

Deadline set for trans troops to separate

By CAITLYN BURCHETT
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The Pentagon issued a new deadline for transgender troops to voluntarily separate from military service following a Supreme Court ruling earlier this month.

Active-duty transgender troops have until June 6 to begin the process of separating from the armed forces or risk being booted out, according to a memo signed Thursday by Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth. Reserve troops have until July 7. After those dates, the services will begin involuntarily booting out transgender troops.

“This is the president’s agenda. This is what the American people voted for and we’re going to continue to relentlessly pursue it,” Hegseth said in a recorded video shared Thursday on X.

The Defense Department’s “Rapid Response” X account commented in response to the video: “No more pronouns. No more drag shows. No more

dudes in dresses. NO MORE TRANS AT THE DOD.”

Approximately 1,000 troops across the services have already self-identified as having been diagnosed with gender dysphoria, according to Sean Parnell, chief Pentagon spokesman. The services will begin processing those troops for voluntary separation.

The announcement follows a Supreme Court ruling Tuesday that allows President Donald Trump’s administration to enforce a ban on transgender people in the military while legal challenges to the policy proceed.

Lawsuits and the court’s ruling were sparked by an executive order signed Jan. 27 by Trump that presumptively disqualifies transgender people from military service and could lead to the expulsion of experienced, decorated officers. Trump’s order claims the sexual identity of transgender service members “conflicts with a

soldier’s commitment to an honorable, truthful, and disciplined lifestyle, even in one’s personal life.”

Hegseth then issued a policy in February that gave the military services 30 days to figure out how they would seek out and identify transgender service members to remove them from the military. The order included troops with a diagnosis or history of gender dysphoria, which is the distress that a person feels because their assigned gender and gender identity don’t match. The medical condition has been linked to depression and suicidal thoughts.

“Service by individuals with a current diagnosis or history of, or exhibiting symptoms consistent with, gender dysphoria is not in the best interest of the military services and is not clearly consistent with the interests of national security,” according to the memo signed by Hegseth.

In February, the Army shared on social media that it would

halt processing new recruit candidates with a history of gender dysphoria.

Two transgender airmen in March filed a suit in federal court in New Jersey to try to block the Air Force from firing them. The judge blocked their impending dismissal for 14 days, keeping the men in service as the broader challenge to the Trump administration’s policy proceeded.

The Navy, also in March, said sailors and Marines who are no longer eligible for military service, as well as potential new recruits, might be considered for a retention or recruitment waiver on a case-by-case basis provided there is a “compelling government interest” in that individual’s ability to support “warfighting capabilities” directly. It is unclear whether that policy still stands.

Roughly 2,000 transgender people serve in the military, representing less than 1% of active-duty service members.

Plaintiffs awarded \$600K over tainted Red Hill water

By WYATT OLSON
Stars and Stripes

A federal judge in Hawaii on Wednesday awarded nearly \$600,000 to 17 plaintiffs who sued the U.S. government after being sickened by jet fuel-contaminated water on Oahu in late 2021 — a fraction of the \$7 million they had sought.

The decision by U.S. District Judge Leslie Kobayashi comes a year after the two-week trial in U.S. District Court in Honolulu ended in May 2024.

The award more closely aligns with a post-trial brief from government attorneys, who recommended no more

than \$458,792 in total compensation.

The 17 bellwether plaintiffs in the civil case Feindt vs. United States represent the first of thousands to sue the government after the fuel spill, which tainted drinking water in military housing on and near Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam.

The decision is expected to serve as a benchmark for future claims.

The spill originated from the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility, a World War II-era underground complex that is now being prepared for permanent closure.

Kobayashi awarded general damages for pain and suffering ranging from \$5,000 to \$75,000 per plaintiff. Each was also awarded \$1,000 for “loss of enjoyment of life,” according to the decision.

Four plaintiffs received a combined \$38,489 in “special damages” for future medical expenses.

The lead plaintiff, Patrick Feindt, was the only one to receive compensation for economic loss, totaling \$2,144. Kobayashi wrote “there was no credible evidence supporting a claim for economic injury or wage loss for any other plain-

tiff.”

Feindt and his two children were awarded just over \$61,000. His wife, Army officer Amanda Feindt, has filed a separate lawsuit on behalf of active-duty service members.

The decision was a rejection of the government’s assertions that the contaminated water did not cause harm, according to Just Well Law, one of the firms representing the plaintiffs.

The government admitted liability for the spill before trial, but its attorneys argued that plaintiffs were not exposed to enough contamination to cause harm.

Special operators due for changes in doctrine

By MATTHEW M. BURKE
Stars and Stripes

The Pentagon is overhauling its special operations doctrine to sharpen key skills and align with the White House's Indo-Pacific focus, a senior defense official said.

Colby Jenkins, the acting assistant secretary of defense for special operations and low-intensity conflict, outlined the changes Thursday in his keynote address at the Special Operations Forces Week convention in Tampa, Fla., according to a Defense Department statement the same day.

"This is our moment to forge the future of special oper-

ations," said Jenkins, a former member of Army Special Forces.

The annual convention draws upward of 20,000 people, including influential defense officials and world leaders.

Sponsored by U.S. Special Operations Command and the Global Special Operations Forces Foundation, it began in its current format in 2023.

