

# Mariners: Likely the youngest lineup of the American League

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Haniger’s recovery will take about six to eight weeks following the surgery. He could be ready to join the major league club sometime in late April.

“He’s attacking it very aggressively because he doesn’t want to miss any more time,” Dipoto said. “Mitch was in the midst of what I think was perhaps his best offseason, certainly since he’s been with the Mariners.”

The loss of Haniger is two-fold for the Mariners. Along with Dee Gordon and Kyle Seager, Haniger was expected to be one of the few experienced veterans the Mariners could lean on early in a season where the next phase of Seattle’s rebuild will begin.

The Mariners are likely to field one of the youngest teams in the American League, with a handful of rookies or second-year players expected to be in the everyday lineup.

But it also delays the possibility that Haniger could become an eventual trade chip for the Mariners. Dipoto and manager Scott Servais have regularly considered Haniger a main part of Seattle’s core moving forward into 2021 and 2022 when the Mariners hope their roster is ready to contend in the AL West.

He’s also one of the few remaining options on Seattle’s retooled roster who could draw additional prospects if needed.

“I do know Mitch well enough. He will do everything he can to get back as soon as he can. Six, seven, eight weeks, whatever it is. ... It’s disappointing. I was really looking forward to having him back. Putting that name in the lineup is a nice security blanket,” Servais said.

Lewis’s fellow Alabama linebacker Anfernee Jennings opted to return for his senior season and try to improve his stock, and feels like he did just that.

Crimson Tide coach Nick Saban, who lost six underclassmen to the draft counting Lewis , said he advises all his juniors to leave if they’re likely first-round picks.

“I think most of our guys have made a good decision that way,” Saban said. “I think in Anfernee and Terrell’s case, both, they certainly did themselves a lot of good by coming back. I think most of our players who have come back have been able to do that.”

Herbert and Baun are hoping that call pays off for players like them, too.

Willekes (broken leg) and Kinlaw (torn hip labrum) both indicated they likely would have left after their junior seasons but for the injuries. Kinlaw especially is pegged as a likely first-rounder after earning first-team Associated Press All-America honors.

Willekes posted a career-high 10.5 sacks and finished as Michigan State’s career leader with 51 tackles for loss. In the last offseason, he spent time at Von Miller’s pass rush summit in Las Vegas and working with former NFL defensive end Chuck Smith.

But Haniger’s injury will open up another opportunity — however limited — for another young outfielder to make his mark during a season where youth will define the Mariners.

Last season was a transition year for Seattle as older players were traded off for younger prospects. Some of that young talent reached Seattle by the end of the season, while others continued to make their way through a minor-league system that has quickly transformed from one of the worst in baseball into one of the best.

Seattle expects the likes of outfielder Kyle Lewis, first baseman Evan White, second baseman Shed Long and pitchers Justus Sheffield and Justin Dunn to be key pieces of the upcoming season. The injury to Haniger may also allow Jake Fraley or Braden Bishop to earn more playing time early on.

Getting all of those players extensive experience this season is a priority for Dipoto and Servais. They know it will likely come with plenty of losses, but they are trying to maintain perspective. They understand the rocky results now will hopefully start to be beneficial a year from now when the next wave of top prospects in their system — including Jarred Kelenic and Julio Rodriguez — may be ready to help in the majors.

“We all have a clear vision for what we want this to look like. But to get there is not going to be a smooth line. Not at all,” Servais said. “There will be some dips and guys fighting through adversity and we know that going in. But I couldn’t be any more excited about the core group of talented young guys we’ve got.”

# Senior Bowl: Crimson Tide lost 6 to the draft

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“I do feel a lot more ready, especially mentally,” Willekes said. “I feel like I was still a little young last year and I had some growing up and maturing to do and I was able to do that.”

Lewis had two major injuries but was finally healthy last season and had six sacks, leading the team with 16 quarterback pressures. He missed 10 games in 2017 with an upper arm injury suffered in the opener against Florida State and sat out the next season with a preseason knee injury.

His health has been a hot topic in conversations with NFL teams.

“That’s definitely a big question for a lot of organizations: Can they trust that I’ll be durable to last throughout the whole season,” Lewis said. “I don’t blame them. I would too if I was a GM and I’ve got a million dollars that I’m just handing to a young 21-year-old kid. I invite the questions with open arms, so it’s not really that big of a deal for me.”

Baun made huge leaps as a senior, more than doubling his previous career totals with 12.5 sacks and 19.5 tackles for loss. He said he didn’t even consider leaving early for the draft but buckled down in trying to work on his weaknesses.

“I don’t think a player in the country has improved as much as I did from 2018 to 2019,” Baun said.

# Mavs make 22 3-pointers, beat Blazers 133-125

By ERIK GARCIA GUNDERSEN  
Associated Press

PORTLAND — Luka Doncic scored 27 points to go with nine assists and six rebounds, and the Dallas Mavericks made 22 3-pointers to defeat the Portland Trail Blazers 133-125 on Thursday night.

