

STARS AND STRIPES®

Saturday, September 5, 2015

A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

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Navy lauded for renewable energy efforts

Ventura County (Calif.) Star

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — If California enacts controversial climate-change legislation that would, among other things, require that half the electrical power in the state be generated by renewable sources by 2030, it will have nothing on the U.S. Navy.

As a result of a long-term contract signed last month to construct a 210-megawatt solar facility that will supply power to Naval Base Ventura County and 13 other Navy and Marine installations in the Southwest Region, Rear Adm. Markham Rich said Wednesday the Department of the Navy will meet its goal of procuring half of its electrical power from renewable sources by next year.

Rich, who oversees the Navy's Southwest region, and Capt. William Whitmire, who oversees Marine Corps facilities in the region, were presented with resolutions from

the state Senate honoring the Navy for its commitment to energy efficiency and the use of renewable fuels.

Their visit came at the invitation of Senate President Pro Tem Kevin de León and Sen. Fran Pavley and was not subtly timed to call attention to the military's commitment to renewable energy just as a showdown vote on their climate-change bills approaches in the Assembly.

In addition to its goal of acquiring half its electrical power from renewable sources, the Navy also has committed to reducing petroleum use in its commercial vehicle fleet by 50 percent and deploying what it calls a "Great Green Fleet" of naval ships powered by non-carbon-emitting sources such as nuclear power and biofuels.

Those goals are part of a larger, strategic goal to improve energy security and increase warfighting capabilities

by reducing the Navy's reliance on fossil fuels.

"Our armed forces are always one step ahead of the public at large," said de León, D-Los Angeles. "The U.S. Navy is far ahead of the curve."

Pavley, D-Agoura Hills, noted the Navy has already met or exceeded all the greenhouse gas emission-reduction targets established by California's AB 32, which requires all such emissions be reduced to 20 percent below 1990 levels by 2020.

Pavley this year is the author of SB 32, which would extend and expand those emission-reduction targets through 2050. De León is the author of SB 350, which in addition to its renewable energy target for electricity generation, would also require that the use of petroleum transportation fuels in California be cut in half by 2030.

Both bills embody goals laid out by Gov. Jerry Brown and

were approved in the Senate earlier this year. They are now pending in the Assembly, where they have been met with resistance from moderate Democrats and have become the subject of an intensive lobbying campaign from the oil industry that seeks to have the bills gutted or killed.

Although critics contend the legislation's clean-energy goals would result in higher energy costs for consumers, Rich said the Navy expects to save \$90 million in energy costs during the 25-year life of its agreement to purchase solar power from the Mesquite Solar 3 facility to be constructed near Phoenix.

In an interview following the Senate presentation, Rich said federal government agencies do not take positions on proposed state legislation. He noted, however, that the goals spelled out in SB 350 are "very much in line" with the Department of the Navy's internal objectives.

Lawmakers: Mine hunting system a \$706M failure

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Over the last 16 years the U.S. Navy has spent \$706 million developing a futuristic-looking device that could remotely detect mines underwater.

The only problem? The device, known as the Remote Minehunting System, doesn't work.

The failed program, detailed in a new report released Thursday by the Senate Armed Services Committee, started in the late '90s and has yielded only half the number of planned systems with the cost per unit doubling since the program began.

On paper, the mine hunting system is meant to be deployed from destroyers and littoral combat ships as sort of a bomb-sniffing dog for the ocean. The system would scan an area, possibly even out of the surface ship's line-of-sight, and would communicate back the location of detected minefields.

In 2007, after one failed test aboard a destroyer, the Navy went back to the drawing board and in 2008 the system was still testing poorly. Despite the results, the Navy purchased another mine hunting system at around \$13 million.

According to the recent SASC report, however, the device still

doesn't function as it should. In 2013 the Government Accountability Office noted that "in spite of starting development the towed sonar couldn't not detect certain mines, and falsely identified other objects as mines."

As of 2015, the system still has issues communicating back to the ship when it's out of certain ranges, and the sonar on the device cannot quickly or consistently detect mines. The report cites an August 2015 memo from the director of the Pentagon's Operational Test and Evaluation Office to the under secretary of defense for

acquisition as saying there is "no performance data to date to suggest that the [Remote Minehunting System] will eventually achieve [its] requirements."

