



On One Wheel

Volume XVIII Number 3 1992 Summer



Unicycling Society
of America, Inc. Aims:

To foster social and athletic interest in and promote the healthy, wholesome sport of unicycling among youth and adults of the country by establishing voluntary standards of performance and sponsoring and overseeing local and national meets. To disseminate knowledge and information on all phases of the sport to all interested parties throughout the country via a newsletter and information service.

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On One Wheel

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Cover

Certainly requesting a unicycle for a birthday present is not unique. However, when you are approaching 56 years old and a pedagogue at the local university, the request approaches the unusual. Add to that: 24 years of vigorous riding, 21 National Unicycle Meets, marathon riding endeavors and roping tricks that boggle the mind . . . well . . . If you haven't already done so, meet this issue's cover personality, **Dr. Orland Reynolds**----->

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DR. ORLAND REYNOLDS

RIDER AND ROPER EXTRAORDINARY

Here are few USAm's who will not recognize the gentleman on the cover of this issue, for Dr. Reynolds will be attending his 21st National Unicycle Meet this year in Minnesota. At many of these meets he has thrilled audiences with both his riding skill (He has even mastered the ultimate wheel.) and his tricks with the lariat.

How and when did all of this begin?

It was in 1968 -- for his 56th birthday -- that Dr. Reynolds requested his first unicycle. He selected one with a 20" wheel and after a few weeks of practice was able to ride independently. As with many beginning riders, he discovered he was more adept at turning one way than he was the other. One afternoon he decided to work on a zig-zag pattern which soon had him making left and right turns with equal dexterity. Members who have seen Dr. Reynolds perform will remember his "plastic lids on a string" which he spreads out in place of the cones used by many riders. He confided that that arrangement was not his first prop for zig-zag riding. He first gathered stones and set them apart a uniform distance for practice sessions.

In his second year of riding his son Ron joined him "on one wheel" and the two performed during half-time at a basketball game. They delighted the audience as they dribbled and shot baskets while riding. It was Ron who read about the USA in a bicycle magazine and Dr. Reynolds was soon corresponding with Bill Jenack and attending national meets.

The skills he has developed with the lariat came after he learned how to ride the unicycle. Many of these rope tricks he has learned to perform while riding steadily forward and backward.

When asked, "What is your most memorable unicycling experience?", Dr. Reynolds did not hesitate when he replied "National Unicycle Meets." He went on to say that it is the best place to learn (and steal) tricks from other riders.

Although arthritis is now a problem for Dr. Reynolds, he hastened to say that he is still able to unicycle while he has not been able to jog for some time. The disease is

currently preventing him from practicing some of his more difficult tricks; however, he still practices in a gym several times a week. When Dr. Reynolds learned that the 1991 NUM would include a 9-mile marathon ride, he began training by riding on a bike path along the lake shore near his home in Marquette, MI. He was soon able to cover 20 miles with ease and completed the 9-mile course in Chariton, IA with no difficulty.

So far this year Dr. Reynolds has performed at an intermission between 2 folk music bands and for an audience of enthusiastic elementary school students. He is looking forward to once again participating in the Art Fair in St. Ignace during the Labor Day weekend where he performs near the main dock in town for the enthusiastic Art Fair audience.

From early April until middle May this year Dr. Reynolds and his wife toured Europe and England via the rails. They would ride to a major town, stop for several days and use the town as a hub for further excursions. While in Holland they spent an enjoyable evening with Yuri Abrahams. Dr. Reynolds did not leave his unicycle behind when packing for this trip. Although he had few opportunities to ride, he did do some street performing in Central Square in Munich.

A retired college professor, Dr. Reynolds says that unicycling can be a lifetime sport for those who wish to pursue it.



←-----This picture, taken at the 1987 NUM in MN, shows Dr. Reynolds' mastery of the ultimate wheel. Not only is unicycling a lifetime activity, it also is endless in its limits for those who pursue with the vigor and perseverance shown by our cover personality, Dr. Orland Reynolds.

LOOKING AHEAD . . .

July 30 - 31 and August 1 are the dates for the 1993 NATIONAL UNICYCLE MEET to be hosted by the REDFORD TOWNSHIP UNICYCLE CLUB, Inc. It will be held on the campus of Adrian College in Adrian, Michigan.

MORE INFO ON: THE 1992 NATIONAL UNICYCLE MEET

HOW DO I REGISTER? In the center of this publication you will find registration forms for both the 1992 NUM as well as UNICON. Each is clearly identified and may be reproduced.

HOW DO WE GET TO BETHEL COLLEGE? Located in the northeast sector of the greater Minneapolis-St. Paul area, Bethel is south of I-694 and east of I-35W. Use exit #26 from I-35W (County Road E2); drive east to Old Snelling Avenue; turn south (prox. 1/2 mile) to the college entrance.

WHAT TIME SHOULD WE PLAN TO ARRIVE and WHERE DO WE REGISTER?

Registration on the Bethel campus will begin at 10:00 a.m. on Friday through 2:00 p.m. All registration materials will then be moved to Mounds View High School in preparation for the first "point" races to begin at 3:00 p.m. Mounds View HS is located north and west of Bethel. Watch for signs that will direct you north on Old Snelling and west on F.

WHERE MAY I CALL IF I NEED MORE INFORMATION?

While the last two issues of ON ONE WHEEL have contained information about the meet as well as the rules that will govern the 1992 NUM, if you still have questions you may contact the Meet Director at (612) 636-4201.

* * * * *

ON NATIONAL MEETS . . .

KEN WOODS (of Woods and Larson, whose fond reminiscence of famed unicyclists of the past will appear soon in OOW) writes:

"I revel in watching the accomplishments of the youngsters at the meets. We know the discipline and sometimes tedious hours that it takes to attain the routines that will eventually flow so flawlessly. Observing them channeling their youthful exuberance into these activities is a joy to behold.

I have never come across a group more family oriented than ours. Down through the years, if the family falls apart, so does society. We must . . . strengthen family ties. None better than encouraging them in unicycling activities. Nothing is "free"; with tenacity and desire the hardest goals can be accomplished as exemplified in our own "society."

INFO ON USA, Inc. Affiliate Members

For the first time "Affiliate Status" in the Unicycling Society of America, Inc. has become available to all Unicycle Clubs that meet the requirements. To date (June, 1992) the following Clubs have applied:

- HUTCHINSON ONE WHEELERS
- REDFORD TWP. UNICYCLE CLUB, INC.
- ST. ANTHONY VILLAGE UNICYCLE CLUB
- SMILING FACES 4-H UNICYCLE CLUB
- TWIN CITY UNICYCLE CLUB
- WOOD ONE WHEELERS 4-H UNICYCLE CLUB

These Clubs range in size from 20 members to over 100. Most have a regular practice schedule and offer beginning classes. All participate in local parades and perform near the home base. The WOOD ONE WHEELERS, however, have traveled to Florida, Washington DC Kentucky and, most recently, to Indianapolis, IN where they participated in the Indy 500 Parade.

Money to cover expenses such as rental fees, liability insurance and travel costs are raised in different ways. Some Clubs accept donations for parade participation or performances. Others have fund raisers or ask families to cover costs.

Riders range in age from 5 to 65 and some Clubs have participants that span 3 generations. Several host regional unicycle meets and most have hosted at least one NUM.



Largest, by far, is the WOOD ONE WHEELERS based in Bowling Green, Ohio.

[Your two Editors, JOHN FOSS (UNICYCLING, QUARTERLY) and CAROL BRICHFORD (ON ONE WHEEL), write from very different perspectives. John learned how to ride on a 6-foot giraffe and has been striving to perfect both his riding and that of others ever since. Carol, who is still struggling to learn to ride, has watched what unicycling has done for young riders for over 20 years. Through her eyes the following article is entitled . . .]

