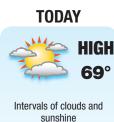
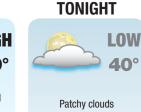
82°









**MONDAY** 









49°

		4FIAI	HIV	10			
Bend Mu					p.m. yes	st.	
TEMPERATURE Yesterday Normal Record							
High		ieiuay 66°	67		87° in 1		
Low		52°	39		21° in 1		
LUW			- 00		21 111 1	954	
		PRECIF					
24 hours	s thro	ugh 5 p.	m. yes			00'	
Record					.52" in 1		
Month to			l)		).78" (0.7		
Year to c					2.15" (4.8	39"	
Baromet	ric pr	essure a	at 4 p.r	n.	30.	07'	
S	UN, I	MOON	AND F	LAI	NETS		
Rise/Set	t	Today	ı		Sat.		
Sun	5:2	27am/8:	38pm	5:2	7am/8:39	)pm	
Moon	11:4	16pm/7:	22am		none/8:29	Jam	
Mercury	6:30	)am/10:0	00pm	6:2	8am/9:55	5pm	
Venus	6:27	7am/10:0	00pm	6:28	am/10:02	2pm	
Mars	8:32	2am/11:	54pm		am/11:52		
Jupiter	1:38	3am/12:	11pm		am/12:08		
Saturn					am/10:34		
Uranus	4:1	5am/6:2	23pm	4:1	1am/6:20	maC	
Last		New	Fi	rst	Ful	ı	
			6	1		3	
Jun 2		Jun 10	Jui	117	Jun	24	
onight'							
/lercury							
isible.)					,		
,			Sour	ce: Jir	n Todd, ON	/ISI	
UV INDEX TODAY							
10 a.m		Noon		.m.	4 p.n	n.	
5		9	Ç		5		
The higher	the Ac	cuWeath	er.com U	V Ind	ex™ numbe	er.	
the greater	the ne	ed for eye	and skir	n prote	ection. 0-2	Low	
3-5 Moder	ate; <b>6-</b>	<b>7</b> High; <b>8-</b>	<b>10</b> Very H	ligh; 1	11+ Extrem	e.	
POLLEN COUNT							
Grasses		Tr	rees		Weeds		
High		Mod	derate		Low		
Source: Oregon Allergy Associate			es :	541-683-1	577		
	W	ATFR	RFP	UE	PT .		