Undersea mines have long been a part of naval warfare. In the wars of the 20th century, mines played a pivotal role in disrupting shipping and sea lanes. While no U.S. ships have struck a mine recently, it is unclear how many mines are deployed and where they might be located. Currently, the United States has a small, but nimble fleet of minesweeping ships that run as screens for the fleets and waterways they are assigned to protect.

'Higher law' proves tough court issue

The Washington Post

Kentucky county clerk Kim Davis's assertion that she answers to a higher authority won her no reprieve from a federal judge this week. But the question of whether people must obey the law when they say it violates their religious beliefs is being debated in state legislatures and the nation's courts and has become a galvanizing issue in the Republican presidential nomination campaign.

Legal experts across the political spectrum said Davis was on shaky ground as a public official who has pledged to uphold the law. But the question of whether private citizens and organizations — and officials such as Davis — deserve more protection for their religious beliefs is a contentious one across the country.

Gay couples in Rowan County, Ky., on Friday received the marriage licenses that Davis had withheld, as deputy clerks handed out the \$35 documents. Davis defiantly remained in federal custody after U.S. District Judge David Bunning jailed her Thursday for refusing to issue the licenses.

Some Republican presidential candidates rushed to endorse her view that "God's authority" outweighed her duty to comply with orders from the Kentucky governor and federal judges carrying out the Supreme Court's decision that gay couples have a constitutional right to marry.

But legal experts tended to agree with Bunning, who told Davis that "the idea of natural law superseding this court's authority would be a dangerous precedent indeed."

Jonathan Adler, a law professor at Case Western University who has been closely following the controversy, said, "She asked to be the person who issues marriage licenses. And the state defines who is eligible to marry." Sometimes, he said, the eligibility changes.

'Ike is back' after major tune-up

The (Norfolk, Va.) Virginian-Pilot

NORFOLK, Va. — Two years ago, the aircraft carrier Dwight D. Eisenhower, having returned from a rare back-to-back deployment to the Persian Gulf, pulled into Norfolk Naval Shipyard in Portsmouth, Va., for a planned maintenance overhaul.

Turns out, the ship was past due for a tune-up.

After crews got the nearly 40-year-old carrier into a dry dock, workers "opened her up" and found the ship needed much more maintenance than expected. Soon, plans for 14 months in the shipyard became 17 months — then stretched further to 23 months — and the ship's upcoming deployment was bumped from this fall to sometime next year.

The ship required 50 percent more maintenance than planned, including extra work

on systems, such as the shafts, rudders and distilling units. Shipyard workers, contractors and sailors logged "more than 1.2 million man-days of work" during the availability.

"There continued to be maintenance that we had to accomplish," said Capt. Stephen Koehler, the Eisenhower's commanding officer, explaining the delays. "It's a complicated machine, and as you get into it, things can cascade."

Cascade they did: The unprecedented shipyard extension has had a ripple effect throughout the fleet and for thousands of Norfolk-based sailors: The aircraft carrier Harry S. Truman will deploy in the Eisenhower's place this fall, requiring that ship to undergo an abbreviated maintenance period and an accelerated pre-deployment workup schedule. The streamlined Truman repairs delayed

the carrier George H.W. Bush's entry to the shipyard, which means that ship will have less time than normal to prepare for its next deployment — as will the Eisenhower as it prepares to ship out next summer.

Finally last week, after the most comprehensive carrier overhaul ever completed at one of the Navy's public shipyards, the Ike returned to sea to complete basic sea trials, then returned a few days later to a pier at Norfolk Naval Station.

There's a lot more work ahead. The Eisenhower and its air wing have a short window to prepare for next year's deployment. As a result, the ship will be spending a lot of time at sea over the next several months, said Lt. Cmdr. Rebecca Rebarich, the ship's public affairs officer.

It was a long time coming, but finally, she said, "The Ike is back."

Officer at sub facility under investigation

Stars and Stripes

A Navy commander who served as the executive officer of a submarine repair facility in Georgia was relieved of duty on Aug. 24, the Navy announced Aug. 31.

Cmdr. Vincent J. Wood, who was second in charge at the Trident Refit Facility at Kings Bay, was removed from his position because of an ongoing investigation into allegations of personal misconduct, the Navy said.

