

MLB

Constant change the theme of the Mariners offseason

By **TIM BOOTH**
Associated Press

SEATTLE — Jerry Dipoto never stops tinkering with the Seattle Mariners roster.

Even if it comes at the strangest of times.

Just minutes after Dipoto walked off the podium Thursday during the Mariners' annual pre-spring training event — and after Dipoto spent nearly a half-hour talking about another offseason roster makeover — the Mariners announced yet another roster change.

While claiming catcher Tuffy Gosewisch off waivers from Atlanta likely won't be the tipping point in whether the Mariners end the longest playoff drought in baseball, it's another example of Dipoto's constant fiddling to try to make Seattle better.

Dipoto wasn't even done on Thursday. By late afternoon, he had acquired left-handed pitcher Dillon Overton from Oakland in exchange for catcher Jason

Goldstein. "I think the tweaks have put us in a pretty good position," Dipoto said. "We experienced a 10-game improvement over 2015. Obviously a second-place finish with 86 wins means you're the first loser, so we're not particularly excited about a repeat performance. We would like to get better. We maintained what we think are the good parts of our team and this was kind of inevitable reality — more change."

Seattle may not have been expected to be so active in the offseason after doing an extensive rebuild before the 2016 season. Dipoto scoffed at that idea Thursday and acknowledged that the 2016 season, when Seattle finished with 86 wins and was in playoff contention until the next-to-last day of the season, was a bridge to what the Mariners were hoping to accomplish long-term.

Dipoto and the Mariners completed 12 trades to go



AP Photo/Ted S. Warren

Seattle pitcher James Paxton talks to reporters in Seattle, Thursday, Jan. 26, 2017, during the Mariners' annual pre-season briefing before the start of Spring Training.

along with a handful of minor free agent signings this offseason with the goal of making Seattle more athletic and versatile defensively — especially in the outfield — and to provide more options for the starting rotation.

The biggest deals landed Seattle two new outfielders in expected starters Jarrod Dyson and Mitch Haniger,

starting pitchers Yovani Gallardo and Drew Smyly and another potent hitter in Jean Segura.

"What we did from 2015 to 2016 was a lot of short-term moves. It was one-year contracts with free agents. ... All of them did a wonderful job to help bridge and create a road to get to this 2017 club," Dipoto said.

Seattle will go to spring

training in a few weeks with less uncertainty than a season ago, despite a roster that's again been remodeled. Scott Servais is no longer a first-time manager and his success in getting Seattle's stars on board with his methods in a strong first season should help the Mariners pick up where they left off at the end of last year.

Much of the focus this spring will be on Felix Hernandez coming off one of his worst seasons as a pro. Hernandez was slowed by a calf injury last season, but even when healthy had uncharacteristic struggles. Hernandez's 3.82 ERA was the highest since 2006, his first full season in the majors, and he allowed a career-high 3.8 walks per nine innings.

Hernandez has spent the offseason working out with the same trainer used by teammates Nelson Cruz and Robinson Cano and the reports are that the focus on core and leg strengthening is working. Hernandez is also being pushed in his offseason

work by the World Baseball Classic, where he's expected to pitch for Venezuela.

"You have to keep in mind how high the bar is for Felix Hernandez. Felix is still really good and he's going to be the anchor of that rotation, he's going to start opening day, he is going to be our guy," Servais said. "It may not be at the level it was in the past, but that level is unbelievable. He's anxious to get after it."

NOTES: Seattle had only two significant offseason surgeries: RHP Steve Cishek (hip) and RHP Tony Zych (shoulder). Both will be limited early in spring training. ... Prospect Kyle Lewis (knee), Seattle's first-round pick in last year's amateur draft, should be able to return sometime around midseason from a major knee injury suffered last summer. ... Seattle designated RHP Jonathan Aro to clear a roster spot for Gosewisch and C Jesus Sucre was designated to clear the spot for Overton.

Correction

Molly Tucker also was a member of the Weston-McEwen 2005 state championship girls basketball team that will be inducted to the Weston-McEwen Hall of Fame on Friday night during the varsity basketball games.

