

STARS AND STRIPES®

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A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

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Clinton takes control of party

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — It's her party now.

Democrats' historic handoff to Hillary Clinton has arrived with affection from one ex-president and an endorsement from an outgoing one. But it's also come with a warning: That last glass ceiling isn't shattered yet, and Republican Donald Trump is a formidable foe.

Clinton formally captured the Democratic nomination Tuesday night and declared the barrier keeping women from the presidency nearly broken. Her husband, Bill Clinton, closed the historic night with an expansive and passionate testimonial, offering a deeply personal account of their relationship.

It also was a policy-driven ode to the "best darn change-maker I have ever met."

On Wednesday night, Presi-

dent Barack Obama will make his case for electing the former first lady, senator and secretary of state as the first woman to occupy the Oval Office. But he will also tell Democrats to get serious.

"Anything is possible," Obama said, of the potential for America electing GOP nominee Trump, in an interview aired Wednesday on NBC's "Today" show." Democrats shouldn't take anything for granted, he said.

In a nod to the past and possible future, Vice President Joe Biden, who seriously considered another run for president challenging Clinton, will deliver his prime-time valedictory. Clinton's running mate, Virginia Sen. Tim Kaine, gets his turn in the spotlight.

Hillary Clinton was affirmed as the party's nominee Tuesday night at a convention that ap-

peared to be finding its stride after a disruptive opening at the hands of distraught Bernie Sanders supporters.

The ritualistic roll call of the states that sealed her nomination proceeded without trouble inside the hall, and Sanders himself stepped up in the name of unity to ask that her nomination be approved by acclamation.

The unhappiest among his followers filed out, occupied a media tent and staged a sit-in, some with tape on their mouths to signify their silencing by the party.

"This was a four-day Hillary party, and we weren't welcome," said Liz Maratea, 31, of New Jersey.

Clinton's landmark achievement saturated the roll call with emotion and symbols of women's long struggle to break through political barriers.

Trump to Russia: Hack Hillary

The Washington Post

PHILADELPHIA — Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump on Wednesday said he hoped that Russia would hack into Hillary Clinton's email server to find "missing" messages and release them to the public.

"Russia, if you're listening I hope you're able to find the 30,000 emails that are missing. I think you will probably be rewarded mightily by our press," Trump said at his Doral resort in south Florida on Wednesday.

"They probably have them. I'd like to have them released. It gives me no pause; if they have them, they have them," Trump added later when asked if his comments were inappropriate. "If Russia or China or any other country has those emails, I mean, to be honest with you, I'd love to see them."

His comments came during a free-wheeling, tense news conference. On several occasions Trump interrupted reporters and accused them of bias.

The real estate mogul sought throughout the gathering to distance himself from allegations that the Russian government hacked into the Democratic National Committee to benefit his campaign, which Clinton's campaign manager suggested earlier this week.

"It is so farfetched. It's so ridiculous. Honestly I wish I had that power. I'd love to have that power but Russia has no respect for our country," Trump said.

"I said that [Russian President Vladimir] Putin has much better leadership qualities than [President Barack] Obama, but who doesn't know that," he said.

US forces advising Iraqi units near Mosul

The Washington Post

American military advisers have begun working with Iraqi army battalions in forward positions, U.S. officials said, as the campaign against the Islamic State group enters a new, more risky phase.

The first mission began on July 20, when combat engineers from the 101st Airborne Division were tasked with helping an Iraqi engineer battalion establish security around a temporary bridge constructed over the Tigris River.

The bridge, southeast of Qayyarah, is expected to be a key infrastructure point in the upcoming offensive for Mosul, a crucial test for Iraqi forces and their Western backers.

The small team of American engineers, in a departure from the longer-term advisory mis-

sions that characterized earlier campaigns in Iraq and Afghanistan, has spent only a limited number of hours a day with the Iraqi army battalion before falling back to its more fortified position near Makhmour for the night. The engineers' work is now mostly complete.

"It was short-duration, high-payoff," said Col. Chris Garver, a spokesman for the U.S.-led military coalition.

