# SPORTS

SATURDAY

<< NO LONGER A CINDERELLA
Japan's Shibuno surges into the lead at the U.S. Women's Open in Houston. B5

ACADEMIES MOVE NORTH
For the first time in seven decades, annual Army-Navy game isn't in Philadelphia. B3

INSIDE

THE COMMONWEALTH CUP

## Pride of Cavaliers, Hokies on line in season finale

BY BENNETT CONLIN
THE DAILY PROGRESS

When Bronco Mendenhall first arrived at Virginia in 2016, the Cavaliers were barely ready to play Richmond, let alone Virginia Tech.

The story looks different in 2020, with the Cavaliers heading to Blacksburg with the Commonwealth Cup after a victory over the Hokies in 2019. The long losing streak ended last November, and the Cavaliers enter this weekend's matchup with a realistic shot of winning at Lane Stadium for the first time since 1998.

MORE ON GAME >>
Cup capsuke, keys and position machups. B2

"It's going to come right down to the wire," Virginia offensive coordinator Robert Anae said. "I think it's one of those games. Just look at the last two years. I give our kids credit because there were miles and miles to catch up to get to that type of game."

After losing 52–10 to Virginia Tech in 2016, U.Va. lost 10–0 in 2017 and 34–31 in overtime in 2018 before winning 39–30 last season.

The Cavaliers built themselves into a program capable of challenging and beating Virginia Tech. U.Va. won't need to play way above its average to beat the Hokies, but it will need to perform well in a few areas to build a winning streak in a rivalry dominated for years by Virginia Tech.

Perhaps the most important key to U.Va.'s success in any game this fall is taking care of the ball. Virginia is a perfect 5–0 this season when winning the turnover battle. When it loses the turnover margin, U.Va. is 0–4.

In a game of two evenly matched teams, turnovers could very well be the difference. The Hokies have a minus-6 turnover margin in their six losses, while they're plus-8 in their four victories.

Offensively, both squads enter the game

SEE COMMONWEALTH, B2

### TUNE IN

**VIRGINIA (5-4)**
**at VA. TECH (4-6)**
**Commonwealth Cup**
Lane Stadium, Blacksburg
Saturday, 8 p.m.
(ACC Network;
WJFK-FM 106.7,
WRAL-AM 1140)

FILE PHOTOS BY DANIEL SANGJIB MIN / TIMES-DISPATCH (RIGHT); DON PETERSEN / ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Players from Virginia Tech (like Courtney Price in 2011, left) and Virginia (Nick Grant last season, right) have treasured the moment they got to lift the Commonwealth Cup. Who will do it tonight?**

### QUEST FOR CUP HAS PRODUCED GREATNESS ON GRIDIRON

FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORT

SATURDAY'S GAME between Virginia and Virginia Tech will mark the 102nd time the state's principal college football program have battled to claim the coveted Commonwealth Cup. The Hokies presently have a 58–38–5 advantage, but the Cavaliers are looking to slice into that lead, having snapped Virginia Tech's 15-year win streak last season.

The rivalry has produced many competitive contests over the years. Here's a look at some of the more memorable ones:

#### 2019

**VIRGINIA 39, VIRGINIA TECH 30 (IN CHARLOTTESVILLE)**

This was arguably the most impactful game in the series, because the winner claimed the ACC's Coastal Division title. The Hokies couldn't contain Bryce Perkins (475 total yards) but kept the game close. The Cavaliers took a 33–30 lead on Brian Delaney's 48-yard field goal with less than two minutes remaining. Virginia's defense then rose up to sack Hendon Hooker on three straight plays, forcing the Hokies QB to fumble in the end zone on the final one, where the Cavaliers recovered to snap Tech's 15-year dominance.

FILE / STEVE HELBER / ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Hendon Hooker (2) took his lumps in last year's game.**

#### 1998

**VIRGINIA 36, VIRGINIA TECH 32 (IN BLACKSBURG)**

Trailing by 22 points at halftime, the Cavaliers staged a remarkable rally in Blacksburg, highlighted by Ahmad Hawkins' TD reception from Aaron Brooks. A Will Rainer interception preserved the win for Virginia.

FILE STEVE HELBER / ASSOCIAITED PRESS

**Hezekiah Grimsley's recovery of a Steven Peoples fumble helped the Hokies win in 2018.**

#### 2018

**VIRGINIA TECH 34, VIRGINIA 31, OT (IN BLACKSBURG)**

For the first time in 100 contests, the teams played an overtime game. Trailing 31–24 with two minutes remaining, the Hokies drove into the red zone, but running back Steven Peoples fumbled yards from the goal line. The ball rolled in the end zone where it was recovered by Tech's Hezekiah Grimsley, forcing overtime. Virginia Tech kicked a field goal to take the lead in overtime, then won when it recovered a Bryce Perkins fumble on the ensuing series.

#### 2003

**VIRGINIA 35, VIRGINIA TECH 21 (IN CHARLOTTESVILLE)**

The Hokies took a seven-point lead into the locker room at halftime, but the Cavaliers scored three unanswered touchdowns to take the lead for good. Wali Lundy rushed for three scores and added a TD reception. It would mark the last time Virginia beat Virginia Tech until 2019.

#### 1995

**VIRGINIA TECH 36, VIRGINIA 29 (IN CHARLOTTESVILLE)**

Virginia took a commanding 29–14 lead into the final quarter. Virginia Tech QB Jim Druckenmiller then rallied his team, capping off a 16-point unanswered run with a TD pass to Jermaine Holmes with 47 seconds. Antonio Banks' pick-6 of an errant Mike Groh pass sealed the win.

#### 1984

**VIRGINIA 26, VIRGINIA TECH 23 (IN BLACKSBURG)**

A year after being crushed 48–0 at home, the Cavaliers rallied from a 10-point fourth-quarter deficit, snapped a four-game losing streak in the series and posted their first significant win under coach George Welsh. John Ford's 33-yard fourth-down fingertip reception on a pass from Don Majkowski set up a key touchdown in Blacksburg.

HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

## Stafford delaying its start of play

COUNTY DECIDES CONDITIONS NOT SAFE FOR COMPETITION

BY JOEY LoMONACO
THE FREE LANCE–STAR

One Fredericksburg-area school district is pumping the brakes on winter sports. In an email addressed to "SCPS families" on Friday, Stafford County Superintendent Dr. Scott Kizner announced that his district will postpone athletics "until further clarification is provided."

In the letter, Kizner cited Gov. Ralph Northam's recent Executive Order 72 as well as updated guidance from the Virginia Department of Health and Virginia High School League as factoring into the decision.

The VHSL announced Thursday night that athletes will be "strongly advised" to wear masks at all times, including during competition. That follows

SEE WINTER, B6

PRO FOOTBALL

## 49ers' Williams not after payback

FORMER WASHINGTON TACKLE SAYS PAST IS PAST WHEN TEAMS FACE OFF

BY MICHAEL PHILLIPS
RICHMOND TIMES-DISPATCH

ASHBURN—Sunday should be the most emotionally charged game of the year for the San Francisco 49ers—except they insist it won't be.

Williams

San Francisco has three members of its organization who were once major contributors in Washington. Coach Kyle Shanahan was able to get his revenge last year, trashing Washington's homecoming game ("I thought that was a high school thing") then giving the game ball to his dad, Mike Shanahan, after a shutout win.

Former Pro Bowl left tackle Trent Williams and tight

SEE WILLIAMS, B3

Celebrating 50 YEARS Serving Fredericksburg Area
PURVIS FORD YEAR END SALES EVENT
Purvis FORD LINCOLN EVERYTHING we do is DRIVEN by YOU
Your trade saves you more with these Ford Trade assistance rebates.
2020 ESCAPE Gas — 0% APR for 60 Months Plus — Plus -$2,000 FORD TRADE ASSIST REBATE
2020 EDGE SE/SEL — 0% APR for 60 Months Plus — $2250 FORD REBATE — Plus -$3,000 FORD TRADE ASSIST REBATE
2020 EXPLORER — 0% APR for 72 Months Plus — $2500 FORD REBATE — Plus -$2,000 FORD TRADE ASSIST REBATE
2020 EXPEDITION XLT — 0% APR for 72 Months Plus — $1250 FORD REBATE — Plus -$4,000 FORD TRADE ASSIST REBATE
*TRADE MUST BE A 1995 OR NEWER VEHICLE THAT HAS BEEN OWNED AT LEAST 30 DAYS PRIOR TO TRADING. ALL PRICES EXCLUDES TAXES, TAGS, TITLE AND $749 DEALER PROCESS FEE.
0% APR for 60 MONTHS EQUALS $16.67 per 1000 FINANCED THRU FORD CREDIT, 0% APR for 72 MONTHS EQUALS $13.88 per 1000 FINANCED THRU FORD CREDIT. NOT ALL BUYERS WILL QUALIFY.. SALE ENDS 12/14/20.

## TODAY'S GAME CAPSULES

### RUTGERS (2-5, 2-5 BIG TEN) AT MARYLAND (2-2, 2-2)

**Where:** Capital One Field at Maryland Stadium
**Kickoff:** Noon | **TV:** Big Ten Network

#### KEY MATCHUP:

Jordan

**Rutgers MLB Olakunie Fatukasi vs. Maryland C Johnny Jordan**

Fatukasi, a 6–1, 234-pound senior, leads the Big Ten with 13.1 combined tackles per game, nearly three more than the next man. Jordan, a 6–1, 305-pound senior, will have his work cut out for him if the Terps are to establish the run.

Fatukasi

#### GAME NOTES:

- The Scarlet Knights have three sets of brothers on the roster: Bo and Max Melton, Aaron and Avery Young and Olakunle and Tunde Fatukasi.
- Bo Melton, a senior wide receiver is having a career year for Rutgers with 37 catches for 512 yards.
- Maryland freshman quarterback Taulia Tagovailoa's inconsistency has shown this season. He threw three interceptions at Northwestern, then tossed three touchdown passes against both Minnesota and Penn State before getting picked off three times at Indiana.
- The Knights' Olakunle Fatukasi is a semifinalist for the Butkus Award, which honors the nation's top linebacker.
- Maryland will honor seven seniors on Saturday, including running back Jake Funk, who is averaging 7.81 yards per carry in his return from a second ACL operation.

#### STATISTICAL LEADERS:

| | Rutgers | | | | Maryland | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Passing** | **C–A–I** | **Yds** | **TD** | | **C–A–I** | **Yds** | **TD** |
| Noah Vedral | 128–203–8 | 1,217 | 9 | T. Tagovailoa | 75–122–7 | 1,011 | 7 |
| **Rushing** | **Att** | **Yds** | **TD** | | **Att** | **Yds** | **TD** |
| Isiah Pacheco | 91 | 394 | 2 | Jake Funk | 43 | 336 | 2 |
| Noah Vedral | 59 | 144 | 1 | Peny Boone | 19 | 86 | 0 |
| **Receiving** | **Rec** | **Yds** | **TD** | | **Rec** | **Yds** | **TD** |
| Bo Melton | 37 | 512 | 6 | Dontay Demus | 23 | 342 | 3 |
| Aron Cruickshank | 31 | 225 | 1 | Rakim Jarrett | 12 | 213 | 2 |
| Shameen Jones | 28 | 317 | 3 | Jeshaun Jones | 9 | 152 | 1 |

### VIRGINIA (5-4, 4-4 ACC) AT VIRGINIA TECH (4-6, 4-5)

**Where:** Lane Stadium, Blacksburg | **Kickoff:** 8 p.m.
**TV:** ACCN | **Radio:** WJFK–FM 106.7; WRAL–AM 1140

#### KEY MATCHUP:

Gahm

**Virginia WLB Matt Gahm vs. Virginia Tech RB Khalil Herbert**

Herbert's (1,038 yards) strong legs has made the Hokies the top-rushing offense in the ACC. Expect Herbert to force Gahm, who's filling in for lost standout linebacker Charles Snowden, to try and stop him.

Herbert

#### GAME NOTES:

- Annual game that was originally scheduled for Sept. 19 but was postponed due to COVID-19 concerns.
- Virginia' snapped Virginia Tech's 15-game Virginia Tech series winning last year.
- The Hokies have defeated the Cavaliers 10 consecutive times at Lane Stadium; their overall mark in Blacksburg is 24–8–1.
- Virginia Tech quarterback Hendon Hooker and Braxton Burmeister both practiced a week after each was roughed up against Clemson.
- The Cavaliers have given up more pass plays of 20-plus yards (51) than any other Power Five program.
- Both teams have totaled 32 sacks.

#### STATISTICAL LEADERS:

| | Virginia | | | | Virginia Tech | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Passing** | **C–A–I** | **Yds** | **TD** | | **C–A–I** | **Yds** | **TD** |
| B. Armstrong | 132–222–9 | 1,858 | 16 | H. Hooker | 98–150–5 | 1,339 | 9 |
| Lindell Stone | 60–102–3 | 449 | 4 | B. Burmeister | 32–62–1 | 475 | 1 |
| **Rushing** | **Att** | **Yds** | **TD** | | **Att** | **Yds** | **TD** |
| Brendan Armstrong | 111 | 529 | 5 | Khalil Herbert | 134 | 1,038 | 7 |
| Wayne Taulapapa | 86 | 387 | 5 | Hendon Hooker | 120 | 744 | 9 |
| **Receiving** | **Rec** | **Yds** | **TD** | | **Rec** | **Yds** | **TD** |
| Billy Kemp IV | 58 | 571 | 1 | Tre Turner | 31 | 504 | 3 |
| Terrell Jana | 33 | 399 | 1 | Tay. Robinson | 33 | 494 | 2 |
| Tony Poljan | 33 | 345 | 5 | James Mitchell | 23 | 368 | 4 |

## COMMONWEALTH

▶ FROM B1

with what should be ample opportunities to score. Virginia allowed 520 passing yards to Boston College the last time out, making consistent errors defensively that led to big passing plays.

At the same time, the Cavaliers secured three interceptions to help come up with the win over the Eagles.

"There was a lot of yardage everywhere, so we just didn't execute our assignments at a very high level, and then we made some critical plays when it really mattered, which was huge," defensive coordinator Nick Howell said.

When it comes to the mistakes, Howell believes they can be improved.

"There's no like magical formula or rocket science," Howell said. "When things go wrong, the chances that it's something simple is pretty high, and we just got to fix those things."

The miscues need to be improved. Virginia Tech's offense struggles as a pure passing attack, but the Hokies are dangerous when they're able to complete a few passes and lean on their rushing threats, while implementing the occasional play-action pass.

Virginia Tech thrives on the ground, leading the ACC in rushing with 238.9 yards per game. Running back Khalil Herbert is dynamic, and quarterback Hendon Hooker runs well when he's healthy and on the field. He struggled to stay warm in Virginia Tech's last game against Clemson, so his action was limited on the cold December night.

Last season, Hooker rushed for a touchdown and added 311 passing yards in the loss to U.Va. He put the Hokies in positions to win, but a few turnovers put the Cavaliers over the top.

Virginia Tech's offensive weapons are more than capable of scoring in bunches against Virginia, though. U.Va.'s offense can do the same.

Quarterback Brennan Armstrong became the first Virginia quarterback with consecutive 400-yard performances last week, and he's playing exceptional football. Armstrong, along with a solid offensive line and a dynamic group of receivers, has led the Cavaliers to 40-point outings in three of the last four games.

Mendenhall praised the offensive strategy after the Boston College game, calling the game plan one of the best of the season.

"The design looks good when the guys up front are doing their job, and it starts there," Anae said. "The design looks good when we're doing stuff that makes sense for our quarterback."

Virginia's offense seems to have found a sweet spot in terms of Armstrong's play and the understanding of how to best move the ball down the field given the personnel on this team's roster.

With both defenses struggling and the offenses possessing talented playmakers, the game could turn into a high-scoring affair.

Whatever happens, both sides expect a close contest. Betting lines agree, with Virginia Tech sitting as roughly a field-goal favorite at home.

Winning the turnover battle will be crucial and executing well in all three phases will be a key just as it is every week. While the game matters more, the keys to winning remain the same as a typical week. Even the limited crowd due to COVID-19 restrictions stays constant this week in Blacksburg.

"Every team wants to win every game," Mendenhall said. "Sometimes when you see the same team for multiple times, you know the players, maybe from the same state or there's other relationships, it just becomes more personal. The environment, the atmosphere will probably be similar, the personal nature of it will probably be the difference if there is one."

It's still football with two evenly matched foes, but the game carries extra importance to everyone involved.

"I don't know that I've ever said it's just another week," Virginia Tech head coach Justin Fuente said. "It's certainly not."

## COMMONWEALTH CUP

### TEAMS' KEYS TO VICTORY

#### FOR VIRGINIA:

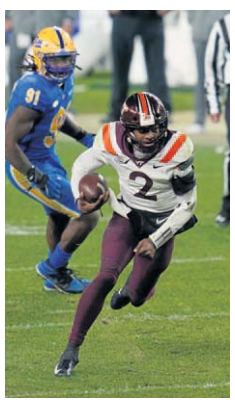
**Win the turnover battle:** This remains the key indicator of Virginia's success. When the Cavaliers win the turnover margin, they're undefeated. They've lost every game this fall when they have a negative Creating a couple of turnovers could very well be enough to pick up a win.

**Stop the pass:** UVa's defense gave up an astounding 520 passing yards to Boston College last week. Snagging three interceptions helped, but the Cavaliers can't allow a mediocre Virginia Tech passing offense to generate consistent chunk plays through the air. The Hokies are dynamic on the ground, and if they gain yards easily through the air, it's going to be a long day for UVa's defense.

**Stay hungry:** Of course UVa cares about this game, but Virginia Tech lost the Commonwealth Cup last season and enters Saturday on a four-game losing streak. The Hokies are desperate. The Wahoos need to match Virginia Tech's intensity.

ERIN EDGERTON / DAILY PROGRESS VIA AP

**TE Tony Poljan (top) and the Cavaliers must fly higher than the charged-up Hokies.**



KEITH SRAKOCIC / ASSOCIATED PRESS

**The Hokies must play to their strengths by letting QB Hendon Hooker (2) look for running avenues.**

#### FOR VIRGINIA TECH:

**Lean on play action:** Virginia Tech's offensive strength is running the ball with quarterback Hendon Hooker and running back Khalil Herbert. UVa's defense is weakest against the pass. There should be opportunities for the Hokies to use play action to generate successful passing plays.

**Play better defense:** Virginia Tech's defense doesn't need to turn into Notre Dame or Clemson, but the Hokies allowed 45 points to Clemson and 47 to Pittsburgh in their past two games. Allowing 40 or more points isn't a recipe for success. The Hokies need a better defensive showing.

**Win one-on-one matchups:** Whether it's Herbert making a man miss in the hole or wide receiver Tré Turner securing a reception over a defensive back, Virginia Tech's offense needs to win one-on-one matchups. U.Va. struggles in those situations.

—Compiled by Bennett Conlin of The (Charlottesville) Daily Progress

### MATCHUPS THAT WILL DETERMINE OUTCOME

#### QUARTERBACK PLAY

Virginia Tech's expected starter Hendon Hooker has been up and down all season long.r. Virginia starter Brennan Armstrong has seemingly gotten better and better each week and is playing his best football right now. **Edge: Virginia**

#### RUNNING GAME

Virginia Tech's Khalil Herbert got off to a tear before suffering a hamstring injury: he's rushed for just 428 yards in the last six games after racing for 592 yards in the first four. He was much improved against Clemson, and he may have injured starting center Brock Hoffman back. Virginia is rushing a respectable 174.7 yards per game, but most of it comes from Armstrong. Wayne Taulapapa hasn't really gotten in gear yet this year. **Edge: Virginia Tech**

#### THIRD-DOWN CONVERSIONS

Virginia and Virginia Tech have been two of the ACC's least efficient teams on third downs. The Hokies convert on just 35.2 percent of their third downs, and the Cavaliers have been even worse (33.9 percent). Defensively, opponents have a nearly identical conversion rate on third down against Tech (39.7 percent) and U.Va. (39.8 percent). **Edge: Even**

#### PASS DEFENSE

Both units have been particularly bad in pass coverage. Whoever's pass defense is better in this one may have a significant edge. **Edge: Even**

#### INTANGIBLES

The biggest non-X's-and-O's factor in this game may be its potential finality. Both teams are lukewarm on playing in a bowl game, for various reasons. The Hokies would like some bowl game to ask them, for no other reason than to keep up appearances of its postseason streak. So this year's game has even more emotional juice than normal. Managing that emotion and channeling it into quality football is the key. Which team is better equipped to do that? When you consider the sting of last year's streak-ending loss, plus the chatter about the future of coach Justin Fuente, Virginia Tech has a lot more swirling around it this year than Virginia. **Edge: Virginia**

—Compiled by Mike Barber of The Richmond Times–Dispatch

## Players opt out of game in protest

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**LOGAN, Utah**—Utah State has canceled its football game against Colorado State amid concerns voiced about religious discrimination during the search for a new football coach.

Aggies players issued a statement to Stadium on Friday, saying they were opting out of Saturday's game because of alleged comments made by University President Noelle Cockett about the religious and cultural background of interim coach Frank Maile.

Cockett's comments were reportedly made during a video call Tuesday with athletic director John Hartwell and the Utah State University Leadership Council to discuss Maile's candidacy for the permanent head coaching job.

BIG TEN

# Win may give Terps '21 mojo

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Michael Locksley's effort to rebuild the Maryland football program appeared to be gaining momentum in the early stage of his second year at the school.

Working their way around COVID-19 and an abbreviated Big Ten-only schedule, the Terrapins overcame an opening loss at Northwestern on Oct 25 to win at home against Minnesota and at Penn State. Then came back-to-back cancellations because of an outbreak of the virus at Maryland, a loss at Indiana, followed by the cancellation of last Saturday's game at Michigan because of COVID-19 problems among the Wolverines.

So, as they prepare the Saturday's matchup against Rutgers (2—5), the Terrapins (2—2) will be looking to complete this irregular regular season with a winning record and an unbeaten mark at home (so far they're 1-0).

"It means the world, especially for me, someone who's trying to help Locks put this program back where it needs to be," sophomore defensive tackle Mosiah Nasili-Kite said.

The Terps have played only once since Nov. 7. It's tough to gauge progress from a small sampling of games, but this matchup against the Scarlet Knights should give Locksley an indication of where Maryland stands.

"It's a great opportunity and a great measuring stick to see where we are, in kind of [season] 1.5," Locksley said.

Scouting Maryland has been difficult for Greg Schiano, who returned to Rutgers last December for a second stint as head coach.

"I mean, there's four games. So that's what you go off of," Schiano said. "We'll have to adjust on the fly. That's always the case. But it may be more the case this week, and we're prepared for that."

The Scarlet Knights have thus far managed to play a complete schedule, a rarity in the Big Ten.

## note

### EAGLES OPT OUT OF BOWL GAME

**BOSTON**—Boston College, which managed to escape the worst of the coronavirus outbreak and the schedule and roster shuffling that has affected so many other college football teams, is passing on the opportunity to play in a bowl so players can spend Christmas with their families.

BC is the first school to forego the postseason because of the pandemic. The Eagles (6—5, 5—5 Atlantic Coast Conference) played all 11 scheduled games, with just one of them postponed just one day—because of shuffling elsewhere in the ACC.

Meanwhile, four more major college football games scheduled for Saturday—including two with ranked Big 12 teams—were canceled.

—The Associated Press

## SCHEDULE

### AP TOP 25

#### FRIDAY'S GAME

**No. 21 Marshall** vs. Charlotte, canceled

#### SATURDAY'S GAMES

**No. 1 Alabama** vs. Arkansas, noon
**No. 4 Ohio State** vs. Michigan, postponed
**No. 5 Texas A&M** at Mississippi, postponed
**No. 6 Florida** vs. LSU, 7
**No. 7 Cincinnati** at **No. 24 Tulsa,** canceled
**No. 8 Georgia** at Missouri, noon
**No. 10 Miami** vs. **No. 17 North Carolina,** 3:30 p.m.
**No. 11 Oklahoma** at West Virginia, canceled
**No. 12 Indiana** vs. Purdue, 3:30 p.m.
**No. 13 BYU** vs. San Diego State, 10:30
**No. 14 Northwestern** vs. Illinois, noon
**No. 15 Oklahoma State** at Baylor, 7 p.m.
**No. 16 Wisconsin** at **No. 19 Iowa**, 3:30 p.m.
**No. 18 Coastal Carolina** at Troy, 3 p.m.
**No. 20 Southern Cal** at UCLA, 7:30 p.m.
**No. 22 Washington** at **No. 23 Oregon**, 4 p.m.

### REGION

#### SATURDAY'S GAMES

Rutgers at **Maryland,** noon
**Navy** at Army, 3:30 p.m.
**Virginia** at **Virginia Tech,** 8 p.m.

SERVICE ACADEMIES

# Knights willing hosts for Middies

FOR FIRST TIME IN 77 YEARS, THE ANNUAL ARMY–NAVY GAME WON'T BE PLAYED AT A NEUTRAL FIELD

BY JOHN KEKIS
ASSOCIATED PRESS

FILE / MATT ROURKE / ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Army's Ahmad Bradshaw holds up the Commander-in-Chief's Trophy after Army defeated Navy in 2017.**

Navy coach Ken Niumatalolo never tires of the feeling that permeates the locker room in the moments before the opening kickoff of the annual matchup against Army.

Niumatalolo

"There's a chill that goes through you unlike any other game," Niumatalolo said. "It's the craziest thing because you're in the locker room and it's quiet, a little bit serene, and then you step outside and there's this rush and you know it's different."

The 121st meeting between the service academy rivals is Saturday, and this one will be very different. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, for the first time in 77 years the game will be played at West Point's venerable Michie Stadium. Both schools agreed to move it from its customary site in Philadelphia after attendance limits were placed on outdoor events in Pennsylvania because of concerns over the novel coronavirus and it was Army's turn to be the home team.

This show must go on just as it did for two years during World War II at the urging of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, with games played at both academies.

"We are excited we are able to play this game here for only the fourth time in history," Army coach Jeff Monken said. "The state of our world right now has forced the game away from Philadelphia. It will be special to play it here. It will be very nostalgic and really a great piece in the history of this rivalry."

No fans will be allowed at Michie Stadium—capacity 38,000 instead of nearly 70,000 at Lincoln Financial Field. But at least the entire Brigade of Midshipmen and Corps of Cadets (about 9,000 total) will be there, and President Trump is scheduled to fly in.

Navy (3–6) leads Army (7–2) 61–52–7 in the series, which started in 1890 when West Point cadet Dennis Michie accepted a challenge from Navy to play a football game. The Midshipmen arrived at West Point by ferry, and with one year of football experience to none for Army they easily prevailed 24–0 on The Plain before about 2,000 spectators.

The Black Knights returned the favor the next year at Annapolis, winning 32–16 and a football rivalry like no other was beginning to blossom.

Navy is unbeaten in three games at West Point and won the previous encounter 13–0 in 1943, when the great Glenn Davis was a plebe at West Point. The Midshipmen won last year's game 31–7 behind the stellar play of senior quarterback Malcolm Perry, who rushed for 304 yards and two touchdowns.

### QB QUESTIONS

Both teams have had quarterback issues. Injuries have forced Monken to use six players at the position. Niumatalolo started freshman Xavier Arline in last week's 19-6 loss to Tulsa, the team's fourth straight setback, and he could get the nod.

"He did some good things last week, but he was also a freshman last week," Niumatalolo said. "But what better stage to prepare you for the biggest game of the year than playing the 22nd-ranked team in the country. We're definitely encouraged by that."

Junior Christian Anderson was the starter for Army when the season began. Monken is keeping his choice a secret. Army's triple option is averaging just under 300 yards rushing per game to 185.3 for the Midshipmen.

### NO. 68

Navy senior tri-captain Billy Honaker will wear No. 68 in honor of former offensive lineman David Forney, who died on campus at age 22 in February 2019. The number was not issued this season, but the team honored Forney by wearing a sticker on the backs of their helmets that pictures him running out of the tunnel at the 2019 Army–Navy game carrying the American flag with the word "Brotherhood" underneath.

### TOUGH ROAD

If Navy wins and Army defeats Air Force next week, the Midshipmen will retain the Commander-in-Chief's Trophy, emblematic of supremacy among the academies. Navy is the first team in service academy football history to play both of its rivals on the road in a season. The Midshipmen lost 40–7 at Air Force in early October.

**TUNE IN**

**NAVY (3–6) at ARMY (7–2)**
**121st meeting**
Michie Stadium, West Point, N.Y.
3:30 p.m. (CBS)

## WILLIAMS

▶ FROM B1

end Jordan Reed will get their first shot at revenge on Sunday, though Williams insists his anger isn't directed at the players who will take the field.

"The people who helped instigate that situation are no longer part of the organization," he said, referring to former team president Bruce Allen and trainer Larry Hess. "I'm not going to sit here and carry some grudge just because people expect me to carry it."

**TUNE IN**

**WASHINGTON (5–7) at 49ers (5–7)**
in Glendale, Ariz.
Sunday, 4:15 p.m.
(Fox; WGRQ–FM 95.9)

Shanahan struck a similarly conciliatory tone, noting his respect for new Washington coach Ron Rivera.

"I feel like I've gotten closure on it," he said. "I respect the hell out of Ron Rivera. I love [personnel chief] Kyle Smith and the guys that I know there. Those guys are doing a great job. I can tell they're being led very well."

Reed is the lone member of the trio who left without a cloud of controversy—Washington decided to move on after he suffered seven documented concussions, leading to questions about whether he should play football again.

Shanahan said he shared those concerns, but it was in part an endorsement from Williams that led him to reconsider.

With Shanahan's departure having been well documented over the past few years, it's Williams who is in the spotlight this week ahead of Sunday's game.

FILE / RICK SCUTERI / ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Left tackle Trent Williams left Washington on acrimonious terms.**

Williams took some time to reflect in a call with a handful of Washington media members on Thursday night. He did not play the 2019 season after undergoing surgery to remove a growth on his head—something he feels Washington doctors did not do enough to proactively diagnose and treat.

Then Allen and Hess were fired, and Rivera entered, leading Williams to believe he might return—but at that point, he requested a new, long-term contract from Washington, which Rivera wasn't willing to give sight unseen.

For Williams, the departure is still fresh. He was asked what he wants his legacy in Washington to be.

"If you ask people who kept up with the situation, they'd probably appreciate the seven Pro Bowls that I gave them while I was there," he said. "If you talked to people who don't know much about the situation,they'd probably tell you I betrayed the team. It depends who you ask."

# Liberty's Freeze has COVID-19

BY DAMIEN SORDELETT
THE NEWS AND ADVANCE

Freeze

LYNCHBURG—Liberty announced Friday morning that football coach Hugh Freeze tested positive for COVID-19.

The university revealed Freeze received the positive test earlier this week, has experienced mild symptoms and is self-isolating while following the guidelines set forth by Liberty's medical staff and local health officials.

He is the 22nd FBS head coach to reveal a positive test.

The program's statement on Freeze's condition said he looks forward to rejoining the team for bowl game preparation next week.

The Flames (9–1) paused all team-related activities Dec. 3 and were forced to cancel their regular-season finale at Coastal Carolina because of an increase in coronavirus cases in the program.

Freeze said Dec. 3 there was only one full-time defensive staff member available for practices prior to the pause. Several of the players who had tested positive and would have missed the game at Coastal were significant contributors, according to Freeze.

COLLEGE WEEKEND PREVIEW

# Buffs have eye on Trojans–Bruins

BY ERIC OLSON
AP COLLEGE FOOTBALL WRITER

A weekend devoid of drama appears to be setting up in college football unless you're Colorado.

Southern California (4–0, 4–0) can lock up a spot in the Pac-12 championship game if it beats crosstown rival UCLA on Saturday even if Colorado beats Utah to remain undefeated in the Pac-12 South.

Colorado (4–0, 3–0) has had two games canceled by COVID-19; the Trojans lost one game to the virus, the one against the Buffaloes.

If CU and USC win this weekend, the Trojans would go to the title game based on the tiebreaker that gives the nod to the team with the higher College Football Playoff ranking. The Trojans are No. 15 and the Buffs are No. 21.

So if you're a Colorado fan, you're cheering hard for the Buffs in the morning and, if they win, for the Bruins at night.

Top-ranked Alabama is the only team among the top four in the CFP rankings playing this week, and the Crimson Tide are a 31-point favorite at Arkansas.

### BEST GAME

**No. 25 Wisconsin at No. 19 Iowa**

The Hawkeyes (5–2, 5–2 Big Ten) are averaging better than 37 points during their five-game win streak, their longest since the magical 2015 season that saw them go 12–0 in the regular season.

Wisconsin (2–2, 2–2) has had a bumpy ride. Graham Mertz had one of the best starting debuts in FBS history against Illinois but hasn't come close to duplicating that 20-for-21 performance.

KEITH BIRMINGHAM / ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER VIA AP

**Kedon Slovis will lead Southern Cal against UCLA on Saturday night.**

The Badgers, ranked as high as No. 9 before having three games in five weeks canceled because of COVID-19, have scored a combined 13 points in losing their last two.

### HEISMAN WATCH

Alabama's Mac Jones overtook Florida's Kyle Trask as the favorite with a stellar performance against LSU. That's according to oddsmakers.

Jones closes the regular season at Arkansas after throwing for 385 yards and four touchdowns in the Crimson Tide's 55–17 win.

Trask gets his turn against LSU Saturday.

Two other Heisman contenders, Clemson's Trevor Lawrence and Notre Dame's Ian Book, are idle until they square off in the ACC championship game next week.

### NUMBERS TO KNOW

**0:** Second-half points allowed by Colorado in back-to-back games against San Diego State and Arizona, the first time in 18 years the Buffaloes had blanked opponents after half in consecutive games.

**6:** Fourth-quarter comebacks for wins in Baylor quarterback Charlie Brewer's career.

**7:** Consecutive weeks Indiana has been ranked in the Top 25, matching the school regular-season record set by the 1945 team.

**10:** Miami scoring drives of 80 yards or longer the last four games. The Hurricanes had two such drives in their first five games.

### UNDER THE RADAR

**San Jose State vs. Nevada, at Las Vegas.**

The winner clinches a spot in the Mountain West title game, with the loser advancing depending on the outcome of the Wyoming–Boise State game.

The Spartans (5–0) can become the first San Jose State team to go 6–0 since the 13-0 campaign in 1939. Nevada (6–1) is led by sophomore Carson Strong, who has thrown for 330 yards per game with 21 touchdowns against four interceptions.

This was supposed to be a home game for San Jose State. It was moved to Vegas because of COVID-19 protocols in California.

### HOT SEAT COACH

Eastern Michigan's Chris Creighton did an admirable job reviving a moribund program, getting the Eagles to a bowl in his third season. But things are stale in Ypsilanti. The Eagles are 1–4, and Creighton is 29–51 in seven years. His contract runs through 2022.

# Akers runs wild, Newton benched in Rams' rout

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NFL

**THURSDAY'S LATE GAME**

| | |
|---|---|
| PATRIOTS | 3 |
| RAMS | 24 |

INGLEWOOD, Calif—With rookie Cam Akers running wild for the Rams and his defensive teammates thoroughly stifling the Patriots, Los Angeles got a tiny measure of payback for its Super Bowl embarrassment two years ago.

Akers rushed for 171 yards in a breakout performance, Kenny Young returned an interception 79 yards for a touchdown and the Rams clinched their fourth straight winning season with a 24–3 victory over the New England Patriots on Thursday night.

Jared Goff rushed for a touchdown and threw a TD pass to Cooper Kupp as the NFC West-leading Rams (9–4) rolled to a one-sided victory in a rematch of their 13–3 Super Bowl loss in February 2019.

While the Rams' offense looked sharp, their defense pushed the Patriots (6–7) perilously close to disarray. New England managed only 220 total yards—just 62 in the second half with a series of misbegotten drives.

Cam Newton went 9 of 16 for 119 yards and got sacked four times before the 2015 NFL MVP was replaced by Jarrett Stidham for the final three series in the fourth quarter.

ASHLEY LANDIS / ASSOCIATED PRESS

**The Rams' Cam Akers (23) breaks off a long run against the Patriots on Thursday night.**

Five days after the Patriots scored 45 points at SoFi Stadium against the Chargers, New England endangered its push for a 12th straight playoff berth with only its second loss in six games.

Ask after the game if the Patriots would change signal-callers next week, New England head coach Bill Belichick doused the speculation: "Cam is our quarterback."

Aaron Donald had 1½ sacks to move into the overall NFL lead with 12½ this season.

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| New England | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | — 3 |
| L.A. Rams | 10 | 7 | 7 | 0 | — 24 |

**First Quarter**
LAR—Goff 1 run (Gay kick), 11:21.
LAR—FG Gay 35, 5:16.

**Second Quarter**
LAR—Young 79 interception return (Gay kick), 14:46.
NE—FG Folk 29, 1:04.

**Third Quarter**
LAR—Kupp 2 pass from Goff (Gay kick), 1:33.
A—0.

| | NE | LAR |
|---|---|---|
| First downs | 10 | 17 |
| Total Net Yards | 220 | 318 |
| Rushes-yards | 29-107 | 36-186 |
| Passing | 113 | 132 |
| Punt Returns | 5-47 | 1-8 |
| Kickoff Returns | 0-0 | 1-13 |
| Interceptions Ret. | 1-0 | 1-79 |
| Comp-Att-Int | 14-23-1 | 16-25-1 |
| Sacked-Yards Lost | 6-33 | 1-5 |
| Punts | 6-51.7 | 6-41.3 |
| Fumbles-Lost | 1-0 | 0-0 |
| Penalties-Yards | 5-27 | 5-35 |
| Time of Possession | 28:14 | 31:46 |

**INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS**

RUSHING–New England, Harris 11-50, Michel 7-22, White 3-16, Newton 7-16, Stidham 1-3. L.A. Rams, Akers 29-171, Goff 4-11, Henderson 2-5, Woods 1-(minus 1).

