

Israel and Iran militaries pause attacks

BY LARA KORTE
Stars and Stripes

The Iranian military and Israel agreed to halt strikes against each other following a day of hostilities that threatened to undo a tenuous ceasefire and reignite war in the Middle East.

The Monday announcement came hours after President Donald Trump said both sides were looking to reach a ceasefire and that final negotiations were underway.

Later Monday, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said in a televised statement that Israel would hold fire in Iran for now, Bloomberg reported.

In an announcement posted to Iranian state media, Iran's central military headquarters said it had halted operations but emphasized that military action

could resume if Israel continued its campaign in Lebanon.

The initial Iranian salvos Sunday night came in response to Israeli attacks on Hezbollah, an Iran-backed Islamist group based in Lebanon, which Iran insists was covered by a ceasefire agreement it reached in April with the U.S.

Iran fired multiple waves of missiles toward Israel, setting off air raid sirens and prompting what Israeli officials described as successful interceptions. Israel later said it struck military sites in western and central Iran. Meanwhile, Iran-backed Houthi rebels in Yemen claimed an attack on Israel and threatened to target Israeli-linked shipping in the Red Sea.

In a statement on X, Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian vowed his country "will not re-

treat in the face of any threat," adding: "We have abandoned neither the field nor the negotiating table."

The exchange marked the most serious challenge yet to the April ceasefire and came on the 100th day of the war, dubbed Operation Epic Fury.

The conflict began in late February with joint American and Israeli strikes that killed top Iranian leaders.

Earlier, Trump had urged Netanyahu not to retaliate against Iran and to allow for more diplomacy, according to Axios.

Israel nevertheless carried out strikes on Iranian targets, and Axios reported that the U.S. had not signed off on the attacks.

In a telephone interview with the Financial Times, Trump said a diplomatic deal is still in

the works and that Israel will have no choice but to accept it.

"I call all the shots," Trump said. "(Netanyahu) doesn't call the shots."

Israeli officials have not reported any casualties following the Iranian attacks. Iranian state media reported that two missiles struck near a petrochemical plant but caused no casualties.

The exchange of fire between Iran and Israel, along with the Houthi attacks, threatened to escalate into a return to full combat after months of relative calm.

U.S. officials have expressed optimism about striking a conclusive peace deal with Iran, but intermittent Iranian skirmishes with American and Israeli forces have made the talks slow-going.

Teachers who fled Bahrain given new assignments

BY LARA KORTE
Stars and Stripes

Dozens of teachers in Defense Department schools who fled Bahrain at the start of the war with Iran recently received new assignments, the latest development for evacuees waiting to return to the island.

The decision doesn't mean Bahrain schools won't reopen in August as usual but does suggest that the Pentagon is preparing for the possibility that it won't be able to return dependents to Bahrain before the end of summer.

DODEA educators were among the thousands of civilians and dependents who evacuated from Bahrain under Iranian drone and missile fire in March.

The Persian Gulf island is home to Naval Support Activity Bahrain, which hosts U.S. Naval Forces Central Command and the 5th Fleet. Typically, the base supports some 8,300 service members, civilians and their families.

The teachers were given full-time positions in other locations around the world, said Catherine Indresano, president of the Overseas Federation of Teachers, the union that represents Department of Defense Education Activity teaching staff in Bahrain as well as Spain, Italy and Turkey.

If Bahrain schools reopen in the fall, they will get priority replacement to return, she said.

"We don't get to make these decisions; we're here to support

them," Indresano said. "We know they've been through a lot, and we hope they can finally find some kind of peace."

A spokesperson for DODEA did not respond to a request for comment.

DODEA Director Paul Craft said last week that no final decision has been made on whether to reopen the schools this fall after previously telling parents that their students should enroll in other schools for the coming academic year.

The island's Defense Department schools, which are also open to Bahrainis and international students, could reopen as soon as this fall or as late as August 2027, Craft said.

The decision will be made over the next few weeks based

on a threat assessment, readiness and operating conditions, he added.

Since the war started, evacuees have been sheltering in safe havens in Europe and the U.S., with many eager to return to the island. But a prolonged ceasefire punctuated by intermittent fighting between U.S. and Iranian forces has left many in limbo.

A brief exchange of fire between Israel and Iran on Sunday threatened to undo the fragile ceasefire and plunge the region back into armed conflict.

In addition to the ongoing danger, NSA Bahrain has also sustained extensive damage from Iranian drones and missiles, including hits to its radar systems and warehouses.

Navy to add more modern subs to Kitsap

By GARY WARNER
Stars and Stripes

BREMERTON, Wash. — Naval Base Kitsap in Washington could be home to up to eight new ballistic missile submarines and serve as the homeport to three aircraft carriers, the Navy said this week.

The Navy is finalizing the Environmental Assessment for upgrading facilities at the ballistic-missile submarine base at Bangor at the northern end of the 20,000-acre Kitsap base, just west of Seattle.

“The Navy draft found no specific problems,” Greg Thompson, a Navy civilian planner on the submarine project, said. A public comment period closes June 25.

Piers and dockside facilities would be renovated or rebuilt to accommodate the 20,000-ton Columbia-class ballistic missile submarines, the largest ever built for the Navy. Work is expected to begin next year and

be completed in 2032.

A similar modernization is already underway at Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay, Ga.

