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NATO to discuss attacks in Turkey

By JOHN VANDIVER

Stars and Stripes

NATO will meet Tuesday in an emergency session requested by ally Turkey, where recent attacks by the Islamic State group have pushed the fight into alliance territory and prompted vows by Ankara to play a larger role in the battle against the militants.

The North Atlantic Council, which includes the ambassadors of all 28 NATO members, will convene in Brussels under the alliance's Article 4 — a rarely utilized part of NATO's founding treaty that allows a member to request consultations if it has been threatened.

"Turkey requested the meeting in view of the seriousness of the situation after the heinous terrorist attacks in recent days,

and also to inform Allies of the measures it is taking," NATO said. "NATO allies follow developments very closely and stand in solidarity with Turkey."

Unlike Article 5 of the treaty, which requires members to come to the assistance of alliance nations subject to armed aggression, Article 4 calls for talks. The former was first invoked by Turkey in 2003, when tensions escalated ahead of the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq. It was invoked again in 2012 when Syria shot down a Turkish jet and when errant shelling from Syria killed five civilians on the Turkish side of the border.

In response to Turkish concerns at the time, NATO agreed to bolster air defenses along the country's southern border with Syria, but it avoided overt military action because there

is little appetite for another war in the Middle East.

The United States, along with two other NATO states, provide such support with hundreds of troops forward-deployed in Turkey, armed with Patriot missiles that guard the country's airspace. To date, NATO has not been required to fire a single missile in Turkey's defense.

Turkey's primary regional concern has been the Bashar Assad regime in Syria, which is engaged in a lengthy civil war against various groups, including the Islamic State group, militants affiliated with al-Qaida and other extremists. Critics accuse Turkey of turning a blind eye to the rise of the Islamic State group, which relies on Turkey as a route into war-torn Syria.

The recent attacks along Tur-

key's border, which included a suicide bombing in Suruc, Turkey and crossfire along the border between Turkish troops and militants, has marked a major shift in its policy.

Last week, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan announced that the U.S. would be able to utilize the strategic Incirlik Air Base for attacks on the Islamic State group. The base is about 250 miles from the group's self-proclaimed capital of Raqqa, Syria, well within quick-strike distance for U.S. fighters and armed drones.

Turkey also joined the fight last week, sending fighter-bombers to conduct airstrikes against Islamic State targets.

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US, Turkey plan for militant-free territory in Syria

The Associated Press

BEIRUT — The United States and Turkey are finalizing plans for a military campaign to push the Islamic State group out of a strip of Syrian territory along the Turkish border, a move that would further embroil Turkey in Syria's civil war and would set up a potential conflict with U.S.-backed Kurdish forces.

A U.S. official said Monday that the creation of an "Islamic State-free zone" would ensure greater security and stability in the Turkish-Syrian border region. The official said any joint military efforts with Turkey would not include the imposition of a no-fly zone. The official insisted on anonymity because they weren't authorized to publicly discuss the talks.

The U.S. has long rejected Turkish and other requests for a no-fly zone to halt Syrian

government air raids, fearing it would draw U.S. forces further into the civil war.

The Pentagon on Monday would not confirm plans with Turkey for a free zone inside Syria, saying instead it is working to push the Islamic State from various locations and to create pockets of security.

Pentagon spokesman Capt. Jeff Davis said there were ongoing military-to-military talks on the use of Turkish bases by manned and unmanned U.S. aircraft, and that Defense Secretary Ash Carter was to make final decisions on such operations in the coming weeks.

A Turkish-driven military campaign to push the Islamic State out of territory along the Turkish border is likely to complicate matters on the ground. Kurdish fighters in Syria control most of the 565-mile boundary with Turkey and

have warned Ankara against any military intervention.

Turkey has targeted not only the Islamic State group but also Kurdish fighters affiliated with forces battling the extremists in Syria and Iraq. The Syrian Kurds are among the most effective ground forces battling the Islamic State group and have been aided by U.S.-led airstrikes, but Turkey fears they could revive an insurgency against Ankara in pursuit of an independent state.

Syria's main Kurdish militia — the YPG, or People's Protection Units — is affiliated with the Kurdistan Workers' Party, or PKK, which has waged a decades-long insurgency in Turkey and maintains bases in remote parts of northern Iraq.

