# U.S. speedskaters eager to put Sochi debacle behind them

PYEONGCHANG, South Korea Perhaps no team has more to prove at the Pyeongchang Olympics than the U.S. speedskaters.

Limited to one medal four years ago, they are eager to bounce back and show why their sport has produced the most medals for the U.S. in the Winter Games.

Going 0 for 12 in long track and 1 for 8 in short track in Sochi was a "disaster," long track skater Mitch Whitmore said.

It's certainly a memory the Americans haven't forgotten, either.

"The thought is definitely in the back of my mind, you don't want that to happen again," Brittany Bowe said. "You just have to bring it back to, 'Have I done everything I can to prepare myself the best way I can?' I can answer that, yes.

That's quite a change from 2014, when the Americans debuted a hightech skin suit they thought would lead to more gold, silver and bronze.

Instead, it was an unqualified failure. Skaters complained the suit was too tight and they were stuck dealing with sizing issues on the day of their races. To compound their woes, the Americans trained outdoors at altitude leading up to the games when the venue in Sochi was indoors at sea level.

"The team morale was really weird," Joey Mantia said. "There was just a weird vibe in the village among our team."

This time, things are completely different.

Basically, our entire staff has handed us all the tools we need to get medals," said Mantia, a favorite for gold in the mass start event. "It's just up to us now. There's no more blaming it on anyone else."



AP Photo/John Locher

Shani Davis of the United States, far right, trains during a speed skating training session prior to the 2018 Winter Olympics in Gangneung, South Korea on Friday.

Last year, the Americans traveled to the Gangneung Oval, where they will race this week, and measured ice temperature and thickness and air conditions. They took that information back home and used it to reproduce those conditions at the Pettit National Ice Center in Milwaukee, where the long track Olympic trials and a pre-Olympic camp were held.

"We felt this was the best strategy to ensure we have peak performance at the right time," said Shane Domer, sports science director for US Speedskating.

They will find out starting Saturday when long track begins with the women's 3,000 meters. Short track starts with the men's 1,500-meter final, along with qualifying in other events.

The U.S. team isn't totally free of distraction, however.

Five-time Olympian Shani Davis tweeted that the process in which luger Erin Hamlin beat him out in a coin flip as the U.S. flag bearer for Friday's opening ceremony was handled "dishonorably." The final vote by their fellow athletes ended in a 4-4 tie, leading to the coin flip.

Davis' tweet included a mention of Black History Month, raising the question of whether he thought race played a role in the decision. Davis is black, Hamlin is white. Davis didn't talk with reporters

after practice Friday.

While attention was diverted by the tweet, the rest of the U.S. team practiced in skin suits made by Under Armour — the same company responsible for their suits in Sochi.

The polyurethane material is thinner and stretch was built in to allow freedom of movement in the shoulders. The sleeves and legs have slightly different material that helps air flow over the skaters' arms and

#### **Olympics TV Schedule**

NBC
12-3 p.m. — Snowboarding: Men's Slopestyle;
Short Track Speedskating: Men's 1500m Gold
Medal Final; Ski Jumping: Men's Individual Normal Hill Gold Medal Final; Luge: Men's Singles
5-8 p.m. — Figure Skating: Team Event
(LIVE), Ice Dancing Short Dance, Ladies' Short
Program; Alpine Skiing: Men's Downhill Gold
Medal Final
5-8:30 p.m. — Figure Skating: Team Event
(LIVE), Ice Dancing Short Dance, Ladies' Short
Program; Alpine Skiing: Men's Downhill Gold
Medal Final

11:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m. — Figure Skating: Team Event (LIVE), Pairs' Free Skate

