

NOTES FROM THE ROAD

Each day of the ride, you'll find a few stories here about people we've met along the way, or something interesting about a host town, or whatever miscellaneous thoughts cross our mind. Today, we start with a look at one of the original supporters of the event, still providing invaluable service 21 years into this adventure.

BG TO THE RESCUE!

This week you'll be rolling on some of the most scenic, remote roads the state has to offer. You'll lose yourself in the vast expanses of sagebrush and blue skies. And you'll surely forget that you are many miles from your local bike shop.

So what happens if you get a flat? Or when you can't find the source of that incessant clicking in your drivetrain, or any number of finicky little problems that invariably arise on the open road?

Bike Gallery has you covered. That's what they do. And believe us—they are thrilled to be a part of the Cycle Oregon experience. It's a real treat for them to take a break from the routine of operating six family-owned stores in the Portland area. They bring along their best mechanics, every bike tool you can think of and a bunch of goodies,

too. Energy bars, jerseys, water bottles and even items like tents and toothbrushes are stocked in their traveling store. They're here to make sure you don't have to worry about the little things that can put a damper on an otherwise perfect ride. So relax and enjoy the ride, knowing that Bike Gallery is your bike shop away from home.

ON THE ROAD

More people, more miles, more stories...

Tyler and Denise Frisbee of Lake Oswego, OR, who are celebrating Tyler's graduation from Dartmouth College. CO was a gift from both parents, but Dad cancelled with an injury. Wife and daughter call daily to let him know how much fun they're having. **Oscar** from Cleveland, wearing a (continued on back page)

PHOTO GALLERY: DAY TWO



The CCC does the dirty detail work, but they still keep smiling.



"Old Time Fiddlers" doing some, well, old-time fiddling.



It's amazing how many people will show up to watch a guy fall down.



If camp had a SAG wagon, this is what it would look like.



Mike Hand (minus his pink socks), show versatility as a milk man.



"What do you mean, am I working back here? Of course I am."



Another royal welcome as we roll into town.



Photo opportunities abound...

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PALEO LANDS DAILY

“GEO-DESCRIPTION”

Beyond the Oregon Trail Center, you enter Oregon’s ancient landscape. The Wallows rise to the north – stark white granites and the sediments of ancient seas. To the south, Virtue Flat, gold mines and sage grouse mating grounds. You’ll glide downhill through 260-million-year-old magma chambers, and past Richland ascend a fault-bounded, quake-prone ridge.

ODS MAIN STAGE

- 3:15 - 4: Active faults, past and present gold mines, early peoples of Hells Canyon
- 4 - 4:30: Cindy Omann
- 4:40 - 5:10: Windsong (Women’s Choir)
- 5:20 - 6: Eagle Valley Jammers (Oldies & Country)
- 6:45 - 7:20: Bike Skills Clinic
- 7:30 - 8: CO Announcements
- 8 - 9:30: Robbie Laws Quartet

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TODAY’S MENU

Breakfast

- Cheese omelet
- Bacon
- Hash browns
- Croissant sandwich

Lunch

- Asian noodle salad with chicken or veggies
- Spring roll

Dinner

- Chicken or veggie fajita
- Sour cream, salsa, guacamole
- Beans
- Carrot cake

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Today in Halfway

Help out the financially challenged Pine Eagle Health Clinic, a crucial local service, by buying raffle tickets. Local vendors are offering outdoor-adventure packages valued from \$470 to \$2,200 - tickets are just \$5. Or maybe free rental of a luxury condo in Los Cabos for a week in January? Tickets for that are \$20. Find the tent next to the bandstand in the park for more details.

BIKE SKILLS CLINIC

Brett Flemming

Tonight Brett will show you how to efficiently repair a flat. Not that that ever happens on CO.

To place a Cycle Oregonian Classified, jot your thoughts onto a scrap of paper and deposit it in the special drawer on the counter at the Rider Services trailer.

CO: A Romantic Experience

Leslie--
What a great honeymoon!
--Frank

Steve and Diane from Portland are here on their honeymoon, too - *before* their wedding (Sept. 20). Good environment to explore any deal-breaking compatibility issues.

For Play Money, Right?

Texas Hold ‘Em tournament at 4:30 p.m. in the dining tent.

Gadzooks!

It’s Gad’s birthday today. He’s a CO virgin - eGads! Happy birthday from the Arbor Cyclops.

A Couple of Lost Soles

An apparently accidental shoe swap outside the showers - different sizes of the same shoe - inspired this poem:

“We like the same shoes
They’re really Keen
Somehow they got swapped
While we got clean.

I left yours at the Lost & Found
And hope that mine will be
likewise bound.”

ON THE ROAD (CONT.)

Sesame Street jersey featuring, naturally... Oscar the Grouch. **Rick** from England, who was on holiday in Canada when he saw a National Geographic TV special on Cycle Oregon. He was intrigued but forgot to sign up when he got home. Something spurred his memory in late February - so he barely got in as rider #1900-something. The ride is his 40th birthday present to himself. **Carey** from Portland, who I met on a training ride, where she dropped me on a big climb. Today she gently pointed out a spelling error in the morning paper... and then dropped me on the last part of the big climb. Sweet, but cruel. The **children’s choir** from **Haines Elementary** singing on the back of a truck at lunch, so sincere and innocent. A **herd of cattle** coming down the road straight at us on the long option, including an amorous bull who appeared to be a fan of the Beatles’ “Why Don’t We Do It In The Road?” And, finally: Most writers dream of being on an airplane and seeing the person in the next seat reading a book they wrote. Well, this morning I saw a copy of this paper in one of the **Blue Rooms**. Hey, you take what you can get.

TODAY’S RIDE

For some people, this is the perfect ride profile: start out flat, a touch of climb after you’re warmed up, then some long, easy gliding toward lunch, followed by a bracing climb and culminating in an extended downhill rocket into camp. Guess it depends on what you like to do right after lunch.



No, there isn’t a new Wagon & Porter service this year.

You’ll head out of Baker City in the morning and rise up to the Oregon Trail Interpretive Center (pictured), a great place to stop and explore. Then you’ll cruise through the Lower Powder Valley and follow the Powder River past Hole in the Wall Landslide, a monument to Mother Nature’s power. Yes, there’s a bit of a bump up to the marvelously

named Dance Hall Road, but then it’s downhill to lunch.

You get a mile after lunch to prep for a 1,500-foot climb over 5.5 miles (note: there’s a false summit along the way), but then you get 1,000 feet of drop into camp at Halfway.

ELEVATION CHART