		٥	50
Partly	/ sunn	•	d ver

Very warm

The temperature near the

record of 94

**56°** The temperature near the record of 94

Not as hot with plenty of sunshine



Sulistille	Walliel	waiii	
ALMANAC		<b>OREGON WEATHER</b>	
Bend Municipal Airport through 5 p.m. yest.	EAST: Partly sunny	Shown is today's weather. Temperatures a	re today's highs and tonight's lows.
TEMPERATURE	and pleasant Friday Astoria		
Yesterday Normal Record	Fair and cool Friday Seaside 60/45		matilla
High 66° 67° 87° in 1934	night. Mostly sunny 60/47	River Rufus	6/44 • Hermiston
Low 52° 39° 21° in 1954	andaman an Catamidae	o Portland 69/46 73/49 Arlington	75/44
	59/48 68/44	68/48 • Wasco 74/44	Meachain Lostine
PRECIPITATION	CENTRAL: Sunny Tillamook	The Dalles 60/45	Pendleton 63/35 63/36 Enterprise 62/34
24 hours through 5 p.m. yesterday 0.00" Record 0.52" in 1993	to partly cloudy and 62/43 McMinnville	Sandy 73/47	
Record 0.52" in 1993 Month to date (normal) 0.78" (0.76")	preezy Friday, Mostly	dovernment maupin Condon on	65/27
Year to date (normal) 0.76 (0.76 )	clear Friday night. Lincoln City	56/38 64/40	COLOR
Barometric pressure at 4 p.m. 30.07"	Mostly sunny and 59/48 Salem 70/47	Warm Springs Madrae	Granite
	warm Saturday. <b>Newport</b> Alda	ny 71/39 71/30	59/33 Baker City
SUN, MOON AND PLANETS	WEST: A mix of clouds 58/44	Of the Charles of the	65/32
Rise/Set Today Sat.	and sunshine Friday. Yachats Corvallis	70/38 • ncumonu	• John • Unity
Sun 5:27am/8:38pm 5:27am/8:39pm	Partly cloudy Friday 57/47	• Prineville	Day 65/33 Ontario
Moon 11:46pm/7:22am none/8:29am	night. Mostly sunny Florence • Eug		
Mercury 6:30am/10:00pm 6:28am/9:55pm Venus 6:27am/10:00pm 6:28am/10:02pm	and warmer Saturday. 62/48 70/4		
Mars 8:32am/11:54pm 8:31am/11:52pm	Cottage	68/37 La Pine Hampton	72/44 Nyssa
Jupiter 1:38am/12:11pm 1:34am/12:08pm	OREGON EXTREMES Coos Bay Grove	68/37 La Pine Hampton 69/34 66/35	• Burns Juntura 72/43
Saturn 12:52am/10:38am 12:48am/10:34am	YESTERDAY 64/47 71/44 7	2/44 Fort Rock	Riley 69/34 72/38
Uranus 4:15am/6:23pm 4:11am/6:20pm	High: 82°	Crescent • 70/34 68/34	68/36
Last New First Full	at Ontario Bandon Rosebu	01:1	Franchalon Jordan Valley
Last New First Full	Low: 29°	Beaver Silver 70/35	Frenchigien 67/20
	D. O. C.	Marsh Lake 71/36 71/32	09/30
Jun 2 Jun 10 Jun 17 Jun 24	at Howard Prairie Port Urford Grants 65/50 Pass	Chilomin	Burns Junction 71/40
Tonight's sky: Conjunction of Venus and	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	Medford 74/40 71/37	Rome
Mercury below the western horizon. (Not	64/50	2/48 Klamath	73/39
visible.)	AccuWeather Brookings	• Ashland • Falls • Lakeview	Fields • McDermitt
