

SKYWAY STREET STYLER FREESTYLIN' IN THE STREETS

The prosecution had an open and shut case. The witness had seen it in her own pool. Two radical youths on brightly coloured bicycles getting eight, nine, ten feet out. It was outrageous. One-hander one-footers, awesome alley oops, can-cans, 540's ... A violation of Section 43A of the PTL Regulations Manual.

Joe Johnson and Daq Casey stood in the dock, wearin' orange day-glow cotton pants and thrift store t-shirts with fruit salad graphics. Brushing the hair from their forehead. State attorney, Benjamin Delairro, started the interrogation.

"Just the facts boys, puh-leez. In your own words, tell the court what happened."

Joe leaned forward. "Well, sir, it was like this. The lady's pool was empty for cleaning. I mean, she wasn't usin' it. She was across the street at the supermarket in her fuzzy pink slippers. It was just soooo smooth. So inviting.

We only planned to rampage it for a minute, though. But it turned into hours."

"What were you doin' in there?"

"Upwards of ten feet, I s'pose, on a couple of the really good runs. They were big ones. Yeah."

The barrister pauses. He disappears into the corridor, and a half second later, reappears, this time wheeling a bike. "Exhibit A, your honour. The accused's machine, impounded by the FBA Police Corps. A Skyway StreetStyler."

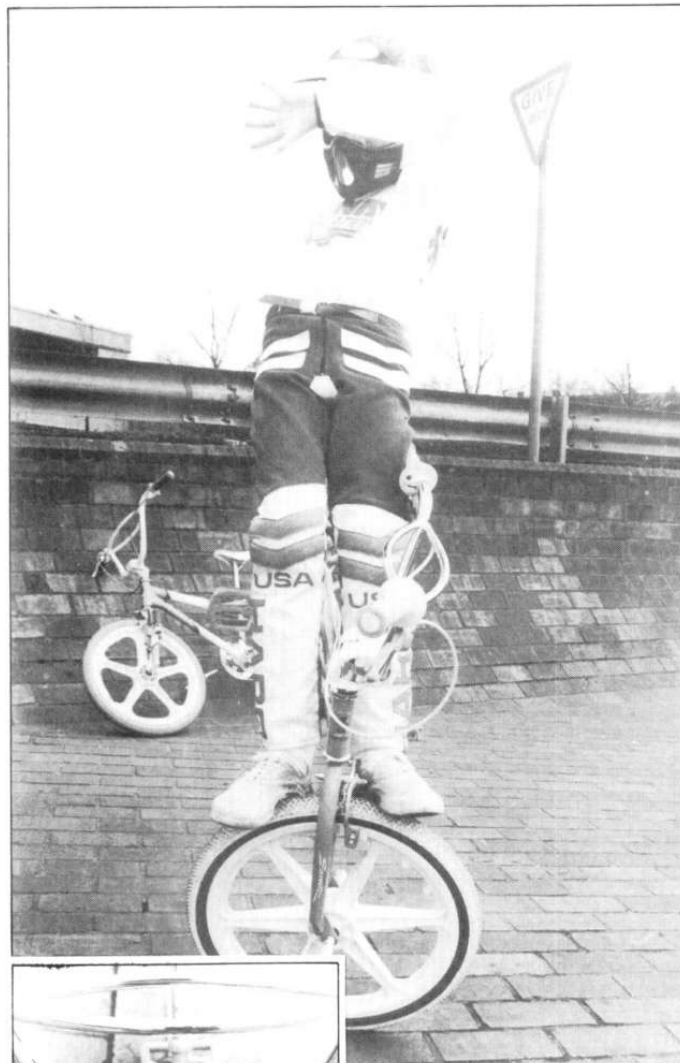
Isn't BMX funny. Only a few years ago, Skyway Recreation didn't even have a freestyling fame and fork — they were just full race. Wanted a TA? No prob. These were the people to see. Their stable sheltered good guys and even one good gal ... Richie Anderson, Andy Patterson (before he left to ride for JMC), Cheri Elliott ... I mean good riders. But now that's all changed. Skyway are flushing out their race team efforts and getting into freestyle 100 percent. They figure that freestyle is their ONLY market. And with that, they have launched the StreetStyler.

This is a very important bike for Skyway. It brings that name down to a market — you and I — up till now couldn't afford. Yyyee, the StreetBeat was nice. It was it. A hardcore freestyler. But you had to have been saving for all year to reach into your pocket, pull out the wad of cash, and flip it onto the counter. All 450 quid of it for a complete bike (if one came stock) — £232 frame and forks. The StreetStyler sells for just £275. All in.

