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A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

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US launches airstrikes on targets in Libya

BY TARA COPP

Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The United States on Monday launched two airstrikes in Libya, targeting Islamic State group fighters and equipment near the coastal city of Sirte, the Pentagon announced.

The airstrikes were carried out with a combination of manned and unmanned aircraft and targeted a tank and a couple of Islamic State vehicles, said Pentagon press secretary Peter Cook. U.S. surveillance drones were used to assist the targeting, but Cook did not have an estimate of how many Islamic State fighters were killed.

The strikes represent a significant shift in the use of U.S. air power in Libya.

Two previous U.S. airstrikes in the country were limited by the United States specifically to eliminate high-value targets. Monday's strike represents what is likely to be a continuous air campaign coordinated with Libya's interim Government of National Accord to oust approximately 1,000 Islamic State fighters entrenched in Sirte.

The ramped-up air campaign against the Islamic State group in Sirte was recom-

mended by Gen. Joseph Dunford, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and Defense Secretary Ash Carter, and then was authorized by President Barack Obama. Cook said the strikes were carried out under the 2001 Authorization for the Use of Military Force, authority that the U.S. Congress approved to hunt al-Qaida in the wake of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks against the U.S. That authority has been used since to strike affiliated terrorist groups and now the Islamic State group.

The United States has rotated special operations forces into and out of Libya for months to retain contacts with pro-government forces. However, no U.S. forces were on the ground Monday in Libya to support the airstrikes, Cook said. He did not say whether there were U.S. special operations forces on the ground in other parts of the country.

The airstrikes were conducted by U.S. warplanes only, Cook said, and are likely to continue.

"We are prepared to carry out more strikes," he said.

There are approximately 3,000 Islamic

State fighters in Libya, according to the United Nations. In the past few months, the momentum of the group has ceased and pro-government Libyan forces have been able to regain some of the territory around Sirte lost last year.

The strikes "are consistent with our approach to combating [the Islamic State group] by working with capable and motivated local forces," Cook said in a statement. "[Government of National Accord]-aligned forces have had success in recapturing territory from [the Islamic State group] thus far around Sirte, and additional U.S. strikes will continue to target [the Islamic State group] in Sirte in order to enable the [Government of National Accord] to make a decisive, strategic advance."

The United States had conducted two previous airstrikes in Libya. In February, U.S. warplanes hit an Islamic State group training facility near Tripoli, killing an estimated 40 fighters. In November 2015, U.S. warplanes killed the then-senior Islamic State group leader in Libya, Abu Nasil.

Information from The Associated Press was used in this report.

Dunford arrives for talks with Turkish leaders

BY JOHN VANDIVER

Stars and Stripes

America's top military officer met with U.S. troops at Incirlik Air Base on Monday ahead of talks with top Turkish officials in an effort to ease the strained relations between the two strategic partners.

Marine Gen. Joseph Dunford Jr., chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, arrived in Turkey after a stop in Iraq, where U.S. forces are playing a key support role in coalition efforts to reclaim territory from the Islamic State group.

In Turkey, Dunford was to deliver a message of solidarity with Turkey in the wake of the attempted coup two weeks ago, said Navy Capt. Greg Hicks, Dunford's spokesman.

"He will deliver messages condemning in the strongest terms the recent coup attempt and reaffirming the importance of our enduring partnership for regional security as symbolized by coalition op-

erations out of Incirlik in the counter-ISIL fight," Hicks said, using an alternative name for the Islamic State group.

The spokesman said that Dunford also would underline the importance of Turkey's contributions to both the counter-Islamic State coalition and the NATO alliance.

Dunford was to meet with Prime Minister Binali Yildirim and Gen. Hulusi Akar, chief of the Turkish general staff, Hicks said.

Dunford's stop in Turkey comes during a difficult period in relations between the U.S. and Turkey. In recent days, protesters have burned American flags outside Incirlik, calling on the U.S. military to leave the base amid accusations that U.S. officials quietly backed the failed mutiny. U.S. leaders repeatedly have denied that and have confirmed their support of Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's government.

