

Letourneau still on her own in Quebec's female MMA scene

NEIL DAVIDSON
The Canadian Press

TORONTO
At 19, a pregnant Valerie (Trouble) Letourneau had a dream.

"I wanted to be the first female fighter (from Quebec) to step into the Octagon as a pro," the Montreal native said. "Now my daughter's 12 and there's still nobody else."

"I had a few girls I was training with that I really thought were going to turn pro many years ago. But they got injuries or they decided to make a family. I'm still the only one."

Letourneau (6-3) made her UFC debut in June 2014 when she won a split decision over Elizabeth Phillips at UFC 174 in Vancouver. She followed that up in April, moving to strawweight (115 pounds) from bantamweight (135) to win a unanimous decision over fellow Canadian Jessica Rakoczy at UFC 186 in Montreal.

That made her the first UFC female fighter to win in two weight classes.

On Sunday, Letourneau returns to action against Ukraine strawweight Maryna Moroz (6-0) in the UFC's first visit to Saskatoon.

The main event at the SaskTel Centre pits Hawaii featherweight Max (Blessed) Holloway, ranked fifth among 145-pound contenders, against No. 7 Charles (Do Bronx) Oliveira of Brazil.

The televised card also features Canadian veterans Sam (Hands of Stone) Stout of London, Ont., and Montreal welterweight Patrick (The Predator) Cote.

Stout (21-11-1) is slated to make his 20th UFC appearance against Frankie Perez while Cote (21-9) steps into the Octagon for the 18th time against Josh (The People's Champion) Burkman.

Other Canadians on the card are lightweights Chad (The Disciple) Laprise, Olivier (The Quebec Kid) Aubin-Mercier and Shane (Shaolin) Campbell, flyweight Chris (The Greek Assassin) Kelades, bantamweight Yves (Tiger) Jabouin and light-heavyweight debutante Misha Cirkunov.

Now 32, Letourneau took up kickboxing as a teenager. That led to jiu-jitsu and other martial arts.

She won her pro debut in 2007 before losing to fellow Canadians Sarah Kaufman and Alexis Davis, both currently ranked UFC bantamweights.

Injuries have disrupted her career, however.

After the December 2007 loss to Davis, she fought just once in 40 months. A broken hand, concussion and two shoulder surgeries kept her on the shelf.

Letourneau and daughter Gabrielle call Florida home these days. The fighter headed south two years ago to train at American Top Team.

"I love the gym, I love the structure here," she said. "We have so many girls to train with, so that's awesome."

"The weather also, of course."

She is a full-time fighter. In Montreal, she was juggling her training, responsibilities as a parent as well as a job as a trainer.

"I love the gym, I love the structure here."

— Valerie Letourneau

Sixteen K's not enough

The Associated Press

SOUTH WILLIAMSPORT, Pa.
Daniel Zaragoza singled home Raul Leon in the bottom of the sixth inning to give Mexico a 1-0 victory over Canada in their opening game Friday in the Little League World Series.

Leon led off with a triple to right and Leon singled in the next at-bat, leaving Canada starting pitcher Matthew Wilkinson with a no-decision.

Wilkinson struck out 16 before leaving at the 85-pitch limit after five innings.

Mexico reached base six times off Wilkinson, twice on walks, twice on hits, one hit batsman, and one

dropped third strike in the fifth that allowed the extra strikeout situation.

Zaragoza also pitched five shutout innings, striking out 10 and allowing three hits.

Mexico advanced to the winner's bracket and will play the winner of Friday night's Japan-Taiwan game, while Canada will face the loser.



AP PHOTO/MATT SLOCUM
Canada's Matthew Wilkinson pitches during the fourth inning of an international pool play baseball game against Mexico at the Little League World Series, Friday in South Williamsport, Pa. Mexico won 1-0.

Rousey has her next victim lined up

GREG BEACHAM

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES

UFC bantamweight champion Ronda Rousey will take on former boxing champion Holly Holm in her next bout on Jan. 2.

Rousey announced the matchup on ABC's "Good Morning America" on Friday. The unbeaten 135-pound star's attempt at a seventh title defence will headline UFC 195 at the MGM Grand Garden Arena in Las Vegas.

"Definitely my biggest challenge to date, so I'm super excited about it," Rousey told the morning show.

Rousey's next bout was widely expected to be a third meeting with Miesha Tate, the only fighter who has ever survived a first round with Rousey.

Instead, Rousey (12-0) unexpectedly chose a meeting with Holm (9-0), who went 33-2-3 as a professional boxer and won several championship belts. The New Mexico native dedicated herself fully to mixed martial arts in 2013, training in the Albuquerque gym of respected trainer Greg Jackson.

"She's not the average chick that I would fight," Rousey said. "She's the best striker I've ever fought, and striking is something that I learned much later in my career."

Holm has won two fights by decision since joining the UFC earlier this year, but neither was particularly impressive. Rousey is counting on Holm's vaunted striking abilities to be a draw for the bout — although Rousey's utter dominance has been its own selling point lately.

Rousey has won her last three fights in a combined 1:04, including a 34-second stoppage of Brazil's Bethe Correia in Rio de Janeiro on Aug. 1. Rousey is the only women's bantamweight champion in UFC history, and the former Olympic judoka has parlayed her electrifying MMA success into international fame and an acting career.

