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STARS AND STRIPES

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SIOBHAN O'GRADY/The Washington Post

A soldier from Ukraine's Third Assault Brigade constructs a land drone in a workshop in Kharkiv region.

Breaking battlefield deadlock

Ukraine sends in land drones to reduce casualties and reshape war

BY SIOBHÁN O'GRADY AND SERHII KOROLCHUK
The Washington Post

KHARKIV REGION, Ukraine — The Russian troops poked the piece of cardboard out of their foxhole, the words "WE WANT TO SURRENDER" scrawled on it in easy view of the Ukrainian drones flying above.

For weeks, the Russians had held firm to this sliver of tree line, despite repeated Ukrainian assaults. But a new enemy was perched outside their dugout — one they knew they couldn't beat: a small, wheeled robot packed with 138 pounds of explosives.

The Russian surrender to a remote-controlled land drone along the northeastern front in June marked the first time Ukraine took a position and prisoners of war with help from such a device, said commanders from the Third Assault Brigade, which carried out the mission. The Washington Post reconstructed the June operation by reviewing footage provided by the brigade and conducting interviews with the commanders involved in the attack.

The mission, which was carried out by the brigade's drone crews and ground troops, helped Ukraine retake a strategic position in Kharkiv region while preserving Ukrainian soldiers' lives, the commanders said.

The operation also showed once more how intensely drones are changing modern warfare on Ukraine's battlefields — first in the sky and now on the ground.

SEE DEADLOCK ON PAGE 5

Iraq: Small US unit will stay due to ISIS threat

BY QASSIM ABDUL-ZAHRA
Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Iraq's prime minister said Monday that a small contingent of U.S. military advisers will remain in the country for now to coordinate with U.S. forces in Syria combating Islamic State militants.

Washington and Baghdad agreed last year to wind down an American-led coalition fighting ISIS in Iraq by this September, with U.S. forces departing some bases where they have been stationed.

Iraqi Prime Minister Mohammed Shia al-Sudani told a small group of journalists in Baghdad that U.S. military advisers and support personnel are now stationed at the Ain al-Asad air base in Western Iraq, a base adjacent to the Baghdad airport, and the al-Harir air base in northern Iraq

Al-Sudani noted that the agreement originally stipulated a full pullout of U.S. forces from Ain al-Asad by September, but that "developments in Syria" since then

SEE THREAT ON PAGE 4



KISSTA FELDNER/U.S. Army

U.S. Army military policemen outside Camp Taji, Iraq, in 2011. Iraq's prime minister said a small unit of US military advisers will stay to help with the ISIS threat.

BUSINESS/WEATHER

Kering sells beauty division to L'Oreal, says companies will collaborate

Associated Press

French luxury goods company Kering said Sunday it is selling its beauty division to L'Oreal for $4.66 billion.

Under the agreement, Clichy, France-based L'Oreal will acquire the House of Creed high-end fragrance company as well as licenses to create beauty and fragrance products for Kering brands like Gucci, Bottega Veneta and Balenciaga.

The companies said they will establish a strategic committee to ensure coordination between Kering brands and L'Oréal. Kering and L'Oréal said they are also exploring joint business opportunities in the wellness and longevity market, combining L'Oreal's innovation with Kering's deep understanding of luxury clients.

The deal has some precedence. L'Oreal acquired the beauty license for Kering's Yves Saint Laurent brand in 2008.

"Joining forces with the global leader in beauty, we will accelerate the development of fragrance and cosmetics for our major houses, allowing them to achieve scale in this category and unlock their immense long-term potential, as did Yves Saint Laurent Beauté under L'Oréal's stewardship," Luca de Meo, CEO of Paris-based Kering, said in a statement.

Nicolas Hieronimus, the CEO of L'Oreal Groupe, said Creed is one of the fastest growing players in the niche fragrance market, while Gucci, Bottega Veneta and Balenciaga are "exceptional couture brands with enormous potential for growth."

The all-cash deal is expected to close in the first half of 2026.

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Euro costs (Oct. 21)	0.84
British pound (Oct. 21)	$1.31
Japanese yen (Oct. 21)	146.00
South Korean won (Oct. 21)	1385.00

Commercial rates were unavailable due to the AWS outage on Monday.

INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	7.25
Interest Rates Discount rate	4.25
Federal funds market rate	4.12
3-month bill	3.93
30-year bond	4.61

WEATHER OUTLOOK

TUESDAY IN THE MIDDLE EAST



TUESDAY IN EUROPE



WEDNESDAY IN THE PACIFIC



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MILITARY

Saliors, Marines conduct live-fire display for VP

Amphibious assault landing launched at Camp Pendleton ahead of anniversary

By Gary Robbins and Kristina Davis
The San Diego Union-Tribune

In a shock-and-awe attack heard across coastal North County, the Navy and Marines launched an hour-long amphibious assault landing at Camp Pendleton on Saturday in a brawny celebration of the service.

With nine warships taking position off the coast, helicopters advanced toward Camp Pendleton, Marines parachuted in and Navy SEALS stormed ashore.

Explosions shook Red Beach — which is located close to Interstate 5 — as the huge live-fire demonstration that's being staged to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the Navy and Marines got underway around 1 p.m. Later, M777 howitzers on Red Beach fired 155 mm shells inland, aimed at the Whiskey Impact Area in a remote part of the base.

The attack drew loud cheers among 15,000 Marines, Navy sailors, veterans and dignitaries who watched things unfold on a video screen not far away from a makeshift stadium alongside Vice President JD Vance and Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth. A narrator gave a play-by-play over a loudspeaker.

Vance, a Marine veteran who joined local Navy SEALS for a workout Saturday morning had a poignant moment addressing Camp Pendleton, saying, "From these mountains and this water, Marines have deployed to every major fight in the last century. From island hopping across the Pacific to Helmand Province and beyond."

"Standing here, you can feel the weight of that history, the generations upon generations, upon Americans who cut their teeth at this base, boarding ships and carrying the American flag. But that's exactly what Marines do," Vance said.

The show ended an hour later with a huge, low-level fly-by of all the main types of aircraft represented in the event.

"It's clear to me why President Trump says all the time we are the strongest, most powerful, most prepared military on the planet," Hegseth told the gathered Marines in remarks that followed the demonstration. "Because you are that strength, that power."

The celebration comes amid controversy. Gov. Gavin Newsom, after consulting with traffic safety experts at the California Highway Patrol, temporarily closed a large section of Interstate 5 that runs through Camp Pendleton because of the live artillery fired inland, across the freeway, during the drill.

Motorists were earlier prevented from getting on the northbound freeway from on-ramps throughout Oceanside.

After the event, The Associated Press reported that shrapnel from an exploding artillery shell fell hit and damaged a California Highway Patrol vehicle during the exercises, state authorities said Sunday. No one was injured.



PHOTOS BY GREGORY BULL/AP

Marines perform a demonstration Saturday, as Vice President JD Vance, not pictured, watches during activities to mark the upcoming Marine Corps' 250th anniversary on Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif.



Vance, center, and second lady Usha Vance, left, watch a demonstration by Marines.

The assault, involving 8,500 sailors and Marines, represents one of the main roles of the Marines, founded as an amphibious force.

It includes the amphibious vessels USS Boxer, USS Makin Island and USS Pearl Harbor, as well as a broad cross-section of military might, from F-35 fighter jets to V22 Osprey transport planes.

At one point during the demonstration, four Marine F-18s buzzed the stadium to "oohs" and "ahhs" from the crowd, followed by Marines coming ashore in amphibious combat vehicles. Marine-laden hovercraft threw up dirt and water spray as they came in next, and fighter jets bolted off the deck of the carrier USS Theodore Roosevelt.

The demonstration was filmed by the White House for a primetime television special to be aired on Nov. 9.

Soldier dies in vehicle accident during unit training at Hohenfels

By John Vandiver
Stars and Stripes

STUTTGART, Germany — The Army has launched an investigation into the circumstances surrounding the death of a 101st Airborne Division solider in a weekend training accident in Bavaria.

Sgt. Terell Seales, 34, died Saturday from injuries sustained in a vehicle accident during unit training at the Army's Joint Multinational Readiness Center in Hohenfels, Germany, the service said in a statement Sunday.

Col. Duke Reim, commander of the 101st Airborne's 2nd Mobile Brigade Combat Team, described Seales as "an exceptional leader and soldier who inspired others." Reim also credited German partners for assistance in responding to the vehicle mishap.



Seales

Seales, a native of Florence, N.J., joined the Army in 2021 and was on his second deployment to Europe at the time of his death, according to the Army's statement.

There have been several U.S. Army training accidents in Europe during the past several months. The incidents come at a time when the Army and other allies in Europe have stepped up training missions in connection with efforts to deter potential Russian aggression on the Continent.

In July, Spc. Jaylin Perez, 32, died from injuries in a rail accident near Berlin, where he was involved in a logistics mission.

And in June, 24-year-old Sgt. Aaron Cox of the 101st Airborne Division died after being injured in a rollover accident in Hungary.

Before that, four 3rd Infantry Division soldiers died in a March accident while deployed in Lithuania after their M88A2 Hercules armored recovery vehicle became submerged in a bog.

Crash leaves US airman in a coma on Okinawa

By Brian McElhiney and Hana Kusumoto
Stars and Stripes

A U.S. airman was in a coma Monday after his motorcycle collided with a compact car at an Okinawa intersection early Friday, police said.

The 33-year-old airman was traveling south from Kadena town toward Naha city on Route 58 when the crash happened at 12:13 a.m. in the Isa area of Ginowan, a city police spokesman said Monday.

The car, driven by a 26-year-old Okinawan man, was turning right from the opposite lane, the spokesman said. Both men were taken to a hospital in central Okinawa.

The airman, whose name was not released, suffered a brain hemorrhage and a broken pelvis and remained in a coma as of Monday, the spokesman said. The car's driver sustained a head injury and has been released from the hospital.

Police are investigating the cause of the crash, the spokesman said. Some Japanese government officials may speak to the press only on condition of anonymity.

The 18th Wing at Kadena Air Base acknowledged email and phone inquiries Monday but did not immediately provide a response.

MILITARY

UK probes likely Russia-tied hack on US base data

BY PHILLIP WALTER WELLMAN
Stars and Stripes

British defense officials are investigating whether hackers stole hundreds of sensitive military documents containing details of eight bases in the country, including two used by the U.S. military, and posted them on the dark web.

The U.K. defense ministry confirmed the probe to Stars and Stripes on Monday in a statement, which provided no further comment.

The files contained information on RAF Lakenheath and RAF Mildenhall, the two largest bases used by the U.S. military in the U.K. and home to thousands of American personnel and their families, according to a report over the weekend by British newspaper the Mail on Sunday.

U.S. Air Force representatives at Lakenheath and Mildenhall did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

The Russian group Lynx is thought to be responsible for the hack, the Mail on Sunday reported. The disclosure comes as Western intelligence agencies warn of increasing Russian cybercrime and espionage activity targeting NATO infrastructure.

British and U.S. officials have repeatedly accused Russia-linked hackers of probing allied defense contractors and attempting to disrupt logistics and communications networks that support Kyiv.

Some of the stolen files related to construction work at Lakenheath by the company Kier, the paper said. Kier, as part of a joint venture, was contracted in 2018 to deliver major infrastructure upgrades at the base related to U.S. F-35 operations, the government said at the time.

RAF Lakenheath is home to U.S. Air Force F-35 squadrons, while nearby RAF Mildenhall hosts aerial refueling and special operations units.

RAF Portreath, a radar station that forms part of NATO's air defense network, and RAF Predannack, home to the U.K.'s National Drone Hub, were also said targeted, along with RAF St. Mawgan, HMS Raleigh, HMS Drake and RNAS Culdrose, according to the report.

Other documents compromised in the breach reportedly included visitor records at other bases, contractor and personnel contact details, and internal security guidance that could be exploited in phishing attacks, the Mail on Sunday reported.

Names, cellphone numbers, vehicle registrations and email addresses were also said to have been posted to the dark web, a hidden part of the internet accessible only through specialized software, according to the newspaper.

Intruders accessed the files by hacking a maintenance and construction company employed by the ministry, allowing them to bypass the British military's cyber-defenses, the report added.

A spokesperson for Dodd Group told the BBC that it had experienced a ransomware incident in which an unauthorized third party gained temporary access to part of its internal systems.

Dodd is a British engineering and property services company whose work includes the defense sector

The reported hacking follows a series of high-profile data breaches at U.K.'s defense ministry, underscoring ongoing challenges in securing military contractors' networks.

In August, it was revealed that thousands of Afghans fleeing their country for Britian had their personal data exposed after a ministry subcontractor suffered a breach.



MATTHEW ROBERTS/U.S. Army

U.S. Army Chief Warrant Officer 2 Michael Fank, a pilot with 101st Combat Aviation Brigade, uncovers an AH-64 Apache helicopter for a demonstration to members of the Joint Operations Command Advisory Team — North in Erbil, Iraq, on Aug. 29.

Threat: Limited contingent will help maintain counterintelligence as US sites in Iraq cutback

FROM PAGE 1

"required maintaining a small unit" of between 250 and 350 advisers and security personnel at the base.

He said they would work "to support counter-ISIS surveillance and coordination with the al-Tanf base" in Syria.

He added that "other U.S. sites are witnessing gradual reductions in personnel and operations."

After the fall of former Syrian President Bashar Assad in a lightning rebel offensive in December, fears arose in Iraq of an ISIS resurgence taking advantage of the ensuing security vacuum as well as of weapons abandoned by the former Syrian army.

Al-Sudani maintained that the extremist group, which seized wide swathes of territory in Iraq and Syria a decade ago "no longer poses a significant threat inside Iraq."

Iraq has sought to balance Iraq's relations with the United States and Tehran and to avoid being pulled into regional conflicts, a policy that the prime minister said he will continue.

"We put Iraq first, and we do not wish to act as a proxy for anyone," he said. "Iraq will not be a battlefield for conflicts."

At the same time, al-Sudani urged the U.S. to return to negotiations with Iran, describing the Trump administration's "maximum pressure" approach to curtail Iranian influence as "counterproductive."

"Iran is an important and influential country that must be treated with respect and through direct dialogue," he said.

There have been tensions between Baghdad and Washington over the presence of Iran-backed militias in Iraq.

The Popular Mobilization Forces, a coalition of militias that formed to fight ISIS, was formally placed under the control of the Iraqi military in 2016 but in practice still operates with significant autonomy.

The Iraqi parliament has been considering legislation that would solidify the relationship between the military and the PMF, drawing objections from Washington.

Al-Sudani did not directly address the proposed legislation but said his government's program "includes disarmament and national dialogue to remove any justification for carrying weapons."

"We encourage all factions to either integrate into state institutions or engage in political life," which could include becoming political parties and running for election, he said.

Iraq is preparing for parliamentary elections next month that will determine where al-Sudani serves a second term.

"Armed factions that have transformed into political entities have the constitutional right to participate" in those elections, the prime minister said.

Police dog stabbed multiple times by barricaded suspect in Colo.

The Denver Post

DENVER — A barricaded suspect stabbed a Colorado Springs police dog multiple times Wednesday after law enforcement officials deployed the K9 to help subdue the man, authorities said.

The dog, K9 Roam, was in critical condition and had surgery Wednesday evening after being stabbed in the head, neck and along its abdomen down into its left hind leg — a wound that necessitated the amputation of that leg, Dr. Abby Sticker said during a news conference.

"We do feel like the next 24 hours are going to be pretty critical," she said.

Officers from the Colorado Springs Police Department responded to a residence in the 7400 block of Gorgeted Quail Grove at 10:43 a.m. Wednesday on a report of a violation of a domestic-violence protection order, officials said.

There, they found a man — identified as 37-year-old Anthony Bryant — who had barricaded himself inside the home. Police deployed the department's Tactical Enforcement Unit and K9 personnel in an attempt to apprehend the suspect.

KCBD reported that a Fort Carson official identified the suspect as Sgt. 1st Class Anthony Bryant, a service member assigned to 10th Special Forces Group. He has reportedly served in the military for 16 years.

During a confrontation, Bryant stabbed K9 Roam multiple times, police said.

No officers were injured, and police used a Taser and chemical irritant to take Bryant into custody.

The dog was immediately transported to an emergency veterinary facility and Bryant is facing charges of attempting to kill a police service animal.

WAR IN UKRAINE

Zelenskyy says Trump meeting was 'positive'

By Samya Kullab
Associated Press

KYIV, Ukraine — Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy says his reportedly tense meeting with U.S President Donald Trump last week was "positive" — even though he did not secure the Tomahawk missiles for Ukraine — and emphasized what he said is continued American interest in economic deals with Kyiv.

Zelenskyy said Trump reneged on the possibility of sending the long-range missiles to Ukraine, which would have been a major boost for Kyiv, following his phone call with Russian President Vladimir Putin hours before the Ukrainian leader and American president were to meet on Friday.

"In my opinion, he does not want an escalation with the Russians until he meets with them," Zelenskyy told reporters on Sunday.

His comments were embargoed until Monday morning.

Ukraine is hoping to purchase 25 Patriot air defense systems from American firms using frozen Russian assets and assistance from partners, but Zelenskyy said procuring all of these would require time because of long production queues. He said he spoke to Trump about help procuring these quicker, potentially from European partners.



Manuel Balce Ceneta/AP

Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskyy speaks to reporters in Lafayette Park across the street from the White House, following a meeting with President Donald Trump, Friday.

According to Zelenskyy, Trump said during their meeting that Putin's maximalist demand — that Ukraine cede the entirety of Ukraine's eastern Donetsk and Luhansk regions — was unchanged.

On Sunday, Trump said Sunday that the Donbas region of Ukraine should be "cut up," leaving most of it in Russian hands, to end a war that has dragged on for nearly four years.

"Let it be cut the way it is," he told reporters aboard Air Force One. "... They can negotiate something later on down the line." But for now, both sides of the conflict should "stop at the battle line — go home, stop fighting, stop killing people."

Zelenskyy was diplomatic about his meeting with Trump despite reports that he faced pressure to accept Putin's demands — a tactic he has kept up since the disastrous Oval Office spat on Feb. 28 when the Ukrainian president was scolded on live television for not being grateful for continued American support.

Zelenskyy said that because Trump ultimately supported a freeze along the current front line his overall message "is positive" for Ukraine.

He said Trump was looking to end the war and hopes his meeting in the coming weeks with Putin in Hungary — which does not support Ukraine — will pave the way for a peace deal after their first summit in Alaska in August failed to reach such an outcome.

So far, Zelenskyy said he has not been invited to attend but would consider it if the format for talks were fair to Kyiv.

"We share President Trump's positive outlook if it leads to the end of the war. After many rounds of discussion over more than two hours with him and his team, his message, in my view, is positive — that we stand where we stand on the line of contact, provided all sides understand what is meant," Zelenskyy said.

Deadlock: Land drones take on new missions across Ukraine

FROM PAGE 1

Once a rarity, land drones are quickly reshaping the war not only by resupplying and evacuating frontline troops but also by directly participating in assaults. Although both sides are deploying the drones, Ukraine is designing them to fill some roles that officials say wil l reduce human casualties and preserve the country's limited manpower as it faces a much more populous foe.

The drones range in price depending on size but are far more affordable and accurate than artillery. The model used in the June mission cost roughly $1,500 to build.

Russia's full-scale invasion has transformed Ukraine into a testing lab for the future of modern conflict. There is increasing demand among frontline troops for the robots, which move on wheels or tracks and are controlled by radio signals like aerial drones. They can range in size from smaller than a microwave to large enough to carry multiple people. The number of tasks the robots completed across the front line nearly doubled from August to September, according to Ukraine's top commander.

Ukrainian soldiers hope the robots can take over more basic frontline tasks, sparing troops from some of the more dangerous work of the ground war. Ukraine has lost an enormous number of troops since 2022 and remains far outnumbered by Russia's much larger army. Kyiv has long struggled to recruit more troops — its most valuable and irreplaceable resource.

Some of Ukraine's land drones are outfitted with remotely operated machine guns that can approach Russian positions, clearing the way for ground forces. Others, like the ones used in the Third Assault Brigade's June mission, can deliver explosives.

For two weeks after a Russian assault forced Ukrainian troops out of a pair of fortified positions along the northeastern front, they repeatedly tried — and failed — to retake them.

Intercepted communications suggested the Russian soldiers holding the positions were well-trained and planning an attack, commanders said. They watched as Russian aerial drones dropped them provisions, keeping them supplied.

In early June, the order came down for a new approach: They turned to drones.

"Our task was simple enough," recalled Vladyka, 35, commander of the land drone crew that executed the successful attack. "Destroy the base where the enemy was hiding."

For several hours, his team of three reviewed surveillance footage and intelligence on the position, drafting plans and backup plans on their tablets. They knew any land drone would need to travel from their own dugout a few miles away through fields, a settlement and a tree line to reach the Russian troops. And because the devices are not equipped with their own cameras, the soldier controlling the ground robot would have to rely on a live feed from an aerial drone flying overhead.



Siobhan O'Grady/The Washington Post

A Ukrainian soldier who goes by the call sign Vladyka, 35, places a remote control on his land drone in Kharkiv region.

A neighboring unit would attack the position first with a bomb-carrying aerial drone. The land drone would then trundle into the dugout and blow itself up, with more to follow if needed.

Ground troops would then finish the fight by advancing several hundred yards to the position — a major win in a war that is often fought inch by inch.

Early on a clear June morning, Vladyka's team prepared their first round of drones — one unarmed aerial device and a land drone they loaded with three anti-tank mines — and set up a screen on the wall to broadcast their journeys toward the Russian troops.

As the nearby unit flew a small armed drone straight into the barricade shielding the position, causing a small explosion, Mykola, from his command post nearby, sent a message to Vladyka's crew: "Begin your movements."

The land drone headed toward the Russian position. Then, just as planned, it toppled into the dugout, causing a massive explosion. The Ukrainians waited anxiously for any signs of Russian movement on their screens. They saw nothing.

"We were not in a rush. Our task was not to do it fast but to do it right," Mykola recalled.

They prepared a second land drone, also loaded with explosives, and sent it toward the now-damaged position. Once again, a bomb-laden aerial drone struck the barricade at the dugout's entrance. The land drone pulled up outside, a few feet from the entrance.