But Erdogan has voiced harsh criticism of the United States, including Central

Command's Gen. Joseph Votel. The president accused Votel of expressing sympathy for the mutineers, a claim Votel rejected.

In addition, Erdogan has demanded that the U.S. extradite Turkish cleric Fethullah Gulen, who Turkish authorities say was behind the coup attempt. Gulen, who lives in self-imposed exile in Pennsylvania, has denied the charges.

Washington says it will consider Turkey's request for extradition. Some analysts have warned that a failure to turn over Gulen would further harm Turkish-U.S. relations and possibly could prompt Ankara to reconsider U.S. access to Incirlik.

Incirlik Air Base, the Turkish-owned facility on the outskirts of the southern city of Adana, has enabled the U.S. to shorten flight times to targets in Syria and Iraq. Turkey approved U.S. combat missions from Incirlik in the summer of 2015 after having rejected previous U.S. requests to conduct such operations.

John McCain slams Trump for criticism of soldier's parents

BY TRAVIS J. TRITTEN
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Sen. John McCain on Monday criticized Donald Trump for disparaging the parents of a soldier killed in Iraq, breaking several weeks of silence on the deeply divisive presidential campaign.

The Arizona Republican, who is himself locked in a tight election battle, said Trump's statements about Khizr and Ghazala Khan and his proposals to shut out some immigrants does not represent the views of the Republican party, and he urged Trump to set a better example.

"While our party has bestowed upon him the nomination, it is not accompanied by unfettered license to defame those who are the best among us," McCain said in a news release issued by his campaign.

The Khan's son, Capt. Huma-

yun Khan, was killed by a suicide bomber while deployed in 2004. The couple railed against Trump at the Democratic National Convention, saying he does not understand the sacrifice of their family and Muslim immigrants.

Trump said Sunday that he was "viciously" attacked first. He had fired back over the weekend by implying Ghazala Khan was not allowed to speak at the convention because of her religion and cited business successes as his own sacrifice for the country.

The political uproar triggered a lengthy statement from McCain, a former prisoner of war and advocate of a muscular U.S. foreign policy who has backed Trump despite deep political differences and a complicated relationship with the nominee. Trump once suggested McCain, who was held pris-

oner in Vietnam for more than five years, was not a war hero because he was captured.

"In recent days, Donald Trump disparaged a fallen soldier's parents. He has suggested that the likes of their son should not be allowed in the United States — to say nothing of entering its service," said McCain, who is chairman of the Armed Services Committee. "I cannot emphasize enough how deeply I disagree with Mr. Trump's statement."

Other Republicans also rebuked the real estate developer and former reality TV star, including Sen. Kelly Ayotte, R-N.H., and staunch critic Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C.

Republican leadership in the House and the Senate also issued statements backing the sacrifice of the Khan family, though they did not mention Trump by name.

GI sentenced for child pornography

Associated Press

HONOLULU — An Army medic charged in his wife's death will spend more than two years in prison after being court-martialed for possessing child pornography and soliciting payment for sex.

Michael Walker pleaded guilty Saturday to solicitation and not guilty to possession of child pornography, the Honolulu Star-Advertiser reported.

A military judge ordered Walker's rank reduced from sergeant to private and sentenced the 36-year-old to a dishonorable discharge.

Walker said in court that he placed advertisements in September 2014 and was paid for sex multiple times.

"My purpose was to find people to have sex with and at the same time to give me money," he said.

Defense attorneys argued pornographic images and videos of children found on Walker's computer were dumped there in a massive file transfer.

They say prosecutors did not prove Walker was the person who accessed the files.

An attorney pushed for leniency, saying Walker is seeking sex addiction treatment.

Walker has been in federal custody since he was arrested in November in the case of his wife's stabbing death.

Her body was found in November 2014 at the Aliamanu Military Reservation home where she lived with her husband.

Prosecutors say Walker and his lover, Ailsa Jackson, planned to kill Catherine Walker, 38.

Jackson pleaded guilty to murder in December and said in court that she stabbed Catherine.

