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SPORT NEWS:

Midwinter may seem an odd time for a regatta, but not to these boys just starting their annual big race. They're members of the North-Western Ice Yachting Association, racing on Lake Geneva - U.S.A., not Switzerland. This sport isn't new - the Dutch started it a couple of centuries ago - but it's still the fastest in the world without motors. The wind-driven craft can top 150 miles an hour.

With a tricky triangular course to navigate, you need a good nose for wind - no ripples to tell you when a gust is coming. It's daring - but at least' it's dry!

Italian inventor Silvio Montanari believes in cycling in comfort in all weathers. So he builds his own bicycle, on original lines. To cut down wind resistance, he makes it low-slung - and that requires special pedals for maximum efficiency. The mechanism is unconventional - but it does the job all right, and you couldn't get as low as that with normal pedal action.

If it's raining, Silvio slips on a windscreen and a plastic hood. If there's a dry summer, he can always turn it upside down and use it as a bird bath. What, no windscreen wiper?

You don't have to be big to be tough - that's the motto of these Paris midgets, staging their own wrestling tournament at the Velodrome d'Alver. Anything the big boys can do, they can do better - and with a lot more bounce.

Two midgets don't take up much room in a full-sized ring, so they double up - though they really need a four-eyed ref!

Yippee! I've won!