

## Trump to be arraigned Tuesday in NY

*Associated Press*

NEW YORK — Former President Donald Trump is set to be arraigned Tuesday after his indictment in New York City, court officials said Friday. Trump's planned surrender will usher in the unprecedented scenario of a former U.S. commander-in-chief being arrested and arraigned.

Trump's indictment, announced Thursday, came after a grand jury probe into hush money paid during the 2016 presidential campaign to squelch allegations of an extramarital sexual encounter. The indictment itself has remained sealed, as is standard in New York before an arraignment.

Trump has denied any wrongdoing and denounced the investigation as a "scam," a "persecution," an injustice and a political low blow aimed at damaging his 2024 presidential run. He is a Republican; the district attorney who oversaw the inquiry, Alvin Bragg, is a Democrat.

No ex-president has ever

been charged with a crime before, so there's no rulebook for booking one. Trump has Secret Service protection, so agents would need to be by his side at all times.

Indeed, Trump was asked to surrender Friday, but his lawyers said the Secret Service needed more time to make security preparations, two people familiar with the matter told The Associated Press.

Even for defendants who turn themselves in, answering criminal charges in New York generally entails at least several hours of detention while being fingerprinted, photographed and going through other procedures.

Bragg's office said Thursday it had contacted Trump's lawyer to coordinate a surrender. Ahead of the court's announcement of the arraignment date, Trump's attorney, Joseph Tacopina, said that Tuesday was the likely date for Trump to turn himself in.

The investigation dug into six-figure payments made to

porn actor Stormy Daniels and former Playboy model Karen McDougal. Both claim to have had sexual encounters with the married Trump years before he got into politics; he denies having sexual liaisons with either woman.

As Trump ran for president in 2016, his allies paid the women to bury their allegations. The publisher of the supermarket tabloid the National Enquirer paid McDougal \$150,000 for rights to her story and sat on it, in an arrangement brokered by former Trump lawyer Michael Cohen.

After Cohen himself paid Daniels \$130,000, Trump's company reimbursed him, added bonuses and logged the payments to Cohen as legal expenses.

Federal prosecutors argued — in a 2018 criminal case against Cohen — that the payments equated to illegal aid to Trump's campaign. Cohen pleaded guilty to campaign finance violation charges, but federal prosecutors didn't go

after Trump, who was then in the White House. However, some of their court filings obliquely implicated him as someone who knew about the payment arrangements.

The New York indictment came as Trump contends with other investigations that could have grave legal consequences.

In Atlanta, prosecutors are considering whether he committed any crimes when trying to get Georgia officials to overturn his narrow 2020 election loss there to Joe Biden.

At the federal level, a Justice Department-appointed special counsel also is investigating Trump's efforts to unravel the national election results.

Additionally, the special counsel is examining how and why Trump held onto a cache of top secret government documents at his Florida club and residence, Mar-a-Lago, and whether the ex-president or his representatives tried to obstruct the probe into those documents.

## Turkey's parliament OKs Finland's NATO membership

*Associated Press*

ANKARA, Turkey — Turkey's parliament Thursday ratified Finland's application to join NATO, lifting the last hurdle in the Nordic country's long-delayed accession into the Western military alliance.

All 276 lawmakers present voted in favor of Finland's bid, days after Hungary's parliament also endorsed Helsinki's accession.

"This will make the whole NATO family stronger & safer," NATO Secretary-General Jens

Stoltenberg wrote on Twitter.

Alarmed by Russia's invasion of Ukraine a year ago, Finland and Sweden abandoned their decadeslong policy of nonalignment and applied to join the alliance.

Full unanimity is required to admit new members into the 30-member alliance, and Turkey and Hungary were the last two NATO members to ratify Finland's accession.

Sweden's bid to join the alliance has been left hanging, with both Turkey and Hungary hold-

ing out on giving it the green light despite expressing support for NATO's expansion.

Turkey accuses Sweden of being too lenient toward groups it deems to be terrorist organizations and security threats, including militant Kurdish groups and people associated with a 2016 coup attempt.

More recently, Turkey was angered by a series of demonstrations in Sweden, including a protest by an anti-Islam activist who burned the Quran outside the Turkish Embassy.

Hungary contends some Swedish politicians have made derisive statements about the condition of Hungary's democracy and played an active role in ensuring that billions in European Union funds were frozen over alleged rule-of-law and democracy violations.

Turkish officials have said that unlike Sweden, Finland fulfilled its obligations under a memorandum signed last year under which the two countries pledged to address Turkey's security concerns.

# Trump's indictment: Here's what to know

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Donald Trump has become the first former U.S. president to be charged with a crime, the culmination of a political rise defined by unprecedented scandal.

The vote of a Manhattan grand jury to indict the Republican former president on charges related to hush money payments made on his behalf during his 2016 presidential campaign catapults the now-candidate Trump into a new era of legal risk and complicates his attempts to return to the White House.

Here's what to know about the indictment and the case:

■ **The former president could have a criminal record.**

Trump now faces threats to his freedom after decades of legal investigations that have never resulted in serious consequences.

The Manhattan district attorney's office said Thursday that prosecutors had reached out to Trump's lawyers to arrange for him to surrender, which could happen early next week. Trump is expected to appear at the prosecutor's office to be processed and fingerprinted and have a mug shot taken. He is also expected to appear in court, when a judge would list the charges and Trump would enter a plea.

