

STARS AND STRIPES®

Sunday, September 6, 2015

A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

stripes.com

Navy set to move Marines to Guam in '21

BY WYATT OLSON

Stars and Stripes

The Department of the Navy has cleared the last regulatory hurdle for building infrastructure on Guam needed to relocate about 5,000 Marines and roughly 1,300 dependents from Okinawa.

After completing a record of decision on an environmental impact statement, the Navy is moving ahead with construction plans that could make way for the first Marines to move to the island in 2021, with the majority of them in place by 2023, said Cmdr. Daniel J. Schaan, director of the Joint Guam Program Office (Forward).

Many Okinawans have pushed for a reduction in U.S. Marines stationed on their island. However the original proposed relocation of about 8,600 Marines and 9,000 dependents from there to Guam met with opposition from some residents of the Micronesian island over population expansion and the

infringement upon areas that hold ancient indigenous Chamorro graves and archeological sites.

Some lawmakers in Congress balked at the cost of such a move.

In 2012, the U.S. and Japan agreed to move a smaller number of Marines to Guam, and the Navy altered parts of its plans for a base camp, family housing and a live-fire training complex. The amended plans call for a longer, less-intense construction period and limit construction to property already under U.S. federal government control.

Congress has approved spending \$8.725 billion for construction and relocation, although that figure can be adjusted for inflation, Schaan said.

The project has three primary components in different locations.

The first component is the cantonment to be built at the Naval Computer and Tele-

communications Station at Finegayan, which will be the Marines' primary base. The first step there is designing and constructing underground utilities.

"Once those are to the point of completion, then they start the vertical construction," Schaan said.

Family housing will be constructed on Andersen Air Force Base — a 10-year project that will also renovate existing Navy and Air Force housing to "leverage some efficiencies," Schaan said.

The live-fire training range will be on the northern tip of the island, where the Guam National Wildlife Refuge is located. The project includes a significant upgrade of Route 3A, which is a deteriorated road that leads to the refuge. It is a U.S. Department of Defense road that is leased to the government of Guam, Schaan said. The public will continue to have access to the road, he said.

Five ranges are planned, varying to accommodate weapon caliber and style. The ranges will be used for training of weapons up to .50 caliber.

"All the shooting is done from a stationary position, with a Marine standing or kneeling and shooting at a fixed target," Schaan said.

Earthen berms will be built to backstop the firing ranges, which are configured so that shooting is in the direction of the bay.

A so-called "surface danger zone" surrounds each range.

"That's basically a safety area," Schaan said. "In the event a round escapes the range, there's enough safety margin around the range that it won't adversely affect anyone."

Public access to the danger zones will be restricted only during live-fire training, he said.

Artillery will not be used on the ranges.

olson.wyatt@stripes.com
Twitter: @WyattWolson

Poland, US plan military exercise for '16 with 25K troops

BY JOHN VANDIVER

Stars and Stripes

SZCZECIN, Poland — Polish and U.S. Army Europe forces are planning a large-scale war game next summer ahead of a NATO summit in Warsaw. It is expected to be among the largest military exercises in recent years, Army leaders said.

Dubbed Anakonda 16, the exercise will take place at locations across Poland and will include a command element based in the U.S. While planning is still in the early stages, the effort is expected to involve about 25,000 troops and include several allied countries.

"This is all about deter-

rence," USAREUR's Lt. Gen. Ben Hodges said during a recent stop in Poland. "Deterrence is based on capability and demonstrating the ability to use it."

Standing beside the general commander of the Polish armed forces, Lt. Gen. Mirosław Rozanski, Hodges added: "If that means deterring a war, that's worth it."

During a quick visit to a Polish military base in Szczecin, U.S. Army leaders were briefed on the latest developments in the Anakonda exercise, another in a recent series of large-scale maneuvers involving USAREUR.

While some critics question

whether the U.S. and NATO's more robust training mission in eastern Europe is raising tensions with Russia, Hodges said the allies' efforts are a fraction of the size of Russian "snap" exercises that are conducted without any public notice.

