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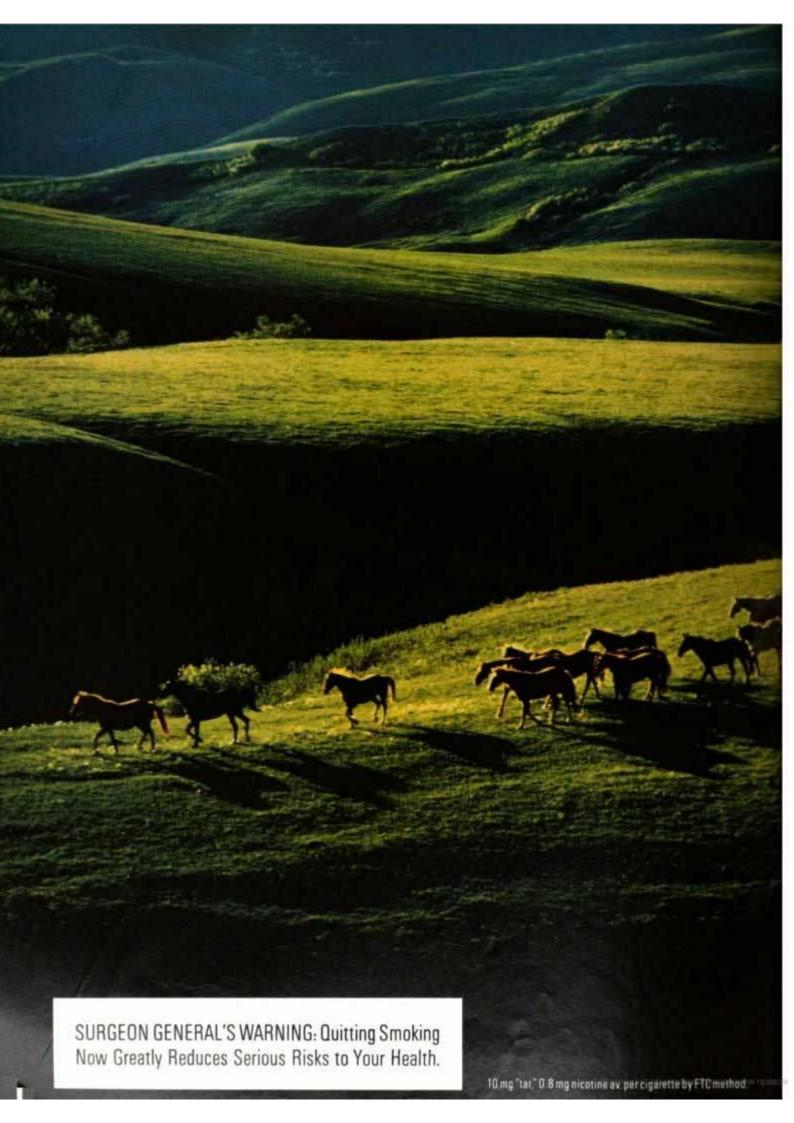
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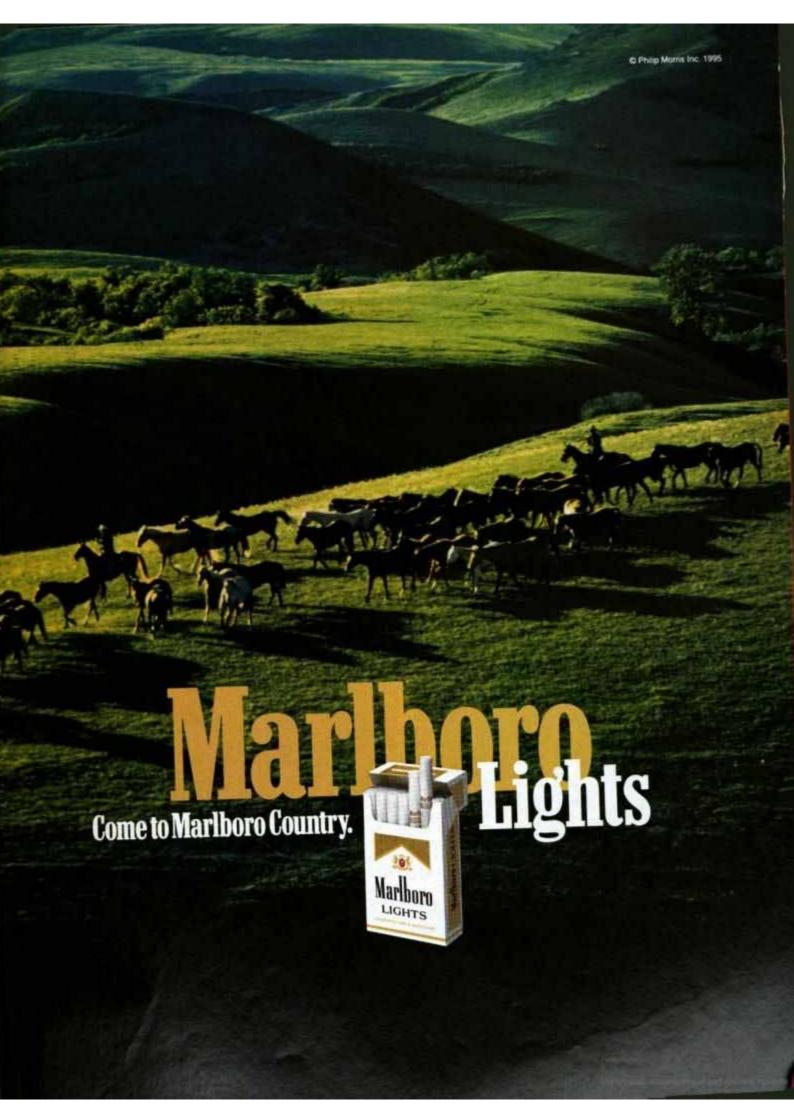
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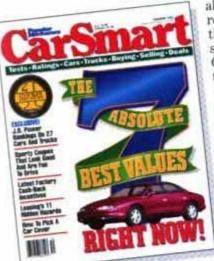


EDITOR'S NOTES

 There's something very romantic about the idea of piloting your own plane to some remote, otherwise inaccessible area in the bush and putting down on water. The setting sun is golden as you come in on final. The deep green pine along the shoreline turns purple as the water comes up to meet the pontoons. You're down, Perfect landing, Tomorrow promises three days of fantastic muskie fishing on this crystalclear virgin lake. Wow. What an image. And it can be your reality if you'll only take the time to build your own amphibious plane. That's not so far out. Kits are better-and cheaper-than ever, thanks to more competition in the marketplace. Materials are much higher in quality than they were a few years ago. The parts go together more easily and



less work is required to complete your dream. If it all sounds too good to be true, don't forget the several hundred hours of your labor that will be required. That and the purchase price of the kit. For the full story, check out Contributor Bill Garvey's cover story beginning on page 58. . . . It's Indy 500 time again. The Indycars have been screaming around the Brickyard all month in preparation for the 500 over Memorial Day weekend. Our annual look at what's new and who's driving it is in this issue. And can I help it if I had to spend consider-



able time at the track assisting in gathering the research that went into this report? Hey, I love this place! ... I hope you'll be looking for the second issue of our new sister publication, CARSMART, which goes on sale just about the time you're reading this. CARSMART is a truly different approach to a car magazine. There's no technoid jargon, no puff pieces on how to lust after a Lamborghini-just solid information about which cars are good, how to get a great deal and how to save money on car ownership. Look for it on your newsstand now and let me know what you think ... Speaking of cars, you still have time to enter our Save The Wagons contest (in PM, page 74, Feb. '95) and win a brand-new 1995 Buick Roadmaster Estate wagon. All the details and rules are in the February issue.... Beware the doom virus about to strike your PC.