Among the priorities Jenkins listed were a shift from stationary counterterrorism and crisis response formations toward more flexible teams able to operate by land, sea, air and in the cyber realm.

"The future of SOF is relent-

less, smaller teams, faster decisions, smarter systems (and) harder targets," he said. "We cannot afford to simply maintain the old standards. We must sharpen them, modernize them and expand them without losing the warrior ethos that (defines) our special operations."

The Pentagon also will focus on resilience, improving training and readiness, aligning development to priorities and strengthening the oversight of resources and accountability, Jenkins said.

During his speech, he vowed to harness artificial intelligence and invited the special operations community to contribute

ideas regarding its future.

Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth, who was in attendance, also thanked the special operators for maintaining physical standards, noting that standards must be high throughout the armed services.

The comments came as the Pentagon conducts a review of the military's force posture, including special operations.

Lawmakers also must consider the role of special operators in such White House priorities as securing the southern border and fighting foreign drug cartels, the Congressional Research Service said in a March report.

82nd Airborne paratroopers head to Europe for drills

Stars and Stripes

STUTTGART, Germany — Paratroopers from the U.S. Army's 82nd Airborne Division are headed to Europe, where large combat drills stretching from Nordic lands to NATO's eastern flank are underway.

About 600 soldiers from the division's 3rd Brigade will parachute into Norway this week in a "forcible entry" operation aimed at testing the unit's ability to fight through resistance,

the Army said.

The Swift Response exercise will showcase the 82nd's ability to respond to "any mission, anywhere, and anytime," Maj. Gen. Pat Work, division commander, said ahead of the training, which kicks off Tuesday.

The Fort Bragg, N.C.-based 82nd Airborne, a part of the military's global response force, has factored into Army efforts to quickly mobilize troops into Europe. The division was key in

Pentagon efforts to reinforce NATO around the time of Russia's February 2022 invasion of Ukraine.

While Swift Response will involve some 4,100 U.S. troops and 1,900 multinational forces carrying out simultaneous airborne assault operations in the High North and across the Baltics, other drills are unfolding elsewhere in Europe.

On Sunday, more than 300 U.S. and allied service mem-

bers were participating in exercise Arcane Thunder, which involves integration of land, sea, air, cyber and space capabilities, U.S. Army Europe and Africa said in a statement.

The drills in Germany, the U.S. and Poland, featuring the Wiesbaden-based 2nd Multi-Domain Task Force, incorporate emerging technology capabilities, which are becoming central to how the Army fights, the statement said.

North Korea says it launched a nuclear response test

By DAVID CHOI
AND YOOJIN LEE
Stars and Stripes

North Korea launched a series of short-range ballistic missiles Thursday during a nuclear counterstrike drill overseen by leader Kim Jong Un, in what state media said was a response to recent nuclear exercises conducted by the United States and

South Korea.

The drill, held at an unspecified location, included 600 mm multiple rocket launchers and a Hwasongpho-11-Ka tactical ballistic missile, according to the Korean Central News Agency. Pyongyang claims both systems can carry tactical nuclear warheads.

Kim, who was present for the drill, said "it is very important to

steadily perfect the normal combat readiness of the nuclear force," KCNA reported. The military "should continue to direct efforts to steadily improve the long-range precision striking capability and efficiency of weapons system," he added.

South Korea's military confirmed the launches, reporting Thursday that several short-range ballistic missiles were

fired eastward from Wonsan, a coastal city 90 miles from Pyongyang. They flew approximately 500 miles before falling into the Sea of Japan, or East Sea, according to the Ministry of National Defense.

South Korea's defense ministry suggested Thursday's launches may have been used to demonstrate the missiles' readiness for potential export.

Bessent touts progress in China tariff talks

Associated Press

GENEVA — U.S. negotiators said Sunday that “substantial progress” was made and “perhaps the differences weren’t so large” after two days of negotiations with a high-ranking Chinese delegation on ways to ease a trade war sparked by President Donald Trump’s steep tariffs.

Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent, who led the U.S. delegation during talks in Geneva, said there was “a great deal of productivity.”

“I’m happy to report that we’ve made substantial progress between the United States and China in the very important trade talks,” Bessent said.

He echoed the positive sentiment of Trump himself, who suggested on social media that “GREAT PROGRESS” was being made toward what he suggested could be a “total reset” on tariffs that have put the global econo-

my on edge.

The Chinese delegation did not offer an immediate assessment of what occurred, but Beijing struck a more measured tone about the negotiations’ overall direction. China, in an editorial in its state-run news agency, said it would “firmly reject any proposal that compromises core principles or undermines the broader cause of global equity.”

The discussions were held at a villa that serves as the residence of the Swiss ambassador to the United Nations, and little information was available on-site or in Washington as they unfolded. Bessent offered few details on exactly what was discussed but said he and U.S. Trade Representative Jamieson Greer spoke to Trump on Saturday night.

U.S. officials also planned to hold a briefing with more details Monday morning.

“It’s important to understand how quickly we were able to come to agreement, which reflects that perhaps the differences were not so large as far as maybe thought,” said Greer, who did not say what agreement he was referring to. Speaking to reporters near the villa, Greer and Bessent gave a statement but did not take questions.

