Monday, 30 January 2017 • Olympic-sport commentary, coverage and results

Lightning can strike twice: Paris and Los Angeles, part II

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Lightning can strike twice:
Paris and Los Angeles, part II

The concept of choosing Paris and Los Angeles to host the 2024 and 2028 Olympic Games, examined in our last issue (click here) got lots of responses.

Many were insightful, a number noted our typographical error regarding Paris’s first hosting of the Games back in 1900 (1904 was typed in error and corrected) and then there was an important note from Dr. Bill Mallon, who wrote a guest editorial in our 12 January issue promoting Al Oerter as the greatest Olympian of all time.

Mallon, whose depth of knowledge in Olympic history makes him one of the world’s outstanding scholars of the Movement, wrote:

“[Regarding] a double award of 2024-28 Olympics and your Sports Examiner comment that the [International Olympic Committee] has never done that before. Actually, they have, and it also involved Paris, and it pertained to Olympics exactly 100 years removed from 2024-28.

“This from an older book of mine, The Golden Book of the Olympic Games:

At the 18th IOC Session in Lausanne on 2 June 1921, Baron Pierre de Coubertin requested that the IOC formally vote for Paris to host the 1924 Olympic Games and Amsterdam to host the 1928 Olympic Games. This request was based on his intended retirement as IOC President shortly after the 1924 Olympic Games. The IOC voted on this matter with 14 votes for the proposal, 4 against the proposal, and 4 abstentions.”

We corrected our story, but most important is the precedent and how well it fits into the narrative for 2024 and 2028. Amsterdam had been in the running to host the 1920 Games as well as 1924, but had deferred to the wishes of de Coubertin. They persisted and were rewarded, much as Paris and Los Angeles are doing this time.

Paris has bid and lost for the 1992, 2008 and 2012 Games and Los Angeles, since 1984, has bid and lost at the domestic level for 2012 and 2016 and lost to Boston to be the U.S. candidate city for 2024, but was selected when Boston decided to abandon its bid in mid-2015.

Mallon further notes on his OlympStats Web site that neither Paris nor Los Angeles ever won a vote against other cities to host the Games. The award of the Games to Paris for 1900 and 1924 were by acclamation, and the same for Los Angeles for 1932. The awarding of the Games to Los Angeles for
1984 was voted on by the IOC, but only as to whether to accept the only bidder for the Games on new terms: private financing, without a municipal guarantee.

Mallon’s comment also stirred thoughts about the IOC’s more recent behavior. In fact, the IOC has considered – and agreed – to make commitments for multiple Games, but for sponsorships and television rights ... so far. To note some of the more obvious examples:

- In 2005, the IOC and Coca-Cola executed a TOP sponsorship agreement that extended the company’s status through the 2020 Games, a period covering eight Games in all.
- In 2012, McDonald’s committed to TOP sponsorship of the Games through 2020.
- On 17 January of this year, the IOC and China’s Alibaba Group agreed to a TOP sponsorship in the “cloud computing” and E-commerce services categories through 2028, covering six Games.
- In the U.S., NBC has purchased multi-Games broadcast rights from the IOC twice in the last five years. In 2011, it agreed to pay a reported $4.38 billion for the 2014-16-18-20 Games. Then in May, 2014, it agreed to a $7.75 billion extension to cover six more Games through 2032.
- In June of 2015, the IOC sold the European broadcast rights to the 2018-20-22-24 Games to Discovery Communications for 1.3 billion Euro (~ $1.4 billion at the time).

The IOC is, thus, very much in the business of choosing partners for multiple Games, but has not done so with more than one Games of the Olympiad – as summer Games are known – since 1921.

About time, isn’t it?

Rich Perelman
Editor

A special tip of the cap to Chuck Cale and Douglas Stewart for their comments (and corrections) on our last column.

The Sports Examiner encourages expressions of opinion – we really do – but preferably based in facts. Comments can be submitted to Editor@TheSportsExaminer.com We do not guarantee publication of any comment, but all comments submitted will be considered and your submission implies your agreement to publication (and light editing if needed to meet our grammatical and punctuation standards) at our sole discretion.

Please include your name and hometown on any comment submitted for publication.
Monday, 30 January 2017

• Headliners •

1. Alpine Skiing: Surprises from Ganong and Shiffrin

Audi Alpine Skiing World Cup:
Garmisch Partenkirchen (GER) and Cortina d'Ampezzo (ITA) ~ 27-29 January

There is a reason why sports outdraws theater.
If you’re taking in a performance of Shakespeare’s “Romeo and Juliet,” there is no hope of either one of them surviving at the end. They just don’t, every time.

In sports, no one really knows what’s going to happen, just like this weekend in the Audi Alpine Skiing World Cup.

Steven Nyman has been the best American downhiller this season and was primed for another big performance at Garmisch Partenkirchen, but crashed and suffered a left knee injury that required a halt to the competition so that he could be removed from the course. He tweeted later, “My season is over but aside from my knee everything is okay. Time for some surgery and healing. I WILL BE BACK!”

Now what? After waiting for 15 minutes at the top of the course, Travis Ganong of the U.S. – with a best of seventh this season – ripped through the bottom of the course and won his fourth World Cup medal and second World Cup win (both in Downhills). “Today was perfect,” he said afterwards. “I was able to push and stick to my plan and not be too phased by all the crashes and everything. It was a tough day for sure. But I’m super happy to win today.”

Stefenson Nyman has been the best American downhiller this season and was primed for another big performance at Garmisch Partenkirchen, but crashed and suffered a left knee injury that required a halt to the competition so that he could be removed from the course. He tweeted later, “My season is over but aside from my knee everything is okay. Time for some surgery and healing. I WILL BE BACK!”

Not exactly what the script called for, but that’s sports. Same on the women’s side in Cortina d’Ampezzo.

The program there included a Downhill and a Super-G with Switzerland’s Lara Gut poised to re-take the World Cup overall points lead. Didn’t happen.

Sure, Gut won the Downhill and closed to within 30 points of Mikaela Shiffrin of the U.S. But the Super-G didn’t go as planned. While Gut has won all three Super-G races held this season, this time she spun off the course and didn’t finish. And Shiffrin, known for her prowess in the “technical” events of Slalom and Giant Slalom, skied into fourth place to earn an unexpected 50-point bounce against Gut. Her reaction: “I can ski speed!” She now leads the World Cup race with 1,103 points to 1,023 for Gut, heading into Tuesday’s Parallel Slalom program in Stockholm (SWE).
Shiffrin was asked about Gut’s run, which she saw from the top of the course: “I watched her run and she was smoking, up until she went out. The mistake she made—her hand was just a little bit inside. That can happen a lot of times when you’re attacking. She was in the lead.