Walker was indicted in November on charges of aiding and abetting and conspiring to commit first-degree murder.

He faces a January trial in civilian court.

Official touts administration's efforts on vets' homelessness

BY DIANNA CAHN
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — As President Barack Obama prepared to address veterans gathered in Atlanta on Monday, members of his administration announced a dual-pronged milestone: Veterans' homelessness has been reduced by half since 2010, but that's still 50 percent more than the administration's goal to end the plight by 2015.

In 2010, first lady Michelle Obama, along with Jill Biden, the wife of Vice President Joe Biden, launched a five-year program to end veterans' homelessness. As efforts expanded, the program drew in mayors and governors, nonprofits and government institutions includ-

ing the Veterans Affairs, and Housing and Urban Development departments. HUD has housed about 114,000 homeless veterans, working with landlords through vouchers and coordinating with VA health care and supportive services.

A White House memo released before the president's speech to the Disabled American Veterans convention outlined five themes he would focus on, including how the government has worked to improve veterans' access to health care, the backlog in veterans' benefits claims, veterans' homelessness, economic opportunities and the troubled VA.

Coming just months before Obama leaves office in January, it is also the culmination of

a troubled period for veterans' services, with the VA mired in scandal over lengthy wait times for doctors' appointments and backlogs in processing benefits claims. It is an opportunity for the president to spotlight his achievements in that arena.

In a joint news conference with Castro, VA Secretary Bob McDonald said that the number of homeless veterans is not only at the lowest point, but at 17 percent, the drop from January 2015 to January 2016 was the largest reduction — quadruple what it was the year before.

A large part of that was the VA's resolution of a lawsuit in Los Angeles, which has the largest number of homeless veterans in the country, McDonald said.

Walker holds off Day for PGA victory

Associated Press

SPRINGFIELD, N.J. — Jimmy Walker did everything required of a major champion on the longest final day in 64 years at a PGA Championship.

And then Jason Day made him do a little bit more.

Walker was standing over an 8-foot birdie putt on the par-5 17th hole Sunday when he heard a roar that caused him to twice back off the putt. It was Day, the defending champion and world's No. 1 player, down to his last chance and delivering with a 2-iron that landed in front of the pin and stopped 15 feet away for eagle.

Walker answered, like he had done all day, with a birdie for a three-shot lead.

Moments later, another roar.

Day made the eagle putt, and the lead was down to one.

"There was nothing easy about the day — really about the week, for that matter," Walker said. "Especially coming down the last hole."

He went for the 18th green knowing it was his easiest chance for the par he needed to win. The outcome was still in doubt until Walker missed the green to the right, pitched out of deep rough to 35 feet and rolled his first putt about 3 feet past the cup.

Walker calmly made it to capture the PGA Championship, ending a long and wet week at Baltusrol, and still having just enough strength left to hoist the 37-pound Wanamaker Trophy.

"He really put it on me to make a par," Walker said. "Sometimes pars are hard. But we got it."

That par gave him a 3-under 67 and a one-shot victory and made the 37-year-old from Texas a major champion.

Even with the silver trophy at his side, Walker still had a hard time letting that sink in.

Because of rain, the 36-hole final was the longest in PGA Championship history since Jim Turnesa won his 36-hole match in 1952. Walker at least had time to rest in his travel bus — he's a frequent neighbor of Day on the PGA Tour — and get right back out into the final round. Walker, who shot a 68 in the morning for a one-shot lead over Day, didn't make a bogey over the last 28 holes.

Day, trying to join Tiger Woods as the only back-to-back winners of the PGA Championship in stroke play, came out to the 18th green with his son to watch the finish and quickly found Walker. "Great stuff, mate," he said.

"It was nice to get the eagle, just to try and make Jimmy think about it," Day said after a 67. "But obviously, Jimmy just played too good all day."

In a most peculiar final day at a major, the PGA Championship allowed for preferred lies — that never happens in a major — because of nearly 4 inches of rain during the week that drenched the Lower Course. Desperate to beat the clock and avoid a second straight Monday finish at Baltusrol, the pairings stayed the same for the final round.

