

**THE INDEX-JOURNAL**

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***SPORTS***

**FESTIVAL OF FLOWERS**

# Bike issues don't hinder Kotland, Dewitt's wins

By **SCOTT J. BRYAN**

Index-Journal sports editor

**NINETY SIX** — Sure, Sunday's Festival of Flowers Triathlon included swimming and running, but relief was the prevalent feeling by the two individual winners of the competition once the bike portion of the race was completed at the Greenwood State Recreation Area.

Peter Kotland, of Moore, won the men's division of the competition on a bike he's owned for a day, while Charleston's Tracy

Dewitt captured the women's division a year after faulty brakes cost her a chance at the title.

All tallied, 263 athletes and nine relay teams competed in the triathlon, which included a 0.9-mile swim, a 40-kilometer bike ride and a 10-kilometer road race.

Kotland, originally from the Czech Republic, covered the course in 1:58.36, almost two minutes faster than second-place finisher Mike Selle (2:02.20), of Charlotte.

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Staff photo by Scott J. Bryan

**Peter Kotland, left, won the men's division of the Festival of Flowers Triathlon Sunday at Greenwood State Recreation Area. Mike Selle, right, was second in the race.**