

U.S. skier Vonn to decide future in coming days

By ANDREW DAMPF
Associated Press



United States' Lindsey Vonn waves as she stands in the finish area after completing an alpine ski, women's World Cup super-G in Cortina D'Ampezzo, Italy, on Sunday.

AP Photo/Alessandro Trovati

Lindsey Vonn isn't quite done yet.

The most successful female skier in World Cup history said Wednesday that she remains "hopeful" she can fix her ailing knees and race again. She just doesn't know when — or if — that will be possible.

"I'm taking things day by day and we will see what happens," Vonn wrote on Instagram. "I know that I might not get the ending to my career that I had hoped for, but if there is a chance, I will take it."

The announcement came three days after Vonn hinted at immediate retirement after failing to finish a super-G in Cortina d'Ampezzo, Italy, citing severe pain in both of her knees.

Vonn said the reason she had "so much pain and muscle shut down in Cortina was due to an impact injury to my peroneal nerve."

"This most likely came from the final jump on the first training run in Cortina, but it's hard to know for sure," Vonn added. "After that training run, the pain got progressively worse

each day and by Sunday my lower leg was in a lot of pain and my muscles had completely shut down."

Vonn, who hadn't raced all season because of a left knee injury, finished no bet-

ter than ninth in three races in Cortina.

"Now that we know the problem the next issue is fixing it," Vonn said. "So far we haven't found a solution and as a result I will not be able

to compete in tomorrow's downhill training run."

Downhill training in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany, is scheduled for Thursday and Friday, followed by downhill and super-G races this weekend.

Vonn needs to start at least one training run to race the downhill, per International Ski Federation rules. She can enter the super-G without any training runs.

"Since this is a new 'injury' per say, I remain hopeful that we can fix it," she said.

Vonn has 82 wins — most among women — and four less than overall record-holder Ingemar Stenmark of Sweden.

After Garmisch, her next scheduled competition is the world championships in Are, Sweden, which open on Feb. 5.

Vonn had been planning to retire in December following races in Lake Louise, Alberta, where she has won a record 18 times.

If she is able to race again this week, Vonn's skis are waiting for her.

"I have just arrived in Garmisch and set up my ski room," Heinz Haemmerle, Vonn's longtime ski technician, told The Associated Press. "The skis are ready whatever she's deciding. That's why I am here. Otherwise I could stay at home."

Rainer Salzgeber, the racing director for Head skis, added that the company is preparing as if Vonn will race in Garmisch and then the worlds.

"For Heinz right now it looks like this," Salzgeber told the AP. "But how it will end up in the next couple of days or hours I do not know."

Vonn had returned to action in Cortina following an injury to her left knee — she hyperextended it and sprained a ligament while training in November. Also, her right knee is permanently damaged from previous crashes.

Oregon men look to regain footing against Washington

By ANNE M. PETERSON
Associated Press



AP Photos/File

Oregon head men's basketball coach Dana Altman (left) and Washington head coach Mike Hopkins will be on the court tonight as the Ducks host the Huskies.

Game of the week: The slumping Oregon Ducks have fallen to 2-3 in Pac-12 play and eighth in the conference standings, and any shot at making the NCAA Tournament field — apart from a conference tournament win — seems to be rapidly slipping away. But they could boost their season Thursday with a victory at home over Washington, the last undefeated team in Pac-12 play. The Ducks have won six straight over the Huskies.

Oregon (11-7, 2-3 Pac-12) was ranked No. 14 in the preseason but key injuries have taken a toll. Bol Bol, arguably the biggest recruiting catch in Oregon history, was lost for his lone college season after left foot surgery. Forward Kenny Woo-

per broke his jaw and missed four games but came back last week for the Ducks' split with the Arizona schools.

The Huskies (14-4, 5-0) are 5-0 in conference play for the first time since the 1983-84 season, when they

started 6-0. Washington had its first road sweep in six years when it won at Utah and Colorado. But while the Huskies' start in conference play is impressive, it's also come against some of the weaker teams in the

Pac-12. None of Washington's five wins have come against teams ranked in the top 99 of the latest NCAA Net Rankings.

Looking ahead: In addition to Washington's visit to Oregon, Arizona (14-5, 5-1) visits USC (10-8, 3-2), which is coming off a confidence-boosting 80-67 victory over rival UCLA. It is the first of three road games for the Wildcats as they try to keep up with the Huskies.

