



On One Wheel

Volume XV Number 2 1988/89



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1988 - 89

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the Unicycling Society of America, Inc. Aims:

To foster social and athletic interest in and promote the healthy, wholesome sport of unicycling among youth and adults of the country by establishing voluntary standards of performance and sponsoring and overseeing local and national meets.

To disseminate knowledge and information on all phases of the sport to all interested parties throughout the country via a newsletter and information service

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*** STEVE & CAROL MILLS ***

This wonderfully talented performing duo (Make that trio, for their little daughter also participates in their crowd-pleasing performance.) was one of the highlights of the 1988 NUM. The routine pictured on the cover, that could be called "Carol learns to ride," defies explanation. You've got to see it to believe it! By the way, that is Carol's brother DAVID HAINES in the background.

OOPS!!! Editor's mistake. Historian, CHARLOTTE FOX ROGERS, corrected the name of the performer on the cover of XV, no. 1. Santa was actually the unicycle builder and organizer LOYD WICKER SMITH. Charlotte's article on this unicycling pioneer appears in XIV, no. 2.



Send news about yourself or your club; articles about unicyclists, unicycling, or related arts; or previously published material (with written consent for reproduction with credit) to:

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We are not responsible for articles and pictures unless accompanied by a request for their return and a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Please include same with any inquiries requiring a reply.

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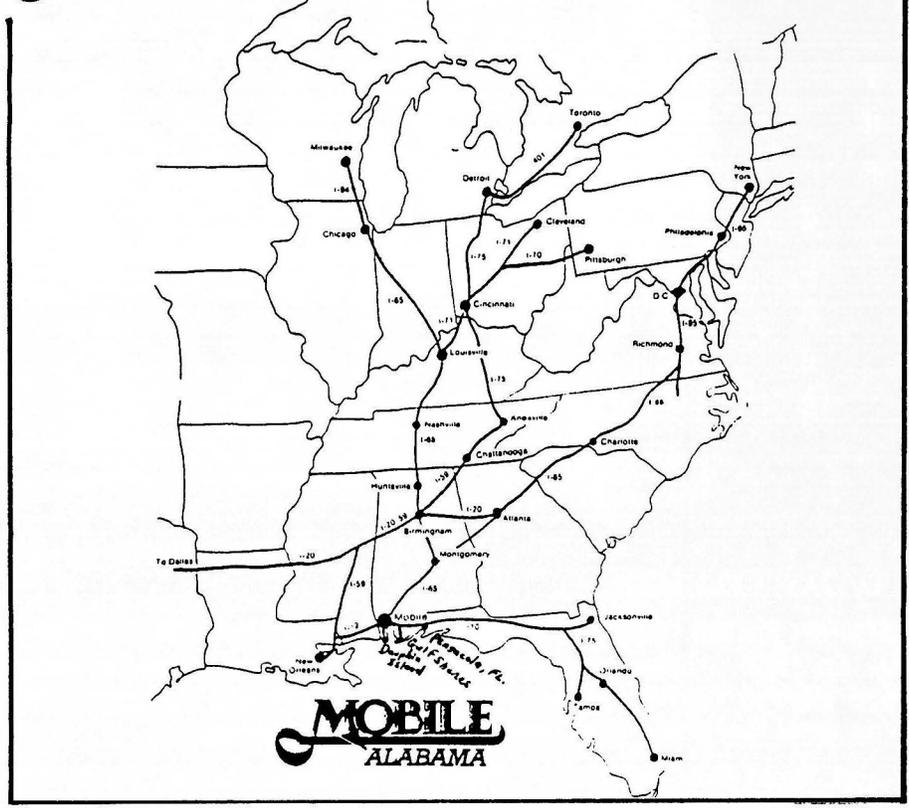
1989 NUM REGISTRATION FORM.....insert with this issue

ORDER FORM and MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL..outer mailing wrapper

Deadline for Vol. XV, no. 3 - April 30, 1989

ALL ROADS LEAD TO . . . **MOBILE** . . . ON THE LAST WEEKEND IN JULY

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 - *Dolphin Island.....15
 - *Gulf Shores.....50
- *beaches



University of South Alabama



Eighteenth Annual
National Unicycle Meet
July 28 - 30, 1989
Mobile, Alabama



at



in



Eighteenth Annual
National Unicycle Meet
July 28 - 30, 1989
Mobile, Alabama

REGISTRATION FORM along with a check (U.S. currency ONLY) made out to: MOBILE UNICYCLE CLUB - 1989 N.U.M. - should be sent to:

<p>MAIL ONE FORM per person registering.</p>	<p>1989 NATIONAL UNICYCLE MEET Janice Maddox - Registrar 6608 Cedar Wood Court MOBILE, ALABAMA 36695</p>	<p>FOR ADDITIONAL INFO Call Seth Granberry 1-205-476-8635</p>
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OFF CAMPUS FOOD AND LODGING: Motels are five miles from the campus. Fast Food Restaurants are nearby. CAMPERS & MOTOR HOMES may park in Delta Dorm Parking Lot. (No Electrical or Plumbing hookups available.)

LODGING: Rate is based on Two persons in each room - which includes bath, bath towels, wash cloth, sheets, & blanket. (Bring your own pillow and pillow case. ALL ROOMS ARE AIR CONDITIONED. KEY DEPOSIT: \$10.00 (Exact Change only) - Due on arrival - - \$30.00 charge for unreturned keys.

REGISTRATION: From 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Friday July 28, 1989. The 1989 N.U.M. BEGINS Friday at 1:00 p.m. with Workshops. RACES will begin at 5:30 p.m. Friday July 28, 1989.

U.S.A., INC. MEMBERSHIP: All Riders MUST be members to participate. If you are not a current member, include a SEPARATE check for \$10.00 (1.00 each additional Family member) - \$15.00 for Foreign Membership - Made out to UNICYCLING SOCIETY OF AMERICAN, INC. P.O. BOX 40534, Redford, Michigan 48240.



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SMILING FACES IN ACTION!

article by JAY GILLIGAN

The SMILING FACES UNICYCLE CLUB, directed by NANCY YOUNG, participated in numerous parades and shows in 1988. Some parades were traditional, such as Memorial Day and Labor Day. But there were also a Lake Festival, Heritage Festival, Centennial Parade, Sequicentennial Celebration as well as many town and village homecomings.

Parades and festivals were also held in celebration of foods including: strawberries, poultry, bratwurst and even pretzels!!

The Club also performed at a nursing home for residents unable to attend parades.

The SMILING FACES UNICYCLE CLUB had a very busy year. For whatever reason--Everyone seems to love a parade!!!



WELCOME!! to the NORTHGATE UNICYCLE CLUB (or, as they are otherwise known - "The Invisible Handlebars") The founder, RAY ABRAHAM, and his 9-year-old son WILL are second from the left and center <---. The other riders are neighborhood boys who "caught the bug." The Club's goal: to have 15!! riding by the 4th of July for the local parade. Good luck to the NORTHGATE UNICYCLE CLUB of Walnut Creek, CA.