It was not immediately clear how an Islamic State-free zone would be established along the Turkish-Syrian border. In

comments published Monday, Turkish Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoglu said Turkey and the United States had no plans to send ground troops into Syria but wanted to see its moderate opposition forces replace the Islamic State near the border.

A Turkish official said Turkey and the US were discussing "the formation of a de facto safe zone" which would facilitate the return of Syrian refugees from Turkey. He said Turkey was prepared to provide all necessary assistance to the zone, including "air support."

He would not elaborate nor say where the zone would be located, citing operational concerns. He requested anonymity because he was not authorized to speak publicly on the issue.

Stars and Stripes reporter Travis Tritten contributed to this report.

Marines' remains in US 70 years after Tarawa

Stars and Stripes

CAMP H.M. SMITH, Hawaii — The remains of 36 Marines who died at the Battle of Tarawa have arrived back on U.S. soil more than 70 years after they went missing during World War II.

The remains, which include posthumous Medal of Honor recipient 1st Lt. Alexander Bonnyman Jr., arrived in Hawaii

on Sunday and will be returned to their families for burial with full military honors once positive identification is complete.

A repatriation ceremony was held Saturday on Tarawa, an atoll in the central Pacific Ocean where the remains were uncovered in May by Florida-based History Flight Inc.

The nonprofit group works with the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency to recover

U.S. servicemembers.

"I was very pleased to learn of the discovery of the remains of our Marines on the island of Tarawa — one of our most significant and contested battles," Gen. Joseph Dunford, commandant of the Marine Corps, said in a statement.

"This battle demonstrated the indomitable fighting spirit of our Marines. It was also the first contested landing against

a heavily fortified enemy, and a turning point in the development in our amphibious capability," he said. "The lessons learned at Tarawa paved the way for our success in the Pacific campaign and eventual end to the war."

More than 1,000 Marines were killed in the Battle of Tarawa, which was fought over three days in November 1943.

150 US sailors in E. Timor for training

BY ERIK SLAVIN

Stars and Stripes

TOKYO — About 150 U.S. sailors have arrived in East Timor, a country that international observers say is on its way toward stability but still has a long way to go in its development.

The exercises planned for the world's second-newest nation are somewhat unusual for their small scale when compared with the combat training at other stops in the Navy's nine-nation Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training, or

CARAT.

Some of the sailors flying into the Timorese capital of Dili will instruct East Timor's servicemembers on basic seamanship, while Seabees will work on community service projects.

The country also is known as Timor-Leste.

The Navy is arriving at East Timor's request, said Rear Adm. Charlie Williams, commander of the U.S. 7th Fleet's Task Force 73.

"With a country like Timor-Leste, you have to start sometime in building capacity and partnerships," Williams said

Saturday in Singapore in a phone interview.

East Timor won its independence in 2002 from Indonesia after decades of fighting.

Estimates swing widely between 100,000 and 250,000 killed since 1975, when Portugal's colonial rule over the eastern half of Timor ended.

Poverty is now East Timor's biggest security threat, Domingos Sarmiento Alves, the country's ambassador to the United States, said in a March interview with *The Diplomat*, a news site.

DOJ: Navy overbilled by Sikorsky

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — The Justice Department has launched a criminal investigation against Sikorsky Aircraft Corp., manufacturer of the Black Hawk helicopter, for allegedly overcharging the Navy for servicing two classes of aircraft.

Prosecutors allege that Sikorsky and subsidiary companies Derco Aerospace and Sikorsky Support Services illegally billed the Navy for overhead costs associated with servicing T-34 and T-44 aircraft, training airplanes used by the Navy and Marines, according to details contained in Sikorsky's earnings report.

The Justice Department also alleged that Sikorsky Support Services submitted false certificates for aircraft maintenance from 2006 to 2012.

Sikorsky, which Lockheed Martin recently agreed to acquire from United Technologies, was advised of the investigation July 13, according to its second-quarter earnings report filed Wednesday.

Prosecutors are seeking \$148 million in recovery, the earnings report said.

Obama chides 3 in GOP for campaign rhetoric

The Associated Press

ADDIS ABABA, Ethiopia — Insisting that Americans deserve better, President Barack Obama chided Republicans Mike Huckabee, Donald Trump and Ted Cruz on Monday for a series of campaign-trail attacks that he said would be "ridiculous if it weren't so sad."