Plans for the exercise in Poland come as Polish leaders are more insistently demanding increased NATO support, including NATO forces stationed permanently in the country, as advocated by newly elected Polish President Andrzej Duda.

That's controversial within NATO. Germany and some other countries view any such move as a violation of NATO agreements with Russia.

When asked whether he would favor seeing a permanent U.S. presence in Poland, Hodges stopped short of offering a personal view: "Maintaining the unity of the alliance is paramount over anything," he said.

U.S. plans to soon preposition tanks and other heavy weapons in Poland should be taken as a sign of U.S. commitment, Hodges said. Major exercises and a steady rotational presence of U.S. forces also send a signal of solidarity.

"We don't have to have five divisions in Europe to achieve that deterrent effect," he said.

vandiver.john@stripes.com

US warns Russia over aid to Assad

Associated Press

BEIRUT — Anti-government violence erupted Saturday in a southern Syrian province that largely had stayed on the sidelines of the country's civil war. Meanwhile, unconfirmed reports suggesting that Russia was planning to expand its military support for Syrian President Bashar Assad prompted a warning from the U.S. that such actions could lead to a confrontation with coalition forces.

The violence in Sweida province, a stronghold of the Druze minority sect, followed the killing of a prominent cleric in rare explosions Friday that claimed the lives of at least 25 others, activists and pro-government media said.

In Washington, the State Department issued a statement after Secretary of State John Kerry called Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov to express concern over unconfirmed reports "suggesting an imminent enhanced Russian military build-up" in Syria.

Japanese-American hero of WWII dies at age 98

CAMARILLO, Calif. — Ben Kuroki, who overcame the American military's discriminatory policies to become the only Japanese American to fly over Japan during World War II, has died. He was 98.

Kuroki died Tuesday at his Camarillo home, where he was under hospice care, his daughter, Julie Kuroki, told the Los Angeles Times on Saturday.

The son of Japanese immigrants who was raised on a Hershey, Neb., farm, Kuroki and his brother, Fred, volunteered for service after the Dec. 7, 1941, attack on Pearl Harbor.

They were initially rejected by recruiters who questioned the loyalty of the children of Japanese immigrants.

From The Associated Press

Injured former Marine offers tips on talking to wounded vets

BY SETH ROBSON

Stars and Stripes

Justin Constantine, a former Marine Corps Reserve officer who came home with severe facial injuries after surviving a sniper's bullet to the head in Habbaniyah, Iraq, in 2006, is used to the staring.

Those who speak to him are often uncomfortable, he said.

The disconnect between America's civilian population and those who have served in the military means people are often uncertain about how to interact with veterans who bear the visible scars of war.

Nine years and multiple surgeries later, the former judge advocate gives motivational speeches and works with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce to get jobs for wounded veterans and their caregivers.

But how do you talk to a wounded veteran?

Constantine, who will talk with servicemembers during a visit to Japan later this month, has drawn on his experiences to establish a set of parameters for talking to wounded veterans. The rules are designed to break down the issues in a way that's

respectful to everyone, he said.

He wrote down his rules for talking to wounded veterans after interacting with audience members during motivational speaking engagements.

The rules are:

■ Don't show pity. Treat us like everyone else. No wounded veteran wants to feel like they are pitied. We don't feel pity for ourselves. We are still here, we have survived and we are looking forward.

■ Don't bring up post-traumatic stress disorder. A lot of times it comes from a good place, but it is offensive. People assume from Hollywood movies and the news that everybody who comes back from Afghanistan has PTSD. I know what my triggers are and how to deal with situations that exacerbate my PTSD. If you went to war and didn't come back different, maybe there would be something wrong with that. If veterans want to talk about it with you, they will.

■ Don't make huge promises. Just be our friend. Wounded veterans get a lot of visits from politicians and community leaders who say stuff like, "Here's my card. Call me up and I will take

care of anything you need." A lot of times when veterans take people up on those offers, they aren't honored. We aren't asking for them in the first place, so don't bother making them.

