

EQUESTRIAN



SCOOP DYGA/ICON SPORTS

The U.S. team's McLain Ward, a three-time Olympic medalist, at last year's Riders Masters Cup in New York.

U.S.-Europe Team Competition Adds Spice To the More Stately Pace of Show Jumping

By LISA COWAN

How do you add a new twist to a staid and traditional sport like show jumping? Just add speed and a team battle for international boasting rights.

The Riders Masters Cup, one of the events at the Longines Masters of New York starting this week at Nassau Veterans Memorial Coliseum in Uniondale, pits the best American show jumpers against their European rivals in head-to-head matchups.

"The format keeps both teams in the hunt right to the very end of the competition in most scenarios," said McLain Ward, a three-time Olympic medalist and member of the American team.

"That keeps it exciting and keeps the intensity level high," he said, making for great entertainment.

The results do not count toward world rankings, but the riders enjoy the unusual format, said Robert Ridland, the chef d'équipe of the United States team. "And it's really fun."

It's on a world stage, and "your country is on the line, so in that sense, it's important," he said, but "I think it's more about bragging rights."

The Masters events, which this year continue through Sunday, have long included the Longines Grand Prix and the Longines Speed Challenge. About 80 show jumpers will compete over four days. The team competition, which was added to the Masters in 2017, is on Saturday, only the second time it has been held in New York. Five of the top riders from the United States will compete against a team from Europe, in a format loosely based on golf's Ryder Cup.

"Everybody knows about the Ryder Cup from golf. It's a battle between Europe and America," said Christophe Ameeuw, founder of the Riders Masters Cup. "Who are the best equestrians today? It's Europe and America."

A random draw before the competition decides the head-to-head matchups for the first round, in which each horse and rider jump a course of fences 1.5 meters (nearly five feet) high that can be equally wide. The faster of the two riders wins that duel, but a rider and horse who knock down a rail or do not jump a fence could lose the duel. The teams score 10 points per

win for the first round.

The two coaches then determine which European rider will be matched against which American rider for the second and final round. Each fallen rail increases a rider's time by three seconds, meaning that round two has a greater emphasis on quickness and agility than round one.

"It brings the speed element to the forefront of the competition," which makes for an exciting experience for the spectators, Ridland said.

The competitors usually use one of their "speed" horses, Ward said. He wants a horse that is "very good against the clock and naturally fast."

Of course, going faster means cutting corners more tightly, angling fences and sometimes leaving a stride out between two fences. All of those moves will give the rider a faster time while making it more likely that the horse will drop a rail or refuse to jump.

Each matchup in the second round is worth double points, so even if one

An international contest is mostly about who gets 'bragging rights.'

team loses all five matches in the first round (as the United States did last year), a couple of wins in the second round can even the fight.

The event is built on the idea of speed, said Harrie Smolders, a Dutch rider. "You need a fast horse, but one that normally jumps a little bit bigger," he said. "You have to bring one of your best horses."

Last year's battle in New York wasn't decided until the last fence of the last round, when Smolders beat Ward's time, handing Europe the win.

It's exciting when it's decided who wins or loses in the last split second of the competition, Smolders said. The Americans have yet to win the event, but the competition has been close every time.

"All three of the previous Riders Cups have gone down to the last pairing," Ridland said. "We've always had

a shot."

Usually, the coach picks 10 potential riders in advance and then narrows the team to the final five competitors. In what he said was a strategic move, Ridland chose to name this year's final American team early: Beezie Madden, Ward, Devin Ryan, Laura Chapot and Lillie Keenan.

"It's not the grand prix, it's not the most important event of the week, but I think the riders let their hair down a little bit and have a little fun with it," Ward said.

Philippe Guerdat, the coach of the European team, named his finalists Wednesday night: Smolders, Darrah Kenny of Ireland, Olivier Philippaerts of Belgium, Edward Levy of France and Pius Schwizer of Switzerland. Guerdat is the former coach of the French national show jumping team.

The Masters week at the coliseum will also include music, art, shopping and other activities, including a college riding competition and dog agility.

An equestrian himself, Ameeuw is passionate about increasing the fan base for show jumping. People probably think "it's a little bit boring," he said. But he hopes that spectators, whether or not they love horses, will come to an event and "discover a beautiful, fantastic sport."

He compared the experience to attending Grand Slam tennis tournaments. When you go to the United States Open, even if you're not a big tennis fan, there are many other things to do and enjoy, he said.

But for the die-hard show-jumping disciples, there is no shortage of top competition, culminating with the grand prix on Sunday.

