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THE COLUMBUS DISPATCH | **Sports** | FRIDAY, JUNE 26, 2009

NHL NOTEBOOK

Hitchcock and rival team up for Canada

By Aaron Portzline THE COLUMBUS DISPATCH

MONTREAL — Blue Jackets coach Ken Hitchcock is willing to share "enemy secrets" with Red Wings coach Mike Babcock, he said, but only to help Canada in the 2010 Olympics.

Hitchcock was formally introduced vesterday as an associate coach for Team Canada, the right-hand man to Babcock, the coach. Lindy Ruff and Jacques Lemaire are the other two assistants.

It has the potential to be awkward, Hitchcock acknowledged. He and Babcock go toe-to-toe throughout the season as Central Division rivals, and it was the Red Wings who swept Hitchcock and the Blue Jackets out of their first berth in the Stanley Cup playoffs.

"It's going to be ... different," Hitchcock said. "But one of the first things we discussed when we all got together is that there will be no holding back.

"During the regular season, competition is competition. But, in this case, we'll all be trying to help our country reach a very important goal.'

Hitchcock then fought back a chuckle. "Are there going to be things he reveals to me that might help our team?" Hitchcock said. "Absolutely. But he gets the same opportunity with me."

Hitchcock, as associate coach, will not be on the bench during games, he said. Instead, he'll serve as Team Canada's "eye in the sky," watching from the press box high above the rink to help with in-game adjustments.

Beyond that, he'll work closely with Babcock on pregame scouting reports for players and postgame reviews. It will be Hitchcock's third Olympics. He

also was an assistant in the 2004 World Cup. "I feel really lucky," he said. "To coach in three Olympic Games is special for me. It's such an opportunity for me to learn.

"The preparation and the exchange of systems, it really helps you as a coach, to go through it with other elite coaches. And I think my experience of what went wrong and needs to get better can help the cause."

Weber to miss camp

Blue Jackets prospect Will Weber will not attend the club's development camp next week, general manager Scott Howson said. But the defenseman's absence is not related to his arrest on theft and underage drinking charges Sunday in Oxford, Ohio.

'He's taking a summer college course (at Miami University) that conflicts with our camp," Howson said.

Weber, a second-round pick in 2007, was arrested by Oxford police after taking a woman's purse at a bar on the Miami campus. The 20-year-old told police that he'd had six or eight beers at a residence before entering the bar.

According to Howson, Weber told Blue Jackets development coach Tyler Wright the same story he told police, that he mistakenly took the woman's purse, believing it to be that of a friend.

Party set for tonight

The Jackets will hold a draft party from 5 to 9 p.m. tonight in Nationwide Arena. Steve Mason, R.J. Umberger and Jared Boll will sign autographs. Admission is free. aportzline@dispatch.com

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AT THE BELL CENTRE



when Howson buzzed from table to table on the draft floor, managing the many trade offers he was considering. He ended up trading the No. 19 pick to Philadelphia for forward R.J. Umberger.

As of late last night, Howson said he had not had any trade talks involving players. "The history of the draft, though, tells us that can

change in a hurry," he said. The rest of the NHL was a chaotic swirl long into the

night. The New York Islanders, who own the No. 1 pick, have not revealed who they'll select: center John Tavares, defenseman Victor Hedman or center Matt Duchene.

If the Islanders select Hed- THIRD ROUND man, the Tampa Bay Light ning is expected to trade the No. 2 pick, possibly to the Toronto Maple Leafs, who covet Tavares. Maple Leafs GM Brian Burke has all sorts of deals working, including a "major offer" for Leafs defenseman Kaberle that Burke was pondering late last night, believed to be from the Atlanta Thrashers, who own the No. 4 pick. Burke is said to be hot after Gary Bettman this week to winger Brayden Schenn, the vounger brother of Leafs defenseman Luke Schenn. But Schenn won't be available with the No. 7 pick. It's possible that Burke could use the No. 4 and 7 picks to move up to No. 2 if the Islanders pass on Tavares. Meanwhile, some players already in the NHL were making the rumor mills churn. The Florida Panthers, who don't have a general manager, are trying to trade the negotiating rights to defenseman Bouwmeester, who can become an unrestricted free agent July 1. The trade would be for a conditional draft pick. As the host city, and expecting a sold-out crowd of more then 20,000 tonight, the Canadiens would love to make a splash. Once again, rumors are popping up that Tampa Bay might trade center Vincent Lecavalier to Montreal, but this time they appear to have more validity than in the past. The Lightning is a mess, with two of its owners, Oren Koules and Len Barrie, meet-

