

## Wong claims silver, DiCello settles for bronze

## Melnikova wins all-around final at gymnastics worlds

KITAKYUSHU, Japan, Oct. 21, (AP): Angelina Melnikova of Russia won the women's all-around final on Thursday to claim the first gold medal of the gymnastics world championships.

Melnikova, the 2020 Olympic all-around bronze medalist, built up a solid lead with high scores on the vault and uneven bars and finished with 56.632 points.

With defending champion Simone Biles and Tokyo Olympic gold medalist Sunisa Lee of the United States not taking part, the stage was set for a new generation of gymnasts to emerge.

Leanne Wong of the United States was second with 56.340 points, followed by teammate Kayla DiCello with bronze at 54.566.

The 21-year-old Melnikova, an Olympic team gold medalist in Tokyo, won the bronze medal at the 2019 worlds. She had won four medals from past world championships but had never claimed a world title until Thursday.

Melnikova will also compete in all four apparatus finals over the weekend, the first woman to qualify for all five individual finals since Biles in 2018.

## GYMNASTICS

"I'm very happy with this result because I only had one month to prepare," said Melnikova, the first Russian to win the women's all-around title since Aliya Mustafina in 2010. "I feel like I made history tonight. I would be very happy if I could get five gold medals here."

Wong was a traveling alternative to the US team at the Tokyo Games but was forced to spend most of her time at the Olympics in quarantine after her roommate, Kara Eaker, tested positive for COVID-19.

"I'm really happy with this experience since last time (in Tokyo) I didn't even really get to work out," Wong said. "I think we did a really good job for the next generation and setting the stage."

DiCello is the 2019 junior world champion on vault.

None of the six women who represented the United States at the Olympics are in Kitakyushu. Lee is competing on "Dancing With the Stars" before beginning her first year at Auburn, while Biles and the other 2020 Olympians are taking part in a national tour.

Rebeca Andrade of Brazil, who won silver in the all-around at the Tokyo Olympics, opted not to participate on Thursday citing injury concerns but will compete in other events.

Hitomi Hatakeda of Japan was forced to pull out of the all-around final after a fall in training on Wednesday. Hatakeda, who had qualified for Thursday's final, was diagnosed with damage to her central spinal cord after falling while practicing on the uneven bars.

## NBA Results/Standings

WASHINGTON, Oct. 21, (AP): Results and standings from the NBA games on Wednesday.

Chicago	94	Detroit	88
Charlotte	123	Indiana	122
Washington	98	Toronto	83
Philadelphia	117	New Orleans	97
Memphis	132	Cleveland	121
Minnesota	124	Houston	106
New York	138	Boston (2OT)	134
San Antonio	123	Orlando	97
Utah	107	Oklahoma City	86
Denver	110	Phoenix	98
Sacramento	124	Portland	121

## Eastern Conference

Atlantic Division			
	W	L	Pct
New York	1	0	1.000
Philadelphia	1	0	1.000
Boston	0	1	.000
Toronto	0	1	.000
Brooklyn	0	1	.000

Southeast Division			
	W	L	Pct
Washington	1	0	1.000
Charlotte	1	0	1.000
Atlanta	0	0	.000
Miami	0	0	.000
Orlando	0	1	.000

Central Division			
	W	L	Pct
Chicago	1	0	1.000
Milwaukee	1	0	1.000
Indiana	0	1	.000
Detroit	0	1	.000
Cleveland	0	1	.000

Western Conference			
Southwest Division			
	W	L	Pct
San Antonio	1	0	1.000
Memphis	1	0	1.000
Dallas	0	0	.000
Houston	0	1	.000
New Orleans	0	1	.000

Northwest Division			
	W	L	Pct
Utah	1	0	1.000
Minnesota	1	0	1.000
Denver	1	0	1.000
Portland	0	1	.000
Oklahoma City	0	1	.000

Pacific Division			
	W	L	Pct
Golden State	1	0	1.000
Sacramento	1	0	1.000
LA Clippers	0	0	.000
LA Lakers	0	1	.000
Phoenix	0	1	.000

## Randle, Knicks outlast Brown, Celtics in 2 OT

Ball drop 31 points, Hornets rally to beat Pacers

NEW YORK, Oct. 21, (AP): Julius Randle scored 35 points, Evan Fournier made the go-ahead 3-pointer in the second overtime and added 32 against his former team, and the New York Knicks outlasted Jaylen Brown and the Boston Celtics 138-134.

Brown scored a career-high 46 points after overcoming a bout of COVID-19, and Jayson Tatum had the biggest basket of his awful opener with a three-point play that gave Boston a 134-133 lead with 1:05 remaining.

Fournier then hit his fourth 3-pointer of the overtimes with 56 seconds to go and Derrick Rose finished it off with a basket with 22 seconds to play as the Knicks finally put away a game they seemed to have won much earlier.

## BASKETBALL

The Celtics put together a push late in regulation of their first game under coach Ime Udoka and Marcus Smart tied it with a 3-pointer at the buzzer.

RJ Barrett scored all of his 19 points after halftime and Obi Toppin added a career-best 14 for the Knicks. Kemba Walker had 10 points and eight rebounds against his previous team.

## Hornets 123, Pacers 122

In Charlotte, N.C., LaMelo Ball scored 31 points, hitting seven 3-pointers, and Charlotte used a 24-0 third-period run to battle back and beat Indiana.

Indiana led 122-121 on Torrey Craig's foul shots with 12.7 left. P.J. Washington made two free throws with 4.6 seconds left before Domantas Sabonis missed from 11 feet to seal the Hornets' victory.

