

NHL

Vegas Golden Knights like what they see in expansion draft

By **STEPHEN WHYNO**
Associated Press

George McPhee can't wait to fill up the white board, the one in the Vegas Golden Knights' expansion draft room. On Wednesday night, the staff will start adding the names of players who will become part of the expansion team for its first NHL season.

"We're going to put our team together and we'll watch it come to life in front of us," McPhee said.

What will that team look like when it takes the ice in early October? It won't have all the top-end talent available because side deals will allow Vegas to stockpile draft picks and prospects for the future,

but it will probably be the most competitive expansion team in the league's history.

"I'm really pleased with what's available," McPhee told reporters in Las Vegas on Sunday. "This has worked out very well for the Vegas Golden Knights, and we expect to put a good, entertaining club on the ice."

Here's a projection of who the inaugural Golden Knights might snap up by Wednesday night:

GOAL TENDERS (MINIMUM 3)

SURE BET: Three-time Stanley Cup champion Marc-Andre Fleury seems like the most reliable pick on the board, a recognizable face of the franchise who can easily

start 50-60 games and give the Golden Knights chances to win. Fleury waived his no-movement clause so the Pittsburgh Penguins didn't have to force another trade, and the 32-year-old can go back to being a clear No. 1 goalie.

WORTH THE GAMBLE: Fleury could be joined by an established 20-something backup, like Philadelphia's Michal Neuvirth, Detroit's Petr Mrazek, Colorado's Calvin Pickard or New York's Antti Raanta.

DEFENSEMEN (MINIMUM 9)

SURE BET: Assuming Anaheim has already worked out a trade to keep Vegas



away from Sami Vatanen and Josh Manson — perhaps at the cost of a first-round pick — there are still plenty of young, affordable

defensemens to choose from along with some veterans. Dion Phaneuf refusing to waive his no-movement clause forced Ottawa to protect him and expose 31-year-old Marc Methot.

Minnesota's plethora of blue liners made Matt Dumba, 22, and Marco Scandella, 27, available unless the Wild is willing to fork something over, and 25-year-old right-shooting Trevor van Riemsdyk from Chicago seems ticketed for

the Golden Knights.

WORTH THE GAMBLE: With speed, skating and puck-moving skills a priority, Tampa Bay's Slater Koekkoek (23 years old), Detroit's Xavier Ouellet (23), Washington's Nate Schmidt (25) and Montreal's Nikita Nesterov (24) all could fit well. Want some more size and physicality? Vegas could look at Boston's Colin Miller (24), Edmonton's Griffin Reinhart (23) and Buffalo's Zach Bogosian (26).

FORWARDS (MINIMUM 14)

SURE BET: This is where elite talent already under contract is hard to find, outside of maybe Nashville's James Neal, a 10-time 20-goal scorer, and 32-year-old

Minnesota center Eric Staal. Vegas could use free agency to stock its top forwards, as it already has by signing Vadim Shipachyov out of the KHL.

WORTH THE GAMBLE: Among established NHL forwards, Vegas has the pick of two 26-year-olds from Florida: right winger Reilly Smith and center Jonathan Marchessault, who set career highs with 30 goals, 21 assists and 51 points last season and is the biggest bargain in the league at \$750,000. With so many Cup teams built down the middle, Dallas' Cody Eakin (who McPhee also drafted), Minnesota's Erik Haula and St. Louis' Jori Lehtera could help both present and future.

SCOREBOARD

Baseball

MLB
AMERICAN LEAGUE

Tuesday's Games
Baltimore 6, Cleveland 5
L.A. Angels 8, N.Y. Yankees 3
Tampa Bay 6, Cincinnati 5
Texas 6, Toronto 1
Minnesota 9, Chicago White Sox 7
Boston 8, Kansas City 3
Houston 8, Oakland 4
Seattle 5, Detroit 4, 10 innings
Wednesday's Games
Cincinnati (Adleman 4-3) at Tampa Bay (Ramirez 3-2), 9:10 a.m.
Boston (Pomeranz 6-4) at Kansas City (Kennedy 1-6), 11:15 a.m.
Cleveland (Carrasco 7-3) at Baltimore (Gausman 3-6), 4:05 p.m.
L.A. Angels (Nolasco 2-8) at N.Y. Yankees (Montgomery 4-4), 4:05 p.m.
Toronto (Biagini 1-6) at Texas (Ross 1-0), 5:05 p.m.
Chicago White Sox (Holmberg 1-0) at Minnesota (Berrios 6-1), 5:10 p.m.
Houston (Fiers 4-2) at Oakland (Manaea 6-3), 7:05 p.m.
Detroit (Verlander 4-4) at Seattle (Paxton 5-2), 7:10 p.m.

