'The only thing constant is change'



5627 University Way NE • Seattle • 206-527-4822 • <u>www.rodcycle.com</u>

THE NEWSLETTER OF CYCLING VALUES MARCH 2005!

HERE WE GO AGAIN

Last February we experienced record sales. In fact, I wrote an article for the newsletter titled 'All We Can Say Is Wow!!' Well, here we go again, another sunny February, and another record year! I don't know if it's the beautiful weather, or a renewed interest in road, touring and tandem bicycling, but what ever it is, we're thrilled!

This year is a little different in that we are better prepared for a busy year. We've stocked up on bikes (we ran out in March last year), and hired some fantastic new staff. We've also made some huge changes in our frame building department in order to accomodate the phenominal resurgance of road and tandem cycling in our area! (See page 8)

Expo went great this year, and attendance was up from last year (another good sign). We loved seeing all of the familiar faces there. It always feels like a family reunion in the booth. We also want to extend a special thanks to those who loaned us their personal bicycles for display at the show.

R+E Cycles 5627 University Way NE Seattle WA, 98105

206.527.4822 fax 206.52.78931

email Sales@rodcycle.com <u>www.rodcycle.com</u>

HOURS

Sunday - Closed Monday - Closed Tuesday - 12-6 Wednesday - 12-6 Thursday - 12-6 Friday - 12-6 Saturday - 10-5 By Appointment - anytime

What's Hot This Season:

Well, the **Willie Weir travel bikes** (Page 5) have quickly become the favorite choice of the travelling cyclist, and are showing strong growth

again this season. Several couples have bought them as a pair and done some great tours here and abroad. You can read some of their stories in our online scrapbook at <u>www.rodcycle.com</u>



The **Rodriguez S3 Ultralight bikes** (Page 4) are extremely popular, and were a huge hit at Seattle bike Expo. A steel bike that weighs in under 16 pounds is quite an amazing creation. You can read some of the stuff that current owners have to say about these bikes on our online scrapbook.

Of course the **Stellar bikes for women** are still the best fitting, most popular women's bikes around. This year, we're much better prepared (we have built them up over the winter) so you or your friends won't have to wait for 6 weeks to pick up a new Stellar bike.



Tandems, which started out huge last season, are off to an even better start this season. As I write this, Dennis and Jenny are welding 12 of them together and I think that's probably the biggest backlog since 1996.



Sure the bikes are great, but what's really great is **our customers**. We appreciate that you've been telling your friends about us, and we want to thank you for that. Without your support we couldn't do what we do.

Use this coupon to get one Polar F1 heart rate monitor for 1/2 price. It has all of the basic functions. It comes ready to use with a chest strap. Pog. \$20



320 or the



a chest strap. Reg. \$80 *Hurry, Limited Supply With Coupon just \$40*

No cash value. Limited to stock on hand. Coupon expires April 16th 2005

Use this coupon to save \$35 when you
buy a Park TS-7 wheel truing stand
(reg. \$110) along with 'the bicycle
wheel' book (reg. \$25). You can learn
how to build and true wheels. Hurry, we
only have one!
Get both for just \$99

No cash value. Limited to stock on hand. Coupon expires April 16th 2005

OU GOTTA WEAR S Use this coupon to save S Get 2 pair of sunglasses t price of one!



1.

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I WANT THOSE BIG FAST WHEELS!



A recent question came my way about 650c wheels being "slower" than "traditional" 700c wheels. This is not a new question. It has been a topic of conversation at least since the late 80's when many triathlon-specific bikes started using smaller wheels. However, let me give you my view on 650c wheels since I've been racing on this wheel size for 10 years.

When I started cycling 15 years ago I bought a 49cm road bike with 700c wheels (I'm 5'5"). The first thing I noticed was how "out of proportion" the wheels looked on the bike, especially after I purchased a shorter stem to reduce the reach to the handlebars. I also noticed that my front wheel would hit my foot if I turned it very far. There was a pretty sizeable pedal/wheel overlap that was caused by trying to fit "big wheels" on my "little" frame.