Walker and Day were playing with occasional mud on their golf balls on the back nine of the third round Sunday morning as some players behind them were able to lift, clean and place their golf balls in short grass in the fourth round.

But it ended on a happy note for Walker. He is a major champion, completing a sweep of first-time winners in the majors this year. Better yet: It moved him from No. 29 to No. 4 in the Ryder Cup standings, all but assuring him a spot on the team.

He finished at 14-under 266, one shot from David Toms' record score in the 2001 PGA Championship.

Walker began the back nine by holing a 45-foot bunker shot on No. 10 and making a 30-foot birdie putt on No. 11. The final birdie on the 17th was the most important because he had a cushion. And thanks to Day, he needed it.

"Two-putting from that is pretty difficult, especially trying to go for your first major," Day said. "But he's handled himself pretty good."

British Open champion Henrik Stenson, trying to join Ben Hogan as the only players to win back-to-back majors at age 40, faded with a double bogey on the 15th hole.

"It was a long day. I never felt like I brought my 'A' game," said Stenson, who started the final round two shots behind and closed with a 71. "I think I hit more poor shots in the two rounds today than in the previous six or seven rounds combined."

For the second straight major, this became a duel over the final hour.

Day pulled within one shot with a 20-foot birdie putt at No. 11, but he never had another birdie chance closer than 25 feet until the two par 5s at the end. Even so, the Australian battled to the end with the second of two 2-irons at 18 leading him to shout, "Get back there!" And it did.

Thanks to Walker holding his nerves, it just wasn't enough.

"God, just to be in it and be there and have a chance and then to finish it off is just ... it's so gratifying," Walker said.

Bach defends IOC ruling allowing Russians in Rio

Associated Press

RIO DE JANEIRO — IOC President Thomas Bach defended the decision not to ban Russia's entire team from the Rio Games, declaring Sunday that the doping crisis won't damage the Olympic body's credibility and taking a swipe at global anti-doping officials for failing to act sooner against state-sponsored cheating in Russia.

Speaking at a news conference five days before the opening of the Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, Bach said a total ban on Russia for systematic doping "would not be justifiable" on either moral or legal grounds.

"Every human being is entitled to certain rights of natural justice," said Bach, who also denied suggestions he had bowed to pressure from the Russian government to reject calls by anti-doping authorities for a complete ban.

Bach was peppered with questions about the International Olympic Committee's handling of the Russian scandal, including the decision to give international sports federations the authority to decide which Russian athletes should be cleared to compete in Rio.

More than 100 Russian athletes — including the track and field team — have been excluded, with more than 250 declared eligible by the federations.

With the Games opening Friday, it remains uncertain exactly how many Russians will be competing. Some have filed appeals against their bans.

The IOC set up a "review panel" consisting of three executive board members who will have the

final say on which Russians are let into the Games, based on advice from an independent expert appointed by the Court of Arbitration for Sport.

Bach and the IOC have been heavily criticized by anti-doping bodies, athletes' groups and Western media for not imposing a total ban on Russia.

Pressure for a complete ban followed a World Anti-Doping Agency report by Canadian lawyer Richard McLaren that accused Russia's sports ministry of overseeing a vast doping conspiracy involving the country's summer and winter sports athletes.

Despite the backlash against the IOC decision, Bach said the committee had "broad support" across the Olympic movement, including from national Olympic committees and sports federations.

Bach took a shot at WADA, which was set up by the IOC in 1999, for not having acted earlier on whistleblower evidence of widespread doping in Russia. He also questioned why WADA had accredited the Moscow and Sochi doping labs at the center of the scandal.

"The IOC is not responsible for the timing of the McLaren report," Bach said. "The IOC is not responsible for the fact that different information which was offered to WADA already a couple of years ago was not followed up. The IOC is not responsible for the accreditation or supervision of anti-doping laboratories."

"Therefore, the IOC cannot be made responsible, neither for the timing nor for the reasons of these incidents we have to face now ... just a couple of days before the Olympic Games."