Greer also stressed that a top Trump priority means closing the U.S. trade deficit with China, which came to a record \$263 billion last year. The discussions could help stabilize world markets roiled by the U.S.-China standoff that has ships in port with goods from China unwilling to unload until they get final word on tariffs.

Trump last month raised U.S. tariffs on China to a combined 145%, and China retaliated by hitting American imports with a

125% levy. Tariffs that high essentially amount to the countries’ boycotting each other’s products.

In its editorial, Xinhua said, “Talks should never be a pretext for continued coercion or extortion, and China will firmly reject any proposal that compromises core principles or undermines the broader cause of global equity.”

Still, members of the Trump administration were following the president’s lead in insisting that a reset of U.S.-China trade relations could be in the offing.

“Secretary Bessent has made clear that one of his objectives is to de-escalate,” Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick, who wasn’t in Geneva, said on “Fox News Sunday.” He added that the U.S. and China have imposed tariffs that are “too high to do business, but that’s why they are talking right now.”

Officials suggest suspending habeas corpus in some cases

The Washington Post

White House Deputy Chief of Staff Stephen Miller has indicated that the Trump administration is actively considering whether it can suspend habeas corpus, the right of an individual to challenge their detention in court.

When asked about suspending the writ of habeas corpus as part of its efforts to deport individuals, Miller told reporters Friday, “The Constitution is clear and that, of course, is the supreme law of the land, that the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus could be suspended in time of invasion.”

“So that’s an option we’re actively looking at,” he added.

President Donald Trump and his administration have repeatedly asserted that the U.S. is facing an “invasion” requiring the deportation of undocumented migrants under the Alien Enemies Act, a law that would allow the deportation of noncitizens

with little to no due process.

However, the administration keeps losing that argument in court — including on Tuesday, when a federal judge said the White House has failed to prove the existence of an “invasion” or another conflict that would justify invoking the Alien Enemies Act to deport Venezuelan migrants.

The Constitution does not allow the suspension of habeas corpus solely because an “invasion” is declared by the executive branch.

The document states in Article I it can be suspended only “in Cases of Rebellion or Invasion [when] the public Safety may require it.”

That right, which allows an individual to petition their detention in court, also extends to noncitizens held within the U.S.

Several legal efforts challenging Trump’s deportation efforts are based on habeas petitions.

Secretary plans to reduce flight capacity at Newark

Associated Press

Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy plans to reduce the number of flights in and out of the Newark Liberty International Airport for the “next several weeks,” as New Jersey’s largest airport struggles with radar outages and numerous flight delays and cancellations due to a shortage of air traffic controllers.

Speaking on NBC’s “Meet the Press,” Duffy said he will convene a meeting with all the airlines flying out of Newark this week to determine the reduction.

He added that it will fluctuate, with a larger reduction coming in the afternoons when international flight arrivals make the airport busier.

“We want to have a number of flights that if you book your flight, you know it’s going to fly, right?” he said.

“That is the priority. So you don’t get to the airport, wait four

hours, and then get delayed,” he added.

The Federal Aviation Administration said radar at the facility in Philadelphia that directs planes in and out of Newark airport went black for 90 seconds at 3:55 a.m. Friday, similar to an April 28 incident.

There has been an average of 34 arrival cancellations per day since mid-April at Newark, according to the FAA, with the number of delays increasing throughout the day from an average of five in the mornings to 16 by the evening. They tend to last 85 to 137 minutes on average.

The Trump administration proposed a multibillion-dollar overhaul of the U.S. air traffic control system on Thursday that includes six new air traffic control centers and technology and communications upgrades at all of the nation’s air traffic facilities over the next three or four years.

India-Pakistan ceasefire shaken by border fighting

Associated Press

ISLAMABAD — A ceasefire to end the conflict between India and Pakistan was shaken by overnight border fighting in the disputed Kashmir region.

People on both sides of the Line of Control, which divides the territory, reported heavy exchanges of fire between Indian and Pakistani troops. The fighting subsided by Sunday morning.

The two countries agreed to a truce a day earlier after talks to defuse the most serious military confrontation between them in decades following a gun massacre of tourists that India blames on Pakistan, which denies the charge.

As part of the ceasefire, the nuclear-armed neighbors agreed to immediately stop all

firing and military action on land, in the air and at sea. They accused each other of repeatedly violating the deal hours later.

Drones were spotted Saturday night over Indian-controlled Kashmir and the western state of Gujarat according to Indian officials.

In the Poonch area of Indian-controlled Kashmir, people said the intense shelling from the past few days had traumatized them.

"Most people ran as shells were being fired," said college student Sosan Zehra who returned home Sunday.

In Pakistan-controlled Kashmir's Neelum Valley, which is two miles from the Line of Control, people said there were exchanges of fire and heavy shelling after the ceasefire began.

Resident Mohammad Zahid said: "We were happy about the announcement but, once again, the situation feels uncertain."

U.S. President Donald Trump was the first to post about the deal, announcing it on his Truth Social platform. Indian and Pakistani officials confirmed the news shortly after.

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi chaired a high-level meeting Sunday with top government and military officials.

India, unlike Pakistan, has not said anything about Trump or the U.S. since the deal was announced. Nor has India acknowledged anyone beyond its military contact.