"This is when it gets interesting," Vladyka said.

As the reconnaissance drone hovered overhead and the land drone waited to explode, a Russian soldier poked his head out of the dugout holding the handmade surrender sign. The flying drone descended toward the soldier to signal that it understood the message, then tilted on its axis to show him which way to walk.

From inside his dugout on the other side of the front line, Mykola watched the live feed, astonished. He beamed as he reached for his phone to record what he saw unfolding on the screen, even as he feared it might be a trap.

The two Russian soldiers emerged from the foxhole, unarmed and not even wearing flak jackets. Each clutched one side of the cardboard sign.

The Russians followed the aerial drone down a rural lane until they reached waiting Ukrainian troops, who ordered them to the ground and took them into custody.

NATION

Trump says US will slash aid to Colombia

Associated Press

PALM BEACH, Fla. — The United States will slash assistance to Colombia because its leader, Gustavo Petro, "does nothing to stop" drug production, President Donald Trump said Sunday, escalating the friction between Washington and one of its closest allies in Latin America.

In a social media post, Trump referred to Petro as "an illegal drug leader" who is "low rated and very unpopular." The Republican president warned that Petro "better close up" drug operations "or the United States will close them up for him, and it won't be done nicely."

Hours later, Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth announced the latest U.S. strike on a vessel that was allegedly carrying "substantial amounts of narcotics."

He said the vessel was associated with a Colombian rebel group — the National Liberation Army, or ELN — that has been in conflict with Petro's government. He did not provide any evidence for his assertions, but he shared a brief video clip of a boat engulfed in flames after an explosion on Friday.

Petro, who can be as vocal on social media as his American counterpart, rejected Trump's accusations and defended his work to fight narcotics in Colombia, the world's largest exporter of cocaine.

"Trying to promote peace in Colombia is not being a drug trafficker," Petro wrote. He suggested that Trump was being deceived by his advisers, described himself as "the main enemy" of drugs in his country and said Trump was being "rude and ignorant toward Colombia."

The Colombian Foreign Ministry described Trump's statement as a "direct threat to national sovereignty by proposing an illegal intervention in Colombian territory." Defense Minister Pedro Sánchez told reporters that the country "has used all its capability and also lost men and women fighting drug trafficking."

Trump's latest broadside against Petro raises the possibility of an expanding clash in Latin America, where the U.S. has already increased pressure on neighboring Venezuela and its leader, Nicolás Maduro.

American naval ships, fighter jets and drones are deployed in the region for what the administration has described as an "armed conflict" with drug cartels. Trump also authorized covert operations inside Venezuela.

Unlike Venezuela, Colombia is a longtime U.S. ally and the top recipient of American assistance in the region. But coca cultivation reached an all-time high last year, according to the United Nations, and there has been fresh violence in rural areas where the government spent years battling insurgents before reaching a peace deal a decade ago.

In September, the Trump administration accused Colombia of failing to cooperate in the drug war, although at the time Washington issued a waiver of sanctions that would have triggered aid cuts.

Colombia received an estimated $230 million in the U.S. budget year that ended Sept. 30, a drop from recent years that exceeded $700 million, according to U.S. figures.

Why frogs, chickens, T-Rexes are taking over Trump protests

BY MARIANNE LEVINE AND DANIEL WU
The Washington Post

A frog wearing a crown stood next to a unicorn, a rooster and two chickens in Washington, D.C. Two sharks ran across a bridge as they headed toward a crowd in Portland. A lobster wore a sign that declared "No shellfish kings" in Boston.

That menagerie of characters and more appeared Saturday among the massive crowds of demonstrators that gathered across the country and the globe as part of No Kings protests against President Donald Trump. There were inflatable costumes of every shape and color — pandas, hot dogs, Santa Clauses and T-Rex dinosaurs, to name just a few.

The outfits have become an absurd and enduring image of the protests against the Trump administration this year as cities push back on his deportation crackdown and domestic military deployments. The costumes are being donned in part as a rebuke to Republicans portraying the events as "hate America" rallies and the Trump administration's claims that blue cities like Chicago and Portland are riddled with crime.

"The silliness is the point," said Mike Nellis, a Democratic strategist. "All these MAGA guys are out there going, 'These cities are lawless, they're dangerous' … It's like you're matching the absurdity of it."

Some elected officials are echoing that message. Sen. Cory Booker, D-N.J., shared a clip produced by "The Daily Show" that placed Trump's claims of lawlessness in Portland alongside scenes of dancing protesters in costumes and wrote: "Funny but true."

Portland City Councilor Sameer Kanal said in a speech Saturday that "we have chickens and frogs defending democracy."

The White House dismissed the trend.

"It's impressive how these 'protesters' constantly find ways to make themselves look even dumber," spokeswoman Abigail Jackson said in a statement.

Costumed demonstrators emerged most prominently earlier this year in Portland, Ore. Local activists have tapped into the city's counterculture history by staging deliberately absurd protests outside an Immigration and Customs Enforcement detention facility, even as Trump was calling the city "war-ravaged."

One recent viral video from Portland captured federal agents pepper-spraying a protester in an inflatable frog costume. People in other cities began dressing up at protests too. Brooks Brown, a streamer based in Portland, was inspired to co-found "Operation Inflation," which solicits donations to provide free inflatable costumes for people to wear at anti-ICE protests.

"It cuts across any narrative: You can't say, 'Oh look that's antifa, the terrorist organization,' " Brown said. He added that the costumes help keep demonstrations calm and help discourage angry rhetoric: "When you have the inflatables, everyone starts dancing, and even the people who are very serious, they continue what they're doing, they're disciplined … but they're not angry. There's not an angry vibe behind them."

Brown estimates that about 10,000 people have donated in the ten days since the group started. For the No Kings protest Saturday in Portland, he rented a U-Haul and spent days preparing. All the costumes were shipped to his home. When protesters showed up at the truck, Brown said he helped them turn on the costumes' battery packs, inflated them and sent them on their way.



JOSE LUIS MAGANA/AP

Demonstrators in inflatable costumes rally along Pennsylvania Avenue during a No Kings protest in Washington on Saturday.

The most popular costumes have varied. Initially, frogs were popular, then wiener dogs. Then giraffes, after a man dressed up as a giraffe was arrested.

"People see that and they are infuriated and they want to support that situation," Brown said. "They want to let people in power know: That's me too. I stand with wiener dog, I stand with giraffe, I stand with frog army."

Political strategists on both sides of the aisle said the costumes are an effective way to protest the Trump administration.

Andy Barr, a Democratic strategist, compared the use of inflatable costumes to the time a man in a dolphin costume followed Mitt Romney around during the 2008 Republican primary, accusing him of flip-flopping.

"Everything is so dark and kind of bleak that by making this sort of fun and funny and kind of a bit, you bring more people in," Barr said.

Terry Sullivan, a Republican strategist, said that the use of inflatable costumes was "smart" and "gives extra legs to a story."

"When you can give a visual example it helps," he said. "It's trying to draw attention to the protests so that it doesn't look and frame it in such a way that it's not just a bunch of angry people with purple hair throwing rocks."

Bruce Cain, a political science professor at Stanford University, said that while there is always a risk that a costume "can project frivolity and a party-like atmosphere," the use of costumes counters "the image of the Democratic Party as a violent party."

Cain added that Trump's portrayal of cities as violent is a "very important concept" as he seeks to expand executive authority and invoke emergency powers. Trump has repeatedly suggested he could invoke the Insurrection Act, which allows the president to use active-duty forces trained for combat overseas or federalized National Guard troops to suppress a "rebellion."

"If the president is going to invoke the Insurrection Act, he has to go to the court and show them, 'Here's some violence,' " Cain said. "It seems to me if you were going to start a fight you wouldn't want to be looking like Mickey Mouse."

In Portland, where Trump is seeking to send the National Guard, daytime protests tend to feature a crowd of mostly homegrown activists, but at night, the scene has sometimes turned violent.

NATION

Trump to build arch near Lincoln Memorial

By Darlene Superville
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump wants to leave his mark on the nation's capital by building a Paris-style arch just west of the Lincoln Memorial.

Trump unveiled the plan at a White House dinner on Wednesday for the wealthy businesspeople who have pledged money toward the $250 million cost of adding a massive ballroom to the Executive Mansion.

Trump did not put a price tag on the cost of the arch.

Many presidents and first families try to leave their imprint on the White House, and Trump is already doing that with many of the design and construction changes he's made to the property, perhaps most notably by converting the Rose Garden into a stone-covered patio.

But the arch goes far beyond the White House, giving Trump a chance to leave another lasting monument in a city known for them.

It would expand on his earlier talk of sprucing up the city by replacing its "tired" grasses, broken signage and street medians.

Trump seems to draw inspiration from the French.



Demetrius Freeman/The Washington Post

President Donald Trump on Wednesday holds up a model of an arch he wants to build in D.C. for America's 250th birthday.

The proposed arch bears a striking resemblance to the Arc de Triomphe in Paris, the famous monument at the end of the Champs-Élysées honoring those who fought for France during the French Revolution and Napoleonic wars.

A military parade held in Washington earlier this year to mark the Army's 250th birthday was inspired after Trump witnessed a similar event down the famous Parisian boulevard eight years ago as a guest of France's president, Emmanuel Macron.

The White House did not immediately respond Thursday to an emailed request for more information on the arch, including the timeline for completing it.

Harrison Design, a local firm, is working on the project, according to a weekend social media post from Trump.

It was unclear if the White House has presented the proposal to the National Capital Planning Commission, which has responsibility over planning and siting monuments, memorials and statues in the city.

The commission's offices have been closed during the government shutdown.

L. Preston Bryant Jr., a former chairman of the commission, said in an email that federal law requires that the proposed arch be put through the commission's review and approval process.

The arch would stand at the Washington end of Memorial Bridge, which spans the Potomac River from Arlington, Va.

At the dinner, Trump showed off three different sized models of the arch, which will feature a statue of Lady Liberty on top, and acknowledged that the largest one was his favorite.

Trump thanked his dinner guests for being "so generous in your contributions" to pay for the ballroom and said there might be enough money left over to cover the cost of building the arch.

Amazon cloud computing outage disrupts Snapchat, Ring, many more

Associated Press

LONDON — Internet users around the world faced widespread disruption early on Monday because of a problem at Amazon's cloud computing service that took down dozens of major online services, including social media site Snapchat, the Roblox and Fortnite video games and chat app Signal.

About three hours after the outage began, Amazon Web Services said it was starting to recover from the problem.

Amazon Web Services provides behind-the-scenes cloud computing infrastructure to many government departments, universities and businesses, including The Associated Press, which allows them to provide online services.

On DownDetector, a website that tracks online outages, users reported issues with Snapchat, Roblox, Fortnite, online broker Robinhood, the McDonald's app and many other services. DownDetector said the problems were: "Possibly related to issues at Amazon Web Services."

Coinbase and Signal both said on X that they were experiencing issues related to the AWS outage.

Even Amazon's own services weren't immune. Users of the company's Ring doorbell cameras and Alexa-powered smart speakers posted on DownDetector that they weren't working, while others said they were unable to access the Amazon website or download books to their Kindle.

Amazon pinned the outage on issues related to their domain name system, an apparatus that converts web addresses into IP addresses so websites and apps can load on internet-connected devices.

The first signs of trouble emerged at around 3:11 a.m. Eastern Time, when Amazon Web Services reported on its Health Dashboard that it was "investigating increased error rates and latencies for multiple AWS services in the US-EAST-1 Region."

Later, the company reported that there were "significant error rates" and that engineers were "actively working" on the problem.

Around 6 a.m. Eastern Time, the company said that it was seeing recovery across most of the affected services. "We can confirm global services and features that rely on US-EAST-1 have also recovered," it said, adding that it is working on a "full resolution."

This is not the first time issues with Amazon's key services have caused widespread disruptions. Many popular internet services were down after a brief outage in 2023.

AWS's longest outage in recent history occurred in late 2021, when companies — everything from airline reservations and auto dealerships to payment apps and video streaming services — were affected for more than five hours. Outages also happened in 2020 and 2017.

The company reported that 64 internal AWS services were affected by the issue.

AWS customers include some of the world's biggest businesses and organizations.

"So much of the world now relies on these three or four big (cloud) compute companies who provide the underlying infrastructure that when there's an issue like this, it can be really impactful across a broad range, a broad spectrum" of online services, said Patrick Burgess, a cybersecurity expert at U.K.-based BCS, The Chartered Institute for IT.

"The world now runs on the cloud," and the internet is seen as a utility like water or electricity, as we spend so much of our lives on our smartphones, Burgess said.

And because so much of the online world's plumbing is underpinned by a handful of companies, when something goes wrong, "it's very difficult for users to pinpoint what is happening because we don't see Amazon, we just see Snapchat or Roblox," Burgess said.

"The good news is that this kind of issue is usually relatively fast (to resolve)" and there's no indication that it was caused by a cyber incident like a cyberattack, Burgess said.

"This looks like a good old-fashioned technology issue, something's gone wrong and it will be fixed by Amazon," he said.

There are "well-established processes" to deal with outages at Amazon Web Services, as well as rivals Google and Microsoft, which together provide most of the world's cloud computing infrastructure, Burgess said, adding that such outages are usually fixed in "hours rather than days."

Amazon Web Services said at about 6:30 a.m. Eastern time that "most AWS Service operations are succeeding normally now."

Trump: US might buy foreign beef

Associated Press

ABOARD AIR FORCE ONE — President Donald Trump said Sunday that the United States could purchase Argentinian beef in an attempt to bring down prices for American consumers.

"We would buy some beef from Argentina," he told reporters aboard Air Force One during a flight from Florida to Washington. "If we do that, that will bring our beef prices down."

Trump promised earlier this week to address the issue as part of his efforts to keep inflation in check.

U.S. beef prices have been stubbornly high for a variety of reasons, including drought and reduced imports from Mexico due to a flesh-eating pest in cattle herds there.

Trump has been working to help Argentina bolster its collapsing currency with a $20 billion credit swap line and additional financing from sovereign funds and the private sector ahead of midterm elections for his close ally, President Javier Milei.

NATION

‘That grave stays in the family’

Project connects Americans to the Dutch people who honor their relatives at World War II cemetery

By Jamie Stengle
Associated Press

DALLAS — In the decades since June West Brandt’s older brother was killed in World War II, her kind and artistic sibling who loved to play boogie-woogie on the piano has never been far from her mind. So she was delighted to discover he’s also being remembered by a Dutch couple who regularly visit a marker for him at a Netherlands cemetery.

“It’s wonderful for me to know that someone is there,” said Brandt, 93, who lives near Houston.

Her introduction over the summer to Lisa and Guido Meijers came by way of a new initiative aiming to increase the number of connections between the family members of those buried and remembered on the walls of the missing at the World War II cemetery and the Dutch people who have adopted each one.

The project was spurred on by “The Monuments Men” author Robert Edsel, whose newest book, “Remember Us,” tells the story of the adoption program at the Netherlands American Cemetery. His Dallas-based Monuments Men and Women Foundation teamed with the Dutch foundation responsible for the adoptions to create the Forever Promise Project, which has a searchable database of the names of U.S. service members buried and remembered at the cemetery.

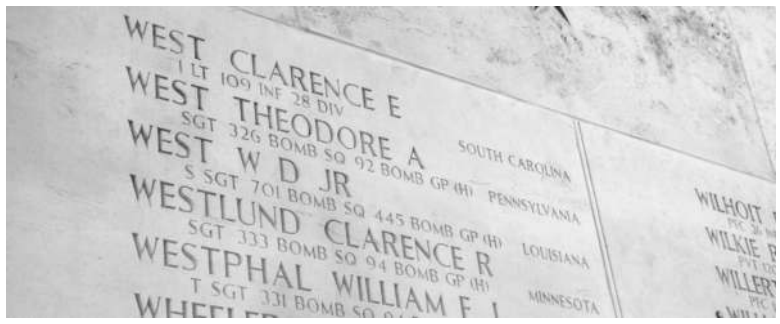
“I’d like us to find and connect as many American families to their Dutch adopters as is possible,” Edsel said.

Ton Hermes, chairman of the Foundation for Adopting Graves American Cemetery Margraten, said that while each of the about 8,300 graves and 1,700 markers for the missing at the cemetery near the village of Margraten have adopters, only about 20% to 30% of them are in contact with the service member’s relatives.



Lekan Oyekanmi/AP

June West Brandt, 93, looks at a photo displaying her brother, William Durham West Jr., who was killed in World War II, in August in Richmond, Texas.



Alf Mertens, Monuments Men and Women Foundation/AP

The name of Staff Sgt. William Durham “W.D.” West Jr.is among those listed on a wall for the missing at the World War II cemetery at the Netherlands American Cemetery in Margraten, Netherlands.

When the Meijerses adopted the marker for Army Air Forces Staff Sgt. William Durham “W.D.” West Jr. several years ago, they knew only basic information about the 20-year-old whose body was never recovered after his B-24 bomber was shot down over the North Sea on a mission into Nazi Germany.

Through talking with Brandt, they’ve learned that West was “quite a creative soul,” Lisa Meijers said.

“That obviously makes a huge change in how to remember someone,” she said.

Brandt said her brother loved to paint and played the piano by ear, and even though she was six years younger, they were “big buddies” growing up in the small western Louisiana city of DeRidder.

“We loved being together, so it was very hard when he left,” Brandt said.

Brandt’s daughter, Allison Brandt Woods, said it’s heartwarming knowing Meijerses are watching over the marker. Woods met up with them on a recent trip and hopes the connection between their families will continue with future generations.

The cemetery, Lisa Meijers said, is among many reminders of World War II in the southern Netherlands, which was liberated by Allied forces in September 1944 after over four years of Nazi occupation.

“We just really feel how extremely important it is to remember these things and to honor the sacrifices these people made for us,” she said.

The Meijerses, who have a 1-year-old son, visit West’s marker about once a month, bringing flowers.

Hermes said the program is so popular that there’s a waiting list to adopt a grave or marker.

Names on the walls for the missing were opened up for adoption in 2008, said Frans Roebroeks, secretary for the Dutch adoption foundation. The formal adoption process for graves began to take shape during a 1945 meeting of the Margraten town council.

“They were meeting to figure out the answer to the question: How do you thank your liberators when they are no longer alive to thank?” Edsel said.

Many initial adopters took on the grave of someone they had gotten to know.

“Once they heard their soldier was killed in action, the Dutch people decided to adopt his grave, to bring flowers and to correspond with the wives or mothers in the United States,” Hermes said.

Roebroeks said many of the graves have been cared for by the same family since the end of the war, including one that’s been passed down through his family. He said Army Pfc. Henry Wolf had stayed at his grandfather’s farm and became “like a son” to him.

Wolf’s grave has passed from Roebroeks’ grandfather to his mother and now to his sister, who will pass it to her daughter, he said.

“That grave stays in the family,” he said.

Edsel said that so far, over 300 families have asked to be put in touch with their adopters.

“And we’re just starting,” he said.

Court will consider whether regular pot smokers can legally own guns

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court said on Monday that it will consider whether people who regularly smoke marijuana can legally own guns, the latest firearm case to come before the court since its 2022 decision expanding gun rights.

President Donald Trump’s administration asked the justices to revive a case against a Texas man charged with a felony because he allegedly had a gun in his home and acknowledged being a regular pot user. The Justice Department appealed after a lower court largely struck down a law that bars people who use any illegal drugs from having guns.

Arguments probably will take place early in 2026, with a decision likely by early summer.

The Republican administration favors Second Amendment rights, but government attorneys argued that this ban is a justifiable restriction.

They asked the court to reinstate a case against Ali Danial Hemani. His lawyers got the felony charge tossed out after the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals found that the blanket ban is unconstitutional under the Supreme Court’s expanded view of gun rights. The appellate judges found it could still be used against people accused of being high and armed at the same time, though.

Hemani’s attorneys argue the broadly written law puts millions of people at risk of technical violations since at least 20% of Americans have tried pot, according to government health data. About half of states legalized recreational marijuana, but it’s still illegal under federal law.

The Justice Department argues the law is valid when used against regular drug users because they pose a serious public safety risk. The government said the FBI found Hemani’s gun and cocaine in a search of his home as they probed travel and communications allegedly linked to Iran. The gun charge was the only one filed, however, and his lawyers said the other allegations were irrelevant and were mentioned only to make him seem more dangerous.

The case marks another flashpoint in the application of the Supreme Court’s new test for firearm restrictions. The conservative majority found in 2022 that the Second Amendment generally gives people the right to carry guns in public for self-defense and any firearm restrictions must have a strong grounding in the nation’s history.

The landmark 2022 ruling led to a cascade of challenges to firearm laws around the country, though the justices have since upheld a different federal law intended to protect victims of domestic violence by barring guns from people under restraining orders.

NATION

Giving babies peanuts early avoids allergies

Study found the advice helped about 60K kids

By Jonel Aleccia
Associated Press

A decade after a landmark study proved that feeding peanut products to young babies could prevent development of life-threatening allergies, new research finds the change has made a big difference in the real world.

About 60,000 children have avoided developing peanut allergies after guidance first issued in 2015 upended medical practice by recommending introducing the allergen to infants starting as early as 4 months.

"That's a remarkable thing, right?" said Dr. David Hill, an allergist and researcher at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, and author of a study published Monday in the medical journal Pediatrics. Hill and colleagues analyzed electronic health records from dozens of pediatric practices to track diagnoses of food allergies in young children before, during and after the guidelines were issued.



Patrick Sison/AP

An arrangement of peanuts is seen Feb. 20, 2015, in New York.

"I can actually come to you today and say there are less kids with food allergy today than there would have been if we hadn't implemented this public health effort," he added.

The researchers found that peanut allergies in children ages 0 to 3 declined by more than 27% after guidance for high-risk kids was first issued in 2015 and by more than 40% after the recommendations were expanded in 2017.

The effort hasn't yet reduced an overall increase in food allergies in the U.S. in recent years. About 8% of children are affected, including more than 2% with a peanut allergy.

Peanut allergy is caused when the body's immune system mistakenly identifies proteins in peanuts as harmful and releases chemicals that trigger allergic symptoms, including hives, respiratory symptoms and, sometimes, life-threatening anaphylaxis.

