

NATION&WORLD

EXTRA

INSIDE
South Korea's young shamans helping revive ancient tradition. **4NN**



WAR IN MIDDLE EAST

ISRAEL RESCUES FOUR HOSTAGES

Above: Women embrace in Tel Aviv, Israel, on Saturday during a rally in support of hostages held in Gaza. MARKO DJURICA/REUTERS

Gaza officials say raid killed 210 Palestinians

Maayan Lubell and Nidal al-Mughrabi **REUTERS**

JERUSALEM/CAIRO – Israeli forces rescued four hostages held by Hamas since October in a raid in Gaza on Saturday that Palestinian officials said killed more than 200 people, one of the single bloodiest Israeli assaults of the eight-month-old war.

The hostage rescue operation and an intense accompanying air assault took place in central Gaza's al-Nuseirat, a densely built-up and often embattled area in the conflict between Israel and Hamas, the Palestinian territory's ruling Islamist group.

An Israeli military spokesperson said the operation took place in the heart of a residential neighborhood in Nuseirat where Hamas had kept the hostages in two separate apartment blocks. Israel's forces came under intense fire during the assault and responded by firing "from the air and from the street," said Rear Adm. Daniel Hagari, the spokesperson.

"We know about under 100 (Palestinian) casualties. I don't know how many from them are terrorists," he said in a briefing with journalists. An Israeli special forces commander was killed during the operation, a police statement said. Gazan paramedics and residents



Almog Meir Jan, a rescued hostage, embraces a loved one in Ramat Gan, Israel, on Saturday. ISRAELI ARMY/HANDOUT VIA REUTERS

said the assault killed scores of people and left mangled bodies of men, women and children strewn around a marketplace and a mosque.

Israel named the rescued hostages as Noa Argamani, 26, Almog Meir Jan, 22, Andrey Kozlov, 27, and Shlomi Ziv, 41. They were taken to hospital for medical checks and were in good health, the military said.

They were all kidnapped from the Nova music festival during the deadly raid by Hamas-led Palestinian militants on Israeli towns and villages near Gaza on Oct. 7, which precipitated the devastating war.

Hamas' raid killed some 1,200 people, according to Israeli authorities, and Israel's subsequent bombardment and invasion of Gaza has killed at least 36,801 Palestinians, according to an updated tally by the territory's health ministry on Saturday.

Call to president

Gunmen took around 250 hostages back to Gaza on Oct. 7, more than 100 of whom were released in exchange for about 240 Palestinians held in Israeli jails during a weeklong truce in November. There are 116 hostages left in the coastal enclave, according to Israeli tallies, including at least 40 whom Israeli authorities have declared dead in absentia.

The spokesperson for Hamas' armed al-Qassam Brigades, Abu Ubaida, said some hostages were killed during the rescue operation.

"It's a blatant lie," Israeli military spokesperson Peter Lerner told CNN.

Asked about news reports that U.S. intelligence supported the rescue operation, Lerner said Israel and the U.S. had a "close, intimate working relationship" as relates to intelligence but declined to elaborate.

See **HOSTAGES**, Page 6NN

Macron hosts Biden in Paris

Leaders talk Mideast, Ukraine in state visit

Jeff Mason and John Irish **REUTERS**

PARIS – Fresh from commemorating the 80th anniversary of D-Day, French President Emmanuel Macron welcomed President Joe Biden in Paris on Saturday for a state visit that included talks about the Middle East, Ukraine and trade.

The two countries will work harder to prevent a regional escalation from Israel's war with militant group Hamas in Gaza and focus on calming tensions between Israel and Hezbollah, Macron told reporters at the Elysee presidential palace, with Biden at his side.

"We are redoubling efforts together to avoid a regional explosion, particularly in Lebanon," Macron said. Hezbollah is an Iran-backed political movement and militia in Lebanon.

Both men welcomed the rescue by Israeli forces of four hostages held by Hamas since October. "We won't stop working until all the hostages come home and a ceasefire is reached," Biden said.

Biden has been a staunch supporter of Israel, which is pursuing Hamas after it attacked the country in October. But tens of thousands of Palestinian deaths have soured Biden's left-leaning political base on Israel, hurting him as he runs against Republican Donald Trump for reelection in November.

Biden and Macron, who spent the last few days celebrating D-Day veterans and extolling democratic values, did not take questions from reporters.

The Saturday visit began with a ceremony at the iconic Arc de Triomphe, where the leaders paid their respects at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier while a massive French flag hanging from the arch fluttered in the breeze above their heads.

Accompanied by their wives, Biden and Macron greeted military veterans. Then, escorted by French guards on horseback, they drove down the capital's renowned Avenue des Champs-Élysées, en route to the Elysee.

See **PARIS**, Page 5NN



French President Emmanuel Macron and President Joe Biden wave ahead of a state dinner in Paris on Saturday. SARAH MEYSSONNIER/REUTERS

Migrant arrest numbers decrease at US-Mexico border

Biden's sweeping asylum restrictions take effect

Ted Hesson **REUTERS**

WASHINGTON – The number of migrants caught illegally crossing the U.S.-Mexico border dropped on Friday, a senior U.S. border official told Reuters, saying it signaled a restrictive new Biden administration policy was deterring some illegal immigration.

U.S. Border Patrol arrested around 3,100 people crossing illegally, down roughly 20% from the days before, the official said, requesting anonymity to discuss preliminary figures.



Migrants look toward the U.S. through a gap in the border wall before crossing into Boulevard, Calif., last month. ADREES LATIF/REUTERS FILE

"It's still too early to say this is a definitive trend," the official said. "But I think it is indicative of some possible

early success."

Immigration has emerged as a top issue for Americans in the months before Nov. 5 elections that will decide control of the White House and Congress. President Joe Biden, a Democrat seeking another term, faces Republican Donald Trump – an immigration hardliner – in a rematch of the 2020 contest.

Biden took office in 2021 pledging to reverse many of Trump's restrictive immigration policies but has toughened his stance in the face of record migrant arrests at the border.

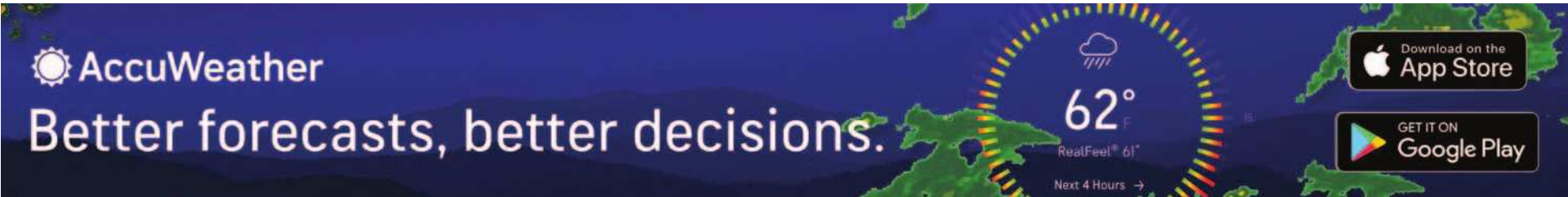
Biden implemented a sweeping policy on Wednesday that generally bars migrants who illegally cross the U.S.-Mexico border from claiming asylum. The asylum ban has exceptions for un-

accompanied minors, people who face serious medical or safety threats, and victims of trafficking.

The new policy aims to maximize the number of migrants placed in "expedited removal," a fast-track deportation process. Since Wednesday, more than 2,000 people per day were put in expedited removal, more than double the previous rate, the U.S. official said.

Questions still remain about whether border crossings will stay low enough to process people quickly and whether U.S. authorities have the capacity to meet their goals.

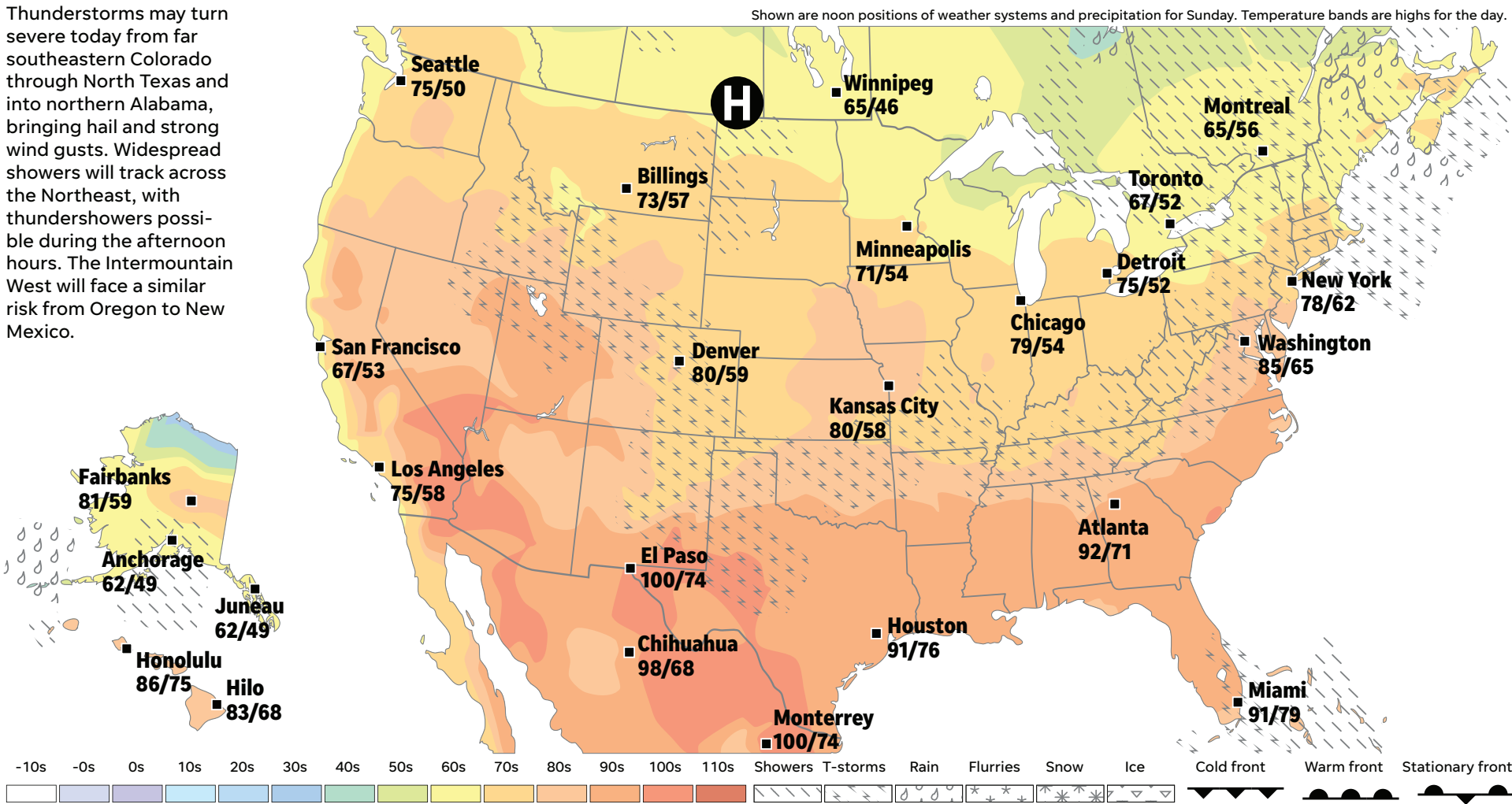
The American Civil Liberties Union has vowed to sue to halt the measure, which resembles Trump-era curbs on asylum.



NATIONAL SUMMARY

Thunderstorms may turn severe today from far southeastern Colorado through North Texas and into northern Alabama, bringing hail and strong wind gusts. Widespread showers will track across the Northeast, with thundershowers possible during the afternoon hours. The Intermountain West will face a similar risk from Oregon to New Mexico.

In the digital e-edition, you can click anywhere on the US map to get up-to-date forecasts, radar, MinuteCast® and more.



SATURDAY EXTREMES

NATIONAL (for the 48 contiguous states)
High: 110 at Gila Bend, AZ
Low: 33 at Poplar, MT
Precip: 1.69" at Hollywood, FL

INTERNATIONAL (excludes Antarctica)
High: 120 at Al Ahsa, Saudi Arabia
Low: 22 at Willow Creek, Canada
Precip: 4.84" at Mangalore, India

TODAY IN HISTORY

The same storm that spawned one of Cleveland's rare killer tornadoes on June 8, 1953, moved on to cause New England's worst tornado disaster ever on June 9. The storm struck Worcester, Mass., and took 90 lives.

WEATHER TRIVIA™

Q: Can lightning strike from a cloudless sky?
A: It has happened, but the phenomenon has not yet been explained

NATIONAL CITIES SUNDAY

	High/low/W	Air Quality		High/low/W	Air Quality		High/low/W	Air Quality		High/low/W	Air Quality
Aberdeen, SD	75/51/pc	35	Evansville, IN	80/59/r	59	Levittown, PA	82/61/pc	49	● Rochester, NY	68/52/t	31
● Abilene, TX	99/71/t	51	Fall River, MA	72/57/r	30	Lincoln, IL	80/56/s	57	Rockford, IL	77/54/pc	40
Accomac, VA	87/63/pc	71	Farmington, NM	92/65/pc	59	Louisville, KY	79/61/pc	68	● Ruidoso, NM	82/54/c	56
Adrian, MI	75/51/pc	50	Fayetteville, NC	96/69/pc	85	● Lubbock, TX	97/68/t	64	Salem, OR	81/51/pc	39
Akron, OH	73/55/pc	50	Fond du Lac, WI	70/48/pc	40	Manitowoc, WI	68/48/pc	38	Salina, KS	80/56/pc	55
Alamogordo, NM	98/69/pc	55	Fort Myers, FL	91/78/t	31	Marshfield, OH	74/53/pc	48	Salinas, CA	68/55/pc	41
Alexandria, VA	85/62/pc	58	● Fort Smith, AR	92/67/t	43	● Marshall, NC	77/56/t	66	Salisbury, MD	89/58/pc	62
Alliance, OH	73/54/pc	51	Framingham, MA	70/54/r	28	Marshfield, WI	65/43/pc	30	● San Angelo, TX	100/71/t	46
● Amarillo, TX	83/62/t	57	Freeport, IL	76/51/pc	37	Nassillon, OH	74/54/sh	49	Sarasota, FL	92/79/s	30
● Ames, IA	81/54/pc	56	Fremont, OH	77/55/pc	50	McLean, VA	83/61/pc	53	Savannah, GA	100/74/s	76
● Anderson, SC	89/67/t	72	● Fort Collins, CO	75/58/t	70	Melbourne, FL	94/76/t	34	Sheboygan, WI	69/51/pc	39
Appleton, WI	67/46/pc	44	● Gadsden, AL	89/66/t	77	● Memphis, TN	88/64/t	46	● Shelby, NC	86/62/t	71
● Asheville, NC	81/59/t	68	Gainesville, FL	98/71/s	48	Middletown, NY	75/53/pc	39	● Sherman, TX	94/71/pc	49
Ashland, OH	74/54/pc	48	Galesburg, IL	81/53/s	51	Milford, MA	69/53/r	29	Shreveport, LA	95/74/pc	67
● Athens, GA	90/69/pc	76	● Gastonia, NC	89/63/t	73	Milwaukee, WI	75/53/pc	42	Silver City, NM	90/57/pc	55
● Augusta, GA	98/72/pc	79	● Glen Rose, TX	94/70/pc	55	Monroe, MI	75/52/pc	49	Sioux Falls, SD	78/51/pc	52
Austin, TX	96/71/pc	42	Gonzales, LA	96/74/pc	81	Monroe, LA	96/72/pc	66	Somerset, NJ	69/51/pc	44
Bartlesville, OK	79/55/t	46	● Great Falls, MT	72/52/pc	35	Montgomery, AL	95/72/pc	79	Somerville, NJ	81/54/pc	46
Battle Creek, MI	73/50/s	46	Green Bay, WI	69/47/pc	42	Muncie, IN	79/55/pc	61	South Bend, IN	76/53/s	51
Bedford, IN	76/55/pc	53	● Greenville, SC	89/66/t	74	Murfreesboro, TN	79/57/t	55	● Spartanburg, SC	88/65/t	78
Binghamton, NY	65/49/pc	39	Hackensack, NJ	80/58/pc	46	● Naples, FL	91/79/sh	32	Springfield, IL	80/56/s	65
Bluffton, SC	97/77/s	82	Hagerstown, MD	80/58/pc	47	Nashville, TN	80/58/t	50	Springfield, MO	71/56/t	50
Bremerton, WA	74/49/pc	33	Hattiesburg, MS	96/72/pc	71	Neptune, NJ	81/62/pc	46	St. Augustine, FL	97/74/s	42
Brockton, MA	70/54/r	27	Henderson, KY	79/59/r	52	New Bedford, MA	71/57/r	28	St. Cloud, MN	70/47/pc	40
● Brownwood, TX	97/71/pc	51	● Hendersonville, NC	82/59/t	66	● New Bern, NC	96/70/pc	76	St. George, UT	99/70/pc	61
Burlington, IA	80/54/pc	53	Herkimer, NY	67/52/pc	26	New Philadelphia, OH	76/54/pc	50	Staunton, VA	81/49/c	53
Burlington, NC	91/61/c	75	Hillsdale, MI	73/48/pc	46	Newark, OH	77/54/pc	51	Stevens Point, WI	67/44/pc	32
Burlington, VT	67/56/t	25	Holland, MI	63/51/pc	42	Newton, NJ	77/52/pc	41	● Stockton, CA	89/54/pc	55
Cambridge, OH	77/53/pc	50	● Hornell, NY	68/50/t	37	New York, NY	78/62/pc	51	Stroudsburg, PA	77/51/pc	42
Camdenton, MO	73/55/r	43	Houma, LA	94/75/s	67	Norwich, CT	73/54/r	38	Stuart, FL	92/77/t	40
● Canandaigua, NY	67/51/t	31	Howell, MI	72/49/s	43	Ocala, FL	97/71/s	41	Sturgis, MI	73/49/pc	47
Canton, OH	73/55/sh	51	Hutchinson, KS	78/57/pc	57	● Oklahoma City, OK	84/64/t	46	Tallahassee, FL	99/74/s	76
Carlsbad, NM	103/67/pc	92	Hyannis, MA	72/59/r	27	Opelousas, LA	92/71/pc	67	Thibodaux, LA	95/74/s	68
Chambersburg, PA	80/55/pc	45	Indianapolis, IN	78/56/pc	59	Oshkosh, WI	69/48/pc	40	Topeka, KS	80/58/pc	51
Cherry Hill, NJ	83/62/pc	53	Iowa City, IA	79/54/s	43	Palm Beach, FL	91/81/t	28	● Tuscaloosa, AL	95/72/pc	78
Cincinnati, OH	78/57/pc	63	Ithaca, NY	65/48/t	36	Palm Springs, CA	103/71/pc	60	Utica, NY	65/52/c	28
Clarksville, TN	77/57/t	45	Jackson, MS	94/72/pc	74	Panama City, FL	89/77/s	75	Ventura, CA	67/57/pc	40
Coldwater, MI	73/49/s	46	Jackson, TN	83/59/t	46	Pekin, IL	82/57/pc	54	● Victorville, CA	90/55/pc	69
Columbus, OH	77/56/pc	57	Jacksonville, FL	100/72/s	57	Pensacola, FL	91/77/s	94	Vineland, NJ	85/59/pc	56
Corning, NY	70/50/pc	37	Jacksonville, NC	94/68/pc	71	Peoria, IL	81/57/pc	55	Visalia, CA	93/60/s	59
Corpus Christi, TX	95/79/s	39	Kent, OH	72/54/pc	50	Petersburg, VA	90/59/t	59	Washington, DC	85/65/pc	62
Daytona Beach, FL	98/74/s	46	Kewanee, IL	80/53/pc	49	Phoenix, AZ	105/78/s	76	Watertown, SD	71/49/pc	37
Deming, NM	96/63/pc	53	Keyser, WV	77/53/sh	49	Port Huron, MI	71/53/pc	39	Wausau, WI	66/45/pc	28
DeRidder, LA	92/71/pc	65	Kinston, NC	94/69/pc	83	Portsmouth, NH	67/54/r	24	Waynesboro, PA	80/56/pc	46
Des Moines, IA	83/56/pc	63	Knoxville, TN	78/60/t	71	Poughkeepsie, NY	76/52/t	48	White Plains, NY	78/56/pc	44
Detroit, MI	75/52/pc	51	Lafayette, IN	79/53/pc	51	Providence, RI	70/57/r	34	● Wichita Falls, TX	97/69/c	48
Devils Lake, ND	67/49/pc	28	Lafayette, LA	93/74/s	65	● Pueblo, CO	75/58/t	65	Wilmington, DE	82/60/pc	57
Dover, NH	66/52/r	27	Lakeland, FL	98/76/s	34	Quincy, MA	70/58/r	34	Wilmington, NC	96/70/pc	77
● El Paso, TX	100/74/pc	53	Lansing, MI	72/49/pc	44	Redding, CA	95/67/pc	38	Wisconsin Rapids, WI	67/44/pc	30
Elmira, NY	71/51/pc	37	Las Cruces, NM	98/67/pc	52	Reno, NV	91/60/pc	62	Wooster, OH	74/55/pc	50
Erie, PA	68/54/pc	47	Lebanon, PA	81/57/pc	51	Ravenna, OH	73/54/pc	49	Worcester, MA	67/55/r	33
Eugene, OR	79/49/c	25	Leesburg, FL	98/75/s	34	Richmond, IN	78/54/pc	63	York, PA	82/58/pc	55

