

# STARS AND STRIPES®

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A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

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## Airstrike kills Taliban commander

BY PHILLIP WALTER  
WELLMAN

*Stars and Stripes*

KABUL, Afghanistan — An airstrike has killed a senior Taliban commander in northern Afghanistan along with a number of his fighters, officials said Monday.

Hijratullah Akbari, head of public affairs for Kunduz police, said the airstrike that killed Qari Ghafour, whom he described as “one of the famous Taliban leaders,” was carried out in Chahar Dara district. He said at least 14 of Ghafour’s men were also killed.

He would not specify whether it was conducted by Afghan or

American forces.

Ghafour was responsible for several terrorist attacks in the province, the Defense Ministry said.

Afghan media reports said Monday that another top Taliban commander in nearby Faryab province had surrendered to government forces amid ongoing military operations there.

NATO and Afghan officials frequently claim their forces are inflicting high death tolls on the insurgents. But those casualties have not yet had significant effect on the guerrillas’ ability to wage war or on their recruitment efforts.

Earlier this month, President Barack Obama allowed U.S.

commanders to expand the use of American air power for offensive missions against the Taliban and to send troops to fight alongside regular Afghan forces.

The Pentagon confirmed that the first airstrikes under the new rule were conducted on Friday and hit Taliban targets in southern Afghanistan. Further details were not given.

Meanwhile in eastern Afghanistan, Islamic State fighters were killed in clashes with government troops, said Attaullah Khogyani, spokesman for Nangarhar province’s governor.

A “massive operation” has been underway in Kot district, where Islamic State militants

last week attacked homes and local police posts, abducting at least 30 people.

The U.S. military has been carrying out airstrikes against Islamic State fighters in remote parts of Nangarhar as part of its counterterrorism operation in Afghanistan.

In March, Afghan President Ashraf Ghani declared the Islamic State group defeated in eastern Afghanistan. But Khogyani said while the government remains committed to eliminating Islamic State, its fighters “are still a threat in Nangarhar.”

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## Iraqi forces clearing booby traps in Fallujah

BY COREY DICKSTEIN

*Stars and Stripes*

WASHINGTON — Iraq’s security forces face a steep task in clearing Fallujah of booby traps and bombs in the coming weeks after they claimed victory Sunday against the Islamic State group.

Intense fighting early in the battle for Fallujah gave way in the middle of last week as Iraq’s counterterrorism forces broke through the terrorist group’s strong perimeter along the city’s outskirts, Navy Capt. Jeff Davis, a Pentagon spokesman, said Monday. The Iraqis were able to clear the militants from their last stronghold in central Iraq’s Sunni-dominated Anbar province quickly, he said.

U.S. defense officials said early last week that the city had been only about one-third cleared of militants in the hours after Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi said his troops had liberated the city. But on Monday,

the Pentagon concurred with his assessment.

But much work remains. Davis said the Iraqis should expect to see occasional Islamic State attacks on the city, but more concerning are the roadside bombs, truck bombs and house-bombs left behind by the Islamic State militants who held Fallujah since January 2014.

The house-bombs are “particularly nasty,” often rigged to blow when people enter the building, Davis said.

The U.S.-backed anti-Islamic State coalition, he said, will continue to provide the Iraqis support with airstrikes, intelligence, and advice and assistance as the clearing operations continue. Davis did not say how long it could take, and he had no estimate on when civilians might be able to return.

During the battle for Fallujah, the U.S.-led coalition provided devastating air power with daily strikes — more than

100 since the ground operation began May 21 — that targeted tactical units, fighting positions, heavy and light machine guns, and rocket-propelled grenade systems. Airstrikes were also used to deny militants access to terrain throughout the fighting, Davis said.

The Iraqi commander in charge of the Fallujah operations, Lt. Gen. Abdul Wahab al-Saad told Iraq TV at least 1,800 Islamic State fighters were killed in the battle, the majority in the Operation Inherent Resolve airstrikes.

In Iraq, the Islamic State group holds slightly more than half of the territory it once did, largely around Mosul in the country’s northern region.

“There’s been no strategic victory for [the Islamic State group] in over a year now,” Davis said. “We’ve seen them, in fact, lose significant territory over and over again... But there’s still significant territory

that they hold.”