NATIONAL LEAGUE
Tuesday's Games

St. Louis 8, Philadelphia 1, 11 innings
Washington 12, Miami 3
Tampa Bay 6, Cincinnati 5
San Francisco 6, Atlanta 3
Pittsburgh 7, Milwaukee 3
Chicago Cubs 4, San Diego 0
Colorado 4, Arizona 3
L.A. Dodgers 12, N.Y. Mets 0

Wednesday's Games

Cincinnati (Adleman 4-3) at Tampa Bay (Ramirez 3-2), 9:10 a.m.
Washington (Scherzer 8-4) at Miami (Straily 5-4), 9:10 a.m.
San Diego (Diaz 1-1) at Chicago Cubs (Butler 3-2), 11:20 a.m.
St. Louis (Wacha 3-3) at Philadelphia (Pivetta 1-3), 4:05 p.m.
San Francisco (Samarzija 2-9) at Atlanta (Newcomb 0-2), 4:35 p.m.
Pittsburgh (Williams 3-3) at Milwaukee (Guerra 1-1), 5:10 p.m.
Arizona (Walker 5-3) at Colorado (Hoffman 4-0), 5:40 p.m.
N.Y. Mets (Pill 0-2) at L.A. Dodgers (Hill 3-3), 7:10 p.m.

ALL-STAR GAME FAN VOTING

AMERICAN LEAGUE
June 20 Update

Catchers

1. Salvador Perez, Royals, 1,453,088
2. Brian McCann, Astros, 1,051,138
3. Gary Sanchez, Yankees, 1,045,471
4. Welington Castillo, Orioles, 926,455
5. Yan Gomes, Indians, 666,107

First Basemen

1. Eric Hosmer, Royals, 936,734
2. Yonder Alonso, Athletics, 887,645
3. Miguel Cabrera, Tigers, 831,289
4. Justin Smoak, Blue Jays, 787,787
5. Carlos Santana, Indians, 722,315

Second Basemen

1. Jose Altuve, Astros, 2,185,035
2. Starlin Castro, Yankees, 1,450,472
3. Jason Kipnis, Indians, 703,131
4. Dustin Pedroia, Red Sox, 429,194
5. Robinson Cano, Mariners, 417,347

Third Basemen

1. Miguel Sano, Twins, 1,302,090
2. Jose Ramirez, Indians, 891,731

3. Josh Donaldson, Blue Jays, 810,648

4. Manny Machado, Orioles, 803,921

5. Alex Bregman, Astros, 686,450

Shortstops

1. Carlos Correa, Astros, 1,658,255
2. Francisco Lindor, Indians, 1,300,013
3. Didi Gregorius, Yankees, 871,601
4. Xander Bogaerts, Red Sox, 750,708
5. Troy Tulowitzki, Blue Jays, 507,763

Designated Hitters

1. Nelson Cruz, Mariners, 1,118,873
2. Matt Holliday, Yankees, 927,247
3. Corey Dickerson, Rays, 926,163
4. Edwin Encarnacion, Indians, 813,715
5. Evan Gattis, Astros, 713,918

Outfielders

1. Aaron Judge, Yankees, 2,631,284
2. Mike Trout, Angels, 2,030,074
3. George Springer, Astros, 1,176,951
4. Michael Brantley, Indians, 1,001,254
5. Avisail Garcia, White Sox, 970,994
6. Mookie Betts, Red Sox, 946,510
7. Carlos Beltran, Astros, 823,067
8. Brett Gardner, Yankees, 760,869
9. Jose Bautista, Blue Jays, 725,734
10. Andrew Benintendi, Red Sox, 704,484

MLB

Single-A Northwest League

North	W	L	Pct	GB
Tri-City	5	1	.833	—
Vancouver	4	2	.667	1
Spokane	3	3	.500	2
Everett	2	4	.333	3

South

W	L	Pct	GB	
Hillsboro	3	2	.600	—
Boise	3	3	.500	½
Eugene	2	4	.333	1½
Salem-Keizer	1	4	.200	2

Tuesday's Games

Boise 7, Eugene 6
Vancouver 7, Everett 1
Tri-City 10, Spokane 0
Salem-Keizer at Hillsboro, late finish
Wednesday's Games
Eugene at Boise, 6:15 p.m.
Everett at Vancouver, 7:05 p.m.
Salem-Keizer at Hillsboro, 7:05 p.m.
Spokane at Tri-City, 7:15 p.m.

