

# STARS AND STRIPES®

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A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

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SEPT. 11: 14 YEARS LATER

## 'We will always remember'

Pentagon officials mark 9/11 attacks with family members, survivors

BY COREY DICKSTEIN  
*Stars and Stripes*

ARLINGTON, Va. — Beneath a bright-blue September sky similar to the one 14 years ago, Pentagon leaders Friday morning joined with family members of those who perished in the attacks on Sept. 11, 2001, to honor their memories and pledge continued vigilance in the fight against terror.

"Terrorists who hope to intimidate us will find no satisfaction and no success in threatening the United States," Defense Secretary Ash Carter told those gathered at the Pentagon Memorial, a collection of trees and benches just southwest of the Pentagon dedicated to the 184 who died there. "Because not only do we come back by living in honor of those we have lost, we come back stronger than before."

Carter and Air Force Gen. Paul Selva, the vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, made their way slowly through the large crowd to speak with those who survived the Sept. 11 terror attacks — many of whom

helped pull others from the Pentagon rubble — and those whose loved ones died.

The airplane attacks that morning that killed nearly 3,000 people at the Pentagon, the World Trade Center in New York and in a Pennsylvania field spawned a generation of young American men and women whose lives would drastically change in its wake. For hundreds of thousands, Selva said, witnessing those murders moved them to vow "to put their lives on the line for the concepts of freedom and liberty that we hold dear."

"Today offers all of us an opportunity to rededicate our lives to those causes," he said.

Speaking at a public ceremony later in the afternoon, Carter thanked servicemembers for their efforts on the battlefield and back home. He compared those who have served over the last 14 years and continue today to the veterans of World War II, the greatest generation.

"Never for a moment should we forget our own greatest generation — the men

and women who, in our own time, served, sacrificed and voluntarily answered our country's call in Kandahar and Korengal (Afghanistan), in Fallujah and Tal Abad (Iraq), and in so many forbidding corners of the world," Carter said. "They served with honor, courage and excellence. Each of our lives — and the life of this nation — is richer because of their example."

Americans, Carter said, will continue to persevere in the face of evil.

"You have shown us how to persevere, how to move forward, how to memorialize those we have lost in what we make of our lives," Carter told the private crowd at the Pentagon Memorial. "So today and all days, we honor and remember your loved ones. Because of the example you have set for each of us, for our American family, you have our deepest admiration and appreciation."

"Within this community, we will never forget. We will always remember. We will continue to honor the memory of those you have lost with the work we accomplish together."

## Navy: Deployment of Gerald R. Ford may wait 2 years

*The (Norfolk, Va.) Virginian-Pilot*

The Navy's newest and most expensive aircraft carrier, the Gerald R. Ford, is expected to be delivered in early 2016, but it may not deploy for two years, a senior Navy officer said Thursday.

The delay is caused by orders last month from the Pentagon that the \$13 billion ship undergo shock tests before it can be approved for active duty, Rear Adm. Jeffrey Harley, assistant deputy chief of naval operations, told a House subcommittee in Washington.

The tests involve setting off live explosives near the vessel to ensure its equipment

and systems can withstand the blasts.

The Ford's delay "does have a significant impact" on the Navy's desire to return to an 11-carrier fleet, Harley told the readiness subcommittee of the House Armed Services Committee.

The Navy, which has operated with 10 carriers since December 2012, when the Enterprise was retired, has said the return of the 11th flattop gives it the force strength needed to adopt a steady rotation with deployments of reasonable length.

The goal has been to have two carriers deployed with three others ready to "surge" should

they be needed. Other carriers would be at various stages of preparation or repair.

The Ford delay "does modify our ability to restore our plus-three surge capacity by a designated period of time that is still under review by Fleet Forces Command," he said.

Harley said Navy officials are looking for ways to adjust their operations "to get back to the two-carrier deployed and three capable."

After the hearing, Capt. Thom Burke, director of fleet readiness, told the independent U.S. Naval Institute News that the length of the Ford's delay would depend on the test results.