Pakistan has thanked the U.S. and especially Trump several times for facilitating the ceasefire.

On Sunday, U.N. spokesperson Stephane Dujarric said Secretary-General Antonio Guterres welcomed the deal as a positive step toward ending current hostilities and easing tensions.

India and Pakistan have engaged in daily fighting since Wednesday along the rugged and mountainous Line of Control, which is marked by razor wire coils, watchtowers and bunkers that snake across foothills populated by villages, tangled bushes and forests.

India's military strikes into Pakistan-controlled Kashmir and Pakistan earlier in the week killed more than 100 militants including their prominent leadership, the head of India's military operations claimed on Sunday.

Pope Leo XIV calls for peace in Ukraine, Gaza

Associated Press

VATICAN CITY — Pope Leo XIV called for a just and lasting peace in Ukraine and an immediate ceasefire in Gaza with the release of hostages and delivery of humanitarian aid in his first Sunday noon blessing as pontiff.

"I too address the world's great powers by repeating the ever-present call 'never again war,'" Leo said from the loggia of St. Peter's Basilica to an estimated 100,000 people below.

It was the first time that Leo had returned to the loggia since he first appeared to the world on Thursday following his election as pope, the first from the United States.

Leo was picking up the papal tradition of offering a Sunday blessing at noon, but with several twists. Whereas his predecessors delivered the greeting from the studio window of the Apostolic Palace, off to the side of the piazza, Leo went to the very center of the square and the heart of

the church.

He wore the simple white cassock of the papacy — not the formal red cape he wore on Thursday night — and had reverted back to wearing his silver pectoral cross. He had worn a more ornate one that contains the relics of St. Augustine and his mother, St. Monica, on Thursday night that had been given to him by his Augustinian religious order.

Leo quoted Pope Francis in denouncing the number of conflicts ravaging the globe today, saying it was a "third world war in pieces."

He called for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza and for humanitarian relief to be provided for the "exhausted civilian population and all hostages be freed."

Leo also noted that Sunday was Mother's Day in many countries and wished all mothers, "including those in heaven" a Happy Mother's Day.

Soviet-era spacecraft comes to Earth 53 years later

Associated Press

A Soviet-era spacecraft plunged to Earth on Saturday, more than a half-century after its failed launch to Venus.

Its uncontrolled entry was confirmed by both the Russian Space Agency and European Union Space Surveillance and Tracking. The Russians indicated it came down over the Indian Ocean, but some experts were not so sure of the precise location.

The European Space Agency's space debris office also tracked the spacecraft's doom after it failed to appear over a German radar station.

It was not immediately known how much, if any, of the half-ton spacecraft survived the fiery descent from orbit.

Experts said ahead of time that some if not all of it might come crashing down, given it was built to withstand a landing on Venus, the solar system's hottest planet.

The chances of anyone getting clobbered by spacecraft debris were exceedingly low, scientists said.

Launched in 1972 by the Soviet Union, the spacecraft known as Kosmos 482 was part of a series of missions bound for Venus.

But this one never made it out of orbit around Earth, after being stranded there by a rocket malfunction.

Much of the spacecraft came tumbling back to Earth within a decade of the failed launch.

No longer able to resist gravity's tug as its orbit dwindled, the spherical lander — an estimated 3 feet across — was the last part of the spacecraft to come down.

The lander was encased in titanium, according to experts, and weighed more than 1,000 pounds.

Any surviving wreckage will belong to Russia under a United Nations treaty.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Iranian to self-deport after charge dropped

AL MONTGOMERY — An Iranian mechanical engineering student at the University of Alabama has decided to self-deport after six weeks in a Louisiana detention center despite the government dropping a charge behind his initial arrest, his lawyer and fiancée said.

Alireza Doroudi was detained by immigration officials in March as part of President Donald Trump's widespread immigration crackdown and has been held at a facility in Jena, La., over 300 miles from where he lived with his fiancée in Alabama.

At the time the State Department said Doroudi posed "significant national security concerns." Doroudi's lawyer, David Rozas, said the government has not offered any evidence to support that claim, however.

Doroudi's visa was revoked in June 2023. Officials did not give a reason and ignored numerous inquiries from him that year, according to his fiancée, Sama Ebrahimi Bajgani. Back then the University of Alabama advised Doroudi that he was legally allowed to stay but would not be allowed to re-enter if he left, Bajgani added.

This spring the government filed two charges against Doroudi to justify deporting him, saying his visa was revoked and he was not "in status" as a student, Rozas said.

On Thursday a U.S. government attorney withdrew the first of those and said the visa revocation was "prudential," meaning it would not go into effect until after he leaves the

country — in line with what the university told Doroudi earlier.

Ramaswamy wins GOP nod in race for governor

OH COLUMBUS — Trump-endorsed biotech billionaire Vivek Ramaswamy won the Ohio Republican Party's gubernatorial endorsement on Friday, overcoming more experienced and potentially more popular rivals to land coveted institutional and monetary support nearly a year before the 2026 primary.

Ramaswamy, 39, former co-chair of President Donald Trump's Department of Government Efficiency initiative, benefited from Trump's backing and from an 11th-hour post on X by Donald Trump Jr., who urged members of the 66-member State Central Committee to back him.

