

# 2020

## Year in Review



presented by The Signal

# January

## United States Assassinates Iranian Major General Qasem Soleimani:

Soleimani was assassinated in a drone strike near Baghdad International Airport that was authorized by President Trump. This attack led to Iran issuing arrest warrants for President Trump and 35 others on charges of murder and terrorism in connection with the killing as well as a ballistic missile attack on two Iraqi military bases which were hosting U.S. force.

## Mac Miller - Circles (Album):

The late Mac Miller's final album was released thanks to his family and his team. The album was worked on by Miller before his death in 2018 with production being completed by Jon Brion. Circles is the sixth and final studio album by Miller featuring songs such as "Blue World" and "I Can See".

Jan. 3

Jan. 17

## The Oakland Raiders officially relocate to Las Vegas:

The Oakland Raiders relocate for the third time in franchise history. Having played in Oakland, California since 1995, The Oakland Raiders make the move to Allegiant Stadium in Las Vegas, Nevada. The Raiders are now the third professional sports team located in Las Vegas, joining the NHL's Golden Knights and the WNBA's Aces.

Jan. 22

Jan. 13

## MLB Punishes Houston Astros for Sign-Stealing Scandal:

The Houston Astros were found guilty of the creation and utilization of a system that would allow the team to steal signs of other teams during the 2017 and 2018 season. This included the 2017 postseason in which the Astros won the World Series. The punishment given to the team included a fine of five million dollars, a forfeit of both first and second round draft picks in the 2020 and 2021 draft, and the suspensions of general manager Jeff Luhnow and field manager A.J. Hinch for the entirety of the 2020 season.

## Kobe Bryant Dies:

Kobe Bryant, his daughter Gianna, and 9 others were killed in a helicopter crash in Calabasas, California. Considered by many to be one of the greatest NBA players of all time, Bryant had won five NBA championships, was an 18-time All-star, an Olympic medalist, and also an Oscar recipient for best animated short in 2018. Bryant is survived by his wife Vanessa and their three daughters.

Jan. 26

# February



## Chiefs Win Super Bowl:

Kansas City Chiefs win the franchise's first Super Bowl championship in 50 years. The Kansas City Chiefs defeated the San Francisco 49ers 31-20 thanks to a strong fourth quarter performance by Chief's quarterback Patrick Mahomes. This performance then led to Mahomes receiving the Super Bowl MVP award.

Feb. 2

## Justin Bieber Releases "Changes" Album:

Justin Bieber released his fifth studio album featuring guest appearances from Quavo, Post Malone, Clever, Lil Dicky, Travis Scott, Kehlani, and Summer Walker. The album has been nominated for Best Pop Vocal Album at the 2021 Grammy Awards.

Feb. 14

Feb. 5

## Tame Impala Releases "The Slow Rush" album:

"The Slow Rush" is the fourth studio album released by Tame Impala. The album was nominated for Best Alternative Music Album for the 2021 Grammy Awards with the song "Lost in Yesterday" being nominated for Best Rock Song.

Feb. 14

## President Donald Trump Acquitted of Impeachment Charges:

After being impeached on December 18, 2019, President Donald Trump is acquitted by the Senate on charges of abuse of power and obstruction of Congress. Neither of the impeachment articles received the 67 required "guilty" votes needed for conviction.

# March

## CA Shelter in Place Order:

California Governor Gavin Newsom issued a stay at home order, directing all Californians to stay home unless they were considered an essential worker or they were shopping for essential items. The goal of the order was to minimize the spread of the COVID-19 virus through the limitation of interaction between members of different households. This order has been updated multiple times since the initial issuing in response to the increasing severity of the virus throughout the state.

## CSU Stanislaus Decides to Institute Remote Learning:

Responding to the increasing number of COVID-19 cases throughout the region, Stanislaus State began a phased approach in suspending face-to-face class meetings and instead instituting remote learning. Students and professors alike were faced with the challenge of transitioning to an online format to finish the semester with no indication of when face-to-face meetings would return.



## Tiger King Released

## 2020 Olympics Postponed:

The 2020 Summer Olympics in Tokyo, Japan, have been postponed until July 2021 due to concerns relating to COVID-19. This marks the first time that the Olympics have ever postponed, however it has been cancelled three times previously due to war.

Mar. 12

Mar. 19

Mar. 20

Mar. 24

Mar. 11

Mar. 13

Mar. 20

## NBA, MLB, NHL Seasons Postponed:

Due to concerns over player and fan health in relation to the COVID-19 virus, all NBA, MLB, and NHL regular season games were postponed until further notice.

## Breonna Taylor Fatally Shot by Police:

While in her apartment in Louisville, Kentucky, 26 year old Breonna Taylor was shot a total of six times and killed when three members of the Louisville Metro Police Department (LMPD) forced entry into her apartment as part of an investigation of a suspected drug dealing operation. As the LMPD officers forced entry into the apartment, Taylor's boyfriend, Kenneth Walker used a personal firearm to fire a warning shot at the unknown intruders. The officers responded by firing 32 shots in return into the apartment. The shooting of Taylor by the officers led to nationwide protests against police brutality that was only fueled further when a grand jury did not indict the officers for her death.

