Happy Easter

NATION&WORLD EXTRA

INSIDE

Salvage crews work to hoist first piece of collapsed Baltimore bridge. **4NN**

THE STRUGGLE FOR MILITARY DIVERSITY

Years of effort bring little change in officer corps

Donna Bryson | REUTERS

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. – Pale marble pavers crisscross the Terrazzo, the plaza at the heart of the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado that cadets traverse daily, on the way to class, the library and meals. In their first year, cadets must run and keep to the narrow marble strips whenever they are on the 20-acre Terrazzo.

Tusajigwe Owens doesn't take shortcuts. He is one of 112 Black cadets in the class of 1,071 freshmen that started at the academy in June 2022.

Running the strips helps instill a sense of urgency and attention to detail that "absolutely matters for the success of yourself and the success of your team," he said.

Older cadets share coping strategies such as organizing schedules to minimize Terrazzo trips, or walking when the marble is slippery in wet weather. "They would rather see you succeed," Owens said. Not everyone will. The graduation rate for Black cadets has for the last decade averaged 66%, compared to an overall graduation rate of 80%.

That gap has frustrated the Air Force's stated objective of increasing diversity in its officer corps. Only 6% of officers identify as Black, compared to about 17% among enlisted members of the Air Force, according to the Air Force Personnel Center.

Those figures have changed very little in the last 20 years, according to an Air Force spokesperson.

By comparison, around 13% of America's population is Black.

On June 29, days after Owens finished his first year, the U.S. Supreme Court struck down race-conscious admissions at Harvard University and the University of North Carolina in a case brought by Students for Fair Admissions (SFFA), a group that argues that affirmative action policies discriminate against white and Asian American people.

Chief Justice John Roberts exempted military training academies from the decision, citing the U.S. government argument that the legitimacy of the armed forces would be undermined by having an overwhelmingly white officer corps leading much more diverse enlisted ranks. In the fall, the SFFA expanded its challenge to the military's elite training academies, suing to block the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, and the U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis, Maryland, from considering race as a factor in admissions.

The Supreme Court in February declined an SFFA request to intervene in the West Point case. SFFA founder Edward Blum told Reuters the group would continue to challenge the military's admissions policies through the lower courts, where the cases are

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Tusajigwe Owens is one of 112 Black cadets in the class of 1,071 freshmen that started at the U.S. Air Force Academy in June 2022. KEVIN MOHATT/REUTERS; ILLUSTRATION TREATMENT BY ABEL MUNIZ MONTENEGRO/USA TODAY NETWORK

Ailing pope soldiers through Easter Vigil

Alvise Armellini
REUTERS

VATICAN CITY – Pope Francis on Saturday soldiered through a more than 2-hour Easter Vigil Mass in St Peter's Basilica, one of the longest services in Catholic liturgy, amid renewed concerns about the 87-year-old's frail condition.

His voice at times sounded raspy and out of breath, but he read out all of his prepared texts, including a more than one-page long homily, and he smiled and waved at the congregation as he left in a wheelchair.

In other occasions, Francis has delegated longer readings to aides.

On Friday, the pope skipped at the last minute the nighttime Via Crucis (Way of the Cross) procession at Rome's Colosseum in what the Vatican said was a bid to "preserve his health" ahead of other Holy Week events.

The surprise move came after weeks in which Francis repeatedly limited his public speaking and canceled engagements while struggling with what has

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Pope Francis baptizes a man at St Peter's Basilica in the Vatican on Saturday. TIZIANA FABI/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

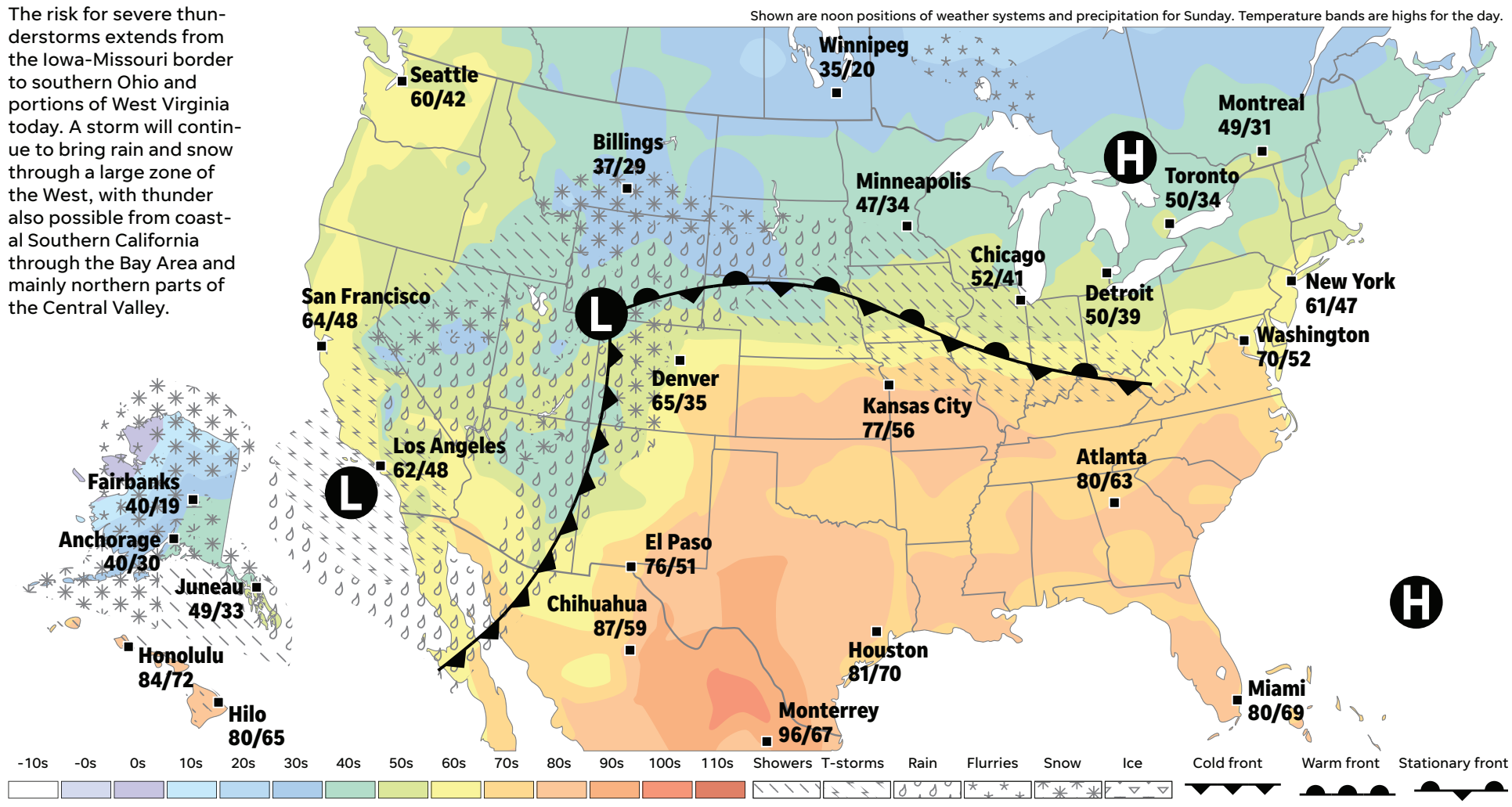


NATIONAL SUMMARY

The risk for severe thunderstorms extends from the Iowa-Missouri border to southern Ohio and portions of West Virginia today. A storm will continue to bring rain and snow through a large zone of the West, with thunder also possible from coastal Southern California through the Bay Area and mainly northern parts of the Central Valley.

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

Shown are noon positions of weather systems and precipitation for Sunday. Temperature bands are highs for the day.



SATURDAY EXTREMES

NATIONAL (for the 48 contiguous states)

High: **93** at Carrizo Springs, TX
Low: **-3** at Yellowstone N.P., WY
Precip: **1.62"** at Los Angeles, CA

INTERNATIONAL (excludes Antarctica)

High: **115** at N'Djamena, Chad
Low: **-41** at Verkhoyansk, Russia
Precip: **3.74"** at Sola, Vanuatu

TODAY IN HISTORY

On March 31, 1954, the mercury soared to 108 degrees in Rio Grande City, Texas. That represents the highest reading ever recorded in the United States in March.

WEATHER TRIVIA™

Q: What country reports the most tornadoes each year?

A: The United States

NATIONAL CITIES SUNDAY

● Denotes possible travel delays

	High/low/W	Air Quality
● Aberdeen, SD	45/27/c	27
● Abilene, TX	91/69/pc	40
● Accomac, VA	64/50/pc	51
● Adrian, MI	51/40/c	50
● Akron, OH	55/43/c	39
● Alamogordo, NM	74/50/c	56
● Alexandria, VA	70/52/pc	62
● Alliance, OH	56/43/c	38
Amarillo, TX	83/54/c	46
Ames, IA	56/41/c	39
Anderson, SC	80/60/pc	62
Appleton, WI	49/34/c	37
Asheville, NC	80/56/pc	58
● Ashland, OH	57/44/c	42
Athens, GA	79/59/pc	62
Augusta, GA	81/58/s	64
Austin, TX	83/69/pc	39
Bartlesville, OK	81/65/c	46
● Battle Creek, MI	54/40/c	39
● Bedford, IN	71/64/t	44
Binghamton, NY	49/35/c	46
Bluffton, SC	77/61/pc	68
Bremerton, WA	63/38/s	36
Brockton, MA	58/36/pc	57
Brownwood, TX	87/65/pc	35
● Burlington, IA	57/44/r	36
Burlington, NC	82/56/s	64
Burlington, VT	52/33/pc	40
● Cambridge, OH	62/53/c	42
Camdenton, MO	78/63/c	44
Canandaigua, NY	50/36/c	41
● Canton, OH	57/45/c	41
● Carlsbad, NM	84/54/pc	49
● Chambersburg, PA	65/50/pc	52
● Cherry Hill, NJ	62/47/pc	51
● Cincinnati, OH	66/60/r	43
Clarksville, TN	78/66/c	52
● Coldwater, MI	53/39/c	40
● Columbus, OH	62/52/sh	45
Corning, NY	55/37/c	46
● Corpus Christi, TX	84/72/pc	44
Daytona Beach, FL	81/58/s	63
● Deming, NM	68/42/c	61
DeRidder, LA	79/69/c	47
● Des Moines, IA	57/43/c	44
● Detroit, MI	50/39/c	51
Devils Lake, ND	39/22/c	36
Dover, NH	52/30/pc	47
● El Paso, TX	76/51/c	57
Elmira, NY	55/35/c	46
Erie, PA	46/39/c	36
Eugene, OR	61/38/pc	37
Evansville, IN	78/64/t	51
Fall River, MA	59/36/pc	54
Farmington, NM	52/35/r	53
Fayetteville, NC	84/60/s	68
Fond du Lac, WI	51/36/c	35
Fort Myers, FL	84/62/s	57
Fort Smith, AR	77/66/c	38
Framingham, MA	58/36/pc	53
● Freeport, IL	55/40/r	45
● Fremont, OH	50/42/c	46
Fort Collins, CO	60/33/pc	49
Gadsden, AL	77/61/pc	60
Gainesville, FL	81/53/pc	60
● Galesburg, IL	53/43/r	36
Gastonia, NC	81/59/s	58
● Glen Rose, TX	83/66/pc	37
Gonzales, LA	85/67/c	53
Great Falls, MT	42/26/c	32
Green Bay, WI	50/35/c	35
Greenville, SC	81/59/c	62
Hackensack, NJ	62/46/pc	51
● Hagerstown, MD	66/51/pc	52
Hattiesburg, MS	81/63/pc	54
Henderson, KY	77/64/t	48
Hendersonville, NC	78/56/c	56
Herkimer, NY	50/33/c	46
● Hillsdale, MI	52/38/c	44
● Holland, MI	47/39/c	51
Hornell, NY	53/37/c	45
Houma, LA	82/69/pc	52
Howell, MI	51/38/c	51
Hutchinson, KS	85/53/pc	40
Hyannis, MA	51/37/pc	50
● Indianapolis, IN	64/56/r	45
● Iowa City, IA	58/43/c	41
Ithaca, NY	49/35/c	45
Jackson, MS	78/65/pc	61
Jackson, TN	80/66/c	48
Jacksonville, FL	82/55/pc	62
Jacksonville, NC	81/58/s	60
● Kent, OH	55/42/c	41
● Kewanee, IL	54/44/r	43
● Keyser, WV	69/53/pc	43
Kinston, NC	82/60/s	65
Knoxville, TN	78/62/pc	65
● Lafayette, IN	61/48/r	41
Lafayette, LA	82/70/c	56
Lakeland, FL	84/61/pc	69
Lansing, MI	51/37/c	38
● Las Cruces, NM	75/44/c	56
● Lebanon, PA	61/47/pc	51
Leesburg, FL	81/60/pc	66
Levittown, PA	62/46/pc	45
● Lincoln, IL	64/50/t	39
Louisville, KY	77/65/r	56
Lubbock, TX	84/55/c	51
Manitowoc, WI	42/36/c	32
● Mansfield, OH	57/44/c	40
Marshall, NC	78/53/pc	58
Marshfield, WI	49/31/c	43
● Massillon, OH	58/46/c	44
● McLean, VA	69/52/pc	53
Melbourne, FL	80/60/s	69
Memphis, TN	77/66/pc	46
Middletown, NY	57/38/pc	49
Milford, MA	58/35/pc	54
● Milwaukee, WI	47/39/c	42
● Monroe, MI	45/40/c	51
Monroe, LA	80/68/pc	49
Montgomery, AL	82/62/pc	58
● Muncie, IN	63/48/r	43
Murfreesboro, TN	76/64/c	58
Naples, FL	83/64/s	55
Nashville, TN	79/66/c	53
Neptune, NJ	59/46/pc	47
New Bedford, MA	58/36/pc	52
New Bern, NC	82/59/s	61
● New Philadelphia, OH	59/48/c	44
● Newark, OH	62/51/c	43
Newton, NJ	59/42/pc	47
New York, NY	61/47/pc	53
Norwich, CT	59/36/pc	50
Ocala, FL	80/55/pc	65
● Oklahoma City, OK	76/65/c	34
Opelousas, LA	80/69/c	52
● Oshkosh, WI	51/36/c	35
Palm Beach, FL	80/69/s	58
● Palm Springs, CA	65/49/t	57
Panama City, FL	76/64/pc	43
● Pekin, IL	60/47/r	43
Pensacola, FL	75/67/pc	56
● Peoria, IL	58/47/r	41
● Petersburg, VA	73/50/pc	62
● Phoenix, AZ	64/52/sh	64
Port Huron, MI	48/35/c	34
Portsmouth, NH	53/34/pc	53
Poughkeepsie, NY	59/39/pc	51
Providence, RI	59/38/pc	56
● Pueblo, CO	72/39/s	53
Quincy, MA	56/40/pc	59
Redding, CA	70/50/pc	34
Reno, NV	51/28/c	45
● Ravenna, OH	55/41/c	38
● Richmond, IN	62/54/r	45
Rochester, NY	49/35/c	41
● Rockford, IL	57/41/r	42
● Ruidoso, NM	59/39/c	51
Salem, OR	62/39/s	41
Salina, KS	82/48/pc	38
Salinas, CA	65/46/c	45
● Salisbury, MD	66/49/pc	48
San Angelo, TX	93/69/pc	38
Sarasota, FL	82/63/s	62
Savannah, GA	83/59/pc	68
Sheboygan, WI	43/37/c	33
Shelby, NC	79/57/c	56
● Sherman, TX	79/67/c	38
Shreveport, LA	81/70/pc	40
Silver City, NM	61/38/c	51
● Sioux Falls, SD	46/33/c	24
● Somerset, PA	58/49/c	41
Somerville, NJ	63/45/pc	45
● South Bend, IN	58/43/r	40
Spartanburg, SC	79/58/c	65
● Springfield, IL	67/51/t	46
Springfield, MO	77/64/c	45
St. Augustine, FL	80/59/pc	61
St. Cloud, MN	44/27/c	34
● St. George, UT	57/40/r	46
Staunton, VA	65/52/sh	53
Stevens Point, WI	51/33/c	42
Stockton, CA	68/43/c	42
Stroudsburg, PA	59/42/pc	47
Stuart, FL	81/61/s	62
● Sturgis, MI	55/40/c	42
Tallahassee, FL	80/58/pc	56
Thibodaux, LA	83/68/pc	52
Topeka, KS	83/58/t	47
Tuscaloosa, AL	80/64/pc	61
Utica, NY	48/30/c	46
Ventura, CA	61/47/t	32
Victorville, CA	56/39/sh	55
● Vineland, NJ	64/47/pc	44
Visalia, CA	67/45/pc	46
● Washington, DC	70/52/pc	65
● Watertown, SD	41/27/c	29
Wausau, WI	50/31/c	45
● Waynesboro, PA	65/51/pc	51
White Plains, NY	59/42/pc	49
Wichita Falls, TX	79/65/pc	34
● Wilmington, DE	63/48/pc	50
Wilmington, NC	82/60/s	67
Wisconsin Rapids, WI	51/34/c	40
● Wooster, OH	56/44/c	39
Worcester, MA	55/36/pc	55
● York, PA	63/48/pc	53

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
Acapulco	86/69/s	86/68/s
Addis Ababa	73/58/c	74/57/sh
● Algiers	87/58/c	69/46/pc
Amman	81/59/pc	83/59/c
● Amsterdam	59/46/sh	56/45/r
Ankara	79/44/s	79/41/s
● Asuncion	94/71/t	87/72/t
Athens	73/55/s	73/55/pc
Auckland	67/55/s	69/56/pc
Baghdad	86/59/s	89/58/s
Bangkok	101/85/s	103/85/s
Beijing	70/41/s	62/43/pc
Beirut	78/64/s	80/64/pc
● Belgrade	84/61/pc	85/53/pc
● Berlin	68/47/c	63/45/sh
● Bogota	69/51/sh	69/50/r
Brussels	59/46/sh	56/45/r
Bucharest	84/48/pc	87/49/c
Budapest	76/55/c	81/50/pc
● Buenos Aires	73/61/c	67/60/sh
● Cairo	90/67/pc	88/65/pc
● Cape Town	72/57/pc	70/59/pc
Caracas	89/75/pc	90/77/r
● Casablanca	68/57/c	68/50/pc
Colombo	90/78/sh	90/80/t
Copenhagen	57/40/c	50/42/c
Damascus	85/50/s	87/52/pc
● Dublin	54/45/sh	48/39/c
● Geneva	59/44/sh	55/41/r
Guatemala City	86/61/s	86/64/s
Hanoi	93/75/pc	94/77/pc
Harare	80/54/c	80/55/c
Havana	85/65/s	87/64/pc
Helsinki	43/38/c	45/37/sh
● Hong Kong	86/77/t	87/77/r
Jakarta	90/77/t	90/77/t
Jerusalem	82/59/pc	82/61/c
Johannesburg	73/55/pc	76/56/pc
Kabul	63/41/s	65/41/s
Khartoum	100/72/pc	101/75/s
Kyiv	76/51/c	76/55/pc
Kingston	88/77/s	88/77/pc
La Paz	57/40/sh	58/40/r
Lagos	93/80/t	94/80/c
Lima	80/70/pc	78/69/pc
Lisbon	58/50/sh	62/54/sh
● London	56/45/c	57/46/r
Madrid	51/41/r	57/41/sh
Manila	95/78/pc	96/78/s
Mexico City	85/56/pc	87/55/pc
● Milan	61/53/r	63/42/r
● Mombasa	92/78/t	88/77/r
● Montevideo	70/58/c	64/54/c
Montreal	49/31/pc	49/31/pc
Moscow	57/48/pc	63/53/pc
● Nairobi	79/62/t	76/61/t
New Delhi	95/72/pc	89/69/c
Panama City	93/73/c	92/73/r
Paris	55/44/sh	57/46/sh
Port-au-Prince	91/68/s	94/66/s
Rio de Janeiro	83/73/pc	82/74/pc
Riyadh	85/64/pc	80/65/pc
● Rome	69/58/c	68/52/sh
San Jose	93/66/pc	91/65/s
San Salvador	90/70/s	88/69/sh
Santiago	86/50/pc	82/50/s
● Sao Paulo	84/64/pc	83/67/pc
● Sarajevo	73/43/c	75/40/pc
Shanghai	72/48/pc	77/58/pc
● Singapore	91/79/t	91/79/t
● Stockholm	53/38/pc	42/31/c
Sydney	78/64/pc	82/67/s
● Taipei	88/70/t	81/68/r
Tegucigalpa	91/64/pc	90/66/pc
Tehran	68/49/s	67/50/s
Tokyo	75/55/pc	62/49/pc
Toronto	50/34/c	50/39/c
Tunis	85/63/pc	74/55/c
Vancouver	54/42/c	58/46/pc
● Vienna	72/56/c	75/48/c
Warsaw	77/53/pc	76/48/pc
Yerevan	61/39/c	64/42/s
Zagreb	73/51/pc	75/47/r
Zurich	64/46/c	52/42/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.

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NOTABLE DEATHS

Krystal Anderson, 40, a former NFL cheerleader for the Kansas City Chiefs, died from sepsis after her pregnancy ended in a stillbirth. The resident of Leawood, Kansas, died unexpectedly on March 20, according to an online obituary. A GoFundMe page set up to cover Anderson's medical expenses, the cost of her memorial service, and establish a legacy fund, said that "Krissy's journey took an unexpected turn," during her 21st week of pregnancy when she was admitted to the hospital. Besides her 10-year cheerleading career, Anderson also worked as a software engineer at Oracle Health and as a yoga instructor at CorePower Yoga, the page said.

Louis Gossett Jr., 87, the first Black man to win an Academy Award for supporting actor, has died. Gossett's nephew told The Associated Press that the actor died Thursday in Santa Monica, California. In 1982, Gossett starred as Marine Gunnery Sgt. Emil Foley in "An Officer and a Gentleman," for which he scored an Academy Award for best supporting actor and became the first Black man to win in the category. He scored eight Primetime Emmy nominations throughout his career for roles in "Roots," "The Sentry Collection Presents Ben Vereen: His Roots," "Backstairs at the White House," "Palmerstown, U.S.A.," "Sadat," "A Gathering of Old Men," "Touched by an Angel" and, most recently, in 2020 for the HBO limited series "Watchmen."



Gossett Jr.

Jennifer Leak D'Auria, 76, an actor known for her roles on "The Young and the Restless" and "Another World," died March 18. According to an obituary posted in The East Hampton Star, she had been battling a rare disease, progressive supranuclear palsy, for the past seven years.

Joe Lieberman, 82, a former U.S. senator and the 2000 Democratic nominee for vice president who later became a political independent, died of complications from a fall, his family announced Wednesday. Lieberman, a former Connecticut state senator and attorney general who was first elected to the U.S. Senate in 1988, developed a reputation for bipartisanship during his years in Washington. After former Vice President Al Gore clinched the presidential nomination in 2000, he made Lieberman his running mate. Lieberman was the first Jewish-American candidate on a major party ticket.

Richard Serra, 85, an American artist whose enormous steel sculptures decorated landscapes and dominated oversize galleries in the world's finest museums, died on Tuesday, The New York Times reported. The artist died at his home on New York's Long Island of pneumonia, the Times reported, citing his lawyer, John Silberman.

USA Today Network and Reuters



Saturday's evening service was attended by about 6,000 people. PHOTOS BY TIZIANA FABI/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

Pope

Continued from Page 1NN

been described as colds, bronchitis and the flu.

The pope is also restricted in his mobility due to a knee ailment, and regularly uses a wheelchair or a cane.

Francis looked in better shape on Thursday as he performed a footwashing ceremony in a women's prison, recalling Jesus' gesture of humility to his apostles at the Last Supper, and at a Good Friday service in St Peter's.

Holy Week consists of several solemn ceremonies leading to Easter on Sunday, the most important festivity in the Christian calendar, celebrating the day in which the faithful believe Jesus rose from the dead.

Saturday's evening service, held in Christendom's largest church, started in near total darkness before lights were turned on, signifying the passage from darkness to light when the Bible says Jesus rose from the dead.

It was attended by about 6,000 people, the Vatican said.

In his homily, recalling that the stone sealing Jesus' tomb was rolled back as he was resurrected, Francis urged Christians to keep their faith even when weighed down by sorrow, fear or other adversities.

He mentioned, among other things, "the rubber walls of selfishness and indifference that hold us back in the effort to build more just and humane cities and societies," as well as "all our aspirations for peace that are shattered by cruel hatred and the brutality of war."



The service was held in Christendom's largest church.



Holy Week consists of several solemn ceremonies leading to Easter on Sunday, the most important festivity in the Christian calendar.

Francis is set to conclude Easter celebrations on Sunday with Mass in St. Peter's Square and his twice-annual "Urbi et Orbi" (to the city and the world) blessing and message from the central balcony of St. Peter's Basilica.

SUNDAY TALK SHOWS

Washington Journal (C-SPAN)

Author Alexandra Hudson discusses efforts to promote civility in American politics and her book "The Soul of Civility." Alexander Heffner, whose television series attempts to forge political unity, discusses the current state of political unity this election cycle.

Inside Politics Sunday (CNN)

The guests are: Jackie Kucinich, Washington Bureau chief for The Boston Globe; David Weigel, national political reporter for Semafor; Rhonda Colvin, Capitol Hill reporter for The Washington Post; and Sarah McCammon, national political correspondent for NPR and co-host of NPR Politics Podcast.

This Week with George Stephanopoulos (ABC)

Interviews with Sen. Chris Van Hollen, D-Md., and retired Marine Corps Gen. Kenneth "Frank" McKenzie, former commander of U.S. Central Command, on "the rising threat from ISIS affiliates following recent attacks in Russia and Iran." A political roundtable with former DNC chair Donna Brazile; former RNC chairman Reince Priebus, former White House chief of staff; NPR White House correspondent Asma Khalid; and ABC News political director Rick Klein. A discussion with Ukrainian Archbishop Borys Gudziak about his Easter message amid the war in Ukraine.

Fox News Sunday with Shannon Bream (FOX)

Interviews with Sen. Rick Scott, R-Fla., and Rep. Ro Khanna, D-Calif. A political roundtable with Julia Manchester, national political reporter at The Hill; Philippe Reines, former senior adviser to Hillary Clinton; Washington Post columnist and former Bush White House speechwriter Marc Thiessen; Howard Kurtz, host of FNC's "Media Buzz." A legal panel discussion with Jonathan Turley, Fox News contributor/GW University Law professor; and Tom Dupree, former principal deputy assistant attorney general. A profile of Karen Kingsbury, author of "Someone Like You."

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

Interviews with Sen. Raphael Warnock, D-Ga., Gov. Wes Moore, D-Md., and Rep. Michael Lawler, R-N.Y. Panel discussion with former Rep. Barbara Comstock, R-Va.; Doug Thornell, Democratic strategist and CEO of SKDK; Marc Lotter, America First Policy Institute chief communications director and former special assistant to President Donald Trump; and Karen Finney, CNN political commentator and Democratic strategist.

Sunday Morning Futures with Maria Baritromo (FOX NEWS)

The guests are Sen. Marsha Blackburn, R-Tenn., member of the Senate Judiciary Committee and Senate Finance Committee; Robert O'Brien, former national security adviser; Rep. Buddy Carter R-Ga., member of the House Budget Committee and House Energy and Commerce Committee; and Emma-Jo Morris, politics editor for Breitbart News.

Fareed Zakaria GPS (CNN)

Richard Haass, senior counselor for Centerview Partners and president emeritus of the Council on Foreign Relations, discusses "War inside Gaza: deciphering the widening rift between the Biden Administration and the Netanyahu Administration – and what it means for the prospects of short- and long-term peace." Graeme Wood, lecturer in political science at Yale University and staff writer at The Atlantic, discusses "ISIS-K attacks Russia: Why and Why now?" Retired Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer, discusses "The U.S. Supreme Court and 'textualism': what it means, and why it is not a simple matter to interpret the U.S. Constitution."

Meet the Press with Kristen Welker (NBC)

Interviews with Rep. James Clyburn, D-S.C., and Rep. Don Bacon, R-Neb. A discussion with Savannah Guthrie, co-host of NBC's "Today" and author of "Mostly What God Does: Reflections on Seeking and Finding His Love Everywhere." A roundtable with former Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson; Ramesh Ponnuru, editor of National Review; and New York Times White House correspondent Katie Rogers.