In some of his first commentary on the budding race to replace him, Obama accused the candidates of violating a time-honored American tradition of not playing "fast and loose" on topics of grave concern like foreign policy. And he said that regardless of which party wins the White House, he wants to

ensure he's turning over the keys to someone capable of seriousness and honesty.

"We have robust debates, we look at the facts," Obama said during a news conference in Ethiopia. "We just don't fling out ad hominem attacks like that, because it doesn't help inform the American people."

Obama has largely avoided wading into the increasingly turbulent debate over who should be the next president. But during a news conference with Ethiopia's prime minister, Obama was asked about criticism from Huckabee, the former Arkansas governor, and seemed eager to add his take.

A day earlier, Huckabee said

Obama was so naive about Iran that he agreed to a nuclear deal that would "take the Israelis and basically march them to the door of the oven," a reference to crematoria in Nazi concentration camps during the Holocaust.

Obama suggested the tough rhetoric was a ploy by Huckabee to "get attention" or to push Trump out of the headlines.

"It's not the kind of leadership that's needed for America right now," he said.

Huckabee quickly dismissed the presidential critique, arguing that what was "ridiculous and sad" was that Obama wasn't taking Iran's threats to destroy Israel seriously.

Kyle Busch wins his 1st Brickyard 400 title

The Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — NASCAR's hottest driver kept his cool on Sunday.

Kyle Busch outdueled Joey Logano and Kevin Harvick on each of the last three restarts, fended off a last-lap challenge from Logano and finally overcame Indianapolis' searing humidity to win his first Brickyard 400 after running four more laps than scheduled.

The victory came one day after Busch was so dehydrated he struggled to stand when accepting the race trophy for his Xfinity Series win. Less than 24 hours later, a revived Busch wouldn't celebrate sitting down. He grabbed the checkered flag, motioned to the crowd and gleefully kissed the speedway's famous yard of bricks.

"This one here today checks off probably the one that's No. 2 on the races-to-win list," he said.

The significance of his 0.332-second victory was yet another chapter in Busch's remarkable comeback story.

After missing the season's first 11 races with a broken right leg and a broken left foot, Busch has been virtually unbeatable. He has won the last three Cup races, four of the last five overall and moved within 23 points of cracking the top 30 to qualify for the Chase after NASCAR granted him a waiver. Busch also has two Xfinity wins during that span.

But the way he won Sunday was every bit as incredible as his sudden surge.

The No. 9 qualifier quickly moved into the top five and

stayed there most of the day and his timing was impeccable. He took the lead on Lap 153 and only gave it up once, briefly to Logano, who used a daring move to get past Harvick and nearly past Busch on the Lap 158 restart.

Logano got close on the final two laps, but settled for second as Busch managed to pull away. Harvick wound up third.

"Joey was fast," Busch said. "He drafted on me a couple times. But if you just protect that bottom and not let that guy get a chance inside of you, you're really going to mess him up. That's what I had to do in order to win this thing today."

Here are some other takeaways from the race:

Rough farewell: Jeff Gordon's hometown and home-state fans were hoping for a storybook ending to his Indy career. Instead, his quest for an unprecedented sixth win on Indy's 2.5-mile oval ran into some bad luck. Clint Bowyer's car spun right in front of Gordon, who narrowly avoided the car before hitting the outside wall. Gordon pitted twice before taking the car back to the garage, where his crew fixed the car. He wound up 42nd in his final race at Indy. "Today is not the way we would have liked to have ended, but that is the reality and we just have to deal with that and move on," he said.

Penske's pitfall: The most successful team owner in Indianapolis 500 history, Roger Penske, has not had any luck in the Brickyard. The drought continued Sunday. In addition to Logano's runner-up finish, Brad Keselowski

settled for 10th after a late pit stop knocked him out of contention.

Oh What A Feeling: Busch's victory was part of a milestone day for Toyota, which has now won six straight Cup races. The engine manufacturer has won at all 23 tracks on the NASCAR circuit. In addition, Toyota ended Chevrolet's 12-year winning streak and claimed four of the top seven spots at the Brickyard. Toyota Racing Development president David Wilson noted that the win also should help change the impression that Toyota engines are better suited to smaller tracks, noting that it has won at short tracks, intermediate tracks and now a superspeedway during the winning streak.

