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A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

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Pompeo seeks to rally leaders on Iran

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Secretary of State Mike Pompeo is working the phones to convince wary leaders in Asia and Europe that Iran was behind alleged attacks on shipping in a key Middle East oil route — and that it's a problem for the whole international community to deal with, not just the United States.

While calling U.S. evidence “unmistakable” that Iran was to blame for alleged attacks on two oil tankers last week near the Strait of Hormuz, Pompeo was emphasizing international diplomacy over any possible new U.S. military response in appearances on Sunday news shows.

“We are going to work to build out a set of countries that have deep vested interest in keeping that strait open to help us do that,” Pompeo said.

“I made a bunch of phone calls yesterday. I'll make a whole bunch more calls today. The world needs to unite,” Pompeo said. He did not say what kind of action the Trump administration was envisioning.

Iran has denied being involved in the attacks and accused America of promoting an “Iranophobic” campaign against it.

Pressed on whether new U.S. military deployment to the region was possible, Pompeo said that “of course” remained among the options that President Donald Trump may consider to keep oil tankers moving through the narrow strait, a strategic choke point for oil shipments from the Middle East.

Trump last year withdrew the U.S. from an international agreement, signed in 2015 by President Barack Obama, to limit Iran's nuclear program. Trump has reinstated econom-

Iran says uranium stockpile limit to be broken in 10 days

Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran — Iran will break the uranium stockpile limit set by Tehran's nuclear deal with world powers in the next 10 days, the spokesman for the country's atomic agency said Monday, while also warning that Iran could enrich uranium up to 20% — just a step away from weapons-grade levels.

The announcement by Behrouz Kamalvandi, timed for a meeting of European Union foreign ministers in Brussels, puts more pressure on Europe to come up with new terms for Iran's 2015 nuclear deal.

The deal has steadily unraveled since the Trump administration pulled America out of the accord last year and reimposed tough economic sanctions on Iran, deeply cutting into its sale of crude oil abroad and sending its economy into free fall. Europe has so far been unable to offer Iran a way around the U.S. sanctions.

The development comes in the wake of apparent attacks on oil tankers last week in the Mideast that Washington

has blamed on Iran. While Iran has denied being involved, it has used mines in the past against commercial traffic around the crucial Strait of Hormuz, through which a fifth of the world's crude oil passes.

Kamalvandi accused Europeans of “killing time” as the clock runs down.

“If this condition continues, there will be no deal” anymore, Kamalvandi said.

President Hassan Rouhani, greeting France's new ambassador to Tehran on Monday, similarly warned that time was running out for the deal.

“The current situation is very critical, and France and the other parties to the [deal] still have a very limited opportunity to play their historic role for saving the deal,” Rouhani said, according to his website.

Under terms of the nuclear deal, Iran can keep a stockpile of no more than 660 pounds of low-enriched uranium. Kamalvandi said that given Iran's recent decision to quadruple its production of low-enriched uranium, it would pass that limit on June 27.

deploying more Patriot air defense systems.

Some European allies have called for a careful investigation of responsibility, worried that Trump was escalating tensions with a country he has long called a top U.S. enemy.

Pompeo stressed that the U.S. gets relatively little of its energy supplies through the strait, which lies between the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman. The U.S. Energy Information Administration says 16 percent of U.S. petroleum imports came from the Persian Gulf countries in 2018.

By contrast, about 80% of oil through the shipping passage supplies energy-hungry countries in Asia, including China, Japan, India and South Korea. Those countries have an interest in keeping the oil flowing, he said.

“I'm confident that when they see the risk — the risk of their own economies and their own people and outrageous behavior of the Islamic Republic of Iran, they will join us in this,” Pompeo said.

Pompeo said intelligence officials had “lots of data, lots of evidence” that Iran was responsible. Pressed for specifics, Pompeo pointed to grainy black-and-white footage already released by the U.S.

American officials say the footage shows Iranian Revolutionary Guard troops removing an unexploded mine from a Japanese tanker. The tanker's crew gave an apparently different account, saying “flying objects” targeted the vessel.

Asked if the U.S. had a credibility problem with allies worried Trump could be seeking a pretext to move against Iran, the secretary of state said: “We're not selling anything. These ... these are simple facts.”

ic sanctions and recently ended waivers that allowed some countries to continue buying Iranian oil. That has deprived Iran of oil income and has coincided with what U.S. officials said was a surge in intelligence pointing to Iranian preparations for attacks against U.S.

forces and interests in the Gulf region.

The U.S. has accelerated the deployment of the USS Abraham Lincoln aircraft carrier battle group to the region, sent four nuclear-capable B-52 bombers to Qatar and bolstered its defenses in the region by

Germans probe case of GI's son firing rifle

STUTT GART, Germany — The German Defense Ministry is investigating a nearly 3-year-old incident in which a U.S. officer is alleged to have taken his son, 13, to a southern Germany military range to fire a sniper rifle.

The U.S. lieutenant colonel, in a Facebook posting at the time, justified the activity, suggesting it was in the spirit of self-defense.

"If the Islamic State can recruit 13-year-olds, we'll do it, too," the officer wrote in a post that featured pictures of his son.

The social media post was obtained by the German magazine *Der Spiegel*, which did not identify the officer but did say the incident is now the subject of a high-level investigation. The spokesman for German Defense Minister Ursula von der Leyen told the magazine that the matter is being examined and "further steps considered."

