



CRIMSON

Florida Institute of Technology's Student Newspaper

Volume XXVIII, Number 21

March 17, 1995

Pedaling for the Planet

Late last month Steve Smith age 28 and Jason Lewis age 27 arrived at Miami, completing the first pedal powered boat crossing of the Atlantic Ocean to America. The two young men are now making cycling up the coast of Florida and will arrive here at Florida Tech on Wednesday, March 22, 1995 where they will conduct a special lecture where they will share their experiences on their voyage thus far. The event will take place in A 110 in the Aeronautics building at 7:30 pm.

These two young En-

glishmen departed from Portugal on the 13th of October and have "cycled" over 4,500 nautical miles in their 26 foot craft to be able to reach the U.S.

The expedition aims to circumnavigate the earth using only human power, and visit schools in each of the 18 countries it passes through with its pro-environmental message, arranged through UNESCO. On July 12, 1994 Steve Smith and Jason Lewis set off from the Greenwich Meridian in London, UK, in an attempt to

See Expedition page 2

become the first people to achieve what has been dubbed "the ultimate human challenge".

Using mountain bikes for the land based sections and their specially developed pedal boat for the sea and ocean crossings, the two intrepid explorers intend to write themselves into the record books. In an age where there are very few "firsts" left to achieve; traveling the 29,000 miles around the globe will establish Steve and Jason amongst the highest calibre of achievers.

Following their arrival in

Boulogne, France, Steve and Jason mounted their cycles and traveled through France, Spain, and Portugal. Arriving in Portugal on the south west Atlantic coast in September, final preparations were made to the boat and on October 13, 1994 Steve and Jason departed from Portugal en route to Florida U.S.A.

On 26 January, 1995, after 97 days at sea and 4,000 miles covered, Steve and Jason arrived in the Caribbean island of Providenciales - part of the Turks and Caicos chain. The pair were given a

heroes welcome by local school children and described their feelings of being ashore as "overwhelming". Following a few days in which they carried out some maintenance to the boat and restocked with supplies, the expedition departed for Florida.

After a period of recuperation and reorientation on arrival, Jason and Steve will begin the second phase of their epic journey as they cycle across the states, head north to Alaska and embark on the next ocean traverse across the Pacific.