For decades, doctors had recommended delaying feeding children peanuts and other foods likely to trigger allergies until age 3. But in 2015, Gideon Lack at King's College London, published the groundbreaking Learning Early About Peanut Allergy, or LEAP, trial.

Lack and colleagues showed that introducing peanut products in infancy reduced the future risk of developing food allergies by more than 80%. Later analysis showed that the protection persisted in about 70% of kids into adolescence.

The study immediately sparked new guidelines urging early introduction of peanuts — but putting them into practice has been slow.

Only about 29% of pediatricians and 65% of allergists reported following the expanded guidance issued in 2017, surveys found.

Confusion and uncertainty about the best way to introduce peanuts early in life led to the lag, according to a commentary that accompanied the study. Early on, medical experts and parents alike questioned whether the practice could be adopted outside of tightly controlled clinical settings.

The data for the analysis came from a subset of participating practice sites and may not represent the entire U.S. pediatric population, noted the commentary, led by Dr. Ruchi Gupta, a child allergy expert at Northwestern University.

However, the new research offers "promising evidence that early allergen introduction is not only being adopted but may be making a measurable impact," the authors concluded.

Advocates for the 33 million people in the U.S. with food allergies welcomed signs that early introduction of peanut products is catching on.

"This research reinforces what we already know and underscores a meaningful opportunity to reduce the incidence and prevalence of peanut allergy nationwide," said Sung Poblete, chief executive of the nonprofit group Food Allergy Research & Education.

Scientists say music could help ease pain from surgery, illness

By Christina Larson
Associated Press

Nurse Rod Salaysay works with all kinds of instruments in the hospital: a thermometer, a stethoscope and sometimes his guitar and ukulele.

In the recovery unit of UC San Diego Health, Salaysay helps patients manage pain after surgery. Along with medications, he offers tunes on request and sometimes sings. His repertoire ranges from folk songs in English and Spanish to Minuet in G Major and movie favorites like "Somewhere Over the Rainbow."

Patients often smile or nod along. Salaysay even sees changes in their vital signs like lower heart rate and blood pressure, and some may request fewer painkillers.

"There's often a cycle of worry, pain, anxiety in a hospital," he said, "but you can help break that cycle with music."

Salaysay is a one-man band, but he's not alone. Over the past two decades, live performances and recorded music have flowed into hospitals and doctors' offices as research grows on how songs can help ease pain.

The healing power of song may sound intuitive given music's deep roots in human culture. But the science of whether and how music dulls acute and chronic pain — technically called music-induced analgesia — is just catching up.

No one suggests that a catchy song can fully eliminate serious pain. But several recent studies, including in the journals Pain and Scientific Reports, have suggested that listening to music can either reduce the perception of pain or enhance a person's ability to tolerate it.

What seems to matter most is that patients — or their families — choose the music selections themselves and listen intently, not just as background noise.

"Pain is a really complex experience," said Adam Hanley, a psychologist at Florida State University. "It's created by a physical sensation, and by our thoughts about that sensation and emotional reaction to it."

Two people with the same condition or injury may feel vastly different levels of acute or chronic pain. Or the same person might experience pain differently from one day to the next.

Researchers know music can draw attention away from pain, lessening the sensation. But studies also suggest that listening to preferred music helps dull pain more than listening to podcasts.



Javier Arciga/AP

Nurse Rod Salaysay plays guitar for patient Richard Hoang in the recovery unit of UC San Diego Health in San Diego, Calif., on Sept. 30.

"Music is a distractor. It draws your focus away from the pain. But it's doing more than that," said Caroline Palmer, a psychologist at McGill University who studies music and pain.

Scientists are still tracing the various neural pathways at work, said Palmer.

"We know that almost all of the brain becomes active when we engage in music," said Kate Richards Geller, a registered music therapist in Los Angeles. "That changes the perception and experience of pain — and the isolation and anxiety of pain."

Researchers at Erasmus University Rotterdam in the Netherlands conducted a study on 548 participants to see how listening to five genres of music — classical, rock, pop, urban and electronic — extended their ability to withstand acute pain, as measured by exposure to very cold temperatures.

All music helped, but there was no single winning genre.

"The more people listened to a favorite genre, the more they could endure pain," said co-author Dr. Emy van der Valk Bouman. "A lot of people thought that classical music would help them more. Actually, we are finding more evidence that what's best is just the music you like."

Cecily Gardner, a jazz singer in Culver City, California, said she used music to help get through a serious illness and has sung to friends battling pain.

"Music reduces stress, fosters community," she said, "and just transports you to a better place."

WORLD

Israel resumes ceasefire, aid to restart

By Josef Federman and Samy Magdy
Associated Press

JERUSALEM — Gaza's fragile ceasefire faced its first major test Sunday as Israeli forces launched a wave of deadly strikes, saying Hamas militants had killed two soldiers, and an Israeli security official said the transfer of aid into the territory was halted.

The military later said it resumed enforcing the ceasefire, and the official confirmed that aid deliveries would resume Monday.

A little over a week has passed since the start of the U.S.-proposed ceasefire aimed at ending two years of war. U.S. President Donald Trump said the ceasefire remained in place and "we want to make sure it's going to be very peaceful."

He told reporters aboard Air Force One on Sunday that Hamas has been "quite rambunctious" and "they've been doing some shooting."

He suggested that the violence might be the fault of "rebels" within the organization rather than its leadership.

"It's going to be handled toughly but properly," he said. Trump did not say whether he thought the Israeli strikes were justified, saying "it's under review."

Vice President JD Vance said Sunday that he may visit Israel in the coming days.

"We're trying to figure it out," he told reporters, saying the administration wants to "go and check on how things are going." Regarding the ceasefire, he said that "there's going to be fits and starts."

Health officials said at least 36 Palestinians were killed across Gaza, including children. Israel's military said it struck dozens of Hamas targets after its troops came under fire.

A senior Egyptian official involved in the ceasefire negotiations said "round-the-clock" contacts were underway to de-escalate the situation.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu directed the military to take "strong action" against any ceasefire violations but didn't threaten to return to war.

Israel's military said militants had fired at troops in areas of Rafah city that are Israeli-controlled according to agreed-upon ceasefire lines.

Hamas, which continued to accuse Israel of multiple ceasefire violations, said communication with its remaining units in Rafah had been cut off for months and "we are not responsible for any incidents occurring in those areas."

Palestinians feared war would return to the famine-stricken territory where Israel cut off aid for over two months earlier this year after ending the previous ceasefire.

"It will be a nightmare," said Mahmoud Hashim, a father of five from Gaza City, who appealed to U.S. President Donald Trump and other mediators to act.

Al-Awda hospital said it received 24 bodies from several Israeli strikes in the Nuseirat and Bureij camps in central Gaza.

An airstrike on a makeshift coffeehouse in Zawaida town in central Gaza killed at least six Palestinians, according to Gaza's Health Ministry, part of the Hamas-run government.

A strike in Beit Lahiya in the north killed two men, according to Shifa hospital.

Another strike hit a tent in the Muwasi area of Khan Younis in the south, killing at least four people, including a woman and two children, according to Nasser Hospital.

"Where is peace?" said Khadijeh abu-Nofal in Khan Younis, as hospital workers treated wounded children. She accompanied a young woman hurt by shrapnel.

Israel identified the remains of two hostages released by Hamas overnight: Ronen Engel, a father from Kibbutz Nir Oz, and Sonthaya Oakkharasri, a Thai agricultural worker from Kibbutz Be'eri.

Both were believed to have been killed during the Hamas-led attack on southern Israel on Oct. 7, 2023, which sparked the war.

Engel's wife, Karina, and two of his three children were kidnapped and released in a November 2023 ceasefire.

Thieves steal crown jewels from the Louvre

Associated Press

PARIS — In a minutes-long strike Sunday inside the world's most-visited museum, thieves rode a basket lift up the Louvre 's facade, forced a window, smashed display cases and fled with priceless Napoleonic jewels, officials said.

The daylight heist about 30 minutes after opening, with visitors already inside, was among the highest-profile museum thefts in living memory and comes as staff complained that crowding and thin staffing are straining security.

The theft unfolded just 270 yards from the Mona Lisa, in what Culture Minister Rachida Dati described as a professional "four-minute operation."

One object, the emerald-set imperial crown of Napoleon III's wife, Empress Eugénie, containing more than 1,300 diamonds, was later found outside the museum, French authorities said. It was reportedly recovered broken.

Images from the scene showed confused tourists being steered out of the glass pyramid and adjoining courtyards as officers closed nearby streets.

A lift — which officials say the thieves brought and which was later removed — stood against the Seine-facing façade, their entry route and, observers said, a revealing weakness: that such machinery could be brought to a palace-museum unchecked.



EMMA DA SILVA/AP

Soldiers patrol the Louvre museum that remains closed for the day after Sunday's jewels robbery, Monday in Paris.

Around 9:30 a.m., several intruders forced a window, cut panes with a disc cutter and went straight for the glass display cases, officials said. Interior Minister Laurent Nunez said the crew entered from outside using a basket lift via the riverfront facade to reach the hall with the 23-item royal collection.

Their target was the gilded Apollon Gallery, where the Crown Diamonds are displayed, including the Regent, the Sancy and the Hortensia.

The thieves smashed two display cases and fled on motorbikes, Nunez said. Alarms brought Louvre agents to the room, forcing the intruders to bolt, but the theft was already done.

Eight objects were taken, according to officials: a sapphire diadem, necklace and single earring from a matching set linked to 19th-century French queens Marie-Amélie and Hortense; an emerald necklace and earrings from the matching set of Empress Marie-Louise, Napoleon Bonaparte's second wife; a reliquary brooch; Empress Eugénie's diadem; and her large corsage-bow brooch — a prized 19th-century imperial ensemble.

"It's a major robbery," Nunez said, noting that security measures at the Louvre had been strengthened in recent years and would be reinforced further as part of the museum's upcoming overhaul plan. Officials said security upgrades include new-generation cameras, perimeter detection, and a new security control room. But critics say the measures come far too late.

The Louvre closed for the rest of Sunday for the forensic investigation to begin as police sealed gates, cleared courtyards and shut nearby streets along the Seine.

UK faces pressure to strip Prince Andrew of his titles

Associated Press

LONDON — He won't call himself a duke anymore, but that is not enough for many of Prince Andrew's critics.

Buckingham Palace and the British government were under pressure Monday to formally strip Prince Andrew of his princely title and sumptuous home after new revelations about his relationship with convicted sex offender Jeffrey Epstein.

After discussions with his elder brother King Charles III, Andrew agreed on Friday to stop using titles including Duke of York. It was the latest effort to insulate the monarchy from years of tawdry headlines about Andrew's business deals and inappropriate behavior.



Andrew

But he still technically holds the title of duke, bestowed by his late mother. And as the son of a monarch, he remains a prince.

Andrew's statement relinquishing some of his royal titles came after emails emerged showing he had remained in contact with Epstein longer than he previously admitted, and days before publication of a posthumous memoir by Epstein accuser Virginia Roberts Giuffre, who alleged she had sex with Andrew when she was 17.

Giuffre's brother, Sky Roberts, urged the king to go further and "remove the title of prince, too.

Andrew, 65, has long denied Giuffre's claims but stepped down from royal duties after a disastrous November 2019 BBC interview in which he attempted to rebut her allegations.

Many viewers saw an entitled prince who failed to show empathy for Epstein's victims and offered unbelievable explanations for his friendship with the late sex offender.

Andrew paid millions in an out-of-court settlement in 2022 after Giuffre filed a civil suit against him in New York.

Some opposition politicians said Andrew should formally be stripped of his dukedom through an act of Parliament.

Scottish National Party lawmaker Stephen Flynn said the government should use legislation to remove titles from both Andrew and Peter Mandelson, a member of the House of Lords who was fired as British ambassador to Washington in September over his past friendship with Epstein.

The government said it supported the palace's decision over Andrew's titles but should not act unilaterally. Under the U.K.'s constitutional monarchy, the crown does not interfere in politics and politicians stay clear of issues related to the royal family.

Some also want Andrew evicted from Royal Lodge, the mansion near Windsor Castle where he lives alongside his ex-wife Sarah Ferguson, who will no longer be known as the Duchess of York.

Questions have been raised about how Andrew pays for the house, which he rents on a long lease from the Crown Estate, a portfolio of properties that is nominally owned, but not controlled, by the monarch.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Bolton pleads not guilty in sharing data case

MD GREENBELT — John Bolton pleaded not guilty Friday to charges accusing the former Trump national security adviser turned critic of emailing classified information to family members and keeping top secret documents at his Maryland home.

Bolton was ordered released from custody after making his appearance before a judge in the third Justice Department case brought in recent weeks against an adversary of President Donald Trump.

The case accusing Bolton of putting the country's national security at risk is unfolding against the backdrop of growing concerns that the Trump administration is using the law enforcement powers of the Justice Department to pursue his political foes. Bolton has signaled he will argue he is being targeted because of his criticism of the president, describing the charges as part of a Trump "effort to intimidate his opponents."

Bolton is accused of sharing with his wife and daughter more than 1,000 pages of notes that included sensitive information he had gleaned from meetings with other U.S. government officials and foreign leaders or from intelligence briefings. Authorities said some of the information was exposed when operatives believed to be linked to the Iranian government hacked Bolton's email account he used to send diary-like notes about his activities to his relatives.



RYAN SUN/AP

Service dog

Mojo, a dog owned by Alicia Town, of Kalamazoo, sits in a tank costume during an event for dog trick-or-treating in Lansing, Mich.

Third-floor balcony collapses, 10 hospitalized

OH CINCINNATI — A balcony on the third floor of a building near the University of Cincinnati collapsed Friday evening, sending 10 people to the hospital, including one person in critical condition, according to officials.

Five of the people had serious injuries, while four had minor injuries, Cincinnati Police Department Capt. Stephen Bower said during a news conference. He described the building as a place where a lot of students live.

"They had a big exam today and they were celebrating," he said.

Officials are investigating the collapse, Frank McKinley, Cincinnati fire chief, told WKRC-TV.

It was not immediately clear the number of people on the balcony when it collapsed.

Jury backs bystanders hurt in shooting by officer

CO DENVER — A jury has awarded $19.7 million to six bystanders who were wounded as a Denver police officer opened fire at an armed man as bars let out at closing time, attorneys for the plaintiffs said Friday.

The award for damages is the result of a lawsuit against Denver Police Department in connection with the 2022 shooting.

Police officer Brandon Ramos previously pleaded guilty in the shooting to a misdemeanor assault charge that makes him ineligible to serve as a police officer and included a probation sentence.

Ramos was working in a gun violence prevention team in Denver's Lower Downtown neighborhood when he and two other officers, who were not charged, shot at Jordan Waddy after he pulled a gun from his pocket.

A grand jury in those proceedings found that Ramos was not in danger because Waddy did not turn and face him, and Ramos disregarded the risk posed to the crowd of people behind Waddy.

United Airlines plane clips tail of another aircraft

IL CHICAGO — A United Airlines plane heading for its gate clipped the tail of another United aircraft at Chicago's O'Hare Airport, authorities said.

No one was hurt in Friday's incident and the 113 passengers on Flight 2652 from Jackson Hole, Wyo., were able to leave the plane normally after a delay, United officials said in a statement.

The second plane had its horizonal stabilizer struck and was not moving when the planes hit, officials said.

Bill Marcus, a passenger on the flight from Wyoming, said he didn't even realize anything happened until the pilot said there would be a delay to document something and passengers on the plane saw a number of people gather around the right wing.

"I was shocked that I didn't feel something more, although when they separated the planes there was some shuddering," Marcus told CBS News Chicago. It took about 40 extra minutes for the plane to get to the gate, he said.

Labor leader's charge for immigration rally reduced

CA LOS ANGELES — The leader of a labor union in Southern California who was arrested while protesting an immigration raid earlier this year will have his felony obstruction charge reduced to a misdemeanor, court records showed.

David Huerta had been charged with obstruction, resistance or opposition to a federal officer — a class A felony, according to a Friday filing by Acting U.S. Attorney Bill Essayli in federal court.

However, prosecutors filed a proposed order Saturday seeking dismissal without prejudice of the original felony charge of conspiracy to impede an officer.

The Justice Department confirmed Saturday in an email to The Associated Press that it had moved to dismiss the felony complaint against Huerta.

Huerta is president of the Service Employees International Union California. He was arrested June 6 while protesting outside a business in Los Angeles where federal agents were investigating suspected immigration violations.

FAA allows Boeing to amp up 737 Max production

WA SEATTLE — The Federal Aviation Administration said Friday it will allow Boeing to produce more 737 Max airplanes by increasing the monthly limit that it imposed after a door plug blew off an Alaska Airlines jet that the company built.

Boeing can now produce 42 Max jets per month, up from 38, after safety inspectors conducted extensive reviews of the aerospace company's manufacturing lines to ensure an increase in production can be done safely, the FAA said.

The agency had set a cap on production shortly after the terrifying January 2024 incident involving the Alaska Airlines 737 Max jet. In practice, though, the production rate fell well below the ceiling last year as the company contended with investigations and a machinists' strike that idled factories for almost eight weeks. But Boeing said over the summer that it had reached the monthly cap in the second quarter and would eventually seek the FAA's permission to start producing more of the planes.

Suit: Plastic-bag makers lied about recycling

CA SACRAMENTO — California ramped up its efforts to curb plastic pollution Friday — suing three plastic-bag makers, alleging the companies falsely claimed their products were recyclable.

State Attorney General Rob Bonta, a Democrat, said companies Novolex Holdings, Inteplast Group and Mettler Packaging violated a state law passed in 2014 that banned plastic bags at grocery store checkouts that weren't recyclable.

Under the law, shoppers could pay 10 cents for thicker plastic bags that needed to be reusable and recyclable. But the makers of the bags labeled them as recyclable even though they were not — recycling facilities cannot process them and they end up dumped in landfills, incinerated, or in the state's waterways, Bonta said.

"In California, we're making it clear," he said at a news conference. "Truth matters. Public trust matters. Environmental protection matters."

From wire reports

WORLD

Mysterious airstrip on Yemeni island

By Jon Gambrell
Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates — A new airstrip is being built on a volcanic island in the Red Sea off the coast of Yemen, satellite images show, likely the latest project by forces allied to those opposed to the country's Iranian-backed Houthi rebels.

The airstrip on Zuqar Island provides yet another link in a network of offshore bases in a region key to international shipping, where the Houthis already have attacked over 100 ships, sank four vessels and killed at least nine mariners during the Israel-Hamas war.

It could give a military force the ability to conduct aerial surveillance over the Red Sea, the Gulf of Aden and the strategic, narrow Bab el-Mandeb Strait connecting the two waterways off East Africa and the Arabian Peninsula.

Still, it remains unclear what would trigger the airstrip to be used for a military campaign. The United Arab Emirates, which has built other runways in the region, did not respond to requests for comment. Nor did Yemen's anti-Houthi forces, divided by warring interests and unable to launch a coordinated assault against the rebels even after intense American and Israeli bombing campaigns that targeted them.

In recent months, the anti-Houthi forces have been able to interdict more cargo bound for the Houthis, something that having a presence on Zuqar could aid.

"The possibility of a new Yemeni offensive against the Houthis, backed by the Saudi-led coalition, can't be ruled out, although I don't see it as approaching," said Eleonora Ardemagni, an analyst at the Italian Institute for International Political Studies who long has studied Yemen.

"There's a more important point in my view regarding the build up in Zuqar: the countering of Houthis' smuggling activities, with particular regard to weapons," she said.

Satellite photos from Planet Labs PBC analyzed by The Associated Press show the construction of a nearly 6,560-foot runway on Zuqar Island, which is some 55 miles southeast of the Houthi-held port city of Hodeida, a key shipping hub.

The images show work began in April to build out a dock on the island, then land clearing along the site of the runway. By late August, what appears to be asphalt was being laid across the runway. Images from October show the work continuing, with runway markings painted on in the middle of the month.

No one has claimed the construction. However, ship-tracking data analyzed by the AP show the Batsa, a Togolese-flagged bulk carrier registered to a Dubai-based maritime firm, spent nearly a week alongside the new dock at Zuqar Island after coming from Berbera in Somaliland, the site of a DP World port. DP World declined to comment.



Planet Labs PBC/AP

This satellite image from Planet Labs PBC shows an airstrip being built on Zuqar Island, Yemen, in the Red Sea on Sept. 30.

A Dubai-based maritime company, Saif Shipping and Marine Services, acknowledged receiving an order to deliver the asphalt to the island likely used in the airstrip's construction on behalf of other UAE-based firms. Other Emirates-based maritime firms have been associated with other airstrip construction projects in Yemen later tied back to the UAE.

The UAE is believed to be behind multiple runway projects in recent years in Yemen. In Mocha on the Red Sea, a project to extend that city's airport now allows it to land far larger aircraft. Local officials attributed that project to the UAE, a federation of seven sheikhdoms, including Abu Dhabi and Dubai. There is also now a runway in nearby Dhubab.

Another runway is on Abd al-Kuri Island, in the Indian Ocean near the mouth of the Gulf of Aden. And in the Bab el-Mandeb Strait itself, another runway built by the UAE is on Mayun Island. An anti-Houthi secessionist force in Yemen known as the Southern Transitional Council, which has long been backed by the UAE, controls the island and has acknowledged the UAE's role in building the airport.

Zuqar Island is a strategic location in the Red Sea. Eritrea captured the island in 1995 after battling Yemeni forces. An international court in 1998 placed the island formally into Yemen's custody.

The island again found itself engulfed by war after the Houthis seized Yemen's capital, Sanaa, in 2014 and began a march south, when the rebels took Zuqar.

Saudi Arabia and the UAE entered the war in 2015 on behalf of the country's exiled government, stopping the Houthi advance. They also beat back the Houthis from Zuqar, retaking the island, which has become a staging ground for naval forces loyal to Tariq Saleh, a nephew of Yemen's late strongman leader Ali Abdullah Saleh.

Road linking Baltics to Poland opens

Associated Press

VILNIUS, Lithuania — A major road connecting the three Baltic states to Poland opened Monday at a time of rising tensions between Europe and Russia.

