

SPORTS

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AP

Allianz Arena in Munich is pictured during pregame festivities before Sunday's game between Tampa Bay and Seattle.

NFL ROAD TRIP

Beyond Germany, league eyes Spain, France for future games

MUNICH (AP) — The NFL wants to keep its European tour going now that Germany has joined Britain in hosting games.

Spain and France are atop the league's wish list as it continues to look internationally for revenue growth.

The Tampa Bay Buccaneers beat the Seattle Seahawks 21-16 on Sunday at Allianz Arena — a first for Germany as part of a four-year deal that the league hopes will extend long-term. London has hosted regular-season games since 2007.

Beyond Germany, which could also get additional games soon, the league's analysis of fan growth and commercial potential puts Spain and France "very much on our radar," Brett Gosper, NFL Head of UK and Europe, told The Associated Press in an interview.

"We need to do our homework to make sure that there is the possibility of a place to land any games in those markets, gauge interest of the host stadia, gauge interest of the host city, even the government, as to their enthusiasm to help us bring a game," Gosper said.

Spain has a slight edge because the Chicago Bears and Miami Dolphins now have "home marketing" rights in the country. The NFL has divvied up international rights to interested teams covering 10 countries including Australia, Brazil, Canada, Germany, Ghana, Mexico and the U.K. No teams have rights in France.

"When you know that there are teams operating in (the international rights program) you want to look at the prospect and the

viability of potentially having games in those markets at some point," Gosper said.

There are five international games this season: three in London, one in Munich, and one in Mexico City on Nov. 21 when the Arizona Cardinals play the San Francisco 49ers.

International expansion was one reason why the NFL added a 17th game to the schedule. The league has committed to playing four international games each season, and teams are required to play a "home" game abroad once every eight seasons.

Outside of that commitment, a team with rights in a country can opt to play home games there, as the Jacksonville Jaguars do in London. The Jags have played nine times in the British capital and currently have a three-year deal to play an annual "home" game at the 90,000-seat Wembley Stadium.

"A team might choose to do that. That's a real possibility but again not imminent," Gosper said.

"Certainly, in next six months to 12 months we'll be really testing the viability of our options from a stadium point of view — not just in Europe but elsewhere — and then at the same time in parallel seeing what the appetite is for clubs to potentially exploit those markets with a game," he said.

In Spain, Real Madrid's Santiago Bernabéu Stadium is undergoing major renovations that will include a soccer pitch that retracts to make way for an artificial turf field that can be used for American football with a capacity over 80,000. Tottenham Hotspur Stadium,

which has a long-term deal with the NFL to host London games, has a similar system. Atlético Madrid's Wanda Metropolitano Stadium seats 68,000.

Camp Nou is Europe's largest soccer stadium with a capacity of 99,000, but Barcelona plans to begin a long-delayed renovation project that will last into 2026. The city's Montjuïc Olympic Stadium seats about 56,000 and was a former home to the Barcelona Dragons of the NFL Europe league.

Gosper said there are "a lot of synergies" with Spain considering the NFL's large Spanish-speaking fanbase. Nine teams have marketing rights in Mexico.

The Stade de France just north of Paris has a capacity of just over 80,000 for soccer games.

"France is a little bit outside of that and it's its own market and culture," Gosper said, "but at the same time it's an incredibly strong sports media market where returns could be higher and faster than Spain.

"They're two very healthy media markets, healthy sports markets, some strong indicators from our streaming platform as well as from our consumer sales," he continued. "When you mine the data a little bit, they certainly are two markets with high potential."

Elsewhere in Europe, the Nordic markets would be next and "Sweden in particular," Gosper said. The country's largest stadium, Friends Arena, tops out at 50,000 fans.

In August 1988, the Bears played the Minnesota Vikings in a preseason game at Ullevi Stadium in Gothenburg.

SPORTS BRIEFLY

Seattle's Rodríguez, Atlanta's Harris voted top rookies

NEW YORK (AP) — Seattle's Julio Rodríguez and Atlanta's Michael Harris II had a lot in common — perhaps too much.

The 21-year-old center fielders were voted Rookies of the Year after seasons of power and speed that both ended in early postseason elimination.

Rodríguez hit .284 with 28 homers, 75 RBIs and 25 stolen bases in helping the Mariners reach the postseason for the first time since 2001. He won the American League honor by receiving 29 of 30 first-place votes and one second for 148 points from a Baseball Writers' Association of America panel.

"I went through some shaky times at the beginning of the year, but I was able to stick to myself, trust myself," said Rodríguez, who made the Mariners' opening-day roster and hit .205 in April.

"All the doubts I had throughout the year," he said, "I know it's going to serve me well along my career."

