

What a Delight, It's the Westside Invite

BY NICE TIM

(CON'T FROM PAGE ONE)



Young Kyle showing how it all began

photo by Shepard photo works

at least 20 people showing up, and it's probably safe to say S.F. dominated the events. Most notable was taking top place in both categories in the main race with Super Mike winning men's and Sarah women's. They both won airfare to Copenhagen, Denmark for C.M.W.C. 2002! It wasn't surprising that Erik Zo handily won the cargo race. What was unexpected was to see him borrow a track bike and muscle his way through the sprints only to be beaten in the final heat, reminding us of why he deserves to be the self-proclaimed icon that he is.

Not to be outdone, the representatives of the One Post fixie crew stomped everyone in the shit-talkin department while still doing respectfully well in the fixie contests. Timmy nearly won the skid contest, skidding an extra 60yrs on an exploded tire. I also think that Brue and Lil' Chris almost set a record for exposing themselves at a public function, which is saying a lot. Portland is a really cool place. I'm not too surprised that I've seen quite a few people I know gravitate toward it. It's a cozy city where you can always find a porch to kick back on, and it's mostly flat for relaxed riding to anywhere you need to get to. They've also got several co-op bike shops one of which, Bike Central, is right downtown and has a lounge for messengers to spend their standby time in. I highly recommend making a trip up if you can. The people are very cool and you can go to the Delta restaurant to eat ribs and blackened catfish while drinking a P.B.R. 40 from a bucket, then go to the bar 2 doors down and clean out their stock of Olympia stubbies for only a buck and quarter each. Try that in S.F.



photo: Nato

HAVEN'T WE BEEN HERE BEFORE?

by Nato Green

CONT'D FROM P.

would notice. In any case, he has all the charm of a velociraptor in a mall.)
The truth is that ProMess has been dragging out contract negotiations since October. Some (mostly non-economic) improvements were made in the contract: better safety language, a better grievance process, and including partners in health care and vacation plans (is that a first for messengers?). However, as of last week, they were still insisting on an open shop, mandatory drug testing, and essentially no real raises over a three-year contract. We politely invited them to blow us.

The ProMess negotiating committee has wanted to give the process a chance, but now it's war. Paying people to bust the union made us madder than Willie Brown at Critical Mass, and it broke the law. That's why we pulled a 3-hour unfair labor practice strike on Friday, May 24. Participation by the in-town boards was strong and the mood on the picket line was very positive. This strike was only the beginning of a major escalation of pressure and spite that will come down on ProMess and Joel Ritch. And then we'll see...

The moral of the story is that organizing doesn't end, it just ebbs. While you folks at other companies (Western, Special T, First Legal) make up your minds about whether or not to unionize, remember the significance of ProMess to the whole business. Pro is the larger of the two union companies, and the more viciously anti-worker. Since 1998, the ILWU has helped improve working conditions and the public profile and political clout of messengers, and if the union gets busted at Pro that sets everybody back to square one.

So for now, call 1-800-PRO-MESS and tell Joel Ritch what you think of him. Urge any Silver Bullet folks who are at Pro to stick with the union. And watch for Pro riders and drivers in town, and let them know you support their right to a better future. For more information or to stay up to date, call (415) 775-0533 x148.

The Courier Disaster Response Team is Becoming Stronger

BY SERENITY ENRIQUEZ

With more and more messengers and cyclists completing the requirements to become CDTs (Courier Disaster Technicians), the Courier Disaster Response Team (CDRT) is taking shape and becoming a very interesting organization. Each individual brings their skills and unique character to CDRT and each team member enhances it. If you haven't taken the free NERT training yet, why not?! Call NERT at 558-3456 or visit them online at www.sf-nert.org

This month CDRT will be hosting another one of their challenging Disaster Alley Cat Races! Saturday, June 29th at noon, meet CDRT at the tennis courts at Alamo Square Park (Steiner and Fulton). Join us as we traverse San Francisco throughout the afternoon and finish with a raffle! Rain or Shine! Entry fee is \$5 with no one turned away for lack of funds. Volunteers are still being sought after, as well as ideas for checkpoints and activities. Would you like to donate a prize or be a volunteer on the race day? Then email Serenity Enriquez at sf_cdt@yahoo.com or page her at -415-807-3416.

