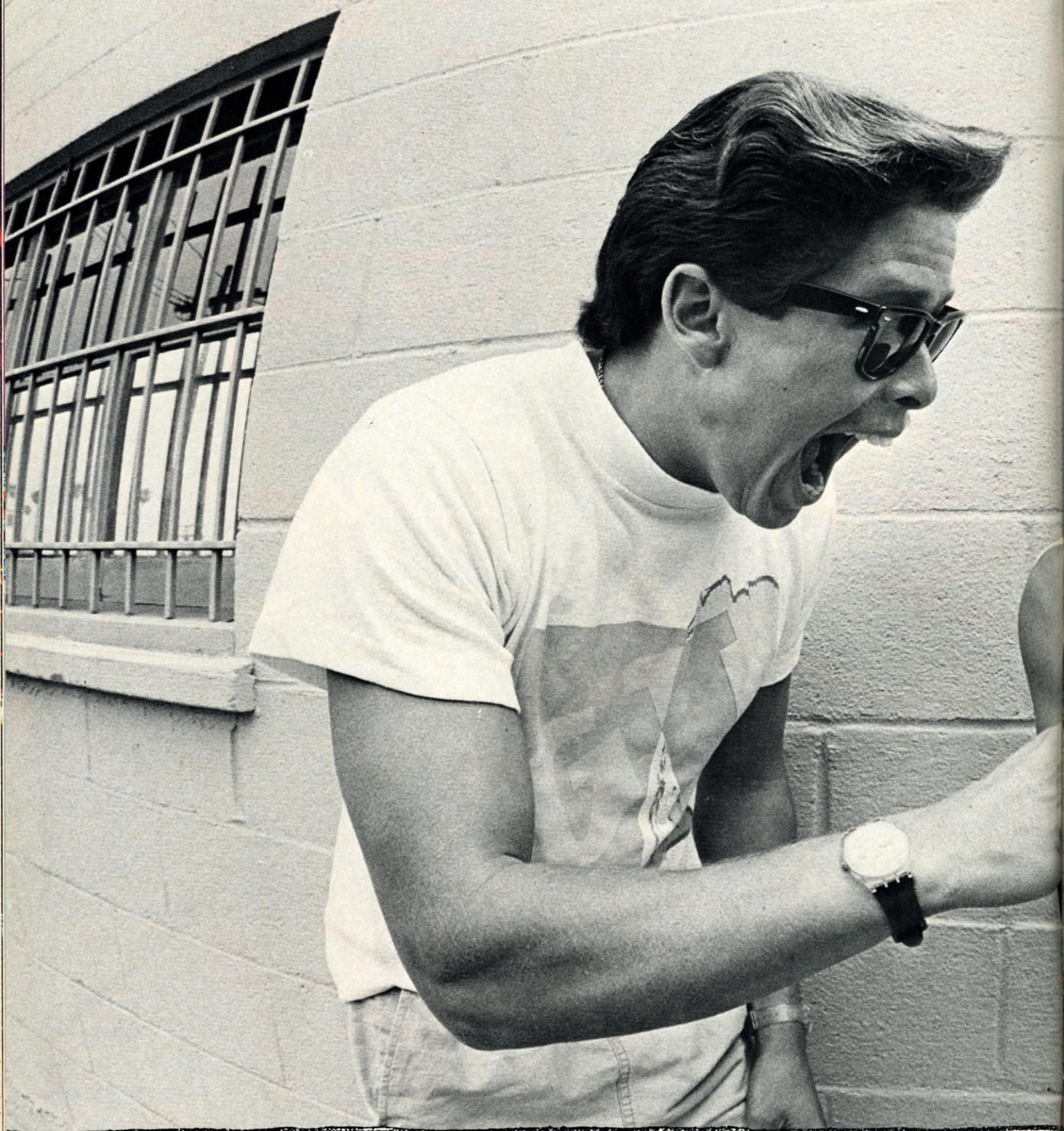


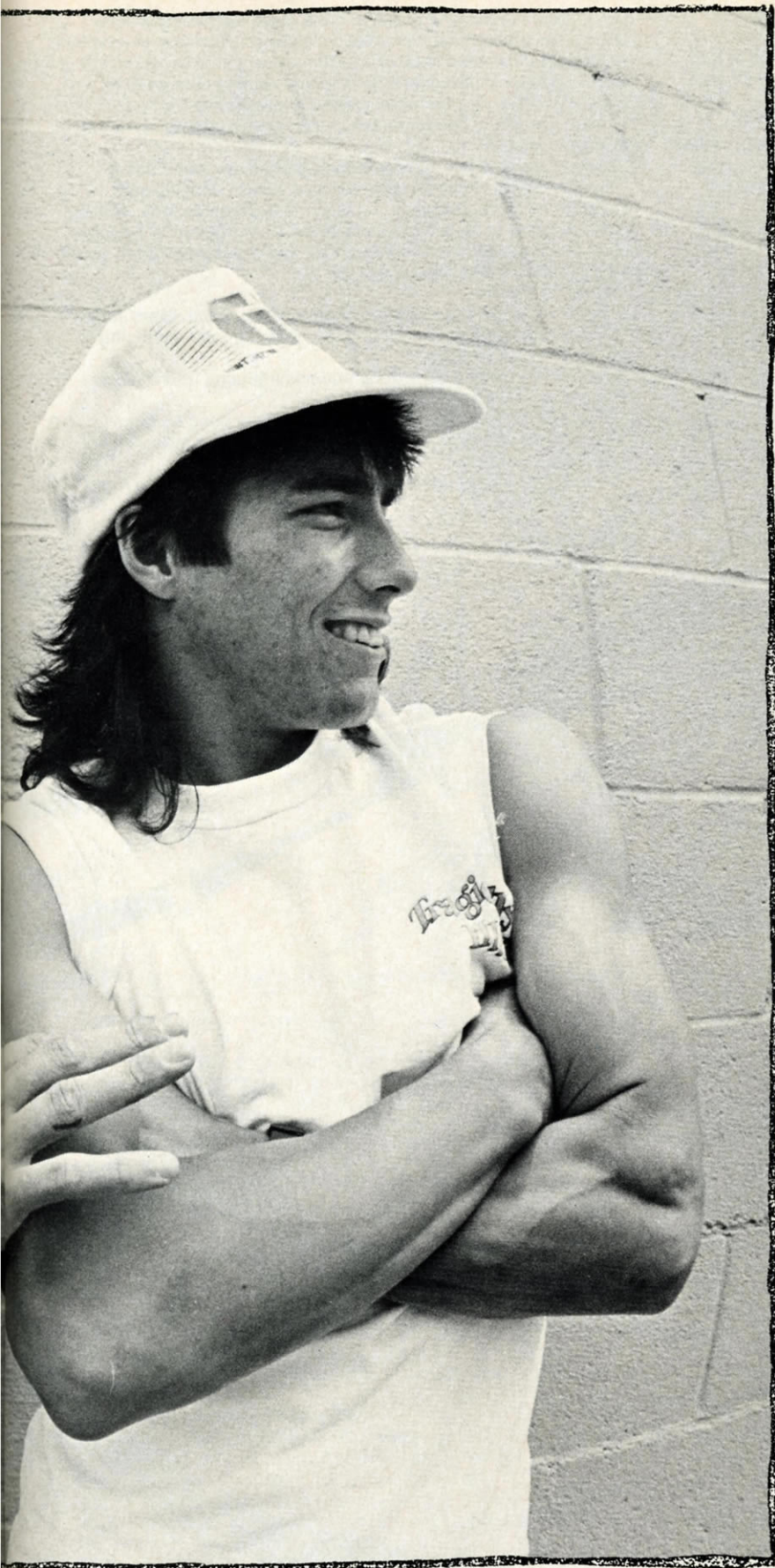
Two important names when it comes to freestyle—Aparijo and Fiola.