“I went in today really planning to charge. My main goal was to try and see how comfortable I could let myself really go direct and take the speed and not be afraid of it and stand on my outside ski. I felt like I did that that run. My plan didn’t change because Lara went out, but I did feel like a lot of girls were giving [the course] too much respect. I didn’t know if I would be the one to change that, but it felt like a pretty aggressive run.”

Also of note on Sunday was the successful return of former two-time World Cup overall champion Anna Veith (AUT) to the podium with a third in Cortina. "I'm pretty happy that all the work has paid off now and I'm on the right way. It's been pretty hard because I know that everybody knows how my skiing was before my injury and I'm not at that point now because my body isn't like how it was before. It was tough the last weeks because it was always fighting against myself.”

### Audi Alpine Skiing World Cup: Garmisch-Partenkirchen (GER) ~ 27-29 January 2017. (Full results here):


### Audi Alpine Skiing World Cup: Cortina d'Ampezzo (ITA) ~ 27-29 January 2017. (Full results here):

**Women's Downhill:** 1. Lara Gut (SUI), 1:37.08; 2. Sofia Goggia (ITA), 1:37.13; 3. Ilka Stuhec (SLO), 1:37.55; 4. Viktoria Rebensburg (GER), 1:37.61; 5. Nicole Schmidhofer (AUT), 1:37.85. Americans in the top 50: 10. Breezy Johnson (USA), 1:38.26; 11. Stacey Cook (USA), 1:38.35; ... 17. Jackie Wiles (USA), 1:38.56; 18. Alice McKennis (USA), 1:38.58; ... 22. Laurenne Ross (USA), 1:38.73; ... 32. Leanne Smith (USA), 1:39.60.


### 2. Luge:

**U.S. collects three World Championships medals**
FIL World Championships:
Innsbruck (AUT) ~ 27-29 January

The U.S. has won only five Olympic Winter Games medals in Luge: four in men’s doubles and one in women’s singles.

They might be adding to that total in PyeongChang.

The U.S. won two medals in Olympic events at the FIL World Championships over the weekend: silvers from Erin Hamlin and in the Team Relay. The best part: neither was a shock or even that much of a surprise.

Hamlin, a three-time Olympian, won the lone U.S. women’s medal with a bronze in Sochi and she improved that one place this year in a wild competition that saw wide swings between the two runs.

Germany’s Tatjana Huefner, second in the World Cup standings on the season, was the most consistent, with the best first-round run and the no. 2 time on the second run. She ended up the winner, her fifth World Championship in Singles to go along with three Olympic medals. No surprise there.

Hamlin was in second after a great first run, but faded to seventh on run no. 2, but still ended up second because of the carnage behind her. Canada’s Kim McRae was only 10th after round one, but third-best in round two: she won bronze. American Summer Britcher was only sixth on both rounds, but her consistency earned her fourth! Seasonal leader Natalie Giesenberger was a stunning 17th after one round and even with a fastest in run two, she could only manage sixth overall.

“It’s awesome. I’m very excited,” she said. “I knew I could do well here. I just had to keep my cool and slide like I know how. I’m very thankful I was able to do that and glad the weather held up. It was starting to get warmer and warmer, and I was getting nervous.”

She gave substantial credit to the U.S. coaches as well. “They’ve been doing a lot of work on our sleds, and making sure that we have everything we need, to be able to do what we do, which is to just go down the hill and slide really well. So I knew going into the races, yesterday and today, that all I had to do was my job, which is to slide fast. That, coupled with a good sled setup, ended up being a great combo, so I definitely have to say that. Also, the weather held up just enough for the ice to stay cold enough and in good enough condition that our sleds didn’t start to hate it.”

Hamlin was World Champion in the Singles back in 2009, but at 30 she’s back in the medals again in a big way. She also won the short-course Sprint event and was the lead-off leg on the U.S.’s silver-medal-winning Team Relay.

The quartet of Hamlin, Tucker West and Matt Mortensen and Jayson Terdiman finished second to Germany by 0.19 seconds and was in position to possibly win on the final leg. Hamlin was
third at the end of her slide, with West taking the lead on his leg and handing a lead of 0.03 seconds to Mortensen and Terdiman. They held on for second, with Germany’s Toni Eggert and Sascha Benecken passing them for the World title.

Britcher’s fourth in the women’s Singles also made her the World U23 Champion for 2017 as she was the best of the younger sliders in the field. “This is a sport where we’re trying to be perfect,” she said. “It’s timed to the thousandth of a second, so there’s a bit of a learning curve. I’m just slowly working my way up there.” She appears to be on her way. Summaries:

FIL World Championships: Igls (AUT) ~ 27-29 January 2017. (Full results here):


BMW Bobsleigh & Skeleton World Cup no. 6: Koenigssee (GER) ~ 27-29 January 2017

Can anyone stop Elana Meyers Taylor and Kehri Jones?

After a bronze in 2010 with Eric Pac and silver with Lauryn Williams in 2014, she’s unquestionably a contender for top honors in PyeongChang based on her sensational results this season.

True, she crashed out in the first race of the year, but has been 2nd-2nd-1st-1st-1st in the five races since and climbed to fourth place on the seasonal charts.

In Koenigssee – where the World Championships will be held in February – Meyers Taylor and Jones led a 1-2 U.S. finish with Jamie Greubel Poser and Aja Evans right behind them. “I’m super excited,” Meyers Taylor said afterwards. “I have some kinks to iron out before World Championships, and this week gave us an opportunity to push full speed and take trips at full speed to test equipment. There’s always room for improvement. Jamie and me are going to get after it, and I think it will be even closer at World Championships.”

The U.S.’s top men’s driver, Steven Holcomb, also had a rewarding weekend, claiming a silver in the two-man sled with Carlo Valdes and then fourth in the for-man (with Valdes, James Reed and Sam McGuffie) by 0.01.

“Overall I’m really happy and this is a good preview for what’s going to happen in World Championships,” said Holcomb after the two-man. “The first run I made a mistake out of corner S-4, and we went over video and made sure I figured out how to do it right. In a few weeks it’s really going to count, we have to be fast on every run in World Championships.”

“Each week I’m getting more confident pushing, and the faster we get at the start, the faster we’ll be down the hill. Races like this give my guys confidence too. They know that if they push hard and do what they’re supposed to do, we can come out victorious.”