Joe Oldham

It's ugly, it's nasty and it's about to mess up your files. Stamp it dead on page 51.... Ever wonder what happens to this magazine once you finish reading it and heave it into the recycling bin? Find out on page 68.... Hey buddy, drop another nickel into the jukebox and punch up A12, "The Wanderer" by Dion. Ah, memories. Relive more of them in our American Classics feature beginning on page 74. Till next time.



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Home Improvement

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Electronic Production

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Editorial Administration

Administrative Asst. Josephine Caronia Asst. to Editor-In-Chief Barbara A. Novak

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Editorial Offices

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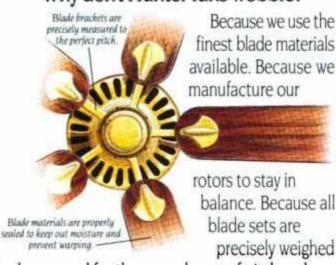
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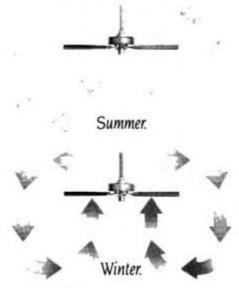
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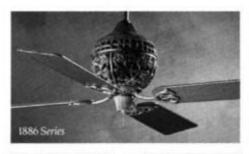
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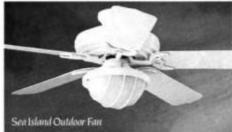














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LETTERS

Sky Giants



While reading "Titans Of Transport," I was struck by the fact that the current trend toward giant transport aircraft is a vindication of Howard Hughes and his Hercules flying boat of almost a half-century ago. His "Spruce Goose" (a moniker he detested) was scoffed at, but the craft proved to be ahead of its time. It's a shame that instead of being kept in flying condition, and fully flight tested to see what we could learn from this craft, the plane now serves as an oddity to be gawked at by tourists. ALLEN K. SMITH NEW ORLEANS, LA

It's a shame that none of those designers ever heard of a guy named Bernelli. His designs were the ultimate in lifting power, using the body of the plane as well as the wings to provide lift. Too bad F.D.R. disliked Bernelli, and also Jack Northrup—there's just no telling where we'd be today in aircraft design.

WILLIS W. DONOVAN TITUSVILLE, FL

UFRs (Unidentified Flying Readers) II

At the risk of seeming to be a member of some kooky

Letters are subject to editing for length, style and format. flying-saucer club (of which I am not), I think that a serious study must be made of unusual objects seen in the skies over our Earth. And it must be made a top priority by the federal government, the private sector, the scientific community and even by religious leaders. Yes, many sightings of strange aircraft today probably are due to our government's testing of futuristic vehicles. But let's face it. This has been going on since time began-in ancient Rome, during the Middle Ages, in late 19thcentury America, etc. We are not alone.

> MARTIN A. DEPASQUALE OZONE PARK, NY

I was fascinated by the flying-saucer article and quite pleased with the inclusion of the merits of the brainchild of Charles H. Zimmerman, the V-173/XF5U-1. I suspect that if the XF5U-1 had been allowed to fulfill its promise of vertical takeoff and blistering top speed almost a half-century ago, the expensive and controversial V-22 might never have been. As a longtime student of the teachings of Mr. Zimmerman, I found an amazing relationship between the XF5U-1 and the VTO XV-15 prototype of the V-22 Osprey. They both weighed about 15,000 pounds. The XV-15 had the advantage of a light, powerful turbine enginesomething Zimmerman predicted. At about the time the XF5U-1 was scrapped, Zimmerman designed what he called the Flying Wing Helicopter. Access to today's technology would allow the VTO capabilities of his designs to be proven.

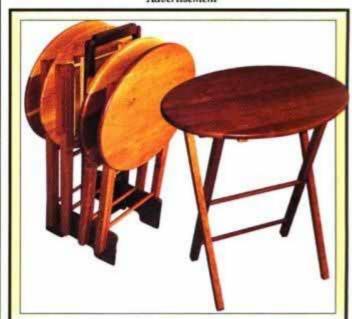
DICK JOHNSON DALLAS, TX Sometime during the late '40s or early '50s, a letter-writer claimed to have been a guard at a top-secret Air Force base in a place called Rainbow, Antarctica. He said anyone caught in his area without a pink pass was shot. He also said the Air Force was developing flying-saucer aircraft at that location. Just thought I'd add a piece to thicken the pile.

KEVIN P. MURPHY CHICAGO, IL By the way, Roswell is a nice town of about 40,000 people, and it's an interesting place to visit.

> CLIFFORD MORGAN PHOENIX, AZ

The fact is, the article's author, Abe Dane, didn't do his homework. He asked no questions, and offers no answers—not even as to why there are so many sightings. This article was nothing more than an ego exercise for Dane and an oc-

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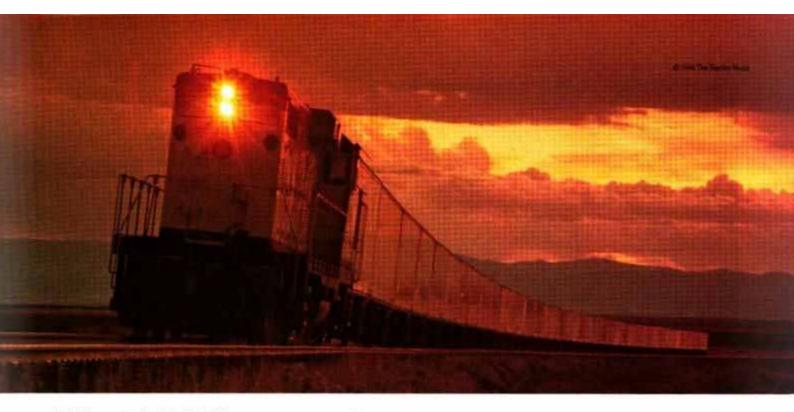


STANLEY Reader Project Of The Month

When I looked at your plans for the folding tables in the January 1991 issue, I was immediately impressed. I decided to build the tables in my woodworking class at Pomona High School. Instead of mahogany, I used cherry for the trays and walnut for the stand. I also replaced your metal restrainer strips with wood to improve the appearance, and installed wood leg guides to enhance the stability. I then used Roto-Hinges to help the legs fold.