Using 650c wheels for smaller frames makes a lot of sense and results in a better fit for the rider. The top tube can be made shorter and the smaller wheels allow for a better head tube/fork rake design. As a result the bike can still be made to handle like a Porsche instead of a station wagon. How "fast" a bike is has everything to do with fit and rider position.

But smaller wheels are SLOWER some say! This could not be further from the truth. Is a monster truck with it's HUGE wheels faster than a Mustang with it's "normal" size wheels? Why not? Because wheel size is not the primary factor in determining speed.

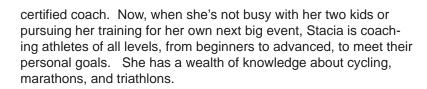
Without getting too technical, it is important to remember that the speed at which a wheel turns is based on the combination of gear ratio (front chainring to rear cog ratio), pedaling cadence, and the circumference of the rear wheel. In cycling terminology there is a concept called "gear inches". This term refers to the distance the rear wheel travels with one revolution of the crank. The more "gear inches" the harder the bike is to pedal. A 650c wheel will travel approximately 3 inches less than a 700c wheel when turned by the same gear ratio. However, it will be easier to pedal (fewer gear inches) so the rider will either pedal faster (increase the cadence) or switch to a slightly larger gear, either of which will equal out the effort. The end result is that the rider will typically "push" the same amount of "gear inches" regardless of which size wheel is on the bike.

Enough of all the techno jargon. Am I slower on my 650c wheels? Hardly. I've been racing for 12 years and last season had the fastest bike split at two local triathlons. I also had the 2nd fastest bike split at Danskin (fastest in the Elite wave - 3rd overall in the race). Both my race and training bikes have 650c wheels with 50/34 compact crank set-ups and 11-23 rear cassettes. More importantly, both my bikes fit and allow excellent, fatigue-reducing positioning.

I went out to the garage the other day and hopped on that first road bike just to see what it felt like to ride 700c wheels after all these years on 650c. It felt like I was riding my big brothers bike! Very bulky and awkward compared to my nimble handling 650c machines.

Remember the best bike for YOU is the one that fits you! If speed is what you are seeking FIT always wins out over frame material, weight, componentry, and yes, wheel size. I can't count the number of athletes I see in races and long events who are 'sitting up' on the top of their bars due to discomfort from a poor fit. Get a bike that fits, train right, and attend one of my classes to learn more bike skills so that you will be faster on your 650c bike!

- Stacia



Look for her Women's Cycling Clinics on the next page.

By the way, I looked up her split for the Danskin last year, and it was almost 24 miles per hour.

Stacia's Triathlon Training Plan for Intermediate Triathletes

<u>ABOUT STACIA</u>

Stacia McInnes is no stranger to a lot of you who have been our customers for a long time. She was our retail manager for 2 years (1996-1997) until she left to have a couple of munchkins.

Stacia is an Ironman triathlete and has worked as a personal trainer. While working as a personal trainer, she decided to pursue her passion for triathlons and marathons and became a

for Beginners

Stacia's Triathlon

Training Plan

Only \$25

This pre-written, 12-week training plan will help you:
Structure your workouts with adequate rest
Perform better with less effort
Make your first Triathlon a positive experience!
It's written with the new triathlete in mind and it's only available from R+E Cycles.



This pre-written, 12-week training plan will help you:

Structure your workouts with adequate rest• Perform better with less effort
Make your next Triathlon a better performance It's written with the intermediate triathlete in mind and it's only available from R+E Cycles.



2. R+E CYCLES • HOME OF RODRIGUEZ HAND BUILT BICYCLES • <u>www.rodcycle.com</u>

STACIA'S BIKE CLINICS FOR WOMEN

The Rodriguez Women's Bicycle clinics are designed for women of all abilities. You'll learn skills, drills, and techniques from Stacia McInnes, a certified triathlon coach and 4 time Ironman finisher. It does not matter how fast or fit you are, or what kind of bike you currently have. Everyone has fun and learns a lot.

