Man Invents Gyroscope Scooter

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Single-rider device meant to replace cars for short trips

(AP) - "IT" is a scooter.

Capping months of speculation about his mysterious innovation, an inventor unveiled the device Monday - a gyroscope-stabilized, battery-powered scocter that he hopes will revolutionize short-distance travel.

Dean Kamen and his backers are banking on the Segway Human Transporter to displace cars, leading to a realigned cityscape that's more people-friendly.

The single-rider Segway, until now known only by its code names IT and Ginger, "will be to the car what the car was to the horse and buggy," Kamen boasted in this week's Time magazine. "Cars are great for going long distances. But it makes no sense at all for people in cities to use a 4,000-pound piece of metal."

Monday morning, Kamen and the hosts of ABC's "Good Morning America" took the scooter for a spin in Manhattan's Bryant Park, demonstrating maneuvers and cruising up and down ramps as crowds watched.

The two-wheeled Segway, which looks like a

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2 Area Minimum

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Loveseat

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An inventor shows off his gyroscopestabilized, battery-powered scooters that he hopes will replace cars in the city.

cross between a push mower and a razor scooter, travels at up to 12 mph, said Kamen spokesman Dave Chapman.

It's designed to be difficult to fall from or knock over because of gyroscopes that work to keep it upright. Speed and direction are controlled by the rider's shifting weight.

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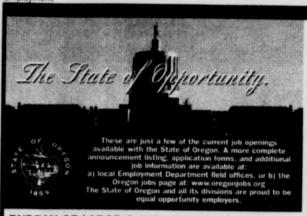
Ottoman

\$20

\$69



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