The Columbia-class missile submarines would replace the Ohio-class missile submarines, which first entered Navy service in 1981. The new submarines are the sea-based leg of the modernization of the U.S. nuclear arsenal, which also includes production of the B-21 Raider manned bomber and the future LGM-35A Sentinel land-based ICBM.

At Kitsap, the submarines would be replaced on a one-for-one basis, with an Ohio-class leaving for every Columbia-class that arrives. The base is currently the homeport for eight Ohio-class submarines.

“The total number of submarines would not increase,” Thompson said.

The first of the new submarines, USS District of Columbia, has been under construction at

General Dynamics Electric Boat at Groton, Conn., since its keel was laid in June 2022.

General Dynamics said delivery of the first submarine is “on track” for 2028. After sea tests, it would go on active duty in 2030. The second Columbia-class submarine, USS Wisconsin, was laid down in August 2025 and has a scheduled delivery of 2030, with a target for active duty of 2032.

Because Kings Bay is at a more advanced stage of its modernization work, the first and second boats are expected to be assigned there, the Navy said.

A third boat, USS Groton, has been funded by Congress.

The lead boat is expected to cost more than \$15.2 billion, with later boats averaging about \$8.6 billion, according to an analysis by the U.S. Naval Institute. The Navy plans on building 12 of the ballistic missile submarines.

The Navy also said Wednesday

that USS Abraham Lincoln, a Nimitz-class aircraft carrier, could move its homeport from Naval Air Station North Island to Naval Base Kitsap at some point.

USS Ronald Reagan, a Nimitz-class carrier, is homeported at Kitsap. It is in the later stages of an 18-month maintenance overhaul at the adjacent Puget Sound Naval Shipyard. The work is expected to be completed before the end of the year.

The base is undergoing an extensive \$145 million electrical systems upgrade to prepare it for handling Ford-class carriers.

The Navy has announced that USS John F. Kennedy, the second Gerald R. Ford-class carrier, would be homeported at Kitsap after its commissioning scheduled for March 2027. The transfer to Kitsap would occur in 2029 after additional sea trials and training out of Norfolk Naval Station.

Report: Guard in DC made no dent in violent crime

By JENNIFER H. SVAN
Stars and Stripes

Property crime dropped by nearly a quarter following the surge of National Guard troops to the nation’s capital last year, but the deployment had little to no effect on violent crimes, according to a new report by the Niskanen Center.

“It was an expensive tool deployed in the wrong places for the wrong types of crime,” the study authors wrote, comparing the average daily cost of \$607 to employ a Guard member in D.C. with the \$384 for Metropolitan Police Department officers.

Published last week, the non-partisan think tank’s report examined crime rates in the first six months after roughly 2,000 uni-

formed personnel were added to the streets of Washington beginning in August 2025.

While researchers observed a 24% reduction in property crimes, such as auto theft, the troops’ presence produced “no measurable effect on violent crime,” while at a high cost to taxpayers, the report said.

Placing the National Guard in high-visibility public spaces “appears to have deterred opportunistic property offending, exactly the category of crime most sensitive to visible, high-presence enforcement on the street,” the researchers said. “Violent crime was unmoved.”

President Donald Trump deemed the operation a success less than two months after the

Guard was mobilized, declaring the city “very safe” now.

The White House on Thursday called the study an “analysis from out-of-touch think tanks written by keyboard warriors.”

The Guard deployment was part of the administration’s Safe and Beautiful Task Force, after Trump in August 2025 declared a crime emergency in the city.

Guard personnel were spread across tourist corridors, transit hubs such as Union Station, federal buildings, monuments, parks and public spaces.

One explanation given for the negligible impact the deployment had on violent crime is that such offenses are “more deeply rooted in interpersonal

dynamics, social network conflicts and the more structural conditions of high-poverty neighborhoods.”

Although Guard members were often armed and could detain individuals, they had no power to arrest; police retained that authority, the report noted.

Their duties extended to traffic control, security, clearing homeless encampments and what internal documents describe as “beautification” work, according to the report.

Robberies were already trending downward before the Guard deployment with no visible break in August, according to the report, and other violent crimes barely registered a discontinuity at all.

Trump storms off interview with NBC

Los Angeles Times

President Donald Trump shut down an interview with NBC News after host Kristen Welker pushed back on his claims that the election in California on June 2 was rigged.

During a lengthy interview in Wisconsin that aired on “Meet the Press” on Sunday, Trump echoed claims he made in recent days that officials in California were “cheating,” because after four days, they “aren’t even close” to finishing the count.

With more than 70% of the vote in on Sunday, veteran Democratic politician Xavier Becerra was about a percentage point ahead of Republican Steve Hilton in the governor’s race. In the

Los Angeles mayoral race, the gap between former reality TV personality Spencer Pratt and City Councilmember Nithya Raman also narrowed to a percentage point.

“Do you have evidence to support that?” Welker asked Trump about his cheating claims.

“All I have to do is look,” he said, to which she shot back. “But sir, that’s not evidence, that’s how they count the votes in California.” She added that state and local officials acknowledge they are slow.

“No, they’re crooked ... just like you’re crooked. Your press is crooked and ‘Meet the Press’ is crooked,” he said.

“You’re either crooked or

you’re stupid,” he went on. “You know that these elections are rigged. Your network knows that they’re rigged.”

