



Pyeongchang 2018

ATHLETES TO WATCH



SHAUN WHITE
Age: 31
Hometown: Carlsbad, California
Sport: Snowboarding
Best shot at gold: He's the biggest name in the sport and is seeking his third gold on the halfpipe. It's no guarantee, though, not with Japan's high-flying Ayumu Hirano and the defending champion, Iouri Podladtchikov (the iPod), in the mix.



LINDSEY VONN
Age: 33
Hometown: Vail, Colorado
Sport: Alpine Skiing
Best shot at gold: Eight of her World Cup titles have come in the downhill, the longest of the individual events, and five have come in the super-G, so if she's healthy, it's a coin flip. She could win both.



NATHAN CHEN
Age: 18
Hometown: Salt Lake City
Sport: Figure Skating
Best shot at gold: He's America's best hope for a gold medal in this sport. The master of the quad, he includes five of those jumps in his free skate. Some skaters don't try any.

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THE OLYMPICS FEB. 9-25 IN PYEONGCHANG, SOUTH KOREA



GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY

BY EDDIE PELLIS
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

American phenom Shiffrin looks to cement legacy on South Korean snow by seizing her ...

IF MIKAELA SHIFFRIN stopped right now, at age 22, she would go down as one of the best to ever step into skis.

The rest of the skiers at the Pyeongchang Olympics should be so lucky.

Already an Olympic gold medalist, already a four-time World Cup slalom champion, already a World Cup all-around champion and already more than half-way to breaking the all-time wins record that Lindsey Vonn took more than a decade to collect, Shiffrin is ready to go for more in South Korea. None other than America's most decorated Olympic skier, Bode Miller, says Shiffrin is the best he's ever seen.

Shortly after becoming the youngest Olympic slalom champion four years ago in Sochi, the native of Vail, Colorado, started pondering the possibility of returning four years later and winning five gold medals.

It would be a stretch, one that even she conceded felt like a dream. It would involve a very busy schedule that could include entering all five individual events and a team event that is new to the Olympics this year. And it would force her to beat out people with much more experience and guile — including Vonn, who is hungry as ever, especially after missing the 2014 Games because of an injury — in the downhill and Super-G races, which are not Shiffrin's specialty.

What makes her Olympic journey that much more intriguing is that her best events, the slalom and giant slalom, are first on the schedule. She'll be favored to have at least one, maybe two, of these gold medals in

pocket before sitting down to decide what else she wants to try for.

"It doesn't feel like it's something crazy that's happening," she said earlier this Winter, on the road to her 10th slalom win of the season and 41st overall for her career. "It's not like dreaming. And that's really cool."

Shiffrin is hardly the only cool kid on the mountain. There's a good chance 17-year-old snowboarder Chloe Kim might already have an Olympic gold medal at home had she been allowed to compete in Sochi. But she wasn't old enough. Only fitting. The halfpipe rider will make her Olympic debut in her parents' native country. They moved to the United States in part to help their daughter's snowboarding career.

And, of course, no talk about the halfpipe is complete without mention of Shaun White. After a shocking fourth-place finish four years ago, White is back and promising big things in his quest for a third Olympic gold medal.

Individually, Shiffrin stands as good a chance as anyone to take home the most hardware.

She has won 21 of the last 26 slalom events she has entered, but if she has grown complacent in any way, she is not showing signs of that.

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

FACTS AND FIGURES

Slogan | "Passion. Connected."

Mascot | "Soohorang," a white tiger

Tickets available | 1.18 million

Time zone for Pyeongchang | +14 hours in relation to Eastern Standard Time

Countries participating | Around 90

Number of athletes expected | 2,900

Number of American athletes | Around 230

Medals to be awarded | 777

Number of sports | 15

Number of events | 102

Number of competition venues | 12

Number of medals Americans won in Sochi 2014 | 28

How to Watch | There's a 14-hour time difference between Pyeongchang and the Eastern time zone. NBC will offer the bulk of its 2,400 hours of live streaming at nbcolympics.com and on cable channels NBCSN, CNBC and USA Network.



I'm not trying to defend my gold medal. I want to go get another gold medal. But it's not defending because that would feel like I might lose something.

— U.S. freeskier Joss Christensen

SIGNING DAY: Ducks sign 21 players, Beavers 22

Continued from 1B

far behind with the best recruiting class of coach Chris Petersen's career.

