

FOR THE RECORD

All times ET

MLB

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	44	16	.733	—
Toronto	35	24	.593	8½
Tampa Bay	35	25	.583	9
Boston	32	29	.525	12½
Baltimore	26	35	.426	18½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Minnesota	35	27	.565	—
Cleveland	29	27	.518	3
Chicago	27	31	.466	6
Detroit	24	35	.407	9½
Kansas City	20	39	.339	13½

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	37	23	.617	—
Texas	28	31	.475	8½
Los Angeles	29	33	.468	9
Seattle	27	33	.450	10
Oakland	21	41	.339	17

Sunday's Games

Cleveland 6, Oakland 0
Toronto 6, Detroit 0
N.Y. Yankees 18, Chicago Cubs 4
Tampa Bay 6, Minnesota 0
Houston 9, Miami 4
Baltimore 10, Kansas City 7
Texas 8, Chicago White Sox 6, 12 innings
Boston 2, Seattle 0
N.Y. Mets 4, L.A. Angels 1

Monday's Games

Baltimore at Toronto
Chicago White Sox at Detroit
Houston at Texas
Kansas City at San Francisco
Minnesota at Seattle

Tuesday's Games

Tampa Bay (Kluber 3-2) at N.Y. Yankees (Cole 5-1), 7:05 p.m.
Baltimore (Lyles 3-5) at Toronto (Kikuchi 2-2), 7:07 p.m.
Chicago White Sox (Cease 4-3) at Detroit (TBD), 7:10 p.m.
Oakland (Koenig 0-1) at Boston (Pivetta 5-5), 7:10 p.m.

Houston (Urquidy 5-3) at Texas (Dunning 1-4), 8:05 p.m.
Cleveland (Bieber 3-3) at Colorado (Senzatela 2-3), 8:40 p.m.
Kansas City (Bubic 0-3) at San Francisco (Webb 5-2), 9:45 p.m.
L.A. Angels (Syndergaard 4-4) at L.A. Dodgers (Gonzolin 7-0), 10:10 p.m.

Minnesota (Bundy 3-3) at Seattle (Gilbert 6-2), 10:10 p.m.
Wednesday's Games
Chicago White Sox at Detroit, 1:10 p.m.
Houston at Texas, 2:05 p.m.
Kansas City at San Francisco, 3:45 p.m.
Minnesota at Seattle, 4:10 p.m.
Tampa Bay at N.Y. Yankees, 7:05 p.m.
Baltimore at Toronto, 7:07 p.m.
Oakland at Boston, 7:10 p.m.
Cleveland at Colorado, 8:40 p.m.
L.A. Angels at L.A. Dodgers, 10:10 p.m.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	40	22	.645	—
Atlanta	34	27	.557	5½
Philadelphia	30	30	.500	9
Miami	27	31	.466	11
Washington	23	39	.371	17

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
St. Louis	34	27	.557	—
Milwaukee	24	28	.460	½
Pittsburgh	24	34	.414	8½
Chicago	23	36	.390	10
Cincinnati	21	39	.350	12½

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	37	23	.617	—
San Diego	37	24	.607	½
San Francisco	33	26	.559	3½
Arizona	29	33	.468	9
Colorado	27	34	.443	10½

Sunday's Games

Atlanta 5, Pittsburgh 3
Milwaukee 4, Washington 1
N.Y. Yankees 18, Chicago Cubs 4
Arizona 13, Philadelphia 1
Cincinnati 7, St. Louis 6
Houston 9, Miami 4
Colorado 4, San Diego 2
San Francisco 2, L.A. Dodgers 0
N.Y. Mets 4, L.A. Angels 1

Monday's Games

Atlanta at Washington
Miami at Philadelphia
Pittsburgh at St. Louis
San Diego at Chicago Cubs
Cincinnati at Arizona
Kansas City at San Francisco
Tuesday's Games
Pittsburgh (Brubaker 0-6) at St. Louis (Liberatore 1-1), 1:15 p.m., 1st game
Atlanta (Fried 6-2) at Washington (Strasburg 0-1), 7:05 p.m.
Miami (Rogers 3-5) at Philadelphia (Eflin 2-4), 7:05 p.m.
Milwaukee (Houser 3-6) at N.Y. Mets (Bassitt 4-4), 7:10 p.m.
Pittsburgh (TBD) at St. Louis (Mikolas 4-4), 7:45 p.m., 2nd game
San Diego (TBD) at Chicago Cubs (Hendricks 2-5), 8:05 p.m.
Cleveland (Bieber 3-3) at Colorado (Senzatela 2-3), 8:40 p.m.
Cincinnati (Mahle 2-5) at Arizona (Davies 2-3), 9:40 p.m.
Kansas City (Bubic 0-3) at San Francisco (Webb 5-2), 9:45 p.m.
L.A. Angels (Syndergaard 4-4) at L.A. Dodgers (Gonzolin 7-0), 10:10 p.m.

