

# STARS AND STRIPES®

Saturday, January 25, 2020

A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

stripes.com

## Secret videos of troops posted on porn site

BY CAITLIN M. KENNEY

*Stars and Stripes*

WASHINGTON — Secretly recorded videos, including some of sailors and Marines undressing in bathrooms, were posted on a pornographic website, a service spokesman said Friday.

“[Naval Criminal Investigative Service] is investigating a report of non-consensual online distribution of explicit videos and images of service members. The investigation is in the early stages. Potential victims are being notified in a coordinated effort by NCIS, command leadership, and victims legal counsel,” Navy Lt. James Adams, a spokesman for U.S. Pacific Fleet, said in a statement.

It appeared the videos were recorded in several locations within Pacific Fleet, Adams said, including in bathrooms where people were undressing.

A few service members in the videos

were assigned to the USS Emory S. Land, which is based in Guam, NBC News reported, citing U.S. military officials. The Emory S. Land is a submarine tender, which provides maintenance and supplies to submarines and surface ships.

The victims depicted in the videos and images appear mostly to be males, according to Adams, but the investigation is still determining how many victims there are. NCIS is looking into when the videos, which were uploaded to the website Pornhub, were taken, he said. The website has complied with a NCIS request to remove them and is cooperating with their investigation, Adams said.

NCIS started its investigation within the past couple of weeks, he said. A former sailor who is connected to the Pornhub account is a suspect, according to a Navy official who spoke on the condition of anonymity about the investigation.

Investigators are still working to iden-

tify victims, which also included civilians, Adams said. The Navy will provide support to the victims who are notified during the investigation and will inform them of the services available to them, he said.

This is not the first time that the Navy has conducted an investigation of sailors and Marines who were secretly recorded.

Female officers aboard the submarine USS Wyoming were secretly recorded while taking showers over the course of two patrols between August 2013 and June 2014. Ten male sailors were punished in 2015 for the recordings, which were shared among the crew.

Last March, the Navy was investigating a hidden camera found by a female Marine in a bathroom aboard the USS Arlington, an amphibious transport ship, during a security operation in the Mediterranean Sea.

## Trump’s legal team opens defense at impeachment trial

*Associated Press*

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump’s lawyers opened their impeachment trial defense Saturday by accusing Democrats of striving to overturn the 2016 election, arguing that investigations of Trump’s dealings with Ukraine have not been a fact-finding mission but a politically motivated effort to drive him from the White House.

“They’re here to perpetrate the most massive interference in an election in American history,” White House Counsel Pat Cipollone told senators. “And we can’t allow that to happen.”

The Trump legal team’s arguments in the rare Saturday session were aimed at rebutting allegations that the president abused his power when he asked Ukraine to investigate political rival Joe Biden

and then obstructed Congress as it tried to investigate. The lawyers are mounting a wide-ranging, aggressive defense asserting an expansive view of presidential powers and portraying Trump as besieged by political opponents determined to ensure that he won’t be re-elected this November.

Though Trump is the one on trial, the defense team made clear that it intends to place scrutiny on the FBI and to paint the impeachment case as a mere continuation of the investigations that have shadowed the president since before he took office — including one into allegations of Russian election interference on his behalf. Trump attorney Jay Sekulow suggested Democrats were investigating the president over Ukraine simply because they couldn’t bring him down for Russia.

Trump’s team made only a two-hour presentation, reserving the heart of its case for Monday. Acquittal appears likely, given that Republicans hold a 53-47 majority in the Senate, and a two-thirds vote would be required for conviction and removal from office.

The Trump attorneys are responding to two articles of impeachment approved last month by the House — one that accuses him of encouraging Ukraine to investigate Biden at the same time the administration withheld military aid from the country, and the other that accuses him of obstructing Congress by directing aides not to testify or produce documents.

In making their case that Trump invited Ukraine to interfere in the 2020 election, the seven Democratic prosecutors peppered their arguments with

video clips, email correspondence and lessons in American history.

Defense lawyers say Trump was a victim not only of Democratic rage but also of overzealous agents and prosecutors. Sekulow cited mistakes made by the FBI in its surveillance of a former Trump campaign aide in the now-concluded Trump-Russia election investigation.

“You cannot simply decide this case in a vacuum,” he said.

The Senate is heading next week toward a pivotal vote on Democratic demands for testimony from top Trump aides, including acting chief of staff Mick Mulvaney and former national security adviser John Bolton, who refused to appear before the House. It would take four Republican senators to join the Democratic minority to seek witnesses, and so far the numbers appear lacking.

# Space Force logo compared to Star Trek's

By COREY DICKSTEIN  
*Stars and Stripes*

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump unveiled the logo for the U.S. Space Force in a tweet Friday.

The dark blue circular logo features the words “United States Space Force” and “Department of the Air Force” surrounding a design that appears to show a planet with stars in the background and a triangular arrowhead symbol. It also features the roman numerals “MMXIX,” or 2019 — the year the Space Force was officially launched.

“After consultation with our Great Military Leaders, designers, and others, I am pleased to present the new logo for the United States Space Force, the Sixth Branch of our Magnificent Military!” Trump tweeted Friday.

