

## Russian missiles strike Kyiv amid G-7

*Associated Press*

KYIV, Ukraine — Russian missiles hit the Ukrainian capital early Sunday, striking at least two residential buildings and killing one person, the mayor of Kyiv said. The attack came as Western leaders meeting in Europe this week prepared to reaffirm their support for Ukraine and condemnation of Russia.

Associated Press journalists in Kyiv saw rescue services battling flames and rescuing civilians. The strikes also damaged a nearby kindergarten, where a crater pocked the courtyard. Ukrainian air force spokesman Yuriy Ignat said the missiles were Kh-101 cruise missiles fired from planes over the Caspian Sea, more than 932 miles away.

After conflicting early casualty reports, Mayor Vitali Klitschko said one person was killed and six injured, including a 7-year-old girl and her mother, whose condition he described as moderately severe.

Klitschko told journalists he believed the

airstrikes were “maybe a symbolic attack” ahead of a NATO summit in Madrid that starts Tuesday. Leaders of the Group of Seven industrialized nations, including President Joe Biden, were in Germany on Sunday for a meeting of the world’s largest economies.

The early morning Russian airstrikes were the first to successfully target the capital since June 5. Two more explosions were later heard in Kyiv, but their cause was not immediately clear.

A member of the Ukrainian parliament, Oleksiy Goncharenko, wrote on the Telegram messaging app that preliminary information indicated Russia launched 14 missiles toward the capital region and Kyiv itself, suggesting that some were intercepted.

In Cherkasy, about 100 miles southeast of Kyiv, one person was killed and five injured in strikes by two Russian rockets, regional governor Ihor Taburets said.

A former commander of U.S. forces in Europe said the strikes on Kyiv were in-

tended to humiliate Western leaders as they gathered for the G-7 and NATO summits.

“Russia is saying, ‘We can do this all day long. You guys are powerless to stop us,’” retired Lt. Gen. Ben Hodges, the former commanding general of U.S. Army forces in Europe, said. “The Russians are humiliating the leaders of the West.”

In a phone interview, Hodges said Russia doesn’t have bottomless stocks of precision missiles and that “if they are using them, it’s going to be for a special purpose.”

Meanwhile, Russian troops fought to consolidate their gains in the country’s east by battling to swallow up the last remaining Ukrainian stronghold in Luhansk province.

Luhansk Gov. Serhiy Haidai said Sunday that Russia was conducting intense airstrikes on the city of Lysychansk, destroying its television tower and seriously damaging a road bridge.

“There’s very much destruction. Lysychansk is almost unrecognizable,” he wrote on Facebook.

## End of Roe is the start for anti-abortion lawmakers

*The Washington Post*

On the heels of their greatest victory, anti-abortion activists are eager to capitalize on their momentum by enshrining constitutional abortion bans, pushing Congress to pass a national prohibition, blocking abortion pills and limiting people’s ability to get abortions across state lines.

At the National Association of Christian Lawmakers conference in Branson, Mo., on Friday, several dozen state legislators from across the country brainstormed ideas — all in agreement that their wildly successful movement would not end with *Roe v. Wade*.

“It’s not over,” said Oklahoma state Rep. Todd Russ, a Republican who attended the confe-

rence. At this point, Russ said, the ideas are like “popcorn in a popcorn popper.”

“There are all kinds going around.”

The Supreme Court decision has already transformed America, immediately ending abortion care in eight states, with many more states poised to ban the procedure in the coming weeks and months. By the end of the year, abortion could be outlawed across roughly half the country. Former Vice President Mike Pence and other GOP leaders have called for a national ban.

Democratic-led states are scrambling to enshrine protections for abortion, and President Joe Biden has pledged to do everything in his power “to protect a

woman’s right in states where they will face the consequences.” But Biden has also ruled out the more extreme remedies, such as expanding the Supreme Court, and key Democrats remain opposed to eliminating the Senate filibuster to protect abortion rights.

Given those limited options in a post-Roe America, anti-abortion lawmakers are pushing to pass more restrictive abortion bans in their states.

Just moments after the Supreme Court released its decision on Friday, Florida state Rep. Anthony Sabatini wrote to Gov. Ron DeSantis, urging the fellow Republican to call a special session that would allow the legislature to pass a six-week abortion ban.

The 15-week ban that DeSantis signed into law in April, which allows more than 90% of abortions to continue, does not go far enough, Sabatini said.

Although most legislative sessions have adjourned for the year, governors in several states have indicated their interest in calling special sessions to pass additional anti-abortion legislation. Republican Gov. Kristi Noem of South Dakota announced a session immediately after the Supreme Court decision, despite the fact that her state already has a “trigger ban.”

Republican governors in Indiana and Nebraska had also signaled their interest in reconvening to pass additional anti-abortion legislation if the Supreme Court overturned *Roe*.

## Protesters meet for ‘dance of the dead’ near Ramstein

By ALEXANDER RIEDEL  
*Stars and Stripes*

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany — Around 250 peace activists demonstrated outside Ramstein Air Base on Saturday to protest Western support of the war in Ukraine, German rearmament and the NATO summit in Madrid.