Air Quality Index: 0-50, Good; 51- 100, Moderate; 101-150, Unhealthy for sensitive groups; 151-200, Unhealthy; 201-300, Very unhealthy; 301-500, Hazardous

INTERNATIONAL CITIES

	Sunday High/low/W	Monday High/low/W		Sunday High/low/W	Monday High/low/W		Sunday High/low/W	Monday High/low/W		Sunday High/low/W	Monday High/low/W
Acapulco	90/76/c	88/77/pc	Cape Town	67/46/s	81/55/c	La Paz	59/30/pc	60/28/pc	● San Jose	83/69/t	80/67/r
Addis Ababa	79/56/pc	77/53/pc	● Caracas	90/77/t	89/77/t	Lagos	87/76/t	87/77/t	● San Salvador	85/71/r	84/72/t
Algiers	84/62/s	82/61/pc	Casablanca	78/61/pc	76/60/pc	Lima	66/60/pc	67/59/pc	● Santiago	59/48/r	61/50/c
Amman	90/64/s	87/66/s	● Colombo	88/81/sh	88/82/t	● Lisbon	73/61/c	74/61/pc	Sao Paulo	82/61/s	83/59/pc
Amsterdam	61/52/pc	56/49/r	● Copenhagen	59/49/sh	63/52/sh	London	65/51/pc	60/45/sh	Sarajevo	91/59/pc	86/57/s
Ankara	82/56/s	86/57/s	Damascus	97/63/s	96/65/s	● Madrid	77/57/sh	77/54/t	Shanghai	90/72/pc	81/71/s
Asuncion	91/70/pc	91/70/s	● Dublin	57/44/sh	61/44/pc	Manila	91/80/t	92/81/t	Singapore	89/80/t	89/81/sh
Athens	91/70/s	92/74/s	● Geneva	73/59/t	73/51/pc	Mexico City	84/61/s	84/57/pc	Stockholm	57/46/pc	55/45/r
● Auckland	64/60/r	66/54/pc	● Guatemala City	79/66/r	78/65/t	● Milan	81/64/t	81/63/t	Sydney	67/51/pc	63/47/pc
Baghdad	116/86/pc	116/85/pc	● Hanoi	90/79/t	88/79/t	Mombasa	89/73/pc	87/72/sh	Taipei	89/78/r	89/78/t
Bangkok	92/81/t	88/81/sh	Harare	66/43/pc	66/44/s	Montevideo	77/52/pc	63/50/pc	● Tegucigalpa	84/69/r	83/70/r
Beijing	98/67/c	96/68/pc	Havana	89/75/t	90/80/t	Montreal	65/56/t	63/54/sh	Tehran	96/79/s	97/78/pc
Beirut	84/72/s	83/72/s	● Helsinki	58/51/sh	60/51/sh	Moscow	72/57/s	70/61/sh	● Tokyo	78/66/c	75/66/pc
Belgrade	93/74/pc	93/67/pc	Hong Kong	87/81/t	88/81/t	Nairobi	72/56/c	74/54/c	Toronto	67/52/sh	63/51/c
Berlin	70/49/s	67/52/pc	Jakarta	92/77/sh	92/78/sh	New Delhi	107/87/pc	109/89/pc	Tunis	88/69/c	87/69/pc
● Bogota	68/51/sh	68/50/sh	Jerusalem	86/64/s	84/65/s	● Panama City	86/76/t	86/76/r	Vancouver	69/53/pc	64/53/s
Brussels	64/50/s	56/44/sh	Johannesburg	59/37/s	61/36/s	Paris	70/49/pc	63/45/sh	Vienna	75/61/t	69/57/t
Bucharest	94/65/pc	96/67/c	Kabul	72/50/c	75/52/s	Port-au-Prince	98/76/pc	98/77/pc	Warsaw	73/55/pc	63/51/r
● Budapest	82/63/c	76/60/t	● Khartoum	106/83/pc	105/84/pc	Rio de Janeiro	80/68/s	81/70/pc	Yerevan	73/57/r	79/57/t
Buenos Aires	74/56/pc	63/56/s	● Kyiv	80/63/pc	84/66/pc	Riyadh	113/85/s	114/85/s	Zagreb	85/62/c	82/62/pc
Cairo	97/74/s	98/73/s	Kingston	91/81/pc	91/81/pc	● Rome	83/66/pc	79/66/pc	● Zurich	69/57/t	69/51/r

● Denotes possible travel delays Sunday

Weather(W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice.

NOTABLE DEATHS

William Anders, 90, a retired astronaut who was one of the first three humans to orbit the moon, capturing the famed “Earthrise” photo during NASA’s Apollo 8 mission in 1968, died on Friday in the crash of a small airplane in Washington state. The Heritage Flight Museum near Burlington, Washington, which he co-founded, confirmed that Anders was killed in an aircraft accident. A U.S. Naval Academy graduate and Air Force pilot, Anders joined NASA in 1963 as a member of the third group of astronauts. He did not go into space until Dec. 21, 1968, when Apollo 8 lifted off on the first crewed mission to leave Earth’s orbit and travel 240,000 miles to the moon. Apollo 8 reached the moon on Christmas Eve. Using a long lens and color film, Anders ended up snapping the photograph now known as “Earthrise.” The image, vividly capturing both the Earth’s beauty and fragility in the vastness of space, is considered one of history’s most influential photographs. “Here we came all the way to the moon to discover Earth,” Anders later said.

Tom Bower, 86, an actor best known for his roles in “The Waltons” and “Die Hard 2,” died May 30 at his home in Los Angeles, Bower’s representative Marsha McManus confirmed to USA TODAY in a statement Thursday. The Denver-born actor died in his sleep, Bower’s sister-in-law Mary Miller told The Hollywood Reporter. Bower made his television debut in the early 1970s, playing a police guard in the 1973 TV movie “Incident at Vichy.” On “The Waltons,” Bower made his first appearance during the family drama’s fourth season in 1975, playing Rex Barker. He went on to score the role of Dr. Curtis Willard, whom he portrayed for Seasons 5-7. In 1990, Bower landed the role of Marvin in “Die Hard 2.” Bower stayed active in entertainment in the 2000s and 2010s.

Artur Chilingarov, 84, a Russian polar scientist and veteran member of parliament, died June 1, the speaker of the State Duma’s lower house said. From the early 1970s Chilingarov was in the forefront of Russian scientific achievements in the Arctic and Antarctic, a participant in missions to both poles and a proponent of emphatically staking Russia’s claim to the Arctic. Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said Russian President Vladimir Putin had been friends with the scientist for years and offered his condolences. In 1999, Chilingarov was in charge of an extended helicopter flight in the Arctic to prove it was a viable means of transport. He led a 2007 Arctic expedition in a submersible to a depth of 13,979 feet, planting a Russian tricolor titanium flag on the sea bed near the North Pole. He first was elected to the Duma in 1993.

Parnelli Jones, 90, a legendary racer and winner of the 1963 Indianapolis 500, died Tuesday, his son PJ posted on social media. The younger Jones said his father had battle Parkinson’s disease for several years. He ranks eighth all-time in laps led in the 500 – including 27 as a rookie in 1961 when he finished 12th. He remains the only driver to have led 400 or more miles (160 laps) twice: in 1963 and 1967. After retiring from driving, he co-owned the cars that won the races in 1970 and 1971, driven by Al Unser Jr.

USA TODAY Network and Reuters

Norway wealth fund to vote against Musk pay package

\$56 billion voided by judge earlier this year

Louise Rasmussen and Gwladys Fouché
REUTERS

OSLO, Norway – Norway’s \$1.7 trillion sovereign wealth fund said on Saturday it will vote against ratifying Tesla CEO Elon Musk’s \$56 billion pay package, which is up for a shareholder vote this week, after a Delaware judge invalidated it earlier this year.

The fund is Tesla’s eighth-biggest shareholder, according to LSEG data. Musk’s pay, the largest for a chief executive in corporate America, was approved in 2018, but voided by a judge earlier this year, who said the amount was unfair to shareholders, calling it an “unfathomable sum.”

The fund said it appreciated “the significant value generated under Mr. Musk’s leadership since the grant date in 2018.”

Still, “we remain concerned about the total size of the award, the structure given performance triggers, dilution, and lack of mitigation of key person risk,” said Norges Bank Investment Management, the operator of the fund.

In 2018, the fund had voted against the package.

“We will continue to seek constructive dialogue with Tesla on this and other topics,” NBIM added.

The fund, which holds a 0.98% stake worth \$7.7 billion according to fund data, has been critical of excessive CEO pay. Last year it voted against more than half of U.S. CEO pay packages above \$20 million, warning they did not align with long-term value creation for shareholders.

Unions

The fund also said it would vote for a



Tesla shareholders will vote on CEO Elon Musk’s pay at their annual meeting scheduled for Thursday. GONZALO FUENTES/REUTERS FILE

shareholder proposal calling on Tesla to adopt a freedom of association and collective bargaining policy, a win for labor unions seeking to assert their influence over the U.S. carmaker.

The vote comes as Tesla continues to face industrial action in Sweden, with its mechanics on strike since Oct. 27, in one of the country’s longest labor disputes.

Norway’s wealth fund, which owns 1.5% of all the world’s listed stocks, also in 2022 backed a shareholder proposal calling on Tesla to adopt a policy of respecting labor rights such as freedom of association and collective bargaining.

The electric vehicle producer faces a backlash in the Nordic region from unions and some pension funds over its refusal to accept the demand from its

Swedish mechanics for collective bargaining rights covering wages and other conditions.

Texas

The wealth fund voted for transferring the EV maker’s state of incorporation from Delaware to Texas, a vote Musk sought after the Delaware judge invalidated his pay.

The fund also said it would vote for a proposal to elect Musk’s younger brother Kimbal, 51, to Tesla’s board of directors. The fund had voted in favor of his election in 2018, according to fund data.

Tesla shareholders will vote on Musk’s pay, as well as the reelection of directors, including Musk’s brother, at their annual meeting scheduled for Thursday.

Pope Francis invites comedians to Vatican

Goldberg, Fallon, O’Brien to be among attendees

REUTERS

VATICAN CITY – Pope Francis, who says he regularly prays “Lord, give me a sense of humor,” will welcome comedians from around the world to a cultural event in Italy to “celebrate the beauty of human diversity,” the Vatican said on Saturday.

Whoopi Goldberg, Jimmy Fallon, Conan O’Brien and Chris Rock will be among more than 100 entertainers at the Vatican on Friday.

The pope “recognizes the significant impact that the art of comedy has on the world of contemporary culture,” a Vatican statement said.

British comedian Stephen Merchant – the co-writer of the TV comedy series “The Office” – and Italian comedian Li-

no Banfi will also be at the event.

The meeting will take place on Friday morning, before the pope travels to Puglia to attend the Group of Seven leaders’ summit.

“The meeting between Pope Francis and the world’s comedians aims to celebrate the beauty of human diversity and to promote a message of peace, love and solidarity,” the Vatican said.

The audience has been organized by the Vatican’s Dicastery for Culture and Education and Dicastery for Communication.

Goldberg last month said in an interview that she had offered the pope a cameo in “Sister Act 3,” in which she will reprise her comedy role of a singer who takes refuge in a convent and organizes a choir.

“He said he would see what his time was like,” Goldberg said joking, when asked if the pope had accepted her offer.



The Vatican said Pope Francis “recognizes the significant impact that the art of comedy has on the world of contemporary culture.” TONY GENTILE/REUTERS FILE

SUNDAY TALK SHOWS

Washington Journal (C-SPAN)

Star Parker, president of the Center for Urban Renewal and Education, discusses “Black voters and Campaign 2024 and news of the day.” NewsGuard co-CEO Steven Brill discusses “his new book on online misinformation and social media, and their impact on U.S. politics and democracy.”

This Week with George Stephanopoulos (ABC)

Interviews with Department of Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas on “Immigration and Biden’s Border Order,” and with former DNC Chair Donna Brazile and former RNC Chair Reince Priebus on “2024: Biden and Trump in Their Own Words.” A political roundtable with ABC News senior national correspondent Terry Moran; ABC News political director Rick Klein; NPR White House correspondent Asma Khalid; and Susan Glasser, a staff writer at The New Yorker.

Fox News Sunday with Shannon Bream (FOX)

Interviews with Sen. Tom Cotton, R-Ark., and Rep. Ritchie Torres, D-N.Y. A political roundtable with Tammy Bruce, president of American Spirit, and for-

mer Reps. Harold Ford Jr., D-Tenn., and Lee Zeldin, R-N.Y. A profile of Naor Packiarz, a survivor of the Oct. 7, 2023, Hamas attack in Israel.

State of the Union with Jake Tapper and Dana Bash (CNN)

Interviews with Govs. Gretchen Whitmer, D-Mich., and Kristi Noem, R-S.D. A political roundtable with Rep. Ro Khanna, D-Calif.; Karen Finney, former senior spokesperson and adviser for the 2016 Hillary Clinton presidential campaign; Scott Jennings, former special assistant to President George W. Bush; and Bryan Lanza, former deputy communications director of the Trump Presidential Transition Team.

Sunday Morning Futures with Maria Bartiromo (FOX NEWS)

Interviews with Sen. J.D. Vance, R-Ohio; Gov. Greg Abbott, R-Texas; House Oversight and Accountability Chairman James Comer, R-Ky.; Gregg Jarrett, legal analyst at FOX News; Miranda Devine, contributor at Fox News; and Pete Hegseth, co-host of Fox & Friends Weekend and author of “The War on Warriors.”

Fareed Zakaria GPS (CNN)

Richard Haass, president emeritus at

the Council on Foreign Relations and former director of policy planning at the State Department, discusses “Israel/Gaza: President Biden’s cease-fire plan.” Denise Dresser, professor at the Instituto Tecnológico Autonomo de Mexico and columnist for Proceso magazine and Reforma newspaper, discusses “The elections in Mexico this week.” Jonathan Blitzer, staff writer at The New Yorker and author of “Everyone Who is Gone is Here: The United States, Central America, and the Making of a Crisis,” discusses “President Biden’s executive action on the Southern border: the politics of immigration in America.” Ruchir Sharma, chairman of Rockefeller International, founder of Breakout Capital and author of “What Went Wrong With Capitalism,” discusses “What happened when voters went to the polls in the world’s largest democracy – do the results mean a power shift for India?”

Meet the Press with Kristen Welker (NBC)

The show will be preempted due to NBC’s coverage of the French Open Men’s Final.

Face the Nation with Margaret Brennan (CBS)

Interviews with Sen. Lindsey Gra-

ham, R-S.C.; Sen. Chris Coons, D-Del., a Biden reelection campaign national co-chair; Rep. Pramila Jayapal, D-Wash., chair of the Congressional Progressive Caucus; and Cindy McCain, executive director of the World Food Program.

Inside Politics Sunday (CNN)

A discussion with Seung Min Kim, White House reporter at the Associated Press; Astead Herndon, national politics reporter and host of The New York Times’ “The Run-Up” podcast; Edward-Isaac Dovere, CNN senior reporter; and Mara Liasson, NPR national political correspondent.

Media Buzz (FOX NEWS)

The guests are Ben Domenech, editor at large at The Spectator; Democratic strategist Laura Fink, founder of Rebelle Communications; Caroline Downey, reporter at the National Review; and Democratic strategist Tim Hogan.

Q&A (C-SPAN)

An interview with actor George Takei, author of “My Lost Freedom: A Japanese American World War II Story,” who discusses growing up in U.S. internment camps during World War II.

Reuters

IN BRIEF

North Korea resumes sending trash balloons to the South

SEOUL, South Korea – North Korea has resumed sending balloons carrying trash over the border to South Korea, officials and news reports said on Sunday, a week after it vowed to continue if anti-North Korea leaflets are flown from the South.

Dozens of balloons with trash attached have been found in Seoul and in areas near the border overnight and early on Sunday, after the South Korean military said late on Saturday the North was again launching them.

South Korea’s military said on Sunday it takes the balloons “very seriously” and was on alert to take action in response as necessary. It did not elaborate what actions it would take.

South Korea has warned it would take “unendurable” measures, which could include blaring propaganda broadcasts from loudspeakers set up at the border directed at the North.

The North Korean government has said the balloons were sent in retaliation for anti-North leaflets flown by South Korean activists as part of a propaganda campaign and launched hundreds of them starting late in May carrying trash and manure.

On June 2, it said it would temporarily halt sending the balloons. However, it vowed to resume if leaflets are again flown from the South by sending hundred times the amount.

A group of South Korean activists defied the warning and have since flown more balloons to the North.

Irish coalition parties set to trounce Sinn Fein in local votes

DUBLIN – Ireland’s two main coalition parties looked set on Saturday to soundly beat Sinn Fein in local council elections, a surprising and potentially devastating blow to the left-wing party’s hope of its first victory in national elections due by March.

Sinn Fein, the former political wing of the Irish Republican Army, saw a commanding three-year lead in opinion polls almost disappear recently as more voters came to see immigration as their top concern rather than affordable housing, an issue which Sinn Fein dominated.

Voting took place on Friday as more than 2,100 candidates vied for 949 seats on 31 local councils.

Results began to be tabulated on Saturday. With close to a quarter of votes counted, Prime Minister Simon Harris’ Fine Gael and his main coalition partner Fianna Fail each had around 24% of the vote with Sinn Fein on 11%.

“We didn’t win the seats we expected to win.... What we need to do is regroup and listen to what the electorate has said,” senior Sinn Fein lawmaker David Cullinane told Newstalk radio.

New Zealand to introduce bill to reverse oil, gas exploration ban

SYDNEY – New Zealand’s government said on Sunday it would introduce legislation to remove a controversial ban on offshore petroleum exploration to attract investment to the country’s oil and gas sector.

The bill would end the ban, in place since 2018, on exploration outside onshore Taranaki, an energy-rich region on New Zealand’s North Island, Resources Minister Shane Jones said in a statement.

The bill will be introduced to parliament before the end of 2024, he said.

“Our current settings are a barrier to attracting investment in exploration and production because they are overly costly and onerous on industry,” Jones said.

New Zealand’s right-of-center government released in November a number of policy plans including the proposal to scrap the exploration ban by the previous center-left Labour-led government.

Virgin Galactic spaceplane takes 4 tourists on flight

Virgin Galactic flew four tourists to the edge of space and back aboard its spaceplane, marking the second flight this year, the Richard Branson-founded company said on Saturday.