Rounds 2-7: 10 a.m. Saturday FIRST-ROUND ORDER **16. COLUMBUS BLUE JACKETS** 17. St. Louis Blues

First round: 7 tonight (TV: Versus)

18. Montreal Canadiens 19. New York Rangers 20. Calgary Flames 21. Philadelphia Flyers 22. Vancouver Canucks 23. New Jersey Devils 24. Washington Capitals 25. Boston Bruins 26. New York Islanders 27. Carolina Hurricanes 28. Chicago Blackhawks 29. Detroit Red Wings

30. Pittsburgh Penguins

Pick: 16 | Overall: 166

Pick: 16 | Overall: 196

Note: Traded second-round pick to

Ottawa Senators for forward Antoine

SEVENTH ROUND

Vermette on March 4

OTHER BLUE JACKETS PICKS

Blue Jackets online: BlueJacketsXtra.com

SIXTH ROUND

WORLD FROM PAGE C1

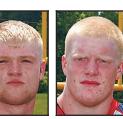
play at Ohio State — it could be two more years before I play football again," said Mewhort, who is likely to redshirt this fall. "So being here, playing against these guys, playing in an international tournament, is great.'

Klein, who played at Licking Valley, and Mewhort, from Toledo St. John's, have been roommates since enrolling early at OSU in January, and they haven't strayed far from football since.

'We were working on a lot of stuff," Klein said. "But taking it here, I'm one step ahead. I think that's a big advantage. ... At Ohio State, the guys are bigger and stronger. You have to work and you have to prove yourself, and it's the same way here.'

Although the NFL backed global junior tournaments between 1997 and 2007, this is the first one coordinated by the International Federation of American Football, an organization promoting football in 52 countries. The U.S., which was awarded the No. 2 seed behind Canada, has lost the previous three international tournaments to its neighbor to the north. It's made Klein and Mewhort more than ready to show the world what the U.S. can do.

"I've played in a lot of big games," Mewhort said. The spring game was obviously what I thought was the biggest game of my life. But if we make the championship (July 5),



Storm Jack Mew-Klein's goal hort likely is to end a will redshirt string of this season U.S. losses. at OSU.

then that will definitely be the biggest game of my life.'

The U.S. team is coached by Chuck Kyle, whose teams have won nine state championships in his 26 years at Cleveland St. Ignatius.

Kyle was charged with handpicking the players for the U.S. team. Not knowing where to begin, he was at the American Football Coaches Association convention in January when he ran into Jim Tressel, who offered to send some names his way.

Those names, it turned out, were Klein and Mewhort, and those two have soaked up the experience so far.

On Tuesday, Team USA was addressed by former Buckeyes linebacker Chris Spielman, who afterward took the time to meet with Klein and Mewhort.

"When a guy like that walks into a room, you listen," Klein said.

Although both players have been in contact with OSU teammates and the coaching staff, for the next week they are in the hands of Team USA. It's a program Tressel described to Kyle as a "plus-plus" be-

Tournament schedule

ALL GAMES AT CANTON'S FAWCETT STADIUM

SATURDAY'S GAMES

No. 1 Canada vs. No. 8 New Zealand, 10 a.m. No. 4 Japan vs. No. 5 Germany, 1 p.m.

No. 3 Mexico vs. No. 6 Sweden, 4 p.m.

No. 2 United States vs. No. 7 France, 8 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 1

► Canada-New Zealand loser vs. Japan-Germany loser, 10 a.m.

Mexico-Sweden loser vs. United States-France loser, 1 p.m.

Canada-New Zealand winner vs. Japan-Germany winner, 4 p.m.

Mexico-Sweden winner vs. United States-France winner, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY, JULY 4

Seventh-place game, 1 p.m.

▶ Fifth-place game, 4 p.m.

