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Base deal with Philippines in limbo

BY WYATT OLSON

Stars and Stripes

MANILA, Philippines — Supporters of a deal allowing the U.S. access to military bases in the Philippines are hoping the president-elect will embrace the agreement despite his outspoken opposition to U.S. influence and his promise to shake up foreign policy when he takes office next month.

Rodrigo Duterte, the 71-year-old Davao mayor, bested four other candidates in the May 9 election.

Washington and Manila have yet to hash out the details of a base-sharing agreement that call for developing five military bases to be used by rotational American forces, and Duterte would face strong resistance if he simply abandoned the agreement.

But proponents are con-

cerned his administration could drag its feet and effectively neuter it.

The two countries announced the base-sharing deal in February under the terms of the Enhanced Defense Cooperation Agreement signed in 2014. Those facilities are Antonio Bautista Air Base in Puerto Princesa; Basa Air Base in Floridablanca, Pampanga; Lumbia Air Base in Cagayan de Oro in southern Mindanao; Fort Magsaysay in Nueva Ecija province; and Mactan-Benito Ebuen Air Base in Cebu.

The base-sharing agreement marked a new era for military relations between the two countries. The U.S. military pulled out of the Philippines in the early 1990s after negotiations broke down on extending leases for American bases.

But with the rise of jihadi terrorism, the two nations found

themselves fighting a common enemy, and the U.S. deployed a small contingent of counterterrorism trainers to Mindanao, where the al-Qaida-linked Abu Sayyaf group was responsible for a spate of kidnappings and bombings. That effort helped pave the way for the EDCA in 2014, which current President Benigno Aquino's administration saw as a way of pushing back against China's aggressive expansionism in the South China Sea.

Duterte has sent mixed signals about his policy direction toward the U.S. military and relations with China. At times he's said America should butt out, but other statements have made it sound as though there's a place for the U.S. in multilateral discussions with China over claims of sovereignty for South China Sea islands and reefs.

Navy breaks ground on missile site

BY STEVEN BEARDSLEY

Stars and Stripes

The Navy broke ground Friday on a future missile interceptor site in Poland, its second such base in Europe.

The ceremony at Redzikowo, near the Baltic coast, marks the beginning of construction on a system designed to shoot down short- and intermediate-range ballistic missiles by the end of 2018. It will join a similar system in Deveselu, Romania, as the only ground-launch sites tied into a European missile shield being built by the U.S. for NATO use.

The U.S. and NATO say the sites are necessary to intercept ballistic missiles launched from Iran and other unspecified countries in Asia and the Middle East. Russia has criticized the plan since its announcement by the George W. Bush administration in 2002.

The U.S. and NATO say the system is not capable of stopping Russian intercontinental ballistic missiles.

Poland, which has long sought a permanent U.S. military presence in the country, has welcomed the deployment.

The site is part of the European Phased Adaptive Approach, the Obama administration's plan for ballistic missile defense in Europe. Other components include an early warning radar in Turkey, four Navy guided-missile destroyers stationed in Rota, Spain, and a command center at the U.S. Air Force base in Ramstein, Germany.

The Redzikowo system will pair a fire-control deckhouse with several SM-3 Block IB missile launchers. After completion, the site will be upgraded to the newest model of the missile, the Block IIA, which is more capable and has a longer range.

DOD: China's military got stronger in '15

BY WYATT OLSON

Stars and Stripes

China's military in 2015 became more assertive in the South China Sea, projected a greater global presence and underwent reforms intended to make it deadlier and more loyal to the ruling political party, according to an annual U.S. Defense Department report.

"China continues to focus on preparing for potential conflict in the Taiwan Strait, but additional missions such as contingencies in the East and South China seas and on the Korean peninsula are increasingly important to the [People's Liberation Army]," said Abraham M. Denmark, deputy assistant secretary of defense for East Asia.

