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Dems introduce article of impeachment

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — House Democrats on Monday introduced an article of impeachment against President Donald Trump over his incitement last week of the Capitol riot as Republicans blocked an initial attempt to pass a resolution calling on Vice President Mike Pence to use the 25th Amendment to remove the president from office.

Rep. Alex Mooney, R-W.Va., objected to the Democrats' attempt to win unanimous consent for the resolution, meaning the House is expected to reconvene Tuesday to hold a floor vote on the measure.

Democrats are ramping up pressure on Pence to take action following Wednesday's Capitol attack by Trump supporters, who raided the building and forced lawmakers and Pence into hiding for their safety.

The 25th Amendment lays out the procedure for removing a president who is unfit or incapacitated. If Pence does not invoke the amendment, Democrats are expected to hold a vote to impeach Trump as soon as

Wednesday.

It would be the second impeachment of Trump, following one last year over his pressuring of Ukrainian government officials to investigate then-presidential rival and now President-elect Joe Biden.

The House resolution, drafted by Rep. Jamie Raskin, D-Md., is a first step in that process. It calls on Pence and Trump's Cabinet to use the amendment "to declare what is obvious to a horrified nation: That the president is unable to successfully discharge the duties and powers of his office."

So far Pence and other Cabinet officials have shown little appetite for forcibly removing Trump.

Speaker Nancy Pelosi said Sunday that if the 25th Amendment resolution didn't pass Monday in the brief session of Congress, she would call the entire House back into a full session on Tuesday to vote on the resolution.

The vote would put pressure on Republicans to make a politically difficult decision

on whether to back the 25th Amendment removal or to support the president mere days after the violence in the Capitol.

Pelosi gave Pence an ultimatum: He would have 24 hours to act, after which, "we will proceed with bringing impeachment legislation to the floor."

The article of impeachment includes only one charge: "incitement of insurrection."

"Donald John Trump engaged in high crimes and misdemeanors by willfully inciting violence against the government of the United States," the article reads. "He threatened the integrity of the democratic system, interfered with the peaceful transition of power, and imperiled a coordinate branch of government. He thereby betrayed his trust as president, to the manifest injury of the people of the United States."

Passage of the impeachment resolution is all but assured on Tuesday. At least 210 Democrats have cosponsored the resolution, just a few votes short of the number required for passage.

Capitol attack was more sinister than it seemed

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Under battle flags bearing Donald Trump's name, the Capitol's attackers pinned a bloodied police officer in a doorway, his twisted face and screams captured on video. They mortally wounded another officer with a blunt weapon and bodyslammed a third over a railing into the crowd.

"Hang Mike Pence!" the insurrectionists chanted as they pressed inside, beating police with pipes. They demanded House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's whereabouts, too. They hunted any and all lawmakers: "Where are they?" Outside, makeshift gallows stood, complete with sturdy wooden steps and the noose. Guns and pipe bombs had been stashed in the vicinity.

Only days later is the extent of the danger from one of the darkest episodes in American democracy coming into focus. The sinister nature of the assault has become evident, betraying the crowd as a force determined to occupy the inner sanctums of Congress and run down leaders — Trump's vice president and the Democratic House speaker among them.

That revelation came in real time to Rep. Jim McGovern, D-Mass., who briefly took over proceedings in the House chamber as the mob closed in Wednesday and Pelosi was spirited to safer quarters moments before everything went haywire.

"I saw this crowd of people banging on that glass screaming," McGovern told The Associated Press on Sunday. "Looking at their faces, it occurred to me, these aren't protesters. These are people who want to do harm."

The FBI is investigating whether some of the attackers intended to kidnap members of Congress and hold them hostage. Authorities are particularly focused on why some in the mob were seen carrying plastic zip-tie handcuffs and had apparently accessed areas of the Capitol generally difficult for the public to locate.

Thousands had swarmed the Capitol. They charged into police and metal barri-

cades outside the building, shoving and hitting officers in their way. The assault quickly pushed through the vastly outnumbered police line.

In the melee outside a man threw a fire extinguisher at the helmeted head of a police officer. Then he picked up a bullhorn and threw it at officers, too.

The identity of the officer could not immediately be confirmed. But Capitol Police officer Brian Sicknick, who was wounded in the chaos, died the next night; officials say he had been hit in the head with a fire extinguisher.

As lawmakers inside the House chamber prepared to be evacuated, a gunshot was heard from right outside, in the Speaker's Lobby on the other side of the barricaded doors. That's when Ashli Babbit, wearing a Trump flag like a cape, was shot to death.

The Air Force veteran from California had climbed through a broken window into the Speaker's Lobby before a police officer's gunshot felled her.

Officer at rally was in process of leaving Army

By Corey Dickstein Stars and Stripes

An Army captain who faces scrutiny from military leaders for her attendance Wednesday at President Donald Trump's rally just before a deadly riot at the U.S. Capitol was already in the process of leaving the service, an Army spokesman said Monday.

