



Snowboarders & Skiers Hit The Slopes

**What's New on PA
West & Central Slopes**

**Snow Making Temps
All About That Base**

**Ligety on GS Podium
in Are, Sweden**

Shiffrin Wins First Slalom of Season

Taylor Gold Men's Dew Tour Champ

Kelly Clark Reclaims Title

Vonn On Doorstep of Record

JFBB

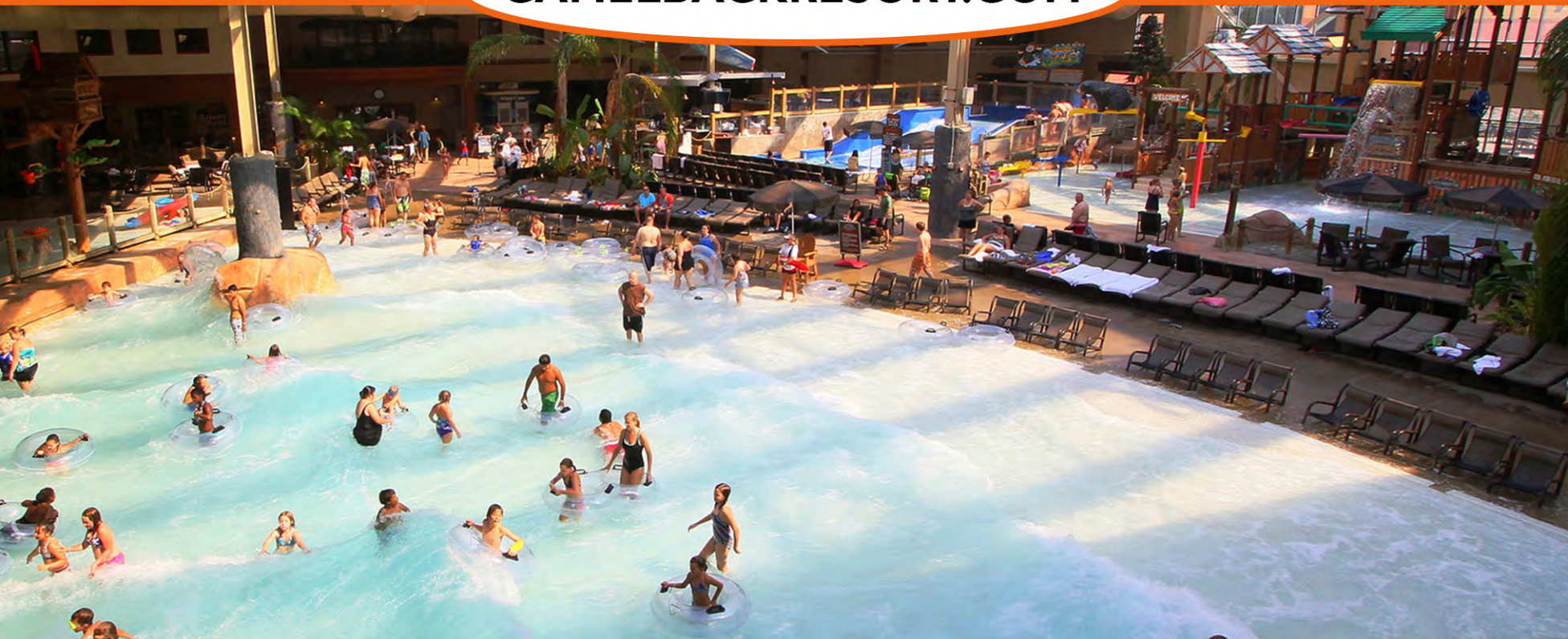
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What's New On The Slopes In West & Central PA for 2015!



Seven Springs Mountain Resort

Skiers and riders will see dynamic innovations on the Pennsylvania snow scene this season. Millions of dollars have been poured into resort improvements from parking lots to lodges, accommodations, lifts and summits. Web based technology will make buying discounted lift tickets as easy as clicking a mouse. Miles of hidden pipelines will fuel new automated snowmaking systems, and the latest in steep climbing groomers will put your skis and boards on ballroom conditions or challenging bumps. Take your pick. Now, let's take the tour.

THE WEST

This season will see more terrain, enhanced snowmaking, innovative teaching and unique dining options at **SEVEN SPRINGS MOUNTAIN RESORT**. Advancing skiers will be feeling some wider turns on the intermediate Wagner slope with improved access at the top, doubling of the width on "Z" and some major re-grading. Expect trail covering snow squalls on Upper Phillips Run with the addition of new hydrants and 22 brand new Impulse snowmakers to get the park open, earlier. There'll be a unique innovation at the Snowsports school this season. It's called Terrain Based Teaching (also available at Hidden Valley). The approach uses sculpted zones to control a student's speed and reduce fears and falls. Getting from Parking lots to lodge will be boosted with the addition of 5 new propane-fueled shuttles and look for an expansion of the ski lodge for new dining options.

