Day 2 Highlights from the ISU’s World Cup Speed Skating in Salt Lake City

Heather Bergsma breaks 1500m world record and wins gold

The US Speedskating team continued a strong performance at the ISU World Cup Speed Skating in Salt Lake City, collecting three medals on the second day of competition, including a world record-setting performance by Heather Bergsma (High Point, N.C.).

Bergsma just missed the podium in the 500m (2) but didn’t let that rattle her in the 1500m. Paired up in the final heat with American teammate Brittany Bowe (Ocala, Fla.), who set the 1500m-world record last weekend in Calgary, Bergsma crossed the finish line in a world record-breaking time of 1:50.85 to win the gold.

In the men’s 10,000m, history was written as Canada’s Ted-Jan Bloemen set a world record going 12:36.30. Bloemen beat the old record by over five seconds, which was held by the Netherland’s Sven Kramer at 12:41.69 (March 10, 2007 in Salt Lake City).

Highlights from Day 2 (Nov. 21)

- Sugar Todd placed ninth in the 500m (2) skating a 37.67...her 10.38 opening 100m was the second-fastest opener of the A Division.
- Brittany Bowe took home the bronze medal in the 500m (2), skating a 37.08...it was her second bronze in the 500m over the two World Cups.
- Shani Davis skated a season-best 1:07.37, just missing the podium and finishing fourth.
- In the 1000m, Joey Mantia went a personal-best 1:07.47.
- Bowe skated a personal best in the 1500m, going 1:51.31 and finishing second to Bergsma.
- In the 1000m B Division, Jonathon Garcia finished third skating a season-best 1:08.61...Kimini Griffin went a personal-best 1:08.98, good for sixth.

Quotes from Heather Bergsma

- “I was hoping [to get that second world record] but I tried not to focus on it too much, especially after the 500-meter earlier. My speed wasn’t quite there but I just tried to relax in between races and hoped for the best.”
- “I think we (Brittany Bowe) feed off each other. I know last weekend I fueled her fire after taking the record in the 1000-meter, then she went and did the 1500-meter, so I’m sure tomorrow she’s going to bring her A game.”

All results can be viewed here.

The World Cup Salt Lake City is streamed live through icenetwork and will air on NBCSN on Nov. 27 as part of an hour-long special beginning at 8:30 p.m. MST.

###