

Mountainman Monte Ward in one of 18 gears.



SOME PEOPLE JUST GOTTA HAVE THE BEST. Nothing else will quite do. They fly Lear jets, own original Picassos, drive Rolls Royces and if they're into cruisers, chances are they ride Mountain Bikes.

A Mountain Bike is the lightest, most exotic and not surprisingly, most expensive bicycle you can still call "a cruiser." Actually, the only thing "cruiser" about Mountain Bikes is the fact that they're designed for cruising at high speeds over just about any terrain, on or off road. They even race them cross country—through valleys, over mountain passes, down gnarly fireroads and

Now you can go anywhere . . . for a price.



MOUNTAIN BIKES

Photography and words by Dean Bradley.

along beaches. They cruise through sand, mud, rocks, stream crossings, even over fallen logs, all under pedal power.

Mountain Bikes with their light weight (28 lbs.), low gears (18 wide-range speeds), sealed bearings, responsive brakes and tires have emerged as the world's most versatile all-terrain bikes. But beware, pedaling performance has its price as well as its rewards. As far as cruisers go, this is today's top-of-the-line. The bottom line? \$1350. Because as with most state-of-the-art bicycles today, less weight=more dollars=higher performance. So weigh it out for yourself, then jump in your Rolls and go down and pick up a couple of Mountain Bikes to go . . . anywhere. 