

GET STARTED: OUR 18 BEST TIPS

page
70

World's Leading Bike Magazine

JUNE 2007
BICYCLING.COM

Bicycling®

**FLOYD
LANDIS
IS GETTING
SCREWED
RIGHT?**



**Gear
of the
Year**

**THE BEST
NEW BIKES** page
96

**3 QUICK
WORKOUTS
FROM LANCE'S
COACH**

**PROBLEM: A CRISIS
WORSE THAN WAR
SOLUTION: A \$100 BIKE**

FLOYD LANDIS
PREPARES FOR HIS
DOPING HEARING.
STORY, p. 80.

VALUE FULL SUSPENSION BIKE

SPECIALIZED FSR XC COMP \$1,600

Even with the other two finalists nipping at its heels, the winner in the 4-inch-travel, value-bike slot won because of its revised chassis and great price. The Specialized FSR XC Comp can "do it all" with "legendary Specialized handling in a low-cost package." One rider "took to it right away" with geometry "cross-country enough to hang on the climbs, and all-mountain enough to bomb descents." Its brakes got high marks, too, drawing comments like "stops on a dime." **WEIGHT:** 28.7 lb. (M) **INFO:** specialized.com

RUNNERS-UP

CANNONDALE RUSH 6 \$1,300

The Rush was a strong contender, the "best climber in the group," said one rider. Another said it "excelled on buttery sections more so than chattery ones." **WEIGHT:** 29.9 lb. (M) **INFO:** cannondale.com

SANTA CRUZ SUPERLIGHT D XC \$1,600

A chassis update this year gives it "a good position for powering up climbs and also an aggressive one for descents." The vaunted Superlight was heralded as "a classic; that you can get it for this price is stunning." **WEIGHT:** 28.3 lb. (M) **INFO:** santacruz bicycles.com



DREAM ROAD BIKE

PARLEE Z1 \$12,420

Every year Dream Road brings out strong opinions from testers. One thing we all agree on is that the \$5,400 (frame only) Parlee Z1 was very slightly better rounded than the other two finalists. It's "masterfully crafted," and "achieves a balance of speed, quickness, refined road feel—and grace." The Z1 is equally adept at all kinds of riding. It's "as comfy in a tight pack as it is on a gentle cruise with your spouse," said one tester. **WEIGHT:** 14.9 lb. (54cm) **INFO:** parleecycles.com

RUNNERS-UP

CALFEE DRAGONFLY \$9,895
"Stunning." A climbing "fiend," the "perfectly named" Dragonfly wants to be pushed and rewards with "whip-crack-snap acceleration." **WEIGHT:** 14.9 lb. (54cm) **INFO:** calfeedesign.com

SEROTTA MEIVICI \$7,395 (FRAME), \$12,915 (AS TESTED)
"A bike to pedal all day, every day," with a "refined ride," the MeiVici is "perfect if your dream includes confident, stable handling and a buttery-smooth ride." **WEIGHT:** 15.6 lb. (54cm) **INFO:** serotta.com

ENTHUSIAST ROAD BIKE

SCOTT CR1 PRO \$2,835

Trickle-down may not be sound economics, but it works in bikes. Witness the Scott CR1 Pro: A ProTour race bike last year, the frame now comes in a solidly midpriced package. But "close your

eyes and you'll think you're riding a bike that costs much more." The Ultegra-equipped CR1 Pro was "a thrill ride," but geometry tweaks add enough comfort to "make it perfect for those who may not want to pin on a number but still want to win." **WEIGHT:** 17.2 lb. (54cm) **INFO:** scottusa.com

RUNNERS-UP

IBIS SILK CARBON \$2,999
With a great parts mix and a ride "as refined as anything I've ridden," the Silk Road is "living proof that small-brand bike makers can still offer a screaming value." **WEIGHT:** 16.0 lb. (55cm) **INFO:** ibiscycles.com