We have two different clinics for different abilites:

The basic riding and handling clinic is the same one that we did last June. It is for women who are new to the sport. If you want to learn the basics of cycling or have some questions about how to be comfortable on your bike, this ones

The Advanced Cycling Technique clinic is for more advanced riders. In this clinic I'll teach pace lining, intervals, hill climbing in an advanced setting. We will leave from R+E Cycles and ride around Mercer Island.

for you.

All women's clinics are conducted in a positive and nonthreatening environment. The cost is only \$35 -\$45

Again it does not matter how fit you are, just that you are ready to tackle some more advanced cycling and training concepts.

Along with all that you learn, these clinics are really fun.



Level 1 clinic (Indoor) \$35

On Tuesday, March 29th, 6:30 to 8:00pm Tuesday, June 14th, 6:30 to 8:00pm

- bring your bike and we'll cover:
- How to fix a flat tire
- Sample indoor training plan
- Nutrition and gear recommended
- The secrets to being comfortable on your bike
- Question and answer period
- Class size is limited to 25 women

Basic Riding & Handling Skills (Outdoor) \$45

On Tuesday, April 12th, 6:00 to 7:30pm bring your road bike and we'll practice:

- Starting and stopping
- Basic cornering skills
- Grabbing your water bottle while riding
- How to shift your bike
- Question and answer period
- Class size is limited to 20 women

Women's Triathlon Clinic (Indoor) \$35

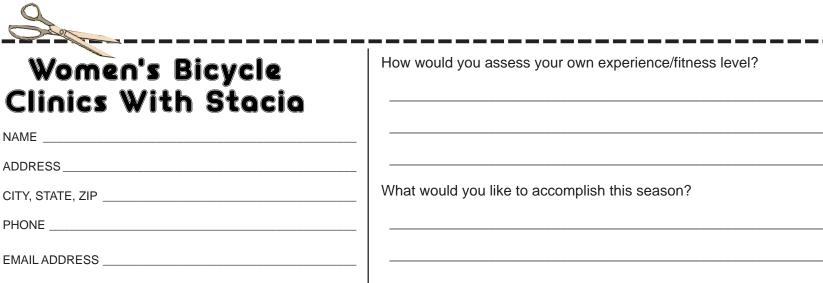
On Tuesday, April 19th, 6:00 to 7:30pm we'll discuss:

- Goal setting picking the right race for you
- Swim basics gear
- Bike basics bike fit & gear
- Run basics gear
- Sample training plan
- Class size is limited to 25

Advanced Cycling Technique (Outdoor) \$45

On Tuesday, May 10th, 6:00 to 7:30pm bring your road bike and we'll ride:

- Drafting
- Pacelines
- Hill interval training
- How to ride FAST
- Question and answer period
- Class size is limited to 20 women







March 29th (\$35) April 12th (\$45)	What is the part that you think you need the most help with?	
HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO PAY?		
CHECK (ENCLOSED) MAKE PAYABLE TO R+E CYCLES		
UISA/MC # EXP. DATE	To Register: Fill out, cut out, and send it to us at	R+E Cycles 5627 University Way NE Seattle, WA 98105
		or fax it to 206-527-8931
EXP. DATE		

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3.

THE BIKES THAT 'STEEL' THE SHOW!

When I ordered the bike I stated that I wanted a bike that had both performance and comfort. You guys delivered!......My sincere thanks for building one of the best bikes on the planet!"

Mike M.- after riding 230 miles on his Rodriguez S3

This is the type of thing that customers are saying about their new S3 road bikes from Rodriguez.

Ever notice how other manufacturers compare their light weight frames to the ride and feel of a classic steel frame? That's because steel is more comfortable to ride on the road. The goal is to make a frame as light as possible that someone can still ride comfortably for long distances. Carbon fiber and aluminum have a well deserved reputation for feeling 'dead' on the road. Back when steel frames weighed 5 pounds or more people were willing to put up with a 'dead' feeling bike in order to have a frame weight of 3 to 3 1/2 pounds.