The logo almost instantly drew comparisons because of its similarity to the fictional Starfleet Command logo from the Star Trek series of films and television shows. That symbol also features the words — “Starfleet Command” and “United Federation of Planets” — in a circle around a background of stars with an arrow-

head-like symbol and a planet in orbit.

“Swell, now taxpayers get to pay for lawyers when you’re sued by Paramount and the Roddenberry estate ...,” tweeted Ned Pyle, a senior manager at Microsoft and a Marine veteran. He included side-by-side photos of the new Space Force symbol with the Star Trek logos.

Even George Takei, who played Sulu in the original TV series, tweeted about the similarity. He posted side-by-side images of the logos and wrote, “There is nothing sacred any more.”

The Space Force logo, however, is also reminiscent of the Air Force Space Command logo, which features the same arrowhead design. Space Force was created by carving Air Force Space Command out of the operational Air Force, though Space Force will remain part of the Air Force Department, similar to the Marine Corps’ relationship with the Navy Department.

A Space Force spokesperson said Friday that the new symbol was meant to honor the service’s roots in the Air Force.

## Poll: Many in US support strike on Soleimani

*Associated Press*

WASHINGTON — A new poll shows Americans are more likely than not to support President Donald Trump’s decision to order a drone strike that killed an Iranian general, even amid widespread skepticism about his foreign policy overall.

The poll by The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research was taken about two weeks after the Jan. 3 strike that killed Gen. Qasem Soleimani in Iraq. It found that 41% of Americans approved of the action while 30% disapproved of it. The rest didn’t ex-

press an opinion either way.

Soleimani was killed shortly after arriving at the Baghdad airport. Iran responded five days later by firing a barrage of missiles at bases in Iraq where U.S. troops are stationed, causing injuries but no deaths. The exchange sparked fears of a new Middle East war, but both sides then stood down.

That lack of escalation could explain some of the support for the strike, said Trita Parsi, executive vice president of the Quincy Institute.

“There was a fear that this could lead to an all-out war between the U.S. and Iran and, because it didn’t, the assess-

ment of whether it was good or bad shifts a bit,” said Parsi, whose “trans-partisan” think tank advocates for diplomacy and military restraint in the Middle East.

The poll results are mixed for Trump, with support for killing the general not translating into a corresponding increase in approval of his handling of foreign affairs.

The poll showed 59% disapproved of the Republican president’s handling of foreign policy, similar to the percentage who said that in October 2019 and well above the 43% who disapproved of his job handling the economy.

Trump’s approval rating for foreign policy is similar to views on how he’s handling his job as president overall.

To a certain extent, public opinion on the killing of Soleimani, who U.S. officials say led campaigns that have killed hundreds of American troops and was planning further attacks, tracked with attitudes toward the president overall.

Republican support for the decision is overwhelming, with 80% approving and just 5% disapproving of the decision. Among Democrats, 15% approve and 53% disapprove.

## National Guard, Army Reserve aid Puerto Rico after quake

By ROSE L. THAYER  
*Stars and Stripes*

AUSTIN, Texas — About 1,300 troops from the National Guard and the Army Reserve are now providing shelter for thousands of Puerto Ricans left homeless by a series of earthquakes that devastated the island more than two weeks ago.

In addition to the Puerto Rico National Guard, Ohio and New Mexico also sent troops to support recovery along the southern portion of the island where earthquakes caused the most damage.

Earthquakes began to shake the island Dec. 28 with the largest 6.4-magnitude quake hitting just before dawn on Jan.

7. One person was killed, and the earthquake caused more than \$200 million in damage and triggered Puerto Rico Gov. Wanda Vázquez to activate the territory’s National Guard.

Overall, there have been 10 earthquakes registering a magnitude 5 or greater, a size that can do damage, according to the U.S. Geological Survey,

which forecasts aftershocks to continue but become less frequent.

Troops are primarily focused on efforts to support local emergency responders, which includes distributing water and meals and assisting with security operations, said April Cunningham, National Guard Bureau spokeswoman.



# Cars banned, schools closed as virus spreads

Associated Press

BEIJING — The virus-hit Chinese city of Wuhan, already on lockdown, banned most vehicle use downtown and Hong Kong said it would close schools for two weeks as authorities scrambled Saturday to stop the spread of an illness that has infected more than 1,200 people and killed 41.

Hong Kong leader Carrie Lam said her government has declared the outbreak an emergency and will close primary and secondary schools for two more weeks on top of next week's Lunar New Year holiday. They will re-open Feb. 17.

She said that direct flights and trains from Wuhan would be blocked. The outbreak began in the city in central China and has spread nationwide and overseas,

fueled by millions of people traveling during the country's biggest holiday.

The vast majority of the infections and all the deaths have been in mainland China, but fresh cases are popping up. Australia and Malaysia reported their first cases Saturday and Japan, its third. France confirmed three cases Friday, the first in Europe, and the U.S. identified its second, a woman in Chicago who had returned from China.

The new virus comes from a large family of what are known as coronaviruses, some causing nothing worse than a cold. It causes cold- and flu-like symptoms, including cough and fever and, in more severe cases, shortness of breath. It can worsen to pneumonia, which can be fatal.

China cut off trains, planes and other links to Wuhan on Wednesday, as well as public transportation within the city, and has steadily expanded a lockdown to 16 surrounding cities with a combined population of more than 50 million, greater than that of New York, London, Paris and Moscow combined.

