

# STARS AND STRIPES®

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A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

stripes.com

## Chief petty officer ran prostitution ring

BY ROSE L. THAYER

*Stars and Stripes*

As a Navy counselor, Joseph Fetterman was tasked with mentoring young, enlisted sailors at Tinker Air Force Base near Oklahoma City. For at least four years, the petty officer first class spent his days at the air force base helping sailors map out a career path, plan for retirement and weigh their options for rate changes.

But during at least his final year in that job, Fetterman, 35, was enhancing his military pay with cash flow from a prostitution ring that he and his wife, Kanyarat, operated using women flown to America from Thailand, according to documents released by the Oklahoma County District Attorney's Office.

Using undercover agents, local law enforcement linked the couple to online advertisements, a massage parlor and multiple apartments in the Oklahoma City area used for

prostitution. The Fettermans eventually pleaded guilty in November to multiple charges related to prostitution and received deferred sentences of two years, meaning that as long as they stay out of trouble, neither will serve jail time.

But Fetterman, who was stationed with the Fleet Air Reconnaissance Squadron (VQ) 3, Sea Duty Component at the air force base, was discharged from the Navy on Dec. 5. Service officials would not comment on his discharge.

Fetterman was first stationed at Tinker's Strategic Communications Wing 1 from 2006 to 2009. He returned to one of the wing's squadrons in October 2010, remaining at the base with the exception of one month of training in 2014 at Norfolk, Va.

The Navy's presence is small at Tinker, with about 1,700 active-duty personnel. As a squadron counselor, Fetterman would have helped many of the

500 sailors assigned to the unit navigate their next move in the Navy.

During his time there, Fetterman married, divorced and then remarried Kanyarat, whose family is originally from Thailand. Their most recent marriage license was filed in February 2017, according to Oklahoma County court records.

The first evidence of their prostitution ring appeared just seven months later, according to authorities.

In the Oklahoma City police investigation of the Fettermans, detectives arranged to meet a woman through a website known for prostitution in September 2017, according to district attorney records. When the undercover agent arrived at the apartment, a woman offered to perform sexual acts with the agent for \$160. The apartment was leased to Kanyarat Fetterman.

Police conducted similar

stings in February and March 2018 with two more women at two other apartments leased by Kanyarat Fetterman. At one apartment, detectives found business cards for Bangkok Traditional Thai Massage in nearby Del City, Okla. Kanyarat Fetterman was listed as the sole proprietor of the business, which was closed at some point during the investigation for code violations, according to records.

The women arrested for prostitution told investigators that they had seen Kanyarat and Joseph Fetterman come to collect money from them and at the massage parlor and often driving a new Chevy Camaro.

In April 2018, Kanyarat Fetterman was observed at the Will Rogers World Airport in Oklahoma City picking up a woman that investigators believed to be from Thailand. The woman and her luggage were brought to the massage parlor, the report stated.

## Navy SEAL to become 6th Fleet master chief

BY SCOTT WYLAND

*Stars and Stripes*

NAPLES, Italy — A Navy SEAL will become a fleet master chief for only the second time in the service's history this spring when Master Chief Petty Officer Derrick Walters takes the post at Naval Forces Europe and Africa.

Walters, now the force master chief for Naval Special Warfare headquarters in Coronado, Calif., will replace retiring Master Chief Petty Officer Raymond Kemp, who has been fleet master chief since August 2016.

"He (Walters) is a proven leader who brings a tremendous and very unique wealth of experience and will advocate for our sailors and their families serving overseas," Adm. James Foggo, Naval Forces Europe and Africa commander, said in a statement.

Walters is just the second Navy SEAL to be a fleet master chief. The first was Master Chief Petty Officer Roy Maddocks while at European Command, 2009-13.

Born in Atlantic City, N.J., in 1969 and raised in New York City, Walters initially struggled to pass the SEAL entry test

because of his poor swimming skills at boot camp in Orlando, Fla., according to a 2015 Navy profile.

"There I was, doggy paddling. And the guys had already done one lap and I had only moved 20 yards. I said, This is not good.' When the time had elapsed, I had only gone 100 yards, so I did not pass," Walters said of the 500-meter swim test. "I crushed everyone else at the other events."

Eventually, he passed even the swimming portion. After intelligence specialist school in Virginia Beach, Va., he completed Basic Underwater

Demolition/SEAL training, graduating in 1988.

Walters served with SEAL Teams 2 and 8 and was later operations and command master chief for SEAL Team 2 and senior enlisted adviser for Naval Special Warfare's Group 2 training detachment. Based in Little Creek, Va., NSW Group 2, the East Coast component of the Naval Special Warfare Command, concentrates geographically on Europe, Africa, the Atlantic and South America. SEAL Teams 2 and 8, deployable squadrons of the Navy's elite troops, fall under NSW Group 2.

# 2 sailors sentenced in a drug ring probe

BY CAITLIN DOORNBOS  
*Stars and Stripes*

YOKOSUKA NAVAL BASE, Japan — Two sailors who worked with the USS Ronald Reagan's nuclear reactor were sentenced after pleading guilty last month to charges stemming from a 2018 investigation into a drug ring that involved 15 sailors.

Petty Officer 2nd Class Ethan D. Strandberg and Petty Officer 2nd Class Andrew W. Miller, both nuclear machinist mates, were reduced in rank to E-1 and discharged from the Navy for bad conduct in exchange for pleading guilty to drug distribution charges. Both must also serve short terms in confinement.

