

## Growing evidence of Russian atrocities

*Associated Press*

BUCHA, Ukraine — Bodies with bound hands, close-range gunshot wounds and signs of torture lay scattered in a city on the outskirts of Kyiv after Russian soldiers withdrew from the area. Ukrainian authorities on Sunday accused the departing forces of committing war crimes and leaving behind a “scene from a horror movie.”

As images of the bodies — of people whom residents said were killed indiscriminately — began to emerge from Bucha, a slew of European leaders condemned the atrocities and called for tougher sanctions against Moscow.

Associated Press journalists saw the bodies of at least 21 people in various spots around Bucha, northwest of the capital. One group of nine, all in civilian clothes, were scattered around a site that residents said Russian troops used as a base. They appeared to have been killed at close range. At least two had their hands tied behind their backs and one of those was shot in the head;

another’s legs were bound.

Ukrainian officials laid the blame for the killings — which they said happened in Bucha and other Kyiv suburbs — squarely at the feet of Russian troops, with the president calling them evidence of genocide. But Russia’s Defense Ministry rejected the accusations as “provocation.”

The discoveries followed the Russian retreat from the area around the capital, territory that has seen heavy fighting since troops invaded Ukraine from three directions on Feb. 24. Troops who swept in from Belarus to the north spent weeks trying to clear a path to Kyiv, but their advance stalled in the face of resolute defense from Ukraine’s forces.

Moscow now says it is focusing its offensive on the country’s east, but it also pressed a siege on a city in the north and continued to strike cities elsewhere.

Russian troops rolled into Bucha in the early days of the invasion and stayed up to March 30. With those forces gone, residents gave harrowing accounts Sun-

day, saying soldiers shot and killed civilians without any apparent reason. One resident, who refused to give his name fearing for his safety, said that Russian troops went building to building and took people out of basements where they were hiding, checking their phones for any evidence of anti-Russian activity and taking them away or shooting them.

Hanna Herega, a resident of Bucha, said Russian troops shot a neighbor who had gone out to gather wood for heating.

“He went to get some wood when all of a sudden they (Russians) started shooting. They hit him a bit above the heel, crushing the bone, and he fell down,” Herega said. “Then they shot off his left leg completely, with the boot. Then they shot him all over (the chest). And another shot went slightly below the temple. It was a controlled shot to the head.”

The AP also saw two bodies, that of a man and a woman, wrapped in plastic that residents said they had covered and placed in a shaft until a proper funeral could be arranged.

Oleksiy Arestovych, an adviser to Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, said scores of residents were found slain on the streets of the suburbs of Irpin and Hostomel as well as Bucha, in what looked like a “scene from a horror movie.”

He alleged that some of the women found dead had been raped before being killed and the Russians then burned the bodies.

“This is genocide,” Zelenskyy told CBS’ “Face the Nation” on Sunday.

But Russia’s Defense Ministry said in a statement that the photos and videos of dead bodies “have been stage managed by the Kyiv regime for the Western media.” It noted that Bucha’s mayor did not mention any abuses a day after Russian troops left. The ministry charged said “not a single civilian has faced any violent action by the Russian military” in Bucha.

Over the weekend, AP journalists saw Ukrainian soldiers gingerly removing at least six bodies from a street in Bucha with cables in case the Russians had booby-trapped corpses with explosives.

## USS Truman to remain in Mediterranean region for now

**By ALISON BATH**

*Stars and Stripes*

NAPLES, Italy — The USS Harry S. Truman and at least some of the warships supporting the aircraft carrier will remain on deployment in the Mediterranean Sea region for the foreseeable future, the Pentagon announced.

Officials wouldn’t say Thursday how much longer the Truman carrier strike group will remain there but indicated that Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin is reviewing the situation daily.

Troops from the 82nd Airborne Division who deployed to Poland

also are staying in place, Pentagon spokesman John Kirby said.

The decision to end deployments or potentially to start rotations would be influenced by factors related to Russia’s war on Ukraine, including protection of NATO’s eastern flank and the confidence level of partners and allies in their own defensive capabilities, Kirby said.

“What we’re trying to be careful of is sort of our hard ending dates on these temporary deployments, because we want to be able to monitor the situation on the ground and make the best and

most flexible decisions in real time,” Kirby said.

Kirby also warned that officials likely will soon consider long-term changes to U.S. military posture in Europe in consultation with NATO allies and partners.

“Clearly, no matter how this war ends, no matter when it ends, the security environment in Europe is going to be different, and we’re going to have to respond to that,” Kirby said.

In December, Austin ordered the Norfolk, Va.-based Truman to remain with U.S. 6th Fleet as Russia amassed 200,000 troops and

advanced weaponry along the eastern, northern and southern borders of Ukraine. The carrier, which left Norfolk on Dec. 1, originally was slated to head to the Middle East.

The Navy sent four U.S.-based destroyers — USS The Sullivans, USS Donald Cook, USS Mitscher and USS Gonzalez — to the region in January and February. U.S. 6th Fleet already has four destroyers based in Rota, Spain. Since then, the Truman has supported policing and training flights in Eastern Europe to bolster NATO defenses and deter Russian aggression.

# Kim's sister enraged by Seoul's comments

Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea — The influential sister of North Korean leader Kim Jong Un called the South Korean defense minister a “scum-like guy” for talking about preemptive strikes on the North, warning Sunday that the South may face “a serious threat.”