The cities of Yichang, Suizhou and Jingzhou were the latest added to the list on Friday evening and Saturday.

Wuhan went one step further Saturday, announcing vehicle use, including private cars, would be banned in downtown areas starting after midnight, state media reported. Only authorized vehicles to carry supplies and for other needs would be permitted after that, the reports said.

## Death toll climbs after earthquake rocks Turkey

Associated Press

ANKARA, Turkey — The death toll from a strong earthquake that rocked eastern Turkey climbed to 22 Saturday, with more than 1,000 people injured, officials said.

Interior Minister Suleyman Soyly, speaking at a televised news conference near the epicenter of the quake, said 39 people had been rescued from the rubble of collapsed buildings, including a woman recovered 14 hours after the main tremor.

Rescue workers were continuing to search for people buried under the rubble of collapsed buildings in Elazig province and neighboring Malatya, Health Minister Fahrettin Koca said earlier.

Emergency workers and security forces distributed tents, beds and blankets as

overnight temperatures dropped below freezing in the affected areas. Mosques, schools, sports halls and student dormitories were opened for hundreds who left their homes after the quake.

"The earthquake was very severe; we desperately ran out (of our home)," Emre Gocer told the state-run Anadolu news agency as he sheltered with his family at a sports hall in the town of Sivrice in Elazig. "We don't have a safe place to stay right now."

The quake hit Friday at 8:55 p.m. local time at a depth of around 4 miles near Sivrice, the Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency, or AFAD, said. Various earthquake monitoring centers gave magnitudes ranging from 6.5 to 6.8.

AFAD said it was followed by 228 after-

shocks, the strongest with magnitudes 5.4 and 5.1.

At least five buildings in Sivrice and 25 in Malatya province were destroyed, said Environment and Urbanization Minister Murat Kurum. Hundreds of other structures were damaged and made unsafe.

Soyly said 18 people were killed in Elazig and four in Malatya. Some 1,030 people were hurt. Speaking at the same news conference, Koca said 34 people remain in intensive care.

Television footage showed emergency workers removing two people from the wreckage of a collapsed building in the town of Gezin. Another person was saved in the city of Elazig, the provincial capital, and two more from a house in Doganyol, Malatya.

## Iraq protest tents set ablaze as cleric withdraws support

Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Security forces set fire to anti-government protest tents in the country's south early Saturday and re-opened key public squares in Baghdad that had been occupied by demonstrators for months.

The crackdown came hours after a powerful Shiite cleric dealt the protest movement a blow by withdrawing his support, prompting his followers to pack up and leave the demonstration encampments.

At least eight people were wounded when security forces fired tear gas in Baghdad's central Khilani Square as clearance operations were underway, medical and security officials said. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity in line with regulations.

Activists said the presence of Muqtada al-Sadr's followers and his militia group had shielded the protesters from security forces and unknown groups looking to harm and suppress them. With that cover gone, many in the four-month-

old movement feared the worst.

The demonstrations have been critical of government corruption, high unemployment and Iranian influence in Iraqi politics. Crackdowns by security forces have killed at least 500 protesters. But many of the protesters are worried that the conflict between the U.S. and Iran, which is playing out in part on Iraqi soil, is killing their momentum.

In a tweet Friday evening, al-Sadr indicated his "disappointment" toward anti-government

protesters in Baghdad's Tahrir Square, the epicenter of the anti-government protests. Al-Sadr's tweet came just hours after tens of thousands of his followers staged a separate anti-U.S. rally in a nearby Baghdad neighborhood, which most demonstrators in the square steered clear of.

"I am expressing my disappointment and my regret toward all those who doubted me among the Tahrir Square protesters," said the tweet. "I thought they were supporters of me and of Iraq."

## Iran says its still willing to negotiate with the US

Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates — Iran is not ruling out negotiations with the United States even after an American drone strike that killed a top Iranian general, the country's foreign minister said in an interview released Sunday.

Mohammed Javad Zarif told Germany's Der Spiegel magazine that he would "never rule out the possibility that people will change their approach and recognize the realities," in an interview conducted Saturday in Tehran.

There has been growing tension between Washington and Tehran since in 2018, when President Donald Trump pulled the United States out of the nuclear deal with Iran. The U.S. has since reimposed tough sanctions that have crippled Iran's economy.

But Zarif suggested Iran was still willing to talk, though reiterated his country's previous demand that first the U.S. would have to lift sanctions.

"For us, it doesn't matter who is sitting in the White House, what matters is how they behave," he said, according to Der Spiegel. "The Trump administration can correct its past, lift the sanctions and come back to the negotiating table. We're still at the negotiating table. They're the ones who left."

Trump has maintained that the 2015 nuclear deal needs to be renegotiated because it didn't address Iran's ballistic missile program or its involvement in regional conflicts. The other signatories to the nuclear deal — Germany, France, Britain, China and Russia — have been struggling to keep it alive.

Zarif did suggest Iran was also still prepared for conflict with the U.S., though was not specific.

# Actress Rosie Perez says she was told of Weinstein rape

Associated Press

NEW YORK — "Do the Right Thing" actress Rosie Perez testified Friday that fellow screen star Annabella Sciorra told her in the mid-1990s that Harvey Weinstein had raped her but that she couldn't go to the police because "he'd destroy me."