PASSING–New England, Newton 9-16-1-119, Stidham 5-7-0-27. L.A. Rams, Goff 16-25-1-137.

RECEIVING–New England, Byrd 5-48, Meyers 4-47, Harry 3-49, White 1-2, Harris 1-0. L.A. Rams, Kupp 5-33, Woods 5-32, Higbee 2-34, Akers 2-23, Everett 1-9, Reynolds 1-6.

MISSED FIELD GOALS–None.

# SCOREBOARD

## PRO FOOTBALL

**NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE**

**AMERICAN CONFERENCE**

| East | W | L | T | Pct | PF | PA |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Buffalo | 9 | 3 | 0 | .750 | 333 | 306 |
| Miami | 8 | 4 | 0 | .667 | 303 | 212 |
| New England | 6 | 7 | 0 | .462 | 277 | 279 |
| N.Y. Jets | 0 | 12 | 0 | .000 | 180 | 353 |
| **South** | **W** | **L** | **T** | **Pct** | **PF** | **PA** |
| Indianapolis | 8 | 4 | 0 | .667 | 328 | 273 |
| Tennessee | 8 | 4 | 0 | .667 | 359 | 326 |
| Houston | 4 | 8 | 0 | .333 | 288 | 323 |
| Jacksonville | 1 | 11 | 0 | .083 | 251 | 352 |
| **North** | **W** | **L** | **T** | **Pct** | **PF** | **PA** |
| Pittsburgh | 11 | 1 | 0 | .917 | 334 | 211 |
| Cleveland | 9 | 3 | 0 | .750 | 306 | 321 |
| Baltimore | 7 | 5 | 0 | .583 | 316 | 231 |
| Cincinnati | 2 | 9 | 1 | .208 | 237 | 308 |
| **West** | **W** | **L** | **T** | **Pct** | **PF** | **PA** |
| x-Kansas City | 11 | 1 | 0 | .917 | 370 | 254 |
| Las Vegas | 7 | 5 | 0 | .583 | 323 | 347 |
| Denver | 4 | 8 | 0 | .333 | 225 | 320 |
| L.A. Chargers | 3 | 9 | 0 | .250 | 277 | 345 |

**NATIONAL CONFERENCE**

| East | W | L | T | Pct | PF | PA |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| N.Y. Giants | 5 | 7 | 0 | .417 | 231 | 265 |
| Washington | 5 | 7 | 0 | .417 | 264 | 260 |
| Phila. | 3 | 8 | 1 | .292 | 253 | 307 |
| Dallas | 3 | 9 | 0 | .250 | 268 | 393 |
| **South** | **W** | **L** | **T** | **Pct** | **PF** | **PA** |
| x-New Orleans | 10 | 2 | 0 | .833 | 347 | 241 |
| Tampa Bay | 7 | 5 | 0 | .583 | 344 | 280 |
| Atlanta | 4 | 8 | 0 | .333 | 311 | 302 |
| Carolina | 4 | 8 | 0 | .333 | 280 | 300 |
| **North** | **W** | **L** | **T** | **Pct** | **PF** | **PA** |
| Green Bay | 9 | 3 | 0 | .750 | 379 | 299 |
| Minnesota | 6 | 6 | 0 | .500 | 319 | 329 |
| Chicago | 5 | 7 | 0 | .417 | 246 | 284 |
| Detroit | 5 | 7 | 0 | .417 | 286 | 358 |
| **West** | **W** | **L** | **T** | **Pct** | **PF** | **PA** |
| L.A. Rams | 9 | 4 | 0 | .692 | 325 | 246 |
| Seattle | 8 | 4 | 0 | .667 | 353 | 321 |
| Arizona | 6 | 6 | 0 | .500 | 332 | 296 |
| San Francisco | 5 | 7 | 0 | .417 | 285 | 288 |

x-clinched playoff spot

**Thursday's Games**

L.A. Rams 24, New England 3

**Sunday's Games**

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

**Monday's Games**

Baltimore at Cleveland, 8:15 p.m.

**Thursday, Dec. 17**

L.A. Chargers at Las Vegas, 8:20 p.m.

**Saturday, Dec. 19**

Buffalo at Denver, 4:30 p.m.
Carolina at Green Bay, 8:15 p.m.

**Sunday, Dec. 20**

Chicago at Minnesota, 1 p.m.
Detroit at Tennessee, 1 p.m.
Houston at Indianapolis, 1 p.m.
Jacksonville at Baltimore, 1 p.m.
New England at Miami, 1 p.m.
San Francisco at Dallas, 1 p.m.
Seattle at Washington, 1 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Atlanta, 1 p.m.
N.Y. Jets at L.A. Rams, 4:05 p.m.
Phila. at Arizona, 4:05 p.m.
Kansas City at New Orleans, 4:25 p.m.
Cleveland at N.Y. Giants, 8:20 p.m.

**Monday, Dec. 21**

Pittsburgh at Cincinnati, 8:15 p.m.

## COLLEGE

**FOOTBALL**

**(Subject to change)**

**Thursday's Games**

Southern Miss. 45, FAU 31
Pittsburgh 34, Georgia Tech 20

**Friday's Games**

**SOUTH**

W. Carolina (0-3) at North Carolina (7-3), ppd.

**SOUTHWEST**

North Texas 45, UTEP 43

**FAR WEST**

Arizona St. 70, Arizona 7
Nevada (6-1) at San Jose St. (5-0), late

**Saturday's Games**

**EAST**

Rutgers (2-5) at Maryland (2-2), Noon
Michigan St. (2-4) at Penn St. (2-5), Noon
Louisville (3-7) at Boston College (6-5), ppd.
Akron (1-4) at Buffalo (4-0), 2:30
Navy (3-6) at Army (7-2), 3

**SOUTH**

Wake Forest (4-3) at Louisville (3-7), Noon
Troy (5-5) at South Alabama (4-7), ppd.
Texas A&M (7-1) at Tennessee (2-6), ppd.
Coastal Carolina (10-0) at Troy (5-5), 3
North Carolina (7-3) at Miami (8-1), 3:30
Houston (3-3) at Memphis (6-3), 3:45
Tennessee (2-6) at Vanderbilt (0-8), 4
Duke (2-8) at Florida St. (2-6), 4
Appalachian St. (7-3) at Georgia Southern (7-4), 6
LSU (3-5) at Florida (8-1), 7
Auburn (5-4) at Mississippi St. (2-6), 7:30
Virginia (5-4) at Virginia Tech (4-6), 8

**MIDWEST**

Georgia (6-2) at Missouri (5-3), Noon
N.Illinois(0-5)atE.Michigan(1-4),Noon
Minnesota (2-3) at Nebraska (2-4), Noon
Illinois (2-4) at Northwestern (5-1), Noon
W. Michigan (4-1) at Ball St. (4-1), Noon
Vanderbilt (0-8) at Missouri (5-3), ppd.
Cent. Michigan (3-2) at Toledo (3-2), 3
Wisconsin (2-2) at Iowa (5-2), 3:30

**SOUTHWEST**

Alabama (9-0) at Arkansas (3-6), Noon
Louisiana-Monroe (0-10) at Arkansas St. (4-7), ppd.
UAB (4-3) at Rice (2-2), 1
Oklahoma St. (6-3) at Baylor (2-6), 3:30
Louisiana Tech (5-3) at TCU (5-4), 7
Mississippi (4-4) at Texas A&M (7-1), ppd.

**FAR WEST**

Utah (1-2) at Colorado (4-0), Noon
California (1-3) at Washington St. (1-2), 4
Boise St. (4-1) at Wyoming (2-3), 6
Southern Cal (4-0) at UCLA (3-2), 7:30
Utah St. (1-5) at Colorado St. (1-3), ppd.
San Diego St. (4-3) at BYU (9-1), 10
Fresno St. (3-2) at New Mexico (1-5), 10:30
Stanford (2-2) at Oregon St. (2-3), 10:30
UNLV (0-5) at Hawaii (3-4), 11

## GOLF

**USGA WOMEN'S OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP**

Thuray's first-round par scores of the tournament being played at Champions Golf Course (Cypress Creek: 6,731 yards; Par: 71. Jackrabbit: 6,558 yards; Par: 71) in Houston, Texas, with a total purse of $1.3 million (a-amateur):

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Hinako Shibuno | 68-67—135 | -7 |
| Linn Granta-a | 69-69—138 | -4 |
| Kaitlyn Papp-a | 71-68—139 | -3 |
| Megan Khang | 70-69—139 | -3 |
| Amy Olson | 67-72—139 | -3 |
| Lindsey Weaver | 70-70—140 | -2 |
| Sarah Schmelzel | 71-69—140 | -2 |
| Ashleigh Buhai | 71-69—140 | -2 |
| Cristie Kerr | 71-69—140 | -2 |
| Stacy Lewis | 72-68—140 | -2 |
| Ariya Jutanugarn | 70-70—140 | -2 |
| Moriya Jutanugarn | 68-72—140 | -2 |
| Yuka Saso | 69-71—140 | -2 |
| Azahara Munoz | 71-70—141 | -1 |
| Yealimi Noh | 72-69—141 | -1 |
| Lizette Salas | 72-69—141 | -1 |
| Lydia Ko | 71-70—141 | -1 |
| Sei Young Kim | 72-69—141 | -1 |
| Ingrid Lindblad-a | 72-69—141 | -1 |
| Minyoung2 Lee | 74-68—142 | E |
| Jodi Ewart Shadoff | 70-72—142 | E |
| P. Roussin-Bouchard-a | 70-72—142 | E |
| Maja Stark-a | 70-72—142 | E |
| Jenny Shin | 72-70—142 | E |
| Charley Hull | 69-73—142 | E |
| Jeongeun Lee6 | 73-69—142 | E |
| Jennifer Kupcho | 70-72—142 | E |
| A Lim Kim | 68-74—142 | E |
| Perrine Delacour | 72-71—143 | +1 |
| Hyejin Choi | 70-73—143 | +1 |
| Gabriela Ruffelsa | 71-72—143 | +1 |
| Danielle Kang | 72-71—143 | +1 |
| Jin Young Ko | 73-70—143 | +1 |
| Seon Woo Bae | 75-68—143 | +1 |
| Inbee Park | 71-72—143 | +1 |

**Other scores of note**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Cheyenne Knight | 75-69—144 | +2 |
| Linnea Strom | 69-75—144 | +2 |
| Lauren Stephenson | 72-72—144 | +2 |
| Pernilla Lindberg | 74-70—144 | +2 |
| Anna Nordqvist | 73-71—144 | +2 |
| Brittany Lincicome | 70-75—145 | +3 |
| Brooke Henderson | 72-73—145 | +3 |
| Minjee Lee | 74-71—145 | +3 |
| Madelene Sagstrom | 74-71—145 | +3 |
| Gaby Lopez | 74-71—145 | +3 |

**Those of note missing the cut**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Brittany Lang | 73-73—146 | +4 |
| Lexi Thompson | 74-73—147 | +5 |
| Bianca Pagdanganan | 72-75—147 | +5 |
| Caroline Masson | 71-78—149 | +7 |
| Mel Reid | 75-74—149 | +7 |
| Morgan Pressel | 73-78—151 | +9 |
| Angela Stanford | 80-74—154 | +12 |
| Christina Kim | 81-74—155 | +13 |

**QBE SHOOTOUT PAR SCORES**

Friday's first-round results of the tournament being played at Tiburon Golf Club (Gold Course; 7,382 yards; Par: 72) in Naples, Fla., with a total purse of $3.6 million:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Na/O'Hair | 27-29—56 | -16 |
| Palmer/Varner III | 28-29—57 | -15 |
| Griffin/Hughes | 28-30—58 | -14 |
| English/Kuchar | 29-29—58 | -14 |
| Sabbatini/Tway | 30-29—59 | -13 |
| Champ/Finau | 29-30—59 | -13 |
| Berger/Stricker | 30-30—60 | -12 |
| Oosthuizen/Watson | 30-30—60 | -12 |
| Munoz/Niemann | 31-30—61 | -11 |
| Horschel/Todd | 32-30—62 | -10 |
| Leishman/Smith | 31-31—62 | -10 |
| Ancer/Woff | 32-30—62 | -10 |

## COLLEGE

**WOMEN'S BASKETBALL**

**Friday's Games**

Duquesne 71, St. Bonaventure 63
Fairfield 68, Siena 56
Fairleigh Dickinson 54, NJIT 48
Hofstra 63, Albany (NY) 45
Howard 75, La Salle 72
Maine 61, Rhode Island 47
Manhattan 56, Rider 51
Marist 64, Canisius 44
Seton Hall 96, Wagner 53
Charlotte 62, Campbell 42
Chattanooga 76, Tenn. Tech 65
Co. Carolina 66, UNC-Pembroke 60
Coll. of Charleston 109, NC Wesleyan 69
Davidson 67, App. St. 64
E. Kentucky 50, Morehead St. 49
Jacksonville 67, Webber International 52
Samford 79, North Ala. 66
UNC-Wilmington 60, UNC-Greensboro 55
\Bowling Green 71, E. Michigan 64
Kent St. 84, Ohio 80
Rutgers 70, Wisconsin 65
SE Missouri 67, W. Illinois 57
\Arkansas St. 96, Williams Baptist 46
Houston 61, Stphen F.Austin 59
California Baptist 85, UC Santa Barbara 75
Fresno St. 90, Saint Mary's (Cal) 71
Utah 73, Montana St. 63
Washington St. 60, Washington 52

**Saturday's games**

**EAST**

Adrian at Holy Cross, 1
Mass.-Lowell at UConn, 1
Army at Quinnipiac, 2
La Salle at Mount St. Mary's, 3
Canisius at Marist, 5
Iona at Monmouth (NJ), 5
Fairfield at Siena, 7
Fairleigh Dickinson at NJIT, 7
Manhattan at Rider, 7

**SOUTH**

Coastal Georgia at Ga. Southern, Noon
McNeese St. at Memphis, Noon
Presbyterian at ETSU, Noon
Radford at Georgia, Noon
Louisiana-Lafayette at SE Louisiana, 2
La.-Monroe at Northwestrn St., 2
MVSU at Mississippi, 2
Robert Morris at N. Kentucky, 2
UNC-Asheville at SC State, 2
Youngstown St. at N. Kentucky, 2
Jackson St. at Nicholls, 3
Mississippi St. at Southrn Miss., 3
Champion Christian College at Northwestrn St., 5

**MIDWEST**

Cincinnati at Cent. Mich., Noon
Iowa at Michigan St., TBA
N. Dakota St. at Iowa St., 1
Robert Morris at Cleveland St., 1
Milwaukee at Green Bay, 2
Nebraska-Omaha at Kansas St., 2
UMKC at SIU-Edwardsville, 2
W. Michigan at Valparaiso, 2
Wright St. at Detroit, 2
Ill.-Chicago at Oakland, 3
S. Dakota St. at N. Iowa, 3
Fort Wayne at IUPUI, 6

**SOUTHWEST**

McMurry at Houston Baptist, 1

**FAR WEST**

Boise St. at BYU, 2
Grand Canyon at S. Utah, 2
Montana St. at Utah Valley, 2:30
Nevada at Sacramnto St., 3
Wyoming at UNLV, 4:30
New Mexico St. at Pepperdine, 9

**OTHER**

Champion Christian College at Tarleton State, 3
Park University Gilbert at Dixie State, 5

## COLLEGE

**MEN'S BASKETBALL**

**Friday's Games**

**EAST**

Canisius 81, Marist 72
Delaware 68, George Washington 65
Iona 70, Fairfield 42
Rider 82, Manhattan 64
Seton Hall 77, St. John's 68
St. Peter's 70, Niagara 54
UMass 94, Northeastern 79
Villanova 76, Georgetown 63
West Va. 62, North Texas 50

**SOUTH**

App. St. 61, Charlotte 57
Coll. of Charleston 90, SC State 63
Davidson 77, Ga. Southern 45

**MIDWEST**

Creighton 98, Nebraska 74
Kansas 95, Nebraska-Omaha 50
Miami (Ohio) 79, Mount St. Joseph 64
S. Dakota St. 74, North Dakota 62
S. Illinois 70, Murray St. 66

**SOUTHWEST**

Houston Baptist 93, Champion Christian College 60
TX Southern 103, LeTourneau 60
Texas-Arlington 91, Hardin-Simmons 66

**FAR WEST**

E. Washington 80, College of Idaho 56

**Saturday's games**

**EAST**

Bryant at Stony Brook, 1
Maine at Fordham, 1
St. Francis (Pa.) at Delaware St., 1
Syracuse at Boston Coll., 1
Gardner-W. at Pittsburgh, 2
La Salle at Drexel, 2
Quinnipiac at Binghamton, 2
Rhode Island College at Sacred Heart, 2
Robert Morris at Binghamton, 2
St. Francis (Pa.) at St. Bonaventure, 2
Temple at Saint Joseph's, TBA
Rider at Manhattan, 4
Xavier at Providence, 6:30
Iona at Fairfield, 7
Marist at Canisius, 7
Monmouth (NJ) at Iona, 7
Siena at Fairfield, TBA
Niagara at St. Peter's, 8

**SOUTH**

Florida at Florida St., 11 a.m.
James Madison vs. George Mason at Richmond, V.A., 11 a.m.
Dayton vs. Mississippi St. at Atlanta, G.A., Noon
Florida Gulf Coast at Miami, Noon
Notre Dame at Kentucky, Noon
Cincinnati at Tennessee, 12:30
Columbia International at Liberty, 1
Ark.-Pne Blff at Tulane, 2
Carolina University at Liberty, 2
Charleston S. at Duke, TBA
Flagler at Furman, 2
NC Central at North Carolina, 2
North Georgia at Chattanooga, 2
Thomas (GA) at Kennesaw St., 2
South Fla. vs. LSU at Atlanta, G.A., 2:30
Wofford vs. South Fla. at Atlanta, G.A., 2:30
Elon at North Carolina, TBA
High Point at UNC-Asheville, 3
South Alabama at Southrn Miss., 3
Transylvania at E. Kentucky, 4
UAB at ETSU, 4
W. Carolina at NC A&T, 4
Winthrop at SC-Upstate, 4
Auburn vs. Memphis at Atlanta, G.A., 5
Champion Christian College at Northwestrn St., 5
Covenant at Middle Tenn., 5
FIU at North Florida, 5
Greensboro at Co. Carolina, 5
Old Dominion at VCU, 5
SE Missouri at UT Martin, TBA
UNC-Wilmington at Mississippi, 5
Stphen F.Austin at La.-Monroe, 5:30
Carver at Nicholls, 6
Alabama vs. Clemson at Atlanta, G.A., 7
FAU at NC State, 7
La. Tech at Louisiana-Lafayette, 7
Samford at Georgia, 7
Carver at McNeese St., 7:30
Belmont at Lipscomb, 8

**MIDWEST**

Green Bay at N. Iowa, Noon
Tenn. St. at IUPUI, Noon
UMKC at Toledo, Noon
Defiance at Fort Wayne, 2
Detroit at W. Michigan, 2
Evansville at Saint Louis, 3
Okla. St. vs. Wichita St. at Wichita, K.S., 3
Valparaiso at Cent. Mich., 4:30
W. Illinois at E. Illinois, 5
North Dakota vs. N. Dakota St. at Sioux Falls, S.D., 6:30
Illinois St. at Ball St., 7
Indiana St. at Purdue, 7:30
Illinois at Missouri, 8
SE Louisiana at Missouri St., 8
South Dakota at S. Dakota St., 9

**SOUTHWEST**

Grambling St. at Incarnate Wrd, 2
McMurry at Abilene Christ., 2
Rice at Houston, TBA
Texas A&M at TCU, 2
Texas A&M-CC vs. Texas Tech at Frisco, T.X., 2
Tulsa at Oral Roberts, TBA
Florida A&M at Oklahoma, 5
Our Lady of the Lake at Texas State, 5
Cent. Ark. at Arkansas, 8

**FAR WEST**

Hawaii Pacific at Hawaii, 12 a.m.
N. Colorado at Colorado St., 1
New Mexico St. at Arizona, TBA
Saint Mary's (Cal) at Utah St., 1
Dixie State at Denver, 3
CSU-Pueblo at Colorado St., 4
Idaho at CS Bakersfield, 4
Utah St. at Weber St., 4
Wyoming at Utah Valley, 4
Sacramnto St. at Santa Clara, 5
UC Santa Barbara at Loyola Marymount, 5
Fresno Pacific at California Baptist, 6
UC Davis at Pacific, 6
UTEP at Arizona, 6
Utah at BYU, 6
Cal Poly at Fresno St., TBA
Oregon at Washington, 8
CS Northridge at Pepperdine, 9
N. Arizona at Gonzaga, 10:30

## PRO BASKETBALL

**NBA PRESEASON**

**Friday's Games**

New York 90, Detroit 84
Orlando 116, Atlanta 112
Houston 125, Chicago 104
L.A. Clippers at L.A. Lakers, late
Sacramento at Portland, late

**Saturday's Games**

Indiana at Cleveland, 7 p.m.
Oklahoma City at San Antonio, 7 p.m.
Toronto at Charlotte, 7 p.m.
Dallas at Milwaukee, 8 p.m.
Memphis at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Denver at Golden State, 8:30 p.m.
Phoenix at Utah, 9 p.m.

**Sunday's Wizards' Game**

Washington at Brooklyn, 6 p.m.

## CALENDAR

**Saturday, Dec. 12**

**HIGH SCHOOL SWIMMING**

Fredericksburg Christian at Seton December Invitational, 2 (at Freedom Center).

## TRANSACTIONS

**BASEBALL**

**Major League Baseball**

**American League**

TEXAS RANGERS—Re-signed RHP Jimmy Herget to a major league contract. Designated OF Scott Heineman for assignment.

**National League**

LOS ANGELES DODGERS—Named Clayton McCullough first-base coach.

MILWAUKEE BREWERS—Acquired LHP Leo Crawford from the Los Angeles Dodgers to complete the Dec. 2 trade for RHP Corey Knebel.

PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES—Named David Dombrowski president of baseball operations.

**BASKETBALL**

**National Basketball Association**

MEMPHIS GRIZZLIES—Signed G Ahmad Caver. Waived F Mario Hezonja.

**FOOTBALL**

**National Football League**

CAROLINA PANTHERS—Signed DB Natrell Jamerson to the active roster from the practice squad.

DALLAS COWBOYS—Placed T Cameron Erving on injured reserve.

DENVER BRONCOS—Waived FB Jeremy Cox.

NEW YORK GIANTS—Signed DB Montre Hartage to the active roster from the practice squad. Placed Madre Harper on injured reserve.

NEW YORK JETS—Signed DB J.T. Hassell to the active roster from the practice squad.

TENNESSEE TITANS—Signed OL Marshall Newhouse to the active roster from the practice squad. Placed DT Teair Tart on reserve/suspended list.

**HOCEY**

**National Hockey League**

ARIZONA COYOTES—Named David Ludwig as director of hockey operations and salary cap compliance.

**SOCCER**

**Major League Soccer**

MINNESOTA FC—Picked up the 2021 contract options for F Foster Langsdorf, MFs Hassani Dotson, Ethan Finlay, Sam Gleadle, Ds Noah Billingsley, Chase Gasper and G Dayne St. Clair. Declined 2021 contract options for F Aaron Schoenfeld Ds James Musa, Jose Aja, MF Kevin Partrida and G Greg Ranjitsingh.

NEW YORK RED BULLS—Signed G Luca Lewis.

**National Women's Soccer League**

WASHINGTON SPIRIT—Re-signed F Averie Collins to a two-year contract.

**United Soccer League**

SAN DIEGO LOYAL—Signed D Thomas Vancaeyezeele.

## SOCCER

**MAJOR LEAGUE SOCCER**

**CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS**

**Sunday, Dec. 6**

**Eastern Conference**

Columbus 1, New England 0

**Monday, Dec. 7**

**Western Conference**

Seattle 3, Minnesota 2

**MLS CUP**

**Saturday's Game**

Seattle at Columbus, 8 p.m.

**ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE**

| | GP | W | D | L | GF | GA | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Tottenham | 11 | 7 | 3 | 1 | 23 | 9 | 24 |
| Liverpool | 11 | 7 | 3 | 1 | 26 | 17 | 24 |
| Chelsea | 11 | 6 | 4 | 1 | 25 | 11 | 22 |
| Leicester | 11 | 7 | 0 | 4 | 21 | 15 | 21 |
| West Ham | 12 | 6 | 2 | 4 | 20 | 15 | 20 |
| Southampton | 11 | 6 | 2 | 3 | 21 | 17 | 20 |
| Man United | 10 | 6 | 1 | 3 | 19 | 17 | 19 |
| Man City | 10 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 17 | 11 | 18 |
| Everton | 11 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 20 | 18 | 17 |
| Wolverhampton | 11 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 11 | 15 | 17 |
| Crystal Palace | 11 | 5 | 1 | 5 | 17 | 16 | 16 |
| Aston Villa | 9 | 5 | 0 | 4 | 20 | 13 | 15 |
| Newcastle | 10 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 12 | 15 | 14 |
| Leeds | 12 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 17 | 22 | 14 |
| Arsenal | 11 | 4 | 1 | 6 | 10 | 14 | 13 |
| Brighton | 11 | 2 | 4 | 5 | 15 | 18 | 10 |
| Fulham | 11 | 2 | 1 | 8 | 11 | 21 | 7 |
| Burnley | 10 | 1 | 3 | 6 | 5 | 18 | 6 |
| West Brom | 11 | 1 | 3 | 7 | 8 | 23 | 6 |
| Sheffield United | 11 | 0 | 11 | 0 | 5 | 18 | 1 |

**Friday's Game**

Leeds United 1, West Ham 2

**Saturday's Games**

Wolverhampton vs. Aston VIlla, 7:30 a.m.
Newcastle vs. West Brom, 10 a.m.
Man. United vs. Man. City, 12:30 p.m.
Everton vs. Chelsea, 3 p.m.

**Sunday's Games**

Southampton vs. Sheffield United, 7 a.m.
Crystal Palace vs. Tottenham, 9:15 a.m.
Fulham vs. Liverpool, 11:30 a.m.
Leicester City vs. Brighton & Hove, 2:15 p.m.
Arsenal vs. Burnley, 2:15 p.m.

**ITALIAN SERIE A**

**Friday's Game**

Sassuolo 1, Benevento 0

**Saturday's Games**

Crotone vs. Spezia, 9 a.m.
Torino vs. Udinese, noon
Lazio vs. Verona, 2:45 p.m.

**Sunday's Games**

Cagliari vs. Inter Milan, 6:30 a.m.
Napoli vs. Sampdoria, 9 a.m.
Atalanta vs. Fiorentina, 9 a.m.
Bologna vs. Roma, 9 a.m.
Genoa vs. Juventus, noon
AC Milan vs. Parma, 2:45 p.m.

**GERMAN BUNDESLIGA**

**Friday's Game**

Wolfburg 2, Eintracht Frankfurt 1

**Saturday's Games**

Borussia Dortmund vs. Stuttgart, 9:30 a.m.
Freiburg vs. Arminuia Bielfeld, 9:30 a.m.
RB Leipzig vs. Werder Bremen, 9:30 a.m.
Mainz vs. Koln, 9:30 a.m.
Borussia Monchengladbach vs. Hertha Berlin, 9:30 a.m.
Union Berlin vs. Bayern Munich, 12:30 p.m.

**Sunday's Games**

Augsburg vs. Schalke, 9:30 a.m.
Bayer Leverkusen vs. Hoffenheim, noon

## roundup

### FAN TO GIVE BENCH MEMORABILIA BACK

FILE / GARY LANDERS / ASSOCIATED PRESS

The winning bidder on over $1 million worth of memorabilia from a recent auction of Johnny Bench's personal collection is returning the items to the Hall of Fame catcher, with whom he's been friends since 1967.

Businessman Alan Horwitz, a fan of the Philadelphia 76ers who sits courtside at home games wearing his Sixth Man jersey, successfully bid for Bench's 1975 and '76 World Series rings last month. He also bought the catcher's 1970 and '72 NL MVP awards, 1968 NL rookie of the year award, 1969 All-Star Game bat and several of Bench's 10 Gold Glove awards.

Bench, who turned 73 this week, told The Associated Press in October that he planned to use the auction proceeds to fund his youngest sons' college educations.

The auction was held in Louisville, Kentucky, on Nov. 14. Sales totaled just under $2 million, according to Hunt Auctions, which ran the sale.

### NASCAR THROWBACK WEEKEND MOVED

DARLINGTON, S.C.—NASCAR's popular throwback weekend celebration at Darlington Raceway is moving from Labor Day weekend to Mother's Day.

Track officials announced the change Friday for the yearly honoring of NASCAR's past. Darlington is holding two races next season, including its Southern 500 on Labor Day in September that has been the site of throwback schemes and vintage clothes since its debut in 2015.

But with the track receiving a second NASCAR race date, officials decided to hold throwback weekend on May 9, 2021—Mother's Day.

## TV HIGHLIGHTS

**Saturday, Dec. 12**

**Auto racing**

4:55 a.m.—Formula One practice, ESPN.

7:55 a.m.—Formula One qualifying, ESPN2.

**Soccer**

8:55 a.m.—FC Crotone vs. Spezia Calcio, Italia Series A, ESPNews.

12:30 p.m.—Manchester City vs. Manchester United, EPL NBC.

8 p.m.—Seattle at Columbus, MLS Cup (game kicks of at 8:30 p.m.), FOX.

**College men's basketball**

Noon—Notre Dame at Kentucky, CBS.

3 p.m.—Elon at North Carolina, MASN.

3 p.m.—Evansville at Saint Louis, NBCSN.

5 p.m.—Florida A&M at Oklahoma, MASN2.

5 p.m.—Old Dominion at VCU, NBCSN.

7:30 p.m.—Indiana St. at Purdue, BTN.

**College football**

Noon—Wake Forest at Louisville, ACCN.

Noon—Alabama at Arkansas, ESPN.

Noon—Illinois at Northwestern, ESPN2.

Noon—Utah at Colorado, FOX.

Noon—Rutgers at Maryland, BTN.

Noon—Michigan St. at Penn St., ABC.

2:30 p.m.—Akron at Buffalo, CBSSN.

3 p.m.—Navy at Army, CBS.

3:30 p.m.—North Carolina at Miami, ABC.

3:30 p.m.—Wisconsin at Iowa, FS1.

3:30 p.m.—Okalhoma St. at Louisville, ESPN.

3:30 p.m.—Houston at Memphis, ESPN2.

3:30 p.m.—Houston at Memphis, ESPNU.

4 p.m.—California at Washington St., FOX.

4 p.m.—Duke at Florida St., ACCN.

6 p.m.—Boise St. at Wyoming, CBSSN.

7 p.m.—LSU at Florida, ESPN.

7 p.m.—Louisiana Tech at TCU, FS1.

7:30 p.m.—USC at UCLA, ABC.

8 p.m.—Virginia at Virginia Tech, ACCN.

10 p.m.—San Diego St. at BYU, ESPN2.

10 p.m.—Stanford at Oregon St., ESPNU.

10:30 p.m.—Fresno St. at New Mexico, FS2.

**Horse racing**

Noon—TVG Trackside Live!, NBCSW.

**Golf**

2:30 p.m.—U.S. Women's Open, NBC.

**Pro basketball**

7 p.m.—Toronto at Charlotte, NBA preseason, NBA-TV.

9:30 p.m.—Phoenix at Utah, NBA preseason, NBA-TV.

**College men's hockey**

7 p.m.—Ohio St. at Notre Dame, NBCSN.

**Boxing**

9 p.m.—Chris Colbert vs. Jaime Arboleda, SHOW.

10 p.m.—Shakur Stevenson vs. Toka Kahn Clary, ESPN.

**Sunday, Dec. 13**

**Auto racing**

6:30 a.m.—Formula One Grand Prix Sunday, ESPN2.

8:05 a.m.—Formula One Abu Dhabi Grand Prix, ESPN2.

**Soccer**

7 a.m.—Sheffield United at Southampton, EPL, NBCSN.

9:10 a.m.—Tottenham at Crystal Palace, EPL, NBCSN.

11:25 a.m.—Liverpool at Fulham, EPL, NBCSN.

2:10 p.m.—Burnley at Arsenal, EPL, NBCSN.

**Golf**

Noon—QBE Shootout, NBC.

2 p.m.—U.S. Women's Open, NBC.

**College men's basketball**

Noon—North Alabama at Indiana, BTN.

Noon—Rhode Island at Western Kentucky, CBSSN.

1 p.m.—Richmond at West Virginia, ESPN.

2 p.m.—Penn State at Michigan, BTN.

2 p.m.—Northern Illnois at Iowa, FS1.

3 p.m.—Texas at Baylor, ESPN.

4 p.m.—Southern Illinois at Northwestern, ESPNU.

4 p.m.—Cleveland St. at Ohio St., BTN.

**College women's basketball**

Noon—Clemson at Pittsburgh, ACCN.

1 p.m.—Virginia vs. Florida St., MASN.

2 p.m.—N.C. State at Boston College, ACCN.

3 p.m.—Duke vs. Miami, MASN.

3 p.m.—Texas St. vs. Oklahoma, MASN2.

5 p.m.—Tennessee at Texas, ESPN.

6 p.m.—Binghamton at Syracuse, ACCN.

**Pro football**

1 p.m.—Dallas at Cincinnati, NFL, FOX.

1 p.m.—Kansas City at Miami, NFL, CBS.

4 p.m.—Washington vs. San Francisco, NFL, FOX.

8:20 p.m.—Pittsburgh at Buffalo, NFL, NBC.

**Pro basketball**

6 p.m.—Washington at Brooklyn, NBA preseason, NBA-TV.

## LOTTERIES

The lottery numbers were not available before press time. To find out the winning lottery numbers from all Virginia Lottery games, call the hotline at 804/662-5825.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

# 'Cats rally from early deficit, top Hoyas

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON—Collin Gillespie and Caleb Daniels each hit five 3-pointers and scored 18 points to lead No. 9 Villanova past Georgetown 76—63 on Friday night in the Big East opener for both teams. The Wildcats (5—1) trailed by 18 early in the first half.

The game between the preseason favorite Wildcats and a Hoyas team picked to finish at the bottom had the competitive feel for about 30 minutes of a conference tourney game in March.

Jamorko Pickett led the Hoyas with 16 points.

### NO. 5 KANSAS 95, OMAHA 50

LAWRENCE, Kan.—Ochai Agbaji hit four 3s and scored 18 points, Mitch Lightfoot came off the bench to score a career-best 14 points and the Jayhawks (6—1) cruised to a 45-point victory over the Mavericks (2—5).

### NO. 8 CREIGHTON 98, NEBRASKA 74

OMAHA, Neb.—The No. 8 Bluejays (4—1) outscored the Cornhuskers 30—7 over an eight-minute stretch while pulling away for a victory in the annual meeting of the state's top Division I teams. Marcus Zegarowsk had 22 points.

Teddy Allen led Nebraska (3—3) with 26 points.

### NO. 11 WEST VIRGINIA 62, NORTH TEXAS 50

MORGANTOWN, W.Va.—The Mountaineers (5—1). scored 18 straight points to open the second half and fought off a late run by the Mean Green (1—3). to win their home opener. Sean McNeil scored 15 points for West Virginia.

REGION

### DELAWARE 68, GEORGE WASHINGTON 65

NEWARK, Del.—Dylan Painter had 14 points and 12 rebounds to lift the Blue Hens (2—1) over the Colonials. Kevin Anderson had 13 points for Delaware.

James Bishop and Jamison Battle each had 14 points for George Washington (1—4).

TONY GUTIERREZ / ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Baylor coach Scott Drew (left, talks with guard Jared Butler during Wednesday's game against Stephen F. Austin) says he's worrying about everything now.**

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

# Playing amid pandemic tests teams' adaptability

BY JOHN MARSHALL
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sacramento State has a game at Cal Poly scheduled for Dec. 21, two days after the Hornets host UC Davis. Cal Poly has the same COVID-19 testing standards, so it should be easy for the Hornets to pull off.

It's not, like nearly everything that comes with trying to play college basketball in a pandemic.

Sac State's coaches and players need to have a test before they can play the Mustangs, so after travelling south, they'll have to do it early on game day. Cal Poly has an on-campus testing site, but there's no guarantee results will come back before the 2 p.m. tipoff.

So while trying to prepare for a game the day after a long bus ride, the Hornets will also be keeping an ear out for the all-clear call.

"If the results come back early, maybe we'll play at 1. If the results come back late, maybe we'll play at 3," Sac State coach Brain Katz said. "It's just the unpredictability of everything we have to go through. It's understandable, but it does take a toll."

Trying to play a college basketball season during a pandemic has not been easy. Games were canceled, programs shut down due to positive tests and replacement games were hastily scheduled—even before the start of the season on Nov. 25.

Since the season started, dozens of programs have halted activities and cancellations—ranging into the hundreds so far—have become the norm. Some teams have yet to play a single game more than two weeks into the season.

CHARLIE NEIBERGALL / AP

**Coaches Fran McCaffery (left, of Iowa) and Steve Prohm (Iowa State) try to talk through their masks prior to the rivals' game Friday night.**

The Ivy League and a few other teams opted to not play at all before the season started and some the coaches whose teams are currently playing have wondered why the season is continuing as coronavirus numbers surge across the country.

"I don't think it feels right to anybody," Duke coach Mike Krzyzewski said earlier this week before the Blue Devils canceled the rest of their nonconference schedule.

College basketball was put in a difficult position when the NCAA Tournament was canceled in the spring, causing a $375 million revenue shortfall for the NCAA. The 2021 NCAA Tournament will be played in one location—likely Indianapolis—but getting there has already proven to be difficult.

