

STARS AND STRIPES®

Friday, August 7, 2015

A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

stripes.com

Attacks rattle Afghan capital

By **JOSH SMITH**
AND **ZUBAIR BABAKARKHAIL**
Stars and Stripes

KABUL, Afghanistan — Multiple major bombings shook the Afghan capital on Friday, collapsing buildings, killing a still untold number of people, and flooding local hospitals with hundreds of wounded.

On Friday evening, a man said to have been in a police uniform blew himself up amid a crowd of officers at a police academy in the city. As many as 20 police cadets were killed in the attack, The Associated Press reported citing government officials.

Also on Friday evening, multiple explosions were heard north of the Kabul airport in an area that hosts some government and military offices.

Earlier in the day a massive truck bomb detonated near a Ministry of Defense compound, killing at least 11 people and wounding more than 200, nearly all of them civilians.

The attacks come amid uncertainty over the future of nascent peace talks, which had tentatively begun in Pakistan until they were put on hold last month after it was revealed that the Taliban's reclusive leader, Mullah Mohammad Omar, had been dead for several years.

Afghan President Ashraf Ghani decried the high number of civilian casualties and vowed a strong response.

"We are still committed to peace," he said in a statement. "But we will respond to these sort of terrorist attacks with force and power."

The Taliban, meanwhile did not immediately claim responsibility the first attack, which occurred in the Shah Shaheed neighborhood about 1 a.m.

Initial estimates of 400 wounded were later revised downward, an official at the Public Health Ministry said. Many victims sustained minor wounds from flying glass.

There were no casualties among ministry staff, and no damage to the compound, which is protected by large, concrete blast walls, said Dawlat Waziri, the ministry's deputy spokesman.

The shops and houses on the street opposite were not as well protected. The explosion caused the collapse of many mud-brick buildings, shattered windows and twisted metal blocks away. It left cars burning and shops and homes damaged along the street.

"It was very huge blast, and we all woke up to the explosion," said Hafizullah 27, a resident at the scene who, like many Afghans, uses only one name. "The power

went off, but it was still light from the flame from the explosion."

Taliban insurgents have mounted repeated attacks against military and government facilities in Kabul. But the power of the morning explosion was rare for the capital because of a ban on large trucks entering the city during most of the day. Trucks are allowed to enter only from 9 p.m to 5 a.m.

"It is mostly a residential area and many civilian homes are damaged by the blast," Rahmani said.

The U.S. Embassy in Kabul released a statement condemning the morning bombing.

"This attack in a heavily populated area shows a complete disregard for human life," the embassy said. "Our thoughts and prayers are with the victims and their families at this time."

Attacks have taken an increasingly heavy toll on civilians, with noncombatant casualties hitting a record high in the first six months of this year, according to the United Nations.

In its latest report, the U.N. said its investigators confirmed 1,592 deaths and 3,329 injuries, for a total of 4,921 civilian casualties.

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Widow of key Islamic State leader transferred to Kurdistan

By **TARA COPP**
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Umm Sayyaf, the wife of a key Islamic State commander who was captured after a U.S. operation in Syria that targeted and killed her husband, has been transferred to the Kurdistan Regional Government to be prosecuted under Iraqi law, the Pentagon announced late Thursday.

The U.S. raid May 15 killed Islamic State ringleader Abu Sayyaf, who handled most of the Islamic State's finances using

oil revenue from captured Syrian refineries.

A young Yazidi woman held by the couple also was freed during the raid.

Umm Sayyaf, also known as Nasrin As'ad Ibrahim, is suspected of having a role in kidnapping Kayla Mueller, 26, the American aid worker held by the Islamic State for more than a year before she was killed during an airstrike on the compound where she was being held.

National Security Council spokesman Alistair Baskey said in a statement that the

decision to transfer Sayyaf to Kurdistan was done in full coordination with the central Iraqi government. The transfer to Kurdistan instead of Baghdad was done "for various reasons, including the location of potential witnesses," he said. "It made sense to transfer her to the custody of Iraqi authorities in Irbil."

