

Michigan State AD retires over Nassar sex abuse

By DAVID EGGERT and LARRY LAGE
Associated Press

EAST LANSING, Mich. — Michigan State University’s athletic director retired Friday, two days after the university president resigned over the school’s handling of sexual abuse allegations against its disgraced former sports doctor, Larry Nassar.

Mark Hollis, who had been in the job for 10 years, disclosed the move during a meeting with a small group of reporters on campus. He was asked why he would not stay on.

“Because I care,” Hollis said, holding back tears. “When you look at the scope of everything, that’s the reason I made a choice to retire now. And I hope that has a little bit, a little bit, of helping that healing process.”

Hours later, the university named its vice president to serve as acting president after the departure of President Lou Anna Simon. Bill Beekman is expected to serve briefly in the role until the board of trustees can hire an interim president and then a permanent leader.

Also Friday, USA



Jake May/The Flint Journal-MLive.com via AP
Michigan State athletic director Mark Hollis tearfully announces his retirement Friday, Jan. 26, 2018 in East Lansing, Mich.

Gymnastics confirmed that its entire board of directors would resign as requested by the U.S. Olympic Committee. The USOC had threatened to decertify the organization, which besides picking U.S. national teams is the umbrella organization for hundreds of clubs across the country.

Some of the nation’s top gymnasts, including Olympians Aly Raisman, McKayla Maroney, Simone Biles and Jordyn Wieber, said they were among Nassar’s victims.

At the university board’s meeting, Chairman Brian

Breslin said it was “clear that MSU has not been focused enough on the victims.” The trustees, he said, want to resume discussions with those who have sued the school to “reach a fair and just conclusion.” Talks broke down last year.

The board plans to ask an independent third party to review health and safety at the school, and it wants state Attorney General Bill Schuette to consider appointing a neutral investigator to conduct an inquiry of the Nassar matter “to promote bipartisan acceptance of the

results.”

Trustee Brian Mosallam said: “I am so truly sorry. We failed you.”

Beekman is vice president and secretary of the board. He began working at the university in 1995 and previously led the MSU Alumni Association. He has an undergraduate degree from MSU.

“I think our culture here at Michigan State clearly needs to improve,” he said. “We need to be able to make everybody that comes on our campus feel safe.”

Simon submitted her resignation Wednesday after Nassar, a former Michigan State employee, was sentenced to 40 to 175 years in prison for molesting young girls and women under the guise of medical treatment.

Several of the 150-plus victims who spoke at his sentencing hearing were former athletes at the school, and many victims accused the university of mishandling past complaints about Nassar.

“I don’t believe that I’ve ever met him,” Hollis said of Nassar. He insisted he did not know about complaints of abuse until an Indianapolis Star report in 2016.

Education Secretary Betsy DeVos confirmed Friday that her agency is investigating the Nassar scandal. She said in a statement that what happened at the school is “abhorrent” and “cannot happen ever again — there or anywhere.”

The Education Department was already reviewing separate complaints about the school’s compliance with Title IX, the law that requires public schools to offer equal opportunities to both genders, and compliance with requirements about providing campus crime and security information.

The board expressed support for Simon before her resignation, but she faced pressure from many students, faculty and legislators. While there has been no evidence that Simon or Hollis knew of Nassar’s sexual abuse, some of the women and girls who accused him said they complained to university employees as far back as the late 1990s.

Board members, who are elected in statewide votes, have also come under intense scrutiny. Two announced they will not seek re-election. Another, Joel Ferguson, apologized at the meeting for

conducting an interview in which he said there was more going on at Michigan State than “this Nassar thing.”

The university faces lawsuits from more than 130 victims. Ferguson previously had said victims were ambulance chasers seeking a payday. The school resisted calls for an independent investigation before asking Schuette for a review a week ago.

Students planned a Friday evening march and protest.

In a recent filing, Michigan State asked a judge to dismiss the lawsuits on technical grounds. The school says it has immunity under state law and that the majority of victims were not MSU students at the time of the alleged assaults.

“These arguments can seem disrespectful” to victims, but a defense is required by Michigan State’s insurers, Simon wrote last week in a campus-wide email. She added, “We have the utmost respect and sympathy” for victims.

The board last month authorized the creation of a \$10 million fund to offer victims counseling and mental health services.