Ward won that class last year riding Clint, his 12-year-old gray Oldenburg mare. But this year she is recovering from an injury, so he said he hoped to ride Tradition De La Roque, a 12-year-old black Selle Français owned by Kessler Show Stables.

New York is the third stop in the Longines Masters series after Paris in December and Hong Kong in February. Ward, who lives in Brewster, N.Y., said he liked having the team competition in New York.

"My hope is that it keeps growing in popularity," he said, "and is something that can be a great event for many years to come."

CALENDAR



JULIO CORTEZ/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mathew Barzal, above, and the Islanders face Justin Williams, below, and the Hurricanes in the N.H.L. playoffs' second round.



GRANT HALVERSON/GETTY IMAGES

What to Watch This Weekend

N.B.A. PLAYOFFS The final days of the first round are not going as expected. The Golden State Warriors will face the Los Angeles for a Game 6 (Friday, 10 p.m.) that no one saw coming. Though the West is not settled, the East is ready to move on to the second round. The Toronto Raptors will take on the Philadelphia 76ers for the first round of their semifinal series on Saturday, and the Milwaukee Bucks will face the Boston Celtics on Sunday. The times and channels are still to be determined.

M.L.B. The Houston Astros will host the Cleveland Indians in a four-game series that concludes Sunday night (7:05 p.m., ESPN). It is the first meeting of the two American League heavyweights since Houston swept Cleveland in a divisional series last postseason.

HOCKEY The second round of the N.H.L. playoffs is underway. The Islanders have not played since April 16, while their opponent, the Hurricanes, played a double-overtime Game 7 on Wednesday. Game 1 of their second-round series is Friday at Barclays Center (7 p.m., NBCSN), with Game 2 on Sunday (3 p.m., NBC).

SOCCER Liverpool will try to retake first place, again, in the seesaw Premier League race when it plays already-relegated Huddersfield on Friday (3 p.m., NBCSN), but Manchester can grab it right back when it travels to Burnley on Sunday (9 a.m., NBCSN). In between, Dortmund and Schalke will square off on Saturday in the Revierderby (9:30 a.m., FS2), one of the more enjoyable days on the Bundesliga calendar.

AUTO RACING Nascar races at Talladega on Sunday at 2 p.m. on Fox. The Azerbaijan Grand Prix in Baku has been unpredictable, with three winners in three races there (Sunday, 8:05 a.m., ESPN2).