The back-and-forth continued until Trump decided to “call it quits.”

“I’ve had enough,” he said, removing the microphone from his lapel and tossing it to the floor. “Thank you, darling, have a good time.”

As Welker tried to convince him to finish the interview, he added: “A country can never be great with a dishonest press.”

And eventually he walked off.

A misreading of voting data in the Los Angeles mayoral race late on Election Night has fueled the false narrative that Trump

and other Republicans have pushed in recent days that California Democrats were cheating. The claim was that in one vote count update, one candidate received zero votes. First Assistant U.S. Attorney Bill Essayli said on X that the claim was false, and “each candidate received votes in every update.”

Essayli has confirmed on X that his office “has multiple election fraud investigations underway,” in coordination with the FBI in Los Angeles.

In another post, he asked witnesses to come forward: “We want to hear from you,” Essayli posted. “Please do not send rumors, theories, or second-hand information.”

Democrats still largely back Platner in key Senate race

Bloomberg News

Some congressional Democrats expressed wariness about Maine candidate Graham Platner ahead of Tuesday’s Senate primary following the latest round of allegations about his behavior with women.

The seat in Maine—currently held by Republican Susan Collins—would be key to Democrats’ chances of taking control of the Senate in November. Platner has been so popular both locally and nationally, prompting Democratic Gov. Janet Mills to suspend her campaign, that Democrats have been cautious about criticizing him.

Platner, who served four military tours in Iraq and Afghanistan, was first criticized for a tattoo on his chest—now covered—that resembles a Nazi symbol, as well as offensive social media posts that he made years ago.

More recently, The Wall Street Journal and The New York Times reported that he sent sexually explicit texts to various women while he was

married and described allegations from women he dated before his marriage that his relationships were “toxic” and “abusive.”

But Platner has tapped into voters’ anger and desire for change. His message of economic populism speaks to the working-class voters with whom Democrats need to regain trust. That has led to unwavering support from progressive senators such as Bernie Sanders and Elizabeth Warren and an unwillingness by Democratic leadership to cut ties with him.

Democrats’ cautious attitude stands in contrast to how they reacted in recent years to other members of their party accused of inappropriate behavior with women, especially in the immediate aftermath of the #MeToo movement.

There’s been no polling since the latest allegations emerged, but Platner has generally been leading Collins in head-to-head matchups.

Dem says renewing spy powers at risk with pick

Bloomberg News

President Donald Trump’s appointment of Bill Pulte as acting director of national intelligence makes passage of a bill renewing spy powers far harder, the top Democrat on the Senate Intelligence Committee said.

Sen. Mark Warner said on ABC’s “This Week” that Pulte’s appointment threw a “live grenade” into negotiations between Republicans and Democrats to extend Section 702 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act. That program, which started after 9/11, allows intelligence agencies to surveil foreign nationals’ communications even if U.S. citizens are part of the communication.

The current authorization for those powers expires on Friday.

“The idea that we’re going to allow Mr. Pulte to be potentially in charge of how this tool is used or manipulated, that’s going to be a very uphill path to convince Democrats,” Warner, who represents Virginia, said in a separate appearance on CNN’s

“State of The Union.”

At least seven Senate Democrats would have to vote in favor in order to reauthorize Section 702, but they have threatened to block any extension if the White House doesn’t withdraw Pulte’s appointment. Warner had been negotiating for months with Collins in search of a compromise.

Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth criticized the delay on Sunday, posting on X that “Democrats are choosing to halt action on reauthorization, undermining national security and putting politics ahead of the safety of the American people.”

Pulte, a Trump loyalist, has used his powers as director of the Federal Housing Finance Agency to launch investigations into the mortgages of perceived Trump opponents.

Republican Sen. James Lankford told “Fox News Sunday” that Pulte was not “qualified for the long-term position” and that Trump was interviewing candidates for the permanent position.

China's Xi pledges deeper N. Korea ties

Bloomberg News

President Xi Jinping vowed to expand China's trade, agriculture and technology cooperation with North Korea, while avoiding public mentions of its neighbor's nuclear program in a meeting with Kim Jong Un in Pyongyang.

In comments made Monday in the North Korean capital, Xi pledged "unwavering support" for Kim, saying China is ready to "expand practical cooperation in areas including economy and trade, agriculture, construction, science and technology, and medical and health care," according to China's state news agency Xinhua.

He also called on both sides to strengthen exchanges in diplomacy, law enforcement and the military, as well as promote tourism and travel.

Hours earlier, Xi arrived in Pyongyang to an elaborate welcome on his first visit to the reclusive nation in seven years. It's also the Chinese leader's first trip abroad this year, coming just weeks after he hosted President Donald Trump and Russia's Vladimir Putin in back-to-back summits.

The two-day visit is part of Beijing's effort to reassert influence over an emboldened Pyongyang, which has drastically ex-

panded its nuclear arsenal and drawn closer to Moscow.

A day before Xi's trip, Kim's sister, Kim Yo Jong, said the country's atomic weapons program was "absolutely non-negotiable" and that "officials in the United States have failed to wake from their escapist and anachronistic dreams."

The Xinhua readout of the meeting made no mention of eliminating nuclear weapons on the Korean Peninsula — a goal China had maintained publicly for years. That language has been missing from official Chinese statements since Kim's visit to Beijing last September,

prompting speculation that China has now tacitly accepted North Korea as a de facto nuclear power.

