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Huge Okinawa protest decries US military

BY DAVE ORNAUER
AND CHIYOMI SUMIDA
Stars and Stripes

NAHA, Okinawa — An overflow crowd of some 65,000 angry and frustrated people packed a sports stadium Sunday to demand that U.S. forces leave Okinawa and drop a plan to move Marine Corps Air Station Futenma to a more remote area on the island.

Similar demonstrations also were scheduled in 41 of Japan's 47 prefectures. More than 7,000 people gathered outside the Japanese parliament building in Tokyo to join the demand for a U.S. pullout and to bash Prime Minister Shinzo Abe.

A recent rash of crimes, including the slaying of a 20-year-old woman that has been linked to a U.S. civilian base worker, have tapped into Okinawa resentment over the disproportionate number of U.S. troops here, compared with the rest of Japan, and a sense of abandonment and betrayal by the central government even after it regained control of the island in 1972.

With U.S. servicemembers, family members and others with Status of Forces Agreements strongly encouraged to avoid the protest area, Gov. Takeshi Onaga called for a total withdrawal of Marines.

"I will never forgive the inhumane and brutal act that trampled women's human rights. I am indignant," said Onaga, who won election on an anti-base platform.

Speaker after speaker made emotionally charged addresses at Onoyama Stadium in Naha that had a couple of Japanese reporters crying.

"We have endured cruel treatment for 70 years, even after the reversion of the island," a student said in English after speaking to the crowd in Japanese. "We want this coun-

try to be your friends, your neighbors. But we want the bases to be gone. This is not how we want our country to be."

Nago Mayor Susumu Inamine added that "nothing has changed" in the decades since World War II, when Okinawa was devastated during a protracted battle after an invasion by U.S. troops who then took control of the island.

Suzuyo Takazato, co-representative of an anti-military women's group, Okinawa Women Act Against Military Violence, read a letter written by the father of Rina Shimabukuro, 20, who was found dead in an Okinawa forest a month after she disappeared in April.

In the letter, he lamented his loss and the suffering of other victims of U.S. servicemember crimes. Kenneth Franklin Gadson, a civilian base worker and former Marine who goes by his wife's family name, Shinzato, is suspected by Japanese authorities of killing Shimabukuro while seeking a stranger to rape. He has not been charged with rape or murder.

"Why did my daughter have to be a victim?" her father said in the letter. "Why was it her? Why did she have to be killed? I now share the sorrow and pains that countless number of families have felt in the past."

Morimasa Goya, chairman of the Kariyushi Corporate group, said he would do all it takes to fulfill the wish of the victim's father — to make his daughter the last victim.

"Today is Father's Day. Had it not been for the brutal murder, the victim's family would be enjoying a happy day today," Goya said.

Onaga said he visited the site where Shimabukuro's body was found to offer flowers and apologized for not being able to protect her.

He said when three service-

members raped a Japanese schoolgirl in 1995, he vowed to not let such a thing happen again, "but I could not change the political system to prevent it," Onaga said.

Demonstrators at the Japanese parliament building in Tokyo chanted: "Don't forgive the murder of the woman," and "Return her life."

"These incidents happen as long as there are bases," Nahoko Hishiyama, one of the organizers, told the crowd. "Our peace comes at the expense of Okinawa."

Much of the sentiment there was against the prime minister, who was depicted on a number of posters as Adolf Hitler. Participants blamed Abe for the recent incidents on Okinawa by allowing the U.S. military to be stationed in Japan.

"Let's all join to bring down the Abe administration, which is the root of all evil," said Ken Takada, a representative of one of the organizing groups.

On Okinawa, Onaga criticized the Abe government for its insistence that the new airfield at Henoko is the "only solution" to the issue of Futenma's location in a heavily populated area.

"There is a high wall that divides us and the central government. ... I am resolved to [do] my best to tear down the wall," Onaga said.

The long-simmering resentment toward the central government was also clear.

"We Okinawa people have harbored a sense of mistrust toward people in the mainland," said Shizuo Toma, 72, of Naha, who echoed statements by many people who want to see all Marines leave Okinawa. "The mistrust will not go away easily."