Event organizers called on participants to show up wearing all black, makeup, and skeleton or ghost masks for a “dance of the dead.”

The costumes were intended to create a “macabre” and “eye-catching form of protest,” organizers said online, calling the event a satirical “homage to those who advocate and profiteer from the war.”

The event culminated a week-long protest organized by German grassroots organization “Stop Air Base Ramstein,” which has organized an annual protest since 2015. The anti-fascist activist group said it aims to raise public awareness of the central role of Ramstein in NATO warfare and overseas military operations.

“There are few places that stand for war like Ramstein,” said Pascal Luig, an organizer of the event. “It is the largest air base outside the U.S. It’s a seat for NATO. Weapons, ammunition and

soldiers are flown from here into combat zones — all from German soil. We’d like to see that end.”

During the campaign, which started June 19, activists stayed at a peace camp in Steinwende, north of Ramstein, for a week of speeches, music, seminars and workshops supporting peace and an end to military proliferation.

One of the events was called “Presence of the US military: Wealth or poverty accelerator in the region,” examining the impact of Ramstein on the surrounding economy of Kaiserslautern.

Around noon Saturday, a small caravan set out to march the three miles toward Ramstein Air Base to set up a truck-bed stage in sight of the installation’s main gate.

For nearly three hours, musicians played anti-war songs, activists gave speeches and protesters wearing giant masks lambasted prominent politicians, including former U.S. President Barack Obama, his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin and former German Chancellor Angela Merkel, for their role in recent global conflicts.

First Police Commissioner Siegfried Ranzinger, a spokesman on site, said the protest was peaceful and conducted as planned.

## Army 4-star Williams likely to assume Europe/Africa post

By JOHN VANDIVER  
*Stars and Stripes*

STUTTGART, Germany — Gen. Darryl Williams, who received his fourth star Thursday, is poised to become the first Black commander of U.S. Army Europe and Africa, leading ground forces at a crucial time for security in Europe.

The current superintendent at the U.S. Military Academy, Williams will replace Gen. Christopher Cavoli, who will take over at U.S. European Command on July 1. A native of Alexandria, Va., Williams is himself a West Point graduate.

Williams’ ascent to USAREUR-AF chief has not yet been formally announced by the Army, but his selection for the post was reported by Politico earlier this month, citing unidentified military officials.

On Thursday, the Senate confirmed Williams for a fourth star, a prerequisite for taking the job. A change of command at U.S. Army Europe and Africa headquarters in Wiesbaden is

slated for Tuesday.

Williams will bring his extensive military experience in Europe to the job. As a colonel, he commanded the 1st Armored Division Artillery in Baumholder, Germany, until it was inactivated in 2007.

At the time, artillery was on the way out for the Army in Europe as part of a long post-Cold War draw down. Williams returns at a time when American artillery and other weaponry are returning to the continent amid concerns about the threat from Russia.

As a two-star general, Williams was in charge of U.S. Army Africa, headquartered in Vicenza, Italy. He was then promoted to lieutenant general and led NATO Allied Land Command out of Izmir, Turkey.

Williams’ experience in Africa and in NATO will come into play as he leads a Wiesbaden headquarters that in 2020 merged Africa and Europe missions under one four-star command.

## Navy christens ship named for Marine MOH recipient

*The San Diego Union-Tribune*

In February 1968, during a particularly vicious moment in the Vietnam War, a virtually unknown Marine from Camp Pendleton, Calif., did the unthinkable as enemy forces turned their guns his way.

John Canley, who had snuck into the service earlier at age 15, scrambled into the open, scaled a wall, and guided wounded Marines to safety as close-quarter fire echoed in everyone’s ears.

The gunnery sergeant then scaled the wall a second time, saving additional Marines during the Battle of Hue City, a bloodbath that would lead many Americans to decide that the war in Vietnam was unwinnable.

Decades later, Canley was awarded the Medal of Honor for his heroics, becoming the first living Black Marine to receive the highest medal the nation gives for extraordinary acts of bravery.

On Saturday, five weeks after

he died at 84, he was honored again — this time by the Navy, which christened a massive vessel in Canley’s name at the General Dynamics-NASSCO shipyard in San Diego. Canley’s named was fixed to an Expeditionary Sea Base, a new type of ship that will help the country deploy troops and equipment in regions where the U.S. doesn’t have easy access to land bases and seaports.

The ship’s capabilities were a talking point during the christen-

ing, which was attended by about 350 people, including five Medal of Honor recipients. But the focus was on Canley, a 6-foot four-inch, 240 pound Arkansas native who was known as a quiet, deliberate man who never swore.

“His leadership is what kept us alive,” said John Ligato, of Jacksonville, N.C., who fought along side Canley in Hue City. “He was so calm, self-assured. He never asked us to do anything that he wouldn’t do.”

# Liszewski takes command of Marine bases in Pacific

By MATTHEW M. BURKE  
*Stars and Stripes*

CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa — A veteran of Iraq and Afghanistan assumed control of Marine Corps bases across the Pacific on Friday from the man who steered the sprawling command through the coronavirus pandemic.

