



## Team members choose to retire

A number of long-standing U.S. Ski & Snowboard team members have chosen to retire heading into the 2006-07 season. Here's a look at who will be missing from the team rosters this winter.

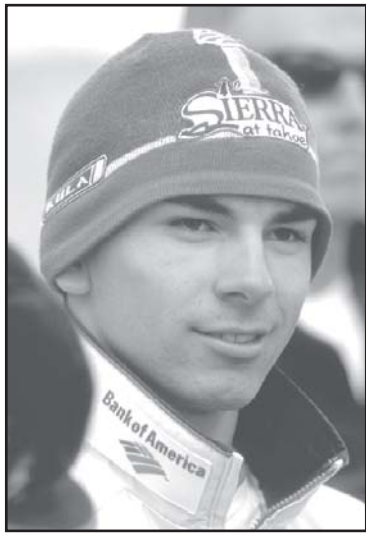
### Joe Pack & Travis Cabral

PARK CITY, Utah - Former Olympic aerials silver medalist and two-time World Championships medalist Joe Pack (Park City, UT) and 2003 World Cup moguls champion Travis Cabral (South Lake Tahoe, CA) have retired from World Cup competition, the U.S. Ski Team said Monday.

"It's time to do something else," Pack said. "I've had a good, long, fun run and I've got no regrets about retiring. It's been a blast."

Pack, a ski jumper while growing up in southern New Hampshire, was silver medalist at the 2002 Winter Games in front of his family and hometown fans and friends when the event was held at Deer Valley Resort.

He rebounded from a knee injury, which kept him out of the 1998 Olympics, to earn the bronze medal in aerials at the 1999 World Championships in Meiringen, Switzerland. In 2001, he was bronze medalist again when the Worlds were



Travis Cabral

held in Whistler, B.C. Pack also won three World Cup events and is a two-time U.S. champion.

Cabral, who turned 23 Saturday, was the 2003 World Cup champion when he won three World Cup contests. He remains the youngest U.S. moguls national champion in history, having won the moguls title when he was 15 in 1999.

In 2004, he swept the U.S. moguls and dual moguls titles.

U.S. Head Coach Jeff Wintersteen said they represent "a big loss. They've been outstanding role models and it's been an outstanding run but nothing goes on forever, so now we have to rebuild...and we are."

"Joe's been a real team leader over the last three or four years as we rebuilt the aerials program after the 2002 Olympics. He's been the de facto team captain...and he's doing a great job with FLY [Freestyle Lives Year-round, a



Toby Dawson

Park City aerials club], so he's still helping lead," Wintersteen said.

"Travis is an extraordinarily talented athlete," the coach added. "His personality, his humor - he's a tough one to replace; he was always in the mix and part of the core of what, for quite a while, was the best men's moguls team in the world."

"We'll miss 'em, but we obviously wish both of them the best."

### Toby Dawson

PARK CITY, Utah - Olympic moguls bronze medalist Toby Dawson (Vail, CO), who also is the reigning

dual moguls world champion, is retiring after seven seasons of World Cup skiing.

"My heart's no longer in it," he said.

Dawson, born in South Korea and adopted by a pair of married ski instructors when he was 3, won three World Championships medals - gold in duals in 2005, bronze in moguls and duals (at Deer Valley, Utah) in 2003 - in addition to his bronze medal in the Winter Games of Torino last February.

He also was a six-time winner on the World Cup tour and registered nine other top-3 finishes in addition to being the 2002 U.S. moguls gold medalist.

He originally planned to take off for the upcoming winter, giving his body a chance to heal from all the pounding it's taken with his aggressive, crowd-pleasing style. However, he said, "I didn't see reason to drag it on any longer. I've been thinking about taking the year off and the reality is my heart's no longer in it."

"It's such an enjoyable sport, but you have to move on. Life moves on," Dawson said.

"From the day I made the Ski Team, it's been a highlight reel, just so much fun, just so wonderful...but now that's over."

Dawson, who is planning to get married next April, said he hopes to try professional golf but also plans to continue his involvement with the U.S. Ski Team in various capacities. He's played in several fundraising golf events for the U.S. Ski and Snowboard Team Foundation "and I plan to stay involved there," he said. "Golf is certainly a lot easier on his

body," Head Coach Jeff Wintersteen said. "But I'm proud of Toby for sticking around after missing the Olympic Team in 2002; he wanted to be in Torino, and he skied so well. He's such a great guy, such a great teammate and he did things his own way. He liked big events and he liked to 'Wow!' the crowd. What I think I may remember most is his willingness to just go for it, and his ability with off-axis [jumps] and speed. We certainly wish him all the best."

### Rosey Fletcher

PARK CITY, Utah - Following a storied career spanning 10 years and three Olympic Games, Rosey Fletcher (Girdwood, AK), the 2006 Olympic parallel giant slalom bronze medalist and two-time World Championships medalist, is retiring from World Cup competition.

"It's all gone by so fast," said Fletcher, who collected eight World Cup wins and a dozen other World Cup podium finishes since 1996, plus PGS silver medals at the 1999 and 2001 World Championships. "Throughout those years, I was so busy chasing after goals and dreams, that now when I look back on all the places I was able to visit, all the great friendships I've formed and all the wonderful life experiences I've had, all because of snowboarding, it's just - Wow!"

A proud Alaskan, Fletcher's first official season with U.S. Snowboarding was in 1999 following the Nagano Olympic Games, where she was the first U.S. rider named



Rosey Fletcher

to the first U.S. Olympic Snowboard Team.