THAT'S WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT!!!

{picture and excerpts reproduced with permission of the Dearborn Heights (MI) PRESS & GUIDE, Ken Abramczyk author and photographer}



When the picture (above) of USAm's JENNY BARON and CHRISTIAN MARCILLO appeared on the front page of the June 18, 1992 edition of their hometown newspaper, it was exciting for both families -- but no more exciting than the events about which the article was written.

For the entire 1991-92 school year Jennie and her friend ANNABEL MARCILLO, along with 4 other Riverside Middle School students, had been working hard on their presentation for the local Odyssey of the Mind competition. Since Annabel (top right) has ridden in many unicycle meets and is an accomplished rider, a circus theme was used to develop the elements

necessary for this competition. Tutored by Annabel, Jennie, a new rider, worked hard learning to ride and juggle in a short time. The effort paid off as the team advanced from local to state competition, where they claimed the award for exceptional creativity as well as 5th place overall!



Annabel, Christian, Jennie and her brother Stephen are all members of the REDFORD TOWNSHIP UNICYCLE CLUB, Inc.

which appeared in the Spirit of '92 Dearborn Heights Parade. The Club was featured by the local cable station and Christian was interviewed prior to the event. His picture and responses about the Club were superimposed on the parade coverage as the unicyclists were seen riding as a unit. The Club earned a 2nd place plaque in the Novelty Division for its routine.

And that, this Editor feels, is what it is all about: people personally achieving what few have been able to do, learning to ride a unicycle well . . . and then sharing and adapting that skill in other creative endeavors.

HELP!!!

In the last issue your OOW Editor suggested using a "COPYSCREEN-2" with a copier for an inexpensive way to screen photographs. Several members have written asking where this may be purchased. The screen contains only the manufacturer's name GRAPHIC PRODUCTS CORPORATION "manufactured and printed in USA." The name "Graphic Products" appears to be almost as generic as "aspirin" and your Editor has not yet located the proper company. These screens were handled by office/artist supply stores. If anyone can help in locating a source, please write to: ON ONE WHEEL Editor; PO Box 40534; Redford, MI 48240. To see how this product works, see the picture of "Silly, the Clown," next page.

THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA UNICYCLE SCENE

by Arthur Chandler

In a meeting as important as the Bush-Gorbachov get-togethers of a few years ago -- NO, WAIT, THAT'S NOT GOOD ENOUGH --

In the most significant gathering of talent since Michelangelo and Raphael went to work for Pope Julius -- OH, FORGET IT!

The **BERKELEY 4-U** (Unique United Unicyclists' Union) **UNICYCLISTS** and the **MILL VALLEY GRAVITY WIZARDS** finally got together for some unicycle jamming. The unicycling scene in the San Francisco Bay Area is pretty spread out, and there seems to be no regularly scheduled functions for the meeting of one-wheelers. The USA lists fewer than 10 members in the whole region - less than the number in Chariton, IA. Occasionally some street performers show up with their uni's on Fisherman's Wharf or Pier 39. But all the routines I've seen there are pretty stale stuff: a bit of comedy schtick, some 3-club juggling and simple passing. Not much to write home about.

There are some exceptions. Frank Olivier's routine, where he plays the electric guitar as he rides around atop his giraffe uni, is one of the highlights of his excellent act. Presented as a kind of ultimate fantasy in the mind of the young juggler -- being a unicycling/juggling ace and a rock star at the same time -- Frank's act shows that the giraffe unicycle has stage possibilities that still haven't been exhausted.

Another exception is **COREY CHANDLER's** bucking bronco routine. A fuzzy (not real!) horse's head is strapped onto the front of the uni; and Corey comes flying out onto the stage, accompanied by up-tempo country and Western music and an off-stage voice-over announcing the stunts like a rodeo commentator. Corey makes the uni buck and roll, and he manages to work in some unicycle tricks along the way: jump-mount, hop, twist, stomach on seat, etc.

Jugglers meet in Golden Gate Park, on the east end near the Conservatory of Flowers, every Sunday afternoon when the weather is reasonable. Almost every Sunday at least one person shows up with a unicycle. It always turns out that almost every juggler there can at least ride the unicycle and some are pretty good at it! When unicyclists in Golden Gate Park ride

down the street (which the officials happily block off to vehicle traffic all day Sunday), they're usually greeted with smiles and, sometimes, applause. Down the road from the jugglers are the roller skate dancers, who do some incredible moves to the accompaniment of a huge boom box set up for the occasion. It would be nice if the unicyclists could get in there and boogie with the skaters. It could be done . . .

But, back to the Berkeley 4-U and Mill Valley Gravity Wizards meetings.

The first jam was a meeting in Berkeley at a local school yard. It was basically a "Here's what I can do -- What can you do?" session with Jimmy Shafer and the Chandler brothers Colin and Corey.

The next meeting, also in Berkeley, was what 4-U leader Jimmy Shafer terms a "pilgrimage." Gravity Wizards Colin and Corey Chandler met up with Greg "Snooky" Robbins, Peter Adeney, Nathan Parker, Michael Wong, Neil Piccioto, Daniel Doolan, Josh Mehlman, Iain Mann, Tasho Nicolopoulos and Jimmy Shafer and set out on a monster 10-mile uni ride. Before leaving, they started out trading unicycle mounting secrets, juggling (Corey Chandler and Jimmy Shafer passed 7, 8 and 9 balls; Iain Mann and Colin Chandler worked on 5; plus more) and swapping "Where to buy unicycles" information. Then off on the pilgrimage.

Unless you have some picture of the layout of "Berzerkley," you can't really appreciate the heroic quality of this pilgrimage. Some of the streets in the town go up at a very steep angle -- the kind of streets where you see "trailers not advised" signs. After huffing and puffing up a number of roads, the group wound up at an amusement park, where Greg unsuccessfully tried to talk the owner into letting the one-wheelers ride their unicycles on the merry-go-round. After a few more "happenings" and 4 hours of time, the pilgrims returned to the starting point -- stiff and tired (except Shafer who wheeled in backwards juggling 3 balls).

To return the favor some Gravity Wizards (Charles, Colin and Corey Chandler, plus Robby Maguire) invited the Berkeley mob to Mill Valley for a trek. Five members crammed their gear into compact vehicles and arrived ready to ride. Before starting everyone tried the kangaroo (a unicycle with both pedals mounted in the same horizontal plane so that, when you

Dear USA,

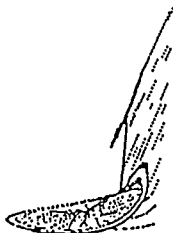
pedal, both feet go around in unison -- very difficult), leaped off a jumping ramp, and juggled (Jimmy Shafer amazed all with his 4- and 5-ball "Mill's Mess"). Then, off to Stolte Grove -- a vigorous climb and descent covering about 3 1/2 miles round trip. At the grove they ran into a guardian dragon lady who snarled that unicycle tires would "damage the roots of the trees" (though there were two limousines already parked under the trees). In spite of this encounter the group returned in good spirits to Mill Valley Middle School.

On the school basketball court everyone played tag on unicycles. It's a boggling sight: 9 unicyclists zooming around trying to whack each other on the back or dodge away from some berserker who's it. The game showed in sharp relief the different virtues of different wheel sizes: the 20-inch uni's could outmaneuver the big machines; but the big wheelers -- especially Charles Chandler's 26-inch -- could outfly the rest on the straightaway. No serious mishaps occurred, though, and the group took off for Sausalito on a bike trail. This trek was about 5 miles round trip of flat-country riding. It took the pilgrims by the San Francisco Bay and the famous Sausalito houseboat community. At the day's end all re-emerged at the starting point -- Jimmy Shafer, as usual, in the lead, juggling on the uni as he came. Bicyclists (unicyclists with training wheels) along the way seemed delighted at the rare sight of 9 one-wheelers zooming down the path.