Local Sunni tribal fighters and Iraqi federal police, trained by the U.S.-led coalition, are expected to take control of the security of Fallujah in the coming weeks, freeing Iraqi soldiers to move north to aide in the march toward Mosul, the country’s second largest city.

“There will be great challenges going forward as they move on toward Mosul, which is the next major significant thing that we’re doing,” Davis said.

Iraqi security forces are moving “rather quickly” north along the Tigris River toward al-Qayyarah, Davis said. The town is about 50 miles south of Mosul and includes a key airfield. Still, the United States is unclear how long it will take to begin a ground offensive on Mosul.

Davis said he could not say if the DOD thought it could be cleared by the end of 2016.

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## Clinton and Warren hold first joint appearance

Associated Press

CINCINNATI — Elizabeth Warren offered an impassioned endorsement of Hillary Clinton on Monday morning, symbolically unifying the Democratic Party behind the presumptive nominee and giving voters a rousing preview of what could be a historic joint ticket.

Throwing clasped hands high in the air, the two women promised to “go big” and “go bold” to level the playing field for workers.

“I’m here today because of her,” said Warren, a champion of the party’s liberal base, before 2,600 supporters at the historic Cincinnati Museum Center at Union Terminal. “We’re here to fight side by side with Hillary Clinton.”

The picture-perfect image marked an important moment of party unity after Clinton’s primary against liberal challenger Bernie Sanders, who has not endorsed his former rival. And with the Massachusetts senator under consideration to be Clinton’s running mate, it may also be a harbinger of the party’s future.

Warren showed how she could play the role as an attacker-in-chief against Republican Donald Trump, calling him a “small, insecure money-grubber,” “a nasty man” and “goofy.”

Warren could help Clinton combat the perception that the multimillionaire former first lady is disconnected from the struggles of working Americans — an image encouraged by Sanders during his campaign.

Her arm over Warren’s shoulder, Clinton lavished praise on the progressive icon, whom she called a “friend” and a “great leader,” though the two have never been close, according to aides, who note they didn’t overlap in the Senate and worked in different corners of the Obama administration.

## UK urges calm as markets drop

Associated Press

LONDON — British and European leaders appealed for calm on Monday as concern over the U.K.’s exit from the European Union and its deepening political crisis triggered further gyrations in financial markets and hit confidence in the economy.

In his first public appearance since Thursday’s referendum, U.K. Treasury chief George Osborne stressed that the country’s economy can withstand the shockwaves created by the vote, and that it is in a far better position than it

was at the start of the 2008 financial crisis.

“It will not be plain sailing in the days ahead,” he said. “But let me be clear. You should not underestimate our resolve. We were prepared for the unexpected.”

The leaders of European heavyweights Germany, Italy and France will huddle later Monday to discuss a strategy to handle Britain’s exit, trying to hone a common message that negotiations need to get underway quickly on the exit so as not to continue the uncertainty.

German Chancellor Angela

Merkel said she understands Britain may need “a certain amount of time to analyze things” before invoking Article 50 of the EU treaty, which will trigger the process for leaving. Prime Minister David Cameron has said he will resign and his successor, to be chosen by the fall, should be the one to navigate that process.

Merkel wouldn’t comment on whether it’s acceptable for London to wait that long, but said that a “long-term suspension” of the question wouldn’t be in either side’s economic interest.

## Remembrance, resolve at gay pride parades

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Rainbow flags were held high along with portraits of the dead as thousands of people marched Sunday in gay pride parades tempered by this month’s massacre at a Florida gay nightclub.

Crowds of onlookers stood a dozen deep along Fifth Avenue for New York City’s parade. Some spectators held up orange “We are Orlando” signs, and indications of increased security were everywhere, with armed officers standing by.

An announcer introducing

state officials and guests also shouted out, “Love is love! New York is Orlando!” in memory of the 49 people killed in Florida.

Authorities had expected a larger-than-usual crowd, and Chelsea Restrepo, 15, of Staten Island, was among the onlookers. She had brushed aside her father’s concerns about security to attend the march for the first time.

“What happened in Orlando made me want to come more,” said Restrepo, swathed in a multicolored scarf. She said she wanted to show her support.