"I joined the program because of Jan Wengelin; he was the best coach I'd ever had and he was heading the first U.S. alpine snowboarding program. I was always looking for a medal, but after my results in Salt Lake City [26th] I thought I was done," said Fletcher, who knocked herself out of competition in both 1998 and 2002 by falling.

"It was devastating to put every cell, every hair into something and not accomplish it. Not once, but twice, I had stood in the start gate, wearing a tight suit mind you, and failed. Nobody tells you how that feels. So going into 2006, I approached the Olympics like I was a fan. I suppose the old saying holds pretty true; 'there's nothing more dangerous than having nothing to lose.'"

Fletcher converted that relaxed approach into an Olympic team birth just one month before Opening Ceremonies with a second place World Cup finish in

Kreischberg, Austria. She then went on to shock the alpine snowboarding world with a bronze medal in Bardonecchia that was inches away from gold, narrowly losing to Daniela Mueli of Switzerland, who would go on to become the Olympic champion.

"Rosey works very hard at what she does, and in snowboarding she took her craft very seriously," said U.S. Snowboarding Head Coach Peter Foley. "It was such a joy for me to see her succeed in Torino; that kind of payoff happens to very few people in their lives."

Yet instead of kicking back and easing into retirement, Fletcher found herself with a job offer from Anchorage Mayor Mark Begich and is working as a community development specialist for the Alaskan urban hub.

"I was speaking at a fundraiser just a month after the Games and said something in the speech about 'not being sure what my next career move was.' The Mayor came up to me after and asked me to call him, saying he had 'the perfect opportunity for me.'"

"So I went from wearing snowboarding boots everyday to heels, but that's not the hardest part. It's much more difficult going from doing something I'm really good at, to doing something where I have to ask questions about everything. But it's fun and I know that I am making a difference, which is important to me."

Fletcher plans to continue "being a part of the snowboarding family" and will reside in Alaska.

## U.S. Ski Team Gold Pass now available

PARK CITY, Utah - The U.S. Ski & Snowboard Team Gold Pass is a golden opportunity providing "rock star" treatment for Pass holders and their friends to more than 260 mountains around the country, making it the ultimate season pass to winter ski and snowboard fun.

"The Gold Pass is the best way to have fun supporting the future of the U.S. Ski Team and U.S. Snowboarding," said 2006 Olympic gold medalist Julia Mancuso. "Not only is it the only season pass good at some of the best ski areas in the nation but you're also helping Olympic hopefuls as they pursue their gold medal aspirations."

Only Americans send Americans to the Olympics, unlike competing nations, which receive support from their governments. As a fundraiser for the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Team Foundation, the Pass program raises \$2 million that helps support the training, development and competition needs of America's future Olympians making it possible for young athletes to follow in the footsteps of 2006 Olympic gold medalists Ted Ligety, Julia Mancuso, Seth Wescott, Hannah Teter and Shaun White who together won a record five gold medals in skiing and snowboarding for the United States.

The Gold Pass is fully transferable -- the only such lift ticket program of its kind -- allowing friends, family and corporate clients to take full advantage of the Pass. For \$7,000, part of which is tax-deductible as a charitable donation, it "is one of skiing's real bargains." While most resorts simply scan the Gold Pass and hand you a lift ticket, other areas -- including many in Colorado like Vail, Aspen and Beaver Creek allow you to head right to the lift, no ticket needed -- just the Pass around your neck.

Through a partnership with the National Ski Areas Association (NSAA) for more than 30 years, a limited number of Gold Passes are available each season. You can join an elite club of past Gold Pass purchasers like the "patron saint of snowboarding," Jake Burton Carpenter, founder of Burton Snowboards, talk show host Montel Williams, tennis greats Chris Evert and Martina Navratilova, as well as the head of the Heinz Foundation -- Teresa Heinz Kerry -- who each year requests pass #57.

Contact the U.S. Ski and Snowboard Team Gold Pass hotline toll-free at (800) 9 P I C A B O or visit <http://goldpass.uskiteam.com> to participate in this unique program.

## Seven named to jumping team

PARK CITY, Utah - Seven athletes, including five women - led by Lindsey Van and Jessica Jerome (both Park City, UT), the No. 2- and No. 3-ranked athletes in the world last season - and two men have been named to the 2007 U.S. Ski Jumping Team, U.S. Nordic Director Luke Bodensteiner announced.

The women, who are hopeful of seeing their sport accepted into the 2010 Olympics after a major vote of confidence from the International Ski Federation (FIS), are the first to be named to the U.S. Ski Jumping Team.

Van, Jerome and three other Park City jumpers - Alissa Johnson, Abby Hughes and Brenna Ellis, were named as women's jumping was approved last spring by the FIS as an event in the 2009 World Nordic Ski Championships, a vital step if it is to be added to the 2010 Olympics schedule.

Van, 21, a University of Utah student when she's not training or competing, has been ranked second in the world for the last three seasons.

Jerome, 19, a student at Westminster College in Salt Lake City, has been No. 3 twice as the Women's Grand Prix became the Continental Cup with the 2005 season. Van and Jerome, the only two athletes to win U.S. women's titles since their championships began in the late Nineties, each have won Continental Cup jumping meets and all five women were in the top 15 of the 2006 Continental Cup standings.

For all the latest on the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Teams  
[uskiteam.com](http://uskiteam.com)  
[ussnowboarding.com](http://ussnowboarding.com)