"A shock trial is an uncertain event. What's going to break when you do it?" Burke told USNI News. "Why do you do a shock trial? You do it because it's a brand new class of ship. If it goes to design, then nothing breaks, and you don't have that two years. But if a lot of things end up needing to be repaired, then it's going to be longer. So it's pretty uncertain; it's a big window."

The Ford delay comes at a time when the Navy has been feeling the pressure of a smaller carrier force as it deals with longer deployments that add stress to crews and cause greater wear and tear on equipment.

## Marines won't arm recruiters

Chattanooga (Tenn.) Times  
Free Press

The U.S. Marines will not arm recruiters in the wake of the July 16 attack in Chattanooga, officials confirmed Wednesday.

"Arming Marine recruiters would interfere with recruiter interaction with the public in many places, such as on school campuses and in the homes of prospective applicants," Jim Edwards, Marine Corps Recruiting Command deputy director of public affairs, wrote in an email. "Recruiters showing up armed is not going to make either educators or parents comfortable."

Instead, officials will consider other security upgrades, such as adding security cameras; remote-locking doors; or ballistic protection, such as movable shields and desk partitions to protect recruiters during possible future attacks like the one in Chattanooga, in which a lone gunman attacked two military sites in the city and killed five servicemembers.

### Training crash in Calif. kills 1 Marine, injures 18

SAN DIEGO — Marine Corps officials say six Marines are in critical condition a day after a rollover accident at Camp Pendleton, Calif., killed one Marine and injured 18.

The Marine Corps said in a statement Friday that the Marines are being treated at five hospitals in San Diego County.

Officials say eight of the Marines are in stable condition and four were treated and discharged from medical facilities.

The Marine who was killed was from the 1st Marine Division, and that person's name will not be released until 24 hours after relatives are notified.

From The Associated Press

# Study shows women's combat skills inferior to those of men

The Washington Post

Women in a new Marine Corps unit created to assess how female servicemembers perform in combat were injured twice as often as men, were less accurate with infantry weapons and were not as good at removing wounded troops from the battlefield, according to the results of a long-awaited study produced by the service.

The research was carried out by the service in a nine-month experiment at Camp Lejeune, N.C., and Twentynine Palms, Calif. About 400 Marines, including 100 women, volunteered to join the Ground Combat Element Integrated Task Force, the unit created to compare how men and women do in a combat environment.

"This is unprecedented research across the services," said Marine Col. Anne Weinberg, the deputy director of the Marine Corps Force Innovation Office. "What we tried to get to is what is that individual's contribution to the collective unit. We all fight as units ... We're more interested in how the Marine Corps fights as units and how that combat effectiveness is either advanced or degraded."

The study, an executive summary of which was released Thursday, was carried out as all the services prepare to submit recommendations to Defense Secretary Ash Carter this fall on whether any jobs should be kept closed to women. In a landmark decision in January 2013, then-Defense Secretary Leon Panetta rescinded a decades-old ban on women serving in combat jobs like infantry, but gave the services until this fall to research how they wanted to better integrate women and if any jobs should be kept closed.

The Pentagon faces increasing pressure to fully integrate women following the historic Aug. 21 graduation of two female officers from the Army's Ranger School. The famously difficult school was opened on an experimental basis this spring, with 1st Lt. Shaye Haver, 25, and Capt. Kristen Griest, 26, completing the requirements. Sixteen other women who attempted the course failed, while one other woman remained in the school's third and final phase at Eglin Air Force Base as of last week.

The Marine Corps' research will serve as fodder for those who are against fully integrating women. It found that all-male squads, teams and crews demonstrated better performance on 93 of 134 tasks evaluated (69 percent) than units with women in them. Units comprising all men also were faster than units with women while completing tactical movements in combat situations, especially in units with large, "crew-served" weapons like heavy machine guns and mortars, the study found.

Infantry squads comprising men only also had better accuracy than squads with women in them, with "a notable difference between genders for every individual weapons system" used by infantry rifleman units. They include the M4 carbine, the M27 infantry automatic rifle (IAR) and the M203, a single-shot grenade launcher mounted to rifles, the study found.

