



# NEWSLETTER

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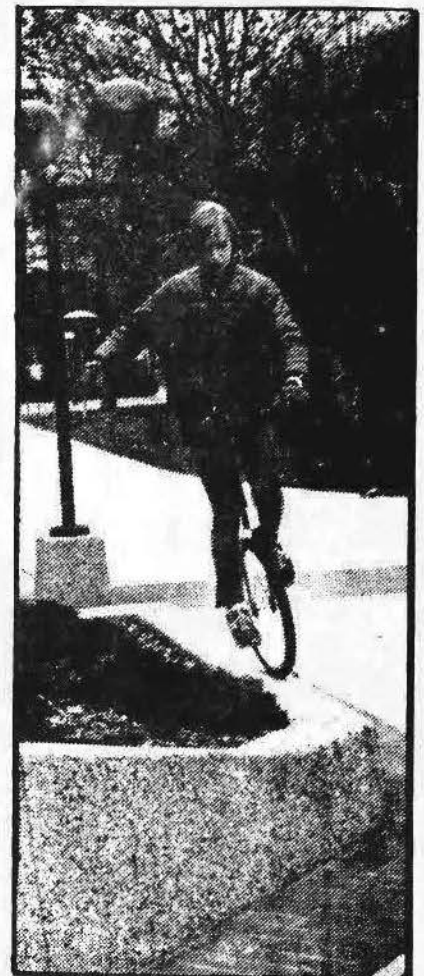
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JOHN FOSS

ON CAMPUS



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Cindy Oldham  
"The South End"  
Wayne State University

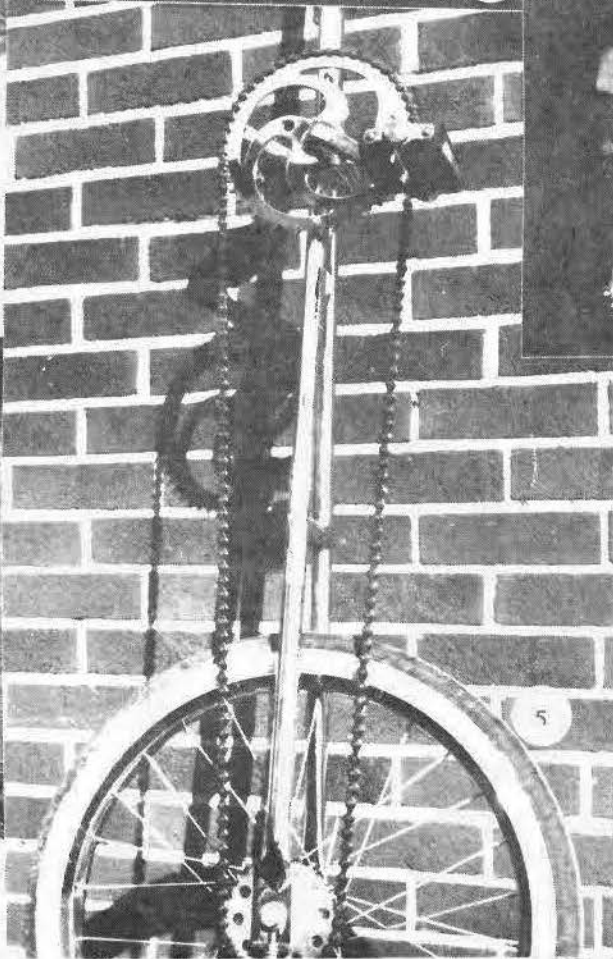
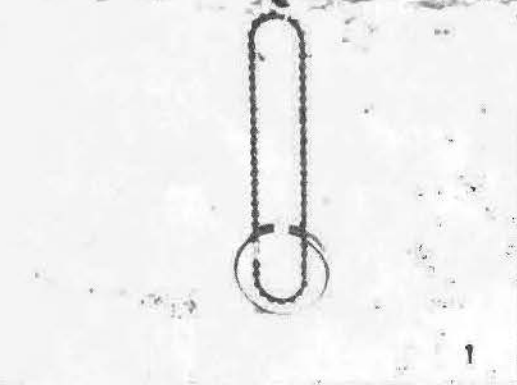
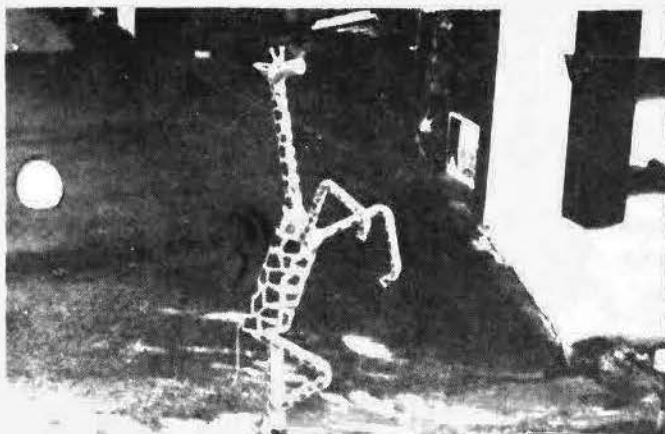
SEE JOHN'S ARTICLES  
pgs. 7, 10 and 18

TALLS



WHEELS  
-  
SIGNS

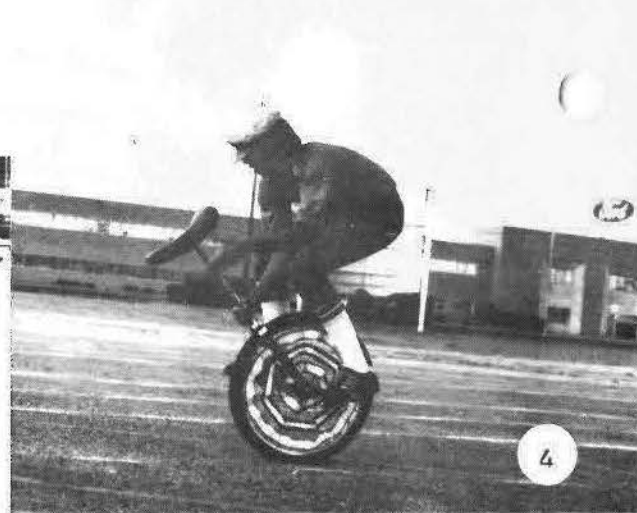
SMALLS



Misc.

# From the Clubs

## Unicycles



## TALLS, smalls &amp; Bigs

- 1) NICK and CHRIS BROWN show the form that earned them a featured spot on the front page of the ST. LOUIS PARK (Minnesota) SUN. (see "Unicyclists in the News")
- 2) President TOM MILLER is riding high!
- 3) Feature Writer, STEVE GORDON, demonstrates the other extreme of unicycling as he maneuvers around on his "Puny Cycle" (see article NSLR, Summer, 1980)
- 4&5) GLEN GRANBERRY, Mobile Unicycle Club, rides his "Puny Cycle" with a handle-bar unit (4) and over the ramp (5)
- 6) SALLY WHITE and BILL JENACK are shown together on their wooden Big Wheels
- 7) Director PAUL FOX is a real traffic-stopper as he pedals off to work on his metal "Big Wheel"

## MISC.

- 1) What is it? Why, a giraffe unicycle, of course! (Thanks, STEVE GORDON)
- 2) SEM ABRAHAMS takes a ride on the "uni-ski" at the Jenack's in New York
- 3) SEM, again, demonstrating his much emulated "Look, Ma, no feet" riding technique. Few unicyclists can see this done without giving it a try
- 4) Director FLOYD CRANDALL, wearing the "Guinness" shirt he wore in Japan, is known not only for speed (see article, this issue) but for fantastic control as well. This picture was taken at Redford's Mini-Meet, September, 1980
- 5) A close-up of JOHN FOSS's "HIPO" (John's article on this special unicycle appears on pgs. 7-8, this issue)
- 6) The GRANBERRYS, 6-year-old DALE (on standard) and 10-year-old GLEN (on giraffe) in a "typical" practice session Both are members of the MOBILE UNICYCLE CLUB
- 7) Fifteen-year-old ALLAN ZUCKERMAN of Somerville, N.J. and friend

## FROM THE CLUBS

- 1) A dislocated elbow did not prevent OAK VIEW (Virginia) student KATHY SMITH from riding her unicycle in the annual 4th of July parade in Fairfax City. (No, unicycling had nothing to do with Kathy's accident)
- 2) Mobile's BETH ROBINSON, DALE GRANBERRY, GLEN GRANBERRY and MIKE EDWARDS in the picture that accompanied the newspaper article (see "Unicyclists in the News")
- 3) From Redford's Mini-Meet (pics. by J. Foss) Starting posts can be a sturdy shoulder
- 4) HANS MILLS (Redford) mounts unconventionally
- 5) The SMILING FACES with their parachute
- 6) CAROL BAHORICH and DEBBIE JONES (Redford) in the Ultimate Wheel race

UNICYCLING SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC.

## FROM THE CLUBS:



The newly formed MOBILE UNICYCLE CLUB is progressing nicely. However, they would appreciate some ideas from other clubs on fund-raising techniques. (Redford unicycle riders held rummage sales to earn money for club equipment. What have some of the other clubs done?)

The emblem, above, was designed by a Mobile unicyclist, BILL WALDORF.

Club members are working hard on the Achievement Levels. (The Achievement Level Awards (see NSLR's 4-'79 and Winter '80) are available through JOYCE JONES, Sec.-Treas., to an authorized adult in registered clubs only. Cost: \$1.00 each. Independents who wish to earn Level patches may do so at regional or national meets.)

SETH GRANBERRY reports that his 10-year-old son, GLEN, was the first member to complete all four levels. DENNIS RACKARD (age 21) needs only to complete rocking with one foot to have all 4 patches. All the other members, including DALE GRANBERRY (age 6) have completed through Level 2 and are working on Level 3.

Club members who have fund-raising suggestions or any other ideas for new clubs may write to Seth at:

3204 Desire St.  
Mobile, Alabama 36606

The UNIQUES from Ohio currently have 25 active riders. They have had a busy 1980 season and wrote that parade and performance commitments have prevented their participating in regional meets. The director is:  
Mr. Herb Poindexter  
5734 Bonnie Lori  
Akron, Ohio 44319

The SUPER CYCLES from Virginia have an enthusiastic member. PAUL ROBERTS is now a student at William and Mary College but enjoyed being a member of the Super Cycles so much that he is considering starting a campus club.

NEWSLETTER - FALL, 1980



The REDFORD TOWNSHIP UNICYCLE CLUB, INC. hosted its fourth annual Mini-Meet on September 27, 1980. The 83 participants included several independents who learned of the event through a Channel 4 t.v. special featuring the hosting club several weeks before.

While unicyclists were able to participate in the usual forward and specialty races, the obstacle course, individual trick, couples, and group riding; there was a special event at this meet: a ten-yard ultimate wheel race. Home workshops are turning out more ultimate wheels and they are no longer a rarity among unicyclists. Therefore, there were a number of boys and girls lined up for this race - many of them excellent ultimate wheel riders. However, the pressure of competition and speed proved too much for all but one rider in each race - DEBORAH JONES and PAUL CUNNINGHAM, both from Redford.