Doncic scored 20 of his points in the first half, and had plenty of help in the win. The Mavericks had six players make at least three 3-pointers, and it was the sixth time this season the Mavericks made 20 3s, with Seth Curry and Jalen Brunson leading the way with four each.

The 43 combined 3-pointers made by Dallas and Portland tied an NBA record.

One game after scoring a career-high 61 points, Damian Lillard finished with 47 points for Portland in the loss. He became the first player in franchise history to score 100 points over two games.

Trevor Ariza, recently acquired in a trade from Sacramento, scored a season-high 21 in his Portland debut.

Lillard’s hot shooting alone wasn’t enough to stay in front of a high-powered Mavericks team that has the league’s No. 1 ranked offense. Although Dallas went off for a monstrous 45-point quarter to begin the game, Lillard kept Portland within striking distance.

The Mavericks cooled in the second quarter — but only a little bit. They pushed their lead to as high as 17 in the second quarter. Even after missing their last eight 3-pointers to end the half, they still led 78-63 at halftime.

After the Mavericks’ lead ballooned to as much as 25 in the third quarter,



AP Photo/Craig Mitchelldyer  
**Dallas Mavericks guard Luka Doncic (77) drives to the basket past Portland Trail Blazers center Hassan Whiteside during the first half of an NBA basketball game in Portland on Thursday.**

The Mavericks cooled in the second quarter — but only a little bit. They pushed their lead to as high as 17 in the second quarter. Even after missing their last eight 3-pointers to end the half, they still led 78-63 at halftime.

After the Mavericks’ lead ballooned to as much as 25 in the third quarter,

Dallas led 103-90 after three quarters.

**Tip-ins**

Mavericks: Doncic earned his first All-Star selection Thursday. “So excited for him, so excited for our franchise,” coach Rick Carlisle said. “It’s so well-deserved. It’s just a really exciting time — for our team, for him, for his career and certainly the future.” The NBA announced that Doncic would be in the pool of starting players from the Eastern and Western Conference to be selected by All-Star captains LeBron James and Giannis Antetokounmpo.

Trail Blazers: Thursday was the first game for three new players on the Blazers acquired in a trade from Sacramento: Ariza, Caleb Swanigan and Wenyen Gabriel. Coach Terry Stotts told reporters that Ariza would start upon arrival and that his veteran experience makes it easier for Portland to operate like usual. “A lot of the actions, he’s seen before,” Stotts said. “We’ve thrown a lot at him. Since he’ll be out there with four other guys who know what’s going on, it shouldn’t be too difficult for him. For other players, it will be more difficult.”

**Up next**

Mavericks: at Utah on Saturday night.

Trail Blazers: home vs. Indiana on Sunday night.

# Wrestling : ‘I got on my back and I was freaking out’

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earned a 10-0 major decision over Gavin Doherty to get his team the win.

“It was exciting, but it was nerve-racking,” Hermiston’s Sam Cadenas said. “We lose, we lose as a team. We are a family and we do what we need to to push them back up.”

Hermiston rallied from a 19-10 deficit to take a 28-19 lead, getting an overtime win from Trevor Wagner at 170, a pin by Daniel Faaeteete at 182, a decision by Blake Betz at 195, and a pin by Cadenas at 220 to give the Dawgs a 28-19 lead.

Faaeteete’s win over Nathaniel Torres tied the match at 19-19.

Faaeteete trailed 5-0 in the first round, but a late reversal and a 3-point near fall tied the score at 5-5. In the second round, Torres chose the down position, where Faaeteete got him turned and pinned him in 3:06.

“I got on my back and I was freaking out,” Faae-



Staff photo by Ben Lonergan  
**Hermiston’s Trevor Wagner flips Pasco’s Travis Thorn during the 170-pound matchup at Hermiston High School Thursday night. Wagner won the match 10-8 in overtime.**

teete said. “I got a boost of power out of nowhere and I turned him. I was surprised

I got him — I thought I was going to get pinned. It happened so fast.”

