# [***Year in review: Nobody asked for this***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:47KG-W0W0-018S-2176-00000-00&context=1516831)

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**Byline:** RICHARD O'BRIEN

**Body**

It's time warp time again. New Year's, time to plan ahead while looking back, which is a little like a belly-up swimmer doing a front crawl.

It's time to move on, but first here is a look at where we've been.

We revisit many athletes who appeared on the minor/amateur pages in 2002 and all have one thing in common: none of this chosen few asked for this.

RECORD STAFF

LESS IS MORE

Which means we should begin with Louie Maier of Cambridge, 76-year-old bronze medalist in world masters cross-country skiing.

No loose-lip Louie, Maier never asks for much. He has all he needs -- a home in Cambridge, a bicycle, a pair of skis and the fitness to put them to good use.

"Don't write too much," he pleaded, when a reporter called.

To your health, Louie.

LOCAL HAZARD

Remember Matt Gray? Now, here's a kid who gives new meaning to the term, home run. When he was younger, it was no big deal to hit his dad's pitches in the front yard of their country home.

Over the years as he hit the ball farther and farther, the nearby houses were within range and they moved to a ballyard in Mannheim where Matt bounced a low, hard one off his father's shin.

Move on, Matt. Team Ontario beckons. Go there.

NEW HEIGHTS

Sarah Pavan, power hitter with the Waterloo Tigers juvenile volleyball team as well as the Forest Heights senior girls, is a top prospect for a U.S. college scholarship when she graduates.

And why not? Good six-foot-four players just don't come along every day. Only thing he is, she may feel cramped for space when she leaves home. Parents Paul and Cindy are also six-foot-four and live in a house custom made for tall people.

College is a couple years away, time enough for her to get used to the idea of a dorm quite unlike the 12-foot vaulted ceiling she has at home.

BEEP BEEP

Tracey Buckley took time away from her sales job at RIM to do an adventure race near Whitehorse. Hiking books, a mountain bike and a pair of canoes replaced ***cellphones*** and e-mails, the everyday things in the life of a techie.

After two or three exhausting days in the woods, any of the hoo-hoo-hoo-hoo's they heard may have sounded high tech because she and her three teammates were hallucinating, Blair Witch Project style.

FEAR OF LANDING

A two-pronged skate blade here. Can anyone forget Nexxice and their chain reaction crash during the Skate Canada synchonized nationals last March at the Aud? The crash put them in fourth place, meaning they get just one international assignment instead of two in 2003. It was a bigger tragedy than, say, if they returned to the dressing room, only to find someone had raised all the toilet seats.

But when K-W's Royales on Ice flew to Italy in February for the Milano Spring Cup, their skates were not carry-on. They had to pack them away and live with the possibility they might make a separate trip to some far-off Isle of Lost Luggage.

GO FIGURE

Olivia Skonieczka has it made. The 13-year-old K-W Skating Club member placed first overall at the Canada Winter Games trials after winning the Western Ontario Sectionals.

Thing is, Olivia will always climb through the ranks of figure skaters with a song in her head. She listens to music so often at home that it would be no big trick for her to plan her routines all the way through senior.

SWEET HOME ALABAMA

Here is where it all leads: Kenen Shadd, the triple jumper who lives for the long jump, the triple jump and the avoidance of football, is heading for Alabama. He begins with some academic upgrading at a junior college, reports his mother, Ruth.

Not bad for a kid who survived a football tackle from older brother Shaun, landed "everywhere" in his parents' living room, and followed up with career planning that steered him wide of the gridiron.

WHO YA GONNA CALL?

OK. Suppose you flat out on a mountain bike trail. Who is the person you should want to come along?

Well, life couldn't get much better than if Cambridge's Karley Cunningham should appear with tire irons and a canister of carbon dioxide. While Karley rises through the ranks of women's pro elite mountain bikers, she is out to show that a woman can change a tire as quickly as a man.

Let her flat out in a car, though, and she'll call for roadside assistance. Like anyone else, she wants to get what she pays for.

[*robrien@therecord.com*](mailto:robrien@therecord.com)

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