EVAN COULTER ARVADA, CO

If your project is chosen as Reader Project of the Month, you will receive a Stanley Home Improvement Kit, complete with hand and decorating tools, and an electric stapler/nailer, valued at more than \$200. For your project to be considered, please send a clear, color photo and brief description to: Reader Project of the Month, Popular Mechanics, 224 W. 57th Street, New York, NY 10019.



If a 5,000 ton train can stay on its track, how come your closet door can't?

Right now, hundreds of trains are speeding across the country. Wheels holding firmly to their tracks. While at the same time, simple closet doors are falling off theirs. Ridiculous.

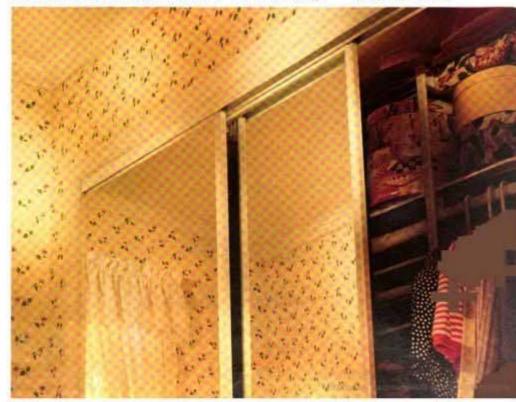
Enter the Stanley Accent Mirror Door. Designed with an anti-jump track to prevent slipping. Plus wheels that actually roll without jamming (What a concept). In short, this closet door actually stays put. And when you consider it's been opened and closed over 100,000 times in our testing facility (equivalent to 28 years of use), you can bet it's going to be around to see quite a number of fashion crises in your home.

Because at Stanley, our approach to building products has always been rather simple. We're not going to make something unless we make it better than anyone else. Now if that makes us sound demanding, so be it. Because that's exactly what we are.

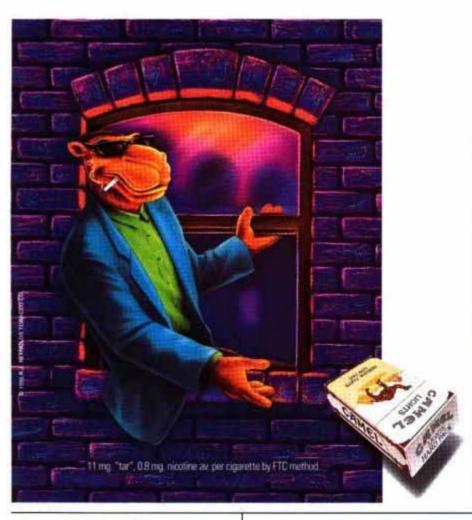
Here at Stanley, research always comes before design. Engineering always comes before aesthetics. Testing always comes before sales.

In our humble opinion, that's the only way there is to create the kind of products we strive for. Like our screwdrivers with ergonomically molded grips for increased torque. And exterior doors that can stand up to hundreds of pounds of pressure.

At Stanley, our goal has always been perfection. You can see that determination in everything we do. After all, why settle for inferiority, when you can settle for superiority?



The Accent Matter Door from Stanley Designed with a special and jump track



know a man who has been contacted by government agents and asked what he knows about the dissection of alien bodies. SCOTT SMITH

HUNTINGTON BEACH, CA

So what did he know about it? And where did he learn it?

—Ed.

Wheel Of Fortune

I have been a reader of POPULAR ME-CHANICS since 1939. I can remember when you published honest-to-goodness home projects so anyone with a little mechanical ability could build them-and not spend a lot of money. I was browsing through a recent issue, and I came across a shop project for a garden cart. Marine mahogany plywood? Wheels costing \$119 per pair? Ridiculous! I built my garden cart for \$37 using inflatable wheelbarrow tires that ride over grass much more easily, and the cart can be towed behind my lawnmower. Wake up and get real. I built an 8-in, table saw from POPULAR MECHANICS' Plan Service in 1944, and I used it until 1962.

> ART RUTHERFORD CAMBRIDGE, IL

And you're complaining?

-Ed.

Freedom Fighters

The response to J.M. Mansen, of

LETTERS (Continued from page 12)

casion for him to wear fatigues and play spy for a night or two with Glenn Campbell, which POPULAR MECHANICS was paying for. Maybe PM should stick to having its authors cover stories like how to change a water pump on a '57 Chevy and leave the more cerebral pieces to those who are a little more qualified to handle them.

GENE HUFF LAS VEGAS, NV

Coming up in POPULAR ME-CHANICS: "How To Make A Lamp Out Of A Lawnmower" and "How To Make A Christmas Tree Out Of Used Beer Cans."

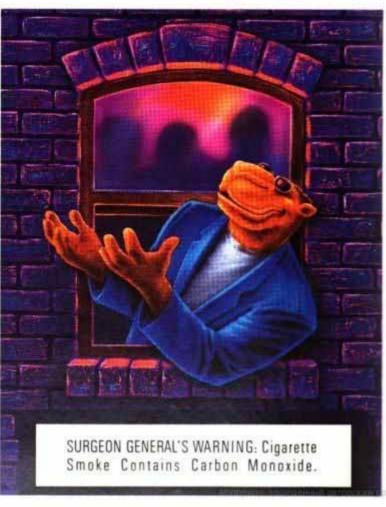
—Ed.

At 8:15 pm on April 22, 1983, on U.S. Route 8 in northern Wisconsin near Turtle Lake, was the last time I saw one. Unfortunately, no camera.

> DOM CEILKY EAST LAKELAND, FL

Abe Dane ought to refund his travel expenses for the trip to Area 51. And PM editors ought to be ashamed of themselves. JOHN G. LEYDEN DAVIDSONVILLE, MD

Your article was about what I would expect from the mainstream media. I



Austin, Texas, in your April issue was superb. "So much for the First and Second Amendments to the U.S. Constitution" pretty well nails it. It's right up there with the NRA's Wayne LaPierre's when he said: "It isn't about guns, it's about freedom." Finding a mainstream publication taking this kind of stance is refreshing and should be rewarded. Please send me the bill to renew my subscription for another year.

MICHAEL W. UGGEN ANCHORAGE, AK

Leaving aside the question of whether your reference to the First Amendment was relevant at all, your rather abrupt response to the writer of this letter was completely in error in relying upon the Second Amendment with reference to handguns. As its language indicates, the purpose of the Second Amendment was to ensure the existence of "(a) well-regulated Militia . . ." as "necessary to the security of a free State . . ." It applies to a "well regulated" group of citizens, under the control of its senior officers, constituting a militia under the law of the government and armed accordingly. It does not apply to the purchase of a handgun by an individual. This is the law, as established in the courts of the country. You should stick to your areas of expertise and stay out of the constitutional law business.

JOHN W. EMMERLING MILWAUKEE, WI

The U.S. Supreme Court has upheld many times an individual's right to own firearms.