He will have to contend with a criminal case while running again for the White House, taking time and attention away from the campaign trail — though neither the case nor a conviction would preclude him from seeking or winning the presidency in 2024.

The indictment comes as he is facing several other investigations that could lead to legal problems for the former president. Those pending cases,

along with a civil trial that's scheduled to start in New York next month over a columnist's claims that Trump raped her in the 1990s, add to an ever-growing cloud of scandals surrounding him.

■ **Case stems from hush money paid to women.**

The grand jury in Manhattan had been probing hush money payments at the height of the 2016 presidential campaign to two women who alleged sexual encounters with the former president. Trump's former lawyer Michael Cohen, one of the witnesses who testified, says he orchestrated payments totaling \$280,000 to porn actor Stormy Daniels and former Playboy model Karen McDougal. Cohen pleaded guilty in 2018 to violating federal campaign finance law in connection with the payments. Federal prosecutors said the payments amounted to illegal, unreported assistance to Trump's campaign. But they declined to file charges against Trump himself.

The Manhattan district attorney's office appeared to be investigating whether anyone committed crimes in arranging the payments, or in the way they accounted for them internally at the Trump Organization. But the specific charges remained under seal late Thursday.

■ **Trump maintains his innocence.**

Trump, who denies the sexual encounters, called the indictment "political persecution" and an attempt to interfere in his presidential campaign.

Calling himself "a completely innocent person," he cast the indictment as the latest in a line of actions that he says are designed to "destroy" his Make America Great Again movement, including his two presidential impeachments and the FBI search of his home that

turned up classified documents.

"The Democrats have lied, cheated and stolen in their obsession with trying to 'Get Trump,'" he said in a statement.

Earlier this month, Trump said his arrest was imminent and called on his supporters to protest. Last week, he warned about "potential death and destruction" if he were charged. His words evoked his comments ahead of the violent Jan. 6, 2021 insurrection at the U.S. Capitol.

Trump did not repeat his call to protest Thursday, but police forces around the country are on guard for potential unrest.

■ **Other investigations continue.**

Beyond the Manhattan case, Trump is facing an array of other investigations.

On the federal level, the Justice Department is investigating the retention of top-secret government documents at his Florida estate, Mar-a-Lago, and efforts by Trump and his allies to overturn the results of the 2020 election.

The efforts by many of the same players in the latter case were also the subject of a special grand jury investigation in Georgia. The panel's foreperson said the special grand jury recommended multiple criminal indictments, leaving it up to Fulton County District Attorney Fani Willis, a Democrat, to decide whether to convene a regular grand jury and pursue criminal charges.

■ **Trump's rivals condemn indictment.**

Trump has said the charges would actually help him in the 2024 presidential race and has tried to use the case to galvanize support. Last weekend, at the first rally of the campaign, he cast the Manhattan investigation and the other probes as the latest in a long line of political

attacks against him. His campaign handed out signs that said "Witch Hunt" as Trump told his supporters that the legal challenges were also an attack on his followers and his political movement.

Some Republican and independent voters could see the case, at the very least, as another example of problematic baggage that has followed Trump for years and has been a distraction. The news was expected to only fortify existing Democratic opposition to Trump.

Republicans who are running against Trump or who are considering their own campaigns were quick to rally to criticize the case and attack Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg, even if they didn't address the underlying allegations against Trump.

Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis, who is expected to announce a campaign and is seen as Trump's top rival for the GOP nomination, called the indictment "un-American." Former Vice President Mike Pence, also considering a challenge to Trump in 2024, called the indictment "an outrage."

■ **GOP lawmakers target prosecutor.**

Republicans framed the arrest as a political prosecution by a rogue Democratic district attorney who they said was weaponizing the criminal justice system.

House Speaker Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif., said the House "will hold Alvin Bragg and his unprecedented abuse of power to account."

Some of Trump's fiercest supporters came to his defense. Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene of Georgia and former Arizona gubernatorial candidate Kari Lake, two names floated as potential Trump running mates, said he's innocent.

# Russia bombs as Ukraine marks Bucha anniversary

*Associated Press*

BUCHA, Ukraine — Ukrainians marked the anniversary Friday of the liberation of Bucha with calls for remembrance and justice after a brutal Russian occupation.

“We will not let it be forgotten,” President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said at a formal ceremony in Bucha, vowing to punish those who committed outrages there. “Human dignity will not let it be forgotten. On the streets of Bucha, the world has seen Russian evil. Evil unmasked.”

The town near Kyiv has come to stand as a symbol of atrocities committed by Moscow’s military since its full-scale invasion of Ukraine began in February 2022. Ukrainian troops who retook the town found hundreds of bodies, on the streets, in yards and homes, in a mass grave. Some showed signs of torture.

Elsewhere in Ukraine, fighting continued Friday: Russia used its long-range arsenal to bombard anew several areas, killing at least two civilians and damaging homes.

And the Kremlin-allied president of neighboring Belarus raised the stakes when he said Russian strategic nuclear weapons might be deployed in his country, along with part of Moscow’s tactical nuclear arsenal. Moscow said last week that it planned to place in Belarus tactical nuclear weapons, which are comparatively short-range and low-yield. Strategic nuclear weapons such as missile-borne warheads would bring a greater threat.

At the official commemoration in Bucha,

Zelenskyy was joined by the president of Moldova and the prime ministers of Croatia, Slovakia and Slovenia.

The Kremlin’s forces occupied Bucha weeks after they invaded Ukraine and stayed for about a month. When Ukrainian troops retook the town, they encountered horrific scenes. Over weeks and months, hundreds of bodies were uncovered, including children.

