

## Canada rout Russia 7-0 in bronze medal game

## US edge Finland in shootout for gold after OT controversy



The US team pose with their gold medals during the medal ceremony after their 2-1 shootout victory in the IIHF Women's Ice Hockey World Championships final match between the United States and Finland in Espoo, Finland on April 14. (AP)

ESPOO, Finland, April 15, (AP): Alex Rigsby stopped four of five shots in a shootout and the United States beat Finland 2-1 on Sunday night for its fifth consecutive gold medal at the women's world championship.

The US won after a questionable goaltender interference review wiped out what would have been a historic overtime goal for the Finns.

Finland celebrated on home ice after Petra Nieminen scored on a rebound 11:33 into overtime, but officials spent more than 10 minutes reviewing the play before disallowing the goal for goalie interference and forcing players to pick up their equipment and resume the game. Fans who chanted "Suomi!" and waved blue and white flags throughout the game and erupted into jubilation after Nieminen appeared to score rained boos down on the Americans when they were given their medals.

"I'm extremely proud of our team tonight for playing their game while emotions were running high, in a loud building and against a team that played us incredibly hard," US coach Bob Corkum said. "It's been an honor to coach this team."

This was already a first for Finland, which pulled a stunning upset of Canada in the semifinals Saturday behind 43 saves from Noora Raty. The US and Canada had met in each of the previous 28 world championship finals dating to the first in 1990.

Finland was close to winning gold on home ice. Even after Nieminen's goal was disallowed for captain Jenni Hiirikoski making contact with Rigsby just outside the crease, the US had to kill off two Finland power plays in overtime of a thrilling game.

"This is the best Finnish team we've ever seen," said Rigsby, who made 26 saves before the shootout started and then denied Michelle Karvinen, Ronja Savolainen, Nieminen and Susanna Tapani to extend the Americans' gold-medal streak that dates to 2015.

Amanda Kessel and Annie

## ICE HOCKEY

Pankowski scored in the shootout against Raty, the best goaltender in the world, who made 50 saves in regulation and overtime. Pankowski scored the Americans' only goal in regulation in the second period, and Susanna Tapani answered 1:43 later for Finland.

Canada routed Russia 7-0 in the bronze-medal game earlier Sunday.

Controversy aside, this final was reminiscent in entertainment value and ending to the gold-medal game between the US and Canada at the 2018 Olympics in Pyeongchang. That game also went through overtime and into a shootout with Maddie Rooney in goal for the US when it beat Canada for the country's first women's hockey Olympic gold medal since 2002.

## Blue Jackets beat Lightning, take 3-0 playoff series lead

COLUMBUS, Ohio, April 15, (AP): The Columbus Blue Jackets extended their postseason mastery of the Tampa Bay Lightning, beating the NHL's best team 3-1 on Sunday night and moving to within a game of sweeping the playoff series.

Matt Duchene, Oliver Bjorkstrand and Cam Atkinson scored, and Sergei Bobrovsky fended off a desperate third-period charge to finish with 30 saves for the Blue Jackets, who took a 3-0 lead in the best-of-seven, first-round series. Columbus will try to win a playoff series for the first time in franchise history in Game 4 at home

## ICE HOCKEY

Tuesday night.

Without their top scorer, the suspended Nikita Kucherov, and injured defenseman Victor Hedman, the Lightning, who won a league-best 62 games in the regular season, couldn't find any momentum until late in the final period, and then Bobrovsky rose to the challenge. Ondrej Palat scored for Tampa Bay.

Columbus has commanded the series since they fell behind 3-0 in the opening period of Game 1, only to rally to win that one

## Stone powers Vegas past San Jose 6-3



Columbus Blue Jackets' Pierre-Luc Dubois (left), keeps the puck away from Tampa Bay Lightning's Tyler Johnson (center), and Braydon Coburn during the second period of Game 3 of the NHL hockey first-round playoff series on April 14 in Columbus, Ohio. (AP)

4-3. They beat the Lightning 5-1 in Game 2, and solidly outplayed them for all but a few minutes on Sunday.

## Golden Knights 6, Sharks 3

In Las Vegas, Mark Stone had three goals and two assists, and Vegas beat San Jose to take a 2-1 lead in its first-round playoff series.

Paul Stastny collected two goals and three assists as Vegas captured another high-scoring matchup with San Jose. Max

Pacioretty had a goal and an assist, defenseman Shea Theodore had three assists and Marc-Andre Fleury made 25 saves.