Times are Eastern

SCOREBOARD

BASEBALL	PRO BASKETBALL	PRO HOCKEY																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																	
<p>A.L. STANDINGS</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <th>East</th> <th>W</th> <th>L</th> <th>Pct</th> <th>GB</th> </tr> <tr> <td>Tampa Bay</td> <td>16</td> <td>9</td> <td>.640</td> <td>—</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Yankees</td> <td>14</td> <td>10</td> <td>.583</td> <td>1 1/2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Toronto</td> <td>11</td> <td>14</td> <td>.440</td> <td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Boston</td> <td>10</td> <td>15</td> <td>.400</td> <td>6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Baltimore</td> <td>10</td> <td>16</td> <td>.385</td> <td>6 1/2</td> </tr> <tr> <th>Central</th> <th>W</th> <th>L</th> <th>Pct</th> <th>GB</th> </tr> <tr> <td>Minnesota</td> <td>13</td> <td>9</td> <td>.591</td> <td>—</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cleveland</td> <td>13</td> <td>10</td> <td>.565</td> <td>1/2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Detroit</td> <td>12</td> <td>11</td> <td>.522</td> <td>1 1/2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Chicago</td> <td>9</td> <td>14</td> <td>.391</td> <td>4 1/2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Kansas City</td> <td>8</td> <td>17</td> <td>.320</td> <td>6 1/2</td> </tr> <tr> <th>West</th> <th>W</th> <th>L</th> <th>Pct</th> <th>GB</th> </tr> <tr> <td>Houston</td> <td>15</td> <td>9</td> <td>.625</td> <td>—</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Seattle</td> <td>16</td> <td>11</td> <td>.593</td> <td>1/2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Texas</td> <td>12</td> <td>11</td> <td>.522</td> <td>2 1/2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Oakland</td> <td>14</td> <td>13</td> <td>.519</td> <td>2 1/2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Los Angeles</td> <td>9</td> <td>16</td> <td>.360</td> <td>6 1/2</td> </tr> </table> <p>THURSDAY Yankees at L.A. Angels Detroit at Boston Cleveland at Houston Texas at Seattle</p> <p>FRIDAY Yankees (Paxton 2-2) at San Francisco (Bumgarner 1-3), 10:15 Oakland (Fiers 2-2) at Toronto (Straman 1-3), 7:07 Tampa Bay (Morton 2-0) at Boston (Price 1-1), 7:10 Baltimore (Cobb 0-1) at Minnesota (Perez 2-0), 8:10 Cleveland (Kluber 2-2) at Houston (McHugh 3-2), 8:10 Detroit (Norris 1-0) at Chicago White Sox (Rodon 3-2), 8:10 L.A. Angels (Skaggs 1-2) at Kansas City (Duffy 0-0), 8:15 Texas (Miller 1-1) at Seattle (Kirkuchi 1-1), 10:10</p> <p>SATURDAY Yankees at San Francisco, 4:05 Baltimore at Minnesota, 2:10 Oakland at Toronto, 3:07 Cleveland at Houston, 4:05 Tampa Bay at Boston, 4:05 Detroit at Chicago White Sox, 7:10 L.A. Angels at Kansas City, 7:15 Texas at Seattle, 9:10</p> <p>N.L. STANDINGS</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <th>East</th> <th>W</th> <th>L</th> <th>Pct</th> <th>GB</th> </tr> <tr> <td>Mets</td> <td>13</td> <td>11</td> <td>.542</td> <td>—</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Philadelphia</td> <td>13</td> <td>11</td> <td>.542</td> <td>—</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Atlanta</td> <td>12</td> <td>11</td> <td>.522</td> <td>1/2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Washington</td> <td>11</td> <td>12</td> <td>.478</td> <td>1 1/2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Miami</td> <td>7</td> <td>17</td> <td>.292</td> <td>6</td> </tr> <tr> <th>Central</th> <th>W</th> <th>L</th> <th>Pct</th> <th>GB</th> </tr> <tr> <td>St. Louis</td> <td>15</td> <td>9</td> <td>.625</td> <td>—</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Chicago</td> <td>12</td> <td>11</td> <td>.522</td> <td>2 1/2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pittsburgh</td> <td>12</td> <td>11</td> <td>.522</td> <td>2 1/2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Milwaukee</td> <td>13</td> <td>13</td> <td>.500</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cincinnati</td> <td>9</td> <td>14</td> <td>.391</td> <td>5 1/2</td> </tr> <tr> <th>West</th> <th>W</th> <th>L</th> <th>Pct</th> <th>GB</th> </tr> <tr> <td>Los Angeles</td> <td>16</td> <td>11</td> <td>.593</td> <td>—</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Arizona</td> <td>15</td> <td>11</td> <td>.577</td> <td>1/2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>San Diego</td> <td>14</td> <td>11</td> <td>.560</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Colorado</td> <td>11</td> <td>14</td> <td>.440</td> <td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>San