

Man charged with trying to kill Trump

Los Angeles Times

WASHINGTON — Federal prosecutors on Monday charged Cole Tomas Allen with attempting to assassinate President Donald Trump after rushing past security at the White House Correspondents' Association dinner in Washington on Saturday.

The charge, announced during a brief arraignment hearing in federal court in Washington and detailed in a subsequent charging document, carries a potential sentence of life in prison.

Prosecutors also charged the 31-year-old Torrance, Calif., resident with transporting firearms across state lines while traveling by train from California to Washington and with discharging a firearm during the incident at the Washington Hilton, where officials said a federal agent was shot in his ballistic vest.

In the charging document, prosecutors also detailed an email Allen allegedly sent to family members just as he was preparing to breach the event perimeter, in which he allegedly wrote

that top Trump administration officials were his target but that he was willing to “go through” others at the event to reach them.

Allen was instead taken down by agents shortly after rushing past them and before descending stairs and entering a ballroom where Trump and other top administration officials were seated. No officials were injured during the incident, which the White House described as the latest in a string of attempts on Trump's life.

Federal public defenders assigned to represent Allen did not respond to a request for comment Monday. Allen could not be reached for comment. A person previously reached at the Allen family home in Torrance — which was searched by the FBI over the weekend — declined to comment.

At the morning hearing, Assistant U.S. Attorney Jocelyn Balantine said Allen “traveled across multiple state lines with a firearm” and “attempted to assassinate the president with a 12-

gauge pump-action shotgun.”

Top administration officials — including acting Attorney General Todd Blanche and FBI Director Kash Patel — echoed those claims at a subsequent news briefing. Blanche described Allen as a serious threat, while also downplaying his proximity to the president and the likelihood that he ever could have caused harm to administration officials.

“Law enforcement did not fail. They did exactly what they are trained to do,” Blanche said. He said Allen had either fallen or was tackled to the ground while under fire from law enforcement.

Blanche and Jeanine Pirro, the U.S. attorney for the District of Columbia, said Allen was charged with attempting to assassinate the president because of his writings — which Trump and others in the administration have referred to as a “manifesto.”

Blanche said officials have seized devices from Allen's hotel room and his home in Torrance, which could add additional context to his motivations, but offi-

cialists were not prepared to discuss what may have been found on those devices. Pirro said additional charges were pending.

In the charging document, prosecutors included the text of the manifesto — an emailed document they allege Allen had scheduled to automatically send to family members around the time he entered the secured area at the hotel, in which he declared that Trump administration officials were his targets.

In the emailed document, titled by the writer as an “Apology and Explanation,” Allen allegedly wrote that Trump administration officials would be “prioritized from highest-ranking to lowest” in terms of how he targeted them.

“I would still go through most everyone here to get to the targets if it were absolutely necessary (on the basis that most people *chose* to attend a speech by a pedophile, rapist, and traitor, and are thus complicit) but I really hope it doesn't come to that,” he wrote, according to the charging document.

Unmanned Navy in-flight refueler makes initial flight

By GARY WARNER

Stars and Stripes

The Navy's unmanned MQ-25A Stingray made its first flight Saturday, an early step toward a future mix of manned and unmanned aircraft operating from carriers at sea.

The two-hour flight originated from the Boeing production plant at MidAmerica St. Louis Airport in Mascoutah, Ill., according to the Navy.

The Stingray is designed as an unmanned remote-controlled in-flight refueler. It would take off from a Nimitz- or Ford-class air-

craft carrier and fly up to 500 nautical miles with more than 14,000 pounds of fuel to transfer to F/A-18E/F Super Hornet aircraft. The Stingray would then return to the carrier to be refueled for additional missions.

Aerial refueling from carriers is currently performed by crewed F/A-18E/F Super Hornets.

“The MQ-25A is not just an aircraft: it's the first step in integrating unmanned aerial refueling onto the carrier deck, directly enabling our manned fighters to fly further and faster,” said Rear Adm. Tony Rossi, who oversees

the Program Executive Office for Unmanned Aviation and Strike Weapons.

Boeing said in a statement that the MQ-25A is the “Navy's gateway” to integrating unmanned aircraft on the carrier deck, enabling manned-unmanned aircraft teaming in the future.

“The MQ-25A is the most complex autonomous system ever developed for the carrier environment, and this historic achievement advances us closer to safely integrating the Stingray into the carrier air wing,” said Dan Gillian, vice president and general

manager of Boeing Air Dominance.

Navy and Boeing “air vehicle pilots” flew the Stingray from a ground control station on Saturday, putting it through flight control, engine performance and handling tests.

Capt. Daniel Fucito, the Navy's Unmanned Carrier Aviation program manager, said the Stingray will now undergo more rigorous testing designed to expand the aircraft's “performance envelope” and ensure proper operation of all the systems required for aerial refueling missions.

Trump says Iran has asked US to lift Hormuz blockade

Bloomberg News

President Donald Trump said Iran has asked the U.S. to lift a naval blockade of the Strait of Hormuz while the two sides negotiate an end to the two-month war, which has upended global energy supplies.

