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A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

stripes.com

Americans tell how they subdued gunman

Associated Press

PARIS — His arm in a sling, U.S. Airman Spencer Stone recounted Sunday how he and two other Americans tackled a gunman on a high-speed train in Europe, saying the attacker "seemed like he was ready to fight to the end." But he added: "So were we."

Stone, 23, said he was awakened from a deep sleep, and turned around to see a man holding an assault rifle and that it "looked like it was jammed, and it wasn't working." One of his friends "just hit me on the shoulder and said, 'Let's go,'" before moving in to tackle the gunman.

In his first remarks since Friday's attack on a train traveling from Amsterdam to Paris, Stone said he and his friends took down the gunman before choking him unconscious.

Stone, of Carmichael, Calif., spoke at a live news conference at the U.S. ambassador's

residence in Paris along with Anthony Sadler, 23, a senior at Sacramento State University in California, and National Guardsman Alek Skarlatos, 22, of Roseburg, Ore.

The gunman, identified as 26-year-old Moroccan Ayoub El-Khazzani, has been detained and is being questioned by French police outside Paris.

He was subdued by the Americans while the train was traveling through Belgium, but was taken into custody in France after the train was rerouted to the northern French town of Arras.

Authorities said El-Khazzani is an Islamic extremist who spent time in Syria, while his lawyer said he was homeless and trying to rob the train.

Despite being known to intelligence services in France, Spain and Belgium, he boarded an Amsterdam-to-Paris train on Friday as it stopped in Brussels, carrying a small arsenal of weapons, including a Kalashnikov, an automatic Luger pistol and a box cutter.

Stone is hailed not only for being the first to grapple with the attacker but for helping to stop the bleeding of a French-American passenger wounded by a bullet.

Stone, wearing a sling on his left arm, was wounded in the attack and said he will receive further medical treatment in Germany.

Stone said the attacker kept pulling out weapons from his bag, and that he was stabbed in the neck and sliced on his hand. Stone said his thumb was reattached during his hospital stay in Lille. He thanked the French doctors, police officers and others.

Skarlatos said military training played a part in subduing the gunman.

"In the beginning, it was mostly gut instinct, survival,"

he said. "Our training kicked in after the struggle."

Authorities in Spain said El-Khazzani had lived in the country until last year and had a police record for drug-dealing.

Officials didn't disclose a possible motive for the attack, but French Interior Minister Bernard Cazeneuve said Spanish authorities had notified French intelligence about the suspect because he belongs to a "radical Islamist movement."

U.S. Ambassador Jane Hartley praised the three Americans, calling them heroes.

"We often use the word hero, and in this case, I know that word has never been more appropriate," Hartley said.

"They are truly heroes. When most of us would run away, Spencer, Alek and Anthony ran into the line of fire, saying, 'Let's go.' Those words changed the fate of many."

Lawyer: Robbery was motive in train attack

dpa

PARIS — A lawyer for the gunman whose attack was foiled by passengers on a Paris-bound train said Sunday that his client claimed not to be a terrorist, but had intended to rob passengers.

"He thought of conducting a holdup to be able to eat and to have some money," lawyer Sophie David said to French broadcaster BFM-TV. She said he claimed to have not heard gunshots on the train and that he said his Kalashnikov rifle was broken. One of the Americans who intervened had also said the rifle's primer did not work.

Ayoub El-Khazzani, 26,

also claimed to have found his weapons, which included the Kalashnikov, an automatic pistol and nine magazines, abandoned in a suitcase in a Brussels park, David said.

Police believe the man boarded the Amsterdam-to-Paris train in Brussels.

His lawyer told the newspaper Le Parisien that he recently traveled to Spain, Belgium, Austria and Germany but denied visiting either Turkey or Syria.

As investigators in Europe assemble a profile of the suspect, French officials have been cautious about categorizing the incident as a terrorist attack.

However, information from

multiple countries indicate that the man, a Moroccan, may have traveled to Syria earlier this year.

French Interior Minister Bernard Cazeneuve said Saturday that the man was known for his links to radical Islamist movements.

According to accounts by police sources in Spanish media, the man lived in Spain from 2007 to 2014 — first in Madrid and then in the southern city of Algeciras.