"I don't ever expect fights to be easy and fast," Rousey told the morning show. "No one knows exactly how the fights are going to go, and that's why people buy them. ... I prepare for a five-round war every time I get in there. No one is easy until after you beat them."

UFC President Dana White previously said Tate had earned the right to face Rousey again by earning four straight victories since her third-round submission loss to Rousey in December 2013. Rousey also has been challenged by Cristiane "Cyborg" Justino, the Brazilian veteran widely considered the world's best female fighter after Rousey.

Wild coach charged with drunk driving

The Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS
Minnesota Wild assistant coach and former NHL player Darryl Sydor was charged with drunken driving Friday after police arrested him in suburban Fridley while he was taking his 12-year-old son to a hockey tournament.

Police pulled Sydor over around 5:15 p.m. Thursday after getting a report of a possibly intoxicated driver, then observing Sydor driving erratically, according to the criminal complaint filed in Anoka County District Court. His blood-alcohol level later tested at 0.30 per cent, more than four times the legal limit, the complaint said.

Sydor, 43, was charged with two counts of second-degree drunken driving because of the aggravating factor of having a child in the car, with a maximum sentence of a year in jail and a fine up to \$3,000.

Sydor has been an assistant coach for the Wild for the past four seasons.

Medicine Hat
The Gas City

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8:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M. SPECIAL SERVICES

Electric Outages 403-529-8260
Gas Emergency 403-529-8191
Water and Sewer Emergency 403-502-8042

****After Hours Special Services • 403-526-2828**

MSI Operating Grants for Non-Profit Organizations

Grants of up to \$25,000 are available to registered non-profit organizations to cover qualifying operating expenses.

Application packages are available:

- On the City's website at medicinehat.ca/grants
- At Strathcona Centre, Reception Desk 1150 5 Street SE

Application Information Session
Friday, August 21, 2015
12 pm - 1 pm in Council Chambers, City Hall

Deadline for Applications is 4:00 pm
Tuesday, September 1, 2015

DEVELOPMENT PERMITS APPROVED
AUGUST 13 TO AUGUST 19, 2014
PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

RESIDENTIAL

526 Somerside View SE (Lot 92, Block 4, Plan 1411496) Permit No. DP12801. With Conditions. Single Detached House Including Driveway Width Variance.

7 Larkspur Court SE (Lot 29, Block 2, Plan 7711650) Permit No. DP12804. With Conditions. Existing Above Ground Pool.

593 Somerside View SE (Lot 15, Block 13, Plan 1411496) Permit No. DP12813. With Conditions. Single Detached House Including Exterior Side Yard Setback Variance.

105 Huckvale Crescent SW (Lot 56, Block 4, Plan 252HD) Permit No. DP12817. With Conditions. Single Detached House. (Lot 33, Block 26, Plan 1132M) Permit No. DP12825. With Conditions. Rear Covered Deck.

30 12 Street SE (Lot 4, Block 4, Plan 7510142) Permit No. DP12827. With Conditions. Front Entry Cover. (Lot 11,12, Block 14, Plan 3204M) Permit No. DP12829. With Conditions. Addition of Master Bedroom.

1736 13 Avenue SE (Lot 9, Block 37, Plan 5144JK) Permit No. DP12831. With Conditions. Attached Garage. (Lot 1,2, Block 89, Plan 636M) Permit No. DP12833. With Conditions. Detached Garage Including Height Variance. (Lot 13, Block 11, Plan 9711353) Permit No. DP12837. With Conditions. Detached Garage. (Lot 17, Block 4, Plan 252HD) Permit No. DP12839. With Conditions. Detached Garage Including Gross Floor Area Variance.

COMMERCIAL

1150 5 Street SE (Lot R2, Block 1, Plan 5765JK) Permit No. DP12819. With Conditions. Renovation of Concession Building And Replacement of Dugouts.

1 Birch Avenue SE (Lot 4, Block 9, Plan 9011191) Permit No. DP12820. With Conditions. Pressbox Replacement.

FIRE HYDRANT & WATER MAIN FLUSHING

Environmental Utilities performs regular maintenance to maintain water quality and system infrastructure by annually testing and flushing fire hydrants and water mains.

During flushing there may be some discoloring of water which is not harmful and will disappear when flushing is complete. Fluctuating pressure may also be noticed. Should discoloration persist beyond three hours, turn on your cold water tap and let the water run for 15-20 minutes. Please note that the flushing in your home will not correct private plumbing/corrosion problems.

Visit www.medicinehat.ca or contact Environmental Utilities at 403-529-8176 for additional information.

The City of Medicine Hat and you partners in safe drinking water

A person claiming to be affected by a decision of the Development Officer or the Municipal Planning Commission may appeal to the Medicine Hat Subdivision and Development Appeal Board by completing and submitting to the City Clerk Department, the required Notice of Appeal form within fourteen (14) days of this publication. Notice of Appeal forms are available from the City Clerk Department, Second Floor, City Hall or on the City's website at www.medicinehat.ca

Further information on any Development Permit may be obtained from the Planning & Development Services Department, Second Floor, City Hall during normal business hours (Telephone 529-8374).