



WinSport Mission: To provide excellence in winter sports facilities and training for Canadian athletes to **discover, develop** and **excel**, through a sustainable business model."

winSPORT WEEKLY

Friday, February 20, 2015



Our athletes up close

Elisabeth Vathje
Skeleton

The 20-year-old Calgarian has given the Canadian skeleton team a burst of adrenalin. The rookie on the World Cup tour has four medals to her credit this season, including three silvers and a gold medal on her home track at WinSport back in December.

Philp sets course for success

All in all, Trevor Philp was pretty happy with his homecoming this week.

The 22-year-old Calgarian returned to his old stomping grounds, taking top spot on Tuesday in the first of two Nor-Am Cup races held at WinSport. Unfortunately, he straddled a gate on his second run of Wednesday's race to dash any hopes of hitting the podium twice in two days.

"I am really happy with Tuesday for sure," said Philp. "I am happy to be home. I haven't been here in six months, so it's nice to get home, have some home cooking. I love the race here at WinSport.

"The hill is short, but it's a lot of fun. It's got all the technical parts, so it's a good race."

On Tuesday, he edged fellow Calgarian Erik Read for top spot, while William St-Germain was the top Canadian on Wednesday, with an 11th-place finish. The women take to the starting gate Saturday and Sunday, with races slated for 10 a.m. on WinSport's alpine pitch.

Philp, meanwhile, has had a solid couple of weeks on snow. He won his first World Cup medal last week at the world championships in Vail, Colo., as part of the mixed team event, while he had personal bests in his slalom and giant slalom events with 18th-place finishes in both events.

Just before the worlds, he hit the podium twice – a first and a



Calgary's Trevor Philp is one of Canada's young rising stars of the technical team. He won Tuesday's Nor-Am at WinSport and is expected to be a force for years to come.

second in slalom -- for his University of Denver team at an NCAA event in Red River, New Mexico.

"Like most seasons, I've had ups and downs for sure," Philp said at WinSport's Frank King Day Lodge following Wednesday races. "I started out slow because I

had a couple of injuries in the summer, so I was slow in the fall. But I've been

happy with how things have been going recently. The world championships were awesome for me, with the team event, the slalom and giant slaloms were all personal bests, then to come here and win Tuesday, I'm happy with where my skiing is at and I'm hoping to keep going."

A graduate of the National Sports School, Philp is in his final year of finance at the University of Denver. He's done plenty of juggling over the past four years, combining studies with competitive skiing. He bounces between the World Cup and Nor-Am circuits, plus school competitions.

It makes for a crazy winter and his books rarely leave his side.

"It's busy for sure. It definitely keeps me busy and it has for the last four years," said Philp. "But I have no regrets for sure, it's rewarding. The school side as well as the athletic side, both of them get taken back a little bit, you miss this and that, but it pays off in other areas. It's busy, but I'm

happy with what I've done."

Once he graduates in June, Philp will tuck away his degree for his post-competitive career and focus on competing full-time on the World Cup circuit.

"Definitely I'll set goals as I do every year," said Philp, who finished 25th in GS in his Olympic debut last February in Sochi, Russia.

"The focus though, for me, is on the process. You always set some goals, positions you want to place, but for me I've always found I like to set the process, what the focus should be, the mentalities, more things that I can control and let the outcome take care of itself."

EXCEL

Last week's top-5 finishes

Sunday Biathlon World Cup (at Oslo, Norway)

5. Christian Gow, Nathan Smith, Scott Gow, Calgary and Brendan Green, Hay River, N.W.T., men's 4x7.5km relay.

Speed skating World Cup (at Heerenveen, Netherlands)

2. Ivanie Blondin, Ottawa, women's mass start; 3. Laurent Dubreuil, Levis, Que., men's 500m

Short track World Cup (at Erzurum, Turkey)

3. Charles Hamelin, Sainte-Julie, Que., men's 500m; 3. Patrick Duffy, Oakville, Ont., men's 1,000m; 3. Kim Boutin, Sherbrooke, Que., women's 1,000m; 3. Kim Boutin, Sherbrooke, Que.,

Marianne St-Gelais and Kasandra Bradette, Saint-Felicien, Que., and Geneve Belanger, Montreal, women's relay; 5. Geneve Belanger, Montreal, women's 1,000m; 4. Marianne St-Gelais, Saint-Felicien, Que., women's 500m

Bobsleigh World Cup (at Sochi, Russia)

4. Justin Kripps, Summerland, B.C., Tim Randall, Burlington, Ont., Bryan Barnett, Edmonton and Ben Coakwell, Saskatoon, men's four-man

IPC World Cup (at Asahikawa, Japan)

1. Brittany Hudak, Prince Albert, Sask., women's standing; 3. Mark Arendz, Hartsville, P.E.I.,

men's standing; 3. Chris Klebl, Canmore, men's sit-ski

Luge World Cup (at Sigulda, Latvia)

3. Alex Gough, Sam Edney, Justin Snith, Calgary and Tristan Walker, Cochrane, team relay

SATURDAY

Speed skating World Cup (at Heerenveen, Netherlands)

4. Denny Morrison, Fort St. John, B.C., men's 1,000m; 4. Ivanie Blondin, Ottawa, Kali Christ, Regina and Josie Spence, Kamloops, women's pursuit

Short track World Cup (at Erzurum, Turkey)

2. Marianne St-Gelais, Saint-Felicien, Que., women's 1,500m; 2. Kasandra Bradette, Saint-

Felicien, Que., women's 1,000m; 3. Kim Boutin, Sherbrooke, Que., women's 1,500m; 4. Patrick Duffy, Oakville, Ont., men's 1,500m