U.S. Army Europe said Monday it is cooperating in the probe. The Army declined to release the name of the officer, saying the servicemember has left the European theater.

From staff reports

Trial set for SEAL charged in death of ISIS prisoner in Iraq

Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — The trial of a decorated Navy SEAL charged with killing an Islamic State prisoner in his care was set to begin Monday following months of turmoil in one of the Navy's most prominent war crimes cases.

The court-martial of Special Operations Chief Edward Gallagher, which begins with jury selection, has included the removal of the lead prosecutor for tracking the defense team's emails and suggestions by President Donald Trump that he may pardon the defendant.

Gallagher has pleaded not guilty to premeditated murder in the killing of the prisoner in his care and attempted murder in the shootings of two civilians in Iraq in 2017 in separate incidents. Gallagher says disgruntled platoon mates fabricated the allegations because they didn't like his tough leadership.

His lawyers asked the Navy judge to dismiss the case because they say investigators and prosecutors withheld evidence that could help the defense and violated his rights to a fair trial by embedding tracking software in emails sent to them.

The judge, Capt. Aaron Rugh, earlier this month ruled that the prosecution's effort to track defense emails to find a news leak cast doubt on Gallagher's ability to get a fair trial and violated his constitutional rights against illegal searches

and the right to counsel by interfering with attorney-client privilege.

Rugh, however, refused to dismiss the case. Instead, he said he was taking steps to remedy the interference. He released Gallagher from custody, removed the lead prosecutor and lessened the maximum penalty he faces if convicted of premeditated murder to life imprisonment with parole — instead of no parole.

The judge also is allowing the defense to reject two more potential jurors without cause than usual during jury selection.

Evidence at hearings last month showed an intelligence specialist from Naval Criminal Investigative Service conducted criminal background checks on three of Gallagher's civilian lawyers and a Navy Times journalist who has broken several stories based on documents that are only to be shared among lawyers in the case.

Prosecutors downplayed the effort, saying it only gathered data, such as internet protocol addresses, and did not snoop on the content of emails. The government said the investigation did not find the source of leaks.

Gallagher's family maintains he cannot get a fair trial.

"The court's ruling, recognizing a direct violation of Chief Gallagher's constitutional rights but not dismissing the case, sends a chilling message to every man and woman in uniform," his family said in a statement.

Lifting of GIs' curfew in S. Korea sparks glee, skepticism

BY KIM GAMEL
AND MATTHEW KEELER
Stars and Stripes

CAMP HUMPHREYS, South Korea — The decision to temporarily lift a long-reviled curfew for American troops in South Korea on Monday came just in time for Lt. Col. Junel Jeffrey to cross midnight market shopping in Seoul off her bucket list.

The 2nd Infantry Division public affairs officer, who is scheduled to transfer back to the United States next month, couldn't go before because the curfew required all servicemembers to be back on base or inside their residences or hotel

rooms by 1 a.m. The division pushed that back to midnight for its soldiers last year.

"For these young folks, they're ready to go to clubs and all of that," Jeffrey said after the suspension was announced on Monday. "I'm not into clubs, but I will do some shopping. I'm really excited about that."

U.S. Forces Korea, which oversees some 28,500 U.S. servicemembers on the divided peninsula, lifted the curfew for 90 days following a policy review ordered by the commander, Gen. Robert Abrams.

"The suspension will serve as an evaluation period ... and is an opportunity to demonstrate USFK's ability to maintain

good order and discipline at all times and under all conditions," provost marshal Col. Jonathan Doyle said in a statement. "Our professional servicemembers will act in accordance with our standards and Korean laws at all times."

The reprieve will last until Sept. 17, at which time the commander will decide whether to continue the evaluation period, maintain it or rescind the off-installation curfew, depending on troop behavior, morale and readiness factors, USFK said.

Soldiers and airmen reacted with glee but also skepticism that it would last. Some placed bets on social media about which branch of service or unit

would do something to trigger its reinstatement.

"I actually didn't believe it. When I first heard, I thought, 'There is no way. People out here are too crazy,'" said Sgt. Akeyla Richardson, who is assigned to the 563rd Medical Logistics Company. "Now that it has finally happened, I just hope no one messes it up for the rest of us."

USFK said the decision to suspend the curfew, which has been in effect in various iterations since 9/11, was aimed at improving morale and making South Korea a more attractive assignment, as well as giving servicemembers a chance to see more of the country.

In Helmand, reaction to a US withdrawal of troops is mixed

BY J.P. LAWRENCE
Stars and Stripes

LASHKAR GAH, Afghanistan — Locals in the provincial capital of Helmand often show visitors reminders of the days when the Taliban attacked: a bathroom where a rocket hit and killed a co-worker; a house where citizens hid from withering crossfire; a checkpoint built from an old Soviet tank that was almost overrun by the militants.

The Taliban attacked Lashkar Gah in 2015, a year after most international troops withdrew from Afghanistan. Their offensive threatened much of the province and led to the return of some U.S. troops to Helmand.

Today, prospects of another U.S. withdrawal, a key part of ongoing talks with the Taliban, have raised hopes for peace but also heightened fears of a Taliban resurgence in battleground provinces like Helmand, in the country's south.