Face the Nation with Margaret Brennan (CBS)

Interviews with Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg; Baltimore Mayor Brandon Scott; Rep. Mike Turner, R-Ohio, chairman of the House Intelligence Committee; Cindy McCain, executive director of the World Food Program; Cardinal Wilton Gregory, archbishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Washington; and Mariann Budde, bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Washington, D.C.

Mediabuzz (FOX NEWS)

The guests are Clay Travis, Outkick founder; Laura Fink, founder and CEO of Rebelle Communications and a Democratic strategist; Lisa Montgomery Kennedy, "The Kennedy Saves the World" podcast host; and Rep. Nancy Mace, R-S.C.

CNN Newsroom with Fredricka Whitfield

An interview with Rep. Judy Chu, D-Calif.

60 Minutes (CBS)

The fourth installment of a five-year investigation into "potential attacks on American government officials and a condition, known as Havana Syndrome." The segment focuses on "the intriguing case of an FBI official who says she was targeted inside the U.S." and on "new information about the Pentagon's global investigation into these mysterious incidents." A report on the Indian Relay, a bareback horse race among American Indian tribes.

Q&A (C-SPAN)

An interview with Dr. Uche Blackstock, author of "Legacy: A Black Physician Reckons with Racism in Medicine."

Reuters



Debris is cleared Saturday from the collapsed Francis Scott Key Bridge as efforts begin to reopen the Port of Baltimore.
SCOTT OLSON/GETTY IMAGES

Salvage crews lift first piece of collapsed bridge

Complex effort to reopen Baltimore's port begins

David Lawder and Joel Schectman
REUTERS

Salvage crews worked to lift the first piece of Baltimore's collapsed Francis Scott Key Bridge from the water on Saturday to allow barges and tugboats to access the disaster site, Maryland and U.S. officials said, the first step in a complex effort to reopen the city's blocked port.

The steel truss bridge collapsed early on Tuesday morning, killing six road workers, when a massive container ship lost power and crashed into a support pylon. Much of the span crashed into the Patapsco River, blocking the Port of Baltimore's shipping channel.

Maryland Gov. Wes Moore told a news conference that a section of the bridge's steel superstructure north of the crash site would be cut into a piece that could be lifted by crane onto a barge and brought to the nearby Tradepoint Atlantic site at Sparrows Point.

"This will eventually allow us to open up a temporary restricted channel that will help us to get more vessels in the water around the site of the collapse," Moore said.

He declined to provide a timeline for this portion of the clearance work. "It's not going to take hours," he said. "It's not going to take days, but once we complete this phase of the work, we can move more tugs and more barges and more boats into the area to accelerate our recovery."

Workers will not yet attempt to remove a crumpled part of the bridge's superstructure that is resting on the bow of the Dali, the 984-foot Singapore-flagged container ship that brought down the bridge. Moore said it was unclear when the ship could be moved, but said that its hull, while damaged, is "intact."



Workers will not yet attempt to remove a crumpled part of the bridge's superstructure that is resting on the bow of the Dali, the Singapore-flagged container ship that brought down the bridge. JULIA NIKHINSON/REUTERS

"This is a remarkably complex operation," Moore said of the effort to clear bridge debris and open the Port of Baltimore to shipping traffic.

The bodies of two workers who were repairing the bridge deck at the time of the disaster have been recovered, but Moore said efforts to recover four others presumed dead remain suspended because conditions are too dangerous for divers to work amid too much debris.

Coast Guard Rear Adm. Shannon Gilreath told reporters that teams from the Coast Guard, the U.S. Navy's salvage arm and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers said the debris from the Patapsco River's deep-draft shipping channel would have to be removed before the Dali could be moved.

Saturday's operation involves cutting a piece just north of that channel and lifting it with a 160-ton marine crane onto a barge. A larger, 1,000-ton crane also is at the bridge site.

The piece will be brought to Tradepoint Atlantic, the site of the former Bethlehem Steel Mill which is being developed into a distribution center for companies including Amazon, Home Depot and Volkswagen. The facility's port, which sits on the Chesapeake Bay side of the collapsed bridge, is fully operational.

Tradepoint Atlantic did not immediately respond to a request for comment on its role in the salvage operation.

Maryland Transportation Secretary Paul Wiedefield said that Tradepoint officials had agreed to allow other ships to unload vehicles at the facility's deepwater dock to be prepared for shipment to dealers.

While logistics experts say that other East Coast ports should be able to handle container traffic, Baltimore is the largest U.S. port for "roll-on, roll-off" vehicle imports and exports of farm and construction equipment.

U.S. Sen. Chris Van Hollen of Maryland said the Small Business Administration has approved the state's request for a disaster declaration that allows small firms affected by the disaster to apply for emergency low-interest loans of up to $2 million.

Texas court won't act against 'judge shopping'

Nate Raymond REUTERS

A federal court in Texas that has become a favored destination for conservatives suing to block President Joe Biden's agenda has decided not to follow a policy adopted by the judiciary's top policymaking body that aims to curtail the practice of "judge shopping."

Chief District Judge David Godbey of the Northern District of Texas announced the decision in a Friday letter to Democratic Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, who had urged him to implement a new policy that aimed to ensure cases challenging federal or state laws are randomly assigned judges.

The policy announced by the U.S. Judicial Conference on March 12 would require a lawsuit challenging federal or state laws to be assigned a judge randomly throughout a federal district rather than stay in the specific, smaller division, or courthouse, where the case was initially filed.

If implemented, that policy would disrupt a tactic used by conservative litigants of filing cases in small divisions in Texas' four federal districts whose one or two judges were appointed by Republican presidents and often rule in their favor on issues like abortion, immigration and gun control.

Following blowback from Senate Republicans and some conservative judges, judicial policymakers later clarified that the policy was discretionary, leaving it to each district court to decide how to implement it.

In his letter, Godbey, an appointee of Republican former President George W. Bush, said the judges in his district met on Wednesday. "The consensus was not to make any change to our case assignment process at this time," he said.

His letter was first reported by Law360. Schumer's spokespeople did not respond to a request for comment on Saturday.

The District Court for the Northern District of Texas has 11 active judges and is divided into seven divisions. Most judges are in Dallas, but some smaller divisions like Amarillo, Fort Worth and Lubbock have just one or two active judges.

The Supreme Court heard arguments on Tuesday in a case arising from one of these small courts, in which District Judge Matthew Kacsmaryk – an appointee of Republican former President Donald Trump in Amarillo – suspended approval of the abortion pill mifepristone.



Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer urged a new policy to curtail the practice of "judge shopping."
AMANDA ANDRADE-RHOADES/REUTERS FILE

PRESIDENTIAL RACE

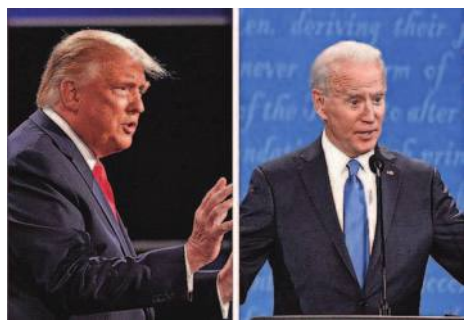
Key dates to remember as Biden and Trump get set for rematch

REUTERS

President Joe Biden and former President Donald Trump are set to face each other in the 2024 presidential election in what is expected to be a divisive and closely fought contest.

Here is a timeline of events related to the Nov. 5 election between now and Inauguration Day in January 2025.

- April 2: Primaries held in Connecticut, New York, Rhode Island and Wisconsin. Republicans also vote in Delaware.
- April 13: Democrats vote in Alaska and Wyoming nominating contests.
- April 20: Republicans vote in Wyoming caucuses.
- April 21: Republicans vote in Puerto Rico primary.
- April 23: Republicans and Democrats vote in Pennsylvania primaries.
- April 28: Democrats vote in Puerto Rico primary.
- May 7: Republicans and Democrats vote in Indiana primaries.
- May 14: Maryland, Nebraska and West Virginia hold their primaries.
- May 21: Republicans and Democrats vote in Kentucky and Oregon primaries.



Donald Trump and Joe Biden are set to face each other again in the presidential election this fall.
THE TENNESSEAN FILE

- May 23: Democrats vote in Idaho caucuses.
- June 4: Democrats and Republicans vote in their primaries in Montana, New Jersey, New Mexico and South Dakota. Democrats also vote in the District of Columbia.
- June 8: Guam and U.S. Virgin Islands hold Democratic nominating contests.
- July 15-18: Republican National Convention in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where the party formally chooses its candidate.
- Aug. 19-22: Democratic National Convention in Chicago, where the party formally chooses its candidate.
- Sept. 16: The date set by the Commission on Presidential Debates for the first presidential debate to take place. It is to be held at Texas State University in San Marcos, Texas.
- Sept. 25: The date set for the only vice presidential debate, to be held at Lafayette College in Easton, Pennsylvania.
- Oct. 1: The date set for the second presidential debate, to be held at Virginia State University in Petersburg, Virginia.
- Oct. 9: The date set for the third and final presidential debate, to be held at the University of Utah in Salt Lake City.
- Nov. 5: Election Day
- Later in November: It could take days for the election result to be known, especially if it is close and mail-in ballots are a factor.
- Jan. 6, 2025: The vice president presides over the Electoral College vote count at a joint session of Congress, announces the results and declares who has been elected.

Ahead of the count on Jan. 6, 2021, then-President Trump lambasted his vice president, Mike Pence, for refusing to try to prevent Congress from certifying Biden's win. On that day, the U.S. Capitol was attacked by rioters and some people chanted, "hang Mike Pence" as they tried to stop the count. Both chambers of Congress later resumed their work and certified Biden's win.

Congress has since passed the Electoral Count Reform and Presidential Transition Improvement Act of 2022, which requires approval of one-fifth of the House and Senate to consider a challenge to a state's results – a much higher bar than existed before, when any single lawmaker from each chamber could trigger a challenge.

- Jan. 20, 2025: The inauguration of the election winner and their vice president takes place. At this ceremony, the victor is officially sworn in and takes office.

ANALYSIS



North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, left, and Russian President Vladimir Putin met in Russia last year. Both Moscow and Pyongyang have denied arms deals, but have vowed to deepen military relations. KOREAN CENTRAL NEWS AGENCY VIA REUTERS

Russian veto points to 'grim future' for sanctioning NKorea

Deepening ties between 2 countries underlined

Josh Smith REUTERS

SEOUL – Russia's move to effectively disband the panel of experts monitoring long-standing United Nations sanctions against North Korea points to a "grim future" for the sanctions enforcement, three former members of the panel told Reuters.

Russia vetoed the annual renewal of the multinational panel of experts on Thursday, which has spent 15 years monitoring U.N. sanctions against North Korea over its nuclear weapons and ballistic missile programs.

China, North Korea's only military ally and its largest trading partner, abstained. Beijing and Moscow have denied breaking sanctions but have blocked new measures at the UN Security Council and advocated lifting some existing sanctions on North Korea, blaming the West and its allies for exacerbating tensions.

Diplomats said it appeared unlikely there would be another vote to try to renew the mandate before it expires on April 30.

The veto highlights a rare diplomatic dividend for Pyongyang and underlines its deepening ties with Moscow, which have included unprecedented shipments of ballistic missiles and ammunition for the war in Ukraine as well as possible fuel supplies for North Korea, according to U.S. and South Korean officials and independent analysts.

Both Moscow and Pyongyang have denied arms deals, but have vowed to deepen military relations and Russia's spy chief visited North Korea last week to vow a united front against "attempts to increase pressure from external forces."

The vote was significant and represents a major turning point in the international sanctions regime against North Korea, said Aaron Arnold, a former member of the panel who now works as a sanctions expert at Britain's Royal United Services Institute.

"Russia's vote, along with its blatant violation of sanctions by buying conventional arms from North Korea, yearslong history of ignoring their obligations, and at least tacit support from China suggest that the future is grim for the DPRK sanctions regime," he said, using the initials of North Korea's official name, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Russia's U.N. Ambassador Vassily Nebenzia criticized the experts' work, saying that its reports had been reduced to "playing into the hands of Western approaches, reprinting biased information and analyzing newspaper headlines and poor quality photos."

Even the panel's backers acknowledge that its work was increasingly constrained, but blamed it on Chinese and Russian members blocking or obfuscating unfavorable findings.

"The latest report is very interesting, because although it goes into some useful detail on finance and on overseas workers, China is barely mentioned," said one former senior member who asked not to be named because of diplomatic sensitivities. "If you're talking about breaching the sanctions, and not mentioning China, that's not really a terribly accurate reflection of what is really going on."

While the panel reports looked like a comprehensive summary, they were more like a small part of a larger puzzle, often with some of the most important pieces left out, the former member said.

The end of the panel could lead to more trilateral cooperation among Washington, Seoul and Tokyo, and more evidence of sanctions violations could be released to the public since the restraining influence Russia and China had over headline-generating reports will be gone with the U.N. panel of experts, said Leif-Eric Easley, a professor at Ewha University in Seoul.

Because global banks and insurance companies have come to rely on independent reports to freeze and close accounts associated with North Korean overseas sanctions evasion networks, continued reporting mechanisms will be found, said Hugh Griffiths, former head of the panel and now a sanctions consultant. Griffiths said the veto suggests Russia does not want its illegal procurement of North Korean ballistic missiles and conventional artillery munitions to be reported by a U.N. Security Council body.

The vote illustrates how strong the ties between Russia-North Korea have become, said Jenny Town of 38 North, a Washington-based North Korea monitoring program.

"It underscores that no new sanctions at the U.N. Security Council level should be expected in the current geopolitical environment, and the bigger burden on states now to handle sanctions monitoring efforts," she said.

The United States and South Korea launched a new task force this week aimed at preventing North Korea from procuring illicit oil, particularly from Russia. The two countries also imposed unilateral sanctions on individuals and entities based in Russia, China and the United Arab Emirates, accusing them of channeling funds to Pyongyang's weapons programs.

Canada accused Chinese jets of "recklessly" harassing its surveillance planes taking part in an U.N. operation to enforce sanctions against North Korea. Beijing called the Canadian flights "provocative."

Tajikistan says migrants fleeing Russia after concert hall attack

Elena Fabrichnaya
REUTERS

MOSCOW – There has been a surge of migrant workers leaving Russia for Tajikistan after a March 22 concert hall attack near Moscow which left dozens dead, according to Tajikistan's Ministry of Labor, Migration and Employment.

Gunmen opened fire with automatic weapons at concertgoers over a week ago in the worst attack in Russia in two decades which left at least 144 people dead.

Four of the suspected gunmen are Tajik citizens and were arrested along with seven other suspects, some of whom also come from the ex-Soviet Central Asian nation.

"We receive a lot of calls. These are most likely not complaints about harassment, but fear of our citizens, panic, many want to leave. We are now monitoring the situation, we have more people coming (to Tajikistan) than leaving," Shakhnoza Nodiri, deputy head of the ministry, was quoted by Russian state news agency TASS as saying.

Tajikistan detained nine people this week suspected of having links to the mass shooting and also to the militant Islamist State group that claimed responsibility, a Tajik security source told Reuters.

A labor shortage in Russia's economy may become even worse due to the outflow of migrant workers, with a deficit in the construction industry growing by 36% this year compared to 2022, Anton Glushkov, president of the National Association of Builders (NOSTROY), told Interfax news agency on Friday.

The Russian Central Bank has said that staff shortages and resulting jump in wages were among risks to inflation that have compelled it to keep the key interest rate elevated.

Tajikistan's labor ministry expects that the outflow of migrants from Russia will be temporary.

According to the ministry's website, 652,014 labor migrants left the country in 2023 compared to 775,578 in 2022.

A labor shortage in Russia's economy may become even worse due to the outflow of migrant workers, with a deficit in the construction industry growing by 36% this year compared to 2022, the president of the National Association of Builders said Friday.

Ukraine power plant repairs could take 18 months

Energy firm's plants endure repeated Russian attacks

Maria Starkova
REUTERS

KYIV – The head of Ukraine's largest private energy firm, DTEK, said on Saturday that five of its six plants had been damaged or destroyed with 80% of its generating capacity lost after two weeks of Russian attacks and that repairs could take up to 18 months.

Russian missile and drone attacks hit thermal and hydro power plants in central and western Ukraine overnight on Friday.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, in his nightly video address on Saturday, said Russia was carrying out "vile strikes" designed to cause the "bleeding" of Ukrainian energy.

"America, Europe, our other partners, everyone knows what we need," he said. "Everyone knows how important it is right now to help us protect ourselves from these strikes."

DTEK, which meets about a quarter of the country's needs, has seen its thermal power stations and other facilities repeatedly hit by Russian missiles, drones and artillery in more than two years of war.



Ukrainian service members of the 37th Marine Brigade fire a self-propelled howitzer toward Russian troops in Southern Ukraine on Saturday.
IVAN ANTYPENKO/REUTERS

DTEK Executive Director Dmytro Sakharuk said in remarks shown on national television that waves of attacks on March 22 and March 29 had hit thermal and hydro production "in almost all regions" and that distribution facilities were destroyed.

"To be specific, five out of six of our stations were severely damaged, some units were destroyed, some were damaged by 50% or more," he said.

"This applies to both the western regions and the central regions, and both the equipment necessary for the production of electricity and for transmission from the station to the grid were damaged," he said.

His company suffered losses amounting to $300 million for equipment alone, he said, while labor costs would require as much as half as much again.

"We have determined that 80% of the available generating capacity is not working now," he added.

A senior official at the Centrenergo generating company said the 10-unit Zmiivska thermal plant in northeastern Kharkiv region had been destroyed in the March 22 attacks.

DTEK spent $110 million restoring 10 blocks hit by Russian attacks last year, Sakharuk said, with two-thirds of those now destroyed again.

It will require months of repairs, he said, and in some cases as long as a year and half.

"It takes time to manufacture a turbine or a generator or a transformer, so you need be prepared for the fact that the power will return gradually," he said.

Chinese firms' ability to raise funds in limbo amid scrutiny

IPO market plunges as some turn offshore

Samuel Shen and Kane Wu
REUTERS



The sharp plunge in Chinese IPOs comes against the backdrop of a stock market rout at the beginning of the year after mainland shares lagged global stocks for three years, and deflation at levels unseen since the financial crisis of 2008-09.
FLORENCE LO/REUTERS FILE

SHANGHAI/HONG KONG – Chinese companies are staring at the prospects of a drought of new equity capital as tougher domestic IPO rules and challenges in listing overseas severely curb their fundraisings, putting at risk the floundering economy's recovery.

China's securities watchdog has sharply tightened scrutiny of IPOs this year, leading to companies scrapping domestic listing plans in droves, with some turning to offshore markets such as Hong Kong and New York.

However, sharper scrutiny of IPO hopefuls in the U.S. amid geopolitical tensions and a weaker Hong Kong market will stymie offshore listings for many, highlighted by Alibaba's move last week to ditch the Hong Kong IPO plan of its logistics unit.

During January-March 2024, money raised via China IPOs plunged two-thirds from a year ago to just $2.4 billion, the smallest quarterly fundraising since the fourth quarter of 2018, and down 82% from a year earlier, preliminary LSEG data showed.

The sudden freeze of an IPO market that was the world's biggest in 2023 and 2022 comes after the securities watchdog, under new chairman Wu Qing, vowed to step up scrutiny of listing candidates and crack down on any lapses.

The IPO tightening "would make it increasingly difficult for small companies to raise capital" and for private equity investment to exit, said Andrew Qian, CEO of Shanghai-based investment and advisory firm New Access Capital.

"IPOs in China will become scarce resources," said Qian, who is now helping some companies list on Nasdaq instead.

For venture capitalists, the difficulty to exit will, in turn, lead to difficulty in fundraising, and "it would be increasingly challenging to invest in early-stage, small, hi-tech companies," Qian said.

These are the kinds of companies that are the crucial drivers of economic growth and employment in China.

The sharp plunge in IPOs comes against the backdrop of a stock market rout at the beginning of the year after mainland shares lagged global stocks for three years, and deflation at levels unseen since the global financial crisis of 2008-09.

Raising debt and private capital is tough too for small-sized companies, mainly technology startups, due to their early-stage business models and weaker credit profile. This is likely to leave some with little choice other than to rein in growth plans and cut costs.

"When the economy is slowing, you should make use of the capital markets to help companies wade through difficulties as soon as possible," said Yang Chongyi, a financial adviser who helps Chinese companies list overseas.

So far this year, though, the Shanghai and Shenzhen stock exchanges have accepted zero IPO applications.

Tighter scrutiny

China this month unveiled a set of rules to tighten scrutiny over IPOs, public companies and underwriters. In addition, it curbed IPOs also to reduce equity supply and ease selling pressure in a wobbly secondary market.

With the tighter scrutiny and shrinking liquidity triggering uncertainty about domestic listings, many companies are giving up hopes to list – more than 80 IPO candidates in China have terminated their plans to list at home so far this year.

Companies and underwriters "dare not" apply now as "once you hand in your application, you become vulnerable to punishment for fraud or negligence as regulators start poring over the materials," said a banker on condition of anonymity.

The banker said he is advising some clients to go offshore.

So far this year, 38 Chinese companies have applied to list overseas, according data from the China Securities Regulatory Commission (CSRC), which vets such share sales under a one-year-old filing system.

Five of them, including Kepuni Holdings and Huajin (China) Holdings Ltd, are aiming for a U.S. listing, while the rest are eyeing Hong Kong.

"There's more certainty in Hong Kong's stock market. Or put it another way, there are very clear rules in that market," said Tang Jinghua, chairman of Shanghai Voicecomm Information Technology Co, which got CSRC's nod this month.

Tang said the company will still seek a mainland listing in future.

Jiangsu Guofu Hydrogen Energy Equipment Co, another Chinese company seeking a Hong Kong listing, said it scrapped a plan to list in Shanghai "considering the uncertainty of the overall vetting process" according to an exchange filing on March 20.

Sino-U.S. tensions and weaker Hong Kong markets are, however, not going to make offshore listing easier – Alibaba dropped plans to list its Cainiao unit in Hong Kong citing dour "overall environment for doing capital markets" deals.

Chinese firms also need to go through a regulatory approval process, kicked off last April, to list offshore.

"In the next few years, the chance of a domestic IPO is slim for Chinese startups," said a Shanghai-based executive at a Chinese private equity firm, who declined to be named as he was not authorized to speak to the media.

Tapping capital offshore is also difficult as "the Hong Kong market is relatively small and illiquid, while listing in the U.S. won't become mainstream due to geopolitical factors. The upcoming U.S. election is another source of uncertainty," the executive added.

Peruvian president rules out resignation amid Rolex inquiry, police raid on home

Marco Aquino REUTERS



Peruvian President Dina Boluarte, in office since late 2022, has acknowledged that she owns Rolex watches. LUIS IPARRAGUIRRE/PERU PRESIDENCY VIA REUTERS

LIMA, Peru – Peruvian President Dina Boluarte on Saturday said she would not resign after her house was raided as part of inquiries into possible illicit enrichment and failure to declare ownership of luxury watches.

Some 20 officials from the public prosecutor's office and 20 police officers raided Boluarte's house on Friday night, and the palace on Saturday morning.

"I took office with clean hands and thus I will retire from the presidency in 2026," she said at a press conference, calling the raids a "disproportionate" measure and "abusive."

Boluarte's house is located in the Lima district of Surquillo, a few miles from the palace where she works.

"Personnel from the palace provided all the facilities for the diligence requested," the presidency said on social media platform X, adding that it was carried out "normally and without any incident."

However, Peruvian Prime Minister Gustavo Adrianzen also criticized the raids.

"The political noise that is being made is serious, affecting investments and the entire country," he wrote on X. "What has happened in the last few hours is disproportionate and unconstitutional actions."

Two weeks ago, prosecutors began preliminary inquiries following a media report by internet program La-Encerrona that the president possessed several Rolex watches.

The inquiry intended to establish whether there were grounds for a formal investigation of the president.

Boluarte, in office since December 2022, has acknowledged that she owns Rolex watches, which she said she had bought with money she earned since she was young. The prosecutor's office had tried unsuccessfully last Wednesday to conduct a check of the watches at Boluarte's office, but her lawyers said there was a clash of diary appointments and sought to reschedule the appointment.

The inquiry into Boluarte is the latest in a long history of probes into Peruvian presidents and senior officials.



Officials from the public prosecutor's office and police officers raided the Government Palace in Lima, Peru, on Saturday morning.
SEBASTIAN CASTANEDA/REUTERS

IN BRIEF

Ecuador captures leader from infamous Los Lobos gang

QUITO – Ecuadorean authorities on Saturday said they had captured a leader of a powerful gang, Los Lobos, which has been accused of involvement in the assassination of the country's anti-corruption presidential candidate last August.

Ecuador has been struggling to bring violence under control amid a 90-day state of emergency declared to tackle 22 gangs, including Los Lobos, which are considered terrorist groups.

During the capture of a man known under the alias of Vicente, authorities said two alleged criminals were injured.

Soldiers also made 12 arrests and confiscated $200,000 as well as different types of arms and ammunition, and explosives.

Last month, the attorney general's office said five suspects accused of involvement in the assassination of presidential candidate Fernando Villavicencio, who was gunned down in Quito ahead of the election, would go on trial.

Two leaders of Los Lobos who have been accused of planning the assassination of Villavicencio have already been jailed.

Villavicencio, a former legislator and crusading journalist, was shot while leaving a campaign event, becoming the most prominent victim of the country's spiking violence.

Canada to train Caribbean troops for Haiti mission

OTTAWA – Canada has sent around 70 soldiers to Jamaica to train troops from Caribbean nations who are due to take part in a U.N.-authorized mission to Haiti, the Canadian defense ministry said on Saturday.

Kenya announced last year it would lead the force, which is designed to help national police fight powerful gangs in Haiti where spiraling violence has fueled a humanitarian disaster. The initiative has been tied up in Kenyan court challenges ever since, effectively putting the mission on hold.

The Canadian troops, from the predominantly French-speaking province of Quebec, will provide training on core peace-keeping skills and combat first aid, the defense ministry said in a statement. French is one of Haiti's two official languages.

The troops are due to stay in Jamaica for an initial period of a month and will train around 330 troops from Jamaica, Belize and the Bahamas.

Malaysia arrests 3 suspected of supplying Israeli man with arms

KUALA LUMPUR – Malaysian authorities have arrested three people suspected of supplying firearms to a 36-year-old man carrying an Israeli passport, who was detained this week at a hotel in Kuala Lumpur, police said on Saturday.

The man, arrested with a bag containing six handguns and 200 bullets, had arrived at Kuala Lumpur International Airport from the United Arab Emirates on March 12 using what authorities believed to be a fake French passport, Inspector-General of Police Razarudin Husain told a press conference late on Friday.

The suspect turned over an Israeli passport upon questioning by police, Razarudin said, adding that the man, who has not been publicly identified, had ordered the weapons after arriving in Malaysia and paid for them with cryptocurrency.

Malaysia and Israel do not have diplomatic relations.

Police did not rule out the possibility that the man could be a member of Israeli intelligence, though the suspect told authorities he had entered Malaysia to hunt down another Israeli citizen due to a family dispute.

"We do not fully trust this narrative as we suspect there may be another agenda," Razarudin said, adding that the man had stayed at several hotels while in Malaysia.

Three Malaysians, including a married couple, were arrested on Friday and have been remanded for seven days on suspicion of supplying weapons and acting as a driver to the Israeli suspect, Razarudin told Reuters on Saturday.

Authorities have been put on high alert following the man's arrest, with security beefed up for Malaysia's king, Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim and other high-level figures.

Malaysia, a majority-Muslim country, is a staunch supporter of the Palestinians and has criticized Israel's actions in the war in Gaza. Malaysia is home to around 600 Palestinian refugees, according to the U.N. refugee agency.

Reuters

Diversity

Continued from Page 1NN

currently being heard.

West Point, the U.S. Naval Academy and the Air Force Academy declined to comment on the SFFA court cases. A Pentagon spokesperson said that Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin remains deeply committed to building an officer corps that draws on "the full strength of the American people."

Reuters was granted access to the Air Force Academy for the most sustained reporting on the facility since the early 2000s.

English classes and marching

Journalists visited the campus in Colorado Springs, Colorado, a dozen times over the course of an academic year, interviewing Owens and a fellow African American freshman, Marcus Berrette, as well as eight members of the institution's leadership team in the presence of an academy spokesman.

Their responses on matters of race were complex.