Tehran wants the critical waterway for oil and gas shipments open “as soon as possible, as they try to figure out their leadership situation,” Trump said on Truth Social on Tuesday. Iran has said it’s in a “State of Collapse,” he added.

The U.S. leader on Monday convened his national security team to discuss an Iranian proposal to end the conflict, which began with U.S. and Israeli airstrikes on the Islamic Republic on Feb. 28. The U.S. has been blocking ships going to and from Iranian ports to try and squeeze the country of oil revenue, while Iran keeps the strait shuttered to almost all other traffic.

Iran has consistently said it will not open the strait as long as

the U.S. maintains its blockade. The White House is playing up divisions among Iran’s leaders, claiming that’s a reason for the diplomatic stalemate between the two countries.

The war’s ripple effects were underscored when the United Arab Emirates announced on Tuesday it was leaving OPEC, dealing a blow to the oil cartel and its leader Saudi Arabia. The UAE, which can pump more crude than is allowed under its OPEC quota, has long chafed at the group’s restrictions.

“The decision is taken at the right time in our view because it’s not going to hugely impact the market: the market is under-supplied,” UAE Energy Minister Suhail Al Mazrouei said. Abu Dhabi believes the shortages caused by the war will require agility to respond to market demands, he said.

Iran has signaled it may be willing to accept an interim deal to reopen the Strait of Hormuz in exchange for Washington end-

ing its blockade of Iranian ports, while postponing more complex negotiations over the country’s nuclear program.

It is insisting on keeping some control over shipping through the strait, which Washington is unlikely to accept.

The president has told his advisers he’s not satisfied with Iran’s latest suggestions, the New York Times reported, citing multiple unnamed people briefed on the discussions. While it’s unclear why, his administration has previously said any deal must include agreements to curb Iran’s nuclear activities.

The warring sides started a ceasefire around April 7 and hostilities may resume if they fail to agree to fresh talks, following an inconclusive first round in Pakistan in mid-April.

Iran’s offer to end the war is “better than what we thought they were going to submit,” Secretary of State Marco Rubio told Fox News.

US troops threatened by hackers tied to Iran

By LARA KORTE
Stars and Stripes

U.S. service members assigned to units in the Middle East received threatening messages on Monday from what appeared to be an Iranian-linked cyberattack group known as Handala Hack.

The messages, seen by Stars and Stripes, warned service members that they were under surveillance and threatened to target them with drones and missiles. Stripes reviewed identical WhatsApp messages sent to two service members stationed in Bahrain, which hosts U.S. Naval Forces Central Command.

“Your identities are fully known to our missile units, and every move you make is under our surveillance,” read the text. “Very soon, you will be targeted by our Shahed drones and Kheibar and Ghadeer missiles. We will deal with you, the terrorists whose hands are stained with the blood of the Minab schoolchildren. We suggest you call your families now and say your final goodbyes.”

The messages were signed “Handala,” with a link to the group’s website. They appeared to come from a Bahraini cellphone number linked to a legitimate business on the island.

U.S. Central Command referred Stars and Stripes to the Naval Criminal Investigative Service, which did not immediately respond to questions about how many people received the messages or whether they posed a legitimate threat to forces in the region. The group on Tuesday claimed to have published the full personal details of 2,379 U.S. Marines stationed in the Persian Gulf, according to its public Telegram channel.

Kid Rock, Hegseth fly in Apache helos

al.com

Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth posted on social media he and Kid Rock flew in U.S. Army Apache helicopters Monday.

“Kid Rock is a patriot and huge supporter of our troops,” Hegseth posted on X. “The War Department is wasting no time celebrating America’s 250th — home of the free because of the brave.”

Shortly after 1 p.m., a U.S. Army AH-64 Apache took off from Fort Belvoir, Va., did a few loops over the base and landed about 10 minutes later, according to

The Associated Press, which quoted the Military Air Tracking Alliance, a group of open source data analysts who track military flight activity across the world.

Pentagon spokesman Sean Parnell, per CNN, said in a statement the helicopters on Monday were operating “in support of a Freedom 250th community relations event.”

Kid Rock “participated in multiple troop touches with service members and filmed videos for Memorial Day, America’s 250th birthday, and for his

Freedom 250 tour,” Parnell said.

“The visit today provided an opportunity for Kid Rock to thank service members, highlight the professionalism of the men and women supporting the mission, and recognize their continued sacrifice in honor of our nation,” the statement read.

Last month, the Army investigated and suspended the Army pilots who flew the two Apaches over Kid Rock’s home.

Hegseth shut down the investigation and lifted the pilots’ suspensions.

Record number of nations joining RIMPAC

By **WYATT OLSON**
Stars and Stripes

A record 31 nations are set to participate in the massive Rim of the Pacific maritime exercise that kicks off June 24 around the Hawaiian Islands.

The five-week exercise will feature about 40 surface ships, five submarines, 140 aircraft and more than 25,000 personnel, according to an April 18 news release by the Navy's San Diego-based 3rd Fleet, which leads RIMPAC.

The exercise, held every two years and hosted by Pacific Fleet, is touted as the largest international exercise in the world. The release does not dis-

close what countries are slated to attend.

Among the 29 nations joining the 2024 exercise were participants from South and Central America, Europe, Asia, Oceania and the Middle East.