Nearby sister resort, **HIDDEN VALLEY** has revamped the ski lodge, inside and out for more comfort between runs and to put a glow on the apres ski



Liberty Mountain

It's All About That Base!

By: Nicholas Gill

Meghan Trainor's song taught us that it is all about that bass. That sentiment rings true for local ski resorts, except they are trying to build a snow base. As the temperatures finally dip below freezing, ski resorts have cranked up the snow making process to ensure skiers, snowboarders, and tubers have optimal conditions to enjoy during the season.

It has been a tough winter for skiing as temperatures have been milder in December, but the below average temperatures in November have provided places like Jack Frost-Big Boulder, Camelback Mountain, Shawnee Mountain, Montage Mountain, and Alpine Mountain the ability to establish that base snow.

"We took advantage of that early arctic air in November," Mark Daubert, general manager of Jack Frost-Big Boulder said. "We pumped out tons and tons of snow then. Now that the cold air has come in, we are running flat out. We are planning to run 24 hours to add more terrains and slopes."

With December in the rear-view mirror, January has been kinder to the mountains as temperatures have dropped and snowmaking has ramped up. Those efforts are beginning to pay dividends as so many of the local ski resorts are using their upgraded and improved snow making systems to coat the trails and open as many as possible.

"We will be making snow around the clock as conditions permit," Brian Bosart of Camelback Mountain said. "We have a very robust snow making system. We have put a lot of

All About That Base continued on page 12



experience. On the mountain, glades have been cleared of overgrowth, new chairlift corrals have been planted at all the lifts and there's a new drop-off stop at the top of the Sunrise - Sunset chair. Look for enhanced snowmaking on Voyager that takes beginners and cruiser across the summit and connects with a gently graded descent to the base.

CENTRAL

Fledgling skiers and riders will have a lot more open space to spread their wings at **LIBERTY MOUNTAIN** near historic Gettysburg this season. The popular First Class Slope has been expanded. That means more terrain at the top of the First Class Quad for ski school classes.

What's New in PA continued on page 11

THE POCONO'S BEGINNER FRIENDLY MOUNTAIN WINTER FUN!



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**TWO GREAT MOUNTAINS.
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Another GS Podium for Ligety in Are



Ligety shreds to third first run, before getting second overall.
(Getty Images - Alain Grosclaude/Agence Zoom)



Ted Ligety stood on the podium again, this time grabbing second place after racing under the lights in Are, Sweden. (Getty Images - Alain Grosclaude/Agence Zoom)

Are, Sweden (Dec. 12, 2014)—Ted Ligety (Park City, UT) slayed his way to second place in Are, Sweden, behind Marcel Hirscher from Austria - who collected his 25th career World Cup win - and ahead of Stefan Luitz of Germany. Tim Jitloff (Reno, NV) grabbed more giant slalom World Cup points, finishing in 22nd. The win moved Hirscher back atop the Audi FIS Ski World Cup GS standings and set the stage for an epic battle for the globe with Ligety, which will continue next weekend in Alta Badia.

With the sun setting just after 2:00 p.m. in Sweden, the giant slalom took place under the lights. The Norwegians set a super technical first run on the steep and injected course. Without much room for error, the course spat out DNFs—18 racers first run, including David Choudounsky (Crested Butte, CO). But Ted Ligety and Tim Jitloff both skied solidly, with Ligety sitting third and Jitloff 19th after first run.

The Americans set a much more open second run, allowing the men to let their skis run a bit more. Jitloff had a few mistakes, finishing 22nd overall. Ligety looked calm when he pushed out of the starting gate, losing a little time on the top section of the course, but putting the hammer down in the second half. With his infamous angles, Ligety skied through the finish in first place, only surpassed by Hirscher, who slaughtered the field by over a second. Stefan Luitz from Germany rounded out the podium.

Along with Choudounsky, Brennan Rubie (Salt Lake City, UT), Mark Engel (Truckee, CA) and Nolan Kasper (Warren, VT) did not qualify for second run.

Quotes:

Ted Ligety

I'm happy to be second. It's nice to get on the podium. It's easy to think of places where I could have made up time—just in the top steep section, I lost 1.6 second or something to Marcel [Hirscher]—but the rest of the way, we were very competitive. I struggled to get in the rhythm in that really steep

section, which is Marcel's bread and butter. I need to clean up the steeper part of my skiing. He skied it unbelievably. It was impressive to see that and an inspiration for weeks to come.

