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A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

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Clinton declares historic nomination win

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Powered by a solid triumph in California, Hillary Clinton declared victory in her yearlong battle for the heart of the Democratic Party, seizing her place in history and setting out on the difficult task of fusing a fractured party to confront Donald Trump.

Clinton cruised to easy victories in four of the six state contests Tuesday. With each win she further solidified Sen. Bernie Sanders' defeat and dashed his already slim chances of using the last night of state contests to refuel his flagging bid.

The victories allowed Clinton to celebrate her long-sought "milestone" — the first woman poised to lead a major political party's presidential ticket. Standing before a flag-waving crowd in Brooklyn, the former secretary of state soaked up the cheers and beamed.

"Barriers can come down. Justice and equality can win," she said. "This campaign is about making sure there are no ceilings, no limits on any of us. This is our moment to come together."

Clinton had already secured the delegates needed for the nomination before Tuesday's contests, according to an Associated Press tally. Still, Sanders had hoped to use a victory in California to persuade party insiders to switch their allegiances. Sanders picked up wins in Montana and North Dakota, but Clinton won substantially in California.

Sanders nonetheless vowed to continue to his campaign to the last contest in the District of Columbia next Tuesday.

"The struggle continues," he said.

Clinton's victory in California assured her a majority of pledged delegates — those chosen in primaries and caucuses. That's notable because Sand-

Trump tones down remarks in speech

Associated Press

BRIARCLIFF MANOR, N.Y. — Donald Trump labored to convince fellow Republicans that he can broaden his appeal and move beyond controversy, tamping down his caustic attacks and divisive remarks in a noticeably muted speech after his final presidential primary wins.

"I understand the responsibility of carrying the mantle" of the Republican Party, Trump said Tuesday night, reading from a teleprompter to supporters gathered at one of his golf courses. "I will never, ever let you down." He added, "I will make you proud of our party and our movement."

Trump's pitch came on one of the toughest days of his unpredictable campaign, as top Republican leaders and donors denounced as racist and troubling his comments about a federal judge's ethnicity.

And it came as Democrat Hillary Clinton, at a rally in Brooklyn, claimed her place as the country's first major party female presidential nominee by quickly invoking Trump as a contrast. "This election is about who we are as a nation. It's about millions of Americans coming together to say, 'We are better than this.'"

While Trump sought to portray himself as a unifier during his evening speech — drawing plaudits from Republican Party Chairman Reince Priebus for taking "exactly the right approach" — hours earlier he continued to be strikingly defiant.

In an interview on Fox News, Trump said Republicans angry at him should "get over it." In his statement on the matter earlier, he said he'd been "misconstrued" and that he was "justified in questioning" treatment by

the judge.

The controversy erupted because Trump had repeatedly said U.S. District Judge Gonzalo Curiel could not preside fairly over a case involving Trump University because of his Mexican heritage.

Many Republicans didn't see it that way, and the desire of his party to unify behind him looked at risk of unraveling.

House Speaker Paul Ryan described what Trump said as the "textbook definition of a racist comment." Soon after, a GOP senator who had previously indicated support for Trump withdrew his backing.

"I have concluded that Donald Trump has not demonstrated the temperament necessary to assume the greatest office in the world," Sen. Mark Kirk, of Illinois, who is in a competitive re-election race, said in a statement.

Trump's comments about the judge's ethnicity, "in context with past attacks on Hispanics, women and the disabled like me," prompted Kirk to withdraw his support for his party's nominee, he said, though he also added he does not support Clinton. Kirk suffered a stroke in 2012 and often uses a wheelchair. His disavowal in the wake of Trump's comments about the judge — the first of any leading Republican — followed the debut of a hard-hitting, multimillion-dollar television ad from Clinton allies. It reminded voters in battleground states that Trump had mocked a disabled reporter.

Ron Weiser, one of the recently named top fundraisers for Trump and the Republican Party, said the nominee's attacks on Curiel are "obviously making it more difficult" to raise money for Trump, whose opponent could have \$1 billion at her disposal.

ers has argued that his White House bid remained viable as long as he stood a chance of winning a majority of those delegates. He would have needed a landslide Tuesday to reach that goal.

Sanders is under intense pressure from top Democrats hoping to coax him gently out of the race, win over his voters and turn to the task of challeng-

ing Trump.

