



News from Beyond: Live from ECMC, It's John Kenda!

The finals for the ECMC start in 90 minutes and it has been a great time. The weather has been amazingly cooperative. Highlights of the race include Neal pulling people over for breathalyzer tests - this may be the first time that anyone has been dq'd for being a drunk transvestite in one of these races. We keep getting kicked out of bars for no apparent reason but maybe that's the drunk transvestite thing coming up again. It was probably good that we left the IRA bar that we had inadvertently stumbled into when we did, though.

Our Irish hosts have been most welcoming and I think everyone is having a really good time. There aren't a ton of racers here which is too bad as the whole Glasgow/Dublin race experience has been amazingly fun. Plus Damon has finally been reunited with his friend, the Bummy Doll. Oh, what tales the Bummy Doll could tell. Both the Irish and the Scots have gone way out of their way to honor our recently deceased friend "Big Gay" Al Johnston from Toronto - they both put a logo for Al on the event shirts as well as naming checkpoints after him here in Dublin. I brought Al's bag here and raced with it one day and a bunch of other folks have raced with it as well. I hope he is somehow able to see how much people thought of him. In any event, I am manning the Kryptonite checkpoint and so I had better stop rambling on and get to the course. Al's memorial site has been updated. Check it at <http://www.ahalenia.com/memorial/ajohnston.html> and check out Damon and the Bummy Doll's tearful reunion at: www.ahalenia.com/glas-gopolo/bummy.html

VARIABLE GEARS ARE ONLY FOR PEOPLE OVER FORTY FIVE.

ISN'T IT BETTER TO TRIUMPH BY THE STRENGTH OF YOUR MUSCLES RATHER THAN BY THE ARTIFICE OF A DERAILLEUR?

WE ARE GETTING SOFT. GIVE ME A FIXED GEAR."

HENRI DESGRANGE,



Damon on the prowl

photo by Kyle

COGNITION IS PROUD TO ANNOUNCE the Niels (Bones) Miller Memorial Messenger RELIEF FUND!

Thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor, the SFBMA has established a relief fund for injured messengers, based on the following qualifications:

1. Any messenger injured on or off the job may apply for an one time relief check of up to \$500 per injury based on need, to be used for, but not limited to, paying medical expenses, rent, food cost and other general living expenses.
2. The injured messenger must apply in person, or if not able to, may send a representative to present case of need to the general body of the SFBMA at the general meeting.
3. Allotments must be voted for by a majority of the general body at the general meeting.

The SFBMA welcomes any contributions to the fund along with your regular membership dues, to keep the fund up so it's there for all who may need it.



Jenny with a very large box on top of a very large hill photo by Kyle

Messenger Dictionary!

DERAILLEUR \de-'ra-ler\ noun The mechanism for shifting gears on a bicycle that operates by moving the chain from one set of exposed gears to another. Technically speaking, it's one of the ficklest part of a bike. Its job is to knock the chain from one toothed wheel to another without any backtalk but often is in need of some knocking around itself.

HILL \hill\ noun Nearly impossible to describe, as individual definitions vary so widely. To some it is only the steepest part of the terrain, while to others it's any bump in the road. They are the prime reason the bike gods invented gears and derailleurs. They exist to separate the weak from the strong, the pretenders from the contenders. San Francisco has many famous ones, the tops of which are unknown to quite a few messengers.

Inspired by "The Pedaller's A-Z" on www.bikereader.com <<http://www.bikereader.com>> , used with permission of *Bike Reader's* Scott Munn. Thanks, Scott!



Quarter doing it all photo by Godspeed Graphix

Dr. Crank, the Advice Messenger

Listen up all you dumbasses! I would like to address last month's article. I've heard a lot of disagreement from some people on the street concerning my opinion of the track bike. Unfortunately, no one bothered to write in and tell me what they think. Nonetheless I would like to reiterate some things concerning the subject. My point on this matter is simply this: since the job of the bike courier is to carry all things possible by bike to all areas possible, this task is clearly not best done by use of a track bike. There will always be a need to have large items delivered from one place to another. This is why, if you notice, with multimillion dollar companies like UPS and Fed Ex, you do not see any UPS sport cars out there. This is because in order to carry things they need trucks and by the same logic you need a bike that can actually carry large packages and access every part of the city. Believe me, by attacking the track bike I knew I was attacking one of the main symbols of the rebel courier image; the rogue courier with his no-brake track bike, with no need for gears or anything else due to his extreme cycling skill; but that is all it is, an image. I've spent some time in the dispatcher chair and the best couriers are the ones who can get

the job done, whether it is on top of a hill or not, big box or little envelope. If you disagree then please write or e-mail me back and tell me how great the track bike is; I really want to know. Now for this month's subject. A few months ago I was waiting in the lobby of a downtown building, when some no doubt bored security guard asked me "why is it that some bike couriers dress so shabby?". I've decided this forum would serve as a great place to respond to his rather dipshit-ass question.

A: Listen dumbass, bike couriers dress the way they do because riding a bike all day involves hard work which sometimes causes a liquid substance to be secreted onto the skin called sweat. When you sweat you need comfortable clothing that will stay comfortable when you are sweating. This is not a shirt with a tie and a blazer. Now, I know all you people out there who sit on your ass all day do not understand this, but some of us do jobs that involve physical effort and some of us in the world do not feel an imperative to confine ourselves to your corporate dress code. Now get hot, rookie!

Have a question for Dr. Crank, our all-knowing advice messenger? Send it along to *Cognition*.

"PERHAPS THE BEST REASON TO ENJOY HILL CLIMBING IS THAT IT HAS SOMETHING ALL GREAT SPORTS POSSESS: THE MARRIAGE OF BRUTE STRENGTH AND FINELY HONED TECHNIQUE."— STEVE CASIMIRO

"WHY DO YOU THROW A ROCK AT A SPEED FREAK ON A BIKE? BECAUSE IT'S YOUR BIKE" — FROM JERRY FOUNTAIN (WESTERN)

POPQUIZ! ANSWERS FROM ISSUE #30

POP QUIZ!!#1: HIS KNUCKLE-DRAGGER NICE TIM MIGHT LOOK LIKE A CAVEMAN, BUT HE ACTUALLY HOLDS A DEGREE FROM USF. WHAT IS IT IN? ANSWER: PHOTOGRAPHY!



POP QUIZ!!#2 JAMIE IS TAKING HIS WHITE-ASS BACK TO HIS NATIVE LAND. CAN YOU NAME WHAT CITY AND COUNTRY JAMIE IS MOVING TO? ANSWER: TORONTO, CANADA



! NEW POP QUIZ!!

JUNE '02 POP QUIZ!!#1 KNOWN AS TWICE THE MAN OF MOST MEN TAJ HAS TWICE BEEN FIRED FROM ONE COMPANY. WHAT COMPANY IS IT? ANSWER: IN THE NEXT COGNITION



JUNE '02 POP QUIZ!!#2 BEFORE BECOMING A MESSENGER STUD, QUARTER WAS IN THE ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY. IN WHAT CAPACITY? ANSWER: IN THE NEXT COGNITION