

Road Test

More For Your Money

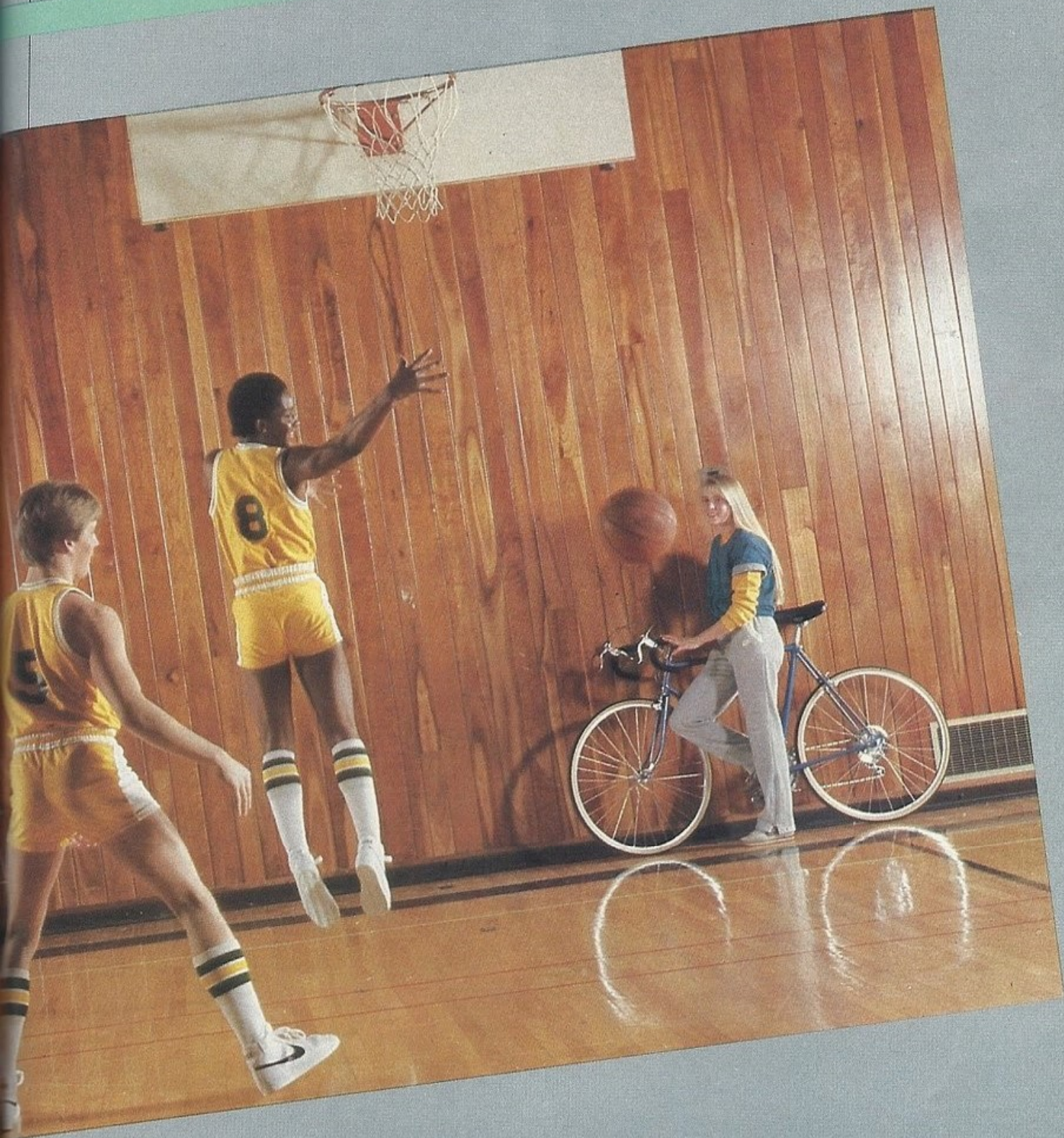
Five Sport Tourers Prove That More is More