The rules: Organizers changed the rules to create more drag, hoping to make the race more exciting. Post-race reviews were mixed. While Busch said he thought there were benefits to the new package, Wilson acknowledged he didn't see much difference between the last two Cup races in Indy.

Hot, hot, hot: While the outdoor conditions were not quite as steamy Sunday as they were Saturday, the air flow inside the cars still made things tough on drivers. Unlike Saturday, though, when some drivers including Busch needed medical treatment, NASCAR spokesman Kerry Tharp said he was not aware of anyone who went to the infield hospital following Sunday's race. Busch's crew chief, Adam Stevens, said the team made Busch's comfort inside the car its top priority — even if it was detrimental to the car's performance.

Source: Cavs trade Miller, Haywood to Trail Blazers

The Associated Press

CLEVELAND — A person familiar with the trade says the Cavaliers have traded forward Mike Miller and center Brendan Haywood to Portland to create salary-cap room and save luxury-tax money.

The Cavs have been shopping Haywood's expiring \$10.5 million contract deal for weeks and worked out a deal with the Blazers, who will also get two second-round picks from Cleveland, said the person who spoke Monday to the Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the deal is pending league approval.

The Blazers are expected to cut Haywood, who barely played for Cleveland last season. Miller was signed last summer, bringing playoff experience and three-point shooting to the Cavs, but he was hardly used in the playoffs.

Yahoo! and ESPN previously reported the trade.

Also Monday, a person familiar with the agreement said the Cavaliers will re-sign free agent guard Matthew Dellavedova to a one-year contract.

Dellavedova, who emerged as an unlikely postseason contributor after All-Star point guard Kyrie Irving was injured, will sign for \$1.2 million for next season, said the person who spoke on condition of anonymity because the deal has not been signed.

ESPN first reported the deal.

In other NBA news:

■ The Golden State Warriors have completed the trade sending two-time All-Star forward David Lee to the Boston Celtics for Gerald Wallace and Chris Babb.

The teams announced the deal Monday. They agreed to the trade July 7, but Boston needed time to sort out other moves in free agency before acquiring Lee.

Day edges Watson at Canadian Open

OAKVILLE, Ontario — Jason Day birdied the final three holes to win the Canadian Open on Sunday, spoiling David Hearn's bid to become the first Canadian winner in 61 years.

Day made a 20-foot putt on the par-5 18th for a 4-under 68 and a one-stroke victory over Bubba Watson. Day finished at 17-under 271 at Glen Abbey.

Day was coming off a fourth-place tie Monday in the British Open at St. Andrews. The 28-year-old Australian also fought through vertigo symptoms last month to tie for ninth in the U.S. Open. He has four PGA Tour victories, also winning at Torrey Pines in February.

Watson birdied the final four holes for a 69. Hearn had a 72 to finish third.

In other golf news:

■ American Marco Dawson held off Bernhard Langer and Colin Montgomerie over the final nine holes to win the Senior British Open.

Dawson closed with a 6-under 64 to finish at 16-under 264 on Sunningdale's Old Course.

■ Lexi Thompson won the Meijer LPGA Classic by a stroke for her fifth LPGA Tour title, shooting a 6-under 65 to overcome a four-stroke deficit.

■ England's Danny Willett won the European Masters for his third European Tour title, closing with a 5-under 65.

Boston's mayor puts Olympic bid in doubt

The Associated Press

Boston's mayor delivered a harsh blow to the city's effort to host the 2024 Olympics when he declared on Monday he wouldn't sign any document "that puts one dollar of taxpayer money on the line for one penny of overruns on the Olympics."

That document is the host city contract that has to be signed by government leaders before any city can be chosen as host. Mayor Marty Walsh made his announcement at a hastily called news conference that coincided with Gov. Charlie Baker's meeting with the U.S. Olympic Committee.

The USOC was pressing Baker for assurances that he would back the bid. But following the governor's meeting, an administration spokeswoman said Baker reiterated to the USOC that he had to wait for a report from a consulting group, due next month, before making any decision on whether to lend his support.