This article honestly started out as a GT Pro Freestyle Tour Team Model test. In fact, it still is, I guess. But during the course of the photo taking and the product evaluation, the measuring and weighing and thrashing and everything else we're supposed to do to our test bikes, a funny thing happened. Our test

turned into an interview. So here's what's up. In the paragraphs below are the words we got with two of the biggest names in freestyle, who also just happen to be a couple of GT's main guys. You already know their last names, so we're just gonna call this thing Martin and Ed.

By the way, the talking took place in a moving vehicle on the way to



MARTIN, ED,



the new
GT

PHOTOS BY WINDY
WORDS BY LEW

a photo session with Windy at the wheel and the GT boys sitting in the back seat. Some of the questions were spontaneous while others were written down on paper beforehand by a mischievous editor. Eddie asked Martin a few and vice-versa. So kick back and enjoy, and we can deal with that test when the interview is over.

Eddie: "Maaaaatin. What's the most embarrassing thing that ever happened to you?"

Martin: "The MOST embarrassing thing that ever happened to me? Well, I'm gonna have to have to think about that one, so go to the next question."

Eddie: "Do you do anything dangerous, boring, or illegal?"

Martin: "I do absolutely NOTHING that's boring. Illegal, yeah, probably ride my motorcycle a little too fast. What was the other thing . . . dangerous? Yeah, I've got a dirt bike. I ride my dirt bike in the street and my street bike in the dirt."

Eddie: "Yeah, that's pretty dangerous. Okay, next question. Where is the worst place you've ever eaten in Southern California?"

Martin: "Oh I thought you were gonna ask me the worst place in the WORLD to eat . . . I would've given you a GREAT story . . . see, I just got back from China (laughter). That was the absolute worst place

ever. We went to this one place, and the glass was so filthy—you couldn't see through the bottom of a clear glass. Dirt was everywhere. We ate with dirty, used chopsticks. China was a neat experience, but the food was gross. Southern California is nothing compared to China. If I had to pick the worst place, I'd have to say Carl's Jr. because every time I go there, the blue cheese dressing at the salad bar makes me sick."

Eddie: "Name a few up-and-coming ground and ramp riders."

Martin: "Yeah, I have an up-and-comer whose about to start schralpin' the flatland scene . . . his name is Jason Jeffries, and as Woody would say, 'He's a graduate of the Martin School of freestyle'. Jason practices with me every day, he's dedicated, and I think the kid is really gonna shred. How about you?"

Eddie: "Hmmm . . ."

Martin: "C'mon, you know lots of guys. What about Adam Jung?"

Eddie: "Adam Jung, he's a hot dude on the ground. I'm trying to think of a few ramp riders."

Martin: "It's hard to think of up-and-coming ramp riders 'cause there are so few ramps out there."

Eddie: "Danny Hubbard . . . he's doing pretty good on ramps."

Martin: "Yo, Danny . . . I don't even know who Danny is. Tell me more, Ed."

Eddie: "Danny has been practicing a lot, he's got his own ramp,





and he's one of the nicest guys I know. About how many movies do you see a month?"

Martin: "Are you asking me, Ed?"

Eddie: "Yes."

Martin: "Well, you know what. This last month I've been on tour, and I haven't seen a whole lot of movies, and I realized something. While we were on tour, people were always asking me 'Did you see this movie?', 'Did you see that movie?'. I think I'm going to start seeing more movies."

Eddie: "Do you know any foreign languages? If so, say something in that language."

Martin: "Ahhh . . . soufle', Doe mare' elgato, good to meet you MATE . . ."

Eddie: "Is that from Australia?"

Martin: "Yeah."

Eddie: "Uhm. I don't get this next question. It just says 'Martin. Toothpaste?'"

Martin: "I have a sponsor that no one knows about . . . Crest. Keeps my nice white teeth glowing (laughter)."

Eddie: "What did you think of that ad they (GT) did with you for 'The Chairman'?"

Martin: "Did YOU like it? I liked it."

Eddie: "How many places did you have to go to for that?"

Martin: "Actually, it was about 14 different places, but they didn't put that many in the ad. What'd you think about it?"

Eddie: "Oh, I thought it was pretty cool. I liked all the locations."