Source: Jim Todd, OMSI	Plan with confidence 67/48	79/51 74/37 71/40	73/40 McDermitt
IIV INDEV TODAV	Get the new app	The state of the s	Miles It Production I was
UV INDEX TODAY	Yesterday Today Saturday	Yesterday Today Saturday	Yesterday Today Saturo
10 a.m. Noon 2 p.m. 4 p.m.	City Hi/Lo/Prec. Hi/Lo/W Hi/Lo/W Cit		City Hi/Lo/Prec. Hi/Lo/W Hi/Lo.
5 9 9 5	Astoria 58/52/0.29 60/45/pc 67/49/pc La	Grande 76/50/0.02 65/37/pc 74/43/pc	Portland 65/52/0.14 68/48/pc 79/52
The higher the AccuWeather.com UV Index™ number,		Pine 63/35/0.00 69/34/pc 76/42/pc	Prineville 68/45/0.00 71/38/pc 76/44
the greater the need for eye and skin protection. 0-2 Low, 3-5 Moderate; 6-7 High; 8-10 Very High; 11+ Extreme.		dford 70/50/0.00 82/48/pc 88/53/pc wport 57/50/0.00 58/44/sh 59/47/pc	Redmond 72/48/0.00 70/36/pc 78/43 Roseburg 66/49/Tr 75/47/pc 82/50
		rth Bend 62/49/0.06 63/48/pc 61/48/s	Salem 65/52/0.13 70/47/c 80/50
POLLEN COUNT	Klamath Falls 72/34/0.00 74/37/pc 80/42/c On	tario 82/45/0.00 73/43/s 78/48/c	Sisters 61/45/0.00 70/38/pc 77/47
Grasses Trees Weeds		ndleton 78/53/Tr 70/41/pc 78/48/pc	The Dalles 73/53/Tr 73/47/pc 83/50
High Moderate Low	Weather(W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-shower	s, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, st-snow flurries, sn-snow, i	-ice, ir-trace, vesterday data as of 5 p.m. yesterday
Source: Oregon Allergy Associates 541-683-1577		NATIONAL WEATHER	
Source. Oregon Allergy Associates 541-065-1577		MAIIUMAL WEATHER	
WATER REPORT	-10s	30s 40s 50s 60s	70s 80s 90s 100s 110
As of 7 a.m. yesterday	Elsin init	•	7
	NATIONAL Seattle	Calgary 57/39	Quebec
	LATITUIES 64/47 \	vvinnipeg i nund	er Bay 59/36
Crane Prairie 47917 87%	YESTERDAY (for the	66/46 57/33 Bismarck	Hal
Wickiup 71819 36%	48 contiguous states) Portland 68/48	64/48	Portland Hal 59/47
Crescent Lake 24270 28% Ochoco Reservoir 9997 23%	National high: 110°	Billings Minneapolis	Toronto (
Ochoco Reservoir 9997 23% Prineville 81959 55%	at Death Valley, CA 69/45	68/42 Rapid City 61/41 68/47 Milwa	49/44 Boston 59/47
River flow Station Cu.ft./sec.	National low: 23°	51/46	
Deschutes R. below Crane Prairie 121	at Boca Reservoir, CA	Des Moines &	50/44 67/49
Deschutes R. below Grane Plaine 121 Deschutes R. below Wickiup 1180	Precipitation: 3.10"	74/46 Sz/30 Chicago	Philadelphia
Deschutes R. below Bend 127		ake City 51/46	Columbus 71/51
Deschutes R. at Benham Falls 1490	66/53 81/5	81/50 58/41	AOMS Wachington
Little Deschutes near La Pine 125	Las Vegas 98/73	Kansas City St. Louis	71 10 71 107
Crescent Ck. below Crescent Lake 16		60/45 60/47	
Crescell CK. Delow Crescell Lake	Los Angeles	Oklahoma City Little Rock	Charlotte