Talks this week in Doha, Qatar, between the Taliban and

U.S. diplomats, led by Special Representative for Afghanistan Reconciliation Zalmay Khalilzad, will be the seventh round of negotiations aimed at ending America's longest war.

Hopes are high for a breakthrough in the latest talks, which are focused on the withdrawal of U.S. troops.

"The Americans have decided to give the Taliban some privileges to take the negotiations out of the current situation," Wahid Muzhda, a Kabul-based political analyst, told Afghanistan's Tolo News.

Meanwhile, the U.S. is asking for assurances from the Taliban that Afghanistan will not be used as a base for international terrorism.

The talks have so far not included the government in Kabul, which the Taliban views as a U.S. puppet.

Some locals in Lashkar Gah have said the U.S. should stay in Helmand because the province would likely see a repeat of the 2015 Taliban offensive if international troops leave again.

With coalition assistance,

Afghan forces have recaptured some of the territory that fell to the Taliban four years ago. But in October, a U.S. government watchdog agency said insurgents still held more than half of Helmand, where more American, international and Afghan troops have died than in any other province.

In the countryside outside Lashkar Gah, where Taliban flags fly within walking distance of Afghan military bases, locals say the militants will eventually return to power anyway, said Ashley Jackson, a researcher with the Overseas Development Institute.

"I would never say that people living under Taliban control are happy or agree with Taliban rule — far from it — but I think there's some sort of resignation," Jackson said.

Civilians in Taliban-contested areas told Jackson that they are used to dealing with militants, whom they see as their neighbors and brothers, and have little confidence in the Afghan military. Locals also blamed the U.S. for the war, she said.

President of China to visit North Korea

Associated Press

BEIJING — Chinese President Xi Jinping will make a state visit to North Korea this week, state media announced Monday, as U.S. talks with North Korea on its nuclear program are at an apparent standstill.

Xi will meet with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un during the visit on Thursday and Friday, Chinese state broadcaster CCTV said. It said the trip will be the first to North Korea by a Chinese leader in 14 years.

North Korea's official Korean Central News Agency also announced the visit but provided no further details.

The visit coincides with the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and North Korea, CCTV said. The broadcaster added the leaders will exchange views on the situation on the Korean Peninsula.

The visit comes as negotiations between the U.S. and North Korea appear to have reached an impasse.

A summit in Vietnam in February between Kim and President Donald Trump failed after the U.S. rejected North Korea's request for extensive relief from U.N. sanctions in exchange for dismantling its main nuclear complex, a partial disarmament step. Since the summit's breakdown, no major contacts between the U.S. and North Korea have been announced.

Kim traveled to the Russian Far East in April for a meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin.

Since taking office in 2012, Xi has met with Kim four times in China. The meetings were timed in proximity to Kim's meetings with Trump and South Korean President Moon Jae-in, highlighting Beijing's role as a player in the nuclear standoff.

Syrian insurgents kill 12 in rocket attack

Associated Press

DAMASCUS, Syria — Syrian insurgents fired rockets into residential parts of the government-held northern province of Aleppo, striking a wedding party and killing at least 12 civilians and wounding 15, state media said Monday.

The attack late Sunday took place in the village of Wadehi, south of Aleppo city, which abuts the last rebel-held enclave.

Syria's state TV, Al-Ikhbariya, said children were among those killed and some of the wounded were in critical condition. The TV said more rockets landed as people tried to escape from the scene of the attack.

One woman told the TV that a missile landed in a room where four girls were, killing them. Another girl said her two sisters and one brother were killed in the strike.

A doctor speaking to the TV station said three of the wounded were in critical condition. Images from inside an Aleppo hospital broadcast on Al-Ikhbariya TV show men and children lying on stretchers, some with their heads bandaged, while others have what appears to be abdomen wounds.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights also reported fatalities, saying four children were killed in the attack.

Al-Ikhbariya TV said the military responded to the source of fire, areas controlled by insurgents in the nearby rebel stronghold.

Fighting has raged over the last seven weeks in northwestern Syria as government forces press an offensive toward the last rebel stronghold in the country's eight-year civil war.

Separately, in eastern Syria's town of Qamishli, a car bomb went off near the headquarters of the Kurdish security forces, leaving several people injured. Qamishli is run by Kurdish-led administrators and forces, but Syrian government troops hold pockets of territory there, including the airport.

Gunman opens fire on Dallas courthouse

The Dallas Morning News

DALLAS — A man in a mask and combat gear who opened fire Monday morning at the Earle Cabell federal courthouse in downtown Dallas was shot by officers before he could injure anyone.

The shooter, Brian Isaack Clyde, 22, died at the scene and was taken to Baylor University Medical Center after police responded to an active-shooter call, officials said.

Dallas Morning News photographer Tom Fox witnessed the shooter open fire outside the building and took photos of the gunman. The gunman fired from the parking lot across the street toward Fox and others.

The window panes in the revolving door and two side

doors at the Commerce Street entrance were broken afterward. It is unclear if the door was shot by the shooter or law enforcement.

A photo taken by Fox shows law enforcement standing around the shooter, who is lying on the ground without a shirt on. The shooter had a red heart tattoo with a black drawing inside, possibly of an animal, on his left arm.

