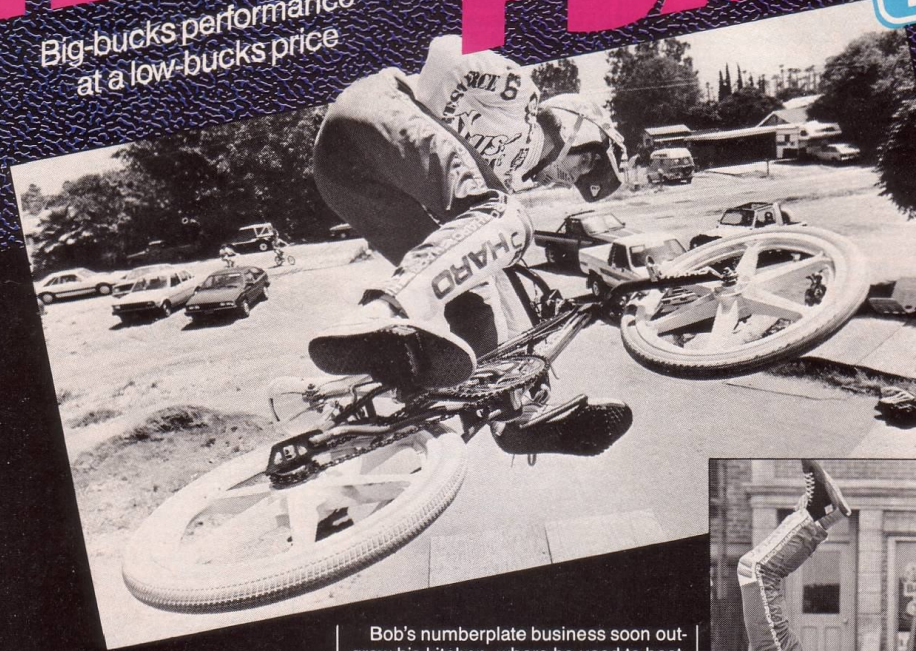




FREESTYLE'S
BEST BUY? MAYBE SO

HARO FSX

Big-bucks performance
at a low-bucks price



◀ Tony Adams lofts the FSX high above his plywood paradise. The FSX was one of the easiest-to-get-used-to bikes we've ever tested.

□ Bob Haro is not your average corporate executive. For one thing, he's not yet 30 years old. For another, he can positively rip on a bicycle. It's an oft-told tale by now, but it's probably worth mentioning that Bob was once widely considered to be the top freestyler in the world, back before the AFA and freestyle contests even existed. In fact, Bob and his freestyle teammate from those days, R.L. Osborn, are generally considered to be the guys who created freestyle as we know it.

EARLY DAYS

Back in the early days of BMX, Bob and R.L. were racers. Like most racers, they spent a lot of time on their bikes, and during some of that time, they started doing tricks on their bikes that they could use to show off their bike-handling skills. Thus was born the sport of freestyle.

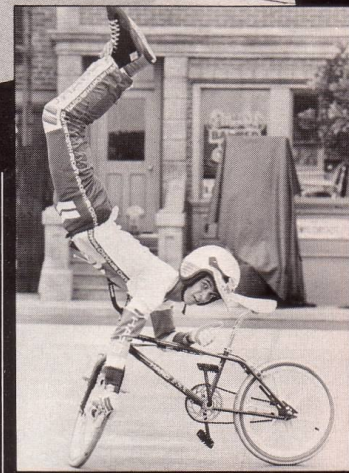
Haro needed to find some way to make a living, so he started selling numberplates to racers. A naturally gifted artist, his stylish-looking numberplates soon came to be regarded as the best in BMX, and soon most of the sport's top riders were running them.

Bob's numberplate business soon outgrew his kitchen, where he used to heat them over his stove to bend them into shape. He rented warehouse and office space, and started to pursue his business seriously. In time, he created additional products, and his business kept growing. Somewhere along the line, about five years ago, Bob decided to market a freestyle bike similar to the one he was riding in the trick shows he was doing on the side. It was modeled after his old Torker race bike, whose most distinguishing feature was its double top tube, which made for a great framestanding platform. He called his first bike the Haro Freestyler, and an industry was born.

TODAY

Over the years, the original Haro Freestyler evolved into the Haro Master, now Haro's top-of-the-line bike. During that period of evolution, Bob retired from doing freestyle shows because of problems with his knees, so he ended up putting more and more of his time into his business. As a result, he started coming out with more and more products, all in the Haro tradition of combining excellent performance with great styling.

The Haro F.S.T. came out about two



After ten minutes on the bike, Dave Nourie gave it a thumbs up for its flatland capabilities.

years ago. It was designed to be a dual-purpose bike—one that was equally at home in the freestyle and racing camps. In fact, the initials stand for Freestyle, Street and Track. There was nothing terribly radical about the idea. The first bikes used for freestyle were BMX race bikes, and they were obviously suitable for the street, too. The only difference was that the F.S.T. (Haro later dropped the periods from the name) was primarily a freestyle bike that could do double