—Ed.

I support your decision to allow gun advertisements and support you 100%. The last time I checked, we were living in a democratic society that allows free speech. If people don't like certain advertisements, they should skip over them. I don't smoke, but that doesn't mean I'm offended by cigarette ads. If these uneducated readers spent half their time learning the history of this nation instead of writing pointless letters about gun advertisements, maybe they would understand the positive contribution that guns have made. Yes, there have been abuses by some individuals. But you can't punish honest people for the actions of criminals. More people are killed by baseball bats than by assault weapons. Should we start banning batting cages and baseball bats? A gun is a tool, just like a hammer. Both have a purpose. Use them incorrectly and it's the user's fault, not the tool's.

> KARL SMITH (VIA INTERNET)

Copyrider

The article on the new Kawasaki Vulcan 800 was interesting. Besides being well detailed, it also proved that Harley-Davidson motorcycles are the best there is. Think about it. Why would other motorcycle companies so obviously imitate a design? Because it's the best. Kawasaki has copied Harley right down to the saddlebags and even the Harley-style single-pin crankshaft.

JAMES WALES GUNTERSVILLE, AL

Car Careless

Your "technical" writer did it again—deceived millions of your readers with opinion instead of fact. Regarding changing your engine oil within 500 miles of purchase, new-vehicle manufacturers state that the engine oil and oil filter need not be changed until the first noted interval. Changing any sooner is a waste of time, oil and money. To the existing myths of the "drystart" and "break-in," you can add the myth of the "break-in, early oil change." The establishment-controlled media has, for 40 years, been spreading mis/disinformation.

ANDREW'S ENGINES COATESVILLE, PA

Yes, and there's a conspiracy between auto manufacturers and oil companies to keep the 100-mpg carburetor off the market, too. —Ed.

Off T.A.R.G.E.T.

Jared Porter's letter states that every major city should have a T.A.R.G.E.T. Team equipped with night-vision cameras. Porter said that these night-vision cameras would help deter auto theft and drug dealing. I agree that the ability of the T.A.R.G.E.T. Team, with the help of the night-vision camera, will lower, if not control, the crime rate in the cities. But what about the basic right of a human being to his privacy? I really don't think the T.A.R.G.E.T. team with night-vision cameras will be able to do its job without disturbing the lives of ordinary citizens. Night-vision cameras will have to scan large areas to be effective. Lawabiding citizens who did not consent to being spied upon will be watched. Our forefathers gave us our rights as citizens of this country, and who has the right to change that? We, the youth of America, should hang onto the promises our forefathers made to future generations. Besides, there are many ways to control crime aside from the T.A.R.G.E.T. teams and their night-vision cameras.

DANNY FONG AMES, IA



TIME MACHINE

90 YEARS AGO: JUNE 1905



Hang Time

John Montgomery of Santa Clara College earned his 15 minutes of fame with a remarkable turn-of-the-century hang glider. Made of spruce, hickory and canvas, the aircraft had a 22-ft. wingspan. A balloon hoisted the 42-pound glider 4000 ft. into the air. Cut loose, it banked, swooped and dipped to a soft landing, the pilot controlling the four wings with guy wires. It was the closest man had come to achieving birdlike flight.

Steam Cleaner

While officials came to grips with the concept of sanitation, deadly contagious diseases continued to

gious diseases continued to stalk cities.

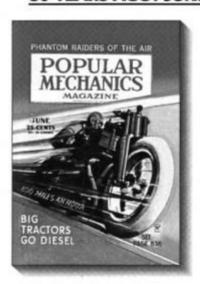
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Accordingly, the San Francisco Department of Public Health added a germ-killing vehicle to its fleet. The truck rolled up to disease-ridden houses, where bedding, clothes and other

items were loaded into a large cylinder. A vacuum then drew out all the air from the chamber while high-pressure steam was piped in. For infected silk and fine fabrics, formalin replaced the steam.

60 YEARS AGO: JUNE 1935



Hog Heaven

Land-speed records were set, challenged and shattered throughout the 1930s. But motorcyclists wanted some of the power and glory, too. So Fred Luther assembled a monster 1500-pound 2-wheeler, driven by a 6-cylinder Plymouth automotive engine. The motorcycle—dubbed Hybrid X—stretched 115 in. long. Built to blow past 300 mph, the bike featured an unusual braking system: a pair of steel pads that dragged along the ground.

Heavy Duty

Three years out on the market, the diesel engine was revving up industry. From the wheat fields of California to the logging slopes of the Cascades, tractors were taking advantage of the engine's tremendous fuel economy. Although the new powerplants came with big price tags, they worked hard enough to offset the extra cost.



30 YEARS AGO: JUNE 1965



Branch Offices

Treehouses climbed to new heights with a group of designs guaranteed to please sophisticated kids of the 1960s. Gone were the rickety, ramshackle perches of yesteryear. In their place, sleek A-frames and multigabled platforms offered high thrills without threatening spills. Since every treehouse is as unique as the tree it clings to, we provided a variety of rough attachment schemes. No trees? No problem. Our houses soared on stilts, too.

Green Machine

Guiding a missile up the tailpipe of a jet called for an expensive infrared detector, but two University of Wisconsin scientists invented one that even a farmer could afford. The \$30 radiometer. which measured infrared radiation from the Sun, was a big help in the pea patch, letting canneries predict harvests with

uncanny accuracy.



Материал, зашищенный авторским право

NRI's new training gives you the hands-on skills and the professional equipment you need to make good money in

NRI's new, expanded training in Auto-motive Servicing fully prepares you to step into a high-paying new career or a successful auto servicing business of your own. With NRI, you get state-of-the-art skills, professional test equipment, plus live-action instruction on videotape—all you need to earn good money even while you learn.

automotive servicing

There's no doubt about it: Automotive servicing is the kind of work you can take pride in. It's skilled work that commands good pay-as much as \$18,000 to \$50,000 a year according to the experts at the Automotive Service Association.

Plus recent breakthroughs in technology have propelled the automotive industry into the computer age. For you, that means more money-making opportunities than ever

Now NRI shows you how to cash in on today's opportunities in automotive servicing. With NRI, you train for the big money, getting both the skills and the equipment you need to service just about any car on the road today.

Right from the start, NRI gives you in-demand auto servicing skills

With NRI training, you quickly master all-important under-the-hood services-including troubleshooting and tuning typical engine problemsso you can start earning good money even while you learn.

Then NRI's newly expanded training goes on to show you how to service the latest advanced technology systems and devices showing up on today's newest, most popular vehicles:

- Computerized engine controls
 Antilock braking systems
- Fuel-injection systems
- · 4-wheel drive and 4-wheel steering
- Turbochargers, superchargers, and more!

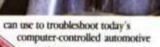


Step by step, you cover today's cars from bumper to bumper, getting all the servicing know-how you need to earn ASE (Automotive Service Excellence) certification, the true mark of a highly trained automotive professional.

Hands-on training includes professional auto servicing equipment you keep

NRI training goes far beyond the books to give you quality equipment you can rely on throughout your auto servicing career.