SPECIALIZED TARMAC EXPERT \$2,600

The Tarmac Expert features an impeccably "civilized" ride and great spec. It will "give you confidence, and has the performance capabilities" to take you to the next level. **WEIGHT:** 17.4 lb. (54cm) **INFO:** specialized.com





DREAM ROAD BIKE

PARLEE Z1 \$12,420

Every year Dream Road brings out strong opinions from testers. One thing we all agree on is that the \$5,400 (frame only) Parlee Z1 was very slightly better rounded than the other two finalists. It's "masterfully crafted," and "achieves a balance of speed, quickness, refined road feel—and grace." The Z1 is equally adept at all kinds of riding. It's "as comfy in a tight pack as it is on a gentle cruise with your spouse," said one tester. **WEIGHT:** 14.9 lb. (54cm) **INFO:** parleecycles.com

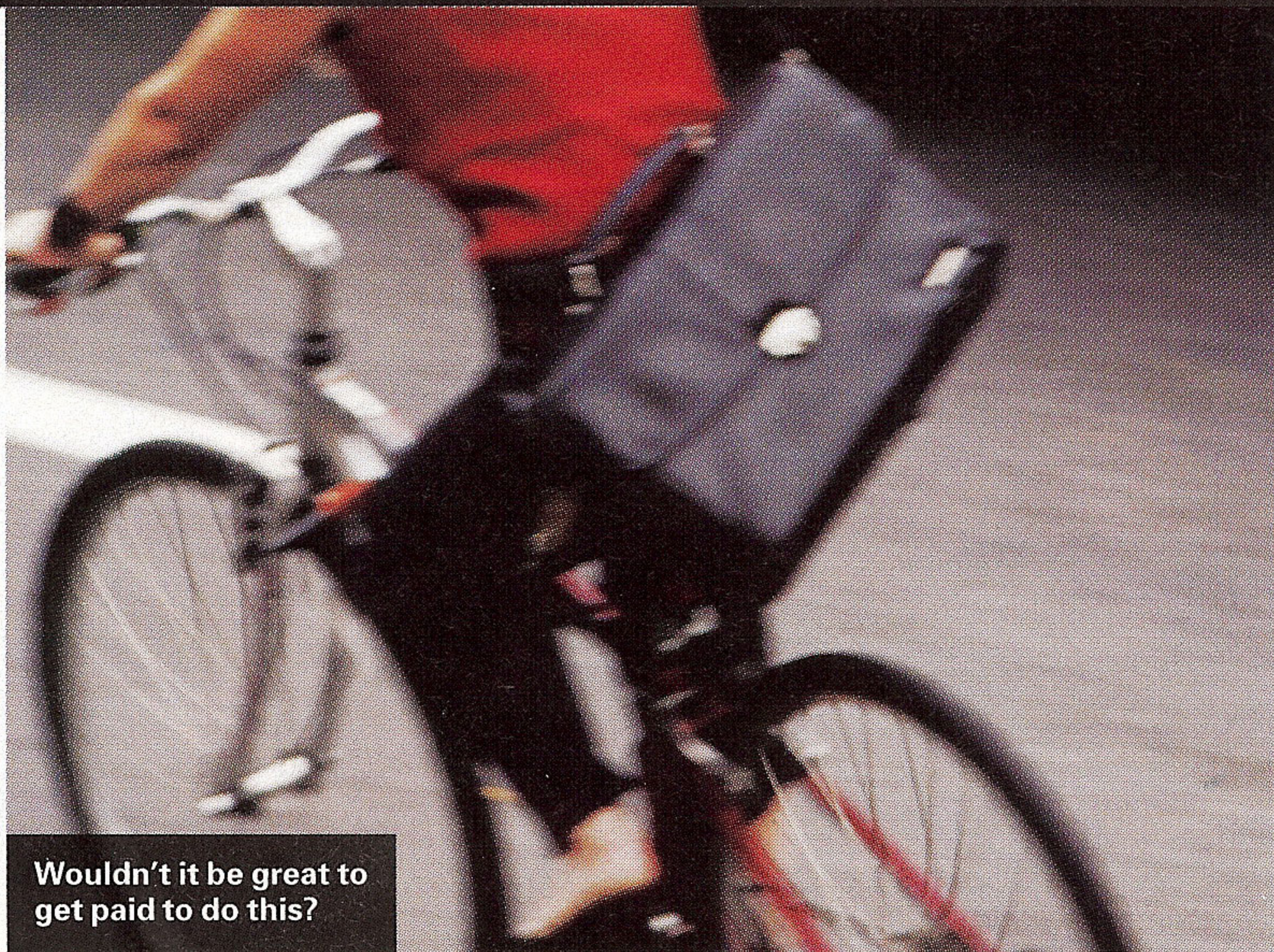
RUNNERS-UP

CALFEE DRAGONFLY \$9,895

"Stunning." A climbing "fiend," the "perfectly named" Dragonfly wants to be pushed and rewards with "whip-crack-snap acceleration." **WEIGHT:** 14.9 lb. (54cm) **INFO:** calfeedesign.com

SEROTTA MEIVICI \$7,395 (FRAME), \$12,915 (AS TESTED)

"A bike to pedal all day, every day," with a "refined ride," the MeiVici is "perfect if your dream includes confident, stable handling and a buttery-smooth ride." **WEIGHT:** 15.6 lb. (54cm) **INFO:** serotta.com