Pro Basketball

Lillard’s 29 points leads hot Trail Blazers past Mavericks

By SEAN SHAPIRO
Associated Press

DALLAS — Damian Lillard had to defeat a stomach bug before he could lead the Portland Trail Blazers past the Dallas Mavericks.

Lillard “ate something weird” and missed all four shots he took and had a pair of turnovers in the first quarter.

“I kind of had a stomachache,” Lillard said. “A kind of weird feeling in my throat like I was going to throw up, so I was kind of winded. I just felt kind of sick, like it was stomach flu or something.”

He started feeling better in the second quarter and his game reflected that, as he scored a game-high 29 points in the final three quarters to lead Portland to a 107-93 victory Friday night.

“I just kept drinking water,” Lillard said. “I just kept telling myself it’s a mental battle. We had to get the job done and that’s what we did.”

Lillard had 14 points in the third

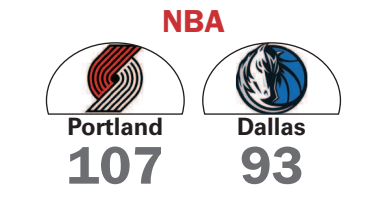


AP Photo/Tony Gutierrez
Dallas Mavericks forward Dwight Powell, left, defends as Portland Trail Blazers guard Damian Lillard (0) drives to the basket during Friday’s game in Dallas.

quarter when Portland closed out the victory.

“He can get on a rhythm,” Port-

land coach Terry Stotts said. “He is just capable of doing that. After getting off to a slow start offen-



sively, missing four to five shots, he is capable of getting hot.”

C.J. McCollum added 20 points and Jusuf Nurkic had 12 for the Trail Blazers (27-22), who have won four of their past five games — including two wins against the Mavericks.

Ed Davis had 15 points and 13 rebounds off the bench.

“I just tried to come with energy,” Davis said. “The ball was finding me and rebounds were falling into my hands, so I was just trying to give a spark to help the team.”

Portland played without forward Evan Turner, who was out for personal reasons. Maurice Harkless started in his place and had five points in 17 minutes.

Harrison Barnes scored 21 points

and Dennis Smith Jr. had 18 for the Mavericks (16-33) in the first game of a back-to-back. Dallas travels to Denver for a road contest Saturday.

Wesley Matthews added 12 points for the Mavericks, who struggled and shot 39.3 percent from the field.

“We were committed to the defensive end, that’s for sure, but our offense really wasn’t there,” Matthews said. “No matter what you do on the defensive end, you don’t put the ball in the basket you don’t really put much pressure on them.”

The Trail Blazers led 52-44 at halftime and never trailed in the second half. Dallas was as close as two points — 65-63 — in the third quarter, but used a 20-4 run in the fourth quarter to put the game out of reach.

“They hit some hellacious shots,” Mavericks coach Rick Carlisle said. “We had a poor shot-making night, and that combination can lead to problems quickly with these guys.”

Federer reaches 7th Australian Open final

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) — Roger Federer has moved to within one win of his 20th Grand Slam singles title after securing his spot in the Australian Open decider when Hyeon Chung retired from their semifinal on Friday night.

Defending champion Federer was leading 6-1, 5-2 when Chung retired because of blisters on his left foot. Federer, who spent just over an hour on court, will play No. 6-seeded Marin Cilic in the final on Sunday night.

“I’ve played with blisters in the past ... and it hurts a lot,” said Federer, who will be contesting his 30th major

final. “At some point, you can’t go on.

“This one feels bittersweet — I’m happy to be in the finals, but not like this. He’s had an incredible tournament.”

Federer beat Cilic, the 2014 U.S. Open champion, in the final at Wimbledon last year.

The 21-year-old Chung needed a medical timeout to re-tape his left foot after going down a break in the second set and only played two more games before he quit.

Federer was utterly dominant until that point. After all, the 36-year-old Swiss star had the standing of the so-called Big Four to protect — there hasn’t been a final at Melbourne Park since 2005 that hasn’t featured

Federer, Rafael Nadal, Novak Djokovic or Andy Murray.

Stan Wawrinka’s win over Nadal in 2014 was the only final since 2008 that didn’t feature two of the Big Four.

Woods makes first cut in 29 months at Farmers Open

SAN DIEGO (AP) — These are the new realities for 42-year-old Tiger Woods. He had to grind out a round simply to be able to play on the weekend and is getting used to the “feels” of his surgically repaired back.

