

Dallas BMX bicycle racing team gets off to a fast start

By MICHAEL TWICHELL
Post Correspondent

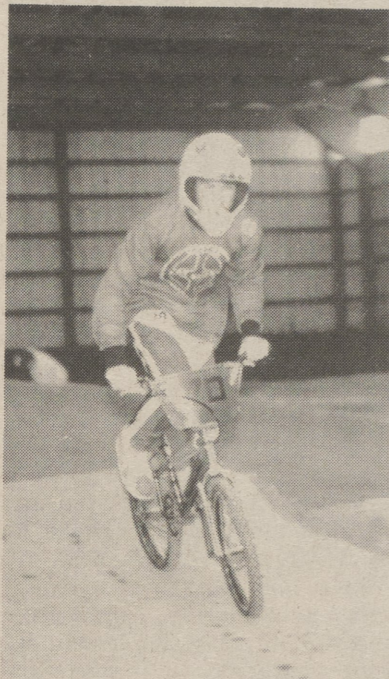
DALLAS - They're racing toward the dance floor.

The Dallas BMX Racing Team is holding a fund raiser and is asking Back Mountain residents for support.

Dallas BMX, headed by Rich and Susan Harris, is a non-profit organization for BMX (Bicycle Moto Cross) riders from the ages of five through adult. All the team's members are Back Mountain residents, mostly from Dallas and Shavertown.

The team began about a year ago, and started picking up the pace around August, participating in races twice weekly at Cedar Track in Clarks Summit during the summer, and then at Arena BMX in White Haven for the winter, as well as other tracks in Pennsylvania, New York, and New Jersey.

According to Susan Harris, no one on the team has suffered any injuries other than minor bruises and a slight concussion. "Nothing



Dan Stavish, left, and Brian Sabatura in action.



forms are purchased with money from fund raising. "We're working toward buying a utility trailer for hauling the bikes to races, as well as offset some of the cost of the uniforms, which are \$80 apiece for just a jersey and a pair of pants," said Harris of the upcoming fund raising dance.

The team is also looking for sponsors to help with expenses as well. According to Harris, "I sent 100 letters to area businesses about sponsoring us, and I received only six responses."

There is a monthly membership charge of \$3, and members can also join the American Bicycle Association for \$35 a year.

The dance will be held on February 24th at the Kunkle Community Hall from 6:30 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Music will be provided by DJ Brian's Songs. The Kunkle Fire Company will have refreshments for sale. Tickets are \$3 in advance, \$3.50 at the door.

For more information on the dance, tickets, or sponsorship, call Rich and Susan Harris at 675-0911.



Members of the Dallas BMX bicycle racing team are, from left, kneeling: Steven Liparela, Rich Harris III, Joseph Liparela, Roy Kelly, Ben Russoniello. Standing, Dan Stavish, Rich Harris Jr. and Brian Sabatura.

Dallas, home not so different exchange student discovers

By RONALD BARTIZEK
Post Staff

DALLAS - Thanks to her host parents, Egda Hernandez, a Rotary exchange student from Venezuela, feels right at home in Shavertown.

There are differences, of course, not least of which is the number of people in the household; Egda has one sister at home, 21-year-old Egmi who is a student at Valencia University. She has stayed with Paul and Melissa Saxon and their five children since arriving in the Back Mountain in August.

"I love the family," Egda told *The Post* during an interview conducted after she had addressed the February meeting of the Back Mountain Business and Professional Association. "I feel the Saxons are my family."

During her presentation, Egda described her native land and its diverse regions, from sun-drenched beaches to snow-capped mountains and spectacular waterfalls. She also played a video tape produced by the national tourist agency, which illustrated the diversity and attractions of the South American nation.

Egda is from Valencia, a city of

about 3 million people not far from the coast where her father, Jose, owns a business. She wore a black armband Thursday, as a sign of mourning for her aunt, who died a week earlier. While it's hard to be away from home, she often speaks with her family on the telephone.

A senior, she will spend the entire school year at Dallas High School, after which she hopes to study computer science in college. While she said U.S. and Venezuelan schools are similar, she noted some differences.

