

# Rose sets Torrey Pines pace with 62, Koepka struggles

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Justin Rose had birdie chances on all but one hole Thursday and turned that into a 10-under 62 on the easier North course at Torrey Pines, giving him a one-shot lead in the Farmers Insurance Open on a day that marked the return of Brooks Koepka from LIV Golf.

Koepka garnered so much of the attention under the brilliant sunshine along the Pacific Coast, the first PGA Tour member to leave for the Saudi-funded rival league only to get out of his contract with one year left and be allowed to return.

Koepka didn't make a birdie until his final hole on the tougher South course for a 1-over 73 and was happy to get that first round behind him. "From the first tee on, it was great. It actually made me settle down a little bit," Koepka said. "Like I said, it made me feel good, just to be out here."

Rose missed the cut in his 2026 debut in The American Express last week. While the North course is easier, his game was sharp. Even without birdies on two of the par 5s, he still posted a great score before he heads to the South.

Justin Lower, on edge with his wife at home about to give birth to twins, had a 63 on the North. Hide-ki Matsuyama and Max Greyserman each had a 64.

Seamus Power had the low score at 65 on the South course, which has hosted two U.S. Opens and played to an average score of 72.482. The average score on the North was 69.139. Of the 22 players at 67 or lower, only Power and Max McGreevy (66) were on the South.

"North Course clearly is one that you want to try to make the most of and it's great to do that today for

sure," Rose said.

He made par from the fairway on his closing hole at the par-5 ninth, finding a bunker, blasting out to about 4 feet and missing the birdie putt. But he only scrambled for once, on the 451-yard 14th hole and kept a clean card.

Lower lost his full card last year when the PGA Tour reduced full status to the top 100 on the FedEx Cup, down from 125 in previous years. Lower got into Torrey Pines because of the 147-man field over two courses, so this about making the most of an opportunity.

And what a time. He already has a 3-year-old. Now his wife is about to deliver twins.

"If I'm being really truthful with everyone, my mind's not really here," Lower said. "My wife is 34 weeks pregnant with twins and I'm

just trying to get home on Monday to try to help everything out as much as I can. Luckily we have family close and everything. Yeah, she's going through it right now. Life's about to get real if it wasn't real already."

Xander Schauffele, who was born across the road from Torrey Pines, played for the first time since he won in Japan last fall. He has the longest active cut streak at 72 and was on the ropes early on the South, 3 over for his round through 11 holes.

But he made birdie from a fair-way bunker on the 12th hole, hit the pin with a shot from the back bunker to set up birdie on the par-5 13th and ended his round with a chip that struck the pin on the 18th when it the golf ball was rolling at flag speed.

It added to a 73, just above average considering how hard the South played.

"I was happy with the fight," Schauffele said. "But I only hit three fairways, and the North course also is hard from the rough. Any of those guys at 8 or 9 under on the North are hitting more than two or three fairways."

And with that he was off to the range.

Koepka said he was nervous on the first tee on the South, not knowing what kind of response he would get from the crowd after defecting to LIV Golf. He hit a 301-yard drive and an approach to 10 feet, two of his best shots of the way.

But his birdie chances were limited — certainly not as many as Rose on the North — and he was 1 over on the par 5s until an 8-foot birdie putt on the last hole.

He looked forward to the next three days. That starts with getting to the weekend.

# Volkanovski faces Lopes in rematch at UFC 325 in Sydney

SYDNEY (AP) — Diego Lopes seemed almost like an afterthought this week at UFC 325 media day.

Some questions directed at featherweight champion Alexander Volkanovski concerned whom he might fight next after facing Lopes on Sunday.

The odds, however, suggest this might not be such an easy fight for Volkanovski.

He is a -145 favorite at BetMGM Sportsbook to defeat Lopes (27-7) for the second time in nine months. Volkanovski (27-4) conceded he couldn't take a repeat victory for granted after defeating the Brazilian by unanimous decision at UFC 314 on April 12 in Miami.

"You've got to respect (Lopes' power)," Volkanovski said. "There's going to be a lot of opportunities

for me to capitalize when he's that aggressive, but at the same time, you're going to have that threat of him always looking for the KO. Even if it goes to the ground, always looking for the submission. That's how he fights. That's why he's so dangerous."

Volkanovski saw that up close in their prior meeting, getting floored in the second round and staggered by a punch to his eye in the fourth. Lopes then tried to finish him off in the fourth, but Volkanovski held his ground and wound up winning.

