

NHL

Seattle Kraken hire Hakstol as coach

SEATTLE — Score one on the surprise scale for the Seattle Kraken, after the NHL expansion team on Thursday announced that former Philadelphia Flyers bench boss Dave Hakstol would be the franchise's first coach.

Hakstol, 52, coached the Flyers over parts of four seasons, going 131-101-42 and leading the team to the playoffs twice over his three full campaigns. He most recently had been an assistant with the Toronto Maple Leafs.

"It is an honor to be the first head coach of the Seattle Kraken," Hakstol said in a team statement.

Hakstol's selection was a stunning development, given his name had rarely surfaced on the list of the team's rumored candidates. Kraken general manager Ron Francis pursued Hakstol amid rumors he was seeking higher-profile candidates.

"Dave possesses great experience, a strong work ethic, a solid technical understanding of the game, and the remarkable ability to communicate clearly and effectively, Francis said in a statement.

Hakstol has experience working with younger players, having spent 15 seasons at the University of North Dakota before joining the Flyers.

He'll now help the Kraken prepare to pick their team at the July 21 expansion draft, then with the NHL entry draft three days later. The Kraken will pick No. 2 overall in the entry draft.

—The Seattle Times

NAME, IMAGE AND LIKENESS

NCAA eyes a short-term solution

The NCAA is lurching toward a temporary, patchwork solution in addressing name, image and likeness compensation for athletes, a hyper-local approach to allow everyone to earn money off their fame starting July 1 without uniform national rules.

The latest strategy to provide clarity to a dramatic change in NCAA policy comes days after the Supreme Court handed down a ruling that left the association exposed to future legal attacks.

The NCAA Board of Governors was scheduled to meet with the Division I Board of Directors on Thursday to discuss the next step for sorting out NIL.

The Division I Council discussed possible next steps to NIL earlier this week and is scheduled to meet again Monday. A final decision could be made by the Board of Directors next Wednesday — one day before NIL laws go into effect in at least six states.

A solution reportedly being discussed involves the NCAA waiving its rules banning athletes from being paid for use of their name, image and likeness while still keeping bylaws that make pay-for-play and recruiting inducements impermissible.

In Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, New Mexico and Texas, laws go into effect July 1 that make it impermissible for the NCAA and members schools to prevent athletes from being paid by third parties for things like sponsorship deals, online endorsements and personal appearances.

—Associated Press

PREP WRESTLING

READY FOR STATE TOURNAMENTS

Prep sports close the 2020-21 school year with state wrestling tournaments

BY BRIAN RATHBONE • The Bulletin

On the final day of high school sports for the 2020-21 academic year in Oregon on Saturday, and about four months behind schedule, state champions will be decided on the wrestling mats.

As has been the case throughout the culminating weeks this year, there is no sanctioned state tournament put on by the Oregon School Activities Association, leaving postseason play to be planned by each classification.

The plan for wrestling? Organize state tournaments through the Oregon Wrestling Association rather than the OSAA, using the results from last week's district tournaments to qualify wrestlers to compete in the early summer tournaments.

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"It is so bizarre, we are used to going home in the dark and the cold. Now it is light and hot. It feels weird."

Instead of wrestlers from all corners of the state migrating to Memorial Coliseum in Portland for one giant weekend tournament to determine the state's top wrestlers and teams, five separate tournaments will be scattered throughout the state on Friday and Saturday.

"We have been ready for a LONG time," said Culver coach J.D. Alley. "I'm really proud of our group. It



Dean Guernsey/Bulletin file photo

Culver's Anthony Hood, right, wrestles La Pine's Garrett Forbes during a dual meet at Culver High School earlier this season. Central Oregon wrestlers are preparing to finish off the season with state tournaments.

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— Les Combs, Mountain View wrestling coach

hasn't been an easy task to keep things together into the summer."

The Class 6A state meet will be held at Newberg High School, the 5A at Cottage Grove High and the 4A at Cascade High. Redmond High will host the 3A tournament on Saturday, while the 2A/1A tournament will be staged at Sweet Home High School.

Having separate tournaments allows for each classification to better highlight their wrestlers. During the state championship meets in Portland, six championship matches would be held simultaneously. With the tournaments broken up, there will be just one championship match at a time.

"I think we are going to like it. In some ways it helps us showcase our teams," Alley said. "They have always had to share that spotlight."

One interesting wrinkle to the tournaments will be the heat. Temperatures across the state are expected to exceed 100 degrees this weekend, making for some stifling gyms. But it is not uncommon for wrestlers to practice in rooms with the heat cranked up.