The party's governing board took the unusual step of holding both the debate and vote for Ramaswamy behind closed doors, as objections swirled from some corners of the party that taking sides in the race was unfair, premature or both.

Teen's father charged in deadly school shooting

WI MADISON — Wisconsin prosecutors have charged the father of a teenage girl who killed a teacher and fellow student in a school shooting last year with allowing her access to the semiautomatic pistols she used in the attack.

The criminal complaint against 42-year-old Jeffrey Rupnow of Madison details how his daughter, 15-year-old Natalie Rupnow, struggled with her parents' divorce, showing her anger in a written piece titled

"War Against Humanity."

Her father tried to bond with her through guns, the complaint said, even as she meticulously planned the attack, including building a cardboard model of the school and scheduling the shooting to end with her suicide.

Prosecutors filed the complaint Wednesday but didn't unseal it until after Jeffrey Rupnow was arrested Thursday and taken to the Dane County Jail. He faces two counts of intentionally giving a dangerous weapon to a person under 18 causing death and contributing to the delinquency of a child. All of the charges are felonies.

Natalie Rupnow entered Abundant Life Christian School, a religious school in Madison that offers prekindergarten through high school classes, on Dec. 16 and opened fire in a study hall. She killed teacher Erin Michelle West and 14-year-old student Rubi Bergara and injured six others before she killed herself.

Retired Supreme Court Justice Souter dies at 85

DC WASHINGTON — Retired Supreme Court Justice David H. Souter, the ascetic bachelor and New Hampshire Republican who became a favorite of liberals during his nearly 20 years on the bench, has died. He was 85.

Souter died Thursday at his home in New Hampshire, the court said in a statement Friday.

He retired from the court in June 2009, giving President Barack Obama his first Supreme Court vacancy to fill. Obama, a Democrat, chose Sonia Sotomayor, the court's first Latina justice.

Souter was appointed by Re-

publican President George H.W. Bush in 1990. He was a reliably liberal vote on abortion, church-state relations, freedom of expression and the accessibility of federal courts.

Souter also dissented from the decision in Bush v. Gore in 2000, which effectively handed the presidency to George W. Bush, the son of the man who put him on the high court.

State bracing for big seaweed invasion

FL MIAMI — Bad news, beachgoers: The seaweed monster is back and it's expected to be bigger than ever.

Scientists at the University of South Florida Optical Oceanography Lab, the point people for tracking the floating mats of seaweed called sargassum, are predicting what could be the state's worst seaweed season.

In the latest report issued April 30, they project 40% more seaweed than the previous record mess of 2022, when stinky, scratchy piles sent many tourists packing and cost cities millions to clean up.

The mass of seaweed, which piles up on beaches and collects around marinas and docks, is also forming earlier than usual out in far-off ocean waters. The bloom began in March and reached unprecedented levels by the end of April, said Chuanmin Hu, the professor who runs USF's Optical Oceanography Lab.

What's to blame? Wind, nutrients and higher temperatures due to climate change could all be impacting how the sargassum belt forms and moves, he said.

— From wire reports

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Celtics hit 3s, rout Knicks in Game 3

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Boston's 3-point touch came back in Game 3, so New York didn't.

Jayson Tatum had 22 points, nine rebounds and seven assists, Payton Pritchard scored 23 points and the Celtics easily got its first win in the Eastern Conference semifinals by routing the Knicks 115-93 on Saturday.

Boston went 20-for-40 from 3-point range after going just 25-for-100 in their two losses at home, when they blew 20-point leads in the second half of both games. The defending NBA champions went ahead by 31 in this one and there was never anything resembling a comeback for New York.

"You've got to beat us four times. That's what it comes down to. Not twice, not once, not three," Celtics forward Jaylen Brown said. "You've got to win four games, so there's a lot of basketball to be played."

Tatum, an All-Star who shot just 12-for-42 overall in Boston, and Pritchard, the NBA Sixth Man of the Year, both made five 3s.

Brown scored 19 points and Derrick White had 17 for the Celtics, who will try to tie the series Monday night in Game 4 before returning to Boston for Game 5 on Wednesday.

Jalen Brunson scored 27 points and Karl-Anthony Towns had 21 points and 15 rebounds for the Knicks, who blew a 2-0 lead in this round last year and are still seeking their first conference finals appearance since 2000.

"I don't think we came with the mindset of being satisfied, but I think it was just subconsciously satisfied being up 2-0," Brunson said. "Just not the way we need to approach the game."

The Celtics made more 3-pointers than any team in NBA history during the regular season, when they swept all four

meetings against New York. But Boston was ice cold to open this series, starting with an NBA playoff-record 45 misses in Game 1.

It made its first four 3-point shots in a blistering start Saturday and never really slowed down. The Celtics finished 6-for-7 behind the arc en route to a 36-20 lead, their highest-scoring first quarter of the postseason, quickly taking the energy out of a crowd where some fans paid more than \$600 per ticket to be in the arena with the celebrities for one of the biggest games the Knicks have played in the 2000s.

"Just a matter of time," Tatum said.

Tatum and Pritchard hit consecutive 3s for a 55-33 lead with 4½ minutes remaining in the half, and Boston took a 71-46 lead to the locker room.

