

V. Cycling

V-1 Simpson, Jerry H., Jr. "Murphy's Marvelous Mile," *American History Illustrated*, 15, No. 3 (June 1980), 22-33.

At age 16 racing cyclist Charles M. Murphy boasted to a Philadelphia reporter after riding a stationary training bicycle at a rate of one mile in one minute and 19 seconds, "if I didn't have the wind to overcome, I could follow a railroad train just as fast as it could go. There's not a locomotive built that can get away from me." His boast was published and Murphy became the laughing stock of the world. Twelve years later H. B. "Hal" Fullerton, special agent for the Long Island Railroad, convinced its President that Murphy's boast would be good publicity. The LIRR provided equipment and financed the stunt. On June 30, 1899, Charles M. Murphy became the most famous man in America. His name headlined newspapers across the country and his feat was cabled to Europe. At age 28, this Irish-American became the first man in history to propel himself at an unbelievable speed of sixty miles an hour over a one mile course pedaling a bicycle. Based on primary and secondary sources; no notes; 8 photographs.

—Jerry Jaye Wright

V-2 Van der Merwe, Floris J. G. "L. S. Meintjes: His Impact on South African Sport History," *Sporting Traditions*, 7, No. 2 (May 1991), 192-205.

L. S. Meintjes was South Africa's first internationally successful sportsman, establishing a number of cycling world records in England and the United States of America. The article provides details of his sporting career and his role in helping to promote South African sport and the development of a South African national identity. Based on (mainly) primary and secondary sources; 72 notes.

—Braham Dabscheck