Francisco</td> <td>11</td> <td>14</td> <td>.440</td> <td>4</td> </tr> </table> <p>THURSDAY Arizona 5, Pittsburgh 0 L.A. Dodgers 2, Chicago Cubs 1 Atlanta at Cincinnati Miami at Philadelphia</p> <p>FRIDAY Milwaukee (Anderson 2-0) at Mets (deGrom 2-2), 7:10 Yankees (Paxton 2-2) at San Francisco (Bumgarner 1-3), 10:15 Miami (Burgener 1-3) at Philadelphia (Eickhoff 0-1), 7:05 San Diego (Strahm 0-2) at Washington (Scherer 1-3), 7:05 Colorado (Senzatella 1-1) at Atlanta (Fried 3-0), 7:20 Cincinnati (DeSclafani 0-1) at St. Louis (Mikolas 2-1), 8:15 Chicago Cubs (Hendricks 1-3) at Arizona (Ray 0-1), 9:40 Pittsburgh (Archer 1-1) at L.A. Dodgers (Ryu 2-1), 10:10</p> <p>SATURDAY Milwaukee at Mets, 7:10 Yankees at San Francisco, 4:05 Cincinnati at St. Louis, 2:15 San Diego at Washington, 4:05 Miami at Philadelphia, 6:05 Colorado at Atlanta, 7:20 Chicago Cubs at Arizona, 8:10 Pittsburgh at L.A. Dodgers, 9:10</p>	East	W	L	Pct	GB	Tampa Bay	16	9	.640	—	Yankees	14	10	.583	1 1/2	Toronto	11	14	.440	5	Boston	10	15	.400	6	Baltimore	10	16	.385	6 1/2	Central	W	L	Pct	GB	Minnesota	13	9	.591	—	Cleveland	13	10	.565	1/2	Detroit	12	11	.522	1 1/2	Chicago	9	14	.391	4 1/2	Kansas City	8	17	.320	6 1/2	West	W	L	Pct	GB	Houston	15	9	.625	—	Seattle	16	11	.593	1/2	Texas	12	11	.522	2 1/2	Oakland	14	13	.519	2 1/2	Los Angeles	9	16	.360	6 1/2	East	W	L	Pct	GB	Mets	13	11	.542	—	Philadelphia	13	11	.542	—	Atlanta	12	11	.522	1/2	Washington	11	12	.478	1 1/2	Miami	7	17	.292	6	Central	W	L	Pct	GB	St. Louis	15	9	.625	—	Chicago	12	11	.522	2 1/2	Pittsburgh	12	11	.522	2 1/2	Milwaukee	13	13	.500	3	Cincinnati	9	14	.391	5 1/2	West	W	L	Pct	GB	Los Angeles	16	11	.593	—	Arizona	15	11	.577	1/2	San Diego	14	11	.560	1	Colorado	11	14	.440	4	San Francisco	11	14	.440	4	<p>N.B.A. PLAYOFF SCHEDULE</p> <p>All Times EDT FIRST ROUND (Best-of-7; x-if necessary) EASTERN CONFERENCE Philadelphia 4, Nets 1 Saturday, April 13: Nets 111, Philadelphia 102 Monday, April 15: Philadelphia 145, Nets 123 Thursday, April 18: Philadelphia 131, Nets 115 Saturday, April 20: Philadelphia 112, Nets 108 Tuesday, April 23: Philadelphia 122, Nets 100 Milwaukee 4, Detroit 0 Sunday, April 14: Milwaukee 121, Detroit 86 Wednesday, April 17: Milwaukee 120, Detroit 99 Saturday, April 20: Milwaukee 119, Detroit 103 Monday, April 22: Milwaukee 127, Detroit 104 Toronto 4, Orlando 1 Saturday, April 13: Orlando 104, Toronto 101 Tuesday, April 16: Toronto 111, Orlando 82 Friday, April 19: Toronto 99, Orlando 93 Sunday, April 21: Toronto 107, Orlando 85 Tuesday, April 23: Toronto 115, Orlando 96 Boston 4, Indiana 0 Sunday, April 14: Boston 84, Indiana 74 Wednesday, April 17: Boston 99, Indiana 91 Friday, April 19: Boston 104, Indiana 96 Sunday, April 21: Boston 110, Indiana 106 WESTERN CONFERENCE Golden State 3, L.A. Clippers 2 Saturday, April 13: Golden State 121, L.A. Clippers 104 Monday, April 15: L.A. Clippers 135, Golden State 131 Thursday, April 18: Golden State 132, L.A. Clippers 105 Sunday, April 21: Golden State 113, L.A. Clippers 105 Wednesday, April 24: L.A. Clippers 129, Golden State 121 Friday, April 26: Golden State at L.A. Clippers, 10 p.m. x-Sunday, April 28: L.A. Clippers at Golden State, 3:30 p.m. Denver 3, San Antonio 2 Saturday, April 13: San Antonio 101, Denver 96 Tuesday, April 16: Denver 114, San Antonio 105 Thursday, April 18: San Antonio 118, Denver 108 Saturday, April 20: Denver 117, San Antonio 103 Tuesday, April 23: Denver 108, San Antonio 90 Thursday, April 25: Denver at San Antonio x-Saturday, April 27: San Antonio at Denver, 10 p.m. Portland 4, Oklahoma City 1 Sunday, April 14: Portland 104, Oklahoma City 99 Tuesday, April 16: Portland 114, Oklahoma City 94 Friday, April 19: Oklahoma City 120, Portland 108 Sunday, April 21: Portland 111, Oklahoma City 98 Tuesday, April 23: Portland 118, Oklahoma City 115 Houston 4, Utah 1 Sunday, April 14: Houston 122, Utah 90 Wednesday, April 17: Houston 118, Utah 98 Saturday, April 20: Houston 104, Utah 101 Tuesday, April 23: Houston 107, Utah 91 Wednesday, April 24: Houston 100, Utah 93</p> <p>CONFERENCE SEMIFINALS (Best-of-7; x-if necessary) EASTERN CONFERENCE Milwaukee vs. Boston Sunday, April 28: Boston at Milwaukee, 1 p.m. Tuesday, April 30: Boston at Milwaukee, TBD Friday, May 3: Milwaukee at Boston, TBD Monday, May 6: Milwaukee at Boston, TBD x-Wednesday, May 8: Boston at Milwaukee, TBD x-Friday, May 10: Milwaukee at Boston, TBD x-Monday, May 13: Boston at Milwaukee, TBD Toronto vs. Philadelphia Saturday, April 27: Philadelphia at Toronto, 7:30 or 8 p.m. Monday, April 29: Philadelphia at Toronto, TBD Thursday, May 2: Toronto at Philadelphia, 8 p.m. Sunday, May 5: Toronto at Philadelphia, 3:30 p.m. x-Tuesday, May 7: Philadelphia at Toronto, TBD x-Thursday, May 9: Toronto at Philadelphia, 3:30 p.m. x-Sunday, May 12: Philadelphia at Toronto, TBD</p> <p>N.B.A. PLAYOFF LEADERS</p> <p>SCORING</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <th></th> <th>G</th> <th>FG</th> <th>FT</th> <th>PTS</th> <th>AVG</th> </tr> <tr> <td>Lillard, POR</td> <td>5</td> <td>53</td> <td>33</td> <td>165</td> <td>33.