BMW World Cup no. 6: Koenigssee (GER) ~ 27-28 January 2017. (Full results here):

Men’s Two: 1. Johannes Lochner/Joshua Bluhm (GER), 1:38.54; 2. Steven Holcomb/Carlo Valdes (USA) and Francesco Friedrich/Thorsten Margis (GER), 1:38.77; 4. Alexey Stulnev/Maxim Belugin (RUS), 1:38.94; 5. Oskars Kibermanis/Matiss Miknis (LAT), 1:38.95. Also: 20. Codie Bascue/Sam McGuffie (USA), 1:40.00.

Men’s Four: 1. Germany (Johannes Lochner), 1:37.17; 2. Germany (Nico Walther), 1:37.42; 3. Russia (Alexey Stulnev), 1:37.49; 4. United States (Steve Holcomb-Carlo Valdes-James Reed-Sam McGuffie), 1:37.50; 5. Germany (Francesco Friedrich), 1:37.51. No other Americans qualified for the second run.


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4. Speed Skating: Bergsma expanding her trophy case

ISU Speed Skating World Cup no. 5: Berlin (GER) ~ 25-29 January 2017

After a month-and-a-half break, the long-track speed skaters were back in action in Berlin for the fifth of six World Cup competitions.

Not that the layoff hurt American star Heather Bergsma.

She won both editions of the 1,000 m race to remain perfect – 5 for 5 – in World Cup competition this year and added a bronze in one of the 500 m competitions for three medals on the weekend. The wins are the 30th and 31st of her World Cup career ... and she’s still only 27.

“Today was definitely better than Friday’s race,” she said after the second 1,000 m win. “I had a really good second lap today, which I was missing yesterday in the 1,500 m and I’m happy to finish this weekend on a good note.”

Bergsma now leads not only the 1,000 m World Cup list (500 points), but also the overall World Cup with 935 points, well ahead of Marrit Leenstra (730) and Irene Wust (700) of the Netherlands. Bergsma has won two World Cup overall titles, in 2014 and 2015, and is the only female skater to win more than once.

Joey Mantia, who was the leader in the men’s 1,500 seasonal standings, did not compete in Berlin and fell to third in the event. Shani Davis was the top men’s U.S. skater in Berlin, with a fifth in both 1,000 m races. Summaries:

ISU Speed Skating World Cup no. 5: Berlin (GER) ~ 27-29 January 2017. (Full results here):

MEN:
500 m l: 1. Nico Ihle (GER), 34.83; 2. Yuma Murakami (JPN), 34.97; 3. Jan Smeekins (NED), 35.02; 4. Havard
Holmefjord Lorentzen (NOR), 35.06; 5. Ryohei Naga (JPN), 35.07. 500 m II: 1. Ruslan Murashov (RUS), 34.81; 2. Ronald Mulder (NED), 34.87; 3. Kai Verbij (NED), 34.98; 4. Tsubasa Hasegawa (JPN), 35.06; 5. Mika Poutala (FIN), 35.10.

1,000 m I: 1. Kjeld Nuis (NED), 1:08.25; 2. Verbij (NED), 1:08.84; 3. Lorentzen (NOR), 1:09.03; 5. Shani Davis (USA), 1:09.21. 1,000 m II: 1. Verbij (NED), 1:09.08; 2. Lorentzen (NOR), 1:09.23; 3. Ohle (GER), 1:09.31; 4. Alexey Yesin (RUS), 1:09.48; 5. Davis (USA), 1:09.55. Also: 20. Kimani Griffin (USA), 1:10.91.


WOMEN:
500 m I: 1. Nao Kodaira (JPN), 37.43; 2. Karolina Erbanova (CZE), 38.12; 3. Olga Fatkulina (RUS), 38.36; 4. Erina Kamiya (JPN), 38.40; 5. Maki Tsugi (JPN), 38.40. Also: 6. Heather Bergsma (USA), 38.44; ... 20. Paige Schwartzburg (USA), 40.65. 500 m II: 1. Kodaira (JPN), 37.57; 2. Erbanova (CZE), 38.28; 3. Bergsma (USA), 38.43; 4. Tsuji (JPN), 38.44; 5. Nadezhda Aseeva (RUS), 38.56.


1,500 m: 1. Ireen Wust (NED), 1:55.85; 2. Leenstra (NED), 1:56.12; 3. Martina Sabilkova (CZE), 1:56.36; 4. Shikhova (RUS), 1:57.12; 5. Bergsma (USA), 1:57.24. 3,000 m: 1. Wust (NED), 4:01.77; 2. Sabilkova (CZE), 4:02.38; 3. Anna Yurkova (RUS), 4:04.64; 4. Marije Joling (NED), 4:05.56; 5. Antoinette de Jong (NED), 4:06.20.

FIS Freestyle World Cup/Moguls: Calgary (CAN) ~ 28 January 2017
FIS Freestyle World Cup/Slopestyle: Seiser Alm (ITA) ~ 28 January 2017
FIS Snowboard World Cup/Slopestyle: Seiser Alm (ITA) ~ 27 January 2017
FIS Snowboard World Cup/Parallel Giant Slalom: Rogla (SLO) ~ 28 January 2017

Youngsters led the U.S. performers to two medals in weekend competition in the FIS Freestyle World Cup event in Seiser Alm, Italy.

Utah native Colby Stevenson, 19, a member of the U.S. Freeskiing rookie team, won the Slopestyle event with an 89.20-point score, easily better than Colin Wili (SUI), who scored 86.60.

Happy? Yes: “It’s unreal, man. I did the best I could and ended up on top. I couldn’t be more happy right now. With my dad and all my friends in here it’s just the best time.” Especially the food, Colby.
He wasn’t the only American on the podium, as 16-year-old Caroline Claire – in her first World Cup appearance – scored a bronze medal. She likes Italy, too: she won a bronze in Slopestyle at the 2014 World Junior Championships there in 2016.

Tom Rowley of the U.S. nearly won his third-ever World Cup medal with a fourth by just 0.13 in the Moguls competition in Calgary. “I kept it simple and executed my run. Conditions in Calgary can be tough, but it was warmer today and the course stayed soft. It made it easy to go fast and just let it go.”