Fox, who was questioned by the FBI, said he was outside the building when a man in a mask parked on the corner of Jackson and Griffin streets. The masked man ran and then stopped in the street to pick something off the ground.

The man then began shooting at the courthouse and cracked

the glass door, Fox said. Inside the building, security pushed everyone down to the ground.

The federal building was likely to remain on lockdown for the rest of the day.

The shooting was a block from the site of a July 7, 2016, ambush in which five police officers — four Dallas police officers and a Dallas Area Rapid Transit officer — were killed by a gunman. In that case, nearby El Centro College was placed on lockdown. During the ambush, that shooter entered the school and fired at the fifth officer, who was killed from a window.

Dallas police detonated a suspicious device about 10:40 a.m. in the vehicle of the man who shot at the courthouse.

The blast was strong enough to shake several sapling trees blocks away. Police were searching downtown for other possible devices. Many downtown buildings were placed on lockdown or evacuated, and many streets were closed as police searched for suspicious devices.

Ed Modla was working from home at SoCo Urban Lofts when he heard at least 10 loud shots outside. He looked outside and saw the gunman running across Griffin Street.

“As soon as I saw the shooter, I got the hell away from the window,” he said. He took another peek from his third-floor window a few moments later and said he saw officers “zeroing in” on the suspect across the street.

Supreme Court upholds state and federal prosecution

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court is upholding a constitutional rule that allows state and federal governments to prosecute someone for the same crime. The case was closely watched because a ruling the other way might have emboldened President Donald Trump to pardon defendants in the Russia investigation.

The court’s 7-2 decision Monday preserves a long-standing rule that provides an exception to the Constitution’s ban on trying someone twice for the same offense. Ruling for the defendant, in this case,

might have made it harder for states to pursue criminal charges against defendants in the Russia investigation in the event they are pardoned by Trump.

The court ruled against federal prison inmate Terance Gamble. He was prosecuted by Alabama and the federal government for having a gun after an earlier conviction for robbery.

Justice Samuel Alito wrote in his majority opinion that 170 years of precedent supports the idea that “a state may prosecute a defendant under state law even if the federal government has prosecuted him for the same conduct under a federal statute.”

New York authorities already have indicted Paul Manafort, Trump’s former campaign chairman.

Manafort has been sentenced to more than seven years on federal conspiracy and fraud convictions. He also has been charged with mortgage fraud and other crimes in New York.

Trump could pardon him for his federal convictions, but Manafort still would have to answer to the state charges by the Manhattan district attorney’s office. The president’s pardon power doesn’t extend to state charges.

Former Egyptian president Morsi dies during court session

Associated Press

CAIRO — Egypt’s former president, Mohammed Morsi, the Muslim Brotherhood leader who rose to office in the country’s first free elections in 2012 and was ousted a year later by the military, collapsed in court during a trial and died Monday, state TV and his family said.

The 67-year-old Morsi had just addressed the court, speaking from the glass cage he is kept in during sessions

and warning that he had “many secrets” he could reveal, a judicial official said. A few minutes afterward, he collapsed, the official said, speaking on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to talk to the press.

State TV said Morsi died before he could be taken to the hospital.

Morsi has been in prison undergoing multiple trials ever since the military ousted him

in July 2013 and launched a massive crackdown on his Muslim Brotherhood and other Islamists. Monday’s session was part of a retrial, being held inside Cairo’s Tura Prison, on charges of espionage with the Palestinian Hamas militant group.

Mohammed Sudan, leading member of the Muslim Brotherhood in London, described Morsi’s death as “premeditated murder,” saying that the former

president was banned from receiving medicine or visits and there was little information about his health condition.

The judicial official said Morsi had asked to speak to the court during the session. The judge permitted it, and Morsi gave a speech saying he had “many secrets” that, if he told them, he would be released, but he added that he wasn’t telling them because it would harm Egypt’s national security.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Lead poisons 2 loons; tackle buyback set

NH MOULTONBOROUGH—New Hampshire's Loon Preservation Committee said it's recorded two cases of loons poisoned by lead sinkers and jigs this year, and it's reminding fishermen about the ban on the tackle, as well as an offer to buy it back.

The ban is on lead sinkers and jigs weighing an ounce or less. It applies to all fresh water in the state. Last year, eight loons were confirmed dead after ingesting lead sinkers and jigs up to 1.03 ounces.

Anglers can exchange an ounce or more of the banned tackle for a \$10 gift certificate redeemable at eight tackle shops.

Oxygen masks given for animals in fires

MS TUPELO — Some emergency responders in Mississippi are receiving oxygen masks to help animals that are rescued from fires.

The Northeast Mississippi Daily Journal reported that donors gave \$800. That was enough to buy 18 masks — one for each of the fire stations in Tupelo and in Lee County.

The masks work on animals the same way they do on humans. The conical mask is attached to an oxygen tank, then the mask is slipped over the muzzle to provide oxygen to an animal that might have been overcome with smoke.

LGBTQ celebration to be held at Navy Pier

IL CHICAGO — A daylong celebration of LGBTQ culture in Chicago will return for a fourth year to Navy Pier.

Navy Pier Pride by Ameri-

can Airlines will be June 29. The free event will run from noon to 11 p.m. Organizers say it "will include a variety of festivities to embrace diversity and celebrate the vibrant LGBTQ culture in Chicago."