Taking the stand at the former Hollywood mogul's rape trial, Perez said her friend Sciorra had told at some point in 1993, her voice shaking on the phone, that something had happened to her: "I think it was rape."

Perez said she asked if Sciorra knew who had attacked her, but Sciorra wouldn't say at the time. But months later, on another phone call from London, she named Weinstein, Perez said.

"Please go to the police," Perez said she told her friend. She said Sciorra responded: "I

can't — he'd destroy me."

On Thursday, Sciorra told jurors that the then-powerful movie producer pushed his way into her New York apartment, pinned her on a bed and forced himself on her in 1993 or 1994. She said Perez was one of a few people she told about the encounter before coming forward publicly in 2017.

Weinstein denies ever having nonconsensual sex. His lawyers said Perez shouldn't be allowed to testify, but Judge James Burke decided to allow it.

Weinstein, the studio boss whose downfall energized the #MeToo movement, is charged with forcibly performing oral sex on former production assistant Mimi Hiley in his New York apartment in 2006 and raping an aspiring actress in a New York hotel room in 2013. Sciorra is among four additional accusers who are expected to

testify against him as part of an effort by prosecutors to show that Weinstein made a habit of preying on women.

The 67-year-old producer of such Oscar-winning movies as "Chicago" and "The King's Speech" could get life in prison if convicted.

Sciorra, 59, is best known for her work on "The Sopranos." Perez, 55, was in 1989's "Do the Right Thing" and 1993's "Fearless," which brought her an Oscar nomination for best-supporting actress.

Weinstein's lawyers seized on Sciorra's actions after the alleged assault, asking such questions as to why Sciorra made the 1997 Weinstein-produced film "Cop Land" if he had raped her a few years earlier. Sciorra said she wasn't aware of Weinstein's involvement until she had agreed to appear in the film.

## Ariz. bill would ban trans girls from teams

Associated Press

PHOENIX — Transgender girls and women would be barred from participating in sports on the team that aligns with their gender identity under a proposed Arizona law.

The proposal announced by GOP Rep. Nancy Barto on Friday is co-sponsored by 22 other Republican House members and is the latest on a growing list of more than a dozen states with bills that focus on transgender young people.

The Arizona legislation allows only biological women or girls to play on female teams, and requires a doctor's note to prove a person is female if their birth sex is disputed. It allows lawsuits by students who believe they've missed opportunities because a transgender person is on a school team. The measure is intended to prevent female athletes from being forced to compete against biological males, Barto said in a statement. It would apply to K-12 schools, community colleges and state universities but only to female teams.

She said most people view the issue as one of basic fairness.

"When this is allowed, it discourages female participation in athletics and, worse, it can result in women and girls being denied crucial educa-

tional and financial opportunities," Barto's statement said.

Republicans make up the majority in the state House and Senate.

Similar legislation has been proposed in Alabama, Georgia, Indiana, Missouri, New Hampshire, Tennessee and Washington state, according to the American Civil Liberties Union.

The measures are part of a national campaign backed by the Scottsdale-based Alliance Defending Freedom, a conservative religious freedom group.

Barto didn't immediately respond to questions about the genesis of her bill.

Several national women's rights and sports organizations are pushing back, saying in a letter distributed by the American Civil Liberties Union that barring transgender people from sports teams aligning with their gender identity often means they are "excluded from participating altogether."

The Alliance Defending Freedom has filed a federal discrimination complaint on behalf of Connecticut girls who competed in track-and-field. The girls say the state's inclusive policy on transgender athletes has cost them top finishes and possibly college scholarships.



# AMERICAN ROUNDUP

## Free divorce offered for Valentine's Day

**TN** MURFREESBORO — A Tennessee attorney is giving away free divorce representation to one client for Valentine's Day.

W. Scott Kimberly said in a news release on the giveaway that for many people Valentine's Day is "another reminder that they remain trapped in a relationship that they cannot leave because of financial problems, because of a spouse who refuses to agree to a divorce, or for some other reason."

Applicants are asked to share the story of why they want a divorce. Applications are accepted through Valentine's Day with a winner selected on Feb. 17.

## Theft from armless artist spurs donations

**GA** ATHENS — Hundreds of people have shown their support for an armless street artist whose artwork, supplies and donation box were stolen near the University of Georgia.

Nearly \$34,000 had been raised online for Michael Davenport, who is known in Athens for sketching the university's bulldog mascot. He holds a pen in his mouth to create the artworks because he lost his arms as a child.

Davenport, 53, said his belongings were stolen on Jan. 15, when he took a break to use the restroom at a nearby business.

## Woman arrested for defecating in parking lot

**MA** NATICK — A woman accused of defecating in a Massachusetts parking lot more than a half-dozen times was arrested.

Natick police arrested An-

drea Grocer, 51, of Ashland in the parking lot of an outdoor store, The MetroWest Daily News reported.

Natick Outdoor Store owner Henry Kanner said he was "so happy" that authorities arrested her.

"I have no idea who she is. This has been ongoing," Kanner said.

## Deputy settles a beef between K9 and cow

**SC** GEORGETOWN — A sheriff's deputy responding to a burglary call in South Carolina was forced to settle a beef between his K9 and a spooked cow by using a stun gun.

