

Seahawks clear house; Patera, Thompson gone

SEATTLE (AP) — Coach Jack Patera and General Manager John Thompson were fired Wednesday by the Seattle Seahawks, who named Mike McCormack interim coach for the remainder of the 1982 National Football League season.

McCormack, fired as head coach of the Baltimore Colts at the end of last season, was the Seahawks' director of football operations.

Don Anderson, the Seahawks' director of non-football operations, will become director of administration, filling in for Thompson for the rest of the season.

Announcement of the firings was made by John Nordstrom, whose family is majority owner of the team.

"We have been disappointed at our lack of progress on the football field the past years and that was the sole reason for the dismissal," Nordstrom said, reading a prepared statement.

"It became apparent in our early season performance that things hadn't turned around.

"It is always difficult to make changes, but we believe that Mike McCormack will be an excellent head coach until the end of the year. We have not written off the 1982 season."

Nordstrom said the Seahawks' ownership had not made contact with anyone about filling Patera's old job on a permanent basis.

The existing contracts of Patera and Thompson will be honored by the club, Nordstrom said.

Nordstrom described Patera as "surprised" by the dismissal, and said Patera asked, "Why now?"

Under Patera and Thompson the Seahawks had a 35-49 record, including an 0-2 record before the 23-day-old National Football League players' strike began.

In two previous NFL head coaching jobs, McCormack has a 25-48-1 record. McCormack was 5-8-1, 7-7 and 4-10 at Philadelphia from 1973 through 1975. In 1980, he had a 7-9 record at Baltimore.

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Harriers swarm on OTC meet

Oregon will have both the men and women running Sunday when a field of nine teams swarm on the Emerald Valley Golf Course for the Oregon Track Club Invitational.

The meet will be the fourth of the season for the women, while the men will be running for the first time since the Garrie Franklin Classic Sept. 25.

Kathy Hayes will be leading the women after coming off last week's victory in the Willamette Invitational where she set a new

course record. The race in Salem was the first of Hayes' injury-riddled season.

Joining Hayes for the Ducks will be Rosa Gutierrez, Eryn Forbes, Lisa Martin and Kim Roth. Leann Warren is still out with an injury.

"We are going to run everybody," cross country Coach Tom Heinonen said. "Washington is really optimistic about their program, and Idaho looks to be the strongest they've ever

been. We expect to beat them, but you never know."

Along with the Huskies and the Vandals, Oregon State, Colorado State, Oregon Track Club, Club Northwest, Athletics West and the Evergreen Harriers from Seattle are expected to participate.

The men, led by Jim Hill, who won the Garrie Franklin, will run against the same competition on the 10,000 meter course, while the women run the 5,000.



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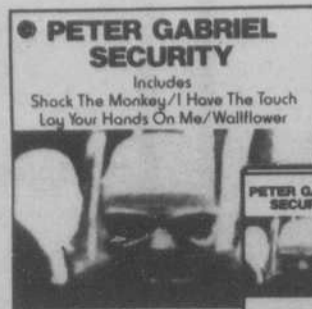


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