Capt. Emily Rainey, a psychological operations officer stationed at Fort Bragg, N.C., resigned her commission last year after a run-in with local law enforcement, though she remains on active-duty awaiting her discharge, said Army Capt. John Strickland, a spokesman for 1st Special Forces Command. That command oversees Rainey's unit, the 4th Psychological Op-

erations Group, a special operations unit tasked with influencing the acts and decision-making of U.S. adversaries.

"She had applied to leave the Army several months ago," Strickland said.

Rainey, 30, told The Associated Press on Sunday that she had led a group from North Carolina to attend the rally to "stand against election fraud" after Trump encouraged his followers to visit the national capital to protest as Congress voted to certify the election victory of President-elect Joe Biden.

She said she had not participated in the subsequent violence at the Capitol and she did not enter the building. She also insisted she had not violated Army regulations.

"I was a private citizen and doing everything right and within my rights," Rainey told the AP.

Strickland said the Army had not launched a formal investigation into her participation in the rally, but her commanders were conducting a "fact-finding mission" to determine whether rules had been violated.

Army officials said Monday that the service was working to determine whether any of its personnel had participated in the violent siege, which briefly delayed Congress' certification of Biden's win. Strickland said 1st Special Forces Command had not seen any evidence to indicate any of its soldiers were involved in the violent clash at the Capitol.

In May, Rainey was charged with injury to personal property by police in Southern Pines, N.C., after she posted video to social media showing her pulling down caution tape meant to keep children off a playground that was closed under state coronavirus restrictions.

After that incident, the Army took unspecified adverse administrative actions against Rainey, Strickland said. He declined to say what punishment Rainey faced.

Rainey has not been charged with any crime related to the incident last week.

Lawmakers on Monday urged the Pentagon to prosecute any service members who participated in the attack on the Capitol.

USAF vet was on Senate floor in helmet during riot

Fort Worth (Texas) Star-Telegram

FORT WORTH, Texas — Retired Air Force Lt. Col. Larry Brock Jr., of Texas, who prosecutors said participated last week in the violent intrusion at the U.S. Capitol, was charged in federal court on Sunday.

Brock, 53, from Grapevine, was arrested by the FBI in Texas and charged in U.S. District Court with knowingly entering a restricted building without lawful authority and violent entry and disorderly conduct on Capitol grounds.

The case, like others involving people who are alleged to have stormed the Capitol, is being prosecuted by the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia.

Brock told The New Yorker that the presidential election in November, in which the Air Force veteran's preferred candidate, President Donald Trump, lost, was fraudulent, a position that is not supported by evidence.

Brock entered the U.S. Capitol and wore a green helmet and tactical vest, black and camouflage jacket and beige pants, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office. He carried flex handcuffs used in law enforcement.

Brock was photographed carrying the flex handcuffs, which he told The New Yorker he had found on the ground

In The New Yorker interview, published on Saturday, Brock, who wore tactical gear and a helmet during the riot, said that he went to Washington to demonstrate peacefully. "The president asked for his supporters to be there to attend, and I felt like it was important, because of how much I love this country, to actually be there," he said.

When he arrived at the Capitol, Brock said that he assumed he was welcome to enter the building, the article reported.

At least 25 domestic terrorism cases opened after Capitol attack

Bloomberg

At least 25 domestic terrorism cases have been opened after Wednesday's assault on the U.S. Capitol by a pro-Trump mob, a Democratic lawmaker said, citing Army Secretary Ryan McCarthy.

Rep. Jason Crow, D-Colo., released a summary Sunday of a conversation he had with McCarthy about security planning for President-elect Joe Biden's inauguration.

"Long guns, Molotov cocktails, explosive devices, and zipties were recovered, which suggests a greater disaster was narrowly averted," said Crow, a former Ranger and veteran of Iraq and Afghanistan.

Crow was photographed Wednesday gripping the arm of Rep. Susan Wild, D-Pa., as lawmakers took cover between rows of seats in the House chamber.

Earlier on Sunday, Washington, D.C., Mayor Muriel Bowser, a Democrat, asked the Department of Homeland

A mob of pro-Trump extremists overwhelmed the U.S. Capitol Police force Jan. 6, storming into the Capitol and forcing their way into the House and Senate chambers and law-makers' offices. The failure to protect the seat of American democracy was unparalleled in modern times.

Crow said law enforcement and the Department of Defense had prepared for small-bore violence, such as stabbings and fist fights, similar to those at past rallies, as well as much smaller numbers of participants.

Navy plans to compete with Russia, China

By Caitlin M. Kenney Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — A new plan released Monday by the Navy's top officer lays out the priorities for the service in the next decade in order for the United States to maintain its military advantage at sea over China and Russia.