Taiwan's government was

formed when the Chinese Nationalist government lost a civil war with the Communist Party of China in 1949 and its leaders fled to the island. The Communist Party regards Taiwan as a breakaway province that must be brought back into the fold.

The U.S. agrees with that in principle, but maintains it must not be done through force. The U.S. for decades has assisted Taiwan in its defense.

China said that its military budget would grow at 7.6 percent, to \$144 billion, for 2015.

But China's publicized military budget does not include all expenditures.

"So the true expenditure DOD estimates in terms of total military-related spending for 2015 exceeded \$180 billion in 2015," he said.

The United States spent about \$600 billion for defense in 2015.

Last year marked China's commencement of more assertive tactics regarding its claims in the South China Sea. China, the Philippines, Vietnam and Taiwan have claims over portions of the sea. But with its fleet, China has been forcefully taking possession of reefs and atolls, even expanding them through dredging.

The report said China reclaimed more than 3,200 acres of land in the South China Sea and was shifting the focus on weaponizing them.

China's President Xi Jinping ushered in military reforms last year that are intended to modernize command and control, making the force more effective at warfighting.

Navy poised to take ownership of Zumwalt

Associated Press

BATH, Maine — The U.S. Navy is ready to take ownership of the Zumwalt, its largest and most technologically sophisticated destroyer.

Sailors' uniforms and personal effects, supplies and spare parts are being moved aboard the 610-foot warship in anticipation of crewmembers taking on their new charge, said Capt. James Kirk, the destroyer's skipper.

The Zumwalt is the first new class of warship built at Maine's Bath Iron Works since the Arleigh Burke slid into the Kennebec River in 1989. The shipyard is expected to turn the destroyer over to the Navy this week.

It features an angular shape that makes it 50 times more difficult to detect on radar; it's powered by electricity produced by turbines; new guns are designed to pummel targets from nearly 100 miles away. Advanced automation will allow the ship to operate with a much smaller crew than the current

generation of destroyers.

The final cost of the Zumwalt is expected to be at least \$4.4 billion.

The growing cost forced the Navy to reduce what was originally envisioned as a 32-ship program to just three ships. The loss of economies of scale drove up the cost of the individual ships.

The slow going and rising costs were little surprise after the Government Accountability Office warned that the Navy was trying to incorporate too many new technologies into the ship.

"Zumwalt was a challenge to assemble because of all the new technologies, but sea trials show it is a world-class warship with unique capabilities," said Loren Thompson, senior defense analyst with the Virginia-based Lexington Institute.

Shipbuilders in Bath are busy on the second ship in the class, the Michael Monsoor, which will be christened next month. Work also is underway on the third and final ship, the Lyndon B. Johnson.

SEAL instructor pulled from training duty

The Washington Post

A Navy SEAL instructor has been temporarily removed from his training duties following the death of a sailor in a swimming pool, a service spokesman said Saturday.

The instructor was removed last week following the May 6 death of Seaman James Derek Lovelace, 21, of Crestview, Fla., said Navy Cmdr. Jason Salata, a spokesman for Naval Special Warfare Command. The incident occurred during the famously grueling Basic Underwater Demolition/SEAL, or BUD/S, course at Naval Amphibious Base Coronado in California.

Lovelace was helped to the edge of a swimming pool by instructors after having difficulty in the water, and was pronounced dead at a nearby hospital after efforts to revive him failed, Navy officials said. A preliminary autopsy report by the San Diego coroner's office said he drowned.

The incident is under investi-

gation by the Naval Criminal Investigative Service. Salata said Naval Special Warfare, commanded by Rear Adm. Brian Losey, "is fully cooperating with the NCIS investigation" and a separate Navy safety investigation into the fatality.

"It would be premature to discuss any details until those investigations are complete," Salata said. "As the investigation progresses and more details are reviewed, his commander will reassess his status."

