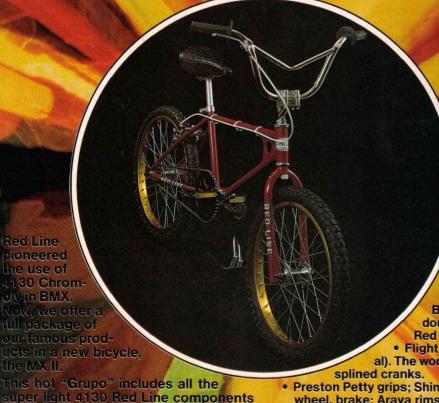


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VOLUME THREE NUMBER SIX NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 1978

After a frustrating first half of the 1978 racing season, Brent Patterson (PR) is finally starting to cook. Photo taken at Craigmuer in New Jersey

EDITORIAL

Two months of flat jammin'

DEAR WIZ.

Shuckin' and jivin' from V.I.P.'s everywhere

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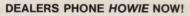


OAKLEY

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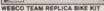
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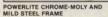
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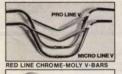


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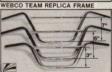












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We shipped two special CYC

Stormers to Curt Van Inwegen and

Greg Keller in Colorado Springs.

Colorado. These two intrepid indi-

viduals rode the bikes down from the

top of Pikes Peak on backpacking

trails. Their photos and story are in

this action iam packed issue of The

We traveled somewhere around

9000 miles to cover BMX races at a

fairgrounds in Northern California, at

the Sports Arena in Los Angeles, at a

Most Factory Magazine.

one end of the U.S. of A. to the other.

It seems like a couple times over.

The longest two months and shortest editorial in the history of the Most **Factory Magazine**

defunct riding stables turned BMX track in Texas, and at a ski resort in New Jersey. We also hit a bicycle streamliner race at Ontario Motor Speedway in Southern California. Lemme tell ya' . . . these last two months has been something else!

Not all these races made it into this issue. Some will be reported on in our

I'll bet that right now you're asking yourself, "Self . . . how come all of those races aren't in this issue?'

Ah so. Velly good question.

Actually, the reason is that we have compiled for your eveballs to peruse. a gigantically huge Buyers' Guide which has all the latest hot equipment in it. And if you notice, we printed it just at that critical time when all you whippersnappers are planning what loot you want to get this Christmas. Diabolically clever of us, huh?

I've gotta cut this thing short . . . We just don't have the space to spare in this issue. But before I ride off into the sunset I want to tell you that in addition to moving to larger plush, posh, professionally decorated offices during this same two month period, we also lined up for future issues some articles by Stevie Skibel's European mechanic. Steve Skibel, Sr. Steve is going to write about the care and feeding of racing

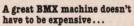
While you're buzzin' through the issue, check who won the BICYCLE MOTOCROSS ACTION No. 1 Racer of the Year Award. None other than Bobby Encinas, whom you all know and love. Bobby is going to be doing some articles for us starting next issue. He will be more or less replacing Scot Breithaupt who is off to other pastures. Also check the presentation helmet that we gave Bobby. It is hot!

I've absolutely got to go now. Later,





Expensive bikes don't go faster, they just cost more.



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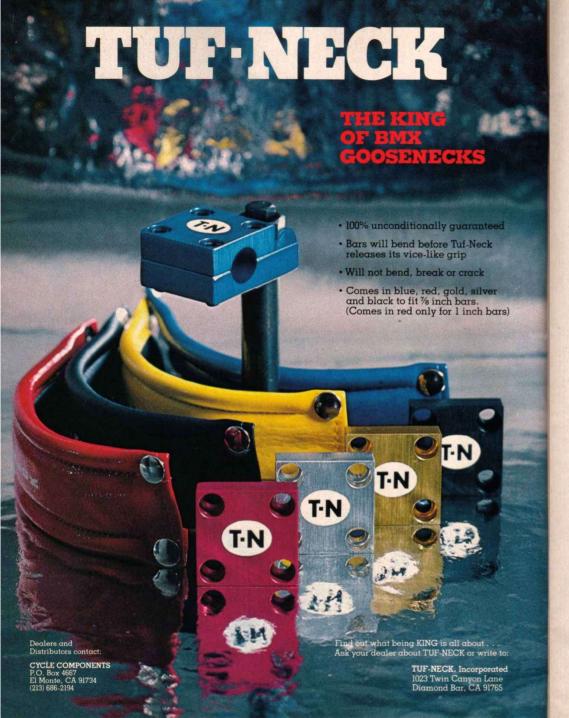
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UNAFRAID, WE HEREIN SOLICIT SOCIAL COMMENTS, REMARKS ABOUT ARTICLES, SUGGESTIONS, ASSORTED DRIVEL OR WHATEVER . . .

Dear Wiz,

FROM SPEEDY RAMIREZ

I think your magazine is great. Please give my congratulation to all the staff from the bicycle motocrossers in Mexico and from our club.

Armando Ramirez Quintanilla Bici Speed Cross Club Aguascalientes, Ags., Mexico

Que pasa, Armando. Gracias para su carta. -Oz

RACE FACE

In the August issue of BMXA, Billy McCombs was photographed during the Torker/ABA Winternationals. What kind of face mask was Billy wearing. Where could I purchase one?

Greg Johnston Piedmont, Califonia



Billy McCombs and Race Face at Azusa

That's a Race Face. It comes in black, yellow, blue, red, and white. If your local bike shop doesn't have them in stock, see if they'll order one from CYC Distributing. And if that doesn't work, contact CYC directly by writing to Box 467, Hawthorne, CA 90250–Oz

DOUBLE FEES AT U.S. NATIONALS

I'm writing this letter to comment on the Jag/NBA U.S. Nationals at the Sports Arena. I really enjoyed the event, but it was not fair for my boy to pay a \$3 gate fee on top of a \$10 mail-in entry fee to participate. I know a lot of parents who feel the same way.

> Dan Keyes Chino, California

I agree, Dan. If the racers are the show that everyone is coming to see, how come they have to pay a spectators fee? I wonder if DeCoster or Hanna pay a gate fee when they race? U GOT 'UM . . . U KEEP 'UM

We HoVE
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YOU Set yourself up

Where can we send his clothes? You're stuck with him. He was replaced last week by Moon Man Snickems, the Tennessee Flash

Please take good care of Charlie. He's especially fond of peanut butter and pickle sandwiches.—Oz

BAD FROM RAD

I, Radical Ruckels, have only one thing bad to say about the Most Factory Magazine. It does not come out often enough! Oh yeh, what would be the best way to weld my trusty old Redline frame. It broke at the seat post. I have had it for five years and don't have enough frogskins for a new one.

Radical Ruckels Niceville, Florida

Hey, Rad, all you have to do is find someone who does primo heli-arc welding and get them to repair your seat post. Those old Redlines are hot bikes. They hang together. Jones and Randy both have one for their thrashers.

HANG TEN RESPONDS

I am in receipt of the "News Flash". in the June 1978 edition of BMXA. Hang Ten was ready to move ahead with the BMX circuit and Hang Ten National BMX Championship all along. Matter of fact, time and money had

already been channeled into the promotional materials for this summer's long series of events.

Hang Ten is as disappointed as you and the BMX riders that this program didn't come to fruition. Hang Ten would appreciate your clarifying this situation to your readers. What happened in the inner structure of this sport is as unknown to us as a sponsor. I only hope that for the benefit of the riders that an association is formed to better serve the athletes in this sport.

Susan Hickman Sports Promotion Hang Ten International

HOW TO NEVER GET ANYTHING DONE BUT MANAGE TO ENJOY IT

BMX . . . the first time I heard that, I couldn't even guess what it stood for. Now . . after eight months of serious racing I can tell you it stands for both the good and not-so-good things in life.

It's good points are many. Mainly, my son has managed to progress from a short-attention-span student to an over-achiever. BMX racing has taught him to organize himself ... his equipment, his thoughts and most of all, his attitude. He now has two goals ... to maintain high grades so that he can continue racing, and working to become a good BMX racer.

BMX more than anything else has managed to bring our family closer together. We all enjoy watching the races... not only our son's but everyones'. For the first few race days I brought books along to read and I found that I was so engrossed in the races that I couldn't concentrate on what I was trying to read.

Another "asset" of BMX racing is that I have been instructed in the care and mechanics of radical racing machines. My husband usually works on weekends and I then assume the position of Head Wrench and Pit Crew (of one). I'm still learning... but it's gratifying to know that my son counts on me to accomplish tasks that his father does with grace and speed while I slowly attempt the same with pleas for help from other fathers. If they only knew how grateful I am for

their assistance. My son has learned to be tolerant of a mother who says, "Give me that thing with the long handle on it!"