I myself even gave in to the pressure and rode a 3.1 pound aluminum

frame for about 2 years back in the early 90's. I called it my '50 miler' because after 50 miles my hands (and other stuff) had gone numb. Then I would have to get off and recover before continuing. Oh how I longed for the comfort of my old Reynolds 531 Peugot. I tried many tricks to make it more comfortable. I put in a carbon seat post, a different fork, and I even double

Price Frame Fork Derailleurs Shift/Brake Levers Brakes Cranks Hubs Seat Paint

wrapped the handlebars, but it became clear to me that my 'aging frame' needed a different kind of bicycle frame.

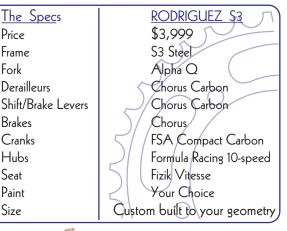
In the mean time Reynolds and True Temper were pioneering some incredible new steels that enabled bike builders to build 3.5 pound frames out of steel. I had one made for myself in 1994 and what a treat! I could ride STP again and still feel refreshed enough to be the one who drove back from Portland (while everyone else slept and recovered in the back of the van). My hands didn't go numb. My riding speed was faster because of comfort, and my time off the bike recovering was all but eliminated. I didn't even care that my new frame was 6 ounces heavier than my '50 miler'.

Now for the HUGE news!

For 2005, we're offering a bike that is LIGHTER than titanium, aluminum or even most carbon fiber bikes. Our S3 bike

rides like steel because it IS steel. We've built several of these now, and the lightest to date is just under 16 pounds as a

complete bike (2.2 pounds as a frame). The bike comes complete with Campagnolo Chorus drive train as well as many other trick parts. Words don't do this bike justice, so I'll guit trying to write something catchy here. You're just going to have to come in and FEEL what everyone is talking about.



ADE IN SEATTLE

U.S.V





SAVE 60%



No cash value. Limited to stock on hand. Coupon expires April 16th 2005

\$5 SEATS!

In our repair shop we keep a supply of brand new saddles that came off of brand new bikes. there's nothing wrong with them....the people who bought the bikes just wanted a different one. So you get to score a great deal on a seat for that old rain bike!

4.



No cash value. Limited to stock on hand. Coupon expires April 16th 2005

Limit 3 per customer Supply is limited



No cash value. Limited to stock on hand. Coupon expires April 16th 2005

Grit on your chain will wear it out prematurely. Got a dirty chain but you just don't want to spend the money and time to have it professionally cleaned? Well here's your chance to pick up a Park Chain cleaning tool and do it yourself. Reg. \$40 0

With Coupon Just \$35

No cash value. Limited to stock on hand. Coupon expires April 16th 2005

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THE BIKES THAT FLYAWAY!

"I have really come to appreciate the genius of this bike's design. This would be a great touring bike even if it didn't break down for free shipment on an airplane, but saving the airlines' ransom makes it peerless. Great job!" Ron P. - Cleveland, OH - after owning his UTB for 6 months





When we introduced the Willie Weir Ultimate Travel Bike we had no idea it would become a standard in the industry. We knew that a lot of people wanted a great touring bike that was designed for easy packing and travelling, but we were still surprised by the fantas-

tic response. We've had people from all over the country order these bikes on the internet, as well as lots of local folks buying them.

The Willie Weir Ultimate Travel Bike has become a standard in the industry.

It's been really fun to hear the great stories from the people who have taken these bikes on extended trips. You can read some of their stories in our online scrapbook at www.rodcycle.com

