

# Harris picks Walz as running mate

*Associated Press*

WASHINGTON — Vice President Kamala Harris picked Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz to be her running mate on Tuesday, choosing an affable longtime politician who Democrats hope can keep newfound party unity alive in a campaign barreling toward Election Day.

Harris said in a post on social media that Walz has “delivered for working families” as a governor, coach, teacher and veteran. Walz called it “the honor of a lifetime” to be Harris’ vice presidential pick. The two were to appear together in Philadelphia at an evening rally.

In choosing the 60-year-old Walz, she is turning to a Midwestern governor, military veteran and union supporter who helped enact an ambitious Democratic agenda for his state, including sweeping protections for abortion rights and generous aid to families.

“It’s great to have him on the team,” Harris wrote on X. “Now

let’s get to work.”

He is joining Harris during one of the most turbulent periods in modern American politics, promising an unpredictable campaign ahead. Republicans have rallied around former President Donald Trump after his attempted assassination in July. Just weeks later, President Joe Biden ended his reelection campaign, forcing Harris to unify Democrats and consider potential running mates over a breakneck two-week stretch.

Harris hopes to shore up her campaign’s standing across the upper Midwest, a critical region in presidential politics that often serves as a buffer for Democrats seeking the White House. The party remains haunted by Trump’s wins in Michigan and Wisconsin in 2016. Trump lost those states in 2020 but has zeroed in on them as he aims to return to the presidency this year and is expanding his focus to Minnesota.

Harris, second gentleman Doug Emhoff and Walz are set to

appear together for an evening rally in Philadelphia, recalling a joint 2020 appearance by Biden and Harris in Wilmington, Del.

After Tuesday’s trip to Pennsylvania, they will spend the next five days flying around the country touring critical battleground states. They’ll visit Eau Claire, Wis., and Detroit on Wednesday and Phoenix and Las Vegas later in the week.

Planned stops in Savannah, Ga., and Raleigh-Durham, N.C., were postponed because of Tropical Storm Debby’s effects.

A team of lawyers and political operatives led by former Attorney General Eric Holder pored over documents and conducted interviews with potential selections, and Harris herself met with her three finalists on Sunday. She mulled the decision over on Monday with top aides at the vice president’s residence in Washington and finalized it Tuesday morning, the people said.

Harris, the first Black woman and person of South Asian de-

scent to lead a major party ticket, initially considered nearly a dozen candidates before zeroing in on a handful of serious contenders, all of whom were white men. In landing on Walz, she sided with a low-key partner who has proved himself as a champion for Democratic causes.

“It’s no surprise that San Francisco Liberal Kamala Harris wants West Coast wannabe Tim Walz as her running-mate — Walz has spent his governorship trying to reshape Minnesota in the image of the Golden State,” said Karoline Leavitt, Trump’s campaign press secretary.

Walz has been a strong public advocate for Harris in her campaign against Trump and Sen. JD Vance of Ohio, labeling the Republicans “just weird” in an interview last month. Democrats have seized on the message and amplified it since then. During a fundraiser for Harris on Monday in Minneapolis, Walz said: “It wasn’t a slur to call these guys weird. It was an observation.”

## 7 Americans injured in militant strike on base in Iraq

**BY ALISON BATH**  
*Stars and Stripes*

Seven U.S. military personnel were injured in a rocket attack Monday on an air base in western Iraq that has been targeted repeatedly by militants in recent weeks, according to U.S. officials.

Five U.S. service members and two American contractors were injured when two rockets struck the base at about 9 p.m. local time Monday at al Asad Air Base, a defense official said Tuesday.

“Five injured personnel are receiving care at al Asad Air

Base and two have been evacuated for further care,” the official said. All seven people were in stable condition, the official added.

Damage assessments at the base were ongoing.

Monday’s assault follows at least two other attacks against al Asad. On July 25, two rockets were launched but did not strike the installation. The same day, a rocket was launched in a separate attack at Military Support Site Euphrates in Syria.

There were no injuries and no damage in either attack.

On July 16, al Asad came un-

der attack by two drones, one of which struck the base and caused minimal damage. The second drone launched in the same attack was shot down. There were no injuries.

The attacks on U.S. forces in Iraq and Syria by what defense officials say are Iran-backed groups came after a lull of nearly three months.

In April, there were separate attacks at Rumayn Landing Zone in Syria and near al Asad.

There are about 2,500 U.S. service members in Iraq and 900 more deployed in Syria. They are part of a coalition

fighting to prevent a resurgence of the Islamic State.

Last month, U.S. and Iraqi officials met in Washington to work out the details of ending the anti-ISIS mission in Iraq.

The attack Monday came after Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin on Friday ordered additional warships and a fighter squadron to the Middle East to bolster defenses in the region.

The decision to move U.S. forces followed an anticipated Iranian attack in response to the assassination of Hamas political leader Ismail Haniyeh in Tehran last week.

# Debby bringing rain, floods to southeast

Associated Press

SAVANNAH, Ga. — Tropical Storm Debby has moved menacingly into some of America's most historic Southern cities, bringing prolonged downpours and flooding Tuesday after slamming into Florida and prompting the rescue of hundreds from flooded homes.