U.S. prosecutors had been preparing charges against Sayyaf in connection with Mueller's kidnapping; Baskey said that the U.S. will be ready to work with the Kurdistan

Regional Government and the government of Iraq "to support a prosecution to its completion, to assist in ensuring justice is served."

"We have a firm belief that she will be held to account for her crimes, though we cannot guarantee any particular result," he said.

Information on what charges would be brought against Sayyaf will come from Iraqi authorities.

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GAO: Number of reservists fit to fight is undetermined

BY JENNIFER H. SVAN
Stars and Stripes

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany — The Army Reserve and the Army National Guard can't properly determine how many of their soldiers are fit to fight, sometimes listing jailed soldiers as available to conduct missions, the Government Accountability Office says in a recent report.

The nonpartisan GAO also determined that hundreds of soldiers who were reported as ready to to serve were actually ineligible to mobilize and deploy under Army guidance.

The inconsistencies suggest the components' overall non-availability rates as of January — 22 percent in the Reserve and 21 percent in the National Guard — could be even higher.

The audit highlights the problem at a time when both the Army and reserve components are drawing down, making accurate tracking of soldier availability even more critical, the GAO said.

The GAO evaluated data from January 2015 regarding 85,000 soldiers in six units. Of these, about 66,000 soldiers were listed as available and 19,000 were listed as nonavailable.

The data for more than 3,800 soldiers — from both categories — was found to be incomplete, inaccurate or inconsistent, making it unreliable.

More than 750 soldiers were inaccurately reported as available. Of this number, more than 600 were currently mobilized or deployed; about 100 were younger than 18 years; about 30 had medically limiting conditions; more than a dozen had health information missing for more than five years; and about 10 were currently incarcerated.

The National Guard suggested that a lack of training for personnel clerks, staffing shortages and budget constraints may also contribute to some of the data inaccuracies.

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CENTCOM says it's in contact with US-trained Syrian rebels

BY COREY DICKSTEIN
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Central Command maintains regular contact with Syrian rebel units the U.S. has trained to fight the Islamic State, a spokesman said Friday, despite reports that the Pentagon had lost track of many of the fighters.

ABC News reported Thursday that many U.S.-trained fighters are unaccounted for in northern Syria and some have even been found in neighboring Turkey.

On Friday, Air Force Col. Patrick Ryder, a CENTCOM spokesman, disputed the report, telling Pentagon reporters during a telephone briefing

that “we know where they are, we know what they’re doing, and we know what they need.”

The issue of communications and control emerged following last week's attack by the al-Qaida-affiliated Nusra Front against the New Syrian Forces and 30 Division, who include fighters vetted, trained and equipped by the United States to fight the Islamic State. At least one NSF fighter was killed and five others were wounded, U.S. officials said.

Navy Capt. Jeff Davis, a Pentagon spokesman, said the U.S. must rely on the U.S.-trained rebels to report their movements and they do not necessarily provide regular updates about their positions.

The U.S. has launched a \$500

million effort to train 5,000 Syrian rebels per year as a key part of its campaign against the Islamic State. Despite 7,000 applicants for the program, only the 54 have successfully been trained at a cost of \$36 million. The Pentagon has said a second group is currently undergoing training and hundreds more remain in the training pipeline.

“We continue to see volunteers want to be a part of this program,” Ryder said. “(The Islamic State) presents a significant threat in Syria, and that is clear ... This program presents (vetted fighters) with an opportunity to get unparalleled training, excellent equipment, and the ability to team up with other vetted Syrian opposition forces.”

Russia suspected in Pentagon email hack

The Washington Post

U.S. military officials said Thursday that they suspect Russian hackers infiltrated an unclassified Pentagon email system used by employees of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the latest in a series of state-sponsored attacks on sensitive U.S. government computer networks.

The electronic intrusion was detected around July 25, of-

officials said. The Pentagon immediately disabled the email system, which is used by about 4,000 military and civilian personnel, in an attempt to contain the damage. The network remains offline, though officials said they hoped to restart it in the coming days.

The Defense Department disclosed the existence of the attack shortly after it occurred, but only in recent days have

investigators traced it to Russia. Officials said the complexity and advanced nature of the hack strongly suggested that a foreign government was responsible.