Transgender New Yorker

Kenny Hillman, 39, a filmmaker, said he hadn’t planned to come to the march. “For me, I wasn’t going to ride because I have 17-month-old twins at home. But then Orlando happened, and seeing so many of my friends shrink in fear made me realize that coming here was more important,” he said.

New York’s parade was one of several being held Sunday across the country, along with San Francisco, Chicago, Minneapolis and St. Louis. They came two weeks after the deadliest mass shooting in modern U.S. history.

## Sailor charged in Okinawa wrong-way crash

Stars and Stripes

CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa — Charges have been filed against a sailor whose wrong-way crash triggered sweeping travel and alcohol restrictions for servicemembers on Okinawa.

Aimee Mejia, 21, a petty officer second class assigned to the Navy Munitions Command at Kadena Air Base, was charged with dangerous driving resulting in injuries Friday by the Naha District Public Prosecutor’s Office, an office

spokesman said. If convicted, she could face up to 15 years in prison under Japanese law.

Mejia was arrested June 4 after allegedly driving the wrong way down an Okinawa highway and crashing into two vehicles, injuring two people, police said. A Breathalyzer tested Mejia’s blood-alcohol level at 0.18, six times Japan’s legal limit.

Mejia’s arrest could not have come at a worse time for U.S. forces stationed in Japan, especially in the southern pre-

fecture of Okinawa, following the March arrest of a Navy sailor for the rape of a Japanese woman and the arrest in May of a former U.S. Marine in connection with the brutal slaying of a local woman.

A number of restrictions for U.S. servicemembers on Okinawa, including a ban on off-base drinking, had been imposed a week before Mejia’s crash, which set off even tighter restrictions, including a ban on all drinking by sailors for several days.



# Top-seeded Djokovic rolls past Ward in opener at Wimbledon

Associated Press

LONDON — Novak Djokovic raced to a 6-0, 3-0 lead, then held firm the rest of the way as he opened his bid for a third straight Wimbledon title and fifth straight Grand Slam championship with a straight-set win over Britain's James Ward on Monday.

In keeping with tradition, Djokovic played the first match on Centre Court as the men's defending champion, and he came through 6-0, 7-6 (3), 6-4 in just over two hours to extend his Grand Slam winning streak to 29 matches.

"This is probably the most unique experience in tennis playing as the defending champion in Wimbledon — untouched grass, first match, 1 o'clock Monday," Djokovic said. "It's really special to feel this tradition and history, to come back to the cradle of our sport. It was a wonderful experience."

Djokovic holds all four Grand Slam titles. Having won the Australian Open and French Open, he's also seeking to become the first man to capture the first three legs of a calendar-year Grand Slam since Rod Laver swept all four majors in 1969.

Djokovic looked right back at home Monday as he ran off the first nine games against Ward, ranked 177th in the world and granted a wild-card entry into the grass-court Grand Slam.

"Not much to say about my game, it was really flawless. I felt great," Djokovic said of the early going.

When Ward finally won a game, hitting a service winner to make it 3-1 in the second set, the Briton threw up his arm in mock triumph and basked in a loud ovation from the home crowd. Ward broke in

the next game and the two players went to a tiebreaker, which Djokovic dominated to reassert control.

"Nerves kicked in for James, obviously, but he started playing better, second part of the second set and it was very close," Djokovic said. "It wasn't easy to break his serve."

Five-time women's champion Venus Williams, meanwhile, had a stiffer test, overcoming Donna Vekic of Croatia 7-6 (3), 6-4 in the opening match on Court 1.

The 36-year-old Williams, the oldest woman in the draw and playing in her 19th Wimbledon, saved two set points when the 20-year-old Vekic failed to serve out the first set at 6-5.

In the second, Vekic had a break chance to go up 5-3, but squandered the chance. The eighth-seeded Williams broke for 5-4 and served out the match.

"I felt like I couldn't hit a winner against her today, she ran everything down and played amazing tennis," Williams said. "The first set, there were some hairy moments there, down some set points, but I guess that's where experience sets in. I started to feel like maybe I had the chance to win the most important points."

Williams made her first appearance at Wimbledon in 1997. Her career has been slowed in recent years by Sjogren's syndrome, a condition that can cause joint pain and saps energy.

"You only live once," she said. "You have to enjoy, do it while you're fairly young, and I guess somehow I'm still fairly young. You just have to live in the moment, and when it's over, it's over."