The narrowly targeted mission, with limited battlefield exposure, is an illustration of the restricted role that American commanders are planning for U.S. ground forces in the Mosul operation.

According to senior commanders, U.S. advisers will make short visits to Iraqi battalion headquarters, sometimes for only a few hours, rather than embedding with the local troops

for extended periods.

The planned ground role is a recognition of the difficult course U.S. commanders must navigate as they seek to provide Iraq's military with needed support without inflaming tensions with Shiite militias or fueling perceptions that the already fragile Iraqi government is reliant on foreign power.

It is also borne out of a desire to avoid additional U.S. casualties. Three Americans have died in combat in Iraq since 2014.

If Iraqi troops succeed in swiftly smashing the militants' grip on the city, it would bolster Iraqi Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi, who is grappling with a fiscal crisis and pressure from Shiite allies, and would also deliver a needed victory to President Barack Obama before he steps down.

Haight removed from EUCOM post

Stars and Stripes

Army Maj. Gen. David Haight was removed from his position as head of operations at U.S. European Command in connection with allegations that he had misused government resources while having an extramarital affair, the U.S. Army said Wednesday.

Haight was moved from his post earlier this summer and reassigned to Army headquarters in the Pentagon, a typical stopping point for senior officers under investigation.

"Maj. Gen. Haight was reprimanded for failing to exhibit exemplary conduct by engaging in an inappropriate sexual relationship with a woman who was not his wife and for misusing government resources," Col.

Pat Seiber, an Army spokesman, said in a statement.

Haight, who is awaiting further assignment instructions, received an official Army reprimand, said Seiber.

"Upon retirement, the Army may convene a Grade Determination Review Board for a recommendation as to whether he served satisfactorily in the last grade held," Seiber said.

Haight, in a statement to USA Today, which first reported the allegation of misconduct, apologized for his actions.

"I'm very sorry — and take full responsibility — for my actions," Haight told USA Today. "I will cooperate fully with Army leadership as the process moves forward."

Haight arrived at EUCOM

in June 2015. In his position, Haight helped oversee day-to-day operations of U.S. personnel across Europe, an effort that has taken on added significance as the U.S. adjusts its force posture in response to concerns about a more assertive Russia.

He previously commanded troops in Afghanistan as a brigade commander and later as a top deputy for NATO's training mission in the country.

He also served as executive officer to former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Adm. Mike Mullen.

The Pentagon has tapped Army Maj. Gen. Gordon "Skip" Davis to replace Haight at EUCOM headquarters in Stuttgart, Germany.

Charges in Freddie Gray case dropped

The Baltimore Sun

BALTIMORE — Prosecutors dropped all remaining charges against three Baltimore police officers accused in the arrest and death of Freddie Gray in a downtown courtroom Wednesday morning, concluding one of the most high-profile criminal cases in Baltimore history.

The startling move was an apparent acknowledgement of the unlikelihood of a conviction following the acquittals of three other officers on similar and more serious charges by Circuit Judge Barry G. Williams, who was expected to preside over the remaining trials as well.

It also means the office of Baltimore State's Attorney Marilyn J. Mosby will secure no convictions in the case after more than a year of dogged fighting, against increasingly heavy odds, to hold someone criminally accountable in Gray's death.

Officer William Porter's trial ended with a hung jury and a mistrial in December, before Williams acquitted Officers Edward Nero and Caesar Goodson and Lt. Brian Rice at bench trials in May, June and July, respectively.

In a hearing Wednesday meant to start the trial of Officer Garrett Miller, Chief Deputy State's Attorney Michael Schatzow told Williams that the state was dropping all charges against Miller, Porter and Sgt. Alicia White.

Porter had been scheduled to be retried in September, and White had been scheduled to be tried in October.

Gray, 25, suffered severe spinal cord injuries in the back of the van in April 2015 and died a week after his arrest. His death sparked widespread, peaceful protests against police brutality, and his funeral was followed by rioting, looting and arson.

