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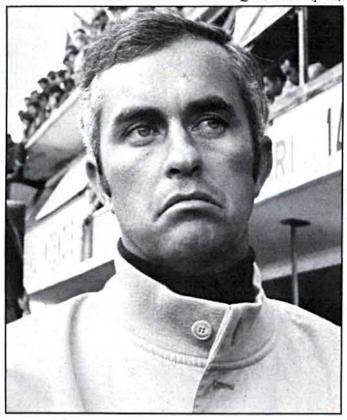
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THIS MONTH'S COVER: The Ford Torino, a completely new chassis, entirely different suspension system and radically different styling make it one of the truly new cars for 1972. Photographed by Gene Butera. For more on Ford's new intermediate, see page 42.

Never, NEVER, will I watch another Steve McQueen movie (p. 32).



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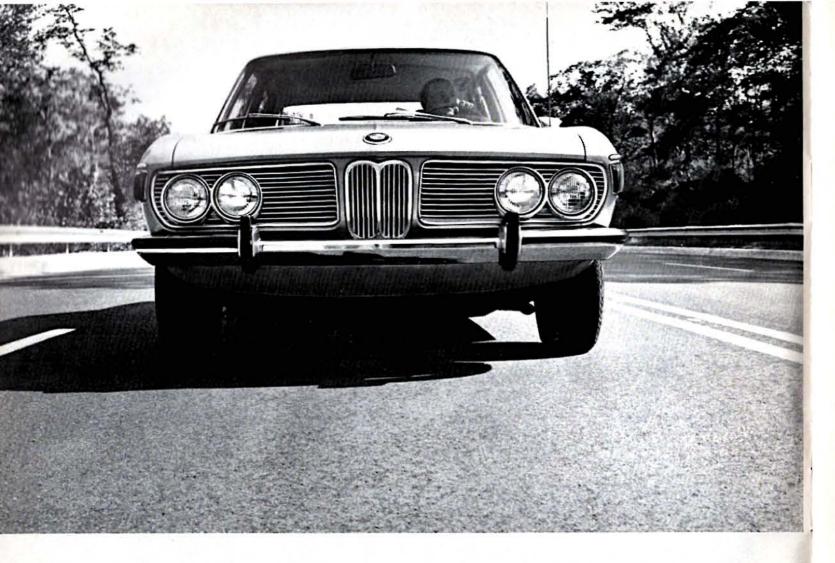
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CAR and DRIVER SEPTEMBER 1971 • VOLUME 17 NUMBER 3



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Bayarian Motor Works in Munich, city of the 1972 Olympics.



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Inside Car and Driver

If you've ever wondered what type of credentials it takes to become a staff member at Car and Driver, perhaps a brief recounting of the past experiences of our two new Associate Editors, Richard Taylor and Jim Williams, will be illuminating. Between them they have owned at one time or another: a '61 Morris Minor, a '49 Dodge, an MG-TD, a '53 Sunbeam Talbot ("which could never be coerced into running"), an Austin Healey Sprite, a Corvair Monza, a '55 Chevy, an MG-A, a 1950-vintage Sprint car that still lacks the attention it deserves, and even a Puch 250, a Honda 175, and a Norton 750. And these were just some of the cars and motorcycles they admitted to owning, and both took the Fifth Amendment when asked if there might not be a few others that they intentionally overlooked.

Right now both own what could hardly be described as conventional cars. Taylor, as you will recall from the May issue, first became a personal acquaintance of C/D when he won last year's project car, J. Edgar Opel (don't worry, if we hold another contest to give away our present project car, the Datsun 240Z, the winner won't have to come and work for us). And like every other member of this staff, Rich has his own ideas as to what he wants in the nature of his car and is making further modifications to the Opel.

Williams, meanwhile, has more or less made his own project car out of an MG-A. While he was a student at Rochester Institute of Technology (where he studied illustration and writing, and "had to contend with a heavy dose of trendy social-consciousness because automobiles were being taken as mere implements of destruction, and illustration, supposedly, had little relevance to modern society") Jim completely rebuilt the car—including new sheetmetal styling and a brief experiment with a coil spring rear suspension of his own design and a succession of driveline changes. Jim also began restoring his Sprint Car in the typical 1950 fashion (i.e., searching for the necessary pieces to produce a Ford flat-head powered world-beater).

And while Jim was busy during the day, staring at models in "Body and Figure" courses and in the evenings maintaining his cars, Rich Taylor was traveling both here and in Europe in quest of his PhD. Rich may have shocked some of the sober academicians at Brown, Indiana, and New York University with his habit of showing up for classes in his MG-TD or shattering the quiet of Europe's libraries and museums with his Norton, but that's all part of this iconoclastic business. I mean, how many art historians do you know who will claim that they can "appreciate a 1932 Alfa and a '53 Hudson in a single glance" and then wriggle into the cockpit of J. Edgar Opel for a hillclimb.

All of which goes to prove that there is no prescribed path to C/D, other than an enthusiasm and understanding of automobiles and an ability to transmit that enthusiasm in writing. Although we have to admit that we may be guilty of a certain amount of nepotism parading under the banner of "talent searching," with Rich Taylor we figure that we have not only gained an Associate Editor but we've figured out a way to keep a project car and keep the accounting department happy at the same time. And, although Jim Williams tries his best to keep it quiet, he was first brought to our attention by Brock Yates who had seen some of his paintings on exhibition in upstate New York and "recognized that he not only could paint but had a deep empathy with cars." Besides, Yates needed someone to help him in his Cannonball Baker Sea-to-Shining-Sea race and Williams was one of the few volunteers who would go along as part of Yates' team. The combinations are unlikely but considering that they are joining a staff composed of a former surf burn, a newspaper reporter, an aircraft engineer, an ad copywriter, a country and western singer and even a mechanical engineer, it should assure you that C/D's unconventional and opinionated view of the world of automobiles will continue.

Ob Carpei

SEPTEMBER 1971

· What is all this whining that's coming out of Detroit? Ever since those first smog and safety laws came into effect about five years ago, the domestic car makers have been so busy apologizing for the cars they're building that hardly anyone has noticed that new sales records were set in three of those years (1967, '68 and '69)and it's likely that this year will be another record-setter.

But nobody is nervy enough to say much about that-after all that's good news, and all those former AP and UPI bureau chiefs who write the news releases and plan the speeches know that no one, no one flips on Howard K. Smith to hear good news. So instead of promoting the sales records we end up listening to news reports that seem like condensations of Paradise Lost and watching salt-and-pepper sideburned division managers lamenting that "Gee, guys, we'd sure like to build the kind of cars you like but (pick one) the government/the the Flat Earth Society won't let us."

their hands. Thanks to their inspired floorboard? mewling people are now becoming con- So Super Cars are on the way out and Less visually apparent, but equally encorps. That group of savants-as always, killjoys got in the act.

assistance the automotive press was forced because of the market demands, with the options Detroit has ever offered). to overlook two points that it had tradi- 2-liter engine, and now there are even ru- This model year Detroit will be productionally and legitimately questioned. The mors of a V-6 option). In addition, the De- ing less models but more different types of first was that Detroit really had ever been troit small cars were created to meet the cars than ever before in its history. You building the types of cars people wanted, ever-growing success of foreign cars in the would think that it's about time the corpoand, secondly, that Detroit ever knew what market-and within the first year of pro- rate voices stopped bitching about the fact kind of cars people wanted. Those points duction Ford had a 2-liter Pinto, and Vega that those fat-assed sedans as well as Super have to be taken for granted in order to began offering a "GT" package and with Cars are anachronisms. Sure, they sellbemoan all that "lost greatness." And, the latter you can get a "GT" package sta- because they were all that were offered; true, some good cars are no longer availa- tion wagon version, the first time anyone sure they were so cheap and easy to manuble, but there's anything but a dearth of in Detroit has actively promoted the fact facture because all you had to do was roll enthusiasts' cars right now.

Granted, we may miss out on a 900 cu. clude pleasure.



uct planners and Madison Avenue band- gories, now there are nine. And how about we like-in fact several types. wagon riders, whoever bought the fact that styling? People keep saying that the safety

smog sniffers/the insurance companies/the the yardstick of automotive goodness is laws are going to mean that all cars will union/the FTC/the Consumer Advocate/ marked off in cubic inches? Or that "per- look the same. But the facts don't support formance" meant keeping a car aimed this argument when there are cars like the And for maybe the first time in history, straight for 1320 feet while the "driver" Charger, the Camaro and Firebird, the the PR men have an unqualified success on tried to ram his right foot through the Corvette-even the Buick Riviera-being legally produced.

vinced that if the automotive apocalypse the professional mourners are standing in couraging, there have been major steps forhasn't already arrived it's a sure bet for the line for their chance to tell us that it means ward in handling and that is what most next model changeover. Of course we'll the end of performance cars. Which is just people included in the definition of "perhave to admit that the flackmasters were another way of saying that a Jato bottle formance" all along. Almost all manufacaided by the ever alert automotive press was the engine of the future before all these turers offer front disc brakes as standard on all power-assisted braking systems, with its fingers firmly checking the pulse of But take a closer look at what has been original equipment tires are universally its Daddy Warbucks-mistook these flut- happening while all this hand-wringing wider to improve handling; suspension systerings and public gaspings as a death rat- was going on. Balanced, highly responsive tems have gotten more sophisticated (partle and made sure its audience got the same small V-8s like the Z28 and Boss 302 and ticularly if you order "heavy duty" or Plymouth 340 were built, the Capri came "competition" suspensions, which are the But in its eagerness to come to Detroit's on the scene (first as an economy car, then, most attractively priced and worthwhile

that practicality need not necessarily pre-slightly different sheetmetal to make a "new" car. But that's passed us. In their in. tube-frame, lace painted Buick Electra
Even at the opposite extreme good place are cars like the Super Coupes, proor a nitro-burning T-bird, and that may things are going on: like the fact that Lin- duction Boss Wagons, Sporty Cars, luxudisappoint a few people-about 23 maga- coln-Mercury is selling the de Tomaso ry/personal cars. That's no bad deal and if zine writers, and two doctors' sons who Pantera-a mid-engine GT car. With just we weren't subjected to a barrage of have taken a lease on the back corner park- those few examples it hardly looks like the speeches and news releases saying the oping slot at Burger Chef-but aside from market is stagnating-in fact five years ago posite we'd probably end up thinking that these heroes and some overachieving prod- Detroit separated its models into five cate- Detroit finally is building the type of cars

CAR and DRIVER

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of High-Performance Driving in Ontario. California, Bob **Bondurant depends** on Sears Superwide **Dynaglass Tires.**

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The Superwide takes them all in stride. And then some.

And when you buy the Superwide, you can use Sears Easy-Payment Plan.

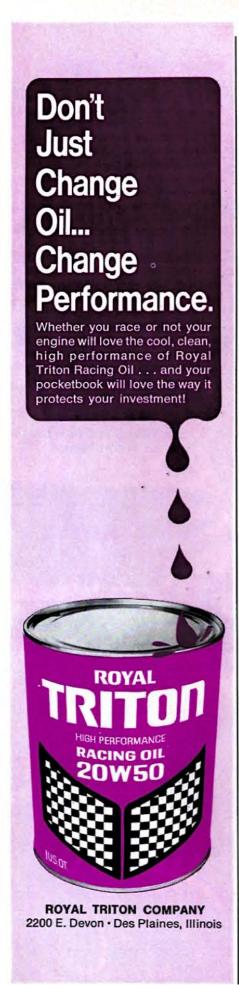
So, put yourself in **Bob Bondurant's shoes.** Better yet, put yourself on his tires.

Sears new Superwide 70 Dynaglass. With raised white sidewall lettering.

Only at Sears Roebuck







Letters

Fittipaldi.

It's incredible.

mention?-Ed.

Can-Am.

THE 10 BEST? Well, C/D has done it again. You seem to

controversial instead of being objective.

You have now gone ahead and named

your 10 (or is it five) best drivers in the

world (C/D, June). No one can possibly

dispute your choice of Stewart, Andretti,

Donohue, Ickx and Hulme but not so with

How can any list be complete without Jo

Siffert, Pedro Rodriguez and Bobby Un-

While I agree that Foyt isn't over the hill

yet, to say that Dan Gurney could never

come close to his driving ability is absurd.

BROCK AND JIM

I have just finished reading Brock Yates on

killed the Chaparral 2J, they also killed the

The innovative impulse was carried out

The only mistake was inviting the FIA to

To think that a racing man of Jim Hall's

caliber is being wasted because of stupid

cars must be the same, nothing new al-

For some reason ecology, equal rights,

overpopulation and student unrest take a

technology that is auto racing.

the celebration.-Ed.

Easily if it's a list of 10 .- Ed.

Louis J. Brigandi

Rodessa, La.

Dick Reuter Chicago, Ill.

Larry Polhamus

Piqua, Ohio

Flushing, N.Y.

Long Island City, N.Y.

back seat and the racer in me comes out and I find that we must save the Chaparral. Indeed a rare bird.

> James Daering Ellsworth Air Force Base, S.D.

The Chaparral 2J is the best car ever built in racing history.

> Daniel Wieder San Diego, Calif.

OUR TESTS

have a bent toward being unnecessarily The test on the Dodge Charger SE was the best report I have ever read in your magazine (C/D, March).

You should do more American cars.

Russell Bethe Milwaukee, Wisc.

the likes of Foyt, Petty, Unser, Savage and Zora Arkus-Duntov is an enthusiast's dream: a man who believes in and enjoys driving the cars he's designed.

What a shame that his talents are wasted within the sales volume and the hell-withquality walls of GM.

> Paul W. Donkin Lebanon, Ore.

Fred C. Parker My '68 Charger R/T was stolen from my driveway about one week after I read your Charger SE road test (which was in the same issue that you discussed car thefts).

> I took delivery of my shiny new "artistic statement" one month ago, complete with option overkill and a two-page window sticker, almost identical to yours.

Your test almost perfectly sums up the You mean the Dan Gurney we didn't even Charger, your theft article was too accurate for my taste.

> Charles Markarian Tenafly, N.J.

the subject of Jim Hall (C/D, June) and I Thank you for the excellent piece on the would just like to say that when the FIA four Corvettes (C/D, June).

> It's rather like finding out what a good machine the Harley-Davidson 74 is.

> > Fred L. Baker Wichita Falls, Tex.

Better that than an Indian.-Ed.

magnificently by Jim Hall in making a C/D, May was human and heart-warming great contribution to the celebration of as usual, including your mistakes.

> The Camaro does offer an adjustable seat back (for the driver's side only). It costs \$19 and is a fairly recent add-on op-

> > Bill Warren San Jose, Calif.

After reading your road test on the two-litand unfair FIA rulings that seem to say all er Capri I went out and ordered one.

> I waited eight weeks and it was well worth it. Thank you.

Louis E. Brizzolara Chicago, Ill. CAR and DRIVER

A SPORTS CAR YOU CAN AFFORD WHILE YOU'RE STILL YOUNG ENOUGH TO ENJOY IT.

It's a cruel trick of Fate that most sports cars are too expensive for many of the people who get most out of them—people under 25.

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And, for many people, it's the best looking sports car on the market under \$10,000.

Fiat has more experience than any other car maker in the world when it comes to building small high

performance engines.

The red line on the 850 Spider's power unit is all the way up at 6.500 rpm and it enjoys working at those speeds.

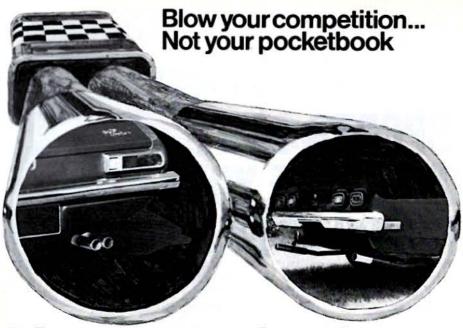
And with disc brakes in front and independent suspension all round, you get all the road holding you need to handle the hard driving this car encourages.

It's one of the kinder tricks of Fate that the best sports car under \$3,000 is the one that's furthest under



The biggest selling car in Europe.

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Volvo 1800S, B.M.W. 1600/2002, Datsun 510, Datsun 1000, Corona Mk 2 1968 and early 1969, Corolla Mk 2 1968 and early 1969, MGB and GT, Vauxhall Viva MB, Spitfire 3, GT 6 Mk 1, Capri 1600, TR 4A Dual System, Volvo 122, Cooper, Mini, Cooper "S", Austin 1100 and America,

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OUR DRUNKEN FRIENDS

You've gone and done it with your Stricter-Anti-Drunk Laws (C/D, May) article.

Statistics would show that the "uncertified gypsy trucker" with his poor tires, brakes, etc., kills only a few people and does only slightly higher damage than 85year-old ladies driving 1936 DeSotos while being accompanied by their mothers.

It takes real guts to stand up and hit the real killers as you have done.

Hats off fellas, even if it hurts.

Kenneth P. Campbell Spokane, Wash.

It always hurts with our hats off .- Ed.

Here in merry old England it is now illegal to have more than 80 milligrams of alcohol per milliliter of blood.

To the average drinker, this means he can drink only three double whiskeys or three pints of beer in a three-hour period.

To overcome this problem the drinker could consume 10-ounces of vogurt.

> Peter M. Colclough Fareham, England

Or, as an alternative, a cubic yard of cement.-Ed.

SHEPHERD'S FANS

I am left all but dumbfounded, aghast, tortured into a lyric swoon at Jean Shepherd's manipulations of ambience.

> Peter Storrow Sante Fe, N.M.

Have you tried a three-point restraint system?-Ed.

Saw something the other day I thought Jean Shepherd would appreciate: a plastic automobile tire for a child to use as a swing. Soon they'll be turning up in the trash piles with their predecessors of the thread-bare-white-walled rubber variety.

Keep your knees loose. There is no train station in Dry Run, Pennsylvania.

> Richard C. Price McVeytown, Pa.

Somebody better tell Amtrack.-Ed.

HOW ABOUT

In '69 you chose the Z28 Camaro as your project car, God only knows why you chose an Opel GT in '70.

How about a Datsun 240Z in '71?

James Morrison Jr. Las Cruces, N.M.

Never happen.-Ed.

How about a favor for a Jerry Karl fan. After all, you did big Linda (Vaughn).

Saunderton, Pa. You mean something like a whoopie cush-

Pat Fox

ion? Better yet, Wayne Cochran.-Ed. CAR and DRIVER



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Brock Yates

· I should have known what was happening a couple of years ago when this far-out ad writer I know told me he was looking for a 1957 Mercury Turnpike Cruiser. This guy, who was into bad taste like you wouldn't believe, with the hand-painted Windsor-knot ties and silent generation Hickey-Freeman gabardine suits with pleats and linebacker shoulder pads, was out there scouring the junker used car lots Cruiser with twin radio antennas, clear vinyl seat covers, and an electrically operated rear window. This was a very trendy guy, and his getting into bad-taste cars should have been a signal to me that he was in the vanguard of a major automotive

Bad-taste cars! A few weeks ago I was wandering down a street in Manhattan Beach, California, and here is this bashedup 1961 Chevy station wagon with a giant painting of the Golden Gate Bridge plastered on its side; girders and cables running from headlights to gas cap in living color-a motorized mural. The freaks are into bad taste automobiles, and when the freaks get into something, the rest of us, whether we like it or not, cannot be far behind. A friend of mine recently spotted a Volkswagen in Greenwich Village that was painted exactly like a Messerschmitt ME-109 fighter plane, complete with squadron colors.

The whole thing is wrapped up in a crazy-quilt of anti-materialism and economics, this coast-to-coast move toward junker, bad-taste automobiles. And it's all based on a misunderstanding. The youth of America is not off cars-they are off conventional new cars. It didn't take any brains to see that the Super Car hype was a dead issue two years ago, but now the spin ment within a strong sub-culture, can have

away from all that Gee-Tee-Oh-Tiger-fantasy-racer trip has backlashed into a total negative performance thing. The only people I see driving "hot" cars anymore are left-over, Wild-Root-Cream-Oil-Charlie's and pasty chicks with beehives and rollers.

Pasty chicks in super cars! Everywhere I go I see these throwback broads lumping down Main Street in jacked-up, raked-anddecked, nosedown, fat-rubber throwback monster cars. Throwback broads in monster cars, while the freaks are driving around in war-surplus vehicles, bent-up Kaiser-Frazers, rusted-out Volkswagens, Demo-Derby panel trucks, Blue-Flame Chevy Sixes, totaled-out Buick Electra sedans and burnt-up, clapped-out delivery vans. This is the central theme of automobiles right now, believe me.

In fact, I will go one step further. You don't have to read Kiplinger Magazine or the classified ads in Popular Mechanics to learn how to "Make Big Money!" Here it is, right here in the pages of C/D—the key to your fortune. First you go out and buy 500 genuinely terrible automobiles, keeping in mind that bad taste is the ultimate measure of quality. You then ship them to Southern California, where you rent a small used-car lot, preferably in a town like Venice or West Covina. You then hang up a sign that says "Freak Motors" looking for a pink and white Turnpike and wait for the onslaught of customers. If you chose your inventory wisely, you will sell all 500 cars within 48 hours, for between \$200 and \$1000 a copy, thereby providing you with enough capital to open a one-hour dry cleaning store in Paramus, New Jersey, go short on STP stock, vacation in Costa Rica or purchase a first-edition of the works of Taylor Caldwellwhatever suits your fancy, "Freak Motors" will make you rich beyond your wildest dreams. Somebody is going to make a fortune on "Freak Motors."

Now that we've passed on this month's secret-get-rich-quick-tip, let's pause for a moment to ponder the implications of the freak motors phenomenon on the automobile industry. Not only are these guys in Detroit, Stuttgart, Yokahama, etc., trying to solve pollution, safety, congestion, reliability, rising costs, etc., but they are now faced with the prospect of a substantial part of the population-and a strongly influential one at that-giving up all that shiny-bright, squeaky-clean, new dreamboat hustle and getting into anti-cars. The Pepsi-Generation making the scene in a 6cylinder Chevy II with the windows busted out and the paintwork looking like something you'd slosh on the hull of a Liberty ship? Good Lord. This anti-car thing, wherein a junk car makes a powerful state-

CAR and DRIVER

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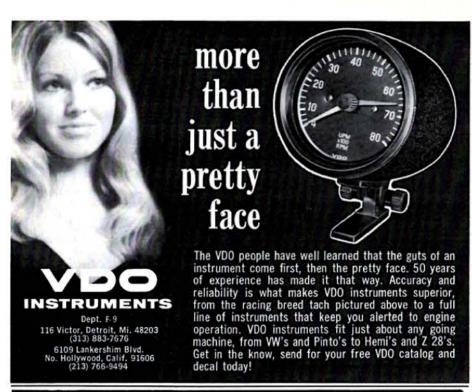
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tremendous reverberations throughout the automobile industry, both imported and domestic. If a large segment of the younger population decides that "newness," per se, is no good, then all the efforts by car makers to increase value, reliability, service, etc., will become meaningless. I don't think it will go that far, but I can see some blurred evidence of functionalism, as expressed by anti-cars, becoming a factor within the general area of automotive enthusiasm.

Up to now, most car lovers, save for a small cadre of antique and classic enthusiasts, have centered their interest on new machinery; newness, as expressed through evolutionary development, has been the cornerstone of automotive interest. In fact, magazines like C/D have existed in a large measure simply to transmit the latest information about "new" cars to their readers. But what if a combination of factors, including economics, a government-stimulated stagnation of car design, and hazy antimaterialistic urgings, to name a few, dulls the enthusiasm for newness? Such a thing won't happen overnight, but the renewed interest in latter-day classics, everything from Ferraris to Corvairs, bears strong evidence that some enthusiasts are reacting to the prospects of the future by looking back to better days. At the outer fringes of this reaction is the freak motors thing, which embodies the strongest possible anti-car statement that can be made while still remaining in a four-wheel context.

We can all joke around about what your boss would say if you drove to work in a '48 Ford Panel truck with rust-bobbed fenders, but the guys who build cars for a living should be taking the entire situation more seriously. I am not sure how I would approach the question of anti-cars if I were them, but I think I would be seriously examining the feasibility of producing all sorts of ultra-functional, ultra-cheap, ultrastark vehicles; gutted little vans, fiberglass, crypto-military four-wheel-drive vehicles, two-place sports cars with no luxuries whatsoever, weird, slab-sided sedans for \$1500 that do nothing but transport people and make a ringing visual statement about utility-all of those concepts and many more should be looked into immediately by any automaker that plans to remain relevant in the Seventies. Function is overwhelming style in the automobile industry and anyone who doesn't recognize that is going to be looking for work.

Will the automakers get the message in time? Somehow, I think they will, but until they get on the bandwagon, your chance to make it big lies waiting in a seedy used car lot in Venice. Freak Motors, here we

BEATTHE SYSTEM. BUYAVOLVO.





There are nights when I'm driving my Fiat 124 along the turnpike, and I've got the radio set 'way down near the end of the dial where the Cuban and the Puerto Rican stations come fading in and I'll pick up WWVA in Wheeling. I'll be driving along in the dark, along the 'pike, and there, drifting through the birdies and harmonicas of the ghetto end of the radio dial, the sad, mournful wail of Merle Haggard sings about that good ol' boy pumping gas at Harold's Super Service. Sometimes Merle barely makes it through the hellfire and damnation barrage being laid down by Oral Roberts on a station riding right in under WWVA.

"Last night I dreamed I died and went to Heaven... to that big Super Service in the sky..."

Harold's Super Service is a countrywestern song about a guy pumpin' gas at a place that specializes in "service all the way." But there's one thing that bugs him; this guy that shows up in a "stripped-down Model A" who demands: "Gimme fifty cents worth a'reg'lar, check the oil too, if you don't mind, put some air in my tires would ya mister? . . . and wash my windows too, when you get time." Well, it seems that when this pump jockey dreams he died he was quite happy in the great bye-and-bye. His pump was right near the Pearly Gates, where he could see the new arrivals check in every day. He was happy pumping gas throughout all Eternity, when one day, as he was changing the plugs on Moses' magic carpet, who shows up chuggin' through the clouds but that big old boy in his stripped-down Model A. "Gimme fifty cents worth a'reg'lar. . ."