Record-setting rain from the storm that killed at least five people in Florida and Georgia was causing flash flooding, with up to 25 inches possible in some areas, the National Hurricane Center said in its latest advisory Tuesday morning.

"Hunker down," Van Johnson, the mayor of Savannah, Ga., told residents in a social media livestream Monday night. "Expect that it will be a rough day" on Tuesday, he said.

The storm's center was just southwest of Savannah early Tuesday with maximum sustained winds near 45 mph and it was moving northeast at less than 6 mph.

"Tropical cyclones always produce heavy rain, but normally as they're moving, you know, it doesn't accumulate that much in one place," Richard Pasch of the National Hurricane Center said Tuesday morning. "But when they move very slowly, that's the worst situation."

Tropical cyclones derive their energy from warm water, so Debby has weakened over land, but part of the circulation was interacting with water over the Atlantic, Pasch said. The storm's center is expected to move out over the water off the Georgia and South Carolina coast, then move back inland, so it could restrengthen Wednesday before it moves inland Thursday over South Carolina,

he said.

More than 6 inches of rain had fallen through Monday at Savannah's airport, and showed no signs of stopping Tuesday, the National Weather Service reported. That's already a month's worth of rain in a single day: In all of August 2023, the city got 5.56 inches of rain.

Flash flood warnings were issued in Savannah and Charleston, S.C., among other areas of coastal Georgia and South Carolina. Both Savannah and Charleston announced overnight curfews as the rains picked up. Charleston County Interim Emergency Director Ben Webster called Debby a "historic and potentially unprecedented event" three times in a 90-second briefing Monday.

Charleston police barricaded all eight roads leading into the 350-year-old city built on a marshy peninsula Monday night after urging non-residents to leave, and said the curfew would remain through Tuesday, letting only essential workers and emergency personnel pass through. Charleston also opened parking garages so residents could park their cars above floodwaters and updated an online mapping system showing road closures due to flooding.

Tornadoes knocked down trees and damaged a few homes on Kiawah Island and Edisto Island between Savannah and Charleston. A Walmart, an Applebee's and other businesses were damaged and several vehicles flipped in Moncks Corner about 30 miles inland from Charleston.

More than 10 inches of rain fell between Hilton Head Island and Charleston overnight, radar estimates showed.

# San Bernardino wildfire fast, forcing evacuations

Associated Press

SAN BERNARDINO, Calif. — Several homes burned Monday as a fast-moving wildfire torched a California hillside community, triggering evacuations while hundreds of firefighters tried to control the blaze.

The Edgehill fire erupted in the 3300 block of Beverly Drive on Little Mountain about 2:40 p.m., according to San Bernardino County fire officials.

Early reports said the fire, fought by more than 200 firefighters, grew to at least 100 acres. By about 6 p.m., county officials said that the forward progress of the fire had been stopped, and that the blaze was holding at 54 acres with 25%

contained, the San Bernardino County Fire Department said on X.

"At this point the fire is very much under control," the department said.

Arson investigators were still trying to determine Monday evening how the fire started. One person was detained for a few hours but has been released, San Bernardino police said.

Evacuation orders were issued to all residents south of Ridge Line Drive and north of Edgehill Road, west to and including Beverly Drive, and east to Circle Road. As of 9 p.m. Monday, authorities said the evacuation orders would remain in effect.

# Families whose loved ones left decaying owed \$950M

AP/Report for America

DENVER — The Colorado funeral home owners who allegedly stored 190 decaying bodies and sent grieving families fake ashes were ordered by a judge to pay \$950 million to the victims' relatives in a civil case, the attorney announced Monday.

The judgment is unlikely to be paid out since the owners, Jon and Carie Hallford, have been in financial trouble for years. They also face hundreds of criminal charges in separate state and federal cases, including abuse of a corpse, and allegations they took \$130,000 from families for cremations and burials they never provided.

That leaves the nearly \$1 billion sum largely symbolic of the emotional devastation wreaked on family members who learned the remains of their mothers, fathers or children weren't in the ashes they cere-

monially spread or clutched tight but were instead decaying in a bug-infested building.

"I'm never going to get a dime from them, so, I don't know, it's a little frustrating," said Crystina Page, who had hired the funeral home, Return to Nature, to cremate her son's remains in 2019.

She carried the urn she thought held his ashes across the country until the news arrived in 2023 that his body had been identified in the Return to Nature facility, four years after his death.

Dozens of family members have received similar news as the 190 bodies have been identified, shattering their grieving processes.

Jon Hallford, who is in custody, and Carie Hallford, who is out on bail, did not acknowledge the civil case or show up to hearings, Swan said.

# Judge rules Google maintains monopoly with search engine

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A judge on Monday ruled that Google's ubiquitous search engine has been illegally exploiting its dominance to squash competition and stifle innovation, a seismic decision that could shake up the internet and hobble one of the world's best-known companies.

The highly anticipated decision issued by U.S. District Judge Amit Mehta comes nearly a year after the start of a trial pitting the U.S. Justice Department against Google in the country's biggest antitrust showdown in a quarter century.

After reviewing reams of evidence that included testimony from top executives at Google, Microsoft and Apple during last year's 10-week trial, Mehta issued his potentially market-shifting decision three months after the two sides presented their closing arguments.