I've always wanted to ski a GS at night. We have some night slaloms, but no night GS races. This is a really good course; it has a little bit of everything—gliding sections, a halfpipe-like section, steeps, sidehills.

My hand is not perfect. I avoid hitting gates with it and dragging it on the snow. Otherwise, I don't think about it when I'm skiing.

Are, Sweden FIS WORLD CUP - Men's Giant Slalom

	Nation	Run 1	Run 2	Total Time
HIRSCHER Marcel	AUT	1:17.86	1:12.32	2:30.18
LIGETY Ted	USA	1:18.67	1:12.73	2:31.40
LUITZ Stefan	GER	1:18.83	1:12.85	2:31.68
DOPFER Fritz	GER	1:18.43	1:13.51	2:31.94
FANARA Thomas	FRA	1:19.64	1:13.38	2:33.02
PINTURAUULT Alexis	FRA	1:19.65	1:13.44	2:33.09
RAICH Benjamin	AUT	1:19.61	1:13.70	2:33.31
HAUGEN Leif Kristian	NOR	1:19.42	1:13.96	2:33.38
MUFFAT-JEANDET Victor	FRA	1:20.89	1:12.63	2:33.52
KRISTOFFERSEN Henrik	NOR	1:20.13	1:13.39	2:33.52
CAVIEZEL Gino	SUI	1:20.85	1:12.83	2:33.68
BORSOTTI Giovanni	ITA	1:21.32	1:12.49	2:33.81
ZURBRIGGEN Elia	SUI	1:22.02	1:12.51	2:34.53
SANDELL Marcus	FIN	1:21.56	1:13.08	2:34.64
EISATH Florian	ITA	1:20.87	1:13.80	2:34.67
JANKA Carlo	SUI	1:21.68	1:13.07	2:34.75
TORSTI Samu	FIN	1:22.13	1:12.75	2:34.88
SCHOERGHOFFER Philipp	AUT	1:21.79	1:13.60	2:35.39
SIMONCELLI Davide	ITA	1:21.95	1:13.52	2:35.47



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Shiffrin Wins First Slalom of Season



Shiffrin #2 (Center) stands in the finish with Strachova #13 second (L) and Holdener #10 third (R). (Getty Images/AFP-Joe Klamar)



Mikaela Shiffrin never lost first place, winning the slalom World Cup in Kuehtai in Tirol, Austria. (Getty Images/Agence Zoom-Christophe Pallot)

KUEHTAI IN TIROL, Austria (Dec. 29, 2014)—With two nearly perfect runs, Mikaela Shiffrin (Eagle-Vail, CO) never let go of first place at the Audi FIS Ski World Cup, taking her first slalom win of the season against a stacked field in Austria. Sarka Strachova of the Czech Republic was second and Wendy Holdener of Switzerland was third. Resi Stiegler (Jackson Hole, WY) finished in 23rd.

It was a small tech team competing at Kuehtai in Tirol, with only Shiffrin and Stiegler making the flip. Unlike the previous day's giant slalom, the course was in great condition with a simple set and the girls could let the skis run. Even though Shiffrin faced stiff competition, she skied confidently and built her lead throughout the second run, winning by .80 of a second.

Shiffrin is the first to acknowledge that she's been suffering from nerves and gear issues throughout the past few months. "The second run was the first time that I felt like I was smooth and attacking," she said breathlessly, after her victory. "I finally trusted my skis, not just my ability."

Stiegler, recovering from being sick, was stoked to make the second run. "I knew I was fast," she said after her first run, when she finished 13th. "I just want push the envelope." But her aggression got the best of her, and her skis threw her into the backseat right before the finish. The mistake cost her time and she finished 23rd overall.

Hailey Duke (Boise, ID) and Paula Moltzan (Lakeville, MN) did not qualify for a second run.

After the New Year, both men's and women's tech teams head to Zagreb-Sljeme, Croatia for slaloms.

HIGHLIGHTS

After finishing third in Sunday's GS, Mikaela Shiffrin took her season's first win and third podium.

The win left her third in the overall Audi FIS Ski World Cup standings, fourth in slalom.

Quotes:

Mikaela Shiffrin

I'm so psyched! That second run was really fun. I liked going fast and that's the point of ski racing. It tells me I still have it.

There was no pressure second run. I felt free. The surface was great and my skis and boots are working great. I was ready for it. I didn't feel like there was any pressure. I just wanted to live up to my own expectations.