Equipment like the OTC Monitor 2000 electronic diagnostic tester and an automotive digital multimeter, precision instruments you



Plus you train with and keep an inductive timing light,

vacuum gauge, compression tester, and remote starter . . . professional tools from Pentron designed for years of dependable service. You can even choose the optional Autocraft Ignition Analyzer Oscilloscope to make quick work of tuning and diagnosing older and newer cars alike.

See other side for tips from Richard Petty plus highlights of NRI's new live-action video instruction

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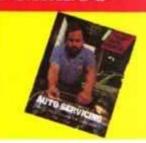
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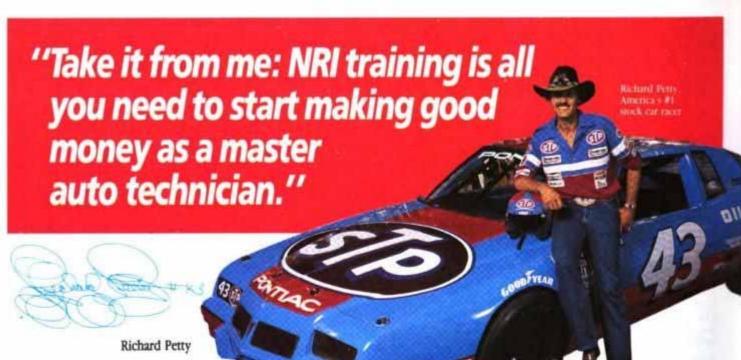
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cours

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Richard Petty, America's winningest stock car racer, knows cars inside and out. That's why NRI turned to #43 for his evaluation of NRI's Master Course in Automotive Servicing.

"My dad made mechanics out of all of us, long before he let us enter a race," Richard says, "but very few people have that kind of teacher. That's why I'm sure glad to see home training like the NRI program come along. This is the most upto-date, complete course in auto servicing I've ever seen.

"I looked over NRI's course from start to finish. So you can believe me when I say NRI gives you the best training in automotive servicing going. Check it out for yourself and you'll see what I mean."

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Find out more about NRI's newly expanded training that covers all the latest advances in automotive technology. See all the quality hands-on equipment you train with and keep. And learn more about NRI's exclusive new live-action video that adds a whole new dimension to your automotive training.

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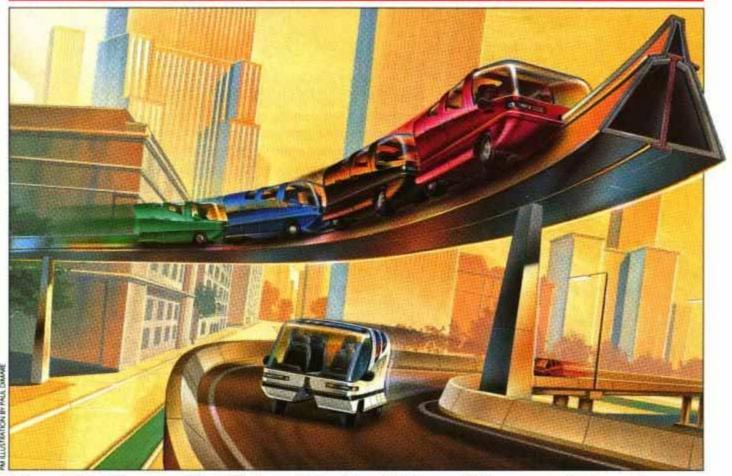


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TECH UPDAT

News Of Tomorrow's Technology Today



Rapid Transit Rides Rails, Then Roams Roads

RØDOVRE, DENMARK-There's your car. Then there's public transport. Few would argue that one can replace the other, even in the big city. But efficient as they are, subways and rail lines won't take you door to door. And cars, for all their convenience, clog urban arteries and cloud the air with their emissions.

Could one mode of transportation offer the best of both worlds? Danish inventor Palle R. Jensen thinks so. His proposed system, known as RUF, is an electric commuter vehicle, at home on rail and road alike.

On the streets, a RUF car could tap on-board batteries to travel for roughly 30 miles. This modest range should be enough to get the vehicle to an access ramp leading onto a network of monorails. At the ramp, the elevated rail dips to the ground so that vehicles can climb aboard.

Editor/Writer: Gregory T. Pope Reporters: Philip Chien, Jim Dunne, Mike Fillon, Kathleen Gleaves, Scott Gourley, Barry Rosenberg, Fenella Saunders, Bob Scheler, Herb Shuidiner, Andy Turnbull

A triangular slot in the belly of the car matches the cross section of the monorail. The slot houses four small support wheels and two drive wheels that press against the rail to scoot the vehicle along. Once on track, the car picks up power from the rail and returns it via regenerative braking. It enjoys unlimited range, speeds up to 125 mph and hands-off control.

Because the cars' front and rear ends fit together, multiple vehicles can platoon to form chains heading for a common destination. This serves RUF slot cars can gang into trains while on the monorall, or wander the streets alone, powered by on-board batteries.

to minimize air resistance.

For trips out of town, the car's slot can be plugged with a small diesel generator and a fuel tank.

Jensen points out several cost advantages. The rail is a standard I-beam cloaked with steel plates and concrete. And automakers could mass-produce the vehicles to RUF standards, for purchase by both the public and private sectors.

Highlights This Month

- Cyberbrew—Japan's virtual-reality beer makers.
- Happy Returns—Introducing the reusable X-34 rocket.
- Water Bearer—Radical hybrid sealifter concept.
- Shell Shocked—Army's electronic artillery zapper.
- MDTV—Telemedicine network to debut in Georgia.
- No Holds Barred—Bionics revive paralyzed hand.
- Rock Rollers—Robotic vehicles wheel through mine.

TECH UPDATE

Germs In The Oil Patch

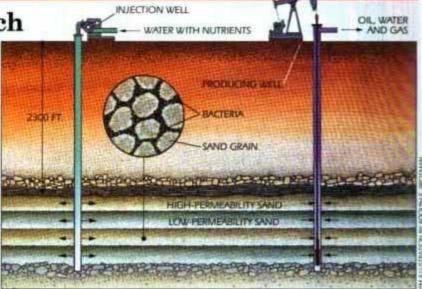
JACKSON, MI—Energy researchers hope invisible allies—bacteria—can help them recover oil from underground fields.

Producers have long injected water into oil reservoirs to push black gold toward wells. Once the water has swept through the most permeable layers of sand, however, it continues to flow through only those layers, leaving oil trapped in less penetrable regions.

Hughes Eastern Corp. is enlisting germs to change all that. By dosing water with plant fertilizer, engineers hope to stimulate the growth of bacteria that will plug the spaces between sand grains in the water-swept layers. Water can then be forced through unswept layers.

Workers have already added nutrients to water pumped into four oilwells near Vernon, Alabama. In about six to eight months, Hughes

Eastern expects to gain between 10% and 25% extra oil. This technique is cheaper than flooding a field with carbon dioxide or various polymers.