Wouldn't it be great to get paid to do this?

A BIKE COMMUTER ACT COMEBACK?

Hundreds of advocates turned out for congressman Earl Blumenauer's (D-OR) introduction of the Bike Commuter Act on March 15. But it was the few reporters who didn't make it that were the most telling.

"Some of them got stuck in traffic," said Blumenauer. "How many people are stuck in traffic right now?"

Blumenauer and the bill's cosponsor in the Senate, Ron Wyden (D-OR), hope that Americans will soon have a new financial incentive to choose bicycles over gridlock. Currently, a transportation fringe benefit in the tax code allows employees to receive tax-exempt compensation from employers for parking

or mass-transit costs. The Bike Commuter Act would change the definition of transportation in the tax code to include bicycles, allowing bike commuters to receive a benefit of up to \$110 a month.

Blumenauer says that census reports show that more than

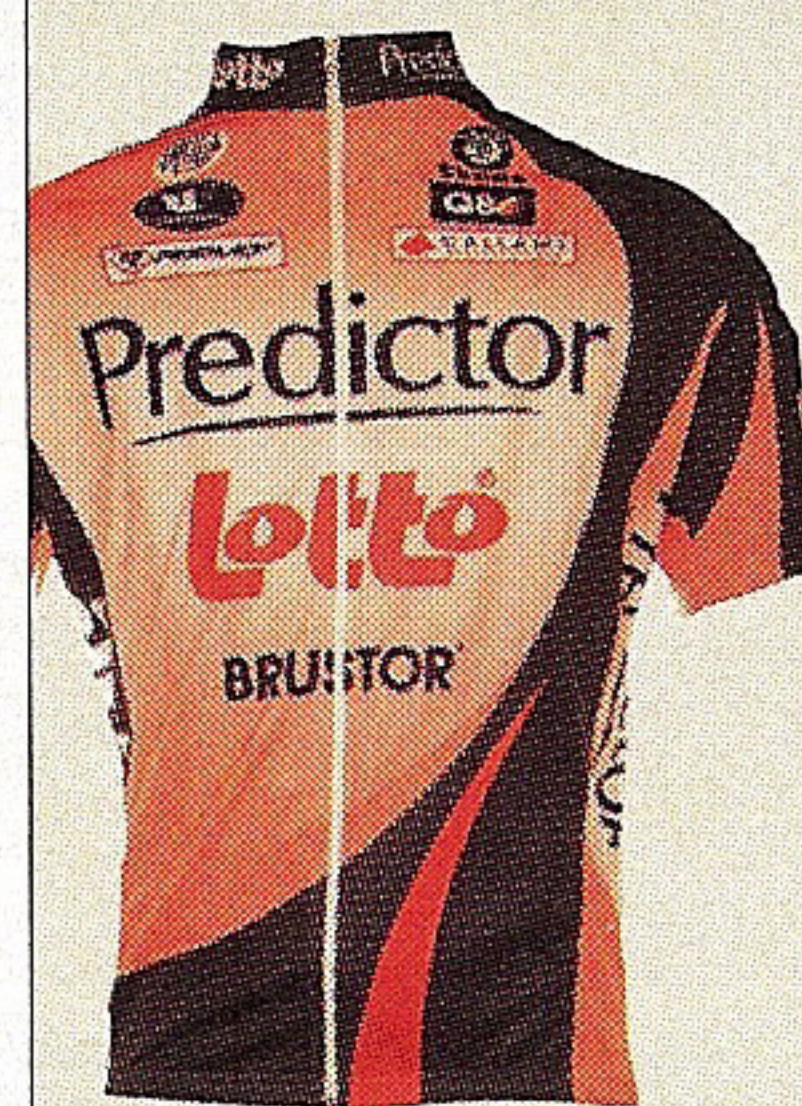
half of Americans live within 5 miles of work, a very manageable distance to commute by bike: "When businesses give employees that little green light, they find that people take to it immediately."