The instructor is an enlisted petty officer first class who joined the Navy in 2008 and has served in SEAL units based in both Coronado and Little Creek, Va. He has deployed to Afghanistan at least twice, and was decorated with a Navy/Marine Corps Commendation Medal with "V" device for valor. He is not currently facing accusations of wrongdoing, and his name was not released.

Lovelace's death marks the third in recent months by a sailor either in BUD/S or recently separated from it.

Bergdahl to return to court after conflict over data

BY COREY DICKSTEIN

Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Accused Army deserter Sgt. Bowe Bergdahl will return to a Fort Bragg courtroom Tuesday after a legal fight over classified data stalled the case for months.

Progress in Bergdahl's case had been halted since Feb. 5, when prosecutors asked an appellate court to overturn a military judge's ruling that ordered them to turn over classified evidence to the soldier's lawyers. Prosecutors argued senior military officials should review classified material to protect state secrets before it is provided to Bergdahl's lawyers, but the U.S. Army Court of Criminal Appeals on April 30 rejected the motion.

The long delay likely will push back Bergdahl's trial, which was scheduled to begin Aug. 8 at Fort Bragg, N.C. In a motion filed Wednesday, prosecutors proposed moving

the trial's start date to Dec. 8.

The timetable for the case is likely to be discussed at Tuesday's hearing.

The trial could be delayed even longer, said Eric Carpenter, an assistant law professor at Florida International University and former Army defense attorney and prosecutor. Attorneys are likely to spend months, and several hearings, wrangling over "access to evidence and the defense's ability to investigate the case," he said.

In the prosecution's motion Wednesday, Army Maj. Justin C. Oshana wrote that prosecutors have collected more than 1.5 million pages of potential evidence. The prosecution has provided about 129,000 pages, including about 89,000 pages that are classified, to defense lawyers, he wrote.

In addition, a motion filed May 3 by Bergdahl's lawyers, civilian Eugene R. Fiddell and Army Lt. Col. Franklin D. Rosenblatt, that asked the judge to throw out the

staff judge advocate's pretrial advice to the convening authority is expected to be argued at the hearing Tuesday.

Bergdahl's lawyers wrote in their motion that the staff judge advocate, Col. Vanessa Berry, provided the convening authority, Gen. Robert Abrams, commander of Army Forces Command, "incomplete" and "prejudicially misleading" advice when she recommended a general court-martial.

They wrote that Berry included in the pretrial advice the recommendation by Lt. Col. Mark Visger, the officer who oversaw Bergdahl's preliminary hearing in September 2015, that Bergdahl should face a lower-level special court-martial with the power to consider a bad-conduct discharge, in which the maximum possible sentence would be one year in jail. More so, they argued Berry also should have included that Visger additionally recommended Bergdahl be spared a prison sentence.

Curry aims to be 100 percent for OKC

Associated Press

OAKLAND, Calif. — Stephen Curry surprised coach Steve Kerr with how quickly he found his groove the past two games after returning from a right knee injury, even with a few more misses than usual for the MVP.

Now, Curry and the Golden State Warriors push into the Western Conference finals against Oklahoma City counting on their superstar to be fully healthy for an entire round for the first time this postseason as they chase a repeat title.

“Hopefully, it will be close to 100 percent by Monday night,” Curry said after Friday’s practice.

Fellow Splash Brother Klay Thompson, who carried the load on both ends of the floor during Curry’s absence for much of the first two rounds, is counting on it.

So far, Curry’s return has been seamless — even more so than Kerr had foreseen. The Coach of the Year figured there might be a transition period as everybody got comfortable again.

“It has [been smooth],” Thompson said. “Anyone can see that. He hasn’t missed a beat.”

Draymond Green practiced after injuring his left ankle during Wednesday’s series clincher against Portland, while 7-foot center Andrew Bogut sat out Friday’s workout with a

strained muscle in his right leg.

The hope was that Bogut would return to practice Saturday and be ready for Monday night’s Game 1 of the best-of-seven series against the Thunder at Oracle Arena. An MRI wasn’t in the plans for Bogut’s injury, Kerr said.

