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The Seattle Kraken have opened training camp and they have already played 4 of the 6 schedule pre-season games against division rivals north of the border. They have scored 12 goals with 20 assists.

What is interesting is that 10 of the 12 goals have been scored by players familiar to Firebirds fans: John Hayden, Jani Nyman, Eduard Sale, Mitchell Stephens, Jagger Firkus, Ben Meyers, Logan Morrison. As no surprise, Jani Nyman leads the team with 4 goals. Kraken draft pick and possible Firebirds defenseman for this season Tyson Jugnauth also tallied a goal. As for assists, there is OscarFisker Molgaard with 2, Ben Meyers with 2, Logan Morrison, Ryan Winterton, and Lukas Dragicevic. Getting a couple of periods in net is Nikke Kokko who gave up 2 goals, but had a .913 save percentage.

As this is the 5th season for the Kraken and 4th for the Firebirds, the camp and these opening games are the first time we have seen the past and present draft picks come together. The Kraken have split the first two games, but have shown better defensive prowess under new coach Lane Lambert. Firebirds coach Derek Laxdal was behind the bench for these games. With a new Kraken coach both coaching staffs were together to understand the new system and identity coach Lambert wants to implement.

This is an Olympic year, and the NHL players will participate in the Winter Olympics in Italy. The NHL will have a compressed schedule. Teams might implement different strategies for players rest such as carrying 3 goal tenders. Last year, several Firebirds were called up due to injuries with the Kraken. With the compressed schedule, Firebird fans should expect to see players moving up and down the organization when needed.

The Firebirds will play only one pre-season game against the Ontario Reign at the Reign practice facility in El Segundo on October 2nd. Season begins a week later at home against the San Diego Gulls.