I don't know whether Haggard ever pumped gas in his life, but as a guy who once, in his 15th year, spent four hellish weeks pumping Esso in a sun-baked pit stop on US 41 in the shimmering heat of an Indiana summer, I know well what the poor son-of-a-bitch in Harold's means.

An afternoon in the grease pit, draining scalding oil out of the guts of GMC tractors while the rest of the world sings and dances all about you, is enough to put the good old iron in anyone's soul. Sometimes I watch those Amoco or Shell commercials on TV with that legion of square-jawed, trimly-uniformed, sparkling-eyed attendants briskly shining windows, and polishing headlights on an endless succession of what appears to be showroom models, and think about the times I was alone at that station. Elmer Lightfoot, who owned the station, was off making it with the blonde. And there I'd be, left with those goddamn pumps, and the ultimate cross: the grease rack.

Elmer, on those days when the blonde was in season and he was coming into rut, and her old man was in Logansport trying to peddle pianos or bugles or whatever the hell it was he sold, would say to me about 10:30 in the morning, "She's yours, kid."

He'd toss me the keys to the register and take off in his bored-out, chopped-down, high-assed Hudson Hornet which he raced at Crown Point on the weekends. That Hornet was so mean that it'd sit out there in the back, with the key off, burnin' rubber standing still. In fact, that Hornet was a lot like Elmer himself. You know the old crap about how people who own dogs get to resemble their mutts. Well, I think cars are even more so. Square-looking chunky guys who wear white-on-white ties always buy square-looking chunky Chryslers, and Elmer was a lot like his Hudson Hornet; ugly, hard to handle, and at times as mean as cat dung. And as he rocketed off to his tryst, Elmer would scream out the window, "Keep an eye on it, kid, and watch them crappers. I don't want no winos from Cal City boozin' it up in there, y'hear?"

"Yeah, Elmer," was all I could say, because he was right. The first time I had been left in charge, this guy had come in driving a Studebaker Champ with the back stove in and the windows held together with white adhesive tape. He fell out of the car while I was trying to fish out the rag he had been using as a gas cap. I gave him the keys to the john, and three hours later we had to call the Sheriff to bust down the door and drag him out, drunk as a skunk. For the rest of the day I mopped up vomit and tried to get the plumbing working again.

"Okay, Elmer, I'll watch it."

There was one day in particular that sticks in my memory as exactly what old Merle means. As usual, the Hudson had

left me standing there in the heat amid clouds of blue exhaust and burnt rubber. I hadn't had anything to eat since six that morning and my stomach was growling like a flat head Ford about to lose its main bearings so the first thing I did was look for something to eat. All I could come up with was a Butterfinger which was under the counter where Elmer had his leathercovered jack handle, in case of trouble. He had covered the thing in cowhide himself, with neat stitching, and his name burned on it in fancy lettering. Elmer said he learned leathercraft in the Scouts and "it come in handy when you're makin' a blackjack." He also kept a .38 Police Special stuck in the back of the shelf, under some rags, but I never saw him do anything with it except to take it out once in a while and show it to friends of his from the softball team. He mentioned it to me once.

"See this, kid. Won it in a raffle in Muncie. Bought this ticket from a guy in a bowling alley and doggone if I didn't win. Shows you never can tell."

He could spin it on his finger like Gary Cooper, and once it flew off and busted the mirror on the cigarette machine, which made Calvin the cigarette man mad and Elmer had to buy a new mirror, so he didn't play with it after that, except he did show it off now and again. He never said whether it had shells in it or not, but knowing Elmer it must have had.

After Elmer left me with the key and nothing to do but wait for trouble to drive in and squirt "Flit" at the bluebottle flies and the hornets which kept coming in to the office to get out of the heat, I squatted down at Elmer's desk, wearing my Esso cap square on my head, and tried to look official.

Elmer kept his library for dull moments between grease jobs, in the bottom drawer, along with a couple of Salvation Army coffee mugs and a jar of mustard. He never changed the books as long as I was there, and he never got tired of reading them. There was the July issue of Spicy Western, which featured pornography on the range where there is never a discouraging word, to say the least; three little blue books graphically detailing the sexual adventures of Maggie and Jiggs, Winnie Winkle and Tillie The Toiler; a Western Auto catalog; and the National League Yearbook, which was referred to constantly during heated arguments on Saturday mornings with his friend Swifty and a guy named Leo who sold grease fittings.

Well, I sat there for a while reading Spicy Western and this story about a guy named Luke who had this pinto horse named 'Paint,' and one day he and Paint got caught in this bad thunderstorm and

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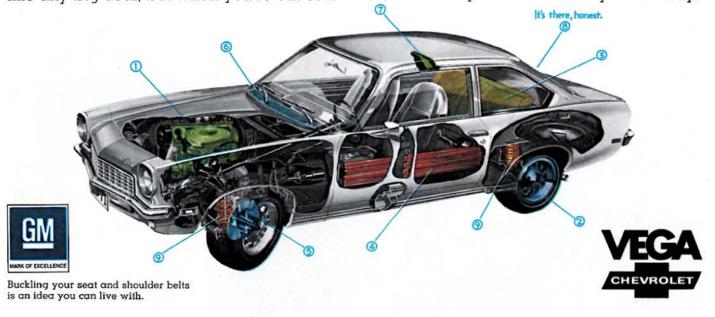
The moral.

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AR and DRIVER



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It was in an SCCA race at Lime Rock. The BFG Radial Tirebird—driven by Larry Dent—was riding on Radial T/A street tires with only half their normal tread depth. All other cars were on special racing rubber, but we won. First in class. Tenth overall.

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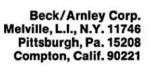




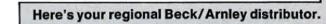
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they had to spend the night in a deserted cabin with this strange girl who came galloping in out of the rain, and Luke got to sweating and wondering about whether her mammoth bazooms were going to pop right through her leather jacket when somebody started to honk out by the gas

I picked up a rag, which most pump jockeys carry around like Linus' security blanket, and drifted out into the heat waves to go to work. It was a bile-green Oldsmobile. Back then, I was convinced that someone at the Olds plant was either color blind or had a sneakily malevolent sense of humor in foisting those curiously depressing colors off on the public. This one was in that metallic bile color so favored by the same crew that loads up its lawns with concrete nymphs and plastic ducks. The Olds was piled high with luggage, topped by a green canoe with an Indian head on the bow.

"What'll it be?" I said out of the corner of my mouth, aping Elmer who at that time was the model for my life style. Elmer had at least 34 variations of "What'll it be?" ranging all the way from mewling servility to an outright challenge to a bloody fistfight. It was all in the tone of the voice and the way you wore the bill of your cap.

"Uh . . . do you have any Kentucky maps?" The driver, obviously Daddy, sweating as he struggled to open the door, his red plaid sport shirt rumpled and dripping, bunched up around his neck like a soggy noose. His wife, a thin wiry lady in a pink flowered housedress swatted at a wrestling mob of greasy kids in the back seat with a tennis shoe.

"Now stop it!" she yelled, "I SAID STOP IT!" She slugged away at the moiling mass.

"Y' got a map of Kentucky?"

The old man battled free from his screaming brood.

"Kentucky?" I asked, stalling for time since I knew what all grizzled pump jockeys know, that when a guy asks for a map and gets out of the car it's nothing but trouble . . . and no sale. I started back toward the office to get him his Kentucky map when the back door of the Olds slammed open and three grubby kids wearing Popeye T-shirts and carrying rubber daggers poured out, yelling. The tar on the driveway was so hot I could feel my feet sinking in, and the smell of used oil made my eves water as I grubbled through our supply of maps.

"How 'bout West Virginia?" I asked.

"We're heading to Corbin. I gotta have a Kentucky map," was all he said, mopping away at his sweating forehead.

"I got an Ohio map that shows part of

Kentucky, but that's all. We run out of Kentuckys."

"Fer Chrissake, what kinda station is this? No Kentucky maps!"

"All I got's Ohio."

Behind me I could hear the kids flushing the john over and over, and squirting water around the walls.

In the meantime a Pontiac convertible and a Chevy station wagon had pulled in and begun to honk.

"I'LL BE RIGHT BACK," I hollered at the Kentucky traveler. The girl in the Pontiac wanted to know what that squeak was up in the front . . . and if Elmer was going to be around.

"It's probably your fan belt," I velled above the din of Route 41 traffic and screaming kids. The guy behind her in the Chevy was putting out so much steam that it looked like any minute he'd blow his hood clean off. "HEY, I'M HEATING UP," he bellowed.

The girl kept gunning her motor, trying to make it squeak. The guy who wanted the Kentucky map was now in the office, rummaging through Elmer's desk where he kept his Winnie Winkle books. It was getting out of hand, going downhill fast. I ran back into the office and shoved an Ohio map at the bird in the plaid shirt.

"We only got Ohio maps!" I could see he was already halfway through Tillie The Toiler and couldn't care less. Thank God, his wife started to toot.

"Your wife's tooting."

"Yeah, I know." He sounded mad. He clutched the Ohio map and herded the kids back into the car. They were playing soccer with a wad of rolled-up paper towels. He finally cleared the driveway and headed for Corbin, Kentucky.

In the meantime the girl with the Pontiac had driven off in the direction of the Shell station, and good enough for 'em, I thought. The Chevy, in the meantime, had all but exploded.

"TURN IT OFF," I hollered through the roar of escaping steam.

"What?" The driver, for some reason, kept racing the engine.

"TURN IT OFF," I yelled. He cut the switch, and that damn Chevy was so hot she kept running for five minutes on selfcombustion alone. I saw the guy behind the wheel was some kind of minister or something. He had one of those reverse collars and a black suit, and again I knew from experience that this was bad news. Preachers hardly ever buy more than three gallons of regular and tend to sponge a lot, figuring the Lord, and Jersey Standard, will provide. I finally got the hood open, and sheets of searing heat curled my eve-

"It's empty. How come you didn't put no water in it?" I asked, peering into the radiator, which was coughing and panting faintly, and seemed to be crying.

"Water?" the preacher asked, as if he were above such mundane, earthly considerations as water in the radiator.

"Yeah, it's empty, fer Chrissake . . ." The words got out before I could stop it. "Excuse me, son?"

"It needs water. We'd better let it cool off 'cause if I put water in it now she'll crack a block or something."

"Very interesting." The preacher gazed around the premises with the serenity of the man who habitually leaves the scut of life to the others.

A kid on a Harley boomed down to the end pump. I sold him 1.3 gallons of High Test and a half pint of upperlube, a total sale of a buck thirty-seven and I'd been toiling, totin' barges and liftin' bales, for over three hours and the day was just starting. I got back to the minister, who somehow didn't seem to sweat. He asked me what church I went to and before I could answer a guy in a Chrysler Imperial steamed in and asked if I knew where he could get a used generator. I said I didn't know, but I'd keep it in mind, which was a lie, and he drove out, leaving a trail of oil on the driveway. The minister gave me a

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track entitled Are You Prepared To Meet Thy Maker? which he said was very interesting and could change my life forever. I filled the Chevy up with water, screwed the cap back on, and he said "Thank you, my son," got in and drove off.

After that it was quiet for a while. I went back and started to read about Luke and old Paint when the Coke man drove in and asked how come Elmer hadn't left the money for him and why were we short eight empties in one of the cases? I said I didn't know, but I'd ask Elmer, so he said he wasn't gonna leave no Coke unless he got his money, unplugged the machine and

I figured it was no skin off my nose, so I sat down again, waiting for more action. A Scoutmaster drove in with an open-bodied vegetable truck loaded with Cub Scouts wearing baseball suits.

"How do I get to Black Oak?" he asked. "You mean over by Griffith?" I asked. He said yeah. I told him and off they went. Another big deal. All the while it was getting hotter. My stomach was growling even more. When the Good Humor man came in to use the john I bought a Raspberry Swirl fudgesickle from him and he drove out, ringing his bell. The phone rang. It was Elmer.

"How's everything goin', kid?"

"Okay" I answered.

"Keepin' them drunks outa the crap-

I could hear a jukebox or something behind him, and a lot of laughing.

"It's okay, Elmer."

"Just hang in. I'm almost on my way."

A couple of crummy-looking dogs must have heard Elmer and had decided to couple right next to the High Test pump. I ran out and kicked them in the butts, figuring it didn't look so good for the customers, especially when the Cub Scouts came in.

And so the long hot summer went in Elmer's Esso Station, the motorists' haven on US 41, and late at night when Merle Haggard's keening wail battles the heavyside layer and Oral Roberts sings about that Great Super Service In The Sky, and about changin' plugs on Moses' magic carpet, and that guy comes toolin in and says: "Gimme fifty cents worth a'reg'lar . . . Check the oil too if you don't mind . . . Put some air in my tires, would ya mister? . . . and wash my windows too, when you get time . . . " my back begins to ache 'way down low, from all that bending in the grease pit, and I know that Elmer is out there somewhere in the American night giving service to those blondes and holding off the Coke man, and keeping those drunks out of the crapper.

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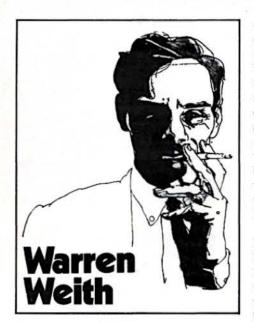
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Suggested retail price P.O.E. The Renault 12 Sedan is shown with optional custom wheels, and front bumper overrider ber etc. Taxes, freight, dealer delivery charges, or other options on all models shown are additional. For overseas delivery into see your dealer or write: Renault, Inc., 100 Sylvan Avenue, Englewood Cliffs, N.J. 076 32







This is called working for the man in 1934. It was told to me by Mr. Driscoll . . . my bar man at Kelly's.

"Thirty-seven years ago one of the Big Three had an assembly plant in Bayonne, New Jersey. One of the head foremen had been a chauffeur for the president of the company. He had had an auto accident in the line of duty, which left him with one leg shorter than the other. That's why he had been given a life-time job at Bayonne. Times were so bad that he was glad to trade a short leg for a permanent job.

"Back then it was so bad that nobody complained very loudly when they upped the speed of the production line. It got so bad that men started to come in to work long before they were due. You'd see a guy whose job it was to put on wheels going down the line before his shift started, putting wheels on dozens of cars to get a head start. The rest of the guys on the different other jobs would be doing the same thing. You see, if they didn't get a jump on it that way, they'd never keep up when the line did start. Some of those poor guys put in an hour's extra work just to be able to keep the eight hours they got paid for.

"The real smart cookies though, was that bunch down at the dump. They really had it figured out. Some of them made \$30 or \$40 a day. Here's how it worked.

"All of the small parts came in big boxes. Maybe 12 headlights to a box . . . or 24 coils . . . things like that. Now my job was to keep hauling the part boxes to the line and stacking them up behind the guys working on the line. Then someone else would lug away the empties and throw them into big wheeled containers. Another guy would come along with a little tractor, hitch up 10 or so of them and haul them away to the city dump.

out was that there were parts in those boxes. Anybody with half a brain would have figured it. The guys on the line were really busting a gut. They'd reach behind them for a part without really looking to see how many were left in the box. When it felt empty they'd kick it out of the way. After all, they weren't being paid by the part . . . just to bolt the parts on. And, the guy whose job it was to bundle up the empty boxes wasn't being paid to check if a box was really empty-if the line guy kicked the box out of the way it was empty. Right?

"It's hard to say how many parts were left by accident and how many on purpose. Either way, a couple of wiseacres who lived around the dumps started nosing through those boxes, and pretty soon they were living like dukes. Finally someone back at the plant caught on. And you know what they did? They didn't say anything . . . just passed the word to some commissioner in Bayonne and he put out an order to burn all the plant's garbage at the end of every working day.

"Funny the way they think. It wasn't as if it was saving the parts for the company. Just as long as nobody else was making any money from them. Funny. Like that business about not walking around with your hands in your pockets. Yeah . . . that's right . . . it was a company rule. I was pushing one of those little low bed dollies across the yard one winter day. It was bitter cold and I was pushing this thing with one hand with the other stuck in my pocket to keep warm. Doesn't some foreman spy me and come over and say, 'Driscoll, the boss pays you to work with both hands . . . take a couple of days off and get that other hand into shape.'

"Nowadays you say that to some kid and he'll laugh and say, 'sure, I can use a couple of days . . . maybe I'll run down to Florida and do a little fishing.' But then two days off was a disaster. You should have seen the look on my wife's face when I came home early. She thought I'd been fired. She perked up, though, when I told her that it was only for two days.

"Guys were getting fired everyday though. They'd figure out a way to get the job done with fewer men and the next thing you'd know you'd be called into the front office. That head foreman, the one with the bum leg, he'd be sitting at his desk with a row of pay envelopes in front of him. He'd ask you your name, look through the envelopes fish yours out hand it to you and say, 'You're through.' Just like that . . . 'You're through.'

"There was a story going around the line about the guy who was called to the front "What none of us donkeys ever figured office in the middle of the day. The head

foreman was supposed to have said to him that his father had just died and that he'd better get right home. And the guy was supposed to have said, 'Oh, thank God, I thought I was getting fired.'

"You probably don't remember, but the cars back then had a piece of canvas covering the center part of the roof. The steel parts of the body came up all around and formed a sort of frame work. Over this you had to put a layer of cotton batting . . . then a layer of chicken wire . . . then over that would go the canvas.

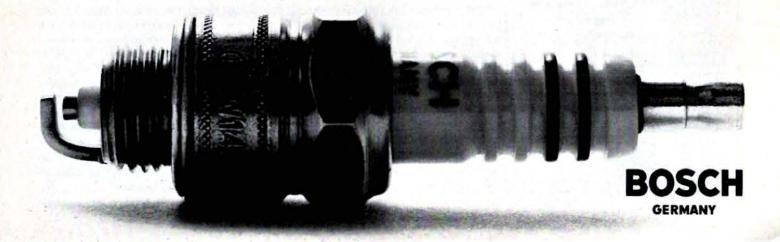
I had to laugh when the cars came out with those vinyl covered roofs. I said to myself, holy gee, we're going backwards. Anyway the trouble was that you had to smooth the hot solder all around the edges of the chicken wire otherwise the strands would eventually work their way up through the canvas and the roof would leak. That wasn't so bad because it all happened outside of the plant. The bad part was that the acid in the solder would ruin the paint that went on the canvas, so someone had to wash the soldered joints down with gasoline. That still would have been all right except for the terrible rush, rush, rush. There you'd have a guy with a torch and solder and another guy following him up with the gasoline. The guy washing down would be soaked in gas and every so often the guy with the torch would slip or turn around too fast and his partner would go up like a bloody rocket. I know it sounds stupid, but it happened three times while I was working at Bayonne. And three times the guy on fire didn't live to draw his pay.

"You'd think after the first couple of accidents that they'd have trouble getting men to be the washers wouldn't you? But, no, there was always a list of guys waiting for one of those jobs. You see it was easy work. You didn't have to lift anything, or sweat up on bolts with a wrench. The only thing you had to lift was the gasoline soaked rag. And that's what did those lazy buggers in.

"Still, I liked my job, even though I had to do an almighty lot of lifting and heaving. I had the freedom of the place in a manner of speaking. I couldn't have stuck it out if I had to stay in one spot and do the same thing over and over again for nine hours a day. I never could understand why those guys on the line didn't go off their nuts doing that sort of thing six days a week. That's why I like this job. Always somebody new to talk to, and always some old friends stopping in just to keep you on an even keel, so to speak. But I suppose the automobile factories are all different nowadays . . . at least I hope so. Here let me put a head on that for you . . . "

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Amateur environmentalists stand tall in my regard for having one of the most entertaining acts in the Human Comedy. People with their messianic sense of mission, who walk with eyes firmly fixed on a distant star and trip over pebbles at their feet, are just naturally hilarious. Rowan and Martin at their best have never been as funny as a lady I saw holding forth for one of television's "Man In The Street" reporters. This housewife probably had only a hazy concept of what happens inside her electric toaster as it scorches slices of bread, but she was firm in her conviction that the internal combustion engine should be banished; that the weather will once again assume its timeless rhythms now that there are no more atomic-bomb explosions; and that what science and technology hath wrought in terms of environmental insult can be put right without raising the cost of living or diminishing convenience. Bless her pointy head, she provided me with the only good laugh I had that day.

You could even say that I laughed until I cried, because when I think about the fact that she's probably organizing the neighborhood into an environmental action group, it all gets to be a lot less funny.

Take, for example, the environmentalists' demand that we have mass rapid transit systems for our cities. We have been hearing this one echoing along the corridors of power for years, and I'll confess that there was a time when I thought it might be a pretty good idea. The phrase "rapid mass transit" called forth visions of sleek, high-speed trains carrying the masses from point to point in mere moments. That was the vision. The reality, as I came to know it, was another matter. During the five years I spent working in John V. Lind-

say's city, and living in its suburbs, I had plenty of opportunity to experience mass transit's facts of life, and that experience badly tarnished the vision.

New York, also known as the "Peter Minuit Memorial Dump," has America's only Complete Public Transit System, and if it stands as a model for the systems to be imposed everywhere, I think I'll start looking for a farm in Tasmania. What's wrong with New York's mass rapid transit system? In the first place, it is neither rapid nor a system. The "mass" part, I'll go along with. But you must not assume that the loaded condition of every train, car and bus constitutes a vote of confidence from the masses. Only the even greater inconveniences of travel by automobile in the greater New York area keeps the transit system customer coming back for more.

In truth, the New York transit system would collapse totally if forced to compete with the automobile on even terms. It is kept alive by prohibitively-priced and scarce parking in Manhattan, by one of the worst inter-urban road networks in this country, and by stiffish tolls at the majority of Manhattan's vehicular tunnels and bridges. And even then the transit system teeters on the edge of extinction, for it is not economically viable. Fares for traveling on New York's subway system verge on being too high for the workers it serves, while the suburban commuter's weekly or monthly ticket is priced precariously close to that of operating a private passenger car over the same distance—including tolls. Despite that, the subways and commuter trains operate at a multi-million dollar annual loss and must be subsidized with tax monies; even though so little is spent on maintenance and new equipment that breakdowns are common, schedules are a joke, and those who use the system must ride packed haunch to haunch. And while Governor Rockefeller (whose arcane humor came to light when he referred to the Long Island Rail Road as the "finest commuter rail road in the country": New York's voters showed their sense of humor by electing him to another term as Governor) would like to force an increase in fares so that he can use those tax dollars to add another shining edifice to the mall in Albany, he dare not. Any substantial increase would not only cost votes, but work at odds with mass transit objectives by increasing the ebb and flow of cars between Manhattan and the suburbs. So the New York "system" will continue to stagger along virtually bankrupt, its trains filthy and decrepit, its operating schedules a mockery, its passengers both impoverished by high fares and outraged by discomfort-and no relief in sight.



Toyota introduces a hardtop. For times when you wish you had a station wagon.

THE NEW CORONA HARDTOP has a back seat that gets out of the way when you need more room.

Just fold it down. And long, clumsy items fit right through the trunk into the spot where the back seat was. Altogether, you get almost six and a half feet of continuous cargo space.

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A front passenger seat that flips down and slides forward all by itself. So you can get in and out of the back a lot easier.

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ones! The other guys sell just to racing car drivers. But Sunoco figures, why should the professionals have all the good fun...and all the good performance? So we sell our racing gas to anybody with the money. It's Sunoco 260, the highest octane gasoline you can buy at any station in the world. Stop in and ask the man to fill you up with our racing gas. He won't give you lots of talk. He'll give you lots of 260.



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260 - Racing gas at every pump.

Meanwhile, 3000-miles to the west, in Los Angeles, the much-maligned network of freeways and its carpet of automobiles goes about the business of moving people from where they are to where they want to be, and it does the job rather well. Indeed, if one forgets all the preconceptions about mass rapid transit necessarily consisting of rails (mono or otherwise) and trains, Los Angeles' roads and cars begin to look like the rapid transit system everyone has been talking about. A system that works, too, over distances so great that even the most optimistic of "mass transit" boosters have not dared suggest more than a fragmentary, essentially supplementary admixture of train services. It is doubtful that even a token "mass transit" system will ever get beyond the conversational stage, because Los Angeles' planners are abundantly aware that any system superimposed on that now existing (i.e., cars and freeways) will wither on the economic vine unless it can compete on a cost and convenience basis. None of the proposed public transit systems offer much promise of being competitive in that sense. Particularly in terms of convenience.

Admittedly, the automobile's contribution to air pollution is a strike against a Los Angeles-style transit system, and I must recognize that there are many who do not share my aesthetic appreciation of the freeways' swooping concrete ribbons and soaring arches. But Detroit's emission control work has brought a gradually improving air quality in Los Angeles-and that is more than can be said for the sulfurous miasma that chokes Manhattan. which grows worse as Consolidated Edison's power plants struggle to keep up with all those electric trains.

There is more to be said here, as environmental cause and effect is a very long chain and no man can see all of its links. But neither can any man pretend that the mass transit system, New York style, is not costly, inefficient and best suited to the transportation of cattle. For people, the car and freeway are clearly better, and our environmentalists should give some thought to that while they are blathering along about banning the automobile. Men won't like being cattle-even if, as cattle, they get the cleanest air. We will surely have to accept, however reluctantly, some fumes in our air and a measure of scum on our waters and even a trace of ugliness upon the land. To pretend that it will be otherwise any time soon is folly, as it distracts us from reality. A reality that will, unless we truly become cattle, include individuallydirected transportation modules in some form-and we'll probably go right on calling them "cars."



SEPTEMBER 1971

The classic test of endurance—not so much of cars but of human psyches.





e Mans and its rituals do not yield easily to strangers. Woody's face showed that. "What? I can't understand . . . You want to measure what? . . . this panel? . . . behind this panel? . . . the frame?" That seems to elicit a response that should be interpreted as affirmative—he couldn't has been assigned. Despite the gravity of be sure-so Woody quickly works his way through the crowd surrounding the Penske Ferrari to his toolbox and returns with a screwdriver to undo the Dzus fasteners retaining a portion of the car's firewall.