Maj. Gen. Stephen Liszewski, a career artillery officer, former U.S. Naval Academy commandant and high-level staff officer in Washington, took command of Marine Corps Installations Pacific from Maj. Gen. William Bowers at a ceremony at Camp Foster.

“The work that you do epitomizes selfless spirit in support of the III Marine Expeditionary Force,” Liszewski said, addressing his audience. “I am honored to be the commanding general here, and I look forward to

putting my hands on the oar with you and getting down to work.”

Marine Corps Installations Pacific has control over Marine bases in Hawaii, Japan, South Korea and Guam. Its mission includes command and control, oversight and budgeting for those installations, according to its mission statement.

“My number one challenge is to sustain the momentum and success that Gen. Bowers and the team here has had during Gen. Bowers’ tenure,” Liszewski said at press conference after the ceremony.

His plans include “world-class basing and support” for III MEF and the joint force in the Western Pacific, strengthening relationships with allies and partners and preparing the force by “developing new capabilities that are more lethal, more adaptable” and “more resilient,” he said.

# Pride parades march on with new urgency

*Associated Press*

NEW YORK — New York City’s annual pride parade kicked off Sunday with glittering confetti, cheering crowds, fluttering rainbow flags and newfound fears about losing freedoms won through decades of activism.

The annual marches in New York, San Francisco, Chicago and elsewhere are taking place just two days after one conservative justice on the Supreme Court signaled, in a ruling on abortion, that the court should reconsider the right to same-sex marriage recognized in 2015.

“We’re here to make a statement,” said Mercedes Sharpe, 31, who traveled to Manhattan from Massachusetts. “I think it’s about making a point, rather than all the other years like how we normally celebrate it. This one’s really gonna stand out. I think a lot of angry people, not even just women, angry men, angry women.”

Thousands of people — many decked in pride colors — lined the parade route through Manhattan, cheering as floats and marchers passed by.

The warning shot from the nation’s top court came after a year of legislative defeats for the LGBTQ community, including the passage of laws in some states limiting the discussion of sexual orientation or gender identity with children.

As anti-gay sentiments resurface, some are pushing for pride parades to return to their roots — less blocks-long street parties, more overtly civil rights marches.

“It has gone from being a statement of advocacy and protest to being much more of a celebration of gay life,” Sean Clarkin, 67, said of New York City’s annual parade while enjoying a drink recently at Julius’s, one of the oldest gay bars in Manhattan’s Greenwich Village.

As he remembers things, the parade was once about defiance and pushing against an oppressive mainstream that saw gays, lesbians and transgender people as unworthy outsiders.

“The recent overturning of *Roe v. Wade* has caused a very strong uproar about what what went down. Other rights might be involved next,” said Dean Jigarjian, 22, who crossed the river from New Jersey with his girlfriend to take part in the New York City parade.

# Jan. 6 hearings show lengths Trump, loyalists willing to go

*The Washington Post*

WASHINGTON — Former President Donald Trump is reportedly peeved that he has no defenders on the House committee investigating the Jan. 6, 2021, attack on the Capitol. Based on testimony last

## ANALYSIS

week, any possible defenders should count themselves lucky they aren’t on the select committee.

There was a moment in Thursday’s hearing when the deviousness of the president’s and his loyalists’ efforts morphed into delusion, showing the lengths to which Trump and then White House Chief of Staff Mark Meadows sought to use government agencies to advance their scheme. It involved one of the wildest conspiracies of the entire post-election period, that an Italian defense contractor somehow uploaded software to a satellite that then switched votes from Trump to Biden.

According to testimony, Rep. Scott Perry, R-Pa., contacted Meadows asking why the administration couldn’t work with the Italian government on this. Meadows sent a link of a video outlining the conspiracy to then acting Attorney General Jeffrey Rosen, who sent it

along to then acting deputy attorney general Richard Donoghue, who looked at the video and determined that it was “pure insanity.”

The testimony on Thursday showed that Trump was prepared to turn the Justice Department into an agent of his own campaign. He also faced a repeat of the famous “Saturday Night Massacre” during Watergate.

The president was told by Donoghue in an Oval Office meeting that, if he replaced Rosen with assistant attorney general Jeffrey Clark, he could expect a mass exodus from the top ranks of DOJ and the possibility of hundreds of resignations. Faced with that, he decided not to go ahead and appoint Clark as acting attorney general.

The Jan. 6 committee is assembling the best case it can, based on evidence collected over many months. What exculpatory material may exist in their files is known only to the members of the committee and their staff.

Trump may be complaining in private about the absence of defenders on the committee, but the evidence as presented so far is damaging and difficult to defend. Trump’s only response has been to repeat lies about a stolen election. Other Republicans prefer to look away rather than try to defend his conduct.



# Biden stresses staying together at summit

*Associated Press*

ELMAU, Germany — President Joe Biden and western allies opened a three-day summit in the Bavarian Alps on Sunday intent on keeping economic fallout from the war in Ukraine from fracturing the global coalition working to punish Russia's aggression. Britain's Boris Johnson warned the leaders not to give in to "fatigue" even as Russia lobbed new missiles at Kyiv.