Next time: slow races, backwards races, group jump-rope, and who know what else?

So, there it is. The Bay Area unicycling scene, like almost everything else here, is very individualistic. There are no regular events; but when the 4-U Club and the Gravity Wizards get together, it's something to behold.

[Arthur Chandler, who created the wonderful computer-generated unicycles that have been used on the pages of OOW for the last few years, wrote this article some time ago. It is printed now in response to a recent letter from DAVID WOOD, 103 Hutton Ct., Sunnyvale, CA requesting "... information on your club activities in the San Francisco Bay area." This Editor feels that "unicyclists meeting unicyclists" is top priority, which is why the membership roster is printed once a year.]



Help me! I'm Silly -- Silly the clown, that is. And this summer, August 9, I am unicycling across Wisconsin. Being a clown [and also being a local t.v. celebrity -- seriously -- but we won't get into that right now] and also with this being such a unique feat, I figure it would be a great opportunity for a Fundraiser. I've contacted the Make-a-Wish Foundation and have chosen them to donate any possible proceeds to.

Here's where you come in: I'd like to open this up to ANY unicyclists in the area or elsewhere. Being the interesting sort of bunch they are, excuse me -- we are, I'm sure I'd get a few people just crazy enough to take me up on it. Could you help me find some?

I think (and hope!!) I can drum up some major interest. Thanks for your help . . .

SILLY THE CLOWN phone: (608) 274-2703
Ken Maicke
2618 McKenna Blvd.
Madison, WI 53711

PS August 9-16 is National Clown Week!!

{Ed. note: Hopefully the results of this interesting and worthwhile endeavor will appear in a future issue of ON ONE WHEEL.}

DID YOU KNOW THAT . . .

. . . the new Franco-American canned pasta in circus shapes contains (among other things) a unicycle.

. . . in some areas the place mats in the McDonald's restaurants show Ronald riding a unicycle with an enormous balloon tire.

. . . the "PICTURE COOKIES" baked and distributed by Stauffer-Meiji, Inc. feature a juggling clown on the front of the box and a unicycling clown on the back.

. . . VANCE JOHNSON of Aurora, Colorado "lights up" when he spots unicycles. Many political caricatures show the politician juggling and unicycling (sometimes on a slack wire) - a graphic example of almost an impossible task. Vance also mentioned the September, 1990 issue of HIGHLIGHTS FOR CHILDREN which featured the circus. On the front cover one ring included a talented bovine family. Mom and Dad were riding giraffes while juggling 11 clubs; their calf rode the ultimate wheel in a handstand. The "what's wrong" feature on the back had the hapless parents riding one giraffe upside down and the other with a triangular wheel. Vance writes, "Has TOM MILLER made one like that yet?"

. . . USA is no longer paying to have issues returned for members who have moved. The Society requests only the address correction. Therefore, if you do not want to miss a single issue, notify the USA promptly when you move.

. . . the USA does not endorse requests that come to the Society; however, the Editor does try to pass these on to members for their information. CLOWNS-AND-MORE wrote to say that they were expanding in the United States and were looking for entertainers. For more information write:

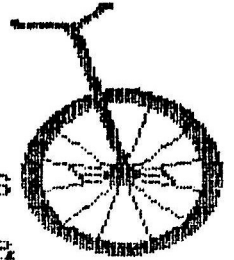
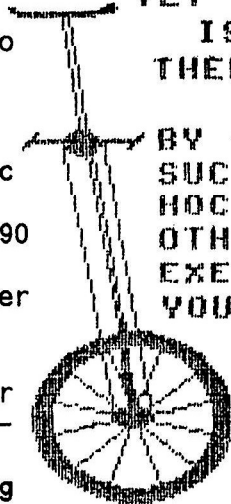
1319 Maple - Quincy, IL 62301
or call: Allen Davis (217) 224-7464.

. . . the Editors of both ON ONE WHEEL and UNICYCLING do not "censor" humor submitted to either publication. We do attempt to be responsive to the desires of the membership. "One man's meat ."

. . . all comments from members are read by your Editors and Officers and are greatly appreciated. Your suggestions form the basis for articles in OOW/UNICYCLING and none of us objects to a pat on the back every now and then. Thank you! and keep those comments coming!

. . . with an inexpensive computer program and the brilliant fluorescent copy paper now on the market, members can prepare eye-catching posters at very little cost. KEIAR RENAUD (Windsor, Ontario, Canada) created the one below (reduced for use here) and posted copies around Windsor as a first step in starting a new club.

**TIRED OF TRAINING WHEELS?
YET BALANCING TIME
IS NOT A PROBLEM!
THEN THIS NEW SPORT
IS FOR YOU!
BY COMBINING TALENTS
SUCH AS JUGGLING,
HOCKEY, BASKETBALL &
OTHER ACTIVITIES; USED AS AN
EXERCISE OR A FAVORITE PASTIME!
YOU CAN JOIN A NEW CLUB OPENING
IN WINDSOR SOON!**



FOR INFO CALL KR @ 973-8380

. . . Knight-Ridder Newspapers printed the story of an 80-year-old attendant at a forest-fire tower in the Pocono Mountains (PA) who loves people even though he leads an isolated life. When hikers happen upon his home at the base of the tower, he pulls out his unicycle and entertains by riding through pylons, over a teeter-totter or while twirling two batons.

. . . that GRANT DAY (Peoria, IL) became a USAm through an article in MIDWEST LIVING MAGAZINE telling about the 1991 NUM in Chariton, IA. Another example of: It pays to advertise!

. . . DOUGLAS WULF (Fairborn OH) wrote, "Unicycling has been one of my favorite obsessions since 1984. In fact, I first got to know my future wife when she asked me to teach her to ride. Now we both can locomote on that stylish vehicle . . . In 1988 I even rode my unicycle on the 10-mile organized bicycle tour around Evanston, IL. The wounds have by now almost healed."

. . . for continuing to attempt to ride a unicycle the "PERSISTENCE AWARD" must go to Seaford (NY) resident Dr. GERTRUDE BOX who wrote, "I've been trying to ride a unicycle for 37 (!) years - off & on - mostly off. I can ride my Harley Sportster & Yamaha 400.

TO BE FILLED OUT BY EACH RIDER

1992 National Unicycle Meet
July 24-26, 1992
St. Anthony Village Unicycle Club

Name _____ Sex _____ Age on 7-24-92 _____

Address _____ Phone ()- _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

USA Membership Number _____ Club/Group Affiliation _____

RACE CATEGORY Age Group: Jr. Expert: Expert ARTISTIC SINGLE CATEGORY Age Group: Jr. Expert: Expert
Circle One Circle One

INDICATE EVENT PREFERENCES (*means no points awarded)

Friday Events (1:00 p.m.)

- _____ 50m Juggling*
- _____ 50m Ultimate Wheel*
- _____ 400m Relay*
- _____ 800m
- _____ 1600m
- _____ 400m
- _____ 400m Non-Rider
- _____ 200m

Saturday Events (8:30 a.m.)

- _____ 100m
- _____ 50m One Foot
- _____ 10m Wheel Walk
- _____ 30m Wheel Walk
- _____ Slow Forward
- _____ Obstacle Course
- _____ Ind. Routines
- _____ Group Parade

Sunday Events (8:30 a.m.)