Prosecutors, the officers and their attorneys were all barred by a gag order from discussing the case, until after all of the officers' cases have been adjudicated.

More details on French church attack

Associated Press

PARIS — France's main religious leaders sent a message of unity and solidarity after meeting Wednesday with French President Francois Hollande a day after two extremists attacked a Catholic church and slit the throat of an elderly priest in front of other hostages.

Yet, even as they spoke, more horrifying details of the church attack became known.

An 86-year-old woman, one of five held hostage Tuesday at the Normandy church, said the attackers had handed her husband, Guy, a cellphone and demanded that he take photos or video of the priest after he was killed.

Her husband was in turn slashed in four places by the attackers and is now hospitalized with serious injuries. The woman identified only as Jeanine told RMC radio that her husband then played dead.

The attackers took hostages at the church in Saint-Etienne-du-Rouvray, in the northwest region of Normandy, during morning Mass. After the priest was slain, both attackers, at

least one of them a local man, were killed by police outside the church. The exact timeline of the attack is still unclear.

Two nuns were held hostage along with the couple and the priest, while a third nun escaped and gave the alert.

France was still coming to grips with the Bastille Day attack in Nice that killed 84 people when the church was attacked Tuesday. With the attack threat ranked extremely high, France must also protect 56 remaining summer events, Interior Minister Bernard Cazeneuve noted Wednesday, adding that where "optimal" security cannot be assured, an event will be canceled.

Defense Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian said 4,000 members of the Sentinel military force will patrol Paris, while 6,000 will patrol in the provinces. They are bolstered by tens of thousands of police and reservists being called up.

As authorities looked for ways to prevent extremist attacks, gruesome details of the church attack trickled out. The attackers killed the priest celebrating Mass, the Rev. Jacques

Hamel, 85.

"He fell down looking upwards, toward us," said Jeanine.

"The terrorists held me with a revolver at my neck," she said, adding it was not clear to her now whether the weapon was real.

The Paris prosecutor, Francois Molins, said the two attackers had knives and fake explosives — one a phony suicide belt covered in tin foil.

He identified one of the attackers as Adel Kermiche, 19, who grew up in the town and tried to travel to Syria twice last year using family members' identity documents. He was detained outside France, sent home, handed preliminary terrorism charges and wore a tracking bracelet that was turned off four hours a day.

The identity of the second attacker has not been made public.

The Normandy town was stunned by the attack.

An 18-year-old neighbor said he had seen Kermiche three days earlier in nearby Rouen wearing a long Islamic robe.

Quick turnaround for golf's final major

Associated Press

SPRINGFIELD, N.J. — Jordan Spieth hit the reset button after the U.S. Open, a prudent decision to keep from looking in the rearview mirror.

Gone was the burden of trying to repeat 2015 by winning the Masters and U.S. Open in the same year. This was all about looking ahead at two more majors, not so much to salvage the year but the chance to make it another great one. And now, even that is about to end.

Golf, known for its deliberate pace, is on warp speed this year.

"I had said after the U.S. Open it felt like now the second half is starting," Spieth said. "And all of a sudden, you know, that's the end of the majors for the year."

Blame it on Rio.

Golf is back in the Olympics for the first time since 1904, a dozen years before the PGA Championship was held for the first time. To make room on the schedule, the PGA Championship agreed to move up to the final weekend of July ahead of the Rio Games.

That left 11 days between the end of one major and the start of another. From a claret jug to the Wanamaker Trophy with barely enough time to breathe.

"That's pretty mad," Graeme McDowell said with a slight grin as he shook his head. "An unusual summer."

Ready or not, the final major starts Thursday at Baltusrol Golf Club.

This will be the ninth major at Baltusrol, which includes the U.S. Open seven times. Phil Mickelson won at Baltusrol in the 2005 PGA Championship, making birdie on the final hole to claim what at the time was his second major.

The PGA Championship has the strongest field of all the majors, and it really stands out in an Olympic year.

No one is skipping Baltusrol except for injury, while the Olympics will have only eight of the top 25 in the world.