Wednesday's Games

Miami at Philadelphia, 1:05 p.m.
Cincinnati at Arizona, 3:40 p.m.
Atlanta at San Francisco, 3:45 p.m.
Atlanta at Washington, 7:05 p.m.
Milwaukee at N.Y. Mets, 7:10 p.m.
Pittsburgh at St. Louis, 7:45 p.m.
San Diego at Chicago Cubs, 8:05 p.m.
Cleveland at Colorado, 8:40 p.m.
L.A. Angels at L.A. Dodgers, 10:10 p.m.

NBA

Playoff

NBA FINALS

(Best-of-7; x-if necessary)
Boston 2, Golden State 2
June 2: Boston 120, Golden State 108
June 5: Golden State 107, Boston 88
June 8: Boston 116, Golden State 100
June 10: Golden State 107, Boston 97
Monday: Boston at Golden State

June 16: Golden State at Boston, 9 p.m., ABC
x-June 19: Boston at Golden State, 8 p.m., ABC

WNBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
Connecticut	10	4	.714	—
Chicago	9	4	.692	½
Washington	9	6	.600	1½
Atlanta	7	6	.538	2½
New York	5	9	.357	5
Indiana	4	12	.250	7

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
Las Vegas	11	2	.846	—
Seattle	8	5	.615	3
Dallas	6	7	.462	5
Phoenix	5	8	.385	6
Los Angeles	5	8	.385	6
Minnesota	3	11	.214	8½

Sunday's Games

Chicago 88, New York 86
Seattle 84, Dallas 79
Phoenix 99, Washington 90, OT
Indiana 84, Minnesota 80
Tuesday's Games
Phoenix at Washington, 7 p.m.
Seattle at Minnesota, 9 p.m.
Wednesday's Games
Las Vegas at Dallas, 1 p.m.
Atlanta at Connecticut, 7 p.m.
Phoenix at Indiana, 7 p.m.
Thursday's Game
Washington at New York, 7 p.m.

SOCCER

MLS
Eastern Conference
New York City FC 8 3 2 26 25 10
Philadelphia 6 1 7 25 19 10
CF Montreal 7 5 2 23 28 26
New York 6 4 5 23 14 17
Orlando City 6 5 3 21 17 20
Charlotte FC 6 8 1 19 15 18
Cincinnati 6 7 1 19 21 25
New England 5 5 4 19 24 24
Inter Miami CF 5 6 3 18 15 22
Columbus 4 5 4 16 17 16
Atlanta 4 5 4 16 20 20
Toronto FC 4 7 3 15 21 27
D.C. United 4 7 2 14 17 23
Chicago 2 7 5 11 13 20

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Los Angeles FC	9	3	2	29	29	16
FC Dallas	7	3	4	25	24	13
Real Salt Lake	7	4	4	25	18	19
Austin FC	7	4	3	24	28	18
L.A. Galaxy	7	5	2	23	17	15
Nashville	6	4	2	18	16	16
Houston	5	6	3	18	17	17
Minnesota United	5	6	3	18	15	15
Colorado	5	6	3	18	16	17
Vancouver	5	7	2	17	16	24
Seattle	5	6	1	16	15	16
Portland	3	6	6	15	21	25
San Jose	3	6	6	15	25	32
Sporting KC	3	9	4	13	14	28

NOTE: Three points for win, one point for tie.

Saturday's Games

Charlotte FC 2, New York 0
San Jose 0, Nashville 0, tie
Sunday's Game
New England 2, Sporting Kansas City 1
Tuesday's Game
Vancouver at Seattle, 10:30 p.m.
Wednesday's Game
Orlando City at New England, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday's Games
Los Angeles FC at Seattle, 3 p.m.
Portland at L.A. Galaxy, 5 p.m.
Toronto FC at New York, 7 p.m.
Charlotte FC at Columbus, 7:30 p.m.
Austin FC at CF Montreal, 7:30 p.m.
Houston at Orlando City, 7:30 p.m.
Cincinnati at Philadelphia, 7:30 p.m.
D.C. United at Chicago, 8 p.m.
Vancouver at FC Dallas, 9 p.m.
San Jose at Real Salt Lake, 9:30 p.m.