- _____ Ind. Routines
- _____ Pairs Routines
- _____ Group Shows

THE FOLLOWING EVENTS MUST BE REGISTERED FOR IN ADVANCE (no changes after July 1, 1992)

- A. Backward Race (Choose One Only): _____ Slow Backward
_____ Fast Backward (helmet required)
- B. Singles Artistic (Choose One Only): _____ Freestyle
_____ Standard (Circle Category) I II III IV
- C. Pairs Artistic (Compete at Highest Category) _____ Partners Name
_____ Partners Category

WAIVER OF LIABILITY

1992 21st National Unicycle Meet Release Form

In consideration of the St. Anthony Village Unicycle Club, the Unicycling Society of America, Inc, and all other sponsors, agents, and representatives organizing and conducting the National Unicycle Meet, on July 24-26, 1992, at Bethel College, Mounds View High School and St. Anthony Village, and allowing me to participate in the said meet, I hereby waive, release and discharge forever, said St. Anthony Village Unicycle Club, The Unicycling Society of America, Inc, and its sponsors, agents and representatives from all claims, demands, rights and causes of action of whatsoever kind and nature arising directly from any and all known/unknown, foreseen or unforeseen, bodily and personal injury, damage to property, and consequences thereof resulting from my participation in said National Unicycle Meet. I assume all risks of injury or mishap resulting from my participation and covenant, not to sue the aforementioned parties for said injuries and/or damage. I also permit you to provide, furnish or engage emergency medical treatment to me or my said son or daughter. I give permission for the use of my name and/or picture in any broadcast, telecast or other account of this event.

Signature _____ Date _____

Signature of Parent or Guardian (If Participant is Under 18) _____

TO BE FILLED OUT BY EACH FAMILY UNIT

Name _____

1. Registration-\$15/rider(staying on campus); \$18/rider(not staying on campus) Total Reg. Fee _____
 Late fee (after 6-1-92)-add \$5 to above amounts

2. Lodging Reservations for Bethel College (We encourage everyone to stay on campus)

a. Dormitory (Sleeps one or two) (youth ages 12-18; child ages 3-11)

#	Nights	Rates	Total \$	Names
Adults	_____	x\$15=	_____	_____
Youth	_____	x\$12=	_____	_____
Child	_____	x\$6=	_____	_____
Single	_____	x\$18=	_____	_____

Total Dorm Fee _____

Indicate Roommate(s) if not on this form _____

b. Townhomes (sleeps 4-6) (youth ages 12-18; child ages 3-11)

#	Nights	Rates	Total	Names
Adults	_____	x\$15=	_____	_____
Youth	_____	x\$12=	_____	_____
Child	_____	x\$6=	_____	_____

Total TH Fee _____

Indicate Roommate(s) if not on this form _____

3. Meal Reservations (Child ages 3-11): NO REFUNDS after 7-1-92: No meals Friday

SATURDAY

	#	Adult	#	Child	Total Meals	Total Cost
Breakfast	_____	x3.75	_____	x2.00	_____	_____
Lunch	_____	x4.75	_____	x2.50	_____	_____
Dinner	_____	x6.50	_____	x3.25	_____	_____

SUNDAY

	#	Adult	#	Child	Total Meals	Total Cost
Breakfast	_____	x3.75	_____	x2.00	_____	_____
Lunch	_____	x4.75	_____	x2.50	_____	_____
Dinner	_____	x6.50	_____	x3.25	_____	_____

Total Meal Fee _____

Minimum deposit on Meals/Lodging is \$30 due at registration

4. 1992 NUM T-Shirts/Biker Hats

Adult/Youth Sizes: \$10/Shirt Adult Size XXL: \$12/Shirt

Youth: Sm_____ Med_____ Lg_____

Adult: Sm_____ Med_____ Lg_____ X-Lg_____ XX-Lg_____

Total Shirt Fee _____

Biker Hats: \$5/Hat; one size fits all _____

Total Hats Fee _____

No Refunds after June 1, 1992

TOTAL COST _____

Send: Rider Registration Form
 Family Registration Form
 Full fees for Rider, T-shirts and hats
 \$30 (or more) for meals and lodging

Payable to: 1992 National Unicycle Meet
 (send one check for all fees)

To: St. Anthony Village Unicycle Club
 P.O. Box 18901
 Minneapolis, Minnesota 55418

For Further Information: Call Jim Bernard
 (612)-636-4201

Balance of Lodging/Meal payment due by July 1, 1992

Unicon VI - Sixth International Unicycle Championship

This Registration Form may be reproduced without permission from Tournoi Unicon 92.

Personne in charge:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Fax: _____

Participant:

L name: _____

F name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Country: _____

Zip code: _____

Phone: _____

Fax: _____

Birth day: _____

Age on August 4 1992: _____

Sex: _____

Races (Please mark the items in which you wish to participate):

Age categories:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 0-10 | <input type="checkbox"/> 19-29 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 0-12 | <input type="checkbox"/> 30-39 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 13-14 | <input type="checkbox"/> 40 and up |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15-18 | <input type="checkbox"/> expert |

Wheel size:

- | | | | |
|--|-----|-----------------------|------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 0-10 years old | 16" | Min. crank arm length | 4,5 inches |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 0-18 years old | 20" | | 4,5 inches |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 11 years old and up | 24" | | 5,0 inches |

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 100 m. | <input type="checkbox"/> ultimate wheel race |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 400 m. | <input type="checkbox"/> coasting (expert only) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 800 m. (16", 20") | <input type="checkbox"/> downhill gliding |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500 m. (24") | <input type="checkbox"/> slow forward 10 m. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> UMX (1-2km) | <input type="checkbox"/> slow backward |
| <input type="checkbox"/> obstacles races | <input type="checkbox"/> 50 m. one foot |
| <input type="checkbox"/> marathon (8-10 km) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 30 m. walk the wheel (24") | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 10 m. walk the wheel (16", 20") | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 100 X 4 relay | |

Only underline races are available for 0-10 years old.

Kneepads and gloves are mandatory for all races.

Registration Form to send back

Artistic (Please mark the items in which you wish to participate)

Age categories:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 0-10 | <input type="checkbox"/> 0-12 | <input type="checkbox"/> 13-14 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15-18 | <input type="checkbox"/> 19-29 | <input type="checkbox"/> 30 and + |
| <input type="checkbox"/> expert | | |

Standard skills and/or

Freestyle

individual:

pairs

Partner name

Age

group

Partner's name

Ages

If there is less than 3 persons for a category, we may change categories.

Unicycle basketball

Participation of your team:

Yes No

Name, address person in charge:

Team's name:

Unicon VI - Sixth International Unicycle Championship

Shows:

You are invited to participate in the International Unicycle Day which will be held in Quebec City August 4, 1992 and also for other activities during the week. A selection of variety shows will be presented in front of a large public.

I am to Yes No give a unicycle demonstration.

If yes, please answer the following questions:

Type of demonstration: _____

Duration: _____

Name of participants _____

Try to be as precise as possible and join any written or visual documents concerning your show. Thank you.

Registration Form to send back

If possible, please confirm the date and time of your arrival and departure and your flight numbers. This way we will be able to give you a better service.

Arrival date and time _____ Flight _____

Departure date and time _____ Flight _____

REGISTRATION TIME DATE:

15th APRIL 1992

Please send your Registration Form as soon as possible to help us to organize the event. Thanks for your cooperation. Hoping to meet you next August in Quebec.