"I don't mean to be dramatic, but I feel like if the Navy loses its head, if we go off course and really take our eyes off those things we need to focus on with respect to readiness, capabilities, capacity and sailors, I think we may not be able to recover in this century, based on the trajectory that the Chinese are on right now," said Adm. Michael Gilday, the chief of naval oper-

The Navy released its "navigation plan," a road map of the top four priorities that Gilday said he believes the service must focus on in the next decade. The plan comes as a supplement to last month's TriService Maritime Strategy, which also raised concerns about a rapidly growing Chinese fleet — the primary long-term threat for the Navy, according the plan. That strategy also points to Russia's aggressive behavior and the need for the Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard to prioritize alliances and partnerships and be more assertive in day-to-day competition.

The four priorities in the navigation plan to meet the needs of sea control and projecting naval power in the next decade are investing in the training and education of sailors and eliminating bias and prejudice, readiness by making certain ship maintenance is done on time, capabilities by investing in cyber and intelligence as well as weapons such as lasers that can defeat anti-ship cruise missiles, and capacity with a large hybrid fleet composed of manned and unmanned ships.

America is a maritime country that follows a rules-based order at sea set after World War II and it is growing more dependent on trade, energy, and communication systems that come via the sea, Gilday said.

"Now more than ever, our lives and our livelihoods literally float on seawater. But now this order and our collective security is under threat. Today, China and Russia are undermining the free and the open conditions at sea. Optimism that they might become responsible partners has given way to the realization that they are determined rivals," he said during the plan's announcement Monday at the Surface Naval Association's 33rd National Symposium, which is being held virtually this week.

The navigation plan emphasizes the Navy's primary roles of control on the sea and projecting naval power forward across the world, and how the service's planning for training, equipment and personnel must meet the needs of those roles, Gilday said.

High court to hear case seeking N. Korea's Kim Navy help to clean Guam dump

By Caitlin Doornbos Stars and Stripes

The U.S. Supreme Court will hear arguments this spring in Guam's quest to get the Navy to help pay to clean up a dump the service used for three decades, the court announced Friday.

The case, filed in 2017, says the Navy should foot the \$160 million bill to remediate Ordot Dump — or "at least pay its fair share of the cleanup costs," according to court documents.

The landfill, which leaked waste into the Lonfit River and two of its tributaries. was under Navy and U.S. government supervision before World War II until it was given to Guam in the early 1970s.

The United States in 2002 sued Guam under the Clean Water Act to have Ordot cleaned, according to court documents. The parties settled in 2004, leaving Guam to pay a penalty, design and install a cover and close the dump. Cleanup began in 2013, when Ordot closed.

Guam's lawsuit argues the Navy should help pay for the cleanup and fixing the environmental damage, "which included capping the landfill, installing stormwater management ponds, discharge water storage tanks and a sewer line," Stars and Stripes reported in March 2017.

"Guam is left on the hook for all of the costs — more than \$160 million — of cleaning up a waste site that the United States Navy itself created and then used to dump toxic wastes for decades going back to World War II," according to Guam's petition in October to the Supreme Court.

"That figure is a staggering sum for the people of Guam, alone comprising nearly a fifth of its total annual budget," it continued. "Meanwhile, the United States, which indisputably is a responsible party, gets off scot-free."

Guam brought the suit under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act, "which allows parties to recover remediation costs from other responsible parties within six years of the initiation of a remedial action," according to the petition.

A federal district court in Connecticut ruled the suit could proceed, a decision reversed by the appellate court in Washington, D.C. The appellate court ruled that the 2002 settlement between Guam and the U.S. triggered a provision in the Clean Water Act that reduced the statute of limitations from six to three years.

given general secretary title

Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea - North Korean leader Kim Jong Un was given the title of general secretary of the ruling Workers' Party formerly held by his late father and grandfather, state media reported Monday, in a move apparently aimed at bolstering his authority amid growing economic challenges.

The designation was North Korea's latest step taken during its first ruling party congress since 2016.

During the meeting, Kim also vowed to build more sophisticated nuclear weapons, disclosed economic developmental goals and reshuffled party officials. But observers doubt whether such moves can offer North Korea any substantial solutions to difficulties that include coronavirus-related economic shocks, natural disasters and persistent U.S.-led sanctions.

The congress announced Kim's new title during the sixth day of the meeting Sunday. A congress statement said Kim "has gloriously realized the historic mission to complete the country's nuclear build-up plan," according to the official Korean Central News Agency.

Wintry storm envelops southern states in snow

Associated Press

A winter storm has brought snow to parts of the U.S. South, moving into Alabama and Tennessee on Monday after blowing across Texas, Louisiana and Mississippi the day before. The blanket of white falling across the region forced some school and government office closures, and fostered some play time for adults and children cooped up in the pandemic.

As many as 6 inches of snow fell across parts of southern Texas, the National Weather Service in Houston reported Sunday night. The snow contributed to slick roads and power outages, but some families took time to enjoy the weather in areas like Austin and College Station.

The system moved into Louisiana and Mississippi during the nighttime hours, with Louisiana State Police warning people in an online video to stay off the roads if possible.

By Monday morning, a light dusting covered grassy and elevated surfaces across the regions of northern Alabama and southern Tennessee.