He was arrested multiple times on suspicion of drug dealing, and came to the attention of national security agents in 2012 when he started to show signs of radicalization, the reports said.

In February 2014, he was flagged to French authorities by Spain for having links to radical Islam, which led France to open a file on him, Cazeneuve said.

In 2015, he moved to Belgium, where investigators also have opened a case.

German police sources told the daily Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung that the gunman was suspected of traveling to join the Islamic State group, and that he checked into a flight to Istanbul from Berlin-Tegel airport on May 10.

He is currently in the custody of the French anti-terrorism police unit.

Milley mulls women in combat

Associated Press

FORT BENNING, Ga. — The Army's new chief of staff, Gen. Mark Milley, is taking a calculated approach to arguably the most consequential decision of his early tenure — whether to recommend that any all-male combat roles remain closed to women.

Central to his thinking, he said in an Associated Press interview Friday, is the question of whether allowing women to serve in the infantry, armor and other traditionally male-only fields would affect Army "readiness" for war.

"Does it improve it, or does it hurt it?" he is asking as he and leaders of the other military

services weigh whether to recommend to Defense Secretary Ash Carter that he keep some positions off-limits to women.

Under a January 2013 edict, all remaining all-male positions will be opened to women unless the defense secretary approves exceptions by January 2016. Carter said Thursday that he expects to see the services' recommendations by October.

Milley, who took over as Army chief on Aug. 14 and has seen women in combat during his numerous tours as a commander in Iraq and Afghanistan, said he is not ready to say which direction he is leaning.

"Right now, I would call myself right on the line," he said in

the interview while flying to Fort Benning, Ga., to attend an Army Ranger School graduation that included the first women ever to pass the rigorous Ranger training course. After the ceremony, he briefly met privately with the two trailblazers, Capt. Kristen Griest, 26, and 1st Lt. Shaye Haver, 25.

Milley said that in coming weeks he will weigh a wide range of information, including Army assessments of the experience of Israel and other countries with women in combat, as well as studies by the Marine Corps, data collected during Army experiments and judgments reached by his own experience in war.

Same-sex spouses in Germany to get benefits

BY STEVEN BEARDSLEY Stars and Stripes

NAPLES, Italy — U.S. military commands can now extend benefits to same-sex spouses of American servicemembers and civilians with orders to Germany, opening access to official passports, visas and housing allowances.

A Department of Defense spokesman confirmed Thursday that Germany has been added to a list of 40 countries where commands can sponsor same-sex spouses for benefits designed to allow military families to stay together during a move. More than 40,000 military personnel live and work in the country.

Germany's exclusion from the list has puzzled families and gay-rights advocates for more than a year. Since 2001, the country has recognized same-sex "life partnerships," a status that resembles gay marriage in other countries and offers many of the same benefits.

Yet other countries made the military's command sponsorship list long ago. Approval for sponsorships in Italy, which prohibits gay marriage and domestic partnerships, was approved last summer.

The military asked its combatant commands to explore the issue in their respective theaters after the military began recognizing same-sex marriages in 2013, following partial repeal of the Defense of Marriage Act by the U.S. Supreme Court.

Although few, if any, U.S. basing agreements with foreign nations refer to the gender of a spouse allowed to come over with military personnel, American officials said they would seek agreement with each country on interpretation before sponsoring same-sex spouses.

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Lawmaker: 'Gunman got raw deal'

Associated Press

NEW YORK — A man who gunned down a security guard at a federal building in Manhattan before killing himself was a whistleblower who got "a raw deal" by the agency that fired him, a New Jersey congressman who took up the man's case said Saturday.

Rep. Bill Pascrell said he did not know what made Kevin Downing, a military veteran who had been employed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, open fire at the New York federal building on Friday.

"What made him snap?" Pascrell said to The Associated Press in a telephone interview. "I don't know."

Downing had endured a string of misfortunes as his live-in fiancee died of breast cancer, his house was in foreclosure, and he suffered health problems after a car accident, Pascrell said.

"None of this at all ever indicated to any of us that this was going to happen," Pascrell said.

Federal agents swarmed Downing's home in Fort Lee, N.J., hours after the shooting, searching for anything that could help them understand his motive.