New York was 5-for-25 behind the arc and shot 68.6% on free throws — though that was mostly because Mitchell Robin-

son went 4-for-12 as the Celtics fouled the poor free throw shooter intentionally and kept on doing it long after it seemed necessary, sending the New York backup center to the line even with a 29-point lead in the second half.

Fans at Madison Square Garden tried to encourage Robinson through his struggles, standing and cheering when he went to the line for what became his fifth straight miss to open the game and then giving him a loud ovation after he made the second.

Robinson was 3 for 11 in the two games in Boston, with Mazzulla hoping that his misses would force Knicks coach Tom Thibodeau to take him out of the game.

Robinson is one of New York's best rebounders and defensive players, and was a catalyst in their comebacks from a pair of 20-point deficits over the Celtics.

Edwards, Randle give T-wolves 2-1 edge on Warriors

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Even with Stephen Curry sidelined and Draymond Green in foul trouble, the Golden State Warriors were ahead by five points in the fourth quarter and felt they had every chance to grab a series lead against the Minnesota Timberwolves at home.

Until Anthony Edwards and Julius Randle took over in crunch time.

Edwards hit a baseline 3-pointer with 1:19 remaining and scored 36 points, Randle had 24 points, 12 assists and 10 rebounds, and the Timberwolves beat the Warriors 102-97 on Saturday night for a 2-1 lead in their second-round playoff series.

Jimmy Butler had 33 points, seven assists and seven rebounds and Jonathan Kuminga

scored 30 off the bench, but Golden State still lacked the kind of rhythm they have with Curry on the floor.

"Obviously with Steph out there, he demands two to three bodies when he's out there on the floor," Butler said. "When he's not, there's no room for error. You can't make mistakes. You can't turn the ball over. You can't give back all of those things. And then you've got to take the right shots."

Kuminga shot 11 for 18 as the Warriors again mixed and matched while playing without Curry as he nurses a strained left hamstring that he injured early in Game 1 on Tuesday.

Game 4 is Monday night at Chase Center.

Golden State coach Steve Kerr stressed his team had to win with defense — and his

team couldn't make the key stops down the stretch.

Edwards, who showed no signs of being hampered after spraining his left ankle in the second quarter of Game 2, knocked down a go-ahead 3-pointer with 6:16 remaining, while Jaden McDaniels made another key 3 with 3:20 to play.

Randle began 1 for 6 and missed his initial four 3-point tries before connecting 6:30 before halftime to put Minnesota up 39-29 and force a Warriors timeout. He shot 10-for-23.

"We need it all. We needed everything from Julius, his hustle plays," T-wolves coach Chris Finch said. "Sometimes he does a great job of just kind of chasing down rebounds and stuff like this. We needed it all."

Buddy Hield's 3-pointer with 1:56 left pulled Golden State

within 93-89 then McDaniels threw the ball away moments later, but the Warriors were sloppy.

Golden State missed all five of its 3-point tries in the first half but still led 42-40, then Hield found some rhythm and scored 14 second-half points.

Draymond Green fouled out with 4:38 to play, whistled for his sixth personal trying to block a shot by McDaniels that appeared questionable on several replay reviews. Green sprinted down the floor to the Warriors bench in frustration then pulled on his warmup jacket and stood with hands on hips.

Trayce Jackson-Davis moved into Golden State's starting lineup after he made all six of his field goals and had 15 points and six rebounds in Game 2, but played just 11 minutes.

Knights stun Oilers with last-second shot

Associated Press

EDMONTON, Alberta — Reilly Smith scored with 0.4 seconds left on a shot that deflected in off Edmonton forward Leon Draisaitl's stick to give the Vegas Golden Knights a stunning 4-3 victory in Game 3 on Saturday night.

Vegas cut Edmonton's lead to 2-1 in the Western Conference semifinal series, avoiding overtime after Oilers star Connor McDavid tied it with 3:02 to go with a centering pass that went in off defender Brayden McNabb's skate.

Smith's shot was going wide until it hit Draisaitl's stick.

"Sometimes you just hope for the best and that one seemed to work out, thankfully I had

enough time," Smith said.

It was officially the third-latest third-period winning goal in playoff history, at least since the NHL added decimals to the final minute. Nazem Kadri had one with 0.1 seconds left for Colorado in 2020, and Jussi Jokinen scored with 0.2 remaining for Carolina in 2009.

"That was one of the craziest things I've ever seen in a hockey game, but obviously it was a great play," Vegas defenseman Nicolas Hague.

After Corey Perry gave Edmonton an early 2-0 lead, Nicolas Roy and Smith tied it with goals in a 54-second span late in the first period.

William Karlsson put the Golden Knights in front with

2:55 left in the second, beating goalie Stuart Skinner off a give-and-go play with Noah Hanifin.

"We know we got good character in the room," Vegas coach Bruce Cassidy said. "Obviously, we have to correct some of the things how we started. You don't want to put yourself in that hole, but there's a lot of hockey left, we know we have the ability to come back, we can score goals."

Adin Hill made 17 saves for the Knights.

Game 4 is Monday night in Edmonton.

"It's probably more deflating losing the way we did, not getting to overtime," Perry said. "It's happened twice to us in

these playoffs. You use it as motivation."