Russian soldiers on intercepted phone conversations called it “zachistka” — cleansing, according to an investigation by The Associated Press and the PBS series “Frontline.”

Such organized cruelty, which Russian troops employed in past conflicts as well, notably in Chechnya, was later repeated in Russia-occupied territories across Ukraine.

Zelenskyy handed out medals to soldiers, police officers, doctors, teachers and emergency workers in Bucha, as well as to the families of two soldiers killed during the defense of the Kyiv region.

“Ukrainian people, you have stopped the biggest anti-human force of our times,” he said. “You have stopped the force which has no respect and wants to destroy everything that gives meaning to human life.”

More than 1,400 civilian deaths, including 37 children, were documented in the Bucha district by Ukrainian authorities, Zelenskyy said. More than 175 people were found in mass graves and alleged torture chambers, he said. Ukraine and other countries, including the U.S., have demanded that Russia answer for war crimes.

## Russia may put strategic nukes in Belarus, its president says

*Associated Press*

TALLINN, Estonia — Russian strategic nuclear weapons might be deployed in Belarus along with part of Russia’s tactical nuclear arsenal, Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko said Friday.

Russian President Vladimir Putin announced last week that his country intended to deploy tactical, comparatively short-range and small-yield nuclear weapons in Belarus.

The strategic nuclear weapons such as missile-borne warheads that Lukashenko mentioned during his state-of-the-nation address would pose an even greater threat, if Moscow moves them to the territory of its neighbor and ally.

Belarus was a staging ground for amassing Russian troops before the invasion of Ukraine a little over 13 months ago. Lukashenko, the only person to have served as president since the country’s independence from the Soviet Union, delivered his annual address amid escalating tensions over the conflict in Ukraine.

Both he and Putin have alleged that Western powers want to ruin Russia and Belarus.

“Putin and I will decide and introduce here, if necessary, strategic weapons, and they must understand this, the scoundrels abroad, who today are trying to blow us up from inside and outside,” the Belarusian leader said. “We will stop at nothing to protect our countries, our state and their peoples.”

Earlier in the address, Lukashenko called for a cease-fire in Ukraine.

## US: Russia seeks arms-for-food deal with N. Korea

*Associated Press*

WASHINGTON — The White House on Thursday said it has new evidence that Russia is looking again to North Korea for weapons to fuel the war in Ukraine, this time in a deal that would provide Pyongyang with needed food and other commodities in return.

It’s the latest accusation that Russia, desperate for weaponry and restricted by sanctions and export controls, is turning to “rogue” nations to help it continue to prosecute the 13-month-old war.

“As part of this proposed deal, Russia would receive over two dozen kinds of weapons and munitions from Pyongyang,” White House National Security Council spokesman John Kirby said. “We also understand that Russia is seeking to send a delegation to North Korea and that Russia is offering North Korea food in exchange for munitions.”

The administration has previously declassified intelligence to present evidence that Iran sold hundreds of attack drones to Russia over the summer and that the Wagner

Group, a private Russian military company, has taken delivery of arms from North Korea to help bolster its forces as they fight side-by-side with Russian troops in Ukraine.

Experts believe the food situation in North Korea is the worst it has been under Kim Jong Un’s 11-year rule, but they still say they see no signs of imminent famine or mass deaths. Kim vowed to strengthen state control over agriculture and take a spate of other steps to increase grain production, North Korean state media reported earlier this month.



# US Midwest, South bracing for storms

Associated Press

JACKSON, Miss. — Meteorologists are urging people in parts of the Midwest and southern U.S. to be ready Friday for dangerous weather including tornadoes, saying the conditions are similar to those a week ago that unleashed a devastating twister that killed at least 21 people in Mississippi.

An outbreak of severe thunderstorms has the potential to cause hail, damaging wind gusts and tornadoes that could be strong and move on the ground over long distances, according to the National Weather Service's Storm Prediction Center.

The major population centers at greatest risk for storms starting Friday afternoon include Memphis, Tenn.; Little Rock and Jonesboro, Ark.; and Des Moines and Cedar

Rapids, Iowa. But people throughout eastern Iowa, western and northern Illinois, Missouri and Arkansas should also be prepared, said Northern Illinois meteorology professor and tornado expert Victor Gensini.

"There will be lots of thunderstorms ... tornadoes, damaging winds, and large hail," he said.

People in those areas should stock emergency supplies, prepare for power outages, avoid getting stranded in places vulnerable to falling trees or severe hail, and park vehicles in garages if possible, meteorologists said.

The bad weather could also extend into Chicago, where forecasters warned of a "relatively rare, significant severe weather

threat" that includes powerful winds, tornadoes and large hail.

In Iowa City, the University of Iowa canceled Friday's watch party for fans who planned to gather for the women's basketball Final Four game against South Carolina. Deputy Director of Athletics Matt Henderson said in a statement the decision was made "due to the unpredictable timing of possible severe weather and potential storm impact."

Last Friday night, a vicious tornado in Mississippi killed at least 21 people, injured dozens and flattened entire blocks as it carved a path of destruction for more than an hour. About 2,000 homes were damaged or destroyed, according to the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency.

## Justice Department sues railroad over derailment

Associated Press

The federal government filed a lawsuit against railroad Norfolk Southern over environmental damage caused by a train derailment on the Ohio-Pennsylvania border that spilled hazardous chemicals into nearby creeks and rivers.