Reuters also spoke to two Black men who entered the academy in 2006 and did not graduate with their class.

Owens and Berrette, both now sophomores, academy officials and the former cadets offered no definitive explanations for the higher drop-out rate among African American cadets. Still, they pointed to what they see as several contributing factors.

Academy officials referenced the small number of Black cadets. Cadets pointed to the importance the academy placed on hierarchy and tradition. Officials and students also mentioned the country's broader legacy of racism and underestimating Black potential.

An academy spokesperson said that the institution is "unsettled" by the higher drop-out rates among African American cadets and is working to combat it by bringing more Black students to campus and committing to their success.

The spokesperson said the academy would continue to consider race among factors for admission, in addition to gender and geography.

The Class of 2026 arrived on a bright June day in 2022. The first of their four years at the academy would involve studying "Contrails," a breast-pocket-size manual of academy lore, and revered Air Force figures such as Jimmy Doolittle, who led the first bombing raids on Tokyo after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

The cadets would also have to get used to wearing uniforms to class and to dorm rooms equipped with racks for M-16 rifles, rendered inoperable, that cadets carry during military games. And marching. So much marching.

That's alongside what freshmen anywhere might have encountered: football games, chemistry tests, English papers.

Owens, born in 2002 in Philadelphia, planned to major in military strategic studies. While he chose the military, Owens said his mother, a nurse, and his father, an IT manager, modeled service and leadership for him at work, church and home.

Berrette, born in 2004 in Fort Myers, Florida, is the son of an Air Force officer. He has wanted to be a pilot since he was 5 years old, when he ran across books about planes at a school book fair. He planned to major in aeronautics.

His passion for flight inspired his mother, Ermita Charles-Berrette, to leave her job as a nurse and sign up for the Air Force too. She joined in 2012 on a leadership track – the academy is not the only way to become an officer – and was recently promoted to major.

As the school year started, Owens and Berrette marched onto a parade ground with the rest of their class to take the academy oath: "I will not lie, steal or cheat nor tolerate among us anyone who does. Furthermore, I resolve to do my duty and to live honorably, so help me God."

Before he came to the academy, Berrette said he spoke to Black alumni who said he would have to work twice as hard as white cadets to gain recognition and could expect harsher punishment if he got into trouble.

But Berrette and Owens never spoke to Reuters of being discouraged.

Bias to outright discrimination

In 1959, five years after its founding, the academy admitted its first Black students, three men in a class of 755. All three were among the 499 graduates of the class of 1963.

By 2008, the year Barack Obama was elected America's first Black president, among the 1,286 students who started at the academy, just 47 were Black, or fewer than 4%.

Daryl Wells, who is Black and was then in his junior year at the academy, recalls a drawing he saw circulated among his fellow cadets during that election season showing a trap baited with watermelon – an old racist trope aimed at Black Americans – and a caption referring to Obama.

He said a white cadet, whom he declined to name, told him: "You weren't supposed to see that."

"I didn't realize how racist it (the academy) was until the advent of Obama," Wells said. "It was probably just a concentrated version of America at large."

Wells, now a Houston real estate agent, said he left the academy at the start of his senior year because of a personal crisis over his realization that he was gay.

He returned to graduate in 2011, a year behind his class, and completed the five years of active-duty military service required of academy graduates in return for free college education.

Wells said the racism he encountered did not influence his decision to leave and would not impact whether he would advise anyone to go.

"That's not how you fix the problem, not by shying away from these places," Wells said. "You have to deal with things in order for the next generation not to have to deal with them."

The academy did not respond to requests for comment on Wells' account of his experiences.

In 2020, nine years after Wells graduated, the Air Force inspector general issued its first report into racial disparities in the service. It found lower than average promotion rates for Black officers across all ranks, and that one in three Black officers did not believe the Air Force provided them the same opportunities to advance as their white peers.

"Thousands of Black service members and civilians reported issues ranging from bias to outright racial discrimination," the inspector general wrote.

An academy spokesperson said the institution trains cadets to report discrimination up the chain of command.

Affirmative action in the military and its academies is part of a charged debate. Lawmakers including Rep. Tom Tiffany, a Wisconsin Republican who has not served in the military, have portrayed such policies, including at military academies, as discriminatory.

"It's pretty simple. If we are serious about ending discrimination in the United States, the first step is for the government to stop doing the discriminating," Tiffany told Reuters in an email.

Rep. Jason Crow, a Colorado Democrat and former Army Ranger, said that while understanding did not hinge on military experience, his own service had taught him the importance of building a military that reflects the country's diversity.

"Usually, people who have served and who know something about national security and military service really do

See DIVERSITY, Page 8NN



Marcus Berrette is seen in his dorm room at the beginning of his second year at the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo., on Sept. 20, 2023. PHOTOS BY KEVIN MOHATT/REUTERS



Tusajigwe Owens hugs Lanae Nembhard, a close friend from his time at the academy's preparatory school, on Acceptance Day on Aug. 5, 2022.



Tusajigwe Owens, left, and Marcus Berrette salute the U.S. flag as it is lowered at the end of the day at the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo., March 21.
PHOTOS BY KEVIN MOHATT/REUTERS

Diversity

Continued from Page 7NN

support this," Crow told Reuters.



Lt. Gen. Richard Clark, superintendent of the Air Force Academy, addresses new appointees before they take an oath to become basic cadets in Colorado Springs, Colo., on June 23, 2022.

Finding inspiration

As classes got underway, Berrette was pleased to find a reading assignment on the Harlem Hellfighters, the Black infantry regiment that spent 191 days in combat during World War I, longer than any other American unit.

In the spring of 2023, Berrette perused the program for an on-campus leadership symposium, noting Eddie S. Glaude Jr., chair of Princeton University's Department of African American Studies, would be speaking about the threat white supremacy poses to democracy.

"It's just always interesting to see how our brothers and sisters made it to the top," Berrette said. "It's not always easy."

During a question-and-answer session which a Reuters reporter attended, a white cadet said some of his classmates were angry at having to take part in Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) workshops. Glaude drew a standing ovation when he counseled cadets to press on, saying leaders have to say, "at some point, 'Shut the hell up and let's go.' "

When Reuters told Joseph Looney, the academy's chief DEI officer, about the white cadet's question to Glaude, Looney said: "That didn't surprise me. We've got that feedback a little bit."

Competition for a place at the academy is intense and usually requires nomination by a state's congressional representative.

Each member of Congress is allowed to nominate up to 10 candidates, and up to five cadets from any district can attend the academy at one time.

Col. Arthur Primas Jr., who until recently served as the academy's director of admissions, said he dispatches diverse recruiters to reach out to high school guidance counselors and visit schools in communities of color. The Supreme Court ruling on race-conscious university admissions did not address recruitment.

"I think the academy does an excellent job now of celebrating those diverse graduates who have gone on to do great things," Primas said, adding that it shows potential students "what is possible."

Gaining entry in the first place

When Owens approached lawmakers in his home state of Pennsylvania for a nomination in 2021, he said he was told he didn't appear ready. Owens had been homeschooled and didn't have a high class ranking or extra-curricular activities. So he enrolled in the academy's on-campus, 10-month prep school, open to anyone whose initial application to the academy is unsuccessful. Democratic Sen. Bob Casey's office confirmed it nominated Owens the following year.

Berrette also attended the prep school, where tuition is free. "They're willing to invest in you to make you completely eligible for the academy," Berrette said.

Enlisted members of the Air Force and other services also can apply to the prep school, allowing the school to tap into a larger pool of minorities. On average, African American students have made up about 28% of the prep school classes since 2014.

While entrance to the academy from the prep school is not ensured, it is "instrumental" for preparing many diverse candidates, Primas said.

Over the past decade, a total of 1,787 prep school graduates have been admitted to the academy. Of those, 396, or 22%, have been African American.

Russell Roberts enrolled at the academy in 2006 planning to study engineering after being recruited to play football, the first in his family to attend a military academy.

He said white cadets, whose names he no longer remembers, often told him that they expected him to fail. When he did well on tests, suspicious white cadets told him they would figure out whether he had cheated and report him if he had.

"There wasn't a single Black cadet that gave me that treatment," he said.

Black upperclassmen instead tried to make first-year cadets feel at home by, for example, cutting their hair, Roberts said, adding that the academy barbers were unaccustomed to cutting Black hair.

"I do feel like some of it (the treatment) was race-related, but I don't want to say it was racist," he said.

Because of his hostile treatment at the academy, Roberts said, he transferred to a school in Texas that had also recruited him to play football. He's now a manager at a big box store in Houston.

The academy did not respond to requests for comment on Roberts' experience. Some days, Owens said, he looks at his fellow cadets and sees "descendants of generals, of individuals who have been in the Air Force for decades."

It's a point of pride for Owens that he is there, too.

"I wasn't born into a family where my dad's name would get me into the right school," Owens said. "I feel like I had actually to earn this."

The academy began reducing the extent to which legacy was taken into account for admissions in 2013 and eliminated it entirely in 2022.

Followership to leadership

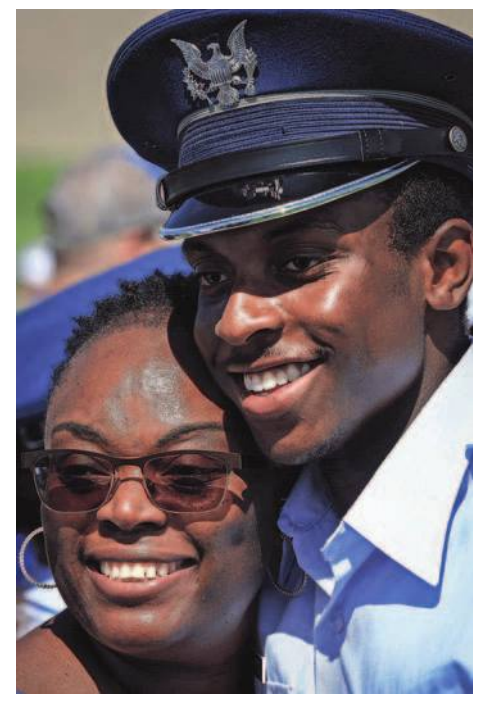
Freshmen cadets are known as Doolies, after World War II hero Doolittle. Some cadets say the name comes from the Greek for slave – doulos. That's an explanation academy leaders say they would like to put behind them.

Cadets in their first year are meant to look to upperclassmen for direction as a step toward one day being leaders themselves.

"It's not easy being a Doolie. I wake up every day thinking, 'I wish I could do more,' " Owens said.

Owens has expressed concern that cadets are too often treated as numbers: their GPA or class rankings that determine who gets coveted assignments such as a place in flight school.

"I was worried I would face racism here," Owens told Reuters. But "I've been talked down to more because of my class rank than because I'm a Black man." At year's end, Owens was named the top cadet among his squad's 26 Doolies, an honor that squad supervisor Lt. Col. Jessica Pratt attributed to the effort Owens put into military training and his dedication to helping others.



Marcus Berrette hugs his mother, Maj. Ermita Charles-Berrette, who serves in the U.S. Air Force, on Acceptance Day at the academy on Aug. 5, 2022.

On May 22, Owens stood in the football stadium with his fellow cadets to salute the graduation speaker – President Joe Biden, their civilian commander in chief.

Biden noted that the Class of 2023 was one of the most diverse in the institution's history.

A third were minorities, according to academy figures.

"That's why we're strong," Biden told the cadets.

"That's why we're who we are."

SPORTS EXTRA

NCAA TOURNAMENT





LEFT: Connecticut coach Dan Hurley reacts with his team while presented with the trophy for winning the NCAA Tournament East Regional on Saturday in Boston. RIGHT: Alabama guard Mark Sears celebrates with the trophy after defeating Clemson to win the West Regional in Los Angeles. USA TODAY SPORTS PHOTOS

KEEP ON ROLLING

Defending champ UConn routs Illinois; Alabama earns 1st Final Four trip

MEN'S EAST REGIONAL

Top-seeded UConn shut down Illinois star Terrence Shannon Jr. and scored the first 25 points of the second half to coast to a 77-52 victory over the third-seeded Fighting Illini in the Elite Eight on Saturday.

MEN'S WEST REGIONAL

Mark Sears shook off a slow start to shoot 7-of-14 from 3-point distance and score 23 points, and No. 4 seed Alabama topped sixth-seeded Clemson 89-82 to earn its first trip to the Final Four.

WOMEN'S ALBANY 2 REGIONAL

Iowa cruised to an 89-68 win over Colorado to set up an Elite Eight date with defending champion LSU, which topped UCLA 78-69.

WOMEN'S PORTLAND 3 REGIONAL

Southern California held off Baylor 74-70, and Connecticut grinded its way to a 53-45 victory over Duke to reach the Elite Eight.

COVERAGE, 6-8NS



Scottie Scheffler drives from the eighth tee during the third round of the Texas Children's Houston Open on Saturday. THOMAS SHEA/USA TODAY SPORTS

GOLF PGA TOUR

5 players share lead at the Houston Open

Cameron Jourdan
GOLFWEEK

HOUSTON - Scottie Scheffler has a chance at history Sunday. The other four players tied for the lead? They could earn their first PGA Tour win.

Some things changed and some things stayed the same Saturday during the third round of the 2024 Texas Children's Houston Open at Memorial Park. Instead of one name on the top of the leaderboard (defending champion Tony Finau), there are now five, including the world No. 1 who has a chance to win his third straight event.

As players tore up the front nine early on a cloudy Saturday, the back nine fought back, including the shortest hole on the course proving the most toughest.

Here are some takeaways from the third round of the Houston Open.

Scheffler 3-peat hopes still alive

Scheffler thought he hit a perfect shot.

Fifteen seconds later, his ball was in the water, and he looked flabbergasted at caddie Ted Scott.

For the second time in as many days, Scheffler had a double bogey, but this one came on the par-3 15th hole (more on that later) instead of the 18th. Nevertheless, as we've become accustomed to seeing with Scheffler, he bounced back in the biggest way.

Scheffler followed his double with birdies at Nos. 16 and 17, and he sits in a five-way tie for the lead at 9-under 201 after a 4-under 66 on Moving Day. His

See HOUSTON OPEN, Page 2NS

GOLF ROUNDUP



Sarah Schmelzel plays her shot from the fourth tee during the third round of the Ford Championship on Saturday. CHRISTIAN PETERSEN/GETTY IMAGES

Schmelzel tied for lead at Ford Championship

Todd Kelly
GOLFWEEK

GILBERT, Ariz. – A variety of LPGA golfers with local ties have been making noise this week at the inaugural Ford Championship in this Phoenix suburb.

On a breezy Saturday, former Arizona State golfer Carlota Ciganda made her move up the leaderboard at Seville Golf and Country Club with a 6-under 66 a round that included two eagles and nearly a third, as her chip on the par-5 18th just missed.

"Very happy with the 6 under," she said. "The wind is really strong. Lots of side winds, and it's just, yeah, it's just hard. I think if you can hit greens it's good shots. There are some holes that are playing downhill and you can take advantage, as well as the par 5s."

Sitting at 15 under, Ciganda already has a number in mind for Sunday, a day that is expected to be 20 degrees cooler than Saturday with a 60 percent chance of rain.

"I think you still need to get to probably 21-, 22-under to win," she said. "Try to get to that number and hopefully that's enough."

Ciganda has two LPGA wins but none since 2016. Local product Sarah Schmelzel, meanwhile, is seeking her first LPGA win.

She opened with a 68, followed that up with 63 and is hanging around the top of the leaderboard after a Saturday 70. She had three back-nine birdies and just missed another on 18 that would've given her the solo 54-hole lead.

"Today was tough," she told Golf Channel after her round. "It was almost like the weather was a like a bit of a distraction. It was tough out there."

So far this season, Schmelzel has a T-8, a solo second and a T-8 in her last three starts. And as for making the Phoenix area this week the time and place for her first LPGA win?

"It's definitely something I have thought about since I was a little kid," she admitted. "It's something that's in the back of my mind, but I gotta stay in the present and if it works out, it works out."

The third member of the three-way tie for the lead is Hyo Joo Kim, who birdied three of her first four holes but then stalled, stringing together 14 straight pars to shoot a 3-under 69. Kim has a major among her six wins. A win this week would give her a fourth straight season with a victory.

PGA Champions

Ricardo Gonzalez of Argentina rocketed up the leaderboard with a course-record 9-under 63 to take a one-stroke lead at the Galleri Classic in Rancho Mirage, Calif.

Seeking his second win of the season, Gonzalez rebounded from a first-round 70 and moved up 25 spots on the leaderboard, one shot ahead of South Africa's Retief Goosen and New Zealand's Steven Alker, who both fired 68s.

— Field Level Media

TENNIS MIAMI OPEN

Collins claims Miami title in farewell season

REUTERS

MIAMI – American Danielle Collins overcame fourth seed Elena Rybakina to win the final of the Miami Open 7-5 6-3 on Saturday and claim the title on home soil in her farewell season.

Collins won nearly 75% of her first-serve points while claiming three of her seven break points on the way to victory in just over two hours after a stunning second set that left the crowd, including former Miami champion Andre Agassi breathless.

"This is my first WTA 1000 (title) and I worked so hard, it has taken me a bit longer than a lot of the other players," said 30-year-old Collins of her triumph.

"This whole week has been tough – I have played against some of the best players in the world, including being out here and sharing the court with Elena in the final," Collins said.

"Thank you to the fans. I've played a lot of tennis and in a few finals, but nothing compares close to this."

Collins, who said in January she would retire from tennis at the end of the season, was the surprise winner at the East Coast tournament, going one step further than her performance at the 2022 Australian Open when she reached the final.

She joins Martina Navratilova, Chris Evert, three-time champion Venus Williams, eight-time winner Serena Williams and Sloane Stephens as the sixth American woman to claim the crown.

The unseeded American relied on her strength to hold the lead at the start, converting break points against Rybakina, who kept levelling the score, before closing out the opening set with a stunning cross-court backhand winner on the hour mark.

Rybakina refused to go quietly after her opponent took a 2-0 lead in the second set and worked her way back, capitalising on unforced errors to draw level at 3-3.

However, the American regained the advantage after saving three break points to take the seventh game with the former Wimbledon champion unable to recover.

Rybakina, who lost last year's Miami final to Petra Kvitova, missed Indian Wells this month with a gastrointestinal problem.

She returned to the courts and put in a superb run, beating Belarusian Victoria Azarenka in three sets in the semi-finals, but admitted she did not expect to fight for the title.

"We didn't expect coming here to be in the final, to be honest, but it was a great two weeks. A lot of tough matches and great battles," the 24-year-old said.



Danielle Collins hits a backhand vs. Elena Rybakina in the women's final of the Miami Open on Saturday in Miami Gardens, Fla. GEOFF BURKE/USA TODAY SPORTS

Houston Open

Continued from Page 1

tee shot landed near the hole on the par-3 before spinning back, through the rough and into the water.

"It's a horrendous break really," Scheffler said. "There's really just nothing else. I hit a great shot and the ball goes in the water. It's not great, but it happens, it's part of the game. So I could really kind of walk up there knowing that I hit a good shot and I just did my best to get it up and down."

Scheffler had eight birdies on Saturday but matched that with two bogeys and a double. Yet the result at the end of the day is the same as it has been plenty in recent weeks, months and years: Scheffler is on top of the leaderboard.

Come Sunday, if he were to win the Houston Open, it would be his third straight win on the PGA Tour. The last person to do so was Dustin Johnson in 2017, and the last person to win three consecutive stroke-play events was Rory McIlroy in 2014.

However, Scheffler isn't relying on what he has done in the past going into Sunday. He's ready for the task ahead.

"Winning the last two doesn't help me do anything tomorrow," Scheffler said. "Yeah, stick to my process. I think it's going to be another pretty challenging day out there with high winds. Stick to my process and control what I can control out there."

Tosti fights through injury

Alejandro Tosti woke up during the night Saturday with a sharp pain in his left shoulder and neck.

He tried to take a shower to loosen the muscles. He rolled a golf ball on the shoulder. Nothing helped.

It's why he seemed to struggle and grab at his shoulder numerous times Saturday during his 2-under 68, an impressive score considering the pain and stiffness affected every shot he hit.



Alejandro Tosti lines up his putt on the ninth green during the third round of the Texas Children's Houston Open on Saturday. THOMAS SHEA/USA TODAY SPORTS

"Just couldn't do my backswing, couldn't complete my backswing so I was just trying to get all the power in my hands which created all the misses left, but I found a way to fight the round and be able to finish under par after that bad start on the second hole," Tosti said. "But I'm happy to have this opportunity for tomorrow."

Tosti, a PGA Tour rookie, is one of the other four co-leaders with Scheffler, along with David Skinns, Stephan Jaegar and Thomas Detry. The common theme between the four? None of them have won on the PGA Tour.

The task ahead? Taking down Memorial Park Golf Course. And likely the world No. 1.

Skinns was a 54-hole co-leader last month at the Cognizant Classic, and he struggled late Sunday after a rain delay before playing strong Monday, but he couldn't recover after a poor start. Tosti finished third on the Korn Ferry Tour standings last year and has the confidence of an adult at a little kid's Easter egg hunt. Detry finished T-4 at the AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am earlier this year, and Jaegar has also put himself into contention, finishing T-3 at the Farmers Insurance Open.

Nick Dunlap rises into contention

Nick Dunlap is slowly starting to get his feet under him.

Sort of.

The 20-year-old Tour rookie, who won as an amateur at the American Express in January, has had a whirlwind two months since turning pro in the middle of his sophomore year at Alabama, where he still resides on off weeks. His golf during the tumultuous time hasn't been the best. But he has started to find his stride.

Dunlap shot a bogey-free 7-under 63 on Saturday to move himself into contention, and a conversation at dinner Friday night helped spark the second-lowest round of the week.

"We were at Cheesecake Factory with (my caddie) Hunter (Hamrick), we were going through the round saying, 'OK, I could do this better, do this better,'" Dunlap said. "All I tried to do today was play perfect with what I had, not necessarily like perfect golf but getting the easy ones up and down, not three-putting. You're not going to make every putt, and you're not going to hit every wedge close, but from where I was trying to play a perfect round of golf and I feel like I did that."

Dunlap was in the first group off Saturday morning, and he set an excellent pace. He's finding his comfort zone as a pro, even if there are still things he's learning.

"It's still new and I still get lost and don't know where to register and don't know where dining is," Dunlap said. "It obviously helps, today played alongside Gary and almost every week playing with either Scottie or Sam (Burns) in practice rounds, just being in their company has helped me."

Finau 'just a little bit off'

Speaking to Golf Channel's Damon Hack after his round, defending Houston Open champion Finau said he was just a little bit off Saturday, even though he was swinging it well.

And a little bit off is enough to fall down a leaderboard.

Finau came into Saturday's round leading by two, but he bogeyed the first hole and added two more before his first birdie of the day at the par-4 13th. A chip-in birdie on the par-4 16th after his approach found the water salvaged a 2-over 72, 10 shots worse than his course record-tying round on Friday.

Of the top 21 players on the leaderboard heading into Sunday's final 18, Finau was the only player to shoot over par.

He sits T-9 heading to Sunday, a chance to defend his title still well in reach. But he'll need more of his Friday play to contend.

NHL

SATURDAY'S ROUNDUP

McDavid nets 2 goals as Oilers rout Ducks

FIELD LEVEL MEDIA

Connor McDavid scored twice and added an assist as the Edmonton Oilers cruised to a 6-1 win over the visiting Anaheim Ducks on Saturday.

The victory gives the Oilers (45-23-4, 94 points) the season series sweep against the Ducks (24-46-4, 52 points) and extends Edmonton's win streak to three games. The Oilers have won seven of their past 10.

Mattias Ekholm scored and had two assists, while Adam Henrique, Warren Foegele and Zach Hyman also scored for the Oilers.



Oilers forward Connor McDavid (97) scores a goal against Anaheim Ducks goaltender John Gibson on Saturday in Edmonton. PERRY NELSON/USA TODAY SPORTS

Rangers 8, Coyotes 5

Chris Kreider snapped a third-period tie with his 300th career goal and Alexis Lafreniere recorded his first career hat trick in New York's victory over host Arizona.

Lafreniere added two assists and Artemi Panarin had a goal and three assists as the Rangers (50-20-4, 104 points) scored five times in the third to win their fifth straight. New York reached 50 wins for the sixth time in team history.

Kreider snapped a 3-3 tie 5:45 into the third with his milestone goal on a deflection of a pass by Lafreniere. Kreider's 35th goal occurred after he had a goal disallowed due to goaltender interference late in the second.

Golden Knights 2, Wild 1, OT

Jonathan Marchessault scored an empty-net goal with 1:30 remaining in overtime to lift Vegas over host Minnesota.

Michael Amadio also scored for Vegas (41-25-8), which increased its season total to 90 points and strengthened its playoff positioning. The Golden Knights improved to 5-0-1 in their past six games.

Kirill Kaprizov scored the lone goal for Minnesota (35-28-10, 80 points). The Wild, in a desperate move to try to gain two points for a playoff push, pulled their goaltender for an extra skater in overtime but the strategy backfired with an empty-net goal.

Panthers 3, Red Wings 2, SO

Aleksander Barkov scored twice in the final eight minutes of regulation, helping Florida rally to a shootout win over visiting Detroit.

Florida's Sam Reinhart had the only goal in a three-round shootout.

Red Wings goalie Alex Lyon, who was Florida's backup last season, was spectacular before falling short in the end. Lyon, who has lost 10 straight games, finished with 36 saves and two more in the shootout.

Bruins 3, Capitals 2, SO

Kevin Shattenkirk tallied the game-winning goal in the fifth round of a shootout as Boston edged host Washington.

Boston (43-17-15, 101 points) killed off Hampus Lindholm's four-minute double-minor for a high stick to the face of Washington's T.J. Oshie in overtime before breaking a skid of three losses in four games.

Hampus Lindholm and John Beecher also scored while Jeremy Swayman made 18 saves for the Bruins.

Avalanche 7, Predators 4

Nathan MacKinnon had two goals and two assists, Cale Makar had a goal and two assists, and Colorado clinched a playoff spot with a win over visiting Nashville.

Jonathan Drouin had a goal and an assist, Yakov Trenin scored against his former team, Artturi Lehkonen and Casey Mittlestadt had goals and Mikko Rantanen had three assists for Colorado (47-21-6, 100 points).

MacKinnon leads the NHL with 127 points and Rantanen reached 100 points.

Blackhawks 5, Flyers 1

Lukas Reichel, Philipp Kurashev, and Joey Anderson each had a goal and assist and Arvid Soderblom made 30 saves to boost visiting Chicago to a win against slumping Philadelphia.

Chicago has won six of its past 10 games, including three of the last four. While five victories during that stretch are against clubs in the bottom five of the Western Conference, the Blackhawks' latest triumph came at the expense of an East playoff contender.

Philadelphia (36-29-10, 82 points) held that distinction despite four straight losses, the team's third skid of at least four games this season. The Flyers entered one point ahead of the Capitals for the third guaranteed playoff spot in the Metropolitan Division.

Sharks 4, Blues 0

Mackenzie Blackwood made 36 saves for his 10th career shutout as visiting San Jose blanked St. Louis to snap its nine-game losing streak.

Filip Zadina, Mikael Granlund, Luke Kunin and Jan Ruuta scored for the Sharks, who won for just the second time in their last 20 games.

Joel Hofer made 16 saves for the Blues.

Blue Jackets 4, Penguins 3, SO

Damon Severson, the ninth shooter, deked and scored on a backhander as Columbus broke a six-game losing streak with a shootout win over visiting Pittsburgh.

Alexandre Texier for Columbus and Sidney Crosby for Pittsburgh also scored in the shootout.

Zach Werenski had a goal and an assist and Mathieu Olivier and Kirill Marchenko also scored for the Blue Jackets (24-38-12, 60 points).

Lightning 4, Islanders 1

Anthony Cirelli notched two goals and an assist as Tampa Bay extended its point streak to nine games in a win over visiting New York.

Steven Stamkos potted his 545th career marker, moving him past Maurice Richard and into 32nd in all-time goals.

Darren Raddysh found the net, and Brandon Hagel set a career high with 66 points in a season with two assists. Goaltender Andrei Vasilevskiy made 27 saves in his 28th win.

Hurricanes 3, Canadiens 0

Pyotr Kochetkov made 26 saves and Carolina reached another milestone while winning without an even-strength goal, defeating host Montreal.

Jordan Staal, Sebastian Aho and Seth Jarvis scored for the Hurricanes, while Jake Guentzel posted two assists. Jarvis and Aho also each added an assist as Carolina eclipsed the 100-point mark heading into a three-game homestand.

