

WORLD CUP
SKIING

Bend's Ford out for
season after crash

U.S. Alpine Ski Team athlete and two-time Olympian Tommy Ford, of Bend, announced on Tuesday via Instagram that he will be sidelined for the remainder of the season with knee and hand injuries, as well as a concussion, sustained during a horrific crash at Adelboden, Switzerland, during the second of two World Cup giant slalom races on Jan. 9.

Ford was putting down an aggressive first run before he high-sided a few gates before the finish, sending him head over heels to eventually slide into the net. Prior to loading in the helicopter, Ford was conscious and speaking to emergency responders. He was taken to a hospital in Bern, Switzerland for evaluation, prior to boarding a flight home to Bend to recover.

Ford noted in his Instagram post on Tuesday that he has been recovering well at home in Bend after torn ligaments in his knee and hand were repaired by doctors at the Steadman Philippon Research Institute in Vail, Colorado.

"There is some more work that needs to be done to fix my knee but needs to wait until my body is ready," Ford wrote in his post to his followers. "My head and neck have no significant structural damage even though I am still dealing with some neck pain and a concussion. It will be a tough road of recovery and I'll keep you updated. Until then, take care and let's keep moving."

Ford was in the midst of a banner 2020-21 season, posting four World Cup top-10 results, including a podium finish in Santa Caterina, Italy. He qualified for the upcoming 2021 FIS Ski World Championships in Cortina d'Ampezzo, Italy, but he will be sidelined.

—Bulletin staff report

WOMEN'S
COLLEGE HOOPS

Beavs demolish
Huskies, 98-68

CORVALLIS — It was snowing outside, but in Gill Coliseum it was raining 3-pointers as the Beavers took down Washington 98-68 Tuesday evening in a Pac-12 women's basketball game.

"I think this win was just what this group needed," said Oregon State head coach Scott Rueck. "The team prepared hard, and continued to grind. Washington makes you play a little bit differently, and if you aren't ready that can impact you. Our team played with grit and toughness."

Oregon State finished the contest with 18 triples, matching the program record and tying the Pac-12 mark for most in a conference game. The Beavers shot 65.3 percent from the floor and 66.7 percent from beyond the arc.

Freshman Sasha Gorfth went 8-for-10 from the floor and 6-for-7 from beyond the arc to finish with 23 points. Taya Corosdale went 5-for-6 from the floor to end the day with 16 points, while Ellie Mack finished with 12 points and seven rebounds.

Talia von Oelhoffen notched her first career double-figure scoring contest, recording 13 points, seven assists and six rebounds.

—Bulletin wire reports

LOCAL SPORTS

Kevin Boss: The best football level is high school

BY BRIAN RATHBONE
The Bulletin

Add Kevin Boss to the list of people who believe that high school football is the best level of football.

The owner of Boss Sports Performance in Bend has the authority to weigh in on the topic having played six seasons in the NFL — including winning a Super Bowl with the

New York Giants in 2008 — after his college days playing for Western Oregon.

High school football, the Philomath High grad said, was football at its "purest form."

"The further up you get there is more at stake, there are things that can sour the fun level," Boss said. "People always joke that the NFL stands for the 'No Fun League,' and I had a

blast playing in the NFL and I can understand how it got that name, too."

Boss joined Bulletin Sports Talk to discuss the lessons learned on his way from being an under-recruited athlete out of a small town, to realizing that he might have a professional future in a sport that was once a second fiddle to basketball for him.

"After we lost in the first round of the playoffs my senior year, I thought that was my last football game," Boss said. "Nowadays kids are committing as juniors in high school. Walking off the field I had already switched my mindset to go win a state championship in basketball and we were able to do that."

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Full interview

For the complete interview with Kevin Boss, owner of Boss Sports Performance in Bend, visit bendbulletin.com/sports.

The Bulletin Sports Talk podcast is also available on Apple Podcasts and Spotify.

WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Getting it done on defense



Trevor John Cramer/Oregon State Athletics file

Oregon State's Aleah Goodman (1) drives the lane against Oregon's Te-Hina Paopao, center, and Nyara Sabally on Dec. 13.

The Oregon Ducks have held their opponents to no more than 57 points in their last four games

BY STEVE GRESS

Albany Democrat-Herald

When you think of Oregon women's basketball the first thought that comes to mind is probably the offensive prowess the Ducks have had the past few years with the likes of Sabrina Ionescu, Ruthy Hebard and Satou Sabally leading the way.

"The big piece is getting connected with the people you're on the floor with, when you're clicking on defense that's when you're like, alright, we can make something happen in a rhythm here."

— Lydia Giomi, Oregon Ducks senior women's basketball player

But that has not been the case over the past couple weeks for the Ducks, who have scored more than 70 points just once in the last six games, and that was against a California team that is winless in the Pac-12 through eight games.

Instead of hanging their heads, the Ducks have gotten it done on defense to go 4-2 over that stretch. In the last four, the opposition has scored no more than 57 points (Arizona), with the Ducks limiting Washington State and Washington to 50 and 52

points, respectively, this past weekend.

"I feel like we had some really good defense happening today," Oregon senior Lydia Giomi said after Sunday's win. "A couple of times we got on a nice run, we got into a flow. The big piece is getting connected with the people you're on the floor with, when you're clicking on defense that's when you're like, alright, we can make something happen in a rhythm here."

See **Ducks** / A6

GOLF

Lack of wins starting to pile up for Tony Finau

BY DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

At least it can't be said Tony Finau is in a slump. He hasn't won enough for that.

And that might be his biggest burden.

In his seventh year on the PGA Tour, in 168 tournaments, his only victory was in March of 2016 at the Puerto Rico Open, the same week the top 64 in the world were in Texas for the Match Play.

Everyone in golf should know this because it gets men-

tioned every time Finau is in contention, like he was last week in the California desert, or when he's a captain's pick, like he was for the Ryder Cup in France and the Presidents Cup in Australia.

He looks to be built for greatness. Finau is 6-foot-4 with a wingspan measured at 6-foot-8. He is capable of generating as much ball speed as Bryson DeChambeau without the grunts or the protein shakes.

Finau has been among the top 50 in the world for the last

three years, reaching as high as No. 9 toward the end of 2018. He has amassed more than \$20 million in PGA Tour earnings. He has fit in nicely among America's finest in the last two team competitions.

So it's not a slump. That belongs to others in the field this week at the Farmers Insurance Open.

Jordan Spieth hasn't won since he captured the third leg of the career Grand Slam in the 2017 British Open.

See **Golf** / A6



Bob Booth

Tony Finau has not won on the PGA Tour since March 2016 at the Puerto Rico Open.