

NATION&WORLDEXTRA

WAR IN THE MIDDLE EAST



Smoke rises from the direction of an energy installation in the the United Arab Emirates’ Fujairah emirate on March 14. Some oil-loading operations were suspended, sources said. AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

Trump calls for allied warships

Iran threatens to retaliate for U.S. attack

Jaidaa Taha, Maya Gebeily, Emily Rose and Jarrett Renshaw
REUTERS

DUBAI – President Donald Trump urged other nations to send warships to the Strait of Hormuz on March 14 after Iran threatened escalation across the Middle East to retaliate for Washington’s bombing of its main Gulf island energy hub.

Tehran’s ability to stop shipping through the strait, a major channel for oil and gas shipping, could give it enormous leverage over the United States and its allies.

“The Countries of the World that receive Oil through the Hormuz Strait must take care of that passage, and we will help – A LOT!” Trump wrote in a post. “The U.S. will also coordinate with those Countries so that everything goes quickly, smoothly, and well.”

As the war entered its third week, Iran projected defiance after U.S. forces hit military sites at Kharg Island, the Gulf outpost that handles 90% of Iranian oil exports.

A drone attack had already disrupted a United Arab Emirates energy hub, the U.S. embassy in Baghdad warned U.S. citizens to leave Iraq and Iran’s Islamic



A son of Ali Shamkhani, Iran’s slain influential security adviser, reacts at his funeral at the Imamzadeh Saleh shrine in Tajrish square in northern Tehran on March 14. Shamkhani was among those killed in the Feb. 28 strikes. ATTA KENARE/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

Revolutionary Guard Corps urged the United States to move industries out of the region.

Since Israel and the United States began attacking Iran on Feb. 28, the war has killed more than 2,000 people and created the biggest-ever oil supply disruption, pushing up global prices.

At least 15 people were killed when an airstrike hit a refrigerator and heater factory in the central Iranian city of Isfahan, the semi-official Fars news agen-

cy said on March 14.

Some oil-loading operations have been suspended in the UAE’s Fujairah emirate, a global ship-refueling hub, industry and trade sources said on March 14. The emirate’s media office said a drone was intercepted, but civil defense forces as of late March 14 were still trying to put out a fire caused by falling debris.

An Iranian military spokesperson called on people in the UAE to evacuate ports, docks, and “American hideouts,” saying U.S. forces had targeted Iranian islands from those areas.

Trump was spending the weekend at his Florida club Mar-a-Lago. In an earlier post on his Truth Social platform, he anticipated that many countries would send warships to allow shipping through the Strait of Hormuz, a conduit for 20% of the world’s oil. He said in his post he hoped China, France, Japan, South Korea, Britain and others would send vessels.

“In the meantime, the United States will be bombing the hell out of the shoreline, and continually shooting Iranian Boats and Ships out of the water,” he wrote.

See IRAN, Page 4NN

U.S., Iran dismiss any peace talks, sources say

Oman, Egypt attempt to mediate, but efforts stall

Steve Holland, Humeyra Pamuk, Parisa Hafezi and Alexander Cornwell
REUTERS

WASHINGTON – President Donald Trump’s administration has rebuffed efforts by Middle Eastern allies to start diplomatic negotiations aimed at ending the Iran war that started two weeks ago with a massive U.S.-Israeli air assault, according to three sources familiar with the efforts.

Iran, for its part, has rejected the possibility of any ceasefire until U.S. and Israeli strikes end, two senior Iranian sources told Reuters, adding that several countries had been trying to mediate an end to the conflict.

The lack of interest from Washington and Tehran suggests both sides are digging in for an extended conflict, even as the widening war inflicts civilian casualties and Iran’s closure of the Strait of Hormuz sends oil prices soaring.

U.S. strikes on Iran’s Kharg Island, the country’s main oil export hub, underscored Trump’s determination to press ahead with his military assault.

Iran’s new Supreme Leader Mojtaba Khamenei has vowed to keep the Strait of Hormuz shut and threatened to step up attacks on neighboring countries.

Oman, which mediated talks before the war, has tried multiple times to open a line of communication, but the White House has made clear it is not interested, according to two sources, who like others in this story were granted anonymity in order to speak freely about diplomatic matters.

A senior White House official confirmed Trump has rebuffed those efforts to start talks and is focused on pressing ahead with the war to further weaken Tehran’s military capabilities.

“He’s not interested in that right

See TALKS, Page 4NN



Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi, left, meets with Omani Foreign Minister Badr Albusaidi in Geneva on Feb. 26. Oman has tried multiple times to open a line of communication between the United States and Iran, but the White House has made clear it is not interested, according to two sources.

PROVIDED BY OMANI FOREIGN MINISTRY/
AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

Minneapolis recuperating from ICE surge

But economic damage, trauma linger for city

Brad Brooks
REUTERS

Few federal agents are seen on the streets of Minneapolis these days.

While many of the city’s residents still wear red whistles around their necks, used to sound an alert if they spot U.S. immigration officers, there has been little need to raise the alarm lately.

Although parents dutifully patrol the perimeters of school grounds for ICE agents, sightings are rare. The network of observers who follow ICE agents re-

mains active, but on a far smaller scale than before.

Now, raids targeting undocumented migrants are mostly occurring in communities outside of the city.

Once scenes of turmoil as immigration agents carried out aggressive sweeps under President Donald Trump’s immigration crackdown, the streets of Minneapolis have today settled back into a more familiar rhythm.

But everyone from Mayor Jacob Frey to teachers, doctors, lawyers, activists and immigrants who live and work in the city says the relative calm belies the lasting damage caused by Operation Metro Surge.

Starting in December and running

through February, about 3,000 federal immigration officers fanned out across the area. ICE said its immigration sweeps resulted in roughly 4,000 arrests.

“The full-throttle attack that we experienced with Operation Metro Surge was not limited just to ICE agents,” Frey said, estimating 400 federal immigration officers remain in the city, more than double the normal level. “We’re seeing other forms of attacks.”

Frey, a Democrat, ticked through them: kids with cancer who “can’t get



Frey

treatment” because their families won’t leave their homes; Medicaid and Medicare transfers halted by the Trump administration; and federal grants that fund shelters and affordable housing slashed or made contingent on cooperating with immigration enforcement.

Over two dozen residents who spoke with Reuters described a city trying to recover. Some are struggling to pay their rent or buy food because they have lost their jobs or remain too fearful to leave their homes.

Many described a collective feeling of trauma.

See MINNEAPOLIS, Page 3NN



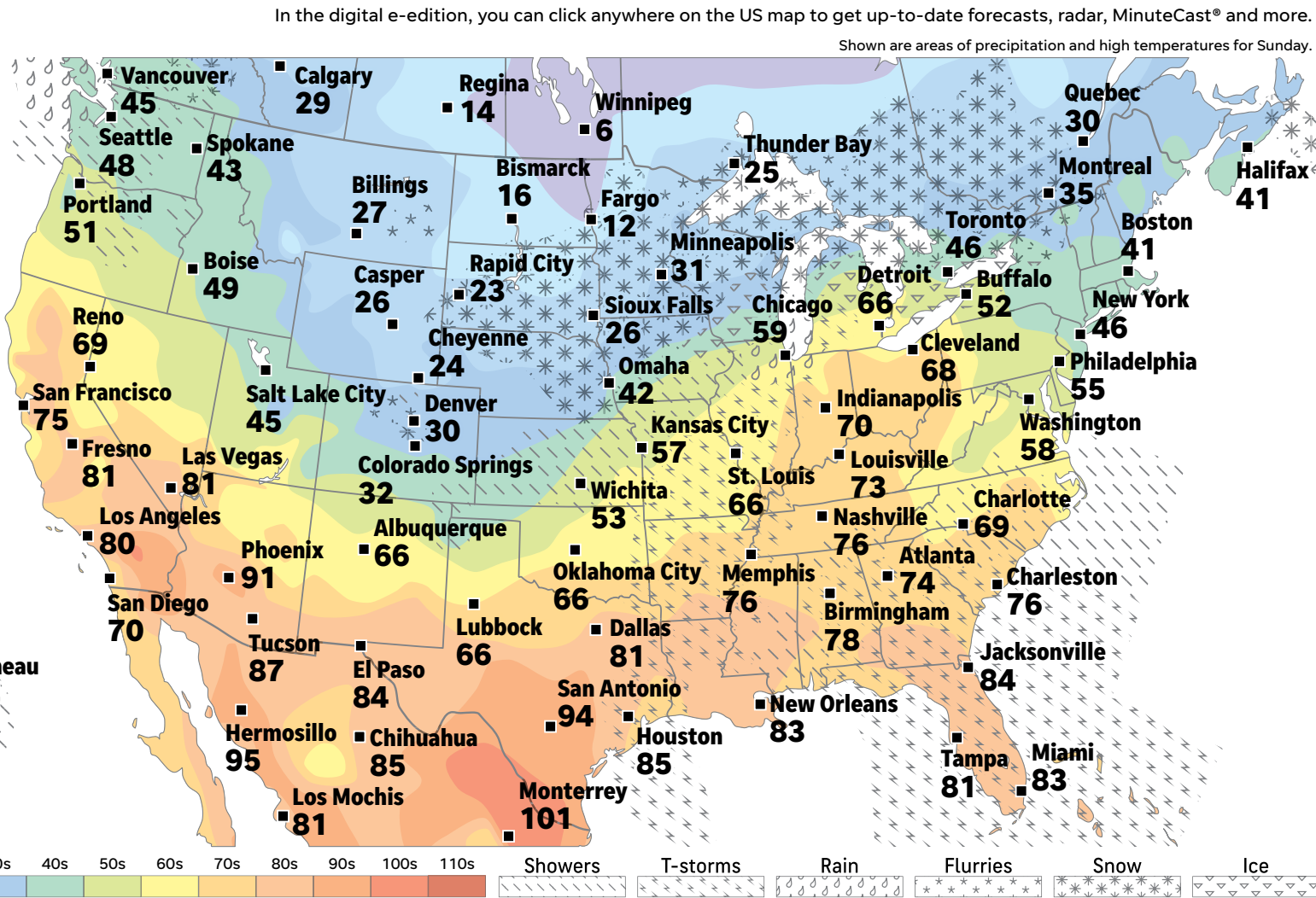
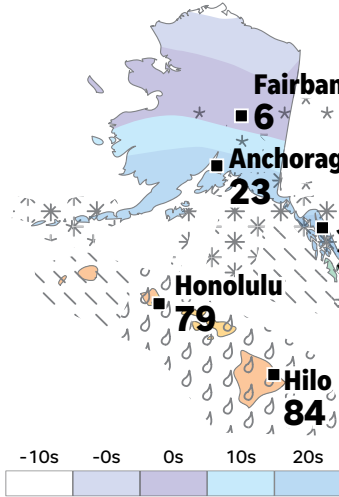
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NATIONAL SUMMARY

A large storm will quickly strengthen across the central United States today. Snow, sometimes heavy, will fall from Colorado to Michigan. Meanwhile, rapidly moving severe thunderstorms will bring destructive winds from Illinois to Texas, particularly at night. Showers will dot the Southeast and western portions of Washington.



SATURDAY EXTREMES

NATIONAL (for the 48 contiguous states)
High: 97 at Dryden, TX
Low: -13 at Cook, MN
Precip: 0.62" at Florence, OR

INTERNATIONAL (excludes Antarctica)
High: 110 at Bokoro, Chad
Low: -47 at Kugaaruk, Canada
Precip: 3.74" at Cairns, Australia

TODAY IN HISTORY

It was no “Midsummer Night’s Dream” on March 15, 1843, in North Carolina, where 15 inches of snow accumulated. Beware the Ides of March.

WEATHER TRIVIA™

Q: At what temperature are large snowflakes most likely to occur?

NATIONAL CITIES SUNDAY

	High/low/W	Air Quality		High/low/W	Air Quality		High/low/W	Air Quality		High/low/W	Air Quality
Aberdeen, SD	16/-5/sn	28	● Evansville, IN	71/26/t	48	● Levittown, PA	52/44/c	51	Rochester, NY	51/48/sn	37
● Abilene, TX	79/29/s	137	Fall River, MA	45/35/c	42	● Lincoln, IL	64/20/t	29	● Rockford, IL	55/20/r	33
● Accomac, VA	56/51/pc	42	Farmington, NM	56/35/pc	46	● Louisville, KY	73/31/c	49	Ruidoso, NM	67/25/s	108
● Adrian, MI	68/30/c	34	● Fayetteville, NC	71/63/sh	41	Lubbock, TX	66/23/pc	108	Salem, OR	49/39/c	33
Akron, OH	67/43/c	63	● Fond du Lac, WI	35/17/i	27	● Manitowoc, WI	35/17/sn	32	● Salina, KS	46/16/sf	128
Alamogordo, NM	83/39/s	102	Fort Myers, FL	84/70/t	37	● Mansfield, OH	67/37/c	52	Salinas, CA	78/52/pc	51
● Alexandria, VA	60/53/c	51	Fort Smith, AR	72/25/t	89	● Marshall, NC	65/47/pc	49	● Salisbury, MD	60/54/c	37
● Alliance, OH	70/47/c	55	Framingham, MA	46/34/c	42	● Marshfield, WI	30/13/sn	24	● San Angelo, TX	88/33/s	141
Amarillo, TX	54/17/pc	129	● Freeport, IL	51/18/r	33	Massillon, OH	70/44/c	64	Sarasota, FL	82/71/t	29
● Ames, IA	44/5/r	31	Fremont, OH	70/35/c	46	● McLean, VA	58/52/c	45	Savannah, GA	80/65/t	30
● Anderson, SC	69/56/pc	49	Fort Collins, CO	38/18/c	51	● Melbourne, FL	81/67/t	27	● Sheboygan, WI	37/20/r	34
● Appleton, WI	33/16/sn	27	Gadsden, AL	76/41/t	43	● Memphis, TN	76/31/t	34	● Shelby, NC	67/59/c	53
Asheville, NC	62/52/c	52	● Gainesville, FL	85/66/t	32	● Middletown, NY	46/37/c	33	● Sherman, TX	77/29/pc	122
● Ashland, OH	69/38/c	56	● Galesburg, IL	58/13/t	30	Milford, MA	45/33/c	38	Shreveport, LA	83/37/t	50
Athens, GA	71/52/t	35	● Gastonia, NC	68/59/pc	52	● Milwaukee, WI	48/21/r	34	Silver City, NM	76/39/s	40
Augusta, GA	78/62/t	43	● Glen Rose, TX	83/33/s	146	● Monroe, MI	65/34/c	44	Sioux Falls, SD	26/-3/sn	26
Austin, TX	94/40/s	151	● Gonzales, LA	83/46/pc	49	● Monroe, LA	83/38/t	43	● Somerset, PA	54/47/c	38
Bartlesville, OK	66/21/c	149	Great Falls, MT	29/19/c	45	Montgomery, AL	80/44/t	32	● Somerville, NJ	50/42/c	50
● Battle Creek, MI	65/28/t	37	● Green Bay, WI	33/16/sn	31	● Muncie, IN	73/29/c	38	● South Bend, IN	65/25/t	54
● Bedford, IN	71/27/c	36	● Greenville, SC	66/58/c	53	Murfreesboro, TN	73/35/pc	34	● Spartanburg, SC	66/58/c	57
● Binghamton, NY	43/39/c	37	● Hackensack, NJ	47/43/c	54	Naples, FL	84/72/t	25	● Springfield, IL	64/18/t	33
Bluffton, SC	72/63/t	31	Hagerstown, MD	54/51/c	38	● Nashville, TN	76/35/c	40	● Springfield, MO	63/15/t	105
● Bremerton, WA	46/39/r	26	● Hattiesburg, MS	84/44/pc	41	● Neptune, NJ	45/42/c	53	● St. Augustine, FL	80/66/t	29
Brockton, MA	45/34/c	42	● Henderson, KY	72/27/t	44	New Bedford, MA	44/36/c	39	● St. Cloud, MN	28/0/sn	20
● Brownwood, TX	84/33/s	166	Hendersonville, NC	62/55/c	52	● New Bern, NC	72/63/t	37	St. George, UT	72/50/pc	44
● Burlington, IA	59/12/t	36	● Herkimer, NY	44/37/sn	37	New Philadelphia, OH	71/43/c	57	● Staunton, VA	55/52/c	39
● Burlington, NC	66/58/pc	40	● Hillsdale, MI	65/27/c	35	Newark, OH	73/38/c	42	● Stevens Point, WI	31/15/sn	23
Burlington, VT	41/37/sn	42	● Holland, MI	59/29/t	49	● Newton, NJ	46/39/c	36	Stockton, CA	81/47/pc	50
Cambridge, OH	72/46/c	43	● Hornell, NY	50/44/c	40	● New York, NY	46/43/c	55	● Stroudsburg, PA	47/39/c	35
● Camden, MO	64/15/t	73	Houma, LA	81/47/pc	43	Norwich, CT	45/35/c	41	● Stuart, FL	81/70/t	46
Canandaigua, NY	50/46/i	37	● Howell, MI	64/31/c	36	● Ocala, FL	87/66/t	29	● Sturgis, MI	65/26/c	40
Canton, OH	70/45/c	60	● Hutchinson, KS	50/17/sn	149	● Oklahoma City, OK	66/24/pc	195	Tallahassee, FL	81/64/t	29
Carlsbad, NM	84/32/pc	134	Hyannis, MA	41/36/c	38	● Opelousas, LA	80/44/pc	43	● Thibodaux, LA	82/47/pc	46
Chambersburg, PA	53/49/c	35	● Indianapolis, IN	70/26/c	37	● Oshkosh, WI	34/17/sn	26	● Topeka, KS	57/12/sh	111
● Cherry Hill, NJ	54/47/c	52	● Iowa City, IA	54/11/r	36	Palm Beach, FL	81/73/t	42	Tuscaloosa, AL	79/38/t	30
Cincinnati, OH	71/30/c	37	● Ithaca, NY	48/44/i	38	Palm Springs, CA	98/68/s	82	Utica, NY	44/38/sn	39
● Clarksville, TN	76/32/c	46	● Jackson, MS	84/39/pc	42	● Panama City, FL	77/60/pc	23	Ventura, CA	65/54/pc	58
● Coldwater, MI	66/26/t	35	● Jacksonville, TN	75/31/t	32	● Pekin, IL	63/18/t	33	Victorville, CA	82/44/s	72
Columbus, OH	72/37/c	42	● Jacksonville, FL	84/67/t	33	Pensacola, FL	76/48/t	36	● Vineland, NJ	55/48/c	51
● Corning, NY	51/46/c	40	● Jacksonville, NC	72/64/t	36	● Peoria, IL	62/17/t	32	Visalia, CA	79/52/pc	64
Corpus Christi, TX	94/49/pc	79	Kent, OH	69/43/c	63	● Petersburg, VA	67/59/pc	35	● Washington, DC	58/53/c	51
● Daytona Beach, FL	80/66/t	30	● Kewanee, IL	58/17/t	33	Phoenix, AZ	91/64/pc	68	Watertown, SD	20/-6/sn	28
Deming, NM	82/42/s	64	● Keyser, WV	58/50/c	40	● Port Huron, MI	62/40/c	39	● Wausau, WI	30/14/sn	28
● DeRidder, LA	82/39/t	46	● Kingston, NC	72/64/t	40	Portsmouth, NH	39/35/c	34	Waynesboro, PA	53/49/c	37
● Des Moines, IA	46/5/r	34	Knoxville, TN	73/43/pc	42	● Poughkeepsie, NY	47/38/c	38	● White Plains, NY	45/39/c	51
● Detroit, MI	66/34/c	44	● Lafayette, IN	70/25/t	43	Providence, RI	44/35/c	37	● Wichita Falls, TX	72/27/pc	207
Devils Lake, ND	77-9/c	27	● Lafayette, LA	80/46/pc	45	Pueblo, CO	43/17/c	102	● Wilmington, DE	54/47/c	51
Dover, NH	40/32/c	44	● Lakeland, FL	84/67/t	34	Quincy, MA	43/36/c	48	● Wilmington, NC	70/64/t	39
El Paso, TX	84/40/s	132	● Lansing, MI	63/30/t	30	Redding, CA	83/53/pc	113	● Wisconsin Rapids, WI	32/15/sn	22
● Elmira, NY	51/46/c	38	Las Cruces, NM	81/40/s	77	Reno, NV	69/40/pc	68	Wooster, OH	67/41/c	61
Erie, PA	61/48/c	42	● Lebanon, PA	51/46/c	38	Ravenna, OH	68/44/c	61	Worcester, MA	43/33/c	37
Eugene, OR	52/38/c	39	● Leesburg, FL	84/67/t	34	● Richmond, IN	70/30/c	34	● York, PA	53/48/c	38