The U.S. Department of Justice said it's seeking to hold the company accountable for "unlawfully polluting the nation's waterways and to ensure it pays the full cost of the environmental cleanup," in the lawsuit filed Thursday.

It's asking for fines under the Clean Water Act and for a judgment to hold the railroad accountable for past and future costs.

The derailment in early February led to the evacuation of half of the 5,000 residents of East Palestine when responders intentionally burned toxic chemicals in some of the derailed cars to prevent an uncontrolled explosion.

Chemicals from the derailed cars and fire-fighting foam seeped into creeks and rivers near the village, with some eventually ending up in the Ohio River. So far, more than 9 mil-

lion gallons of wastewater have been removed from the site and hauled to hazardous waste storage sites in Ohio and other states, according to the state officials.

Government officials say tests haven't found dangerous levels of chemicals in the air or water in the area, but many residents remain concerned about their long-term health.

Connor Spielmaker, a spokesperson for Norfolk Southern, said the company is focused on the cleanup and working at the direction of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

## Gwyneth Paltrow is vindicated at ski collision trial

Associated Press

PARK CITY, Utah — Gwyneth Paltrow wasn't to blame for a 2016 collision with a retired optometrist on a beginner run at a posh Utah ski resort during a family vacation, a jury decided Thursday following a live-streamed trial that became a pop culture fixation.

A jury awarded Paltrow \$1 — a symbolic amount she asked for in order to show it wasn't about money — and delivered her the vindication she sought when she opted to take it to trial rather than settle out of court.

"I felt that acquiescing to a false claim compromised my integrity," Paltrow said in a statement released by her representatives that she also posted as an Instagram story for her 8.3 million followers. She also

thanked the judge and jury for their work.

As Paltrow left court she touched Terry Sanderson's shoulder and told him, "I wish you well," he told reporters outside court. He responded, "Thank you dear."

Paltrow's attorney, Steve Owens, added in a statement he read outside court that "Gwyneth has a history of advocating for what she believes in — this situation was no different and she will continue to stand up for what is right."

Paltrow, an actor who in recent years has refashioned herself into a celebrity wellness entrepreneur, looked to her attorneys and smiled with pursed lips when the judge read the eight-member jury's verdict in the Park City courtroom. She sat intently through two weeks of testimony in what became the biggest celebrity court

case since actors Johnny Depp and Amber Heard faced off last year.

After the verdict was read, the judge polled the jury, which was unanimous on the decision. In civil court in Utah, only three-fourths of jurors need to agree on a verdict. The attorney fees Paltrow asked for in her countersuit were not included in the jury's verdict, leaving the bulk of the final award for the Park City judge to decide.

Addressing reporters after the verdict, Sanderson questioned whether the lawsuit was worth it and said he believed that people tend to naturally trust celebrities like Paltrow.

"You get some assumed credibility from being a famous person," Sanderson said. "Really, who wants to take on a celebrity?"

# No-names reign at this year's Final Four

Associated Press

HOUSTON — One short year ago, college basketball was getting ready for the game of a lifetime: North Carolina vs. Duke at the Final Four.

And this year? Well, to put it kindly, who the heck are these guys?

The NCAA Tournament, the annual event that has told and sold and made marketing gold out of the story of underdogs and busted brackets has, for 2023, produced an extreme rendition of what happens when all that cherished unpredictability plays itself out to the end.

In one Final Four meeting Saturday, it will be San Diego State against Florida Atlantic. In the other, it will be Miami vs. UConn.

"I expect the prognosticators to pick us fifth at the Final Four," Florida Atlantic coach Dusty May said in a nod to the reality that nobody really expected the Owls, or any of these teams, to be here.

Of the four programs descending on Houston this week, only one has ever sniffed a Final Four before. It's the first time in 53 years that has happened.

With its four national titles and some famous names from the

past, including Jim Calhoun, Kemba Walker and Rip Hamilton, the name "Connecticut" certainly should ring a bell, even if it might not tread all the way into true blueblood territory.

Miami? That was a program that was literally shut down for 14 years in the 1970s and 1980s due to lack of interest. The school was too busy building a football program that would become (in)famous for winning with a certain panache.

May's Florida Atlantic program? It's a relative new kid on the block, a member of Division I since 1993 that is based in the retirement community of Boca Raton, a locale better known for its 4:30 dinner specials than its 7 p.m. tipoffs.

San Diego State? In their defense, maybe this shouldn't be the Aztecs' first Final Four. In 2020, they were 30-2 and generally slotted in as a No. 1 seed, albeit still an underdog to a stacked Kansas team that was the odds-on favorite. Then COVID-19 hit and wiped that season off the boards.

"There are a lot of really good teams in college basketball, and the difference between winning and losing is paper thin," San Diego State coach Brian Dutch-

er said.

Will anyone, outside of the truest of diehards, bother to watch?

As of Thursday, a pair of seats in the nosebleed section for Saturday's doubleheader — the most-anticipated day on the college hoops calendar — were going for around \$100 each on the secondary market. A year ago, shortly after the Duke-Carolina matchup was set, the average price for those same seats nearly doubled to \$800 a ticket.

There has been a lot of debate and even some handwringing about how one of America's greatest sporting events produced a 4 seed, two 5s and a 9 — for a seed total of 23, which is the second-highest in history — that between them boast not a single McDonald's All-American nor one consensus top-30 recruit.