Like the rest of the Penske team, Woody (John Woodard), the chief mechanic, partakers and contributors to the scene. speaks no French. And like the rest of the French officials who conduct the world's Ferrari from America, the Penske car, the premier endurance race, the tech inspec- one that's always so shiny: they've crowdtors are pridefully incapable of English. ed in so close that their shoe toes are mir-The gap between is both a quaint source of in-rored in it's polished-aluminum sills. trigue to uninvolved spectators and an over-

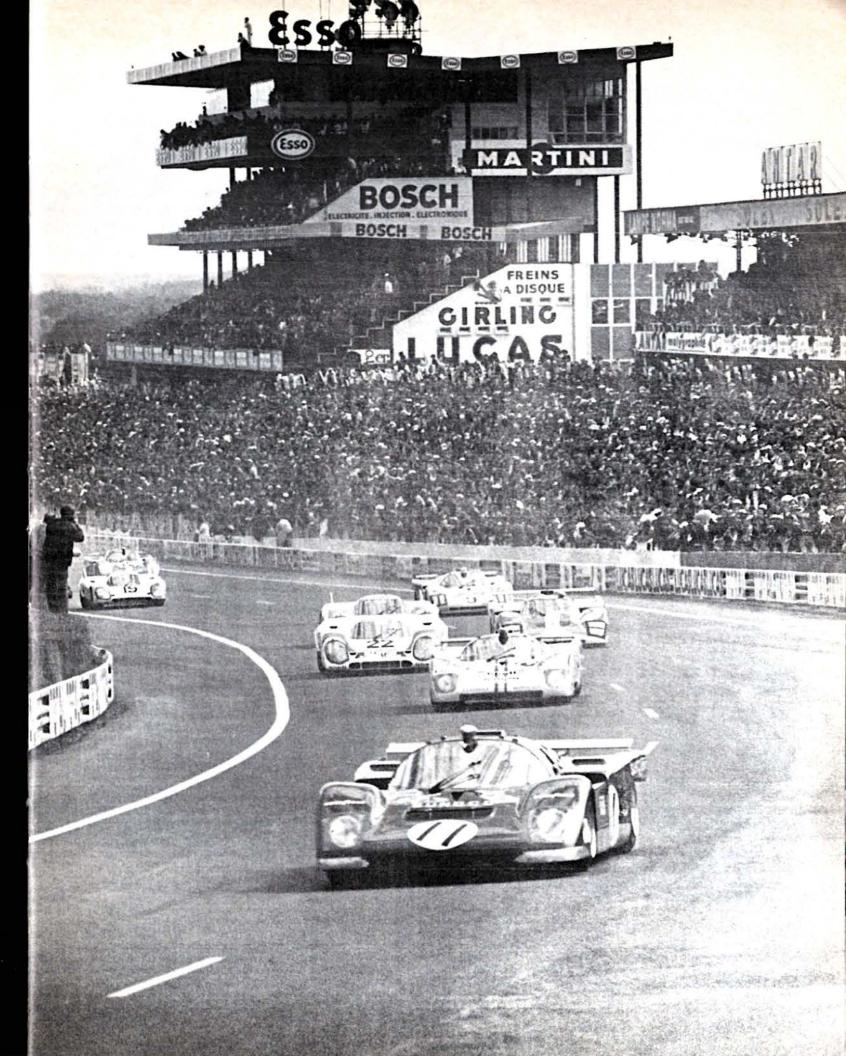
Tech inspection takes place in a long shed, open on one side. The racing cars are pushed through, assembly-line fashion, so that separate groups of inspectors stationed around tables can, in due order, exercise its franchised omnipotence over fuel systems, headlights or whatever specialty it the situation, the atmosphere is that of an open-air bazaar. In addition to those soliciting or dispensing permission to race, the whole area is noisily clogged with photographers, writers, film crews and idle others who are apparently nothing more than

They've come to see one thing, the blue

In fact, the crowd is so tight and so whelming source of oppression to the crew. homogeneous around the Ferrari that only

PHOTOGRAPHY: PETE BIRO

CAR and DRIVER



Le Mans

As the race approaches, the only genuine tradition at Le Mans is that of intimidation: the track intimidates the drivers, team managers intimidate the owners, and a battalion of stewards intimidate all.



Kirk F. White (left) and Jerry Riegel.

Woody and Blaine Ferguson, the other yellow-shirted Penske mechanic to make the trip, and Mark Donohue appear to have legitimate roles in the proceedings.

You have to look very closely to distinguish the inspectors. A few wear leather jackets; a few prefer nubby-weave wool sport coats over sweaters; many have thinning hair but, without exception, all would blend into the crowd were it not for their official red leather armbands.

That the tech inspectors at Le Mans, the acknowledged ne plus ultra of endurance races, should look like village merchants casts an atmosphere of doubt over the proceedings right from the start. And that they frequently move into huddles to discuss a verdict (invariably in rapid-fire French rather than plain English) make them seem, at least to Americans, like dark conspirators, a conviction reinforced by the discriminatory nature of many of their caucused judgments.

Right off they don't like the identification numbers. The Ferrari has been assigned number "11" and that identical twin digit numeral has been painted on in four places. It couldn't be plainer but the officials unanimously agree that it has to be repainted. To them it looks like 77. It will be redone sans serifs—just two vertical lines-then there won't be any confusion.

And the lights aren't right, either. The

Ferrari has headlights with high and low beams, taillights, brake lights, roof lights and side marker lights. Still that isn't sufficient. It must have parking lights too.

All of these decisions are handed down in French and would probably go unrecorded had not the European business agent of Luigi Chinetti's North American Racing Team been standing in to translate.

Actually, there is one other hope if a linguistic impasse is reached. Two mechanics have been borrowed for the occasion from McNamara, and one of them can speak French . . . and German. For this channel to work the official words would have to be translated by the McNamara man into German, and then be given to Peter Reinhardt, another mechanic, who would then change the thought into good, solid information-giving English. Such a relay wouldn't have much on the pony express for speed but as an emergency back-up it is better than nothing. Further, its circuitous and illogical approach is not inappropriate



Woody (center) and the inspectors.

to many phases of the tech inspection.

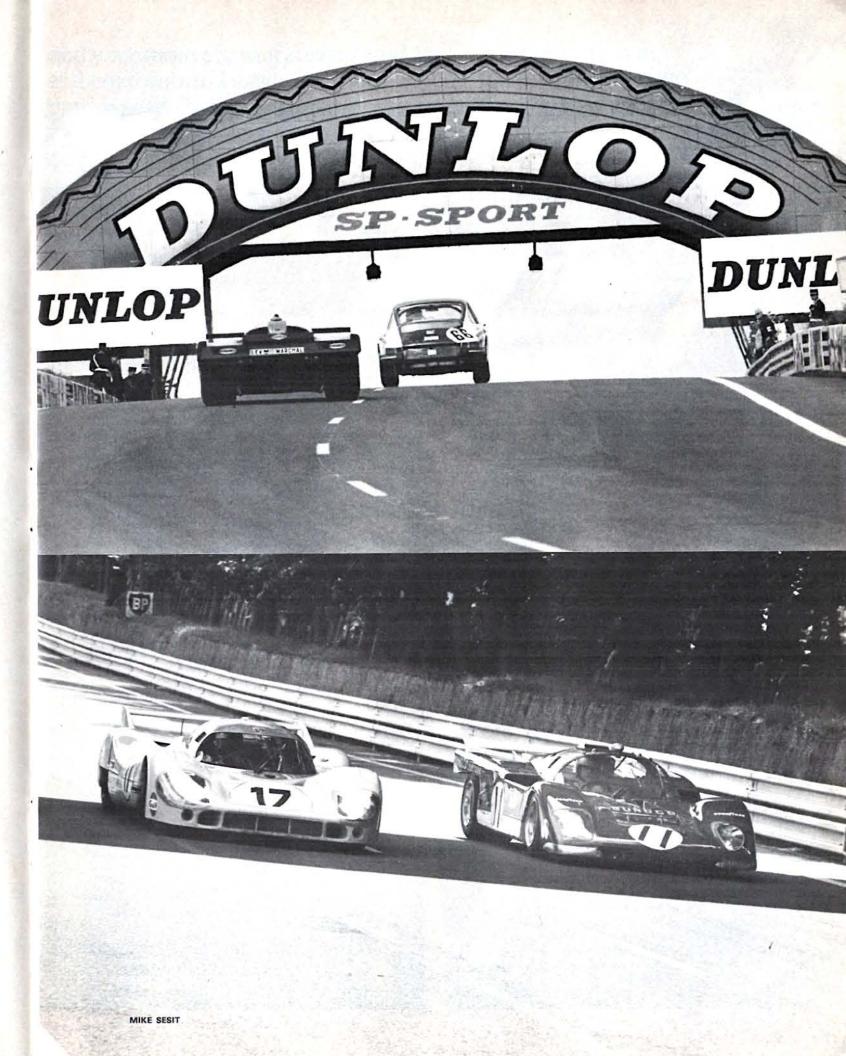
Particularly not the business of the FIA suitcases—an extreme example of the irrelevance of certain French-promulgated endurance racing rules. The inspectors in charge of compliance have a pair of suitcase-shaped wood boxes of the official size on their table. In the Ferrari they are

wheels in the back corners of the car, an area that has a body skin but no floor. The cases are pushed up from the bottom and, unless somebody holds them up, they fall right back out on the ground. The inspectors, however, do not find this inconvenience contrary to either the spirit or the letter of the rules. Maybe that shouldn't be surprising. Logic has never been one of the main currents of thought at Le Mans and



Georges Goudchaud and the commissaires.

this year is no exception. But the impact of the race does not suffer for lack of it. It's the celebrated motoring event of Europe, more an institution than a race, surpassing even the Monaco Grand Prix or Nürburgring. To the competitors, it is a task of enormous difficulty. The course is long-8.34 miles-and fast. This year's quickest qualifier, Pedro Rodriguez, averaged 155 mph in his long-tail Porsche 917 with speeds as high as 235 mph on the 3.5mile long Mulsanne straight, a stretch of road which under normal circumstances is the main artery from the city of Le Mans to Tours. But most of all, it's a guts course. The square 55 mph turn at the end of the Mulsanne is a mere inconvenience compared to the demands of fast bends . . . turns like the 165-mile Maison Blanche. It is hidden by the gently rolling landscape and lined by steel guard rails and to turn competitive lap speeds a driver must go in flat out. Physically it is hard but the hidden nature of the turn demands much meant to fit above and behind the rear more-a mental commitment that there



In every running of Le Mans there is a single moment when owners, expediteurs—share a single emotion. For one team it is

everyone—drivers, mechanics, managers, ecstasy, for the others...



Le Mans

will not be a slower car, or worse, a disabled car, in a strategic spot. If a driver is correct in his assumption he will be able to repeat the same excruciating exercise three minutes and twenty seconds hence, if not the safety crew will pick the pieces of his car out of the guard rail. That is the reality of Le Mans.

If proof of Le Mans' greatness is required, you need look no farther than the prize money. First place pays less than \$13,000; fifth less than \$750. Which is to say nothing. It won't even pay for a 5-liter Ferrari engine (\$16,000)—and the race wears out the whole car. The contrast between Le Mans and Indianapolis, America's premier race, is fundamental. Indianapolis is artificially great. It's the Everestsize pile of prize money that attracts the international participants and the worldwide notoriety, not the contest. Without its mega-jackpot it would be just another Indiana phenomenon, the grandest circle track in the Midwest. Le Mans is real, recognized as the automotive Olympiad, a historic measure of speed and endurance. The winning drivers can assume their places on an honor roll along with Barnato, Nuvolari, Hawthorn; the cars with Bentley, Bugatti, and Delahaye. Contemporary business barons like Henry Ford II have spent fortunes to assure a spot for the family name on that hallowed roll.

Penske Racing and its allies have been pulled to Le Mans by the same magnetism that has drawn the thousands whose names are now relegated to yellowed entry records. Roger Penske and Mark Donohue are competitors of the hardest alloy. But as racers, their portfolios are not complete without Le Mans. They are on hand for an easily grasped reason, but what of the supporting cast wandering in and out without being so obviously compelled. There is one time, about an hour on the Thursday afternoon before the race, when the entire cast appears without prearrangement at the Shell station which is serving as the team's garage. It is here, backstage, that their positions within the organization and their status as personalities become apparent.

The car is on stands in the rear of the shop, stripped down to its skeleton of gray tubing. Penske, resplendent in wrinkle-free knits and Gucci loafers, has just arrived from the U. S. in the company of a finely chiseled blond. Immediately he takes charge, erecting a rope barrier between the

altar and the congregation. Naturally, Donohue and David Hobbs, the co-driver (at only 32, a 10-year veteran of Le Mans), have free run. So do the mechanics who are absorbed in preparing for the final qualifying session that evening.

At the opposite pole are those tied to the team through a financial umbilical cord. Not 15 feet from the dismantled Ferrari, but separated from it by the rope, stands Kirk F. White and his promotion man, Moe Campbell, shifting restlessly from one leg to the other. They are securely-bred Philadelphians, men who can wear lemonsherbet pants, wild rose shirts and bluecrested, custard ties with navy blazers and feel no discomfort. White is nominally the Ferrari's owner, his name is painted on the side, and he will pick up the tab for Le Mans. His participation is purely business, a Kirk F. White Enterprises promotion to the tune of \$120,000 in the car alone. But the best measure of Kirk White's acumen is that while his various automotive enterprises stand in the spotlight as the Ferrari's primary sponsor (even though several other sponsors get smaller screen credits on the sides of the car) the cash comes from a non-profit organization (for tax reasons not to be considered a syndicate) of which Kirk F. White is only a minority stock-

Also on the gallery side of the rope is Jerry Riegel, a tall, rugged eastern sportsman whose family tree contains frequent references to the name duPont. He owns two-fifths of the car and he has a small decal about the size of a commemorative postage stamp which he'd like to stick on if he could only be sure Penske would permit it. He doesn't pretend to be a racer. He just likes to be where the action is—closer than a spectator—and owning a piece of the car is a convenient way. Before the Ferrari there was an America Cup syndicate, and it had been worth the money.

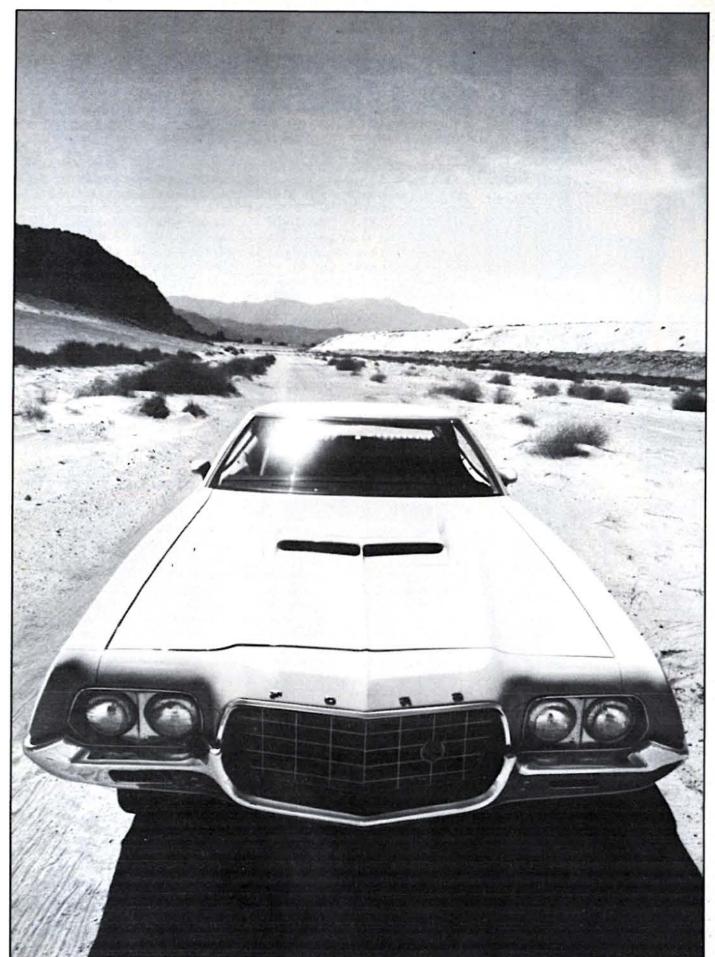
One other owner is represented by his son, a tall downy-faced youth who is allowed to polish the deep set wheels and does so without a word to anyone. At least he is occupied; he doesn't have to stand idly by and be counted with the hangers on. There is one European Sunoco executive (soon there will be more) who is seeing a Sunoco racer for the first time. He would do anything to help . . . but he'd be most appreciated if he'd stay out of the way.

Certain team members with specialized skills, the ones not involved with the mechanical details, spend half of their racing lives staying out of the way, marking time

(Continued on page 78)

CAR and DRIVER

SEPTEMBER



Preview: Ford Torino GT

TORINO (FORD MOTOR COMPANY, FORD DIVISION, Dearborn, Michigan, U.S.A.): First produced in 1969 as a successor to the "Fairlane" series. A Detroit "intermediate" unit/body car built on a 117.0-inch wheelbase and offering a variety of engines from 6-cylinder up to high performance 428s and 429s. Also available as a "Super Car" with model designation "Cobra." In 1972, series designation was retained although the car was completely changed going to a separate perimeter frame construction with a 4-link rear suspension. At that point the Cobra model was dropped. In the face of the previous year's declining sales for Detroit-made intermediates, sales of '72 Torinos . . .

ow that sentence will be complete in a forthcoming World Car Catalogue or Encyclopedia of Motor Cars is crucial not only to Ford but to all of Detroit. If Ford's decision to go ahead with the immense financial commitment required to completely revamp its intermediate ends up being a failure in the market-place, it could seal the execution orders for all intermediates—not just Ford's but GM's and Chrysler's as well.

In this just-past model year, almost all of Detroit concentrated its marketing and advertising efforts on its then-new small cars (Ford Pinto, Chevrolet Vega, AM Gremlin). As a result, the small cars did sell well (by mid-May combined Vega-Pinto-Gremlin sales were 280,000 versus Volkswagen's 237,500—166,000 of which were Beetles). But high volume on a low profit car has never been Detroit's style and at both the corporation and dealer levels there is hope that the small car infatuation is not a permanent affair.

The anti-small-car factions point out that in addition to the small cars Detroit found its standard-size cars and luxury models did better than anticipated in 1971. However, in the middle of the market, sales of both intermediates and sporty cars steeply declined after half a decade of upward sales graphs. Whether that situation is an indication of the structure of the future automotive market, or whether it is a temporary aberration caused by Detroit's advertising emphasis on the small cars in concert with the economic climate of the country, are questions whose answers will decide the fate of the new Torino as much as the fact of whether or not it is a good car. And because of that fact the first year's sales figures of this Torino are going to be as carefully studied at General Motors as they are at Ford. The Torino is this year's crucial model.

And as such Ford has had its marketing people working as hard as the engineers SEPTEMBER 1971

ar's declining sales for Detroit-made intermediates, sales of '72 Torinos . . . bow that sentence will be complete in a forthcoming World tage. For instance, like the 1971 series of Car Catalogue or Encyclopedia Chrysler Corporation intermediates of Motor Cars is crucial not (Plymouth Satellite/Sebring, and Dodge only to Ford but to all of De
or World Torinos . . . bow that sentence will be comand stylists to give it every possible advantage. For instance, like the 1971 series of corporation intermediates so
(Plymouth Satellite/Sebring, and Dodge only to Ford but to all of De-

wheelbases for the 2- and 4-door models.

The 2-doors come on a 114-inch wheelbase

while the 4-door models and station wagons are on a 118-inch wheelbase. The 2doors also have a shorter overall length (204 versus 207 inches). What all this means is, depending on the model, the '72 Torino is both shorter and longer than its predecessor (which had a 117-inch wheelbase and overall length of 206 inches).

In other words, if a portion of the market still demands a "longer, lower, wider" car as a criteria for "newness," Ford can satisfy it; if, however, the market's acquaintance with the small cars has weakened the impact of that traditional salesroom adage, Ford also has an answer. However in one dimension both the 2- and PHOTOGRAPHY: ALVIS UPITIS



4-door '71 Torinos share the increase over the previous model, that is in front and rear track which has been uniformly increased two inches. The new front track is 62.8 inches and the rear 62.9.

Ford also has reduced the total number of Torino models from last year's confusing 14 different versions to a more reasonable nine. In addition to dropping the "Cobra," as previously mentioned, there is no convertible and only a 4-door pillared hardtop (replacing both the 4-door sedan and 4-door hardtops previously offered). The base Torino also sports different front sheetmetal to make it more apparently separate from the Gran Torino and the Gran Torino Sport lines. In the low-line version there is a full-width grille while on the high roller versions there is an egg-crate grille in a smaller rectangular sheetmetal shroud.

The lineup of available engines has also been revised with last year's 351 4-bbl. being dropped along with the high perform-

ENGINE

ance 429CJ and 429CJ with ram air. Taking the place of the latter two engines is a new version of the 351 "Cleveland" running on regular fuel with its 9.0-to-one compression ratio. This engine is not totally new as it is being offered on Mustangs during the final months of the 1971 model year.

After hearing so much about the changes in the 1972 Torino, we were surprised to find that its styling is so conventional. The 2-door "SportsRoof" (read fastback) Gran Torino Sport we selected as having most of the elements that would be attractive to enthusiasts still sports the long hood/short deck styling theme that originated with the sporty cars. And, surprising in light of the public's apathy shown towards Chrysler's fuselage-shape styling, the new Torinos all have the wide, rounded hiplines that identifies that genre. On the GTS version it is even emphasized by a chrome side molding strip which

makes the car look lower and wider. This type of body styling provides increased passenger hip and shoulder room but, because the side windows must be curved to roll into the relatively narrow greenhouse, you are forced to tightly seal the windows whenever any rain is falling. From a driver's standpoint, the combination of the long front hood and the wide hip line makes you feel that you are in a full-size sedan rather than an intermediate. But you'll find that most of the extra hood length is taken up in the form of front overhang.

The "Big Car" feel of the new Torino is also expressed in the extraordinary silence one experiences while driving. Wind noise is minimal but even more impressive is lack of road noise intruding on the driver's serenity. This is one of the benefits derived from Ford's decision to discard the previous Torino's unit construction for a perimeter frame with "S"-shaped front members designed for controlled collapse in the event of front-end collisions. With the separate frame it is easier for engineers to isolate passengers from the sounds of the suspension working. In the Torino's case it has required 14 hollow rubber body mounts to provide proper support and rigidity and damp out road drumming and vibrations. On the prototype GTS we tested, the system worked amazingly well. However, in its desire to lend a big car feel to its intermediate, Ford has also chosen to provide the Torino with an ultra-soft sus-

In standard form there is almost no antidive and very little anti-squat which results in the car having an uncomfortable pitching motion noticeable even on the minimal divider strips of Ford's test track. There was also an unsettling amount of body lean in slow sweeping curves which meant that while the car was exceptionally smoothalmost unintrusive in straight-ahead driving-once you came to a corner a driver had to work relatively hard. The car remained predictable at all times but the large degree of understeer and body lean required excessive wheel corrections. When a car with the "competition" suspension package was specially brought out for us, nearly everything changed. The optional package uses heavy duty shock absorbers all around, increased spring rates, a .072 rear anti-sway bar and smaller, firmer bushings at the link connections. Immediately you notice that the mal de mère pitching is reduced and that you have more confidence in being able to sense what the wheels are doing in relation to the car. Body lean is appreciably reduced and, from our way of thinking, ride comfort is (Continued on page 88)

CAR and DRIVER

Type hydraulic valve lifters d F: Ind, unequal length control arms, coil springs, anti sway Water cooled, cast-iron V-8. Bore x stroke R: Rigid axle, 4 trailing coil spring links, anti sway bar .9.0 to one ..1 x 4 bbl 280 bhp @ 5800 rpm 345 lbs-ft @ 3800 rpm DRIVE TRAIN .3.50 to one 10.72 ventilated disc, power assist . 10.0 x 2.0 in. drum, power assis DIMENSIONS AND CAPACITIES 114.0 in .6.0 x 14-in 62.8 in. R: 62.9 in Tire make and size . Firestone Super Sport, Sup-R-Belt F70 .32 F: psi, R: 32 psi 79.3 in .62.9 in

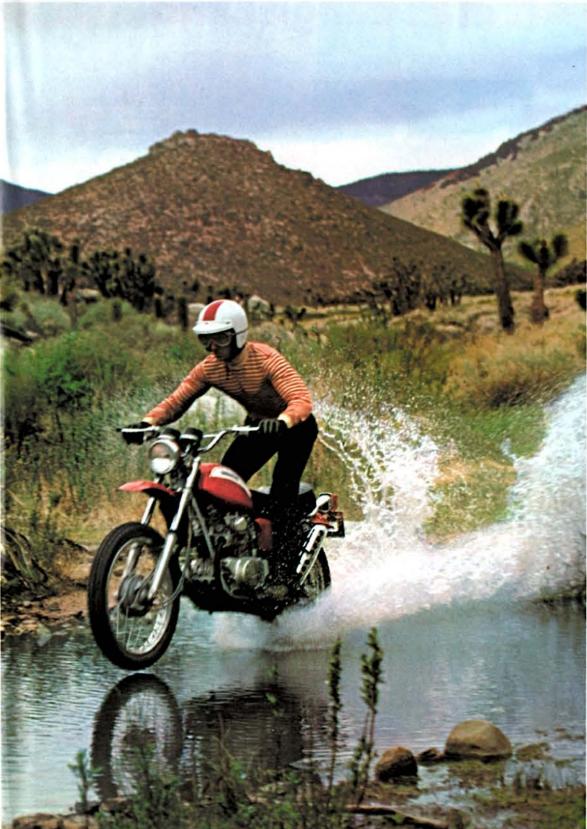
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Strangers in a Strange Land

BY BROCK YATES

ow in the hell can you drive down the main street of Canonsburg, Pennsylvania, right past Beedle's Alhambra Theater, the Dew Drop Inn and Muck's Lunch counter in a flaming vermilion 454 Corvette, with Donna Mae Mims perched inside telling you about her epileptic chihuahua, without thinking that you have blown every fuse in your freaking mind? Here is Donna Mae, serenely outfitted in a crocheted pink, see-thru minidress, pink beads, granny glasses with fuscia lenses, pink plastic shopping bag and pink-trimmed boots, all accented by a great tumble of platinum hair and a "Win with Jesus" button pinned to her bosom. babbling on about her poor chihuahua, in that lispy, constricted-vowel western Pennsylvania accent of hers, and about a dozen other things, such as her plan to line the living room wall of her apartment with a pink shag rug . . . and you are wondering if this road is leading you to Yenko Chevrolet or to the nearest nuthouse.