"China now views substantial progress toward North Korean denuclearization as unrealistic for the foreseeable future," said Tong Zhao, a senior fellow in the Nuclear Policy Program at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.

"Combined with Beijing's overriding focus on strategic competition with Washington, this reassessment has lowered the priority of the North Korean nuclear issue in China's foreign policy agenda."

European leaders join Ukraine's call for ceasefire

Bloomberg News

European leaders called on Russian President Vladimir Putin to agree to an immediate and complete ceasefire that allows talks to begin on a lasting peace deal.

Britain, Germany and France made the intervention after a meeting with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy at 10 Downing Street in London hosted by UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer, where they discussed

the conditions to end the war.

The joint statement came after Putin rejected a ceasefire proposal by Ukraine last week and an escalation in military action over the weekend.

Ukraine accused Moscow's forces of striking a spent nuclear fuel storage facility near Chernobyl, while Russia said a bridge that allows access to the Crimean peninsula was damaged.

French President Emmanuel

Macron and German Chancellor Friedrich Merz joined Starmer in condemning Russia's missile attacks on Ukrainian cities and drone incursions into NATO territory.

They committed to stand firmly with Ukraine.

Any deal with Putin would require Russia to meet five demands, the report of the meeting said. Those include:

- A stop to the fighting.
- Negotiations would start at

the current line of contact and that international borders should not be changed by force.

■ Ukraine should have security guarantees including the deployment of a multinational force.

■ Hundreds of billions of dollars of Russian assets would remain frozen until Russia compensates Ukraine for the damage caused by the war.

■ European interests are safeguarded.

Camp Hansen's housing upgrade ready for residents

BY BRIAN McELHINEY

Stars and Stripes

CAMP HANSEN, Okinawa — Nearly 1,100 enlisted Marines will soon move into a new barracks complex featuring private bedrooms and modern amenities as part of a broader effort to upgrade military housing on Okinawa.

Marine Corps Installations Pacific commander Maj. Gen. Brian Wolford joined U.S. military and Japanese officials Friday to cut the ribbon on Hansen's new bachelor enlisted quarters complex, during a cer-

emony attended by about 80 guests.

Participants included camp commander Col. Joshua Mayoral and Okinawa Defense Bureau director Masaru Murai.

Situated behind the theater on the base's south side, the complex includes three barracks capable of housing 1,096 unaccompanied enlisted Marines through the rank of sergeant, camp director Joseph Scala told reporters during a tour. A detached parking garage provides 220 parking spaces, said project manager Michael Scott.

The complex replaces six older barracks as part of the Defense Policy Review Initiative, or DPRI, the long-running U.S.-Japan effort to consolidate and modernize military facilities on Okinawa.

"This is the first domino that starts falling for the rest of the construction that's going to happen on Camp Hansen," Wolford said. "Everything in DPRI is one big Jenga project. Everything has to go in sequence."

Planning for the project began in 2019, and construction started in March 2022, construction

manager Eric Godoy said after the ceremony. The Japanese government paid for the \$320 million project, which involved 15 local construction companies.

Marines are expected to begin moving into the complex next month, Scala said.

Each of the three barracks contains 184 housing modules designed for two Marines. Each resident receives a private 155-square-foot bedroom and a personal sink. Roommates share a kitchen, restroom, shower, and washer and dryer within the 710-square-foot unit.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Feeding Our Future one of 'most wanted fraudsters'

MN MINNEAPOLIS — The FBI has added a Minneapolis grocer accused of defrauding a federally funded meals program to the agency's new "Most Wanted Fraudsters" list.

Authorities allege Said Ereg, 47, fraudulently obtained millions in federal dollars meant to feed children in Minnesota through the Feeding Our Future nonprofit. The FBI is offering up to \$150,000 for information leading to his arrest and conviction.

Thursday's announcement is part of a new campaign to highlight alleged fraud across the country. Vice President JD Vance is leading a fraud task force meant to combat the misuse of federal funds.

Ereg received more than \$4.2 million in federal dollars between 2020 and 2021 that were meant to feed children, authorities said in Thursday's news release. Instead, Ereg allegedly used most of the money for "his family's lavish lifestyle" and transferred some of those funds into foreign accounts.

The U.S. Department of Justice charged Ereg with wire fraud, money laundering and conspiracy to commit wire fraud. No arrest for Ereg has been reported since.

Thunderstorms delay more than 350 flights

CO DENVER — Thunderstorms delayed more than 350 flights in and out of Denver International Airport on Saturday afternoon.

The storms were not severe

enough as of 4:45 p.m. to warrant official warnings from the National Weather Service, but posed enough risk to delay 143 departing flights and 107 arrivals, according to tracking service FlightAware.

As of 7:20 p.m. the number grew to 358 total delayed flights. Four departing flights were canceled, though the service does not detail if that is due to weather or other issues.

Southwest accounted for 113 delays, United accounted for 124 and SkyWest accounted for 63 delays. Frontier experienced 19 delays and American Airlines had 11. American also had two cancellations, while Alaska Airlines and United each canceled one flight on Saturday.

4 MS-13 members found guilty in 3 grisly slayings

CA LOS ANGELES — Four members of the gang MS-13 were found guilty Thursday in the slayings of three people in the Angeles National Forest over several months in 2017, including one victim whose heart was carved out of his chest, his body dismembered and then thrown down a canyon, according to authorities.

