

short sightings

SAN FRANCISCO — The pedal-powered boat Moksha departed San Francisco on Saturday, November 23, for Half Moon Bay and points south. But plans have changed for the two English adventurers who began Pedal the Planet, the world's first muscle-only round-the-world trip in June of 1994. For the time being, Steve Smith and Jason Lewis have gone their separate ways. The former has returned to Ireland, while the latter was at the peddles of Moksha as she edged under the Golden Gate. Smith may rejoin certain legs of the trip once the boat gets to the South Pacific.

In the meantime, Lewis has invited 'guest' peddlers to accompany him down the coast. Sherri Strange was aboard for the Half Moon Bay trip, and

several others are lined up.

Moksha was originally scheduled to go to Long Beach as part of her shakedown cruise. (The boat has not been used since the pair landed in Miami in October of 1994. The boys crossed the country by land, Steve by bicycle and Jason by roller blades as far as Colorado, where he was hit by a drunk driver and spent nine months recuperating from two broken legs. Ironically, the boat was also damaged in an unrelated traffic accident and needed repairs, which were done here in the Bay Area.) Jason now feels that, due to personnel changes, this phase of the voyage will probably now end in Santa Cruz or Monterey. Then the boat will go onto its trailer again for the trip to Ecuador. Jason will bike down to meet it, whereupon he and a crew yet to be chosen will depart for the Marquesas. Smith may come back for one or more of the legs to Australia. Then it's on to Malaysia, France and back home to England by 1998.

There is no sailing involved in this venture, but it is so original, loosely planned and inspired that we couldn't help but be caught up by the excitement of it. You can follow the adventure on the World Wide Web at this address:

http://www.tach.net/public/orgs/pedal/pedalplant.html/.