Snow

\* \*

Flurries

			NAT	IONAL			
	Yesterday	Today	Saturday	IOIIAL	Yesterday	Today	Saturday
City	Hi/Lo/Prec.	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W	City	Hi/Lo/Prec.	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W
Abilene	89/73/0.00	82/63/t	77/63/t	Juneau	55/44/0.00	51/45/r	54/45/r
Akron Albany	75/53/0.09 70/58/0.02	60/47/r 52/41/r	53/46/r 53/43/c	Kansas City	77/66/1.05 60/41/0.00	60/45/pc 50/40/r	68/48/pc 62/36/s
Albuquerque	86/55/0.00	86/60/s	88/61/pc	Lansing Las Vegas	96/70/0.00	98/73/s	97/73/s
Anchorage	56/45/0.00	52/44/sh	52/46/r	Lexington	82/62/Tr	71/48/r	55/44/c
Atlanta	87/69/0.09	85/60/pc	73/52/c	Lincoln	75/63/1.16	60/41/pc	68/51/pc
Atlantic City	81/67/0.50	67/56/sh	60/54/r	Little Rock	89/69/0.00	81/54/c	72/51/c
Austin	88/72/0.00	88/68/t	82/66/t	Los Angeles	74/62/0.00	76/60/pc	75/60/pc
Baltimore Billings	86/65/0.04 70/44/Tr	76/54/r 68/42/t	58/48/r 65/42/pc	Louisville Madison, WI	85/67/Tr 49/46/0.61	76/51/r 51/35/r	59/47/pc 65/39/s
Birmingham	86/69/0.33	85/58/t	72/51/pc	Memphis	89/69/0.00	79/55/t	68/52/pc
Bismarck	51/38/0.22	64/48/c	72/45/pc	Miami	87/74/0.00	88/74/s	88/75/pc
Boise	82/52/0.00	69/45/s	75/50/c	Milwaukee	52/48/0.16	51/46/r	60/44/s
Boston	83/69/0.29	59/47/r	53/49/r	Minneapolis	47/46/0.95	61/41/c	66/51/pc
Bridgeport, CT	83/64/0.10	64/49/r	57/49/r	Nashville New Orleans	87/64/0.00	75/52/t	62/46/c
Buffalo Burlington, VT	66/50/0.00 63/54/0.00	48/43/r 56/42/pc	58/46/pc 65/45/pc	New Orleans New York City	89/75/0.00 81/66/0.06	89/73/pc 67/49/r	86/68/t 56/48/r
Caribou, ME	55/50/0.03	57/34/pc	62/37/pc	Newark, NJ	87/68/0.07	68/50/r	59/49/r
Charleston, SC	94/72/0.00	92/72/pc	87/62/t	Norfolk, VA	86/76/0.00	89/72/t	75/60/t
Charlotte	92/63/0.00	88/67/t	82/55/t	Oklahoma City	85/71/1.30	72/53/c	72/56/pc
Chattanooga	88/69/0.00	83/56/t	68/51/c	Omaha	73/64/0.97	58/41/pc	67/51/pc
Cheyenne	71/42/0.00	74/46/pc	60/46/c	Orlando Polm Chringo	92/68/0.00	93/70/s	91/69/t
Chicago Cincinnati	59/53/0.03 81/63/0.00	51/46/r 72/47/r	62/44/s 57/45/c	Palm Springs Peoria	101/69/0.00 76/60/0.04	101/72/s 52/41/r	100/73/s 66/42/s
Cleveland	63/53/0.02	57/48/r	56/47/r	Philadelphia	83/67/0.87	71/51/r	56/47/r
Colorado Springs		77/52/pc	74/52/t	Phoenix	99/70/0.00	102/73/s	102/73/s
Columbia, MO	71/67/0.64	58/44/pc	66/46/s	Pittsburgh	74/57/0.02	68/47/r	53/45/r
Columbia, SC	94/65/0.00	93/69/s	87/60/t	Portland, ME	76/64/Tr	59/47/c	53/46/c
Columbus, GA	89/65/0.00	89/67/pc	80/54/c	Providence	83/66/0.02	64/46/r	53/47/r
Columbus, OH Concord, NH	80/57/0.01 75/62/Tr	69/48/r 61/42/sh	55/46/r 54/42/c	Raleigh Rapid City	92/67/0.00 47/40/0.09	91/69/t 68/47/pc	78/53/t 65/44/pc
Corpus Christi	87/74/0.00	87/74/pc	85/72/t	Reno	82/46/0.00	80/53/s	84/54/c
Dallas	91/76/0.00	85/65/t	77/64/c	Richmond	91/70/0.00	88/64/r	67/51/r
Dayton	80/59/0.15	68/46/r	56/44/r	Rochester, NY	63/49/Tr	47/43/r	59/46/c
Denver	73/49/0.00	81/50/pc	67/50/t	Sacramento	86/53/0.00	89/54/s	90/54/pc