In the tournament's first big surprise, former top-ranked Ana Ivanovic was beaten 6-2, 7-5 by Ekaterina Alexandrova,

a Russian qualifier ranked 223rd and making her Grand Slam debut.

The 23rd-seeded Ivanovic blamed an injured right wrist, and said she won't play between now and the Rio de Janeiro Olympics in August.

French Open champion Garbine Muguruza was extended to three sets before winning her first-round match.

The second-seeded Spaniard beat Camila Giorgi of Italy 6-2, 5-7, 6-4 on Centre Court.

The match was effectively decided in the third game of the final set, which lasted more than 10 minutes and included five deuces and six break points. The game ended with Muguruza breaking for a 2-1 lead when Giorgi hit a forehand into the net.

The players stayed on serve the rest of the way, with Muguruza serving out the match at love.

Muguruza lost in the last year's Wimbledon final to Serena Williams.

Among the seeded men who advanced were former U.S. Open champion and No. 9 Marin Cilic, No. 13 David Ferrer and No. 23 Ivo Karlovic. Sam Querrey, an American seeded No. 28, overcame Lukas Rosol in a marathon match that went to 12-10 in the fifth set.

The first seeded player ousted was No. 21 Philipp Kohlschreiber, who fell in four sets to Frenchman Pierre-Hugues Herbert. Kevin Anderson, a South African seeded 20th, lost later in five sets to Denis Istomin of Uzbekistan in a match that lasted more than 3½ hours.

## 1st PGA win for Naval Academy grad Hurley

BETHESDA, Md. — Billy Hurley III held the club in his left hand and fist pumped with his right. Not far from his Annapolis home and the Naval Academy he graduated from, he became a champion.

Hurley shot a 2-under 69 on Sunday to win his hometown Quicken Loans National at Congressional for his first PGA Tour victory. He finished at 17 under in Tiger Woods' annual tournament, three strokes ahead of three-time major champion Vijay Singh.

To beat Singh, Ernie Els and 21-year-old Jon Rahm, Hurley showed the poise he developed at the Naval Academy and during his five years of service. Mental toughness and focus he said help with adversity on the course, and that showed through in his 104th PGA Tour start.

With the 53-year-old Singh closing on him, Hurley was at his best. He holed out from 35 yards on the fairway for birdie on the 15th, a shot worthy of celebration and one Woods himself called "impressive, really impressive."

As if that wasn't enough, Hurley made a 27-foot putt on the 16th to seal the tournament and wrap up the \$1,242,000 first-place prize and a spot in the British Open.

**LPGA:** At Rogers, Ark., top-ranked Lydia Ko won the NW Arkansas Championship for her third LPGA Tour victory of the year, closing with a 3-under 68 for a tournament-record 17-under total and a three-stroke victory.

**Champions Tour:** At Madison, Wis., Kirk Triplett rallied to win the inaugural American Family Insurance Championship for his fifth PGA Tour Champions title, making four straight birdies in front of another large crowd at University Ridge.

# Stewart wins at Sonoma to snap 84-race drought

Associated Press

SONOMA, Calif. — For at least one week-end, Smoke was back.

Tony Stewart returned to victory lane for the first time in three years in vintage fashion — refusing to let Denny Hamlin steal a win at Sonoma Raceway away from him on the final lap Sunday.

Now he's probably got a shot to run for a fourth NASCAR championship in his final season before retirement.

Stewart, mired in an 84-race losing streak dating to 2013, finally won to stop a slide of poor performances, injuries and personal turmoil that has tarnished the end of his career. He missed the first eight races of this season, his last as a NASCAR driver, with a back injury suffered in an off-road vehicle accident one week before the season opened.

It meant Stewart would have to win a race and crack the top 30 in points to have

one last shot at glory before he stepped out of the No. 14 Chevrolet for good. It was a long shot considered the way he has run the last three years, but those who know Stewart knew not to count him out.

Anyone who has followed his career knows that Stewart is best when he's in a bad mood, and Smoke was ornery all weekend in the picturesque wine country.

Well, he sure had fun on Sunday. The 45-year-old took the lead on fuel strategy during a caution with 24 laps to go, and had to hold on after another yellow flag stalled the race. The final restart came with 14 laps remaining — the same number as Stewart's car — and he held off a trio of Toyota drivers for his third career victory at Sonoma.

