

# Norton 21 pupil winner in safety contest

NORTON — Five students at Norton 21 School are bicycle helmet winners and one received a bike in a helmet safety contest sponsored by the law firm of Scanlon and Gearinger of Akron.

Second grader Cara Green was the bike winner. Helmet winners were Erik Wells, first grade; Emily Tremmel, third grade; Hope Buckland, fourth grade; and Kristin Fearer, fifth grade.

The winners were announced by attorneys Pat Hart and John Hill at a special school assembly May 12.

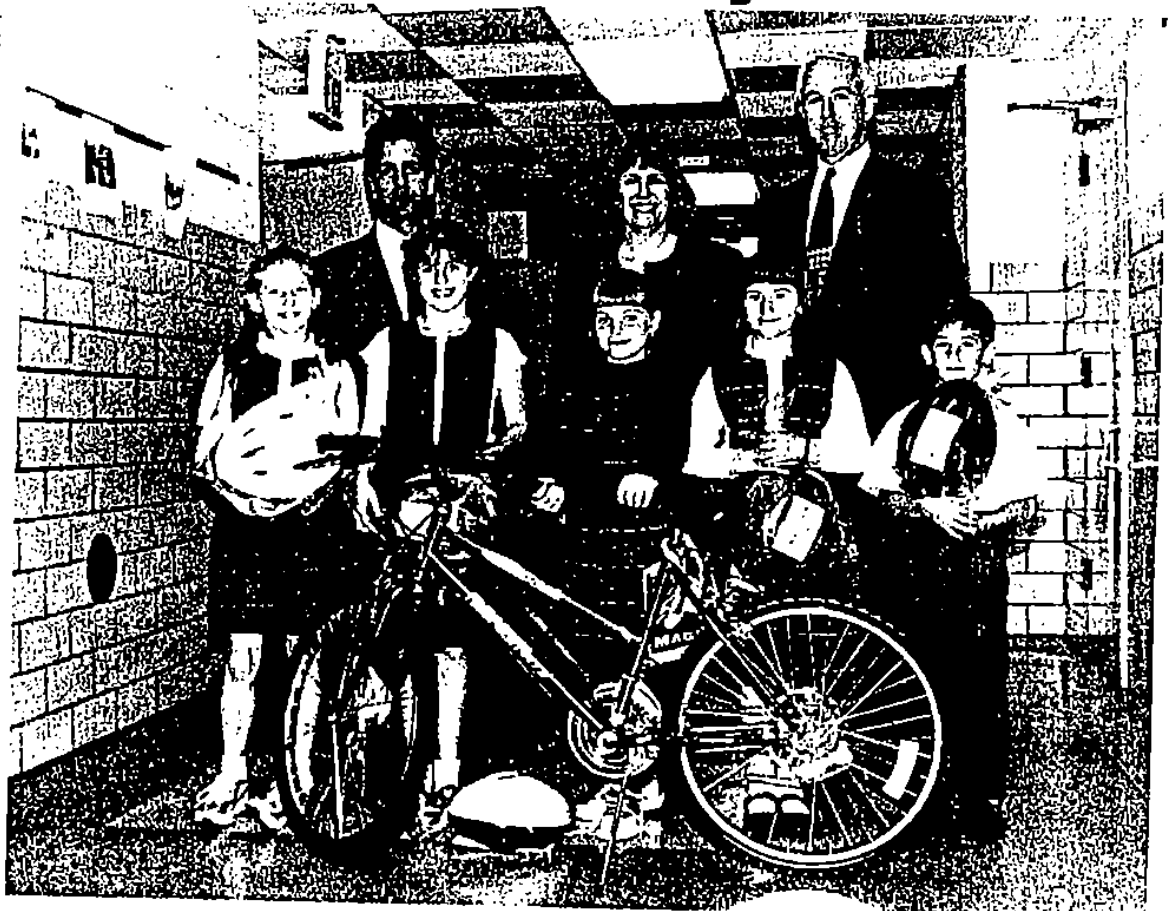
Her winning entry was "Helmet, helmet, on my head, please stay up there to protect me from dead. If you don't, I might crash and split my head open just like that, so helmet, helmet on my head, please don't come off my head."

Scanlon and Gearinger sponsored a special safety assembly in April in which children were taught about the need to "Buckle Up Your Brain" and invited to write a poem, rap or paragraph about why wearing a helmet is important.

Entries were judged by members of the law firm on creativity, content and originality, and a winner selected for each grade level. From the helmet winners, one name was drawn to win a bike.

Wells wrote: "I wear a helmet, it's so cool. If you don't, you're a fool. It protects your head, that's all to be said. So get in the game, do the same! Wear your helmet."

Tremmel wrote: "Hopping on my bike, my dead old Momma said, 'Better wear your helmet, don't wanna bump your head.' Cruising down the road, come upon a hill. Glad I won't end up like poor old Jack and Jill. When you're out bike riding and happen to fall down, better a broken helmet than a broken crown. So go ahead and wear it, don't complain or whine, or you



SUN PHOTO BY JEANNENE MATHIS BERTOSA

Scanlon and Gearinger of Akron presented a bicycle helmets to five students and a bike to one of them at Norton 21. Winner of the bike was Cara Green, front row center, a second grader. Helmet winners, from the left, were Hope Buckland, Kristin Fearer, Greer, Emily Tremmel and Erik Wells. The presentation was made by John Hill, principal Mrs. Karen Wilson, and Pat Hart. Hill and Hart are with the law firm.

could end up looking just like Frankenstein."

Buckland wrote: "You've got a head on your shoulders with a brain inside, so wear a helmet each time you ride! When you wear a helmet, hold your head up high, wear it for safety and wear it with pride!"

Fearer wrote: "You should wear a helmet on your bike, it doesn't

matter if you're a teen or a tike. There could be an accident where you land on your head, if you didn't wear a helmet, you could be dead. This is very important what I'm saying to you, before you ride your bike, tie your shoe. So remember, if you don't wear a helmet and swerve for a cat, you'll be on the road, Splat!"

This is the fourth year the law

firm has sponsored the safety program in 10 area schools to teach children and parents about the importance of helmets.

One in seven children involved in a bicycle accident suffers a head injury and 75 percent of all cyclists' deaths involve head injuries. Wearing a helmet reduces the risk of head injury by 85 percent and the risk of brain injury by 88 percent.