I won't even bother to bring up the not-so-good points of BMX racing . . . they are few, far between and a part of life that must be experienced as one is growing up.

Needless to say, while working during the week and racing every chance we get (during the week and on weekends), very little is accomplished around our home. Since we're seldom there, we do what we can whenwe can. Our unofficial motto is:

"GIVE US BMX RACING OR GIVE US NOTHING!"

> Jeanne Tatton La Puente, California

ANOTHER EPISODE OF THE NEW FAIRFIELD U.F.O.

It was 7:30 in the morning when we set out for the opening day of BMX at Craigmeur. Arriving in New Jersey in forty-five minutes, we got lost for two and a half hours. We stopped at every gas station in West Milford, New Jersey, getting wrong directions every time. Finally we found it.

Pulling in with the radio at 150 decibels, yelling and screaming, we were FINALLY there. The sign-up line was a hundred miles long. Racers were getting radical all over the parking lot. My mother kept getting run over by charging motocross bicycles.

In charge of the track was Harry Meyers, the nicest person anybody wanted to meet, who had enough

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ALHAMBRA, CA 91803

patience to last a decade. The track was nicely set up. During the practice run the mud was unbearable. I came around a turn and PLOP! into the mud. Everybody was laughing. Anyway, like Harry said, "It's a motocross track, not a miniature golf course."

Leapin' Charlie Litsky did a great show for us around the track. I got a chance to talk to Charlie between races.



Then after all the confusion and the restlessness, the first moto got under way. I was in race 25, 16 and up novice, six people in my moto. I couldn't believe it! My very first race! With my mother waving to me from across the track, and my friend trying to figure out how to use my Minolta, all I could do was laugh.

Then I heard, "Pedals ready . . . GO!" I got a bad start and coming around the first turn I almost passed my way into fifth, but I guess almost only counts in horseshoes. Approaching the second turn I almost ran over two spectators. Then coming around the fourth turn I almost ran over the edge. What a race. I finished sixth out of six. I never changed my position. There will be other races.

Later on me and Charlie were riding the sidehack around the parking

Well, it was time to say goodbye. We got lost again and somehow found ourselves on the other side of Jersey. So I asked two motorcycle cops for help. We drove them crazy. We were totally confused. I kept on telling them how we should get home and about my race. He was saying something about getting cramps, until I realized he was saying, "Get on the ramps of the highway." So then we decided to write down the directions as he said them, but we all came up with different ones. We were cracking up. Then he said, "Forget it, I'll show you." So there we were, riding onto the highway with a police escort.

Trying to find your way out of Jersey and trying to win your first BMX race have a lot in common. They are a never ending battle. But at least it wasn't a total waste of gas getting lost, I got some fantastic pictures of the

window while going over the George Washington Bridge.

To sum it all up, I had a great time and I'd like to thank Harry for making

New York skyline by hanging out the

and I'd like to thank Harry for making my name known in BMX, Charlie for letting me ride his sidehack with him, Danbury Yamaha for sponsoring me, and finally the New Jersey police who helped us finally get out of Jersey.

Lorraine Figliuzzi
New Fairfield, Connecticut

A TRUSTY TESTIMONIAL

The reason this letter is so sloppily typed is because I have a broken elbow. I was riding my BMX bike to practice after school and I was crossing a foot bridge when one of the rails of the bridge collapsed. It sent my bike and I down about five feet and I landed on my elbow. The bike came out in perfect shape.

This is not the first time something of this nature has happened. About this time last year I was crossing a street at a crosswalk with the light, and a lady jumped the light and ran me and my bike right over. I just wanted to say that my bike is as strong as anything to take that sort of punishment and come out of such an ordeal unscathed. Incidentally, my bike is a Suzuki Works BMX frame with Cook Bros. forks and Skyway Tuff Wheels.

Stuart Zwibel Fairfax, Virginia

Now is that a testimonial or is that a testimonial? - Oz

NEWS FLASH

3rd Annual Mongoose Grand Nationals

If you race only once a year, this is the race it should be. The Mongoose Grand Nationals have been the biggest and best for the last two years, but this year should be a real whing-dinger!

According to Mike Hodsen at BMX Products, they are shooting at 2000 entries and 10,000 spectators. Whew, kind of boggles your brain, doesn't it?

So get out your racing calendar and start writing.

DATES: October 29,1978 (Qualifications on Saturday, finals on Sunday). At time of publication these dates were firm.

LOCATION: Los Angeles Sports Arena, Los Angeles, California. This is a probably.

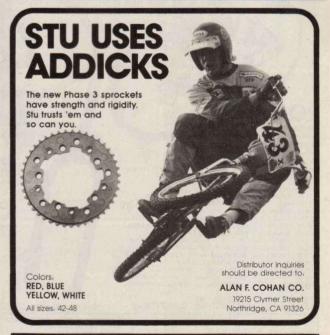
CLASSES: Beginners, novices, experts, and pros. All age groups. Beginners classes are almost for sure at this time.

Tickets will be available through Ticketron. Check with your local bike shop for final details.



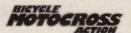


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Rapidly acquiring a reputation as the "Ultimate Racina Frame." This unit comes complete with "Strong-Lite" sealed bottom bracket assembly, and a "Strong-Lite" competition headset. The seat tube has two

alloy tabs welded to it for lighter weight and a more positive seat post clamp. Available in either regular or Jr. size.

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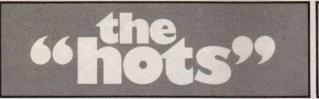
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Got something really hot that you'd like to share with everybody? Not the normal stuff but something really "hot?" Want to see your name in The Most Factory Magazine? Shoot those "HOTS" to us and if they're great we'll run 'em. Send them to: BICYCLE MOTOCROSS ACTION ("HOTS"), P.O. Box 5277, Torrance, CA 90510.

Shimano 3-speed clutch spring (arrow), and you've got a freewheeling hub.



This stuff you can toss.

Shimano Coaster Brake Hub Modified To Freewheel

From the ol' buckeroos at Clothron's Bicycle Service in Austin, Texas, came the following hot tip:

Does a freewheel setup with multiple gear options and extreme low cost sound good? If you have a Shimano MX coaster hub on your rear wheel, here's what you can do. (If you have a Bendix coaster brake, tune in next issue and we'll run Clothron's hot tip on modifying it to a freewheel. -Ed.)

First, take the whole hub apart and clean everything. Keep track of that thin washer that goes between the spring and the clutch assembly. Toss away the brake shoes and the spring that's on the axle. Also remove the brake arm and the dust cover because you won't be needing them.

Now to put this back together screw the brake cone and lock nut onto the left side of the axle. Purchase a Shimano 3-speed clutch spring (Pt. No. 321-3000), and slide it onto the right side of the axle next to the brake cone. Take that thin washer you've been wondering about and slide it onto the axle up against the spring. Next goes the clutch, with the big internal threads facing to the right. Put this whole mess back into the hub from the left side. Grease all the bearings and put the driver (that the rear sprocket goes on) back onto the axle and adjust and tighten the cone and lock nut. Put it back in the frame, install a hand brake, and away you go!

Pick a Number, Any Number

At the ABA track in Chandler, Arizona, somebody invented a most spiffy way of drawing numbers for starting positions.

Once a number (clothes pins) is drawn, it's clipped on the bottom of the board. For the next moto the whole thing can be turned over or the clothes pins can be removed from the bottom of the board and clipped back on the top, whichever you find more simple

If you decide to use this idea at



your track be sure to switch clothes pins after each race day because it's a lead pipe cinch that some of the racers will memorize the grease smudges on 'em



The Bonneville Salt Flats of Bicycles

The rules were simple: The vehicles had to be purely human powered, they could have no mechanically stored energy, they could not be towed or pushed. and they could not draft another vehicle.

The course was straight, level, and paved. The vehicles had one-half mile to accelerate before entering the 200 meter time trap.

The object was to attain the highest possible speed through the traps. At Ontario Motor Speedway on May 7th, 1978, the top speed champion

ship in human powered vehicles went to Northrop University's "White Light ning." It turned an incredible 54.87 MPH. That's legal freeway speed! That's so fast for a human powered vehicle that even though your eyes see it, your mind refuses to grasp what is happening.

Down Under Heat

You got it ... BMX.