Woods didn’t have to race off to the airport Friday, after all. He made the cut right on the number in the Farmers Insurance Open by rallying with four birdies on his back

nine for a 1-under 71 on the North Course at Torrey Pines.

It’s the first time in 29 months that Woods will be playing the weekend on the PGA Tour.

“It was a grind,” Woods said a few minutes after walking off the course to cheers. “I fought hard. Typical, you know, just me going out there and fighting for whatever I can get. It’s all good.”

This is only his second PGA Tour event since he tied for 10th in the Wyndham Championship in August 2015. He had two back surgeries that fall, and fusion surgery on his lower back last April.

Ryan Palmer is the 36-hole leader in the Farmers Insurance Open. Jon Rahm is right behind, poised to reach

No. 1 in the world.

Palmer finished eagle-birdie on the North Course at Torrey Pines for a 5-under 67. He had a one-shot lead over Rahm, the defending champion who birdied two of his last three holes on the North for a 66.

Pop Warner doesn’t support youth tackle football ban bill

CHICAGO (AP) — The Pop Warner youth football program says it doesn’t agree with banning football for young people after legislation was unveiled in Illinois prohibiting tackle football for children under 12.

Pop Warner spokesperson Brian Heffron says the organization “can’t imagine elected officials mandating to parents which sports their children can play.”

Illinois state Rep. Carol Sente on Thursday filed the Dave Duerson Act to Prevent CTE named for the Chicago Bears defensive back who was diagnosed with chronic traumatic encephalopathy. CTE has been linked to concussions or repeated head trauma.

Heffron says Pop Warner has focused on improving the game and offers parents the option of tackle or flag football.

Supporters of the legislation say the measure isn’t meant to ban tackle football, it’s meant to protect children.

SCOREBOARD

Local slate

PREP BOYS BASKETBALL

Saturday

Dufur at Ione, 4 p.m.

McLoughlin at Baker, 4:30 p.m.

Echo at Joseph, 5 p.m.

Culver at Pilot Rock, 5:30 p.m.

Heppner at Stanfield, 5:30 p.m.

Arlington at Horizon Christian, 5:30 p.m.

Mitchell/Spray at Condon/Wheeler, 5:30 p.m.

Cove at Helix, 5:30 p.m.

Nixyaawii at Powder Valley, 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday's Games

Echo at Nixyaawii, 7 p.m.

Pendleton at Hermiston, 7:30 p.m.

Touchet (WA) at Mac-Hi, 7:30 p.m.

Mitchell/Spray at Ione, 7:30 p.m.

Arlington at Condon/Wheeler, 7:30 p.m.

PREP GIRLS BASKETBALL

Saturday

Dufur at Ione, 2:30 p.m.

McLoughlin at Baker, 3 p.m.

Culver at Pilot Rock, 4 p.m.

Heppner at Stanfield, 4 p.m.

Mitchell/Spray at Condon/Wheeler 4 p.m.

Arlington at Horizon Christian, 4 p.m.

Cove at Helix, 4 p.m.

Echo at Joseph, 4 p.m.

Nixyaawii at Powder Valley, 4 p.m.

Tuesday's Games

Pendleton at Hermiston, 5:45 p.m.

Touchet (WA) at Mac-Hi, 6 p.m.

Mitchell/Spray at Ione, 6 p.m.

Arlington at Condon/Wheeler, 6 p.m.

Echo at Nixyaawii, 6 p.m.

PREP WRESTLING

Saturday

Echo at New Plymouth Invite (ID)

Heppner at Pine Eagle Invitational

Hermiston, Irrigon, Riverside at Farm-City Tournament (Hermiston)

PREP SWIMMING

Saturday

Hermiston, Pendleton at La Grande

COLLEGE MEN'S BASKETBALL

Saturday

BMCC at North Idaho College, 4 p.m.

COLLEGE WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Saturday

BMCC at North Idaho College, 2 p.m.

COLLEGE WRESTLING

Saturday

EOU (Women) vs. Grays Harbor C.C., 1 p.m.