The USOC board was meeting later Monday to discuss the future of the bid. Baker's recalcitrance, combined with an about-face from a previously supportive Walsh, gives the board an opening to pull the plug on Boston, where public support has lagged. Los Angeles would be the most likely fill-in candidate if the USOC decides to go that direction.

Walsh didn't say the Boston bid was dead, but he hinted of no plans to sign the host contract on anyone else's timeline.

"If committing to signing the guarantee

today is what's required to move forward, then Boston is no longer pursuing the 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games," he said.

The host city contract is a document that, essentially, guarantees that the International Olympic Committee won't be held responsible for any cost overruns for an Olympics. That puts the burden on the host city, state and country. It's always a difficult sticking point for U.S. candidates, because unlike governments in most other countries, the U.S. government doesn't back any Olympic efforts.

The contract doesn't need to be signed until 2017, but given the 11th-hour signings that have happened in past, failed bids — most notably, New York for 2012 and Chicago for 2016 — the USOC is eager to have it delivered well before then.

Walsh said it won't get his signature until he's assured the taxpayers won't have to foot the bill.

"I refuse to mortgage the future of the city away," he said. "I refuse to put Boston on the hook for overruns, and I refuse to commit to signing a guarantee that uses taxpayers' dollars to pay for the Olympics."

The official deadline to nominate a city isn't until Sept. 15, but the USOC is looking for answers right away. That's in part because there still could be time to get Los Angeles on board, and because there's a key International Olympic Committee meeting taking place later this week in Malaysia, where the 2024 bid will be a hot topic. Leaders of the Boston bid were expected to attend.



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Reds trade Cueto to Royals

The Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — The Kansas City Royals acquired Johnny Cueto in a trade with Cincinnati on Sunday, sending three prospects to the Reds for a legitimate ace for the front of their beleaguered rotation.

Kansas City has the best record in the American League after it lost to San Francisco in Game 7 of the World Series last October. But Yordano Ventura has underperformed this year and Jason Vargas will miss the rest of the season after he injured his elbow last week — increasing the need for pitching help.

The Royals last won the title in 1985, and the trade was greeted with a loud ovation when it was announced during the third inning of Kansas City's home game against Houston on Sunday afternoon.

"I'm excited about my next chapter," Cueto said with Reds catcher Brayan Pena serving as his translator. "I know they play baseball very good. I'm excited because I know it's going to be good for my career and good for the team."

Cueto, who is eligible for free agency after the season, had spent his entire career with Cincinnati. But the fourth-place Reds are looking to the future and could trade several more significant pieces before Friday's non-waiver deadline, including right-hander Mike Leake and All-Star closer Aroldis Chapman.

Cincinnati got minor league left-hand-

ers Brandon Finnegan, John Lamb and Cody Reed in the trade for Cueto, who was one of the top starters on the market. The Reds also are sending money to the Royals to help pay Cueto's remaining salary for the year.

"There is a lot interest in Johnny and we felt that this was the best value we could get," Reds general manager Walt Jocketty said. "Johnny is going to a great situation there. He has people that he'll know. He's on a team that has a chance to go to the World Series."

Finnegan and Lamb were assigned to Triple-A Louisville, and Reed went to Double-A Pensacola.

Finnegan was selected by the Royals in the first round of last year's draft. He made seven playoff appearances in 2014, but has split time between Triple-A Omaha and Kansas City this year.

The 25-year-old Lamb, a fifth-round pick in 2008, is 9-1 with a 2.67 ERA in 17 starts for Omaha.

Cueto, 29, won 20 games last season and is 7-6 with a 2.62 ERA in 19 starts this year. He pitched eight scoreless innings in Cincinnati's 5-2 victory at Colorado on Saturday night.

The right-hander made his major league debut with Cincinnati in 2008 and is 92-63 with a 3.21 ERA in eight seasons.

"It's a very emotional time for me," Cueto said. "But I understand it's part of the game and I'm just excited about my next step."

The deal for Cueto is indicative of the new reality for Kansas City, which used to trade away its top players for prospects at the deadline. Not so much right now, and the Royals are trying to take full advantage of their window for contention.

Several top young players, such as first baseman Eric Hosmer and All-Star third baseman Mike Moustakas, are eligible for arbitration and becoming more expensive by the year.

While Royals owner David Glass has been willing to increase their payroll to franchise-record levels, Kansas City may have only a couple of years to make another run at a title before finances force them into a rebuilding mode.