Two podiums in one weekend! I'm feeling like I'm getting my slalom back. I love this hill. All of the girls really fought hard this second run. I'm happy to have skied that well.

It's important for me to take positivity into the next races. I just went home after the race yesterday and was like, 'OK, on to the race tomorrow.' I have a job to do.

There are some good days and some tough days. I had a lot of luck in my first few years on the World Cup. I pretty much started winning right away. I didn't have issues with equipment or anything. I'm finally holding myself more accountable for what I'm doing. I have to treat this like it's my career, not anyone else's. These two days I had to take control over myself and not worry about impressing anyone else.

I'm back to just loving to make good turns. Any win is important. This is confirmation for me that I belong here. I skied at the top of my level and earned it.

KUEHTAI IN TIROL, AUSTRIA FIS WORLD CUP - Ladies' Slalom

	Nation	1 st Run	2 nd Run	Total Time
SHIFFRIN Mikaela	USA	50.27	53.12	1:43.39
STRACHOVA Sarka	CZE	50.52	53.67	1:44.19
HOLDENER Wendy	SUI	50.95	53.36	1:44.31
HANSDOTTER Frida	SWE	50.87	53.56	1:44.43
PIETILAE-HOLMNER Maria	SWE	51.03	53.47	1:44.50
MAZE Tina	SLO	50.42	54.21	1:44.63
HOSP Nicole	AUT	51.25	53.59	1:44.84
ZETTEL Kathrin	AUT	51.14	53.76	1:44.90
SWENN-LARSSON Anna	SWE	51.17	54.02	1:45.19
GISIN Michelle	SUI	51.64	53.85	1:45.49
KIRCHGASSER Michaela	AUT	51.20	54.34	1:45.54
THALMANN Carmen	AUT	51.91	54.05	1:45.96
SCHILD Bernadette	AUT	52.32	53.77	1:46.09
DYGRUBER Julia	AUT	52.13	54.22	1:46.35
BAUD Adeline	FRA	52.46	54.13	1:46.59



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**TWO GREAT MOUNTAINS.
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Taylor Gold Finds First-Ever Men's Snowboard Superpipe Title at Dew Tour



Taylor Gold's first run was the run to beat for the remainder of the event but it wouldn't be touched. Photo by/Breckenridge_Crosland



Dew Tour Mountain Championships Taylor Gold at the Top of the Snowboard Superpipe Podium. Yiwei Zhang second place Photo by/Breckenridge_Crosland

By Skyler Wilder, DewTour.com

With an unexpected turn of events during the semifinal and last chance qualifier (LCQ) earlier in the week, Danny Davis snuck his way into the Men's Snowboard Superpipe Final with the highest score seen but only after Seamus O'Connor bowed out of the LCQ. Davis nailing his run was a sign of great action to come in the final, but it also reminded everyone just how unpredictable the superpipe can be.

As mentioned, this year the Dew Tour Mountain Championships included an LCQ directly following the semifinal that allowed for two more riders to join the initial ten that advanced directly from the semifinal. Each rider earned two runs in the final with only their best score counting toward their overall rank.

Starting Moment of Momentum:

As he entered the final by way of LCQ, Taylor Gold was lined up to be the first rider to drop in for the final which means he had the longest wait of all to see how he ranked against the rest. Well, fortunately for Gold his first run was a banger and landed him an early score of 90.50 — little did he know that score would hold on until the very end. That's right, as unpredictable as pipe has proven to be, Gold's first run was the run to beat for the remainder of the event but it wouldn't be touched.

Top Tricks:

Yiwei Zhang — The biggest backside air of the day to start things off, frontside double cork 1080, cab double cork 1080, double crippler and a frontside 1080 to end it.

Scotty James — Alley-oop backside rodeo nosegrab, switch air to regular midway down and a cab double cork 1080 to finish.

Brett Esser — Frontside 1260 on his first hit, frontside 1080 midway down and a backside 720 to finish.

Winner's Top Tricks:

Taylor Gold — Method on his first hit, frontside 1260, backside double Michalchuck, air to fakie, cab 1080 into a frontside 1080 to cap his run.