Several of the judges for this event (GLENN BATEMAN from Kokomo, BARBARA MARQUART from Findlay, FLOYD CRANDALL from Pontiac, LUCIA BAHORICH from Redford, and CONNIE FOX from Marion) took the time to fill in comments for the various trick riding acts. The one reoccurring suggestion was: SMILE. When Redford's PAUL POCHE appeared with the group for the first time before an audience of many hundred, he found that not only could he not smile - he could barely ride before that large a crowd. The pressure of riding, individually or in a group, before an audience as well as a panel of judges, while remembering a complicated routine and all of the cues is not a situation that brings out big smiles in most people. However, your ed. suggests that if smiling becomes as much a part of the act as the intricate tricks and formations themselves, the performer will benefit greatly. Not only will he benefit for the particular unicycle act, but also for the many occasions throughout life when he will be called upon to appear before groups of people.

ONE WHEEL WONDERS is becoming a popular name in unicycle clubs. There is one club in Houston, Texas, and a very new one beginning in Lantana, Florida. The five members of this club are directed by 13-year-old WAYNE MARCINKOSKI. This young man has learned a number of tricks in the years that he has been riding (i.e. one-half mile one-footed, etc.), but he reports that his club

members are learning the tricks he can do so rapidly that he is going to have to start practicing secretly so that he can still stay ahead of them. Wayne would like to hear from other club members with suggestions for tricks (He has read Jack Wiley's THE UNICYCLE BOOK.), ideas for increasing membership, club activities, etc. You can write to Wayne at:

1065 Ridge Road  
Lantana, Florida 33462

Due to transportation costs, the OAK VIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL EXHIBITIONAL CLUB cut down on their normally very busy summer show schedule. Nevertheless, the group gave several shows at regional parks throughout Virginia, took part in five parades, and gave two shows for the Washington, D.C. Harbourfest for the visit of the tall sailing ships from Denmark.

The SPINNING WHEELS from Virginia, the second 4-H unicycle club, is no longer functioning as a group. Members who wished to continue their unicycling activities are now riding with the OAK VIEW club. Oak View rides with school alumni who were club members when they attended Oak View Elementary school, as well as students currently enrolled.

The original 4-H unicycle club, the SMILING FACES of Findlay, Ohio, chalked up 52 appearances during a recent one-year period. Directed by former U.S.A., Inc. President, JAN LAYNE, members practice weekly throughout the year as well as perform almost every weekend. They regularly host a spring regional meet that is eagerly anticipated by many riders in a tri-state area. Last year's meet featured an overnight at the local YMCA, and Jan says the club is making plans for a similar event in 1981.

Unicyclists will be pleased to learn that FLOYD CRANDALL, long known for his superb riding ability, good sportsmanship, and ever-present help, is planning on organizing a new unicycle club in the Pontiac area. The name, PONTIAC UNICYCLE CLUB, was retired following the death of Floyd's Father and former U.S.A. Director, BERNARD CRANDALL. However, riders continued to get together several times a year for special events under the name PONTIAC GROUP.

KATHY SKINNER, a member of the Pontiac Group, is pursuing her goal of an active club on the MICHIGAN STATE campus. She says that as the membership increases, it becomes more difficult to find a time available to all for practice.



by JOHN FOSS

A "Hipo" can be called a budget big-wheel, or, more simply, a way to go faster on a chain-driven unicycle by changing the gear ratio. This is what I've done with my Schwinn giraffe; and I thought I'd show you how to build your own, either with my specs for a Schwinn, or with whatever other type of chain-driven unicycle you may have.

The Schwinn comes with a 1:1 gear ratio - 26 teeth on both the top and bottom sprockets. It's perfect for trick riding, but it's incredibly slow for going places. Schwinn doesn't have smaller sprockets for the bottom, so I bought bigger ones for the top. The unicycle in the photo on page 2 is called the HIPO. It has a 48-tooth sprocket on top, which gives me a gear ratio of almost two to one (almost twice as fast as normal). The 32-tooth sprocket makes the giraffe go almost exactly the same speed as a standard 24" uni. The 36-tooth sprocket makes it go a little faster than this and is not difficult to ride. The HIPO (48 teeth) is difficult to ride, but (quite possible). Schwinn also makes a 52-tooth sprocket, but I haven't tried it because I don't think it will fit without rubbing against the 'A' frame. These are the two main reasons for building such a contraption.

(One) SPEED. You can travel much farther on a HIPO without pedaling your feet off. It is possible to do a four-minute mile on a 48-tooth HIPO, but it's not easy. If you are going to use your HIPO for this, you need safety equipment. I suggest roller skating and/or skate-boarding knee pads and such. I recommend roller skating gloves for any kind of racing at all because in a fall your hands take most of the punishment. The best way to fall from a fast-moving uni., if you have time to think about it, is to try to roll. Am I right? I don't know. It depends what works for you, but wear those knee pads and gloves at least.

On the HIPO your limit on speed is not how fast you can pedal, but how much speed you want to risk. You see, a 1:1 ratio on a tall unicycle makes it rock steady and very easy to ride; but when the ratio is higher, the height doesn't help you. You are high above the pivot point of the uni., and the ratio makes the movement sluggish because it takes more strength to move it. This leads me to my other reason;

(Two) BALANCE REFINEMENT or SKILL BUILDING. If you think a normal giraffe is too easy to ride, try this: The higher the gear ratio gets, the harder it becomes to turn those pedals. You have to be more touchy in your movements, and it takes more strength to make them. In other words, you get great exercise and your balance gets increasingly better.

Imagine rocking (idling) in slow motion. This is what it looks like on the HIPO. The only trick riding I have developed on it is rocking, bouncing, and riding backward. But give me a chance, I've only been unicycling since last November...

If you learn to free mount this beast, you know you have accomplished something. Not only have you learned a difficult trick, but the real reward is the fact that you have probably doubled the ease with which you can mount a regular giraffe. Since riding the HIPO, I have taught myself some trick mounts for a regular giraffe that I don't think I ever would have tried. For instance, try the Five Dollar Mount (pay up, Jerry!). Hold the uni. straight up with both hands on the seat (this applies to a Schwinn giraffe) and the left pedal at the bottom. Jump to the pedal with your left foot, swing your right leg around the front of the seat, place your right foot carefully on the other pedal and ride away. Don't touch the wheel! It's easy!

#### CONSTRUCTION

Be prepared to take apart your pedal bearings. It's not hard, but you have to be neat about it. Remember, everything is threaded backwards except the part holding the sprocket in. You can use a vise to remove this part if you don't have a big enough wrench. (The idea of the HIPO is that you don't have to live in a metal shop to make it.) Be sure to use a vise to put this piece back on and tighten it as much as you possibly can. Also make sure the sprocket and part are clean and grease-free where they contact; because if they are not held together tightly enough, the sprocket may turn back and forth on the crankshaft, making an annoying clicking noise.

When you first remove the bearing parts, place them on a clean surface and keep them clean. Every time you take the bearings apart you should thoroughly clean them. If you don't, they may grind and just not feel good. After wiping the parts off, dip them in "Gunk," a real brand name, or any grease-

cleaning solvent. Wipe them off again with a clean rag or paper towel and dunk them again. The second dunk makes the difference between smooth and not-so-smooth.

I then use fresh grease and a little light machine oil on the parts as I put them back together. Do not tighten up the bearings yet.

Once you have your new sprocket installed, you need to lengthen your chain. Any used bike chain will do. If you are making a 48-tooth Schwinn HIPO, you need to add ten links.

With other sprockets, the way to find out how many links you need is to open the master link, wrap the original chain around the bottom sprocket, pull it up as tight as you can, and fit the ends onto the new sprocket. The number of teeth between the ends of the chain is approximately the number of additional links that you will need. Remember to allow for looseness of the chain; setting of adjustment screws on bottom sprocket; human error, if any; relative humidity; and curvature of the universe. This may be a difference of one or two links, but it's not as hard as it may sound.

Taking apart an old piece of chain is easy. I lay the old chain across a vise - open just enough to let the pin come through. I hit the pin with a hammer and punch, and I knock it almost all the way through. You only need to go far enough to be able to get the chain apart. Then you use the same method to attach the new piece to your original chain.

With the longer chain put together, installed, and tightened; you now tighten up the bearings. You want the bearings to be as tight as possible, but perfectly smooth-running. When you are through, however, the outer nut has to be tight against the bearing part.

The HIPO is really a fun unicycle to ride. I hope I haven't scared you off by sounding too dangerous or complicated. C'mon, unicyclists, build up your legs and your skills. Ride a HIPO.

If you have any questions or comments, you can write to me at:

18826 Melvin  
Livonia, MI 48152

(On September 6, 1980, JOHN FOSS and BRAD NOWAK each rode their HIPO's 75 kilometers (approximately 50 miles) in the March of Dimes Superide '80 held on Belle Isle in Detroit, Mich. PAUL CUNNINGHAM, Redford Township Unicycle Club, Inc., completed the 75 kilometers the year before on his standard 24" unicycle.)

THANK YOU...

Those who attended the 1980 Unicycle Olympics will be pleased to read the following from MAUREEN FINN, the young unicyclist from Texas who was involved in a serious automobile accident just prior to the event:

"Thank you so much for remembering me when you were together in Kokomo. The flowers and fruit were very nice and really cheered me up. Hearing from you was the next best thing to being there.

"I am doing very well and have been off my crutches about ten days. Today I even rode my unicycle for the first time since the accident.

"I am really looking forward to seeing all of you next year."

Love a lot,

*Maureen  
Finn*

...and from the 1980 National Olympic Queen!

"Hi! This is a letter of thanks.

"It was a great honor to be the Queen of the 1980 Unicycle Olympics. It is something every girl dreams about. I know I have. I never thought it would come true, but it did. I want to thank those who chose me.

"I would also like to thank you for the roses - they were beautiful and very special!

I hope choosing King and Queen will be a tradition that will be carried on in future Meets, so that every girl will have a chance to be Queen and every guy King!"

DEBORAH JONES

...and from your retiring Editor!

"Each time I use the Cross pen I received from all of you at the 1980 Annual Meeting, I will be reminded of the many fine people I have met personally and through letters since becoming editor three years ago. I am going to miss the experience of writing the NEWSLETTER; but the fine memories of the experience, like the pen, will be with me for years to come.

Thank you,

*Carol Buehford*

\*\*\*\*\*

Ultimate wheel riders will be pleased to hear of this tip from Dr. ORLAND B. REYNOLDS, Marquette, Mich. When PAUL CUNNINGHAM, Redford Township Unicycle Club, complained of the black rubber tire marks on his white uniform pants, Dr. Reynolds suggested putting a coating of parafin on the side of the tire to prevent the rubber from marking the pant.



THE ART OF FREE MOUNTING... by Steve Gordon

At the 1980 Unicycle Olympics, it seemed that every conceivable trick or stunt was a challenge, actually a problem, that required solving. And the problems were mounting. Mounting: from the side. Mounting: from the front. Mounting: from the floor. Mounting with a twist, a leap, or a bang. I'd always considered unicycle riding an art; but at the Olympics the idea of artistic mounting was present, and an impressive presentation it was. I'd like to try to describe some of these mounts for the riders who were unable to attend this year.