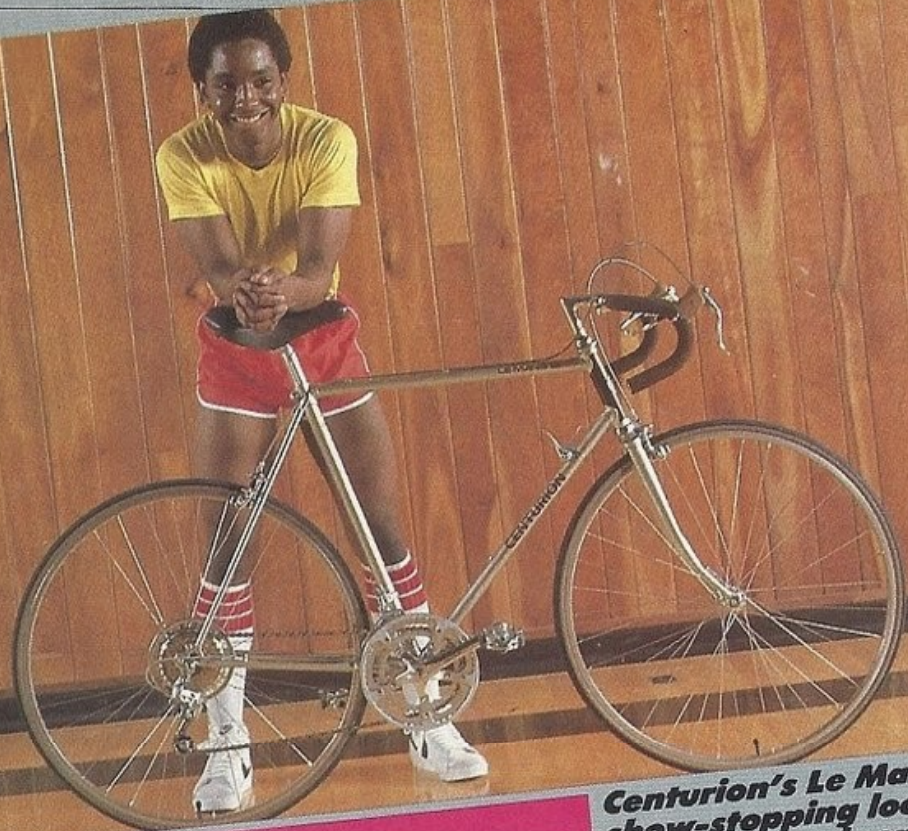
Theodore Costantino

In more ways than one, a sport touring bike is an in-between bike: Its riding characteristics usually lie between the extremes of touring and racing. It performs commuting duties without being specifically designed for them, carries day-tripping loads when a rack is bolted to its dropout eyelets, and rides equally well during quick spins through the park in its sport-bike mode.

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Centurion's Le Mans backs up its show-stopping looks with a plush ride and good components. The Micro-Lite shift levers are especially nice to use.

Not just another pretty face: The Bridgestone 400 rides on Bridgestone tires, stops with Bridgestone brakes, goes and handles very well indeed.





Handsome pinstriping, flawless paint, and a familiar control panel: The classic ten-speed lives on in the Nishiki Custom Sport.

More For Your Money

BRIDGESTONE 400

Manufactured by: Bridgestone Bicycles, Inc.
19140 Van Ness
Torrance, CA 90501

SUGGESTED RETAIL PRICE: \$249.95 (estimate)

SIZES AVAILABLE: 19, 21, 23, 25, 27 inches, 20-inch mixer; size tested: 23 inches

WEIGHT: 25 pounds, 3 ounces; bare frame without fork: 5 pounds, 2 ounces; fork only: 1 pound, 13 1/2 ounces

FRAME: 4130 triple-butted chrome-moly main tubes; steel headset; brazed-on top tube cable guides; water bottle bosses; derailleur cable stop and guides; chain hanger peg; stamped steel front dropouts; SunTour forged rear dropouts.
Wheelbase: 40 inches
Top tube: 21 1/8 inches
Chainstays: 16 1/4 inches
Head tube angle: 72 1/2 degrees
Seat tube angle: 73 degrees
Bottom bracket height: 10 1/4 inches