Kim Yo Jong's statement came amid heightened tensions between the rival Koreas over the North's spate of weapons tests this year, including its first intercontinental ballistic missile launch in more than four years. Some experts say her statement could signal that North Korea will conduct more significant weapons tests soon and take a hardline stance on South Korea.

The ICBM test on March 24 that broke North Korea's four-year moratorium on big weapons tests was an embarrassment to South Korea's liberal President Moon Jae-in, who has pushed hard to achieve greater reconciliation between the countries and find a peaceful resolution to the North Korean nuclear crisis.

During a visit to the country's strategic missile command on Friday, South Korean Defense Minister Suh Wook said that South Korea has the ability and readiness to launch precision strikes on North Korea if it detects the North intends to fire missiles at South Korea. Seoul has long maintained such a preemptive attack strategy to cope

with North Korea's growing missile and nuclear threats, but it was highly unusual for a senior Seoul official under the Moon administration to publicly discuss it.

On Sunday, Kim's sister, Kim Yo Jong, issued blistering rhetoric directed at Suh and threats toward Seoul.

“The senseless and scum-like guy dare mention a ‘preemptive strike’ at a nuclear weapons state,” Kim Yo Jong said in a statement carried by state media. “South Korea may face a serious threat owing to the reckless remarks made by its defense minister.”

“South Korea should discipline itself if it wants to stave off disaster,” she said.

## Guam offers 2nd COVID booster shot for at-risk

By **MATTHEW M. BURKE**  
*Stars and Stripes*

The government of Guam is offering a second COVID-19 booster shot for fully vaccinated individuals over age 50 and certain immunocompromised individuals, the U.S. territory announced Thursday.

Another nine people died last week on Guam, raising the island's pandemic death toll to 349, according to the Guam Joint Information Center.

The second booster is recommended four months after the first for adults over age 50, for people 12 and up who are “moderately or severely immunocompromised,” and anyone between 18 and 49 years-old who received the Janssen vaccine and booster, according to an update by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on Tuesday.

Guam Gov. Lou Leon Guerrero authorized a second booster shot of either the Pfizer-BioNTech or the Moderna vaccines for all eligible islanders in those categories, according to the Joint Information Center.

The second booster shot, along with COVID-19 vaccines, are available for free at three locations on Guam: the Agana Shopping Center and the Southern and Northern Region Community Health Centers

Fully vaccinated individuals who received a booster shot were 21 times less likely to die from COVID-19 than the unvaccinated during the omicron phase of the pandemic, which began in November, according to the CDC. Vaccinated people were seven times less likely to be hospitalized, the CDC reported Tuesday.

“Boosters are safe, and people over the age of 50 can now get an additional booster four months after their prior dose to increase their protection further,” CDC director Dr. Rochelle Walensky said in the agency statement Tuesday.

Guam recorded 46 new cases of the coronavirus on Friday and 12 hospitalizations, or five more new cases and three fewer hospitalizations since March 25, according to information center data Friday.

## Movement at N. Korea port may mean experimental sub

By **DAVID CHOI**  
*Stars and Stripes*

Analysts detected “unusual movement” of an experimental ballistic-missile submarine at a North Korean shipyard after combing through satellite imagery in March, according to a report published Tuesday.

The submarine, docked at the Sinpo South Shipyard on the eastern coast, was spotted being pulled out from under a canopy by a tugboat, according to a report by Beyond Parallel, a Korean Peninsula monitoring group that is part of the Washington, D.C.-based Center for Strategic and International Studies.

The Beyond Parallel analysts surmised that the vessel could be undergoing modifications, repairs or preparations for an upcoming test of a submarine-launched ballistic missile. The movements may also be part of a strategic ruse or a combination of reasons, according to the report.

Satellite images collected between Feb. 16 and March 27 showed a floating dry dock,

which is normally stationed at the pier, moved to a larger construction hall and then back to the pier.

North Korea's state-run media agency claimed to have tested a “new type” of SLBM on Oct. 19 that purportedly included “lots of advanced control guidance technologies.” It was the first known SLBM test by North Korea since 2019.

The missile “will greatly contribute to putting the defense technology of the country on a high level and to enhancing the underwater operational capability of our navy,” the regime's Korean Central News Agency said at the time.

The South Korean military tracked a short-range ballistic missile fired from the same shipyard in October, it said.

That test came one month after South Korea successfully test fired an SLBM of its own design, becoming the first country without a nuclear weapon to do so. Seoul has made advances in its missile technology following the termination of U.S.-South Korean missile guidelines last year.

# Marine littoral regiment debuts at Balikatan drills

BY SETH ROBSON  
*Stars and Stripes*

A new Marine Corps regiment, soon to be armed with anti-ship missiles, is making its first foray into the islands and waters where it's expected to fight, according to one of the unit's leaders.

About 90 members of the 3rd Marine Littoral Regiment, formed March 3 in Hawaii, are in the Philippines participating in the annual Balikatan exercise, Maj. Steve Stansbury, the unit's assistant fire support coordinator, told Stars and Stripes by phone Friday.

The training involves 5,100 U.S. and 3,800 Philippine troops. It kicked off March 28 and runs through Friday.

Marines from the regiment's headquarters are operating out of tactical vehicles and tents at an austere location on Naval Base Camilo Osias on the Philippines' main island of Luzon, Stansbury said.

