Aug 2. (AP)

pen to string together a two-hitter in a 3-1 victory over the Cleveland Indians, taking the four-game series from their primary division competitor.

Max Kepler doubled and scored in each of his first two at-bats, and Jorge Polanco and Nelson Cruz drove him in with singles in the first and third. Garver, who had a career-high 31 homers in 2019, went deep in the second as the Twins built a 3-0 lead against Indians starter Aaron Civale (1-1).

The defending American League Central champions have outscored their opponents 28-8 over the first three innings this year. The Twins allowed only four runs over these four games, winning three of them to raise their record to 7-2.

White Sox 9, Royals 2

In Kansas City, Mo., White Sox prospect Nick Madrigal had the first four hits of his promising big league career, including two during a seven-run seventh inning, and Chicago beat the Kansas City Royals 9-2 to finish a three-game sweep.

Yasmani Grandal added three RBIs and Nicky Delmonico two in support of right-hander Dylan Cease (1-1), who gave up a homer to Alex Gordon in the third inning but otherwise steered clear of trouble. Cease wound up allowing two runs and five hits over six innings in a solid bounce-back performance from a miserable start in Detroit.

Braves 4, Mets 0

In Atlanta, Kyle Wright and the Atlanta bullpen combined on a 10-hit shutout and the Braves won their fifth in a row, beating the Mets 4-0 and blanking a New York lineup that found out late that slugger Yoenis Céspedes had opted out of playing any more this season.

The Mets released a statement from general manager Brodie Van Wagenen in the early innings that Céspedes wasn't at the ballpark and the team hadn't been able to contact him.

The Braves sent New York to its fifth straight loss. Atlanta has won five in a row against the Mets overall.

Orioles 5, Rays 1

In Baltimore, Hanser Alberto doubled in the tiebreaking run in the seventh inning, Renato Núñez and Pat Valaika homered, and the Baltimore Orioles beat Tampa Bay Rays 5-1 to complete a three-game sweep.

After the final out, the Orioles celebrated (with proper social distancing) their first series sweep since Aug. 27-29, 2018, against Toronto, and first against Tampa Bay since 2016.

Brandon Lowe homered for the Rays, who have dropped five straight to fall two games under .500 (4-6) for the first time since June 28, 2018 (39-41).

With the score 1-all in the seventh, Cedric Mullins reached on a bunt against Jalen Beeks (0-1). Chaz Roe entered and Mullins stole second before Alberto hit an opposite-field liner to right. Núñez followed with an RBI single, and José Iglesias added a run-scoring double into the left-field corner.

MLB Results/Standings

WASHINGTON, Aug 3, (AP): Results and standings from the MLB games on Sunday.

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
Reds	4	Tigers (7 Ins) (1)	3	
Baltimore	5	TB Rays	1	
Minnesota	3	Cleveland	2	
Chic W. Sox	9	KC Chiefs	2	
Texas	9	SF Giants	5	
Oakland	3	Seattle	2	
Reds	4	Tigers (7 Ins) (2)	0	

American League				
East Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
New York	7	1	.875	-
Baltimore	5	3	.625	2
Toronto	3	4	.429	3-1/2
Tampa Bay	4	6	.400	4
Boston	3	7	.300	5

National League				
East Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Atlanta	7	3	.700	-
Miami	2	1	.667	1-1/2
Washington	3	4	.429	2-1/2
Philadelphia	1	2	.333	2-1/2
New York	3	7	.300	4

Central Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Minnesota	7	2	.778	-
Chicago	5	4	.556	2
Cleveland	5	5	.500	2-1/2
Detroit	5	5	.500	2-1/2
Kansas City	3	7	.300	4-1/2

West Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Houston	5	4	.556	-
Oakland	5	4	.556	-
Seattle	4	6	.400	1-1/2
Texas	3	5	.375	1-1/2
Los Angeles	3	7	.300	2-1/2

National League				
West Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Colorado	6	2	.750	-
Los Angeles	7	3	.700	-
San Diego	4	4	.500	1
San Francisco	5	5	.500	2
Arizona	3	7	.300	4