LSU fires coach Kelly in 4th season of his 10-year deal

fired coach Brian Kelly during the worth about \$100 million, athletic director Scott Woodward announced Sunday night.

The move comes on the heels of Saturday night's 49-25 loss to No. 3 Texas A&M in Tiger Stadium — a second straight loss, and third in four games for LSU (5-3, 2-3 Southeastern Conference).

"When Coach Kelly arrived at LSU four years ago, we had high hopes that he would lead us to multiple SEC and national championships during his time in Baton Rouge," Woodward said. "Ultimately, the success at the level that LSU demands simply did not materialize."

Associate head coach Frank Wilson, who also serves as a running backs coach, has been tapped as the interim head coach for the remainder

Kelly was hired away from Nofourth season of a 10-year contract tre Dame when his predecessor, Ed Orgeron, stepped down following the 2021 regular season.

> He has gone 34-14 with the Tigers, even taking LSU to the 2022 SEC title game. But LSU did not qualify for the College Football Playoff in his first three seasons, and was virtually eliminated from contention with its loss to the Aggies.

> The playoff was expanded from four to 12 teams for the 2024 season.

"I will not compromise in our pursuit of excellence and we will not lower our standards," said Woodward, an LSU graduate who was hired to his current post in 2019, the same year the Tigers won their last national title under Orgeron.

Orgeron left after not posting a winning record during his final two seasons.

a playoff berth, he oversaw quarterback Jayden Daniels' development into a Heisman Trophy winner in

"I am confident in our ability to bring to Baton Rouge an outstanding leader, teacher and coach, who fits our culture and community and who embraces the excellence that we demand," Woodward said.

LSU could have to pay Kelly more than \$52 million to not coach through 2031, but the precise figure was unclear on Sunday night.

"We will continue to negotiate his separation and will work toward a path that is better for both parties," Woodward said.

The development is an awkward one for Woodward, who was Texas A&M's athletic director when that university hired Jimbo Fisher, only to have to buy him out for a historic

While Kelly did not coach LSU to \$77 million after he struggled to win schools from year to year without consistently during his six seasons there from 2018 to 2023.

Kelly, 64, has coached in the top tier of Division I college football since being hired by Central Michigan in 2004.

In the 22 years since, he has gone 200-76, including a 34-6 record at Cincinnati and a 113-40 record at Notre Dame.

He was lured away from Notre Dame by Woodward, who saw Kelly as a coach who could win a national title if he had access to the resources at an SEC power like LSU, where the previous three coaches — Nick Saban, Les Miles and Orgeron — all had won national championships.

But Kelly's arrival at LSU also overlapped with a major paradigm shift in the sport: the advent of the transfer portal, which allowed players to more freely jump to different having to sit out a season, and the approval to pay players for the use of their name, image and likeness.

Last offseason, LSU launched a campaign to dramatically increase funding available to pay players, and the Tigers brought in numerous transfers to step into starting roles, particularly on the offensive line, defensive line and secondary.

The Tigers also were able to lure 2024 starting quarterback Garrett Nussmeier, who was eligible for the NFL draft, to return for his senior season, further raising expectations that LSU would contend for a CFP berth.

Instead, LSU not only has lost to Ole Miss, Vanderbilt and A&M, but the three power conference teams the Tigers have beaten — Clemson, Florida and South Carolina — all currently have losing records.

Raiders legend Atkinson, known for fierce hits, dies at 78

NEW YORK (AP) — George Atkinson, a hard-hitting former Raiders safety who struck fear in the opposition, has died. He was 78.

The Raiders said Atkinson's family informed the team of his death on Monday. The team said he died in Georgia without revealing a cause of death.

The Raiders called Atkinson the anchor of the team's "Soul Patrol" secondary of the 1970s that helped lead the team to its first Super Bowl title. Atkinson remained connected to the organization until his death.

"George's contributions as a friend and mentor to everyone in the Raiders organization continued long after his playing career, and his genuine personality and wonderful sense of humor will be dearly missed by everyone who knew him," the CTE in that interview. team said in a statement.

