

Olympic Skiing

US skier Shiffrin set to make Olympic golds dream a reality

By ERIC WILLEMSEN Associated Press

Four years ago Mikaela Shiffrin had a "crazy" dream of winning five gold medals at the 2018 Olympics.

Just after becoming the youngest ever Olympic slalom champion at the Sochi Games, the then 18-year-old Shiffrin dreamed aloud "of the next Olympics (and) winning five gold medals."

Right away she admitted her ambition "sounds really crazy."

However, less than five weeks ahead of the Pyeongchang Olympics, that number seems more obtainable than ever before.

Shiffrin probably won't win that handful of gold medals, but mainly because she is unlikely to enter five different events in South Korea.

She will only decide on short notice which events she is going to enter at the Olympics.

Unlike at previous games, this time the technical races of GS and slalom are the first events on the women's Alpine Olympic schedule, enabling Shiffrin to compete in her core disciplines before making up her mind on possible starts in the speed events of downhill and super-G, and the concluding combined and team events.

Developed into a potential winner of every race she competes in, and even triumphing for the first time in a downhill in December, Shiffrin has been dominating



AP Photo/Marco Trovati

United States' Mikaela Shiffrin speeds down the course during an alpine ski, women's World Cup giant slalom in Kranjska Gora, Slovenia on Saturday.

the Alpine skiing World Cup for months.

Her win in a slalom in Slovenia on Sunday was her ninth of the season, and seventh out of the last eight races, boosting her career total to 40.

That number leaves her one short of the all-time record for most World Cup wins by a 22-year-old, set by Austrian great Annemarie Moser-Proell in the 1970s.

With the World Cup season approaching the halfway mark, Shiffrin is leading the overall standings as well as every single discipline except for super-G, the only event she hasn't won yet.

Her season stats are even far exceeding her achievements from last year, when she became the third American female skier after Tamara McKinney and four-time champion Lindsey Vonn to win the

overall title.

Though winning is not all what Shiffrin is after.

"It's a good way to put it that I am not competing, I am just enjoying every turn that I make, to make every turn aggressive," Shiffrin said. "Right now I am just enjoying that so much, the skiing, that it's even more important than the winning."

Still, the wins keep piling up.

With 100 points for every victory, Shiffrin has racked up 1,281 World Cup points after 18 of this season's 38 races and looks set to break the record for the most World Cup points in a single season — 2,414 by retired Slovenian great Tina Maze, a record many deemed unbreakable.

In her main event, Shiffrin is not just winning, she is crushing the field. She triumphed in the past four slaloms by margins of 1.64, 0.89, 1.59 and again 1.64 seconds — a country mile in the sport.

Having won 20 of the last 25 slaloms she entered, it's hard to see past Shiffrin for gold at the Pyeongchang Games, even if the American doesn't regard herself unbeatable by any means.

"Every single of the competitors can match," she said. "That makes me even more motivated to keep moving forward."

While a night race in Flachau on Tuesday will be the penultimate slalom ahead of the Olympics, Shiffrin will be eager to keep her momentum going in weeks to come.

After Sunday's race, Frida Hansdotter of Sweden praised the American for "taking the sport to another level."

But Shiffrin, who usually refrains from keeping track of her records and statistics, said "it doesn't feel like it's something crazy that's happening."

This time, she said, "it's not like dreaming. And that's really cool."

MLS

Timbers introduce Savarese as new coach

By ANNE M. PETERSON Associated Press

PORTLAND — When Giovanni Savarese was interviewing to be the Portland Timbers' new head coach, he brought along a scouting report as if he was going to face that team.

Team owner Merritt Paulson appreciated that and on Monday, Savarese was formally introduced as the team's coach. The 46-year-old former player had been coach of the North American Soccer League's New York Cosmos since 2012. He led the team to three Soccer Bowl championships in five seasons.

"With Gio it was — I hate to use the proverbial cliché, 'check the boxes' — but the off-the-field, on-the-field philosophy, the way he thinks about the game, it was pretty seamless," Paulson said.

Savarese replaces coach Caleb Porter, who unexpectedly parted ways with the Timbers in November. In five seasons under Porter, Portland posted a 68-50-52 record and won the MLS Cup championship in 2015. The team finished atop the Western Conference last season.