Latest info has it that our favorite sport is growing by leaps and bounds (that's a pun that has some raque reference to kangaroos) in Brisbane and Sydney.

According to 15 year old Scott Shepherd, from Brisbane, the tracks there have longer straights and tighter turns generally than the U.S. of A. tracks, and the style of riding leans a bit toward destruction derby. Spectators down there

When we talked to him. Scott was rying on some U.S. style BMX at a arge Powerlite charity race in Southern California. He was doing pretty good, too ... Not great, but



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Race of Champions 1st
Currently NBA National #3 in points



BRYAN WEBB — 17 yrs. NBL National #4 Murray Grand Nationals 1st Florida State Champion Currently National #1 NBL



JEFF RUMINER — 15 yrs.
Sports Digest Championships 1st Trophy & Class
Race of Champions 1st Class & 3rd Trophy Dash
Supernationals 1st class & 3rd Trophy Dash
Currently NBA National #8 in points

GET ON THE WINNING TEAM

(Ride the same equipment as these National Champions)



SCOTT CLARK — 16 yrs. NBA National #3 Tri-State Championships 1st R. C. Race of Champions 1st



DUANE BALLENGER— 11 yrs. Mongoose Grandnationals 1st Las Vegas Winternationals 1st



BILL ANDERSON — 16 yrs. LBMX #1 Las Vegas Winternationals 1st NBA District Championships 2nd



LARRY RUIZ — 17 yrs.

Tri-States 1st Class & Trophy Dash
Frogtown Nationals 1st
Supernationals 3rd Pro Class



MARK WEGENER - 17 yrs. BMXN #1 East Coast Orange Bowl Classic 1st Georgia & Tenn. State Champion

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It's one tough competitor. Lightweight. Strong. And built to move. Check out all our blockbuster BMX bikes. The R-9 with its all chromemoly frame and fork. The built-for-competition R-11. The fast-moving R-10 with its 7" cranks for super starts.

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1170 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, Massachusetts 02134

Skyway & NBA Springnationals

Stu Doubles A Brent Snags the Bucks A David Bombs



The starting straight at Watsonville. Pretty good crowd control for the NBA



Two of the 10 expert big guns: Bo Stevens (Wheels N' Things) in front, with David Wilson (JMC) on him like stink on Limburger.

The MFM van was flyin' low to Watsonville. Headin' for the Skyway Springnationals.

Johnny Cash's San Quentin tape was putting out good country sounds. The fearless BMXA team (BLJ, Randy, and R.L.) wanted to listen to Fleetwood Mac. But it's my tape deck.

Took the scenic route. Right up the coast. We could have sailed an Addicks sprocket from the van to the ocean most of the way. Ah, the grandeur of Mother Nature.

We stopped at Split Pea Soup Anderson's in Buellton to try their famous soup. Jones said it looked like that stuff in the Exorcist. We all had ham-

Flyin' again. Beautiful country. Blue skies, warm breeze, dry grass covered hills, and gnarled (yeah, that's where gnarly came from) old oak trees. Upick-um strawberry places around Santa Maria. Inviting seafood restaurants in Pismo Beach.

STORY AND PHOTOS BY BOB OSBORN

Randy just said that when he did Package with us. R.L. is scarfing up some doughnuts with his RM on a the fresh pineapple slices. I found witch's front lawn, that she turned it some cauliflower that wasn't anywhere into a moned

been snuck onto the tape deck. Oh Yum until we reach a place where they

Drove by the Madonna Inn in San have rooms that look like caves. When you take a shower it looks like a cave with the shower head sticking out of solid granite. Plush place. Expensive.

Yvette (our foxy art director and

near as bad as it sounds. Randy and By this time Fleetwood Mac had Jones are trying to survive on Bubble can get some junk food.

Around Salinas we saw a big old Luis Obispo. They're supposed to barn with MAIL POUCH TOBACCO in huge letters on the side. You just don't see many of them anymore.

Seven hours after leaving BMXA's secret mountain top headquarters in Torrance, we cruised into beautiful resident health food nut) sent a Care downtown Watsonville. The Resetar

Hotel, where we had reservations. was crummy. No air conditioning, no TV, no radio, threadbare carpets. 1930's furniture, steam heat, small lumpy beds, thin pillows, and EL RIPPO prices. This was like something right out of a John Steinbeck novel.

The track at Watsonville Fairgrounds was primo. It was well prepared well designed, and great for photography. And there was an ambulance and paramedics in attendance all day. Is the NBA finally starting to listen?

From a spectator's point of view. this was class watching . . . nice





No. 1120x, Brian Gass, gassed it but No. 116n, Roy David, dominated the 9 expert class.



For No. 10n, Brent Patterson (PR), there was some good news and some bad news. The good news was winning the pro main. The bad news was the rest of the day.



Kenny Nachman (Mongoose), tucked in and bookin', beat some heavy dudes in the 15 expert main.



Arland Amos (Torker), a very sano dude, won the 11 novice class.



Wide-eyed Michael Muniz mastered the menagerie of midget motocrossers magnificently.



Schwinn's prima ballerina, No. 8x, Greg Hill, swooped a rampaging 14 expert class but lost the lead in the national points race when Stu scored two main event wins at the Skyways Springnationals.

breeze, newly mown fields of hav all around, and mountains and trees in the background. And hot racing!

Take a young man named Brent Patterson for example.

So far this year, things have not been too great for Brent. A continuing string of minor problems have kept him from a strong position in the national points race.

At the Skyway Springnationals he stopped this losing streak and came within a very short hair of regaining all his lost ground.

He won the pro main, picked up the typically modest NBA first place money, and got his ticket punched for the Trophy Dash. He had also qualified earlier for the 16 expert main.

Now, picture this . . . Patterson had already beat Stu Thomsen and David Clinton in the pro main and, as Clinton hadn't qualified for the 16 expert main. Stu was his most serious threat. If he could beat Thomsen, he would have clear sailing in the Trophy Dash.

There was a good chance that Patterson could pick up over 600 national points! That would put him right back in the thick of it for the national No. 1 race. The light at the end of the tunnel was burning bright and clear.

All he had to do was beat Stu in the 16 expert main . . . and Hadley and the Corona Kid and Scott Clark and Perry Kramer.

You don't think Patterson was wired? They drew numbers. Patterson got the outside line to the first turn. Stu had the inside. A critical distinction.

The familiar CRACK of the gate smashing down signaled the start of the race to all the spectators. Front knobbies lofted as max power was applied. Six helmeted riders charged through the dust of the fallen gate.

By the first jump two racers had muscled into the lead. Outside was Patterson. Inside was Stu.

Brent, already straining, put out the extra effort to move precious feet ahead of Stu.

But he's outside going into the first turn.

Stu holds hard inside on the flat. bumpy, packed turn. Patterson lays his bike over and kicks out the rear wheel to flattrack through the turn. He doesn't see the Corona Kid (Kevin McNeal) coming in fast on a collision course.

Stu won. Perry Kramer got the second, Kevin McNeal pulled a third. Patterson finished a disappointing fourth.

Which brought it down to the Trophy

Once again it would be a confrontation primarily between Patterson and Thomsen. Once again Stu drew the advantageous inside position. Once again the two rivals muscled into the lead by the first jump.





Stu Thomsen OPEN PRO 14 EXPERT Brent Patterson Grea Hill Perry Kramer Mike Koron Scott Clark Eric Rupe 16 EXPERT 14 NOVICE Stu Thomsen Richard McCants Perry Kramer Bill Dickson Kevin McNeal **Tony Mascoto** 13 EXPERT

16 NOVICE Turnell Henry Todd Nicklas 15 EXPERT

Kenny Nachman Wayne Brown Jeff Utterback 15 NOVICE Trevis Langford Henry Martinez

Craig Mitchell

13 NOVICE Bob Judkens Eric Larken 13 AND LINDER OPEN Lee Medlyn Brian Patterson

Lee Mediyn

Ron Anderson

Brian Hunting

Tim Quialey 12 NOVICE John Lukens James Porter Mark Cash 11 EXPERT Richie Anderse Bobby Artura Mark Higgins

11 NOVICE

Arland Amos John Hicks James Lobach 10 EXPERT Bo Stevens David Wilson

Brad Wall

Sean Phillips 10 NOVICE Ernie Ramirez

Bo Stevens 9 EXPERT Roy David Doug Davis

Chris Leach Scott Mikel 8 EXPERT Mike Horton Mike King

Mike Scurto 8 NOVICE Tommy Cayner Richard Gutierrez

Chuckie Southwick 7 AND LINDER EXPERT Michael Muniz Jeff Long

SENIOR LADIES Dorene Payne LeAndrea Payne Kim Johnson JUNIOR LADIES Beth Gera Lisa Horton Sharis Ow

Steve Lamson



But then Patterson backed off! In-

He backed off just enough to let

And it worked! Patterson came out

inches ahead. By the second jump he

was a length in front of Stu and pulling away. Brent Patterson was flat bookin'.