The transfer portal, which allows players to come and go from school to school without having to sit out a year, might be the best explanation. Miami coach Jim Larranaga called it basketball's form of "speed dating," a get-rich-quick scheme that, with the right timing, chemistry and luck, can make a roster very good (or very bad) very quickly.

Some other possibilities: an NCAA selection committee that some say is divorced from reality; the ever-shifting landscape caused by name-image-likeness (NIL) deals that give players more leverage (and money); and, for sure, an abundance of flawed teams — including Alabama, Houston and Kansas — that were overvalued and placed at the top of the heap this year.

But before jumping to grand conclusions about matchups like these becoming the "new normal" at the Final Four, former Duke star and current TV analyst Jay Bilas reminds us that we are a scant 365 days removed from a completely different sort of get-together.

"I love the one about the narratives that you don't need those McDonalds guys to win," Bilas said. "OK, so don't recruit the best players, and see how that goes for you. I just don't understand how all this gets this way."

"The tournament is about a lot of different things to a lot of different people," Bilas said. "Some people love it for the brackets, some people love it for the basketball. But no matter who's in the Final Four, the bandwagon is always wide open, and you can jump on it whenever you want."

## Tatum has 40 points, Celtics rout NBA-leading Bucks

Associated Press

MILWAUKEE — Jayson Tatum scored 40 points, Jaylen Brown added 30 and the Boston Celtics steamrolled the NBA-leading Milwaukee Bucks 140-99 on Thursday night.

The Celtics (53-24) shot 22 of 43 from 3-point range and moved within two games of the

Bucks (55-22) in the Eastern Conference standings. The Celtics won the season series 2-1, giving Boston the tiebreaker.

Boston's performance in those three games with Milwaukee should give the Celtics plenty of confidence they could knock out the Bucks again if

they meet in the postseason. The Celtics beat the Bucks in seven games last season in the East semifinals.

Giannis Antetokounmpo led the Bucks with 24 points.

**Pelicans 107, Nuggets 88:** Brandon Ingram had 31 points, 11 rebounds and 10 assists for his third triple-double of the

season and visiting New Orleans took advantage of Nikola Jokic's absence to beat Denver.

Jonas Valanciunas had 15 points and 12 rebounds and CJ McCollum scored 23 points for New Orleans.

Jamal Murray had 21 points for Denver, and Bruce Brown added 19.

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# Judge homers as Yankees beat Giants

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Aaron Judge followed his record-setting 2022 by homering on his first swing as Yankees captain, starting New York to a 5-0 opening day win over the San Francisco Giants on Thursday.

Gerrit Cole (1-0) struck out 11 in six scoreless innings, a Yankees record for an opener. Judge also had an RBI single and Gleyber Torres added a two-run homer.

Logan Webb (0-1) struck out 12, the most for the Giants in an opener.

On the first day of the pitch clock, there was just one violation, on J.D. Davis at the plate in the ninth inning. The game was played in a brisk 2 hours, 33 minutes before a sellout crowd of 46,172 on a sunny, 39-degree afternoon.

Judge hit 62 home runs last year to break the American League record of 61 set by Roger Maris in 1961.

**Athletics 2, Angels 1:** Shohei Ohtani struck out 10 over six scoreless innings before Oakland capitalized once he exited to beat visiting Los Angeles.

Aledmys Díaz hit a tiebreaking single in the eighth. Esteury Ruiz singled and Tony Kemp hit a tying double to start the rally against Aaron Loup (0-1).

Ohtani called his own pitches using the Pitchcom technology as he also did during spring training.

Rookie catcher Logan O'Hoppe singled in the fifth to break up a scoreless game and put the Angels ahead. Then Los Angeles right fielder Hunter Renfroe made an amazing no-look catch to rob Jace Peterson.

New A's reliever Trevor May (1-0) pitched the eighth. Dany Jimenez earned the save.

**Orioles 10, Red Sox 9:** Adley Rutschman became the first catcher in major league history with five hits on opening day, and Baltimore survived a wild

ninth inning to beat host Boston.

Rutschman homered in his first at-bat and finished 5-for-5 with a career-best four RBIs and a walk on a chilly day at Fenway Park. Ramon Urias hit a two-run homer for Baltimore, which finished with 15 hits, nine walks and five stolen bases.

Kyle Gibson (1-0) allowed four runs and six hits over five-plus innings.

Leading off the eighth, Boston's Rafael Devers became the first player in major league history to be called out on a pitch clock violation. Orioles reliever Bryan Baker still allowed three runs in the eighth and closer Félix Bautista gave up two more — one unearned — in the ninth before he struck out Adam Duvall to earn the save.

Corey Kluber (0-1) struggled in his Fenway debut, surrendering five runs on six hits and four walks in 3½ innings.

**Blue Jays 10, Cardinals 9:** George Springer had five hits and Vladimir Guerrero Jr. drove in three runs as visiting Toronto won its fourth straight opener despite the Cardinals' Tyler O'Neill tying a major league record by homering on opening day for the fourth straight season.

Making his Cardinals debut, catcher Willson Contreras left after the eighth inning because of an injured knee sustained when he was hit by a 102.7 mph Jordan Hicks pitch.

Springer combined with Baltimore's Adley Rutschman to become the first pair of players with five hits each on opening day since at least 1901.

Bo Bichette had four hits and Matt Chapman three for the Blue Jays, who outhit the Cardinals 19-15 and set a team record for hits in an opener.