## NFL Star Tom Brady Joins the Tampa Bay Buccaneers:

Quarterback Tom Brady ends 20-year tenure with the New England Patriots to join the Tampa Bay Buccaneers. Brady is best known for his 6 Super Bowl wins, 3 League MVP awards, 4 Super Bowl MVP awards and is often considered to be one of the best quarterbacks to play in the NFL by many sports writers, analysts, and players.

## Animal Crossing: New Horizons Released



# April

## The Strokes release

### "The New Abnormal" album:

After several years without releasing an album, "The New Abnormal" is the sixth studio album released by The Strokes. The album has been nominated for Best Rock Album for the upcoming 2021 Grammy Awards.

Apr. 10

Apr. 7

Apr. 11

## Toilet Paper Shortages Begin



## Stimulus Checks are Issued:

Due to the economical repercussions of the COVID-19 virus, the U.S. government approved the disbursement of a stimulus check under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. All eligible individuals received 1200 dollars and those with qualifying children would receive an additional 500 dollars per qualifying child. While many were grateful for the economic assistance, others raised the question of whether or not 1200 dollars would be enough to offset the difficulties caused by the pandemic.

# ≡ May ≡

## UFC Becomes First Sport to Return Coronavirus Lockdowns:

UFC 249 marked the return of live sporting events in the United States. The fight, headlined by Tony Ferguson vs. Justin Gaethje, took place at VyStar Veterans Memorial Arena in Jacksonville, Florida with zero fans in attendance.

May 9

May 25



## George Floyd's Death:

George Floyd passes away at the age of 46 after being arrested by police in Minneapolis, Minnesota. A convenience store employee called 911 and told authorities that Floyd had bought cigarettes with a counterfeit 20 dollar bill. Footage of the following incident shows Officer Derek Chauvin kneeling on Floyd's neck for several minutes until Floyd was unconscious. Chauvin only removed his knee after medics arrived on scene and instructed him to do so. After it had been discovered that this action had led to Floyd's death, Chauvin was charged with second-degree manslaughter and second-degree unintentional murder. Floyd's death sparked worldwide protests against police brutality, police racism, and a lack of police accountability.

# ☼ June ☼

## The Supreme Court Sides With DREAMers in Court Ruling:

The Supreme Court moved to block the Trump administration from ending the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program (DACA); a victory for Dreamers! The 5-to-4 decision was written by Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr. which confirmed the continued protection for undocumented immigrants who were brought to the United States as children.

Jun. 18

Jun. 26

## Stan State Moves to Outlook:

Student emails were transitioned from Gmail over to Outlook, requiring students to learn a new format in order to access their school emails. Read more about the transition here:

[Stan State Student Emails Migrate to Outlook: What You Need to Know](#)

# < July >

## MLB Season Finally Begins:

The 2020 MLB Season begins after 4 month delay. Teams were given a reduced 60-game schedule only against teams in their geological region in order to limit travel and exposure to the COVID-19 virus.

Jul. 23

Jul. 30



## NBA Season Resumes:

The 2019-20 NBA season resumes in the "Orlando Bubble" with 22 of the 30 NBA teams invited to compete in the final eight games of the 2019-2020 season as well as the 2020 NBA Playoffs. No fans were permitted to be in attendance for any of these games and players were required to follow strict quarantine protocol.

# .. August ..

## NHL Season Resumes:

NHL Season resumes in the Toronto and Edmonton "bubbles" after a pause of nearly five months. The league returned with an expanded 24-team playoff format and zero fans in attendance.

Aug. 1

Aug. 5

## NCAA Cancels Fall Sports Championships:

Nearly one month after the California Collegiate Athletic Association (CCAA) announced there would be no collegiate sports played during the fall season, The National College Athletics Association (NCAA) also announced that all fall sport champion seasons would be cancelled. Read more about the decision and how it affected Stan State students here:

[Stan State Prepares for Unprecedented Season After NCAA and CCAA Announcements Regarding Fall Sports](#)

## Chadwick Boseman Dies:

Actor Chadwick Boseman passes away at the age of 43 after a four year battle with colon cancer. Boseman starred in many films such as 42, Get on Up, and Marshall, but is best known for his role as T'Challa/Black Panther in the Marvel Cinematic Universe and for being the first black actor to headline a film in the MCU.

Aug. 28

Aug. 4

Aug. 20

Aug. 26

## Hurricane Laura Hits Louisiana:

Hurricane Laura was a Category 4 hurricane that made landfall in Louisiana. Reaching wind speeds of up to 145 mph, Hurricane Laura was responsible for 77 fatalities as well as causing over ten billion dollars in damages.

Fall Guys Released



## Turlock Drive-In Theater Open:

GO Drive-Up Turlock opens it's gates, giving residents a way to get out of the house and kill some time during the pandemic. Read more about the opening here: [Turlock's Ultimate Drive-In Movie Theater Experience](#)

## West Coast Wildfires:

Severe lightning storms in northern California ignite a series of over 300 wildfires in August that spread up the coast and remained ongoing without containment throughout September. The massive fires composing what was called the August Complex fire burned over one million acres, spanning several counties throughout the state. These fires caused orange skies and lingering smoke throughout the state.