Marine officials said they anticipated publishing the lengthy study online in coming days.

Ellen Haring, a reserve Army colonel and vocal advocate for fully integrating the military, said the results of the Marine Corps' research are not surprising. The service was told to assess how individual women do in combat situations, but the task force instead assessed groups with average female Marines — rather than high performers — in them.

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## DIA chief: Iraq, Syria may not survive

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Iraq and Syria may have been permanently torn asunder by war and sectarian tensions, the head of the Defense Intelligence Agency said Thursday in a frank assessment that is at odds with Obama's administration policy.

"I'm having a tough time seeing it come back together," Lt. Gen. Vincent Stewart told an industry conference, speaking of Iraq and Syria, both of which have seen large chunks of territory seized by the Islamic State

group.

On Iraq, Stewart said he is "wrestling with the idea that the Kurds will come back to a central government of Iraq," suggesting he believed it was unlikely. On Syria, he added: "I can see a time in the future where Syria is fractured into two or three parts."

That is not the U.S. goal, he said, but it's looking increasingly likely.

CIA Director John Brennan, speaking on the same panel, noted that the countries' borders remain in place, but the governments have lost control of them. A self-declared caliphate by the Islamic State group straddles the border between both countries.

Iraqis and Syrians now more often identify themselves by tribe or religious sect, rather than by their nationality, he said.

"I think the Middle East is going to be seeing change over the coming decade or two that is going to make it look unlike it did," Brennan said.

# Same old Patriots win NFL opener

Associated Press

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. — Not much new in the NFL season opener.

Tom Brady was unstoppable, and so was Rob Gronkowski.

Some unheralded players put on New England jerseys and looked like stars.

The opposing coach, Pittsburgh's Mike Tomlin, raised suspicions about something untoward going on at Gillette Stadium.

A 28-21 victory for the Patriots wasn't nearly that close, and the sellout crowd of 66,829, braving a persistent rain Thursday night, got just about everything it wanted. The pregame ceremony celebrated New England's four Super Bowl crowns; Brady was behind center after his four-game suspension from the NFL in the deflated balls saga was vacated by a federal judge; and the home team unveiled some new weapons.

"I was pretty excited," said Brady, who has 161 wins as a starting quarterback, most in NFL history. "I think the regulars around here always can be pretty excited, especially running out there in pregame."

"You have one week and you put everything you can into it for that one three-

hour performance."

Brady certainly put in everything the Patriots could hope for, which does not bode well for the rest of the NFL. Nor do some of the other things we saw against the undermanned and generally ineffective Steelers.

**GRONK:** Gronkowski was dynamic with five catches for 94 yards and touchdowns of 16, 6 and 1 yard. He broke a tackle after catching a short pass in the flat on the first score; beat two defenders into the back of the end zone for the 6-yarder; and recovered a fumble by running back Dion Lewis at the Steelers 1 before his final score.

The All-Pro tight end had not played in the preseason.

"It was the first game of the year and I'm not going to say I was in top-notch shape," he said. "It's different when you go out there and play for real versus other opponents that are very good. I'm definitely a little rusty in some spots."

Sounds ominous. So does having another dangerous tight end, Scott Chandler, to complement him. Chandler had a 1-yard TD catch.

**WHO'S THAT?:** Not an unusual question around the Patriots, who've

gotten contributions from obscure players throughout their successful run. Remember Malcolm Butler in the Super Bowl; the Seahawks surely do. Or running back Jonas Gray from his one-hit wonder last season?

Thursday night it was Dion Lewis, a fourth-year running back out of Pitt signed away from the Eagles as a free agent, and rookie center David Andrews, who was not drafted. Andrews stepped in for regular snapper Bryan Stork, who is injured, and did a very solid job. Lewis followed Andrews and several other young blockers up front to gain 69 yards rushing and 51 receiving.

"We had eight rookies play and they all contributed," coach Bill Belichick said. "Hopefully they'll get better."

