



Final Four power rankings: How do remaining squads stack up?

SPORTS, 11A

News Journal WEEKEND

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1 rescued after U.S. jet downed over Iran

Thao Nguyen and Cybele Mayes-Osterman
USA TODAY

A search and rescue operation was underway April 3 for the crew of a U.S. fighter jet that was downed over Iran,

multiple news outlets reported.

One crew member was rescued, Israeli media said, citing Israeli officials.

Iranian officials called on civilians to be on the lookout for survivors. The governor of Iran's Kohgiluyeh and Boyer-Ahmad province said whoever captured

or killed the crew "would be specially commended," according to the semi-official Iranian news agency ISNA.

Nearly five weeks after the United States and Israel began conducting joint airstrikes on Iran, thousands of people have been killed across the Middle East,

and tens of thousands have been injured.

As of April 2, 13 U.S. service members have died – seven in Iranian attacks on U.S. bases in the region and six when

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Skirmish over replacing Bondi looming in Senate



Former Attorney General Pam Bondi's replacement will have to answer for changes at the traditionally apolitical Justice Department. KEVIN DIETSCH/GETTY IMAGES FILE

Some in GOP critical of DOJ's recent actions

Zachary Schermele
USA TODAY

Pam Bondi is out at the Justice Department. And all roads to replace her lead through one place: the U.S. Senate.

The impending political brawl on Capitol Hill to supplant the embattled attorney general, fired by President Donald Trump on April 2, is already getting underway.

For a number of reasons, it won't be

easy or quiet, regardless of whom Trump chooses to permanently take her place.

Fury over the Justice Department's handling of the Jeffrey Epstein files has spread like wildfire in Congress among lawmakers in both parties.

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Grads find challenging job market

Rachel Barber
USA TODAY

In 2025, new college graduates wanted remote, high-paying jobs that aligned with their values. In 2026, they just want a job.

With 89% worrying artificial intelligence could replace entry-level roles – up from 64% last year – 67% of graduates now say they would accept a lower-paying position if it offered more job security, Monster's 2026 State of the Graduate Report found.

"They do not want to be 'the last one in, first one out' of their new job," Monster career expert Vicki Salemi said, adding that young people are noticing waves of corporate layoffs. "They really want to feel like they're going to be in a job for the long term."

An April 2 Challenger, Gray & Christmas report may have confirmed some of their fears. It found employers announced 60,620 layoffs in March – up 25% from February – with AI adoption the primary reason behind the cuts.

Overall, the U.S. economy added 178,000 jobs in March, the Bureau of Labor Statistics estimated April 3 – a figure well above forecasters' expectations. This news comes after the revised jobs report for February showed a loss of 133,000 jobs. The return to work in March of about 31,000 striking Kaiser Permanente health care workers accounts for some of the rebound.

The unemployment rate ticked down to 4.3% in March from 4.4% in February.

Andrew Stettner, senior director of economic security at the National Employment Law Project, said the report is a positive bounce back from February, but that it doesn't change the labor

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