■ Don't assume we are helpless. Do let us help you. We have had to work through the Veterans Administration and the Defense Department on retirement and compensation. We have juggled a lot of different balls. We are dealing with a ton of stuff on our own that other people aren't having to do. That can be an asset.

■ Don't ignore our caregivers. Involve them in conversation. They are the unsung heroes of war. There are now different caregiver groups, and there is an emphasis on them. For a long time, they weren't really recognized. All the attention was on the wounded vets, but without them, we wouldn't be having successful recoveries.

Constantine, who now lives in New York, is scheduled to speak Sept. 28-30 at Marine Corps Air Station Futenma and camps Kinser, Foster, Hansen and Schwab on Okinawa, and Oct. 2 at Camp Fuji on mainland Japan.

AF halts families' move to Incirlik

BY KENT HARRIS

Stars and Stripes

The Air Force has suspended the move of U.S. servicemembers' families to Incirlik Air Base in Turkey in light of increased worries of violence in the region.

The announcement, via a news bulletin issued Friday afternoon, came a day after the Defense and State departments decided to offer dependents at Incirlik and nearby Adana the option to fly back to the States.

"Military and civilian members with approved dependent

travel who have not yet out-processed from their current duty stations should contact their local military personnel sections or civilian personnel sections for guidance," the bulletin said. "Those with approved dependent travel who are already en route to Turkey should contact their losing personnel sections."

The decisions come as Turkey takes a bigger role in the fight against Islamic State militants, allowing U.S. fighter jets and drones to fly from Incirlik, as well as joining the airstrike campaign, themselves.

Statements issued on the possible evacuation of dependents have said there is no known specific threat against the base or its population, but the moves are being taken as a precautionary measure. The Islamic State group has continued to encourage its followers to carry out "lone wolf" attacks around the globe.

The evacuation offer issued Thursday was not mandatory, but would allow those interested in returning to the States to do so at government expense if they desired.

SEC West tops Pac-12 South in opener

Associated Press

In the only meeting of the season between teams from the two best divisions in college football, the SEC West was best.

One game in September is unlikely to swing the votes when the College Football Playoff selection committee makes its final decisions in December, but Texas A&M sent a message Saturday night about how the SEC West stacks up against the Pac-12 South with a 38-17 victory against No. 15 Arizona State in Houston.

The Aggies were one of two unranked teams in the seven-team SEC West to start the season, but this was no upset. The Sun Devils are expected to contend for the Pac-12 South title and A&M, with a reworked defense under new coordinator John Chavis, worked them over.

"We weren't ranked, but we were favored," Texas A&M coach Kevin Sumlin said. "I don't understand that."

Early season rankings can be weird. The Aggies looked like a team that will be factor in the SEC West race. If not, that will only make the division look better.

The SEC West dominated the rankings

for much of last season then ended it with a thud, going 2-5 in the bowls. The Pac-12 South went 4-1 in the postseason. Those results sparked talk of a power shift.

Not so fast. No. 3 Alabama slammed No. 20 Wisconsin 35-17 in Arlington, Texas, and No. 6 Auburn beat Louisville 31-24 in Atlanta. The SEC West swept Saturday's most intriguing games.

Arizona State's loss was part of generally disappointing opening weekend for the Pac-12 that had one very bright spot.

Josh Rosen was brilliant in his debut for No. 13 UCLA, answering any questions the Bruins might have had about handing a team that could contend for a Pac-12 title to an 18-year-old.

The Bruins' 34-16 win against Virginia came after four ugly losses by Pac-12 teams during the first three days of the season:

- Colorado fell 28-20 at Hawaii on Thursday night.

- Washington lost 16-13 at No. 23 Boise State on Friday night.

- Washington State lost 24-17 at home to Portland State of the FCS.

- No. 21 Stanford sleepwalked through a 16-6 loss at Northwestern.

But what Rosen did at the Rose Bowl might have been the biggest news of the weekend for the Pac-12's playoff prospects.

The Bruins were a bit of a disappointment last season at 10-3, but most of that team is back. And it's loaded with potential stars such as linebacker Myles Jack, defensive tackle Kenny Clark and running back Paul Perkins.

