

BEST SPORTS STORY

ARCTIC WINTER GAMES Veteran AWG athlete looks to the podium in Nuuk

Deseray Cumberbatch heading to Greenland with her dad

When veteran Team Nunavik-Québec athlete Deseray Cumberbatch steps off the airplane in Nuuk, Greenland for the 2016 Arctic Winter Games, the first thing she wants to do is climb a mountain and take in the scenery.

home in Montreal, where she is a student in Community, Recreation and Leadership Training at Dawson College. With 25 medals, earned over a decade of competition in Inuit Games, Cumberbatch stands confident on a mountain of her own making. Inuit Games are an umbrella category encompassing several traditional Inuit feats, such as the one and two-foot high kick, kneel and sledge jumps, and the arm pull, among several others. Cumberbatch says she will be competing in every category that she's eligible to enter. And, at 24 years old, she is likely to add to her medal haul by the end of the games. But beyond exploring Greenland, Nuuk's Arctic Winter Games will provide the stage for Cumberbatch to conquer another obstacle. It's one that's dogged her for more than two years and that cast a dark shadow over her performance at the 2014 games in Fairbanks, Alaska. "First [I lost] my aunt, she passed away from a stroke," Cumberbatch said, reflecting on the months before her arrival in Fairbanks two years ago.

will also look to Cumberbatch's leadership during games. As a veteran on her own, she knows other athletes count on her for support. "I feel the pressure but it's encouraging." Her message to her teammates is a simple one: "You meet a lot of people. You see old friends and make new ones. You get the best experience ever because we go there for games but we also go to have fun and to just experience and learn different cultures," said Cumberbatch, about what she'll tell the team. "It's just going to be fun." For her father, who was born and raised on the Caribbean island nation of St. Vincent, Cumberbatch's advice is even simpler. "I will wear extra layers. I

1

STEVE DUCHARME *Nunatsiaq News*

Storytelling as art, plain and simple and an all-too-rare example of sports writing that really makes you FEEL. An engaging lead that flows into an even-more captivating story, well-paced and navigated with class and empathy. Not a word wasted either. Assisted to an extent by compelling subject matter, but still entirely on the writer to give the story life. Incredible work, Steve.



Deseray Cumberbatch, right, gets a hug from her brother March 20, 2014, after kicking her personal best in Alaska. (TEAM NUNAVIK PHOTO)



SPORTS

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All roads (and trails) lead from Rome

By Ben Bulmer
I was always told as a child that the community trail near where I grew up in the UK, dated back to Roman times. I'd ride my bike and walk the dog there and never gave its existence much thought — you don't have pro or anti-groups when the right of way predates the Magna Carta. Over on this side of the pond, it's not quite the same. With Chelsea's proposed community trail on the lips of many in the Hills, and a converted railway line already in existence running from Low to Manitowick, the two components made for the perfect summer weekend bicycle trip. The trip could shed some light on where the may-sayers or the optimists were coming from.



Above: The Kasabava River, good for a swim and to re-fill your bottles. Below: Jessica Kikham takes shelter from the heat. The trail served with rest stops, and even clean toilets. Ben Bulmer joins the falko, carving its way along the shoreline, and we rode until we found a place to swim. We dropped our bikes, scrambled down the bank, and jumped into the cool water. Back in the saddle, we pushed on as the trail reached the shores of Blue Sea Lake. It cuts along up early — the Blue Sea Lake was a hub of activity. We'll see fewer than 10 people the previous day, but joggers, cyclists, and dog walkers all nodded a friendly 'hello' on their Sunday morning outings. We discussed the merits of the trail: good rest stops and clean toilets, but no water, and

2

BEN BULMER *The Low Down to Hull & Back News*

A nice bikepacking story unto itself, story was elevated by also providing an original take on how to tackle a local issue. Well written with plenty of colour, and some nice insight as well into some of the challenges (and rewards) that come with the territory in an emerging sport/activity that many will not be familiar with.

Richmond Legion gets an apology

By Claudia Villemare
RICHMOND
Richmond's Branch 15 of the Canadian Legion met with the Senior Manager of Public Affairs for the Banque Nationale in town Sunday afternoon to calm the troubled waters stirred up by the unexpected return of the Legion's memorial to the local Banque Nationale. "It has always been our policy to display this important tribute the week before Armistice Day. There has never been any hesitation by management even at head office," Cadieux explained. Apparently, a mix up of policy and directive or lack of it, the result of a recent change in managers at the local bank and a replacement of an employee at the regional level resulted in a misunderstanding that left local Legion members standing in front of a memorial wreath. "We have been feeling irritated and betrayed. We have been doing our banking at this bank even before it was the Nationale, formerly Bank of Montreal." The resulting talks between Poppy Campaign President John Hill and Jean Francois Cadieux ended with an official apology from Cadieux and reassurance the traditional Memorial Day wreath would be displayed each year. "We had a very positive exchange," John Hill reported late Sunday. "And their apology and support were gratefully accepted." During a phone interview Sunday, Cadieux emphasized the bank's willingness to continue the tradition explaining even the CEO, Louis Vachon, himself a former military man and awarded the Order of Canada has always been in complete agreement with the Bank's tradition of displaying a memorial wreath. "The funds given so generously by folks from this region are deposited in a

McAnuff brothers bringing skating to Ireland



By Gordon Lambie
Sean and Ryan McAnuff of Oakville, Ontario, are in Calgary right now for the World Cup of Short Track Speed Skating, but they're not there on behalf of Canada. Despite being Canadian born and doing the majority of their recent training in Sherbrooke, Quebec, the two brothers are the founding members of Ireland's first ever national speed skating team. "Ireland didn't actually have a speed skating team until this year," explained Ryan, the elder of the two. "They named Sean and I to the national team in July." More than just being named to the team, the brothers explained that they played a key role in getting Ireland a national, competitive level speed skating team in the first place. "We emailed them years and years ago and it slowly developed from there."

with decent distances some official but rustic camping would be good. The trail seems too isolated for families to use, and with the exception of Blue Sea Lake, it doesn't appear to go near many properties, so a comparison to the proposed trail in Chelsea seemed a little unfair. We met up with Hwy 105 and made our way back to Wakefield. The traffic was horrendous, the shoulder narrow, and we were both longing to escape the pavement and cars.



active game
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3

GORDON LAMBIE *The Record*

The reveal as to how the Ontario boys training in Calgary ended up representing Ireland had me reading on, and on again, with a smile and was handled perfectly. Really fun take on a once-in-a-career kind of story.

The Borough of Lennoxville would like to take this opportunity to welcome back THE RECORD to the Borough. They are located at 6 Mallory (off Winder)

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