"I know I made a lot of mistakes in the first fight with Volk," said Lopes, the second-ranked challenger. "I forgot things in my game plan. I think I fixed it in the training camp. I fixed many things, so it's completely different now."

Volkanovski, who wore a Los Angeles Kings cap at the news conference, will have the home-country advantage. That certainly makes the bout more challenging for Lopes, who otherwise is one of the UFC's more popular fighters.

The 31-year-old knows he won't be on Sunday afternoon (Saturday night EST).

"I'm not worried about it (being booed)," Lopes said. "I left my home 11 days ago. For me, it's not new. Whatever place Volk fights, people are supporting him, but I'm up for this."

So is Volkanovski, who last fought in Australia three years ago when he lost by unanimous decision to Islam Makhachev for the light-weight championship in the main event at UFC 284. That loss before

a sellout crowd of 13,000 energetic fans in Perth ended Volkanovski's 22-match winning streak.

Maybe this weekend will provide a different result.

"I want to have a big moment here," Volkanovski said. "That's what I love about being here in Sydney because whenever I'm traveling away, everyone can't be there live. They can't be in the arena and feel the atmosphere."

"I want to go out there and look dominant and really give more of my supporters, family and friends that feeling or that moment that they're going to remember forever. They still get that feeling at home through the TV, but there ain't nothing like it Down Under. I can only imagine what that's going to be like walking out."

How many more times the 37-year-old Volkanovski continues to walk into the octagon remains to be seen. He made it clear, however, that retirement isn't on his mind.

Volkanovski, in responses to media questions, speculated about future potential matchups and that if he beats Lopes, he wants to take on the highest-ranked challenger.

"I plan on taking minimal damage out there, having a quick turnaround and then we'll see what happens after that," Volkanovski said. "You're seeing a lot of rumors. You're seeing a lot of people, 'Aha, this is going to be his last one.' Obviously, I put that to bed. Definitely not the right time for this. I've still got a bit left in me. That's why I want to be active because how much longer?"

## THE DAILY SCOREBOARD

NFL PLAYOFFS									
Wild-card Playoffs									
Saturday, Jan. 10									
L.A. Rams 34, Carolina 31									
Chicago 31, Green Bay 27									
Sunday, Jan. 11									
Buffalo 27, Jacksonville 24									
San Francisco 23, Philadelphia 19									
New England 16, L.A. Chargers 3									
Monday, Jan. 12									
Houston 30, Pittsburgh 6									
Divisional Playoffs									
Saturday, Jan. 17									
Denver 33, Buffalo 30, OT									
Seattle 41, San Francisco 6									
Sunday, Jan. 18									
New England 28, Houston 16									
L.A. Rams 20, Chicago 17, OT									
Conference Championships									
Sunday, Jan. 25									
AFC									
New England 10, Denver 7									
NFC									
Seattle 31, L.A. Rams 27									
Super Bowl LIX									
Sunday, Feb. 8									
At Santa Clara.									
New England vs. Seattle, 6:30 p.m. (NBC/Peacock)									

NHL STANDINGS									
EASTERN CONFERENCE									
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA		
Tampa Bay	52	34	14	4	72	183	131		
Detroit	55	32	17	6	70	171	166		
Buffalo	53	31	17	5	67	183	160		
Montreal	54	30	17	7	67	187	180		
Boston	55	32	20	3	67	186	171		
Florida	52	28	21	3	59	160	169		
Ottawa	53	25	21	7	57	179	176		
Toronto	53	24	20	9	57	174	183		
Metropolitan									
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA		
Carolina	53	33	15	5	71	185	154		
Pittsburgh	52	27	14	11	65	175	154		
N.Y. Islanders	54	30	19	5	65	157	149		
Washington	55	26	22	7	59	175	167		
New Jersey	54	28	24	2	58	144	165		
Columbus	52	25	20	7	57	163	172		
Philadelphia	53	24	20	9	57	160	173		
N.Y. Rangers	55	22	27	6	50	146	172		
WESTERN CONFERENCE									
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA		
Colorado	52	35	8	9	79	203	134		
Minnesota	55	31	14	10	72	179	158		
Dallas	53	30	14	9	69	176	147		
Utah	54	28	22	4	60	171	151		
Nashville	53	24	23	6	54	152	180		
Chicago	54	21	24	9	51	146	174		
Winnipeg	53	21	25	7	49	154	165		
St. Louis	53	19	25	9	47	130	183		
Pacific									
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA		
Vegas	52	25	14	13	63	173	164		
Edmonton	54	27	19	8	62	186	175		
Anaheim	53	28	22	3	59	177	188		
San Jose	51	27	21	3	57	161	176		
Seattle	52	24	19	9	57	148	155		
Los Angeles	52	22	17	13	57	138	148		
Calgary	53	21	26	6	48	133	160		
Vancouver	53	17	31	5	39	141	196		