Wood, who had held his job since April, was removed by Capt. Gunter Braun, commanding officer of the facility. Wood has been administratively reassigned to Submarine Group 10 at Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay.

According to the Navy Times, Wood is accused of having an affair with a married civilian employee. The Times said he violated a protective order that required him to stay

away from the woman.

Quoting a police report, the Times said the two were found together on Aug. 23, and the woman's husband got into a fight with Wood, who was then hospitalized. Wood suffered "a large contusion to his left eye, several knots on his head, an abrasion to the bridge of his nose, a small cut under his nose, and abrasions to both knees," according to the report that the Times quoted.

West Point annual pillow fight turns violent

Associated Press

WEST POINT, N.Y. — An annual pillow fight by freshmen cadets at the U.S. Military Academy turned bloody this year when cadets swung pillowcases packed with hard objects, injuring 30 cadets.

Photos and video have circulated on social media showing

the Aug. 20 brawl, which The New York Times reported West Point did not confirm until Thursday.

Lt. Col. Christopher Kasker told the newspaper the annual fight is organized by first-year students as a way to build camaraderie after a grueling summer of training to prepare them for plebe life.

He said upperclassmen overseeing the fight required cadets to wear helmets, but video shows many did not. Some cadets swung pillowcases believed to be packed with their helmets.

Kasker said 24 cadets suffered concussions, but all have since returned to duty. No cadets have been punished.

Petersen's return spoiled

Associated Press

BOISE, Idaho — Once the leader of Boise State's rise to prominence, Chris Petersen was on the verge of ending the Broncos' hopes for another special year in the season opener.

After nearly all of their 16-0 lead disappeared, the 23rd-ranked Broncos came up with enough plays to send Petersen home with a loss.

"We weren't in very good situations in this game and we still responded and were able to find a way to win," Boise State coach Bryan Harsin said.

Jeremy McNichols rushed for 89 yards and two first-half touchdowns, and Boise State withstood a second half filled with special teams mistakes for a 16-13 victory over Washington on Friday night in Petersen's return to the school he helped grow into a national power.

Boise State (1-0) dominated the first half in building a 16-0 lead. But Washington's defense stymied the Broncos in the second half and three big plays on special teams — including Dante Pettis' 76-yard punt return for a touchdown — gave Washington a chance.

Washington's freshman quarterback Jake Browning nearly pulled off a late rally. Starting at Washington's 35 with 1:59 left, Browning drove the Huskies (0-1) into field-goal range. But Cameron

Van Winkle's 46-yard field-goal attempt with 21 seconds left was wide right. Van Winkle had hit from 40 and 28 yards earlier in the game.

Petersen tried to downplay his return to Boise as much as possible. He was hidden in a pack of players when he arrived off the team bus at the stadium, only briefly being seen in a purple sweater. He lingered in the unfamiliar visitors' locker room, emerging with less than an hour until kickoff surrounded by cameras and acknowledging the cheers from the fans already in the stadium.

He avoided any contact with Harsin until the game was decided, and the two shared a hug at midfield.

"It's a little different situation when you come back and you play against so many of these coaches that were like brothers to us," Petersen said. "That's probably been the hardest."

McNichols was the star of the first half as Boise State built an early lead and rolled up 254 yards of offense. But Washington's defense fixed its issues at halftime and limited the Broncos to 83 total yards in the second half.

Boise State quarterback Ryan Finley was 16-for-26 passing for 129 yards and another 30 yards rushing.

Finley said he was pulling together the Boise State offense for a potential last offensive series as Washington was driving.

When it came time to watch Van Winkle's field-goal attempt, Finley turned away.

"I heard the crowd. That was pretty exciting," Finley said.

Finley's debut won't erase fans' concerns about the quarterback position, but if the Broncos' running game can approach what it was in the first half, it'll at least ease them. Boise State finished with 185 yards rushing.

Washington hung around because of special teams, specifically the punt team. Pettis returned a short punt 17 yards to set up Van Winkle's first field goal from 40 yards in the third quarter. Pettis took the next punt he saw back for his second career punt return touchdown, and Jaydon Mickens blocked Sean Wale's punt in the fourth quarter, leading to Van Winkle's 28-yard field goal that cut Boise State's lead to 16-13 with 7:29 remaining.