Fork rake: 2 inches
Trail: 2 1/4 inches
Front center: 23 1/2 inches

WHEELS

Rims: Araya Model 18 polished aluminum, 27 x 1 1/4
Hubs: Sunshine low-flange, quick-release
Spoking: 36 spokes, 14-gauge, cross-four
Tires: Bridgestone 27 x 1 1/4, 100 psi

Schraeder valves

DRIVETRAIN

Derailleurs: SunTour ARx with down-tube ratchet-style levers
Chain: Izumi
Crankset: Sakae CR
Crankarm length: 170 mm
Freewheel: SunTour Perfect

COMPONENTS

Pedals: MKS CR-2 quill counterweighted
Seatpost: SR Laprade, 27.0 mm, 220 mm long, one-bolt microadjust
Saddle: Selle Italia padded foam with nylon base and leatherette cover, with eyelets
Handlebars: Sakae Custom mags bend engraved, 39 cm wide; SR Custom 85 mm stem, plastic tape

Brakes: Bridgestone SC sidepull; Dia-Compe drilled and hooded levers

GEARING IN GEAR INCHES

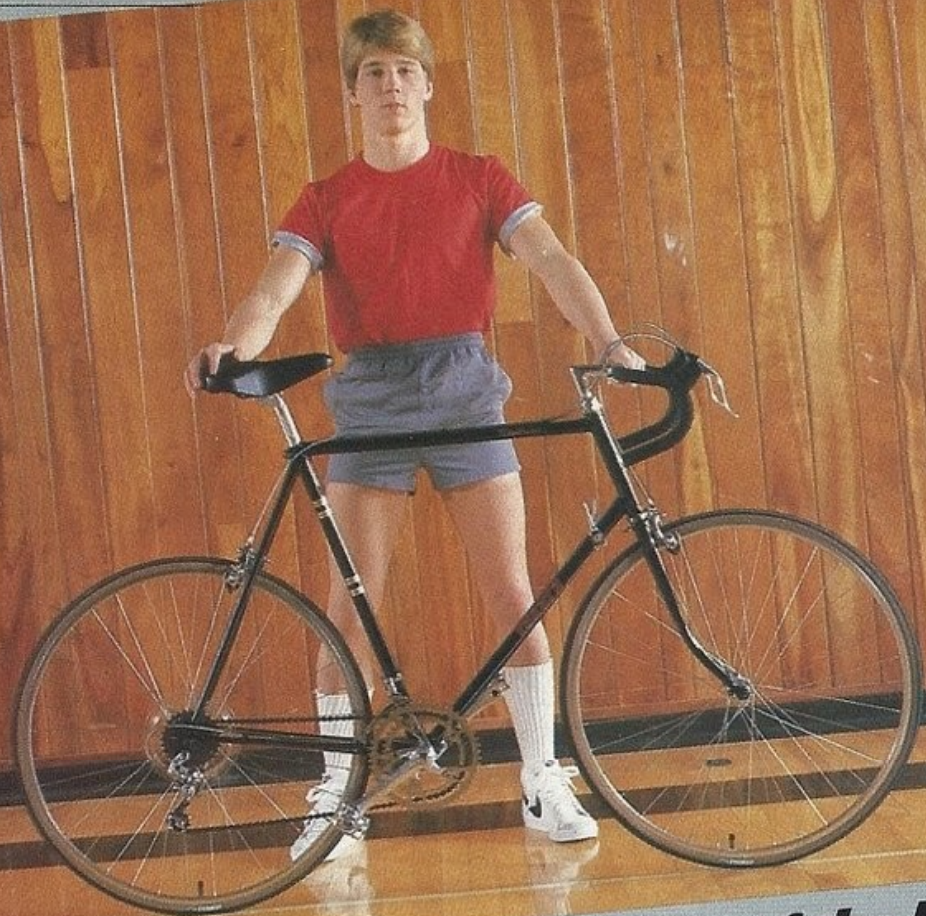
	42	52
14	81	100
16	71	88
20	57	70
24	47	59
28	41	50
32	35	44