Ball scored 12 points in the third-period run and finished with nine rebounds and seven assists. Gordon Hayward scored 27 points for Charlotte, which got 14 each from newcomers Kelly Oubre Jr. and Ish Smith.

## 76ers 117, Pelicans 97

In New Orleans, Joel Embiid had 22 points and 12 rebounds, Furkan Korkmaz hit four 3-pointers in the fourth quarter to also score 22 points, and Philadelphia pulled away to beat New Orleans.

A subplot of the season opener for both teams involved who wasn't playing. New Orleans was without star power forward Zion Williamson, who is recovering from surgery to repair his broken foot. The Sixers were missing disgruntled forward Ben Simmons, who was suspended one game for conduct detrimental to the team.

## Nuggets 110, Suns 98

In Phoenix, reigning NBA MVP Nikola Jokic had 27 points and 13 rebounds, leading Denver past Phoenix.

The 26-year-old Jokic earned his first MVP award last season after averaging 26.4 points, 10.8 rebounds and 8.3 assists per game. The Serbian was up to his old tricks Wednesday, scoring on a crafty variety of hook shots, 3-pointers and flat-footed jumpers. He was 13 of 22 from the field.



Boston Celtics' Marcus Smart (36) defends New York Knicks' Julius Randle (30) during the first half of an NBA basketball game, on Oct 20, in New York. (AP)

The Suns were playing three months after losing Game 6 of the NBA Finals to the Milwaukee Bucks. Phoenix has returned much of the same roster, including the All-Star backcourt of Chris Paul and Devin Booker, to make another run at the title.

The teams were playing for the first time since the Suns swept the Nuggets in four games in the second round of last season's Western Conference playoffs.

## Bulls 94, Pistons 88

In Detroit, Zach LaVine scored 15 of his 34 points in the third quarter, leading the Chicago past Detroit.

Detroit's Jerami Grant was off on an 11-foot baseline jumper with 50 seconds left, missing a chance to tie it. The Bulls sealed the victory by making free throws.

The Pistons were without rookie guard Cade Cunningham, the No. 1 overall pick, whose NBA debut was delayed by a sprained right ankle.

DeMar DeRozan had 17 points, and Lonzo Ball had 12 points in their Bulls debut. Nikola Vucevic had 10 points and 11 rebounds at halftime and finished with 15 points and 15 rebounds. Grant led the Pistons with 24 points.

## Grizzlies 122, Cavaliers 121

In Memphis, Tenn., Ja Morant had 37 points and six assists, De'Anthony Melton added 20 points and Memphis pulled away in the fourth quarter to beat Cleveland.

Morant and Melton combined for 14 points down the stretch as the Cavaliers pulled within a point on a couple

of occasions but could never overtake Memphis. Desmond Bane added 22 points for Memphis.

Jarrett Allen led the Cavaliers with 25 points, hitting all 11 of his shots from the field. Collin Sexton and rookie Evan Mobley added 17 points each. Cedi Osman, keyed a first-half burst and finished with 15.

## Wizards 98, Raptors 83

In Toronto, Bradley Beal scored 23 points, Montrezl Harrell had 22 in his Wizards debut and Washington spoiled Toronto's homecoming.

Kyle Kuzma — acquired with Harrell in the trade that sent Russell Westbrook to the Lakers — had 11 points and 15 rebounds for Washington. Spencer Dinwiddie, acquired from the Nets in the same four-team deal, scored 13 points for the Wizards, who led by as many as 29 points to give new coach Wes Unseld Jr. a victory in his first game.



Charlotte Hornets guard LaMelo Ball dunks against the Indiana Pacers during the first half of an NBA basketball game in Charlotte, N.C., on Oct. 20. (AP)

Fred VanVleet scored 12 points and rookie Scottie Barnes had 12 in his debut, but it was a disappointing performance for the Raptors, who played in Toronto for the first time since a Feb. 28, 2020, loss to Charlotte.

## Timberwolves 124, Rockets 106

In Minneapolis, Anthony Edwards energized the first full-size home crowd of his nascent career with 29 points in 31 minutes in Minnesota's victory over Houston.

Karl-Anthony Towns led Minnesota with 30 points and 10 rebounds, and D'Angelo Russell added 22 points and seven assists.

Christian Wood had 16 points and nine rebounds for Houston.

## Kings 124, Trail Blazers 121

In Portland, Ore., Harrison Barnes scored 36 points, De'Aaron Fox added 27 and Sacramento spoiled Portland's opener under new coach Chauncey Billups.

Richaun Holmes had 21 points and 11 rebounds for the Kings.

CJ McCollum led Portland with 32 points. Damian Lillard added 18 points and 11 assists.

## Jazz 107, Thunder 86

In Salt Lake City, Rudy Gobert had 16 points and 21 rebounds to lead Utah past Oklahoma City.

Bojan Bogdanovic led Utah with 22 points, and Jordan Clarkson added 18. Shai Gilgeous-Alexander scored 18 points for Oklahoma City.

## Spurs 123, Magic 97

In San Antonio, Devin Vassell scored 19 points, Lonnie Walker added 17 and San Antonio continued its success on opening night by dominating Orlando.

San Antonio is 23-2 in season openers under coach Gregg Popovich.

Mo Bamba had 18 points for Orlando.



Angelina Melnikova (center), of Russia, with her gold medal, Leanne Wong (left), of the US, with her silver medal, and Kayla DiCello, of the US, with her bronze medal, pose for a photo during the victory ceremony after the women's all-around finals in the FIG Artistic Gymnastics World Championships in Kitakyushu, western Japan, on Oct 21. (AP)

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