

Getting in shape fast

pends on how far you plan to go.
Fifty mile bike trips should be

easy by the end of the first month. And when September rolls around you will be to, without pain.

Comfort is also determined by what you put on and in your body. Eating incorrectly or wearing improper clothing can cause problems.

When you're hot don't drink cold liquids. "It takes a lot of blood to warm up the cold you put in your body and you need that blood to warm up your muscles," said the spokesman. "And you should eat lightly and often."

The largest complaint from novice riders is a sore backside. "There's a lot of perspiration there and if it's not kept real clean it will generate bacteria."

Gloves are also important. Finally, in the name of safety make sure the equipment on your bike is proper and that it's on your bike and not on your back.

"Don't ever use a knapsack for anything other than very, very short trips," advised the spokesman. "It doesn't take any weight off the bike and it puts a lot of weight on the rider. It's also tricky in the wind."

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