



Fat Tire Flyer

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Fat Tire Flyer

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Letters

Hello Folks.

Just completed a trip to Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument on our Fat-Tired machines. 80 degrees and sunny with two excellent loops on the dirt—one 50 miles, one 24 miles. You should check it out when (and if) you get burned out on NorCal winters. This was the fourth annual organized by Tim Phillips of Tombstone (Tim of Tombstone; Tomb of Timstone?) Bring sunscreen and lots of H2O and cervasas. Spectacular desert scenery with typically beautiful Arizona sunrises and sets.

We're thinking of organizing a winter (Jan. or Feb.) two-dayer like the Pearl Pass Tour or the Telluride to Ouray run down here in the warm sunshine. If we can determine if there's interest, we've got some backroad ghost town loops, etc., here in Cochise County. Maybe in the next issue you could mention such a possibility. If we get enough interest drummed up, our shop would certainly like to put it together.

Yours in cycling,

Alan J. Ardizzone
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We have yet to run out of letters from Harlow. Here is another one which contains a response to an article which appeared in these very pages concerning possible future rules in off-road racing.

Dear Fat, Tired Person,

In response to your last issue regarding rules and regulations, I am enclosing a Badlands Racing Rules and Regulations Manual:

KING OF THE MOUNTAINS RACE-TOUR (by Badlands Racing) Rules and Regulations—first one to the finish is the winner, no cheatin'.

When dirt road racing gets to the point of having categories I, II, III, IV, Women's, Veterans, Mutants, etc., please count me out because I'll be too busy trail riding with friends.

I would also like to make a brief comment on dirt safety—broken arms and legs heal, but broken heads usually do not.

Harlow-Badlands Racing

p.s. I always carry a spare head in my fanny pack.

Continued, page 5



Dave Epperson

One of the best ways for anyone to see his or her name in Fat Print is to write us a letter telling us how far out we are. Here is an excellent example of this ploy.

Dear FTF,

Broke my collar bone, sprained an ankle, and bloodied my nose while thumbing through the new format issue. Super job! Congratulations to all involved.

I should be outta the hospital just in time for the next issue. Can't wait.

Sincerely,

Mite, the Philly Pothole Jumper

Dear ladies and gentlemen of the Fat Tire Flyer,

In the March-April issue you forgot to mention in your "History" section the INDEPENDENT JOURNAL (San Rafael, CA) article Thursday, June 25, 1981 entitled "Mountain Biking, Marin's Native Sport."

Sincerely,

Eric Reuther
P.S. I remembered to write ladies and gentlemen instead of only putting dear sirs or gentlemen.

Schedule

WHISKEYTOWN DOWNHILL

Last year's Whiskeytown downhill proved to be one of the most popular events of the year. By this time most F.T.P. subscribers have received information on Whiskeytown, but for new subscribers and those who get the Flyer from the bus depot, here's the run-down on the run down.

The course is 30 miles, ending 1000 feet lower than the start, although it isn't all downhill. There's plenty of tough climbing, so set your saddle sores singing.

Several classes are set, including Expert, Novice Men, Novice Women, and BMX (one-speeds).

Entry is \$10 before May 31 or \$15 after. Race date is Sunday, June 6; time is a very early 6:00 a.m., with riders meeting at the Main Gang Bike Shop for the lift to the start.

In order to assist in the entry process, we are including a copy of a copy of a copy of the entry blank.

And last but not least, if you still need info (like, where do I fill the check?), write or call Larry or Bonnie Larson at the Chain Gang, 2655 Park Marina Drive, Redding, CA 96001. Phone # is 6-243-7765 or 243-7101.

Camping is available for those who don't feel like cruising in on the morning of.

RISE SCHEDULE

The fellows down at MOUNTAIN-BIKES have announced their summer "Daylight Savings" ride schedule, and we're just passing the word. Two levels are planned, one for the Hard Corps, and one for the more touring element. The announced intention of the Hard Corps rides is to assemble and train a racing team.