After a whirlwind week that included becoming the NBA’s first unanimous MVP on Tuesday, Curry looked forward to taking some much-needed downtime between now and the next round to rest his body and mind.

“You go from missing three weeks, two and a half weeks to playing significant minutes in 48 hours, especially with what the day in between was like, it kind of shocks your body,” Curry said. “So you’ve got to take advantage of these three days we have off to get refreshed and rejuvenated mentally and physically, and get ready to play.”

Curry came off the bench and overcame a slow start to score 40 points in a 132-125 Game 4 overtime win at Portland on Monday night, including an NBA-record 17 in overtime. He then started and scored 29 in Wednesday’s clincher against the Trail Blazers.

“It went really well, obviously. He was much better than we could have ever hoped or expected given the length of time that he was out,” Kerr said. “He was phenomenal in both games, showing why he was the MVP. Now it’s great to get

him a few days of practice, a few more days to treat the injury. Hopefully we can put this injury behind him by the time we start this next series.”

Golden State won all three meetings with the Thunder, who eliminated San Antonio in Game 6 on Thursday night after dropping the series opener, during its remarkable regular season that ended with 73 wins to top the 1995-96 Chicago Bulls for the best regular-season record ever. That included a 121-118 overtime win Feb. 27 at Oklahoma City in which Curry hit a three-pointer a few feet in from halfcourt to win it.

He knows it will be far tougher on the pressure-packed playoff stage.

“After Game 1 it’s pretty impressive how OKC turned it around and put that behind them, which is a lesson for the playoffs as a whole,” Curry said. “Each game takes its own identity.”

The do-everything point guard still expects more from himself, saying he can improve his consistency over the course of 48 minutes — which will be needed against Russell Westbrook, Kevin Durant and the aggressive, hard-nosed rebounding Thunder.

“I’ve finished both games strong but over the course of the entire game I haven’t been as in sync as I want to,” he said. “It’s obviously good things to look forward to hopefully the next series.”

Cavs out to avoid rust

Associated Press

INDEPENDENCE, Ohio — Even coach Tyrone Lue came off the floor sweating on Saturday.

Don’t think for a second the unbeaten Cavaliers have been lounging around the past week as they’ve waited for their next opponent.

“Guys have been really busting their butt in the gym,” forward Channing Frye said as beads of perspiration streaked the sides of his face.

Unblemished and seemingly unstoppable through the first two rounds of the playoffs, LeBron James & Co. finally know they’ll host Game 1 of the Eastern Conference finals Tuesday. All that’s left to be determined is whether they’ll play Miami or Toronto. The Heat and Raptors played Game 7 Sunday, with the winner earning a shot at the 8-0 Cavs.

Cleveland hasn’t played since May 8, when it completed its second consecutive post-season sweep, ousting an Atlanta Hawks team that was grounded by the Cavs’ battalion of three-point marksmen. The Cavs dropped 77 three-pointers in four games, and they’re hoping the long break between series won’t cool off their shooting touch.

To combat any rust, Lue has made sure his team worked on its conditioning. They’ve been running and lifting and lifting and running.

On Wednesday, the Cavs endured a grueling workout supervised by strength and conditioning coach Derek Millender. The brutal, 40-minute session included time on a punishing piece of cardiovascular exercise equipment that left many of the players too tired to run.

“That was pretty tough,” forward Tristan Thompson said. “But I thought it was great for us because the team could push each other. It was fun. I thought it brought us even closer together as a team.”

The nine-day break could most help the 31-year-old James, who had to carry the Cavs a year ago. He’s averaging a career-

low 23.5 points so far as Kyrie Irving and Kevin Love have stepped up.

“LeBron is letting the game come to him,” Lue said. “When he wants to be aggressive and he sees fit to be aggressive when the teams have a good run or whatever they may have, then he just takes over the game. And with Kyrie and Kevin playing at a high level, he can take a lot of mileage off of his body and just kind of seeing and figuring out the flow of the game.”