Third-place game, 7 p.m.

SUNDAY, JULY 5

► Championship, 1 p.m.

cause it gives Klein and Mewhort some reps on the playing field while handing Team USA some aboveaverage talent.

So what do they expect? "I want to win it," Klein said with a smile. "That's what I came here to do.'

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SOCCER | CONFEDERATIONS CUP United States will face Brazil in final

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — Daniel Alves scored the only goal on a free kick with just two minutes left in a Confederations Cup semifinal yesterday, giving Brazil a 1-0 win over host South Africa and sending the five-time World Cup champion into the final against the United States.

The final Sunday will be a rematch of

last week's game in group play when the Brazilians crushed the Americans 3-0. Brazil is 13-1 in head-to-head meetings with the United States.

South Africa displayed far more purpose and skill yesterday than in its firstround group, equaling Brazil in shots on goal with 12.





Pick: 16 | Overall: 77 FOURTH ROUND Pick: 3 | Overall: 94

1. New York Islanders

2. Tampa Bay Lightning

3. Colorado Avalanche

4. Atlanta Thrashers

5. Los Angeles Kings

7. Toronto Maple Leafs

6. Phoenix Coyotes

9. Ottawa Senators

10. Edmonton Oilers

12. Minnesota Wild

13. Buffalo Sabres

14. Florida Panthers

15. Anaheim Ducks

11. Nashville Predators

8. Dallas Stars

FIFTH ROUND Pick: 16 | Overall: 136



ing with NHL commissioner settle a fight between the two. All of the club's transactions will be handled by Lightning GM Brian Lawton, but Koules has the final say, and he's said to be willing to part with Lecavalier.

Ottawa is trying to honor Heatley's trade request before his \$4 million bonus kicks in July 1, and San Jose is said to be offering winger Ryan Clowe. Not that it matters — di-

rectly — to the Blue Jackets. aportzline@dispatch.com

Erectile Dysfunction Clinic Opens Local Doctors Restore Men's Sex Life

Advertorial

BY JEFF GOESTLER Men's Health Consultant

Columbus • A team of local physicians are part specializing in only one unique, everyday are amazing." niche area - men's sexual performance.

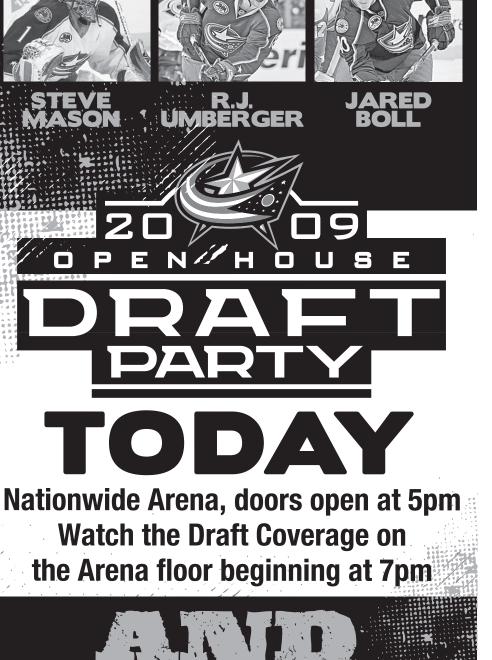
premature ejaculation have adjust the dosage for a man's long been a problem for millions performance to 45-minutes, of men nationwide. In spite of an hour, 90-minutes or longer," recent medications such as according to Zak, "and we offer Viagra, Levitra and Cialis, many a simple guarantee: 'If you don't men either are not helped by these medications or cannot take them due to medical conditions and adverse side effects.

The Ohio Male Performance Clinic employs several local privacy and professionalism physicians including Dr. Michael with private waiting rooms Kirwin, MD, and Dr. David Rath, MD. and an all-male staff. Further "We successfully help almost information is available by every patient we see here," according to Steven Zak, Clinic Director, "and we've treated men Free (800) 241-8440. Ohio from as young as twenty-one Male Performance Clinic. to as old as eighty-nine. Men 3802 Olentangy River Road, with diabetes, heart conditions, Columbus Ohio 43214. bypass surgery, high blood www.ohiomaleclinic.com

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