The Galactic 07 mission carried Turkish, U.S. and Italian passengers to an altitude of about 55 miles on a flight lasting slightly more than an hour.

The space tourism company said that mission took off from and returned to Spaceport America in New Mexico on Saturday. It marked the final commercial flight of Virgin’s VSS Unity spaceplane as the company is now producing its fourth-generation spaceships expected to enter commercial service in 2026, the company said in a statement.

Reuters



Lee Kyoung-hyun, a popular YouTube shaman, organizes tools for fortune-telling at her parlor in Seoul, South Korea. PHOTOS BY KIM SOO-HYEON/REUTERS

Young Korean shamans revive ancient tradition

Social media, movie help renew interest in culture

Hyunsu Yim
REUTERS

SEOUL, South Korea – With statues of the Buddha and local gods, candles and incense sticks, Lee Kyoung-hyun’s shrine looks similar to those of Korean shamans from centuries past.

But the 29-year-old shaman – also known as Aegi Seonnyeo, or “Baby Angel” – reaches her clients in a thoroughly modern way: through social media accounts with hundreds of thousands of followers.

“Shamanism ... was believed to be an invisible, mysterious and spiritual world,” Lee said, adding that she had noticed more South Korean shamans posting videos about the spiritual practice since she started her own YouTube channel in 2019.

South Korea is among the world’s most modern and high-tech economies. More than half its population of 51 million is not religiously affiliated, polls show. But the appeal of shamanism has stood the test of time.

Kim Dong-kyu of the Academic Center for K-Religions at Sogang University, a private research university in Seoul, said shamans used to promote themselves in newspapers. It was a “natural phenomenon” to turn to social media, he said.

Google Trends shows that searches on YouTube for “shaman” and “fortune-telling” in Korean have nearly doubled over the past five years.

The spiritual tradition was central to the plot of a blockbuster South Korean film this year, “Exhuma,” in which shamans are tasked with lifting a curse on a family.

The movie depicts well-dressed shamans in their 20s and 30s and director Jang Jae-hyun said he discovered many young shamans while doing his research.

The movie has grossed at least \$97 million internationally, raising interest in the religious tradition. Roughly 1 in 5 South Koreans has seen “Exhuma,” according to Korean Film Council data.

“People used to hide that they live as a (shaman). There was a lot of stigma,” said 51-year-old Eunmi Pang, who has been a practitioner for almost 20 years. She said that shamans today were more willing to express and promote themselves.

Shamans – who are believed to have divination abilities – typically charge around 100,000 won (\$73.09) for a consultation of between 30 and 60 minutes, according to Pang and online pricing lists. They offer relationship advice, guidance on job searches and predictions about the future, Lee said.

Shamans typically answer queries after conducting rituals that may involve ringing bells and tossing grains of rice.

They also sing, dance and walk on the edge of a knife to call on divine intervention. While practices vary, many Korean shamans worship local deities such as the Mountain God, Great Spirit Grandmother and Dragon King.

Park Chea-bin, a 33-year-old Buddhist, visited Lee when she was strugg-



Lee Kyoung-hyun’s shaman parlor in Seoul, South Korea, has statues of the Buddha and local gods, candles and incense sticks.

ling to find a job in 2020. She said she felt “peace of mind” after consulting the practitioner.

“I was very anxious at the time but I became a little relaxed after deciding to let things go and focus on what I need to do,” said Park, who found employment at roughly the same time.

“I’m a Buddhist but I know Christians around me who come for their niggles(doubts).”

Economic anxiety

Lee says she has felt physical pain and experienced psychosis since she was a teenager – symptoms that some believe are signs of a deity possessing a budding shaman.

She decided to embrace her calling in 2018 and soon started a YouTube channel that now has over 300,000 subscribers. She posts videos on topics such as the items she carries in her bag and the country’s fate for in 2024. (She’s not optimistic.)

“The current state of South Korean society is a factor that can’t be ignored,” she said, adding that many of her millennial and Gen Z clients come to her with concerns about affordable housing and the cost of raising children.

In Seoul, where Lee is based, the price of a home was more than 15 times the median salary in 2022, up from 8.8 in 2017, according to a government report. The country has also suffered from high inflation and interest rates.

The younger generation of shamans who live in the city can connect well with younger clients facing economic challenges that they can’t find an answer for, said Han Seung-hoon, an assistant professor at the Academy of Korean Studies, a research and education institute that operates under the Ministry of Education.

Battling stigmas

A culture ministry agency estimated in 2022 that there were between 300,000 and 400,000 shamans and fortune-tellers in South Korea.

Shamanism is an “important and powerful part of the Korean character,” the agency wrote on its website.

The roots of shamanism on the Korean peninsula go back at least 2,000 years, Han said.

The Japanese colonial administra-

tion of the early 20th century and the military dictatorship of the 1970s attempted to suppress shamanism, which they saw as an obstacle to modernization.

Politically powerful Christians – who make up roughly a quarter of the population – have also criticized shamans and their followers.

Han noted that larger religions such as Christianity and Buddhism – which about 40% of South Koreans say they are followers of – are more influential in society, yet do not draw similar levels of criticism.

Lee said Christians also visit shamans in South Korea. “Even ... churchgoers want to have their bad dreams read,” she said.

More recently, some practitioners have found themselves in legal trouble. A 66-year-old shaman in Seoul was sentenced to four years’ imprisonment in February after being convicted of defrauding a client of more than \$200,000, according to local media reports.

The court ruled that the shaman had been pretending to speak to the client’s dead mother.

Lee thinks it’s wrong for shamans to make decisions for clients. Instead, she said that shamans served as guides – like friends and family offering advice – rather than decision makers.

Some in South Korea’s elite have links to shamans. Min Hee-jin, a top entertainment executive embroiled in a business dispute with a major K-pop label, defended herself in an April press conference against allegations that she consulted a shaman for business purposes.

Min said that she had a conversation with a shaman in hope that talking would make her feel better. “Don’t you guys all do that too?”

A 2022 study in the journal BMC Psychiatry noted a “huge” gap between South Koreans needing mental health treatment and getting it, which it partly attributed to stigma.

“Shamans have been playing the role of counselors,” said Kim, the religious professor.

“People have stigmatized shamanism as something dirty, suspicious, and scary,” said Han, adding that people were sometimes accused of visiting shamans in attempts to hurt their reputation.



Migrants, mainly from Yemen, receive help from humanitarian activists as they fill out migration documents in the forest near Grudki, Poland, on Tuesday. KACPER PEMPEL/REUTERS

Poland-Belarus tensions flare over migrant policy

More arriving at EU border, officials say

Barbara Erling, Kuba Stezycki and Kacper Pempel
REUTERS

BIALOWIEZA, Poland – Surrounded by lush forests, a dozen people huddled near a razor-tipped fence along the Belarus border, waiting for a chance to scale it or push aside its slats to head west into Poland.

On the other side, armed Polish border guards and soldiers walked and drove back and forth, keeping a close eye on group, who were mostly young men from the Middle East, some of them marked with cuts from the sharp wire.

Tensions over migration are high across Europe as far-right parties calling for tougher controls face off against centrist movements in European Parliament elections, which are taking place in Poland on Sunday.

Here, that standoff has an extra geopolitical edge. Poland and the European Union have accused Belarus and Russia of trying to spread chaos since 2021 by pushing migrants over the frontier in what Warsaw calls a “hybrid war.” Minsk and Moscow have dismissed the accusations.

The number of people arriving have been rising recently, according to Polish government figures. And last week, what Poland sees as a war had a casualty when a soldier patrolling the border died after succumbing to his wounds from a confrontation with migrants on May 28.

In response, the centrist, pro-EU government of Prime Minister Donald Tusk has announced plans to reintro-



Ahmed Lebek, a migrant from Syria, stands on the Belarusian-Polish border. KACPER PEMPEL/REUTERS

duce a no-go zone along the frontier. “This border is not safe, unfortunately. The purpose of this zone is to ensure that no one is exposed to the type of attack that Polish soldiers are exposed to,” deputy defense minister Pawel Zalewski told Reuters.

Over the fence

Back at the fence on Monday, the group kept waiting. Ahmed Lebek, 24, from Aleppo, Syria, said he had been there for more than a month. His brother had given up and gone back to Belarus, though he had had no news from him since.

“I come from the war to find a good life. But I found it very hard to cross this border,” said Ahmed, 35, an English teacher from Syria. He had tried four

times to climb the fence.

Under current arrangements, migrants can apply for asylum in EU member Poland once they are on the Polish soil.

One of them who made it though the fence a day later was Noaman Al-Hemyari, a 24-year-old graphic designer from Yemen.

In the forest on the Polish side of the border, he told Reuters he and others has built a ladder from wood, fabric scraps and plastic bags, and scaled the barrier when darkness fell.

He had originally applied for a Polish student visa from Yemen, which was rejected, before traveling to Moscow, then Belarus and later the border area where he had spent 22 days.

“We had been caught by the Belarusians. They hit us ... Then they said ‘go,’ ” Noaman said, visibly relieved and with leaves still in his hair.

“They (smugglers) said it’s so easy ... They lied to us. If I had any idea it’s like this, I wouldn’t have come.”

The no-go zone, when it is introduced, will make things even more difficult for the migrants, said Agata Kluczevska, who runs a local migrant support group, offering food, medicine and transport.

She had come to the forest to help Noaman and his five companions start the asylum application process and to inform border guards, who would take them to a processing center.

Any return to more restrictive measures, she said, could leave more people stranded on the Belarus side, and force volunteers like her to return to the days when they had to go out covertly to help arriving migrants.

“The zone rules will affect us very much,” she said. “We will have to start hiding again.”

Bulgaria holds another snap election

But more instability is likely ahead, analysts say

Stoyan Nenov
Thomson Reuters Foundation

SOFIA, Bulgaria – Bulgarians head to the polls on Sunday for their sixth parliamentary election in three years, but analysts say the vote is unlikely to yield a stable government that can end prolonged political instability and unblock economic reforms.

Bulgaria, the poorest member of the European Union, has been plagued by revolving-door governments since anti-corruption protests in 2020, with a series of elections producing shaky coalitions that swiftly crumbled.

The latest opinion polls suggest no party will win a majority, setting the stage for a new round of coalition talks once the votes are in.

Exit polls are due to be announced immediately after polling stations close at 8 p.m. local time.

Bulgaria needs a period of stable, well-functioning government to accelerate the flow of EU funds into its creaking infrastructure and nudge it toward adopting the euro and fully participating in Europe’s open-border Schengen Area.

Plans to join the eurozone have already been pushed back twice because of missed inflation targets. Accession is currently slated for Jan. 25, 2025.

Failure to form a stable government would raise the risk of further delays, Teneo analysts said in a recent report.

Bulgaria has so far only received \$1.5 billion out of \$6.2 billion in available grants from the EU’s Recovery and Resilience Facility, they said.

“Further progress is uncertain as the country is required to implement politically sensitive reforms in the energy sector, which might be more difficult without a stable government,” they added.

Sunday’s vote was triggered by the collapse in March of a coalition comprising the center-right GERB party and the reformist We Continue the Change, or PP, party.

The latest Gallup poll, published on Friday by the BTA news agency, put GERB ahead with 25.9% of the vote, followed by three parties in a tight race for second place.

Bulgarians will also be choosing their representatives for the European Parliament, but election fatigue could be an issue. In the Gallup poll, only 40% of respondents said they planned to vote.



A woman walks past an election poster in Kardzhali, Bulgaria, on Friday. Bulgarians are heading to the polls on Sunday. NIKOLAY DOYCHINOV/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

Paris

Continued from Page 1NN

The day concluded with a dinner at the French presidential palace, where celebrities including Pharrell Williams and John McEnroe joined political and business leaders.

Macron also welcomed 100-year-old World War II veteran Harold Terrens and his 96-year-old bride, Jeanne Swerlin, as guests. The couple married earlier on Saturday.

Biden and Macron share a warm relationship despite past tensions over a submarine deal with Australia. Biden hosted Macron for a state visit at the White House in 2022.

They are aligned in their countries’ support for Ukraine and opposition to Russian President Vladimir Putin, and a joint “roadmap” released by the presidents included a commitment to back efforts to use frozen Russian assets to help Kyiv.

Tapping profits from Russian assets has drawn concerns from some countries, but a U.S. Treasury official said on Tuesday that the United States and its G7 partners were making progress.

Biden said if Putin succeeds in his war with Ukraine, he would not stop



From left, first lady Jill Biden, President Joe Biden, French President Emmanuel Macron and his wife, Brigitte Macron, arrive for a state dinner at the Elysee presidential palace in Paris on Saturday. SARAH MEYSSONNIER/REUTERS

there.

“It’s about much more than Ukraine. All of Europe will be threatened, but we’re not going to let that happen,” he said. “The United States is standing strong with Ukraine. We’re standing with our allies. And we’re standing with

France.”

Biden met with Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskyy in Paris on Friday, apologizing for a monthslong delay by the U.S. Congress in approving the latest military aid, and Zelenskyy addressed France’s National Assembly.

“The United States is standing strong with Ukraine. We’re standing with our allies. And we’re standing with France.”

President Joe Biden

Beyond Ukraine, trade issues between the two sides of the Atlantic loomed large, especially over the U.S. Inflation Reduction Act, which Biden signed into law in August 2022. European officials see it as a protectionist move that siphons off investments from EU companies.

Macron said he and Biden discussed the consequences of the IRA for the European economy again on Saturday.

Despite his criticism of the IRA during his state visit to Washington in 2022, Macron and European allies have since won few concessions from Washington.

“We really wish to move toward a re-synchronization of our economies, between the United States of America and European economies, in terms of regulation and in terms of investment levels,” Macron said.

WAR IN MIDDLE EAST



Smoke billows from the site of an Israeli airstrike in the southern Lebanese village of Kham on Saturday. RABIH DAHER/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

Israeli strike kills 2 in southern Lebanon

Conflict forces thousands to evacuate near border

REUTERS

BEIRUT – Two people were killed on Saturday in an Israeli airstrike on the outskirts of the southern Lebanese town of Aitaroun, Lebanon’s state news agency NNA said on Saturday.

The Israeli military said in a statement that its soldiers had identified a Hezbollah militant in the Aitaroun area,

and that soon afterward an Israeli aircraft had carried out an airstrike that hit the individual.

Israeli forces launched two missiles targeting a cafe at a gas station, causing significant damage to the premises and to the surrounding area, NNA said.

Lebanese armed group Hezbollah said its fighters retaliated by firing rockets on Malkia, in northern Israel, followed by a salvo of missiles at a military command center in northern Israel using the Falaq 2 rockets.

A security source told Reuters it was

the first time the group used that model of rockets, having used the Falaq 1 previously.

The Israel Defense Forces “identified a Hezbollah terrorist in the area of Aitaroun in southern Lebanon, and shortly afterward an IAF aircraft struck the terrorist,” the Israeli military said in a statement.

The IDF said on Saturday jets had also struck infrastructure in the area of the town of Kham after tanks had earlier fired at a Hezbollah military structure in the Kfarkela area.

The conflict between Lebanon’s Hezbollah and Israel, which has been fought in parallel to the Gaza war, has intensified in recent days, adding to concerns that an even wider confrontation could break out between the heavily armed adversaries.

Hezbollah, a Hamas ally, says its attacks aim to support Palestinians under Israeli bombardment in Gaza.

The fighting – the worst hostilities between Hezbollah and Israel since they fought a war in 2006 – has forced tens of thousands of people to flee homes.

Hostages

Continued from Page 1NN

Attempts by the United States and regional countries to forge a deal that would release all remaining hostages in return for a cease-fire have repeatedly failed as Israel presses its assault in Gaza. Fresh airstrikes in the southern city of Rafah hit homes later on Saturday, residents and Hamas officials said.

Israeli News 12 broadcast footage of Argamani reunited with her father, smiling and embracing him. Video of Argamani’s kidnapping, showing her shouting “Don’t kill me!” as she was driven into Gaza on a motorbike, had circulated soon after she was taken on Oct. 7.

A smiling Argamani was shown speaking by phone to Israeli President Isaac Herzog from hospital surrounded by family and friends, in footage released by the president’s office.

“Thank you for everything, thank you for this moment,” she said.

“I am so excited to hear your voice, it brings tears to my eyes ... Welcome home,” Herzog said.

Poland praised the rescue of the hostages and said that one was a dual Israeli-Polish citizen.

President Joe Biden welcomed the return of the four Israeli hostages rescued in Gaza. “We won’t stop working until all the hostages come home and a cease-fire is reached,” Biden said at a news conference in Paris alongside French President Emmanuel Macron.

Following the hostage rescue, Israel’s centrist war cabinet minister, Benny Gantz, delayed a statement on Saturday in which he was widely expected to announce his resignation from Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu’s emergency government. Gantz had presented the conservative premier a June 8 deadline to come up with a clear post-war strategy for Gaza.

Bloody scenes

A different picture unfolded back in Gaza, where Palestinian health ministry officials and local medics said an Israeli military assault in Nuseirat had killed



Mourners react during a funeral for Palestinians killed in Israeli strikes in Deir al-Balah, Gaza Strip, on Saturday. DOAA ROUQA/REUTERS

scores of people.

The ministry did not say how many of the fatalities were combatants.

The Hamas-run government media office in Gaza said later the death toll had risen to at least 210 Palestinians with many more wounded, after medics and health officials gave earlier tolls of up to 100 dead. There was no immediate confirmation of the figure from Gaza’s health ministry.

Social media footage that Reuters could not immediately verify showed bodies spilling entrails onto blood-stained streets.

“It was like a horror movie but this

was a real massacre. Israeli drones and warplanes fired all night randomly at people’s houses and at people who tried to flee the area,” said Ziad, 45, a paramedic and resident of Nuseirat, who gave only his first name.

The bombardment focused on a local marketplace and the al-Awda mosque, he told Reuters via a messaging app. “To free four people, Israel killed dozens of innocent civilians,” he said.

Emergency response teams sought to ferry the dead and wounded to hospital in the nearby city of Deir al-Balah but many bodies were still lying in the streets, including around the market

district, Ziad and other residents said.

Nuseirat, a historic Palestinian refugee camp, has been subjected to heavy Israeli bombing during the war and there has also been fierce ground fighting in its eastern areas.

Late on Saturday, an Israeli airstrike killed five Palestinians in the Al-Bureij refugee camp in the central Gaza Strip, Palestinian medics said.

The war has destabilized the wider Middle East, drawing in Hamas’ main backer, Iran, and its heavily armed Lebanese ally Hezbollah, which Israeli officials are threatening to go to war with on Israel’s northern border.

SPORTS

EXTRA



Iga Swiatek celebrates with her trophy after defeating Jasmine Paolini in the French Open women's singles final on Saturday in Paris. TIM GOODE/GETTY IMAGES

TENNIS FRENCH OPEN

Swiatek rules again at Roland Garros

Shrivathsa Sridhar
REUTERS

PARIS – Iga Swiatek produced a ruthless performance to crush 12th seed Jasmine Paolini on Saturday and win a third straight French Open crown and fifth Grand Slam title of her career. Swiatek's 6-2 6-1 win, her 21st in a row at her happiest hunting ground, put her fourth on the list of longest streaks at Roland Garros in the Open era behind Chris Evert (29), Monica Seles (25) and Justine Henin (24). She also became the third woman to capture three consecutive French Open crowns after Henin (2005-07) and Seles (1990-92). The 23-year-old Pole extended her run of victories on clay to a career-best 19 matches to clinch her fourth French Open title in five years.