Atkinson played 144 games in his career, spending 10 seasons with the Oakland Raiders and a final season with the Denver Broncos. He played in seven AFL or AFC championship games and helped the Raiders win the Super Bowl following the 1976 season.

His 33 career interceptions in the regular season and playoffs rank fourth all-time for the Raiders but he was most known for his physical

"Football is a collision sport," Atkinson told the San Jose Mercury News in a 2016 interview. "If you don't have a certain mentality you will get run out of the game."

Atkinson had disclosed he was suffering symptoms consistent with

Atkinson joined the Raiders after being drafted in the seventh round in 1968. He was part of a stellar draft class that included Hall of Famers Ken Stabler and Art Shell, as well as running backs Marv Hubbard and Charlie Smith, who all helped build the team into one of the top in the league in the 1970s.

"We became part of the nucleus for the Raiders from that draft," Atkinson once told the team website. "We wore the Silver and Black with pride. We understood what the tradition was and what we had to live up to.'

Atkinson was a major part of that, almost from the start, scoring on an 86-yard punt return in his professional debut. He made the AFL Pro Bowl in his first two seasons for his play as a returner and defensive back and later became part of the most feared safety duo in the NFL after Jack Tatum was drafted in the first round in 1971.

In an era when receivers had little or no protection when going over the middle, Atkinson and Tatum doled out harsh punishment to anyone who tried.

"We never go out on the field with the intention of trying to hurt anyone but we go out with intentions of getting our jobs done," Atkinson said at the time. "If you don't want to get hit, it's best not to show up when we play Sunday. I guarantee you will get hit."

Atkinson's most famous hits came against Pittsburgh and Hall of Fame receiver Lynn Swann. He knocked him out in the 1975 AFC championship game and then again in the 1976 season opener with a forearm to the back of the head on a play when Swann didn't even get the ball.

"Maybe a little outside of the rules but that was George's way of setting the tone for the game," Stabler later said in an interview with NFL Films.

The second hit on Swann led Pittsburgh coach Chuck Noll to refer to Atkinson as part of the "criminal element" in the NFL. Atkinson sued Noll for defamation but lost the suit.

Atkinson's twin sons George III and Josh both played football at Notre Dame with George Atkinson III having a brief NFL career that included a stint with the Raiders. Josh died by suicide in 2018 and George III died by suicide in 2019.

Steelers

Continued from Page B1

What needs help

It might be more like "who needs help?" Heyward had seven tackles in his 218th career game, just two behind Hall of Fame center Mike Webster for second most in franchise history. The 36-yearold Heyward logged seven tackles against Green Bay. No other defensive lineman for Pittsburgh had more than two.

Stock up

Is Chris Boswell the most reliable kicker in the NFL? While Dallas' Brandon Aubrey may have the league's strongest leg, he also has the luxury of playing his home games indoors. Boswell works at one of the trickiest outdoor stadiums in the league, where everything from the footing to the wind is uncertain at any given moment. Boswell's three makes from 50-plus on Sunday gave him three career games with that many

conversions from 50-and-over, the most by any kicker in league history.

Stock down

It feels borderline unfair to single out an individual member of a secondary that is underperforming almost across the board, but cornerback Darius Slay is looking his age as he nears the midpoint of his 13th season. The soon-to-be 35-year-old missed a couple of tackles against Green Bay that the Packers turned into first downs and has been ineffective in coverage.

Injuries

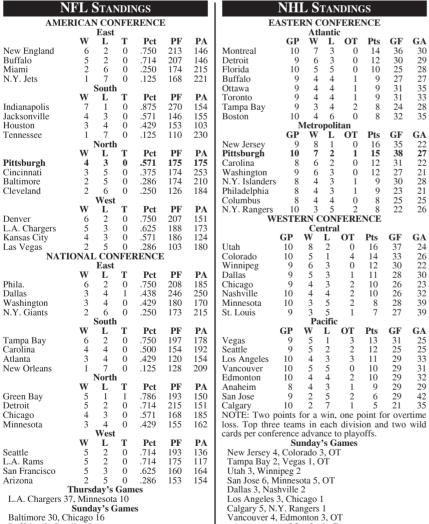
Safety DeShon Elliott's season could be over after sustaining a right knee injury in the second half. While Pittsburgh has options to replace Elliott on the field, replacing his presence in the huddle and in the locker room will be difficult. ... Seumalo, by far the most experienced player on a young offensive line, returned briefly after initially injuring the pec before being pulled for good, not a great sign. Defensive tackle Daniel Ekuale, who has carved out a niche as a rotational piece on the line, is also out longer term with a knee injury.