Activities will range from build-your-own pride bracelets to musical performance by the Chicago Gay Men's Chorus and a fireworks display. Pride flags are decorating Navy Pier all month, and the symbolic rainbow colors are displayed in the center digital screen of the Centennial Wheel.

Driver hauling chickens falls asleep

OH TUSCARAWAS — The driver of a semitrailer hauling Case Farm chickens fell asleep Friday morning, causing his truck to overturn along eastbound U.S. Route 30 on the Pigeon Run bridge.

According to the Ohio Highway Patrol, the man said he fell asleep and that when he awoke, the truck was veering off the roadway and into the guardrail and embankment.

Crews were called to the scene about 5:30 a.m. and found the truck cab perched on top of the embankment of the bridge.

1897 map error causing headaches

SC SUMMERVILLE — A mapping error from 1897 is causing 21st-century headaches for people living near Charleston.

Surveyors 122 years ago messed up drawing the county line between Berkeley and Dorchester counties.

The Post and Courier of Charleston reported that the mistake was officially corrected last year, leaving an apartment complex and a senior

living home split between the two counties.

State officials have been working for a decade to precisely map county boundaries.

Tenants at the Farmington Village Apartments are told that the unit they select will decide whether their children go to schools in Berkeley County or Dorchester County.

The Village at Summerville senior living complex is split, too, but has arranged to have Dorchester County Emergency Medical Service answer all of its calls.

Twins with same GPAs are co-valedictorians

IN JEFFERSONVILLE — Two southern Indiana brothers who are identical twins with identical GPAs shared their high school's valedictorian honors.

Cole and Brady Paradowski, who have grown up doing everything together, were named co-valedictorians of Jeffersonville High School's class of 2019.

Cole Paradowski told WAVE-TV he was nervous before his sibling spoke during the commencement at the school in the Ohio River city just north of Louisville. But he said that once his brother delivered his valedictorian address, he was more confident.

Protesters strip for body painting

NY NEW YORK — Several dozen people stripped naked and got their bodies painted in New York's Times Square as part of what was billed as a protest against "divisiveness."

The event Saturday was organized by body artist Andy Golub. He has staged similar nude Times Square protests in

years past.

Golub said the world we're living in "is very divisive." He said people have "much more in common" than they are different.

Samantha Walsh traveled from Toronto to take part. Walsh, who uses a wheelchair, said body painting disrupts the way people think about "whose bodies are valuable."

Landing plane blows tires, skids on runway

NJ NEWARK — Authorities said a plane blew tires while landing at Newark Liberty International Airport, sending it skidding on the runway before coming to a halt.

United Airlines said Flight 627 from Denver was landing at 1 p.m. Saturday with 166 passengers when the tires blew.

United spokesman Robert Einhorn said the plane remained on the runway. The FAA initially said it skidded off the pavement but later said it "veered to the left side of the pavement."

The airline said some passengers with minor injuries refused medical attention and no one was seriously injured.

Vet turns 101, gets 5K birthday cards

UT OREM — A World War II veteran in Utah whose family hoped to get him 101 cards for his 101st birthday said they have been overwhelmed and grateful because over 5,000 cards have been sent to John Frey.

The Daily Herald reported that Frey ended up with cards from all 50 states and at least 12 countries on his June 7 birthday.

From wire reports

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Big shots earn Woodland US Open win

Associated Press

PEBBLE BEACH, Calif. — Very soon, Gary Woodland will be a father of three, and odds are he'll answer the same way about the kids as he will about the three shots that cemented him in as a U.S. Open champion.

Which is his favorite? They're all perfect in their own way.

Woodland's Father's Day at Pebble Beach included a flushed 3-wood that set up birdie to give him a two-shot cushion, a wedge clipped off the 17th green that helped him preserve it, then a 30-foot birdie putt on No. 18 that ended the tournament with a flourish — and put him in the record book, to boot.

"My whole life, I've been able to compete and win at everything I've done," he said. "It's taken a while, but it's trending in the right direction."

Straight past Tiger Woods in the record book, in fact.

Woodland, whose wife, Gabby, is expecting twins in a couple of months to join their soon-to-be-2-year-old son, Jaxson, got to 13-under-par 271 with that closing birdie, beating by one the record Woods set for a U.S. Open at Pebble Beach during his romp to a 15-shot victory in 2000.

Pebble Beach played tougher

that year.

But to say Woodland took the easy way to his first major title would be missing the point.

He spent the entire day holding off Brooks Koepka, who himself was shooting for history — trying to become the first player since 1905 to complete a U.S. Open three-peat.

Koepka made clear early that he was up for the challenge. He opened with four birdies over the first five holes to pull within a shot of Woodland, who was playing one hole behind.

"I thought, 'Yeah, we've got a ballgame now,'" Koepka said.

They did, except it wasn't a back-and-forth ballgame. Woodland never surrendered the lead.

It was at one shot when Woodland drove to the middle of the fairway on the par-5 14th, faced with the choice between laying up, the way most players have all week, or going for it and hoping the shot would hold on the severely sloping putting surface.

"We sat there and thought about it for a while and said 'Let's go, we're out here to win,'" Woodland said.