Winner's Quote:

"I'm blown away! I did not think I was going to win today, I was feeling sketchy in practice, but it all just came together — I'm stoked. When I put up that first score I did not think it was going to hold, I mean I barely made it into the final... It's amazing. I've always wanted to do well [at Dew Tour], I've watched the events since they started doing them, and it's crazy to be in this position. I'm beyond stoked!" — Taylor Gold

DEW TOUR MOUNTAIN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Rank	Athlete	Run 1	Run 2	Total
1	Taylor Gold	90.50	41.00	90.50
2	Yiwei Zhang	10.00	88.75	88.75
3	Scotty James	87.50	88.25	88.25
4	Brett Esser	22.50	85.75	85.75
5	Ayumu Hirano	84.00	75.00	84.00
6	Matt Ladley	83.75	75.75	83.75
7	Taku Hiraoka	80.50	35.50	80.50
8	Greg Bretz	79.75	33.25	79.75
9	Danny Davis	78.75	62.00	78.75
10	Chase Josey	70.75	36.75	70.75
11	Ben Ferguson	61.00	38.00	61.00
12	Arthur Longo	31.00	49.00	49.00

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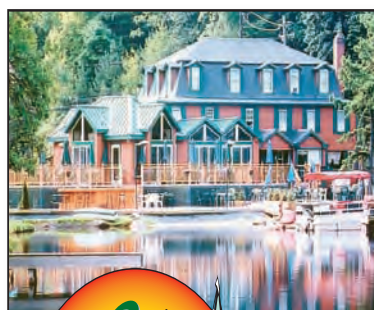
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Roundtop Mountain

What's New in PA from page 3

Youngsters are high on the Liberty priority list with a brand new Burton Riglet Park for kids from 3 to 7. Additional parking has been added along with beefed up shuttle service from lot to lodge.

Snow, snow and more snow will be blasting out of an upgraded snowmaking system at **ROUNDTOP MOUNTAIN** this season. Hundreds of feet of new piping will provide the water and air to fuel the brand new high efficiency snow guns for a virtual nightly blizzard on the Discovery Area, and the Powder Horn, Drummer Boy and Upper Gunbarrel slopes. Look for a smoother stroll from parking lot to base lodge with the installation of new paving and decorative lampposts. If you rent your boards



Whitetail Resort

and boots, there'll be a shine on your gear this season. The entire snowboard rental fleet has been replaced with new Rossignols.

Over 2.5 million dollars have flowed into major enhancements at **WHITE-TAIL RESORT** near Mercersburg, much of it finding its way into a Star Trek technology snowmaking system. Slopes that will get the lion's share of the new snow are the popular Upper and Lower Angel Drop trails. The Kid's Mountain Camp gets a boost this winter with a 3,000 square foot expansion. New snow boards, boots and 1,000 new helmets have been added to the rental fleet while digital signs have been planted around the resort to keep skiers and riders posted on events and news they can use.

Minutes from Camelback Ski and Jack Frost



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All About That Base from page 3

time, money, and energy into the system. There is a whole science behind it. Because of that we have been able to have open trails. There may not be snow on the ground, but we can still put a quality product out there."

Camelback Mountain has opened 28 trails and is operating 14 lifts. They have created an 18"-30" base of packed powder. Jack Frost-Big Boulder has a combined 32 trails open with a 12"-30" snow base of packed powder. Alpine Mountain has three trails open as well as tubing and ice skating. Montage Mountain has opened 17 trails including their signature White Lightning. Shawnee Mountain has 17 trails open with a 14"-36" snow base.

The mountains and ski resorts have wasted no time getting the snow making process underway as soon as possible. Much of that has to do with the upgrades and improvements they have made to the snow making process. As in so many things in life, technology is getting better. Shawnee Mountain has put that to use by making significant advancements to their ability to produce snow.

"We added more automated snow making, so some of the guns on the trails are controlled through the computer," Jim Tust general manager of Shawnee Mountain said. "The guns can adjust themselves to our parameters in terms of how much mix of air and water are at a given temperature and humidity. The point is they are very efficient."

The goal for all these mountains is to use the positive changes in snow making to cover the trails and terrains as quickly as possible. They are working daily to accomplish it. The optimal temperature for snow creation is in the teens. So over the next few days as the colder air move in, those temperatures are achievable and the process can take off.

"We know the fire power we have here," Daubert said. "The cold air has finally arrived, so now we will be 100 percent as quickly as possible. We are probably 80 percent currently."

With the cooperation of Mother Nature, the ski resorts will reach their goal of 100 percent coverage. They have the snow making abilities to do so and are using the advancements in that area to make it happen faster and more efficiently. The plan is in place and they are producing snow at a Usain Bolt pace so the public can enjoy the fruits of their labor.

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2015 Mid-Atlantic Series Snowboard and Freeski Schedule

For info on Mid-Atlantic Series please email Rebecca: rvgsnow@gmail.com

January 11th & 12th Camelback Mt.