# >> September <<

## RGB Dies:

At age 87, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court Ruth Bader Ginsburg dies from pancreatic cancer. Ginsburg was the second woman to serve on the Supreme Court as she fought for the rights of women, the LGBT community, undocumented people, and those with disabilities. Ginsburg served on the Supreme Court from August 1993 through September 2020.

## Dutch Bros Opens in Turlock:

Dutch Bros Coffee opens a new location in Turlock, California. Located across the street from the Stan State campus, Dutch Bros will be easily accessible to students when they return to campus for in-person classes. Read more about drink suggestions and a recap of opening day here:

[The Caffeine District: Turlock Gets a New Dutch Bros](#)

## Tampa Bay Lightning Wins 2020 Stanley Cup:

The Tampa Bay Lightning defeat the Dallas Stars to win the Stanley Cup. This is the second time that the Lightning has won the Stanley Cup with the last time being in 2004.

Sep. 4

Sep. 18

Sep. 30

Sep. 10

## Among Us Skyrockets in Popularity:

While the online multiplayer had originally released back in 2018, the game has seen a drastic rise in popularity thanks to the game play of well-known YouTubers and Twitch streamers.



## Stan State Announces that Spring 2021 Semester will be Conducted Virtually:

Stan State President Ellen Junn announced via email that the Spring 2021 semester would continue to be primarily virtual. While all CSU campuses experienced similar announcements, it did not raise the spirits of students who were patiently awaiting the opportunity to return to in-person instruction. Read more about the student reaction to the decision here:

[President Junn Announces Plan for Spring 2021 Semester](#)

# - October -

## Lakers win the 2020 NBA Finals:

The Los Angeles Lakers defeated the Miami Heat to win their first NBA championship in 10 years. Lakers superstar LeBron James was announced as the NBA Finals Most Valuable Player (MVP) and Lakers president Jeanie Buss became the first female controlling owner to lead her team to an NBA title.

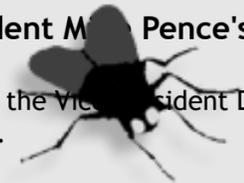
Oct. 14

Oct. 7

Oct. 27

## Fly Lands on Vice President Mike Pence's Head during VP Debate:

The fly made a cameo during the Vice President Debate and many memes were born as a result.



## Dodgers win the World Series:

The Los Angeles Dodgers defeated the Tampa Bay Rays to win the organization's first championship in 32 years. Dodgers shortstop Corey Seager was named the World Series Most Valuable Player (MVP) after batting 8-for-20 with two home runs throughout the series.

# — November —

## Xbox Series X and Series S Released:

Microsoft releases the highly anticipated Xbox Series X and Xbox Series S, the latest consoles in the Xbox line. The Series X is the most powerful system in the console series while the Series S is the smallest in size.



## Joe Biden is Officially Announced by Associated Press as President-Elect:

Associated Press announced 78 year old Joseph Robinette Biden Jr. as the president-elect of the United States after defeating incumbent president Donald Trump in the 2020 election. Biden received over 81 million votes while winning the popular vote in route to becoming the 46 president of the United States. Vice president-elect Kamala Harris is also set to make history by being the first woman, first African American, and first South Asian American to serve as vice president.

## Twitter Releases Fleets:

Twitter releases the 'Fleets' feature worldwide. Fleets are tweets that disappear after 24 hours, which draws comparison to the stories feature of Snapchat and Instagram.

Nov. 7

Nov. 10

Nov. 19

Nov. 3

Nov. 8

Nov. 12

## Alex Trebek Dies:

Jeopardy! host Alex Trebek passes away at age 80 after a longtime battle with pancreatic cancer. Trebek had been the host of the game show for 37 years without missing an episode due to illness.



## Masters 2020 Golf Tournament:

Dustin Johnson wins the 84th edition of the famed golf tournament. The three day tournament was originally scheduled for April 9-12 before being postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. No spectators were in attendance for this championship tournament.

## Presidential Election:

The 2020 election had the highest turnout of any election in the last 120 years with over 60 percent of the voting-eligible population casting a ballot. Click here to see a recap of all of The Signal's election coverage:

[Voter's Guide](#)  
[Voter Turnout Predictions](#)  
[Get Out the Vote 2020](#)

## Playstation 5 Released:

Sony releases the highly anticipated PlayStation 5 only to have it sell out of stock within minutes at many retailers. The PS5 comes in two different versions; the digital edition which does not have a disk drive and is priced at 399 dollars, and the standard configuration which has a disk drive and is priced at 499 dollars.

# “ December ”

## December and Onward

With everything that has happened up to this point this year, there is no telling what is to come in the last few weeks of this month, let alone in the upcoming year. 2020 has been a roller coaster ride of ups and downs that has made its mark in history in more ways than one. While it will be important to reflect on the lessons learned throughout the year, it will be equally important to remember these lessons while making the most of 2021. Here's to making the most of the rest of 2020 and all of 2021 and on!



An awesome 2021