The regiment is the first of three such units that the Marines plan to form in the Pacific and is "specialized to deal with the rising threat of China," Gen. Eric Smith, the assistant commandant of the Marine Corps, told reporters during a conference call Feb. 28.

The unit is expected to comprise 2,000 Marines working in "low-signature, long-range, highly mobile [and] easily moveable" platoons of 75-100 Marines, he said.

The small units will operate within range of hostile missiles, the so-called "weapon engagement zone," sustain themselves for short periods while faced with the enemy and deploy new technologies and capabilities in whatever remote Indo-Pacific location they are sent, Smith said.

Balikatan "is the first exercise that the Marine littoral regiment has taken part in," Stansbury said. "It is a big step for the regiment to go abroad into the first island chain, which is where we are going to be for operations."

The first island chain includes Taiwan, Okinawa and the Philippines and separates the East and South China Seas and the Pacific Ocean. Military strategists believe that China's goal is to push American and allied forces out of both seas.

During the Balikatan training the Marines are working with a Philippine coastal defense regiment to call in simulated strikes from a Marine Corps High Mobility Artillery Rocket Systems, or HIMARS, Stansbury said.

A big part of Balikatan is understanding the maritime environment in the Philippines, he said.

"It's understanding the difference between a small civilian vessel or a commercial vessel... to be able to deconflict targets in the maritime domain," he said. "That's a big advantage for us."

# Navy names future oiler ship after Ginsburg

BY ALISON BATH  
*Stars and Stripes*

A Navy ship will bear the name of former Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, a pioneering women's rights and gender equality advocate who took a leading role in a landmark decision striking down a military academy's male-only admissions policy.

It is the first Navy ship to bear her name.

The future USNS Ruth Bader Ginsburg, a John Lewis-class replenishment oiler, honors the late justice's commitment to civil and human rights, the Navy said in a statement Thursday.

"She is instrumental to why we now have women of all backgrounds, experiences and talents serving within our ranks, side by side with their male sailor and Marine counterparts," Secretary of the Navy Carlos Del Toro said in the statement.

Del Toro also named Ginsburg's daughter, Jane Ginsburg, as the ship's sponsor, according to the statement.

John Lewis-class oilers, named for the civil rights advocate and U.S. congressman from Georgia who died in July 2020, are designed to transfer fuel to the Navy's carrier strike groups.

The oilers can carry as much as 162,000 barrels of fuel, and have significant dry cargo capacity and aviation capability. The ships measure 742 feet in length with a full load displacement of 49,850 tons and can travel at a speed of about 23 mph, the Navy said.

# New joint task force gives boost in Mediterranean

BY JOHN VANDIVER  
*Stars and Stripes*

A recently formed U.S. 6th Fleet task force is putting into action a new Marine Corps concept that calls for small "stand-in forces" to play key roles in carrying out reconnaissance missions at sea, military officials said Friday.

In mid-March, the Naples, Italy-based command stood up Task Force 61/2, a naval amphibious unit consisting of Marines and sailors from the II Marine Expeditionary Force.

Its job will be to coordinate ef-

forts in Europe ranging from port visits to counter-reconnaissance operations, the task force said in a statement.

The task force "embodies the traditional relationship between the Marine Corps and Navy" and puts "credible, combat-ready forces" at the disposal of NATO allies and partners, said Maj. Gen. Francis Donovan, commander of the 2nd Marine Division.

It brings together an array of forces that are testing out the Corps' push to reemphasize the classic amphibious role of Ma-

lines, but in a high-tech era.

Marine Corps Commandant Gen. David Berger unveiled his concept of "stand-in forces" in December, saying the strategy centers on deployment of small, mobile forces that can operate undetected in contested areas.

"If armed conflict does erupt, the joint force can attack effectively first and prevent the enemy from doing so," the strategy document stated.

The forces will "conduct sea denial operations in support of fleet operations, especially near maritime chokepoints," accord-

ing to the document.

While the Pacific has long been the Corps' main area of focus, Berger highlighted the task force's efforts in Europe as it was about to get off the ground.

"For example, eastern Mediterranean, right now while we're sitting here in this room, there's experiments going on between 2nd Marine Division and 6th Fleet," Berger said March 9 at a conference in Washington. "They have demonstrated that Marines can track adversary ships with targeting level fidelity."

# West, Russia mull nuclear steps amid war

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Russia's assault on Ukraine and its veiled threats of using nuclear arms have policymakers, past and present, thinking the unthinkable: How should the West respond to a Russian battlefield explosion of a nuclear bomb?

The default U.S. policy answer, some architects of the post-Cold War nuclear order have said, is with discipline and restraint. That could entail stepping up sanctions and isolation for Russian President Vladimir Putin, said Rose Gottemoeller, deputy secretary-general of NATO from 2016 to 2019.

But no one can count on calm minds to prevail in such a moment, and real life seldom goes to plan. World leaders would be an-

gry, affronted and fearful. Miscommunication and confusion could be rife. Hackers could add to the chaos. Demands would be great for tough retaliation — the kind that can be done with nuclear-loaded missiles capable of moving faster than the speed of sound.

When military and civilian officials and experts have waged Russian-U.S. nuclear tensions in the past, the tabletop exercises sometimes end with nuclear missiles arcing across continents and oceans, striking the capitals of Europe and North America, killing millions within hours, said Olga Oliker, program director for Europe and Central Asia at the International Crisis Group.