Key number

4 — sacks by Watt through seven games, putting the perennial Pro Bowler on pace for his lowest sack total in a season not affected by injury since his rookie year in 2017.

Next steps

Try to regain some confidence ahead of a visit by white-hot Indianapolis, which will bring the NFL's top-ranked offense to Acrisure Stadium next Sunday.



Sunday's Games
Baltimore 30, Chicago 16 Buffalo 40, Carolina 9 Houston 26, San Francisco 15 Miami 34, Atlanta 10 N.Y. Jets 39, Cincinnati 38 New England 32, Cleveland 13 Phila. 38, N.Y. Giants 20 Tampa Bay 23, New Orleans 3 Denver 44, Dallas 24 Indianapolis 38, Tennessee 14 Green Bay 35, Pittsburgh 25

Open: Jacksonville, Las Vegas, Arizona, Detroit, L.A. Rams, Seattle

Monday's Games Washington at Kansas City, late Thursday, Oct. 30 Baltimore at Miami, 8:15 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 2
Atlanta at New England, 1 p.m.

Carolina at Green Bay, 1 p.m. Chicago at Cincinnati, 1 p.m. Denver at Houston, 1 p.m. Indianapolis at Pittsburgh, 1 p.m. L.A. Chargers at Tennessee, 1 p.m. Minnesota at Detroit, 1 p.m. San Francisco at N.Y. Giants, 1 p.m. Jacksonville at Las Vegas, 4:05 p.m. New Orleans at L.A. Rams, 4:05 p.m Kansas City at Buffalo, 4:25 p.m. Seattle at Washington, 8:20 p.m. Open: Cleveland, N.Y. Jets, Phila., Tampa Bay Monday, Nov. 3

Arizona at Dallas, 8:15 p.m.

MLB POSTSEASON GLANCE

WORLD SERIES (Best-of-7) (FOX) Toronto 1, Los Angeles 1

Friday, Oct. 24: Toronto 11, Los Angeles 4 Saturday, Oct. 25: Los Angeles 5, Toronto 1 Monday, Oct. 27: Toronto (Scherzer 5-5) at Los Ange-Tuesday, Oct. 28: Toronto (Bieber 4-2) at Los Angeles (Ohtani 1-1), 8 p.m. (FOX) Wednesday, Oct. 29: Toronto at Los Angeles, 8 p.m.

x-Friday, Oct. 31: Los Angeles at Toronto, 8 p.m. (FOX) c-Saturday, Nov. 1: Los Angeles at Toronto, 8 p.m