"It means a lot. This tournament has been pretty surreal with its beginning and the second round, and then I was able to get my game better every match," Swiatek told reporters, with the shining Suzanne Lenglen cup beside her. "I'm really proud of myself because the expectations have been pretty high from the outside. Pressure, as well. I'm happy that I just went for it and I was ready to deal with all of this. And I could win." Swiatek, now 5-0 in major finals having claimed the U.S. Open in 2022, is the first woman to lift the same Grand Slam title for three successive years since American Serena Williams from 2012-14 at Flushing Meadows. But she said that the demands of being a perfectionist had weighed on her

See FRENCH OPEN, Page 9NS

NBA FINALS

Celtics mindful of Kidd's 'wedge' try

Nick Galle
FIELD LEVEL MEDIA

BOSTON – Boston Celtics stars Jayson Tatum and Jaylen Brown aren't letting Dallas Mavericks coach Jason Kidd create a rift between them ahead of Game 2 of the NBA Finals on Sunday night. Kidd referred to Brown as Boston's best player while speaking to reporters on Saturday. Whether he truly meant it or was simply trying to play mind games with the Celtics remains a mystery, but the comment didn't elicit a reaction from Tatum or Brown. "We understand that people try to drive a wedge in between us," Tatum said. "Guess it's a smart thing to do – or try to do. But we've been in this position for many years of guys trying to divide us and say that one of us should be traded or one's better than the other. So it's not our first time at the rodeo." Boston veteran Al Horford thought Kidd's intentions were pretty clear. "J-Kidd, man. I see what he's doing," Horford said. "Jaylen Brown is an unbelievable player ... and very special for us." It will take a lot more than psychological warfare to slow down the Celtics if they manage to replicate their Game 1 performance. Boston cruised to a 107-89 victory on Thursday night, leading by as many as 29. Brown finished with a team-high 22 points for the Celtics, while Kristaps Porzingis returned from a 10-game absence due to a calf strain to pour in 20

See NBA FINALS, Page 2NS



Dallas Mavericks coach Jason Kidd looks on during Game 1 of the NBA Finals against the Celtics on Thursday in Boston. DAVID BUTLER II/USA TODAY

STANLEY CUP FINAL PANTHERS 3, OILERS 0



Edmonton Oilers forward Zach Hyman (18) shoots the puck against Florida Panthers goaltender Sergei Bobrovsky during the first period of Game 1 of the Stanley Cup Final on Saturday in Sunrise, Fla. JIM RASSOL/USA TODAY SPORTS

STONEWALLED

Goalie Bobrovsky delivers shutout as Panthers stymie Oilers to take Game 1

FIELD LEVEL MEDIA

Even though they were blanked in Game 1 of the Stanley Cup Final, the Edmonton Oilers aren't about to lose faith in themselves. Edmonton couldn't find a way to solve Florida Panthers goaltender Ser-

gei Bobrovsky and fell 3-0 in Sunrise, Fla., on Saturday night in the opener of finals, but the Oilers still managed to take some positives out of the setback. "Maybe it was the hockey gods getting us back for that Game 6 (victory against the Dallas Stars in the Western Conference finals) where we probably

didn't deserve to win," Edmonton captain Connor McDavid said. "Tonight, maybe we deserved at least one goal, maybe two goals, and we don't find a way to get them. I know this group will stick with it and bounce back. That's

See PANTHERS, Page 3NS

BASKETBALL

\$750K fine for tanking now paying off for the Mavericks



BOSTON – Losing for Lively was not a popular tanking catchphrase in the NBA last season. But tanking worked for the Dallas Mavericks. They lost a game to the Bulls, protected a top-10 draft pick and traded it to get Dereck Lively II. He made an immediate and impactful contribution to the rotation and is one of the main reasons the Mavericks are in Boston preparing for Game 2 of the NBA Finals (Sunday, 8 p.m. EDT, ABC). But the Mavericks’ choice – a costly one in more ways than one – was unpopular with many, particularly those in the NBA league office. The Mavericks were in the mix for a spot in the play-in game format, but to keep their lottery pick, which was top-10 protected, they wanted to miss the postseason. Had the Mavs made the play-in, they wouldn’t have been in the top 10 and would’ve had to give the pick to New York as part of a previous trade involving Kristaps Porzingis, who now plays for Boston.

So, the Mavs lost a game to Chicago on April 7, 2023 – a game in which Luka Doncic played just under 13 minutes, and Kyrie Irving, Maxi Kleber, Christian Wood, Tim Hardaway Jr., and Josh Green did not play. And they missed the postseason. The league was irate and fined the Mavericks \$750,000 for “conduct detrimental to the league in an elimination game,” the NBA said in a news release. NBA executive vice president/head of basketball operations Joe Dumars said the Mavs’ decision “undermined the integrity of our sport,” and their actions “failed our fans and our league.” However ... the Mavericks made a minor draft-day trade, swapping their No. 10 pick for Oklahoma City’s No. 12 pick, and selected Duke center Lively. Lively immediately became a significant part of Dallas’ rotation – an active two-way big man who excels in the pick-and-roll, setting screens, catching lobbs for dunks and protecting the rim. He averaged 8.8 points, 6.9 rebounds, 1.4 blocks and 1.1 assists and shot 74.7% from the field in 23.5 minutes per game as the Mavs went 50-32. With Lively on



Mavericks center Dereck Lively II warms up before Game 1 of the NBA Finals against the Celtics on Friday in Boston. DAVID BUTLER II/USA TODAY SPORTS

the court, the Mavericks scored 120.6 points per 100 possessions, which makes them one of the league’s top offensive teams. The Mavs beat three 50-win teams in the Western Conference playoffs. Lively again was a big part of that success, averaging 8.2 points, 7.1 rebounds, 1.5 assists and 1.1 blocks in 21.5 minutes per game. Then-Mavs majority owner Mark Cuban and general manager Nico Harrison decided to lose so they could improve. It’s hard to argue against their plan today. “In terms of what Dallas did last year, we sanctioned them,” NBA commissioner Adam Silver said Thursday before Game 1. “We did what we thought was appropriate at the time. I would only say that the success they saw this season, that they’re now seeing in the Playoffs and here they are at the Finals, I don’t attribute it to one draft pick, as important as that draft

pick has been to their team.” Silver is partially correct. It was a team effort, and Doncic and Irving, among others, were necessary components. It’s a team game. But Lively’s contributions were a significant factor. Lively knew the Mavs were interested, and he was interested in playing for the Mavs. “I was hoping I could go to Dallas because I knew I could make an impact,” Lively said. “I knew what they needed is what I can do. I was sitting there with my fingers crossed hoping I could get to Dallas. Grateful that I was able to get drafted to Dallas. “Our first workout, when we played 5-on-5 and me and Luka were on the same team, everybody saw what could possibly happen throughout the season, and it’s not a surprise we got this far.” Losing for Lively turned into playing in the Finals.

WNBA ROUNDUP

Ionescu and Liberty deal Sun 1st defeat of the season

FIELD LEVEL MEDIA

Sabrina Ionescu scored 24 points and reached a milestone as the visiting New York Liberty handed the first loss of the season to the Connecticut Sun, 82-75 in a matchup between the WNBA teams with the best records Saturday afternoon at Uncasville, Conn. Jonquel Jones racked up 22 points, while Breanna Stewart’s 13 and Betnijah Laney-Hamilton’s 10 also were boosts for the Liberty (10-2), who scored the game’s final six points and shot 51.7 percent from the field. The Sun (9-1) had matched the fourth-best start to a season without a loss in WNBA history. DeWanna Bonner’s 16 points led Connecticut, while Brionna Jones had 13, DiJonai Carrington and reserve Tiffany Mitchell each scored 12 points and Tyasha Harris finished with 11. Alyssa Thomas provided 10 points and 12 rebounds. Ionescu has totaled 300 successful 3-point shots faster than any player in WNBA history, doing so in her 117th career game. She went 2-for-6 from long range on Saturday. The Sun shot only 4-for-16 on 3-point attempts, while the Liberty were 9-for-25 from beyond the arc.

Dream 89, Sky 80

Tina Charles scored 22 points and Rhyne Howard had a double-double as visiting Atlanta defeated Chicago. Howard had 10 points, 10 assists and five steals, Cheyenne Parker-Tyus added 18 points, Allisha Gray scored 14 and Aerial Powers had 11 as the Dream (5-4) surpassed their scoring average by 14 points. Angel Reese had 13 points, 13 rebounds and five steals, Kamilla Cardoso and Dana Evans added 13 points each and Marina Mabrey scored 12 for the Sky (4-6). Mabrey and Linday Allen each made a 3-pointer during an 8-0 run that pulled the Sky within 76-68 early in the fourth quarter. Naz Hillmon ended the run by making a jumper, but Allen had a three-point play during a 7-0 run that got Chicago within 78-75. Charles answered with two free throws, Parker-Tyus added four points and the Dream opened an 84-77 lead with 2:44 left. Mabrey made a layup, but Howard’s 3-pointer and Gray’s two free throws increased the lead to 89-79 with 1:10 left.

NBA Finals

Continued from Page 1

in 21 minutes off the bench. Tatum finished with 16 points, 11 rebounds and five assists. Luka Doncic went for 30 points and 10 boards for Dallas, but Kyrie Irving was held to just 12 points on 6-of-19 shooting. Irving missed all five of his 3-point attempts and committed three turnovers while being taunted by Boston fans all night. Irving is now 0-11 in his past 11 games against the Celtics, a losing streak that he is confident he can shed on Sunday. “Just got to calm our nerves, poise our nerves a little bit and also just be aware of the environment that we’re in,” Irving said. “It’s going to be high intense from who we’re going against. It’s going to be very physical. Some things are going to be called, some things aren’t. “So I think we got all that experience in Game 1, and we’re looking forward to the challenge in Game 2 to playing better, and being who we have been since post-All-Star break. ... We’re the only two teams playing, so we’re proud of ourselves, but we’re not satisfied.” Most of the Mavericks’ struggles stemmed from a lack of ball movement, as Dallas finished with only nine assists – the fewest by any team in a game this season. Kidd is hoping for a more fluid performance in Game 2. “I thought we were too much one-on-one. We’ve got to move bodies. We’ve got to move the ball. Multiple guys got to touch the ball,” Kidd said. “We were just too stagnant, and that’s not the way we play. So, we’ve got to be better (Sunday).”



Celtics guard Jaylen Brown, right, and forward Jayson Tatum react in the second quarter of Game 1 of the NBA Finals against the Dallas Mavericks on Thursday in Boston. DAVID BUTLER II/USA TODAY SPORTS

BASKETBALL

USA Basketball airballs a huge opportunity



Christine Brennan
Columnist
USA TODAY

You can love Caitlin Clark. You can hate Caitlin Clark. You can love her Iowa roots. You can hate her Iowa roots. You can like her because she’s white, or dislike her because she’s white. Same goes for being straight. You can love the media’s fascination with her, or hate it. You can love the historic TV ratings and sell-out crowds, or hate them. You can love her interviews, or hate them.

But there’s one thing that we all know to be true:

With Caitlin Clark on the 2024 U.S. Olympic women’s basketball team, players who have been largely ignored by the sports media at every Summer Olympic Games that I’ve covered, which is every one since 1984, would have finally received the spotlight they deserve from a national and global audience.

Going into the Games, with national sensation Clark on the roster, I think the top storylines for the Americans in Paris (and quite a few international reporters) would have been these: 1. Simone Biles, 2. Katie Ledecky 3. Caitlin Clark.

Maybe you add an athlete or team or two here or there, U.S. women’s soccer, U.S. men’s basketball, take your pick, but that’s the general idea. With Clark continuing to set records for TV ratings and attendance in her first eye-popping month in the WNBA as she did in NCAA basketball, it would have been inevitable: she would catapult U.S. women’s basketball to a place it so richly has deserved but has never attained — coverage from broadcasters and news organizations not just in the U.S. but around the world, headlines every day, and most important, vastly increased respect from a still male-dominated international sports media that has for decades focused almost exclusively on the U.S. men’s basketball team rather than the women, who are so good they haven’t lost since 1992.

But following Clark would have meant following much more than Clark. She would have introduced all those Olympic viewers and readers — many of whom are not big sports fans and have never watched a women’s Olympic basketball game — to the entire U.S. team. You’ve never watched Breanna Stewart



Caitlin Clark reacts to a call in the fourth quarter against the Washington Mystics. GREG FIUME/GETTY IMAGES

art on one of her two previous Olympic teams? You would have been watching her this summer because America’s interest and even obsession with Clark would have brought you there. Same goes for Brittney Griner, assuming she’s healthy.

But Clark isn’t coming to Paris, unless someone withdraws or is injured. Clark won’t be there to bring the casual sports fan who fell in love with her at Iowa and now knows the difference between ION and Prime to finally and rightfully watch Diana Taurasi and Jackie Young at the Olympics.

She won’t be there, so all those fans won’t be there, because they’re never there. And one could only have imagined the global appeal of Clark once writers and reporters from around the world dropped in and watched a few logo 3s fall from the sky and a few hundred more autographs be recorded for posterity. Perhaps little girls in Europe and Africa would have been just as entranced as girls in America are. That’s not happening anymore, and it’s all on USA Basketball, whose mission statement fascinatingly includes “promoting, growing and elevating the game at all levels.” (Seems to be Caitlin Clark’s job description these days.)

Because this great opportunity to publicize international women’s basketball has been eliminated, the vast majority of broadcasters and reporters will be able to focus as they always have on the swimmers and gymnasts and runners, and leave the U.S. women’s basketball team alone.

I’ve watched all this happen in real

time. I’ve covered at least five of the U.S. women’s gold-medal basketball games at the Olympics, plus countless other women’s basketball stories at the five other Summer Games I’ve attended. When I’ve looked around and seen a half-empty press tribune and wondered why, the answer I received from my peers always was that the Americans are just too good for their own good. People already know they’re going to win. And they’re right.

But something strange and potentially much most impactful is percolating around the snub of Clark. Two sources, both long-time U.S. basketball veterans with decades of experience in the women’s game, told me Friday that concern about how Clark’s millions of fans would react to what would likely be limited playing time on a stacked roster was a factor in the decision making.

If true, that would be an extraordinary admission of the existence of real tension that the old guard of women’s basketball harbors for this multi-million-dollar sensation. The two people spoke on the condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the matter.

But if the players and USA Basketball officials think not having Clark in Paris means people won’t be talking about Clark around them, well, that’s just not going to happen. It’s a sure thing that one of the first questions they will receive at their opening press conference at the Games will be: “Why isn’t Caitlin Clark here?”

And if the team is missing 3’s, or has a scare, or doesn’t play well, or, horrors, loses, Clark’s name won’t be far behind

and likely will become omnipresent back on the home front.

Speaking of 3’s, there seems to be a notion out there that Clark didn’t deserve to be put on the team on merit. That’s ridiculous. First of all, the decision is subjective, so you can make a case for just about anyone and everyone.

But how about some statistics? Clark is 13th in the WNBA in points per game. (Taurasi is 15th.) Clark is fourth in assists per game. (Sabrina Ionescu, 8th; Kelsey Plum, 11th; and Jewell Loyd, 14th, all are on the list for the Olympic team). Clark is second in 3-pointers made, two ahead of Taurasi.

In her first 10 games, Clark scored more than 150 points and had more than 50 rebounds and 50 assists, a feat previously accomplished only by Ionescu in WNBA history. She also became the first rookie and only the fourth player ever in the league to record 30 points, five rebounds, five assists, three steals and three blocks in a game, joining Taurasi, Stewart and Angel McCoughtry.

Just hours before she found out she wasn’t going to be on the Olympic team, Clark made a WNBA rookie record-tying seven 3’s and scored 30 points in front of the largest WNBA crowd in 17 years: 20,333 in D.C., more than double the crowd Chicago drew the night before in the same arena. She became the first player in WNBA history with 200 points and 75 assists in her first 12 career games.

And then USA Basketball dumped her.

Clark has done all of this while facing the fiercest defensive pressure statistically in the league. No one has received the kind of attention she has as a rookie. She is not the best player in the league, but she’s clearly the most important.

Never given a real chance to try out — USA Basketball preposterously scheduled her tryout during the Women’s Final Four, when she was leading Iowa to the national title game for a second consecutive season — Clark now has been told by the U.S. national governing body of basketball one simple word: No.

No, Caitlin Clark, we don’t want you on our Olympic team.

I’ve seen some bad team and athlete selection decisions in the 40 years I’ve covered the Olympics, but this is the worst by far. Then again, we probably shouldn’t be surprised. As we’ve known for years, the last amateurs left in the Olympic Games are the people running them.

STANLEY CUP PLAYOFFS

Panthers

Continued from Page 1

what we take a lot of pride in doing.”

Game 2 of the best-of-seven series is scheduled for Monday night in Sunrise.

If the Oilers want to level the series, they will have to find a way to break through against Bobrovsky, who finished with 32 saves on Saturday. It was his second shutout of the postseason.

Carter Verhaeghe, Evan Rodrigues and Eetu Luostarinen were the offensive heroes with a goal apiece, but the game’s biggest story was Bobrovsky.

Bobrovsky set the tone with first-period breakaway saves on Adam Henrique and Ryan Nugent-Hopkins, and he then denied Mattias Janmark’s open look in the second.

“Incredible,” Florida forward Sam Bennett told NHL Network, referring to Bobrovsky. “We have so much belief, and he gives us so much energy back there. It’s amazing to watch him perform in net. He’s been a star all year long.”

At the other end of the ice, Verhaeghe converted his team’s first shot of the game for his 10th goal of the playoffs at 3:59 of the first period. Rodrigues doubled the lead at 2:16 of the second, and Luostarinen potted an empty-net goal in the final seconds of regulation.

Stuart Skinner stopped 15 shots for the Oilers, who were blanked for the first time during the 2024 postseason.

“I think if we play like that, we’re gonna be fine,” Edmonton forward Zach Hyman said. “The key to our game is skating, forechecking, hanging on to pucks in the offensive zone, making plays, and for a large part of that game, we were the team that was pushing.”

Florida’s other shutout during this year’s playoffs came in the opener of the Eastern Conference finals against the



Florida Panthers forward Carter Verhaeghe scores against Edmonton Oilers goaltender Skinner Stuart during the first period of Game 1 of the Stanley Cup Final on Saturday in Sunrise, Fla. JIM RASSOL/USA TODAY SPORTS

New York Rangers, a series the Panthers won in six games.

Aleksander Barkov collected two assists for Florida, which has held opponents to two goals or fewer in 11 of its past 12 games.

The Panthers are in the finals for the third time in franchise history and have reached this stage of the playoffs two years in a row. In 2023, Florida watched the Vegas Golden Knights lift the Stan-

ley Cup after losing in five games.

Vegas had home-ice advantage in that series.

“It’s a lot different (from last year), especially being at home,” Verhaeghe told Sportsnet. “Staying at home and hanging out with the guys was huge. I think we were ready coming into it this time. We were a little beat up last year, and I think we have more confidence this year.”

Florida 3, Edmonton 0				
Edmonton	0	0	0	0
Florida	1	1	1	3
First Period —1. Florida, Verhaeghe 10 (Barkov, Reinhart), 3:59. Penalties—Ekholm, EDM (Tripping), 7:33. Forsling, FLA (Tripping), 14:53. Verhaeghe, FLA (High-sticking), 19:51.				
Second Period —1. Florida, Rodrigues 4 (Bennett, Montour), 2:16. Penalties—Brown, EDM (Roughing), 10:24. Janmark, EDM (Roughing), 10:24. Ekman-Larsson, FLA (Roughing), 10:24. Stenlund, FLA (Roughing), 10:24. Bennett, FLA (Interference), 10:38.				
Third Period —1. Florida, Luostarinen 2 (Barkov), 19:55. Penalties—Perry, EDM (Interference), 6:47.				
Shots on Goal —Edmonton 12-13-7—32. Florida 4-8-6—18.				
Power-play opportunities —Edmonton 0 of 3; Florida 0 of 2.				
Goalies —Edmonton, Skinner 11-6-0 (17 shots-15 saves). Florida, Bobrovsky 13-5-0 (32-32).				
A—19,543 (19,250).				

MLB

SATURDAY’S ROUNDUP

Merrifield helps Phillies top Mets in London

FIELD LEVEL MEDIA

Whit Merrifield headlined a six-run fourth inning with a three-run homer and the Philadelphia Phillies beat the New York Mets 7-2 on Saturday in the opener of a two-game set in London.

Bryce Harper also went deep in the fourth for Philadelphia, which served as the visiting team. Sunday’s series finale will be a home game for the Phillies.