"After having carefully considered and weighed the witness testimony and evidence, the court reaches the following conclusion: Google is a monopolist, and it has acted as one to main-

tain its monopoly," Mehta wrote in his 277-page ruling. He said Google's dominance in the search market is evidence of its monopoly.

Google "enjoys an 89.2% share of the market for general search services, which increases to 94.9% on mobile devices," the ruling said.

It represents a major setback for Google and its parent, Alphabet Inc., which had steadfastly argued that its popularity stemmed from consumers' overwhelming desire to use a search engine so good at what it does that it has become synonymous with looking things up online.

Google's search engine processes an estimated 8.5 billion queries per day worldwide, nearly doubling its daily volume from 12 years ago, according to a recent study released by the investment firm BOND.

Kent Walker, Google's president of global affairs, said the company intends to appeal Mehta's findings.

"This decision recognizes that Google offers the best search engine, but concludes

that we shouldn't be allowed to make it easily available," Walker said.

For now, the decision vindicates antitrust regulators at the Justice Department, which filed its lawsuit nearly four years ago while Donald Trump was still president, and has been escalating its efforts to rein in Big Tech's power during President Joe Biden's administration.

"This victory against Google is an historic win for the American people," said Attorney General Merrick Garland.

The case depicted Google as a technological bully that methodically has thwarted competition to protect a search engine that has become the centerpiece of a digital advertising machine that generated nearly \$240 billion in revenue last year. Justice Department lawyers argued that Google's monopoly enabled it to charge advertisers artificially high prices while also enjoying the luxury of not having to invest more time and money into improving the quality of its search engine — a lax approach that hurt consumers.

## Wall Street rebounds from worst day in 2 years

Associated Press

NEW YORK — U.S. stocks are bouncing back, and calm is returning to Wall Street after Japan's market soared earlier Tuesday to claw back much of the losses from its worst day since 1987.

The S&P 500 was rallying by 1.6% in midday trading and on track to break a brutal three-day losing streak.

It had tumbled a bit more than 6% after several weaker-than-expected reports raised worries the Federal Reserve had pressed the brakes too hard for too long on the U.S. economy through high interest rates in order to beat inflation.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average was up 480 points, or 1.2%, as of 11 a.m. Eastern time, and the Nasdaq composite was 1.7% higher.

The vast majority of stocks were climbing in a mirror opposite of the day before, from smaller companies that need U.S. households to keep spending to huge multinationals more dependent on the global economy.

Stronger-than-expected profit reports from several big U.S. companies helped drive the market. Kenvue, the company behind Tylenol and Band-Aids, jumped 12.7% after reporting stronger profit than expected thanks in part to higher prices for its products. Uber rolled 7.9% higher after easily topping profit forecasts for the latest quarter.

Several technical factors may have accelerated the recent swoon for markets, beyond weak U.S. hiring data and other dispiriting U.S. economic reports, in what strategists at Barclays called "a perfect storm" for causing extreme market moves.

## Putin seeks promotion of 'traditional Russian spiritual, moral values' overseas

Associated Press

MOSCOW — Russian President Vladimir Putin on Tuesday called for a program for overseas promotion of "traditional Russian spiritual and moral values," a theme that the Kremlin has increasingly sounded in recent years.

In an order published on the Kremlin website, Putin instructed officials responsible for national projects to allot an unspecified amount of money

for a program called "Russia in the World."

The program would be aimed toward "developing international youth cooperation and promoting traditional Russian spiritual and moral values abroad," the order said.

The order did not specify the values that would be promoted, but Russia has shown rising animosity toward Western social liberalism, particularly toward legitimizing nontraditional sexual relations and gender identi-

ty.

The Russian Supreme Court last year outlawed the so-called "international LGBT movement" as extremist. Some Russians since then have been jailed for short periods or fined for displaying rainbow-themed material.

Since the 2022 beginning of the conflict in Ukraine, Putin has publicly characterized the West as "satanic" and accused it of trying to undermine Russia by exporting liberal ideologies.



# Tokyo reports 120 heatstroke deaths for July

Associated Press

TOKYO — More than 120 people died of heatstroke in the Tokyo metropolitan area in July, when the nation's average temperature hit record highs and heat warnings were in effect much of the month, Japanese authorities said Tuesday.

According to the Tokyo Medical Examiner's Office, many of the 123 people who died were elderly. All but two were found dead indoors, and most were not using air conditioners despite having them installed.

Japanese health authorities and weather forecasters repeat-

edly advised people to stay indoors, consume ample liquids to avoid dehydration and use air conditioning, because elderly people often think that air conditioning is not good for one's health and tend to avoid using it.

It was the largest number of heatstroke deaths in Tokyo's 23 metropolitan districts in July since 127 deaths were recorded during a 2018 heatwave, the medical examiner's office said.

More than 37,000 people were treated at hospitals for heatstroke across Japan from July 1 to July 28, according to the Fire and Disaster Manage-

ment Agency.

The average temperature in July was 3.89 degrees Fahrenheit higher than the average over the past 30 years, making it the hottest July since the Japan Meteorological Agency began keeping records in 1898.