An American, Bill O'Donnell, 72, a former Navy petty officer 3rd class who lives on Okinawa after being stationed here in

1969-70, watched the speeches and said: "We should go home. We should have gone home" in 1972.

"This used to be the 'Keystone of the Pacific,'" said O'Donnell, originally of Geneva, N.Y. "It isn't anymore."

People started arriving two hours before the 2 p.m. scheduled start of the Okinawa protest and soon packed the stadium's seats, infield and back walls. Hundreds more were turned away to watch outside on video monitors.

An estimated 200 members of the media from all over Japan also were on hand, and news helicopters buzzed overhead. Organizers placed the number of protesters at 65,000.

Onaga got a strong ovation as he arrived and after every pause in his speech.

Following the rally, he told reporters that Okinawans' anger has reached its end.

"To not let it be repeated again, I will demand a drastic change in the status of forces agreement, withdrawal of Marines and reduction in the military presence" on Okinawa, Onaga said. "This is my unwavering determination."

A resolution was submitted along the same lines.

The demonstrations were sparked by the series of crimes that have inflamed emotions on Okinawa — home to more than half of all U.S. servicemembers in Japan — and elsewhere.

Shimabukuro's slaying, the rape of a Japanese woman by a Navy sailor and a wrong-way crash by another sailor that has been linked to DUI led to tightened alcohol and liberty restrictions for U.S. troops and tainted President Barack Obama's historic visit to Japan last month where he became the first sitting U.S. president to visit Hiroshima.

Stars and Stripes reporter Hana Kusumoto contributed to this report.

Carrier USS Eisenhower arrives in Gulf of Naples

Stars and Stripes

NAPLES, Italy — The aircraft carrier USS Dwight D. Eisenhower arrived in the Gulf of Naples, Italy, early Friday for a routine port call.

About 5,000 sailors are embarked on the ship, which departed Norfolk, Va., on June 1 for a scheduled seven-month deployment to Europe and the Middle East. There it will launch airstrikes against Islamic State group targets in Syria and Iraq.

The ship entered the Mediterranean Sea three days ago.

Naples is home to the U.S. 6th Fleet, which controls all Navy warships in European waters. Port calls to the city are not frequent, with the last carrier visit made by the USS Nimitz in 2013.

The visit continues a busy

month for Navy commanders in Europe. Another carrier, the USS Harry S. Truman, is conducting airstrikes in the Eastern Mediterranean. The Navy is wrapping up its major exercise of the year, BaltOps, in the Baltic Sea, and it just deployed a ship to the Aegean Sea to join a NATO mission targeting human traffickers.

The Navy has said the Eisenhower will remain in the Mediterranean for several weeks. The carrier is joined on deployment by six escorts — the guided missile destroyers USS Roosevelt, USS Nitze, USS Mason and USS Stout and cruisers the USS San Jacinto and USS Monterey.

The strike group is the first to fall under the Navy's new deployment cycle for carriers limiting deployments to seven months.

AG: Probe of Fla. nightclub gunman moving forward

Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla. — Although the killer is known, the investigation continues into what motivated and enabled Omar Mateen to carry out the worst mass shooting in modern U.S. history.

Attorney General Loretta Lynch said in interviews Sunday on several news shows that the FBI would release a partial printed transcript of the conversations between gunman Mateen from within the Pulse nightclub and Orlando police negotiators. Armed with a semi-automatic weapon, Mateen went on a bloody rampage at the club June 12 that left 49 people dead and 53 others seriously hurt. Mateen died in a hail of police gunfire after police stormed the venue.

Lynch told ABC's "This Week" that the top goal while intensifying pressure on the Islamic State group — the ex-

tremists thought to have inspired Mateen — is to build a complete profile of him to help prevent another massacre like the one in Orlando.

"As you can see from this investigation, we are going back and learning everything we can about this killer, about his contacts, people who may have known him or seen him. And we're trying to build that profile so that we can move forward," Lynch said.

Lynch said she would travel to Orlando on Tuesday to meet with investigators.

Speaking to CBS' "Face The Nation," Lynch said that a key goal of the investigation was to determine why Mateen targeted the gay community.