The most common mount seemed to be the "side" mount. For this mount the rider holds the unicycle saddle in his right hand with the tire on the ground in front of him. He then puts his left leg on the left pedal (at the bottom of its stroke). Tilting the unicycle slightly to the right, he then lifts his right leg (shifting the body weight to the left foot) and kicks his right leg forward between his left leg and the unicycle. He then swings the right leg around the front of the saddle, pushing the saddle into sitting position with the right foot, lets go of the seat, brings the right foot down on the right pedal, and rides away. It sounds complicated, yet it takes less than one second. Of course, this and all mounts can be reversed if you're more comfortable mounting from the other side.

Another popular mount was the "jump" mount. For a "forward jump" mount the unicycle is held in front of the rider by the saddle, wheel on the ground, pedal arms horizontal. The rider then balances the unicycle, lets go of the seat (leaving the unicycle standing on its own), and leaps in the air, landing with both feet simultaneously on the pedals and his seat on the saddle. Important note: land with ALL your weight on the pedals, i.e. standing. If you try landing with your weight on the saddle, it will be painful.

A variation of this mount is the "side jump" mount, the same as above except that the unicycle is held to the side of the rider who then jumps sideways to land on the unicycle. When learning these mounts, hold onto the saddle as you jump to keep it steady.

Still another variation is the "twist jump" mount. The rider holds the unicycle by the saddle in front of him (holding one hand on

the front of saddle, the other hand holding the rear of the saddle), wheel on the ground. Here, however, the unicycle is facing backwards. The rider remains holding the saddle, jumps, and while in mid-air twists the unicycle 180° so it is facing forward, then lands on it. Be sure the pedals are lined up so they will be where you want them after the unicycle twists.

Then there's the "floor mount" FLOYD CRANDALL's specialty. The unicycle is laid on the floor. The rider lies on his back on the floor, puts his feet on the pedals and his seat on the saddle, and from there on his hands never touch the unicycle. The rider rolls over on his stomach, hooking his foot under the pedal which is highest from the floor (try it and you'll see why), works himself up onto his hands and works his hands back toward the unicycle until he feels his body weight almost moved back onto the saddle. Putting the foot which was under the pedal back on the pedal, he quickly pedals forward, coming up into a normal riding position. This mount requires extreme waist flexibility. To learn, use a short unicycle. It's also easier on a hill with the unicycle wheel toward the hill bottom and the rider toward the top.

The most amazing mounts of all were the 6' giraffe mounts. One involved running with the giraffe in front of the rider, stepping on a pedal and sitting on the saddle simultaneously, and catapulting up to the top. TED WADE spiced up this mount at the Olympics by concealing some sort of explosive cap which he set off as he went up, causing a small explosion and smoke to come from under his seat. JACK HALPERN was impressive when he did this mount and went right into one-footed idling, with his other foot never touching the other pedal.

The giraffe version of the "side" mount is essentially the same as the standard "side" mount, but stepping up on the wheel first is obviously required.

The easiest giraffe mount consists of three steps: (1) step on the top of the wheel with one foot (2) bring the other leg up, placing the foot on a pedal (3) raise the leg that was on the wheel up and over the back of the saddle, bringing the foot down on the vacant pedal, and ride off.

One type of giraffe "jump" mount was simply skipping step (2) above. The rider steps on the wheel as usual, then jumps directly up onto the saddle with both feet, coming down onto the pedals.

THE ART OF FREE MOUNTING Cont'd

The giraffe "side jump" mount is like the standard "side jump" mount except that the rider maintains his hold on the saddle, using it to assist him in attaining the tremendous jump height required to land on the seat. This mount seems to be the hardest one to do.

I should point out that these giraffe mounts are difficult, and the jump mounts are especially dangerous, so be careful! and stay healthy for the 1981 National Unicycle Meet.

I'd like to close with a Super Duper thank you for CATHY FOX for sharing her unicycle with me while mine took a side trip to Columbus.

*Keep on peddlin'*  
*Steve*

\*\*\*\*\*

AN ANECDOTE

Once upon a time there was a unicycle club that had been practicing, performing, and competing for several years. Though they worked hard, they had very few awards for all of their endeavors. Whenever trophies and ribbons were handed out, their riders found themselves in the audience always cheering riders from other clubs. Rarely did their members come home from events with the coveted blue or gold signifying "The Best." Even in local parades, although they received much vocal praise, there was never a trophy because a unicycle club did not fit the "Best Band," or "Best Float" category.

Finally when enthusiasm was especially low, and discouragement high, the club decided to host its own regional meet - for its own members ONLY. If no one else was invited, certainly, at last, the club would walk away with top honors and all the awards. Enthusiasm began to soar as plans fell into place for the big event.

The day arrived, cold and crisp. The practice area was filled with anxious riders, parents with gloved fingers clutching timing watches, and winter-coated judges huddled together on lawn chairs. Race after race was won by club members; individual trick acts were won by club members; the club even won the group award.

At the conclusion of the event eager riders and parents filed into a too-small recreation room for the big award ceremony. Praise and pop corn were liberally scattered around the room as one club member after another came forward to receive his styrofoam medal or hand-painted ribbon. One young twelve-year-old boy received the dubious award for "Throwing a Unicycle the Farthest" as the awards chairman humorously pointed out that winning was not as important as self-control, good sportsmanship, and consideration for others.

A number of years has gone by since that memorable meet, but the event and the lessons learned from it will always be remembered by the members of the Redford Township Unicycle Club.

\*\*\*\*\*

MORE FROM THE DESK OF JOHN FOSS

ATTENTION, DESIGNERS:

If you are running out of ideas for crazy unicycles to build, perhaps you would like to try (or perhaps you have already tried) designing a seat that spreads your body weight over a larger area. We guys are literally dying for something like this for riding long distances. And, as long as it is only for distance riding, the control doesn't necessarily have to be that great. Send your ideas to the NSIP. You'll see yourself in print and may make many people more comfortable besides!

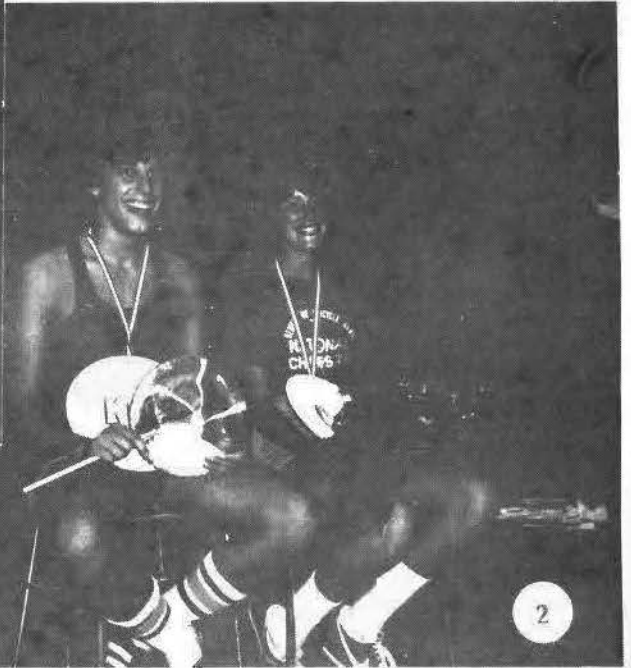
TEST DRIVE AN ULTIMATE WHEEL:

I wanted to learn to ride an ultimate wheel but didn't want to go through the hassle of making one. So I took apart my Schwinn and put it back together minus the frame and seat. Very sturdy and very cheap. It's not easy to ride (The pedals are too far away from the wheel,) but you do get the idea. Just don't be turned away by the difficulty. Give it a spin!

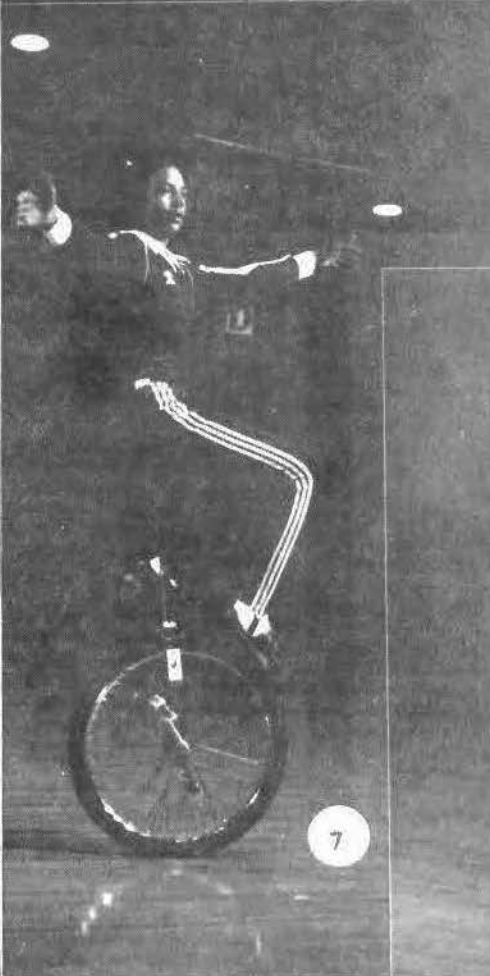
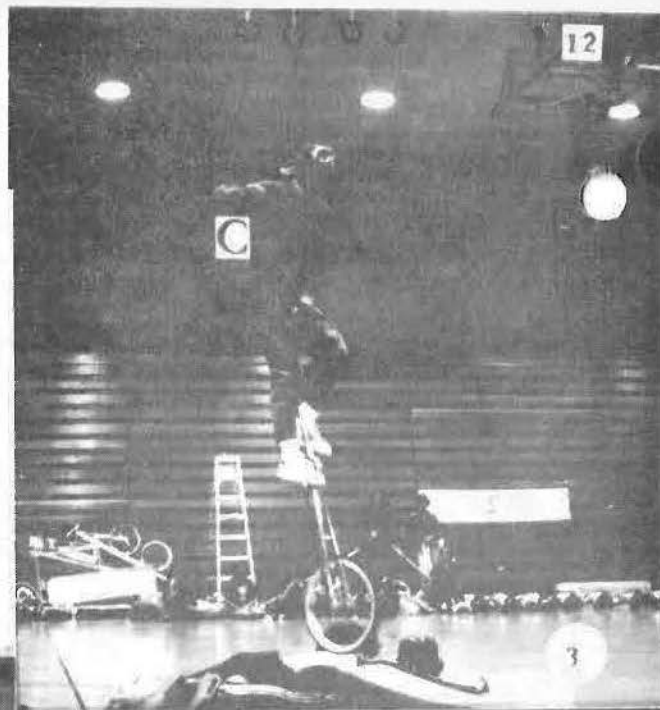
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When KEVIN LAMBERT, a new member of REDFORD TOWNSHIP UNICYCLE CLUB, attended his first meet, he found that the number he was issued did not adhere to his clothing. To make sure that he was properly identified, he stuck one of his numbers on his unicycle frame where it was NEWSLETTER - FALL, 1980 clearly visible.