Browning had the Huskies on the cusp of overtime, driving them to the Boise State 19 before a key holding penalty against wide receiver Brayden Lineus. Browning was sacked on the next play, and a screen pass moved the ball to the Boise State 29 with 21 seconds left.

Petersen called on Van Winkle, but his attempt slid wide right, setting off a celebration that was a mix of joy and relief for the Broncos.

"We didn't open up last year with a win and this team did," Harsin said.

Tebow released by Eagles

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Two people familiar with the move say the Philadelphia Eagles have released Tim Tebow.

Both sources spoke on condition of anonymity because the team hasn't announced the decision. The NFL's roster deadline is Saturday afternoon.

Tebow had seemingly won the No. 3 quarterback job when Philadelphia traded Matt Barkley to Arizona on Friday. But coach Chip Kelly cut Tebow following his best preseason performance at the New York Jets on Thursday night.

The 2007 Heisman Trophy winner was trying to return to the NFL after missing two seasons.

Also:

■ The Philadelphia Eagles have traded quarterback Matt Barkley to the Arizona Cardinals.

Arizona sent a conditional seventh-round draft pick to Philadelphia for Barkley. He'll provide depth behind Carson Palmer and Drew Stanton. Logan Thomas and rookie Phillip Sims were competing for the No. 3 job.

Barkley was a fourth-round pick in 2013. He completed 30 of 50 passes for 300 yards and four interceptions in four games.

Edmonds, Fordham knock off Army

Associated Press

WEST POINT, N.Y. — Fordham turned a nightmare beginning into a dream ending — and put the big boys on notice again.

Chase Edmonds ran for 110 yards and three touchdowns, including a 10-yard rush to break a 29-29 tie with 12:04 left, and added 140 yards on six catches as Fordham stunned Army 37-35 in the opener for both teams Friday night.

Making his first start, Kevin Anderson threw for 266 of his 322 yards in the first half and finished 15-for-23 for the Rams, who beat Army for the first time in five games dating back to 1891 — when the Black Knights beat Fordham for the program's first win.

"We played as a family, and we were just so confident," said Anderson, who transferred from Marshall. "The whole time we just fought together as a team and it was just a family victory."

The Rams went up 37-29 on Edmonds' third touchdown and a two-point conversion. Army responded with a 27-yard touchdown pass from Ahmad Bradshaw to Edgar Poe — who earlier dropped a critical punt — to cut it to 37-35 with 2:33 to go. But Bradshaw's rush on the two-point conversion fell short, and Fordham recovered the onside kick with 2:32 to go.

"I thought we needed that onside kick to have a chance to win," Army coach Jeff Monken said.

Army did get the ball back with 55 seconds left, but Bradshaw threw incomplete

on fourth down to seal it for Fordham.

Also debuting, Bradshaw led the Army option with two touchdowns on 143 rushing yards and finished 6-for-14 in the air for 107 yards and a pair of touchdowns.

Overcoming that shaky start, Fordham led 27-21 at halftime and got a safety early in the third to lead 29-21. Army clawed back on a one-yard touchdown rush by Matt Giachinta with 4 minutes left, knotting it at 29 on a two-point conversion.

Coming off the Patriot League title and picked to repeat under fourth-year coach Joe Moorhead, Fordham also defeated FBS opponent Temple two years ago.

"It's a huge step for our program," Moorhead said. "I couldn't be more happy for these kids."

On Fordham's first play from scrimmage at its own 18, linebacker Bayle Wolf leveled Anderson and recovered the fumble, setting Army up with first-and-goal at the 8. Two plays later, Bradshaw attempted his first career pass — finding Joe Walker in the back of the end zone for a rare Army touchdown pass.

No. 4 Baylor 56, SMU 21: At Dallas, Seth Russell threw for 376 yards and five touchdowns and also ran for a score to help the fourth-ranked Bears open the season with a rout of the Mustangs.

The two-time defending Big 12 champion Bears finally got to start fresh after the long, long offseason that followed their playoff snub last season.

SMU played its first game for new coach Chad Morris, Clemson's offen-

sive coordinator the past four seasons. The Mustangs, who scored only 12 total points their first four games last season with a 45-0 loss at Baylor, had 21 points in the first 1 1/2 quarters.