Martin: "Yeah, I'm really glad I got in there, 'cause it's right before the rider of the year polls and stuff."

Eddie: "If you could take only one tool on tour, what would it be?"

Martin: "Probably a crescent wrench. You can use a crescent wrench for so many things . . ."

Eddie: "A hammer . . . (laughter)."

Martin: "Oh yeah, definitely. You could use it for beating up people if they give you a hard time (laughter)."

Eddie: "How come you don't ride vertical, and do you ever ride banks or ditches?"

Martin: "I ride ditches, and I like banks, too, but I just stay away

from the ramps. For one reason, I don't have a ramp to practice on OR anyone to practice with. Even if I got really good at ramps or something, I don't think I'd enter competitions."

Eddie: "Who thought up that crazy nickname 'The Chairman'?"

Martin: "Well, you gotta hand that one to Shawn. Shawn Buckley thought of that one, and that's about all I've got to say on that subject (laughter)."

Eddie: "Have you ever been in a car accident. If yes, whose fault was it?"

Martin: "Yes, I have been in a car accident. I rear-ended this girl at approximately five miles per hour once."

Eddie: "Okay . . . now it's my turn."

Martin: "Ed, I'd like to ask you a question if you don't mind."

Eddie: "I don't mind."

Martin: "What's the hottest ground or ramp trick you've ever seen Martin do?"

Eddie: "Martin's best ramp trick? I've seen you do 360s, and that's pretty rad."

Martin: "Hey! Who showed you the first fakie cross-up?"

Eddie: "Oh yeah, that's right . . . crossed-up fakies. YOU showed me those, Martin."

Martin: "Alright. How about the best ground trick? I don't know if you know this yet, but I've been doing triple decades lately and . . ."

Eddie: "THAT'S the best trick, right there."

Martin: "How many wrist watches do you own, and why?"

Eddie: "I have at least ten wrist watches. I've got a couple Rolex's, Swatches, and a couple of . . ."

Martin: "Why?"

Eddie: "Sentimental reasons. Some of them were gifts and stuff."

Martin: "So if I wanted to trade you watches, you wouldn't do it or you'd get killed by Windy?"

Eddie: "Exactly (laughter)."

Martin: "Okay, what's your favorite 60s re-run TV show?"

Eddie: "Hey, I'm ONLY 22. I don't remember the 60s very well. How about 'The Rat Pack'? Or 'Room 222'?"

Martin: "When did you sign your first autograph?"

Eddie: "I think it was . . . ahhh . . . about 1979, at around 2:00



Long arms and locking brake levers are mandatory equipment for undertakers. Mr. A on the '87 Pro Freestyle Tour Team Model.

in the afternoon, to a little kid (laughter)."

Martin: "What's the weirdest or craziest thing you've ever done on a bet?"

Eddie: "I'm not a gamblin' man, soooo . . . (laughter)."

Martin: "Tell us a little bit about Adam Jung, why you picked him for tour, etc."

Eddie: "Well, the reason I chose Adam for my tour is 'cause he's totally hot on the ground, he's a pretty cool guy to hang out with . . . he's also a guy from Hawaii who gets a free trip to the Continental US, and . . ."

Martin: "So what I think you're trying to say, Ed, is that when you go to Hawaii, you have a place to stay for free (laughter). Is that true?"

Eddie: "Well, more or less, yeah (laughter)."

Martin: "I know you're REALLY fond of the 'Sesame Street' characters . . . which one do you like the best?"

Eddie: "Ernie."

Martin: "Why do you like Ernie?"

Eddie: "Because he's a friend of Bert (laughter)."

Martin: "If you had a chance to go on tour with anyone in the whole world—besides Windy—who would you choose?"

Eddie: "You'd be my first pick."

Martin: "If you had a chance to ride any bike in the world, which bike would that be?"

Eddie: "That would be the bike that I designed . . . the original GT Performer."

Martin: "Go ahead and ask me a question."

Eddie: "What other hobbies do you like to do?"