The ball just cleared the bunker fronting the green, took two hops and rolled toward the collar left of the pin. A chip and a putt later, Woodland had a bird-

ie and a two-shot lead.

"The 3-wood on 14 was what gave me the confidence to even execute the shot on 17," he said.

That shot, made while still clinging to the two-shot lead, added to Tom Watson's chip-in from the sand in 1982 and Jack Nicklaus' 1-iron off the flag 10 years before that on the growing list of history-making moments on that storied 17th green.

With his ball on the front right edge of the putting surface, but with a small hill blocking his path to the hole, Woodland took out his wedge and made pure contact, sending the ball over the hump then back onto the green, where it checked up and ran out to tap-in range for par.

"When I started to transition into golf, the short game was what was really bad, to be honest," Woodland said. "And so my whole deal was, I had to hit chips off putting greens all the time, and there were some times where superintendents weren't a huge fan of me."

He's not bad with the putter on those greens, either.

After Koepka's birdie putt on No. 18 slid just past to close his tournament at 10 under, Woodland carried a two-shot lead onto the 18th green and only needed to get down in

three from 30 feet to secure the trophy.

He got down in one instead, raised his hands to the heavens then finished with a huge fist pump.

Not bad for a guy who thought basketball would be his best sport, but gave it up after a year of playing in college so he could get serious about golf.

"The question about if I ever dreamed of making the putt on the last hole of a U.S. Open when I was a kid, no, I didn't," Woodland said. "But I hit a lot of game-winning shots on the basketball court when I was a kid."

Koepka said he wasn't upset about this weekend.

He became the fourth player — joining Lee Trevino, Lee Janzen and Rory McIlroy — to break 70 in all four rounds of the U.S. Open, but the first to not walk away with the trophy. The main reason: Minutes after Koepka finished, Woodland became the fifth player to break 70 in all four rounds.

When it was over, Woodland shared a long hug with his father, Dan, who coached him hard in every sport he played except for golf when he was growing up — made him work for his wins, made him earn everything he got.

Koepka's 'A' game not enough to defend title

Associated Press

PEBBLE BEACH, Calif. — Brooks Koepka brought his "A" game to Pebble Beach on Sunday, hoping it would be good enough to make history.

It was in a way.

Just not good enough to slow down the magic show Gary Woodland was putting on behind him.

Koepka's round of 3-under 68 left him three strokes short of Woodland, who stopped Koepka's quest to become the first player since 1905 to win three straight U.S. Opens.

Koepka did make history by becoming only the fourth play-

er to break 70 in all four rounds of the U.S. Open, but even that didn't turn out so great. Ten minutes later, Woodland became the fifth, thanks to a par save courtesy of a chip off the 17th green that nearly went in, then a 30-foot birdie on 18 for the final dagger.

And so, Koepka's special place in history after this week at Pebble Beach is that he's the only man to break 70 all four rounds and not walk away with the title. He finished 10-under par 274.

"I played great. Nothing I could do. I gave it my all. And sometimes, no matter how good

your 'good' is, it isn't there," Koepka said.

Koepka came into the day trailing by four but made an all-world par save — first from the gallery, then from the thick grass in a barranca fronting the second green — and followed that with three straight birdies that pushed him to 11 under, only one shot behind Woodland.

"I thought, 'Yeah, we've got a ballgame now,'" Koepka said.

It was quite a ballgame, but it didn't go back and forth.

Even after a front side of 3-under 32, and even after stuffing a wedge on No. 11 to 10 feet

for a birdie to get to 11 under, Koepka could not grab the lead — not even for a minute.

He missed the fairway on 13, 14 and 15 and saved par each time, but there was no piercing-perfect gap wedge, a la the 10th hole at the PGA at Bethpage two months ago, and there were no holding off Tiger Woods and all those cheers, a la the PGA at Bellerive last year.

"You knew he was going to come out those first couple holes, you can attack, and he did that," Woodland said. "All day he was knocking on the door. I was proud to stay in my moment and control myself."

Miss St. edges Auburn in CWS

Associated Press

OMAHA, Neb. — Marshall Gilbert turned a mostly forgettable night at the plate into a memorable one.

The No. 9 batter hit a bases-loaded single up the middle that capped a four-run ninth inning and gave Mississippi State a 5-4 walk-off victory over Auburn in the College World Series on Sunday.

Gilbert had been 0-for-4 before he came to bat, following six teammates who had kept the line moving.

“First of all, I was in awe by everybody that was able to get the job done before me,” Gilbert said. “It was incredible, the fact we could get to that point to where I was coming up to the plate, and all the at-bats prior to that I had kind of been a little off, missed some pitches. I kept getting encouragement from my teammates saying, ‘Keep going, keep going, don’t quit.’”

Gilbert ripped a shot past pitcher Tanner Burns and just out of reach of second baseman Ryan Bliss. Dustin Skelton came home from third and the Mississippi State dugout emptied, with players running into right field to mob Gilbert after the Bulldogs’ third walk-off win of the season.

“The bond we have is something that is hard to break,” Gilbert said. “So believing in one another, going out there

leaving it out there on your team, it pays off in the end. And we work every pitch to the last. You’re never out of a ballgame and we all know that, so when we all believe in each other, good things happen.”