“And, you know, soon enough,

you've just had a global thermo-nuclear war,” Oliker said.

It's a scenario officials hope to avoid, even if Russia targets Ukraine with a nuclear bomb.

Gottemoeller, a chief U.S. nuclear negotiator with Russia for the Obama administration, said that the outlines that President Joe Biden has provided so far of his nuclear policy stick with those of past administrations in using atomic weapons only in “extreme circumstances.”

“And a single Russian nuclear use demonstration strike, or—as horrific as it would be—a nuclear use in Ukraine, I do not think would rise to that level” of demanding a U.S. nuclear response, said Gottemoeller, now a lecturer at Stanford University.

For former Sen. Sam Nunn, a

Georgia Democrat who over nearly a quarter-century in Congress helped shape global nuclear policy, the option of Western nuclear use has to remain on the table.

“That's what the doctrine of mutual assured destruction has been about for a long, long time,” said Nunn, now strategic adviser to the Nuclear Threat Initiative security organization, which he co-founded.

“If President Putin were to use nuclear weapons, or any other country uses nuclear weapons first, not in response to a nuclear attack, not in response to an existential threat to their own country ... that leader should assume that they are putting the world in the high risk of a nuclear war, and nuclear exchange,” Nunn said.

## Biden: Newly commissioned sub will enhance US security

Associated Press

WILMINGTON, Del. — In a public ceremony delayed two years by the pandemic, President Joe Biden on Saturday commissioned the USS Delaware, a nuclear attack submarine, saying it would enhance national security, though he made no reference to the global turmoil from Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

“As the commander in chief, I believe it is our sacred obligation as a nation to prepare and equip those troops that we send into harm's way and to care for them and their families when they return home,” he told a crowd of invited guests and dignitaries assembled on a sunny but chilly spring day on a restricted part of the dock in Wilmington.

This latest Navy ship to carry the Delaware name, the president said in brief remarks, “is part of a long tradition of serving our nation proudly and strengthening

our nation's security ... not just us, but our allies and partners around the world as well. In fact, it's already been doing that for some time.”

In April 2020, with the coronavirus pandemic spreading across the United States, the Delaware was commissioned while underwater, a first for a Navy vessel. Since then it has been in training.

After the ceremony, the president took a private tour of the Delaware. He did not respond to questions from reporters about Ukraine.

First lady Jill Biden is the submarine's sponsor, a role meant to bring a vessel luck. During her remarks, she exclaimed: “Officers and crew of the USS Delaware, man our ship and bring her to life.” The crew responded, “Aye aye, ma'am” and, as she applauded, sailors in dress uniforms ran behind the crowd, then down onto the submarine and lined up on the deck.

## Parkland shooter's attorneys face tough task in picking jury

Associated Press

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. — Attorneys for Parkland, Fla., school shooter Nikolas Cruz will have one goal when jury selection starts Monday: to identify candidates who might give Cruz the single vote he needs to get a life sentence instead of death for the 2018 murders of 17 students and staff members. The process will involve a lot of educated guesses.

Court officials said perhaps 1,500 or more potential jurors could file through Circuit Judge Elizabeth Scherer's courtroom over several weeks as she, prosecutors and Cruz's public defenders select 12 panelists, plus eight alternates, for his penalty trial. Those chosen must say they can put aside their animosity toward Cruz for the 2018 massacre at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School and judge the case fairly. The potential jurors must also be available through September.

Cruz's attorneys “should not even try to get a jury or juror who

doesn't know about the case because that is ignorance; you would have to be living under a rock,” said Orlando defense attorney Mark O'Mara. O'Mara came to national prominence after his successful 2013 defense of George Zimmerman, who was acquitted of murdering Black teenager Trayvon Martin. He is not involved in the Cruz case.

Jury candidates who declare that they can be objective will complete a questionnaire that dives into their backgrounds and asks whether they can handle viewing graphic evidence. They will then return in a few weeks for courtroom interviews, where they must declare that they are able to vote for the death penalty but also don't believe it should be mandatory for murder.

Cruz, 23, pleaded guilty in October to 17 first-degree murders, 17 attempted murders and a jail assault, leaving the jury to decide only whether the former Stoneman Douglas student gets death or life without parole.

**AMERICAN ROUNDUP**

**Researcher inspired by 'Breaking Bad' sentenced**

**MA** BOSTON — A former top researcher at MIT who said he was inspired by the hit television show “Breaking Bad” when he purchased ingredients for the powerful poison ricin has been sentenced to six months of home confinement.

Ishtiaq Ali Saaem, 38, said he never made poison and maintained was “guided by innocent curiosity” to learn more about ricin when he purchased castor beans, the source of the poison.

Saaem had ordered 100 packets of the beans online in 2015.

It's not illegal to purchase castor beans but Saaem pleaded guilty to obstruction of justice last year for lying to federal authorities about his reason for purchasing them.

**State could ditch song with racist roots**

**MS** JACKSON — Mississippi is on the verge of scuttling a state song with racist roots, two years after it retired a Confederate-themed state flag.

The current song, “Go, Mississippi,” takes its tune from a 1959 campaign jingle of Democratic Gov. Ross Barnett. “Roll With Ross” included the lyrics, “For segregation, 100%. He's not a moderate, like some of the gents.”