Sunday's Games

Miami at Atlanta, 3 p.m.
Colorado at New York City FC, 5 p.m.
Sporting Kansas City at Nashville, 6 p.m.
Minnesota at New England, 8 p.m.

2022 World Cup Qualifying

EUROPE

Qualified: Belgium, Croatia, Denmark, England, France, Germany, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Serbia, Spain, Switzerland, Wales
PLAYOFF
Winners qualify
Thursday, March 24
At Cardiff, Wales
Wales 2, Austria 1
Wednesday, June 1
At Glasgow, Scotland
Ukraine 3, Scotland 1
Sunday, June 5
At Cardiff, Wales
Wales 1, Ukraine 0, Wales qualified
ASIA
Qualified: Australia, Iran, Japan, Saudi Arabia, South Korea
FOURTH ROUND
Winner advances to playoff
vs. South America fifth place
Tuesday, June 7
At Al Rayyan, Qatar
Australia 2, United Arab Emirates 1
SOUTH AMERICA-ASIA
PLAYOFF
Winner qualifies
Monday's Game
At Al Rayyan, Qatar
Peru 0, Australia 0, Australia won 5-4 on penalty kicks, Australia qualified
NORTH AND CENTRAL AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN
Qualified: Canada, Mexico, United States
CONCACAF-OCEANIA
PLAYOFF
Winner qualifies
Tuesday's Game
At Al Rayyan, Qatar
Costa Rica vs. New Zealand, 2 p.m.

U.S. Men's Schedule

(Won 5, Lost 2, Tied 2)
q-Jan. 27 - United States 1, El Salvador 0
q-Jan. 30 - Canada 2, United States 0
q-Feb. 2 - United States 3, Honduras 0
q-March 24 - Mexico 0, United States 0
q-March 27 - United States 5, Panama 1
q-March 30 - Costa Rica 2, United States 0

June 1 - United States 3, Morocco 0
June 5 - United States 0, Uruguay 0
a-June 10 - United States 5, Grenada 0
a-Tuesday - vs. El Salvador at San Salvador, 10 p.m.
Sept. 23 - exhibition TBA
Sept. 27 - exhibition TBA
w-Nov. 21 - vs. Wales at Al Rayyan, 2 p.m.
w-Nov. 25 - vs. England at Al Khor, 2 p.m.
w-Nov. 29 - vs. Iran at Doha, Qatar, 2 p.m.
q-World Cup qualifier
a-CONCACAF Nations League
w-World Cup

NWSL

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
San Diego Wave	4	2	3	15	13	8
Chicago	4	1	3	15	12	8
Portland	3	1	4	13	15	7
Angel City FC	4	3	1	13	7	8
Houston	3	2	3	12	11	7
OL Reign	2	2	4	10	6	6
Gotham FC	3	3	0	9	5	6
Washington	1	3	5	8	10	10
Louisville	2	4	2	8	8	12
Kansas City	2	4	2	8	6	11
Orlando	2	4	2	8	9	18
North Carolina	2	3	1	7	9	8

Saturday's Games

North Carolina 3, Washington 2
Angel City FC 3, Louisville 2
Kansas City 1, Gotham FC 0
Sunday's Games
OL Reign 1, San Diego Wave FC 1, tie
Chicago 1, Orlando 0
Portland 4, Houston 0
Friday's Game
Louisville at Washington, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday's Games
Chicago at Kansas City, 8:30 p.m.
Angel City FC at OL Reign, 10 p.m.
Sunday's Games
Orlando at Portland, 3 p.m.
San Diego Wave FC at Gotham FC, 4 p.m.
Houston at North Carolina, 5 p.m.

FOOTBALL

USFL Football League

All games in Birmingham, Ala.