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

INTERNATIONAL CITIES

	Sunday High/low/W	Monday High/low/W		Sunday High/low/W	Monday High/low/W		Sunday High/low/W	Monday High/low/W		Sunday High/low/W	Monday High/low/W
Acapulco	86/71/pc	87/72/pc	Cape Town	91/64/s	81/67/pc	La Paz	60/40/sh	64/38/c	San Jose	86/65/s	85/65/pc
Addis Ababa	77/54/pc	79/55/pc	Caracas	88/74/s	87/75/r	Lagos	90/80/t	92/80/t	San Salvador	86/64/r	84/63/sh
Algiers	59/53/r	61/44/pc	Casablanca	64/50/c	73/49/s	Lima	80/69/pc	80/69/pc	Santiago	79/54/s	79/54/pc
Amman	58/48/pc	61/42/pc	Colombo	90/76/s	90/76/s	Lisbon	64/50/s	73/48/s	Sao Paulo	85/67/pc	84/65/s
● Amsterdam	54/41/pc	50/45/sh	Copenhagen	47/36/c	42/34/c	London	53/39/sh	52/47/c	Sarajevo	65/35/s	64/40/pc
Ankara	59/35/pc	59/30/s	Damascus	60/48/pc	64/36/s	Madrid	58/34/pc	68/36/s	Shanghai	61/49/pc	53/48/c
Asuncion	100/77/c	93/75/t	● Dublin	49/40/sh	55/51/sh	Manila	87/71/pc	87/72/pc	Singapore	88/77/t	90/77/t
Athens	61/44/s	62/48/c	Geneva	47/28/r	54/33/c	Mexico City	78/52/pc	74/48/sh	Stockholm	40/29/r	45/32/s
Auckland	72/58/pc	71/56/pc	Guatemala City	82/61/t	79/59/t	Milan	57/42/sh	68/43/pc	Sydney	81/65/s	82/69/pc
● Baghdad	74/60/t	73/56/pc	Hanoi	77/68/sh	81/70/pc	Mombasa	93/77/t	91/77/pc	Taipei	80/63/s	79/62/pc
Bangkok	96/78/pc	95/79/pc	Harare	79/63/t	78/61/t	Montevideo	86/68/s	85/72/t	Tegucigalpa	89/61/s	87/60/t
Beijing	61/33/pc	59/31/pc	Havana	86/69/r	86/67/r	● Montreal	35/30/sn	56/22/sh	Tehran	58/50/sh	61/45/sh
Beirut	64/57/sh	68/53/sh	● Helsinki	44/32/c	37/34/c	Moscow	47/26/pc	47/24/pc	Tokyo	58/47/pc	55/47/pc
Belgrade	62/37/s	63/39/c	Hong Kong	76/65/s	75/67/s	Nairobi	80/62/pc	82/61/pc	Toronto	46/42/sn	53/16/r
Berlin	48/35/c	48/31/sh	Jakarta	91/74/t	90/74/t	New Delhi	85/65/t	91/64/pc	Tunis	58/43/c	61/55/sh
● Bogota	68/51/sh	66/50/r	● Jerusalem	58/48/t	61/42/sh	Panama City	92/70/sh	92/70/pc	● Vancouver	45/37/r	51/46/r
● Brussels	53/40/s	53/45/c	● Johannesburg	67/55/t	72/55/t	Paris	56/43/s	54/41/c	Vienna	59/43/pc	55/40/c
Bucharest	56/33/pc	57/32/s	Kabul	55/36/sh	59/40/s	Port-au-Prince	92/71/s	91/71/s	Warsaw	64/39/pc	55/37/sh
Budapest	63/33/s	61/40/pc	Khartoum	108/77/pc	106/80/c	Rio de Janeiro	84/73/s	82/72/s	Yerevan	43/38/r	47/33/r
Buenos Aires	86/73/s	78/72/t	Kyiv	54/32/s	53/34/s	Riyadh	92/70/pc	98/65/s	Zagreb	64/34/pc	62/38/c
Cairo	70/54/pc	74/56/pc	Kingston	87/78/pc	87/79/pc	Rome	65/47/c	67/46/pc	Zurich	46/32/c	50/32/sh

● 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.

GOP in Congress echo anti-Muslim rhetoric

David Hood-Nuño
REUTERS

WASHINGTON – Some Republicans in Congress have drawn criticism for posting anti-Muslim rhetoric, including comments targeting New York City Mayor Zohran Mamdani, the city’s first Muslim mayor, with one picturing him alongside a photograph of the Sept. 11, 2001 attack on the city.

On social media, at least four Republican members of Congress posted language viewed by many Muslim Americans and Democrats as Islamophobic.

In a March 12 post on X, Sen. Tommy Tuberville, R-Alabama, juxtaposed a photograph of 9/11 with a March 8 photo of Mamdani hosting an iftar dinner to mark the Muslim holy month of Ramadan at New York City Hall, with the text, “less than 25 years ago,” and “The enemy is inside the gates.”



Tuberville

Tuberville has previously expressed anti-Muslim rhetoric online and on the Senate floor. He did not respond to a request for comment. He later reiterated his comments in multiple subsequent X posts.

The Islamic advocacy group Council on American-Islamic Relations added Tuberville to its list of anti-Muslim extremists in the United States, marking the first time it has designated a U.S. senator as an anti-Muslim extremist. Islamophobic incidents in 2025 reached a record high, according to a recent CAIR study.

There has also been a sharp rise in antisemitism, including an incident March 12 in which a man drove a truck into a Detroit-area synagogue.

Rep. Andy Ogles, R-Tennessee, drew condemnation from Democrats and re-

ligious figures last week when he said “Muslims don’t belong in American society. Pluralism is a lie,” on X.

Ogles later doubled down on the comment, posting: “Muslims are unable to assimilate; they all have to go back,” beside a link to a news story about one of two men charged with federal terrorism-related crimes for allegedly igniting a homemade bomb at an anti-Islam protest outside Mamdani’s residence in New York. Authorities say the pair declared they were inspired by the Islamist militant group Islamic State.

In the current session of Congress, Democrats have filed two censure resolutions against Ogles for his verbal attacks on Muslims, and specifically Mamdani. Ogles called Mamdani “little muhammad” and said he should be “DEPORTED” and “subject to denaturalization proceedings” after winning the Democratic primary for mayor.

Rep. Shri Thanedar, D-Michigan, filed a censure resolution on March 12 that would remove Ogles from the House Homeland Security Committee.

“Congressman Ogles’ disgusting and bigoted words have no place anywhere in our country, let alone from a member of Congress. His words incite hatred against millions of Muslim Americans,” Thanedar said in a statement.

House Speaker Mike Johnson, R-Louisiana, in comments to reporters, declined to condemn Ogles’ remarks. “The language that people use, it’s different language than what I would use, but I think that’s a serious issue,” he said, referring to claims that Islamists are trying to impose Muslim sharia law on the United States.

Sharia is a set of legal and moral principles, interpreted differently across the faith. Installing sharia in the U.S. does not enjoy wide support among American Muslims and community leaders.

“Ironically, the only people trying to impose their religion on America are those politicians who seek to ban Muslims from our nation, who try to force public school teachers to read the Bible to their students, and who demand that our nation go to war in the Middle East to fulfill their end times prophecies,” CAIR Government Affairs Director Robert McCaw said in a statement. Using the same image of Mamdani as Tuberville did, Rep. Andrew Clyde, R-Georgia said on X on March 12 that Democrats “whine” about the separation of church and state when public officials post Christian images but “when it’s Islam, they welcome it.”

Meanwhile, Rep. Chip Roy, R-Texas, posted an image of the west side of the U.S. Capitol with the words “Protect America. Ban Sharia.”

Roy and fellow Texas Republican Rep. Keith Self started the Sharia Free Caucus, a group of nearly 50 lawmakers dedicated to banning sharia law and supporting legislation like the “Preserving a Sharia-Free America Act” – whose Senate version was authored by Tuberville – that seeks to deny immigration benefits and deport any immigrant who advocates for imposing sharia in a way that violates U.S. law or constitutional rights.

Clyde, Ogles, Roy and Self did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-New York, said Tuberville’s comments amount to “mindless hate.”

“Muslim Americans are cops, doctors, nurses, teachers, bankers, bricklayers, mothers, fathers, neighbors, mayors, and more,” Schumer said on X.

There are roughly 4.5 million Muslim Americans, according to the 2020 U.S. Religion Census.

NOTABLE DEATHS

David Brigati, 85, Rascals singer, died March 7. Brigati was also a member of Joey Dee and the Starlitters, whose “Peppermint Twist” was a No. 1 hit in 1962, and he was called the fifth member of the Rascals, members of the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame. David Brigati, whose younger brother Eddie Brigati was a member of the Rascals, sang harmony on band hits “Groovin,” “People Got To Be Free,” “A Beautiful Morning,” and “How Can I Be Sure.”

Jennifer Runyon Corman, 65, an actress known for roles in “Charles in Charge” and “A Very Brady Christmas,” died March 6. Runyon Corman played Charles’ (Scott Baio) girlfriend, Gwendolyn Pierce, on “Charles in Charge” in the sitcom’s first season, which started airing in 1984. She briefly reprised her character at the end of Season 2. A few years later, she appeared in the 1988 made-for-TV holiday film “A Very Brady Christmas,” replacing Susan Olsen as Cindy Brady. Runyon Corman also played a female student, acting opposite Bill Murray’s Dr. Peter Venkman in the original “Ghostbusters” film.

Tommy DeCarlo, 60, a singer who made the leap from fan to touring lead vocalist for the rock band Boston, died March 9. According to the family’s GoFundMe fundraiser created in December, DeCarlo “suffered a sudden brain bleed” in September and underwent emergency surgery. Doctors discovered cancerous masses during the procedure, and DeCarlo underwent treatment until he was hospitalized after another brain bleed. DeCarlo toured with Boston for more than a decade after taking over vocals from early member Brad Delp, who died by suicide exactly 19 years ago on March 9, 2007. But it was after writing a song in tribute to Delp, whom he credited as his musical inspiration, that he finally got on the band’s radar.

Lord Sear, 52, rapper and longtime radio host has died March 11. He was 52. Sear established a legacy for himself, tracing back to his involvement with the group Kurious in the 1990s and with the underground hip-hop radio show, “The Stretch Armstrong and Bobbito Show.” He also toured the world on Eminem’s Anger Management Tour, which ran sporadically in the early 2000s. He lent his voice to the fictional Game FM station in the “Grand Theft Auto III” video games, and can be heard in the intro to Big Pun’s 2000 album “Yeeeah Baby,” according to Billboard.

Joseph Allen McDonald, 84, also known as “Country Joe,” who became a 1969 Woodstock festival legend and fronted the band Country Joe and the Fish, died March 7 from complications from Parkinson’s disease. McDonald served as the lead singer and co-founder of the 1960s psychedelic folk-rock group Country Joe and the Fish, and he wrote the group’s most enduring songs, including the protest song against U.S. involvement in the Vietnam War, titled “I-Feel-Like-I’m-Fixin’-to-Die Rag.”

Corey Parker, 60, actor best known for his recurring role on the sitcom “Will & Grace,” died March 9. Parker, who also worked as an acting coach, died following a battle with terminal cancer. Parker, the son of actress Rochelle Natalie “Rocky” Parker, was born in New York City in July 1965 and began his acting career early, appearing in television commercials at age 4. He went on to join the professional training organizations Actors Studio and Ensemble Studio Theatre. He joined the cast of “Will & Grace” for the show’s second season in 2000, playing Josh, the sensitive wellness guru boyfriend of Debra Messing’s Grace Adler.

USA TODAY Network And Reuters

Minneapolis

Continued from Page 1NN

‘The right thing’

It is unclear how many arrests have been made in the month since border czar Tom Homan announced the draw-down of an operation that resulted in federal officers fatally shooting two U.S. citizens, Renee Good and Alex Pretti.

The Department of Homeland Security did not respond to requests for comment. When asked about the status of immigration enforcement in Minneapolis, a White House spokeswoman pointed to “cooperation that did not exist before” between local and federal officials but did not provide details.

Frey said the economic damage linked to the immigration operation in January alone totals \$203 million. Some 76,000 residents whom he said were too afraid to go to work or whose workplaces shut down need rental assistance.

“People were killed. Families were torn apart. Businesses were closed,” said Frey, adding that he wants the federal government to pay the bill for the damage it inflicted. “I’m not holding my breath – but it’s the right thing for them to step up and correct some of the damage that they caused.”

Doctors treating in the dark

For Dr. Lane Miller, an oncologist at Children’s Minnesota, a prominent pediatric hospital system, the surge’s toll on his patients continues to be “catastrophic.”



A sign honoring slain residents Alex Pretti and Renee Good as patriots is seen at a memorial in Minneapolis on March 12. TIM EVANS/REUTERS

He cited 50% no-show rates for appointments for children with conditions like sickle cell disease or active cancer.

“They are still paralyzed with fear,” Miller said of immigrant families. “We are not seeing any improvement in our clinic as far as those families feeling comfortable coming here.”

“We’re just living in the dark here with a lot of these patients,” Miller said.

The kids who didn’t come back

Brenda Lewis is superintendent of Fridley Public Schools, a district of 2,800 students where 80% of kids are from immigrant or minority families. She is now staring at a \$1 million budget hole she blames on the surge.

Nearly 100 of her students have vanished.

Some moved to districts not targeted by ICE, some were deported with their families, and many she simply cannot account for. Since Minnesota funds schools based on enrollment, each missing child represents about \$10,000

in lost funding. The district has also lost \$130,000 in nutrition funding since December.

Lewis’ district has sued the Trump administration seeking to restore a rule making schools immigration safe havens. She’s now an in-demand resource for superintendents from across the nation who call her with fears of an immigration crackdown.

“None of this is something that we trained for as educators – and it feels like there is no end date to these new challenges we face,” Lewis said.

From whistles to cash drops

In the Phillips neighborhood, home to a high concentration of immigrants, the visible crisis of January and February has given way to something quieter but still urgent.

Alexandria Gomez, a substitute teacher who lives in Phillips, launched a rent-relief GoFundMe for her neighbors that has raised over \$730,000 since January. She delivers cash personally to families who don’t trust anyone else to bring it.

Gomez, 37, fears another surge in spring or summer. She cites scores of SUVs with blacked-out windows recently delivered to the building ICE agents use as a staging ground. Reuters witnessed the delivery of half a dozen vehicles on March 11.

Gomez sees some burnout among residents, but said she remains committed.

“What this attack has done is create an entire city of people who are now deeply involved in their communities and who stand ready to resist,” Gomez said.

SUNDAY TALK SHOWS

Washington Journal (C-SPAN)

Democratic strategist Joe Caiazzo and Republican strategist John Feehery discuss “campaign 2026.” Retired Brig. Gen. Leslie Beavers, former Pentagon acting chief information officer, discusses “the role of technology in the Iran conflict.”

This Week with George Stephanopoulos (ABC)

Interviews with Energy Secretary Chris Wright and Rep. Adam Smith, D-Washington, ranking Democrat on the House Armed Services Committee. Retired Navy Vice Adm. Kevin Donegan, former commander of the U.S. Navy 5th Fleet; Meghan O’Sullivan, former deputy national security adviser for Iraq and Afghanistan in the George W. Bush White House; KPMG chief economist Diane Swonk; and Johns Hopkins University professor Vali Nasr, author of “Iran’s Grand Strategy,” discuss Iran. A political panel with former Rep. Pat-

rick McHenry, R-North Carolina, and former Democratic National Committee chair Donna Brazile.

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

Interviews with Sen. Cory Booker, D-New Jersey; former Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg; and U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Mike Waltz.

A political roundtable with former New York Times Tehran correspondent Nazila Fathi, author of “The Lonely War: One Woman’s Account of the Struggle for Modern Iran”; former Rep. Adam Kinzinger, R-Illinois; Karen Finney, former senior adviser and spokesperson for the 2016 Hillary Clinton presidential campaign; and Republican strategist Brad Todd.

Fox News Sunday with Shannon Bream (FOX)

Interviews with U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Mike Waltz; Rep. Michael

McCaul, R-Texas, former chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee; Rep. Jim Himes, D-Connecticut, ranking Democrat on the House Intelligence Committee; and Brent Sadler, senior research fellow at the Heritage Foundation.

A political roundtable with USA Today White House correspondent Francesca Chambers; Meghan Hays, former Biden White House director of message planning; “Ruthless Podcast” co-host Josh Holmes, former chief of staff to Sen. Mitch McConnell, R-Kentucky; and Josh Kraushaar, editor-in-chief at Jewish Insider.

Meet the Press with Kristen Welker (NBC)

Interviews with Energy Secretary Chris Wright; Sen. Adam Schiff, D-California; and Thomas Friedman, foreign affairs opinion columnist at the New York Times.

A roundtable discussion with Bernie Sanders 2020 presidential campaign

manager Faiz Shakir, founder of More Perfect Union; Mitt Romney 2012 presidential campaign policy director Lanhee Chen, a fellow at Stanford University’s Hoover Institution; Sam Jacobs, editor in chief at TIME; and NBC News Capitol Hill correspondent Melanie Zanona.

Face the Nation with Margaret Brennan (CBS)

Interviews with Kevin Hassett, director of the National Economic Council; Sen. Mark Warner, D-Virginia, vice chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee; Rep. Dan Crenshaw, R-Texas; former CIA executive and operative Jonny Gannon; and Kevin Book, managing director at ClearView Energy Partners. A discussion with CBS News national security contributor Samantha Vinograd, former assistant Department of Homeland Security secretary for counterterrorism, threat prevention, and law enforcement policy during the Biden administration.

Reuters

NEWS IN BRIEF

FCC chair warns broadcasters about coverage of ‘fake news’

Federal Communications Commission Chairman Brendan Carr on March 14 renewed his criticism and threats against broadcasters over their content, but this time with President Donald Trump’s criticism of Iran war reporting as the backdrop.

Broadcasters who air “fake news” must “correct course before their license renewals come up,” Carr posted on X, in remarks accompanied by a screenshot of Trump’s Truth Social post earlier in the day accusing the New York Times, Wall Street Journal and “other lowlife ‘papers’ and media” of “terrible reporting” on the U.S.-Israeli war with Iran.