Brazil's keeper out with fractured elbow

Associated Press

SAO PAULO — Brazil's hopes of winning its first Olympic gold medal in soccer took a hit Sunday when starting goalkeeper Fernando Prass was removed from the squad because of a right elbow injury.

The Brazilian soccer confederation said Prass will not play in the tournament after tests showed a fracture in the goalkeeper's elbow.

Coach Rogerio Micale replaced Prass with 28-year-old Weverton, from Brazilian club Atletico Paranaense.

Prass missed a couple of practice sessions last week after hurting his elbow on Monday. He appeared to have recovered and was expected to play in the team's friendly match against Japan on Saturday but was ruled out after re-injuring the elbow in a pre-game warmup.

The 38-year-old Palmeiras goalkeeper was one of the selected players older than age 23, along with star striker Neymar and midfielder Renato Augusto. Neymar is Brazil's captain at the Rio Games after missing the decisive stages of the World Cup at home two years ago because of a back injury.

Prass had never been called up for the national team before.

"I gave my best to make my dream of playing for the national team come true, but unfortunately it's not going to happen this time," Prass said on Twitter after undergoing the medical tests Saturday. "I'll recover and return even stronger to play for Palmeiras and hopefully for the national team again."

The Brazilian squad is under pressure to win the tournament in front of home fans. The gold medal is the only trophy the five-time world champions haven't won in soccer.

Brazil won Olympic silver three times, including in London four years ago after a team led by Neymar lost the final to Mexico. It finished with the bronze twice.

The team's first match is against South Africa on Thursday in the capital of Brasilia. Iraq and Denmark are the other two teams in Group A.

The men's Olympic tournament is played with 16 teams, and the top two in each of the four groups advance to the quarterfinals.



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A's send Reddick, Hill to Dodgers

Associated Press

OAKLAND, Calif. — The Oakland Athletics traded right fielder Josh Reddick and left-hander Rich Hill to the contending Los Angeles Dodgers on Monday for a trio of pitching prospects.

The deal was announced two hours before the deadline for completing trades without waivers.

The A's received minor leaguers Jharel Cotton and Grant Holmes, along with Frankie Montas — who made seven appearances with the White Sox last year — in the deal. Both people spoke on condition of anonymity to The Associated Press on Monday because the trade had yet to be formally announced by either club.

Hill, who signed a \$6 million, one-year contract with Oakland during the offseason, is on the disabled list with a pesky blister on the middle finger of his throwing hand that hasn't healed. He had been scheduled to pitch Sunday in Cleveland before the DL stint.

In other trade news:

- The Boston Red Sox have acquired left-handed reliever Fernando Abad from the Minnesota Twins for minor league pitcher Pat Light.

The deal was the first announced Monday in the majors before the nonwaiver trade deadline, giving the Red Sox another veteran for the bullpen in their pursuit of Baltimore and Toronto in the AL East.

Abad has a 2.65 ERA in 39 appearances for the Twins. He is making \$1.25 million this year and will be eligible for free agency after the 2017 season.

The 30-year-old Abad has held opponents to a .220 batting average this year. He came up with Houston and also has pitched for Washington and Oakland.

The right-handed Light has a 2.32 ERA in 31 innings for Triple-A Pawtucket. He made his big league debut April 26 and appeared in two games for Boston.

- Baltimore is hoping Wade Miley can turn his solid July into a big finish with the AL East leaders.

The Orioles acquired Miley in a trade with the Seattle Mariners on Sunday, giving manager Buck Showalter an experienced lefty for his rotation as the team tries to hold off Toronto and Boston for the division title.

Miley is 7-8 with a 4.98 ERA, but he had a 3.45 ERA in five July starts. He pitched seven innings of one-hit ball in Seattle's 4-1 victory against the major league-leading Chicago Cubs on Saturday.

Seattle received left-hander Ariel Miranda in the trade. The Cuban pitcher has spent most of the year with Triple-A Norfolk. He appeared in one game for Baltimore on July 3 at Seattle, allowing three runs and four hits in two innings.