**SAY WHAT?:** Pittsburgh coach Mike Tomlin isn't saying the Patriots messed around with Steelers coaches' headsets in the first half. He's just saying it does seem to happen a lot when he plays in New England.

"We were listening to the Patriots radio broadcast for the majority of the first half on our headsets," Tomlin said.

Tomlin told reporters that Pittsburgh coaches "always" have trouble with their

communication systems in New England.

A league spokesman said the interference was "caused by a stadium power infrastructure issue, which was exacerbated by the inclement weather."

And the Patriots said they had problems with their headsets, too.

"We deal with that, it seems like, weekly," Belichick said.

Other teams in the league have been suspicious of the Patriots at least since 2007, when the league caught coach Bill Belichick illegally taping opposing coaches' signals. The team's reputation took another hit last season when the Indianapolis Colts questioned whether the footballs New England used in the AFC title game were properly inflated.

**TORN CURTAIN:** Pittsburgh's defense never looked formidable. At times, it was more of a Steel Sieve than a Steel Curtain.

Brady had wide-open receivers nearly all night, going 25 of 32 for 288 yards. Lewis had his big production.

"I thought we got a little frazzled at times," Tomlin said. Some of the young people have got to get better in a hurry."

## Cowboys' Hardy won't challenge four-game ban

IRVING, Texas — Suspended Dallas defensive end Greg Hardy won't challenge the NFL in federal court over his four-game ban for his role in a domestic violence case.

Hardy said in a statement released through the NFL Players Association on Thursday that he is "absolutely determined that my issue is not going to be a distraction for the Cowboys."

The former Carolina player was suspended 10 games by Commissioner Roger Goodell after the league concluded through evidence obtained from his trial in North Carolina that he roughed up his former girlfriend, Nicole Holder, in May 2014. An arbitrator reduced the suspension on appeal.

Hardy was convicted by a judge last year, but the conviction was thrown out on appeal in February when Holder couldn't be located to testify in a jury trial. Hardy missed all but one game with Carolina last year while on the commissioner's exempt list, but received his \$13 million salary. Hardy's decision comes after a federal judge threw out New England quarterback Tom Brady's four-game suspension in the "Deflategate" scandal. Hardy will be eligible to return when the Patriots visit the Cowboys on Oct. 11.

"While I am terribly disappointed to miss the first four games of this season, I am absolutely determined that my issue is not going to be a distraction for the Cowboys," Hardy said.

Associated Press

# Panthers open wallet, make Kuechly highest-paid in MLB

Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Luke Kuechly celebrated becoming the NFL's highest-paid middle linebacker by heading back into the film room to study more tape of the Jacksonville Jaguars.

"Then I will go to sleep and do it all over again tomorrow," Kuechly said at a press conference Thursday night.

That's pretty much the Carolina Panthers fourth-year linebacker in a nutshell — focused, always working to get better, and relentless in his pursuit of victory.

The humble 24-year-old Kuechly signed a five-year, \$62 million contract extension that will keep with the Panthers through 2021, a person familiar with the situation said Thursday. The person spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because financial terms weren't released.

His deal pales some in comparison to the six-year, \$100 million-plus the Buffalo Bills gave defensive tackle Marcell Dareus earlier in the day, largely because the value the NFL puts on certain positions.

Kuechly's \$12.4 million annual salary tops that of Seattle middle linebacker Bobby Wagner, who received a four-year extension worth \$10.75 million a year in August.

## Colts reach deal with LT Castonzo

INDIANAPOLIS — Indianapolis Colts left tackle Anthony Castonzo has agreed to a contract extension.

While the Colts didn't announce the terms Thursday night, a person with knowledge of the deal confirmed that it was for four years and \$43.6 million. The person said Castonzo is expected to sign the contract Friday.

Castonzo has started 60 career games, 56 in a row and all 48 in which Andrew Luck has been the Colts quarterback. Luck has not missed a start during his three-year career.

## Jones plans to attend opener

IRVING, Texas — Dallas Cowboys owner Jerry Jones has undergone his second hip replacement surgery and expects to attend the season opener at home Sunday against the New York Giants.