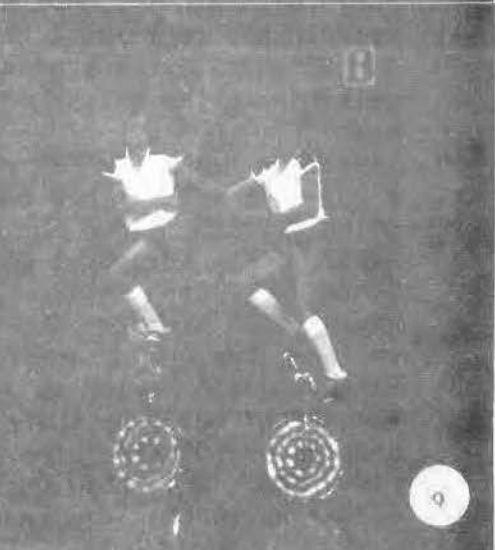
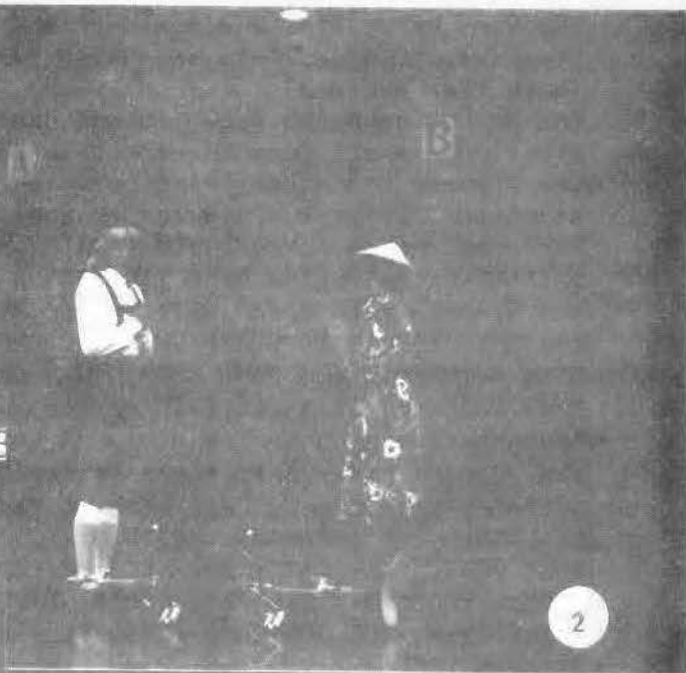
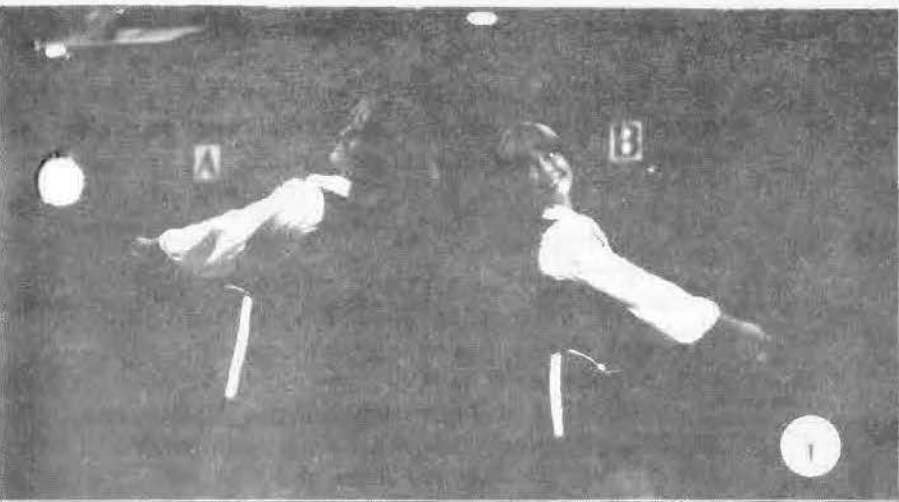
# At the Olympics



# More Olympics



# Competing Couples



**AT THE OLYMPICS**

- 1) The ever-present camera crew. The goal: a one-half hour special on unicycling to be sold to P.B.C.
- 2) The very happy King and Queen of the Olympics: DEBBIE JONES and BRIAN BARNIER (both from Redford)
- 3) One of the youngest sets (10 and under girls) takes off from the starting posts
- 4) The Olympic basketball winners stand at attention during the playing of the National Anthem. First place KATHY SKINNER representing "THE KILLERS" and Second place BRIAN MITTEN representing THE REDFORD TOWNSHIP UNICYCLE CLUB
- 5) BILL BRICHFORD and PAUL CUNNINGHAM (both from Redford) in a close-up of the basketball action
- 6) The winning basketball teams in the final, action-packed game. Team members were KILLERS: SEM ABRAHAMS, ROBIN DEAN, JOEY SCHEURICH, KATHY SKINNER and TED WADE. REDFORD: BILL BRICHFORD, PAUL CUNNINGHAM, BOB JOHNSON, HANS MILLS and BRIAN MITTEN

**MORE OLYMPICS**

- 1) JOHN FOSS (in costume) during his individual trick routine
- 2) TERESA HEMMINGER (Redford) competes in one of the indoor races held when the weather prevented the normal outdoor racing schedule
- 3) TED WADE in a portion of the routine that included a big bang! (see Steve Gordon's article, this issue)
- 4-8) WALKING THE WHEEL
- 4) AARON ANDERSON came from Seattle, Wash. with his 20" unicycle equipped with a Shatz BR7723 bearing
- 5) Japan unicyclists walk the wheel in a circle in one of the couples routines
- 6) FLOYD CRANDALL included a one-foot walk in his individual trick routine
- 7) SEM ABRAHAMS, steady as a rock, as he walks (note the height of Sem's seat post)
- 8) Redford's MARK SCHAEFER also included a one-foot walk in his routine

**COMPETING COUPLES**

- 1) DEBBIE JONES (daughter of Sec.-Treas. JOYCE JONES) and TERESA HEMMINGER (daughter of Director AL HEMMINGER) smile at the end of their couples act
- 2) "It's a Small World" as JULIE MARQUART and SHELLY LAYNE do their entire routine on 16" unicycles
- 3) LINDY WHITE and FLOYD CRANDALL again teamed up in the couples competition

- 4) NAN (LAYNE) DAUGHERTY and JEFF LAYNE were just one of the couples that paired family members together
  - 5) PETER MILLS and PAUL LIEDEL stand at attention as their "toy soldier" routine comes to an end
  - 6) KATHY SKINNER and CLYDE CRANDALL just clowning around in an act that included various dance forms as well as the typical clowning
  - 7) The TOUGHILL's from Minnesota, STEVE and DEBBIE, dressed in deep blue and white for their brother-sister act
  - 8) "Singing in the Rain" was the background music for CATHY FOX and DON DOWNING, both from Marion, Ohio
  - 9) CAROL and WENDY BAHORICH used 4' giraffes in their couples routine
- \*\*Olympics pictures by JOHN FOSS & TOM BRICHFORD  
\*\*\*\*\*

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 1980 ANNUAL MEETING OF THE UNICYCLING SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC.

The following officers were elected for 1981:

- President.....GLENN BARNIER (Mich.)  
 Vice-President.....JAN LAYNE (Ohio)  
 Sec.-Treas.. ....JOYCE JONES (Mich.)

ROBERTO TSCHUDIN-LUCHEME was appointed Newsletter Editor beginning with the first issue in 1981.

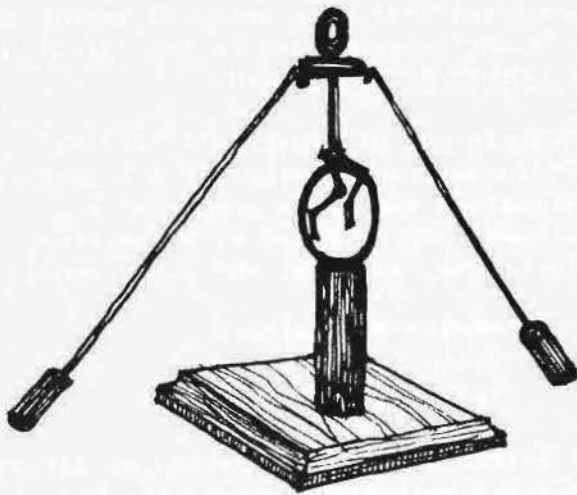
The REDFORD TOWNSHIP UNICYCLE CLUB, INC. will host the 1981 National Unicycle Meet.

PAUL FOX said he would call a meeting to formulate rules and regulations for future N.U.M.'s.

The decision was made to have only achievement levels 1 through 4 and NOT add levels 5-8. It would not promote the healthy, wholesome sport of unicycling to have the kids get hurt trying very difficult tricks the Society has endorsed. If clubs wanted, they could add their own skill levels.

FRANCIS SMITH suggested that a "Rider" patch be made available for the unicyclist who could ride but had no hope of learning to mount independently. The Sec.-Treas. will look into ordering this patch which will be designed to go over the U.S.A., Inc. patch.

TOM MILLER is donating the starting stands he made to the U.S.A., Inc.



OF RICHARD

President, Tom Miller, began his Unicycle Olympics on Friday, August 15, with a moto-cross race that utilized a series of rams to simulate the rough terrain of a moto-cross track. Many participants came to Kokomo, Indiana, early for this novel experience.

On Friday afternoon another first-time event took place: Unicycle Basketball.

(long-time favorite of the KOKOMO ROAD-RUNNERS, it was a new unicycle event for many of the groups and clubs that participated in the eliminations. The nine competing teams paired off for the first round. Winners played winners in the second. The final round consisted of a game between the two unbeaten teams: THE KILLERS (basically a team made up of independent riders) and THE REDFORD TOWNSHIP UNICYCLE CLUB. The Killers outshot Redford to become Olympic Champs. One of the highlights of this event was SEM ABRAHAMS' under-the-leg shots.

A supper served by the Haworth High School Band Boosters followed the awards assembly and ended the first day of the 1980 Olympics.

Saturday's rain caused much changing of plans. Rain seems to be a part of most unicycle get-togethers, unfortunately. However, unicyclists enjoy just getting together and sharing ideas and that will go on whether there is rain or sun. AARON ANDERSON was excited over the effortless ride the Shatz bearings gave his unicycle. And KEN BRITTON brought his uni equipped with a 32 lb. low pressure balloon tire. All who tried it reported that it was like riding on a cloud.

It was all "OO's" and "Ah's" when trick riding began. Flashy costumes set the stage for unusual and smoothly executed routines. Even unicycles came to the event dressed up.

UNICYCLING SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC.

JOEL DEMPSEY from Fairfax, Virginia, wove sequin-covered elastic (available in stores by the yard) through the spokes of his unicycle giving it a very showy look.

Music and costumes were tied together with the western theme coming up again and again. Flashy riders in black and white costumes rode to the music of "Chorus Line" and "All that Jazz." The older couples for the most part rode with a smoothly articulated dance technique while the younger ones used the themes "Me and My Shadow," and "Side by Side" to develop cute trick riding routines. There were also a number of "characters" in the individual trick acts such as Charlie Chaplin and the Red Baron.

Many of the tricks listed in John Foss's Two-Way Trick Chart were demonstrated at the Olympics. Several did a "figure 8" one footed. MARK SCHAEFER rode backwards with the seat in front, the seat in back, and while walking the wheel. He climaxed his act by riding with the seat in front one footed. SEM ABRAHAMS included a one-foot walk the wheel forward and backward along with the mount mentioned in the article by Steve Gordon. RANDY BARNES included much twirling along with a one-foot ride with the unused leg fully extended rather than on the frame of the unicycle. JACK HALPERN did his one-foot ride with the other ankle on his knee. He also rode in tight circles with the seat behind and while walking the wheel.

