

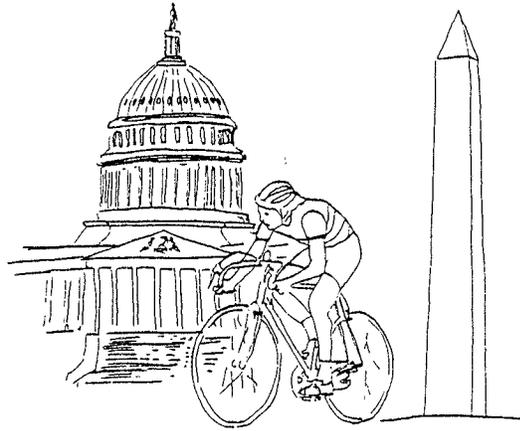
National Capital Velo Club, Inc.

P.O. BOX 14004, BENJAMIN FRANKLIN STATION, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20044



NCVC Newsletter

AUGUST 1979
SEPTEMBER



A JOURNAL OF BICYCLE RACING AROUND THE NATION'S CAPITAL

PARKER GOES ALL THE WAY

CRAIG PARKER MAKES NATIONAL TEAM

Craig Parker has brought a great honor to himself and to the club by qualifying for the Junior World's team which will represent the U.S. in Argentina this October. Parker will ride the pursuit on the track. Congratulations from all of us!

RACE RESULTS (as reported to the Editor)

Skinner Butte National Prestige Classic - Oregon

Intermediates - David James - 6th

Raritan - Sept. 2

Juniors - Hal Mattes - 1st

2 & 3 - Ron Ray - prime dinner for 2

Harrisburg - Sept. 3

Primes - Larry Black

Reno Rashid (ex-patriot) - 3rd place

Delaware - Aug. 18

Sr. IV

- 1) Mike Raleigh
- 6) John Mills

Sr. III & II

- 2) Art Brown
- 4) Hal Mattes

CALENDAR

- Sept. 29- Baltimore Criterium
Oct. 6- Tour of Rockford
Oct. 7- Apple Lap NYC
Sept. 27- last Thursday IBM race

"AS THE WHEELIE RAMBLES"

To most, the racing season ends in August with the conclusion of the Nationals, and the rest of the year is spent thinking and planning for next year and enjoying some racing; unless you go to the Worlds or plan to be up for "Wildwood" or "The Apple Lap." Both are very big races and Wildwood is a very good spectator race.

Speaking of spectators, did any of you stay up to look at Spartakiade on Friday, August 17? Well, they had 15 minutes of your favorite sport and mine --- yep, bicycle racing --- and guess who won the 1st of the telecast? One hell of a strong Russian sprinter named Zhurakov ("The Animal"). Believe me, the nickname is accurate. The road race course seemed tough and according to the narrator, it required a lot of gear changes and quite a few dry runs in order to master this course.

Seems like we should have taken steps earlier in the formation of teams at IBM for people are really getting into it. And the color streamers on the helmet (Mary P's idea taken from Jackson and Co.) really looked impressive... Of course, IBM always has a slack spoke in its wheel. I'm talking about folks who forget to pay entry fees. Come on, people, give us a break. It's only \$1.00 and it goes right back to you and your fellow members.

I mentioned earlier that for some the season ends in August, but for one club member, it began in August and will conclude in October. I'm talking about Craig "Mr. Track" Parker. This year NCVC has the most successful Junior trio since Dolensalek, Dubbe and Frederiksen, but Parker, who decided to become trackie and modest, lived up to his 1978 expectations and became the first NCVC member to make a National team. My heartiest congratulations and sincere best wishes to Craig.

A salute is definitely in order to the other members of the trio "Ironman" Fred Sheffield and Hal "Mr. Sprint" Mattes. If it's any consolation, ex-member Tom Prehn didn't make the team but look where he is today.

The Nationals --- you've got to try it. This, my first ever, seemed very low key but action packed. Every race was exciting and all competitors from midgets to masters were very professional. The time trial course was excellent causing lots of competitors to ride their fastest times. Geneva Nuggent, for the second year in a row, was NCVC best-placed rider at 8th. Husband Jerry was 9th in his class, "Ironman" Sheffield 11th, Rick Barnett 13th, Mary Pelz 15th. In the men's event the Pan Am Gold Medal winners were in the top four. Andy Weaver won over Tom Doughty, George Mount and Wayne Stetina. Beth Heiden became the first American woman to break the hour. John Patterson won the Juniors. Franz Hammer took the Veteran men's Gold for the second year, and Joyce Sulanke won the women's Veterans.

The road races were held in Milwaukee on the same courses as last year and it was great running into bikies everywhere. On Friday Geneva, after a very rough start and being caught behind a crash, still rode to an aggressive 10th. The race was won by 48-year-old Jeanne Omelenchuck for the second year. Saturday began with the Intermediates and some very strong riding by the Holterman brothers. Colin Clark (riding the race of his life) was really impressive, but at the end of the long sprint which ended the race, it was Gordy Holterman, last year's Midget champ, crossing the line in 5th spot. Don Bates was the victor. Colin and Eric were in the top 20. The Veteran men had a very impressive field and our super Vet Jerry Nuggent was doing quite well in what seemed like a very fast race, but when the thunder storm came over with winds that required a 32 x 19, and rain that felt like ping-pong balls, he said, "Forget it," and so did about half the field. Past U.S. sprint champ and World Silver medalist Jackie Simes out-sprinted the pack to win yet another stars and stripes jersey.