Despite the pledge to soldier on, there were signs Sanders was listening. In his typically passionate remarks, the socialist firebrand repeatedly noted "we are in this together" and argued that a tenet of his campaign was that "we will not allow right-wing Republicans to control our government."

Sanders said he called Clin-

ton to congratulate her on the victories.

The senator planned to return home to Vermont on Wednesday, before coming to Washington on Thursday for meetings and a campaign rally.

President Barack Obama called both Sanders and Clinton late Tuesday, congratulating both on their campaigns.

USS Houston, signing off

BY AARON KIDD
Stars and Stripes

Sailors, submarine veterans and friends and families of the USS Houston crew bid farewell to the Los Angeles-class fast-attack submarine Monday after more than 30 years of Navy service.

"It is a celebration of our time in Pearl Harbor," Cmdr. Scott McGinnis, Houston's commanding officer, said during a ceremony at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii. "You can see the energy and amount of people here who are just happy to be a part of the Houston family and celebrate the success."

The Houston — the fourth Navy ship to be christened after the Texas city — is on its way to Bremerton, Wash., where it is scheduled for decommission on Aug. 26, a Navy statement said.

The 362-foot-long sub, which can be fitted with Mark-48 torpedoes and Tomahawk cruise missiles, was commissioned Sept. 25, 1982. The vessel recently served as a training platform for 46 submariners across five boats and hosted command courses for prospective commanding officers, the statement said.

"The Houston is going to be sending off some outstanding sailors," Paul R. McCrory, chief of the boat, said in the statement. "Everybody has put their best foot forward. We've come through so much with the age of this ship, it's really hard to maintain after 33 years of active service. It's been special to watch the guys take advantage of being a part of what's going to be history."

The base hosted a decommissioning ceremony for another Los Angeles-class fast-attack sub, the USS City of Corpus Christi, on Memorial Day. The Corpus Christi, the first of its type to deploy to the Pacific Fleet, was inactivated after 35 years.

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US military: Spy plane buzzed by Chinese jets in 'unsafe' intercept

The Washington Post

BEIJING — A U.S. spy plane was buzzed by Chinese jets as it flew over the East China Sea, with one of the fighters approaching in an "unsafe" manner, the U.S. military said.

China responded by accusing the United States of "hyping" the incident but said the real problem was U.S. surveillance planes flying too close to its territory.

Tension between the nations has risen in the past two years over China's moves to assert sovereignty over the disputed waters and busy shipping lanes of the South China

Sea. The U.S. accuses China of militarizing artificial islands built on reefs and rocks in waters also claimed by the Philippines, Vietnam, Malaysia, Taiwan and Brunei.

The U.S. Pacific Command said a U.S. Air Force RC-135 reconnaissance plane was intercepted Tuesday by two Chinese J-10 fighters while flying in international airspace.

"One of the intercepting Chinese jets had an unsafe excessive rate of closure on the RC-135 aircraft," it said in a statement. "Initial assessment is that this seems to be a case of improper airmanship, as no

other provocative or unsafe maneuvers occurred."

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Hong Lei said that his nation's pilots always act responsibly and professionally.

"Judging by the report, the U.S. side is again deliberately hyping up the issue of the close surveillance of China by U.S. military aircraft," he said at a news conference.

"The root of relevant issues is that the frequent close reconnaissance on China's coast by U.S. military aircraft severely threatens China's air and maritime security," he added.

Iraqi forces push farther into Fallujah

Associated Press

NAYMIYAH, Iraq — Iraq's elite counterterrorism forces on Wednesday pushed deeper into Islamic State-held Fallujah, more than two weeks after the operation to retake the city from the militant group started, a senior military official said.

After securing the southern edge of the city on Sunday, Iraqi special forces entered the southern neighborhood of Shuhada on Wednesday morning, according to Maj Gen. Hadi Zayid Kassar, deputy commander of the counterterrorism forces in Fallujah.

Kassar told The Associated Press that artillery and rocket

fire cleared the way for a single column of black Humvees to enter the neighborhood.

Fallujah is one of the last Islamic State group strongholds in Iraq. The Sunni militant group has controlled the city, about 40 miles west of Baghdad, for more than two years.