Martin: "Well, I'd really like to start racing my Yamaha YSR 50. Also, I'm starting to hear more and more about trials riding on bicycles, so I'd like to start doing that right away so by the time it catches on in California, I'll be pretty good at it. I also want to start riding a launch ramp on my street board in front of my house. What hobbies do you like?"

Eddie: "I like to ride jet skis, I like to go snow boarding, skiing, and . . ."

Martin: "You know, Ed, I've gone motorcycle riding a lot with you in the past, and you haven't said a single thing about that . . ."

Eddie: " . . . I was just getting to that. I also like to road race my YSR 50 and ride my motorcross bike."

Windy: "So where have you been on this past tour?"

Martin: "First of all, we went to Tokyo, then Taiwan, then Hong

Kong, then China."

Eddie: "Did you fly to all these places?"

Martin: "Yeah, we did."

Eddie: "Were your arms all tired (laughter)?"

Martin: "Actually, there were people who we 'let' carry our bags for us, because they wanted to."

Eddie: "Did you have a big reception at the airport?"

Martin: "Actually, we didn't have ANY reception at the airport, but once we got to the places . . . like the first dinner we ate in Japan cost like \$300 American dollars. It didn't cost me, but you can imagine how many thousands of yen that would've cost."

Windy: "How long were you gone?"

Martin: "I was gone for 21 days . . . it went by fast."

Eddie: "What was the highlight of your tour in Asia?"

Martin: "Well, Josh is a pretty fun guy to go on tour with, he's got no complaints, makes everything easy . . ."

Eddie: "That's because he's one mellow dude, and he doesn't care about what happens (laughter). Were there any problems on tour at all?"

Martin: "Well, I went through the whole tour—21 days of packing and unpacking by bike, and I didn't break a cable. Then on the final day of the tour, in Hawaii, I was talking to somebody before the show about my cables still being intact, and during the show I went for a double decade, and my cable snapped. I could've been killed, you know (laughter). But like a man, I pulled out of the trick. Well, actually, I didn't even pull the trick off . . . but what do you want . . . I mean, I had no brakes (laughter). That was about the worst thing. On our last tour, the biggest disaster was losing ALL the film. We went through the whole tour and lost all the film . . . that wasn't too happy."

Windy: "So when do you go to Europe?"

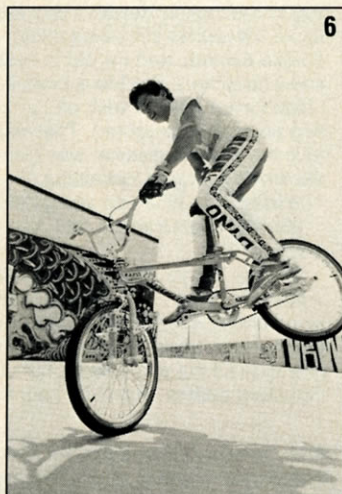
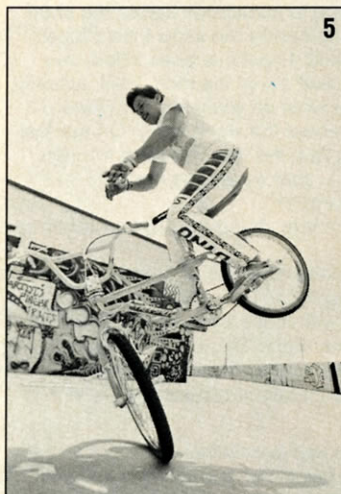
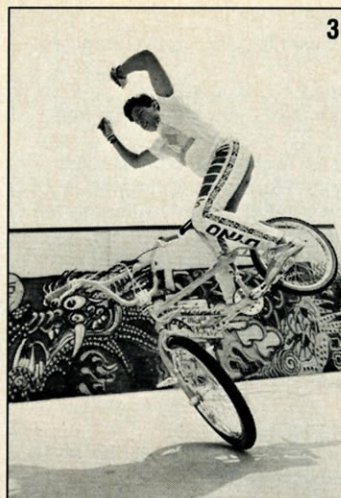
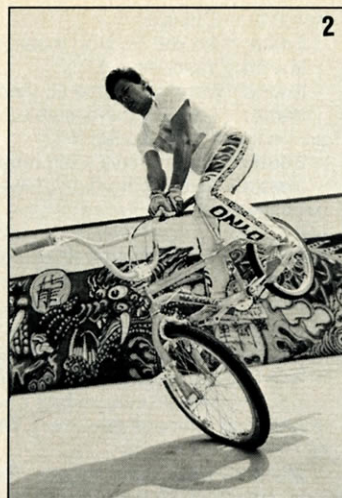
Martin: "Sometime in late July. I'm only doing the US tour for three weeks."