CENTURION LE MANS 12

Imported by: Western States Imports
1837 DeHavilland
Newbury Park, CA 91320

SUGGESTED RETAIL PRICE: \$290.00 (estimate)

SIZES AVAILABLE: 19, 21, 23, 25, 26 3/4 inches; 19, 21 inches mixer; size tested: 23 inches



Out of the box and ready to ride, the Takara is an excellent value. The only thing we'd change are the steel chainwheels.

More For Your Money

WEIGHT: 26 pounds, 1 1/2 ounces; bare frame without fork: 5 pounds, 13 ounces; fork only: 1 pound, 14 ounces

FRAME: Tange Champion #5 plain gauge main tubes (1984 models); Tange Champion #900 double-butted main tubes; steel headset; brazed-on top tube cable guides; water bottle bosses; derailleur cable stop and guides; chain hanger peg; forged dropouts with eyelets

Wheelbase	41 inches
Top tube	21 3/4 inches
Chainstays	17 1/8 inches
Head tube angle	69 degrees
Seat tube angle	73 degrees
Bottom bracket height	11 inches
Fork rake	2 inches
Trail	3 inches
Front center	24 inches

WHEELS

Rims	Araya Model 16A (5) anodized aluminum, 27 x 1 1/4
Hubs	Suzue Sealed Tech low-flange, quick-release
Spoking	36 spokes, 14-gauge, cross-three
Tires	IRC SHP 27 x 1 1/4 100 psi, Schrader valves

DRIVETRAIN

Derailleurs	SunTour ARx with down tube Micro-Lite friction-style levers
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Chain	DID Lanner
Crankset	Sugino RT
Crankarm length	170 mm
Freewheel	SunTour Perfect

COMPONENTS

Pedals	SR SP-150 quill
Seatpost	SR Laprade, 26.6 mm, 220 mm long, one-bolt microadjust
Saddle	Selle Royal padded foam with nylon base and leatherette cover, with eyelets
Handlebars	Sakae Custom masts bend engraved, 42 cm wide, SR Custom 85 mm stem, foam handlebar padding
Brakes	Dia-Compe 500 sidepull with hooded levers and extension levers

GEARING IN GEAR INCHES

	40	52
14	77	100
16	68	88
19	57	74
22	50	64
26	42	54
30	36	47

NISHIKI CUSTOM SPORT

Imported by: West Coast Cycle
8631 Hayden Place
Culver City, CA 90230

SUGGESTED RETAIL PRICE: \$254.95

SIZES AVAILABLE: 19, 21, 23, 25 inches; 19, 21 inches middle; size tested: 23 inches

WEIGHT: 27 pounds, 1 ounce; bare frame without fork: 5 pounds, 4 ounces; fork only: 1 pound, 14 1/2 ounces

FRAME: Tange chrome-moly double-butted main tubes; steel headset; brazed-on top tube cable guides; water bottle bosses; derailleur stop and guides; stamped steel dropouts with eyelets

Wheelbase	41 1/8 inches
Top tube	22 1/2 inches
Chainstays	17 3/8 inches
Head tube angle	72 degrees
Seat tube angle	72 degrees
Bottom bracket height	11 inches
Fork rake	2 3/8 inches
Trail	1 7/8 inches
Front center	24 1/8 inches

WHEELS

Rims	Araya Model 16A (5) anodized aluminum, 27 x 1 1/4
Hubs	Sunshine low-flange, quick-release on front only
Spoking	36 spokes, stainless steel, 14-gauge, cross-three
Tires	Cycle Pro Touring 27 x 1 1/4, 90 psi, Schrader valves

DRIVETRAIN

Derailleurs	SunTour AR derailleurs, SunTour stem-mounted friction-style levers
Chain	Sedisport
Crankset	Sugino RT
Crankarm length	170 mm
Freewheel	SunTour Perfect
Pedals	SR P-466 rat-trap
Seatpost	SR fluted, 26.6 mm, 180 mm long, two-bolt friction clamp



Looking for something a little different? The Shogun 400 comes with Shimano derailleur, toe clips and straps, and racer-like handling.