Miscellaneous

• Registration fee: _____
20,00\$ (canadian) per participant

• Accommodation cost: _____
Participant(s): * 10,00\$ = _____
(no. pers) (no. days)

Relative(s): * 13,00\$ = _____

• Please reserve me one or several t-shirts:

Yes No

S M L XL = X 15,00\$ = _____

Total = _____

Please send your Registration Form and payment (money order in canadian dollars) to:

Tournoi Québec Unicon
1428 St-Luc

Ancienne-Lorette
Quebec, Canada G2E 1V3

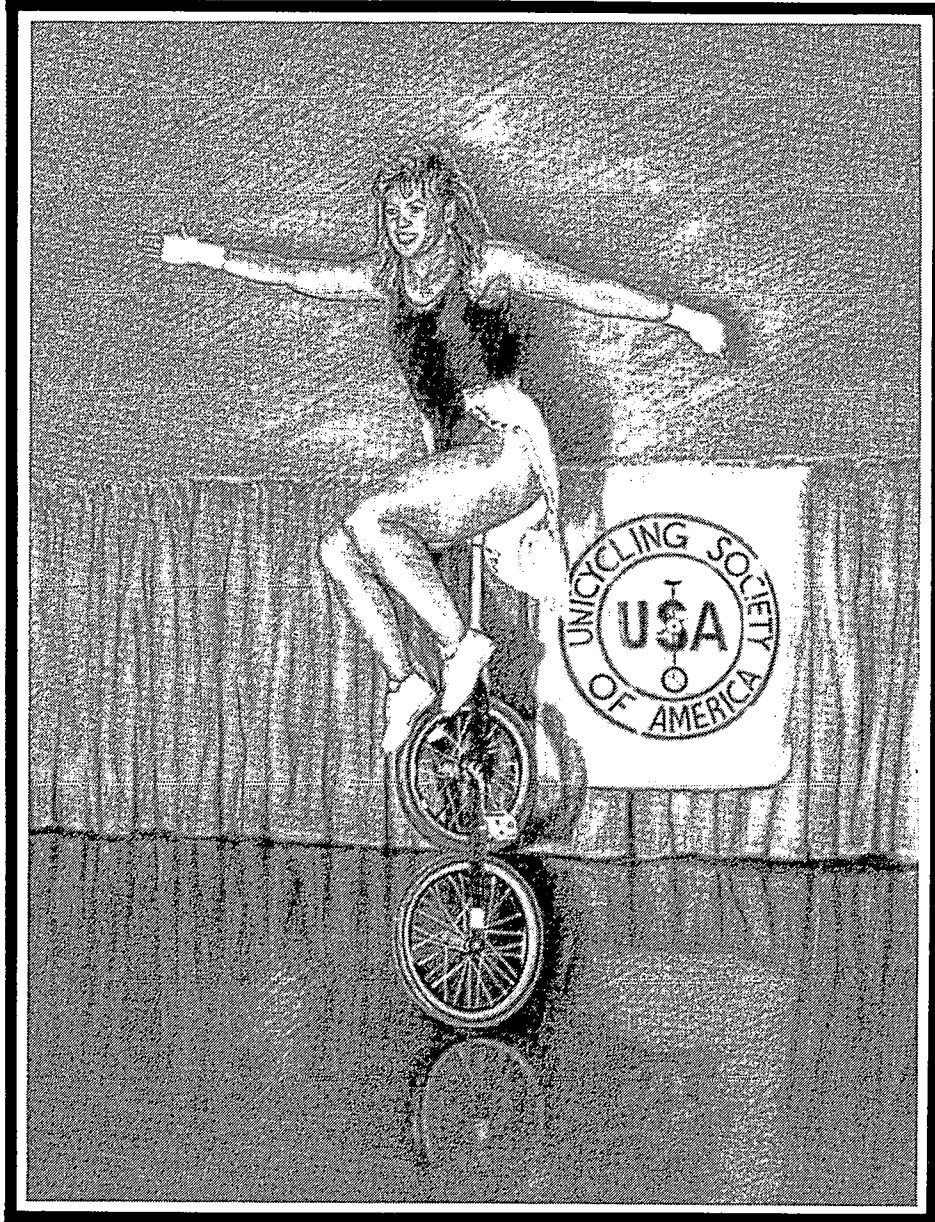
Phone: 418-872-1960 Fax: 418-656-5749

Do not hesitate to write to this address if you need more information.

THE INTERNATIONAL UNICYCLING FEDERATION

Unicycling

Quarterly



IUF INTERNATIONAL
UNICYCLING
FEDERATION

Vol. 6 No. 3 Summer, 1992



On the Cover:

UNICYCLE ART!

"Constance Cotter; 1991 NUM"

by Molly Tucek

from a photograph by John Foss

Your editor sent Constance some photos from the NUM last summer, like he usually does. Her then-boyfriend borrowed one and gave it to his mother, who gave it to artist Molly Tucek, who made this beautiful chalk illustration. Black and white does not do justice to the vivid colors it contains! The picture, in a nice wood frame, was a totally unexpected Christmas present for Connie, who has since hung it proudly over her well-filled "trophy shelf!"

We are still looking for more unicycle art. It's a nice column to include in our newsletter. All your editor has right now is a photo of a statue made from the Unicycle Factory logo ("Guilford Go-for-It"). We need more for future issues of UNICYCLING QUARTERLY.

International Calendar:

Hey. What's going on in Japan, Europe, other parts of the world? If you don't send in information, it can't appear here. If you know about it, let UNICYCLING know. You don't have to be the organizer of the event! Right now, our calendar is looking pretty bare.

- July 24-26 USA National Unicycle Meet, St. Paul, MN. See registration form in this issue.
- August 3-9 World UNICON VI, Québec, Canada. See registration form in this issue.
- Aug. 20-24 X European Jugglers Convention, Banyoles, Catalunya, Spain. About 100km north of Barcelona. Accommodations limited. Contact: Ajuntament de Banyoles, Passeig de la Indústria, 25 - 17820 BANYOLES - Griona - España. Fax: (34) 72 57 49 17.

UNICYCLING QUARTERLY: Volume 6 No. 3, Summer, 1992. Published quarterly inside **ON ONE WHEEL, UNICYCLING QUARTERLY** is the official English-language publication of the International Unicycling Federation, Inc. **PRESIDENT:** Jack Halpern, **SECRETARY/TREASURER:** Al Hemminger, **DIRECTORS:** Jean Ascher, Paul Fox, Alberto Rutz, **EDITOR:** John Foss, **1992 CONVENTION HOSTS:** Normand Beaumont and Nathalie Noël. Entire contents copyright © 1992 by John Foss for the IUF Inc. All rights reserved. Reproduction or use of the material in this publication without the express permission of the IUF Inc., is prohibited. Editorial submissions welcome. Send to John Foss, 20 Turn Lane, Levittown, NY 11756 or call (516) 796-8762. All submissions become the property of the Editor unless accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Views expressed herein are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the directors or officers of the IUF Inc. Read this paragraph backwards for the secret message!

Letters



DENMARK:

Thank U for including the Round Tower UniRacer Rally inside the International Calendar. I am still doing ON ONE WHEEL (ETHJULER'N) in Danish, and you will see that I already am including various stuff about IUF and America. Hope you like it.

I have quite a busy summer in front of me, maybe my last, because the Copenhagen Magistrate is giving all street performers a very difficult time, making it impossible to perform, so if I can't train my children in front of a live audience, my 1993 season will be quite terrible. Stay in harmony and peace on top of the universal wheel of life.

Jean Ascher, Copenhagen, Denmark

From what he knows of Mr. Ascher, your editor feels that he will find a way for his kids to keep entertaining the people of Copenhagen without nay legal problems.

SPAIN:

I am writing on behalf of Ramón Muñoz, USA member #2486, of the "Boni and Caroli" monocyclists of Barcelona. Please would you print the enclosed letter in the next magazine asking for contact with any Spanish speaking riders. Thanks very much, we will keep you apprised of anything exciting happening in Spain. Hope to meet you all at a USA convention soon!

