

Meteyer paces North in MITCA meet

North Farmington finished fifth out of six teams in boys track and field May 27 at the Michigan Interscholastic Track Coaches Association Meet of Champions in Brighton.

Kyle Meteyer was third in the 300-meter hurdles (40.5), and Mike Leach tied for fourth place in the high jump (5-6).

The Raiders were fourth in two relays, too. Brian Horr and Charlie Stamboulis combined with Jimmy Lale and Jeff Shamer in the 3,200 relay (8:22) and with Mike Millat and Michael Bowman in the 1,600 (3:33.4).

BOYS TRACK

Jeff Swinger was fifth in the discus (128-6), Isaac Kaufman and Horr were eighth in the 1,600 and 800 runs with respective times of 4:39.9 and 2:03.4.

The MITCA meet matched regional champions against each other. The Raiders were third in their regional but accepted an invitation when the top two teams declined.

At the Ambrose-Eccentric Relays Tuesday, North's best

was in the long jump in which Justin Cook, Geoff Mwaungulu and Andy Zak were fourth (19-6).

The Raiders were fifth in the high jump (Lance, Dan Fanning and Keith Marley) at 4-10. In the 6,400 relay (Eugene Farnish, Andrew Hathaway, Andy Smith and Jeff Meteyer) at 19:55.7 and the 1,200 relay (Bowman, Brian Sider, Shamer and Fanning) at 3:49.4. North was sixth in three events, too. Zak, Mwaungulu, Dan Perach and Shamer ran the sprint medley in 3:53.4. Valon Lewis, Cook, Perach and

Trey Anderson did the 400 relay in 47.4 and Brian Anderson, Zak and Leach completed the shuttle hurdle relay in 1:11.9.

The Raiders' boys' minor league seniors and some juniors due to the press, which took place Tuesday night, too. "We know that going in, so it wasn't a shocker," coach Jeff Simpson said. "It was a low-key meet. The sophomores and juniors had a chance to step up and run a few more events than they normally do at a varsity meet."

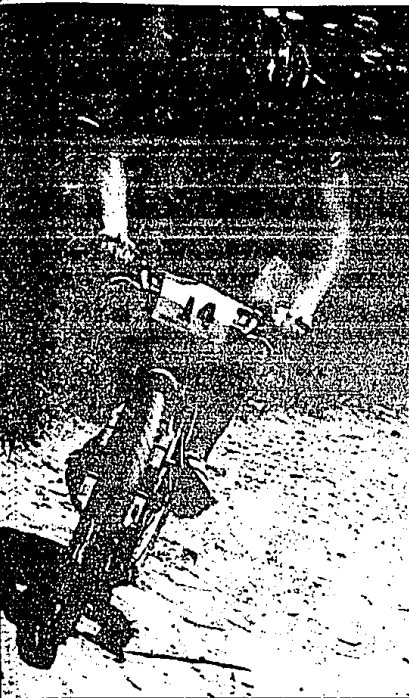


PHOTO COURTESY OF MIKE YOUNGER
Two-wheeled wonder: Dan Bowman, 18, of Farmington Hills handles a curve in the course during a bike race.

Bowman from page B1

"I recovered and passed a lot of guys and made up some time, but I just didn't have a good race for me."

Subsequently, he went to a camp in California and did well there. Bowman believes his second-place finish is what earned him a spot on the U.S. team.

"They compared our times to the pros and, if we were within a certain amount of time, they still looked at us for the national team," he said, adding he was within the time parameters.

"The next day we had a hill-climb race. Me and two other guys broke off the front. I ended up second at the end of a sprint-climb finish, and I think that's what got me on the team."

The 6-foot, 160-pound Bowman was one of only four to make the U.S. junior men's cross-country team, placing him in an elite group of young American racers.

"The rumor was they were only taking two people, and one kid was already selected," Bowman said. "It was like three of us were fighting for one spot."

"But then they announced me at a meeting. I was happy I did it, because the whole idea was to graduate high school early and come out to Fort Lewis to get on the national team."

Bowman was excited and had to tell his parents the good news. It was 12:30 a.m. in Michigan when he phoned home, but his parents didn't mind the late call.

"My mom said to call when I had out, no matter what time it is, but I didn't realize it was that late," Bowman said. "It was only about 9 o'clock in California where the camp was."

While he is representing the U.S. in Spain, Bowman will compete as an individual just as many Olympic athletes do.

His race isn't until Friday, so he'll have several days to get accustomed to the course and altitude, which is similar to that in Colorado.

"It's supposed to be a high desert at about 6,500 feet, which is about the same as Durango," Bowman said. "I heard European

courses are muddy and rocky, but Keith said this one is high desert like Nevada."
"Coming from the same elevation I guess has its advantages over someone from Florida. It usually takes about a week to get used to the altitude."

"I don't think we're going to do any hard workouts, because we have to be rested for our race. But we will be riding the course a lot and getting used to it."

Bowman had planned a return trip to Farmington Hills after making the national team, but his coaches thought it would be best if he stayed there and remained acclimated to the higher altitude.

He won't find the same kind of hills to climb in Michigan, either. There are a lot of what Bowman calls 14-ers in Colorado. Those are 14,000-foot mountains.

"Today I climbed up a 14-er," he said. "The coach's house has seven 14-ers around the yard. It's pretty cool."

"In Michigan, climbs last a minute if you're lucky, but my climb today took an hour and 15 minutes to get to the top."

Bowman hasn't set a specific goal for himself in the World Championships.

"I know the competition will be good, but they wouldn't have selected me to go if they didn't think I would do well," he said.

"I don't want to make any more pressure for myself. I just want to go there thinking I can do well and race."

With mountain bike racing in the Olympics now and there being a pro circuit, Bowman could have a future in the sport.

"I'm getting my pro license and I'll be racing pro next year, for sure, and maybe even a few races this year," he said.

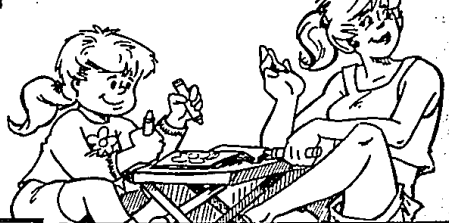
"If you're one of the top guys, you can make some money, think it's pretty cool that I'm going to be a pro."

After setting out just a few months ago, Bowman has gone a long way in a short time. Like racing up a mountain, he's made it to the top.

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3-on-3 hockey games

The Allsport 3-on-3 Summer Challenge begins with the mite divisions on Saturday, July 15, at the Suburban Training Center in Farmington Hills.

The challenges take place noon to 5 p.m. on three consecutive Saturdays. Squirrels play July 22 and PeeWees July 29.

There will be an open division for travel and premier players and a house division for players who are not travel or premier players.

There are four players to a team; games are 20 minutes long, and each team plays one game an hour.

There is a limit of eight teams for each division (open and house) per age group. The number of divisions and teams are limited.

To register or for more information call the Suburban Training Center at (248) 888-1400. Goalies must register individually.