

March, 1992

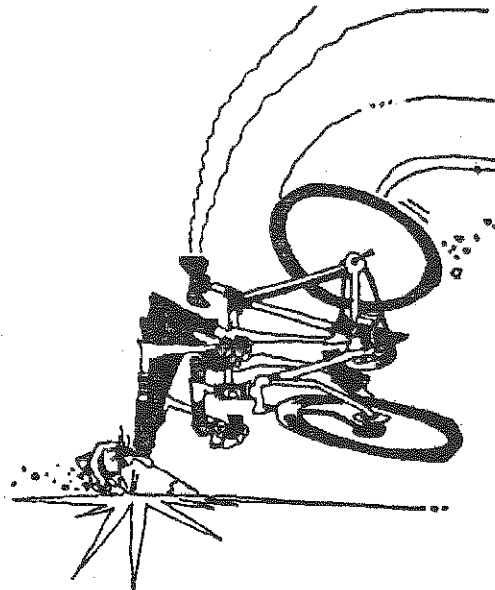
Team Teel Rules at Yankee Springs Off-Road Race

As I watched the black Fischer Mountain-Bike Tandem barrel around the glare-ice corner at near-escape velocity, I could swear Janet's eyes were screwed tightly shut. The rear wheel, low on air in a hopeless attempt to gain traction on the glassy race course, bounced sideways with each pedal stroke that put the power of both racers to the one wheel. Who could blame her for being afraid of riding the back of a tandem, a spot with no control yet all the danger of a single bike, over this ludicrously slick race course. In what may be a first in the state, a tandem team, usually nothing more than a novelty, finished #1 in the *Michigan Cyclist* Winter Mountain Bike Race.

The race was held on January 26th at Yankee Springs State Park, on Gun Lake in West Michigan. After weeks of clouds, race day was sunny with temperatures in the low 30's. The course was a relatively flat 1.5 mile loop through single-track trails and campground roads. The beginner's race consisted of 3 laps of the treacherous course. In a switch from what you may expect, it was the roads, not the trails, that presented the competitors with the biggest challenges. By the end of practice, the snow was well worn off the corners of the roads, leaving glare ice on the tight hairpin turns. The bloodthirsty spectators crowded around the tightest of the corners,

relishing the numerous spectacular crashes that took place on every lap. On the first laps, bike handling skills paid a premium, as racers picked their way through the pile of bodies and bikes strewn on the ice at each corner.

Mike and Janet Teel, long-time KBC racers and captains of the KBC race team, entered the beginner's race on their new MTB tandem. Both "Team Teel" members are accomplished racers on their single bikes, but a Mountain



Bike race over ice and snow on a tandem? They started out in the middle or back of the pack, but by the end of the second lap, they were in third place, and looking strong. The flat straightaways of the campground proved an advantage to the tandem team, and a very heavy crash going into the single track didn't put them very far back. By the end of the third and final lap, the double-seat Fischer MTB rolled

into the finish chute in first place. At the awards ceremonies, Janet Teel went forward to claim the first-place medal. Mike, beaming at the first win of what may be many this year, wondered out loud when he would get to wear the medal.

Other KBC competitors included Bill Fischer, Marty Minka, Bob Kennedy, Dave Hauschild, Brett Austin, and Marc Luoma.

In This Issue:

Classifieds
4

Expiring Members
2

February Meeting Minutes
2

KBC Phone Numbers
6

Membership Renewal Form
6

Newsletter Costs
5

Race Results
1

Spike Bike
3

March Meeting:

The March KBC meeting will be held on Monday, March 2 at 7:00 p.m. at Scooters Malt Shop in Scotts.

February Meeting Minutes

The February KBC Meeting took place on Monday, February 3 at 7:00 p.m. President Jeff Wetters presided. The membership discussed the following topics:

New Jerseys

Mike Teel showed prototypes for the new KBC jerseys. Two fabrics are available: lycra and lycra with cotton. Sizing is S, M, L and run large. To order, call Mike Teel BEFORE FEBRUARY 29. Mike's number is 344-7354.

