

Earns first podium win in European competition

We have all learned that there are no overnight champions. Twelve years ago the Gazette ran a story on 17-year-old Ryan Roth who won two gold medals in junior men's provincial and national CycloCross competition.

On April 15, 2012, Ryan, now 29 years of age, won the Tro-Bro Léon Elite Men's Cycling Race held in Brittany, France.

Cycling News stated that "The Breton crowd was all fired up for a well deserved victory by local rider Eric Berthou ... but he ran out of gas during the final ten kilometers and got overtaken by chasers Ryan Roth of Spidertech ... With 2.5km to go, the Canadian just rode harder than his exhausted companions and became the first foreign winner of the Tro Bro Léon since Mark Renshaw (Australia) in 2006.

"I'm surprised I've won because I didn't believe we'd ever catch the lone rider [Berthou]," Roth told Cyclingnews about he and his teammate. "I thought this would be a good race for our team but personally, my form wasn't as good as what I would have liked."

Ryan found himself at ease on the Breton dirt roads where his Spidertech teammate and compatriot Will Routley, came second last year.

Ryan was injured one year ago and attended the race then only to watch and learn.

"This is the biggest win ever for me," Ryan continued. "I've never been on the podium of a race in Europe and this one is very special. It's one of coolest races we do, it's very unique and only once a year we have a race like this. I've been away from home for a long time, so it's a nice reward."

Ryan is now off to the Tour of Turkey from April 22-29. "It'll be nice to go back to Canada with this win," he concluded.

The win gave the Canadian team Spidertech two riders on the



Photo courtesy of www.sportbreizh.com / Fabrice Lambert

• Ryan Roth celebrates after crossing the finish line of the Tro-Bro Léon Men's Elite Cycling Race in Brittany, France on April 15, 2012.

podium with Guillaume Boivin taking the third. "This is our first win in Europe. We couldn't ask for a better day," Boivin added.

The Tro-Bro Léon was first run in 1984 and includes 24 sections of dirt, cobblestones and gravel roads (making up to 29.7 km/18.5 mi) on the rolling and windy roads of Brittany.

Ryan is the son of Paul and Marlene Roth, RR 1, Bright, and a grandson of Jean Roth, Tavistock. He graduated from Huron Park Secondary School in Woodstock and after winning the provincial and national titles, competed in the UCI World Championships in the Czech Republic in 2001. He

has been cycling full time since.

Ryan became a National Team member in 2002 and competed in the U23 World Championships in Spain in 2005. Since then he has been in the Canadian National Championships (2009-10), Vuelta a Cuba (2009-10), and the Commonwealth Games in India (2010). Last year he competed in the Pro Cycling Challenge in the USA and the Uninvest Grand Prix.

Ryan is presently living in Guelph, Ontario and trained this spring in Arizona. Ryan has been a member of the Spidertech program since 2008 and has become one of the most consistent riders on the team.

Ryan Roth wins French cycling race