Prep Scores

BOYS BASKETBALL

Class 5A

Hermiston 77, Hood River Valley 74

Pendleton 78, The Dalles 62

Mountain View 67, Redmond 46

Summit 69, Ridgeview 57

Class 4A

La Grande 52, Ontario 33

Class 3A

Umatilla 38, Riverside 35

Burns 43, Nyssa 38

Class 2A

Weston-McEwen 64, Culver 42

Pilot Rock 60, Stanfield 38

Grant Union 66, Enterprise 47

Elgin 63, Imbler 39

Class 1A

Powder Valley 44, Joseph 35

Echo 58, Pine Eagle 32

Arlington 69, Ione 37

Horizon Christian 46, Dufur 39

Sherman 89, Mitchell/Spray 23

Condon/Wheeler 66, South Wasco 38

Vallouva 49, Helix 36

Nixyaawii at Cove, late

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Class 5A

Hermiston 56, Hood River Valley 34

Pendleton 62, The Dalles 32

Mountain View 42, Redmond 39

Ridgeview 59, Summit 35

Class 4A

La Grande 52, Ontario 33

Class 3A

Nyssa 39, Burns 28

Riverside 35, Umatilla 21

Class 2A

Weston-McEwen 48, Culver 35

Pilot Rock 58, Stanfield 37

Grant Union 56, Enterprise 52

Elgin 38, Imbler 19

NCAA Men's Basketball

Top 25 Schedule

Friday

No. 6 Michigan St 76, Wisconsin 61

Saturday

NC State at No. 10 UNC, 9 a.m. (CBS)

No. 14 Texas Tech at South Carolina, 9 a.m. (ESPN2)

Sunday

Baylor at No. 20 Florida, 9 a.m. (ESPN)

Duquesne at No. 24 URI, 9 a.m. (ESPN)

No. 2 UVA at No. 4 Duke, 11 a.m. (CBS)

No. 12 Oklahoma at Alabama, 11:15 a.m.

NBA

Friday's Games

Charlotte 121, Atlanta 110

Cleveland 115, Indiana 108

Utah 97, Toronto 93

L.A. Clippers 109, Memphis 100

L.A. Lakers 108, Chicago 103

Milwaukee 116, Brooklyn 91

New Orleans 115, Houston 113

Philadelphia 97, San Antonio 78

Portland 107, Dallas 93

New York 107, Phoenix 85

Saturday's Games

Oklahoma City at Detroit, 2 p.m.

Orlando at Indiana, 4 p.m.

Charlotte at Miami, 4:30 p.m.

Washington at Atlanta, 4:30 p.m.

Boston at Golden State, 5:30 p.m.

Brooklyn at Minnesota, 6 p.m.

Dallas at Denver, 6 p.m.

Sunday's Games

Milwaukee at Chicago, 12:30 p.m.

Phoenix at Houston, 12:30 p.m.

L.A. Clippers at New Orleans, 1 p.m.

Detroit at Cleveland, 3 p.m.

L.A. Lakers at Toronto, 3 p.m.

Philadelphia at Oklahoma City, 3 p.m.

Sacramento at San Antonio, 4 p.m.

Basketball

ESPN

No. 22 Tennessee at Iowa St, 1 p.m. (ESPN/UT)

Texas A&M at No. 5 Kansas, 1:30 p.m. (ESPN)

Utah at No. 11 Arizona, 2:30 p.m. (FOX)

LSU at No. 19 Auburn, 3 p.m.

No. 9 Cincinnati at Memphis, 3 p.m. (CBSSN)

Kentucky at No. 7 West Virginia, 4 p.m. (ESPN)

San Francisco at No. 15 Gonzaga, 5 p.m.

Colorado at No. 21 Arizona State, 5 p.m. (ESPN/UT)

Portland at No. 16 Saint Mary's, 8 p.m.

Sunday

No. 6 Michigan St at Maryland, 10 a.m. (CBS)

No. 1 Villanova at Marquette, 10 a.m. (FOX)

No. 3 Purdue at Indiana, 12:30 p.m. (FOX)

No. 18 Clemson at Georgia Tech, 3 p.m. (ESPN/UT)

Tulsa at No. 17 Wichita State, 3 p.m. (CBSSN)

Monday

Notre Dame at No. 4 Duke, 4 p.m. (ESPN)

Northwestern at No. 25 Michigan, 4 p.m. (FS1)

No. 5 Kansas at Kansas State, 6 p.m. (ESPN)

Pac-12 Schedule

Friday

No games scheduled.

Saturday

Utah at No. 11 Arizona, 2:30 p.m. (FOX)

Oregon State at Oregon, 5 p.m. (PAC12)

Colorado at No. 21 Arizona State, 5 p.m. (ESPN/UT)

Stanford at UCLA, 7:30 p.m. (PAC12)

Sunday

Cal at USC, 1 p.m. (PAC12)

Washington St at Washington, 5 p.m. (ESPN/UT)

Monday

No games scheduled.