Des Moines Detroit	78/59/0.42 70/48/0.00	52/38/c 50/44/r	65/47/pc	St. Louis	82/71/1.43	60/47/c	66/48/s
Duluth	43/37/0.00	55/34/pc	62/43/pc 65/45/pc	Salt Lake City San Antonio	82/50/0.00 89/73/0.00	81/54/pc 88/71/pc	77/54/pc 84/69/t
El Paso	94/71/0.00	97/65/s	97/70/s	San Diego	69/61/0.00	69/61/pc	68/61/pc
Fairbanks	62/49/0.01	47/35/s	56/45/pc	San Francisco	68/53/0.00	66/53/pc	65/52/pc
Fargo	55/44/0.00	66/43/c	61/46/c	San Jose	72/50/0.00	74/53/s	75/53/pc
Flagstaff	75/36/0.00	77/37/s	76/38/pc	Santa Fe	83/47/0.00	82/54/s	84/56/pc
Grand Rapids	59/42/0.03	51/39/r	64/36/s	Savannah	93/70/0.00	94/70/s 64/47/sh	88/58/c
Green Bay Greensboro	48/41/0.41 88/66/0.00	55/37/c 86/65/t	65/37/s 75/50/t	Seattle Sioux Falls	60/50/0.42 52/50/0.71	61/41/c	70/51/s 58/50/sh
Harrisburg	83/62/0.11	69/50/r	55/47/r	Spokane	72/54/Tr	64/41/pc	72/46/pc
Hartford, CT	78/64/0.28	63/45/r	53/45/r	Springfield, MO	80/65/1.71	65/45/pc	66/45/s
Helena	77/38/0.00	63/39/pc	67/40/pc	Tampa	91/75/0.00	89/73/s	87/73/pc
Honolulu	86/73/0.07	86/71/pc	85/70/pc	Tucson	96/66/0.00	100/67/s	100/66/s
Houston	91/73/0.00	87/71/t	82/67/t	Tulsa Washington DC	88/74/1.15	73/51/c	73/54/pc
Huntsville Indianapolis	85/67/0.03 82/60/0.01	80/52/t 67/43/r	67/48/pc 61/43/s	Washington, DC Wichita	86/69/0.37 75/67/0.06	76/57/r 70/49/pc	58/50/r 70/54/pc
Jackson, MS	91/66/0.00	83/62/t	75/54/c	Yakima	71/58/0.00	73/41/pc	77/48/pc
Jacksonville	91/68/0.00	93/66/s	90/63/c	Yuma	100/69/0.00	100/63/s	100/64/s
				IATIONAL			
				IATIONAL			
Amsterdam	57/50/1.10	64/46/pc	66/46/pc	Mecca	104/85/0.00		107/85/s
Athens	83/66/0.00	82/65/pc	80/63/pc	Mexico City	80/57/0.08	81/58/t	82/59/t
Auckland Baghdad	56/48/0.02 108/81/0.00	61/53/r 112/76/nc	60/50/sh	Montreal Moscow	57/50/0.03 68/59/0.02	58/43/pc 71/57/r	65/47/s 68/47/r
Bangkok	97/83/0.15	89/79/t	90/80/sh	Nairobi	76/53/0.00	76/57/pc	75/57/pc
Beijing	81/55/0.00	83/58/pc	79/55/pc	Nassau	82/73/0.00	84/74/pc	84/75/s
Beirut	81/72/0.00	81/70/s	79/69/s	New Delhi	104/81/0.00	105/78/pc	102/80/pc
Berlin	59/48/0.15	61/45/pc	64/44/pc	Osaka	69/59/0.41	75/68/c	77/60/pc
Bogota	63/51/0.24	68/53/r	65/53/sh	Oslo	59/39/0.00	69/48/pc	71/49/s
Budapest Buenos Aires	72/43/0.00 70/53/0.00	69/51/pc 69/50/pc	68/48/sh 57/42/s	Ottawa Paris	57/46/0.00 68/45/0.00	57/39/c 70/53/pc	65/43/s 70/53/pc
Cabo San Lucas	91/72/0.00	86/74/s	57/42/\$ 87/69/pc	Rio de Janeiro	77/70/0.00	70/53/pc 82/75/pc	70/53/pc 88/73/s
Cairo	97/72/0.00	94/69/s	92/70/s	Rome	70/50/0.00	74/55/pc	74/59/pc
Calgary	72/43/0.00	57/39/c	64/40/c	Santiago	72/38/0.00	65/40/s	66/39/pc
Cancun	88/79/0.04	88/79/s	88/79/s	Sao Paulo	77/57/0.00	84/68/pc	79/63/t
Dublin	60/46/0.54	56/49/sh	60/46/pc	Sapporo	61/51/0.48	66/50/sh	60/53/r
Edinburgh	61/43/0.00	58/48/sh 72/53/s	64/49/pc	Seoul	70/57/0.96	67/54/sh	70/53/pc
Geneva Harare	70/55/0.04 73/41/0.00	72/53/\$ 76/48/\$	72/52/t 78/44/s	Shanghai Singapore	85/66/0.00 91/81/0.03	86/67/pc 88/79/t	84/71/pc 88/80/t
i iui di U	7 3/7 1/0.00	10/70/3	ו טודדוט	onigapore	01/01/0.00	00/10/1	00/00/1