“This attack was fairly sophisticated and has the indications ... of having come from a state actor such as Russia,” said a U.S. official who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss details of the investigation.

Trump still leads after 1st Republican debate

The Washington Post

CLEVELAND — The first Republican debate of the 2016 campaign appeared to leave the nomination

ANALYSIS contest as it was before.

Donald Trump brought to Thursday's debate the same sharp tongue and controversial

style that has propelled him to the top of the polls in the Republican nomination contest. He was outspoken, bombastic and unapologetic. He did exactly what he has been doing up to now, and it hasn't hurt him yet.

From here forward, the others in the race might be forced to recalibrate their assessments

of whether he is a comet flashing across the political skies or someone who will have to be confronted directly in order to stop him.

There are any number of candidates who wait and hope to rise if he falls. But for now, Trump remains a force to be reckoned with.

Accident still haunts Stewart

Associated Press

As he ran out of gas on the final lap Sunday at Pocono Raceway, Tony Stewart wearily asked his team where he finished.

Ninth, he was told.

"Hell, I'll take that," he replied.

It was a curiously calm reaction considering only minutes before Stewart had been poised for a top-five finish. Maybe even top three. Stewart didn't complain about the lost opportunity. He takes what he can get on the race track these days, which are often bleak and embarrassing for the three-time NASCAR champion.

But that's the way the last two years have gone for Stewart, who is to race Sunday at Watkins Glen International Raceway for the first time since 2012. He missed the 2013 race with a broken leg, then skipped the race last season following the accident in which his sprint car struck and killed Kevin Ward Jr. the night before the race.

Sunday, the day Stewart is scheduled to run NASCAR's road course race, is the anniversary of Ward's death.

Nothing has been the same for Stewart since the 20-year-old was killed when he climbed from his wrecked race car and walked down the track at Canandaigua Motorsports Park to confront the NASCAR star. Ward was struck and killed by Stewart, who called it "100 percent an accident." A grand jury declined to indict Stewart.

Only twice had he broadly discussed the accident until Wednesday, when he answered a few questions about the anniversary during a Speedway Children's Charities event at

Texas Motor Speedway.

Stewart gives rides in a stock car to the participants but skipped his appearance last year as it fell during a three-week mourning period in which Stewart was in seclusion dealing with the trauma of Ward's death.

He's not the same person he was before Ward's death, and he's not the same driver, either. He's acknowledged several times the last few months that his confidence has been shattered, his comfort level in a race car is questionable and it's a struggle to find much joy in his profession.

"I don't think I'll ever be the same from what happened the last two years," Stewart said Wednesday in Texas. "I don't know how you could be, I don't know how anybody ever could be back to exactly the way they were."

"But not being back exactly the same that I was doesn't mean that I haven't become better in some way. I think there's always positives that come out of every scenario."

Despite the gruff exterior and the growl he's known for throughout a decorated NASCAR career, Stewart is actually sensitive and tries hard to avoid situations that can set him off. He never read any of the articles that vilified him for his role in the death of a young, aspiring race car driver. The vitriol was scathing, the jokes from comedians he enjoyed hurtful.

Stewart has people who monitor the narrative and they've always been smart enough to keep it away from him.

He's hoping to go to Watkins Glen and keep his head down and avoid the reminders of the last two years.

"I'm trying to not think about it. You guys

(reporters) are the first ones to bring it up this week," he said. "Unfortunately, I have a feeling that's going to get brought up a lot this week, but it doesn't help you continue to move forward with it."

The easiest way to move forward and not linger on the tragedy is to put together a strong weekend on the track.

Those are hard to come by these days. The 44-year-old driver hasn't won in 62 races, a streak that dates to Dover in June 2013, before he broke his leg.

But Watkins Glen is a specialty race and Stewart has won five previous times on the road course. And there's been some hope the last two weeks — he qualified well at Indianapolis and ran OK until pit strategy blew his shot at a good finish.

He also had another good qualifying run last weekend at Pocono before running out of fuel dropped him to ninth.

"It's been a decent couple of weeks," he said. "I think it's a little early to put judgment on whether we've got it figured out or not, but at least we qualified well the last two weeks. That definitely has been a bonus for sure."