According to a Dec. 7 pretrial agreement, Strandberg pleaded guilty to one count of conspiracy to distribute controlled substances and two counts of wrongful use or possession of controlled substances.

Strandberg admitted to conspiring with another person to distribute methylenedioxy-methamphetamine — also known as MDMA or ecstasy — while “onboard the USS Ronald Reagan and at or near

Yokosuka, Yokohama and Tokyo, Japan” between January 2017 and February 2018.

The second person's name was redacted.

Miller pleaded guilty to one count of wrongful use or possession of controlled substances. He admitted in a Dec. 13 pretrial agreement that he'd distributed lysergic acid diethylamide, or LSD, several times near Yokosuka between January 2017 and February 2018.

As part of their plea agreements, Strandberg will spend 60 days in confinement and Miller will spend 30 days in confinement, according to Naval Forces Japan spokeswoman Cmdr. Reann Mommsen.

Three more Ronald Reagan sailors await court hearings in connection with this case. As part of their plea agreements, Strandberg and Miller agreed to testify against codefendants if called upon.

The third defendant, Petty Officer 2nd Class Sean Gevero, a nuclear electrician's mate, is awaiting a special court-martial on a charge of wrongful use or possession of controlled substances, Mommsen said.

# Afghan interpreter for US detained at Houston airport

*The Washington Post*

KABUL, Afghanistan — A former interpreter for U.S. troops in Afghanistan was detained Friday after arriving at a Houston airport with his family and threatened with deportation back to Kabul, a legal service advocacy group said, in a move that could jeopardize his life.

Mohasif Motawakil, 48, was detained by Customs and Border Protection. The agency allowed his wife and five children to be released at 10 p.m. Friday following pressure from lawmakers, said William Fitzgerald, a spokesman for the Refugee and Immigrant Center for Education and Legal Services.

An attorney for RAICES is representing Motawakil.

Motawakil served as an interpreter for U.S. troops from 2012 to 2013, and later as a U.S. contractor, Fitzgerald said. He and his family had been granted special immigrant visas allotted for Afghans and Iraqis who supported U.S. war efforts and were endangered because of their work, usually by the Taliban and other militants who consider them traitors and prize their capture. The Special Immigrant Visa process takes years for many applicants, who must get letters of support from

U.S. officials to vouch for them and must demonstrate their lives have been imperiled.

Someone, potentially in the family, opened sealed medical records, prompting CBP to detain the family over concerns the records could have been “faked,” Fitzgerald told *The Washington Post*. “Then [CBP] said they would be deported,” he said, adding that the family is “confused and traumatized” over the ordeal.

“The father remains detained, and his wife and children were allowed into the U.S. pending the outcome of his proceedings,” the agency said in a statement Saturday.

A State Department information page instructs immigrants not to open their sealed document packet, but it does not suggest why or warn immigrants about potential consequences. It was not clear why or how the packet was opened.

An attorney for RAICES has not been able to meet with Motawakil, Fitzgerald said.

“How unjust that this Afghan family, who helped our military, is in same airport as counsel — & yet have been walled off from one another,” Rep. Lloyd Doggett, D-Texas, said on Twitter.

# Sacked sub commander hired 10 prostitutes in Philippines

*Stars and Stripes*

The commander of a fast-attack submarine was relieved of his duties last summer after admitting he paid for “female accompaniment” during a stop in the Philippines, a Washington state newspaper reported Friday.

Capt. Travis Zettel, who lost his job aboard the USS Bremerton in late August because of “a loss in confidence in his ability to command,” was reassigned

to the Submarine Squadron 19 staff at Naval Base Kitsap-Bangor, Navy officials said at the time.

The Kitsap Sun, of Bremerton, Wash. — where the Bremerton began its decommissioning last spring — based its report on documents received through a Freedom of Information Act request.

During the submarine's March visit to Subic Bay, Philippines, Zettel was seen with 10 “provocatively dressed females

outside the front door of [his] hotel,” a sailor told the Naval Criminal Investigative Service after calling an inspector general hotline, according to the newspaper.

The tipster said Zettel told him and another sailor that he'd “ordered 10 girls,” the report said. Another sailor told investigators he saw Zettel walking around and talking to other sailors in his command with “three local females holding onto his arm.”

The newspaper said NCIS agents later confronted Zettel with the allegations and that he “admitted culpability in the payment of female accompaniment.”

During the incident, the Bremerton — then based at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam — was on the final patrol of its nearly four-decade career. The Navy's oldest active submarine left Hawaii on April 20 for Bremerton to be decommissioned.

# President avoids question on his possible work with Russia

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump avoided giving a direct answer when asked if he currently is or has ever worked for Russia after a published report said federal law enforcement officials were so concerned about his behavior after he fired James Comey from the FBI that they began investigating whether Trump had been working for the U.S. adversary against American interests.

Trump said it was the “most insulting” question he’d ever been asked.

The New York Times report Friday cited unnamed former law enforcement officials and others familiar with the investigation.

Trump responded to the report Saturday during a telephone interview broadcast on Fox News Channel after host Jeanine Pirro, who is also a

personal friend of the president, asked whether he is currently or has ever worked for Russia.

“I think it’s the most insulting thing I’ve ever been asked,” Trump said. “I think it’s the most insulting article I’ve ever had written, and if you read the article you’ll see that they found absolutely nothing.”