“Broadcasters must operate in the public interest, and they will lose their licenses if they do not,” Carr wrote.

The FCC issues licenses for television and radio broadcasters. The agency does not regulate outlets that have only online and print distribution.

Carr has said he wants to enforce the FCC’s public interest obligation for broadcasters that use the public airwaves, which he says the FCC has failed to properly deploy for decades.

On March 14, he wrote of “hoaxes and distortions” during the 2024 presidential campaign and said “the public has lost faith and confidence in the media.” By including Trump’s post, Carr for the first time extended his own criticisms to wartime coverage.

Report: Fertitta Entertainment in talks to buy Caesars for \$6.5B

Tilman Fertitta’s Fertitta Entertainment is negotiating to buy Caesars Entertainment for \$32 per share, at an equity value of \$6.5 billion, CNBC reported on March 14, citing sources close to the situation.

Fertitta’s terms for Caesars include an enterprise value of \$31.5 billion, given the gaming company’s substantial debt, the report said.

“As a matter of policy, we don’t comment on rumors or market speculation,” Caesars said in an emailed response to Reuters.

Reuters could not immediately verify the report. Fertitta Entertainment and Caesars Entertainment did not immediately respond to Reuters’ requests for comment outside regular business hours.

Deal talks are taking place within a 45-day exclusive window, this weekend at Fertitta’s headquarters in Houston, CNBC added.

The Wall Street Journal recently reported that Fertitta Entertainment has been discussing paying around \$34 a share for Caesars, giving it a value of roughly \$7 billion.

Reuters

Cuba encounters rare example of protests as blackouts worsen

Dave Sherwood
REUTERS

HAVANA – Anti-government protesters attacked a Communist Party office in central Cuba early on March 14, a state-run newspaper reported, in a rare outburst of public dissent triggered by blackouts exacerbated by a U.S. oil blockade.

A rally against power cuts and food shortages appeared to begin peacefully in the city of Moron late on March 13, then turned violent, Invasor newspaper said.

Videos on social media showed a large fire and people throwing rocks through the windows of a building as voices shouted “liberty” in the background.

Reuters was able to verify the location of one video in Moron, which is on Cuba’s northern coast about 250 miles east of the capital Havana near the tourist resort of Cayo Coco. Checks showed it was recent, but could not pinpoint the exact date.

The United States has tightened the screws on Cuba since capturing Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro – Cuba’s most important foreign benefactor – in January.

President Donald Trump cut off

Venezuelan oil shipments to Cuba and threatened to slap tariffs on any country that sells oil to Cuba, piling pressure on an economy already struggling with shortages of food, fuel, electricity and medicine.

Trump has in recent weeks made a series of statements, saying Cuba was on the verge of collapse or eager to make a deal with the United States. Cuba’s government said on March 13 it had begun talks with Washington to try to defuse the crisis.

Public protests, particularly violent ones, are exceedingly rare in Cuba. Its 2019 constitution grants citizens the right to demonstrate, but a law more specifically defining that right is stalled in the legislature, leaving those who take to the street in legal limbo.

“What initially began peacefully, and after an exchange with local authorities, turned into acts of vandalism against the headquarters of the Municipal Party Committee,” the Invasor newspaper said.

“A smaller group of people stoned the entrance of the building and started a fire in the street with furniture from the reception area,” it added.

Vandals targeted several other state-run establishments in the area, including a pharmacy and a government mar-

ket, the report said.

In one video on social media, a gunshot is heard, and the camera pans to a person lying on the ground.

State media outlet Vanguardia de Cuba dismissed online reports that the person lying on the ground had been shot by police.

“The image circulating shows the scene of the protest, but it’s important for the public to know the truth: no one was injured by gunfire,” Vanguardia de Cuba said on X.

State media said police had detained five people and one drunken participant fell over and was being treated for injuries in hospital.

Over the past week, several small groups of residents across Havana have banged pots in protest against extended blackouts.

Students staged a sit-in on the steps of the University of Havana after the government suspended in-person classes, blaming the U.S. oil blockade. Fuel shortages have vastly reduced public transportation, making it difficult, if not impossible, for teachers and students to get together for classes.

Moron was also the site of significant protests during anti-government riots on July 11, 2021, the largest since Fidel Castro’s 1959 revolution.

Talks

Continued from Page 1NN

now, and we’re going to continue with the mission unabated. Maybe there’s a day, but not right now,” the official said.

During the first week of the war, Trump wrote on his Truth Social platform that Iran’s leadership and military were so battered by U.S.-Israeli strikes that they wanted to talk, but that it was “Too Late!” He has a history of shifting foreign policy stances without warning, making it hard to rule out that he might test the waters for restarting diplomacy.

“President Trump said new potential leadership in Iran has indicated they want to talk and eventually will talk. For now, Operation Epic Fury continues unabated,” a second senior White House official said when asked to comment on this story.

The Iranian sources said Tehran has rejected efforts by several countries to negotiate a ceasefire until the United States and Israel end their airstrikes and meet Iran’s demands,

which include a permanent end to U.S. and Israeli attacks and compensation as part of a ceasefire.

Egypt, which was involved in mediation before the war, has also tried to reopen communications, according to three security and diplomatic sources. While the efforts do not appear to have made progress, they have secured some military restraint from neighboring countries hit by Iran, according to one of the sources.

Egypt’s foreign ministry, the government of Oman and the Iranian government did not respond to requests for comment.

The war’s impact on global oil markets has significantly increased the cost for the United States. Some U.S. officials and advisers to Trump urge a quick end to the war, warning that surging gas prices could exact a high political price from the president’s Republican Party, with U.S. midterm elections looming. Others are pressing Trump to maintain the offensive against the Islamic Republic to destroy its missile program and prevent it from obtaining a nuclear weapon, according to Reuters reporting.

Trump’s rejection of diplomatic efforts could indicate that, for now, the

administration has no plans for a quick end to the war.

Indeed, both the United States and Iran appear even less willing to engage than during the opening days of the war, when senior U.S. officials reached out to Oman to discuss de-escalating, according to several sources.

One source said Iran’s top security official, Ali Larijani, and Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi had also sought to use Oman as a conduit for ceasefire discussions that would have involved U.S. Vice President JD Vance. But those discussions have not materialized.

Instead, Iran’s position has hardened, said a third senior Iranian source.

“Whatever was communicated previously through the diplomatic channels is irrelevant now,” said the source.

“The Guards strongly believe that if they lose control over the Strait of Hormuz, Iran will lose the war,” the source added, referring to the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, a paramilitary force that controls parts of the economy.

“Therefore, the Guards will not accept any ceasefire, ceasefire talks, or diplomatic efforts, and Iran’s political leaders will not engage in such talks despite attempts by several countries.”

Iran

Continued from Page 1NN

There was no immediate indication of plans to do so by any of the countries. French officials said on March 13 their government was pushing on with efforts to assemble a coalition to secure the Strait of Hormuz once the security situation stabilizes.

A British Ministry of Defense spokesperson said on March 14: “As we’ve said previously, we are currently discussing with our allies and partners a range of options to ensure the security of shipping in the region.”

While Trump made his appeal mostly to traditional U.S. allies, historically neutral Switzerland distanced itself. The Swiss Federal Council said it rejected two U.S. requests to allow reconnaissance aircraft to fly through Swiss airspace en route to Iran, although approval was granted for a maintenance flight and two transport aircraft.

Trump had threatened to strike the oil infrastructure of Kharg Island unless Tehran stopped attacking vessels in the strait. He said on March 13 the United States had “totally obliterated” military targets there, not energy assets. U.S. Central Command later said it hit more than 90 sites on Kharg, including naval mine storage facilities, missile storage bunkers and other military targets.

Iranian Supreme Leader Mojtaba Khamenei, who replaced his slain father, has said the Strait of Hormuz should remain closed.

Separately, Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi dismissed speculation from Secretary of War Pete Hegseth that Khamenei was wounded and likely disfigured. “There is no problem with the new supreme leader. He sent his message yesterday, and he will perform his duties,” Araghchi told MS Now.

Khamenei has not appeared in public, instead issuing a statement on



U.S. Air Force military personnel load AGM-158 joint air-to-surface standoff cruise missiles onto a B-52 Stratofortress bomber, affixing them under the wing, at RAF Fairford in England on March 14. HENRY NICHOLLS/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

March 12 read by a television presenter.

Iran played down the extent of the damage on Kharg Island while threatening to step up its use of more powerful weapons, accusing the UAE of harboring sites for U.S. missile attacks and warning that parts of that country are legitimate targets for retaliatory strikes.

Araghchi said Iran would respond to any attack on its energy facilities and warned it would target U.S. companies in the region or companies in which the United States had shares.

The UAE’s foreign ministry did not immediately respond to the Iranian accusation that the attack on Kharg Island came through the UAE.

Nine ballistic missiles and 33 drones were launched from Iran toward the UAE on March 14, the Ministry of Defense said.

Iran warned residents to leave areas near Jebel Ali port in Dubai, Khalifa port in Abu Dhabi and the UAE’s Fujairah port and said it was targeting branches of U.S. banks in the Gulf.

Meanwhile, Israel and Lebanon are expected to hold direct talks in the coming days, Israel’s Haaretz newspaper reported on March 14, in what would be a diplomatic milestone between the two states as Israel and the Iran-backed Lebanese group Hezbollah wage war.

Three Lebanese officials said Beirut

is forming a delegation for talks but no date has been set. One of the officials said Lebanon needed clarity on whether Israel would abide by President Joseph Aoun’s first point – a demand for a full ceasefire to allow negotiations to take place.

There was no immediate comment from the Israeli government.

Lebanon was sucked into the war in the Middle East on March 2 when Hezbollah opened fire at Israel, saying it aimed to avenge the killing of Iran’s supreme leader. Israel has responded with an offensive that has killed more than 800 people in Lebanon and forced more than 800,000 from their homes.

SPORTS **EXTRA**



Ludvig Åberg plays a shot on the 10th hole during The Players Championship on March 14 in Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida. RICHARD HEATHCOTE/GETTY IMAGES

GOLF PGA TOUR

Åberg adds to lead entering final round

Mark Lampport-Stokes
FIELD LEVEL MEDIA

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, FL – Sweden’s Ludvig Åberg, in pursuit of a third PGA Tour title and the biggest win of his career, maintained ice-cool composure as he increased his overnight lead to three shots in the third round of The Players Championship on Saturday.

The 26-year-old, whose most recent victory came at last year’s Genesis Invitational, for the most part played ultra-disciplined golf as he carded a 1-under 71 on another sun-splashed afternoon at TPC Sawgrass.

Åberg’s most frustrating moment of the day came at the par-4 18th where he surprisingly ran up a bogey after three-putting from 25 feet, this following a missed birdie opportunity from just 8 feet at the iconic par-3 17th.

“I definitely would have loved to come out of 16, 17 with at least one birdie, and the 3-putt on 18 kind of stings, annoys me a little bit,” the Swede said after finishing with a 13-under total of 203 in the PGA Tour’s flagship event.

“But overall, I started the day with a two-shot lead and ended with a three, so that’s a positive for sure. But Sawgrass tomorrow is going to be a challenge. It’s all about executing, and you’re going to get punished if you don’t, which is a fun way to play golf.”

Åberg will head into Sunday’s final round three strokes in front of American Michael Thorbjornsen, a former college friend and fellow resident in the Jacksonville area who reeled off five birdies, an eagle and two bogeys en route to a 67.

Cameron Young was alone in third at

See PLAYERS, Page 8NS

NASCAR CUP SERIES

Bell again speeds to the pole in Las Vegas

Reid Spencer
SPECIAL TO FIELD LEVEL MEDIA

LAS VEGAS – With a blistering lap of 187.156 mph in Saturday’s time trials at Las Vegas Motor Speedway, Christopher Bell claimed the pole position for Sunday’s Pennzoil 400.

Bell navigated the 1.5-mile intermediate track in 28.853 seconds to beat Joe Gibbs Racing teammate Denny Hamlin (186.188 mph) for the top starting spot by 0.150 seconds.

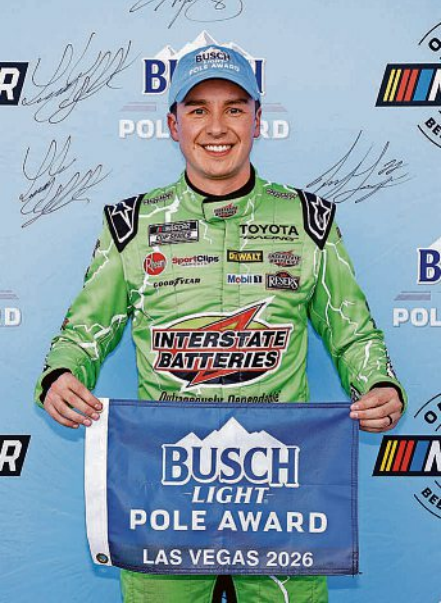
The Busch Light pole award was Bell’s first of the season, his fourth at Las Vegas, and the 15th of his career.

With JGR’s Ty Gibbs qualifying third at 185.803 mph and 23XI Racing’s Bubba Wallace fourth at 185.771 mph, Toyota swept the top four starting spots in a race for the seventh time in the manufacturer’s history in the NASCAR Cup Series, with the most recent occurrence coming at Indianapolis Motor Speedway last year.

This was the second straight Las Vegas race in which Toyotas have started 1-2-3, with Hamlin, Chase Briscoe and Bell doing the honors in qualifying last fall.

“It was pretty simple, really,” Bell said of his qualifying lap. “It takes a lot of commitment here at Las Vegas Motor Speedway to qualify well. My team got their Ps and Qs right. We had a lot of grip, and I held my foot down, and we won the pole.”

See NASCAR, Page 7NS



Christopher Bell won the pole during qualifying for the NASCAR Cup Series Pennzoil 400 on March 14 in Las Vegas. SEAN GARDNER/GETTY IMAGES

COLLEGE MEN’S BASKETBALL



Vanderbilt’s Tyler Tanner drives to the basket for a layup against Florida during the second half of an SEC Tournament semifinal on March 14 in Nashville. CARLY MACKLER/GETTY IMAGES

VANDY DOMINATES FLORIDA IN SEC SEMIS

Tyler Tanner scored 20 points and dished out eight assists, Duke Miles scored 15 with seven assists and No. 22 Vanderbilt earned a 91-74 victory over No. 4 Florida on March 14 in the semifinals of the Southeastern Conference Tournament. The fourth-seeded Commodores (26-7) advanced to the March 15 title game against third-seeded Arkansas (25-8). The No. 17 Razorbacks handed Vanderbilt its largest loss of the year, a 93-68 decision in which it never led, on Jan. 20 in Fayetteville, Arkansas. **ROUNDUP, 5NS**

MLB

SPRING TRAINING ROUNDUP

Skubal, Scherzer excel for Tigers, Blue Jays

FIELD LEVEL MEDIA

Tarik Skubal racked up seven strikeouts over 4½ innings in his return to spring training as the Detroit Tigers rolled to a 6-1 victory over the host Toronto Blue Jays on Saturday afternoon in Dunedin, Fla.

Skubal allowed three hits and one run with no walks as he fired 61 pitches in his first outing since helping the United States defeat Great Britain in the World Baseball Classic on Monday. Matt Vierling delivered a pair of RBI doubles for the Tigers.

Max Scherzer matched zeroes against Skubal with four scoreless innings for the Blue Jays. He scattered two singles and two walks while fanning five. Daulton Varsho touched Skubal for a solo homer in the fifth. Riley Tirotta went 2-for-2 with a double.

Phillies 6, Yankees 4

Felix Reyes hit a two-run homer in the ninth to break a tie and give Philadelphia the victory over host New York in Tampa, Fla.

Leadoff man Justin Crawford went 1-for-4 with two runs and one RBI while Edmundo Sosa added two hits for the Phillies. Starter Bryse Wilson tossed three hitless innings as Philadelphia improved to 8-11-1 for the spring.

Yankees starter Max Fried stretched out to 5½ innings and was responsible for five hits, three runs and four strikeouts. Braden Shewmake forged a 4-4 tie with a solo homer in the eighth while Jasson Dominguez went 2-for-2 with a walk, run, RBI and stolen base.

Pirates 8, Orioles 6

Marcell Ozuna erased a two-run deficit with a three-run homer in the seventh as host Pittsburgh collected the win over Baltimore in Bradenton, Fla.

Henry Davis and Billy Cook contributed homers to highlight the Pirates' 12-hit attack while Ryan O'Hearn and Nick Yorke cracked two hits apiece. Starter Carmen Mlodzinski fanned five over five innings while allowing seven hits and two runs.

Adley Rutschman (2-for-4) and Dylan Beavers (2-for-3) each delivered a two-run homer for the Orioles, who had 13 hits.

Starter Trevor Rogers gave up four hits and two runs over four innings with three strikeouts and one walk.

Marlins (ss) 4, Nationals 1

Rookie catcher Bennett Hostetler hit a two-run homer and stole two bases to pace Miami past host Washington in Palm Beach, Fla.

Cade Gibson opened for the Marlins and racked up four strikeouts over 1½ innings as seven pitchers combined for a 4-hitter and 13 strikeouts.

Brady House poked an RBI double in the fifth to account for the Nationals' lone run.

Starter Alex Clemmey gave up no hits and one walk over three innings, but he allowed two unearned runs as the Nats committed three of their four errors during the third inning.

Cardinals 7, Marlins (ss) 7

Nolan Gorman cranked his third homer of the spring as St. Louis and host Miami played to a draw in Jupiter, Fla.

Starter Andre Pallante struck out four and walked three as he gave up one run over five innings for the Cardinals. Gorman, Jose Fermin and Nathan Church contributed two hits apiece.

Ryan Ignoffo (2-for-2) homered in the eighth while Ian Lewis and Yiddi Cappe drove in two runs apiece for the Marlins. Starter Ryan Gusto surrendered six hits and two runs over four innings.

Rays 9, Twins 6

Minor league catcher Kenny Piper hit a three-run homer in the top of the ninth to extend Tampa Bay's lead and they held off Minnesota in Fort Myers, Fla.

Former Detroit Tiger outfielder Justyn-Henry Malloy went 2-for-3 with three RBIs for the Rays, driving in a pair with a fourth-inning double. Veteran reliever Jake Woodford got the start for Tampa Bay and lowered his spring ERA to 1.23 with two scoreless innings.

Twins outfielder Matt Wallner hit a two-run home run to knot the game at 3-3 in the fifth inning. Starter Simeon Woods Richardson allowed three runs, walked three and fanned two in four innings.



Detroit Tigers starting pitcher Tarik Skubal delivers during the first inning against the Toronto Blue Jays on March 14 at TD Ballpark in Dunedin, Florida. KIM KLEMENT NEITZEL/IMAGN IMAGES



The Chicago White Sox's Luisangel Acuna slides into home against the Los Angeles Dodgers on March 14 in Phoenix. MARK J. REBILAS/IMAGN IMAGES

Athletics 12, Royals 1

Catcher Shea Langeliers belted three solo home runs and Nick Kurtz added another as the Athletics routed Kansas City in Mesa, Ariz.

Langeliers went deep in the first, third and fourth innings, going back-to-back following Kurtz in the fourth. The Athletics scored in six of eight innings, including a five-run eighth. Starter Jacob Lopez did not allow a hit, walked one and fanned seven in four innings.

The Royals only managed two hits off six Athletics' pitchers. Kansas City starter Ryan Bergert was victimized by all four home runs and allowed five earned runs in 3½ innings.