A hole at quarterback could sink a promising season, but Rosen, the southern California kid who was the top-rated QB in the class of 2015, looks like he will do just fine. He went 28 for 35 for 351 yards with three touchdowns and no interceptions against a Virginia secondary that is the strength of its team.

"Sometimes we were looking at each other, 'OK, how did he do that?'" UCLA receiver Thomas Duarte said.

A few missteps by Pac-12 North teams and South cellar-dweller Colorado are short-term embarrassments for the conference. Arizona State's loss to Texas A&M stings. Rosen's rise is a developing story that could produce long-term gains for the Bruins and the Pac-12.

In other college football games:

Air Force 63, Morgan State 7: Garrett Brown didn't look back during his 75-yard punt return for a touchdown.

He waited until after the game. That's when the Air Force speedster looked back and remembered how close his high-light-reel return came to never happening.

"I mean, I almost fair caught it," Brown said, with a grin.

His punt return for a touchdown was the Falcons first in six years, and it was just a small part of a lopsided win.

The Falcons saw 16 different players carry the ball for a total of 394 yards.

Navy 48, Colgate 10: As teams focus on shutting down Navy's dynamic quarterback Keenan Reynolds, other players — such as fullback Chris Swain — are ready to show they can be just as dangerous.

Swain rumbled for a career-high 126 yards, including a 52-yard touchdown, and host Navy cruised over Colgate 48-10 in the opener for both teams Saturday.

It was an overall solid performance by the Midshipmen in preparation for their inaugural season in the American Athletic Conference that begins Sept. 19 against East Carolina.

How the AP Top 25 fared

1 Ohio St. at Virginia Tech, Monday. The Buckeyes will be looking to avenge last season's 35-21 home loss against the Hokies, while Virginia Tech will be trying to state its case as a program that has returned to the conversation about college football's elite after three consecutive mediocre seasons.

Next: vs. Hawaii, Saturday.

2 TCU (1-0) beat Minnesota 23-17, Thursday. At Minneapolis, Trevone Boykin threw for 246 yards and a touchdown and ran for 92 yards and another score to help the Horned Frogs.

Next: vs. Stephen F. Austin, Saturday.

3 Alabama (1-0) beat No. 20 Wisconsin 35-17. At Arlington, Texas, Derrick Henry ran for 147 yards and three touchdowns and Jake Coker was 15-for-21 for 213 yards and a touchdown while playing until late in the third quarter for the Crimson Tide.

Next: vs. Middle Tennessee, Saturday.

4 Baylor (1-0) beat SMU 56-21, Friday. At Dallas, new starting quarterback Seth Russell accounted for six touchdowns, with three of his five scoring passes to Jay Lee, and the Bears finally broke out in the second half.

Next: vs. Lamar, Saturday.

5 Michigan St. (1-0) beat Western Michigan 37-24, Friday. At Kalamazoo, Mich., Madre London ran for two touchdowns in the first several minutes of his college career to help Michigan State build a big lead they needed to hold off Western Michigan.

Next: vs. No. 7 Oregon, Saturday.

6 Auburn (1-0) beat Louisville 31-24. At Atlanta, Will Muschamp's defense made a couple of huge plays early for the Tigers to offset three interceptions by Jeremy Johnson.

Next: vs. Jacksonville State, Saturday.

7 Oregon (1-0) beat Eastern Washington 61-42. At Eugene, Ore., Vernon Adams

threw for two touchdowns but left his much-anticipated debut after a scary fourth-quarter hit, and Oregon beat his former team. Adams was ushered to the locker room after he staggered getting up from a late hit by Eastern Washington's John Kreifels, who was ejected.

Next: at No. 5 Michigan State, Saturday.

8 Southern Cal (1-0) beat Arkansas State 55-6. At Los Angeles, Cody Kessler passed for 236 yards and four touchdowns and Tre Madden rushed for 106 yards and a score for the Trojans.

Next: vs. Idaho, Saturday.