Grieving Blue Angels cancel 2 performances

BY WYATT OLSON
Stars and Stripes

The Navy's Blue Angels flying squadron has canceled aerial performances scheduled this month in New York and Ohio as the team continues its "operational pause" following last week's deadly crash.

The pilot, Marine Capt. Jeff Kuss, was killed Thursday in Tennessee when one of the squadron's F/A-18s went down shortly after takeoff. The crash, which remains under investigation, occurred just days before a scheduled weekend air show performance.

Kuss, a member of the team for about two years, had more than 1,000 hours of flight time.

The Navy announced on Tuesday the cancellation of upcoming performances at the Syracuse International Air Show for Saturday and Sunday and the Vectren Dayton Air Show on June 18-19.

The Blue Angels are in an "operational pause prior to moving forward with its 2016 air show season," a Navy statement said.

The Navy has offered to support those two air shows with its Tactical Demonstration Teams during the time slots of the scheduled Blue Angels

performances.

The Tactical Demonstration Teams are designed to demonstrate the mobility and power of F/A-18 Hornets and Super Hornets. The so-called TACDEMO teams are composed of Fleet Replacement Squadron instructors who are flying the same jets used to train new students, the Navy said.

The Blue Angels are scheduled to perform three shows during the National Cherry Festival in northern Michigan on July 2-4. Organizers told local media the festival's air show would proceed with or without the Blue Angels.

Sharapova banned two years

Associated Press

LONDON — Maria Sharapova was suspended from tennis for two years Wednesday for testing positive for meldonium at the Australian Open, and immediately responded by saying she would appeal the decision to sport's highest court.

The ruling by an independent three-person panel appointed by the International Tennis Federation said Sharapova did not intend to cheat because she didn't know meldonium was banned, but that she bore "sole responsibility" and "very significant fault" for the positive test.

"While the tribunal concluded correctly that I did not intentionally violate the anti-doping rules, I cannot accept an unfairly harsh two-year suspension," Sharapova said in a statement. "The tribunal, whose members were selected by the ITF, agreed that I did not do anything intentionally wrong, yet they seek to keep me from playing tennis for two years. I will immediately appeal the suspension portion of this ruling to CAS, the Court of Arbitration for Sport."

The five-time Grand Slam champion was provisionally suspended by the ITF in early March, when she announced at a news conference in Los Angeles that she failed a doping test in January.

Sharapova said then she was not aware that the World Anti-Doping Agency had barred athletes from using meldonium, also known as mildronate, as of Jan. 1.

Her lawyer, John Haggerty, said Sharapova took the substance after that date.

Lawyers representing the ITF argued their side, while Haggerty argued hers. He said she spoke at the hearing.

"This was a deliberate decision, not a mistake," the ITF said. "Taken together with the evidence that over a period of three years she did not disclose her

use of mildronate to her coach, trainer, physio, nutritionist or any medical adviser she consulted through the WTA, the facts are only consistent with a deliberate decision to keep secret from the anti-doping authorities the fact that she was using mildronate in competition."

In addition to testing positive at the Australian Open, the ITF said she also failed a test for meldonium in an out-of-competition control in Moscow on Feb. 2.

Sharapova's ban is due to end on Jan. 25, 2018.

The World Anti-Doping Agency said it would review the decision and decide whether to lodge its own appeal to CAS. WADA has the right to appeal if it feels a sanction is too lenient or too strong.

Sharapova said she first was prescribed the Latvian-made drug, typically used for heart conditions, for medical reasons in 2006. She could have been barred from competing for up to four years.

"Today with their decision of a two-year suspension, the ITF tribunal unanimously concluded that what I did was not intentional," Sharapova said. "The tribunal found that I did not seek treatment from my doctor for the purpose of obtaining a performance enhancing substance."

"The ITF spent tremendous amounts of time and resources trying to prove I intentionally violated the anti-doping rules and the tribunal concluded I did not."

The ban throws into doubt the on-court future of Sharapova, a 29-year-old Russian who is one of the most well-known and — thanks to a wide array of endorsements — highest-earning athletes in the world.

She is a former top-ranked player who is one of 10 women in tennis history with a career Grand Slam — at least one title from each of the sport's four most important tournaments. So much came so easily for her at the start: Wimbledon champion in 2004 at age 17; No. 1 in the

rankings at 18; U.S. Open champion at 19; Australian Open champion at 20.