Other sports have been able to pull off seasons without too many disruptions, but college basketball is unique in that it is played indoors and has more than 300 teams trying to play at locations across the country.

Navigating the pandemic world has required creativity, adaptability, cooperation and a whole lot of patience.

"You used to just have to worry about your team and the scouting report," Baylor coach Scott Drew said. "Now you've got to worry about everything."

Baylor had to pull out of an event at Mohegan Sun in Connecticut after Drew tested positive for COVID-19 and the No. 2 Bears' showdown against top-ranked Gonzaga was shelved due to positive tests in the Zags' programs.

Nearly every school has dealt with similar issues in some form.

Even pulling off just one game has turned into a monumental task.

Every conference and just about every school has varying protocols, so coaching staffs have had to turn into testing detectives. Once protocols are identified, there's the matter of scheduling tests around practices and games so results can be attained before game time.

Backlogs in testing, particularly in areas where the virus is surging, can lead to delays in results, pushing back games hours, even days.

GOLF

# Shibuno no longer an unknown talent at Women's Open

RISING JAPANESE STAR BUILDS STRONG LEAD AT CHAMPIONS COURSE

BY DOUG FERGUSON
AP GOLF WRITER

HOUSTON—Hinako Shibuno can do without the "Cinderella" nickname, just not the smile. That was bright as ever Friday as the Japanese star posted a 4-under 67 and opened a three-shot lead going into the weekend of the U.S. Women's Open.

Shibuno's lone mistake on a damp, soft day at Champions Golf Club was a three-putt bogey on the par-3 16th at the Jackrabbit course. Her objective was to avoid dropping more shots by being overly aggressive. She wound up with a 10-foot birdie putt to restore her lead over Arizona State sophomore Linn Grant of Sweden.

Shibuno rose to sudden fame in the summer of 2019 when she won the Women's British Open at Woburn, the first major for the 22-year-old and her first time playing outside Japan. She was called the "Smiling Cinderella," a reference to her surprise performance and an engaging smile.

"No pressure whatsoever," Shibuno said. "I'm playing a major in the United States, unlike when I was at the British Open, where I feel like I am starting from scratch."

She looked the part of a major champion at the U.S. Women's Open, where the forecast of rain and strong wind never quite materialized. The rain was light and occasional. The wind was little more than a rumor.

Grant made her U.S. Women's Open début two years ago as an 18-year-old at Shoal Creek and was tied for fourth going into the weekend until closing with rounds of 78-81.

She had a 69 at Jackrabbit and will be in the final group Saturday. They will be joined by another amateur, Texas senior Kaitlyn Papp, who had a 68 at Cypress Creek and was four shots behind.

ERIC GAY / ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Hinako Shibuno lines up her putt on the second green Friday. She leads the U.S. Women's Open by three strokes.**

The USGA used two courses for the first time because the pandemic forced the Women's Open to be postponed six months to December with limited daylight. The final two rounds will be at Cypress Creek, the course that previously hosted a Ryder Cup, U.S. Open and the Tour Championship on the PGA Tour.

Six amateurs made the cut, set at 3-over 145.

Shibuno was at 7-under 135, and only 12 players were within five shots of the lead.

Amy Olson, the 18-hole leader, had to birdie her final hole for a 72. She was in the group with Papp and Megan Khang (69) at 3-under 139.

The group five shots behind included former Women's Open champion Ariya Jutanugarn and her sister, Moriya, Champions Golf Club member Stacy Lewis and Cristie Kerr, who dislocated a couple of ribs in a cart accident one week ago and wasn't even sure she could play until the Open began.

Kerr played bogey-free at Jackrabbit and shot 69, and the 43-year-old former Open champion says the injury at least has tempered her expectation.

GOLF ROUNDUP

# Na–O'Hair use 16-under 56 to take QBE shootout lead

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NAPLES, Fla.—Kevin Na and Sean O'Hair teamed to shoot a 16-under 56 in the scramble format Friday to take the first-round lead in the QBE Shootout.

Na and O'Hair had two eagles and 12 birdies on the Tiburon Golf Club's Gold Course. They eagled the par-5 sixth and 17th.

Ryan Palmer and Harold Varner III were second. They birdied 13 of the first 14 holes and added birdies on the final two holes.

EUROPEAN TOUR

### WORLD TOUR CHAMPIONSHIP

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates—Race to Dubai leader Patrick Reed shot an 8-under 64 to take a two-stroke lead after the second round of the Tour's season-ending event.

Reed, looking to become the first American to win what was formally known as the Order of Merit title, made nine birdies to take the lead at 10 under at Jumeirah Golf Estates.

Matt Fitzpatrick is two strokes behind after back-to-back rounds of 68. The Englishman, the projected No. 2 in the Race to Dubai rankings, mixed seven birdies with three bogeys.

Laurie Canter (66) and Tyrell Hatton (68) shared third place at 7 under,

### PRESIDENTS CUP TO BE PLAYED AT MEDINAH IN 2026

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, Fla.—The Americans will get another chance to win a cup at Medinah, which has been awarded the Presidents Cup in 2026.

The matches will be played on the No. 3 course at Medinah Country Club, located in the Chicago suburbs. It has hosted the U.S. Open and PGA Championship multiple times and most recently the BMW Championship in 2019.

The Americans have lost only one Presidents Cup since the matches against an International (non-European countries) began in 1994.

## nba notes

### CLIPPERS EXTEND GEORGE DEAL OVER MULTIPLE SEASONS

LOS ANGELES—Paul George wants to retire with the Los Angeles Clippers, and he took a step in that direction by signing a multiyear contract extension Thursday.

The six-time All-Star could have become a free agent after the upcoming season. Instead, the team locked down his services, ensuring George will remain not far from where he grew up in Palmdale.

"This is a childhood dream being fulfilled. It's just priceless, regardless of what this deal was for," he said on a video call. "Being in front of my family and my friends and leaving my mark on a place I grew up."

Terms of the deal were not disclosed, but ESPN reported George's contract was extended for an additional four years at $190 million, in addition to the $35.4 million guaranteed him for the 2020-21 season. George's player option for the 2021—22 season will be replaced with the four-year extension, which includes a new player option for the 2024—25 season.

George averaged 21.5 points, 5.7 rebounds, 3.9 assists and shot a career-high 41 percent from 3-point range in his first season with the Clippers. It ended it disappointment, however, with the team blowing a 3—1 lead against Denver and losing in the second round of the playoffs.

The early exit, George said, only served to motivate him for the season that begins Dec. 22, when he and Kawhi Leonard will be playing for new coach Tyronn Lue.

### INJURY MAY KEEP PACERS' WARREN OUT OF OPENER

INDIANAPOLIS—The Indiana Pacers could open this season without forward T.J. Warren, their top scorer from last season.

The team said Thursday that Warren has plantar fasciitis in his right foot and will be listed as week to week. It's the same injury that kept All-Star forward Domantas Sabonis from returning to action in the NBA's bubble last August.

Indiana also will be without backup guard Brian Bowen II for 6—8 weeks because of a partially torn groin muscle.

Warren's injury could be more detrimental. Last season, he scored 19.8 points while shooting 53.6 percent from the field—both career-highs. And in the bubble, Warren was spectacular, averaging 31.0 points in six games including a 53-point game against Philadelphia to tie the team's single-game scoring record.

### IRVING, NETS EACH FINED $25,000 FOR GUARD'S SILENCE

NEW YORK—The NBA is making Kyrie Irving and the Brooklyn Nets pay for the point guard's silence.

The league fined Irving and the team $25,000 apiece Thursday because he has refused to speak to the media thus far during the preseason.

In announcing the fines, the NBA said Irving has refused on several occasions this week to participate in team media availability.

Irving has had a complicated relationship with the media and was nearly fined by the NBA last season for not speaking as obligated while sidelined by a shoulder injury.

This time, Irving has not spoken during any of the Nets' press sessions, all being held via Zoom because of the coronavirus pandemic. He released a statement through his publicist last Friday to address his media silence, saying he wanted to ensure that his message was conveyed properly.

The Nets play their preseason opener on Sunday against Washington.

### ABDUL-JABBAR REVEALS PAST CANCER DIAGNOSIS

NEW YORK—Kareem Abdul—Jabbar revealed he had prostate cancer in a magazine article he wrote about health risks faced by Blacks.

Abdul—Jabbar, the NBA's career scoring leader, provided no other details about that illness in the piece he wrote for WebMD that first appeared Wednesday. A publicist for Abdul—Jabbar said this is the first time he has spoken publicly about the prostate cancer.

Abdul—Jabbar, now 73, was diagnosed with chronic myeloid leukemia in 2008.

In his article, titled "Black Lives Matter," Abdul—Jabbar writes that Blacks are at higher risk for heart problems and cancer, and said he also had heart bypass surgery. He said he's been able to get better care than many Blacks, in part because of his celebrity and also because two sons work in the health care profession.

—The Associated Press

# WEATHER

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## FIVE-DAY FORECAST FOR FREDERICKSBURG

| TODAY | SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 67° 51° | 65° 42° | 50° 30° | 48° 32° | 41° 31° |
| Warm; partly sunny, then mostly cloudy | Mild; cloudy, then sun and clouds | Cooler with periods of rain | Sunshine and some clouds | Cooler with rain |

## ALMANAC

University of Mary Washington station, Fredericksburg through 7 p.m. yesterday.

**Temperature:**

| | |
|---|---|
| High/Low | 64°/36° |
| Normal high/low | 49°/28° |
| Record high | 72°/1966 |
| Record low | 6°/1968 |

**Precipitation:**

| | |
|---|---|
| 24 hours ending 7 p.m. yesterday | 0.00″ |
| Month to date | 1.59″ |
| Normal month to date | 1.38″ |
| Year to date | 46.89″ |
| Normal year to date | 41.18″ |

**Air Quality Index:**

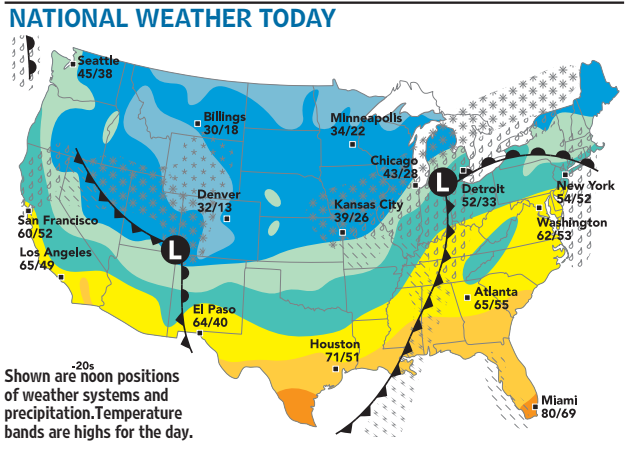
| | |
|---|---|
| Friday | 72 |
| Today's ozone | moderate |

0–50, Good; 51–100, Moderate; 101–150, Unhealthy sensitive groups; 151–200, Unhealthy;. Source: Virginia DEQ

## VIRGINIA WEATHER

Rather cloudy and mild today, except cloudy in the southeast. High 50 to 70. Mostly cloudy tonight; a brief shower or two in the southwest. Low 41 to 56.

## NATIONAL WEATHER TODAY




-20s

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

T-storms Rain Showers Snow Flurries Ice Cold front Warm front Stationary

-10s -0s 0s 10s 20s 30s 40s 50s 60s 70s 80s 90s 100s 110s

**Yesterday's national extremes for the 48 contiguous states:**

High: 87° Weslaco, Texas

Low: –5° Stanley, Idaho

## RIVER LEVELS

Potomac River

| Today | Flood | Present | Change |
|---|---|---|---|
| Little Falls | 10 | 3.87 | 3.70 |
| **Rappahannock River** | | | |
| Culpeper | 14 | 2.07 | -0.09 |
| Remington | 15 | 4.32 | -0.14 |

Flood: flood stage. Present: stage in feet at 7 a.m. yesterday. Change: change in previous 24 hours.

## SUN AND MOON

| | |
|---|---|
| Sunrise today | 7:18 a.m. |
| Sunset today | 4:50 p.m. |
| Moonrise today | 4:44 a.m. |
| Moonset today | 3:21 p.m. |

| New | First | Full | Last |
|---|---|---|---|
| Dec 14 | Dec 21 | Dec 29 | Jan 6 |

## TIDES

Rappahannock River at Fredericksburg

| | Today | Height |
|---|---|---|
| First high | 4:48 a.m. | 2.3ft. |
| First low | 11:35 a.m. | –0.4ft. |
| Second high | 5:08 p.m. | 2.8ft. |
| Second low | --- | –0.4ft. |

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2020

## COASTAL REPORT

Virginia Beach, Chesapeake, Eastern Shores

Cloudy and mild today with a touch of rain. Wind south 8-16 knots. Seas 2-4 feet. Visibility under 3 miles at times. Partly cloudy tonight. Wind southwest 8-16 knots. Seas 2-4 feet. Visibility clear.

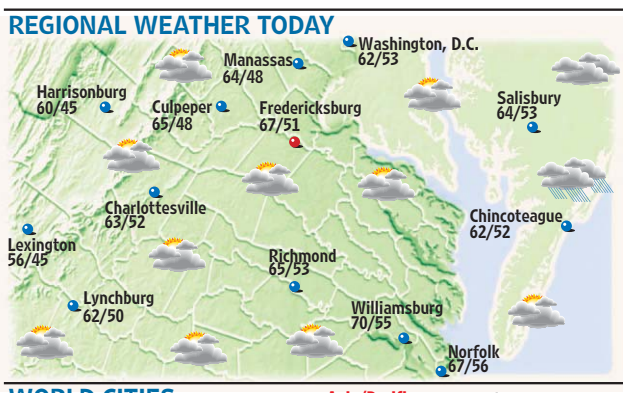
## NATIONAL CITIES

| | Today Hi | Lo | W | Sun. Hi | Lo | W |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Albany !Albany, N.Y. | 40 | 38 | c | 48 | 32 | c |
| Albuquerque | 47 | 25 | pc | 42 | 21 | s |
| Anchorage | 20 | 16 | pc | 27 | 21 | c |
| Atlanta | 65 | 55 | sh | 66 | 51 | pc |
| Atlantic City | 60 | 52 | r | 61 | 40 | pc |
| Baltimore | 61 | 51 | c | 61 | 40 | pc |
| Boston | 46 | 43 | r | 55 | 36 | c |
| Buffalo | 50 | 42 | r | 44 | 30 | sf |
| Charleston, W.Va. | 60 | 46 | r | 47 | 37 | c |
| Charleston, S.C. | 71 | 57 | c | 73 | 58 | c |
| Charlotte, N.C. | 65 | 53 | c | 69 | 47 | pc |
| Charlottesville | 63 | 52 | c | 64 | 42 | pc |
| Chicago | 43 | 28 | r | 34 | 25 | pc |
| Cincinnati | 57 | 39 | r | 43 | 32 | c |
| Cleveland | 54 | 38 | r | 39 | 29 | c |
| Dallas | 57 | 40 | s | 48 | 32 | sh |
| Denver | 32 | 13 | sn | 39 | 21 | s |
| Des Moines | 35 | 19 | sn | 32 | 17 | s |
| Detroit | 52 | 33 | r | 37 | 27 | c |
| El Paso | 64 | 40 | s | 55 | 25 | pc |
| Harrisonburg | 60 | 45 | c | 57 | 38 | pc |
| Honolulu | 84 | 70 | pc | 84 | 71 | pc |
| Houston | 71 | 51 | pc | 68 | 42 | r |
| Indianapolis | 56 | 33 | r | 41 | 25 | c |
| Kansas City | 39 | 26 | sn | 41 | 22 | c |
| Las Vegas | 57 | 35 | pc | 52 | 34 | pc |

| | Today Hi | Lo | W | Sun. Hi | Lo | W |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Los Angeles | 65 | 49 | pc | 70 | 48 | s |
| Memphis | 58 | 37 | pc | 51 | 37 | r |
| Miami | 80 | 69 | pc | 82 | 67 | pc |
| Minneapolis | 34 | 22 | c | 32 | 18 | s |
| Myrtle Beach, S.C. | 67 | 57 | c | 69 | 57 | r |
| Nags Head, N.C. | 65 | 55 | c | 66 | 53 | r |
| Nashville | 67 | 38 | r | 53 | 37 | c |
| New Orleans | 73 | 56 | t | 69 | 48 | r |
| New York | 54 | 52 | r | 57 | 40 | pc |
| Norfolk | 67 | 56 | c | 66 | 47 | pc |
| Ocean City, Md. | 62 | 51 | r | 61 | 41 | pc |
| Orlando, Fla. | 76 | 61 | pc | 79 | 61 | pc |
| Philadelphia | 60 | 52 | c | 60 | 40 | pc |
| Phoenix | 67 | 47 | s | 66 | 44 | s |
| Pittsburgh | 55 | 43 | sh | 45 | 32 | c |
| Portland, Ore. | 44 | 39 | c | 45 | 41 | r |
| Raleigh | 67 | 53 | c | 68 | 48 | pc |
| Richmond | 65 | 53 | c | 67 | 43 | pc |
| Roanoke | 62 | 50 | c | 60 | 42 | pc |
| Salt Lake City | 34 | 18 | sf | 37 | 26 | c |
| San Francisco | 60 | 52 | c | 60 | 47 | r |
| Seattle | 45 | 38 | c | 47 | 41 | r |
| St. Louis | 49 | 35 | r | 44 | 28 | c |
| Tampa | 76 | 64 | sh | 78 | 64 | pc |
| Washington, D.C. | 62 | 53 | c | 62 | 42 | pc |
| Williamsburg | 70 | 55 | c | 69 | 48 | pc |

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

## REGIONAL WEATHER TODAY




## WORLD CITIES

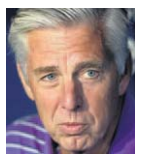
| | Today Hi | Lo | W | Sun. Hi | Lo | W |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Canada** | | | | | | |
| Toronto | 44 | 38 | r | 40 | 29 | c |
| **Latin America** | | | | | | |
| Buenos Aires | 85 | 65 | s | 74 | 62 | pc |
| **Africa/Middle East** | | | | | | |
| Baghdad | 67 | 46 | pc | 69 | 49 | pc |
| Cairo | 77 | 64 | c | 84 | 64 | s |
| Cape Town | 73 | 56 | s | 77 | 56 | s |
| Jerusalem | 63 | 53 | pc | 68 | 59 | pc |
| Kabul | 47 | 17 | s | 41 | 14 | s |

| | Today Hi | Lo | W | Sun. Hi | Lo | W |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Asia/Pacific** | | | | | | |
| Hong Kong | 73 | 67 | pc | 73 | 64 | pc |
| Sydney | 73 | 59 | pc | 76 | 64 | pc |
| Tokyo | 58 | 48 | pc | 58 | 51 | c |
| **Europe** | | | | | | |
| Amsterdam | 47 | 43 | r | 46 | 42 | c |
| Berlin | 39 | 32 | c | 39 | 35 | c |
| London | 48 | 36 | c | 52 | 49 | r |
| Madrid | 57 | 36 | c | 53 | 46 | pc |
| Moscow | 23 | 16 | s | 25 | 23 | sf |
| Paris | 51 | 37 | sh | 47 | 45 | c |
| Rome | 54 | 40 | sh | 55 | 39 | pc |

PRO BASEBALL

# Dombrowski to lead Phillies' organization

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Dombrowski

PHILADELPHIA—Whether rebuilding or reloading, small market or large, Dave Dombrowski has been a big success at every major league stop. His next challenging project: a Philadelphia Phillies team that's gone nine years without a winning record.

Dombrowski joined the Phillies as president of baseball operations on Friday, managing partner John Middleton announced in a statement.

Andy MacPhail is the Phillies' current president and has planned to retire after the 2021 season. He said in October he would be willing to step aside sooner to make way for a new baseball operations boss.

Philadelphia reassigned general manager Matt Klentak within the organization after finishing 28–32 last season. Joe Girardi remains as manager.

Dombrowski, 64, has led baseball operations for four teams over more than three decades in the majors, taking a trio of franchises to the World Series. His clubs have won four pennants and two Series titles.

Dombrowski will operate with a nucleus of Bryce Harper, Zack Wheeler, Andrew McCutchen, Jean Segura and Aaron Nola. However, his hands may be tied: a person familiar with the Phillies' finances told the AP last week the club lost $145 million during the pandemic-shortened 2020 season played without fans.

## mlb notes

### BREWERS GET L.A.'S CRAWFORD AS PART OF TRADE

MILWAUKEE—The Milwaukee Brewers have acquired minor league left-handed pitcher Leo Crawford to complete the trade that sent former All-Star reliever Corey Knebel to the Los Angeles Dodgers.

When the trade was announced Dec. 2, the Dodgers received Knebel for a player to be named or cash. The player heading to Milwaukee was identified as Crawford on Friday.

Crawford, who turns 24 on Feb. 2, went 7–4 with a 2.81 ERA and 134 strikeouts in 121 2/3 innings while splitting the 2019 season between the Dodgers' Single-A affiliate in Rancho Cucamonga and Double-A team in Tulsa. He made 21 starts that year.

### METS, BLEVINS AGREE TO MINOR LEAGUE CONTRACT

NEW YORK—The Mets have told Jerry Blevins they intend to agree to a minor league contract that would bring the left-hander back to New York.

If added to the 40-man roster, the 37-year-old would get a $1.25 million, one-year contract, the same deal he had in 2020 with San Francisco.

Blevins pitched for the Mets from 2015–18, going 14–4 with a 3.38 ERA and four saves in 218 relief appearances and one start. He spent 2019 with Atlanta for his 13th big league season, then agreed to a minor league contract with the Giants in January. He did not get put on the big league roster during the shortened season.

—The Associated Press

PRO SOCCER

# MLS finalists to vie for 'strange' Cup

BOTH SOUNDERS, CREW CONSIDER THEMSELVES MORE SURVIVORS THAN TITLE CONTENDERS

BY TIM BOOTH
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LEFT: STEPHEN M. DOWELL / ORLANDO SENTINEL VIA TNS / RIGHT: TED S. WARREN / ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Crew's Gyasi Zardes (left, at right, battling Orlando City's Kyle Smith) and the Sounders' Cristian Roldan (right) will lead their teams in the MLS Cup.

Having played in three of the previous four MLS Cup finals, the Seattle Sounders know what to expect on this stage.

The difference this time around? The opponent won't be wearing red.

"Well, we're not playing Toronto for one," Seattle midfielder Cristian Roldan said. "That is a bit strange."

The Sounders will attempt to win their third title in the past five seasons on Saturday night when they face the Columbus Crew in Ohio. An odd season that began in late February will end with two of the most consistent teams through all the chaos playing for the title.

Along the way, Seattle and Columbus navigated a three-month league stoppage, a tournament in Florida, the restart of games in home markets and finally the playoffs.

It's been a season defined by the COVID-19 pandemic and all the changes and hardships caused by the virus. Even the final match of the year will be impacted by COVID-19 as Columbus will play without starting midfielders Darlington Nagbe and Pedro Santos after both tested positive this week.

"I just feel for them," Columbus coach Caleb Porter said. "A big reason we're here in this position is those two guys."

Seattle is trying to become the league's first repeat champion since the LA Galaxy in 2011–12.

In a league built for parity, Seattle has deftly maneuvered its way to becoming an elite team.

"The players don't think about it too much," Seattle's Jordan Morris said. "Our whole focus is not what we've done in the past, but what we are going to do this week."

It's been 12 years since the Crew won the only MLS title in the club's history. They nearly claimed the title in 2015, only to watch Porter raise the championship trophy as the coach of the Portland Timbers.

Considering that just a couple of years ago the Crew seemed destined to leave Columbus, playing for the title now in Porter's second year in charge is a remarkable turnaround.

"One thing I always praise Caleb about is the psychology aspect of the game, having the right mentality," Crew forward Gyasi Zardes said.

### TUNE IN

**MLS CUP:**
**Sounders FC (11–5–6) vs. Crew SC (12–6–5)**
Columbus, Ohio;
Saturday, 8:30 p.m. (Fox)

### GAME CAPSULE

**WHO:** Seattle Sounders FC (second in the Western Conference) vs. Columbus Crew SC (third in the Eastern Conference)

**BOTTOM LINE:** The Crew are 10–1–0 in home games. Columbus ranks eighth in the league with 43 goals led by Gyasi Zardes with 13. The Sounders are 3–4–3 in road games. Seattle is third in the league with 52 goals led by Raul Ruidiaz with 12.

**SEASON SERIES:** The teams play Saturday for the second time this season. The last meeting ended in a 1–1 draw.

**TOP PERFORMERS:**

**Columbus:** Pedro Santos leads the team with eight assists. Zardes has four goals and one assist over the past 10 games for the Crew.

**Seattle:** Jordan Morris has 10 goals and seven assists for the team. Ruidiaz has five goals over the past 10 games for the Sounders.

**LAST 10 GAMES:**

**Columbus:** 6–3–1, averaging 1.6 goals, one assist, four shots on goal and 5.8 corner kicks per game while allowing 1.1 goals per game.

**Seattle:** 5–2–3, averaging 1.7 goals, one assist, 3.4 shots on goal and six corner kicks per game while allowing 1.2 goals per game.

**NOT EXPECTED TO PLAY:**

**Columbus:** Eloy Room (injured), Chris Cadden (injured), Vito Wormgoor (injured), Waylon Francis (injured), Sebastian Berhalter (injured), Derrick Etienne (injured), Jon Kempin (injured), Miguel Berry (injured).

**Seattle:** Danny Leyva (injured).

—The Associated Press

## United to interview Sounders coach

BY THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON—D.C. United plans to speak with Seattle assistant Gonzalo Pineda in the days after the Sounders play in MLS Cup, three people familiar with the club's coaching search said.

Pineda, a Mexican native in his fourth year on the Seattle staff, has been in the mix for United's head coaching vacancy for several weeks and has already interviewed at least once.

Pineda, 38, is believed to be among four finalists, joining former New York Red Bulls coach Chris Armas, former U.S. women's national team coach Jill Ellis and Manchester City assistant Rodolfo Burrell.

HIGH SCHOOLS

# VISAA joins VHSL in requiring athletes to now wear masks

BY TIM PEARRELL
RICHMOND TIMES–DISPATCH

RICHMOND—The Virginia Independent Schools Athletic Association also will require athletes to wear masks during practice and in competitions in most sports, VISAA executive director Dick Kemper said Friday.

The Virginia High School League, which has predominantly public schools, announced similar restrictions Thursday, saying it will follow Virginia Department of Health guidelines that "during times of substantial COVID-19 activity VDH strongly advises athletes to wear masks at all times during group training, competition, and on the sidelines."

VHSL executive director Billy Haun, however, said are some sports in which masks should not be worn: cheerleading, gymnastics, wrestling, and swimming and diving. The VISAA is adding indoor track, Kemper said.

The VHSL cited the department of health's guidance, which said "there is strong evidence to show that mask use prevents the spread of COVID-19. We also know that participating in sports has both physical and psychological health benefits. Risks from the virus can be decreased if athletes, coaches, officials, and spectators follow public health guidelines."

The department of health also said that "if wearing a mask makes participation in sports difficult, it is advisable not to participate in sports at this time."

Kemper said that applies to coaches as well.

## WINTER

▶ FROM B1

a recommendation from the VDH that face coverings be worn at all times indoors amid a statewide spike in COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations.

"I understand this is a difficult time for our student athletes, and I understand the many benefits participation in sports provides," Kizner wrote. "However, the new executive orders released yesterday require further clarification from the VHSL and VDH on how these requirements will impact our student athletes."

Athletic directors only learned of the decision on Friday afternoon, sources told The Free Lance–Star.

Stafford County will revisit winter sports' status during the first week of January, Kizner wrote.

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jlomonaco@freelancestar.com
@joeylomonaco

# SPORTS

**<< BOWL GAME BLUES? NOPE**
Even with poor crowds in low-tier games, college football plans to pad the lineup. **B6**

**49ERS PREPARE FOR COOK**
Minnesota running back could expose weak link in San Francisco's defense. **B5**

**INSIDE**

## REDSKINS BEGIN FRONT-OFFICE TRANSITION

# Shakeup reveals Rivera's influence

**OUT**

Bruce Allen

Eric Schaffer

Kevin O'Connell

Greg Manusky

Larry Hess

**IN**

Rob Rogers

Scott Turner

Jack Del Rio

Ryan Vermillion

**STAYING**

Doug Williams

BY STEPHEN WHYNO
ASSOCIATED PRESS

**ASHBURN**—The Washington Redskins made their latest move Thursday in an organizational overhaul by hiring former Carolina Panthers executive Rob Rogers as senior vice president of football administration.

Rogers fills a key role in the front office vacated by the departure of senior vice president of football operations Eric Schaffer. Rogers worked closely with new Redskins coach Ron Rivera during Rivera's nine seasons in Carolina while serving as the team's executive director of player finance and football research.

"Rob was a tremendous resource for me over the past nine seasons, and I'm excited for him to be an integral part of building something special here with the Redskins," Rivera said.

Rogers fills a void left by Schaffer's somewhat surprising exit. Schaffer was widely considered a strong candidate for a bigger role after the firing of president Bruce Allen but now will be looking for a new NFL job after 17 seasons with Washington.

ALEX BRANDON / ASSOCAITED PRESS

**The staffers Ron Rivera has brought to the Redskins have worked with him in the past.**

Schaffer in a statement thanked owner Dan Snyder for bringing him to the NFL and said he's looking forward to the next chapter.

The next chapter with the Redskins is a coach-centered approach to decisions led by Rivera, whom Snyder zeroed in on as his top candidate and hired soon after a 3–13 season was over. Rivera has already made significant changes.

Upon taking the job, Rivera hired former Raiders and Jaguars coach Jack Del Rio as defensive coordinator and on Wednesday hired Scott Turner as offensive coordinator. The son of former Redskins coach Norv Turner worked as quarterbacks coach under Rivera with the Panthers.

Moving on from offensive coordinator Kevin O'Connell to Scott Turner means quarterback Dwayne Haskins will have to learn his second system in as many professional seasons. Haskins and others supported O'Connell staying, but most

SEE REDSKINS, B5

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

# Bison QB is a tough one to target

BRUCE CRUMMY / ASSOCIATED PRESS

**North Dakota St.'s Trey Lance scores against Montana State during a FCS playoff game on Dec. 21.**

DUKES LEARN LANCE CAN RUN AND DOESN'T TURN THE BALL OVER

BY WAYNE EPPS JR.
RICHMOND TIMES–DISPATCH

**RICHMOND**—In the FCS championship matchup between James Madison and North Dakota State, both of which have been dominant throughout the season, there are numerous head-turning statistics to go around.

But one of the most eye-popping statistics was generated by NDSU quarterback Trey Lance. A redshirt freshman, Lance has zero interceptions this season.

The Bison love to run the ball—they average 288 yards rushing, fourth in the country, but Lance averages 180.9 yards

SEE JMU, B6

**TUNE IN**

**FCS CHAMPIONSHIP**
**James Madison (14–1) vs. North Dakota State (15–0)**
Saturday in Frisco, Texas (noon, ABC)

MARK HUMPHREY / ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Dean Pees, who used to run the Ravens' defense, will direct the Titans' defenders against his old team.**

PRO FOOTBALL

# Titans' Pees is pleased to face his old team again

BY TERESA M. WALKER
AP PRO FOOTBALL WRITER

**NASHVILLE, Tenn.**—Tennessee defensive coordinator Dean Pees still talks with his old boss, Baltimore coach John Harbaugh.

Just not this week.

Pees spent eight years working for Harbaugh first coaching linebackers and then defensive coordinator, helping the Ravens win a Super Bowl. He retired after the 2017 season, then quickly went back to work when Mike Vrabel asked Pees to be his defensive coordinator with the Titans only weeks later.

Now Pees is trying to help a third team reach a Super Bowl, hoping to add the Titans to his short list that also includes the Patriots, and his defense will be trying to slow down Lamar Jackson and the NFL's best offense on Saturday night in an AFC divisional playoff game.

"If you go out and play golf, I'd rather beat my

SEE NFL, B5

**SCHEDULE**

**DIVISIONAL PLAYOFFS**
**Saturday's games**
Minnesota at San Francisco, 4:35 p.m. (NBC)
Tennessee at Baltimore, 8:15 p.m. (CBS)
**Sunday's game**
Houston Kansas City, 3:05 p.m. (CBS)
Seattle at Green Bay, 6:40 p.m. (Fox)

# Now-healthy Shifflett is 'a smarter player'

BY JOEY LoMONACO
THE FREE LANCE–STAR

WOMAN'S BASKETBALL

No sooner had Maddie Shifflett begun to hit her stride as a starter on the University of Mary Washington women's basketball team than she found herself learning how to walk again.

Just seven games into her sophomore season, Shifflett landed awkwardly on a drive to the basket and suffered a torn ACL in her left knee. At the time of her injury, she was averaging 11.3 points per game.

"You know you never know how a kid's going to come off an ACL," UMW coach Deena Applebury said.

Thirteen months later, it's safe to say Applebury and the Eagles have their answer.

Despite the presence of a bulky knee brace, Shifflett leads UMW in every relevant offensive statistical category, including scoring (15.1 PPG), rebounds (6.3) field goal percentage (46.9 percent) and 3-point percentage (43.9).

The 5-foot-10 forward has misfired on just three free-throw attempts all season, a principal reason the Eagles lead Division-III nationally with a 78.1 percent clip at the line. The Eagles (11–3) open conference play on Saturday, hosting St. Mary's (Md.) at 1 p.m.

**Shifflett**

Shifflett described watching her young UMW team struggle to a 14–13 mark last season as a painful experience. It was also an educational one.

"I think it made me a smarter player," she said of her extended layoff. "I could learn from watching my teammates play. It's a different perspective."

And it helped to have some company.

Sophomore guard Emily Shively also was dealing with a season-ending knee injury last season. The two teammates underwent surgery within a week of one another. From recovery to each stage of rehab, Shifflett and Shively had a confidant who understood the process.

"It was two of us, so we kind of always were on the floor cheering [the team] on," Shifflett said. "So I think that was good to have another person to go through that with."

Shifflett began her rehab

SEE SHIFFLETT, B2

HIGH SCHOOLS

# Campbell, Cougars down Yellow Jackets

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Laila Campbell's 15 points led a Courtland girls basketball team that earned 44 attempts at the charity stripe in the second half alone, en route to a 52–47 victory over host James Monroe in the Battlefield District contest on Thursday night.

Shavia Davis contributed 13 points in only her second varsity game after being called up from the junior-varsity program. Deziree Johnson had 10 points and Jaidyn Taylor controlled the glass with 10 rebounds.

Harmoni Swain and Tianna Firms totaled 12 points apiece for James Monroe.

Courtland will bring King George to their home floor today.

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Courtland | 9 | 5 | 18 | 20 | — 52 |
| James Monroe | 6 | 10 | 10 | 21 | — 47 |

**Courtland (4-6, 2-0):** Laila Campbell 15, Shavia Davis 13, Deziree Johnson 10, Janay Hill 7, Jaidyn Taylor 4, Noelle Hodges 3, Grace Whitenack 0, Madison McDermott 0, Atlee Thompson 0, Morgan Scordellis 0. Totals: 12 27-48 52.

**James Monroe (5-4, 0-2):** Harmoni Swain 12, Tianna Firms 12, Amathy Chol 6, Za'Niya Young 6, Isabel Whitman 6, Nia Bryant 5, Torjhae Ferguson 0, Kayana Cloud 0, Brianna Bracy 0. Totals: 18 10-21 47.

**3-pointers:** Courtland 1 (Hill). James Monroe 1 (Bryant).

## BOYS BASKETBALL

### MOUNTAIN VIEW 94, SPOTSYLVANIA 33

Braden Jory caught fire from distance, knocking down six triples on his way to a game-high 20 points, and the Mountain View Wildcats picked up a dominant nondistrict win over Spotsylvania.

Andrew Pitts added 17 points, while six other Wildcats chipped in at least five points or more.

Nathan Widener paced Spotsylvania with 11 points.

Mountain View hosts Rappahannock on Monday.

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Spotsylvania | 6 | 12 | 12 | 3 | — 33 |
| MV | 27 | 31 | 21 | 15 | — 94 |

**Spotsylvania (0-9, 0-1):** Nathan Widener 11, Jake Taylor 6, Charles Coogler 4, DeAnthony Pendleton 4, Darien Walker 4, Mathias Barnwell 2, Trent Reid 2, Evan Bowles, Josiah Patterson 0, Joel Byrd 0, Chase Greene 0. Totals: 12 8-14 33.

**Mountain View (6-3, 0-1):** Braden Jory 20, Andrew Pitts 17, Derek Alstaetter 9, Duncan Beaumont 8, Darius Crouch 7, Will Hamill 6, Alex Davis 6, Reggie Annor 5, Slater Sparks 4, Brayden Hanny 3, Jabez Clark 3, Colin Lafley 2, Jordan Jackson 2, Colin Carroll 2, Russell Gerald 0. Totals: 32 14-17 94.

**3-pointers:** Spotsylvania 1 (Widener). Mountain View 16 (Jory 6, Hamill 2, Beaumont 2, Pitts 2, Clark, Hanny, Annor, Davis).