Local Slate

BOYS PREP BASKETBALL
Today
Helix at Wallowa, 5:30 p.m.
Riverside at Nyssa, 7:30 p.m.
Pilot Rock at Stanfield, 7:30 p.m.
Pendleton at The Dalles, 7 p.m.
Umatilla at Burns, 7:30 p.m.
Culver at Weston-McEwen, 7:30 p.m.
South Wasco at Arlington, 7:30 p.m.
Ione at Sherman, 5:30 p.m.
Horizon Christian at Condon/Wheeler, 7:30 p.m.
Nixyaawii at Cove, 7:30 p.m.
Pine Eagle at Echo, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday
Riverside at Vale, 3:30 p.m.
Irrigon at Nyssa, 3:30 p.m.
Culver at Pilot Rock, 4 p.m.
Stanfield at Heppner, 4 p.m.
Mac-Hi at Ontario, 4:30 p.m.
Arlington at Mitchell/Spray, 5:30 p.m.
Condon/Wheeler at Ione, 5:30 p.m.
Echo at Joseph, 5:30 p.m.
Cove at Helix, 7 p.m.
Powder Valley at Nixyaawii, 7 p.m.

GIRLS PREP BASKETBALL
Today
Helix at Wallowa, 4 p.m.
Riverside at Nyssa, 5 p.m.
Irrigon at Vale, 5 p.m.
Umatilla at Burns, 6 p.m.
Pilot Rock at Stanfield, 6 p.m.
Culver at Weston-McEwen, 6 p.m.
South Wasco at Arlington, 6 p.m.
Ione at Sherman, 6 p.m.
Horizon Christian at Condon/Wheeler, 6 p.m.
Nixyaawii at Cove, 6 p.m.
Pine Eagle at Echo, 6 p.m.
The Dalles at Pendleton, 7 p.m.

Saturday
Riverside at Vale, 2 p.m.
Irrigon at Nyssa, 2 p.m.
Mac-Hi at Ontario, 3 p.m.
Arlington at Mitchell/Spray, 4 p.m.
Condon/Wheeler at Ione, 4 p.m.
Echo at Joseph, 4 p.m.
Cove at Helix, 4 p.m.
Powder Valley at Nixyaawii, 4 p.m.
Stanfield at Heppner, 5:30 p.m.
Culver at Pilot Rock, 6:30 p.m.

PREP WRESTLING
Saturday
Hermiston, Riverside, Heppner at Farm City Tournament (Hermiston), 10 a.m.
Echo at RD Brown Invite (ID), 10 a.m.

PREP SWIMMING
Saturday
Pendleton, Hermiston at La Grande, 10 a.m.

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Today
Evergreen State at Eastern Oregon, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday
North Idaho at Blue Mountain, 4 p.m.
Northwest at Eastern Oregon, 7:30 p.m.

WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Today
Evergreen State at Eastern Oregon, 5:30 p.m.
Saturday
North Idaho at Blue Mountain, 2 p.m.
Northwest at Eastern Oregon, 5:30 p.m.

COLLEGE WRESTLING
Today
Warner Pacific vs. Eastern Oregon (at Hermiston), 7 p.m.
Sunday
Washington State Club at Eastern Oregon, 1 p.m.

Prep Scores

BOYS BASKETBALL
Thursday's Games
Clackamas 74, David Douglas 68
Cleveland 55, Lincoln 53
Hermiston 69, Hood River 61
Madison 57, Grant 55
Roosevelt 49, Wilson 44
Summit 44, Bend 29
West Linn 94, Newberg 52

GIRLS BASKETBALL
Thursday's Games
Bend 51, Summit 44
Canby 78, St. Mary's Academy 65
Clackamas 77, David Douglas 28
Estacada 51, Crook County 33
Grant 62, Madison 23
Hermiston 55, Hood River 25
Jesuit 53, Westview 41
Roosevelt 56, Wilson 54
Tigard 34, Sherwood 20
Tualatin 61, Lakeridge 46
West Linn 63, Newberg 38

Football

NFL
Pro Bowl
Sunday, Jan. 29
At Orlando, Fla.
AFC vs. NFC, 8 p.m. (ESPN)
Super Bowl
Sunday, Feb. 5
At Houston
Atlanta vs. New England, 3:30 p.m. (FOX)

