

Going in cycles

Dombrowski riding high

By Bill Meade
Staff Writer

LURAY, August 7 — After finishing the Luray Criterium on Sunday, Marshall resident Joe Dombrowski was headed for far distant roads to continue his cycling career.

Dombrowski was among the hundreds of cyclists who participated in the Page Valley Road Race, which increased in events and attendance this past weekend.

The 20-year old professional biker is headed to Italy, Switzerland and France this weekend to being training with USA Cycling for the Tour de L'avenir (Tour of the Future), a mini-version of the Tour de France, which is a race for under 23 cyclists.

"The Tour de L'avenir is my big goal," Dombrowski said.

The race lasts eight days and covers some of the same route as the Tour de France.

Dombrowski began competitive cycling four years ago and began racing mountain bikes before switching to road racing. He has also competed in



Contributed photo

(Top) Joe Dombrowski of Marshall rides through the Page County countryside during Saturday's Page Valley Road Race. Dombrowski is a member of Lance Armstrong's Livestrong Developmental team.

cyclocross (cross-country biking).

As an elite, young racer, Dombrowski was chosen to be a member of Lance Armstrong's Livestrong development team, which is an international team of 14 racers, including cyclists from Australia,

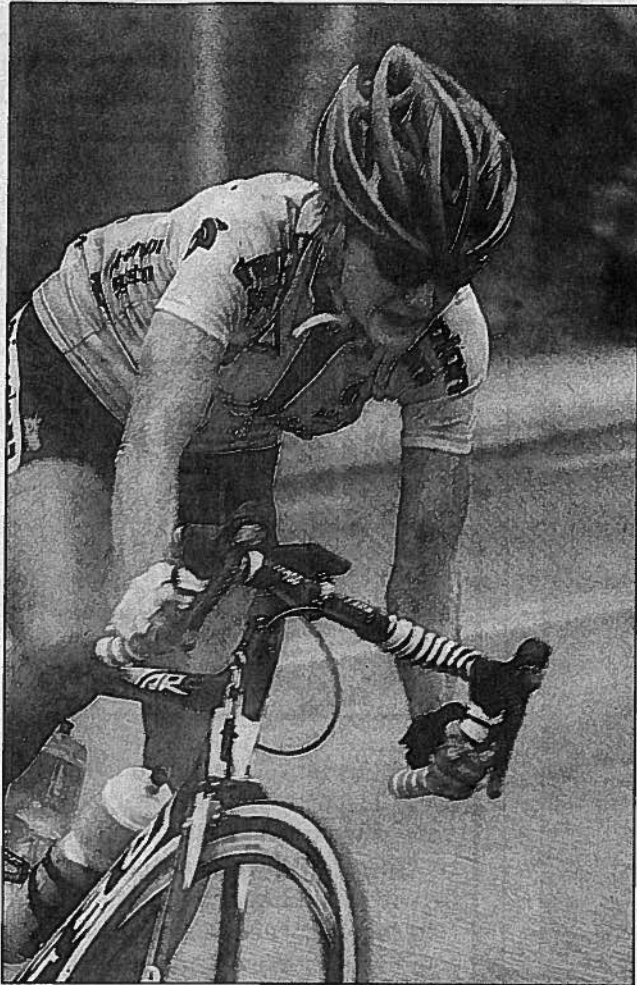
New Zealand, Germany and the United States. Dombrowski is the only member of the team from the East Coast.

The previous Saturday, Dombrowski won the inaugural Shenandoah Time Trials, a new event for Page Valley Cycling. Dom-

browski covered the 40 kilometers in and around the town of Shenandoah in 54 minutes.

Dombrowski finished in the main pack of Category 1 cyclists in Saturday's Road Race and

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A lone cyclist trudges up the Main Street hill during the Women's Category 3 race at the Luray Criterium on Sunday as the final part of the Page Valley Road Race.

Race

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was second in his category on Sunday at the Luray Criterium. He said that there were about 30 competitors in his race Sunday.

Dombrowski competed in the Page Valley Road Race

for the second year.

"It was definitely an event I looked forward to," Dombrowski said. "It was another good year for them and it will continue to grow in the future. I really enjoyed it."



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Biker's start the Luray Criterium at the top of the Main Street hill for the final race of the day on Sunday. The Page Valley Road Race continued to grow in popularity this past weekend.