The Hurricanes (47-21-7, 101 points) have points in nine of their past 10 games.

Maple Leafs 3, Sabres 0

Auston Matthews scored his NHL-leading 60th goal of the season and Ilya Samsonov made 34 saves for his third shutout of the season, leading visiting Toronto over Buffalo.

Matthews, alone by the left side of the crease, tapped in a rebound of a Conor Timmons shot into an open net with 5:37 remaining to increase Toronto's lead to 3-0. The goal tied his career high and equaled the franchise record he set in 2021-22. Matthews became just the ninth player in NHL history with multiple 60-goal seasons.

John Taveras and Nicholas Robertson also scored and Conor Timmins added two assists for Toronto (42-22-9, 93 points), which maintained a four-point lead over the Tampa Bay Lightning for third place in the Atlantic Division.

Stars 3, Kraken 0

Roope Hintz had a goal and Jake Oettinger made 17 saves for his second shutout of the season as Western Conference-leading Dallas defeated host Seattle for its season-high seventh consecutive victory.

Wyatt Johnston and Joe Pavelski also scored for the Stars (47-19-9, 103 points), who are one point behind the New York Rangers in the chase for the Presidents' Trophy, which goes to the team with the NHL's best regular-season record and includes home-ice advantage throughout the Stanley Cup playoffs.

Flames 4, Kings 2

Nazem Kadri collected one goal and one assist as host Calgary snapped a five-game losing skid with a victory over Los Angeles.

Martin Pospisil, Blake Coleman and MacKenzie Weegar also scored for the Flames (34-34-5, 73 points), while Andrei Kuzmenko and Yegor Sharangovich both posted a pair of assists and goaltender Jacob Markstrom made 16 saves.

SATURDAY'S SUMMARIES

Colorado 7, Nashville 4

Nashville	3	1	0	4
Colorado	2	3	2	7

First Period–1, Nashville, Smith 9 (Nyquist, McCarron), 3:41. 1, Colorado, Drouin 15 (MacKinnon, Rantanen), 5:25. 1, Nashville, Jankowski 6 (Novak), 13:02. 1, Nashville, Fabbro 3 (Zucker, Sherwood), 13:43. 1, Colorado, Mittelstadt 18 (MacKinnon, Makar), 16:11. Penalties–MacKinnon, COL (Goaltender Interference), 9:16. Wood, COL (Tripping), 10:08. O'Reilly, NSH (Hooking), 10:34. Sherwood, NSH (Slashing), 15:54.
Second Period–1, Nashville, Nyquist 22 (Stastney, Forsberg), 0:57. 1, Colorado, Lehkonen 13 (Makar, Drouin), 5:43. 1, Colorado, Makar 19 (Rantanen, Parise), 18:25. 1, Colorado, Trenin 12, 19:31. Penalties–Georgiev, COL (Unsportsmanlike Conduct), 0:57. McDonagh, NSH (Illegal Check to the Head Major), 3:11. McDonagh, NSH (Game Misconduct), 3:11. Wood, COL (Slashing), 14:34. Sissons, NSH (Hooking), 16:44.
Third Period–1, Colorado, MacKinnon 46 (Manson, Toews), 3:38. 2, Colorado, MacKinnon 47 (Rantanen), 16:10. Penalties–Schenn, NSH (Hooking), 6:54. Lehkonen, COL (Slashing), 18:06.
Shots on Goal–Nashville 12-14-9–35. Colorado 16-12-14–42.
Power-play opportunities–Nashville 0 of 5; Colorado 3 of 6.
Goalies–Nashville, Lankinen 10-5-0 (41 shots-35 saves). Colorado, Annunen 6-3-1 (22-22), Georgiev (13-9).

Dallas 3, Seattle 0

Dallas	0	1	2	3
Seattle	0	0	0	0

First Period–None. Penalties–None.
Second Period–1, Dallas, Johnston 29 (Lundkvist, Stankoven), 18:12. Penalties–Smith, DAL (Tripping), 13:25.
Third Period–1, Dallas, Pavelski 26 (Hintz, Heiskanen), 0:28. 1, Dallas, Hintz 28 (Johnston, Lindell), 18:43. Penalties–Larsson, SEA (Elbowing Major), 0:19. Larsson, SEA (Game Misconduct), 0:19. Harley, DAL (Tripping), 13:41.
Shots on Goal–Dallas 11-9-10–30. Seattle 3-8-7–18.
Power-play opportunities–Dallas 1 of 2; Seattle 0 of 2.
Goalies–Dallas, Oettinger 30-13-4 (18 shots-18 saves). Seattle, Grubauer (0-0), Daccord 18-16-11 (29-27).

Edmonton 6, Anaheim 1

Anaheim	0	0	1	1
Edmonton	3	2	1	6

First Period–1, Edmonton, Henrique 22 (Draisaitl, Ekholm), 3:47. 1, Edmonton, McDavid 28 (Hyman), 14:15. 1, Edmonton, Ekholm 8 (Carrick, Desharnais), 16:16. Penalties–Silfverberg, ANH (Hooking), 5:45. Perry, EDM (Holding), 11:43.
Second Period–2, Edmonton, McDavid 29 (Draisaitl, Bouchard), 9:28. 1, Edmonton, Foegele 17 (Ekholm, Desharnais), 15:57. Penalties–Leason, ANH (High-sticking), 8:20.
Third Period–1, Edmonton, Hyman 52 (McDavid, Bouchard), 7:06. 1, Anaheim, Killorn 15 (Fowler, Vatrano), 15:42. Penalties–Lagesson, ANH (Hooking), 1:37. Henrique, EDM (Slashing), 15:09.
Shots on Goal–Anaheim 8-11-3–22. Edmonton 13-12-12–37.
Power-play opportunities–Anaheim 1 of 2; Edmonton 1 of 3.
Goalies–Anaheim, Gibson 13-26-2 (37 shots-31 saves). Edmonton, Pickard 11-5-0 (22-21).
A–18,347 (18,347).

Toronto 3, Buffalo 0

Toronto	1	1	1	3
Buffalo	0	0	0	0

First Period–1, Toronto, Tavares 24 (Nylander, Timmins), 4:58. Penalties–Dewar, TOR (Holding), 6:33. Dewar, TOR (Delay of Game), 8:47. Clifton, BUF (Interference), 17:11.
Second Period–1, Toronto, Robertson 11 (Knies), 2:34. Penalties–Benson, BUF (Tripping), 4:55. Matthews, TOR (Hooking), 9:19. McCabe, TOR (Delay of Game), 14:28.
Third Period–1, Toronto, Matthews 60 (Timmins), 14:23. Penalties–Benoit, TOR (Interference), 5:42. Skinner, BUF (High-sticking), 7:44. McCabe, TOR (Hooking), 16:13. Giordano, TOR (Misconduct), 19:04. Brodie, TOR (Misconduct), 19:04. Bertuzzi, TOR (Misconduct), 19:04. Matthews, TOR (Misconduct), 19:04. McMann, TOR (Misconduct), 19:04. Dahlin, BUF (Boarding), 19:04. Dahlin, BUF (Misconduct), 19:04. Tuch, BUF (Misconduct), 19:04. Greenway, BUF (Misconduct), 19:04. Thompson, BUF (Misconduct), 19:04. Peterka, BUF (Misconduct), 19:04. Power, BUF (Misconduct), 19:04. Cozens, BUF (Slashing), 20:00.
Shots on Goal–Toronto 8-6-8–22. Buffalo 10-8-16–34.
Power-play opportunities–Toronto 0 of 4; Buffalo 0 of 6.
Goalies–Toronto, Samsonov 20-6-7 (34 shots-34 saves). Buffalo, Luukkonen 24-20-3 (22-19).
A–19,070 (19,070).

San Jose 4, St. Louis 0

San Jose	0	3	1	4
St. Louis	0	0	0	0

First Period–None. Penalties–None.
Second Period–1, San Jose, Zadina 13, 8:30. 1, San Jose, Granlund 12 (Zetterlund, Eklund), 12:05. 1, San Jose, Kunin 9, 17:58. Penalties–Kostin, SJ (Slashing), 4:30. Neighbours, STL (Interference), 5:10. Faulk, STL (Delay of Game), 8:57. Kapanen, STL (Tripping), 13:38.
Third Period–1, San Jose, Rutta 4 (Sturm), 16:47. Penalties–Granlund, SJ (Holding), 12:23.
Shots on Goal–San Jose 3-12-5–20. St. Louis 11-3-23–37.
Power-play opportunities–San Jose 0 of 3; St. Louis 0 of 2.
Goalies–San Jose, Blackwood 10-21-3 (37 shots-37 saves). St. Louis, Hofer 13-12-0 (19-16).
A–18,096 (19,150).

Ottawa 3, Winnipeg 2

Ottawa	0	2	1	3
Winnipeg	0	1	1	2

First Period–None. Penalties–Namestnikov, WPG (Delay of Game), 4:16. Chychrun, OTT (Holding), 6:54. Pionk, WPG (Slashing), 8:45. Namestnikov, WPG (Interference), 18:38.
Second Period–1, Winnipeg, Ehlers 22 (Monahan, DeMelo), 1:58. 1, Ottawa, Katchouk 7 (Brannstrom, Kastelic), 3:39. 1, Ottawa, Greig 12 (Tkachuk, Batherson), 13:25. Penalties–Schmidt, WPG (Hooking), 17:33.
Third Period–1, Winnipeg, Scheifele 23 (Connor, Morrissey), 9:48. 1, Ottawa, Tkachuk 33 (Stuetzle, Sanderson), 18:15. Penalties–Sanderson, OTT (Holding), 2:41. Greig, OTT (Hooking), 8:54. Dillon, WPG (High-sticking), 17:19. Zub, OTT (Slashing), 19:00. Kleven, OTT (High-sticking), 19:55.
Shots on Goal–Ottawa 6-9-12–27. Winnipeg 4-11-15–30.
Power-play opportunities–Ottawa 1 of 6; Winnipeg 1 of 5.
Goalies–Ottawa, Korpisalo 19-21-4 (30 shots-28 saves). Winnipeg, Hellebuyck 32-19-4 (27-24).

N.Y. Rangers 8, Arizona 5

N.Y. Rangers	1	2	5	8
Arizona	0	3	2	5

First Period–1, N.Y. Rangers, Lafreniere 23 (Panarin, Lindgren), 14:15. Penalties–Goodrow, NYR (High-sticking), 15:43.
Second Period–1, N.Y. Rangers, Lindgren 3 (Fox, Lafreniere), 1:59. 1, Arizona, Maccelli 14 (McBain, Doan), 6:27. 2, N.Y. Rangers, Lafreniere 24 (Trocheck, Panarin), 6:45. 1, Arizona, Keller 32 (Schmaltz), 11:06. 1, Arizona, Bjugstad 21 (Schmaltz), 19:18. Penalties–None.
Third Period–1, N.Y. Rangers, Kreider 35 (Roslovic, Lindgren), 5:45. 1, N.Y. Rangers, Jones 2 (Lafreniere, Panarin), 7:16. 1, N.Y. Rangers, Goodrow 2, 9:33. 1, Arizona, Crouse 21 (Cooley, Bjugstad), 12:21. 1, Arizona, Cooley 17 (Valimaki, Maccelli), 14:26. 1, N.Y. Rangers, Panarin 44 (Kakko), 17:35. 3, N.Y. Rangers, Lafreniere 25 (Trocheck, Fox), 19:45. Penalties–Lindgren, NYR (Hooking), 8:03. Jones, NYR (Delay of Game), 10:50.
Shots on Goal–N.Y. Rangers 12-8-12–32. Arizona 11-11-10–32.
Power-play opportunities–N.Y. Rangers 0 of 0; Arizona 1 of 3.
Goalies–N.Y. Rangers, Quick 17-5-2 (32 shots-27 saves). Arizona, Vejmelka 11-18-2 (30-24).
A–4,600 (5,000).

Tampa Bay 4, N.Y. Islanders 1

N.Y. Islanders	1	0	0	1
Tampa Bay	2	0	2	4

First Period–1, N.Y. Islanders, Palmieri 24 (Pulock, Reilly), 2:25. 1, Tampa Bay, Raddysh 6 (Kucherov, Cirelli), 14:25. 1, Tampa Bay, Cirelli 17 (Perbix, Hagel), 15:00. Penalties–Pelech, NYI (Tripping), 12:32.
Second Period–None. Penalties–None.
Third Period–1, Tampa Bay, Stamkos 30 (Lilleberg, Hagel), 0:21. 2, Tampa Bay, Cirelli 18 (Kucherov, Hedman), 17:14. Penalties–Dumba, TB (Roughing), 19:05.
Shots on Goal–N.Y. Islanders 6-15-8–29. Tampa Bay 21-9-11–41.
Power-play opportunities–N.Y. Islanders 0 of 1; Tampa Bay 1 of 1.
Goalies–N.Y. Islanders, Varlamov 9-8-4 (40 shots-37 saves). Tampa Bay, Vasilevskiy 28-16-2 (29-28).

Boston 3, Washington 2 (SO)

Boston	1	1	0	1	3
Washington	0	2	0	0	2

Boston won shootout 3-2
First Period–1, Boston, Lindholm 2 (Zacha, Pastrnak), 18:47. Penalties–Malenstyn, WAS (Tripping), 3:36.
Second Period–1, Washington, Sgarbossa 4 (Jensen, Dowd), 1:20. 1, Boston, Beecher 7, 2:22. 1, Washington, Carlson 8 (Pacioretty, Strome), 14:03. Penalties–Heinen, BOS (Slashing), 9:54. Shattenkirk, BOS (Hooking), 12:22.
Third Period–None. Penalties–Fehervary, WAS (High-sticking), 11:45.
Overtime–None. Penalties–Lindholm, BOS (High-sticking), 0:57.
Shootout–Boston 3 (DeBrusk G, Coyle NG, Pastrnak G, Marchand NG, Shattenkirk G), Washington 2 (Oshie NG, Strome G, Milano G, Ovechkin NG, McMichael NG).
Shots on Goal–Boston 9-8-9-3–29. Washington 6-5-5-4–20.
Power-play opportunities–Boston 0 of 2; Washington 1 of 4.
Goalies–Boston, Swayman 24-8-8 (20 shots-18 saves). Washington, Lindgren (29-27).
A–18,573 (18,398).

Florida 3, Detroit 2 (SO)

Detroit	1	0	1	0	2
Florida	0	0	2	1	3

Florida won shootout 1-0
First Period–1, Detroit, Fabbri 17 (Perron, Gostisbehere), 10:31. Penalties–Lundell, FLA (Holding), 9:47. Lorentz, FLA (Hooking), 12:35.
Second Period–None. Penalties–Seider, DET (Delay of Game), 9:28. Perron, DET (Interference), 12:44. Bennett, FLA (Roughing), 12:44. Kulikov, FLA (Interference), 18:04.
Third Period–1, Florida, Barkov 20 (Ekblad, Mikkola), 12:21. 2, Florida, Barkov 21 (Reinhart, Ekman-Larsson), 15:04. 1, Detroit, Larkin 29 (Kane, Gostisbehere), 16:00. Penalties–Ekblad, FLA (Cross-checking), 10:14. DeBrincat, DET (Roughing), 14:25. Ekblad, FLA (Roughing), 14:25. Montour, FLA (Tripping), 15:26.
Overtime–None. Penalties–Barkov, FLA (Tripping), 0:34.
Shootout–Florida 1 (Reinhart G, Barkov NG, Lundell NG), Detroit 0 (Raymond NG, Kane NG, Larkin NG).
Shots on Goal–Detroit 8-9-5-0–22. Florida 10-13-13-2–38.
Power-play opportunities–Detroit 2 of 6; Florida 0 of 1.
Goalies–Detroit, Lyon (38 shots-36 saves). Florida, Bobrovsky 33-16-3 (22-20).
A–19,290 (19,250).

Carolina 3, Montreal 0

Carolina	0	1	2	3
Montreal	0	0	0	0

First Period–None. Penalties–None.
Second Period–1, Carolina, Staal 9 (Teravainen), 9:33. Penalties–Suzuki, MON (Interference), 6:06. Kuznetsov, CAR (Delay of Game), 8:27. Pesce, CAR (Hooking), 16:51.
Third Period–1, Carolina, Aho 33 (Jarvis, Guentzel), 3:42. 1, Carolina, Jarvis 29 (Guentzel, Aho), 17:12. Penalties–Harris, MON (Hooking), 3:00. Burns, CAR (Tripping), 11:48.
Shots on Goal–Carolina 8-11-11–30. Montreal 8-14-4–26.
Power-play opportunities–Carolina 1 of 2; Montreal 0 of 3.
Goalies–Carolina, Kochetkov 20-13-4 (26 shots-26 saves). Montreal, Montembeault 14-14-7 (29-27).

Chicago 5, Philadelphia 1

Chicago	2	1	2	5
Philadelphia	0	1	0	1

First Period–1, Chicago, Reichel 4 (Tinordi, Athanasiou), 2:01. 1, Chicago, Kurashev 16 (Bedard, Vlasic), 17:00. Penalties–Megna, CHI (Hooking), 6:51. Laughton, PHI (Fighting), 19:00. Donato, CHI (Fighting), 19:00.
Second Period–1, Philadelphia, Foerster 20 (Hathaway), 0:17. 1, Chicago, Foligno 17 (Kurashev, Johnson), 17:28. Penalties–Bedard, CHI (Goaltender Interference), 5:04. Tinordi, CHI (Tripping), 11:21. Laughton, PHI (Tripping), 16:39.
Third Period–1, Chicago, Anderson 4 (Reichel), 9:09. 1, Chicago, Entwistle 5 (Anderson, Kaiser), 14:33. Penalties–Laughton, PHI (High-sticking), 10:05. Donato, CHI (Interference), 11:13. Tippett, PHI (Interference), 11:45. Hathaway, PHI (Misconduct), 16:35.
Shots on Goal–Chicago 9-9-6–24. Philadelphia 7-13-11–31.
Power-play opportunities–Chicago 1 of 3; Philadelphia 0 of 3.
Goalies–Chicago, Soderblom 5-20-1 (31 shots-30 saves). Philadelphia, Ersson 21-16-7 (24-19).

Columbus 4, Pittsburgh 3 (SO)

Pittsburgh	0	2	1	0	3
Columbus	1	0	2	1	4

Columbus won shootout 2-1
First Period–1, Columbus, Olivier 5 (Sillinger), 7:47. Penalties–Voronkov, CLS (Hooking), 6:47. Pittsburgh bench, served by Puustinen (Delay of Game), 7:47. Smith, PIT (High-sticking), 10:38.
Second Period–1, Pittsburgh, O'Connor 13 (Rust, Pettersson), 13:29. 1, Pittsburgh, Rust 24 (Crosby, Letang), 18:55. Penalties–Joseph, PIT (Tripping), 2:41. Crosby, PIT (Tripping), 14:10.
Third Period–1, Pittsburgh, Rakell 12 (Malkin), 8:59. 1, Columbus, Marchenko 19 (Severson, Werenski), 9:08. 1, Columbus, Werenski 7 (Gaudreau), 11:47. Penalties–Sillinger, CLS (Slashing), 4:59.
Overtime–None. Penalties–None.
Shootout–Columbus 2 (Gaudreau NG, Texier G, Marchenko NG, Nylander NG, Severson G), Pittsburgh 1 (Rakell NG, Crosby G, Rust NG, Letang NG, Malkin NG).
Shots on Goal–Pittsburgh 11-9-12-1–33. Columbus 13-13-10-2–38.
Power-play opportunities–Pittsburgh 0 of 2; Columbus 0 of 4.
Goalies–Pittsburgh, Nedeljkovic (38 shots-35 saves). Columbus, Merzlikins 13-17-8 (33-30).
A–18,873 (18,144).

Vegas 2, Minnesota 1 (OT)

Vegas	0	0	1	1	2
Minnesota	0	1	0	0	1

First Period–None. Penalties–Lettieri, MIN (Tripping), 3:49. Hartman, MIN (Goaltender Interference), 5:58.
Second Period–1, Minnesota, Kaprizov 37 (Boldy, Faber), 16:44. Penalties–Minnesota bench, served by Johansson (Too many men), 9:13. Eichel, VGK (Spearing Major), 14:03. Eichel, VGK (Game Misconduct), 14:03.
Third Period–1, Vegas, Amadio 13 (Stephenson, Martinez), 13:43. Penalties–None.
Overtime–1, Vegas, Marchessault 40 (Karlsson), 3:30. Penalties–Hartman, MIN (Misconduct), 3:30.
Shots on Goal–Vegas 13-9-7-2–31. Minnesota 7-13-8-5–33.
Power-play opportunities–Vegas 0 of 3; Minnesota 1 of 2.
Goalies–Vegas, Thompson 22-12-5 (33 shots-32 saves). Minnesota, Gustavsson (30-29).
A–19,178 (18,064).

Calgary 4, L.A. Kings 2

L.A. Kings	1	1	0	2
Calgary	2	1	1	4

First Period–1, Calgary, Kadri 24 (Kuzmenko, Sharangovich), 4:45. 1, L.A. Kings, Kempe 23 (Doughty, Fiala), 5:42. 1, Calgary, Pospisil 8 (Kuzmenko, Kadri), 11:56. Penalties–Byfield, LA (High-sticking), 4:37. Hanley, CGY (Holding), 5:34. Anderson, LA (High-sticking), 7:57. Pospisil, CGY (Tripping), 17:48.
Second Period–1, Calgary, Coleman 29 (Andersson, Miromanov), 11:58. 1, L.A. Kings, Kopitar 25 (Kempe, Fiala), 18:25. Penalties–Englund, LA (Cross-checking), 2:24. Pospisil, CGY (Hooking), 5:40. Spence, LA (Cross-checking), 10:09. Zary, CGY (Hooking), 17:10.
Third Period–1, Calgary, Weegar 18 (Huberdeau, Sharangovich), 11:30. Penalties–Fiala, LA (Roughing), 11:23. Arvidsson, LA (Tripping), 19:06.
Shots on Goal–L.A. Kings 4-5-9–18. Calgary 16-9-10–35.
Power-play opportunities–L.A. Kings 2 of 4; Calgary 3 of 6. **Goalies**–L.A. Kings, Rittich 11-6-3 (35 shots-31 saves). Calgary, Markstrom 23-19-2 (18-16). A–17,517 (19,289).

MLB

SATURDAY'S ROUNDUP

Pirates' Jones whiffs 10 Marlins in debut

FIELD LEVEL MEDIA



Pittsburgh Pirates starting pitcher Jared Jones pitches against the Marlins in the first inning of Saturday's game at loanDepot Park in Miami. RHONA WISE/USA TODAY SPORTS

Jared Jones struck out 10 in his major league debut and the Pittsburgh Pirates banged out 16 hits in a 9-3 win over the host Miami Marlins on Saturday afternoon.

The Pirates are off to their first 3-0 start since 2018.

Pittsburgh leadoff man Connor Joe, who was 3-for-5 with two RBIs and three runs, was in the middle of much of the offensive damage.

Joe beat out a grounder to third base in the top of the third inning and gave the Pirates a 1-0 lead when he came in on Edward Olivares' RBI single to left.

An inning later, Joe ripped a double to the left to drive in Michael A. Taylor, then scored on Ke'Bryan Hayes' RBI single for a 3-0 lead.

Braves 12, Phillies 12

Atlanta scored seven runs over the first three innings en route to a win over host Philadelphia.

Atlanta's win followed Friday's season-opening 9-3 victory over the Phillies.

The Braves tallied 19 hits, including three apiece from Ronald Acuna Jr., Ozzie Albies, Michael Harris II, Orlando Arcia and Jarred Kelenic.

Albies also batted in three runs, while Marcell Ozuna finished with three RBIs as well.

After Acuna led off the game with an infield single, Albies picked up his first hit of the season on a two-run home run.

Orioles 13, Angels 4

Baltimore broke open a close game with a nine-run sixth inning and cruised to a rout of visiting Los Angeles.

The Orioles had two walks and six hits in the sixth, including a three-run homer by Anthony Santander and a two-run triple by Gunnar Henderson. The Orioles tallied 14 hits in the game. Henderson finished with three hits and was a double shy of the cycle. Henderson, Santander and Ryan Mountcastle each drove in three runs.

All the offense came in support of Orioles starter Grayson Rodriguez (1-0), who allowed one run and four hits in six innings, striking out nine, walking one and throwing 84 pitches.

Angels first baseman Nolan Schanuel had an infield single in the ninth inning, extending his streak of reaching base by hit or walk to 31 games, the third longest streak to begin a major league career since 1900. Alvin Davis holds the record (47 in 1984) and Truck Hannah is next (38 in 1918).

The Orioles struck early against Angels starter Griffin Canning (0-1), scoring two runs in the first inning. Henderson, the reigning American League Rookie of the Year, led off the bottom of the first inning with a home run on a full-count pitch.

Giants 9, Padres 6

Jordan Hicks fired five scoreless innings, Michael Conforto blasted a grand slam to cap a six-run eighth inning and visiting San Francisco held off San Diego for its second straight win.

Making his first start in nearly two calendar years, Hicks (1-0) allowed just three hits and a walk, fanning six. Four relievers finished up as San Francisco assured itself of no worse than a series split to open the season.

In his San Diego debut, Dylan Cease (0-1) absorbed the loss as the Padres fell to 2-3. Cease lasted 4 2/3 innings and 85 pitches, permitting two hits and three runs, two of which were earned. He walked two and struck out six.

Conforto was the only Giant with two hits but the team made their chances count. San Francisco stranded only four runners, going 4-for-7 with runners in scoring position.

Nationals 7, Reds 6

Keibert Ruiz homered in the eighth and drove in the go-ahead run in the ninth when he was hit by a pitch as Washington rallied for three runs in the ninth in a win over host Cincinnati.

For the second time in as many games, Nick Martini was poised to play the role of hero, connecting for a pinch-hit, go-ahead two-run double in the eighth inning to put Cincinnati up 6-4.

Ruiz had tied the game 4-4 in the eighth with a solo homer off reliever Lucas Sims deep to the Nationals bullpen in right field.

Jonathan India opened the Reds' half of the eighth with his second hit of the game, a single to right-center off reliever and winner Hunter Harvey (1-0). Pinch-runner Bubba Thompson stole second with none out. Henry appeared on the verge of getting out the jam with a pair of groundouts that didn't advance the runner.

But after a walk to Jeimer Candelario, Martini drilled a two-run double to right to put Cincinnati up by two. Martini had collected two homers and five RBIs as a designated hitter in Thursday's opener.

Tigers 7, White Sox 6, 10 innings

Carson Kelly had three hits, including the go-ahead RBI single in the 10th inning, and Mark Canha finished a triple short of the cycle to lift visiting Detroit to a win against Chicago.

Limited to six singles in a 1-0 victory in Thursday's season opener, the Tigers collected 12 hits, including five for extra bases. Canha drove in three runs, while Kelly had two RBIs.

Detroit overcame a big day from White Sox center fielder Luis Robert Jr., who was 3-for-4 with two home runs and four RBIs.

Shelby Miller (1-0) retired the final six White Sox in order to pick up the win for Detroit. Deivi Garcia (0-1) struck out two in the 10th but allowed the inherited, extra-inning runner to score on Kelly's single.

Kerry Carpenter added two hits for the Tigers.

Brewers 7, Mets 6

Rhys Hoskins hit a home run and finished with four RBIs as visiting Milwaukee staved off a late comeback by New York.

Hoskins' third-inning two-run homer was his first in the regular season since Sept. 30, 2022, after not playing last season because of a torn left ACL in spring training as a member of the Philadelphia Phillies.

Hoskins capped a three-run first inning with a two-run single and singled and scored in the fifth.

Mets reliever Yohan Ramirez was ejected for throwing a pitch behind Hoskins in the seventh. Hoskins and New York second baseman Jeff McNeil exchanged words and both bullpens and benches spilled on to the field Friday following Hoskins' hard slide in the eighth inning of Milwaukee's 3-1 victory.

Willy Adames opened the scoring with an RBI single in the first for the Brewers, who are 2-0 for the first time since they opened 2018 with three straight wins. Christian Yelich added an RBI single in the eighth.

Rays 5, Blue Jays 1

Zack Littell pitched six shutout innings and Randy Arozarena hit his first home run of the season as Tampa Bay beat visiting Toronto.