NBCSN
11 p.m.-2 a.m. — Cross Country: Women's
Skiathlon Gold Medal Final (LIVE); Mixed Dou-Skiathlon Gold Medal Final (LIVE); Mixed Doubles Curling: United States vs. China 2-4:35 a.m. — Short Tirack Speedskating: Men's 1500m Gold Medal Final (LIVE); 4:35-8:30 a.m. — Ski Jumping: Men's Individual Normal Hill Gold Medal Final (LIVE); Snowboarding: Men's Slopestyle 8:30-10 a.m. — Luge: Men's Singles 10 a.m. -2 p.m. — Speedskating: Women's 3000m Gold Medal Final; Biathlon: Women's 75km Sprint Gold Medal Final; Biathlon: Women's 100 Medal Final; Biathlon: Women's Slopestyle Gold Medal Final (LIVE) 6:45-10:30 p.m. — Mixed Doubles Curling: United States vs. Finland; Snowboarding: Women's Slopestyle (LIVE) 10:30-11:40 p.m. — Mixed Doubles Curling: Canada vs. South Korea USA

4-6:30 a.m. — Women's Ice Hockey: Switzer land vs. South Korea (LIVE)

OLYMPIC CHANNEL 2-4 a.m. — Medal Ceremonies (LIVE)

Four years ago, the material was thicker and the seam pattern didn't allow for easy movement.

"We're confident that these things perform well and these guys have done some amazing times in these suits, so we know they're battle-tested as well," Domer said. "It's the fastest (suits) we've ever

Mentally, the Americans feel confident in the suits they've been wearing for over a year.

"Long track is a huge mental sport, if you believe in what you're racing in, that's a big step in the right direction," Mantia said. "We're all really happy with what the suits are and that's not going to be a factor in these games.'

**Pro Basketball** 

# Lillard scores 50, Blazers beat Kings 118-100

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) Damian Lillard scored 22 of his seasonhigh 50 points in the third quarter, and the Portland Trail Blazers beat the Sacramento Kings 118-100 on Friday night. Lillard scored at will, making 16 of

26 shots — including eight 3-pointers

**NBA** 

Portland

Sacramento

and all 10 of his free-throw attempts. reached the half-century mark by the end of the third period and sat the entire fourth.

Lillard, who also had six assists, joined teammate CJ McCollum and Houston's James Harden as the only players to score 50 points through three quarters this season.

Maurice Harkless added 15 points, McCollum scored 13 and Ed Davis had five points and 14 rebounds for Portland, which made 15 3-pointers. The Blazers were coming off an overtime win in Charlotte on Thursday that snapped a three-game losing streak.

Lillard, Portland's lone All-Star this season, scored 15 points during a 17-0 run that closed out the third quarter and put the Blazers up 92-74. He made two 3s during the run and silenced the crowd when he drove the left side of the lane and flipped the ball in with his right

Sacramento made five consecutive 3s in the fourth quarter, four by Buddy Hield, and pulled within 107-94 with 4:45 left. Shabazz Napier made a



AP Photo/Rich Pedroncell

Portland Trail Blazers guard Damian Lillard goes to the basket as Sacramento Kings guard De'Aaron Fox, rear, watches during the second half of an NBA basketball game Friday in Sacramento, Calif.

3-pointer for Portland to stop the Kings'

Willie Cauley-Stein had 19 points and six rebounds, and Zach Randolph added 17 points and nine boards for

Lillard had 14 points and made three of Portland's six 3-pointers in the first quarter. Evan Turner hit an off-balance 11-footer to end the period and put the Blazers up 33-31.

After Randolph's layup over Nurkic pulled Sacramento within 49-47 in the second, Lillard scored nine consecutive points and then added a 17-foot stepback jumper with 1.7 seconds left to put Portland up 62-52 at halftime.

**UP NEXT** 

Blazers: Host Utah on Sunday. Kings: Visit Minnesota on Sunday. **Women's College Basketball** 

# Hebard scores 30 as Ducks slide past Washington

SEATTLE (AP)—Ruthy Hebard dominated on the interior while scoring 14 of her career-high 30 points in the third quarter, and

No. 9 Oregon pulled away for a 76-63 win over Washington on Friday night.

The Ducks (22-4, 11-2 Pac-12) rebounded from last Sunday's home loss to No. 17 Stanford and overmatched the Huskies on the inside. With the Ducks struggling to hit from the perim-

eter in the first half, Oregon went almost exclusively to Hebard to start the third quarter. She responded by making 6 of 7 shots in the quarter and helping Oregon build an 18-point lead. The Ducks' lead reached 28 in the final minutes.