The exercise's theme this year is "Partners: Integrated and Prepared." Vice Adm. John Wade, commander of 3rd Fleet, will lead the exercise's combined task force.

Chile will assume the role of deputy commander of the task force, while Japan will be vice commander. South Korea will command the maritime component. Canada will command the air component.

Exercise events will include amphibious operations, gunnery and missile proficiency, anti-submarine warfare, air defense exercises, military medicine, humanitarian assistance and disaster response, counterpiracy, diving and salvage operations, explosive ordnance disposal and mine clearance.

Previous RIMPAC drills have included the sinking of decommissioned warships by various weapons systems.

The decommissioned USS Dubuque, an amphibious transport dock, was sunk July 11, 2024. A week later, the 820-foot-long former USS Tarawa, an amphibious assault ship the size

of a small aircraft carrier, was sunk.

The ships went down in waters 15,000 feet deep about 50 nautical miles off the northern coast of Kauai, the westernmost island in the Hawaiian chain.

Maritime and aerial drones will undoubtedly play a larger role in the exercise as the U.S. Navy continues to experiment with integrating autonomous vehicles into its operations.

The Iran war may complicate the exercise, as multiple U.S. Navy ships and Marine Corps units normally assigned to the Pacific have been redirected to the Middle East in the past two months to support the war.

Slain Marine veteran saved 6 with organ donation

By **CHAD GARLAND**
Stars and Stripes

A 25-year-old Marine Corps veteran gunned down outside her Kansas home earlier this month saved the lives of six people through organ donation, her family said.

Ivy Unruh died last week of wounds from an April 17 shooting. Her estranged husband, Joshua Orlando, is charged with first-degree murder in the case.

As an organ donor, she had "planned to continue being a hero and saving lives even after

she was no longer with us," her family said in a statement posted on GoFundMe.

A satellite communications technician in the Marine Corps until late 2024, Unruh had been working as a broadcast engineer at PBS Kansas, according to her LinkedIn profile. She served four years in the Marine Corps, reaching the rank of sergeant, according to the service.

Photos online showed veterans from American Legion Post 136 in Mulvane lining the halls at Wichita's Wesley Medical

Center the evening of April 20 as part of an "honor walk."

The scene came three days after Unruh was found with a gunshot wound to her upper body. She was rushed to the hospital in grave condition, Wichita police said in a statement.

Officers found a gun at the scene and later booked Orlando, 29, into the county jail on suspicion of aggravated battery, the statement said. Unruh and Orlando were separated, according to the statement.

After Unruh's death, the

charge was upgraded, police said. Orlando is being held on a \$300,000 bond, KAKE reported.

Unruh was assigned to Marine Wing Communications Squadron 38 at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, Calif., and completed a deployment to Australia during her service, the Marine Corps said. Her awards included the Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal and Sea Service Deployment Ribbon.

King Charles visits US, speaks to Congress as ties strained

Los Angeles Times

King Charles visited the White House on Tuesday and prepared to address a joint session of Congress later in the day. He would be the second British monarch in history to do so as the United States commemorates the 250th anniversary of its independence from England.

The king's address, the centerpiece of a four-day state visit, comes at a moment of unusual strain between Washington and London. President Donald

Trump has repeatedly clashed with British Prime Minister Keir Starmer over the United States' war with Iran, derided the British government's refusal to commit forces to the conflict and even mocked the Royal Navy's battleships as "toys."

At a welcome ceremony for the king and Queen Camilla at the White House, Trump struck a more appreciative tone, describing the relationship between the two nations as a centuries-old "cherished bond."

"Long before Americans had a nation or a Constitution, we first had a culture, a character and a creed," the president said. "Before we ever proclaimed our independence, Americans carried within us the rarest of gifts — moral courage — and it came from a small but mighty kingdom from across the sea."

Trump said that some may think it is "ironic" to honor the British king during celebrations of America's independence, but argued the tribute "could not be

more appropriate."

"Americans have had no closer friends than the British," Trump said. "We share the same root. We speak the same language. We hold the same values. And together, our warriors have defended the same extraordinary civilization under twin banners of red, white and blue."

Trump said he will not be attending the king's remarks at the Capitol due to security protocols.

Fla. redistricting may give GOP boost

Tampa Bay Times

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis on Monday released a redistricting proposal that could give the Republican Party four more seats in Congress.

His plan, released to Fox News before it was sent to lawmakers, would leave Tampa Bay without any Democratic seats.

Only four seats out of Florida's 28 — District 10, in Central Florida, and Districts 23, 20 and 24 in South Florida — would lean in favor of Democrats, according to the proposal from the governor's office. The map his office released is colored according to political party.

The governor's proposal

comes amid a national redistricting battle initiated by President Donald Trump, who last summer started pushing red states to redraw their maps and keep GOP control of Congress.

Some left-leaning states retaliated, and both parties are at about where they started before about half a dozen states created new maps.

Florida's proposal, if passed, could tip those scales. But it also could risk making what are now some safely Republican seats more competitive for Democrats.

Florida lawmakers are set to vote this week on the proposal.