Toronto overcame a 9-8 deficit in the ninth against Ryan Helsley (0-1). Springer tied the score with an RBI single and Guerrero followed with a sacri-

fice fly.

Yimi García (1-0) won and Jordan Romano struck out two in a perfect ninth for the save.

**Mariners 3, Guardians 0:** J.P. Crawford's walk helped by a pitch-clock violation on James Karinchak sparked an eighth-inning rally that was capped by Ty France's three-run homer, and Seattle beat Cleveland at home.

Opening day was a pitchers' duel between Cleveland ace Shane Bieber and Seattle's Luis Castillo that lacked any offense until the wild eighth inning.

Crawford walked on a 3-2 pitch but only after being gifted a ball when Karinchak (0-1) committed the lone pitch-clock violation of the game with the count at 0-2. Kolten Wong was hit by a pitch with one out and France went opposite field with a pitch out of the strike zone and cleared the wall down the right-field line.

Castillo worked six scoreless innings. Three relievers finished the four-hitter. Paul Sewald (1-0) worked a hitless eighth.

Andrés Muñoz worked out of trouble in the ninth for the save.

**Cubs 4, Brewers 0:** Dansby Swanson had three hits in his Chicago debut and Marcus Stroman worked six scoreless innings, breezing past baseball's first pitch-clock violation.

Swanson's first hit with his new team was an RBI single that sparked a four-run third. He tacked on two more singles and played his usual solid defense at shortstop.

Swanson signed a \$177 million, seven-year contract with Chicago in free agency, leaving the Atlanta Braves after seven seasons.

Stroman (1-0) struck out eight and walked three. Milwaukee ace Corbin Burnes (0-1) gave up four runs on four hits and three walks in five innings for the visitors.

**Rangers 11, Phillies 7:** Robbie Grossman and Brad Miller homered in a big comeback after Jacob deGrom struggled in his debut, and Texas beat visiting Philadelphia.

Grossman hit a three-run homer that tied the game at 5-5 in the middle of a nine-run outburst in the fourth inning. An inning later, Miller became the first Rangers player in 11 years to homer in consecutive season openers. His two-run shot made it 11-6.

While deGrom struck out seven without a walk, the two-time National League Cy Young Award winner allowed five runs on six extra-base hits in his 3½ innings.

The Phillies' Aaron Nola also allowed five runs in 3½ innings. Cole Ragans (1-0) faced three batters, allowing a walk and an RBI single, but got the win. Gregory Soto (0-1) took the loss.

**Mets 5, Marlins 3:** Brandon Nimmo broke a seventh-inning tie with a two-run double, sending Max Scherzer and New York past Miami.

Scherzer (1-0) coughed up a three-run lead but threw six solid innings in a matchup with NL Cy Young Award winner Sandy Alcantara. New York improved to 41-21 on opening day — the best record in baseball.

Garrett Cooper tied it 3-all in the sixth with a two-run homer off Scherzer. Marlins newcomer Luis Arraez hit an RBI double.

Nimmo had three RBIs from the leadoff spot after re-signing with the Mets in the offseason for \$162 million over eight years.

His double off reliever Tanner Scott (0-1) put the Mets ahead 5-3 in the seventh, propelling them to their 41st win in the past 53 openers.

David Robertson, filling in for injured closer Edwin Díaz, got three outs for the save.

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# Cubs' Stroman makes pitch-clock history

Associated Press

CHICAGO — Marcus Stroman is getting used to Major League Baseball's new pitch clock. And it's no small deal for the Chicago Cubs right-hander.

"It's tough," he said. "It's a big adjustment."

Stroman committed baseball's first regular-season pitch-clock violation Thursday in the third inning of the Cubs' 4-0 victory over Milwaukee on opening day.

Stroman took a long look at rookie Brice Turang leading off second base with no outs and Christian Yelich batting at Wrigley Field. Just as Stroman turned his attention back to Yelich, plate umpire Ron Kulpa

called the violation for taking too long to deliver a pitch. Kulpa pointed to his wrist in announcing the call, and the automatic ball made it a 2-2 count against Yelich. Stroman didn't argue.

"You've got to be looking at the clock. You're trying to worry about the pitch. You're trying to worry about the guys on base. You're trying to worry about your grip," Stroman said. "There's so many things going on now."

"So it definitely adds another layer to the game that's tough, to be honest with you. It's definitely not easy to be a pitcher out there and to feel rushed at times."

Several more violations followed on the first day of regular-season games since MLB introduced a slate of rules changes this season — including a clock for a sport that famously existed for decades without any timers.

Boston Red Sox star slugger Rafael Devers earned an unpleasant spot in the record book as the first batter to strike out via violation. Devers was looking down and kicking debris off his cleats in the eighth inning when Lance Barksdale signaled a violation that resulted in strike three.

"There's no excuse," Boston manager Alex Cora said. "They know the rules."

J.D. Davis of the San Francisco Giants became the first hitter called for a pitch-clock violation in any count during the ninth inning of a game at Yankee Stadium.

Meanwhile in Washington, Atlanta Braves reliever Collin McHugh put his arms out wide after being called for a violation by umpire Dan Bellino in the eighth inning against Washington. That put batter Jeimer Candelario ahead 1-0, and McHugh followed with three more balls — a three-pitch walk, essentially.

"I didn't even realize it happened, quite honestly," Atlanta manager Brian Snitker said. "It's going to happen."

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**White Sox 3, Astros 2:** Andrew Vaughn's tiebreaking, two-run double in the ninth inning lifted Chicago over defending World Series champion Houston.