The leaders were set to announce new bans on imports of Russian gold, the latest in a series of sanctions the club of democracies hopes will further isolate Russia economically. They also were looking at possible price caps on energy meant to limit Russian oil and gas profits that Moscow can pump into its war effort. Biden on Sunday was formally launching

a global infrastructure partnership designed to counter China's influence in the developing world. The initiative aims to leverage \$600 billion with fellow Group of Seven countries by 2027 to spend on global infrastructure projects.

U.S. officials have long argued that China's infrastructure initiative traps receiving countries in debt and with investments that benefit China more than their hosts.

Russia, in a pre-summit show of force, launched its first missile strikes against the Ukrainian capital in three weeks, striking at least two residential buildings, according to Kyiv Mayor Vitali Klitschko.

Biden condemned Russia's actions as "more of their barbarism," and stressed the need for allies to remain firm even as the economic reverberations from the war

take an economic toll around the globe.

"We have to stay together, because Putin has been counting on, from the beginning, that somehow NATO and the G-7 would splinter, but we haven't and we're not going to," Biden said during a pre-summit meeting with German Chancellor Olaf Scholz, who holds the G-7's rotating presidency and is hosting the gathering.

Biden and his counterparts were using the gathering to discuss how to secure energy supplies and tackle inflation triggered by the war's fallout. The leaders also were coming together in a new global infrastructure partnership meant to provide an alternative to Russian and Chinese investment in the developing world.

Scholz told Biden that the "good message" is that "we all made it to stay united, which Putin never expected."

## WHO: Monkeypox not a global emergency 'at this stage'

*Associated Press*

LONDON — The World Health Organization said the escalating monkeypox outbreak in more than 50 countries should be closely monitored, but does not warrant being declared a global health emergency. In a statement Saturday, a WHO emergency committee said many aspects of the outbreak were "unusual" and acknowledged that monkeypox — which is endemic in some African countries — has been ne-

glected for years.

"While a few members expressed differing views, the committee resolved by consensus to advise the WHO director-general that at this stage the outbreak should be determined to not constitute" a global health emergency, WHO said in a statement.

WHO nevertheless pointed to the "emergency nature" of the outbreak and said controlling its spread requires an "intense" response.

The committee said the outbreak should be "closely monitored and reviewed after a few weeks." But it would recommend a re-assessment before then if certain new developments emerge — such as cases among sex workers, spread to other countries or within countries that have already had cases, increased severity of cases or an increasing rate of spread.

WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus convened the emergency com-

mittee on Thursday after expressing concern about the epidemic of monkeypox in countries that haven't previously reported the disease.

"What makes the current outbreak especially concerning is the rapid, continuing spread into new countries and regions and the risk of further, sustained transmission into vulnerable populations including people that are immunocompromised, pregnant women and children," the WHO chief said.

## Wreckage of WWII Navy destroyer deepest to be discovered

*Associated Press*

MANILA, Philippines — A U.S. Navy destroyer that engaged a superior Japanese fleet in the largest sea battle of World War II in the Philippines has become the deepest wreck to be discovered, according to explorers.

The USS Samuel B. Roberts, popularly known as the "Sammy B", was identified Wednesday broken into two pieces on a slope at a depth of 22,916 feet.

That puts it 1,400 feet deeper than the USS Johnson, the previous deepest wreck discovered last year in the Philippine Sea also by American explorer Victor Vescovo, founder of Dallas-based Caladan Oceanic

Expeditions. He announced the latest find together with U.K.-based EYOS Expeditions.

"It was an extraordinary honor to locate this incredibly famous ship, and by doing so have the chance to retell her story of heroism and duty to those who may not know of the ship and her crew's sacrifice," Vescovo, a former Navy commander, said in a statement.

The Sammy B. took part in the Battle of Samar, the final phase of the Battle of Leyte Gulf in October 1944, in which the Imperial Japanese Navy suffered its biggest loss of ships and failed to dislodge the U.S. forces from Leyte, which they invaded earlier as

part of the liberation of the Philippines.

According to some records, the destroyer disabled a Japanese heavy cruiser with a torpedo and significantly damaged another. After having spent virtually all its ammunition, she was critically hit by the lead battleship Yamato and sank. Of a 224-man crew, 89 died and 120 were saved.

The explorers said that up until the discovery, the historical records of where the wreck lay were not very accurate. The search involved the use of the deepest sidescan sonar ever installed and operated on a submersible, well beyond the standard commercial limitations of 19,685 feet, EYOS said.

**AMERICAN ROUNDUP**

**'Vampire facials' salon owner to plead guilty**

**NM** ALBUQUERQUE — A former Albuquerque spa owner has pleaded guilty to conducting unlicensed "vampire facials" that led to two clients contracting HIV.

New Mexico Attorney General Hector Balderas announced the plea from Maria de Lourdes Ramos de Ruiz in a news release.

Ramos de Ruiz will enter a guilty plea to five felony counts of practicing medicine without a license.

The scam was discovered when a client who was diagnosed with HIV reported visiting her spa.

State licensing regulators investigated her business and found multiple health code violations. Inspectors said there were unwrapped needles, improper blood disposal and unlabeled syringes next to food in a refrigerator.