The Golden Knights and Sharks scored 15 times while splitting the first two games in San Jose. Game 4 of the best-of-seven series is Tuesday night in Las Vegas.

Kevin Labanc, Logan Couture and Tim Meier scored for San Jose, and Martin Jones stopped 34 shots.

Jets 6, Blues 3

In St Louis, Kyle Connor scored twice, Patrik Laine had a goal and an assist, and Winnipeg beat St Louis to climb back into its playoff series.

Winnipeg dropped the first two games by one goal, but got back on track in St Louis. Kevin Hayes, Brandon Tanev and Dustin Byfuglien also scored, and Connor Hellebuyck made 25 saves. Game 4 of the best-of-seven series is Tuesday night in St Louis.

David Perron, Vladimir Tarasenko and Alexander Steen scored for the Blues, and Jordan Binnington made 23 stops.

Islanders 4, Penguins 1  
In Pittsburgh, Jordan Eberle scored for the third straight game, Robin Lehner stopped 25 shots and New York stunned Pittsburgh to take a 3-0 lead in its best-of-seven, first-round playoffs series.

Brock Nelson added his second goal of the playoffs, Leo Komarov scored the first postseason goal of his career and Anders Lee also scored for the Islanders, who have pushed the star-laden Penguins to the brink of elimination.

Garrett Wilson scored Pittsburgh's lone goal, a first-period deflection past Lehner that gave the Penguins just their second lead of the series.

Matt Murray finished with 32 saves for the Penguins, who need a win in Game 4 on Tuesday to avoid being swept for the first time since the 2013 Eastern Conference finals against Boston.

## Politt finishes 2nd, Lampaert 3rd

## Gilbert claims Paris-Roubaix glory after velodrome sprint

ROUBAIX, April 15, (RTS): Belgian Philippe Gilbert added to his impressive haul when he claimed his fourth 'Monument' classic by mastering the cobbles to win the Paris-Roubaix on Sunday.

The former world champion, who has won the Tour of Lombardy twice, the Tour of Flanders and Liege-Bastogne-Liege, beat German Nils Politt (Katusha) in a sprint finish on the Roubaix velodrome with his team mate and compatriot Yves Lampaert coming home third.

The Milan-San Remo, in which he has twice finished third, is the only Monument one-day race he has not won.

## CYCLING

Rik Van Looy, Eddy Merckx and Roger De Vlaeminck have won all five Monuments while Ireland's Sean Kelly was the last man to win four in his career, when he won Milan-San Remo in 1986.

"It's hard to believe. I was ill before the Tour of Flanders last week but I trained very well and I was feeling the form was there," said Gilbert, the 2012 world champion, his face covered in sweat and dust.

"I've always wanted to win all the Monuments, and I'm getting closer now."

"A lot of people thought riding on the cobbles was too hard for me," added Gilbert, also a stage winner on the Tour de France, the Giro d'Italia and the Vuelta.

Gilbert was one of the main attackers of the day, making his first move about 70km from the finish.

There were six riders fighting for victory with 48km left after the 36-year-old Gilbert was joined by Politt, Wout van Aert, Peter Sagan, Sep Vanmarcke and Yves Lampaert.

One of the pre-race favourites, Belgian Tiesj Benoot, abandoned after crashing onto the rear window of a team car as he was chasing the pack following a mechanical problem.



Philippe Gilbert of Belgium kisses the cobblestone trophy after winning the 117th edition of the Paris-Roubaix cycling classic, a 257-kilometer (160-mile) one-day-race, with about 20 per cent of the distance over cobblestone roads, at the velodrome in Roubaix, northern France on April 14. (AP)

With Sagan expected to be the fastest in a sprint finish, his opponents tried to shake him off with Gilbert accelerating first 22km from the line.

The Slovak followed, as well as Politt, but the move was fatal for Van Aert, who paid for his efforts after a mechanical problem, a bike change and a crash earlier in the race. Lampaert and Vanmarcke closed the gap on a cobbled sector.

Gilbert brutally accelerated again on the Carrefour de l'Arbre, one of the most feared cobbled sectors, and Lampaert was immediately dropped.

In the Gruson sector, it was Politt who made his move with only Gilbert able to jump onto his wheel. With much more experience than his 25-year-old opponent, Gilbert easily won the sprint to give his team their second Monument title of the season after France's Julian Alaphilippe won Milan-San Remo last month.

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