## BASKETBALL STANDINGS

(As of games played Jan. 9)

### BOYS

**COMMONWEALTH DISTRICT**

| | Dist | O'all |
|---|---|---|
| Massaponax | 2-0 | 7-2 |
| Colonial Forge | 2-1 | 6-5 |
| North Stafford | 1-0 | 3-3 |
| Riverbend | 1-1 | 3-5 |
| Mountain View | 0-1 | 6-3 |
| Stafford | 0-1 | 3-4 |
| Brooke Point | 0-2 | 2-7 |

**BATTLEFIELD DISTRICT**

| | Dist | O'all |
|---|---|---|
| Courtland | 1-0 | 10-1 |
| Caroline | 1-0 | 6-3 |
| Eastern View | 1-0 | 3-4 |
| Chancellor | 0-0 | 3-3 |
| James Monroe | 0-1 | 4-4 |
| King George | 0-1 | 0-8 |
| Spotsylvania | 0-1 | 0-9 |

### GIRLS

**COMMONWEALTH DISTRICT**

| | Dist | O'all |
|---|---|---|
| Brooke Point | 2-0 | 4-5 |
| Massaponax | 2-1 | 8-3 |
| Colonial Forge | 2-1 | 5-5 |
| North Stafford | 1-0 | 5-1 |
| Riverbend | 1-2 | 3-6 |
| Mountain View | 0-2 | 4-4 |
| Stafford | 0-2 | 0-10 |

**BATTLEFIELD DISTRICT**

| | Dist | O'all |
|---|---|---|
| Courtland | 2-0 | 4-6 |
| King George | 1-0 | 7-1 |
| Eastern View | 1-0 | 6-2 |
| Chancellor | 0-0 | 1-6 |
| Caroline | 0-1 | 7-3 |
| Spotsylvania | 0-1 | 1-8 |
| James Monroe | 0-2 | 5-4 |

STEPHANIE OLINGER / CULPEPER STAR-EXPONENT

Eastern View's Terese Greene (left) drives for two of her game-high 15 points.

# Cyclones sweep Blue Devils

DOUBLEHEADER WIN GIVES EASTERN VIEW BRAGGING RIGHT

BY DEVIN PAYNE AND STEPHANIE OLINGER
CULPEPER STAR-EXPONENT

When Quentin Butler's third-quarter layup gave the Culpeper boys basketball team its first lead of the game against crosstown rival Eastern View on Thursday night, it seemed like the Blue Devils had all the momentum on their side.

## PREP BASKETBALL

| | |
|---|---|
| **BOYS GAME** | |
| EASTERN VIEW | 66 |
| CULPEPER | 49 |
| **GIRLS GAME** | |
| EASTERN VIEW | 55 |
| CULPEPER | 19 |

After trailing by as much as 13 points in the first half, Culpeper had scratched and clawed its way back within two, 28–26, by intermission. Butler's tally gave the Blue Devils a 31–30 advantage, bringing the pro-Culpeper crowd packed inside Kate Carter Gymnasium at Culpeper Middle School to its feet.

However, the precarious position served only to light a fire under the Cyclones.

Buoyed by contributions from up and down its young lineup, as well as the return of senior standout Blake Leake, Eastern View answered Culpeper's challenge with a resounding 29–6 run, turning a close game into a runaway 66–49 victory.

The win is the Cyclones' second in a row, and it gives them a season sweep over the Blue Devils.

"We played really well down the stretch in our last game, so we definitely wanted to carry that momentum over to tonight," Eastern View head coach Patrick Thornhill said. "To their credit, the guys were able to keep it rolling."

The Cyclones' pivotal run lasted exactly the length of a quarter, beginning after Butler's basket with 5:30 remaining in the third period and ending on Corey Long's layup that made it 59–37 with 5:30 left in the fourth.

Long, a 6-foot-4 sophomore, scored 14 of his team-high 16 points during the stretch, showing off his soft touch around the basket.

"My teammates did a great job getting the ball to me in good spots," Long said. "It was all about their unselfishness and willingness to share the basketball."

GREG VAN NOSTRAND /STAR-EXPONENT

The Cyclones' Corey Long (right) looks for position as Culpeper's Chase Smith defends.

Long wasn't the only sophomore who made an impact for Eastern View (3–4). Rickey Butler scored eight of his 10 points during the run, sinking 3-pointers at both the end of the third quarter and the beginning of the fourth. He also harassed any Culpeper shooter who dared enter the paint, utilizing his 6-foot-5 frame to block seven shots on the night.

Long pulled down eight rebounds, while Butler added seven.

Leake, who had been sidelined since fracturing his left thumb in a football game on Nov. 8, totaled eight of his 10 points in the second half after coming off the bench. A first-team all-Battlefield District selection last season, he said he was just happy to be on the court.

Junior guard Bryan Maxie was the fourth Cyclone to reach double figures in the scoring column, contributing 14 points to their cause.

Culpeper (1–7), which dropped its fifth game in a row, was paced by a game-high 21 points from senior Dejour McCray, but no other Blue Devil was able to reach double figures.

"Dejour is working really hard for us," Blue Devils head coach James Thompson said. "We're trying to get some other guys to step up and complement his efforts, but it's just really tough right now with all the young players we've got. I think the guys are just mentally drained, really."

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Eastern View | 18 | 10 | 18 | 20 | — 66 |
| Culpeper | 7 | 19 | 9 | 14 | — 49 |

**Eastern View (3-4):** Raq Lawson 5, D'Aze Hunter 0, Bryan Maxie 14, Dylan White 4, Rickey Butler 10, Blake Leake 10, Corey Long 16, Leo Angulo 2, James Suter 5, Taharka Siaca Bey 0, Meme Melvin 0, Raymond Siaca Bey 0. Totals: 25 9-13 66.

**Culpeper:** Jordan Murphy 7, Cameron Cropp 0, Dejour McCray 21, Joseph Crenshaw 3, Quentin Butler 5, Chase Smith 6, DeQuan Thompson 5, Elijah Williams 0, Beebe 0. Totals: 20 6-21 49.

**3-pointers:** Eastern View 7 (Maxie 3, Butler 2, Suter, Lawson). Culpeper 3(McCray 2, Murphy).

Eastern View earned a 55–19 win in the girls game, giving it a season sweep as well.

"It's always nice to get a win against your crosstown rival, but I don't think we played very well tonight to be honest," Cyclones head coach Mike McCombs said. "We executed better in the second half though, and I know in games like this the girls have a bunch of nerves."

Three straight Culpeper turnovers helped Eastern View (6–2) build a 12–8 lead late in the first quarter. The Cyclones then extended their advantage to 27–12 by halftime and never looked back.

"I thought we started the game off pretty well and had good energy going in," Blue Devils head coach Tony Majors said. "The turnovers in the last minute of the [first quarter] halted any momentum we had, and Eastern View took advantage of that."

All-state guard Terese Greene, who missed the last four games for the Cyclones due to undisclosed reasons, scored 15 points in her return.

"Whenever you take away a two-time all-state player, it definitely calms everybody's nerves when they come back," McCombs said. "I think we also grew as a team while she was out though, because some kids had to step up and contribute more than they would have with Terese in the lineup."

Culpeper (3–6) was without one of its top performers in Amber Fairfax, who missed the contest due to a sprained knee.

"It's tough," Majors said of Fairfax's absence. "She has a MRI scheduled later this week."

Laila Glymph led the Blue Devils with six points, while Autumn Fairfax and Sumer Dames each added four.

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Eastern View | 12 | 15 | 18 | 10 | — 55 |
| Culpeper | 8 | 4 | 4 | 3 | — 19 |

**Eastern View (6-2):** McKayla McCombs 3, Terese Greene 15, Anya Lawson 2, Trinity Washington 5, Sarah Hatfield 7, McKenna Warren 3, Gianna Gilmore 10, Cherish Strother 0, Destiny Washington 4, Christa Brown 0, Khloe Bowles 4, Montana Hoffman 2. Totals: 21 11-21 55.

**Culpeper (3-6):** Allison Wright 0, Autumn Fairfax 4, Sumer Dames 4, Beyonte Johnson 0, Laila Glymph 6, Kaylee Kramer 0, Sierra Jones 0, Kaitlyn Sohnn 2, Alexandria Ragle 1, Kamryn Mosely 0, Daejah Herndon-Williams 2. Totals: 9 1-6 19.

**3-pointers:** Eastern View 2 (McCombs, Greene). Culpeper 0.

# Baylor ends No. 1 UConn's 98-game home win streak

BY DOUG FEINBERG
AP BASKETBALL WRITER

HARTFORD, Conn. —Kim Mulkey and Baylor are making a habit of ending UConn's streaks.

## TOP-25 WOMEN

| | |
|---|---|
| No. 6 BAYLOR | 74 |
| No. 1 UCONN | 58 |

Teá Cooper scored 27 points and No. 6 Baylor used a dominant fourth quarter to beat top-ranked UConn 74–58 on Thursday night, ending the Huskies' 98-game home winning streak.

It was the second consecutive year that the Lady Bears ended a long UConn run. Last season, Baylor stopped the Huskies' 126-game regular-season winning streak.

"We just happen to be the team that beat them. Not anymore than that. Streaks are made to be broken," Mulkey said.

UConn fell one victory short of tying its own NCAA record of 99 in a row at home. The Huskies previous loss at home came in the Big East final against Notre Dame on March 12, 2013. The defeat on Thursday was the worst for UConn since a 23-point defeat to LSU in the regional final of the 2007 NCAA Tournament.

"It hurts because that spans from three other teams," UConn guard Crystal Dangerfield said.

JESSICA HILL / ASSOCIATED PRESS

Connecticut's Crystal Dangerfield (left) fouls Baylor's Te'a Cooper during the first half of Thursday nights' game in Hartford, Conn.

It was the worst home loss since Dec. 5, 2005, when UConn lost to North Carolina by 23 points.

Baylor (12-1) led by three going into the fourth quarter and neither team could get much going on offense in the first few minutes of the final period. The Huskies cut the deficit to one on Christyn Williams' jumper with 6:36 left. Then the defending national champions took over.

The Lady Bears responded with the next 15 points to put the game away. The run started on a layup by Lauren Cox and two baskets by Nalyssa Smith. Smith finished with 20 points and 12 rebounds.

"We went on a run and they just missed some shots," Mulkey said. ""We didn't do anything differently in the fourth quarter. Fatigue set in, or our defense was that good in the fourth quarter. We're going to guard you man. Don't think there was any secret about that. I'd like to tell you we made a change and I was a genius."

UConn (12-1) didn't score a basket after Williams' jumper until Dangerfield hit a 3-pointer in the final minute and the game decided.

Williams had 21 points to lead the Huskies.

This was UConn's first real test of the season. Since 2007, the Huskies (12-1) have played at least one team ranked in the top five before the New Year. This season the only ranked opponent before Thursday that UConn has faced was then-No. 16 DePaul.

# Iowa women hold off No. 17 Maryland

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IOWA CITY, Iowa—Kathleen Doyle scored 21 points, Makenzie Meyer had 20 points and Iowa beat No. 17 Maryland 66-61 on Thursday night.

Alexis Sevillian added 15 points and made a 3-pointer and a jumper back-to-back in the final 3 1/2 minutes to help the Hawkeyes (12–3, 3–1 Big Ten) pull away. Iowa made 7 of 8 foul shots in the final 49 seconds to secure the win.

## TOP-25 WOMEN

| | |
|---|---|
| No. 17 MARYLAND | 61 |
| IOWA | 66 |

The Hawkeyes led by 14 in the second quarter, but the Terrapins (11–4, 2–2) erased the deficit and led 44–41 after an 11-0 run in the third quarter. Iowa retook the lead before the end of the quarter and never trailed in the fourth quarter although Maryland tied it twice.

Kaila Charles had 23 points and 18 rebounds, and Shakira Austin added 11 points and 13 boards for the Terrapins.

Maryland outrebounded Iowa 38-11 on the offensive glass and 59-35 overall. But the Terrapins made 26 of 84 shots, just 4 of 25 from 3-point range, and 5 of 13 from the foul line.

## SHIFFLETT

▶ FROM B1

at UMW last winter and eased herself back onto the court during offseason captain's workouts. Rigorous physical therapy gave way to basketball-specific conditioning as she neared a return.

Wearing a brace hasn't weighed Shifflett down in the post.

"It was funky at first to get used to, but now I kind of like having it because it prevents contact tears," she said. "I think it makes me feel better that I'm protected mentally if I get hit. I don't think it limits me in terms of movement."

She hasn't been limited in terms of minutes, either. When the Eagles opened the preseason, Applebury allowed Shifflett to dictate the pace of her return. But it didn't take long for the longtime coach to realize that she was back--and then some.

"Once the game gets taken away from you, you just play with a little bit of a different mindset," Applebury said. "I think her performance this year is a result of that."

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MATT GENTRY / ROANOKE TIMES VIA AP

**Viirginia Tech freshman Jalen Cone is only averaging 6.5 points while playing 12.9 minutes per game, but it's his future potential that excites the Hokies.**

ACC MEN

# Cone validates Hokies' decision to go young

YOUNG GIVING VIRGINIA TECH FRESHMEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO EARN EARLY COURT TIME

**BY MIKE BARBER**
RICHMOND TIMES-DISPATCH

**TUNE IN**

**N.C. STATE (10-4) at VIRGINIA TECH (11-4)**

Cassell Coliseum, Blacksburg
Saturday, 2 p.m.
(NBCSW; WJFK-FM 106.7)

BLACKSBURG—Jalen Cone goes full speed in practice and never backs down from older or bigger teammates. The Virginia Tech freshman guard has the battle scars to prove it.

"He works hard at practice every day," teammate Landers Nolley said.

"That's why he's got stitches in his head. Going hard in practice."

More specifically, Cone has stitches on the top of his head from an elbow he caught from Landers in practice leading up to last weekend's Virginia game. Cone still played in the loss to U.Va. and Tuesday night in Syracuse had his biggest game as a Hokie.

Cone scored 16 of his career-high 19 points in the second half, connecting on four of the five 3-pointers he hit in the game after the break and fueling Virginia Tech's 67—63 come-from-behind win over the Orange.

"I knew that Cone, if we were going to win, was going to have to get a couple of shots down," Tech coach Mike Young said. "I don't know that I expected him to get five of them down from long range, but that's what he does. He is a dynamic scorer."

It was an important bounce-back performance for the Hokies and for Cone. No. 18 Virginia undressed Young's young and inexperienced squad 65—39 on Jan. 4. Cone played just 10 minutes, and Young said he and the other freshmen seemed out of their depth, struggling against the Cavaliers' vaunted Pack-Line defense.

"Maybe the first time I looked in their eye and they had a faraway look," Young said.

Young, in his first year at Tech after 17 seasons leading Wofford, offers up a "golly" or "gosh" anytime it's pointed out he employed a lineup with four or even five freshmen on the floor together. But all aw-shucks-ing aside, the coach knows how inexperienced his roster is and how heavily he'll be relying on rookies this season.

Through 15 games, six true or redshirt freshmen are averaging more than 11 minutes, with four of them playing at least 22 minutes a contest.

Tech (11—4, 2—2 ACC) has gotten 773 of its 1,071—or more than 70 percent—of its points from that group going into Saturday's home game against North Carolina State (10—4, 1—2).

Of course, the six freshmen also account for 79 of the team's 147 turnovers.

"Live through some of that," Young said. "What those kids have accomplished and that progress that they've made physically, emotionally, has been pretty special to witness."

Cone's impact on Young's program predates his enrollment at Virginia Tech. The 5-foot-10, 170-pound Cone was the first big recruit who gave Young a commitment after he took the Hokies job. The four-star point guard from Walkertown, N.C., picked Tech over Miami, N.C. State and Wake Forest in the ACC, and Baylor, Tennessee and VCU, among others.

His commitment assuaged fears that Young wasn't going to be able to recruit Power Five-caliber players, a criticism of his hiring that only heightened when he landed his first commitment from Hunter Cattoor—a three-star shooting guard who had been committed to Young at Wofford and who held no other Power Five offers.

(It's worth noting, Cattoor has not looked out of his depth this season at Tech, playing 23.2 minutes and averaging 7.6 points.)

Cone's choice to play for Tech seemed to open the door for Young with recruits in future classes.

That's for then. For now, Cone is trying to expedite his development so he can help this year's Hokies win more games than were predicted in preseason.

## nba notes

### 76ERS' EMBIID TO HAVE SURGERY ON FINGER

PHILADELPHIA—Philadelphia center Joel Embiid will have surgery Friday for a torn ligament in a finger in his left hand and will be evaluated in one to two weeks.

Embiid injured the radial collateral ligament in the ring finger in the first half Monday night against Oklahoma City. Embiid's overlapped his pinkie to the point that it seemed he had his fingers crossed. He played most of the game with his finger taped and said he "couldn't go up with two hands."

### CAVS' BEILEIN APOLOGIZES FOR 'THUGS' COMMENT

DETROIT—John Beilein's first season as an NBA coach took another turbulent turn because of a comment he made during a film session.

Beilein said Thursday he had apologized after using the word "thugs" while reviewing film with his players the previous day. ESPN.com, citing unidentified sources, reported that Beilein suggested during a Wednesday film session his players were no longer playing "like a bunch of thugs." Beilein told ESPN he had meant to say "slugs" in reference to the team's effort level.

Beilein repeated that explanation Thursday after his team's shootaround in Detroit, hours before the Cavaliers faced the Pistons. Beilein said he called the players afterward to explain the situation, and said he apologized.

### JAMES MOVES INTO OVERALL ALL-STAR VOTING LEAD

It could be a Team LeBron vs. Team Giannis rematch in the All-Star Game.

LeBron James of the Los Angeles Lakers has passed Dallas' Luka Doncic for the overall and Western Conference lead in fan voting for the Feb. 16 game in Chicago, with about a week and a half left in the race. Milwaukee's Giannis Antetokounmpo remains the runaway leader in the Eastern Conference voting.

James' lead over Doncic was 82,001 votes, the NBA said on Thursday when releasing the second balloting update. James leads the West frontcourt voting with 3,359,871.

### MAN CHARGED FOR THROWING CAN ONTO COURT

BOSTON—A man was arrested and escorted out of the arena after throwing a can of hard seltzer onto the court near the San Antonio Spurs bench during Wednesday night's game with the Boston Celtics, Boston police said Thursday.

Justin Arnold, 22, of Everett, was charged with disturbing a public assembly. Arnold appeared to be intoxicated, police said in a statement.

The 20-ounce can thrown from the balcony landed on the court and sprayed all over the floor "when the crowd started to scrutinize the refs for what appeared to be a terrible call against the Celtics," police said. The can missed a Spurs player by just a few inches, police said.

—The Associated Press

MEN'S ROUNDUP

# Wolverines outlast Boilermakers

SIMPSON, TESKE HELP NO. 19 MICHIGAN STAVE OFF PURDUE IN DOUBLE OVERTIME

**BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

ANN ARBOR, Mich.—Zavier Simpson scored 22 points, Jon Teske added 18 and Michigan's seniors made big shots late as the 19th-ranked Wolverines outlasted Purdue 84—78 in double overtime on Thursday night.

Freshman Franz Wagner had 15 points for Michigan (11—4, 2—2 Big Ten), which avoided a third straight Big Ten loss.

Purdue sophomore Trevion Williams had career highs with 36 points and 20 rebounds but missed a shot to win at the regulation buzzer.

In the first overtime, Eric Hunter Jr. missed a contested jump shot for Purdue (9—7, 2—3), and Simpson's desperation 3-pointer on the run also missed for Michigan at the buzzer.

Michigan left little to chance in the second overtime, scoring the first nine points of the session. Teske had a three-point play, followed by 3-pointers from Simpson and Wagner.

PAUL SANCYA / ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Michigan's Jon Teske (15) shoots over Purdue's Trevion Williams late in Thursday night's game.**

TOP 25

**NO. 23 WICHITA STATE 76, NO. 21 MEMPHIS 67**

WICHITA, Kan.—Jamarius Burton scored 16 points to lead the No. 23 Shockers (14—1, 2—0 American Athletic) past the Tigers. Erik Stevenson had 12 points for Wichita State and Tyson Etienne scored 11.

Precious Achiuwa had 22 points and 12 rebounds for Memphis (12—3, 1—1).

REGION

**DELAWARE 80, JAMES MADISON 76**

HARRISONBURG—Dylan Painter had career highs of 23 points and 10 rebounds and Kevin Anderson hit a go-ahead 3-pointer with 38 seconds to go and the Blue Hens (12—5, 2—2 Colonial Athletic Conference) defeated the Dukes

Both teams came up empty after Dwight Wilson gave the Dukes a 73—72 lead on a pair of free throws with 1:24 to play. But on their second chance the Blue Hens capitalized with Nate Darling finding Anderson in the left corner for a 3-pointer.

After a James Madison miss, Darling, Anderson and Ryan Allen combined to hit 5 of 6 free throws. Anderson had 16 points for Delaware.

Matt Lewis had 19 points for the Dukes (8—8, 1—4), Darius Banks added 18 and Dwight Wilson 15 with nine rebounds.

**LIBERTY 63, NORTH ALABAMA 52**

LYNCHBURG—Myo Baxter-Bell came off the bench to score 16 points to carry (17—1, 3—0 Atlantic Sun) over the Lions, Liberty's seventh consecutive home victory.

Caleb Homesley and Scottie James added 14 points apiece for Liberty.

Mervin James had 16 points for North Alabama (6—10, 1—2).

**WILLIAM & MARY 79, UNC-WILMINGTON 63**

WILLIAMSBURG—Andy Van Vliet had 18 points and 11 rebounds as the Tribe (12—5, 4—0 Colonial Athletic Conference) topped the Seahawks. Nathan Knight added 17 points and 17 rebounds for the Tribe. Knight also had five assists for the Tribe.

Jaylen Sims had 21 points and six rebounds for UNC Wilmington (5—13, 0—5), who have now lost 10 games in a row.

## college notes

### MOUNTAIN WEST MAKES 6-YEAR DEALS WITH NETWORKS

DENVER—The Mountain West has agreed to six-year media rights deals with CBS Sports and Fox Sports that are worth a combined $270 million.

The agreements include football and men's basketball. The deals begin in 2020-21 and run through the 2025-26 season, the conference announced Thursday. There are additional third-tier rights still in negotiation.

This marks the inaugural arrangement between the league and Fox, which will show the conference's football championship game. The CBS Sports Network remains the primary television rights holder.

### BARKLEY DONATES $1 MILLION TO MILES COLLEGE

FAIRFIELD, Ala.—Charles Barkley has donated $1 million to historically black Miles College.

The Basketball Hall of Famer and former Auburn star told interim president Bobbie Knight about the donation on Wednesday, news outlets reported.

"I've gotten to know Bobbie over the last year and it was something I really wanted to do," said Barkley, now a TV studio analyst. "To have a female president is a big deal. I want to help Bobbie be as successful as she can be."

Knight was named interim president in July. She's the first woman to lead the Fairfield school.

Knight said Barkley's contribution is the largest individual gift the college has received in its 122-year history. It will launch a comprehensive campaign to raise $100 million for the institution, Knight said.

—The Associated Press

## NBA GAME SUMMARIES

### 76ERS 109, CELTICS 98

PHILADELPHIA—Josh Richardson scored 29 points, Ben Simmons had 19 and the Philadelphia 76ers won without injured center Joel Embiid, beating the Boston Celtics on Thursday night.

Kemba Walker had 26 points for Boston.

| BOSTON | FG M-A | FT M-A | Reb O-T | A | PF | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Hayward | 4-11 | 0-0 | 0-2 | 2 | 0 | 8 |
| Tatum | 4-13 | 6-6 | 0-10 | 4 | 2 | 15 |
| Theis | 4-6 | 0-0 | 4-5 | 2 | 3 | 9 |
| Brown | 2-12 | 0-0 | 0-5 | 2 | 0 | 6 |
| Walker | 10-20 | 1-1 | 0-2 | 3 | 2 | 26 |
| Smart | 9-14 | 1-1 | 0-1 | 1 | 4 | 24 |
| Ojeleye | 0-2 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 1 | 2 | 0 |
| Kanter | 4-7 | 0-0 | 2-11 | 2 | 1 | 8 |
| Williams | 1-3 | 0-0 | 2-2 | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| Totals | 38-88 | 8-8 | 8-38 | 17 | 16 | 98 |

Percentages: FG .432, FT 1.000.3-Point Goals: 14-36, .389 (Smart 5-7, Walker 5-11, Brown 2-4, Theis 1-3, Tatum 1-5, Williams 0-1, Ojeleye 0-2, Hayward 0-3). Team Rebounds: 5. Team Turnovers: 1.Blocked Shots: 1 (Tatum). Turnovers: 14 (Tatum 4, Brown 3, Hayward 2, Walker 2, Kanter, Smart, Williams). Steals: 9 (Smart 3, Tatum 3, Brown, Theis, Walker).Technical Fouls: None.

| PHILA. | FG M-A | FT M-A | Reb O-T | A | PF | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Harris | 7-17 | 0-0 | 0-7 | 3 | 1 | 16 |
| Scott | 3-8 | 0-0 | 2-4 | 1 | 0 | 7 |
| Horford | 7-11 | 1-3 | 5-8 | 6 | 2 | 17 |
| Richardson | 9-16 | 10-10 | 0-3 | 7 | 2 | 29 |
| Simmons | 9-15 | 1-4 | 2-9 | 3 | 1 | 19 |
| Thybulle | 0-4 | 0-0 | 3-5 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Ennis III | 2-5 | 0-0 | 0-2 | 0 | 1 | 6 |
| Korkmaz | 3-6 | 0-0 | 0-3 | 0 | 1 | 9 |
| Pelle | 3-3 | 0-0 | 0-4 | 0 | 2 | 6 |
| Burke | 0-3 | 0-0 | 1-3 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Totals | 43-88 | 12-17 | 13-48 | 24 | 11 | 109 |

Percentages: FG .489, FT .706.3-Point Goals: 11-27, .407 (Korkmaz 3-5, Ennis III 2-3, Horford 2-3, Harris 2-5, Scott 1-3, Richardson 1-5, Burke 0-1, Thybulle 0-2). Team Rebounds: 9. Team Turnovers: 1. Blocked Shots: 5 (Horford 2, Pelle 2, Ennis III). Turnovers: 12 (Simmons 3, Horford 2, Richardson 2, Ennis III, Harris, Korkmaz, Pelle, Thybulle). Steals: 6 (Ennis III 2, Harris 2, Horford, Simmons).

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Boston** | **35** | **20** | **25** | **18** | **— 98** |
| **Philadelphia** | **26** | **22** | **29** | **32** | **— 109** |

A—20,822 (20,478). T—2:09.

### CAVALIERS 115, PISTONS 112

DETROIT—Kevin Love made a tiebreaking 3-pointer with 37.9 seconds left in overtime and the Cleveland Cavaliers snapped a five-game losing streak with a victory over the Detroit Pistons on Thursday night.

| CLEVELAND | FG M-A | FT M-A | Reb O-T | A | PF | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Love | 6-14 | 4-6 | 0-9 | 3 | 3 | 17 |
| Osman | 5-9 | 1-4 | 2-4 | 2 | 2 | 11 |
| Thompson | 15-20 | 5-6 | 7-14 | 3 | 4 | 35 |
| Garland | 8-14 | 2-2 | 0-2 | 7 | 0 | 20 |
| Sexton | 9-19 | 0-0 | 1-6 | 1 | 1 | 19 |
| Knight | 2-7 | 0-0 | 0-2 | 3 | 2 | 5 |
| Dellavedova | 1-1 | 0-0 | 0-1 | 4 | 0 | 2 |
| McKinnie | 1-4 | 2-2 | 0-0 | 0 | 4 | 4 |
| Zizic | 1-3 | 0-0 | 0-1 | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| Totals | 48-91 | 14-20 | 10-39 | 24 | 18 | 115 |

Percentages: FG .527, FT .700.3-Point Goals: 5-20, .250 (Garland 2-4, Sexton 1-2, Knight 1-4, Love 1-5, Thompson 0-1, McKinnie 0-2, Osman 0-2).Team Rebounds: 12. Team Turnovers: 1. Blocked Shots: 5 (Thompson 3, Sexton 2). Turnovers: 14 (Garland 3, Love 3, Dellavedova 2, Osman 2, Thompson 2, McKinnie, Sexton). Steals: 9 (McKinnie 3, Sexton 2, Dellavedova, Love, Thompson, Zizic).

| DETROIT | FG M-A | FT M-A | Reb O-T | A | PF | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Doumbouya | 3-5 | 0-0 | 0-1 | 1 | 4 | 8 |
| Snell | 5-10 | 0-0 | 0-1 | 3 | 4 | 11 |
| Drummond | 13-24 | 2-5 | 10-23 | 1 | 2 | 28 |
| Brown | 6-14 | 4-6 | 2-4 | 8 | 3 | 17 |
| Mykhailiuk | 2-3 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0 | 1 | 5 |
| Rose | 13-24 | 1-1 | 4-7 | 5 | 3 | 27 |
| Maker | 1-5 | 1-2 | 3-8 | 1 | 4 | 3 |
| Galloway | 4-8 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 1 | 2 | 9 |
| Wood | 1-5 | 2-2 | 0-2 | 0 | 2 | 4 |
| Totals | 48-98 | 10-16 | 19-46 | 20 | 25 | 112 |

Percentages: FG .490, FT .625.3-Point Goals: 6-20, .300 (Doumbouya 2-2, Brown 1-1, Mykhailiuk 1-2, Galloway 1-4, Snell 1-5, Maker 0-2, Rose 0-2, Wood 0-2). Team Rebounds: 8. Team Turnovers: 1. Blocked Shots: 9 (Maker 4, Brown 2, Doumbouya, Drummond, Wood). Turnovers: 15 (Rose 6, Drummond 3, Maker 2, Wood 2, Doumbouya, Galloway). Steals: 8 (Brown 4, Galloway 2, Drummond, Maker).

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Cleveland** | **26** | **24** | **31** | **21** | **13 — 115** |
| **Detroit** | **32** | **29** | **22** | **19** | **10 — 112** |

A—13,445 (20,491).

### TIMBERWOLVES 116, TRAIL BLAZERS 102

MINNEAPOLIS—Andrew Wiggins scored 23 points and the Timberwolves beat Portland on Thursday night.

| PORTLAND | FG M-A | FT M-A | Reb O-T | A | PF | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Anthony | 3-10 | 2-2 | 1-2 | 0 | 4 | 8 |
| Bazemore | 0-8 | 2-4 | 0-3 | 0 | 3 | 2 |
| Whiteside | 6-12 | 2-3 | 5-14 | 0 | 1 | 15 |
| Lillard | 6-17 | 5-6 | 2-4 | 8 | 0 | 20 |
| McCollum | 6-12 | 0-0 | 0-2 | 0 | 4 | 15 |
| Trent Jr. | 4-9 | 2-2 | 1-2 | 1 | 3 | 13 |
| Tolliver | 0-5 | 1-2 | 3-4 | 2 | 2 | 1 |
| Simons | 3-7 | 1-2 | 0-1 | 0 | 3 | 7 |
| Hoard | 3-7 | 2-3 | 1-4 | 0 | 0 | 8 |
| Little | 3-6 | 1-4 | 0-1 | 1 | 0 | 8 |
| Hezonja | 1-3 | 3-3 | 1-4 | 2 | 1 | 5 |
| Totals | 35-96 | 21-31 | 14-41 | 14 | 21 | 102 |

Percentages: FG .365, FT .677.3-Point Goals: 11-37, .297 (McCollum 3-4, Trent Jr. 3-6, Lillard 3-10, Whiteside 1-1, Little 1-3, Hoard 0-1, Simons 0-1, Anthony 0-3, Bazemore 0-4, Tolliver 0-4). Team Rebounds: 17. Team Turnovers: 2. Blocked Shots: 6 (Tolliver 2, Whiteside 2, Little, McCollum). Steals: 9 (Trent Jr. 3, Bazemore 2, Hoard 2, Hezonja, Simons).

| MINNESOTA | FG M-A | FT M-A | Reb O-T | A | PF | PTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Covington | 6-12 | 1-2 | 0-4 | 0 | 2 | 15 |
| Wiggins | 9-15 | 3-6 | 1-3 | 8 | 1 | 23 |
| Dieng | 5-10 | 0-0 | 5-10 | 0 | 2 | 12 |
| Culver | 6-13 | 0-0 | 2-6 | 1 | 1 | 12 |
| Napier | 2-5 | 4-4 | 0-2 | 4 | 0 | 9 |
| Okogie | 2-2 | 2-2 | 1-3 | 2 | 6 | 8 |
| Teague | 4-8 | 3-3 | 0-3 | 6 | 3 | 12 |
| Bates-Diop | 5-9 | 0-2 | 1-8 | 1 | 5 | 11 |
| Reid | 0-5 | 0-0 | 0-6 | 1 | 5 | 0 |
| Graham | 1-4 | 0-0 | 0-2 | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| Vonleh | 3-4 | 2-2 | 3-6 | 1 | 2 | 8 |
| Bell | 1-2 | 0-0 | 2-3 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Totals | 44-89 | 15-21 | 15-56 | 25 | 28 | 116 |

Percentages: FG .494, FT .714.3-Point Goals: 13-32, .406 (Okogie 2-2, Dieng 2-4, Wiggins 2-4, Covington 2-6, Bell 1-1, Teague 1-2, Graham 1-3, Napier 1-3, Bates-Diop 1-4, Culver 0-1, Reid 0-2). Team Rebounds: 8. Team Turnovers: 1. Blocked Shots: 10 (Covington 2, Culver 2, Okogie 2, Bates-Diop, Dieng, Reid, Teague). Turnovers: 14 (Culver 4, Teague 2, Vonleh 2, Bates-Diop, Bell, Dieng, Napier, Okogie, Wiggins). Steals: 7 (Covington 2, Dieng 2, Okogie 2, Bates-Diop).

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Portland** | **34** | **13** | **27** | **28** | **— 102** |
| **Minnesota** | **28** | **31** | **41** | **16** | **— 116** |

A—13,720 (19,356).

# SCOREBOARD

## PRO BASKETBALL

**NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION**

**Eastern Conference**

**Atlantic Division**

| | W | L | Pct | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Boston | 25 | 11 | .694 | — |
| Toronto | 25 | 13 | .658 | 1 |
| Philadelphia | 25 | 14 | .641 | 1½ |
| Brooklyn | 16 | 20 | .444 | 9 |
| New York | 10 | 28 | .263 | 16 |

**Southeast Division**

| | W | L | Pct | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Miami | 27 | 10 | .730 | — |
| Orlando | 18 | 20 | .474 | 9 ½ |
| Charlotte | 15 | 25 | .375 | 13 ½ |
| Washington | 12 | 25 | .324 | 15 |
| Atlanta | 8 | 30 | .211 | 19 ½ |

**Central Division**

| | W | L | Pct | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Milwaukee | 33 | 6 | .846 | — |
| Indiana | 23 | 15 | .605 | 9 ½ |
| Detroit | 14 | 25 | .359 | 19 |
| Chicago | 13 | 25 | .342 | 19 ½ |
| Cleveland | 11 | 27 | .289 | 21 ½ |

**WESTERN CONFERENCE**

**Southwest Division**

| | W | L | Pct | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Houston | 25 | 11 | .694 | — |
| Dallas | 23 | 14 | .622 | 2 ½ |
| San Antonio | 16 | 20 | .444 | 9 |
| Memphis | 16 | 22 | .421 | 10 |
| New Orleans | 13 | 25 | .342 | 13 |

**Northwest Division**

| | W | L | Pct | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Denver | 26 | 11 | .703 | — |
| Utah | 25 | 12 | .676 | 1 |
| Oklahoma City | 21 | 16 | .568 | 5 |
| Portland | 16 | 23 | .410 | 11 |
| Minnesota | 15 | 22 | .405 | 11 |

**Pacific Division**

| | W | L | Pct | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| L.A. Lakers | 30 | 7 | .811 | — |
| L.A. Clippers | 26 | 12 | .684 | 4 ½ |
| Sacramento | 15 | 23 | .395 | 15 ½ |
| Phoenix | 14 | 23 | .378 | 16 |
| Golden State | 9 | 30 | .231 | 22 |

**Wednesday's Games**

Miami 122, Indiana 108
San Antonio 129, Boston 114
Toronto 112, Charlotte 110, OT
Orlando 123, Washington 89
Denver 107, Dallas 106
Houston 122, Atlanta 115
New Orleans 123, Chicago 108
Utah 128, New York 104
Milwaukee 107, Golden State 98

**Thursday's Games**

Philadelphia 109, Boston 98
Cleveland 115, Detroit 112, OT
Minnesota 116, Portland 102
Houston at Oklahoma City, late

**Friday's Games**

Atlanta at Washington, 7 p.m.
New Orleans at New York, 7:15 p.m.
Miami at Brooklyn, 7:30 p.m.
Indiana at Chicago, 8 p.m.
San Antonio at Memphis, 8 p.m.
Charlotte at Utah, 9 p.m.
Orlando at Phoenix, 9 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Dallas, 9:45 p.m.
Milwaukee at Sacramento, 10 p.m.
Golden State at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m.

**Saturday's Games**

Minnesota at Houston, 5 p.m.
Chicago at Detroit, 7 p.m.
New Orleans at Boston, 7 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Oklahoma City, 8 p.m.
Philadelphia at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Cleveland at Denver, 9 p.m.
Milwaukee at Portland, 10 p.m.