Tom individualized the Olympics by creating all of the trophies himself. The large group trophies were made with metal unicyclists in parade or trick riding formations. The "break apart" ones went to the winners of the couples competition. And the balancing unicyclist (the sketch of this heads this article) went to each of the winners in the individual trick categories.

Though many unicyclists left the Olympics with trophies and ribbons, the actual winner of the event was Tom Miller. For on August 18, the day after the event ended, Tom's wife Connie (who had worked tirelessly throughout the preparation and the weekend itself) presented the 1980 U.S.A., Inc. President with his first child, TOM MILLER, Jr.

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U.S.A., INC. PRESIDENT CREATES NEW POSITION

TOM MILLER has volunteered to fill his newly created position of Props Chairman. He will store, inventory, and make available for any meets: starting posts, clipboards, etc. His official inventory will become a part of the Sec.-Treas.'s Annual Report. NEWSLETTER - FALL, 1980

For three years the U.S.A., Inc. membership has benefited, through the pages of the NEWSLETTER, due to the efforts of the following people:

- ...the dedicated volunteer Feature Writers who have added new dimensions to each issue with their excellent contributions,
- ...the individuals who regularly write letters, ideas, or comments to be printed in the NSLR,
- ...the one-time writers, whose contributions have helped other unicyclists,
- ...the people who took the time to answer personal requests from the editor (Less than 50% of requests receive replies; so the people who do reply are especially appreciated!),
- ...the people who have helped staple together the thousands of pages that make up each printing (STACEY WHITE; CLIFF, DAN, ERIC, and CARLA HETTEL; AL HEMMINGER; and DAVID, MARK, BILL, NANCY, and TOM BRICHFORD),
- ...our printer, ERIC JONES, and his staff who have offered numerous cost-saving ideas, take a personal interest in each issue, and smile (and try) to meet the request to print it yesterday,
- ...and JOYCE JONES, whose personal interest in the Society, each member, and the NSLR, has lead to many fine contributions requiring countless extra hours of her time.

From your Editor, a sincere "THANK YOU!" This NEWSLETTER would not be possible without you. Your new Editor will also need your fine contributions. Just write to:

ROBERTO TSCHUDIN-LUCHEME  
210 Fifth Avenue, 4th Floor  
New York, New York 10010

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1st GUIDE TO WORLD STUNT RECORDS

A number of members have written asking about the record for certain stunts. REA ANDERS is currently compiling just such a book and is looking for new records from unicyclists for the longest section of the book entitled, "Stunts of Balance." The author is specifically interested in:

- ...greatest number of individuals on one unicycle (single column & pyramid)
- ...highest unicycle
- ...ramp to ground distance jump
- ...ramp to ramp over objects
- ...perch-pole on a unicycle
- ...riding a unicycle while in a headstand position

While the above stunts are mentioned specifically, other unicycle stunts (not endurance) might well be of interest.

If you feel that your unicycle stunt riding ability might be mentioned in the 1st GUIDE TO WORLD STUNT RECORDS, send:

- 1) Description of stunt (all details)
- 2) Photo portraying stunt (b & w preferred)
- 3) Signature and phone number of a witness not involved with the stunt
- 4) Your name, address, and phone number

to: NEWSLETTER Editor  
24460 Lyndon  
Redford, Michigan 48239

Your editor will keep a record of all stunts submitted and periodically send the best in a given category to Rea Anders. She will also keep readers abreast of the records by writing articles for the NSLR. Being "best" among U.S.A., Inc. members does not insure a spot in the book, however; since the author may receive a better record from another source.

So, unicycling stuntsters, see what you can do. But remember to use caution and make sure the stunt is safe and you are properly prepared to do it safely.

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AN EDITORIAL VIEWPOINT

Your editor feels a very real concern for unicycling safety. There certainly could be no better place for expressing this concern than following an article on stunt riding.

For a number of years members have written articles strongly recommending the use of safety equipment for racing. And it does seem that more riders are wearing knee pads and gloves now. Wearing safety equipment can not be legislated, but it can be encouraged by clubs, groups, and the U.S.A., Inc.

One safety measure the U.S.A., Inc. has adopted for the 1981 NUM is the elimination of the big wheel race. Big wheels will be used for trick riding, not racing.

But the track is not the only place where accidents can happen. Trick riders can cause serious injury to themselves and others if their act includes stunts they are not adequately prepared for. Caught in the excitement of competition, riders have often borrowed equipment they have never practiced on or with. And they have gotten in serious trouble attempting it without adequate guidance and practice.

Fatigue is a factor that must always be considered when attempting a trick. Isn't it better to eliminate a difficult trick from a routine than to take a chance on eliminating the rider or partner?



RACING TIPS FROM FLOYD CRANDALL

Unicycling on college campuses appears to be growing in popularity across the country. However, the college unicyclist is still novel enough to rate a picture in the campus newspaper.

ANN FERGUSON was pictured on her giraffe in the Duquesne University (Pittsburgh, PA) paper. JOHN FOSS (front page) was snapped riding the wall on the Wayne State University (Detroit, MI) campus. KATHY SKINNER's unicycle club at Michigan State University has been mentioned in State's paper; and TOM MAGRUDER, Appalachian State University, will, undoubtedly, use the campus newspaper to advertise for members for his newly formed club. Tom is eager to initiate some competition between college clubs and can be reached by writing to: A.S.U. - Box 1923 Boone, N.C. 28608

Pictured below are DAVID ALLEN (foreground) and ED BRANAGAN as they often appear on the Case Western Reserve University campus (Cleveland, Ohio). Branagan, a math whiz, also has hopes of organizing a campus club. He is a relatively new rider, having learned less than a year ago in the corridor of his dorm. He finds his unicycle excellent around-campus transportation, especially when he utilizes the handicapped ramps.



Reprinted with permission: INSIGHT the newsmagazine of Case Western Reserve University

UNICYCLING SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC.

(Anyone who has met Floyd Crandall knows that he is always willing to help another unicyclist. Since he holds the unicycle speed record, the tips he offers here will be of interest to the unicyclist interested in improving his speed.)

What is the most important element in riding fast? PRACTICE!!

While practicing, experiment with your balance point (that is, the amount of forward lean the rider can achieve without losing control). Floyd holds on to the seat from the beginning to the end of a race.

The technique used in sprinting (100's and 220's) differs from that used in longer distance races. Floyd suggests riding with the ball of the foot on the pedal for a sprint. And don't hold anything back. Go as fast as you can for the entire distance.

Longer distance races require a more relaxed start. Floyd positions the pedal under the arch of the foot and paces himself. He saves enough so that he has plenty to give at the end.

For those unicyclist speedsters who are looking forward to challenging Floyd at the 1981 N.U.M., he says that he is planning a rigorous training program for himself this spring and plans to be in top shape!

CONGRATULATIONS!!! to the Floyd Crandall family on the arrival of a baby boy born November 18. Mom, Dad, baby and sister - all doing well! Congratulations to Grandma, too!

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MISCELLANEOUS

SCOTT KELLY (Oregon) directed members to the March, 1980, NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC for pictures of ancient ultimate wheel riders (pgs. 432-2).

GORAN LUNDSTROM (Sweden) has built and rides an 80" wheel unicycle. He hopes that it will be accepted by GUINNESS.

Western juggling enthusiasts, two juggling events will be held on Jan. 7, 1981, at the Northgate Mall in Seattle, WA: an attempt to set a record for non-stop juggling and a jugglathon to benefit United Cerebral Palsy. The 1981 I.J.A. Convention will be held in Cleveland, Ohio.

BEN MELTZER's brother JAMES is a professional juggler billed as "The Amazing Meltz." He does include unicycling in his act. Ben has sometimes joined him juggling on their 6' giraffes.

"Get well soon" to BILL JENACK, who is currently undergoing tests for a troublesome heart problem.

NEWSLETTER - FALL, 1980

# Two-Way Trick Chart BY JOHN FOSS

Normal Straight Forward	Backward	One Foot	Wheel Walk	Bounce	Seat in Front	Seat in Back	Stomach on Seat	Idle	Spin	Stall	Juggle	Jump Rope etc.
Backward		One Foot Backward	Walk Wheel Backward	Bounce in Backward Direction	<p>THIS CHART INCLUDES 17 TRICKS I HAVE NEVER SEEN PERFORMED THAT I CONSIDER TO BE POSSIBLE WITHOUT EQUIPMENT. IF YOU ADD SUCH SKILLS AS PLAYING AN INSTRUMENT, USING A BATON, RIDING IN A "FIGURE 8," ETC., THIS EXPANDS THE NUMBER OF NEW TRICKS EVEN FURTHER.</p> <p>IF YOU HAVE A TRICK (OR A CHART SIMILAR TO THIS) THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE, PLEASE SEND A DESCRIPTION OR EVEN A PICTURE OF THE TRICK BEING PERFORMED. A TRICK IS OF LITTLE VALUE IF YOU ARE THE ONLY ONE WHO KNOWS WHAT IT IS. GIVE IT YOUR NAME (I.E. THE JOE DOE) AND THEN ALL U.S.A. MEMBERS WILL KNOW IT IS YOUR TRICK!</p>							
One Foot	One Foot Backward		Walk the Wheel with One Foot	Bounce One Footed								
Wheel Walk	Walk the Wheel Backward	Walk the Wheel One Footed		Bounce with Feet on Wheel								
Bounce	Bounce with Backward Motion	Bounce One Footed										
Seat in Front	Backward with Seat in Front	Seat in Front One Footed	Walk the Wheel with Seat in Front	Bounce with Seat in Front								
Seat in Back	Backward with Seat in Back	Seat in Back One Footed	Wheel Walk with Seat in Back	Bounce with Seat in Back								
Stomach on Seat	Backward with Stomach on Seat	Stomach on Seat One Footed	Wheel Walk with Stomach on Seat	Bounce with Stomach on Seat								
Idle		Idle One Footed	Idle with Feet on Wheel		Idle with Seat in Front	Idle with Seat in Back	Idle with Stomach on Seat					
Spin	Ride Backward into a Spin	Spin One Footed	Wheel Walking Spin	Spin and Bounce	Spin with Seat in Front	Spin with Seat in Back	Spin with Stomach on Seat					
Stall	Ride Backward and Stall	Ride into One Footed Stall	Stall with Feet on Wheel	Bounce and Stall	Stall with Seat in Front	Stall with Seat in Back	Stall with Stomach on Seat		Spin then Stall			
Juggle	Juggle while Riding Backward	Juggle Riding One Footed	Juggle while Wheel Walking	Juggle while Bouncing	Juggle with Seat in Front	Juggle with Seat in Back	Juggle with Stomach on Seat	Juggle while Idling	Juggle while Spinning	Juggle in a Stall		
Jump Rope etc.	Bounce (Ride) Backward while...	Bounce (Ride) One Foot while...	Wheel Walk while...	Bounce while...	Seat in Front while...	Seat in Back while...	Stomach on Seat while...	Idle while...	Spin while...	Stall while...		

UNICYCLISTS IN THE NEWS

The picture on page 4 accompanied an article on the 16 "street peddlers" of the MOBILE UNICYCLE CLUB. SETH GRANBERRY, Mobile's President, gave the U.S.A., Inc. a plug in the article as well as a hint on how to locate other unicyclists in any area. He contacted bicycle dealerships and learned the names of persons purchasing unicycles. Also mentioned was that fact that Mobile insists upon helmets, ankle, wrist, and knee guards for any stunt riding.

