



Sweden's Walter Wallberg competes in the men's moguls finals at Genting Snow Park at the 2022 Winter Olympics in Zhangjiakou, China. (AP)

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WALLBERG UPSETS KINGSBURY TO CLAIM MOGULS CROWN

China win 1st gold of home Oly

Johaug stars in cross-country skiathlon as Bogataj goes from last to first

BEIJING, Feb 5, (AP): China won their first gold medal of the Beijing Games, emerging victorious Saturday in short track speedskating's mixed team relay in the event's Olympic debut.

Wu Dajing edged Pietro Sighel of Italy by .016 seconds — or half a skate blade — to claim gold. Hungary earned bronze.

Qu Chunyu, Fan Kexin and Ren Ziwei joined Wu for the historic victory. The small number of Chinese fans at Capital Indoor Arena cheered and waved tiny flags.

The results were delayed while the referee reviewed the race. Canada were penalized for pushing from behind and causing contact with Hungary late in the race.

That set the stage for China to build a big lead over Italy going into the latter stages of the race. But the Italians rallied, careening around the rink in hot pursuit of the home team. Sighel nearly caught Wu in what would have been a huge upset.

China were the gold-medal favorites coming in, having led the World Cup standings this season.

The frantic event features four skaters per team covering 18 laps. Each skater races twice in the following order: woman, woman, man, man, woman, woman, man, man.

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The final got off to a rocky beginning, with Hungary and Canada crashing in the first turn, forcing the race to be called back to the start.

China needed some help even getting to the A final.

It took penalties to the United States and Russian team to elevate the Chinese to the final, along with Hungary, which won in the semifinals.

The US were called for blocking by an infield skater after the Americans had finished second. The Russians were penalized for an extra skater on the team causing an obstruction.

In the first semifinal, Canada and Italy advanced to the A final. The Netherlands, ranked second in the world, didn't advance when Suzanne Schulting crashed in a turn early in the race.

Arianna Fontana of Italy made history with her silver medal in the relay. It was her ninth medal, breaking a tie with Apolo Ohno and Viktor An for most career medals. She was already the most decorated female short track skater.

Fontana also became the first skater to win short track medals at five Olympics.

Brothers Liu Shaoang and Liu Shaolin Sandor led Hungary to bronze in the relay. Their mother is Hungarian and their father is Chinese. Four years ago, they helped Hungary win the 5,000-meter relay, the nation's first Winter Olympics gold.

Joining the Liu brothers on the podium was U.S.-born teammate John-Henry Krueger, who skated in the relay's earlier rounds. He won a silver in the 1,000 for the U.S. four years ago before switching allegiances.

Suddenly handed a phone, Walter Wallberg listened, smiled and politely thanked the voice on the other end.

It was the prime minister of Sweden calling to congratulate the newest king of moguls.

The 21-year-old Wallberg — coming off three knee surgeries in two years — turned in the biggest run of his career to upset the reigning "King" and take home the gold medal in men's moguls at the Beijing Olympics.

Even Wallberg couldn't fully believe it as he looked in shock at his score of 83.23 on the board — and a No. 1 next to it. He edged defending Olympic champion Mikael Kingsbury of Canada on a bitterly cold Saturday night.

Wallberg picked up points for his speed over the smooth and technical skiing style of Kingsbury, whose nickname is the "King of Moguls."

To think, a few years ago a moguls maestro showed up to give him and other eager students some pointers.

That maestro? Kingsbury. The lessons he imparted stuck with Wallberg.

Ikuma Horishima of Japan took home the bronze. As the athletes were positioning themselves for the post-contest pictures, Kingsbury looked almost confused where to stand and switched places with Horishima. Clearly, Kingsbury's not used to finishing second.



Ren Ziwei (left), of China, leads Quentin Fercoq of France, in his heat of the men's 1,000-meter during the short track speedskating competition at the 2022 Winter Olympics, Saturday in Beijing. Inset (AP)



Ursa Bogataj of Slovenia reacts after her jump during the women's normal hill individual first round at the 2022 Winter Olympics in Zhangjiakou, China. (AP)

It took a splendid run to knock off the skier who's the gold standard in moguls. He takes some solace in that.

Therese Johaug finished first in the women's 15-kilometer cross-country skiathlon.

The Norwegian fought wind and frigid temperatures to ski away from a chase group of four, winning in 44 minutes, 13.7 seconds.

The skiathlon is a mass-start race that began with 7.5 kilometers of classic skiing. After two laps around the 3.75-kilometer course, racers came through the stadium and quickly switched to skate skis before heading out for another two laps.

Johaug lead through the first skate lap, opened a gap on the second lap and crossed the line with a comfortable lead.

Russian athlete Natalia Nepryaeva, the current overall World Cup leader, pulled away from the group on the last climb to take silver, 30.2 seconds behind Johaug. Nepryaeva is competing in her second Olympics. She won bronze in a relay race at the Pyeongchang Games.

Teresa Stadlober of Austria followed just behind for the bronze medal. She's competing in her third Winter Games and won her first medal, having just missed out in Pyeongchang.

Ursa Bogataj went from last to first. The Slovenian ski jumper won Olympic gold in women's ski jumping, four years after having the fewest points in the same event at the

Medals Table

BEIJING, Feb 5, (AP): Winter Olympics Games medals table on Saturday.