Harper came up a triple shy of the cycle while going 3-for-4 as Philadelphia won for the seventh time in its past eight games.

The outburst in the fourth provided more than enough run support for Phillies starter Ranger Suarez (10-1), whose 10 wins lead the majors. Suarez yielded two runs on eight hits in 5⅓ innings, walking one and striking out six.

Francisco Lindor, Pete Alonso, Starling Marte and Jose Iglesias had two hits apiece for the Mets, who saw a three-game winning streak come to an end.

With Philadelphia trailing 1-0, Harper got the Phillies going with a one-out solo shot in the fourth.

Blue Jays 7, Athletics 0

Kevin Gausman pitched the first nine-inning complete game of his career and Toronto rebounded from a walk-off loss the night before to thump host Oakland.

Gausman (5-4), who pitched the 2020 and 2021 seasons across the San Francisco Bay for the Giants, enjoyed a homecoming of sorts with the fifth win in his last six decisions. He allowed just five hits and one walk, striking out a season-high-tying 10.

The 33-year-old threw just the second complete game of his big-league career. The other was stopped after five innings in the Baltimore Orioles’ 3-1 win over the New York Yankees on July 13, 2014.

All 109 pitches Gausman threw were with a lead, thanks to the Blue Jays scoring a first-inning run for the first time in their last 30 games.

Danny Jansen gave Toronto the lead for good with a sacrifice fly, an advantage the visitors took into the fifth before Kevin Kiermaier, batting ninth, launched his second homer of the season off A’s starter Luis Medina (0-1).

Rockies 6, Cardinals 5

Ezequiel Tovar went 4-for-4 with two homers and four RBIs to power visiting Colorado past St. Louis.

Charlie Blackmon went 3-for-4 with a double, a stolen base and two runs scored for the Rockies.

Colorado starting pitcher Ryan Feltner held the Cardinals to two hits in 5⅓ innings, but he was victimized for four unearned runs. He struck out seven batters and walked one.

Reliever Victor Vodnik (1-0) earned the victory and Tyler Kinley earned his fourth save.

Matt Carpenter hit a home run and scored twice for the Cardinals, who have lost six of their last nine games.

Nationals 7, Braves 3

Nick Senzel had three hits including a two-run home run and Washington beat visiting Atlanta.

Eddie Rosario had two hits and drove in three runs and Lane Thomas had two hits and scored twice as Washington won its second straight.

Senzel drove in three runs, walked and scored twice.

Nationals starter MacKenzie Gore (5-5) was charged with two runs on six hits in five-plus innings. He struck out seven and walked one.

Sean Murphy homered and Marcell Ozuna and Matt Olson had two hits each for Atlanta, which has lost three of four.

Royals 8, Mariners 4

Adam Frazier went 2 for 2 with a double and home run against his former team as Kansas City defeated visiting Seattle.

Vinnie Pasquantino and Kyle Isbel added two-run doubles for the Royals, who have won the first two games of the series after rallying from an eight-run deficit for a 10-9 decision Friday night.

J.P. Crawford and Mitch Garver homered for the Mariners.

Royals starter Alec Marsh (5-3) earned the victory despite allowing four runs on seven hits over five innings. He didn’t walk a batter and struck out eight.

Seattle’s Luis Castillo (5-7) gave up five runs on six hits in five innings, with one walk and four strikeouts.



The Philadelphia Phillies’ Whit Merrifield celebrates while he rounds the bases after hitting a home run against the New York Mets on Saturday in London. MATTHEW CHILDS/ACTION IMAGES VIA REUTERS

Reds 4, Cubs 3

TJ Friedl belted a tiebreaking two-run homer and drove in three runs while Andrew Abbott allowed just one run over five innings to lead host Cincinnati to its seventh straight win.

Dansby Swanson and David Bote each had three hits for the Cubs, who stranded four runners over the final two innings and lost for the 12th time in 16 games.

Lucas Sims could not convert a rare save chance for the resting Alexis Diaz, retiring just one batter in the ninth and leaving a first-and-third situation for lefty Justin Wilson.

Wilson earned his first save since Sept. 22, 2019 when Cincinnati catcher Tyler Stephenson made a sliding catch of an Ian Happ foul pop near the first-base on-deck circle for the second out. Mike Tauchman then grounded out sharply to first for the final out.

The Cubs took an early lead when Swanson doubled home Cody Bellinger in the first.

Pirates 4, Twins 0

Rowdy Tellez broke a scoreless tie with a solo homer and singled in two runs as Pittsburgh shutout Minnesota for the second straight game.

Six Pirates pitchers combined on the six-hit shutout, including Justin Bruihl, Hunter Stratton (2-1), Colin Holderman and David Bednar.

Luis Ortiz followed opener Carmen Mlodzinski and threw 4⅓ scoreless innings for Pittsburgh, which has won five of its last seven. The Pirates have recorded three shutouts in their last five games, including a 3-0 win in Friday’s series opener.

Minnesota lost its fifth straight and saw its scoreless streak reach 22 innings.

Tellez put the Pirates ahead with a one-out homer in the seventh inning against Simeon Woods Richardson (2-1). The 403-foot blast to center was Tellez’s second homer this season and first since March 31.

Orioles 5, Rays 0

Baltimore starting pitcher Kyle Bradish delivered his second consecutive sterling outing and teammates Ryan O’Hearn and Gunnar Henderson homered as the Orioles beat host Tampa Bay in St. Petersburg, Fla.

Bradish allowed just one hit while striking out nine batters without a walk across six innings.

Danny Coulombe worked two innings and Cionel Perez pitched the ninth to complete the combined two-hitter that included 14 strikeouts.

The hit allowed by Bradish was an infield single to Yandy Diaz to lead off the bottom of the first. Bradish then retired the remaining 18 batters he faced. Diaz added a ninth-inning single.

Bradish (2-0), who threw seven no-hit innings May 26 before he was replaced against the Chicago White Sox, became more dominant by the middle innings, striking out the side in the fifth. It was a stark contrast to his outing a week earlier at home against the Rays, who tagged him for seven hits and five runs in 2⅓ innings.

Giants 3, Rangers 1

Heliot Ramos homered and doubled and drove in three runs to lead San Francisco to its third straight victory, 3-1, over Texas in Arlington, Texas.

Austin Slater scored two runs and Matt Chapman singled in four at-bats to extend his on-base streak to 25 games for San Francisco. Erik Miller (1-2), one of five Giants pitchers, picked up the win with a scoreless inning of relief while Camilo Doval pitched around a walk and an infield single in the ninth to earn his 11th save.

It marked the second straight game that Texas was held to five hits as the Rangers fell to 4-27 this season when scoring three runs or less in a game. Andrew Heaney (2-7) suffered the loss, allowing three runs on five hits over 5⅓ innings. He walked one and struck out five.

Heaney entered the contest having not allowed a run in 8⅓ innings in his two previous appearances but that streak was snapped quickly. Slater led off the game with a walk and then scored when Ramos lined a double to the wall in left center to give San Francisco a 1-0 lead.

Texas tied it in the bottom of the first as Giants starter Spencer Howard walked both Marcus Semien and Josh Smith to start the inning. Semien then tagged and advanced to third when Adolis Garcia flew out to the wall in right and scored on a sacrifice fly by Nathaniel Lowe.

White Sox 6, Red Sox 1

Gavin Sheets belted a grand slam among his three hits, Paul DeJong homered and four pitchers delivered 4⅓ innings of three-hit relief to lift host Chicago to a victory against Boston.

After stopping a franchise-worst 14-game losing streak Friday night, the White Sox used a five-run fifth Saturday en route to winning consecutive games for the first time since May 14-15.

Chicago collected six of its 10 hits against Boston starter Brayan Bello (6-3) in the fifth. Sheets punctuated the rally with his first career grand slam one batter after Andrew Vaughn tied the game at 1 with an RBI infield single.

DeJong and Lenyn Sosa added two hits apiece for the White Sox, who out-hit the Red Sox 10-5. DeJong provided the final margin in the seventh with his team-leading 11th home run.

White Sox rookie right-hander Nick Nastrini was unable to earn his first victory despite delivering the best start of his young career, scattering one run and two hits in 4⅓ innings with five strikeouts.

Brewers 5, Tigers 4

Jackson Chourio drove in the tying and go-ahead runs with a sixth-inning double and Milwaukee held off host Detroit.

Christian Yelich had two hits and drove in two runs, while Brice Turang reached base three times and scored twice.

Jared Koenig (6-1) tossed 1⅓ innings of scoreless relief to gain the victory. Trevor Megill collected his ninth save.

Milwaukee has won the first two

games of the three-game series.

Brewers starter Freddy Peralta lasted only 3⅓ innings, his shortest start of the season. Peralta issued five walks while giving up four runs (three earned).

Dodgers 11, Yankees 3

Teoscar Hernandez hit two home runs, including a grand slam in the eighth inning, as Los Angeles pulled away for a victory over host New York.

Hernandez hit his fifth career grand slam when he connected off Tommy Kahnle to give the Dodgers an 8-2 lead. Mookie Betts walked to lead off the eighth, and Shohei Ohtani reached on an error by second baseman Gleyber Torres, his 10th error of the season.

After Kahnle struck out Freddie Freeman and walked Will Smith, Hernandez launched his 424-foot shot into the Los Angeles bullpen beyond the left field fence.

It was Hernandez’s second multi-homer game of the season and 18th of his career. His heroics came one night after his two-run double in the 11th gave Los Angeles a win in the series opener.

Hernandez also had an RBI groundout in the sixth on Saturday after Freeman doubled to left field. The outfielder tied a career high by driving in six runs.

Guardians 8, Marlins 0

Steven Kwan smacked a two-run homer and Jose Ramirez hit a solo shot as Cleveland rolled to an easy victory over host Miami.

Kwan reached base four times on two hits and two walks while scoring twice for the Guardians, who halted a two-game slide. Josh Naylor added two hits and two RBIs, and David Fry had two hits and one RBI for Cleveland.

Ben Lively (6-2) tossed five innings of three-hit ball for the Guardians. He struck out one and walked none while winning his fifth consecutive start.

Sam Hentges struck out two in the sixth and Pedro Avila fanned five in three innings while recording his first big league save. Avila retired the last seven batters he faced.

Vidal Brujan doubled and walked for the Marlins, who had just four hits while losing for the fifth time in the past six games. Miami left six runners on base.

Padres 13, Diamondbacks 1

Jake Cronenworth drove in four runs and Ha-Seong Kim hit a three-run homer as San Diego pummeled visiting Arizona.

San Diego, which scored in double figures for the second straight game, tallied 14 hits and scored four runs in the second, fourth and fifth innings. David Peralta went 3-for-3 and reached base five times, while Fernando Tatis Jr. doubled to extend his hitting streak to 14 games, tying his career high.

Matt Waldron (4-5), who retired the first 12 batters he faced, lasted six innings, giving up one run on three hits with two walks and four strikeouts.

Ryne Nelson (3-5) allowed six hits and six runs (five earned) in 3⅓ innings. He walked four and struck out one. With their bullpen taxed by a recent run of abbreviated starts, the Diamondbacks used outfielder Pavin Smith to pitch the eighth inning. He walked one and gave up no runs and no hits.

The Padres got the only runs they needed in the second inning. Arizona first baseman Christian Walker committed a throwing error on Jackson Merrill’s potential double-play ball, scoring Donovan Solano to give San Diego a 1-0 lead.

Astros 6, Angels 1

Yordan Alvarez homered and doubled to lead Houston to a victory over Los Angeles in Anaheim, Calif.

Alvarez ended up finishing with three hits for Houston, which won for the fourth time in its past five games.

The Astros got another strong start on the mound, this time from Hunter Brown, one night after Framber Valdez logged a complete game. Brown (2-5) went six scoreless innings, scattering just two hits and four walks while striking out seven.

Houston took a 2-0 lead in the third inning against Angels starter Tyler Anderson (5-6), who avoided further damage thanks in large part to the defense behind him.

Chas McCormick began the inning with a triple, then scored on a single by Jose Altuve. Altuve stole second, Alex Bregman walked and Alvarez was hit by a pitch, loading the bases with no outs.

MLB

SATURDAY'S BOX SCORES

Philadelphia 7, N.Y. Mets 2									
PHI	000	600	010	—	7	11	0		
NYM	000	100	010	000	—	2	10		
Philadelphia	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg.		
Schwarber dh	5	0	1	1	0	0	.231		
Realmuto c	5	0	1	0	0	1	.265		
Harper 1b	4	1	1	0	0	1	.273		
Bohm 3b	4	1	1	0	0	0	.290		
Castellanos rf	4	1	1	1	0	2	.215		
Stott 2b	3	1	1	0	1	0	.244		
Sosa ss	4	1	1	1	0	0	.292		
Merrifield lf	4	1	1	3	0	1	.174		
Pache cf	4	1	1	0	0	0	.203		
Totals	37	7	11	7	1	6			
N.Y. Mets	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg.		
Linder ss	4	2	2	0	0	1	.239		
Alonso 1b	4	0	2	0	1	2	.243		
Nimmo lf	5	0	1	0	0	2	.222		
Martinez dh	4	0	0	1	0	0	.273		
Marte rf	4	0	2	1	0	0	.280		
Vientos 3b	4	0	0	0	0	1	.314		
Bader cf	3	0	0	0	1	0	.267		
Iglesias 2b	4	0	2	0	0	1	.409		
Torrens c	3	0	0	0	0	1	.308		
a-Stewart ph	1	0	0	0	0	0	.386		
Totals	36	2	10	2	3	9			

a-flied out for Torrens in 9th.
2B: Harper (11), Pache (2), Lindor (15), Alonso (16), Marte (8), Iglesias (2). **HR:** Harper (15), Castellanos (9), Merrifield (3). **RBI:** Schwarber (36), Harper (45), Castellanos (29), Sosa (17), Merrifield 3 (7), Martinez (16), Marte (26). **CS:** Harper (3). **SB:** Stott (18). **Runners left in scoring position:** Philadelphia 2 (Bohm, Merrifield), N.Y. Mets 8 (Lindor, Martinez 2, Marte, Vientos 2, Torrens 2). **RISP:** Philadelphia 3 for 6, N.Y. Mets 2 for 11. **GIDP:** Martinez. **DP:** Philadelphia 1.

Philadelphia	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Suarez W, 10-1	5.2	8	2	2	1	6	89	1.81
Kerkering H, 5	11	0	0	0	3	24	119	
Dominguez	10	0	0	0	1	14	491	
Ruiz	10	2	0	0	1	0	21	1.93
N.Y. Mets	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Manaea L, 3-3	3.2	7	6	6	1	3	81	4.30
Reid-Foley	01	0	0	0	0	0	6	2.12
Houser	2.2	2	0	0	0	2	30	2.29
Young	0.2	2	1	1	0	1	9	1.23
Ottavino	0.2	0	0	0	0	0	6	5.79
Diekmann	10	0	0	0	0	18	3.92	

Inherited runners: Kerkering 2-2, Reid-Foley 1-1, Young 1-1, Ottavino 1-1. **HBP:** Martinez. **Umpires:** HP-Muchlinski, 1B-Blaser, 2B-Baker, 3B-Carlson. T: 2:52. A: 53,882 (55,000).

Cincinnati 4, Chicago Cubs 3									
CIN	CHC	100	010	00x	—	3	1	0	6
CIN	102	010	00x	—	4	6	0		
Chicago	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg.		
Wisdom 3b	5	0	0	0	0	3	.200		
Morel dh	4	0	0	0	1	2	.202		
Bellinger cf	5	1	2	0	0	1	.256		
Swanson ss	4	0	0	1	0	0	.220		
Happ lf	3	0	0	0	0	0	.220		
Tauchman rf	5	0	0	0	0	0	.262		
Bote 2b	4	2	3	0	0	0	.250		
Busch 1b	3	0	0	1	1	1	.246		
Gomes c	3	0	1	0	0	0	.155		
b-Crow-Armstrong ph	1	0	0	1	0	0	.216		
Amaya c	0	0	0	0	0	0	.195		
Totals	37	3	10	3	5	7			
Cincinnati	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg.		
Friedl cf	3	1	3	1	0	0	.232		
De La Cruz ss	4	0	1	0	0	1	.238		
Candelario 3b	4	1	1	1	0	0	.238		
Steer 1b	0	4	0	0	0	0	.238		
Fraley rf	3	0	1	0	0	0	.290		
Stephenson c	3	0	0	0	0	1	.263		
Hurtubise dh	2	0	0	0	0	0	.233		
a-Fairchild ph-dh	1	0	0	0	0	0	.239		
India 2b	2	2	1	0	1	0	.242		
Benson lf	1	0	0	0	1	0	.213		
c-Dunn ph-lf	1	0	0	0	0	1	.143		
Totals	28	4	6	4	2	5			

a-flied out for Hurtubise in 7th. b-grounded out for Gomes in 8th. c-struck out for Benson in 7th.
E: Wisdom. **2B:** Swanson 2 (8), Bote (1), Busch (10), Gomes (2), Steer (15). **HR:** Friedl (3), Candelario (9). **RBI:** Swanson (18), Gomes (6), Crow-Armstrong (10), Friedl 3 (13), Candelario (26). **SB:** Bellinger (3), Friedl (5), De La Cruz (34). **S:** Benson. **Runners left in scoring position:** Chicago 7 (Wisdom 2, Morel, Tauchman 4), Cincinnati 3 (Candelario, Steer, Stephenson). **RISP:** Chicago 1 for 14, **DP:** Chicago 1.

Chicago	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Brown L, 1-3	4.0	3	3	3	1	3	65	3.58
Wicks	3.1	3	1	1	2	52	4.44	
Leiter Jr.	0.2	0	0	0	0	0	5	3.38
Cincinnati	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Abbott W, 5-5	5.0	5	1	1	4	5	99	3.28
Pagan H, 3	10	2	1	1	0	13	4.43	
Moll H, 4	10	0	0	0	0	10	2.19	
Cruz H, 12	10	2	1	1	0	14	3.60	
Sims H, 9	0.1	1	0	0	1	0	11	4.43
Wilson S, 1	0.2	0	0	0	0	0	7	5.93

Inherited runners: Leiter Jr. 1-1, Wilson 2-2. **Umpires:** HP-De Jesus, 1B-Rackley, 2B-Johnson, 3B-Valentine. T: 2:32. A: 40,274 (45,814).

Washington 7, Atlanta 3									
ATL	000	011	00x	—	3	7	2		
WAS	210	112	00x	—	7	12	0		
Atlanta	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg.		
Albies 2b	4	0	1	1	0	1	.266		
Riley 3b	4	0	1	0	0	2	.234		
Ozuna dh	4	1	2	0	0	0	.319		
Olson 1b	4	0	2	0	1	1	.239		
Duvall rf	3	0	0	0	1	3	.184		
Arcia ss	4	0	0	0	0	1	.228		
Harris lf cf	3	1	1	0	0	2	.244		
Murphy c	4	1	1	1	1	1	.147		
Kelenic lf	3	0	0	0	0	2	.259		
Totals	33	3	7	2	1	13			
Washington	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg.		
Abrams ss	4	1	1	1	0	2	.246		
Thomas rf	4	2	2	0	1	1	.217		
Winker lf	3	0	1	0	0	1	.262		
Rosario dh	4	0	2	3	0	0	.188		
Garcia Jr. 2b	4	1	1	0	0	1	.266		
Ruiz c	4	1	1	0	0	0	.200		
Senzel 3b	3	2	3	0	1	0	.243		
Gallo 1b	4	0	0	0	0	3	.157		
Young cf	4	2	1	0	0	0	.272		
Totals	34	7	12	7	1	8			

E: Morton, Riley. **2B:** Albies (17), Olson (15), Rosario (9), Garcia Jr. (11), Senzel (9). **HR:** Murphy (1), Senzel (6), **RBI:** Albies (20), Murphy (4), Abrams (28), Rosario (3), Senzel 3 (16). **CS:** Abrams (5). **S:** Winker. **Runners left in scoring position:** Atlanta 4 (Riley, Arcia 2, Harris (1), Washington 4 (Abrams, Garcia Jr., Ruiz, Young). **RISP:** Washington 4 for 14. **GIDP:** Ozuna, Rosario. **DP:** Atlanta 1, Washington 1.