Trump never answered Pirro’s question directly but went on to say that no president has taken a harder stance against Russia than he has.

“If you ask the folks in Russia, I’ve been tougher on Russia than anybody else, any other ... probably any other president, period, but certainly the last three or four presidents.”

The Times reported that FBI agents and some top officials became suspicious of Trump’s ties to Russia during the 2016 presidential campaign but didn’t open an investigation at that time because they weren’t

sure how to approach such a sensitive and important probe, according to the unnamed officials. But Trump’s behavior in the days around Comey’s May 2017 firing as FBI director, specifically two instances in which he seemed to tie Comey’s ousting to the Russia investigation, helped trigger the counterintelligence part of the investigation, according to the newspaper.

In the inquiry, counterintelligence investigators sought to evaluate whether Trump was a potential threat to national security. They also sought to determine whether Trump was deliberately working for Russia or had unintentionally been influenced by Moscow.

Trump tweeted early Saturday that the report showed that the FBI leadership “opened up an investigation on me, for no reason & with no proof” after he had fired Comey.

## Jet slides off Ohio taxiway as fatal storm roars east

USA Today

A jet slid off a taxiway in Cincinnati, an interstate was shut down in Indiana and power outages climbed in North Carolina as a deadly winter storm roared east across the nation Sunday.

Three deaths were reported in Missouri and two in Kansas. More than 35 million people from Ohio to Washington remained under winter storm advisories or warnings Sunday, the National Weather Service reported.

At Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport, Delta flight 1708 arrived Sunday from Las Vegas and after landing safely, slid off the pavement of a taxiway on its way to the terminal, airport officials said on Twitter. No injuries were reported.

The northbound lanes of Interstate 65 in northern Indiana were shut down for hours late Saturday after a semitrailer jackknifed along the snow-covered highway about 65 miles northwest of Indianapolis.

The storm dumped up to 20 inches of snow on parts of Missouri. A woman and her 14-year-old stepdaughter died after their car slid into a semitrailer in Clinton, about 80 miles southeast of Kansas City, the Missouri State Highway Patrol said.

By Sunday, the storm had shifted toward the Carolinas, Virginia and the District of Columbia area, where 5 to 10 inches of snow was expected, according to the National Weather Service. The weather prediction center said freezing rain will also be a concern in parts of the mid-Atlantic.

In North Carolina, ice was the issue. The National Weather Service warned locals to be aware of “downed trees and power lines along with hazardous roads.” More than 130,000 homes and businesses were without power across the state Sunday morning.

## Former housing chief joins 2020 campaign

Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO — Assailing President Donald Trump for “a crisis of leadership,” former Obama Cabinet member Julian Castro joined the 2020 presidential race Saturday as the rush of Democrats making early moves to challenge the incumbent accelerates.

Castro, who could end up being the only Latino in what is shaping up to be a crowded Democratic field, made immigration a centerpiece of his announcement in his hometown of San Antonio, less than 200 miles from the U.S.-Mexico border.

Two days after the president visited the border to promote his promised wall, Castro mocked Trump for claiming that the U.S. faces an “invasion” from its ally to the south. “He

called it a national security crisis,” Castro said. “Well, there is a crisis today. It’s a crisis of leadership. Donald Trump has failed to uphold the values of our great nation.”

Castro, 44, the grandson of a Mexican immigrant, said he was running for president “because it’s time for new leadership, because it’s time for new energy and it’s time for a new commitment to make sure that the opportunities that I’ve had are available to every American.”

Castro was San Antonio’s mayor for five years and U.S. housing secretary in President Barack Obama’s second term. He became the second Democrat to formally enter the race, after former Maryland Rep. John Delaney.

Castro is getting an early

start in trying to stand out. His first trip as a candidate comes Monday, to hurricane-ravaged Puerto Rico where an outcry has begun as the White House considers diverting disaster funding to pay for the wall.

The impasse over paying for a border wall that Trump made a central part of his 2016 campaign has led to the partial federal closure. That stalemate, along with Trump’s hard-line immigration stands, drew sharp rebukes from Castro.

“There are serious issues that need to be addressed in our broken immigration system, but seeking asylum is a legal right. And the cruel policies of this administration are doing real and lasting harm,” he said.

# Pompeo urges end to dispute with Qatar

Associated Press

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia — U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said Sunday an ongoing boycott of Qatar by four of America's allies in the Middle East "has dragged on too long," though he gave no sign of any coming breakthrough in the dispute.

Stopping off in the small, energy-rich nation as part of a Mideast tour, America's top diplomat made a repeated point to say that "great things" were happening between Qatar and the United States.

"We're all more powerful when we're working together," Pompeo said at a news conference. "Disputes between

countries that have a shared objective are never helpful."

Pompeo said he signed a memorandum of understanding with Qatar regarding the expansion and renovation of al-Udeid Air Base, which hosts the forward headquarters of the U.S. military's Central Command and some 10,000 American troops.

However, comments by Pompeo and Qatari Foreign Minister Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al Thani gave no sense of any movement in the ongoing diplomatic crisis with Doha.

Bahrain, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates began a boycott of Qatar in June 2017, alleging Qatar

funds extremist groups and has too-cozy ties to Iran. Qatar has long denied funding extremists, but Doha shares a massive offshore natural gas field with Tehran that gives its citizens the highest per-capita income in the world.

It restored diplomatic relations with Iran after the crisis erupted, marking a setback for Saudi Arabia, which views the Shiite power Iran as its main regional rival.