Harris batted .297 with 19 homers, 64 RBIs and 20 steals after making his debut on May 28. He was voted the National League award, getting 22 firsts and eight seconds for 134 points from a different BBWAA panel.

Seattle advanced past Toronto in the new wild-card round, then was swept by eventual champion Houston in the Division Series. Defending champion Atlanta lost a four-game Division Series to Philadelphia.

■ Cleveland's Terry Francona and New York's Buck Showalter were voted Managers of the Year on Tuesday night, improving the already sparkling resumes of both veteran baseball leaders.

Showalter — who won the NL prize in a

very tight race — is just the third person to win a fourth Manager of the Year award and the first to win with four different franchises. He won with the Yankees in 1994, Rangers in 2004, Orioles in 2014 and now the Mets.

The other four-time winners are Hall of Famers Bobby Cox and Tony La Russa.

"The game has changed," Showalter said of his four awards in four decades. "But in a lot of ways it's stayed the same."

Showalter received eight of 30 first-place votes, 10 second-place votes and 77 total points, edging Los Angeles Dodgers skipper Dave Roberts, who finished second. Roberts also earned eight-first-place votes but had just four second-place votes for 57 points.

Atlanta's Brian Snitker, who won the award in 2018, finished third with 55 points. He received seven first-place votes. The voting was done by a Baseball Writers' Association of America panel.

Showalter led the Mets to the second-best regular season in franchise history, finishing with 101 wins, which was a 24-win improvement over 2021. They finished second in the NL East to the Braves, who rallied to win the division.

The 66-year-old Showalter brought a sense of stability and gravitas to a franchise that had been saddled with on- and off-the-field issues over the past several seasons.

Francona won the AL award for the third time in 10 seasons. He received 17 of 30 first-place votes and nine second-place votes for 112 points from the BBWAA panel.

Baltimore's Brandon Hyde finished second — earning nine first-place votes and 79 points — after leading the Orioles to a 31-win turn-

around. Seattle's Scott Servais was third with one first-place vote, eight second-place votes and 14 third-place votes. He led the Mariners back to the postseason this season, breaking a playoff drought that lasted two decades.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

■ PRAIRIE VIEW, Texas — Will Douglas had 26 points and seven rebounds, Jeremiah Gambrell added 19 points and Prairie View A&M beat Washington State 70-59 on Tuesday night.

It was the third win for the Southwestern Athletic Conference over the Pac-12 in the inaugural Pac-12/SWAC Legacy series, after Grambling beat Colorado last week and Texas Southern downed Arizona State.

Douglas was 11 of 20 from the field and Gambrell 6 of 15 for Prairie View (3-0).

The Panthers led by 21 points with 7:28 remaining in the second half before Washington State closed on a 16-6 run.

Douglas scored 17 points in the first half to help Prairie View build a 41-27 lead by halftime. The Panthers shot 54.8% from the field and held the Cougars to 31.8%.

TJ Bamba scored nine of his 16 points in the final six minutes for Washington State (1-2). Kyman Houinsou added 10 points.

The Cougars play Eastern Washington on Monday.

■ True freshman Keyon Menifield hit four 3-pointers and scored 26 points in his second start and Washington rallied to beat Utah Tech 78-67 on Monday night.

Menifield's effort helped the Huskies get off to a 3-0 start for the first time since the 2015-16 season.

TV-Radio

Today

	Time	TV/Radio
National Basketball Association		
Boston at Atlanta	4:30 p.m.	ESPN
Golden State at Phoenix	7 p.m.	ESPN

National Hockey League

St. Louis at Chicago	4:30 p.m.	TNT
Los Angeles at Edmonton	7 p.m.	TNT

College Football

E. Michigan at Kent State	3 p.m.	ESPN2
Miami (Ohio) at N. Illinois	4 p.m.	CBSSN
W. Michigan at C. Michigan	5 p.m.	ESPN

Men's College Basketball

HBCU Tip-Off	10 a.m.	ESPN
HBCU Tip-Off	12:30 p.m.	ESPN
Michigan vs. Pittsburgh	3 p.m.	ESPN
Iowa at Seton Hall	4:30 p.m.	FS1
Gonzaga at Texas	6:30 p.m.	ESPN2

Women's College Basketball

Oklahoma at Utah	6 p.m.	Pac-12
Cal Poly at Stanford	8 p.m.	Pac-12

Thursday

	Time	TV/Radio
National Football League		
Tennessee at Green Bay	5:15 p.m.	Prime

National Basketball Association

Brooklyn at Portland	7 p.m.	ROOT+
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National Hockey League

N.Y. Rangers at Seattle	7 p.m.	ROOT 660 AM 102.1 FM
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College Football

SMU at Tulane	4:30 p.m.	ESPN
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Men's College Basketball

