

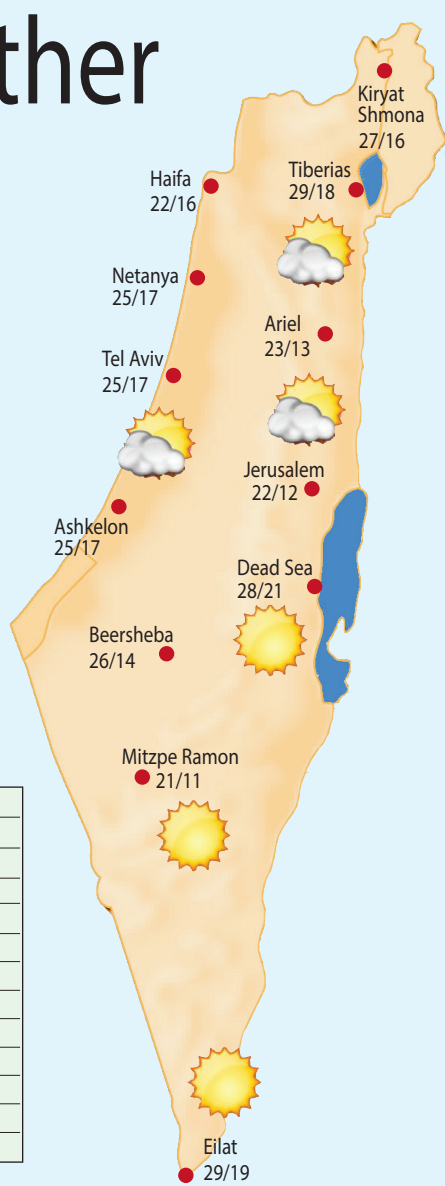
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Weather

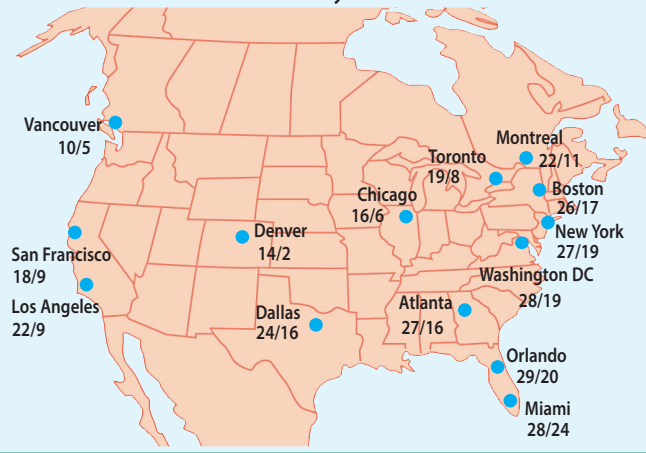
Today
Mostly Sunny

Friday
Mostly Sunny

Saturday
Partly Cloudy



North America Weather Today



SPORTS SHORTS

Yankees avert Dodgers World Series sweep

NEW YORK (Reuters) — Anthony Volpe hit a go-ahead grand slam in the third inning and the host New York Yankees avoided a World Series sweep by beating the Los Angeles Dodgers 11-4 in Game 4 late Tuesday night.

Los Angeles leads the best-of-seven series 3-1 but was unable to complete the 22nd sweep in World Series history. The Dodgers attempted to secure their second title in five years and eighth in franchise history on Wednesday when Jack Flaherty opposed Gerrit Cole in a rematch of Game 1.

The Yankees loaded the bases with one out in the third against Daniel Hudson (0-1) when Aaron Judge was hit by a pitch, Jazz Chisholm Jr. singled and Giancarlo Stanton walked. After Hudson retired Anthony Rizzo on a popup, Volpe drove a first-pitch slider a few rows back in the left-center-field seats for a 5-2 lead.

"I think I pretty much blacked out as soon as I saw it go over the fence," Volpe said.

At 23 years, 184 days, Volpe became the fourth-youngest player with a World Series grand slam according to the Elias Sports Bureau. Only Mickey Mantle (1953 Yankees), Addison Russell (2016 Chicago Cubs) and Gil McDougald (1951 Yankees) were younger when they achieved the feat.