Wednesday's Games  
N.Y. Islanders 5, N.Y. Rangers 2  
Columbus 3, Philadelphia 3  
Ottawa 5, Colorado 2

Thursday's Games  
Pittsburgh 6, Chicago 2  
Montreal 7, Colorado 3  
Tampa Bay 4, Winnipeg 1  
N.Y. Islanders 2, N.Y. Rangers 1  
New Jersey 3, Nashville 2, OT  
Buffalo 4, Los Angeles 1  
Carolina 5, Utah 4  
Boston 6, Philadelphia 3  
Washington 4, Detroit 3, SO  
Minnesota 4, Calgary 1  
Florida at St. Louis, late  
San Jose at Edmonton, late  
Anaheim at Vancouver, late  
Dallas at Vegas, late  
Toronto at Seattle, late

Friday's Games  
Columbus at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.

Saturday's Games  
Los Angeles at Philadelphia, 12:30 p.m.  
Colorado at Detroit, 1 p.m.  
N.Y. Rangers at Pittsburgh, 3:30 p.m.  
San Jose at Calgary, 4 p.m.  
Winnipeg at Florida, 4 p.m.  
Carolina at Washington, 5 p.m.  
Columbus at St. Louis, 7 p.m.  
Montreal at Buffalo, 7 p.m.  
Nashville at N.Y. Islanders, 7 p.m.  
New Jersey at Ottawa, 7 p.m.  
Toronto at Vancouver, 7 p.m.  
Dallas at Utah, 9 p.m.  
Minnesota at Edmonton, 10 p.m.  
Seattle at Vegas, 10 p.m.

PENGUINS SUMMARY									
Pittsburgh 6, Chicago 2									
Chicago	1	0	1	—	2				
Pittsburgh	1	4	1	—	6				
First Period—1, Chicago, Murphy 3 (Greene, Nazar), 9:32. 2, Pittsburgh, Dewar 12 (Lizotte, Acciari), 11:24. Penalties—Kindel, PIT (Hooking), 6:11; Novak, PIT (Tripping), 12:03; Kindel, PIT (Roughing), 14:17; Nazar, CHI (Roughing), 14:17; Malkin, PIT (Tripping), 16:10; Kaiser, CHI (Unsportsmanlike Conduct), 16:10. Second Period—3, Pittsburgh, Kindel 11 (Mantha, Waterspoon), 5:54. 4, Pittsburgh, Chinakhov 9 (Malkin), 15:30. 5, Pittsburgh, Mantha 17 (Kindel, Shea), 16:01. 6, Pittsburgh, Shea 3 (Mantha, Solovoy), 19:30. Penalties—Moore, CHI (Holding Stick), 11:02. Third Period—7, Pittsburgh, Dewar 13 (Lizotte, Acciari), 13:59. 8, Chicago, Bedard 21 (Nazar), 14:31. Penalties—None. Shots on Goal—Chicago 9-6-44=19. Pittsburgh 8-23-13=44. Power-play opportunities—Chicago 0 of 2; Pittsburgh 0 of 1. Goalies—Chicago, Soderblom 5-9-2 (44 shots-38 saves). Pittsburgh, Silovs 10-6-8 (19-17). A—16,715 (18,387). T—2:27.									

# SCHOLASTIC BASKETBALL BOXSCORES

## VARSITY BOYS

### HICKORY (55)

White 4 0-0 8, Slevin 3 7-8 13, Mele 1 1-2 3, Borowicz 3 3-3 9, Boal 2 2-2 7, Kovac 7 0-0 14, Distler 0 1-2 1. Totals: 20 14-17 55.

### GROVE CITY (50)

Knouse 3 3-3 10, Mariacher 0 0-2 0, Earman 1 0-0 3, Osborn 1 1-2 4, Fischer 14 2-3 30, Gamble 1 1-2 3. Totals: 20 7-12 50.

#### Score by Quarters

Hickory	16	11	15	13	—	55
Grove City	15	7	16	12	—	50

3-point goals — Hickory (Boal), GC (Knouse, Earman, Osborn).

## VARSITY GIRLS

### CONNEAUT AREA (45)

Potts 1 0-0 2, Morini 1 0-0 2, Perrye 6 7-12 21, Detelich 1 0-0 3, Dendis 5 0-0 10, Wolf 3 0-0 7. Totals: 17 7-12 45.