On Tuesday, heatstroke warnings were in place in much of Tokyo and western Japan. The temperature rose to about 93 F in downtown Tokyo, where people carried parasols or handheld fans.

"I feel every year the hot period is getting longer," said Hidehiro Takano from Kyoto. "I have

the aircon on all the time, including while I'm sleeping. I try not to go outside."

Maxime Picavet, a French tourist, showed a portable fan he bought in Tokyo. "It works very, very well," he said. "With this temperature, it's a necessity."

The meteorological agency predicted more heat in August, with temperatures of 95 F or higher.

"Please pay attention to temperature forecasts and heatstroke alerts and take adequate precautions to prevent heatstroke," it said in a statement.

## More UN staffers fired after Oct. 7 attack probe

Associated Press

JERUSALEM — The United Nations said Monday it has fired additional staff members from its agency for Palestinian refugees after an internal investigation found they may have been involved in the Hamas-led Oct. 7 attack against Israel.

The U.N. secretary-general's office announced the move in a brief statement to journalists. Farhan Haq, deputy spokesperson for the secretary-general, did not elaborate on the UNRWA staffers' likely role in the attack or on the evidence that prompted its decision.

UNRWA previously fired 12 staffers and put seven staffers on administrative leave without pay over the claims.

The group of nine staffers the U.N. announced it had fired Monday includes some from each group, said Juliette Touma, communications director for UNRWA. The U.N. did not clarify how many have now been fired from the agency in total.

The U.N.'s internal watchdog has been investigating the agency since Israel in January accused 12 UNRWA staffers of being involved in the Oct. 7 attack on Is-

rael, in which militants killed 1,200 people and abducted some 250 others.

Israel's allegations initially led top donor countries to suspend their funding for UNRWA. That caused a cash crunch of about \$450 million. Since then, all donor countries except for the U.S. have decided to resume funding.

Oren Marmorstein, the spokesperson for Israel's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, wrote on X following the announcement of the firings that Israel was again calling for donor countries to suspend funding "as the funds may go to terrorist elements."

"UNRWA is part of the problem and not part of the solution, and anyone who seeks the best interests of Israel, the Gaza Strip and the region should act to replace UNRWA's activities with other agencies," he wrote.

The U.N. watchdog charged with investigating UNRWA, called the Office of Internal Oversight Services, said it drew on evidence provided by Israel in discussions with Israeli authorities.

It said it found sufficient evidence pointing to nine employees' potential involvement in the Oct. 7 attack.

## Venezuela's top prosecutor to probe opposition leaders

Associated Press

CARACAS, Venezuela — Venezuela's top prosecutor on Monday announced a criminal investigation against the opposition's presidential candidate Edmundo González and its leader Maria Corina Machado over their call on the armed forces to abandon their support for President Nicolás Maduro and to stop repressing demonstrators.

Attorney General Tarek William Saab's statement tied the investigation directly to a written appeal the two members of the opposition sent earlier about Maduro and the demonstrators who have come out in force to defend their votes in the July 28 election.

Saab, in a written announcement posted on X, said the duo "falsely announced a winner of the presidential election other than the one proclaimed by the National Electoral Council, the only body qualified to do so" and they openly incited "police and military officials to disobey the laws."

Gonzalez's and Machado's written appeal shows the alleged commission of various crimes including usurpation of functions, dissemination of false informa-

tion to cause fear and conspiracy, Saab said.

The armed forces are traditionally the arbiter of political disputes in Venezuela. But they've shown no signs of ditching Maduro even in the face of credible evidence presented by the opposition that it trounced the self-proclaimed socialist at the polls by a more than 2-to-1 margin.

González and Machado called on rank and file members of the security forces to rethink their loyalty to Maduro.

"We appeal to the conscience of the military and police to put themselves on the side of the people and their families," the two wrote in a long message.

"We won this election without any doubt. It was an electoral avalanche," the two continued. "Now it's up to all of us to respect the voice of the people."

Authorities have declared Maduro the victor in last Sunday's election but have yet to produce voting tallies to prove he won. The opposition claims to have collected records from more than 80% of the 30,000 polling booths nationwide showing it won.

## AMERICAN ROUNDUP

## Senate officially names bald eagle national bird

**DC** WASHINGTON—In the rush toward recess last week, the Senate moved to correct an oversight that many Americans might not even be aware of when lawmakers passed a bill to designate the bald eagle as the national bird.

Since it was engraved on the Great Seal of the United States in 1782, the eagle has been universally assumed to be the country's national bird. But authors of books on the bald eagle discovered in recent years that Congress never officially designated a national bird, even though it's the only flying creature that adorns U.S. currency, many military insignias and the seals of numerous government agencies, including the departments of Defense and Justice.

Preston Cook, who wrote "American Eagle: A Visual History of Our National Emblem" published in 2019, and Jack E. Davis, a history professor at the University of Florida who authored "The Bald Eagle: The Improbable Journey of America's Bird" published in 2022, teamed up this year to persuade lawmakers to make it official. They targeted those from states with some of the largest populations of bald eagles, asking them to introduce legislation declaring it the national bird of the U.S.