The No. 6 national seed Bulldogs (52-13) threatened time and again before finally breaking through for their sixth straight win in the NCAA Tournament. Auburn (38-27), making its first CWS appearance since 1997, was within an out of wrapping up the win. But third baseman Edouard Julien’s wild throw to first on Dustin Skelton’s grounder allowed Elijah MacNamee to score the tying run.

“For eight and two-thirds I just thought everybody associated did a nice job,” Auburn coach Butch Thompson said. “Then we had a chance to win the baseball game — I don’t think there’s any doubt about that — and just one play away tonight.”

Burns (4-4) intentionally walked Rowdey Jordan and Josh Hatcher beat Julien’s throw to first on a soft grounder to load the bases for Gilbert.

“We fought to the last out and just kept competing,” first-year MSU coach Chris Lemonis said. “At the very end the grit of our ballclub played out and we were able to put some balls in play.”

Vanderbilt 3, Louisville 1: Austin Martin homered on Reid Detmers’ first pitch of the game and he went deep again in the seventh to break a tie in Vanderbilt’s victory.

Drake Fellows came off a poor outing in the super regionals to pitch seven strong innings and help No. 2 national seed Vanderbilt (55-11) improve to 4-0 in its CWS openers.

Martin homered twice for the second straight game, having hit two against Duke on June 9. He became the first player since Florida’s Harrison Bader in 2015 to lead off a CWS game with a homer when he drove Detmers’ initial offering out to left.

Martin’s two-run homer off Bryan Hoeing (3-4) in the seventh barely cleared the wall in left center, but it was long enough to break a 1-all tie after Julian Infante doubled.

Fellows (13-1), a sixth-round draft pick of the San Diego Padres this month and the national wins leader, had worked the first four innings of an 18-5 loss to Duke in the super regional opener June 7.

No. 7 Louisville (49-17) had base runners in six of Fellows’ seven innings but found a semblance of rhythm only in the fifth. No. 8 batter Justin Lavey started things with a double and scored on Henry Davis’ base hit to tie it.

Karlsson staying a Shark

Associated Press

SAN JOSE, Calif. — The San Jose Sharks re-signed pending free agent Erik Karlsson to a \$92 million, eight-year deal on Monday, turning a one-year rental into a long-term commitment to one of the league’s most dynamic defensemen.

Karlsson was eligible to become an unrestricted free agent on July 1 but decided to stay in San Jose, where he will try to win his first championship and the first for a franchise that has reached the conference final five times in the past 15 years without ever winning it all.

“I’m excited to continue the chase for the ultimate prize: the Stanley Cup,” Karlsson said in a statement. “Last year was an unbelievable run but we didn’t achieve what we set out to do. But the dedication I witnessed from my teammates, coaches, staff and organization showed me that we all have a great future ahead of us, and that we are capable of fighting for that championship year in and year out.”

A person with knowledge of the deal confirms that it carries an annual cap hit of \$11.5 million. The person spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the team did not announce terms of the contract.

The Sharks acquired the two-time Norris Trophy winner just before the start of last season from Ottawa as a one-year rental. Karlsson was hampered by groin injuries but also showed flashes as he helped the Sharks reach the Western Conference final, where they lost to eventual champion St. Louis in six games.

It is the richest contract of any defenseman, topping the \$88 million, eight-year extension Drew Doughty signed in Los Angeles last summer.

Germany clinches first in pool with win

Associated Press

MONTPELLIER, France — Germany won its Women’s World Cup group for the fifth consecutive time and avoided an immediate matchup with the United States by routing South Africa 4-0 on Monday.

Germany topped Group B with a 3-0 record and will play a third place team in its round of 16 match Saturday at Grenoble.

Germany had to grind out 1-0 wins over both China and Spain, but its offense finally broke out with three goals in

the first half against South Africa. That matched its total goals in its previous five World Cup games.

Germany had already clinched a spot in the round of 16 before the game began against South Africa.

South Africa was winless in group play and outscored 8-1. At 49th, South Africa had the lowest ranking of the 24 teams in the tournament.

Spain finished Group B as runner-up after a 0-0 draw with China, and advanced to the knockout stage for the first time. Spain will face the winner

of Group F on Monday at Reims and the United States would be the opponent with a victory or draw in its final group match against Sweden.

Melanie Leupolz opened the scoring in the 14th minute with her first goal for Germany since the 2016 Olympics. Sara Dabritz doubled the lead in the 29th minute and Alexandra Popp made it 3-0 in the 40th. Lina Magull added the final goal in the 58th.

Two-time tournament champion Germany has not lost a match in group play since falling to Sweden in 1995.

Padres-Rockies set mark with 92 runs

Associated Press

DENVER — In a historically high-scoring series, the outcome was decided by a pinch-hitting pitcher.

On a bases-loaded walk, no less, off a starter who was making his first major league relief appearance.

That seems appropriate for such a wacky series.

The Padres and Rockies set a modern-era record by combining for 92 runs in a four-game series, with San Diego pitcher Matt Strahm drawing a pinch-hit, bases-loaded walk in the ninth inning to rally past Colorado 14-13 Sunday.

“A four-game series here, it feels like a month,” first baseman Eric Hosmer said. “This was a grind.”