Hamlin made it interesting by pouncing on a Stewart mistake to snatch the lead away from Stewart in the seventh turn of the final lap. Stewart grabbed it back in tricky Turn 11, where he dove to the inside of Hamlin and as the two raced side-by-side, Stewart

pushed Hamlin toward the wall.

It was Stewart's 49th career Cup win and eighth on a road course, one shy of Jeff Gordon's record. Gordon, who retired at the end of last year, made his way to victory lane from the broadcast booth to congratulate his longtime rival.

Hamlin finished second in a Toyota and was followed by Joey Logano in a Ford, pole-sitter Carl Edwards and Martin Truex Jr. as Toyota drivers took three of the top-five spots.

Harvick was sixth, Kyle Busch seventh, while Ryan Newman, Kasey Kahne and Kurt Busch rounded out the top 10.

**IndyCar:** At Elkhart Lake, Wis., healthy again following an early-season illness, Will Power is feeling much better about his chances of contending for another IndyCar championship.

After starting from the pole, Power led all but four laps and held off Tony Kanaan's last-lap surge to take the 202-

mile Kohler Grand Prix by 0.74 seconds on Sunday at Road America.

It was Power's second series victory of the year for Team Penske, both coming in June. Power also won on June 5 at Detroit, ending a frustrating three-race stretch in which he didn't finish higher than 10th.

The slump was uncharacteristic for the 2014 series champion and annual contender.

"I got my normal engine back, and perform like I normally do, and that's the difference," said Power, referring to his health.

Power said he was dealing with food allergies in the offseason. He missed the season opener in March at St. Petersburg after being diagnosed with an inner ear infection.

"Finally back to my normal fitness level, just the way I do things," Power said.

He had the stamina to hold off Kanaan at the end by 0.7429 seconds.



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# Indians' win streak hits 9

Associated Press

DETROIT — Terry Francona did something Sunday at Comerica Park that he rarely gets to do. He relaxed while sitting in the visiting manager's office.

The Cleveland Indians had just beaten the Tigers 9-3, winning their ninth straight game and improving to 9-0 against Detroit this season.

"I've spent a lot of long nights in this office, trying to figure how to regroup after getting beat up yet again by that team," Francona said. "I can't entirely explain this, but it feels good."

The Indians roughed up a pitcher Francona has great respect for — Justin Verlander. They homered four times off him in a six-run fifth inning to take control of the game.

"Everyone knows how well he is throw-

ing the ball, and early on today, he was throwing free and easy," Francona said. "He just left a few pitches up in the fifth and we took advantage of all of them."

Lonnie Chisenhall had four hits, including one of the four homers off Verlander. Juan Uribe, Tyler Naquin and Mike Napoli also went deep for the Indians.

Chisenhall was 4-for-4 with a triple and three RBIs.

Mike Tomlin (9-1) beat Verlander for the third time this year, allowing three runs and six hits in eight innings.

"That feels great, because he's an established star in this league," Tomlin said. "But I can't focus on who I'm pitching against, especially when I have to worry about the guys in this lineup."

Cleveland overcame three homers by former teammates, including two by Victor Martinez, to sweep Detroit for the

third time this year. The Indians have outscored the Tigers 60-20 in nine games.

Only once before had Verlander allowed four homers in a start — also against the Indians in 2007. According to the Elias Sports Bureau and Fox Sports Detroit, he became the first pitcher in franchise history to give up four in one inning.

Verlander (7-6) allowed eight runs on nine hits and two walks in 4<sup>2</sup>/<sub>3</sub> innings. It was the 15th time a Tigers starter gave up at least six runs this season, most in the American League and one behind San Diego.

"I started off all right today, but then it all fell apart in that one inning," Verlander said. "I've worked my tail off for the last month and a half to get back where I wanted to be, and then it all blows up in one start."

# Biles wins 4th straight US gym title

Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — The national gymnastics titles are starting to run together for Simone Biles, a three-year blur of near flawlessly executed routines and carry-on cases full of medals.