Opponents of the map say DeSantis' plan flies in the face of Florida's ban on partisan gerry-

mandering, which more than 60% of Florida voters supported and the state adopted into its constitution in 2010.

"It is illegal, plain and simple," Florida House Minority Leader Fentrice Driskell said.

But the governor's office implied that it doesn't need to follow the Fair Districts Amendment.

The Fair Districts language says that redistricting can't be done to favor a political party or an incumbent and can't be done to deny equal opportunity to racial and language minorities.

The governor's office, in drawing the map, made "no attempt to adhere to the race-based requirements," according to a memo sent to lawmak-

ers from DeSantis' general counsel, David Axelman.

Axelmann argued that those requirements are unconstitutional. He said that the U.S. Supreme Court is poised to say the same in a pending Voting Rights Act case.

If one part of the Fair Districts Amendment is unconstitutional, Axelman argued the whole thing has to come down — including the prohibition on political gerrymandering.

"The (Fair Districts Amendment) was sold to voters as a package," Axelman said. "And because one part is unconstitutional, there's little reason to think that voters would have approved the remaining parts by themselves."

Va. court weighs legality of redistricting election

The (Norfolk, Va.) Virginian-Pilot

RICHMOND, Va. — The Supreme Court of Virginia heard arguments Monday in a case that challenges the legality of the process used for the April 21 redistricting referendum, with key arguments centered on the timing of the election and the scope of legislative authority used to get the measure on the ballot.

Republicans filed the lawsuit challenging the process used by Virginia Democrats to get the redistricting constitutional amendment on the ballot. It's one of several Republican-backed legal challenges playing out in court after Virginia voters narrowly approved a Democrat-backed redistricting plan last week that could net four additional Democratic U.S. House seats in the midterm elections.

At the heart of Monday's hearing was whether Virginia Democrats improperly used a special session on budget-related issues to advance the amend-

ment, and whether the November election counts as a proper intervening election as required in Virginia's constitution.

In Virginia, amending the constitution requires the General Assembly to pass the measure twice with a House of Delegates election in between. Virginia Democrats maintain they've followed the law by first approving the measure in October, followed by a House election in November, and a second vote to approve in January.

The case pits House Speaker Don Scott against Republican Senate Minority Leader Ryan McDougle. Justices asked attorneys whether the November election counts as the intervening election.

Virginia Democrats' first vote on the amendment took place in October, just days before the Nov. 5 election. Republicans argue Democrats didn't follow the state constitution as early voting was underway when they passed the amendment for the first time.

Jimmy Kimmel explains his 'expectant widow' comment

Los Angeles Times

LOS ANGELES — ABC late-night comedian Jimmy Kimmel explained his controversial joke about first lady Melania Trump but declined to apologize for offending her.

On Monday, President Donald Trump repeated his demand that ABC fire the long-time show host over a joke that aired on the L.A.-based "Jimmy Kimmel Live!" program two days before the White House Correspondents' Association dinner took place in Washington.

Kimmel, who has headlined the press event before, staged a pretend roast during his Thursday night broadcast that featured spliced-in footage of Melania Trump, Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth, Vice President JD Vance and others within the Trump administration.

During the bit, a tuxedo-clad Kimmel called the first lady "beautiful," saying she had "the glow of an expectant widow."

There wasn't much reaction to Kimmel's comment at the time, Kimmel said during Monday's show.

On Saturday, the White House Correspondents' Association gala, to celebrate the First Amendment, was interrupted when a gunman sprinted past security at the Washington Hilton, where the event was being held.

He did not reach the ballroom.

The suspect, Cole Thomas Allen, has since been charged with attempting to assassinate the president.

"There was no big reaction to [the joke] until this morning, when I greeted the day facing yet another Twitter vomit storm and a call to fire me from our first lady," Kimmel said during Monday night's telecast.

"Obviously, it was a joke about their age difference and the look of joy we see on her face every time they're together," Kimmel said.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Zoo shares update on imported sloths

FL ORLANDO — Expert veterinary staff at the Central Florida Zoo & Botanical Gardens report that 13 sloths, donated from planned International Drive attraction Sloth World, have survived the first 24 hours in their care, according to a news release on the zoo's website.

Upon arrival at the zoo, all of the animals were examined for initial assessment, the release said. The vet team determined that many were dehydrated and underweight, but are now eating and drinking properly.

The zoo is working closely with the Association of Zoos & Aquariums' Species Survival Plan to determine long-term placement for many of these animals at other AZA-accredited facilities.

News reports last week established that at least 31 sloths have died since late 2024 in a converted warehouse operated by Sloth World about a mile from the planned public venue.

Family of firebombing suspect released by ICE

CO BOULDER — Family members of a man charged in a terror attack on the Boulder Pearl Street Mall were released from immigration custody late Saturday after two federal judges intervened in an effort to deport them.

Hayam El Gamal and her five children, ages 5 to 18, were released in Colorado, their attorney, Eric Lee, said in an email Sunday.

El Gamal's husband, Mo-

hamed Soliman, was arrested in a June 2025 Molotov cocktail attack against demonstrators on the Boulder mall.

Soliman faces 118 criminal charges in state court, including dozens of counts of attempted first-degree murder and assault, in addition to a federal hate-crime count.