Investigators are still interviewing witnesses, and looking to learn more about Mateen and others who knew him well, including members of his mosque.

Navy christens 2nd Zumwalt destroyer

Associated Press

BATH, Maine — The mother of a fallen Navy SEAL christened the second Zumwalt-class guided missile destroyer Saturday in honor of her son, who died in Iraq when he threw himself on an insurgent's grenade to save the lives of two fellow SEALs.

The 610-foot-long, 15,000-ton ship, built by General Dynamics Bath Iron Works for the Navy, was named for Petty Officer 2nd Class Michael Monsoor. The California native died at age 25 in 2006 and was awarded the Medal of Honor posthumously.

"May God bless this ship, and all who sail within her," Sally Monsoor said before smashing a bottle against the ship as some 2,000 people looked on. Monsoor described her son as a

quiet, loyal person and recalled how he once made a Christmas tree out of a sapling in their family's yard.

The Zumwalt is the Navy's largest and most technologically sophisticated class of destroyer. It is the first new class of warship built at Bath Iron Works in more than 25 years. The Navy took ownership of the first stealth destroyer last month, and work is underway on the third and final ship.

Republican U.S. Sen. Susan Collins, of Maine, who spoke at the ceremony, called the Zumwalt class of destroyers "the most advanced naval destroyer the world has ever seen" and said its christening is a tribute to Michael Monsoor.

"His legacy will live on as this great ship conducts its mission in defense of our nation," she said.

N. Korea: US sub a threat

BY KIM GAMEL

Stars and Stripes

SEOUL — North Korea called the arrival of the USS Mississippi in a southern South Korean port a direct threat and said it would bolster its nuclear capabilities in self-defense.

The nuclear-powered Virginia-class attack submarine arrived at Busan last week as part of its maiden deployment to Asia. The Navy called the visit a routine port visit that would allow the sub's approximately 141 sailors a chance to contact loved ones at home and to visit South Korea after several weeks at sea.

North Korea's Foreign Ministry said the Mississippi's arrival was a "direct threat to the security of the DPRK and peace of the region," according to a report by the state-run

Korean Central News Agency on Thursday. DPRK is the acronym for the North's official name, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

It accused the U.S. of a "ceaseless introduction of strategic assets of various kinds to and around the Korean peninsula" and "making the already unstable situation all the more uncontrollable."

The ministry said the best way to avert a war "is to bolster the DPRK's nuclear deterrence for self-defense in every way."

North Korea has stepped up its bellicose rhetoric as tensions have risen on the divided peninsula since Pyongyang staged its fourth nuclear test in January.

A spokesman for U.S. Naval Forces Korea said that such port visits are planned months in advance.

Lowry builds 4-shot Open lead

Associated Press

OAKMONT, Pa. — Stalled by rain, the U.S. Open is almost back on schedule. And when another marathon day finally ended Saturday, Shane Lowry was atop the leaderboard.

Lowry finished round three Sunday morning by making two birdies to cap off a 5-under 65 and take a four-shot lead into the final round.

Lowry made a 12-foot birdie putt on No. 15 and hit a superb wedge out of the thick grass framing a bunker to 7 feet for birdie on No. 17. He finished with a 6-foot par putt on the 18th and a pump of the fist.

The 29-year-old Irishman was at 7-under 203, four shots clear of Dustin Johnson (71) and Andrew Landry (70), who is trying to become the first player in more than a century to win the U.S. Open in his first try.

Lee Westwood and Daniel Summerhays each had 69 and were five back.

Johnson, no stranger to suffering in the majors, had the 36-hole lead. He started

the third round late Saturday afternoon by stuffing his approach to 5 feet for birdie, and then hit his next tee shot so far left that it went over a counter of lemonade glasses and into a concession stand, the ball settling next to a blue tub filled with bags of ice. He nearly made birdie. Bogeys followed and he was three shots behind.

Jason Day worked himself back into the mix. Jordan Spieth did not.

Earlier Saturday, Lowry was lining up a 30-foot birdie putt and nudged the ball with his putter. It moved ever so slightly, enough for Lowry to see, and he turned in disgust to call over an official, then held the putter behind his neck as if he wanted to snap it.