Yenko Chevrolet! Home of Don Yenko, hardest-charging Corvette shoe in history; home of thousands of hot 'Vettes and Chevelles; home of the Deuce; home of the Corvair Stinger; home of Donna Mae Mims, the "Pink Lady" of motor racing; home of the new turbocharged Vega.

Yenko Chevrolet sits in a shabby row of low, gray buildings on a busy street in Canonsburg, a crowded patchwork of concrete buildings with little more than a sign out front-part of which is falling downfor identification. There are cars everywhere. Bright, powerful Chevrolets are stuffed doorhandle-to-doorhandle in the surrounding black-cinder lots, jammed in the service bays and wedged into a small showroom. Upstairs, beneath a low gabled roof, is Don Yenko, slumped at the back of a small office that is plugged to its low ceiling with filing cabinets, copy machines, cardboard boxes, and stacks of papers. Trophies are everywhere; pewter bowls



Don Yenko, and his trusty sidekick Donna Mae Mims, have spentmonths charging down bureaucratic corridors trying to get someone in the government to give them permission to put a turbocharged Vega into production. They have but one hurdle left to pass, and they can do that by driving the car around the Heidelberg Speedway . . . 100,000 times.

and mugs, and plastic-winged-victory beauties on fake mahogany bases. Shiny plaques, banners and badges, race pictures, dealer bulletins and newspaper clippings cling to the walls from floor to ceiling.

Donna Mae enters, moving in a wifty Carol Channing bounce and weave, and plumps down in behind a desk. She picks up a pair of telephones, props them on each shoulder and turns up the volume on a small portable radio concealed somewhere in the pile of papers in front of her. Hard rock fills the room. Donna Mae is talking on two telephones at the same time while CCR's Bad Moon Rising bounces and echoes off the filing cabinets.

"You've got to excuse this place," says Yenko from behind his own desk. "We've just outgrown it. We're selling 700 new cars a year and there just isn't enough room. We've got a new dealership planned, on six acres of land near here, but until we get that built, we've got to live like this." He looks sleepy, but then Don Yenko always looks sleepy. He is a thin, loose-jointed man, one of those guys who looks like he was bolted together out of maybe six different anatomical parts bins, and none of the pieces match up very well. Slumped there behind his desk, he is kind of like Beetle Bailey in mod dress; his longish hair never quite in place, his clothes never quite fitting that odd-ball-parts body of his. He is hardly your prototype of the hard-charging race driver-businessman-sportsman.

This is the Don Yenko. The man who's won a bundle of National Championships in the Sports Car Club of America, whose reputation as a rugged, hard-nosed road racer is known everywhere, whose enthusiasm and business acumen has boosted his father's Chevy dealership in Canonsburg, Pennsylvania into a nationally-known center for high-performance cars. This is the Don Yenko who is planning to market a slick, turbocharged version of the Vega, if he can somehow burrow his way through a

(Text continued on page 84; Sidebar overleaf) CAR and DRIVER





Yenko's Turbo Vega will ultimately be available, in spite of government interference.

 In all of the years that hucksters and greasy fingered mechanics have been trying to add performance to stock engines, none of them has succeeded without taking something away in the process. In most cases a boost in horsepower and torque reduces tractability and destroys the idle. The Yenko Stinger, which multiplies horsepower via a turbocharger, should have a leg up in this department. It is the nature of turbochargers to be inactive in low speed, part throttle operation. Thus the Stinger, in normal farm-to-market traffic, should behave in the same manner as the basic Vega 110-hp engine from which it is derived. Durability, however, is another story. And the more you use the blower, the shorter it is. If nothing else, Vegas have that in common with Offys.

By coupling a small Switzer turbocharger to the intake system, Don Yenko has managed to boost horsepower to 155 and to turn his specially trimmed Vega GT hatchback into a formidable performer. The Switzer turbocharger is essentially the

same unit manufactured for use on trucks and tractors, and is intended for sale not only as an installed Stinger option but as an accessory for all Vegas if the government sees fit to clear it for sale. The Switzer unit is installed on the Vega engine so that it forces air into the Carter carburetor. This means that no modifications have to be made in the basic manifold, although the carburetor shell has to be pressurized and the float altered to handle the extra boost from the turbocharger. A Holley variable pressure fuel pump must also be added to provide gas flow at 3 psi more than blower boost.

The Yenko Stinger was originally announced with a Ray-Jay turbocharger, but several problems forced the change to Switzer. The Ray-Jay unit, whose primary application is in light aircraft engines, is essentially a "sucker" and not a "blower." In other words, the Ray-Jay is installed between the carburetor and the intake manifold, meaning that it sucks the fuel charge into the engine from the carburetor, while

the Switzer unit forces pressurized air into the carburetor. While the Ray-Jay setup is slightly simpler (requiring no pressurizing of the carburetor shell nor an auxiliary fuel pump), it does use a special intake manifold and demands more boost (13 lbs. verses 10 lbs.) than the Switzer to produce comparable horsepower. The primary problem with the Ray-Jay, according to Yenko, is that it could not pass minimum emission requirements according to his production schedule and a switch was made to Switzer.

The turbo Stinger is a delight to drive. Because the turbocharger will not operate at under 3 psi boost, low speed travel can be accomplished without having the slightest indication the car is anything but a stock 110 hp Vega. However, a heavy throttle application at any speed range brings the blower into play, not with a bang but with extraordinary smoothness. Suddenly you are moving at an incredible speed, with a kind of quantum increase in power as the velocity escalates. The beautiful part of the entire experience is the sublety: There is no moaning or whining from the blower, no growling exhaust—simply power.

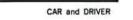
Operating with stock tires and the standard 3.36-to-one rear axle ratio, Yenko claims the turbo Stinger will run the quarter-mile in 15.3 seconds at 90-91 mph with a top speed in the 120 mph range.

As an added reliability hedge to the increased combustion chamber pressures, all Yenko Stingers are being supplied with special ForgedTrue aluminum pistons. In addition to the blower and the pistons, the Yenko Stinger package includes: special rear traction bars, rear deck spoiler, aluminum valve cover, custom trim striping and emblems, and limited-slip differential. This comes on the basic Vega GT hatchback with its 140 cu.in. 4-cylinder engine, a speed transmission, and the custom GT package, which includes 6-inch wheel rims, special bias belted tires, stiffer suspension and sporty interior and instrumentation.

Until Yenko can obtain full certification from the government, unblown Stingers will be available through a network of 70 dealers. The price, including everything except the turbocharger is \$3179.70 FOB, Canonsburg, Pennsylvania; with the turbocharger the price is expected to be approximately \$3770. For complete information, contact Yenko Sportscar, Drawer 520, Canonsburg, Pennsylvania 15317.



When operating, the Switzer turbocharger provides a maximum 10 psi boost.





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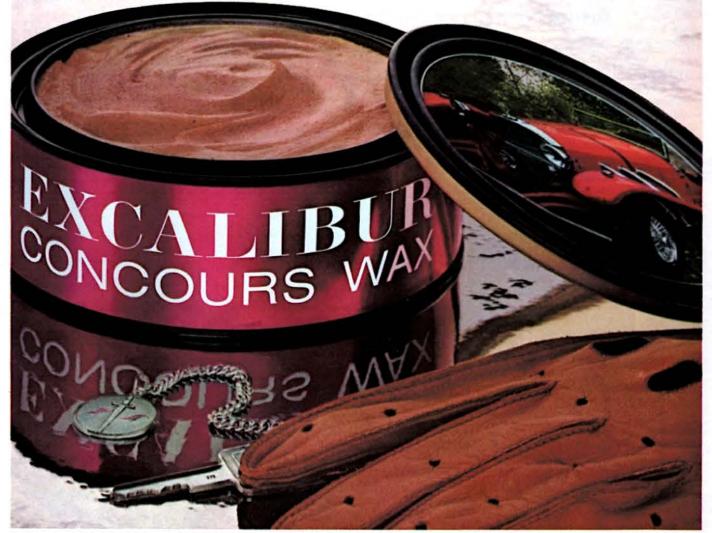
From South America we imported costly carnauba, extracted from the young leaves of the Brazilian wax palm tree. But carnauba alone isn't enough to give lasting brilliance, so we fortified it with detergent-proof high molecular weight polymers. And diatoms. And specially blended

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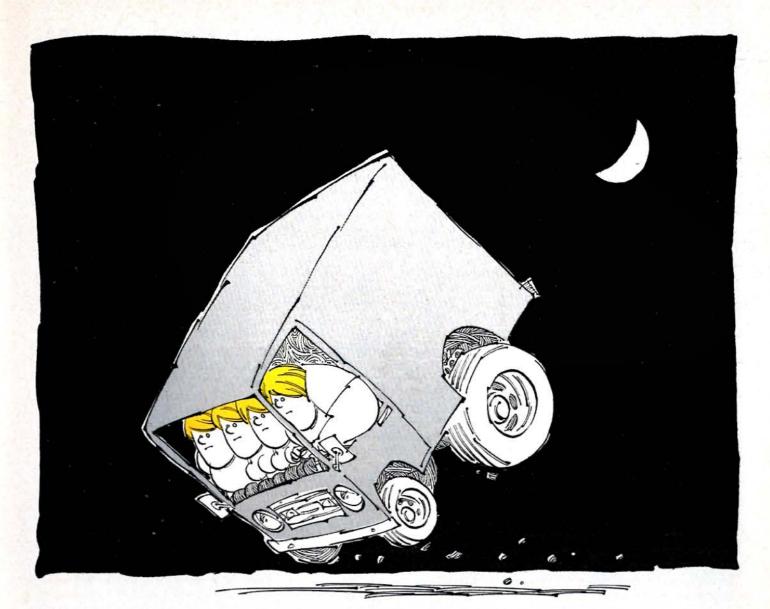
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Going on Inside That Vanistic Southern California.

Just ask anybody in trendy, hedonistic Southern California.

"Vans? Oh that whole thing died about a year ago. . . ."

Jeff and Debbie and Brian and Tricia—they're at least 16, but surely not more than 18—are about to take in a flick at their local drive-in. The program's already started—not the feature; it's still the awful promos for popcorn and against cable TV.

Their van is a black box in the dark, quietly trolling the back rows for a suitable parking spot. Your basic Southern California van, circa 1971. It started life as a short-chassis '67 GMC Handi-Van, one of the (rare) commercial models with no side doors, no side windows, not even any windows on the back doors. A blind box.

BY STEVE SMITH

SEPTEMBER 1971

It came off a used-truck lot nine months ago, not much of a bargain at \$995. A near-wreck, in fact; 80,000 miles of short hops around L.A., carelessly bounced off loading ramp stanchions, sideswiped by the errant flatbed truck, the *usual*. Jeff fixed it up mostly by himself and considers it an excellent investment. He wouldn't part with it for twice what he has in it.

If it wasn't so pitch black here, you could see the incredibly detailed red, black and gold paint job (genuine gold leaf, friend, lovingly inlaid where once was writ: "Henry's Superette—Fresh Vegetables Daily"). Even in the dark, though, you can easily make out the fact that it's pitched forward at a precipitous angle—frozen in the awkward posture of a panic stop—the four sepulchral faces within (each more long-blond-haired and bigblue-eyed than the other) looking practically straight down at the pavement ahead.

The van's front end has been dropped a good six inches, resting heavily on chromed stock wheels, "Baby" Moon hubcaps, and Pirelli Cinturato tires. The rear end is jacked up at least a foot higher than normal, poised uncertainly atop a set of Ansen Sprint mags and Thompson weenies as wide as they are tall.

Jeff picks a spot and backs in . . .

Backs in?

. . . backs in, as I was saying. Brian jumps out and swings open the rear doors, facing the screen. Debbie and Tricia are already propping up huge bean-bag pillows against the backs of the front seats and the hot metal of the engine cover. Jeff inflates the big air mattress and throws it atop the shag rug covering the entire floor.

There is nothing else inside the back of the van . . . if you don't count the extra pair of stereo speakers, the moss-green wood paneling on the side walls and the back doors, and the incredibly ornate tapestry rug clinging to the roof. The girls got it up there with surprisingly few wrinkles after Jeff's father "got" him to remove the previous decoration—a large American flag. Jeff's older brother is still in Vietnam.

As the main attraction begins, our four counter-culture antiheroes sprawl comfortably on the, mattress and look between their trembling toes, out the dark tunnel of the van, at the flickering screen almost a quarter of a mile away . . .

Now I ask you, does that sound like the van "phenomenon" is about to shrivel up, turn black, and fall off? You bet your sweet stash it doesn't.

If Jeff and Debbie and Brian and Tricia aren't archetypical of all van freaks, they're at least representative of one of the biggest categories. These people, these kids, are all over Southern California with their vans—mostly up and down the Pacific Coast Highway—and they constitute a clearly defined sub-group, like the nutball sports car driver of a decade ago.

These van owners are all of high school age (although I wouldn't go quite so far as to claim they all have pale blue eyes and long, straight blond hair—maybe only 93%). Their vans all have dropped-front suspensions and mile-high rear ends. They all have shag rugs on the floor, moss-green wood paneling on the walls, and either a tapestry rug or the U.S. flag on the ceiling. Kids are the most cohesive of all groupers.

You ask them why, for example, they all have much bigger tires on the rear—where there's less weight—than on the front. "I dunno. That's the way you do it, man," he says. Clearly the question is stupid.

There are variations, of course. Sometimes the add-on stereo tape deck is an eight-track, sometimes a cassette. Not all their vans have wood (or "woodlike-substance") bumperettes. There are minor differences in the extra instrumentation (if any), proprietary bucket seats, trick paint jobs, and "racing-type" steering wheels. Hell, some of them don't even have the standard "I'm a

Van Fan" sticker (surprising and/or confounding the Van sneaker people who hand them out in shoe stores).

But one thing unites them with a bond thicker than blood itself: they don't give a damn about cars. Mechanically, I mean. About what's under the hood—or in the case of a van—under that lump between the front seats (and I don't mean Tricia).

Granted, most vannies can tell you whether it's a Six or a V-8 (I talked with one guy who wasn't real sure), but they don't give a damn about all that good tech stuff, like acceleration, braking, handling. Most of them don't even care if the mother rattles.

The van thing I'm talking about is an off-shoot of the hot rod movement, really, only the van kids are "cool" where the little deuce coupe (now a Mini-T on a VW chassis) guys are, well, to be charitable, "camp." If-it-won't-go-chrome-it and all that. And as slick as those gleaming boxes are on the outside, they're nothing but creepies and uglies where only Superman can see.

If you want to check this particular action, go cruise Van Nuys Boulevard any Wednesday night. Club night. Or Friday night before a heavy weekend. Or the Coast Highway all summer long. Very quickly you get the picture—it's a society, see? Outsiders, stay out.

"Knock, Knock."

"Who's there?"

"Car and Driver."

"Go away."

"Hey, we're doing a story on vans, and why you own 'em." (Pause) "Uh, well, you know; chicks."

"Chicks."

"Yeah, I'm still in (high) school, living at home. And, uh, you know Mom. Mom doesn't like me doing it on the living room sofa. I'd have a pad of my own, but I can't afford it. And you gotta have wheels anyway, right? But the chicks don't dig the hot-rod scene much any more. Too greasy. Surfers are tough. Chicks are into the surf-image... and so is the van."

Unbeatable! The kids' very own bedroom community, a movble suburb.

So what do you care if the engine isn't, as they say, racersharp? For that matter, you don't give a damn if it's blowing oil like a Texas tower—all you do is drive your van to the beach and back... at 35 mph. Nobody goes fast anymore—that would just give The Man another excuse to hassle you—so who needs "lateral acceleration capability" or "downforce at 100 mph" or "roll under/oversteer, %" or any of the rest of that technocrap?

Ed Iskenderian? Carroll Shelby? Vic Edelbrack? Don Garlits? Roger Penske? Never heard of 'em. Andy Granatelli is the mayor of Newark, N.J. Mr. Gasket is a hairdresser. And Honest Charley is an advisor to President Whatshisname.

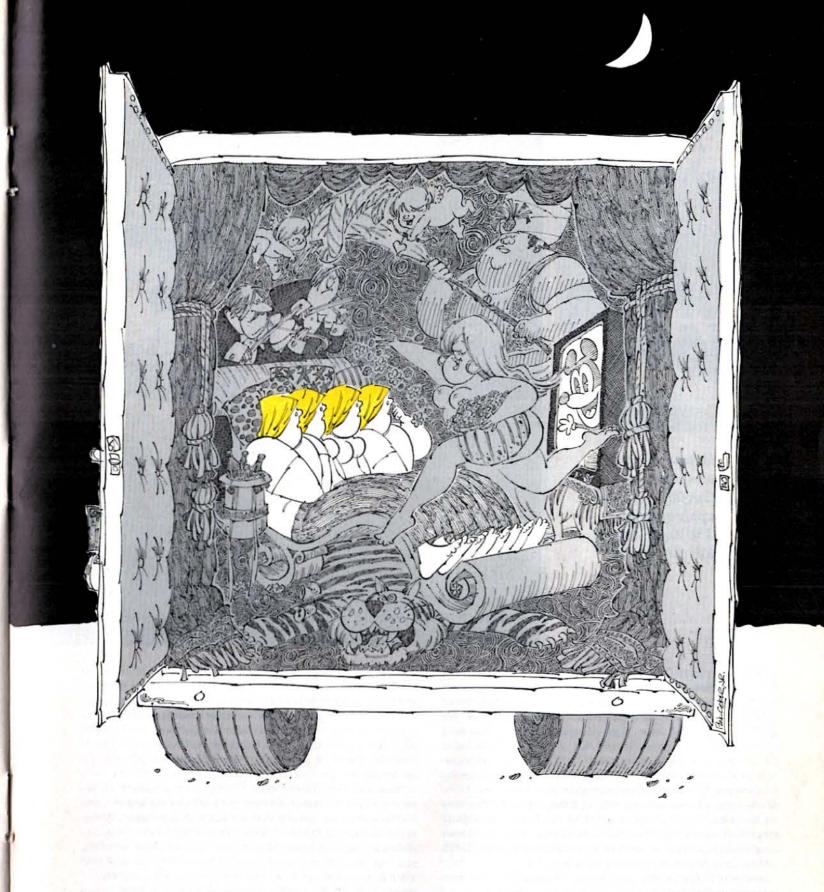
Being bucks-down you don't buy a new van. ("New van? Are you kidding? You could spend five grand or more on a new van.") And you don't buy a clean used one either, not if you can help it. You spend months looking for a real scruffy one at \$400 to \$900. The big thing is privacy, so you look for one with as few windows as possible. (If it has too many, board 'em up, hang curtains, paint 'em black.)

Then you spend countless hours straightening the body, and another \$500 to \$800 equipping it with some nice cosmetic touches—mags, weenies, do-it-yourself tinted windows (the more blue-black the better; it's a tricky art)—nothing functional, you understand

Actually, the latest trend is to leave the outside looking like your van was trapped in a hotel fire. That way, nobody is tempted to rip it off. (Inside, however, you have that much more bread to spend making it look like the Circus Maximus room at Caesar's Palace in Vegas.) Of course, this presupposes you have

(Continued on page 64)

CAR and DRIVER



ILLUSTRATIONS BY PAUL COKER, JR

There's nothing much in the van—except wood paneling, stereo speakers, tapestries, mattresses . . .

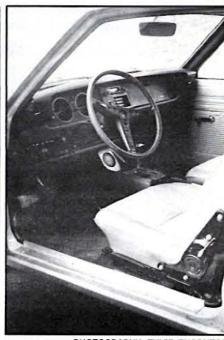


Toyota Corolla 1600

In the past, our prime complaint was the Corolla's marginal supply of power.

A 25% larger engine takes care of that.





PHOTOGRAPHY: TYLER THORNTON

hortly after Detroit's Powers That Be signaled their recognition that the small car thing was truly a revolution and not merely aberration—by introducing small cars of their own—we put together a six-model sampling. A typical Car and Driver magnum opus comparison test on a representative selection of "small" cars. This sampling included Ford's then-new Pinto; Chevrolet's ditto Vega; the American Motors Gremlin; Volkswagen's Super Beetle; Chrysler Corporation's Simca 1204; and the representative from Japan was Toyota's Corolla, which then came with a 1200cc engine. At that time we had a lot of good things to say about the Toyota: principally that it was remarkably roomy for its overall size, and offered both comfort and quality in more-than-fair measure at Toyota's \$1798 asking price. In fact, we liked the car a lot.

And why didn't the Toyota 1200 win? Because its brakes were marginal, it didn't handle very well (swervy in a cross-wind, and given to a canine lifting of its inside rear wheel when cornering hard) and—worst of all—it was a buzzbox at freeway speeds. At 65 mph you could almost hear it grunt and feel its headlights bulge with strain. In some cars that strained feeling is more apparent than real, but in the Toyota 1200 it was real enough to carry a notarized certificate. At 70 mph, the car's 4.22-to-one

axle ratio and 12-inch wheels (with 6.00-12 tires) had its engine spinning 4700 rpm—and the engine began its protest at about 4200 rpm, or 62 mph. It was a fairly gutty device in urban traffic, if not too heavily laden and if its driver made maximum use of the transmission, but a freeway flier it wasn't and that's part of the game in most of the country these days. Thus, one third-place finish for Toyota. A good car for the price, but not quite enough car for the market.

Now, enter the Toyota 1600 Corolla, and exit much of our criticism. The difference between the 1200 Corolla and the new 1600 is enormously greater than the added dollop (here, a dollop comes to exactly 423cc—1588cc versus 1165cc) of engine displacement would suggest. Maybe it can be said better by telling you that the 1200 engine delivered 73 hp at 6000 rpm, and that it's 102 hp at 6000 rpm for the 1600 with a similar increase in torque—101 lbs.-ft. at 3800 rpm versus 75 lbs.-ft. at 3800 for the 1600. All of which is about what you'd expect from the increase in displacement but it doesn't begin to tell the whole story either. In fact, the 1600 engine is *not* the bored and stroked 1200 that many people seem to imagine; it's a new engine, with design features and operating characteristics different from any preceding Toyota.

CAR and DRIVER

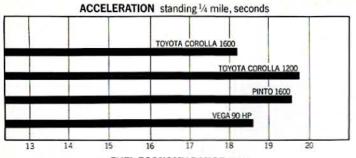
Curiously, to us anyway, Toyota's bigger engines have always managed to combine an overhead camshaft with an unconvincingly soggy performance at high revs. Now, everybody knows that overhead cammers are supposed to be happy highwinders, but Toyota's are the traditional exceptions; they're good, solid plodders and refuse any other kind of duty. And now, as though trying to further confound those who think they know what is what with engines, Toyota hits us with this 1600, which has its camshaft tucked away down in the block and a forest of pushrods and rocker arms leading up to the valves, and it *feels*, from the driver's seat, like there might be a couple of dozen camshafts in its cylinderhead. Lively, it is. And you can get nearly 80 mph in third gear without feeling anything near an impending separation from within the engine.

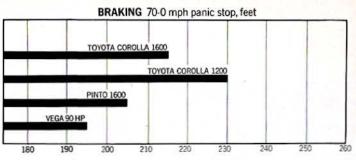
That kind of willingness to make power at high revs is nice, especially while passing on a narrow road, but it's not the new engine's best feature. Neither, for that matter, is the 1600's low-speed lugging capability. Actually, all the good stuff happens when you get above 2800 rpm, which is near 50 mph in top gear, 36 mph in third. Right there is where the engine really comes to life, with a forward surge under full throttle and there is very much a "sports car" feel coming from this unpretentious sedan.

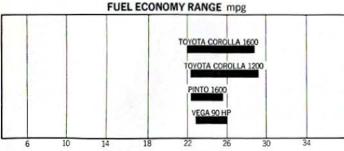
The Toyota 1600's engine is, as the sporting set are wont to say, "cammy"; a bit flat at low revs (though without a lumpy idle) and then suddenly bursting with energy when the valve timing and the columns of gases in the intake and exhaust manifolds all get into step. It is an engine that gives its best for drivers who drive, and one that will sulk a bit in the hands of those who would let dust gather on the shift knob. (For those, there is the option of a 2-speed automatic anyhow.)

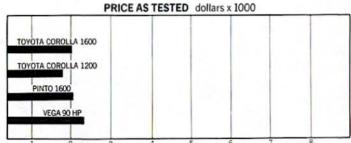
Of course, while whizzing along a freeway, you won't have to do any shifting, and you'll like the way the 1600 Corolla runs at 65-70 mph without any feeling of strain—and there is a goodly amount of power in reserve at that speed. The new hemi-head engine has absolutely transformed this side of the Corolla's character. And it has done it all without serious dollar penalty: the car is more expensive to buy with the bigger engine, \$170 more, but still not above its competition and we averaged between 22 and 27 miles-per-gallon of fuel in driving that was mostly 70 mph cruising. That's within fractions of what you could expect with the smaller 1200, if you could work yourself up to the cruelty required to push it that fast.