So what do you get for your brass? Well, you'd expect a second rate frame and fork, made over there, sloppy construction in a few spots, copy components of someone else's ... you've seen bikes like that before. But you'd be surprised with this. Everything on the bike is cool. That's because everything has either been made by or made for Skyway — with just the exception of the cranks, pedals, brakes, seatpost and freewheel. And Skyway know their stuff. The Skyway Team is laced with some REAL talent — Robert Peterson, Scotty Freeman, Hugo Gonzales, Eddie Roman, Olegs Konings, Maurice Meyer ... not bad.

What you don't get on the StreetStyler that's standard on the StreetBeat is dual colour combos (grey and light blue or white and grey) or the Skyway Spinmaster for all your bar twirlers, but you are getting a Potts Mod, same chrome-moly frame and forks and the new six-spoker Tuffs ... so don't even think about complainin' spud. It's good enough to cut the mustard.

The frame is Skyway's own. 4130 chrome-moly throughout with a grooved top tube for a flat standing surface. Unique huh? It means it's totally easy to spot when you take it down to show your buddies at Rat's ramp. The seat stays also meet the top tube just in front of the seat tube (and gradually slope back behind the seat) to make some more primo foot room there. Framestands and leaners are sooooo easy. We were doing 'em on the nice, smooth cement around the warehouse all week. Which was cool until N.J. noticed all the tyre tracks in the studio.



Dry and shy? Clock watching? Or just checking his fingers? Yeah, five. Honest flatland. Frazer Campbell. Some of you may remember Frazer used to be a one-time BMX racer for Factory Kuwahara.

Steering equip. Stock goodies include Skyway EZ handlebars, and a stem with a Potts Modification. Cool. No more having your brake cables look like bread ties.

Ooops. Nobody had any problems with their feet hitting the platform. Then there's the dropouts. The front and rear dropouts are heat-treated and the slot-through coaster brake bracket is built in. Thankyou Skyway. And three forks are chrome-moly, 4130 too. Swedge formed.

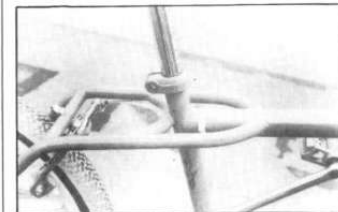
Colour wise, as you expect, it WILL turn heads. I wish we could only put a few more colour photos in of this thing. The StreetStyler is available in three different paint jobbies with components to match. Lavender and white, white and green, or white and pink (seen here). And the graphics, too, really add to the bike's overall appearance. Stylish and used sparingly. Plus, this isn't the kind of paint finish that wears out just looking at it. No Sir! It's plenty durable and the coverage is even all over — no thin areas on the dropouts or around the welds. Hot. This is definitely no downstream frame and fork.

Good. But do the components come up to the same evaluation? That's the question. Like I said, Skyway have a real arsenal of primo equipment. Most of it's been used in the assembly of the StreetStyler. Stuff like the EZ bars — put a couple of pads on and they practically turn into a couch, the smallest Hot Seat, the new Tuff Pads — they're excellent, the Potts Mod brought to you courtesy of the Skyway spiral fluted fork stem which is drilled out to accept brake cable and housing, the six spoke Tuff wheels, the tyres. Yeah. The only two things that don't come standard are the Spinmaster and the front and rear pegs. And both of 'em can be purchased separately. But what about the rest of it?

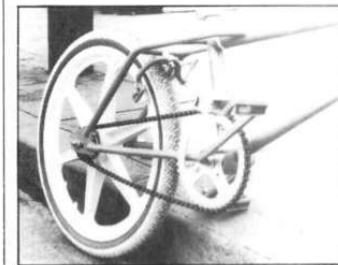
Well, the calliper brakes are Chang Star 980's with Skyway pads. The front brake is set up for ... you guessed it, the Potts Modification. They also come with a nifty set of levers. Qual equipment for stylin' in the streets. And look at the paint job. They're coloured in the same combo as the frame. That's trick with a capital T.

The freewheel is a SunTour, which is the best available on the market right now. Funny enough, you don't get a coaster on the 'styler. C'mon Skyway you know better than that. The ratio set-up is 43-16. SR chrome-moly one-piece cranks, Skyway front sprocket, Shimano SX pedals and a Sedis Sport chain round out the drive train. And note how the pedals are coloured keyed to the frame. Skipping? Fat chance.