He could taste victory and the na-

This was Patterson's turf. The Northern California crowd was going ber-

One turn and a short straight left

Stu Thomsen won the Trophy Dash

and the 16 expert main, earning

enough points in the process to move

into the current NBA National No. 1

Brent Patterson won the bucks in the

pro main but lost another battle in the national points war. And to this is

added the frustration of coming so

But, there are other races coming.

before victory, fame, glory, and a re-

tional points. The bitter disppointment

of the first half of the year was fading

Stu pass, then Brent dove inside and jammed into the turn with the inside

credible!

position. Unbelievable!

Just two turns to go.

serk. How sweet it is!

And he fell.

So close.

position.

very close.

claimed national stature.

One turn to go. . . .



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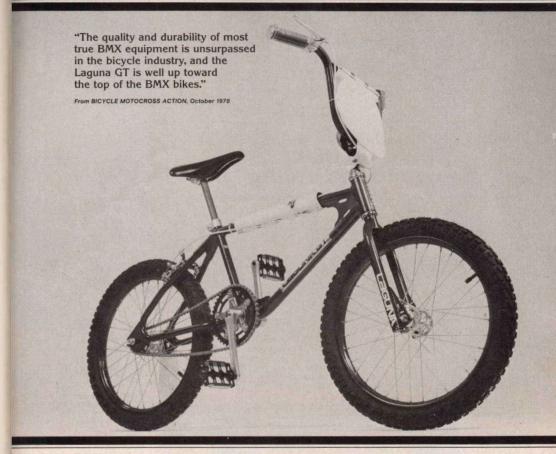
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- 6061 T-6 heat treated aluminum frame
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1978 BICYCLE MOTOCROSS ACTION No.1 RACER OF THE YEAR

Bobby Encinas and **Team Shimano Swooped the Voting**

Hey, sports fans, the voting is over and we here in the secret mountaintop headquarters of The Most Factory Magazine have finally gotten around to counting the ballots.

We've got to tell you that the response was phenomenal and warmed us right down to our worn out Van's tennies.

Ballots came in from almost every state in the U.S. of A. We even discovered a devious, dastardly, diabolical ballot box stuffer at work! Yeah, whoever this sneaky devil was, he or she sure spent a bunch of bucks on postage. But this arch fiend made a fatal mistake . . . he ran Xerox copies of the official ballot WITH HIS CHOICES ALREADY ON IT! Sheesh, do you believe that? An obvious counterfeit. What a crummy criminal

But back to the BICYCLE MOTO-CROSS ACTION No. 1 Racer of the Year Award. As with most everything else, we're going to do this back-

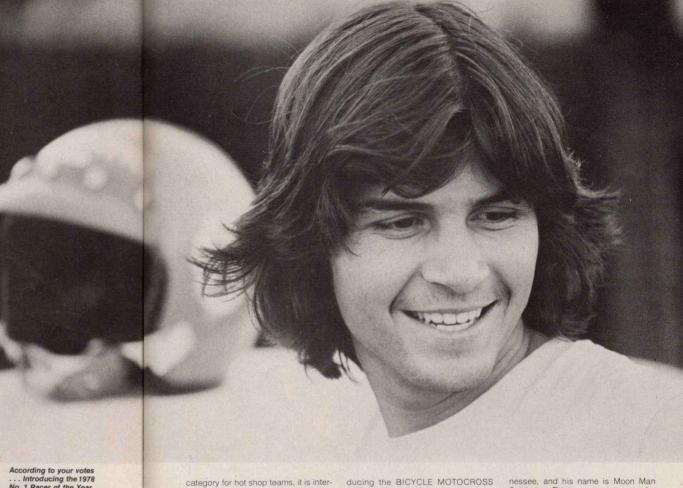
The BMX track that got the most votes is . . . the envelope please . the Valley Youth Center in Van Nuvs. California! Next in line is the Morris Track in Bakersfield. Third is Carroll Ranch in Northern California. Let's hear it for 'em! Tear the house down!

In the No. 1 team category, Team Shimano won. Second was the now defunct Speedo team. The Mongoose factory team smoked in for third.

Although we didn't have a special



Bell donated the RT helmet and Superhelmetpainter Mike Vils did the presentation graphics on it.



No. 1 Racer of the Year ... Bobby Encinas.

BICYCLE MOTOCROSS ACTION

esting to note that the two highest finishers were Montrose Bike Shop and Wheels N' Things.

In our bass-ackwards tippy toeing through the awards and tulips, the ladies are next. By popular vote, the BMXA No. 1 Powder Puffer of the Year Award goes to Linda Bisenberg who rides for the Gus Dandos Bike Shop. Krystal Bradshaw pulled a second. She rides for Laguna Distributors. Florida bell, Kim Wyant, nailed down third spot. We love ya', ladies.

We never did quite figure this one out, but somebody voted for Jeff Ultterback as the No. 1 Powder Puffer of the Year. We include this bit of trivia you got it . . . Brent Patterson. without comment.

And now, down to the nitty gritty. Ladeez and gentlemen . . . Intro-

DECEMBER 1978

ACTION No. 1 Racer of the Year . . .

It's none other than Bobby Encinas, 18 year old suave, sophisticated, debonair, ace SoCal BMX racer. All right out there, let's have a huge round

Seriously (for a second), Bobby Encinas is one of the neatest individuals it has been our pleasure to know over the years since BMX started. Congratulations Bobby, no kidding

. you deserve it. A close second in the voting was the pride and joy of SE Racing, Stompin' Stu Thomsen, Third was NorCal's finest, racing the Patterson colors,

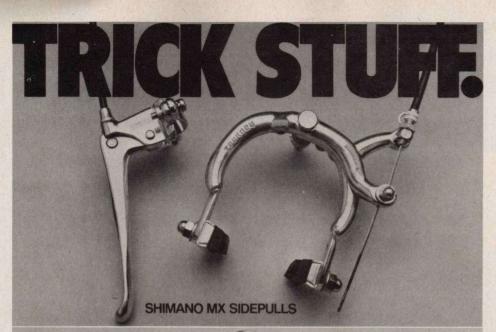
Another bit of trivia concerns the guy who got the least number of votes . . . one. He's from Lenoir City, Ten-

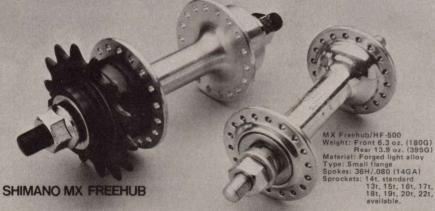
Snickems. This guy must be one far

But getting back to our 1978 No. 1 Racer of the Year, Bobby Encinas . as soon as we can corner him he will become the recipient of a bunch of fine racing equipment . . . including a Bell RT helmet that we had Mike Vils do a number on. Mike paints helmets for the Yamaha, Suzuki, Kawasaki, and American Honda motocross teams. That should tell you something.

In addition to the presentation helmet we're giving Bobby one hundred and fifty frogskins, cash on the barrel-

Congratulations to all the winners. and especially to the 1978 BICYCLE MOTOCROSS ACTION No. 1 Racer of the Year, Bobby Encinas,



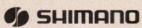


A tougher than tough rear wheel can be the difference between winning and eating dirt. Shimano's MX freehub is that tough... with quick-change sprockets matched to its unitized freewheel and wide track hub bearings for extended life. Our new MX freehub and MX front hub are forged from light alloy for strength and incorporate the lighter small flange. And you get your choice of gearing from 13t., using standard Shimano coaster brake sprockets.

The quick way around the track means precise, positive braking. Shimano MX Sidepulls are forged from light alloy to deliver smooth braking control moto after moto. Built into every brake is our patented Synpull mechanism for accurate centering, and our exclusive quickrelease for instant pit action.

"I need something I can rely on because I race so often. That's why I ride Shimano. The new quick-change sprockets and quick-release brake give me more time to concentrate on my raceing without worrying about my bike.'

Bobby Encinas-Captain, Team Shimano BMX Action's Racer of the year.



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BMX EQUIPMENT GUIDE

In your hands right now is the most complete listing of BMX equipment ever included in a newsstand publication. Heavens to Betsy, we've been busy rascals.