As for the timing?

The PGA Championship, before it settled into a traditional August date in 1969, used to be all over the calendar. Jack Nicklaus won the 1971 PGA Championship in February when it was held at PGA National in Florida. The PGA was held in December 1929 at Hillcrest Country Club in Los Angeles. Over the years, it has been played in every month except for January, March and April.

What doesn't change about the 98th edition of the PGA Championship are the stakes. For years, the slogan of the final major was "Glory's Last Shot," and that still applies. This is one last chance for players to reshape their outlook on the year, to turn a good season into a great one.

That starts with Spieth, defending champion Jason Day and Rory McIlroy.

They began 2016 as the modern version of the "Big Three" because they had traded turns at No. 1 in the world, they had combined to win five of the previous six majors and there were all in their 20s.

But going into Baltusrol, all three are in danger of being shut out in the majors this year.

Spieth is having a very good year, and he needs reminded of that every now and then. He has won twice, including in his home state of Texas. He was one bad swing away from winning the Masters again. It just feels like a failure compared with last year, when he won two majors and his worst finish was missing the playoff at St. Andrews by one shot. The high expectations created from 2015 are starting to wear on him.

"Had last year not happened I'd be having a lot of positive questions," he said. "Instead, most of the questions I get are comparing to last year and, therefore, negative.

Because it's not to the same standard. So that's almost tough to then convince myself that you're having a good year when nobody else ... even if you guys think it is, the questions I get make me feel like it's not."

One major could change the outlook.

Ditto for McIlroy, whose only victory was the Irish Open before a home crowd. McIlroy ended 2014 with two straight majors, and he lost a chunk of last year recovering from an ankle injury.

This was going to be the year when he asserted himself, except it hasn't happened. He missed the cut in the U.S. Open and didn't finish closer than five shots in the other two. Now imagine him holding the Wanamaker Trophy for the third time. Frustration becomes instant gratification.

"All I can do is keep plugging away," McIlroy said after he tied for fifth at the British Open, 16 shots behind. "It's really close. I'm staying positive about it. I feel like good things are happening. If I can drive the ball like I did this week at Baltusrol and sharpen up a few bits and pieces, I think I'll be right there."

Day has been No. 1 in the world since March, and his three victories are the most on the PGA Tour. When he won The Players Championship in May, it was his seventh victory in the last 10 months. It has been a very good year. A major makes it a great one.

Any of the major winners this year — Masters champion Danny Willett, U.S. Open champion Dustin Johnson and British Open champion Henrik Stenson — can claim the best year in golf by adding another major.

That all have one thing in common at Baltusrol: It's their last shot until next spring at Augusta National.

Stenson not done with quest for perfection

Associated Press

SPRINGFIELD, N.J. — Henrik Stenson was baking in the hot sun of Baltusrol, chipping out of the thick grass in the short-game area until the bag of golf balls was nearly empty. One chip dropped into the cup on its last turn.

"I would have thought that's the perfect way to end," caddie Gareth Lord said to him.

Stenson looked over at him with those ice blue eyes, finally cracking the slightest smile, and then he reached over for a fresh bag of balls.

Nine days later, nothing has changed.

The only difference now from when he last competed at a major is that Stenson's name is on the oldest trophy in golf, and he gets to keep that silver claret jug until he returns it at the British Open next July.

He is a major champion, fulfilling a boyhood dream. Asked the first drink he poured from the jug, Stenson replied, "It was champagne ... and it was champagne ... and it was champagne." He knows how to celebrate.

On the golf course, he knows only hard work. That doesn't stop.

"I think golf is a game you're never going to be finished," Stenson said. "You're never going to get to the point

where you're maxed out in your ability and how you're playing, so there's always that strive to become better. I got a little perfectionist in there that's always been pushing me forward, and that can both make me and break me at times, when you're striving to be your best.

"But no," he added, "I don't think I'm going to sit back and just say, 'OK, that was it. I'm finished.' If I look at my career, to win a major championship, that was pretty much the only thing I had not managed to achieve, and now I have that. But then at the same time, you can look ahead and try and win another one."