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**NBA LEADERS**

**Through Jan. 8**

**Scoring**

| | G | FG | PTS | AVG |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Harden, HOU | 35 | 392 | 1346 | 38.5 |
| Antetoko., MIL | 36 | 400 | 1088 | 30.2 |
| Doncic, DAL | 33 | 318 | 976 | 29.6 |
| Young, ATL | 35 | 328 | 1023 | 29.2 |
| Beal, WAS | 31 | 293 | 862 | 27.8 |
| Davis, LAL | 35 | 330 | 948 | 27.1 |

**FG Percentage**

| | FG | FGA | PCT |
|---|---|---|---|
| Robinson, NYK | 144 | 203 | .709 |
| Gobert, UTA | 198 | 295 | .671 |
| Holmes, SAC | 204 | 309 | .660 |
| Allen, BKN | 160 | 247 | .648 |

**Rebounds**

| | G | OFF | TOT | AVG |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Drummond, DET | 36 | 158 | 576 | 16.0 |
| Capela, HOU | 30 | 125 | 434 | 14.5 |
| Gobert, UTA | 35 | 127 | 505 | 14.4 |
| Whiteside, POR | 35 | 143 | 489 | 14.0 |

**Assists**

| | G | AST | AVG |
|---|---|---|---|
| James, LAL | 36 | 390 | 10.8 |
| Rubio, PHX | 31 | 287 | 9.3 |
| Doncic, DAL | 33 | 296 | 9.0 |
| Simmons, PHI | 36 | 309 | 8.6 |

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**NBA ALL-STAR VOTING**

**Through Jan. 9**

**Game: Feb. 16 at United Center, Chicago**

**Eastern Conference**

**Frontcourt**

1. Giannis Antetokounmpo, Milwaukee, 3,259,383
2. Joel Embiid, Philadelphia, 1,784,211
3. Pascal Siakam, Toronto, 1,730,763
4. Jimmy Butler, Miami, 1,400,293
5. Jayson Tatum, Boston, 1,182,663
6. Tacko Fall, Boston, 543,352
7. Bam Adebayo, Miami, 349,078
8. Gordon Hayward, Boston, 291,608
9. Domantas Sabonis, Indiana, 239,639
10. Andre Drummond, Detroit, 228,190

**Guards**

1. Trae Young, Atlanta, 1,389,628
2. Kyrie Irving, Brooklyn, 1,351,997
3. Kemba Walker, Boston, 1,331,577
4. Derrick Rose, Detroit, 918,550
5. Zach LaVine, Chicago, 572,022
6. Kyle Lowry, Toronto, 567,896
7. Jaylen Brown, Boston, 544,361
8. Ben Simmons, Philadelphia, 456,066
9. Bradley Beal, Washignton, 447,107
10. Fred VanVleet, Toronto, 351,391

**Western Conference**

**Frontcourt**

1. LeBron James, L.A. Lakers, 3,359,871
2. Anthony Davis, L.A. Lakers, 3,124,446
3. Kawhi Leonard, L.A. Clippers, 2,210,539
4. Paul George, L.A. Clippers, 845,719
5. Nikola Jokic, Denver, 559,881
6. Karl-Anthony Towns, Minnesota, 545,385
7. Kristaps Porzingis, Dallas, 540,603
8. Carmelo Anthony, Portland, 520,021
9. Brandon Ingram, New Orleans, 444,522
10. Dwight Howard, L.A. Lakers, 390,037

**Guards**

1. Luka Doncic, Dallas, 3,277,870
2. James Harden, Houston, 2,167,269
3. Damian Lillard, Portland, 687,855
4. Stephen Curry, Golden State, 595,913
5. Russell Westbrook, Houston, 581,500
6. Alex Caruso, L.A. Lakers, 528,246
7. Donovan Mitchell, Utah, 449,835
8. Devin Booker, Phoenix, 381,071
9. D'Angelo Russell, Golden State, 365,730
10. Ja Morant, Memphis, 257,433

## TENNIS

**ATP Cup Results**

**Thursday**

**Purse: $15 million**

**Surface: Hard-Outdoor**

**x-advanced to quarterfinals**

**Quarterfinals**

**At Olympic Park Tennis Centre**

**Sydney**

**Surface: Hard-Outdoor**

**Australia 2, Britain 1**

**Singles**

Nick Kyrgios, Australia, def. Cameron Norrie, Britain, 6-2, 6-2.

Dan Evans, Britain, def. Alex de Minaur, Australia, 7-6 (4), 4-6, 7-6 (2).

**Doubles**

Alex de Minaur and Nick Kyrgios, Australia, def. Jamie Murray and Joe Salisbury, Britain, 3-6, 6-3, 18-16.

**Russia 3, Argentina 0**

**Singles**

Karen Khachanov, Russia, def. Guido Pella, Argentina, 6-2, 7-6 (4).

Daniil Medvedev, Russia, def. Diego Schwartzman, Argentina, 6-4, 4-6, 6-3.

**Doubles**

Teymuraz Gabashvili and Konstantin Kravchuk, Russia, def. Maximo Gonzalez and Andres Molteni, Argentina, 7-6 (5), 6-4.

## PRO HOCKEY

**NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE**

**Eastern Conference**

| Atlantic | GP | W | L | OT | Pts | GF | GA |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Boston | 45 | 26 | 8 | 11 | 63 | 151 | 117 |
| Tampa Bay | 43 | 26 | 13 | 4 | 56 | 160 | 127 |
| Toronto | 45 | 24 | 15 | 6 | 54 | 162 | 145 |
| Florida | 44 | 23 | 16 | 5 | 51 | 158 | 148 |
| Buffalo | 44 | 19 | 18 | 7 | 45 | 128 | 140 |
| Montreal | 45 | 18 | 20 | 7 | 43 | 141 | 147 |
| Ottawa | 43 | 16 | 22 | 5 | 37 | 118 | 149 |
| Detroit | 44 | 11 | 30 | 3 | 25 | 96 | 168 |
| **Metro.** | **GP** | **W** | **L** | **OT** | **Pts** | **GF** | **GA** |
| Washington | 45 | 30 | 10 | 5 | 65 | 163 | 133 |
| N.Y. Islanders | 42 | 27 | 12 | 3 | 57 | 120 | 108 |
| Pittsburgh | 43 | 26 | 12 | 5 | 57 | 146 | 116 |
| Carolina | 43 | 25 | 16 | 2 | 52 | 145 | 123 |
| Philadelphia | 44 | 23 | 15 | 6 | 52 | 140 | 136 |
| Columbus | 44 | 21 | 15 | 8 | 50 | 117 | 121 |
| N.Y. Rangers | 43 | 21 | 18 | 4 | 46 | 144 | 144 |
| New Jersey | 43 | 15 | 21 | 7 | 37 | 112 | 154 |

**WESTERN CONFERENCE**

| Central | GP | W | L | OT | Pts | GF | GA |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| St. Louis | 45 | 28 | 10 | 7 | 63 | 143 | 122 |
| Dallas | 43 | 25 | 14 | 4 | 54 | 117 | 105 |
| Colorado | 44 | 25 | 15 | 4 | 54 | 159 | 130 |
| Winnipeg | 45 | 24 | 17 | 4 | 52 | 141 | 139 |
| Minnesota | 43 | 20 | 17 | 6 | 46 | 133 | 144 |
| Nashville | 42 | 19 | 16 | 7 | 45 | 144 | 143 |
| Chicago | 44 | 19 | 19 | 6 | 44 | 128 | 143 |
| **Pacific** | **GP** | **W** | **L** | **OT** | **Pts** | **GF** | **GA** |
| Vegas | 46 | 24 | 16 | 4 | 54 | 147 | 137 |
| Arizona | 46 | 25 | 17 | 4 | 54 | 133 | 118 |
| Edmonton | 46 | 24 | 17 | 5 | 53 | 141 | 144 |
| Calgary | 45 | 23 | 17 | 5 | 51 | 125 | 135 |
| Vancouver | 44 | 23 | 17 | 4 | 50 | 145 | 139 |
| San Jose | 45 | 19 | 22 | 4 | 42 | 121 | 151 |
| Anaheim | 43 | 17 | 21 | 5 | 39 | 113 | 136 |
| Los Angeles | 45 | 17 | 24 | 4 | 38 | 113 | 142 |

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.

**Wednesday's Games**

Philadelphia 3, Washington 2
Winnipeg 4, Toronto 3, SO
Dallas 2, Los Angeles 1

**Thursday's Games**

Boston 5, Winnipeg 4
Florida 5, Vancouver 2
Edmonton 4, Montreal 2
N.Y. Rangers 6, New Jersey 3
Tampa Bay 4, Arizona 0
St. Louis 5, Buffalo 1
Nashville at Chicago, late
Minnesota at Calgary, late
Dallas at Anaheim, late
Los Angeles at Vegas, late
Columbus at San Jose, late

**Friday's Games**

Arizona at Carolina, 7:30 p.m.
Ottawa at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Colorado, 9 p.m.

**Saturday's Games**

Vancouver at Buffalo, 1 p.m.
Los Angeles at Carolina, 7 p.m.
Boston at N.Y. Islanders, 7 p.m.
Montreal at Ottawa, 7 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
New Jersey at Washington, 7 p.m.
N.Y. Rangers at St. Louis, 8 p.m.
Anaheim at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
Edmonton at Calgary, 10 p.m.
Columbus at Vegas, 10 p.m.
Dallas at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.

**Sunday's Games**

Nashville at Winnipeg, 2 p.m.
Vancouver at Minnesota, 4 p.m.
Buffalo at Detroit, 5 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Arizona, 6 p.m.
Toronto at Florida, 7 p.m.
Tampa Bay at New Jersey, 7 p.m.

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**NHL Leaders**

**Through Wed. Jan. 8**

**Goal Scoring**

| Name | Team | GP | G |
|---|---|---|---|
| Pastrnak | Boston | 44 | 32 |
| Matthews | Toronto | 45 | 31 |
| Eichel | Buffalo | 42 | 26 |
| MacKinnon | Colorado | 44 | 26 |
| Ovechkin | Washington | 45 | 26 |
| Draisaitl | Edmonton | 45 | 25 |
| Kane | Chicago | 44 | 24 |
| McDavid | Edmonton | 45 | 24 |

**Assists**

| Name | Team | GP | A |
|---|---|---|---|
| McDavid | Edmonton | 45 | 45 |
| Draisaitl | Edmonton | 45 | 42 |
| Carlson | Washington | 45 | 41 |
| Marchand | Boston | 44 | 41 |
| Huberdeau | Florida | 43 | 40 |
| MacKinnon | Colorado | 44 | 39 |

## COLLEGE

**FOOTBALL**

**Monday, Jan. 13**

**College Football Championship**

**New Orleans**

Clemson (14-0) vs. LSU (14-0), 8 p.m. (ESPN)

**Saturday, Jan. 18**

**East-West Shrine Classic**

**At St. Petersburg, Fla.**

East vs. West, 3 p.m. (NFL)

**NFLPA Collegiate Bowl**

**At Pasadena, Calif.**

American vs. National, 5 p.m. (FS1)

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**NCAA FCS PLAYOFF**

**CHAMPIONSHIP—Saturday's Game**

**At Toyota Stadium (Frisco, Texas)**

North Dakota St. (15-0) vs. James Madison (14-1), Noon

## PRO FOOTBALL

**NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE**

**WILD-CARD PLAYOFFS**

**Sunday, Jan. 5**

Minnesota 26, New Orleans 20, OT
Seattle 17, Philadelphia 9

**DIVISIONAL PLAYOFFS**

**Saturday, Jan. 11**

Minnesota at San Francisco, 4:35 p.m. (NBC)
Tennessee at Baltimore, 8:15 p.m (CBS)

**Sunday, Jan. 12**

Houston at Kansas City, 3:05 p.m. (CBS)
Seattle at Green Bay, 6:40 p.m. (FOX)

**CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS**

**Sunday, Jan. 19**

AFC, 3:05 p.m. (CBS)
NFC, 6:40 p.m. (FOX)

**PRO BOWL**

**Sunday, Jan. 26**

**At Orlando, Fla.**

AFC vs. NFC, 3 p.m. (ESPN)

## COLLEGE HOOPS

**MEN'S BASKETBALL**

**Thursday, Jan. 9**

**EAST**

Merrimack 64, Mount St. Mary's 61
Sacred Heart 77, Fairleigh Dickinson 75
Siena 61, St. Peter's 58
St. Francis (Pa.) 80, Wagner 62
Towson 89, Drexel 73

**SOUTH**

Austin Peay 75, Tennessee Tech 62
Coll. of Charleston 73, Elon 65
Delaware 80, James Madison 76
E. Kentucky 77, E. Illinois 74
Georgia Southern 67, Louisiana-Monroe 56
Georgia St. 90, Louisiana-Lafayette 52
Jacksonville 68, NJIT 52
Liberty 63, North Alabama 52
Marshall 79, Middle Tennessee 75
North Florida 89, Florida Gulf Coast 74
South Alabama 75, Arkansas St. 59
Troy 76, UALR 71
UAB 72, W. Kentucky 62
William & Mary 79, UNC Wilmington 63

**MIDWEST**

Cleveland St. 64, Detroit 59
Michigan 84, Purdue 78
Wichita St. 76, Memphis 67
Youngstown St. 61, Oakland 60

**SOUTHWEST**

FAU 81, Rice 76
North Texas 74, FIU 56
Oral Roberts 79, N. Dakota St. 73
Texas-Arlington 66, Appalachian St. 56
UTSA 89, Louisiana Tech 73

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**WOMEN'S BASKETBALL**

**Thursday, Jan. 9**

**EAST**

Baylor 74, UConn 58
Fairfield 49, Monmouth (NJ) 38
Manhattan 85, St. Peter's 52
Marist 90, Canisius 59
Middle Tennessee 75, Marshall 55
Niagara 68, Siena 61
Penn St. 86, Michigan St. 73
Rider 75, Quinnipiac 59

**SOUTH**

Campbell 48, Gardner-Webb 44
Chattanooga 59, W. Carolina 52
Coastal Carolina 75, Texas St. 67
E. Illinois 83, E. Kentucky 63
FIU 58, North Texas 56
Florida 83, Auburn 63
Furman 62, Mercer 49
Georgia Tech 67, Florida St. 52
Hampton 51, Radford 48
Jacksonville St. 68, Murray St. 51
Kentucky 81, Alabama 71
Longwood 84, Charleston Southern 64
Louisiana-Lafayette 73, South Alabama 68
Louisville 87, Miami 41
Morehead St. 75, SIU-Edwardsville 69
North Carolina 66, NC State 60
Rice 78, FAU 69
Samford 74, Wofford 58
South Carolina 91, Arkansas 82
Tennessee 84, Mississippi 28
Tennessee Tech 58, Austin Peay 49
Texas-Arlington 82, Appalachian St. 60
UNC Asheville 76, High Point 60
UNC-Greensboro 63, ETSU 47
UT Martin 88, Tennessee St. 71
UTEP 89, Southern Miss. 72
UTSA 82, Louisiana Tech 73
Vanderbilt 63, Georgia 55
Virginia 66, Duke 63
Virginia Tech 68, Pittsburgh 56
W. Kentucky 69, UAB 65
Wake Forest 63, Clemson 58
Winthrop 52, SC-Upstate 38

**MIDWEST**

Belmont 57, SE Missouri 45
Boston College 75, Notre Dame 65
IUPUI 89, N. Kentucky 61
Indiana 66, Purdue 48
Iowa 66, Maryland 61
Milwaukee 63, Detroit 48
Mississippi St. 79, Missouri 64
New Mexico St. 73, Chicago St. 60
Oakland 93, Green Bay 88
Ohio St. 78, Michigan 69
Rutgers 75, Illinois 51
UMKC 60, Rio Grande 56
W. Illinois 79, Purdue Fort Wayne 68
Wright St. 58, UIC 43

**SOUTHWEST**

UALR 58, Georgia Southern 46

## BOXING

**FIGHT SCHEDULE**

**Jan. 10**

At Ocean Resort Casino, Atlantic City, N.J. (SHO), Shohjahon Ergashev vs. Keith Hunter, 10, super lightweights; Jaron Ennis vs. Bakhtiyar Eyubov, 10, welterweights.

**Jan. 11**

At Hard Rock Hotel & Casino, Atlantic City, N.J. (ESPN), Jesse Hart vs Joe Smith Jr., 10, light heavyweights.

At Alamodome, San Antonio, Jaime Munguia vs. Gary O'Sullivan, 12, middleweights; Hector Tanajara vs. Juan Carlos Burgos, 10, lightweights; Travell Mazion vs. Fernando Castaneda, 10, junior middleweights.

**Jan. 17**

At WinnaVegas Casino Resort in Sloan, Iowa (SHO), Vladimir Shishkin vs. Ulises Sierra, 10, super middleweights; Shohjahon Ergashev vs. Adrian Estrella, 10, super lightweights.

## CALENDAR

**Friday, Jan. 10**

**HIGH SCHOOL BOYS BASKETBALL**

Massaponax at Colonial Forge, 6:30; Brooke Point at North Stafford, 6:30; Riverbend at Stafford, 6:30; Chancellor at Caroline, 6:30; Courtland at King George, 6:30; James Monroe at Spotsylvania, 6:30; Grace Christian at Carmel, 6:30; Lancaster at Colonial Beach, 7; Rappahannock at Washington & Lee, 7; Church Hill at Fredericksburg Christian, 7; Western Albemarle at Louisa, 7:30; Orange at Monticello, 7:30.

**HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS BASKETBALL**

St. Catherine's at Fredericksburg Christian, 4:30; Grace Christian at Carmel, 5:30; Brooke Point at North Stafford, 5:15; Colonial Forge at Massaponax, 6:30; Stafford at Riverbend, 6:30; Caroline at Chancellor, 6:30; King George at Courtland, 6:30; Spotsylvania at James Monroe, 6:30; Monticello at Orange, 7:30.

**HIGH SCHOOL WRESTLING**

Lancaster at Northampton, 7.

**HIGH SCHOOL SWIMMING**

James Monroe vs. King George (King George YMCA), 6; Chancellor vs. Eastern View (Warrenton Aquatic and Rec. Facility), 7; Colonial Forge vs. Riverbend (St. Michael's High School), 7; Brooke Point vs. Stafford (Rouse Center), 7:30; Caroline vs. Spotsylvania (Spotsy YMCA), 7:30; Massaponax vs. North Stafford (Jeff Rouse Swim and Sport Center), 8.

## TRANSACTIONS

**BASEBALL**

**American League**

CHICAGO WHITE SOX — Agreed to terms with 1B-DH Edwin Encarnacion on a one-year contract.

DETROIT TIGERS — Sent LF Brandon Dixon outright to Toledo (IL).

KANSAS CITY ROYALS — Promoted Nick Relic to manager of minor league operations; John Wagle to director of performance science and player development; Jarret Abell to coordinator of strength & conditioning; and Rustin Sveum to minor league video coordinator. Named Jason Simontacchi pitching coordinator; Mitch Stetter manager of pitching performance; Drew Saylor hitting coordinator; Keoni DeRenne assistant hitting coordinator; Mike Tosar special assignment hitting coach; Damon Hollins coordinator of outfield, base running and bunting; and Derrick Robinson baseball operations intern.

TAMPA BAY RAYS — Promoted Barry Newell to vice president, business operations & analytics; David Egles to director, community engagement; Mike Ferrario to director, stadium operations; Dan Newhart to Director, ticket sales & service; Devin O'Connell to Director, public affairs & corporate communications; Ryan Sheets to director, communications and Scott Wilson to director, guest services. Named Stephen Estep director, security.

TEXAS RANGERS — Agreed to terms with RHP Luis Garcia and LHP James Jones on minor league contracts. Released RHP Reed Garrett. Assigned RHP Jimmy Herget outright to Nashville (PCL).

TORONTO BLUE JAYS — Named Shane Farrell amateur scouting director.

**National League**

ARIZONA DIAMONDBACKS — Agreed to terms with RHP Hector Rondon on a one-year contract. Designated RHP Jimmie Sherfy for assignment.

CINCINNATI REDS — Designated LF Nick Martini for assignment.

MIAMI MARLINS — Agreed to terms with C Francisco Cervelli on a one-year contract. Designated OF Austin Dean for assignment.

NEW YORK METS — Agreed to terms with OFs Ryan Cordell and Johneshwy Fargas, INF Jake Hager, RHPs Pedro Payano, Francisco Rios and Adonis Uceta, and C David Rodriguez on minor league contracts. Released 2B Sam Haggerty.

PITTSBURGH PIRATES — Named Mike Rabelo assistant hitting coach. Signed OF Guillermo Heredia to a one-year contract. Designated INF Pablo Reyes for assignment.

**FOOTBALL**

**National Football League**

ATLANTA FALCONS — Named Joe Whitt Jr. secondary coach. Announced the retirement of tight ends coach Mike Mularkey.

CHICAGO BEARS — Named Clancy Barone tight ends coach.

OAKLAND RAIDERS — Signed G/T Denzelle Good to a one-year contract extension.

PHILADELPHIA EAGLES — Fired offensive coordinator Mike Groh and wide receivers coach Carson Walch.

WASHINGTON REDSKINS — Announced they have mutually parted ways with senior vice president of football operations and general counsel Eric Schaffer. Named Rob Rogers senior vice president of football administration.

**HOCKEY**

**National Hockey League**

DETROIT RED WINGS — Reassigned D Moritz Seider from Germany's U20 National Team to Grand Rapids (AHL) and C Joe Veleno from Canada's U20 National Team to the Granf Rapids.

**SOCCER**

**Major League Soccer**

ATLANTA UNITED — Signed D Anton Walkes. Extended the loan of F Jon Gallagher with Aberdeen FC until the end of Aberdeen's 2019-20 season. Terminated the contract of M Dion Pereira.

D.C. UNITED — Acquired a 2020 first-round MLS SuperDraft pick and the No. 21 slot in the 2020 Allocation Ranking from Philadelphia for the No. 17 slot in the 2020 Allocation Ranking and future considerations.

FC CINCINNATI — Acquired F Yuya Kubo as a designated player from KAA Gent (Belgium).

NEW YORK CITY FC — Named Nick Cushing assistant coach.

TAMPA BAY ROWDIES — Promoted Lee Cohen to president and Ryan Helfrick to director, sales & corporate partnerships.

TORONTO FC — Signed D Chris Mavinga to a contract extension.

**COLLEGE**

EMORY & HENRY — Announced the addition of men's and women's wrestling as intercollegiate sports which will begin competition during the 2020-21 academic year.

# roundup

## MORIKAWA HANDLES WIND, TAKES LEAD

MATT YORK / ASSOCIATED PRESS

**HONOLULU**—Collin Morikawa learned enough about the wind on Maui to cope with it Thursday on Oahu. He managed to get through relentless 30 mph wind without a bogey for a 5-under 65 and the early lead in the Sony Open.

The wind was so strong that even with the tee moved forward on the par-3 fourth hole at Waialae so that it played 162 yards, Morikawa still hit 4-iron. It was one of his better shots, 7 feet right of the flag, for birdie.

The best was his finish on the par-5 ninth, 504 yards and typically the easiest scoring hole. His drive peeled to the right into a hurting, left-to-right wind and found a bunker. His next shot caught the top of the lip, leaving him 189 yards away.

"At that point, I was trying to get out with par," Morikawa said.

He went with a 4-iron—the next longest club in his bag is a 2-iron—and hit it so well the wind didn't move it. The ball came down about 6 feet from the cup for his final birdie.

Among the early starts on a soft course, Marc Leishman, Rory Sabbatini and Patrick Rodgers were at 68. Only eight other players broke par.

## WILLIAMS STRETCHED BUT WINS AGAIN

**AUCKLAND, New Zealand** — Top-seeded Serena Williams had her toughest workout of 2020 before beating fellow American Christina McHale 3-6, 6-2, 6-3 to advance to the quarterfinals of the ASB Classic.

Williams dropped a set for the first time in singles or doubles this year and at times Thursday appeared to be fully stretched by the 88th-ranked McHale before finding the edge to win.

"It was a good match for me," Williams said. "I really need to play matches like that to get to my goal. Match time is good, but I'm just glad to still be out here after losing that first set."

Williams previously beat Camila Giorgi 6-3, 6-2 in singles and combined with Caroline Wozniacki in the doubles to beat Nao Hibino and Mikoto Ninomiya 6-2, 6-4 and then Caroline Dolehide and Johanna Larsson 6-2, 6-1 to reach the semifinals.

## RUSSIAN BAN HEADS TO SPORT'S HIGHEST COURT

**MONTREAL**—Russia's four-year Olympic ban for manipulating doping data is heading to sport's highest court.

The World Anti-Doping Agency said Thursday it has formally referred the case to the Court of Arbitration for Sport after Russia confirmed last month it will appeal the sanction.

WADA imposed a package of sanctions including banning Russia's name and flag from the Olympics and world championship events in various sports over four years.

There are also restrictions on Russia hosting some major events, and plans to vet Russian athletes who want to compete at major competitions, barring them if they're implicated in doping coverups.

The next stage is for WADA and Russia to each select one of the three CAS arbitrators to hear the case. Those two then select a third judge to lead the panel.

## TV HIGHLIGHTS

**Friday, Jan. 10**

**Pro basketball**

7 p.m.—Atlanta Hawks at Washington Wizards, NBA, CSN.

7 p.m.—New Orleans Pelicans at N.Y. Knicks, NBA, ESPN.

9:45 p.m.—L.A. Lakers at Dallas Mavericks, NBA, ESPN.

**College men's basketball**

5 p.m.—Pennsylvania at Princeton, ESPNU.

7 p.m.—Maryland at Iowa, FS1.

7 p.m.—Iona at Rider, ESPNU.

7 p.m.—Buffalo at Miami (OH), CBSSN.

7 p.m.—Northern Kentucky at UIC, ESPN2.

9 p.m.—Butler at Providence, FS1.

9 p.m.—Ball State at Akron, CBSSN.

**Pro hockey**

7:30 p.m.—Ottawa at Detroit, NHL, NHLNET.

**Soccer**

3 p.m.—West Ham United at Sheffield United, NBCSN.

**Saturday, Jan. 11**

**(Partial schedule)**

**College men's basketball**

Noon—Georgetown vs. Villanova, FS1

Noon—Tulane at Temple, ESPNU

Noon—Ohio State at Indiana, FOX

Noon—Rutgers at Illinois, BTN

Noon—DePaul vs. St. John's, MASN2

Noon—Alabama at Kentucky, ESPN

Noon—Cincinnati at Central Florida, ESPN2

12:30 p.m.—Massachusetts at Dayton, NBCSN

1 p.m.—Baylor at Kansas, CBS

2 p.m.—Creighton at Xavier, FOX

2 p.m.—Rhode Island at Virginia Commonwealth, CBSSN

2 p.m.—North Carolina State at Virginia Tech, CSN

2 p.m.—Louisville at Notre Dame, ESPN

2 p.m.—Oklahoma State at TCU, ESPN2

2:15 p.m.—University of Wisconsin at Penn State, BTN

2:30 p.m.—St. Joseph's at Davidson, NBCSN

4 p.m.—Marquette at Seton Hall, CBSSN

4 p.m.—Syracuse at Virginia, ESPN

4 p.m.—Houston at Tulsa, ESPN2

4:30 p.m.—Nebraska at Northwestern, BTN

6 p.m.—Georgia Tech at Boston College, ACCN

6 p.m.—Saint Louis at Richmond, MASN

6 p.m.—Texas Tech at West Virginia, ESPN2

8 p.m.—Wake Forest at Duke, ACCN

8 p.m.—Oklahoma at Iowa State, ESPN2

10 p.m.—USC at UCLA, ESPN2

**College football**

Noon—Division I Tournament James Madison vs. North Dakota State Championship, ABC

**Pro football**

4:30 p.m.—NFC Divisional Minnesota Vikings at San Francisco 49ers ,NFL, NBC

8 p.m.—AFC Divisional Tennessee Titans at Baltimore Ravens ,NFL, CBS

**Pro hockey**

7 p.m.—Boston Bruins vs. New York Islanders ,NHL, NHLNET

7 p.m.—New Jersey Devils at Washington Capitals ,NHL, NBCSW

## LOTTERIES

The lottery numbers were not available before press time. To find out the winning lottery numbers from all Virginia Lottery games, call the hotline at 804/662-5825.

## NFL

▶ FROM B1

brother at golf than somebody I don't know," Pees said Wednesday. "I'll be keyed up for it and want to get after them. At the same time, when it's over those people are still my friends."

The top-seeded Ravens (14–2) led the NFL in averaging 33.2 points and with 206 yards rushing a game. They finished second with 407.6 yards per game, too, with Jackson the favorite to be the league's MVP in just his second season after throwing an NFL-high 36 touchdown passes and running for 1,206 yards.

Pees and Vrabel, himself a former linebacker who played 14 seasons in the NFL, have been busy working on the challenge of slowing this offense. Creating new defensive schemes isn't really possible this deep in a season. Pees said the key will be playing the defense they've run now for two seasons in Tennessee and give the Titans keys to watch for during the game.

"Eyes and assignments," Pees said. "Everybody's got an assignment to do. It's like option football back in college. You have to do your job. If you try to do somebody else's job, that's usually a bad thing."

FILE / PATRICK SEMANSKY / ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Dean Pees (left) helped Ravens coach John Harbaugh win the Super Bowl in 2013. Now with the Titans, he'll try to stop Baltimore from reaching another.**

Pees has had a defense finish in the top 10 in seven of his 11 seasons as a defensive coordinator, including 2018. The Titans (10–7) just missed that this season, finishing 12th in allowing 20.7 points a game after a couple of high-scoring shootouts with Kansas City and the Saints. Tennessee has allowed 30 or more points only three times all season, going 1–2 in those games.

But the Titans started the season holding their first seven opponents to 20 points or fewer, something they did 11 times, including last week in a 20–13 wild-card win over New England.

Defensive lineman Jurrell Casey said it'll be exciting going against the Ravens' powerhouse offense to see what the Titans' defense can really do.

"Dean's got a couple things up his sleeve," Casey said. "At the end of the day, we're going to run our defense. It's been working for us all year long. … We just got to make sure we execute."

Safety Kenny Vaccaro said the Titans will have to make sure and keep a handful of defenders around Jackson.

"Anytime you try to get a kill shot, you'll probably get juked off the screen and end up on "Checkdown" Instagram," Vaccaro said. "You don't want to end up on the highlight reels, on "C'Mon Man" or something like that. You got to break down, be a sound tackler, keep your eyes up, feet moving and even then he still might juke you."

Pees faced off against current Ravens offensive coordinator Greg Roman when Baltimore won the 2013 Super Bowl. Roman says Pees has evolved on defense since that game, though the basics remain.

"Just fundamentally sound, play hard, well-coached fundamentally, and just rock-solid defense," Roman said. "I think that says a lot, and that's what a lot of people try to become. So, that's what's really characterized him over the years."

The next test comes Saturday night with a berth in the AFC championship game on the line.

## REDSKINS

▶ FROM B1

assistants were replaced, with the exception of special teams coordinator Nate Kaczor.

The team also announced Thursday that Doug Williams would report directly to Rivera as senior vice president of player development. He previously was senior vice president of player personnel under Allen.

The shakeup has reverberated beyond the front office and coaching staff. After Snyder fired trainer Larry Hess, Rivera continued to put his Carolina stamp on the team by hiring Ryan Vermillion from the Panthers.

"For many years, I've seen firsthand the positive impact Ryan has on a team," Rivera said of Vermillion, who was the Panthers' head trainer for 18 years. "His primary focus has always been the health of the players, and he is going to be a tremendous addition to the Redskins."

The Redskins put 14 players on injured reserve this season who were on their Week 1 roster and led the league with 27 on IR in 2018.

NFL

# 49ers defensive focus is on stopping Cook

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SANTA CLARA, Calif. — The San Francisco 49ers defense features a fearsome pass rush, a shutdown cornerback in Richard Sherman and a group of safeties and linebackers that excel in pass coverage.

So it's no surprise that teams look to the run when they attack it.

That figures to be the case Saturday when the Niners must deal with one of the game's most dangerous backs in Dalvin Cook as they host the Minnesota Vikings in a divisional round playoff game.

Cook

"I know they're definitely going to challenge us in the run game early," defensive tackle DeForest Buckner said. "Especially with Dalvin Cook back there, he's one of the best in the league. We've just got to do a really good job with shutting that down early."

Stopping the run has been one of the few weaknesses all season for the 49ers (13–3), who used one of the league's stingiest defenses to earn the top seed in the NFC playoffs for the first time since 1997.

San Francisco allowed only 169.2 yards passing per game this season, the fewest in the league in 10 years. That success was fueled by a pass rush that aligned the defensive ends out wide to create better angles to pressure quarterbacks but also left holes in the middle for runs.

That could be a problem against an offense that relies so heavily on the run thanks to Cook and backup Alexander Mattison.

The Vikings ran the ball at the third highest rate in the league, with their 49.1 percent frequency trailing only Baltimore and San Francisco.

Cook is the workhorse in the backfield and the entire offense feeds off his running, which helps set up the deep play-action shots for Kirk Cousins.

Cook ranked seventh in the league with 81.1 yards rushing per game despite being limited at times by injuries. He topped 100 yards on the ground in five of the first seven games before slowing down a bit in the second half.

## nfl notes

### TITANS' BROWN TO MISS PLAYOFF GAME WITH RAVENS

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—Tennessee starting linebacker Jayon Brown will miss the Titans' AFC divisional playoff game with the Baltimore Ravens because of an injured shoulder.

The Titans ruled out Brown and wide receiver Adam Humphries for Saturday night's game. Humphries will miss a sixth straight game with an ankle injury.

Brown played about 10 snaps last week in a 20–13 wild-card victory over the defending Super Bowl champion New England Patriots before hurting his shoulder. Brown's speed will be missed as the Titans defend Ravens quarterback Lamar Jackson.

### VIKINGS' THIELEN QUESTIONABLE TO FACE 49ERS

EAGAN, Minn.—Minnesota Vikings wide receiver Adam Thielen has been listed as questionable to play in the divisional round game Saturday at San Francisco because an ankle injury that occurred in practice.

Thielen wore a wrap on his left ankle Thursday. He said he got tangled up with a teammate on the field Wednesday but declined to specify the nature or severity of the injury.

"You just trust the doctors and opinions and do whatever it takes to get out there Saturday," said Thielen, who had seven catches for 129 yards in the 26–20 overtime win last week in the wild-card round at New Orleans. "That's my mindset. I'm preparing for Saturday. I'm going to do whatever it takes to help this team win."

Thielen played in only eight full games during the regular season, limited by a hamstring injury he aggravated twice.

### BILLS ALLEGEDLY VIOLATED INJURY REPORTING RULES

ORCHARD PARK, N.Y.—The NFL is looking into whether the Buffalo Bills violated league rules on reporting injuries in connection to defensive end Jerry Hughes revealing he played with torn wrist ligaments.

The league on Thursday notified the Buffalo chapter of the Pro Football Writers of America that it is policy to review what happened after being made aware of concerns raised earlier this week.

Hughes, who did not miss a game, revealed the severity of the injury in a note posted on his Twitter account Tuesday. He wrote the injury wasn't going to let "my wrist slow me down as the team was so close to achieving our goal of an AFC East banner and playoff games."

He finished with 4 1/2 sacks in the regular season, down from seven the previous year. He then set a team playoff record with three sacks in a 22-19 overtime loss at Houston in a wild-card game Saturday.

The Bills never listed Hughes as having an issue with his wrist on their injury report this season.

### VIKINGS' STEFANSKI TALKS TO BROWNS ABOUT VACANT JOB

CLEVELAND—Kevin Stefanski was the Cleveland Browns' second choice last year. He could be the first this time.

The Vikings offensive coordinator interviewed with the Browns for their coaching job on Thursday, the 37-year-old taking a break from preparing for this weekend's playoff game against San Francisco to make another impression on Cleveland's search committee.

Stefanski was in the running to be the Browns coach a year ago and met with the team twice. He was reportedly favored by chief strategy officer Paul DePodesta, but owners Dee and Jimmy Haslam opted for Freddie Kitchens, who was fired following a drama-filled 6–10 season.

Stefanski has polished up his résumé a bit in his one season running Minnesota's offense, and there's a chance he could emerge as Cleveland's pick.

He is the seventh candidate to meet with the Browns, who talked with Eagles defensive coordinator Jim Schwartz on Wednesday. The Browns are scheduled to interview Patriots offensive coordinator Josh McDaniels on Friday. He is the presumed favorite to get the gig because McDaniels has both NFL head coaching experience and success working with star quarterback Tom Brady.

### JUDGE WANTS HIS GIANTS TO BE HARD-WORK TYPES

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J.—Joe Judge has every intention of bringing old-fashioned blue-collar football back to the struggling New York Giants.

Roughly three minutes after being introduced as the head coach of the Giants, the relative unknown 38-year-old disciple of two of football's coaching greats set out to answer the question of who is this young man taking over a franchise that has made the playoffs once since the 2011 season.

"What I am about is an old-school physical mentality," Judge said Thursday. "We will play fast. We will play downhill. We will be aggressive. We will punch you in the nose for 60 minutes and we will play every play with a relentless, competitive attitude."

The team did not release terms of Judge's contract, but it certainly was not close to the seven-year, $62 million deal the Carolina Panthers gave Matt Rhule on Tuesday. The former Giants assistant had been considered a frontrunner for the Giants' job.

Judge refused to answer a question about being the Giants' second choice, insisting his sole focus is taking advantage of the opportunity he has been given.

### EAGLES FIRE TWO ASSISTANT COACHES

PHILADELPHIA—The Philadelphia Eagles have fired offensive coordinator Mike Groh and wide receivers coach Carson Walch.

Coach Doug Pederson made the announcement on Thursday, one day after he said both coaches were returning. Pederson issued a statement saying he wanted to inform the coaches first.

Groh joined the Eagles as wide receivers coach in 2017 when the team won the Super Bowl. He was promoted to offensive coordinator after that season when Frank Reich left to become the head coach at Indianapolis.

Walch joined the team in 2018 as assistant receivers coach and was promoted last year.

### MULARKEY RETIRES FROM FALCONS, WHO HIRE WHITT

FLOWERY BRANCH, Ga.—Atlanta Falcons tight end coach Mike Mularkey, the former Tennessee Titans coach, is retiring.

Mularkey's retirement came after he returned for his second stint in Atlanta, lasting only one season, to cap 25 years of coaching. He also served as a head coach in Buffalo and Jacksonville. He was 36–53 in six seasons.

The Falcons on Thursday also named Joe Whitt as secondary coach. Whitt coached Cleveland's secondary in 2019 following 11 seasons with the Green Bay Packers.