And from the MOBILE UNICYCLE CLUB (who will be hosting the 18th annual National Unicycle Meet) and their Director SETH GRANBERRY we have the following news: The MOBILE UNICYCLE CLUB has stayed active over the last six months with performances at the Gulf Shores Seafood Festival, The Children's Hospital Great Pumpkin Festival, numerous area Christmas parades, a half-time performance for the University of South Alabama basketball game, three Mardi Gras Parades, and the opening of a Mardi Gras Ball. With additional performances scheduled for March, April, and May - along with preparation for the 1989 NUM this Summer at the University of South Alabama, the Club is looking towards a very demanding Spring and Summer. "Ya'll make your plans now to 'come on down' to Mobile July 28-30 for a great N.U.M. with 'Southern' hospitality!"



WHY? are these delightful pages of the *Cyclogist* (The NSLR of the IUF) sandwiched in the middle of your ON ONE WHEEL?

Because . . . This issue marks the beginning of a new era. No longer will there be two unicycling newsletters in English. And when CURT MORGAN put his hobby and writing talent together to create a newsletter for IUF, he did not know this merger was to take place!

This combination USA/IUF publication is being mailed to members of BOTH organizations. Future issues of ON ONE WHEEL will include the eye-catching, humorous, informative writing of the *Cyclogist*, Curt Morgan, and this one publication will be available to members of both I.U.F. and U.S.A., Inc.



*The Newsletter of the International
Unicycling Federation*

Spring 1989

He Shoulda Worn His Cape !

*by Levi Neal
Cyclogist Staff Writer*

He modestly bills himself as "*The Incredible*", but in spite of his considerable performing skills, he may always be better known as "*The Incredible Fall Guy*".

In January of 1988, Chuck Marquette of La Jolla, California, fell 20 feet to the dirt surface while mounting his giraffe unicycle. He broke both heels and his right ankle in the mishap, but, perhaps even more incredibly, today performs on his one-wheeler almost as if the accident never happened.

"I fell straight down, after losing my grip on a ledge which was, unexpectedly, covered with grease to deter roosting pigeons," recalls Chuck. "The fall only took about one second. I was going 25 MPH when I hit, and I had no opportunity to roll before landing. My heels caught the full force of my fall, then I fell back on my butt, like you

would sit down in a chair.

"There were about 200 people watching. As I fell, they all took in one enormous gasp of air -- it was pretty frightening to watch, I imagine. They all wanted me to get back up, but I just couldn't."

Three months after the disaster, Chuck had reconstructive surgery. Bone was removed from his hip, and used to shore up his ankle. "The doctor fused my ankle joint. I lost my lateral (left and right) movement, but this also relieved the intense pain I felt. It left some nice scars on my hip and ankles, but today, nearly a year after my operation, I can do everything I could before, except run.

"For several months, I had to use crawl around my apartment, or use a wheelchair. It was really hard on the ego, to go from an established performer, to someone who's been told he has a permanent disability, that his performing days are over."

_(See 'Superman', page 2)



Chuck Marquette on his tall giraffe in the days before he started sniffing Kryptonite.

SUPERMAN...cont from p 1

Previously, Chuck used a 16-footer in his act, then dismounted by leaping off the seat as the uni fell to the ground. "I probably jumped from about 10 feet up," recalls Chuck, "but eventually I chilled out and stopped doing that.

In years past, Chuck has street-performed on a 22-footer. "There would be three- or four-hundred people watching my act," he recalls. "They would crowd up around me to the point where I needed assistants to keep them back at a safe distance."

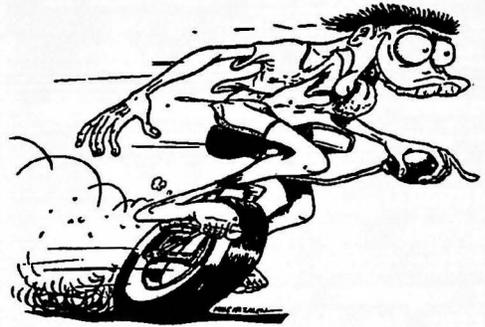
Has he ridden a tall uni since the fall?

"The biggest I've gotten on is my 6-footer," admits Chuck. "Maybe someday, when all conditions are just right, when I'm really hitting on everything, I'll get up on it again. I might ride it at a unicycling meet for free, if I felt really confident. It won't be at a show that people are watching for \$1 -- it would take several thousand dollars to get me to perform again on a 20-footer."

Today, Chuck practices up to eight hours a day, four days a week, and performs for two more days. He has a froggy-mount on a six-footer "wired", walks the wheel, coasts, and includes numerous other stunts in his act most other riders only dream about. "I end my show by riding with my girlfriend sitting on my shoulders. Her

(see *SUPERMAN*, pg. 5)

Zen and The Art of
UNICYCLE
MAINTENANCE



by *Tom Miller*
Doctor of Cycology (Skool of Hard Knocks, '58)

With a vehicle like a unicycle, with a minimum of moving parts, what can go wrong? *Right?*

Think again, bozos!

Start on the ground floor, with the tires, for instance. Or, more precisely, *THE* tire (present tense singular).

Somewhere in the fine print on the wall of the tire, in an unreadable black-on-black, is the rated tire pressure. Usually, it 's in the area of 45 pounds per inch or thereabouts. When the gumshoes in Akron (or, nowadays, Tokyo or Paris) are designing these things, are they thinking of one-wheeled locomotion? *Don't bet the farm!*

I suspect what they have in mind is the run-o-the-mill, unimaginative two-wheeler. Which means tires are rated to support half your weight (two tires per rider, if you are keeping up with me).

So, when you are out riding on my favorite modus of transport, your one precious body is being carried entirely by one tire. Which is why, I have idly theorized, you don't

many fat unicyclists. Not at my Factory, anyway.

But I digress. The lesson here is, it's OK, nay, desirable, to pump up that tire ten pounds or so beyond the legal maximum, 55 psi or so. I myself like 70 psi, and I know of a few daredevils who throw all caution to the wind, so to speak, and inflate their uni tire into treble digits, 110 psi or thereabouts: *talk about high blood pressure!* This means, of course, that that auto tire gauge of yours, which tops out at 40 psi, is headed for the nearest sanitary land fill, or sandy beachfront.

Of course, consider what you are doing with your uni, once you saddle it up. For instance, some performers on stage lower their tire pressure, for increased control which comes from more tire surface. If you are into winning races (and no one I know admits to be into *losing* races!), a higher pressure means less surface area, reduced friction, and faster r.p.m.'s.

Ditto for spins and piroettes on ur uni. It's probably easier to learn to ride on lowered pressure, and some giraffe rider *SEE "DOCTOR TOM" page 3*

DOCTOR TOM...

continued from page 2

somewhere has had to leak air from his tire to sneak under a low-hanging branch.

You just pulled up to the gas station air pump, pulled your one-wheeler out of the trunk, and three gawking motorists just spilled self-service gas all over their rear fenders and into their sneakers. *Now, what do you do?*

What I recommend is, before letting your tire sniff some oxygen is, check the bead of the tire all around the rim. Particularly, if the tire is low, or completely flat, there's the threat that the tire is incorrectly seated, and that you are about to do some real damage to pneu or to you.