The road known as Via Baltica will pass through a narrow strip of land between Belarus and Russia's Kaliningrad exclave, called the Suwalki Gap, which has often been described as a potential target if Russia were to attack NATO.

Polish President Karol Nawrocki and Lithuanian President Gitanas Nauseda, at an inauguration ceremony on the border between their countries, said the road was the region's most important corridor and highlighted its role in the region's defense. NATO troops could potentially move faster in aid of the Baltics by using Via Baltica.

"This road has a dual purpose — it will help our economy and strengthen the defense capabilities of our region," Nawrocki said.

Poland and its Baltic neighbors have been on high alert since multiple Russian drones entered Polish territory and Russian fighter jets crossed into Estonian air space in September.

The 600-mile-long Via Baltica route starts in Warsaw, Poland, and passes through Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia, where it finishes in Tallinn. It is part of the European route E67, which links Finland to Czechia.

The four-lane A5 highway connecting Kaunas, Lithuania's second largest city, with Suwalki in Poland is also a part of Via Baltica.



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TECH

ChatGPT to embrace and seek profit from AI erotica

By Matt O'Brien
Associated Press

ChatGPT will be able to have kinkier conversations after OpenAI CEO Sam Altman announced the artificial intelligence company will soon allow its chatbot to engage in "erotica for verified adults."

OpenAI won't be the first to try to profit from sexualized AI. Sexual content was a top draw for AI tools almost as soon as the boom in AI-generated imagery and words erupted in 2022.

But the companies that were early to embrace mature AI also encountered legal and societal minefields and harmful abuse as a growing number of people have turned to the technology for companionship or titillation.

Will a sexier ChatGPT be different? After three years of largely banning mature content, Altman said Wednesday that his company is "not the elected moral police of the world" and ready to allow "more user freedom for adults" at the same time as it sets new limits for teens.

"In the same way that society differentiates other appropriate boundaries (R-rated movies, for example) we want to do a similar thing here," Altman wrote on social media platform X, whose owner, Elon Musk, has also introduced an animated AI character that flirts with paid subscribers.

For now, unlike Musk's Grok chatbot, paid subscriptions to ChatGPT are mostly pitched for professional use. But letting the chatbot become a friend or romantic partner could be another way for the world's most valuable startup, which is losing more money than it makes, to turn a profit that could justify its $500 billion valuation.



KYLE GREEN/AP

Civitai's CEO and Co-Founder Justin Maier is pictured at Kiln, a coworking office space in Meridian, Idaho, in April 2024.

"They're not really earning much through subscriptions so having erotic content will bring them quick money," said Zilan Qian, a fellow at Oxford University's China Policy Lab who has studied the popularity of dating-based chatbots in the U.S. and China.

There are already about 29 million active users of AI chatbots designed specifically for romantic or sexual bonding, and that's not counting people who use conventional chatbots in that way, according to research published by Qian earlier this month.

It also doesn't include users of Character.AI, which is fighting a lawsuit that alleges a chatbot modeled after "Game of Thrones" character Daenerys Targaryen formed a sexually abusive relationship with a 14-year-old boy and pushed him to kill himself. OpenAI is facing a lawsuit from the family of a 16-year-old ChatGPT user who died by suicide in April.

Qian said she worries about the toll on real-world relationships when mainstream chatbots, already prone to sycophancy, are primed for 24-hour availability serving sexually explicit content.

"ChatGPT has voice chat versions. I would expect that in the future, if they were to go down this way — voice, text, visual — it's all there," she said.

Altman said on a podcast in August that OpenAI has tried to resist the temptation to introduce products that could "juice growth or revenue" but be "very misaligned" with its long-term mission. Asked for a specific example, he gave one: "Well, we haven't put a sexbot avatar in ChatGPT yet."

Idaho-based startup Civitai, a platform for AI-generated art, learned the hard way that making money off mature AI won't be an easy path.

"When we launched the site, it was an intentional choice to allow mature content," said Justin Maier, the company's co-founder and CEO, in an interview last year.

Backed by the prominent venture capital firm Andreessen Horowitz, which has also invested in OpenAI, the Idaho startup was one of several that tried to capitalize on the sudden popularity of tools like Stable Diffusion and Midjourney that enabled people to type a description and conjure up almost any kind of image. Part of Stable Diffusion's initial popularity was the ease with which it could generate a new kind of synthetic and highly customized pornography.

"What we had seen was that there was a lot of interest in mature content," Maier said. Training these AI systems, known as models, on "mature themes actually made it so that these models were more capable of human anatomy and resulted in actually better models," he said.

"We didn't want to prevent the kind of growth that actually increased everything for the entire community, whether you were interested in mature content or Pixar," Maier said. "So we allowed it early on and have always kind of had this battle of making it so that we can keep things filtered and safe, if that's not what you're interested in. We wanted to ultimately give the control to the user to decide what they would see on the site and what their experience would be."

That also invited abuse. Civitai last year implemented new measures to detect and remove sexual images depicting children, but it remained a hub for AI-generated pornography, including fake images of celebrities. Confronting increasing pressure, including from credit card processors and a new law against nonconsensual images signed by President Donald Trump, Civitai earlier this year blocked users from creating deepfake images of real people. Engagement dropped.



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OPINION

Why Greene defends Obamacare subsidies

BY HENRY OLSEN
For The Washington Post

In the government-shutdown standoff between Republicans and Democrats, Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene has surprised many observers: The Republican firebrand from Georgia is siding with Democrats in their insistence on continuing the pandemic-era temporary expansion of Affordable Care Act premium subsidies.

But it's surprising that this should be surprising. Greene's views might seem iconoclastic compared with traditional GOP attitudes toward Obamacare, but they reflect a stance toward government support for middle- and working-class families that is the norm for recently elected, more populist Republicans. This burgeoning development has already turned much of the GOP away from its decades-long suspicion of government power.

That suspicion became a dominant part of the party in the 1980s. Ronald Reagan was never as anti-government as his critics and fans believed, but the success of his presidency convinced most of the GOP that cutting, squeezing and trimming government spending was the way forward politically.

Just as Reagan's wife, Nancy, urged America to "just say no" to drugs, the party adopted a broad attitude of "just say no" to government spending that has prevailed since.

But there always was a gap between that attitude and the record that went along with it. House Speaker Newt Gingrich, R-Ga., failed to significantly cut entitlement spending in his 1995 budget fight with President Bill Clinton. President George W. Bush supported increased government spending on Medicare (the prescription drug benefit) and education.

The dogma nonetheless remained intact: If the answer is "more government," you're asking the wrong question. Thus, the unanimous GOP opposition to Obamacare and the party's repeated pledges to abolish the program if it regained power — even as it failed to do so in 2017.

Now, President Donald Trump's second term stands poised to reconcile ideology and practice — and not in the way the anti-government conservatives would like.



TOM BRENNER/For the Washington Post

Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene, R-Ga. has criticized House Speaker Mike Johnson's strategy on the government shutdown.

Trump has always campaigned on a vigorous use of government power to "make America great again," but overall, his first term hewed to the post-Reaganite Republican playbook. This time, however, he is aggressively implementing policies in line with his rhetoric.

Tariffs. Unprecedented intervention in the workings of colleges and universities. Deals that give the federal government ownership shares in businesses. Many Republicans would be screaming "socialism" had a Democrat tried any of these.

Nor has Trump displayed a uniform opposition to big-ticket government spending. Yes, he has found ways to reduce the federal workforce. But he has always refused to push for cuts to Social Security or Medicare benefits, key planks in the Republican budget orthodoxy less than a decade ago. He recently expressed a willingness to negotiate with Democrats over the continuation of some — perhaps, most — of the Obamacare subsidies that Greene backs.

In that sense, it's not Greene who's out of step with the party. It's those senators and representatives who remain stuck in the past.

Yet Greene is not alone among Republicans. Sen. Josh Hawley of Missouri strikes Trumpian themes when he inveighs against Big Tech and opposes further cuts to Medicaid. Sen. Eric Schmitt of Missouri often takes to the airwaves in support of the president's interventions in the economy. Sen. Bernie Moreno of Ohio vociferously supports Trump's tariffs and wants him to levy even more.

Vice President JD Vance, clearly vying to succeed Trump, often expressed heterodox views on corporate taxation and government power while in the Senate and is, if anything, a more robust backer of tariffs and American reindustrialization than the president is.

In short, Greene's stance is just one more example of the rethinking of GOP economic orthodoxy.

This new approach is well argued for by Oren Cass's plucky think tank, American Compass (disclosure: I often write for the organization), whose conservative economics reject the market fundamentalism of the neo-libertarian, anti-government old guard. Instead, it places the national interest, as defined by elected representatives after robust public debate, at the center of its economic agenda.

In this view, it's not in the national interest that tens of millions of Americans struggle to support themselves in the private sector because of competition from foreign workers living abroad (from free trade) and at home (mass, often illegal, immigration). It's a travesty that America's deindustrialization has hollowed out the nation's ability to build complex machines and made it increasingly dependent on its primary geopolitical adversary, China.

Greene's view on Obamacare subsidies is shared by many frontline members worried about losing their seats. Indeed, the president's pollster, Tony Fabrizio, sent out a memo this year arguing that failure to extend the subsidies could cost the party the House.

Expect this marriage of pragmatism and populism to carry the day once the shutdown ends.

More than that, expect the GOP to undertake wrenching debates during Trump's second term over the path forward. Greene's view is only part of the first wave of a populist flood that promises to sweep the old dogma out to sea and bring in a rising tide of prosperity that *actually* will lift all boats.

Henry Olsen is a senior fellow at the Ethics and Public Policy Center.

Why Washington is stalling on self-driving cars

The Washington Post Editorial Board

Congratulations to London. Waymo announced this week that it plans to start testing its self-driving cars on the streets of the British capital before launching its robotaxi service next year.

Yet in D.C., where Waymo has successfully tested its cars for 18 months, there is no end in sight to roadblocks erected by local politicians. The result will be preventable traffic fatalities.

The latest in a string of dog-ate-my-homework excuses came late Friday when Charles Allen, the chair of the D.C. Council's transportation committee, blamed Congress for the city's own decision to indefinitely postpone a modest safety study that was supposed to be completed this fall. Allen refuses to consider legislation that would permit the service to operate until the review is completed.

Five U.S. cities safely offer Waymo. Miami, Denver, Dallas and Nashville are poised to join them next year. The nation's capital is a natural place to expand.

Autonomous vehicles represent the greatest advance in automotive safety since the seatbelt. Unlike humans, robots don't get tired, drunk or distracted by their phones. Waymo, the largest operator for now, has nearly 100 million driverless miles under its belt, and the company's analysis shows a 91% reduction in serious accidents compared to human drivers.

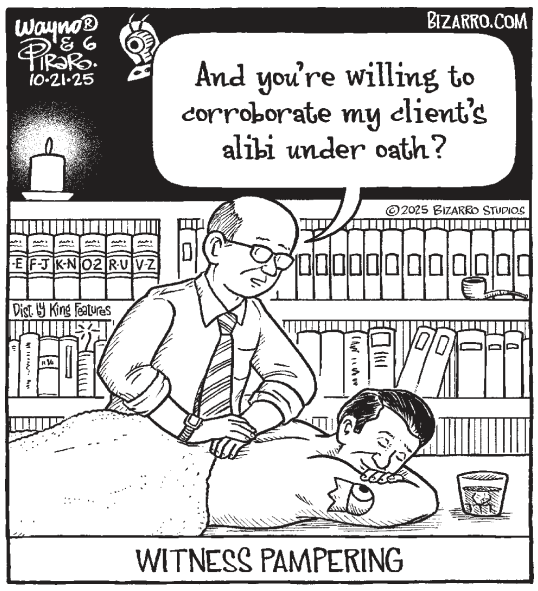
Skeptical of company-produced safety data? The Understanding AI newsletter looked at crash reports Waymo is required to file with federal regulators. In almost all cases, the crashes appear to be the fault of other drivers. In a few cases, the blame belonged to passengers who opened their doors into bicyclists or pedestrians.

Safety is an excuse for slamming the brakes on innovation. The real reason far-left activists fight autonomous vehicles is because they fear widespread adoption will discourage people from using public transit.

Underscoring how Allen's delay tactics aren't on the level, he held a hearing on Thursday about autonomous vehicles, yet it focused on small and slow-moving delivery robots. Last week, he also opposed the mayor's announcement that she wants to shut down the useless D.C. Streetcar a year earlier than planned.

That boondoggle costs $10 million a year to operate, and that's after spending a decade and $200 million to launch it. The Streetcar goes back and forth along H Street NE, frequently getting stuck behind double-parked cars. Allen says he has budgeted $250,000 for a study of replacement transit options in that area. Never mind that driverless cars are an obvious answer.

Bizarro



Loose Parts



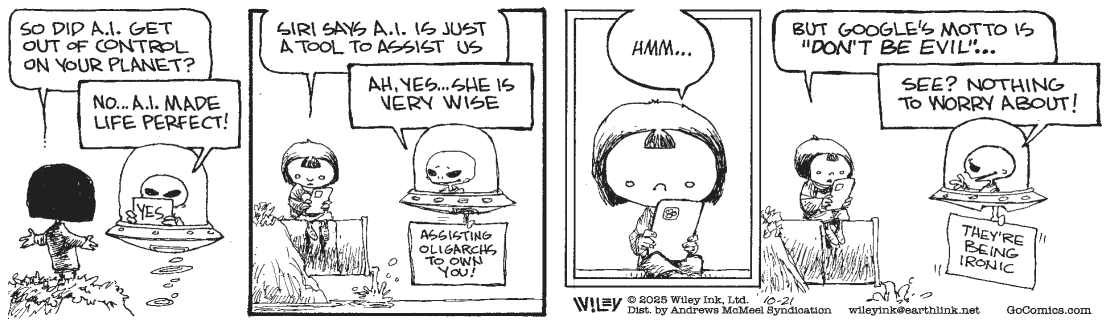
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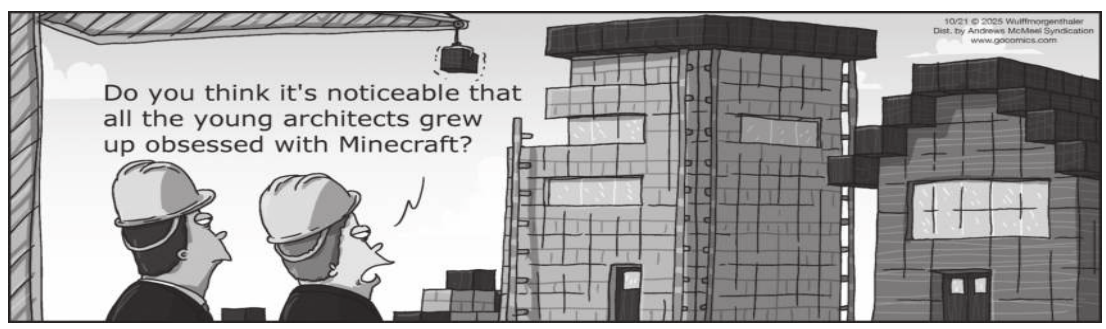
Pearls Before Swine



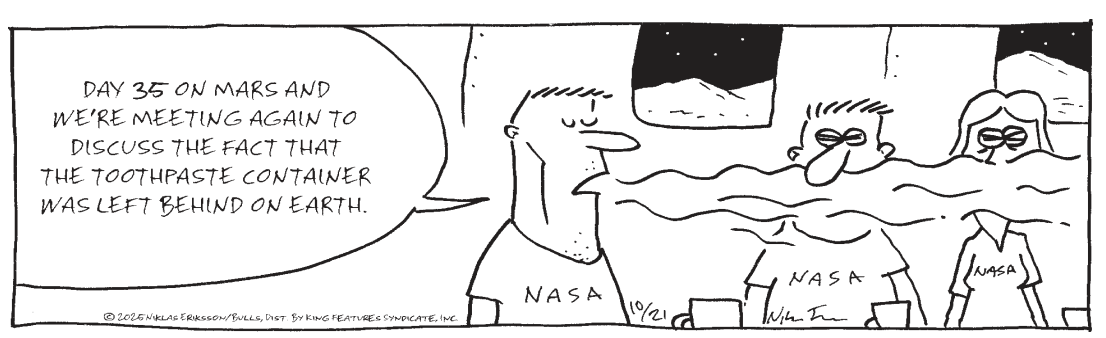
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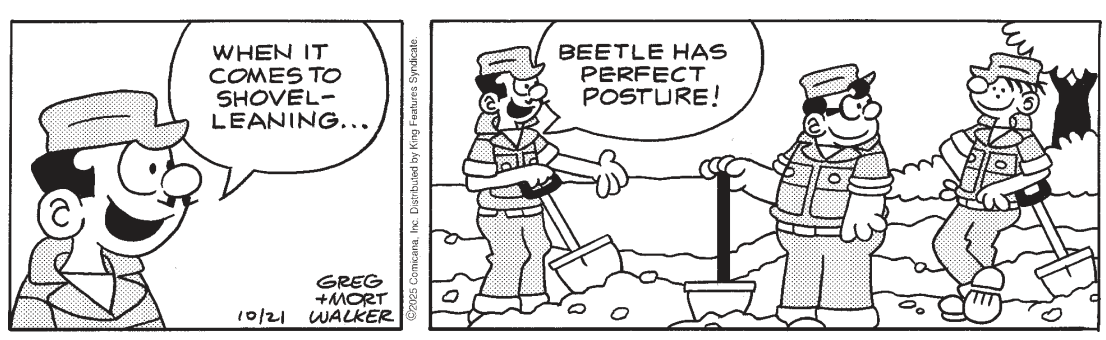
Wumo



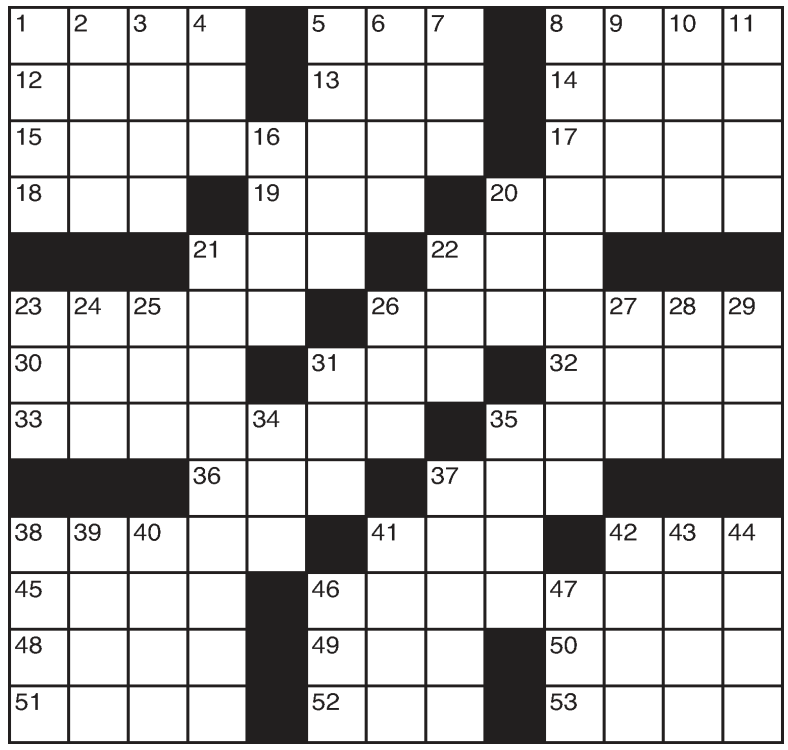
Carpe Diem



Beetle Bailey



Eugene Sheffer Crossword



ACROSS

1 Binges
5 The Magic, on scoreboards
8 Mast
12 Building wings
13 Luau bowlful
14 Toothpaste holder
15 Jazz saxophone legend
17 Wall St. traders
18 Quarterback Brady
19 Mine material
20 Jack who eschewed fat
21 Govt. loan agcy.
22 Actor Holbrook
23 Baghdad resident
26 Arm bone
30 Pasta sauce brand
31 Cat's coat
32 Sphinx site
33 "Ms." co-founder Gloria
35 Clearheaded
36 Drops on grass
37 Mafia boss
38 Canal vessel
41 Diarist Anais
42 Fuel stat
45 La Scala melody
46 Marine color
48 Bridge coup
49 Aviv preceder
50 Sicilian peak
51 Bagel feature
52 NFL stats
53 Air outlet

DOWN

1 Bit of banter
2 Sax range
3 Glitz partner
4 Tax form ID
5 "A Night at the —" (Queen album)
6 Memory method
7 "30 Rock" role
8 Fastening tool
9 Kitten's sound
10 "Mamma Mia" group
11 Take five
16 Asian desert
20 Muppet eagle
21 Emmy-winning Netflix series with Lee Jung-jae
22 "Ben- —"
23 Tax-collecting org.
24 Dumpster critter
25 Candle count
26 Drone
27 Documentarian Burns
28 Action flick weapon
29 Blue
31 Hardly any
34 Formerly known as
35 Protracted
37 Clock faces
38 Wild party
39 Woody Guthrie's son
40 Iranian money
41 Grant basis, at times
42 Apportion
43 Ivy in Philly
44 Pesky insect
46 Messy room
47 Speed (up)

Answer to Previous Puzzle

B	E	N			B	U	S		L	A	V	A
O	M	A	R		I	S	P		A	H	E	M
L	I	S	A		N	E	O		B	I	T	S
D	R	A	M	A		D	O	E	R			
			E	M	O		F	R	A	C	A	S
O	K	I	N	A	W	A		A	D	O	R	E
P	E	N	N		L	C	D		O	N	I	T
E	N	D	O	R		S	E	C	O	N	D	S
C	O	Y	O	T	E		W	A	D			
			D	E	A	L		B	L	I	N	G
Z	E	A	L		G	A	B		E	V	E	N
A	X	L	E		E	C	O		S	A	R	A
P	O	P	S		R	E	X			N	O	T