Royals general manager Dayton Moore is not thinking about Cueto's future — now.

"We acquired Johnny Cueto to help us compete and win the division and hopefully get back to the playoffs and win a World Series," he said. "That's where our focus is."

The deal also reunites Edinson Volquez and Cueto after the pitchers spent four years together in Cincinnati.

The close friends are from the Dominican Republic, and Volquez, who signed a \$20 million, two-year deal with the Royals this past offseason, served as a mentor to Cueto when he broke into the big leagues in 2008. They have even spoken of their desire to play together once again.

3 hurlers, Biggio go into Hall

The Associated Press

COOPERSTOWN, N.Y. — Three pitchers who became dominant after trades and a rock-solid catcher-turned-second baseman have a new moniker — Hall of Famer.

Randy Johnson, Pedro Martinez, John Smoltz and Craig Biggio were inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame on Sunday and basked in the spotlight one more time with at least 40,000 fans cheering from the sun-drenched field beyond.

For Martinez, the last to speak, the moment was magical as scores in the crowd waved Dominican flags for one of their own. Martinez, who also delivered part of his speech in Spanish, and former Giants great Juan Marichal, elected in 1983, are the only Hall of Famers from the Caribbean nation.

"We waited 32 years for another Dominican," said Martinez, who wore a patch honoring his nation's flag on one shoulder and another honoring the United States on the other. "I hope all Dominicans remember this."

Playing through an era tainted by steroids and ruled by offense — compliments of bulked-up sluggers, a smaller strike zone and smaller ballparks — Johnson, Martinez and Smoltz proved indomitable. They combined for 735 wins, 11,113 strikeouts and nine Cy Young Awards.

Biggio, who played four positions in his 20-year career, all with the Houston Astros, was indefatigable, becoming an All-Star at second base and behind the plate.

Martinez, 219-100 for his career, helped Boston break an 86-year-old World Series drought in 2004 and is the first pitcher inducted who played primarily for the Red Sox. He grew up with five brothers and sisters in a one-room home on the outskirts of Santo Domingo and credits brother Ramon, a starter with the Dodgers during Pedro's rookie season in Los Angeles, as a key to his career.

Remarkably, all three pitchers didn't stick around with their first clubs very long. Drafted by Montreal, Johnson made the Expos' roster in 1988 and midway through the 1989 season was traded to the Seattle Mariners.

Smoltz, signed by his hometown Detroit Tigers after being selected in the 22nd round of the 1985 amateur draft, was dealt to Atlanta for veteran Doyle Alexander in August 1987. And the Dodgers, thinking he might be too fragile at 5-foot-10 and 170 pounds for the rigors of the game as a starter, traded Martinez to Montreal after the hard-throwing right-hander with the pinpoint control had a solid rookie season in the bullpen.

On this day, that was ancient history. Johnson, at 6-foot-10 the tallest player elected to the Hall of Fame, became a 20-game winner in 1997 and won four consecutive Cy Young awards with the Arizona Diamondbacks, leading them to the World Series championship in 2001. He finished with 303 victories in 22 seasons.

Smoltz won the 1996 Cy Young award and reached the playoffs 14 times with Atlanta. The Braves won five pennants and the 1995 World Series with Smoltz on the roster. He's the first pitcher to win more than 200 games and save at least 150 games. He's also the first player inducted with Tommy John surgery on his résumé.

Biggio became the only player in major league history with at least 3,000 hits, 600 doubles, 400 stolen bases and 250 home runs while being asked to play four positions in his 20-year career, all with the Astros.

Trout's grand slam, solo HR leads Angels

The Associated Press

ANAHEIM, Calif. — Home run titles are no different to Mike Trout than any of the other awards and achievements that have made him a major league star. If it happens, it happens. It's just not on his personal agenda at the moment.

Trout had a grand slam and a solo shot among his season-high four hits Sunday, powering the Angels to a 13-7 victory over the Texas Rangers and raising his major league-leading home run total to 31.

C.J. Cron also went deep and rookie Andrew Heaney kept his unblemished record intact, helping the Angels end a three-game skid and regain sole possession of the AL West lead by a game over the Houston Astros — whom they play in a three-game series beginning Tuesday night at Minute Maid Park.