Downing, 68, opened fire at the federal building that houses an immigration court, passport processing center and a regional office for the Department of Labor. As he approached a metal detector, Downing shot FJC Security Services guard Idrissa Camara, police said. Downing then encountered another employee and then shot himself in the head, said James O'Neill, a chief with the New York Police Department.

Dowling had been fired from a job at the New York City office of the Bureau of Labor Statistics in 1999 and appealed the firing, claiming he had been targeted because he was a whistleblower. Downing had complained about the agency closing its New York regional office.

Cheaters' website founder says he's faithful

Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — Touting himself as the "The King of Infidelity," the founder of the adultery site Ashley Madison built his livelihood around the unconventional philosophy that cheating is a natural part of married life — yet he says he is a devotyears says she would be devas- what happens when you build a tated if he were unfaithful.

Noel and Amanda Biderman said they do not practice what they preach but simply are smart entrepreneurs seizing an untapped market.

"I am printing money, I don't deny it," Biderman told the New

ed husband, and his wife of 12 York Daily News in 2014. "That's taboo-focused business.

> Their privately held Toronto holding company, Avid Life Media Inc., grossed \$115 million in earnings last year, according to tax documents and figures shared by Biderman with Forbes.

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Cowboys' Romo, Witten still seeking elusive first crown

Associated Press

OXNARD, Calif. — Tony Romo crouches to give his little son Hawkins instructions on running a pass route while Jason Witten carries one of his kids nearby, surrounded by autograph seekers.

This is the training camp tradition after practice these days for one of the best quarterback-tight end combinations in NFL history, and the steady force in the Dallas offense for nearly a decade.

Their desire to win a Super Bowl hasn't changed since Romo and Witten came into the league together 12 years ago, or from when Romo became a starter three years later. But their appreciation for how difficult it is to win a title has grown, along with the friendship that formed through the disappointments in trying.

"When you are competitors like we are and you've gone through the highs and lows like we have, you grow," said Witten, who needs 57 catches to become the NFL's second tight end with 1,000 for his career, trailing only Tony Gonzalez. "And then off the field, just the friendship and brotherhood. You get married. You have children. All in that course of when you first met."

The perception of the commitment for each of these teammates differed for years, reputations sewn a year apart starting with Witten famously running 30 yards without a helmet after a catch in 2007. When the next season ended in a blowout loss at Philadelphia that kept Dallas out of the playoffs, Romo infamously said his life would be pretty good if that was the worst thing that happened

to him.

Only recently have views on Romo been changing, partly because he battled and a half to have the most efficient season of his career in 2014.

Then the Cowboys came close to winning multiple playoff games for the first time since Troy Aikman led the last of three Super Bowl-winning runs after the 1995 season. A loss at Green Bay in the divisional round turned in the fourth quarter when Romo's deep throw to Dez Bryant on fourth-and-2 was overturned on review after being ruled a catch near the goal line.

"When you're in the NFL and you're young, it's all about yourself," said Romo, the franchise leader in yards passing (33,270) and touchdowns (242) — ahead of Hall of Famers Aikman and Super Bowl winner Roger Staubach. "And as you get older and you create the relationships that you have, through a Jason Witten and other people, you want to share those moments. Playoff games. Super Bowl."

While Bryant is Romo's most dangerous target these days, Witten will go down as his most consistent. They lead the NFL in connections between quarterback and tight end with 632 since 1991, according to STATS. That's as far back as STATS tracks the numbers. They are second in yards, behind San Diego's Philip Rivers and Antonio Gates.

Romo dominates the season charts for Dallas quarterbacks, and Witten has the NFL season record for catches by a tight end (110 in 2012). The former Tennessee player likely will be at least 300 catches ahead of Michael Irvin on the Cowboys' career list when he retires, and Romo and Witten could end up with as many completions together as Hall of Famer Irvin had in his 12-year career (750).

Romo and Witten don't figure to match Irvin's three Super Bowls with Aikman and NFL rushing leader Emmitt Smith. They're only worried about the first one. If it happens, their embrace could last a few seconds — at least.

Together, Romo and Witten have lost four season finales with a postseason berth on the line, and their playoff opener after the 2007 season when they were the top seed in the NFC. Their first playoff game after Romo became the starter in 2006 was his famous flub of the snap that prevented a potential go-ahead field goal in a 21-20 loss at Seattle.