An operation to her right shoulder in 2008 took her off the tour for months, and her ranking dropped outside the top 100. But she worked her way back, and in 2012, won the French Open, then added a second title in Paris two years later.

Sharapova hasn't played since a quarterfinal loss to Serena Williams at this year's Australian Open, and she is ranked 26th this week.

Sharapova and the Russian team had hoped she would be cleared in time to compete at the Olympics in Rio de Janeiro in August, but after the ruling Russian Tennis Federation president Shamil Tarpishchev told the Tass news agency that Ekaterina Makarova would replace her.

Meldonium increases blood flow, which improves exercise capacity by carrying more oxygen to the muscles.

In April, citing a lack of scientific evidence about how long the drug remains in a person's system, WADA said that provisional suspensions may be lifted if it is determined that an athlete took meldonium before it went on the list of banned substances.

About 200 athletes tested positive for meldonium this year from various sports and countries — many, like Sharapova, were Russian — and some said the drug stayed in their systems for months even though they stopped using it in 2015.

"It is important at all times for players to be aware of the rules and to follow them. In this case, Maria has taken responsibility for her mistake from the outset," WTA CEO Steve Simon said in a statement. "The WTA will continue to follow this closely and we hope it will be resolved as soon as possible."

US men rebound in Copa

Associated Press

CHICAGO — The fans stood and cheered when Clint Dempsey headed off the field in the second half, and the forward responded with his own round of applause.

Brad Guzan held his arms in the air after the final seconds of his happy homecoming.

After days of questions and criticism, it was a couple of perfect pictures for the United States.

Dempsey had a goal and two assists, and the U.S. rebounded from its opening loss in Copa America with a convincing 4-0 victory over Costa Rica on Tuesday night.

"Goals change games, and the guys up front took care of that," said Guzan, who only had to make one save in his 16th international shutout.

Dempsey, Jermaine Jones and Bobby Wood scored in the first half and substitute Graham Zusi added another goal in the 87th minute as the U.S. moved into prime position to grab one of two spots in the knockout round coming out of Group A in South America's championship.

A victory against Paraguay on Saturday night in Philadelphia and the Americans are through to the next stage.

It was quite a response to days of questions after the U.S. allowed a goal off a corner kick and committed a costly hand ball in a 2-0 loss to Colombia on Friday night. Another loss against Costa Rica and the U.S. would have been eliminated on the fifth day of the tournament.

"I see a team progressing. I see a team that badly wants to prove itself with these caliber teams in the Copa America," U.S. coach Jurgen Klinsmann said.

"It was a very, very encouraging performance by us against Colombia. Obviously, the result, especially here in the U.S., that's all that matters to a lot of people. ... The team, they know where they stand."

Costa Rica, which played a scoreless tie against Paraguay in its Copa opener on Saturday in Florida, looked sluggish for long stretches of the first half and was unable to recover. It played without key defender Kendall Waston after he got a red card in the previous game.

Moments after DeAndre Yedlin's poor clearing attempt almost set up an early goal for Costa Rica's Joel Campbell, the Americans started to find their way.

Wood was pushed in the back by Cristian Gamboa when he attempted to go after a cross into the box, drawing a penalty kick. Dempsey then drove it past Patrick Pemberton on the goalkeeper's left side for a 1-0 lead in the ninth minute.

It was Dempsey's 50th international goal.

"You know where you kind of are in terms of the goals you've scored for the team," Dempsey said. "Yeah, it's good to be part of that club of getting to 50 goals. But the most important thing is we got the win tonight."

SEC lands 5 teams in super regionals

Associated Press

With help from South Carolina and LSU, the Southeastern Conference grabbed the spotlight after being overshadowed by the ACC heading into the NCAA baseball tournament.

The SEC had five teams advance to the super regionals for the second straight year and fifth time in the 18 years of the current tournament format.

The Atlantic Coast Conference set a league record with 10 teams making the tournament, but only four made it through regionals.

Winners in the eight super regionals will advance to the College World Series in Omaha, Neb., beginning June 18.

South Carolina bounced back from a loss on its home field in its regional opener to win four straight, including two in a row over UNC-Wilmington to advance to its 12th super regional. The Gamecocks

locked up their regional title with a 10-5 win on Tuesday.