Luge World Cup (at Sigulda, Latvia)

5. Alex Gough, Calgary, women

Nordic World Ski Championships (at Oestersund, Sweden)

2. Alex Harvey, St-Ferreal-les-Neiges, Que., classic-sprint
IPC World Cup
(at Asahikawa, Japan)
1. Brian McKeever, Canmore, men's 10km classic-ski visually impaired; 2. Brittany Hudak, Prince Albert, Sask., women's 5km standing; 3. Mark Arendz,

Hartsville, P.E.I., 10km standing; 4. Chris Klebl, Canmore, men's 5km sit-ski

Bobsleigh World Cup (at Sochi, Russia)

2. Kaillie Humphries/Melissa Lotholz, Calgary, women; 4. Justin Kripps, Summerland, B.C./Bryan Barnett, Edmonton, men's two-man

FRIDAY

Speed skating World Cup (at Heerenveen, Netherlands)

2. Denny Morrison, Fort St. John, B.C., men's 1,500m; 2. Denny Morrison, Fort St. John, B.C., Ted-Jan Bloemen, Calgary, Jordan Belchos, Markham, Ont., team pursuit

Countdown on to PyeongChang 2018 Winter Games

WinSport hosting BT Classic showdowns

Braggings rights are on the line for 56 atom hockey teams during the next week, as the fifth annual Breakfast Television Outdoor Classic begins and ends at WinSport.

The annual showdown, which was largely created as an outdoor affair, was completely shifted indoors this year, with Mother Nature turning Arbour Lake into ... well, a lake.

Hockey Calgary opened registration in November, with the first seven divisions to fill up with eight teams being accepted into the tournament. Round-robin games began today (Feb. 20th), along with the first opening game, at the Markin MacPhail Centre.

CityTV then opened up voting to see which two divisions will see its championship games played at WinSport on Feb. 27 and broadcast live on CityTV during Breakfast Television. The two games are scheduled for 6 a.m. and 7:30 a.m.

Inferno stays on top after Blades take pair

The Calgary Inferno dropped two of three weekend games to the Boston Blades in Canadian Women's Hockey League action this past weekend.

The WinSport-based Inferno edged the Blades 4-3 in Friday night's opener of a three-game series, then followed up with a 4-3 shootout loss on Saturday and a 4-1 loss on Sunday. Calgary still leads the overall CWHL standings with a record of 13-6-3, with the Blades holding down second place with a 13-6-1 mark.

Calgary wraps up its regular season next weekend with a two-game series in Brampton against the last-place Thunder (6-12-2). The Clarkson Cup championship tournament takes place March 4-7 in Markham, Ont.

Events at the Park

Ski and snowboard hill

Weekdays: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Weekends: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Alpine Nor-Am Cup

Saturday-Sunday: Women's races, 10 a.m.

Markin MacPhail Centre National Hockey League

Sunday: Calgary Flames practice (open to the public), 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Joan Snyder Arena).

Public Skating

Saturday: 6:15 p.m. to 7:15 p.m., visit-calgary.com Arena (Arena D)

Sunday: 6:15 p.m. to 7:15 p.m., visit-calgary.com Arena (Arena D)

CANADA'S SPORTS HALL OF FAME

Tuesday to Sunday: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Photo: PyeongChang Organizing Committee

The PyeongChang Organizing Committee for the 2018 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games celebrated its 'three years to go' milestone on Feb. 9 at PyeongChang's Alpensia Ski Jumping Centre and site for the Olympic Stadium.

Harvey opens up worlds with silver medal effort

It's safe to say that Alex Harvey has a soft spot for Falun, Sweden.

The veteran of the Canadian cross-country ski team captured a silver medal in a classic-ski sprint race on Thursday during the opening day of the 2015 Nordic World Ski Championships. The 27-year-old native of St-Ferreol-les-Neiges, Que., has five career World Cup medals on the same Falun track.

"I just love racing in Falun," said Harvey, who notched his first career World Cup victory three years ago in Falun. "The course is so hard and it requires sustained work, and I just enjoy racing here. I'm really excited. It was a great day for me and our entire team."

Harvey's race strategy paid off, as he qualified fifth in the round of 30.

"I went light on the kick wax in the qualifier. I didn't want 100 percent grip because there are



Photo: Nordic Focus

Silver medallist Alex Harvey, left, joins Petter Northug Jr., centre, and Ola Vigen Hattestad on the podium on Thursday.

so many downhills into the finish, especially with this wet snow, but we had to make a choice so we went with the fast skis today," said Harvey, who has benefited from WinSport facilities in Canmore over the years. "That qualifier was a great start for me. In the quarter-final, I knew I was in it and I just said 'it

is on now for me."

A two-time Olympian, Harvey finished second at a Tour de Ski stop last month in Oberstdorf.

On Thursday, he hung at the back of the pack during the first climb, but he made his move on the second hill and moved to the front of the pack.

"I'm just too slow off the start compared to the other more explosive sprinters," said Harvey, who now has three career World Championship medals on his resume.

"I'd like to lead on this course, but I really just stayed in the back until that second hill. On the downhills I was able to pass some guys and then have good energy for the final 200 metres which was the key today."

Harvey won gold and bronze at the World Cup finals in 2012 in Falun, then added a gold and silver at last year's event.

Skiathlon races are scheduled for Saturday, with the World Championships continue until March 1.