Earlier this month, Gen. Anthony Zinni, a former commander of U.S. Central Command who retired from the Marine Corps in 2000, resigned as special American envoy to resolve the dispute. Regional analysts suggested

it may be in part due to the intransigence of those involved in the crisis.

"The departure of Mr. Zinni in no way reflects any change in America's Middle East efforts, our strategy or our ongoing commitment to the region," Pompeo said. "It was a time for change. He made this decision to move on, but America's commitment remains unchanged."

From Qatar, Pompeo travels to Saudi Arabia on his Mideast tour. The relationship between Riyadh and Washington remains tense following the October assassination of Washington Post columnist Jamal Khashoggi at the Saudi Consulate in Istanbul.

## Snowstorm leaves 3 dead in German avalanche

Associated Press

BERLIN — Three German skiers were killed in an avalanche in Austria and a fourth is missing, police said Sunday as snowfall set in again in the northern Alps.

The bodies of the men, aged 57, 36 and 32, were recovered Saturday evening near the ski resort of Lech, a few hours

after the wife of one of the skiers reported them missing. Police in Vorarlberg, Austria's westernmost province, said they had to call off the search for another missing German skier in the group, age 28, because of heavy snow and the risk of avalanches.

The avalanche brings to at least 24 the number of weather-related deaths reported in parts

of Europe this month.

On Saturday, authorities in southern Germany and Austria used a break in the weather to clear heavy loads of snow from roofs and roads.

But snow set in again on Saturday night.

In the Bavarian town of Kempten, local authorities closed 11 sports halls as a precaution through Tuesday be-

cause the weight of snow on their roofs was expected to increase, the German news agency dpa reported.

Trains on part of the route between the German cities of Munich and Lindau, on Lake Constance near the Austrian border, were traveling more slowly than usual because of a risk that trees weighed down by snow could fall onto the tracks.

## Young Saudi woman who fled finds home in Canada

Associated Press

TORONTO — Tired but smiling, an 18-year-old Saudi woman who said she feared death if deported back home arrived Saturday in Canada, which offered her asylum in a case that attracted global attention after she mounted a social media campaign.

"This is Rahaf Alqunun, a very brave new Canadian," Foreign Minister Chrystia Freeland said arm-in-arm with the Saudi woman in Toronto's airport.

Rahaf Mohammed Alqunun smiled broadly as she exited

an airport arrival door sporting a Canada zipper hoodie and a U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees hat, capping a dramatic week that saw her flee her family while visiting Kuwait and before flying to Bangkok. Once there, she barricaded herself in an airport hotel to avoid deportation and tweeted about her situation.

On Friday, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced that Canada would accept Alqunun as a refugee. Her situation has highlighted the cause of women's rights in Saudi Arabia, where several women fleeing

abuse by their families have been caught trying to seek asylum abroad in recent years and returned home.

Freeland said Alqunun preferred not to take questions Saturday.

"She is obviously very tired after a long journey and she preferred to go and get settled," Freeland said. "But it was Rahaf's choice to come out and say hello to Canadians. She wanted Canadians to see that she's here, that she's well and that she's very happy to be in her new home."

After arriving she was off to

get winter clothes, said Mario Calla, executive director of COSTI Immigrant Services, which is helping her settle in temporary housing and applying for a health card.

Alqunun flew to Toronto via Seoul, South Korea, according to Thai immigration Police Chief Surachate Hakparn. Alqunun tweeted two pictures from her plane seat — one with what appears to be a glass of wine and her passport and another holding her passport while on the plane with the hashtag "I did it" and the emojis showing a plane, hearts and a wine glass.

# AMERICAN ROUNDUP

## Worker survives being buried alive

**FL** GAINESVILLE — A Florida construction worker is recovering after being buried alive.

An unidentified construction worker fell into a 30-foot hole and was completely covered by dirt Thursday.

Gainesville fire rescuers used shovels and hands to dig through the dirt until they found the worker's head.

Rescuers said he was breathing but not conscious. He regained consciousness as they uncovered him, and crews used a harness and ropes to free him.

## New calf born to endangered orcas

**WA** SEATTLE — Researchers said there's a new calf among the population of critically endangered killer whales that live in the waters between Washington state and Canada.

Ken Balcomb, founding director of the Center for Whale Research, told The Seattle Times that staff first saw the calf Friday at the eastern end of the Strait of Juan de Fuca. He said the youngster looks healthy, but survival rates for baby orcas are only about 50 percent.

The whales have been starving amid a dearth of salmon. Vessel noise and pollution have complicated their plight. No calf born in the last three years has survived.

## Cops: Woman crashed, hid drugs in prison

**PA** LANCASTER — Police said a woman ran into a county prison to hide drugs in a bathroom after she crashed her van into a truck in front of the facility.

Prison Major William Aberts said that around 11 a.m. Friday, there was a crash in front of the Lancaster County Prison and "the next thing we know we have a female running across the parking lot into here saying: 'There was just an accident. I have to go to the bathroom.'"

Aberts directed a corrections officer to do a sweep of bathroom, where they found suspected synthetic marijuana.

City police Lt. Bill Hickey said the woman will be charged with traffic violations including driving without a license and lacking vehicle registration, as well as misdemeanor possession of a controlled substance. One person was injured in the crash.

## Man bitten by lion barred from zoo

**CA** FRESNO — A robber who climbed into a California zoo and was bitten by a lion has been sentenced to probation and told he can't go anywhere near the zoo.