LSU, shut out for six innings by Rice's Willy Amador, scored three runs in the seventh and two in the eighth to beat the Owls 5-2 in Baton Rouge and earn its fourth berth in the super regionals in five years and 12th overall.

Other SEC teams advancing were Florida, Texas A&M and Mississippi State.

ACC teams that made it through regionals: Louisville, Miami, Florida State and Boston College.

At most, the ACC will advance three teams to the College World Series because Boston College and Miami are matched in a super regional.

The Big 12 had all three of its tournament teams — Oklahoma State, TCU and Texas Tech — advance to super regionals. It's the fourth time, and second in three years, that the conference has had at least three teams win regionals.

Super regionals starting Friday:

■ Boston College (34-20) at No. 3 national seed Miami (48-11)

■ TCU (45-15) at No. 4 Texas A&M (48-14)

■ East Carolina (37-21-1) at No. 5 Texas Tech (45-17)

■ Arizona (42-21) at No. 6 Mississippi State (44-16-1)

Super regionals starting Saturday:

■ Florida State (40-20) at No. 1 Florida (50-13)

■ UC Santa Barbara (40-18-1) at No. 2 Louisville (50-12)

■ Oklahoma State (39-20) at South Carolina (47-16)

■ Coastal Carolina (48-16) at No. 8 LSU (46-19)



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Orioles extend Royals' skid to 6 games

Associated Press

BALTIMORE — Kansas City right-hander Yordano Ventura hit Manny Machado with a pitch to spark a bench-emptying fray, and the Baltimore Orioles extended the Royals' losing streak to a season-high six games with a 9-1 rout Tuesday night.

Mark Trumbo homered and drove in four runs, and the Orioles also got long balls from Ryan Flaherty, Chris Davis and Adam Jones.

But the game's most striking moment came in the fifth, when Ventura (4-4) drilled Machado in the back with a 99 mph fastball. In the second inning, with Baltimore leading 5-0, the two exchanged words after Ventura twice threw inside to the two-time All-Star.

So in the fifth, an instant after the ball hit him, Machado charged the mound. Ventura prepared for the onslaught by slinging aside his cap and glove, but Machado landed a solid punch before the pitcher tackled him to the ground. Both dugouts and bullpens emptied before peace was restored. Machado was restrained by teammate Chris Tillman after the initial thrust.

Machado and Ventura were ejected.

Red Sox 5, Giants 3 (10): Xander Bogaerts hit a go-ahead, two-run single in the top of the 10th, and Boston snapped San Francisco's five-game home winning streak.

The Red Sox loaded the bases against Santiago Casilla (1-1), who struck out two in a perfect ninth before running into trouble. Bogaerts also had a third-inning RBI single in Boston's first visit to San Francisco in nearly three years.

Dustin Pedroia extended his majors-best hitting streak to 14 games with an eighth-inning single, while David Ortiz's streak ended at 13 after his tying ground-out as a pinch-hitter in the seventh. Pedroia also has hit in 11 straight road games.

Junichi Tazawa (1-1) pitched the ninth for the win and Craig Kimbrel closed it out for his 14th save.

Dodgers 4, Rockies 3: Trayce Thompson hit a game-ending homer in the ninth inning to give Los Angeles a win over Colorado in the home debut for teenage prospect Julio Urias.

The 19-year-old Urias struck out seven over four innings. The Mexican left-hander allowed three hits and one run and was removed after 86 pitches with his workload being strictly monitored in just his third career start. It was by far his best so far in the majors.

Kenley Jansen (2-1) got the win after

pitching a scoreless ninth.

Thompson hit a two-out blast in the ninth off Carlos Estevez (1-3) to give the Dodgers the win.

Justin Turner hit a three-run homer in the first to give the Dodgers an early lead but the Rockies tied it 3-3 in the seventh.

Tigers 3, Blue Jays 2 (10): Ian Kinsler drove in the winning run with a 10th-inning single, and host Detroit won its fifth straight game, over Toronto.

The Tigers tied it with two runs in the ninth, spoiling an outstanding effort by Blue Jays starter Aaron Sanchez. The right-hander struck out a career-high 12 and took a one-hitter into the ninth inning, but he didn't get another out as Detroit rallied.

Kinsler's RBI double in the ninth chased Sanchez, and Miguel Cabrera's one-out double off Roberto Osuna tied it.