A second client with HIV then came forward.

"Vampire facials" are when a person's blood is injected into their face to rejuvenate their skin.

**Disputed Basquiat art seized from museum**

**FL** ORLANDO — The FBI raided a Florida art museum and seized more than two dozen paintings attributed to artist Jean-Michel Basquiat following questions about their authenticity.

Orlando Museum of Art spokeswoman Emilia Bourmas-Fry said in a statement that they were complying with a warrant from the FBI for access to the "Heroes and Monsters" exhibit,

which is now in the government's possession. She added that no one on the museum's staff has been arrested.

Questions about the artworks' authenticity arose almost immediately after their discovery. The artwork was purportedly made in 1982, but experts have pointed out that the cardboard used in at least one of the pieces included FedEx typeface that wasn't used until 1994, about six years after Basquiat died, according to the warrant.

Orlando Museum of Art director Aaron De Groft has repeatedly insisted that the art is legitimate.

**26 indicted, 500K phony pills seized in crackdown**

**CA** SAN DIEGO — Seventeen people were arrested and nearly 500,000 counterfeit pills were seized during a federal crackdown on drug traffickers suspected of bringing phony pharmaceuticals laced with fentanyl and other illicit narcotics into California from Mexico, authorities said.

The two-year investigation led to the indictment of 26 defendants, with nine suspects still being sought by the Drug Enforcement Administration, according to a statement from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

The traffickers based in Sinaloa, Mexico, are accused of smuggling counterfeit pharmaceutical pills laced with fentanyl, heroin, methamphetamine and cocaine into the U.S., the statement said.

In addition to the pills, agents seized more than 50 kilograms of methamphetamine, 10 kilograms of cocaine and \$230,000 in assets, according to officials.

**Man fined after accident that injured young Marine**

**IA** IOWA CITY — A 71-year-old Iowa City man who seriously wounded a U.S. Marine while shooting an air rifle at a squirrel has been fined \$855 after pleading guilty to a misdemeanor.

Philip Olson was issued the fine for violating an Iowa City ordinance prohibiting the discharge of toy guns and slingshots, the Press-Citizen reported.

Police have said Olson was shooting at a squirrel in his yard when the pellet hit then 20-year-old Gabe Heefner, of Kirkwood, Mo., who was driving by. Police found Heefner in a wrecked car with what looked like a gunshot wound to the head. At the time, Heefner was a lance corporal in the Marines who was in Iowa City visiting his grandparents and friends about a week before he was set to be deployed to Japan.

Olson turned himself in several days after Heefner was found and tearfully apologized to the man's family in court, saying he had "made a waste of my life and the life of an innocent young man."

Heefner's father said his son is now unable to walk without assistance and suffers from memory loss and an inability to use his left arm, among other medical issues.

**Pair face fines after taking raccoon into store**

**NY** ATTICA — A New York man and woman face fines of \$500 each after they took a raccoon to a pet store to shop for food and a store worker ratted them out, authorities said.

A state Department of Environmental Conservation police officer got an urgent call from the Erie County Department of Health about a potentially rabid raccoon, the department said in a news release.

The health department said a couple had brought a raccoon to a pet store for food and supplies and a store employee contacted authorities. Raccoons are considered dangerous wild animals because they are known to carry and transmit the deadly rabies virus.

The raccoon that was confiscated from the couple was euthanized and tested for rabies — a test that can only be performed on an animal after it has died. The test was negative, the DEC said.

**Biologists monitoring crappie kill at Loon Lake**

**IN** COLUMBIA CITY — State Department of Natural Resources fisheries biologists have collected fish and water samples at Loon Lake in northeastern Indiana as the result of a fish kill involving thousands of crappies, the agency said.

Samples were provided to the Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory at Purdue University for testing regarding a cause, the agency said. Results are not expected for weeks.

Because no significant numbers of other dead small fish species have been observed, the cause is not believed to be the result of a toxic event such as a chemical spill or release, the agency said.

Biologists will continue to monitor the situation over the coming weeks, it said.

— From wire reports



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# Serena ends layoff with return to Wimbledon

Associated Press

At least at the outset, before a tennis ball is struck, this edition of Wimbledon is as much about who — and what — is missing as who's here.

And that's even taking this into account: It is no small matter that the grass-court Grand Slam tournament marks the return of Serena Williams to singles play after a year away.

The No. 1-ranked man, Daniil Medvedev, was barred from competing by the All England Club, along with every other player from Russia and Belarus, because of the war in Ukraine.

"It's a mistake," International Tennis Hall of Fame member Martina Navratilova said about the ban. "What are they supposed to do, leave the country? I wouldn't wish that on my worst enemy."

Novak Djokovic, the No. 1 seed and three-time defending champion who will play in the first match in Centre Court on Monday, looked at the situation this way: "It's really hard to say what is right, what is wrong."

"As a child of a war — several wars, actually, during the '90s, I know what it feels like being in (the Ukrainians') position," the 35-year-old from Serbia said. "But at the other hand, I can't

say I fully agree (with deciding) to ban Russian tennis players, Belarusian tennis players, from competing indefinitely. I just don't see how they have contributed to anything that is really happening. I mean, I don't feel it's fair."