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Durant, GOL</td> <td>5</td> <td>53</td> <td>42</td> <td>160</td> <td>32.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>George, OKC</td> <td>5</td> <td>44</td> <td>40</td> <td>143</td> <td>28.6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Harden, HOU</td> <td>5</td> <td>43</td> <td>32</td> <td>139</td> <td>27.8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Leonard, TOR</td> <td>5</td> <td>50</td> <td>25</td> <td>139</td> <td>27.8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Antetokounmpo, MIL</td> <td>37</td> <td>27</td> <td>105</td> <td>262</td> <td>22.2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Curry, GOL</td> <td>5</td> <td>36</td> <td>30</td> <td>124</td> <td>24.8</td> </tr> </table> <p>TENNIS</p> <p>BARCELONA OPEN</p> <p>Real Club de Tennis Barcelona 1899 BARCELONA, SPAIN Singles Third Round Kei Nishikori (4), Japan, d. Felix Auger-Aliassime (16), Canada, 6-1, 6-3 Daniil Medvedev (7), Russia, d. Mackenzie McDonald, United States, 6-3, 6-2 Dominic Thiem (3), Austria, d. Jaume Munar, Spain, 7-5, 6-1 Nicolas Pietrangeli, Chile, d. Grigor Dimitrov (13), Bulgaria, 2-6, 6-4, 7-6 (2) Rafael Nadal (1), Spain, d. David Ferrer, Spain, 6-3, 6-3 Roberto Carballes Baena, Spain, d. Cristian Garin, Chile, 6-4, 7-6 (2) Jan-Lennard Struff, Germany, d. Stefanos Tsitsipas (5), Greece, 6-4, 3-6, 6-2 Guido Pella, Argentina, d. Benoit Paire, France, 7-5, 6-3</p> <p>Doubles Quarterfinals Pablo Carreno Busta and Feliciano Lopez, Spain, d. Lukasz Kubot, Poland, and Marcelo Melo, Brazil, 6-1, 6-3 Nicola Pietrangeli and Cristian Garin, Chile, 6-3, 7-5 Jamie Murray, Britain, and Bruno Soares (2), Brazil, d. Jean-Julien Rojer, Netherlands, and Horia Tecau, Romania, 6-3, 6-3</p> <p>HUNGARIAN OPEN</p> <p>Sport11 Sport and Event Center BUDAPEST Singles Second Round Filip Krajinovic, Serbia, d. Radu Albot (8), Moldova, 7-5, 6-4 Borna Coric (2), Croatia, d. Robin Haase, Netherlands, 6-3, 4-6, 6-4 Matteo Berrettini (4), Italy, d. Aljaz Bedene, Slovenia, 7-6 (8), 6-2 Nikoloz Basilashvili (4), Georgia, d. Peter Gopowczyk, Germany, 6-3, 0-6, 6-3 Pablo Cuevas, Uruguay, d. Marin Cilic (1), Croatia, 5-7, 7-6 (6), 7-6 (3) Lasio Djere (5), Serbia, d. Jannik Sinner, Italy, 6-3, 6-1</p> <p>Doubles Quarterfinals Ken and Neal Skupski (3), Britain, d. Marcelo Demoliner, Brazil, and Divij Sharan, India, 7-6 (8), 5-7, 10-7 Kevin Krawietz and Andreas Mies, Germany, d. Luke Bambridge and Jonny O'Mara, Britain, 3-6, 6-4, 10-6 Marcus Daniell, New Zealand, and Wesley Koolhof, Netherlands, d. Robin de Vries, Netherlands, and Frederik Nielsen (4), Denmark, 6-4, 7-6 (5) Andre Begemann, Germany, and Ernests Gulbis, Latvia, d. Rohan Bopanna, India, and Dominic Inglot (1), Britain, 6-3, 6-4</p> <p>PORSCHE GRAND PRIX</p> <p>Porsche Arena STUTTGART, GERMANY Singles Second Round Anastasija Sevastova (7), Latvia, d. Laura Siegemund, Germany, 6-4, 6-3 Naomi Osaka (1), Japan, d. Hsieh Su-wei, Taiwan, 6-4, 6-3 Donna Vekic, Croatia, d. Daria Kasatkina, Russia, 6-1, 7-5 Anett Kontaveit (8), Estonia, d. Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova, Russia, 6-3, 6-2 Kiki Bertens (6), Netherlands, d. Belinda Bencic, Switzerland, 4-6, 6-3, 6-4 Angelique Kerber (5), Germany, d. Andrea Petkovic, Germany, 6-2, 6-4 Victoria Azarenka, Belarus, d. Karolina Pliskova (4), Czech Republic, 4-6, 6-3, 6-4</p> <p>Doubles Quarterfinals Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova, Russia, and Lucie Safarova, Czech Republic, d. Barbora Strýcová, Czech Republic, and Katarina Srebotnik (4), Slovenia, 6-0, 6-2 Gabriela Dabrowski, Canada, and Jelena Ostapenko, Latvia, d. Belinda Bencic, Switzerland, and Alicja Rosolska, Poland, 2-6, 7-5, 11-9</p> <p>N.H.L. CAROLINA HURRICANES — Recalled F Clark Bishop from Charlotte (AHL).</p> <p>HORSE RACING BREEDERS' CUP — Named Christopher McNamee senior vice president/corporate partnerships.</p> <p>SOCCER National Premier Soccer League NEW YORK COSMOS — Signed F Jochen Graf from Memphis (USL Championship).</p> <p>COLLEGE ARKANSAS — Named Jordyn Wieber women's gymnastics coach. NORTH CAROLINA — Men's junior basketball G Seventh Woods will transfer.