

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE				WESTERN CONFERENCE			
Atlantic Division				Southwest Division			
Philadelphia	12	6	.667	Memphis	7	6	.538
Boston	10	6	.625	San Antonio	9	8	.529
Brooklyn	11	8	.579	Dallas	8	9	.471
New York	8	11	.421	Houston	7	9	.438
Toronto	7	10	.412	New Orleans	5	10	.333
Southeast Division				Northwest Division			
Atlanta	9	8	.529	Utah	13	4	.765
Orlando	8	11	.421	Denver	11	7	.611
Charlotte	7	11	.389	Portland	9	7	.563
Miami	6	11	.353	Oklahoma City	7	9	.438
Washington	3	10	.231	Minnesota	4	12	.250
Central Division				Pacific Division			
Milwaukee	10	6	.625	L.A. Lakers	14	4	.778
Indiana	11	7	.611	L.A. Clippers	13	5	.722
Cleveland	9	9	.500	Phoenix	8	7	.533
Chicago	7	10	.412	Golden State	9	8	.529
Detroit	4	14	.222	Sacramento	7	10	.412

Tuesday's Games
Atlanta 108, L.A. Clippers 99
Houston 107, Washington 88
Utah 108, New York 94

Wednesday's Games
Indiana 116, Charlotte 106
Sacramento 121, Orlando 107
Cleveland 122, Detroit 107
Denver 109, Miami 82
Brooklyn at Atlanta, late
L.A. Lakers at Philadelphia, late
Milwaukee at Toronto, late
Chicago at Memphis, ppd
Boston at San Antonio, late
Dallas at Utah, late
Oklahoma City at Phoenix, late
Washington at New Orleans, late
Minnesota at Golden State, late

Thursday's Games
Portland at Houston, 7:30 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Miami, 8 p.m.

NFL

PLAYOFF SCHEDULE

Conference Championships

Sunday, Jan. 24

AFC

Kansas City 38, Buffalo 24

Tampa Bay 31, Green Bay 26

Super Bowl

Sunday, Feb. 7
At Tampa, Fla.
Tampa Bay vs. Kansas City, 6:30 p.m.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

BIG TEN				MAC						
Conference		All Games		Conference		All Games				
W	L	Pct	W	L	Pct	W	L	Pct		
Michigan	8	1	.889	13	1	.929	Toledo	9	1	.900
Iowa	6	2	.750	12	3	.800	Akron	7	2	.778
Wisconsin	6	3	.667	12	4	.750	Kent St.	5	3	.625
Illinois	6	3	.667	10	5	.667	Bowling Green	6	4	.600
Ohio St.	7	4	.636	13	4	.764	Miami (Ohio)	4	3	.571
Purdue	6	4	.600	11	6	.647	Buffalo	4	3	.571
Minnesota	4	5	.444	11	5	.688	Ohio	5	4	.556
Indiana	4	5	.444	9	7	.563	Ball St.	4	4	.500
Rutgers	4	6	.400	8	6	.571	Cent. Michigan	2	6	.250
Maryland	3	6	.333	9	7	.563	W. Michigan	1	6	.143
Michigan St.	2	4	.333	8	4	.667	N. Illinois	1	6	.143
Northwestern	3	7	.300	6	8	.429	E. Michigan	1	7	.125
Penn St.	2	6	.250	5	7	.416	Tuesday's Games			
Nebraska	0	5	.000	4	8	.333	Ohio 81, W. Michigan 58			
Wednesday's Games				Wednesday's game						
Ohio St. 83, Penn St. 79				Kent St. 96, Bowling Green 91						
Michigan at Penn St., ppd.				Friday's Game						
Wisconsin at Maryland, late				Ohio at Buffalo, 7:30 p.m.						
Thursday's Game										
Michigan St. at Rutgers, 7 p.m.										
Friday's Game										
Iowa at Illinois, 9 p.m.										

tv schedule

From wire reports

TODAY

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

5 p.m. ESPNU — Oregon State at Southern California

5 p.m. FS1 — Wyoming at San Diego State

7 p.m. CBSSN — Louisiana Tech at Southern Mississippi

7 p.m. ESPN2 — Memphis at Southern Methodist

7 p.m. ESPN — North Carolina (Asheville) at Winthrop

7 p.m. FS1 — Michigan State at Rutgers

9 p.m. CBSSN — Alabama (Birmingham) at Middle Tennessee State

9 p.m. ESPN — Oregon at UCLA

9 p.m. ESPN2 — Houston at Tulane

9 p.m. ESPNU — Belmont at Austin Peay

9 p.m. FS1 — Villanova at Connecticut

11 p.m. CBSSN — New Mexico at Fresno State

11 p.m. ESPN2 — Stanford at Arizona

11 p.m. FS1 — California at Arizona State

WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

McIlroy looking for win, U.S. Open prep at Torrey Pines

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Rory McIlroy is playing the Farmers Insurance Open for just the third time, looking for his first tour victory since 2019 while getting a feel for the course that will host the U.S. Open in June.