Angel Amadeo Guzman, 31, of Panorama City; Fernando Garcia Parada, 28, of Panorama City; Edgard Velasquez, 43, of Reseda; and Jose Jonathan Castillo, 34, of Koreatown were found guilty of racketeering, conspiracy and violent crimes in aid of racketeering through murder, according to a news release from the U.S. district attorney's office in the Central District of California.

They are scheduled to be sentenced Oct. 20 and each face one

or more mandatory life sentences in federal prison.

Climbing ranger dies during patrol on Denali

AK ANCHORAGE — A mountaineering ranger died Thursday while patrolling Denali, National Park Service officials said.

Denali National Park and Preserve officials said in a statement that ranger Robin Penderly died after falling into a crevasse near the mountain's 14,000-foot camp while on a climbing patrol at about 2 p.m. The camp is situated along Denali's West Buttress route, the path used by the vast majority of climbers attempting to summit America's highest peak.

Officials said National Park Service personnel immediately worked to try to rescue Penderly, but officials otherwise did not provide additional details about the circumstances of the incident.

"Our mountaineering rangers dedicate themselves to serving visitors and helping others in one of the most challenging environments in the world," Denali Superintendent Brooke Merrell said in the statement. "Today, we mourn the loss of a valued colleague, friend and teammate. Our thoughts are with Robin's family and loved ones."

Man arrested for alleged threats to lawmaker

SC COLUMBIA — A 57-year-old man has been arrested for stalking and threatening South Carolina state Rep. Seth Rose and his family.

The man, Dewayne Simmons, of Blythewood, is being held at Richland County's Alvin S. Glenn Detention Center on Bluff Road. His alleged motive is not known.

Rose and his family, which includes three children, have not been harmed.

A warrant said: "Between the dates of Feb. 12, 2026, and April 15, 2026, Dewayne Simmons, willfully and knowingly authored written communications to the victim via the United States Postal Service, which contained a threat to the life of a public official."

Arrest warrant issued for ex-governor over finances

KY LEXINGTON — Jefferson Family Court Judge Angela Johnson issued an arrest warrant for former Kentucky Gov. Matt Bevin on Friday after he failed to turn in certain financial documents in an ongoing family court case.

Bevin had until noon Friday to turn over requested financial records or face 60 days behind bars at the Louisville Metro Detention Center and a \$500 fine.

Bevin had filed an emergency motion that requested an extension to turn in those documents. Johnson denied it.

It's the latest development in the year-long battle within the Bevin family.

The former governor's son, Jonah Bevin, now 19, filed to intervene in the divorce case between Matt Bevin and Glenna Bevin to seek financial support after he said his parents abandoned him at an abusive youth facility in Jamaica when he was 16 and are no longer financially supporting him.

— From wire reports

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Canes face major decisions for Game 4

Associated Press

A sequence of events in a Stanley Cup Final that has gotten crazier by the minute has put the Carolina Hurricanes at a crossroads.

They blew a two-goal lead and lost Game 1, erased a two-goal deficit and won Game 2 and rallied from down four goals in Game 3, only to lose in double overtime on a fluky bounce.

They have lived the ups and downs of a tight series against the Vegas Golden Knights and head into Game 4 on Tuesday night with a razor-thin margin for error. While each of the first three games was decided by a single goal, close doesn't count toward anything but a 2-1 deficit they now need to try to overcome.

"It's part of the gig, and it's never easy," captain Jordan Staal said. "It's never going to be easy, and we know that and we understand that. We've got a bigger hill to climb now, but we're

excited for the challenge and excited to keep playing hard and keep moving forward."

Carolina faces several lingering questions, most notably who starts in net between Frederik Andersen and Brandon Bussi. Andersen played every minute of the first 15 playoff games before getting the hook at the second intermission Saturday night down 4-0, and Bussi was perfect in relief until a shot from Shea Theodore banked off the end boards and went in when the goaltender inadvertently redirected it with his left skate 5:38 into the second overtime.

Coach Rod Brind'Amour deferred the decision until after practice Monday, if not later.

"I don't anticipate a lot of changes to our lineup," Brind'Amour said on a video call with reporters Sunday. "We'll see how (Andersen is) feeling. I haven't made any decisions on the lineup, so I can't tell you."

It was not clear if Andersen

was banged up in any way. The 36-year-old from Denmark also was not chiefly to blame for allowing four goals on 16 shots in Game 3.

"You obviously don't want to give up some of the chances we've given up, but overall I thought he's been fine," Brind'Amour said. "You ask him to make the saves that he's got to make, and I think he's done that. A couple bad bounces, they are what they are. He's been solid for us, Buss came in and was solid for us, so that's got to continue."

A too many men on the ice penalty flipped the momentum Saturday at Vegas, after Brind'Amour had two Golden Knights goals taken off the board by successful challenges. Reliable defenseman Sean Walker knocking the puck into his own net came at an inopportune time, as did fourth-line forward William Carrier failing to clear the zone.

Mitch Marner scored on each

of those occasions and finished off the hat trick and a four-point second period with a breakaway goal. One emphasis moving forward will be trying to avoid Marner breaking through for quality chances.

It would also help to get Carrier back after he missed the third period and OT because of an upper-body injury. Brind'Amour did not have an update other than hope that Carrier would be good to go in Game 4.