Hebard made 13 of 15 shots overall, most of them within a couple feet of the basket. The 6-foot-4 sophomore was part of an Oregon front line that outscored Washington 46-18 in the paint and made up for a quiet night by Sabrina Ionescu, the leading scorer in the Pac-12 at 19.9 points per game.

Ionescu was 2 of 6 shooting and finished with 10 points. Oregon has won four

of the past five matchups against its rivals to Pac-12 the north.

Washington (7-17, 1-12) lost its fifth straight and simply didn't have the size to counter Oregon in the paint. Amber Melgoza led the Huskies with 21 points and Mai-Loni Henson

added 16. Hebard topped her career high set last season when she had 29 points against UCLA. She added 14 rebounds

as Oregon outrebounded Washington 44-30. Washington made things

interesting for a half, rallying from an early deficit to take a 22-19 lead on Melgoza's three-point play early in the second quarter. Washington led 25-20 minutes later on Hannah Johnson's 3-pointer, but Oregon closed the half on a 13-2 run and led 33-27 at the break.

Oregon blew the game open in the third quarter, Washington outscoring

## Local slate

#### PREP BOYS BASKETBALL 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.

Pilot Hook 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.

Tuesday
The Dalles at Hermiston, 7 p.m.
Pendleton at Hood River, 7 p.m.

## PREP GIRLS BASKETBALL

Saturday
Weston-McEwen at Culver, 2:30 p.m. Weston-Nicewen at Culiver 2:30 p.m. Mitchell/Spray at Arlington, 2:30 p.m. Mac-Hi at Ontario, 3 p.m. Nixyaawii at Joseph, 3:30 p.m. Cove at Echo, 3:30 p.m. Helix at Pine Eagle, 4 p.m. Pilot Rock at Stanfield, 4 p.m. Nyssa at Riverside, 4 p.m. Condon/Wheeler at Ione, 4 p.m. Burns at Umatilla, 5 p.m.

Hermiston at The Dalles, 7 p.m. Hood River at Pendleton, 7 p.m

#### PREP SWIMMING Saturday Pendleton, Hermiston at District Meet (at

Hood River), 10 a.m. PREP WRESTLING Saturday

#### Pendleton, Hermiston at Districts (at

Redmond), 9 a.m. Mac-Hi at Districts (at La Grande), 10 a.m. MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

### Saturday Columbia Basin at BMCC, 4 p.m. EOU at Multnomah, 7:30 p.m. WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Saturday Columbia Basin at BMCC, 2 p.m. EOU at Multnomah, 5:30 p.m.

# Basketball

NBA EASTERN CONFERENCE **W L Pct GB** 40 17 .702 38 16 .704 — Atlantic

#### Philadelphia New York Brooklyn 25 .519 33 .411 37 .339 **L Pct** 24 .564 26 .536 GB Southeast Washington 1 1/2 Miami 20 .536 32 .418 36 .333 39 .304 **L Pct** 22 .593 24 .556 Charlotte GB

Central Cleveland

Milwaukee

Indiana	31	25
Detroit	27	27
Chicago	19	35
WESTERN CONFERENCE	25 .554 27 .500 35 .352 L Pct 13 .759 GB Southwest Houston 21 .625 7 26 .519 13 36 .333 23 38 .309 24½ **L Pct GB** San Antonio New Orleans Memphis Northwest Minnesota Portland	

24 .586 25 .554 Oklahoma City Denver Utah 25 .554 26 .527 28 .491 26 .527 3½ 28 .491 5½ **L Pct GB** 13 .764 Pacific Golden State 13 .764 25 .528 13 L.A. Clippers 31 .426 18½ 38 .321 24½ 37 .315 24½ L.A. Lakers

Phoenix Sacramento Friday's Games L.A. Clippers 108, Detroit 95 Philadelphia 100, New Orleans 82 Cleveland 123, Atlanta 107 Indiana 97, Boston 91

Houston 130, Denver 104 Miami 91, Milwaukee 85 Utah 106, Charlotte 94 Chicago 114, Minnesota 113 Portland 118, Sacramento 100 **Saturday's Games** New Orleans at Brooklyn, 3 p.m. L.A. Clippers at Philadelphia, 4 p.m Milwaukee at Orlando, 4 p.m.