In the area of braking, the new Toyota Corolla has also been (Specifications overleaf; text continued on page 65)









TOYOTA COROLLA 1600

r: Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., 2055 West 190 Street

Vehicle type: Front engine, rear-wheel-drive, 4-passenger 2-door sedan

Price as tested: \$2018.00

(Manufacturer's suggested retail price, including all options listed below, Federal excise tax, dealer preparation and delivery charges, does not include state and local taxes, license or

Options on test car: Corolla 1600 2-door, \$1968.00; Dealer preparation, \$50.00

Type: Four-in-line, water-cooled, cast iron block and aluminum head. 5 main bearings

Bore x stroke	3.35x2.76 in, 85 x 70 mm
	96.9 cu in, 1588cc
Carburetion	1 x 2-bbl Aisar
Valve gear	Pushrod operated overhead valves
Power (SAE)	102 bhp @ 6000 rpm
Torque (SAE)	101 lb-ft @ 3800 rpm
Specific power output .	1.06 bhp/cu in, 64.3 bhp/liter

DRIVE	TRAIN		
Transm	nission		4-speed, all-synchi
Final dr	ive ratio		3.90 to or
Gear	Ratio	Mph/1000rpm	Max. test speed
	3.59	4.7	28 mph (6000 rpm
1	2.02	8.5	51 mph (6000 rpn
II	1.38	12.3	74 mph (6000 rpn

Gear	Ratio	mpn/ 1000rpm	wax. test speed
1	3.59	4.7	28 mph (6000 rpm
11	2.02	8.5	51 mph (6000 rpm
III	1.38	12.3	74 mph (6000 rpm
IV	1.00	16.9	90 mph (5300 rpm

DIMENSIONS AND CAPACITIES

Wheelbase	91.9 in
Track, F/R4	9.4/49.0 in
Length	
Width	59.3 in
Height	53.0 in
Ground clearance	6.1 in
Curb weight	1925 lbs
Weight distribution, F/R	7.0/43.0%

Ground clearance	6.1 in
Curb weight	1925 lbs
Weight distribution, F/R	57.0/43.0%
Battery capacity	12 volts, 50 amp/hr
Alternator capacity	
Fuel capacity	12.0 ga
Oil capacity	3.9 qts
Water capacity	6.9 qts

SUSPENSION

F: Ind., MacPherson struts, coil springs, anti-sway bar R: Rigid axle, semi-elliptic leaf springs

STEERING

TypeRecirculating ball
Turns lock-to-lock
Turning circle curb-to-curb
BRAKES

. . 6.3-in disc. power assist

WHEELS AND TIRES

wheel size	
Wheel type	Stamped steel, 4-bolt
	Dunlop 6.15-13
Tire type	Bias ply, tubeless
Test inflation pressures, F/	R22/24 psi

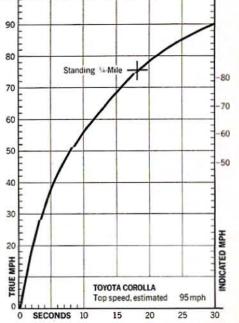
PERFORMANCE

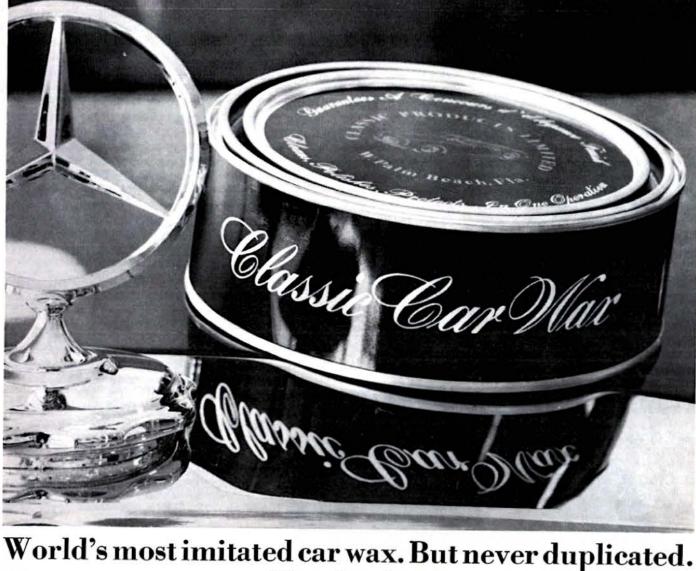
Zero to	Seconds
30 mph	3.5
40 mph	5.3
50 mph	
60 mph	11.4
70 mph	15.6
80 mph	21.2
Standing 1/4-mile	75.0 mph
Top speed (estimated)	.95 mph
70-0 mph	t (0.70G)
Fuel mileage	gular fuel
Cruising range31	2-348 mi











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If imitation is the sincerest form of flattery, then Classic Car Wax has been flattered many times in the past and is being flattered even more today.

Take a look at the shelves in any car care center. Almost every tin of wax is a one-step cleaner-wax. Many of them are 18-ounce tins. Some have colors and slogans a lot like Classic's. A few even have \$5 price tags. Imitations, all.

The facts are: Classic Car Wax is the first one-step cleaner-wax, first in an 18-ounce tin, first to ask \$5 for a premium amount of a premium product.

So Classic is imitated. But it is never duplicated. For two good reasons: First, the formula is patented. Second, Classic's imitators are unwilling to pay for such high-quality ingredients.

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Classic contains 27 costly ingredients. Carnauba wax, for instance, is the hardest, shiniest, most durable wax known, but it must be imported from

Diatoms—the non-abrasive cleaning and polishing agents in fine toothpastes—are used in Classic to produce SEPTEMBER 1971

a jewel-like finish. They're expensive, but they are the best.

Easiest to apply

The imitators can't come close to Classic's ease of application. You can apply Classic to wet, cold or hot surfaces - even in direct sunlight. You can wax the entire car at once; just rub it on, then dust it off. Most other waxes must be applied in the shade in small patches, then immediately buffed and after-buffed.

Longer lasting beauty and protection The imitators can't match Classic's beauty and protection. Classic covers your car's paint and chrome with a gleaming protective blanket of car-nauba wax so hard you can't scratch it with your fingernails. Even when subjected to the most severe road and weather conditions, this brilliant protection lasts and lasts.

Most economical

The imitators can't equal Classic's economy. A solidly-packed tin of Classic will wax at least six Cadillac-sized cars. This means each wax job costs a little more than 80¢. The smaller the car the lower the cost.

Money-back guarantee

Few imitators are willing to match Classic's money-back guarantee. If Classic doesn't give your car the best wax job it ever had, return the tin and the remaining wax and get your \$5 back.

It's what's inside that counts

Classic's competitors may imitate the size of the tin and put colors and a price similar to Classic's on the outside. But they will find it's not the tin, but what's inside, that counts.

Classic Car Wax: still the unduplicatable best. Try it and see.

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Address	
City	StateZip

MOSPORT CAN-AM: For your safety, do not disturb the Bear

BY CHARLES FOX



"The wind may blaw And the cock may craw The rain may rain And the snaw may snaw You wouldn't frighten Jock MacGraw The stoutest lad In the Forty-Twa." (OLD SCOTTISH SONG) · And there he was, the Cock o' the North, tripping along on tippy-toe, sky blue tie-dye dungarees flapping and a longsleeve cotton sweatshirt with a four color mixed fruit motiff stitched onto the chest, the long dark mane streaming out from under the Stewart (actually Dylan) cap, bobbing on his shoulders in unison to that steel-spring step, eyes twinkling behind magnum shades, lips pursed-Wee Jackie Stewart, come all the way from his mountain pad (where they say that even the Italian-made faucets in the guest rooms are 14 karat gold), in tax-free Switzerland, to bait "the Bear" at Mosport.

feistilly in an air-conditioned Avco motorhome parked behind the pits at the far end of the paddock. A stream of small boys kept tapping on the door of the bus asking for stickers and autographs. The Bear was restless. The start of the race was still an hour away. He yawned occasionally, raising a hand to cover his mouth. The burnscarred skin over the knuckles and along the backs of the fingers was smooth, taut and livid pink-a memento from Indianapolis 1970. It was obvious that the Bear wanted nothing more than to climb into his orange racer and get out there on the track where he could cuff that long-haired Scotty whelp into submission.

His new Can-Am teammate Peter Revson sat across from him all suited up and ready to go, but the Bear still hadn't changed. The conversation was sparce.

A few yards from the motorhome, Tyler Alexander, the thinking man's mechanic, supervised his flock of shaggy-haired assistants as they went over last minute details on the two new McLaren M8Fs. Peeled of their orange fiberglass skins, the new low profile Goodyear tires, 17 inches wide at the back and 11 at the front, stretched over 15-inch rims, made the aluminum monocoque chassis seem almost square. In fact, the wheelbase is up almost three inches over last year's M8D (now 97.5 in.) and the track has been widened (60.5 in. front, 57.5 in. rear). But the predominant feature was still that giant gleaming aluminum 494 cu.in./Chevy V-8, bolted to the bulkhead under the roll bar. A stand of tall, frosted-cream stack pipes sprouted from the manifold between the heads, hiding the Lucas injection equip-

Detroit engine-man Lee Muir flicked the dust off the cylinder heads, as proud as a father of twins: "We're getting a reliable 750-hp on the dyno and we've had torque readings of 600 ft.-lbs. at 5800 rpm and 700 ft.-lbs. at 6800," he said. With only a 1500-lb. chassis to push, the cars ought to clean up in AA/GAS at New York Na-SEPTEMBER 1971

tional, never mind this mediocre bunch of Group 7 cars facing them here at Mosport. There was one exception of course, the L&M Lola which sat a few yards away being readied for the Cock o' the North.

The new Lola, a T260, is up 40 points from last year's T220 and looks it. Designer Eric Broadley has at least built the ultimate sub-compact, two feet shorter than a Pinto (139 in.) and seven inches lower (43 in.) to the top of its diminutive wing. It's also 400 lbs. lighter and 10 times more powerful. Right on, or whatever the trendies are chanting these days.

Judging from what we'd seen of the Lola Denny "the Bear" Hulme languishing in qualifying, a Pinto with a 494 cu.in. aluminum Chevy V-8 spilling out from under the hood might be a lot easier to drive. But using all the road and most of the verge, Wee Jackie had manhandled it onto the pole with a time of 1:17.3 which is equal to a speed of 114.5 mph around this 2.46-mile circuit. It was distinctly a non-record. Dan Gurney, with fire in his eyes, did 16.4 last year in the McLaren M8D, but as his mechanics plucked the grass out from under the Lola's wheel rims, Wee Jackie was telling the press he thought there were another two seconds there somewhere. There might have been, but you'd have had a hard time finding the man brave enough to

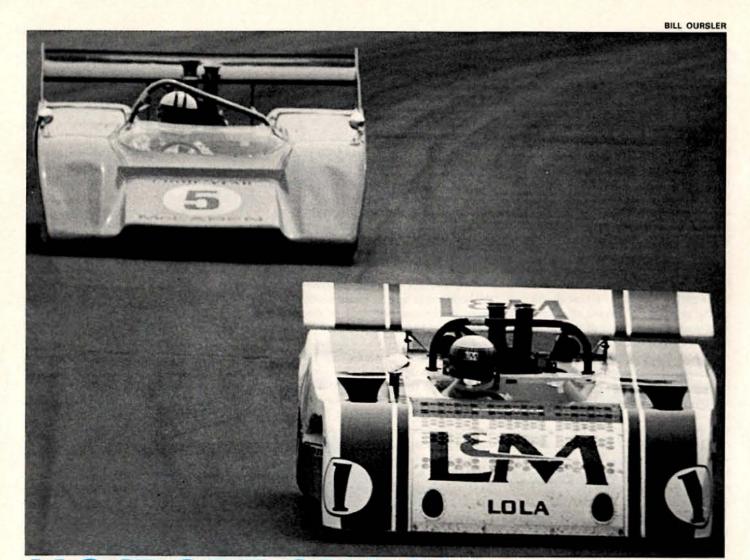
go looking for them.

The Bear was seven-tenths of a second slower (18 flat) Revson was breathing sharply when he came in with an 18.1. The fourth fastest man was dour, pipe-sucking John Cordts, who seems more like a TV indoor gardening expert than a racing driver. Cordts, did 1:20.4 in his lime green McLaren M8C. It was a much-needed shot in the arm for Canadian nationalism, but that was about all.

So round one went to Wee Jackie, even if the Bear was unimpressed. "There's a couple of seconds left in our cars too," he said, "and then some." He changed and went to the driver's meeting. Among the 26 men dressed for duty was a slender young Japanese ace, Hiroshi Kazato (a portent of things to come for Can-Am racing if it manages to teeter through another season). Hiroshi had a rising sun painted on his helmet and some were naturally looking for American flags painted on the side of his Lola T-220. He also had a dazzling, almond-eyed girl at his side. She had a mouth like a ripe fig and "Madame Non Non" stenciled across the front of her Tshirt, and she translated the gist of what the Clerk of the Course was saying about the starting procedures.

When the meeting broke up, the drivers





MOSPORT CAN-AM

convertibles for a parade lap. As soon as one with Wee Jackie and Revson on his everyone was ready, Wee Jackie noticed some friends in the pits and went over to lywood teammates Bob Bondurant and chat with them. Visibly enraged, the Bear ordered the procession off without him and Wee Jackie had to excuse himself and extracted a five-second lead over the scramble for his car.

Score round two tied.

While the drivers were touring around waving to the crowd of 45,000 (six of whom had been struck and injured by lightning the night before as they camped in the infield) the cars were rolled out onto en M8D, one of last year's works cars, which had blown its only engine in qualifying, and Californian Vasek Polak's ex-Jo Siffert Porsche 917, entered for Milt Min-

American Challenge Cup Series was un- art rolled to a halt in turn two on lap 19

went out onto the track and climbed into derway. The Bear won the race for turn and walked back to the pits. tail and the McLarens of Cordts, and Hol-Lothar Motschenbacher behind them.

After nine laps the Bear had manfully twitching Lola and Revson had sunk back seven. On the tenth, Wee Jackie came cock-a-hoop around the right hander into the pit straight with the Bear nowhere in sight. The atmosphere in the McLaren pits was chilled but unruffled. Five seconds later the Bear drove by with a slow shake of the grid. There were two notable absentees: his Bellstar helmet—whatever that meant. Charlie Parsons in the Tony Dean McLar- The next time around the Lola was seven seconds ahead, but the Bear gave his pit crew a thumbs up sign. On lap 12 he pointed ahead, meaning he wanted to know how far Stewart was in front. They gave him ter, which had swallowed a fan blade on seven seconds and the Bear promptly passed four cars going into turn one and Three pace laps and the 1971 Canadian- cut it to three. He held it there until Stew-

And that was the race. For the remaining 61 laps the Bear picked his way through the traffic with Revson following dutifully behind to a 1-2 McLaren finish. The old order changeth not. It did behind them, but only slightly. Cordts held onto third place until he came in to get watered-it was he and not the car that was hot-letting Motschenbacher and Bondurant drop him to fifth.

When Kitty was split, the McLaren team took \$25,750. "But at the rate we spend it, we can't win enough of it," was team manager Teddy Mayer's retort.

The Bear elbowed his way sternly through the crowd that followed him from the press box to the Avco motorhome. He had a helicopter to catch in 30 minutes to take him to Toronto airport and connect with his night flight back to London. In the motorhome he explained to Mayer how he'd lost his lead. Coming up the back

(Continued on page 64)

CAR and DRIVER

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TRIPLE - The rec



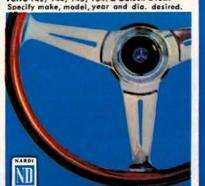
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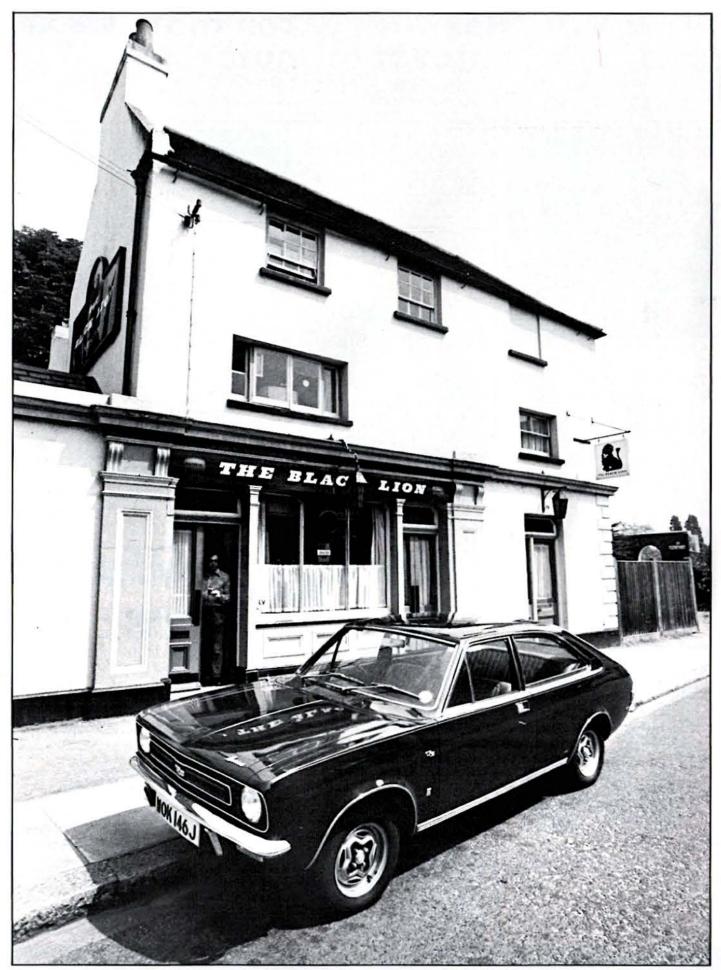


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Preview: Morris Marina Coupe 1.8 TC

BY PATRICK BEDARD

If you think of it as a Super Coupe version of the MGB, you'll be right

Marina. You hear it in the pubs. After "the wretched condition of the Commonwealth" the Marina is the most pressing issue of the times, and it invariably comes up when concerned subjects of the queen gather over a few pints of bitter to contemplate the future of the Empire.

One of the panel members, after a few swallows from his pint, will clunk the heavy mug down on the top of an aged bar and sum up British Levland's newest offspring by saying, "Well, it's just an ordiwords will be different. "Mind you, I don't know everything, just what I've read, but it's apparently dead conventional." The

he word is out on the Morris sentiment, however, is exactly the same.

Wherever you go the unanimous verdict is that the Marina strikes a low-water mark in innovation, a reputation which British Leyland is apparently not unhappy with. The London Sunday Times has quoted a company spokesman as saying: "In an age when cars look exactly the same, British Leyland has had the courage to keep in the fashion." The question then, is whether this is good or bad and it is here that the uniform view of the pub philosophers begins to break down. They can't decide whether the Marina is conventional benary car, isn't it." The others will nod in cause British Leyland, after much study, agreement. In another establishment the determined that that was the most efficient way to build a car or if the Marina is conventional because British Leyland ran out of imagination. Is it merely conservative or

is it insipid? You can't get a majority either way. But regardless of the individual Englishman's view of the Marina, he is eager to know the opinion of an outsider, particularly an American.

You have to understand that in the British Isles the Marina is more than just a car. Every Englishman who reads the newspapers knows that at the very least the Marina could mark the beginning of an upswing for the British auto industry and hopefully it will figure prominently in international trade. What we forget on this side of the Atlantic, because British Leyland ranks a weak fifth in imports with approximately 4% of the total import market, is that the company is the largest single exporter in the United Kingdom-not just the largest exporter of cars but the largest in terms of cash value-and enthusiastic world wide acceptance of the Marina will have a highly beneficial effect on England's balance of payments.

And there is more. The Marina is the first real British Levland car-the first brain child of the new management group that took charge when Austin, Morris, Triumph, Rover and Jaguar were finally welded into one unit in October, 1968and an open-arms reception of the new model could be considered a vote of confidence for the company executives and an optimistic sign for the future. There can be no doubt: More hangs in balance on the Marina than any other car in British in-

It is significant that British Leyland's pivotal car is 180° out of phase with the last decade's Austin-Morris practice. Those two marques have traditionally concentrated on block-shaped sedans with



transverse engines and front-wheel-drive essentially a family of big and small minis. Instead, the Marina follows quietly along on a trail blazed in England by Ford. It's a conventional front engine, rear-wheeldrive, live axle sedan. And, like Ford, there is a wide choice of engines.

In the past, with the exception of the Mini, there were virtually no engine options in Austin-Morris cars. The 1300s had 1300cc engines, the 1800 had an 1800cc engine and that was that. The Marina, on the other hand, has as standard equipment the 1275cc Four previously used in the Austin America. On top of that there are two options, a twin S.U., 1800cc Four rat-

ed at 94.5-hp (also used in the MGB) and the same engine with a single S.U. which is credited with 82.5-hp.

British Leyland hasn't confined its Ford following to the engine room either. While Austin and Morris cars have typically been one body style only in each series (with, perhaps, two and four doors being the only choice) the Marina is produced in two distinct body shapes—a 4-door sedan and a semi-fastback 2-door coupe. Both are built on the same 96.0-inch wheelbase but the 4-door, at 166.1 inches overall length, is 3.0 inches longer than the coupe and almost exactly halfway between the Vega and Pinto.

sion of an MG you'll have it in its proper pigeon hole. The Marina has the same kind of matter-of-fact bluntness, albeit subdued, that has made British sports cars famous. You feel it in the rack-and-pinion steering which is accurate but, like Triumph's and MG's, somewhat heavier than it should be. You feel it in the ride too, which is not uncomfortable but clearly harder than a Japanese equivalent. In fact, you feel it everywhere-in the slightly too high clutch pedal effort, in the roughness of the engine, in the square-edged H of the shift pattern and in the body's mild booming resonance whenever you hit a bump. None of these things are serious or objectionable but

MORRIS MARINA COUPE 1.8 TC

Price as tested (In England without purchase tax): \$2152.20

Options on test car: Reclining front seats, \$31.20; heated rear windows, \$24.00; alternator, \$12.00

ENGINE

Type								
Bore x stro	ke						.3.1	6 x 2.50 i
Displaceme	nt			٠.				109.8 cu i
Compressio	n ratio							.9.0 to on
Carburetion	1	•					.2 x	1-bbl S.U
Power (SA	Ξ)			.9	4.5	5 b	np@	5500 rpr
Torque (SA	E)		.10	05	0.	lbs	ft@	2500 rpr

DRIVE TRAIN

Final drive ratio			٠	3.63 to one
Transmission .				4-speed, all-synchro

DIMENSIONS AND CAPACITIES

Wheelbase			٠											. 96.0 in
Track					F	:	52	2.	0	i	n	١,	R	:52.0 in
Length														163.6 in
Width														
Height														55.1 in
Curb weight													. :	2070 lbs
Fuel capacity .					à		·							13,7 gal
Oil capacity														4.8 qts
Water capacity														. 5.4 qts

SUSPENSION

F: Ind., unequal length control arms, torsion bars

R: Rigid axle, semi-elliptic leaf springs

STEERING

Turns lock-to-lock	Туре						R	la	C	k	а	n	d	pinion
Turning circle 31.0 ft	Turns lock-to-	lock												4.0
ruining circle	Turning circle													31.0 ft

BRAKES

F:								9.	8-i	n	soli	d	disc	power	assist
R:		8.	0	×	1	5-	ir	1 0	as	t i	iron	di	rum	power	assist

WHEELS AND TIRES

Wheel size						÷				. 13 x 4.5-in
Tire size .				٠			٠		,	165/70R-13

PERFORMANCE

PENFUNIV	H	"	"	•	=														
Zero to																5	Se	90	onds
30 mph													٠						. 3.5
40 mph										ě	·			*					. 5.6
50 mph																			
60 mph																			12.3
70 mph																			
Standing ¼																			
Top speed (e	st	ir	n	a	te	ec	1)								10	00	0	mph



Although no one disputes that the Marina itself is a new approach for British Leyland, many of its mechanical components have been seen before. The engines are veterans, the 4-speed manual transmission, even though it is being built in a brand new plant, borrows heavily from certain Triumph models, the rear axle is Triumph and the torsion bar front suspension bears such a strong resemblance to that of the old Morris Minor 1000 that even though none of the parts are interchangeable, the production and assembly techniques that apply surely must be. Only the Marina's body and trim are unquestionably new.

For this test we've concentrated on the highest priced coupe model—the 1.8-liter TC—which has as standard equipment the MGB engine. Without a doubt it slips into the Super Coupe category—a kind of loose classification that fits an increasingly popular group of \$2500-coupes like the Opel 1900 and the 2-liter Capri which can carry four people and still be fun to drive. And if you think of the TC as a Super Coupe ver-

when taken together they clearly mark the Marina as a British car and no connoisseur who appreciates the national differences between German, French, Italian and Japanese machines would ever attribute the Marina, after driving it, to anywhere but England.

At the same time, the connoisseur would not be disappointed in the Marina's performance. With the MG engine it's very quick (in fact, the Marina, because it is lighter, will dust off an MG) and handling on England's narrow twisting blacktops is in no way lacking. Above normal road speeds it does understeer excessively, however, and high speed directional stability is substandard, at least on the test car.

When driving the Marina all of the audio and tactile sensations tell you the car is British but visual clues are nowhere near as abundant. There is wood on the instrument panel but it looks like Detroit wood and the shape of the panel itself was obviously designed for efficiency rather than to (Continued on page 88)

CAR and DRIVER



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straight at 170-odd he'd twice been boxed in by backmarkers. The first time Wee Jackie had closed on him, the second time pulled past. "But as he went by, his car was streaming oil so I knew it was only a matter of time before he blew, and I didn't bother to chase him."

But Wee Jackie is likely to become more of a thorn in his side as the season unwinds. The Lola has been cleverly designed. It follows the current snub-nose, bob-tail trend started by the Alfa T-33 as far back as 1967-if you don't count Bugatti's tank grand prix car of 1923. The snub-nose is supposed to keep the front end on the ground better. Air is taken in through the radiator ducts behind the driver's shoulders. The Bear admitted that, "If we'd had the time and really thought about it we'd probably have gone to a similar design this year ourselves. But we reckon we can get by with the wedge for one more season at least."

Broadley would only say that he wanted to get away from ". . . this overhang shape." But he did admit that he'd had a lot of problems getting the braking right. Originally the four discs had been inboard. Some say that didn't work, others say that Stewart doesn't trust inboard brakes. Either way they've been moved outboard. After the beating that McLaren Racing has handed his cars since Surtees won the first Can-Am championship in 1966, Broadley is to be admired for trying anything at all. It would have been easy for him to shift to other arenas as Roger Penske and others have done (Jim Hall and Chaparral Cars apparently have dropped out of competition altogether).

Broadley confesses wistfully that unseating McLaren in Group 7 has become, "a personal thing."