</p>		G	FG	FT	PTS	AVG	Lillard, POR	5	53	33	165	33.0	Durant, GOL	5	53	42	160	32.0	George, OKC	5	44	40	143	28.6	Harden, HOU	5	43	32	139	27.8	Leonard, TOR	5	50	25	139	27.8	Antetokounmpo, MIL	37	27	105	262	22.2	Curry, GOL	5	36	30	124	24.8	<p>N.H.L. PLAYOFF SCHEDULE</p> <p>All Times EDT CONFERENCE SEMIFINALS (Best-of-7; x-if necessary) EASTERN CONFERENCE Islanders vs. Carolina Friday, April 26: Carolina at Islanders, 7 p.m. Sunday, April 28: Carolina at Islanders, 3 p.m. Wednesday, May 1: Islanders at Carolina, 7 p.m. Friday, May 3: Islanders at Carolina, 7 p.m. x-Sunday, May 5: Carolina at Islanders, TBA x-Tuesday, May 7: Islanders at Carolina, TBA x-Thursday, May 9: Carolina at Islanders, TBA Columbus vs. Boston Thursday, April 25: Columbus at Boston Saturday, April 27: Columbus at Boston, 8 p.m. Tuesday, April 30: Boston at Columbus, 7 p.m. Thursday, May 2: Boston at Columbus, 7:30 p.m. x-Saturday, May 4: Columbus at Boston TBA WESTERN CONFERENCE Dallas vs. St. Louis Thursday, April 25: Dallas at St. Louis Saturday, April 27: Dallas at St. Louis, 3 p.m. Monday, April 29: St. Louis at Dallas, 8 p.m. Wednesday, May 1: St. Louis at Dallas, 9:30 p.m. x-Friday, May 3: Dallas at St. Louis, 9:30 p.m. x-Sunday, May 5: St. Louis at Dallas, TBA x-Tuesday, May 7: Dallas at St. Louis, TBA San Jose vs. Colorado Friday, April 26: Colorado at San Jose, TBA Sunday, April 28: Colorado at San Jose, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 30: San Jose at Colorado, 10 p.m. Thursday, May 2: San Jose at Colorado, 10 p.m. x-Saturday, May 4: Colorado at San Jose TBA x-Monday, May 6: San Jose at Colorado, TBA x-Wednesday, May 8: Colorado at San Jose TBA</p> <p>N.H.L. PLAYOFF LEADERS</p> <p>GOAL SCORING</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <th></th> <th>GP</th> <th>GF</th> <th>AVG</th> </tr> <tr> <td>Logan Couture, San Jose</td> <td>7</td> <td>6</td> <td>.857</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Nicklas Hentzen, San Jose</td> <td>7</td> <td>6</td> <td>.857</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mark Stone, Vegas</td> <td>7</td> <td>5</td> <td>.714</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tomas Hertl, San Jose</td> <td>7</td> <td>5</td> <td>.714</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Matthew Pavone, Toronto</td> <td>7</td> <td>5</td> <td>.714</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Nicklas Backstrom, Washington</td> <td>7</td> <td>5</td> <td>.714</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Auston Matthews, Toronto</td> <td>7</td> <td>5</td> <td>.714</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Max Pacioretty, Vegas</td> <td>7</td> <td>5</td> <td>.714</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Niklas Rantanen, Colorado</td> <td>5</td> <td>5</td> <td>1.000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Jordan Eberle, Islanders</td> <td>5</td> <td>5</td> <td>1.000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Warren Foegele, Carolina</td> <td>7</td> <td>4</td> <td>.571</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Brad Marchand, Boston</td> <td>7</td> <td>4</td> <td>.571</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Jonathan Marchessault, Vegas</td> <td>7</td> <td>4</td> <td>.571</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Alex Ovechkin, Washington</td> <td>7</td> <td>4</td> <td>.571</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Alexander Radulov, Dallas</td> <td>6</td> <td>4</td> <td>.667</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Jaden Schwartz, St. Louis</td> <td>6</td> <td>4</td> <td>.667</td> </tr> </table> <p>GOLF</p> <p>TROPHEE HASSAN II</p> <p>Royal Golf Dar es Salam RABAT, MOROCCO Par: 52.9 million Yardage: 7,532; Par: 73 (36-37)</p> <p>First Round Jordan Smith, England, 32-34=66 Alejandro Canizares, Spain, 33-34=67 Diego Crocker, United States, 34-33=67 Matthew Pavone, France, 34-33=67 Stephen Gallacher, Scotland, 31-37=68 Eduardo Molinari, Italy, 34-35=69 Jack Janitor, England, 34-36=70 Orlando Larrazabal, Spain, 33-37=70 Kristoffer Reitan, Norway, 36-34=70 Lee Slater, England, 34-36=70 Matthias Schwab, Austria, 32-38=70 Dimitrios Papadatos, Australia, 34-36=70 Joel Osteen, United States, 37-33=70 David Lipsky, United States, 32-39=71 Richard Sterne, South Africa, 36-35=71 Raphael Jacquelin, France, 36-35=71</p> <p>Also K. Kitayama, United States, 35-38=73 Siwan Kim, United States, 37-36=73 John Catlin, United States, 39-36=75</p> <p>SOCCER</p> <p>M.L.S. STANDINGS</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <th>East</th> <th>W</th> <th>L</th> <th>T</th> <th>Pts</th> <th>GF</th> <th>GA</th> </tr> <tr> <td>D.C. United</td> <td>5</td> <td>3</td> <td>2</td> <td>17</td> <td>13</td> <td>9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Montreal</td> <td>4</td> <td>3</td> <td>2</td> <td>14</td> <td>13</td> <td>14</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Philadelphia