Saturday 11th - Slalom #1 and Slalom #2

Sunday 12th - Giant Slalom #1 and Giant Slalom #2

January 31st & February 1st Mountain Creek

Saturday 31st - Slopestyle #1

Sunday 1st - Rail Jam #1

February 7th & 8th Blue Mountain Ski Area

Saturday 7th - BX/SX #1

Sunday 8th - BX/SX #2

February 21st & 22nd Round Top Mountain Resort - Tentative

Saturday 21st - Slalom #3 and Slalom #4

Sunday 22nd - Giant Slalom #3 and Giant Slalom #4

February 28th & March 1st Big Boulder Park

Saturday 28th - Slopestyle #2

Sunday 1st - Rail Jam #2

March 7th & 8th Blue Mountain Ski Area

Saturday 7th - Slopestyle # 3

Sunday 8th - BX/SX #3

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Kelly Clark Reclaims Women's Snowboard Superpipe Title



Once again, Kelly Clark was flawless in the superpipe
Photo by/ Breckenridge_kanights

By Skyler Wilder, DewTour.com

Despite some overcast skies, the Women's Snowboard Superpipe Final took place in near perfect conditions as the pipe rode smooth and the ladies went big! The Dew Tour Mountain Championships saw seasoned veterans such as Kelly Clark and Hannah Teter face off against the youth in their sport of Arielle Gold and the 14-year-old Chloe Kim — the result was nothing short of amazing.

As we saw earlier in the week, there were six women that advanced to the final, five from the semifinal as well as Teter from the last chance qualifier. With six women total in the final they each took two runs and looked to their highest score to carry them in the ranks.

Moment of Chaos:

Straight out of the gate we saw the competition heat up, and the entire first round of runs was sheer chaos as every woman went all out. On her first run we saw Chloe unleash her abilities with giant tricks including a very clean 900 and a perfectly executed McTwist. Chloe's initial run earned her an outstanding score of 92, which put the pressure on for the remainder of the event. Though every woman rode hard, Kelly was on fire. Throwing her 1080 early in her run, a trick that she pioneered on the women's side, Kelly proved she wanted the win and to reclaim her spot on the top of the Dew Tour podium — a spot that had eluded her the two seasons prior.

Sure enough, nobody could touch her for the remainder of the event as her first score was a 95.50 and ultimately the highest of the entire event.

Top Tricks:

Chloe Kim — Huge switch backside air, switch backside 540, frontside 900 and classic McTwist with serious style.

Arielle Gold — Frontside 900 up top, big backside 540, a frontside 720 that lead into a switch 900 to end it.



Kelly Clark, Chloe Kim and Arielle Gold earned spots on the podium
Photo by/ Breckenridge_Ortiz

Elena Hight — Monster method, alley-oop tail, 900, back-to-back 720s into an alley-oop 720 to cap her run.

Winner's Top Tricks:

Kelly Clark — Huge back 50, frontside 1080, frontside 540 and a solid frontside 720 to end it all.

Winner's Quote:

"That was my stock run, I don't look to other people to determine the tricks I'm going to do. I've definitely come up short here the last few years and I look at how I was riding this time last year... It shows a lot of personal growth, and that's what it's about for me, to start this season off here — it makes me excited to see where I can push my snowboarding to." — Kelly Clark

Rank	Athlete	Run 1	Run 2	Total
1	Kelly Clark	95.50	34.00	95.50
2	Chloe Kim	92.00	95.00	95.00
3	Arielle Gold	84.50	90.50	90.50
4	Xuetong Cai	76.50	43.25	76.50
5	Elena Hight	16.75	73.25	73.25
6	Hannah Teter	25.00	35.50	35.50

New Owners Renovating Alpine Mountain Ski Resort

SAM Magazine—East Stroudsburg, Pa., April 23, 2014—A father and son team, Kevin Fabiano and Kevin Jr., has bought Alpine Mountain Ski Resort and launched a multi-million dollar renovation of the area, estimated to reach \$3 million in improvements by December 2014.