Although the bill was not passed in its first three attempts, Blumenauer is optimistic that the current climate in Washington is more favorable now. "With all of the attention to global warming and health, there is a lot more interest in the

Bike Commuter Act," says Blumenauer, who rides his bike to work and meetings on Capitol Hill. "It would be very easy to offset the miniscule costs of this bill." Proponents of the measure are hoping to get it attached to the next House energy bill, which is to be introduced by July 4.

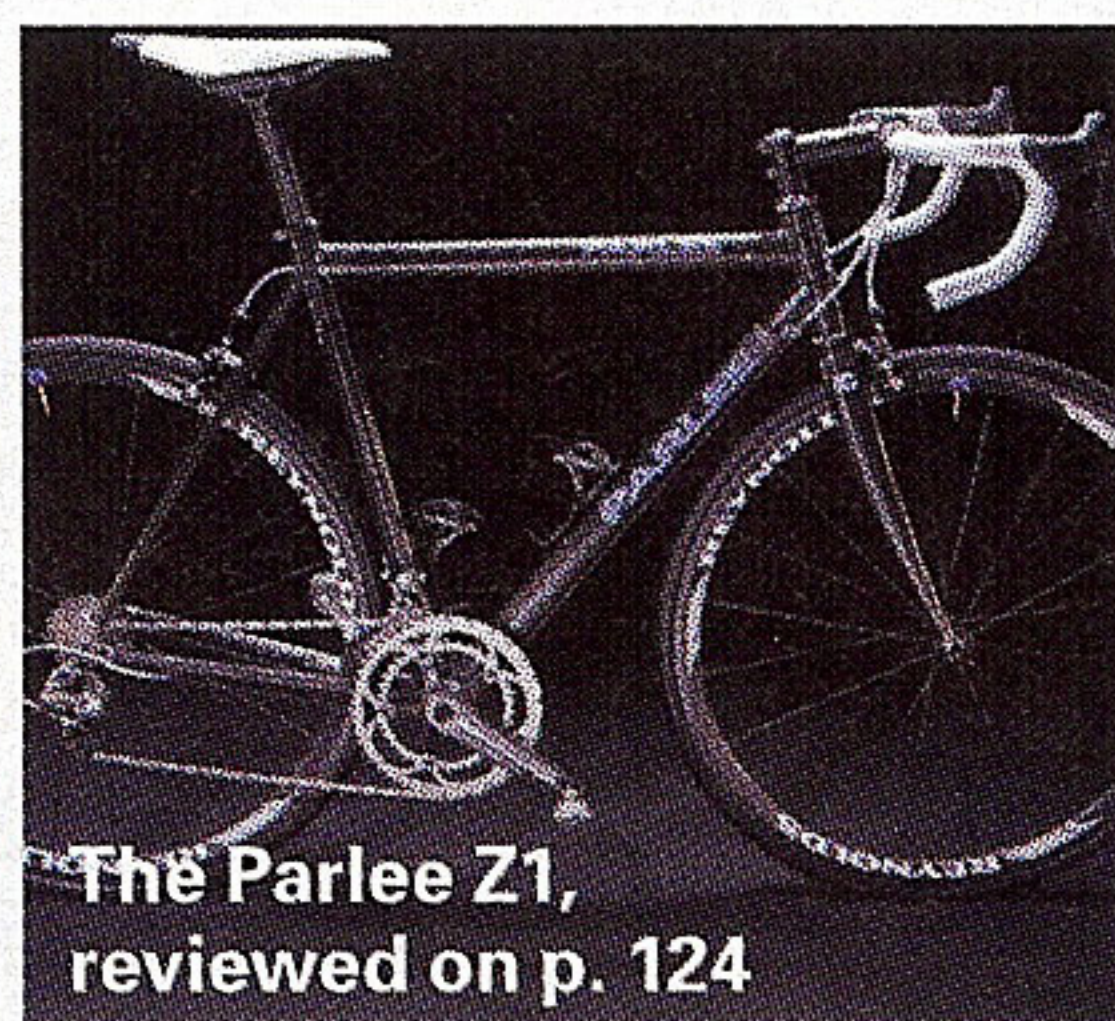
—David L'Heureux
Let your representatives know that you support the Bike Commuter Act by signing our petition at BICYCLING.com/bikecommuteract.