Vegas rallied in the first period after Golden Knights forward Mark Stone left because of an upper-body injury.

Roy, playing a day after being fined but not suspended for cross-checking Trent Frederic in the face in overtime in Game 2, cut it to 2-1 off a rebound with 4:43 left in the first. Smith then slipped a backhand through Skinner's legs with 3:49 to go in the period.

Skinner stopped 20 shots, taking over in goal for the injured Calvin Pickard. Pickard appeared uncomfortable and was seen shaking out his left leg after Vegas forward Tomas Hertl landed on his left pad in Game 2.

Svechnikov, Andersen lead Canes past Caps for 2-1 edge

Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. — Andrei Svechnikov pounced on a loose faceoff puck for his sixth postseason goal while Frederik Andersen had 21 saves as the Carolina Hurricanes beat the Washington Capitals 4-0 on Saturday night for a 2-1 lead in their second-round playoff series.

Svechnikov sprang into the circle to beat John Carlson to the puck and beat Logan Thompson at 12:34 of the second for the game's first goal in what turned out to be the start of Carolina's game-seizing surge.

"Sometimes you need those individual efforts," Hurricanes coach Rod Brind'Amour said. "We had that tonight."

And Andersen bought time for Carolina to find that groove after a strong start by Washington, on the way to posting his first postseason shutout for the Canes and the franchise's first in three years.

"Clearly that was the key to our win tonight, was that first period where clearly they were on their game and we were a little on our heels," Brind'Amour said. "That's what goaltending does. It keeps us in the game. And then I thought we got to it in that second half of the game."

"But it could've been a lot different if we're chasing it."

Jack Roslovic added a power-play goal late in the second period for Carolina, while Eric Robinson charged up the left side to

beat Thompson early in the third to make it 3-0.

Jackson Blake added a clinching power-play finish near the post late as the Hurricanes improved to 4-0 at home in the playoffs.

"It's pretty obvious when we're not playing it and maybe trying to do something different or do too much," Robinson said. "So yeah, we just got to our game."

Carolina dominated play in the series opener but needed Jaccob Slavin's overtime goal to push through on the road. The Capitals did a better job of countering in Game 2 and tied the series behind a strong two-way effort from Tom Wilson.

Washington had seemingly reversed the script on the Canes with a strong start, which included Andersen having to stand up to an immediate skating-in chance by Wilson and an early shot from Taylor Raddysh while Carolina struggled to get on its aggressive game.

Thompson finished with 24 saves for the Caps, while Washington managed just 10 shots in the final 39-plus minutes.

"Whenever we're playing from behind, it's not a good recipe for our group," Capitals coach Spencer Carbery said. "Like, we just don't have the firepower that can snap it around, we're going to be able to score five or six goals. It's just not our makeup."

"So once we start to trail, we start to

press and then you see some uncharacteristic things. We can't some string some plays together and it gets a little sloppy."

The Hurricanes are at their best when they're using their depth to roll lines and pressure opponents with an aggressive forecheck that can keep the puck in the offensive zone for withering stretches and make defenders scrap for clean outlets. Yet they returned home to find the Capitals carrying the action through the first period and into the second, both in generating chances against Andersen and in keeping the puck moving against Carolina's pressure.

Worse, it came after the Canes had managed just two 5-on-5 goals through Games 1 and 2, a combination of strong play from Thompson in net and skaters repeatedly blocking shots to keep pucks from even getting to him. And Carolina had its close calls, ringing the post four times through the first two games while Svechnikov twice hit the crossbar in Game 1.

It didn't help, too, that Svechnikov pinged the top left corner of the frame against Thompson again on a first-period charge up the ice that felt familiar as Washington carried play.

Eventually, though, Svechnikov and Roslovic seemingly pried the lid off the net.

Game 4 in the best-of-seven series is Monday night in Raleigh.

Padres score 21, shut out Rockies in rout

Associated Press

DENVER — Fernando Tatis Jr. and Xander Bogaerts hit home runs in the fifth inning, part of a five-homer game for San Diego, and the Padres routed the scuffling Colorado Rockies 21-0 on Saturday night.

Jake Cronenworth, Gavin Sheets and Jason Heyward also went deep for San Diego. The Padres set season highs in runs and hits (24) for the second straight game while sending Colorado to its eighth straight loss.

The Rockies, who are 6-33, matched the 1988 Baltimore Orioles for the worst 39-game start in the majors in 130 years. Baltimore finished 54-107 that season.

Stephen Kolek (2-0) tossed a shutout in his second major league start. Kolek allowed five hits and struck out seven.

Rockies manager Bud Black used catcher Jacob Stallings to pitch the final two innings — and Stallings proved to be one of the team's most effective arms all night.

"We've been going through it as a team, and it's not any fun," Stallings said. "We've been talking about it as a group, trying to have more fun. Obviously, it's not easy when you're down that much."

Cardinals 4, Nationals 2: Andre Pallante took a shutout into the eighth inning in the second-longest outing of his career, and visiting St. Louis beat Washington to extend its winning streak to seven.

Ryan Helsley allowed the Nationals to load the bases in the ninth, but retired CJ Abrams on a first-pitch fly ball for his seventh save in nine chances.