A final bit of tire Rx today: periodically, rotate your tire. Pretty obviously, I'm not talking the kind of tire rotation your Dad has the local garage do on his car: the math of one wheel does not allow for that!

No, what I'm suggesting is that you slide your tire around the rim from time to time. Why? well, on a standard uni, the position of the tire is always constant to the position of the pedals. And when you idle, you will be wearing out the same patch of rubber, wearing unsightly bald spots into the tread. So, you may not suffer a

The Cyclogist is the official newsletter of the International Unicycling Federation, 16152 Kinloch, Redford, MI 48240 USA

Busking For Dollars

Smallwood Coalition Wheels, Deals , Seeks More Pay In Washington, D. C.

by Scott Duncan
Cyclogist Roving Editor

high-speed blowout , but look at it my way: money spent on tires can't be spent on new unicycles and other essentials in life (at least, as we know it).

This is also a problem with certain varieties of giraffes, which have a 1-to-1 ratio of pedal to tire rotation. I could mention that giraffes born in Kokomo, USA, avoid this problem due to their self-rotating design, but some might feel this is self-serving, self-promoting, and self-self, so I won't.

Have to run now, have an urge to turn a bowling ball into the front wheel of a trick bike (*doesn't everyone?*). You and I have an appointment in the next issue, with more "free-wheeling" advice about Zen (very little, actually) and unicycle maintenance (some-what more). Please show your Blue Cross card to the nurse on the way out.

When you visit Washington, D.C., be sure to see all the important tourist attractions: the Smithsonian Institute, the White House and Capitol...and Robin Smallwood, street busker extraordinaire.

Robin appears regularly with her two daughters, Ebony, 6, and Cleopatra, 1, putting out a bucket, riding her uni, juggling and doing free-style tricks wherever she can find a crowd in the Nation's Capital.

"People really like my jump-roping on a uni," says Robin. "They ask me, 'How can you do that?' Then they throw some money into my bucket."

She also finds that walking the wheel, idling, and "all the little basic stunts" keep the loose change (and dollar bills) coming her way.

"I go wherever there's a crowd," says Robin. "In the morning, I'll find the rush hour crowd. At lunch time, I'll go (See *BUSKER*, page 4)

BUSKER, continued from pg 3

where people are eating. In the evening, I'll find someplace where there are benches for people to sit on. In the warmer weather, I'll stay out all day, but when it's cold, people will rush by; they can't stand and watch for too long."

You can often catch Robin at her favorite spots in Washington, at DuPont Circle, 18th and R, on Connecticut Avenue, on 14th St., and around the Zoo. "I look in the newspapers for festivals, then I'll go out and set up."

"I like to perform near a sidewalk, with a building to my back. I have to be careful not to block the sidewalk: that's illegal! In Washington, a license to perform just in one spot costs about \$138: *that's too much!* A ticket only costs \$35 or \$50, so I told them I'll just take the ticket. When a policeman tells me to move, you can believe that I *move!*"

Daughter Ebony learned to ride at the age of 4. "She rides with me after school and during the summer. At first, she was real anxious to learn to ride, but then she developed an attitude problem, you know, *'So what'*. So I left her alone, and she started back in. You know how it is with kids.

"Now, Cleo is learning to ride. I hold the back of her seat, or she holds herself up against a wall. She lets go and falls, but gets right back up again. She wants to ride real



bad, but just doesn't have it quite yet".

Robin used to "seed" her bucket with some change, nickels and quarters, to encourage passers-by. "Now, I start it with a dollar bill or two. I never let it build up so much that someone is tempted to steal it. I feel most comfortable performing with my back to a building, where I can see everything that's going on. But if someone is going to steal it, I'll just let them grab it and run. *They can have it!*"

Incredibly, Robin's street-busking career almost ended tragically several years ago. She came home one evening, lay down and went to sleep...*and didn't wake up for three days!* Unknown to anyone, her gas oven had spring a leak. Ebony was with her all the time, but survived with no ill effects. Robin lost partial use of her hands, and even today she does exercises to help in her recovery. "That's one reason I only juggle with simple things, balls and clubs. My hands still bother me a little bit."

Maybe there's a lesson in life to be learned here. For folks like jugglers who use their hands for a living: *cook with electricity!*

Free Wheeling

Conversations out on the Bike Path

by Curt Morgan
Editor, *The Cyclogist*

What is there about unicycling that brings out the best--and worst--in spectators?

Many folks on the bike paths where I usually ride are vocally appreciative of the meager skills I've acquired on one wheel. "Go for it!" seems to be the racing biker's favorite expression of encouragement. "*How do you DO that?*" is the typical comment from eight-year-olds, as if I could stop and explain the intricacies of uni-riding right there and then.

Then there are the cut-ups. Who among us has not heard the trite "Hey, you lost a wheel!" My retort depends on how that advice was offered. If it was issued from a mean-spirited bike rider, I can ask, "*Why don't you take off your training wheel?*" Friendlier individuals may get "Wow, I bet you write for Johnny Carson," or "This is what happens when I park my expensive bike in a bad neighborhood."

Along this line of questioning, I recently heard: "You'd go twice as fast with another wheel." I was able to come back quickly with, "Yes, but I'd (See *FREEWHEELING*, Pg 5)

Freewheeling, Cont from pg 4
only have half as much fun!"

I confess that I take inornate pleasure in sneaking up behind unwary pedestrians out for a stroll. Sometimes the first they are aware of me is when they see my shadow next to theirs. Since I'm usually on my giraffe, while our shadows make it look like we're next to one another, I'm really several feet behind them. They slowly turn, and look *up, up, up*, jaw slackening. Sorry, but their expressions are irresistible.

Usually, I have a few juggling balls tucked away in a sweatshirt pocket. When I spot a group of children up ahead, gawking at me, I whip out the balls and do my little routine. This often gets a round of applause, shrieks of delight, or at least, "Wow, hey, looka that." So it's not money -- *it's better!*"

One sunny morning, as I wheeling down a hilly path, I spotted an elderly gentleman up ahead. He spotted me from
(Continued, column 3)

SUPERMAN, cont from pg 2

daughter Cristy stands on Donna's shoulders. That's three of us on one uni. It's a real *show-stopper!*

"Now tell me," asks Chuck, "when are you going to put my picture on the cover of your magazine?"

Uh, maybe when you fall off a 30-footer, Chuck.



3 HOT DOGS ON A ROLL!!

Chuck Marquette, Donna and Cristy Crosby (bottom to top) performing their show-stopper in La Jolla, California recently. The story of Chuck's remarkable recovery is on page one.
Photo by Bob Collis.

afar, and had plenty of time to compose his remarks. As we closed in, he took up his walking stick and pretended to thrust it into my spokes, asking, "How's your sense of humor today?" Usually it is I who attempts to be humorous: it was good to be one-upped by an interested spectator for once.

Any time I become too swell-headed over my new-found balancing skills, I only have to recall last summer's run-in with a cocky teen.

He screeched his VW bug to a halt next to me one day, leaned out the driver's door, and demanded, "Hey, Bud, lemme try that thing." I inspected his gold earrings, feeble adolescent moustache, and pack of Marlboros rolled into his T-shirt sleeve, and acquiesced. Why shouldn't this sorry specimen of humanity have the privilege of cracking open his cranium, if that's what he wanted?