—The Associated Press

## college notes

### TEERLINCK PICKED TO COACH HOKIES DEFENSIVE LINE

NORFOLK—After spending eight of his past 11 coaching seasons in the NFL, including the past three as the defensive line coach of the Buffalo Bills, Bill Teerlinck is returning to the college level to coach Virginia Tech's defensive line.

Tech announced Wednesday that Teerlinck will be reunited with Hokies coach Justin Fuente, who spent two seasons with Teerlinck on the coaching staff at Illinois State. Fuente has also assigned Darryl Tapp, a Deep Creek High alum and former Tech and NFL defensive end hired last month, to be the Hokies' co-defensive line coach, according to Tech's athletic department.

### MISSISSIPPI STATE HIRES LEACH FROM WASHINGTON STATE

The pirate is heading to Starkvegas.

Mississippi State hired Washington State's Mike Leach as its new head coach Thursday, bringing one of the nation's quirkiest and most successful coaches from the Pac-12 to the Southeastern Conference.

Leach will replace Joe Moorhead, fired last week after two seasons. Mississippi State announced it hired Leach with a social media hype video that included its new coach bellyflopping into a pool.

College football in the state of Mississippi has gotten a lot more interesting over the last month, with Leach joining new Ole Miss coach Lane Kiffin.

"Welcome to the state old pirate and friend!!" Kiffin tweeted.

The post-bowl game firing by Mississippi State was unusual, but the Bulldogs now have a coach with a long track record of winning at programs that have historically struggled. In 18 years at Texas Tech and Washington State, Leach is 139–90, using his Air Raid offense to set records and consistently reach the postseason.

He finished 55–47 in eight seasons with the Cougars. He produced a similar turnaround at Texas Tech, taking the Red Raiders to bowl games in all 10 seasons.

### MISSOURI STATE BUYS OUT STECKEL, SEEKS NEW COACH

SPRINGFIELD, Mo.—Missouri State is parting ways with coach Dave Steckel, whose teams won just 13 games in five seasons.

The school said Thursday a "privately-funded buyout" will pay Steckel up to $340,000 plus moving expenses. He'll get an initial $140,000 payment. Subsequent $100,000 payments in January 2021 and January 2022 will depend on whether Steckel finds a new coaching job, how much he makes and when he is hired.

The Bears were 13–42 under Steckel, who previously served as defensive coordinator for Gary Pinkel at Missouri.

Missouri State athletic director Kyle Moats and Steckel met Nov. 27 to discuss the program. Moats announced at that time that the university intended to honor Steckel's contract through the 2021 season.

### VOLS' SMITH BACK FOR SENIOR YEAR

KNOXVILLE, Tenn.—Tennessee offensive guard Trey Smith says he will return to school for his senior year after making a successful comeback from a career-threatening medical issue to earn first-team, all-Southeastern Conference honors this past season.

Smith played all 13 games for Tennessee and made 12 starts at left guard. Smith, who says he's on track to graduate in May, indicated the NFL draft advisory board had recommended that he return to school.

The return of Smith boosts a Tennessee offensive line that also should have center Brandon Kennedy back for a sixth season of eligibility. Tennessee went 8-5 and won its final six games of the 2019 season, including a 23-22 Gator Bowl triumph over Indiana.

### MAYS TRANSFERS TO VOLS AS FAMILY SUES GEORGIA

ATLANTA—Offensive lineman Cade Mays is leaving Georgia and returning to his hometown to continue his college football career at Tennessee, where he will have an opportunity to play alongside his younger brother.

Tennessee announced Thursday that it had added Mays, who has spent the last two seasons at Georgia. Tennessee sent out a tweet with the Knoxville Catholic graduate's picture along with the message, "Welcome #HomeSweetHome, Cade!"

Mays' attorney said the offensive lineman will have a strong case to be granted immediate eligibility in 2020.

Tom Mars, whose sports law practice has offices in Atlanta and Rogers, Arkansas, accused Georgia of leaking news that Mays' parents, Kevin and Melinda Mays, filed a lawsuit against the University of Georgia in December. The lawsuit was filed in the State Court of Clarke County about two years after an incident in which Kevin Mays lost part of his little finger after it was caught in a folding chair at a dinner for recruits at Sanford Stadium.

—The Associated Press

# WEATHER

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## FIVE-DAY FORECAST FOR FREDERICKSBURG

| TODAY | SATURDAY | SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 54° 46° | 68° 62° | 71° 44° | 62° 42° | 56° 36° |
| Mild with partial sunshine | Cloudy with a shower in the area | A little morning rain; decreasing clouds | Sun through high clouds and remaining warm | Variably cloudy and mild with a shower |

## ALMANAC

University of Mary Washington station, Fredericksburg through 7 p.m. yesterday.

**Temperature:**

| | |
|---|---|
| High/Low | 42°/24° |
| Normal high/low | 45°/22° |
| Record high | 74°/1937 |
| Record low | –3°/1942 |

**Precipitation:**

| | |
|---|---|
| 24 hours ending 7 p.m. yesterday | 0.00″ |
| Month to date | 0.89″ |
| Normal month to date | 1.14″ |
| Year to date | 0.89″ |
| Normal year to date | 1.14″ |

**Air Quality Index:**

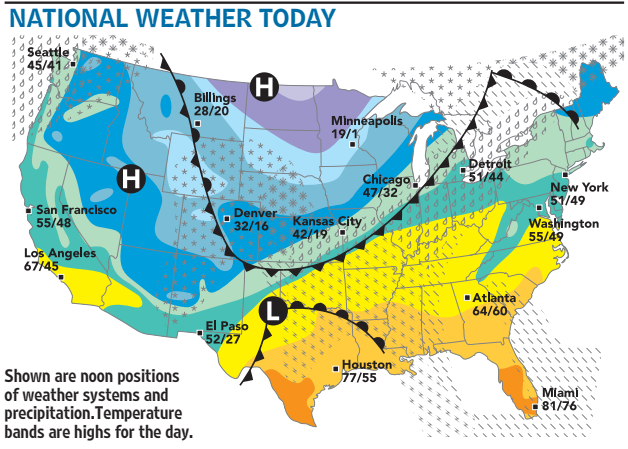
| | |
|---|---|
| Thursday | 27 |
| Today's ozone | good |

0–50, Good; 51–100, Moderate; 101–150, Unhealthy sensitive groups; 151–200, Unhealthy;. Source: Virginia DEQ

## VIRGINIA WEATHER

A blend of sun and clouds today. High 48 to 67. Cloudy and mild tonight. Periods of rain in the west; a shower in spots in the southwest. Clouds breaking in the southeast. Low 45 to 56. Warmer tomorrow with a shower in places.

## NATIONAL WEATHER TODAY




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

T-storms Rain Showers Snow Flurries Ice Cold front Warm front Stationary

-10s -0s 0s 10s 20s 30s 40s 50s 60s 70s 80s 90s 100s 110s

**Yesterday's national extremes for the 48 contiguous states:**

High: 86° McAllen, Texas

Low: –13° Waverly, Colorado

## RIVER LEVELS

**Potomac River**

| Today | Flood | Present | Change |
|---|---|---|---|
| Little Falls | 10 | 3.52 | -0.01 |
| **Rappahannock River** | | | |
| Culpeper | 14 | 1.26 | +0.02 |
| Remington | 15 | 3.67 | +0.01 |

Flood: flood stage. Present: stage in feet at 7 a.m. yesterday. Change: change in previous 24 hours.

## SUN AND MOON

| | |
|---|---|
| Sunrise today | 7:27 a.m. |
| Sunset today | 5:08 p.m. |
| Moonrise today | 5:08 p.m. |
| Moonset today | 7:19 a.m. |

| Full | Last | New | First |
|---|---|---|---|
| Jan 10 | Jan 17 | Jan 24 | Feb 1 |

## TIDES

**Rappahannock River at Fredericksburg**

| | Today | Height |
|---|---|---|
| First high | 4:48 a.m. | 1.8ft. |
| First low | 11:00 a.m. | –0.1ft. |
| Second high | 5:02 p.m. | 2.1ft. |
| Second low | 11:50 p.m. | –0.2ft. |

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2020

## COASTAL REPORT

**Virginia Beach, Chesapeake, Eastern Shores**

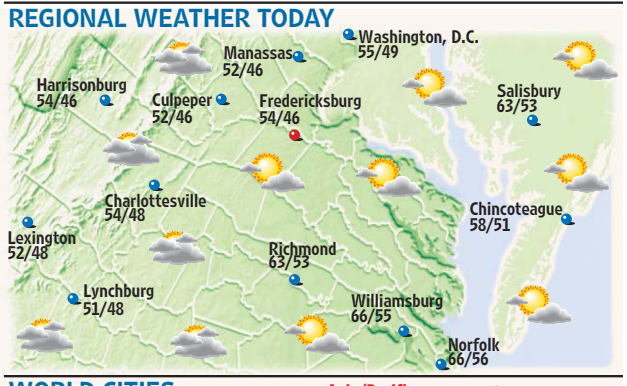
Partly sunny today. Wind from the south at 8-16 knots. Seas 2-4 feet. Visibility generally unrestricted. Mostly cloudy and mild tonight. Wind from the south at 8-16 knots. Seas 1-3 feet. Visibility clear.

## NATIONAL CITIES

| | Today Hi | Lo | W | Sat. Hi | Lo | W |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Albany, N.Y. | 45 | 43 | r | 58 | 52 | r |
| Albuquerque | 42 | 19 | sf | 41 | 22 | s |
| Anchorage | -4 | -11 | s | 3 | -9 | c |
| Atlanta | 64 | 60 | c | 70 | 52 | t |
| Atlantic City | 58 | 50 | pc | 63 | 57 | c |
| Baltimore | 54 | 47 | c | 66 | 60 | c |
| Boston | 50 | 48 | c | 61 | 55 | c |
| Buffalo | 48 | 45 | r | 54 | 41 | r |
| Charleston, W.Va. | 67 | 56 | c | 76 | 51 | pc |
| Charleston, S.C. | 71 | 62 | pc | 77 | 67 | sh |
| Charlotte, N.C. | 61 | 56 | c | 71 | 58 | c |
| Charlottesville | 54 | 48 | c | 66 | 59 | c |
| Chicago | 47 | 32 | r | 33 | 18 | i |
| Cincinnati | 60 | 56 | r | 68 | 33 | r |
| Cleveland | 55 | 51 | r | 64 | 37 | r |
| Dallas | 71 | 35 | t | 45 | 33 | pc |
| Denver | 32 | 16 | c | 44 | 23 | pc |
| Des Moines | 29 | 12 | sn | 22 | 8 | pc |
| Detroit | 51 | 44 | r | 47 | 31 | r |
| El Paso | 52 | 27 | pc | 52 | 29 | s |
| Harrisonburg | 54 | 46 | c | 62 | 54 | c |
| Honolulu | 80 | 71 | sh | 80 | 72 | r |
| Houston | 77 | 55 | sh | 59 | 37 | pc |
| Indianapolis | 58 | 55 | r | 63 | 27 | r |
| Kansas City | 42 | 19 | r | 23 | 12 | sn |
| Las Vegas | 56 | 35 | s | 54 | 35 | s |
| Los Angeles | 67 | 45 | s | 64 | 44 | s |
| Memphis | 68 | 62 | r | 66 | 34 | r |
| Miami | 81 | 76 | pc | 83 | 75 | pc |
| Minneapolis | 19 | 1 | c | 17 | 7 | s |
| Myrtle Beach, S.C. | 68 | 61 | pc | 72 | 65 | c |
| Nags Head, N.C. | 59 | 54 | pc | 63 | 59 | pc |
| Nashville | 68 | 62 | sh | 72 | 41 | r |
| New Orleans | 77 | 69 | r | 71 | 49 | t |
| New York | 51 | 49 | c | 63 | 56 | c |
| Norfolk | 66 | 56 | pc | 72 | 62 | c |
| Ocean City, Md. | 57 | 51 | pc | 60 | 55 | c |
| Orlando, Fla. | 80 | 70 | pc | 84 | 69 | pc |
| Philadelphia | 53 | 48 | pc | 65 | 58 | c |
| Phoenix | 62 | 39 | s | 62 | 38 | s |
| Pittsburgh | 54 | 51 | r | 67 | 46 | sh |
| Portland, Ore. | 47 | 44 | r | 48 | 42 | sh |
| Raleigh | 66 | 56 | c | 72 | 63 | c |
| Richmond | 63 | 53 | pc | 71 | 64 | c |
| Roanoke | 54 | 49 | c | 64 | 56 | c |
| Salt Lake City | 34 | 25 | pc | 37 | 28 | sn |
| San Francisco | 55 | 48 | s | 57 | 44 | pc |
| Seattle | 45 | 41 | r | 46 | 39 | sh |
| St. Louis | 64 | 41 | r | 42 | 23 | r |
| Tampa | 81 | 70 | pc | 83 | 70 | c |
| Washington, D.C. | 55 | 49 | pc | 68 | 61 | c |
| Williamsburg | 66 | 55 | pc | 72 | 64 | c |

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

## REGIONAL WEATHER TODAY




## WORLD CITIES

| | Today Hi | Lo | W | Sat. Hi | Lo | W |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Canada** | | | | | | |
| Toronto | 43 | 39 | r | 44 | 29 | r |
| **Latin America** | | | | | | |
| Buenos Aires | 84 | 67 | s | 86 | 69 | s |
| **Africa/Middle East** | | | | | | |
| Baghdad | 62 | 42 | sh | 63 | 40 | s |
| Cairo | 64 | 48 | pc | 64 | 50 | pc |
| Cape Town | 83 | 62 | s | 81 | 66 | s |
| Jerusalem | 46 | 39 | pc | 52 | 41 | pc |
| Kabul | 35 | 14 | s | 39 | 27 | c |
| **Asia/Pacific** | | | | | | |
| Hong Kong | 73 | 66 | pc | 75 | 59 | pc |
| Sydney | 85 | 67 | pc | 71 | 66 | pc |
| Tokyo | 51 | 40 | pc | 50 | 42 | pc |
| **Europe** | | | | | | |
| Amsterdam | 48 | 38 | sh | 44 | 41 | c |
| Berlin | 52 | 38 | r | 43 | 34 | pc |
| London | 46 | 41 | pc | 51 | 48 | c |
| Madrid | 53 | 29 | pc | 51 | 26 | s |
| Moscow | 34 | 28 | c | 31 | 24 | c |
| Paris | 49 | 36 | pc | 46 | 37 | pc |
| Rome | 59 | 38 | pc | 58 | 37 | pc |

# mlb notes

## HEREDIA TO JOIN PIRATES OUTFIELD

PITTSBURGH—Outfielder Guillermo Heredia agreed Thursday to a one-year deal with the Pittsburgh Pirates.

Heredia, who turns 29 on Jan. 31, hit .225 with five homers and 20 RBIs in 231 plate appearances last season for the Tampa Bay Rays, who declined to offer him a contract by the Dec. 2 deadline and allowed him to become a free agent. He was acquired by the Rays from Seattle after the 2018 season.

Heredia has a .240 average with 17 homers and 75 RBIs in four major league seasons with the Mariners and Rays.

## CERVELLI FINALIZES DEAL WITH MARLINS

MIAMI—Catcher Francisco Cervelli finalized a $2 million, one-year contract with the Miami Marlins on Thursday to provide depth behind Jorge Alfaro.

Cervelli played in 48 games last year for the Pirates and Braves. He is a career .269 hitter in 12 seasons.

To make room on the roster, the Marlins designated outfielder Austin Dean for assignment.

## CASTRO, ORIOLES AGREE TO AVOID ARBITRATION

Reliever Miguel Castro and the Baltimore Orioles avoided arbitration when they agreed Thursday to a one-year contract for $1.05 million.

A reliever who turned 25 on Dec. 24, Castro is a hard thrower with potential to grow.

He has a strong fastball but has trouble controlling it.

In 2019, Castro was 1–3 with a 4.66 ERA in 65 games and converted two of five save chances. He had a salary of $569,000.

The payroll-slashing Orioles have four players still on track to exchange proposed salaries Friday: pitchers Dylan Bundy, Mychal Givens and Hanser Alberto, and first-baseman-outfielder Trey Mancini.

In other deals that avoided arbitration Thursday:

■ Catcher Max Stassi and the Los Angeles Angels agreed Thursday to an $800,000, one-year contract.

■ Utilityman Brandon Drury and the Toronto Blue Jays agreed to a $2.05 million, one-year contract on Thursday, a raise of $850,000.

—The Associated Press

## BOWLING SCORES

**AMF FREDERICKSBURG**

**LOW fun league (seniors)**

Bob McGann 244, 213, 209, 666; Paul Hibbs 246, 586; Garth Lamb 205, 554; Paul Jacobson 551; John Daniel 218; Dave Allen 213; Jim Ball 213; Terry Hill 209; Jack Ervin 207; Rick Watkins 202; JT Darby 202; Mike Berg 191.
Linda Kadar 182, 176, 522; Nancy King 468.

**Colonial Beach ladies (seniors)**

Wanda Andrews 183, 177, 170, 530; Tammy Hatfield 184, 515; Donna Newman 184, 173, 514; Ann Haller 206, 180, 513; Adele Jones 205, 504; Pong Cobb 177, 170; Linda Burke 177; Penny Young 172; Susan Cole 171; Peggy Roath 170.

**LOW ladies and friends (seniors)**

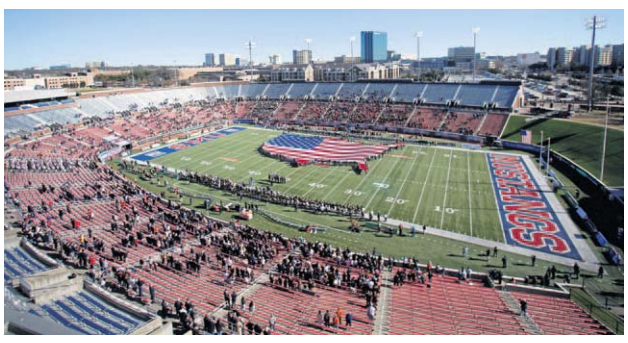
Nancy King 178; Sheran Marks 174.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

# Small crowds won't deter the bowl system

EVEN IF FEW FANS SHOW UP AT STADIUMS, EVENTS ARE STILL A MAJOR MONEY-MAKER

**BY ERIC OLSON**
AP COLLEGE FOOTBALL WRITER



ROGER STEINMAN / ASSOCIATED PRESS

**An embarrassingly small crowd attended the First Responder Bowl between Western Michigan and Western Kentucky in Dallas on Dec. 30.**

Six bowls this season had their smallest crowds on record, with section after section of unoccupied seats a yawning indication of just how little buzz there can be for the long, long list of postseason games on the schedule.

Half-empty stadiums? Teams with tiny fan bases and mediocre records? Too many bowls?

They aren't going away: There will actually be three more next year, bringing the total number of bowl games to 42. That means approximately 65 percent of the 130 Bowl Subdivision teams will go to a postseason game next season.

But ... why?

Attendance isn't necessarily the measure of success. The bowl system generates hundreds of millions of dollars that conferences distribute to their schools. The games are inventory for television programming, and even if the ratings are modest, almost any bowl will draw more eyeballs than something else, particularly on a weekday afternoon.

That's why ESPN owns 14 bowls, and the network will add two more to its portfolio in the 2020 season even though viewership has trended mostly downward since the playoff era started in 2014.

"It's an indication of college football's strength that you could have games that really don't matter between teams people don't typically watch that can get over a million viewers," Sports Media Watch editor Jon Lewis said. "There are diminishing returns, but there's a long way to go before you would see a reduction. In fact, I doubt you'll see a reduction any time soon. You might see other networks try to get into having their own bowl games."

Lewis added, "We might be up to 50 bowl games in a decade."

Regular-season college football attendance has been in decline for years and hit a 22-year low in 2018. While there have been some empty seats at the New Year's Six bowl games—those associated with the College Football Playoff—the bigger postseason blow has been seen elsewhere.

Of 33 second- and third-tier Bowl Subdivision games analyzed by The Associated Press, 23 were played at venues where the announced attendance was less than 75 percent of capacity. Of those 23, eight were under 50 percent. The AP did not include the New Year's Six games in its analysis because of their rotation in the CFP semifinal lineup.

The Football Bowl Association reported attendance for all 39 bowls at 1.661 million, an increase of 27,000 (1.6 percent).

FBA executive director Wright Waters acknowledged the attendance woes for many of the bowls not among the New Year's Six. Part of the issue, he said, is there are schools with fan bases that 20 years ago were excited about going to most any bowl that now are disappointed if their team isn't in the CFP mix.

Waters said the FBA plans to form a task force to generate ideas on how to grow attendance, with ticket pricing, matchups and the proximity of fan bases to bowl sites among the factors.

"That's your atmosphere," Waters said of crowd energy. "Would you rather have one person paying $1,000 or have 1,000 people paying a dollar to get in the stadium? I'd rather have 1,000 people paying a dollar just because of the atmosphere."

Average announced attendance for the 33 bowls in the AP analysis was 34,595 this season. That's 1 percent higher than 34,215 last season, thanks to the Gator Bowl's announced crowd of 38,206 for Texas A&M–North Carolina State in 2018 growing to 61,789 for Tennessee–Indiana this season.

The games that had their lowest attendances on record this season were the New Mexico, Cure, Camellia, Pinstripe, First Responder and Famous Idaho Potato bowls.

Announced attendance figures provided by bowl organizers or stadium officials were used by AP. Those numbers—typically derived by counting the number of tickets distributed, game participants, band members and media members—invariably are higher than the actual attendance, sometimes by a wide margin.

The Las Vegas Bowl had an announced attendance of 34,197, but the scanned ticket count provided to AP by the stadium owner, UNLV, was 16,568. The Birmingham Bowl announced 27,193 even though actual attendance was 9,679. The New Mexico Bowl announced a crowd of 18,823; a reporter at the game estimated actual attendance at 6,000.

Of the 33 bowls in the AP study, 26 existed in the 2013 season, the year before the CFP started. Eleven of those 26 had attendance declines of more than 10% in the 2014 season. In the last six years, five of the bowls have not matched the attendance they recorded in 2013, and eight others have hit their 2013 figures only once.

## RESEARCH INTO THE SECOND- AND THIRD-TIER BOWL GAMES

The Associated Press analyzed attendance numbers for 33 second- and third-tier Bowl Subdivision bowl games this season. The analysis did not include the so-called New Year's Six bowls because year-to-year comparisons are difficult since those games are part of the College Football Playoff semifinals rotation. Among the findings:

■ 23 of the 33 games were played at venues where the announced attendance was less than 75 percent of capacity. Of those 23, eight were under 50 percent.

■ Six bowl games this season had their smallest crowds on record: New Mexico, Cure, Camellia, Pinstripe, First Responder and Famous Idaho Potato.

■ Average announced attendance was 34,595, 1 percent higher than 34,215 last season (the 2018–19 average was based on 32 games because the First Responder Bowl was canceled because of weather). The increase can be attributed to the Gator Bowl's announced crowd of 38,206 for Texas A&M–North Carolina State in 2018 growing to 61,789 for Tennessee–Indiana.

■ Announced attendance figures sometimes differed widely from actual attendance. For example, the Las Vegas Bowl had an announced attendance of 34,197, but the scanned ticket count provided to the AP by the stadium owner, UNLV, was 16,568. The Birmingham Bowl announced 27,193 while actual attendance was 9,679. The New Mexico Bowl announced a crowd of 18,823; a San Diego Union-Tribune reporter at the game estimated actual attendance at 6,000.

■ Of the 33 bowls, 26 existed in the 2013 season, the year before the CFP. Eleven of those 26 had attendance declines of more than 10 percent in the 2014 season. In the last six years, five of those 26 bowls have not matched the attendance recorded in 2013; eight others have hit their 2013 figure only once.

■ Proximity can help: The Gasparilla Bowl in Tampa featured nearby UCF and a record announced crowd of 28,987 showed up. The Quick Lane Bowl in Detroit set a record of 34,765 with Eastern Michigan playing. The Texas Bowl in Houston drew 68,415—16,000 more than last year—because Texas A&M was there and played former Big 12 rival Oklahoma State.

■ New Year's Six games that didn't host CFP semifinals, and were not included in the AP's analysis, took a hit this year. TV viewership for all four was down. The Cotton Bowl between Penn State and Memphis drew 54,828, the smallest crowd since 1948. The Sugar Bowl between Georgia and Baylor had 55,211, the third time since 2013 the crowd has not reached 60,000.

—The Associated Press

## JMU

▶ FROM B1

through the air. Through 15 games and 277 pass attempts, he hasn't tossed it away in his first season as a collegiate starter.

"It's pretty incredible," JMU coach Curt Cignetti said.

Lance appeared in two games last season, using the rule allowing players to play in up to four games while still utilizing a redshirt. Otherwise, last season was a time to learn for the 6–3, 221-pounder from Marshall, Minn.

Lance

NDSU's starter was Easton Stick, who became the winningest quarterback in FCS history (49–3) last January, with the school's seventh national championship in eight years.

Through Cignetti's analysis, one component that has made Lance so effective is that when he throws from the pocket, perhaps half of his passes are quick throws. When Lance throws out of the pocket, it's out of bootlegs and similar packages and on plays with maximum protection.

"So people don't get a lot of heat on him, and when it does break down, he's an athlete like [JMU quarterback Ben DiNucci] and he can scramble and get you yards," Cignetti said. "And he's got a very strong arm."

Lance is a major contributor to the Bison's run game, too. He's the team's second-leading rusher, with 934 yards, 6 behind top rusher Ty Brooks (940). Lance has also scored a team-high 13 touchdowns on the ground to go with 28 through the air.

NDSU's aim is to run effectively to set up play-action passes. JMU's goal on Saturday will be to make the Bison one-dimensional by stopping the run.

"Any opponent we play, our first thing is we want to stop the run game," senior cornerback Rashad Robinson said.

# SPORTS

‹‹ A UNIQUE MASTERS
Golf's gem prepares for a later date and a much quieter course. B7

TOP ROOKIES HONORED
Mariners' Lewis, Brewers' Williams named best newcomers in shortened season. B10

INSIDE

PRO FOOTBALL

## Smith is starter; Haskins smarter?

DANIEL KUCIN JR. / ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Alex Smith will make his first NFL start since 2018 Sunday in Detroit.**

**TUNE IN**

**WASHINGTON (2–6) at DETROIT (3–5)**
Sunday, 1 p.m. (Fox, WGRQ-FM 95.9)

COACH WANTS YOUNG QUARTERBACK TO LEARN FROM VETERAN

**BY NICKI JHABVALA**
THE WASHINGTON POST

Alex Smith is the Washington Football Team's starting quarterback. For now. Maybe longer.

But as the team continues to chase the NFC East crown, and continues a seemingly endless cycle of quarterback swaps, Ron Rivera's decision to go with Smith is in part the biggest challenge he has issued to Dwayne Haskins.

"I think Dwayne is going to truly see how to prepare for a game as a starter," Rivera said in a 17-minute video conference with reporters on Monday, which included his most pointed comments yet about Haskins' shortcomings as a quarterback, along with his acknowledgment that the coaching staff is still trying to figure out whether its franchise QB

SEE WASHINGTON, B5

AUTO RACING

## Elliott brightens NASCAR's future

A TURBULENT SEASON ENDS WITH A POPULAR YOUNG CHAMPION

**BY JENNA FRYER**
AP AUTO RACING WRITER

**AVONDALE, Ariz.**—Drivers, stop your engines. Finally.

NASCAR has waved the checkered flag on its frenetic 2020 season, a whirlwind of rescheduled and relocated races, some held with lots of fans, some fans and no fans at all. The effort to complete all 38 races during the pandemic was rewarded with a new champion, who just happens to be NASCAR's reigning most popular driver.

Chase Elliott won three of the final five races, including Sunday's winner-take-all finale at Phoenix Raceway, to claim the first Cup of his career. His late-season surge upstaged Kevin Harvick and Denny Hamlin, the two most dominant drivers this year, and elevated the second-generation NASCAR star alongside his Hall of Fame father as NASCAR champions.

It was a promising close for NASCAR, which very much needs its young

SEE NASCAR, B6

RALPH FRESO / ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Chase Elliott reacts to his season championship victory in Sunday's NASCAR Cup Series finale.**

## STAFFORD RESIDENT SEEKS WORLD TITLE

PHOTOS BY KEN NOWICKI / CERERUS USA

**Stafford County resident Bobby Thompson tries a deadlift, one of his strongest events.**

# Thompson has a strong urge to win

**BY STEVE DeSHAZO**
THE FREE LANCE–STAR

Bobby Thompson wasn't the first to ask Zane Angle to help him train in quest of becoming the world's strongest man.

Angle, himself a former professional strongman, met Thompson at Gold's Gym in Fredericksburg in 2015 and immediately began sizing up the Mountain View High School graduate—all 280 pounds of him (at the time). Angle liked what he saw, but laid out some heavy requirements.

"I told him a few things," Angle said. "First, you're going to hurt all the time. Second, you're going to have to gain 80 or 85 pounds. I said, 'You're 6–1, with a wide back. You can easily carry 360. He looked at me like I was crazy.

"... And I told him, 'You're probably not going to be able to keep a woman around.' "

Eager to test himself, Thompson

SEE THOMPSON, B7

**Thompson (left) talks with a fellow competitor during a break in a recent strongman competition.**

**CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS**

The following events will be contested at The World's Strongest Man championships this week in Bradenton, Fla.:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Arm Over Arm Pull | Farmer's Walk | Giant Log Lift | Pillard of Hercules |
| Atlas Stones | Fingal's Fingers | Husafel Stone | Power Stairs |
| Block/Keg Toss | Fridge Carry | Loading Race | Squat Lift |
| Carry and Drag | Giant Dumbbell Press | Overhead Log Lift | Vehicle Pull |

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

## In a changing climate, Cavaliers still rely on defense

**BY MIKE BARBER**
RICHMOND TIMES–DISPATCH

**CHARLOTTESVILLE**—One thing not even a global pandemic can alter. It's early November and Tony Bennett is worried how good Virginia's defense will be this basketball season.

"They have not shown me, up to this point, that we can win games with our defense yet," Bennett said Monday. "And trust me, that's a point of emphasis."

**TUNE IN**

**SEASON OPENER**
**Virginia vs. Saint Peters**
Nov. 25
in Uncasville, Conn.

Speaking with local media for the first time in nearly eight months, Bennett acknowledged there are challenges ahead for a season slated to start Nov. 25, questions about how COVID-19 will impact practicing, travel and attendance at teams' games.

But often during his 20-minute question-and-answer session, Bennett repeated the phrase, "it beats the alternative."

Bennett and his players are eager to play this season, to get back on the court after last year's

SEE CAVALIERS, B4

FILE / JOE MAHONEY / RICHMOND TIMES–DISPATCH

**Tony Bennett's defending NCAA champion Virginia Cavaliers were peaking before the 2020 pandemic.**

COMING UP ›› WHO ARE THE NFL'S BEST AT MIDSEASON?

# Bentz makes splash in début for Hokies

BY STEVE DeSHAZO
THE FREE LANCE–STAR

Neither a gap year after high school nor the challenges of training during a pandemic seemed to take a toll on **Caroline Bentz.**

Bentz

The King George High School graduate made a memorable début for Virginia Tech's swim team in Saturday's season-opening dual meet at Duke. She swept the women's 100-yard backstroke (54.47) and 200 back (1:56.92) as the Hokies tied the Blue Devils 150–150. She also swam on the winning 400 free relay team (3:23.21).

Bentz was The Free Lance-Star's swimmer of the year as a junior at King George in 2018. She took the 2019–20 season off, then used a gap year to train with her club team, National Capital. She has qualified for the COVID-delayed 2021 U.S. Olympic Trials in both backstroke events.

Also making his first college appearance in the same meet, Duke freshman **Luke Johnson** (Colonial Forge) placed third in the men's 100 butterfly (50.18). Junior **Dylan Eichberg** (Stafford) placed third in the 200 fly (1:48.71) for the Hokies, who won the men's team competition 171.5–120.5.

### MORE SWIMMING

■ Sophomore **Jack Sheehan** (Colonial Forge) won the men's 100-yard breaststroke (1:08.08), 200 breast (2:34.37) and 200 individual medley (2:15.86) as VMI routed Division II West Virginia Tech 210–51 in a dual meet Saturday. He also swam on two winning relays.

■ Stafford County resident **Keven Stahl** won three events in Division II Missouri-St. Louis' 214–29 dual-meet romp over Maryville Friday: the 200 free (1:51.53), 200 fly (1:59.19) and 200 breast (2:14.17).

■ Freshman **Kennedy Darensbourg** (Riverbend) finished third in the women's 500 freestyle (5:22.41) and 1,000 free (11:00.83) in Eastern Illinois' season-opening 165–92 dual-meet loss to Ball State Friday.

### FOOTBALL

Redshirt sophomore **Kaleb Smith** (Louisa) caught his second career touchdown pass, a 17-yarder, in Virginia Tech's 38–35 loss to Liberty Saturday. He finished with two receptions for 26 yards.

■ In his college début, Kent State freshman defensive lineman **Adin Huntington** (Mountain View) made one tackle and broke up a pass in Wednesday's 27–23 win over Eastern Michigan.

■ Sophomore kicker **Jonathan Kim** (Massaponax) registered nine touchbacks on nine kickoffs in North Carolina's 56–24 win over Duke Saturday. For the season, only three of Kim's 50 kickoffs have been returned.

■ Sophomore linebacker **Brandon Smith** (Louisa) made five tackles, including a sack for the second straight week, in Penn State's 35–19 loss to Maryland Saturday. Sophomore **Devyn Ford** (North Stafford) led the Lions (0–3) with 36 rushing yards on nine attempts.

### VOLLEYBALL

■ Senior defensive specialist **Tiaralyn McBride** (Mountain View) is featured on Christopher Newport's "Captains on the Clock" feature on the school's athletic website (cnusports.com). She answers a variety of questions in the video feature.

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sdeshazo@freelancestar.com

**NOTEBOOK**
COLLEGE

JAMIE RHODES | ACC POOL

**Virginia Tech coach Justin Fuente has been second-guessed for calling timeout just before Liberty's last-second field goal attempt in last Saturday's game.**

# Decision haunts Fuente

BY MIKE NIZIOLEK
ROANOKE TIMES

**TUNE IN**

**No. 9 MIAMI (6-1) at VA. TECH (4-3)**
Saturday, noon (ESPN2)

BLACKSBURG—Virginia Tech coach Justin Fuente is hurting over his team's 38–35 loss to Liberty.

He tried to put it out of his mind by taking his daughters to play catch in the backyard before the sun set when he got home on Saturday night, but that only provided a brief respite. He was preoccupied the rest of the weekend and replayed those final eight seconds over and over again in his head.

"I try to be present with them when I'm with them and it helps some," Fuente said. "But when you lay down and go to sleep at night and it's still racing through your mind and you can't get it out of your mind, there's not many people to turn to then."

Fuente fielded more questions about the wild ending during his weekly press conference on Monday. He once again shouldered the blame for the loss—his late timeout wiped away what would have been a game-winning touchdown on a blocked 59-yard field goal attempt—and was up front about his emotions.

"No, I don't feel better," Fuente said. "I don't feel better at all. I mean, it's just a hard one. You know? It is what it is."

After the game, Fuente said his main regret was not getting the attention of the officials before the snap. He reiterated the point on Monday even though Liberty's kicker Alex Barbir came into the game 2 of 6 from 30 yards or more.

"I think the biggest thing that chaps my hide is and we have talked about it ad nauseum as a staff is I believe in taking a timeout there to make sure everything is set and I believe wholeheartedly in taking it before they snap the ball," Fuente said. "... There's nothing wrong with that in that situation at all. It's just what I go into every game saying is I'm not the guy that takes a timeout as they're snapping the ball. And that's what happened."

The officials simply didn't hear Fuente's early requests.

Fuente was less upset about the defensive miscue on the next play. Liberty caught Tech off guard coming out of the timeout by bringing their offense back on the field. The Hokies scrambled to get lined up and they ended up in a prevent-like defense that gave Liberty's receivers a huge cushion off the line of scrimmage.

The Flames picked up an easy 8-yards with a short pass towards the sideline, and that extra yardage helped Babir knock the game-winner down the middle on the next play.

It was Tech's second loss to a non-power five program in the state of Virginia since 2018.

The Hokies lost 49–35 at Old Dominion in 2018 as 29 point favorites, which according to ESPN Stats & Info was the largest upset against an ACC opponent in the previous 40 seasons.

### HERBERT IN LIMBO

Fuente didn't offer a clear timeline for running back Khalil Herbert's return to the lineup.

Herbert was dressed out against Liberty but unable to play after fielding a kickoff early in the first quarter. According to Fuente, Herbert had been dealing with a hamstring issue.

The Hokies will wait to see how Herbert holds up during practice this week before making a determination about his status for this weekend's showdown against No. 9 Miami. Herbert has 803 rushing yards (8.4 yards per carry) with six touchdowns and is second in the ACC in rushing behind Louisville Javian Hawkins.

## college notes

### VIRUS PLAYS HAVOC WITH SEC PLANS

The Southeastern Conference is taking a hit from COVID-19.

The conference on Monday postponed Saturday's game between No. 20 Auburn and Mississippi State because of positive COVID-19 cases and quarantining within the Bulldogs' program.

The SEC requires programs to have at least 53 scholarship players available for games. Mississippi State coach Mike Leach said the Bulldogs were just a player away from having to postpone last Saturday's game against Vanderbilt.

No. 5 Texas A&M paused in-person activities after a player and a staff member tested positive for COVID-19 after returning from a win at South Carolina. LSU is battling an outbreak that could put Saturday's game against No. 1 Alabama in jeopardy.

And Arkansas coach Sam Pittman has tested positive and could miss the game at No. 6 Florida.