Samantha Lee, Barcelona, Spain

Hello unicycling friends from around the world. We are "Boni and Caroli," a pair of Spanish unicyclists interested in corresponding with Spanish speaking unicyclists, exchanging opinions, ideas, and experiences in unicycling. We also want up-to-date information on conventions, reunions, or any types of unicycle gatherings.

Ramón Muñoz, Boni & Caroli

C/Goya, 6, 1

08012 Barcelona, Spain

Your editor knows there are a lot of Spanish speaking unicyclists out there; some of the best riders in the world! Here is a professional performer in Spain for you to contact.

CHINA:

Being an IUF member in P.R. China, I sincerely congratulate you on your recent promotion to IUF Regional Representative for English-speaking America. As you might know, I am in frequent contact with Jack Halpern and Al Hemminger, who are kindly offering me very constructive suggestions and strong support on arranging my overseas trip to Québec to attend UNICON VI and how to most effectively promote the sport of unicycling in China and throughout the world. I firmly believe that your high level of skills and outstanding achievements in artistic unicycling could also be of great help to me for contributing to the growth and development of this sport in P.R. China. Your guidance will be highly appreciated.

Zhonghui Chen, Beijing, China

Mr. Chen is one of the three unicyclists from China who will hopefully be at UNICON VI this summer.

GERMANY:

I'm the Youth-Leader of the KRTC Fürstenwalde. We have Cycle-Polo, Cycle-Ball and Artistic Bicycling too. As a club of the old GDR (East Germany) we are now interested in international contacts. We want to know more about this cycling in your country. I'm 19 years old and play Cycle-Polo. I'll hope you want to answer this letter.

Danielle Voss

Ring der Freundschaft 23g

0-1240 Fürstenwalde 1 Spree, Germany

You can write to Danielle in English. I'm sure she will be happy to hear from unicyclists all over!

UNICON VI

The Sixth International Unicycling Championships

Québec City, Canada

August 3 - 9, 1992

In the centerfold of this issue of ON ONE WHEEL/UNICYCLING, you will find registration forms for both the National Unicycle Meet in Minnesota, and UNICON VI in Québec. If you don't want to cut up your newsletter, you can of course copy them instead. UNICON organizers Normand Beaumont and Nathalie Noël faxed your editor to tell him "Thanks" for including the registration form in the newsletter, because it brought in a lot more requests for information.

They would like us to know that so far, riders from Canada, Germany, Dominican Republic, England, New Zealand, Japan, USA, Puerto Rico, and Israel have all confirmed that they will attend. They are still waiting for news from Spain, China, and a few other countries. The UNICON with the most different countries represented so far was UNICON III in Tokyo, at which 11 countries were present. Could 1992 be a new UNICON record?

Remember, if you live in the U.S. and you plan to attend, be sure to make yourself part of the USA Unicycle Team by contacting:

Jim Schlosser
4360 NTR-47

Fostoria, Ohio 44830
(419) 435-7681

You'll receive information about team T-shirts and patches, and a source of answers to other questions you may have about attending UNICON, including ride sharing!

HOW TO:

Jump Rope on a Unicycle

by David Goldman

Impossible, you say? Well, jumping rope on a unicycle is actually not very difficult, and could be the biggest crowd pleaser in your entire routine. People will often enjoy seeing you jump rope much more than gliding or coasting, simply because they can relate much more easily to a jump rope than to a person "riding" a unicycle without feet.

There are two ways to jump rope on a unicycle and the trick requires that you can idle with some control. The first step is to learn how to jump up and down in one place on the unicycle. Ride to a designated spot, stop with your pedals horizontal, with the dominant idling foot in front. Immediately stop pedaling, stand up on the pedals and grab the front of the seat with one hand. With legs bent slightly, begin to jump as you would on the ground. This is the basis for jumping rope. Remember to keep the legs relaxed to absorb the jumping motion. Eventually this should be learned without the use of a hand pulling the seat. This can be done by simply squeezing the seat between your legs in a semi-standing position (so the seat is beneath you, but you aren't actually sitting). If your legs are not strong enough to squeeze the seat, or it is just too uncomfortable, you may want to use a luggage strap. The strap goes around the waist and clips to the seat post. In performance, it is difficult to use the strap because it is hard to take it off quickly. You may want to first learn the trick with the strap in order to strengthen your legs, and eventually take the strap off when your leg muscles are able to manage.

The second step is learning to synchronize the jump and the twirling of the rope (I am assuming you can jump rope on solid ground!). At first it is probably easier to take an extra bounce between the spins of the rope. Eventually,

with practice, you will want to work into a fast bounce and quick rope rotation.

The rope should be a comfortable length. You don't want to be hunched over with too short a line, and neither do you want to have a rope that needs to be wrapped around your hands too many times. I have found that the best rope is the type with plastic cylinders covering the rope (the kind you used in your fifth grade gym class). This rope is heavy enough and won't get eaten if it gets caught in the spokes.

All sorts of tricks are possible with rope jumping. Try double jumps, or crossing. It's a great trick for parades and street shows. Good luck! If you have questions, call the UNICYCLING Hotline (John Foss): (516) 796-8762.

EINRADSCHULE

- die erste Einradschule Deutschlands -

Sammy Hellwig



Sammy (at right) and some of his riders, in downtown Köln

(UNICYCLE SCHOOL)

Earlier this year, Sammy Hellwig joined the USA from Köln (Cologne), Germany. He ordered two of our video tapes, the USA Rulebook, and USA patches. He also sent us (Carol Brichford forwards these things to your editor) flyers and information about his unicycle school, all in German. Your poor editor is not well set up for translating, so things he cannot read may sit un-translated for a long time. With the help of Heinz Hoffman (a friend from Germany) he was able to read the brochure for Sammy's unicycle school. It costs 85DM to take the course, which is offered in small classes, and 25DM to rent a unicycle if you need one.

Sammy also sent a flyer for a special event, "Unicycleday", which took place on March 28 in Köln. The flyer listed "Action and Fun, Games and Competition, Tricks and Training." There was also a flyer for a different event on May 1st. Your editor would be very interested to hear about what happened at these events, in English, from anyone who was there. The same applies to any and all other unicycling events and activities anywhere. Remember, you don't have to be the person in charge to write to us about it! The person who was in charge is probably very busy, so help them out!

What Unicycling has done for Me Ross Mackintosh, Worchester, England

Thought I'd drop you some ink stained parchment briefing my life & get it on the next available camel to you. I was born & lived in New Zealand for my first 22½ years, lived in England for the last 1½ years, and now wishing to migrate to the U.S. I was first introduced to unis. on a film called **Jester** when I was 14. I purchased my first uni. without delay & like most people, spent more time under it! The usual inner thigh bruising, gashed ankles & two totally absorbing hours later, I came out "on top." My neighbor indulged, purchased, & also came out on top, after which came one on one basketball, hockey, and of course gladiators. Transport to school was next, where a teacher encouraged me to start a club (much to my amazement he could uni. also). After a slow start, the club gained popularity & peaked at a dozen unis. plus a 4', two 6's a 10', and over thirty students!

We were discovered by local television & became a news item. Soon after, eight of the club rode twelve miles for charity (follow-up TV item). Regrettably, the novelty wore off when I learned how to drive. Four wheels offered more to a young teen than one. I liquidated both my 20" unis. and my 6 footer for cash.

At 18, I was kept busy rebuilding a sedan and repowering it with a "tickled" Chevy 350 V8. After a year of disturbing gas consumption, speeding tickets and dangerous driving fines, the four wheel novelty started to get real old, real fast! Alas, I was kicking myself, missing the freedom of the unicycle. It wasn't until 1990, when I decided to go globe trotting, that I felt I would need a traveling companion that wouldn't spend my money, oversleep, or argue with me.