The trap facing the 40-year-old Swede is his age.

Eight other players did not win their first major until 40 or older, and only two of them won another major. Mark O'Meara won the 1998 Masters at 41, and he added the British Open that summer at Royal Birkdale. The other was Old Tom Morris, who won all four of his British Opens in his 40s back in the 1860s.

Stenson is a different breed.

This is the guy who won the Deutsche Bank Championship in 2013, and two weeks later was so frustrated during a rain-delayed finish at the BMW Championship that he snapped off the head of his driver and then smashed up a

locker at Conway Farms.

The following week at the Tour Championship, he was asked how he could be on top of the world in Boston and lose his mind in Chicago in the span of two weeks.

"You don't have much experience with Swedes, do you?" he said.

He has a wicked temper and a dry sense of humor, and both can show up without warning. Through it all, there is an endless search to get better.

Stenson had to endure two significant slumps in his career, the first one that led him to swing coach Pete Cowen. He doesn't think this is anything special because other players over a course of two decades are certain to go through bad times.

"I've shown more than once I'm not a quitter," he said.

Still to be determined is how the quick turnaround between the final two majors — 11 days — affects him. It might be good to tee it up so soon after such a majestic performance at Royal Troon, where he set the major championship record of 264 and needed it to hold off Phil Mickelson.

Stenson was so locked in on every shot that only when he was signing his card did he realize he tied Johnny Miller as the only major champions to win with a 63 in

the final round.

Then again, an extra week to let it soak in might have helped.

He was inundated with interviews when he got home to Sweden, though he managed to squeeze in a few days of quiet time with his family before he came over to the PGA Championship. It won't be long after the final major that he heads to Rio de Janeiro for the Olympics.

"I've just got to try and get back into my game and pay attention to all the little things that's important to play good golf for me," Stenson said.

"Exactly how to do it, I haven't been in this situation before. But I've still got to focus on my game. Because if I don't do that, then that little form and that little edge is sure to be disappearing. It's still important to play golf and get the practice done, so that's still my priority."

He is not one to get the big head, and it helps that his next major is in New Jersey.

"On the fourth today, I had this long putt and I left it way short," Stenson said. "And someone in the stands shouted, 'Does your husband play golf?' Shows you're not up there on that pedestal for very long."



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Putin slams 'discrimination' at Rio send-off ceremony

Associated Press

MOSCOW — Russian President Vladimir Putin hit out at "discrimination" against the country's banned track and field athletes at a Kremlin send-off ceremony Wednesday for its depleted Olympic team.

Fencers and triathletes became the latest team of Russians to be cleared to compete in the Olympics by their sports' governing bodies ahead of the Moscow ceremony, but the IAAF rejected a bid by the bulk of the track and field team to be reinstated.

More than 100 Russians from the 387-strong Olympic team have been banned so far from going to Rio de Janeiro.

"We can't accept indiscriminate disqualification of our athletes with an absolutely clean doping history," Putin said. "We cannot and will not accept what in fact is pure discrimination."

Putin said the athletes banned from the Olympics were victims of a campaign to present Russian sports in a bad light. He spoke with two-time Olympic pole-vaulting champion Yelena Isinbayeva, the most high-profile of the 67 track and field athletes banned from the games, standing beside him.

Fighting back tears, Isinbayeva told Rio-bound Russian athletes: "Show them what you're able to do — for yourself and for us, too."

As the athletes walked across Red Square to meet Putin, some posed for selfies with Vitaly Mutko, whose sports ministry was accused by the World Anti-Doping Agency of orchestrating the doping cover-up. The sports minister has been blocked by the International

Olympic Committee from attending the games next month but he remains in Putin's government.

The IAAF is the only sport to impose a near-blanket ban on Russians, only deeming one — long jumper Darya Klishina — eligible for Rio.