"I think the greatest thing I can ever say about Tony is through the tough times and all that was being said, his focus was simply on becoming the best quarterback that he could become," Witten said. "He always had a rare ability to kind of be above it and focus on what really mattered. I respect that. It's not easily done."

And it's not easy for two players to spend 13 years together in the NFL. Never mind that it will probably be at least 15 years, with both under contract at least through 2017.

"We want to win just as bad as for the team as for those guys," sixth-year safety Barry Church said. "They've been through it all. I know they want to win bad as hell."

That's one thing that hasn't changed.

Logano races to third win of season

Associated Press

BRISTOL, Tenn. — As Joey Logano circled Bristol Motor Speedway, he'd briefly glance in the mirror to watch Kevin Harvick.

Logano had taken the lead on a restart with 64 laps remaining, but Harvick was closing in by using a completely different line. Refusing to get rattled, Logano stuck to what worked for him Saturday and won the Bristol night race for the second consecutive year.

"It was kind of interesting to watch it in the mirror, I was watching him drive in and I was like, 'He's going to get me eventually,'" Logano said. "It's so interesting how we ran such different lines and be the same speed on the racetrack. We both found what works for us, and I really thought we were going to be able to pull away because I thought we were really good in the long run and then we didn't pull away.

"It was a very exciting last 20, 30 laps for sure, and neat to be able to get a checkered flag again here at Bristol."

Logano has won on a superspeedway in the Daytona 500, on the road course at Watkins Glen and now Bristol's short track. He has won twice this month as he readies for the start of the Chase for the Sprint Cup championship.

There are two more races before the playoffs begin.

Logano led 176 laps, second only to Joe Gibbs Racing driver Kyle Busch, who led a race-high 192 laps.

Harvick finished second for the 10th time this season. The reigning Sprint Cup champion has a career-best 17 top-five finishes this year and had his 250th career top-10 finish in 526 starts.

"Obviously, you want to win races, but we're in position and feel like we can get that momentum swing at any point," Harvick said. "Just really excited to be able to run like this at Bristol. This hasn't been notoriously my best racetrack."

been notoriously my best racetrack."

Many believed JGR would pick up its 10th win of the season, particularly after Denny Hamlin, Busch and Carl Edwards swept the top three spots in qualifying. Then Busch won Friday night's Xfinity Series race.

Although Busch dominated early, he had faded a bit as the laps clicked off. Then he was hit with a speeding penalty on the final round of pit stops and finished eighth. Edwards led 74 laps but had a tire go flat when he was out front and it cost him two laps.

He finished seventh.

Matt Kenseth, the winner for JGR in the spring race at the track, had no chance to sweep the season. An engine issue 177 laps into the race ended his night.

That left Hamlin to carry the banner for JGR. He finished a team-best third, but said he just didn't have the same speed as Logano and Harvick.

A look at some of the top QB-TE combos

Associated Press

Tony Romo and Jason Witten of the Cowboys have more completions than any quarterback-tight end combination in the NFL since 1991, as far back as STATS can go. Here's a look at some of the top QB-TE combos in league history:

- Romo and Witten: Beyond the 632 completions, they are second with 7,139 yards. They aren't quite as prolific when it comes to touchdowns, going back to 1940. Their 35 TDs are tied for 11th with Lynn Dickey-Paul Coffman (Green Bay, 1979-85) and Matt Ryan-Tony Gonzalez (Atlanta, 2009-13).
- Philip Rivers and Antonio Gates, San Diego: They are the most prolific under all three categories combined. Rivers and Gates lead with 7,525 yards and have a 19-touchdown edge with 72 on the all-time list that goes back to 1940. They are second to Romo and Witten with 593 completions.

■ Tom Brady and Rob Gronkowski, New England: They don't yet crack the top five in completions and yards, but are already second to Rivers and Gates with 53 touchdowns in just five seasons. If both stay healthy, they'll be high on the other lists as well. They won their first Super Bowl together last season.