Snowfall totals of about 4 inches were expected for areas between Center, Texas, and Natchitoches, La., KSLA-TV reported. State government offices in 29 parishes will be closed Monday — including in Caddo Parish, where Shreveport is located — according to The Advocate.

More than 100,000 customers in Texas and over 45,000 customers in Louisiana were without power early Monday morning, according to poweroutage.us, a utility tracking website.

Several school districts were closed, delayed or scheduled for only virtual learning in Mississippi and southern Arkansas, news outlets reported.

The National Weather Service in Jackson said that 2 to 4 inches of snow were expected for areas including Vicksburg and Yazoo City, with locally heavier amounts possible.

Communities further south in Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama missed the snow, but got rain or sleet.

Record snow, ice levels hamper Spaniards' lives, vaccine rollout

Associated Press

MADRID — The Spanish capital is trying to get back on its feet after a 50-year record snowfall that paralyzed large parts of central Spain over the weekend. It has now led to icy weather that is hampering the rollout of the much-needed vaccination against the coronavirus.

With a sharp drop in temperatures on Monday and frost freezing much of the snow, which reached more than 20 inches in some urban areas, authorities are calling on people to avoid all but essential trips out of their homes.

Nearly 700 roads remain affected throughout Spain, with winter tires or chains needed on roughly half of them, transit authority DGT said.

In Madrid, authorities are calling on citizens to avoid using the few lanes that civil protection and military battalions, aided by snowplows and bulldozers, have managed to clear for ambulances and emergency vehicles.

The airport, which had been closed since Friday evening, saw a dozen flights take off or land on Monday and was exto resume full operations "throughout Monday," Transport Minister José Luis Ábalos said in an interview with Spain's TVE. But a new batch of 350,000 doses of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine that Spain was expecting to receive on Monday at the Madrid airport had to be diverted to the northern city of Vitoria, where a difficult effort to distribute it throughout the rest of the country by land was underway. Schools were closed on Monday in the regions of Castilla La Mancha, Madrid and many other areas of Spain.

At least four people have died as a result of flash floods or low temperatures brought by Storm Filomena. The blizzard also trapped over 1,500 people in their vehicles, some of them for up to 24 hours.

Indonesia navy hunts for black boxes in water

Associated Press

JAKARTA, Indonesia — Indonesian navy divers scoured the floor of the Java Sea on Monday as they hunted for the black boxes of a Sriwijaya Air jet that nosedived into the water over the weekend with 62 people aboard.

The Boeing 737-500 jet disappeared minutes after taking off from Jakarta, Indonesia's capital, during heavy rain on Saturday, and the search so far has yielded plane parts and human remains but no sign of survivors.

Authorities have said signals from the boxes containing the cockpit voice and flight data recorders were detected between Lancang and Laki islands in the Thousand Island chain just north of Jakarta. Officials said they have marked a location where the sounds were being emitted from the black boxes, which detached from the tail of the aircraft when it plummeted into the sea

More than a dozen helicopters, 53 navy ships and 20 boats, and 2,600 rescue personnel have been searching since Sunday and have found parts of the plane in the water at a depth of 75 feet.

Television footage showed landing gear, wheels and a jet engine among the parts found, while other rescuers brought several body bags containing human remains to a police hospital in eastern Jakarta for the identification process.

Searchers have sent 17 body bags containing human remains to police identification experts who on Monday said they'd identified their first victim, 29-year-old man, Okky Bisma, a flight attendant.

The transport committee's chairman, Soerjanto Tjahjono, said the black boxes could provide valuable information to investigators. Once the device is found and taken to the investigators' facility, it will take three to five days to dry and clean the device and to download its data, Tjahjono said.

Tjahjono ruled out a possible midair breakup after seeing the condition of the wreckage found by searchers.

He said the jet was intact when it plunged and it broke into pieces upon the impact with the water. The debris was concentrated in one area, while a midair explosion would have caused debris to be spread over a large area, he said.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Man pleads guilty to assaulting mail carrier after stealing key

RICHMOND—Federal prosecutors said a Virginia man has pleaded guilty to assaulting a U.S. Postal Service carrier in Richmond.

Court documents say that the assault happened on June 5, 2020. According to a news release from federal prosecutors, Erriette Williams, 45, approached a carrier delivering mail in a neighborhood north of downtown. Williams grabbed a key from the carrier and dared him to take the key back, then punched him in the face. The key was for a parcel locker. Authorities say the assault was captured on video.

The mail carrier had lacerations on his face and required medical attention, according to the news release.

Williams is scheduled to be sentenced on May 7. He faces a maximum penalty of 20 years in prison.

Witness fired upon by group stripping car for parts in lot

PA BETHLEHEM — Police said a witness who apparently surprised a group of men stripping a car in an eastern Pennsylvania parking lot was fired upon by the fleeing suspects.

Bethlehem Township police said four men drove into the lot shortly after 2:30 a.m. Thursday in two cars, one of which had been reported stolen in Philipsburg, N.J., about an hour ear6lier. Police said the men started to strip that car of its rims and parts, taking tools from another car in the lot that had been reported stolen in Allentown.