Barnett unsuccessfully resisted integration of the University of Mississippi in 1962, and legislators that year adopted a state song setting new words to his campaign ditty: “Go, Mississippi, keep rolling along. Go, Mississippi, you cannot go

wrong.”

Some legislators have quietly sought a new song in recent years, saying the Barnett connection is an embarrassing relic of the bad old days.

The effort gained momentum when Republican House Speaker Philip Gunn opened this year's legislative session by showing a video of “One Mississippi,” composed by country music singer and songwriter Steve Azar for the state's 2017 bicentennial celebration.

The Republican-controlled House and Senate passed the final version of a bill to replace the Barnett-linked song with “One Mississippi.”

**Agents use dead eagle photo to stop littering**

**SC** SUMTER — South Carolina wildlife officers are using the recent death of a bald eagle to remind people that illegal dumping can have unintended consequences.

Someone dumped a cooler with fish parts, plastic bottles and worm cups recently along a Sumter County road, the Department of Natural Resources said in a Facebook post.

The bald eagle started to eat the fish parts, but was frightened and flew into the front bumper of a truck and was killed, agents said.

Wildlife officials posted a picture of the litter and the dead eagle to ask people to try to prevent another incident.

**2 cops stabbed, suspect shot during arson arrest**

**WA** OLYMPIA — Two Olympia police officers were recovering in the hospital after they were stabbed by

a suspect accused of lighting his neighbor's door on fire.

The Olympia Police Department said on Twitter that the officers were trying to arrest the suspect. Authorities said one officer fired his handgun at the suspect after he stabbed them, KOMO-TV reported.

One officer was in serious but stable condition while the other has a non-life threatening wound, authorities said. The suspect was airlifted to a hospital in Pierce County in critical condition.

The Capital Metro Independent Investigative Team is investigating the shooting by the officer.

**4 hurt in explosions at metal recycling yard**

**CA** MONTCLAIR — A fire and a series of explosions at a Southern California metal recycling yard injured four people and spewed shrapnel from compressed gas canisters into the surrounding neighborhood, authorities and witnesses said.

The fire sent up a huge cloud of black smoke. The blasts could be heard from miles away and sent blackened canisters raining down to litter roofs and streets. Shrapnel also damaged some cars.

Four people went to hospitals but there was no immediate word on their conditions.

**Man given 3 years in dog fighting conspiracy**

**VA** RICHMOND — A Virginia man has been sentenced to more than three years in prison after pleading guilty to federal charges stemming from a multistate

dog fighting conspiracy probe, officials said.

Court documents showed Raymond L. Johnson, 41, pleaded guilty to conspiracy to participate in an animal fighting venture and illegal possession of a firearm and ammunition, according to a news release from U.S. Attorney Jessica Aber. In addition to a 37-month prison sentence, Johnson was given three years of supervised release.

Records showed that in 2019 law enforcement began investigating a dog fighting organization based out of Richmond and extending into Baltimore. In late 2020, agents executed four search warrants and seized numerous dogs and dog-fighting paraphernalia, firearms and ammunition.

**Lobster boats must be tracked in federal waters**

**ME** PORTLAND — Regulators are going to require lobster boats operating in federal waters to have tracking devices next year.

The American Lobster Management Board voted to require lobstermen who fish far offshore in federal waters to transmit data showing their location.

The tracking devices would record the location of the vessel while it is fishing, providing regulators with better data to get an idea of where in the ocean lobsters are located.

The American Lobster Management Board directed NOAA Fisheries to implement the requirements by May 1, 2023.

— From wire reports



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**Reporting World, National and Military News**

# North Carolina takes out Coach K, Duke

*Associated Press*

NEW ORLEANS — For the 48th time over 47 years of unparalleled coaching, Duke's Mike Krzyzewski took the slow walk to midcourt and shook the hand of the North Carolina coach who beat him.

After that, he found his wife, Mickie, and they made the slow, sad walk, hand-in-hand, off the Superdome floor. Saturday night's 81-77 setback in the national semifinal showdown between archrivals marked Coach K's last loss, and one of his toughest losses, too.

And thanks to the Tar Heels, the 75-year-old coach will have plenty of time to get over it.

"I'm sure at some time, I'll deal with this in my own way," said the coach, who had announced before the start of the season that 2021-22 would be his last.

Krzyzewski's remarkable career came to gut-wrenching close after Caleb Love made a key three-pointer and three late free throws to lift North Carolina to its thrill-a-minute victory.

This was the 258th, most consequential and maybe, just maybe, the very best meeting between these teams, whose arenas are separated by a scant 11 miles down on Tobacco Road.

The eighth-seeded Tar Heels (29-9), of

all teams, pinned the 368th and final loss on Krzyzewski. He finished with 1,202 wins. His lifetime record against North Carolina fell to 50-48. Losses No. 47 and 48 are ones Carolina fans will treasure forever. They were partying early into Sunday morning on Franklin Street in Chapel Hill. This latest win came exactly four weeks after the Tar Heels ruined the going-away party in Coach K's final home game at Cameron Indoor Stadium.

That loss hurt. "Unacceptable," he called it, still knowing there was time to regroup for one last run into March Madness. They made that run, but the last loss stopped that all in its tracks — one agonizing win short of a title game and a chance at his sixth championship.

Krzyzewski said he had a locker room full of crying players when it was over.