Atlanta	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Morton L, 3-3	5.0	7	5	4	0	3	87	4.12
Lee	10	2	2	2	0	24	3.30	
Kerr	10	2	0	0	0	14	5.75	
Hernandez	10	1	0	0	1	2	19	0.00
Washington	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Gore W, 5-5	5.0	6	2	2	1	7	99	3.57
Law H, 6	2.0	1	0	1	0	1	1	.156
Florio	10	0	0	0	0	10	1.15	
Garcia	10	0	0	0	0	2	11	4.58

Gore pitched to 2 batters in the 6th.
Inherited runners: Law 2-1. **HBP:** Harris (1), Abrams. **WP:** Gore, Law. **Umpires:** HP-Visconti, 1B-Fletcher, 2B-Beck, 3B-Hanahan. T: 2:29. A: 33,998 (41,380).
San Francisco 3, Texas 1
SF.....102 000 000 — 3 6 0
TEX.....100 000 000 — 1 5 0

San Francisco	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg.
Slater rf	2	2	1	0	1	1	.156
a-Yastrzemski ph-rf	1	0	0	0	1	1	.213
Ramos cf	4	1	2	3	0	1	.327
Flores lf	4	0	1	0	0	0	.225
Chapman 3b	4	0	1	0	0	2	.240
Conforto lf	4	0	0	0	0	2	.261
Soler dh	4	0	0	0	0	2	.210
Estrada 2b	4	0	0	0	1	0	.246
Casali c	3	0	0	0	0	1	.161
c-Balley ph-c	0	0	0	0	1		

COLLEGE BASEBALL

SUPER REGIONAL ROUNDUP

Evansville shocks No. 1 Tennessee

FIELD LEVEL MEDIA

Evansville staved off elimination on Saturday, stunning No. 1 Tennessee 10-8 to force a deciding third game on Sunday at their super regional series in Knoxville, Tenn.

The Purple Aces are making their first super regional appearance after becoming just the ninth No. 4 regional seed to advance in NCAA Division I history. They rebounded from an 11-6 loss to the heavily favored Volunteers in Game 1 of the best-of-three series on Friday.

Tennessee (54-12) led 4-0 through two innings on Saturday, but Evansville (39-25) surged to a 10-5 lead on three runs in both the fourth and fifth innings, and four more in the sixth.

Kip Fougerousse led the way, going 3-for-5 with three RBIs, three runs scored and his 22nd home run of the season with one runner aboard in the sixth. Teammates Chase Hug, Cal McGinnis, Brandon Hord and Evan Waggoner had two hits apiece with McGinnis and Hord also going deep.

No. 8 Florida State 10, UConn 8, 12 innings

James Tibbs III hit a two-run home run – his third blast of the game – to lift the Seminoles to a sweep of the Huskies in the Tallahassee Super Regional and their 24th trip to the College World Series.

FSU (47-15) set a pair of NCAA Baseball Championship Super Regional records on Friday in a 24-4 win in Game 1 – most runs and largest victory margin. UConn (35-26) took an early 2-0 lead on Saturday and rallied from a 5-2 deficit to regain the lead 7-6 in the sixth.

The Seminoles tied the score at 7 on Jaxson West’s solo homer in the eighth and led 8-7 on Drew Faurot’s sacrifice fly in the ninth. UConn was resilient, forcing extra innings on Matt Malcolm’s solo homer to lead off the bottom of the ninth.



The Evansville dugout celebrates a home run by Kip Fougerousse (18) on Saturday in Knoxville, Tenn. BRIANNA PACIORKA/NEWS SENTINEL - USA TODAY NETWORK

No. 10 NC State 18, No. 7 Georgia 1

The Wolfpack scored 11 runs in the second inning and five of their 20 hits were homers to deal the host Bulldogs a resounding loss in the opener of the Athens Super Regional.

NC State third baseman Alec Makarewicz was 4-for-6, including his 21st home run this season, while catcher Jacob Cozart was 3-for-6 with his 17th and 18th homers. They each scored three times, as did left fielder Luke Nixon (3-for-4, three RBIs). Starter Sam Highfill (7-2) allowed four hits, one run and three walks with two strikeouts in six innings for the victory.

Georgia (42-16), which scored its lone run in the fifth on Corey Collins’ RBI single, fell behind early when NC State (37-20) pushed across 11 runs in the second on 11 hits and one error.

No. 3 Texas A&M 10, Oregon 6

Right-hander Chris Cortez pitched 5½ shutout innings in relief and struck

out 10 as the Aggies overcame a rough start to win the first game of the Bryan-College Station Super Regional. Game 2 will be Sunday.

Hayden Schott had three hits and three RBIs for Texas A&M (48-13). Jackson Appel and Kaeden Kent drove in two runs apiece.

Left-hander Ryan Prager started for Texas A&M and surrendered six runs on seven hits and a hit batter in 1½ innings.

Florida 10, No. 6 Clemson 7

The Gators scored seven runs in the fifth inning to pull away from the Tigers in the Clemson Super Regional. Game two is set for Sunday.

Jac Caglianone’s three-run homer opened the scoring in the fifth for Florida (33-28). Luke Heyman finished with two RBIs and Tyler Shelnut also homered. Fisher Jameson (5-0) picked up the win by pitching four innings in relief. He gave up three runs on four hits and a walk.

Brandon Neely earned his fourth save

by pitching four scoreless innings. He struck out seven and allowed only one hit and a walk.

No. 12 Virginia 10, Kansas State 4

The Cavaliers scored five runs in the ninth inning to finish off a two-game sweep of the Wildcats.

Jacob Ference tripled in two runs and pinch hitter Luke Hanson doubled in three more in the inning for Virginia (46-15).

Henry Ford also drove in two runs for the Cavaliers.

No. 2 Kentucky 10, No. 15 Oregon State 0

Trey Pooser struck out eight and allowed one hit in seven innings as the Wildcats opened the Lexington Super Regional with a win over the Beavers.

Ryan Nicholson hit a two-run homer as Kentucky exploded for seven runs in the seventh inning. He also doubled among his three hits and drove in three runs. Emilien Pitre had two RBIs. Pooser (7-1) scattered four walks for the Wildcats (44-14).

Aiden May (7-1) took the loss after giving up three runs on seven hits and a walk in five-plus innings. He struck out five.

No. 4 North Carolina 2, West Virginia 1

Jason DeCaro and Dalton Pence combined for a four-hitter as the Tar Heels completed a two-game sweep of the Mountaineers in the Chapel Hill Super Regional.

DeCaro (6-1) gave up one run and two hits in 6⅓ innings, and Pence struck out six in the final 2⅓ innings for his eighth save. Vance Honeycutt homered in the first inning and scored North Carolina’s second run in the third inning on a single by Parks Harber. The Tar Heels improved to 47-14.

NFL

NOTEBOOK

Seahawks OC Grubb impressed by Smith

FIELD LEVEL MEDIA

Ryan Grubb turned Michael Penix Jr. into a Heisman Trophy finalist during his two seasons as Washington’s offensive coordinator.

His next task is turning Geno Smith back into a high-level starter for the Seattle Seahawks.

Grubb, now offensive coordinator of the Seahawks, is installing his system and at some point will have the quarterback to run it.

For now, Smith is well ahead of newcomer Sam Howell as Grubb learns what his signal callers do best.

“I think that there is a really good marriage there with some of the skillset that Geno has,” Grubb said. “I think that we ask our quarterbacks to do a lot. Luckily for us, Geno’s really athletic as well. I think for us, we don’t have to limit it to just dropback. I think he’s really good in the play-action game as well, which will be a big part of our offense.

“And I think for us, it’s not just the five-step all the time, but I do think that Geno is really good at getting the ball out on time and very efficient with the football, which he obviously showed in ‘22, led the league in completion percentage. Understanding how to get the ball out on time and really take care of the football is something that works obviously really well.”

Smith, 33, has been a Pro Bowl selection the past two seasons, but his 2022 season was much better than last year.

Smith led the NFL with a 69.8 completion percentage and established career highs of 4,282 yards and 30 touchdowns in 2022.

Last season, he completed 64.7 percent of his throws and his numbers dropped to 3,624 yards and 20 scores.

That production came under now departed coach Pete Carroll. Mike Macdonald is the new head coach and Grubb has control of the offense after Seattle lured him away from Alabama, where Grubb had followed former University of Washington coach Kalen DeBoer.



Seattle Seahawks quarterback Geno Smith (7) throws during a Jan. 7 game against the Arizona Cardinals in Glendale, Ariz. MATT KARTOZIAN/USA TODAY SPORTS

The trade for the 23-year-old Howell was to obtain someone with experience who might push Smith. Howell was a first-year starter for the Washington Commanders last season and led the NFL with 21 interceptions while throwing for 3,946 yards and 21 touchdowns.

“They’re freaking awesome,” the 48-year-old Grubb said of Smith and Howell. “They are. I think that they’re both really, really hard workers. They’re very diligent, intelligent and I know that it means a lot to them and I think that their leadership in the room and how

they react and work together says a lot about the kind of guys that they are.”

Smith has liked what he has seen from Grubb in his dealings with him.

“Coach Grubb is doing a great job being demanding, making sure guys are studying and on point and knowing their assignments, but also giving guys some grace,” Smith said. “It is a new system ... and guys are going to mess some things up. That’s not necessarily a terrible thing. We can gain from that. So Grubb is doing a great job. It’s our job to make the plays come alive and make it

all look good.”

Seattle will reportedly add veteran P.J. Walker to the quarterback room. The 29-year-old Walker has started nine NFL games while playing for the Carolina Panthers (2020-22) and Cleveland Browns (2023).

WR Shepard: Text from QB Mayfield led to signing with Bucs

Sterling Shepard credited quarterback Baker Mayfield for putting the wheels in motion that led to the veteran wide receiver signing the Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

Shepard told the New York Post that Mayfield reached out to him last week.

“I got a text from my boy and I just thought it was (a) ‘regular old checking in to see how I was doing’ type of text, because we do that from time to time to each other,” Shepard said.

That text was followed by another in which Mayfield inquired about Shepard’s physical well-being, with the question posted of “do you think you got any more (football) left in you?” Shepard’s agent contacted the Buccaneers, and soon a one-year deal was on the table.

“I’m looking forward to it,” Shepard said of playing for the Bucs. “It’s a new scene. I can’t say I wanted to experience that, I always wanted to be a Giant but I’m not mad at it, man. It’s a really good situation, they have a really good football team, really talented football team and I get to be reunited with my boy and get to play with him a little bit.”

Shepard, 31, and Mayfield, 29, were teammates at Oklahoma, with the former reeling in 86 passes for 1,288 yards and 11 touchdowns in 2015. Mayfield started all 13 games that season.

Shepard had just 10 catches for 57 yards and one touchdown in 15 games last season with New York.

He has 372 receptions for 4,095 yards and 23 scores in 90 career games since being selected by the Giants in the second round of the 2016 NFL draft.

AUTO RACING

NASCAR CUP SERIES

Logano takes Sonoma pole in record time

FIELD LEVEL MEDIA

SONOMA, Calif. – Joey Logano claimed his third pole position of the season Saturday afternoon at Sonoma Raceway, turning a fast lap of 97.771 mph in the No. 22 Ford to better the previous track record by more than a second on the newly paved 1.99-mile road course in Northern California.

The two-time NASCAR Cup Series champion will start Sunday’s Toyota/Save Mart 350 alongside 23XI Racing’s Tyler Reddick, who was a slight 0.083 seconds behind Logano’s time of 73.273 seconds.

“I got a little loose up in Turn 2 and probably left a little bit out there, but it’s hard to hit a perfect lap every corner,” said Logano, a 31-time pole winner who also won pole position at Sonoma in 2011. “If you can average it all out to be pretty good, it works out. It was great to see the Autotrader Mustang having some speed here in Sonoma. It didn’t seem too bad in race trim either, so hopefully, we turn this into a victory tomorrow.”

Logano’s only career road-course win came in 2015 at Watkins Glen International. His best finish at Sonoma is third, something he has done twice, including last year.

Logano’s Team Penske teammate Ryan Blaney, the reigning series champion, will roll off third – both Logano and Blaney looking for their first trophy of the season. Hendrick Motorsports teammates Chase Elliott and Kyle Larson round out the top five.

All four Hendrick cars advanced to the final round of qualifying. William Byron, who has won three times this season, will start sixth and Alex Bowman eighth. Trackhouse Racing teammates Daniel Suarez and Ross Chastain will start seventh and ninth, with Joe Gibbs Racing’s Ty Gibbs rolling off 10th.

Current points leader Denny Hamlin



NASCAR Cup Series driver Joey Logano races around Sonoma (Calif.) Raceway on Saturday during qualifying for Sunday's Toyota Save Mart 350. STAN SZETO/USA TODAY SPORTS

of JGR will roll off 25th and his teammate, four-time and defending Sonoma race winner Martin Truex Jr., will begin 21st on the starting grid.

Two Australian Supercars drivers are making their Cup debut this weekend. Will Brown, who was third-fastest in

practice, will roll off 24th in the No. 33 Richard Childress Racing Chevrolet. Cam Waters will start 31st in the No. 60 RFK Racing Ford.

“This race is gonna be a lot different than what it was in the past here,” Logano said. “You think about what it used to

be here with a lot of tire wear. Now, the tires seem to last fairly long, so that can adjust the strategy quite a bit from what it used to be here. There are a lot of different options for the crew chiefs to try to make up their mind on how to play out the race, and time will tell.”

FORMULA ONE

Russell ties Verstappen to take Canadian GP pole

Steve Keating
REUTERS

MONTREAL - George Russell put Mercedes on pole position for the Canadian Grand Prix by the blink of an eye on Saturday after setting exactly the same time as Red Bull’s Max Verstappen.

Triple Formula One world champion Verstappen missed out on pole because he set his time of one minute 12.000 seconds after his British rival in a drama-filled qualifying session at the Circuit Gilles Villeneuve.

Mercedes signalled they were going to be a threat for pole earlier on Saturday when Lewis Hamilton, a seven-times winner in Canada, posted the top time in final practice with Russell close behind in third.

Rain, which had disrupted both practices on Friday, returned for the first two phases of qualifying but the skies cleared and the sun began to appear in time for the last-10 shootout that ended in a dead heat.

Russell will start on pole for the first time since Brazil 2022, joined on the front row by Verstappen who is chasing a Canadian Grand Prix hat-trick.

“I’ve missed this feeling,” Russell said. “Excited for tomorrow, first step done but now obviously we’ve got our eyes on that win.

“The car has been feeling amazing since we brought some upgrades to Monaco, we have really been in that fight now. So we’re going for it tomorrow.”

Russell’s pole provided yet another sign that Red Bull’s domination is waning.

After Verstappen’s run of eight consecutive poles extending back to last season, three different drivers have started from the front in the last three races.

If Russell can follow up his pole with a victory on Sunday he would also become the fourth different winner in the last four.

Dangerous threat

Red Bull and Verstappen will not be waving the white flag, however, and the Dutchman showed that his team are



Mercedes driver George Russell races during qualifying for the Canadian Grand Prix on Saturday in Montreal. ERIC BOLTE/USA TODAY SPORTS

still a threat.

“I think overall we still had a good qualifying,” summed up Verstappen, who tops the drivers standings 31 points clear of Ferrari’s Charles Leclerc.

“The whole weekend has been still a bit tricky for us, but to be P2, I’d take it,” he added.

“Going into qualifying I would have definitely taken that.

“That it was that close at the end makes it really exciting for tomorrow as well.”

Verstappen will not be getting much help from Mexican team mate Sergio Perez, who turned in an uninspired effort and will start well back in 16th.

Perez’s day was not as bad as Ferrari’s with Leclerc, a winner two weeks ago in Monaco, and Carlos Sainz stumbling out in the second phase and starting 11th and 12th respectively.

“For sure when you are 11th and 12th you are not happy,” said Ferrari team principal Frederic Vasseur. “It’s tight.

“At the end of the day Perez is 16th and for one or two tenths you can be out.”

Sauber’s Zhou Guanyu, who crashed early in two of the three practice sessions, paid dearly for his lack of track time and finished bottom of the results sheet.

NASCAR XFINITY SERIES



Shane van Gisbergen performs a burnout after winning the NASCAR Xfinity Sonoma 250 at Sonoma (Calif.) Raceway on Saturday. STAN SZETO/USA TODAY SPORTS

Van Gisbergen gets 2nd consecutive Xfinity win

FIELD LEVEL MEDIA

SONOMA, Calif. – New Zealander Shane van Gisbergen powered his way to the lead on a restart with 11 laps remaining in Saturday’s Zip Buy Now, Pay Later 250 on the Sonoma Raceway road course and bolted off to a 1.323-second victory for his second career NASCAR Xfinity Series win.

His first came last weekend in Portland.

The 35-year old – who earned his first career pole position earlier Saturday at the 1.99-mile course and led a race-best 32 laps – took the lead from Austin Hill negotiating a tight Turn 2 on a late-race restart, his No. 97 Kaulig Racing Chevrolet winning a battle of tough side-by-side action that ultimately cost Hill four positions.

Both drivers acknowledged the close racing – the second time this season they have had contact racing for the late race lead at a road course. At Circuit of The Americas, they collided racing for the win on an overtime restart only to see NASCAR Cup Series regular Kyle Larson bolt by them to claim the victory.

“Man, what a race – an adventure up and down and up and down all day,” said van Gisbergen, who, as he did in Portland, celebrated his win by signing a rugby ball and kicking it into the

grandstands.

“But that last restart I was just giving it all I had and two guys going for the same real estate came together.

“It was pretty awesome though, a lot of fun. Hope everyone enjoyed the show. Pretty awesome back-to-back weeks for us.”

Hill, who led 21 laps and finished fifth in the No. 21 Richard Childress Racing Chevrolet, was clearly displeased with the contact with van Gisbergen but insisted on taking a sort of racing “high road.”

“I’m gonna leave it to the keyboard warriors on this one, I’ll let them figure out what happened,” Hill said as he watched the replay on the track’s video screen. “No matter what comment I say, it’ll be wrong.

“I plead the fifth, I’m not going to say anything about it,” he continued. “We’ll just go on to the next one, good hard racing. We were holding off SVG for a while, had that caution and I knew it was going to be tough on the restart and it didn’t work out. But we had a good points day and finished in the top five. You can’t ask for more than that.”

Joe Gibbs Racing’s Sheldon Creed finished runner-up to van Gisbergen, the ninth second-place finish for Creed in the series and his second of the 2024 season. He is still in search of his first career Xfinity win.

GOLF

PGA TOUR THE MEMORIAL

Scheffler overcomes bad hole to keep lead

FIELD LEVEL MEDIA

Scottie Scheffler is looking to maintain his focus for one more round in The Memorial to complete the task before the next major championship.

“I don’t really change anything,” he said after shooting 1-under par 71 on Saturday. “I’m going to go out (Sunday) and try and have a good round of golf, keep my head down and stay in my own little world out there.”

Scheffler, the world’s No. 1 golfer, recovered from a disastrous hole midway through the third round and regained control in Dublin, Ohio. He’ll take a four-shot lead into the final round at Muirfield Village Golf Club. He’s 10 under for the tournament.

“I think you still got to play the course the right way,” he said. “This is one of those places where there’s certain holes where you just got to step up and hit a great shot. There’s a lot of spots out there where if you play too conservative, you can get into some pretty tough spots pretty quick.”

Canada’s Adam Hadwin shot 72, slipping into a three-way tie for second place at 6 under. Collin Morikawa made a big move by shooting 68, joining Austria’s Sepp Straka (68) and Hadwin in second place. Scheffler and Hadwin both bogeyed the final hole.

“I don’t know if I have a chance,” Hadwin said. “You give four shots to the best player in the world, it’s kind of difficult. But I did go post 66 earlier this week, so hopefully do it again.”