With or without him, the Hurricanes face close to a must-win situation at the arena on The Strip nicknamed the "Fortress." Only one team out of 39 that has fallen behind 3-1 in the Final has come back to win it: Toronto in 1942.

Pointing out his team is a couple of shots away from what could be a 3-0 series lead, Brind'Amour is not worried about players dwelling over this deficit because they know how close it has been.

Knicks coach Brown revels in long playoff win streak

Associated Press

It was April 23, or 6½ weeks ago. The New York Knicks had just endured their second consecutive one-point loss to the Atlanta Hawks, and this one left them trailing 2-1 in their Eastern Conference first-round series.

Signs of trouble were everywhere.

The mood in New York was abysmal.

Mike Brown's future as coach was a hot topic.

"Stuff's going to happen," Brown, the Knicks coach in his first year, said that night in Atlanta. "Plenty of teams have been down 1-2. I even think Oklahoma City was down 1-2 last year and they ended up winning it. I'm not saying we're going to win it or anything like that, but the reality of it is it's seven games and you take one game at a time."

New York has played 13 games since without a loss. One game at a time, one win at a time and quite possibly, one championship at a time. The Knicks are back in New York with a 2-0 lead over the San Antonio Spurs in the NBA Finals, still riding the strength of a 13-game winning streak.

A streak like that has happened once before

in NBA postseason history, when counting just single-season winning runs. Golden State won 15 in a row on its way to the 2017 title.

The common thread between those Warriors and these Knicks? That would be Brown. He was an assistant on that Golden State staff and went 12-0 as acting head coach during the playoffs while Steve Kerr was sidelined by back issues.

Brown's playoff record, officially, is a stellar 64-42 as a head coach. Throw those 12 games with the Warriors on his record and Brown's playoff winning percentage would rise to .644. That would be third-best in NBA history among coaches with at least 100 playoff games, behind only Phil Jackson and Kerr.

Either way, Brown now has to be considered the coaching king of the playoff winning streak.

A look inside this run by New York:

Dominant margins

■ The Knicks have outscored the Hawks, Philadelphia, Cleveland and San Antonio in these 13 games by 273 points, the biggest 13-game margin in NBA playoff history. Before

this stretch, the biggest 13-game playoff point-differential margin was 225, by the same Golden State team Brown led on an interim basis in 2017.

■ All but two of New York's wins in this streak were by double figures. The exceptions: Game 2 of the Eastern Conference semifinals against the 76ers (a six-point win) and Game 2 of the NBA Finals against the Spurs (a one-point win). Six additional wins have come with a final margin between 10 and 16 points, and the other five were total blowouts—the Knicks winning those by 29, 30, 37, 39 and 51 points.

Road warriors

■ New York is 8-0 on the road during this winning streak, the final margin in those games — even with a one-point game from Friday in there — averaging a staggering 21.5 points.

■ The only team in Knicks history with a longer road winning streak, either in the regular season or playoffs, was the 1969-70 team that once won 12 in a row away from home. That team went on to win New York's first NBA title.

Hamlin dedicates NASCAR victory to Busch

Associated Press

BROOKLYN, Mich. — There were no boos for Denny Hamlin after this winning burnout at Michigan International Speedway.

Holding a black No. 18 flag out the window, the Joe Gibbs Racing star celebrated his 63rd career victory by smoking the tires of his No. 11 Toyota down the straightaway in honor of Kyle Busch, his late teammate whom he tied for ninth on the all-time win list in the NASCAR Cup Series.

“Truthfully, I had to outlive him to tie him,” said Hamlin, who radioed “We love you, KB” on his victory lap. “He was an amazing teammate. He taught me so much at tracks like this. I just can’t say enough.”

It was the second consecutive victory for Hamlin and his sec-

ond consecutive win at Michigan, where he celebrated last year by taunting fans who booed him.

But there were only raucous cheers from the front-stretch grandstands Sunday as Hamlin jogged up to the flag stand to get the checkered flag while still carrying his Busch tribute flag.

Busch drove the No. 18 from 2008-22 for Gibbs, teaming up with Hamlin for a NASCAR-record 523 races. Busch’s death on May 21 rocked the NASCAR industry, which was already grieving over the offseason deaths of Greg Biffle and his family in a plane crash. Hamlin’s father also died in a Dec. 28 house fire.

Noting that Hall of Famer Ned Jarrett also died last week, Hamlin dedicated his third win this season to Busch and his family.

“The offseason, it was rough

for me, and it was rough for the NASCAR family,” Hamlin said. “Just an unbelievable feeling to be able to strap in every week, and I don’t take it for granted, this opportunity that I’m in. I just love we’re making the best of it.”

Just like last week’s win at Nashville Superspeedway, when the Joe Gibbs Racing car started on the pole position but was penalized for jumping the start, Hamlin qualified first at Michigan but dropped to the back at the green flag because of a penalty for unapproved adjustments to his No. 11 Toyota.

Hamlin patiently worked his way to the front over 400 miles. He took the lead for good on a three-wide pass during a restart with 38 laps remaining, sweeping into first around Spire Racing teammates Daniel Suarez and Carson Hocevar, a home-state

favorite.

Hamlin won by 11.110 seconds, his widest margin of victory in Cup and the largest win at Michigan since June 1991.