The Sunday picnickers in the park adjacent turned to absorb the unfolding spectacle. His buddy and I laboriously propped him up on the seat as he teeter-totered wildly above our heads. The wannabee rider's macho posture began to wilt around the edges. He finally conceded that, while he had mastered the standard unicycle, he had never *actually ridden* the taller version.

We continued to support him for several minutes as he tested

(See **FREEWHEELING**, p 6)

(Freewheeling, cont from pg 5)

out the shaky view from three yards up. "Remember," I warned, "Don't try to coast!"

Suddenly, he commanded, "Let go of my hands!" Yes, his moment of retribution I fore-saw was at hand. We let go.

He rode up the bike path with the supreme arrogance of invincible youth, dodging the stray stone and agape hiker alike with casual precision. He ascended to the top of the hill, with me in hot pursuit (lest my cycle be scratched in the inevitable calamity).

At the summit, he announced, "Now, I'm going to turn around," obviously ignoring the fact that he only had the width of the sidewalk in which to work. Quickly twisting his torso, he jerked the cycle sideways, once, twice, and glided back down the slope toward his VW, in complete control. He faultlessly negotiated the dismount and handed my giraffe back to me with the barest of smiles.

"You were terrific, kid!" I managed. "But this park isn't big enough for both of us!"

The Cycologist is the official newsletter of the International Unicycling Federation, A. E. Hemminger, Sec-Treas, 16152 Kinloch, Redford, MI 48240.

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Contributing Editor:Tom Miller

Production Assistant:

George F. McLaughlin



WALLY WATTS . . . WHERE ARE YOU!

The young man (from Canada) riding the big wheel in this picture is the first (and probably - only) unicyclist to ride around the world. His exploits were chronicled in USA newsletters from 1977 and 1978. But where is he now and what is he doing? Does anyone know?

KEN WOODS (below) from the vaudeville team of WOODS and LARSON



KEN WOODS purchased his first unicycle for \$25 in 1939. It was hand-made by a bicycle-store owner. Basement practice sessions quickly paid off and the team had a second unicycle built. From that time on they were seen riding around St. Paul, MN. They performed in bars, ice cream shops, and street corners for pennies (literally). They felt they had "arrived"



when they earned 10¢ each for an impromptu performance one evening.

Both Dick Larson and Ken Woods were in the service during WW2. <---shows Ken "testing" a high-profile secret weapon with the 517th Ordinance Co. in Aberdeen, Maryland in 1942.

See Vol. 4, No. 4 for more about the fabulous team of WOODS & LARSON.

Thanks to KEN WOODS for the pictures and information!

What Kind of a Man Reads 'The Cyclogist' ?

We think he's an individualist, both off and on his unicycle, who probably sneaks a look at the pictures, but says he reads it just for the articles.

What Kind of a Unicyclist Writes for "The Cyclogist?"

He could be the director of a unicycling club with some tips on running such an undertaking; a performer with insight on developing an award-winning routine; or an individual who doesn't mind sharing with others what riding atop a single tire means to him.

What Kind of a Man Edits "The Cyclogist?"

He's a computer programmer/analyst consultant, specializing on business systems on the HP 3000 computer. Presently he spends his weeks in Nashville, TN, commutes home near Dallas, TX on weekends, but wishes he had a Gettysburg Address (if you don't get that joke, re-read my picture!),

He self-taught himself to ride
(Continued, column 2)

unis at the age of 44, and now, three years later, is the proud owner of 6 one-wheelers, from a 12-incher for his 5 year old, to a school-bus-yellow 8-footer fresh from the Unicycle Factory. He plans to mount flashing red lights on it and stop traffic both ways in school zones, but hates it when the kids race up and down the aisles, screaming. (Your uni does have aisles in it, right?)

Hi, I'm Curt Morgan. I'll be editing your IUF newsletter (previously entitled, "Unicycling") under Jack Wiley's capable management), which we've renamed "The Cyclogist". Undoubtedly in years past you have admired my writing for "The Mother Earth News", "The American Bee Journal", and "The American Agriculturalist." I also wrote extensively for my college newspaper, the George Washington University "Hatchet."

I bring a lot of enthusiasm to this "job"...but I can't do it alone! Drop me a line (5109 Vera Cruz Drive, Garland, TX 75043 USA), or call weekends (214-270-9332). I don't necessarily need complete articles: a few scribbled notes is enough to get me started. Crayon is OK!

(Continued, column 3)

Some topics I'd like to do stories on include:

- o Interesting places to cycle (you don't have to do it in the road!). My favorite is on the Chicago lake front. Where's yours?
- o Old-fashioned bicycles ("ordinaries"): restoring, replicating, riding.
- o Unicycling injuries: what can happen, when to see a doctor, how to avoid
- o Tips for Performers: What audiences like, where to perform, who's on his way to the top with a bullet!
- o International happenings: U.S. unicycling is capably covered in "*On One Wheel*," let's hear from you in the rest of the world!

Sem

Tames
Beast !!

Sem Abrahams recently completed a unicycling seminar at L'Ecole Sans Filet, Bruxelles. His presentation covered all the possibilities of riding a uni. Attendees were exposed to all sorts of techniques for riding, mounting and dismounting this "seemingly untameable beast".

Spokes Speak

Letters to the Editor

TO THE EDITOR:

Sorry that I was not in when you phoned. Regretfully I was not out riding a unicycle. Had been tapering off, primarily because I had no one to ride with and to share with.

Last summer, while out trailering, decided to brush up my riding a bit, fell off (actually, stuck my foot in the spokes), took a bad fall playing hob with my wrist. Upshot, haven't been on top since.

No, I do not qualify for being the oldest rider, for am just coming up on 75. Actually I gave myself a unicycle for my 65th birthday and taught myself to ride. I was never very proficient at it though. On my 67th birthday got my private pilot's license, bought a Cessna 182, and have been flying every since. Two days ago took a friend on a seven hour trip to see Monument Valley, a sight to behold.

Techniques for learning to ride? Not really. Unqualified motivation, I guess. At one time in my learning mode I fell off, by actual count, 58 times in an hour! I was a mite sore but not discouraged.

Good luck with your newsletter

W. V. Combs

Rear Admiral, USN (Ret)

Yuma, Arizona

TO THE EDITOR:

I'll be 23 on March third. I received my first unicycle as a gift seven years ago. Last summer I made an ultimate-wheel and have been making excellent progress.

My whole family is into clowning, mainly through the church. I have been a juggler for the past nine years and enjoy combining my skills.

I like to go off-roading on my unicycle. All of the grass, rocks and trees make for an interesting ride and a challenge.

I have not had any injuries, beyond the usual scrapes and bruises. Good luck with your editing job!

Tim Rae

(EAR MIT)

Alexandria, VA

Editor's note: Does any reader know what an EAR MIT is? A prize for the first correct answer. You're not eligible, Tim. I don't think he's one of those thingamabombs that keeps your ears warm in winter. Maybe he has a connection with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology?