### OIL CITY (43)

Boocks 7 0-0 20, Kasunic 0 0-0 9, Vargason 1 0-0 2, Fry 0 0-0 0, Liederbach 2 5-6 9, Smith 4 2-4 10, S. Garmong 0 2-6 2. Totals: 14 9-16 43.

#### Score by Quarters

Conneaut	10	7	11	17	—	45
Oil City	9	13	13	8	—	43

3-point goals — Conneaut (Perrye 2, Detelich, Wolf), OC (Boocks 6).

### FRANKLIN (51)

Cullins 4 0-0 9, Blum 2 4-4 9, Hanna 4 2-2 13, M. Shingledecker 0 0-0 0, Emick 2 2-6 2, Sanchez 0 0-0 2, Boal 4 1-2 9, Mi. Shingledecker 1 3-4 5, Graham 0 0-0 0, Irons 0 0-0 0. Totals: 17 12-16 51.

### MEADVILLE (31)

Jordan 1 0-0 2, Luteran 6 3-6 15, Hall 2 2-2 7, K. Gongaware 2 0-0 5, Wilson-Dixon 1 0-0 2. Totals: 12 5-8 31.

#### Score by Quarters

Franklin	13	13	10	—	51
Meadville	7	4	10	—	31

3-point goals — FHS (Hanna 3, Cullins, Blum), Meadville (K. Gongaware, Hall).

### ROCKY GROVE (24)

Kennedy 0 3-4 3, Phillips 0 1-2 1, Mawhinney 5 1-2 11, Douglas 0 0-0 0, Baubitt 0 0-0 0, Morrison 3 0-0 7, Ritchey 0 0-0 0, Faust 0 0-0 0, Whitmer 1 0-0 2. Totals: 9 5-8 24.

### COCHRANTON (58)

Custead 1 0-0 2, McCartney 5 2-4 13, Shorts 3 0-0 6, Lyons 3 0-0 6, J. Frayer 3 1-2 7, Mase 2 0-1 4, Reese 2 1-2 7, Irwin 6 1-2 13. Totals: 25 5-11 58.

#### Score by Quarters

Rocky Grove	2	5	7	10	—	24
Cochranton	11	10	10	27	—	58

3-point goals — RG (Morrison), Cochranton (Reese 2, McCartney).

### CRANBERRY (51)

Fleezer 2 0-0 4, Wenner 4 0-4 9, Ishman 2 2-3 6, Stewart 1 2-2 4, Earp 1 0-0 3, Shumaker 6 2-6 15, Schwab 0 3-4 3, Garland 1 3-4 5, Morrow 1 0-0 2, Blauser 0 0-0 0, Kennedy 0 0-0 0. Totals: 19 11-22 51.

### FOREST AREA (19)

Colvin 5 0-2 11, K. Wagner 0 1-2 1, B. Wagner 0 0-0 0, A. Wagner 1 0-0 2, McLaughlin 0 2-2 6, Forker 1 1-1 3, Brown 0 0-0 0, O'Connor 0 0-0 0, Potts 0 0-0 0, Carroll 0 0-0 0. Totals: 7 4-7 19.

#### Score by Quarters

Cranberry	18	27	5	1	—	51
Forest	12	0	3	4	—	19

3-point goals — Cranberry (Wenner, Earp, Shumaker), Forest (Colvin).

### NORTH CLARION (27)

Baumcratz 0 0-2 0, Carl 2 4-4 8, Reisinger 0 2-2 2, Ki. Freeman 3 1-2 12, McClung 2 0-2 4, Gilara 0 1-2 1. Totals: 7 12-22 27.

### KEYSTONE (48)

Brandon 5 2-4 13, McGiffin 1 0-0 0, McElravy 5 2-4 12, Shumaker 2 0-2 4, Henry 2 1-2 5, Nugent 4 1-2 10, Weiser 0 0-0 0, Heller 0 0-0 0. Totals: 20 5-14 48.

#### Score by Quarters

North Clarion	3	9	6	9	—	27
Keystone	10	12	8	8	—	48

3-point goals — NC (Ki. Freeman), K (Nugent 2, Brandon).

## GROVE CITY (40)

A. Cook 3 0-0 9, Barr 1 0-0 3, Brink 2 3-4 7, Bianconi 2 4-9 9, Kolbe 3 3-4 9, Grace 1 0-0 3. Totals: 12 10-17 40.

### HICKORY (35)

Hartley 2 0-0 4, Fleming 2 2-4 6, Harkless 3 0-0 6, Kombau 2 0-0 5, Ference 6 0-0 14. Totals: 15 2-4 35.