With another major next week with the U.S. Open in North Carolina, there’s no reason for Scheffler to be looking ahead to that opportunity.

“As far as the tournament week goes, I’m here to compete and play my best,” he said. “I’m not really focused on next week at the moment.”

Scheffler played the first six holes at 2 under, but a triple-bogey 7 on No. 9 sent him cascading back to the pack and erased his three-shot lead. That trou-



Scottie Scheffler hits out of the gallery on the ninth hole during the third round of the Memorial Tournament on Saturday at Muirfield Village Golf Club in Dublin, Ohio. ADAM CAIRNS/COLUMBUS DISPATCH - USA TODAY NETWORK

blesome hole began with a tee shot into the trees that ricocheted out of bounds.

“A really tough break there, but did a good job resetting and bouncing back,” Scheffler said.

“Had the nice birdie on 10 and 12 and did a good job kind of staying in the round.”

His three-shot lead vanished, but it didn’t take long to move back ahead. Scheffler got on track with a birdie on No. 10. That began a stretch of three birdies in six holes.

“I love coming out here and competing against the best players in the world on the best golf courses, and this is obvi-

ously a pretty challenging track,” Scheffler said.

While any trouble for Scheffler generally seems unusual, he also had a triple-bogey in his most-recent tournament two weeks ago in the first round of the Charles Schwab Challenge.

He had been at 11 under for the tournament after Saturday’s sixth hole, where his approach shot from a fairway bunker set up a birdie putt.

Morikawa had a bogey-less round. Three of his four birdies came in a stretch from No. 12-15.

“I’ve got to go out and put out a round like I did (Saturday),” Morikawa said.

“Scottie’s not really coming backwards and I’ve got to play some steady golf.”

Norway’s Viktor Hovland, the tournament’s 2023 champion, was in good shape through seven holes at 2 under. Then came a seven-hole stretch with five bogeys, including four beginning on No. 11. Later, he tumbled deeper down the standings with a double-bogey 6 on the 16th hole.

PGA Championship winner Xander Schauffele (71) and Sweden’s Ludvig Aberg (72) share fifth place at 4 under.

The best round of the third round belonged to South Korea’s Sungjae Im at 67, but he’s tied for 11th at 2 under.

ROUNDUP

Shin leads in NJ, looking to end an 8-year drought

FIELD LEVEL MEDIA

Jenny Shin’s lone LPGA victory came more than eight years ago.

Shin is in contention to end that drought as she holds the lead at 10-under 132 entering the final round of the ShopRite LPGA Classic in Galloway, N.J.

The South Korean shot a 2-under 69 on Saturday and sits one shot ahead of Switzerland’s Albane Valenzuela, who carded a second-round 68 on Seaview Hotel and Golf Club’s Bay Course.

Megan Khang, South Korea’s Narin An and the Taiwan duo of Ssu-Chia Cheng and Wei-Ling Hsu are all tied for third at 8-under 134.

Japan’s Yuka Saso, who won her second U.S. Women’s Open last weekend, missed the cut by three strokes after shooting 69-73 over the first two rounds.

Shin, 31, has only been victorious at the Volunteers of America Texas Shoot-out in 2016. She tied for 19th at last week’s Open.

But she recorded a stellar 63 in the opening round, two shots behind Arpichaya Yubol of Thailand. Shin’s second round was a bit bumpier with six birdies against four bogeys, twice carding bogeys in back-to-back holes.

“This golf course is pretty forgiving if you miss it in the right place,” Shin said. “I feel like I don’t know what the weather is going to be like tomorrow, but you need a little bit of luck. You need to make the birdies when they come and you just can’t make bogeys. So tomorrow is always about patience I think.”

Valenzuela had five birdies and two bogeys in her round and will be seeking her first LPGA victory since turning professional in 2019. She tied for 29th at the U.S. Women’s Open.

“My game has been feeling good over the last few months and just putting didn’t necessarily catch up to it, and I’m finally seeing some better rolls,” Valenzuela said. “I think that’s how it gets reflected on the scorecard.”

“Coming out of last week I think was a really good prep. It was such a hard course and such a grind, and you get here and definitely see more birdies than last week. Last week was a luxury to get birdie looks.”

Khang carded three birdies and one bogey on Saturday. Her lone career



Jenny Shin plays her shot from the eighth tee during the second round of the ShopRite LPGA Classic on Saturday in Galloway, N.J. HUNTER MARTIN/GETTY IMAGES

victory came in the Canadian Women’s Open last August.

“I will admit I haven’t been here in a hot minute,” Khang said of being near the top of the leaderboard. “The environment, the people, they’re all so welcoming. It’s really cool out there when you have fans just following you around rooting for me. Reminds me to come back to ShopRite.”

Yubol didn’t come close to her torrid first-round score as she shot 4-over 75 on Saturday to drop into a tie for 14th at 6 under. Saso had just two birdies and was hurt by two bogeys and a double-bogey on the par-3, No. 11.

A worse fate met Japan’s Nasa Hataoka, who left the course Friday tied for fourth with a 65 and was informed prior to her Saturday round that she had been disqualified for multiple rules violations. Hataoka had a wayward second shot on No. 9 on Friday and had trouble finding her ball in the long fescue that surrounds the green. Though she eventually retrieved the ball, LPGA officials reviewed video footage and said it took her longer than the maximum three minutes to find it.

LIV Golf

Spain’s David Puig fired a 6-under 66 to move 12 spots up the leaderboard and grab a share of the lead after two rounds of action at LIV Golf Houston.

Puig caught fire on the back nine, rattling off five birdies from Nos. 11-17. He finished with seven birdies against just one bogey and sits at 10-under 134 through 36 holes, good for a four-way tie for first with Englishman Paul Casey (67 on Saturday), Carlos Ortiz of Mexico (68) and Poland’s Adrian Meronk (69).

Puig is searching for his first win on the LIV tour.

“I know I’m still young, obviously, but I put a lot of hours (in) already in my short career, and just seeing that the results start coming, especially on this tour where I still haven’t played that good,” Puig said. “I think I played pretty good in Asia and maybe some qualifiers for the majors, but I still didn’t play as good as I wanted here on LIV, and it’s good that the scores are coming.”

Of the four co-leaders, Meronk is the only one who entered the second round in first. Casey shot five spots up the

leaderboard and Ortiz rose three, and despite the potential for a tight finish on Sunday, Puig’s main focus is his own performance.

“Obviously when there’s a lot of names on top, you can’t imagine all the scenarios, but at the end of the day you need to play your best golf and give it a shot,” Puig said. “Hopefully it’s good enough to beat all the other guys.”

Casey finished with six birdies and one bogey on Sunday, while Ortiz collected five and one, respectively. Four of Ortiz’s birdies came in succession at Nos. 10-13, with the other coming at the par-5 eighth.

Houston has been kind to Ortiz, who won the PGA Tour’s Vivint Houston Open on Nov. 8, 2020.

“I don’t think it really matters if you’ve won here or not. I really like Texas,” Ortiz said. “I guess I’m used to this weather, too. I just feel comfortable playing here. I like the golf course and the people. I guess maybe that’s the confidence.”

Meronk got off to a slow start, settling for a pair of bogeys through his first five holes. But he cruised from there, pairing four birdies with nine pars to close his round.

Patrick Reed carded a 68 on Saturday and is in sole possession of fifth, one shot off the lead.

PGA Tour Champions

Ernie Els shot a blistering 6-under-par over the final seven holes to share the lead with Steve Stricker after two holes of the American Family Insurance Championship at Madison, Wis. Els shot an 8-under 64 and Stricker carded a 66 as the duo have 9-under 135 totals after two trips around University Ridge Golf Course.

David Duval is in solo third at 137 after shooting 68. Tim O’Neal (68 on Saturday) and Jerry Kelly (69) are three shots back in a tie for fourth.

Els made three birdies on the front nine before a bogey at No. 10. He then got hot with birdies at Nos. 12-14, an eagle-3 at 16 and a birdie at 18 to close his round.

Els is looking for his second straight victory after prevailing at the Principal Charity Classic last week.

HORSE RACING

156TH BELMONT STAKES

Dornoch overcomes long odds for victory

FIELD LEVEL MEDIA

With impeccable blood lines, Dornoch was considered to be one of the elite 3-year-old colts of this year. Then came troubled trips in both the Blue Grass Stakes and the Kentucky Derby that seemingly relegated the son of Good Magic to ‘also ran’ status.

On a pleasant June day over a fast Saratoga track, Dornoch reminded everyone of his potential for greatness. Under jockey Luis Saez, Dornach tactically stalked the early pace and drew off to win the 156th Belmont Stakes at Saratoga Race Course.

Dornoch was sent away at 17-1, the longest odds for a Belmont winner in three years. When the field of 10 broke from the gate, Saez sent Dornoch to the lead to rate off pacesetter and Preakness winner Seize the Grey.

“That was the plan with Dornoch, to take the lead if we can,” Saez said. “We knew that Seize the Gray was pretty fast and it was perfect because he was in the one hole so we could control the pace from there. We were sitting in the perfect spot. That was the path we were looking for.”

Seize the Grey led the field out to a modest fraction of 22.99 seconds for the opening quarter mile and 47.25 seconds for the half mile. The two led the field heading into the far turn with Mindframe just a length off the pace.

Dornoch and Seize the Gray led the field into the homestretch as Mindframe swung wide to mount his stretch run. When Seize the Grey faded after passing the 1/8th pole, Dornoch shifted inside and readied for Mindframe’s challenge.

However, Mindframe lugged out in deep stretch, giving Dornoch just enough of a gap to win the race by a half-length. He posted a winning time of 2:01.64 in the 1¼-mile test.

Sierra Leone, the post-time favorite, mounted a late charge as is his style to finish third. However, the colt could not overcome a poor break when he was shuffled deep in the field.



Dornoch with Luis Saez aboard wins the Belmont Stakes on Saturday at Saratoga Race Course in Saratoga Springs, N.Y. Dornoch started as a 17-1 long shot. GREGORY FISHER/USA TODAY SPORTS

Dornoch’s win gave trainer Danny Gargan his first ever Triple Crown win, while Saez earned his second Belmont Stakes win. The win vindicated a 10th-place finish in the Kentucky Derby where Gargan said his horse never got a chance after being cut off by eventual winner Mystik Dan.

Gargan took the blame for not having him placed correctly in the Blue Grass Stakes, where he finished fourth, but always knew that if given a clean trip

most any rival would have a tough time chasing him down.

“He’s one of the top 3-year-olds in the country. We have always thought it,” Gargan said.

“Today it was anyone’s race and he won. If he gets the run, he’s always going to be tough to beat.”

The win was also sweet for former major league outfielder Jayson Werth, who is a 10 percent owner in Dornoch. Werth, who had a 15-year career and

earned a World Series ring as a member of the 2008 Philadelphia Phillies, ranks this accomplishment right alongside his personal on-field achievement.

“I would put it right up there with winning on the biggest stage. Horse racing is the most underrated sport in the world bar none,” Werth said. “You’ve got the Derby, the Preakness and the Belmont – and we just won the Belmont. This is as good as it gets in horse racing and as good as it gets in sports.”

TENNIS



Iga Swiatek celebrates winning the French Open women’s singles final against Jasmine Paolini on Saturday in Paris. SUSAN MULLANE/USA TODAY SPORTS

French Open

Continued from Page 1NS

this year.

“It’s when the pressure from the outside hits me, then it’s a little bit worse,” Swiatek said. “But I managed it well at this tournament.

“It was an emotional win, because I felt a lot of stress yesterday and today in the morning. I felt really proud of myself.”

Swiatek came out all guns blazing but after narrowly missing the opportunity to break from 0-40 down in the second game, the top seed Pole made heavy weather of the next to surrender her serve, before bouncing right back.

The diminutive Paolini, the third Italian woman after Francesca Schiavone and Sara Errani to reach the Roland Garros final since the sport turned professional in 1968, went toe to toe with Swiatek before cracking in the sixth game.

With the momentum shifting, Swiatek began to dominate the exchanges from the baseline, superbly working the angles and sealing the opening set in 37 minutes after winning 20 out of 24

points since going down a break.

A shell-shocked Paolini smiled and won odd points early in the next set, but her challenge faded in the afternoon sun as Swiatek broke twice to build a 4-0 lead.

Swiatek, who dropped only one set throughout the tournament in a second-round clash with Naomi Osaka, won 10 straight games before Paolini finally got on the board but there was to be no late comeback.

Swiatek closed out the win in 68 minutes when Paolini hit a shot long, dropping to her knees and pumping her fists while letting out a huge roar, before joining her entourage in the stands to celebrate.

“To play you here is the toughest challenge in this sport,” Paolini, who will compete in the doubles final with Errani on Sunday, told Swiatek at the presentation ceremony.

The 28-year-old, who will rise to number seven in the world on Monday, expanded on the difficulties of playing Swiatek.

“She’s taking the balls early... She can defend really well,” Paolini said. “She won four titles and she’s still 23. These numbers aren’t normal. They’re unbelievable.”

Alcaraz, Zverev vie for 1st title at French Open

Julien Pretot
REUTERS

PARIS – Carlos Alcaraz will face a major test of nerves when he takes on Alexander Zverev in a potentially high-octane French Open men’s singles final as both players look to claim a maiden Roland Garros title on Sunday.

Alcaraz, who already has two Grand Slam titles to his name, has been seen as fellow Spaniard Rafael Nadal’s successor on the Paris clay. But in last year’s semi-final, tension and nerves got the better of him and he cracked against Novak Djokovic.

In Friday’s last-four encounter against Jannik Sinner, he owed his long comeback from a woeful, tense start to the Italian’s inconsistency.

As long as he is mentally prepared for the challenge, however, Alcaraz, the youngest player to reach a Grand Slam final on all three surfaces – hard, clay and grass - will be the favourite to lift the Musketeers Cup and add his name to the list of Spanish players crowned at Roland Garros.

“I remember when I finish school I’m

running to my home just to put the TV on and watch the matches here in the French Open,” the 21-year-old said.

“I watched a lot of matches. Of course Rafa Nadal. I wanted to put my name on that list of the Spanish players who won this tournament.

“Not only Rafa. (Juan Carlos) Ferrero, (Carlos) Moya, (Albert) Costa, a lot of Spanish players, legends from our sport who won this tournament, I really want to put my name on that list, as well.”

Fourth seed Zverev, meanwhile, will be looking to settle a score with the tournament itself, having been eliminated in the semi-finals here in the three previous editions while still chasing his maiden Grand Slam title.

He has reached the final at a major once previously, at the 2020 U.S. Open.

“Going from the U.S. Open final where I was two points away (from victory) to being rolled off in a wheelchair here two years ago”, after suffering an ankle injury against Nadal, “it’s all part of my journey” said the 27-year-old, who won the Rome Masters ahead of the French Open.



Spain’s Carlos Alcaraz hits a return against Italy’s Jannik Sinner in their men’s semifinal on Friday at the French Open in Paris. SUSAN MULLANE/USA TODAY SPORTS

SOCCER

COLOMBIA 5, US MEN’S NATIONAL TEAM 1

Colombia clubs US thanks to late outburst

FIELD LEVEL MEDIA

Colombia scored three times in an 11-minute span late in the second half to polish off a 5-1 victory over the U.S. men’s national team on Saturday in Landover, Md.

With their first CONMEBOL Copa America match set for June 23, the Americans seemingly still have a lot of work to do. They gave up two goals in the first 19 minutes and didn’t get on the board until the 58th, when Timothy Weah put a right-footed shot into the back of the net.

But Colombia responded with its three-goal outburst, with all three scores coming off inexcusable give-aways.

A 77th-minute goal from an unmarked Richard Rios sealed the victory for the Colombians, and Jorge Carrascal scored in the 85th minute to make it 4-1 after an egregious turnover by Weah.

Luis Sinisterra got the final goal in the 88th minute.

Weah had given the U.S. hope when he took a through ball from Polarin Balogun and powered a shot past goalkeeper Camilo Vargas for his sixth goal in 38 matches with the national team.

But as was the case all match, the U.S. played shoddy defense, and Sinisterra made two stepovers from the right side of the box before spotting Rios, whose shot deflected off U.S. defender Cameron Carter-Vickers and went past goalkeeper Matt Turner.

Jhon Arias put Colombia on top in the sixth minute with a clinical finish after an Antonee Robinson giveaway.



U.S. forward Tim Weah (21) dribbles the ball as Colombia forward Luis Diaz (7) and defender Johan Mojica defend in the first half of Saturday’s match at Commanders Field in Washington. GEOFF BURKE/USA TODAY SPORTS

Rafael Borre then made it 2-0 just 13 minutes later to punish the Americans for their inability to make simple clear-ances.

Colombia, ranked 12th in the FIFA

world rankings, extended its unbeaten streak to 22 matches with Saturday’s victory.

The Colombians are 14-3-5 vs. the U.S., with the last American win coming

in March 2005.

Before starting Copa America action against Bolivia in just under two weeks, the U.S. will face Brazil in a friendly on Wednesday.

MLS ROUNDUP



Sporting Kansas City forward Alenis Vargas reacts after a play in Saturday’s match against Seattle Sounders on Saturday. JAY BIGGERSTAFF/USA TODAY SPORTS

SKC halts 7-match losing streak by edging Sounders

FIELD LEVEL MEDIA

Alenis Vargas scored in the 85th minute as Sporting Kansas City ended a seven-match skid by beating the Seattle Sounders 2-1.

Khiry Shelton fed a perfect pass to a streaking Vargas in the box. Vargas hesitated slightly, then fired it right at Seattle keeper Stefan Frei, who could not control the ball and let it trickle past him.

Sporting KC (3-9-5, 14 points) won just their second home match of the season.

Seattle (4-7-6, 18 points) had a chance to tie it in the seventh minute of stoppage time, but Alex Roldan’s free kick from just outside the box sailed high.

New England 1, NY Red Bulls 0

Emmanuel Boateng scored in the 81st minute and the Revolution won back-to-back matches for the first time this season, defeating the visiting New York Red Bulls at Foxborough, Mass.

Boateng, a substitute in the 69th minute as a midfielder, scored his first goal of the season.

Goalkeeper Aljaz Ivacic made five saves for the Revolution (4-10-1, 13 points), who recorded their third shut-out of the season.

Red Bulls goalkeeper Ryan Meara made three saves. The Red Bulls (8-4-5, 29 points) had won two straight matches.

Dallas 1, Minnesota 1

Liam Fraser scored his first career MLS goal and Maarten Paes made five saves to lead FC Dallas to a draw with Minnesota United in Saint Paul, Minn.

Paes finished with at least five saves for the fifth straight match. He recorded a career-high nine stops during Dallas’ 1-0 loss against Los Angeles FC last Saturday.

FC Dallas (3-8-5, 14 points) remained winless on the road this season (0-6-3).

Hassani Dotson scored for Minnesota United (8-3-5, 29 points), who are in third place in the Western Conference. Clint Irwin, making his 2024 debut for the Loons with starter Dayne St. Clair (Canada) away, made three saves.

Portland 0, St. Louis 0

James Pantemis made two saves, Claudio Bravo helped the goalkeeper with an exceptional goal-line block and the Timbers earned a gritty draw at St. Louis City SC.

Pantemis kept his second clean sheet in his sixth start while deputizing for Maxime Crepeau, who will miss the next several weeks for Portland (5-7-6, 21 points) while on international duty for Canada.

Bravo’s decisive action helped the Timbers extend their unbeaten run to four matches and keep hold of the ninth and final spot above the playoff line in the Western Conference.

NWSL ROUNDUP

Gotham tops Angel City to continue strong start

FIELD LEVEL MEDIA

Midfielder Rose Lavelle buried a left-footed shot into the bottom right corner of the net with 62 minutes gone to break up a deadlock and hand NJ/NY Gotham FC its third straight win with a 2-1 result against Angel City FC on Saturday in Harrison, N.J.

Lavelle’s second goal of the season came in the center of the box and was set up by Delanie Sheehan, her first assist of the season. It kept Gotham (6-2-3, 21 points) unbeaten since April 20, with five wins and two draws in that stretch.