The two professional tours reacted by pulling their ranking points from Wimbledon, an unprecedented move in a sport built around the rankings in so many ways. In turn, some athletes opted not to show up, including 2014 runner-up Eugenie Bouchard and four-time major champion Naomi Osaka.

For others, though, it was a no-doubt-about-it decision to show up. This is, after all, Wimbledon, with its unique surface and long-standing traditions, its powerful prestige and — let's face it — tens of millions in prize money.

There were rumors among players that prize money would be cut, too, prompting one, Fabio Fognini, to joke that he'd be thankful for that because — without any ranking points available and with less cash on offer — he'd head to an island for some vacation time with his wife, 2015 U.S. Open champion Flavia Pennetta, and their young children.

But it turned out that's all that

was — a rumor: The All England Club wound up announcing it would provide a record total of about 40 million pounds (\$50 million) in player compensation.

There are other important names staying away for different reasons.

Reigning women's champion Ash Barty retired in March at age 25. Eight-time men's champion Roger Federer still has not returned from the latest in a series of knee operations; he has not participated in any tournament since last year's Wimbledon. No. 2-ranked Alexander Zverev is sidelined after tearing ligaments in his right ankle at the French Open.

Also gone in 2022 at Wimbledon, for the first time in its lengthy history: a scheduled day off on the middle Sunday (so what had been a 13-day tournament becomes a full two-week event).

Ah, but guess who's back? Yes, Williams, thanks to a wildcard invitation, bringing enough star power to fill the spotlight for however long she remains in the bracket.

The owner of seven championships at the All England Club — and 23 from all majors, a record for the professional era — last competed in singles in

June 2021, when she slipped on the slick Centre Court grass and injured her right hamstring, forcing her to stop in the first set of her first-round match.

"I didn't retire. I just needed to heal physically, mentally. And I had no plans, to be honest. I just didn't know when I would come back. I didn't know how I would come back," Williams said Saturday. "Obviously, Wimbledon is such a great place to be, and it just kind of worked out."

She made a surprise appearance in doubles with Ons Jabeur on grass at Eastbourne this week, but the 40-year-old American will not have played singles before Tuesday's matchup against 113th-ranked Harmony Tan.

If Williams can crank up her best-in-the-game serve and move well enough to stay in points until she can end them with her stinging groundstrokes, who knows what she'll be able to do? Plus, she has made a habit of winning matches soon after returning from lengthy absences.

Also around is Rafael Nadal, who is halfway to a calendar-year Grand Slam for the first time after winning the Australian Open in January and the French Open this month.

## McLaughlin breaks world record in 400-meter hurdles

Associated Press

EUGENE, Ore. — Olympic champion Sydney McLaughlin broke her own world record in the 400-meter hurdles at the U.S. outdoor track and field championships Saturday.

McLaughlin flashed a broad smile when her time was announced, then gave a thumbs-up. She crossed the finish line at Hayward Field in 51.41 seconds, breaking her own record of 51.46 set last year at the Tokyo Games, where she won the gold medal.

"I mean it's Track Town USA, what do you expect? she said afterward. "Every time I come here I can just feel something

amazing is going to happen."

Asked how she was going to celebrate afterward, McLaughlin joked: "Eating some real food besides vegetables. Like a cheeseburger or something, some pancakes."

The top three finishers in each event at the national championships will represent the United States in the world outdoor championships, also at Eugene's Hayward Field, next month. It is the first time track and field's biggest event outside of the Olympics will be held on American soil.

Dalilah Muhammad sat out the race because of a slight injury, but she has already qualified for the world championships as

the defending champion in the event. McLaughlin will also be joined on the U.S. team by runner-up Britton Wilson and third-place finisher Shamier Little.

Allyson Felix, the most decorated woman in track history, finished sixth in the 400, in what was her final national championship race.

Felix, who announced in April that this will be her final season, is enjoying the final days of her illustrious career — which includes 11 Olympic medals. She plans to run her final official race in her native Los Angeles in August. Despite her finish, Felix will be expected to make the mixed relay team at worlds.



# Pitching, power lift Ole Miss over OU

*Associated Press*

OMAHA, Neb. — Jack Dougherty knew for 24 hours he would get the ball for Mississippi in Game 1 of the College World Series finals Saturday night, and he didn't want to jinx himself.

"I tried not to think about it too much," he said. "I wanted to go out there and be myself. I found out yesterday I was starting. My mom got mad at me because I didn't tell her. I didn't want to get into my own head. I wanted to go out there and pitch."

Oh, he pitched.

Dougherty carried a perfect game into the sixth inning in his first start in nearly three months, the Rebels broke things open with three home runs in a row in the eighth and they went on to beat Oklahoma 10-3.

Ole Miss (41-23) can secure its first national title in baseball with a victory Sunday. Oklahoma (45-23) must win to tie the best-of-three finals and force a deciding game Monday.

Rebels coach Mike Bianco

said he'll repeat the same message he delivered to his players Saturday.