Of course we are not totally unaware of the approaching Christmas shopping season. We hope this Buyers' Guide will be of service to our beloved readers, the bike shops, and the BMX manufacturers and distributors during this period. If this happens, then our efforts to shed a little light in an otherwise chaotic time have not been

If your local bike shop doesn't carry the particular item you want, have him contact the distributor or manufacturer. the Buvers' Guide



HELMET BAG

Slightly larger than other bags. Room for strong enough for spare parts and tools Red, white, and blue. Suggested retail, \$13. ROBINSON RACING PRODUCTS.



MITYGOOSE

16 inch knobby tires, Ashtabula fork 41/2 inch cranks, mini box bars. Hot pit bike. Suggested retail. \$95. BMX PROD-



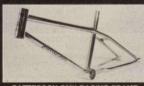
LAGUNA SEAT POST CLAMP

Gold anodized aluminum with four Allen head bolts. Allen wrench included. LAGUNA DISTRIBUTORS, INC.



DIA-COMPE BRAKE LEVER

Factory bent Dia-Compe brake lever with a vinyl sleeve. Lever is cold forged from aluminum. It mounts with a half clamp. Sleeves come in red, blue, white, yellow, or black. About \$4 retail. EVERYTHING



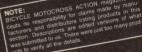
PATTERSON BMX RACING FRAME

heli-arc welded, boxed dropouts, caliper brake bracket. Nickel plate finish. PAT-TERSON RACING PRODUCTS.



RED LINE FORKS

The original tubular chrome-moly fork. Heat treated stem. Nickel plated, RED LINE ENGINEERING.





DG BMX TENNIES

Manufactured for DG by Vans. Blue and yellow with a DG logo patch on the side. \$19.50. DG PERFORMANCE SPECIAL-



COMPETITION II KNOBBY

The Mitsuboshi skinwall knobby tire is ultra light and comes in colors! Blue, red, orange, and (of course) black. CYC DISTRIBUTORS or MITSUBOSHI.



SCHWINN SCRAMBLER COMPETITION SX1000

Hand built competition weight chromemoly frame, gusset reinforced. Tubular chrome-moly forks, 36 spoke alloy rims, Schwinn lightweight gumwall tires. Strength and lightness. SCHWINN BICYCLE COM-



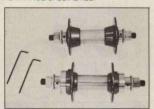
GOLD STEM

Chrome-moly construction, heli-arc welded, gold irridite finish, fits all styles of bars, includes all necessary hardware. Suggested retail, \$15, BMX PRODUCTS



DG PAD KIT

Kit includes a single-stem pad, 9 inch bar pad, frame pad, a pair of octopus grips, and a DG sticker pack. Your choice of red, blue, or yellow pads. \$12. DG PER-FORMANCE SPECIALTIES.



WEST COAST SEALED BEARING HUBS

Double threaded rear hub to accommodate two sized freewheels. Allen key spacers, heat treated axles, alloy shells, 540 grams per pair. Designed by West Coast, manufactured by Sunshine. WEST COAST CYCLE SUPPLY CO



HOT STICKIES PATCH PACK

Jazz up your racing jersey with four colorful factory patches; Oakley, JT Racing, Electro, and BICYCLE MOTOCROSS AC-TION, Send \$4 to HOT STICKIES CO.



GRAB ON MX-1 GRIPS

Fatigue reducing low density foam competition grips. Light, soft, durable, shock absorbing, NORTH AMERICAN INDUS-



ADDICKS SPROCKET

Phase III front sprockets, molded of DuPont Zytel with Teflon and silicone added to reduce friction. Comes in 42 to 48 tooth sizes. Fits most popular spiders. ALAN F. COHAN



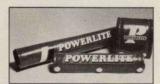
TORKER LPGT

Chrome-moly frame, stress relieved after heli-arc welding. Frame weighs less than 4 pounds. Threaded bottom bracket. Chrome, white, blue, or red. Torker forks. TORKER, INC.



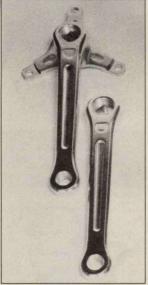
JAG BMX DYNAMIC DUO

Team Jag comes with DeCoster forks Gold Stem, alloy bars, Dura-Ace gold anodized cranks, Oakley II grips, Araya rims, caliper brakes. Jag "cafe racer" comes with Motomags, forged cranks. Boogie with JAG BMX.



POWERLITE PADS

Red, white, and black color heat transfers Wet look extra thick vinyl with special E-2 snaps. EVERYTHING BICYCLES or POWER-



SUGINO COTTERLESS CRANKS

The cold forged aluminum Sugino Maxy II cranks are 171 mm. (63/4 inches). Weight is 14 ounces per pair. A full range of Sugino alloy sprockets is available. Cranks retail at about \$17 per pair. SENTINEL SALES EAST or EVERYTHING BICYCLES.



TANGE FORKS

High tensile steel, heat-treated to equal the strength of chrome-moly. Weight is under 2 pounds. Inexpensive. CYC DISTRIBUTORS.



MONGOOSE

Chrome-moly triangle frame, Ashtabula forged forks, Motomags, Bendix coaster brake. Suggested retail, \$155. BMX PRODUCTS.



SUN TOUR FREEWHEELS

14 through 20 tooth Sun Tour freewheels available for either derailleur or regular chain. New beefy freewheel puller fits larger notches in freewheel. SUN TOUR USA CORPORATION.



RALEIGH RAMPAR R-9

All chrome-moly frame, color coordinated hubs, rims, bars, seatpost. Alloy doubleclamp gooseneck, Dia Compe calipers, Sugino cotterless cranks, Araya flatside alloy rims, alloy seat post. Under 24 pounds. RALEIGH INDUSTRIES



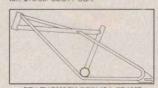
MORRIS MAGS

Cast from aluminum, heat treated, precision machined. Bright aluminum details. black inside areas. Front has 36 inch hardened axle, rear accepts Bendix brake. CYCLE COMPONENTS.



NEW SCOTT GOGGLE

Scott USA's tough new Model 59 goggle comes in red and yellow and features an impact resistant, scratch resistant Lexan lense. Vision, comfort, and dust sealing have all been improved. Suggested retail, \$15.95. SCOTT USA.



STU THOMSEN REPLICA FRAME

The STR-1 frame is constructed of chromemoly tubing, weighs 4 pounds, and comes in silver, brown, or tan. The "Quad-Triangle" design eliminates flex and fatigue. SE



DELTA PRO FRAME

All chrome-moly with built in seat post clamp. Normalized and heat treated for durability and strength. DELTA RACING PRODUCTS.



RED LINE "V" BARS

Chrome-moly. Micro-Line, 23 inches wide by 8 inches high. Pro-Line, 26 inches wide by 9 inches high. RED LINE ENGINEERING.



TEAM LAGUNA JERSEY

Vented nylon. Royal blue and yellow with white silk screening. Men and boys sizes S-M-L-XL. LAGUNA DISTRIBUTORS.



WEBCO KIT BIKE

The new Webco Team Replica comes in white, red, blue, black, and silver epoxy finishes. Webco forks are rectangular chrome-moly tubing. Tuf-Neck and rear calipers are stock. Should retail under \$150. EVERYTHING BICYCLES or WEBCO.





BMX COLOR POSTERS

23 x 35 inches in full color. Hot action photos. \$2.50 each, three for \$6.50. BICYCLE MOTOCROSS POSTERS.



RED LINE MICRO-LINE FRAME

So new we don't have any specs on it at this time. RED LINE ENGINEERING.



SCHWINN SCRAMBLER 36/36

New Schwinn BMX frame design, 36 hole spoking, heavy duty wheels, nylon chord Schwinn Scrambler tires, cross braced bars, 6½ inch cranks, coaster brake. Kickstand optional. SCHWINN BICYCLE COMPANY.



COMPETITION PAD SET

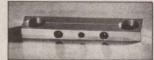
Wet look vinyl with blue BICYCLE MOTO-CROSS ACTION silk screened logos. Best quality. 12 inch frame pad. 9 or 10 inch crossbar pad, and double-clamp stem pad. Special, 88.00 including postage and handling. U.S. SALES CO.





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BRAKE BRACKET

Add rear calipers to Mongoose, FMF, Champion, and other frames that do not have the brake mount built in. 6061-T6 aluminum. HANK AND FRANK BICYCLES.