Fed nutrients, bacteria grow and divert water into low-permeability sand layers.



Sapporo's virtual brewery features 12 fixed and one mobile display to take visitors through the beer-making process.

Beer For The Head

TOKYO, JAPAN—Beer. Virtual reality. For some, the terms are synonymous. For others—visitors at Sapporo Beer's original brewery—virtual reality means actually becoming the beer.

Developed by Fakespace Inc. and Telepresence Research, the Sapporo installation sends visitors flying through the facility to experience brewing, fermentation,

filtering and bottling—all from the beer's perspective.

JUNE 1995

Peering through Fakespace BOOM displays, 13 viewers at a time are immersed at the molecular level of yeast, hops and other components. One viewer looks into a display mounted on a counterbalanced arm; the others watch fixed displays.

The virtual brewery accommodates 1000 visitors daily.

Warship Wheels

PANAMA CITY, FL—What more challenging environment for a robotic vehicle than the deck of a Navy ship? Space is tight, passages are steel-edged and the work toting live missiles—is hazardous.

But the Omni-Directional Ordnance Handler, recently tested at the Naval Surface Warfare Center, appears to pass muster. Developed by a Swedish inventor in the 1970s, the vehicle moves on four unconventional 18-in. wheels. Elliptical rollers, offset by 45°, encircle each wheel hub. A computer controls the rotation speed of each of the wheels in-

dependently to turn the vehicle precisely or to change its fore/aft orientation while moving.



Omnidirectional robot pirouettes on wheels ringed with canted, keg-shaped rollers.

Comanche Dodges A Bullet

STRATFORD, CT-While the first RAH-66 Comanche helicopter is well on its way to completion (see Tech Update, page 30, March '94), the overall program is not. At the moment, two prototypes and six early-production models will certainly be built, but the future armed-reconnaissance helicopter has been a constant target for budget cutters.

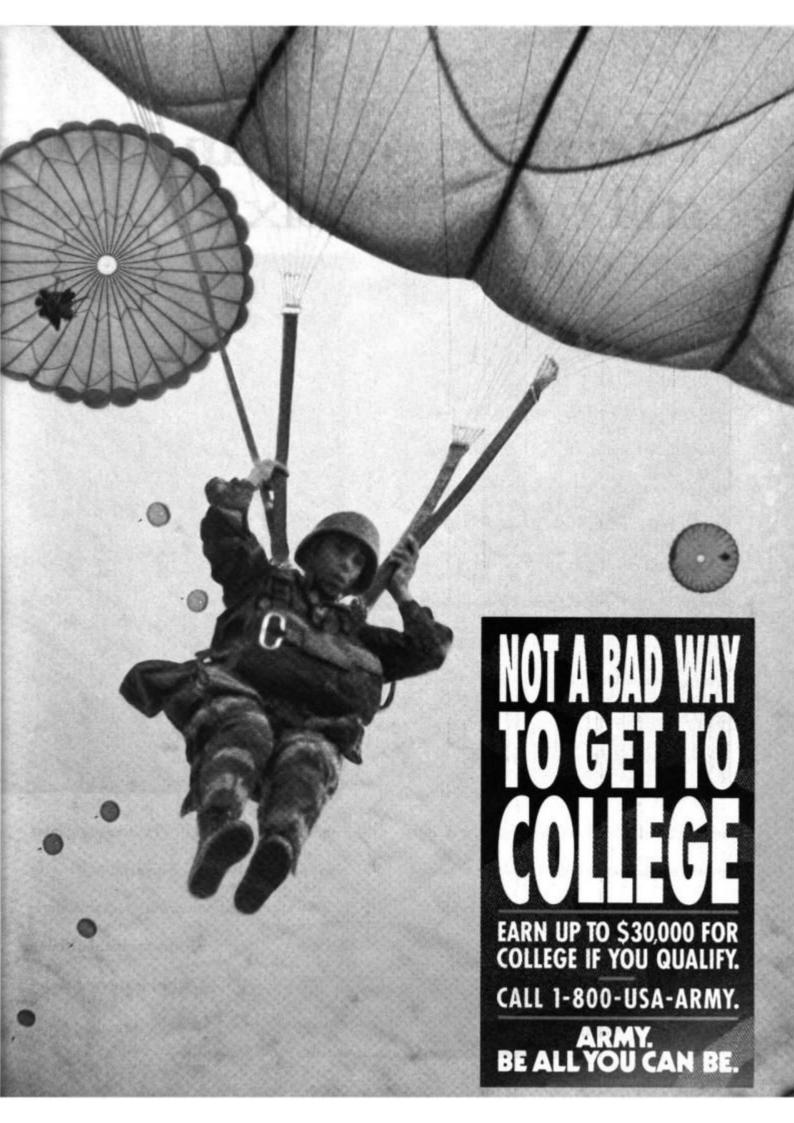
The Pentagon, however, has already okayed a restructuring of the program, which should at least ensure that the prototype will fly this November.



that the prototype will fly this November.

Mating of forward and aft fuselage sections means that the Comanche can accept engines and rotorblades.

At Sikorsky Aircraft's Connecticut plant, workers recently united the forward fuselage with its aft section, built at Boeing Helicopters in Philadelphia. Technicians are now testing the helicopter's unique 270-volt DC electrical system and fitting turboshaft engines to the airframe.



With so many standard f still room for six adults in

Long before we began creating the all new 1995 Chevy Lumina, we asked thousands of people what they were really looking for in a new mid-size sedan. Turns out what they wanted more than anything was, well, everything. So the new Lumina comes with a range of standard equipment that, not too long ago, would have been thought impossible for a car in its price range.

At the top of the list is a sophisticated

4-speed automatic. Combined with a new fuelinjected, 160-horsepower V6 engine, it delivers
power to the front wheels as quickly as your
right foot can ask it to. So you'll be comfortable with all that power, a quick-

cooling air

conditioning system with CFC-free refrigerant also comes as standard equipment.

We also added power door locks. Vanity

mirrors for both driver and passenger (lighted

tures, it's surprising there's here.



on the passenger side). Theater lighting that slowly dims after you enter the car. Intermittent wipers, dual sport mirrors, and even an adjustable steering column are standard, too.

And the whole beautiful package is pro-

as you've just learned, there's a lot of valuable stuff inside. See the new Lumina at your neighborhood Chevy dealer. Ask to take a test drive. And bring a friend. Or five.

ALL NEW LUMINA CHEVROLET

TECH UPDATE

X-Rocket Aims High

DULLES, VA—It looks like a cross between the space shuttle and the Pegasus winged rocket, with a little X-15 thrown in for style. Meet the X-34, a radical little rocket with a big ambition: to become the first reusable commercial launch vehicle (see Tech Update, page 17, Feb. '95).

American Space Lines, a new company formed by

Orbital Sciences and Rockwell, will build the X-34, with support from NASA. Right now, engineers are weighing

will build the V 24 with two entirences of 72 th V 244 gired to grow 1200 property of



two options: a 72-ft. X-34A, sized to carry 1200 pounds, or an 88-ft. X-34B, which would launch 2500-pound payloads.