But beating them, he says, will also be good for the company. "This (motor racing) is a knife-edge business. You can't be selective. You can't go saying, 'Well this looks easy, we'll drop the other and go and race over here.' You've got to keep putting yourself on the line, all the time.

"The McLarens are going to be difficult to beat in these first few races because they've built up a lot of inertia. You saw that at Indianapolis. There's a lot of inertia in success. There's a lot of inertia in failure

The Bear drove his courtesy Camaro to the helipad and took off with Mayer beside him. After they'd gone, somebody found a gold medal on the floor of the car. It was the one they'd given the Bear for winning at Mosport.

WHY VANS ARE HERE TO STAY the intrepid traveler in the final moments

(Continued from page 50)

enough macho going for yourself that you don't need a tricky-looking van as a come-

Okay, I'll admit I'm overdramatizing to score a few crummy points. Van Nuys Boulevard (or on another ethnic trip, Whittier Boulevard) isn't the whole van cult. For one thing, nearly all those vans-GMCs, Dodge A-100s, Chevy Sportvans, Ford Econolines, etc.—are made in the good of U.S.A. Why? "We're not a bunch of hippies, you know, freaks. They drive V-Dub buses. And because of what they drive, they're always being hassled by the heat. I don't know if it's a rah-rah-Buy-American thing or not. But it's true. The fuzz leaves us guys pretty much alone."

The VW vans are far more likely to be used for real cross-country traveling. Young nomads admit to putting up to 50,000 miles a year on their beat-up VW buses versus maybe a tenth of that for their Van Nuys Boulevard counterparts.

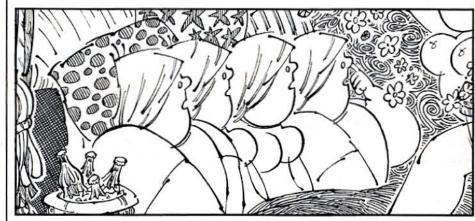
Then there are the old folks in the brand new VW campmobiles with jalousie windows, retired couples hitting every National Park between Detroit and Seattle, who tool around until dark, then put in at a motel! They usually have a giant Winnebago or Dodge Motor Home before they're

of "2001." Vans have great visibility-you sit throne-high, surrounded (on three sides, at least) by windows, no long, obscene hood ahead of you, cantilevered, almost, out over the road ahead, the quintessential voyager, seeing for the first time America as it really is!

(Some purists note sadly that safety paranoia has already resulted in budding "hoods" on American vans. Only the VW still has the uncanny maneuverability of a

Vans' disadvantages are legion. They have generally lousy performance. They're easily shoved around by even gentle zephvrs-VW vans are banned from several bridges on windy days. The U.S. vans have so little weight on their rear wheels as to render them virtually tractionless on slippery surfaces, severely limiting their usefulness many months of the year in parts of the country which are subject to heavy rain-or snow. "Panic" braking can be cause for panic all by itself. The VW with its rear-mounted engine, is better balanced for traction and braking, but you can't load it through the rear door. Etc., etc.

Once upon a time, the VW van was all there was. Detroit's idea of a van was the "step-van" your milk was delivered in. Then came domestic copies of the VW Microbus, starting with the Corvair Greenbri-



brave enough to sleep in the thing.

"What do you like best about vans?"

"All that space. Vans don't take up much space on the road, but inside they're as big as a house. Because there's no styling. A van is just a box. A car is styled; and when they're through making it look like it's doing a hundred standing still, you can't put more than two people in it without crowding.

"Another thing. A van's all flat surfaces. So if you want to put something in yourself—a cabinet, a shelf—you can do it easy. A car's all compounded curves. Impossible."

Then there's that space-baby feeling, like s-e-x. Long live vans!

er. Now, closing the ring, the van freaks' lunatic fringe is eyeing step-vans, mail trucks, even old military vehicles (ambulances are particularly favored). Bruce Meyers, inventor of the greatest nutball vehicle of all time, the dune buggy, just went out and bought himself a van (a VW).

With everybody co-opting everybody else-longhairs donning construction worker shoes, hardhats affecting beards-I wouldn't be surprised to see ex-vannies in pick-up trucks . . . with or without gun

But the van movement dead? Not unless the coming generations fail to discover

TOYOTA COROLLA 1600

(Continued from page 53)

blessed with a transformation, albeit a minor one. In the 1200 Corolla we tested, the brakes were both weak and had a spongy feel at the pedal. Now the sponginess is gone. Unfortunately the brakes themselves are no better. The tires are larger (6.15-13s compared to the 6.00-12s on the 1200) but the 1600 is also 140 lbs. heavier. The bigger tires apparently aren't enough to compensate for the weight increase because the test car required 235 feet (0.70G) to stop from 70 mph, five feet longer than the 1200. This is extremely poor braking performance. The Corolla was introduced with substandard brakes and Toyota obviously intends to leave it that way.

The Corolla could also use some improvements in its handling. With the new, bigger engine it is even more nose-heavy than before (the 1200 had 980 lbs. on its front wheels; the 1600, 1100 lbs.) and while this 57% front weight bias has made the car less sensitive to side-winds, it has also largely negated any of the potential benefits to handling of the large tires and wheels (rim-width remains the same).

habit of raising its inside rear wheel still made to corner hard. Get it on a skid pad and you quickly find that the car assumes a low speed, low cornering-force equilibrium-with the front wheels understeering to scrub off speed and the inside rear wheel unloaded and spinning, which keeps you from forcing the nose around any faster. On the other hand, the Corolla is agile (it could hardly be otherwise, given its quick steering and short wheelbase). For most drivers, this agility will pass for good handling.

strength, no one driving the 1600 Corolla we tested has any excuse for getting a ticket on the freeway. At precisely 70 mph indicated (a safe-enough 67 mph), the engine vibrations, subdued by the rubber motormounts at lower speeds, begin marching in lock-step with various body panels, knobs, fixtures, seat-cushion springs, etc., and the view in the rear-view mirror turns into a blur. "That's it, Driversan," the car says, "you can now start looking for attention from the shirobai." You don't have to accept the warning, as the 1600 Corolla will charge right on up to a true 90 mph, and as it fades away, and everything becomes smooth and silent when you get above that critical resonance at 70. We appreciate

engine mounts or panels or something, and move the resonance higher. Maybe the U.S. Department of Transportation could suggest a figure.

As was true of the earlier 1200, the 1600 Corolla is somewhat cramped in the knee room it provides for rear-seat passengers. but with the seats pushed right back it is a marvel of small-package comforts for the driver and a friend. The front bucket seats are contoured to give lateral support far in excess of any side forces the Corolla is capable of generating, and have those neat reclining backs. All controls are just about where you would want them and both interior style and finish bespeak of quality far above the Corolla's price. The only thing we didn't like inside the Corolla was that all too often one either swelters or gets wind-buffeted. Toyota's habit of buildingin all of the air-conditioning ducting just in case someone asks for the refrigerator pump, cooling coils, etc., gives the car a nicely comprehensive collection of ventstwo of them being directional spiggots. Unhappily, neither the ducting nor the vents are adequate to keeping the car's interior cool unless the incoming air is refrigerated. The piddling amount of air they ad-With all that weight up front, and the mit is barely adequate with ambient temperature at 70°F, and forward motion at 70 very much with the Corolla, it cannot be mph. Go slower, or let the air get warmer, and you'll be obliged to crank down the windows-in which case the wind whipping around your head will be enough to convert anything but a crew-cut into a passable imitation of an Afro in mere moments. And the wind roar at anything above 30 mph will be deafening, as the air spills off the corners of the windshield and into the wingless side windows.

However, you can't expect everything in a car that stands so near the bottom of the whole automotive price range, and no one Despite the Corolla's new straight-line can say that the Toyota does not more than fully justify what its makers are asking of purchasers. With the 1600 engine, it performs well enough to be totally useful to anyone not in the major cargo business, even for longish trips, and the enthusiast driver (who would have found the 1200 Corolla a dull proposition) will positively enjoy the way it responds crisply to urging with the gear lever. The various gimcracks and furbelows added to this car's exterior to distinguish it from those previous do not please, but its high level of finish certainly does. And service, when the need arises, shouldn't be a problem with Toyota's dealyou don't even have to listen to the buzz, er network approaching the point of ubiquity. In the Los Angeles area, where it all began, Toyota and the others have pushed small-car sales to about half the total. With Toyota's concern for law and order, but we things like the 1600 Corolla around, that wish that they would re-tune the Corolla's could get to be a country-wide situation. •



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SEPTEMBER 1971

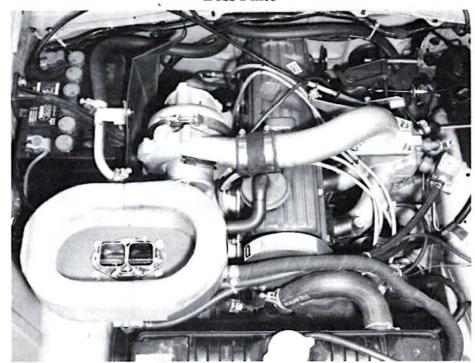
For Your Information

Texas-Italia BMW



Henry Beissner is a man with a better idea. Two years ago he commissioned Frua to design and build a new body for his BMW 2800CS. The finished product has finally been delivered, luxuriously appointed on the interior, and gracefully designed in the Italian style on the exterior. BMW discussed limited production of the car with Beissner, but ultimately concluded that the cost would be prohibitive. It will remain a one-off personal car, perhaps the prettiest BMW since the model 507.

Boss Pinto



A turbocharger kit, front and rear spoilers, and mag wheels transform any 2-liter Pinto into fit competition for the Yenko Vega, with quarter-mile times around 15.3 seconds @ 92 mph. The turbo is claimed to add 50 horsepower while producing lower exhaust emissions. Brock Yates examines the Yenko Vega (page 42) in this issue, and explains why the Environmental Protection Agency probably won't let you buy either. The Feds don't believe that you can have performance without pollution, although many in Detroit see turbocharging as an inexpensive way to keep everyone happy. Boss Pinto kits are available from CAR Corporation, 12263 Market Street, Livonia, Michigan 48150, and Ford will soon have its own performance options available, guaranteed to meet U.S. government standards.

Naderized

Ralph Nader, headline-hunting Don Quixote of American consumerism, continues his campaign to save us from ourselves. His latest assault takes the form of a petition to the Federal Trade Commission asking for an investigation of annual styling changes made on Detroit cars. Unconcerned with aesthetics, the Consumer Advocate claims that styling changes are responsible for the high cost of producing new cars. Annual styling costs discriminate against the formation of new auto companies, he says, since so much capital is required to compete in the present capitalistic system. His solution is a moratorium on styling changes pending the structural dissolution of the three major automobile manufacturers in favor of smaller car makers. In effect, this would mean that present styling would be kept until the government socializes the automobile industry. Can you imagine having the 1972 Buick Riviera kept as is until 1984 when the government finally runs the automakers out of business and has us all riding around in four-wheel bricks? Detroit may come up with some ludicrous styling, but at least they get a new chance every year. The irony of this is that Nader opened the Pandora's box of government interference with his Corvair exposé, and this identical government is the one making trouble for the small accessory manufacturers. At the same time, the Old Windmill Tilter himself is blithely trying to convince the government to break up the big companies to give the smaller firms a chance to expand. Perhaps the Environmental Protection Agency should directly contact the Federal Trade Commission and work this all out, minus the helpful interference of the Knight of the Woeful Countenance.

Cordless

Synthetic rubber tires, formed by injection-molding liquid rubber into conventional forms are the coming thing. Current tires require nearly one hour of costly hand labor, while the one-piece tires can be made in a few minutes, automatically. In addition, the new tires are said to provide better bump absorption than bias ply or radial ply tires, and comparable handling. Various colors and multi-hued patterns can be produced, and prices should be lower due to automated production. Firestone is the first to announce development of the new technology, but the other companies are probably not far behind.

CAR and DRIVER

For Your Information

The Sun Also Rises



Rolls-Royce seems determined to ignore the decline of the British Empire. Completely revamped in the spring, after that "unpleasantness" over in the aircraft division, it is now preparing to do battle with the lesser colonial super-luxury cars. Sales are up in both Europe and America, so much so that an even more luxurious model is being offered in these markets. In the Corniche, rare woods and other expensive materials used on the interior appointments are sure to raise the already high prices to super levels. Keeps the clientele in the right sort of bracket.

Fiat Should Win

Fiat should win "car of the year" from the European press with their new 127. A transverse engine, front-wheel-drive, the 127 will replace the 850 in Europe. It's small, pretty in an inoffensive way, and uses existing Fiat components, so the price is low-about \$1800 in Europe. The engine is the 903cc from the 850 series, the transmission comes from Autobianchi, and sundry other parts from the 128. Interior size compares well with the larger 128, while the exterior is 850 size. Claimed top speed is nearly 90 mph, with decent acceleration. All in all, the 127 will probably put Fiat back in first place as the largest European carmaker. There are no immediate plans to import 127s to America, but if the car is as successful as it should be in Europe, it will be only a matter of time before they will be understeering around urban areas in this country.

There are presently no plans for coupe or roadster versions as the beautiful 128 sports models should cover that demand without additional help.

Rent-A-Racer

Hertz in England has begun renting high performance cars such as the Jaguar XJ6, Triumph Stag, Jensen Interceptor, and Ford Capri 3000. In the U.S., Corvettes and Mach I Mustangs have been available from Hertz for some time to those willing to pay the premium pricetag, and Shelby even built the 350H especially for rentals back in 1966. Presumably the British operation will be run in a similar manner, with higher rental fees for higher performance cars. If you hurry, you could probably reserve something suitable for the fall Clubman and Rally events. Any indigenous specialty shop should be able to prepare your new racing car for you, and with good luck you might be able to return it before the Hertz girl gets suspicious of the numbers painted on the nose. One poor Hertz girl in Tampa found a 350H with a blown motor in her driveway the day after the 1968 Sebring 12-hour, and the British should probably be prepared for eventualities. For those more interested in off-road events, the Range Rover will be offered.

St. Ralph and the Bull (John)

Ralph Nader has also taken on the British car industry. He claims that fatality rates are high on British roads because their manufacturers do not equip models for home sale with the safety devices compulsory in the States. Predictably, the British industry produced statistics to prove that the fatality rate is higher in the U.S. than in Britain, and that safety equipment specified on British cars must also be kept in repair by the owners. Similar after-sales legislation is lacking in the States.

More productively, an international association of representatives of the automobile industry from 16 countries, Le Bureau Permanent Internationale des Constructeurs d'Automobile, has called for governments in all countries to standardize vehicle safety regulations. Manufacturers would then need produce only one version of their automobiles for international sales.

Excessive Alimony

According to the Department of Transportation, divorced men are the deadliest drivers on U.S. highways, with a fatality rate five times greater than the national average. The study showed divorced women to be slightly more accident prone than average. Whether poor marriages create bad drivers, or bad drivers make poor husbands was not immediately apparent.

SEPTEMBER 1971

6

For Your Information

Racing Accident Census

The Motor Racing Safety Society, P. O. Box 947, Plandome, New York, 11030 will announce the preliminary results of their census of racing accidents at the U.S.G.P. at Watkins Glen next month. Auto journalist Karl Ludvigsen is president of the group, and Oscar Koveleski, model car impressario and president of the Polish Race Driver's Association, is the director of the survey. They hope to record all accidents, fatalities, and incidents which occur in international motor racing, in order to predict trends helpful for the development of more sophisticated accident prevention and protection. They are soliciting information on accidents from all sources, trying to make their computerized listings as complete as possible, so send them photos or accounts of racing accidents to add to their files. This may help us clean up racing before the government steps in to do it.

Simca pas davantage

Chrysler has discontinued the importation of Simcas into the U.S. The low sales volume in this country (only some 17,000 cars over the past three years), coupled with the necessary expenditure to retool the Simca 1204 to comply with impending stiffer federal safety standards seems to Chrysler too expensive to warrant the trouble. Simca cannot meet the European demand for its cars, and the present line will be continued in France and Spain. Chrysler promises that owners will still be able to find parts and service in the States, but just in case, they are offering a certificate of redemption worth \$125 to any owner of a 1971 Simca who wishes to trade in his orphan for another Chrysler product.

Smaller Sporty Cars

With sporty car sales way down over the 1971 model year, there have been reports that at least Camaro and Firebird will be phased out by 1973. If correct, they will probably be replaced in 1974 with smaller models sized somewhere between the present sporty cars and the sub-compact group. With nearly 25% of U.S. car sales already being of sub-compacts, the era of the domestic super coupe may be arriving.

Used Tire Salesmen

The Georgia Game and Fish Commission has finally found a good use for old tires. Seven or eight tires are stacked on steel rods, weighted with concrete, and sunk along the Atlantic coast in groups to create artificial reefs attractive to the organisms upon which game fish feed. The Georgia Commission hopes to cover 100 acres in this way, and is soliciting donations of used tires from various sources. Certain Sicilian businessmen, experienced in sinking objects weighted with concrete, are reportedly showing a marked interest in the used tire business these days.

Slicks



been the treadless "slicks" developed for Formula 1 by Goodyear and Firestone, and used by Dunlop for 2-liter sports cars now that the English firm has stopped supporting F/1. The tires are approximately the same width as last year, 9-inch fronts and 13-inch rears. Wheel diameters are only 13 inches, down from 15. The aspect ratio remains nearly the same-about 39% for front tires, 33% at the rear. After much tribulation in the spring events, suitable compounds alleviated the heat problems caused by the absence of cooling grooves. Goodyear now uses 72 1x1/8-inch grooves to cool the surface, while Dunlop uses a true slick for sports cars, with only small indentations to indicate tire wear. The lack of tread makes the only working component of the tire the stickiness of the softer rubber. Obviously, none of the three tire companies involved is saving anything specific about the make-up of the rubber compounds, but while softer it is also tougher, in order to combat the increased running temperature. The improvement in adhesion is due to the softer rubber and the in-

creased amount of rubber on the pavement, thanks to the elimination of the tread groove. The super soft rubber is compliant enough to function as a tread on dry roads, but even the least dampness will cause the tires to plane. Presumably, rain tires will have to remain grooved until someone figures out how to make solid rubber bite through a water film. That could take some doing.

The British Are Coming

Four British engineers (defined by Webster as "persons who manage an apparatus") will be 'motoring' across this country during the next few months on a 1926 Foden Steam Wagon. All six tons of this smokebelching antique have been headed from England to Australia by way of Europe and Asia during the past two years. The return portion of its circumnavigation will bring it across America and back to England, whence it left in 1969, after the Earls Court Show. Sort of a tour of the colonial possessions . . . Playing fields of Eton and all that.

Alfa 2000

Alfa Romeo has enlarged the engine in their 1750 models to two liters for European sports. The coupe, roadster, and sedan bodies remain the same, as do the majority of the mechanical specifications. A limited slip differential is an option, as are air conditioning and mag wheels. The price will be well over \$4000 in Europe, and there are no immediate plans to import the new models into America. Price would be about \$5000, if and when they reach these shores in a year or so. By then maybe the rebodied GTV will be ready.

Elan Sprint

Lotus has revamped the nine-year-old Elan for the third time since its introduction. The revolutionary Elan evolved into the Elan Coupe S/E in 1967, the S4 in 1969, and now becomes the Sprint. There is a 25% increase in horsepower to 126 hp, and driveline components have been strengthened to take the added load. From the outside, the biggest changes are the elimination of the hood bulge, and a two-tone color scheme. The lower body comes only in white, with a horizontal stripe to separate it from the various colors offered on top. The overall effect is meant to relate to that used on Lotus Formula One cars, with their cigarette package coloring.

THE GOOD STUFF.



68

CAR and DRIVER

Without your help, Fred Hansen couldn't have gotten off the ground.

Fred Hansen vaulted his way to a gold medal in the 1964 Tokyo Olympics. He worked hard for his win. But it was your contributions that helped land Fred and his teammates in Japan. That really made it possible to chalk up all those firsts for the U.S.A.

It takes a lot of money to field a winning Olympic team. And

there's an easy way for you to help raise that money: buy Bank of America Travelers Cheques.

Because every time you buy Bank of America Travelers Cheques, part of the proceeds from the sale go to the U.S. Olympic Committee. So by asking for our travelers cheques at your bank, you help equip and train our athletes. Help them get to the Olympics. Help them win when they get there.

And it doesn't cost you anything extra.

We think everybody should

back our Olympic team. And if you buy that, you'll buy Bank of America Travelers Cheques. They're sold at leading banks everywhere.



They don't cost any more. They just do a lot more.



If a sponsor ever doubts his investment in racing will pay off, he should read this.

Thirty-four percent of the spectators at NASCAR races think Chrysler makes the best cars in the U.S. How's that Richard Petty fans? And that compares the 33% who said Ford and 32% who said GM. Among all racing fans, Porsche was consistently listed as the best car ever made.

If any of this comes as a surprise, imagine what it did to the people who made the study. They're an outfit called Professionals in Motion, Inc. and they're PR and market research types for racing of all kinds. Headed by Fred Marik, PIM has such prestigious clients as Sunoco, Sears Roebuck, AMC and Dow Chemical. Their job is to take the mystery out of racing for the big buck investors and to help them do just that they undertook a study which eventually was to be called "Auto Racing: The Facts for 1971."

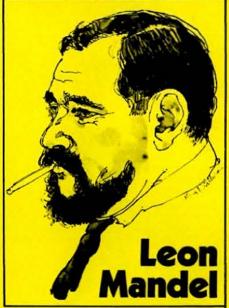
The problem is that everyone knows racing is a good vehicle for merchandising but few people know just why and how. The Professionals in Motion study, done with the aid of Dr. Gerhard Rosegger, head of the economics department at Case Western Reserve in Cleveland, Ohio, is an attempt to bring an objective approach to the morass that is racing.

Races studied included two drag meets in Ohio, two Can-Ams, two Trans-Ams and two NASCAR Grand Nationals. And some of the results are genuine surprises.

NASCAR had the highest male attendance with 83%, but almost one-quarter of all race spectators studied were female.

This is on the road to discovering that there is no typical fan; part of a larger and more significant conclusion that there is no homogeneity at all to race spectators and that racing as such is staggeringly fragmented. You cannot speak of racing as a single sport says PIM, it is several-and the demographics point that out.

Fifty-two percent of race fans were 25 or younger but in NASCAR, 68% were over 25. Road racing had the lion's share of the prime consumers, those aged 21 to 35 over 300 miles one way to their race, the type sports racers to GT cars.



(with the Can-Am showing 66% in that bracket and the Trans-Am 64%). The audience was heavily drawn from the ranks of students, with a 24% student segment overall. The Trans-Am had the highest student attendance with 31%. One out of three race fans has an income of over \$10,000 and generally speaking, in terms of general affluence, Can-Am racing showed the highest and drag racing the least. Still even that statistic is somewhat deceiving since the drag racing crowds spend the largest percentage of their income on things automotive.

People who went to the Trans-Ams and the Can-Ams tended to see a variety of different races. NASCAR and drag racing fans were parochial and stuck to their own patch of the sport. But that didn't mean that they stood around and waited for things to come to them. Fifty-one percent of the spectators traveled over 100 miles to the race where they were polled. Thirtynine percent of NASCAR fans traveled Manufacturers Championship from proto-

highest average of any of the polled series.

And the respondents were active: 46% of those responding said they had competed in some form of automotive competition in the last five years.

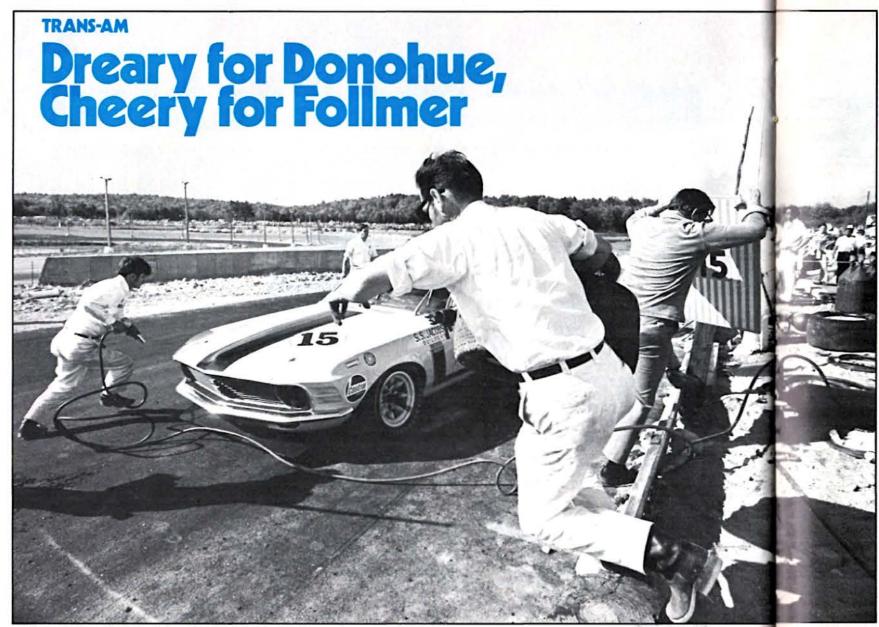
Car ownership was not unexpected. It was very high. Thirteen percent own three or more cars. Among NASCAR fans 48% own two or more cars and, reasonably enough, the foreign car ownership figures were all in favor of the road racing spectator. Of them, 47% of the Can-Am spectators own foreign cars and the figure is 37% for the Trans-Am.

What emerges is a bright, young, affluent audience which spends its money on cars and is loyal to its own variety of the sport. The study is revealing and perceptive and only the exclusion of USAC (time considerations) flaws it. A new study will be undertaken in a short while and in the meanwhile copies of the \$20,000 report are available from PIM at \$750.

Cosworth is on the way toward replacing their V-8 with a new F/1 engine. This one's supposed to be a flat-12, air cooled without a fan like the Honda F/1 of a couple of years ago. Fuel injection is directly into the cylinders, the same thing Ferrari tried in '63 without success. The engine may not have the name Ford on it. There are rumors that there is a new Ford F/1 engine under study at Weslake Engineering. At the moment it is said to be masquerading as a motorcycle engine . . . If you're about to buy insurance, look to an agent of Nationwide. Four-hundred of them got together and sponsored the SCCA national races at Thompson, Conn. The reason: The agents want more high performance business . . . The SCCA has signed a TV deal with Andy Sidaris (Wide World of Sports) as producer. The only thing to be covered will be the Can-Ams ... The move is on to change the 1972

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A 42-second pit stop for fuel and four tires definitely helped Follmer at Bryar.