Summaries:

FIS Freestyle Skiing World Cup: Calgary (CAN) ~ 28 January 2017. (Full results [here](#)):

- Men’s Moguls/Final: 1. Matt Graham (AUS), 85.34; 2. Mikael Kingsburg (CAN), 83.90; 3. Benjamin Cavet (FRA), 82.89; 4. Thomas Rowley (USA), 82.76; 5. Dmitriy Reiherd (KAZ), 80.50; 6. Philippe Marquis (CAN), 80.45.
- Women’s Moguls/Final: 1. Britteny Cox (AUS), 82.11; 2. Justine Dufour-Lapointe (CAN), 80.02; 3. Chloe Dufour-Lapointe (CAN), 75.19; 4. Hedvig Wessel (NOR), 64.79; 5. Nessa Dziemian (USA), 38.77; 6. Perrine Laflont (FRA), 37.06.

FIS Freestyle Skiing World Cup: Seiser Alm (ITA) ~ 28 January 2017. (Full results [here](#)):

- Men’s Slopestyle: 1. Colby Stevenson (USA), 89.20; 2. Colin Wili (SUI), 86.60; 3. Russell Henshaw (AUS), 83.40; 4. Noah Morrison (CAN), 82.00; 5. Robby Franco (ITA), 81.60.
- Women’s Slopestyle: 1. Sarah Hoefflin (SUI), 84.40; 2. Coline Ballet Baz (FRA), 81.00; 3. Caroline Claire (USA), 76.40; 4. Katie Summerhayes (GBR), 71.80; 5. Lara Wolf (AUT), 66.00.

FIS Snowboard World Cup: Seiser Alm (ITA) ~ 27 January 2017. (Full results [here](#)):

- Men’s Slopestyle: 1. Seppe Smits (BEL), 88.30; 2. Jamie Nicholls (GBR), 87.90; 3. Sebbe DeBuck (BEL), 85.75; 4. Billy Morgan (GBR), 84.40; 5. Clemens Millauer (AUT), 83.00.
- Women’s Slopestyle: 1. Enni Rukajarvi (FIN), 81.70; 2. Laurie Blouin (CAN), 80.50; 3. Sina Candrian (SUI), 80.40; 4. Miyabi Onitsuka (JPN), 68.60; 5. Aimee Fuller (GBR), 63.55.

FIS Snowboard World Cup: Rogla (SLO) ~ 28 January 2017. (Full results [here](#)):

- Men’s Parallel Giant Slalom/Big Final: 1. Nevin Galmarini (SUI); 2. Radoslav Yankov (BUL); Small Final: 3. Zan Kosir (SLO); 4. Andreas Prommegger (AUT).
- Women’s Parallel Giant Slalom/Big Final: 1. Ester Ledecka (CZE); 2. Carolin Langenhorst (GER); Small Final: 3. Ina Meschik (AUT); 4. Claudia Riegler (AUT).

Panorama

Athletics

A talented American quartet set a world best in the rarely-run Distance Medley Relay at the New Balance Indoor Grand Prix, the first stop in the IAAF Indoor World Tour for 2017.

Emma Coburn led off the 1,200 m leg in 3:18.40 and passed to high school sensation Sydney
McLaughlin for a 400 m leg of 52.32. Then Brenda Martinez ripped off a 2:01.94 800 to get ahead of record pace and Jenny Simpson finished with a 1,600 m leg of 4:27.66 for a final of 10:30.31.

The highlight of the individual events was a classic mile win by Rio gold medalist Matthew Centrowitz in 3:55.78, playing off the pace with his superior tactical sense and then taking charge over the last two laps on the 200 m track in the Reggie Lewis Center in Roxbury, Massachusetts.

The women’s pole vault was a showcase for Rio winner Ekaterina Stefanidi of Greece (and formerly of Stanford), who won at 15-2 1/4. She was expected to get an argument from 2012 Olympic gold medalist Jenn Suhr, who missed her first try at 14-10 1/2 and then retired due to injury.

Summaries:


(Full results [here](#):)

**MEN:**

- 300 m, Noah Lyles (USA), 32.67; 2. Vernon Norwood (USA), 33.17; 3. Gil Roberts (USA), 33.70.
- 600 m, Donavan Brazier (USA), 1:16.57; 2. Renny Quow (TTO), 1:17.50; 3. Michael Stigler (USA), 1:18.38.
- 3000 m, Paul Chelimo (USA), 7:42.39; 2. Andrew Butchart (GBR), Hagos Gebrhiwet (ETH), 7:43.04.
- High Jump, Donald Thomas (BAH), 2.28 m (7-5 3/4); 2. Allex Austin (USA), 2.25 m (7-4 1/2); 3. Michael Mason (CAN), 2.25 m (7-4 1/2).
- Long Jump, Fabrice Lapierre (AUS), 7.80 m (25-7 1/4); 2. Michel Torneus (SWE), 7.80 m (25-7 1/4); 3. Damar Forbes (JAM), 7.68 m (25-2 1/2).

**WOMEN:**

- 60 m, English Gardner (USA), 7.17; 2. Dezerera Bryant (USA), 7.19; 3. Schillonie Calvert (JAM), 7.36.
- 300 m, Courtney Okolo (USA), 36.87; 2. Jessica Beard (USA), 37.37; 3. Candace Hill (USA), 37.42.
- 800 m, Charlene Lipsey (USA), 2:02.01; 2. Habitam Alemu (ETH), 2:02.38; 3. Lynsey Sharp (GBR), 2:02.88.
- 3000 m, Hellen Obiri (KEN), 8:39.08; 2. Sifan Hassan (NED), 8:40.99; 3. Shannon Rowbury (USA), 8:41.94.
- Pole Vault, Ekaterina Stefanidi (GRE), 4.63 m (15-2 1/4); 2. Alyshá Newman (CAN), 4.53 m (14-10 1/2); 3. Mary Saxer (USA), 4.28 m (14-0 1/2).
- Triple Jump: 1. Patricia Mamoma (POR), 14.01 m (45-11 3/4); 2. Nadia Eke (GHA), 13.46 m (44-2); 3. Erika Kinsey (SWE), 12.99 m (42-7 1/2).

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**Boxing**

- France’s Tony Yoka, who impressively won gold medals in the Super Heavyweight division at the Youth Olympic Games in 2010, the AIBA World Championships in 2015 and at the Rio Games in 2016 announced last week that he was turning professional.
The 23 January announcement brought Yoka into the camp of the new Ringstar Sports program, run by veteran promoter Richard Schaefer. At 24 years old and standing 6-7, he will be a fighter to watch, although his Olympic weight of 205 pounds makes him undersized in the worldwide heavyweight division.