Eddie: "Do you like going on airplane flights for that long?"

Martin: "Well . . . I've been touring for so long, I've learned to just stop fighting everything and just go with it. It's a chance in a lifetime to be able to travel to Japan, or China. Especially China. Wham! played in China a couple months before us and they got three thousand people. Josh and I got five thousand people. I really like

Krys Dauchy. Not only the first sponsored female freestyler, but also the only person capable of touching her feet to her head during a stomach stand.





Twist the bars 90 degrees and as you begin hopping, let go. A demonstration of control starring Martin Aparijo.

Double trouble with GT's spazz patrol.



travelling and accomplishing things like that . . . I just don't like to eat the food in a lot of places."

Windy: "So what do you eat?"

Martin: "I bring a sack of food from home (laughter). No, actually, I went on this tour and tried everything. I tried squid, I tried raw fish, I tried caviar, and discovered I HATE fish eggs. That was the grossest thing I've ever eaten. And in China we ate 'bird with long neck'. They cook it whole, complete, everything . . . guts and all. Then they just bring it out in front of you and chop it up on the table, and you get to pick what you want of the mess. It's not bloody or anything, but it's pretty nasty."

Eddie: "Plakkrewklugh . . . (assorted choking sounds)."

Martin: "It's weird. You walk in and see these shrimp in a window as you enter the restaurant, and they're feeding these things to you just moments later. It was pretty gross. I didn't eat too many shrimps. I stuck with the rice and the pork. Now I'm afraid to eat chicken at home 'cause I keep thinking about that 'bird with long neck'. When you're in France or in parts of Europe, you can eat a lot of steak and vegetables. For breakfast you get bread."

Eddie: "Okay, here's another question for you. How many moves do you learn in a month?"

Martin: "Well, that all depends whether I'm home or touring. If I'm home, I can learn about three moves a month. On tour it's hard to learn new tricks 'cause you're concentrating more on your shows . . . just practicing."

Eddie: "Three moves a month? Down pat, wired, every time . . ."

Martin: "Yeah. You can learn anything in 15 minutes and have it down in about a week."

Eddie: "Well, it looks to me like we're running out of this tape, aaaand it's almost time to say 'adios', or . . ."

Martin: "Aaaah, I would say asta loego, odo lo fraas, aloha, bon jour, uhm . . . how do you say it in Japanese . . . uhhh . . ."

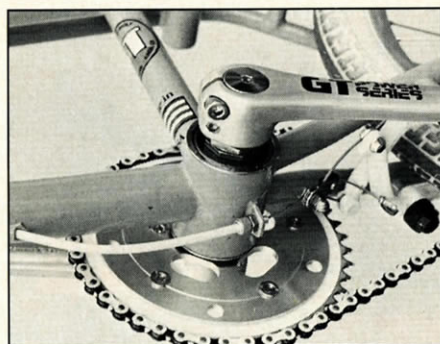
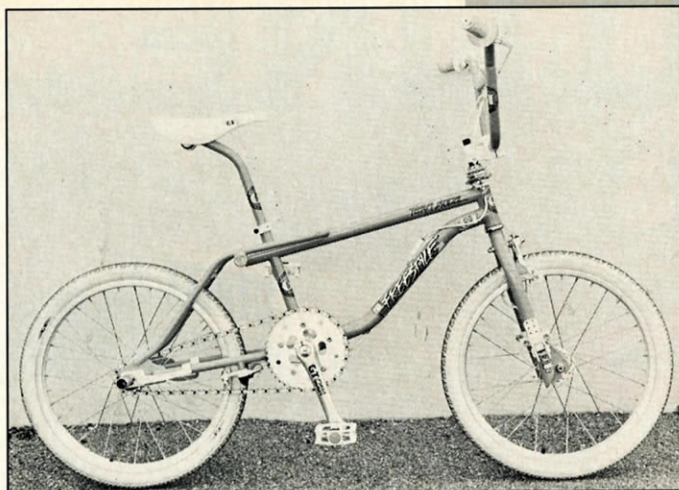
Eddie: "Oh, uhhh . . . no, no . . . aaaa, what WAS that? Oh, yeah . . . gooda-buya (laughter)."