Sean Meagher/The Oregonian via AP

The Portland Timbers introduce new head coach Giovanni Savarese at a news conference on Monday in Portland.

Paulson said he was impressed when Savarese brought the scouting report to one of their first meetings.

Savarese said many of the pieces are already in place.

"It's good not to start from zero," he said.

The coach said he has spoken to a few of the players, including MLS Most Valuable Player Diego Valeri, midfielder Diego Chara and forward Fanendo Adi.

"I think this was the right time for me to make this transition. And I couldn't have found a better club to make the transition, because of what the club represents and

the culture. I think culture is very important in soccer. This club has a tremendous culture," he said. "I'm a person, I cannot just work for a club to coach, I have to feel it. I'm passionate about what I do and I need to be with a club that has the same beliefs."

Savarese, who is from Venezuela, played for 18 seasons in Europe and in the United States, including stints with Major League Soccer's MetroStars (Red Bulls), New England Revolution and San Jose Earthquakes.

Under Savarese, the Cosmos were 65-26-44 in

135 regular-season games. The team went 20-7-5 in 2016 and had an undefeated spring season the year before.

Paulson smiled and nodded when Savarese said the Timbers would play their first match against the LA Galaxy on March 4 as if it were a final.

The Timbers finished this season as the top seed in the Western Conference but fell in the conference semifinals 2-1 on aggregate to the Houston Dynamo. The Timbers were hampered by injuries in the semis, including to Chara, who broke a bone in his foot.

Savarese is already getting acclimated to rainy Portland and its quirks.

"Yesterday I went to cut my hair and of course it was raining," Savarese said. "So I bring my umbrella and the lady who was cutting my hair says, 'You are not from here, this town, right?' And I say, 'Yes, you know because of my accent.' And she said 'No, no, no. Because you have an umbrella. Usually people here don't use an umbrella.'"

"Good to know," I said. Next time I'm not bringing the umbrella," Savarese said, laughing.

ALL-STATE: Grant

Union lands six selections, two first team

Continued from 1B

Though Stanfield and Weston-McEwen did not earn any all-state honors, Eastern Oregon was represented more with six Grant Union Prospectors selected.

Drew Lusco (first team DL, second team OL), Zack Deiter (first team DB, third team WR), Cauy Weaver (second team WR, LB), Duane Stokes (second team DB), Dillon Maley (second team OL) and Cameron Hallgarth (third team RB) earned selections.

Monroe running back Zach Young was named the 2A Offensive Player of the Year and coach Bill Crowson is Coach of the Year. St. Paul linebacker Justin Herberger was the Defensive Player of the Year.

- Class 2A All-State Football
Offensive Player of the Year — Zach Young, RB, Monroe
Defensive Player of the Year — Justin Herberger, LB, St. Paul
Coach of the Year — Bill Crowson, Monroe
FIRST TEAM
QB — Kaleb Miller, Knappa, sr.
RB — Zach Young, Monroe, so.; Justin Herberger, St. Paul, jr.; Trevor Timney, Santiam, jr.
WR — Reuben Acosta-Cruz, Knappa, sr.; Jaidyn Jackson, St. Paul, jr.; Jordan Lanham, Santiam, sr.
TE — Campbell Smith, St. Paul, sr.
OL — Christian Garcia, Monroe, sr.; Keith Saito, Monroe, sr.; Zach Brentano, St. Paul, jr.; Alex Dela Cerda, St. Paul, so.;