The Huskies signed a pair of four-star players to finish off their 2018 class, which was ranked No. 13 by 247Sports.com

Washington landed 11 four-star recruits, including four-star defensive back Julius Irvin from Anaheim, California, and four-star defensive lineman Tuli Letuligasenoa from Concord, California. Letuligasenoa originally was a verbal commit to USC.

The Huskies did lose out on one prospect when defensive end Jeremiah Martin from Southern California committed to Texas A&M.

STANFORD'S QB: Stanford may its quarterback of the future after Tanner McKee from California picked the Cardinal over Alabama, Texas A&M, BYU and Texas.

But the Cardinal will have to wait two years to see him in uniform.

McKee, the highest rated quarterback still uncommitted entering signing day, is a Mormon and will do a two-year LDS church mission before attending college.

Stanford was No. 38

2018 Recruiting Classes	
OREGON DUCKS	
Karsten Batties, ls, 6-1, 240, Claudia Taylor Johnson, San Antonio, Texas	
Isaiah Crocker, wr, 6-1, 175, Inderkum, Sacramento, Calif.	
M.J. Cunningham, ath, 6-3, 230, Madison, Portland, Ore.	
Travis Dye, rb, 5-9, 170, Norco, Norco, Calif.	
Jamal Elliott, rb, 5-10, 180, Hillside, Durham, N.C.	
Andrew Faoliu, de, 6-3, 255, Mater Dei, Santa Ana, Calif.	
Jalen Hall, wr, 6-4, 192, Long Beach Poly, Long Beach, Calif.	
Jevon Holland, s, 6-1, 182, Bishop O'Dowd, Oakland, Calif.	
Adrian Jackson, olb, 6-2, 210, Mullen, Denver, Colo.	
Dawson Jaramillo, ot, 6-5, 295, Lake Oswego Senior, Lake Oswego, Ore.	
Justin Johnson, ot, 6-7, 355, Neumann Goretti, Philadelphia, Pa.	
D.J. Johnson, de, 6-5, 240, University of Miami-FL, Coral Gables, Fla.	
Steven Jones, og, 6-5, 340, Chaparral, Temecula, Calif.	
Verone McKinley III, cb, 5-10, 170, Hebron, Carrollton, Texas	
Christopher Randazzo, ot, 6-7, 325, Don Lugo, Chino, Calif.	
Tyler Shough, qb, 6-4, 187, Hamilton, Chandler, Ariz.	
Steve Stephens, s, 6-0, 185, Edison, Fresno, Calif.	
Sione Vea Kava, dt, 6-6, 270, East Los Angeles College, Monterey Park, Calif.	
Sione Vea-Kava, de, 6-5, 270, Monterey, Calif.	
Spencer Webb, te, 6-5, 235, Christian Brothers, Sacramento, Calif.	
Haki Woods, cb, 6-3, 192, Pima C.C., Tucson, Ariz.	
OREGON STATE BEAVERS	
Ronnie Audette, olb, 6-3, 305, Elk River Senior, Elk River, Minn.	
Bradley Bickler, de, 6-7, 240, Southridge, Beaverton, Ore.	
Jack Colletto, qb, 6-3, 220, Arizona Western College, Yuma, Ariz.	
Keishon Dawkins, te, 6-6, 240, West Linn, West Linn, Ore.	
Jake Dukart, qb, 6-2, 180, Lake Oswego Senior, Lake Oswego, Ore.	
Shawn Holland, og, 6-3, 255, Lake Oswego Senior, Lake Oswego, Ore.	
Craig Francois, olb, 6-2, 225, Cathedral, Los Angeles, Calif.	
Joshua Gray, ot, 6-4, 245, Rancho Cucamonga, Rancho Cucamonga, Calif.	
Isaac Hodgins, dt, 6-1, 285, Berean Christian, Walnut Creek, Calif.	
Jesiah Irish, wr, 6-0, 182, Mount Si, Snoqualmie, Wash.	
Jermer Jefferson, rb, 5-10, 188, Narbonne, Harbor City, Calif.	
Brandon Kipper, ol, 6-6, 270, University of Hawaii, Honolulu, Hawaii	
Jake Levensgood, olb, 6-4, 260, Vacaville, Vacaville, Calif.	
John McCartan, olb, 6-4, 205, Santa Margarita Catholic, Rancho Santa Margarita, Calif.	
Jerome Reicher, dt, 6-2, 285, Los Angeles Valley College, Van Nuys, Calif.	
Jaden Robinson, cb, 6-1, 187, Auburn Riverside, Auburn, Wash.	
Kase Rogers, rb, 5-11, 180, Lamar, Houston, Texas	
Semisi Saluni, olb, 6-4, 205, Northgate, Walnut Creek, Calif.	
Isaiah Smalls, te, 6-4, 220, Dorsey, Los Angeles, Calif.	
Matthew Taggo, olb, 6-3, 222, Quartz Hill, Lancaster, Calif.	
Isaiah Tufaga, lb, 6-0, 199, St Louis School, Honolulu, Hawaii	
Deshon Wilson, cb, 6-1, 180, Stellar Prep, Hayward, Calif.	

