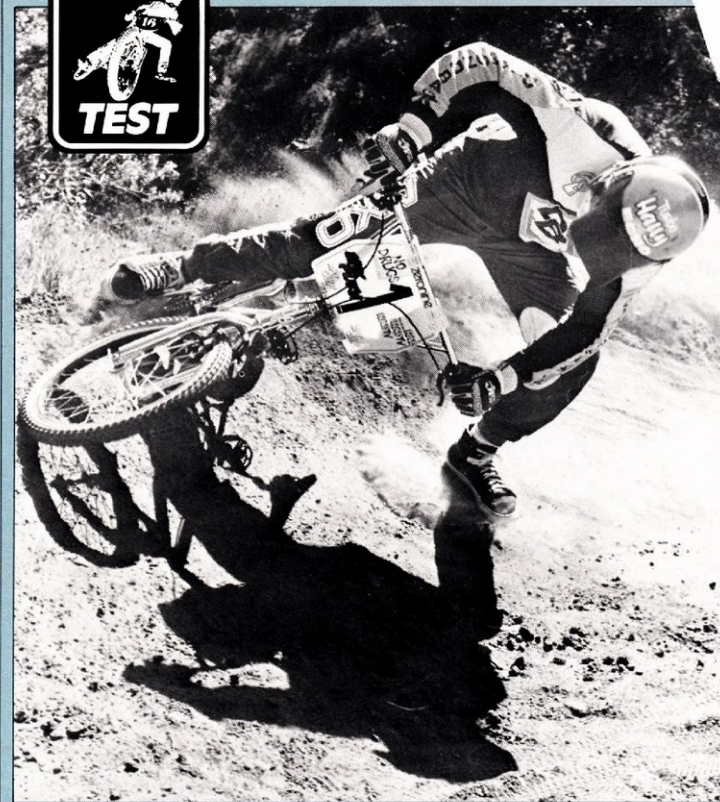




DIAMOND BACK'S ALL-NEW...

SILVER STREAK

The conversation



Harry with the bermshot. It takes some muscle to break the rear end of the Silver Streak loose, but it's stable once it's sideways.

□ "Hey, that's a cool-lookin' bike."
 "Thank you, I just bought it."
 "How much was it?"
 "It cost \$250, but the painted ones go for about \$10 less."
 "That's cheap. What kinda Diamond Back is it, anyway?"
 "It's called the 'Silver Streak.' The man at the shop said it's the 1987 model, too."
 "Does it have a chromomomoly-alloy frame?"
 "If you mean *chromoly*, yes. And the forks, handlebars, cranks and seatpost are chromoly, also."
 "What about the other stuff?"
 "The other 'stuff,' as you call it, includes Dia-Compe 890 calipers front and rear, Tech-4 levers, alloy rims, SR alloy hubs, Tioga cranks and spider, and CW-type handlebars."
 "Those grips look like A'MEs. Are they?"
 "Unfortunately, no. They are blatant copies of A'ME Duals."
 "The stickers sure look neat-o."
 "Thanks. Diamond Back decided to go for that 'new wave' look, I suppose."
 "Yeah, I guess. How does it ride—did you ride it yet—is it strong?"
 "Excuse me?"
 "I said..."
 "Forget it. Yes, I've ridden it, and I let my friends Robby Rupe and Scott Towne ride it when I was out at the local practice track the other afternoon."
 "Who are those guys?"
 "Wake up and smell the dirt, dude. They're on the *BMX Plus!* Test Force."
 "Oh."
 "They spent the whole day riding it, and believe it or not, Harry Leary was there and rode it, too."
 "I've heard of him. Did they like the bike?"
"WELL, DID THEY LIKE THE BIKE?!"
 "What? Oh, yes, the bike. They liked it a lot—even though it is designed more for kids around 13 years old. They said the bike turned and jumped real well, but they felt that it needed a stem with more forward reach for larger riders such as themselves."
 "Did they bust anything?"
 "No, they didn't break anything, but Harry slipped his pedals going over a jump on one occasion. He landed hard on the seat, bending the seatpost."
 "Sounds like that would have bent any post."

◀ *Diamond Back Flight Commander Harry Leary crossin'-up the Silver Streak. With a longer stem, Harry could race it in the Pro class.*

"Yes, with the possible exception of a TRP [which has .065 wall thickness] or an internally braced Tioga post."
 "Did anything else give?"
 "Well, the cranks bent slightly, but the guys were really thrashing hard. Everything else held up great. The bars didn't slip or bend, the wheels stayed straight and the frame and forks remained completely intact."
 "Killer! That must be a good bike. Is it light? My BMX weighs 37 pounds."
 "Yes, it's a good bike, and yes, it is rather light. It weighs a mere 24-1/2 pounds."

"Are you gonna race it?"
 "I certainly plan to. All it needs is a numberplate and pads."
 "Hey, what are those funny-looking metal tabs by the front sprocket and the freewheeler?"
 "You mean the *freewheel*."
 "Whatever. What are they for?"
 "The bike comes from the shop with reflectors and a chain guard—they're required by the federal government, and those tabs are for the chain guard."
 "Seems as though they coulda used the plastic mounts I've seen on other guys' bikes."