## Pilot arrested at airport, forcing flight cancellation

**TX** HOUSTON — A Frontier Airlines flight that had been set to go from Houston to the Dallas area last week got canceled not because of weather, but because one of its

pilots got arrested.

The pilot, Seymour Walker, was arrested by officers around 4 p.m. Thursday before passengers began to board the plane at Bush Intercontinental Airport, according to Houston police.

Walker was taken "into custody without incident," Houston police said. Walker, 45, was wanted on an assault-family violence arrest warrant issued by the Dallas Fort Worth International Airport Department of Public Safety.

In a statement, Frontier Airlines confirmed the pilot's arrest and that it was not related to the airlines' or the pilot's performance of his job duties. A replacement for the pilot was not immediately available, forcing the flight's cancellation, Frontier Airlines said.

## Music fest noise spurs shocked complaints

**CA** LOS ANGELES — The complaints began early Friday afternoon on social media platforms including Reddit and X and continued until late Saturday night.

The loud music and vibrating bass could be heard and felt across the Los Angeles' Westside, from Culver City to Manhattan Beach.

The source of the earsplitting disruption was the Hard Summer music festival held at Hollywood Park, adjacent to SoFi Stadium in Inglewood. The festival features techno, house and dub-step music and was expected to attract roughly 70,000 daily attendees.

The El Segundo Police Department said it received several noise complaints on Saturday. The department had not re-

ceived any complaints Sunday as of noon, said Sgt. Russel Patton, but the festival was scheduled to begin again at 2 p.m.

## Robinson statue unveiled after original was stolen

**KS** WICHITA — A rebuilt statue of Jackie Robinson in bronze was welcomed home Monday by Little League players and former Major League Baseball All-Stars, just over six months after the original was destroyed by thieves.

The original sculpture of the baseball icon resting a bat on his shoulder was cut off at its ankles in January, leaving only Robinson's cleats behind at McAdams Park in Wichita, Kan.

An identical statue returned to the park, where about 600 children play in the urban youth baseball league called League 42, which was founded in 2013 and named after Robinson's uniform number with the Brooklyn Dodgers. Playing for the Dodgers, Robinson broke Major League Baseball's racial barrier in 1947.

The community was expected to be joined Monday by representatives of Major League Baseball and former players, including All-Stars CC Sabathia and Dellin Betances, according to League 42 posts on social media.

## Recreational pot sales set at nearly 100 sites

**OH** COLUMBUS—Recreational marijuana sales were set to begin across Ohio on Tuesday when the state issued its first operating certificates.

Nearly 100 medical marijuana dispensaries will be able to begin sales immediately, although it's not clear how many will be ready to open, the Division of Cannabis Control said Monday.

Many will be ready right away while others could be delayed by staffing or inventory issues.

The first round of operation certificates will go to 98 locations, according to the Division of Cannabis Control.

## Sewage water could be turned to drinking water

**MD** WESTMINSTER — Facing a limited supply of drinking water, Carroll County's Westminster, Md., plans to draw from a surprising source — its own sewage.

This winter, the city of 20,000 will begin constructing a new building at its wastewater treatment plant, where already-treated wastewater will be purified with an array of special membranes and UV light, and sent into the city's drinking water reservoir — rather than discharged into a creek.

Named PUREWater Westminster, it would be Maryland's first project to reuse wastewater for drinking water, an already common practice in water-poor parts of the U.S., like the Southwest, that is spreading elsewhere as a changing climate and burgeoning development threaten the availability of water.

A second Maryland water reuse project could come in Anne Arundel County, which is studying injecting purified wastewater into its groundwater aquifer, its principal source of fresh water.

— From wire reports

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# Allman, Kendricks take gold, silver

Associated Press

SAINT-DENIS, France — Sam Kendricks appreciates the Olympics again. Valarie Allman never stopped.

It's just the healing power that medals have to mend and reinforce feelings.

In a short span Monday night, Allman won her second straight Olympic title in the discus throw, while Kendricks captured silver in a pole vault competition that featured Sweden's Armand "Mondo" Duplantis breaking his own world record.

The medals from Allman and Kendricks, 31, gave the U.S. 11 so far in the meet, including three golds.

Three years ago in Tokyo, Kendricks didn't get the chance to compete. He was placed in isolation because of a positive COVID-19 test and didn't feel supported by Olympic officials.

It led to some pretty hard feelings — feelings that had the Mississippi native wondering if he even wanted to compete in Paris.

His love-loathe relationship

is back on path to love after he earned a silver medal. It pairs with the bronze he captured at the 2016 Rio de Janeiro Games.

"I was definitely bitter," Kendricks said. "I wasn't going to come to Paris until it was proven to me that it was going to be great and shining into the future."

"It's tough, being turned away from. All of a sudden you're sick, and every doctor throws you to the wolves, and all of a sudden you're stuck in isolation when Team USA is supposed to love you."

It took some soul-searching for him to arrive in Paris for another Olympics.

"Rather than run away from it like I really wanted to, you've got to come back," Kendricks said. "You've got to face that lion."

