Round 2

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — North Korea has fired possibly its biggest-yet intercontinental ballistic missile toward the sea, raising the ante in a pressure campaign aimed at forcing the US and other rivals to accept it as a nuclear power and remove crippling sanctions. The launch extended North Korea's barrage of tests this year. Japan's Prime Minister Fumio Kishida told reporters the missile possibly landed near Japanese territorial waters off the northern island of Hokkaido, calling the launch "an unforgivable recklessness." South Korea criticized North Korean leader Kim Jong Un for breaking a self-imposed moratorium on ICBM tests and responded with live-fire drills of its own missiles launched from land vehicles, a ship and aircraft.

NEW YORK (AP) — New York city's mayor will announce Thursday that he's exempting athletes and performers from the city's vaccine mandate for private workers. The move will allow Brooklyn Nets star Kyrie Irving to play home games, and let unvaccinated baseball players take the field when their season begins. According to a person familiar with the upcoming announcement who was not authorized to discuss it publicly, Mayor Eric Adams will make the announcement Thursday morning. It will be effective immediately. The city's sweeping vaccine mandate for workers will still apply to people with other types of jobs, including government employees.

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Joe Biden is in Brussels to meet with key allies and coordinate a stronger response to Russia's assault on Ukraine. But a new poll shows Americans have yet to rally around Biden's leadership. Concern about Russia has swelled and support for a major U.S. role in the conflict strengthened in the last month. But Biden's negative approval rating has not budged. That's according to the poll Thursday from The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research. Few are very confident that he can handle a crisis, and a majority thinks he lacks toughness in dealing with Russia.

GENEVA (AP) — Swiss police say four people have been found dead at the foot of a building in the lakeside city of Montreux. A fifth person is hospitalized in serious condition. Swiss daily newspaper Blick cited an unidentified police official who said that the five had jumped from a building. A spokesperson for the Vaud regional police told The Associated Press that they were found at about 7 a.m. Thursday outside a building near the city's famed Casino Barriere. He declined to provide further details and said he couldn't immediately confirm Blick's report. Montreux is known as a tourist hot spot and in particular for its annual jazz festival.

WUZHOU, China (AP) — Hundreds of people in rain gear and rubber boots are searching muddy, forested hills in southern China for the second flight recorder from a jetliner that crashed with 132 people aboard. No survivors have been found since the China Eastern Airlines Boeing 737-800 dived into a mountainous area Monday, but authorities say they still are looking. Officials said some human remains and engine parts were found, as well as items from the cockpit and some belonging to passengers. One of two black box recorders, believed to be the cockpit voice recorder, was found Wednesday. China Eastern, one of China's four major airlines, said 223 Boeing 737-800 aircraft have been grounded while possible safety hazards are investigated.

MADISON, Wis. (AP) — A judge is again voicing frustration that Wisconsin Assembly Speaker Robin Vos has not produced emails and text messages related to the investigation he ordered into the 2020 presidential election. Dane County Circuit Judge Valerie Bailey-Rihn told Vos's attorney on Wednesday that her patience was wearing thin as Vos has yet to produce deleted emails and other messages sought in the lawsuit brought by liberal watchdog group American Oversight. Also this week, Vos floated the idea of rescinding subpoenas he issued as part of the Gableman investigation, a move that could lead to the end of the probe.

MILWAUKEE (AP) — A new study shows Wisconsin's housing market is strong with the total value of homes and other property sold in 2021 increasing at the fastest rate in about 15 years. The Wisconsin Policy Forum study says revenue from fees on real estate sales totaled more than \$132 million during the fiscal year ending June 30. That compares with nearly \$97 million in revenue for the prior fiscal year. The nonpartisan civic group's report says the 2021 real estate market was driven by historically low mortgage rates. The Wisconsin Realtors Association says other factors include strong demand from millennials reaching ages in which people often buy homes, along with a limited supply of homes.

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Police say they have arrested two girls in the abduction of a baby in Milwaukee that prompted an Amber Alert this week. The Milwaukee Police Department said in a statement Thursday that a 14-year-old girl and a 16-year-old girl are suspected of taking the three-month-old baby identified as Anthony Crudup Jr. The child's mother called police about 2 a.m. Wednesday to report the child's disappearance. She said a number of people were at her home when she fell asleep and when she woke up they and the baby were gone. Police searched the neighborhood and an investigation led them to a residence blocks away where the baby was found unharmed about 1 p.m.

OSSEO, Wis. (WEAU) - Interstate 94 is reopened after a grass fire closed the eastbound lanes from Northfield to Osseo Tuesday afternoon. The closure, which lasted about an hour and a half, backed up traffic for over a mile as crews worked to put out the fire along the Interstate Tuesday. According to Hixton Fire and Rescue, the fire burned about four acres and began in the median of the Interstate. A semi and a car crashed, blocking traffic, but no injuries were reported. The initial closure began at Highway 121 near Northfield in Jackson County at 3:31 p.m. Traffic was diverted at Highway 10 in Osseo to go around the fire. Fire danger in most of Wisconsin was listed as "high" by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources on Tuesday.