Person overboard off Norwegian cruise ship

MA CAPE COD — A crew member on a cruise ship sailing off the coast of Massachusetts went overboard Saturday, according to the cruise company.

The person fell off the ship that was east of Cape Cod in the late evening, according to a Norwegian Cruise Line spokesperson.

After confirming that a person had gone overboard, the ship alerted the U.S. Coast Guard's Marine Rescue Coordination Center and a "coordinated search and rescue operation" for the crew member began.

As of Sunday the Coast Guard had taken over the search and released the cruise ship, the spokesperson said, so that it could continue its voyage.

Politicians could get State Patrol protection

MN ST. PAUL — Minnesota lawmakers may create a new unit within the State Patrol to protect constitutional officers, Supreme Court justices and legislators after last summer's deadly attack on two lawmakers.

The change is among many safety measures legislators are considering following the assassina-

tion of former House Speaker Melissa Hortman and attempted slaying of state Sen. John Hoffman. Legislators also are looking to make their home addresses, phone numbers and children's names private data and require law enforcement agencies to develop safety protocols for elected officials.

Hoffman was shot nine times in the attack in his home last summer. He is carrying the bill to create a new protective services unit within the State Patrol's Capitol Security division. The unit would be tasked with providing security to any constitutional officer, Supreme Court justice or legislator who is the target of a credible threat.

Living donor transplant program announced

MA BOSTON — Tufts Medical Center has received approval to perform living donor liver transplants effective immediately, the health care provider announced.

The Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network issued official approval for living donor liver transplants at Tufts on Thursday, allowing the hospital to begin the program immediately.

A living donor liver transplant occurs when a person elects to donate a portion of their healthy liver to another person — usually a family member — who has a diseased or injured organ, according to the Mayo Clinic. Since the liver regenerates, the donor's remaining liver returns to normal size and capacity over the next few months, while the transplanted partial liver also grows to nor-

mal function in the recipient.

The living donor transplants are much rarer than the procedures from deceased donors, but allow patients to avoid long wait times.

Livers and kidneys are the most common living donor organ transplant procedures, though living people can also donate tissues like skin and bone marrow, according to the Mayo Clinic.

Plans to open AI-focused high school withdrawn

NY NEW YORK — After months of community opposition, New York City Schools Chancellor Kamar Samuels on Monday yanked a slew of proposals that would have opened the city's first artificial intelligence-focused high school and proceeded with a plan mired in controversy to shutter or shrink three Upper West Side middle schools.

The proposals — to open Next Generation Technology High School in Lower Manhattan and to close or cut back the grades of The Center School, Manhattan School for Children, and The Riverside School for Makers and Artists — were on the agenda for this month's meeting of the Panel for Educational Policy on Wednesday.

In an email to the panel on Monday morning, just hours before the first of multiple protests against the plans were scheduled to kick off, Samuels said he is removing the proposals from consideration for now. It was unclear if some of the proposals had the votes to clear the PEP, the majority of which was appointed by the former mayor, Eric Adams.

— From wire reports

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Magic beat No. 1 Pistons for 3-1 series lead

Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla. — The Orlando Magic are one win away from knocking off a No. 1 seed and winning their first playoff series in 16 years.

They're not celebrating yet. Desmond Bane scored 22 points, Franz Wagner had 19 in three quarters and the Magic beat the Detroit Pistons 94-88 Monday night to take a 3-1 series lead, putting the East's No. 1 seed on the brink of elimination.

Game 5 is Wednesday night in Detroit.

"We put our ourselves in position to try to get four, but right now it means nothing," Magic coach Jamahl Mosley said. "We have the advantage and now we have to try and

make sure we keep that advantage."

Orlando, which had to win an elimination game at home in the play-in tournament, is on the verge of becoming just the seventh No. 8 seed to defeat a No. 1 in a series in league history. It's happened only four times since the playoffs were expanded to a best-of-seven series for all rounds in 2003.

Thunder 131, Suns 122: Shai Gilgeous-Alexander scored 31 points, Chet Holmgren added 24 and visiting Oklahoma City beat Phoenix Suns, capping a four-game sweep in the first-round series.

The Thunder — who have a 12-0 record in the first round over the last three seasons — will face the winner of the Los

Angeles Lakers-Houston Rockets series in the Western Conference semifinals. The Lakers have a 3-1 lead, though the Rockets won Game 4.

Phoenix has a 10-game losing streak in the playoffs, dating to 2023.

The Thunder closed the series with an overwhelming offensive performance — making 17 of 34 (50%) 3-pointers — and their big men played particularly well. The 7-foot-1 Holmgren shot 9 of 16 from the field and grabbed 12 rebounds, while the 7-foot Isaiah Hartenstein added 18 points and 12 rebounds, including seven on the offensive end.

Nuggets 125, Timberwolves 113: Nikola Jokic snapped out of his prolonged

funk with a triple-double, Spencer Jones provided a key spark and host Denver staved off elimination with a chippy win over injury-riddled Minnesota in Game 5 of their playoff series.

Jokic had 27 points, 16 assists and 12 rebounds for Denver, which trimmed its deficit to 3-2 in the best-of-seven series. Jamal Murray scored 24 points and Jones added 20.