EASTERN CONFERENCE								
Atlantic								
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	
Montreal	10	7	3	0	14	36	30	
Detroit	9	6	3	0	12	30	29	
Florida	10	5	5	0	10	25	28	
Buffalo	9	4	4	1	9	27	27	
Ottawa	9	4	4	1	9	31	35	
Toronto	9	4	4	1	9	31	33	
Tampa Bay	9	3	4	2	8	24	28	
Boston	10	4	6	0	8	32	35	
Metropolitan								
	GP	\mathbf{W}	$^{-}$ L	OT	Pts	\mathbf{GF}	$\mathbf{G}\mathbf{A}$	
New Jersey	9	8	1	0	16	35	22	
Pittsburgh	10	7	2	1	15	38	27	
Carolina	8	6	2 3 3	0	12	31	22	
Washington	9	6	3	0	12	27	21	
N.Y. Islanders		4	3	1	9	30	28	
Philadelphia	8	4	3	1	9	23	21	
Columbus	8	4	4	0	8	25 22	25	
N.Y. Rangers	10	3	5	2	8	22	26	
WESTERN CONFERENCE								
Central								
	\mathbf{GP}	\mathbf{w}	L	\mathbf{OT}	Pts	\mathbf{GF}	$\mathbf{G}\mathbf{A}$	
Utah	10	8	2	0	16	37	24	
Colorado	10	5	1	4	14	33	26	
Winnipeg	9	6	3	0	12	30	22	
Dallas	9	5	3	1	11	28	30	
Chicago	9	4	3	2 2 2	10	26	23	
Nashville	10	4	4	2	10	26	32	
Minnesota	10	3	5	2	8	28	39	
St. Louis	9	3	5		7	27	39	
Pacific								
	\mathbf{GP}	\mathbf{w}	L	OT	Pts	\mathbf{GF}	$\mathbf{G}\mathbf{A}$	
Vegas	9	5	1	3	13	31	25	
Seattle	9	5	2	3 2 3	12	25	25	
Los Angeles	10	4	3		11	29	33	
Vancouver	10	5	5	0	10	29	31	
Edmonton	10	4	4	2	10	29	32	
Anaheim	8	4	3	1	9	29	29	
San Jose	9	2	5	2	6	29	42	
Calgary	10	2	7	1	5	21	35	
NOTE: Two p	NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime							

Monday's Games Pittsburgh 6, St. Louis 3 Boston at Ottawa, late Tuesday's Games Calgary at Toronto, 6 p.m.

Pittsburgh at Philadelphia, 6 p.m. Vegas at Carolina, 6:30 p.m.
Columbus at Buffalo, 6:45 p.m.
Anaheim at Florida, 7 p.m.
N.Y. Islanders at Boston, 7:15 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Nashville, 7:45 p.m.
Winnipeg at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Detroit at St. Louis, 8:15 p.m. Detroit at St. Louis, 8:15 p.m. Washington at Dallas, 8:30 p.m. Ottawa at Chicago, 8:45 p.m. New Jersey at Colorado, 9 p.m. Utah at Edmonton, 9:30 p.m. N.Y. Rangers at Vancouver, 10 p.m. Montreal at Seattle, 10:30 p.m.

Los Angeles at San Jose, 11 p.m.

Wednesday's Games

Toronto at Columbus, 7:30 p.m.

PENGUINS SUMMARY Pittsburgh 6, St. Louis 3

Pittsburgh First Period—1, Pittsburgh, Rust 2 (Karlsson, Hallander), 0:39. 2, Pittsburgh, Mantha 5 (Malkin, Brazeau), 0:55. 3, St. Louis, Bjugstad 2 (Tucker, Walker), 4:15. 4, St. Louis, Kyrou 3 (Holloway, Schenn), 15:43. Penalties—Novak, PIT (High Sticking), 7:04. Second Period—5, Pittsburgh, Wotherspoon (Karlsson, Crosby), 6:37. Penalties-Novak, PIT

(Karlsson, Crosby), 6:37. Penalties—Novak, PIT (Tripping), 12:17. Third Period—6, Pittsburgh, Rust 3 (Crosby, Karlsson), 0:42. 7, St. Louis, Joseph 1 (Bjugstad), 4:35. 8, Pittsburgh, Crosby 7 (Rust), 16:39. 9, Pittsburgh, Malkin 3 (Brazeau), 16:59 (en). Penalties—Brunicke, PIT (Tripping), 2:10; Malkin, PIT (Slashing), 4:39; Bjugstad, STL (Slashing), 4:39. Shots on Goal—St. Louis 9-10-11—30. Pittsburgh 10-8-8—26

Power-play opportunities—St. Louis 0 of 3; Pitts-Goalies—St. Louis, Hofer 1-2-0 (25 shots-20 saves). Pittsburgh, Jarry 4-1-0 (29-26).
A—13,303 (18,387). T—2:21.
Referees—Chris Lee, Jordan Samuels-Thomas.

Linesmen—Jonathan Deschamps, Travis Gawryletz.



The Franklin Starbursts gymnastics team opened its season at the Greensburg "Flip For a Cure" event on Oct. 18-19. Taking first place for the Starbursts were Alexis Amsler (Level 2 bars, floor, all-around), Kinsley Sandieson (Level 3 beam), Natalie Rodriguez (Level 4 beam) and Aliza Foy (Level 7 vault).