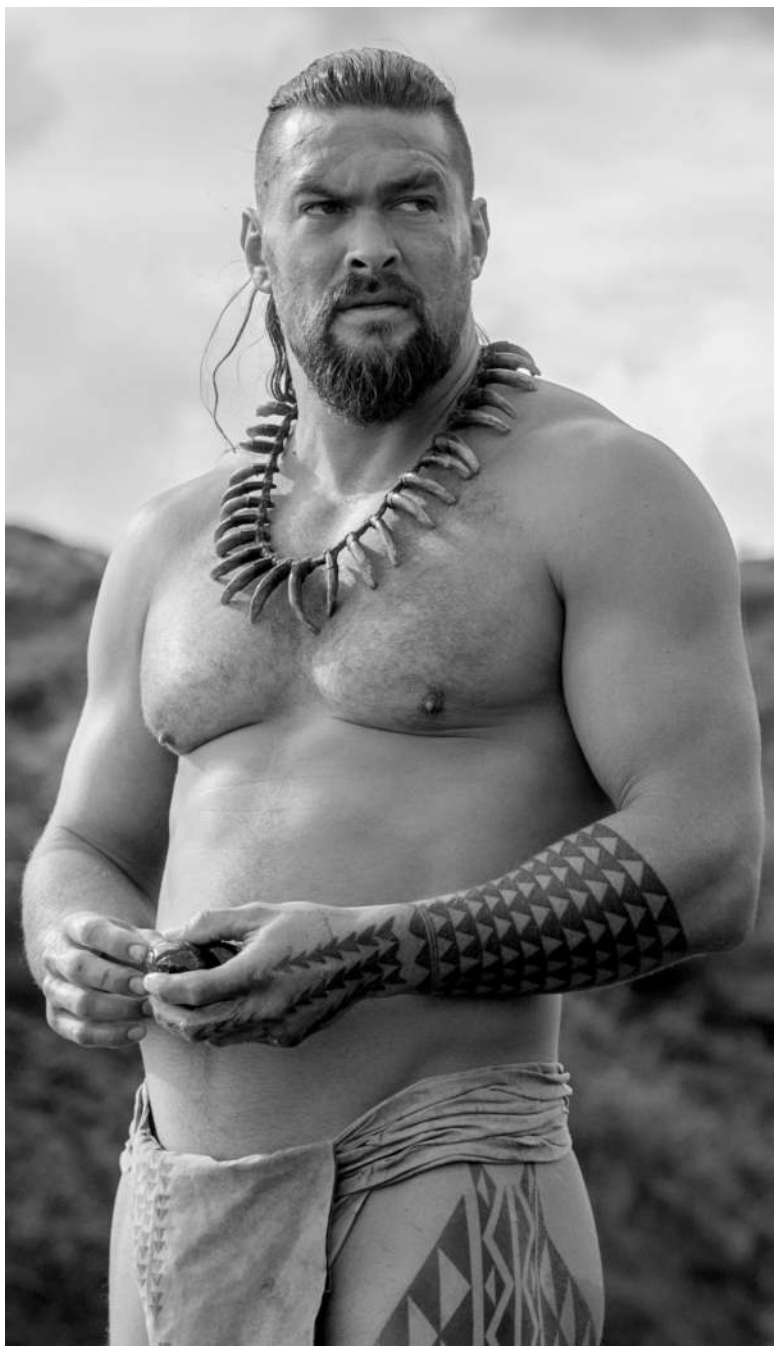
10-21 CRYPTOQUIP

HU YVAOSVZP UVGQOUEJJP GOAVIOZ N WHGNRO'Y OPO QVIOGHXB, PVE AHBCR YNP CO'Y SOOX ZHY-WNRQCOZ.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: NAME OF A SPECIES OF EIGHT-ARMED MARINE MOLLUSKS THAT LIKE TO SNUGGLE UP TOGETHER: CUDDLEFISH.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Z equals D

FACES



APPLE TV/AP

Jason Momoa stars in "Chief of War," the first major TV series featuring the language and culture of Hawaii's Indigenous people.

Words matter to Momoa

'Chief of War' actor worked with coach to speak Hawaiian authentically

BY JENNIFER SINCO KELLEHER
Associated Press

Jason Momoa drove a vintage pickup along a winding country road in Hawaii, a tattooed arm dangling out the window and Metallica blasting.

"POO'-ah-LEE'," he said.

His passenger corrected him, again, modeling the subtle emphasis on the "u" sound: "Puali."

Momoa was preparing for his role in "Chief of War," the first major TV series featuring the language and culture of Hawaii's Indigenous people. His passenger, Kahoʻokahi Kanuha, connected with Momoa years ago while they were both protesting against a giant telescope on a mountain summit held sacred by some Native Hawaiians. He wound up living with the Hawaiian Hollywood superstar for nearly a year as his personal language coach.

The word they kept working on during the drive can mean "warrior" or "army." It was one of many to get right.

Like many Native Hawaiians in Hawaii and elsewhere, Momoa didn't grow up speaking Hawaiian. Most of the other actors in the series also aren't fluent. They worked with coaches like Kanuha to pronounce the vowel-laden sounds. Kanuha was at Momoa's side 24/7, with a binder in hand of the actor's lines to practice any chance they had — while driving, eating, working out.

"My objective was to be able to get him to say his lines, deliver his lines in a way that wasn't distracting to the viewer," Kanuha said.

The final product of the Apple TV series that premiered in August isn't perfect, Kanuha and other Hawaiian language experts say, but it's a successful global-scale contribution to revitalizing and normalizing a language that has endured erasure attempts amid colonization. They say it's too early to quantify but that it can only help spark interest, especially among young Hawaiians who now have a mainstream representation of their language and culture.

While the first two episodes are mostly in Hawaiian, the language is spoken less as the series progresses from 18th-century Hawaiian society before contact with Europeans to traveling beyond Hawaii.

Taking Hawaiian language mainstream

Before acting in the show, New Zealand-born actor Luciane Buchanan said she had barely heard Hawaiian spoken. Her mother is from the Polynesian country Tonga and her father is of Scottish descent.

"I'm not going to lie, it freaked me out because I wanted to do it, but I only speak English," she said. "I'm Tongan, but don't speak Tongan, so I understand that kind of language trauma that I can empathize with the (Hawaiians) that have that disconnect."

She recalled having to also learn other characters' lines with her coaches so she could react appropriately — "so it's not like we're giving blank faces."

Puakea Nogelmeier, a former professor of Hawaiian language at the University of Hawaii, Manoa, helped translate the script. He said he was nervous about the show's outcome knowing how few of the cast were fluent in Hawaiian.

Nogelmeier isn't Hawaiian, and he learned the language after moving from Minnesota to Hawaii in 1972. He said the show helps prove it's a "functional, viable world language."

"I was pleasantly surprised," he said of the actors' performances. "I'm afraid that even Apple doesn't know how well they did."

When Momoa first shared the idea of the show with Kanuha, he doubted it would ever happen. Before "Chief of War," it was normal not to have any mainstream entertainment in Hawaiian, Kanuha said.

Now he can't imagine a world without it.

"Not only to hear their language, but just to see our world," he said. "To be able to see the world that we talk about, that we're trying to preserve, to be able to visually see it and to hear it."

He and others eagerly await news on whether there will be a second season.

'General Hospital' big Daytime Emmy winner

Associated Press

Paul Telfer of "Days of Our Lives" and Nancy Lee Grahn of "General Hospital" won lead acting honors at the Daytime Emmys on Oct. 17, with ABC's "General Hospital" claiming six trophies in the major categories, including drama series.

Sir David Attenborough broke Dick Van Dyke's record for oldest Daytime Emmy winner, taking the trophy for daytime personality, non-daily, as host of Netflix's "Secret Lives of Orangutans."

Attenborough, who is 99, wasn't on hand. The Brit's career as a writer, host and narrator spans eight decades.

Van Dyke was 98 when he won as guest performer in a daytime drama series for "Days of Our Lives" in 2024.

Telfer, a 45-year-old native of Scotland, plays Xander Kiriakis on Peacock's "Days of Our Lives," which he first joined in 2015.

"My mom always loved soaps and she loved villains," he said. "She's been gone for over 20 years, and so to win this on a soap opera playing the villain is really amazing. Thanks, Mom."

Grahn earned her third career trophy at the 52nd annual awards, having played Alexis Davis on "General Hospital" since 1996.

Jonathan Jackson of "General Hospital" and first-time nominee Susan Walters of "The Young and the Restless" won supporting acting honors.

Jackson accepted the trophy for playing Lucky Spencer, a role he originated in 1993 and has played on and off ever since.

"General Hospital" also claimed trophies for Alley Mills as guest performer in a daytime drama and its writing and directing teams. It was Mills' second career win for playing Heather Webber.

Drew Barrymore claimed her first win as daytime talk series host for her self-named show. "Live With Kelly and Mark," with hosts Mark Consuelos and Kelly Ripa, won daytime talk series.



CHRIS PIZZELLO, INVISION/AP

Nancy Lee Grahn of "General Hospital" won lead acting honors Oct. 17 during the Daytime Emmy Awards in Pasadena, Calif.

Other news

■ **Sam Rivers,** the bass player in the nu metal band Limp Bizkit, died Oct. 18, according to social media posts by his bandmates. The band did not disclose other details. Rivers had spoken in the past of heavy drinking that had caused liver disease. He left the band in 2015 and received a liver transplant before reuniting with Limp Bizkit three years later.

Sequel 'Black Phone 2' dials up a No. 1 opening

Associated Press

The horror sequel "Black Phone 2" topped the North American box-office charts this weekend with $26.5 million in ticket sales, according to studio estimates Sunday.

Not only did it surpass the original's $23.6 million debut, it's a much-needed win for Blumhouse after a string of disappointments this year like "M3GAN 2.0."

Though "Black Phone 2" opened in line with expectations, moviegoing in October continues to be slow — down about 11% from last year, according to Comscore. The overall box office is still up about 4% compared with last year, but a big blockbuster hit that could spark more momentum might not arrive until late November or December.

The first "Black Phone" was a sleeper hit in 2021 for Universal and Blumhouse, eventually making more than $161 million worldwide on an $18 million budget.

"Black Phone 2" sees the return of filmmaker Scott Derrickson, as well as stars Ethan Hawke and Mason Thames.

With an additional $15.5 million from 71 international territories, "Black Phone 2" had a $42 million worldwide launch against a reported $30 million production budget.

Other new releases fared less well. The R-rated Seth Rogen, Aziz Ansari and Keanu Reeves comedy "Good Fortune" opened in third place with $6.2 million, and the Julia Roberts and Andrew Garfield drama "After the Hunt" made $1.6 million in its first weekend in wide release. Also new in theaters is Guillermo del Toro's "Frankenstein," although Netflix does not report box-office grosses.

"Tron: Ares" fell about 67% to $11.1 million in its second weekend in theaters, which was enough to snag second place on the charts. Globally it has now earned $103 million.

SCOREBOARD/COLLEGE FOOTBALL

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

AP Top 25

The Top 25 teams in The Associated Press college football poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Oct. 18, total points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote, and previous ranking:

	Record	Pts	Prv
1. Ohio St. (60)	7-0	1643	1
2. Indiana (6)	7-0	1583	3
3. Texas A&M	7-0	1499	4
4. Alabama	6-1	1463	6
5. Georgia	6-1	1360	9
6. Oregon	6-1	1317	8
7. Georgia Tech	7-0	1143	12
8. Mississippi	6-1	1119	5
9. Miami (FL)	5-1	1073	2
10. Vanderbilt	6-1	1031	17
11. BYU	7-0	975	15
12. Notre Dame	5-2	964	13
13. Oklahoma	6-1	882	14
14. Texas Tech	6-1	782	7
15. Missouri	6-1	748	16
16. Virginia	6-1	624	18
17. Tennessee	5-2	527	11
18. South Florida	6-1	501	19
19. Louisville	5-1	458	-
20. LSU	5-2	388	10
21. Cincinnati	6-1	350	24
22. Texas	5-2	318	21
23. Illinois	5-2	168	-
24. Arizona St.	5-2	155	-
25. Michigan	5-2	123	-

Others receiving votes: Southern Cal 97, Utah 40, Tulane 37, Houston 34, Navy 28, San Diego St. 7, James Madison 6, Boise St. 4, TCU 2, Minnesota 1.

USA Today Coaches Poll

The USA Today Coaches Poll Top 25 with team's records through Saturday in parentheses, total points based on 25 for first place through one point for 25th, ranking in last week's poll and first-place votes received

		Pts	Prv	1st
1	Ohio State (7-0)	1,625	1	65
2	Indiana (7-0)	1,549	3	0
3	Texas A&M (7-0)	1,470	4	0
4	Alabama (6-1)	1,408	6	0
5	Georgia (6-1)	1,358	7	0
6	Oregon (6-1)	1,302	9	0
7	Georgia Tech (7-0)	1,153	12	0
8	Mississippi (6-1)	1,110	5	0
9	Miami (Fla.) (5-1)	1,027	2	0
10	Brigham Young (7-0)	990	14	0
11	Oklahoma (6-1)	960	13	0
12	Vanderbilt (6-1)	902	18	0
13	Notre Dame (5-2)	872	15	0
14	Missouri (6-1)	778	16	0
15	Texas Tech (6-1)	738	8	0
16	Virginia (6-1)	528	19	0
17	Tennessee (5-2)	523	11	0
18	Texas (5-2)	483	17	0
19	LSU (5-2)	451	10	0
20	South Florida (6-1)	393	23	0
21	Cincinnati (6-1)	355	24	0
22	Louisville (5-1)	336	NR	0
23	Illinois (5-2)	192	25	0
24	Michigan (5-2)	175	NR	0
25	Arizona State (5-2)	144	NR	0

Dropped out: No. 20 Memphis (6-1); No. 21 Southern California (5-2); No. 22 Utah (5-2).

Others receiving votes: Navy (6-0) 59; Southern California (5-2) 52; Utah (5-2) 51; Tulane (6-1) 45; Houston (6-1) 34; Iowa (5-2) 17; Iowa State (5-2) 9; James Madison (6-1) 9; North Texas (6-1) 4; San Diego State (5-1) 4; Memphis (6-1) 3; SMU (5-2) 3; UNLV (6-1) 3; Washington (5-2) 3; Boise State (5-2) 2; Pittsburgh (5-2) 2; TCU (5-2) 2; Northwestern (5-2) 1.

AP Top 25 schedule

Saturday, Oct. 25

No. 2 Indiana (7-0) vs. UCLA (3-4)
No. 3 Texas A&M (7-0) at No. 20 LSU (5-2)
No. 4 Alabama (6-1) at South Carolina (3-4)
No. 6 Oregon (6-1) vs. Wisconsin (2-5)
No. 7 Georgia Tech (7-0) vs. Syracuse (3-4)
No. 8 Mississippi (6-1) at No. 13 Oklahoma (6-1)
No. 9 Miami (5-1) vs. Stanford (3-4)
No. 10 Vanderbilt (6-1) vs. No. 15 Missouri (6-1)
No. 11 BYU (7-0) at Iowa St. (5-2)
No. 14 Texas Tech (6-1) vs. Oklahoma St. (1-6)
No. 16 Virginia (6-1) at North Carolina (2-4)
No. 17 Tennessee (5-2) at Kentucky (2-4)
No. 18 South Florida (6-1) at Memphis (6-1)
No. 19 Louisville (5-1) vs. Boston College (1-6)
No. 21 Cincinnati (6-1) vs. Baylor (4-3)
No. 22 Texas (5-2) at Mississippi St. (4-3)
No. 23 Illinois (5-2) at Washington (5-2)
No. 24 Arizona St. (5-2) vs. Houston (6-1)
No. 25 Michigan (5-2) at Michigan St. (3-4)

PRO SOCCER

MLS

Western Conference

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
San Diego FC	19	9	6	63	64	41
Vancouver	18	7	9	63	66	38
LAFC	17	8	9	60	65	40
Minn. United	16	8	10	58	56	39
Seattle	15	9	10	55	58	48
Austin FC	13	13	8	47	37	45
FC Dallas	11	12	11	44	52	55
Portland	11	12	11	44	41	48
Real Salt Lake	12	17	5	41	38	49
San Jose	11	15	8	41	60	63
Colorado	11	15	8	41	44	56
Houston	9	15	10	37	43	56
St Louis City	8	18	8	32	44	58
LA Galaxy	7	18	9	30	46	66
Sporting KC	7	20	7	28	46	70

Eastern Conference

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Philadelphia	20	8	6	66	57	35
Cincinnati	20	9	5	65	52	40
Inter Miami CF	19	7	8	65	81	55
Charlotte FC	19	13	2	59	55	46
NYC FC	17	12	5	56	50	44
Nashville	16	12	6	54	58	45
Columbus	14	8	12	54	55	51
Chicago	15	11	8	53	68	60
Orlando City	14	9	11	53	63	51
New York	12	15	7	43	48	47
New England	9	16	9	36	44	51
Toronto FC	6	14	14	32	37	44
CF Montréal	6	18	10	28	34	60
Atlanta	5	16	13	28	38	63
D.C. United	5	18	11	26	30	66

Note: Three points for victory, one point for tie.

Saturday's games

D.C. United 1, Atlanta 1, tie
Charlotte FC 2, Philadelphia 0
Cincinnati 3, CF Montréal 0
Columbus 3, New York 1
Miami 5, Nashville 2
Chicago 2, New England 2, tie
Seattle 2, New York City FC 1
Toronto FC 4, Orlando City 2
Los Angeles FC 2, Colorado 2, tie
Houston 0, Sporting Kansas City 0, tie
LA Galaxy 2, Minnesota 1
San Diego FC 4, Portland 0
San Jose 2, Austin FC 1
Real Salt Lake 2, St Louis City 2, tie
FC Dallas 2, Vancouver 1

PLAYOFFS
Wild Card
Wednesday's games

Orlando City at Chicago
Real Salt Lake at Portland

NWSL

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Kansas City	20	3	2	62	47	12
Washington	12	5	8	44	42	32
Orlando	11	8	6	39	32	26
Seattle	10	7	8	38	31	28
San Diego	10	8	7	37	40	32
Portland	10	8	7	37	34	29
Gotham FC	9	7	9	36	33	22
Louisville	9	9	7	34	34	38
North Carolina	8	9	8	32	34	37
Houston	8	11	6	30	27	37
Angel City	7	12	6	27	30	39
Utah Royals FC	5	13	7	22	27	42
Bay FC	4	13	8	20	26	40
Chicago	2	12	11	17	30	53

Note: Three points for victory, one point for tie.

Friday's games

North Carolina 4, Bay FC 1
Seattle 2, Utah Royals FC 1

Saturday's games

Orlando 3, Washington 2
Houston 1, Kansas City 0
San Diego 6, Chicago 1

Sunday's games

Louisville 2, Gotham FC 2, tie
Portland 2, Angel City 0

Saturday, Nov. 1

Washington at Utah Royals FC
Houston at Portland
Seattle at Orlando
Gotham FC at North Carolina
Bay FC at Louisville
Angel City at Chicago
San Diego at Kansas City

AP SPORTLIGHT

Oct. 21

1975 — Carlton Fisk breaks up a thrilling contest with a home run in the 12th inning to give the Boston Red Sox a 7-6 victory over the Cincinnati Reds and force a seventh game in the World Series.

2006 — Two rookie pitchers start the World Series for the first time. Anthony Reyes pitches into the ninth inning to help the St. Louis Cardinals cruise past the Detroit Tigers and Justin Verlander 7-2 in Game 1.

AUTO RACING

YellaWood 500

NASCAR Cup Series
Sunday
At Talladega Superspeedway
Talladega, Ala.
Lap length: 2.66 miles
Start position in parentheses

1. (2) Chase Briscoe, Toyota, 193 laps, 50 points
2. (27) Todd Gilliland, Ford, 193, 39
3. (18) Ty Gibbs, Toyota, 193, 49
4. (10) Bubba Wallace, Toyota, 193, 39
5. (12) Cole Custer, Ford, 193, 32
6. (32) Carson Hocevar, Chevrolet, 193, 41
7. (15) Tyler Reddick, Toyota, 193, 39
8. (7) Christopher Bell, Toyota, 193, 36
9. (23) Zane Smith, Ford, 193, 32
10. (20) Brad Keselowski, Ford, 193, 27
11. (31) Shane Van Gisbergen, Chevrolet, 193, 26
12. (26) Daniel Suárez, Chevrolet, 193, 25
13. (24) Ross Chastain, Chevrolet, 193, 24
14. (28) John H. Nemechek, Toyota, 193, 33
15. (5) Ryan Preece, Ford, 193, 22
16. (16) Joey Logano, Ford, 193, 26
17. (1) Michael McDowell, Chevrolet, 193, 24
18. (40) Casey Mears, Ford, 193, 0
19. (3) Kyle Busch, Chevrolet, 193, 18
20. (29) Ty Dillon, Chevrolet, 193, 17
21. (38) Anthony Alfredo, Chevrolet, 193, 0
22. (33) Austin Hill, Chevrolet, 193, 0
23. (8) Ryan Blaney, Ford, 193, 24
24. (17) Denny Hamlin, Toyota, 193, 13
25. (13) William Byron, Chevrolet, 193, 19
26. (19) Kyle Larson, Chevrolet, 193, 20
27. (21) Austin Dillon, Chevrolet, 191, 10
28. (39) BJ McLeod, Chevrolet, 187, 0
29. (11) Alex Bowman, Chevrolet, 187, 9
30. (14) Chris Buescher, Ford, accident, 186, 7
31. (35) Cody Ware, Ford, engine, 165, 6
32. (9) Riley Herbst, Toyota, engine, 141, 5
33. (6) Josh Berry, Ford, garage, 133, 4
34. (4) Austin Cindric, Ford, 77, 3
35. (30) Erik Jones, Toyota, accident, 55, 2
36. (36) Noah Gragson, Ford, accident, 51, 1
37. (34) AJ Allmendinger, Chevrolet, accident, 51, 1
38. (37) Ricky Stenhouse Jr, Chevrolet, accident, 51, 1
39. (22) Justin Haley, Chevrolet, accident, 51, 1
40. (25) Chase Elliott, Chevrolet, accident, 51, 1

Race statistics

Average speed of race winner: 149.178 mph.
Time of race: 3 hours, 26 minutes, 29 seconds
Margin of victory: .145 seconds
Caution flags: 6 for 28 laps
Lead changes: 77 among 27 drivers
Lap leaders: M.McDowell 0-1; J.Berry 2-3; K.Busch 4; B.Wallace 5-7; J.Berry 8-15; R.Preece 16; K.Busch 17-22; J.Berry 23-27; C.Ware 28; J.Nemechek 29-31; J.Berry 32-33; D.Hamlin 34-36; K.Busch 37; B.Keselowski 38-42; K.Busch 43; B.Keselowski 44-45; A.Cindric 46-47; R.Blaney 48; A.Allmendinger 49; N.Gragson 50-51; J.Logano 52-58; T.Gibbs 59-61; D.Suárez 62-63; T.Dillon 64-65; C.Buescher 66-68; J.Berry 69-73; K.Busch 74-77; A.Alfredo 78-79; C.Briscoe 80; M.McDowell 81; K.Busch 82-83; M.McDowell 84-85; C.Ware 86-88; K.Busch 89; C.Ware 90; K.Busch 91; M.McDowell 92; K.Busch 93-97; J.Berry 98-101; K.Busch 102-103; J.Berry 104; K.Busch 105-106; C.Briscoe 107-110; T.Reddick 111-113; C.Briscoe 114-117; K.Larson 118; C.Briscoe 119-122; R.Chastain 123-124; J.Nemechek 125-131; T.Gibbs 132; R.Herbst 133; J.Logano 134-149; R.Chastain 150; J.Logano 151-156; T.Gilliland 157-158; J.Logano 159-160; T.Gilliland 161; J.Logano 162; T.Gilliland 163-164; J.Logano 165-167; J.Nemechek 168; R.Blaney 169-170; T.Gilliland 171-173; K.Larson 174; T.Gilliland 175; K.Larson 176; Z.Smith 177-178; T.Gilliland 179-180; K.Larson 181; C.Briscoe 182; K.Larson 183; C.Briscoe 184; B.Wallace 185; C.Buescher 186; W.Byron 187-190; K.Larson 191; B.Wallace 192; C.Briscoe 193

Leaders summary (driver, times led, laps led): J.Logano, 6 times for 35 laps; J.Berry, 7 times for 27 laps; K.Busch, 11 times for 26 laps; C.Briscoe, 7 times for 16 laps; T.Gilliland, 6 times for 11 laps; J.Nemechek, 3 times for 11 laps; B.Keselowski, 2 times for 7 laps; K.Larson, 6 times for 6 laps; B.Wallace, 3 times for 5 laps; M.McDowell, 4 times for 5 laps; C.Ware, 3 times for 5 laps; T.Gibbs, 2 times for 4 laps; W.Byron, 1 time for 4 laps; C.Buescher, 2 times for 4 laps; T.Reddick, 1 time for 3 laps; R.Chastain, 2 times for 3 laps; R.Blaney, 2 times for 3 laps; D.Hamlin, 1 time for 3 laps; Z.Smith, 1 time for 2 laps; D.Suárez, 1 time for 2 laps; T.Dillon, 1 time for 2 laps; A.Alfredo, 1 time for 2 laps; A.Cindric, 1 time for 2 laps; N.Gragson, 1 time for 2 laps; R.Preece, 1 time for 1 lap; R.Herbst, 1 time for 1 lap; A.Allmendinger, 1 time for 1 lap.