■ John Elway and Shannon Sharpe, Denver: The pair of Hall of Famers is third in yards (5,941), fourth in completions (452) and tied for seventh in TDs (41) despite playing just eight seasons together. They won consecutive Super Bowls in Elway's final two seasons.

■ Ben Roethlisberger and Heath Miller, Pittsburgh: They are third in completions (486), fourth in yards (5,438) and ninth in touchdowns (39) going back to 2005. Like Elway and Sharpe, they've won two Super Bowls together.

■ Ken Stabler and Dave Casper,

Oakland and Houston: They are 10th on the all-time touchdowns list with 38, most

of them coming with the Raiders from 1974-79. They won the Super Bowl with Oakland after the 1976 season. Casper is in the Hall of Fame. Stabler, who died of colon cancer July 8 at age 69, is a senior finalist for the class of 2016.

■ Dan Fouts and Kellen Winslow, San Diego: Another Hall of Fame pair along with Elway and Sharpe, and tied with them for seventh with 41 touchdowns. But Fouts and Winslow never made it to the Super Bowl in four straight playoff trips from 1979-82.

■ Peyton Manning and Dallas Clark, Indianapolis: These two would have been high on all the lists if Manning had stayed with the Colts rather than moving on to Denver. They won a Super Bowl and are fifth all-time with 44 touchdowns, but not in the top five in yards and completions. The TD total is one behind Drew Bledsoe-Ben Coates (New England, 1993-2000) and one ahead of Hall of Famer Sonny Jurgensen and Jerry Smith (Washington, 1965-74).



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Bolt surges past Gatlin to world title

Associated Press

BEIJING — After two years of uncertainty, Usain Bolt produced the biggest clutch performance of his career Sunday to beat Justin Gatlin with a lunge at the line in the 100-meter final at the world championships.

Bolt was trailing for almost the entire race in the biggest showdown in the sport in years. But with gritted teeth, the two-time Olympic champion clawed back into contention and made his giant stride count to win in 9.79 seconds — .01 seconds faster than the American veteran.

"A lot of people counted me out," Bolt said. "So for me to come and win, this is a big deal."

Rising to the occasion as he always does, Bolt put a shockingly bad semifinal heat behind him to recover with a good start in the final. Two lanes to his right, Gatlin was as good as perfect for most of the race, but for seven years now, there is no denying the greatest sprinter in history.

This victory, Bolt's tightest in a major championship after being accustomed to world-record times and winning gold medals by huge margins, was extra special.

"It's No. 1 when it comes to competition," Bolt said. Pulling even just before of the finish line, Bolt glanced toward Gatlin in Lane 7 and threw his weight forward in a dip of desperation. His yellow-colored Jamaica jersey crossed marginally ahead the red-clad Gatlin for his third world title in the 100.

Bolt kept on powering along in celebration, and when he returned, Gatlin gave him a warm hug. At 33, Gatlin had been unbeaten for two years as Bolt struggled with injury. But on the biggest of occasions, timing was with Bolt again.

"Got nipped at the line by great Usain," Gatlin said.

In a dead heat for third, Trayvon Bromell of the United States and Andre De Grasse of Canada shared bronze in 9.911 seconds.

Soon, the reggae was blaring through the public address system at the Bird's Nest and Bolt was performing his signature Lightning Bolt move.

"I came to add to my legendary status," the Jamaican

It could have been so different had Bolt failed to recover from a stumble at the start in the semifinals. Later saying he hit his foot too hard and almost fell, Bolt had as many as seven racers to catch before winning the heat.

The final was even tougher — even with one of Bolt's best starts in years. And this time, it was Gatlin who tripped in the race.

"On the last five meters, I kind of stumbled a bit," said Gatlin, the 2004 Olympic gold medalist in the 100.
Gatlin was aching for another gold medal, reaching his

peak form at 33 after serving a four-year doping suspension midway through his career. He lost the tightest finish since the 2003 world championships in Paris.

After becoming a mother last year, there also was plenty of doubt in the heptathlon about Olympic champion Jessica Ennis-Hill.

Three years after the 2012 London Games, Ennis-Hill remains the standout she once was. With three solid performances in the long jump, the javelin and the concluding 800, Ennis-Hill won her second world title, six years after her first.