Windy: "What's that flashing light mean?"

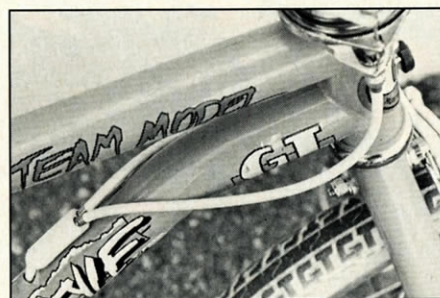
Eddie: "I think it means the tape is almo . . . CLICK."



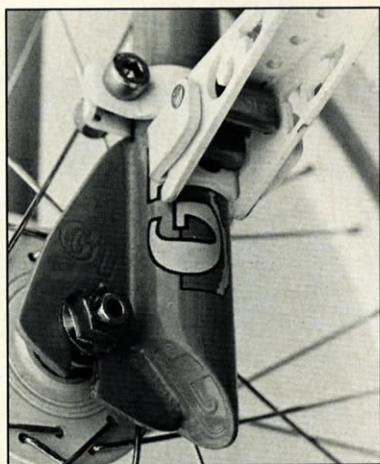
Alright. You know as well as we do that most bike tests turn out the same way—we check out the bike, we give you the price, we hate the grips. This time things are different. The 1987 GT Pro Freestyle Tour Team Model not only has the longest name and one of the steepest price tags of any bike out right now, it's one of the best. Every guy on the GT team rides a Pro Freestyle Tour Team Model, and every one of their bikes are bone stock . . . by choice. The price on this thing is major—around \$550.00. Keep in mind the Team Model comes complete—there is nothing left to buy or upgrade. AND, the geometry (along with practically everything else on the bike) is new for '87—still hot for ramps, WAY happening for flatland. If you want to know much more about the bike, there's a spec page with all kinds of technical info on it. If you want a personal recommendation from us, this is it. The '87 Pro Freestyle Tour Team Model is the best freestyle bike GT has ever built. Period.



We can't decide whether to brag about the Power Series cranks, the sealed B.B., the 990 brakes, or the standing platform created by the bend in the down tube, so let's just say they ALL mesh together to create one hot machine.



Clever tucked away cable routing keeps everything out of the way, and that bend in the down tube does the rest when it comes to squeaker-type tricks.



Yeah, we were worried about the hollow axles too. They must last though, 'cause we haven't met anybody who's broken one yet.

SPECS

COMPLETE BIKE PRICE: \$550.00.

FINISHES AVAILABLE: GT blue, lavender, neon pink, chrome, white, and black.

COMPLETE BIKE WEIGHT: 29 pounds, 10 1/2 ounces.

FRAME WEIGHT: 4 pounds, 15 ounces.

FORK WEIGHT: 2 pounds.

BAR RISE: 9 inches.

BAR WIDTH: 28 3/4 inches.

SEAT TUBE ANGLE: 72 degrees.

STEERING HEAD ANGLE: 75 degrees.

FORK RAKE: 1 1/2 inches.

BOTTOM BRACKET HEIGHT: 12 inches.

WHEELBASE: 35 to 37 inches.

TUBE TUBE LENGTH: 18 inches.

TOP TUBE O.D.: 1 1/4 inches.

DOWN TUBE O.D.: 1 3/8 inches.

FORK LEG O.D.: 1 1/8 inches.

COMPONENTS

FRAME: GT Pro Freestyle Tour, 4130 chrome-moly.

