

# DIFFERENT SPORTS

## THE WEEKEND WARRIOR

**A.K.A.:** The over-worked heart surgeon who unwinds with 80-mile joy rides on his dream machine. **Ride of choice:** Trek Madone 6 Series (Lance Armstrong's bike). **Apparel/gear/accessories:** Sidi road shoes, Pearl Izumi Lycra shorts, Lance Armstrong jersey, yellow "Live Strong" bracelet. **Helmet?** Yep. Wears the Giro brand, worn by—you guessed it—Lance Armstrong.

**Natural habitats:** Any paved surface; Grand Performance bike shop in St. Paul; Starbucks. **Hero:** Sheryl Crow's ex-fiancé. **Motto:** "Live strong." **Favorite bike movie:** None. Prefers watching YouTube clips of Armstrong's narrow victory over German cyclist Jan Ullrich at the 2003 Tour de France.



## THE FIXED-GEAR ZEALOT

**A.K.A.:** The crabby, too-cool bike messenger who hates you and your stupid 21-speed. **Ride of choice:** A "fixie" (bike with no breaks or freewheel) he built from scratch and spray-painted black. **Apparel/gear/accessories:** Rolled-up jeans, graphic tee, Pabst tallboy. **Helmet?** Hell, no. Unless, of course, you're talking about the band. **Natural habitats:** Downtown Minneapolis, One on One Bicycle Studio, the Stupor Bowl (annual bike

race/bar crawl). **Hero:** The marijuana-smoking bike courier featured in the 19th-century engravings of Mexican artist Jose Guadalupe Posada. **Motto:** "Release me from moral assumption."—From the song "Nihilism" by Rancid. **Favorite bike movie:** *Quicksilver* (1986), about a young bike messenger (Kevin Bacon) working in San Francisco. The F.Z. mocks this film when around other F.Z.'s, but deep down he loves it earnestly.



### THE NEWS CYCLE

Bike-friendly projects you need to know about now.

#### 1 | Sibley Community Partners Bike Library

Beginning in May, Sibley Bike Depot—a non-profit community bike shop in St. Paul—and the City of St. Paul will team up to educate and equip disadvantaged Twin Citians with bikes. The program will provide new riders with a ready-to-ride bike for up to six months, classes in safe cycling and bike upkeep, and support in buying a bicycle for long-term use. [sibley-bikedepot.org]

**2 | Nice Ride Minnesota** 1,000 bikes housed at 80 Downtown, U of M and Uptown kiosks will be available to rent starting this May through

November each year. (see "Public Access" on p. 30 for more information) [niceridemn.com](http://niceridemn.com)

#### 3 | Non-motorized Transportation Pilot Program

Minneapolis has received \$10.6 million from this Federal program to increase bicycling and walking while reducing driving. Part of the money will be used for Bike Walk Ambassadors, which kicks off this summer with programs encouraging people to ditch their car and hit the streets on foot and bike. [ci.minneapolis.mn.us/bicycles/]

#### 4 | University of Minnesota Bike Station

Using the U of M's Oak Street Parking Ramp, this station, opening next month, will provide bikers with repair services, retail (run by local chain the Hub), storage space, restrooms, changing rooms, trip planning and the RFID benefits system (a way of tracking bicycle use). [umn.edu/pts]

#### 5 | Cedar Lake Trail: Phase 3

Open since 1995,

America's first bike freeway connects downtown Minneapolis with popular bike trails in the western suburbs via two one-way lanes for bike traffic and one two-way lane for pedestrians. When completed, Phase 3 will connect the existing trail to the Mississippi River. [ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cip/cedarlaketrail/]

#### 6 | LRT connection to downtown Minneapolis

Beginning this summer new bike lanes in downtown Minneapolis will complete the city's central biking network. [ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cip/hiatrailconnection/]

#### 7 | Nicollet Mall

Nicollet Mall will soon reopen to bicyclists thanks to the MARQ2 (Marquette and 2nd Avenue) project, scheduled for completion by December 11, 2010. [ci.minneapolis.mn.us/public-works/marq2/]

#### 8 | St. Paul

is scheduled to add new bike lanes on Como, Raymond, Marshall and Cretin Avenues. [stpaul.gov]