9 Georgia (1-0) beat Louisiana-Monroe 51-14. At Athens, Ga., Georgia won a game that was called off with just less than 10 minutes left because of lightning in the area. Nick Chubb and Keith Marshall each ran for two touchdowns for the Bulldogs.

Next: at Vanderbilt, Saturday.

10 Florida State (1-0) beat Texas State 59-16. At Tallahassee, Fla., Everett Golson threw four touchdown passes, matching his career high, in his Florida State debut. The graduate transfer from Notre Dame was 19-for-25 for 302 yards.

Next: at South Florida, Saturday.

11 Notre Dame (1-0) beat Texas 38-3. At South Bend, Ind., Malik Zaire passed for 313 yards in his first home start, and the Irish held Texas to 163 yards of total offense. Zaire was 19-for-22 passing with three touchdowns.

Next: at Virginia, Saturday.

12 Clemson (1-0) beat Wofford 49-10. At Clemson, S.C., Deshaun Watson threw for 194 yards and two touchdowns, and Clemson overcame a scary injury to star receiver Mike Williams, who was carted off the field after hitting the goalpost support and spraining his neck on a 4-yard touchdown reception in the first half.

Next: vs. Appalachian State, Saturday.

13 UCLA (1-0) beat Virginia 34-16. At

Pasadena, Calif., heralded freshman Josh Rosen passed for 351 yards and three touchdowns in a stellar debut for the Bruins.

Next: at UNLV, Saturday.

14 LSU (0-0) vs. McNeese State, cancelled due to lightning. At Baton Rouge, La., persistent lightning strikes forced officials to cancel LSU's season opener with McNeese State following a delay of nearly four hours.

Next: at Mississippi State, Saturday.

15 Arizona State (0-1) lost to Texas A&M 38-17. At Houston, Kyle Allen threw for a score early and sealed the game for the Aggies by running for a touchdown and throwing for another in the fourth quarter after being benched for freshman Kyler Murray.

Next: vs. Cal Poly, Saturday.

16 Georgia Tech (1-0) beat Alcorn State 69-6, Thursday. At Atlanta, freshman Marcus Marshall ran for 184 yards and two long touchdowns in his college debut, and transfer Patrick Skov scored three TDs in his first game for the Yellow Jackets.

Next: vs. Tulane, Saturday.

17 Mississippi (1-0) beat UT Martin 76-3. At Oxford, Miss., Chad Kelly, a junior transfer who is the nephew of Pro Football Hall of Famer Jim Kelly, threw for 211 yards and two touchdowns and scored on a 20-yard run.

Next: vs. Fresno State, Saturday.

18 Arkansas (1-0) beat UTEP 48-13. At Fayetteville, Ark., Brandon Allen threw for a career-high 308 yards and matched his best with four touchdown passes for Arkansas. Allen threw for 256 yards and all four touchdowns in the first half.

Next: vs. Toledo at Little Rock, Ark., Saturday.

19 Oklahoma (1-0) beat Akron 41-3. At Norman, Okla., Baker Mayfield passed for 388 yards, a school record for a season

opener, and three touchdowns, and Joe Mixon had 142 yards from scrimmage for the Sooners.

Next: at No. 25 Tennessee, Saturday.

20 Wisconsin (0-1) lost to No. 3 Alabama 35-17. At Arlington, Texas, the Badgers were held to 40 yards rushing, their lowest total since 19 against Michigan State on Oct. 27, 2012.

Next: vs. Miami (Ohio), Saturday.

21 Stanford (0-1) lost to Northwestern 16-6. At Evanston, Ill., freshman Clayton Thorson ran 42 yards for a touchdown while playing turnover-free ball at quarterback, and Justin Jackson added 134 yards rushing for the Wildcats.

Next: vs. UCF, Saturday.

22 Arizona (1-0) beat UTSA 42-32, Thursday. At Tucson, Ariz., Anu Solomon threw four touchdown passes to help the Wildcats roll, but Arizona suffered a blow when All-American linebacker Scooby Wright went out with a left knee injury.