The Fresno Bee said Julio Mendez was sentenced Friday for second-degree robbery involving an unrelated crime. He was ordered to pay \$300 in restitution.

Mendez was free from jail while facing the robbery charge last September when he went to the Chaffee Zoo in Fresno, climbed over a fence topped with barbed wire and got into an enclosure housing two lionesses.

One lion bit the man's big toe as he tried to climb a second fence. Mendez was treated for his injury and returned to jail on a warrant.

## State launches prison guard recruitment

**RI** PROVIDENCE — The state is looking to hire more prison guards, and women and minorities are being en-

couraged to apply.

Democratic Gov. Gina Raimondo said at the launch of the recruitment drive Wednesday that the state wants the diversity of correctional officers to match the diversity of the state prison's inmates.

Jim Vincent, president of the NAACP's Providence branch, said, "It's critical that we have correctional officers who reflect the population of inmates."

Department of Corrections Director Patricia Coyne-Fague said the recruitment drive lasts through Feb. 3, with a goal of hiring 70 people to participate in the summer training program.

## Museum moving jet to new home

**NM** ALAMOGORDO — The German Air Force has donated one of its Tornado fighter planes to the New Mexico Museum of Space History, and major preparations are underway to move the plane to its new home.

The twin-engine combat aircraft is slated for permanent display on the museum grounds in Alamogordo. For the last several years, it has been in front of the German Air Force headquarters at Holloman Air Force Base.

Saturday, the journey began as the aircraft was taken from Holloman to the Otero County Fairgrounds. After a public event, it will be moved to the museum.

## Mandatory retirement is ordered for judge

**AK** ANCHORAGE — The Alaska Supreme Court has placed a Superior Court judge on mandatory retirement because of a medical disability.

Justices on Friday backed the recommendation of the Alaska Judicial Conduct Commission regarding Judge Angela

Greene, of Utqiagvik.

Greene's attorney, Bill Satterberg, said Greene did not oppose the recommendation and did not stand for retention because she recognized she could no longer do the demanding job. Satterberg said Greene served for less than five years and was required to go through the commission review for the medical retirement.

Greene became ill in 2016 but returned to the bench in July 2017. While walking in December 2017, Greene was struck by a water delivery truck.

## Memorial service held for police dog killed

**FL** WEST PALM BEACH — A memorial service was held Thursday at the Coral Sky Amphitheatre in suburban West Palm Beach for a police dog.

Cigo, a 3-year-old German Shepherd, was fatally shot at the Wellington Green Mall, where deputies had tracked two suspects wanted for attempted first-degree murder. One suspect opened fire, striking the dog.

The service for Cigo included the national anthem, a fly-over, a police motorcade, a 21-gun salute and an "End of Watch Call." Cigo also received a police medal of honor.

## Slaughter of bison set at Yellowstone

**MT** BILLINGS — Yellowstone National Park officials plan to capture 600 to 900 bison to slaughter this winter for the continuing effort to manage the herd's population.

The Billings Gazette reported Interagency Bison Management Plan partners signed the agreement outlining the winter operations plan for the bison on Jan. 7.

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STARS AND STRIPES®

# Talented Rams duo runs over Cowboys

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — The high-flying Los Angeles Rams kept the ball firmly on the ground, and they ran straight past the Dallas Cowboys for a breakthrough playoff victory.

C.J. Anderson rushed for 123 yards and two touchdowns, and Todd Gurley ran for 115 more yards and another TD in the Rams' first postseason win in 14 years, 30-22 over the Cowboys in the divisional round Saturday night.

From the opening drive until the final first down, Gurley and Anderson methodically punished the Cowboys' normally sturdy run defense and sent the second-seeded Rams (14-3) to the NFC championship game for the first time in 17 years.

Los Angeles racked up a franchise playoff-record 273 yards rushing. That's also the most ever allowed in the postseason by the Cowboys, who were playing in their NFL-record 63rd postseason game.

"Feels great, just running the ball the way we did," quarterback Jared Goff said after his first career playoff victory. "Two 100-yard rushers, that's rare, and it starts with those five guys up front."

The long-struggling Rams had won only one postseason game since their last trip to the Super Bowl in February 2002, but 32-year-old coach Sean McVay has added his first playoff victory to his spectacular two-season franchise turnaround.

"That's a big-time win for us, and the key was being able to hold them to 50 yards (rushing) and to rush for 273," McVay said.

Ezekiel Elliott rushed for a TD and Amari Cooper caught an early TD pass for the Cowboys (11-7), who still haven't won a playoff game on the road in 26 years. After winning the NFC East and beating Seattle last week, Dallas lost in the divisional playoff round for the sixth consecutive time and fell short of its first trip to the NFC

championship game since January 1996.

Next weekend, the Rams will face the winner of the other divisional playoff game in New Orleans between the top-seeded Saints and the defending Super Bowl champion Philadelphia Eagles.

The Rams are one win away from another Super Bowl trip after McVay's inventive offense largely stuck to old-time football basics behind their unlikely running back tandem and an offensive line determined to assert its superiority.

The Rams proved it on fourth-and-goal from the 1 with 7:16 to play. McVay called a simple run, and Anderson bulled in behind his blockers for LA's final points.

"We always talk about attacking success, never fearing failure," McVay said of his reasoning on the call. "We wanted to come out here and try to play fearless tonight."