➔ Know your local cyclist archetypes. *By Chris Clayton*

## THE HARDCORE ALL-SEASON COMMUTER

**A.K.A.:** The "green" rider who disdains owners and views cycling as a religion which he/she is a missionary. **Ride of choice:** Anything that holds up year-round. **Apparel/gear/accessories:** Velcro strap reflective tape for wrapping around pant leg; blinking headlight; For winnobby tires, water-wicking clothing; ski goggles. **Helmet?** Of course—but

it must be covered in bumper stickers that say things like "Give Cyclists 3 Feet: It's the Law." **Natural habitats:** Midtown Greenway; city council meetings; Critical Mass rides. **Hero:** Local bike advocate Chris Zito. **Motto:** "One less car." **Favorite bike movie:** "One Less car" (1991), a documentary about H.A.C.s.



## THE FREEWHEELIN' ART SCHOOL GIRL

**A.K.A.:** The M.C.A.D. student who views her old-school 10-speed as a fashion accessory. **Ride of choice:** 1971 Schwinn Collegiate with banana seat and suicide handlebars. **Apparel/gear/accessories:** Vintage dress, vintage cowboy boots, bicycle bell, wicker bike basket containing dog eared copy of Voltaire's *Candide*, baguette from Rustica bakery, bottle of rosé, pack of American Spirit Lights. **Helmet?** No. The F.A.S.G. finds them tacky and ugly. **Natural habitats:** The

streets of Uptown and Northeast Minneapolis; Café Barquette; art openings; thrift stores. **Hero:** The effortlessly stylish Parisian bike commuter. **Motto:** "The bicycle, the bicycle surely, should always be the vehicle of novelists and poets."—*Christopher Morley*. **Favorite bike-themed movie:** *The Bicycle Thief* (1948), Italian neorealist film about a man searching Rome for his stolen bicycle.



Bikes supplied by Freewheel Bike ([freewheel-bike.com](http://freewheel-bike.com)) and Peacock Groove ([peacockgroove.com](http://peacockgroove.com)).

all-in-the-family shop  
**BOEHM'S CYCLE**  
and Peg Boehm opened Bohm's Cycle in 1945 as a Schwinn dealership. Sixty years later, the bike shop's escape has completely changed, but Boehm's remains on the same corner in St. Paul, still owned by the same family. The shop sells cool old Schwinns, stocks several other original brands as well as kayaking, lacrosse and fitness equipment at its original location and a second location in Mendota Heights.

[1592 Selby Ave., St. Paul; 651.644.4990; 1040 W. Dakota Dr., Mendota Heights; 651.454.2066]

Best two-wheeled fashion  
**2709 DESIGNS**

Portland may have (just a few) more commuters on two wheels than Minneapolis, but we are decidedly more fashionable while biking around town thanks to design duo Becca Jane Koehler and Bonnie Vig of 2709 Designs. 2709 creates women's clothes, such as jersey dresses and airy knit tops, suitable to wear in both the bike lane and your office. Take your two wheels to Design Col-

lective in Uptown to shop their creations. [Design Collective, 1311 W. 26th St., Mpls.; 612.377.1000]

Best bike advocates  
**MINNEAPOLIS BICYCLE COALITION; MINNEAPOLIS BIKE WALK; TRANSIT FOR LIVABLE COMMUNITIES; AND MIDTOWN GREENWAY COALITION**

The Twin Cities are crawling with bike advocacy groups. A few key players in the effort to increase and improve city biking and decrease driving are the Minneapolis Bicycle Coalition, a volunteer-driven group that plans

to start a Twin Cities Ciclovía (a Sunday event, coordinated with nearby businesses, to prohibit motor traffic on a given route) and the Minneapolis Bike Walk, which provides funding to biking and walking projects. Transit for Livable Communities works to make our sidewalks and streets bicycle-safe and friendly, and the grassroots Midtown Greenway Coalition advocates a sustainable transportation network dedicated to the Midtown Greenway. [[mplsbike.org](http://mplsbike.org); [bikewalktwincities.org](http://bikewalktwincities.org); [tlcminnesota.org](http://tlcminnesota.org); [midtowngreenway.org](http://midtowngreenway.org)]