“This Joe Gibbs team just keeps giving me amazing race cars,” Hamlin said. “This Toyota was just amazing. And at the last run there, it just hammered down. It had a few good restarts, and then once we got to the lead, I was going to lay it out.”

Erik Jones, another Michigan native, finished second after also starting from the rear for unapproved adjustments. Bubba Wallace was a season-best third, followed by Kyle Larson and Hocevar, who notched his best Michigan finish.

“I don’t think anyone was going to contend with Denny at the end,” Larson said. “He was flying.”

Korda wins Open by 1 stroke, claims second straight major

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Although Nelly Korda is deep in one of the most dominant seasons in recent golf history, her first U.S. Women’s Open title still hung on the rim of the 18th hole at Riviera for one heart-stopping moment.

Her 2½-foot putt to win caught the left edge, and it toured half the circumference of the hole while the gallery watched in disbelief. When it finally fell amid an outburst of gasps and roars, Korda put her hand over her open mouth before she laughed at the absurdity of her sport.

“It’s even sweeter, especially with that ice cream swirl on the last hole,” the world’s top-ranked player said.

This trophy was the cool treat Korda wanted more than anything: She won the 81st U.S. Women’s Open on Sunday for her second consecutive major victory, holding off Charley Hull and Gaby Lopez by one shot.

The 27-year-old Korda claimed her fourth major overall with a steady 2-under 69 in the final round but only after her second putt on the 18th came perilously close to a spin-out that would have forced a three-way playoff.

When it dropped, Korda had her fourth LPGA Tour victory already from a season in which she also has three second-place finishes in just eight starts. She finished at 8-under

276 and celebrated with a tear-streaked face.

Korda was seven shots off the lead after the opening round before fighting her way back to a third-round co-lead, and she never separated from Sunday’s competitive pack at Riviera — but she was the only one among the top seven finishers without a bogey on the back nine.

Korda said she’ll remember her 9-foot birdie putt on the 17th meant much longer than her frightening final shot because it broke her out of a four-way tie for the lead with Lopez, the hard-charging Hull and three-time major champion In Gee Chun.

The champion made just three birdies and a bogey Sunday, playing steadily and comfortably with her improved competitive mentality. Korda has stressed positivity and steadiness after her inexplicably winless 2025.

And after the hair-raising finish, Korda claimed the \$2.5 million winner’s share of this Open’s record \$12.5 million purse.

“This week was definitely a grind,” Korda said. “I don’t even feel like I had my B game. I was just grinding out there, and that’s what I guess major championships are all about, right? It doesn’t matter if you have your B or C game. You have to be there mentally.”

Korda arrived at Riviera as the favorite, but the entire Open was a challenge she met

splendidly.

After a rough opening-round 73, she took the extraordinary step of altering her grip — per the suggestion of her big sister, Jessica — and coolly put together back-to-back 67s to take a share of the lead into the final round.

The leaderboard only separated late Sunday after seven players began within two strokes of the lead.

Korda fended off excellent final rounds from England’s Hull and Mexico’s Lopez. Hull finished second at a major for the fifth time in her career.

Chun finished two shots back at 6-under 278, while third-round co-leader Sei Young Kim carded a 1-over 72 to finish at 279.

Korda dropped her approach shot squarely on the 18th green and two-putted to a victory that immediately made her think about how far she has traveled since her first U.S. Open as a precocious teen at Sebonack in 2013.

“Even mid-round I was like, ‘Well, will I ever win it?’ You always have those doubts, but I think you’re just a human being if you have them. ... I don’t know if a weight has been lifted off of my shoulders, but I just think I’m just extremely proud of my fight this week, and (fulfilling) the dream of that little girl,” Korda said.

McGonigle, Tigers rally to walk off Mariners

Associated Press

DETROIT — Kevin McGonigle homered in the fourth inning and hit a two-run single off All-Star closer Andrés Muñoz with two outs in the bottom of the ninth that gave the Detroit Tigers a 5-4 victory over the Seattle Mariners on Sunday.

Wenceel Pérez tripled home two runs in the seventh to begin Detroit's comeback from a 4-1 deficit as the Tigers took two of three games in the series.

Muñoz (3-4) struck out Spencer Torkelson to start the ninth, then walked Zach McKinstry and Pérez. Both advanced on Matt Vierling's groundout before McGonigle lined a single off the glove of leaping second baseman Cole Young to give Detroit its fifth victory in six games.

Will Vest (2-4) pitched a scoreless inning for the win.

Giants 2, Cubs 1 (10): Matt Chapman singled to drive in automatic runner Jonah Cox in the 10th inning, lifting visiting San Francisco over Chicago for its fourth win in its last five games.

Chapman lined the second pitch from Trent Thornton (2-2) to center and Cox, pinch running for Bryce Eldridge, scored from second base as the Giants took two of three at Wrigley Field and dealt the Cubs their 20th loss in 27 games.

Javier Assad threw 6⅓ shutout innings — allowing only Chapman's infield single and a walk — after coming in for Cubs starter Jameson Taillon, who exited with a strained left hamstring with no outs in the second.

Royals 6, Twins 5: Bobby Witt Jr. hit an RBI single with two outs in the ninth inning to give visiting Kansas City a come-from-behind victory over Minnesota.