White Sox 7, Dodgers 2

Chicago scored three runs each in the second and third innings and coasted to a win over Los Angeles in Phoenix.

Tristan Peters had the key hit in the third, driving in a pair of runs on a single to right field. Lenyn Sosa and Luisangel Acuna each had two hits for the White Sox. However, starter Mike Vasil was removed in the fourth inning due to right elbow soreness. Vasil appeared in 47 games for Chicago last season, including 44 in a relief role.

Dodgers hurler Justin Wrobleksi allowed five earned runs on four hits and two walks in 2½ innings. Minor leaguer Zachary Ehrhard had two of Los Angeles' six hits and scored a run.

Reds 4, Rangers (ss) 3

Michael Toglia blasted a two-run home run in the bottom of the eighth to rally Cincinnati past Texas in Goodyear, Ariz.

Toglia, who came over from Colorado in the offseason, followed an RBI triple by Carlos Jorge with his long ball with one out in the eighth. Jose Trevino also homered for the Reds.

Alejandro Osuna went 3-for-4 for the Rangers, but Texas went 1-for-12 with

men in scoring position. Starting pitcher Austin Gomber, signed to a minor league deal after going 0-7 in Colorado in 2025, allowed only one earned run in 4½ innings.

Diamondbacks 8, Giants 7

Minor league outfielder Angel Ortiz capped a six-run rally with a solo home run in the bottom of the eighth as Arizona edged San Francisco in Scottsdale, Ariz.

D-backs shortstop Jacob Amaya, who has been with four major league teams since 2023, tagged a grand slam to cut a 7-2 deficit to 7-6 in the sixth. He added an RBI single to knot the score an inning later. Arizona starter Zac Gallen delivered a rare poor outing this spring, allowing seven hits and three earned runs in 2½ innings.

Rafael Devers staked the Giants to the 7-2 lead with a three-run long ball in the fourth inning. Starter Adrian Houser, a former Tampa Bay Ray, allowed two earned runs and fanned six in five innings.

Rangers (ss) 22, Padres (ss) 2

Texas scored 13 times in the third inning and pummeled San Diego in Surprise, Ariz.

The Rangers had already plated three runs in the inning when Josh Smith connected on a grand slam. Ezequiel Duran and Wyatt Langford added two-run blasts and Corey Seager hit a solo shot in the frame. New Texas outfielder Brandon Nimmo went 4-for-4 with two home runs, five runs scored and four RBIs.

Longtime Mariner Marco Gonzales (11 runs allowed, 10 earned) and Logan Gillaspie (nine runs allowed) took the brunt of the onslaught, allowing 20 runs on 19 hits in a combined 4½ innings. Jase Bowen hit a two-run homer for the Padres.

Rockies (ss) 4, Cubs 3

Reserve catcher Braxton Fulford hit a one-out, two-run homer in the bottom of the ninth to rally Colorado past Chicago in Scottsdale, Ariz.

Fulford and Nicky Lopez each had two hits for the Rockies. Starter Kyle Freeland threw three scoreless frames, allowing one hit and striking out four.

Kevin Alcantara went 2-for-3 and drove in a run for the Cubs. Swingman Ben Brown got the start and allowed one run in four innings. He did not walk a batter and fanned six.

Angels 6, Mariners 2

Five Los Angeles pitchers fanned 13 Seattle batters and the Angels never trailed in Tempe, Ariz.

Catcher Logan O'Hoppe led the offense, going 2-for-2 with two runs scored and one RBI. Former Yankee infielder Oswald Peraza had a pair of hits in three trips, increasing his spring average to .351.

Mariners starter Luke Gilbert allowed two earned runs on six hits and two walks in 2½ innings. He fanned five and saw his spring ERA rise to 2.38. Luis Suissbel hit a solo homer.

Brewers 8, Rockies (ss) 4

David Hamilton sparked a four-run second inning with a long three-run home run and Milwaukee prevailed over Colorado in Phoenix.

Hamilton drove in a fourth run with an RBI groundout in the fifth. Joey Ortiz and Brandon Lockridge added solo shots for the Brewers. Flame-thrower Jacob Misiorowski allowed two earned runs and struck out six in four innings.

Jordan Beck had an RBI single in the first and a solo long ball in the sixth for Colorado. Victor Vodnik, who had ten saves down the stretch for the Rockies last season, was tagged for four runs and got only two outs in the Brewers' four-run second.

Padres (ss) 8, Guardians 5

Major league journeyman Miguel Andujar blasted a grand slam in the third inning and San Diego defeated Cleveland in Peoria, Ariz.

Andujar, who hit .359 in 34 games for Cincinnati down the stretch in 2025, has also suited up for the New York Yankees (2017-22), Pittsburgh Pirates (2022-23) and the Athletics (2024-25). Catcher Freddy Fermin added a two-run homer in the fifth inning for the Padres. Nick Pivetta, who earned a career- best 5.3 WAR for San Diego last year, permitted two runs in three innings and saw his ERA rise to 7.88.

Southpaw Logan Allen also struggled for Cleveland, giving up six runs in 2½ innings. Maick Collado and Petey Halkin hit solo homers.

Braves 10, Red Sox 1

Atlanta erupted for seven runs in the bottom of the eighth to break the game open and knock off Boston in North Port, Fla.

Matt Olson gave the Braves a 2-1 lead with a two-run homer, his fourth of the spring, in the sixth inning. Olson, Drake Baldwin and Jim Jarvis each had two hits for Atlanta. Starter Bryce Elder fanned six and allowed only one run on one hit in five innings.

Starter Brayan Bello was also very strong on the hill for the Red Sox. He threw five innings of shutout baseball and struck out seven Braves, but his side only managed three hits off five Atlanta hurlers.

Astros 8, Mets 2

Yordan Alvarez drove in four runs with an RBI single and a three-run homer as Houston scored seven late runs to defeat New York in West Palm Beach, Fla.

Alvarez hit his first long ball of the spring to extend the Astros' lead to 4-0 in the sixth inning.

He is hitting .316 after an injury-plagued 2025 campaign.

Starter Ryan Weiss, 29, who has yet to appear in the majors, threw 4½ innings of scoreless baseball and lowered his spring ERA to 0.93.

Mets starter Freddy Peralta, acquired from the Brewers in the offseason, allowed one run and fanned five in four innings. Catcher Ben Rortvedt went 2-for-2 and scored both New York runs.

WORLD BASEBALL CLASSIC ROUNDUP

Abreu’s HR carries Venezuela over Japan

FIELD LEVEL MEDIA

Wilyer Abreu hit the go-ahead three-run homer in the sixth inning Saturday night for Venezuela, which eliminated defending champion Japan with an 8-5 win in the World Baseball Classic quarterfinals in Miami.

Venezuela, the runner-up in Pool D with a 3-1 record, will face Italy in Monday night’s semifinal. Italy outlasted Puerto Rico 8-6 in Houston earlier Saturday.

The winner of Venezuela-Italy will advance to Tuesday’s championship game against the winner of Sunday’s semifinal between the United States and the Dominican Republic.

Japan, which went 4-0 in Pool C play, was eliminated prior to the semifinals for the first time in six WBCs as its bid for a fourth title ended.

Abreu’s homer provided the biggest flourish in an entertaining game that began in historic fashion when Ronald Acuna Jr. and Shohei Ohtani each homered leading off the first.

Acuna Jr., the 2023 National League Most Valuable Player, and Ohtani, the two-time defending NL MVP who also won two MVPs in the American League, are the first pair of former MVPs to lead off the same game with homers.

Gleyber Torres gave Venezuela the lead a second time with an RBI double in the second before Japan went ahead 5-2 in the third, when Teruaki Sato delivered a run-scoring double and Shota Morishita later followed with a three-run homer.

Morishita entered the game an inning earlier in place of Seiya Suzuki, who exited with a right knee injury after he was caught stealing in the first.

Venezuela began its comeback in the fifth, when Maikel Garcia hit a two-run homer. Ezequiel Tovar and Torres opened the sixth with singles against losing pitcher Hiromi Itoh before Abreu unleashed a wild celebration by hitting a 409-foot homer to right.

Tovar added an insurance run in the eighth when he scored from second when Atsuki Taneichi’s pickoff throw sailed into centerfield.

Enmanuel De Jesus, Venezuela’s third pitcher, earned the win with 2 1/3



Venezuela’s Wilyer Abreu rounds the bases after hitting a home run during the sixth inning against Japan during a World Baseball Classic quarterfinal game on March 14 in Miami. RICH STORRY/GETTY IMAGES

innings of one-hit ball. Daniel Palancia notched the save by striking out two in a perfect ninth that ended with Ohtani popping out.

Ranger Suarez started and the game for Venezuela and gave up all five runs in 2 2/3 innings.

Los Angeles Dodgers ace Yoshinobu Yamamoto started for Japan and allowed two runs in four innings.

Italy 8, Puerto Rico 6

Italy chased Puerto Rico starter Seth

Lugo after four runs in the first inning en route to a quarterfinal victory in Houston.

The Italian team remained undefeated and advanced to Tuesday’s semifinal against the winner of Saturday’s quarterfinal between Venezuela and Japan.

JJ D’Orazio drove in three runs and Andrew Fischer knocked in two for Italy, which erased an 1-0 deficit with four runs in the first and then pushed its lead to 8-2 with a four-run fourth. Dylan DeLucia threw four scoreless innings in middle relief while Greg Weissert got

the final five outs to earn his third save of the tournament.

Puerto Rico’s Willi Castro led off the game with a home run off Italy starter Sam Aldegheri (1-0), but Lugo (1-1) retired just one batter in the bottom of the first. He was pulled after allowing four runs, three hits and two walks.

Christian Vazquez poked a two-run single with one out in the eighth to cap a four-run inning and pull Puerto Rico within 8-6, but Weissert retired five of six batters with the tying run at the plate.

NFL NOTEBOOK

Reports: Giants signing WR Mooney to 1-year deal

FIELD LEVEL MEDIA

The New York Giants are signing veteran wide receiver Darnell Mooney to a one-year contract worth up to \$10 million, according to multiple reports on Saturday.

The Atlanta Falcons released Mooney, 28, earlier this month as a salary cap casualty after he signed a three-year, \$39 million contract in March 2024. He was set to count \$18.4 million against the cap, but the move saved the Falcons \$7.42 million.

The Giants lost 2025 leading receiver WanDale Robinson (92 receptions, 1,014 yards) in free agency to the Tennessee Titans earlier this week. They added former Pittsburgh Steelers receiver Calvin Austin and re-signed Gunner Olszewski to join veterans Malik Nabers and Darius Slayton.

Mooney recorded 64 catches for 992 yards and a career-high five touchdowns in 16 games (all starts) in his first season with the Falcons in 2024. He had just 32 receptions for 443 yards and one score in 15 games (all starts) in 2025. He missed Game 1 due to a broken collarbone and two other games because of a hamstring injury.

Bengals sign vet quarterback Johnson to 1-year agreement

The Bengals signed quarterback Josh Johnson, a veteran who had two stints with Cincinnati during the 2013 and 2015 seasons, to a one-year deal.

Johnson, 39, spent last season with the Washington Commanders, one of an NFL-record 14 teams for which he has suited up since he was a fifth-round pick in the 2008 NFL Draft.

He threw for 372 yards and one touchdown on 34-for-54 passing in five games (two starts) last season with Washington, including his first NFL start since 2021 with the Baltimore Ravens. He also rushed for 55 yards and a touchdown last season.

Cincinnati does not have a quarterback outside of star Joe Burrow.

Joe Flacco, who was signed in the wake of Burrow’s injury last season, re-



The New York Giants reportedly are signing veteran wide receiver Darnell Mooney to a one-year, \$10 million deal. MARK J. REBILAS/IMAGN IMAGES

mains a free agent.

Jake Browning, who was the team’s No. 3 quarterback, signed with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

Report: Commanders sign running back Ford to 1-year deal

Free-agent running back Jerome Ford agreed to a one-year deal with the Washington Commanders, NFL Network reported.

Ford leaves the Cleveland Browns after four seasons with the team that picked him in the fifth round of the 2022 NFL Draft. Last offseason, he agreed to reduce his 2025 salary by half – from \$3.49 million to a guaranteed \$1.75 million – to remain in Cleveland.

Ford, 26, was placed on injured reserve on Dec. 9 after not playing more than 17 snaps in a game since Week 6 when he was slowed by a hamstring injury. In 13 games (no starts) in the 2025 season, he had 73 yards rushing on 24 carries and 26 receptions for 103 yards.

His best season with the Browns came in 2023, when he gained 1,132 yards from scrimmage and scored nine touchdowns.

WNBA



WNBA Commissioner Cathy Engelbert speaks before the start of Game 1 of the 2025 WNBA Finals on Oct. 3 in Las Vegas. STEPHEN R. SYLVANIE/IMAGN IMAGES

Commissioner on CBA: Deal has to be ‘done by Monday’

FIELD LEVEL MEDIA

WNBA Commissioner Cathy Engelbert said there is urgency to get a new collective bargaining agreement completed by Monday to avoid “disrupting” key dates on the calendar.

“We have to get it done by Monday. I should say, we have to get it done without disrupting some part of the fact that we’ve got to run this two-team expansion (draft),” Engelbert told reporters on Friday. “We’ve got to get expansion going. We’ve got to get free agency going. We’ve got to get the college draft, which is now a month from today.”

The league and union have been holding sessions that spanned double-digit hour totals each day starting Tuesday.

Front Office Sports reported Friday that the sides met in a Manhattan hotel until close to 3 a.m. that morning, for a total of 16 hours.

League officials had set March 10 as the deadline for a new CBA agreement to avoid the loss of regular-season games. The 2026 WNBA Draft is scheduled for April 13, training camps are slated to begin on April 19 and the reg-

ular season is in line to open on May 8.

The league and the players have been at a standstill for months, with revenue sharing, a revised salary cap and housing among the key issues.

Terri Carmichael Jackson, the Women’s National Basketball Players Association executive director, reiterated Friday that a system “tied to revenue in a meaningful way” remains a priority for players and said there has been progress during these negotiations.

“I think the league, and particularly the commissioner and her team, have heard that transformation remains the goal,” Jackson told reporters Friday. “As long as movement keeps us going in a forward direction, then I think we’re good.”

Nneka Ogwumike, the president of the Women’s National Basketball Players Association executive committee, Breanna Stewart, Brianna Turner, Alysha Clark and Carmichael Jackson represent the union. The league has been represented by Engelbert, head of league operations Bethany Donaphin, New York Liberty owner Clara Wu Tsai, and Connecticut Sun president Jennifer Rizzotti.

NBA

ROUNDUP

Dončić, Lakers edge Nuggets in overtime

FIELD LEVEL MEDIA

Luka Dončić hit a baseline jumper with 0.5 seconds left, and the host Los Angeles Lakers rallied to beat the Denver Nuggets 127-125 in overtime on Saturday night.

Dončić finished with 30 points, 13 assists and 11 rebounds for his 11th triple-double of the season. With its fifth straight win, Los Angeles clinched the season series against Denver.

Austin Reaves had 32 points, including a bucket in the final seconds of the fourth to send it to overtime. Marcus Smart added 21 points and LeBron James scored 17 for the Lakers.

Smart's fifth 3-pointer of the night gave Los Angeles a 125-123 lead with 30 seconds left in overtime. Nikola Jokic tied it with 15.1 seconds left but Dončić's 17-foot fadeaway won it for the hosts.

Jokic had 24 points, 16 rebounds and 14 assists for his 27th triple-double of the season and fifth in his last six games. Aaron Gordon finished with 27 points, Tim Hardaway Jr. contributed 20, Cam Johnson scored 18 and Bruce Brown and Christian Braun had 12 apiece for the Nuggets.

Spurs 115, Hornets 102

Victor Wembanyama racked up 32 points, 12 rebounds, eight assists and four blocked shots in his return to lead host San Antonio to a victory over Charlotte as two of the hottest teams in the NBA clashed.

De'Aaron Fox added 17 points for the Spurs, with Stephon Castle adding 15 points with 10 assists. Keldon Johnson scored 13 points and Luke Kornet contributed 10 for San Antonio.

Miles Bridges led Charlotte with 22 points while Kon Knueppel scored 20, Coby White had 18 off the bench and La-Melo Ball added 17 for the Hornets, who had a two-game winning streak snapped.

The Spurs are 17-2 since the start of February, while the Hornets fell to 8-3 since Feb. 22.

The Spurs led by as many as 18 points in the second quarter and 13 at halftime before heading into the fourth quarter up 91-83.

Magic 121, Heat 117

Paolo Banchero posted 27 points, eight rebounds and seven assists as visiting Orlando defeated Miami for the fifth straight time.

Orlando led by as many as 22 but needed two Wendell Carter Jr. free throws with 11 seconds left to help put Miami away. Banchero added two free throws with 7.8 seconds left.

Desmond Bane added 21 points for the Magic, who have won seven straight. Carter scored 15, Jalen Suggs added 14 and Jamal Cain chipped in 12 as the Magic swept the season series 5-0.

Miami, which had its seven-game win streak snapped, was led by Bam Adebayo, who had 20 points, seven rebounds, four steals and two blocks. Jaime Jaquez Jr. added 22 points, seven assists and three steals. Fellow reserve Norman Powell had 20 points and Pelle Larsson scored 13 of his 15 points in the fourth quarter.



Lakers guard Luka Dončić (77) releases the game-winning shot while under pressure from Denver Nuggets forward Spencer Jones (21) during overtime on March 14 in Los Angeles. WILLIAM LIANG/IMAGN IMAGES



Spurs forward Victor Wembanyama dunks in the second half against the Charlotte Hornets on March 14 in San Antonio. DANIEL DUNN/IMAGN IMAGES

76ers 104, Nets 97

Quentin Grimes scored 28 points, as Philadelphia notched a home victory over Brooklyn.

Adem Bona chipped in with nine points, 10 rebounds and three blocks for Philadelphia, which continued to play without Tyrese Maxey (finger), Joel Embiid (oblique), and Paul George (suspension), among others. VJ Edgecombe contributed 16 points and seven assists for the Sixers, who had dropped five of their previous seven games. Justin Edwards added 19 points.

Brooklyn lost for the 13th time in 15 games despite erasing a 28-point, second-half deficit. Danny Wolf scored 15 points and grabbed 10 rebounds to pace the Nets, who took the court without several key players, including top scorer Michael Porter Jr. (ankle).

Philadelphia led 67-39 with about seven minutes left in the third quarter and held a 21-point lead to start the fourth.

Kings 118, Clippers 109

DeMar DeRozan scored 27 points and Precious Achiuwa added 25 with 13 rebounds as Sacramento turned a brief stop on the road into a victory over Los Angeles in Inglewood, Calif.

Maxime Raynaud scored 23 points and Russell Westbrook added 12 points, 12 rebounds and 10 assists against his former team as the Kings won for the third time in their past four games.

Sacramento's front line of DeRozan, Achiuwa and Raynaud combined to go 32-of-40 (80%) from the floor. The Kings were playing on the road for the only time in a stretch of 10 games and are now 3-3 during the run.

Kawhi Leonard scored 31 points for the Clippers to set the franchise record with his 45th consecutive game of at least 20 points. Leonard went to the locker room in the first half with a cut over his left eye and departed for good with 9:27 remaining in the game when he rolled his left ankle.

Celtics 111, Wizards 100

Neemias Queta scored a game-high 24 points and had 10 rebounds to help Boston end a two-game losing streak by beating visiting Washington.