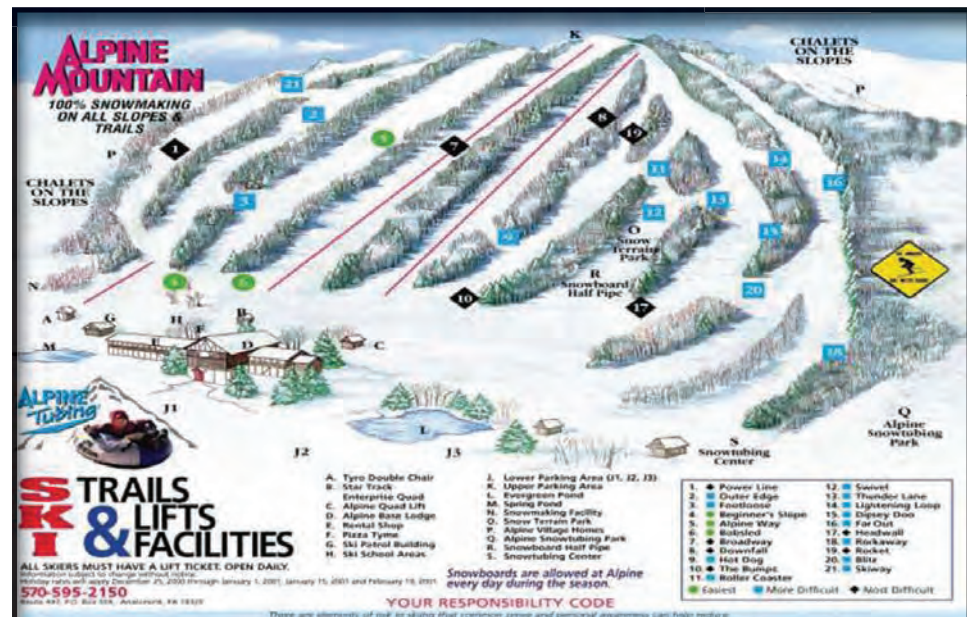
The Fabianos purchased the area from Appletree Resource Group, which had owned the area for about five years. Previously, it had been owned by the Poalillo family for a quarter century. The area has operated for 58 years in all.

This is the Fabianos' first foray into the resort business. However, they are not strangers to winter sports; Fabiano Sr. and his wife were both instructors at Alpine years ago. Fabiano had attempted to purchase the area once before, nearly a decade ago. In the recent past, he owned a string of English language training schools in China, and backed his son's successful pizza restaurant business.

Now that father and son own the resort, they have hit the ground running. They closed on the area Saturday, Apr. 12, and crews began work Monday morning, Apr. 14. The main lodge and all outbuildings are getting a facelift, and the duo is changing configurations to some buildings. They are also regrading the parking area and rebuilding a bridge on the access road.

On-hill, they plan to strengthen the resort's reputation as a learn-to area, and add a series of three progression parks. To support these efforts, both the parks and the beginner area will have dedicated lifts, including a new conveyor lift for never-evers.

Other improvements planned for next winter: an outdoor skating rink, snowshoeing and XC skiing, and sleigh rides. "We don't expect these to be big activities, but we want to accommodate everyone in the family," said Fabiano Sr. "We're trying



to build a more loyal, repeat fan base."

Part of that effort involves making winter sports affordable. The cafeteria area will be mostly fast-food franchises in a sort of food court, and the resort will accommodate brown-baggers. "We want to make it a pleasurable place to come, but also very affordable," Fabiano added.

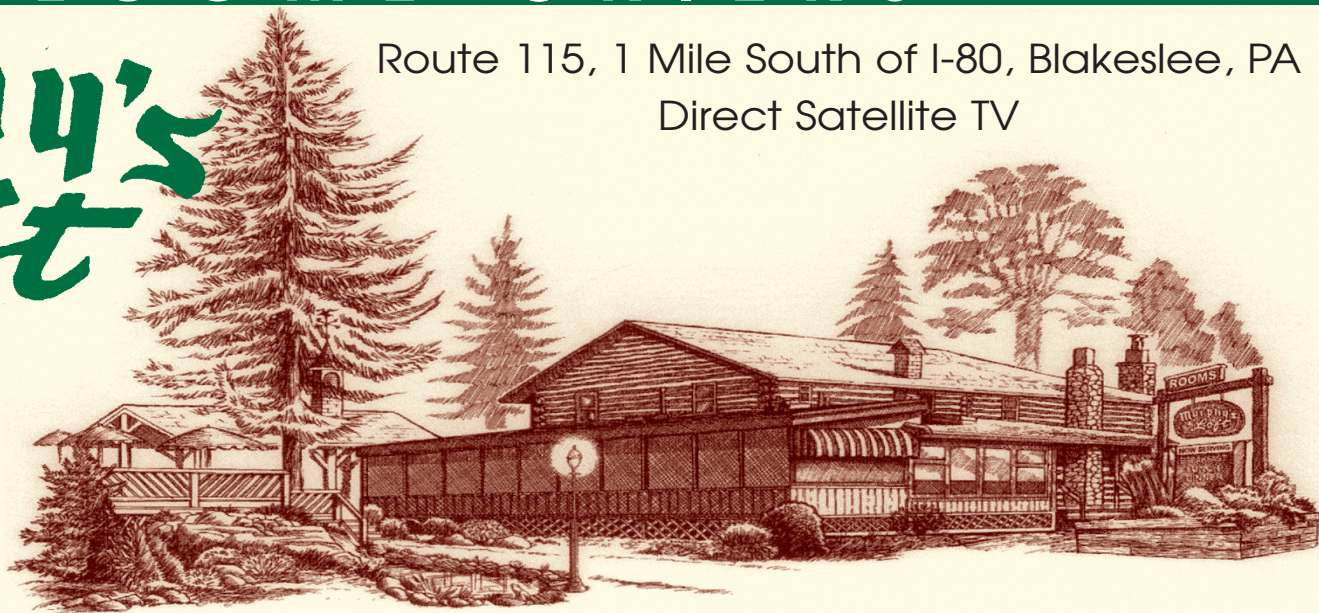
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Lindsey Vonn: On Doorstep of Record