He took the one-shot penalty and then saved his mood with an 8-foot bogey putt.

"To hole that second putt was massive for me and massive for my whole day," Lowry said.

After two of the longest days brought on by three rain delays in the opening round, Sunday became a sprint.

Landry, the 28-year-old qualifier who has never been on a stage remotely this big, didn't flinch when he had the 18-hole lead or when he played alongside Johnson, who can intimidate with athleticism and power off the tee.

"No nerves, very comfortable," he said after finishing at 3 under through 13 holes.

The most intriguing character is Johnson because of his long list of heartache in the majors, particularly last year at Chambers Bay in the U.S. Open when he was 12 feet away from winning and took three putts to finish one shot behind Spieth.

It's the first time since August 2014 that Spieth hasn't been on the leaderboard going into the final round.

"Come out tomorrow and try to pull a Johnny Miller," Spieth said.

Miller famously closed with a 63 at Oakmont to win the 1973 U.S. Open, which remains the greatest final round by a major champion. But the course was drenched that Sunday, and that won't be the case now.

2 Russian athletes appeal Rio ban

Associated Press

MOSCOW — Two Russian athletes have appealed to the Court of Arbitration for Sport to overturn the IAAF's ban on the Russian team competing in Olympic track and field.

The IAAF, track and field's world governing body, on Friday upheld a suspension of the Russian team imposed in November after a World Anti-Doping Agency report detailed widespread, state-sponsored doping.

Race-walkers Denis Nizhegorodov and Svetlana Vasilyeva argue that a ban of the entire team is unfair punishment.

Nizhegorodov, an Olympic silver medalist in 2004, says "competing at the Olympics is the main goal and main honor. We will get that right," in comments on agent Andrei Mitkov's website.

"Now they want to take away my chance to compete at the Olympics, even though I haven't done anything to cost me a place in Rio," Vasilyeva said.

Both athletes say they reject an IAAF measure that would allow some Russian athletes to compete under a neutral status, rather than the Russian flag, if they can show they are clean and have been tested regularly by a reputable testing authority outside Russia.

"I'm a citizen of Russia, a great sports power. I don't agree with competing under the Olympic flag," he said.

The appeal does not have the blessing of the Russian track and field federation, which says it has yet to receive the full text of the IAAF's decision.

McIlroy, Mickelson, Fowler miss the cut

Associated Press

OAKMONT, Pa. — Rory McIlroy spent the days before the U.S. Open searching for his game.

The world's third-ranked player didn't find it at Oakmont.

McIlroy missed the cut on Saturday after posting a two-round total of 8-over 148, two clear of the cut line at 6 over. The 2011 U.S. Open champion followed up a disastrous 7-over 77 in the gloom on Thursday and early Friday with a wildly uneven 1-over 71. Starting on the back nine, McIlroy birdied four of his first seven holes to get back to 3 over and send a jolt into the gallery that a hot streak not unlike the four rounds he put together at Congressional five years ago was in the making.

Only this time, it didn't happen.

Whatever momentum McIlroy generated disappeared on the par-4 fourth, when it took him four jabs of the putter to get in from 13 feet. He bogeyed the par-3 sixth but arrived on the tee box at the par-4 ninth right on the number. A leaky drive put him in a fairway sand trap. He had 158 yards to the flag when his approach shot hit the lip of the bunker and trickled back toward his feet. The ensuing double bogey insured McIlroy of an early exit at the Open for the first time since 2012.

McIlroy had plenty of company as more than half the 156-man field sprinted for the players' parking lot on Saturday while the 67 who earned the right for two more mentally challenging tours of Oakmont prepared for a hastily arranged third round.

Fellow former U.S. Open champions Justin Rose and Ernie Els also bailed early.

Rose was done in by a 40 on the back nine in the second round on his way to a total of 8 over. Els, who won the first of his three majors at Oakmont in 1994, posted consecutive 75s.

Phil Mickelson's quarter-century quest for his first U.S. Open title will carry on to Erin Hills in Wisconsin next June after he shot 74-73, missing out by a single shot.

