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***Heated Rivalry* finds its Dallas Kent with a twist, confirming season 2 casting after leaked photos**

Fans were right about David Tomlinson's character, but there's a slight update.

By **Nick Romano** | September 16, 2026 3:00 p.m. ET

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Hudson Williams as Shane Hollander on 'Heated Rivalry' season 1.

Credit: Sabrina Lantos/HBO Max

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KEY POINTS

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Turns out everyone was partially right: Tomlinson is playing the Dallas Kent figure on the show.

Five other actors were confirmed for various roles, including Troy Barrett's toxic father.

One of the big villains of the [Heated Rivalry](#) world has been cast in season 2, after the online rumor mill swirled around a certain face spotted on set.

David Tomlinson (*Fellow Travelers*) was seen in photos leaked from the set through paparazzi and bystanders. Many in the fandom assumed he would be playing Dallas Kent, a character tied to the story of Troy Barrett (Charlie Gillespie).

Canadian streamer Crave and the show's U.S. distributor, HBO Max, have since confirmed Tomlinson in the role, though the character is now called Cody Kent on the TV series.

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Lauren Chan, David Tomlinson, and Michelle Mylett join 'Heated Rivalry' season 2.

Credit: Luther Cherry; Denise Grant; Karolina Turek

Cody Kent is Troy's former close friend and teammate who was accused of sexual assault, an event that sparked a massive, publicized falling out between the characters and led to Troy's trade from the Toronto Guardians to the Ottawa Centaurs.

Ad removed. [Details](#)

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Some of these folks are also in Troy's orbit. Cooper is the coach of the Guardians, while Curtis is Troy's homophobic, toxic father. Zane is a member of the Centaurs (an alternate captain), Lisa is the wife of Centaurs player Wyatt Hayes (Robert Naylor), and then Gen works with Harris Drover ([Justice Smith](#)) on the Centaurs promo team as a professional photographer.

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Brendan Morgan, Gerry Dee, and Nick Stahl join 'Heated Rivalry' season 2.

Credit: Megan Vincent; David Leyes; Paul Archuleta/Getty

Season 2 continues filming in Canada ahead of a planned launch in spring 2027.

[Hudson Williams](#) and [Connor Storrie](#) return to the roles of Shane Hollander and Ilya Rozanov, the all-star hockey players now trying to navigate their new relationship behind closed doors. Ilya moves to Canada to play for the Centaurs so he can be closer to Shane, as each grapples with the anxieties of their situation.

Gillespie and Smith landed [the coveted newcomer roles of Troy and Harris](#), whose love story will play a prominent role on season 2.

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Ilya Rozanov (Connor Storrie) and Shane Hollander (Hudson Williams) on 'Heated Rivalry' season 1.

Credit: Sabrina Lantos/HBO Max

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[Returning from season 1](#) are François Arnaud and Robbie G.K. as “Skip” (a.k.a. Scott Hunter and Kip Grady), Sophie Nélisse as Rose, Ksenia Daniela Kharlamova as Svetlana, Christina Chang and Dylan Walsh as Shane’s parents, Callan Potter and Benjamin Roy as Shane’s Montreal teammates, and Kamilla Kowal as Hayden’s wife, Jackie.

New to season 2 are Naylor’s Wyatt Hayes, [Daniel Diemer as Ryan Price](#), [Shaheen Jafargholi as Fabian Salah](#), [Emily Hampshire](#) as Vanessa, Edwin Ryding as Luca Haas, Priyanka as Tarek, and Sabrina Jalees as Farah.

The previous round of casting also confirmed [Kevin Zegers as Centaurs coach Wiebe](#), Paul Gross as Commissioner Roger Crowell, and [Milla Jovovich](#) as Dr. Galina Molchalina.

Heated Rivalry season 1 is streaming on Crave in Canada and on HBO Max in the U.S. and other territories.

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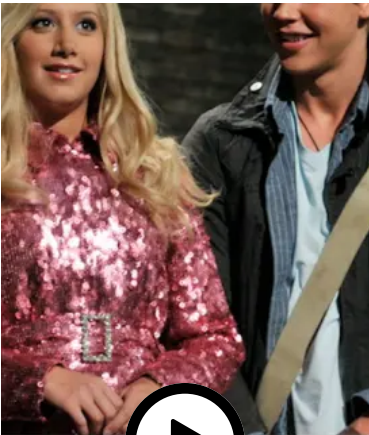
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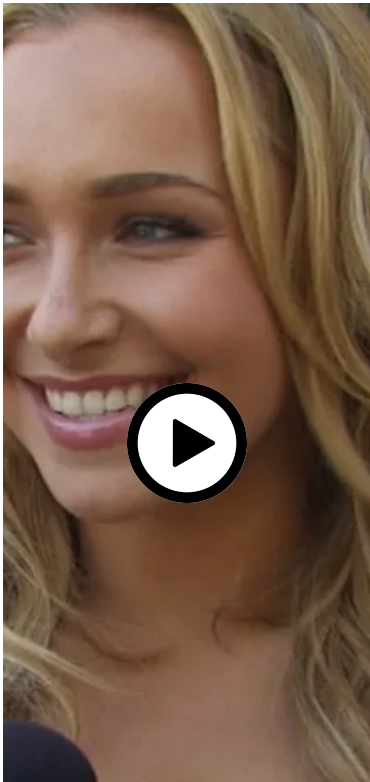
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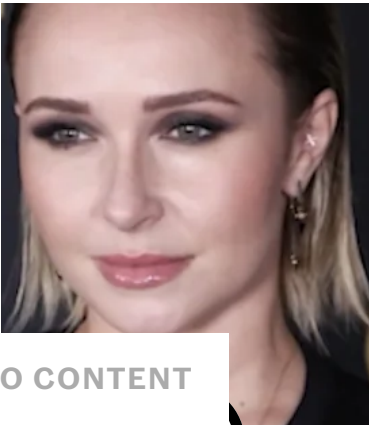
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SEASON 2 OF

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Patrick
Brammall as
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Heated Rivalry -
(L to R) François
Arnaud as Scott
Hunter and Robbie

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François Arnaud, Robbie G.K., and more are officially returning for *Heated Rivalry* season 2

By Tiffany Kelly



Two individuals
sitting at a bar
each holding a
beverage facing

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Heated Rivalry season 2 casts 5 more players, including book characters Wyatt Hayes and Luca Haas

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Jake Lively and
Nico Tortorella

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cody kent

smiling with
another individual
beside him

Heated Rivalry season 2 reveals hotly anticipated Troy and Harris casting: Meet the new hockey lovers

By Nick Romano



 Minka Kelly as
Quinn in Episode
208 of Ransom
Canyon Season 2

ROMANCE SHOWS

Minka Kelly seemingly confirms *Ransom Canyon* cancellation, shares goodbye message: 'I love you forever'

By Shelby Stivale



 Connor Storrie
as Ilya Rozanov and
Hudson Williams
as Shane

ROMANCE SHOWS

Heated Rivalry team asks fans to 'give our cast and crew the space they need' ahead of season 2 filming

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 Malin kerman
Jaime Ray
Newman and
Brittany Snow

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By Kathleen Perricone



 Three people posing in separate panels each looking towards

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 Justin Hartley as Colter and Erica Hernandez as Becca in '*Tracker*'

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 Sarah Paulson stands indoors near others in a formal setting

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 The Shards cast

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