- Colton Craigmyle, Santiam, sr.
DL — Drew Lusco, Grant Union, so.; Keith Saito, Monroe, sr.; Alex Dela Cerda, St. Paul, so.; Trevor Timney, Santiam, jr.
LB — Parker Wynn, Monroe, sr.; Trent Warden, Monroe, sr.; Mason Hoover, Kannap, sr.; Justin Herberger, St. Paul, jr.
DB — Zack Deiter, Grant Union, sr.; Zach Young, Monroe, so.; Reuben Acosta-Cruz, Knappa, sr.; Jaidyn Jackson, St. Paul, jr.
K — Zac Young, Monroe, so.
P — Andrew Harrington, Oakland, sr.
SECOND TEAM
QB — Holden Smith, St. Paul, sr.
RB — Parker Wynn, Monroe, sr.; Andrew Harrington, Oakland, sr.; Saul Martinez, St. Paul, sr.
WR — Eric Temran, Monroe, jr.; Kanai Phillip, Knappa, so.; Cauy Weaver, Grant Union, sr.
TE — Trent Warden, Monroe, sr.
OL — Dillon Maley, Grant Union, sr.; Drew Lusco, Grant Union, so.; Gavin Bayliss, Monroe, sr.; Reece Hunt, Knappa, sr.; David Patterson, Knappa, sr.; Nick Suing, Kennedy, jr.
DL — Reece Hunt, Knappa, sr.; Jaxson Goodman, Knappa, sr.; Saul Martinez, St. Paul, sr.; Wyatt Steagall, Heppner, sr.
LB — Cauy Weaver, Grant Union, sr.; Saul Cobian, Lost River, sr.; Andrew Harrington, Oakland, sr.; Dustin Keys, Santiam, sr.; Zach Brentano, St. Paul, jr.
DB — Duane Stokes, Grant Union, sr.; Kairen Garber, Monroe, so.; Jesse Sendinger, Santiam, sr.; Beau Wolters, Heppner, sr.
K — Zach Brentano, St. Paul, jr.
P — Holden Smith, St. Paul, sr.
THIRD TEAM
QB — Kairen Garber, Monroe, so.
RB — Cameron Hallgarth, Grant Union, sr.; Luke Goozee, Knappa, jr.; Emorej Lynk, Kennedy, jr.
WR — Reece Carson, Oakland, sr.; Zack Deiter, Grant Union, sr.; Beau Wolters, Heppner, sr.
TE — Nic Freeman, Oakland, sr.
OL — Ronan Allen, Oakland, so.; Jacob Ford, Knappa, sr.; Jaxson Goodman, Knappa, so.; Wyatt Steagall, Heppner, sr.; Tyler Carter, Heppner, jr.
DL — Nic Freeman, Oakland, sr.; Omar Garcia, Lost River, sr.; Cristian Garcia, Monroe, jr.; Nick Suing, Kennedy, so.
LB — Taylor Mather, Gold Beach, sr.; Brandon Pette, Regis, sr.; Gavin Hanna, Heppner, so.; Coby Dougherty, Heppner, sr.
DB — Jaime Diaz, Lost River, sr.; Reese Carson, Oakland, sr.; Kanai Phillip, Knappa, so.; Emorej Lynk, Kennedy, so.
K — Caedean Martin, Gaston, sr.
P — Javier Analco, Reedsport, so.

SCOREBOARD

Local slate

Table with columns for Prep Boys Basketball, Prep Swimming, College Men's Basketball, College Women's Basketball, and College Wrestling. Includes dates and times for various games.

Saturday

Table with columns for Pacific Division, NCAA Men's Basketball, and NCAA Women's Basketball. Includes team names and scores.

Pac-12 Schedule

Table with columns for Monday-Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. Includes team names and scores.

Pac-12 Schedule

Table with columns for Monday-Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. Includes team names and scores.

Football

Table with columns for Wild-card Playoffs, Divisional Round, and Sunday's Games. Includes team names and scores.

Football

Table with columns for PGA TOUR, National Football League, and National Hockey League. Includes team names and scores.

Prep Girls Basketball

Table with columns for Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday. Includes team names and scores.

Basketball

Table with columns for NBA Eastern Conference, NBA Atlantic Division, NBA Southeast Division, NBA Western Conference, and NBA Southwest Division. Includes team names and scores.

Pac-12 Schedule

Table with columns for Monday-Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. Includes team names and scores.

Hockey

Table with columns for Eastern Conference, Atlantic Division, Metropolitan Division, Western Conference, and Central Division. Includes team names and scores.

Golf

Table with columns for PGA TOUR, National Football League, and National Hockey League. Includes team names and scores.

Transactions

Table with columns for Monday, American League, and National League. Includes team names and transactions.