"It's not about me," he insisted. "Especially right now. I've said my entire career that I wanted my seasons to end where my team was either crying tears of joy or tears of sorrow. Because then you knew that they gave everything."

The Blue Devils gave everything all the way through the nip-and-tuck contest — neither team led by more than seven — that concluded with an edge-of-the-seat stretch run that Duke played without a timeout.

When the final buzzer of his career blared, Krzyzewski shook the hand of North Carolina's rookie coach, Hubert Davis.

Instead of Krzyzewski going for his sixth title, on Monday, Carolina will try to win its seventh.

It will be Davis, Love, who led the Tar Heels with 28 points, and R.J. Davis, who scored 18, going against Kansas, which beat Villanova 81-65 earlier in the undercard.

"Dwelling on the two wins against Duke doesn't help us against Kansas," said Hubert Davis, who took over for Roy Williams this season and has now brought Carolina to its 12th title game.

Maybe not, but what a game — as good as any these teams have played in an ancient rivalry that has so often determined conference titles, or, at the very least, bragging rights in a state where basketball is king. Their first-ever meeting in the NCAA Tournament, this one, featured 18 lead changes and 12 ties.

It also featured another breakout performance from Love, whose 28 points after an 0-for-4 start were one more than what he put up in the second half of a win last week against UCLA in the Sweet 16.

"It means everything to me," Love said of his key three with 25 seconds left.

## Kansas rolls past Villanova, into NCAA title game

*Associated Press*

NEW ORLEANS — Ochai Agbaji followed a celebrating stream of Kansas players off the floor at the Final Four, their shouts of "One more!" echoing all the way up the tunnel of the Superdome and right to the door of their locker room.

One more game awaits, the biggest of their careers.

The Jayhawks earned a trip back to the national championship Saturday night with a shooting performance that will go down in history. David McCormack muscled his way to 25 points, Ochai Agbaji hit six three-pointers and had 21 points, and the only No. 1 seed to reach the national semifinals rolled to an 81-65 victory over Villanova before a huge crowd that packed the home of the New Orleans Saints one year after the pandemic kept just about everyone away.

"That's everyone's attitude — even after this game, even after last weekend, the weekend before that — everyone's attitude was on to the next one," Agbaji said, "and

not looking too far ahead at what's going on Monday."

Well, they can look forward to a big-time showdown now: Kansas, the winningest program in Division I history, will face North Carolina, which sits at No. 3 on the list and has been to more Final Fours than anyone.

The Tar Heels sent Duke coach Mike Krzyzewski into retirement with an 81-77 victory in their semifinal Saturday night.

The Jayhawks (33-6) hope a familiar pattern holds, too: The last three times Kansas and the Wildcats have met in the tourney, the winner has gone on to cut down the nets, including their lopsided Final Four matchup four years ago in San Antonio.

"You come to Kansas for big games," said Christian Braun, who had 10 points against the Wildcats, "but you don't come to Kansas to play in the Elite Eight. You don't come to Kansas to play in the Final Four. You come to play for a championship."

Playing without injured guard Justin

Moore, Villanova (30-8) watched as the Jayhawks scored the game's first 10 points and eventually built a 19-point cushion Saturday night. And despite big performances from Collin Gillespie, Brandon Slater and Jermaine Samuels, the short-handed and undersized Wildcats never made it all the way back.

Gillespie, playing in his 156th and final game for the Wildcats, hit five three-pointers and finished with 17 points, while Slater hit four threes and had 16 points. Samuels finished with 13 points in the final game of his career.

"They played great. They were well-prepared. They really executed," Villanova coach Jay Wright said. "We did a lot of things wrong, but we want to make sure they get the credit they deserve. They played a great game."

Each team finished with 13 made three-pointers, and the 26 total shots from beyond the arc set a record for a Final Four game, topping the 25 that the same two teams made in 2018 at the Alamodome.

# Warriors top Jazz, clinch playoff spot

*Associated Press*

SAN FRANCISCO — Warriors coach Steve Kerr did not emphasize the magnitude of Saturday's game in his pregame talk with his team.

He didn't have to.

Klay Thompson scored 36 points and Golden State erased a 16-point fourth-quarter deficit to beat the Utah Jazz 111-107 and clinch a playoff spot.

Jordan Poole added 31 and Andrewiggins had 17 as the Warriors also snapped a four-game losing streak. At 49-29, they hold a one-game lead over the Dallas Mavericks for the third seed in the Western Conference with four games remaining.

"We'll do everything we can to just win out," Golden State guard Gary Payton II said. "That's our mindset."

Utah, now tied with Denver for the fifth spot, could have moved to within a game of third place with a victory. Donovan Mitchell and Mike Conley each had 26 for the Jazz.

It was an all-too-familiar storyline for Utah, which blew a 25-point lead in a loss to the Los Angeles Clippers on Tuesday. The Jazz have lost 15 games this season in which they held double-digit leads.

"I don't think we're in a good place for the last six minutes (of a game)," Utah coach Quin Snyder said. "It's not a good feeling in the locker room right now because guys

want to win."

Trailing 103-87 with just under eight minutes remaining in the fourth, the Warriors rattled off an 18-0 run to take a 105-103 lead with 2:10 left. Thompson hit three three-pointers during the stretch.

"It felt like we had enough time, but we didn't have much momentum," Kerr said. "... Unbelievable performance down stretch from our guys. I don't know what else to say."

