

Sugarloaf's Olympic Hopefuls Head to Vancouver



Seth Wescott

Snowboardcross



Age: 33

Sport: Snowboardcross

Career Highlights: Snowboardcross Olympic Gold Medal 2006; 8-time X-Games medalist, 2005 World Snowboardcross Champion, First place 2008 World Cup Snowboardcross at Arosa, Switzerland.

Olympic Experience: Made team in 2006. Won first ever Olympic Snowboardcross gold medal

More Info: www.sugarloaf.com/seth

Bio: Maine's first ever Winter Olympic Gold Medalist, Seth Wescott graduated from Carrabassett Valley Academy in 1994 and still calls the mountain home. A part-owner of The Rack at the bottom of the Sugarloaf Access Road, Wescott recently completed construction on a new home right here at the base of the mountain.

Wescott began his professional career as a halfpipe rider, but discovered his true passion and found his most success in the newer sport of snowboardcross (SBX). With eight medals in the ESPN X-Games, Wescott is the most decorated male athlete in Winter X-Games history. In 2005 he became the World Snowboardcross Champion, and in 2006 he made the US Olympic Snowboard team for the first time, and went on to win the first Olympic gold medal in the history of Snowboardcross.

Wescott followed up his Olympic run with a second place finish on the World Cup circuit in 2008-09, and is a medal favorite heading into the upcoming Olympics. When he's not racing on the World Cup tour, Wescott spends time riding and making first descents on some of Alaska's biggest mountains.

When to watch: Tune into WCSH 6 from 2-4pm on Monday, February 15, 2010 to watch Seth compete. For more details, visit <http://www.nbcolympics.com/>



Emily Cook

Freestyle Aerials



Age: 30

Sport: Freestyle Aerials

Career Highlights: 2006 Olympian; 1st place 2008 World Cup; 4 World Cup podiums; 3 time US Champion; 2 time Olympic trial winner; 4 time World Champs team member

Olympic Experience: Made team in 2002 and 2006. Unable to compete in 2002 due to injury

More Info: www.emilycook.com

Bio: Originally from Massachusetts, Cook began skiing at age 4 and moved into freestyle when she was 14 as a student at Carrabassett Valley Academy here at Sugarloaf. A gymnast and diver as a youngster, she was a combined skier to start. By 17, she had made the U.S. Freestyle Team and moved to Park City to train fulltime. She was on two Junior World Championships teams, saw her first World Cup action in acro and earned her first World Championships berth in 1999. Cook also earned the aerials bronze at the 1999 Junior Worlds in Finland.

Cook was the top U.S. female aerialist leading up to the Salt Lake Games, and has secured herself a spot on the Olympic team with a win at the 2001 Gold Cup. But two weeks later, and two weeks before the Opening Ceremony, she crashed during a training jump in Lake Placid and caused serious damage to both feet, which forced her to sit out the 02 games.

Two surgeries and four years later Cook landed a spot on the 2006 Olympic Team and was able to walk into opening ceremonies with her teammates, a moment which she now refers to as "the most amazing of (her) life."

When to watch: Watch WCSH 6 on Saturday, February 20 & Wednesday, February 24 for coverage of Emily's quest for gold. For details, visit <http://www.nbcolympics.com/>



Bode Miller

DH, GS, SL, SG, Combined



Age: 32

Sport: Men's Downhill, Giant Slalom, Slalom, Super-G, Combined

Career Highlights: 2-time Overall World Cup winner 2005 and 2008; 2-time Olympic silver medalist 2002; 3-time Men's Combined World Cup title 2002, 2004, 2008; 2-time Men's Super G World Cup title 2005, 2007; Men's Giant Slalom World Cup title 2004.

Olympic Experience: Made team in 2002 and 2006. Won two silver medals in 2002

Bio: A 1996 graduate of Carrabassett Valley Academy, Bode Miller is the most successful American alpine skier of all time. Miller first made the US Ski Team in 1996 by placing in the US Nationals, which were held at Sugarloaf that year. From there Miller has gone on to become one of the greatest and most controversial athletes in American history.

Miller burst into the national spotlight in 2002 when he won two silver medals at the Olympics in Salt Lake City. He went on to achieve enormous success on the World Cup Circuit over the next several years, and in 2005 became the first American man to win the overall World Cup title since Phil Mahre in 1983. He won a second overall title again in 2008.

Miller's 2009 season proved to be the worst of his career, leading many to speculate that he was considering retirement. He bounced back this season, however, with a victory in a World Cup super combined event on January 15.

When to watch: WCSH 6 will be covering all of Bode's races. For details about his Olympic schedule, please visit <http://www.nbcolympics.com/>