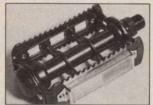
WEST COAST STEM

Allen head double clamp aluminum stem. Weighs 309 grams including expander bolts. WEST COAST CYCLE SUPPLY CO.



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Radiussed outer corners, chrome-moly heat treated shaft, adjustable bearings, serrated contour gripping surface. SUN TOUR USA CORPORATION



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Chrome-moly Mongoose frame, chromemoly Roger DeCoster forks, alloy bars, Shimano Dura-Ace crankset, Oakley grips, alloy rims, caliper brakes, suede saddle. Suggested retail, \$280. BMX PRODUCTS.



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6061-T6 aluminum legs, chrome-moly stem. % or 1 inch leg tubes. 1 pound 6 ounces. Retail around \$56, PROFAB.



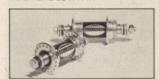
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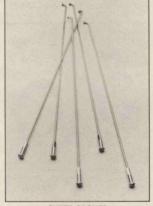
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Five spoke I-beam constructed aluminum wheels incorporate a special rim contour that accepts tube or tubeleas bicycle tires. Comes in many colors and surface textures such as brush or mirror finish. LESTER WHEEL CO.



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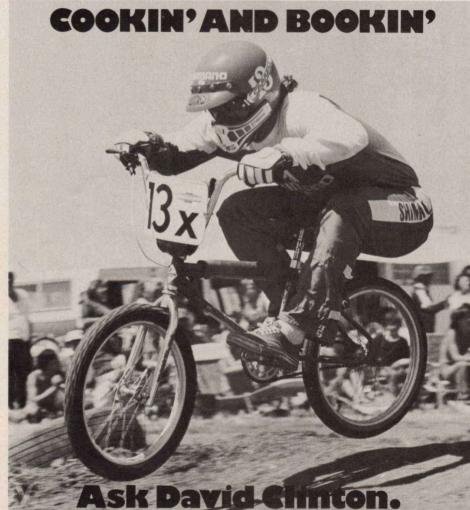
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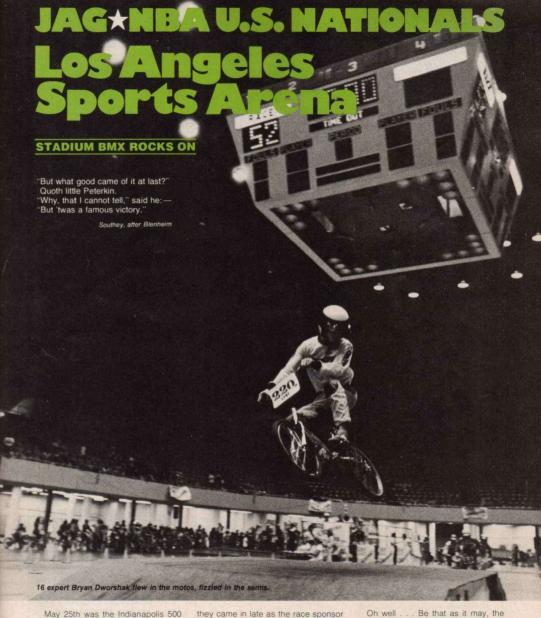
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"The Greatest Spectacle in Racing."

On that same day, the US Nationals quate job. BMX race could have been "The Second Greatest Spectacle in Racing" effort into publicizing it.

But they didn't. Jag BMX did, but

and just didn't have time to do an ade-

And because of this, the Los Angeles Sports Arena, which is a truly if the NBA would have put some impressive place, was almost empty of spectators, other than friends and relatives of 625 racers who signed up.

Sports Arena provided us hard core BMX fans with a few unaccustomed luxuries. Like a dust and dirt free environment and comfortable seating. And no sunburns. And a totally unrestricted view of every inch of the track. Ah, such swankiness.

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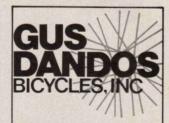


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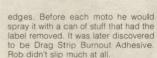


The final jump in the 14 expert main. Hill and Rupe of Team Schwinn sizzled in for a one-two finish. At the conclusion of this race Greg Hill was leading the NBA national points race. Not bad for such a skinny little guy.



The Leary flash . . . He was hot.





David Clinton coated his tires with rosin prior to each moto. The Schwinn team used Shell fan belt anti-slip spray.

But the hot tip of the day, the stuff that most people already had, was hair spray. Stock in Clairol went up three points that day. The Los Angeles Sports Arena will smell like hair spray

And nobody slipped. There was zero sliding. It was a mental trip. Blast off the line, accelerate to full speed.



David Clinton (Shimano) leads the promain with Brent Patterson (PR) right on him and starting . . . to slide . . . sideways . . . In front of the whole pack. With



Anthony Sewell (Jag), Jeff Ruminer (RR), Stanley Robinson (Torker),



Bart Griem was a stand out rider all day. Factory material.

set up for the turn . . . vou know you should brake, but you don't . . . feet up, flat out, pedalling. Phew! Your mind doesn't want to accept the facts.

Another hot tip was to take out all the pylons in the turns with your inside foot. If you did this just right it would scatter them all over the track. This was considered good insurance.

The Sports Arena snack bars were doing a brisk business in junk food despite the lack of spectators. The Colossal Foot Long Hot Dogs were lunch and dinner for a lot of people. Racing started just after noon and wasn't over until 9PM. Long day. But no sunburn.

doesn't it?

The Utterback style . . .

was a kick in the head.

The track consisted of a bunch of

carpet-covered plywood jumps set on

a concrete floor. The straights and

turns were outlined with pylons (hav-

To reduce sliding and increase

speed, the corners were sprinkled

with rosin. Sounds like a lame track,

It wasn't. No way. Everybody who

The combination of smooth concrete

corners and the rosin treatment led

to some interesting variations of the

tire/racing surface relationship. Rob

Lynch ran a rear slick with rounded

raced it thought it was hot. Racing here

bales would have been better).

Greeted with something less than enthusiasm by racers, parents, and sponsors alike were the record high \$15 entry fees on top of the \$3 gate

Bottema is back and getting his act together. He ran seconds and thirds in the motos, made the semis. and pooped out there. A month ago he couldn't even make the semis. Two months from now and he's going to start picking up some of the pro

Patterson was hot . . . back in peak form . . . but plaqued with bum luck. He finally sorted out his new PR frame (shorter cranks and lower gears than with his Champion). He had a second

front wheel crabbed in a tight turn and unceremoniously dumped him in front of a bunch of wild eved pros.

Clinton cooked. He won the pro class . . . 250 smackeroos . . . and took a second behind Stu in the Trophy

Ol' Stompin' Stu put a hooty on everyone. He took a big first place in the 16 expert class and blew 'em away in the Trophy Dash.

Harry Leary novocained everyone in his motos . . . but he blew the mains ... again. One of these days Leary's going to figure out what he's doing wrong . . . and LOOK OUT!

For a change the NBA had an ade-

sewed up in the pro main when his quate amount of personnel. The track area was kept totally clear of anyone but the racers. There was an actual live nurse in attendance. And there were no less than six ladies scrutinizing the finish line and keeping scores. You can't beat that with a stick.

The Los Angeles Sports Arena was so great for a large BMX race that Skip (owner of BMX Products) Hess got the hots to have this year's Mongoose Grand Nationals there. Right this very minute he's dickerin' with the Sports Arena agents. It just might happen. And, sports fans, that would be a RACE! It would be years before the smell of hair spray left the place after

FOR RESULTS **SEE PAGE 53**



Stu in control of the 16 expert class.



Richard Zaggars (Jag) finished third in the 13 expert main and fourth in the 13 and under open. Give Zaggars a



Jam up and jelly tight! Faster than a loco-motive! The 15 expert class at full tilt: Sewell (Jag), Utterback (SE), Clark (Robinson), Rentfrow (Torker).

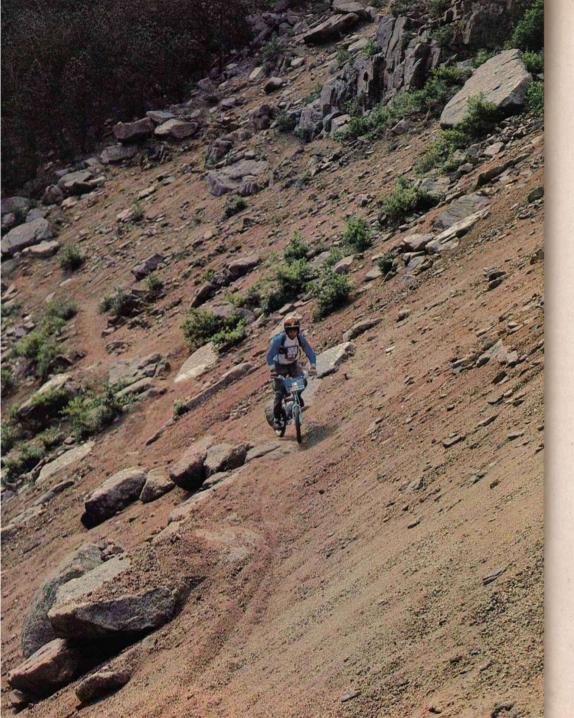


View from the top. Lame as it appears, the track was hot. A little publicity by the NBA would have filled a lot more seats.