The 29-year-old Miley was selected by Arizona with the 43rd pick in the 2008 amateur draft and made his major league debut with the Diamondbacks in 2011. He is 56-54 with a 4.07 ERA in six years in the majors.

Miley went 11-11 with a 4.46 ERA in 32 starts with Boston last year, and then was traded to Seattle in December.

- Colin Rea is heading back to the San Diego Padres after leaving with an injury in his first start since being traded to Miami.

The Marlins acquired Rea on Friday in a seven-player deal with the Padres, but he had to leave Saturday's game against St. Louis in the fourth inning and was put on the 15-day disabled list with a right elbow sprain.

San Diego announced Monday it reacquired Rea from Miami and sent minor league pitcher Luis Castillo back to the Marlins. Castillo had gone from Miami to San Diego in Friday's deal.

Cubs' Lester bunts in winning run

Associated Press

CHICAGO — Travis Wood got four outs and made an impressive catch in left field. Pitcher Jon Lester made the winning play — at the plate. Five Chicago Cubs played two or more positions.

Manager Joe Maddon went deep into his bag of tricks to steal one from the Seattle Mariners.

Lester drove in Jason Heyward with a two-strike squeeze bunt in the 12th inning, and the Cubs overcame a six-run deficit on the way to a wild 7-6 victory over the Mariners on Sunday night.

"I just kept telling myself 'Don't be late to square around,'" Lester said. "That's one thing over the last year that I've kind of picked up on on bunting, and it's helped me just be a little more consistent."

Heyward sparked the winning rally with a leadoff double against Cody Martin (1-1). He advanced on Willson Contreras' fly ball to center before Lester, hitting for Hector Rondon (2-2), managed to get a safety squeeze down right in front of the plate.

Heyward made it home with a headfirst slide, sparking a frenzied celebration at Wrigley Field.

"Joe does it again," Lester said. "You kind of sit there sometimes and scratch your head and it seems to always kind of work out."

The Cubs trailed 6-3 before they pushed across three runs in the ninth against Steve Cishek, handing the sidwinding right-hander his sixth blown save in 31 opportunities. Addison Russell hit an RBI single and Contreras drove in another run when he hustled down the line to beat out a potential double-play grounder.

With two outs and runners on the corners, Cishek uncorked a wild pitch that allowed Russell to come home with the tying run. Matt Szczur then flied out to right, ending the inning.

Orioles 6, Blue Jays 2: Jonathan Schoop made sure the Orioles left Toronto the same way they arrived: as the first-place team in AL East

Schoop singled home the go-ahead run in the 12th inning and Baltimore ended a season-worst five-game losing streak, beating the Blue Jays 6-2 Sunday to reclaim the division lead.

"We came here in first place and we're going to try to maintain it," Orioles manager Buck Showalter said. "It's going to be tough."

Troy Tulowitzki hit his 18th home run on Chris Tillman's first pitch in the Toronto fourth, a drive off the facing of the fourth deck. Tulowitzki left in the eighth, two innings after he was hit on the right hand by a pitch from Tillman.

Manager John Gibbons said Tulowitzki suffered a broken thumb. The Blue Jays will wait for the swelling to go down before deciding whether to place him on the disabled list.

"A little sore, it obviously got me pretty good," Tulowitzki said. "It's blown up."

Tulowitzki said he could still play defense but could not grip a bat after being hit.

Adam Jones hit his 20th homer later in the 12th, a three-run shot that helped the Orioles avoid a three-game sweep and moved them a half-game ahead of the Blue Jays.

"We outlasted them," Jones said. "They grinded, we grinded. Good game to go into an off day, a much-needed win."

Rays 5, Yankees 3: Rookie left-hander Blake Snell (3-4) struck out nine over 5¹/₃ innings, Luke Maile had a key two-run single against Michael Pineda (5-10) and host Tampa Bay completed a three-game sweep.

After winning eight of 10, New York lost its fourth straight game and fell to .500 at 52-52.

Indians 8, Athletics 0: Corey Kluber (10-8) limited Oakland to five hits in seven innings, Mike Napoli hit a two-run homer and host Cleveland completed a three-game sweep.