Yasmani Grandal hit a tying homer for the White Sox in the eighth. Ryan Pressly (0-1) walked Tim Anderson in the ninth before Luis Robert Jr. singled.

Pedro Grifol won his managerial debut after spending the last 10 seasons as a coach in the Royals organization. It snapped a streak of 10 straight wins for the Astros in openers.

White Sox ace Dylan Cease allowed two hits with 10 strikeouts over 6⅓ innings in his first opening-day start. Kendall Graveman (1-0) worked a scoreless eighth.

Reynaldo Lopez gave up a solo homer to Yordan Alvarez in the ninth but finished for the save.

**Braves 7, Nationals 2:** Travis d'Arnaud had four hits and visiting Atlanta beat error-prone Washington.

Braves starter Max Fried departed in the fourth inning with left hamstring discomfort. He gave up one run in 3⅓ innings.

Lucas Luetge (1-0), one of five Braves relievers, was credited with the win.

Nationals shortstop CJ Abrams made three errors.

Washington lefty Patrick Corbin (0-1) picked up right where he left off the past two seasons, lasting just one batter into the fourth and departing with a 6.00 ERA after giving up four runs, two earned.

**Rockies 7, Padres 2:** C.J. Cron homered twice and drove in five runs as Colorado beat San Diego at chilly, wet Petco Park.

Cron hit a go-ahead, three-run homer with one out in the fifth inning and added a leadoff shot in the seventh for his 17th career multi-homer game. Elehuris Montero followed with another homer off reliever Domingo Tapia.

Xander Bogaerts, who signed a \$280 million, 11-year free agent deal in December, went 3 for 4 with two doubles in his Padres debut.

Blake Snell (0-1), making his second career opening-day start, struck out nine through four innings before allowing singles to Yonathan Daza and Charlie Blackmon and leaving with a 2-1 lead in the fifth. Nabil

Crismatt relieved and gave up Cron's shot to left field.

Germán Márquez (1-0) held San Diego to two runs and five hits in six innings.

**Dodgers 8, Diamondbacks 2:** Will Smith went 3 for 5 and drove in three runs, James Outman homered and Los Angeles beat Arizona at home.

Julio Urías (1-0), last year's NL ERA leader, got the victory in his first career opening-day start. The left-hander allowed four hits and two runs in six innings. He struck out six.

Zac Gallen (0-1) gave up six hits and five runs in 4⅓ innings. He struck out seven and walked three.

**Twins 2, Royals 0:** Pablo Lopez and four Minnesota relievers combined on a two-hitter to beat Kansas City at breezy Kauffman Stadium.

Trevor Larnach and pinch-hitter Donovan Solano each drove in a run. Lopez (1-0) allowed both Royals hits while striking out eight in 5⅓ innings, outpitching former Cy Young Award winner Zack Greinke (0-1).

Jhoan Duran worked the ninth for a save.

**Rays 4, Tigers 0:** Shane Bieber pitched six sharp

innings, Jose Siri and Wander Franco homered and Tampa Bay opened its silver anniversary season with a win.

Miguel Cabrera, beginning what he has said will be his last season, had a double for visiting Detroit that moved him into a tie with Ichiro Suzuki for 23rd on the all-time hit list with 3,089.

McClanahan (1-0) gave up four hits, struck out six and walked one.

Randy Arozarena and Luke Raley drove in runs charged to Eduardo Rodriguez (0-1).

**Pirates 4, Reds 3:** Oneil Cruz homered shortly after a pitch clock violation helped him and later hit a go-ahead sacrifice fly in the eighth inning for Pittsburgh.

There were two pitch-clock violations, committed by Reds starter Hunter Greene in the third and Pirates starter Mitch Keller in the fourth. Both at-bats ended with home runs.

Greene committed the Reds' first clock violation, turning an 0-2 count to 1-2 against Cruz leading off the third. Cruz hit a tying, solo homer on a 3-2 pitch.

Rob Zastryzny (1-0) was the winner and David Bednar got the save. Buck Farmer (0-1) took the loss.

# Bruins take Presidents' Trophy with win

Associated Press

BOSTON — David Pastrnak scored his 53rd goal of the season 41 seconds into overtime and the Boston Bruins wrapped up the Presidents' Trophy with their franchise-record 58th victory, 2-1 over the Columbus Blue Jackets on Thursday night.

Hampus Lindholm sent a pass to Pastrnak for the backhand winner.

The Presidents' Trophy goes to the NHL regular-season points leader. Boston broke a tie with the 1970-71 team for the franchise victory mark and moved four away from tying the NHL record of 62 set by Detroit in 1995-96 and matched by Tampa Bay in 2018-19.

Tyler Bertuzzi had a tying power-play goal in the second and Linus Ullmark made 25 saves to help the Bruins win for the eighth time in nine games.

Jack Roslovic scored for Columbus and Michael Hutchinson stopped 29 shots. The Blue Jackets have lost six of eight.

**Oilers 2, Kings 0:** Connor McDavid scored his NHL-leading 61st goal of the season and Edmonton beat visiting Los Angeles for its third straight victory.

McDavid scored his 300th NHL goal, beating goalie Joonas Korpisalo with a wrist shot from the slot on a short-handed breakaway to make it 2-0 at 3:53 of the third period.