NCAA Women's Basketball

Top 25 Schedule

Friday

No. 7 Oregon 74, Colorado 55

No. 13 UCLA 86, Washington 69

No. 17 Oregon St 69, Utah 58

No. 22 Green Bay 65, UIC 36

No. 23 Cal 63, Arizona 39

Stanford 74, No. 25 Arizona St 50

Saturday

Michigan State at No. 12 OSU, 9 a.m. (ESPN/UT)

Tulane at No. 1 UConn, 9 a.m. (ESPN3)

Texas Tech at No. 19 Oklahoma St, 11 a.m.

Oklahoma at No. 24 TCU, 12 p.m.

Iowa State at No. 6 Texas5 m.p.m.

Sunday

No. 10 Tennessee at LSU, 10 a.m.

Wake Forest at No. 4 Louisville, 10 a.m.

No. 21 Georgia at Florida, 11 a.m.

No. 2 Miss. St. at Ole Miss, 11 a.m. (ESPN/UT)

No. 7 Oregon at Utah, 11 a.m.

No. 18 Duke at Pitt, 11 a.m.

IUPUI at No. 22 Green Bay, 11 a.m.

No. Texas A&M at Vanderbilt, 12 p.m.

No. 16 Michigan at Northwestern, 12 p.m.

No. 3 Baylor at No. 20 West Virginia, 12 p.m. (FS1)

No. 17 Oregon State at Colorado, 1 p.m.

No. 5 Notre Dame at No. 8 FSU, 1 p.m. (ESPN2)

No. 11 Missouri at No. 9 South Carolina, 3 p.m. (ESPN2)

No. 13 UCLA at Washington State, 3 p.m.

No. 25 Arizona State at No. 23 Cal, 3 p.m.

Pac-12 Schedule

Friday

No. 17 Oregon St at Utah, 5 p.m.

No. 7 Oregon at Colorado, 7 p.m.

Arizona at No. 23 Cal, 7 p.m.

No. 25 Arizona St at Stanford, 7 p.m.

No. 13 UCLA at Washington, 7 p.m.

Saturday

No games scheduled.

Sunday

No. 7 Oregon at Utah, 11 a.m.

No. 17 Oregon State at Colorado, 1 p.m.

USC at Washington, 2 p.m.

No. 13 UCLA at Washington St., 3 p.m.

No. 25 Arizona State at No. 23 Cal, 3 p.m.

Arizona at Stanford, 5 p.m. (PAC12)

Tennis

Australian Open

At Melbourne Park

Melbourne

Rod Laver Arena

Friday

Men's Singles

Semifinal

Roger Federer (2), Switzerland, def. Hyun-Chang Chung, Republic of Korea, 6-1, 5-2.

Women's Doubles

Final

Kristina Mladenovic, France and Timeea Babos (5), Hungary, def. Elena Vesnina, Russia and Ekaterina Makarova, Russia, 6-4, 6-3.

Hockey

NHL

Friday-Saturday

No games scheduled.

Sunday's Games

NHL All-Star Game, 3:30 p.m. (NBC)

Football

NFL

PRO BOWL

Sunday

AFC vs. NFC, 1 p.m. (ESPN/ABC)

SUPER BOWL

Sunday, Feb. 4

New England vs. Philadelphia, 3:30 p.m. (NBC)

Golf

PGATOUR

Farmers Insurance Open

Friday

At Torrey Pines Golf Club

San Diego

Purse: \$6.9 million

Second Round

Ryan Palmer 66-67—133 -11

Jon Rahm 68-66—134 -10

Luke List 69-66—135 -9

Tony Finau 65-70—135 -9

Alex Noren 69-70—136 -8

Michael Kim 69-68—137 -7

Jason Day 73-64—137 -7

Martin Flores 70-67—137 -7

Retief Goosen 70-68—138 -6

Hunter Mahan 68-70—138 -6

Harry English 70-68—138 -6

Phil Mickelson 70-68—138 -6

Tom Lovelady 68-70—138 -6

Sean O'Hair 70-69—139 -5

Cameron Smith 71-68—139 -5

Keegan Bradley 70-69—139 -5

Robert Garrigus 69-70—139 -5

Kevin Streelman 71-68—139 -5

Justin Rose 69-70—139 -5

Other

Tiger Woods 72-71—143 -1