Police said the four were startled by a witness and started to flee in the other car in which they had arrived. But before the car entered Nazareth Pike to flee south, one man leaned out of the window and fired four rounds at the witness. The car went further south and then a passenger fired at least 13 more rounds.

Police said they are working with investigators in Lehigh County to find out whether the incident is connected to a similar crime the day after Christmas in Whitehall Township, where two shots were fired into a house after an attempted theft of a catalytic converter.

Police ID woman in child abandonment at casino

LAS VEGAS — Police in Las Vegas have identified a woman sought for questioning after a 3-year-old girl believed to be her daughter was found abandoned in a casino restroom.

Officer Misael Parra said Friday that investigators don't know where 26-year-old Mariam Ramos lives, but learned she frequently visited casinos downtown and on the Las Vegas Strip.

Ramos is accused of abandoning the child in a woman's restroom at Wynn Las Vegas the morning of Dec. 29.

Police released a video statement describing the woman, who is Black, after she was seen on casino surveillance video wearing a blond wig with a ponytail and walking with the child.

Parra said the girl was not physically harmed and was placed in the care of Clark County Child Protective Services.

Tiny home village meant for homeless gets vandalized

PORTLAND — County officials and police said the opening of a tiny home village for homeless people in North Portland has been delayed after a vandal destroyed nearly every sleeping pod in the shelter.

Officer Melissa Newhard, a Portland Police Bureau spokeswoman, told The Oregonian that the vandal entered the St. Johns Village on Dec. 19 and broke out windows in 15 of the shelter's 19 tiny homes. The vandalism caused about \$8,000 of damage in the newly-purchased single-occupancy pods.

Each of the pods, or tiny homes, is about 8-by-12 feet, with electricity, heat systems and a built-in bed. A common building with a kitchen, bathroom and other amenities will be added to the site.

The pods had only been at the site for about two days before the vandal struck, Joint Office of Homeless Services spokes-

man Denis Theriault said. The shelter was originally expected to open at the end of the December, but the vandalism and other delays have pushed that date until Feb. 1.

Man charged with 18th drunken driving offense; had valid license

GREEN BAY — A 73-year-old Green Bay man has been charged with his 18th drunken driving offense, after a crash Friday that took out power lines and caused an outage.

Wallace Bowers had 17 prior operating while intoxicated convictions between 1988 and 2011, but he had a valid license at the time of Friday's crash.

WLUK-TV reported that Wisconsin law now requires driver's licenses to be revoked after a 4th OWI conviction, if the most recent conviction was within 15 years. But Bowers' last conviction was in 2011, before the new law went into effect in 2018.

"I've been sober since the 2011 (incident), that last DWI, and I blame the medications I have to be on (they) can interfere with the few drinks I did have," Bowers told Court Commissioner Cynthia Vopal during an initial court appearance.

County cracking down on wrong recycling items put in bins

SC CHARLESTON — One South Carolina county is checking some home recycling bins to make sure nothing that can't be recycled easily is inside.

Charleston County said beginning this month, workers are looking inside random bins to see if they have items that aren't accepted by the county's recycling program like plastic bags, Styrofoam, wood, concrete, cables and cords.

Wrong items can damage equipment used to sort recyclable material and cost workers time to pull out beforehand, the county said in a statement.

Bins with improper items will have a tag placed on them with information about what can be recycled, like glass bottles and jars, aluminum and steel cans, plastic bottles and flattened cardboard boxes, officials said.

— From wire reports



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Browns overcome burden of history, beat Steelers

Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — So much for the weight of history. Or practicing. Or having your head coach on the sideline. Or an emotional leader on the field.

The Cleveland Browns overcame all of it. The burden of carrying the mantle of a franchise that's long been a punchline. A schedule ravaged by a COVID-19 outbreak. A rival that for years has treated them like a harmless little brother.

All of that's over. For now. And maybe for good.

The Browns dismantled the Pittsburgh Steelers 48-37 in the wild-card round Sunday night, picking up the franchise's first postseason victory in more than a quarter-century and earning a trip to Kansas City next Sunday to face the defending Super Bowl champions.

"We believe in the people in the room no matter what's going on," quarterback Baker Mayfield said. "We knew that everybody was counting us out. There was no extra pressure or anything. No one believed in us besides us."

Playing with first-year head coach Kevin Stefanski, Pro Bowl guard Joel Bitonio and top cornerback Denzel Ward back in Cleveland after all tested positive for COVID-19, Cleveland (12-5) raced to the biggest first half by a road team in NFL playoff history, then held on

Mayfield threw for 263 yards and three touchdowns, including a screen pass that

Nick Chubb turned into a 40-yard score that halted Pittsburgh's momentum after the Steelers pulled within 12. Kareem Hunt added 48 yards and two TDs rushing while Cleveland's defense forced five turnovers to hand the Steelers (12-5) a staggering loss.