Boston received 20 points, 14 rebounds and seven assists from Jayson Tatum, and a 16-point performance from Jaylen Brown. Derrick White scored 15 and Luka Garza added 15 off the bench.

Boston outrebounded Washington 55-38. The Celtics grabbed 19 offensive rebounds.

The loss stretched Washington's losing streak to 11. The Wizards have lost nine in a row on the road.

Tristan Vukcevic made 6 of 7 3-point attempts and led the Wizards with 22 points. Fellow reserve Jamir Watkins added 15 points and six rebounds and Bilal Coulibaly finished with 12 points. Trae Young scored 11 and had six assists.

Alex Sarr was 1 of 9 from the field and was held to four points.

Hawks 122, Bucks 99

CJ McCollum scored 30 points and made seven 3-pointers to help red-hot Atlanta extend its winning streak to nine games with a victory over visiting Milwaukee.

Jalen Johnson added 23 points, 12 assists and 10 rebounds for his 12th triple-double of the season as Atlanta won nine in a row for the first time since a 19-game stretch in the 2014-15 season.

Nickell Alexander-Walker scored 20 points, followed by Corey Kispert's 13 and Jock Landale's 10.

Ryan Rollins had 22 points and eight assists for the Bucks, who dropped their eighth game in nine tries. Kevin Porter Jr. contributed 18 points, seven assists and seven rebounds, while Bobby Portis finished with 14 points.

After holding an eight-point halftime lead, Atlanta stretched the margin to 14 on McCollum's three straight 3-pointers to give the Hawks a 73-59 advantage with 8:04 left in the third.

BOX SCORES

Atlanta 122, Milwaukee 99									
MILWAUKEE (99)									
Kuzma 5-8 1-2 11	Sims 2-2 3-4 7	Turner 3-7 1-1 8	Porter Jr. 7-13 4-4 18	Rollins 8-11 2-2 22	Portis 5-15 1-2 14	Green 3-6 1-1 9	Nance 1-2 0-2 3	Trent Jr. 2-7 0-0 5	Prince 0-0 0-0 0
Harris 0-1 0-0 0	Jackson Jr. 1-1 0-0 2	Antetokounmpo 0-0 0-0 0	Thomas 0-3 0-0 0	Totals 37-76	13-18	99			
ATLANTA (122)									
Daniels 4-8 0-0 8	Johnson 10-20 1-2 23	Okongwu 2-6 0-0 4	Alexander-Walker 7-14 3-3 20	McCollum 10-18 3-4 30	Risacher 2-7 2-2 7	Landale 5-7 0-2 10	Kispert 4-7 5-5 13	Gueye 0-2 0-0 0	Vincent 1-3 0-0 3
Wallace 1-2 0-0 2	Koloko 1-1 0-0 2	Dennis 0-0 0-0 0	Houstan 0-0 0-0 0	Totals 47-95	14-18	122			
MIL	30	22	26	21	—	99			
ATL	31	29	35	27	—	122			
3-Point Goals: Milwaukee 12-37 (Rollins 4-7, Portis 3-7, Green 2-5, Nance 1-2, Turner 1-4, Trent Jr. 1-5, Thomas 0-1, Harris 0-1, Porter Jr. 0-2, Kuzma 0-3), Atlanta 14-38 (McCollum 7-10, Alexander-Walker 3-7, Johnson 2-5, Vincent 1-3, Risacher 1-4, Daniels 0-1, Wallace 0-1, Gueye 0-1, Kispert 0-2, Okongwu 0-4). Fouled Out: None. Rebounds: Milwaukee 37 (Porter Jr. 7), Atlanta 47 (Johnson 10). Assists: Milwaukee 24 (Rollins 8), Atlanta 29 (Johnson 12). Total Fouls: Milwaukee 18, Atlanta 19. A: 16,013 (18,729)									
Orlando 121, Miami 117									
ORLANDO (121)									
Banchero 8-14 10-10 27	da Silva 5-12 0-0 11	Carter Jr. 5-8 4-4 15	Bane 8-17 4-4 21	Suggs 6-17 0-2 14	Penda 2-4 2-2 7	Cain 5-8 0-0 12	Carter 3-5 0-0 7	Wagner 2-4 3-3 7	Totals 48-89
23	25	121							
MIAMI (117)									
Adebayo 6-15 6-10 20	Larsson 4-7 5-5 15	Ware 5-8 2-2 13	Herro 4-14 0-0 10	Mitchell 5-8 2-14	Powell 7-15 5-5 20	Jaquez Jr. 9-16 3-4 22	Jakucionis 1-4 0-0 3	Gardner 0-10 0-0 0	Totals 41-88
23	28	117							
ORL	41	30	27	23	—	121			
MIA	27	28	28	34	—	117			
3-Point Goals: Orlando 10-32 (Cain 2-4, Suggs 2-9, Carter 1-2, Penda 1-2, Carter Jr. 1-3, Banchero 1-3, da Silva 1-4, Bane 1-5), Miami 12-38 (Larsson 2-3, Mitchell 2-4, Adebayo 2-7, Herro 2-8, Jaquez Jr. 1-3, Ware 1-3, Jakucionis 1-4, Powell 1-5, Gardner 0-1). Fouled Out: Orlando (Bane). Rebounds: Orlando 49 (Banchero, Carter Jr., da Silva 8), Miami 32 (Ware 10). Assists: Orlando 26 (Banchero 7), Miami 25 (Jaquez Jr. 7). Total Fouls: Orlando 23, Miami 21. A: 19,757 (19,600)									

Boston 111, Washington 100									
WASHINGTON (100)									
Coulibaly 4-10 2-2 12	Riley 2-6 0-0 5	Sarr 1-9 1-2 4	Johnson 3-13 0-0 7	Young 5-10 1-2 11	Watkins 6-11 1-4 15	Carrington 1-2 0-0 2	Champagnie 3-6 4-5 10	Vukcevic 7-9 2-2 22	Hardy 5-5 0-0 12
Cooper 0-2 0-0 0	Gill 0-1 0-0 0	Totals 37-84	11-17	100					
BOSTON (111)									
Hauser 4-11 0-0 12	Tatum 8-19 2-2 20	Queta 11-13 2-3 24	Brown 6-13 4-4 16	White 3-11 6-6 15	Pritchard 2-11 0-0 4	Scheierman 1-8 0-0 3	Garza 5-6 3-4 15	Gonzalez 0-0 0-0 0	Williams 1-10 0-0 2
Shulga 0-0 0-0 0	Harper Jr. 0-0 0-0 0	Totals 41-93	17-19	111					
WAS	27	14	31	28	—	100			
BOS	29	35	29	18	—	111			
3-Point Goals: Washington 15-39 (Vukcevic 6-7, Hardy 2-2, Coulibaly 2-5, Watkins 2-6, Riley 1-3, Sarr 1-5, Johnson 1-7, Champagnie 0-1, Cooper 0-1, Young 0-2), Boston 12-46 (Hauser 4-4, Brown 0-5). Fouled Out: None. Rebounds: Washington 38 (Watkins 6), Boston 55 (Tatum 14). Assists: Washington 28 (Carrington 8), Boston 29 (Tatum 7). Total Fouls: Washington 18, Boston 20. A: 19,156 (18,624)									
L.A. Lakers 127, Denver 125, OT									
DENVER (125)									
Gordon 9-16 4-7 27	Johnson 6-13 2-2 18	Jokic 10-19 2-2 24	Braun 5-9 2-2 12	Murray 1-14 2-3 5	Hardaway Jr. 6-13 4-4 20	Jones 2-4 0-0 5	Brown 4-6 2-2 12	Valanciunas 1-10 0-0 2	Totals 44-95
18	22	125							
L.A. LAKERS (127)									
James 7-13 2-3 17	Smart 8-15 0-0 21	Ayton 4-6 1-4 9	Doncic 10-26 6-9 30	Reaves 12-21 5-6 32	Hachimura 3-6 0-0 6	Hayes 1-2 3-4 5	Kennard 1-2 0-0 3	LaRavia 2-2 0-0 4	Totals 48-93
17	26	127							
DEN	26	24	37	31	7	—	125		
LAL	34	27	26	31	9	—	127		
3-Point Goals: Denver 19-49 (Gordon 5-10, Johnson 4-10, Hardaway Jr. 4-10, Brown 2-3, Jokic 2-6, Jones 1-1, Murray 1-7, Braun 0-2), L.A. Lakers 14-42 (Smart 5-12, Doncic 4-14, Reaves 3-8, Kennard 1-2, James 1-3, Hachimura 0-3). Fouled Out: Denver (Murray). Rebounds: Denver 41 (Jokic 16), L.A. Lakers 46 (Doncic 11). Assists: Denver 33 (Jokic 14), L.A. Lakers 31 (Doncic 13). Total Fouls: Denver 22, L.A. Lakers 20. A: 18,997 (18,997)									

Philadelphia 104, Brooklyn 97									
BROOKLYN (97)									
Clowney 2-6 0-0 5	Williams 3-6 1-1 9	Wolf 4-9 6-6 15	Mann 2-6 0-0 5	Traore 2-10 0-0 6	Saraf 6-13 0-1 12	Etienne 3-11 2-2 11	Johnson 0-6 6-8 6	Smith 2-5 0-0 4	Minott 4-12 3-3 14
Liddell 4-5 0-0 10	Totals 32-89	18-21	97						
PHILADELPHIA (104)									
Barlow 3-5 4-6 10	Edwards 9-13 1-2 19	Bona 2-5 5-5 9	Edgecombe 6-13 4-4 16	Grimes 10-22 7-7 28	Payne 2-10 0-0 6	Terry 1-4 1-2 3	Watford 5-9 0-1 10	Beauchamp 0-1 3-4 3	Totals 38-82
25	31	104							
BKN	16	15	25	41	—	97			
PHI	29	24	24	27	—	104			
3-Point Goals: Brooklyn 15-43 (Minott 3-8, Etienne 3-11, Williams 2-2, Liddell 2-3, Traore 2-6, Mann 1-2, Clowney 1-4, Wolf 1-4, Saraf 0-1, Johnson 0-2), Philadelphia 3-25 (Payne 2-8, Grimes 1-6, Beauchamp 0-1, Barlow 0-1, Terry 0-1, Watford 0-2, Edwards 0-3, Edgecombe 0-3). Fouled Out: None. Rebounds: Brooklyn 42 (Johnson, Wolf 10), Philadelphia 47 (Bona 10). Assists: Brooklyn 20 (Saraf 5), Philadelphia 22 (Edgecombe 7). Total Fouls: Brooklyn 22, Philadelphia 16. A: 18,418 (20,318)									
San Antonio 115, Charlotte 102									
CHARLOTTE (102)									
Bridges 8-16 2-2 22	Knueppel 6-14 5-6 20	Diabate 2-7 0-0 4	Ball 6-13 1-2 17	Miller 2-14 0-0 6	White 7-15 2-2 18	Williams 1-8 3-3 6	Kalkbrenner 1-2 1-2 3	Green 2-3 0-0 6	James 0-1 0-0 0
Totals 35-93	14-17	102							
SAN ANTONIO (115)									
Champagnie 4-11 0-0 9	Vassell 2-6 4-4 9	Wembanyama 13-24 1-2 32	Castle 5-11 4-4 15	Fox 6-16 4-5 17	Barnes 0-3 2-2 2	Johnson 6-9 0-0 13	Kornet 4-4 2-2 10	Bryant 3-8 1-2 8	Totals 43-92
18	21	115							
CHA	24	22	37	19	—	102			
SAS	31	28	32	24	—	115			
3-Point Goals: Charlotte 18-54 (Bridges 4-8, Ball 4-10, Knueppel 3-10, Green 2-3, Miller 2-7, White 2-7, Williams 1-7, Kalkbrenner 0-1, James 0-1), San Antonio 11-33 (Wembanyama 5-10, Johnson 1-2, Vassell 1-3, Castle 1-3, Fox 1-4, Bryant 1-4, Champagnie 1-6, Barnes 0-1). Fouled Out: None. Rebounds: Charlotte 39 (Knueppel, Miller 6), San Antonio 54 (Wembanyama 12). Assists: Charlotte 18 (Diabate, Knueppel, Miller 3), San Antonio 29 (Castle 10). Total Fouls: Charlotte 21, San Antonio 20. A: 18,861 (18,97)									

League Leaders			
Scoring Averages		GP	PPG
Dončić, LAL		54	32.9
Gilgeous-Alexander, OKC		55	31.8
Edwards, MIN		57	29.7
Maxey, PHI		61	29.0
Jokic, DEN		51	28.7
Brown, BOS		59	28.4
Leonard, LAC		52	28.3
Mitchell, CLE		59	28.2
Brunson, NYK		63	26.3
Durant, HOU		63	26.0
Rebounds Per Game		GP	AVG
Jokic, DEN		51	12.7
Towns, NYK		63	11.9
Clingan, POR		62	11.6
Gobert, MIN		64	11.3
Wembanyama, SAS		51	11.1
Duren, DET		56	10.6
Johnson, ATL		59	10.4
Adebayo, MIA		59	9.8
Ware, MIA		62	9.4
Holmgren, OKC		57	9.0
Assists Per Game		GP	AVG
Jokic, DEN		51	10.4
Cunningham, DET		59	10.1
Dončić, LAL		54	8.5
Harden, CLE		57	8.1
Johnson, ATL		59	8.0
Collier, UTA		57	7.3
Nembhard, IND		52	7.3
Ball, CHA		57	7.2
Murray, DEN		62	7.1
Blocks Per Game		GP	AVG
Wembanyama, SAS		51	3.0
Huff, IND		67	1.9
Holmgren, OKC		57	1.9
Mobley, CLE		52	1.8
Gobert, MIN		64	1.6
Clingan, POR		62	1.6
Turner, MTL		61	1.6
Stewart, DET		55	1.6
Buzelis, CHI		66	1.5
Barnes, TOR		64	1.5

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

MEN'S ROUNDUP

Vandy stuns Florida to advance to SEC final

FIELD LEVEL MEDIA

Tyler Tanner scored 20 points and dished out eight assists, Duke Miles scored 15 with seven assists and No. 22 Vanderbilt earned a 91-74 victory over No. 4 Florida on Saturday in the semi-finals of the Southeastern Conference Tournament in Nashville, Tenn.

The fourth-seeded Commodores (26-7) advanced to Sunday's title game against third-seeded Arkansas (25-8). The No. 17 Razorbacks handled Vanderbilt its largest loss of the year, a 93-68 decision in which it never led, on Jan. 20 in Fayetteville, Ark.

Jalen Washington scored 17 points for the Commodores (26-7), who also got 12 from Devin McGlockton and 11 from AK Okereke.

Thomas Haugh had 19 points and nine rebounds to lead the Gators (26-7), who saw their 12-game winning streak come to an end. Florida also received 15 points from Boogie Fland, 13 from Alex Condon and 12 from Rueben Chinyelu.

The Commodores overcame a 38-23 rebounding deficit by scoring 24 points off 14 Gators turnovers.

No. 1 Duke 74, No. 10 Virginia 70

Isaiah Evans scored 20 points and the Blue Devils (32-2) relied on their depth to beat the Cavaliers (29-5) and repeat as Atlantic Coast Conference Tournament champion in a tense title game in Charlotte, N.C.

Cayden Boozer, the twin brother of the ACC Player of the Year, matched his career high with 16 points for the second straight night and Cameron Boozer had 13 points for Duke, which could be the No. 1 overall seed when the NCAA Tournament bracket is unveiled Sunday.

Cameron Boozer was bothered by Virginia's defense, shooting 3-for-17 from the field, but he had eight rebounds and eight assists. The top-seeded Blue Devils received nine points and six boards from Nikolas Khamenia off the bench.

Malik Thomas poured in 18 points and Sam Lewis racked up 17 points for second-seeded Virginia, which was aiming for its first conference tournament title since 2018. Ugonna Onyenso blocked nine shots as part of a record-setting three-game stretch.

No. 2 Arizona 79, No. 5 Houston 74

Koa Peat scored 21 points before fouling out and Brayden Burries also had 21 as the top-seeded Wildcats (32-2) defeated the second-seeded Cougars (28-6) in Kansas City, Mo., to win the Big 12 Tournament and claim the league's automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament.

Jaden Bradley scored 13 points and Ivan Kharchenkov added 12 for Arizona. The Wildcats are in the running for the No. 1 overall seed after winning their first Big 12 championship in their second year in the league, avenging last year's title game loss to Houston.

Joseph "JoJo" Tugler scored a career-high 20 points and grabbed 10 rebounds for Houston, which had a five-game winning streak snapped. Mercy Miller had 13 points and seven rebounds, Chase McCarty had 10 points and Emanuel Sharp also scored 10 before fouling out for Houston.

The Cougars led for just 59 seconds. Still, they are expected to be a No. 2 seed when the bracket is revealed on Selection Sunday.

No. 3 Michigan 68, No. 23 Wisconsin 65

Big Ten Player of the Year Yaxel Lendeborg hit a 3-pointer with 0.4 seconds left to lift the top-seeded Wolverines (31-2) to a victory over the fifth-seeded Badgers (24-10) in the first Big Ten Conference Tournament semifinal in Chicago.

Lendeborg finished with 12 points for Michigan, which advanced to Sunday's title game against seventh-seeded Purdue.

Aday Mara racked up 16 points, eight rebounds and five blocks while Elliot Cadeau scored 12 of his 15 points in the second half to keep the Wolverines alive for their second consecutive Big Ten tournament championship as well as the No. 1 overall seed in the NCAA Tournament. They also defeated the only Big Ten team they failed to knock off during the regular season.

Austin Rapp paced Wisconsin with 18 points as the Badgers rallied from a 15-point, second-half deficit to take a four-point lead. Nick Boyd added 14 points and five assists.



Duke guard Cayden Boozer goes up for a dunk against Virginia during the ACC Tournament championship game on March 14. JIM DEDMON/IMAGN IMAGES



Arizona forward Koa Peat reacts after defeating Houston in the Big 12 Tournament championship game on March 14. WILLIAM PURNELL/IMAGN IMAGES

No. 13 St. John's 72, No. 6 UConn 52

Zuby Ejiofor totaled 18 points, nine rebounds, seven blocks and three steals as the top-seeded Red Storm (28-6) started quickly, never let up and earned a victory over the second-seeded Huskies (29-5) to win the Big East Tournament title in New York.

Projected to be a fifth seed in the NCAA Tournament by many bracketologists, St. John's won its fifth conference tournament title and achieved the feat in consecutive seasons for the first time in school history.

St. John's also became the first school to go back-to-back as Big East Tournament champions since Villanova won three straight from 2017-19.

Tarris Reed Jr. led UConn with 17 points on 8-of-17 shooting but was constantly bottled up by Ejiofor in the paint. Reed was UConn's lone double-figure scorer as the Huskies shot a season-worst 33.9% (19 of 56), missed 16 of 19 3s and committed 17 turnovers.

Leading scorer Solo Ball was held to three points on 1-of-7 shooting.

No. 17 Arkansas 93, Ole Miss 90 (OT)

The third-seeded Razorbacks (25-8) got 29 points from Meleek Thomas, 24 from Darius Acuff Jr. and double-doubles from Trevon Brazile and Malique Ewen to escape with an overtime victory over the Rebels (15-20) in the SEC Tournament semifinals.