Basketball

NBA
EASTERN CONFERENCE
Atlantic Division

W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto	28	18	609
Boston	27	18	600 ½
New York	20	27	426 8½
Philadelphia	17	27	386 10
Brooklyn	9	36	200 18½

Southeast Division

W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	27	19	587
Washington	25	20	556 1½
Charlotte	23	23	500 4
Orlando	18	29	383 9½
Miami	16	30	348 11

Central Division

W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	30	14	682
Indiana	23	22	511 7½

Chicago	23	24	489	8½
Milwaukee	21	24	467	9½
Detroit	21	25	457	10

WESTERN CONFERENCE
Southwest Division

W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	36	9	800
Houston	34	15	694 4
Memphis	27	20	574 10
New Orleans	18	28	391 18½
Dallas	16	30	348 20½

Northwest Division

W	L	Pct	GB
Utah	30	18	625
Oklahoma City	28	19	596 1½
Denver	20	25	444 8½
Portland	20	27	426 9½
Minnesota	17	29	370 12

Pacific Division

W	L	Pct	GB
Golden State	39	7	848
L.A. Clippers	30	17	638 9½
Sacramento	18	27	400 20½
Phoenix	15	31	326 24
L.A. Lakers	16	34	320 25

Thursday's Games
Indiana 109, Minnesota 103
Oklahoma City 109, Dallas 98
Denver 127, Phoenix 120
Utah 96, L.A. Lakers 88

Today's Games
Sacramento at Indiana, 4 p.m.
Brooklyn at Cleveland, 4:30 p.m.
Charlotte at New York, 4:30 p.m.
Milwaukee at Toronto, 4:30 p.m.
Orlando at Boston, 4:30 p.m.
Houston at Philadelphia, 5 p.m.
Miami at Chicago, 5 p.m.
San Antonio at New Orleans, 5 p.m.
Washington at Atlanta, 5 p.m.
Memphis at Portland, 7 p.m.
Saturday's Games
Sacramento at Charlotte, 4 p.m.
Detroit at Miami, 4:30 p.m.
Boston at Milwaukee, 5 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Golden State, 5:30 p.m.
Brooklyn at Minnesota, 6 p.m.
Denver at Phoenix, 6 p.m.
Memphis at Utah, 6 p.m.
Sunday's Games
New York at Atlanta, Noon
Oklahoma City at Cleveland, 12:30 p.m.
Houston at Indiana, 3 p.m.
Orlando at Toronto, 3 p.m.
Washington at New Orleans, 3 p.m.
Dallas at San Antonio, 4 p.m.
Philadelphia at Chicago, 4 p.m.
Golden State at Portland, 6 p.m.

NCAA
Men's Top 25
Thursday's Games
No. 19 Cincinnati 86, No. 24 Xavier 78
No. 9 North Carolina 91, Virginia Tech 72
No. 3 Gonzaga 79, San Diego 43
No. 7 Arizona 79, Washington State 62
No. 10 Oregon 73, Utah 67
No. 21 Saint Mary's 66, San Francisco 46
Today's Games
No games scheduled
Saturday's Games
Texas A&M at No. 18 West Virginia, 9 a.m. (ESPN)
No. 15 Wisconsin at Rutgers, 9 a.m.
No. 14 Notre Dame at Georgia Tech, 9 a.m. (ESPN2)
No. 6 Florida State at Syracuse, 9 a.m. (ESPN2)
No. 9 North Carolina at Miami, 10 a.m.