**TENNIS** | FRENCH OPEN

**FIRE INDEX** 

High

Moderate

Very high

Source: USDA Forest Service

T-storms

# Djokovic, Nadal, Federer grouped in same half at French Open

Warm Front

Shown are today's noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are highs for the day.

BY HOWARD FENDRICH AP Tennis Writer

Crooked R. below Prineville Res Ochoco Ck. below Ochoco Res.

Bend Redmond/Madras

Sisters

Prineville

La Pine/Gilchrist

Well, here's a new one for the Big Three of men's tennis: Novak Djokovic, Rafael Nadal and Roger Federer ended up in the half of the French Open

field. Thursday's draw in Paris marks the first time in their long and distinguished careers that Djokovic, Nadal and Federer all are on one side of the bracket at any Grand Slam tournament, according to the International Tennis Federa-

It means that no more than one of them can reach the final at Roland Garros, where play begins Sunday. The trio tops the leaderboard for major men's singles tennis titles: Federer and Nadal are tied at 20 trophies, while Djokovic has 18. No one

else has more than 14. Nadal beat Djokovic in straight sets in the 2020 final for his record-extending 13th championship on the French Open's red clay, but if they meet again this time, it would have to

be in the semifinals. Djokovic is seeded No. 1, and Nadal is seeded No. 3 the seedings adhere strictly to the ATP rankings, so the Spaniard's unprecedented previous success in Paris is irrelevant.

The only certainties before the draw were that Djokovic would be on one side and No. 2 Daniil Medvedev on the other; Nadal and No. 4 Dominic Thiem were randomly placed and could have shown up in either half.

What no one knows is how many more Grand Slam tournaments will feature all three of the sport's top men. Federer, whose record for most weeks at No. 1 in the ATP rankings recently was broken by Djokovic, turns 40 on Aug. 8. Nadal's 35th birthday is next week; Djokovic's 34th was last week.

Federer is currently ranked No. 8 after playing only three matches over the past 15



Novak Djokovic, left, and Rafael Nadal prior to the 2020 French Open final at Roland Garros stadium in Paris, France, in October. When this year's French Open starts Sunday in Paris, Nadal will be seeking his 21st Grand Slam title to break a tie with Roger Federer for the men's record, while Djokovic will be aiming for his 19th.

months because of two operations on his right knee. He could meet Djokovic in the quarterfinals.

The other possible quarterfinal on their side is Nadal vs. No. 7 Andrey Rublev.

The two remaining potential quarterfinals are Medvedev vs. No. 5 Stefanos Tsitsipas, and Thiem vs. No. 6 Alexander

Medvedev is a two-time Grand Slam finalist but is 0-4 for his French Open career. Thiem won last year's U.S. Open and twice has been the

69/45/0.00

79/59/0.00

82/55/0.00

Johannesburg

Lisbon

Madrid

69/46/s

68/63/pc

80/58/pc

67/42/s

67/62/pc

runner-up in Paris. Serena Williams, who has won three of her professiontitles in Paris, is in a quarter of the women's draw filled with familiar faces.

That includes possible matchups with three-time major champion Angelique Kerber in the third round, twotime Wimbledon champ Petra Kvitova in the fourth, then either two-time Australian Open champ Victoria Azarenka or No. 3 seed Aryna Sabalenka in the quarterfinals.

Other possible women's quarterfinals: No. 1 Ash Barty vs. No. 5 Elina Svitolina, No. 4 Sofia Kenin vs. No. 8 Iga Swiatek in what would be a rematch of the 2020 final won by Swiatek. and No. 2 Naomi Osaka vs. No. 6 Bianca Andreescu.

Four-time major champion Osaka announced Wednes-

day on Twitter that she would not be doing news conferences during the French Open.

61/54/0.10

59/38/pc 62/50/s 104/80/r 82/74/s 74/69/pc

Stockholm Sydney Taipei City Tel Aviv

Tokyo

Toronto Vancouve

A year after withdrawing from Roland Garros before the second round because of an injured left Achilles, Wil liams will face 74th-ranked Irina-Camelia Begu of Romania to begin things. They met once before, with Williams winning, on clay in Rome in 2016, the year Begu reached the fourth round in Paris for the deepest French Open run of her career.

Other first-round matches include Swiatek against Kaja Juvan, a 20-year-old from Slovenia who beat Kerber in the first round in Paris last year; Azarenka against another owner of two major trophies, Svetlana Kuznetsova; and Kenin, last year's Australian Open champion, against 2017 French Open champion Jelena Ostapenko.