At least Mickelson was close. Fowler, still looking for his first major, was not. Playing alongside McIlroy and reigning Masters champion Danny Willett, the popular 27-year-old finished at 11 over after finding just 14 of 28 fairways and 20 of 36 greens. Fowler's score would have been worse if not for a pair of birdies over the final five holes, though by then it was far too late as he failed to survive the cut at the U.S. Open for the second straight year.

US depth will be tested in Copa America semis

Associated Press

SEATTLE — When Jurgen Klinsmann started experimenting with his roster following the 2014 World Cup, the U.S. coach did it with the hope of building more depth for the next four-year cycle.

The quality of his reserves is about to get tested in a big way after the United States advanced to the semifinals of the Copa America for just the second time. The U.S. will be missing three suspended starters: midfielders Jermaine Jones and Alejandro Bedoya, and forward Bobby Wood.

"Our program is maturing. Our players are maturing. They are learning with every game that we can play in this type of environment," Klinsmann said after Thursday's 2-1 quarterfinal win over

Ecuador. "This is what we hoped for after breaking through in Brazil after getting out of the group of death. Hopefully we can find a couple of youngsters coming and keep the older ones on board and keep them going, push them. ... We've brought a few youngsters along the way the last few years and they've made a huge step forward tonight."

The U.S. will play Argentina in the semifinal Tuesday in Houston.

Jones was sent off with a red card early in the second half against Ecuador, and Wood and Bedoya both picked up their second yellow cards of the tournament. The U.S. Soccer Federation has appealed Jones' red and Wood's second yellow.

Klinsmann made two changes before the quarterfinal against Ecuador due to

DeAndre Yedlin's red card, inserting Matt Besler at left back and moving Fabian Johnson to right back.

But that little shift Klinsmann made for the quarterfinals was simple compared to significant moves he'll need to make for the semifinal, especially since it will be against Argentina and five-time FIFA Player of the Year Lionel Messi.

"The coaching staff, they always do an amazing job of scouting our opponents and utilizing the players that we have," said Gyasi Zardes, who scored against Ecuador to give the U.S. a 2-0 lead.

Kyle Beckerman is the likely candidate to step in for Jones. Beckerman has 56 career appearances for the national team and while not as creative on the offensive end as Jones, has more of a defensive mental-

ity that could be critical if Argentina is the opponent. Another possible option is Darlington Nagbe. If Klinsmann decides he needs a bit more offense from the position, the 25-year-old could step into a role he assumes for his club in Portland and keep Beckerman a defensive option off the bench later in the match.

Graham Zusi would seem the likely replacement for Bedoya, but how the U.S. aligns its offensive attack to replace Wood may depend whether Zardes is pushed further up field. If Zardes stays in the midfield, Klinsmann could turn to Chris Wondolowski to pair with Clint Dempsey up front. Or he could start Zardes higher up and insert 17-year-old Christian Pulisic.



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Lincecum wins in return

Associated Press

OAKLAND, Calif. — The uniform is different. The flowing locks of shaggy brown hair that once protruded from his cap are gone. He's lost a little zip off his fastball, too.

Even so, "The Freak" came back as a force.

Tim Lincecum made a winning return to the majors, restarting his career after nearly a year away with six sharp innings and several ovations to lead the Los Angeles Angels over the Oakland Athletics 7-1 Saturday.

"It just kind of felt like riding a bike again," Lincecum said. "After that first inning, everything kind of went away and I could just get back to work and making my pitches."

Sporting a bright red hat and Angels jersey that was in stark contrast to the black and orange he wore across the Bay Bridge for nine seasons with the San Francisco Giants, Lincecum gave up one run and four hits.

The four-time All-Star struck out two and walked two before leaving to a raucous ovation from the crowd of 25,078.

The 32-year-old righty hadn't pitched in the majors since last June 27. He had hip surgery in September, signed with the Angels in May and made three starts in the minors.

Lincecum didn't quite have the blazing fastball that he used to win back-to-back NL Cy Young Awards, but he was still strong in his debut with Los Angeles.

"It felt like my mechanics were a little erratic," Lincecum said. "Got into some deep counts but I made pitches when I needed to and my defense made plays when we needed them to. Definitely an area when I can improve on, but happy with it."

Lincecum retired seven straight during one stretch and got A's slugger Khris Davis to ground into a double play after walking the leadoff batter in the fifth.