Team spokesman Rich Dalrymple said Jones had his right hip replaced last Friday and is "doing great." Jones had the procedure on his left hip July 21 and attended the opening news conference at training camp in California eight days later.

Dalrymple said Jones, who turns 73 next month, was happy to get both procedures done before the start of the season. The spokesman said Jones is "looking forward to being pain free in a few weeks, which hasn't been the case for several months in the past."

## Redskins name bill introduced

WASHINGTON — Eleanor Holmes Norton, the District of Columbia's delegate to Congress, introduced a bill that would lift the NFL's antitrust exemption if the Washington Redskins do not change their nickname.

In a news release issued Thursday, Norton was quoted as saying Washington "should always be associated with pride, not with a moniker that mocks and insults Native Americans."

Legislation from the non-voting Democratic delegate stands little to no chance of being passed by the Republican-led House.

A statement sent by Redskins spokesman Tony Wyllie on Thursday said: "We disagree with Ms. Norton's opposition to the Washington Redskins name. More than 85 percent of Ms. Norton's constituents disagree as well, as recent polls have shown."



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# Cespedes has big impact on Mets

Associated Press

NEW YORK — As the New York Mets were packing up last week for their road trip, Yoenis Cespedes leaned into his locker and accidentally smacked his head on something.

Pretty hard, too.

The dull thud was loud enough to catch teammate Daniel Murphy's attention nearby.

"Esta bien?" Murphy asked in his best Spanish. You all right?

Cespedes simply walked away rubbing his noggin — but that's about the only bump he's had since arriving in New York.

"All right" doesn't even begin to describe his play for the first-place Mets.

In a stretch run full of stars who switched teams before the July 31 trade deadline — David Price, Cole Hamels, Johnny Cueto, Troy Tulowitzki and more — Cespedes has become a driving force.

Barely over .500 when Cespedes came from Detroit and debuted for them on Aug. 1, the Mets quickly turned into bruisers. Newcomers Juan Uribe and Kelly Johnson helped, too, as did the return of injured captain David Wright.

Cespedes, though, seemed to energize the entire team, be it with his monster home runs, strong-armed throws or dashes on the bases. Or even that neon

yellow sleeve he's worn.

"He does. He does," Mets manager Terry Collins said. "All they talk about is we've got to get him up there. Get a couple of guys on and let's get him up there. Let's see what happens. It just seems every night he comes up with a big hit."

Cespedes totaled 14 homers, nine doubles, three triples and 36 RBIs in his first 36 games for the Mets. That came after a relatively slow start for him — he had three extra-base hits after 10 games, all of those on one night.

To Cespedes, it's more than a powerful swing.

"I don't want to sound like I am crazy. Back in Cuba, I used to work with a psychologist, a sports psychologist," he said through a translator. "Prepared me not only physically, but mentally in the crucial moments so I can put my best efforts, good at-bats, get my mind right to produce and get everything right."

Along with drawing ovations at Citi Field and cheers from Mets fans on the road, Cespedes figures to pull in some votes for NL MVP. There's precedent for that — players have changed leagues in midseason, put up big numbers and been rewarded in the balloting.

It's unlikely Cespedes would top Bryce Harper, Anthony Rizzo, Nolan Arenado and others who have spent the whole year starring in the National League. Still, look

for his name up there when the award is announced in November.

Other players who made a sudden impact after switching sides during the season:

**Manny Ramirez, 2008** — Traded from Boston to the Dodgers, hit .396 with 17 home runs and 53 RBIs in 53 games and led LA into the NL Championship Series. Finished fourth in the MVP voting.

**CC Sabathia, 2008** — Moved from Cleveland to Milwaukee and went 11-2 with a 1.65 ERA, pushing the Brewers into the playoffs. Was fifth for the NL Cy Young, sixth for the MVP.

**Rick Sutcliffe, 1984** — Sent from Cleveland to the Cubs in a mid-June deal that included Joe Carter, went 16-1 and brought the postseason to Wrigley Field for the first time since 1945. Won the NL Cy Young Award and was fourth for the MVP.

