

PLAYBOY—MAY 2002

Tony Bohnenkamp

THANK YOU, AMERICA

On November 11, six New York firefighters from Engine 33, Ladder 9 kicked off a cross-country bicycle trip to honor the 10 members of their company who died September 11. Dan Rowan, Ralph Perricelli, Drew Robb, Matthew Hornung, Salvatore Princiotta and Gerard Dolan wanted to thank Americans for their support. They started at ground zero, cruised through such cities as Philadelphia, Memphis, Oklahoma City, Albuquerque and Phoenix and finished their trek at the Playboy Mansion. According to a journal entry written by Perricelli, "Every corner we turn, we have support. It could be 200 people outside a diner or a mom and her kids waving flags on the side of the road. We are trying to thank every last person." "The planning and realization of this bike ride—as if the guys hadn't done enough—made a big impression on me," says Miss January 1996 Victoria Fuller, who greeted the firefighters at the Mansion. For more information, go to fdnythanksamerica.citysearch.com.