



CIRCULATION VERIFICATION COUNCIL



# The Villager



A Community Service Weekly Since 1973  
4132 E. 12th Street Austin, Texas 78721

www.TheAustinVillager.com

TPA TEXAS PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION



This paper can be recycled



Vol. 47 No. 9

Phone: 512-476-0082

Email: vil3202@aol.com

September 11, 2020



RAPPIN' Tommy Wyatt

## THE 40th Anniversary of BET (Black Entertainment Television)!!

BLACK ENTERTAINMENT TELEVISION (BET) has been celebrating its 40th Anniversary for most of 2020. During this time, we have been taken back to the area of the early days when African Americans were having a very difficult time of entering the entertainment industry. And they also reminded us of when Blacks were not taken serious when they applied for roles in movies and television.

They have not been short of covering the entire entertainment industry. This includes the Good and Bad of this period.

In addition to covering entertainment they also have brought to life the struggle for acceptance in the country, from The Civil Rights Movement to the election of the First Black President of the United States.

This has been a time for us to educate our children about our history. It also teaches them of the struggle for equality. It gives them a clear history of their ancestors.

While there are many people in our community who do not feel that we should be encouraging our children to watch these programs, it is necessary for them to fully understand why there are Peaceful Demonstrations today demanding "Black Lives Matter" the same as all other lives matter.

They can better understand why there is still inequality 200 years after the end of Slavery.

We should all encourage our kids to watch these programs, even the ones that do not always show positive images of us.

**BET needs to be given an award for having the courage to show a complete picture of the Black Community.**

## US to draw down to 3,000 troops in Iraq

BY REBECCA KHEEL | THE HILL



Photo by DoD/USMC Flickr

(THE HILL) - The United States will withdraw more than 2,000 troops from Iraq this month, the top U.S. general in the region said Wednesday.

Gen. Frank McKenzie, the commander of U.S. Central Command (Centcom), announced the reduction from roughly 5,200 troops to 3,000 troops during a visit to Iraq.

"In recognition of the great progress the Iraqi forces have made and in consultation and coordination with the government of Iraq and our coalition partners, the United States has decided to reduce our troop presence in Iraq from about 5,200 to 3,000 troops during the month of September," McKenzie said, according to excerpts released by Centcom.

"The U.S. decision is a clear demonstration of our continued commitment to the ultimate goal, which is an Iraqi security force that is capable of preventing an ISIS resurgence and of securing Iraq's sovereignty without external assistance," McKenzie added. "The journey has been difficult, the sacrifice has been great, but the progress has been significant."

The announcement comes weeks before the U.S. presidential election, and President Trump has

campaigning in part on a claim that he is ending so-called endless wars.

The Trump administration had teased the Iraq announcement to reporters on Air Force One on Tuesday night, with a senior administration official also promising more news about Afghanistan in the coming days.

Asked about the planned withdrawal on Fox News on Wednesday, White House press secretary Kayleigh McEnany said Trump is following through on his promise to end "endless wars."

"When he says, 'I'm going to end endless wars,' it is not a slogan like it's been for Democrats and past presidents. It is an actual truth. It's what he wants to do, when you look across the world, he's defeated the ISIS caliphate," McEnany said Wednesday morning.

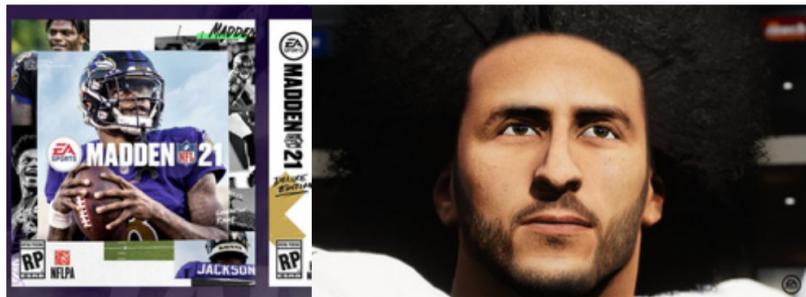
"He met with the Iraqi prime minister and this was a deliverable from that meeting, the drawdown of U.S. troops. And we believe Iraqi forces are trained and equipped to handle the security of their country," she continued.

Trump and Iraqi Prime Minister Mustafa Al-Kadhimi met in the Oval Office on Aug. 20.



By Thomas Wyatt  
VILLAGER Co-Editor

## Let's Cut the B.S., Shall We?



(otherwise known as Electronics Arts). The game's greatest selling point is that it digitizes all the real football players throughout all the eras of the NFL (National Football League). In doing so, you (or I) as a gamer, can play with the greatest football players to ever play the game. And that's on any field, with any team, with any other amazing players, at any given time.

So why am I wasting your valuable time talking about a computer game?

I'm bringing this to your attention to tell you what our own president of this great nation won't: **FACTS MATTER!**

You see, in 2016, Colin Kaepernick started his peaceful protest against the racial injustices of Black and Brown

people by sitting during the playing of the National Anthem. Later, he moved to kneeling following a conversation with Nate Boyer, a former Green Beret and NFL player. Nate Boyer never had a problem with Kaepernick's peaceful protest or what he was protesting. He just asked if Kaepernick could find another way of doing so. The two compromised and the kneeling for the National Anthem is what proceeded following constructive dialog between them.

Now, let's go back to EA Sports and their Madden Football game. Kaepernick was included in the game since his rookie year in 2011. With a possible 99 overall rating (OVR), Kaepernick was given

(by EA Sports) an OVR of 70. In the following seasons, Kaepernick's OVRs were: 2012/70, 2013/89, 2014/89, 2015/81, and 2016/74.

Having an 89 rating at QB means you are no slouch. Kaepernick was one of the best players in the game as well as in real life.

Following the 2016 season, Kaepernick passed on resigning with the San Francisco 49ers and became a free agent. But with the false narrative Donald Trump gave about Kaepernick's disrespect for the flag and military, and NFL owners paralyzed by the lack of a spine, Kaepernick was black-listed from professional football.

This is where I tell See QUESTION, page 5

## INSIDE



Local producer honors Anti-hair discrimination Act. See CHOICE Page 3



AKA Foundation continues annual Project G.R.E.E.N. See COVID-19 Page 4



One of HBCU's proudest product passes at 81 See BROCK Page 6

http://austintexas.gov/covid19  
GET THE FACTS | FREE PUBLIC COVID-19 TESTING | TRACKING DIGITAL DASHBOARD | SELF-ASSESSMENT | STAY HOME ORDERS | HEALTH PROVIDERS | CARE