Despite the bad memories now associated with Watkins Glen, Stewart is headed to the track with a positive attitude in what will be his first race there in three years. He's hoping for rain Sunday so NASCAR will use rain tires, something he believes would give him an edge.

"I'm looking forward to it. It's definitely one of my favorite tracks. We've had really, really good luck there," he said. "I'm actually praying for rain on Sunday. I don't know why, but I have my heart set on racing in the rain at the Glen, so I'm hoping somewhere in the equation we can figure out how to make it rain."

Harbaugh says team to go quiet

Associated Press

ANN ARBOR, Mich. — The first question Jim Harbaugh took at media day was from a first grader.

The new Michigan coach was in an upbeat, somewhat playful mood Thursday, answering a few questions from kids amid several more from reporters. But after one query — this one from an adult — about the amount of attention his arrival has drawn, Harbaugh indicated that the coming days will be much quieter.

"We're going into a submarine tomorrow — you won't see us for a while," Harbaugh said. "You won't hear from us or see us. We're going to be working, we're going to be in a bunker mentality — until we decide we're not, until we decide to come up to the surface."

After months of seemingly nonstop anticipation, Michigan's season opener at Utah is a month away. The Wolverines start practice Friday, and it's time to forget about a summer in which their coach's every move seemed to create a buzz.

The biggest on-field question about the Wolverines is what will happen at quarterback. Shane Morris returns after playing five games in each of the past two seasons, but Jake Rudock will compete for the position after transferring from Iowa, where he was a two-year starter.

"Coach Harbaugh likes winning games," Morris said. "Whoever's going to win games is going to be the quarterback."

Rudock is entering his final season of eligibility. He completed 62 percent of his passes in 2014, throwing for 2,436 yards with 16 touchdowns and five interceptions.

Rudock was asked how his previous experience in the conference could help him at Michigan.

"Going through a Big Ten season is tough," Rudock said. "Going through any big-conference season, or any season in college football, is very difficult — trying to stay healthy, trying to mentally stay in it. I think that helps, just having done that before."

Harbaugh sounded ready to get the competition started.

"We'll roll the balls out there and let the quarterbacks have at it," he said. "I really believe that it will be fair."

Although Harbaugh certainly seemed anxious to get down to business, the mood at his news conference was light, in part because a few questions went to guests from the Kids Go Blue Club. One girl began the proceedings by asking the former Michigan quarterback his favorite thing — other than football — about returning to the state.

Another youngster asked how much milk he'd have to drink to be big enough to play quarterback.

"Drink as much milk as your little belly can hold," Harbaugh said.

Later, a sixth grader asked Harbaugh why he wore No. 4 when he played. Harbaugh said he initially wanted to wear No. 10, but that request was basically ignored when he arrived on campus.

Crimson Tide have extra motivation

Associated Press

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. — Ryan Kelly knows there's much to celebrate from Alabama's 2014 season, even if it doesn't really feel that way. For instance, a Southeastern Conference championship and a playoff berth.

The Crimson Tide opened preseason camp Thursday hoping for a happier ending after two straight postseason losses drained some of the joy from 11- and 12-win seasons.

"I look at the (championship) ring now and then, but it doesn't feel like we even won," said Kelly, Alabama's senior center. "At the time it was an awesome feeling, we get the chance to go play Ohio State. But then after we lost to Ohio State it was like all the season was for nothing."

That loss to Ohio State in the semifinal game followed another Sugar Bowl defeat to Oklahoma for a program that had won three national titles in four years and dominated much of the last two regular seasons, too.

Kelly, for one, thinks he sees a different attitude from coaches and players alike and noted that some of his teammates haven't won a bowl game, much less a national championship.

Alabama has plenty of questions to an-

swer before facing Wisconsin on Sept. 5 in Arlington, Texas.

The Tide opened camp with an ongoing quarterback battle for the second straight year. This time it appears to be down to last year's backup, Jake Coker, and redshirt freshman David Cornwell.

Quarterback Blake Sims is one of nine offensive starters who are gone after he set the Tide's single-season passing mark. Star receiver Amari Cooper and tailback T.J. Yeldon are gone, too.