McDavid became the first player in NHL history to have five 10-game point streaks in a season, breaking Wayne Gretzky's record of four in 1986-87. McDavid also became the fifth player in league history to reach 300 goals and 500 assists before playing 600 career games, following Gretzky, Mario Lemieux, Peter Statsny and Bryan Trotter.

Stuart Skinner made 44 saves for his first shutout of the season and second in the NHL, helping the Oilers move past the Kings into third place in the Western Conference.

Evander Kane opened the scoring with 52 seconds left in the first period with his 15th of the season.

The Kings have lost two in a row.

**Lightning 5, Capitals 1:** Pat Maroon scored twice in the third period, Steven Stamkos had a goal and an assist and host Tampa Bay beat slumping Washington.

Stamkos assisted on Alex Killorn's goal midway through the opening period, then scored his 32nd of the season with 2.8 seconds left to put Tampa Bay up by two.

Maroon, who entered the game with three goals this season, scored early in the third period to give Tampa Bay a 3-1 lead, then put the game away with his second with 3:32 to go. Erik Cernak added a short-handed, empty-net goal with 1:54 remaining.

Andrei Vasilevskiy made 30 saves for the Lightning.

Craig Smith scored for the Capitals. They are 1-4-2 in their past seven games.

**Panthers 5, Canadiens 2:** Matthew Tkachuk had his fifth career hat trick and an assist in Florida's victory over Montreal.

With his second goal, Tkachuk became the fourth player in NHL history to have 100 or more points in consecutive seasons after changing teams in the offseason. He joined Wayne Gretzky (1987-88, 1988-89), Jimmy Carson (1987-88, 1988-89) and Mike Rogers (1980-81, 1981-82) in achieving the feat.

Anton Lundell added two goals and one assist and Alex Lyon made 18 saves while helping the Panthers to its second win in a row and a season series sweep of Montreal.

Sean Farrell scored his first career goal and Rafael Harvey-Pinard had a goal for the Canadiens.

**Penguins 2, Predators 0:** Tristan Jarry stopped 27 shots to outduel Juuse Saros and Pittsburgh beat Nashville at home.

Jason Zucker scored his 26th goal in the second period to give Jarry all the help he would need in his 13th career shutout. Jake Guentzel added a power-play goal in the third period.

Pittsburgh held on to the second wild-card spot in the Eastern Conference with the victory. The Penguins are one point ahead of Florida.

**Devils 2, Rangers 1:** Erik Haula and Timo Meier scored and Vitek Vanecek made three big third-period saves to lead New Jersey past visiting New York.

Vanecek finished with 24 saves as the Devils won the season series 3-1 and opened a four-point lead over the Rangers in the Metropolitan Division with two weeks left in the season. He stopped Vincent Trocheck in close twice and Vladimir Tarasenko in the final 12 minutes in picking up his 30th win.

Chris Kreider scored his 33rd goal for the Rangers.

**Sharks 4, Golden Knights 3, OT:** Logan Couture scored at 50 seconds of overtime to push San Jose past visiting Vegas.

Mario Ferraro had a goal and assist, Oskar Lindblom and Tomas Hertl also scored and former Harvard defenseman Henry Thrun had two assists in his NHL debut. James Reimer made 23 saves.

Thrun is the second Sharks defenseman to have a multi-point game in his NHL debut, joining Scott Hannan, who also had two assists in his first game in October 1998.

Nicolas Hague, Ivan Barbashov and Michael Amadio scored for the Golden Knights. Laurent Brossoit made 20 saves. Vegas wrapped up a playoff spot earlier when Pittsburgh beat Nashville.

**Senators 5, Flyers 4, OT:** Alex DeBrincat scored at 1:36 of overtime off goalie Felix Sandstrom's giveaway in Ottawa's victory over Philadelphia.

After the Flyers scored three straight goals to force overtime,

Sandstrom misplayed the puck behind the net, with DeBrincat scoring into an open net to keep the Senators' playoff hopes alive.

Tim Stutzle had a goal and an assist, Austin Watson, Shane Pinto and Claude Giroux also scored and Cam Talbot stopped seven of 11 shots.

Tony DeAngelo, Cam York, Noah Cates and Owen Tippett scored for the Flyers. Sandstrom made 41 saves. Tippett tied it with 2:39 left.

**Red Wings 3, Hurricanes 2:** Defenseman Jake Walman scored with 3.2 seconds left to lift Detroit past visiting Carolina.

Dominik Kubalik and captain Dylan Larkin also scored for the Red Wings and Alex Nedeljkovic made 31 saves to beat his former team.

Carolina defense partners Brent Burns and Jaccob Slavin scored 3:36 apart in the second.

**Blues 5, Blackhawks 3:** Logan Brown and Alexey Toropchenko scored 38 seconds apart in the second period and visiting St. Louis handed Chicago its seventh straight loss.

Jakub Vrana, Jordan Kyrou and Brandon Saad also scored for St. Louis. The Blues, still clinging to playoff hopes, have won two straight and three of four.

Andreas Athanasiou, Tyler Johnson and Boris Katchouk scored for Chicago. The Blackhawks dropped into a tie with Columbus for last overall in the NHL.

**Kraken 4, Ducks 1:** Jaden Schwartz and Matty Beniers scored within three minutes of each other in the first period and Seattle hung on at home to beat Anaheim.

Daniel Sprong added a power-play goal with 4:18 left and Alex Wennberg sealed it with an empty-netter. Martin Jones made 18 saves to help the Kraken keep their grip on the top Western Conference wild-card playoff spot. Brock McGinn scored for Anaheim.