Before Volpe's slam, Los Angeles's Freddie Freeman set a pair of records by hitting a two-run homer off rookie Luis Gil in the first inning.

After a double by Mookie Betts, Freeman lined a 2-1 slider into the right-field seats, becoming the first player to hit home runs in the first four games of a World Series and the first to homer in six straight World Series games overall (two with Atlanta in 2021).

Amorim says no deal yet with Man United

LISBON (Reuters) — Ruben Amorim said that no deal was in place for him to become the next manager of Manchester United after Sporting announced the Premier League club was prepared to pay the Portuguese club his 10 million euros (\$10.79 million) release clause.

The news comes a day after the team sacked Erik ten Hag with United languishing in 14th place in the Premier League standings. The club's idea was that the Portuguese coach could be in place for Sunday's league game against Chelsea at Old Trafford, but Amorim did not want to confirm anything.

"I have nothing to say now, we're analyzing here. Anything I say will only create more noise," Amorim told a press conference after Sporting's 3-1 win over Nacional in the Portuguese League Cup quarterfinal on Tuesday.

"There's nothing to talk about. There's the club statement, everyone knows about it. It was said by the club. For the rest, we don't know the exact details. We'll see."

The 39-year-old Amorim, who emerged as a front-runner soon after Ten Hag's sacking, led Sporting to the Primeira Liga title in 2021, ending a 19-year league title drought, before winning a second last season. He has been coveted by a number of clubs, including Liverpool where he was heavily linked with replacing Jurgen Klopp last season with the club eventually choosing to hire Arne Slot instead. He also held talks with West Ham United to replace David Moyes before opting to remain in Lisbon.

Amorim, a former Benfica and Portugal midfielder who won three Primeira League titles with Benfica, is known for dynamic, offensive soccer, whose teams counter-attack quickly on offense. United's interim manager Ruud van Nistelrooy was in charge of Wednesday's League Cup tie at home to Leicester City.

'Unbroken': A new exhibition about Israeli sports in the shadow of war

• Jerusalem Post Sports Staff

Opening ceremonies for Unbroken, a new exhibition examining the aftermath of the October 7 attacks and the resilience of the Jewish spirit as seen in sports, took place on October 15, 2024 at Kfar Maccabiah in Ramat Gan, Israel.

The exhibition was created by Maccabi World Union – the world's largest Jewish sports and education organization, together with the Ministry of Culture & Sports, and the World Jewish Congress.

The exhibition, which is being held in lead up to the 2025 Maccabiah Games during which 10-thousand Jewish athletes are expected to compete in Israel, is curated by Adi Rubinstein and highlights the story of Israeli sports since the outbreak of the Gaza War through the experiences of October 7 victims, survivors and their families.

The cooperation between Maccabi World Union and World Jewish Congress is part of a long-term effort joining of forces to increase awareness of the October 7th events, while fighting the growing spread of antisemitism that has followed the attacks and the Gaza War.

The first exhibition of its kind, its opening is taking place at the World Jewish Sports Museum in Kfar Maccabiah, and it will remain there until March 2025. Following that, the exhibition will be traveling to New York, Miami and Geneva, to expose different Jewish communities and non-Jewish audiences around the world to these stories.

In addition, the World Jewish Sports Museum has created a pop-up version of the exhibition that can be easily downloaded and displayed within the Jewish diaspora to communities interested in bringing the experience to their members.

The exhibition features personal items, multimedia displays and interviews, giving visitors a unique and intimate perspective of this critical moment in history. "On the face of it, sports and war are opposites, but the State of Israel clung to sports during the difficult hours of the war, creating unforgettable moments of grace and pride," said Osnat Zur, World Jewish Sports Museum director. "Sports are a unifying factor, fostering resilience, healing, and strength, as has been evident since October 7 across sports clubs in Israel. We are excited to share these powerful stories of resilience and spirit as part of our commitment to preserving Jewish sports history wherever it is," Zur added.