Newsletter

The Editor and Treasurer supplied newsletter costs. After discussing several options, Jeff tabled the discussion. [See accompanying article—Ed.]

Membership Renewal

Most memberships expired on Jan 1, 1992. Hence, only those who have sent in their membership received a January newsletter. The membership at the meeting decided to send a "one more chance" newsletter in March (the one you have in your hands).

What Happened to My January Newsletter?

It works like this: In the current way the membership is set up, everyone's dues are due on January 1. If you don't pay your dues by then, you don't get entered on the computer data base as a 1992 Club members. If you're not a Club member, the computer won't spit out a mailing label with your name on it. If the newsletter editor doesn't get a mailing label with your name on it, you won't get a newsletter. Simple, right? Well, maybe.

Meeting Site

We're STILL looking for a free place to hold our meetings in Kalamazoo. If you know of a site, please call Jeff Wetters or any of the Club officers.

Open House

The KBC Spring Open House will take place on Saturday, May 2. A rise will start at 3:00 p.m. The party starts at 5:00. Shirley Williams volunteered to publicize the event and find a site. Marty Knop volunteered to get beverages. Watch for details in the April Pedal Press.

Adopta-Highway Program

In order to gain publicity, Marty Knop recommended that KBC participate in Michigan's Adopta-Highway program. In the program, a group cleans a one, two, or three-mile section of highway (both sides), four times per year. Marty is investigating details and will report at the March meeting.

The problem is that most people are thinking of almost anything *other* than bicycling during the last part of December. President Jeff Wetters and the usual suspects are exploring ways to ameliorate the problem.

This month, at the direction of the Club officers, I'm mailing newsletters to everyone who *is* a member and who *was* a member last year. This, however is the last one. Please renew today by using the form on page 6.

Spike Bike #5: Armageddon in Detroit (Part 3 of 7)

by Bob Fishell

[Editorial Note: In an effort to remove "all that garbage" from the Pedal Press, we stopped running Spike Bike and other entertainment-type articles and tried to stick to "just the facts, ma'am." After several suggestions and threats, Spike is back. If you have any input, just let me know. --Ed.]

[Synopsis: Driven from his home, his identity known to the the evil Corporatist government, fugitive Spike hops a freight train bound for Detroit. Ironically, the day he has hoped for has nearly arrived. The midterm elections have defeated the Corporatists, and it is only a matter of time before he can live as an ordinary man again. However, he must now escape to Canada to collect himself and decide on a course of action. But while attempting to reach downtown Detroit, thence Windsor, Ontario, he is intercepted by the grey Plymouth sedans of the CFGM Security Police and ultimately pursued into a garage in the base of the imposing CFGM building. A drugged dart is fired into his leg and the world goes black.

In the year 1998, one man fights the tyranny of the automobile...]---

At first there was only a blur of agonizing light and a noise like a buzz-saw ripping through my skull. After a few moments, the blur became a face, and I realized it was speaking.

"---ming around, Mr. Bikopoulos. Can I offer you a drink?"

A pail of icy water was thrown into my face, and I sputtered for air, choking and nearly throwing up. It began to clear my head though. As my vision returned, I observed that I was in an opulent office. Before me was a heavy mahogany desk. On it were my MAC-10 and a drab-looking suitcase. Behind, a panoramic window displayed the city lights of Detroit-Windsor, seen from the

exhilarating heights of what I realized was the top floor of the 103-story CFGM building. The last fringes of twilight glowed in the west. It had been early morning the last I'd been conscious.

I was bound to a chair with duck tape, uncomfortably tight across my wrists and ankles. I had been stripped to the waist. A glance assured me that my heart monitor was still there. Looking around the room, I saw my specially-equipped mountain bike leaned against a wall, its armament intact. My gun belt and flak vest lay beside it.