Jay Lee had three TD catches for the Bears, who had 723 total yards.

Dual-threat quarterback Matt Davis had 166 yards passing and 115 rushing for SMU. But he was sacked on the final play of the first half with the Mustangs at the 3 and down only 28-21.

No. 5 Michigan State 37, Western Michigan 24: Madre London ran for two touchdowns in the first several minutes of his college career and the visiting Spartans built a big lead they needed to hold off the Broncos.

The Spartans had a 27-7 lead in the second quarter and were up by 24 points in the third in the opener for both teams. The Broncos pulled within 10 early in the fourth by putting together two long TD drives.

After giving up a field goal and having a three-and-out possession, Western Michigan drove to the Michigan State 7 with a chance to make the final minutes dramatic. Freshman cornerback Vayante Copeland, though, ended the suspense with an interception in the end zone.

The Spartans set a school record by scoring 30-plus points for the ninth straight game. They surpassed the 30-point mark in eight consecutive games, spanning the 1978 and 1979 season.

McCoy still optimistic

ORCHARD PARK, N.Y. — Though saying he's optimistic, running back LeSean McCoy wasn't prepared to announce whether his injured left hamstring will be healed in time for the Buffalo Bills' season opener against Indianapolis on Sept. 13.

"I feel good. It's just a matter of time," McCoy said Friday, while acknowledging he is still experiencing some pain when making certain cuts.

"We'll wait and see, see how everything plays out," he added, when asked how confident he was of playing. "I'm always confident. But I think it does matter that you're confident in your ability to make cuts."

McCoy spoke after taking part in limited on-field drills during a light practice for the first time since being hurt on Aug. 18.

Seahawks ink Jackson

A person familiar with the contract talks says the Seattle Seahawks and free-agent running back Fred Jackson have agreed to terms on a 1-year year.

Jackson, an eight-year veteran became a free agent Monday when the Bills cut the respected team leader and fan favorite. The Seahawks' interest in Jackson emerged when they learned that backup running back Robert Turbin suffered a significant high-ankle sprain last Saturday in a preseason game against San Diego. There is no estimate of when he'll be able to return.



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Williams keeps Grand Slam bid alive

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Even if her latest troublesome first set had finished only an hour earlier, it seemed a distant memory by the time Serena Williams smacked a cross-court forehand passing winner on the run and wound up doing the splits behind the baseline.

She leaned forward, yelled and shook both fists, victory nearly hers.

Yes, Williams knows as well as anyone that you can't count her out, no matter the deficit, no matter how the pressure might be mounting as she closes in on completing tennis' first true Grand Slam in 27 years.

Eight times this season at major tournaments, Williams has dropped the opening set. Eight times, she has won.

The latest comeback came in the third round of the U.S. Open on Friday night, when Williams figured out a way to deal with a tricky opponent and get her own game going before it was too late, eventually emerging to grab the last eight games for a 3-6, 7-5, 6-0 victory over American wild-card entry Bethanie Mattek-Sands.

"Getting out of it so many times definitely helps me," Williams said. "It's definitely not something I want to do, though."

Nadal blows 2-set lead

NEW YORK — For the first time in his career, Rafael Nadal lost a Grand Slam match after taking a two-set lead.

And for the first time since 2004, he will end a season without winning at least one Grand Slam title.

"The only thing it means," Nadal said about that streak coming to a close, "is I played amazing the last 10 years."

Once so seemingly invincible, able to run down every last ball and tough to slow down once out in front, Nadal was beaten 3-6, 4-6, 6-4, 6-3, 6-4 by 32nd-seeded Fabio Fognini of Italy in the third round of the U.S. Open.

"To win like that — against him, from two sets down — is something incredible," Fognini said, calling it a "mental victory."

The eighth-seeded Nadal's defeat, which finished at nearly 1:30 a.m. on Saturday, follows exits in the quarterfinals at the Australian Open and the French Open, then the second round at Wimbledon.

He said he must "accept that (it) was not my year."

Once ranked No. 1, he dropped as low as No. 10 in 2015, his lowest spot in a decade.

— Associated Press

Sure is. Williams ran her Grand Slam record to 24-0 in 2015, and 31-0 since her last defeat at a major, at Wimbledon in

June 2014.