“I don’t think he’s been in this position before and it’s been great for him.”

After they quickly dispatched Detroit in the first round, the Cavs didn’t play for a week before their matchup against the Hawks. And although they won Game 1, it wasn’t easy. Cleveland blew an 18-point lead before making plays in the closing minutes and holding on.

With little margin for error, Lue doesn’t want any drop-off this time.

“We got tired,” he said of the 104-93 win on May 2. “In that second half we got tired in that third quarter. I went back and watched that game two nights ago. We got tired, a little fatigued. And I thought in the first half, as far as rust, we didn’t have a lot of rust offensively. We took care of the basketball. We executed the way we wanted to execute, I just thought that third quarter we got a little tired.”

The Cavs spent part of Saturday’s workout preparing for the Heat and Raptors. Both teams run similar offensive sets, so Lue and his assistant coaches gave the players a sneak peek at what they’ll be facing. It’s part of keeping them mentally sharp before returning to the floor.

Lue said he’s been watching the Miami-Toronto series, but not every second. He’s more interested in reviewing film of Cleveland’s games against both teams to see if he can spot any tendencies or weaknesses.

The Cavs didn’t practice again until Sunday evening after the Heat and Raptors concluded Game 7, that way they could prepare for a specific opponent — not two.

Penguins, Lightning get series off to feisty start

Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — So much for niceties and the promise of fluid, free-flowing hockey. In the span of three testy periods Friday night, the Eastern Conference finals flipped from benign to occasionally belligerent.

Pittsburgh defenseman Kris Letang and Brian Dumoulin needed to be helped off the ice after getting smashed into the boards headfirst following illegal hits from behind by a member of the Tampa Bay Lightning. Tampa Bay center Tyler Johnson skated off in obvious pain following a knee-on-knee collision with Penguins forward Chris Kunitz that may have been avoidable.

Following two emotionally charged series wins over the New York Rangers and Washington Capitals, the prospect of facing the less familiar Lightning seemed to offer an opportunity for a respite from the NHL’s annual tap dance with what is — and what isn’t — against the rules. Tampa Bay’s chippy 3-1 victory in Game 1 instead proved to be more of the same.

“This isn’t as much as a rivalry as maybe the Rangers and the Capitals, it certainly should be (now), after some of the hits,” Pittsburgh forward Patric Hornqvist said.

Neither side wanted to do much politicking in the aftermath.

When asked about the way Kunitz slammed into Johnson in the final moments of the opening period, Tampa Bay coach Jon Cooper called it a “trap question.” Pressed on if Lightning forward Ryan Callahan deserved supplemental discipline outside of the five-minute major he received for nudging a vulnerable Letang into harm’s way, Penguins

coach Mike Sullivan offered only “the NHL’s going to do their job, we’re going to do ours. We’re just going to play hockey.”

The league chose not to pursue any further action against Callahan.

Cooper allowed while his team’s reputation for being among the league’s elite skaters is well deserved, the Lightning have found themselves in the penalty box more than any other club during the postseason.

Tampa Bay is averaging over 16 minutes in penalties through 11 games. The Penguins are averaging less than 10 minutes in the box.

“It’s not something we’re proud of,” Cooper said. “We’ve had to grind some things out.”

At least the Lightning might not have to grind it out — at least in the long term — without top goaltender Ben Bishop. The Vezina Trophy finalist injured his left leg just over 12 minutes into Game 1 while scrambling to get back in position in front of the net. Bishop left the ice on a stretcher but tests revealed no structural damage. Cooper is upbeat about Bishop’s prognosis even though he cautioned Bishop’s status for Monday night’s Game 2 — and anything after that really — remains uncertain.

“Everything has been really good so far on Ben,” Cooper said. “Much better than the scene we saw, what happened when he was carted off.”