Saddle _____ Avocet Touring padded foam with leatherette cover and nylon base, with eyelets
 Handlebars _____ Kusuki mae's bend engraved, 39 cm wide; Kusuki 80 mm stem; foam handlebar padding
 Brakes _____ Dia-Compe 500 sidepull with extension levers

GEARING IN GEAR INCHES

	40	52
13	83	108
15	72	94
18	60	78
21	51	67
24	45	59
28	39	50

SHOGUN 400

Imported by: Frederick R. Wilkins & Associates, Inc.
 12F World's Fair Drive
 Somerset, NJ 08873

SUGGESTED RETAIL PRICE: \$259.95 (estimate)

SIZES AVAILABLE: 19, 21, 23, 25, 27 inches; 19, 22 inches mixte; size tested: 23 inches

WEIGHT: 26 pounds, 1 1/2 ounces; bare frame without fork: 6 pounds, 13 ounces; fork only: 1 pound, 14 ounces

FRAME: Tange Champion #5 plain gauge main tubes (1984 models: Tange Champion #900 double-butted main tubes); Tange steel headset, brazed-on

top tube cable guides, water bottle bosses; stamped steel dropouts with eyelets
 Wheelbase _____ 40 3/4 inches
 Top tube _____ 21 3/4 inches
 Chainstays _____ 17 inches
 Head tube angle _____ 72 1/2 degrees
 Seat tube angle _____ 73 1/2 degrees
 Bottom bracket height _____ 11 inches
 Fork rake _____ 2 3/8 inches
 Trail _____ 1 3/4 inches
 Front center _____ 24 inches

WHEELS

Rims _____ Araya Model 18 anodized aluminum, 27 x 1 1/4
 Hubs _____ Shimano low-flange, quick-release
 Spoking _____ 36 spokes, 14-gauge, cross-three
 Tires _____ Silver Star 27 x 1 1/8, 95 psi, Schrader valves

DRIVETRAIN

Derailleurs _____ Shimano 7 series with stem-mounted friction-style levers
 Chain _____ Shimano Uniglide
 Crankset _____ Sakae CR
 Crankarm length _____ 170 mm
 Freewheel _____ Shimano Freewheel

COMPONENTS

Pedals _____ SR SP-152 quill with toe clips and straps
 Seatpost _____ Mori stainless steel, 26.6 mm, 210 mm long, two-bolt friction clamp
 Saddle _____ Kashimax Aero Sports padded foam with nylon base and leatherette cover
 Handlebars _____ Sakae Custom mae's bend engraved, 39.5 cm wide; SR 85 mm stem; cloth tape
 Brakes _____ Shimano Z series sidepull with hooded levers and extension levers

GEARING IN GEAR INCHES

	40	52
13	83	108
14	77	100
17	64	83
21	51	67
26	42	54
32	34	44

TAKARA TRIBUTE

Imported by: Takara Bicycle Company
 1537 W. Main Street
 Oklahoma City, OK 73106

SUGGESTED RETAIL PRICE: \$239.95 (estimate)

SIZES AVAILABLE: 19, 21, 23, 25, 27 inches; 19, 21 inches mixte; size tested: 25 inches

WEIGHT: 25 pounds, 12 ounces; bare frame without fork: 6 pounds, 3 ounces; fork only: 2 pounds

FRAME: Plain gauge steel tubing; steel headset, brazed-on top tube cable guides, water bottle bosses, derailleur cable stop and guides, chain hanger peg, forged dropouts with eyelets

Wheelbase _____ 41 1/8 inches
 Top tube _____ 22 3/8 inches
 Chainstays _____ 17 3/8 inches
 Head tube angle _____ 72 degrees
 Seat tube angle _____ 72 degrees
 Bottom bracket height _____ 10 7/8 inches
 Fork rake _____ 2 1/8 inches