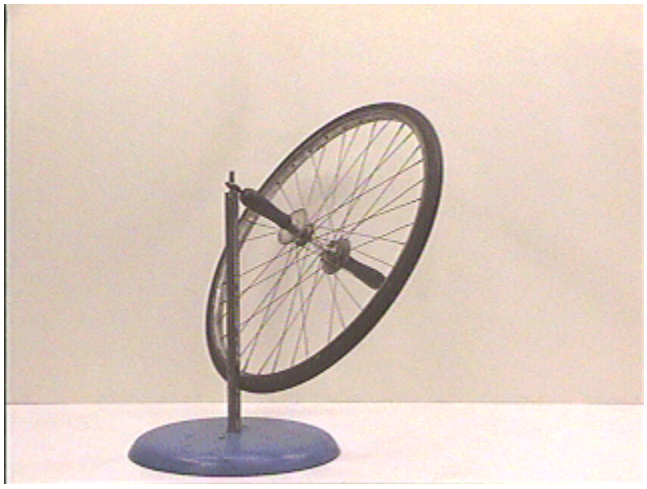
Question #85

The bicycle wheel is mounted on an axle with one end held by Gwen and the other end held onto the top of a vertical mount as seen in the photograph below. When Gwen holds the axle of the bicycle wheel horizontal and releases it, it falls down to the position in the photograph, as seen in an mpeg video by clicking your mouse on the photograph.



When Gwen gives the bicycle wheel a rapid rotation in the clockwise direction (as she views it from the left in the mpeg) and then releases it, what will happen?

When spun clockwise and released the bicycle wheel will

- (a) fall down as it did when it was not spinning.
- (b) remain in place where Gwen releases it.
- (c) rotate clockwise as viewed from above around the pivot.
- (d) rotate counterclockwise as viewed from above around the pivot.

Click here for Answer #85 after October 8, 2001.

Question of the Week

Outreach Index Page

Lecture-Demonstration Home Page

For questions and comments regarding the *Question of the Week* contact
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given on the Lecture-Demonstration Home Page.