The Cowboys, who largely shut down Seattle's league-best rushing attack last week,

hadn't allowed two 100-yard rushers in a playoff game since the NFL-AFL merger.

Dak Prescott passed for 266 yards and rushed for a TD with 2:11 to play, but the Cowboys couldn't climb out after falling into a 23-7 hole midway through the third quarter. Elliott managed just 47 yards on 20 carries as Dallas lost for just the second time in its last 10 games.

Goff passed for 186 yards and spent much of the night handing off, but the gangly quarterback improbably scrambled 11 yards for a first down with 1:51 to play, essentially wrapping up his breakthrough win.

It was also the first postseason victory for the anchor of that line, 37-year-old left tackle Andrew Whitworth, and veteran defensive lineman Ndamukong Suh.

Gurley and Anderson became the fourth set of teammates in NFL history to rush for 100 yards apiece in a postseason game, an improbable development just a few weeks ago.

## Chiefs top Colts, end 25 years of frustration

Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — The Kansas City Chiefs' defense had heard the chorus of critics all season long, the ones that claimed their sieve-like line and shaky backfield would spoil young superstar Patrick Mahomes and cost them a chance to chase their first Super Bowl appearance in decades.

Well, that defense is a big reason why the Chiefs are one step away.

With persistent snow turning Arrowhead Stadium into a winter wonderland, the Chiefs successfully shut down Andrew Luck and the potent Indianapolis Colts on Saturday.

Mahomes and the rest of their own high-powered offense took care of the rest, rolling to a 31-13 victory in the divisional round to end 25 years of playoff frustration.

"We're such a different team," said Mahomes, who threw for 278 yards while running for a score. "We have such young players. We have such confidence we're going to win every single game."

Damien Williams ran through snow and

muck for 129 yards and another score, and Tyreek Hill had 72 yards receiving and a touchdown run, as the Chiefs beat Indianapolis for the first time in five playoff meetings to earn their first AFC title game appearance since January 1994.

The AFC West champions will play the winner of Sunday's game between the division-rival Los Angeles Chargers and the New England Patriots next weekend for a spot in the Super Bowl in Atlanta.

"We wanted to light up the city," Chiefs defensive tackle Chris Jones said. "We didn't want to take the road down memory lane."

Andrew Luck was held to 203 yards passing for the Colts, while Marlon Mack was a non-factor on the ground. He had 46 yards rushing before leaving late in the fourth quarter with a hip injury.

"Was not expecting it to end today," Colts coach Frank Reich said. "We knew we were going up against a very good team, a very well-coached team. It's hard to lose. It's hard to lose when you've come this far with the team that we have and the guys that we have, so credit to the Chiefs.

"They outcoached us, they outplayed us," Reich said. "We just gave them too many opportunities."

The Chiefs set out to change history from the opening minutes, when they forced a three-and-out and then waltzed right over a Colts defense that nearly shut out the Texans a week ago. Mahomes and Co. scored on their first three possessions, then again just before halftime, to take a 24-7 lead.

If there was any question whether this would be Kansas City's day, it was answered when Colts kicker Adam Vinatieri missed a 23-yard field-goal try off the upright just before halftime. It was the first time in 22 postseason attempts that he'd missed from that close.

Not that the Chiefs thought they had it wrapped up. They've had bigger playoff meltdowns against the Colts.

There was the 10-7 loss in which Lin Elliott missed three field goals when the Chiefs were the No. 1 seed, and the loss at Arrowhead Stadium in 2003 in which nobody punted. Five years ago, they blew a 38-10 second-half lead against Luck and the Colts to spoil Andy Reid's first season.

# Reddish lifts Duke over FSU

Associated Press

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — Cam Reddish had struggled for more than a month, searching for any kind of consistency with his shot.

With Zion Williamson on the bench in the second half and suffering from double vision after getting poked in the eye, Reddish made all the shots on Saturday — including the game-winner.

The freshman forward hit a three-pointer with 0.8 seconds left to lead No. 1 Duke past No. 13 Florida State, 80-78 on Saturday.

Reddish caught the ball on the wing off the inbounds pass and made a wide-open three-pointer to ensure that Duke (14-1, 3-0 ACC) would win its ninth straight game. Two freshmen carried the load for Duke as RJ Barrett scored 32 points on 10-for-19 shooting and Reddish finished with 23 points on 9-for-15 shooting.

“It was great,” said Reddish, who scored 16 second-half points. “I’m glad I made the shot.”

It was a clutch shot at a critical moment for Duke, which hasn’t had many close games this season and has won 13 of 14 games by 10 or more points. The Blue Devils have just one loss, 89-87 to No. 5 Gonzaga on a neutral court.

Duke was certainly on the ropes on Saturday, especially playing in the second half without Zion Williamson. The star freshman left the game after getting poked in the eye late in the first half. He didn’t return and had 11 points and eight rebounds in 17 minutes.

Coach Mike Krzyzewski wasn’t sure what to expect from the Blue Devils, who were without one of their top players and facing a top-15 team on the road. Barrett and Reddish “kept us in it,” Krzyzewski said.

“They rose,” Krzyzewski said. “They rose to the different occasion. An occasion that we hadn’t been in this year.”

## Top 25 roundup

# Cards stun No. 12 Tar Heels

Associated Press

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. — Louisville went from suffering a confidence-jarring loss against a long-struggling Atlantic Coast Conference program to handing Roy Williams his worst home loss in 16 seasons with North Carolina.