With the Royals trailing 2-1, Isaac Collins led off top of the inning with a single against Eric Orze (2-2). Pinch runner Tyler Tolbert stole second. Josh Rojas tried to sacrifice him over to

third, but his bunt went straight back to Orze, who threw to second base too late to catch the re-treating Tolbert.

Kyle Isbel successfully bunted the runners up a base, and Tolbert scored on Carter Jensen's sacrifice fly to tie it. Witt then drove in Rojas with a single to left.

Brewers 12, Rockies 4: Gary Sánchez homered for the first time since April 14 as part of a seven-run sixth inning, rookie Shane Bieber (3-1) pitched efficiently into the seventh and visiting Milwaukee beat Colorado to complete a three-game sweep.

The Brewers finished with 10 extra-base hits. That included two triples (one by Andrew Vaughn, his first since 2024), seven doubles (two each from Jackson Chourio and Garrett Mitchell) and Sánchez's sixth homer of the season.

Rockies pitcher Kyle Freeland became the franchise's all-time leader in innings pitched during the loss. With his first out in the fifth, Freeland got to 1,312⅓ innings for his career and one out ahead of Aaron Cook, the sinker ball specialist who notched 1,312⅓ innings for Colorado from 2002-11.

Angels 13, Dodgers 5: Back-up catcher Sebastián Rivera went 5-for-5 with six RBIs to lead a 13-for-15 performance by the bottom four batters in the order, propelling the visiting Angels past the Dodgers to avoid a season sweep.

The Dodgers didn't get an out against the last four Angels batters, who combined for 10 runs and 10 RBIs, until No. 6 hitter Jo Adell struck out against reliever Kyle Hurt in the eighth. Adell was 4-for-5 with a two-run homer in the seventh and scored four times.

Braves 3, Pirates 2: Michael Harris II hit a three-run double in the seventh inning and host Atlanta beat Pittsburgh to complete a three-game sweep.

Reynaldo López (3-1) earned

the win with a scoreless seventh, and Tyler Kinley ended a bases-loaded threat in the eighth when he got Ryan O'Hearn to ground out to first base.

Phillies 9, White Sox 5: Brandon Marsh homered for the third straight day and drove in two runs, Rafael Marchán also went deep and host Philadelphia beat Chicago.

José Alvarado (3-1) worked a scoreless sixth as the Phillies' bullpen closed out the game with 4⅔ scoreless innings in relief of Aaron Nola.

Yankees 6, Red Sox 1: Cody Bellinger's tiebreaking homer sparked a five-run eighth inning capped by Jazz Chisholm Jr.'s three-run drive as banged-up New York beat visiting Boston.

The Yankees are missing a trio of regulars who are on the injured list: Aaron Judge (fractured rib), Giancarlo Stanton (calf strain) and Austin Wells (cervical headaches). In five games without Judge, they are batting .226 with 19 runs.

Blue Jays 6, Orioles 4: Yohandrick Piñango and Brandon Valenzuela hit solo home runs, Andrés Giménez had two hits and an RBI and host Toronto rallied to beat Baltimore.

Piñango opened the Blue Jays' five-run sixth inning with a homer off Shane Bieber (3-6), his fourth of the season. Valenzuela connected off Rico Garcia to begin the eighth, his seventh.

Marlins 4, Rays 1: Sandy Alcántara (5-4) struck out seven in seven innings of one-run ball, Otto López doubled and tripled, and host Miami beat Tampa Bay.

Kyle Stowers singled and hit a go-ahead sacrifice fly for the Marlins, who clinched the three-game series and finished 3-3 against their in-state rival this season.

Athletics 5, Astros 0: Nick Kurtz and Brent Rooker homered, Gage Kott (2-1) worked 6⅓ scoreless innings and the visiting Athletics beat

Houston to avoid a series sweep.

Rooker also had an RBI double that scored Shea Langeliers and gave the Athletics a 3-0 lead in the third. Zack Gelof scored on a fielding error by shortstop Jeremy Peña in the fourth.

Cardinals 5, Reds 3: Bryan Torres homered, Jordan Walker hit an RBI double and host St. Louis scored on two errors in the eighth inning to rally past Cincinnati to sweep the series.

Victor Scott II dribbled a sacrifice bunt to Reds pitcher Sam Moll that he threw past the third baseman to score Alec Burleson and give the Cardinals a 4-3 lead. Iván Herrera reached on a fielding error by shortstop Matt McLain soon after, adding an insurance run.

Rangers 10, Guardians 0: Jacob deGrom (5-4) allowed only three singles in six innings, Justin Foscue hit the first of host Texas' four home runs and the Rangers beat Cleveland, giving them three consecutive series wins for the first time this season.

Foscue's two-run homer in the first put Texas up to stay. Josh Jung, Wyatt Langford and Michael Helman also went deep.

Diamondbacks 5, Nationals 1: Gabriel Moreno hit a two-run homer, Michael Soroka (8-3) threw seven effective innings and host Arizona avoided a series sweep with a win over Washington.

Corbin Carroll hit a solo homer in the first inning off Cade Cavalli (3-4) and Moreno added his two-run shot off the right-hander in the fifth.

Mets 7, Padres 3: Carson Benge went 5-for-5 with a home run and an RBI triple, leading visiting New York to a victory over San Diego.

Marcus Semien and MJ Melendez also homered for the last-place Mets, who took two of three games from the Padres to win a series in San Diego for the first time since 2018.