

1. CONNIE PARASKEVIN, Detroit, MI, 54 pts; 2. SHEILA YOUNG-OCROWICZ, Pewaukee, WI, 33; 3. LESLIE MOORE-NITZ, Flushing, NY, 31; 4. Karen Schaugg, St. Claire Shores, MI, 16; 5. Jolanta Goral Elizabeth, NJ, 10; 6. Sylvia Esser, Dayton, OH, 9; 7. Maria Wisser, Allentown, PA, 8; 8. Julie Bogacki, Park Ridge, IL, 8; 9. Janie Brennan, Berkeley, MI, 7; 10. Debbie Melton, Columbia, SC, 2.

## Vets: Montgomery

The Veteran's 50km 36-lap race saw defending champion Jim Montgomery (NCVC/Peugeot/Georgetown) put his title right out front. Wearing last year's jersey, he was an easy target for 35 other riders wanting something red-white-and-blue to wear for the coming season.

The 37-year-old champ didn't need to worry. He rolled up enough points to nearly double second place finisher Joe Saling. Announcer for the other events, Saling left his microphone long enough to retain his silver medal, beating third place Neil King by one point.

Montgomery said he was in better shape now than he had been during his military days 10 years ago when he started racing. He credited his success to desire and a training schedule including short hard workouts and lots of weight training, off-season and on. For trivia buffs, he said he rode the whole distance in a 92-inch gear.

The Saling-Montgomery duel began early, with Saling showing his track skills and then some. Montgomery complained loudly each of the first laps that Saling was failing to hold a line and on the 32-to-go sprint Montgomery was moved nearly half the street width by his crafty opponent.

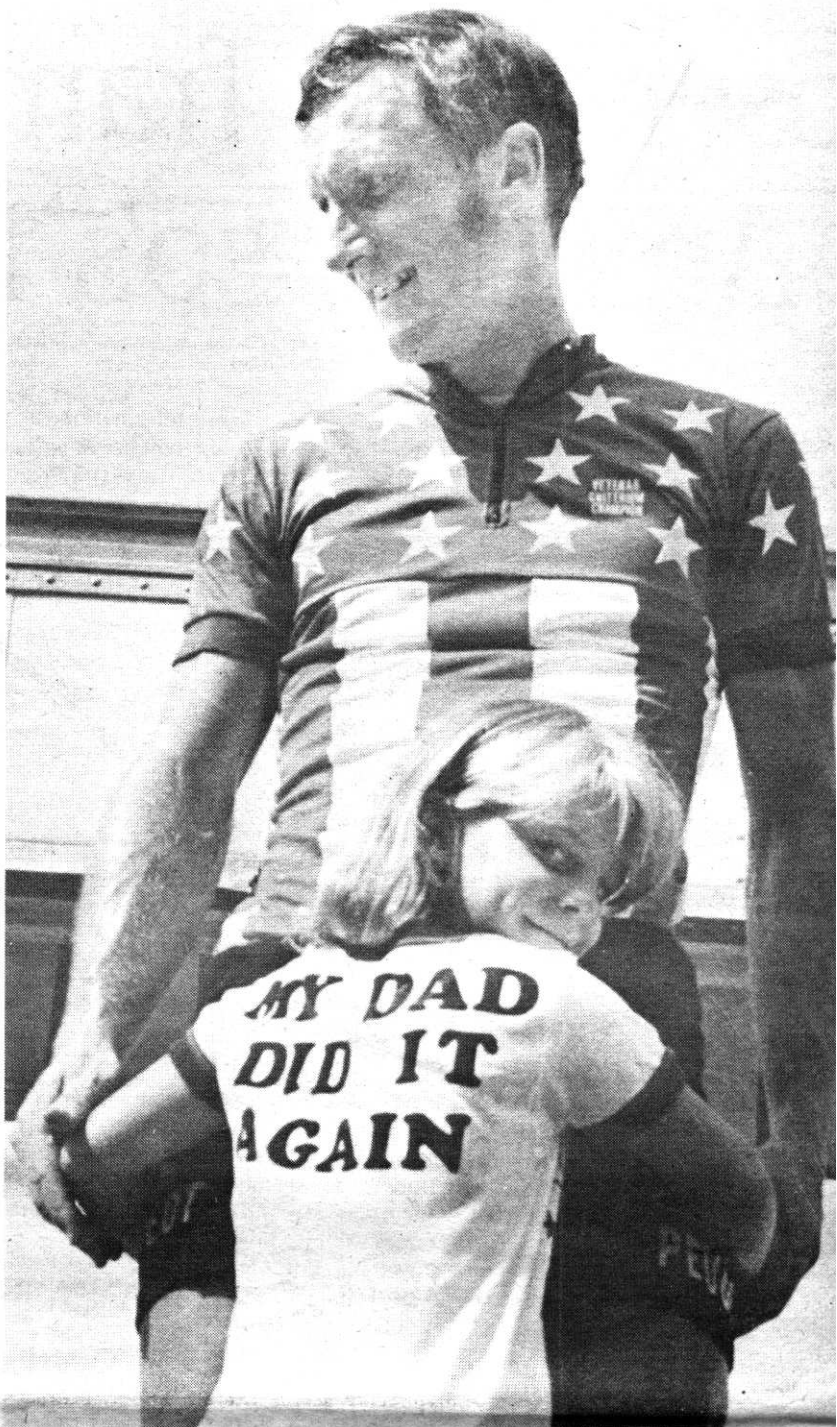
During the next lap chief official Beth Estes warned Saling for rough riding. Two laps later he wasn't in the bunch, leaving many to fear someone had taken him out of the race. As it turned out, a surprise pothole had caught Saling unawares. The medical team patched up his scrapes and he returned to the race after a free lap.

No one was able to make any breakaways stick though riders seemed willing to try on almost every lap, hoping to drop the sprinters who were resting up for the next time around. King, Dave Mercer and Charles Moll helped keep the pressure on but Montgomery continued to get the best of both the field and Saling as he stayed near the front constantly, taking lap points and sprints.

At 11 to go Montgomery and Saling both joined a break which rolled up a 10-second gap but no one was really willing to make it work and within three laps the field caught.

On the podium Montgomery was hugged by his six-year-old daughter Jennifer, who showed her faith in her parent's abilities by wearing a T-shirt which read "My dad does it again." King held his 16-month-old daughter Kendra, leaving Saling to explain that his offspring were too big to join him on the stand.

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*JENNIFER MONTGOMERY was so confident of father JIM's skill that she prepared to join him on the podium. The defending champion in the Veterans Montgomery regained his title by a wide margin.*

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