Tough to explain? Even the Hall of Famer had a hard time with that.

“We never really got into the game,” Williams said after Saturday’s 83-62 defeat to the Cardinals. “I’d like to give you a brilliant answer as to why, but I can’t give you that brilliant answer.”

It was as mystifying a performance from No. 12 UNC — which had started league play with two road wins — as it was a strong effort from Louisville following Wednesday’s overtime loss to Pittsburgh.

First-year coach Chris Mack said there was “some soul searching” after that setback, which snapped Pitt’s 23-game losing streak in ACC regular-season games. The Panthers had lost by 25 points at home to the Tar Heels a few days earlier.

Louisville (11-5, 2-1) responded by strolling into Chapel Hill, jumping on UNC early and turning a 43-34 halftime lead into an unexpected rout.

“I’ve been around the game enough to know you can be humbled on any given night and then erase a bitter feeling a few nights later,” Mack said. “I don’t know how football coaches do it, they get one game a week.”

**No. 3 Tennessee 78, Florida 67:** Grant Williams scored 20 points, Jordan Bowden added 17 off the bench and the Volunteers rallied to beat the host Gators for their 10th consecutive victory.

**No. 4 Virginia 63, Clemson 43:** Kyle Guy had 13 points, De’Andre Hunter scored 12 and the visiting Cavaliers improved to 15-0.

**No. 5 Gonzaga 96, San Francisco 83:** Brandon Clarke scored 24 points and the Bulldogs got a tiebreaking three-pointer from Zach Norvell Jr. with less than three minutes remaining to spark a 15-2 run to finish off the host Dons.

**No. 7 Kansas 73, Baylor 68:** Lagerald Vick scored 18 points with six three-pointers on his 22nd birthday and the Jayhawks held on to beat the host Bears.

**No. 8 Texas Tech 68, Texas 62:** Matt Mooney scored 22 points to help the the Red Raiders’ earn their first win in Austin since 1996.

Jordan Culver scored 14 points and had seven assists for Texas Tech (15-1, 4-0 Big 12), whose last win in Austin came when both schools were in the old Southwest Conference.

**No. 10 Nevada 74, Fresno State 64:** Caleb Martin scored 27 points, including two free throws with 54.6 seconds remaining, and the visiting Wolf Pack held on to beat the Bulldogs. Martin also added nine rebounds, and Jordan

Caroline had 19 points and 16 rebounds for Nevada (16-1, 3-1 Mountain West).

**No. 11 Auburn 93, Georgia 78:** Jared Harper had 22 points and seven assists while he and the host Tigers rebounded from a rough night to beat the Bulldogs. Harper and Auburn (12-3, 1-1 Southeastern Conference) looked sharper at home than in an 82-67 loss at Mississippi, but still struggled to put away a team that was blown away by No. 3 Tennessee.

**Mississippi 81, No. 14 Mississippi State 77:** Blake Hinson scored a career-high 26 points, Breein Tyree added 19 and Ole Miss (13-2, 3-0 Southeastern Conference) rallied for the win. Mississippi (13-2, 3-0 Southeastern Conference) won its 10th straight game, continuing its surprising run under first-year coach Kermit Davis.

**No. 15 N.C. State 86, Pittsburgh 80:** DJ Funderburk scored 12 of his 18 points in the second half and host the Wolfpack beat the Panthers.

Devon Daniels scored 19 points, Eric Lockett added 12 of his 17 points after halftime, and Torin Dorn finished with 12 for North Carolina State (14-2, 2-1 Atlantic Coast Conference).

**Iowa 72, No. 16 Ohio State 62:** Luka Garza scored 16 points, Tyler Cook had 15 points with eight rebounds and the Hawkeyes handed the Buckeyes their third straight loss.

Ryan Kriener scored 11 points for Iowa (14-3, 3-3 Big Ten), which has won three straight after a 0-3 start to league play.

**No. 17 Houston 79, Wichita State 70:** Corey Davis Jr. had 20 points, Armoni Brooks added 14 and the host Cougars rebounded from their first loss of the season.

**No. 18 Kentucky 56, Vanderbilt 47:** Ashton Hagans and Keldon Johnson each scored 15 points and combined to rally the host Wildcats from another slow start.

The Wildcats (12-3, 2-1 Southeastern Conference) steadily pulled away for their second consecutive win despite a season low in points.

**No. 19 Buffalo 88, Miami (OH) 64:** Jeremy Harris scored 17 points and the No. 19 Bulls shook off a cold-shooting start to cruise past the visiting RedHawks.

**Kansas State 58, No. 20 Iowa State 57:** Barry Brown hit a layup with four seconds left and the Wildcats handed the Cyclones their second straight loss.

**No. 21 Marquette 70, Seton Hall 66:** Markus Howard scored 26 points, Sacar Anim had 14 and the host Golden Eagles staved off a second-half rally.

**No. 23 Oklahoma 76, No. 25 TCU 74:** Kristian Doolittle hit a runner with less than three seconds left, lifting the host Sooners.

**DePaul 79, No. 24 St. John’s 71:** Femi Olujobi had 27 points and eight rebounds in his New York homecoming and the Blue Demons pulled away from the short-handed Red Storm.

## NHL roundup

## Stamkos carries Lightning over Sabres

*The Associated Press*

BUFFALO, N.Y. — For the second game in a row, the Tampa Bay Lightning started off slow. And once again, they rallied for a win.