Littell (1-0) limited the Blue Jays to four hits and tallied six strikeouts against two walks to notch his first career win over Toronto in four appearances. Arozarena finished 2-for-3 and put Tampa Bay ahead 2-0 in the fifth inning with an opposite-field solo shot off of Blue Jays starter Yusei Kikuchi.

Arozarena stole two bases and scored three runs, while Amed Rosario went 2-for-4 with an RBI for the Rays. Jose Caballero collected two hits and two RBIs as Tampa Bay won its second straight since an 8-2 Opening Day loss on Thursday.

Kikuchi nearly retired the Rays in order in the third inning before a pair of two-out walks set up the game's first run.

Tampa Bay's first free pass in the inning came after Kikuchi narrowly missed low on a 2-2 fastball to Arozarena, who took ball four on the next pitch. After Isaac Paredes followed with a full-count walk, Rosario lined an RBI single into left field to plate Arozarena.

Twins 5, Royals 1

Christian Vazquez sparked a ninth-inning rally to help Minnesota top host Kansas City.

With one out, Vazquez sliced a 1-2 pitch down the left-field line, scoring Ryan Jeffers to break a 1-1 tie. Alex Kirilloff's sacrifice fly and Byron Buxton's two-run double capped the four-run inning against Will Smith (0-1).

Griffin Jax (1-0) pitched a scoreless eighth for the victory.

The Twins' bullpen allowed two hits over the final 3⅔ innings while Royals relievers surrendered five hits, five runs, and two walks in three innings.

Minnesota starter Joe Ryan was perfect through three innings, although Salvador Pérez nearly homered leading off the second, hitting a high drive to left that landed foul. After a short umpire review, the call was confirmed and the game remained scoreless.

Guardians 12, Athletics 3

San Francisco Bay Area native Steven Kwan hit his first career home run in Oakland, Gabriel Arias collected two hits, two runs and two RBIs in his first start of the season and Cleveland beat the Athletics.

Kwan, who was playing his eighth career game at the Oakland Coliseum, went 3-for-5 with three runs and two RBIs for the Guardians, who improved to 3-0.

Zack Gelof had a single, double and stolen base for the A's.

Oakland took advantage of Guardians starter Tanner Bibee's wildness to take a 3-2 lead in the third. The right-hander's third walk in a four-batter stretch forced in Gelof to give the A's the lead.

But Cleveland dominated from there, starting with a three-run fourth during which Arias had an RBI single, Austin Hedges hit a sacrifice fly and Kwan added a run-scoring single to put the Guardians up 5-3.

Rangers 11, Cubs 2

Jared Walsh, Adolis Garcia and Josh Jung each belted a two-run homer to propel Texas over visiting Chicago.

Corey Seager had a pair of RBI singles to highlight his four-hit performance for the Rangers, who were presented with their World Series rings during an on-field ceremony before the game.

Walsh had three hits and scored three runs, Marcus Semien added an RBI single and Garcia added a sacrifice fly.

Yankees 5, Astros 3

Oswaldo Cabrera and Juan Soto combined to lead a late-inning charge for a second consecutive game as New York turned a three-run seventh inning into a victory over host Houston.

After combining for seven hits and four RBIs in the Yankees' comeback win on Friday, Cabrera and Soto homered in the seventh inning off Astros reliever Bryan Abreu (0-1) to erase a two-run deficit and set the table for the Yankees to complete the four-game road series sweep Sunday.

Abreu, making his season debut after serving a two-game suspension tied to an incident from the 2023 American League Championship Series, had his outing unravel after he walked Austin Wells to open the seventh. Abreu was ahead 0-2 in the count before losing Wells, and Cabrera followed by lining a 1-2 inside fastball over the outstretched glove of right fielder Kyle Tucker and into the seats.

Rockies 9, Diamondbacks 4

Charlie Blackmon smacked a two-run double and Nolan Jones added a two-run triple during a five-run fifth inning to help visiting Colorado notch a victory over Arizona.

Ezequiel Tovar and Brenton Doyle each hit two-run homers for the Rockies, who recorded their first win of the season. Colorado was outscored 23-4 while losing the first two contests of the four-game set that concludes Sunday.

Blackmon, Doyle and Ryan McMahon each had two hits for Colorado, which defeated the Diamondbacks for just the fourth time in 16 meetings since the beginning of the 2023 season.

Cardinals 6, Dodgers 5, 10 innings

Paul Goldschmidt delivered an RBI ground out in the 10th inning as visiting St. Louis capitalized on a gift five-run seventh inning and then held on for its first win of the season.

Goldschmidt's one-out slow roller to shortstop scored automatic runner Victor Scott II as the Cardinals outlasted the Dodgers and a rare Dodger Stadium rain delay that lasted 35 minutes following the fourth inning.

The Dodgers nearly won the game in the ninth inning before leaving the game-winning run at third base when Teoscar Hernandez struck out.

Mariners 4, Red Sox 3, 10 innings

Seattle scored three times in the bottom of the 10th inning to defeat visiting Bostonin the third game of a four-game series.

Julio Rodriguez singled with one out in the 10th to score Josh Rojas from third with the game-winning run.

The Red Sox took a 2-1 lead when a Pablo Reyes single to right drove in Ceddanne Rafaela in the top of the 10th, and they extended their lead to 3-1 on an RBI single by Masataka Yoshida that drove in Reece McGuire with two outs in the inning.

MLB

SATURDAY'S BOX SCORES

Milwaukee 7, N.Y. Mets 6

Milwaukee	**..302**	**010**	**010**	**–**	**7**	**16**	**0**
N.Y. Mets	**..... 011**	**000**	**031**	**–**	**6**	**12**	**1**

Milwaukee	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg.
Frelick cf	5	1	1	0	0	1	.200
Contreras c	5	1	3	0	0	1	.375
Yelich lf	5	1	2	1	0	0	.556
Adames ss	5	2	2	1	0	1	.222
Bauers 1b	5	0	0	0	0	4	.143
Hoskins dh	4	2	3	4	1	0	.429
Dunn 3b	4	0	1	0	0	1	.250
Ortiz 3b	1	0	0	0	0	0	.200
Turang 2b	5	0	2	0	0	2	.429
Chourio rf	5	0	2	0	0	2	.375
Totals	**44**	**7**	**16**	**6**	**1**	**12**	

N.Y. Mets	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg.
Nimmo lf	5	0	1	0	0	2	.111
Lindor ss	5	0	1	0	0	0	.125
Alonso 1b	4	1	2	1	0	0	.286
Taylor rf	3	0	0	0	0	0	.000
b-Stewart ph-rf	2	0	0	0	0	2	.000
Marte dh	3	2	1	0	2	1	.333
McNeil 2b	4	0	1	0	0	0	.143
Alvarez c	4	2	3	2	0	0	.429
Short 3b	3	0	1	0	0	0	.333
a-Baty ph-3b	1	1	1	3	0	0	.250
Bader cf	4	0	1	0	0	1	.143
Totals	**38**	**6**	**12**	**6**	**2**	**6**	

a-homered for Short in 8th. b-struck out for Taylor in 7th.
E: Lindor. **2B:** Adames (1). **HR:** Hoskins (1), Alonso (1), Alvarez (1), Baty (1). **RBI:** Yelich (2), Adames (1), Hoskins 4 (4), Alonso (1), Alvarez 2 (2), Baty 3 (3). **SB:** Frelick (1), Turang 3 (3). **Runners left in scoring position:** Milwaukee 6 (Yelich, Bauers, Turang, Chourio 3), N.Y. Mets 4 (Stewart, McNeil 2, Short). **RISP:** Milwaukee 4 for 15, N.Y. Mets 2 for 6.

Milwaukee	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Hall	4.0	6	2	2	2	1	73	4.50
Peguero W, 1-0	2.0	0	0	0	0	0	26	0.00
Megill	1.0	2	0	0	0	3	19	0.00
Wilson	0.1	2	2	2	0	0	8	54.00
Milner	0.2	1	1	1	0	0	4	13.50
Uribe S, 2	1.0	1	1	1	0	2	18	4.50

N.Y. Mets	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Severino L, 0-1	5.0	12	6	6	0	6	88	10.80
Diekman	1.0	0	0	0	0	1	12	0.00
Ramirez	0.1	0	0	0	0	1	7	0.00
Lopez	0.2	0	0	0	1	1	10	5.40
Ottavino	1.0	3	1	1	0	2	24	9.00
Diaz	1.0	1	0	0	0	1	18	0.00

Inherited runners: Milner 2-0, Lopez 1-1. **HBP:** Alonso. **WP:** Ramirez. **Balk:** Severino (1). **Umpires:** HP-Barrett, 1B-Parra, 2B-Ortiz, 3B-Marquez. T: 2:50. A: 30,296 (41,922).

Detroit 7, Chicago 6 (10)

Detroit .	**300**	**010**	**200**	**1**	**–**	**7**	**12**	**2**
Chicago	**212**	**100**	**000**	**0**	**–**	**6**	**10**	**0**

Detroit	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg.
Meadows cf	3	1	1	0	2	0	.167
Torkelson 1b	5	1	1	1	0	0	.333
Greene rf	4	2	1	1	1	0	.125
Carpenter dh	5	0	2	0	0	0	.400
Canha lf	5	3	3	3	0	0	.375
Keith 2b	4	0	0	0	1	1	.125
Kelly c	5	0	3	2	0	0	.600
Baez ss	5	0	0	0	0	1	.111
McKinstry 3b	5	0	1	0	0	1	.200
Totals	**41**	**7**	**12**	**7**	**4**	**3**	

Chicago	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg.
Benintendi lf	4	0	1	0	1	0	.125
Moncada 3b	5	2	1	0	0	1	.111
Robert Jr. cf	4	2	3	4	1	0	.500
Jimenez dh	5	0	1	0	0	1	.250
Vaughn 1b	4	0	1	0	0	0	.286
b-Pillar pr	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000
Sheets 1b	1	0	0	0	0	0	.000
Fletcher rf	4	0	0	0	1	2	.000
Shewmake ss	4	2	2	1	0	0	.500
Lopez 2b	4	0	1	0	0	1	.143
Maldonado c	2	0	0	0	1	1	.000
a-Lee pr-c	1	0	0	0	0	1	.000
Totals	**38**	**6**	**10**	**5**	**4**	**7**	

a-ran for Maldonado in 7th. b-ran for Vaughn in 8th.
E: Faedo, McKinstry. **2B:** Carpenter (1), Canha (1). **3B:** Meadows (1), Moncada (1). **HR:** Greene (1), Canha (1), Robert Jr. 2 (2), Shewmake (1). **RBI:** Torkelson (1), Greene (1), Canha 3 (3), Kelly 2 (2), Robert Jr. 4 (4), Shewmake (1). **SB:** Lopez (1). **SB:** Canha (1). **Runners left in scoring position:** Detroit 4 (Torkelson 2, Kelly 2), Chicago 5 (Jimenez 3, Fletcher, Lee). **RISP:** Detroit 5 for 12, Chicago 1 for 8. **GIDP:** Jimenez. **DP:** Detroit 1.

Detroit	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Maeda	3.1	7	6	6	1	2	71	16.20
Faedo	1.2	1	0	0	0	1	25	0.00
Holton	1.0	1	0	0	0	1	18	0.00
Lange	0.1	0	0	0	3	1	23	0.00
Vest	1.2	1	0	0	0	1	23	0.00
Miller W, 1-0	2.0	0	0	0	0	1	17	0.00

Chicago	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Soroka	5.0	7	4	4	3	0	77	7.20
Leasure H, 1	1.0	1	0	0	1	1	22	0.00
Leone H, 1	0.1	2	2	2	0	0	11	13.50
Hill BS, 1	0.2	1	0	0	0	0	8	0.00
Wilson	1.0	0	0	0	0	0	17	0.00
Brebbia	1.0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0.00
Garcia L, 0-1	1.0	1	1	0	0	2	12	0.00

Inherited runners: Faedo 2-1, Vest 3-3, Hill 1-0. **WP:** Lange. **Umpires:** HP-Carlson, 1B-Merzel, 2B-Miller, 3B-O'Nora. T: 3:05. A: 28,176 (40,615).

Minnesota 5, Kansas City 1

Minnesota...	**000**	**000**	**014**	**–**	**5**	**7**	**0**
Kansas City..	**000**	**001**	**000**	**–**	**1**	**5**	**2**

Minnesota	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg.
Julien 2b	4	1	1	0	0	2	.333
b-Farmer ph-2b	0	1	0	0	1	0	.000
Kirilloff lf-rf-lf	4	0	1	1	0	0	.333
Buxton cf	4	0	2	3	0	0	.375
Correa ss	5	0	0	0	0	0	.333
Wallner rf	1	0	0	0	1	1	.000
a-Martin pr-lf	0	0	0	0	0	0	...
c-Margot ph-rf	1	0	0	0	0	1	.333
Santana 1b	4	0	1	0	0	0	.250
Jeffers dh	3	1	0	0	0	1	.000
Castro 3b	2	1	1	0	1	0	.167
Vazquez c	4	1	1	1	0	1	.250
Totals	**32**	**5**	**7**	**5**	**3**	**6**	

Kansas City	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg.
Garcia 3b	4	0	0	0	0	3	.125
Witt Jr. ss	3	1	2	0	1	0	.500
Pasquantino 1b	3	0	0	0	1	1	.000
Perez c	3	0	0	0	1	1	.000
Melendez lf	4	0	2	1	0	1	.375
Renfroe rf	4	0	0	0	0	3	.000
Frazier 2b	2	0	1	0	0	0	.400
d-Hampson ph-2b	2	0	0	0	0	2	.000
Loftin dh	3	0	0	0	0	0	.000
Isbel cf	3	0	0	0	0	0	.167
Totals	**31**	**1**	**5**	**1**	**3**	**11**	

a-ran for Wallner in 7th. b-was intentionally walked for Julien in 9th. c-struck out for Martin in 8th. d-struck out for Frazier in 7th.
E: Frazier, Melendez. **2B:** Julien (1), Buxton 2 (2), Witt Jr. 2 (3). **RBI:** Kirilloff (1), Buxton 3 (3), Vazquez (1), Melendez (1). **SB:** Castro (1), Witt Jr. (1). **SB:** Farmer (1). **SF:** Kirilloff. **Runners left in scoring position:** Minnesota 6 (Correa, Margot, Santana, Jeffers, Vazquez 2), Kansas City 3 (Melendez, Renfroe, Isbel). **RISP:** Minnesota 3 for 13, Kansas City 1 for 6. **GIDP:** Vazquez. **DP:** Kansas City 1.

Minnesota	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Ryan	5.1	3	1	1	1	5	81	1.69
Okert	1.0	1	0	0	1	2	16	0.00
Alcala	0.2	0	0	0	0	0	10	0.00
Jax W, 1-0	1.0	0	0	0	1	1	12	0.00
Stewart	1.0	1	0	0	0	3	22	0.00

Kansas City	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Lugo	6.0	2	0	0	1	4	86	0.00
Schreiber H, 1	1.0	1	0	0	0	1	19	0.00
McArthur BS, 1	1.0	2	1	1	0	1	16	9.00
Smith L, 0-1	1.0	2	4	4	2	0	25	36.00

Inherited runners: Okert 1-0. **HBP:** Buxton, Wallner, Jeffers, Castro. **IBB:** Okert (1), Smith (1). **Umpires:** HP-Gibson, 1B-Estabrook, 2B-Bacchus, 3B-Diaz. T: 2:41. A: 19,461 (37,903).

Tampa Bay 5, Toronto 1

Toronto	**000**	**000**	**100**	**–**	**1**	**6**	**1**
Tampa Bay ..	**001**	**020**	**11x**	**–**	**5**	**11**	**0**

Toronto	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg.
Springer rf	4	0	0	0	0	0	.167
Guerrero Jr. 1b	3	0	1	0	1	1	.364
Bichette ss	4	0	0	0	0	0	.167
Vogelbach dh	4	0	1	0	0	1	.200
Varsho lf-cf	3	1	1	0	1	2	.200
Clement 3b-lf	4	0	2	0	0	1	.500
Kiermaier cf	2	0	0	0	0	2	.111
a-Turner ph-3b	2	0	0	0	0	0	.100
Serven c	3	0	0	0	0	2	.000
Biggio 2b	2	0	1	1	1	1	.286
Totals	**31**	**1**	**6**	**1**	**3**	**10**	

Tampa Bay	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg.
Diaz 1b	3	0	0	1	1	0	.417
Ramirez dh	5	0	1	0	0	1	.077
Arozarena lf	3	3	2	1	1	1	.364
Paredes 3b	3	1	1	0	1	1	.091
Rosario rf	4	0	2	1	0	0	.600
Caballero ss	3	0	2	2	0	0	.400
Mead 2b	4	0	1	0	0	0	.250
Siri cf	3	1	1	0	1	2	.273
Pinto c	4	0	1	0	0	1	.286
Totals	**32**	**5**	**11**	**5**	**4**	**6**	

a-lined out for Kiermaier in 7th.
E: Turner. **2B:** Rosario (2). **HR:** Arozarena (1). **RBI:** Biggio (2), Diaz (5), Arozarena (2), Rosario (1), Caballero 2 (3). **SB:** Arozarena 2 (2). **SF:** Diaz, Caballero. **Runners left in scoring position:** Toronto 3 (Springer, Kiermaier, Biggio), Tampa Bay 5 (Ramirez, Rosario, Mead 3). **RISP:** Toronto 1 for 7, Tampa Bay 3 for 12. **GIDP:** Springer, Clement. **DP:** Tampa Bay 2.



Atlanta Braves designated hitter Marcell Ozuna hits a three-run home run against the Phillies in the sixth inning of Saturday's game in Philadelphia. KYLE ROSS/USA TODAY SPORTS

Toronto	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Kikuchi L, 0-1	4.1	6	3	3	3	4	90	6.23
Richards	1.0	2	0	0	0	0	16	0.00
Garcia	0.2	0	0	0	0	0	16	0.00
Cabrera	1.0	2	1	1	0	1	16	9.00
Mayza	1.0	1	1	1	1	1	23	4.50

Tampa Bay	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Littell W, 1-0	6.0	4	0	0	2	6	92	0.00
Poche H, 1	0.2	2	1	1	1	1	21	13.50
Maton H, 1	0.1	0	0	0	0	0	4	0.00
Adam H, 1	1.0	0	0	0	0	1	12	4.50
Fairbanks	1.0	0	0	0	0	2	13	0.00

Inherited runners: Richards 1-0, Garcia 1-1, Maton 2-2. **WP:** Garcia. **Umpires:** HP-Gonzalez, 1B-Thomas, 2B-Tichenor, 3B-Blaser. T: 2:44. A: 18,905 (25,025).

Pittsburgh 9, Miami 3

Pittsburgh .	**001**	**220**	**400**	**–**	**9**	**16**	**1**
Miami	**000**	**201**	**000**	**–**	**3**	**5**	**1**

Pittsburgh	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg.
Joe 1b	5	3	3	2	0	0	.357
Tellez 1b	1	0	1	0	0	0	.333
Reynolds rf	5	0	2	2	1	2	.357
Hayes 3b	6	0	2	1	0	1	.462
Olivares dh	5	0	1	1	0	2	.375
Davis c	2	0	0	0	2	0	.167
Cruz ss	4	2	2	0	1	0	.357
Triolo 2b	5	1	2	0	0	1	.214
Taylor cf	5	2	2	1	0	1	.333
Suwinski lf	5	1	1	1	0	2	.125
Totals	**43**	**9**	**16**	**8**	**4**	**9**	

Miami	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg.
Arraez 2b	4	0	1	0	0	0	.071
Bell 1b	4	0	0	0	0	3	.273
De La Cruz dh	4	1	1	0	0	1	.286
Chisholm Jr. cf	3	1	0	0	1	2	.100
Burger 3b	3	1	1	1	1	0	.545
Sanchez rf-lf	4	0	2	2	0	0	.286
Anderson ss	4	0	0	0	0	2	.250
Gordon lf	2	0	0	0	0	2	.000
a-Garcia ph-rf	2	0	0	0	0	1	.125
Bethancourt c	3	0	0	0	0	2	.000
Totals	**33**	**3**	**5**	**3**	**2**	**13**	

a-struck out for Gordon in 7th.
E: Cruz, Bell. **2B:** Joe 2 (3), Reynolds (2), Triolo (1), Taylor (2), Burger (1). **RBI:** Joe 2 (3), Reynolds 2 (4), Hayes (3), Olivares (3), Taylor (2), Suwinski (1), Burger (5), Sanchez 2 (3). **Runners left in scoring position:** Pittsburgh 7 (Joe, Hayes, Olivares, Cruz 2, Taylor 2), Miami 1 (Anderson). **RISP:** Pittsburgh 7 for 16, Miami 2 for 3. **GIDP:** Taylor. **DP:** Miami 1.

Pittsburgh	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Jones W, 1-0	5.2	3	3	3	2	10	89	4.76
Borucki H, 1	0.2	1	0	0	0	1	5	0.00
Stratton	0.2	1	0	0	0	1	10	0.00
Hernandez	1.0	0	0	0	0	0	9	0.00
Bednar	1.0	0	0	0	0	1	14	0.00

Miami	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Weathers L, 0-1	4.0	7	3	3	2	5	94	6.75
Sanchez	2.0	2	2	1	0	0	34	6.00
Nardi	1.0	4	4	4	1	0	28	32.40
Cronin	1.0	2	0	0	1	1	22	0.00
Bender	1.0	1	0	0	0	3	19	0.00

Inherited runners: Borucki 2-1. **HBP:** Davis. **WP:** Jones. **Umpires:** HP-Morales, 1B-Additon, 2B-Guccione, 3B-Knight. T: 2:38. A: 14,203 (37,446).

Baltimore 13, L.A. Angels 4

L.A. Angels	**000**	**100**	**003**	**–**	**4**	**10**	**1**
Baltimore..	**201**	**009**	**01x**	**–**	**13**	**14**	**0**

L.A. Angels	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg.
Rendon 3b	3	0	0	0	0	1	.000
Rengifo 3b	2	0	0	0	0	1	.333
Hicks rf	3	0	0	0	0	3	.000
Moniak cf	1	0	0	0	0	0	.000
Trout cf	3	0	1	0	0	1	.333
Adell rf	1	1	1	0	0	0	.500
Ward lf	4	2	2	2	0	0	.250
Drury 2b	4	1	2	0	0	1	.333
Schanuel 1b	4	0	1	1	0	2	.167
Sano dh	4	0	1	0	0	2	.167
O'Hoppe c	3	0	2	1	1	0	.400
Neto ss	4	0	0	0	0	2	.000
Totals	**36**	**4**	**10**	**4**	**1**	**13**	

Baltimore	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg.
Henderson ss	4	2	3	3	0	0	.500
a-Kemp ph-2b	1	0	0	0	0	0	.000
Rutschman c	3	2	1	0	1	0	.429
McCann c	1	1	1	0	0	0	1.000
Santander rf	4	2	2	3	0	0	.375
Cowser rf	1	0	1	0	0	0	1.000
Mountcastle 1b	3	1	2	3	1	0	.500
O'Hearn dh	5	1	1	0	0	1	.333
Hays lf	4	1	1	1	0	0	.250
Mullins cf	4	1	1	1	0	3	.250
Westburg 2b-ss	4	1	1	2	0	1	.286
Urias 3b	4	1	0	0	0	1	.000
Totals	**38**	**13**	**14**	**13**	**2**	**6**	

a-flied out for Henderson in 8th.
E: Neto. **2B:** Santander (1), Cowser (1), Mountcastle 2 (2), Mullins (1). **3B:** Adell (1), Henderson (1). **HR:** Ward (1), Henderson (1), Santander (2). **RBI:** Ward 2 (2), Schanuel (1), O'Hoppe (1), Henderson 3 (3), Santander 3 (7), Mountcastle 3 (4), Hays (1), Mullins (4), Westburg 2 (3). **SF:** Mountcastle. **Runners left in scoring position:** L.A. Angels 2 (Rendon, Rengifo), Baltimore 3 (O'Hearn 2, Hays). **RISP:** L.A. Angels 4 for 9, Baltimore 6 for 10. **GIDP:** Schanuel. **DP:** Baltimore 1.

L.A. Angels	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Canning L, 0-1	5.0	7	5	5	1	2	96	9.00
Garcia	0.0	3	4	3	0	0	12	
Zuniga	1.0	2	3	3	1	0	25	13.50
Cisnero	1.0	0	0	0	0	3	15	16.20
Cimber	1.0	2	1	1	0	1	21	4.50

Baltimore	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Rodriguez W, 1-0	6.0	4	1	1	1	9	84	1.50
Coulombe	1.0	1	0	0	0	1	25	0.00
Webb	1.0	0	0	0	0	1	10	0.00
Perez	0.0	2	2	2	0	0	6	
Baumann	1.0	3	1	1	0	2	29	4.50

Canning pitched to 2 batters in the 6th. Garcia pitched to 4 batters in the 6th. Perez pitched to 2 batters in the 9th.
Inherited runners: Garcia 2-0, Zuniga 2-0, Baumann 1-0. **WP:** Rodriguez, Baumann. **Umpires:** HP-Barry, 1B-De Jesus, 2B-Valentine, 3B-Johnson. T: 2:55. A: 28,420 (45,971).



Orioles shortstop Gunnar Henderson (2) hits a solo home run against the Los Angeles Angels on Saturday in Baltimore. TOMMY GILLIGAN/USA TODAY SPORTS

Cleveland 12, Oakland 3

Cleveland..	**020**	**322**	**102**	**–**	**12**	**15**	**0**
Oakland.....	**021**	**000**	**000**	**–**	**3**	**6**	**2**

Cleveland	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg.
Kwan lf	5	3	3	2	1	0	.400
Ramirez dh	6	1	2	1	0	2	.250
Laureano rf	2	0	1	0	0	0	.167
a-Brennan ph-rf	3	0	1	0	1	1	.286
Fry 1b	2	1	1	2	2	0	.667
Freeman cf	5	1	1	1	1	1	.250
Gimenez 2b	4	2	1	1	0	0	.500
Arias 3b	5	2	2	2	0	1	.400
Hedges c	4	0	1	2	0	1	.250
Rocchio ss	5	2	2	0	0	0	.273
Totals	**41**	**12**	**15**	**11**	**5**	**6**	

Oakland	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg.
Noda 1b	4	0	1	1	1	1	.222
Gelof 2b	4	1	2	0	0	1	.182
Bleday cf	5	0	1	0	0	1	.231
Rooker dh	4	0	0	0	1	4	.000
Brown lf	2	0	0	0	2	0	.000
Davis 3b	3	1	1	0	0	2	.400
McCann c	2	1	0	1	2	2	.000
Butler rf	4	0	1	0	0	2	.111
Allen ss	3	0	0	1	0	1	.300
Hernaiz ss	1	0	0	0	0	0	.000
Totals	**32**	**3**	**6**	**3**	**6**	**14**	

a-popped out for Laureano in 4th.
E: Allen, McCann. **2B:** Laureano (1), Hedges (1), Rocchio 2 (3), Gelof (1). **3B:** Gimenez (1). **HR:** Kwan (1). **RBI:** Kwan 2 (2), Ramirez (4), Fry 2 (3), Freeman (2), Gimenez (4), Arias 2 (2), Hedges 2 (3), Noda (1), McCann (1), Allen (1). **SB:** Laureano (1), Brennan (1), Fry (1), Freeman (1), Gimenez (1), Arias (1), Gelof (1). **SF:** Fry, Hedges. **Runners left in scoring position:** Cleveland 7 (Freeman 3, Arias 3, Rocchio), Oakland 4 (Rooker 2, Butler 2). **RISP:** Cleveland 7 for 17, Oakland 2 for 8.

Cleveland	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Bibee	4.0	6	3	3	5	4	88	6.75
Sandlin W, 1-0	1.0	0	0	0	0	2	17	0.00
Smith	2.0	0	0	0	1	5	34	0.00
Beede	2.0	0	0	0	0	3	25	0.00

Oakland	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP	ERA
Sears L, 0-1	3.2	6	5	5	2	1	83	12.27
Jimenez	1.1	1	2	0	1	0	16	0.00
McFarland	1.0	4	2	2	0	1	26	9.00
Kelly	1.0	1	1	1	0	2	13	9.00
Erceg	1.0	0	0	0	1	1	21	0.00
Miller	1.0	3	2	2	1	1	30	18.00

Inherited runners: Jimenez 1-1. **HBP:** Fry, Gimenez, Gelof, Davis. **Umpires:** HP-Tumpane, 1B-Mahrley, 2B-Hudson, 3B-Wendelstedt. T: 3:01. A: 5,425 (46,847).