"Yes, the bike's here," my host offered, "We know about that little electronic gizmo of yours, but we didn't have time to figure out how to disarm it. We thought it wise not to fool with anything, in fact. It was easier just to keep it in range of the transmitter for now. You're quite ingenious, Mr. Bikopoulos. Or is it Spike Bike?"

"That'll be Mister Bikopoulos to you, Butt-brain." A mistake. That brought knuckles across my face.

"You should show proper respect for authority, Mister Bikopoulos. Don't you know who I am?"

I knew who he was. Ames Morgan, Secretary of Transportation and Executive VP of CFGM, Iacocca's right-hand man. It was rumored that Morgan was the real boss of the Corporatist government. What was an important cabinet member doing smacking me across the face?

"The face and charming manner are familiar. You grunt for the Prez."

"The President of the United States is rather upset with you, Spike."

"The American People are rather upset with him, so I guess he's entitled. But why does he

Please continue on the next page.

Classified

KBC Newsletter Costs:

FOR SALE:

Yakima Roof Rack with 2 bike mounts. *Cheap!* Call Marc at 731-2739.

	Printing Costs Only	Mailed-first-class (stamps-.29)	Mailed-Bulk Rate (.16)	Mailed-Bulk-rate (non-profit-.7)
8-page newsletter	\$155	\$215	\$187	\$169
6-page newsletter	\$135	\$195	\$167	\$149
4-page newsletter	\$80	\$140	\$112	\$94
1-page flyer	\$10 (or free)	\$70	\$42	\$24

Spike Bike (Continued from page 3)

care about me? Senator Crisp..."

"Joseph Crisp is merely the political leader of this disloyal rabble. You're their folk hero. You inspire them. You're too much of a nuisance to have around."

"Somehow I think it's Mr. Iacocca who won't be around, at least not much after the 3rd of January. Is it true that they're just going to impeach him, or are they going to throw him in jail, too?"

"That's rather outlandish, coming from a terrorist." "Terrorist? I'm just a concerned citizen, doing my best to keep our highways free of trash."

"Terrorist. Particularly after the little stunt you pulled in New Mexico Thursday."

"I was in New York Thursday, filling out reams of your goddam forms just to receive a shipment of Metaxa from Greece."

"Quite the contrary, Spike. You shot up a top-secret government installation. We've got it all on video tape. Killed thirteen people, including a janitor and a couple of secretaries, before you got away with this."

He placed a hand on the suitcase sitting on the desk. He removed a panel to reveal an array of switches and displays. Reaching into his pocket, he extracted a key and inserted it into a slot in the control panel. The displays jumped to life.

"The CIA whipped this up. Quite clever, really, only thirty-six pounds, and most of that's the shielding."

"What is it, a crystal set? Captain Video decoder, maybe?"

"I thought you were a weapons expert, Spike. It's a thermonuclear device. Oh, it's just a little one -- thirty kilotons, maybe -- but enough for you to do a great deal of damage to this fair city and its distinguished guests."

I suddenly saw what he was getting at. It was monstrous.

The Enterprise Party had fittingly chosen Detroit's Cobo Hall as the site for its first Transition Planning Conference. Every important member of the Anticorporatist movement would be in attendance. The conference was to open this evening. So that was why they'd timed my capture for this date! They intended to destroy the cities of Detroit and Windsor, and make it look like an act of terrorism, with me the perpetrator. A quarter mile in the air, this office would be groundzero. We were half a mile from the convention center. None of the delegates would survive, and hundreds of thousands of innocent people would perish with them.

"You're insane!" I hissed. I tugged and jerked at my restraints. Morgan leaned back in his chair, placed his feet on the desk next to the Bomb. His laughter filled every inch of the spacious office.

* TO BE CONTINUED *

Point-Counter-Point: Timing the Ride --or--

How Long Did It Take To Ride That 5-Hour Century?