Runner-up Brianne Theisen-Eaton needed to make up about six seconds in the 800 to win and went out fast to pressure Ennis-Hill with an early burst of speed. But Ennis-Hill kept her within striking distance and swept past the Canadian in the finishing straight.

Ennis-Hill won with 6,669 points, 115 points ahead of Theisen-Eaton. Laura Ikauniece-Admidina of Latvia took bronze with 6,516 points.

In the men's hammer throw, Pawel Fajdeck of Poland retained his world championship title by winning with a best mark of 80.88 meters, beating three-time Asian Games champion Dlishod Nazarov of Tajikistan and another Pole, Wojciech Nowicki.

The host nation again fell short of a gold medal when Miguel Angel Lopez of Spain held off a strong challenge from Wang Zhen to win the 20-kilometer walk.

Donaldson leads Jays' rout of Angels

The Associated Press

ANAHEIM, Calif. — Josh Donaldson looked at the Toronto Blue Jays' lineup last spring and felt he could probably drive in 100 runs for his new team.

He never imagined he would do it by mid-August. And nobody anticipated the destruction that the Blue Jays are wreaking on AL pitching staffs as they chase a playoff berth.

Donaldson went 4-for-5 with a three-run homer, driving in a career-high six runs and propelling Toronto to its 18th victory in 22 games, 15-3 over the Los Angeles Angels on Saturday night.

Jose Bautista had a two-run triple during a seven-run fourth inning by the streaking Blue Jays, who pounded out 20 hits. They followed up their 9-2 win at the Big A on Friday with the highest-scoring performance in three years by the majors' most productive offense.

Amid "M-V-P!" chants from the visitors' fans in Mike Trout's home stadium, Donaldson drove in six runs in a three-inning span, giving him 100 RBIs for the first time in his career.

"The last week or so, I feel like every time I come up, I have somebody in scoring position," said Donaldson, the first major leaguer to 100 RBIs this season. "It means a lot, especially the last couple of years when I've been right around (100 RBIs) and haven't been able to get it."

Donaldson sent his 34th homer deep into the bullpens beyond left field in the third inning before delivering a two-run single in the fourth and an RBI double in

Bautista had three hits, Edwin Encarnacion extended his hitting streak to 18 games while driving in three runs, and Chris Colabello hit a late two-run homer in the Jays' highest-scoring game since July 22, 2012.

Astros 3, Dodgers 1: Scott Kazmir pitched six solid innings, Jose Altuve and Luis Valbuena homered and host Houston Astros defeated Zack Greinke and Los Angeles.

A night after teammate Mike Fiers pitched a no-hitter against the Dodgers, Kazmir (7-8) didn't permit a runner until Jimmy Rollins singled to start the fourth inning.

The Astros won a matchup of division

leaders and ended an eight-game winning streak by Greinke (13-3).

"We obviously took advantage of the very few mistakes that he made," Houston manager A.J. Hinch said.

Kazmir rebounded from his worst start with the Astros, giving up one run and six hits while striking out eight.

Pirates 3, Giants 2: Starling Marte hit a solo home run off George Kontos with two outs in the ninth inning, lifting host Pittsburgh over San Francisco.

Jung Ho Kang hit a pair of solo homers for the Pirates in the matchup of playoff contenders.

Yankees 6, Indians 2: Luis Severino earned his first major league win, getting all the support he needed in the first inning on a pair of home runs from Brett Gardner and Brian McCann as host New York beat Cleveland.

Making his fourth career start, Severino (1-2) gave up a one-out homer in the first to fellow rookie Francisco Lindor, but yielded only two singles and four walks in the remainder of his gritty innings.

Royals 6, Red Sox 3: Salvador Perez hit a three-run homer, Yordano Ventura pitched six effective innings and AL Central-leading Kansas City ended host Boston's four-game winning streak.

Ventura (8-7) gave up one run and six hits, striking out six. He improved to 4-0 in his past six starts.

Twins 3, Orioles 2: Byron Buxton picked up his first major league RBI with a tiebreaking single in the seventh inning and visiting Minnesota beat Baltimore.

The Twins have won seven straight over Baltimore dating to last season. They are

6-0 against the Orioles this season.