At 5-all in the second set, Mattek-Sands was two games from completing the

upset. She would not win another game.

"She's a great closer," Mattek-Sands said. "Always has been."

After they left Arthur Ashe Stadium, Rafael Nadal failed to close out a victory despite taking the first two sets, the first time he has blown that big a lead in a Grand Slam match. The eighth-seeded Nadal's 3-6, 4-6, 6-4, 6-3, 6-4 loss to the 32nd-seeded Fabio Fognini of Italy also ends the Spaniard's 10-year streak of winning at least one major title per season. He lost in the quarterfinals at the Australian Open and the French Open, then the second round at Wimbledon.

The No. 1-ranked Williams, meanwhile, is trying to become the first tennis player since Steffi Graf in 1988 to win all four Grand Slam tournaments in the same season. And now that milestone is four wins away.

Add in her title last year in New York, and Williams is bidding for a fifth consecutive Grand Slam title and 22nd overall, which would equal Graf for the most in the professional era, which began in 1968, and second-most in history behind Margaret Court's 24.

Williams also can become the first woman since Chris Evert in 1975-78 to win four U.S. Opens in a row.

Dodgers smash 5 HRs in win over Padres

Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — Somehow, Dodgers manager Don Mattingly still seems surprised at his team's power.

Justin Ruggiano and Adrian Gonzalez hit two-run homers and Chase Utley added a solo blast in a five-run sixth inning as the Los Angeles Dodgers hit five homers in an 8-4 win over the San Diego Padres on Friday night.

Carl Crawford and rookie Scott Schebler added solo home runs as the Dodgers increased their NL West lead to a season-high 7½ games over San Francisco, which lost 2-1 at Colorado.

Los Angeles, which has won nine of 11, leads the NL with 162 home runs.

"We kind of said we weren't a home run-hitting club and we continue to hit them," Mattingly said.

Mike Bolsinger (6-3), who spent August with Triple-A Oklahoma City, allowed just two hits in five innings, but they were both home runs. Matt Kemp hit a two-run homer in the first and Jedd Gyorko had a solo home run in the third.

Bolsinger struck out six and walked two in his first start since July 29.

Mattingly implied before the game that this was an audition of sorts for Bolsinger in light of the troubles that Mat Latos has had since he came over in a trade from Miami.

"Whatever they want me to do, I will do it," Bolsinger said.

Padres pinch-hitter Brett Wallace hit a solo homer in the eighth as the teams tied the Petco Park record for combined home runs in one game with eight.

Marcos Mateo (1-1), who faced two batters to start the sixth inning, took the loss.

Dodgers rookie Corey Seager followed his successful major league debut with two more hits and an RBI. Seager had two hits and two RBIs in his first game on Thursday night.

In the sixth, San Diego interim manager Pat Murphy countered left-handed pinch-hitter Andre Ethier with southpaw Marc Rzepczynski. Dodgers manager Don Mattingly called back Ethier for the recently acquired Ruggiano, who hammered Rzepczynski's second pitch over the center-field wall to give the Dodgers a 5-3 lead.

Jimmy Rollins singled, and after a strikeout, Gonzalez connected off Rzepczynski for his 26th home run. Utley then homered off John Edwards to right to push the lead to 8-3.

"It's easy to point to right now when you have your sixth- and seventh-inning guys out with injuries," Murphy said. "It's hard to replace."

San Diego starter James Shields struggled to get through five innings. The right-hander allowed just three hits, but walked a season-high six batters and constantly had to pitch out of trouble.

Yankees 5, Rays 2: Rookie Luis Severino won his third

straight start and Alex Rodriguez hit his 681st career home run, sending host New York over the Tampa Bay on Friday night for its sixth win in seven games.

Brian McCann and Greg Bird also homered for the Yankees, who hold the top AL wild-card spot and are trying to catch East-leading Toronto. New York won with just four hits.

Evan Longoria hit his third homer in two games for the Rays, still on the edge of the wild-card race.

Orioles 10, Blue Jays 2: Chris Davis hit two home runs to take the major league lead with 40, Matt Wieters and Adam Jones both connected as visiting Baltimore cruised past Toronto.

Ubaldo Jimenez (10-9) pitched 52/3 innings for the victory as the Orioles won consecutive games for the first time since beating Oakland on Aug. 16-17.