Furman vs. Penn State	8:30 a.m.	ESPN
Colorado vs. UMass	10:30 a.m.	ESPN
Old Dom. vs. Va. Tech	11 a.m.	ESPN2
Murray St. vs. Texas A&M	1 p.m.	ESPN2
Colorado St. vs. S. Carolina	2 p.m.	ESPN
St. Francis (Pa.) at Butler	3:30 p.m.	FS2
Nebraska at St. John's	3:30 p.m.	FS1
Boise State at Charlotte	4 p.m.	ESPN
Legends Classic	4 p.m.	ESPN2
Davidson vs. Charleston	4 p.m.	ESPN
UC Riverside at Creighton	5:30 p.m.	FS1
Long Island at Marquette	5:30 p.m.	FS2
Utah Tech at Arizona	6 p.m.	Pac-12
Legends Classic	6:30 p.m.	ESPN2
Loyola of Chi. vs. Tulsa	6:30 p.m.	ESPN
Cal. Baptist at Washington	8 p.m.	Pac-12

Women's College Basketball

UC Irvine at Washington	5 p.m.	Pac-12WA
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Golf

PGA RSM Classic	9 a.m.	Golf
LPGA CME Group	noon	Golf

HIGH SCHOOL FALL SOCCER SCORERS

		Girls Final	Goals
Player, School			
Liz Cisneros, BE			23
Alexa Brown, MVC			18
Abby Russell, MVC			16
Camryn Kerr, Ana			16
Kiersten Hendrickson, SW			15
Parker Halgren, MV			6
Renee Wargo, BE			6
Morgan White, BE			6
Reese Morgenthaler, Ana			6
Emily Russell, MVC			6
Analise Slotemaker, BE			5
Caitlin Vander Kooy, MVC			5
Emma Foley, Ana			5
Macee Holmes, BE			4
Jordan Zaharris, Ana			4
Ruthie Rozema, MVC			4
Stephanie Ortiz, BE			4
Lily Long, MVC			3
Zoe Bacus, SW			3
Erin Kennedy, Ana			3

		Boys Through Tuesday	Goals
Player, School			
Lucas Millenaar, MVC			10
Ben Rozema, MVC			7
Lane Tenborg, LC			5
Isa Gonzales Rojas, LC			4
Thomas Kitchen, LC			4
Sean Russell, MVC			3
Logan Burks, LC			3
Cody DeVlieger, MVC			3
Cannon Brown, MVC			3
Simon Bowens, LC			2
Oliver Ness, MVC			2
Eli Sanchez, MVC			2
Christian Kilvert, MVC			2

For complete Skagit County soccer stats, visit goskagit.com/sports/stats

NBA

Glance Tuesday's Games	
New Orleans 113, Memphis 102	
Dallas 103, L.A. Clippers 101	
New York at Utah, 9 p.m.	
Brooklyn at Sacramento (late)	
San Antonio at Portland (late)	
Wednesday's Games	
Indiana at Charlotte, 4 p.m.	
Minnesota at Orlando, 4 p.m.	
Oklahoma City at Washington, 4 p.m.	
Boston at Atlanta, 4:30 p.m.	
Miami at Toronto, 4:30 p.m.	
Chicago at New Orleans, 5 p.m.	
Cleveland at Milwaukee, 5 p.m.	
Houston at Dallas, 5:30 p.m.	
Golden State at Phoenix, 7 p.m.	
New York at Denver, 7 p.m.	

NFL

Glance Thursday's Game	
Tennessee at Green Bay, 5:15 p.m.	
Sunday's Games	
Carolina at Baltimore, 10 a.m.	
Chicago at Atlanta, 10 a.m.	
Cleveland at Buffalo, 10 a.m.	
Detroit at N.Y. Giants, 10 a.m.	
L.A. Rams at New Orleans, 10 a.m.	
N.Y. Jets at New England, 10 a.m.	
Philadelphia at Indianapolis, 10 a.m.	
Washington at Houston, 10 a.m.	
Las Vegas at Denver, 1:05 p.m.	
Cincinnati at Pittsburgh, 1:25 p.m.	
Dallas at Minnesota, 1:25 p.m.	
Kansas City at L.A. Chargers, 5:20 p.m.	
Open: Jacksonville, Miami, Seattle, Tampa Bay	
Monday's Game	
San Francisco vs Arizona at Mexico City, 5:15 p.m.	

NHL

Glance Tuesday's Games	
Toronto 5, Pittsburgh 2	
Vancouver 5, Buffalo 4	
Florida 5, Washington 2	
New Jersey 5, Montreal 1	
Tampa Bay 5, Dallas 4, OT	
Columbus 5, Philadelphia 4, OT	
Nashville 2, Minnesota 1	
Detroit at Anaheim (late)	
San Jose at Vegas (late)	