Jokic posted his 23rd playoff triple-double, third on the career list, as the Nuggets stopped a three-game skid and played the way they did most of the regular season in securing the No. 3 seed in the Western Conference.

Game 6 is Thursday night in Minneapolis.

Flagg edges ex-teammate to win Rookie of the Year

Associated Press

DALLAS—Cooper Flagg set a host of records for an NBA teenager in an also-ran season for the Dallas Mavericks. Kon Knueppel helped the Charlotte Hornets to a 25-win improvement that almost led to a spot in the playoffs.

It's no wonder they ended up in a tight Rookie of the Year race.

Flagg edged his former Duke teammate to win the award Monday night after becoming the first rookie since Michael Jordan in 1984-85 to lead his team in points, rebounds, assists and steals.

Flagg, 19, and Knueppel, 20, were first and second in rookie scoring, the first former college teammates to do that since UConn stars Emeka Okafor and Ben Gordon in 2004-05.

Philadelphia's VJ Edgecombe was the other finalist.

Flagg and Knueppel traded places as betting favorites during the season, but Flagg's 96-point outburst over two games on the second-to-last weekend might have tipped the scales.

The first of those games was

Flagg's 51-point showing against Orlando, the first time a teenager scored 50 in the NBA. He broke his own record for a teenager of 49, set against Knueppel and the Hornets in January.

"I see the games every night. I can check the box scores," Flagg said when asked how close of an eye he kept on Knueppel.

"I think also I was watching Kon just because that's one of my brothers. We had such a good connection, and we're gonna be there for each other for the rest of our lives. I was watching him as a fan as well, but there was obviously that competition at the same time."

It was, as expected, one of the closest votes in Rookie of the Year history.

Only 26 points separated Flagg and Knueppel in voting where 100 reporters and broadcasters who cover the league ranked their top three rookies, with five points going to first place, three to second and one to third.

In 2002, Scottie Barnes edged Evan Mobley by 15 points.

There were three years where the award was shared because of a tie in the voting, and two of those included Duke players Elton Brand and Grant Hill. Brand and Steve Francis tied for the award in 2000, Hill and Jason Kidd tied in 1995 and Dave Cowens and Geoff Petrie tied in 1971.

Knueppel, who was a one-and-done at Duke like Flagg but turned 20 before his NBA career started, became the first rookie to lead the league in 3-pointers with 273.

He averaged 18.5 points, 5.3 rebounds and 3.4 assists, while shooting 42.5% from 3-point range to join Larry Bird and Paul Pierce as only the only NBA rookies to average 15 points and five rebounds per game while shooting better than 40% from beyond the arc.

Charlotte won 44 games behind Knueppel before being eliminated by Orlando in the final round of the play-in tournament.

Flagg thought he was joining a playoff contender after the Ma-

vericks converted a 1.8% chance in the draft lottery and took him No. 1 overall. Knueppel was the fourth pick.

Despite his team's slide in the standings, Flagg kept making history a year after leading Duke to the Final Four as just the fourth freshman to be named AP men's basketball player of the year.

Flagg and Jordan are the only rookies to record multiple games of at least 45 points since the NBA-ABA merger in 1976-77.

Flagg was playing against LeBron James and the Los Angeles Lakers this month when he scored 45 points and passed the 41-year-old for the most 40-point games by a teenager with his fourth. That game capped the big weekend that might have decided the race.

The Mavericks ended up back in the lottery at 26-56, with Flagg having to carry a much heavier load than anticipated. He averaged 21.0 points, 5.4 rebounds, 4.5 assists and 1.2 steals in 70 games.

Knights beat Mammoth in OT; series tied at 2

Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY — Shea Theodore scored on a snap shot from the high slot with 51.5 seconds left in overtime and the Vegas Golden Knights beat the Utah Mammoth 5-4 on Monday night after squandering a three-goal lead, tying their first-round playoff series at two games apiece.

“We just didn’t quit,” Theodore said.

Game 5 in the best-of-seven series is Wednesday night in Las Vegas.

The Golden Knights appeared to have won the game earlier in OT when Pavel Dorofeyev tapped in a loose puck with 9:41 left, but the apparent score was waved off when it was determined Vegas was offside.

“It was good we never stopped,” Theodore said. “It sucks that one got called back, but it was good to get it done.”

The Golden Knights’ Brett Howden scored his second goal

of the game on a tip-in with 9:35 remaining in the third period, and that forced overtime after Utah had stormed back with four straight goals.

“I liked the way we responded in the third after they scored,” Howden said. “We stuck with it.”

Vegas raced out to a 3-0 lead with two goals in the first and one early in the second by Dorofeyev, Howden and Cole Smith.

The Mammoth countered with four straight scores, capped by Clayton Keller’s wrist shot off a deflection for a 4-3 lead at the 5:10 mark of the third period.

“I’m proud of the way our guys responded to adversity,” Utah coach Andre Tourigny said. “It was a hard-fought game. We know how good they can be and I think we responded well in the second half of the game.”

The Mammoth’s Karel Vejmelka stopped 31 shots. Carter Hart made 29 saves for the Golden Knights.