The seating accomodations are brought to you by a smallish Hot Seat (made for Skyway), which is a bit narrow for surfing tricks. You could have a problem if your shoe size is eight plus. It's not 'xactly a dance floor. But it doesn't stick out like



The standing platform. And it's rad.



The new Skyway hot-smokers six-spokers. These thing's are DURABLE.

The newest bike in town. Lean and mean. The Skyway Streetstyler. This rates WAY up there on the cool-looking-bike-scale.

Backwards drop-in. As bio as they come.





Hi Moma. There's no doubt this thing is pure freestyle. Any kid who buys a Streetstyler and doesn't do tricks is depriving himself of tons of fun.

some seats or get in the way when you're jumping around the frame. A straight chrome-moly seat post holds it up there.

The grips? Real Oakley's. Ahhh, thanks Skyway. They won't turn your palms to burger. Finally the headset and bottom bracket are box-standard Tange. Not too shabby at all. Good components for its class. With the majority of stuff from Skyway, you're getting a trusted name.

But how does the StreetStyler perform? That's what you really want to know, right? Thought so. I mean when you walk in the door of a bikeshop and see all the freestylers next to the ten speeds and the beach cruisers, they look pretty much of

a muchness. You don't need the shop owner's sales pitch to know this is the same bike Craig Campbell rides, true. So there's only one way you're going to find out. Grab the grips, swing your leg over the seat, and sit on it for a second. Now pull it off the stand. Ride across the showroom floor.

"What do you think?"

"Ah, mmm, well. Everything falls neatly to hand. That's nice. The bars feel good."

"They're twenty-eight inches wide with eight inches on the rise, son. The bike's designed to snug riders twelve years old and up. What 'bout the steering?"

"Sharp. Like any bike you have to get used to

it. But all-around it's hot for flatland. Now I know how the Skyway trick team make ground tricks peezy. In the air I bet it's really stable. And the frame doesn't have anything sticking out to catch yourself on. Clever. I don't think they could have put together a better selection of components. These tyres are definitely good freestyle and street rubber."

"Nuff said. So the final verdict. You're looking at a stylish freestyle unit with killer looks and state-of-the-art workmanship. One that'll get you second looks and not let you down whether you're riding down the park or jamming ramps. That's a fact. Made in America, masterminded by Skyway, cool colour schemes . . . you get the drift, this shredder's HOT. Skyway have done good. Okay, okay, you don't get billions of pegs and platforms — if you expect that you're probably goin' to be disappointed with just trick nuts — but what do you want? Clean, functional looks or as many places to stand on as possible. You decide. We have. If we just had £275, a lavender and white StreetStyler would be in our garage next Thursday.

SPECIFICATIONS

Complete bike price: Approximately £275.
Finishes available: Lavender/white, white/green, white/pink.

Complete bike weight: About 28 pounds.

Frame weight: 4 pounds, 9½ ounces.

Fork weight: 2 pounds, 4 ounces.

Handlebar rise: 8 inches.

Handlebar width: 28 inches.

Frame: Skyway StreetStyler, chrome-moly, creased top platform, heat-treated rear drop-outs with slot-through coaster brake mount.

Forks: Skyway StreetStyler, chrome-moly, swedged fork legs.

Handlebar: Skyway EZ bars, chrome-moly.

Handlebar stem: Skyway spiral fluted stem, aluminium and chrome-moly, Potts mod.

Grips: Oakley jobbies.

Wheels: Skyway OE six-spokers, Dupont plastic.

Tyres: Skyway freestyle tyres, 20x1.9 front and rear.

Brakes: Chang Star 980's, dual colour combo's, front and rear.

Brake pads: Skyway Tuff pads.

Crank: SR forged one-piece chrome-moly, 175mm.

Pedals: Shimano SX, chrome-moly axles.

Bottom bracket set: Steel.

Front chainring: Skyway, duraluminium, 43T.

Rear Sprocket: SunTour MF-2000, chrome, 16T.

Chain: Sedis Sport, ½ inch.

Seat: Skyway hot seat.

Seat post: Straight, chrome-moly.

Seat post clamp: Chang Star, alloy.

Purpose: Pure freestyle. Any kid who buys a StreetStyler and doesn't do tricks is depriving himself from tons of fun.

Age range: 12 and up.

Quality of finish: Excellent. Plenty durable.

Quality of welds: It's not Commie made.

Overall appearance: Good. The Skyway graphics are stylish and used sparingly so the bike doesn't look like a two wheeled billboard.

Test input: Scotty Freeman, Carlo Griggs,

Peter Hawkins, N.J., Mike Watt, Mr.

Michael Allen, and anybody else who knows us.

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