With seven-time winner Tiger Woods missing one of his favorite tournaments due to his fifth back surgery, McIlroy and former Farmers winners Jon Rahm, Marc Leishman and Jason Day top the field at Torrey Pines.

McIlroy finished third last year behind Leishman and Rahm, and tied for fifth with Rahm and Day in 2019.

"I didn't really start playing this event until a little later on in my career, but it's been a good venue for me," the 31-year-old McIlroy said Wednesday. "Even going back to the Junior World days, whatever that is now, 20 years ago."

"It's good to be back. Also, with obviously playing this tournament, but looking ahead to June and the U.S. Open here

as well, it will be nice to at least have it fresh in the memory for then, too."

McIlroy said he thought about playing nine holes on the North Course on Wednesday but ended up playing 18 on the tougher South Course. He'll play the South Course in the opening round Thursday and then play the North Course blind on Friday. The weekend rounds will be on the South Course.

McIlroy hasn't won since beating San Diego native Xander Schauffele in a playoff in the WGC-HSBC Champions in Shanghai in November 2019.

McIlroy failed to hold his third-round lead in the Abu Dhabi Championship last weekend and finished third after being overtaken by Englishman Tyrrell Hatton.

The U.S. Open returns to Torrey Pines for the first time since 2008, when Woods beat Rocco Mediate on the first hole of sudden-death following an 18-hole playoff.

McIlroy, who won the 2011 U.S. Open at Congressional for his first major, said

Torrey Pines is "a wonderful layout for a major championship. I think it stands up to have a U.S. Open here. It stands up to basically the most elite level of golf that we play, the toughest test we face all year for the most part."

"I think three competitive rounds on the South Course this week, it will be fresh in my memory when it comes around to June and the U.S. Open's on," he said. "Obviously the course is going to play much differently in June. I would expect the rough to be up a little bit more and the greens to be a little bit firmer, a little more premium on accuracy that week than maybe there is this week, but it's not as if you're not trying to hit the fairways this week either."

"If I can go out and play well and shoot three good scores on the South this week, it will give me some confidence going into June."

Leishman won last year, closing with a 7-under 65 to beat Rahm by a stroke.

The Hammer makes one last trip to spot where he hit No. 715

ATLANTA (AP) — The Hammer made one last trip to the spot where he hit No. 715.

After a nearly three-hour funeral service Wednesday that featured two former presidents, a long-time baseball commissioner and a civil rights icon, the hearse carrying Hank Aaron's body detoured off the road bearing his name to swing through the former site of Atlanta-Fulton County Stadium.

That's where Aaron broke an iconic record on April 8, 1974, eclipsing the home run mark established by Babe Ruth.

The stadium was imploded in 1997 after the Braves moved across the street to Turner Field, replaced by a parking lot for the new ballpark. But the outer retaining wall of the old stadium remains, along with a modest display in the midst of the nondescript lot that marks the exact location where the record-breaking homer cleared the left-field fence.

A steady stream of baseball fans have been stopping by the site — comprised of a small section of fence, a wall and a baseball-shaped sign that says "Hank Aaron Home Run 715" — since "Hammerin' Hank" died Friday at the age of 86. The fence is covered with flowers, notes and baseball memorabilia.

Fittingly, Aaron's funeral procession went by the display on the way to his burial at South-View Cemetery, the oldest Black burial ground in Atlanta and resting place for prominent civil rights leaders such as John Lewis and Julian Bond.



A PHOTOGRAPH OF HENRY "HANK" AARON, longtime Atlanta Braves player and Hall of Famer, sits outside his casket during his funeral on Wednesday, Jan. 27, 2021 at Friendship Baptist Church in Atlanta.

Kevin D. Liles / The Associated Press

displayed the Olympic torch during the 1996 Atlanta Summer Games, and headed down Hank Aaron Drive.

At the bottom of a hill, the procession took a sharp right turn toward the site of the former stadium. Aaron's flower-covered hearse and all the vehicles that followed did a loop through the circular parking lot, which covers the footprint of the cookie-cutter stadium that became home of the Braves after they moved from Milwaukee in 1966.

It was a touching tribute that capped off several days of remembrances for one of baseball's great players. The Braves held a memorial ceremony Tuesday at their current home, suburban Truist Park.

The funeral service touched as much on Aaron's life beyond the field as it did

his unparalleled baseball accomplishments, honoring his business acumen, charitable donations, and steadfast determination to provide educational opportunities for the underprivileged.

"His whole life was a home run," former President Bill Clinton said. "Now he has rounded the bases."

Clinton said the two became close friends after Aaron endorsed him during the 1992 presidential campaign, when he pulled out a narrow victory in Georgia. Clinton had been the last Democrat to win the state until Joe Biden edged Donald Trump in November.