## SCOREBOARD

|                                                             |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|----|----|------|-----|--|--|--|--|--|
| LOCAL SLATE                                                 |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| FRIDAY, JAN. 24                                             |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Boys basketball                                             |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Pendleton at Crook County, 6:30 p.m.                        |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Pilot Rock at Stanfield, 7:30 p.m.                          |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Condon/Wheeler at Echo, 7:30 p.m.                           |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ione/Arlington at Horizon Christian, 7:30 p.m.              |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Burns at Irrigon, 7:30 p.m.                                 |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Mac-Hi at La Grande, 7:30 p.m.                              |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Nixyaawii at Elgin, 7:30 p.m.                               |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Helix at Wallowa, 7:30 p.m.                                 |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Vale at Riverside, 7:30 p.m.                                |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Nyssa at Umatilla, 7:30 p.m.                                |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Weston-McEwen at Union, 7:30 p.m.                           |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Southridge at Hermiston, 7:30 p.m.                          |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Girls basketball                                            |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ione/Arlington at Country Christian, 4:30 p.m.              |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Southridge at Hermiston, 5:45 p.m.                          |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Pilot Rock at Stanfield, 6 p.m.                             |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Condon/Wheeler at Echo, 6 p.m.                              |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Burns at Irrigon, 6 p.m.                                    |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Mac-Hi at La Grande, 6 p.m.                                 |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Nixyaawii at Elgin, 6 p.m.                                  |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Vale at Riverside, 6 p.m.                                   |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Nyssa at Umatilla, 6 p.m.                                   |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Weston-McEwen at Union, 6 p.m.                              |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Crook County at Pendleton, 6:30 p.m.                        |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| SATURDAY, JAN. 25                                           |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Boys basketball                                             |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ione/Arlington at Condon/Wheeler, 3:30 p.m.                 |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Nyssa at Irrigon, 4:30 p.m.                                 |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Vale at Umatilla, 4:30 p.m.                                 |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Burns at Riverside, 4:30 p.m.                               |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Weston-McEwen at Pilot Rock, 5:30 p.m.                      |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Heppner at Stanfield, 5:30 p.m.                             |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Joseph at Nixyaawii, 5:30 p.m.                              |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Powder Valley at Helix, 5:30 p.m.                           |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Girls basketball                                            |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ione/Arlington at Condon/Wheeler, 2 p.m.                    |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Vale at Umatilla, 2 p.m.                                    |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Burns at Riverside, 3 p.m.                                  |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Nyssa at Irrigon, 3 p.m.                                    |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Weston-McEwen at Pilot Rock, 4 p.m.                         |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Heppner at Stanfield, 4 p.m.                                |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Joseph at Nixyaawii, 4 p.m.                                 |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Powder Valley at Helix, 4 p.m.                              |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Boys wrestling                                              |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Riverside at Hood River Elks Memorial Tournament, 9:30 a.m. |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Post Falls (ID) at Hermiston, TBD                           |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| GIRLS WRESTLING                                             |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Riverside at Hood River Elks Memorial Tournament, 9:30 a.m. |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Post Falls (ID) at Hermiston, TBD                           |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| SATURDAY, JAN. 26                                           |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Senior Bowl                                                 |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| At Mobile, Ala.                                             |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| North vs. South, 11:30 a.m.                                 |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| SUNDAY, JAN. 26                                             |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Hula Bowl                                                   |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| At Honolulu                                                 |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| East vs. West, 7:30 p.m.                                    |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| NFL PLAYOFF GLANCE                                          |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| PRO BOWL                                                    |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sunday, Jan. 26                                             |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| At Orlando, Fla.                                            |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| NFC vs. AFC, noon (ESPN)                                    |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| SUPER BOWL                                                  |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sunday, Feb. 2                                              |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| At Miami Gardens, Fla.                                      |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Kansas City vs. San Francisco, 3:30 p.m.                    |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| (FOX)                                                       |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| NBA STANDINGS                                               |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| EASTERN CONFERENCE                                          |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Atlantic                                                    | W  | L  | Pct  | GB  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Toronto                                                     | 30 | 14 | .682 | —   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Boston                                                      | 29 | 14 | .674 | ½   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Phila.                                                      | 29 | 17 | .630 | 2   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Brooklyn                                                    | 18 | 25 | .419 | 11½ |  |  |  |  |  |
| New York                                                    | 12 | 33 | .267 | 18½ |  |  |  |  |  |
| Southeast                                                   | W  | L  | Pct  | GB  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Miami                                                       | 31 | 13 | .705 | —   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Orlando                                                     | 21 | 24 | .467 | 10½ |  |  |  |  |  |
| Washington                                                  | 15 | 29 | .341 | 16  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Charlotte                                                   | 15 | 30 | .333 | 16½ |  |  |  |  |  |
| Atlanta                                                     | 11 | 34 | .244 | 20½ |  |  |  |  |  |
| Central                                                     | W  | L  | Pct  | GB  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Milwaukee                                                   | 39 | 6  | .867 | —   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Indiana                                                     | 29 | 16 | .644 | 10  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Detroit                                                     | 17 | 28 | .378 | 22  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Chicago                                                     | 17 | 29 | .370 | 22½ |  |  |  |  |  |
| WESTERN CONFERENCE                                          |    |    |      |     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Southwest                                                   | W  | L  | Pct  | GB  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dallas                                                      | 27 | 16 | .628 | —   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Houston                                                     | 27 | 16 | .628 | —   |  |  |  |  |  |
| San Antonio                                                 | 20 | 23 | .465 | 7   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Memphis                                                     | 20 | 24 | .455 | 7½  |  |  |  |  |  |
| New Orleans                                                 | 17 | 28 | .378 | 11  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Northwest                                                   | W  | L  | Pct  | GB  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Utah                                                        | 31 | 13 | .705 | —   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Denver                                                      | 30 | 14 | .682 | 1   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Oklahoma City                                               | 26 | 19 | .578 | 5½  |  |  |  |  |  |