Schaefer said at the introductory event that “Tony’s skills in the ring speak for themselves and combined with his tremendous charisma, he will transcend boxing and become a global superstar and ambassador for our sport in short order. I am pleased to work with Tony and his team to make his dream of becoming the undisputed Heavyweight Champion of the World a reality.”

Yoka said, “I am very excited to embark on the next chapter in boxing and turn professional with Ringstar. I am committed to hard work and dedicating myself to the sport as I have done in the past and achieve my ultimate goal of becoming undisputed and unified heavyweight world champion. With Ringstar, I have the best promotional company and with Virgil Hunter, I have the best trainer in my corner. We will work as a team to get these belts and become the new face of boxing. My first fight will take place in mid-May in France after a three month training camp with Virgil.”

Cycling

- The UCI World Tour completed its schedule in Australia with the Cadel Evans Great Ocean Road Race, held in Victoria in and around Geelong on Sunday. It’s the third edition of the race, and was added to the World Tour for 2017.

Germany’s Nikias Ardnt, the 2012 Tour of Berlin winner, covered the 174 km course in 4:19:15 for the win, the third European in a row to claim victory. The World Tour now takes a break until the Abu Dhabi Tour on 23-26 February. Summary:

UCI World Tour/Cadel Evans Great Ocean Road Race:
Geelong (AUS) ~ 29 January 2017. (Full results [here](#)).


Fencing

- The U.S. had some encouraging results in the women’s Sabre tournament hosted in New York this past weekend, but no medals to show for the effort.
In the round of 32, **Dagmara Wozniak** of the U.S. notched her first-ever victory over the world’s top-ranked women’s Sabre fencer and 2016 Olympic gold medalist, **Yana Egorian**, 15-12. Wozniak then defeated Spain’s **Sandra Marcos**, 15-12 and advanced to the quarterfinals, where she was eliminated by Italy’s **Donna Vecchi**, 15-13, and finished eighth overall.

**Cecilia Bender** of France, ranked ninth worldwide, was the eventual women’s winner, and France took the team title over Russia.

In the Heidenheimer Pokal in Germany, Korea’s **Kyoungdoo Park** triumphed over an enormous field of 310 fencers to win his first World Cup title, defeating France’s fourth-ranked **Yannick Borel**, 15-13, in the final.

**FIE World Cup/Heidenheimer Pokal: Heidenheim (GER) ~ 26-28 January 2017.** (Full results [here](#)).


**FIE World Cup: Brooklyn, New York (USA) ~ 27-29 January 2017.** (Full results [here](#)).


**Figure Skating**

- Not too many surprises in the European Championships in Ostrava, as the big names were at or near the top of the podium in all four events.

Reigning World Champions **Javier Fernandez** of Spain, Russia’s **Evgenia Medvedeva** and France’s **Gabriella Papadakis and Guillaume Cizeron** all won in the men’s women’s and dance divisions, respectively. The silver medalists were all also former World or European medalists as well.

One pleasant surprise was the performance of comebacking **Carolina Kostner** (29) of Italy, who was World Champion in 2012 and won the bronze in the women’s division with a third-place standing in the Short Program and second in the Free Skate to Medvedeva. “There was some amazing skating tonight and I feel honored to be part of this,” she said. “I didn’t make any major mistakes, but there is
always something you could do better. It’s been difficult and fun at the same time. There was a little bit of fear, but a lot more joy. I started from scratch, but the journey is not over yet, it is just beginning.” Perhaps she will be a contender again in PyeongChang?

In Pairs, Grand Prix Final winners Evgenia Tarasova and Vladimir Morozov of Russia skated to the gold medal, but the performance of Germany’s Aliona Savchenko and Bruno Massot was closely watched due to Savchenko’s ankle injury late last year. “This medal shines like gold to me,” she said after they won the Free Skate. “I am very happy to come back after my injury. Massot added “It was an amazing comeback for us after these hard three months. Now we’re back. We do everything to win and this is the message we want to share.”

Next up on the schedule is the Four Continents test in Gangneung, South Korea from 15-19 February and the World Championships in Helsinki from 29 March-2 April. Summaries:

ISU European Figure Skating Championships: Ostrava (CZE) ~ 25-29 January 2017. (Full results here):

Men: 1. Javier Fernandez (ESP), 294.84 points (1st in Short Program/1st in Free Skate); 2. Maxim Kovtun (RUS), 266.80 (2/2); 3. Mikhail Kolyada (RUS), 250.18 (4/3).

Women: 1. Evgenia Medvedeva (RUS), 229.71 (1/1); 2. Anna Pogorilaya (RUS), 211.39 (2/3); 3. Carolina Kostner (ITA), 210.52 (3/2).

Pairs: 1. Evgenia Tarasova/Vladimir Morozov (RUS), 227.58 (1/2); 2. Aliona Savchenko/Bruno Massot (GER), 222.35 (3/1); 3. Vanessa James/Morgan Cipres (FRA), 220.02 (2/3).

Dance: 1. Gabriella Papadakis/Guillaume Cizeron (FRA), 189.67 (3/1); 2. Anna Cappellini/Luca Lanotte (ITA), 186.64 (2/2); 3. Ekaterina Bobrova/Dmitri Soloviev (RUS), 186.56 (1/3).

Football

The second Bruce Arena era opened on Sunday with a scoreless draw between the U.S. Men’s National Team and Serbia in a friendly played before 20,079 at Qualcomm Stadium in San Diego.

The U.S. had chances, and outshot the Serbs, 12-8, for the match, but could not make the last pass to get a shot past Filip Manojlovic. Midfielder Darlington Nagbe hit a couple of interesting shots in the field half, but couldn’t find the net. U.S. hoaltender Nick Rimando made two saves in his first appearance for the U.S. since 2015 and recorded his fifth shutout.

For the U.S. team, midfielders Sebastian Lletget and Chris Pontius and defensean Jorge Villafaña made their international debuts.

Handball

Host France won its fourth men’s World Handball Championship in the last five editions with a 33-26 win over Norway in Paris on Sunday before 15,609 at the AccorHotels Arena in Paris.
The French ended the tournament undefeated at 9-0, zipping through their group with a 5-0 record and a +42 goal differential. They didn’t have a lot more trouble in the elimination rounds, winning 31-26 (Iceland), 33-30 (Sweden), 31-25 (Slovenia) and 33-26 over Norway.

Nikola Karabatic led France in the final with six goals – and was named Most Valuable Player in the tournament – while Michael Guigou and Kentin Mahe each had five. Kent Robin Tenneson led Norway with five goals and Bjarte Myrhøl, Kristian Bjornsen and Espen Lie Hansen each had four.

