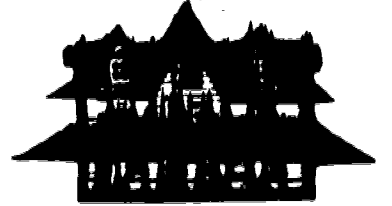


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From ocean to ocean on a bike

by Karen F. Oliver-Howell

It's every biker's dream - to take the Big Trip. The Big Trip Megan Glor of Scotch Plains dreamed of was an arduous one. To Megan, the best of all possible vacations would

be to cross the United States from ocean to ocean on her bike.

Megan brought her dream to life this summer when she and her sister, Bronwin Glor, also of Scotch Plains, took a bike

vacation that began at the Pacific Ocean in Anacortes, Washington and ended 56 days later on the shores of the Atlantic Ocean at Sandy Hook, New Jersey. They biked, hiked, and camped, spent a night in a luxury hotel in Minneapolis, and had the times of their lives for the entire two months.

To prepare for the trip, the women trained for about 10 months on Nautilus equipment, swam, and biked about 200 miles a week along a back-road route that included the Great Swamp, Chatham, and Morristown. In June, they boxed their bikes, flew out to Washington, and got on the road.

They rode Trek touring bikes, which are more comfortable than racing bikes for long-distance riding. The tent, sleeping bag, and other equipment each woman attached to her bike weighed about 35 pounds. "We didn't train with a load so the first two

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Megan Glor (left) and her sister Bronwin on the road with their bikes.



Bronwin Glor (left) and her sister Megan end their cross-country bike trip with a dip in the Atlantic Ocean.

The smell of the composte, the roar of the airplanes

by Patricia R. Mundth

At the Sept. 12th meeting of the Scotch Plains Town Council Mayor Joan Papen announced the formation of an airplane noise committee. Six residents of Scotch Plains have been appointed to this committee which will work with the Council as it continues to address the problem of airplane noise.

Members of the S.P. Council met with representatives of the FAA yesterday. Councilman Alan Augustine said that there was a positive tone to this third meeting with the FAA. By the close of that meeting the Council had assurances from the FAA that there will be a significant reduction in the amount of air traffic over Scotch Plains on Oct. 1 when a new flight plan goes into effect. There will be a 120 day trial period for the new plan as there has been for the current East Coast Plan. Mayor Papen stated that the Council had tentatively

scheduled a march on Newark Airport. However, in view of the new plan going into effect on Oct. 1, she recommended postponing the march until the plan has been evaluated. Councilman Gabriel Spera charged the new ad hoc committee on airplane noise with keeping alive the tremendous momentum that has built among 25 municipalities whose residents are concerned about Scotch Plains' current air traffic problem and how they can keep it from spreading to their towns.

There was much discussion concerning an ordinance that had been tabled at the Aug. 15th Council meeting which would allow the Township to lease land from the Jerseyland Parks Community Center for the purpose of operating a leaf composting facility. The arguments of citizens both for and against this leasing of land were characterized by discrepancies. Residents whose property

is near the proposed site complained about odors from the existing site while members of the Board of Trustees of Jerseyland Parks whose facility borders the current site stated that there were no odors. It was suggested that perhaps the odors were coming from other areas. One resident complained that the current composte facility was used as a dump for couches, mattresses and refrigerators. Again, the Jerseyland Board Members refuted this claim. Ultimately, Mayor Papen pointed out that there are sufficient escape clauses within the lease which would enable both the township and Jerseyland Parks to terminate it if either party were dissatisfied. The Mayor also pointed to the fact that the composting facility would continue to be operated with strictly organic matter. No chemicals have been or will be used at the site. The ordinance, which

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High School Cadets win worldwide contest

Air Force Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps cadets from Detachment NJ-821, Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School, have won the Air Force Junior ROTC Contest, sponsored by the Aerospace Education Foundation.

The theme for this year's contest is "Why We Serve". The Scotch Plains cadets' entry was selected as the best overall of 170 entries. Air Force Junior ROTC units from across the country and from American schools in Europe submitted entries in four categories: videotape, essay, sound/slide, and artwork.

The Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School winning entry, in the artwork category, is an airbrush painting of the American Flag inset with pictures depicting pride, tradition, honor, esprit de corps, duty, responsibility, patriotism, and democracy. Accompanying the artwork is a poem describing these traditions.

The artist, Cadet Hai Ngo, a 1989 graduate of Scotch Plains-Fanwood High, is a former resident of Saigon, South Vietnam. He and his family were among the "boat people" who fled the country in 1977. Despite minor communication problems, Hai volunteered for this project because of his sincere love of America and the freedom this country has given him and his family.

Major Eugene Pearson, USAF (Ret.), Aerospace Science Instructor at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School and his Assistant Aerospace Science Instructor, CMSgt. Robert Rybitski, USAF (Ret.), were elated when told about their cadets' victory. "The cadets really put their hearts into this year's theme," Pearson said.

"This year, not only did we win two out of four categories, and the overall contest, but over the past seven years, we have been a category winner six times and overall contest winner

three times," Rybitski said. "We have a lot to be proud of!"

The final judges who chose the overall winner from among the four category winners include: Maj. Gen. Roger P. Sheer, Chief - Air Force Reserves; Brig. Gen. Phillip G. Killey, Director - Air National Guard; and The Honorable Karen R. Keesling, Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Manpower and Reserve Affairs.

For their effort, the Aerospace Education Foundation, an affiliate of the Air Force Association (AFA), will award the unit a \$1,000 first prize and a plaque to mark their achievement. Maj. Pearson, Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School Principal Dr. Terry Riegel, Chief Rybitski and two AFJROTC cadets will be invited to the AFA's National Convention, September 17-21, 1989, in Washington, DC where they will be honored for their effort.

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