Georgetown County sheriff's deputies were dispatched to the Pleasant Hill community when a K9 that was brought to the scene reportedly became "distracted" and bit a cow belonging to the property owners, a statement from the agency said. The officer was forced to stun the dog to prevent the cow from being seriously injured, the office said.

At the end of it all — the sheriff's office determined the original burglary call was unfounded.

## Moose stuck on bridge is rescued, relocated

**VT** LUDLOW — A moose got stuck on an active railroad bridge in Vermont and was removed and relocated with minimal injuries, state fish and wildlife officials said.

State Fish and Wildlife received a report that a moose was stuck on a bridge near the Ludlow and Cavendish area in southern Vermont.

Local game wardens and wildlife biologists, with assistance from the Springfield Fire Department and a crew from

the Vermont Rail System, sedated the moose and picked it up with a railroad crane truck.

## Church organ damaged in pipe-theft attempt

**NJ** FREEHOLD — Parishioners at a New Jersey church will worship Sunday without the sound of their organ after it was damaged when someone tried to steal its pipes.

The pastor of the First United Methodist Church of Freehold discovered the damage to the decades-old instrument. The pipes were ripped out and piled in front of the organ, which was dedicated in 1967.

Pastor Wil Wilson wrote on Facebook that the damage, which was estimated at between \$15,000 to \$20,000, was "shocking and disturbing."

## Woman sentenced for killing blamed on spirits

**NV** LAS VEGAS — A Nevada woman who said she shot a gun at spirits who attacked her roommate was sentenced to prison for the man's fatal shooting.

Kiahna Hawkins, 30, was sentenced to 11 to 28 years in a Nevada prison, KVVU-TV reported.

Hawkins was evaluated and found competent to stand trial in June before she pleaded guilty to a charge of murder and entered a plea agreement.

Andre D. Smith, 49, was found dead May 3 in the North Las Vegas apartment he shared with Hawkins.

The Clark County Coroner's Office found Smith died of a gunshot wound to the head and ruled the death a homicide.

North Las Vegas police were called to the apartment after Hawkins told emergency dispatchers she believed spirits

had killed her roommate, a police report said.

Hawkins told officers she shot a spirit in self defense, the report said.

## Man jailed for 911 calls about drone over home

**AR** HOT SPRINGS — An Arkansas man remained jailed after authorities alleged he admitted using meth and then repeatedly called 911 to falsely report that a "military-style drone" was flying over his house.

The Sentinel-Record reported Lance Lee Pace called 911 after reportedly "hearing buzzing noises" over his house in Hot Springs for about an hour.

Pace allegedly admitted to a Garland County sheriff's deputy he had "snorted meth" about an hour before calling 911, according to a probable cause affidavit.

## 'World's worst cat' is up for adoption

**NC** BAKERSVILLE — The "world's worst cat" is available for adoption — just ask the Mitchell County Animal Rescue organization in North Carolina.

The shelter is waiving adoption fees in the hope that someone will take the cat named Perdita off their hands.

The group said on its Facebook page, "We thought she was sick. Turns out she's just a jerk."

A tongue-in-cheek profile of the feline says her dislikes include "dogs, children, the Dixie Chicks, Disney movies, Christmas and last but NOT least ... HUGS." It says she likes lurking, pretending to be sick and "staring into your soul until you feel as if you may never be cheerful again ..."

From wire reports

Your objective source for military news  
updated 24/7 from bases  
around the world.  
Now online at [www.stripes.com](http://www.stripes.com).

STARS AND STRIPES®

# Manning's career deserves a look back

Associated Press

The debate whether Eli Manning is a Hall of Fame quarterback already has begun and will last for the next half-decade.

So why not look back at his achievements without wondering if he is bound for the Canton shrine as his brother Peyton will be next year?

The youngest of three sons of a college football superstar, Archie Manning, Eli's athletic roots were established long before he gripped a football. Older brothers Cooper and Peyton set a standard almost impossible for anyone to replicate, yet Eli tried.

Give him tons of credit just for that. Cooper became a high school star in New Orleans as a receiver and wound up at the University of Mississippi, where Archie built his legend. Cooper was forced to prematurely retire from football with spinal stenosis before he ever caught a pass for Ole Miss.

Peyton dominated Louisiana prep football, then opted to attend Tennessee rather than attempt to lengthen the family legacy at Mississippi.

When Eli, five years younger, followed Peyton's footsteps in high school, he had to recognize it could be a thankless path. Yet he ran down it.

And then he chose to play quarterback at Ole Miss, which hadn't experienced much to brag about since his father was there.

Again, tons of credit.

"You don't have to talk about how tough you are. You just show people how tough you are, and he did that," Peyton said in a social media post Friday after Eli officially announced his retirement following a 16-year career with the Giants that included two Super Bowl wins.

He did it in college, helping make Rebels football relevant again. Then he emulated, by six years, Peyton being chosen first overall in the NFL Draft. Eli stood firm, along with his family, by seeking a trade from San Diego, which made that pick, and he landed in the Big Apple.

He sat behind Kurt Warner for nine games of his rookie season, and even though New York had a 5-4 record, Manning

was inserted as the starter. The Giants went nowhere, but Eli didn't flinch.