### LSU PLAYER ALLEGES ABUSE

BATON ROUGE, La.—An LSU football player's social media post about being harassed by Baton Rouge police has led to three officers being placed on administrative leave, the city's police chief said.

Freshman Tigers receiver Koy Moore said he was "violated" by officers who stopped him at gunpoint last weekend and unzipped his pants while searching for "a weapon that I repeatedly told them I did not have."

Moore said officers also questioned him about whether he was in possession of illegal drugs, and snatched his phone away when he tried to take video of what was happening during the stop.

### BADGERS SAY THEY EXPECT TO PLAY

No. 13 Wisconsin expects to return to play Saturday at Michigan after canceling its last two games due to a COVID-19 outbreak within the team.

Wisconsin officials said Monday they have five active COVID-19 cases involving three staff members and two players. Five of the last six days have resulted in no positive cases. Only one staffer and one player have tested positive over the last week.

The Badgers have resumed regular game-week preparations and practiced Monday morning. School officials noted they will continue monitoring testing results to determine any athletic activities moving forward.

Wisconsin hasn't played since a season-opening 45–7 victory over Illinois on Oct. 23. The Badgers canceled games at Nebraska and at home with Purdue over the last two weeks. Last week, Wisconsin had 27 active COVID-19 cases involving 15 players and 12 staffers.

### IRISH WILL TEST AFTER FIELD RUSH

INDIANAPOLIS—The University of Notre Dame has implemented mandatory coronavirus testing for students and strict penalties for those who don't comply after students rushed the school's football field to celebrate a double-overtime upset over Clemson and held numerous weekend parties.

The mass of students, players and coaches crammed close together on the field in the minutes following the Fighting Irish's 47–40 win Saturday night in South Bend over then-No. 1 Clemson. Many of the thousands who stormed the field were not wearing masks or had their masks pulled down.

Now, all Notre Dame students are required to undergo coronavirus testing before they leave South Bend for the extended winter break.

### BAYLOR LOSES ITS TOP TACKLER

WACO, Texas—Baylor junior linebacker Terrel Bernard, the Big 12's top tackler, will miss the rest of the season because of a shoulder injury.

Coach Dave Aranda said Monday that Bernard suffered a torn labrum and likely a fracture in his shoulder in Saturday's loss at Iowa State. Bernard led the Big 12 with 55 tackles in Baylor's five games.

**COLLEGE FOOTBALL SCHEDULE**

**AP TOP 25**

**FRIDAY'S GAME**
**No. 7 Cincinnati** vs. East Carolina, 7:30 p.m.

**SATURDAY'S GAMES**
**No. 1 Alabama** at LSU, 6
**No. 2 Notre Dame** at Boston College, 3:30
**No. 3 Ohio State** at **Maryland,** 3:30 p.m.
**No. 5 Texas A&M** at Tennessee, 3:30 p.m.
**No. 6 Florida** vs. Arkansas, 7
**No. 9 Miami** at **Virginia Tech**, noon
**No. 10 Indiana** at Michigan State, noon
**No. 11 Oregon** at Washington State, 7 p.m.
**No. 12 Georgia** at Missouri, noon
**No. 13 Wisconsin** at Michigan, 7:30 p.m.
**No. 15 Coastal Carolina** at Troy, noon
**No. 16 Marshall** vs. Middle Tennessee, noon
**No. 19 SMU** at Tulsa, 7 p.m.
**No. 20 Southern Cal** at Arizona, 3:30 p.m.
**No. 22 Liberty** vs. Western Carolina, noon
**No. 23 Northwestern** at Purdue, 7:30 p.m.
**No. 24 Auburn** at Mississippi State, ppd.
**No. 25 Louisiana-Lafayette** vs. South Alabama, 2 p.m.

**REGION**

**SATURDAY'S GAMES**
Louisville at **Virginia**, 3:30
Memphis at **Navy,** 3:30 p.m.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

# Gonzaga starts season on top of poll for first time

BY DAVE SKRETTA
AP BASKETBALL WRITER

Just about the only thing Gonzaga has left to accomplish under Mark Few is win a national championship.

The 'Zags scratched another first off the list Monday: They will open the season at No. 1.

Despite losing West Coast Conference player of the year Filip Petrusev, the Bulldogs received 28 first-place votes and 1,541 points from a 64-member national media panel. That was just enough to edge Baylor (24 first-place vote) by a single point for the top spot in the preseason Associated Press Top 25 heading toward the delayed Nov. 25 start of the season.

"It's a great honor to be selected No. 1," Few said. "We understand that it is more a reflection of what our program has accomplished over the years and hope to play up to that standard as we start our season."

Villanova received 11 first-place votes and was third, followed by Virginia with the remaining first-place vote. Iowa was picked fifth behind national player of the year front-runner Luka Garza, its highest preseason ranking in school history.

Then came a wave of bluebloods with Kansas, Wisconsin, Illinois, Duke and Kentucky completing the top 10.

The Bulldogs spent four weeks at No. 1 last season before finishing second to the Jayhawks in the final poll, which was taken when the NCAA Tournament was canceled by the COVID-19 pandemic.

## CAVALIERS

▶ FROM B3

abrupt ending.

Virginia was buzz-sawing its way through the end of its season. The Cavaliers went into the ACC tournament on an eight-game win streak, victorious in 11 of their last 12 games.

That event, of course, was canceled before the team got to play a game.

The NCAA tournament, where Virginia hoped to defend its 2019 national championship, followed shortly thereafter, another victim of the pandemic. The Cavaliers lost two starters (forwards Mamadi Diakite and Braxton Key) from that squad.

Still, Virginia is ranked No. 4 in the nation in the initial Associated Press Top 25 poll released Monday and will likely be the ACC's preseason favorite when that poll is released. The ACC's schedule is set to be announced Tuesday.

Whether it's momentum from last season or hunger after that promising March was curtailed, the players said there is a driven vibe around this year's team as it prepares to play its first game since a 57–54 win over Louisville on March 4.

"I think this group had a lot of guys on that team from last year and they showed what they really can do, and I hope we can build off that," said forward Sam Hauser, a transfer from Marquettte who sat out last season.

Hauser's addition, along with the return of point guard Kihei Clark and forward Jay Huff, is a big reason expectations are so high for the Cavaliers. A year ago, Virginia's primary weakness was its outside shooting. Until junior college transfer Tomas Woldetensae got rolling in the second half of the season, the Cavaliers were largely punchless beyond the perimeter.

Hauser averaged 12.7 points at Marquette during three seasons, making 44.5 percent of his shots beyond the 3-point line.

Still, Hauser said he's not getting caught up in his personal hype, instead focusing this offseason on improving his defense and becoming quicker.

"It's cool to get recognition, but I'm just worried about what I can do to help the team in the best way," Hauser said. "I try not to buy into the outside expectations, so I just kind of stick to what the coaches want for me and what I want for myself. But it's cool to get some recognition."

For Clark, 2020–21 is a new season and the makeup of this year's team is different from the club that was on a roll at the end of last season. Still, as is always the case under Bennett, Clark said he thinks Virginia's success will again start with defense, though he too is excited about the shooting touch Hauser, Woldetensae and others will bring.

"I don't know if there's too much momentum just because it's a new group of guys," he said. "I think the identity of this team is going to be just like any other team, our defense, but I definitely think we have offensive capabilities with a lot of shooters on the floor."

## nfl notes

### PATRIOTS TOP JETS ON LATE FOLK KICK

**EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J.**—Nick Folk kicked a 51-yard field goal on the game's final play to give the New England Patriots a 30–27 victory over the winless New York Jets Monday night.

Cam Newton ran for two touchdowns for the Patriots (3–5), who snapped a four-game losing streak.

Joe Flacco threw three TD passes for the Jets (0–9) in relief of injured Sam Darnold.

### CHUBB RETURNS, MAYFIELD SITS

**BEREA, Ohio**—There was a buzz on the practice field Monday as the Browns returned from their bye with several starters, including star running back Nick Chubb, returning from injuries.

But Baker Mayfield remains away from the team after being placed on the COVID-19 list because he came in close contact with a staff member who tested positive for the coronavirus. Mayfield has tested negative to this point and he could return Wednesday as the Browns (5–3) get ready to host the Houston Texans (2–6) on Sunday.

Chubb has been designated to return from injured reserve after missing four games. He sprained a medical collateral ligament in Cleveland's Oct. 4 win at Dallas. A Pro Bowler last season, Chubb rushed for 335 yards and four touchdowns in four games before injuring his knee.

### McCAFFREY HAS SORE SHOULDER

**CHARLOTTE, N.C.**—Panthers coach Matt Rhule says running back Christian McCaffrey is "day to day" with a shoulder injury he suffered in the closing seconds of Carolina's 33–31 loss to Kansas City.

McCaffrey missed six games with a high ankle sprain before returning on Sunday against the Chiefs and racking up 151 total yards and two touchdowns. The Panthers host the Tampa Bay Buccaneers on Sunday.

AL DRAGO / ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Alex Smith (11) is taken down by Giants cornerback Isaac Yiadom (27). Smith threw for 325 yards Sunday but was intercepted three times in a 23–20 loss.**

## WASHINGTON

▶ FROM B3

is currently on the roster.

"Hopefully Dwayne will take it that way, that this is an opportunity to learn and to grow and then, who knows?" Rivera said. "He may get his opportunity again shortly. But he's just got to be ready and prepare as if he's really one play away."

Washington is forced to reshuffle the room after losing Kyle Allen to an ankle injury early in its loss to the New York Giants on Sunday. According to a person with knowledge of the situation, Allen suffered a dislocated ankle and small fracture, and he will require second-ending surgery.

Smith took over in his absence and led Washington on four scoring drives while totaling 325 yards and throwing his first touchdown pass since his own injury two years ago. But he also threw three interceptions, two of which ended the team's hope of a late score to tie or win.

Despite the loss, Washington (2–6) remains in second place in the NFC East and Rivera believes Smith affords the team the best chance.

"We're in the same situation," he said. "Nothing has really changed in the NFC East other than we've lost the tiebreaker now to the Giants. . . . It's still a close race."

But Rivera is also hopeful more comes out of Smith's promotion than a few wins. Throughout his 15 years in the NFL, Smith has become known for his work ethic and mentorship of younger quarterbacks, including those who have later taken his job, such as Colin Kaepernick in San Francisco and Patrick Mahomes in Kansas City.

When Smith was cleared to play this season after his lengthy recovery from 17 leg surgeries, Rivera lauded him for his leadership with Haskins, Allen and practice-squad quarterback Steven Montez. He described Smith as both a sounding board and an example of how a starting quarterback should work and approach the game, from his early arrival to the facility, to his communication with coaches and other quarterbacks, to his study and practice habits.

"It's really about how to prepare, how to take what you're getting, the information that you're getting, how to disseminate it, how to put it together and then take it and transfer it onto the field. How to do those things," Rivera said when asked by Haskins might learn from watching Smith.

Haskins has two years left on his fully guaranteed rookie deal, but that's about the only certainty he affords the team.

In the coming weeks, however, Washington may find some answers.

"We're hoping to see a guy that's got a talented arm, that's a good pocket-passer, that has the ability to make all the throws, but does he put it all together?" Rivera said. "Does he sit there and say, 'OK, this is what I've studied, this is what I've learned, now I'm taking it to the field, this is what I see out there that's happening and this is how I'm going to react.' . . . That's what we want to see."

# Brees and Saints rout Brady's Bucs

**BY FRED GOODALL**
ASSOCIATED PRESS

**TAMPA, Fla.**—Drew Brees vs. Tom Brady, and the battle for supremacy of the NFC South, was a one-sided affair.

Brees threw for 222 yards and four touchdowns, regaining the NFL career TD pass lead and lifting the New Orleans Saints into first place with a 38–3 rout of Brady and the Tampa Bay Buccaneers on Sunday night.

The three-time defending division champion won their fifth straight game, intercepting Brady three times and completing a season sweep of the Bucs (6–3), who also suffered a double-digit loss at New Orleans in Week 1.

The Saints (6–2) weren't perfect—turning the ball over twice themselves—however the offense was extremely efficient with receivers Michael Thomas and Emmanuel Sanders back in the lineup, and the defense played its best game of the season.

Brees was 26 of 32 passing, including first-half TD throws of 14 yards to Tre'Quan Smith, 8 yards to Adam Trautman and 12 yards to Sanders, who missed the previous two games while on the COVID-19 list. The 41-year-old added a 3-yarder to Josh Hill to make it 38–0 with just over nine minutes remaining.

Brees regained the league career TD pass lead with 564, three more than the 43-year-old Brady, who had thrown for 17 touchdowns and just one interception over his previous six games. The Saints intercepted Brady twice in a 34–23 season-opening win, with Janoris Jenkins returning one for a TD.

"We didn't play well in any phase of the game," Brady said. "Everyone's got to do a lot better, and it starts with me."

Brady was sacked three times and finished 22 of 38 for 209 yards. Tampa Bay avoided a shutout with Ryan Succop's 48-yard field goal with 5:52 remaining.

### SUNDAY'S LATE GAME

| | |
|---|---|
| SAINTS | 38 |
| BUCCANEERS | 3 |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| New Orleans | 14 | 17 | 0 | 7 | — 38 |
| Tampa Bay | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | — 3 |

**First Quarter**

NO—T.Smith 14 pass from Brees (Lutz kick), 9:34.

NO—Trautman 7 pass from Brees (Lutz kick), :00.

**Second Quarter**

NO—Sanders 12 pass from Brees (Lutz kick), 11:44.

NO—Kamara 1 run (Lutz kick), 8:45.

NO—FG Lutz 36, 1:49.

**Fourth Quarter**

NO—J.Hill 3 pass from Brees (Lutz kick), 9:07.

TB—FG Succop 48, 5:52.

A—15,740.

**TEAM STATISTICS**

| | NO | TB |
|---|---|---|
| First downs | 27 | 13 |
| Total Net Yards | 420 | 194 |
| Rushes-yards | 37-138 | 5-8 |
| Passing | 282 | 186 |
| Punt Returns | 3-30 | 1-1 |
| Kickoff Returns | 0-0 | 2-46 |
| Interceptions Ret. | 3-4 | 0-0 |
| Comp-Att-Int | 29-35-0 | 22-38-3 |
| Sacked-Yards Lost | 1-0 | 3-23 |
| Punts | 1-51.0 | 4-40.3 |
| Fumbles-Lost | 3-2 | 0-0 |
| Penalties-Yards | 3-28 | 5-39 |
| Time of Possession | 40:04 | 19:56 |

**INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS**

RUSHING–New Orleans, T.Hill 7-54, Kamara 9-40, Murray 10-39, Washington 5-9, Burton 1-1, Brees 2-(minus 2), Winston 3-(minus 3). Tampa Bay, Jones 3-9, Fournette 1-0, Gabbert 1-(minus 1).

PASSING–New Orleans, Brees 26-32-0-222, T.Hill 2-2-0-48, Winston 1-1-0-12. Tampa Bay, Brady 22-38-3-209.

RECEIVING–New Orleans, Thomas 5-51, Kamara 5-9, Sanders 4-38, Trautman 3-39, Cook 2-30, J.Hill 2-14, Callaway 2-11, Murray 2-3, Harris 1-40, T.Hill 1-21, Smith 1-14, Burton 1-12. Tampa Bay, Fournette 6-41, Evans 4-64, Godwin 3-41, Brown 3-31, Jones 3-9, Johnson 1-11, Miller 1-10, Gronkowski 1-2.

MISSED FIELD GOALS–None.

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## NASCAR

▶ FROM B3

stars in the spotlight. Dale Earnhardt Jr. was a 12-time winner of the fan-selected most popular driver award but never won a championship. Elliott took the reins in 2018 after Earnhardt retired and rewarded his loyalists in just his fifth full season at NASCAR's top level.

He has faced quixotic expectations since he was 14—that's when Rick Hendrick gave him a driver development contract—from peers who saw his heritage as a means to re-energizing a sport that saw its biggest stars trickle out of the driver's seat the last five years. Jeff Gordon, Tony Stewart, Carl Edwards and Earnhardt have all retired, and seven-time champion Jimmie Johnson joined the group Sunday.

Elliott's instant popularity was ordained not for what he did in his Chevrolet, but because of his family tree, which dates to a NASCAR some fans still yearn for. Bill Elliott won the 1988 Cup title and 44 races. Fans voted "Awesome Bill from Dawsonville" the most popular driver a record 16 times.

He might have kept winning the award, too, but Bill Elliott in 2001 removed his name from the ballot and encouraged fans to honor his late rival, Dale Earnhardt Sr.

Chase Elliott, who turns 25 later this month and is NASCAR's third-youngest champion, is very much like his dad: soft-spoken outside of the car, calm and calculated behind the wheel. The family has never left its Georgia hometown of Dawnsonville—a small town of fewer than 3,000 people an hour outside of Atlanta—and they still sound the siren at the local pool hall whenever an Elliott wins.

When Harvick was asked in 2017 what NASCAR needed to re-energize its base, he pointed directly to Elliott.

"NASCAR needs Chase Elliott to win," Harvick said. "Chase Elliott is the tie to the traditional NASCAR fan. It's the only shot they've got with the traditional NASCAR fan. His dad, the history and heritage of the sport, there isn't anybody else in the lineup that I can think of."

He's won now. And at the same time, NASCAR seems to have stabilized.

The series for at least a decade has been adjusting to an ever-changing economic landscape, an aging fan base, declining television ratings and attendance, and a dearth of star power. When the pandemic put NASCAR on a 10-week pause in March, the series could have collapsed.

Instead, NASCAR was one of the first sports to resume competition, first to get fans back into the stands and first to complete its entire schedule.

NASCAR President Steve Phelps called 2020 "the single most difficult year that we've faced as a sport," but a year in which the industry unified to keep cars on the track. Next year's season-opening Daytona 500 is still on schedule for Feb. 14 and plans now include spectators in the stands.

Uncertainty hangs over everything, but Phelps said NASCAR is in good shape.

"Will everyone's bottom line look more challenged? The answer is yes. Do I believe we as a sport are going to shut down? We are not," Phelps said. "Are we financially viable to move forward? We are. We are going to persevere and we are going to continue to put on races, bring that great racing to the fan base."

# SCOREBOARD

## PRO FOOTBALL

### NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

#### AMERICAN CONFERENCE

| East | W | L | T | Pct | PF | PA |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Buffalo | 7 | 2 | 0 | .778 | 242 | 233 |
| Miami | 5 | 3 | 0 | .625 | 222 | 161 |
| New England | 3 | 5 | 0 | .375 | 166 | 194 |
| N.Y. Jets | 0 | 9 | 0 | .000 | 121 | 268 |
| **South** | **W** | **L** | **T** | **Pct** | **PF** | **PA** |
| Tennessee | 6 | 2 | 0 | .750 | 232 | 201 |
| Indianapolis | 5 | 3 | 0 | .625 | 208 | 160 |
| Houston | 2 | 6 | 0 | .250 | 193 | 242 |
| Jacksonville | 1 | 7 | 0 | .125 | 179 | 247 |
| **North** | **W** | **L** | **T** | **Pct** | **PF** | **PA** |
| Pittsburgh | 8 | 0 | 0 | 1.000 | 235 | 161 |
| Baltimore | 6 | 2 | 0 | .750 | 227 | 142 |
| Cleveland | 5 | 3 | 0 | .625 | 206 | 237 |
| Cincinnati | 2 | 5 | 1 | .313 | 194 | 214 |
| **West** | **W** | **L** | **T** | **Pct** | **PF** | **PA** |
| Kansas City | 8 | 1 | 0 | .889 | 286 | 183 |
| Las Vegas | 5 | 3 | 0 | .625 | 218 | 229 |
| Denver | 3 | 5 | 0 | .375 | 174 | 217 |
| L.A. Chargers | 2 | 6 | 0 | .250 | 205 | 216 |

#### NATIONAL CONFERENCE

| East | W | L | T | Pct | PF | PA |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Philadelphia | 3 | 4 | 1 | .438 | 186 | 205 |
| Washington | 2 | 6 | 0 | .250 | 153 | 188 |
| Dallas | 2 | 7 | 0 | .222 | 204 | 290 |
| N.Y. Giants | 2 | 7 | 0 | .222 | 168 | 219 |
| **South** | **W** | **L** | **T** | **Pct** | **PF** | **PA** |
| New Orleans | 6 | 2 | 0 | .750 | 244 | 200 |
| Tampa Bay | 6 | 3 | 0 | .667 | 250 | 203 |
| Atlanta | 3 | 6 | 0 | .333 | 243 | 251 |
| Carolina | 3 | 6 | 0 | .333 | 210 | 226 |
| **North** | **W** | **L** | **T** | **Pct** | **PF** | **PA** |
| Green Bay | 6 | 2 | 0 | .750 | 253 | 204 |
| Chicago | 5 | 4 | 0 | .556 | 178 | 190 |
| Detroit | 3 | 5 | 0 | .375 | 197 | 240 |
| Minnesota | 3 | 5 | 0 | .375 | 217 | 234 |
| **West** | **W** | **L** | **T** | **Pct** | **PF** | **PA** |
| Seattle | 6 | 2 | 0 | .750 | 274 | 243 |
| Arizona | 5 | 3 | 0 | .625 | 234 | 180 |
| L.A. Rams | 5 | 3 | 0 | .625 | 193 | 152 |
| San Francisco | 4 | 5 | 0 | .444 | 225 | 207 |

**Thursday's Game**
Green Bay 34, San Francisco 17

**Sunday's Games**
Atlanta 34, Denver 27
Baltimore 24, Indianapolis 10
Buffalo 44, Seattle 34
Houston 27, Jacksonville 25
Kansas City 33, Carolina 31
Minnesota 34, Detroit 20
N.Y. Giants 23, Washington 20
Tennessee 24, Chicago 17
Las Vegas 31, L.A. Chargers 26
Miami 34, Arizona 31
Pittsburgh 24, Dallas 19
New Orleans 38, Tampa Bay 3
Open: Cincinnati, Cleveland, L.A. Rams, Philadelphia

**Monday's Game**
New England 30, N.Y. Jets 27

**Thursday, Nov. 12**
Indianapolis at Tennessee, 8:20 p.m.

**Sunday, Nov. 15**
Houston at Cleveland, 1 p.m.
Jacksonville at Green Bay, 1 p.m.
Philadelphia at N.Y. Giants, 1 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Carolina, 1 p.m.
Washington at Detroit, 1 p.m.
Buffalo at Arizona, 4:05 p.m.
Denver at Las Vegas, 4:05 p.m.
L.A. Chargers at Miami, 4:05 p.m.
Cincinnati at Pittsburgh, 4:25 p.m.
San Francisco at New Orleans, 4:25 p.m.
Seattle at L.A. Rams, 4:25 p.m.
Baltimore at New England, 8:20 p.m.
Open: Kansas City, N.Y. Jets, Atlanta, Dallas

**Monday, Nov. 16**
Minnesota at Chicago, 8:15 p.m.

## THE MAJORS

**JACKIE ROBINSON ROOKIES OF THE YEAR LIST**
**(x-unanimous)**

**American League**
2020—x-Kyle Lewis, Seattle
2019—x-Yordan Alvarez, Houston
2018—Shohei Ohtani, Los Angeles
2017—x-Aaron Judge, New York
2016—Michael Fulmer, Detroit
2015—Carlos Correa, Houston
2014—x-Jose Abreu, Chicago
2013—Wil Myers, Tampa Bay
2012—x-Mike Trout, Los Angeles
2011—Jeremy Hellickson, Tampa Bay
2010—Neftali Feliz, Texas

**National League**
2020—Devin Williams, Milwaukee
2019—Pete Alonso, New York
2018—Ronald Acuna Jr., Atlanta
2017—x-Cody Bellinger, Los Angeles
2016—x-Corey Seager, Los Angeles
2015—x-Kris Bryant, Chicago
2014—Jacob deGrom, New York
2013—Jose Fernandez, Miami
2012—Bryce Harper, Washington
2011—x-Craig Kimbrel, Atlanta
2010—Buster Posey, San Francisco

## COLLEGE

**MEN'S BASKETBALL**

The top 25 teams in The Associated Press' preseason 2020-21 college basketball poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, final 2019-20 records, total points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote and last year's final ranking:

| | Points | Prv |
|---|---|---|
| 1. Gonzaga (28) | 1541 | 2 |
| 2. Baylor (24) | 1540 | 5 |
| 3. Villanova (11) | 1501 | 10 |
| 4. Virginia (1) | 1364 | 16 |
| 5. Iowa | 1273 | 25 |
| 6. Kansas | 1221 | 1 |
| 7. Wisconsin | 1150 | 17 |
| 8. Illinois | 1105 | 21 |
| 9. Duke | 1073 | 11 |
| 10. Kentucky | 1038 | 8 |
| 11. Creighton | 922 | 7 |
| 12. Tennessee | 919 | - |
| 13. Michigan St. | 820 | 9 |
| 14. Texas Tech | 790 | - |
| 15. West Va. | 651 | 24 |
| 16. North Carolina | 465 | - |
| 17. Houston | 438 | 22 |
| 18. Arizona St | 402 | - |
| 19. Texas | 380 | - |
| 20. Oregon | 375 | 13 |
| 21. Florida St. | 351 | 4 |
| 22. UCLA | 336 | - |
| 23. Ohio St. | 270 | 19 |
| 24. Rutgers | 190 | - |
| 25. Michigan | 160 | - |

**Others receiving votes**
LSU 146, Memphis 69, Florida 69, Alabama 50, Indiana 48, Louisville 41, Richmond 40, Stanford 14, Providence 9, Saint Louis 8, Auburn 8, San Diego State 6, Connecticut 6, Brigham Young 4, Loyola (IL) 3, Seton Hall 2, UNC Greensboro 1, UNI 1.

## TENNIS

**ATP WORLD TOUR SOFIA OPEN**
**At Arena Armeec Sofia**
**(Sofia, Bulgaria)**
**Purse: €325,615**
**Surface: Hardcourt indoor**

**Monday's Results**
**(seedings in parentheses)**

**MEN'S SINGLES**

**Round of 32**
Marc-Andrea Huesler, Switzerland, def. Nikoloz Basilashvili (7), Georgia, 6-1, 4-6, 7-6 (6).
Vasek Pospisil, Canada, def. Illya Marchenko, Ukraine, 6-2, 5-7, 7-6 (5).
Adrian Mannarino (5), France, def. Martin Klizan, Slovakia, 3-6, 6-1, 7-5.
Aslan Karatsev, Russia, def. Taro Daniel, Japan, 7-6 (2), 6-1.
Egor Gerasimov, Belarus, def. Viktor Troicki, Serbia, 6-3, 3-6, 6-3.
Salvatore Caruso, Italy, def. Dimitar Kuzmanov, Bulgaria, 4-6, 6-4, 6-4.
Jonas Forejtek, Czech Republic, def. Marin Cilic (8), Croatia, 6-3, 6-2.

**MEN'S DOUBLES**

**Round of 16**
Jamie Murray and Neal Skupski (2), Britain, def. Igor Zelenay, Slovakia, and Divij Sharan, India, 6-3, 3-6, 10-6.
Ken Skupski and Jonny O'Mara, Britain, def. Vasko Mladenov and Alexander Donski, Bulgaria, 6-3, 6-4.
Artem Sitak, New Zealand, and Radu Albot, Moldova, vs. David Vega Hernandez, Spain, and Alex de Minaur, Australia, 3-6, 7-6 (4), 11-9.

**WTA UPPER AUSTRIA LADIES LINZ**
**At Intersport Arena Linz**
**(Linz, Austria)**
**Purse: $225,500**
**Surface: Hardcourt indoor**

**Monday's Results**
**(seedings in parentheses)**

**WOMEN'S SINGLES**

**Round of 32**
Varvara Gracheva, Russia, def. Katarina Zavatska, Ukraine, 6-4, 7-5.
Aliaksandra Sasnovich, Belarus, def. Bernarda Pera (8), United States, 6-3, 6-1.
Ekaterina Alexandrova (4), Russia, def. Katerina Siniakova, Czech Republic, 6-3, 6-4.
Greet Minnen, Belgium, vs. Dayana Yastremska (3), Ukraine, 6-4, 6-3.

**WOMEN'S DOUBLES**

**Round of 16**
Arantxa Rus, Netherlands, and Tamara Zidansek (4), Slovenia, def. Laura-Ioana Paar, Romania, and Julia Wachaczyk, Germany, 6-4, 6-2.
Ulrikke Eikeri, Norway, and Yana Sizikova, Russia, def. Sabine Lisicki, Germany, and Jodie Anna Burrage, Britain, 5-6, ret.
Vera Zvonareva, Russia, and Gabriela Dabrowski (2), Canada, def. Julia Grabher and Mira Antonitsch, Austria, 6-3, 6-2.
Irina-Camelia Begu, Romania, and Nadia Podoroska, Argentina, def. Elixane Lechemia, France, and Anna Danilina, Kazakhstan, 6-4, 6-4.

## GOLF

**WORLD GOLF RANKING**
**(Through Nov. 8)**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. Dustin Johnson | USA | 10.58 |
| 2. Jon Rahm | ESP | 10.10 |
| 3. Justin Thomas | USA | 8.99 |
| 4. Collin Morikawa | USA | 7.43 |
| 5. Rory McIlroy | NIR | 7.37 |
| 6. Bryson DeChambeau | USA | 7.33 |
| 7. Webb Simpson | USA | 7.11 |
| 8. Xander Schauffele | USA | 7.10 |
| 9. Tyrrell Hatton | ENG | 6.28 |
| 10. Patrick Cantlay | USA | 6.27 |
| 11. Patrick Reed | USA | 5.88 |
| 12. Brooks Koepka | USA | 5.49 |
| 13. Daniel Berger | USA | 5.07 |
| 14. Matthew Wolff | USA | 4.91 |
| 15. Adam Scott | AUS | 4.57 |
| 16. Tommy Fleetwood | ENG | 4.48 |
| 17. Tony Finau | USA | 4.48 |
| 18. Hideki Matsuyama | JPN | 4.34 |
| 19. Louis Oosthuizen | SAF | 4.16 |
| 20. Matthew Fitzpatrick | ENG | 4.11 |
| 21. Abraham Ancer | MEX | 3.82 |
| 22. Paul Casey | ENG | 3.81 |
| 23. Viktor Hovland | NOR | 3.65 |
| 24. Jason Kokrak | USA | 3.62 |
| 25. Sungjae Im | KOR | 3.61 |
| 26. Marc Leishman | AUS | 3.39 |
| 27. Shane Lowry | IRL | 3.39 |
| 28. Justin Rose | ENG | 3.37 |
| 29. Matt Kuchar | USA | 3.33 |
| 30. Scottie Scheffler | USA | 3.26 |
| 31. Ryan Palmer | USA | 3.24 |
| 32. Gary Woodland | USA | 3.23 |
| 33. Tiger Woods | USA | 3.21 |
| 34. Kevin Kisner | USA | 3.21 |
| 35. Harris English | USA | 3.11 |
| 36. Victor Perez | FRA | 2.96 |
| 37. Bernd Wiesberger | AUT | 2.86 |
| 38. Kevin Na | USA | 2.81 |
| 39. Billy Horschel | USA | 2.80 |
| 40. Sergio Garcia | ESP | 2.77 |
| 41. Jason Day | AUS | 2.68 |
| 42. Joaquin Niemann | CHI | 2.64 |
| 43. Brendon Todd | USA | 2.63 |
| 44. Bubba Watson | USA | 2.56 |
| 45. Cameron Smith | AUS | 2.52 |
| 46. Rickie Fowler | USA | 2.48 |
| 47. Lee Westwood | ENG | 2.46 |
| 48. Mackenzie Hughes | CAN | 2.46 |
| 49. Ian Poulter | ENG | 2.42 |
| 50. Erik van Rooyen | SAF | 2.38 |

**PGA TOUR FEDEX CUP LEADERS**
**(Top 30; Through Nov. 8)**

| | Points | Money |
|---|---|---|
| 1. B. DeChambeau | 675 | $2,440,750 |
| 2. Stewart Cink | 671 | $1,494,130 |
| 3. Patrick Cantlay | 604 | $1,710,585 |
| 4. Jason Kokrak | 596 | $2,008,789 |
| 5. Matthew Wolff | 585 | $2,007,135 |
| 6. Sergio Garcia | 548 | $1,301,621 |
| 7. Carlos Ortiz | 537 | $1,338,167 |
| 8. Martin Laird | 532 | $1,314,640 |
| 9. Hudson Swafford | 510 | $743,834 |
| 10. Brian Gay | 500 | $720,000 |
| 11. X. Schauffele | 463 | $1,651,851 |
| 12. Peter Malnati | 450 | $1,033,222 |
| 13. Justin Thomas | 386 | $1,196,556 |
| 14. Tyler McCumber | 383 | $637,300 |
| 15. H. Matsuyama | 362 | $923,025 |
| 16. Wyndham Clark | 358 | $575,475 |
| 17. Dustin Johnson | 350 | $1,047,040 |
| 18. Harry Higgs | 344 | $827,836 |
| 19. Jon Rahm | 332 | $944,832 |
| 20. Russell Henley | 327 | $976,400 |
| 21. M. Hughes | 289 | $533,348 |
| 22. Austin Cook | 286 | $697,257 |
| 23. Talor Gooch | 280 | $798,390 |
| 24. Doc Redman | 276 | $543,903 |
| 25. James Hahn | 272 | $582,538 |
| 26. Tyrrell Hatton | 272 | $828,262 |
| 27. J.T. Poston | 268 | $607,595 |
| 28. Louis Oosthuizen | 262 | $970,692 |
| 29. Harris English | 252 | $917,290 |
| 30. Adam Long | 242 | $561,447 |

## CALENDAR

(Subject to change)

**Friday, Nov. 13**
**HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL**
North Cross at St. Michael, 6 (at Fredericksburg Field House).

## TRANSACTIONS

**BASEBALL**
**Major League Baseball**
MLB—Named Peter Woodford senior vice president of minor league operations and development.

**American League**
BALTIMORE ORIOLES—Promoted Mike Hoppes to senior vice president and chief financial officer.

**FOOTBALL**
**National Football League**
ARIZONA CARDINALS—Released CB De'Vante Bausby.
ATLANTA FALCONS—Waived DE Takk McKinley.
CHICAGO BEARS—Activated DB Michael Joseph from injured reserve. Activated OL Jason Spriggs from the reserve/COVID-19 list.
CINCINNATI BENGALS—Placed DL Margus Hunt on the reserve/COVID-19 list.
CLEVELAND BROWNS—Designated RB Nick Chubb to return from injured reserve. Added TE Kyle Markway to the practice squad. Released T Timon Paris from the practice squad.
DENVER BRONCOS—Signed TE Troy Fumagalli and C Jon Halapio to the practice squad.
DETROIT LIONS—Activated LB Jarrad Davis from the reserve/COVID-19 list. Placed CB Tony McRae on injured reserve.
GREEN BAY PACKERS—Activated RB Jamaal Williams and LB Kamal Martin from the reserve/COVID-19 list.
HOUSTON TEXANS—Placed LB Brennan Scarlett and Kyle Emanuel on injured reserve. Claimed the DE Nate Orchard off waivers from Washington and placed him on the exempt/commissioner permission list.
JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS—Placed K Josh Lambo on injured reserve. Released S Doug Middleton. Signed K Alrick Rosas and OL Garret McGhin to the practice squad.
LAS VEGAS RAIDERS—Signed DB Rashaan Gaulden to the practice squad.
MINNESOTA VIKINGS—Signed CB Cordea Tankersley to the practice squad.
NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS—Signed DR Tashawn Bower to the active roster. Promoted LB Terez Hall and KR Kristian Wilkerson to the active roster.
NEW YORK JETS—Activated CB Bryce Hall from the reserve/COVID-19 list. Placed TE Trevon Wesco on injured reserve.
PHILADELPHIA EAGLES—Designated G Isaac Seumalo to return from injured reserve.
PITTSBURGH STEELERS—Placed TE Vance McDonald on the reserve/COVID-19 list.
SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS—Promoted WR River Cracraft and S Johnathan Cyprien to the active roster. Signed WR Chris Finke to the practice squad. Placed WR Kendrick Bourne on the reserve/COVID-19 list. Designated CB Richard Sherman to return from injured reserve.
ST. LOUIS RAMS—Designated S Jordan Fuller to return from injured reserve.
TENNESSEE TITANS—Added CB Greg Mabin to the practice squad.
WASHINGTON FOOTBALL TEAM—Promoted WR Jeff Badet to the active roster. Placed WR Tony Brown on waivers.

**HOCKEY**
**National Hockey League**
ARIZONA COYOTES—Named Tania Moreno senior vice president of marketing.
NASHVILLE PREDATORS—Signed F Luke Evangelista to a three-year, entry-level contract.