Hard Corps rides will meet at MOUNTAINBIKES, 1501 San Anselmo Avenue, in San Anselmo Tuesday evenings beginning May 11. Touring rides will meet same time, same place, Thursday evenings beginning May 13.

Continued, page 15

Coyote Derby

RYSDALE WINS 2ND COYOTE DERBY WVA GETS HAIRCUT AND SHAVE! by Harlow

28 March, '82 BADLANDS, CA --No, he didn't get a haircut, but Victor Vincente of America cleaned up most of the top finishing order. The "Ritchey Wrecking Crew's" domination of last year's event was countered this year by the newly formed "WVA Wrecking Crew" -taking four of the top five places. The R.W.C. fell victim to attrition and physical fatigue, with Tim Rysdale the lone survivor (and winner!). Last year's winner, Monte Ward, despite a strong effort for top placing at the first checkpoint, mysteriously dropped out, a victim of the "Badlands Bonk" (an ailment characterized by acute trauma of the legs, curable only by a long fast downhill). Also conspicuous in his absence at the finish was Reseda-to-the-Sea winner Jeff Day, who dropped out for reasons unknown.

A new winner and new faces in the trophy circle indicated that serious training had been an important factor in preparation for this event. Rysdale, always a strong contender, aced the Derby using the traditional smoothie/WFO style that seems to defy gravity on hills. Spectators on the course were treated to a display of speed and skill on the downhill sections as Clark Roberts fought to close the gap to first place. Aaron Cox, seriously injured last year in a road accident, has come back even stronger, placing a creditable third.

And never count out the dirt guru

himself, WA, because the tougher the event, the better he seems to place. Although no stranger to downhill competition, Ken "Hot Legs" Beach blazed into the ranks of the truly hard-core dirt monsters, displaying power on uphill as well as downhill and winning the most improved rider designation for 5th. Lots of new faces indicate the growing interest in off-road that is spreading through So-Cal, and the possibilities for even tougher competition in the future.

The Iron Person category was the race of the day, due to the large amount of entries of BMX riders. Due to the congestion at the start line the ride was started in two heats, the metal-people being given a 3-minute lead handicap. Although the iron-peloton had soon disappeared from sight, all but a few were caught by the blistering pace of the multi-speedsters. The lone single speed still ahead at the top of the first hill was Steve Boemle, who managed to hold the leader's pace to the bottom of the hill, where a wrong turn eroded his lead to sixth place. Steve was able to hang tough all the way to the finish, bagging 7th overall, the Iron Person award, and a large pizza prize. Iron Person efforts were impressive, with 10 of the top 20 placings going to these animals. BMX star Jane Wilkinson broke into the ranks and became the first "Iron Woman" to finish the Derby. It is rumored that the really tough iron-people adhere to a strict training diet regimen of bean sprouts, raw meat, and prune juice (no twinkies?).

Survival equipment covered the entire spectrum from the latest avant-garde fat tire lightweights (Shrapas, Ritchies, Stumpers, Bruisers, WVA) to track bikes (with freewheel and 'cross tires) to state of the art BMX rockets and of course lots of the never-say-light Schwinn cruiser sleds. Regardless

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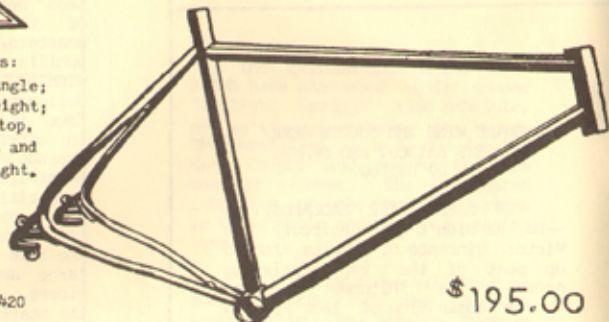
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 head tube angle; 70° seat tube angle;
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the machine, it was the physical
 effort and the spirit to press on
 that made the difference at the
 finish.