The Juniors, with the sun back out, treated the small crowd to some very exciting racing. There were quite a few attacks and breakaway attempts, including our ex-W.S. Hal Mattes (who has changed his style of racing from the back). The main break came including "Ironman" Sheffield and excluding "The Cannibal" Greg Lemond, but not for long. Lemond escaped the pack, caught the break, then left the break winning his second championship as a Junior. Fred was very unfortunate. He flatted on one of the climbs right when Lemond attacked, costing him a place in the top 6.

Sunday --- rain, rain and more rain. Sixty-two women started the race in a long, hard downpour which ended when the race had about two of the nine laps left to go. Almost everyone fell or flatted. "Motoring" Mary had enough falls and flats for four people: two spills and two flats, the first flat being the worst as the follow vans were both in the wrong places and it took her five minutes to find and change a back wheel with the help of Jerry Nuggent and Bobby Philips. By that time the race was gone. Connie Carpenter with a lot of help from her AMF teammates rode away and Beth Heiden (the new Sheila Young) out-sprinted never-ending Miji Reoch. Mary fulfilled her alternative goal finishing the Nationals in the top half.

The final event was a mind blower. A small break including ex-NCVC now hot shot Alpine Paul Pearson started increasing their lead. First year Senior, ex-IBM competitor Steve Woods jumped from the pack only to have a not so slow leak which he said he had for a while but waited until the time was right and he was rested to change it. By this time the main break of about 12 had formed and then Paul had a flat and thanks to poor help from the follow van, his chain got messed up and he lost about three minutes and maybe a top ten finish. With two laps to go Steve Wood attacked, taking Pan Am Gold medalist Tom Doughty along, only to

drop him in the last half lap to become the first 1st year Senior to win the Nationals. Most of you who knew and rode with him at Hanes Point and wherever should be happy for it was quite an exciting and happy sight. NCVC's only starter was our all-time time trial king Rick Barnett, but he only wanted the miles as his main goal was the team pursuit the next week.

So, until next time --- Mike

THE PRESIDENT'S PERCH

What happened to the summer of '79? After a brief lull in June (due to the District Championships) East Coast racing has been a flurry of activity with near back to back racing weekends from July through September. This racer took a sojourn from the frantic pace to visit sunny California and that laid back West Coast style of bike racing -- U.S.C.F. Officials wear Panama hats and the announcers use "Mellow Speak." Thanks to the efforts of Jim-Bob Bradford and others the NCVC red & white is known and respected. Former NCVC golden boy Tom Tallet keeps the club in the forefront in Los Angeles, with placings in regional scrambles like the Manhattan Beach Gran Prix -- shown live on local television.

Every year it seems one NCVC rider comes out of no where to win a major race. This years Dark Horse Award has to go to Ron Rae for his win at the Mt. Washington Road Race and Hill Climb for Cat III & IV. A-Class riders have been noting the "Blond Bull's" strength all year and it was only a matter of time before he got the open racing bug. Now, if we could only teach the good Doctor how to suck wheel he could be a Cat II by the end of the season (maybe we could get Bob "The Shadow" Fisher to give him some lessons).

Speaking of awards --- the Executive Committee needs your nominations for 1979 performances. Remember, it is not necessary to only have a conventional award (Rider of the Year, etc.) in mind as unauual laurels will be considered. These awards will be presented along with the District Championship medals at the NCVC Annual Banquet in November --- date to be announced. This month is also time to consider club officer nominations for 1980. Nominations will be accepted up to election eve -- Club meeting on November 5, 1979, 8:00 PM, Hains Point Park Police Headquarters. Please make plans to attend as a quorum of members must be present to legally elect your "FEARLESS LEADERS."

The Fall Rock Creek Series -- every Sunday morning in October except October 7th (can't compete with the Pope) will cap off this season's racing program and point the way toward rollers, weights, and speed skating sessions. In addition, NCVC and Montgomery County will promote Bike Binge II (October 28, 1979, 1:00 PM, IBM course) in an effort to bring new stock bike racers into the sport and give local U.S.C.F. riders a chance to use that home court advantage. Larry Black (Washington's latest bicycle entrepreneur) is the coordinator for this event --- don't hesitate to call for an assignment (277-2555).

KEEP 'M' SPININ AND I'LL SEE YOU ON THE BOARDWALK.

Pete



"THE MACHINE" MARRIES

Wheelie ear is happy to report that a quaking Richard Cortland Barnett repeated the magic words to Pamela Cicetta on Aug. 25, thus committing himself to a lifetime of explaining why he needs to ride his bike everyday. The groom, looking spiffy in his protog suit and Duegi shoes, explained that the ball and chain attached after the ceremony would only slow his legendary spin--- not his desire to compete. Wheelie ear understands and hopes he doesn't trip while dumping the garbage. P.S.

"BREAKING AWAY"

"Breaking Away" would be a superb movie even if it didn't involve bicycle racing. The acting is good, the characters endearing and the plot entertaining. Throw in some exciting scenes of competition in the world's greatest sport and you've got a real treat. Don't miss it!!



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