"Go for it," he said he told them. "You're here to win a national championship series, you deserve to be here and it's time to press the gas pedal."

Oklahoma sputtered early, and with Dougherty in a groove with his fastball and slider, the Rebels were able to seize momentum early. When Dougherty got in trouble in the sixth and left with the bases loaded and no outs, freshman Mason Nichols was there to limit the damage.

"I had plenty of butterflies," Nichols said. "The biggest thing was coaches have been good enough to trust me and put me in situations earlier in the year in a big environment. I focused on my job and I'm glad I got it done."

TJ McCants, Calvin Harris and Justin Bench hit back-to-back-to-back homers off Chazz Martinez to make it a six-run game in the eighth. It was the first time a team had hit three home runs in a row at the CWS

since LSU did it against Mississippi State in 1998.

"We were getting beat in every aspect of the game until the sixth inning and we still had a chance to come back and win," OU first baseman Blake Robertson said. "It's an unfortunate loss, but it doesn't define us as a team."

Tim Elko also went deep for Ole Miss and finished 4-for-5 after entering the game 3-for-16 with seven strikeouts in the CWS.

Dougherty (4-3) took the mound with a lead in the first inning after the Rebels capitalized on OU starter Jake Bennett's two wild pitches and error to go up 2-0.

With Ole Miss short on starting pitching because of the newly condensed CWS schedule, Bianco went with Dougherty against an OU offense known for extending at-bats and working pitch counts. Dougherty was the best option available, Bianco said, because he reliably pounds the strike zone and gets ahead of batters.

Dougherty became the first

pitcher in Charles Schwab Field's 11-year history to retire 15 batters in a row to start a game. Dougherty never had a 1-2-3 inning in his other three starts this season.

The sophomore right-hander struck out five in a row over the third and fourth innings and got a big defensive play from shortstop Jacob Gonzalez to keep the perfect game alive in the fifth.

Jackson Nicklaus broke it up with a single to center leading off the sixth and Sebastian Orduno followed with a base hit. Kendall Pettis bunted for a single, and Nicklaus scored on third baseman Garrett Wood's wild throw to first. That ended Dougherty's streak of 17 straight shutout innings.

Dougherty left after he walked John Spikerman to load the bases with no outs. He threw 72 pitches, 50 for strikes, and struck out six.

Nichols struck out Peyton Graham and Blake Robertson before walking Tanner Tredaway to bring in a run. Jimmy Crooks grounded out to end the inning.

## US women's soccer extends home winning streak to 68

*Associated Press*

COMMERCE CITY, Colo. — Sophia Smith scored twice in the second half and the U.S. women's national soccer team beat Colombia 3-0 on Saturday night to extend its home unbeaten streak to 68 games.

Taylor Kornieck added a late goal in her national team debut.

On Tuesday night, the teams will meet again in Sandy, Utah, as the United States readies for World Cup qualifying in the CONCACAF W Championship next month in Monterrey, Mexico. The U.S. is the two-time defending World Cup champion.

Smith scored her first in the 54th minute off a pass from Rose Lavelle when Colombian goalkeeper Catalina Perez came out of her goal. She added her second in the 60th minute.

Smith, who plays for the Portland

Thorns in the National Women's Soccer League, has six international goals.

"I think it's a privilege to be able to compete against such high-level players every day in camp and if it makes it harder to get a starting spot, that's good for everybody," Smith said. "It's only making us better, and we trust every single player we have on this roster to go out and play and perform."

Perez made two penalty saves. She stopped Lindsey Horan's attempt late in the first half, and then saved Lavelle's chance in the 70th.

"Probably the best goalscoring opportunity you can have as a team, but that's part of the game," coach Vlatko Andonovski said. "Give credit to the goalkeeper, I thought she did a great job. I mean, two good saves. We're definitely gonna work on that a little bit more. We still believe

that both Lindsey and Rose are very good penalty-kick takers."

All eyes were on the team to see if it would make any collective demonstration on the field over Friday's Supreme Court ruling rolling back Roe v. Wade. Instead, U.S. Soccer released a statement before the game.

"As our women's national team represents the U.S. on the field today in Colorado, the occasion serves as a reminder of the rights and freedoms that women and their allies have fought for, earned and deserve," the statement said. "The Supreme Court ruling on June 24 is counter to the freedoms promised as a nation and as a people. U.S. Soccer will advocate at every opportunity for human rights, including the right to make personal healthcare decisions as there is no equality without bodily autonomy."

# Three Astros combine to no-hit Yanks

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Cristian Javier kept sending the New York Yankees back to their dugout in short order, taming his often inconsistent control and thwarting the team with baseball's best record, most runs and pre-eminent power.

"We call him 'The Reptile,' because he doesn't show any emotion. It doesn't matter how big the stage," Houston catcher Martín Maldonado would later say.

The Astros' cold-blooded starter combined with Héctor Neris and Ryan Pressly on the first no-hitter against the Yankees in 19 years, pitching Houston to an improbable 3-0 victory Saturday. It's the first time New

York has been no-hit since six Astros teamed up for one at the old stadium on June 11, 2003.

