

I completed my first mountain bike race in 1999. All it took was that one race and I was hooked. What could be better than crossing the finish line exhausted, caked in mud, and with a huge muddy toothy grin.

In 2002 I turned pro. I completed the Norba National Series, many local mtn races and started some road racing. I remember how fast I thought the competition was. I had so much fun racing and seeing new places.

Last year was great. I felt a bit more comfortable, and continued to learn and improve.

At the end of the 2003 season, my team had dissolved, and I was lined up for shoulder surgery. The darn thing kept falling out of the socket and I figured it was time to fix it.

I had a hard time convincing the surgeon that I could only be off the bike 2 weeks, but in the end I won out (sort of). Determined to keep improving my fitness, I climbed up on the bike trainer, right arm in sling, left on the bars. At least my legs still worked! I was back outside after 10 weeks. I have never been so happy to go out and brave the New England winter weather.

2004 has treated me well so far. I have won every local mtn. race I have entered. I am having fun racing on the road. I came in 19th overall at Sea Otter and 12th overall at Big Bear with a 10th place in the Short Track. I am looking forward to these next few weeks of East Coast Races. I love the mud, rocks and roots. These elements are lacking on the west coast.

When I am not on the bike I work part time as a physical therapist. I work a lot with athletes which I enjoy. I also teach Physiology to Massage Therapy students 1 day a week. I live in Somerville Massachusetts which is about 4 miles north of Boston. I love New England, but dont know how much longer I can handle training here through the winter.

When I am not working, biking, sleeping, or eating, I am planning my wedding which will hopefully come together for October.

Thank you all again for offering me this opportunity. Thank you also for supporting women's cycling. I am looking forward to representing Ford Cycling in 2004.