Next: at Nevada, Saturday.

23 Boise State (1-0) beat Washington 16-13, Friday. At Boise, Idaho, Jeremy McNichols rushed for 89 yards and two first-half touchdowns, and the Cowboys withstood a second half filled with special teams mistakes.

Next: at BYU, Saturday.

24 Missouri (1-0) beat Southeast Missouri 34-3. At Columbia, Mo., Kentrell Brothers had a career-best 16 tackles and blocked a punt that was returned for a touchdown and Maty Mauk threw two touchdown passes in the first quarter.

Next: at Arkansas State, Saturday.

25 Tennessee (1-0) beat Bowling Green 59-30. At Nashville, Tenn., Jalen Hurd had three first-half touchdown runs for Tennessee and Alvin Kamara ran for two more scores in a game delayed 80 minutes by lightning in the third quarter.

Next: vs. No. 19 Oklahoma, Saturday.



Ship's Store official new car program

Exclusive Navy at-sea offers:

www.navyauto.com or nasinfo@navyauto.com

Tebow among notable NFL cuts

Associated Press

Tim Tebow is the biggest name among NFL cuts for the second time in three years.

Tebow had seemingly won the No. 3 QB job when Philadelphia traded Matt Barkley to Arizona on Friday.

But coach Chip Kelly cut the unconventional quarterback who showed improved accuracy since his first stint in the NFL.

"We felt Tim has progressed, but we didn't feel he was good enough to be the (No.) 3 right now," Kelly said.

Tebow last played in a regular-season game in 2012 with the Jets, who traded for him a day after Peyton Manning went to Denver. The Patriots cut Tebow in 2013 when he failed to win a job as Tom Brady's backup, and Tebow spent last year in the broadcast booth.

Tebow finished the preseason 21 of 36 for 286 yards, two TDs and one interception. He also ran for 82 yards and a score.

"He really improved his throwing motion when he was throwing a couple of years ago," Kelly said. "He worked extremely hard on it and deserves a lot of credit for that."

Just not a roster spot.

Tebow was among more than 700 players cut across the NFL on Saturday as teams trimmed their rosters to 53.

Other quarterbacks who were jettisoned were veterans Matt Cassel (Buffalo), Rex Grossman (Falcons), Christian Ponder (Raiders) and Matt Flynn, who hopes to return to the Jets after Week 1, when his salary wouldn't be guaranteed.

"For now, it's #bloodymary time," Flynn

tweeted along with a photo of a cocktail garnished with celery, olives and two strips of bacon.

One quarterback who isn't looking for work is Robert Griffin III, who lost his starting job in Washington to Kirk Cousins in the preseason but not his roster spot.

Other notable players whose phones buzzed with that dreaded call to turn in their team-issued tablets included:

■ WR Reggie Wayne, who caught two passes in the preseason after joining the Patriots in mid-August.

■ Veteran CB Will Blackmon, who was released by the Seahawks, as surprising decision as it appeared he was in line to be Seattle's starting nickel cornerback.

■ DL Darnell Dockett after the 49ers gave him \$2 million guaranteed.

■ MLB Jameel McClain, who led the Giants last year with 117 tackles.

■ Bengals DT Devon Still, whose daughter Leah's cancer went into remission this spring.

■ RB Jonas Gray, who never got out of Bill Belichick's dog house after oversleeping and missing practice a few days after his 199-yard rushing performance against Indianapolis last season.

■ WR James Jones, who was cut by the Giants but should draw interest, particularly from his former team, the Packers, who lost Jordy Nelson to a season-ending knee injury last month.

■ Titans WR Hakeem Nicks, a former first-round draft pick of the Giants who played in Indy last season.

■ DE IK Enemkpali, who gained infamy by breaking Jets QB Geno Smith's jaw last month but got released by the Bills.

■ Veteran K Nick Novak, released by the San Diego Chargers after being beaten out by rookie Josh Lambo.

The Texans cut three "Hard Knocks" favorites: CB/RB Charles James, OLB Kourtnei Brown, whose 69-yard pick-6 against Denver failed to keep him from getting released from his sixth NFL team, and WR EZ Nwachukwu.