The Cardinals couldn't quite close out a third straight shutout. Dylan Crews hit a two-run homer in the eighth for the first runs against St. Louis since the sixth inning Tuesday night against Pittsburgh.

Athletics 11, Yankees 7: Shea Langeliers hit a go-ahead

homer in the seventh inning and drove in five runs as the host Athletics overcame two home runs by Aaron Judge to beat New York.

Langeliers' three-run shot to center field off Fernando Cruz (1-1) gave the A's a 7-6 lead and helped them snap a three-game losing streak. Langeliers added a two-run double in a four-run eighth and finished with four hits.

Judge connected on a solo shot in the fourth and led off the sixth with another drive over the batting eye in center field in just his second game as a pro in his home region near Sacramento.

Braves 3, Pirates 2 (11): Matt Olson homered in the third inning and scored the winning run on a wild pitch in the 11th inning as visiting Atlanta beat Pittsburgh.

Chase Shugart (1-3) got Sean Murphy to ground to short for the second out in the 11th with Olson on third. Shugart intentionally walked Michael Harris II to bring up Eli White. Shugart nearly hit White in the head with a pitch that went to the backstop.

Rays 3, Brewers 2: Travis Jankowski had a pair of hits including the winning RBI single in the ninth inning in host Tampa Bay's win over Milwaukee after the first home field weather delays in Rays history.

Jankowski singled off closer Trevor Megill to bring home rookie Kameron Misner, who was walked by Grant Anderson (1-2) and stole second.

Phillies 7, Guardians 1: Bryce Harper homered during Philadelphia's six-run eighth inning, Ranger Suárez allowed only three hits in seven scoreless innings and the Phillies defeated Cleveland.

Harper had his first three-hit game of the season as Philadelphia improved to 4-1 on its road trip. His two-run shot to center field off Jakob Junis gave the Phillies a 3-0 lead and was part

of a streak in which eight straight batters reached base. Philadelphia sent 11 to the plate in the inning and collected seven hits.

Rangers 10, Tigers 3: Corey Seager had two solo home runs and an RBI double, Jacob deGrom struck out a season-high 10 in five-plus innings and visiting Texas beat Detroit to end its winning streak at five.

Seager's 19th career multi-homer game and second of the season came after he sat out two games to rest a hamstring injury. Joc Pederson supplied a two-run homer and Josh Smith and Evan Carter added solo shots and Adolis Garcia had two RBIs for the Rangers, who ended a three-game slide.

Twins 2, Giants 1: Minnesota starter Joe Ryan overcame an illness earlier in the week to put together a strong outing and Trevor Larnach delivered a big two-run homer as it held on for a win over visiting San Francisco.

Ryan's only blunder in six innings was a solo homer by Heliot Ramos, who had three of the Giants' four hits. Ryan (3-2) struck out seven and surrendered just two hits on 76 pitches.

Red Sox 10, Royals 1: Garrett Crochet allowed one run on seven hits over seven innings, Rafael Devers was 4 for 4 with three RBIs and visiting Boston beat Kansas City to end the Royals' winning streak at seven.

Crochet (4-2) struck out nine and walked one. He struck out Bobby Witt Jr. with the bases loaded to end the seventh.

Marlins 3, White Sox 1: Eric Wagan hit a two-run triple to break an eighth-inning tie, and visiting Miami beat Chicago.

Kyle Stowers launched his seventh homer for the Marlins, a solo shot in the seventh that evened the score at 1. Miami won for just the third time in 13 games.

Diamondbacks 3, Dodgers 0: Corbin Burnes threw seven scoreless innings, Eugenio Suarez hit his 12th homer of the sea-

son and host Arizona beat Los Angeles.

Burnes (2-1) had skipped a turn in the rotation after getting a cortisone shot because of shoulder inflammation. The 2021 NL Cy Young winner looked sharp after the nine-day layoff, carving through the Dodgers lineup while giving up just five hits and two walks and striking out five.

Reds 13, Astros 9: Elly De La Cruz hit a three-run homer in visiting Cincinnati's 10-run first inning as the Reds pounced on Lance McCullers early and held on for a win over Houston.

McCullers (0-1), who was making just his second start since Game 3 of the 2022 World Series, struggled with command and recorded just one out while giving up seven earned runs.

Cubs 6, Mets 5: Cade Horton earned the win with four solid innings of relief in his major league debut, and visiting Chicago held off New York.

Cubs opener Brad Keller worked a perfect first inning before giving way to Horton (1-0), who was recalled from Triple-A Iowa earlier in the day. The team's top pitching prospect gave up three hits — including Brett Baty's three-run homer in the fourth — and struck out five.

Angels 5, Orioles 2: Matthew Lugo had an RBI triple in the fourth inning for his first major league hit, and Jo Adell homered in host Los Angeles' victory over Baltimore.

Jack Kochanowicz (2-5) ended his five-start losing streak for the Angels, yielding one run on four hits and four walks while pitching into the sixth inning in this meeting of last-place clubs.

Blue Jays 6, Mariners 3: Addison Barger hit a tiebreaking single in the eighth inning and visiting Toronto rallied from a three-run deficit to beat Seattle.

Bo Bichette's two-run homer in the fifth began the Blue Jays' comeback. Barger tied it at 3 with an RBI groundout in the sixth.