

And they're off

More than 125 bicyclists trekked across country roads in Saturday's "Race from the River," the first event of the two-day, 18-event Capital Classic.

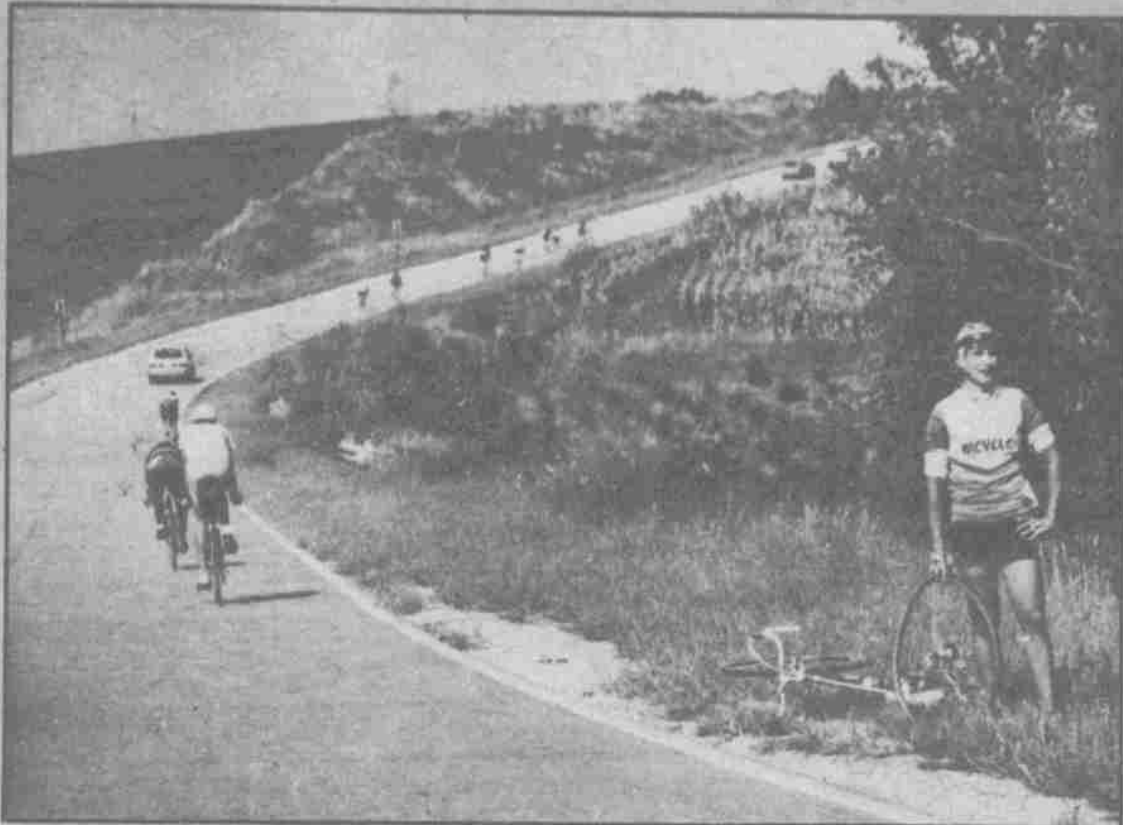
About 40 cyclists from out of state competed in the first-year 62-mile event that began at Bellevue's Hayworth Park and finished at Lincoln's Southeast Community College.

Early in the race, cyclists were forced to get off their bikes and walk through grass to avoid road construction. Potholes and railroad tracks also obstructed the cyclists jour-

ney. However, such problems are expected in a point-to-point road race, said Patrick Donohoe, promoter and co-owner of DeLuxe Bicycles.

"They (the cyclists) know the dangers involved," he said. "If they get into trouble they just have to 'chalk one up to experience,'" he said.

On Sunday, pro racers and amateurs competed in about 17 separate races around the Capitol. The Capital Classic was sponsored by the Lincoln Journal-Star, DeLuxe Bicycle and KHAT radio.



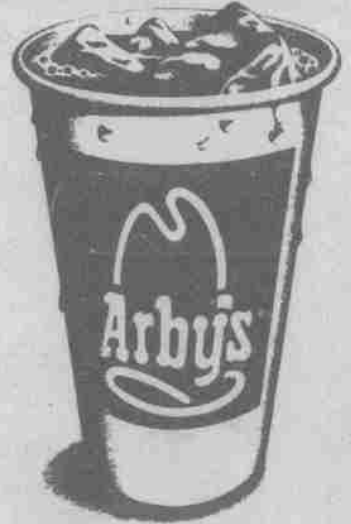
Photos, clockwise from upper right: John Pahlmann of the Kansas City Bike Club forges ahead in the Class 4, 35-lap race Sunday. A pack of the Class 4 riders taken on a curve midway through the race. Donald Bump, left, and Mrs. Patterson, both of Ohio, watch on with Mrs. Ron Bump of Lincoln during the first race of the day Sunday. The laps become one big blur as bikers speed round the capitol. A discouraged cyclist, bent rim in hand, awaits help during Saturday's 62-mile road race.

Photos by David Creamer, Kathleen Green and Andrea Hoy

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