"Bikereport," a publication of Bikecentennial, used a picture of SEM ABRAHAMS riding his 72" unicycle. U.S.A., Inc. was given credit for supplying the picture.

NICK and CHRIS BROWN, members of TWIN CITY UNICYCLE CLUB, had a quarter-page picture (similar to the one on page 2 of the NSLR) on the front page of the ST. LOUIS PARK (Minn.) SUN. Additional pictures and a long article telling of the boys' and the Club's accomplishments extended to page 3. The article says that a theft attempt of Chris's unicycle was thwarted when an alert bystander wrote down the thieves' license number. Chris now anchors his uni with a hefty bicycle lock whenever he has to leave it unattended.

DICK HAINES, son DAVID (who was recently married), WAYNE, and wife, ROSE, have been seen across the country in pictures showing Dick and David juggling and Wayne unicycling over the other family members. Daughter, CAROL, and her husband, STEVEN MILLS, are professional entertainers, including unicycling in their act. NEWSLETTER - FALL, 1980

## \*FOR THAT SENSE OF INFERIORITY

PAUL ROBERTS (see "From the Clubs") writes: "I must start out by saying what a great help my membership in the U.S.A. has been to my development as a unicyclist. There's really very little competition in this area, and your newsletter provides me with that "missing" sense of, well, inferiority that you need to learn anything."

## \*FROM SCOTLAND

"I'm probably the most fanatical unicyclist in Scotland. I have a fleet of 9 unicycles and regularly ride with an informal club of about 25 kids and adults.

"I'm very keen to become a member of your Society and, hopefully, receive your newsletter or magazine. Could you please send me details."

Reg Bolton  
3 Long Green, Dalmeny Park  
South Queensferry  
West Lothian, Scotland

(Reg Bolton recently became the first U.S.A., Inc. member in Scotland. Hopefully he will encourage some of the 25 unicyclists he rides with to join.)

## \*FROM JOSCO the CLOWN (JOSEPH W. STEGEN, Jr.)

In the July, 1976, NSLR the featured cyclists were the CYCLING HUIJOS of Ogden, Utah. This was an act of ten performers, well known for their multi-talented acts that could extend from 20 minutes to several hours. At the time of the article, the group had performed in over 650 free charity shows. Now, four years later, the performers still get together and have put on over 900 shows in the 17 years they have been working as a group.

JOSEPH W. STEGEN, Jr., one of the two originators of the act, writes, "...most of the kids that were in the act then (those pictured in the 1976 article) have grown up, married and have kids that we are breaking into the act now.

"During the Holiday shows that we do I will try to get some good up-to-date photos of those who are in the act now, plus write a story about us. From our group of the CYCLING HUIJOS we have two very good jugglers, clown acts, comedy break-away bike act, plus the unicycle act. The most amazing thing about this group is how long we have been together, even though most have gotten married and have families and live as far as 100 or more miles away."

UNICYCLING SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC.

## \*FROM DICK LARSON (WOODS AND LARSON)

.."Street acts are gaining in popularity here (Minneapolis, Minnesota)--both downtown and in our lovely parks. However, unicycle acts are far from common. I have missed seeing the TWIN CITY UNICYCLE CLUB except for their two t.v. performances last July.

"The best act in Minnesota is a juggling performance by AL P. JOHNSON. He used a unicycle for about one minute. Al, a graduate from the U. of M., has been in the game for less than four years. He is a fine fellow and, with more experience, will go far. Johnson may appear in a New York production this fall."

## \*UNI-STAR\* RANDY BARNES MAKES DONATION

"I was very pleased to meet you and everyone else who were involved with the 1980 Unicycle Olympics. I have to say that the people involved with the U.S. of A. are the greatest group of people in the whole wide world. I am looking forward to attending the 1981 N.U.M. Please accept the extra twenty dollars as a donation and as a token of my appreciation to all who make the Unicycling Society of America and the National Unicycle Meets possible. Please use this to help benefit our Society."

(Randy's donation along with money from MAUREEN FINN's "get well" gift - Maureen had recuperated before all of the money collected at the Olympics could be spent - will be used for something "special" that will benefit U.S.A. members. One suggestion has been stop watches for future N.U.M.'s so that there will be uniformity in times. These, of course, would be costly. What do members suggest?)

Randy goes on to say that he is very interested in ramp jumping and is still planning on setting a world record for distance jumping.

## \*NAMES OMITTED FROM THE SPRING MEMBERSHIP LIST

Accidents happen and the following members contacted the NSLR to say that they had been overlooked when the membership list was typed:

Jim Richmond  
402 E. Buchanan  
Fairfield, Iowa 52556

and Bob Johnson & Brian Mitton  
24542 Ross Drive  
Redford, Michigan 48239

NEWSLETTER - FALL, 1980

\*FROM "A PROUD MOTHER"

"I want to write once again to tell you how nice it is that you print everyone's name and address in the NEWSLETTER. Thru this I have had 3 visits from unicycle members that I otherwise would not have. All three were here in Depoe Bay, Oregon, and stopped by to say "Hello." Mr. and Mrs. HOWARD KING of Wilsonville, Oregon; SCOTT KELLY of Portland, Oregon; and BEN LINDER of Seattle, Wash. Ben was on his unicycle going to San Francisco, CA. (See "Unicyclists in the News" this issue.

"I am wondering how many people saw my sons on t.v.? JOHN McPEAK was on the "John Davidson Show" with his famous juggling act in August and STEVEN McPEAK in september on "Guinness Records" where he broke another world record doing a new stunt: trapeze under a helicopter 1000' in the air. He hopes to ride his 100' unicycle soon to regain that world record. One thing for sure, Steven has his share of world records."

VIOLET WAGNER  
Box 373  
Depoe Bay, Oregon

(On November 21, 1980, "UNIQUE" McPEAK, as he is billed by Sandy Dobritch Enterprises, did successfully ride his 100-foot, 1,400 pound unicycle. Aired on NBC-TV's "Daredevils," the vehicle cost \$21,000 and took two years to complete. It will be pictured on the front cover of the 1982 edition of the "Guinness Book of World Records." But that is not the end of his efforts at tall unicycle riding. An additional 100 feet is nearing completion to be added to this record-setting unicycle.)

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FOR SALE

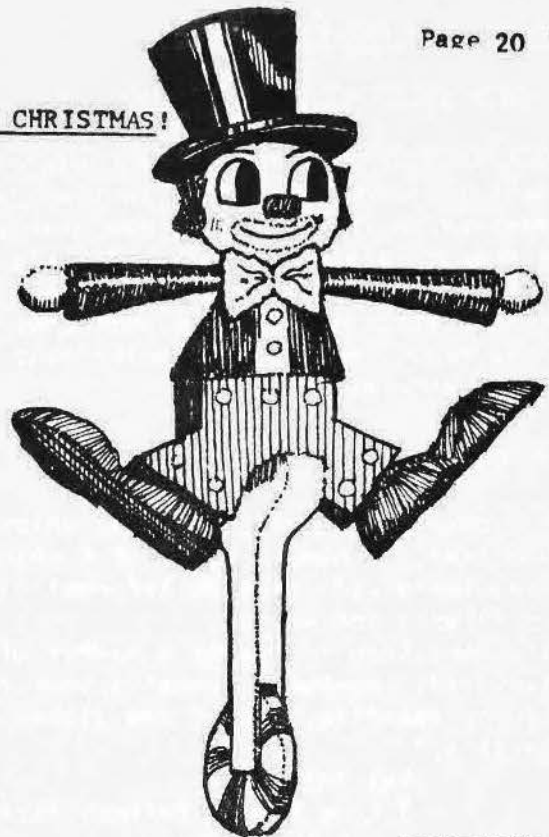
Those members who enjoy the looks of the Schwinn 24-inch white wall tire will be glad to know that some are still available through KOKOMO SCHWINN CYCLERY. GLENN BATEMAN will fill orders for the tires as follows:

- \$6.50 each PREPAID UPS in lots of 10 or more
- \$7.00 each PREPAID UPS in lots of 5 to 9

To order send your name, address, and check for the full amount to:  
KOKOMO SCHWINN CYCLERY  
1500 East Boulevard  
Kokomo, Indiana 46901

UNICYCLING SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!



DR. BELLUPO

U.S.A., Inc. members might enjoy looking for the novel Christmas ornament pictured above. Distributed by Silvestri Art Manufacturing Co., Chicago, Illinois 60614, the dapper red and green clown rides a bright yellow giraffe unicycle. He was found in the Detroit area by 1981 U.S.A., Inc. President GLENN BARNIER and his family.

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MORE UNICYCLISTS IN THE NEWS

Though Rear Admiral W.V. COMBS, USN (RET) missed 21-year-old BEN LINDER when he unicycled in front of the Combs' home, Vince sent several articles that appeared in local papers about Ben and his Blaine, Wash. to Santa Barbara, Calif. trip Ben built a 4½ foot giraffe for the trip which he equipped with two saddle bags on the fork and brackets for water bottles on the frame. His sleeping bag and pad were carried around his waist. The college student, who wore a helmet for the trip, included a second gear in the design for his "touring unicycle" so that the steeper hills on his coastal tour would be easier to negotiate.

Entitled "A Wheel Great Act..." an article in the Everett, Wash., WESTERN SUN tells about a newly formed unicycle club called the UNIQUES and their 23-year-old director CARL VARNER. The club has grown from 4 to 25 members in the six months it has been functioning and with AARON ANDERSON's (see pic. pg. 16) experience at the Olympics as a guide, they are looking forward to participating in the 1981 N.U.M.

NEWSLETTER - FALL, 1980

(For many years it has been felt by U.S.A., Inc. Officers, Directors and members that a standardized set of rules should be adopted that would govern all Meets sanctioned by the Unicycling Society of America, Inc. On Sept. 28, 1980, a Rules Committee met to draw up such a set of rules. Called together by Director, PAUL FOX, all past Presidents, current Officers and Directors, and the 1981 Officers were invited. Sec.-Treas. JOYCE JONES drew up an outline consisting of all published rules for previous meets as well as oral and written comments from members. All of these rules and comments were thoroughly discussed and deliberated for several weeks. The following rules were adopted by this committee and will be used for the 1981 N.U.M.)