Nadal and Swiatek are the favorites to win the singles titles, according to FanDuel Sports-

# NHL

### **Continued from B3**

One thing that didn't need any getting used was the opponent. The entire season was played within the division, with teams facing off anywhere from eight to 10 times and reducing the need for a feeling-out process when the playoffs began.

That familiarity is responsibility for the tightness of games and series, even those that on paper looked more lopsided. Nashville's Colton Sissons said, "There's just not a lot of difference in the level of play" between teams like the Predators and division-wining Hurricanes, and the same could be said between the Golden Knights and Wild in the West.

'These games are tight," Vegas coach Peter DeBoer said ahead of Game 7 on Friday. "Teams are too close, too good, the margins of error are too small."

"You look at every single night and whether it's going into overtime or they're one-goal games, they're all pretty tight and good matchups. Super fun to watch, and obviously the pace of the game is as high as can be."

— Mike Reilly, Boston Bruins defenseman

The margin of error gets even smaller as the postseason wears on.

A safe bet is more nail-biting with games — and even series — decided by a bounce or a big play at the right moment. Probably a bunch more in overtime, too.

"It's going to be a really, really intense playoffs as it keeps going," Maurice said.

# **NBA**

### **Continued from B3**

"We investigated the matter and determined that this patron, who is not a season-ticket holder, did indeed spit on Trae Young, and for that reason, he is now banned from The Garden indefinitely," the Knicks

"We apologize to Trae and the entire Atlanta Hawks organization for this fan's behavior."

Video showed that someone spit on Young while he was preparing to inbound the basketball in the fourth quarter of New York's win over Atlanta at Madison Square Garden.

Young was the subject of profane chants from some fans in that arena throughout the first two games of the series; the Hawks' guard taunted them right back after his shot with less than a second left gave Atlanta a win in Game 1.

'There's obviously a line," Brooklyn forward Blake Griffin said Thursday. "I think

what happened to Russ is obviously far behind that line."

Westbrook was leaving the Wizards' game in Philadelphia with an ankle injury when someone sitting over the tunnel that leads from the floor threw popcorn on him.

"We apologize to Russell Westbrook and the Washington Wizards for being subjected to this type of unacceptable and disrespectful behavior," the 76ers said in a statement announcing the ban. "There is no place for it in our

sport or arena."
The Jazz did not detail the specifics of what happened in their game against Memphis on Wednesday. Security was involved in a matter involving at least one fan in seats relatively close to the the Memphis bench during Game 2, but it was not known if that was the incident in question.

Grizzlies guard Ja Morant tweeted out the hashtag "protectourplayers" not long after that game.

"The Utah Jazz have zero tolerance for offensive or disruptive behavior," the team said Thursday. "An incident occurred last night involving a verbal altercation during Game 2. Arena security staff intervened, and the investigation resulted in the removal and banning of three Jazz fans indefinitely. We apologize to all who were impacted by this unfortunate incident and con-demn unacceptable fan behav-

The National Basketball Players Association said "true fans ... honor and respect the dignity of our players. No true fan would seek to harm them or violate their personal space." And the NBA said its rules on fan behavior will be "vigorously enforced in order to ensure a safe and respectful environment for all involved."

NBA buildings are welcoming their largest crowds of the season for the playoffs, after a regular season where attendance was severely limited because of policies put in place to keep players and others safe

during the pandemic. It has not been without problems, and players are again airing concerns about

behavior. "I'm sick and tired of it, honestly," Westbrook said.

He's not alone. Los Angeles Lakers star LeBron James - who chimed in on Twitter shortly after the Westbrook incident Wednesday — has said in the past that fan behavior is an issue, and clearly still does.

Brooklyn guard Kyrie Irving — in advance of Game 3 of the Nets' series at Boston on Friday — said he hoped the scene there on Friday night "is strictly basketball, there's no belligerence or any racism going on, subtle racism, people yelling (expletive) from the

"These arenas, they've got to start protecting the players. We'll see what the NBA does," Westbrook said Wednesday night.