Kendricks went up against a pole-vaulting beast in Duplantis, the 24-year-old from Louisiana who competes for his mother's native Sweden. Kendricks watched the journey up close of Duplantis blossoming

into the world's best. It culminated Monday with Duplantis clearing 6.25 meters (20 feet, 6 inches) to defend his gold medal.

"His story is written in the stars, for sure," said Kendricks, who cleared 5.95 meters (19-6 $\frac{1}{4}$ ) to hold off Emmanouil Karalis of Greece. "But I think mine will have a tapestry hanging on my wall one day worthy of reading."

Same with Allman's tale. After winning in Tokyo, the 29-year-old who competed for Stanford realized she needed to dial back on the discus training. It had become her sole focus in and out of the global pandemic.

"I think I might be the only person in the world that probably had too much discus in their life," Allman joked. "When you want to be as good as you can at something, you slowly start making sacrifices, and you don't realize that it's happening."

To scale back, she bought a house and hung out with friends.

"Such basic things," Allman

said. "When I went out to perform, I said that no matter how it played out, I'm so grateful that I get to do what I love. No matter if I get a medal, whatever color it is, if I don't get a medal, this is going to be a night that I'm proud of the fight that I showed. I think there was something freeing in that."

Early on, Allman showed some jitters by fouling on her first toss.

"I felt the weight of like, 'Holy crap, this is the Olympics,'" Allman explained. "It took me a minute to find my groove."

She went 68.74 meters (225-6) on her second throw and 69.50 (228-0) on her fourth. It was enough to beat Feng Bin of China and Sandra Elkasevic of Croatia.

"Pressure is becoming my friend," Allman said. "I think it's one of those things I've learned can bring out the best in you if you embrace it."

"To walk into the ring having one attempt left and knowing I'd already won, it was hard fighting back tears."

## Pole vaulter Duplantis wins gold, sets world record

Associated Press

SAINT-DENIS, France — The pole vaulter they call "Mondo" really can put on a show.

With the rest of the action at the Olympic track wrapped up for the evening and the crowd of 80,000 at the Stade de France still on their feet, Armand Duplantis rested the pole on his right shoulder and took a deep breath. Then, he lifted up that long piece of carbon fiber and took off down the runway and into the night sky.

Another Olympic gold medal already was his. When he came crashing down into the padding on the other side of that sky-high, pink-tinted bar, so was another world record.

Duplantis, the Louisiana-born 24-year-old who competes for

his mother's native Sweden, cleared 6.25 meters (20 feet, 6 inches) to break the world record for the ninth time — but the first time on his sport's grandest stage.

His next move was a sprint to the stands to hug his girlfriend and celebrate his record and second Olympic gold with all those friends and family wearing yellow and blue. The country's king and queen were on hand, as well, to witness Sweden's latest history-making leap into the pole vault pit.

"It's hard to understand, honestly," he said. "If I don't beat this moment in my career, then I'm pretty OK with that. I don't think you can get much better than what just happened."

It felt only right that the Duplantis drama came with Noah Lyles in the building.

A night after the American sprint star electrified the track with a .005-second victory in the men's 100 meters, Lyles was on hand to receive his gold medal and watch Duplantis electrify the field to the tune of 6.25 meters — about the height of a typical two-story building.

The drama played out over a half hour at the end of the night, long after a slow-and-strange women's 5,000 meters had wrapped up and after Keely Hodgkinson had captured the first track medal for Britain at this meet in the 800, the evening's last race.

That usually signals a time for

folks to start heading for the exits.

But Mondo's encore was worth staying for, and most everyone did.

"Mondo is an extraordinary jumper because of four factors," said American Sam Kendricks, who finished second. "One, he's got a great coach for a long time. He's had a lot of time to do it. He's got great equipment and understanding of the event. He's a fan of sport, and he's got God's hand on his back."

By winning a second straight gold medal and breaking the record for the ninth time — each time by one centimeter — Duplantis is now next to, if not above, Sergei Bubka as the greatest ever in this event.



# Serbia, Germany in men's basketball semis

Associated Press

PARIS—Nikola Jokic had 21 points and 14 rebounds, and Serbia surged back to beat Australia 95-90 in overtime Tuesday to reach the Olympic basketball semifinals.

Bogdan Bogdanovic added 17 for points for Serbia, which rallied from a 24-point first-half deficit to set up a meeting with either the United States or Brazil.

Serbia is aiming for its first Olympic medal since the 2016 Games in Rio de Janeiro, where it took home silver. That was the first Olympics for a then 21-year-old Jokic.

Patty Mills had 26 points — but just six after halftime — for Australia, which won the Olympic bronze medal in Tokyo three years ago.

Jokic put Serbia on top, 91-90, with just over a minute left in overtime. Australia's Jack McVeigh then misfired on its next possession. Serbia got the ball back to Jokic, who converted again.

Australia attempted to get the ball into Mills on the inbounds, but it was knocked away and stolen by Serbia.

Serbia stormed back in the third quarter and retook the lead late, 61-60, on a jumper by Bogdanovic. The basket capped a 40-14

scoring run.

Serbia led 67-65 entering the fourth and was up 81-78 when Josh Giddey hit a short jumper to cut the margin to a point with just over a minute to play in regulation.