If Biles is being honest, the fourth straight all-around championship she cruised to on Sunday night wasn't so much a competition as an exhibition and one more thing for Biles to scratch off her checklist before the next real test, the one that in some ways will help define her legacy:

Rio de Janeiro and the Summer Olympics.

It's a destination Biles is finally allowing herself to think after putting up a two-day total of 125.00 — the highest during her historic run at the top — to beat three-time Olympic medalist Aly Raisman by nearly four points.

The five-woman Olympic squad won't be officially announced until July 10.

Raisman began the year struggling with her form following a disappointing — by her standards — performance at the 2015 world championships, when she failed to qualify for the all-around final after finishing behind Biles and Olympic champion Gabby Douglas during qualifying.

"I think that I am better [than I was four years ago]," Raisman said. "And I feel like I'm on track to be a better gymnast than I was."

Raisman isn't the only one surging. So is electric 16-year-old Laurie Hernandez, who looks right at home on the big stage in her first year at the senior level.

The only real drama heading to San Jose is likely for the fifth and final spot. Madison Kocian, who won gold on uneven bars at last fall's world championships, continued her impressive comeback from a leg injury in February. Though she was second to Ashton Locklear on bars at nationals, she also finished in the top half of the field on beam and floor.

**Swimming:** In a stunner on the very first night of the U.S. swimming trials in Omaha, Neb., an ailing Ryan Lochte was denied a chance to defend his Olympic title in the 400-meter individual medley, finishing third Sunday behind a pair of college teammates.

Lochte, the 11-time Olympic medalist, was hindered by a groin injury sustained in the morning preliminaries. That allowed Chase Kalisz and Jay Litherland to claim the two spots on the U.S. team.

Lochte is entered in five more events in Omaha, giving the 31-year-old plenty of chances to make his fourth Olympic team.

In other finals, Maya DiRado qualified for her first Olympic team in the women's 400 IM, knocking off 2012 silver medalist Elizabeth Beisel. In the men's 400 free-style, Connor Jaeger and Conor Dwyer are heading back to the Olympics for the second time after finishing 1-2.

**Diving:** At Indianapolis, David Boudia, defending Olympic champion in men's 10-meter and Cassidy Cook, America's comeback kid in women's 3-meter, will head to Rio as teammates after winning the final events at this year's U.S. Olympic diving trials.

After finishing second in the individual 10-meter prelims behind Steele Johnson, Boudia took the lead in the semifinals and pulled away in the finals by scoring at least 83 points on four of his six dives to finish with a score of 1,534.4.

Johnson earned the second spot in the event by finishing with 1,475.15 points, exactly 12 more than David Dinsmore in what was the best duel in the pool all week.

# Nats end skid, but Strasburg on DL

Associated Press

MILWAUKEE — Tanner Roark pitched seven shutout innings in place of injured ace Stephen Strasburg, and the Washington Nationals ended a seven-game losing streak with a 3-2 win over the Milwaukee Brewers on Sunday.

Jose Lobaton and Clint Robinson homered for Washington. Lobaton hit his first homer of the season in the seventh off Milwaukee reliever Jacob Barnes (0-1). Robinson hit a two-run shot in the eighth.

Roark (7-5) held the Brewers to seven hits and struck out seven while walking just one. Strasburg was placed on the 15-day disabled list prior to the game with an upper back strain.

Shawn Kelley retired four batters for his third save. He gave up a solo home run to pinch-hitter Martin Maldonado with two outs in the ninth. Jonathan Villar then lofted a fly to left that Jayson Werth lost in the sun. Villar ended up on third with a triple. Scooter Gennett flied out to shallow left to end it, with Werth again fighting the sun but making the catch this time.

Washington won despite being seemingly held without a hit into the sixth inning, when Anthony Rendon bounced a single over second base with one out.

The official scorer originally charged Gennett, the Brewers second baseman,

with an error on a sharp grounder hit by Ben Revere with two outs in the third. The play later was ruled a hit.

**Marlins 6, Cubs 1:** Jose Fernandez delivered another gem at Marlins Park, striking out 13 and allowing one run in seven innings to help Miami beat faltering Chicago.

**Orioles 12, Rays 5:** Chris Davis hit his seventh career grand slam, and host Baltimore completed an unprecedented sweep of Tampa Bay that extended the Rays' losing streak to 11 games.

