

May 1999

# Adventure

## Cyclist

### HIGH COUNTRY CLASSROOM

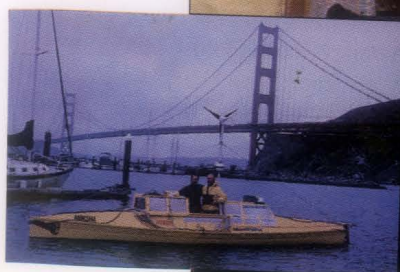
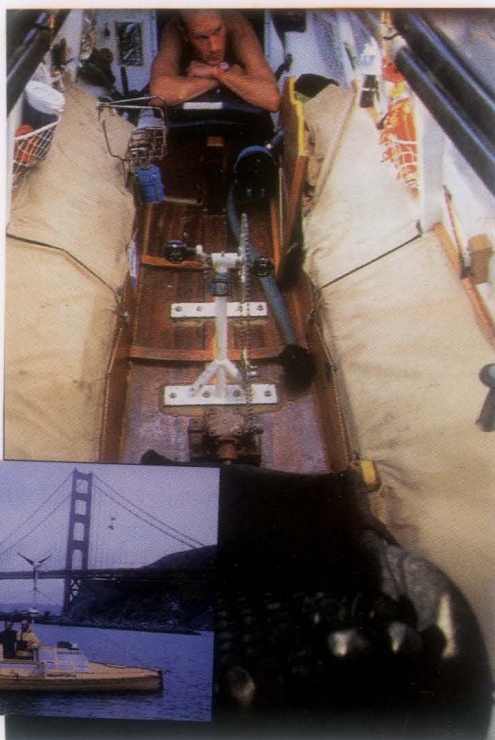
During the summers of 1999 and 2000, a group of 13- to 16-year-old students will travel on bicycles from Canada to Mexico on the 2,500-mile Great Divide Mountain Bike Route. The first summer they'll ride from the Canadian border as far as Colorado. The following summer they will resume their journey in Colorado

and head south to the Mexican border at Antelope Wells, New Mexico. The group will carry all of their supplies in panniers or in bicycle trailers, occasionally meeting up with a four-wheel-drive vehicle to re-supply.

The journey is one in a series organized by Educational Safaris, which since 1982 has sent small groups of independent young travelers to explore East Africa, Europe, the Pacific Rim, and North America. The annual adventures are coordinated by Jim and Robin Brady of Lompoc, California, but the trips are led by the students themselves.

Daunting as the prospect of riding the Great Divide is, bagging miles is not the primary focus. The mission of Educational Safaris is to inspire students to broaden their intellectual horizons. To learn more, contact Jim or Robin Brady, (805) 736-5668, [jth3@sbms.sbceo.k12.ca.us/](mailto:jth3@sbms.sbceo.k12.ca.us/)

Pedal for the Planet utilizes the world's only pedal-powered ocean vessel.



### Around the World in 3,600 Days

Some 6,000 miles into the first around-the-world trip to be completely human-powered, the ongoing saga known as Pedal for the Planet changed focus — from getting the trip done to getting the most out of it. Now, a bicycle excursion originally scheduled to last two years and end in 1996 will likely last well into the next millennium.

Steve Smith and Jason Lewis began their pilgrimage in London on July 12, 1994. After spinning through Europe to Portugal, they climbed into the world's only pedal-powered ocean vessel, a 30-foot craft they helped design, and took off for Miami.

Upon landing in Florida, Steve rode a bicycle to San Francisco while Jason in-line skated to Pueblo, Colorado, where he was almost killed by a car. Lack of funds combined with the nine-month healing process delayed the expedition, giving its leaders time for serious thought. Already visiting schools to raise money for a British charity, they decided to accept personal donations (but no corporate sponsorship). They also decided to open their adventure to anyone who wanted to participate.

In January 1996, Steve, Jason and three others left San Francisco on a journey toward Peru. Once there, they decided not to launch their pedal-powered boat toward the South Pacific as originally planned, but to return to San Francisco and point their sea-going pedals at Hawaii instead. The first attempt nearly cost them their lives, as the boat was crippled during a storm while they were far out to sea.

But in December 1998, a refitted boat made the crossing. While taking a long rest in Hawaii, crew members began a series of side trips as they readied themselves for the next leg, which will take them south to Australia, Indonesia, and Asia.

To learn more or to inquire about participating in The Pedal for the Planet Expedition, call (800) 943-0114. Updates are posted regularly at <http://www.goals.com>

—Drew Walker