Coach Nick Saban felt well enough about the progress of Alabama's newcomers that he switched up his usual opening-day routine of practicing the veterans and youngsters separately. That's partly because coaches are now allowed to have some meeting time with players during the summer, giving the newcomers a little head start in what's expected.

There are some openings for playing time among the freshmen.

That appears to include tailback Damien Harris and receiver Calvin Ridley, both rated as the best at their position by some recruiting services.

Running back signee Bo Scarbrough practiced in a black, non-contact jersey after undergoing knee surgery in the spring. Saban said Scarbrough has been suspended by the NCAA for an unspeci-

fied reason for the first four games.

"It's an NCAA thing which we have to respect what they say about amateurism," Saban said. "I don't really know the details about it. I shouldn't comment because it seems like every time I make a comment about something it kind of gets taken out of context and gets blown up and all that, so I'm going to make less comments about things."

That philosophy clearly doesn't include a biography released this month about him written by Forbes writer Monte Burke, "Saban: The Making of a Coach." Saban finished his news conference with an unprompted rant on the topic.

"I just want everybody to know that I'm opposed to an unauthorized biography on anybody," Saban said. "If some person that you don't even know (is) trying to profit by your story or someone else's story ... one of these days when I'm finished coaching at Alabama, I'll write an authorized book because there's only one expert on my life and guess who that is — me. And there won't be any misinformation."

"There won't be any false statements. There won't be any hearsay. There won't be any expert analysis from anybody else. It will be the real deal."



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Ledecky, Lochte earn golds

Associated Press

KAZAN, Russia — Katie Ledecky just keeps winning at the world swimming championships.

Ryan Lochte is back on top, too, and together he and Ledecky carried the United States to its first two-gold medal night of the eight-day meet Thursday.

Ledecky anchored a 3.04-second comeback victory in the 4x200-meter freestyle relay for her fourth gold. Lochte won a record fourth consecutive title in the 200 individual medley.

"We had a great night," Ledecky said. "We're really getting some momentum and showing what we can do."

Missy Franklin led off the relay for the Americans, and Leah Smith and Katie McLaughlin kept them within striking distance of Sweden, which was under world-record pace for much of the 16-lap race.

Ledecky dived in and quickly pulled even with Swedish anchor Ida Markovarga. The American teenager opened a slight lead at 700 meters and extended it to a body length before powering home in 7 minutes, 45.37 seconds.

"I knew I could bring it home and get this thing done," said Ledecky, who climbed out of the pool and into an embrace with her teammates. "We had a blast out there. We were so relaxed."

It was the third straight victory in the 4x200 relay for the U.S. at the worlds.

Italy earned silver in 7:48.41. China took bronze in 7:49.10. The Swedes faded to fourth.

Ledecky won the 200 free on Wednesday, to go with victories in the 400 and 1,500 freestyles. She set two world records in the longest distance race for women.

"She's phenomenal. She's a beast," Lochte said of his 18-year-old teammate. "Between my win and her world records, hopefully it got Team USA on a roll."

Michael Phelps put in his two cents' from half a world away, texting Lochte and urging him to be more of a leader with the U.S. team. Phelps qualified for the worlds but wasn't in Kazan as part of his punishment by USA Swimming for a second drunk-driving arrest. He's competing at the U.S. nationals in Texas this week.

"He's right," Lochte said. "I've got to be the team leader, whether it's in the pool or out of the pool, cheering, getting them going."

After a fourth-place finish in the 200 free, Lochte made history in the 200 IM. He trailed through the first three legs but came home strong on the freestyle lap and won in 1:55.81.

"That's the coolest thing," Lochte said. He joined Grant Hackett of Australia

as four-time champions of their respective events. Hackett once dominated the 1,500 free.

"I'm definitely really humbled," Lochte said.

Thiago Pereira of Brazil finished second in 1:56.65, and Wang Shun of China was third in 1:56.81.

It was Lochte's 24th world championships medal — second only to Phelps' career total of 33 — and his 16th gold.