Ewen scored 14 and pulled down a game-high 13 boards while Brazile scored 16 with 10 rebounds as Arkansas advanced to face No. 22 Vanderbilt in Sunday's final. The fourth-seeded Commodores bounced top-seeded Florida 91-74 in the day's first semifinal.

AJ Storr scored a team-high 24 points for Ole Miss, which included a basket with one second left to send the game into overtime. Malik Dia chipped in 16 points for the Rebels, who nearly pulled off their fourth upset in as many days. They also got 15 from Patton Pinkins and 13 from Ilias Kamardine.

Arkansas outrebounded the Rebels 44-31 and shot 74.2% from the line, though its 4-of-8 shooting in overtime left the door open for the upset.

No. 18 Purdue 73, UCLA 66

Oscar Cluff had 17 points with 14 rebounds and the Boilermakers (26-8) advanced to the Big Ten championship game with a semifinal victory over the short-handed Bruins (23-11) in Chicago.

No. 7-seed Purdue earned the win over sixth-seeded UCLA behind two strong first-half runs, as well as Cluff's nine offensive rebounds and dominant play in the paint over the closing five minutes.

The victory avenged Purdue's 69-67 loss at UCLA on Jan. 20 and gave the program a chance for its third conference tournament title on Sunday.

Fletcher Loyer scored 14 points, and Trey Kaufman-Renn totaled 12 points and 10 rebounds.

The Boilermakers held a 37-26 rebounding advantage.

The Bruins were without top scorer Tyler Bilodeau (right knee), who was injured in Friday's 88-84 win over No. 3-seed Michigan State, and only received 10 minutes from second-leading scorer Donovan Dent, who left in the first half with a calf injury.

Tournament finals America East

DJ Armstrong Jr. scored 33 points as top-seeded UMBC beat second-seeded Vermont 74-59 in Baltimore to earn its first America East Conference Tournament title since 2018 and an automatic berth in the NCAA Tournament.

UMBC (24-8) ended the contest on a 26-8 run to post the third conference tournament title in program history.

Armstrong Jr. went 9 of 11 from the field, including a championship-game record seven 3-pointers, to earn the Most Outstanding Player honors in the tournament while he averaged 17.6 points per game and shot 64% from the floor.

Jose Roberto Tanchyn grabbed a game-high 10 rebounds and Ace Valentine added 13 points for the Retrievers, who have won 12 straight games.

UMBC led 30-28 at halftime against Vermont (22-12), which got a team-high 17 points off the bench from TJ Long plus 11 apiece from Gus Yalden and TJ Hurley.

Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference

Bryce Harris had 14 points with 10 rebounds and Cedric Taylor III finished with 13 points and 12 rebounds to lead top-seeded Howard to a 70-63 victory over No. 3 seed North Carolina Central in the title game at Norfolk, Va.

The Bison (23-10), who have won eight games in a row, advanced to the NCAA Tournament for the fourth time. Their most recent appearance was in 2024.

Dionte Johnson had a team-high 14 points for the Eagles (14-18).

Mountain West Conference

Top-seeded Utah State downed second-seeded San Diego State 73-62 in Las Vegas in a tournament championship game between two programs headed to the Pac-12 after this season.

MJ Collins Jr. scored 20 points to lead the Aggies (28-6), who earned the automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament and will make their fourth consecutive appearance. Conference player of the year Mason Falslev added 16 points and six assists, and Drake Allen contributed 13 points and six rebounds. Garry Clark

added 11 points off the bench on 5-of-8 shooting from the field.

Reese Dixon-Waters paced the Aztecs (22-11) with 20 points, BJ Davis scored 14 as a reserve and starter Magoon Gwath added 12 points and eight boards. San Diego State took nearly twice as many free throws, going 17-for-24 to 7-for-13 for Utah State.

Southwestern Athletic Conference

Prairie View A&M, which finished eighth in the regular-season standings, won its seventh straight, beating Southern 72-66 in the tournament championship in College Park, Ga.

The Panthers (18-17) were led by Lance Williams with 18 points on 7-of-9 shooting from the field, including 2-for-2 from 3-point range as the team was 9-of-18 from outside the arc. Cory Wells had 16 points, Dontae Horne 15 and reserve Ta'Reon Joseph 10. Corey Dunning pulled down nine rebounds as Prairie View earned the SWAC's automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament.

The Jaguars, who placed second during the regular season (11-7), fell to 17-17 on the season after seeing their four-game winning streak snapped. AJ Barnes recorded a double-double with 18 points and a game-high 10 boards. Michael Jacobs scored a team-high 19 points off the bench, and starter Cam Amboree added 10 points.

Mid-American Conference

Shammah Scott hit a 3-pointer with 6 seconds left to lift Akron to its 10th straight victory, 79-76 in the title game against Toledo in Cleveland.

The Zips (29-5), who went 17-1 in the conference regular-season slate to finish second behind Miami (Ohio), earned the MAC's automatic bid. Miami (Ohio) is expected to get an at-large bid after going 31-0 in the regular season and 18-0 in the league before losing its tournament opener to UMass 87-83 on Thursday.

The Rockets (19-15) had led 76-74 on Austin Parks' 18-foot jumper with 2:23 left in the game but didn't score again. Tavari Johnson tied the game for Akron on a layup with 1:13 remaining. Johnson and Amani Lyles (16 rebounds) led the Zips with 15 points apiece, and Bowen Hardman and Scott had 12 each.

Leroy Blyden Jr. poured in a game-high 21 points to lead four Toledo players in double-figure scoring.

Conference USA

Kennesaw State won its first Conference USA tournament crown and was the first No. 6 seed to accomplish the feat with a 71-60 win over Louisiana Tech for the league's automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament.

RJ Johnson, playing in his native Huntsville, Ala., collected 13 points, six rebounds, four assists and two steals for the Owls (21-13). He was selected as the tournament's most valuable player. Reserve Jaden Harris scored a game-high 18 points and all-tournament selection Amir Taylor added 17.

The Bulldogs (20-14), seeded fourth, made only 2 of 28 from beyond the arc and 22 of 72 overall shots. Avery Thomas II and reserve Scooter Williams Jr. were the only Louisiana Tech players in double figures with 10 points apiece, and Thomas and Kaden Cooper each contributed 10 boards.

Big West Conference

Second-seeded Hawaii grabbed the lead with just under 10 minutes remaining and didn't let go, beating top-seeded UC Irvine 71-64 in the tournament title game in Henderson, Nev.

Isaac Johnson's layup with 9:57 remaining put the Rainbow Warriors up 52-50 and they led by as many as seven points on three occasions down the stretch. Johnson led Hawaii (24-8) with a game-high 22 points on 10-of-18 shooting from the field. Harry Rouhliadef (game-high 12 rebounds) and Dre Bullock scored 15 points apiece, and reserve Isaiah Kerr chipped in 10 for the Rainbow Warriors, who are in the NCAA Tournament for the first time since 2016.

The Anteaters (23-11) had trailed 31-30 at halftime and led 36-35 with 17:47 left in the game before yielding the advantage.

They made 15 of 17 free throws but only 22 of 61 shots from the field, including 5 of 11 from beyond the arc. Jurian Dixon led UC Irvine with 17 points, and Kyle Evans had a double-double with 13 points and 10 boards.

NHL

ROUNDUP

Bruins down Caps in SO to halt road skid

FIELD LEVEL MEDIA

Fraser Minten scored in the ninth round for the lone goal of the shootout, allowing the Boston Bruins to snap a seven-game road winless skid with a 3-2 victory over the Washington Capitals on Saturday.

Boston's Jeremy Swayman and Washington's Logan Thompson thwarted each of the other team's first eight attempts in the shootout before the former denied Aliaksei Protas in the ninth. Minten then went to his backhand to tuck the puck past a sprawling Thompson to end the contest.

Boston defenseman Charlie McAvoy scored a pair of goals to extend his point streak to six games (four goals, four assists). He has totaled 20 points (six goals, 14 assists) in his past 16 games.

Swayman made 25 saves for the Bruins, who were 0-3-4 in their previous seven road games. Boston also completed a three-game season sweep of Washington.

Blue Jackets 2, Flyers 1 (SO)

Kirill Marchenko scored his 100th career goal and also tallied in the shootout to lift visiting Columbus to a victory over Philadelphia.

After the first five shootout attempts were unsuccessful, Marchenko made a late move to his backhand and lifted the puck past Dan Vladar. Marchenko is 10 for 15 in his career on shootouts, among the best marks in NHL history.

Blue Jackets goaltender Jet Greaves made 18 saves in regulation and overtime before denying Matvei Michkov, Trevor Zegras and Travis Konecny in the shootout. Columbus has recorded a point in nine straight games (5-0-4).

Sabres 3, Maple Leafs 2 (SO)

Alex Tuch scored the decisive goal of a shootout and Buffalo defeated visiting Toronto.

The Sabres made two of their three shots in the shootout and the Maple Leafs misfired on both attempts.

Owen Power and Jack Quinn scored for the Sabres in regulation. Quinn also scored in the shootout for the Sabres, who have won nine of ten. Alex Lyon stopped 16 shots.

Stars 3, Red Wings 2 (OT)

Defenseman Thomas Harley scored 2:06 into overtime to give host Dallas a win over Detroit.

Harley delivered on a shot from the left circle off the rush. Wyatt Johnston had a goal and an assist and Michael Bunting also scored for the Stars, who



Boston Bruins center Fraser Minten scores the game-winning goal on Capitals goaltender Logan Thompson on March 14. GEOFF BURKE/IMAGN IMAGES

tied a franchise record by extending their point streak to 15 (14-0-1). Jake Oettinger made 22 saves.

Defenseman Simon Edvinsson and Lucas Raymond got the goals for the Red Wings, who have lost three straight (0-2-1). John Gibson stopped 21 shots.

Penguins 4, Mammoth 3

Noel Acciari scored with just less than 12 minutes left in regulation for Pittsburgh, which rallied from an early two-goal deficit, to beat Utah in Salt Lake City.

Anthony Mantha recorded a goal and an assist for the Penguins, and Bryan Rust and Tommy Novak also lit the lamp for Pittsburgh. Egor Chinakhov, Erik Karlsson and Parker Wotherspoon tallied a pair of assists each as Pittsburgh snapped a two-game skid.

Stuart Skinner made 26 saves for his first win since Jan. 31, ending a 0-1-4 stretch.

Senators 2, Ducks 0

Linus Ullmark made 23 saves for Ottawa in a win against visiting Anaheim.

It's the second shutout of the season for Ullmark and the 14th of his 11-year NHL career.

Michael Amadio and Thomas Chabot scored for the Senators – who have won four of their past five games – and Shane Pinto had two assists.

Islanders 3, Flames 2

Simon Holmstrom scored consecutive goals late in the first period to cap a three-goal flurry by New York, which ensured it would maintain its spot in the Eastern Conference playoff race by edging Calgary in Elmont, N.Y.

Casey Cizikas opened the scoring for the Islanders, who entered the day tied with the Pittsburgh Penguins for second place in the Metropolitan Division and tied with the Detroit Red Wings for the top wild-card spot.

David Rittich made 30 saves as New York improved to 6-3-0 since returning from the Olympic break.

Hurricanes 4, Lightning 2

Jordan Martinook scored the tie-breaking goal in the third period, and Eastern Conference-leading Carolina won over host Tampa Bay.

A minute after Carolina defenseman Sean Walker made an amazing kick save on Brandon Hagel's shot headed for an open net with goaltender Frederik Andersen (17 saves) angled away from the cage, Martinook whipped in a sharp-angled shot at 9:18 for a 3-2 lead.

With Lightning goalie Andrei Vasilevskiy finally pulled for an extra skater inside of two minutes after a dominant offensive-zone shift by the Hurricanes, Andersen stuffed Nikita Kucherov's game-tying attempt while charging through the low slot.

Devils 6, Kings 4

Anze Kopitar scored twice to become the all-time points leader in Los Angeles Kings history, but Jack Hughes scored the go-ahead goal late in the third period that sparked host New Jersey to a wild victory in Newark, N.J.

Nico Hischier scored twice in a four-point performance, Arseny Gritsyuk and Timo Meier both collected one goal and one assist, and Cody Glass added a single for the Devils, who snapped a two-game losing skid.

New Jersey goaltender Jake Allen made 27 saves.

Sharks 4, Canadiens 2

Macklin Celebrini had two goals and an assist as San Jose held on for a victory against host Montreal.

Mario Ferraro scored, Colin Graf had a goal and two assists, and John Klingberg had two assists for the Sharks, who have won two straight. Alex Nedeljkovic made 25 saves for his third win in four starts.

Cole Caufield and Nick Suzuki scored, and Noah Dobson had two assists for the Canadiens, who had won three straight games. Jakub Dobes made 17 saves.

Rangers 4, Wild 2

Vladislav Gavrikov scored a goal and dished two assists and New York held

on for a win over Minnesota in Saint Paul, Minn.

Noah Laba, Jaroslav Chmelar and Vincent Trocheck also scored for New York, which won its fourth game in a row. Adam Fox picked up a pair of assists.

Rangers goaltender Igor Shesterkin tied his career high with 46 saves to earn the victory. He made six saves in the first period, 20 saves in the second and 20 saves in the third.

Jets 3, Avalanche 1

Connor Hellebuyck made 28 saves as Winnipeg defeated visiting Colorado.

Kyle Connor picked up a goal and an assist, while Alex Iafallo and Cole Perfetti also scored for Winnipeg. Mark Scheifele added two assists as the Jets moved within five points of the second and final wild card in the Western Conference.

Martin Necas got Colorado's lone goal. Mackenzie Blackwood made 15 stops for Colorado, which holds the best record in the NHL.

Kraken 5, Canucks 2

Bobby McMann scored twice and had an assist in his debut for his new team as Seattle snapped a four-game losing streak with a victory against host Vancouver.

Matty Beniers had a goal and two assists and Jordan Eberle added three assists with McMann on the No. 1 line.

Jared McCann and Jamie Oleksiak also scored and Brandon Montour had two assists for the Kraken, who remained a point behind San Jose in the chase for the Western Conference's second and final wild-card playoff berth. Goaltender Philipp Grubauer made 32 saves.

Golden Knights 4, Blackhawks 0

Pavel Dorofeyev scored two goals and had an assist, and Adin Hill made 21 saves for his first shutout of the season as Vegas Golden moved into first place in the Pacific Division with a victory over Chicago in Las Vegas.

It was the second straight game of two goals and three points for Dorofeyev. Mark Stone and Mitch Marner each had two assists, and Rasmus Andersson and Keegan Kolesar also scored goals for Vegas, which leapfrogged Anaheim, a 2-0 loser at Ottawa earlier Saturday, into the top spot in the Pacific Division.

It was the 12th career shutout for Hill as the Golden Knights improved to 10-2-1 all-time against Chicago at T-Mobile Arena.

SUMMARIES

Columbus 2, Philadelphia 1 (SO)				
Columbus	1	0	0	1 – 2
Philadelphia	1	0	0	0 – 1
Columbus won shootout 1-0				
First Period –1, Columbus, Marchenko 25 (Fantilli, Severson), 4:21. 1, Philadelphia, Bump 2 (Andrae, Dvorak), 10:24. Penalties–Marchenko, CBJ (Boarding), 14:13.				
Second Period –None. Penalties–Fantilli, CBJ (Fighting), 12:18. Grundstrom, PHI (Fighting), 12:18. Grundstrom, PHI (Boarding), 12:18. Fantilli, CBJ (Roughing), 12:18. Sillinger, CBJ (Cross-checking), 17:38. Severson, CBJ (Cross-checking), 19:35. Severson, CBJ (Cross-checking), 19:35.				
Third Period –None. Penalties–Ristolainen, PHI (Tripping), 7:29.				
Overtime –None. Penalties–None.				
Shootout –Columbus 1 (Johnson NG, Fantilli NG, Marchenko G), Philadelphia 0 (Michkov NG, Zegras NG, Konecny NG).				
Shots on Goal –Columbus 13-8-7-0–28. Philadelphia 6-5-6-0–17.				
Power-play opportunities –Columbus 0 of 1; Philadelphia 0 of 5.				
Goalies –Columbus, Greaves 21-12-8 (17 shots-16 saves). Philadelphia, Vladar (28-27). A–19,645 (19,523).				
Buffalo 3, Toronto 2 (SO)				
Toronto	1	1	0	0 – 2
Buffalo	1	1	0	1 – 3
Buffalo won shootout 2-0				
First Period –1, Buffalo, Power 7 (Benson, Carrick), 2:01. 1, Toronto, Joshua 8 (Robertson), 6:09. Penalties–Pezzetta, TOR (Holding), 2:34. Joshua, TOR (Fighting), 8:12. Schenn, BUF (Fighting), 8:12. Ekman-Larsson, TOR (Cross-checking), 10:52. Ekman-Larsson, TOR (Roughing), 15:22. Ostlund, BUF (Goaltender Interference), 15:22. Schenn, BUF (Roughing), 15:22.				
Second Period –1, Toronto, Domi 10 (Nylander, Knies), 0:53. 1, Buffalo, Quinn 16 (Ostlund, McLeod), 11:21. Penalties–Dahlin, BUF (Interference), 6:42. Pezzetta, TOR (Slashing), 9:51.				
Third Period –None. Penalties–Knies, TOR (Holding), 6:31. Tavares, TOR (Roughing), 19:11. Byram, BUF (Stick Holding), 19:11. Overtime –None. Penalties–None.				
Shootout –Buffalo 2 (Thompson NG, Quinn G, Tuch G), Toronto 0 (Nylander NG, Cowan NG).				
Shots on Goal –Toronto 9-6-2-1–18. Buffalo 10-12-10-1–33.				
Power-play opportunities –Toronto 0 of 2; Buffalo 1 of 4.				
Goalies –Toronto, Woll (33 shots-31 saves). Buffalo, Lyon 19-8-3 (18-16). A–19,070 (19,070).				
San Jose 4, Montreal 2				
San Jose	1	2	1	– 4
Montreal	1	1	0	– 2
First Period –1, Montreal, Caufield 38				