Australia rebounded a Bogdanovic miss, but Mills misfired on the other end. Australia forced a Vasilije Micic error, but he was fouled on the rebound with 9.8 seconds left. He then connected on one of two free throws.

Australia got the ball to Mills, who lost his dribble, gathered and hit a fallaway jumper to send the game to an extra frame.

**Germany 76, Greece 63:** Franz Wagner scored 18 points and Germany overcame a sluggish start to beat Greece and advance to the semifinals for the first time.

Dennis Schroder added 13 points and eight assists for the reigning World Cup champions, who will face the winner of France and Canada on Thursday. Germany's previous best finish at the Olympics was seventh place in 1992.

Germany is unbeaten at the Paris Games after going 3-0 in the group stage.

Wagner said he and his teammates haven't had to look too deep for extra motivation during their time in France.

"I think everybody on the team knows that we've got a special group, and I want to get the most out of this," Wagner said. "Obviously, last year was special but we're trying to continue that and hopefully keep that momentum going forward."

Giannis Antetokounmpo had 22 points for Greece, which was denied its first semifinals berth in Antetokounmpo's first Olympics appearance.

Greece had 15 turnovers, leading to 20 points for Germany.

"There were a lot of details in this (game) they get you punished. They get you beat," said Greece's Thomas Walkup, who added 12 points.

Germany coach Gordon Hebert said going to a bigger lineup and switching more on defense was effective after halftime.

Wagner said carrying the same mentality throughout the tournament benefited Germany after its initial slow start.

"I think it speaks to our maturity," Wagner said. "We even talked about it at halftime — not everything's going to go perfect all the time. So you kind of recover from that and adjust and react. I thought we did a good job of responding."

# American Marks, French Polynesian Vaast win surfing gold

Associated Press

TEAHUPO'O, Tahiti — French Polynesian Kauli Vaast won the gold medal in men's surfing while Caroline Marks from the United States won the women's surfing gold medal on Monday at the Paris Olympics in Tahiti.

Cheers and tears erupted from boats floating near the wave and crowds of spectators along the shore as the men's final match ended in the afternoon. Vaast pumped his arms into the air in victory after beating Jack Robinson from Australia, who received the silver medal.

"I don't really realize it, but I just made history," said Vaast. "I can't be prouder to represent Tahiti and France at home."

The women's gold medal match ended about thirty minutes later, with Marks beating Tatiana Weston-Webb from Brazil, who was awarded the silver medal.

"Your whole life goes into a moment like this," Marks said with a gold medal hanging around her neck. "It's beyond all my wildest dreams."

For the bronze medals, Gabriel Medina from Brazil and Johanne Defay from France won after beating Alonso Correa

from Peru and Brisa Hennessy from Costa Rica, respectively.

"Chopes gave me so many good waves, so many good results. So I can't complain," said Medina, using a common nickname for Teahupo'o.

Medalists — some in bare feet — stepped on to the Olympic podium near the ocean as crowds gathered to cheer and take photographs. Roosters ran along the grass while young local surfers called the names of the athletes as they walked by.

All winners of the Paris Olympics surfing competition are first-time Olympic medalists, after defending Olympic women's champion Carissa Moore of the U.S. — who won at the Tokyo Games, where Olympic surfing debuted — was beaten in the quarterfinals on Thursday.

"Obviously I'm really sad to not be a part of finals day, to get to represent my home and my family one more time, but I'm really grateful," Moore said after her loss. "I just hope that at the end of the day I can encourage whoever is watching, win or lose, don't be afraid to go into it fearlessly and don't be afraid to fail."

The final day of the Paris Olympics surf-

ing competition began Monday morning after two days of delays due to unfavorable conditions. In the morning, conditions were smaller than the heavy, barrel-shaped waves Teahupo'o is famed for and that were seen during part of the men's competition the week before.

But by the afternoon waves grew larger and more frequent, giving athletes a chance to impress judges with the time they spent inside the barrels. At one point during the competition a whale jumped out of the water while surfers went head to head.

While not every surfer who competed was able to bring home a medal, many agreed that the second-ever Olympics surfing competition — filled with viral photographs, record-breaking scores and hours of stunning video footage broadcast to viewers around the world — helped promote the sport.

"Everyone's watching and paying attention," said Medina, who said he gained millions of social media followers after a photo of him floating in the sky next to his surfboard while bailing out of a wave went viral during the competition. "I think surfing wins."

# White Sox tie AL losing streak at 21

Associated Press

OAKLAND, Calif. — The Chicago White Sox lost their 21st straight game, tying the American League record with a 5-1 defeat to the Oakland Athletics on Monday night as Max Schuemann hit a tiebreaking, two-run single in the fourth inning.

Chicago is on the longest losing streak since the 1988 Baltimore Orioles lost 21 in a row. The NL record since 1900 is held by the 1961 Philadelphia Phillies, who lost 23 straight.

The major league low belongs to the 1889 Louisville Colonels, an American Association team that lost 26 consecutive games during a 27-111 season.

"We talk about it every day," White Sox manager Pedro Grifol said of the streak. "Everybody knows what it is. It's 21 in a row. It sucks. It's not fun. It's painful. It hurts. You name it. However you want to describe it. It's not for lack of effort. Nobody wants to come out here and lose, so we've just got to put a good game together and put this behind us."

