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CHERRY HILL SUN

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Two-wheelin adventure

With a 3,729 mile South America voyage, adventurer proves there is a better way to travel, without a drop of gas – on a bike

On Dec. 16, Cherry Hill resident David E.X.N. Nghiem arrived in Buenos Aires, the capital of Argentina, after pedalling approximately 6,000 kilometers (3,729 miles), between Lima, the capital of Peru, Curitiba, the capital of the state of Parana, Brazil, and Buenos Aires.

David, a Philadelphia, cycled through the superlatives of the

South American continent: the Andes, the longest mountain range in the world, the Altiplano, the world's highest and largest plain, and the Amazon, the world's largest rain forest. He chose to bike in the back roads, and in some places, on unknown dirt paths and trails. He is currently in the post production of a documentary based on his adventures,

called "Sun Drenched on Two Wheels."

This is his second, self sponsored bike expedition. In his first, in 2001, he cycled through 10 countries for 300 days in two routes. The first, for 180 days, was through Peru and Bolivia, and the second for 120 days was through all of Central America, and ended in Chetumal, Mexico, in the Yucatan Peninsula.

So why did he choose to do it on a bicycle?

"To cross a country or continent in a motorized vehicle doesn't require that much effort, and you miss a lot of the experience because it goes by so quickly," he said. "There's also the factor of high oil prices, global warming, environmental degradation and foreign oil dependency. But to power your self through numerous challenges like mountains, deserts and jungles with nothing more than your muscles, heart, wits and spirit displays the unlimited potential of the human being.

You can read more about "Sun Drenched on Two Wheels" in his blog online at davesnewadventure.wordpress.com, and can contact him via email at davesnewadventure@yahoo.com, or by regular mail at David E.X.N. Nghiem, 804 Kingston Drive, Cherry Hill, NJ 08034.

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