Soon, they were making the playoffs. In 2007, Manning and the Giants didn't back down in a season finale against New England that the Patriots won 38-35 to complete their perfect regular season. Manning and his teammates built up their confidence from that loss, then won three postseason road games to get to the Super Bowl. And a rematch with the unbeatable Patriots.

Final score: Giants 17, Patriots 14. Super Bowl MVP: Eli Manning.

"Congratulations on your retirement, and a great career Eli!" Tom Brady tweeted Friday. "Not going to lie though, I wish you hadn't won any Super Bowls."

The youngest Manning won two of those, the second in February 2012 in another win over the Patriots. From the David Tyree helmet catch in the 2008 Super Bowl to his missile to Mario Manningham down the sideline to catapult New York to the second upset of New Eng-

land — not to mention his calm yet bold leadership against heavy odds — Manning had established himself as a Super Bowl great.

"Eli was a great competitor and champion. Playing his teams became some of our most challenging moments. We got our share, but they got the most important ones. It's a credit to his leadership and determination and it was an honor to share the field with him," Brady added.

Until he was farcically benched by then-coach Ben McAdoo for a late-season game in 2017, Manning had a string of 210 consecutive regular-season starts. The guy was indestructible at a position where nearly all of his peers (including Peyton) had significant injuries.

"Starting 200-plus consecutive games, answering the bell for his teammates, that's what toughness is," Peyton wrote Friday. "So as his brother I have such admiration and love for him. But as a quarterback, I have incredible respect for his toughness, his accountability, his leadership skills."

## Long lines at Pro Bowl just to get Jackson's autograph

Associated Press

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Fla. — Baltimore cornerback Marlon Humphrey was signing autographs following Pro Bowl practice Thursday and wrapping up an interview when his sister jumped in with a desperate request.

"You have to help Mom," she said.

"What's up?" he asked.

"She wants a picture on the field with Lamar," the sister answered.

That'd be quarterback and Ravens teammate Lamar Jackson, the league's MVP front-runner and the most popular guy without mouse ears at Disney World this week.

Fans chanted his name throughout two days of practice

at ESPN's Wide World of Sports and clamored for his autograph before and after workouts. To get a picture, fans needed to get in line and prepare for a wait similar to those at Star Wars: Galaxy's Edge.

"He's the man, right?" Ravens guard Marshal Yanda said.

He's certainly the fan favorite at the NFL's annual all-star game. He's been so mobbed by TV cameras to the point where he needed to juke through the crowd to find some open space.

No one is immune to Jackson's popularity, either. Not even teammates.

Yanda's daughter ran up to him during an interview, grabbed his hand and begged him to look at her shirt. She spun around, tossed her hair to

one side and unveiled Jackson's signature.

"It's Lamar Jackson!" the girl shrieked.

"Just relax, honey," Yanda responded.

Jackson threw for 3,127 yards and 36 touchdowns this season. He also ran for 1,206 yards and seven scores. He helped the Ravens (14-2) to the league's best regular-season record and the No. 1 seed in the AFC playoffs.

Baltimore lost 28-12 in the divisional round to Tennessee, the biggest upset of the NFL postseason. Jackson threw for 365 yards and a touchdown to go along with 143 yards rushing. But he turned the ball over three times — two interceptions and a fumble.

Still, his performance all season cemented him as one of

the league's rising stars.

"He's just a special player, a special dude," Ravens running back Mark Ingram said. "An elite athlete on the field, a great person off the field, humble, hard worker, leadership. Everything you need in a franchise quarterback, he has it. I'm glad to be with him."

Jackson found fans he never expected at the Pro Bowl. Drew Brees' oldest son, Baylen, fell in love with Jackson this season, so the New Orleans quarterback arranged for them to meet. Baylen wore a Ravens shirt while getting Jackson to sign a Ravens helmet.

Jackson responded by playing catch with him in the AFC locker room.

"It was awesome," Drew Brees said.



## Australian Open

# Bloody Kyrgios moves on to face Nadal

Associated Press

MELBOURNE, Australia — Nick Kyrgios put aside a bloody hand, a hamstring issue, a tiff with the chair umpire and a resilient opponent who saved a pair of match points.

When the Australian Open third-round thriller ended after about 4½ hours Saturday, Kyrgios dropped to his back behind the baseline. Guess what's next for the home-crowd favorite? A much-anticipated matchup with a familiar, but decidedly not friendly, foe: No. 1 Rafael Nadal.

Kyrgios eventually got past No. 16 Karen Khachanov 6-2, 7-6 (5), 6-7 (6), 6-7 (7), 7-6 (8) with the help of 33 aces and what sounded like an entire country of supporters in the stands.

"This is just epic, man," Kyrgios said. "Like, I don't even know what's going on."

Kyrgios initially was a point from winning at 6-5 in the third-set tiebreaker, then again an hour later at 8-7 in the fourth-set tiebreaker, but he needed yet another hour to pull out the victory when Khachanov pushed a backhand wide.

"I was losing it mentally, a lit-

tle bit," Kyrgios said. "I thought I was going to lose, honestly."

Along the way, he hit a dive-and-roll backhand, scraped his knuckles and, after wiping the blood, was warned for a time violation. That set off Kyrgios, who explained why play was delayed and said to the chair umpire, "Are you stupid? Well, take it back then."

