



By FINLEY MARTIN

The Five Year Plan improved their record to 8 wins and 2 losses after two victories last week. The wins come after playing Da Ladies and East Coast Cresting. The FYP have been on a winning streak since the beginning of this semester. They are currently ranked 2nd in their league, tied with AVC.

In a related issue, acting team spokesman Dave Christian was put on the injured list after sustaining a knee injury in last Tuesday's game against East Coast Cresting. Team physicians report that Christian tore ligaments in his knee and may have fractured his knee cap. It is too early to predict when Christian will be able to return to the team line-up.

In other FYP news, a recent letter printed in the Panther Prints bashed the team and spread vicious rumours about the teams ethics. Acting team spokesman Dave Christian commented "We really don't care what [the D.Habbi team] calls us...as long as they start by calling us 8 and 2!"

Mr. Hands, who has been relatively quiet in the last couple of weeks, returns to the news. The head coach of the FYP was arrested late Saturday night after trying to strangle FYP member Dico Reyers. The incident occurred at the FYP Cultural Centre where the team was putting on a Music Appreciation Night. Pat Perry was exposing the team to the sounds of Harry Connick Jr. when Reyers stands up and screams at Mr. Hands "Dance! M@#\$\$%^&*(! Dance!". The insult so enraged the coach that he stood up and tried to strangle Reyers with his feet. Reyers apparently suffered no injuries.

For more info on the Five Year Plan check out their website at <http://www.peionline.com/fyp> or email them at fanmail@peionline.com

INTRAMURAL STANDINGS (as of February 13th)

A DIVISION	W	L	PTS
Jason Kielly	9	3	18
Moosehead Hadders	7	5	14
Bill Keveaney	6	6	12
Jamie MacKinnon	5	8	10
Jessie's Girls	4	9	8
B DIVISION	W	L	PTS
Dream Team 4	10	1	20
Alumni	8	3	16
5 Year Plan	8	2	16
AVC	7	2	14
East Coast Cresting	4	6	8
Cordroy Warriors	3	7	6
Ratboy's Rebels	3	7	6
The Maulers	2	9	4
Da Ladies	1	9	2

By ANDREA BIRD

I have recently returned from a trip to Europe. I was gone 107 days, visiting 12 countries and pedalling my bike over 4500km.

I wish everyone could experience and learn what we learned. For that reason I am writing this column.

On September 11 we biked about 70 km and entered Belgium at around 4:00pm. Our map had ended and we needed to get a new one.

While Jon (my partner) stayed outside with the bikes I went into a little store to buy a map. The man at the counter inquired about our trip. After speaking to him for a few minutes he told us we wouldn't need the whole thing and photocopied what we needed.

Touched by his generosity I returned to my bike and put the map away. We were just leaving when the man came out of the store and asked us where we were staying that night. We told him that we didn't know. Before we knew it we had a map to his house in our hand and we were on our way.

He called his wife and let her know we were coming. It wasn't even an issue. We were travellers and therefore we were welcome. They invited us into their home with open arms. They felt they didn't have a lot to offer us. Their house had burned and they were in a slow, costly process of rebuilding. They fed us supper (Belgium fries with Mayonnaise), washed our laundry, let us have showers, and set up a bed. The next morning there was breakfast on the table and a handful of Michelin maps in our pockets. All they asked in return was a postcard to let them know we had made it across the Alps. When we left we thanked Johan and Kriystal profusely. Johan's response: "It comes from the bottom of my heart". And with that we were on our

way, thinking it was incredible that people who thought they had so little to give gave us so much...

Travel tips: when planning your trip, send ahead to the travel agencies of the countries you will visit. Request specific info. We received free maps from almost every country doing this. Buying a map will cost \$10-15 once you get there, so think ahead. Once you do arrive, always check tourist offices for free maps.

If you are leaving in September check the dates of low season tickets. The prices often decrease dramatically if you can wait until mid-September.

If you are budgeting for hostels be warned. They cost from \$15-25 a night, even with the Hostelling International Membership. Furthermore, they often require you to buy breakfast. Depending on the place this may be little more than bread and water. If the option is available, inquire with other people (not hostel staff) to find out if it is worth paying for.

I'm glad that this part of our adventure happened in France, where we could speak the language. Had it been anywhere else, we may have acquired a third travelling partner.

It wasn't far from Strasbourg, France. We had biked about 50km, it was early in the afternoon and it was a rather nice day.

We stopped on the side of a road at a little wooded rest stop. We ate a bit, went to the bathroom and were on our way.

Just as we were leaving Jon heard a noise in the woods. He looked down and noticed a little black puppy struggling to get out of a cardboard box. He was very cold and hungry.

If only it were possible to adopt him and let him live with us on our bikes. We took him to a house across the street and asked the owner to take

care of the little puppy. She was more than happy to make a new friend and we were happy to have saved the day for him.

It is strange the things that can happen when travelling. Not long after this I passed a parrot that was sitting beside the road. Even now the image shocks me and I wonder if perhaps that parrot was a hallucination.

It was a sunny afternoon in Germany. We were on our way to Munich for Oktoberfest. We were ahead of schedule so we stopped in a small town to watch the locals.

There was a young man, about 13, singing American pop with his keryokee machine. When combined with his accent, high voice and his backup dancers it was quite a sight.

We bought some German sausages and ate them in the sun. They were so good that we went back and bought french fries. They were not quite as good but we chowed down anyway.

Soon afterwards we left and found a place to stay. We managed to communicate our need for a piece of land to a local farmer. Our German was not quite as proficient as our sign language, but combining them we got our point across. The farmer took us to three of four places. He was very concerned with finding the perfect place. We set up our tent in a huge green pasture.

It wasn't even dark. We have a two minute set-up tent and it's a good thing. As soon as we set it up we both became violently ill. We were sick all night. The next morning the farmer returned- carrying fresh coffee, pastries and sandwiches. We explained, as best we could that we had been sick.

We decided to try and bike a little bit that day. They refused to let us go without packing up the food and sending it with us.