(Slafkovsky, Dobson), 7:21. 1, San Jose, Celebrini 34 (Graf, Klingberg), 13:12. Penalties–Desharnais, SJS (Roughing), 8:28. Celebrini, SJS (Cross-checking), 17:57.				
Second Period –1, San Jose, Ferraro 5 (Wiernberg, Eklund), 11:56. 1, San Jose, Graf 18 (Celebrini, Klingberg), 16:20. 1, Montreal, Suzuki 22 (Demidov, Dobson), 17:38. Penalties–Montreal bench, served by Caufield (Too many men), 0:38.				
Third Period –2, San Jose, Celebrini 35 (Graf, Goodrow), 17:57. Penalties–San Jose bench, served by Gaudette (Too many men), 3:07.				
Shots on Goal –San Jose 10-3-8–21. Montreal 16-4-7–27.				
Power-play opportunities –San Jose 0 of 1; Montreal 0 of 3.				
Goalies –San Jose, Nedeljkovic 13-9-3 (27 shots-25 saves). Montreal, Dobes 21-7-4 (20-17). A–20,962 (21,273).				
Carolina 4, Tampa Bay 2				
Carolina	2	0	2	– 4
Tampa Bay	0	2	0	– 2
First Period –1, Carolina, Svechnikov 24 (Aho, Walker), 0:36. 1, Carolina, Aho 24 (Svechnikov, Miller), 17:28. Penalties–Svechnikov, CAR (Slashing), 6:27. Gourde, TBL (Hooking), 10:40. Jarvis, CAR (Roughing), 14:29. Jarvis, CAR (Fighting), 14:29. Girgensons, TBL (Fighting), 14:29.				
Second Period –1, Tampa Bay, Gourde 8 (Hedman, Holmberg), 14:10. 1, Tampa Bay, D'Astous 4 (Point, Goncalves), 15:31. Penalties–Aho, CAR (Roughing), 4:32. Holmberg, TBL (Roughing), 4:32. Walker, CAR (Hooking), 9:05. Hagel, TBL (Hooking), 9:20.				
Third Period –1, Carolina, Martinook 9 (Ehlers, Reilly), 9:18. 1, Carolina, Stankoven 13 (Hall), 18:29. Penalties–None.				
Shots on Goal –Carolina 13-11-11–35. Tampa Bay 10-7-2–19.				
Power-play opportunities –Carolina 0 of 2; Tampa Bay 0 of 3.				
Goalies –Carolina, Andersen 11-11-5 (19 shots-17 saves). Tampa Bay, Vasilevsky 30-12-3 (34-31). A–19,092 (19,092).				
New Jersey 6, L.A. Kings 4				
L.A. Kings	0	3	1	– 4
New Jersey	2	0	4	– 6
First Period –1, New Jersey, Glass 15 (Gritsyuk), 7:58. 1, New Jersey, Hischier 22 (Meier, L.Hughes), 11:04. Penalties–Doughty, LAK (Cross-checking), 18:29.				
Second Period –1, L.A. Kings, Kopitar 9 (Clarke, Panarin), 4:15. 1, L.A. Kings, Panarin 22 (Edmundson, Kempe), 6:03. 1, L.A. Kings, Ward 3 (Clarke, Helenius), 11:43. Penalties–Hamilton, NJD (Interference), 3:32.				
Third Period –1, New Jersey, Gritsyuk 12 (Hameenaho, Hamilton), 0:25. 2, New				

Jersey, Hischier 23 (Brown, Bratt), 12:42. 2, L.A. Kings, Kopitar 10 (Panarin, Clarke), 13:42. 1, New Jersey, J.Hughes 17 (Hischier, Hamilton), 17:31. 1, New Jersey, Meier 18 (Hischier), 19:52. Penalties–Bratt, NJD (Tripping), 0:50. Byfield, LAK (Tripping), 11:38. Hameenaho, NJD (Holding), 13:04. Clarke, LAK (Holding), 17:24.				
Shots on Goal –L.A. Kings 11-13-7–31. New Jersey 14-4-10–28.				
Power-play opportunities –L.A. Kings 2 of 3; New Jersey 2 of 3.				
Goalies –L.A. Kings, Forsberg 11-10-5 (27 shots-22 saves). New Jersey, Allen 13-15-1 (31-27). A–16,072 (17,625).				
N.Y. Islanders 3, Calgary 2				
Calgary	0	0	2	– 2
N.Y. Islanders	3	0	0	– 3
First Period –1, N.Y. Islanders, Cizikas 8 (MacLean), 10:06. 1, N.Y. Islanders, Holmstrom 15 (Schenn, Duclair), 16:35. 2, N.Y. Islanders, Holmstrom 16 (Pageau), 19:35. Penalties–Klapka, COY (Goaltender Interference), 3:19. Soocy, NYI (Hooking), 14:07. Ritchie, NYI (Tripping), 18:04.				
Second Period –None. Penalties–None.				
Third Period –1, Calgary, Backlund 15 (Maatta, Bahl), 2:17. 1, Calgary, Coleman 16 (Kuznetsov), 8:28. Penalties–None.				
Shots on Goal –Calgary 8-17–32. N.Y. Islanders 10-8-9–27.				
Power-play opportunities –Calgary 0 of 2; N.Y. Islanders 0 of 1.				
Goalies –Calgary, Cooley 7-9-4 (10 shots-7 saves), Wolf (17-17). N.Y. Islanders, Rittich 14-9-3 (32-30). A–17,255 (17,113).				
N.Y. Rangers 4, Minnesota 2				
N.Y. Rangers	2	2	0	– 4
Minnesota	0	1	1	– 2
First Period –1, N.Y. Rangers, Laba 9 (Perreault, Gavrikov), 2:41. 1, N.Y. Rangers, Gavrikov 13 (Kartye, Fox), 15:00. Penalties–Faber, MIN (Tripping), 0:54. Borgen, NYR (Tripping), 9:45. Kartye, NYR (Cross-checking), 20:00.				
Second Period –1, Minnesota, Boldy 38 (Hughes, Gustavsson), 0:35. 1, N.Y. Rangers, Chmelar 2 (Raddysh, Vaakanainen), 8:41. 1, N.Y. Rangers, Trocheck 13 (Gavrikov, Fox), 9:03. Penalties–Gavrikov, NYR (High-checking), 18:05.				
Third Period –1, Minnesota, Yurov 10 (Tarasenko, Trenin), 7:19. Penalties–Trocheck, NYR (Tripping), 9:38. Boldy, MIN (Hooking), 11:13. Fox, NYR (Hooking), 12:19. Borgen, NYR (Roughing), 14:21. Eriksson Ek, MIN (Goaltender Interference), 14:21. Gavrikov, NYR (Slashing), 17:29. Miller, NYR (Roughing), 18:54. Zuccarello, MIN (Roughing), 18:54.				
Shots on Goal –N.Y. Rangers 9-8-1–18. Minnesota 6-21-21–48.				
Power-play opportunities –N.Y. Rangers 1				

3; Minnesota 1 of 7.

Goalies–N.Y. Rangers, Shesterkin 22-12-6 (48 shots-46 saves). Minnesota, Gustavsson 24-11-6 (18-14). A–18,925 (18,064).

Winnipeg 3, Colorado 1

Colorado001–1

Winnipeg021–3

First Period–None. Penalties–Nelson, COL (Roughing), 10:12. Scheifele, WPG (Holding), 19:39.

Second Period–1, Winnipeg, Connor 30 (Scheifele), 2:05. 1, Winnipeg, Iafallo 11 (Scheifele, Connor), 11:52. Penalties–None.

Third Period–1, Colorado, Necas 31 (MacKinnon, Makar), 18:44. 1, Winnipeg, Perfetti 9, 19:18. Penalties–Bryson, WPG (High-sticking), 0:15.

Shots on Goal–Colorado 8-8-13–29. Winnipeg 5-7-6–18.

Power-play opportunities–Colorado 0 of 2; Winnipeg 0 of 1.

Goalies–Colorado, Blackwood 18-8-1 (17 shots-15 saves). Winnipeg, Hellebuyck 17-18-9 (29-28). A–14,756 (15,294).

Boston 3, Washington 2 (SO)

Boston0111–3

Washington0110–2

Boston won shootout 1-0

First Period–None. Penalties–Geekie, BOS (Roughing), 4:25. Dubois, WSH (Roughing), 4:25. McAvoy, BOS (Holding), 15:40.

Second Period–1, Washington, Roy 2 (Sandin, Lapierre), 1:15. 1, Boston, McAvoy 8 (Pastnak), 11:57. Penalties–Beauvillier, WSH (Hooking), 2:20. Kastelic, BOS (Roughing), 16:40. Lapierre, WSH (Roughing), 16:40.

Third Period–1, Washington, Sandin 4, 3:12. 2, Boston, McAvoy 9 (Zacha, Arvidsson), 10:09. Penalties–Wilson, WSH (Interference), 3:59. Beauvillier, WSH (Cross-checking), 5:20. Zadorov, BOS (Boarding), 14:06. H.Lindholm, BOS (Holding), 16:40. McMichael, WSH (Interference), 18:45.

Overtime–None. Penalties–None.

Shootout–Boston 1 (Eyssmitt NG, Pastnak NG, Arvidsson NG, Mittelstadt NG, McAvoy NG, Zacha NG, Geekie NG, Lohrei NG, Minten G), Washington 0 (Beauvillier NG, Leonard NG, Strome NG, Dubois NG, McMichael NG, Ovechkin NG, Chychrun NG, Frank NG, Protas NG).

Shots on Goal–Boston 7-11-14-2–34. Washington 9-10-8-0–27.

Power-play opportunities–Boston 0 of 4; Washington 0 of 3.

Goalies–Boston, Swayman 26-14-3 (27 shots-25 saves). Washington, Thompson (34-32). A–18,347 (18,398).

Ottawa 2, Anaheim 0

Anaheim000–0

Ottawa020–2

First Period–None. Penalties–Washe,

AUTO RACING

NASCAR O'REILLY AUTO PARTS SERIES

Late-race charge propels Larson to Vegas victory

Reid Spencer
SPECIAL TO FIELD LEVEL MEDIA

LAS VEGAS – No matter the series, Las Vegas Motor Speedway agrees with Kyle Larson.

Surging into the lead from the seventh position moments after the final restart on Lap 154 of 200, Larson pulled away to win The LiUNA! on Saturday, becoming the fifth different winner in five NASCAR O'Reilly Auto Parts Series events this season.

Larson crossed the finish line 2.557 seconds ahead of Chase Briscoe, who recovered from a brush with the outside wall and resulting flat tire to finish second.

The victory was Larson's second at Las Vegas to go with three in the NASCAR Cup Series. In his first O'Reilly Series start of the season, the driver of the No. 88 JR Motorsports Chevrolet registered the 18th win of his career in the series.

Sheldon Creed ran third, followed by series leader Justin Allgaier and Sammy Smith.

"I was a bit nervous," Larson said of the final run. "I knew the 00 (Creed) and Briscoe were ripping the top. I tried it once, and I didn't feel good up there at all.

"I don't know – clean air just must have meant a lot today. So, glad I was able to get the lead when it mattered."

Briscoe took responsibility for the mistake that cost him a chance to win.

"Even with the adversity we were dealing with, I knew if we got a lucky break, we were going to hopefully get back up there," Briscoe said. "Honestly,

it wasn't an unfortunate break with the tire – I think it was my own fault.

"I just drove it into the fence and cost myself. I had a lot of fun. It was certainly fun slipping and sliding around the race track. You could kind of run all over. I had a blast."

Jesse Love ran sixth in one of the fastest cars in the race. Love led 36 laps and was first off pit road after stops on Lap 120. But his team incurred a safety violation when a crew member fell over the wall on that stop, and Love restarted 32nd under penalty. A determined charge through the field earned the sixth-place finish.

Creed's third-place run was not without incident. On Lap 148, a tap from Creed's front bumper sent Taylor Gray's Toyota rocketing into the Turn 3 wall and out of the race as the drivers were battling for second.

"I just got into him," Creed said. "I was trying to pack some air. I didn't know he was that close to the 17 (eighth-place finisher Corey Day). I could have cut him more of a break there, and I didn't. That's not the way I wanted to race him."

Connor Zilisch ran seventh as the fourth JR Motorsports driver in the top seven. Day in eighth scored his fourth consecutive top 10 after leading nine laps before the Creed/Gray accident caused the eighth and final caution.

William Sawalich finished ninth, and Daytona winner Austin Hill ran 10th.

Allgaier led a race-high 48 laps to Larson's 47 and swept the first two stages to expand his series lead over Love to 13 points.



Kyle Larson celebrates winning The LiUNA! NASCAR O'Reilly Auto Parts Series race at Las Vegas Motor Speedway on March 14. CHRIS GRAYTHEN/GETTY IMAGES

FORMULA ONE CHINESE GRAND PRIX



Mercedes' Italian driver Kimi Antonelli cruises during qualifying ahead of the Chinese Grand Prix on March 14 in Shanghai. GREG BAKER/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

19-year-old Antonelli takes record pole in Shanghai

Joe Cash
REUTERS

SHANGHAI – Italian teenager Kimi Antonelli became the youngest Formula One driver to take pole position for a full grand prix after qualifying fastest for Mercedes in China on Saturday as teammate George Russell hit car trouble.

The 19-year-old qualified 0.222 seconds faster than his championship-leading teammate, who secured the front-row lockout with his one final flying lap after a rare setback for the dominant team of the sport's new engine era.

Ferrari's Lewis Hamilton was third fastest, a strong position for the seven-times world champion who can hope for a quick start on Sunday.

Antonelli, who has yet to win a grand prix, was already the youngest polesitter in any format after leading qualifying for last year's Miami sprint.

But in Shanghai on Saturday he demolished Sebastian Vettel's previous grand prix record that the German set as a 21-year-old in 2008.

"It was a pretty clean session, so I'm really happy," said Antonelli, who finished second in the Australian season-opener won by Russell last weekend.

"I saw he (Russell) had the issue and tried to keep my focus to stay calm and deliver a good lap."

Antonelli was already on provisional pole but went even faster with his second effort to stop the clock at one minute 32.064 seconds.

Russell came to a halt on track at the start of the final phase and complained over the radio that there was no battery and he could not shift gear.

The Briton managed to get the car going again and returned to the pits where mechanics worked flat out to get him back out before the checkered flag.

"Definitely damage limitation," said Russell, who won the earlier sprint to go 11 points clear at the top but was staring at 10th on the grid until the dying

seconds.

"Q2, the front wing broke, we were wrapping our heads around that. Then obviously went out in Q3, car stopped on track, car wasn't restarting, couldn't change gear.

"Starting the last lap I had no battery, no tire temp, no nothing. But the team have done a really great job to get us into this position, it could have been much worse."

Ferrari's Charles Leclerc qualified fourth with the McLarens of Oscar Piastri and reigning champion Lando Norris fifth and sixth.

"It is still going to be a challenge, but I'm sure we'll have some fun," said Hamilton, who was third in the sprint with Leclerc second.

"I'm looking forward to it. We learned a lot in the sprint race. Our goal is to break the gap between these guys (Mercedes) somehow."

Leclerc said he had been struggling at the track and had done his best.

"These cars have to be driven a bit differently in qualifying so there is some work going on to try and optimize everything which will put us closer to Mercedes eventually," added the Monégasque.

Pierre Gasly qualified seventh for Renault-owned Alpine with an unhappy four-times world champion Max Verstappen eighth for Red Bull and the Dutch driver's new teammate Isack Hadjar ninth.

"It's incredibly tough to drive," Verstappen said of his car. "There's no balance, I cannot lean on the car, every lap is a fight.

"Every time I did another lap on a tire set it felt awful. I honestly think it's going to be quite tough tomorrow.

"In the past sometimes we would turn it upside down and it would work. Now nothing works. It's just not nice. I cannot push ... I am not enjoying it at all."

Oliver Bearman completed the top 10 for Ferrari-powered Haas, continuing a strong start to the season.

NASCAR

Continued from Page 1NS

Bell's car seemed unbothered by the troublesome Turn 1 bumps that upset the efforts of several other competitors.

"It's a compromise," Bell said. "Every time you come to Las Vegas Motor Speedway, it's a compromise of getting your car to have as much grip as you can have in (Turns) 3 and 4 without the bump hindering you in (Turns) 1 and 2.

"Anytime you make the car drive better across the bumps, you're giving up performance on the smooth part of the race track, and my team nailed it."

Reigning series champion Kyle Larson (185.54 8mph) qualified fifth in the fastest Chevrolet, with Phoenix winner Ryan Blaney (185.185 mph) claiming the sixth spot on the grid in the top Ford.

Series leader Tyler Reddick, winner of the first three races this season, will start seventh, followed by Ryan Preece, William Byron and Chris Buescher.

Defending race winner Josh Berry qualified 32nd in the Wood Brothers Racing Ford.

Note: The last seven times Bell has won a NASCAR Cup Series pole, he has finished the race in the top 10. His last two Las Vegas poles (2023 and 2024) have resulted in second-place finishes.



NASCAR Cup Series driver Christopher Bell speeds around Las Vegas Motor Speedway during practice on March 14. Bell qualified on the pole for the March 15 race. GARY A. VASQUEZ/IMAGN IMAGES

TENNIS

BNP PARIBAS OPEN

Medvedev stuns Alcaraz, to face Sinner in final

FIELD LEVEL MEDIA

After second-seeded Italian Jannik Sinner polished off No. 4 Alexander Zverev of Germany 6-2, 6-4, in the first semifinal in the California desert, most observers likely penciled in another Sinner-Carlos Alcaraz final of an ATP 1000 event.

But Daniil Medvedev had other ideas. The resurgent 11th-seeded Russian stunned the Spaniard, 6-3, 7-6 (3) and will face Sinner for the championship on Sunday at the BNP Paribas Open in Indian Wells, Calif.

Alcaraz was 12-0 in 2026 and had won 16 consecutive matches, capturing the Australian Open and the ATP 500 event in Doha, Qatar. But Medvedev broke on his only two opportunities and saved four of five of Alcaraz's break chances to snap a four-match losing streak to the World No. 1.

Medvedev, who has never won the title at Indian Wells, rallied from 30-0 down to break Alcaraz in the fourth game of the match and lost only three more points on his serve to take the first set.

Alcaraz had two set points in the 10th game of the second set, but the crafty 30-year-old held him off and the set reached a tiebreaker. Medvedev raced to a 6-1 lead and won the match on his next service opportunity.

"Playing someone like Carlos, you play many times, you lose many times," Medvedev said. "He's an amazing player with amazing shots, defense, attack, return, everything."

After playing Zverev on level terms for the first four games, Sinner ran off the final four games of the first set and was back in his chair in only 32 minutes.

The second set was more competitive and Zverev had one chance to move ahead 4-2. But Sinner erased the one break point chance, broke the German in a five-point seventh game and coasted to and posted his sixth consecutive win over Zverev.

"Yes ... it means a lot to me," Sinner



Daniil Medvedev celebrates match point against Carlos Alcaraz during their semifinals match at the BNP Paribas Open on March 14 in Indian Wells, California. CLIVE BRUNSKILL/GETTY IMAGES

said about reaching his first final at Indian Wells. "Third time that I play in semifinals, so I'm very happy to be for the first time in the final. Now we see what's coming tomorrow."

As many elite players do, Sinner took advantage of Zverev's second serve, winning 14 of 22 points. He recorded 16 winners and only six errors in the 83-minute match.

Sinner was questioned about facing Medvedev if the upset did take place.

"Yeah, you know, he's back to very, very high level," said Sinner. "Very big serve, I feel like. You know, he's returning very well. Very, very deep."

"And I think Daniil has found again a good, good balance on court, winning a title in Dubai, coming here, making again great results. But also last time we played has been quite a while now."

The two have met 15 times since 2020, but not since the Nitto ATP Finals in 2024. Sinner leads the series 8-7, win-

ning eight of the last nine meetings after Medvedev captured the first six. They have faced off in five finals, with Sinner holding a 3-2 edge, including a five-set victory in the 2024 Australian Open.

Medvedev expressed confidence in procuring his third ATP title of the season and first at Indian Wells.

"If I manage to maintain the level I had throughout the tournament and maybe even raise it, I will have my chances," he said.

GOLF

Players

Continued from Page 1NS

9-under after recording a 72 while fellow Americans Brian Harman (69), Xander Schauffele (74) and Justin Thomas (72), England's Matt Fitzpatrick (69), Viktor Hovland of Norway (69) and Canada's Corey Connors (72) were a stroke further back in a six-way tie for fourth.

Ponte Vedra Beach resident Åberg had been two ahead overnight and made a slow start to the round, bogeying the par-4 fourth after finding the right rough off the tee and doing well to save par at the fifth where he sank a 13-foot putt after being bunkered off the tee.

Three more pars followed before he got up and down from a greenside bunker to birdie the par-5 ninth and stretch his lead to three shots.