(CBS)
No. 25 Florida at Oklahoma, 11 a.m. (ESPN)
No. 22 Maryland at Minnesota, 11:15 a.m. DePaul at No. 16 Creighton, 11:30 a.m. (FS1)

No. 17 Duke at Wake Forest, Noon
No. 5 Baylor at Ole Miss, 3 p.m. (ESPN2)
No. 2 Kansas at No. 4 Kentucky, 3:15 p.m. (ESPN)
Georgetown at No. 11 Butler, 5 p.m. (CBSN)
No. 23 South Carolina at Missouri, 5:30 p.m.
No. 10 Oregon at Colorado, 6:30 p.m.
No. 3 Gonzaga at Pepperdine, 7 p.m. (ESPN2)
No. 21 Saint Mary's at Santa Clara, 8 p.m.
Sunday's Games
No. 12 Virginia at 1 Villanova, 10 a.m.
NC State at No. 13 Louisiana, 10 a.m.
Washington at No. 7 Arizona, 12:30 p.m. (FOX)
South Florida at No. 19 Cincinnati, 1 p.m. (CBSN)
No. 20 Purdue at Nebraska, 1:30 p.m.
No. 24 Xavier at St. John's, 3 p.m. (FS1)

Women's Top 25
Thursday's Games
No. 5 South Carolina 62, Georgia 44
No. 9 Louisville 60, Clemson 46
No. 6 Florida State 69, Georgia Tech 63
No. 17 Miami 100, North Carolina 88
No. 18 NC State 55, Pittsburgh 42
Virginia 76, No. 19 Virginia Tech 27
No. 24 Green Bay 84, Youngstown State 51

No. 8 Notre Dame 62, No. 14 Duke 58
No. 3 Maryland 94, Illinois 49
No. 15 Ohio State 88, Minnesota 76
Today's Games
No. 21 DePaul at Creighton, 5 p.m.
California at No. 7 Washington, 6 p.m. (PAC12)
No. 10 Stanford at Washington State, 8 p.m.
No. 16 Arizona State at No. 13 UCLA, 8 p.m. (PAC12)
No. 11 Oregon State at Oregon, 9 a.m.
Saturday's Games
Houston at No. 1 Connecticut, 9 a.m.
No. 24 Green Bay at Cleveland State, 10 a.m.
Oklahoma State at No. 25 Kansas State, 1 p.m.
Sunday's Games
Oregon at No. 11 Oregon State, 11 a.m. (ESPN)
No. 23 South Florida at Temple, 9 a.m. (CBSN)
Virginia at No. 8 Notre Dame, 9 a.m. (ESPN)
Nebraska at No. 15 Ohio State, 9 a.m.
No. 21 DePaul at Providence, 10 a.m.
Wake Forest at No. 14 Duke, 10 a.m.
Boston College at No. 17 Miami, 10 a.m.
No. 9 Louisville at Pittsburgh, 11 a.m.
Syracuse at No. 19 Virginia Tech, 11 a.m.
Iowa at No. 3 Maryland, 11 a.m. (ESPN2)
No. 18 NC State at North Carolina, Noon
Texas A&M at No. 4 Mississippi State, 1 p.m.
No. 22 West Virginia at No. 12 Texas, 1 p.m. (FS1)
Arizona at No. 13 UCLA, 2 p.m. (PAC12)
No. 16 Arizona State at USC, 3 p.m. (PAC12)
No. 20 Oklahoma at No. 2 Baylor, 3:30 p.m. (ESPN2)

No. 10 Stanford at No. 7 Washington, 5 p.m. (PAC12)

Hockey

NHL
EASTERN CONFERENCE
Atlantic Division

GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	
Montreal	50	29	14	7	65	150	125
Ottawa	47	26	15	6	58	127	123
Boston	52	25	21	6	56	131	135
Toronto	47	23	15	9	55	145	133
Florida	50	21	19	10	52	116	137
Tampa Bay	50	22	22	6	50	136	146
Buffalo	48	20	19	9	49	118	136
Detroit	49	20	20	9	49	123	144

Metropolitan Division

GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	
Washington	49	33	10	6	72	160	106
Columbus	48	32	12	4	68	160	114
Pittsburgh	48	30	13	5	65	172	141
N.Y. Rangers	49	31	17	1	63	167	129
Philadelphia	50	25	19	6	56	140	155
N.Y. Islanders	47	21	17	9	51	136	136
Carolina	48	21	20	7	49	126	140
New Jersey	50	20	21	9	49	113	144

WESTERN CONFERENCE
Central Division

GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	
Minnesota	48	32	11	5	69	160	109
Chicago	51	30	16	5	65	142	132
Nashville	49	24	17	8	56	138	130
St. Louis	49	24	20	5	53	138	152
Dallas	50	20	20	10	50	135	157
Winnipeg	52	23	25	4	50	156	161
Colorado	46	13	31	2	28	93	156

Pacific Division

GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	
San Jose	50	31	17	2	64	135	116
Edmonton	51	28	15	8	64	152	132
Anaheim	51	27	15	9	63	133	129
Calgary	52	25	24	3	53	134	149
Los Angeles	49	24	21	4	52	123	121
Vancouver	50	23	21	6	52	119	140
Arizona	48	16	26	6	38	108	152

NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss.

