

# Cycling Tour includes 75-years-young former Unity resident



It was a grand 75th birthday celebration for former Unity resident, **Gail Todd**, shown here in pink jersey, with **Larry Lentos** and **Louise Ashcroft** of Regina and **Heather Bruce** from Portage La Prairie, Manitoba. She was part of the the July 16-17 GASP tour through the Sask. Cycling Association, that stopped in Unity. *Tim Holtorf*

**Sherri Solomko**  
Another group of bikers arrived in Unity July 16 and 17, only this time there were no loud motors roaring, only the whispers of pedals moving. Sask. Cycling ([saskcycling.ca](http://saskcycling.ca)) made Unity one of their stops on a weekend excursion.

Gail Todd, a former Unity resident, was one of the group’s participants. There was a total of 80 riders, with 40 arriving each Saturday and Sunday of their tour. While the group’s participants are from all over the province and beyond, Todd

herself lives in Ottawa. Todd is the daughter of Irwin, known as Toddy, and Menella Todd. The family moved to Unity from Manitoba with their three girls, Carol, Gail, and Angela. Todd’s mother, Menella, wrote for the Unity Herald and wrote articles for a TV station in North Battleford. Their move to Regina when Gail was in Grade 9 was a result of mom getting a job opportunity with the Leader Post. Sport was always a part of Gail’s life as while teaching, she coached high

school sports, mostly basketball and volleyball, in the Queen City. She was the Executive Director for the Royal Life Saving Society of Saskatchewan before serving as an Executive Assistant to the Minister of Sport, Culture and Recreation. She also served on the board of directors, and is past president, of the Saskatchewan Team Handball Federation. She is the past president of Sask. Sport Council as well is a past board of director and past president. In 1989, Gail moved to Ottawa, continuing to work in sport and recreation as well as serving in senior management positions with the Canadian Wildlife Federation, Canada’s Fitweek Secretariat, and SMC Management Consulting Group. Todd also was a volunteer with fundraising for programs like the YMCA, YWCA and the Kidney Foundation. She became involved in sports there. She began working at the YMCA and also started rowing. Her working career ended as a realtor before retiring. Gail’s first bike tour was in Croatia with a friend from Regina who is joining her on the cycling tour that made Unity an overnight stop. “Unity is my hometown, so when I saw the route

stopped there, I thought I would give it a go,” said Gail. The Croatia tour was to celebrate Gail’s 70th birthday, which required a decent bike and training. “I moved to Ottawa 23 plus years ago and I love Ottawa, but I love opportunities to get back home. And yes, I am a die-hard Rider fan,” says Gail. Todd notes that the July 16 ride group that arrived in Unity had ridden 85 kilometres upon arrival in town, and she acknowledged all of the encouraging honks they received along the way. Programming director, Don Cook, made mention that Jeff Bridgeman has ridden with the group in years past. **Sask. Cycling Association** SCA say they often get people returning to tours year after year.

Sarah, from Sask. Cycling Assoc., says, “We try to go to different parts of the province every year. It has been a while since we were this way so decided it was time to return as it is such a beautiful area to ride through. We also try to find places that have nice roads to ride on.” The cycling tour groups have a couple of vans and trailers that follow participants, stopping every 20 kilometres for food and water and such. If needed, cyclists can get into vans. People pack for all conditions and SCA notes that many of the riders just ride though most weather events. The organization does provide an emergency plan to participants on where to seek shelter in case of inclement weather that should not be ridden through. SCA says they have been doing tours such as this one since the early 2000s.

“It was originally brought along to introduce people to the idea of tour cycling and it has grown leaps and bounds, now resulting in breaking into two tours, leaving on different days of the weekend to fit in more participants,” says SCA. The tours are enabled because of volunteers who work year-round to plan and execute the summer cycling tour, as it takes many man hours to bring the event together. The tour is known as GASP (Great Annual Saskatchewan Pedal) and introduces cycle touring in a supportive manner. The tour that is making Unity their overnight stop will be travelling over 600 kilometres. You can learn more about the Sask. Cycling Association on website [www.saskcycling.ca/](http://www.saskcycling.ca/) or follow them on their Facebook page.



Cyclists that are part of the Sask. Cycling Association, GASP tour, appreciate the support vehicles that provide them nutrition, water and breaks along their trip. *Sask. Cycling Association / Facebook*

# Double provincial gold medals for Macklin baseball

**Sherri Solomko**  
In a show of determination and resilience, two Macklin Lakers teams, who played in 35 C



The gold medal winning Macklin Lakers team. Asst. Coach **Wade Stang**, Coach **Jason Russell**, **Caden Gartner**, **Kasen Folk**, **Jackson Russell**, **Ethan Veller**, **Blake Stang**, **Chase Weinkauff**, **Issac Fleck**, **Hudson Krieger**, **Rhett Partington**, **Myles Stang**, **Kaegan Lowe**, Asst. Coach **Craig Folk**, Asst. Coach **Curtis Gartner** and **Pherson Loehndorf** in front. *Photo courtesy of Macklin 15U moms*

The **15U Macklin Lakers** boys’ baseball team competed in AA Tier 2 provincial competition in Regina. They won their opening game against White Butte by a score of 10-3. A one-run difference resulted in a game two loss. The Lakers rebounded to win a decisive victory against Saskatoon by a score of 13-3, which advanced the team to semifinals. Defeating the Battleford Beavers 16-5 sent the Lakers to the provincial final against the Lumsden Cubs. It was a slugfest that resulted in Macklin winning provincial gold by a score of 23-16. In the same weekend, the **11U Macklin Lakers** boys’ baseball competed in the AA Tier 4 division of provincial championships in Rosetown. A successful round robin earned the 11U Lakers a tiebreaker with Kindersley, which they won handily by a score of

11-1. A 6-4 semifinal win over Biggar earned Macklin a trip to the final, earning another 6-4 win



The 11U Macklin Lakers. Back row: Asst. Coach **Curtis Gette**, **Carson Schneider**, **Walker Dewald**, **Brady Leinenweber**, Asst. Coach **Marty Krushelniski**, **Landon Reschny** and Coach **Justin Reschny**. Front row: **Dominic Krushelniski**, **Houston Loehndorf**, **Liam Gette**, **Kobe Lowe**, **Quinn Partington**, **Daxon Kohlman**, **Kipton Gette** and **Kanen Reschny**. *Baseball Saskatchewan / Facebook*