TO THE EDITOR:

Peace and joy to you. Thank you for your letter. I'm in the Boys Club at St Francis. We now have a unicycle club with four cyclists. We hope to get six soon. All my boys are "special" children. We will start two blind boys on the unicycle this spring.

Brother Timothy Dauenhauer
O.F.M.

St. Patricks Friary

Editor's note: We have several pictures from Brother Timothy, which we are attempting to include in this issue. If production problems are overcome, they are included here. If not, look for them in the next issue. On your newsstand in May. Or possibly June. Well, July at the *absolute latest!*

We here at **The Cycologist** welcome your letters! (Some letters, we suspect, will be more welcome than others). We plan to edit and publish all your kudos and brickbats (kudos get first choice), unless you specify otherwise. Mail to: Curt Morgan, Editor Cycologist 5109 Vera Cruz Drive Garland, TX 75043 USA

by LEN SALVERDA

This is another in my continuing but irregular series of unicycle construction articles. I hope that you are finding them usefull and entertaining.

These instructions are using old bicycle parts to create a unicycle. Chain driven unicycles generally use wheels of 20" or 24" size. Start by removing all parts from the wheel and getting all of the grease and oil off of the parts. The sprocket should be separated from its holder. You must weld the center bearing set or the hub to the sprocket holder. To make sure it is straight, tighten the bearings snug and turn the hub backwards so the friction brake is tightening up the bearings. Then weld, making sure the weld will not interfere with the sprocket when it is installed. The sprocket is then tac welded onto the hub where the snap ring would normally be. Make sure that it is fully seated while welding. Use wet rags and short welds to keep from overheating the parts.

The frame can be made several different ways. You can use the front fork of a bicycle, or make your own from scratch. The pedal hub is a piece of 2" I.D. common water pipe, 2 3/4" long. It has 1/8" thick walls and is much stronger than a bicycle hub. You must file it out so the bearing races fit just right. I tac weld the races so they don't spin in use. Use a square to weld the seat post on straight up. The seat post can be cut from a boy's bicycle frame crossbar. Use one that is the right size for the seat post insert, or use 1" electrical conduit to go over it, like on the regular unicycle plans (VOL 13 No.1). Where the seat post is welded onto the hub, I put about a 2" long insert into the post for reinforcement at the weak point. You don't want the seat post to fall off when riding because of bad welds. This is very important.

The frame between the pedals and the wheel can be made several different ways:

1. One way is to use a bicycle front fork. Straighten the arms and saw out the bolt notches so you can adjust the chain. Align the arms just like a regular unicycle. Use a piece of 1" I.D. square tubing for the riser. Round pipe will work also. Weld the riser to the pedal hub directly down from the seat post. Alignment is difficult, but important. Next, slide the riser over the fork stem, align with pedal hub, and weld. This type frame is only good for about a 5' unicycle.

2. The second type is just like a 6' Schwinn unicycle. You can use 1/2" water pipe for the risers and notch out a piece of 1/8"x 1 1/4" band iron for the wheel. This makes a nice unit but is difficult to get aligned properly.

3. The third way is a method that can be used for any size up to about a 10' unicycle. Use a piece of square or rectangle tubing opposite the seat post on to the pedal hub. Use a straight edge and square to align the tubing. I use a 1x2" rectangular tube. This tube extends almost to the tire. 1x1" square tubing is cut and welded on an

angle to the riser and extending to the wheel axels. A piece of 1/8"x1 1/4" band iron is cut and notched for the axel, and welded to the 1x1" tubing.

In the second and third set-up, you can make a chain tightener out of some washers, bolts and nuts. Weld a high quality 2" long x 1/4 20 bolt to a washer that will go onto the axel. Bend 2 more 1/4" washers into a U shape that will go over the ends of the band iron and on to the bolts. Then do the nuts.

To lengthen the tire life, use sprockets of one tooth difference. That will make the tire end up in a different spot every time you idle or turn. I use an 18 tooth sprocket on the bottom and a 19 tooth on the top.

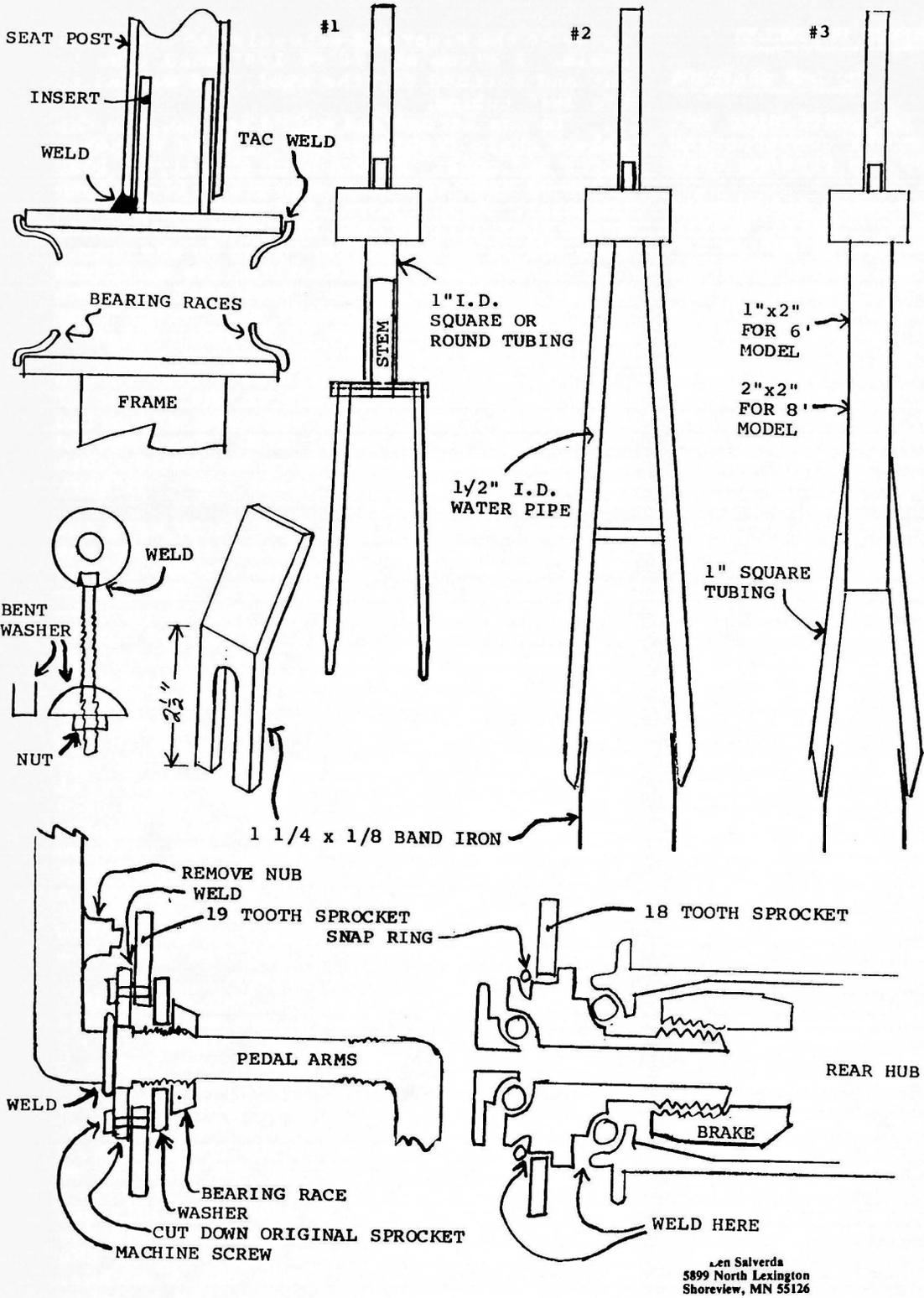
The pedal arms should have a 6" length from the center of the hub to the center of the pedals. Remove the sprocket and grind off the nub on the pedal arm. The removed sprocket should be cut down so the 19 tooth sprocket overlaps it by about 1/2". It must clear the chain later.