Washington 7, Cincinnati 6

Washington .	**000**	**110**	**113**	**–**	**7**	**11**	**0**
Cincinnati .	**000**	**130**	**020**	**–**	**6**	**10**	**0**

Washington	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg.
Abrams ss	2	3	1	0	3	1	.167
Thomas rf	4	0	0	0	1	3	.000
Winker lf	4	1	2	1	1	2	.375
e-Robles pr-cf	0	1	0	0	0	0	...
Meneses dh	4	0	2	1	0	1	.500
d-Nunez pr-dh	0	1	0	0	0	0	...
Gallo 1b	4	0	0	0	1	3	.000
Ruiz c	4	1	3	3	0	0	.571
Rosario cf-lf	4	0	1	1	0	1	.286
Garcia Jr. 2b	5	0	1	0	0	2	.125
Lipscomb 3b	4	0	1	0	0	1	.250
Totals	**35**	**7**	**11**	**6**	**6**	**14**	

Cincinnati	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	Avg.
India dh	4	0	2	1	0	1	.375
a-Thompson pr-dh	0	1	0	0	0	0	...
c-Stephenson ph	1	0	0	0	0	0	.200
Steer lf-2b	4	0	0	0	0	0	.286
Encarnacion-Strand 1b	4	0	0	0	0	1	.000
Candelario 3b	3	2	1	1	1	1	.143
Espinal 2b	3	0	1	0	0	0	.333
b-Martini ph	1	0	1	2	0	0	.600
Fraley rf	0	0	0	0	0	0	.500
De La Cruz ss	4	0	1	0	0	2	.286
Fairchild cf	4	1	2	0	0	1	.500
Maile

NCAA TOURNAMENT

MEN'S EAST REGIONAL UCONN 77, ILLINOIS 52

Huskies dominate to return to Final Four

Nick Galle
FIELD LEVEL MEDIA



Connecticut center Donovan Clingan cuts the net after defeating Illinois in the final of the NCAA Tournament East Regional on Saturday at TD Garden in Boston. BRIAN FLUHARTY/USA TODAY SPORTS

BOSTON – Top-seeded UConn wasn't going to let Terrence Shannon Jr. spoil its chances of becoming the first team in 17 years to win back-to-back national championships.

Shannon had scored at least 25 points in each of his previous seven games, but the Huskies held him to just eight on Saturday while also opening the second half on a 25-0 run to coast to a 77-52 victory over third-seeded Illinois in the Elite Eight.

Shannon struggled all night against UConn (35-3), making just 2 of 12 shots from the floor in 36 minutes of action. While slowing down Shannon was a team effort, Huskies coach Dan Hurley gave a lot of credit to Stephon Castle, a freshman tasked with guarding a fifth-year senior.

"Steph just made it really, really tough on (Shannon). He chased him off the line. We did a great job in transition," Hurley said.

"Whenever he did get the edge, we had rim protection there. You had Donovan (Clingan) there, you had Samson (Johnson) there.

"But Steph, there's a reason why, in the basketball world, people are as high on Steph as they are. He's a winning player."

UConn's defensive prowess was on full display after the Fighting Illini's Marcus Domask tied things at 23-all with 1:49 left in the first half.

The Huskies scored the final five points of the half to take a 28-23 lead into the break, then essentially punched their ticket to the Final Four in the first seven minutes of the second half.

Clingan opened the outburst with a short jumper, and he later put together a sequence in which he blocked Quincy Guerrier, snagged the rebound and threw home a dunk on the other end.

That led to an Illinois timeout, but it ended up having no effect on the Huskies, who went on to expand their lead to 30 at 53-23 when Hassan Diarra punctuated the back-breaking run with a layup at the 13:16 mark of the half.

Justin Harmon scored down low with 12:41 to go for the Fighting Illini's first points following intermission.

"Our defense is elite, our offense is elite, we rebound the ball. These guys play every possession like it's the end of the world," Hurley said of his group. "We've got NBA-level players that are just willing to share."

Clingan finished with 22 points, 10 rebounds, five blocks and three steals for UConn, which is headed to its seventh Final Four in program history. Cam Spencer also recorded a double-double with 11 points and 12 boards, and Diarra supplied 11 points.

The Huskies are now two wins away from becoming the first team to win back-to-back national championships since Florida did so in 2006-07.

In winning the East Region, UConn outshot Illinois 51.7 percent to 25.4 percent overall.

Domask paced the Fighting Illini (29-9) with 17 points. He was Illinois' only scorer in double figures. Like Shannon, Coleman Hawkins also struggled, notching just five points on 2-of-10 shooting. Hawkins supplied 12 points against Iowa State on Thursday in the Sweet 16.

"We've had a great year, filled with great people," Hawkins said. "It was just a fun group to be around."

Clingan got UConn off to a fast start, scoring the first seven points of the game. The Fighting Illini didn't get on the board until Domask split a pair of free throws with 16 minutes left in the first half to make it 9-1.

Illinois got within 15-13 on a Domask 3-pointer with 11:27 remaining, but points were few and far between for the remainder of the half.

The Huskies never fell behind, but they did give up the lead when Domask scored inside to draw the Fighting Illini even at 23-23.

However, Diarra canned a 3-pointer and Tristen Newton sank a pair of free throws to provide UConn with its halftime advantage.

"Great, great season," Illinois coach Brad Underwood said. "Tough ending. But, man, I'm just so blessed. I mean, I'm truly blessed that I got to coach this group."

MEN'S WEST REGIONAL ALABAMA 89, CLEMSON 82

Crimson Tide heats up to shoot into 1st Final Four

Kyle Kensing
FIELD LEVEL MEDIA



Alabama guard Mark Sears (1) celebrates after defeating Clemson in the final of the NCAA Tournament West Regional on Saturday in Los Angeles. KIRBY LEE/USA TODAY SPORTS

LOS ANGELES – All-American Mark Sears shook off a slow start to shoot 7-of-14 from 3-point distance and score 23 points, and No. 4 seed Alabama topped sixth-seeded Clemson 89-82 on Saturday in the NCAA Tournament West Region final to earn its first trip to the Final Four.

The Crimson Tide (25-11) shot their way into the Final Four on the strength of a 10-of-15 second-half performance from beyond the arc. Sears was responsible for six of the makes on seven attempts, the last of which with 1:15 remaining delivered the dagger to Clemson (24-12).

While Clemson fell short of its goal to reach a program-first Final Four, Alabama is headed to the national semifinals for the first time. Alabama will face UConn (35-3) – which is looking to become the first repeat national champion since Florida in 2006 and '07 – next Saturday in Glendale, Ariz.

Being defended by Chase Hunter, who held Arizona All-American Caleb Love to 0-for-9 shooting from 3-point range on Thursday, Sears started on a similar pace with misses on his first four 3-point tries and first seven field-goal attempts overall.

But the Crimson Tide got 10 of Jarin Stevenson's 19 points and eight of Rylan Griffen's 13 in the first half to buoy Alabama until Sears erupted.

He hit his first five 3-point attempts in the second half, smiling and sticking out his tongue with each make on the way to winning the West Regional's Most Outstanding Player.

"Even though it's intense, we play the game because we have fun," Sears said of his reactions. "To be in those moments, you dream as a little kid and just to have fun with it because you remember, even though it's business, to go out there and still have fun with it."

Sears' electric scoring bolstered a strong offensive half for Alabama overall.

After shooting only 13-of-39 (33.3 percent) from the floor in the first half, including 6-of-21 (28.6 percent) from 3-point range, the Crimson Tide made seven of its first eight field-goal attempts to open the second half.

They shot 16-of-23 (69.6 percent) from the floor overall after intermission.

"The quality of play was unreal in the second half. It was what people want to see," Clemson coach Brad Brownell said. "But 10-of-15 3-pointers by those guys [in the second half] ... you just can't win [when an opponent does that]."

Alabama gained separation thanks in part to a defensive stretch of 4:02 midway through the half in which it did not allow a field goal.

As it had in each of its three previous NCAA Tournament games, Clemson jumped out to an early double-digit-point lead. The Tigers went up 13 points with less than eight minutes remaining in the first half, but an 11-0 Alabama run ignited a 22-6 finish going into the locker rooms.

The Tigers rallied behind the duo of Ian Schieffelin, who finished with 18 points and 11 rebounds, and Joseph Girard III, who hit five second-half 3-pointers en route to 19 points.

Schieffelin's play on the interior helped limit Alabama big man and hero of the Crimson Tide's Sweet 16 over North Carolina, Grant Nelson, to just eight points in 21 minutes due to foul trouble. However, Clemson's own post presence – PJ Hall – fouled out with 14 points and 3:25 remaining.

"It still stings a lot right now, probably will for a couple of days," Hall said of the loss. "I don't think that it'll really set in what we've accomplished (making the program's first Elite Eight since 1980) because we had our eyes set on big goals."

NCAA TOURNAMENT

WOMEN'S ALBANY 2 REGION ROUNDUP

Iowa cruises to set up rematch against LSU

FIELD LEVEL MEDIA

ALBANY, N.Y. – Caitlin Clark scored a game-high 29 points to lead Iowa to an 89-68 win over Colorado on Saturday in the NCAA Tournament and set up a date with defending champion LSU in the Elite Eight.

Iowa (32-4), the No. 1 seed in the Albany 2 region, fell short of its season average score of 92.0 points per game but had plenty of firepower against the fifth-seeded Buffaloes (24-10).

Clark led a parade of scorers in double figures for the Hawkeyes, and she added six rebounds and 15 assists. Sydney Affolter had 15 points, Gabbie Marshall and Kate Martin chipped in 14 each and Hannah Stuelke scored 11 and had a game-high 10 rebounds.

"We always preach there's five players on the court," Affolter said. "We're confident in each other to knock down those shots."

It was the 46th straight game of at least 20 points for Clark.

For the Buffaloes, Aaronette Vonleh led the way with 13 points, while Maddie Nolan and Frida Formann each tallied 12.

The Buffaloes shot 37.5 percent for the game, while Iowa hit 53.8 percent of its shots.

After three tense games in the regional semifinals on Friday and Saturday, fans at MVP Arena let loose and cheered loudly as Clark and Iowa ran away with the game in the fourth quarter, chanting "Let's Go Hawks" after Marshall hit her third 3 in just over two minutes to give Iowa a 79-52 lead with 7:01 remaining in the game.

"She does a great job in finding her teammates," Marshall said of Clark. "We're kind of hard to guard."

The Hawkeyes took a 48-35 lead into halftime after shooting a blistering 61.3 percent from the field, led by Clark's 15 points (7-of-11 shooting). Iowa went on a 10-0 run bridging the first and second quarters and saw its lead grow to 15 before Colorado's Tameiya Sadler scored on a layup with 19 seconds left in the half.

"We tried so many different things," Colorado coach JR Payne said about trying to contain Iowa's offense. "Nothing we could do to stem the tide. They were just better than us today."



Iowa guard Caitlin Clark (22) shoots the ball past Colorado guard Jaylyn Sherrod (0) during Saturday's game in Albany, N.Y. GREGORY FISHER/USA TODAY SPORTS

Monday's game against LSU (31-5) will be a rematch of last year's national championship game, won 102-85 by the Tigers. Clark had 30 points with eight assists in that game, while LSU star Angel Reese contributed a double-double with 15 points and 10 rebounds.

LSU 78, UCLA 69

ALBANY, N.Y. – LSU kept its dream of back-to-back national championships alive, defeating UCLA to advance to the Elite Eight of the NCAA Tournament.

The Tigers survived a frantic final few minutes that saw UCLA take a 67-64 lead, only to be held to just two made free throws the rest of the way as LSU stars Angel Reese, playing with four fouls before fouling out with 31.5 seconds left, and Flau'Jae Johnson took control.

Johnson scored 24 points and grabbed 12 rebounds to lead the Tigers (31-5), the No. 3 seed in the Albany 2 Region. Reese added 16 points and 11 rebounds, while Aneesah Morrow scored 17.

It was Morrow's jumper with 2:27 left that launched a 6-0 run that put LSU up 70-67 – a lead the Tigers never relinquished. The score was tied eight times and featured 13 lead changes.

LSU coach Kim Mulkey credited a team effort – not just Reese, etc. – for the win and said the players listened to how each could contribute.

"You're continually telling them the little things you have to do to win games," she said.

"A lot of individual players did a lot of things."

The Bruins (27-7), the No. 2 seed, were attempting to reach their third-ever Elite Eight, having done so in 1999 and 2018.

"We gave up layups and free throws, and we missed layups and free throws. ... That's on me," UCLA coach Cori Close said. "We did not execute the way we needed to. That's one that's going to sting for a long time."

UCLA was led in scoring by 14 points each from Lauren Betts, who added 17 rebounds, Londynn Jones and Gabriela Jaquez.

Kiki Rice had 13 for the Bruins.

"They're a really talented team. All the best to them," Jones said of LSU. "I think we're the better team. I thought we just didn't show up today."

Mulkey will look for a better performance from her team in Monday's region final when No. 1 seed Iowa, which dispatched No. 5 Colorado 89-68 later Saturday. Monday's game against LSU (31-5) will be a rematch of last year's national championship game, won 102-85 by the Tigers.

LSU and UCLA were tied at 15 after the first period, and LSU outscored UCLA 19-12 in the second quarter to take a 34-27 lead at a half marred by off-the-mark shooting and sloppy play.

WOMEN'S PORTLAND 3 REGIONAL ROUNDUP

Watkins leads USC past Baylor to reach Elite Eight

FIELD LEVEL MEDIA

PORTLAND, Ore. – JuJu Watkins scored 30 points, including nine of Southern California's final 10 points, as the Trojans held off Baylor 74-70 Saturday in the Portland Regional semifinals.

Rayah Marshall contributed 11 points and 16 rebounds and McKenzie Forbes scored 14 points for No. 1 seed USC (29-5), which advances to Monday's Elite Eight.

Sarah Andrews scored 17 points, Jada Walker added 15 and Dariana Littlepage-Buggs chipped in with 12 points and 11 rebounds for No. 5 seed Baylor (26-8).

Watkins scored nine straight points – the last seven from the foul line – over the final 3:13. The Trojans' prize freshman had a poor shooting game, finishing 8-for-28 from the field. But she buried 12 of 13 free-throw attempts for the winners.

Neither team shot well. USC fired at 39.4 percent from the field (26-for-66) while Baylor converted at a 38.6 clip (27-for-70).

Baylor closed a six-point halftime deficit to 41-39 early in the third quarter, but Watkins drilled back-to-back 3s to make it 47-41. The Bears seized the lead at 50-49 on an Andrews trey with 2:55 left in the third. Baylor took a 57-53 edge into the final period.

To that point, Watkins had 21 points but on 7-for-24 shooting.

USC scored the first six points of the fourth quarter and regained the lead at 59-57 on a 3-pointer by Forbes. The teams battled back and forth, with Watkins converting a three-point play to push the Trojans in front 67-64 with 3:13 remaining. Watkins hit a pair at the line to make it 69-64 with 1:49 to play.

Andrews drilled a 3 to cut the margin to 69-67 with 1:38 to go. Neither team scored again until Watkins sank two foul shots to up the Trojans' lead to 71-67 with 26.4 seconds on the clock.

Then it was Andrews, connecting again from beyond the arc to cut the difference to 71-70 with 22.8 seconds left. The Bears fouled Watkins, who drained two free throws to make it 73-70 with 19.5 ticks left. Andrews missed a long 3-point attempt and Marshall was fouled on the rebound. She split a pair at the line to make it 74-70 with 8.2 ticks left to seal the verdict.



USC guard JuJu Watkins (12) drives to the basket against Baylor guard Bella Fontleroy on Saturday in Portland, Ore. TROY WAYRYNEN/USA TODAY SPORTS

Watkins scored 15 points as USC took a 37-31 lead into halftime. The Trojans' meal ticket was 5-for-16 from the field.

Baylor's problem in the first half was shooting. The Bears were 11-for-34 from the field (32.4 percent), including 3-for-12 from beyond the arc. No Baylor player had more than six points at the break.

UConn 53, Duke 45

Paige Bueckers scored 24 points and No. 3 seed Connecticut grinded its way to a victory over No. 7 seed Duke in the Portland Region semifinals at Moda Center.

The third-seeded Huskies (32-5) used stifling defense to pull out their 12th straight win and earn a spot against USC in Monday's Elite Eight.

Oluchi Okananwa scored 15 points off the bench to lead Duke (22-12).

The Blue Devils shot 32.7 percent from the field, made only 4 of 21 shots from 3-point range and committed 23 turnovers. They scored only 13 points in the first half and were held to their second-lowest scoring total of the season.

The Huskies shot only 40 percent from the field and register a worse percentage than Duke from beyond the arc (3 of 16, 18.8 percent). Nonetheless, they forged a 20-point lead in the third quarter and held on as Duke rallied down the stretch.

UConn extended a 10-point halftime lead to 33-17 early in the third quarter. Huskies center Aaliyah Edwards was whistled for her fourth foul with 4:18 left in the quarter and her team ahead 33-19. Bueckers knocked down back-to-back jumpers and KK Arnold followed with a pair of foul shots to make it 39-19.

Finally, Duke began to find its range, using an 8-3 run to close the gap to 42-27 heading into the final period. The Blue Devils continued to chip away from there. A three-point play by Okananwa with 4:46 remaining trimmed the deficit to 48-38.

Neither team scored again until Reigan Richardson hit a jumper to draw Duke within 48-40 with 2:30 left. When Okananwa drilled a 3-pointer with 1:59 to go, the difference was 48-43.

But Edwards connected on a jumper with 1:06 to play to make it 50-43. Bueckers made three free throws down the stretch to help the Huskies hold Duke at bay.

UConn coach Geno Auriemma used only six players. Three of them – Bueckers, Arnold and Nika Muhl – went the distance.

The Huskies led 10-6 after a slow-paced first quarter. Duke was only 3 for 13 from the field – and 0-for-5 on 3-point attempts – in the quarter. The Huskies weren't much better at 5 for 14 and 0-for-2 from distance.

Bueckers picked up her second foul early in the second quarter but remained in the game. Her three-point play pulled UConn into a 15-6 lead with 7:02 remaining in the quarter. Midway through the period, Duke had 13 turnovers.

NCAA TOURNAMENT

2024 NCAA Division I men's basketball tournament

All times Eastern

East — Boston, March 30

1 Connecticut (35-3) 91 — Brooklyn, N.Y., March 22
16 Stetson (22-13) 52
8 Florida Atlantic (25-9) 65 — Brooklyn, N.Y., March 22 — OT
9 Northwestern (22-12) 77
5 San Diego St. (26-11) 69 — Spokane, Wash., March 22
12 UAB (23-12) 65
4 Auburn (27-8) 76 — Spokane, Wash., March 22
13 Yale (23-10) 78
6 BYU (23-11) 67 — Omaha, Neb., March 21
11 Duquesne (25-12) 71
3 Illinois (29-9) 85 — Omaha, Neb., March 21
14 Morehead St. (26-9) 69
7 Washington St. (25-10) 66 — Omaha, Neb., March 21
10 Drake (28-7) 61
2 Iowa St. (29-8) 82 — Omaha, Neb., March 21
15 S.D. State (22-13) 65

Connecticut 75 — Brooklyn, N.Y., March 24
Northwestern 58
San Diego St. 85 — Spokane, Wash., March 24
Yale 57
Duquesne 63 — Omaha, Neb., March 23
Illinois 89
Washington St. 56 — Omaha, Neb., March 23
Iowa St. 67

Connecticut 82 — Boston, March 28
San Diego St. 52
Illinois 72 — Boston, March 28
Iowa St. 69

Connecticut 77
Illinois 52

Connecticut

Final Four — Phoenix, April 8

Connecticut

West — Los Angeles, March 30

1 N. Carolina (29-8) 90 — Charlotte, N.C., March 21
16 Wagner (17-16) 62
8 Mississippi St. (21-14) 51 — Charlotte, N.C., March 21
9 Michigan St (20-15) 69
5 St. Mary's (26-8) 66 — Spokane, Wash., March 22
12 Grand Canyon (30-5) 75
4 Alabama (25-11) 109 — Spokane, Wash., March 22
13 Charleston (27-8) 96
6 Clemson (24-12) 77 — Memphis, March 22
11 New Mexico (26-10) 56
3 Baylor (24-11) 92 — Memphis, March 22
14 Colgate (25-10) 67
7 Dayton (25-8) 63 — Salt Lake City, March 21
10 Nevada (26-8) 60
2 Arizona (27-9) 85 — Salt Lake City, March 21
15 Long Beach St. (21-15) 65

N. Carolina 85 — Charlotte, N.C., March 23
Michigan St 69
Grand Canyon 61 — Spokane, Wash., March 24
Alabama 72
Clemson 72 — Memphis, March 24
Baylor 64
Dayton 68 — Salt Lake City, March 23
Arizona 78

N. Carolina 87 — Los Angeles, March 28
Alabama 89
Clemson 77 — Los Angeles, March 28
Arizona 72

Alabama 89
Clemson 82

Alabama

Phoenix, April 6

South — Dallas, Sunday, 5:05 p.m., CBS

1 Houston (32-5) 86 — Memphis, March 22
16 Longwood (21-14) 46
8 Nebraska (23-11) 83 — Memphis, March 22
9 Texas A&M (21-15) 98
5 Wisconsin (22-14) 61 — Brooklyn, N.Y., March 22
12 James Madison (32-4) 72
4 Duke (27-8) 64 — Brooklyn, N.Y., March 22
13 Vermont (28-7) 47
6 Texas Tech (23-11) 67 — Pittsburgh, March 21
11 N.C. State (25-14) 80
3 Kentucky (23-10) 76 — Pittsburgh, March 21
14 Oakland (24-12) 80
7 Florida (24-12) 100 — Indianapolis, March 22
10 Colorado (26-11) 102
2 Marquette (27-10) 87 — Indianapolis, March 22
15 W. Kentucky (22-12) 69

Houston 100 — Memphis, March 24 — OT
Texas A&M 95
James Madison 55 — Brooklyn, N.Y., March 24
Duke 93
N.C. State 79 — Pittsburgh, March 23 — OT
Oakland 73
Colorado 77 — Indianapolis, March 24
Marquette 81

Houston 51 — Dallas, March 29
Duke 54
N.C. State 67 — Dallas, March 29
Marquette 58

Duke — Dallas, March 29
N.C. State

Phoenix, April 6

Midwest — Detroit, Mich., Sunday, 2:20 p.m., CBS

1 Purdue (32-4) 78 — Indianapolis, March 22
16 Grambling State (21-15) 50
8 Utah St. (28-7) 88 — Indianapolis, March 22
9 TCU (21-13) 72
5 Gonzaga (27-8) 86 — Salt Lake City, March 21
12 McNeese St. (30-4) 65
4 Kansas (23-11) 93 — Salt Lake City, March 21
13 Samford (29-6) 89
6 S. Carolina (26-8) 73 — Pittsburgh, March 21
11 Oregon (24-12) 87
3 Creighton (25-10) 77 — Pittsburgh, March 21
14 Akron (24-11) 60
7 Texas (21-13) 56 — Charlotte, N.C., March 21
10 Colorado St. (25-11) 44
2 Tennessee (27-8) 83 — Charlotte, N.C., March 21
15 St. Peter's (19-14) 49

Purdue 106 — Indianapolis, March 22
Grambling State 50
Purdue 80 — Indianapolis, March 24
Utah St. 67
Gonzaga 89 — Salt Lake City, March 23
Kansas 68
Oregon 73 — Pittsburgh, March 23 — 2OT
Creighton 86
Texas 58 — Charlotte, N.C., March 23
Tennessee 82

Purdue — Detroit, Mich., March 29
Gonzaga 68
Creighton 75 — Detroit, Mich., March 29
Tennessee

Houston 51 — Memphis, March 24 — OT
Texas A&M 95
Duke — Dallas, March 29
James Madison 55 — Brooklyn, N.Y., March 24
Duke 54
N.C. State 67 — Pittsburgh, March 23 — OT
Oakland 73
N.C. State — Dallas, March 29
Colorado 77 — Indianapolis, March 24
Marquette 58

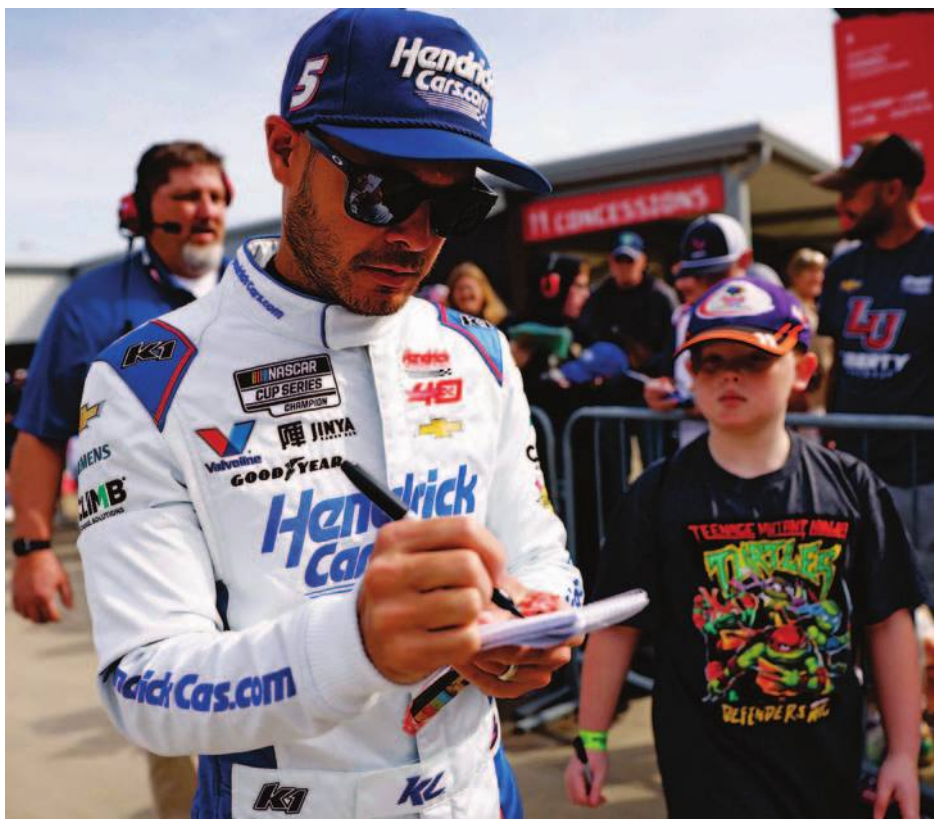
Houston 100 — Memphis, March 24 — OT
Texas A&M 95
Duke — Dallas, March 29
James Madison 55 — Brooklyn, N.Y., March 24
Duke 54
N.C. State 79 — Pittsburgh, March 23 — OT
Oakland 73
Colorado 77 — Indianapolis, March 24
Marquette 81

Houston 51 — Memphis, March 24 — OT
Texas A&M 95
James Madison 55 — Brooklyn, N.Y., March 24
Duke 93
N.C. State 79 — Pittsburgh, March 21
N.C. State (25-14) 80
Kentucky (23-10) 76 — Pittsburgh, March 21
Oakland (24-12) 80
Colorado (26-11) 102 — Indianapolis, March 22
Marquette (27-10) 87 — Indianapolis, March 22
W. Kentucky (22-12) 69

Purdue 106 — Indianapolis, March 22
Grambling State (21-15) 50
Purdue 80 — Indianapolis, March 24
Utah St. (28-7) 88 — Indianapolis, March 22
Gonzaga 89 — Salt Lake City, March 21
McNeese St. (30-4) 65
Oregon 73 — Pittsburgh, March 21
Oregon (24-12) 87
Creighton 75 — Pittsburgh, March 23 — 2OT
Creighton (25-10) 77 — Pittsburgh, March 21
Akron (24-11) 60
Texas 58 — Charlotte, N.C., March 21
Colorado St. (25-11) 44
Tennessee 82 — Charlotte, N.C., March 23
Tennessee (27-8) 83 — Charlotte, N.C., March 21
St. Peter's (19-14) 49

AUTO RACING

NASCAR CUP SERIES



Kyle Larson signs autographs for fans during practice for the Toyota Owners 400 on Saturday at Richmond (Va.) Raceway. PETER CASEY/USA TODAY SPORTS

Larson claims pole for Cup race at Richmond

Holly Cain
NASCAR Wire Service
Special to Field Level Media

Kyle Larson claimed his first pole position of the 2024 season Saturday afternoon to lead an all-Hendrick Motorsports front row for Sunday's Toyota Owner's 400 at Richmond (Va.) Raceway (7 p.m. ET on FOX, MRN and SiriusXM NASCAR Radio).