Angel City (3-6-2, 11 points) had equalized in the 51st minute when Cla-

risse Le Bihan found the bottom left corner on a long-range probe, assisted by Alyssa Thompson, but was ultimately handed its third loss in four games.

Angel City’s last win came on May 3. Crystal Dunn opened the scoring in the 26th minute, finishing off a fast-break opportunity with a goal in the bottom left corner. Yazmeen Ryan earned the assist.

Over 20 minutes of extra time were added after a chippy contest that saw two yellow cards issued (Madison Curry and Mandy Freeman).

Messiah Bright’s attempt at an equalizer in extra time was saved by Ann-Katrin Berger.



NJ/NY Gotham FC midfielder Rose Lavelle, front, dribbles the ball against Angel City FC midfielder Clarisse Le Bihan on Saturday. JONATHAN JONES/USA TODAY SPORTS

SCOREBOARD



BETMGM

New BetMGM customers can sign up today and get a First Bet Offer up to \$1,500 using bonus code **USATSPORTS**. Just download the BetMGM app, deposit at least \$10 and place your first wager on any game. If your first bet loses, you will receive bonus bets in the amount of your bet (up to \$1,500). Just make sure you use bonus code **USATSPORTS** when you sign up. Gambling problem? Call 1-800-GAMBLER (Available in the US). Call 877-8-HOPENY or text HOPENY (467369) (NY), 1-800-327-5050 (MA), 21+ only. Please Gamble Responsibly. Call 1-800-NEXT-STEP (AZ), 1-800-BETS-OFF (IA), 1-800-981-0023 (PR). First Bet Offer for new customers only. Subject to eligibility requirements. Rewards are non-withdrawable bonus bets that expire in 7 days. In partnership with Kansas Crossing Casino and Hotel. See BetMGM.com for Terms. US promotional offers not available in North Carolina, New York, Nevada, Ontario, or Puerto Rico.

ODDS SPONSORED BY BETMGM.COM

Gannett may earn revenue from sports betting operators for audience referrals to betting services. Sports betting operators have no influence over nor are any such revenues in any way dependent on or linked to the newsrooms or news coverage. Terms apply, see operator site for Terms and Conditions. Gambling problem? Call 1-800-GAMBLER CO, DC, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MS, NJ, OH, PA, TN, VA, WV, WY. Call 877-8-HOPENY or text HOPENY (467369) (NY) Call 1-800-327-5050 (MA). 21+ to wager. Please Gamble Responsibly. Call 1-800-NEXT-STEP (AZ), 1-800-522-4700 (NV), 1-800-BETS-OFF (IA), 1-800-270-7117 for confidential help (MI), 1-800-981-0023 (PR). In partnership with Kansas Crossing Casino and Hotel. Visit BetMGM.com for Terms & Conditions. US promotional offers not available in DC, Nevada, New York or Ontario.

All times Eastern

MLB

American League				
East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
N.Y. Yankees	45	21	.682	—
Baltimore	41	22	.651	2½
Boston	32	33	.492	12½
Toronto	31	33	.484	13
Tampa Bay	31	33	.484	13
Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	41	22	.651	—
Kansas City	39	26	.600	3
Minnesota	33	31	.516	8½
Detroit	31	33	.484	10½
Chicago	17	48	.262	25

West Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Seattle	36	30	.545	—
Texas	30	34	.469	5
Houston	29	35	.453	6
Oakland	26	40	.394	10
L.A. Angels	24	39	.381	10½

National League				
East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	45	19	.703	—
Atlanta	35	27	.565	9
Washington	29	35	.453	16
N.Y. Mets	27	36	.429	17½
Miami	22	42	.344	23

Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Milwaukee	38	26	.594	—
Cincinnati	32	33	.492	6½
Pittsburgh	31	33	.484	7
Chicago	31	34	.477	7½
St. Louis	30	33	.476	7½

West Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
L.A. Dodgers	41	25	.621	—
San Diego	34	34	.500	8
San Francisco	32	33	.492	8½
Arizona	30	35	.462	10½
Colorado	23	41	.359	17

Friday's Scores

Milwaukee 10, Detroit 0
Pittsburgh 3, Minnesota 0
Washington 2, Atlanta 1
Baltimore 6, Tampa Bay 3
L.A. Dodgers 2, N.Y. Yankees 1
Cincinnati 3, Chicago 2
Miami 3, Cleveland 2
San Francisco 5, Texas 2
Chicago 7, Boston 2
Kansas City 10, Seattle 9
St. Louis 8, Colorado 5
Houston 7, L.A. Angels 1
Oakland 2, Toronto 1
San Diego 10, Arizona 3

Saturday's Scores

Philadelphia 7, N.Y. Mets 2
Washington 7, Atlanta 3
San Francisco 3, Texas 1
Pittsburgh 4, Minnesota 0
Toronto 7, Oakland 0
Chicago 6, Boston 1
Cincinnati 4, Chicago 3
Milwaukee 5, Detroit 4
Kansas City 8, Seattle 4
Baltimore 5, Tampa Bay 0
Colorado 6, St. Louis 5
Cleveland 8, Miami 0
L.A. Dodgers 11, N.Y. Yankees 3
San Diego 13, Arizona 1

Sunday's Games

N.Y. Mets (Quintana 1-5) vs Philadelphia (Walker 3-1) at London, 10:10 a.m.
San Francisco (TBD) at Texas (Eovaldi 2-2), 1:05 p.m.
Atlanta (Fried 6-2) at Washington (Williams 5-0), 1:35 p.m.
Minnesota (Ober 5-4) at Pittsburgh (Jones 4-5), 1:35 p.m.
Chicago Cubs (Managa 5-1) at Cincinnati (Montas 3-4), 1:40 p.m.
Milwaukee (Wilson 3-2) at Detroit (Skubal 7-1), 1:40 p.m.
Baltimore (Burnes 6-2) at Tampa Bay (Littell 2-3), 1:40 p.m.
Cleveland (Carrasco 2-5) at Miami (Rogers 1-7), 1:40 p.m.
Boston (Crawford 2-5) at Chicago White Sox (Flexen 2-5), 2:10 p.m.
Seattle (Kirby 5-5) at Kansas City (Ragans 4-4), 2:10 p.m.
Colorado (Blach 2-3) at St. Louis (Pallante 1-2), 2:15 p.m.
Houston (Verlander 3-2) at L.A. Angels (Anderson 5-5), 4:07 p.m.
Toronto (TBD) at Oakland (Spence 4-3), 4:07 p.m.
Arizona (TBD) at San Diego (TBD), 4:10 p.m.
L.A. Dodgers (Glasnow 6-4) at N.Y. Yankees (Gil 8-1), 7:10 p.m.

Monday's Games

Baltimore (Suarez 2-0) at Tampa Bay (Peipiot 4-2), 6:50 p.m.
Colorado (Hudson 2-7) at Minnesota (Paddack 4-2), 7:40 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees (Rodon 7-2) at Kansas City (Lugo 9-1), 8:10 p.m.
Toronto (Berrios 5-4) at Milwaukee (Rea 4-2), 8:10 p.m.
Chicago White Sox (Fedde 4-1) at Seattle (Gilbert 3-3), 9:40 p.m.
Oakland (Estes 1-1) at San Diego (Cease 5-4), 9:40 p.m.
Houston (Arrighetti 3-5) at San Francisco (Harrison 4-3), 9:45 p.m.

Leaders

American League

Batting Average — Witt Jr., Kansas City .323; Soto, New York .318; Perez, Kansas City .305; Pena, Houston .303; Rutschman, Baltimore .301; Guerrero Jr., Toronto .295; Judge, New York .294; Paredes, Tampa Bay .292; Alvarez, Houston .288; Devers, Boston .286.
Home Runs — Judge, New York 21; Tucker, Houston 19; Henderson, Baltimore 19; Ramirez, Cleveland 17; Soto, New York 17; Naylor, Cleveland 16; Stanton, New York 15; Seager, Texas 13; Santander, Baltimore 13; Devers, Boston 13.

RBI — Ramirez, Cleveland 60; Judge, New York 55; Soto, New York 53; Witt Jr., Kansas City 47; Naylor, Cleveland 45; Rutschman, Baltimore 43; Henderson, Baltimore 42; Perez, Kansas City 41; Pasquantino, Kansas City 41; Tucker, Houston 40.
Stolen Bases — Caballero, Tampa Bay 21; Witt Jr., Kansas City 19; Rengifo, Los Angeles 14; Garcia, Kansas City 14; Rodriguez, Seattle 14; Mullins, Baltimore 12; Blanco, Kansas City 12; Duran, Boston 12; Volpe, New York 12; Hamilton, Boston 11.

Wins — Lugo, Kansas City 9; Rodon, New York 8; Gil, New York 8; Skubal, Detroit 7; Bassitt, Toronto 6; Irvin, Baltimore 6; Houck, Boston 6; Burnes, Baltimore 6; Allen, Cleveland 6; Crochet, Chicago 6.

ERA — Gil, New York 1.82; Houck, Boston 1.91; Skubal, Detroit 1.97; Lugo, Kansas City 2.13; Burnes, Baltimore 2.26; Anderson, Los Angeles 2.37; Singer, Kansas City 2.76; Blanco, Houston 2.78; Berrios, Toronto 2.80; Irvin, Baltimore 2.87.

Strikeouts — Crochet, Chicago 103; Flaherty, Detroit 94; Ragans, Kansas City 89; Skubal, Detroit 86; Ryan, Minnesota 85; Gil, New York 85; Houck, Boston 84; Castillo, Seattle 81; Lopez, Minnesota 79; Burnes, Baltimore 76.

Saves — Clase, Cleveland 19; Holmes, New York 18; Kimbrel, Baltimore 14; Foley, Detroit 12; Munoz, Seattle 12; McArthur, Kansas City 12; Miller, Oakland 12; Estevez, Los Angeles 10; Duran, Minnesota 10; Jansen, Boston 9.

National League

Batting Average — Arraez, San Diego .337; Profar, San Diego .325; Ozuana, Atlanta .316; Betts, Los Angeles .312; Ohtani, Los Angeles .312; Contreras, Milwaukee .311; Winn, St. Louis .310; Turang, Milwaukee .303; Diaz, Colorado .301; Smith, Los Angeles .291.

Home Runs — Ozuana, Atlanta 18; Ohtani, Los Angeles 15; Harper, Philadelphia 14; Alonso, New York 14; Gorman, St. Louis 14; Hernandez, Los Angeles 13; Marte, Arizona 13; Walker, Arizona 12; Morel, Chicago 12; Schwarber, Philadelphia 11.

RBI — Ozuana, Atlanta 55; Bohm, Philadelphia 50; Contreras, Milwaukee 46; Harper, Philadelphia 44; Profar, San Diego 42; Adames, Milwaukee 42; Hernandez, Los Angeles 41; Ohtani, Los Angeles 40; Cronenworth, San Diego 40; Steer, Cincinnati 40.

Stolen Bases — De La Cruz, Cincinnati 33; Turang, Milwaukee 22; Stott, Philadelphia 17; Young, Washington 17; Acuna Jr., Atlanta 16; Doyle, Colorado 16; Thomas, Washington 15; Ohtani, Los Angeles 14; Rojas, Philadelphia 14; Kim, San Diego 13.

Wins — Suarez, Philadelphia 9; Sale, Atlanta 8; Nola, Philadelphia 8; Keller, Pittsburgh 8; Gray, St. Louis 7; Wheeler, Philadelphia 7; Neris, Chicago 6; Glasnow, Los Angeles 6; Fried, Atlanta 6; Lodolo, Cincinnati 6.

ERA — Suarez, Philadelphia 1.70; Lopez, Atlanta 1.85; Wheeler, Philadelphia 2.23; Sanchez, Philadelphia 2.71; Assad, Chicago 2.74; Nola, Philadelphia 2.77; Hicks, San Francisco 2.82; Webb, San Francisco 2.92; Glasnow, Los Angeles 2.93; Fried, Atlanta 2.93.

Strikeouts — Glasnow, Los Angeles 104; Cease, San Diego 93; Sale, Atlanta 92; Wheeler, Philadelphia 91; Peralta, Milwaukee 89; Greene, Cincinnati 84; King, San Diego 83; Yamamoto, Los Angeles 83; Gray, St. Louis 82; Suarez, Philadelphia 79.

Saves — Hensley, St. Louis 21; Finnegan, Washington 17; Suarez, San Diego 17; Iglesias, Atlanta 16; Diaz, Cincinnati 13; Bednar, Pittsburgh 13; Alvarado, Philadelphia 11; Doval, San Francisco 10; Phillips, Los Angeles 9; Neris, Chicago 8.

NBA

FINALS

(Best-of-7; x- if necessary)

No. 1 Boston Celtics 1	
No. 5 Dallas Mavericks 0	
Thursdays: Celtics 107, Mavericks 89	
Sunday: Mavericks at Celtics, 8:30 p.m.	
Wednesday: Celtics at Mavericks, 8:30 p.m.	
Friday: Celtics at Mavericks, 8:30 p.m.	
x-June 17: Mavericks at Celtics, 8:30 p.m.	
x-June 20: Celtics at Mavericks, 8:30 p.m.	
x-June 23: Mavericks at Celtics, 8 p.m.	

NHL

STANLEY CUP FINAL

(Best-of-7; x- if necessary)

Florida Panthers 1, Edmonton Oilers 0	
Saturday: Panthers 3, Oilers 0	
Monday: Oilers at Panthers, 8 p.m.	
Thursday: Panthers at Oilers, 8 p.m.	
June 15: Panthers at Oilers, 8 p.m.	
x-June 18: Oilers at Panthers, 8 p.m.	
x-June 21: Panthers at Oilers, 8 p.m.	
x-June 24: Oilers at Panthers, 8 p.m.	

WNBA

Eastern Conference

	W	L	Pct	GB
Connecticut	9	1	.900	—
N.Y. Liberty	10	2	.833	—
Atlanta	5	4	.556	3½
Chicago	4	6	.400	5
Indiana	3	9	.250	7
Washington	0	11	.000	9½

Western Conference

	W	L	Pct	GB
Minnesota	7	3	.700	—
Seattle	7	3	.700	—
Las Vegas	5	3	.625	1
Phoenix	5	6	.455	2½
Dallas	3	6	.333	3½
L.A. Sparks	3	7	.300	4

Friday, June 7

Indiana 85, Washington 83
Seattle 78, Las Vegas 65
L.A. Sparks 81, Dallas 72
Phoenix 81, Minnesota 80

Saturday, June 8

N.Y. Liberty 82, Connecticut 75
Atlanta 89, Chicago 80

Sunday, June 9

Washington at N.Y. Liberty, 3 p.m.
Phoenix at Dallas, 4 p.m.
Seattle at Minnesota, 7 p.m.
Las Vegas at L.A. Sparks, 9 p.m.

Monday, June 10

Washington at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
Minnesota at Las Vegas, 10 p.m.
L.A. Sparks at Seattle, 10 p.m.

Wednesday, June 12

Connecticut at Chicago, 8 p.m.

MLS

Eastern Conference

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Inter Miami CF	10	3	5	35	42	27
Cincinnati	10	3	3	33	23	16
N.Y. City FC	9	5	2	29	24	17
NY Red Bulls	8	4	5	29	29	23
Charlotte FC	7	6	2	25	18	18
Toronto FC	7	7	3	24	26	18
Columbus	6	2	6	24	21	13
Philadelphia	4	8	2	20	27	23
Nashville	4	5	7	19	20	22
D.C. United	4	6	7	19	25	31
Orlando City	4	7	5	17	24	24
CF Montreal	4	7	5	17	23	35
Atlanta	4	8	4	16	22	21
Chicago	3	8	6	15	29	29
New England	4	10	1	13	12	27

Western Conference

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
--	---	---	---	-----	----	----

Real Salt Lake	9	2	6	33	36	19
Los Angeles FC	9	4	3	30	28	19
Minnesota	8	3	5	29	28	21
LA Galaxy	7	3	7	28	31	25
Vancouver	7	5	4	25	24	19
Austin FC	6	6	5	23	21	25
Houston	6	6	4	22	18	18
Colorado	6	7	4	22	29	31
Portland	5	7	6	21	32	32
Seattle	4	7	6	18	20	21
Saint Louis	3	4	9	18	23	25
Sporting KC	3	9	5	14	26	32
FC Dallas	3	8	5	14	18	25
San Jose	3	11	2	11	24	39

Saturday, June 8

New England 1, NY Red Bulls 0
Minnesota 1, FC Dallas 1
Saint Louis 0, Portland 0
Sporting KC 2, Seattle 1

Leaders

Goals — Arango, RSL 16; Benteke, DC 13; Messi, MIA 12; Suárez, MIA 12; Bouanga, LAFC 10; Gaddag, PHI 10; Joveljic, LA 9; Morgan, RBNY 9; Navarro, COL 9; Gómez, RSL 8.

Assists — Messi, MIA 13; Acosta, CIN 10; Lod, Min 10; Arango, RSL 9; Espinoza, SJ 9; Da Silva Ferreira, POR 8; Puig, LA 8; Stroud, DC 8; Klich, DC 7; Luna, RSL 7.

Shots — Bouanga, LAFC 85; Arango, RSL 74; Bernardeschi, TOR 63; Ruidiaz, SEA 60; Messi, MIA 58; de Mello, STL 57; Benteke, DC 54; Olivera, LAFC 51; Puig, LA 51; Pec, LA 49.

Shots on Goal — Bouanga, LAFC 34; Arango, RSL 32; Messi, MIA 28; Suárez, MIA 28; Benteke, DC 25; Navarro, COL 25; Olivera, LAFC 25; Bernardeschi, TOR 24; Ruidiaz, SEA 24; Gómez, RSL 22.

Yellow Cards — Avilés, MIA 7; Cascante, ATX 7; Vargas, CLT 7; Vera, RSL 7; Araújo, ORL 6; Arigoni, CHI 6; Atuesta, LAFC 6; Bernardeschi, TOR 6; Klich, DC 6; Long, TOR 6.

Saves — Stuver, ATX 78; Paes, DAL 63; Freese, NYC 60; McCarthy, LA 59; Sirosi, MTL 57; MacMath, RSL 56; Brady, CHI 55; Callender, MIA 53; Kahlna, CLT 52; Steffen, COL 52.

GOLF

The Memorial Tournament presented by Workday	
Dublin, Ohio	
Muirfield Village Golf Club	
Purse: \$20 million	
Yardage: 7,569; Par: 72	

Third Round

Scottie Scheffler	.....67-68-71=206 (-10)
Adam Hadwin	.....66-72-72=210 (-6)
Collin Morikawa	.....68-74-68=210 (-6)
Sepp Straka	.....72-70-68=210 (-6)
Ludvig Aberg	.....68-72-72=212 (-4)
Xander Schauffele	.....68-73-71=212 (-4)
Christiaan Bezuidenhout	72-67-74=213 (-3)
Nick Dunlap	.....70-73-70=213 (-3)
Victor Perez	.....71-74-68=213 (-3)
Sahithi Theegala	.....73-71-69=213 (-3)
Tony Finau	.....71-70-73=214 (-2)
Sungjae Im	.....76-71-67=214 (-2)
Rory McIlroy	.....70-71-73=214 (-2)
Tommy Fleetwood	.....69-73-73=215 (-1)
Viktor Hovland	.....69-69-77=215 (-1)
Si Woo Kim	.....74-73-68=215 (-1)
Shane Lowry	.....74-73-68=215 (-1)
Akshay Bhatia	.....69-72=216 (-1)
Max Homa	.....71-73=216 (-1)
J.T. Poston	.....75-69=216 (-1)
Seamus Power	.....69-74=216 (-1)
Byeong Hun An	.....71-73=217 (-1)
Keegan Bradley	.....70-69=217 (-1)
Sam Burns	.....71-75=217 (-1)
Jason Day	.....73-75=217 (-1)
Matt Fitzpatrick	.....73-70=217 (-1)
Brian Harman	