Chicago, which last won on July 10 in a

doubleheader opener against Minnesota, dropped to 27-88 and is on pace to finish 38-124, which would be the most losses since the 1899 Cleveland Spiders of the National League went 20-134. The White Sox have been held to one run or none 32 times.

"You just try to turn the page," outfielder Corey Julks said. "Look forward to the next day, bounce back, don't dwell on the loss, just try to learn from them and get better each day. ... We're just trying to rally as a team and find a way to get a win."

Tyler Nevin's first-inning sacrifice fly put the A's ahead, but Andrew Benintendi tied the score with an RBI single against JP Sears (9-8) in the fourth.

JJ Bleday doubled in the bottom half off Ky Bush (0-1), a 24-year-old left-hander making his big league debut. Zack Gelof walked and Darell Hernaiz was hit by a pitch, loading the bases. Schuemann grounded a single between shortstop and third that bounced into left for a 3-1 lead.

Lawrence Butler hit a sixth-inning homer against Chad Kuhl, his 13th home run

this season.

Gelof added a run in the eighth when he sprinted home from first after Jared Shuster's pitch bounced away from catcher Korey Lee as Schuemann struck out. Lee looked toward Gelof at third and threw to first baseman Andrew Vaughn for the out, and Gelof ran home as Vaughn's throw skipped past Lee.

"Our whole plan coming into this series was to continue our focus, focus on the details of the game, play the game the way we know we're capable of, and we did that tonight," A's manager Mark Kotsay said.

Sears allowed three hits in seven innings with five strikeouts and a walk, improving to 5-1 in his last six decisions.

"I thought his outing was great," Kotsay said. "Five strikeouts, just one earned run. He managed the game great."

Austin Adams and Tyler Ferguson finished a four-hitter that took just 2 hours, 15 minutes, and included eight overall hits.

Bush allowed three runs, two hits and five walks over four innings with three strikeouts.

## Manaea, Mets shut out Cardinals in makeup game

Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — Sean Manaea won consecutive starts for the first time this season, Tyrone Taylor hit a three-run double from the No. 2 slot in the batting order and the New York Mets beat the St. Louis Cardinals 6-0 Monday in the makeup of a May 8 rainout.

"We went out and battled and did a good job," Taylor said. "That was cool, hitting second."

Manaea (8-4) allowed six hits in seven innings, struck out 10 and walked none. He has pitched 14 scoreless innings in his last two starts, giving up eight hits, striking out 21 and walking one.

"I'm getting ahead of guys," Manaea said. "I'm using my fastball and my sweeper. My sweeper has been good. I'm gaining more confidence in the sweeper."

New York (59-53) won the season series 4-2 and holds the tiebreak advantage over the Cardinals should it be needed to determine a wild-card berth or postseason home-field advantage. The Mets are 10-7 since the All-Star break.

**Giants 4, Nationals 1:** Matt Chapman homered in his third straight game, Logan Webb pitched into the sixth inning and vis-

iting San Francisco beat Washington.

The Giants have won nine of their past 12 games and at 57-57 have reached the .500 mark for the first time since June 1.

**Reds 10, Marlins 3:** Elly De La Cruz became the youngest franchise player with four extra-base hits in a game since at least 1901 and visiting Cincinnati overcame Jesús Sánchez's 480-foot home run, the longest in the major leagues this season, in a win over Miami.

Nick Martinez (6-5) pitched five scoreless innings to win on his 34th birthday in his first start since May 22.

**Diamondbacks 7, Guardians 6 (10):** Eugenio Suárez singled off All-Star closer Emmanuel Clase in the 10th inning to score automatic runner Corbin Carroll, lifting visiting Arizona to a victory over Cleveland.

The Guardians had forced extra innings on Daniel Schneemann's sacrifice fly in the ninth off Ryan Thompson, which plated Bo Naylor. There were four lead changes and five ties in the game.

**Red Sox 9, Royals 5:** James Paxton pitched six solid innings, Masataka Yoshida tied his career high with four of his team's 18 hits and visiting Boston beat Kansas City.

Boston, which has won four of its last five, now trails the Royals by 1½ games for the final American League wild card spot.

**Rangers 4, Astros 3 (10):** Josh Smith hit a game-ending, two-run homer in the 10th inning to give host Texas a win over Houston in the opener of the final series this season between the AL West rivals and last two World Series champions.

Smith pulled a 410-foot homer into right-center on a 94 mph fastball from Caleb Ferguson (2-3) with two outs.

**Twins 3, Cubs 0:** David Festa (2-2) struck out a career-high nine over five innings, and visiting Minnesota beat Chicago.

Minnesota drew within 3½ games of AL Central-leading Cleveland, the closest the Twins have been to first place since before play May 18.

**Dodgers 5, Phillies 3:** Teoscar Hernández hit a tiebreaking, two-run homer in the third inning, Shohei Ohtani went deep in the eighth and host Los Angeles beat Philadelphia in a matchup of NL division leaders.

Tyler Glasnow (9-6) struck out nine and gave up three runs and four hits in six innings. The right-hander has notched a career-high 164 strikeouts this season.