Because of the hair spray on the tires and the rosin on the floor, there was zero sliding in the turns . . . But that doesn't stop your foot from sticking out there of its own accord just in case.

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THE GREAT CYC PIKES PEAK DESCENT



PART TWO: Descending

STORY AND PHOTOS BY CURT VAN INWEGEN • MORE PHOTOS BY GREG KELLER

It is 9:15 AM, June 26, 1978. As the sun rises toward another bright Colorado day we find that all is not quiet on the south side of Pikes Peak. What we do find are two guys with BMX bikes. One of those guys is Greg Keller and the other is me; Curt Van Inwegen. What we are about to do is very simple. We are going to be the first people ever to ride bicycles down Pikes Peak.

It all started about a year ago when Greg and I took a hike up Pikes Peak. Igot this bright idea to ride a bike down the trail. I told Greg of my idea and he said it sounded pretty neat but that he sure wasn't going to ride his bike down since it would probably self-destruct alongside a hundred foot cliff

I wrote a letter to BICYCLE MOTO-CROSS ACTION magazine asking if they would be interested in a story. They said they would and that they might be able to help if I ran out of luck with sponsors for the ride.

Upon receiving my plea for help BMXA had gotten CYC to build us the bikes and to supply us with everything that we needed to ride down the mountain without killing ourselves. Months and months passed while CYC had the special bikes built and

Once we got the bikes, we became the talk of the neighborhood.

Most of the talk came from the little kids since they had never seen bikes that you didn't have to fix after every trip down the street. I mean you just don't see too many decent BMX bikes in our neighborhood.

Once the excitement wore down, nothing really newsworthy happened. Greg and I just went out for our daily rides, got muddy, got used to the bikes, and just generally had a good time. The bikes were profitable in a way though. We would ride up to the local hangout and let kids ride the bikes for a candy bar or coke.

Weeks passed and people eventually forgot about my crazy plans and went on with their own business. Meanwhile, I was busily finding out what would be the best way to ride down the 14,110 foot high mountain. There were three possibilities: the toll road (no challenge), the back side (no trail for the first five miles), or the only hiking trail up to the top (very radical).

The toll road was out as it was illegal to ride bicycles down the road. The Barr Trail (the main hiking trail) was out because the forest ranger didn't want us riding bikes down it because of all the hiking traffic. That left the back side, which the ranger said we could use for our ride.

Finally the big day came. The bikes were double checked, our equipment was checked, and everything was put in ship shape.

The bikes each had water bottles, fully padded frames, rock guards, and seat bags to carry extra gear. My bike carried a small bicycle tire pump, spare parts, and tools. Greg's carried rope (in case we had to haul one of the bikes up from a canyon, which came close to happening several times), one of our cameras, and extra food. We each carried two packs; a day pack with food, water, and camera equipment and a belt pack. My belt pack carried extra munchies and Greg's had all the film.

We each wore a helmet, CYC jersey, gloves and kneepads.

The only modifications made in addition to what CYC supplied us with were sharpened teeth on the pedals.

One thing I would like to say about the bikes . . . CYC did a super, super job for us. Every piece of equipment was totally first rate. From what our bikes went through all I saw was a bent brake lever, and that was after bouncing down on some boulders. The rims stayed as true as when we first got the bikes. The frames were as tough as ... well, as tough as however tough a bike has to be to hold a 175 pound rider down a rough as nuts trail. In

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Taking a break, checking maps, and taking notes for the story. This is wild and beautiful country.

✓ Parts of the backpacking trail were straight and smooth enough to haul bazoonies for a mile or so.



Picture of a man eating rock.

short, no other bike could have made it down Pikes Peak any better.

It was now time to put all the months of preparation and planning on the line. Early Monday morning we loaded the bikes in the back of our four wheel drive, checked and rechecked everything to make sure we hadn't left anything important behind, and took off to our starting point.

As Greg and I sat on our bikes and adjusted our packs and helmets I recalled everything that had gone into the making of this ride. Yes, it was now time to finish "The Great CYC Pikes Peak Descent." With that thought, and the immortal words, "Well, Greg, it's now or never," we took off down the mountain.

The first 500 yards of the trail were above treeline at 12,000 feet. The trail itself was about nine inches wide and mostly heavy loose gravel, and quite steep. It followed a small stream down the bottom of the canyon for most of the ride. Every once in a while there was a pile of rocks where we had to slow down and take it like a trials

course. After a couple of pretty hairy sections we finally got into the trees.

Once in the trees the trail disappeared into a stream. We had to really trials it over logs and rocks here. This was one part where the rock guards were really a factor as to whether or not we could take the trail on the bikes or whether or not we would have to walk them. The terrain was so steep that we just locked up the back brakes and went for it, using the front brake mainly as a control brake. Once we got back on the trail we began to stop every hundred yards or so and shoot about a roll of tilm.

We finally stopped for lunch alongside the trail. As I sat down on a rock and prepared my eating material I was hit by a barrage of mosquitoes. I quickly scored about thirty direct hits. I only got about ten of them. I'll say one thing, CYC team jerseys are no protection against mosquitoes.

We saddled up again and took off down the trail, stopping only to take pictures. The trail was loaded with stream crossings and sections where





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we had to play trials. The stream crossings were not that deep so we just motored through. Sometimes we did it twice just for the fun of it.

About halfway down we got to the funniest part. The trail was about a foot wide and was surrounded by Aspen trees. We only stopped about twice to shoot pictures because it was so much fun to just haul through the trees as fast as we could go.

I got going a little too fast one time though. Greg was in the lead and all of a sudden he slowed down, but I didn't slow down enough and wheelied off a rock down through some trees while my bike went bounc-

The CYC Stormer specials took all the punishment that Curt, Greg, and Pikes Peak could hit 'em with. Total damage to both bikes: One bent brake lever.



Look! Immerging from the bushes! It's Big Foot! No it's not. It's Van Inwegen about to ford a stream.

Greg Keller makes like Joe Trials. Long sections of the trail required a pure trials style of riding.

ing down through a rock field. I bruised my hand up pretty good but the only thing that happened to the bike was a bent brake handle.

One section was super rocky so I was really going easy trying to be Joe Trials when my front tire jammed into a crack and flipped me over the top before I knew what had happened. I ended up eating a rock. I couldn't move because the bike was jammed on top of me. Greg's brilliant comment was, "Don't move, I want to take a picture." I didn't bother to inform him that it was slightly impossible for me to try and move anyway. It turned out that I chopped up my lip pretty good

doing there. We really looked like we had done it. Dirty, with mud-streaked faces, I had blood on my sleeves from my chewed lip as well as gobs of mud on my helmet. We had conquered

Greg and I don't have anything like this planned for the future as of yet, but I'm sure we're going to do something equally venturesome before we head off to the great BMX track in the

One last word. This whole thing could not have been started, much less done, had it not been for Bob Osborn and the staff of BMXA. Thanks, allys.

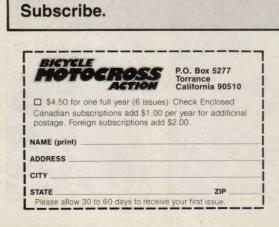
and chipped a tooth. I probably would have lost my kneecap too if the handle-bar padding hadn't been there.

Greg's worst wreck came when he used a little too much front brake and his wheel went over the edge and hung up on an old log. Greg flipped and practically got gored by a tree.

Having taken all the pictures that we wanted, we crammed our helmets on, jammed our feet on the pedals, and took off like wild BMX riders toward the finish line. Forty-five hundred feet and ten miles later we were welcomed by our parents and a few bewildered onlookers who couldn't figure out what two guys with bikes could be







Find out why this magazine

became this worn out so soon.

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PATTERSON/ABA SUMMERNATIONALS Amarillo

The rip-snortin' story of six red garters and a twenty-five hour drive in a Volkswagon bug...one way

BY OSBORN

JONES ALMOST LOSES HIS COOKIES IN THE PLANE AND LOSES HIS HEART AT THE AIRPORT TO A TEXAS CAN-CAN GIRL . . .