It all depends on how independent you really are.

George Follmer, an independent not far removed in time from factory sponsorship, won two Trans-Ams in a row at Bryar and Mid-Ohio as the 11-race series began to settle down—while the Troy Promotions Mustang team of Tony deLorenzo and Jerry Thompson was almost nowhere to be seen and the back-up Javelins belonging to Roy Woods and drivers Tony Adamowicz and Peter Revson were almost as remote.

And Mark Donohue in the factory Javelin? Well, he's having a year of atrocious luck and it's carrying over into the Trans-Am. At the tight twisting 1.6-mile Bryar circuit a carburetor float stuck, flooding

the engine and that was it. At Mid-Ohio, a narrow 2.4-mile venue, Donohue built up a lead of 1:07 on Follmer, only to have his front brakes become inoperative. He was lucky to take second place.

But both races had their moments. At Bryar, Follmer and Donohue dueled for 35 laps in the closest company before Donohue retired to the infield, and at Mid-Ohio the first 56 laps were dramatic enough until Follmer was finally able to get by Donohue and pull away.

They qualified in the rain at Bryar and they began the race in the rain at Mid-Ohio. All of which gave Donohue the advantage with his superior Goodyear rain tires. At Bryar, Adamowicz, Follmer and Donohue all qualified in the same time (1:12.0) so they drew lots, of all things, and Follmer ended up on the pole with Adamowicz next to him and Donohue behind. All three jumped off to a good start and it was no time until Donohue picked off Adamowicz and went after Follmer.

By the 30th lap Donohue had the lead after a nose-to-tail battle with Follmer, but the glory didn't last long. It was all over five laps later as Donohue's engine failed.

Things looked different at Mid-Ohio. Though Follmer was clearly faster in qualifying (down the back straight Follmer had a 3+ mph advantage), Donohue jumped off to a lead in the rain.



Follmer, Adamowicz, Donohue tied for the pole, drew straws for position.



John Morton (BRE Datsun #46) lost halfshaft at Bryar, won in Ohio.

Despite the area's being under a tornado watch, the skies began to clear early and both the Ford and the Javelin came in for dry tires. With pit stop times on the order of 42 seconds, both were out in smart time,

but by then Donohue had built up a sizable lead—until lap 34 when he lost his brakes.

Despite all this, the judgment at this point still favors Donohue. Follmer is a hard charger and Bud Moore, the Mustang

leader, is a canny man indeed, but you can't out-factory the factory. Moore's cars are new and they are beautifully prepared but it's still a race-to-race basis on which he competes. And every once in a while Parnelli Jones will drive a Mustang but he reportedly wants \$10,000 out in front to appear and money is scarce on the Trans-Am circuit this year.

Things are much the same in the 2 5-lite.

Things are much the same in the 2.5-liter Challenge as they are in the big car camp. The small cars are filled with enthusiasm but not much money. The only outright factory car running at Mid-Ohio was the Datsun of Pete Brock and it was far and away the quickest car in the series. John Morton drives it and although he lost a halfshaft (a VW halfshaft at that) at Bryar he was an easy winner in Ohio. What's more there's a new 1800cc engine coming for the Datsun and since they're overweight now, there will not have to be any ballasting when it arrives.

Finally, there's a secret weapon in the works—this one by the notoriously successful Kas Kastner who built all those Triumphs on the West Coast. It's another Triumph, a Vitesse of all things, which is said to be putting out some 220-hp from its 2-liter engine. That would make it competitive with a vengeance. The Alfas (with Horst Kwech, Bert Everett, and Peter Gregg) rarely seem to have a clear field; if it isn't something like a Porsche lurking around, it's something like a Datsun.

This is liable to be one of the last years for the Trans-Am. The handwriting is clearly on the wall. Just as it is for Donohue's competitors.

BRYAR MOTORSPORT PARK Louden, New Hampshire 1.6-mile road course MID-OHIO SPORTS CAR COURSE Lexington, Ohio 2.4-mile road course

	1.6-mile	road course			2.4-mile	road course	
1.	George Follmer	'70 Mustang	95 laps	1.	George Follmer	'70 Mustang	75 laps
2.	Peter Gregg	'70 Mustang	95 laps	2.	Mark Donohue	'71 Javelin	75 laps
3.	Peter Revson	'70 Javelin	94 laps	3.	Peter Gregg	'70 Mustang	74 laps
4.	Bob Tullius	'64 Tempest	92 laps	4.	Tony DeLorenzo	'70 Mustang	74 laps
5.	Warren Agor	'69 Camaro	91 laps	5.	Bob Tullius	'64 Tempest	72 laps
6.	Marshall Robbins	'71 Camaro	91 laps	6.	Warren Tope	'70 Mustang	72 laps

Average Speed: 75.32 mph

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Fastest Qualifiers: George Follmer, Mark Donohue, Tony Adamowicz 1:12.0 (80.00 mph) Average Speed: 77.15 mph Fastest Qualifier: George Follmer 1:39.28 (87.08 mph)

Allison Riverside, stretches his streak to four

Riverside In Phatianal Racew In California, Bobby Allison drank, drove and won for Coca-Cola.

These days NASCAR's big noise is Bobby Allison who's won four straight superspeedway Grand Nationals. After being second to brother Donnie's ex-A.J. Foyt Wood Brothers' '69 Mercury at the Talladega Winston 500 (where he picked up the Holman-Moody Mercury ride when David Pearson defected to Chris Vallo's Pontiac a week before the race), Bobby has won the World 600, the Mason-Dixon 500, the Motor State 400, and the Winston Golden State 400 at Riverside.

Of the latter two, the Michigan race was by far the more exciting. Bobby won that one in the H-M '69 Mercury, then went to his own Coca-Cola sponsored Dodge to win at Riverside with suspension advice and pit service from Ralph Moody.

In Michigan, it was racing all the way. Bobby, in the H-M Mercury, just beat out Grand National champion Bobby Isaac's Dodge, after running bumper to bumper with him for the last 80 miles of the race. Allison took the lead for good with just two laps to go, after having exchanged top

spot with Isaac seven times in the last 40 laps. With only two caution lights during the race, Bobby set a new race record at 149.567 mph for the 2.04-mile NASCAR

The Mopar Hemis suffer an alleged disadvantage in size of carburetor restriction plates, 1.25 inches, as opposed to the 1.50 inches allowed on the Fords. Nord Krauskopf, top man at K&K insurance which sponsors Isaac's Dodge, pulled his car out of six races earlier in the year and threatens to do so again. Even Richard Petty is unhappy. Everything came to a boil after qualifying at Michigan when the Allisons took the top two slots, both in Mercurys. make an engine change for Daytona, I will." Whatever the virtues of the arguerside in a Dodge.

The two Allisons took off like twin shots from the front row of the grid at Michigan.

only seven laps and the younger Allison promptly got into a slingshot shootout with Isaac. As the race progressed, led on occasion by Pete Hamilton and Fred Lorenzen, both in Plymouths, there came a time when it was strictly sibling rivalry between Bobby and Donnie.

Then with Donnie in the lead, the junior brother came in for a routine fuel and tire pit stop. Disaster. The engine stalled and the Wood Brothers, genuine marvels at their trade, could do no better than 50 seconds for Donnie's pit stop. That left matters up to Bobby and Isaac.

One of the heroes of the race was threetime Grand National champion David According to Petty, "If Chrysler doesn't Pearson in the Chris Vallo Pontiac prepared by Ray Nichols. Pearson and Richard Brooks, in his '70 Dodge, had at it for ment, there is considerably less talk about a good portion of the race with Brooks pulling out now that Allison has won Riv- drafting Pearson and Pearson drafting Brooks for 175 miles. On lap 68 Pearson suffered ignition failure and that put an end to his drive. He had started 19th after Bobby was passed by brother Donnie after blowing an engine in qualifying, and he CAR and DRIVER



dropped out.

The Winston 400 at Riverside was considerably less dramatic. Allison blew everybody off in qualifying-Richard Petty was a second-and-a-half off the pace in second slot-and it was very much a question of who would last the distance with temperatures very high and attrition rates expected to be proportionally high.

The West Coast NASCAR drivers were out in force, in fact Ray Elder, winner of last January's Riverside 500, was second. Cecil Gordon's '69 Mercury was third, six laps down, and James Hylton, who is challenging Richard Petty for the points leading the Grand National series, was third.

The heat was brutal, only 12 cars finished, and six of those required relief drivers due to the extreme temperatures. There were seven yellow flags out for a total of 32 laps, and consequently the race average of 93.622 mph was considerably down from last year's 101.120 mph set by Petty.

Riverside's infamous turn nine claimed SEPTEMBER 1971

had gotten as high as ninth when he its share of victims. Benny Parsons, in a '70 Mercury, trying to pass slower cars of coming out of the turn on the 78th lap. And no less a person than Richard Petty in a Plymouth also came to grief on turn

there was oil everywhere, including the windshield and front brakes. So there was the outside, slammed into the boiler plate Petty, sailing down the straightaway with no brakes and unable to see the treacherous last turn. A stab at the brakes produced a colossal spin, and he finally came

PHOTOGRAPHY: FRANK B. MORMILLO

MOTOR STATE 400 WINSTON GOLDEN STATE 400 MIS Brooklyn, Michigan Riverside, California 2.04-mile oval 2.62-mile road course 1. B. Allison '69 Mercury 1. B. Allison '70 Dodge 153 laps 2. B. Isaac '71 Dodge 197 laps 2. R. Elder '71 Dodge 153 laps 3. P. Hamilton '71 Plymouth 197 Jans 3. C. Gordon '69 Mercury 147 Jans 4. D. Allison '69 Mercury 197 laps 4. J. Hylton '70 Ford 146 laps 145 laps '70 Oldsmobile 5. B. Baker '71 Dodge 195 laps 5 J Oliver 6. R. Petty '71 Plymouth 194 laps 6. J. Soares '71 Plymouth Average Speed: 149.567 mph Average Speed: 93,427 mph Fastest Qualifier: Bobby Allison, 1:27.89 Fastest Qualifier: Bobby Allison, 0:45.5 (161,190 mph) (107.315 mph)

nine. Petty was suffering a major oil leak while running third, came in and had a quick conference with brother Maurice, and decided to continue and hope for the best. It didn't happen. Going down the back straight everything came unglued and

to rest up against the boiler plate without injury to himself.

The tour comes back to the southeast with the great restrictor plate controversy still unsolved. Don't worry, Bill France will think of something.

Other Winners

RICH TAYLOR for not only winning the C/D Opel/GT in the annual readers' sweepstakes, but for conning Bob Brown into giving him a job on the editorial staff. GEORGE SLOAN of Wheaton, Illinois who powered his stock VW through the dust and mud of a tough off-road course at the Ford Motorsports Association National I at Ford's Dearborn Test Track to take fastest time honors and handily beat 4wd Broncos at the same time.

DENNY ZIMMERMAN of Glastonbury, Conn. who finished eighth in the Indy 500 and had proclamations bestowed upon him by his home town and by the Connecticut House of Representatives.

THE DAYTONA SPEEDWAY once again protected its tax-exempt status thanks to perceptive Florida state legislators.

MIKE AND LOU SIPOLT ages eight and nine respectively who have been driving professionally for three years for auto racing magnate Andy Granatelli and are currently touring their dare-devil show at major speedways driving miniature STP-McNamaras.

GENTLEMEN START YOUR ENGINES a book of piano pieces for children with an introduction by Mario Andretti and illustrations by his sister Anna Maria (married to the author, James T. Burley).

BOR SHAFER who has been appointed.

BOB SHAFER who has been appointed assistant director of the United States Auto Club News Department.

SKIP BARBER'S entry into Formula One racing, his 6th place finish at Hockenheim, and his being able to stay out of everyones' way well enough to finish 14th in the Dutch Grand Prix while piloting an ailing March-Ford.

EVEL KNIEVEL, not for looking like George Hamilton but for purchasing a portion of the famed Snake River Canyon over which he plans to jump with a jetpowered motorcycle in the fall of 1972.

BRITISH LEYLAND MOTORS INC. who announced that production of the U.S. sports car buyers all-time imported favorite, the MGB, has passed the quarter-million mark. In production since 1963 the MGB has a longer production run than any other single sports car model.

THE NBC RADIO NETWORK for being presented with the Alfred P. Sloan Award for distinguished public service in highway safety.

JACK EITELJORG of Englewood, Colorado has wife Debby Drake, nationally syndicated TV exercise show star, to keep

him in shape when he is not campaigning an L&M Lola T192 in the L&M Continental 5000 Championship.

DONALD C. GATES ex-designer for Chaparral and Chevrolet has formed his own design and engineering firm: Antares Engineering Inc. Jim Hall former Chaparral boss is an investor and member of the board of directors as is Cameron Argetsinger one time executive vice president of Chaparral Cars and one of the founders of the Watkins Glen race track.

SOX AND MARTIN'S total domination of Drag Racing's Pro Stock events has put them in the same "Bad Guy" role as Team McLaren occupies in Cam-Am Racing.

Petty as a \$100,000-plus winner on NAS-CAR's Grand National circuit . . . and this total represents only the first half of

OVE ANDERSSON and ARNE HERTZ driving the supposedly frail Alpine-Renault have clinched the rugged 1971 Constructors' Championship having logged their fourth victory in five outings and having won the grueling Acropolis Rally.

DAVID LOCKTON corporate officer and former president of Ontario Motor Speedway and Les Richter president of Riverside International Raceway are reportedly becoming close personal friends as they review the circumstances of their respective speedways hoping that they both can be winners.

AUTO RACING which, according to the K&K Insurance Company headed by Nord Krauskopf who has released the figures for the company's own survey of sports attendance, drew an estimated 69,322,725 spectators beating out thoroughbred horse racing at 44,854,675 and football with 40,486,217 for top attendance honors.

Racing magnates LARRY CARRIER and CARL MOORE, who head the Bristol International Speedway and Dragway and the progressive new International Hot Rod Association, have acquired Dallas International Speedway for their association. The Dallas complex contains a 25-mile road course which is destined for some changes according to the new bosses.

NIGEL MUSSELWHITE pre-1955 handicap race winner for MGs at Silverstone in his 949cc MG/PB and all the other participants of the MG Car Club's 21st Anniversary Silverstone Meeting, who prove that some things are worth savoring.

Happenings

FIA World Championship

Sept. 5 Monza, Italy Sept. 19 Mosport, Canada

USAC Championship Trail

Sept 5 Ontario, Calif. Sept 26 Trenton, N.J.

NHRA Summernationals

Sept 5 Indianapolis, Ind.

NASCAR Grand National

Aug. 22 Talladega, Ala.
Aug. 26 Columbia, S.C.
Aug. 28 Hickory, N.C.
Sept 5 Darlington, S.C.
Sept 12 Richmond, Va.
Sept. 19 N. Wilkesboro, N.C.
Sept. 26 Martinsville, Va.

SCCA Trans-Am Series

Sept. 6 Irish Hills, Mich. Sept. 19 Seattle, Wash.

SCCA Continental Championship

Sept. 6 Lime Rock, Conn.

SCCA Can-Am Cup Series

Aug. 22 Lexington, Ohio
Aug. 29 Elkhart Lake, Wisc.
Sept. 12 Donnybrooke, Minn.
Sept. 26 Edmonton, Canada

Occasional last-minute cancellations make it advisable to confirm with sanctioning bodies before making plans to attend events listed above. The addresses of major race sanctioning organizations are as follows:

ACCUS-FIA 433 Main Street Stamford, Conn. 06901

FIA 8 Place de la Concorde Paris, France

NASCAR P.O. Bin K

Daytona Beach, Fla. 32015

National Hot Rod Association 3418 West First Street North Hollywood, Calif. 91602

Sports Car Club of America P.O. Box 22476 Denver, Colo. 80222

United States Auto Club 4910 West 16th Street Speedway, Ind. 46224



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Here are TRAVEL FEATURES especially designed to provide snow-mobilers with the way to go in the Yukon, in Maine and the Great Northwest . . .

Here is RACING COVERAGE with first-hand reports and bone-jarring photos of the men and the machines throughout the U.S. and Canada who are putting snowmobiling on the competition map . . .

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1971 November/December issue (Publication date Oct. 18)

☐ 1972 January/February issue (Publication date Dec. 21)

PRINT NAME		
ADDRESS		
CITY	STATE	ZIP
DAVMENT MIL	T DE ENCLOSE	D WITH OPDER

(Continued from page 37)

in obscurity, waiting to go on. It's the bleak part of racing that the ticket-buying spectators never see. Stocky, confident, Fred Marik, circulates expectantly through the garage like a doctor on call. He is the head of his own public relations firm—Penske is a client—and since Le Mans is one of the season's main events he handles it himself rather than send one of his lieutenants. His job is to make it easy for the press to write knowingly of the blue Ferrari and its sponsors. Penske uses him for a kicking dog occasionally but it's all figured into the bill.

Of the various specialists and consultants that hang around the garage, the two most remarkable are least seen. They are the expediteurs, the men who can move the obstacles of France aside, so the Penske team can pass through to victory. Bernard Cahier, a pennamed fortyish French journalist comfortable with the English language, is the old man of the game. In the European motoring world he is a clearing house for favors; he can make hotel rooms appear where there are none, introduce potential sponsors, shine the publicity spotlight on your act, whatever is your pleasure. If your job is big, like fending for the Penske team, you can hire him; if it's small, and your future is bright, you can owe him. Either way, you'll be one of the

Georges Goudchaud's role is not so clear. For the record, he is a wine dealer who lives in a small village 15 minutes from Le Mans. In the mid-Sixties, when the Ford team was operating in that part of France, he was found to be a most useful aide. He is flamboyant and expressive, an actor, and at his best when mollifying uncooperative track officials at close range.

So adroit are these two men, Cahier and Goudchaud, that had they directed their efforts toward the Paris Peace Talks, Vietnam would now be just another jungle in Southeast Asia. Naturally, in brief visits to the garage, they waste little time on the spectator side of the rope. Confidentially they maneuver themselves close to the split sources of power, Penske and Donohue, as the occasion demands.

Penske obviously controls the business side; stroking the sponsors and making sure they get their money's worth, prodding the crew into greater productivity, conning the press if he's in the mood . . . or rigidly enforcing the rope rule if he's not. He is "The Captain."

But he is not the guy who makes the car go fast. Donohue does that . . . alone on the track, with the mechanics in the ga-

in obscurity, waiting to go on. It's the bleak part of racing that the ticket-buying spectators never see. Stocky, confident, Fred Marik, circulates expectantly rage. He makes it all appear so obvious, so computer-like, so destined for success when in fact it is a moment-to-moment struggle.

In the garage he makes frequent reference to the comprehensive technical log he has compiled on the Ferrari, a book laden with dyno graphs, gear ratio charts, shock absorber curves and codes for dozens of mechanical adjustments. From the book and from his intuition he guides the mechanics in the tuning of the car. It is he who decides how the car should be.

At Le Mans, top speed is the single most important commodity. (Porsche recognized this and built three specially streamlined 917s, two for John Wyer's team and one for Martini. They are to be used for this one race only.) Donohue intends to de-. vote the first of the two practice/qualifying sessions to getting speed on the Mulsanne. It will be a matter of reducing drag and squeezing out the last bits of horsepower hidden in the V-12 engine. There are two styles of rear wing to be tried, each with an infinite number of angles to test; the value of the Ferrari-designed air scoop over the injectors has to be proven once and for all; only then can chassis settings be made and tires selected according to whatever downforce is left after the wing issue is sorted

The session is a disaster. Against his better judgment, Donohue goes along with Ferrari's gear ratio recommendations for Le Mans . . . and they are wrong, altogether wrong. The car will only pull 7500 rpm on the straight-205 mph-30 mph less than the slippery Porsches. The engine's power curve is so steep that an additional 40 hp is available at 8000 rpm. Still, this is minor compared to the revelation in high speed aerodynamics; 205 mph is as fast as the Ferrari will go. Even with the smallest wing set nearly level there is no more speed. Perhaps that shouldn't be a surprise but it is. The factory had always raced longtail cars at Le Mans and if they knew of the 512M's speed limitation, they had kept it a secret. And Donohue had had no way of finding out for himself. He had seen clues in earlier testing, but neither Daytona nor Sebring have straights long enough to be certain. And, too, the factory gear ratio recommendation was based on a top speed of 230 mph and such recommendations are rarely wrong. But they are this time. At the end of the first qualifying session the Penske Ferrari is exactly 15.1 seconds off the pace.

The following day is devoted to preparation for final qualifying that evening. Fifth

gear is changed, enough to give maybe two more mph on the Mulsanne, the brakes are worked over in an effort to remove chatter and, to stop the car's wild darting, suspension adjustments are carefully reset and rear springs replaced. None of the changes will be worth much but anything at all can be helpful.

Two hours into the last session the Penske Ferrari has moved up to fourth fastest overall, the highest placed Ferrari, 11.5 seconds quicker than the day before. Donohue has risen to the occasion. He had to. It was that or be slow.

But simply being fast at Le Mans isn't enough to win the race. You have to contend with the Frenchmen—not just the obtuse officials, but spectators to whom "keep out" is a meaningless pair of foreign words. On the morning of the race the pit area is standing room only.

Penske, panicking by the lateness of the hour, is frantically trying to coach the crew through pit stop practice . . . but the car is so tightly encircled by people that the jack handle can't be worked without hitting somebody. And about every other time that Woody dashes around to the outside with a fresh tire and the air wrench at least one spectator who is posing by the car for one of his buddies with a camera gets tangled up in the air hose. It's ludicrous. Penske is not amused. But since he is providing the best pre-race entertainment, the crowd stays on . . . right up to a half hour before the start when a battalion of police sweep through, chasing out all but the 10,000 or so with the best passes.

Last year the familiar Le Mans start was modified to allow the drivers to wait in their cars, engines off, for the flag. This year it was done American style, one lap behind a Porsche pace car and then away. Those who savor the tradition of Le Mans grumble about the start. At the end of the first lap Donohue is fifth behind the frontrunning trio of long-tailed Porsches driven, in order, by Pedro Rodriguez, Vic Elford and Jo Siffert and the yellow Ferrari of Nino Vaccarella, the second quickest 512 in qualifying. Donohue's intention is to drive a cautious race, avoid the entanglements that had cost Daytona and Sebring. Racing can come later, right now traffic requires complete attention-the differences in speeds of the various cars is so great that by the third lap the slow ones are already being overtaken by the leaders.

Race strategy calls for a stop every 17 laps for fuel, a driver change every other stop. But fuel consumption is higher than anticipated and Donohue comes in one lap

early. The ensuing stop will long be remembered, at least by The Captain.

Every pit has its own commissaire de stande whose job is to read the fuel meter to make sure the car hasn't developed a bigger tank since tech inspection and to generally keep his eyes open for any unethical activities that might cast aspersions on the reputation of Le Mans. There are also roving flagmen, each with several pits under his jurisdiction. Before the pilote can leave the pits he has to have clearance from both of these guys. After 117 liters of gasoline have been charged to the Penske account and the quick-fill lid snapped shut, the required permission is duly given. Just as the Ferrari starts to move the commissaire de stande from the N.A.R.T. pit next door, having apparently spotted some diabolical infraction, vaults himself in front of the car, spreading his arms like a secondbase umpire about to pronounce Maury Wills out. Always with an eve toward shortening a pitstop, Penske muscles him out of the way in a very USAC manner. The flagman then joins the fray by cracking Penske across the back of the head with the shortened broom handle he has been assigned as a flag pole. In the confu-

ing Penske across the back of the head with the shortened broom handle he has been assigned as a flag pole. In the confusion Donohue sneaks out.

The next subject for official concern is the tank venting apparatus. Penske's usual Indy-type quick-fill nozzle had been rejected by the officials but they hadn't ruled on the elbow-shaped device which one of the crewmen had plugged into a separate outlet on the tank as it was being filled. Maybe they hadn't ruled on it because they hadn't seen it. After observing it in operation, however, they are of the distinct opinion that it might be contrary to the spirit of sportsmanship that is Le Mans. Two of them, a commissaire de stande and a higher-ranking commissaire sportif (you distinguish them by the fine print on their red leather armbands) wander into the pits for

let on the tank as it was being filled. Maybe they hadn't ruled on it because they hadn't seen it. After observing it in operation, however, they are of the distinct opinion that it might be contrary to the spirit of sportsmanship that is Le Mans. Two of them, a commissaire de stande and a higher-ranking commissaire sportif (you distinguish them by the fine print on their red leather armbands) wander into the pits for a closer look. They find the insidious device under the timing stand and appear to be confiscating it when Penske catches sight. Naturally he repossesses the offending object and what follows is half in English, half in French and makes no sense whatsoever. Goudchaud instantly bounds into action, pleading with the officials, making sad faces, waving his arms and pointing at his head. It is a virtuoso performance and the red tags walk away empty handed . . . for reinforcements. They return with an administrateur and another commissaire de stande but Goudchaud overpowers them with more gallic verbosity as well. They are followed by the next link in the chain of command, a lone directeur de course adjoint, who listens calm-

ly for a while and then leaves smiling. He

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is joined outside by a commissaire adjoint aux commissaire sportif in what appears to be a stake out.

In all, five red tag officials, two gendarmes and a fireman are on hand for the next pit stop, all to have a look at the device in operation. And, in a landmark decision, they approve it—even calling it a good idea according to Goudchaud.

That is the fourth pit stop. Fuel and oil are added and Donohue replaces Hobbs. With that out of the way, the mechanics settle down on top of their tool boxes in the back of the pits, eating cookies and drinking bottled lemonade, getting their minds right for the all-night vigil. Eight o'clock comes and passes and the evening shadows grow longer. Penske observes, for anyone who hadn't been watching team scorer Judy Stropus' scoreboard, that Donohue is now in second place, 129 seconds behind the Rodriguez-Jackie Oliver Porsche and 19 seconds ahead of the one driven by Elford and Gerhard Larrousse-"Just where we want to be." It looks like a long night, but one with a good promise of

Five laps later as he paces in front of the pit, Penske spots the blue Ferrari coasting slowly up the pit road. "He's in early . . . slowly . . . get out and give him a push."