Backup Andrei Vasilevskiy made 25 stops in Bishop’s absence in his first significant playing time since the end of the regular season. The 21-year-old received plenty of help in front of him. The Lightning blocked 15 shots and kept Pittsburgh’s star-laden attack under wraps while building a three-goal lead.



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Ortiz rallies Red Sox past Astros

Associated Press

BOSTON — David Ortiz doubled with two outs in the 11th inning after lining a tying triple in the ninth and earlier moving into 20th place on the career home run list, sending the Boston Red Sox past the Houston Astros 6-5 on Saturday.

Boston's Jackie Bradley Jr. singled in the first inning, extending the majors' longest hitting streak to 20 games.

George Springer hit a grand slam and Carlos Correa a solo homer for the Astros.

Ortiz broke a tie with Ernie Banks and Eddie Mathews with his 513th homer.

Houston led 5-4 with two outs in the ninth when Ortiz hit an RBI triple just past diving center fielder Jake Marisnick. After sliding into third, 40-year-old Big Papi got up and pumped both fists toward his dug-out following his first triple since June 15, 2013.

In the 11th, Xander Bogaerts singled with two outs against Michael Feliz (1-1) and advanced on a wild pitch before Ortiz hit a drive off the base of the center-field wall for his 600th career double.

Nationals 6, 1, Marlins 4, 7: Marcell Ozuna and J.T. Realmuto each drove in two runs and Miami beat host Washington to split a doubleheader.

The Nationals won the opener 6-4 behind six strong innings from Stephen Strasburg (6-0). Right after the final out, Washington announced that Bryce Harper had dropped his appeal of a one-game suspension and would sit out the nightcap for his behavior following an ejection on Monday.

Angels 9, Mariners 7: Albert Pujols hit a three-run homer in the ninth inning to fuel a second rally in Los Angeles' win over host Seattle.

The Angels trailed 2-1 before taking the lead with a five-run seventh, but then Seattle came back with a five-run eighth. Steve Clevenger had a two-out RBI single to cap the inning for a 7-6 lead heading into the ninth.

Closer Steve Cishek (2-3) couldn't save it. With one out, he hit Kole Calhoun with a pitch and Mike Trout singled to right. Pujols then hit his eighth home run on a 1-1 slider.

Orioles 9, Tigers 3: Jonathan Schoop hit two home runs, including a grand slam, and host Baltimore stretched its

winning streak to seven games.

Matt Wieters and Adam Jones also homered for the Orioles.

Miguel Cabrera hit a two-run homer for the Tigers, who have lost 11 of 12.

Rockies 7, Mets 4: DJ LeMahieu and Tony Wolters had two hits and two RBIs apiece and Colorado beat New York.

Trevor Story and Gerardo Parra also had two hits for Colorado, which has won three straight at home for the first time this season.

Dodgers 5, Cardinals 3: Scott Kazmir pitched 8²/₃ innings and Adrian Gonzalez and Corey Seager homered in Los Angeles' victory over visiting St. Louis.

Gonzalez hit a home run, his fourth of the season, to lead off the fourth inning. Seager, who had three hits, ripped a solo home run in the seventh inning.

Giants 5, Diamondbacks 3: Buster Posey hit a two-run double in the ninth inning and Hunter Pence had his 200th career home run to lead San Francisco to a win over host Arizona.

San Francisco led 3-1 after Jake Peavy's six strong innings, but the bullpen couldn't hold the lead.

Rangers 6, Blue Jays 5 (10): Drew Stubbs homered with two outs in the 10th inning, helping host Texas beat Toronto after the Blue Jays rallied with consecutive homers in the ninth to force extra innings.

Justin Smoak hit a two-run homer and Troy Tulowitzki followed with a tying shot off closer Shawn Tolleson.

Braves 5, Royals 0: Mike Foltynewicz pitched a career-high eight scoreless innings, Kelly Johnson and A.J. Pierzynski each drove in two runs, and Atlanta beat host Kansas City.