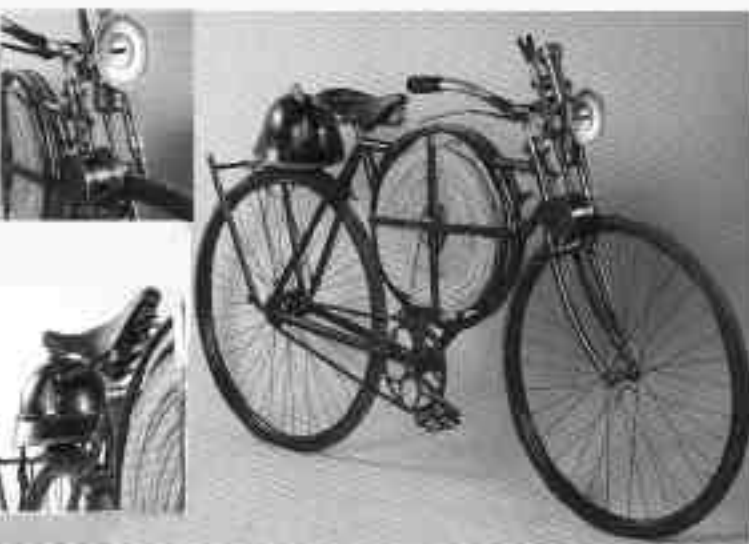
The next CDRT meeting will be held at the Bike Hut on the Embarcadero at Townsend on Tuesday, June 18th. Join us at 6:30pm to be involved in the policy making and the planning process of the Courier Disaster Response Team. You have heard how valuable being a licensed amateur radio operator is, now go out there and get your license! In Foster City on Saturday, July 20 from 8:30am-5pm, there will be a study session followed by the exam. It's only a \$25 fee and your license is good for ten years. Call or email the Coordinator, Ross Peterson at 650-349-5349 or wb6zbu@arlnet. The Courier Disaster Response Team is looking for Volunteer Officers. Open positions include Secretary, Membership Coordinator, and Training Coordinator. If you are interested in any one of these positions, or know someone that might be, email or page Serenity at the contact information given above.

VOLUNTEER POSITION JOB DESCRIPTIONS: SECRETARY- attends CDRT MEETINGS AND TAKES MINUTES, ASSISTS CHIEF AND OTHER VOLUNTEERS WITH ADMINISTRATIVE ASPECTS OF THE CDRT. MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR (MC) -RECRUITS NEW VOLUNTEERS, AND MAINTAINS BOTH SOFT AND HARD COPY FILES ON VOLUNTEERS THAT INCLUDE THEIR CONTACT INFORMATION AND ACTIVITY PARTICIPATION. WORKS WITH THE TC TO ENSURE THAT ALL CDTs ARE TRAINED APPROPRIATELY. TRAINING COORDINATOR (TC)-WORKS WITH MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR TO ENSURE THAT ALL CDTs UNDERGO APPROPRIATE TRAINING, AND KEEP TRACK OF WHAT TRAINING THEY HAVE RECEIVED. TC WILL ALSO KEEP CDTs AND CYCLISTS AT LARGE UPDATED ON UPCOMING TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES THROUGH EMAILS, A BI-MONTHLY CALENDAR, WORD-OF-MOUTH, AND MAILINGS. THESE POSITIONS FORM THE BEGINNING OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD FOR CDRT. MEETINGS BETWEEN THESE VOLUNTEERS AND THE CHIEF WILL OCCUR TO DISCUSS WAYS TO CARRY OUT EACH VOLUNTEER'S DUTIES AND ASSURE TEAMWORK AND COMMUNICATION.

Fireman's Bicycle

Built in 1905 at the workshops of Birmingham Small Arms in Great Britain, this model was designed for firemen on duty in petrochemical plants. It has a hose coiler inside the frame, a nozzle, and a pulley block.

Detail: A) The siren, activated by clicking the brake lever into its first position.
B) The fireman's helmet.



DA
Ne
BOY