Steven Stamkos scored the tiebreaking goal with 5:16 remaining to lead the Lightning to a 5-3 win over the Buffalo Sabres on Saturday night. It followed a similar performance in the team's 3-1 win over Carolina on Thursday.

"For the first period and a half I didn't think we had it, that's another slow start," Stamkos said. "We need to correct some things there. But this group this year, it just feels different. Just finding that we're confident we're going to win. We found a way."

Nikita Kucherov, Brayden Point, Ondrej Palat and Ryan Callahan also scored for to help the Lightning win for the 18th time in 20 games and improve to 35-8-2. Louis Domingue stopped 30 shots.

The game-winner came off a drop-pass by Kucherov, the NHL's leading scorer. Stamkos then ripped a hard shot to the blocker side to put the Lightning up for good. Ryan Callahan then added some insurance with 1:19 remaining to make it 5-3.

**Blue Jackets 2, Capitals 1 (OT):** Cam Atkinson scored his 25th goal of the season, Artemi Panarin connected in overtime and Columbus beat host Washington after the defending Stanley Cup champions lost All-Star goaltender Braden Holtby to an eye injury.

**Bruins 3, Maple Leafs 2:** David Pastrnak scored a tie late in the second period and Boston won at Toronto.

The Bruins won the season series 3-1 and moved within two points of Toronto for second place in the Atlantic Division.

**Rangers 2, Islanders 1:** Mats Zuccarello scored late in the third period and the Rangers earned their first victory at the Barclays Center.

Zuccarello redirected the winner with his skate from in front of the net for his fifth goal of the season.

**Golden Knights 4, Blackhawks 3 (OT):** Las Vegas defenseman Shea Theodore scored 1:19 into overtime when Chicago's Carl Dahlstrom slid the puck into his own net.

**Devils 3, Flyers 2:** Rookie Mackenzie Blackwood made 32 saves in his return from an injury, helping New Jersey beat Philadelphia.

**Red Wings 5, Wild 2:** Tyler Bertuzzi had his first career hat trick and Detroit beat host Minnesota to end a three-game losing streak. Playing in his 100th career game, Bertuzzi completed his three-goal performance at 8:38 of the third period, converting a feed from Nyquist by lifting a backhand past Devan Dubnyk.

**Kings 5, Penguins 2:** Jonathan Quick stopped 38 shots to get his 301st win, helping Los Angeles snap Pittsburgh's six-game road winning streak.

**Canadiens 3, Avalanche 0:** Carey Price stopped 28 shots for his third shutout of the season and 43rd overall to help host Montreal beat Colorado.

**Blues 3, Stars 1:** Rookie goalie Jordan Binnington won his third straight start, Vladimir Tarasenko scored two goals and St. Louis won at Dallas.

**Coyotes 3, Oilers 2:** Conor Garland scored a pair of power-play goals, including one that went in off his face and left him bloodied, and visiting Arizona won.

**Sharks 4, Senators 1:** Brent Burns scored his fourth game-winning goal and, Martin Jones made 27 saves for host San Jose.

## NBA roundup

## Piston's Griffin scores 44 in return to LA

*Associated Press*

LOS ANGELES — Blake Griffin kept his emotions to himself in his return to Staples Center for the first time against his old team.

After scoring 44 points in the Detroit Pistons' 109-104 victory over the Los Angeles Clippers on Saturday, he allowed himself a trip down memory lane.

"The best thing to be a part of is something that is bigger than yourself and that is what that was," he said in a crowded hallway outside the Pistons' locker room. "I don't look at what I did."

Griffin was greeted with cheers during pregame introductions and received a standing ovation after a first-quarter

video tribute from the team that drafted him first overall in 2009.

"There was a lot of hype coming into this game and I was looking forward to it, but I'm glad that it's over," he said. "The next time I come it won't be as crazy."

Griffin stuck his right arm in the air and then brought his raised hands together in a thankful gesture without smiling. He clearly wanted to beat the team that stunningly traded him last January after he had signed a \$171 million, five-year extension.

Griffin averaged 21.6 points, 9.3 rebounds and 4.2 assists in eight seasons for the Clippers. He was the Rookie of the Year and a five-time All-Star with

the franchise.

**Suns 102, Nuggets 93:** Kelly Oubre Jr. matched his career high with 26 points for the second time in three games and host Phoenix beat Denver, a victory for the team with the worst record in the Western Conference over the team with the best.

Denver fell to just a half-game ahead of Golden State for best record in the West.

**Timberwolves 110, Pelicans 106:** Karl-Anthony Towns had 27 points and a career-high 27 rebounds to help host Minnesota hold off Anthony Davis and New Orleans.

**Magic 105, Celtics 103:** Aaron Gordon had 28 points and 12 rebounds and Orlando held off visiting Boston.

**Thunder 122, Spurs 112:** Dennis Schroder scored all of his 19 points in the second half to help host Oklahoma City beat San Antonio.

**Heat 112, Grizzlies 108:** Justise Winslow scored 26 points, Dwyane Wade had a huge blocked shot in the final seconds and Miami beat Memphis.

**Jazz 110, Bulls 102:** Donovan Mitchell scored 34 points, his third straight game with more than 30, to help host Utah pull away from Chicago.

**Kings 104, Hornets 97:** Bogdan Bogdanovic scored 22 points, Willie Cauley-Stein had his second straight double-double with 12 points and 12 rebounds, and Sacramento beat road-weary Charlotte.