Wins: D.Hamlin, 6; S.Van Gisbergen, 5; C.Bell, 4; C.Briscoe, 3; K.Larson, 3; R.Blaney, 3; W.Byron, 2; C.Elliott, 2; J.Logano, 1; B.Wallace, 1; R.Chastain, 1; A.Cindric, 1; A.Dillon, 1; J.Berry, 1

Top 16 in points: 1. C.Briscoe, 4116; 2. C.Bell, 4107; 3. K.Larson, 4106; 4. D.Hamlin, 4103; 5. W.Byron, 4070; 6. J.Logano, 4068; 7. R.Blaney, 4059; 8. C.Elliott, 4044; 9. T.Reddick, 2270; 10. B.Wallace, 2236; 11. R.Chastain, 2210; 12. S.Van Gisbergen, 2172; 13. A.Bowman, 2152; 14. A.Cindric, 2123; 15. A.Dillon, 2114; 16. J.Berry, 2093

United States Grand Prix

F1
Sunday
At Circuit of the Americas
Austin, TX, United States.
Lap length: 5.00 kilometers
Start position in parentheses

1. (1) Max Verstappen, Netherlands, Red Bull Racing, 56 laps, 1:34:00.161, 25 points
2. (2) Lando Norris, Great Britain, McLaren, 56, +7.959 seconds, 18
3. (3) Charles Leclerc, Monaco, Ferrari, 56, +15.373, 15
4. (5) Lewis Hamilton, Great Britain, Ferrari, 56, +28.536, 12
5. (6) Oscar Piastri, Australia, McLaren, 56, +29.678, 10
6. (4) George Russell, Great Britain, Mercedes, 56, +33.456, 8
7. (13) Yuki Tsunoda, Japan, Red Bull Racing, 56, +52.714, 6
8. (11) Nico Hulkenberg, Germany, KICK Sauber, 56, +57.249, 4
9. (8) Oliver Bearman, England, Haas, 56, +1:04.721, 2
10. (10) Fernando Alonso, Spain, Aston Martin, 56, +1:10.001, 1
11. (12) Liam Lawson, New Zealand, Racing Bulls, 56, +1:13.209
12. (19) Lance Stroll, Canada, Aston Martin, 56, +1:14.778
13. (7) Andrea Kimi Antonelli, Italy, Mercedes, 56, +1:15.745
14. (18) Alexander Albon, Thailand, Williams, 56, +1:20.000
15. (17) Esteban Ocon, France, Haas, 56, +1:23.043
16. (20) Isack Hadjar, France, Racing Bulls, 56, +1:32.807
17. (15) Franco Colapinto, Argentina, Alpine, 55, 1L
18. (16) Gabriel Bortoleto, Brazil, KICK Sauber, 55, 1L
19. (14) Pierre Gasly, France, Alpine, 55, 1L
20. (9) Carlos Sainz Jr., Spain, Williams, did not finish, 5, 51L

Driver standings

1. Oscar Piastri, Australia, McLaren, 346 points
2. Lando Norris, Great Britain, McLaren, 332
3. Max Verstappen, Netherlands, Red Bull Racing, 306
4. George Russell, Great Britain, Mercedes, 252
5. Charles Leclerc, Monaco, Ferrari, 192
6. Lewis Hamilton, Great Britain, Ferrari, 142
7. Andrea Kimi Antonelli, Italy, Mercedes, 89
8. Alexander Albon, Thailand, Williams, 73
9. Nico Hulkenberg, Germany, KICK Sauber, 41
10. Isack Hadjar, France, Racing Bulls, 39
11. Carlos Sainz Jr., Spain, Williams, 38
12. Fernando Alonso, Spain, Aston Martin, 37
13. Lance Stroll, Canada, Aston Martin, 32
14. Liam Lawson, New Zealand, Racing Bulls, 30
15. Esteban Ocon, France, Haas, 28
16. Yuki Tsunoda, Japan, Red Bull Racing, 28
17. Pierre Gasly, France, Alpine, 20
18. Oliver Bearman, England, Haas, 20
19. Gabriel Bortoleto, Brazil, KICK Sauber, 18

Manufacturer standings

1. McLaren, 678
2. Mercedes, 341
3. Ferrari, 334
4. Red Bull Racing, 331
5. Williams, 111
6. Racing Bulls, 72
7. Aston Martin, 69
8. KICK Sauber, 59
9. Haas, 48
10. Alpine, 20

DEALS

Sunday's transactions

BASKETBALL
National Basketball Association

HOUSTON ROCKETS — Re-signed F Kevin Durant to a two-year contract extension.
WASHINGTON WIZARDS — Waived F Dillon Jones.

HOCKEY
National Hockey League

BUFFALO SABRES — Recalled D Zac Jones and F Noah Ostlund from Rochester (AHL).
COLUMBUS BLUE JACKETS — Recalled D Dysin Mayo from Cleveland (AHL).
EDMONTON OILERS — Placed D Alec Regula on injured reserve.
OTTAWA SENATORS — Recalled G Mads Sogaard from Belleville (AHL).
SAN JOSE SHARKS — Recalled D Luca Cagnoni from San Jose (AHL). Placed D Shakir Mukhamadullin on injured reserve.
SEATTLE KRAKEN — Recalled D Ville Ottavainen from Coachella Valley (AHL).
TAMPA BAY LIGHTNING — Returned RW Scott Sabourin to Syracuse (AHL). Assigned D Steven Santini to Syracuse.

SOCCER
Major League Soccer

ATLANTA UNITED SC — Announced the departure of head coach Ronny Deila.

COLLEGE

COLORADO STATE — Fired head football coach Jay Norvell.
FLORIDA — Fired head football coach Billy Napier.

Napier out at Florida

BY MARK LONG
Associated Press

GAINESVILLE, Fla. — Florida fired coach Billy Napier on Sunday, dumping him a day after an error-filled win against Mississippi State that included more head-scratching calls and offensive lulls like those that marked much of his four-year run with the Gators.



Napier

Athletic director Scott Stricklin made the move following a 23-21 victory that looked like it was going to be gut-wrenching loss until defensive tackle Michai Boireau picked off a pass with 21 seconds remaining and the Bulldogs near field-goal range.

The game-sealing takeaway energized the Swamp, but the home crowd quickly turned on Napier and booed him as he sprinted off the field. Stricklin had seen enough and pulled the plug on a run that most of the Florida faithful thought lasted longer than it should have.

"While his influence was positive, it ultimately did not translate into the level of success we expect on the field," Stricklin said in a lengthy statement.

Napier went 22-23 in four seasons with the Gators, including 12-16 in SEC play. He was 5-17 against ranked opponents, including 0-14 away from home, and declined to give up his play-calling role despite calls to do so.

Equally damning: his 3-12 mark against rivals Florida State, Georgia, LSU, Miami and Tennessee includes the fewest wins by a Florida coach in such games since the late 1930s.

Receivers coach Billy Gonzales is the interim head coach for the Gators' remaining five games, beginning against the rival Bulldogs (6-1, 4-1 Southeastern Conference) on Nov. 1 in Jacksonville. Florida (3-4, 2-2) has an off week to regroup.

Mississippi coach Lane Kiffin is expected to top the Gators' search, although Stricklin passed on him when he hired Napier from Louisiana-Lafayette in November 2021. Louisville's Jeff Brohm, and Missouri's Eli Drinkwitz could also be targets.

NBA PREVIEW

Achilles injuries a Central theme

By Steve Megargee
Associated Press

MILWAUKEE — Two of the Achilles tendon injuries that shook up the 2024-25 postseason also reshaped the NBA Central Division landscape for the upcoming regular season.

Not only did Indiana lose two-time All-Star guard Tyrese Haliburton for the season after he tore his Achilles tendon in Game 7 of the NBA Finals, the Pacers saw Myles Turner leave for division rival Milwaukee in free agency. The Bucks gained the ability to fit Turner into their salary cap by waiving Damian Lillard, who tore his Achilles tendon during Milwaukee's first-round playoff loss to Indiana.

The unavailability of Haliburton and the loss of Turner create major obstacles for the Pacers in their bid to repeat their success from last season.

"There will be some adjustments as we start and keep moving forward," said Indiana's Rick Carlisle, who needs seven wins to become the 11th coach in league history with 1,000 coaching victories. "Tyrese is really such an unusually important player to us on the one hand. On the other hand, our core principles we want to keep the same. Most of it begins with hard play and fast, hard play, so we'll make adjustments."

The Pacers' upheaval leaves the Cleveland Cavaliers as clear favorites to win a second straight Central Division title. Two-time All-NBA guard Donovan Mitchell leads a team that went 64-18 to lead the Eastern Conference.

The next step is to make a deeper postseason run after two straight second-round exits.

"We're here with renewed energy because we know the talent we have," Cavaliers coach Kenny Atkinson said. "We know we're in that group of four to six that have a chance at winning this thing."

The Bucks' addition of Turner is part of a roster overhaul that has occurred since last season's trade deadline as Milwaukee looks to bounce back from three straight first-round playoff losses.

Here's a look at each Central Division team in predicted order of finish:

Cleveland Cavaliers: The Cavaliers are one of the favorites to win the East with their core four of Mitchell, Evan Mobley, Darius Garland and Jarrett Allen. Garland will be sidelined for at least the first two months after toe surgery, while Max Strus will also be out at least one month due to foot surgery.

Mobley, the reigning NBA Defensive Player of the Year, had career highs in points (18.5) and assists (3.2) per game last season while expanding his perimeter game to go along with his drives to the lane.

Cleveland was confined by the salary cap, but it did add some valuable bench pieces in Lonzo Ball, Larry Nance Jr. and Thomas Bryant.

Milwaukee Bucks: The Bucks want to replicate what worked for them when they surged late last season while Lillard was out with deep vein thrombosis in his right calf. That means surrounding two-time MVP Giannis Antetokounmpo with shooters, attempting more 3-pointers and playing at a faster pace.

Milwaukee wants the ball in Antetokounmpo's hands as much as possible as he builds on the playmaking role he adopted when Lillard was hurt.

The Bucks believe Turner's combination of rim protection and 3-point shooting ability makes him an ideal complement to Antetokounmpo and provides what they lost when 7-footer Brook Lopez signed with the Los Angeles Clippers.

Indiana Pacers: The Pacers are learning to regroup without Turner or Haliburton, who will miss the entire season. Indiana also won't have backup point guard T.J. McConnell for most of the first month due to a hamstring injury.

That will test the depth, which was the Pacers' biggest strength during their run to the NBA Finals.

Turner's absence doesn't just hurt Indiana from a defensive standpoint. It also takes away a stretch-5 3-point shooter. Haliburton ranked third in the NBA in assists last season after leading the league in that category in 2023-24.

Without those two players, the Pacers will need another big season from Pascal Siakam, who led them in scoring (20.2) and rebounding (6.9) last season.

Detroit Pistons: The Pistons surprised the NBA with their turnaround last season after having the league's worst record the previous two years.

Cade Cunningham leads the way, bouncing back from an injury-stunted start of his career after Detroit drafted him No. 1 in 2021.

The Pistons didn't attempt to sign or keep high-priced free agents or to acquire expensive veterans in trades because they don't know if Cunningham's surrounding cast will be part of the team's long-term future.

Chicago Bulls: The Bulls opted to stand pat rather than go bold this past summer despite finishing 39-43 for the second straight season and missing the playoffs for the seventh time in eight years.

Their most notable moves were re-signing Josh Giddey, trading Ball to Cleveland for Isaac Okoro and drafting Noa Essengue out of the French Basketball League with the No. 12 pick, yet executive vice president of basketball operations Arturas Karnisovas continues to preach patience. That's a tough ask for a frustrated fan base.



Scott Strazzante, San Francisco Chronicle/AP

With Jimmy Butler set for a full season with the Warriors, Golden State should contend for the Pacific Division title with the Los Angeles Lakers, who will also have Luka Doncic full time this season.

Lakers, Warriors set to contend with Doncic, Butler fully ready

By Janie McCauley
Associated Press

Luka Doncic is doing his best to bring the Los Angeles Lakers closer, planning a recent visit to the Porsche Driving Experience for some team bonding.

Golden State star Jimmy Butler is finding ways to build camaraderie, too, holding a recent retreat at his home in San Diego ahead of training camp.

The success of Doncic and Butler in their first full seasons with new teams will go a long way in determining how things go in the wild Western Conference, with the Lakers and Warriors eyeing a championship.

They are set to battle for Pacific Division superiority, and the mid-season acquisitions of Doncic and Butler should provide each franchise with additional stability and leadership alongside superstars LeBron James and Stephen Curry.

"You don't become a team overnight," Lakers coach JJ Redick said. "It's a long season. The more guys can do that off the court, I think the better team we'll be."

Doncic, fresh off a three-year maximum contract extension worth $165 million keeping him with the team through 2028, can't wait to play alongside James and Co. for a full season.

"This is one of the best organizations in the world. It's the first time for me to get a whole preseason, and I'm just excited to play for the Lakers," Doncic said, adding that he's more comfortable now. "Coming into a new team, it's kind of hard to get the leadership up, but that's what the preseason is for. I had a great time with the national team, kind of worked on my leadership role, so I feel way more comfortable."

Butler hosted his teammates for a retreat he considered an important part of Golden State getting to know him even better, away from basketball.

"He has the wine cellar of an emperor," Draymond Green declared.

"It was important for me to welcome — those are guys, like my family — (them) into my home and have a good time," Butler said, "and let them in a little bit of my life."

The Warriors added veteran center Al Horford after finally being able to build a roster following forward Jonathan Kuminga's three-month contract stalemate.

"That team has championship aspirations, and they should," Portland coach Chauncey Billups said. "It will be fun to see them."

Here's a look at each team in the Pacific Division in predicted order of finish:

Los Angeles Lakers: James begins his record 23rd NBA season in unfamiliar territory: For the first time in his life, he isn't the most important player on his team.

The top scorer in NBA history appears to be focused on making it work with Doncic, not on retirement or on moving to a more immediate title contender.

The Lakers' supporting cast appears to be improved after adding center Deandre Ayton, shutdown defender Marcus Smart and versatile Jake LaRavia.

Golden State Warriors: The addition of Horford stepping in to complement Green will be key after Kevon Looney's departure to New Orleans as the Warriors aim for another championship while Curry, Butler, Green and coach Steve Kerr are still together.

Golden State is versatile and deep again, with Buddy Hield, Moses Moody and Brandin Podziemski offering Kerr options in his backcourt rotation alongside Curry and Butler — both of whom could need regular rest days. Payton brings a defensive punch off the bench for a team that lost in five games to Minnesota in the Western Conference semifinals after Curry went down with a hamstring injury in a Game 1 win.

Los Angeles Clippers: The Clippers have one of the oldest teams in the league — much like the aging Warriors — with James Harden (36) and new additions Chris Paul (40) and Brook Lopez (37). Only 28-year-old newcomer John Collins is under 30. With age comes experience, but they'll need to avoid the injury bug over an 82-game season plus the playoffs. Kawhi Leonard is healthy to start the season after playing just 37 games last season while recovering from a knee injury. The Clippers filled their biggest need by trading for Collins and signing Lopez to back up big man Ivica Zubac.

Phoenix Suns: The Suns experienced an extensive makeover during the offseason, hiring first-time NBA head coach Jordan Ott and building a roster around four-time All-Star Devin Booker. Phoenix hopes guards Jalen Green and Dillon Brooks — acquired in the deal that sent Kevin Durant to the Rockets — can form a steady backcourt with Booker. The team also acquired center Mark Williams in a draft day trade with the Hornets and is banking that better health can unlock his considerable potential.

Sacramento Kings: Three years after ending the NBA's longest playoff drought, the Kings are once again trying to figure out how to get back to the postseason. In his first full season as an NBA head coach, Doug Christie wants his players to prioritize defense and display grittiness on both ends of the court.

First-year Sacramento general manager Scott Perry's offseason signing of Dennis Schroder was the first step toward trying to make that approach a success. Fresh off an MVP performance for Germany in the FIBA EuroBasket, Schroder isn't a top-flight defender but plays with a tenacity the Kings have been missing on the defensive end.

Prove: Legacy drives Bucks' Antetokounmpo

where he's played over that span is .671 — the best in the NBA. (Over those regular seasons, Boston has a .670 winning percentage when Jayson Tatum is in the lineup, Philadelphia has a .670 winning percentage when Joel Embiid plays, and James Harden's teams — the 76ers, the Los Angeles Clippers, Brooklyn and Houston — also have a .670 winning percentage when he has played.)

"Everything Giannis says is about the team and about being a better team, so I don't have to do that," Bucks coach Doc Rivers said. "Every part of Giannis says that. If you read his comments this summer, every comment he's made is about being in Milwaukee and loving this city."

And yet, the speculation is constant that Antetokounmpo's story might not end in Milwaukee.

Trade talks are a constant in the NBA, and to be fair, there's nothing stopping any team from calling another team to inquire about what it may take to acquire someone who happens to be on their roster. It is certain that Antetokounmpo's name has been in trade talks. It is also certain that the Bucks — if they ever do move him elsewhere — won't simply give him away.

"I've said this many times: I want to be in situations (where) I can win and now I'm here," Antetokounmpo said. "I believe in this team. I believe in my teammates. I'm here to lead this team to wherever we can go. And it's definitely going to be hard. We're going to take it day by day, but I'm here. So all the other extra stuff does not matter."

That sounds good for Milwaukee.

And then he added, "Now, in six or seven months I change my mind, I think that's human, too."

That doesn't sound so good for the Bucks.

He continued, "My decision today is that I'm here and I'm committed to this team."

Which sounds good for Milwaukee again.

The circle of will-he-or-won't-he will never end, at least until such time that Antetokounmpo actually gets traded (possible), leaves as a free agent (unlikely) or retires (inevitable, but not expected anytime soon).

He could finish his career with the Bucks. He could finish his career in Greece. He might find himself part of whatever new European league the NBA is trying to launch in 2027 or 2028 — probably 2027.

For now, it's Milwaukee. He's one of only two players who have averaged at least 30 points a game in each of the last three seasons, Shai Gilgeous-Alexander of the reigning champion Oklahoma City Thunder being the other. His numbers will keep climbing, his legacy will keep growing.

"It's not about stats no more," Antetokounmpo said. "It's about how can we do great things on the court. How can we put ourselves in a position that we can win accolades as a team. And that's what's left. Every basketball player, every athlete, starts a career and they have this quest of what they want to accomplish and what to be remembered for. And I think at this point, I've accomplished everything that I've put my mind to."

He was asked if he sees himself in the same category as the undisputed greats in NBA history, the likes of Michael Jordan, LeBron James, Wilt Chamberlain, Larry Bird, Kobe Bryant, Kareem Abdul-Jabbar and a few others. The truly elite.

Antetokounmpo didn't hesitate before answering.

"That's the goal," Antetokounmpo said. "I'm not there yet. They're like top 10 all-time. I've got a lot of work to do. But I'm going to be there."



DAVID BANKS/AP

Despite all his accomplishments over 12 seasons in the NBA, Milwaukee Bucks forward Giannis Antetokounmpo still wants to prove himself as one of the greatest players in NBA history.