Foltynewicz (1-1) got his first victory since Aug. 8, holding the Royals to seven hits, while striking out four and walking none.

Phillies 4, Reds 3: Tyler Goeddel threw out Eugenio Suarez with catcher Cameron Rupp holding onto the ball following a violent collision to end the game and Philadelphia held on to beat visiting Cincinnati.

Aaron Nola (3-2) tied a career high with nine strikeouts in seven stingy innings. Odubel Herrera hit a solo homer and David Hernandez pitched out of a jam for his first save since July 12, 2013, for Arizona against Milwaukee.

Yankees 2, White Sox 1: Dellin Betances, Andrew Miller and Aroldis Chapman combined for scoreless relief and struck out eight as host New York used its three big bullpen arms in the same game for the first time to secure a victory.

Ivan Nova pitched neatly into the sixth inning to give New York's ailing rotation a much-needed boost. Aaron Hicks hit an RBI double and Didi Gregorius added a run-scoring single with two outs in the second.

Cubs 8, Pirates 2: Unbeaten Jake Arrieta struck out 11 in eight innings, Anthony Rizzo drove in four runs and host Chicago remained perfect against Pittsburgh.

Arrieta (7-0) improved to 18-0 in 20 outings since Aug. 1. The Cubs have won his last 21 starts, extending a franchise record.

Twins 6, Indians 3: Juan Centeno took Corey Kluber deep for his first major league homer, Ervin Santana allowed one run in six innings and visiting Minnesota ended an eight-game losing streak.

Centeno's two-run homer in the fifth landed in the right field seats and put Minnesota on top for good.

Rays 6, Athletics 0: Matt Andriese pitched a two-hitter for his first career shutout and Brad Miller hit a two-run home run, leading host Tampa Bay to a victory.

Andriese (2-0) won for the second time this week in helping the Rays end a four-game losing streak. He beat the Los Angeles Angels 3-1 last Sunday in his first start since being called up from Triple-A Durham. The right-hander struck out five and walked none, and retired 11 straight at one point.

Padres 8, Brewers 7 (12): Derek Norris and Melvin Upton Jr. hit back-to-back solo homers in the top of the 12th inning to lift San Diego past host Milwaukee.

Norris and Upton went deep against Brewers reliever Chris Capuano (1-1), with Upton's shot ricocheting off the black backdrop beyond center for a two-run lead.

Carlos Villanueva, the eighth pitcher used by the Padres, picked up his first save despite allowing Jonathan Lucroy's first-pitch homer to draw Milwaukee within a run with one out. He retired the next two, ending a game that lasted more than five hours.

Day sets record, hangs on at Players

Associated Press

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, Fla. — Jason Day saw The Players Championship at its easiest and toughest, all in the span of nine hours Saturday on what felt like two golf courses.

He set a record when it felt like a shootout.

He was even stronger when the TPC Sawgrass turned into a battle for survival.

And when a long, wild and utterly exhausting day was finally over, the world's No. 1 player could take solace that he still had a four-shot lead.

"I want to say this was the toughest day I've ever had to play in my life," Day said after gutting out a 1-over 73 going into the final round. "I want to win this tournament so bad. I really do. ... But right now, I'm just trying to focus on trying to play well tomorrow. I mean, that's all you could do is just try to survive."

The difference between morning and afternoon was more like night and day.

Day finished his storm-delayed second round with a 66 to set the 36-hole record at 15-under 199, and it appeared he would take aim at more records. And then it all changed. The PGA Tour rolled the greens one more time. The wind picked up. The air dried out. The sun baked out the course.

Suddenly, the greens were like putting on glass.

Day four-putted from 18 feet for a double bogey. He made another double bogey two holes later. But right when it looked like he would fall victim to the fierce conditions, the 28-year-old Australian played the final 10 holes with three birdies and seven pars to reach 14-under 202 and keep his big lead.