## SOCCER

**MAJOR LEAGUE SOCCER**

**Eastern Conference**

| | W | L | T | PPG | GF | GA |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| x-Philadelphia | 14 | 4 | 5 | 2.04 | 44 | 20 |
| x-Toronto FC | 13 | 5 | 5 | 1.91 | 33 | 26 |
| x-Columbus | 12 | 6 | 5 | 1.78 | 36 | 22 |
| x-Orlando City | 11 | 4 | 8 | 1.78 | 40 | 25 |
| x-New York City FC | 12 | 8 | 3 | 1.70 | 37 | 25 |
| x-New York | 9 | 9 | 5 | 1.39 | 29 | 31 |
| x-Nashville | 8 | 7 | 8 | 1.39 | 24 | 22 |
| x-New England | 8 | 7 | 8 | 1.39 | 26 | 25 |
| x-Montreal | 8 | 13 | 2 | 1.13 | 33 | 43 |
| x-Inter Miami CF | 7 | 13 | 3 | 1.04 | 25 | 35 |
| e-Chicago | 5 | 10 | 8 | 1.00 | 33 | 39 |
| e-Atlanta | 6 | 13 | 4 | 0.96 | 23 | 30 |
| e-D.C. United | 5 | 12 | 6 | 0.91 | 25 | 41 |
| e-Cincinnati | 4 | 15 | 4 | 0.70 | 12 | 36 |

**Western Conference**

| | W | L | T | PPG | GF | GA |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| x-Kansas City | 12 | 6 | 3 | 1.86 | 38 | 25 |
| x-Seattle | 11 | 5 | 6 | 1.77 | 44 | 23 |
| x-Portland | 11 | 6 | 6 | 1.70 | 46 | 35 |
| x-Minnesota United | 9 | 5 | 7 | 1.62 | 36 | 26 |
| x-Colorado | 8 | 6 | 4 | 1.56 | 32 | 28 |
| x-FC Dallas | 9 | 6 | 7 | 1.55 | 28 | 24 |
| x-Los Angeles FC | 9 | 8 | 5 | 1.45 | 47 | 39 |
| x-San Jose | 8 | 9 | 6 | 1.30 | 35 | 51 |
| e-Vancouver | 9 | 14 | 0 | 1.17 | 27 | 44 |
| e-LA Galaxy | 6 | 12 | 4 | 1.00 | 27 | 46 |
| e-Real Salt Lake | 5 | 10 | 7 | 1.00 | 25 | 35 |
| e-Houston | 4 | 10 | 9 | 0.91 | 30 | 40 |

x-Clinched playoff spot; e-eliminated.
NOTES: For the 2020 season, MLS will determine standings using points per game. Top 10 in Eastern and Top 8 in Western conference qualify for playoffs. Three points for a win, one point for a tie.

**MLS PLAYOFFS**
**(seedings in parentheses)**
**EASTERN CONFERENCE PLAY-IN**
**Friday, Nov. 20**
(9)Montreal at (8)New England, 6:30 p.m
(10)Inter Miami CF at (7)Nashville SC, 9 p.m.

**FIRST ROUND**
**Eastern Conference**
**Saturday, Nov. 21-24**
**Times TBA**
Philadelphia vs. lower-seeded play-in winner
Toronto FC vs. higher-seeded play-in winner
Columbus vs. New York
Orlando City vs. New York City FC

**Western Conference**
**Saturday, Nov. 21-24**
**Times TBA**
Sporting Kansas City vs. San Jose
Seattle vs. Los Angeles FC
Portland vs. FC Dallas
Minnesota United vs. Colorado

## roundup

### IZZO TESTS POSITIVE FOR COVID-19

MICHAEL CONROY / FILE / ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tom Izzo has been an advocate for wearing masks and social distancing, hoping to use his platform at Michigan State as a Basketball Hall of Fame coach to help slow the spread of COVID-19.

Despite practicing what he preached, Izzo tested positive for the coronavirus on Monday. It was just the latest example of the challenges facing college basketball to have a season during the pandemic.

The positive test will relegate Izzo to leading No. 13 Michigan State virtually while he is in isolation for more than a week.

"Although I have some minor symptoms, I remain in good health," the 65-year-old Izzo told reporters on a Zoom call. "I've been extremely diligent for many months now, wearing my mask in public and around the office, while adhering to social distancing guidelines. ... And while I haven't identified any area of exposure, what I have determined is that this shows the power of the virus."

Associate head coach Dwayne Stephens will lead practices while Izzo is in isolation for 10 days.

The school says Izzo is the only person in the program to test positive for COVID-19 since daily antigen testing began two weeks ago.

Izzo, who has led the Spartans since 1995, won the national championship in 2000 during one of eight Final Four appearances. He has won the Big Ten regular-season title nine times and the conference tournament six times.

### DERBY WINNER AUTHENTIC RETIRED

**LEXINGTON, Ky.**—Authentic, winner of the Kentucky Derby and Breeders' Cup Classic, has been retired to stud.

The 3-year-old colt will stand at Spendthrift Farm in Lexington, Ky., next year for a breeding fee of $75,000. The farm is owned by B. Wayne Hughes, who co-owns Authentic with MyRacehorse, Starlight Racing and Madaket Stables.

Authentic earned wire-to-wire victories in the Kentucky Derby in September and the $6 million Classic last weekend at Keeneland. He is a favorite to win an Eclipse Award for 3-year-old of the year.

Trained by Bob Baffert, Authentic had six wins in eight starts and career earnings of $6,191,200. His only losses this year came in the Santa Anita Derby and the Preakness, where he finished second both times.

### FIGURE SKATING CHAMPIONSHIPS MOVING TO VEGAS

**LAS VEGAS**—The U.S. Figure Skating Championships are being moved from San Jose, Calif. to Las Vegas.

The national federation said Monday the switch was based partly on the successful bubble environment used for Skate America last month at the Orleans Arena in Las Vegas. San Jose will now get the 2023 nationals, while the 2022 event, which serves as the Olympic trials, will be in Nashville.

Nationals will take place Jan. 11-21 in Las Vegas. Nathan Chen, a two-time world champion who has won the last four U.S. titles, will lead the field. He won Skate America.

Senior competition will take place from Jan. 11–17, and junior competition from Jan. 19–21. As with Skate America, no spectators will be allowed.

### BUCKS' BROWN, CITY OF MILWAUKEE SETTLE LAWSUIT

**MILWAUKEE**—Bucks guard Sterling Brown and the Milwaukee city attorney have agreed to a revised $750,000 settlement of a lawsuit Brown filed after getting taken to the ground, shocked with a Taser and arrested during an encounter with police in 2018.

City Attorney Tearman Spencer is recommending the payment plus an admission that Brown's constitutional rights were violated during the arrest that began with a parking violation outside a Walgreen's store. Brown signed the agreement Friday.

Spencer's recommendation came in a letter he sent to Milwaukee Common Council members. The settlement is subject to approval by the city; it wasn't immediately clear when the council would take it up.

Brown rejected the Milwaukee City Council's original offer of $400,000 made in 2019. Brown's attorney, Mark Thomsen, said at the time that any settlement without an admission of a civil rights violation would go nowhere. Thomsen said the admission was necessary for the city to heal.

### DALLAS STARS SIGN FORWARD HINTZ

**FRISCO, Texas**—The Dallas Stars have signed restricted free agent forward Roope Hintz to a $9.45 million, three-year contract.

Hintz had 19 goals and 14 assists in 60 games during the regular season for the Western Conference champions, including five game-winning goals. He had two goals and 11 assists in 25 playoff games before missing the last two games of the Stanley Cup Final because of injuries.

## TV HIGHLIGHTS

**Tuesday, Nov. 10**

**Swimming**
10 a.m.—International Swimming League, CBSSN.

**Soccer**
12:30 p.m.—Florida State vs. Notre Dame, ACC women's quarterfinal, ACCN.
3 p.m.—Clemson vs. Duke, ACC women's quarterfinal, ACCN.
5:30 p.m.—North Carolina vs. Virginia Tech, ACC women's quarterfinal, ACCN.
8 p.m.—Virginia vs. Louisville, ACC women's quarterfinal, ACCN.

**College football**
7 p.m.—Akron at Ohio, CBSSN.
7:30 p.m.—Kent State at Bowling Green, ESPN2.
8 p.m.—Miami (Ohio) at Buffalo, ESPN.

**Wednesday, Nov. 11**

**Rugby**
4 a.m.—New South Wales vs. Queensland, State of Origin series, FS1.

**College football**
7 p.m.—Eastern Michigan at Ball State, CBSSN.
8 p.m.—Central Michigan at Northern Illinois, ESPNU.
8 p.m.—Toledo at Western Michigan, ESPN.

**Golf**
Noon—The Masters preview, ESPN.

## LOTTERIES

The lottery numbers were not available before press time. To find out the winning lottery numbers from all Virginia Lottery games, call the hotline at 804/662-5825.

KEN NOWICKI / CERERUS USA

**Bobby Thompson (left) shows off the trophy he won during a strongman competition last winter.**

## THOMPSON

▶ FROM B3

readily agreed to Angle's terms. Now, a month shy of his 28th birthday, he's headed to Bradenton, Fla. this week to make his debut in the World's Strongest Man championships, where he'll lift, tote and toss objects that seemingly require superhuman muscle.

Now weighing 365, Thompson turned pro last year after winning the 2019 world amateur title. He received a wild-card bid just a month ago to be one of 25 competitors in Bradenton.

"I want to do the best I can with what I have," Thompson said. "I would like to make the final. A lot of guys have had a year to prepare for this; I came in with a month's notice. I'm an underdog, but at the end of the day, an underdog still has teeth and can bite."

The World's Strongest Man website lists 16 events. Some test brute strength, like the Giant Dumbbell Press, Overhead Log Lift, Husafel Stone and the Pillars of Hercules, in which competitors try to hold up columns weighing 160 kilograms (nearly 400 pounds) for as long as possible.

After dead-lifting 926 pounds at the Arnold Sports Festival in Columbus, Ohio in March, Thompson figures to be a strong contender in those disciplines.

"His best events are the deadlift or anything with static movement," Angle said. "On the overhead press, he's great. His leg drive is something he can improve. If he learns to get more pop from his leg drive, he can get the world record."

That mark is 1,104 pounds, set by Iceland's Hafthor Bjornssson in 2016.

Other events integrate movement, such as the Fridge Carry, Farmer's Walk (carrying heavy weights as far as possible in a set time) and the Loading Race, in which competitors stack weights into a pickup truck bed. That's where Thompson aims to improve.

"He's not that bad, but he can get faster times," Angle said.

A self-described "military brat," Thompson moved often with his family before settling into Stafford County in elementary school. He played team sports as a youngster, but suffered chronic foot injuries that required bone fusions and screws to be inserted in each foot.

He turned to power lifting, and he won his first amateur strongman competition in Richmond.

That's when Angle agreed to train him. First, though, Thompson had to prove himself, including one workout in which Angle asked him to squat 400 pounds 100 times in one hour.

"I put him through some crazy stuff," Angle said. "I put him through the ringer. I tested him in any way possible. I did everything I could to ensure nothing can break him. Now I'm there to tell him when to stop [training]."

One of those times came a couple of months ago, when Thompson deadlifted nearly 900 pounds three times in practice. According to Angle, the world record is six repetitions, and Thompson seemed ready to surpass that. But Angle advised him to save his best for competition.

"I've seen a lot of things. It takes a lot to impress me," Angle said. "That impressed me."

The coronavirus pandemic forced postponement of this year's World's Strongest Man competition from its original date in April. That actually played into Thompson's favor, allowing him to recover from a torn biceps muscle.

Unable to use public gyms to train, he had to improvise.

"Luckily, I have enough of my own equipment, and I found a friend with a gym in his basement. I basically held his gym and his garage hostage," he said, adding that he has to loading 3,000 pounds of equipment into a Ford Escort to do so.

"That should be an event in itself," he said with a laugh.

Thompson, who works as a logistical consultant for the U.S. Department of State in Lorton, said he trains for at least three hours a day, five times a week. To maintain his weight and strength, he said he consumes at least 5,000 calories per day, raising that to 7,000-8,000 before major competitions. That includes 6-8 cups and 3-5 pounds of beef daily, plus and a staggering 70 to 80 eggs a week.

He's also analytical, watching tapes of past performances and scrutinizing details as which shoes to wear.

"That kind of minute detail could cut one-10th of a second off in a tractor pull and make a difference in your placing," Thompson said.

Three days of competition beginning Wednesday in Bradenton will trim the 25-man field down to 10 finalists, who will compete Saturday and Sunday for the title. Defending champion Martin Licis of the U.S. will not compete, but fellow American Brian Shaw is seeking his fifth career title. Highlights of the competition will be televised on CBS in December.

Said Angle: "I honestly think, with all the people there this year, if all the stars align, he has a chance to get a podium spot. He could get third or second."

Hoisting such mind-bending weights takes a toll on a body, and strongman careers rarely last more than a decade. Angle, who's 38, said his own career ended when he suffered a heart attack during a competition.

'We've all got a few screws loose," Thompson said. "We're all chasing something; we just don't know what it is yet."

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GOLF

# Augusta gets ready for a quiet Masters

**BY DOUG FERGUSON**
AP GOLF WRITER

AUGUSTA, Ga.—Take away a few white scoreboards in their usual places behind the greens, and the green television stands behind the 12th tee and a few other strategic locations, and this is what Augusta National looks like in November.

It looks bigger because hardly anyone is there.

**TUNE IN**

**THE MASTERS**
Thursday-Sunday
In Augusta, Ga.
(ESPN, CBS)

The grandstands are gone. The ropes are missing, replaced by painted lines—dark green, of course—around the tee boxes and greens and marking spots along the fairway to show the few people allowed at the Masters where they can stand.

Instead of Augusta National members and their guests, the course was filled Monday with Tiger Woods and Justin Thomas, Bubba Watson and Jordan Spieth, all playing a practice round on a course that only looked the same.

"We're used to coming here on Monday already and seeing lots of people," Francesco Molinari said. "So it looks different already. I don't know. We'll have to see how everyone adapts to the differing conditions. It's hard not to have the fans around, but it's amazing to have the opportunity to be back here for us as players."

MATT SLOCUM / ASSOCIATED PRESS

**With leaves turning behind him, South Korea's Sung Kang checks his notes at a Masters practice.**

The 1,600 azalea bushes on the 13th hole have no blooms. Neither do the pink dogwoods down the right side of the second fairway. It's not without color, of course. The Firethorn berries on the 15th were bursting with color, as they are prone to do in late summer and early fall.

Under those towering Georgia pines is a mixture of pine straw and fallen leaves. Mostly, however, it's the lack of patrons that makes it look—and sound—so different.

"There's no doubt the missing gallery is going to be the biggest difference," Adam Scott said. "The things that will be the same is it still means the same to us all, and maybe even more so because we return to Augusta National every year. Everything that the club does to make this a special event for everybody who gets to watch it—whether that's on TV, the patrons who comes to the grounds or the players—it's an incredible experience.

"So we'll be missing one element. But it's a huge element to the experience of playing the Masters."

Late in the afternoon, three women were strolling along toward the edge of Amen Corner with a drink called "Azalea" and not a care in the world.

This is the Augusta National hardly anyone gets to see. And it won't change much over the next six days, except for the forecast. Rain was expected at least for the next two practice rounds, and possibly throughout the week.

The course already is softer than it usually is in April because the rye grass planted over the dead Bermuda has only had a month or so to take root. It's still pristine, and it will look that way on TV. Even so, the weather has been so warm that splotches of Bermuda grass are evident on the slopes and collection areas off the greens.

"I'm anxious to see over the next couple of days how tight some of the run-off areas get because the grass has been a little thicker and longer than we see in April," Spieth said.

He played the front nine on Monday, and when he finished his round with former champion Zach Johnson and newcomer J.T. Poston, he noticed a huge difference in how the ball responds if it comes up short.

"Sometimes it rolls back 20, 25 yards short of the green," Spieth said. "Right now, it's only going to go 5 or 10, making the next shot a bit easier. It will be interesting to see how that changes because that changed a lot from this weekend to today."

Spieth was around on the weekend after missing the cut in the Houston Open. Ditto for players like Phil Mickelson and Lee Westwood. No one likes a weekend off. When it means going to Augusta National to get ready for the Masters—April, November, doesn't matter—it takes the sting off.

"It takes some getting used to," Westwood said.

What hasn't changed is the objective.

"We're playing the same golf course and trying to shoot the low score and beat the same players that we have to try and do every single year," Spieth said.

## golf notes

### GARCIA TESTS POSITIVE, PULLS OUT OF MASTERS

AUGUSTA, Ga.—Sergio Garcia pulled out of the Masters on Monday after informing Augusta National he tested positive for the coronavirus, making him the second player to withdraw following a positive test.

Garcia won his only major at the Masters three years ago in his 19th appearance, the most of any player before winning a green jacket.

Joaquin Niemann of Chile previously announced over the weekend he tested positive and withdrew.

Garcia played last week in the Houston Open, which sold 2,000 tickets each day. It was the first domestic PGA Tour event that allowed limited spectators on the course. Garcia missed the cut.

He brings to 15 the number of PGA Tour players who have tested positive since golf returned in June from the COVID-19 pandemic-caused shutdown. That includes Dustin Johnson, the world's No. 1 player, who sat out two events last month.

### SUTHERLAND WINS CHAMPIONS EVENT

PHOENIX—Kevin Sutherland made a 4-foot birdie putt on the ninth playoff hole to beat Paul Broadhurst on Monday in the Charles Schwab Cup Championship.

Sutherland and Broadhurst were forced to return to Phoenix Country Club to finish the final PGA Tour Champions event of the year after playing to a stalemate over six playoff holes in near darkness on Sunday. They continued to match each other through two playoff holes on a chilly morning, the second with dueling birdies.

Sutherland finally broke through on the ninth playoff hole, hitting his 163-yard approach shot from the fairway to 4 feet. He made the putt to win his fourth PGA Tour Champions title after Broadhurst got up and down for par from short of the green.

Sutherland won at Phoenix Country Club to clinch the season title in 2017. His win this year was only for the tournament title. The season champion won't be crowned until next year.

# WEATHER

AccuWeather Plan your week | Get the NEW app

updates at fredericksburg.com

## FIVE-DAY FORECAST FOR FREDERICKSBURG

| TODAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 76° 61° | 74° 65° | 66° 52° | 69° 39° | 60° 46° |
| Fog this morning; otherwise, partly sunny | Cloudy, warm and humid; afternoon rain | Rain at times | Pleasant with clouds and sun | Mostly cloudy |

## ALMANAC

University of Mary Washington station, Fredericksburg through 7 p.m. yesterday.

**Temperature:**

High/Low ..... 78°/51°
Normal high/low ..... 63°/35°
Record high ..... 78°/2020
Record low ..... 19°/1976

**Precipitation:**

24 hours ending 7 p.m. yesterday .. 0.00″
Month to date ..... 0.52″
Normal month to date ..... 1.12″
Year to date ..... 40.52″
Normal year to date ..... 37.09″

**Air Quality Index:**

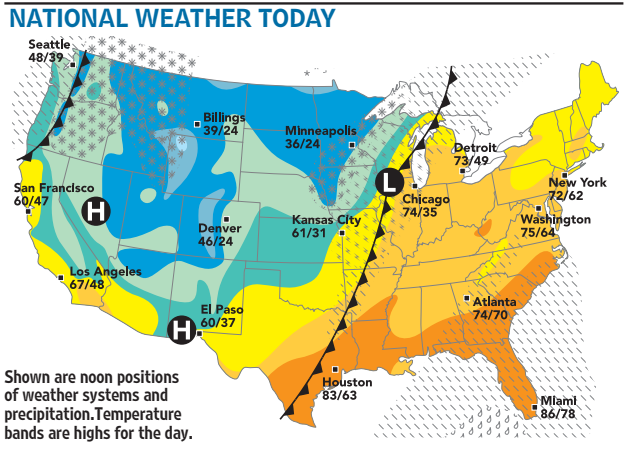
Monday ..... 60
Today's ozone ..... moderate

0–50, Good; 51–100, Moderate; 101–150, Unhealthy sensitive groups; 151–200, Unhealthy;. Source: Virginia DEQ

## VIRGINIA WEATHER

Fog during the morning; otherwise, mostly cloudy and warm today. High 62 to 79. Cloudy most of the time. Occasional rain and a thunderstorm early tonight, then a thunderstorm in the southwest; occasional rain and drizzle in the west.

## NATIONAL WEATHER TODAY




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

T-storms Rain Showers Snow Flurries Ice Cold front Warm front Stationary

-10s -0s 0s 10s 20s 30s 40s 50s 60s 70s 80s 90s 100s 110s

### Yesterday's national extremes for the 48 contiguous states:

High: 91° Zapata, Texas
Low: –6° Butte, Montana

## RIVER LEVELS

**Potomac River**

| Today | Flood | Present | Change |
|---|---|---|---|
| Little Falls | 10 | 3.18 | 3.10 |
| **Rappahannock River** | | | |
| Culpeper | 14 | 1.73 | -0.05 |
| Remington | 15 | 3.76 | -0.04 |

Flood: flood stage. Present: stage in feet at 7 a.m. yesterday. Change: change in previous 24 hours.

## SUN AND MOON

Sunrise today ..... 6:46 a.m.
Sunset today ..... 5:01 p.m.
Moonrise today ..... 1:01 a.m.
Moonset today ..... 2:41 p.m.

| New | First | Full | Last |
|---|---|---|---|
| Nov 14 | Nov 21 | Nov 30 | Dec 7 |

## TIDES

**Rappahannock River at Fredericksburg**

| | Today | Height |
|---|---|---|
| First high | 2:05 a.m. | 2.5ft. |
| First low | 9:21 a.m. | 0.3ft. |
| Second high | 2:47 p.m. | 2.4ft. |
| Second low | 9:45 p.m. | 0.3ft. |

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2020

## COASTAL REPORT

**Virginia Beach, Chesapeake, Eastern Shores**

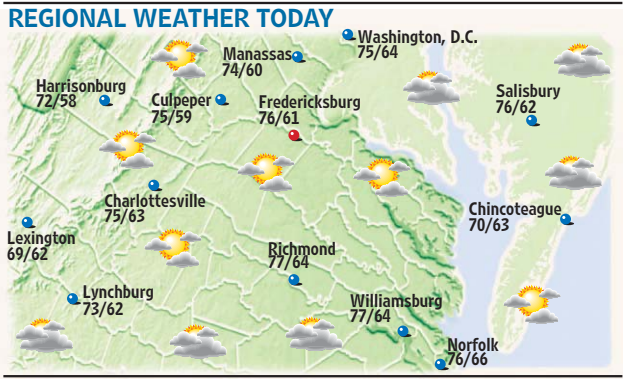
Patchy fog in the morning; otherwise, mostly cloudy today. Wind southeast 6-12 knots. Seas 2-4 feet. Visibility under a mile. Partly cloudy tonight; humid late. Wind south 7-14 knots. Seas 3-5 feet.

## NATIONAL CITIES

| | Today Hi | Lo | W | Wed. Hi | Lo | W |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Albany, N.Y. | 67 | 55 | pc | 69 | 48 | r |
| Albuquerque | 50 | 29 | s | 52 | 32 | s |
| Anchorage | 32 | 28 | c | 35 | 28 | sn |
| Atlanta | 74 | 70 | c | 79 | 67 | r |
| Atlantic City | 73 | 59 | pc | 73 | 63 | r |
| Baltimore | 74 | 61 | pc | 73 | 63 | r |
| Boston | 69 | 58 | s | 69 | 60 | c |
| Buffalo | 73 | 63 | pc | 67 | 39 | sh |
| Charleston, W.Va. | 80 | 65 | pc | 70 | 48 | r |
| Charleston, S.C. | 81 | 73 | sh | 80 | 74 | t |
| Charlotte, N.C. | 76 | 68 | c | 75 | 70 | r |
| Charlottesville | 75 | 63 | pc | 72 | 64 | r |
| Chicago | 74 | 35 | r | 49 | 33 | s |
| Cincinnati | 74 | 56 | pc | 61 | 39 | pc |
| Cleveland | 74 | 61 | pc | 63 | 41 | pc |
| Dallas | 73 | 43 | c | 73 | 50 | s |
| Denver | 46 | 24 | s | 47 | 23 | s |
| Des Moines | 47 | 27 | r | 51 | 32 | s |
| Detroit | 73 | 49 | pc | 55 | 33 | s |
| El Paso | 60 | 37 | s | 66 | 42 | s |
| Harrisonburg | 72 | 58 | pc | 69 | 58 | r |
| Honolulu | 86 | 75 | pc | 86 | 75 | pc |
| Houston | 83 | 63 | c | 82 | 59 | pc |
| Indianapolis | 73 | 44 | pc | 55 | 35 | pc |
| Kansas City | 61 | 31 | r | 58 | 36 | s |
| Las Vegas | 58 | 37 | s | 61 | 43 | pc |
| Los Angeles | 67 | 48 | s | 69 | 47 | s |
| Memphis | 78 | 56 | pc | 64 | 46 | pc |
| Miami | 86 | 78 | sh | 85 | 78 | c |
| Minneapolis | 36 | 24 | sn | 40 | 27 | s |
| Myrtle Beach, S.C. | 78 | 73 | pc | 78 | 73 | r |
| Nags Head, N.C. | 71 | 66 | pc | 73 | 68 | c |
| Nashville | 77 | 63 | c | 64 | 48 | c |
| New Orleans | 79 | 71 | pc | 82 | 70 | pc |
| New York | 72 | 62 | pc | 70 | 60 | r |
| Norfolk | 76 | 66 | pc | 79 | 69 | r |
| Ocean City, Md. | 70 | 63 | c | 71 | 65 | r |
| Orlando, Fla. | 85 | 74 | pc | 85 | 75 | sh |
| Philadelphia | 72 | 61 | pc | 73 | 62 | r |
| Phoenix | 67 | 45 | s | 71 | 46 | s |
| Pittsburgh | 75 | 62 | pc | 69 | 42 | sh |
| Portland, Ore. | 50 | 41 | sh | 50 | 40 | pc |
| Raleigh | 78 | 66 | c | 76 | 69 | r |
| Richmond | 77 | 64 | c | 75 | 68 | r |
| Roanoke | 70 | 63 | c | 70 | 63 | r |
| Salt Lake City | 41 | 31 | c | 42 | 24 | c |
| San Francisco | 60 | 47 | pc | 59 | 47 | pc |
| Seattle | 48 | 39 | pc | 48 | 40 | pc |
| St. Louis | 78 | 37 | r | 55 | 36 | s |
| Tampa | 89 | 76 | c | 86 | 76 | r |
| Washington, D.C. | 75 | 64 | pc | 73 | 64 | r |
| Williamsburg | 77 | 64 | c | 77 | 70 | r |

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

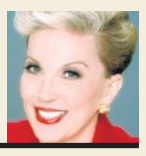
## REGIONAL WEATHER TODAY




## WORLD CITIES

| | Today Hi | Lo | W | Wed. Hi | Lo | W |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Canada** | | | | | | |
| Toronto | 69 | 60 | pc | 63 | 36 | pc |
| **Latin America** | | | | | | |
| Buenos Aires | 73 | 64 | s | 73 | 64 | s |
| **Africa/Middle East** | | | | | | |
| Baghdad | 79 | 60 | pc | 78 | 59 | sh |
| Cairo | 77 | 60 | s | 76 | 60 | s |
| Cape Town | 69 | 53 | s | 78 | 56 | s |
| Jerusalem | 67 | 56 | pc | 67 | 56 | s |
| Kabul | 67 | 36 | s | 65 | 38 | pc |
| **Asia/Pacific** | | | | | | |
| Hong Kong | 77 | 70 | c | 79 | 68 | s |
| Sydney | 72 | 59 | s | 77 | 66 | s |
| Tokyo | 59 | 50 | pc | 59 | 46 | s |
| **Europe** | | | | | | |
| Amsterdam | 57 | 48 | c | 56 | 49 | c |
| Berlin | 48 | 38 | pc | 47 | 41 | pc |
| London | 59 | 46 | pc | 56 | 46 | c |
| Madrid | 61 | 39 | pc | 61 | 42 | pc |
| Moscow | 37 | 29 | pc | 33 | 28 | c |
| Paris | 59 | 48 | c | 56 | 51 | pc |
| Rome | 67 | 49 | s | 66 | 53 | pc |

## DEAR ABBY



DEAR ABBY
Jeanne Phillips

**Dear Abby:** My husband and I own a condo in a building with 22 units. Because of COVID, one of the HOA board members has posted signs stating "rules" throughout the building. The rules are typical for these trying times, but the number of signs is obsessive. Many of the residents dislike the signs, but my husband was the one who wrote a nasty letter to the HOA about how many are posted.

The board member who was responsible for posting the signs was a friend of mine. Her feelings were hurt, and she has made some snide remarks about the letter. A group of women meet weekly for happy hour, and she and I are both part of that group. I feel caught in the middle. My husband has had a hard time getting over being mad about the signs, and I know the HOA member is angry at him. I just want to go to happy hour and drink and gossip. Why can't we all just get along?—**In The Middle**

**Dear In The Middle:** We are living in trying times, and many people—your husband included—aren't their better selves right now. The HOA board was fulfilling its obligation to the community by posting health and safety signs. They are meant to educate not only homeowners but also visitors to the building, but too often they tend to become like "wallpaper" and are ignored. You are not caught in the middle. Your husband owes that woman an apology for getting snarky. But it probably won't happen unless you insist upon it. (If it doesn't, you can always do it "for" him the next time you all meet for happy hour.)

**Dear Abby** is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at **DearAbby.com** or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, Calif. 90069.

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable—and most frequently requested—poems and essays, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $8 to: Dear Abby—Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, Ill. 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

## TO YOUR GOOD HEALTH

BY DR. KEITH ROACH, M.D.

**Dear Dr. Roach:** I am a 67-year-old male who had a major heart attack 19 years ago. I am very active. Prior to the pandemic I was going to the gym five days a week and then came home and spent a few hours doing yardwork and gardening. I still spend two to four hours a day in my yard. This past week I had lab work done with a full lipid panel. I take 40 mg of atorvastatin daily and inject 140 mg/ml of Repatha every two weeks. My total cholesterol was 79 and my LDL was 9. I asked my cardiologist if these numbers were too low, and he said they were great but if I was that concerned I could cut my atorvastatin to 20 mg a day. Are these too low? Are there any health risks from having too low a level of cholesterol?—**D.R.**

Cholesterol has normal functions in the body, and there have been theoretical concerns about having such a low cholesterol. Although medicines like evolocumab (Repatha) are relatively new, there are accumulating data that suggest the concerns are not as great as feared.

Because Repatha and alirocumab (Praluent) are given by injection, they can cause reactions at the injection site, such as soreness and bruising, but otherwise the side effects are roughly the same as in placebo.

Some early trials of different cholesterol lowering medications (before statins) seemed to show behavioral changes, researchers were concerned there might be effects on the brain. However, less than 1 percent of trial subjects had that complication in two trials, and none did in another large trial. There has been a concern that colon cancer might be more likely, but that has not been seen. Muscle aches, often seen with statins, have not been a problem with the PCSK9 inhibitors.

For a person like you with a history of a large heart attack, the benefits of such a low LDL do seem to outweigh the harms, at least as we understand them now. Studies are ongoing to see whether there may be long-term effects we don't yet know about.

**Dear Dr. Roach:** Is it possible for someone in their 80s to develop lactose intolerance or a gluten sensitivity?—**T.D.**

Lactose intolerance most commonly develops in childhood or adolescence, but it may occur at any age. There are diagnostic tests, such as the hydrogen breath test, that can make the diagnosis with high certainty.

Celiac disease—a sensitivity to the protein in gluten—may also be diagnosed at any age, with about a third of people diagnosed over the age of 65. It is likely that many people diagnosed at an older age have had gluten sensitivity for a long time before diagnosis, as the range of severity of the symptoms is very wide. However, it's clear that some people will develop sensitivity at older ages. Like lactose intolerance, celiac disease can be diagnosed with certainty, using a combination of blood antibody testing and small bowel biopsy.

Symptoms of these conditions can be similar, especially diarrhea. I recommend getting a diagnosis. Not only can the proper diet be recommended, but there are also other possibilities that should be evaluated if celiac and lactose intolerance are both ruled out.

Dr. Roach regrets that he is unable to answer individual letters, but will incorporate them in the column whenever possible. Readers may email questions to **ToYourGoodHealth@med.cornell.edu** or send mail to 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, Fla. 32803.

BASEBALL

# Lewis and Williams are chosen as baseball's top 2020 rookies

BY JAY COHEN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Williams

Much like one of his lofty leaps at the wall, Kyle Lewis soared above the field.

The center fielder for the Seattle Mariners won the AL Rookie of the Year award Monday night, and Milwaukee Brewers reliever Devin Williams took home the NL honor.

Lewis received all 30 first-place votes in balloting by the Baseball Writers' Association of America. He is the 12th unanimous winner of the AL award, joining a prestigious list that includes Carlton Fisk, Derek Jeter, Mike Trout and Aaron Judge.

"It's just a great first step for me and being in that category, it's just really special," Lewis said.

Williams made his own history, becoming the first pitcher to win Rookie of the Year without recording a save or making a start during his award-winning season—reflecting the increased importance of the bullpen in today's game. He is the first Rookie of the Year for Milwaukee since Ryan Braun in 2007.

"I don't really think that saves are the end-all be-all," Williams said on a conference call during a vacation in Jamaica. "If I come up in the seventh inning and I go through one through five, I think that that can be pretty valuable as well."

Lewis, 25, was one of baseball's breakout stars during the pandemic-shortened season, batting .262 with 11 homers and 28 RBIs in 58 games. He led big league rookies with 37 runs, 90 total bases and a .364 on-base percentage.

Lewis also made a couple of memorable plays in center, robbing Oakland's Ramón Laureano of a grand slam on Sept. 14. He is the first player to win the award for Seattle since Ichiro Suzuki in 2001.

TED S. WARREN / ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Seattle's Kyle Lewis led all major league rookies in runs, total bases and on-base percentage in 2020.**

San Diego Padres second baseman Jake Cronenworth and Philadelphia Phillies infielder Alec Bohm tied for second in NL balloting by the Baseball Writers' Association of America. Chicago White Sox center fielder Luis Robert finished second in the AL race, followed by Houston Astros right-hander Cristian Javier.

Lewis and Robert had similar seasons, with fast starts followed by slow finishes. Lewis batted just .147 in September, and Robert hit .136 with 32 strikeouts in 23 games in the final month.

Lewis was selected by Seattle with the No. 11 overall pick in the 2016 amateur draft out of Mercer University. He broke into the majors last year, appearing in 18 September games with the Mariners.

The Georgia native is the beginning of what could be a formidable young outfield in Seattle. Jarred Kelenic, who was acquired in a trade with the New York Mets, and Julio Rodriguez are ranked among baseball's top prospects.

"I think we got a great chance to build a really strong core of guys, and those are two guys that are super talented. Top of the scale when you're talking about talent," Lewis said. "I think we really do have a great chance to turn into one of those rebuilding teams that ends up having a great group of guys move up together and progress together."

Williams, a St. Louis native, was selected by Milwaukee in the second round of the 2013 draft. He had Tommy John surgery while he was in the minors and made his big league début last year.

This season, Williams teamed with closer Josh Hader to form a shutdown tandem at the back end of the Brewers' bullpen. He allowed one earned run in 22 appearances—a home run by Pittsburgh's Colin Moran on July 27.

Featuring a devastating changeup and a four-seam fastball that gets into the upper 90s, Williams was practically unhittable. The 26-year-old right-hander went 4–1 with a microscopic 0.33 ERA, striking out 53 in just 27 innings.

The last reliever to take home the honor in either league was Craig Kimbrel for Atlanta in 2011.

## mlb notes

### LUHNOW SUES ASTROS OVER FIRING

Former Houston Astros general manager Jeff Luhnow has filed a breach of contract lawsuit against the team, seeking more than $22 million in salary owed under his deal when he was fired in January.

The suit, filed Monday in Harris County District Court in Houston, claims Luhnow was unaware a camera was used to steal signs during the team's run to the 2017 World Series title, which baseball Commissioner Rob Manfred found violated baseball rules against electronics.

Luhnow and manager AJ Hinch were suspended for the season last Jan. 13 by Manfred and fired by the Astros later that day. The team was fined $5 million and stripped of its first- and second-round draft picks in both 2020 and 2021.

Luhnow agreed to a contract on May 24, 2018, that called for more than $31 million in guaranteed compensation plus performance bonuses and profit interest.

Hinch was hired as manager of the Detroit Tigers Oct. 30.

### DODGERS REPORT POSITIVE TESTS

The Los Angeles Dodgers organization has five people that have tested positive for the coronavirus, according to figures from the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health.

The identities of those testing positive have not been released and the team has not commented publicly.

The Dodgers won the World Series on Oct. 27. It's not clear if the number of positive tests includes third baseman Justin Turner. He was removed from the team's clinching win in Game 6 after he tested positive for COVID-19. Turner was placed in isolation, but after the game he celebrated on the field in Texas with his teammates.

### WOODFORK WILL OVERSEE MINORS

NEW YORK—Peter Woodfork was appointed Major League Baseball's senior vice president of minor league operations and development on Monday and will oversee the farm teams under their new structure.

MLB is taking over governance of the minors from the National Association of Professional Baseball Leagues following the expiration of the Professional Baseball Agreement on Sept. 30.

## HELOISE

### FOODBANK DONATIONS

**Dear Readers:** With the holidays upon us and many Americans facing hardship from the devastating effects of the pandemic, now is the time to help those in need by donating to your city's food bank.

The most wanted items that food banks are looking for include canned goods such as vegetables, beans, chili, soups, tuna and chicken. They also need cereal, rice, pasta, boxed macaroni and cheese, complete boxed meals, baby food, powdered milk, applesauce, bags of potatoes or apples and juice boxes. In other words, foods that have a long shelf life.

Personal hygiene products and toiletries such as toothpaste, deodorant, shampoo, etc., are also in demand.

You can get into the spirit of giving by organizing a food drive at church or school using the COVID-19 safety protocols of mask-wearing, social distancing and frequent handwashing.

Cash donations are always appreciated, too.—**Heloise**

### TECH TALK TUESDAY

**Dear Heloise:** When I look up information on a website, I always perform two searches. Sometimes different information comes up the second time. It's worth those extra few seconds. —**Terri in Indiana**

### HAIR AWARE

**Dear Heloise:** Your hair's thickness refers to how thick each individual strand is. Your hair's density refers to how many hairs you have on your head. People get these terms confused.—**F.D., via email**

Send a money-saving or timesaving hint to Heloise, P.O. Box 795001, San Antonio, TX 78279-5001, or you can fax it to 1-210-HELOISE or email it to **Heloise@Heloise.com**. I can't answer your letter personally but will use the best hints received in my column.