The exhibition is divided into three chapters: The first part, "Sports on October 7," tells the stories of several athletes and sports fans who were murdered or survived the attacks: cyclist Aya Meydan and her friend, the late rider Lior Weizmann; the late soccer player Lior Assoulin and another soccer player, Ben Benjamin, who was injured during the massacre at the Nova party. There is also the story of the late Inbar Haiman, the Maccabi Haifa supporter who was kidnapped by Hamas and murdered in captivity, among the many stories.

The second chapter describes the reaction of sports fans to the war, and their calls for the return of the kidnapped. The third chapter highlights some of the successes of Israeli athletes amidst the ongoing conflict.

Among the items on display: the bicy-

cle of the late Lior Weizmann; the basketball shoes of Danny Abadiya with wishes for the return to health of popular actor/singer and injured IDF soldier Idan Amedi; the shoes of the late Lior Assoulin; the shirt of the late Inbar Haiman; the gold medal won by swimmer Anastasia Gorbenko on Qatari soil amidst the boos of a hostile crowd; and the gold medal won by Israeli Olympian gymnast Artem Dolgopyat at the world championships on October 7, 2023.

According to Rubinstein, sports following October 7th played an integral role in strengthening resilience. "One of the few things that gave hope to the Israeli people during this terrible year was sports. Because, amazingly, this actually was the best year in sports that Israel has had since it was established."

"Sports help us hold onto hope for a brighter future, teaching us that even

when we fall on our knees, feeling shattered and broken, we can take a deep breath, gather the fragments, look toward the horizon, rise to our feet, and carry on." said Amir Gissin, director general of the Maccabi World Union. "And when we fall again, we can rise in the same way."

Said Michael Siegal, president of Maccabi World Union, "This memorial was designed to never forget those who have fallen, and those yet to be returned. This wonderful exhibit will be opening to all of Israel, and then we hope that other Jewish museums around the world will take into consideration and show this tribute to those that fell on October 7th and those athletes that will never be forgotten."

"Today we are proud supporters of the Maccabi World Union exhibition which focuses on the profound impact of the October 7th terror attack on Israel's sporting community," said Ron Lauder, World Jewish Congress president.

Limor Weizmann is the widow of Lior, whose story appears in the exhibition. She said it is her mission to commemorate her husband through the sports he loved so much. "Lior's passion for cycling was profound. On the seventh of October, he had a dream to become an Ironman. He was driven by immense love for family, for his parents, for me, for Kfir. Tragically, it was love that led to his death; he was murdered while doing what he loved the most."

Since October 7th, Meydan said she has been riding for herself, but also to commemorate those who cannot do it themselves. "Every day I rise in the morning to do something. I do it for myself, as a victory of the spirit over the body, and also for Lior, my friend. We were supposed to meet on October 7, and he was murdered. To continue his path, as he dreamt of being an Ironman, I decided that if he couldn't achieve it, I would do it for him."

The opening ceremony was attended by October 7th survivors, family members and relatives of the victims, as well as representatives of the various organizations involved in the exhibition.

The exhibition is open to the general public on Sundays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Thursdays from 4 p.m.-8 p.m., and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. There is no requirement for registration or a guided tour. The exhibition is located in Worms Hall in Ramat Gan, at the World Jewish Sports Museum.

For more information, visit the museum website at www.jewishsportsmuseum.org

The (few) Jewish players to watch for 2024/25 season



SPOTLIGHT

• By JACOB GURVIS

When the National Basketball Association season tipped off last week, there were just three Jewish players taking the court – the same trio who were in the league last year – though one is still hoping to make his way back from the G League to the NBA.

Two of those players – Deni Avdija and Amari Bailey – have changed uniforms, while All-Star Domantas Sabonis is in his fourth season with the Sacramento Kings.

Meanwhile, Ryan Turell, who played in the G League last season, and Abby Meyers, who appeared in nine WNBA games in 2023, are both playing professionally in Israel this season.