Toronto's lead atop the AL East shrank to one-half game as the second-place New York Yankees beat Tampa Bay 5-2.

Astros 8, Twins 0: Collin McHugh went 7²/₃ innings and Hank Conger hit a grand slam as host Houston beat Minnesota.

McHugh (15-7) gave up seven hits and struck out six in picking up his second straight win. McHugh has allowed two runs or fewer in each of his last six starts.

Colby Rasmus had two hits, including a monstrous two-run homer into the upper deck in right field in the second inning to give the Astros a 3-0 lead.

Marlins 6, Mets 5 (11): Martin Prado's fifth hit of the game was a two-out double in the 11th inning that scored Christian Yelich from first base and gave Miami a victory over visiting New York.

The Mets tied the seesaw game with a run in the ninth but they stranded 13 runners, including three in the eighth and three more in the ninth.

Mets starter Jacob deGrom allowed nine hits and three runs in six innings. His ERA has climbed to 2.40 from 1.98 on Aug. 24, but he was in line for his 13th win before an uncharacteristically shaky showing by the bullpen in the seventh.

Indians 8, Tigers 1: Jerry Sands homered, tripled and scored twice, and Josh Tomlin pitched a four-hitter to lead visiting Cleveland.

The Indians have won 10 of 14 as they try to stay in the American League wild-card race. Detroit has lost seven of eight and been outscored 71-21 in that stretch.

Cubs 14, Diamondbacks 5: Anthony Rizzo hit a grand slam in host Chicago's eight-run fifth inning, and rookie Addison Russell homered twice for the first time in his career to back Jon Lester.

Rizzo's 28th homer was his second career grand slam. Russell has three homers in his last four games and 12 this season.

Red Sox 7, Phillies 5: Jackie Bradley Jr. hit a solo homer and David Ortiz an RBI double in host Boston's four-run sev-

enth inning as Joe Kelly won his seventh straight start.

Mookie Betts added an RBI double for Boston, which entered the weekend 10-1-2 in its last 13 series against the Phillies.

Nationals 5, Braves 2 (10): Michael Taylor had a pinch-hit three-run homer in the bottom of the 10th inning to lift host Washington.

Freddie Freeman had three hits for the Braves, who have lost 10 in a row for the first time since 2006.

White Sox 12, Royals 1: John Danks threw a seven-hitter and Adam Eaton matched his career high with four hits, including a three-run homer, to lead visiting Chicago.

Danks (7-12), who snapped a personal four-game losing streak, owns a 10-2 record in 21 career starts against the Royals. Three of his seven victories this season are over the AL Central-leading Royals.

Pirates 9, Cardinals 3: J.A. Happ pitched seven scoreless innings and Starling Marte drove in three runs to lead Pittsburgh past host St. Louis.

Happ allowed only three singles and won for the fourth time in six starts since being acquired from Seattle at the July 31 trade deadline. He retired 15 straight batters in one stretch, matched his season-high with eight strikeouts and walked none. Happ (4-1) lowered his ERA with the Pirates to 1.57.

Rockies 2, Giants 1: Nolan Arenado and Carlos Gonzalez hit consecutive homers in the first inning, backing a strong outing by Jorge De La Rosa as Colorado handed visiting San Francisco its seventh straight loss.

De La Rosa (9-6) allowed one run and six hits in seven innings. He didn't walk a batter and struck out seven. Two of the strikeouts came in the sixth inning, helping him get out of a jam and he induced an inning-ending double play grounder from Juan Perez after giving up a one-out single to Kelby Tomlinson in the seventh.

Angels 5, Rangers 2: C.J. Cron tripled, doubled, singled and drove in five runs as Los Angeles downed visiting Texas.

Garrett Richards (13-10) pitched five-hit ball into the seventh inning of his seventh consecutive win over Texas, and the Angels opened a homestand with their third straight win.

Shin-Soo Choo had an RBI triple in the seventh for the Rangers, who had won six of seven.

Mariners 11, Athletics 8: Logan Morrison had three hits, including a two-run double as part of Seattle's six-run third inning.

Kyle Seager and Stefen Romero both homered while Brad Miller drove in three runs for the Mariners, who won their third straight to clinch the season series between the division rivals.