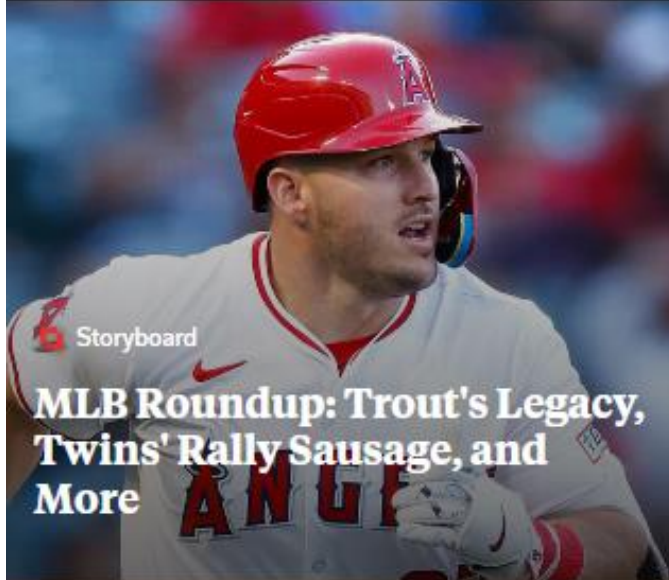




# 2024 Major League Baseball Storyboards

By Mike Kord  
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Flipboard





Storyboard

## MLB Roundup: Trout's Legacy, Twins' Rally Sausage, and More

Curated by  
The Sports Desk

Mike Trout hasn't played more than 140 games in a season since 2018, and the slugger's string of bad breaks took another downward turn with his torn meniscus diagnosis this week. Once on a trajectory for baseball's most elite echelon, Trout's injuries are carving into his Hall of Fame legacy. Here's a rundown of MLB news, including Shota Imanaga's scintillating first month, Paul Skenes' drawn-out wait for his big-league debut, and the spicy mascot inspiring the Twins' 10-game win streak.



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## Jac Caglianone Ties NCAA Record With 9th HR in Nine Games

Curated by  
The Sports Desk

Pitchers haven't been able to keep Caglianone in the yard since April 5. His nine homers in nine games not only tied an NCAA mark, the barrage has given the junior pitcher and first baseman 23 bombs through just 38 games heading into Saturday's matchup with Vanderbilt. Here's more on Caglianone's monster season, including where he could go in the MLB draft. Plus, Arkansas lefty Hagan Smith approaches a milestone. And why haven't the Pirates called up 2023 No. 1 pick Paul Skenes?



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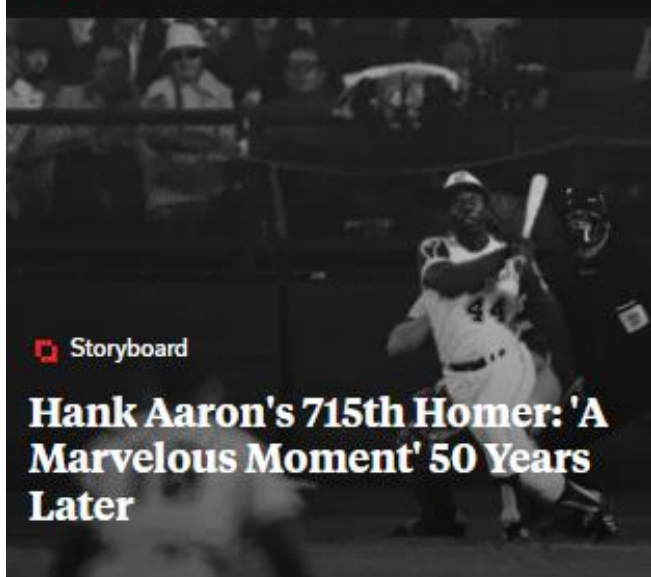
## Is MLB's Pitch Clock to Blame for Rise in Elbow Injuries?

Curated by  
The Sports Desk

Over about 48 hours, three of the game's top hurlers all went down with the same UCL injury and will miss the rest of the season. Union chief Tony Clark pointed the finger at the pitch clock. But, veteran writer Tom Verducci says, "This is the only fact you need to know about why pitchers are breaking down: The ulnar collateral ligament cannot withstand the torque modern pitchers are imposing on it. It's that simple." From data to velo to coaching, here's how a big problem has developed.



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## Hank Aaron's 715th Homer: 'A Marvelous Moment' 50 Years Later

Curated by The Sports Desk

On April 8, 1974, Aaron broke Babe Ruth's all-time home run record with a history-making drive over the left-field fence. Famed announcer Vin Scully, at his poetic finest, captured it best: "What a marvelous moment for baseball. What a marvelous moment for Atlanta and the state of Georgia. What a marvelous moment for the country and the world. A Black man is getting a standing ovation in the Deep South for breaking a record of an all-time baseball idol."

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## Biggest Moments From MLB's 2024 Opening Day

Curated by The Sports Desk

Angels outfielder Mike Trout slugged the day's first home run, then Baltimore's new ace Corbin Burnes struck out 11 en route to an Orioles' 11-3 win over the Shohei Ohtani-less Angels. Yes, there was great hitting, dominant pitching and an array of defensive gems, like Juan Soto's laser from right field, on an opening day that had it all. Here's what to know. Plus, if you've noticed that your team's designated hitter lacks production, you're not alone. Why low DH output is a leaguwide trend.

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## Unpacking the Gambling Fiasco Hitting Close to Shohei Ohtani

Curated by The Sports Desk

Did the Dodgers superstar pay a massive amount of money to cover the illegal gambling debts of his friend and interpreter, Ippei Mizuhara? Or, did Mizuhara, who has since been fired, steal the money? These are just two questions circulating after authorities found Ohtani's name on two wire payments to an associate of Matthew Bowyer, an alleged illegal bookie at the center of a federal investigation. Here's what to know about this latest controversy in a sport with a history of gambling scandals.

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## MLB 2024 Preview: A Season With Seoul

Curated by  
The Sports Desk

There's no crying in baseball, but there could be some yawning. At least among sleepy stateside fans tuning in early Wednesday for the Seoul Series season opener. The two-game set between the Dodgers and Padres is one of four international series in 2024. Here's everything you need to get ready for the new season, including power rankings, division previews, and Shohei Ohtani's recovery from elbow surgery. Plus, World Series picks, top players, new rules, and more.



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## MLB Roundup: Optimism For All 30 Teams

Curated by  
The Sports Desk

Spring is three weeks away, which may be the best time of the year for a baseball fan. If you're team signed, say, Shohei Ohtani, visions of a World Series title dance through your head. If your team lost 112 games in 2023 and, for instance, made plans to bolt for Vegas, well it can't get any worse, right? Here's a reason for optimism for all 30 clubs. Plus, underrated players ready to explode, imagining MLB expansion, and the latest on the much-derided new uniforms.



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## Dodgers Build Superteam With \$1B Deals

Curated by  
The Sports Desk

With the free agent signings of Shohei Ohtani and Yoshinobu Yamamoto, the Dodgers have built a superteam that will certainly rattle off 120-plus wins en route to the franchise's second World Series title since 2020, right? Not quite. ESPN's Jeff Passan spells out why clubs loaded with high-priced stars have often fallen short in the wildcard era. Plus, all the details on Yamamoto's contract and why neither New York team could land the star pitcher.