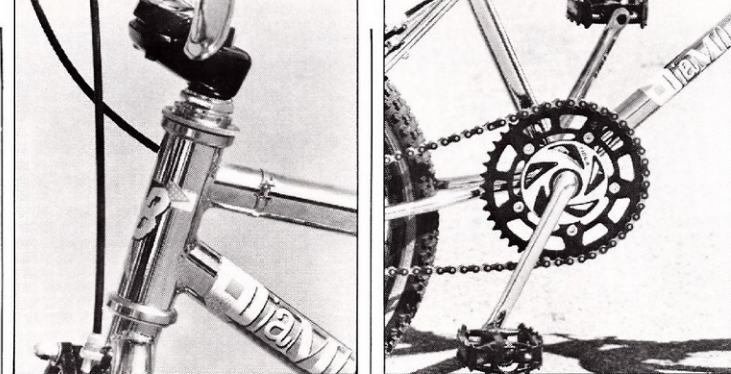
With a slightly longer stem, the Silver Streak is big enough for most anyone, even a big guy like Scott. The 180mm cranks and laid-back seatpost offer plenty of room, also.

"Yes, that's probably true."
 "It sure is a shiny bike—is that why they call it the Silver Streak?"
 "That's chrome plating that makes it so shiny, and I must say that the black components complement it quite nicely. It's possible that they named it for that reason, but I'm not sure."
 "Can I ride it?"
 "Well, I kind of have to get going, and

◀ *Dirt-adapted Griz air by Scott T. Even under the stress and strain of our not-always-gentle Test Force, the Silver Streak held up amazingly well.*

OFFICIAL BMX PLUS! TEST BIKE PRO AND CON LIST

- | | |
|--|--|
| DIAMOND BACK SILVER STREAK PROS | CONS |
| Value priced | Grips are hand murderers |
| Cool graphics | Ultra-dorky welded-on chain-guard mounts |
| Nice chrome | Seatpost and cranks bent |
| Decent welds | |
| Good components | |
| Lightweight | |
| Strong | |
| All-chromoly tubing | |
| Name-brand components | |



Clean welding, nice chrome and Dia-Compe 890 brakes (you know how good they are). The only major setback on this bike is the stem (it "sets back" the bars—about an inch too far).

Quality components throughout: Tioga cranks and spider, SR chain wheel and Victor pedals, all bolted to a chromoly frame and forks. The "no-wave" graphics are choice, also.

I'm on a really tight schedule and . . ."
 "Hey, wait up, dude. I'll trade ya my BMX, all 13 river carp I just caught and my new Nash skateboard for it."
 "I'll see you later. . ."
 "Wait, wait. . ."

END OF STORY

That may not be exactly how it happened, but it certainly could have. The Diamond Back Silver Streak is, in fact, a

great-looking, great-handling bike with a reasonable price tag. We did manage to bend the seatpost and cranks slightly, but under normal use, the Silver Streak should hold up fine. As it comes stock, it's set up perfectly for most guys up to about five-foot-seven or so. For larger riders it needs a stem with a longer reach. That's it. The Silver Streak is a hot bike. No lie. □

SPECIFICATIONS: DIAMOND BACK SILVER STREAK

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| I. FRAME AND FORK | Hub: SR low-flange, alloy, loose balls. | V. SEATING |
| Type: Racing, age range 10 and over. | Tires: Cheng Shin, Comp III type, 20" x 1.75" front and rear. | Seat: Diamond Back, nylon. |
| Frame design: Single top and down tubes; top 1-1/8" O.D., down 1-1/4" O.D. | Freehub: SunTour, 16T, chromoly. | Seatpost: Diamond Back, chromoly, laidback. |
| Frame construction: 4130 chromoly. | III. DRIVE TRAIN | Seatpost clamp: Diamond Back, alloy. |
| Fork construction and design: 4130 chromoly, 1-1/8" O.D. tubing, leading-edge design. | Pedals: Victor VP-707, alloy platforms, chromoly shafts. | VI. BRAKES |
| Wheelbase: 35" to 36" | Cranks: Tioga Task Force, one-piece, chromoly, 180mm. | Callipers: Dia-Compe 880, front and rear. |
| Bottom bracket height: 11" (center to ground). | Front sprockets: SR, alloy, 44T. | VII. ACCESSORIES |
| Chain stay length: 15 1/4" (center of bottom bracket to midpoint of rear dropouts). | Bottom bracket: Steel, retainered ball. | C.P.S.C. equipment. |
| Steering head angle: 71° | Chain: KMC, 1/2" x 1/8". | VIII. WEIGHT |
| Seat tube angle: 67° | IV. STEERING | 24-1/2 lbs. |
| II. WHEELS | Chain: KMC, 1/2" x 1/8". | IX. PRICE |
| Rims: Diamond Back, 7X type, alloy, 20" x 1.75". | Headset: Steel, retainered ball. | \$240 painted, \$250 chrome. |
| Spokes: Steel, 80-gauge. | | X. COUNTRY OF ORIGIN |
| | | Taiwan. |
| | | XI. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION |
| | | Diamond Back Western States Imports 1837 DeHavilland Dr. Newbury Park, CA 91320 |