**Carlos Beltran, 2004** — Traded from Kansas City to Houston, hit 23 homers in 90 games. Biggest contribution came in 12 playoff games: 20-for-46 with eight homers and 14 RBIs.

**David Justice, 2000** — Went from Cleveland to the Yankees, hit 20 homers with 60 RBIs in 78 games for the eventual World Series champions.

## Houston starter to miss rest of season

HOUSTON — Houston starter Scott Feldman will miss the rest of the season with a sprained right shoulder.

Feldman left his Sept. 1 start against Seattle in the third inning with shoulder discomfort. Houston hoped he could return after missing a start, but after an MRI on Thursday general manager Jeff Luhnow decided he would be shut down for the year.

The AL West-leading Astros say he will begin rehabilitation immediately and is expected to be ready for the start of next season.

This is the second injury this season for Feldman, who missed about two months after arthroscopic knee surgery. He was 5-5 with a 3.90 ERA in 18 starts.

In other MLB news:

■ Detroit Tigers general manager Al Avila insists manager Brad Ausmus' future with the team will be decided by the end of the season.

The Tigers released a statement from Avila after reports surfaced that the team had decided Ausmus will not be back next year. Avila says he reconfirmed with Ausmus and owner Mike Ilitch on Friday that evaluations are ongoing.

Ausmus is in his second season in Detroit's dugout and this year has not gone well by any measure. The four-time AL Central champions have sunk to last place in the division after an 11-2 start and only Oakland has a lower winning percentage in the league.

## Memphis announces, cancels Calapari plans

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — Memphis has canceled plans to honor former Tigers coach John Calipari for his induction into the Naismith Memorial Hall of Fame.

Hours after announcing a dinner Dec. 28 benefiting the Tigers and honoring Calipari, Memphis President M. David Rudd issued a statement on Twitter saying the university will not be recognizing the former coach.

Rudd first teased the university's plans Wednesday on Twitter. Calipari is being inducted this weekend in Massachusetts. Head coach from 2000 to 2009, he led the Tigers to the 2008 national title game in a season later vacated by the NCAA.

The idea of honoring Calipari has angered fans upset he left for Kentucky, and they shared their feelings with Memphis' president.

Rudd posted a statement Thursday afternoon apologizing for the "unnecessary upset" and distress.

## Timberwolves coach Saunders hospitalized

MINNEAPOLIS — Flip Saunders has been hospitalized for testing and treatment following a setback in his fight with cancer, leaving his leadership roles with the Minnesota Timberwolves indefinitely to focus on his health and recovery.

The Timberwolves confirmed assistant Sam Mitchell will take over as interim coach for Saunders, who is also the president of basketball operations. General manager Milt Newton's responsibilities overseeing the roster also will expand with the absence of the 60-year-old Saunders, who was diagnosed this summer with Hodgkin lymphoma.

Timberwolves chief executive officer Rob Moor, citing the desire for privacy for Saunders and his family, declined to speak specifically about Saunders' condition during a news conference Friday at team headquarters. In a news release, the Timberwolves said Saunders recently experienced complications from his completed chemotherapy treatments.

# Reds rout NL Central-leading Cards

Associated Press

CINCINNATI — The St. Louis Cardinals hoped their come-from behind win on Wednesday over the Chicago Cubs would get them back on track.

Instead, they followed with their most one-sided defeat this season.

Todd Frazier and Brandon Phillips both homered and drove in three runs as the last-place Cincinnati Reds beat the NL Central-leading Cardinals 11-0.

St. Louis opened its longest trip this season — 10 games in 11 days — with its fourth loss in five games, including a 9-0 defeat to the Cubs on Monday.

Reds star Joey Votto doubled and singled, driving in a run and scoring one, a day after his tantrum at home plate following an ejection.

Jaime Garcia (8-5) lasted a season-low 4 1/3 innings and gave up six runs. He had been 5-0 in seven starts since losing to the Reds on July 28.

"Definitely not a good one," Garcia said. "There are no excuses. I've got to do a better job the next time."