Norway defeated Croatia in overtime, 33-30, to reach the final and ended with a 7-2 record for the tournament. Slovenia edged Croatia, 31-30, for third place.

The tournament’s top scorer was Macedonia’s Kiril Lazarov with 50, followed by Sergio Lopes (Angola, 47) and then Amine Bannour (Tunisia) and Bjornsen of Norway, each with 45.

Karate

The first event of the 2017 Karate1 Premier League series was held in Paris, with Japan winning titles in five divisions to lead all nations. Iran had two winners and Italy won both team competitions.

The top U.S. finishers were both fifth: Sakura Kokumai in the Women’s Kata and Maya Wasowicz in the Kumite +68 kg division. Summaries:

Kumite +84 kg: 1. Sajad Ganjzadeh (IRI); 2. Tyron-Darnell Lardy (NED); 3. Simone Marino (ITA) and Saman Heydari (IRI).

Kumite Team: 1. Italy I; 2. Italy II; 3. France I and France II.

WKF Karate1 Premier League: Paris (FRA) ~ 27-29 January 2017. (Full results here):

MEN:
Kata: 1. Ryo Kiyuna (JPN); 2. Issei Shimbaba (JPN); 3. Arata Kinjo (JPN) and Yuhei Horiba (JPN).

Kumite -60 kg: 1. Sadriddin Saymatov (UZB); 2. Senthilkumaran Selvarajoo (MAS); 3. Aykut Kaya (TUR) and Eray Samdan (TUR).

Kumite -67 kg: 1. Andres Madera (VEN); 2. Rinat Sagandykov (KAZ); 3. Fahad Alkhathami (SAU) and Ayoub Zakaria (MAR).

Kumite -75kg: 1. Stanislav Horuna (UKR); 2. Ahmed El Sharaby (ITA); 3. Yuta Mori (JPN) and Julien Caffaro (FRA).

Kumite -84 kg: 1. Ryutaro Araga (JPN); 2. Ilya Granovosov (RUS); 3. Georgios Tzanos (GRE) and Poorshab Zabihollah (IRI).

WOMEN:
Kata: 1. Hikaru Ono (JPN); 2. Sandy Scordo (FRA); 3. Sandra Sanchez (ESP) and Alexandra Feraci (FRA).

Kumite -50 kg: 1. Miho Miyahara (JPN); 2. Ayaka Tadano (JPN); 3. Umay Tokcan (TUR) and Serap Ozcelik (TUR).

Kumite -55 kg: 1. Taravat Khaksar (IRI); 2. Amy Connell (SCO); 3. Kathryn Campbell (CAN) and Christina Ferrer Garcia (ESP).

Kumite -61 kg: 1. Jovana Prekovic (SRB); 2. Meve Coban (TUR); 3. Haya Jumaa (CAN) and Mayumi Someya (JPN).
Kumite -68kg: 1. Alizée Agier (FRA); 2. Iryna Zaretska (AZE); 3. Kayo Someya (JPN) and Lamya Matoub (FRA).
Kumite +68 kg: 1. Natsumi Kawamura (JPN); 2. Nadege Aït Ibrahim (FRA); 3. Anne Laure Florentin (FRA) and Ayumi Uekusa (JPN).
Kumite Team: 1. Italy I; 2. Germany; 3. Italy II and Spain.

**Nordic Skiing**

**Cross-Country Skiing:**

*Kikkan Randall*, the first U.S. cross-country skier to win a World Cup medal, broke through with a fifth-place finish in the women’s Freestyle Sprint race in Falun (SWE), her best finish since returning from maternity.

“Today sure was fun to be back in the final,” Randall said. “My sprint racing has been steadily improving all season and today was another step forward both in terms of getting closer to that top race feeling and building my confidence. Now with a month to go until World Championships and a good training block ahead, I am feeling optimistic and excited about where my trajectory is headed.”

Randall and *Jessica Diggins* of the U.S. were both in the same semifinal, and Diggins fell to finish fifth and missed the final. “I’m really proud of how I skied today,” Diggins said. “My energy felt awesome, my tactics worked well and I felt like my leg speed was where it needs to be with the World Championships coming up. Of course, with my eyes on the podium it would have been awesome to not have a spill, but overall I’m happy with where my body is. I’m slowly getting my sprint heat confidence this season and it’s great to feel like I’m able to see the windows open up and be able to move through them.”

In the 15 km Classical Mass Start race, Diggins recorded her best-ever World Cup finish in a 15 km Classical, in 10th. “It was my least favorite conditions today with the tracks really hard to find kick in and getting really sugary as they broke down, so it was good to have another chance to work on my striding and improve my classic racing.”

*Viessmann Cross Country World Cup: Falun (SWE) ~ 27-29 January 2017.* (Full results [here](#)).

**Men’s 1.4 km Freestyle Sprint:**

1. Federico Pellegrino (ITA), 2:45.77; 2. Emil Iversen (NOR), +0.06; 3. Sindre Bjoernesstad Skar (NOR), +0.47; 4. Oskar Svensson (SWE), +0.50; 5. Johannes Klaebo (NOR), +1.32; 6. Teodor Peterson (SWE), +2.08.

**Men’s 30 km Classical Mass Start:**


**Women’s 1.4 km Freestyle Sprint:**


**Women’s 15 km Classical Mass Start:**

1. Bjoerøen (NOR), 41:28.8; 2. Ingvid Flugstad Oestberg (NOR), 41:29.3; 3. Weng (NOR), 41:36.9; 4. Nilsson (SWE), 41:37.9; 5. Mette Soleng (NOR), 41:38.3; 6. Ingvild Flugstad Oestberg (NOR), 41:41.3.
Nordic Combined:

Germany’s Eric Frenzel must have been down after his 11-race win streak at Seefeld (AUT) was snapped by countryman Johannes Rydzek in a photo finish on Friday. Both were awarded the same time after the 5 km race, but Rydzek got the win.

Then Rydzek won the second day’s race by 0.1 seconds over Frenzel. But, for the four-time defending World Cup champion, there was still Sunday.

And he pulled through with a win of more than 30 seconds in the last of “The Triple” races and won a bonus prize of 10,000 Euro and an extra 100 points in the standings. He is – once again – “The Triple” champion and has won the title in all four years it has been contested.

Nevertheless, Rydzek has tightened up the leaderboard, trailing by just 34 points (1,224-1,190) with plenty of jumping and skiing remaining. Germany’s Fabian Riessle is third with 839 points.