LOCAL BOWLING

HILLTOP KEGLERS Standings — Alley Oops 22-6, Girls Gone Wine 21-7, All Nines 20-8, The Misfits 13.5-14.5, Pin Crushers 13-15, Beach Bums 8-20, The 4 Bowlers 8-20, Splits N Giggles 6.5-21.5.

High game — Carley Kiesel/Kristine Thomas 199, Amber Gahr 196, Carolyn Kiesel 175. High series — Thomas 615, Marilyn Williams 550, Nuan Thomas 538. LADYBIRDS

Standings — Cardinals 27-9, Towhee's 19-17, Love Birds 19-17, Warblers 17-19, Parakeets 13-23, Doves 13-23. High game — Kim Bassani 179, Michelle Semprevivo 173, Linda Erwin 161. High series — Semprevivo 469, Bassani 447, Kim BETTER BUSINESS

Standings — Franklin Concrete 24-8, Enter Sandman 22-10, Schake Industries 19-13, Oil City Automotive 17-15, BM Floors 15-17, Venango Machine 14-18, Disruption 14-18, Wendy's 12-20, Jack Shadow's House of Horrors 11-21, O'Neils Plumbing 11-21. High game — Glenn McCool Jr. 280, James Stevenson 279, Daway Stawart It (Inff Eigeirili) 262. Dewey Stewart Jr./Jeff Piccirilli 268, High series — Stevenson 762, McCool Jr. 727, Stewart

BOB EVANS Standings — KP 25-7, Tankers 23-9, Servers 19-13, Greeters 12-20, Grill 10-22, Managers 7-25. High game — Chuck Slocum 201, Rick Whitling 197, John Slater 186. High series — Whitling 543, Slocum 529, Slater/Rich-

ard Orr 506. CITY TENPIN

Standings — Village Auto 37-19, Ultra Graph-X 36-20, World of Wheels 33-23, Victorian City Art 32-24, Hoyles Chop Shop 28-28, Safe Lite 28-28, Eagles Club 28-28, Community Ambulance 27-29, Franklin Concrete 25-31, Seneca Lanes 23-33, House Balls 22-34,

High game — James Stevenson 277, Todd Schiffer 260, Jeff Engles 257. High series — Engles 737, Josh Stover 724, Stevenson 672. LES FRICKSHUN MIXED

Standings — Franklin Service 36-20, Liberty Electronics 34-22, Dunkle's Plumbing 31-25, Hartland Homes 29-27, Last Call 27-29, Camper Daves RV Rescue 26-30, Orphan Angies 24-32, McMillen's Carpet 23-33, Nathan's Team 23-33, A Team 20-36. High game men — Glenn McCool Jr. 258, Billy Hricsina 246, Matt Clelland 225.

High game women — Bill Hricsina 248, Melissa Stew art 230, Brittany Irwin/Carley Kiesel 224. High series men — Hricsina 695, McCool Jr. 661, Clelland 607. High series women — Hricsina 627, Stewart 614, Ir

SUNDAY FUNDAY MIXED COUPLES

Standings — Storm 11-5, Ham Bones 10-6, The Pin Spots 9-7, The Gutters 9-7, Put Up the Bumpers 6-10, Team Brunswick 3-13. High game men — Todd McGill 198, Chris Carter 194, Ray Cogswell 181. High game women - Nicole Weyand 173, Becky Car 154, Liz Kearns 153.

High series men — Carter 510, McGill 509, Cogswell 440. High series women — Kearns 422, Cathy Blair 405, **GUYS & DOLLS**

Standings — Schake Industries 14-2, Franklin Insurance 9-7, King's Construction 9-7, Lockhart Raceway 9-7, Ultra Graph-X 9-7, Engles Motorsports 5-11, Fichar Trinch & Co. 5-11.

High game men — Rob Ziegler 300, Dewey Stewart 245, Justin Irwin 234.

High game women — Brittany Irwin 267, Melissa Stewart 252, Andrea Horn 244.

High series men — Stewart 693, Ziegler 675, Irwin 649.