Washington at Chicago, 5 p.m. L.A. Lakers at Dallas, 5:30 p.m. San Antonio at Golden State, 5:30 p.m. Denver at Phoenix, 6 p.m. NCAA Men's Basketball

Top 25 Schedule Friday No. 18 Rhode Island 72, Davidson 59 Saturday Butler at No. 1 Villanova, 9 a.m. (FOX) Oklahoma State at No. 19 West Virginia, 9 a.m. (ESPN)

**SCOREBOARD** No. 21 UNC at NC State. 11 a.m. No. 25 Miami at Boston College, 11 a.m. No. 10 Kansas at Baylor, 11 a.m. (CBS) No. 17 Oklahoma at Iowa State, 11 a.m.

(ESPN) No. 5 Xavier at Creighton, 11:30 a.m. (FOX) No. 8 Auburn at Georgia, 12:30 p.m. No. 3 Purdue at No. 4 Michigan State, 1 p.m. (ESPN) lowa at No. 14 Ohio State, 3 p.m.

No. 15 Tennessee at Alabama, 3 p.m. UcOnn at No. 22 Wichita State, 3 p.m. (ESPN2) Virginia Tech at No. 2 UVA, 3:15 p.m. (ESPN) No. 7 Texas Tech at Kansas State, 5 p.m. (ESPNU)

San Diego St. at No. 23 Nevada, 5 p.m. No. 24 Kentucky at Texas A&M, 5:15 p.m.

No. 12 Gonzaga at No. 11 Saint Mary's, 7 b.m. (ESPN2) USC at No. 13 Arizona, 7:15 p.m. (ESPN) Sunday No. 20 Michigan at Wisconsin, 10 a.m. (CBS) No. 6 Cincinnati at SMU, 1 p.m. (ESPN) No. 9 Duke at Georgia Tech, 3 p.m. (ESPN)

Pac-12 Schedule

**Saturday** UCLA at Arizona State, 4 p.m. (PAC12) Cal at Utah, 6:30 p.m. (PAC12) Washington at Oregon St, 7 p.m. (ESPNU) USC at No. 13 Arizona, 7:15 p.m. (ESPN) Sunday Stanford at Colorado, 1 p.m. (PAC12) Washington St at Oregon, 5 p.m. (ESPNU)

NCAA Women's Basketball

**Saturday** Wichita State at No. 1 UConn, 10 a.m. No. 20 Green Bay at Milwaukee, 12 p.m. No. 22 Oklahoma St at Iowa St, 4:30 p.m. No. 24 TCU at No. 3 Baylor, 5 p.m. Kansas State at No. 6 Texas, 5 p.m.

Sunday No. 10 Maryland at Rutgers, 9 a.m. No. 21 Michigan at Michigan State, 9 a.m. ESPN2) Flordia at No. 7 South Carolina, 10 a.m. Georgia Tech at No. 5 Notre Dame, 10 a.m. Kentucky at No. 2 Miss St., 11 a.m. (ESPNU) No. 13 OSU at USF, 11 a.m. (ESPN2) No. 19 Duke at Clemson, 11 a.m.

No. 18 Georgia at No. 11 Tennessee, 12 p.m. No. 14 Texas A&M at LSU, 12 p.m. UNC at No. 23 NC State, 12 p.m. No. 9 Oregon at Washington State, 1 p.m. No. 25 Arizona State at No. 8 UCLA, 1 p.m. No. 12 FSU at Miami, 1 p.m. (ESPN2) No 15 Missouri at Arkansas, 2 p.m. No. 16 Oregon State at Washington, 3 p.m.

Colorado at No. 17 Stanford, 3 p.m.