Summaries:

Viessmann World Cup: Seefeld (AUT) ~ 27-29 January 2017. (Full results here):

Gundersen I (109 m Hill/5.0 km): 1. Johannes Rydzek (GER), 12:00.2; 2. Eric Frenzel (GER), 12:00.2; 3. Samuel Costa (ITA), 12:07.0; 4. David Pommer (AUT), 12:09.6; 5. Akito Watabe (JPN), 12:19.8. Also: 31. Bryan Fletcher (USA), 13:16.9; ... 37. Ben Berend (USA), 13:43.1.; ... 40. Taylor Fletcher (USA), 13:54.5.

Gundersen II (109 m Hill/10.0 km): 1. Rydzek (GER), 24:36.5; 2. Frenzel (GER), 24:36.6; 3. Costa (ITA), 24:47.8; 4. Bernhard Gruber (AUT), 24:57.3; 5. Mario Seidl (AUT), 25:05.9. Also: 18. B. Fletcher (USA), 26:20.0; ... 36. T. Fletcher (USA), 27:58.0; ... 42. Berend (USA), 28:47.0.


Ski Jumping:

Japan’s Sara Takanishi came out of a short slump to record her 50th World Cup win – at age 20 – and finish a successful weekend once again in charge of the World Cup standings.

After finishing second to Norway’s Maren Lundby on the first competition in Rasnov (ROU), Takanishi won Sunday’s jumping easily and now has a 995-842-697 points lead over Yuki Ito (JPN) and Lundby.

“I am very happy that I finally won my 50th competition,” Takanishi said afterwards. “I was so much hoping I could achieve it in Japan. But Rasnov also is a very special place for me as I am holding the hill record and the people were supporting me so much here.”

Germany’s 21-year-old Andreas Wellinger won his second World Cup title and first since 2014 with a
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0.3-point victory over Austria’s Stefan Kraft in Willingen, Germany. Summaries:

Viessmann Ski Jumping World Cup: Willingen (GER) ~27-29 January 2017. (Full results [here]):


Team 145 m Hill: 1. Poland, 931.5; 2. Austria, 919.2; 3. Germany, 910.7; 4. Slovenia, 791.2; 5. Norway, 778.5.

Viessmann Ski Jumping World Cup: Rasnov (ROU) ~27-29 January 2017. (Full results [here]):

Women’s 100 m Hill I: 1. Maren Lundby (NOR), 259.0 points; 2. Sara Takanishi (JPN), 249.8; 3. Yuki Ito (JPN), 238.5; 4. Carina Vogt (GER), 232.5; 5. Svenja Wuerth (GER), 229.8. Also: 11. Nita Englund (USA), 222.1; ... 14. Sarah Hendrickson (USA), 216.1; ... 22. Abby Ringquist (USA), 197.3; ... 26. Tina Geraghty-Moats (USA), 188.9.4.

Women’s 100 m Hill II: 1. Takanishi (JPN), 247.3; 2. Lundby (NOR), 241.9; 3. Daniela Iraschko-Stolz (AUT), 235.4; 4. Ito (JPN), 224.1; 5. Katharina Althaus (GER), 223.1. Also: 10. Hendrickson (USA), 208.2; ... 13. Englund (USA), 202.2; ... 20. Ringquist (USA), 188.9; ... 26. Geraghty-Moats (USA), 176.5.

Rugby

יא סouth Africa won its second straight round in the HSBC Rugby Sevens World Series with a 26-5 win over Fiji in the final of round three.

After a second in the opening round in Cape Town, South Africa has won in Dubai (UAE) and Wellington (NZL) to cement its hold on the top of the Series standings with 63 points, ahead of Fiji (51), England (49), Scotland (44) and New Zealand (39).

Scotland defeated Canada, 28-22, for third place.

The U.S. was 1-1-1 in pool play and finished third in its group behind New Zealand and France. Playing in the second-level Challenge Cup elimination round, the American squad defeated Japan, 19-14, in the quarterfinals, but lost to Kenya, 19-12 in the semis. Overall, the U.S. finished in a tie for 11th place in the tournament, its worst showing of the three rounds (eighth and seventh previously).

The U.S. fell to 11th overall in the World Series standings, heading into next week’s round in Sydney, where they will play in Group D with Argentina, Canada and Russia.

Sailing

יא The international sailing schedule for 2017 began in Miami last week with competition in all ten Olympic classes in the first of three stops in the Sailing World Cup. Brazil, France and Britain each came away with two wins apiece, with one each for China, Greece, the Netherlands and the U.S.
Fans of the Olympic sailing competition in Rio were treated to another gold-medal performance by Martina Grael and Kahena Kunze in the women’s 49er FX class, while the lone U.S. medal was won by Stu McNay and David Hughes in the men’s 470.

The World Cup for 2017 will continue in Hyères, France starting 23 April and Santander, Spain, starting on 4 June. Summaries:

**ISAF World Cup 2017 no. 1: Miami, Florida (USA) ~ 24-28 January 2017.** (Full results [here](#)).

**MEN:**
- 49er: 1. Dylan Fletcher-Scott/Stuart Bithell (GBR), 60; 2. Benjamin Bildstein/David Hussl (AUT), 79; 3. Diego Botin le Chever/lago Lopez Marra (ESP), 91.
- 470: 1. Stuart McNay/David Hughes (USA), 56; 2. Tetsuya Isozaki/Akira Takayanagi (JPN), 60; 3. Panagiotis Mantis/Pavlos Kagialis (GRE), 68.

**WOMEN:**

**MIXED:**

The World Junior Championships were held in Innsbruck (AUT) over the weekend with noteworthy results for two American skaters:

- **Thomas Hong** finished fourth in the all-around standings, the best finish by a U.S. male Junior since 2012. He won a silver medal in the 500 m, also the first individual U.S. World Junior men’s medal since 2012.

- **Maame Biney** placed seventh overall, the best U.S. women’s Junior finish since 2009. Her bronze medal in the 500 m was the first individual women’s World Junior medal for the U.S. since 1996.

The U.S. men’s 3,000 m relay team of Hong, Benjamin Thornock, Aaron Heo and Brandon Kim won a bronze medal, also the first for U.S. men in the World Juniors since 2012.
Swimming

/From Bill Bell/ Japan’s 19-year-old Ippei Watanabe set a world record of 2:06.67 in the 200 m Breaststroke at the Kosuke Kitajina Cup meet in Tokyo on Sunday.