Lindsey Vonn (USA) during the medal ceremony for the women's Super Combined race at the FIS Alpine skiing World Cup Val D'Isere France. Lindsey Vonn (USA) won the race with Elisabeth Goergl (AUT) 2nd and Nicole Hosp (AUT) 3rd.

VAL D'ISERE, France (Dec. 20, 2014) - Lindsey Vonn (Vail, CO) positioned herself on the doorstep to history Saturday, winning her 61st career Audi FIS Ski World Cup with a .19 second victory in the Val d'Isere downhill. It left her just one win away from matching the all-time win record held by the legendary Austrian Annemarie Moser-Proell. Germany's Viktoria Rebensburg and Austria's Elisabeth Goergl tied for second.

Starting 13th, Goergl set the pace to beat. Vonn came down 20th, skiing aggressively and making a few mistakes - but staying ahead of the Austrian the entire way down the Oreiller-Killy course. Rebensburg, coming down later, was the only one to challenge Vonn and settled for the second place tie.

It was only Vonn's fourth race back since a series of knee surgeries. She has won two of the three downhills she's skied, and moved out of a tie with Tina Maze to takeover the Audi FIS Ski World Cup downhill lead.

Julia Mancuso (Squaw Valley, CA) was 15th with Alice McKennis (Glenwood Springs, CO) 18th.

Highlights:

Vonn's 61st win put her into position to make history, just one away from Austria's Annemarie Moser-Proell.

It was her fifth career World Cup win in Val d'Isere - third downhill.

With two wins in three downhill races, Vonn vaulted into the sole Audi FIS Ski World Cup downhill lead. It also bumped her into third in the overall as Maze continued to hold a dominating lead.

In the finish, Vonn was greeted with yet another cow - one of several she has won in Val d'Isere over the years. The baby Torine cow was named Winnie. No word yet if Winny will join Olympe as a part of Vonn's herd in Austria.

Quotes: Lindsey Vonn

I'm so happy. It's been such a nice progression back into the World Cup. It was a really wild ride today. I made some mistakes but I was skiing aggressively.

I added another great memory today - hopefully tomorrow will be another Christmas present. The record is getting closer. The less I talk about it, the faster I get there. Tomorrow I'm going to focus on skiing aggressively, being confident and pushing the line. It's worked for me the last few races.

VAL D'ISERE FRANCE FIS World Cup - Ladies' Downhill

	Nation	Total Time	FIS Points
VONN Lindsey	USA	1:44.47	0.00
REBENSBURG Viktoria	GER	1:44.66	2.27
GOERGL Elisabeth	AUT	1:44.66	2.27



Lindsey Vonn charged to her 61st career Audi FIS Ski World Cup win Saturday in the Val d'Isere downhill. (Getty Images/AFP - Philippe Desmazes)

GUT Lara	SUI	1:44.86	4.67
GISIN Dominique	SUI	1:44.93	5.50
SUTER Fabienne	SUI	1:44.93	5.50
MAZE Tina	SLO	1:44.95	5.74
ABDERHALDEN Marianne	SUI	1:45.08	7.30



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UGLY SWEATER SATURDAY	12/20

January

VENDOR FAIR	1/4
FIND IT FRIDAY	1/9
PAY IT FORWARD WEEKEND	1/10 - 1/11
MONTAGE MOUNTAIN OPEN RACE SERIES	1/24
GEISINGER ASTHMA SKI DAY	1/25
MONTAGE MOUNTAIN OPEN RACE SERIES	1/25

February

UNIVERSITY RAIL JAM	2/5
POLAR PLUNGE	2/7
ASRA SKI RACE	2/7
FIND IT FRIDAY	2/13



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