"The situation went beyond the legal field as well as common sense," Putin told the audience, which included many of the banned athletes. "It's a well-planned campaign which targeted our athletes, which included double-standards and the concept of collective punishment which has nothing to do with justice or even basic legal norms."

"Not only have our athletes who never faced any specific accusations been hurt — this is a blow to the entire global sports and the Olympic Games. Clearly, the absence of Russian athletes who were leaders in some of the sports will affect the competition."

There was positive news, however, from Putin's ally, Alisher Usmanov, the Russian billionaire who is president of the International Fencing Federation.

The governing body said it would allow the 16 Russian fencers who have qualified for the Rio Games to compete and it approved four reserves. The decision came after the FIE said it had re-examined 197 tests taken from Russian fencers in 35 countries over the last two years which all came back negative.

The FIE did not respond to questions from The Associated Press about whether WADA investigator Richard McLaren's evidence was considered before deciding to allow Russian fencers to compete in Rio.

McLaren reported last week that four

positive doping tests in Russian fencing and four in triathlon had disappeared in recent years. The International Triathlon Union said the three men and three women who qualified for Rio are not mentioned in the McLaren report and have not served past doping suspensions.

"They have all been tested outside of Russia," the ITU said in a statement. "Therefore, ITU will recommend to the IOC that these six athletes be permitted to compete in Rio next month."

Russian entries to the Olympics must still be examined and upheld by an expert from the Court of Arbitration for Sport.

The International Gymnastics Federation said it has established a "pool of eligible Russian athletes" and is awaiting IOC approval.

Individual sports federations were given the task of deciding which athletes should be cleared to compete in Rio by the International Olympic Committee on Sunday. In his native Germany, IOC President Thomas Bach is facing increasing criticism for failing to impose a complete ban on Russia's team.

Germany's national anti-doping agency chief Andrea Gotzmann said the decision does not follow the IOC's declared "zero tolerance" policy, saying Bach has missed "a huge chance."

Olympic discuss champion Robert Harting said he was "ashamed of Thomas Bach."

Shooters thrust into gun debate

Associated Press

Kim Rhode sees the news on television or social media. Another mass shooting, in Aurora, San Bernardino, Newtown, Orlando, Dallas, Baton Rouge.

For the two-time Olympic gold medalist shotgun shooter, what comes next has become routine.

"I just wait for my phone to ring," Rhode said. "I know the questions are coming."

Shooting is one of the most divisive sports on the Olympic program.

Guns, always a hot-button issue, have been thrust even further to the forefront of public debate with the spate of mass killings in recent years.

Sport shooters are staunch supporters of the Second Amendment, given their chosen event. Because they are public figures, more so during Olympic years, they have become targets for anti-gun groups.

When Rhode won her second career gold, in skeet at the 2012 Olympics in London, one of the first questions she was asked by media was about the theater shooting at Aurora, Colo., which occurred a few days earlier and left 12 dead.

Sometimes it goes beyond inquiries. Trap shooter Corey Cogdell-Unrein needed extra protection after someone posted hunting videos on her Facebook page without her knowledge.

A two-time Olympian, she grew up in Alaska, where the family hunted for its food, and still hunts. Despite saying she didn't agree with the content of the videos, Cogdell-Unrein received numerous death threats before the 2012 Olympics.

After the London Games, where she won bronze, thousands of people signed a petition to strip her of the medal.

Ninth-inning rally boosts Indians past Nats

Associated Press

CLEVELAND — Francisco Lindor watched his hit squirt into the outfield and then danced his way down the first-base line before being engulfed by a wave of elated teammates.

Three outs from defeat, the Indians pulled out an unlikely victory that felt bigger than one win.

Lindor pushed an RBI single through Washington's drawn-in infield with one out in the ninth inning, and Cleveland rallied for three runs in its final at-bat to stun closer Jonathan Papelbon and the Washington Nationals 7-6 on Tuesday night in a matchup of first-place teams with sights on October.

Down two runs and in danger of their losing streak reaching a season-high four games, the Indians rallied against Papelbon (2-4), who did not get an out before he was pulled by manager Dusty Baker.