NHL scoreboard

Eastern Conference

Atlantic Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Detroit	6	5	1	0	10	20	14
Montreal	6	4	2	0	8	21	18
Toronto	6	3	2	1	7	22	20
Florida	7	3	4	0	6	15	20
Boston	7	3	4	0	6	21	22
Buffalo	5	2	3	0	4	13	14
Tampa Bay	6	1	3	2	4	16	21
Ottawa	6	2	4	0	4	20	30

Metropolitan Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Carolina	5	5	0	0	10	23	11
New Jersey	5	4	1	0	8	19	15
Pittsburgh	6	4	2	0	8	18	15
Washington	6	4	2	0	8	17	12
N.Y. Rangers	7	3	3	1	7	15	12
Philadelphia	5	2	2	1	5	13	14
Columbus	5	2	3	0	4	14	15
N.Y. Islanders	5	2	3	0	4	16	19

Western Conference

Central Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Colorado	6	5	0	1	11	21	10
Winnipeg	5	4	1	0	8	21	12
Utah	6	4	2	0	8	17	13
Chicago	7	3	2	2	8	22	18
St. Louis	5	3	2	0	6	15	18
Dallas	5	3	2	0	6	19	18
Nashville	6	2	2	2	6	15	19
Minnesota	6	2	3	1	5	17	22

Pacific Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Vegas	6	4	0	2	10	26	19
Seattle	5	3	0	2	8	16	14
Vancouver	6	4	2	0	8	20	17
Anaheim	5	2	2	1	5	14	18
Edmonton	6	2	3	1	5	15	18
Los Angeles	6	1	3	2	4	17	24
San Jose	5	0	3	2	2	13	25
Calgary	6	1	5	0	2	11	25

Note: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss. Top three teams in each division and two wild cards per conference advance to playoffs.

Saturday's games

Buffalo 3, Florida 0
N.Y. Islanders 5, Ottawa 4
New Jersey 5, Edmonton 3
St. Louis 3, Dallas 1
Philadelphia 2, Minnesota 1, OT
Winnipeg 4, Nashville 1
N.Y. Rangers 4, Montreal 3
Columbus 3, Tampa Bay 2
Seattle 4, Toronto 3, OT
Colorado 4, Boston 1
Carolina 4, Los Angeles 3, OT
Pittsburgh 3, San Jose 0
Vegas 6, Calgary 1

Sunday's games

Vancouver 4, Washington 3
Detroit 4, Edmonton 2
Chicago 2, Anaheim 1, OT
Utah 3, Boston 2

Monday's games

Minnesota at N.Y. Rangers
Seattle at Philadelphia
Buffalo at Montreal
Winnipeg at Calgary
Carolina at Vegas

Tuesday's games

Edmonton at Ottawa
New Jersey at Toronto
San Jose at N.Y. Islanders
Seattle at Washington
Vancouver at Pittsburgh
Florida at Boston
Anaheim at Nashville
Columbus at Dallas
Los Angeles at St. Louis
Colorado at Utah

Wednesday's games

Minnesota at New Jersey
Detroit at Buffalo
Montreal at Calgary

Thursday's games

Chicago at Tampa Bay
Anaheim at Boston
Detroit at N.Y. Islanders
Philadelphia at Ottawa
Pittsburgh at Florida
San Jose at N.Y. Rangers
Seattle at Winnipeg
Utah at St. Louis
Vancouver at Nashville
Carolina at Colorado
Los Angeles at Dallas
Montreal at Edmonton

Friday's games

San Jose at New Jersey
Washington at Columbus
Toronto at Buffalo
Calgary at Winnipeg



RYAN SUN/AP

Red Wings center Emmitt Finnie celebrates his goal during the third period against the Edmonton Oilers on Sunday in Detroit.

ROUNDUP

Larkin, Finnie lead Red Wings to 5th consecutive win

Associated Press

DETROIT — Dylan Larkin and rookie Emmitt Finnie each scored twice to help the surging Detroit Red Wings beat the Edmonton Oilers 4-2 on Sunday.

Detroit has won five straight since opening with a 5-1 loss to Montreal.

Edmonton has a losing record after dropping a third straight game as superstar Connor McDavid extended his career-long, season-opening, goal drought to six games.

The Red Wings' John Gibson stopped 16 shots, including one that denied McDavid midway through the third period. On the same shift, Larkin poked the puck away from the three-time MVP to take away another potential scoring opportunity.

The Oilers' Stuart Skinner had 21 saves.

Leon Draisaitl was all alone with a chance to pull Edmonton into a tie late in the game, but lost control of the puck.

Shortly thereafter, Finnie scored an empty-net goal to seal it.

Blackhawks 2, Ducks 1, OT: Ryan Donato scored from the edge of the crease at 2:58 of overtime and host Chicago beat Anaheim in Ducks coach Joel Quenneville's first game at United Center since being banned in a sexual assault scandal.

Donato had his third goal in three games. Connor Bedard set up it from behind the net to cap a 3-on-1 rush. Frank Nazar also scored to help the Blackhawks improve to 3-0-1 in their last four games.

Spencer Knight made 38 saves and was beaten only on Mason McTavish's power-play goal from a sharp angle with 35.8 seconds left in the third period.

Mammoth 3, Bruins 2: Dylan Guenther scored the go-ahead goal midway through the third period and host Utah beat Boston.

Logan Cooley and Clayton Keller also scored and Nick Schmaltz had two assists to help the Mammoth win their third straight — all at home — and fourth in five games overall. Vitek Vanecek stopped 23 shots to earn the win in his second career start for Utah.

David Pastrnak scored twice for the Bruins and Joonas Korpisaio had 24 saves. Boston finished 0-3 on its Western Conference road trip and lost their fourth straight overall. The Bruins have allowed 17 goals over their last four games.

Canucks 4, Capitals 3: Tyler Myers and Kiefer Sherwood scored 41 seconds apart in the first period, and visiting Vancouver snapped Washington's four-game winning streak.

The Capitals had allowed only eight goals in their first five games before the Canucks put three past Charlie Lindgren in the first period. Washington contested the second tally in which Myers flipped the puck into the net with Lindgren on his stomach following a lengthy goalmouth scramble. But a Caps challenge was unsuccessful, giving Vancouver a power play, and Sherwood converted a rebound to make it 3-0.

MLB PLAYOFFS

Guerrero, Blue Jays force ALCS Game 7

By Ian Harrison
Associated Press

TORONTO — Vladimir Guerrero Jr. hit his sixth home run this postseason, rookie Trey Yesavage struck out seven in 5⅔ innings and the Toronto Blue Jays pushed the American League Championship Series to the limit by beating the sloppy Seattle Mariners 6-2 on Sunday night.

The AL pennant was decided Monday night in Toronto, the second Game 7 in Blue Jays history. Toronto lost to Kansas City in the 1985 ALCS.

"Got to enjoy it, man. This is what we sign up for," Blue Jays manager John Schneider said. "It's special and unique, but you have to look at it as a game."

For one famous baseball family, it will also be a first. Guerrero's father, Hall of Fame outfielder Vladimir Guerrero, never played in a postseason Game 7 during his 16-year career.

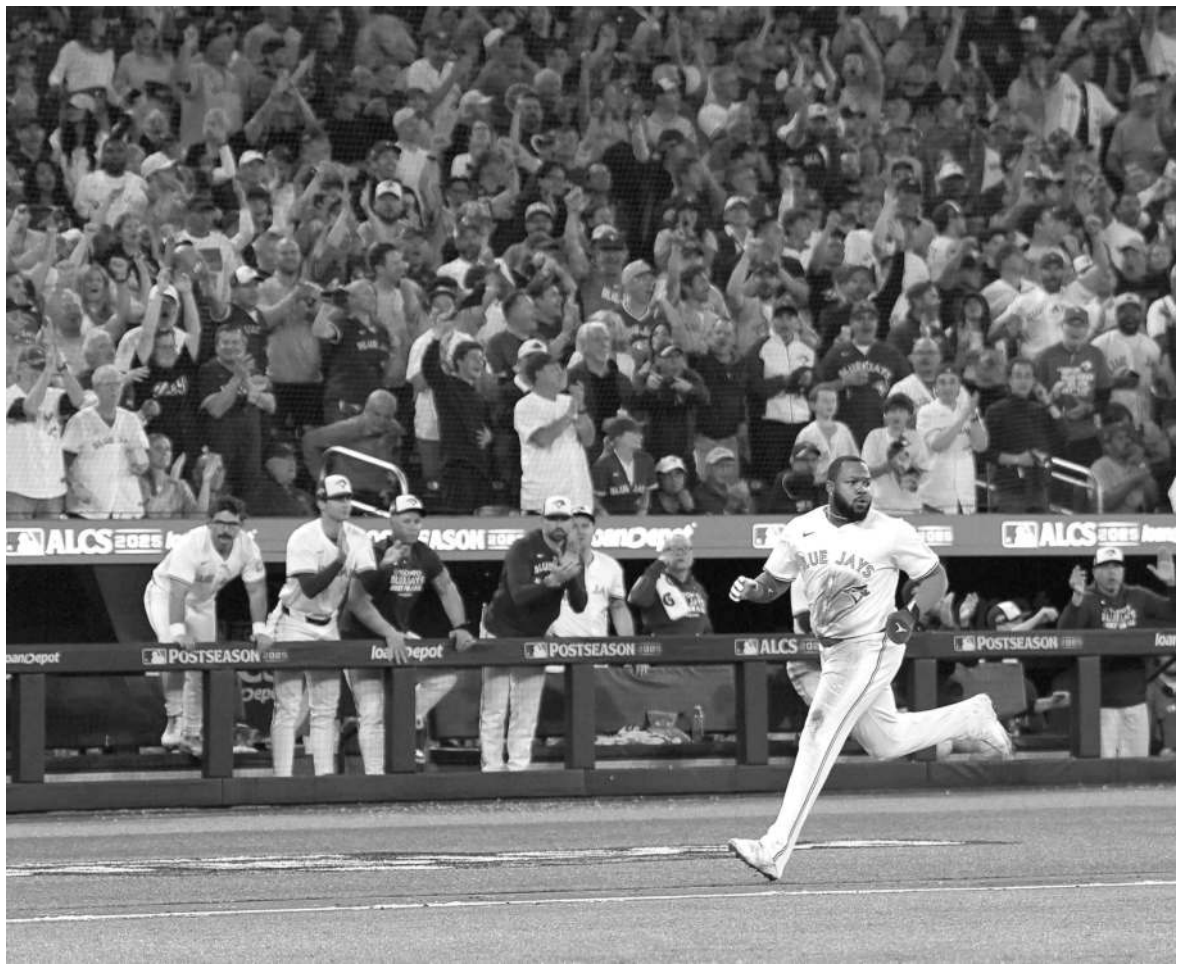
"My dad was telling me, Game 7 is give it all you have," the Toronto slugger said.

Seattle, the only big league team without a pennant, played a Game 7 for the first time. The winner faces the NL champion Los Angeles Dodgers in the World Series beginning Friday.

"Win or go home," Mariners center fielder Julio Rodríguez said. "We're going to lay everything out there."

Addison Barger homered and drove in three early runs for the Blue Jays, who turned three double plays behind Yesavage — two of them to escape bases-loaded jams.

That made Toronto the first team to induce consecutive bases-loaded, inning-ending double plays in a postseason game, and only the fourth team to turn two in a single postseason game.



David J. Phillip/AP

The Blue Jays' Vladimir Guerrero Jr. scores on a throwing error by Seattle catcher Cal Raleigh during the seventh inning in Game 6 of the AL Championship Series against the Mariners on Sunday in Toronto.

"I knew my defense had my back," Yesavage said.

The Blue Jays also took advantage of Seattle's season-high three errors. By comparison, Toronto has made four errors in 10 playoff games.

"Balls just kind of in and out of the glove there that put a couple extra guys on base," Mariners manager Dan Wilson said. "Unfortunately, it led to a couple runs."

Guerrero's sixth career postseason homer — all this year — tied him with José Bautista and Joe Carter for the most in Blue Jays history.

6

The number of home runs Vladimir Guerrero Jr. has hit for Toronto this postseason, which already has him tied with José Bautista and Joe Carter for the most playoff home runs in Blue Jays history.

"This is what you look for from one of the elite players in the game," Schneider said.

Bautista threw out the ceremonial first pitch before the game.

Toronto had lost its previous four games when facing postseason elimination. That streak stretched to Game 5 of the 2016 ALCS against Cleveland and included wild-card round losses to Tampa Bay in 2020, Seattle in 2022 and Minnesota in 2023.

Guerrero's leadoff homer in the fifth made it 5-0 and chased Mariners starter Logan Gilbert. The right-hander allowed four earned runs and seven hits in four-plus innings.

"I thought he had a good fastball, especially early," Wilson said. "His split was good at times. This is a tough lineup and they did what they had to do to get the ball in play."

Yesavage took a shutout into the sixth. He was charged with two runs and six hits, five of them singles. Five of his strikeouts came on his split-finger fastball, as did both double-play grounders with the bases loaded.

"I just believed in myself. I know my stuff plays at this level," Yesavage said. "I know the defense behind me is going to play at the best of their abilities, and getting three double plays in back-to-back-to-back innings was huge."

The 22-year-old Yesavage threw a season-high 31 splitters. He got 10 whiffs on splitters and five more on sliders.

"He brings the energy," Guerrero said. "He's young. He wants to win so bad."

Three of Yesavage's six major league starts have come in the playoffs. He's won twice this postseason after winning one of three outings during the regular season.

Louis Varland got four outs and Jeff Hoffman struck out four over two hitless innings to end it.

Seattle used two walks and a single to load the bases against Yesavage in the third but was denied when slugger Cal Raleigh grounded into a 3-6-1 double play started by Guerrero and completed by Yesavage covering first base. Raleigh's first-pitch grounder came off his bat at 101 mph.

"Underappreciated, I think, is how Vlad can play really deep because of his arm," Schneider said. "In that situation, too, you need some wiggle room for a guy that hits the ball really hard."

Raleigh finished 0 for 4 with three strikeouts.



Chris Young/AP

The Seattle Mariners catcher lost when they had a chance to clinch their first World Series appearance ever in Game 6, and instead went on to play the first Game 7 in franchise history.

Scoreboard

League Championship Series

Best-of-seven
x-if necessary
American League
Seattle 3, Toronto 3

Seattle 3, Toronto 1
Seattle 10, Toronto 3
Toronto 13, Seattle 4
Toronto 8, Seattle 2
Seattle 6, Toronto 2
Sunday: Toronto 6, Seattle 2
Monday: at Toronto

National League
Los Angeles 4, Milwaukee 0

Los Angeles 2, Milwaukee 1
Los Angeles 5, Milwaukee 1
Los Angeles 3, Milwaukee 1
Los Angeles 5, Milwaukee 1

"We had opportunities," Raleigh said. "We thought we did a great job with our at-bats. We were able to get people on. It's just one of those days where we couldn't get the big run home. Give them credit. They kept us off the board."

The Mariners came up empty again after another bases-loaded opportunity in the fourth when J.P. Crawford grounded into a 4-6-3 double play.

Seattle broke through and chased Yesavage in the sixth. Josh Naylor's solo shot was his third home run of the playoffs. Yesavage exited after Randy Arozarena's base hit, and Eugenio Suárez greeted Varland with a bloop RBI single.

The Blue Jays took advantage of fielding errors by Rodríguez in center field and Suárez at third base to score twice in the second, when Barger and Isiah Kiner-Falefa had RBI singles.

Ernie Clement hit a two-out triple off the left-field wall in the third and scored when Barger homered, his second of the postseason.

George Springer started at designated hitter for Toronto and went 0 for 4 with a walk. Springer exited in the seventh inning of Friday's Game 5 loss to the Mariners after he was hit on the right kneecap by a 95.6 mph pitch from Bryan Woo.

Guerrero was hit by a pitch from Seattle reliever Matt Brash in the seventh. Guerrero moved to second on Alejandro Kirk's single and was advancing on a wild pitch when he scored on Raleigh's throwing error.

The Blue Jays were expected to start RHP Shane Bieber on Monday night. Bieber allowed two runs and four hits over six innings in Game 3, a 13-4 win for Toronto. He struck out eight and walked one as he bounced back from a poor outing against the New York Yankees in the Division Series.

RHP George Kirby started for the Mariners. He allowed eight runs and eight hits, including three homers, over four innings in Game 3.

AUTO RACING



JOHN LOCHER/AP

Red Bull driver Max Verstappen of the Netherlands, right, shakes hands with third placed Ferrari driver Charles Leclerc of Monaco after winning the Formula One U.S. Grand Prix in Austin, Tx on Sunday.

Verstappen, McLaren take top spots at US Grand Prix

BY JIM VERTUNO
Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas — Red Bull's Max Verstappen raced to his third victory in four races Sunday at the Formula 1 United States Grand Prix, while McLaren's Lando Norris took a huge chunk out of teammate Oscar Piastri's championship lead by finishing second.

Piastri was a distant fifth, allowing Norris to pull within 14 points with five grand prix and two sprint races to go. Verstappen also is closing fast with his late-season charge.

Verstappen now trails Piastri by 40 points, and Norris by 26, in third place, and has put the McClarens on notice he intends to chase them all the way to the end of the season.

Piastri and Norris are trying to win their first career drivers championship. Verstappen is hunting his fifth in a row, and his dominant form of late has given him a real chance to get it. He also won the sprint race Saturday after the two McLarens ran into each other on the first turn and crashed out.

"It was an unbelievable weekend for us," Verstappen said. "The chance is there. We just need to try to deliver these kind of weekends until the end."

Norris' late pass of Ferrari's Charles Leclerc for second earned the British driver a crucial position and points as he chases Piastri and hopes to hold off Verstappen over the final stretch of the season.

Verstappen started on the pole Sunday at the Circuit of the Americas and was never challenged for the lead in collecting his 68th career victory, and fourth in five years in Austin.

The Dutch driver built a 10-second lead by the halfway point as Norris and Leclerc drove a furious battle for second.

"It was a good battle with Charles. He fought hard," Norris said. "We'll have to take second. No more we could have done today."

Piastri in slump

Piastri's day never got going. The Australian started sixth and quickly made up a spot in the first few corners but was stuck there for the rest of the race.

Piastri's lead is rapidly shrinking under pressure. He hasn't won since the Dutch Grand Prix on Aug. 31 and hasn't finished on the podium the last three races.

"I'd still rather be where I am than the other two, but obviously this weekend was not what I wanted or expected," Piastri said.

The series next heads to Mexico City, where Verstappen has five career victories at the Autodromo Hermanos Rodriguez.

"I think we need to be perfect until the end to have chance," to win the championship, Verstappen said. "We've caught up a lot. At the same time, the gaps (between cars) are very small."

Ferrari's hard fight

Ferrari is still winless on the season, but the team showed flashes with its 3-4 finish from Leclerc and Lewis Hamilton.

And it came a day after Ferrari Chairman John Elkann issued a statement saying he has "full confidence" in team principal Fred Vasseur amid persistent speculation that former Red Bull racing boss Christian Horner could take his job.

"I'm very happy," Leclerc said. "It was good day, especially considering the situation. The second part of the season hasn't been easy. There are completely unfounded noise and rumors around the team. To demonstrate we can stay focused on the job and be rewarded with a podium is really nice.

F1 officials announced before the race a contract extension to keep the event at COTA through the 2034 season.

The current contract expired after 2026.

Briscoe's OT win gives Gibbs 2 spots in Phoenix

BY JENNA FRYER
Associated Press

TALLADEGA, Ala. — Joe Gibbs Racing was facing an internal mutiny just a month ago when two of its championship-eligible drivers didn't feel the team owner's grandson was helping his teammates try to win the Cup title.

Ty Gibbs, grandson of team owner Joe Gibbs, raced both Christopher Bell and Denny Hamlin hard early in the playoff race at New Hampshire.

Gibbs wasn't eligible for the championship, Hamlin grew frustrated at being held up by his teammate, so he wrecked Gibbs out of his way.

It led to organizational discussions as to what Joe Gibbs expected out of his four drivers the remainder of the playoffs. The payoff came Sunday when Ty Gibbs pushed Chase Briscoe in overtime to the win at Talladega Superspeedway to give JGR two spots in NASCAR's championship race.

Briscoe is in the winner-take-all finale alongside teammate Hamlin as Toyota claimed the first two of the four berths with one race remaining to set the championship field.

"Ty Gibbs, just incredible teammate there. I mean, I honestly would not have won that race without Ty," Briscoe said. "This is an amazing team effort. I can't believe I won a superspeedway race. I haven't done it at any level."

Team owner Gibbs, a three-time Super Bowl winning coach and NASCAR Hall of Fame team owner, praised his grandson for getting Briscoe into victory lane. He also explained the intricacies of fielding four separate teams under one banner.

"It's such a competitive world. I'm kind of used to it in football. You get it," Joe Gibbs said. "But over here, we got four teams, and the challenge is always trying to get them to work together. If you think about it, each driver has got their own career. They got their own sponsor and it just becomes extremely competitive.

"So sometimes you wind up with issues like that. It's part of part of sports. Guys are, you know, very competitive and want to make it happen. And so at different times, you may have issues that you got to deal with."

Briscoe, who raced to his first career superspeedway victory, is in his first season driving for Gibbs.

He landed there as Martin Truex Jr.'s replacement when Truex retired and Stewart-Haas Racing shuttered at the end of last year.

He's now going to race for the Cup title for the first time.

"Ty was the whole reason I won the race, he was extremely committed to me," Briscoe said. "When I made a move, Ty went with me. He was just really selfless in the fact of he's going for his first career win and could have easily tried to make a move or done something different. But he just pushed me to the win and just an incredible team effort."

Elliott in early crash

Elliott's chances to advance into the final four took a hit when NASCAR's most popular driver was collected in the first crash of the race.

Elliott, the 2020 NASCAR champion, was already below the cutline for elimination when he was caught in an early eight-car crash 52 laps into the race. It sent the Hendrick Motorsports Chevrolet to the garage for repairs and dropped Elliott to last in the 40-car field.

Elliott now goes to Martinsville Speedway in a must-win situation to advance to the title-deciding finale at Phoenix for the first time since 2022.

"It is what it is, I can't change it now," Elliott said. "Just all eyes on Martinsville and try to go up there and get a win."