Some of the more interesting
 sights for the badlands
 triathletes/racers included a dead
 sheep (in the middle of the first
 downhill) complete with its own
 dramatic aura, a stripped,
 abandoned red Camaro, and two fools
 in a van who managed to wrap it
 around a tree, probably trying to
 follow the course. Inclement
 weather prevented any spectators
 from the nudist ranch (by Boulder
 rd.) from showing up in their
 festive costumes.

Several new sections were
 added to the course, giving an even
 wider variety of terrain
 conditions. A heavily wooded
 trials section known only as
 Treemont was followed by
 everybody's favorite, the
 "Bushwacker Freeway." Old favorites
 such as "Boulder Boulevard,"
 "Sandwash Speedway," and "Hamburger
 Hill" also provided their dose of
 panic and cheap thrills for the
 unsuspecting riders. Recent heavy
 rains left an excellent dirt
 surface with which to extend the
 limits of traction, with an
 occasional greasy mud crossing in
 low areas. Cloudy overcast
 conditions prevailed throughout the
 entire event, but no rain fell
 until 15 minutes after the last
 finisher checked in.

Inspired by the bus tour of
 the "zoo" in Las Vegas (returning
 from Crested Butte) a poker draw
 was held, each entrant drawing one
 card from each of five
 checkpoints. Unfortunately checks
 #2 and #4 were unattended due to
 technical difficulties, these cards
 being drawn at the finish line.
 This had a very profound and
 devastating effect on many riders,
 having ridden 20 tough miles and
 only hitting three checkpoints.
 The prevailing response at the last
 checkpoint was "(pant!) (pant!) how

(pant!) much (pant!) further?" A
 downhill cruise to the finish
 somehow made it all come together
 and seem worthwhile, and through
 all the sweat and fatigue, grins
 and satisfaction emerged, as once
 again the Badlands had been
 challenged and Conquered.

FINAL SCORE

Total entrants—58
 PTFers—43 Badlands—15

COYOTE DERBY RESULTS

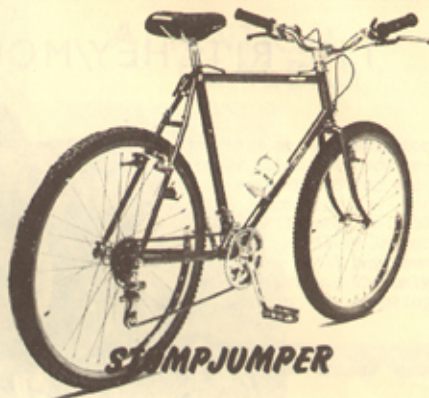
1. Tim Rysdale	2:15
2. Clark Roberts	2:21
3. Aaron Cox	2:26
4. WA	2:29
5. Ken Beach	2:40
6. Jim Harlow	2:43
7. Steve Boempke*	2:47
8. Dave Epperson	2:50
9. Vincent Tavis	2:55
10. Bill Crumpler	2:56
11. Jeff Wilkinson	3:12
12. Paul Winter	3:12
13. Dave Clopton	3:18
14. Bill Allen	3:19
15. Doug Earnest	3:33

*Iron-Person Winner

(This is not a complete list of
 finishers. The last person to
 finish, the "Red Light," was
 John McPherson, #45 in 6:10.
 The time is not a misprint.)

Harlow has also provided us
 with a list of the excuses used
 by the DNF's. For example:
 Rye Sharp: "Had to see a man about
 a horse."
 Bob Bacin: "Crashed on the way to
 the starting line."
 Kurt Brown: "Died for trying to
 impersonate Elmer Pudd."
 Emil Velasquez: "Saw the dead
 sheep and thought lunch was being
 served." (How disgusting—ed.)
 David McCord: "Smelled the sheep
 and passed out."