North

	W	L	Pct	PF	PA
x-New Jersey	8	1	.889	206	159
x-Philadelphia	6	3	.667	239	217
Michigan	1	8	.111	178	215
Pittsburgh	1	8	.111	126	210

South

	W	L	Pct	PF	PA
x-Birmingham	8	1	.889	213	151
x-New Orleans	6	3	.667	193	144
Tampa Bay	4	5	.444	144	174
Houston	2	7	.222	176	205

x-clinched playoff spot

Saturday's Games

New Jersey 25 Michigan 23
Houston 17, Birmingham 15
Sunday's Games
New Orleans 17, Tampa Bay 6
Philadelphia 17 Pittsburgh 16
Saturday's Games
Philadelphia vs. New Jersey, Noon
Birmingham vs. Tampa Bay, 4 p.m.
Sunday's Games
Michigan vs. Pittsburgh, Noon
New Orleans vs. Houston, 8:30 p.m.

COLLEGE BASEBALL

Division I Super Regionals

Best of 3

Host school is Game 1 home team; visiting school is Game 2 home team; coin flip determines Game 3 home team
At Lindsey Nelson Stadium Knoxville, Tenn.
Friday: Notre Dame 8, Tennessee 6
Saturday: Tennessee 12, Notre Dame 4
Sunday: Notre Dame 7, Tennessee 3, Notre Dame advances
At Clark-LeClair Stadium Greenville, N.C.
Friday: East Carolina 13, Texas 7
Saturday: Texas 9, East Carolina 8
Sunday: Texas 11, East Carolina 1, Texas advances
At Olsen Field at Blue Bell Park, College Station, Texas
Friday: Texas A&M 5, Louisville 4
Saturday: Texas A&M 4, Louisville 3, Texas A&M advances
English Field, Blacksburg, Va.
Friday: Oklahoma 5, Virginia Tech 4
Saturday: Virginia Tech 4, Oklahoma 8
Sunday: Oklahoma 11, Virginia Tech 2, Oklahoma advances
At Klein Field at Sunken Diamond, Stanford, Calif.
Saturday: UConn 13, Stanford 2
Sunday: Stanford 8, UConn 2
Monday: Stanford 10, UConn 5, Stanford advances
At Boshamer Stadium Chapel Hill, N.C.
Saturday: Arkansas 4, North Carolina 1
Sunday: Arkansas 4, North Carolina 3, Arkansas advances
At Pete Taylor Park Hattiesburg, Miss.
Saturday: Mississippi 10, Southern Miss 0
Sunday: Mississippi 5, Southern Miss 0, Mississippi advances
At Goss Stadium at Coleman Field, Corvallis, Ore.
Saturday: Auburn 7, Oregon St. 5
Sunday: Oregon St. 4, Auburn 3
Monday: Auburn vs. Oregon St.

AUTO RACING

NASCAR Cup Series

Toyota / Save Mart 350

Sunday

Sonoma Raceway Sonoma, Calif.
Lap length: 1.99 miles
(Start position in parentheses)
1. (8) Daniel Suárez, Chevrolet, 110 laps, 47 points.
2. (3) Chris Buescher, Ford, 110, 43.
3. (4) Michael McDowell, Ford, 110, 37.
4. (23) Kevin Harvick, Ford, 110, 39.
5. (25) Austin Gindrih, Ford, 110, 32.
6. (14) Ryan Blaney, Ford, 110, 32.
7. (7) Ross Chastain, Chevrolet, 110, 30.
8. (2) Chase Elliott, Chevrolet, 110, 29.
9. (20) William Byron, Chevrolet, 110, 28.

SUNDAY GOLF

PGA Tour RBC Canadian Open

St. George's G&CC, Toronto

Purse: \$8.7 million

Yardage: 7,014; Par: 70

Final Round

Rory McIlroy (500)	\$1,566,000	66-68-65-62-261 (-19)
Tony Finau (300)	\$948,300	66-71-62-64-263 (-17)
Justin Thomas (190)	\$600,300	69-69-63-64-265 (-15)
Sam Burns (123)	\$391,500	67-69-65-65-266 (-14)
Justin Rose (123)	\$391,500	69-70-67-60-266 (-14)
Corey Conners (100)	\$315,375	71-69-66-62-268 (-12)
Wyndham Clark (85)	\$273,325	63-70-68-69-270 (-10)
Chris Kirk (85)	\$273,325	69-69-66-66-270 (-10)
Keith Mitchell (85)	\$273,325	67-67-70-66-270 (-10)
Matt Fitzpatrick (70)	\$219,675	64-70-70-67-271 (-9)
Danny Lee (70)	\$219,675	68-69-69-65-271 (-9)
Shane Lowry (70)	\$219,675	67-69-69-66-271 (-9)
Austin Cook (55)	\$160,515	71-64-68-69-272 (-8)
Kelly Kraft (55)	\$160,515	69-69-70-64-272 (-8)
Aaron Rai (55)	\$160,515	69-70-67-66-272 (-8)
Brendon Todd (55)	\$160,515	69-69-68-66-272 (-8)
Brad Lander III (55)	\$160,515	65-72-68-67-272 (-8)
Doug Ghim (47)	\$123,975	65-71-68-69-273 (-7)
Justin Rose (47)		

