

# Cyclist pedals into prominence

By Chris McCoskey  
staff writer

Meet Plymouth Canton's anonymous athlete.  
His name is Rob Daksiewicz. He's a cyclist.

"Most of my friends know what I do because I tell them and show them pictures," the soft-spoken Canton senior said. "But other people, I'll tell them I'm a cyclist and they'll say, 'Oh, you have a BMX.' Or they think I ride motorcycles. I tell them I race bikes, that kind of confuses them."

Daksiewicz shouldn't feel bad. Greg LeMond is a world champion cyclist and makes more than \$1 million a year, and he's hardly a household name in this country.

Anonymous sort of comes with the territory for the competitive cyclist, even after the widely successful movie "Breaking Away" and an Olympic gold medal in the summer of 1984 helped introduce the sport to America's general public.

"I GUESS (the lack of recognition among peers and classmates) bothers me a little," he said. "But, it's not a school sport. I'm not that concerned about it."

He is concerned about getting recognized by such national cycling teams as 7-11 in Colorado Springs, G.S. Mengoni in California, C.E. Turin in Chicago or the Schwinn National Team in St. Louis.

For the past two summers he has done his best to attract their attention.

On Aug. 3, Daksiewicz placed 18th in the United States Cycling Federation (USCF) Junior National Road Race Championship in Milwaukee out of an international field of 170.

He completed the grueling 75-mile course in 3:14.0. That's a 25 mph pace.

In his next competition, Aug. 17, Daksiewicz won the Waterford Hills Criterium — a 20-mile circuit race. It was his first USCF victory.

"THAT was a great feeling," he said. "Breaking away from the pack and crossing the line."

The win capped off quite a summer

for the young man. He placed third in the Johnny Bench Cross Prestige Classic in Cincinnati, third out of 200 in the Milwaukee Road Classic's National Prestige Event and sixth in the lucrative Wheat Thins Mayor's Cup in Troy.

The summer's racing netted Daksiewicz roughly \$1,500 — which more than paid for his \$1,200 Conti racing bike.

It's been a fast two-year climb.

His cycling career began innocently enough. His neighbor Jeff Krollick, a junior at Canton and a defensive starter on the football team, convinced Daksiewicz to join him in a 24-hour marathon bike race on Belle Isle.

The two rode for 20 hours. Krollick stuck with football. Daksiewicz was hooked on cycling.

"I had seen some racing before and read some magazines. I figured I'd like to give it a try," he said.

He promptly got his USCF license and joined the Great Lakes Cycling Club, a developmental club housed in Ann Arbor.

"THE GUYS in the club, the older guys, really helped me get started," he said.

And Daksiewicz did the rest virtually on his own. He competes nearly every weekend during the spring, summer and fall. He has organized a strenuous weekly training schedule which encompasses about 250 miles.

During the off season, he trains on a stationary cycling apparatus in his basement and partakes in cross-country skiing and ice hockey.

"Right now I'm classified as a level three junior. Four is the highest and I have to compete internationally before I can be a four," he said.

Daksiewicz is hoping to travel to Italy this fall to compete.

He has one more year of junior eligibility, then he'll join the senior circuit (ages 18-34).

"As far as the national class seniors, I'm far away from them right now," he said. "But, I've raced against two- and three-level seniors (at the Ada-Lowell State Races) and placed seventh. Those are pretty much the



DAN DEAN/staff photographer

Rob Daksiewicz has become one of the country's best junior cyclists in just two years. He placed 18th at the nationals last month.

cream of the crop around here."

In October, Daksiewicz will attend a four-day cycling course at the Olympic Training Center where he hopes to gain additional national exposure. He has also applied for acceptance on the 7-11 Junior Development Team in Colorado — the team from which the U.S. Olympic Team is formed.

Folks around the Plymouth-Canton Community School District may not know much about Rob Daksiewicz now, but he's working on it.

## cross country

**FARMINGTON (Boys) 18**  
JOHN GLENN 45  
(Thursday at OCC)  
Individual results: 1. Al Stebbins (F), 17:14; 2. Chris Inch (F), 17:14; 3. Dan Lydel (JG), 17:47; 4. Bryan Lawton (F), 17:59; 5. Tom Hapst (F), 17:47; 6. Ken Durnbeck (F), 18:23; 7. Matt Waters (F), 18:40; 8. Steve Cunniff (F), 18:56; 9. Jim Chon (JG), 19:07; 10. Sam Hassen (JG), 19:15.  
Dual meet records: Farmington, 4:0. John Glenn, 1-2.

**FARMINGTON (Girls) 27**  
JOHN GLENN 28  
(Thursday at OCC)  
Individual results: 1. Karen Opp (JG), 20:46; 2. Nicole Jeter (F), 20:57; 3. Bonnie Stecher (F), 22:11; 4. Leslie Mann (F), 22:23; 5. Ginger Rowland (JG), 22:45; 6. Nicole Givens (JG), 22:45; 7. Pauline Givens (JG), 22:55; 8. Judy McKewen (F), 23:04; 9. Tina Heiskanen (JG), 24:58; 10. Amy Barber (F), 27:21.  
Dual meet records: Farmington, 4:0. John Glenn, 1-1.

