

primed to continue scoring. # Thai Coach Nuengrutai Srathongvian was asked about the margin and whether the Americans exhibited sportsmanship. # " Everybody is following the rules. We have to accept the U.S. team was very good today. We don't have any excuse. " # Asked about the number of teams welcomed to the World Cup -- the tournament expanded to 24 from 16 in 2015 -- Morgan said she hopes the gap will continue to narrow through investment and outside pressure. # " For these 24 teams, it's a great opportunity for women to showcase what they've worked their entire lives toward, " she said. " Not every federation gives the same financial effort to their women's side, and that's unfortunate. # " My hope is we eventually have 32 teams, but also that encourages FIFA the sport's world governing body to put a little pressure on their respective federations to put more effort into their women's side. " # With one goal in the first half and four in the second, Morgan became the first U.S. player since Michelle Akers in 1991 to score five in a World Cup match. Several others have netted five in other competitions. # " Alex getting four goals is crazy, " Mewis said. # When she was corrected, Mewis's eyes widened and she exclaimed: " Five goals? Holy... " # A 3-0 halftime lead turned into a seven-goal margin nine minutes into the second half. Lindsey Horan, Megan Rapinoe, Mallory Pugh and Lloyd also scored for the United States, which has won seven consecutive matches, the past five without conceding a goal. # Morgan's third goal, a 17-yard shot after using clever footwork in tight