nationally in 247Sports.com's rankings.

QUICK WORK: Oregon and UCLA both changed coaches during the offseason.

Neither seemed to be hurt in recruiting.

Oregon and coach Mario Cristobal had the nation's No. 17 overall recruiting class,

which included 10 four-star players.

Right behind the Ducks were UCLA and coach Chip Kelly at No. 18 after signing a class that has nine four-star recruits.

Cristobal was promoted from assistant coach after Willie Taggart left for Florida State and Kelly, a former Oregon coach, replaced the fired Jim Mora.

SLOW START: The Pac-12's two other new coaches did not fare quite as well as Cristobal and Kelly.

Arizona and former Texas A&M coach Kevin Sumlin had the nation's No. 59 recruiting class after being unable to land a single four-star recruit. Sumlin was not hired to replace fired Wildcats coach Rich Rodriguez until Jan. 14, leaving a short recruiting window.

Arizona State and coach Herm Edwards also had no four-star recruits, checking in at No. 67 nationally. Edwards, a former NFL coach and ESPN analyst, was hired on Dec. 3 after the Sun Devils fired Todd Graham. Edwards has not coached since being fired by the Kansas City Chiefs in 2008 and last coached in college as a San Jose State assistant in 1989.

DUCKS: Still projected by ESPN as No. 2 seed in NCAA Tournament

Continued from 1B

have three weekends to go, they're going to get that tiebreaker regardless of where we all finish. That's tough.

"But I think we'll be fine. We'll shake it off. We've lost games before."

After losing at then-No. 5 Louisville in the preseason WNIT championship game, Oregon reeled off five consecutive wins by an average margin of 35.6 points.

The Ducks won nine consecutive games, including a 6-0 start in Pac-12 play, after losing at then-No. 5 Mississippi State.

And after falling 85-79 in overtime at then-No. 18 Oregon State, Oregon played one of its best games of the season in beating the rival Beavers 75-63 and end a 14-game Civil War losing streak.

"We've shown the ability to bounce back," Graves noted. "And we need to because the Wash-

ington trip is not easy."

Oregon, which was No. 7 in the RPI on Monday, is still in position to host the first two rounds of the NCAA Tournament at Matthew Knight Arena.

ESPN's latest bracket projection has the Ducks as a No. 2 seed facing No. 15 Weber State in the same quadrant as No. 7 Rutgers and No. 10 Central Michigan.

UCLA is penciled in as a No. 3 seed, Stanford a No. 5 seed, Oregon State a No. 6 seed, Arizona State a No. 7 seed and California a No. 8 seed.

"They gave us their best game," Ionescu said of surging Stanford, which also defeated the Beavers in Corvallis during a weekend sweep the Oregon schools. "They know their scout, they knew everything about us, everything we did, every play call, our strengths, our weaknesses."

"We had to be able to come out and take that and ride the roller coaster and we didn't."

SCOREBOARD

Local slate

PREP BOYS BASKETBALL

Thursday

Umatilla at Riverside, 7:30 p.m.

Friday

Hermiston at Pendleton, 7 p.m.

Echo at Wallowa, 7 p.m.

Joseph at Helix, 7 p.m.

Vale at Irrigon, 7:30 p.m.

Stanfield at Weston-McEwen, 7:30 p.m.

Pilot Rock at Heppner, 7:30 p.m.

