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## Hadfield riding to the top

BY DOUG HARRISON

The Acton Tanner

Tim Hadfield makes the most of every opportunity.

Having raced only five or six of his 25 races in Canada this year, the Acton cyclist recently grabbed one Bronze and two Gold medals at the National Track-Cycling championships in Victoria, B.C.

He also brought home a Gold from the team time-trials at the National Road championships in Brandon, Manitoba.

In Victoria, he won Gold as part of the top provincial foursome in the Team Pursuit event, Bronze in the Individual Pursuit and Bronze in the individual point race.

### 'Fast Canadian time'

In the 4,000-metre team pursuit, each member of the team took turns at the front of the pack to maintain a high level of speed. Hadfield and Co. clocked four minutes, forty-two seconds for the four-kilometre jaunt.

"That's pretty fast for Canadian times and for a provincial team at the nationals," says 21-year-old Hadfield, who compared this feat to the 4:26 team performance when he was with the national team last year in Germany training for the Olympics. The German track, though, was wooden and he raced under perfect conditions indoors.

"We (the provincial foursome) are the top in Canada and we've

only trained for four months," Hadfield reveals. "I think the provincial team could be better than the national one next year, which is something that's never happened."

### Tiring 11-hour flight

In the points race, Hadfield was forced to sprint in order to accumulate points. One kilometre of the total 120 equalled three laps and at each interval of seven, there were sprints and the front five cyclists received points — five for first, four for second, etc.

Hadfield posted a 4.57 finish in the individual pursuit qualifier. His time for the bronze showing in the 4,000m final was 5.02.

Then it was on to Brandon, when after a gruelling 11-hour flight from Victoria and one day of rest, Hadfield was back on the road in the 101 km team time trials at the road championships.

"It's the same kind of race as the team pursuit, but it's done on the road," says Hadfield, the owner of some 30 medals from Provincial and National championships.

"Each guy would ride for 200 to 300m and then go back and we finished in 2:09.07 for the Gold.

"I was surprised to do that well because I'm used to training for the 4km team pursuit. We had never trained or ridden together and never even practised before the race."

A tremendous performance considering he was sidelined in February and March because of achilles tendinitis.

Hadfield says he's been training hard since mid-April and is ready for the long haul of competitions. Case in point: He recently shattered the 40km time trial at the Brampton Cycling Club, riding the course in 53.26.

The low-key Hadfield began cycling at 14 after looking at some old black and white photos of his dad Roger, who used to race. This inspired him to take up the sport.

### Prefers racing in U.S.

Hadfield, who trains in Allentown, PA., New York and all over Southern Ontario, rides between 300 and 800km a day and about 2,000 to 2,500km a month with provincial coach Mirek Mazur. On rest days, he'll travel 30km.

However, he prefers to strut his stuff in the United States.

"Cycling's a lot bigger down there — you see more cyclists, more money (good for expenses) and more spectators," Hadfield says. "Here, they put races in industrial parks and nobody cares about the sport.

"People will drive a half-hour to watch a race there and here, they'll drive that far for a baseball or hockey game. Cycling's still growing but it has its ups and downs."



ON A WINNING CYCLE: Acton cyclist Tim Hadfield holds the jersey he brought home from Victoria, B.C., where he recently won a Bronze and two Gold medals at the Canadian National Track-Cycling championships. Later the 21-year-old won a Bronze in the Individual Pursuit race at the National Road championships in Brandon, Manitoba. (Doug Harrison photo)



HUNGRY FOR A GOAL: David King, of the Achilles Motors Mosquito (Under-13) soccer squad, prepares to boot the ball into orbit on Thursday at M.Z. Bennett against J.D. Subcontractors from Rockwood. (Doug Harrison photo)

## Sabres explore Tri-County

BY DOUG HARRISON

The Acton Tanner

The Acton Sabres Minor Hockey Association is "seriously" looking into moving to the Tri-County league, says a member of the association's executive.

The exploration of a different venue comes on the heels of the Ontario Minor Hockey Association's refused entry into the Ontario Hockey Federation on Saturday.

"At the present time there is no president or vice-president in the Hub league, so it's not only a financial obligation," Dave McIntyre, president of Acton Sabres minor hockey, said Monday evening.

The OMHA will not be operating under Canadian Amateur Hockey Association rules for the upcoming season, which is only six weeks away.

It also means the OMHA member Sabres cannot participate in non-OMHA sanctioned tournaments, championships or play against other International Ice Hockey Federation affiliated teams like Metro, American or

European teams.

The federation ordered the OMHA to adhere to four prerequisites, which they apparently did not meet.

How will this affect Acton hockey?

"It will curb the type of teams we play in exhibition games and a lot of the tournaments we enter, specifically the Buffalo tournament we've been involved in the last three years," explained McIntyre.

A number of big hockey centres like London, Kitchener and Waterloo have moved to an alliance group. The group is not an alternate route for Acton, said McIntyre, who figures to have 160 kids in Sabres' uniforms for the 1993-94 season.

"They're all AAA centres," he offered. "The competition's not there — we're too weak and would be blown out of the water. There's also an extensive travel schedule."

The downfall to the Tri-County situation right now, said McIntyre, is the fact that there are no gate charges in that league.

"That's \$10,000 of our revenue

which was, including playoffs, about \$15,000 two years ago," McIntyre stated. "We would have to run fund-raising or add a surcharge with the gates, but we're not sure which one yet."

McIntyre doesn't feel the decision will sit well with the OHF in the long-term.

"Personally, a year after being under this decision, they (the OHF) are going to have second thoughts," predicted McIntyre. "It's a power struggle now."

"We (the Sabres executive) have a purpose statement that is read at our monthly meetings. We meet as a committee to discuss and resolve all concerns for the betterment of youth hockey in the Acton Sabres Minor Hockey Association. Until the OMHA and CAHA executives do this, there's going to be a problem."

"There are personalities involved and they (the OHF) are not concerned with why we are here. But there will be hockey," assured OMHA executive member Wayne Pries.