JERSEY OF THE MONTH



Predictor-Lotto
 Come on now, guys: You already shave your legs and imbibe caffeine from child-sized cups, so you might as well sport this pink—um, salmon—team kit with pride. The squad, which includes riders Chris Horner, Cadel Evans and Robbie McEwen, is sponsored by pregnancy-test maker Omega-Pharma. \$97; procyclegear.com

ANOTHER WAY TO OGLE YOUR DREAM BIKE



The Parlee Z1, reviewed on p. 124

As an industrial designer, former bike racer Kevin Saunders used to design components for VIPs' airplanes—at a price that makes the \$8,000 to \$15,000 bikes Saunders sells from his shop, KGS Bikes (kgsbikes.com), in San Antonio, Texas, sound like a bargain. In addition to offering laser- and video-fit analyses and assembling both stock and custom bikes, including the Editors' Choice-winning Parlee Z1 reviewed on p. 124, Saunders and photographer Greg Harrison recently opened a photography studio in the shop. Each customer receives a complimentary 12x18-inch print of the finished bike; a portrait of rider and machine together costs \$125. And for \$500, bike buyers can take home a 10x10-inch coffee-table book documenting the build—a process, says Saunders, that takes as many as 12 hours.

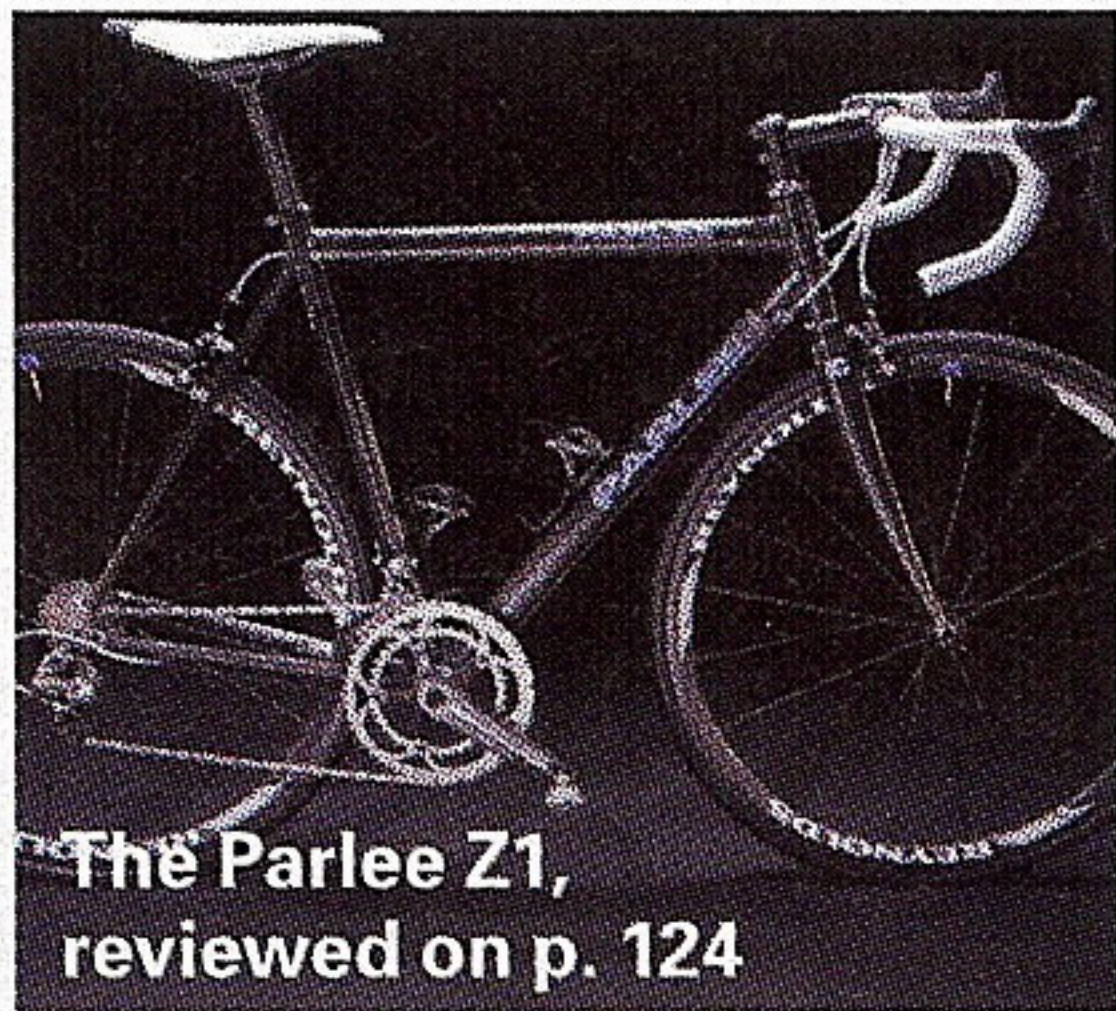
HOT LIST