	Standard Package	<u>Willie Package</u>	<u>Ultimate Package</u>
Price	<u>\$2,299.99</u>	<u>\$2,299.99</u>	<u>\$3,199.99</u>
Frame Fork Bottom Bracket Rear Derailleur Front Derailleur Shift/Brake levers Brakes Cranks Head Set Hubs Spokes Wheels Bars Stem Bar tape	True Temper Verus Tandem Cro-moly Mirage Mirage Triple Shimano Triple Mirage Ergo Cantilever Alloy Triple 28/38/48 11/8" FSA Alloy Veloce 9-speed DT stainless Handbuilt Drop Alloy Alloy Cinelli Cork Serfas 26 X 1.5	True Temper Verus Tandem Cro-moly Deore LX Deore LX Shimano Triple Tektro ATB Cantilever Alloy Triple 28/38/48 11/8" FSA Alloy Shimano 9-speed DT stainless Handbuilt Flat Alloy Alloy ATB Grips Serfas 26 X 1.5	True Temper Verus Tandem Cro-moly Phil Wood Chorus Triple Chorus Triple Chorus Ergo Cantilever Alloy Triple 28/38/48 11/8" FSA XL2 Phil Wood 9-speed DT stainless Handbuilt FSA Alloy Drop Profile Alloy Cinelli Cork
Tires Seat post	30.4 Alloy	30.4 Alloy	Serfas 26 X 1.5 30.4 Alloy
Seat	Serfas Cosmos	Serfas Cosmos	Serfas Cosmos

I'M GETTIN' A GOOD VIBE FIVE FINGER DISCOUN

Have you heard of Vibe Wrap? You're gonna love it! It's a a handlebar wrapping system that starts with shock absorbing padding that is first put onto the bars. Then the bar is wrapped with soft, rubbery handlebar tape. Super comfort for your aching hands! Use this coupon to get Vibe wrap for your bike for just \$33, and we'll do the install for 1/2 price (reg. \$20)



No cash value. Limited to stock on hand. Coupon expires April 16th 2005

THE LIBERATOR

Own the original! The Terry Liberator is the one that started it all for comfortable women's saddles. Now you can save 25% on them while supplies last. Reg.



Use this coupon to get any pair of winter gloves that we have in stock for



Hurry, supply is limited.

50% OFF!!

No cash value. Limited to stock on hand. Coupon expires April 16th 2005

IS THAT A BIKE SHOP IN YOUR POCKET?

The Serfas Mentor tool has just about everything you'll need to fix anything that goes wrong with your bike on the road.

- 19 different functions 2mm-6mm allen keys
- 13 gauge, 14 gauge and 15 gauge spoke wrench
- Chain tool
- Tire levers
 - Slot head and Phillips screwdrive

• 10mm, 12mm, and 14mm box wrench SALE *\$60* Reg. \$30 With Coupon just \$22 No cash value. Limited to stock on hand. Coupon expires April 16th 2005 No cash value. Limited to stock on hand. Coupon expires April 16th 2005 GIVE YOUR FRIEND A WEDGIE! .k wind like a pro! We over ordered Profile Carbon Fiber And save big while doing it! Use this Ironman Pro aero bars. Well, our pain is coupon to get a Topeak Aero seat your gain. Use this coupon to get FREE wedge pack for 1/2 Price. Reg. 30 installation when you buy a set for just \$149 \$15alue Limited Supply No cash value. Limited to stock on hand. Coupon expires April 16th 2005 No cash value. Limited to stock on hand. Coupon expires April 16th 2005 R+E CYCLES • SEATTLE • SINCE 1973 • www.rodcycle.com 5.



IT'S GOING TO BE ANOTHER TANDEM YEAR!

Last year was our best tandem year since 1996. By this time last year, we had built and delivered about 6 tandems. Right now, we are building 13 of them to be delivered this month, and we've already sent a few out!

It looks like tandem riding is back in Seattle, and nobody could be happier than us. We've been building tandems since 1973, and we've seen all of the ups and downs. This year, we've combined forces with Dennis and Jenny Bushnell. They've been riding and manufacturing tandems since I was in my teens.

Always remember that we offer a Tandem 101 class for anyone who wants to have a lesson on how to ride a tandem. The lesson is only \$50, and is done by appointment.

After the lesson, the 'students' have the use of a tandem to go for a ride together for an hour or two. It's a very worthwhile lesson if you are considering a large purchase like a tandem. If, after your lesson, you decide to purchase a tandem from us, the \$50 will be applied towards the bike.

to get one for

6.

Just \$22



No cash value. Limited to stock on hand. Coupon expires April 16th 2005 THE U-LOCK IS ALIVE!!

