



ข่าวมหาวิทยาลัยแม่โจ้

MAEJO UNIVERSITY NEWSRELEASE

งานประชาสัมพันธ์ กองกลาง สำนักงานอธิการบดี โทร.0-5387-3046-7

Chiangmai Mail

Chiangmai's first English Language Newspaper

Serving the North of Thailand

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 17, 2005

Mountain Biking in Maejo

Sunday 11th September, and it's an early start for some 500 Thais who somehow all manage to locate a bicycle and converge on the small village of Bo Pang. This annual cycling festival is in part a celebration of the life-giving rainy season, and in part a declaration of the King's determination to promote greater ecological awareness. Indeed, the whole event was sponsored by the HM The King himself.

With many wearing green to symbolize the benefits of providing one's own locomotion, large swathes of Thais, young and old, could be seen cycling gently around the Maejo University and its tranquil and scenic hinterland. Quite a sight!

Back at the top of the hill in Bo Pang, some 3 kilometers from the university campus, the more athletic cyclists were crossing the finishing line with their snazzy lycra cycling suits all bespattered with mud (you should get some mudguards guys).

For those of you who don't know this area, the land behind Maejo University is attractive rural area, slightly hilly, and a nice option for city dwellers seeking some country air and nice views. Bo Pang itself boasts an agricul-



Chiang Mai eco-youth hit the streets, but the camouflage needs a little work.



A doughty cyclist crosses the finish line in front of his mud-spattered comrades. Now, where's that free lunch?

tural centre and eco-tourism village, as well as unusual northern views over Chiang Mai city.

Hats off to the Thais for waking up so early on a driz-

zly Sunday and traveling around under their own steam. How many of our farang readers were up and moving around athletically at this time? Hmm, I wonder?