Tigers 11, Astros 0: James McCann capped a six-run first inning with his first career grand slam and Miguel Cabrera homered twice and drove in four runs, helping host Detroit complete a three-game sweep and stretch its winning streak to six.

Mets 6, Rockies 4: Neil Walker hit a go-ahead, three-run homer in the seventh off Boone Logan (1-1) following James Loney's 10-pitch walk, helping host New York stop a four-game losing streak that matched its season high.

Marlins 5, Cardinals 4: Pinch-hitter Derek Dietrich had an RBI triple off Matt Bowman (1-3) with two outs in the ninth

inning, earning host Miami a split of the four-game series.

Braves 2, Phillies 1: Jeff Francoeur hit a tiebreaking two-run homer off Andrew Bailey (3-1) in the seventh for host Atlanta.

Brewers 4, Pirates 2: Jonathan Lucroy waved his helmet to acknowledge a standing ovation at Miller Park and, in what could be his final appearance for Milwaukee, flied out as a pinch hitter in the eighth inning.

Lucroy turned down a trade to AL Central-leading Cleveland over the weekend. But other teams want the All-Star catcher before Monday's deal deadline, and he has a limited no-trade clause.

Twins 6, White Sox 4: Brian Dozier homered twice and Ervin Santana (4-9) allowed three runs — one earned — in six innings

Kennys Vargas hit a two-run homer as part of a three-run first inning for host Minnesota, which has won three of four games.

Rangers 5, Royals 3: Mitch Moreland homered for the fifth time in his last five starts and Lucas Harrell (3-2) won in his Texas debut as the host Rangers finished a four-game sweep of the World Series champions.

Red Sox 5, Angels 3: Dustin Pedroia hit a go-ahead, three-run homer off Huston Street (3-2) with two outs in the ninth inning and Xander Bogaerts followed with another home run.

Giants 3, Nationals 1: Matt Cain (3-6) threw five hitless innings for his 100th career victory, struck out five and walked four, leaving after 93 pitches. He handed off to George Kontos, who allowed a lead-off single to Bryce Harper in the sixth.

Reds 3, Padres 2: Homer Bailey (1-0) returned from forearm and elbow surgeries and allowed two runs, four hits and three walks in 5²/₃ innings. Tony Cingrani worked the ninth for his 13th save.

Dodgers 14, Diamondbacks 3: Yasmani Grandal and Corey Seager hit three-run home runs and Joc Pederson added a two-run shot for host Los Angeles.

Stoudemire to play for Israeli team

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Amare Stoudemire isn't done yet.

After retiring from the NBA on July 26, Stoudemire signed a two-year contract Monday to play for Israeli team Hapoel Jerusalem.

Stoudemire said the decision was very emotional for him and his family. The six-time NBA All-Star has visited Jerusalem on multiple occasions, but said getting the opportunity to play in Jerusalem will be a "spiritual journey."

Shortly after signing a five-year, \$100 million contract with the New York Knicks in the summer of 2010, Stoudemire traveled to Israel to explore what he believed might be "Hebrew roots" through his mother, Carrie. Stoudemire has a Star of David tattoo and knows multiple Hebrew phrases.

"My interests in playing in Israel, at this moment that dream has come true," Stoudemire said.

With the Israeli and American flag both present at Stoudemire's news conference at Madison Square Garden, he signed his contract, put on his new team hat and showed off his new Hapoel Jerusalem jersey.

"It's like a dream come true," Stoudemire said. "When I was in high school I always wanted to put on my college hat to show what school I was going to and never did it. I put on an NBA hat."

Stoudemire and his wife, Alexis, will travel to Jerusalem next week to look at schools for his four children. After returning to their Florida home for a week, the family will make the move to Jerusalem in late August for training camp — the same time when school will start back up as well.

This isn't Stoudemire's first interaction with Hapoel Jerusalem. The 6-foot-10 forward was part of an ownership group that purchased the team in 2013. As part of his new contract with Hapoel Jerusalem, he will sell his shares to majority owner Ori Allon.