Penguins 3, Flyers 2: Connor Dewar, Kris Letang and Elmer Soderblom scored, and host Pittsburgh avoided elimination for the second time in 48 hours with a win over Philadelphia in Game 5 of their first-round series.

Sidney Crosby shook off a shot to his left knee to add two assists for the Penguins, who cut the Flyers’ lead in the best-of-seven series to 3-2.

Game 6 is Wednesday in Philadelphia, where the pressure will be on the Flyers to avoid putting themselves in danger of becoming just the fifth team in NHL history to blow a series after winning the first three games.

“We know it’s a big challenge going into there,” Crosby said. “But I think we have a lot of belief in our group, and we’ve done it time and time again.”

Alex Bump scored in his playoff debut for Philadelphia, which rallied from a 2-0 deficit to

tie it on Travis Sanheim’s second goal of the series 15:06 into the second.

Crosby, who limped to the bench and then to the training room for treatment minutes earlier after a blast from the point by teammate Ryan Shea appeared to hit the top of his left knee, helped put Pittsburgh back in front just over two minutes later when he fed the puck to Letang at the top of the Flyers zone.

Letang sent a shot toward Philadelphia goaltender Dan Vladar that sailed wide of the net before bouncing back toward Vladar. The puck smacked off Vladar’s left pad, then his right and across the goal line to give the Penguins the lead for good.

“Bounces are part of the game,” Pittsburgh coach Dan Muse said. “But I think you earn them when you’re working and you try to do the right things. That’s usually when the bounces go your way.”

Tucker caps Dodgers’ rally with walk-off hit vs. Marlins

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Kyle Tucker singled in the tying and winning runs with two outs in the bottom of the ninth, rallying the Los Angeles Dodgers past the Miami Marlins 5-4 on Monday night in the series opener.

It was Tucker’s only hit of the game after starting 0 for 4.

Miami closer Pete Fairbanks (0-2) walked Andy Pages, who then scored on Shohei Ohtani’s ground-rule double in the ninth to cut the lead to 4-3. Pinch-hitter Dalton Rushing walked and Freddie Freeman was intentionally walked to load the bases before Tyler Phillips replaced Fairbanks, who appeared to have a physical issue.

Phillips struck out Will Smith, leaving Los Angeles down to its last out. Tucker singled to center, scoring Ohtani and Rushing.

Red Sox 5, Blue Jays 0: Ranger Suárez (2-2) and Greg Weissert combined on a two-hitter, Carlos Narváez hit a solo home run and Boston won at Toronto, its third consecutive victory and second in a row under interim manager Chad Tracy.

It’s the first time this season the Red Sox

have won three straight. Boston fired manager Alex Cora and five coaches Saturday after starting 10-17.

Yankees 4, Rangers 1: Aaron Judge and Ben Rice had the first back-to-back homers for New York this season, and Jazz Chisholm Jr. also went deep as the AL-best Yankees beat host Texas.

Judge and Rice became the second pair of New York teammates to each have 10 or more homers in the first 29 games, joining Mickey Mantle and Yogi Berra in 1956. Judge hit his 11th and Rice hit his 10th.

Padres 9, Cubs 7: Ty France drove in four runs with a double and a triple to lead host San Diego over Chicago.

Gavin Sheets hit a solo homer in the eighth inning to make it 9-5. Mason Miller gave up two runs in the ninth, ending his scoreless streak at 34⅓ innings dating to last season — a San Diego record.

Cardinals 4, Pirates 2: Jose Fermin hit a tiebreaking two-run double after Pedro Pagés and JJ Wetherholt hit consecutive homers — all in the ninth inning — as visiting St. Louis rallied to beat Pittsburgh after breaking up a

bid for a perfect game in the seventh inning.

With the Pirates leading 2-0, four Pittsburgh pitchers combined to shut down the Cardinals through 6⅓ innings before Alec Burleson legged out a two-out, infield single off Evan Sisk in the seventh.

Twins 11, Mariners 4: Kody Clemens homered and drove in five runs, Byron Buxton also went deep and Connor Prielipp got his first big league win as host Minnesota beat Seattle.

Prielipp (1-0) entered the season as the Twins’ No. 5 prospect, according to MLB.com. He was called up from Triple-A St. Paul and made his MLB debut against the New York Mets on Wednesday. Against the Mariners, the 25-year-old left-hander gave up two runs on one hit with three walks and five strikeouts.

White Sox 8, Angels 7: Munetaka Murakami hit a three-run homer in a big seventh-inning rally, and host Chicago held off slumping Los Angeles.

Rays 3, Guardians 2: Ryan Vilade had three hits and drove in two runs, including the go-ahead single in the eighth inning, and visiting Tampa Bay won its fifth straight by defeating Cleveland.

Texas Tech QB treating gambling addiction

Associated Press

LUBBOCK, Texas — Texas Tech said Monday that transfer quarterback Brendan Sorsby was taking an indefinite leave of absence to enter a residential treatment program for a gambling addiction, a move that comes just months after he reportedly landed a multimillion-dollar deal to return to his home state for his final college season.