US OPEN 5 THINGS WE LEARNED FROM SUNDAY

Fitzpatrick's work ethic pays off

David Dusek

Golfweek | USA TODAY Network

BROOKLINE, Mass. – On a chilly, overcast New England day, the lead at the 122nd U.S. Open went back and forth throughout the afternoon.

Matt Fitzpatrick, Will Zalatoris and Scottie Scheffler all reached 6 under during their rounds at The Country Club on Sunday, but only one of them, the Englishman who won the 2013 U.S. Amateur at this course, was able to finish there.

Fitzpatrick becomes the third golfer to win a U.S. Amateur and U.S. Open on the same course, joining Jack Nicklaus at Pebble Beach and Juli Inkster at Prairie Dunes.

Here are five things we learned on Sunday at The Country Club.

Fitzpatrick did it the hard way

Last year, Jon Rahm, one of the most powerful players in golf, won the U.S. Open at Torrey Pines. The year before that, it was Bryson DeChambeau, one of the biggest hitters on the PGA Tour (or LIV Series starting in a few weeks). The year before that, Gary Woodland, another power player, won the U.S. Open at Pebble Beach.

Matt Fitzpatrick has always been an outstanding putter and possessed a solid short game but recently has gotten longer off the tee.

“(My coach and biomechanist Sasho Mackenzie) gave me this speed stick called The Stack. I’ve been doing that religiously week in and week out,” Fitzpatrick said Sunday evening. “It’s like going to the gym basically. It’s like a training program. I’ll be honest, it’s worked wonders.”

“I feel like maybe three years ago if I was in this position, four years ago, and I was playing with Will in the final group, I’d be concerned that I’m going to be 15, 20 behind him. And I felt comfortable all day that I was going to be past him, which to me gives me confidence obviously going into the next shot knowing that you’ve got less club.”

During the 2018-19 PGA Tour season, Fitzpatrick ranked 151st in driving distance on Tour (287.9 yards per drive), but this season he is up to 298 yards. That’s still 108th, but he ranks 40th in driving accuracy, so while he’s 11 yards longer, he still hits about 65% of the fairways.

On demanding golf courses like Southern Hills last month during the PGA Championship and this past week at The Country Club, which featured thick rough and fescue along the fairways, he ranked fifth in driving accuracy



With his victory in the U.S. Open, Englishman Matt Fitzpatrick has risen from No. 18 to No. 10 in the Official World Golf Ranking. PETER CASEY/USA TODAY SPORTS

cy and was 36th in driving average at 309 yards.

Fitzpatrick is also legendary on tour for his work ethic. He has tracked every shot he has hit in competition and practice rounds for the last 12 years. If he continues to put in the work, more victories could be on the way.

Zalatoris has the pieces but hasn't put them together – yet

It was an odd day for Will Zalatoris because his putter made up for shortcomings off the tee and from the fairway. Typically, that’s not the case.

Zalatoris hit just seven of 14 fairways on Sunday, contributing to only 11 of 18 greens in regulation. He came into the U.S. Open ranked No. 1 in strokes gained off the tee. It’s tough to win a tournament, especially a major championship, if the foundation of your game doesn’t show up on Sunday.

“Considering where I drove it today, the fact I was even under par was obviously pretty nice,” Zalatoris said after signing for his 69. “I thought I made a lot of nice putts just to keep myself in it. Stealing one on 9, saving par on 13. I really felt great with the putter all week, and I hit a great putt on 18. It just happened to hang out there.”

This is now three close calls in major

championships for Zalatoris. He was the runner-up at the 2021 Masters, lost in a playoff last month at the PGA Championship and tied for second at the U.S. Open. He has the prototypical modern game but must put the pieces together for four rounds if he wants to win. He’s 160th on the PGA Tour in strokes gained putting (0.227). If he can improve that and just become a tour-average putter, so his putting doesn’t cancel out his excellent iron play, he will have a long and successful career.