New York entered 52-19, at .732 the best winning percentage ever for a team held hitless at least 50 games into a season. The previous high was Oakland's .691 against Texas on June 11, 1990, when the Athletics were felled by Nolan Ryan's sixth no-hitter.

"The cold, hard truth is we got outpitched and outplayed," Yankees pitcher Gerrit Cole said. "Magical day for them."

Javier (5-3), a 25-year-old right-hander without a complete game in 84 professional starts, was in the rotation because Jake Odorizzi is hurt. He set career highs for strikeouts

(13) and pitches (115) while walking one, and he matched his longest start with seven innings. Javier lowered his ERA to 2.73.

He walked Josh Donaldson on a full-count fastball with two outs in the first, then retired 17 in a row until Donaldson reached when third baseman Alex Bregman threw past first for an error on a one-out grounder in the seventh. Stanton took a called third strike and Gleyber Torres struck out swinging.

By the sixth, the Astros adopted the superstitious dugout custom for a no-hit bid.

"The guys didn't come near me, and I didn't go near them," Javier said through a translator.

Javier began the seventh at 91 pitches. Astros manager Dusty Baker turned to pitching coach Bill Murphy early in the inning.

"Man, I got to make a decision here pretty soon between the personal and maybe him suffering for it," Baker recalled. "How many does he have left?"

"Well, about 15 pitches," Baker recalled Murphy saying.

Javier needed 24 in the inning, starting his last five batters with a ball after getting ahead with a strike to 12 of his first 18.

Baker gave Javier a hug when he was done.

"In the bullpen today before the game, pitches were doing what I wanted," Javier said.

# Harper breaks thumb in Phillies' win over Padres

Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — Bryce Harper saw the pitch flying toward his face, so he quickly turned his head and raised his left hand to protect himself.

Turns out, the Phillies slugger would rather he hadn't.

Harper will be sidelined indefinitely with a broken left thumb after he was hit by a pitch from Blake Snell in Philadelphia's 4-2 victory over the San Diego Padres on Saturday night.

"I kind of wish it hit me in the face," said Harper, who was wearing a splint on his thumb. "I don't break bones in my face. I think I can take 98 (mph) to the face, but not 97 to the thumb. Yeah, I was kind of in protection mode a little bit trying to get my hand up there and not let it hit me again.

"It's just a bummer. I am really bummed out."

The reigning NL MVP, who missed only a few games last year when he was hit in the face by a fastball from St. Louis' Genesis Cabrera,

checked his swing as the 97 mph fastball from Snell rode inside and high toward his shoulder before hitting him on the outside of the left hand in the fourth inning.

Harper immediately fell to the ground and was in visible pain as he held his hand while on his knees for several minutes with Phillies head trainer Paul Buchheit attending to him.

Phillies general manager Dave Dombrowski, who traveled with the team on the road trip, said it was too early to determine if surgery will be needed. He added he wasn't sure what type of fracture Harper had or where on his thumb the injury occurred. Harper said he would see a medical specialist when he returns to Philadelphia.

**Red Sox 4, Guardians 2:** Alex Verdugo hit a three-run homer, Jarren Duran had four hits and an RBI, and visiting Boston won its sixth straight.

**Mets 5, Marlins 3:** Pete Alonso hit two leadoff homers, including a go-ahead shot in the

eighth inning, and visiting New York beat Miami.

**Tigers 6, Diamondbacks 3:** Kody Clemens hit his first major league home run to lead visiting Detroit to a win over Arizona.

**Giants 9, Reds 2:** Logan Webb pitched six innings of two-hit ball and host San Francisco backed its ace with four home runs.

**Twins 6, Rockies 0:** Chris Archer kept his strong June going with five scoreless innings, and three relievers closed out host Minnesota's one-hitter.

**Braves 5, Dodgers 3:** Marcell Ozuna hit a tiebreaking homer in the eighth inning and host Atlanta recovered after blowing a three-run lead to beat Los Angeles.

**Cardinals 5, Cubs 3:** Iván Herrera hit a tiebreaking sacrifice fly in the eighth inning for his first career RBI and host St. Louis beat Chicago.

**Brewers 5, Blue Jays 4:** Corbin Burnes pitched into the eighth inning, Andrew McCutchen and Mike Brousseau

homered, and host Milwaukee beat Toronto.

**Rays 6, Pirates 5:** Isaac Paredes hit a solo homer in the eighth inning and a two-run single with two outs in the ninth, sending host Tampa Bay to a victory over Pittsburgh.

**Orioles 6, White Sox 2:** Jorge Mateo homered and doubled to give visiting Baltimore its first four-game winning streak this season.

**Rangers 3, Nationals 2:** Adolis García homered leading off the bottom of the ninth inning, giving host Texas a victory over Washington.

**Athletics 9, Royals 7:** Tony Kemp hit a two-run homer, Seth Brown and Sean Murphy combined for four RBIs, and visiting Oakland beat Kansas City.

**Mariners 5, Angels 3:** Cal Raleigh had three hits, Kevin Padlo hit a two-run, bases-loaded single in the sixth inning and visiting Seattle overcame a monstrous home run by Shohei Ohtani to rally for a victory over Los Angeles.