There are sure to be more fireworks Monday during the eighth edition of Nadal vs. Kyrgios. Even so, Kyrgios tried to downplay the animosity Saturday, saying: "Whatever happens between us, he's an amazing player. Arguably, he's the greatest of all-time."

So far, Nadal holds a 4-3 head-to-head edge, including a contentious win in their last meeting, at Wimbledon last July.

Nadal was not thrilled that Kyrgios hit a ball right at him in that match. Kyrgios took a different sort of shot at Nadal from afar the other day in Melbourne, mimicking the 33-year-old Spaniard's series of mannerisms before he hits a serve.

"It's clear, of course, that when he does stuff that in my opinion is not good, I don't like

(it). When he plays good tennis and he shows passion for this game, he is a positive player for our tour," Nadal said.

Here's what Nadal loved Saturday: The way he stepped things up during a 6-1, 6-2, 6-4 victory over 27th-seeded Pablo Carreno Busta that required fewer than 100 minutes.

"I needed to improve," Nadal said, "and I improved."

He finished with a total of merely seven unforced errors among the match's 125 total points — and six times as many winners at 42.

"My best match of the tournament so far, without a doubt," Nadal said. "Big difference between today and the previous days."

And to think: Nadal did this after staying up late enough to watch on TV as the man he's chasing in the Grand Slam count, Roger Federer, was pushed to a fifth-set tiebreaker before getting through to the fourth round at nearly 1 a.m.

That was part of a chaotic Day 5 — including losses by Serena Williams and reigning champion Naomi Osaka, who was ousted by 15-year-old sensation Coco Gauff — and the trend continued on Day 6 on

the women's side.

No. 2 Karolina Pliskova, No. 5 Elina Svitolina and No. 6 Belinda Bencic all lost in straight sets, meaning nine of the top 13 seeds already are gone.

Pliskova, the 2016 U.S. Open runner-up, lost 7-6 (4), 7-6 (3) to 30th-seeded Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova. Svitolina, a semifinalist at the past two majors, was beaten 6-1, 6-2 by two-time Slam champ Garbine Muguruza. Bencic, a semifinalist at Flushing Meadows last September, offered even less pushback while being defeated 6-0, 6-1 in 49 minutes by 28th-seeded Anett Kontaveit.

Kontaveit now meets 18-year-old Iga Swiatek, who is ranked 59th and eliminated No. 19 seed Donna Vekic 7-5, 6-3.

"At this level, everything can happen," two-time major champion Simona Halep said about all of the surprises, "so that's why sometimes I'm a little bit stressed."

Halep, who is seeded fourth, stuck around by beating Yulia Putintseva 6-1, 6-4, and next plays No. 16 Elise Mertens, who ended the Grand Slam return of 20-year-old American CiCi Bellis 6-1, 6-7 (5), 6-0.

## Baldwin, No. 13 Butler outlast Marquette in overtime

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — When No. 13 Butler needed scoring punch Friday night, Kamar Baldwin came up with a flurry.

He delivered the knockout punch, too.

The senior guard scored the Bulldogs' final nine points of regulation, erasing a six-point deficit in the final 2½ minutes, then added 10 more in overtime as Butler rallied for a remarkable 89-85 victory over Marquette.

"We just hang together like we're going to get the job done, just encourage one another to fight through it," Baldwin said.

Things easily could have gone the other way for the Bulldogs (16-4, 4-3 Big East). They had two injured teammates out and were staring at the possibility of a fourth consecutive loss with Markus Howard, the nation's leading scorer, lined up against Baldwin.

Instead, Baldwin put his head down and made play after play, finishing with 31 points and eight rebounds — both matching season highs — as well as five assists.

And that wasn't even the most impressive part.

"Markus Howard is really good. Other guys in this league

are really good and he's as good as any of them," Butler coach LaVall Jordan said. "He made some big shots, but I thought defensively was as big as anything."

Howard scored 18 points in the first half when Marquette took a 39-35 lead.

But with Baldwin and Henry Baddley taking turns defending Howard in the second half, Howard only had eight points in the final 25 minutes, finishing with 26 points.

"They made incredible winning plays," coach Steve Wojciechowski said after Marquette's three-game winning

streak ended. "They have a really connected group and a really good player in Kamar Baldwin, who, at the end of the game, we didn't have answers for."

Marquette seemed to be in control when it opened up a 51-42 lead with 13:41 left in regulation and still appeared to be in good shape when it led 68-62 with 2:36 to go.

But Baldwin scored the next nine to give Butler a 71-68 lead. Koby McEwen's three-pointer tied it with 2.9 seconds left. After Baldwin's errant three at the buzzer, he didn't miss many more.

# Giannis, Bucks down Hornets in Paris

Associated Press

PARIS — With the world's two most expensive soccer players cheering him on in Paris on Friday night, Giannis Antetokounmpo took a while to entertain them.

The Greek star found his rhythm late in the game and had 30 points and 12 rebounds to help the NBA-leading Milwaukee Bucks beat the Charlotte Hornets 116-103 for their eighth straight win.

The first NBA regular-season game in France drew some famous faces to the Bercy Arena, among them Paris Saint-Germain stars Neymar and Kylian Mbappe — France's World Cup-winning star.