John Lamb (1-3), one of three left-handers acquired from Kansas City for Johnny Cueto in late July, shook off control problems for his first major league win. He walked six, struck out six and gave up three hits in five innings.

"It was a crazy game," Lamb said.

Four relievers combined to complete St. Louis's 12th shutout loss this year, matching last season's total. The Reds scored their first two runs on groundouts. Lamb got his first career RBI in the second and Phillips made it 2-0 in the third.

Cincinnati chased Garcia in a four-run fifth that included RBI doubles by Votto and Frazier. Phillips and Bruce each had a sacrifice fly.

Votto's double into the left field corner came on a 3-2 pitch after he fell behind 0-2 and was sent sprawling by a high-and-tight fastball.

"He's locked in right now," manager Mike Matheny said of Votto. "That kind of changed the game a little bit."

Phillips hit 12th homer, a leadoff shot in a three-run seventh. Right fielder Jason Heyward almost made a leaping catch, but he couldn't keep the ball in his glove.

Frazier added his 32nd homer, a two-run line drive in the eighth.

"It's a great feeling, but you have to stay on an even keel," Frazier said.

**Mets 7, Braves 2:** Bartolo Colon's shutout streak ended at 31 innings while he won his fourth straight start, pitching streaking New York past reeling host Atlanta.

Kevin Plawewski and Juan Uribe each drove in three runs for New York, which has won four in a row to increase its NL East lead to 7 1/2 games over Washington.

In a game that started 2 hours, 20 minutes late because of rain, Colon (14-11) allowed seven hits, two runs, one walk and struck out two in 6 2/3 innings.

The 42-year-old Colon, who added an RBI single in the fourth, led 4-0 before Jace Peterson's RBI triple and Andrelton Simmons' single in the seventh.

The Mets' record for consecutive scoreless innings is 32 2/3, set by R.A. Dickey in 2012.

Atlanta, which has lost 21 of 24 overall, dropped its ninth straight at home to match the franchise's longest skid and worst since the 1988 team started 0-9 at Atlanta-Fulton County Stadium.

**Mariners 5, Rangers 0:** Nelson Cruz reached 40 home runs for the second straight season, Felix Hernandez pitched three-hit ball for eight innings and host Seattle beat Texas.

The Rangers were shut out for the second straight day. Their lead for the second AL wild-card spot was cut to one game over idle Minnesota.

Texas missed a chance to gain on AL West-leading Houston and fell 2 1/2 games behind the idle Astros.

**Rockies 4, Padres 3:** At San Diego, Nolan Arenado hit his NL-leading 38th home run and Colorado center fielder Charlie Blackmon made a leaping catch of Brett Wallace's ninth-inning drive near the top of the wall.

Carlos Gonzalez hit his 37th homer for the Rockies and Daniel Descalso hit a tiebreaking shot leading off the eighth. Corey Dickerson also connected for Colorado.

Descalso homered off Joaquin Benoit (6-5), who hadn't pitched since Saturday because of back spasms.

**Indians 7, Tigers 5:** At Cleveland, Michael Brantley homered twice, including a tiebreaking, two-run drive in the eighth against Blaine Hardy (4-3), and Brantley homered into the right-field seats.

Cody Allen (2-4) pitched 12/3 innings and struck out AL hitting leader Miguel Cabrera to end the game.

With their sixth straight home win, the Indians closed within four games of Texas for the AL's second wild card. Minnesota and the Los Angeles Angels are between the Rangers and Indians in the wild-card race.

**Brewers 6, Pirates 4 (13):** Logan Shafer singled home Nevin Ashley with the go-ahead run in the 13th inning for Milwaukee.

Luis Sardinas added an insurance run off Radhames Liz (1-4) with a single as the Brewers beat the Pirates for the seventh straight time despite twice having late leads erased by Pittsburgh home runs.

A.J. Burnett gave up three first-inning runs his return from a lengthy stay on the disabled list with a strained right elbow. Pittsburgh remained 4 1/2 games behind St. Louis in the NL Central, but in control of the wild-card race.