He broke a venerable mark of 2:07.01, set in 2012 by Akihiro Yamaguchi at the National Sports Festival on 15 September.

“I’m very surprised, I didn’t think I could break a world record,” Watanabe told the Associated Press. “I want to become a swimmer who can keep breaking records.”

Watanabe, the 2014 World Junior Champion, was the fastest qualifier for the final in Rio, but ended up sixth. With his semifinal time of 2:07.22, he is the Olympic record holder, and now, the world-record holder.

Tennis

The Australian Open produced a remarkable set of finals with four household names in tennis history in the singles division:

- **Roger Federer** (SUI, 35 years old) defeated **Rafael Nadal** (ESP, 30), 6-4, 3-6, 6-1, 3-6, 6-3 to win his 18th major title and fifth Australian (and first since 2010).

- **Serena Williams** (USA, 35) defeated sister **Venus Williams** (USA, 36) in straight sets – 6-4, 6-4 – to win her 23rd major title, the most in the Open Era and just one behind all-time leader Margaret Court (GBR). It was the seventh Australian Open title for Serena Williams.

What was especially amazing was that three of the four finalists were seeded ninth or lower; Federer was seeded 17th, Nadal 9th and Venus Williams, 13th. Serena Williams was seeded second and is expected to be ranked no. 1 in the world again when the WTA rankings are revised.

In the men’s doubles final, **Henri Kontinen** (FIN) and **John Peers** (AUS) defeated **Bob and Mike Bryan** of the U.S., 7-5, 7-5. The women’s doubles final saw **Bethanie Mattek-Sands** (USA) and **Lucie Safarova** (CZE) overcome **Andrea Hlavackova** (CZE) and **Shuai Peng** (CHN), 6-7 (7-4), 6-3, 6-3.

For Mattek-Sands and Safarova, it’s their second Australian title, after they won in 2015.
### Agenda: Competition Calendar

Highlights of the top-level (Championships ~ Grand Prix ~ World Cup ~ National Teams) competitions in Olympic sports for the coming weeks:

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<td>Ski Jumping</td>
<td>11-12 Feb</td>
<td>World Cup: W (HS 95)</td>
<td>SLO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speed Skate</td>
<td>11-12 Feb</td>
<td>ISU Junior World Cup Final</td>
<td>GER</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### 12-18 February 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Country</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Snowboard</td>
<td>12 Feb</td>
<td>World Cup: M&amp;W Parallel Giant Slalom</td>
<td>KOR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Table Tennis</td>
<td>14-19 Feb</td>
<td>ITTF World Tour 2: India Open</td>
<td>IND</td>
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<tr>
<td>Figure Skate</td>
<td>15-19 Feb</td>
<td>Four Continents Championships</td>
<td>KOR</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ski Jumping</td>
<td>15-16 Feb</td>
<td>World Cup: W (HS 140)</td>
<td>KOR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ski Jumping</td>
<td>15-16 Feb</td>
<td>World Cup: W (HS 109)</td>
<td>KOR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curling</td>
<td>16-26 Feb</td>
<td>World Junior Championships</td>
<td>KOR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equestrian</td>
<td>16-19 Feb</td>
<td>Dressage World Cup CDI-W</td>
<td>GER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freestyle</td>
<td>16-18 Feb</td>
<td>World Cup: M&amp;W Halfpipe</td>
<td>KOR</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wrestling</td>
<td>16-17 Feb</td>
<td>Men's Freestyle World Cup</td>
<td>IRI</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bob &amp; Skel.</td>
<td>17-19 Feb</td>
<td>BMW World Cup 8</td>
<td>KOR</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bob &amp; Skel.</td>
<td>17-26 Feb</td>
<td>IBSF World Championships</td>
<td>GER</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cycling</td>
<td>17-19 Feb</td>
<td>Track: World Cup 3</td>
<td>COL</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fencing</td>
<td>17-19 Feb</td>
<td>W Sabre World Cup 3</td>
<td>GRE</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fencing</td>
<td>17-19 Feb</td>
<td>M Epee World Cup 4</td>
<td>CAN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snowboard</td>
<td>17-19 Feb</td>
<td>World Cup: M&amp;W Halfpipe</td>
<td>KOR</td>
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<tr>
<td>Speed Skate</td>
<td>17-19 Feb</td>
<td>ISU World Junior Championships</td>
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<td>Athletics</td>
<td>18 Feb</td>
<td>Indoor World Tour 5: Muller Grand Prix</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fencing</td>
<td>18-19 Feb</td>
<td>M&amp;W Foil Grand Prix 2</td>
<td>USA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Freestyle</td>
<td>18-19 Feb</td>
<td>World Cup: M&amp;W Moguls</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gymnastics</td>
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<td>Trampoline World Cup 1</td>
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<td>Luge</td>
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<td>Viessmann World Cup 8</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>X-Cntry Ski</td>
<td>18-19 Feb</td>
<td>World Cup: M 15 km C/W 10 km C + Sprint</td>
<td>EST</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


**About The Sports Examiner**

The Sports Examiner was created to cover championship-level international sports – with a special emphasis on those sports and events that are part of the Olympic/Winter Games programs. You can get it sent directly to your e-mail inbox by signing up at [www.TheSportsExaminer.com](http://www.TheSportsExaminer.com).

These athletes deserve the comprehensive coverage given to a fairly small number of sports which are the most popular in individual countries, such as baseball, basketball, football (several kinds), ice hockey and others. Why not offer an all-in-one briefing, available online, which can provide fans with a 360-degree view of the top-level meets, matches and tournaments in world sport?

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**About the Author**

Rich Perelman has been a bid developer, planner and/or operator of 20 multi-day, multi-venue events, including five Olympic/Olympic Winter Games, in the U.S., Canada and Europe. In addition to nearly 100 books, event and statistical guides, he has written for the *Los Angeles Times*, *Track & Field News*, Universal Sports and many other publications. He is a longtime member of the Association of Track & Field Statisticians (ATFS), International Society of Olympic Historians (ISOH) and the Track & Field Writers of America (TAFWA).

**Archives**

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**Codes and Symbols**

It wouldn’t be sports without symbols, right? First and foremost, we use the International Olympic Committee’s three-letter country codes; the complete list can be found [here](http://www.TheSportsExaminer.com). Other common symbols:

- dnf = did not finish
- dns = did not start
- dsq = disqualified
- HS = hill size in ski jumping
- kg = kilograms
- m = meters
- w = wind-aided


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