Ione at Sherman, 7:30 p.m.

Horizon Christian at Condon/Wheeler, 7:30 p.m.

South Wasco at Arlington, 7:30 p.m.

Nixyaawii at Pine Eagle, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday

Weston-McEwen at Culver, 4 p.m.

Mitchell/Spray at Arlington, 4 p.m.

Mac-Hi at Ontario, 5:30 p.m.

Nixyaawii at Joseph, 5 p.m.

Pilot Rock at Stanfield, 5:30 p.m.

Nyssa at Riverside, 5:30 p.m.

Condon/Wheeler at Ione, 5:30 p.m.

Cove at Echo, 5:30 p.m.

Helix at Pine Eagle, 5:30 p.m.

Burns at Umatilla, 6:30 p.m.

PREP GIRLS BASKETBALL

Thursday

Umatilla at Riverside, 6 p.m.

Friday

Echo at Wallowa, 5 p.m.

Hermiston at Pendleton, 5:30 p.m.

Vale at Irrigon, 6 p.m.

Stanfield at Weston-McEwen, 6 p.m.

Pilot Rock at Heppner, 6 p.m.

Ione at Sherman, 6 p.m.

Horizon Christian at Condon/Wheeler, 6 p.m.

South Wasco at Arlington, 6 p.m.

Joseph at Helix, 6 p.m.

Nixyaawii at Pine Eagle, 7 p.m.

Saturday

Weston-McEwen at Culver, 2:30 p.m.

Mitchell/Spray at Arlington, 2:30 p.m.

Mac-Hi at Ontario, 3 p.m.

Nixyaawii at Joseph, 3 p.m.

PREP SWIMMING

Saturday

Pendleton, Hermiston at District Meet (at Hood River), 10 a.m.

PREP WRESTLING

Friday

Pendleton, Hermiston at Districts (at Redmond), 2 p.m.

Saturday

Pendleton, Hermiston at Districts (at Redmond), 9 a.m.

Mac-Hi at Districts (at La Grande), 10 a.m.

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Friday

EOU at Warner Pacific, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday

Columbia Basin at BMCC, 4 p.m.

EOU at Multnomah

WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Friday

EOU at Warner Pacific, 5:30 p.m.

Saturday

Columbia Basin at BMCC, 2 p.m.

EOU at Multnomah, 5:30 p.m.

Olympics

PYEONGCHANG WINTER OLYMPICS

Pyeniongchang Winter Olympics Schedule

Thursday, Feb. 8

NBC

5:30-8:30 p.m. — Figure Skating: Team Event (LIVE), Men's Short Program, Pairs' Short Program; Freestyle Skiing: Men's & Women's Moguls

NBCSN

11 p.m.-3 a.m. — Mixed Doubles Curling: Canada vs. Norway, China vs. Switzerland

3-7 a.m. — Mixed Doubles Curling:

United States vs. Canada (LIVE), China vs. South Korea; Ski Jumping: Men's Individual Normal Hill

5:30-8:30 p.m. — Mixed Doubles Curling: United States vs. Switzerland; Alpine Skiing: Men's Downhill Training (LIVE); Luge: Men's Training

8:35-10:30 p.m. — Mixed Doubles Curling: United States vs. South Korea (LIVE)

Friday, Feb. 9

NBC

5-8 p.m. — Opening Ceremony

Basketball

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

W

L

Pct

GB

Boston

39

16

.709

—

Toronto

37

16

.698

1

Philadelphia

26

25

.510

11

New York

23

32

.418

16

Brooklyn

19

37

.339

20½

Southeast Division

W

L

Pct

GB

Washington

31

23

.574

—

Miami

29

26

.527

2½

Charlotte

23

30

.434

7½

Orlando

17

36

.321

13½

Atlanta

17

37

.315

14

Central Division

W

L

Pct

GB

Cleveland

31

22

.585

—

Milwaukee

30

23

.566

1

Indiana

25

25

.500

2

Detroit

27

26

.509

4

Chicago

18

35

.340

13

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

W

L

Pct

GB

Houston

40

13

.755

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San Antonio

35

21

.625

6½

New Orleans

28

25

.528

12

Memphis

18

36

.333

22½

Dallas

17

37

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23½

Northwest

W

L

Pct

GB

Minnesota

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23

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