The most difficult part is to weld the sprockets together on center line so the chain doesn't get tight and loose as the wheel turns. To prevent this, center the sprockets with a ruler and vice grip them together. Drill 4 equally spaced holes through both sprockets. Use a size #21 drill. The rear sprockets on bicycles will be surface hardened and you will be unable to drill it. Touch a grinder just on the spot to be drilled beforehand. The holes in the 19 tooth will be tapped out with a 10-32 tap. The holes in the cut down large sprocket will be drilled out to 7/32". Machine screws hold them together. Grind off the extra length. Install these onto the pedal arms with an extra washer from an old pedal hub. Make sure you can turn all 4 screws with a screwdriver. (Don't hide one under the pedal arm). Just snug the bearing race nut on the washer and sprockets so you can move the sprocket when hit with a hammer.

Assemble pedal arm in hub and wheel. Cut chain to fit. I don't use master links because they sometimes break. An uncontrolled fall can be nasty, even from a 5 footer. I prefer to drive out the link pins with a drift and drive them back in again. Tighten the chain with the adjusting nuts. Now turn the tire and when the chain gets to the tightest point, just tap the sprocket on top, from the seat direction. The 4 screws should be loose enough to allow the 19 tooth sprocket to move a little. Do this until the chain always has the same tension when the wheel turns. Then, tighten the 4 screws. Double check the tension! Now, tac 2 little tacs on the sprockets to pedal arm. Remove pedal arms from hub and tighten the bearing race nut very tight. Re-install and triple check before welding the sprockets on for good.

The wheel bearings are difficult to adjust. To simplify the bearing adjustment, I take the brake arm and cut it down with a hack saw and grinder to a square nut about 1"x1". When installing, tighten the nut on the sprocket side first. Then, adjust the bearing with the brake nut, and the outside nut on the brake side of the wheel.

1988 NUM RESULTS



1600 m	G 30+	Terry Layne Bauer	9:21.97
	B	Nancy Pringle James Green George Pringle James Sligh Curt Morgan Doc Reynolds	5:22.08
	G 11-12	Katie Edwards Rachel Vogelsong Ginger Pringle Nekesha Anderson Joanne Romanik	6:01.06
	B	Erich Courtad Mike Hund Larry Schaller Jay Gilligan Tim Winters	6:19.81
	G 13-14	Becky Edwards Peggy Matheny Jennifer Moran Holly Walerius Rachel Ojala	5:27.61
	B	Anne Leguit Nathan Wolke Dale Granberry Duane Cleek Todd Evans	5:36.65
	G 15-16	Yolanda Vander Wel Rhonda Tyson Patty Foster Timika Sanders Dustin Kelm	6:19.61
	B	Menno Haberer Brian Bernard Bubba Hicks Emile Crawley Pam Daugherty	5:02.00
	G 17-18	Gina Salverda Kim Wachtmann Tina Tyson Jorn Heydenryk Brett Bernard	6:30.58
	B	Glen Granberry Jesse McGee Jason Catanzariti Connie Schleck	4:56.93
	G 19+	Teresa Abrahams Carol Bahorich Wendy Bahorich Nancy Brichford	5:26.26
	B	John Foss Pete Mills Yuri Abrahams Sem Abrahams Ken Fuchs	4:52.41
800 m	G 8-	Claire Ojala Holly Pringle Abby Cernkovich	4:12.85
	B	Jevonne Green Andy Evans Gabriel Courtad John Green Raymond Green	3:26.31
	G 9-10	Amy Edwards Sally Schneider Sharla Warren Brandi Courtad Erin Cernkovich	2:58.43
	B	Brent Wolke Nick Hottinger Jim Bernard Sean Irish Nick Schroeder	3:22.20
200 m	G 8-	Holly Pringle Julie Walerius Claire Ojala	:58.66
	B	Jevonn Green Andy Evans Gabriel Courtad Bradley Hartman Kevin Gilbertson	:49.20
	G 9-10	Amy Edwards Sally Schneider Sharla Warren Erin Cernkovich Annabel Marcillo	:45.16
	B	Jeremy Andrus Elliot Schroeder Sean Irish Gary Hund Nick Schroeder	:49.52
	G 11-12	Katie Edwards Ginger Pringle Nekesha Anderson Joanne Romanik Rachel Vogelsong	:41.95
	B	Mike Hund Jay Gilligan Larry Schaller Tony Schneider Jason Stewart	:43.45
	G 13-14	Peggy Matheny Becky Edwards Rachel Ojala Keri Kies Jennifer Moran	:38.88
	B	Anne Leguit Nathan Hayman Nathan Wolke Todd Gilligan Jeremy Carr	:36.45
	G 15-16	Timika Sanders Rhonda Tyson Marie Young	:41.78

CLUB/GROUP & INDIVIDUAL AGE GROUP

AWARD WINNERS

Parade Competition

WOOD ONE WHEEL
SMILING FACES
REDFORD TOWNSHIP U.C.
TWIN CITIES U.C.
CHARITON U.C.

Club/Group Artistic Riding

TWIN CITIES U.C.
WOOD ONE WHEEL
REDFORD TOWNSHIP U.C.
SEM CYCLES
CHARITON U.C.

OVERALL POINT WINNERS

G 8-	Abby Cernkovich	33
B	Jevonn Green	39
G 9-10	Amy Edwards	57
B	Brent Wolke	48
G 11-12	Ginger Pringle	38
B	Jay Gilligan	40
G 13-14	Peggy Matheny	35
B	Anne Leguit	42
G 15-16	Rhonda Tyson	41
B	Dustin Kelm	48
G 17-18	Gina Salverda	51
B	Glen Granberry	38
G 19+	(Teresa Abraham tie Carol Bahorich)	43
B	John Foss	48
	total possible	60