#### Score by Quarters

Grove City	13	13	7	—	40	
Hickory	11	7	9	8	—	35

3-point goals — GC (A. Cook 3, Barr, Bianconi, Grace), Hickory (Ference 2, Kornbau).

## JUNIOR VARSITY GIRLS

### CONNEAUT AREA (26)

Bowman 3 2-5 8, Davis 1 0-0 2, Bernhard 1 0-0 2, Fuller 1 1-2 3, Martin 3 3-6 9, Robsel 1 0-0 2. Totals: 10 6-13 26.

### OIL CITY (29)

Kasunic 2 0-0 4, Fry 3 1-2 8, McQuiston 1 0-2 2, Smith 3 3-4 9, Miller 0 1-2 1, Donovan 2 1-2 5. Totals: 11 6-16 29.

#### Score by Quarters

Conneaut	4	2	15	5	—	26
Oil City	10	9	4	6	—	29

3-point goal — OC (Fry).

### FRANKLIN (35)

Eakin 3 1-2 7, Irons 2 2-4 6, Laderer 2 4-0 9, Troyer 3 2-8, Miller 0 1-4 1, Williams 2 2-4 4. Totals: 12 10-26 35.

### MEADVILLE (23)

Swartz 1 0-0 2, Jordan 4 3-6 12, Stevenson 1 0-0 2, Gordon 1 0-0 2, Carpin 1 1-1 3, Shaw 1 0-0 2. Totals: 8 6-11 23.

#### Score by Quarters

Franklin	7	10	8	10	—	35
Meadville	1	5	15	2	—	23

3-point goals — FHS (Laderer), Meadville (Jordan).

### ROCKY GROVE (11)

Whitmer 1 0-0 2, Hault 1 0-0 3, Fox 2 2-2 6, Waters 0 0-0 0, Abel 0 0-0 0, Davis 0 0-0 0, Rice 0 0-0 0, Whitman 0 0-0 0, Stokes 0 0-0 0. Totals: 4 3-4 11.

### COCHRANTON (43)

H. Frayer 7 0-2 17, Lippert 1 1-2 3, Campbell 1 0-0 2, J. Frayer 2 2-4 7, Reese 3 0-0 7, Raymond 3 0-0 7. Totals: 17 3-8 43.

#### Score by Quarters

Rocky Grove	5	2	0	4	—	11
Cochranton	13	17	7	6	—	43

3-point goals — Cochranton (H. Frayer 3, J. Frayer, Reese, Raymond).

## 8TH GRADE BOYS

### CRANBERRY (45)

Hartle 1 1-1 3, Lehnort 3 0-0 7, Cross 7 1-1 15, Cunningham 1 0-0 2, Morrow 1 0-0 2, Baker 2 0-0 4, Speersta 5 0-0 10, Reed 0 0-0 2, Slezak 1 0-0 2. Totals: 21 2-4 45.

### FAST FOREST (11)

No names available.

#### Score by Quarters

Cranberry	13	13	4	11	—	45
East Forest	2	2	5	2	—	11

3-point goals — Cranberry (Lehnort).

### FRANKLIN (35)

Hoobler 1 0-0 2, Goodman 4 2-2 11, Habbyslaw 4 0-0 10, Boal 3 0-0 7, Rivera 1 0-0 2, Riddle 1 0-0 2, Beach 0 1-2 1. Totals: 14 3-4 35.

### WEST MIDDLESEX (44)

White 4 0-0 9, Bowers 2 0-0 4, Hiltz 13 1-4 27, Buzard 1 0-0 2, Turley 1 0-0 2. Totals: 21 1-4 44.

#### Score by Quarters

Franklin	7	5	10	13	—	35
West Middlesex	15	13	6	10	—	44

3-point goals — FHS (Habbyslaw 2, Goodman, Boal), WM (White).

## 7TH GRADE BOYS

### CRANBERRY (35)

Thompson 2 0-0 4, Baker 4 1-29, Speersta 3 2-2 8, Irwin 3 0-0 6, Reed 2 0-0 4, McIntyre 1 0-0 2, Pedley 0 0-0 0, Smith 1 0-0 2. Totals: 16 3-39 35.

### EAST FOREST (18)

No names available.

#### Score by Quarters

Cranberry	9	6	14	6	—	35
East Forest	3	4	5	6	—	18

SPORTS SCENE