"He pitched backwards," Oakland manager Bob Melvin said. "He threw fastballs in breaking ball counts and breaking balls in fastball counts. We couldn't solve him."

Mike Trout homered, doubled and drove in three runs for the Angels. Johnny

Giovatella also homered to help Los Angeles to its third win in four games.

The Angels batted around and scored five times in the sixth. Ryan Dull (1-2) lost in relief.

Lincecum was followed by television cameras and received a standing ovation from fans of both teams — and a few wearing Giants No. 55 jerseys — as he walked to the bullpen for his pregame warmups.

A second, louder ovation greeted Lincecum when he took the mound.

"It was pretty incredible, I wasn't expecting that," Lincecum said. "It's nice being here close to where I started and having my Bay Area fans here. Definitely made it feel like a home game to me."

Lincecum breezed through the first two innings, then struggled with his command in the third when Danny Valencia's two-out, broken-bat single on a 3-0 pitch drove in Billy Burns.

That was about the only blemish on Lincecum's day.

After getting Davis to hit into the double play in the sixth, Lincecum retired Jed Lowrie on a fly ball to end his afternoon.

Bannister, Arizona top Miami at CWS

Associated Press

OMAHA, Neb. — Arizona coach Jay Johnson sensed Nathan Bannister was nervous going into the College World Series opener against No. 3 national seed Miami on Saturday night.

The Wildcats relaxed their starting pitcher by scoring three runs in the top of the first inning against Michael Medavilla.

Bannister went out and matched his career high with 11 strikeouts in seven innings and repeatedly escaped potential trouble in a 5-1 victory over the Hurricanes.

"I have to give him credit because I thought he handled the situation very well," Johnson said. "We have the best home-field advantage in the West in terms of fans, but that's different from 25,000 people. I think he settled in really well. He can just throw any pitch in any count at any time."

Medavilla hit two of Arizona's first five batters and issued a bases-loaded walk before Jared Oliva's two-run single made it 3-0. Zach Gibbons' two-run double in the fifth increased the lead to 5-1.

Bannister, who made his 13th straight start of at least six innings, confounded Miami batters mixing in his curveball with an upper 80s fastball. Seven of his 11 Ks were on called third strikes.

It was just the kind of start the Wildcats (45-21) hoped for in their first CWS appearance since they won the 2012 national title. Arizona improved to 33-11 when scoring first.

Oklahoma State 1, UC Santa Barbara 0: Thomas Hatch threw a complete game, Garrett Bengel singled in the only run in the fourth inning and the Cowboys won their CWS opener.

Hatch extended his shutout streak to 26 innings with his fourth complete game and third shutout of the season.

Hatch (9-2), a third-round draft pick of the Chicago Cubs, allowed five hits, walked one and struck out seven in his dazzling 112-pitch performance for the Cowboys, who are in the CWS for the first time since 1999.

Santa Barbara starter Shane Bieber (12-4) was just what was just about as good as Hatch, limiting the Cowboys to six base hits.

Lester, long balls boost Cubs

Associated Press

CHICAGO — The Chicago Cubs have done a lot for Jon Lester this season — including a lot of diving stops and long home runs. Once again on Saturday night, Lester's teammates came through in a big way.

Anthony Rizzo, Kris Bryant and David Ross each homered to back Lester and lead Chicago to a 4-3 victory over the Pittsburgh Pirates.

The major league-leading Cubs (46-20) improved to a season-high 26 games above .500 while the Pirates lost for the ninth time in 10 games.

Chicago made several sparkling plays in the field and drove enough balls over the wall to help a shaky Lester (9-3) win his fifth straight start.

Rizzo and Bryant each hit their 16th home run, and Ross made it 4-3 with a solo drive in the sixth that chased Jonathon Niese (6-4).

Lester went six innings, allowing three runs and seven hits. He struck out seven and walked three after issuing none in his previous three starts.

Diamondbacks 4, Phillies 1: At Philadelphia, Arizona ace Zack Greinke won his seventh straight start by pitching three-hit ball for eight innings.