With the bases loaded, Lindor fisted his hit into right field to cap an inning that included a clutch double by rookie pinch-hitter Tyler Naquin, a pair of well-executed bunts by the Indians, a throwing error by Nationals first baseman Ryan Zimmerman and another big highlight by Lindor, one of the AL's rising stars.

Cardinals 3, 1, Mets 2, 3: Bartolo Colon pitched three-hit ball for seven

sharp innings and the New York Mets overcame another home run by Jedd Gyorko to beat the St. Louis Cardinals Tuesday night for a doubleheader split.

Gyorko homered in both ends and has connected seven times in nine games. His two-run shot helped St. Louis win the opener.

Blue Jays 7, Padres 6 (12): Devon Travis scored the winning run on a wild pitch, and host Toronto rallied for three runs in the 12th inning to beat San Diego.

Matt Kemp put the Padres in front with a two-run homer off Jesse Chavez (1-2) in the top of the 12th, but San Diego's bullpen couldn't hold the lead.

Travis drew a 14-pitch walk to load the bases, bringing Paul Clemens on in relief of Carlos Villanueva (1-2). Clemens walked Jose Bautista to make it 6-5 before Josh Donaldson tied it with a fielder's choice grounder.

With Edwin Encarnacion batting, a pitch bounced away from catcher Derek Norris, and Travis slid in just ahead of the tag as his teammates stormed out of the dugout to celebrate.

Yankees 6, Astros 3: CC Sabathia allowed two runs in 6²/₃ innings to get back on track after a tough stretch and help New York over host Houston.

White Sox 3, Cubs 0: James Shields allowed four singles in 7²/₃ innings, Adam Eaton homered and the host White

Sox stayed unbeaten since Chris Sale's suspension.

The Cubs lost their second straight and never got to use new closer Aroldis Chapman hours after he joined the team and struggled answering questions related to an altercation last year with his girlfriend.

Rockies 6, Orioles 3: Carlos Gonzalez and Trevor Story had two RBIs apiece in a four-run third inning, and visiting Colorado beat Chris Tillman to end Baltimore's five-game winning streak.

Seeking to become the first 15-game winner in the majors, Tillman (14-3) gave up six runs and nine hits in five innings.

Tigers 9, Red Sox 8: Miguel Cabrera hit a two-run home run, Jarrod Saltalamacchia and Tyler Collins each had a pair of RBIs and visiting Detroit roughed up knuckleballer Steven Wright to beat Boston.

Angels 13, Royals 0: Tyler Skaggs pitched seven innings in his first big league start in two years and Yunel Escobar went 5-for-5 to help visiting Los Angeles to the runaway win.

Mariners 7, Pirates 4: Seattle ace Felix Hernandez settled down after a shaky start and picked up his first victory in more than two months in a win over host Pittsburgh.

Marlins 5, Phillies 0: Tom Koehler pitched six innings of three-hit ball, help-

ing host Miami to the win.

Ichiro Suzuki made his first start in five games and went 1-for-5, giving him 2,997 career hits. He also stole a base and scored a run.

Braves 2, Twins 0: Lucas Harrell pitched six innings and Adonis Garcia homered as visiting Atlanta beat Minnesota in a matchup of the worst teams in the majors.

Giants 9, Reds 7: Matt Cain hit a three-run homer during his first win in more than two months, leading host San Francisco past Cincinnati.

Athletics 6, Rangers 3: Sonny Gray had a season-high eight strikeouts and overcame one volatile inning, and Josh Reddick drove in three runs as visiting Oakland beat Texas.

Reddick's two-run shot in the fourth was one of three home runs by the A's. Coco Crisp and Marcus Semien also went deep.

Dodgers 3, Rays 2: Bud Norris pitched shutout ball into the seventh inning and host Los Angeles held off Tampa Bay.

Brewers 9, Diamondbacks 4: Scooter Gennett and Jonathan Villar each hit a two-run single in a five-run eighth inning that lifted Milwaukee over visiting Arizona.