In either case, the X-34 will ride beneath the wing of an L-1011 or Boeing 747. At 35,000 ft., the aircraft will release the vehicle, which will fall away before igniting its rocket engine and ascending. As it blasts out of the atmosphere, the X-34 will roll over on its back. At 350,000 ft., a door will pop open and the payload, with an orbital rocket booster, will fly out. The X-34 will continue on a ballistic trajectory, re-entering the atmosphere and rolling over once again. Guided by GPS, it will glide to a landing at a conventional runway.

X-34 will release its payload through an electromechanical door, then plunge through atmosphere to land on runway. To keep costs down, the rocket engine will burn regular jet fuel in liquid oxygen. American Space Lines believes an X-34 mission won't run more than \$4 million. First orbital flight: 1998.

Fuel-Cell Fleet

WEST PALM BEACH, FL—With a top speed of 15 mph, the Genesis ZEV isn't about to pin anyone's ears back. But it is the first vehicle powered by a fuel cell to enter the marketplace. Five are heading for Palm Springs, California, and the first



Genesis ZEV runs for 3 hours on a tank of oxygen/hydrogen and has a range of 45 miles.

will begin tooling around this summer.

The Genesis will show off its potential as an airport cargo-hauler, grounds-maintenance vehicle or amusement-park people mover. Inside, tanks hold compressed oxygen and hydrogen to feed a 7.5-kw fuel cell. Energy Partners Inc., Western Golf Car and Telesis Cogeneration collaborated on the vehicles and associated fueling stations, which can refill the ZEV's tanks in 15 minutes.

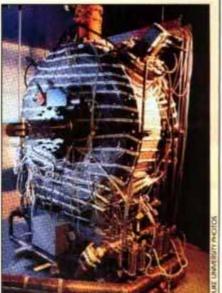
Blue Devils' Super Laser

DURHAM, NC—Once the pride of the Strategic Defense Initiative, the free-electron laser (FEL) may become the darling of the scientific world. Ironically, the newest of these exotic devices—a huge FEL at Duke University—features components from the country whose missiles inspired the laser's development: Russia.

FELs boast two advantages: They can be tuned to produce laser beams at many wavelengths, and there's no fundamental limit to the amount of power they can produce.

Tuned to X-ray wavelengths, the Duke FEL can probe living cells. At





Duke's free-electron laser includes components such as a booster cavity (above) from a Russian laboratory.

infrared wavelengths, it could perform delicate surgery without scarring tissue or damaging nerves. The FEL can also etch small-scale chips and micromachines with unprecedented precision.



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ship Enterprise had one. So do the Navy's new warships. But until recently, a fully integrated bridge wasn't economically viable for container ships, oceanliners and other commercial vessels. Even the most modern civilian bridge remains a hodge-podge of electronic systems, few of which can access the others' data.

But Sperry Marine has teamed Vision 2100 integrated bridge replaces disparate clutter with organized console. with Siemens Marine and Ocean Systems Inc. to produce Vision 2100—and streamline the skipper's workplace. The console integrates navigation planning, electronic chart display, engine-room monitoring, radar and other functions. The highly automated configuration features the Microsoft Windows NT operating system.

While it aids the captain in plotting a course, Vision 2100 can also boost a ship's performance by harnessing sea-state and navigational data to optimize propulsion.

Gift-Wrapped Horsepower

STE. THERESE, QUEBEC—When you buy a Camaro or Firebird, it's like giving yourself a present. Now these cars come gift-wrapped in a plastic coating called Transseal.

At the assembly plant, the auto bodies move into the Transseal sprayer right after they pass through the color-paint ovens. Masks cover window openings and door hinges. The bodies then travel through another oven to cure the coating.

Transseal protects the car's finish

until the new owner takes delivery. The coating is then either peeled off by hand or lifted with a water spray.

Transseal plastic wrap shields car's finish from damage during transportation.



Watch It, Buster

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Buster can fire tungsten-carbide kinetic-energy darts in rapid volleys.

KARLSKOGA, SWEDEN—The Swedes are respected as masters of anti-armor weaponry, and this latest design should enhance their reputation. Conceived by Bofors AB,

> Buster will fire a volley of dartlike projectiles at lightning speeds.

Eight launch tubes will ride aboard a tank chassis. Via a remote fire-control system, a gunner could unleash darts toward four separate targets at intervals of only 2½ seconds.

Rocket motors will boost the

laser-guided projectiles to speeds above 4400 mph. Effective range: 13,000 ft. Sweden aims to deploy Buster by 2010.

Bob Hope Joins Army

BALTIMORE, MD—The Army has drafted two veteran freighters—renamed the M/V LTC Calvin P. Titus and M/V SP5 Eric G. Gibson—as the first ships to beef up its pre-positioning force. Owned by the Maersk Line Ltd., the roll-on/roll-off vessels will operate under the Navy's Military Sealift Command. Bethlehem Steel's Sparrow Point shipyard added cranes and cargo-space a/c to the vessels.

Also, the lead ship in a new class of sealifters is under construction at Avondale Industries in New Orleans. The USNS Bob Hope will be the first of 19 vessels dedicated to surge shipping and pre-positioning.



Converted vessel (above) will haul materiel such as rations, while heavy equipment will arrive aboard Bob Hope.