Deni Avdija, Portland Trail Blazers forward

After a career year with the Washington Wizards, 23-year-old Deni Avdija is entering his fifth season in the NBA and his first with the Portland Trail Blazers. Avdija, the only Israeli in the league, was traded to Portland over the summer. Before last season, he had signed a four-year, \$55 million contract extension with the Wizards.

Avdija, a native of Beit Zera in northern Israel, was drafted No. 9 overall by the Wizards in 2020, the earliest an Israeli has

been selected in the NBA Draft. Avdija averaged 14.7 points per game last season with 7.2 rebounds and a field goal percentage of 51% – all career highs. Avdija, who started 75 games for the Wizards, finished sixth for the NBA's Most Improved Player award.

Since he broke into the league, the small forward has been among the more vocal Jewish athletes across American professional sports. During a previous bout of violence in Israel, Avdija wrote "Am Yisrael Chai" ("the Jewish people live") and drew Stars of David on his sneakers. He also celebrated Hanukkah with his teammates and spoke at the team's Jewish Heritage Night.

This month, as his Trail Blazers prepared for their preseason opener, Avdija decided to sit out the game because it fell on Yom Kippur. He attributed the decision to a change in his outlook over the past year, following Hamas's Oct. 7 attack.

"Tomorrow, on the eve of Yom Kippur, the first pre-season game of the season will take place. When the management informed me, I knew right away that I would not participate. I feel that the best way to start the season is by honoring Jewish tradition and standing united with my fellow Jews in Israel and around the world," Avdija posted on an Instagram story.

"Basketball has been a central part of my life for as long as I can remember, and it's always been my top priority. However, after the past year, I've realized there are more important things than basketball," Avdija

added. "Am Yisrael Chai. Wishing everyone a good inscription and sealing."

Amari Bailey, point guard

After making his NBA debut last season with the Charlotte Hornets, 20-year-old guard Amari Bailey signed a contract with the Brooklyn Nets this off-season.

Bailey was drafted 41st overall by the Hornets last year and appeared in 10 games with the team, spending most of the season with Charlotte's G-League affiliate. Bailey had been competing for a spot on the Nets' roster heading into the season but was waived on Oct. 19 after the final preseason game. This week, he joined the Long Island Nets, Brooklyn's G League affiliate.

Born in New Orleans and raised in Chicago, Bailey moved to California to play basketball at Sierra Canyon High School, a prestigious Los Angeles private school. He was then recruited to play at the storied University of California, Los Angeles, where he was named to the Pac-12's All-Freshman team.

Bailey's mother, an influencer who is known to have 319,000 Instagram followers as Johanna Leia (surname Edelberg), is Jewish. Bailey himself personally identifies as Jewish, his agent Bernie Lee confirmed to the Forward.

Domantas Sabonis, Sacramento Kings center

Entering his ninth NBA season, Domantas Sabonis, a center and power forward, has cemented himself as one of the premier players in the league. The 28-year-old, who is listed at a towering 6-foot-10, is a three-time All-Star who has finished



DOMANTAS SABONIS – who identifies as a practicing Jew – had 28 points and 11 rebounds for the Sacramento Kings on Tuesday night in their 113-96 victory over the host Utah Jazz. (Rob Gray/Imagn Images)

in the top 10 in MVP voting and was named to the All-NBA Third Team in each of the past two seasons.

Sabonis, who is in the process of converting to Judaism, averaged 19.4 points and 13.7 rebounds per game last season, leading the league in the latter. Sabonis' 8.2 assists per game ranked sixth in the NBA and his field goal percentage of 59% ranked ninth. He played all 82 games for the Kings.

Sabonis, who was born in Portland to Lithuanian parents, has been studying with

Los Angeles rabbi Erez Sherman and has been involved with the local chapter of the Chabad Hasidic movement in Sacramento. Sabonis has also been keeping kosher and celebrating Shabbat, Passover and other Jewish holidays.

"He loves [Judaism] and really wants to be a part of it," Sabonis' wife Shashana Sabonis (née Rosen) said last year. Shashana grew up in Los Angeles, where she attended Jewish day schools. The couple was married by a Reform rabbi in August 2021. (JTA)