Rangers 5, Tigers 3: Yovani Gallardo took a shutout into the seventh inning, and visiting Texas spoiled Randy Wolf's return to the majors by defeating Detroit.

Gallardo (10-9) allowed eight hits in sixplus innings. The Tigers didn't score until lan Kinsler's three-run homer with two outs in the ninth.

Cubs 9, Braves 7: Miguel Montero and Jorge Soler hit back-to-back home runs in the eighth inning and host Chicago beat Atlanta for its third straight win.

Montero and Soler connected off Edwin Jackson (2-2), released by the Cubs last month. Addison Russell and Anthony Rizzo homered earlier for Chicago.

Nationals 6, Brewers 1: Anthony Rendon homered and doubled to drive in two runs, rookie Joe Ross allowed one run in seven innings and host Washington beat Milwaukee.

Michael Taylor hit a home run for the third straight night for Washington, which had lost eight of 10.

Diamondbacks 11, Reds 7: Paul Goldschmidt hit a pair of two-run homers, Ender Inciarte homered and visiting Arizona handed Cincinnati its eighth straight loss.

Phillies 4, Marlins 2: Aaron Altherr and Darin Ruf hit back-to-back solo home runs in the ninth inning, sending visiting Philadelphia past Miami.

Padres 8, Cardinals 0: Ian Kennedy combined with five relievers on an eight-hitter and Matt Kemp and Justin Upton keyed a seven-run seventh inning, leading host San Diego over St. Louis.

The Padres, who have won nine of 11, tied their season high with their fifth straight win.

Rays 5, Athletics 4: Asdrubal Cabrera homered and then hit a two-run double in the ninth inning, and visiting Tampa Bay rallied past Oakland.

The Rays got just five hits off A's starter Sonny Gray before coming back for their first win this season when trailing going into the ninth.

White Sox 6, Mariners 3 (10): Chicago scored two runs in the ninth inning to tie the game and then took advantage of the Seattle bullpen's wildness for a three-run 10th to beat the host Mariners.

Mets 14, Rockies 9: New York roughed up host Colorado by the exact same score for the second straight day, with Juan Uribe homering to start an eight-run burst in the third inning.

The NL East leaders got a season hightying 21 hits, including 10 for extra bases. Every New York starter had at least one hit, with pitcher Jonathon Niese (8-9) delivering a two-run single in the big third.

Coming off his first career shutout, Chris Rusin (4-6) went two-plus innings and allowed 11 runs and 12 hits, eight of them doubles.

It was 14-3 in the fifth inning before Colorado began a comeback that fell short.

Woods in contention

The Associated Press

GREENSBORO, N.C. — Tiger Woods couldn't have asked for much more at his first Wyndham Championship.

He's playing with confidence. His scores show it. And now he'll play a Sunday round that matters.

Woods shot a 2-under 68 in the third round Saturday, leaving him two strokes behind leader and longtime friend Jason Gore in a three-way tie for second.

Gore had a career-best 62 to reach 15under 195 at Sedgefield Country Club.

"I need to go out there tomorrow and make a run and get myself up there and make some birdies," Woods said. "There's a bunch of guys ... at 13 (under). There's a whole slew of guys at 12, 11, 10. Anybody can make a run and shoot the score Jason and Jonas (Blixt) did."

Woods — whose streak of 28 holes without a bogey ended on the 18th when his 6-foot par putt lipped out — reeled off 10 straight pars before briefly moving within one stroke of Gore with a birdie on the par-3 16th.

"I felt very steady from the word 'go,'" Woods said.

Blixt and Scott Brown joined Woods at 13 under. Blixt shot a career-best 62, and Brown had a 66.

Former Wyndham winners Webb Simpson (64) and Brandt Snedeker (67) were three strokes back along with Paul Casey (66), Jim Herman (66) and Cameron Percy (67).

Woods was poised to make a run at his first win in more than two years — one that would earn him enough points to clinch a spot in the FedEx Cup playoffs opener next week in New Jersey. Depending on the math, a solo second-place finish also might be enough for Woods, who's at No.

He also moved one step closer to his 80th PGA Tour victory — and first since the 2013 WGC-Bridgestone Invitational.

For him, this day was about consistently making pars - 15 in all, including a remarkable save on the 10th with a 24-foot putt.