The victory was the Browns' first postseason triumph of any kind since beating New England on New Year's Day 1995 — three months before Mayfield was born — and their first playoff win on the road since Dec. 28, 1969.

Cleveland did it despite practicing just once over the last two weeks and having lost 17 straight at Heinz Field. The Browns did it with efficiency and swagger. And they did it with special teams coordinator Mike Priefer at the controls and offensive coordinator Alex Van Pelt taking over the play-calling duties as Stefanski watched in his basement back in Ohio.

"We have a resilient team," Mayfield said. "Defense played great in the first half and we kind of stalled out and let them climb back in the game, but that's a great team win right there — guys stepping up all over the board. I'm proud of these guys."

The Steelers certainly helped, ending a season in which they started 11-0 with a thud that could reverberate for years. Ben Roethlisberger ended his comeback season by throwing for 501 yards on an NFL-record 47 completions with four touchdowns and four interceptions.

Saints pull away late, defeat Bears

Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — Drew Brees will get to celebrate his 42nd birthday by preparing for a playoff game that will also feature the one active NFL quarterback older than him.

Brees completed 28 of 39 passes for 265 yards, connecting with Michael Thomas and Latavius Murray for touchdowns, and the New Orleans Saints defeated the Chicago Bears 21-9 in an NFC wild-card game.

The victory for the Saints (13-4) and Brees, who turns 42 on Friday, sets up a divisional-round meeting next weekend in the Superdome with Tampa Bay and 43-year-old QB Tom Brady. New Orleans won each regular season matchup with the NFC South rival by double digits.

"The minute that he signed with the Bucs and came to the division, you felt like that was going to be a team to contend with, that was going to be a team that would have playoff aspirations and beyond, just like us," Brees said of meeting Brady in the playoffs for the first time. "So, I guess it was inevitable."

Alvin Kamara rushed for 99 yards and added a 3-yard touchdown run in the fourth quarter after sitting out the regular-season finale and not practicing this past week because of contracting COVID-19.

"I was fine, no real symptoms," Kamara said of his absence. "I got a bye week. It's like, you have no choice but to sit and recover and get your body back right. I felt good."

QB Jackson, Ravens top Tennessee

Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Lamar Jackson finally has his first postseason victory — and on the road, no less.

Combine that with Baltimore smothering 2,000-yard rusher Derrick Henry, and the Ravens look playoff tough.

Jackson ran for 136 yards and a 48-yard touchdown while throwing for 179 more as the Ravens rallied from 10 points down and beat the Tennessee Titans 20-13 Sunday in their AFC wild-card game.

Baltimore also held Tennessee to its fewest points all season.

The Titans (11-6) had the ball and a chance to tie when Marcus Peters intercepted Ryan Tannehill's pass intended for Kalif Raymond with 1:50 left. After the turnover, the Ravens came onto the field and started waving good-bye to the Titans — drawing a taunting penalty they didn't mind at all.

"We finished finally," Jackson said. "We finally finished."

Tannehill thought Raymond was bumped by Peters.

"It definitely looked like it could've been a flag and probably should've been, but it wasn't thrown, so here we are," Tannehill said.

The Ravens (12-5) snapped a string of 21 straight games lost by the franchise in either the regular season or playoffs when trailing by 10 or more. They will play Buffalo in a divisional game set up by how Baltimore stopped Henry for the first time in three games.

The All-Pro ran all over the Ravens with 328 yards rushing combined in the past two meetings. With both Calais Campbell and Brandon Williams back on the Baltimore Dline, Henry had his worst performance this season with 18 carries for 40 yards.

"Our defense was tired of hearing the noise," Jackson said. "And they did what they were supposed to do."

Baltimore also slowed a Tennessee offense that tied for fourth averaging 30.7 points a game and had more offensive yards per game during the season than any team but Kansas City. The Ravens finished with a 401-209 yards edge in total offense.

"We won the division, hosted a home playoff game," Titans coach Mike Vrabel said. "Wasn't good enough today."

Jokic paces Nuggets' rout of Knicks

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Nikola Jokic had 22 points, 10 rebounds and five assists in another short night, and the Denver Nuggets reached .500 for the first time this season with a 114-89 victory over the New York Knicks on Sunday.

The Nuggets opened 1-4 after reaching the Western Conference finals last season but have now answered with four wins in five games.

The last two were easy. Denver pulled away from the seven-man 76ers in the third quarter and rested their starters in the fourth of a 115-103 victory Saturday. They jumped on the Knicks much earlier Sunday and it was never a game after halftime. This was the first time the Nuggets allowed fewer than 100 points this season.

"I think our defense in the last five has been a lot better than it was to begin the season in the first five games," Denver coach Michael Malone said. "A marked improvement."

Gary Harris added 14 points for the Nuggets, who got only nine from star guard Jamal Murray.

"I think Jokic puts a lot of pressure on you, so you can't let your guard down for a second," New York coach Tom Thibodeau said. "And I thought we got in a hole early and when you give a team like that that type of confidence, it's very difficult to come back on them."