The exhibit "Trek Designing the Ride," which showcases the creation of six Trek bikes, will be on display at Milwaukee, Wisconsin's Eisner American Museum of Advertising and Design (eisnermuseum.org) through June 30.

Illinois resident George Hood, 49, recently set a Guinness World Record for the longest stationary bike ride—85 hours. Glad it didn't happen to us.

The Tour of Utah (tourofutah.com) is set to roll out July 1–7. Recreational cyclists can join the Freedom Peloton charity ride, which takes place on the final day of the race on the same course that the pros ride.

ANOTHER WAY TO OGGLE YOUR DREAM BIKE



The Parlee Z1,
reviewed on p. 124

■ As an industrial designer, former bike racer Kevin Saunders used to design components for VIPs' airplanes—at a price that makes the \$8,000 to \$15,000 bikes Saunders sells from his shop, KGS Bikes (kgsbikes.com), in San Antonio, Texas, sound like a bargain. In addition to offering laser- and video-fit analyses and assembling both stock and custom bikes,

including the Editors' Choice-winning Parlee Z1 reviewed on p. 124, Saunders and photographer Greg Harrison recently opened a photography studio in the shop. Each customer receives a complimentary 12x18-inch print of the finished bike; a portrait of rider and machine together costs \$125. And for \$500, bike buyers can take home a 10x10-inch coffee-table book documenting the build—a process, says Saunders, that takes as many as 12 hours.