

The Buzz

SPORTS

BEYOND THE BICYCLES

Chowing down and cleaning up at the Gateway Cup



It's back. The epic, four-day **Gateway Cup** bicycle race (September 2 through 5, 314-862-1188, gatewaycup.com) returns on Labor Day weekend—but that's really not what we mean by "it." It is a creation called the "Dog-o-Loni," a gourmet hot dog deep-fried within a cannelloni shell and served on a stick during the Giro Della Montagna portion of the Cup. This diet-defying fat bomb is just one of the quirky attractions at the races.

There's also the Thursday-night "carb-up" meal at Pi, an exploratory ride pairing visually impaired children with celeb riders, a buffet dinner at Atomic Cowboy, and of course, the four races. Friday's Tour de Lafayette is a nighttime short course around Lafayette Park. Saturday's St. Louis Hills Criterium, similarly, circles Francis Park. And Monday's Benton Park Classic Criterium passes through Benton Park and Soulard. But it's Sunday's race, the 26th annual Giro Della Montagna on The Hill, that has the most local flavor.

The Italian festivities are spearheaded by Joe Barbaglia, who goes by the moniker "King of the Hill." He invented the Dog-o-Loni—and provides another crucial service: picking up locals' cars and putting them on the owners' lawns if they forget to clear the racetrack beforehand. "We don't upset anybody," he says. "I have a certain way to move the car without damaging it, and relocate it real close... Trust me: This is better than getting towed." —B.K.



GOOOOAAALLL!!!

In his new book, *Soccer Made in St. Louis*, former *Globe-Democrat* sports reporter Dave Lange provides a compendium of the sport and the city, arguing that "St. Louis truly was the capital of soccer of this country." Not convinced? Take a shot at this three-point quiz—then visit stlmag.com for more trivia tidbits.

1) When was the first reported game of soccer played in St. Louis? May 28, 1875, at the Grand Avenue Baseball Park (later renamed Sportsman's Park). Two teams of lawyers played a charity benefit match.

2) What's the first soccer team believed to have worn numbers on its jerseys? Scullin Steel Co. of St. Louis, which appeared in the 1923 National Cup final. (English teams did not first use numbers until 1928.)

3) How many St. Louisans have served as captains of the U.S. National Team? Five: Harry Keough (1950), Bobby Kehoe (1965), Al Trost (1974–75), Steve Pecher (1976–77), and Lori Chalupny (2009).

ENDGAME ST. LOUIS MOVES TOWARD CHESS DOMINATION.

As if St. Louis hadn't already staked its claim as the nation's epicenter of chess—having hosted the U.S. Chess Championship tournament each of the past three years at the Chess Club and Scholastic Center of Saint Louis—the World Chess Hall of Fame (4652 Maryland, 314-367-9243, worldchesshof.org) will open September 9 in a three-story space that once housed a pharmacy in the Central West End. So what exactly goes inside a chess museum? In the hall-of-fame section, there will be roughly 3,000 pieces of memorabilia from greats like Yury Shulman and Bobby Fischer, as well as plaques and artifacts on a rotating basis. The rest of the museum will focus on the cultural aspect of the game. For instance, "Out of the Box: Artists Play Chess" is an exhibit in which seven artists, Yoko Ono among them, interpret the game. Artist Guido van der Werve also will perform *Nummer twaalf*, a composition he wrote for the chess piano—a chess board that makes tones like a piano whenever a piece is moved. Says museum CEO Susan Barrett, "We hope to open it up to people who don't necessarily play chess or like chess, but they enjoy art or music or dance." Check. Mate. —ROSALIND EARLY