1988 NUM RESULTS cont'd

<p>B Menno Haberer :34.11 Bubba Hicks Brian Bernard Chad Ward</p> <p>G 17-18 Gina Salverda :42.84 Emile Crawley Tina Tyson</p> <p>G 17-18 Pam Daugherty :32.70 Jörn Heydenryk Sean Lewis</p> <p>G 19+ Jason Catanzariti :35.84 Jesse McGee Glen Granberry Carol Bahorich Wendy Bahorich Nancy Brichford Robin Smallwood</p> <p>B John Foss :30.86 Sem Abramams Scott Baccus Aristide Abrahams Brian Rush</p> <p>100m G 8- Julie Walerius :27.15 Abby Cernkovich Holly Pringle Claire Ojala</p> <p>B Jevonne Green Raymond Green Andy Evans James Dawson John Green</p> <p>G 9-10 Amy Edwards :22.02 Sharla Warren Brandi Courtad Erin Cernkovich Kaylene Maddox</p> <p>B Brent Wolke :23.94 Nick Nottinger Jim Bernard Elliot Schroeder Sean Irish</p> <p>G 11-12 Nekesha Anderson :20.45 Katie Edwards Ginger Pringle Rachel Vogelsong Joanne Romanik Mike Hund</p> <p>B Erich Courtad :20.20 Blain Richardson Jay Gilligan Tim Winters</p> <p>G 13-14 Becky Edwards Peggy Matheny Rachel Ojala Keri Kies Amy Schlosser</p> <p>B Anne Leguit :18.22 Duane Cleek Nathan Wolke Todd Gilligan Sergio Acevedo</p> <p>G 15-16 Anne Lentz :19.85 Yolanda Van Der Wel Timika Sanders Rhonda Tyson</p> <p>B Dustin Kelm :16.24 Menno Haberer Matt Gallagher Brian Bernard Kevin Bowers</p> <p>G 17-18 Gina Salverda :20.52 Tina Tyson Pam Daugherty Kim Wachtmann</p> <p>B Jörn Heydenryk :16.63 Sean Lewis Jason Catanzariti Jesse McGee Glen Granberry</p> <p>G 19+ Teresa Abrahams :18.50 Connie Schleck Carol Bahorich Wendy Bahorich Nancy Brichford</p> <p>B Sem Abrahams :15.13 John Foss Pete Mills Wayne Haines Ken Fuchs</p> <p>One-foot G 8- Claire Ojala :23.70</p> <p>G 9-10 Amy Edwards :15.68 Erin Cernkovich Brent Wolke</p> <p>B Jeremy Andrus :16.41 Brian Gilbertson Jim Bernard</p> <p>G 11-12 Rachel Vogelsong :13.66 Ginger Pringle Nekesha Anderson Becca Mura</p> <p>B Jay Gilligan :17.03 Tony Schneider Erich Courtad Mike Hund</p> <p>G 13-14 Jason Stewart :12.40 Holly Walerius Amy Schlosser Peggy Matheny Keri Kies</p> <p>B Tracy Salverda :12.67 Duane Cleek</p> <p>G 15-16 Rhonda Tyson :12.46 Anne Lentz Patty Foster Yolanda Van Der Wel Timika Sanders</p> <p>B Dustin Kelm :10.03 James Taylor Emile Crawley Brian Bernard Kevin Bowers</p>	<p>G 17-18 Gina Salverda :13.54 Kim Wachtmann Tina Tyson</p> <p>B Glen Granberry :10.97 Brett Bernard Sean Lewis Lee Rupprecht</p> <p>G 19+ Greg Lentz :12.15 Wendy Bahorich Connie Schleck Carol Bahorich Teresa Abrahams Nancy Brichford</p> <p>B John Foss :08.76 Sem Abrahams Andrew Layne Pete Mills Bill Karbo</p> <p>Walk-the-wheel G & B 8- none G 9-10 Amy Edwards :12.24</p> <p>B G & B 11-12 none G 13-14 Rachel Ojala :19.13 Becky Edwards Tracy Salverda Keri Kies Holly Walerius</p> <p>B 13-14 Anne Leguit :18.97 Duane Cleek</p> <p>G 15-16 Rhonda Tyson :24.74 James Taylor :10.37 Dustin Kelm Kevin Bowers Brian Bernard Matt Gallagher</p> <p>G 17-18 Gina Salverda :22.41 Glen Granberry Brett Bernard Jörn Heydenryk Sean Lewis</p> <p>B Jason Catanzariti :14.29 Connie Schleck Carol Bahorich Nancy Brichford Teresa Abrahams Elaine Young</p> <p>B John Foss :08.36 Pete Mills Frank Birdsall Wayne Haines Sem Abrahams</p> <p>Slow-forward G 8- Holly Pringle :05.59 Abby Cernkovich Julie Walerius Kyle Pringle Bradley Hartman Raymond Green</p> <p>B Amy Edwards :07.30 Kaylene Maddox Brandi Courtad Erin Cernkovich</p> <p>B Brent Wolke :06.68 Jim Bernard Gary Hund Bryan Stewart Jeremy Andrus</p> <p>G 11-12 Ginger Pringle :07.29 Becca Mura Katie Bower Rachel Vogelsong Nekesha Anderson</p> <p>B Jay Gilligan :09.58 Tim Winters Erich Courtad Tony Schneider Jason Stewart</p> <p>G 13-14 Peggy Matheny :09.76 Rachel Ojala Keri Kies Becky Edwards Amy Schlosser</p> <p>B Dale Granberry :11.56 Todd Gilligan Duane Cleek</p> <p>G 15-16 Patty Foster :08.31 Rhonda Tyson Anne Lentz Marie Young</p> <p>B Dustin Kelm :15.27 Brian Schlosser Kevin Bowers Menno Haberer Brian Bernard</p> <p>G 17-18 Gina Salverda :07.63 Tina Tyson Pam Daugherty Glen Granberry</p> <p>B Greg Lentz :11.05 Roger Smith Brett Bernard Sean Lewis</p> <p>G 19+ Carol Bahorich :11.05 Connie Schleck Teresa Abrahams Susan Sutherland Nancy Brichford</p> <p>B Sem Abraham :27.17 John Foss Craig King Aristide Abraham Ken Fuchs</p> <p>Slow-backward G 8- Abby Cernkovich :03.84 B James Dawson :04.13 G 9-10 Amy Edwards :06.92 Erin Cernkovich Kara Wolke Kaylene Maddox Sally Schneider</p>	<p>B Brent Wolke :07.52 Jim Bernard Brian Gilbertson</p> <p>G 11-12 Nekesha Anderson :05.17 Becca Mura Rachel Vogelsong</p> <p>B Jay Gilligan :09.06 Rachel Ojala :07.25 Peggy Matheny Amy Schlosser Keri Kies</p> <p>B Dale Granberry :11.68 Duane Cleek Anne Leguit Nathan Wolke</p> <p>G 15-16 Rhonda Tyson :06.66 Timika Sanders Patty Foster Anne Lentz</p> <p>B Dusty Kelm :15.68 Brian Bernard Chad Ward Bubba Hicks</p> <p>G 17-18 Gina Salverda :05.22 Tina Tyson Pam Daugherty Glen Granberry</p> <p>B Brett Bernard :12.00 Roger Smith Jesse McGee Greg Lentz</p> <p>G 19+ Carol Bahorich :11.05 Teresa Abraham Wendy Bahorich Connie Schleck Susan Sutherland</p> <p>B Sem Abraham :14.85 John Foss Pete Mills Ken Fuchs Frank Birdsall</p> <p>Otstacle G 8- Abby Cernkovich :37.95 Claire Ojala Julie Walerius Andy Evans Jevonn Green Gabriel Courtad Kyle Pringle</p> <p>G 9-10 Amy Edwards :30.84 Sharla Warren Erin Cernkovich Sally Schneider Kara Wolke</p> <p>B Brent Wolke :31.38 Jim Bernard Gary Hund Sean Irish Nick Schroeder</p> <p>G 11-12 Ginger Pringle :27.22 Becca Mura Joanne Romanik Rachel Vogelsong Katie Edwards</p> <p>B Erich Courtad :30.95 Jay Gilligan Jason Stewart Larry Schaller</p> <p>G 13-14 Peggy Matheny :28.84 Kristen Warren Keri Kies Rachel Ojala Tracy Salverda</p> <p>B Anne Leguit :24.22 Duane Cleek Todd Gilligan Nathan Wolke David Anderson</p> <p>G 15-16 Anne Lentz :27.04 Patty Foster Rhonda Tyson Yolanda Vander Wel Dawn Blacketer</p> <p>B Menno Haberer :24.52 Dustin Kelm Chad Ward Brian Bernard Brian Schlosser</p> <p>G 17-18 Pam Daugherty :31.03 Kim Wachtman Gina Salverda Tina Tyson</p> <p>B Lee Rupprecht :24.91 Jörn Heydenryk Brett Bernard Greg Lentz Roger Smith</p> <p>G 19+ Teresa Abraham :21.86 Connie Schleck Carol Bahorich Nancy Brichford</p> <p>B John Foss :21.86 Sem Abraham Brian Rush Pete Mills Aristide Abraham</p> <p>Artistic Riding - Standard Class G 8- Holly Pringle B Kyle Pringle Jevon Green James Dawson John Green Raymond Green</p> <p>G 9-10 Brian Gilbertson B Jeremy Andrus Jimmy Bernard</p> <p>G 11-12 Mike Hund B Tony Schneider Tim Winters</p>	<p>G 13-14 Keri Kies B Anne Leguit Duane Cleek Todd Evans</p> <p>G 15-16 Yolanda VanderWel Rhonda Tyson Menno Haberer B (Brian Bernard tie) (Matt Gallagher James Taylor Baraki Halpern Rick Hund</p> <p>G 17-18 Kim Wachtman B Jörn Heydenryk G 19+ Teresa Abraham Carol Bahorich Bill Karbo Ken Fuchs Aristide Abraham George Pringle</p> <p>Artistic Riding - Open Class G 8- Claire Ojala Abby Cernkovich Julie Walerius Gabriel Courtad Bradley Hartman</p> <p>B Erin Cernkovich Kaylene Maddox Kara Wolke</p> <p>G 9-10 Amy Edwards Erin Cernkovich Sally Schneider Brent Wolke</p> <p>B Katie Edwards G 11-12 Rachel Vogelsong Chrissie Tumeberg Becca Mura</p> <p>B Jay Gilligan Larry Schaller Holly Walerius Rachel Ojala Amy Schlosser Becky Edwards Jennifer Moran Sergio Acevedo Nathan Wolke David Anderson</p> <p>B Dustin Kelm Kevin Bowers Brian Schlosser Brady Sams</p> <p>G 17-18 Tina Tyson Gina Salverda Brett Bernard Jason Catanzariti Glen Granberry Roger Smith</p> <p>G 19+ Nancy Brichford Connie Schlock Robin Smallwood Janet Sutherland John Foss Wayne Haines Frank Birdsall Doc Reynolds Len Salverda</p> <p>Artistic Riding - Couples G 8- Abby Cernkovich & Bradley Hartman John Green & Raymond Green James Dawson & Javonn Green 9-10 Brent Wolke & Kara Wolke Jeremy Andrus & Annabel Marcellio Amy Edwards & Sally Schneider Brian Gilbertson & Jim Bernard Julie Walerius & Sharla Warren 11-12 Erin Cernkovich & Becca Mura Erich Courtad & Greg Jacoby 13-14 Jay Gilligan & Holly Walerius Katie Bowker & Kristin Warren Duane Cleek & Becky Edwards David Anderson & Jennifer Moran Todd Evans & Nathan Wolke 15-16 Amy Schlosser & Brian Schlosser Brian Bernard & Matt Gallagher Keri Kies & Anne Lentz Patty Foster & Peggy Matheny Menno Haberer & Anne Leguit 17-18 Glen Granberry & Bubba Hicks Brett Bernard & Dustin Kelm Sean Lewis & Jesse McGee Gina Salverda & Tracy Salverda 19+ Carol Bahorich & Wendy Bahorich Teresa Abraham & Jörn Heydenryk Aristide Abraham & Connie Schleck (Janet Sutherland & Sutherland tie) (Wayne Haines & Rhonda Tyson</p>
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CALENDAR:

ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL JUGGLERS ASS'N, INC. -Loyola College
Baltimore, Maryland * July 17 - 23 * IJA membership info: Box 29, Kernore, NY

1989 NATIONAL UNICYCLE MEET - Mobile, Alabama * July 28 - 30 * registration
separate with this issue - to be mailed to: Janice Maddox, 6608 Cedar Wood C
Mobile, AL 36695. Additional Info: Seth Granberry, Dir. (205) 476-8635

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP IN UNICYCLING - The Netherlands * August 11 - 16 * Info:
Al Hemminger, 16152 Kinloch, Redford, MI 48240 or Carlos Abrahams,
Teigerskamp 53 3607 HC Maarssen, The Netherlands

IS THIS EXCITING . . . OR WHAT???

PRESS RELEASE... "Spectrum Films" is planning to produce a film entitled
THE NORTHERN LIGHTS, adapted from the book by Howard Norman, with pro-
duction to begin in late summer or early fall.

The story is set in Manitoba in Northern Canada in the late 1950's. Pelly,
a young Canadian boy about 14 or 15 years old, orders a unicycle through
the Hudson Bay mail-order catalogue. He reads the 1950's instruction book-
let and with the help of a friend, successfully learns to ride his newly
purchased unicycle.

TOM MILLER is building a replica of a late 1950's unicycle to be used in
the movie. Tom has provided "Spectrum Films" with some technical advice
such as

- 1) It may have been unlikely that a unicycle could have been pur-
chased through a mail-order catalogue in the late 50's.

- 2) The basic construction of the unicycle in the 50's was similar
to today's construction with the exception of the seat.

An actor will learn to ride the unicycle for the movie but "Spectrum Films"
is looking for a Canadian stand-in to do some of the more difficult tricks.
ARE YOU THAT PERSON? Terry Santo, a representative from "Spectrum Films,"
has stated that the unicycling segment is an integral part of the movie
and they want it to be as authentic as possible. She wants all knowledge-
able unicyclists who watch the movie to be believers along with the gen-
eral public.

The USA, Inc. has been enlisted to help make this film as authentic as possi-
ble. Anyone having information about unicycling in the 1950's, any pictures
of unicycles or unicyclists from the 1950's, or a 1950's unicycle instruc-
tion booklet is asked to send them to: KAREN MESSAMER, 729 Wisconsin Ave.
Des Moines, IA 50316. Karen will forward them to "Spectrum Films," cre-
diting you with supplying the information. THANKS!!!!