	G	S	B	T
Norway	2	0	0	2
Slovenia	1	0	1	2
Netherlands	1	0	0	1
China	1	0	0	1
Sweden	1	0	0	1
Italy	0	2	0	2
Canada	0	1	1	2
ROC	0	1	1	2
France	0	1	0	1
Germany	0	1	0	1
Austria	0	0	1	1
Hungary	0	0	1	1
Japan	0	0	1	1

Note: Table reads as nation, gold, silver, bronze and total.

Pyeongchang Games.

"I didn't handle the pressure," she recalled.

Bogataj certainly did in China. She floated 100 meters (328.084 feet) through the air and had 121 points on the final jump.

Sara Takanashi likely is thinking the same thing.

The Japanese star was a favorite at least to medal, but she finished fourth and the disappointment was palpable. Takanashi cried as she took off her skis following her final jump, which she knew wouldn't be good enough.

Katharina Althaus of Germany won silver for the second straight Olympics. Nika Kriznar of Slovenia took the bronze.

After Althaus and Kriznar stepped on the podium, Bogataj took her spot atop the structure and had one of her biggest jumps of the night.

Althaus was No. 1 after the first round, but insisted she was not disappointed to finish second.

In a surprise, Takanashi didn't earn a spot on the podium. She has won a record 61 World Cup events, won bronze four years ago in South Korea and finished fourth at the 2014 Olympics.

Norway's Maren Lundby, who won gold at the 2018 Olympics, chose not to defend her title because she decided to make her physical and mental health priorities.

Marita Kramer of Austria, the top-ranked woman in World Cup standings, was not cleared to compete after testing positive for COVID-19.

Man U knocked out of FA Cup by Boro

West Ham, Chelsea 'come' from behind to oust lowly opponents

LONDON, Feb 5, (AP): When the FA Cup fourth-round game entered stoppage time, West Ham were facing a humiliating loss to sixth-tier side Kidderminster.

Alex Penny had scored in the 19th minute for the National North division's third-place team who were outplaying the millionaires from London who are only point away from the Champions League places in the Premier League.

Only Declan Rice's equalizer forced the game into extra time to prevent West Ham from being on the receiving end of the biggest upset in the 150 years of world soccer's oldest competition.

Then to avoid a penalty shootout at the 6,000-capacity central England stadium, it took Jarrod Bowen scoring in stoppage time of extra time to recover a 2-1 victory.

It was a struggle too in London for European champions Chelsea, needing to come from behind to eliminate third-tier Plymouth 2-1 in extra time at Stamford Bridge to reach the fifth round.

Macaulay Gillesphey headed Plymouth into an early lead and Cesar Azpilicueta leveled via a fine backheel

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finish just before halftime.

But Chelsea couldn't find a winner inside 90 minutes. Even after Marcos Alonso scored at the end of the first half of extra time, Plymouth still had a chance to level.

But goalkeeper Kepa Arrizabalaga's guessed correctly to save a late penalty from Ryan Hardie after the Plymouth striker had been fouled by Malang Sarr.

Fired by Chelsea a year ago, Frank Lampard began his return to management at Everton with a 4-1 win over Premier League rival Brentford. Yerry Mina's headed goal was the first time Everton had taken the lead in a match since October under Rafa Be-

nitez.

After Richarlison had doubled Everton's advantage shortly after halftime, Ivan Toney pulled one back for the west London club with a penalty. However, Mason Holgate's first goal since December 2020 made sure of Everton's progress to the last 16 to prompt chants of "Super Frankie Lampard" from all four sides of Goodison Park. The mood was lifted further by substitute Andros Townsend's stoppage-time strike.

Manchester City were stunned by Fabio Carvalho putting Fulham ahead after four minutes but the Premier League champions quickly leveled through Ilkay Gundogan and went on to eliminate the second-tier side.

City goalkeeper Zack Steffen avoided conceding again on his return from a month out with a back injury that caused him to miss U.S. World Cup qualifiers. John Stones headed City ahead before a double from Riyad Mahrez, the first from a penalty.

Norwich reached the fifth round

for just the second time in a decade as Kenny McLean's header clinched a 1-0 win over Wolverhampton. First-half goals by Marc Guehi and Michael Olise gave Crystal Palace a 2-0 win over Hartlepool.

Manchester United made an embarrassing early exit from the FA Cup after losing to second-tier side Middlesbrough in a penalty shootout at Old Trafford.

The fourth round got off to a stunning start when the English Premier League giants arguably saw their last realistic hope of silverware this season extinguished by Chris Wilder's Championship outfit.

Jadon Sancho opened the scoring for Ralf Rangnick's star-studded side, but lifelong United fan Matt Crooks levelled and the match finished 1-1 after extra time.

Every penalty found the net until Anthony Elanga missed his at the Stretford End, wrapping up an 8-7 spot-kick success for Boro and sending its 9,500 visiting fans wild.



Plymouth's Jordon Garrick (center), is challenged by Chelsea's Malang Sarr (left), and Chelsea's Antonio Rudiger during the English FA Cup fourth round soccer match between Chelsea and Plymouth Argyle at Stamford Bridge Stadium in London. (AP)