The U.S. has won the event seven consecutive times, starting with Phelps' three titles in 2003, 2005, and 2007. Lochte picked up the mantle with previous victories in 2009, 2011, and 2013.

Lochte kept it low-key after hitting the wall, exchanging a hand clasp with Pereira, who was in the lane next to him. Lochte had just two individual events, although he could be selected for the remaining relays.

Pereira led the backstroke and breaststroke legs before Lochte overtook the Brazilian midway through the final lap.

"I thought I could break 1:56 but I couldn't," Pereira said. "I'm happy with a medal, and right now this is just good training. I'm looking forward because we have a year to go to the Olympics in Rio, in my country."

Minnesota AD resigns over inappropriate texts

MINNEAPOLIS — The University of Minnesota's athletic director resigned on Friday, admitting he drank too much at a recent event and sent "inappropriate texts" to colleagues that were reported as sexual harassment.

Norwood Teague, who held the job for three years, issued a statement through television station KARE 11 in which he said he drank too much on the night in question and is seeking treatment for his alcohol problems.

"I behaved badly towards nice people and sent truly inappropriate texts," Teague said. "I'm embarrassed and I apologize to everyone involved."

The school's president, Eric Kaler, said in an email to staff that Teague's resignation followed reports that he had sexually harassed two non-student school employees. He didn't go into detail about the nature of the harassment.

Beth Goetz, deputy athletic director and senior woman administrator, has been named interim athletic director.

49ers LB Aldon Smith arrested in California

SANTA CLARA, Calif. — Police in Northern California have arrested and accused San Francisco 49ers linebacker Aldon Smith.

Santa Clara Police accuse Smith of hit and run, drunken driving and vandalism. The details of his arrest Thursday were not immediately available.

Police report Friday that he was booked into the Santa Clara County Jail and remains there on \$26,000 bail.

He was arrested two years ago on drunken driving charges. Smith missed five games in 2013 after that arrest and went into a substance abuse rehabilitation clinic.

Last fall, Smith received a nine-game suspension for what the league called violations of its substance-abuse and personal-conduct policies.

NHL monitoring investigation of Kane

BUFFALO, N.Y. — The NHL says it is "following developments" of a police investigation involving Chicago Blackhawks star Patrick Kane.

The Blackhawks said they are in the process of gathering information and declined further comment. The Buffalo News first reported the investigation Thursday.

Neighbors of Kane, who lives in Hamburg, N.Y., in the offseason, told the Chicago Tribune that police arrived at his lakefront property Sunday night and that several plainclothes officers entered his house using flashlights. At least one wore gloves and was seen taking pictures out front.

Hamburg Police Chief Gregory Wickert would not describe the nature of the investigation. The investigation comes after Chicago's third Stanley Cup in six seasons. Kane has been lauded in recent years for his growth after several off-ice incidents earlier in his career.

Utah Jazz PG Exum has torn ACL in left knee

SALT LAKE CITY — The Utah Jazz say point guard Dante Exum suffered a torn ACL this week while playing for the Australian National team.

It is unknown when Exum will return. Utah Jazz general manager Dennis Lindsey says in the release that their main concern is Exum's long-term health.

Exum was drafted by the Jazz with the No. 5 pick in 2014 and started 41 games last year, averaging 4.8 points and 2.4 assists.

From Associated Press

Greinke goes 3-for-3 at plate in win

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Zack Greinke's hitting outshined his pitching.

Greinke was 3-for-3 with a homer to offset his worst start in three years and the Los Angeles Dodgers beat the Philadelphia Phillies 10-8 on Thursday.

Greinke (11-2) gave up five runs before recording an out and finished with six runs allowed and seven hits in six innings. But he helped himself at the plate and Adrian Gonzalez hit a three-run homer to pace the NL West-leading Dodgers.

"I was mad after the first inning so I had motivation to get more hits," Greinke said.

The six runs equaled the total Greinke gave up in his previous nine starts combined. He had a scoreless streak of 45²/₃ innings during that span. Greinke hadn't allowed six earned runs since Aug. 19, 2012, when he gave up six for the Angels at Tampa Bay.

Greinke's ERA rose from 1.41 to 1.71. His batting average went from .170 to .220.