She takes seven classes here, while the day is filled with 12 classes at home. Because of the tropical climate, the school day begins at 7 a.m. and ends at 1:30 p.m. The summer vacation is a week longer than in the U.S.

A gymnast in Valencia, Egda swims the freestyle leg for the Dallas relay team, and plans to play soccer on the school team this spring. Her obvious satisfaction with her experience has more than made up for an early surprise; she thought she would be going to Dallas, Texas when she filled out her application for the program.

One thing, Egda says, doesn't vary around the world. "The parents are the same."



Egda Hernandez, a Rotary exchange student from Venezuela, spoke to members of the Back Mountain Business and Professional Association Feb. 8. She is shown with Dr. John Alaimo, BMBPA president, left; and board members Mary Ellen Giannuzzi, second from right; and Jim Hawk, far right.

BMBPA plans Easter egg hunt

DALLAS - The Back Mountain Business and Professional Association is planning an Easter treat for children in the area. The organization will sponsor an Easter Egg Hunt the Saturday before Easter, at the Penn State campus in Lehman.

Mary Ellen Gianuzzi is arranging the event, and asks leaders of youth groups to contact BMBPA if they would like to attend as a group.

Three new members have joined the group's board of directors: Tom Robinson, Penn State Wilkes-Barre; Neela Patel, Mailboxes, Etc.;

and Dennis Baer, Domino's Pizza. They are replacing Elva Valentine, Nancy Eckert and Joseph Mooney, whose terms expired.

BMBPA president John Alaimo said plans for the association to take over maintenance and beautification of the area at the intersection of Routes 309 and 415 are moving ahead, pending approval from PennDOT. The group will landscape the island, install a sign and then maintain the area.

Anyone interested in learning more about these plans, or about BMBPA, may call Alaimo at 696-3766.

Hometown news • Hometown product
The Dallas Post

Unfinished Furniture SALE

Save 15% to 40%

Hardwood - Ready to Finish
Bedrooms • Wall Units
Desks • Blanket Chests
Entertainment Cabinets
Coffee - End Tables

MasterCard VISA Layaway - Ends March 2

THE FURNITURE WORKSHOP

115 W. Center Hill Rd., Dallas 675-5288

West Side Area Vocational-Technical School is conducting an Open House on Thursday, February 15, 1996 beginning at 6:30 P.M. and concluding at 9:00 P.M.

Throughout the evening there will be demonstrations, tours of the vocational areas, and programs conducted by the faculty and students, highlighting vocational and academic skills and teaching methodology.

Door prizes will be awarded and refreshments will be served. All members of the community are invited.

West Side Area
Vocational-Technical School
75 EVANS STREET
PRINGLE BOROUGH
KINGSTON, PENNSYLVANIA 18704-1899
PHONE: 717-288-8493

Vocational Education The Choice With A Future

Athletic and Casual Footwear & Apparel • Outerwear SNEAKER KING

OUR 50TH YEAR

SIX GREAT STYLES
WALKING SHOES
ONE GREAT PRICE!

Air Essential Men's & Women's Med. & Wide Blk. or Wht.

Air Current Run/Walk Women's • Med. Only

Reebok Reebok Fitness Glide Supreme Mens & Women's Med. & Wide Blk. or Wht.

Avia Ariel Women's • Med. Only

Avia Run/Walk Women's Med. Only

New Balance Healthwalker Men's & Women's Med. & Wide Blk. or Wht.

\$39.97

LOWEST GUARANTEED PRICES

YOU SAVE UP TO \$30

Largest Selection of Walking Shoes in the Area!

- ETONIC
- ASICS
- LA GEAR
- REEBOK
- NIKE
- NEW BALANCE
- AVIA

Latest Spring Footwear & Apparel Styles Arriving Daily!

Sale ends Feb. 20, 1996

Shop

SNEAKER KING
The Right Stuff...The Right Price

First

COUNTRY CLUB SHOPPING CENTER, DALLAS & 7 OTHER LOCATIONS!