**W.L. WESTERN (Boys) 21**  
FARMINGTON HARRISON 37  
(Thursday at Willis Park)  
Individual results: 1. Chris Hart (FH), 18:06; 2. Brian Grosso (WLW), 18:38; 3. Sam Rowen (WLW), 18:57; 4. Karen Fust (WLW), 19:07; 5. Ben Stanford (WLW), 19:17; 6. Tom Bacon (FH).

**W.L. WESTERN (Girls) 18**  
FARMINGTON HARRISON 43  
(Thursday at Willis Park)  
Individual results: 1. Lori Floto (WLW), 22:51; 2. Darlene Kevins (WLW), 22:53; 3. Jenny Anderson (FH), 23:30; 4. Melissa Champion (WLW), 23:52; 5. Sara Nemo (WLW), 24:40; 6. Lisa Amali (WLW), 25:02; 7. Jennifer Clasper (FH), 25:21; 8. Lynn Calmeyer (WLW), 25:55; 9. Kathy Thompson (WLW), 25:57; 10. Angelica Kevins (WLW), 26:20.  
Dual meet record: Farmington Harrison, 9-3.

**HARPER WOODS REGINA 18**  
FARMINGTON HILLS MERCY 37  
BIRMINGHAM MARTIN 29  
(Double dual at S'raft CC)  
Individual results (both meets): 1. Laura Emig (HWR), 21:31; 2. Nicole Colucci (HWR), 22:12; 3. Beth Ewald (BM), 22:20; 4. Megan Girik (MERCY), 22:31; 5. Nicole Druem (HWR), 22:51; 6. Donna Denture (HWR), 23:02; 7. Karen Haskway (BM), 23:15; 8. Amy Hapel (HWR), 23:27; 9. Lynn Porter (BM), 23:30; 10. Carol Melampy (MERCY), 23:31.  
Dual meet record: Mercy, 1-1.

## Call in stats

The Observer sports staff will again provide statistical soundings of girls swimming and girls basketball in Thursday editions.

Girls swim coaches should report their statistics weekly to Livonia Churchill coach Manse Tian. Tian will take calls 2:30-4:30 p.m. Fridays only at 523-9231.

North Farmington girls basketball coach Greg Grodzicki will again compile area leaders in scoring, assists and rebounds on a weekly basis. Area coaches should all Grodzicki at 464-8830 at the following times: 5-9 p.m. Friday and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday.

Observers should include high schools in the following cities: Livonia, Westland, Garden City, Redford, Wayne, Plymouth, Canton, Farmington and Farmington Hills.

Coaches are reminded to update their stats weekly or their athletes will be omitted from the rankings.

Any area coach interested in compiling statistics for soccer or football, please call Brad Emmons or Chris McCoskey at 581-2300 as soon as possible.

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# North, Hawks non-league winners

North Farmington swimmers notched eight first-place finishes Thursday in defeating West Bloomfield 101-71 in a non-league meet.

Jennifer Rowe, Liz Worthen and Cindy Cramer each won a pair of events.

Rowe, a two-time All-Area performer, won the 200-yard freestyle (2:00.93) and the 500 free (5:11.42).

Worthen captured both the 200 individual medley (2:24.8) and the 100 backstroke (1:08.43).

Cramer won the 100 free (55.68) and the 100 breaststroke (1:12.34).

**swimming**

Marge Cramer won the 100 butterfly in 1:04.51 and the Raiders' 200 medley relay (Worthen, Cindy Cramer, Nancy Wetterhoff and Amy Menellien) won with a 2:05.45.

The Raiders are 2-0.

FARMINGTON HARRISON got

double wins from Catherine Tucker and Diana Raddatz en route to a 111-60 romp over Redford Union Thursday.

Tucker took the 200 IM (2:29.2) and the 100 butterfly (1:08.8). Raddatz won the 50 free (27.3) and the 100 free (59.7).

The Hawks (1-0) also got first from

Michelle Harrison in the 200 free (2:28.3), Kelly Murany in the 500 free (6:29.8) and Roxanne Bennett in the 100 breaststroke (1:19.94).

The Hawks won both relays. Lisa Skibinski, Bennett, Karen Baer and Raddatz teamed up for a 2:16.5 in the 200 medley.

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your guide to local scores

### REGISTRATION NOTICE

For  
**CITY OF FARMINGTON**  
REGULAR ELECTION  
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1985

TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS:  
City of Farmington, County of Oakland  
State of Michigan

Notice is hereby given that in conformity with the "Michigan Election Law," the undersigned Clerk, will upon any day, except Sunday and a legal holiday, receive for registration the name of any legal voter in said City not already registered who may APPLY TO ME PERSONALLY for such registration.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN THAT, I will be in my office on  
MONDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1985  
From 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.  
LAST DAY

For the purpose of receiving registrations of qualified electors of the City of Farmington who are not already registered and who properly apply thereto.

JOSEPHINE M. BUSHEY, City Clerk

Public: September 22 and 29, 1985

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