In many ways, they have been training for years for these conditions.

"Wrestlers prefer to train in high temperatures," Alley said. "Those athletes are in and out in a 6-minute

match, then they can cool down."

Five Central Oregon teams will take double-digit wrestlers to their respective state tournaments. Crook County leads the way with 19 qualifying wrestlers. Redmond is taking 16, Culver 15, Mountain 13 and La Pine 12.

6A state championship meet

Where: Newberg High School
When: Friday and Saturday
Placing rounds: Saturday, 3 p.m.
Local qualifiers (weight class)

Mountain View: Scout Santos (106), Tyson Oliver (113), Drew Jones (126), Jackson Potts (126), Ethan Potts (132), Andrew Worthington (132), Jeremiah Reid (145), Ryder Fassett (152), Elijah McCourtney (16), Cannon Potts (170), Arturo Martinez (170), Luke Williams (182), Rory Eck (285)

Bend: Wyatt McClain (132), Sean Craven (138)

Summit: Gavin Williams (138)

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U.S. OLYMPIC TRACK & FIELD TRIALS

Weather, women's 400 hurdles set to sizzle on final weekend

BY PAT GRAHAM
Associated Press

EUGENE — Dalilah Muhammad has all the prestigious credentials: Reigning world champion. Defending Olympic gold medalist. World record holder.

Despite that, she doesn't always grab top billing in one of the most competitive races in track and field — the women's 400-meter hurdles.

The reason — Sydney McLaughlin, the 21-year-old phenom who has been on Muhammad's heels for most of the past few seasons and even deserves some of the credit for pushing the champion toward her world-record times.

Act One of their 2021 drama is expected to take place at the U.S. Olympic track and field trials Sunday. The encore could happen in Tokyo at the Olympics.

"We definitely push each other to be at our best," Muhammad said. "That's a lot of pressure, but it also makes us so much better."

With McLaughlin pushing her to the finish, Muhammad ran the 400 hurdles in 52.16 seconds at the 2019 world



David J. Phillip/AP file photo

Dalilah Muhammad, left, of the United States, finishes ahead of compatriot Sydney McLaughlin, right, to win the women's 400 meter hurdles final and set a new world record at the World Athletics Championships in Doha, Qatar, in 2019.

championships in Doha.

She broke her own world record from two months previous. McLaughlin's second-place time of 52.23 in Doha stands as the third-best time ever.

McLaughlin burst onto the national scene by earning a spot for the 2016 Olympics at age 16. Much was made of her multiple talents — including the ability to juggle while riding a unicycle.

Muhammad, meanwhile,

has largely stayed under the radar. She does not consider this a rivalry, per se.

"It's actually unfortunate that it's looked at that way," the 31-year-old Muhammad said. "In reality, I definitely wish nothing but the best for Sydney. I love to see where the event can go."

Despite finishing second in the last major race, McLaughlin might be considered a slight favorite at the trials.

See **Track** / B4

TENNIS | WIMBLEDON PREVIEW

Grand Slam tennis makes return to England's grass

BY HOWARD FENDRICH
AP Tennis Writer

Roger Federer recalls feeling "just shocked, more than any-

thing." Chris Evert found the news "devastating."

The tennis world was shaken when the All England Club announced on April 1, 2020, that Wimbledon would be canceled because of the coronavirus pandemic — the first time since World War II it was called off for any reason.

The oldest Grand Slam tennis tournament ends a two-year absence on Monday, with 50% capacity attendance at the outset and a full Centre Court of 15,000 allowed for the singles finals on July 10-11, the latest signals things are moving closer to normal.

"It's going to be an incredible event," said American pro John Isner, a 2018 semifinalist at Wimbledon and winner of the longest match in the sport's

history there in 2010. "You know, a lot of people say it's the Mecca of our sport, it's our Augusta National. ... It's going to

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If so, they will have plenty of storylines to follow on the grass courts.

Defending champion Novak Djokovic tries to pull even with Rafael Nadal (who won't be there) and Federer (who will, in his last Slam before turning 40 on Aug. 8) at 20 major championships, the

most for a man. Djokovic hopes to add to his 2021 titles at the Australian Open and French Open to extend his bid for the first calendar-year Grand Slam by a man since 1969.

Serena Williams, at age 39, seeks her 24th major singles trophy to equal the all-time mark after losing in the 2018 and 2019 Wimbledon finals.

See **Tennis** / B4