FC</td> <td>4</td> <td>1</td> <td>1</td> <td>13</td> <td>11</td> <td>11</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Toronto FC</td> <td>4</td> <td>3</td> <td>1</td> <td>13</td> <td>12</td> <td>9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Columbus</td> <td>4</td> <td>4</td> <td>1</td> <td>13</td> <td>8</td> <td>9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Orlando City</td> <td>3</td> <td>2</td> <td>1</td> <td>11</td> <td>13</td> <td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>N.Y.C.F.C.</td> <td>2</td> <td>1</td> <td>5</td> <td>10</td> <td>11</td> <td>11</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Chicago</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>3</td> <td>9</td> <td>12</td> <td>12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cincinnati</td> <td>2</td> <td>4</td> <td>2</td> <td>8</td> <td>13</td> <td>13</td> </tr> <tr> <td>New England</td> <td>2</td> <td></td></tr></table>		GP	GF	AVG	Logan Couture, San Jose	7	6	.857	Nicklas Hentzen, San Jose	7	6	.857	Mark Stone, Vegas	7	5	.714	Tomas Hertl, San Jose	7	5	.714	Matthew Pavone, Toronto	7	5	.714	Nicklas Backstrom, Washington	7	5	.714	Auston Matthews, Toronto	7	5	.714	Max Pacioretty, Vegas	7	5	.714	Niklas Rantanen, Colorado	5	5	1.000	Jordan Eberle, Islanders	5	5	1.000	Warren Foegele, Carolina	7	4	.571	Brad Marchand, Boston	7	4	.571	Jonathan Marchessault, Vegas	7	4	.571	Alex Ovechkin, Washington	7	4	.571	Alexander Radulov, Dallas	6	4	.667	Jaden Schwartz, St. Louis	6	4	.667	East	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA	D.C. United	5	3	2	17	13	9	Montreal	4	3	2	14	13	14	Philadelphia FC	4	1	1	13	11	11	Toronto FC	4	3	1	13	12	9	Columbus	4	4	1	13	8	9	Orlando City	3	2	1	11	13	10	N.Y.C.F.C.	2	1	5	10	11	11	Chicago	2	3	3	9	12	12	Cincinnati	2	4	2	8	13	13	New England	2	
East	W	L	Pct	GB																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
Tampa Bay	16	9	.640	—																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
Yankees	14	10	.583	1 1/2																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
Toronto	11	14	.440	5																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
Boston	10	15	.400	6																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
Baltimore	10	16	.385	6 1/2																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
Central	W	L	Pct	GB																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
Minnesota	13	9	.591	—																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
Cleveland	13	10	.565	1/2																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
Detroit	12	11	.522	1 1/2																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
Chicago	9	14	.391	4 1/2																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
Kansas City	8	17	.320	6 1/2																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
West	W	L	Pct	GB																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
Houston	15	9	.625	—																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
Seattle	16	11	.593	1/2																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
Texas	12	11	.522	2 1/2																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
Oakland	14	13	.519	2 1/2																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
Los Angeles	9	16	.360	6 1/2																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
East	W	L	Pct	GB																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
Mets	13	11	.542	—																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
Philadelphia	13	11	.542	—																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
Atlanta	12	11	.522	1/2																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
Washington	11	12	.478	1 1/2																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
Miami	7	17	.292	6																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
Central	W	L	Pct	GB																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
St. Louis	15	9	.625	—																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
Chicago	12	11	.522	2 1/2																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
Pittsburgh	12	11	.522	2 1/2																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
Milwaukee	13	13	.500	3																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