Larson's time of 22.438-seconds (120.332 mph) narrowly bettered his teammate Chase Elliott's mark of 22.440-seconds (120.321) around the three-quarter-mile Richmond oval – good enough to earn the 2021 series champion and defending Richmond race winner the 17th pole position of his career.

"Definitely helps for sure," Larson said. "Having the number one pit stall here means a lot. So happy to do that. Happy to be in Group A for sure and then the sun coming out a little bit there helps.

"Chase got real close there so I was a bit nervous. Awesome day for Hendrick Motorsports. ... Good to be on the pole. We'll see if it translates in tomorrow's race."

Trackhouse Racing's Ross Chastain will start third followed by Hendrick driver Alex Bowman and 23XI Racing's Bubba Wallace.

Front Row Motorsports' Todd Gilliland, Joe Gibbs Racing teammates Martin Truex Jr. and Ty Gibbs, and Team Penske teammates Austin Cindric and Joey Logano rounded out the top qualifiers at Richmond.

Logano's No. 22 Team Penske Ford had been fastest in Group A during first round qualifying, as had Elliott, whose 22.114-second 122.095 mph was quickest overall in the opening round.

Of note, Denny Hamlin just missed advancing to second round qualifying and the four-time Richmond winner will start 11th in the No. 11 Joe Gibbs Racing Toyota.

Team Penske's Ryan Blaney, who posted the fastest 30-lap average speed in practice, will start 12th.

Last week's winner at the Circuit of The Americas road course, Hendrick Motorsports' William Byron will roll off 13th. He is the first multi-race winner of the season, with victories in the Daytona 500 and COTA. He'll start alongside the summer Richmond race winner, RFK Racing's Chris Buescher.

NASCAR XFINITY SERIES

Chandler Smith defends title at ToyotaCare 250

Holly Cain
NASCAR Wire Service
Special to Field Level Media.

Chandler Smith led a Joe Gibbs Racing sweep at Richmond (Va.) Raceway on Saturday afternoon, cruising to a 4.495-second victory over teammates Aric Almirola and Tanner Gray in the ToyotaCare 250 NASCAR Xfinity Series race.

It marks back-to-back wins in this race for Smith and he led the final 60 laps in the No. 81 JGR Toyota, 76 laps on the day for his third career win, second of the season. It was his teammate Almirola, who won both Stages and led a race-best 95 of the 250 laps in his No. 20 JGR Toyota, but the former full-time NASCAR Cup Series driver ultimately could not catch Smith, who pulled away in the closing laps.

"Never give up, never give up," said Smith, who has top-10 finishes in all six races this year. "This car was not good. Stage 1 wasn't good, but we were able to do some strategy there with this No. 81 Supra in Stage 2.

"Back here winning races on a consistent basis and took over the points lead too, I'm just blessed."

Almirola acknowledged he didn't have what he needed to catch the 21-year-old Georgia native in the closing laps. He'll have another chance at victory next week as he's in the car again at Martinsville (Va.) Speedway.

"We just got a little bit too loose," Almirola said. "The run before that in Stage 2, when I took off, my car was really, really good. At the end, it just felt a little tight and that last run for whatever reason, different set of tires or what, I let Chandler go and when I started to just creep back to him, I didn't have anything to go with.

"I was too loose in and couldn't get throttle down on exit. Hate that to win both stages and feel like we had the dominant car and then to let it slip away there at the end, is disappointing."

The JGR team can also take pride in its third-place finish – considering it was the 24-year-old Gray's series debut. Truck Series full-timer Corey Heim was fourth followed by series rookie Jesse Love.

It was also a big outing for renowned late model racer Bubba Pollard, punctuating his series debut with a sixth-place finish in the No. 88 JR Motorsports Chevrolet – particularly impressive considering Pollard started 37th.

"I just got behind in qualifying there and it made for a long day," Pollard said. "But these guys gave me a great race car, JR Motorsports.

"I needed that long green flag run just to get in a rhythm. This place is tough, it's technical and probably one of the toughest places I've been to, and I've been to a lot of places.

"I'm happy with it. I enjoyed it and had fun and hopefully the fans enjoyed it too."



Chandler Smith celebrates with a burnout after winning the ToyotaCare 250 at Richmond (Va.) Raceway on Saturday. JONATHAN BACHMAN/GETTY IMAGES

NBA

SATURDAY'S ROUNDUP

Celtics defense shuts down Pelicans

FIELD LEVEL MEDIA

Kristaps Porzingis had a double-double and Boston's defense stifled the New Orleans Pelicans' offense in the visiting Celtics' 104-92 victory Saturday.

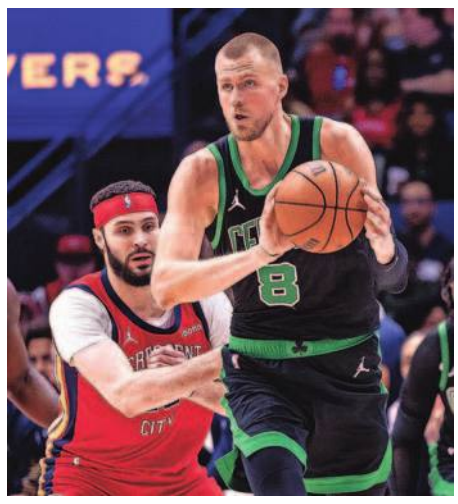
Porzingis finished with 19 points and 10 rebounds, four teammates also scored in double figures and the Celtics (58-16) took command in the third quarter to end a two-game losing streak – its longest of the season. Jayson Tatum scored 23 points, Jaylen Brown had 17, Derrick White had 15 and Jrue Holiday added 13.

Zion Williamson scored 25 points, CJ McCollum added 24, Herbert Jones had 18 and Trey Murphy III 11 to lead the Pelicans (45-29).

New Orleans scored 37 points in the first quarter but finished with fewer points in the second and third quarters combined (31).

The Celtics started the third with a 9-2 run that produced a 68-59 lead. McCollum made a field goal and Murphy added a 3-pointer to get the Pelicans within four points before they went cold.

Boston increased the lead to 11 as New Orleans didn't make a field goal for nearly four minutes. Murphy ended the drought by making another 3-pointer before Tatum had five points during a finishing 7-0 run that gave the Celtics an 83-65 lead at the end of the third. New Orleans shot 4-for-23 from the floor in the period.



Celtics center Kristaps Porzingis (8) passes the ball against Pelicans forward Larry Nance Jr. on Saturday in New Orleans. STEPHEN LEW/USA TODAY

Bucks 122, Hawks 113

Giannis Antetokounmpo had 36 points and 16 rebounds and visiting Milwaukee ended its two-game losing streak by beating Atlanta.

Antetokounmpo was 12-for-22 from the field and 12-for-16 from the free-throw line and added eight assists. It was the league-leading 34th time that Antetokounmpo has recorded 30-plus points and 10-plus rebounds.

The Bucks remained No. 2 in the Eastern Conference and expanded their lead over Cleveland to two games. The loss ended Atlanta's four-game winning streak and left the Hawks in 10th place in the Eastern Conference, one game behind Chicago.

The win gave Milwaukee a 2-1 edge in the season series. Antetokounmpo had a combined 94 points and 38 rebounds in the three games vs. Atlanta.

Milwaukee (47-27) also got 21 points from Khris Middleton and 18 points from Patrick Beverly, who started because Damian Lillard missed the game for personal reasons.

Magic 118, Grizzlies 88

Wendell Carter Jr. had 15 points and 13 rebounds as Orlando beat visiting Memphis.

Orlando (43-31) led by as many as 43 and snapped a three-game losing streak. Seven Magic players scored in double figures, including Cole Anthony (15), Jalen Suggs (15), Franz Wagner (13), and Paolo Banchero, who had 13 points, nine rebounds, seven assists, and matched his career high with four blocked shots.

Orlando never trailed after the opening two minutes and shot 48.7 percent from the floor, including 22 of 44 (50 percent) from 3-point range.

Memphis (24-50) played with a makeshift lineup after Desmond Bane (back soreness) and Santi Aldama (illness) were ruled out prior to the game.

Orlando led by 20 at the end of the opening quarter and never let the undermanned Grizzlies get within striking distance.

SATURDAY'S BOX SCORES

Boston 104, New Orleans 92

BOSTON (104)
Brown 6-16 2-2 17, Tatum 10-17 0-0 23, Porzingis 6-14 6-6 19, Holiday 5-10 0-0 13, White 5-9 2-2 15, Horford 4-7 0-0 9, Pritchard 1-3 0-0 2, Hauser 1-3 0-0 3, Tillman 1-3 1-2 3. Totals 39-82 11-12 104.

NEW ORLEANS (92)
Murphy III 3-10 2-2 11, Williamson 9-17 7-14 25, Valanciunas 1-5 0-0 2, Jones 6-15 2-2 18, McCollum 10-23 0-0 24, Marshall 2-4 0-0 5, Nance Jr. 2-5 0-0 5, Daniels 1-3 0-0 2, Ryan 0-1 0-0 0, Hawkins 0-3 0-0 0. Totals 34-86 11-18 92.

BOS	28	31	24	21	–	104
NOP	37	20	11	24	–	92

3-Point Goals: Boston 15-37 (Brown 3-4, Holiday 3-6, Tatum 3-6, White 3-7, Horford 1-3, Hauser 1-3, Porzingis 1-6, Pritchard 0-2), New Orleans 13-35 (Jones 4-9, McCollum 4-11, Murphy III 3-6, Marshall 1-1, Nance Jr. 1-3, Valanciunas 0-1, Ryan 0-1, Hawkins 0-1, Daniels 0-2). Fouled Out: None. Rebounds: Boston 51 (Porzingis 10), New Orleans 41 (Murphy III, Williamson 9). Assists: Boston 27 (Holiday 7), New Orleans 23 (McCollum 6). Total Fouls: Boston 13, New Orleans 12. A: 17,932 (16,867)

Orlando 118, Memphis 88

MEMPHIS (88)
Jackson Jr. 1-9 2-2 4, Pereira 2-5 3-4 7, Goodwin 6-15 0-0 16, Stevens 3-10 0-0 7, Clarke 6-9 1-2 13, Simpson 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 31-86 14-17 88.

ORLANDO (118)
Carter Jr. 4-10 4-4 15, Fultz 5-13 0-0 12, Ingles 3-4 2-2 11, Anthony 5-11 0-0 15, Black 1-2 0-0 2, Wagner 1-1 1-2 4, Bitadze 2-3 0-1 4, Schofield 1-2 0-0 3, Okeke 0-2 2-2 2. Totals 38-78 20-23 118.

MEM	13	21	21	33	–	88
ORL	33	25	32	28	–	118

3-Point Goals: Memphis 12-36 (Goodwin 4-6, Jackson 2-4, LaRavia 2-5, Kennard 2-7, Pippen Jr. 1-4, Stevens 1-5, Pereira 0-1, Clarke 0-1, Jackson Jr. 0-3), Orlando 22-44 (Anthony 5-8, Suggs 3-4, Ingles 3-4, Houstan 3-4, Carter Jr. 3-7, Fultz 2-3, Wagner 1-1, Schofield 1-2, Banchero 1-5, Black 0-1, Okeke 0-1, Wagner 0-4). Fouled Out: None. Rebounds: Memphis 45 (Goodwin 11), Orlando 43 (Carter Jr. 13). Assists: Memphis 25 (Kennard 5), Orlando 28 (Banchero 7). Total Fouls: Memphis 19, Orlando 16. A: 0 (18,500)

Milwaukee 122, Atlanta 113

MILWAUKEE (122)
Antetokounmpo 12-22 12-16 36, Middleton 9-10 0-0 21, Lopez 3-3 6-6 13, Beasley 4-12 0-0 10, Beverley 6-10 4-4 18, Portis 6-10 1-2 13, Connaughton 1-3 2-4 4, Crowder 1-5 3-3 5, Green 1-3 0-0 2. Totals 43-78 28-35 122.

ATLANTA (113)
Hunter 5-13 1-1 13, Krejci 3-5 0-0 8, Capela 5-9 0-0 10, Bogdanovic 12-23 9-10 38, Murray 7-19 3-4 20, Fernando 4-7 2-3 10, Matthews 4-9 0-0 9, Mathews 1-3 0-0 3, Forrest 1-3 0-0 2, Windler 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 42-92 15-18 113.

MIL	33	26	30	33	–	122
ATL	28	17	29	39	–	113

3-Point Goals: Milwaukee 8-28 (Middleton 3-3, Beverley 2-5, Beasley 2-9, Lopez 1-1, Antetokounmpo 0-1, Connaughton 0-2, Portis 0-2, Green 0-2, Crowder 0-3), Atlanta 14-35 (Bogdanovic 5-9, Murray 3-10, Krejci 2-4, Hunter 2-5, Matthews 1-3, Mathews 1-3, Windler 0-1). Fouled Out: None. Rebounds: Milwaukee 40 (Antetokounmpo 16), Atlanta 39 (Bogdanovic 10). Assists: Milwaukee 27 (Antetokounmpo 8), Atlanta 24 (Murray 12). Total Fouls: Milwaukee 18, Atlanta 26. A: 17,700 (18,729)

SOCCER

MLS ROUNDUP

Mihailovic scores 2 to rally Rapids past LAFC

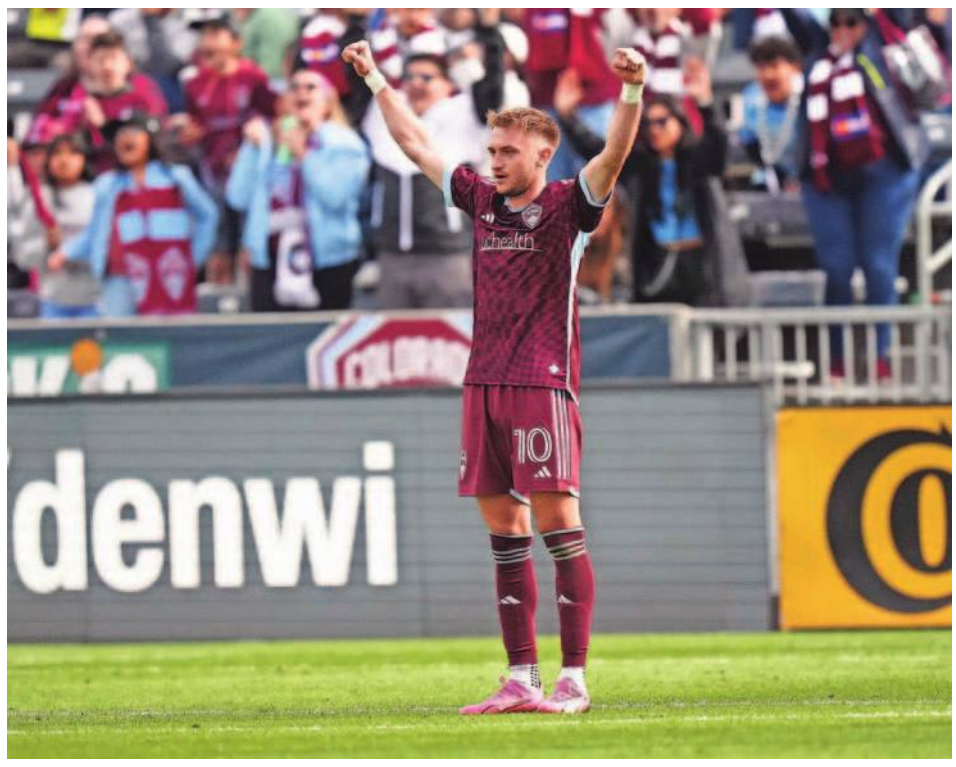
FIELD LEVEL MEDIA

Djordje Mihailovic scored his first two goals for his new MLS club during the final 10 minutes and Colorado rallied to a stunning 3-2 victory over visiting LAFC on Saturday afternoon.

Mihailovic's first came on an 83rd-minute free kick while LAFC was still at full strength. His second – an improvisational finish from close range in the 89th – came after LAFC substitute David Martinez was sent off for receiving his second yellow card.

Moise Bombito also scored his first career MLS goal late in the first half for the Rapids (2-2-2, 8 points), who twice from a one-goal deficit to secure their first home win under first-year coach Chris Armas.

Martinez had previously given LAFC (2-3-1, 7 points) the lead with a brilliant individual goal in the 76th minute. But the 18-year-old's ill-advised kick of the ball after a foul resulted in a second yellow card for dissent, setting the stage for the Black-and-Gold to remain without a point earned away from home this season.



Colorado Rapids midfielder Djordje Mihailovic celebrates during Saturday's game against LAFC in Commerce City, Colo. RON CHENOY/USA TODAY SPORTS

Vancouver 3, Portland 2

Ryan Raposo scored the go-ahead goal in the 87th minute to give the host Whitecaps a Cascadia Cup victory over the Timbers.

Raposo knocked in a Fafa Picault pass with a right-footed shot near the goal line during a scramble inside the 6-yard box for the game-winner.

Picault had a goal and an assist and Ryan Gauld also scored for Vancouver (3-1-1, 10 points), which moved into a tie for second place in the Western Conference. Yohei Takaoka finished with two saves for the Whitecaps.

Sporting KC 3, Toronto 1

Remi Walter, Jake Davis and Alenis Vargas scored second-half goals, leading Sporting Kansas City to a road victory over Toronto FC in the first clash between the clubs since 2019.

On his return from injury, Toronto FC captain Jonathan Osorio scored in second-half extra time for the hosts, cutting into the deficit with a consolation goal and avoiding being shut out at home.

In his 100th regular-season MLS appearance, Walter opened the scoring for Kansas City (2-1-3, 9 points) in the 57th minute, finishing a blistering shot from outside the box as the visitors hit Toronto (3-2-1, 10 points) on the counter-attack. Erik Thommy crossed the ball in from the right side, forcing a failed clearance from centerback Kevin Long, lining up the clear attempt for Walter, who curled his strike past Toronto goalkeeper Luka Gavran.

Real Salt Lake 3, St. Louis 1

Cristian Arango scored three second-half goals, including a go-head marker on a penalty kick, as Real Salt Lake overcame an early defensive lapse to defeat visiting St. Louis City.

Arango had all of his goals in a span of about 21 minutes, pushing his goals total to five through five games this season.

Real Salt Lake (3-2-1, 10 points) has scored more than one goal in each of its victories this season.

Indiana Vassilev scored for St. Louis (1-1-4, 7 points).

Houston 2, San Jose 1

The Earthquakes started fast but the Dynamo finished strong and used two second-half scores to notch a home victory.

Bruno Wilson scored goal just a minute into the Earthquakes' road test. The marker, a header which came by way of a Cristian Espinoza corner boot and was Wilson's first of his MLS career, and staked San Jose to a lead at the outset.

Sebastían Ferreira and Franco Escobar notched scores during a four-minute span in the second half to boost Houston (3-1-1, 10 points) ahead.

The initial goal came in the 81st minute and the decisive tally came in the 85th.

Austin 2, Dallas 1

Diego Rubio's scored in the 70th minute off an assist from Sebastian Driussi to lift host Austin FC to a victory shorthanded FC Dallas in a Copa Tejas game.

Rubio ran to the far post to get his head on a curling pass from Driussi and beat Dallas goalkeeper Maarten Paes to the right side of the net. Dallas defender Nkosi Tafari was caught flatfooted on the play, allowing Rubio to get just behind him.

The goal allowed the Verde (1-2-3, 6 points) the early lead in Copa Tejas, an in-season competition between the three Texas MLS clubs (including Houston). Austin FC has won the event the last two years.

Austin outshot Dallas 16-7, and each team placed four shots on goal.

Philadelphia 2, Minnesota 0

Daniel Gazdag scored in the 16th minute to fuel the Union to a victory over visiting Minnesota United.

Kai Wagner and defender Jack Elliott each notched an assist on Gazdag's third goal of the season and second in as many matches played. Gazdag (international duty) was one of six starters missing in Philadelphia's 3-1 victory over the Portland Timbers on March 23.

Julian Carranza, who tallied twice versus the Timbers, provided insurance by scoring in the 84th minute on Saturday.

Andre Blake finished with four saves during a physical match before he took a seat on the field in the 73rd minute. Oliver Semmle came on in relief and turned aside one shot for the Union (2-0-3, 9 points), who handed Minnesota United (3-1-1, 10 points) their first setback of the season.

D.C. United 1, Montreal 0

Pedro Santos scored on a ferocious half volley in the 85th minute to lift D.C. United over visiting CF Montreal.

The goal came on a night when D.C.'s top scorer, Christian Benteke, uncharacteristically failed to convert several quality chances.

The Black-and-Red (2-1-3, 9 points) got their first victory since a 3-1 home win over New England on the opening weekend.

Jonathan Sirois made three stops to keep Montreal (2-2-1, 7 points) in the match as it continued a six-match road trip to begin their season.

LA Galaxy 1, Seattle 0

Gabriel Pec scored his first MLS goal in the very early stages, and the LA Galaxy made it stand up for a victory over the visiting Sounders in soggy conditions.

Joseph Paintsil set up Pec's goal with his second assist to continue his bright start in MLS with the Galaxy (3-0-3, 12 points), which finally won at home for the first time this season despite their unbeaten start.

John McCarthy made three saves to preserve the Galaxy's first clean sheet after they had conceded nine goals in their first five matches.

Attacking midfielder Albert Rusnak made his first start for Seattle (0-3-2, 2 points) after beginning the year injured and then playing two matches as a substitute.

Columbus 2, Nashville 2

Substitute Marino Hinestroza scored his first MLS goal in the 79th minute as the Columbus Crew rallied for a draw with host Nashville SC.

Sean Zawadzki also scored for the Crew (3-1-2, 11 points), the defending MLS Cup champions, before being replaced by Hinestroza at the half.

Hany Mukhtar and Anibal Godoy scored in first-half stoppage time for Nashville (1-1-4, 7 points).

The tying goal came after Yew Yeboah dribbled the ball to the end line on the left wing and sent a cross to Hinestroza just inside the top right of the 6-yard box for a header over leaping goalie Elliot Panicco. It was Yewboah's fifth assist of the season.

NY Red Bulls 1, Orlando 1

On the verge of continuing their worst start in club history, Orlando City salvaged a draw at home against the New York Red Bulls after an own goal from New York defender Noah Elle in the 89th minute.

The Lions (1-3-2, 5 points) held possession for the most of the night and ended the match with a 14-7 shot advantage over the Red Bulls (3-1-2, 11 points). But Orlando City trailed for the better part of the match before Ivan Angulo's cross from the left wing and into the six-yard box was deflected by Elle into the bottom right corner to draw them level.

New York held a 1-0 lead late thanks to a first-half penalty from Lewis Morgan, who netted his fourth goal in two matches and his sixth total of the season with the spot kick. The meeting with Orlando was Morgan's 100th career MLS match and was another encouraging show of form after the Scottish forward dealt with nagging hip injuries across the 2023 campaign.

Cincinnati 1, Charlotte 1

Aaron Boupendza scored in the second minute of second-half stoppage time as FC Cincinnati rallied for a tie with host Charlotte FC.

FC Cincinnati (3-0-3, 12 points) had won its previous two matches.

Djibril Diani scored on a penalty kick in the 60th minute for Charlotte FC (2-2, 8 points).

Kristijan Kahlina had four saves for Charlotte, while Roman Celetano had just one stop for Cincinnati.

Cincinnati applied pressure during stoppage time and DeAndre Yedlin sent a little tap pass to Boupendza, who was wide open in front of the net and easily smacked the ball into the open net for the tie.

New York City FC 1, Miami 1

Luis Suarez of Inter Miami CF and Alonso Martinez of New York City FC exchanged first half goals as the two teams played to a draw at Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

With the draw, NYCFC (1-4-1, 4 points) picked up a point for the first time since a March 16 victory over Toronto FC.

Miami (3-2-2, 11 points) is now 2-2-1 against Eastern Conference opponents this season and 2-1-1 at home in MLS action.

Suarez had multiple second half opportunities to break the tie.

In the 56th minute, he finished a give-and-go with Jordi Alba, but New York keeper Matt Freese made a diving save on Suarez's left-footed strike from the center of the area.

Then in the 66th minute, Gressel's cross was just out of Suarez's reach as the striker had an open shot at the goal.

NWSL ROUNDUP

Current roll past Angel City; Courage edge Gotham



Kansas City Current forward Bia Zaneratto, right, celebrates after a goal against Angel City FC on Saturday. KYLIE GRAHAM/USA TODAY SPORTS

FIELD LEVEL MEDIA

Vanessa DiBernardo, Temwa Chawinga and Bia Zaneratto each had a goal and an assist and the Kansas City Current held on for a 4-2 victory against visiting Angel City FC with the aid of a video review Saturday.

A would-be tying goal from Rocky Rodriguez with about six minutes remaining in regulation time was nullified because of offsides after a review.

Zaneratto scored in extra time to push the margin to two goals, giving her two goals this year. Alexa Spaanstra also scored for the Current (3-0-0, 9 points).

Angel City (0-2-1, 1 point), which had scored one goal combined in its first two games, doubled that with two goals Saturday.

Sydney Leroux scored in the first half for Angel City.

Madison Curry converted about six minutes prior to the Rodriguez tally being wiped out.

North Carolina Courage 1, NY/NJ Gotham 0

Brianna Pinto scored late in the first half and that was enough for the host Courage.

The Courage (2-1-0, 6 points) had fewer than half of the match's scoring chances. Gotham (1-1-0, 3 points), the reigning league champion, has split two road matches.

Pinto redirected a header from Ashley Sanchez, who also was in the box and supplied the assist. Gotham goalkeeper Cassie Miller couldn't reverse her body's momentum in time to make a stop.

Racing Louisville 2, Portland Thorns 2

Sam Coffey scored in extra time as the host Thorns managed a draw in what was a strong comeback after Racing Louisville's Uchenna Kanu scored twice in the first six minutes, but the result left both teams winless.

Coffey's goal came after more than eight minutes of extra time. She took a pass and maneuvered inside the box from up top and fired a shot into the net.

Portland (0-2-1, 1 point) also received a goal from Morgan Weaver in the 52nd minute. Racing Louisville (0-0-3, 3 points) had only nine shot attempts, with Kanu converting two of those.

SCOREBOARD

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All times Eastern

MLB

American League

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Yankees	3	0	1.000	–
Orioles	2	0	1.000	½
Rays	2	1	.667	1
Red Sox	1	1	.500	1½
Blue Jays	1	2	.333	2

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Guardians	3	0	1.000	–
Tigers	2	0	1.000	½
Twins	2	0	1.000	½
White Sox	0	2	.000	2½
Royals	0	2	.000	2½

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Rangers	2	0	1.000	–
Mariners	1	1	.500	1
Angels	0	2	.000	2
Astros	0	3	.000	2½
Athletics	0	3	.000	2½

National League

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Braves	2	0	1.000	–
Nationals	1	1	.500	1
Mets	0	2	.000	2
Phillies	0	2	.000	2
Marlins	0	3	.000	2½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Pirates	3	0	1.000	–
Brewers	2	0	1.000	½
Reds	1	1	.500	1½
Cubs	0	2	.000	2½
Cardinals	0	2	.000	2½

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Diamondbacks	2	0	1.000	–
Dodgers	3	1	.750	–
Giants	2	1	.667	½
Padres	2	3	.400	1½
Rockies	0	2	.000	2

Friday's Scores

Milwaukee 3, N.Y. Mets 1
Atlanta 9, Philadelphia 3
Tampa Bay 8, Toronto 2
Pittsburgh 7, Miami 2
N.Y. Yankees 7, Houston 1
Arizona 7, Colorado 3
Seattle 1, Boston 0
San Francisco 8, San Diego 3
Cleveland 6, Oakland 4
L.A. Dodgers 6, St. Louis 3

Saturday's Scores

Milwaukee 7, N.Y. Mets 6
Detroit 7, Chicago 6
Baltimore 13, L.A. Angels 4
Atlanta 12, Philadelphia 4
Cleveland 12, Oakland 3
Washington 7, Cincinnati 6
Minnesota 5, Kansas City 1
Tampa Bay 5, Toronto 1
Pittsburgh 9, Miami 3
Texas 11, Chicago 2
N.Y. Yankees 5, Houston 3
San Francisco 9, San Diego 6
Colorado (Gomber) at Arizona (Henry)
St. Louis (Lynn) at L.A. Dodgers (Yamamoto 0-1)
Boston (Crawford) at Seattle (Gilbert)

Sunday's Games

L.A. Angels (Detmers) at Baltimore (Wells), 1:35 p.m.
Atlanta (Sale) at Philadelphia (Suarez), 1:35 p.m.
Washington (Irvin) at Cincinnati (Martinez), 1:40 p.m.
Toronto (Francis) at Tampa Bay (Alexander), 1:40 p.m.
Pittsburgh (Falter) at Miami (Rogers), 1:40 p.m.
Milwaukee (Rea) at N.Y. Mets (Megill), 1:40 p.m.
Detroit (Flaherty) at Chicago (Fedde), 2:10 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees (Schmidt) at Houston (TBD), 2:10 p.m.
Minnesota (Ober) at Kansas City (Singer), 2:10 p.m.
Chicago (Wicks) at Texas (Gray), 2:35 p.m.
Cleveland (Carrasco) at Oakland (Blackburn), 4:07 p.m.
Colorado (Feltner) at Arizona (Pfaadt), 4:10 p.m.
Boston (Whitlock) at Seattle (Miller), 4:10 p.m.
San Francisco (TBD) at San Diego (King 1-0), 4:10 p.m.
St. Louis (Matz) at L.A. Dodgers (Stone), 7:10 p.m.

