



Mike Atkins (left) and James O'Beirne (right) at John and Mary Jean Jordon's home in Silerton were resting up the night before starting back on the cross-country bike trail.

Two Visiting Bikers Pedal 3600 Miles

You'd think that with their Computer Science and Mathematic studies, Mike Atkins and James O'Beirne, college students from Virginia would have enough on their table, but apparently they have time to spare.

The two students are on a 3600 mile-bicycle trip that started in Washington, D.C. and will end in San Francisco with stops here and there, wherever there is shelter, friendship and space for their tent. They already have one such place at the John and Mary Jean Jordon family's home in Silerton. It is a friendly place for them to spend the night and get a bite to eat; Jordon's family has a 50 year friendship with Mike's grandmother.

Mike said, "James and I are impressed by the

friendship and hospitality we find from the people of Tennessee as we our ride our bikes through the state. We certainly appreciate everyone we meet."

Mike lives in McLean, Va. and James is from Reston, Va. They are both students of George Mason University in Fairfax Va. with a close friendship allowing them to tackle such things as a 3600 mile bicycle trip in the heat of summer. Mike has a Masters Degree in computer science and both Mike and James have Masters in Mathematics.

When asked what they will do when they get to San Francisco, their answer was "Oh, we'll just hang and enjoy ourselves for a week and then fly back to George Mason."