Point:

-- *Tommy Tourist*

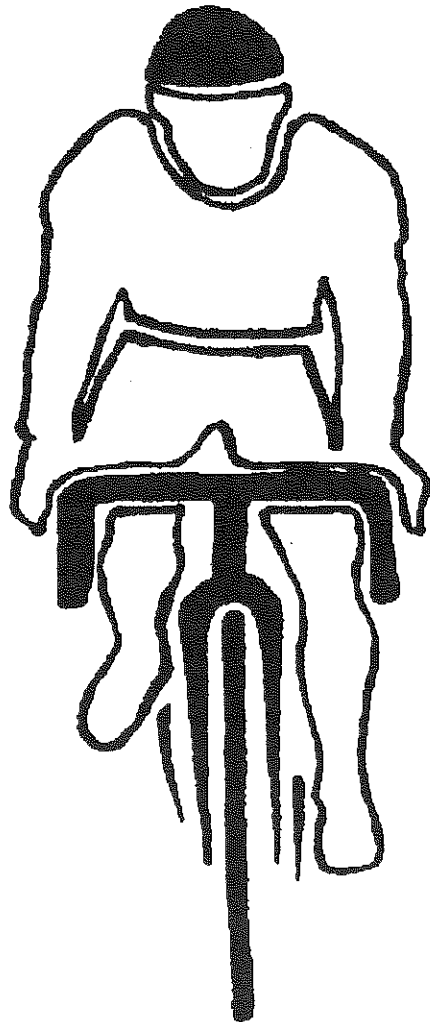
It's clear that when you're trying to determine how long a given ride took, you should only keep track of the time *that you're on the bike*. Also calculate your average speed this way. I mean, the thing we care about is bike riding, right? Why worry about breaks, stops, repairs, beer drinking, flower picking, or any of the other myriad interruptions that occur in a given ride? Once again, we should care about how fast we are while on the bike. Why else would Performance Bike Shops market that neat bike computer that stops automatically when the bike does? Hence, if we start on a century ride at 8:00 am, finish at 6:00 pm, but spend five hours resting or on breaks, it's a five-hour century, right? **Right!** Harry, only anal-retentive obsessives like yourself who are searching for holier-than-thou bragging rights would use the "clock-to-clock" method.

Counterpoint:

-- *Harry Hammerpig*

Tommy, you ignorant slug: You should start the watch when you leave and only turn it off when you're done with the whole distance. Using your wimpy method, you could theoretically take three weeks to ride a six-hour century: just ride as hard as you can for five miles and call it a day. Heck, you're only keep-

ing track of time on the bike, right? Why worry about that "rest time" at home over night. C'mon, Tommy. Using your method makes the goal of a four- or five-hour century meaningless. That's why every governing body involved in cycling, from the USCF to the Ultra-Marathon Cycling Association to the Paris-Brest-Paris organizers all use the "clock-to-clock" timing method. Only slugs who want the prestige of reaching a goal they don't have the legs for would use your wimped-out timing.



[What do you think? Write to Point-Counter-Point care of KBC at PO Box 527, Kalamazoo, MI 49005.]



Kalamazoo Bicycle Club
P.O. Box 527
Kalamazoo, MI 49005
Address Correction Requested

Membership Renewal

Name: _____

Street: _____

City, State: _____

Zip, Phone: _____

Type of Membership (circle one)

Individual (\$15) Family (\$20)

Student/Senior (\$10)

Family Member Names _____

Mail to: KBC, Box 527, Kalamazoo, MI 49005

KBC Names and Phone Numbers

President Jeff Wetters 375-0940

Vice-President Shirley Williams 329-4003

Treasurer Nancy Deboer

Race Team Liason Mike Teel 344-7354

Database Manager ... Phil Caruso 381-0135

Newsletter Editor Marc Luoma 731-2739

Ride Line Ann Johnson 327-7767

Kal-Haven Trail-

Blazer Liason Charlie Fuentes

Stage Race Liason Gary Goscenski 343-0498