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — The Sweet 16 matchup between Duke and Texas Tech features a stark contrast in coaching paths. The Blue Devils' Mike Krzyzewski is the most accomplished coach of his era and is seeking to end his Hall of Fame career with his sixth national title. The Red Raiders' Mark Adams got to this stage in his first season as a major college head coach after several stops at lower-level schools. But Adams has a chance to send Krzyzewski into retirement. Top-seeded Gonzaga faces fourth-seeded Arkansas in the other West Region semifinal.

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Giannis Antetokounmpo says the absence of Brook Lopez for much of the season has caused the Milwaukee Bucks to appreciate the 7-foot veteran on a whole new level. Lopez is back with the Bucks after missing 67 games due to a back injury that required surgery. He returned to the starting lineup Tuesday in a 126-98 home victory over the Chicago Bulls after coming off the bench for three games. The return of Lopez and the addition of veteran center Serge Ibaka at the trade deadline give the defending champions the frontcourt depth they lacked for much of the season.

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. (AP) — Cornerback Malcolm Butler is returning to the New England Patriots, where he went from Super Bowl star to the bench. His agent says Butler accepted a two-year deal worth up to \$9 million. The 32-year-old Butler sat out last season for personal reasons and was placed on the reserve/retired list by the Cardinals.

Washington County Golf Course: 30

DUST OFF THOSE GOLF CLUBS AND GET OUT TO PLAY THIS WEEK AT WASHINGTON COUNTY GOLF COURSE IN HARTFORD. WASHINGTON COUNTY IS RATED 4½ STARS BY GOLF DIGEST MAKING IT A COURSE THAT IS AS CHALLENGING AS IT IS BEAUTIFUL. SECLUDED IN THE HEART OF WISCONSIN'S KETTLE MORAINE, WASHINGTON COUNTY IS DESIGNED FOR GOLFERS OF ALL LEVELS WITH THREE PRACTICE HOLES, DRIVING RANGE AND A SHORT GAME AREA. BOOK YOUR TEE TIME NOW AT GOLF-WCGC DOT COM AND ENJOY THE NUMBER ONE RANKED MUNICIPAL GOLF COURSE IN WISCONSIN. WASHINGTON COUNTY GOLF COURSE — GOLFWCGC DOT COM.

Today

A 30 percent chance of showers before 7am. Sunny, with a high near 88. Breezy, with a west northwest wind 15 to 20 mph increasing to 20 to 25 mph in the morning. Winds could gust as high as 30 mph.

Tonight

Clear, with a low around 47. West northwest wind 5 to 15 mph becoming east northeast after midnight. Winds could gust as high as 20 mph.

Tomorrow

Sunny, with a high near 87. North northeast wind 5 to 10 mph becoming southwest in the morning.

Tomorrow Night

Mostly clear, with a low around 49. East wind 10 to 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

RADAUTI, Romania (AP) — It isn't just foreigners and families that have become refugees since Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Two animals have been evacuated from a zoo in Ukraine — and brought to safety in Romania. An adult male lion named Simba and a wolf named Akyla were taken from the country in what an animal rights group says was part of a four-day mission "full of dangers." Those dangers didn't only involve making their way past combatants and crossing the border. Both the lion and the wolf were fully awake during the journey — because there's a lack of tranquilizers in Ukraine. The animals will first quarantine in their new digs and after being on display a while, they will be relocated to sanctuaries.

BERLIN (AP) — It's said culture and the arts can unite people in times of trouble and nowhere is that more true than in a situation playing out in Berlin. Dancers who have fled both Ukraine and Russia are making temporary homes in Berlin as Ukraine tries to repel Russia's invasion. So far, about 200 dancers have contacted Berlin's top ballet company, the State Ballet. As they make their way to the German dance community, refugees from both lands are helped to find food, shelter and housing — as well as dance shoes and space to practice. A director of the ballet says one of the most important things for the refugees is to maintain a regular dance routine, even if they have no public performances. The Berlin ballet company is checking elsewhere in Europe for places where refugee dancers can be relocated.

WAUSAU, Wis. (WSAW) - Local photographer Dave Junion is giving students with special needs a chance to shine for a good cause. Junion is doing individual photo shoots for students with disabilities. "A lot of students have never experienced this and they just feel so special," said Trish Masanz, the transition program support teacher at Wausau School District. Masanz said the experience gives students their fifteen minutes of fame. The pictures will be turned into professional posters and displayed at a community disability resource fair on Monday, April 4.