Pac-12 Schedule

Pate 12 Sentember Friday
No. 16 Oregon St 63, Wash. State 61, OT
No. 9 Oregon 76, Washington 63
No. 17 Stanford 70, Utah 49
No. 8 UCLA 69, Arizona 46
UCS 77, No. 25 Arizona St 62

**Sunday**No. 9 Oregon at Washington State, 1 p.m.
No. 25 Arizona State at No. 8 UCLA, 1 p.m. Arizona At USC, 1 p.m. Utah at Cal, 2 p.m. No. 16 Oregon State at Washington, 3 p.m. Colorado at No. 17 Stanford, 3 p.m.

#### Hockey NHL EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division
GP W
Tampa Bay 54 37
Boston 52 33
Toronto 56 32 L OT Pts GF GA 14 3 77 194 142 11 8 74 173 124 19 5 69 182 156 Florida 52 23 23 6 52 147 167 Detroit Montreal Ottawa Buffalo 53 21 54 22 53 19 54 15 9 51 142 161 6 50 142 169 9 47 141 182 10 40 124 178 23 26 25 29 Metropolitan Division L OT Pts GF GA GP W

Washington 54 32 Pittsburgh 56 30 New Jersey 53 27 Philadelphia 54 26 N.Y. Islanders56 27 5 69 169 156 4 64 172 170 8 62 159 159 9 61 157 158 6 60 191 207 9 59 148 165 Carolina 55 25 Columbus 54 27 N V Rangers 55 26 4 58 141 154 5 57 161 171 N.Y. Rangersbb 26 24 WESTERN CONFERENCE Central Division GP W L OT Pts GF GA

Nashville 53 32 55 32 9 73 166 138 9 73 178 148 Winnipeg St. Louis Dallas Minnesota 9 73 178 148 3 71 166 143 4 70 175 145 6 64 162 156 4 62 168 156 8 56 157 152 57 34 56 33 54 29 Colorado 53 29 20 54 24 22 **Pacific Division** L OT Pts GF GA 14 4 76 186 148 19 5 65 156 129 GP W

8 64 156 150

8 64 156 157 10 64 158 161

4 50 148 171 6 48 141 180 9 35 126 189

54 28

55 28 56 27

San Jose

Calgary Anaheim

Edmonton Vancouver Arizona

Friday's Games
Washington 4, Columbus 2
N.Y. Islanders 7, Detroit 6, OT
N.Y. Rangers 4, Calgary 3
Los Angeles 3, Florida 1
Carolina 4, Vancouver 1 Carolina 4, Vancouver 1 St. Louis 5, Winnipeg 2 Dallas 4, Pittsburgh 3, SO Anaheim 3, Edmonton 2

Anaheim 3, Edmonton 2

Saturday's Games

Buffalo at Boston, 4 p.m.

New Jersey at Columbus, 4 p.m. Nashville at Montreal, 4 p.m. Los Angeles at Tampa Bay, 4 p.m. Ottawa at Toronto, 4 p.m. Colorado at Carolina, 5 p.m. Philadelphia at Arizona, 5 p.m Chicago at Minnesota, 5 p.m. Edmonton at San Jose, 7 p.m

### Golf

**PGATOUR** Pebble Beach Pro-Am

Friday p-Pebble Beach GL, Yardage: 6,816; Par: 72 s-Spyglass Hill, Yardage: 6,953; Par. 72 m-Monterey Peninsula, Yardage: 6,958; Par: 71 Pebble Beach, Calif. Purse: \$74 million

Second Round 67s-64m—131 Beau Hossler 65p-67s-132 65p-67s—132 67p-67s—134 66s-67m—133 69s-65m—134 67m-67p—134 65m-69p—134 Troy Merritt Julian Suri Phil Mickelson Jon Rahm Aaron Wise Kevin Streelman 65s-69m—134 Jason Day 69s-65m-134 Others Matt Kuchai 66s-71m—137 Jimmy Walker 68s-69m—137 72s-66m—138 Jordan Spieth Bubba Watson