Heaney (5-0) allowed two runs and six hits over six innings in his sixth start for the Angels.

The 24-year-old left-hander has thrown at least six innings and allowed fewer than three runs in all of his outings this season. The only pitcher in club history to do that in each of his first seven starts was Jered Weaver in 2006.

Nick Martinez (5-6) was charged with four runs and six hits in five-plus innings. The right-hander is 0-4 with a 7.01 ERA over his last six starts for the Rangers.

Trout drove an 0-2 pitch just above the yellow line atop the 18-foot wall in right field in the first inning, becoming the fastest player in Angels history to reach the 30-homer mark in a season. The reigning AL MVP did it in his 97th game, breaking the previous mark set 15 years ago by Troy Glaus (100 games).

Trout then capped a five-run sixth with his third career slam on a full-count pitch from Spencer Patton, increasing the Angels' lead to 8-2 and getting a curtain call from the crowd of 38,539.

The Angels got a scare in the fourth inning

when Trout came up holding his left wrist in pain after diving for a Texas Leaguer by Elvis Andrus that popped out of his glove for a single after he hit the ground.

"When my glove started to tuck, my first instinct was to try and get my hand out of the glove. I think if my hand would have stayed in the glove, it obviously would have been more severe," said Trout. "It's still a little sore, but it's fine."

Mets 3, Dodgers 2: Zack Greinke's shutout streak ended at 45²/₃ innings when host New York scored the first of two runs against him as the Mets beat Los Angeles off newcomer Juan Uribe's single off the wall in the 10th.

Jacob deGrom outpitched Greinke in a marquee matchup, but Yasmani Grandal hit a tying single in the ninth as Los Angeles erased a two-run deficit against closer Jeurys Familia.

Greinke allowed a run in the third on a grounder by deGrom and another in the sixth when rookie Michael Conforto was hit by a pitch with the bases loaded.

Red Sox 11, Tigers 1: David Ortiz homered twice and drove in a career-high seven runs to lead host Boston over Detroit.

Ortiz, who had two three-run homers and an RBI single, and Xander Bogaerts each had four of the season-high 20 hits by the Red Sox.

Royals 5, Astros 1: The Royals traded for right-hander Johnny Cueto, and then used Yordano Ventura's seven sharp innings to beat the visiting Astros.

Ventura (5-7) allowed one run and six hits in just his second win in his last seven starts.

Pirates 3, Nationals 1: Gerrit Cole became the majors' first 14-game winner, leading host Pittsburgh to the victory.

Phillies 11, Cubs 5: Ryan Howard homered for the second straight day and rookie Aaron Nola got his first major league win as visiting Philadelphia completed a three-

game series sweep.

White Sox 2, Indians 1: Carlos Rodon pitched a shutout into the seventh inning and Carlos Sanchez homered for the second straight day, powering Chicago to the road win.

Yankees 7, Twins 2: At Minneapolis, New York righty Nathan Eovaldi pitched impressively into the ninth inning, and Chase Headley and Stephen Drew homered.

Braves 3, Cardinals 2: Adonis Garcia's first career home run broke a deadlock and rookie Matt Wisler worked seven strong innings for visiting Atlanta.

Orioles 5, Rays 2: Nolan Reimold had a two-run double among three hits as Baltimore beat host Tampa Bay for its second straight win after a four-game skid.

Padres 3, Marlins 2: Justin Upton homered and Odrisamer Despaigne pitched six solid innings to lead host San Diego.

Giants 4, Athletics 3: Tim Hudson earned a win against the only team he had never beaten in a 17-year big league career, helping host San Francisco complete a sweep in the Bay Bridge Series.

Mariners 6, Blue Jays 5 (10): Franklin Gutierrez homered with one out in the bottom of the 10th inning to give host Seattle a win in a game the Mariners kept close with the aid of a triple play.

Diamondbacks 3, Brewers 0: Jeremy Hellickson threw six strong innings and Chris Owings drove in two runs with a pinch-hit, two-out double as host Arizona beat punchless Milwaukee, which was shut out in consecutive games for the first time this season.

Rockies 17, Reds 7: Nolan Arenado, Ben Paulsen and Carlos Gonzalez each homered in a 10-run third inning to help Colorado beat visiting Cincinnati.