Julius Randle had 29 points, 10 rebounds

and five assists for the Knicks, which the team said made him the only player other than Hall of Famer Oscar Robertson to have at least 200 points, 115 rebounds and 70 assists in his team's first 10 games of a season.

But Randle had little help with nobody else over 12 points as New York dropped its second straight following a three-game winning streak. They were held to an anemic 89 points in both games.

Denver led 28-21 after one, then made its first six shots of the second with its reserves on the floor to open a 40-22 lead on JaMychal Green's layup. The lead ballooned to 22 late in the first half before the Nuggets took a 59-38 advantage to the break.

"We huddle up before the tipoff and just say let's be better than the other team's bench," reserve Monte Morris said. "Let's go out there and try to bring the energy and if the starters start slow let's pick them up ,and if they start fast let's sustain whatever they got going on."

Jokic had eight points while playing the whole third quarter and the Nuggets led by as much as 30 in the fourth.

Lakers 120, Rockets 102: Anthony Davis had 27 points, LeBron James added 18 and Los Angeles won for the sixth time in seven games with a victory at Houston.

It was a testy game that included five technical fouls, two flagrant fouls and the first-half ejections of Markieff Morris and DeMarcus Cousins.

Thunder 129, Nets 116: Shai Gilgeous-

Alexander scored 31 points to lead Oklahoma City to a win at Brooklyn.

Gilgeous-Alexander was one of six players to finish in double-figure scoring for the Thunder, who won their third straight and beat the Nets for the fifth consecutive time.

Warriors 106, Raptors 105: Damion Lee converted the tying and go-ahead free throws with 3.3 seconds left and Golden State withstood a rough fourth quarter to hold off visiting Toronto despite uncharacteristic struggles by Stephen Curry.

Pascal Siakam missed a jumper as the buzzer sounded but finished with 25 points, and Fred VanVleet scored 21 for the Raptors.

Jazz 96, Pistons 86: Donovan Mitchell scored 13 of his 28 points in a decisive first quarter, and Utah held on for a victory at Detroit.

The Pistons were coming off an overtime win over Phoenix on Friday night in which they rallied from a 23-point deficit, but they couldn't climb out of another big hole. The Jazz scored the game's first nine points and never trailed. They went on a 17-0 run later in the first, pushing their lead to 20 before the quarter was over.

Timberwolves 96, Spurs 88: D'Angelo Russell had 27 points, five rebounds and five assists as host Minnesota snapped a seven-game losing streak with a win over San Antonio.

Russell scored eight of his points in the fourth quarter.

Leonard reaches 10,000 points as Clippers beat Bulls

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Freed from the pesky mask he'd been wearing on court for two weeks, Kawhi Leonard cut loose. Getting a steal and a dunk, hitting three-pointer after three-pointer.

He finished with a season-high 35 points, going over 10,000 in his career, and the Los Angeles Clippers rallied to beat the Chicago Bulls 130-127 on Sunday.

"It's a steppingstone, but I don't really care about it," Leonard said of his milestone. "Maybe when I retire I'll sit back and look at the accomplishments. Right now it's about being greedy and wanting more."

Leonard reached the 10,000 plateau on one of his five three-pointers in the third quarter, when he scored 21 points. His points and three-pointers made were the most in a single quarter in his career.

"He understood how they were guarding him and he took advantage of it," teammate Paul George said. "He was hot, so we definitely kept finding him."

Leonard's last three-pointer in the quarter gave the Clippers their first lead since they scored the game's first basket. In all, he had seven three-pointers, tying his career high.

"We needed every bit of it," Clippers coach Tyronn Lue said.

Leonard had 12 points in the first half, when the Clippers trailed by seven at the break. He got a steal and dunk for his first points of the third, then made five straight three-pointers before closing out his explosive quarter with a pair of baskets, the last of

which tied the game at 87.

For the first time in two weeks, Leonard no longer needs the on-court mask he wore strapped around his head to protect eight stitches in his mouth. He got hit by teammate Serge Ibaka's elbow at Denver on Christmas.

George had 28 points, seven rebounds and nine assists for the Clippers, who avoided their first three-game losing streak of the season. Lou Williams added 21 points off the bench.

Zach LaVine led six Bulls in double figures with a season-high 45 points — four off his career high — and he made a season-best 10 three-pointers. Garrett Temple added 18 points and Patrick Williams had 17 points. Coby White had a career-high 13 assists. Chicago dropped its third in a row.

PGA moves event from Trump National

Associated Press

KAPALUA, Hawaii — The PGA of America cut ties to President Donald Trump when it voted Sunday to take the PGA Championship event away from his New Jersey golf course next year.

The vote comes four days after the Trump-fueled riot at the nation's Capitol as Congress was certifying the election victory of President-elect Joe Biden. This is the second time in just over five years the PGA of America removed one of its events from a Trump course.

PGA President Jim Richerson says the board voted to exercise its right to "terminate the agreement" with Trump National in Bedminster, N.J.