For all the noteworthy cuts, there were some pretty prominent keeps Saturday.

Former Australian rugby league star Jarryd Hayne made the 49ers' roster. The 27-year-old rookie return man made good on his goal nearly a year after leaving his old sport to chase his NFL dream in a quest that captivated his homeland 7,000 miles away.

Ex-Raiders quarterback Terrelle Pryor made the Browns' roster as a wide receiver despite catching zero passes in the preseason, and the San Francisco 49ers kept linebacker Ahmad Brooks, who's facing a misdemeanor sexual battery charge, on the active roster.

Yale running back Tyler Varga made the Colts roster, the 17th consecutive year Indy has kept an undrafted college free agent on its 53-man roster. The next two longest streaks — Kansas City (12 years) and Denver (11) — both ended.

The cruelest cuts actually were to come Sunday, when teams scouring the waiver wire find a better fit for their roster and jilt a player who just celebrated surviving the "final" cut down.

"It's always fluid," Broncos GM John Elway said. "It'll be fluid throughout the season."

Federer advances at US Open

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Roger Federer might not be so keen to try out his old-dog-new-trick, rush-the-net "SABR" — "sneak attack by Roger" — return strategy against his next opponent at the U.S. Open.

"I don't think so," Federer said. "I can always try. But it's probably not the right guy to do it against."

That's because the second-seeded Federer, who advanced Saturday by beating 29th-seeded Philipp Kohlschreiber of Germany 6-3, 6-4, 6-4, will have to deal with 6-foot-10 American John Isner and his massive serve in the fourth round.

"The idea is not to use it very much against a player like that," Federer said about his innovative and risky approach to attacking second serves, racing forward as the ball arrives to pluck it off the ground with what amounts to a half-volley.

The 13th-seeded Isner moved on when Jiri Vesely of the Czech Republic retired because of a neck injury after dropping the first two sets.

Vesely is the 16th player — 14 men, two women — to stop during a match at this year's U.S. Open because of injury or illness, a record for a major tournament in the Open era, which began in 1968.

Isner is one of two U.S. men left, because 68th-ranked Donald Young came all the way back to eliminate 22nd-seeded Viktor Troicki of Serbia 4-6, 0-6, 7-6 (3), 6-2, 6-4. Young had never won a match after losing the first two sets until Tuesday, when he did it against 11th-seeded Gilles Simon in the first round.

No. 3 Andy Murray beat No. 30 Thomaz Bellucci 6-3, 6-2, 7-5 in the last match of the day.

Three past major champions in the women's draw won Saturday afternoon — No. 5 Petra Kvitova, No. 20 Victoria Azarenka and No. 22 Sam Stosur. No. 2 Simona Halep, the 2014 French Open runner-up, beat qualifier Shelby Rogers of the U.S. 6-2, 6-3 to open the night session.

Santana leads Twins past Astros

Associated Press

HOUSTON — For the second time in six days, Ervin Santana beat Lance McCullers and the Houston Astros.

Santana pitched eight strong innings and Eddie Rosario hit a tiebreaking two-run triple in the ninth inning to help the Minnesota Twins hold on for a 3-2 victory over the Astros on Saturday night.

Santana (4-4) gave up just one run and six hits, walking two and striking out a season-high 11.

"Everything was working pretty good," Santana said. "I was working down in the zone and mixing all of my pitches."

After Santana's rocky August, his manager is delighted by the pitcher's recent form as the Twins make a push for the playoffs.

"We're hungry for good starts and the more we get from here on out the better our chances are going to be," Twins manager Paul Molitor said. "He's put a couple back-to-back for us."

Santana made his season debut in July after serving an 80-game suspension for steroids.

"Missing the first half of the season we're hoping for a fresh arm here on out and the last two starts have been really solid," Molitor said.

Santana again outpitched the Astros' Lance McCullers after pitching seven shutout innings in the Twins' 7-5 win last Sunday.