"It's insane. The crazy part is that we're really big fans of them and they're big fans of the team. You never expect them to know who we are and what we do, and be fans of the Bucks," said Antetokounmpo,

the NBA MVP and PSG fan. "But it was amazing they came to the game. They came to the locker room afterwards, we exchanged jerseys, took pictures with them."

Milwaukee improved to 40-6. The Bucks have the best 46-game start in franchise history. They were 39-7 in 1970-71 when they went on to win the NBA championship.

It was slow-going early on, however, for a sluggish-looking Bucks side which had perhaps done a little too much sight-seeing in recent days, including a visit from Antetokounmpo to PSG's stadium.

"I only practiced once before the game. It's kind of hard to get into a rhythm. We weren't moving the ball as much," said Antetokounmpo, who had his fourth triple-double of the season on Monday against the Chicago Bulls. "Hopefully, we can learn from the game. Close to the third quarter the

bench came back in and did a great job. In the fourth quarter we were able to close out the game."

Eric Bledsoe added 20 points and five assists for the Bucks, while Malik Monk led Charlotte with 31 points.

"I thought Malik was fantastic, made plays for us. He's an incredible athlete," Hornets coach James Borrego said. "The challenge now is to do it on a night-to-night basis."

The Hornets have lost eight in a row — the longest for the Hornets since dropping 10 straight in the 2014-15 season.

Milwaukee rallied to tie it at 78 going into the fourth quarter. Pat Connaughton put the Bucks in front with a dunk in the fourth. Then Antetokounmpo got going, drawing a foul as he slalomed through the defense.

"Our guys competed hard, put us in a position to win the game against the best team in the NBA," Borrego said. "The

start of the fourth starts with a turnover and that set the tone for the rest of the quarter. It spiraled from there."

Mike Budenholzer, meanwhile, improved to 100-28 in regular-season games as coach of the Bucks. There was a reason why this win was such a grind for long periods.

"I thought Charlotte was great tonight," Budenholzer said. "Their defense was great."

There was, naturally, a French feel to the night.

Former San Antonio Spurs star Tony Parker was given a huge ovation by the crowd when he was presented to fans before the game. So was Ronny Turiaf, an NBA champion with the Miami Heat in 2012.

Nicolas Batum, who scored five points for the Hornets, raised his hand to the crowd chanting his name at the end.

## NBA roundup

### Westbrook scores 45 points as Rockets edge T-wolves

Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS — Russell Westbrook scored a season-high 45 points and had 10 assists and Houston overcame another tough night from James Harden, rallying to a 131-124 win over Minnesota.

Westbrook helped key a second-half comeback after Minnesota led by six points in the third quarter. He finished 16-for-27 shooting, was 13-for-13 from the free-throw line and added six rebounds. Eric Gordon scored a season-high 27 points off the bench for Houston, which won its second straight game following a four-game losing streak.

Harden, who went 1-for-17 from three-point range in a home loss to Oklahoma City on Monday night, was 3-for-13 overall and 0-for-6 from beyond the arc against Minnesota. He

finished with a season-low 12 points.

Karl-Anthony Towns had 30 points and 12 rebounds for Minnesota. The Timberwolves have lost eight straight.

**Clippers 122, Heat 117:** Kawhi Leonard had his first career triple-double and scored 33 points, Landry Shamet added 22 and visiting Los Angeles shrugged off an early 15-point deficit to beat Miami.

Leonard finished with 10 rebounds and 10 assists. He was first credited with the triple-double in the third quarter — briefly, because one of his rebounds was taken away after a stat review. He then officially got it on a rebound with 3:55 left.

**Nuggets 113, Pelicans 106:** Nikola Jokic had 27 points and 12 rebounds in Denver's victory over host New Orleans.

Zion Williamson scored 15

points in about 21 minutes for New Orleans. The Pelicans dropped to 0-2 since the NBA's top overall draft choice was activated for the first time this season Wednesday.

**Raptors 118, Knicks 112:** Kyle Lowry scored 26 points, Pascal Siakam had 23 and visiting Toronto beat New York for its sixth straight victory.

A night after being voted to start the All-Star Game, Siakam had two big baskets down the stretch. He drove for a dunk with Toronto leading by only one, then nailed a three-pointer with 21 seconds remaining after the Knicks had closed within three.

**Celtics 109, Magic 98:** Kemba Walker scored 37 points, Gordon Hayward added 22 and Boston overcame a 16-point first-half deficit to beat host Orlando.

**Thunder 140, Hawks 111:**

Danilo Gallinari scored 25 points and Oklahoma City beat visiting Atlanta for its fourth straight win.

**Suns 103, Spurs 99:** Devin Booker had 35 points and 10 assists before fouling out with 1:31 left as host Phoenix snapped an 11-game skid in San Antonio.

**Grizzlies 125, Pistons 112:** Jaren Jackson Jr. scored 24 of his 29 points in the first half and hit a big three-pointer in the fourth quarter in visiting Memphis' victory over Detroit.

**Kings 98, Bulls 81:** Buddy Hield scored 21 points, Harrison Barnes added 19 and Sacramento beat host Chicago to snap a six-game losing streak.

**Pacers 129, Warriors 118:** T.J. Warren scored 21 of his 33 points in the first half, Doug McDermott made four three-pointers in the fourth quarter and visiting Indiana held off Golden State.