Inside the numbers: Nick Rakocevic was the Pac-12 Player of the Week after his 21 points and 12 rebounds for the Trojans in the victory over UCLA — which snapped a four-game USC losing streak. ... According to the Pac-12, in

32 league games so far this season, the averaging scoring margin is 13.1 points, with 11 games decided by single digits and three games decided by one possession, meaning three points or less.

Players to watch: Washington's Matisse Thybulle and Oregon State's Kylor Kelley were named to the Naismith Defensive Player of the Year watch list this week. They are the only two players from the Pac-12 to make the list of 15 from around the country.

Thybulle may be the leader for defensive player of the year in the conference yet again. The senior guard was the conference defensive player of the year a season ago and leads the conference in steals at 2.7

per game and is second in blocks at 2.3. He's the only player in the country currently averaging that many steals and that many blocks per game.

Kelley, a 7-foot Oregon native, leads the nation in blocked shots with 3.94 per game. He had an Oregon State-record nine blocked shots against Pepperdine. He also set a school record with multiple blocks in 15 straight games.

On the women's side: Utah is ranked for the first time in more than a decade, coming in at No. 21 in the AP poll. The Utes join four other ranked Pac-12 teams, including No. 5 Oregon, No. 6 Stanford, No. 9 Oregon State and No. 16 Arizona State.

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EAST OREGONIAN

COMING FEBRUARY 13

SCREEN time

Exclusively in the Wednesday East Oregonian and Hermiston Herald

Meatless Wednesday: Flavortown Market goes to the greens and beans

By Andrew Warren
TV Media

In the first round of the competition, host Guy Fieri gives the competing chefs a list of ingredients that they must use. In the second round, the chefs spin a wheel that randomly gives each of them a meat dish that they must create. Finally, Guy gets tricky in the final round and takes away the remaining competitors' shopping carts before sending them out to shop for the ingredients needed to make their guilty pleasure dishes.

"Guy's Grocery Games" is similar to other cooking competition shows, with chefs getting the six after each round once the judges have evaluated all of the dishes. The contest is held weekly at a restaurant, and the winners are required to "shop" for their own ingredients from the store's shelves, and all sorts of twists tie into the unique menu.

The judges that Guy has brought in to taste the week's mystery meals are a who's who of Food Network celebrity chefs. There's a pair of "Food Network Star" winners in Dan Snierson and "Southern at Heart" and "Hot Soup" winner Richard Blais, "Aunt Phyllis," along with frequent judge and "Top Chef All-Stars" winner Richard Blais.

Vegans don't have to be having, and with those three discerning judges ready to taste everything on the plate, the contestants in this week's "Guy's Grocery Games" have to pack as much punch into their dishes as they can.

cooking this week

Day	Time	Channel	Program
Sunday	12:00 p.m.	CGO	The Great British Bake Off (UK)
	1:00 p.m.	CGO	Food Network's Chopped
	2:00 p.m.	CGO	Food Network's Chopped
	3:00 p.m.	CGO	Food Network's Chopped
Monday	12:00 p.m.	CGO	The Great British Bake Off (UK)
	1:00 p.m.	CGO	Food Network's Chopped
	2:00 p.m.	CGO	Food Network's Chopped
	3:00 p.m.	CGO	Food Network's Chopped
Tuesday	12:00 p.m.	CGO	The Great British Bake Off (UK)
	1:00 p.m.	CGO	Food Network's Chopped
	2:00 p.m.	CGO	Food Network's Chopped
	3:00 p.m.	CGO	Food Network's Chopped
Wednesday	12:00 p.m.	CGO	The Great British Bake Off (UK)
	1:00 p.m.	CGO	Food Network's Chopped
	2:00 p.m.	CGO	Food Network's Chopped
	3:00 p.m.	CGO	Food Network's Chopped
Thursday	12:00 p.m.	CGO	The Great British Bake Off (UK)
	1:00 p.m.	CGO	Food Network's Chopped
	2:00 p.m.	CGO	Food Network's Chopped
	3:00 p.m.	CGO	Food Network's Chopped
Friday	12:00 p.m.	CGO	The Great British Bake Off (UK)
	1:00 p.m.	CGO	Food Network's Chopped
	2:00 p.m.	CGO	Food Network's Chopped
	3:00 p.m.	CGO	Food Network's Chopped

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