Elliott won Martinsville once before, in 2020, when he parlayed the victory into his only Cup title.



BUTCH DILL/AP

Driver Chase Briscoe celebrates winning a NASCAR Cup Series auto race at Talladega Superspeedway on Sunday in Talladega, Ala. His win secured two spots for Gibbs Racing in the next race at Phoenix Raceway.

NFL

ROUNDUP

Cowboys cruise past Commanders

Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Texas — Dak Prescott threw for three touchdowns, starting with a long one to CeeDee Lamb, DaRon Bland returned an interception 68 yards for a score after Jayden Daniels left with a hamstring injury and the Dallas Cowboys beat the Washington Commanders 44-22 on Sunday.

Prescott finished 21 of 30 for 264 yards with two TD passes to Jake Ferguson, who became the first tight end in NFL history with at least 50 catches and six receiving touchdowns in the first seven games of a season.

On the first play of a first-quarter possession, Lamb ran a deep cross and was waving for the ball when Prescott threw it his way. Lamb broke free just as he caught the ball, with George Pickens closing in from the left, and they celebrated together the rest of the way — and after the score.

Lamb had 110 yards on five catches after a high ankle sprain kept him out of the previous three games, when Pickens sparkled without his new sidekick, then had just as much of an impact with them sharing the spotlight again.

Pickens' 44-yard catch keyed a 35-second touchdown drive for a 27-15 lead in the final minute of the first half after Daniels had scored on a 1-yard run with 45 seconds to go before the break.

Javonte Williams ran for 116 yards and a touchdown for Dallas (3-3-1).

On the first possession of the second half for Washington (3-4), Daniels, who has already missed two games with a knee injury this season, injured his right hamstring while losing a fumble on Shemar James' sack. The AP NFL Offensive Rookie of the Year grabbed behind his leg after getting dragged down by the rookie linebacker as the ball came out.

Panthers 13, Jets 6: Bryce Young threw a touchdown pass before leaving with an ankle injury, Jaycee Horn had two interceptions of Tyrod Taylor after New York benched Justin Fields and visiting Carolina beat the winless Jets in a snoozefest for its third straight victory.

It marked the first time since Young was drafted with the No. 1 overall pick in 2023 that the Panthers (4-3) have a three-game winning streak with him as their starting quarterback — but he was unable to finish this one.

And now the concern is if Young will be out for any extended time.

Young went to the locker room late in the third quarter, appearing to walk with a slight limp. Carolina announced his return was questionable before ruling him out.



GARETH PATTERSON/AP

Dallas Cowboys linebacker Shemar James forces a game-changing fumble by Washington Commanders quarterback Jayden Daniels during the second half on Sunday in Arlington, Texas. The Cowboys won 44-22.

Chiefs 31, Raiders 0: Patrick Mahomes threw for 286 yards and three touchdowns in less than three quarters of work, Rashee Rice caught two of the TD passes in his return from a six-game suspension and host Kansas City beat Las Vegas.

Rice finished with seven catches for 42 yards in his first game since Week 4 last season, when he tore his ACL in a collision with Mahomes. He made it back from the injury in time to participate in the offseason and training camp, but was then suspended before the start of the season for his role in a high-speed car crash on a Dallas highway in March 2024.

It was the fourth and most lopsided shutout by the Chiefs in their 133-game history against the Raiders.

Patriots 31, Titans 13: Drake Maye threw for 222 yards and two touchdowns and visiting New England beat Tennessee in coach Mike Vrabel's first game against the franchise that fired him in January 2024.

The Patriots (5-2) won their fourth straight to keep them atop the AFC East and spoil Mike McCoy's debut as the Titans' interim head coach.

Fans chanted "Vrabel, Vrabel" as the clock ticked down.

Bears 26, Saints 14: Dennis Allen's defense dominated his former team, and host Chicago beat New Orleans for its fourth straight win.

Allen, the Bears' defensive coordinator, had to like what he saw in his first game against the Saints since they fired him as head coach midway through last season after 2½ years. Chicago forced four turnovers and sacked Spencer Rattler four times.

New Orleans (1-6) continued its worst start since opening 1-7 in 1999 under then-coach Mike Ditka, the Hall of Famer and Super Bowl-winning coach with the Bears.

Colts 38, Chargers 24: Daniel Jones threw for 288 yards and two scores, Jonathan Taylor had his third three-touchdown game of the season and visiting Indianapolis beat Los Angeles for its NFL-leading sixth win.

The Colts (6-1) also snapped a five-game skid in LA after losing to the Rams at SoFi Stadium last month. They hadn't beaten the Chargers, Rams or now-Las Vegas Raiders in L.A. since 1986. Overall, Indy hadn't beat the Chargers since Sept. 25, 2016, in Indianapolis.

Off to their best start since 2009, the AFC South-leading Colts led 23-3 at halftime while holding the Chargers to 10 rushing yards on six carries. Indianapolis scored 2½ minutes into the game on Taylor's 23-yard TD run and never looked back.

49ers 20, Falcons 10: Christian McCaffrey had his first 100-yard rushing game since 2023 and short-handed San Francisco finally delivered a strong ground game to beat visiting Atlanta.

The usually run-focused 49ers (5-2) had struggled to generate much on the ground all season before getting back to their old style against the Falcons (3-3) with help from the return of tight end George Kittle.

San Francisco delivered two key plays in the fourth quarter to preserve the lead. Atlanta was driving down 13-10 and had a third and 1 at the Niners 35. But San Francisco stopped Bijan Robinson for no gain and then Chase Lucas broke up a pass from Michael Penix Jr. to Drake London on fourth down to end the threat.

Browns 31, Dolphins 6: Quinshon Judkins scored three touchdowns and host Cleveland snapped a three-game losing streak with a victory over Miami.

Judkins, the 36th overall pick in April's draft, had 84 yards rushing on 25 carries. He is the first Browns running back with three rushing scores in a game since Nick Chubb in 2022.

Packers 27, Cardinals 23: Josh Jacobs ran for a go-ahead, 1-yard touchdown with 1:50 remaining, Micah Parsons had a career-high three sacks and visiting Green Bay rallied from an early 10-point deficit to beat Arizona.

The Packers (4-1-1) fought through a sluggish first half to win their first road game of the season. Green Bay had its share of adversity this weekend — the team's travel was reportedly delayed roughly five hours Saturday because of mechanical issues with their airplane in Wisconsin.

Scoreboard

American Conference

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New England	5	2	0	.714	181	133
Buffalo	4	2	0	.667	167	137
Miami	1	6	0	.143	140	205
N.Y. Jets	0	7	0	.000	129	183

South

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Indianapolis	6	1	0	.857	232	140
Jacksonville	4	3	0	.571	146	155
Houston	2	3	0	.400	108	61
Tennessee	1	6	0	.143	96	192

North

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Pittsburgh	4	2	0	.667	150	140
Cincinnati	3	4	0	.429	136	214
Cleveland	2	5	0	.286	113	152
Baltimore	1	5	0	.167	144	194

West

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Denver	5	2	0	.714	163	127
Kansas City	4	3	0	.571	186	124
L.A. Chargers	4	3	0	.571	151	163
Las Vegas	2	5	0	.286	103	180

National Conference

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Philadelphia	5	2	0	.714	170	165
Dallas	3	3	1	.500	222	206
Washington	3	4	0	.429	180	170
N.Y. Giants	2	5	0	.286	153	177

South

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Tampa Bay	5	1	0	.833	165	151
Carolina	4	3	0	.571	145	152
Atlanta	3	3	0	.500	110	120
New Orleans	1	6	0	.143	125	186

North

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Green Bay	4	1	1	.750	158	125
Chicago	4	2	0	.667	152	155
Detroit	4	2	0	.667	191	142
Minnesota	3	3	0	.500	145	125

West

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
L.A. Rams	5	2	0	.714	175	117
San Francisco	5	2	0	.714	145	138
Seattle	4	2	0	.667	166	117
Arizona	2	5	0	.286	153	154

Thursday's game

Cincinnati 33, Pittsburgh 31

Sunday's games

L.A. Rams 35, Jacksonville 7, London
Denver 33, N.Y. Giants 32
Philadelphia 28, Minnesota 22
Dallas 44, Washington 22
Carolina 13, N.Y. Jets 6
Kansas City 31, Las Vegas 0
New England 31, Tennessee 13
Chicago 26, New Orleans 14
Indianapolis 38, L.A. Chargers 24
San Francisco 20, Atlanta 10
Cleveland 31, Miami 6
Green Bay 27, Arizona 23
Open: Baltimore, Buffalo

Monday's games

Tampa Bay at Detroit
Houston at Seattle

Thursday, Oct. 23

Minnesota at L.A. Chargers

Sunday, Oct. 26

Buffalo at Carolina
Chicago at Baltimore
Cleveland at New England
Miami at Atlanta
N.Y. Giants at Philadelphia
N.Y. Jets at Cincinnati
San Francisco at Houston
Tampa Bay at New Orleans
Dallas at Denver
Tennessee at Indianapolis
Green Bay at Pittsburgh
Open: Jacksonville, Las Vegas, Arizona, Detroit, L.A. Rams, Seattle

Monday, Oct. 27

Washington at Kansas City

Thursday, Oct. 30

Baltimore at Miami

Sunday, Nov. 2

Carolina at Green Bay
Atlanta at New England
Chicago at Cincinnati
Denver at Houston
Indianapolis at Pittsburgh
L.A. Chargers at Tennessee
Minnesota at Detroit
San Francisco at N.Y. Giants
Jacksonville at Las Vegas
New Orleans at L.A. Rams
Kansas City at Buffalo
Seattle at Washington
Open: Cleveland, N.Y. Jets, Philadelphia, Tampa Bay

NFL

Hurts passes for 326 yards, 3 TDs as Eagles top Vikings to end skid

By Dave Campbell
Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS — Though many of the elements that made the Philadelphia Eagles champions last season had been missing during this unsettling start, their confidence in themselves never lacked.

Even the external doubts had a rough day, with Jalen Hurts flashing his Super Bowl MVP form.

Hurts gave his lagging offense a jolt by throwing for 326 yards and three touchdowns, Jalyx Hunt returned an interception for a score and the Eagles rebounded from back-to-back losses by hanging on to beat the Minnesota Vikings 28-22 on Sunday.

"It's not a time to wish or hope for something to happen," said Hurts, who went 19 for 23 for a perfect passer rating. "It's a time to make it happen."

Hurts sparked a highlight-reel revival of what had been a dormant passing attack for Philadelphia (5-2), hitting A.J. Brown for two touchdowns and DeVonta Smith for a career-high 183 receiving yards that included a 79-yard score.

"It was only a matter of time," Smith said. "There's still some things we can grow in certain areas, still some things that we left out there."

Facing third-and-9 from their 44 with 1:45 left and the Vikings (3-3) still holding two timeouts, Hurts dropped back and dropped a 45-yard rainbow into Brown's arms to seal it after he beat former teammate Isaiah Rodgers with a slick double move up the sideline. Rodgers, in his first season with Minnesota, also got beat on Smith's touchdown.

"You don't have a game like that without the guys around," Hurts said. "I give a lot of credit to the collective of everyone hanging in there."

Carson Wentz went 26 for 42 for 313 yards on an erratic afternoon, getting picked off twice in his own territory and struggling on the other end while the Vikings had to settle for Will Reichard's field goals on five of six possessions inside the 20.

Hunt gave the Eagles a 14-3 lead early in the second quarter by sitting in his zone and reading the hurried throw toward star Justin Jefferson, as Jalen Carter hit Wentz hard.

"Don't throw it right to his chest. That would be great," Wentz said. "But I think they had a good call. I've got to be better and just progress or quite frankly take the sack there."

In the red

Wentz said during the week that he's too far removed from his time with Philadelphia to carry a grudge into this game, having made Minnesota his sixth stop in six seasons, but he didn't give his original team his best performance — particularly in the red zone.

Backup center Blake Brandel struggled badly there, too. He had an errant third-down shotgun snap that sailed over Wentz's head and cost the Vikings 22 yards in the first quarter and was run over by Moro Ojomo for a third-down sack in the fourth quarter from the 10.

Back on track, for now

Eagles offensive coordinator Kevin Patullo, who has taken plenty of heat over his first two months on the job, set Hurts up well with some well-timed calls.

Philadelphia opened the game by going 75 yards in 12 plays while draining 8:01 off the clock, and Hurts converted two fourth downs along the way — a predictable tush push from their 45 to get Hurts past the chains, then later a 37-yard strike for a score to Brown behind impeccable pass protection.

"Every time we get a fourth down conversion, I look at him and I say, 'Hey, I trust you in these scenarios. Thanks for making me right,'" Eagles coach Nick Sirianni said.



Ellen Schmidt/AP

Philadelphia Eagles quarterback Jalen Hurts prepares to pitch during the first half of against the Minnesota Vikings on Sunday in Minneapolis.



David Zalubowski/AP

Broncos kicker Wil Lutz (3) is congratulated by teammates after kicking the game-winning field goal during the second half against the New York Giants in Denver on Sunday.

Broncos stun Giants, cap rally with last-second FG

By Arnie Stapleton
Associated Press

DENVER — Once the bungling, bumbling Denver Broncos finally got going, they couldn't be stopped.

Shut out for three quarters, the Broncos rallied with 33 points in the fourth in one of the most stunning turnarounds in NFL history.

Wil Lutz kicked a 39-yard field goal as time expired, lifting Denver to a thrilling 33-32 win Sunday over the stunned New York Giants, who watched the Broncos score on their last five drives.

"I lost hope, I ain't gonna lie. I lost hope," star cornerback Patrick Surtain said.

"It was one of them games where we felt like we didn't execute. Going to film room, there's a lot of corrections. But one thing we didn't lose was composure," Surtain added. "We fought to the end. In this league, no matter how much you're down, there's always a will, and there's always a way."

At least now there is.

Denver's 33 fourth-quarter points were the most in NFL history by any team that was shut out for the first three quarters, and quarterback Bo Nix became the first player ever to run for two scores and throw for two touchdowns in a fourth quarter.

The Broncos' improbable comeback snapped a streak in which NFL teams had won 1,602 consecutive games when leading by 18 points in the final 6 minutes of a game.

"I don't even know how we scored 33 points in a quarter," Nix admitted. "That's kind of insane."

"You win a game like that, it's the best thing ever."

The Giants were in disbelief after losing leads of 19-0 and 26-8.

"This is going to haunt us for a long time," said New York tight end Daniel Bellinger.

"Tough loss," Giants coach Brian Daboll said. "Put their heart and soul into it. Not a lot of talking that needs to be done when you lose a game like that. Everybody gave everything they had."

When Denver (5-2) trailed 26-8 with 6:38 remaining in the game and was facing fourth-and-3, its win probability was less than 1%, according to Next Gen Stats.

The Broncos, though, scored on a 7-yard Nix scamper, R.J. Harvey's 2-yard catch after Justin Strnad's interception, an 18-yard keeper by Nix and Lutz's game-winner after Jaxson Dart seemingly broke Denver's hearts with a 1-yard TD with 37 seconds left that gave New York a 32-30 lead.

Jude McAtamney missed his second extra point of the afternoon, however, and after Tyler Badie returned the kickoff 19 yards to the 23, Nix found Marvin Mims for 29 yards and Courtland Sutton for 22.

With no timeouts remaining, the Broncos raced to the line of scrimmage at the Giants 21 and Nix spiked the ball with 2 seconds left.

The snap was high but Lutz nailed the field goal to secure Denver's fourth consecutive win overall and NFL-best eighth straight at home.

"I was proud we fought to get back in it," Broncos coach Sean Payton said. "It's like we had to find a way to clean up our mess."

Denver took a 30-26 lead on Nix's 18-yard scamper with 1:51 left. But New York (2-5) appeared to dodge the defeat when Broncos cornerback Riley Moss was whistled for pass interference on an incompletion to Beaux Collins near the goal line. Payton ran out onto the field to argue the call and was flagged for unsportsmanlike conduct. That put the ball at the 1 and Dart took it from there.

"That was silly," Payton said of his penalty. "I just wanted them to hear me. Can't do that."

The Broncos were actually in danger of getting shut out at home for the first time in their 66-year history when they were blanked for three quarters. Denver's managed 111 yards on its first eight possessions and got 295 yards on its final five drives.

The Broncos' 33-point quarter was the second-highest in NFL history, behind only a 34-point performance by Detroit in a 37-27 win over Chicago on Sept. 30, 2007.

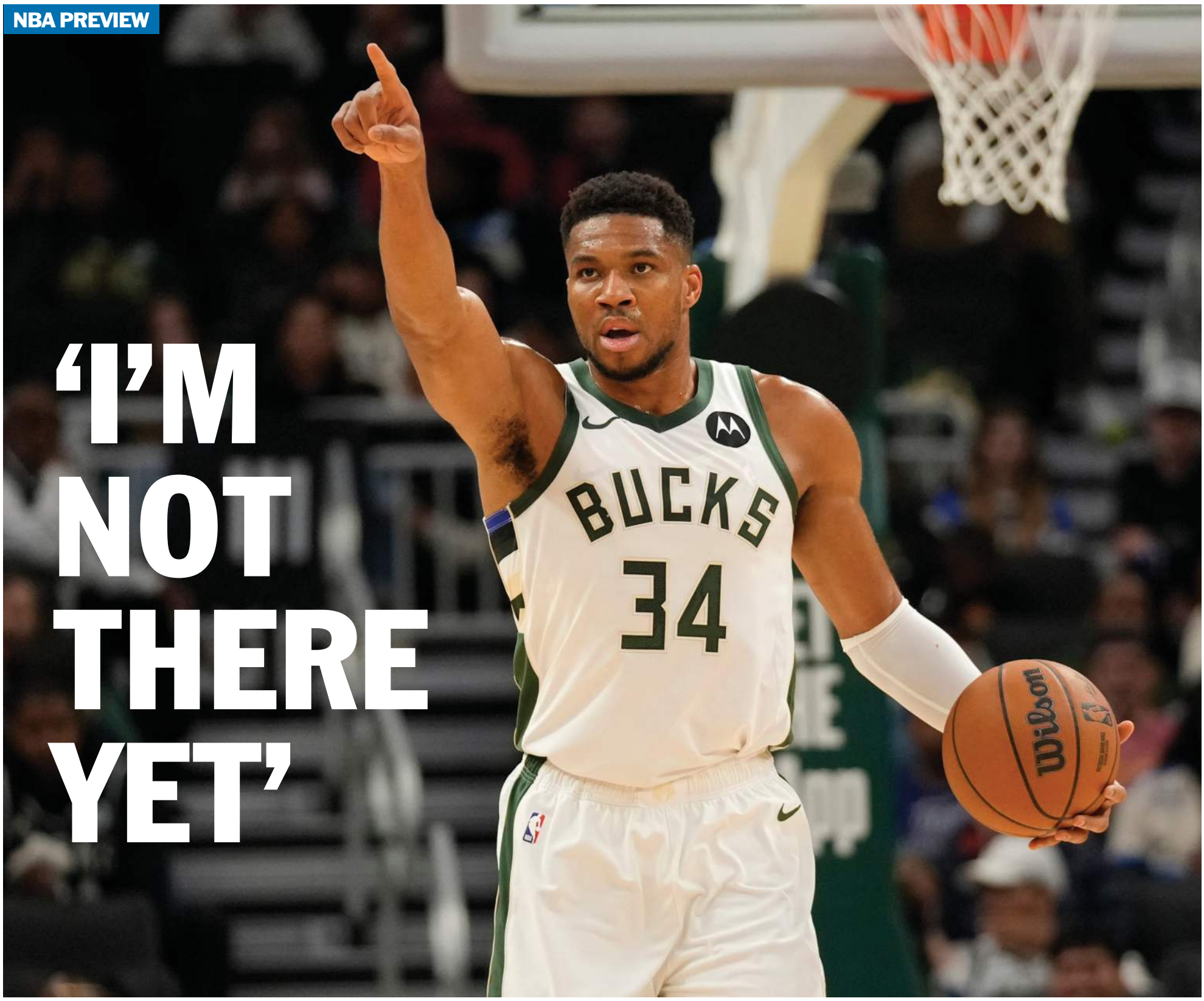
SPORTS



Historic comeback

Broncos rally with 33 points in fourth quarter to stun Giants ›› NFL, Page 23

NBA PREVIEW



KAYLA WOLF/AP

Bucks forward Giannis Antetokounmpo calls a play during a preseason game against the Oklahoma City Thunder on Oct. 14 in Milwaukee.

‘I’M NOT THERE YET’

Bucks star Antetokounmpo still out to prove he’s one of the all-time greats

BY TIM REYNOLDS
Associated Press

MIAMI

Giannis Antetokounmpo’s family home in Greece has a balcony that gives him what has described as an incredible view of Athens. The nighttime routine when he’s there typically goes like this: grab some fruit, head outside, gaze out at his homeland, let time just drift away.

In those moments, his mind always seems to wander.

“I just sit out there and think about what’s important for me,” Antetokounmpo said. “And every time I come to the conclusion: legacy. What I’m going to be remembered for.”

Regardless of what happens between now — the start of his 13th season in the NBA, all with the Milwaukee Bucks — and whenever Antetokounmpo decides that his playing days are over, much of that legacy is already secure.

He’s won a championship. He’s been an MVP. He’s been an NBA Finals MVP. He’s a perennial All-Star and All-NBA pick. He’s one of only seven players born somewhere other than the United States to have reached the 20,000-point mark. This summer, he led Greece to its first EuroBasket medal in 16 years.

But he wants more. Much more. Despite the resume, which is elite by any standard, Antetokounmpo doesn’t think he would be considered an all-time great yet. And that’s why on those Athens nights, while enjoying that plate of fruit, he convinces himself there’s more to accomplish.

“Giannis is one of the best players in the world. We think he’s the best player in the world,” Bucks general manager Jon Horst said. “Every time you have a season with him, you think you have a chance to win.”

Those aren’t just words. Over the last eight seasons combined, there have been 152 players who have appeared in at least 400 regular-season games. Of those, no player has been a winner more regularly than Antetokounmpo.

Milwaukee’s winning percentage in regular season games

SEE PROVE ON PAGE 19

Guerrero, Blue Jays win to force Game 7 ›› MLB Playoffs, Page 20

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