Donohue has the door open as soon as the car stops. "The engine. I think it's seized." Out of the car, helmet off, his face lined with despair, he explains that, "It started to make a grinding, whistling... like it was chewing up a . . . (shrug)." Then he turns to the back of the pits without seeing anything and slowly shakes his head. "That's it."

What follows is systematic. The scorers continue to change the board every lap. The mechanics divide, one group to change all of the tires and brake pads so that those tasks will not remain when the car returns to the race; the others to minister to the engine. But it is no use. Donohue was right.

Within the hour Le Mans' official bulletin carries this epitaph. "À 20 H 16, la voiture 11 pilotée par DONOHUE abandonne: moteur bloqué.

For the Penske team, Le Mans ends as it started—in French.

24-Hours of LeMans 8.35-mile road circuit

8.35-mile road circuit											
	H. Marko/G. van Lennep R. Attwood/H. Muller	Porsche 917 Porsche 917	3314 miles (record) 3298 miles								
	S. Posey/T. Adamonicz	Ferrari 512M	3058 miles								
	C, Craft/D, Weir	Ferrari 512M	2962 miles								
	L. Chinetti Jr./R. Grossman R. Tourout/Anselme	Forsche 911S	2621 miles 2554 miles (1st GT)								
	W. Brun/P. Mattli	Porsche 907	2554 miles								
	R. Mazzia/J. Barth	Porsche 911EC	2533 miles								
	J. Mesanga/Godetiem	Pursche 911S	2490 miles								
ĦQ,	N. Koob/E. Kremer	Porsche 911S	2438 miles								

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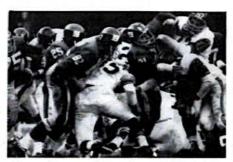
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CAR and DRIVER

(Continued from page 42)

road block of red tape recently thrown up by the Division of Motor Vehicle Pollution Control of the National Air Pollution Control Administration of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

"The whole thing is unreal. I can't believe it. All we are trying to do is put a simple turbocharger unit on a Vega-and we know the emissions are reduced with the unit, that the car runs cleaner with the turbocharger than without, but I've run smack into the government because I want to change the induction system and that causes all kinds of problems according to the law. And when you deal with the government, you get into things like this."

He shuffles through a pile of papers on his desk, roots out a single sheet and passes it over for examination. It is titled: Subject: Amendment No. 2 to Solicitation RFP #EHSD 71 Neg. 32." It begins: "Attachment A-Instructions to offerors, page 5, paragraph b, (5) is deleted in its entirety and the following substituted therefor: Firm engineering, and other production costs for fabrication and delivery of the ten (10) demonstration models in Phase II may be submitted for government consideration. This would facilitate negotiation of a firm option for Phase II along with Phase I at time of Phase I lease cost negotiations."

"Can you believe that?" says Yenko, his eves glinting. "What in God's name are they trying to say? . . . And you know what? I've got a ton of stuff just like it and I defy anybody to tell me what in the hell they are talking about. It's a nightmare."

Don Yenko wants to sell a sporty version of the Vega, instead he is getting a reading lesson in Newspeak while an anonvmous clerk in an unheard sub-strata of an obscure government agency mulls over his proposal. Yenko has worked out a simple, ingenious turbocharger system that adds a startling boost in performance to his carcalled a "Stinger," the same name as his successful custom model of the old Corvair a few years ago. However the 1970 Clean Air Act clearly states that no manufacturer, dealer or parts seller can modify the fuel intake or exhaust system of any automobile sold in the United States without first receiving full certification that it conforms with government exhaust emission standards. But it is hardly a matter of merely bolting on the new gear and getting a clearance from the government. Someone, somewhere, has decided that each new powerplant introduced in the U.S. must undergo a 50,000-mile durability test before receiving clearance. Because Yenko's Stinger has a modified induction-exhaust system, he has been told by the Environmental Protection Agency that he must complete the 50,000-mile durability test before his Turbo-Stinger can be sold.

"Fifty-thousand goddamn miles. Do you

realize how long that will take? According to the government requirements that I average about 32 miles an hour, the whole thing will take me three months if I start right now." Yenko slides down in his chair, looking as if he'd been shot. Across the room, Donna Mae's dual conversation mixes with the music. "I've tried to tell those guys that the turbocharger doesn't make any difference with emissions-in fact, it is maybe 2% cleaner—but they just shake their heads and tell me to run the 50,000 miles. I've even told them that the way the turbocharger only activates at high engine speeds, it is theoretically possible to run the entire 50,000 miles without operating the turbo at all. That means I might as well run a stock Vega, except that Chevrolet has already done that.

"At first they wanted me to run the test

on public roads around Canonsburg, but I tried to tell them that it might be unsafe, what with my test car out there starting and stopping according to the rules of the test cycle, and what with driver fatigue and everything. Finally they said I could do it on a closed course, but we just don't have a satisfactory test track or proving ground in the area, so you know what they are going to let me do? Big concession. Are you ready for this? We are going to run our 50,000 mile test at Heidelberg Speedway near Pittsburgh. Now in case you haven't heard, Heidleberg is a half-mile, paved oval track, And that means we've got to run that goddamn Vega around the Heidelberg Speedway 100,000 times to meet the government requirements. One hundred thousand laps around the Heidelberg Speedway! Jesus Christ, it's a nightmare. I can't believe it. Donna Mae, get off those goddamn phones and get me a coffee!"

It could be midnight inside Buddie's. Actually it is barely past noon, and the vinyl and plastic saloon is empty save for a few well-dressed Pittsburgh business types slugging away on Beefeater martinis and Yenko, who is propped loosely in a back booth idly sipping a Molsons Ale. "A lot of people think Donna Mae and me have a thing going. That's crap. I'm a happily married man with kids and Donna Mae and me are strictly business. I've known her for a long time-way back in the Fifties when we both got started in racing-

and frankly I don't know how I'd get along without her. You might get the impression she's kind of a ding-dong, but the more you're around her, the more you know that dumb blonde bit covers up a really quick mind. Like a few years ago she decided she needed to know shorthand. She borrowed a textbook and learned how in three months. Try that sometime when you're feeling clever."

We sat there in the gloom talking about Donna Mae Mims, musing how all those weekend macho-seekers in their Sprites must have blown their brains when she beat them out of the SCCA National Championship in 1963. Imagine yourself, a guy out there in Class H Production amateur sports car racing, a trifle insecure in your toy racer at best, being wiped out, whipped soundly, by a funky broad driving a pink Bugeye Sprite! Talk about emasculation! There ought to be some kind of law preventing funky broads in pink race cars from beating insecure macho-seekers at their own game. There's frozen Gloria Steinem mumbling about equality, taking herself so goddamn seriously that she's transcended boredom, and here's your very own "Pink Lady" out there hitting those guys right in the crotch with her Bugeve Sprite. Too much!

Here comes Donna Mae, bopping through the dimness, pulsing down the long bar toward the booth in a pink peasant dress, pink beads, pink watchband, pink bow lashed to the back of her platinum head and her "Win with Jesus" button tacked to her bodice. Behind her is a Pittsburgh newspaper reporter, who's doing a story on her for the Sunday feature magazine. He is lean, youngish, with sliteyes and an Evil King John beard. He is wearing a crypto-safari jacket with leather epaulets and he immediately makes it clear that he has been everywhere and done everything; screwed every broad, shot every rapids, fought every fight, traveled every road worth traveling. Just like his idol, Ernest Hemingway. Ernest Hemingway, for God's sake! Yenko is lounging there, sipping Molsons and you can see him eveballing this guy and you know he is thinking, "Sure, Buster, you are a very heavy talker, but you better thank your stars that you and ol' Papa never got on a race track with a lady in a pink Sprite!"

Yenko tires of the chatter and moves to a nearby piano, one of those Errol Garner jobs with a lavender tinted mirror facing the keyboard. "Don is a great jazz pianist," says Donna Mae, interrupting the re-(Continued on page 86)

CAR and DRIVER



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(Continued from page 84)

porter in the middle of this story in which he's judo-cutting his way out of a Calcutta opium den. "He's really good. He sits in with all the best groups in town and really has a lot of respect in the music business."

Yenko is bent over the piano, his back arched like he's about to fall face forward into the keys and his hair is hanging over his nose and he's pumping his way through a very cool version of "Take the A-Train." A bean-pole guy is strumming a bass beside him and a few of the Beefeater sluggers turn to watch and listen. "The jazz guys say there are three kinds of musicians," says Donna Mae, "Drivers, followers and laggards. The drivers are always leading the way, sometimes by half-a-beat, while the others just sort of follow along. Don's a driver, he always has been. He's always pushing, always slightly ahead of the beat. It's natural for him. He's like an open nerve. He does everything hard, even picking up the telephone. Me, I don't know a thing about music, but they sometimes let me play that thing, what do they call it? Oh ves, the tambourine. But I can never keep the beat. Wheee!"

Yenko is playing the piano harder now and people are coming in and sitting down at the booth and a skinny waitress with a thick, black, shoulder-length wig is busy spreading Molsons around the table until there are green bottles everywhere. Donna Mae is chattering away, doing some kind of a Zazu Pitts impersonation and the reporter is trying to tell somebody about how he used to be a gun runner in British Guiana. But nobody is listening and finally Yenko quits playing and shuffles back to the table.

"Music is good for the soul" he says idly. "But this thing with the government still bugs me. I can't get it out of my mind. You know, if I run that test the way the Environmental Protection Agency wants, it will cost me \$40,000. Hell, for that money there's no sense in building the Turbo-Stinger. I'd never get my money back in a million years. Maybe I ought to fly up there to Detroit and see those guys once more. You know, talk to them, sort of face to face. They're good guys, not really bad-except none of them will admit who's in charge, which seems kind of strange. Yeah, tomorrow we'll get in my Twin Bonanza and fly up to Detroit and see those government guys."

The skinny waitress gives us a check . . . \$56. Fifty-six bucks of Molsons Ale consumed while sitting around listening to Don Yenko play jazz music on the piano and Donna Mae Mims do a Zazu Pitts imi-

tation and this macho-seeker reporter talk about gun-running in British Guiana or Chad or wherever the hell it was. Everyone reels out of Buddie's perpetual plastic murk and into the sunlight. There is the flaming vermilion 454 Corvette with enough parking tickets stuck in the wipers so that it looks like the windshield has sprouted a beard. "Don't worry, I can handle that," announces the reporter, sweeping the batch of paper off the windshield and into the pocket of his Esquire classified section jacket. He disappears into the Pittsburgh sidewalk traffic, reeling slightly. Yenko is standing there, hunched over, his hair in his eyes and he wonders out loud, speaking to no one in particular, "I wonder if Ernest Hemingway would have had the balls to fix a parking ticket?"

TIT

Yenko is in the burnt sienna sludge-cloud that hangs over the poisonous industrial ruins known as Akron and Cleveland. The sun is shining, the atmosphere is clear, but Yenko is flying on instruments, probing his way through the awesome effluvia from the countless rubber, steel and chemical plants that line the southern shore of Lake Erie. "They are making me go through all this nonsense to certify my cars—something we know is clean—and they let the industries do this to the atmosphere," he says, gesturing in the murk.

"I just won't fly in this area on anything but instruments. What with the rotten visibility and the heavy air traffic, you'd be nuts to fly VFR. Flying used to be a big lark, but now it's serious business. You can't afford to fool around. I took my first lesson on my sixteenth birthday and I've been doing it ever since. When I was young I wised around a lot, like taking a chick up and cutting the engine. I'd yell back, 'Quick, this is our last moment together!' Then one day I took up an old crate with a Franklin engine. It wouldn't re-start and I had to land in a cornfield. The chick thought I was a hero, but man, I was scared to death.

"I don't monkey around like that anymore. I like to fly to races, and use my plane for business like this and sometimes, when I've got to get away from things I go out and practice instrument landings just to relax."

Yenko is immersed in his flying, checking charts, snapping his radio gear to different frequencies, fine-tuning his throttle settings. He is attacking the air, not just flying through it. "You know, if I was just going to be an automobile dealer for the rest of my life I'd go nuts. Who the hell

could face the prospect of that kind of boredom? That's why this Stinger thing means so much to me; it's my chance to inject some of my own thinking into automobiles, to make my own personal statement about cars. If we can just get this thing cleared with the government, we can introduce an entire line of high-performance parts for the Vega. In fact, Donna Mae has the whole thing worked out; prices, inventory, suppliers, the whole thing . . . but the cornerstone of the deal is the turbocharger. And according to the law, I, as a dealer, cannot sell a turbocharger, either installed on a car or as a kit, until it has passed this 50,000-mile test. It's got me nuts."

The Division of Motor Vehicle Pollution Control of the Environmental Protection Agency is housed in the immense brick cavern that was once Willow Run Airport-Detroit's principal air terminal until operations were moved to Metro. It is vacant now, the giant main gallery empty except for a few dusty ticket booths and a seedy row of benches. Willow Run was built by the government in World War Two for Ford to manufacture B-24 heavy bombers, and was later leased to the University of Michigan for 99 years at one dollar per year. Today it is unused, save for a few small agencies like the EPA, which rent space from the University.

Yenko lands his custom twin-engine Bonanza (a rare California-built plane called a Super Vee that invariably fascinates airport personnel wherever it lands) and taxis directly to the entrance of the EPA. He is met by a trio of officials, all looking haggard and disheveled. It is part of the Civil Service syndrome—as it is for male school teachers-to look disheveled at all times. There they are, in their wrinkled Robert Hall summer weight sport coats and their snap-on ties and their scuffed wingtips, all silently testifying, "I would dress more elegantly if I wasn't so selflessly devoting my life to public service." Three GS-12s, or whatever, escorting Yenko to lunch, all wrapped up in that Civil Servant hair-shirt martyr syndrome, and you wonder why they do it. Why? Because here are these three guys and they can make Yenko do handstands if they want. But even better, these three guys and their other eight associates who make up their particular unit assigned to certifying cars for sale in the United States, can make General Motors and Ford do handstands as well. Cartwheels, sit-ups, back-flips, you name it, and these three guys in the rumpled Sta-

(Continued)
CAR and DRIVER

(Continued)

Prest, miracle fiber, wash-'n-wear outfits can make the biggest corporations in the world do handstands right in their cramped little hole-in-the-wall facility hidden in a corner of a deserted airport. Now do you know why they do it?

IV

Yenko and the Civil Servants are sitting in a restaurant having lunch. Yenko is drinking a Coke, because he plans to fly again later in the day. The leader of the Civil Servants has told the waitress, "I'll have my usual," and she has brought him a 12-ounce double-Old Fashioned glass filled with a rocks martini. A quadruple martini for lunch! He sips it with relish and reflects on the difficulty of his work. "There are inconsistencies, I'll grant you, but our job is to enforce the law. We have very little latitude in that area." So here is the Great Cone phenomenon of government. Down there in Washington, at the mouth of the Cone, are thousands of congressmen, political appointees, civil servants, volunteers and professional administrators, all posturing around in behalf of cleaning up automotive air pollution. But down at the other end-the place from which everything emanates, policies, details, memos, key decisions, regulations, are 11 guys in Robert Hall suits, who are at the bottom of it all, control everything that the United States is doing about automotive air pollution.

Yenko is quietly desperate. He tries patiently to explain his points; that his engine is certifiably clean with the turbocharger, that he can run the entire 50,000-mile test without activating the turbocharger. He therefore cannot understand what the test will prove. "Listen, if I thought this unit was going to be unclean, I wouldn't hesitate to run the full cycle, but we know the turbo is clean. I just can't afford the full test and still market the car. You know, we talk about competition, but stuff like this makes it almost impossible for little guys like me to compete."

A Civil Servant reflects: "Yes, we are driving the automobile industry to the wall, while the real offenders are the factories. But we have little choice. We are actually engineers acting as cops."

Yenko: "Can I sell the turbocharger separately and let my dealers or my customers install it?"

CS: "We will have to get more information to answer that. If that is not enough, we may have to consult legal council."

Yenko: "Is there such a thing as provisional certification?"

CS: "No, but we have a 'conditional' certification."
SEPTEMBER 1971

Yenko: "What?"

2nd CS: "Actually they are the same thing; conditional and provisional. You can use the two words interchangeably on occasion, but they essentially mean the same thing."

Yenko is dazed now, groping through a semantic thicket that would strangle Norman Mailer. He tries another approach, dipping into his briefcase to extract an old issue of Car Craft magazine. He flips to a story concerning an elaborate new line of high-performance parts being made available by one of the Big Three: custom pistons, connecting rods, and wild intake manifolds that theoretically alter the certified induction systems of their engines. "If there is question about me marketing my turbo as a bolt-on accessory, how can they sell this stuff?" Yenko asks.

One of the CSs looks at the story in Car Craft. "Hmmm, what issue is that in?" he asks.

"March," replies Yenko.

"Hmmm, we didn't happen to see that. We just couldn't make a ruling on that at the present time."

"Look, if I could just get a clear understanding of why I have to run this test, then I'd feel better about it," says Yenko.

"It clearly states in the law . . ."

"Yeah, I know, but I think my case involves certain exceptions. Couldn't we do some kind of simulation . . . maybe if I ran a full-throttle test for 5000 miles, using the turbo all the time. That would place a bigger demand on the unit than 50,000 miles of cruising."

"We've tried all sorts of simulations, but we have no way of duplicating the results that you get from 50,000 miles of actual tests," says a CS.

Amazing! Technology can run countless simulations of travel to, even on, the moon—the most complicated and abstract project in applied physics known to man, and these guys cannot figure out how to duplicate 50,000 miles of routine driving.

Yenko is slogging out of the building now, heading toward the Super Vee and 100,000 laps around the Heidelberg Speedway. A thunderstorm is building in the west as he scrambles in the cockpit. He turns to one of the CSs who is standing at the edge of the wing and asks, "Is there any final recourse I have before I start the test?"

The CS smiles and says lightly, "Well, I suppose you could write your Congressman."

Don Yenko, you are cleared for takeoff.

Destination: Heidelberg Speedway.

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perpetuate any national traditions. All of the gauges, which on the TC include a speedometer, tachometer, fuel level and water temperature, are grouped into three dials and face the driver from a pod directly behind the wheel. Small controls take the form of switches mounted lower on the panel or stalks on the steering column.

But of all the Marina's driver equipment, perhaps the most successful is the seat belt. Like most others, it's a lap/ shoulder arrangement using a single strap, but instead of simply buckling with a sliding metal tang at the juncture of the lap and shoulder sections, the tang has been replaced by a tail approximately a foot long, the end of which slips into a catch on the tunnel. The shoulder end of the strap feeds out of an inertia reel which locks up only when the car is decellerating at a rate above that of normal traffic. It's the most convenient and comfortable 3-point belt we've found.

While we are pronouncing things convenient, the coupe body itself shouldn't be overlooked. Forget any hardships that you usually associate with coupes. The Marina's roofline extends horizontally rearward far enough before it breaks into its fastback so there is adequate headroom in the back seat for six-foot tall adults. Considering the size of the car, rear leg room is also satisfactory-perhaps even generous.

But will all of this be enough to make the Marina a hit with the car buying public, particularly in the world market? That's what the English workman wants to know when he's trying to decide if next year's standard of living will permit him an extra pint on Sunday morning. To find out the American reaction he will have to wait until early in 1972 when British Leyland begins exporting Marinas to the U.S. Current plans call for it to replace the Austin America at that time. This is contrary to the marketing scheme at home, however, where the Marina is merely an additional model in British Leyland's wide array.

Unfortunately for those who are attracted to the Marina's Super Coupe possibilities, probably only the single carburetor 1800 will set wheel on our highways. Still that is only a tentative marketing decision and you can be sure that if British Leyland even suspected an extra carburetor on the Marina would help the company regain its long lost pre-eminence in the U.S. import market, the other S.U. would be on there in a minute. It's not that a manufacturer never gets a second chance in the car business. It's just that, for British Leyland, this is the second chance.

GRAN TORINO SPORT

(Continued from page 40)

actually improved. The name "competition suspension" may be a bit of an overstatement, however it is not the rock-hard, teeth-rattling type of suspension that came with the last years' Mach I Mustangs but simply a competent over-the-road system that transforms the car from a puffy turnpike cruiser into a car that is vastly more secure in a variety of situations. Buy it.

With the new Torino, Ford has become the first major American manufacturer to make front disc brakes standard on an intermediate. The brakes themselves are of a new cast, rotor/hub design with simpler floating calipers. We had the opportunity to drive one Torino without power assist and, while pedal effort was less than we expected to stop this 3966-lb. car, it is far from effort-free and power assisted brakes should be considered a mandatory option.

On the two versions of the GTS we drove we found wide disparity in the brakes' performance-hopefully because the cars were styling and suspension prototypes cobbled together out of parts that were either brand new or had over 50,000 miles on them. On the car with standard suspension the right front wheel locked up in panic stop situations from 80 mph, sending it into a violent slewing motion. On the car equipped with the competition suspension, the rears locked up early, accompanied by violent rear axle judder. One fault discovered in both cars was that it was impossible to sense and modulate brake pedal pressure quickly enough to maintain straight line control.

The new performance engine for the Torino, the 351 CJ with 4-bbl. carburetor, is cautiously rated at 280 hp at 5800 rpm with maximum torque being 345 lbs.-ft. at 3800 rpm. Essentially it is a low-compression, hydraulic lifter version of the 351 "Cleveland" with 4-bolt main bearing caps and large oval intake and exhaust ports. The intake manifold has been redesigned to center the intake ports of the 750 cubicfeet-per-minute Motorcraft 4300D 4-bbl. carburetor, and a ram-air option will be available. Despite the fact that it is a hydraulic lifter engine, the 351 CJ feels best performing in its upper rpm range. At low speeds our test car with its 3.50-to-one rear axle would stumble and cough under hard acceleration and was generally loggy up to 3500 rpm. We also found that in hard cornering situations-particularly left-hand corners-the gas sloshing in the carburetor float chamber starved the engine, causing it to cut in and out.

Inside, the new Torino turns out to be more roomy and comfortable than its

predecessor. The GTS we tested was equipped with the "performance instrument cluster"-which indicates a complete arsenal of gauges deep set in a matte black panel. Directly behind the steering wheel are three large circular pods for clock, speedometer and tach, while off to the right is a series of five smaller housings for fuel level, water temperature, electrical system, etc. The gauges are easily readable white on black, however the instruments have been mounted flush with deep-set canted tubes aimed at a single point within the car. If you are lucky this point will be where your eyes are located, if you aren't so lucky, and drive with the seat pushed further back than the point of convergence, you'll find that the inset results in a portion of the instruments being blocked from your view.

There is no such problem with controls. No matter what your dimensions are or how you choose to position yourself behind the wheel, all hand operated controls are accessible and the foot pedals are properly positioned with enough space between to make them convenient. The optional semi-bucket seats now come with cloth inserts which prevent the insecure subtle sliding that all vinyl seats give. In addition, the wide seat cushions provide good sideto-side restraint as well-although we would prefer to see equally good fore and aft restraints built in too.

There are no vent windows on the 1972 Torino which helps make all around visibility above average-even the thick rear greenhouse pillars are angled so as not to take much of a bite out of rear visibility. Flow-through ventilation is standard on all

Obviously Ford's 1972 Torino is anything but a casual exercise in engineering or a tentative marketing probe. It offers every major hardware and marketing feature that is available in this market right now and should appeal to a wide variety of customers. Ford's corporate opinion is that the intermediate market, although depressed recently, still is going to be Detroit's major market. They figure that the ecological/economic trends that are now becoming established are eventually going to adversely affect the standard-sedan market but that for all-around practicality, middle-and-upper-class Americans are not going to be satisfied with the current breed of small cars or-and here's where it gets sticky-even with the compacts. Ford is calling the bet with its new Torino and there's an army of kibbitzers standing over its shoulder to see what cards the market

CAR and DRIVER

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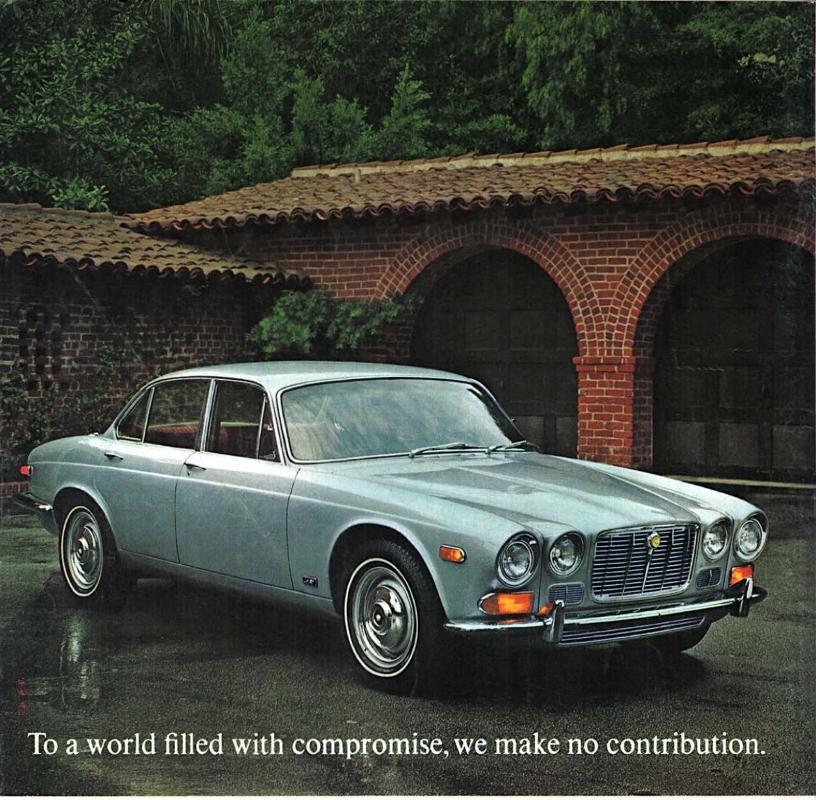
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