Though a Young birdie briefly trimmed Åberg's advantage to two, the Swede surged four ahead with a superb eagle at the par-5 11th where he struck his second shot to 17 feet and coolly sank the putt. On a course that was increasingly running firm, the Swede comfortably parred the next six holes before ending his day on a bitter note with a bogey at the last.

"Overall, I'm pleased with the way I was playing today in a tough condition," said Åberg, whose best PGA Tour finish this season was a tie for third at last week's Arnold Palmer Invitational. "This is definitely the biggest individual tournament on the PGA Tour, non-major, so it will be a cool experience tomorrow to go out with a lead, which I've never done before. ... I'm going to try to soak it in, enjoy it, but at the end of the day, trying to hit as few golf shots as I possibly can."

For much of the day, Young was Åberg's closest challenger. The 28-year-old rebounded from a bogey at the third with birdies at the sixth, 11th and 13th. Though he dropped another shot at the 14th, he also birdied the 17th, where he very nearly aced the hole. However, he was left to rue a double-bogey at the 18th where his tee shot sailed left into the water hazard.



Michael Thorbjørnsen plays a shot during the third round of The Players Championship on March 14. RICHARD HEATHCOTE/GETTY IMAGES

"I feel like I battled pretty well," said Young, whose only PGA Tour victory came at the 2025 Wyndham Championship. "I didn't play great. Been driving it really well, and today I just didn't get it in the fairways much."

"To get it back to 2-under with one hole to go, I feel like was pretty good. Honestly, the tee shot (on 18) wasn't bad. I almost bent over to pick up the tee when I hit it. There's a bunch of wind up there, and it just kept turning and turning and was a foot too much."

Former Stanford University student Thorbjørnsen, who played a lot of college golf with Åberg when the Swede represented Texas Tech, is relishing the prospect of them playing together in Sunday's final pairing.

"I love playing golf with him," said Thorbjørnsen, a 24-year-old who is seeking his first PGA Tour win. "He was one of the guys in college that I looked up to, even though he's only one year older than me. Very solid, very solid player. His mental game is extremely good as well. I'm really looking forward to it ... and pretty cool that two hometown guys are in the final group!"

World No. 1 Scottie Scheffler, who made his 70th consecutive PGA Tour cut on Friday with just one shot to spare, produced his best performance of the week as he carded a flawless 5-under 67 that included three birdies in his first six holes.

LIV GOLF

Niemann, Westwood share lead in Singapore

FIELD LEVEL MEDIA

Defending champion Joaquin Niemann shot a 66 to surge into a third-round tie for the lead at LIV Golf Singapore on Saturday.

The Chilean mixed seven birdies and two bogeys to tie Lee Westwood of England atop the leaderboard at 10-under 203 for the tournament, one stroke ahead of second-round leader Bryson DeChambeau and Richard Lee of Canada.

Westwood made birdies on three of the final four holes to finish with a 68 at the Sentosa Golf Club, which played tougher than it did in the first two rounds.

"I would say it's a major championship-style golf course. It's very demanding," Westwood said. "Even though the rough isn't that thick, it asks you to hit a lot of fairways, and it's difficult to score from the rough. You don't have as much control on the golf ball."

Niemann agreed about the challenge the course presents.

"I've been hitting the ball really good. I think that's the key," Niemann said. "It's a really stressful golf course, I'll say. There's a lot of danger off the tee, a lot of water on second shots. One way or the other, I feel like I've been kind of like stress-free after I hit the shot. Once I get on the tee, there's some pressure there, and then once I hit the ball, it goes right where I'm seeing with my eyes, so it feels satisfying."

DeChambeau followed his second-round 65 with a one-over 72, but he wasn't dismayed despite bogeys at holes 8, 10 and 12.

"I played really well. The greens on 8, 9, 10, 11 got really slow," he said. "For some reason, there wasn't as much wind around there and I guess the greens got slower in that area and I three-putted a few of them and that cost me some momentum. Other than that, I played great golf. I almost played



Joaquin Niemann tees off during the third round of LIV Golf Singapore at Sentosa Golf Club on March 14. THANANUWAT SRIRASANT/GETTY IMAGES

just as good as yesterday, just things didn't line up."

Lee, a LIV Golf wild card, birdied the final hole to record a 69 and tie DeChambeau.

Spain's Jon Rahm shot an even-par 71 to stay within striking distance of the leaders, three strokes off the pace. Marc Leishman of Australia (71) stands alone in sixth place at 6-under par.

In the team competition, 4Aces are atop the leaderboard. Captain Dustin Johnson's round of 68 sent the team to 16-under, two shots ahead of Ripper GC and Legion XIII, and put Johnson in a tie for seventh place with six others at 5-under.

SOCCER

MLS ROUNDUP

Fernandez’s brace boosts NYCFC over Rapids

FIELD LEVEL MEDIA

Nicolas Fernandez scored a first-half brace to lead New York City FC to a 3-1 win over the visiting Colorado Rapids on Saturday.

Talles Magno tacked on a late insurance goal for NYCFC (3-0-1, 10 points) off a Maxi Moralez assist.

Darren Yapi scored a goal off a Rafael Navarro assist for Colorado (2-2-0, 6 points). The Rapids played their second straight match without starting goalkeeper Zack Steffen, who has been sidelined with a shoulder injury.

A determined effort led to Fernandez’s first goal. Colorado couldn’t clear NYCFC’s attack and Fernandez fired off a shot that resulted in a punch save from Colorado goalie Nico Hansen. But Fernandez gathered the rebound and chipped it in for a 1-0 lead in the 22nd minute.

Houston 3, Portland 2

Mateusz Bogusz found the net with an unlikely, short-handed goal 15 minutes into second-half stoppage time as the host Dynamo defeated the Timbers in a wild, early-season Western Conference match.

Bogusz got loose on the counterattack with a run down the left side before taking a pass from Jack McGlynn and beating Portland goalkeeper James Pantemis to the bottom-right corner.

Any chance that the Dynamo (2-1-0, 6 points) had to win seemingly died when Nicholas Markanich was assessed a red card three minutes into the final stoppage time. But Bogusz dispelled that notion, coming up big and lifting Houston to the victory.

Portland (1-3-3, points) dropped its third straight game and has now conceded two or more goals in seven consecutive matches dating back to last year’s opening-round MLS Cup playoff series against San Diego.

Atlanta 3, Philadelphia 1

Emmanuel Latte Lath, Tomas Jacob and Alexey Miranchuk had a goal apiece – with Miguel Almiron assisting on all three – as Atlanta United picked up its first win of the season in a victory over the visiting Union.

Atlanta’s win was its first since a 1-0 road defeat of Nashville SC on Aug. 30, 2025. It also snapped a five-match winless streak (0-3-2) against the Union.

Philadelphia (0-4-0, 0 points) remained without a win while suffering its third straight loss across all competitions.

LAFC 2, St. Louis 0

Mathieu Choiniere’s second-half brace lifted Los Angeles FC to a victory over visiting St. Louis City SC.

Hugo Lloris made four saves for his



New York City FC midfielder Nicolas Fernandez (7) and Colorado Rapids midfielder Hamzat Ojediran (8) battle for the ball on March 14 in New York. VINCENT CARCHIETTA/IMAGN IMAGES

fourth clean sheet as LAFC (4-0-0, 12 points) improved to 5-0-2 in seven all-time MLS matches against St. Louis.

Roman Burki made three saves for St. Louis (0-3-1, 1 point), which has gone three matches without a goal.

Choiniere put LAFC up 1-0 in the 73rd minute, putting his strike between the legs of a St. Louis defender and past a diving Burki.

D.C. United 2, Chicago 1

Tai Baribo scored on a penalty kick in the 5th minute of stoppage time to give visiting D.C. United a victory over the Fire.

Matti Peltola also scored a goal for D.C. (2-2-0, 6 points), which rallied from a late 1-0 deficit to snap a two-game losing streak and inch ahead in the all-time series between the legacy franchises 26-25-21.

Hugo Cuypers scored on a penalty kick for Chicago (1-2-1, 4 points) in the 81st minute. It was the first goal in what had been to that point a lackluster match with few scoring opportunities for either team.

Orlando 2, Montreal 1

Martin Ojeda scored the decisive goal in the 31st minute and Orlando City SC defeated visiting CF Montreal in Orlando’s first match since the departure of manager Oscar Pareja.

Duncan McGuire also scored early for Orlando (1-3-0, 3 points), which broke through three days after Pareja parted with the club by mutual consent three matches into the manager’s seventh season with the club. Martin Perelman is working as the interim manager.

Pareja guided the Lions to the MLS Cup Playoffs in all six of his previous campaigns after they failed to reach the postseason in any of their first five in

MLS.

Salt Lake 2, Austin 1

Stijn Spierings scored on a swerving, long-range effort in the 88th minute – just six minutes after entering his MLS debut – and Real Salt Lake rallied to a victory over visiting Austin FC in Sandy, Utah.

The 30-year-old Dutchman, signed in late January from Denmark’s Brøndby IF, is the first player above age 23 to score for Salt Lake (3-1-0, 9 points) this season and the only one in Saturday’s victory, RSL’s third straight.

The Claret-and-Cobalt’s earlier tally was an own goal, created by pressure from Noel Caliskan down the left flank about midway through the first half.

Kansas City 2, LA Galaxy 1

Dejan Joveljic scored a goal against his former team and Lasse Johnsen also scored in his MLS debut as Sporting KC earned a victory over the Los Angeles Galaxy in Carson, Calif., for their first win of the season.

John Pulskamp made four saves as Sporting KC (1-2-1, 4 points) doubled its goal total on the season after they were shut out twice over the first three weeks. It was the first victory with Sporting KC for new head coach Raphael Wicky.

Marco Reus scored a late goal and Novak Micovic had two saves for the Galaxy (1-2-1, 4 points), who lost their second consecutive MLS match after starting the season with a draw and a win.

Nashville 1, Columbus 0

Hany Mukhtar scored in the fourth minute of second-half stoppage time and visiting Nashville SC stayed unbeaten with a win over the Crew.

The match appeared destined for a scoreless draw without much in the way of true high-danger chances until Mukhtar received expert service from Cristian Espinosa. After taking a pass in the box from Andy Najar, Espinosa spun defender Rudy Camacho around twice and then fed Mukhtar near the goal mouth, where he poked the ball past Patrick Schulte.

The goal enabled Nashville (3-0-1, 10 points) to remain unbeaten despite Columbus (0-2-2, 2 points) controlling the ball most of the night. The Crew possessed the ball for 55.3% of the fixture and made 171 more passes than their visitors.

Dallas 3, San Diego 3

Petar Musa scored his third goal of the match five minutes into second-half stoppage time to give FC Dallas a dramatic draw with visiting San Diego FC.

Bernard Kamungo earned the assist on Musa’s goal after making a great run into the box. Kamungo carried the ball past three San Diego defenders, and Musa had the final touch for the equalizer and the hat trick.

Musa has five goals in four matches for FC Dallas, who are 1-1-2 this season.

NY Red Bulls 1, Toronto 1

Eric Maxim Choupo-Moting beat the buzzer by scoring in the eighth minute of stoppage time as the New York Red Bulls rallied for a draw with host Toronto FC.

Officials originally put five minutes of stoppage time on the clock, but the game was extended and New York (2-1-1, 7 points) capitalized.

After Tanner Rosborough saw a shot blocked following a corner kick, the Red Bulls kept the ball alive. Choupo-Moting then gained possession, turned around in the box and sent a right-footed shot into the upper right corner of the net by Toronto goalie Luka Gavran.

Miami 0, Charlotte 0

Despite defending champion Inter Miami sitting several of its regulars including Lionel Messi, host Charlotte FC couldn’t take advantage, with both sides dueling to a draw.

Inter Miami (2-1-1, 7 points) had won back-to-back league matches, but played to their second consecutive scoreless draw after an identical scoreless stalemate at Nashville SC Wednesday in the first leg of their Round of 16 series of the CONCACAF Champions Cup.

Neither Messi nor Rodrigo De Paul made the trip, and 10 starters from Miami’s previous match, including goalkeeper Dayne St. Clair, sat out Saturday as the club prepared for the decisive Champions Cup match with Nashville this upcoming Wednesday.

NWSL ROUNDUP

Boston sets attendance mark but falls in league debut

FIELD LEVEL MEDIA

Boston Legacy FC set an NWSL attendance record for an inaugural game with 30,207 fans filling Gillette Stadium, but Gotham FC played spoiler by notching a 1-0 win over the expansion club Saturday afternoon in Foxborough, Mass.

Esther Gonzalez broke a scoreless draw in the 55th minute when teammate Lilly Reale sent a cross on the ground into the box, and Boston defender Bianca St-Georges accidentally back-heeled it to the Gotham star for an easy strike.

Gonzalez had 13 goals last year for the reigning NWSL champion Gotham.

St-Georges later earned her second yellow card in the 77th minute, forcing the Legacy to play with 10 women the rest of the way.

Bay 2, Summit 1

Joelle Anderson’s tiebreaking goal capped off a wild 31 minutes and proved to be the game winner as host Bay FC spoiled the first game in Denver Summit FC history with a win in San Jose.

Alex Pfeiffer got the scoring going in the eighth minute to give Bay a 1-0 lead. Melissa Kossler evened it up in the 20th minute with Denver’s first goal but that momentum was quickly wiped away



Boston Legacy FC defender Bianca St-Georges kicks the ball during the first half against NY/NJ Gotham FC on March 14. NATALIE REID/IMAGN IMAGES

when Janine Sonis was shown a red card for violent conduct in the 27th minute, leaving the Summit short-handed the rest of the way.

Four minutes later, Pfeiffer struck again, this time dribbling through the Summit defense and finding Anderson just above the center of the box. Anderson immediately sent it to the goal and beat Abby Smith in the bottom-left corner.

Courage 2, Racing 1

Ashley Sanchez netted a brace, her second goal the difference in the game as North Carolina edged Racing Louisville FC in Cary, N.C.

Sanchez’s first goal came in the 29th minute, a right-footed shot off a cross from Payton Linnehan that beat Jordyn Bloomer. Sarah Weber answered in first-half stoppage time when Courage goalkeeper Kailen Sheridan’s clearing pass was instead corralled by Emma Sears just outside the box. Sears charged toward the goal then found Weber standing wide open in front of the net.

Sanchez answered in the 86th minute for the Courage when her ball she sent toward the net was instead immediately deflected by a Racing defender, sending the ball high into the air and over the head of a leaping Bloomer for the goal.

Current 2, Royals 1

Host Kansas City scored twice in the final 33 minutes, once off a back-heel pass and the other on an impressive individual effort, to take down Utah.

Tatum Milazzo got the visitors on the board in the 35th minute with a header from a pass from Cloe Lacasse off a corner kick. Utah then stood tall on

defense, but the Royals could not keep the Current out of the net for long.

Croix Bethune, playing her first game with Kansas City after two seasons with Washington, evened the match in the 57th minute when Kayla Sharples set found her in front of the net with a one-touch heel kick off a pass from just inside midfield.

Ally Sentnor then netted the winner in the 69th minute when she dribbled from just outside the top-left corner of the goal box to the middle of the penalty area, then sent a right-footed kick to the right of a diving Mia Justus and into the net.

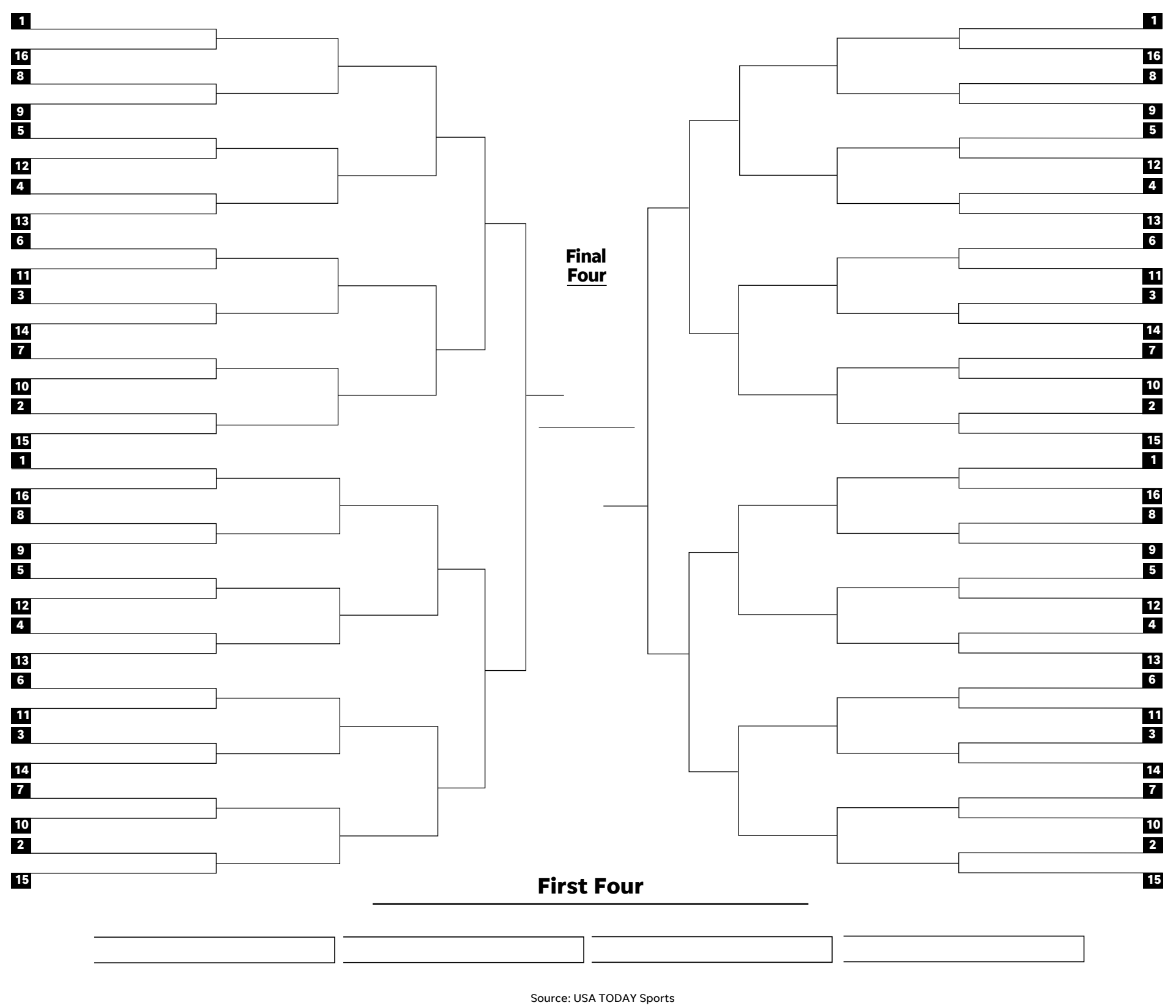
Dash 1, Wave 0

Makenzy Robbe, who spent the previous four seasons with San Diego, scored in her first game against her former team and Houston weathered 18 minutes of total stoppage time to win on the road.

Robbe’s goal was itself in stoppage time, as she took a pass from Maggie Graham in the seventh minute of first-half stoppage time, then sent the ball across the goal box and past DiDi Haracic into the bottom-left corner of the net.

The Wave had 19 shots to the Dash’s five – and held a 9-2 advantage in shots on goal – but Houston goalie Jane Campbell made numerous big saves.

2026 NCAA DIVISION I MEN’S BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT



2026 NCAA DIVISION I WOMEN’S BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