Mike's



1601 FOURTH STREET
 SAN RAFAEL, CA. 94901 (415) 454-3747

Morte Ward: "The constant uphill
 pedal pounding ripped the gears
 off both my freewheel and chain-
 ring. I could not in good faith
 continue."

Jeff Day: "I was ambushed and kid-
 napped by a pack of coyotes hiding
 behind bushes. I am presently
 being held prisoner, a ransom
 note has been sent demanding a 2"

frameset, a lifetime supply of
 fat tires and a one-way plane
 ticket to Crested Butte. Please
 follow instructions and send all
 demands to my home address."
 Elmer Pudd: "I thought this was a
 wood wace."

Wile E. Coyote: "Jeff Day is a
 lying, skulking dog. Send the
 loot to Badlands Racing."

Final Note: The whole thing is
 planned again for next year.

Cartoonland

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Reseda to the Sea

by WA

This year the takeoff was more relaxed, and some riders made it to the dirt not yet out of breath.

Soon thereafter it was all single file up through the canyon and into the mountains. At the top of the major climb the order was Jeff Day followed closely by Clark Roberts, then Monte Ward, Tim Rysdale, Jim Harlow, with VVA a couple of minutes down.

The changes in order were that Ward pulled in Roberts on the Kurt Brown Shortcut, rode with him to the finish and outsprinted him for second place; and Harlow left Rysdale behind in the vicinity of the second climb.

The notable newcomers were DeAngelis in 7th place, Lenier in 12th, Shepard on a frame of his own making in 16th, Brown (Kurt's brother) in 17th, and Wills in 18th.

The day was pleasant, Earth being a prime place for these events. The cloud cover protected from a potentially blazing sun, while the ambient temperature permitted the smooth functioning of human bodies.

The distance of this event proves to be such that those desiring a spiritual completion can ride back to the starting point in a different state of being; those into "walk and don't look back" can be satisfied with a tough enough workout. and head for the next unknown. WA

ATTENTION DEALERS

Get the FLYER at wholesale for over-the-counter sales. If you order twenty or more FLYERS for your shop we'll sell them to you for only half the retail rate, or \$.50 each. And in the unlikely event you can't sell them, we'll buy them back at the same price. The only way you can lose is by ignoring this offer!

RESULTS, RESEDA-TO-THE-SEA

MEN'S

1. Jeff Day	51:00
2. Monte Ward	52:30
3. Clark Roberts	52:30
4. Jim Harlow	53:00
5. Tim Rysdale	53:30
6. VVA	55:30
7. Todd DeAngelis	55:30
8. Aaron Cox	57:00
9. Kye Sharp	57:20
10. Ron Harford	59:30
11. G. Tourtillotte	60:30
12. Erskine Lenier	61:45
13. Ken Beach	67:00
14. D. Waldner	70:45
T. Waldner (tandem)	
16. Wade Shepard	76:00
17. Scott Brown	78:00
18. Jeff Wills	81:00

WOMEN'S

1. Alice Dee Hitt

RECOGNITION

All Fat Folks should immediately go out and purchase the June issue of BICYCLING magazine. Aside from the editorial contents, which includes plenty of Fat Tire coverage, the cover photo includes two prominent members of the FTF staff, who shall otherwise remain anonymous.

Astute readers of BICYCLING will notice that Another Company is advertising "Fat Tire Flyers" t-shirts. The shirts in question are very similar to those sold by your Very Own FTF, with the difference that they carry advertising for The Other Company. For the record, we would like to mention here that we do not officially endorse any company other than to carry product reviews, and any other inference is unfounded.

Speaking of t-shirts, the real thing, an Officially Sanctioned Fat Tire Flyer four-color shirt printed on 100% blue cotton is available from, where else, the FTF for the paltry sum of \$6.75, plus the usual extra gouge, \$1.50 for mailing and especially handling. If you know where to find us, we'll leave out the service fee. Sizes are your old favorites, sm, med, lg, xlg, so be sure to mention one.