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE HOSTING CLUB:

1. Start all National Meets with the National Anthem.
2. Provide an adequate speaker system for all events.
3. Have an alternate plan of action prepared in advance in case of inclement weather so events are not cancelled due to shortage of time.
4. List the order of races and trick riding on the registration form for the National Unicycle Meet. This should be in the Spring issue of the NEWSLETTER.
5. Provide a standard area (50' x 85' - the size of a high school basketball court) for individual, couples, and group trick riding.
6. Have a short route (no longer than necessary for judging) for parade competition. Include ONLY unicyclists - not bands, floats, etc.
7. Have a large room available on SATURDAY evening to have the Annual Unicycling Society of America, Inc. Meeting. The room should be very close to where the majority of the participants and their families are staying.
8. Provide a place to have a sunrise service on Sunday morning for those wishing to attend.
9. Start competition on Sunday as early as possible.
10. Provide a smooth surface for races with standard-sized lanes visibly marked.
11. Select a person to act as "Head Official." This person will have a meeting of ALL the timers, starters, judges of trick riding competition, and score keepers

12. Send a complete judging criteria to each judge at least two weeks prior to the Meet.
13. Cover all Meet expenses through fees, fund raisers, etc. U.S.A., Inc. will provide a \$500.00 non-recourse loan to the Hosting Club, who will submit an accounting of the use of this money to the Secretary-Treasurer of the U.S.A., Inc. to be kept on file with the records of all Society funds.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF PARTICIPATING CLUBS:  
(see definition of "club")

1. Have "Club" registered by the U.S.A., Inc. at least two months before the date of the National Unicycle Meet. Only clubs meeting all of the criteria (see definition) will be registered. Send the name and address of a contact person and the official club name to the Secretary-Treasurer of the U.S.A., Inc. (This must be done once a year by each club.) Each club will receive a certificate from the U.S.A., Inc.
2. Send to the Hosting Club the names and addresses of two people who will serve as judges and the names and addresses of people who will serve as timers. The judges will receive complete judging criteria at least two weeks prior to the Meet. Judges and timers will meet with the Head Official (selected by the Hosting Club) prior to the start of the Meet for a complete interpretation of all rules and judging rules.
3. PROVIDE ADULT SUPERVISION FOR CLUB MEMBERS.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF PARTICIPATING GROUPS  
(see definition of "group")

1. May send the names and addresses of two people who will serve as judges and the names and addresses of people who will serve as timers. The judges will receive complete judging criteria at least two weeks prior to the Meet. Judges and timers will meet with the Head Official (selected by the Hosting Club) prior to the start of the Meet for a complete interpretation of all rules and judging rules.
2. PROVIDE ADULT SUPERVISION FOR GROUP MEMBERS

1. All National Unicycle Meet participants MUST be completely registered at least one hour before the first event on the first day. NO LATE REGISTRATIONS WILL BE PERMITTED.

**\*\*RACES\*\***

Awards	First through Fifth (each age group and sex)
Age Brackets	10 & under 11-12 13-14 15-16 17-18 19-up and professional (see definition)
Events and Wheel Size for Each	10 & under - 20" maximum wheel 100 yd. (Riders in this age group riding a 24" must compete with 11-12) 220 yd. ..all starred races (below) 880 yd. 11-12 - 24" maximum wheel 110 yd. 220 yd. 880 yd. plus.. ..all starred races (below) 13-14, 15-16, 17-18, 19-up and professional 100 yd. 220 yd. 1 mile *50 yd. one foot *50 yd. backwards *10 yd. walk-the-wheel *slow race (see rules) Over 30 1 mile - 24" maximum wheel Any age 1/2 mile relay (see rules)

**RULES FOR RACING** - All races will be run according to standard high school track rules with the following exceptions:

1. All races will be started with rider mounted, holding to support.
2. Any rider fouling shall be disqualified for that race.
3. Any rider intentionally fouling shall be disqualified and immediately barred from further competition by action of a committee consisting of:

Head Official  
President of U.S.A., Inc.  
Any one Director of U.S.A., Inc.

The rider will also forfeit any and all awards.

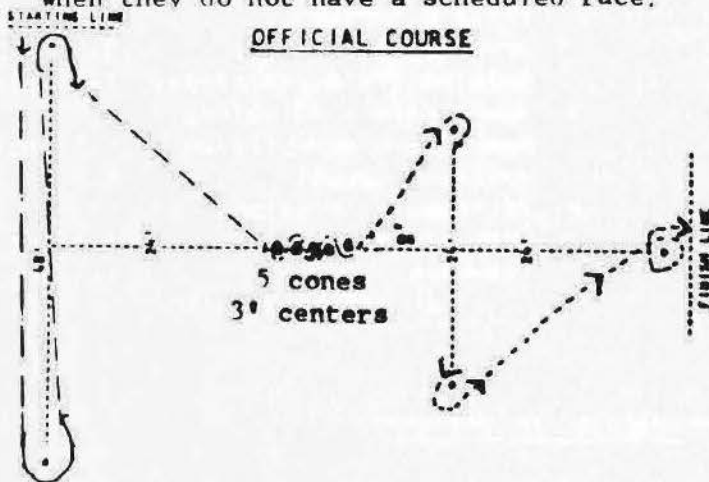
4. Rider must ride across the finish line.
5. If rider falls or dismounts, he is disqualified except in the 880, mile, or relay where rider shall immediately remount without running.
6. Riders in one-foot races will be given 5 yards to be on one foot.
7. The slow race will consist of a line 4" wide and 10 yards long for each rider. Rider must use a continuous forward motion and at no time touch outside the 4" width.
8. The relay race will be limited to 2 teams per Club or Group (1 boys, 1 girls). The names of the 4 boys and 4 girls, plus alternates of 2 per team, must be included on registration form. Maximum wheel size - 24". First rider will start mounted, holding to support. The 2nd, 3rd, and 4th riders will have a 10-yd. starting distance to receive the 1" x 12" pliable baton supplied by Hosting Club. **EVENT FOR CLUB OR GROUP POINTS ONLY.**
9. All riders must stay in their lane. However, if rider gets out of lane and immediately gets back without interfering with other riders, he will not be disqualified. (Standard track rules apply in the 880 and mile races with cut-in permitted only when there is at least one-wheel's distance between racers.)
10. All races are timed finals.
11. Except for open-class trick riding competition, unicycles must have crank arms 5 1/2" long from center of axle to center of pedal and wheels a maximum of 20" in 10 and under age group and 24" in all other age groups.
12. Proper apparel MUST be worn for safety (i.e. shoes for all events.) Gloves, elbow pads and knee pads are **STRONGLY RECOMMENDED** for all races.
13. Any rider in the 10 & under age bracket who does not own or cannot borrow a 20" maximum unicycle will be permitted to race on his 24" maximum unicycle with the 11-12 year olds.
14. Age group will be determined by age of rider on the **FIRST** day of the Meet.
15. Results of each race will be posted as soon as possible after the final heat. Any discrepancies will be handled immediately.

Awards	First through Fifth (each age group and sex)
Age Brackets	10 & under 11-12 13-14 15-16 17-18 19-over and professional
Wheel Size	10 & under - 20" maximum wheel If on 24", compete with 11-12 all other age brackets 24" maximum wheel

The obstacle course will be run on the official course with starting and ending lines three feet from the center of the first and last cones and the five center cones set on three-foot centers. The official cone size is 18" high with an 11" base. Rider will begin from a starting stand and with a verbal start.

**RULES FOR THE OBSTACLE COURSE**

1. Each rider will be allowed one turn (two attempts) with the best time being official. Pylons may be hit but not knocked over. If pylons are knocked over, the rider will be disqualified in that attempt.
2. A fall or dismount will disqualify a rider for that attempt.
3. Rider must follow the official course exactly or be disqualified for that attempt.
4. Contestants should run the obstacle course when they do not have a scheduled race.



**\*\*TRICK RIDING EVENTS\*\***

GROUP or CLUB (The events are the same - but separate - for "Group" or "Club" - see definition)

**1. Parade**

- a. Awards - First through Fifth
- b. Order - determined by drawing.  
A representative from each Group or Club will be present at the drawing.
- c. Competition - will be on unicycles ONLY. Circumstances permitting, vehicles may be used for safety, mounting, first aid, refreshments, or music. The vehicles may be decorated, but they may be used for no other purpose.
- d. Number of riders - five minimum  
- one entry only

**2. Trick Riding**

- a. Awards - First through Fifth
- b. Order - same as for parade
- c. Time limit - 10 minutes
- d. Number of riders - 5 minimum  
- one entry only
- e. Unicycle - any kind, any number
- f. Props - any may be used that will not be a potential hazard (fire indoors, for example, is hazardous)
- g. Music - optional
- h. Costume - optional

**INDIVIDUAL (May enter one only)**

**1. Standard Unicycle**

- a. Awards - First through Fifth
- b. Order - determined by drawing
- c. Time Limit - 2 minutes
- d. Age Brackets - 10 and under  
11-12 - separated -  
13-14 boys and  
15-16 girls  
17-18  
19-up & professional
- e. Unicycle - one standard unicycle  
(see definition)

- f. Props - none
- g. Music - none
- h. Costume - none

**2. Chain Driven**

- a. Awards - First through Fifth
- b. Order - determined by drawing
- c. Time Limit - three minutes
- d. Age Brackets - same as for "standard"
- e. Unicycle - one chain-driven
- f. Props - none
- g. Music - optional
- h. Costume - optional (see definition)

**3. Open Class**

- a. Awards - First through Fifth
- b. Order - determined by drawing
- c. Time Limit - three minutes
- d. Age Brackets - same as for "standard"
- e. Unicycle - any kind and any number

## 3. Open Class Cont'd

- f. Props - any props may be used that will not be a potential hazard
- g. Music - required
- h. Costume - required

COUPLES (any two riders may compete as a couple, each may have only ONE partner - may compete in "Couples" only once)

- a. First through Fifth
- b. Order - determined by drawing
- c. Time Limit - three minutes
- d. Age Brackets - 10 and under
  - 11-12
  - 13-14 (age determined)
  - 15-16 by that of
  - 17-18 older rider)
  - 19-up & professional
- e. Unicycle - any kind and any number
- f. Props - any props may be used that will not be a potential hazard
- g. Music - optional
- h. Costume - optional

## RULES FOR INDIVIDUAL AND COUPLES TRICK RIDING

1. A rider may compete in only one of the three individual trick riding events. This will be selected at the time of registration and may not be changed (except to withdraw in case of emergency).
2. Riders must use minimum time for set up.
3. Where needed, riders should provide their own standard cassette tapes. The sound system will be provided by the Hosting Club.

JUDGING

## A. Rider's Responsibility

1. Rider(s) must nod to judges to start the clock, music, and routine.
2. Rider(s) must indicate to the judges the end of routine (nod, bow, etc)
3. A 30-second warning whistle will be sounded before the end of the allotted time. At the end of the allotted time, another whistle will mean the rider(s) MUST IMMEDIATELY DISMOUNT - finished or not.

## B. Judges

1. Each Club is to send the names and addresses of two persons who will serve as judges for the individual, couples, group trick riding (and parade) competition. Groups may do the same.

2. There will be at least ten judges (two teams of at least five each).
3. All judges will have a meeting with the Head Official for an interpretation of the judging rules prior to the start of the Meet.
4. Judges will check to see that time limits are strictly adhered to. (See "Rider's Responsibility #3 above).
5. Judges will be sent the judging criteria prior to the Meet. They should study and be familiar with all of the rules and criteria prior to the Meet.
6. No one should serve as a judge more than 2 years in a row and should not serve for 2 years after that
7. To determine a rider(s) score, the highest and lowest judges' scores will be discarded and the remainder of the scores will be averaged.

## C. Judging Criteria

1. Individual Trick Riding (Standard, Chain Driven, Open Class)
  - a. Presentation - 20 points
    - Skill & variety.....1-10 pts.
    - Accuracy & timing.....1-5 pts.
    - Originality & creativity..1-5 pts.
  - b. Appearance - 10 points
    - Neatness & orderliness....1-5 pts.
    - Audience appeal.....1-5 pts.
  - c. Attitude - 5 points
    - Enthusiasm .....1-5 pts.