Monday's Games

Atlanta (Morton) at Chicago (Flexen), 2:10 p.m.
Colorado (Hudson) at Chicago (Imanaga), 2:20 p.m.
Pittsburgh (TBD) at Washington (Gore), 4:05 p.m.
Kansas City (Wacha) at Baltimore (Kremer), 6:35 p.m.
L.A. Angels (TBD) at Miami (Meyer), 6:40 p.m.
Cincinnati (Abbott) at Philadelphia (Sanchez), 6:40 p.m.
Texas (TBD) at Tampa Bay (TBD), 6:50 p.m.
Detroit (Mize) at N.Y. Mets (Manaea), 7:10 p.m.
Toronto (Gausman) at Houston (Blanco), 8:10 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees (Gil) at Arizona (Nelson), 9:40 p.m.
Boston (Houck) at Oakland (Boyle), 9:40 p.m.
Cleveland (McKenzie) at Seattle (Hancock), 9:40 p.m.
St. Louis (Gibson) at San Diego (Waldron), 9:40 p.m.
San Francisco (TBD) at L.A. Dodgers (Paxton), 10:10 p.m.

Tuesday's Games

Minnesota (TBD) at Milwaukee (TBD), 4:10 p.m.
Kansas City (Marsh) at Baltimore (Irvin), 6:35 p.m.
L.A. Angels (TBD) at Miami (Luzardo 0-0), 6:40 p.m.
Cincinnati (Ashcraft) at Philadelphia (Turnbull), 6:40 p.m.
Texas (TBD) at Tampa Bay (Eflin 0-1), 6:50 p.m.
Detroit (TBD) at N.Y. Mets (Houser), 7:10 p.m.
Atlanta (Lopez) at Chicago (Crochet 0-1), 7:40 p.m.
Colorado (Freeland 0-1) at Chicago (Assad), 7:40 p.m.
Toronto (Berrios 1-0) at Houston (Valdez 0-0), 8:10 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees (Cortes 0-0) at Arizona (Gallen 1-0), 9:40 p.m.
Boston (Bello 1-0) at Oakland (Wood 0-1), 9:40 p.m.
Cleveland (Bieber 1-0) at Seattle (Castillo 0-1), 9:40 p.m.
St. Louis (Mikolas 0-1) at San Diego (Darvish 0-0), 9:40 p.m.
San Francisco (Webb 0-0) at L.A. Dodgers (Glasnow 1-0), 10:10 p.m.

Wednesday's Games

Kansas City (Ragans 0-1) at Baltimore (Burnes 1-0), 1:05 p.m.
Cincinnati (Montas 1-0) at Philadelphia (Wheeler 0-0), 1:05 p.m.
Texas (Eovaldi 0-0) at Tampa Bay (Civale 1-0), 1:10 p.m.
L.A. Angels (Sandoval 0-1) at Miami (Puk 0-1), 1:10 p.m.
Minnesota (TBD) at Milwaukee (TBD), 1:10 p.m.
Atlanta (Strider 0-0) at Chicago (Nastrini), 2:10 p.m.
Boston (Pivetta 0-1) at Oakland (Stripling 0-1), 3:37 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees (Rodon 0-0) at Arizona (Kelly 1-0), 3:40 p.m.
Cleveland (Allen 1-0) at Seattle (Kirby 1-0), 4:10 p.m.
St. Louis (Thompson 0-1) at San Diego (Musgrove 0-1), 4:10 p.m.
Pittsburgh (Keller 0-0) at Washington (Williams), 6:45 p.m.
Detroit (Skubal 1-0) at N.Y. Mets (Quintana 0-1), 7:10 p.m.
Colorado (Quantrill 0-1) at Chicago (Steele 0-0), 7:40 p.m.
Toronto (Bassitt 0-1) at Houston (Javier 0-0), 8:10 p.m.
San Francisco (Harrison 1-0) at L.A. Dodgers (Miller 1-0), 10:10 p.m.

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	58	16	.784	–
N.Y. Knicks	44	29	.603	13½
Philadelphia	39	35	.527	19
Brooklyn	29	45	.392	29
Toronto	23	50	.315	34½

Southeast Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Orlando	43	31	.581	–
Miami	40	33	.548	2½
Atlanta	34	40	.459	9
Charlotte	18	55	.247	24½
Washington	14	60	.189	29

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Milwaukee	47	27	.635	–
Cleveland	45	29	.608	2
Indiana	42	33	.560	5½
Chicago	35	39	.473	12
Detroit	13	61	.176	34

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New Orleans	45	29	.608	–
Dallas	44	29	.603	½
Houston	38	35	.521	6½
Memphis	24	50	.324	21
San Antonio	18	56	.243	27

Northwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Minnesota	51	22	.699	–
Oklahoma City	51	22	.699	–
Denver	51	23	.689	½
Utah	29	44	.397	22
Portland	19	55	.257	32½

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
L.A. Clippers	46	27	.630	–
Phoenix	43	31	.581	3½
Sacramento	42	31	.575	4
L.A. Lakers	41	33	.554	5½
Golden State	39	34	.534	7

Friday, March 29

Detroit 96, Washington 87
Indiana 109, L.A. Lakers 90
Golden State 115, Charlotte 97
L.A. Clippers 100, Orlando 97
Brooklyn 125, Chicago 108
Cleveland 117, Philadelphia 114
San Antonio 130, N.Y. Knicks 126
Oklahoma City 128, Phoenix 103
Miami 142, Portland 82
Minnesota 111, Denver 98
Houston 101, Utah 100
Dallas 107, Sacramento 103

Saturday, March 30

Boston 104, New Orleans 92
Orlando 118, Memphis 88
Milwaukee 122, Atlanta 113

Sunday, March 31

Cleveland at Denver, 3:30 p.m.
Philadelphia at Toronto, 6 p.m.
Miami at Washington, 6 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Brooklyn, 6 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Charlotte, 6 p.m.
Golden State at San Antonio, 7 p.m.
Oklahoma City at N.Y. Knicks, 7 p.m.
Chicago at Minnesota, 7 p.m.
Dallas at Houston, 7 p.m.
Utah at Sacramento, 9 p.m.

Monday, April 1

Brooklyn at Indiana, 7 p.m.
Boston at Charlotte, 7 p.m.
Portland at Orlando, 7 p.m.
Memphis at Detroit, 7 p.m.
Atlanta at Chicago, 8 p.m.
Phoenix at New Orleans, 8 p.m.

NHL

Eastern Conference

Atlantic Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Boston	43	17	15	101	249	208
Florida	47	22	5	99	239	182
Toronto	42	22	9	93	269	227
Tampa Bay	41	25	7	89	257	237
Detroit	36	30	8	80	247	247
Buffalo	35	35	5	75	223	227
Ottawa	33	36	4	70	236	253
Montreal	28	33	12	68	200	249

Metropolitan Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
N.Y. Rangers	50	20	4	104	257	206
Carolina	47	21	7	101	255	199
Washington	36	27	10	82	201	232
Philadelphia	36	29	10	82	219	235
N.Y. Islanders	31	27	15	77	216	245
New Jersey	36	34	4	76	243	252
Pittsburgh	32	30	11	75	215	220
Columbus	24	38	12	60	213	272

Western Conference

Central Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Dallas	47	19	9	103	276	220
Colorado	47	21	6	100	279	221
Winnipeg	44	24	6	94	224	184
Nashville	43	27	4	90	244	225
St. Louis	39	31	4	82	213	224
Minnesota	35	28	10	80	224	233
Arizona	31	38	5	67	226	248
Chicago	22	47	5	49	165	260

Pacific Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Vancouver	45	20	8	98	252	195
Edmonton	45	23	4	94	262	206
Vegas	41	25	8	90	238	216
L.A. Kings	38	24	11	87	226	193
Calgary	34	34	5	73	224	238
Seattle	30	30	13	73	193	211
Anaheim	24	46	4	52	180	269
San Jose	17	48	8	42	163	294

Friday, March 29

Buffalo 5, New Jersey 2

Saturday, March 30

Florida 3, Detroit 2, SO
Vegas 2, Minnesota 1, OT
Edmonton 6, Anaheim 1
N.Y. Rangers 8, Arizona 5
Colorado 7, Nashville 4
Toronto 3, Buffalo 0
Columbus 4, Pittsburgh 3, SO
Carolina 3, Montreal 0
Chicago 5, Philadelphia 1
Tampa Bay 4, N.Y. Islanders 1
Ottawa 3, Winnipeg 2
Boston 3, Washington 2, SO
San Jose 4, St. Louis 0
Calgary 4, L.A. Kings 2
Dallas 3, Seattle 0

Sunday, March 31

Anaheim at Vancouver, 3:30 p.m.

Monday, April 1

Colorado at Columbus, 7 p.m.
Pittsburgh at N.Y. Rangers, 7 p.m.
N.Y. Islanders at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Detroit at Tampa Bay, 7 p.m.
Florida at Toronto, 7 p.m.
Edmonton at St. Louis, 9 p.m.
L.A. Kings at Winnipeg, 9 p.m.
Seattle at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.

Leaders

Goal Scoring

Name	Team	GP	G
A.Matthews	Toronto	71	59
Z.Hyman	Edmonton	70	51
S.Reinhart	Florida	73	51
N.MacKinnon	Colorado	73	45
D.Pastrnak	Boston	74	45
A.Panarin	N.Y. Rangers	73	43
N.Kucherov	Tampa Bay	71	42
B.Point	Tampa Bay	71	42
F.Forsberg	Nashville	73	41
W.Nylander	Toronto	72	40
J.Marchessault	Vegas	73	39
M.Rantanen	Colorado	73	39
L.Draisaitl	Edmonton	71	38
B.Boeser	Vancouver	73	37
K.Kaprizov	Minnesota	65	36
SCrosby	Pittsburgh	72	35
J.T. Miller	Vancouver	73	35
C.Kreider	N.Y. Rangers	73	34
E.Pettersson	Vancouver	73	33
C.Verhaeghe	Florida	73	33

Assists

Name	Team	GP	A
C.McDavid	Edmonton	69	95
N.Kucherov	Tampa Bay	71	82
N.MacKinnon	Colorado	73	78
Q.Hughes	Vancouver	73	68
C.Makar	Colorado	68	60
A.Panarin	N.Y. Rangers	73	60
E.Bouchard	Edmonton	71	58
N.Dobson	N.Y. Islanders	72	58
L.Draisaitl	Edmonton	71	58
V.Hedman	Tampa Bay	69	58
M.Rantanen	Colorado	73	58
R.Josi	Nashville	73	57
J.T. Miller	Vancouver	73	57
D.Pastrnak	Boston	74	56
M.Tkachuk	Florida	72	56
W.Nylander	Toronto	72	54
S.Aho	Carolina	71	51
M.Barzal	N.Y. Islanders	71	51
M.Marner	Toronto	62	51
E.Pettersson	Vancouver	73	51

Power Play Goals

Name	Team	GP	PP
S.Reinhart	Florida	73	27
L.Draisaitl	Edmonton	71	19
B.Boeser	Vancouver	73	15
Z.Hyman	Edmonton	70	15
A.Matthews	Toronto	71	15
V.Nichushkin	Colorado	48	15
S.Stamkos	Tampa Bay	69	15
C.Kreider	N.Y. Rangers	73	14
R.O'Reilly	Nashville	73	14
B.Point	Tampa Bay	71	14
M.Rantanen	Colorado	73	14
K.Kaprizov	Minnesota	65	13
J.Eriksson Ek	Minnesota	67	12
N.Kucherov	Tampa Bay	71	12
A.Ovechkin	Washington	69	12
D.Pastrnak	Boston	74	12
E.Pettersson	Vancouver	73	12
F.Vatrano	Anaheim	73	12
S.Jarvis	Carolina	74	11
W.Nylander	Toronto	72	11

MLS

Eastern Conference

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
FC Cincinnati	3	0	2	11	5	2
Inter Miami CF	3	2	1	10	13	9
New York Red Bulls	3	1	1	10	8	5
Columbus Crew	3	1	1	10	7	4
Toronto FC	3	1	1	10	5	2
Philadelphia Union	2	0	3	9	10	6
CF Montreal	2	1	1	7	8	7
Charlotte FC	2	2	1	7	5	4
Atlanta United	2	2	0	6	6	4
D.C. United	1	1	3	6	8	8
Nashville SC	1	1	3	6	5	9
Chicago Fire FC	1	2	2	5	9	10
Orlando City	1	3	1	4	4	10
New York City FC	1	4	0	3	3	7
New England Revolution	0	4	1	1	4	11

Western Conference

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Minnesota United	3	1	1	10	8	6
LA Galaxy	2	0	3	9	12	9
Vancouver Whitecaps FC	2	1	1	7	7	4
Portland Timbers	2	2	1	7	9	8
Real Salt Lake	2	2	1	7	7	6
Los Angeles Football Club	2	2	1	7	7	6
Houston Dynamo FC	2	1	1	7	4	3
St. Louis City SC	1	0	4	7	10	8
Sporting Kansas City	1	1	3	6	6	6
Colorado Rapids	1	2	2	5	5	8
FC Dallas	1	3	0	3	5	8
San Jose Earthquakes	1	4	0	3	6	11
Austin FC	0	2	3	3	5	8
Seattle Sounders FC	0	2	2	2	4	6

Saturday, March 30

Philadelphia 2, Minnesota 0
LA FC at Colorado
CF Montreal at D.C. United
NY City FC at Inter Miami
Sporting KC at Toronto
FC Cincinnati at Charlotte
NY Red Bulls at Orlando
San Jose at Houston
Dallas at Austin
Columbus at Nashville
St. Louis SC at Real Salt Lake
Seattle FC at LA Galaxy
Portland at Vancouver

Sunday, March 31

Chicago Fire FC at Atlanta United, 3:30 p.m.

GOLF

Texas Children's Houston Open
Houston
Memorial Park Golf Course
Purse: $9.1 million
Yardage: 7,435; Par: 70
Third Round

Thomas Detry.....70-64-67–201 (-9)
Stephan Jaeger.....69-66-66–201 (-9)
Scottie Scheffler.....65-70-66–201 (-9)
David Skinns.....67-69-65–201 (-9)
Alejandro Tosti.....66-67-68–201 (-9)
Akshay Bhatia.....67-68-67–202 (-8)
Nick Dunlap.....68-71-63–202 (-8)
Taylor Moore.....64-71-67–202 (-8)
Tony Finau.....69-62-72–203 (-7)
Max Greyserman.....67-69-67–203 (-7)
Aaron Rai.....66-70-67–203 (-7)
Chad Ramey.....69-66-68–203 (-7)
Jacob Bridgeman.....71-69-65–205 (-5)
Tom Hoge.....71-66-68–205 (-5)
Victor Perez.....68-70-67–205 (-5)
Erik Barnes.....72-68-66–206 (-4)
Cameron Champ.....70-68-68–206 (-4)
Kevin Dougherty.....68-69-69–206 (-4)
Billy Horschel.....71-68-67–206 (-4)
Nate Lashley.....72-68-66–206 (-4)
Alex Noren.....69-71-66–206 (-4)
Cam Davis.....68-71-68–207 (-3)
Harry Hall.....69-71-67–207 (-3)
Garrick Higgo.....68-70-69–207 (-3)
Joe Highsmith.....65-70-72–207 (-3)
Mackenzie Hughes.....66-72-69–207 (-3)
Si Woo Kim.....69-70-68–207 (-3)
Kurt Kitayama.....73-68-66–207 (-3)
Ryan Moore.....70-71-66–207 (-3)
Davis Riley.....65-71-71–207 (-3)
Matti Schmid.....68-69-70–207 (-3)
Ben Silverman.....70-68-69–207 (-3)
Adam Svensson.....66-73-68–207 (-3)
Lanto Griffin.....71-68-69–208 (-2)
Chan Kim.....71-67-70–208 (-2)
S.H Kim.....68-72-68–208 (-2)
Martin Laird.....69-71-68–208 (-2)
Kyoung-Hoon Lee.....68-72-68–208 (-2)
Justin Lower.....72-67-69–208 (-2)
Peter Malnati.....68-73-67–208 (-2)
Chandler Phillips.....74-67-67–208 (-2)
J.J. Spaun.....68-69-71–208 (-2)
Sam Stevens.....73-68-67–208 (-2)
Callum Tarren.....70-68-70–208 (-2)
Sahith Theegala.....70-70-68–208 (-2)
Davis Thompson.....68-72-68–208 (-2)
Gary Woodland.....69-70-69–208 (-2)
Joseph Bramlett.....71-70-65–206 (-1)
Daniel Berger.....70-70-69–209 (-1)
Bud Cauley.....70-71-68–209 (-1)
Pierceson Coody.....69-71-69–209 (-1)
Wilson Furr.....64-75-70–209 (-1)
Ben Griffin.....72-68-69–209 (-1)
Mark Hubbard.....69-68-72–209 (-1)
Taylor Pendrith.....68-73-68–209 (-1)
Wyndham Clark.....70-68-72–210 (0)
Harrison Endycott.....69-72-69–210 (0)
Beau Hossler.....66-73-71–210 (0)
Raul Pereda.....71-68-71–210 (0)
Roger Sloan.....68-71-71–210 (0)
Austin Cook.....70-71-70–211 (1)
Chris Gotterup.....67-74-70–211 (1)
James Hahn.....70-69-72–211 (1)
Nick Hardy.....71-70-70–211 (1)
Michael Kim.....71-70-70–211 (1)
Greyson Sigg.....68-73-70–211 (1)
Will Zalatoris.....74-67-70–211 (1)
Ryan Brehm.....70-71-71–212 (2)
Scott Gutschewski.....70-70-72–212 (2)
Adam Long.....73-67-72–212 (2)
Andrew Novak.....68-71-73–212 (2)
Ryan Palmer.....69-70-73–212 (2)
Jhonattan Vegas.....71-70-71–212 (2)
Dylan Wu.....71-69-72–212 (2)
Tyson Alexander.....70-67-76–213 (3)
Emilio Gonzalez.....73-68-72–213 (3)
Sam Ryder.....69-70-74–213 (3)
A.Dumont De Chassart..69-72-73–214 (4)
Ryan Fox.....71-70-73–214 (4)
Patrick Rodgers.....67-74-73–214 (4)
Aaron Baddeley.....72-69-74–215 (5)
Samuel Bennett.....69-72-74–215 (5)
Vincent Norrman.....68-71-78–217 (7)
Paul Barjon.....71-71–142 (2)
Bronson Burgoon.....73-69–142 (2)
Parker Coody.....70-72–142 (2)
Jason Day.....72-70–142 (2)
Patrick Fishburn.....71-71–142 (2)
Nicholas Lindheim.....70-72–142 (2)
Callum McNeill.....70-72–142 (2)
Keith Mitchell.....71-71–142 (2)
Hayden Springer.....70-72–142 (2)
Carl Yuan.....72-70–142 (2)
Doug Ghim.....71-72–143 (3)
Rhein Gibson.....72-71–143 (3)
Chesson Hadley.....74-69–143 (3)
Cole Hammer.....72-71–143 (3)
J.B. Holmes.....70-73–143 (3)
Kevin Kisner.....69-74–143 (3)
Mac Meissner.....68-75–143 (3)
Taylor Montgomery.....74-69–143 (3)
Matthew NeSmith.....70-73–143 (3)
Chez Reavie.....69-74–143 (3)
Jorge Campillo.....70-74–144 (4)
Joel Dahmen.....69-75–144 (4)
Padraig Harrington.....70-74–144 (4)
Rico Hoey.....70-74–144 (4)
Martin Trainer.....72-72–144 (4)
Trace Crowe.....71-74–145 (5)
Patton Kizzire.....71-74–145 (5)
Jake Knapp.....74-71–145 (5)
Luke List.....71-74–145 (5)
Ben Taylor.....68-77–145 (5)
Josh Teater.....69-76–145 (5)
Alexander Björk.....74-72–146 (6)
Zac Blair.....73-73–146 (6)
Stewart Cink.....71-75–146 (6)
Sung Kang.....72-74–146 (6)
Alex Smalley.....74-72–146 (6)
Justin Suh.....73-73–146 (6)
Vince Whaley.....72-74–146 (6)
Tom Whitney.....67-79–146 (6)
Blaine Hale , Jr.....75-72–147 (7)
Kris Ventura.....73-74–147 (7)
Richy Werenski.....74-73–147 (7)
David Lipsky.....76-72–148 (8)
Robert MacIntyre.....74-74–148 (8)
Henrik Norlander.....70-78–148 (8)
Brandt Snedeker.....73-75–148 (8)
Matt Wallace.....74-74–148 (8)
Norman Xiong.....70-78–148 (8)
Carson Young.....73-75–148 (8)
Cody Gribble.....76-73–149 (9)
Thorbjørn Olesen.....74-75–149 (9)
Robby Shelton.....74-76–150 (10)
Dawie van der Walt.....76-74–150 (10)
Brandon Wu.....73-77–150 (10)
Rafael Campos.....78-73–151 (11)
Hayden Buckley.....75-77–152 (12)
Kevin Chappell.....74-78–152 (12)
Ryan McCormick.....71-81–152 (12)
Jimmy Walker.....78-75–153 (13)
Jesse Droemer.....76-82–158 (18)
Scott Stallings.....72–72 (0) WD

World Rankings

Through March 29
1, Scottie Scheffler, 11.88.
2, Rory McIlroy, 7.52.
3, Jon Rahm, 6.71.
4, Wyndham Clark, 6.28.
5, Xander Schauffele, 6.14.
6, Viktor Hovland, 5.80.
7, Patrick Cantlay, 4.81.
8, Brian Harman, 4.37.
9, Ludvig Aberg, 4.10.
10, Max Homa, 3.97.
11, Matt Fitzpatrick, 3.94.
12, Tommy Fleetwood, 3.56.
13, Cameron Young, 3.54.
14, Hideki Matsuyama, 3.52.
15, Sahith Theegala, 3.44.
16, Tyrrell Hatton, 3.36.
17, Collin Morikawa, 3.36.
18, Keegan Bradley, 3.33.
19, Jordan Spieth, 3.23.
20, Jason Day, 3.21.
21, Sam Burns, 3.21.
22, Tom Kim, 3.17.
23, Russell Henley, 3.02.
24, Matthieu Pavon, 2.94.
25, Nick Taylor, 2.93.
26, Chris Kirk, 2.86.
27, Sepp Straka, 2.82.
28, Justin Thomas, 2.80.
29, Will Zalatoris, 2.66.
30, Tony Finau, 2.65.
31, Brooks Koepka, 2.58.
32, Min Woo Lee, 2.49.
33, Rickie Fowler, 2.48.
34, Shane Lowry, 2.44.
35, Lucas Glover, 2.43.
36, Emiliano Grillo, 2.41.
37, Sungjae Im, 2.40.
38, Nicolai Hojgaard, 2.40.
39, Eric Cole, 2.38.
40, Harris English, 2.36.
41, Kurt Kitayama, 2.33.
42, Byeong Hun An, 2.31.
43, J.T. Poston, 2.26.
44, Adam Hadwin, 2.23.
45, Si Woo Kim, 2.17.
46, Jake Knapp, 2.12.
47, Ryan Fox, 2.09.
48, Corey Conners, 2.08.
49, Denny McCarthy, 2.07.
50, Austin Eckroat, 2.05.
51, Adam Scott, 1.99.
52, Adrian Meronk, 1.95.
53, Justin Rose, 1.93.
54, Grayson Murray, 1.93.
55, Christiaan Bezuidenhout, 1.92.
56, Adam Schenk, 1.87.
57, Tom Hoge, 1.86.
58, Cam Davis, 1.80.
59, Cameron Smith, 1.79.
60, Erik van Rooyen, 1.76.
61, Luke List, 1.71.
62, Taylor Moore, 1.69.
63, Mackenzie Hughes, 1.67.
64, Brendon Todd, 1.63.
65, Peter Malnati, 1.60.
66, Alex Noren, 1.59.
67, Andrew Putnam, 1.55.
68, Thorbjorn Olesen, 1.50.
69, Lee Hodges, 1.49.
70, Keith Mitchell, 1.45.
71, Stephan Jaeger, 1.45.
72, Adam Svensson, 1.44.
73, Nick Dunlap, 1.44.
74, Robert MacIntyre, 1.44.
75, Thomas Detry, 1.43.
76, Beau Hossler, 1.43.
77, Mark Hubbard, 1.43.
78, Rasmus Hojgaard, 1.37.
79, Lucas Herbert, 1.34.
80, Sami Valimaki, 1.33.
81, Aaron Rai, 1.33.
82, Taylor Montgomery, 1.33.
83, Patrick Rodgers, 1.31.
84, Ryo Hisatsune, 1.29.
85, Rikuya Hoshino, 1.28.
86, Joaquin Niemann, 1.27.
87, Billy Horschel, 1.27.
88, Jordan Smith, 1.25.
89, K.H. Lee, 1.25.
90, Thriston Lawrence, 1.24.

PGA Tour Schedule

March 28-31 – Houston Open, Houston
April 3-7 – Valero Texas Open, San Antonio, Texas
April 11-14 – Masters Tournament, Augusta, Ga.
April 18-21 – Corales Puntacana Championship, Punta Cana, Dominican Republic
April 18-21 – RBC Heritage, Hilton Head Island, SC
April 25-28 – Zurich Classic of New Orleans, Avondale, La.
May 2-5 – The CJ Cup Byron Nelson, McKinney, Texas
May 9-12 – Myrtle Beach Classic, Myrtle Beach, SC
May 9-12 – Wells Fargo Championship, Charlotte, NC
May 16-19 – PGA Championship, Louisville, Ky.
May 23-26 – Charles Schwab Challenge, Fort Worth, Texas
May 30-June 2 – RBC Canadian Open, Hamilton, Canada
June 6-9 – The Memorial Tournament, Dublin, Ohio
June 13-16 – U.S. Open, Pinehurst, NC
June 20-23 – Travelers Championship, Cromwell, Conn.
June 27-30 – Rocket Mortgage Classic, Detroit
July 4-7 – John Deere Classic, Silvis, Ill.
July 10-14 – Kentucky Championship, Nicholasville, Ky.
July 11-14 – Genesis Scottish Open, North Berwick, Scotland
July 18-21 – Barracuda Championship, Truckee, Calif.
July 18-21 – The Open Championship, Troon, Scotland
July 25-28 – 3M Open, Blaine, Minn.
Aug. 8-11 – Wyndham Championship, Greensboro, NC
Aug. 15-18 – FedEx St. Jude Championship, Memphis, Tenn.
Aug. 22-25 – BMW Championship, Castle Rock, Colo.
Aug. 28-Sept. 1 – TOUR Championship, Atlanta

LPGA Tour Schedule

March 27-31 – Arizona Championship presented by JTBC
April 3-7 – T-Mobile Match Play presented by MGM Rewards, North Las Vegas, Nev.
April 18-21 – The Chevron Championship, The Woodlands, Texas
April 25-28 – JM Eagle LA Championship presented by Plastpro, Los Angeles
May 9-12 – C