The Red Raiders said they are “committed to supporting Brendan through his recovery process and to ensure his long-term health and well-being.” There was no immediate word on whether Sorsby will be available for the upcoming season, and no potential timetable was provided for the treatment.

The 22-year-old Sorsby started his college career at Indiana in 2022 before a transfer to Cincinnati to play the past two seasons. ESPN, citing unidentified sources, reported that the quarterback allegedly made “thousands of online bets on a variety of sports via a gambling app,” which could impact his eligibility depending on the details.

NCAA rules were eased in 2023 to recognize the proliferation of legalized gambling but still call for a permanent ban for athletes who bet on their own games.

According to the outlet, Sorsby bet on Indiana football games in 2022 and only to win.

He did not place a wager on the one game in which he appeared that season as a freshman, when he maintained that season of eligibility before playing 10 games for the Hoosiers in 2023. The NCAA is now investigating the case, ESPN reported.

“Due to confidentiality rules put in place by NCAA member schools, the NCAA will not comment on current, pending or potential investigations,” the NCAA said in a statement released to news organizations. “However, the NCAA takes sports betting very seriously and is committed to the protection of student-athlete well-being and the integrity of competition. The association works with integrity monitoring services, state regulators and other stakeholders to conduct ap-

propriate due diligence whenever reports are received.”

Sorsby was one of the biggest names in this year’s transfer portal and left Cincinnati for a reported \$5 million from Texas Tech, which last season won its first Big 12 championship and made the playoff after being among the nation’s biggest spenders putting together its roster.

“We love Brendan and support his decision to seek professional help,” Red Raiders head coach Joey McGuire said in a statement released by the school. “Taking this step requires courage, and our primary focus is on him as a person. Our program is behind Brendan as he prioritizes his health.”

In the statement, Texas Tech said its “primary focus remains on fostering an environment where student-athletes feel empowered to prioritize their mental health and seek professional assistance.” The school said it would have no further comment on Sorsby’s status “to protect the integrity of the recovery process.”

Cincinnati, which announced Feb. 26 that it would sue the quarterback for allegedly breaching his name, image and likeness contract, declined comment.

According to the lawsuit, Sorsby signed a NIL agreement in July 2025 covering the 2025 and ‘26 seasons and that there would be a \$1 million buyout if he transferred, payable within 30 days. Sorsby announced Dec. 15 that he was entering the transfer portal and announced Jan. 4 that he would play for the Red Raiders.

Texas Tech brought in Sorsby after Lubbock native Behren Morton completed his eligibility.

Morton threw for 8,989 yards and 71 touchdowns in 45 games for the Red Raiders since 2021, and led them to a school-record 12 wins last season before a 23-0 loss to Oregon in the Orange Bowl.

In 35 career games, including 31 starts, Sorsby has passed for 7,208 yards and 60 touchdowns, along with 1,295 rushing yards and 22 TDs.

Sabalenka avoids virus scare, moves on at Madrid Open

Associated Press

MADRID — Tennis players are facing an unknown opponent at the Madrid Open.

A stomach virus or food poisoning has affected Iga Swiatek, Coco Gauff, Marin Cilic and a few others, causing some concern.

World No. 1 Aryna Sabalenka avoided an upset by Naomi Osaka on the court Monday and said she’s trying to avoid illness by sticking to a simple diet of chicken breast, rice and salad.

The rumor among the players was that bad shrimp tacos were to blame.

Sabalenka knocked on wood and said, “So far, so good. I heard that I have to avoid those tacos (laughing). I stick to the same food, same meal that I’ve been having since the very beginning of the tournament.”

Sabalenka said she was spending as little time as possible on site at the Caja Magica tennis complex.

“I try not to stay for too long,” she said. “Extra vitamin C, I guess, extra IM8, and I’m good to go, hopefully.”

Gauff vomited on the court on her way to a victory over Sorana Cirstea on Sunday. The American didn’t show signs of illness Monday in her 6-4, 1-6, 7-6 (5) loss to Linda Noskova, last year’s runner-up to Sabalenka.

“I’ve heard there is some virus going around,” six-time Grand Slam champion Swiatek said after withdrawing from her match in Madrid on Saturday. “I’ve been feeling terrible.”

Cilic couldn’t play his match against João Fonseca on Friday.

“Unfortunately, I got food poisoning,” Cilic said. “After trying to recover all night, my body is unfortunately exhausted and not at the proper level to get into the battle.”

Sabalenka rebounded from a set and a

break down against Osaka in their fourth-round contest.

She prevailed against No. 15 Osaka 6-7 (1), 6-3, 6-2 in 2 hours, 20 minutes to reach the quarterfinals and stay on track to defend her title.

“Oh my God, that was an incredible level,” Sabalenka said. “She played incredible tennis. I feel like I just got lucky in a couple of shots in the third set, that’s why it went that fast. I’m happy she brought that fight. I had to fight through to level up my game.”

Sabalenka won her 15th straight match and advanced to her 17th consecutive quarterfinal. She hasn’t lost before that round since February 2025 in Dubai. The Belarusian said her team kept pushing her to “keep fighting, keep going.”

“I’m really happy that I didn’t give up and I was pushing until the very last point,” Sabalenka said.