Yep, Building Leapin' Jones is flying to Amarillo, Texas, with me. The lure of the \$1500 pro purse at the Patterson/ABA Summernat's was just too much to resist.

Jones just told me that the last time he flew somewhere he got airsick.

Terrific.

Three hours and two time changes after leaving L.A. International, the big 727 touched down in Amarillo.

Jones survived the flight without having to use the paper bag. Barely.

It took us only a very short time to find out that Texas was just about what you'd expect it to be; cows everywhere, wide open spaces, and everybody wearing cowboy boots and saying, "Hi, y'all."

ing, "Hi, y'all."

The Texas hospitality was truly amazing. It started at the airport and just didn't quit. We were met by, among

other people, a couple of can-can girls. Costumes and all. Do you believe that? Where else but in Texas!

GENE RODEN DOES EVERYTHING BUT GO DOOR TO DOOR . . .

On the way out to our motel, with everybody riding in the Patterson Racing Products motor hotel, we talked about pre race publicity.

Gene Roden, who used to promote rodeos, is the man behind the Amarillo track. He could teach a Madison Ave. PR man a few tricks about publicity.

During the two weeks preceeding the ABA Summernat's, Gene had managed to get an incredible amount of TV, radio, and newspaper coverage. Like twenty-five times on TV, two hundred times on the radio, and six or seven newspaper stories. Now that is promoting a race.

When the Patterson Racing Products Team arrived in Texas a week prior to the race, they added to the effort by putting on daily demos at the Amarillo shopping mall.

The ABA had also been publicizing the race in their newspaper and through direct mail.

About the only other thing that could have been done was to go door to door.

SIX GARTERS SOLD FOR \$370 ...

That night Jones and I were up to our ears in Texas hospitality ence again. The ABA Summernationals banquet was held at the Big Texan Restaurant. The place was jam packed. Everybody had steak dinners. The evening was a whirt of guitar and fiddle players, cancan girls, clowns, and western singers. The most often sung songs were "The Yellow Rose of Texas" and "Deep in the Heart of Texas." Yeah, Saturday hight in Texas is just like I had it pictured. Neat people.

Towards the end of the banquet, Gene Roden (a promoter right down to the heels of his \$40 cowboy boots) decided to try and raise a little more money for the already generous pro



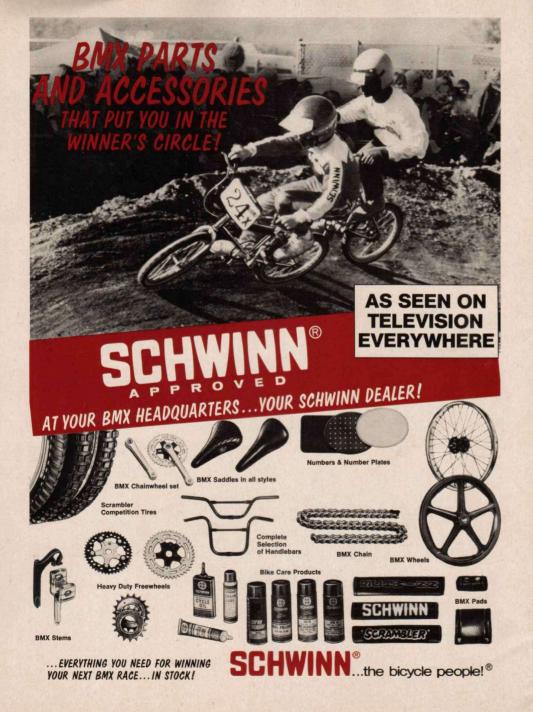
The Amarillo track . . . patterned after the Chandler and Azusa Tracks. Almost an ABA trademark. Hot design.

No. 562, Kevin McNeal (the Corona Kid), drove 25 straight hours in an overloaded Volkswagon bug with two other guys to get to Amarillo. All the way back to California he counted his first place pro money . . and chuckled. No. 555, Kevin Ridling, got the second.



Hey, y'all, yippi ti yi and wahoo! Them Texas gals was right purty!







No. 177, Brent Patterson (PR), on the comeback trail, won the 16 expert main. The Torker rider studying Brent's jersey so carefully is Leo Green. Leo nailed a second.

(Torker), the Wild Man from Colorado, even made it down with a few friends.

Kyle Fleming (DG) totalled Gary Burnett in the 9 expert class, changing the ABA national points leaders around a bit. In the 10 expert class Richie Anderson (PR) flat blew away the dreaded Ronnie Ames (CYC).

probably knocking him out of the ABA national points lead. That rattled a few cages.

Brent Patterson (PR), the heavy favorite to win the pro main, bombed in the semi and didn't even qualify for the main. Which, you can imagine, frosted him a bunch, Later he won the



Is it the Hole-in-the Wall Gang? The Dalton Brothers? Pancho Villa's Raiders? A bunch of 7 year old BMX'ers waiting for their moto to be called?



A happy Steve Mennenga is first across the line in the 15 expert main . . . no easy task considering that John Crews (PR) is behind him.

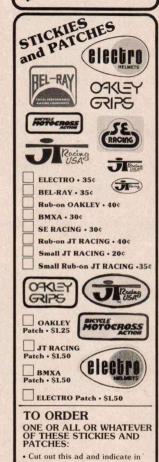


Pro Fab sponsored Mike Battles managed to look quite dapper and still knock the stuffin's out of the 16 novice class.



A last second man to man strategy and psych session.





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Dangerous Dan'l Rutledge (with the ferocious look on his face) blew off the rest of the 9 novices

The famous no false starts, no breakdowns ABA starting gate. What the riders are all staring at is the Christmas tree that works in conjunction with the electronic gate release



Racin' Jason Wharton smoked the 6 year old class. Those fuzzy pads are a big deal in Arizona.



16 expert class, and that made him feel a little better. But not much.

Kevin McNeal, the Corona Kid. drove twenty-five straight hours to get to Amarillo . . . in a Volkswagon bug . . . with two other guys, and picked up \$775 win money in the pro main. Which probably made the trip back to California a little more pleasant.

And what of Building Leapin' Jones. brightest star of the Most Factory Magazine Test Team, faster than a speeding bullet, hero to millions,

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leader of the pack, fighter of evil, friend of those who have no friend? Yeah, what happened to Jones? Don't ask

In his pro semi main he had a second going, a lead pipe cinch qualification, and he slid out. Just like that slid out. 775 bucks riding on it and he slid out. Sheesh. Yes . . . as we wing our way back to Torrance. leaving the friendly people of Amarillo far behind. Jones is consumed by gloom and depression . . . and air sickness. The absolute pits.

But every cloud has a silver lining. At least I don't have to listen to his crummy jokes.

Second in the 5 year old class went to Rebecca Martinez, riding for Factory Cookie Monster's Cookies.





Richie Anderson (PR), the force behind the Anderson Avalanche . . . which steamrolled over the fearsome Ronnie Ames in Amarillo. 11 expert class.

* * * * * * * * PATTERSON/ABA SUMMERNATIONALS AMARILLO RESULTS * * * * * * * *

OPEN PRO Kevin McNeal Kevin Ridling John Crews 16 OVER EXPERT Brent Patterso Leo Green Dee Chips 16 OVER NOVICE Mike Battles David Melian David Sherman 15 EXPERT Steve Mennenga John Crews Ed McInelly

Woody Woodruff Dean Rovinson **Bob Tennant** 14 EXPERT Dobie Nino Mike Koron Kevin Williams 14 NOVICE Cary Brunson

Jon Marzolf Denny Vaugn 12 EXPERT Albert Delgado Tim Goddard Trey Pfeilsticker 12 NOVICE Jeff Osmus Scott Novotny Monte Sullivan Joe Stam Russell Anthony 13 EYPERT 11 EXPERT Fric Hedstrom Richie Anderson Frank Wilson Rob Grant Bobby Clark Ronnie Ames

13 NOVICE

Dallas Brown

11 NOVICE Ricky Jeffries Marco Figueroa Marty Hassett 10 EXPERT Louie Stockmeye

Bret Exposito Rick Gerdes 10 NOVICE Bobo Cornall Kris Jones Jody Rose 9 EXPERT Kyle Fleming Billy McCombs Billy Sandridge 9 NOVICE Dan Rutledge Kayin Holm Jon Birdsone 8 YEAR OLDS Tom Chapp Eric Hasset

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