**Hawks 122, Nets 115:** Trae Young scored 36 points, including nine in the final minute, and streaking Atlanta overcame Kevin Durant's career-high 55 points to hold off visiting Brooklyn for its fifth consecutive win.

The Hawks (41-37) moved into eighth place in the Eastern Conference, a game ahead of the Nets (40-38) and Charlotte.

Young's three-pointer gave Atlanta a 116-108 lead. Durant reached his career scoring high with his layup with 19 seconds remaining.

**Heat 127, Bulls 109:** Jimmy Butler scored 22 points, Kyle Lowry and Tyler Herro added 19 apiece and Eastern Conference-leading Miami won at Chicago.

Bam Adebayo scored 16, and the hot-shooting Heat (50-28) reached the 50-win mark for the first time since the 2013-14 season.

Miami also increased its lead over second-place Milwaukee to 1½ games and moved within a win of securing home-court advantage in Round 1 of the postseason. If the Heat go 3-1 the rest of the way, they'll clinch the top seed in the East.

Miami made it look easy in this one, building a nine-point halftime lead and breaking it open in the third quarter. The Heat shot 53.7% in the game and made 17 of 34 three-pointers.

**76ers 144, Hornets 114:** Joel Embiid had 29 points, 14 rebounds and six assists, and host Philadelphia snapped a three-game losing streak.

The 76ers tied their franchise record of 21 three-pointers, last set on March 1, 2020.

Tobias Harris added 23 points and had a season-high five three-pointers as Philadelphia placed seven players in double figures and was able to play its bench for the majority of the fourth quarter.

**Cavaliers 119, Knicks 101:** Darius Garland had 24 points and 13 assists to lead Cleveland to a win at New York.

Garland led seven Cavaliers in double figures as the Cavs snapped a two-game losing streak.

Caris LeVert finished with 19 points. Moses Brown and Isaac Okoro each added 16. Brown also had 13 rebounds. Kevin Love had 15 off the bench.

# Ginobili, Hardaway, Karl among '22 Hall class

*Associated Press*

NEW ORLEANS — When Manu Ginobili reflects on the odds of a kid from Argentina growing up to win four NBA titles and Olympic gold, he sounds in awe that that is in fact the story of his athletic life.

"It's one in tens of millions," Ginobili said Saturday after an official announcement that he has been inducted into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame. "The odds are very, very slim and it just happened to me. I don't know what happened, but I was the one.

"I happen to be an important part of two very iconic teams of those couple decades of both FIBA and with the NBA. Incredibly lucky and fortunate to be a part of

those two."

Ginobili, five-time All-Star Tim Hardaway and decorated former coach George Karl were the household NBA names in the 2022 class of inductees announced in New Orleans at the site of the NCAA Final Four.

Also selected this year were former WNBA champion and two-time college national champion Swin Cash; long-time college coach Bob Huggins, WNBA champion and two-time Olympic Gold Medalist Lindsay Whalen; NCAA national championship coach and former WNBA Coach of the Year Marianne Stanley, and former NBA official Hugh Evans.

The class will be enshrined in Springfield, Mass., on Sept. 10.

Ginobili, a two-time All-Star, spent his entire 16-year NBA career with San Antonio. He similarly credited his long stint with the Argentina national team that was regularly among the best in the world.

Hardaway played 15 NBA seasons from 1989 to 2003 with Golden State, Miami, Dallas, Denver and Indiana.

Karl played in the NBA for five seasons in San Antonio before coaching for 27 years, during which he won 1,175 games — placing him sixth all-time. He was voted NBA Coach of the Year in 2013.

Huggins has more than 900 NCAA wins in a college coaching career that began in 1977 and is currently at West Virginia.

Cash, who already has been elected to the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame, is currently an executive with the NBA's New Orleans Pelicans. She won two NCAA national titles with Connecticut and a WNBA title with Detroit. She also worked as an executive with the WNBA's New York Liberty.

Whalen is a five-time WNBA All-Star and four-time champion. She is now the head coach at Minnesota, where she also played in college.

Stanley, who is currently a WNBA head coach with Indiana, has spent 45 years in coaching, including 22 years at the college level with Old Dominion, Pennsylvania, Southern California, Stanford and California.

# Toews lifts Avs past Pens for 28th home win

Associated Press

DENVER — Devon Toews scored with 4:26 remaining, Darcy Kuemper stopped 38 shots and the Colorado Avalanche tied the franchise record for most home wins in a season with a 3-2 victory over the Pittsburgh Penguins on Saturday.

It was win No. 28 at Ball Arena, matching the Avalanche's marks from 2000-01 and 2017-18. At 28-4-3, Colorado possesses the league's top home record.

"Our guys obviously get up for playing at home," Avalanche coach Jared Bednar said. "Tonight was a perfect example of that."

Nicolas Aube-Kubel and Mikko Rantanen also scored for Colorado in a fast-paced game that had just one penalty and featured two of the best scorers in the business, Sidney Crosby and Nathan MacKinnon.

Mike Matheson and Crosby had goals for the Penguins. Crosby's goal gave him 1,397 career points — one point away from joining Jari Kurri and Alex Ovechkin in a three-way tie for 21st-most in NHL history.

**Panthers 7, Devils 6 (OT):** Gustav Forsling scored twice, including at 1:45 of overtime, and Florida overcame a four-goal deficit to win at New Jersey.