Giants 6, Rays 4: Joe Panik had four RBIs, including a tiebreaking three-run

homer in the ninth inning that sent visiting San Francisco to its seventh straight win.

Padres 7, Nationals 3: Wil Myers had three hits and drove in three runs, keying a six-run rally in the eighth inning that carried host San Diego to the victory.

Braves 4, Mets 3: Ender Inciarte used his speed to help visiting Atlanta to its fourth straight win, matching its longest streak this year.

Dodgers 10, Brewers 6: Justin Turner hit a three-run drive for his third homer in two nights, helping host Los Angeles rally for the win.

Royals 16, Tigers 5: Kendrys Morales drove in five runs with four hits, and host Kansas City cruised to the victory.

Rangers 4, Cardinals 3: Ian Desmond hit a tiebreaking sacrifice fly in the ninth inning in St. Louis, sending Texas to its fifth consecutive win.

Red Sox 6, Mariners 2: Xander Bogaerts and Jackie Bradley Jr. homered to lead Rick Porcello and host Boston.

Bogaerts also singled while raising his average to .352.

Orioles 4, Blue Jays 2: Jonathan Schoop homered, doubled and singled while Yovani Gallardo and the Baltimore bullpen helped end visiting Toronto's four-game winning streak.

Manny Machado got three hits for the Orioles, and then dropped his appeal of

a four-game suspension for charging Royals pitcher Yordano Ventura earlier this month.

Yankees 7, Twins 6: Jacoby Ellsbury hit a tiebreaking two-run single in the ninth inning and New York, boosted by Alex Rodriguez's 695th career homer, rallied past host Minnesota.

Indians 13, White Sox 2: Mike Napoli homered during a five-run first inning as host Cleveland became the latest team to tee off on James Shields.

Shields, making his third start since being traded from San Diego to Chicago, was tagged for eight runs and seven hits in 1 2/3 innings.

Marlins 9, Rockies 6: Giancarlo Stanton singled in his first three at-bats to give his lowly average a boost to .210, and host Miami totaled 17 hits in the win.

Five Marlins regulars are batting over .300, among them J.T. Realmuto, whose four hits included a three-run homer that caromed off the home-run sculpture.

Astros 5, Reds 4 (11): George Springer hit an RBI single in the 11th inning to lift host Houston to the victory.

Jason Castro and Colby Rasmus hit consecutive singles off Josh Smith (0-1) with one out before Springer's grounder rolled just out of reach of diving shortstop Zack Cozart and into the outfield.

Thompson earns unanimous win at UFC 89

Associated Press

OTTAWA, Ontario — Stephen "Wonderboy" Thompson won a unanimous five-round decision over Rory "Red King" MacDonald in a battle of top welterweight contenders at UFC Fight Night 89 on Saturday night.

As promised, it was a technical fight with both men looking to control the range. Thompson kept on the move and was more active, with MacDonald struggling to score — or come up with a

solution.

The judges scored it 50-45, 50-45, 48-47 for Thompson (13-1-0), who left MacDonald bloodied and confused.

Thompson, who spent time at MacDonald's Tristar Gym in Montreal some years ago, has won seven straight — including first-round stoppages of Jake Ellenberger and former title-holder Johny Hendricks.

MacDonald (18-4-0) is ranked No. 1 among 170-pound contenders while Thompson is No. 2. Robbie Lawler, who

also won a split decision over MacDonald in 2013, fights No. 3 Tyron Woodley on July 30.

MacDonald is a native of Kelowna, British Columbia, and fights out of Montreal. He was one of 10 Canadians on the 13-fight televised card at The Arena at TD Place. Canadians went 6-4 on the night.

It was MacDonald's first fight since last July when he suffered a bloody fifth-round TKO at the hands of welterweight champion Lawler that left the challenger with a badly broken nose.

In the co-main event, Donald (Cowboy) Cerrone put on a show in moving up a weight class by stopping Montreal welterweight Patrick (The Predator) Cote at 2:35 of the third round. Cerrone had the upper hand from the get-go.

It was the second fight at 170 pounds for the popular Cerrone, who is ranked No. 4 among lightweight (155-pound) contenders. Cote (24-10-0) is a former middleweight who once fought for the 185-pound title.