

Holloway likely to move up a class

NEIL DAVIDSON
The Canadian Press

TORONTO
Whatever the outcome of Saturday's UFC 231 main event between featherweight champion Max (Blessed) Holloway and challenger Brian (T-City) Ortega, UFC president Dana White says it could be Holloway's last outing at 145 pounds.

White said the weight cut is too severe for the Hawaiian fighter, who has battled a variety of health issues this year around fight time.

"I didn't want him to fight at 145 (pounds) again, I wanted him to fight at 155 (lightweight)," White said in an interview. "There's a lot of risk — to him, to us, to everybody."

But Holloway (19-3-0) wanted to face Ortega (14-0-0 with one no contest).

"I wanted him to move up to 155. I believe after this fight — win, lose or draw — he will," said White.

"And I will be pushing him hard," he added.

Holloway made weight Friday at 144.5 pounds, tweeting a photo of him on the scales with a finger to his lips as if silencing the doubters. Ortega was 144.75.

The champion had weighed 161 pounds on Monday, having no doubt already shed weight. Fighting at 155 would have been a breeze.

"You think these guys have to be tough to fight? You have to be tough to cut weight, man," said White.

The two 145-pounders were originally slated to meet at UFC 226 in July, but Holloway was forced to withdraw at the last minute due to

what was thought to be "concussion-like symptoms."

Doctors have been unable to determine what the problem was.

"I'm pretty sure he did not have a concussion," said White. "It had to be associated with weight cut."

An ankle injury had forced Holloway (19-3-0) out of a March bout against former lightweight champion Frankie (The Answer) Edgar at UFC 222. Ortega filled in for Holloway, winning by spectacular first-round TKO.

Holloway also missed out on a short-notice fight with current lightweight champion Khabib Nurmagomedov at UFC 223 in April (after Tony Ferguson withdrew with a knee injury), pulling out during his weight cut.

At 27, Holloway is already a veteran of 18 UFC fights and



THE CANADIAN PRESS/CHRIS YOUNG

UFC featherweight champion Max Holloway poses on the scale during the weigh-in ahead of his featherweight title bout against UFC featherweight fighter Brian Ortega in UFC 231 in Toronto, on Friday.

has won his last 12 bouts since an August 2013 loss to Conor McGregor.

Ortega, the No. 1 contender, is an accomplished black belt in Brazilian jiu-jitsu.

The buildup to Saturday's fight has been without the smack that accompanies some

fighters. There is plenty of respect between the two rivals, who spent time together promoting the card.

Joanna Jedrzejczyk (15-2-0) and Valentina (Bullet) Shevchenko (15-3-0) meet for the vacant women's flyweight title in the co-main event.

Sliding for the final time

The Canadian Press

CALGARY

Alex Gough will have a farewell slide on her home track Saturday when Canada's most decorated luger announces her retirement.

The 31-year-old Calgarian was the first Canadian to win an Olympic medal in luge when she claimed bronze in women's singles in February's Winter Games in Pyeongchang, South Korea.

That Olympic breakthrough preceded another two days later when Gough, Sam Edney, Justin Smith and Tristan Walker won silver in the team relay in Pyeongchang.

Gough was married in 2016 and is in her third year of civil engineering studies at the University of Calgary.

She hasn't raced this season. Gough will make her retirement run prior to Saturday's women's competition at a World Cup in Calgary.

"I'm just diving into everything that's coming next for me and I've been busy all summer, busy this fall," said Gough. "I'm pretty at peace with the decisions that I made."

Gough snapped a run of 105 consecutive wins by German women when she claimed her first World Cup victory Feb. 12, 2011 in Paramonovo, Russia.

She's won 27 World Cup medals in women's singles.

King of the moguls does it again

The Canadian Press

RUKA, Finland

The season-opening World Cup moguls event in Ruka has been the site of some of the biggest moments of Mikael Kingsbury's accomplished career.

It's where the Canadian freestyle skiing star made his first career trip to the World Cup podium, winning silver in 2011. Four years later he earned his record 29th career World Cup gold medal at Ruka. And on Friday, Kingsbury earned a landmark 50th career World Cup win on the slope situated in northern Finland.

But for the reigning Olympic champion from Deux-Montagnes, Que., who at 26 still has years to build on his half-century of victories, milestones are far less important than executing in the moment.

"I never had in the back of my mind, not even once, that it could have been my 50th today," Kingsbury said. "The goal was just to ski at my best. And when I'm at my best, I know I'm very tough to beat."

Certainly tough to beat, though Benjamin Cavet gave it his best shot with a score of 86.45 in the super final. Kingsbury, skiing last, posted a final score of 88.14.

Sharpe silver in pipe opener

The Canadian Press

COPPER MOUNTAIN, Colo.

Canadian halfpipe skier Cassie Sharpe opened her 2018-19 World Cup season with a silver medal on Friday.

Sharpe, from Comox, B.C., finished second at the event with a score of 90.50 to earn her best-ever result at Copper Mountain, a venue that she has called her "nemesis" for giving her trouble in the past. It was the sixth podium finish of her World Cup career.

Kelly Sildaru of Estonia finished first with a score of 93.00 while American Brita Sigourney was third with 88.00.

"I'm really excited to start the season off with a podium. It was a good contest, and it was really fun to have (Sildaru) there and put some fire under the skis," said Sharpe.

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ATTENTION: UTILITY CUSTOMERS NOTICE OF PROPOSED RATE CHANGES

On Monday, December 3, 2018 City Council gave first reading to the following:

BYLAW #4505 to amend Bylaw #2379, the Water Service Bylaw by amending certain rates, fees and charges; and

BYLAW #4506 to amend Bylaw #1541, regulating the use of Public and Private Sewers and Drains and the Disposal of Sewage and the Discharge of Waters and Waste into the City's Sewer System; and

BYLAW #4507 to amend Bylaw #1805, the Waste Bylaw by amending rates and charges; and

BYLAW #4508 to amend Bylaw #2244, the Electric Utility Bylaw by adjusting certain non-commodity rates charged for electric energy distribution service to residential, commercial and industrial customers of the City's Electric Utility; and

BYLAW #4509 to amend Bylaw #2489, the Gas Utility Bylaw by amending certain rates, fees and charges.

The proposed Bylaws will come into force on January 1, 2019.

A Non-Statutory Public Hearing in general accordance with the Municipal Government Act and the City's Procedure Bylaw, and consideration of the Second/Third Readings of the proposed Bylaws will be held in the City Hall Council Chambers at the address below on Monday, December 17, 2018 beginning at approximately 6:30 p.m.

Copies of the above Bylaws and related documents may be inspected during normal office hours (8:30 am to 4:30 pm) at the City Clerk Department or accessed via the 'Proposed Bylaws' section on the City's website at www.medicinehat.ca.

Any person who claims to be affected by any of the proposed bylaws may make representation to City Council at the Non-Statutory Public Hearings. Oral submissions are limited to five minutes.

Anyone wishing to have a written submission concerning either of these proposed bylaws placed before the City Council must submit it to the City Clerk Department by 12:00 noon, Wednesday, December 12, 2018.

Dated at the City of Medicine Hat, in the Province of Alberta, this 8th day of December, 2018.

Angela Cruickshank, City Clerk
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E-mail: clerk@medicinehat.ca

www.medicinehat.ca