Aleksander Barkov also had two goals. Radko Gudas, Ben Chiarot and Brandon Montour each scored to help the Panthers win their third straight game. Spencer

Knight stopped six shots, picking up the victory in relief of goalie Sergei Bobrovsky, who was pulled after allowing six goals on 25 shots in the first two periods.

**Wild 3, Hurricanes 1:** Marc-Andre Fleury made 37 saves in Minnesota's win at Carolina.

Mats Zuccarello and Kirill Kaprizov each had a goal and an assist for the Wild, who won for the eighth time in their last nine games and extended their points streak to nine games. Dmitry Kulikov also scored.

Fleury is 3-0-0 since he was acquired from the Chicago Blackhawks. He has stopped 92 of 96 shots in those games.

**Canadiens 5, Lightning 4 (SO):** Nick Suzuki scored in the shootout, and Montreal won at Tampa Bay.

Suzuki beat Brian Elliott on a nifty backhand in the third round as the Canadiens won for the fourth time in 13 games (4-5-4).

**Bruins 5, Blue Jackets 2:** Erik Haula scored his second goal of the game with just under 4 minutes left to break a tie and host Boston won the first of a home-and-home between the teams.

Brad Marchand scored his 31st of the season, and Jake DeBrusk and Charlie Coyle each added an empty-netter for the Bruins. Jeremy Swayman made 22 saves for Boston, which has won six of their past seven games and improved 16-3-1 in the last 20.

**Maple Leafs 6, Flyers 3:** Auston Matthews

scored his NHL-leading 51st goal, Morgan Rielly had a goal and two assists, and Toronto won at Philadelphia for its fourth straight.

John Tavares, Wayne Simmonds, Timothy Liljegren and Pierre Engvall also scored for the Maple Leafs, who have 24 goals during their streak.

**Kings 3, Jets 2:** Anze Kopitar had a goal and one assist in his 1,200th career NHL game to help Los Angeles win at Winnipeg.

Adrian Kempe also had a goal and assist and Gabriel Vilardi notched his third goal of the season for the Kings, who have just three regulation losses in their last 18 road games. Cal Petersen stopped 25 shots for Los Angeles, which ended a three-game trip going 2-0-1.

**Blues 6, Flames 4:** Robert Thomas scored for the third straight game and set up Nathan Walker's go-ahead goal late in the third period to lead St. Louis to a win at Calgary.

Justin Faulk and Ryan O'Reilly also scored for the Blues (38-20-10), which earned five of six possible points on its Western Canada road trip. Ivan Barbashev and Brandon Saad added empty-netters. Ville Husso, who played more than 47 minutes Friday in relief of Jordan Binnington, was back in net for the Blues. He made 39 saves to improve to 19-6-5.

**Stars 5, Sharks 4:** Dallas used four first-period goals to win at San Jose, leapfrogging idle Vegas into the second Western Conference wild-card position with 81 points.

## White Sox RHP Lynn leaves game with knee issue

Associated Press

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. — Chicago White Sox right-hander Lance Lynn was pulled from his final spring training start Saturday night with right knee discomfort.

He will be further evaluated Sunday, the team said.

Lynn limped off the field after a pitch during the fourth inning against Arizona. The 34-year-old had issues with the same knee late last season and went on the injured list for 10 days. He also spent almost a month after the season resting and rehabbing the knee.

Lynn's injury comes hours after Chicago announced that left-handed reliever Garrett Crochet will need season-ending Tommy John surgery.

Lynn went 11-6 with a 2.69 ERA in 28 starts last season and finished third in AL Cy Young Award balloting behind winner Robbie Ray of Toronto and Yankees ace Gerrit Cole.

The 22-year-old Crochet had a 2.82 ERA over 54 appearances last year, going 3-5 with 65 strikeouts in 54⅓ innings.

### Orioles, Mancini agree to 1-year deal

SARASOTA, Fla. — The Baltimore Orioles and slugger Trey Mancini have agreed on a \$7.75 million, one-year deal to avoid arbitration that includes a \$10 million mutual option for the 2023 season.

The 30-year-old Mancini missed all of 2020 after being diagnosed with Stage 3 colon cancer

that March. He returned in 2021 and batted .255 with 21 homers, 71 RBIs and a .758 OPS in 147 games.

The fan favorite also finished second to Mets star Pete Alonso at the 2021 All-Star Home Run Derby.

Mancini will make \$7.5 million in 2022.

### Yankees get C Trevino from Rangers

NEW YORK — The New York Yankees boosted their depth behind the plate, acquiring catcher Jose Trevino from the Texas Rangers for right-hander Albert Abreu and lefty Robert Ahlstrom in a trade Saturday.

The 29-year-old Trevino hit .239 with five home runs and 30

RBIs for Texas last season. He made 81 starts.

### Angels cut OF Upton

TEMPE, Ariz. — The Los Angeles Angels have designated Justin Upton for assignment despite owing the slugging outfielder \$19.5 million this season.

The Angels will still be responsible for Upton's salary unless he's claimed by another team, which seems unlikely. The 34-year-old Upton hit .211 with 17 homers, 41 RBIs and a .705 OPS over 89 games last season.

Upton is in the final season of a \$106 million, five-year deal he signed to stay in Los Angeles a few months after being acquired from Detroit via trade during the 2017 season.