"For the rest of his life, he never let me forget who was responsible for winning," Clinton quipped, drawing a few chuckles during the mostly

somber ceremony. "Hank Aaron never bragged about anything — except carrying Georgia for me in 1992."

Bud Selig, who was commissioner of Major League Baseball for more than two decades and another close friend of Aaron's, said one of his fondest memories was being at Milwaukee's County Stadium as a fan for the pennant-clinching homer that sent the Braves to the 1957 World Series.

"The only ticket I could get was an obstructed-view seat in the bleachers behind a big, metal post," the 86-year-old Selig said. "The image of the great Aaron, deliriously happy, being hoisted on the shoulders of his teammates and carried off the field is indelibly imprinted in my memory."

Cont from DEFENSE, B1

tested on Friday, when the Rockets travel to Liberty-Benton for a league game.

The Eagles went into Tuesday night's game with Arlington averaging more than 65 points a game. L-B is 4-2 in the BVC.

"We'll give it our best shot going in to each Friday night," Lee said. "The kids have done that thus far. As long as we remain under control and so forth, and with that approach, we'll see where we end up at the end of the year. But

again, there's still a long way to go."

Steiner agreed.

"Really, no different than any other game," he said of the matchup with L-B. "I think that obviously we're gonna prepare all week, basically on Liberty-Benton and try our absolute best. ... now it's just taking it day by day and staying focused and being consistent with our practices. That's really the name of the game for our team is consistency and sometimes we lack that. We've kind of found some grooves and kind of jelled well together."

Cont from REBOUNDS, B1

But Brodine knows knocking down 3-pointers is not what she does best on a basketball floor.

"Getting a rebound is just as important, especially if you can put it back up and in," said Brodine, who, after passing up that 3-point attempt, did just that in Findlay's game with Defiance before FHS coach Brian Rosendale turned things over to a deep and talented group of younger players.

Rebounding may be becoming a forgotten art, but Brodine's numbers are hard to overlook. That's because those numbers are already — or soon will be — atop the list of Findlay High record holders in every level of that category.

Just over a year ago, Brodine tied the school record for rebounds in a game when she hauled down 21 — to go along with 20 points — in a 47-40 win over Lima Senior.

Brodine finished 2019-20 with 302 rebounds to break Jenn Wenner's single-

season record (293, 1995-96).

She's continued her quest this year to add the career rebounding record to her resume as well, but isn't putting individual achievement before team goals.

"I'm working for that record. I know I'm getting close," Brodine said.

"I just try to go out every game and do my job. My job is to get rebounds, and if I do that I'll get the rebounds I need."

Brodine took a year off from soccer as a junior, but returned her senior season, led the Trojans in goals (11) and earned first team all-TRAC honors in that sport. That kind of all-around ability translates well onto the basketball court.

"I think my natural athleticism comes in handy," Brodine said. "A lot of it is natural and God-given, but I used to work (on rebounding) with my dad a lot, and I hit the weights, too."

Brodine brings more than a physical presence

Cont from OILERS, B1

Even though the Oilers have had such success so far, Ernst believes there is still room to grow.

"Whether that's offensive sets, different offenses, different baseline out of bounds offense, whether that's the variety of defenses we play, it's just trying to get a lot better at what we have in, and then figuring out what we do best," Ernst said. "I think we're still a little bit of a work in progress there. I think we have a lot of growth area with this team which is the exciting part."

Mental focus is another area the team will look to get better in.

"We have to get a shot on each possession and limit our turnovers and less silly mistakes too," Ernst said. "Sure, at the beginning when you're figuring everything out, those mistakes

are a little more acceptable but now that we're getting into crunch time, we have to start to clean these things up and figure it all out for the stretch run."

As with all teams across not only Ohio but the country, COVID-19 has impacted the way teams operate. Fortunately for Ernst, no players have had to quarantine yet, but he still has had to make changes to the season.

"We've installed a lot because we feel like we've had to, and we've been healthy," he said. "When you're healthy and you're not in quarantine, you feel like as a coach we have to move ahead. In years past, maybe we thought 'well let's wait and put that in around mid-February [or] let's wait and put that in later.' You kind of have a timeline either on paper or in your head on when you want to install certain things and you want to continue to grow as a team in terms of your playbook." Ernst said.

"We've moved rather quickly there this year, maybe a little bit quicker than we have in years past because we don't know what next week's going to bring [and] we don't know what two weeks are going to bring, so let's not worry about then let's worry about now."

Following a four-game road swing, the Oilers are home for two games, today at 7:30 with Ohio Dominican and Saturday at 3 p.m. with Lake Erie. In a bit of an odd twist to the schedule, UF and Lake Erie will square off again Monday in Painesville.

Two women's game will precede the man's matchups, with UF (6-6, 6-6 GMAC) playing Ohio Dominican at 5:30 p.m. today and Lake Erie Saturday at 1 p.m.