"He's a good hitter. He has good mechanics," Dodgers manager Don Mattingly said.

Domonic Brown hit a three-run homer for the Phillies, who lost their first series since the All-Star break. They're 13-5 since the break but still have the worst record in the majors at 42-67.

Fans gave Jimmy Rollins a loud standing ovation when he led off the game for the third straight day. Rollins, the Phillies' all-time hits leader, was 1-for-5. Philadelphia starter David Buchanan (2-6) lasted four innings and gave up seven runs and 10 hits.

"To score that many runs off Greinke and not win has to hurt," Buchanan said. "I just didn't make quality pitches. I have to work on a few things and get ready for the next start."

Gonzalez connected for his 22nd homer in the second to put the Dodgers ahead 6-5. Greinke hit his fifth career

homer in the third to make it 7-5.

Greinke reached on an infield single for his third hit to start the sixth. Rollins followed with a double and Howie Kendrick hit a two-run double to make it 9-6. Yasmani Grandal's sacrifice fly extended the lead to 10-6.

Kenley Jansen got the final two outs to record his 21st save in 22 chances. He entered with two runners on and allowed a two-run double to Maikel Franco and a single to Ryan Howard before Brown lined into a double play to first baseman Gonzalez.

The Dodgers jumped ahead 3-0 in the first on Carl Crawford's two-run single and Andre Ethier's RBI double.

But the Phillies answered in the bottom half. Brown followed Howard's two-run single with a shot to right for a 5-3 lead. Brown's RBI single in the third cut it to 7-6.

"Their top five in the order are up there with best top five we have to face and you probably don't hear people say that," Greinke said. "It's a tough top three."

Astros 5, A's 4: Jed Lowrie hit an RBI double off Edward Mujica with two outs in the 10th inning to make up for a costly error and lift Houston to a 5-4 win over Oakland.

Carlos Correa launched a go-ahead homer in a three-run eighth that gave the Astros a 4-2 lead. But the AL West leaders had to rally again after the A's scored two unearned runs off closer Luke Gregerson in the ninth.

Cubs 5, Giants 4: Rookie bopper Kyle Schwarber homered in his second consecutive game and host Chicago beat San Francisco to move a half-game ahead of its opponent in the race for the second NL wild card.

The Cubs, playing meaningful baseball in August for the first time in years, won for the seventh time in eight games.

Yankees 2, Red Sox 1: Jacoby Ellsbury hit a tiebreaking homer to snap out of a slump and CC Sabathia pitched

six gritty innings after leaving his previous outing with dehydration, leading New York over visiting Boston.

Alex Rodriguez had an RBI double and Justin Wilson (4-0) struck out three batters in the seventh to help the Yankees take two of three from the last-place Red Sox.

Blue Jays 9, Twins 3: Edwin Encarnacion hit a two-run homer and Mark Buehrle earned his 30th career win against Minnesota as host Toronto completed a four-game sweep.

Encarnacion went 3-for-4 with four RBIs and scored twice. The surging Blue Jays won their fifth straight and swept a four-game series from the Twins for the first time.

Cardinals 3, Reds 0: Michael Wacha gave St. Louis' tired bullpen a respite by throwing seven innings in the rain, and the Cardinals pulled away to beat Cincinnati.

The Cardinals improved to 30 games over .500 for the first time since the end of the 2013 season. They have the best record in the major leagues at 69-39. They took two of three in Cincinnati and have won 15 of their last 18 series together. The Reds were shut out for the last 18 innings.

Tigers 8, Royals 6: Ian Kinsler hit a two-run homer off Ryan Madson in the ninth inning to lift Detroit past visiting Kansas City.

Nationals 8, Diamondbacks 3: Ian Desmond broke out of a prolonged slump with a home run and a double, and Bryce Harper reached base five times to help host Washington beat Arizona.

Brewers 10, Padres 1: Khris Davis hit two three-run homers for Milwaukee, and Matt Garza limited visiting San Diego to two hits in seven innings.

Braves 9, Marlins 8: Eury Perez drove in the go-ahead run in the eighth inning and Nick Markakis had three RBIs to help host Atlanta beat Miami.