After the Krytonite U-lock scare last season, people kind of lost confidence in the U-lock. Well, the good news is that not all U-locks had the problem. You can use this coupon to get a Master U-lock (one that didn't have the problem) for just \$15. Reg. \$25 SAVE \$10

No cash value. Limited to stock on hand. Coupon expires April 16th 2005

So, if you have some friends that you would like to get hooked on tandem cycling, set them up with an appointment with us and we'll do the rest.



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The Northwest Tandem Rally is on the 4th of July weekend this year. It will be in Bend Oregon. To register, go to : <u>http://www.nwtr.org/2005/</u>

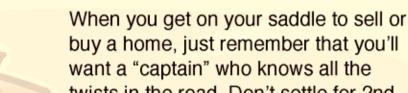


A Pumpkin is riding a bike -April Fools day cartoon by Nicholas

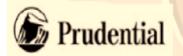




Working Together to Achieve Incredible Results



twists in the road. Don't settle for 2nd best. Choose long-time tandem cyclist & Prudential Northwest Realty Associate Broker, James Lupori, for all of your real estate needs.



Northwest Realty Associates, LLC JAMES LUPORI ASSOCIATE BROKER (206) 713-2102 Www.jameslupori.com

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7.

WHO ARE THOSE NEW FACES AT R+E CYCLES?

IN THE REPAIR SHOP

If you visited us last season, you probably remember Scott, Dan, Smiley, Todd and Chris running around like chickens with their heads cut off. Well, this year, we've enlisted some help....some great new help.

Last year we were super busy and not totally prepared.

In the repair shop Chris and Todd now have 3 new experienced employees to keep the shop running smooth this season. I thought



I'd take a moment to introduce them to you.

Last year Matt (our old repair counter guy) left the industry and we had a hard time replacing him (Hi Matt, I hope Spokane is treating you well). Chris and Todd ran the counter in his absence, but they also did all of the repairs as well. This year we set out to replace Matt, and we've found the answer.

Meet John. John is hard to miss. He's 6' 6" and originally from Texas. He's a very personable guy who knows bikes. He's worked in bicycle repair and retail for years, and spent the winter assembling and doing repairs here in our repair shop. You'll meet him when you bring your bike in for repair, or call the repair phone number as he will be running the front counter.



Last year, Dan ran around trying to get all of the bicycles assembled through miracles. This resulted in many 70 hour work weeks, so this year we prepared for the increased demand.

Meet Rachel. Rachel is heading up the assembly department this season. She has worked as a bicycle repair shop manager and has great organizational skills.

Last year, Chris and Todd (and sometimes Dan) did all of the repairs. This was

difficult as the same 3 people ran the counter and did most of the assemblies. This year, Chris and Todd are both helping out part time

IN THE FRAME SHOP



We've had a strong relationship with Jenny and Dennis Bushnell since.....well forever. They have been running their own company for decades as Bushnell Cycles. They've done lots of work for us through the years, and over the last couple of years, our relationship grew to the point that we decided a consolidation of our 2 businesses would be more efficient for both of us.

R+E Cycles welcomes master frame builder Dennis Bushnell and his better half, Jenny, to run the R+E frame shop. Their Grandoggy Toby is also pictured in the photo.

Dennis has been a pioneer in the field of modern bicycle and tandem manufacturing. His innovations are extensive and we are lucky to have both of them here at the shop.

The Bushnells are as nice of people as you could ever hope to meet, and they are a great comedy team (as anyone who has the opportunity to work an afternoon in the frame shop can attest to).

We consider ourselves fortunate to have the long term employees that we have, and also to have attracted such a great new group to join us for what promises to be our best season ever!





in the very busy paint and frame building departments.

Enter Cory. Cory has years of experience as a professional bicycle mechanic and is a fantastic new addition to the Seattle Bike Repair staff. Cory also adds to the long tradition of a great sense of humor that our mechanics seem to have.



SEATTLE BIKESeattle Bike RepairR E P A I R206-526-0360

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8.

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