

SPORTS

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Kelcey Wright Johnson photo

After winning the high jump event at the Francophone Games in Africa earlier this summer, local native Sean Cate was the lone Canadian to qualify for the World University Games in Taipei recently.

Cate wears red and white proudly

KELCEY WRIGHT JOHNSON

Local resident Sean Cate was the only high jumper to compete for Team Canada at the World University Games this summer in Taipei.

The Games - also known as the 'Universiade' - are the second largest international multi-sport event, behind the Olympic Games. This year, they hosted over 7,500 athletes from 141 countries, competing in 21 sports.

"It's gratifying," said Cate. "It's kind of like a confirmation that I'm in the right area; I did basketball for a long time and you hear about Cory Joseph and Tristan Thompson and I know those guys personally, and it's like, they've made it big . and these Games are not the NBA, but they're a big deal."

"They're a huge deal."

Cate was the only Canadian to qualify for the in-

ternational event after jumping the standard height of 2.15 metres and placing in the top three at nationals.

"It's my first rodeo with something this large, so the game plan [was] to do what I usually do," said the fifth-year University of Guelph student. "I've never had an issue with pressure, that's not the thing that's sitting . I just had to get used to the climate but I do love the heat, most track athletes love the heat."

The Summer Universiade was Cate's third international event, and second this summer after winning the gold medal at the Francophone Games in Abidjan, Ivory Coast in late July.

"On competition days, I have everything Canada on me, from my sunglasses to my socks everything is Canada," he said. "You don't get to do this very often, so when you do, you

have to go hard. Everything has to be Canada.

"I'll listen to music beforehand, but its never the same music," he continued. "The last time I competed, I listened to Beethoven [Symphony No. 7] and then I listen to Lil Jon . there is no consistency."

And in the qualification round at the Summer Universiade, Cate jumped 2.10 meters - 0.10 less than his personal best.

"I've learned that thinking about your event is one of the worst things you could do at these types of Games," said the 23-year-old. "Coming into it, you've already done the prep, you're here, you earned your spot already."

But Cate's jump didn't qualify him for the finals at the Universiade - which were eventually won by Germany's Falk Henning Wendrich with a jump of 2.29 meters.

But unlike a lot of other athletes that compete on

the world stage, Cate has only been high jumping competitively for four years, after stepping away from basketball after high school.

"I think there are a lot of similarities between high jump and basketball," he said. "When I stepped away from basketball, I had done track and field for like a month in high school. I walked into the field house [at Guelph University] and was like, I jump 1.80 and my form is horrible, can I give it a shot?"

"I jumped 2.06 in my basketball shoes, and I think everyone was like, 'OK, whoa,'" he said.

And looking back at when he began this sport to what he's already accomplished in his short career, Cate is happy with his choice to pursue high jumping and represent his country.

"It feels good," he said. "It's good to know that progress is being made."

Chargers shock Georgetown Raiders 4-2

Longtime Ontario Junior Hockey League sad sacks the Mississauga Chargers have already beaten last year's top two clubs in the opening week of the regular season.

The South Division's Chargers skated past the West's reigning

champs from Georgetown Monday night in Port Credit, defeating the Raiders 4-2. Mississauga also beat the other league finalist from the 2017 playoffs, the Golden Hawks of Trenton, 3-2 on Friday evening.

Call-ups Bryan Foster and An-

drew Cordssen-David (shorthanded) tallied for the 1-1-1 Raiders, who took three out of four points from the Oakville Blades on the weekend.

The host Raiders prevailed 4-2 Saturday night after spotting the South Division's Blades an early

2-0 lead. Having faced each other just 24 hours earlier in Oakville in a hard-fought 2-2 draw, emotions were running high, leading to a brawl in the final minute of the contest.

Raiders Austin Cho, Jake Payette, and Justin Paul missed

Monday's tilt against the Chargers due to suspensions incurred against Oakville.

Jonathan Hampton scored twice Saturday as the team raised its 2017 Buckland Cup OJHL-

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COUNTDOWN TO THE
RAIDERS
NEXT HOME GAME

Saturday Sept 16th, 2017

7:30 pm at Mold-Masters SportsPlex

**Georgetown Raiders
vs.
St. Michaels Buzzers**

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