FORK: GT Pro Freestyle Tour, 4130 chrome-moly.

BAR: GT Freestyle, 4130 chrome-moly.

STEM: GT Freestyle, aluminum and chrome-moly.

SPINNING DEVICE: Odyssey Gryo.

GRIPS: A'me.

RIMS: Ukai, alloy.

HUBS: GT Superlace, 36 hole with hollow axle.

SPOKES: Chrome, 14 gauge.

TIRES: GT Freestyle, 20 x 1.75.

BRAKES: Dia-Compe FS 833 front, Dia-Compe 990 rear.

BRAKE LEVERS: Dia-Compe Tech-7, with locking buttons.

BRAKE CABLES: Odyssey Gyro and Dia-Compe.

PEDALS: SR, aluminum and chrome-moly.

CRANK: GT Power Series, aluminum with chrome-moly spindle, 175 mm.

BOTTOM BRACKET: Sealed.

FRONT SPROCKET: GT aluminum chainwheel, 43 teeth.

POWER DISC: GT, aluminum.

REAR SPROCKET: SunTour freewheel, 16 teeth.

CHAIN: Izumi, 1/8 inch.

SEAT: Viscount GT.

SEAT POST CLAMP: GT, aluminum.

SEAT POST: GT laid back, 4130.

STANDING FEATURES

PLATFORMS/PEGS: The bend in the down tube creates a standing surface in front of the bottom bracket, which is a great idea. The top tube has a built-in standing platform that's basically the same as the original GT Pro Performer, but there's now a brace added to the rear of it. GT fold-down fork platforms and bolt-on rear chainstay platforms are included along with a set of axle pegs. All the standing surfaces on our bike worked like a dream.

OVERALL EVALUATION

QUALITY OF FINISH: 9*. Excellent. Plenty of colors to choose from, fresh new graphics, and a decent paint job give it a clean look. GT is one of the last companies to still produce bikes without the half chrome/half paint finish.

QUALITY OF WELDING: 9* Assembled and welded in Huntington Beach, California is all we need to say.

QUALITY OF COMPONENTS: 9.5*. GT is one of the best companies out there, and this is the best freestyle bike they make. Once you own it, there is nothing left to buy.

*Based on a 1-10 scale.

ASSORTED COMMENTS: "I got on it and expected it to ride weird, but it felt just like my bike, which is a different brand. I adapted to the GT in about 5 minutes." . . . "Forget about flex with the Power Series cranks." . . . "You can run about 75 pounds of pressure in those new GT freestyle tires, which work great in conjunction with the Pro Lace wheels. They feel like 48s, but are only 36 spoke rims." . . . "Dia-Compe owns the world of brake levers with that new Tech-7 model." . . . "I hated to take apart our test bike and send it back to GT—that thing rode soooo good." . . .

"Everybody on the GT team uses a stock bike—right out of the box, which is cool.

Anybody can own the same bike Martin, Eddie, Josh, or Brian ride every day." . . .

"The Dia-Compe 990 brakes become less and less confusing every time I work on them, but I'm still pretty baffled by them. Steve Blackey from The Bicycle Source tuned in the ones on our test bike to perfection in minutes." . . .

"I've heard some pretty amusing comments on that down tube, but GT gets the last laugh, 'cause it really DOES work. More room for squeakers and a cool little platform in front of the B.B." . . . "Odyssey Gryo? Very cool. The cable routing through the frame takes a while to get things situated during assembly, but it really tucks the cables out of the way." . . . "I think GT needs to come out with some new colors—it seems like it's been a while." . . .

"Here's a hot ticket with the Viscount seat—if you want the nose of the seat to be a little shorter for a better bar reach, take a saw and chop the seat down to the second finger grip underneath the seat. Got that?" . . . "I heard a rumor that GT is coming out with a new stem to replace the 'Meat Mallet'. Hmmm." . . . "I like those new GT stickers—there sure were plenty of those things flying through the air in sticker tosses at the last few contests."

MANUFACTURER:

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Huntington Beach, CA 92649