

IT'S PAPA WHO PAYS!

JIMMY MURPHY

HURRAY! PAPA IS RACING IN CASPER'S BIG BICYCLE RACE!

I DON'T LIKE FOR PAPA TO BE IN CONTESTS WHERE HE HASN'T A CHANCE TO WIN-- THAT'S WHY I DIDN'T WANT HIM TO COMPETE IN CASPER'S BICYCLE RACE, BUT HE TALKED ME INTO IT-- HE SAID HE'LL WIN SURE!

...THE BIG BICYCLE RACE HAS STARTED-- THEY'VE PASSED THE HALF-WAY MARK NOW AND IT'S CLOSE! UNCLE EVERETT WAS LEADING FOR A WHILE, BUT NOW CASPER IS OUT IN FRONT WITH DANNY HOOPER RIGHT BEHIND HIM--

MISTER ABNER WHO WAS FAR BEHIND IS COMING UP FAST-- HE'S NECK AND NECK WITH CASPER NOW-- COLONEL HOOPER IS FALLING BACK, SO IS COUSIN BEANIE, DONALD DREAMER AND PAPA-- PAPA IS FAR BEHIND--

HERE IS A NEW CUT-OUT OF LITTLE CASPER TOGETHER WITH SOME CLOTHES FOR HIM!



NEXT WEEK WE'LL PRINT A NEW CUT-OUT OF TOOTS!

CASPER, ABNER AND DANNY HOOPER ARE NECK AND NECK NOW-- WE DON'T KNOW WHO WILL WIN BUT PAPA WILL FINISH LAST-- HE'S FAR, FAR BEHIND-- CLICK!

I KNEW IT! I WARNED HIM, BUT HE HAD TO HAVE HIS OWN WAY! IT ISN'T VERY FLATTERING TO ME TO BE THE WIFE OF THE LAUGHING-STOCK OF THE WHOLE TOWN-- OH, THE SCOUNDREL!

WHATCHA WAITING FOR, MAMA?

I'M WAITING FOR YOUR PAPA, JUNIOR!

Toots and Casper

THE BIG BICYCLE RACE IS ON-- LOOK AT 'EM COMING DOWN THE HOME-STRETCH! COME ON, CASPER! COME ON, COLONEL HOOPER! COME ON, PAPA!

ABNER WINS!

DANNY HOOPER RAN 2ND, CASPER FINISHED 3RD, UNCLE EVERETT 4TH, DONALD DREAMER 5TH, BEANIE 6TH, COL. HOOPER 7TH, AND PAPA RAN LAST. ABNER SURE KNOWS HIS BICYCLES! MURRAY FOR OLD MAN ABNER! THE REST OF THE CONTESTANTS ARE FAR BEHIND!

CONGRATULATIONS, UNCLE ABNER! I NEVER DREAMT YOU'RE SUCH A GOOD BIKE-RIDER! YOU FELLOWS SURE MADE ME STEP TO WIN CASPER!

OF COURSE, ABNER IS A CLEVER RIDER-- HE WAS RAISED ON A BICYCLE-- HE WAS THE STATE CHAMPION IN HIS YOUNGER DAYS! I FINISHED LAST! GOSH, WHAT WILL M-MAMA SAY???

I WANT TO GET A PICTURE OF YOU FOR TOMORROW'S PAPER, MISTER ABNER! HELP YOURSELF, SON! ABNER! ABNER!

OH, ABNER! I'M SO PROUD OF YOU-- AH-H! THERE'S A PICTURE FOR YOU! STELLA CLINKER, THE WINNER OF THE WOMEN'S BICYCLE RACE, AND MR. ABNER, WHO WON THE MEN'S RACE! WILL YOU POSE TOGETHER FOR ME, PLEASE?

OF COURSE, WE WILL! I'M PROUD TO POSE WITH MR. ABNER AND BESIDES, WE'RE OLD FRIENDS! YES, GO AHEAD-- SHOOT! CLICK!

LOOK AT STELLA SNUGGLING CLOSE TO ABNER! SHE'S TRYING THE OLD VAMP STUFF AGAIN AND HE PROBABLY FEELS FLATTERED! COME ON, CASPER! LET'S GO HOME!

DID YOU HEAR STELLA TELLING ABNER SHE WANTS A PRINT OF THAT PHOTO SO HIS FACE WILL BE BEFORE HER ALWAYS? SHE'LL HAVE HIM EATING OUT OF HER HAND AGAIN BEFORE LONG-- WAIT AND SEE!

STELLA IS MAKING A BIG PLAY FOR ABNER ALL RIGHT AND I'D BETTER TELL UNCLE EVERETT TO SPEAK TO HIM BEFORE THE LITTLE ROMANCE BLOOMS OUT AGAIN!

NO, I WON'T BOTHER UNCLE EVERETT NOW! HE'S LOOKING AT ELSIE'S PHOTO-- HE'S THINKING OF HER-- LONGING FOR HER-- AND HOPING AGAINST HOPE THAT SOMEDAY HE'LL FIND HER! I'D GIVE ANYTHING TO SEE THEM RE-UNITED AGAIN!

AS TIME GOES ON WITH NO TRACE OF ELSIE, DISCOURAGEMENT GRIPS EVERETT'S HEART, BUT SOMEHOW WE FEEL THAT SOMEDAY-- SOMEWHERE-- HE'LL MEET HER AGAIN!