Thursday's Games
Washington 5, New Jersey 2
N.Y. Islanders 3, Montreal 1
Boston 4, Pittsburgh 3
Philadelphia 2, Toronto 1
Los Angeles 3, Carolina 0
Calgary 3, Ottawa 2, OT
Florida 2, Tampa Bay 1, OT
Minnesota 5, St. Louis 1
Nashville 4, Columbus 3
Winnipeg 5, Chicago 3
Dallas 4, Buffalo 3
Arizona 3, Vancouver 0
Edmonton 4, San Jose 1
Today's Games
No games scheduled
Saturday's Games
No games scheduled
Sunday's Games
All-Star Game: TBD at TBD, 1 p.m.
Bud Cauley 35-34—69n
Ben Crane 34-35—69n
Billy Hurley III 37-32—69n
Ollie Schniederjans 34-35—69s

Tennis
Australian Open
Thursday
At Melbourne Park
Melbourne, Australia

Purse: \$374 million (Grand Slam)
Surface: Hard-Outdoor

Singles
Men
Semifinals
Roger Federer (17), Switzerland, def. Stan Wawrinka (4), Switzerland, 7-5, 6-3, 1-6, 4-6, 6-3.

Women
Semifinals
Venus Williams (13), United States, def. CoCo Vandeweghe, United States, 6-7 (3), 6-2, 6-3.

Doubles
Men
Semifinals
Bob and Mike Bryan (3), United States, def. Pablo Carreno Busta and Guillermo Garcia-Lopez, Spain, 7-6 (1), 6-3.

Women
Semifinals
Serena Williams (2), United States, def. Mirjana Lucic-Baroni, Croatia, 6-2, 6-1.

Quarterfinals
Elina Svitolina, Ukraine, and Chris Guccione, Australia, def. Bethanie Mattek-Sands and Mike Bryan (1), United States, walkover.

Sam Stosur and Sam Groth, Australia, def. Martina Hingis, Switzerland, and Leander Paes, India, 6-3, 6-2.

Golf

PGA Tour
Farmers Insurance Open
Thursday
San Diego
s-Torrey Pines (South); Yards 7698; Par 72
n-Torrey Pines (North); Yards 7258; Par 72
Purse: \$6.7 million

First Round Leaders
Justin Rose 30-35—65n
Adam Hadwin 33-33—66s
Gary Woodland 34-33—67n
Brad Fritsch 33-34—67s
Charles Howell III 32-35—67n
Beau Hossler 33-34—67n
Trey Mullinax 33-34—67n

Jonas Blixt 35-33—68n
Stewart Cink 35-33—68n
Brandt Snedeker 35-33—68n
Graham DeLaet 35-33—68s
Whee Kim 33-35—68n
Patrick Rodgers 33-35—68n
Robert Streb 33-35—68n

Pat Perez 35-33—68n
Brian Stuard 34-34—68n
Brian Harman 33-35—68s
Ryan Brehm 35-33—68n
Marc Leishman 33-36—69s
Kevin Streelman 36-33—69n
Cameron Tringale 33-36—69s
Brendan Steele 32-37—69s

Will MacKenzie 36-33—69n
Keegan Bradley 34-35—69n
Cameron Percy 33-36—69s
Bud Cauley 35-34—69n
Ben Crane 34-35—69n
Billy Hurley III 37-32—69n
Ollie Schniederjans 34-35—69s

Upcoming Schedule
Feb. 2-5 — Waste Management Phoenix Open, TPC Scottsdale (Stadium Course), Scottsdale, Ariz.

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