A vacation stop in Laguna, California was where I purchased my single wheeled back packer's transport, which has since proved the most versatile & practical means of getting about.



"Be cool in winter," Laguna, CA

photo: Brian Fitzgerald

England was my working holiday destination; arriving Feb. 1991. I discovered the English didn't accept the one wheel concept too easily. The common sight of me cycling to/from work each day soon brought most to ease.

I then met some jugglers who owned a store in a nearby village that sells unicycles, juggling equipment, etc. Now I juggle as well, plus tutor weekly at an evening unicycling workshop, as part of their juggling workshop. Also, I run a "Fun in the Sunday" each week at a local park welcoming all jugglers & unicyclists. Unfortunately, due to the quality (or lack of) in my cheap unicycle, it suffered

many broken spokes & bent cranks after vigorous weekends spent on a mountain bike track. Time to upgrade! After attending Britain's 5th Juggling Convention (and winning the Combat Gladiator's title), I was introduced to the Semicycle. The 20", 36 spoke wheel will do me nicely. I plan to purchase one soon.

That's life in a nutshell; actually, that's just the nutshell! From here I plan to travel to CA and live on a permanent basis -- I'll be visiting there again in September for several months if all goes to plan. Late August is the European Jugglers Convention in Spain, and I've been asked by my fellow jugglers to represent them on the uni. against Europe, in my specialty as a "Gladiator".

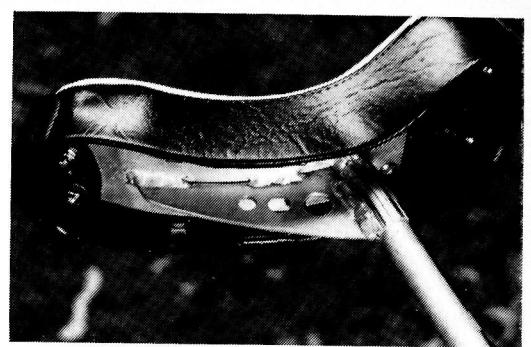
EDITOR'S NOTE: Thanks for a great story, and some unicycling history from New Zealand. Until this time, we had no unicycling information about that area. We are all hoping Ross will write back to us with his results from the convention in Barcelona, and tell us his results as a "Gladiator," and more about the game. Could it be like the Sumo game played by unicyclists in Japan (two riders, each tries to push the other outside of a painted circle), or is it more like the "Dogfighting" or "Demolition Derby" game some of us have played here in the U.S.? This is a game of "last one left riding wins," with any number of riders, which is lots of fun, and is also safe if played in moderation.

Stickers for Sale! Uni Stickers from Germany



Member Gerhard Delkeskamp has printed up these stickers. If you'd like some, they come in sets of three, for \$2.00 U.S. The sticker is reproduced here **actual size**. They're vinyl, which suggests that they are extremely durable and weatherproof. The \$2 price includes postage. The easiest way to order would be to send cash (wrapped in a piece of paper!). Send to:

Gerhard Delkeskamp
Dreistücken 7
2000 Hamburg 60, GERMANY



photos: John Foss (tooting his own horn again)

UNI TECH

FOSS RACING UNICYCLE

John Foss likes racing on unicycles. He currently holds world speed records for the 200, 1500, 1600, 50m One Foot, 50m Backward, 50m Juggling, 10, 25 and 30m Wheel Walk, and Obstacle Course races. He is also listed in the **Guinness Book of World Records** from 1989 through 1992 with his 100m sprint record (which has since been broken).

At his first unicycle meet, in 1980, he rode a regular Schwinn with gobs of duct tape on the saddle. In 1981 he drilled lots of holes in a Schwinn and gave it a narrow wheel. This "racing unicycle" set an indoor one mile record that was never broken. In the following years he used a Miyata Deluxe, not too different from its original condition.

In 1991, Foss decided to set marks that would be hard to beat in the 1500 and 1600 meter events. This would be his last year entering *all* of the races because training alone was no fun. He put his head together with Tom Miller of The Unicycle Factory, and together they designed and built the state-of-the-art racing unicycle.

Tom started by making a special hub which was $\frac{3}{4}$ " narrower than a typical unicycle hub. By bringing the pedals closer together, it was hoped to reduce the "wobbling" motion unicycles get at high speed due to the feet seeking a straight line. He also drilled the axle hollow, machined it down to a smaller diameter, and put on low profile flanges.

The rim is 24x1 $\frac{3}{8}$ " aluminum, from Araya. The tire was the largest diameter 24" that could be found. High-tech tubular rims & tires are available in the 24" size, but their actual diameters are closer to 22"!

The fork is from an old Miyata, cut down at the top to reduce the amount of heavy steel, because the seat post is aluminum. The narrow post is topped by a super-rigid platform to which the seat is attached. The purpose of this is to keep the seat from flexing during acceleration, robbing the unicycle of some of its speed.

To all this was added a cycle computer, built into the seat so it can actually be looked at while riding. Mostly, this computer is useful for training; showing speed, elapsed distance, maximum speed and average speed. In an actual race, there is no time to look at it (except in marathons).

The finished cycle weighs about nine pounds, and is potentially very fast indeed. But remember, it's not the machine that wins the race, it's the **engine**. And though this cycle (with Foss for an engine) set new records in the 200, 1500 and 1600m events last summer, Javier Ruiz beat him in the 100m race at UNICON V with an old Schwinn tank. So don't feel bad if you're riding "old-tech," just train hard, ride your best, and have lots of fun doing it, like Foss does!

IUF Representatives WORLDWIDE NETWORK

In March, IUF President Jack Halpern circulated a proposal for a worldwide network of IUF regional or national Representatives; people who can speak for the IUF in their own parts of the world. Several people from different language areas were nominated to these positions.

The purposes of a Representative, whether they serve for a nation, or for an entire world region are:

1. To help organize national teams to participate in international unicycle conventions (UNICONS).
2. To help recruit IUF members and disseminate IUF information in the region.
3. To engage in various activities to promote unicycling in the region. If no national unicycling organizations exist, to help establish such organizations.
4. To serve as a regional or national correspondent for IUF publications around the world, sending out relevant or interesting news and information about unicycling in the part of the world represented.
5. To translate or summarize important IUF documents into the working language of the region or country.
6. To publish a unicycling newsletter in the working language of the region.
7. To cooperate with the IUF in promoting unicycling throughout the world.

The IUF is a big idea, and a big job, with a very small number of people working on it. The larger the number of people involved, the more we can do to make our sport popular, and known, around the world. These are some of the people who have been nominated to be IUF regional or national Representatives, and their language areas:

Chinese-Japanese Asia: Jack Halpern, French speaking America and Europe: Normand Beaumont, German speaking countries: Heinz Lehr, Portugese speaking countries: Daniel Azulay, Spanish speaking countries: Alberto Ruiz, Scandanavia: Jean Ascher, English speaking America: John Foss, English speaking Asia: Stephen Dressler, English speaking Europe: Pete Mosley, English speaking Oceania, Pacific and Australia: Reg Bolton.

This leaves many parts of the world still uncovered. The Arabic world, Africa, much of Asia and Oceania, and all of the former Soviet Union. There is much to be done by the IUF, but it can only happen as fast as the available people can work. Don't just sit at home reading this if you think it would be more interesting to be involved in corresponding with other unicyclists around the world! It doesn't matter where you live, and if you can read and write more than one language, that's even better. If you would like to get involved in IUF activities, write to your editor (address on page 2)!

THE STATE OF THE UNI. ADDRESS

by John Foss, the Uni-Cyclone
Happy Birthday IUF!