LIV Golf Series may not be good preparation for majors

At the start of the U.S. Open, there were 14 golfers who either played in the first LIV Series event in London or who announced they are going to play LIV Series events in the future, but none of them were in real contention by Sunday, and most of them missed the cut. Dustin Johnson, the 2016 U.S. Open winner, was the “Low LIV” at 2 over through 54 holes, and he finished Sunday at 4 over (T-24).

The PGA Tour has suspended its members who played in the LIV Series event in London, and golfers who play at the end of June in the next LIV Series event will also assuredly get indefinitely suspended by Jay Monahan, which will

dramatically reduce playing opportunities in big events and against elite fields. Remember, LIV Series events are 54 holes, and there is no cut, so while they are lucrative, they may not be the best place for a golfer to get sharp before a major championship. The tough questions about being involved with Saudi Arabia will also surely be a distraction for LIV Series players in majors to come.

USGA really doesn't want a repeat of Shinnecock or Olympic

The Country Club proved to be an excellent venue for the United States Golf Association, and thanks to the wind and cool temperatures provided by Mother Nature, the course was as challenging to play as it was beautiful to see.

After Friday’s round, some golf lovers were concerned that 23 golfers were under par. For them, carnage and struggle are what the U.S. Open is all about, but it’s now clear that if the USGA is going to make a mistake when setting up courses, it will err on the conservative side. The fairways were narrow, the greens were fast and the rough was thick and lush, but the classic venue never felt tricked out or over the top.

On Wednesday, USGA CEO Mike Wahn talked with the media about anchor sites for USGA national championships, with Pinehurst, Oakmont and Pebble Beach already locked in for numerous events well into the 2040s.

The Country Club should be added to that list. Now.

No one should ever quit at a U.S. Open

It’s cliché, but you can win if you make the cut at the U.S. Open. And if you don’t win, you can still make a big move.

Hideki Matsuyama and Collin Morikawa did not win this week, but they shot the day’s low rounds on Sunday, a 65 and a 66, respectively, and raced up the leaderboard. Both started the day at 2 over par, six shots off the lead, and Matsuyama finished in solo fourth. Morikawa finished in a tie for fifth.

It would be easy to feel dejected on a difficult course like The Country Club, as we saw when Grayson Murray threw his putter and then snapped an iron over his knee, but moves can be made. It felt like the crowd in Boston was trying to will McIlroy up the leaderboard, and while he fell short of winning his second U.S. Open, he finished tied for fifth with Morikawa.

Next year, when you are filling out your U.S. Open pool, remember to pick grinders.

Umpires

Continued from Page 8C

and more a concern with rules.”

Until the technical kinks are smoothed out and stakeholders agree the time has come for automation, MLB will be wedded to its “blues.” That includes the Cuba-born Hernandez, who unsuccessfully sued MLB for discrimination, claiming he was denied crew chief and postseason assignments

based on his race and not performance.

In 2023, Hernandez will mark his 30th anniversary as an MLB umpire

To the players? Mention his name in private and the reaction is largely ambivalent. “Just another guy,” says one pitcher. “If he’s working a game in Seattle and I’m here, I’m not thinking about him,” offers another.

A hitter opts to cut the conversation short rather than opine. “The game’s hard,” says one player, letting his forthcoming silence tell plenty about his feel-

ings for Hernandez. “We’ll leave it at that.”

Factoring temporary call-ups and other substitutes, players will deal with roughly 100 umps behind the plate. The greater enemy, always, is the grind, and within that the hope that over six months and up to 700 plate appearances, the good and bad calls will be a wash come October.

“If your team is winning and you’re playing well, it’s like all right, whatever, they’ll even out,” says Rockies third baseman Ryan McMahon. “And if it’s

going bad, it’s like ah, you’re getting screwed all the time. But they do even out more than people realize.”

“In sports, human error needs to be a thing,” says Bassitt. “I think that’s what makes the sports in general beautiful is that there is human error, not just from the athletes but the people umpiring and officiating, managers calling the game, general managers ... everybody makes mistakes.

“We’re all human. We’re all trying to do our best. And I think that’s the beauty in it all.”

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PUBLIC NOTICE
<p>NAME CHANGE</p> <p>I, PRINCY ABHI GANDHI have changed my name to PRINCY MUKESHKUMAR SHAH due to the divorce.</p>

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