"We find ourselves in a political situation not of our making," Seth Waugh, the CEO of the PGA of America, said in a telephone interview. "We're fiduciaries for our members, for the game, for our mission and for

our brand. And how do we best protect that? Our feeling was given the tragic events of Wednesday that we could no longer hold it at Bedminster. The damage could have been irreparable. The only real course of action was to leave."

The PGA of America, which has some 29,000 golf professionals who mostly teach the game, signed the deal with Trump National in 2014.

It canceled the PGA Grand Slam of Golf in 2015 at Trump National Los Angeles Golf Club after Trump's disparaging remarks about Mexican immigrants when he announced he was seeking the Republican nomination for president. The event was canceled for good the following spring.

English ends long win drought in Hawaii

KAPALUA, Hawaii — Harris English once was considered a part of the future of American golf.

He won a Nationwide Tour event while he was still at Georgia. He had two PGA Tour titles when he was 24. His demeanor was ideal for golf, never too bothered my much and steady with his emotions.

That now seems like a long time ago, and it was. English had gone 192 starts on the PGA Tour over seven years since he last won, a drought that ended with a series of clutch shots that carried him to a playoff victory Sunday in the Sentry Tournament of Champions.

"It's awesome to get some validation," English said.

In some respects, it represents a restart to a career that could take him places he hasn't been. The victory took him to a career-best No. 17 in the world, and he doesn't want to stop there.

"I'm still not satisfied with where I'm at in the game. There's still a lot more that I want to accomplish," English said. "Hopefully, this is just the tip of the iceberg of me getting better and better, and hopefully having a chance to win a lot more tournaments."

This was not a victory out of nowhere at Kapalua.

English began his turnaround after his lowest point in a two-year slump that cost him full status on the PGA Tour. His coach, Justin Parsons, told him he was on the right path and English proved it. Knowing he would have limited events, he did well enough in the fall of 2019 to build some momentum.

During the three months the PGA Tour was shut down because of the COVID-19 pandemic, he worked just as hard and played money games at Sea Island to keep sharp.

"I felt like you could use the quarantine period where we didn't play golf, you could either hang out and relax or you could use that time to get better," he said.

Morsell paces Terrapins' tasty win over No. 12 Illini

Associated Press

CHAMPAIGN, Ill. — Darryl Morsell scored 19 points, Donta Scott added 16 and Maryland upset No. 12 Illinois 66-63 on Sunday

The game was fast-paced and close throughout. Hakim Hart hit a three-pointer with 4:08 left to give the Terrapins a 62-61 lead, which Maryland didn't relinquish.

"They're a great basketball team, a team I think could be a Final Four team," Terrapins coach Mark Turgeon said of the Illini. "This league ... I've never seen anything like it. It's absolutely relentless."

Ayo Dosunmu scored 23 points for Illinois (9-4, 5-2 Big Ten) and Kofi Cockburn added 21 points and 10 rebounds. Dosunmu missed a long three-pointer at the buzzer that would have tied it.

"I thought it was going in," Dosunmu said. "Honestly, it felt good but it hit the back of the rim."

Aaron Wiggins added 12 points for Mary-

land (7-6, 2-5). The Terrapins limped in on a three-game Big Ten losing streak, including two double-digit home losses.

No. 5 lowa 86, No. 17 Minnesota 71: Luka Garza scored 33 points and Joe Wieskamp added 20 as the host Hawkeyes held off the Golden Gophers.

Jordan Bohannon had 19 points and a career-high 14 assists for Iowa (11-2, 5-1 Big Ten), which avenged its overtime loss to Minnesota on Christmas. Bohannon did not have a turnover in 36 minutes.

The Hawkeyes, who led 39-37 at halftime, opened the second half with a 22-6 run. Garza had 10 of his points in that stretch.

No. 19 Virginia Tech 77, Notre Dame 63: Jalen Cone scored 18 points off the bench to lift the host Hokies.

Cone connected on 5-for-11 from the floor, including four three-pointers, as Virginia Tech (9-2, 3-1 Atlantic Coast Conference) bounced back from Wednesday's loss at Louisville. The team has won five of six

games and five consecutive home games.

Keve Aluma added 15 points and 12 rebounds, and Hunter Cattoor had 15 points for the Hokies, who held the Fighting Irish to just two field goals in the second half.

Navy 73, Lehigh 58: Cam Davis had 17 points as the host Midshipmen defeated the Mountain Hawks.

John Carter Jr. had 18 points for Navy (7-1, 4-0 Patriot League), which earned its sixth consecutive win. Tyler Nelson added 10 points and eight rebounds. Patrick Dorsey had six rebounds.

Holy Cross 70, Army 61: Austin Butler posted his seventh career double-double with 13 points and 14 rebounds to lead the Crusaders to a road win.

Matt Faw had 15 points five rebounds and tied his career high with four steals for Holy Cross (2-2, 2-2 Patriot League).

Alex King had 21 points for the Black Knights (6-3, 2-2). Josh Caldwell added 12 points.