I just realized that the IUF was 10 years old! It's official start was June 1, 1982. This date was chosen by Jack Halpern and other organizers as the date the IUF would declare itself alive. It's origins came much earlier.

The name "International Unicycling Federation" was first used in a 10 page proposal that was distributed by Jack Halpern after a trip around the world to promote unicycling in 1980. In it, he described the need for a world body to coordinate unicycling activities, to make it an international sport, to hold the first International Unicycling Convention, and to work toward Olympic recognition.

The idea can be traced back even further, to USA founder Bill Jenack and others, who mentioned such an idea in their letters, but Jack Halpern gets credit for pushing the idea, and providing the spark that brought the unicyclists of the world together in the form of the IUF.

As of June 1, 1982, the IUF consisted of a group of representatives in 8 countries: Jack Halpern for Japan, Kenneth Fuchs and John Foss for the U.S., Carlho and Sem Abrahams for Holland, Göran Lundström for Sweden, Hans Born for West Germany, Vincent Richard for Canada, Reg Bolton for the UK, and Jean Ascher for Denmark. As you can see by reading the article on p. 5, some of these people are still very involved with our sport.

After a very successful 1983 USA National Unicycle Meet in Syracuse, NY, as a group of international unicyclists "recuperated" from the NUM and IJA conventions at 67 Lion Lane, JeanPaul Jenack proposed the idea of doing another meet there in 1984, as the first World Unicycling Convention. Many people asked, "Are we ready? Can we handle this?" The only way to find out was to try it! Ken Fuchs was the Chairman, with lots of help from JeanPaul, Meryl Schaffer and others. Though Jack Halpern was unable to attend due to visa problems, the convention was a success, with attendance by unicyclists from 9 different countries.

After this, a group of volunteers on Long Island worked to incorporate the IUF, design its structure, set up a newsletter and plan the next convention. IUF became a not-for-profit, tax exempt corporation (NY) on March 12, 1985. The newsletter, UNICYCLING MAGAZINE, was started by John Foss, and later continued by Jack Wiley. Plans for a cross country ride (Unicycling for UNICEF) were drawn up and later had to be scrapped when UNICEF ran into political troubles.

The IUF aims are based on those of the USA Inc. As stated in the corporate charter, they are:

To foster awareness of and participation in unicycling as a sport and a means of recreation among people of all nations through the organization of international conventions and the development of national unicycling unions.

To promote voluntary international standards for competition toward the achievement of Olympic status for the sport of unicycling.

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

The second convention was called "World UNICON II, a name coined by Meryl Schaffer that means "unicycling Convention." It took place in 1986 on Long Island with 7 countries represented. Meanwhile, with much argument and hoopla, competition rules were designed and improved by the IUF Rules Committee, in an ongoing process.

UNICON III took place in Tokyo, Japan in 1987, in conjunction with the 10th All-Japan Unicycle Meet. With 851 registered riders, to your editor's knowledge, it was the

largest gathering of unicyclists ever held. 11 countries were represented. Coca-Cola Tokyo Bottlers donated over \$20,000 to help the international participants pay for their travel. After UNICON III, the IUF finally had credibility, and was taken seriously by most of the world!

UNICON IV was held in Aguadilla, Puerto Rico in 1988, with an expanded 6-day schedule that allowed for more basketball, and new events such as UMX, Marathon, and Coasting and Gliding races. 8 countries were represented (including Puerto Rico). After this, it was decided to try to hold a UNICON every second year, because it was getting very expensive to attend them all!

UNICON V in Hull, Quebec, Canada, was delayed from 1990 to 1991, and due to its last-minute announcement, only 4 countries were able to attend. This should prove to be an aid for UNICON VI, to take place August 3-9 in Québec City, with a different group of organizers. The IUF moves on....

Things not to do with a Unicycle



#4: Riding where you definitely shouldn't!

Walter Nilsson rode his 8' unicycle on the edges of buildings, on top of the Egyptian Pyramids, and in many other amazing places. This does not mean that it was safe! Here, intrepid unicyclist Bradley Bradley (no kidding) is posing atop a high pole in Washington Square Park in Manhattan. This picture was taken on May 25, 1986. Bradley, Ken Fuchs and your editor had just participated in Hands Across America, where we had held hands with hundreds of thousands of people all the way across the country. Of course we did it while on unicycles (we were not the only unicyclists involved, either). In Manhattan, where the line started, it was actually eight lines side by side because there were so many people. On the tall post, Bradley set a good example by NOT attempting to ride. However, he was the same guy a couple of issues back trying to stop the car with his unicycle, in the snow. . . .

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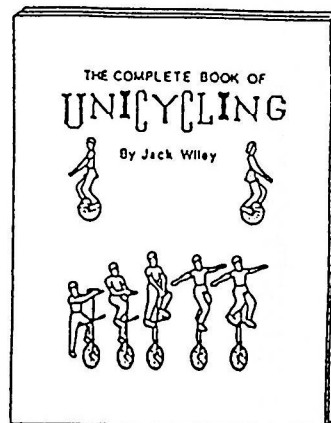
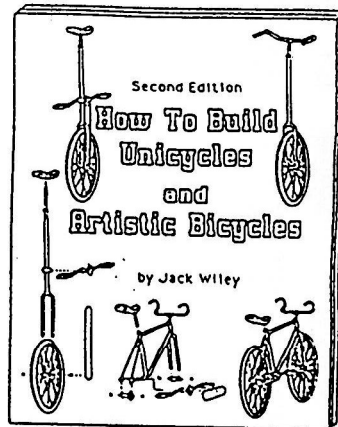
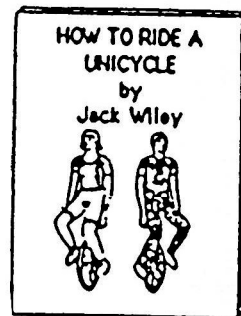
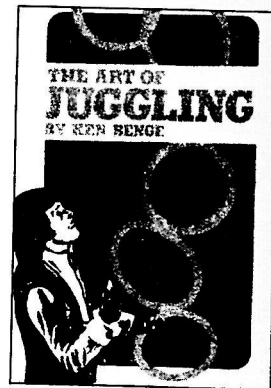
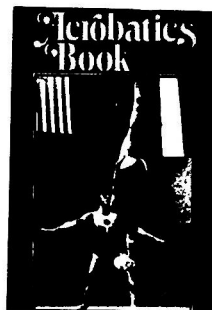
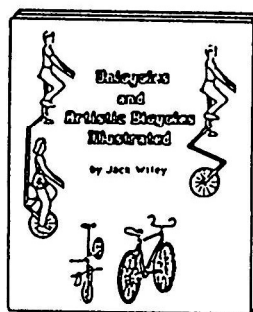
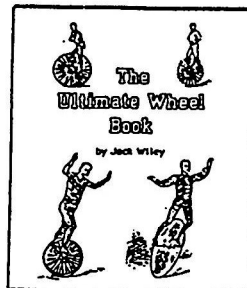
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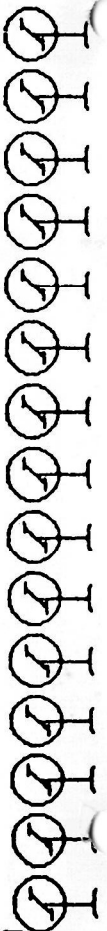
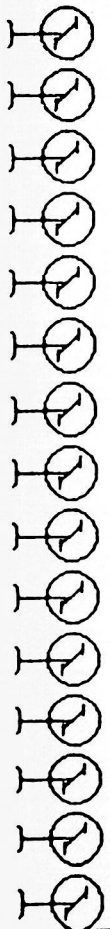
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