**Pirates 4, Dodgers 3:** Chad Kuhl ended Clayton Kershaw's nine-game winning streak in his major league debut, and David Freese hit a three-run double that sent Pittsburgh past visiting Los Angeles.

**Twins 7, Yankees 1:** Tyler Duffey set down the first 17 New York batters and wound up pitching two-hit ball for eight innings while visiting Minnesota backed him with six home runs.

**Rockies 9, Diamondbacks 7:** Mark Reynolds hit a two-run homer with two outs in the bottom of the ninth inning to lift host Colorado over Arizona.

**Giants 8, Phillies 7:** Conor Gillaspie hit a game-ending double with one out in the ninth inning to lift host San Francisco over Philadelphia, giving manager Bruce

Bochy his 800th win with the Giants.

**Cardinals 11, Mariners 6:** Matt Carpenter and Tommy Pham each homered twice as St. Louis went deep six times against Seattle.

**Angels 7, Athletics 6:** Jefry Marte drove in Mike Trout with a game-ending sacrifice fly, and host Los Angeles stopped a six-game losing streak.

**Rangers 6, Red Sox 2:** The first six Texas hitters reached safely for an early lead, and Martin Perez pitched six solid innings against visiting Boston for his sixth straight win.

**Royals 6, Astros 1:** Ian Kennedy struck out 11 over seven innings and host Kansas City snapped Houston's seven-game winning streak.

**Braves 5, Mets 2:** Freddie Freeman and Adonis Garcia homered, and Bud Norris threw seven scoreless innings to send Atlanta past visiting New York.

**White Sox 5, Blue Jays 2:** Chris Sale pitched eight innings of two-run ball to become the first 13-game winner in the majors, leading host Chicago over Toronto.

**Reds 3, Padres 0:** Anthony DeSclafani pitched eight innings and singled with the bases loaded, carrying host Cincinnati past San Diego in the finale of the Reds' weekend dedicated to Pete Rose.

# Chile wins Copa crown on PKs

Associated Press

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — Lionel Messi put his penalty kick over the crossbar, grabbed his shirt, clenched his teeth and covered his face with both hands.

A few minutes later he walked off the field, a dazed, pained look on his bearded face. The greatest player of his generation, perhaps soccer's best ever, he was still without a title on Argentina's national team — one he says may never come.

"The national team is over for me," he told the Argentine network TyC Sports after Chile beat the Albiceleste on Sunday night for the Copa America title. "It's been four finals. It's not meant for me. I tried. It was the thing I wanted the most, but I couldn't get it, so I think it's over."

Chile beat Argentina in the final for the second straight year, 4-2 in the shootout following a 0-0 tie that ended an expanded

16-nation Copa in the United States to mark the championship's 100th anniversary.

Messi, five-time FIFA Player of the Year, winner of four Champions League titles and eight Spanish La Liga crowns with Barcelona, was crushed. Much of his nation had counted on him and the top-ranked Albiceleste to bring home the nation's first major championship since 1993.

A crowd of 82,026 filled MetLife Stadium — the largest to see a soccer game in New Jersey — and many wore Messi's No. 10 jersey in Argentina's blue and white and Barcelona's navy and maroon.

Francisco Silva converted the shootout finale for the fifth-ranked La Roja after goalkeeper Claudio Bravo — Messi's Barcelona teammate — made a diving stop on Lucas Biglia's attempt.

Messi, who scored five goals in the tournament, sent a free kick that Sergio

Aguero nearly headed in 10 minutes into extra time, only to have Bravo jump and extend his right hand to tip the ball over the crossbar. Messi's free kick in extra time went off the wall.

Argentina goalkeeper Sergio Romero saved the opening kick by Arturo Vidal, and up stepped Messi, Argentina's captain and career scoring leader with 55 goals. He sent his shot into the stands, stunning himself, both teams and the crowd.

Nicolas Castillo and Charles Aranguiz converted their kicks for Chile, and Javier Mascherano and Aguero made theirs, leaving the teams tied 2-2 after three rounds.

Jean Beausejour put Chile ahead, and Bravo dived to his right, saving Biglia's shot and bringing up Silva, a 30-year-old midfielder. Messi briefly pulled his jersey over his face, as if not wanting to watch. Romero dived to his left and the shot went in to his right, giving Chile another title.