The Tigers loaded the bases in the 10th with no outs against Joe Biagini (3-2), and Kinsler won it with a chopper into left field.

Justin Wilson (2-1) pitched a scoreless 10th for the win.

Reds 7, Cardinals 6: Joey Votto homered with one out in the bottom of the ninth inning, powering host Cincinnati over St. Louis after it blew a five-run lead for the second straight day.

Votto connected off left-hander Kevin Siegrist (4-1) for his fifth career game-ending homer and Cincinnati's third homer of the game.

Left-hander John Lamb shut down the Cardinals with his 65 mph curveball, allowing only one earned run in a career-high 7²/₃ innings.

Blake Wood gave up Jhonny Peralta's bases-loaded double in the eighth, cutting it to 6-4. Matt Carpenter tied it with a one-out, two-run double in the ninth off Tony Cingrani (1-2), the Reds' 12th blown save in 19 chances this season.

Brewers 5, Athletics 4: Zach Davies took a no-hitter into the seventh before allowing a two-out home run to Oakland's Billy Butler, and host Milwaukee withstood a shaky ninth inning to hold on for a win.

Davies (4-3) allowed two hits and three walks over seven innings while striking out five. Butler turned on an 0-1 fastball from Davies to end the shutout.

Davies outdueled Oakland rookie Sean Manaea (2-4), who turned in seven solid innings but allowed two home runs to Chris Carter.

Pirates 3-3, Mets 1-1: Juan Nicasio retired his first 12 batters and got his second win in six starts, and host Pittsburgh beat New York to complete a doublehead-

er sweep.

The Pirates also won the first game behind seven scoreless innings from Jon Niese (6-2) against his former team. Josh Harrison had three hits and Jordy Mercer hit his first home run at PNC Park since Aug. 31, 2014 in the first victory.

Nicasio (5-4) allowed a run on three hits and two walks over five innings. He had gone 1-2 with a 6.23 ERA in his previous five starts, and manager Clint Hurdle acknowledged last week that he was considering moving the right-hander to the bullpen.

Jacob deGrom (3-2) is winless in his last seven starts after he allowed three runs in six innings with nine strikeouts and no walks. He has not won since April 30 against San Francisco despite allowing three earned runs or fewer six times.

The Pirates snapped left-hander Steven Matz's (7-2) seven-game winning streak in the first game.

Rangers 4, Astros 3: Ian Desmond hit a tiebreaking two-run homer in the eighth inning and host Texas extended its dominance of Houston with its season-high fifth straight win overall.

The Rangers are 8-0 this year against their AL West and in-state rivals and have won 12 straight in Arlington against the Astros.

AL Cy Young Award winner Dallas Keuchel (3-8) now has as many losses as he had all last season while winning 20 games.

Lefty reliever Jake Diekmann (1-1) had a scoreless eighth after seven solid innings from Cole Hamels. Sam Dyson pitched out of a ninth-inning jam, eventually striking out the side for his eighth save.

Mariners 7, Indians 1: Nelson Cruz homered twice and Wade Miley pitched seven scoreless innings to help host Seattle snap Cleveland's six-game winning streak.

Cruz hit a two-run homer in the first inning off starter Cody Anderson (1-4) and added a solo shot in the fifth, his 15th, to put Seattle up 7-0.

Miley (6-2), who had allowed 18 runs in 14²/₃ innings in his last three starts, allowed four hits, striking out three and walking two.

Anderson, who was called up from Triple-A earlier in the day to replace the ailing Danny Salazar, allowed six runs and seven hits in 3²/₃ innings.

Yankees 6, Angels 3: Carlos Beltran and Starlin Castro homered for the second consecutive game, sending a resurgent Michael Pineda and host New York past Los Angeles.

Pineda (3-6) threw 22 of 27 first-pitch

strikes and tossed seven efficient innings in his longest start since July 4 last year at Tampa Bay. He gave up three runs and four hits, building on a solid performance last week in Detroit after struggling for much of the season.

With his past two outings, the enigmatic right-hander has quieted talk about him losing his spot in the rotation and perhaps getting sent to the minors.

Phillies 3, Cubs 2: Jerad Eickhoff threw seven impressive innings, Ryan Howard hit a solo homer and host Philadelphia beat Chicago.