68m-71p-139

68s-74m—142

# Olympics

Rory McIlroy

PYEONGCHANG WINTER OLYMPICS Television Schedule Saturday

12-3 p.m. — Snowboarding: Men's Slopestyle; Short Track Speedskating: Men's 1500m Gold Medal Final; Ski Jumping: Men's Individual Normal Hill Gold Medal Final; Luge: Men's Singles 5-8 p.m. — Figure Skating: Team Event (LIVE), Ice Dancing Short Dance, Ladies' Short Program; Alpine Skiing: Men's Down-hill Gold Medal Final

5-8:30 p.m. — Figure Skating: Team Event (LIVE), Ice Dancing Short Dance, Ladies' Short Program; Alpine Skiing: Men's Downhill Gold Medal Final 11:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m. — Figure Skating: Team Event (LIVE), Pairs' Free Skate NBCSN

11 p.m.-2 a.m. — Cross Country: Women's Skiathlon Gold Medal Final (LIVE); Mixed Doubles Curling: United States vs. 2-4:35 a.m. — Short Track Speedskating

2-4:35 a.m. — Short Irack Speedskating: Men's 1500m Gold Medal Final (LIVE) 4:35-8:30 a.m. — Ski Jumping: Men's Individual Normal Hill Gold Medal Final (LIVE); Snowboarding: Men's Slopestyle 8:30-10 a.m. — Luge: Men's Singles 10 a.m.-2 p.m. — Speedskating: Women's 3000m Gold Medal Final; Biathlon: Women's 75 Expert Cold Medal Final; Biathlon: Women's 75 Expert Cold Medal Final; Biathlon: Windows 150 Expert Cold Medal Final; Biathlon: Windows 15 Doubles Curling: United States vs. Norway 4-6:45 p.m. — Snowboarding: Men's Slopestyle Gold Medal Final (LIVE) 6:45-10:30 p.m. — Mixed Doubles Curl-

6.45-10.30 Jnl. — Mixed Doubles Culling: United States vs. Finland; Snowboarding: Women's Slopestyle (LIVE)
10:30-11.40 p.m. — Mixed Doubles
Curling: Canada vs. South Korea
Sunday

NBC 12-3 p.m. — Speedskating: Men's 5000m Gold Medal Final; Biathlon: Men's 10km Sprint Gold Medal Final; Cross Country: Men's Skiathlon Gold Medal Final 4-8 p.m. — Figure Skating: Team Event Gold Medal Final (LIVE), Men's Free

Gold Medal Final (LIVE), Well's Free Skate, Ladies' Free Skate, Lee Dancing Free Dance; Alpine Skiing: Women's Giant Slalom (LIVE); Freestyle Skiing: Women's Moguls Gold Medal Final; Snowboard: Women's Slopestyle Gold Medal Final; Luge: Men's Singles Gold Medal Final Runs 9:25 10 pp. Alpine Skiing: Women's Singles Gold Medal Final Runs 9:25 10 pp. Alpine Skiing: Women's Singles Gold Medal Final Runs 9:25 10 pp. Alpine Skiing: Women's Momen's Singles Gold Medal Final Runs 9:25 10 pp. Alpine Skiing: Women's Momen's 8:35-10 p.m. — Alpine Skiing: Women's Giant Slalom Gold Medal Final (LIVE); Snowboarding: Women's Halfpipe (LIVE) NBCSN

NBCSN
11:40 p.m.-2 a.m. — Women's Ice Hockey:
United States vs. Finland (LIVE)
10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. — Curling: Mixed
Doubles Tiebreaker; Luge: Men's Singles
Gold Medal Final Runs
2:30-5 p.m. — Biathlon: Men's 10km
Sprint Gold Medal Final
5:8:30 p.m. — Spowbparding: Women's

Sprint Gold Medal Final 5-8:30 p.m. — Snowboarding: Women's Slopestyle Gold Medal Final (LIVE); Curling: Mixed Doubles Semifinal 8:30-11:40 p.m. — Curling: Semifinal Mixed Doubles (replay); Speedskating: Men's 5000m Gold Medal Final USA

4-6:30 a.m. — Women's Ice Hockey: Canada vs. Olympic Athletes from Russia (LIVE)