NCAA BASEBALL

College World Series

AT TD Ameritrade Park, Omaha, Neb.

Tuesday
Game 7 — TCU 4, Texas A&M 1 (TA&M eliminated)

Game 8 — Florida 5, Louisville 1

Wednesday
Game 9 — Florida State (46-22) vs. LSU (49-18), 4 p.m.

Thursday
Game 10 — TCU (48-17) vs. Louisville (53-11), 5 p.m.

Friday
Game 11 — Oregon State (56-4) vs. LSU/FSU loser, Noon

Game 12 — Florida (49-18) vs. Game 10 winner, 5 p.m.

Golf

FedEx Cup Leaders
Through June 18

Rank	Player	Points	Money
1.	Dustin Johnson	2,270	\$6,355,725
2.	Hideki Matsuyama	2,145	\$5,945,990
3.	Justin Thomas	2,060	\$5,131,179
4.	Jon Rahm	1,708	\$4,491,815
5.	Brooks Koepka	1,534	\$4,464,771

PGA Tour

Through June 18

Rank	Player	Points	Money
1.	Lexi Thompson	\$999,590	
2.	Ariya Jutanugarn	\$972,731	
3.	So Yeon Ryu	\$912,820	
4.	In Gee Chun	\$656,166	
5.	Cristie Kerr	\$649,537	
6.	Brooke M. Henderson	\$592,765	
7.	Inbee Park	\$534,904	
8.	Anna Nordqvist	\$509,325	
9.	Sei Young Kim	\$488,397	
10.	Sung Hyun Park	\$481,038	

Upcoming Schedule

June 22-25 Travelers Championship, TPC River Highlands, Cromwell, Conn.
June 29-July 2 Quicken Loans National, TPC Potomac at Avenel Farm, Potomac, Md.

6. Jordan Spieth 1,479 \$3,724,145

7. Kevin Kisner 1,458 \$3,744,106

8. Rickie Fowler 1,429 \$3,835,172

9. Pat Perez 1,426 \$3,582,575

10. Brian Harman 1,402 \$3,802,850

11. Adam Hadwin 1,241 \$2,819,666

12. Daniel Berger 1,150 \$2,894,734

13. Brendan Steele 1,131 \$2,654,220

14. Sergio Garcia 1,049 \$2,975,896

15. Marc Leishman 1,029 \$2,740,036

16. Billy Horschel 1,018 \$2,541,971

17. Jason Dufner 998 \$2,701,474

18. Russell Henley 989 \$2,376,340

19. Justin Rose 984 \$2,751,715

20. Mackenzie Hughes 963 \$1,903,015

WNBA

Monday-Tuesday
No games scheduled

Wednesday's Games
San Antonio at Dallas, 10 a.m.

Soccer

MLS

Wednesday's Games
Atl. United FC at D.C. United, 4:30 p.m.
Portland at Minnesota United, 5 p.m.
Los Angeles at Colorado, 6 p.m.
Orlando City at Seattle, 7:30 p.m.

Motorsports

NASCAR Monster Energy Cup Points

1. Kyle Larson 640
2. Martin Truex, Jr. 635
3. Kyle Busch 510
4. Kevin Harvick 508
5. Chase Elliott 478
6. Brad Keselowski 476
7. Jamie McMurray 450
8. Jimmie Johnson 449
9. Denny Hamlin 430
10. Matt Kenseth 398
11. Joey Logano 398
12. Clint Bowyer 391
13. Ryan Blaney 376
14. Kurt Busch 359
15. Ricky Stenhouse, Jr. 354
16. Erik Jones 346

Upcoming Schedule

June 23-25 — Walmart NW Arkansas Championship, Pinnacle CC, Rogers, Ark.
June 29-July 2 — KPMG Women's PGA Championship, Olympia Fields CC

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