Eickhoff (3-8) allowed one run and two hits, striking out eight. Jeanmar Gomez pitched out of a bases-loaded jam in the eighth and got the final six outs for his 19th save in 20 tries.

Kyle Hendricks (4-5) gave up two runs and four hits, striking out six in five innings.

Nationals 10, White Sox 5: Bryce Harper drove in three runs, Anthony Rendon homered and visiting Washington handed Chicago its 19th loss in 25 games.

Rendon hit a two-run homer off Mat Latos (6-2). Michael Taylor added a two-run double and reliever Blake Treinen (4-1) pitched two-hit ball over three scoreless innings after a shaky start by Joe Ross.

Twins 6, Marlins 4: Brian Dozier's two-out, two-run home run in the 11th inning gave his team a victory over Miami, the third game-ending homer in Dozier's career and just the second win for Minnesota in its last eight games.

Dustin McGowan (0-2) walked Joe Mauer and gave up the drive to Dozier to take the loss for the Marlins.

Buddy Boshers (1-0), the eighth Twins pitcher of the game, struck out two batters in the 11th for his first major league victory.

Diamondbacks 5, Rays 0: Zack Greinke threw a three-hitter and host Arizona beat Tampa Bay.

Greinke (8-3) struck out two and walked two in his fifth career shutout and first since July 13, 2013, against Colorado at Dodger Stadium.

Rays starter Matt Moore (2-4) went seven innings, allowing five runs on seven hits with a walk and three strikeouts.

Padres 4, Braves 3: Derek Norris tied the game with a home run leading off the ninth and Wil Myers singled in the winning run to give host San Diego a victory against Atlanta.

Norris hit the second pitch from Aroldys Vizcaino (1-1) over the fence in left-center, his seventh.

Matt Thornton (1-0) pitched a perfect ninth for the win.

Grand slam helps Auburn even series with Oklahoma

Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY — Auburn didn't panic. Even trailing by seven runs with its season on the line.

Tiffany Howard's spectacular grab over the left-field fence took away Shay Knighten's home run in the sixth inning, and Emily Carosone's grand slam in the bottom of the eighth lifted Auburn to a stunning 11-7 victory over Oklahoma on Tuesday night to force a deciding Game 3 for the NCAA softball championship.

Oklahoma led 7-0 after scoring six runs in the top of the second, but Auburn scored five runs with two outs in the bottom of the inning. Auburn's Kasey Cooper hit a two-run homer to tie the score at 7 in the bottom of the fourth.

Knighten appeared to have hit a two-run

homer that would have given Oklahoma the lead in the sixth inning, but Howard leaped and snagged the ball with her glove over the fence to end the inning with the score still tied at 7.

"I've literally dreamed that my entire life," Howard said. "I'm not even kidding. I dreamed that exact picture and everything. We've worked on it so much. I'm talking about we would have bruises on our arms working on the wall in practice, so we've done it a gazillion times, so I knew if I could find the wall and get up and put a glove on it, I knew I could catch it."

Oklahoma was playing 25 miles from campus, and the crimson-clad fans were celebrating at first, not realizing that Howard caught the ball.

"It was a great catch," Knighten said.

"She made a great play. There was no doubt about that."

The grab set the stage for Carosone two innings later.

"Right before I got in the box, I was thinking, 'Hit it hard,' because if I hit it hard and it went somewhere, Victoria (Draper) was going to score no matter what."

"But I don't know, that pitch was just there. It was — softball is a game of inches, and my bat was there. It's amazing. God is good. God is good."

After Oklahoma went up 7-0, Auburn coach Clint Myers helped his team regroup. He said it was too early to get worried.

"We went out there in the circle and we had some words of encouragement, and we just said basically there's so much of this game left," he said.

"We can score bunches. But we've got to play defense. We've got to get the people in the circle back trusting that we're going to make plays, and we know what we're doing, and we've got to communicate the little things."

"The little things go a long way, and they just give pitchers so much confidence when they're out there making the plays behind them."

Howard also had four hits and scored three runs. Carosone had three hits and Jordan and Cooper had two.

Sydney Romero and Kady Self each had two hits for Oklahoma, and Erin Miller scored twice.

Oklahoma's school-record winning streak was snapped at 31 games.

The Sooners hadn't lost a game since April 2.