It was just another wild day at Coors Field in this split series where the Rockies outscored the Padres 48-44 while the teams combined for 131 hits. Colorado’s Charlie Blackmon became the first player since at least 1900 with 15 hits in a four-

game series, according to STATS. Adding to the zaniness: the finale was delayed once to clean up a big puddle in foul territory despite sunny skies, and again later because of weather.

“That’s the great thing about baseball — you see things you’ve never seen before,” Rockies infielder Ryan McMahon said. “It didn’t bounce our way.”

Trailing 13-10 in the ninth, Wil Myers had an RBI single and Greg Garcia promptly tied it with a two-out, two-run triple off closer Wade Davis (1-2). The Rockies brought in starter Jon Gray, who intentionally walked two batters to face Strahm after the Padres used up all their position players. Gray fell behind 3-1 before throwing a strike. Strahm watched a 98-mph fastball narrowly miss for ball four.

“The 3-2 was down and I know I can’t handle that with his velocity,” Strahm said.

Rockies manager Bud Black said he went with Gray — the starter Thursday — because of his usual ability to throw strikes. Plus, the Rockies had some relievers who

weren’t available given their work load.

Gerardo Reyes (3-0) earned the win by striking out three in the eighth. Kirby Yates threw a perfect ninth for his 24th save.

Hunter Renfroe homered twice for San Diego, and Fernando Tatis Jr. had three hits, including a double and a triple.

All told, the four games took more than 16 hours to complete.

“I can’t really explain some of the things that went on and honestly I’m just happy to get out of here for a split, for sure,” Garcia said.

The Padres raced out to a 3-0 lead before a giant puddle suddenly formed along the right field line due to an issue with the irrigation line. The grounds crew rolled the water away as the teams waited in the dug-out during the 15-minute holdup.

In the bottom of the inning, Colorado responded with six runs. Blackmon led the way with two hits in the inning, including a solo homer to lead off. He’s reached base safely in all 26 of his home games this season.

MLB roundup

Martin helps West-leading Dodgers over Cubs

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Kenley Jansen sent a late-night text to Dodgers manager Dave Roberts after his blown save against the Cubs.

“I wanted the ball after what happened last night,” the closer said. “I really wanted to face them again.”

Jansen got his wish, and quickly found himself in trouble again.

But he escaped again, earning his 21st save the hard way, and Los Angeles rallied to beat Chicago 3-2 Sunday night.

Russell Martin singled in the go-ahead run in the eighth inning and Alex Verdugo made a game-saving catch for the final out to help the NL West-leading Dodgers take three of four.

“Got to give them credit, I mean, they worked their way out of a jam there,” Chicago’s Kris Bryant said. “Great play at the end of the game. I thought it was going to get down but it’s a good team over there.”

Martin struck out in his first

three at-bats before poking a two-strike single to left off Steve Cishek (1-4).

“It was getting tough to see with the shadows and early in the at-bat I was having a tough time seeing his slider, the rotation and spin on it,” Martin said.

Third-base coach Dino Ebel sent Chris Taylor home from second after he walked to open the inning. Taylor slid headfirst and did a face-plant, his helmet going airborne, as the throw from Bryant sailed past catcher Willson Contreras.

Royals 8, Twins 6: Martin Maldonado celebrated Father’s Day by wearing a blue necktie on his chest protector and had three hits to lift the visiting Royals.

Red Sox 8, Orioles 6 (10): Rafael Devers led off the 10th inning with a home run after Marco Hernandez tied it with a solo shot in ninth, and the visiting Red Sox beat the Orioles.

Indians 8, Tigers 0: Trevor Bauer pitched his first shutout as a pro, ending the longest win-

less streak of his career as the Indians beat the host Tigers.

Rays 6, Angels 5: Yandy Diaz hit an RBI single during Tampa Bay’s two-run eighth inning, and the host Rays held off Los Angeles’ late rally to beat the Angels.

Cardinals 4, Mets 3: Paul DeJong tagged the Mets again, hitting a tiebreaking home run in the eighth inning that sent the Cardinals over host New York.

Braves 15, Phillies 1: Josh Donaldson homered for the third straight game, Mike Foltynewicz allowed only one run in six innings and the host Braves beat the Phillies.

Nationals 15, Diamondbacks 5: Matt Adams homered twice and drove in a career-high seven runs, Anibal Sanchez got his 100th career victory, and the host Nationals beat the Diamondbacks.

Brewers 5, Giants 3: Eric Thames and Jesus Aguilar homered to help the visiting Brewers avoid a sweep with a victory over the Giants.

Reds 11, Rangers 3: Jesse Winker homered and set career highs with four hits and five RBIs, Yasiel Puig added a two-run shot, and the host Reds beat the Rangers to avoid a three-game sweep.

Yankees 10, White Sox 3: James Paxton pitched six effective innings, Brett Gardner and Austin Romine each had four RBIs and the Yankees cruised past the host White Sox.

Pirates 5, Marlins 4: Josh Bell’s go-ahead double in the seventh helped lead the Pirates over the host Marlins.

Blue Jays 12, Astros 0: Trent Thornton shut down his former team into the seventh inning, Teoscar Hernandez hit two of Toronto’s five home runs and the Blue Jays hammered the host Astros.

Mariners 6, Athletics 3: Kyle Seager hit a two-run double soon after right fielder Mark Canha appeared to lose a flyball in the sun, and the visiting Mariners rallied in the eighth inning to beat the Athletics.