

Aurora kayaker Lang swamps Summer Games field



Steve Somerville/Metroland

Cameron Lang won four events, including the K1 (solo) races over 200 and 1,000 metres, Friday at the Ontario Summer Games.

BY JOHN CUDMORE
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For Cameron Lang, the waters at the Welland International Flatwater Centre were brimming with gold.

So the Aurora kayaker dipped his paddle and harvested an impressive haul from the Welland, Ont., facility as he won four events, including the K1 (solo) races over 200 and 1,000 metres, Friday at the Ontario Summer Games.

The 15-year-old also won gold in the K2 200 and K4 1,000-metre races at the competition which doubled as provincial championships and added bronze in the K2 1,000 metres. A sixth medal, also bronze, came in a mixed war canoe team event.

Lang was viewed as a potential medalist entering the Games, which doubled this year as the Ontario provincial championships, despite the fact he was competing in the under-16 age group and a year younger than most of his rivals in the field of 22 competitors.

"It's probably my best career achievement," said Lang, a past provincial champion at three age levels in his four-year career in kayaking. "These Games were a really awesome experience. I was hoping for this

result but it always is surprising when it happens so it is a good result.

"The cool part is the Olympics are on now so we're all glued to the TV watching. To be in our own small version of it is awesome."

Lang, who is preparing to enter Grade 10 at Aurora High School next month, was most pleased with his performance in the 1,000-metre event.

"It's the race with the highest intensity," said the Richmond Hill Canoe Club member. "It's not that long but it's a gruelling race. If there was one race to win that was it so I was extremely happy to win that."

"To get to the final 100 metres and know that if I could hold it together I'd win was awesome."

Lang prefers the individual events where he takes full responsibility for the ultimate result.

"It's what I like to focus on," he said. "In team boats you are relying on a connection with teammates so many more things can go wrong."

Lang is qualified to compete at national championships in Dartmouth, N.S., starting Aug. 30.

Auto racing team comes up short

BY MICHAEL HAYAKAWA
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The Stouffville-based T3R/EHR racing team had a short stay when they took to the famed Circuit de Trois-Rivieres road course for the Can-Am Le 50 Tours NASCAR Pinty Series race in Trois-Rivieres, Que., on Sunday.

With Jason Hathaway behind the steering wheel of their Raybestos/Fast Eddie/Choko/HGC Chevrolet, the team began the race in the 17th position and was on the track for just

22 of the 50-lap race before calling it a day when they were rear ended.

In the end, they finished in 18th place. Kevin Lacroix led from the start and took the checkered flag.

In the overall series standings, Hathaway is in ninth place with 238 points.

Andrew Ranger leads the series with 331. The NASCAR Pinty series is scheduled to resume with the Bumper to Bumper 300 event at Riverside International Speedway in Antigonish, N.S., Saturday.

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