Ken Duke in the round of a lifetime made six birdies over his last seven holes for a 65, which was more than 10 shots better than the average score. He was tied for second with Hideki Matsuyama, who made seven birdies in his round of 67. Joining them at 10-under 206 was Alex Cejka, who shot a 72.

Six of the 76 players who made the cut had a double bogey or worse.

There were 149 three-putts — or worse — in the third round. Sergio Garcia took six putts from just off the sixth green. Paul Casey took five putts from about 8 feet on the 15th hole. There was rare a lag putt. The putts wouldn't stop rolling.

There was still the traditional trouble at the Stadium Course. Russell Knox hit three shots in the water on the island-green 17th and made a 9 that ruined his round (he shot 80) and his chances. Kevin Chappell had to play his second shot with his feet on the planks framing the water on the 18th hole. Having made two eagles, he closed with a double bogey to fall six shots back after a 70 that felt a lot better.

Jordan Spieth, Phil Mickelson and defending champion Rickie Fowler all missed the cut when the storm-delayed second round was completed Saturday morning. If there was a consolation, it was not having to take on Sawgrass and its scariest.

One more round, and no one is sure what to expect now.

The average score the opening two rounds was 71.02. It was 75.59 on Saturday, helped by 86 scores of double bogey or worse. There were 163 rounds under par the opening two rounds, and only six on Saturday.

Miocic KOs Werdum for UFC title

Associated Press

RIO DE JANEIRO — Stipe Miocic of the United States beat Brazil's Fabricio Werdum in front of his shocked home crowd on Saturday to become the new UFC heavyweight champion.

The American fighter used his boxing expertise to knock out the Brazilian in the first round of UFC 198 in Curitiba, Southern Brazil.

Werdum started on his feet, avoiding Miocic's attempts to bring him to the floor and use his jiu-jitsu. But as he moved toward the American, Miocic landed a sucker punch on the Brazilian's chin to quickly end the contest.

Miocic, an Ohio firefighter, won six of his past seven fights. Werdum had won five straight fights, highlighted by a win against Mark Hunt for the interim title and then a submission victory against Cain Velasquez in a unification bout.

The bout was scheduled for February until Werdum pulled out with injuries and

forced a postponement.

Cleveland's long-suffering sports fans have not celebrated a major professional championship in team sports since 1964, but they can at least celebrate Miocic's individual achievement.

Celebrating in front of a sold-out but ultimately disappointed crowd of 45,000 fans at Arena da Baixada, Miocic shouted: "Cleveland, this is for you!"

"I would like to thank the fans. You were against me, but you made all this happen. Fabricio is tough, I had to guess what he was doing, so I was preparing for this," the new champion said.

Still looking surprised at the octagon, Werdum said: "I have to admit that he was better than me. But I will do all I can to come back and be champion again," said the 38-year old Brazilian.

The local fans could celebrate a Brazilian victory over an American opponent in the key women's fight on the undercard as Cris "Cyborg" Justino needed just one minute and 20 seconds to knock out Leslie Smith of the United States.

The Brazilian veteran now has a 16-fight winning streak since her debut in 2005, stopping ten consecutive opponents and winning titles in the Strikeforce and Invicta promotions.

Fans have long clamored for Justino to face former UFC bantamweight champion Ronda Rousey, but Justino was concerned about making the weight. Rousey's loss to Holly Holm derailed the discussion.

Justino served a one-year suspension in 2012 for testing positive for steroids.

UFC champion Miesha Tate was watching Justino's "impressive performance." "What a powerful woman! Congrats on making 139lbs! Four more and we can have a title fight!," Tate said on Twitter.

In other main card fights, welterweight Bryan Barabarena of the United States beat home crowd favorite Warley Alves in a unanimous decision. In a split decision, Brazilian light heavyweight Mauricio Rua outpointed American Corey Anderson. Middleweight Ronaldo Souza got a technical knockout against countryman Vitor Belfort.