"Two times in a row he's really been tough on us," Houston manager A.J. Hinch said.

Mets 7, Marlins 0: Bartolo Colon was in such control against host Miami, he

took a chance and made a play for the highlights.

Colon pitched a nine-hitter and made a nifty behind-the-back toss on a grounder, and New York hit three homers in the victory over the Marlins.

In the bottom of the sixth, Colon fielded Justin Bour's slow-rolling grounder near the first-base line and flipped the ball behind his back to first base as he crossed the line to end the inning.

Blue Jays 5, Orioles 1: David Price earned his 100th career victory, Jose Bautista hit his 32nd home run of the season and host Toronto beat Baltimore.

Rays 3, Yankees 2: Didi Gregorius lined out with the bases loaded to end the eighth inning and whipped his bat toward the dugout, a telling sign of frustration for the host Yankees during a costly loss.

New York, which leads the AL wild-card race, fell 1½ games behind first-place Toronto in the AL East.

Brewers 8, 7; Reds 6, 3: Rookie Shane Peterson hit his first career home run, Elian Herrera added his second homer of the day and Ariel Pena got the win in his major league debut as Milwaukee completed a sweep of their day-night doubleheader against host Cincinnati.

Milwaukee won the opener of the day-night doubleheader 8-6.

Cubs 2, Diamondbacks 0: Jake Arrieta pitched eight innings of four-hit ball for his major league-best 18th win to lead host Chicago.

Red Sox 9, Phillies 2: David Ortiz hit his 496th career home run, reaching 30 in a season for a team-record ninth time as host Boston beat Philadelphia.

Cardinals 4, Pirates 1: Jaime Garcia

pitched seven scoreless innings, Matt Carpenter homered and host St. Louis beat Pittsburgh.

Tigers 6, Indians 0: Alfredo Simon pitched seven strong innings and J.D. Martinez homered as slumping host Detroit beat Cleveland.

Nationals 8, Braves 2: Bryce Harper had three hits, including his 33rd home run, and Gio Gonzalez tossed six scoreless innings to lead host Washington to its fourth straight win.

White Sox 6, Royals 1: Jose Quintana pitched seven scoreless innings and Alexei Ramirez hit a three-run homer for visiting Chicago.

Giants 7, Rockies 3: Jake Peavy doubled twice and pitched into the sixth inning, and visiting San Francisco snapped a seven-game losing streak.

Dodgers 2, Padres 0: Alex Wood pitched seven strong innings, and Carl Crawford and Joc Pederson had run-scoring hits to lead visiting Los Angeles.

Rangers 2, Angels 1: Derek Holland allowed three hits over eight innings and Rowned Odor hit a tiebreaking sacrifice fly in the eighth to lead visiting Texas.

Mariners 8, Athletics 3: Felix Hernandez pitched eight strong innings, Robinson Cano drove in two runs, and visiting Seattle won its fourth straight.

Logan Morrison and Shawn O'Malley each homered as the Mariners matched their season-best win streak from May 8-12, which included a three-game sweep of Oakland.

Mark Trumbo, Kyle Seager and Brad Miller also drove in runs.

Johnson retains flyweight title at UFC 191 in Vegas

LAS VEGAS — Demetrious Johnson unanimously outpointed John Dodson on Saturday night at UFC 191 to retain the flyweight title.

Johnson (23-2) received winning scores of 49-46, 49-46 and 50-45 from the judges. Dodson dropped to 17-7.

The fight was a rematch between the two lightning fast fighters, with Johnson winning the first bout by unanimous decision.

Johnson pressed forward for much of the first round, with Dodson trying to maintain his range and keep his distance. Neither landed significant early strikes.

Johnson's momentum carried into the fourth round and the champion began landing heavier combinations with consistency. By the end of the fourth, Dodson's offense had slowed, his nose was bloodied and his face was beginning to swell. Johnson maintained control in the fifth and final round, taking Dodson down multiple times and often finding a home for his straight right hand. Johnson was able to limit most of Dodson's offense throughout the fight and control the action to earn the decision.

The Associated Press