Cincinnati	9	14	.391	5 1/2																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
West	W	L	Pct	GB																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
Los Angeles	16	11	.593	—																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
Arizona	15	11	.577	1/2																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
San Diego	14	11	.560	1																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
Colorado	11	14	.440	4																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
San Francisco	11	14	.440	4																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
	G	FG	FT	PTS	AVG																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																														
Lillard, POR	5	53	33	165	33.0																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																														
Durant, GOL	5	53	42	160	32.0																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																														
George, OKC	5	44	40	143	28.6																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																														
Harden, HOU	5	43	32	139	27.8																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																														
Leonard, TOR	5	50	25	139	27.8																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																														
Antetokounmpo, MIL	37	27	105	262	22.2																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																														
Curry, GOL	5	36	30	124	24.8																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																														
	GP	GF	AVG																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																
Logan Couture, San Jose	7	6	.857																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																
Nicklas Hentzen, San Jose	7	6	.857																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																
Mark Stone, Vegas	7	5	.714																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																
Tomas Hertl, San Jose	7	5	.714																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																
Matthew Pavone, Toronto	7	5	.714																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																
Nicklas Backstrom, Washington	7	5	.714																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																
Auston Matthews, Toronto	7	5	.714																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																
Max Pacioretty, Vegas	7	5	.714																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																
Niklas Rantanen, Colorado	5	5	1.000																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																
Jordan Eberle, Islanders	5	5	1.000																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																
Warren Foegele, Carolina	7	4	.571																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																
Brad Marchand, Boston	7	4	.571																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																
Jonathan Marchessault, Vegas	7	4	.571																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																
Alex Ovechkin, Washington	7	4	.571																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																
Alexander Radulov, Dallas	6	4	.667																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																
Jaden Schwartz, St. Louis	6	4	.667																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																
East	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
D.C. United	5	3	2	17	13	9																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
Montreal	4	3	2	14	13	14																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
Philadelphia FC	4	1	1	13	11	11																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
Toronto FC	4	3	1	13	12	9																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
Columbus	4	4	1	13	8	9																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
Orlando City	3	2	1	11	13	10																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
N.Y.C.F.C.	2	1	5	10	11	11																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
Chicago	2	3	3	9	12	12																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
Cincinnati	2	4	2	8	13	13																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
New England	2																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																		