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Do you want your race or tour information to go to the most rabid Fat Tire Fans? Then let us mail your announcements. We don't sell our mailing list, but for a small charge we will handle mailings. Minimum is 250 pieces; write for more information or call us at 415-456-6277 or 457-7016.



T-SHIRT OFFER



Fat Tire Flyer T-shirts are now available, printed in four colors on light blue heavy-duty 100% cotton shirts. The low, low price of \$8.25 includes shipping and handling.

The little guy at left is on the front, and the back reads, "Survival of the Fattest."

Although some other dealers are carrying similar shirts, you can show your support for the Flyer by ordering direct. Discounts are available on quantity orders.

Please send me Fat Tire Flyer T-shirts at \$8.25 each, including shipping and handling.

Total enclosed: (Indicate sizes) S M L XL S M L XL

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SANTA ROSA RIDE SCHEDULE

Tom Hillard of the Bike Peddler in Santa Rosa has also given us a ride schedule. The Santa Rosa rides meet Tuesday nights at the Bike Peddler in Montgomery Village at 6:00 Tuesday nights. One rental bike will be available at \$5, first come, et cetera. For more info call Tom at 707-526-2453.

HONORABLE MENTION

The FAT TIRE FLYER has gone international! The latest edition of RICHARD'S BICYCLE BOOK, which is printed in England, has a mention of your favorite Fat-Rag..... Tally-ho!

OTHER PUBLICATION

For those readers who are into classic old stock balloons like they don't build any more, we suggest a subscription to the CLASSIC BICYCLE AND WHIZZER NEWS. Like the Flyer, this is a six times a year publication. Unlike the Flyer, it deals exclusively with collectable-type old balloons. Subscriptions can be had for the low(?) price of \$12/year. Write to the NEWS at Box 765, Huntington Beach, CA 92648. And remember, to tell 'em the Flyer sent you!

COMING NEXT ISSUE!

Next issue will feature an article from our first foreign correspondent, Arfin Vigurst of Switzerland. Also, Robert Lewis will be glad to read here that we plan to run his story, "Baja by Balloon-er."

In addition we will try to update some of our product reviews to include the new tires on the market as well as a few other new items of interest to Flyerites. All this, plus racing news. No doubt about it, you can't live without it!



Dave Epperson

San Anselmo Race

The often postponed but never cancelled San Anselmo race is now scheduled for June 27. Assembly will be at 9:00 a.m. at Isabel Cook School on Sir Francis Drake Boulevard. The event will be sponsored by your very own Fat Tire Flyer in conjunction and to benefit the San Anselmo (CA) Fire Department. The course will be in a secret location, and will be well marked with lime. Prize list will be over \$1000 and will be donated by local shops. There will be enough categories and prizes so that every level of rider will be rewarded, so get in gear and be there.

For more information call Denise at 415-456-6277
or write Fat Tire Flyer
Box 757
Fairfax, CA 94930

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☐ Enclosed is \$10,000.00; send 25 words or less.

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NAME.....

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COMMENTS:

Fat Foto



Liz Nilser

CONTEST

Here at FLYER HQ we are always looking for photos to help illustrate the action and beauty of Fat Tire cycling, and here's your opportunity to help us out. Our next issue will feature the First Ever Fat Tire Foto Contest, and we have a few goodies for the winners.

All photos submitted must be 8" X 10" glossy black and white, and the deadline is August first. Photos submitted will become property of the Flyer, and will not be returned, so save the neg.

Enough technical, you're saying to yourself, what do I win? Is money all right? We hope, 'cuz that's what we're giving for first prize: \$25 and one year of the FTF for free, plus the honor of having your photo on the cover. Second prize is a one year sub and an FTF t-shirt, third prize is a t-shirt, fourth, fifth and sixth prizes are each a one year subscription. All winners will be notified by mail, and we will publish a list in the next ish. Get out there and get clickin'!