High series women — Stewart 702, Irwin 683, Horn

Oct. 28

1939 — Kansas State's homecoming contest against Nebraska is the second college football game ever televised, following the Fordham-Waynesburg contest in New York earlier this fall. The Cornhuskers spoil home-coming with a 25-9 triumph in Manhattan, Kan., before a limited Nebraska ETV audience in the surrounding area. 1950 — Nevada punter Pat Brady boots an NCAA record 99-yard punt in a 34-7 loss to Loyola Marymount 1962 — New York Giants quarterback Y.A. Title passes for 505 yards and seven touchdowns, and Del Schofner catches 11 passes for 269 yards and a touchdown in a 49-34 victory over the Washington Redskins. 1973 — Gail Goodrich scores 49 points and seven-foot center Elmore Smith sets an NBA record with 17 blocked shots as the Los Angeles Lakers beat Portland 111-98.

1973 — With jockey Eddie Maple substituting for

suspended Ron Turcotte, Secretariat concludes his racing career with a victory in the Canadian International Championship Stakes at Woodbine in Toronto.

1989 — Tony Alford of Colorado State rushes for 310 yards on 28 carries to break a Western Athletic Conference record and scores three touchdowns in a 50-10 win over Utah.

SPORTS SCENE

TUESDAY, OCT. 28 GIRLS VOLLEYBALL District 9 Class 1A Semifinals Elk County Catholic at Keystone, 6:30 p.m. Clarion at Port Allegany, 6:30 p.m. FRIDAY, OCT. 31 SCHOLASTIC FOOTBALL District 9 Class 1A Playoffs

Keystone at Kane (7 p.m.) Ridgway at Redbank Valley (7 p.m.) Cameron County at Union/A-C Valley (7 p.m.) District 9 Class 2A Playoffs Perry vs. Central Clarion at Brockway H.S. (7 p.m.)

District 10 Class 3A Playoffs

Grove City vs. North East at Franklin H.S. (7 p.m.) SATURDAY, NOV. 1 SCHOLASTIC FOOTBALL

District 10 Class 4A Championship Oil City vs. General McLane at PennWest Edinboro

District 10 Class 1A Playoffs Cochranton vs. Cambridge Springs at Ft. LeBoeuf H.S. (7 p.m.) CROSS COUNTRY

PIAA Championships at Hershey (9 a.m.) Sports on TV Tuesday, Oct. 28 COLLEGE FIELD HOCKEY

ACCN — Maryland at Virginia COLLEGE FOOTBALL 8 p.m.
ESPN2 — James Madison at Texas St.
ESPNU — UTEP at Kennesaw St.
COLLEGE GOLF

GOLF — The 2025 East Lake Cup: Second Round, East Lake Golf Club, Atlanta
MLB BASEBALL

8 p.m.
FOX — World Series: Toronto at L. A. Dodgers, Game 4

NBA BASKETBALL NBC — New York at Milwaukee
PEACOCK — New York at Milwaukee
11 p.m.
NBC — L.A. Clippers at Golden State

PEACOCK — L.A. Clippers at Golden State
NHL HOCKEY

6 p.m.
ESPN — Pittsburgh at Philadelphia ESPN — Washington at Dallas 11 p.m. ESPN — Los Angeles at San Jose SOCCER (MEN'S)

1:25 p.m.
ESPNU — The German Cup: Borussia Dortmund at Eintracht Frankfurt, Second Round 3:40 p.m. CBSSN — EFL Carabao Cup: Brentford FC at Grims-

by Town, Fourth Round 6:30 p.m.
FS1 — MLS Eastern Conference Playoff: New York City at Charlotte, First Round — Game 1

SOCCER (WOMEN'S) 4:50 p.m.
FS2 — CONMEBOL Nations League: Uruguay vs. Argentina, Montevideo, Uruguay

6:50 p.m.

FS2 — CONMEBOL Nations League: Ecuador vs. Colombia, Quito, Ecuador TENNIS

6 a.m.TENNIS — Paris-ATP, Jiujiang-WTA, Hong Kong-WTA, & Chennai-WTA Early Rounds