35 points possible
2. Couples, Groups, Clubs
  - a. Presentation - 20 points
    - Skill & variety.....1-10 pts.
    - Accuracy and timing... ..1-5 pts.
    - Originality & creativity..1-5 pts.
  - b. Appearance - 10 points
    - Neatness & orderliness....1-5 pts.
    - Audience appeal.....1-5 pts.
  - c. Attitude - 10 points
    - Enthusiasm... ..1-5 pts.
    - Teamwork... ..1-5 pts.

40 points possible

\*\*AWARDING OF POINTS\*\*

## 1. Individuals

- a. Races - except for relay, every rider winning a First will receive five points; Second, four;....etc.



- b. Trick Riding - Riders may earn points for both Individual and Couples (one entry for each) the same as for races i.e. five points for First, four for Second, three for Third....etc.

## 2. Clubs or Groups

- a. Through members - each rider registering with a Club or Group earns points for his/her Club or Group as well as for himself i.e. five for a First, four for a Second....etc.
- b. Through Club or Group activities - points are awarded as follows:

	FIRST	SECOND	THIRD	FOURTH	FIFTH
Trick Riding	25	20	15	10	5
Parade	25	20	15	10	5
Relay	5	4	3	2	1

## HIGH POINT WINNERS AND BEST-OVERAL AWARDS

1. Individuals - all points will be added and awards given to each boy and each girl in 10 and under, 11-12, 13-14, 15-16, 17-18, 19-up and professional age brackets (a total of twelve awards).
2. Club (see definition) - Each participant who is a member and rides with a registered Club will earn points for his Club. The Club may earn points in Trick Riding, Parade, and Relay competition. These points will all be added together and the Club earning the most points will win the "Best-Overall Club Award."
3. Group (see definition) - Each participant who registers and rides with a particular Group will earn points for his/her Group. The Group may earn points in Trick Riding, Parade, and Relay competition. These points will all be added together and the Group earning the most points will win the "Best Overall Group Award."

## \*\*DEFINITIONS\*\*

**AWARD** - trophy, medal, or ribbon only. The Hosting Club decides on the type of awards to be used

**CLUB** - meets the following criteria:

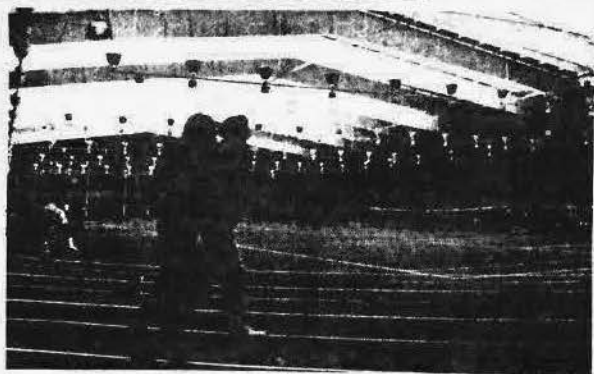
1. Is registered with the U.S.A., Inc. as an Active, Sanctioned Club
2. Averages at least two functions per month as a unit (a function may be a practice, performance, or parade)
3. Rides in National Unicycle Meet competition (Club Trick Riding and Parade) with all of their riders attending that N.U.M.
4. Promotes the aims of the U.S.A., Inc. which are: "To foster social and athletic interest in, and promote the healthy, wholesome sport of unicycling among youth and adults ...

**COSTUME** - anything that does not leave the body. i.e. A hat that is held and moved to the music is costume. When it is put on the floor to be picked up as part of the act, it becomes a prop.

**GROUP** - does not meet all of the criteria for "Club" (above). May be a group of Independents (at least five), clubs no longer active, etc.

**PROFESSIONAL** - anyone who receives money from performing on a unicycle for personal gain. (Competing category is 19-up and professional)

**STANDARD UNICYCLE** - a unicycle with 5½" cranks and NO ADDED FEATURES. Only standard unicycle will be permitted in races and individual trick riding, "Standard Unicycle" classification



UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN's New All-Purpose Building - Track & Field, Tennis

The 1981 National Unicycle Meet, sponsored by REDFORD TOWNSHIP UNICYCLE CLUB, INC. will be held the weekend of August 7. A tentative schedule of events and their location is as follows:

FRIDAY EVENING (Aug. 7) - registration, room assignments, etc. - CONCORDIA LUTHERAN COLLEGE, Ann Arbor, Michigan

SATURDAY (Aug. 8) - opening ceremonies, all races, parade competition - UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN TRACK & FIELD, TENNIS BUILDING, Ann Arbor, Michigan

SATURDAY EVENING - Annual U.S.A., Inc. Meeting - CONCORDIA LUTHERAN COLLEGE

SUNDAY (Aug. 9) - Sunrise Service, all trick riding competition and awards ceremony - CONCORDIA LUTHERAN COLLEGE

The large U. of M. Track & Field, Tennis Building will permit races and the obstacle course to be held in one location with no worry about the weather. The obstacle course will be set up in the center and will run continuously and concurrently with the races. The building has a large bleacher area so that observers will be able to watch all of the events from one location. The rubberized floor should provide an excellent surface for racing.

Following the final race there will be time for rest and changing to parade uniform. Parade competition will be held as it was in Marion, Ohio, several years ago. Each unit will parade before the audience and judges individually inside the large building.

All other events will be held at Concordia, a small, private college built on rolling terrain along the Huron River. It is conveniently located just a few miles from downtown Ann Arbor and the U. of M. campus. For those flying in, it is within 15 miles of Detroit's Metropolitan Airport. Although there are no hook-ups, camping is permitted on campus for those who have self-contained units.

Sunday's trick riding competition will be

held in Concordia's large, wooden-floored gym. Again, a large bleacher area will permit excellent viewing. The nearby dormitories (built with a bath between each pair of double room) will be convenient for costume changes.

Redford hopes to be able to have "mini-workshops" whenever time permits. Topics such as "The parents' role in a unicycle club," "Tips on ultimate wheel riding," and "The building of unusual equipment" have been suggested.

The cost of the weekend for participants who wish to stay on campus and eat all of the meals provided will be approximately \$39.00. Other plans (such as for campers) will be available.

By knowing these details well in advance, it is hoped that families will include the 1981 N.U.M. in their summer plans. Tourist materials will be available for persons interested in remaining in Michigan longer. A tour of the U. of M. campus can be arranged on Monday if there is enough interest. (Individuals can stay in the Concordia dorm Sunday night - \$6.00 per person with bedding, \$3.00 without.)

If you have any suggestions (such as topics for the workshop) or would like to volunteer for any phase of the meet, please write:

Mr. Glenn Barnier  
30046 Bentley  
Livonia, Michigan 48154

If a reply is requested, please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### MORE MISCELLANEOUS

The Washington UNIQUES are working out some clever unicycle maneuvers. In one they come out 8 abreast. On command they turn into 2 revolving groups of 4 each. Then they break into 4 pairs, revolving first in one direction and then the other. The club consists of some riders who learned to ride through the Edmonds School District physical ed. classes.

Interested in learning how to clown? A book entitled INTRODUCTION TO CLOWNING is available through CLOWNS OF AMERICA, INC, for \$3.50 for non-members. Send check or money order to: C.O.A., Inc, P.O. Box 3906, Baltimore, Md. 21222

Remember the MONKEES of the 60's? There was a bubble gum card from that era showing one of the members resting on a unicycle equipped with a "training wheel."

JOYCE JONES sprayed the side of DEBBIE's tire on her ultimate wheel with silicone when Debbie complained of its staining and sticking to her slacks. It worked!

NEWSLETTER - FALL, 1980

Again we would like to remind readers that this is YOUR newsletter. It is our desire to include things that are of most interest to you and consistent with our aims which are:

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.

Joyce Jones, Secretary-Treasurer  
 UNICYCLING SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC.  
 P. O. Box 40534  
 Redford, Michigan 48240

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to:  
 UNICYCLING SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC.

Enclosed find check or money order for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for which send postpaid:

Quantity	NAME OF ITEM		TOTALS
_____	UNICYCLE PIN	@ 2.15	_____
_____	UNICYCLE CHARM	@ 2.15	_____
_____	4" EMBROIDERED U.S.A., Inc. PATCH	@ 2.15	_____
	<u>NAME OF PUBLICATION</u>		
_____	CLOWNS by John Townsen (soft cover)	@ 7.95	_____
	(XXXXXXXXXX)	@ <del>18.50</del>	XXXXX
_____	BICYCLE PEOPLE by Dr. Roland C. Geist (New)	@ 18.50	_____
_____	THE ART OF JUGGLING by Ken Bengt	@ 3.95	_____
_____	THE JUGGLING BOOK by Carlo	@ 4.95	_____
_____	THE DRAMA REVIEW NYU March '74 issue	@ 5.00	_____
_____	CIRCUS TECHNIQUES by Hovey Burgess (soft cover)	@ 10.00	_____
	(hard cover)	@ 15.00	_____
_____	THE UNICYCLE BOOK by Jack Wiley	@ 7.95	_____
_____	THE TUMBLING BOOK by Jack Wiley	@ 8.95	_____
_____	BASIC CIRCUS SKILLS by Jack Wiley	@ 3.45	_____
_____	ACROBATICS BOOK by Jack Wiley	@ 4.95	_____

BACK ISSUES OF U.S.A., INC. NEWSLETTERS

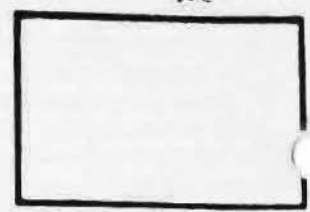
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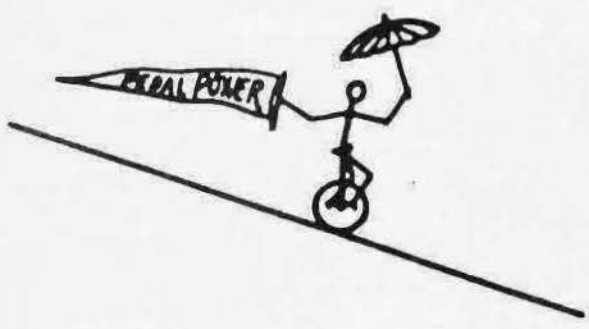
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FIRST CLASS

P. O. BOX 40534  
Redford, MI 48240



FIRST CLASS



Dear Members: As a Not-For-Profit Corp. we are not in business to make money. However on the reverse side of this page you will find a number of related items we have for sale which may be of interest to you and which, if ordered through your organization, will not only be of service to you but will aid the treasury and enable us to award more trophies etc. at meets. Please pass along the membership application below. Your Editor Carol Brichford

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION  
UNICYCLING SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC.



Fill in and mail to:  
Joyce Jones, Secretary Treasurer  
UNICYCLING SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC.  
P. O. BOX 40534  
Redford, Michigan 48240

Make all Checks payable to:  
UNICYCLING SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC.

Member, \$6.00 annual dues - includes subscription to quarterly newsletter plus membership card and voting privilege. (Foreign members - same price - newsletter mailed as printed matter.)

PRINT your name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Street address \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Additional family members. 50¢ ea. (For members of the immediate family of a member residing in the same household - same benefits as member except no newsletter.)

Renewal	_____	Date of Birth	_____
New	_____	Date of Birth	_____
Professional	_____	Date of Birth	_____
Amateur	_____	Date of Birth	_____