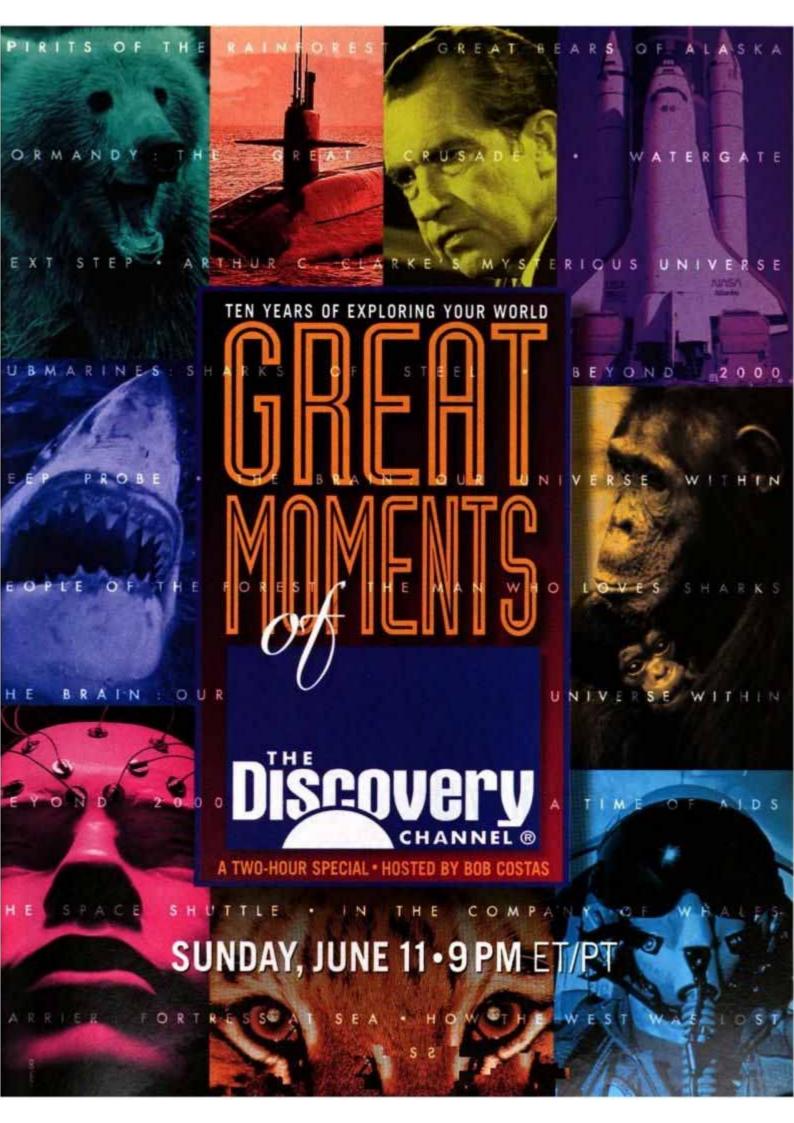
Hydraulic Pipeline For Coal

COLUMBIA, MO—Pipelines shunt oil around the nation. Why not coal? At the University of Missouri, engineers are developing a coal-log pipeline that could give trucks and trains a run for their money.

Unlike a slurry, the Missouri pipeline keeps coal and water separate. A die compacts the coal into capsules, which are then

injected into the tube and flushed to their destination. The engineers have proposed building a pilot plant in an abandoned mine.

Coal-log pipeline could transport clean Western coal to Eastern states.



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the same race-proven expertise that helps make Valvoline the number-one choice of top mechanics for use in their own cars and trucks. Now we bring that advanced engineering home to the family car. At a price that finally makes sense.

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High-Stepping Heavy Haulers

FORT WALTON BEACH, FL
—Tired of the endless debate
that pits airlift versus sealift? A
retired aeronautic engineer has
patented a cargo-transport concept that blurs the distinction.

Much like a conventional hovercraft, the vehicle uses powered lift to reduce hydrodynamic drag during takeoff. Fans blow air into a below-hull space flanked by pontoons and retractable doors fore and aft. When the vehicle reaches liftoff speed, the aft door retracts and the hovercraft fans cut off. The effect is to nose the machine skyward like a seaplane.

Once airborne, the craft's lifting-body fuselage and stubby



Hybrid ground-effect transporter is based on inventor's homebuilt craft (left).

wings put its aerodynamic center of lift at the same point as its center of gravity. This coincidence makes for stable water-to-air transitions and combined with the flat, lowaspect-ratio wings—allows the vehicle to travel efficiently in ground effect.

Inventor Chuck Bixel says he has demonstrated the concept with small radio models. These have flown on higher cushions of air than equivalent models of other ground-effect vehicles.

Containers For People

VALDEZ, AK—A lesson from the Exxon Valdez disaster: Have trained personnel available for immediate and extended deployment. But where to house them? In emergencies, crew populations can double or triple quickly, outstripping the berthing facilities aboard spill-response vessels.

In the past, that has meant expensive renovations to a ship's superstructure. But now there's





Flow boiling whisks heat from avionics modules recently designed at Purdue University. WEST LAFAYETTE, IN—What do nuclear reactors and computers have in common? Both must stay cool, because meltdown means disaster. Now a single technology, developed at Purdue University, could

chill machines big and small—from microchips to megawatt lasers.

Called flow boiling, the technique forces liquid through microchannels carved into heat-producing devices. The heat boils the liquid, causing tiny bubbles to form on the microchannel walls. The

flowing liquid flushes away these bubbles—along with the hot vapor they contain—and leaves room for new bubbles to form. The process dissipates far more heat than simple air or liquid cooling. Boilermaker engineers have proved the concept on lab-built avionics modules.





Oil-spill contingency barge can house expanded crews in portable modules.

a simpler solution: portable crew quarters, developed by Marine Industries N.W. Inc. The modules, which match the dimensions of intermodel containers, lock to a vessel's deck with standard corner fittings.

A berthing module sleeps six and contains a shower and mudroom. A galley/utility module can double as a recreation area during slack time—or as a planning center during emergencies. Meanwhile, a command and communications module features four windows.



[LIKE MANY GREAT VEHICLES CHERISHED BY THEIR OWNERS, OURS IS DESTINED TO COLLECT DUST.]

Unlike most classic vehicles, the Sonoma Highrider wasn't meant to sit around in some millionaire's warehouse. It is, after all, a GMC Truck. So while it looks great in any parking space, Highrider is at its best in gear, whether it's cruising down the open highway or kicking up dust on the meanest dirt road. Just climb behind the wheel, and Highrider's appeal becomes immediately apparent. Its available 191 HP Enhanced 4.3 liter V6 is the most powerful engine in its class. And there are other niceties as well. Things like massive stabilizer bars. Huge 31-inch tires. Special heavy duty axles. And a suspension anchored by 46 mm Bilstein* shocks, built to absorb punishment. Even the frame was specifically designed for Highrider. It's a truck for truck fanatics, brought to you by the experts at GMC Truck. And although it has all the right qualities to inspire immense devotion in its owners. Highrider has one other distinct advantage: you won't be afraid to take it out of the garage. For more information, call 1-800-GMC-TRUCK.







Drones Of The Ocean Blue

COLLEGE PARK, MD—Free-wing tilt-bodies (see Tech Update, page 15, Aug. '93) will see action at sea. Under a contract from the French navy, Matra and Freewing Aerial Robotics are putting one of the unmanned air vehicles aboard a frigate.

The free-wing concept suits shipboard operations. In flight, the vehicle can tilt its body—and hence its propeller—independently of its wings. The result: vectored thrust that permits near-vertical takeoffs and landings without the need for nets.



A free-wing tilt-body can cock its fuselage to vector thrust from the propeller.

The Bert Rutan-designed Scorpion free-wing (renamed Marvel for the French experiments) will work with a Matra-designed command and control system. Reconnaissance is the drone's forte—it can vector its thrust to pass slowly over a target of interest. If the vehicle proves shipshape, it could also find work in the commercial world: spotting fish for ocean trawlers.



Army's Shot Blockers

FORT MONMOUTH, NJ—Artillery has long been the big killer on the battlefield. But thanks to a partly classified system called Shortstop, the U.S. military may soon be able to reach out and touch hostile artillery rounds, detonating them before they ravage friendly forces. Whittaker Electronics of Simi Valley, California, will deliver nine such systems to the Army next year.

Conceived but unfielded during Desert Storm, Shortstop consists of a receiver/transmitter, amplifier, antenna and battery pack. Army sources say the system requires "user knowledge to set the correct electronic-countermeasures technique." Once set, however, Shortstop operates autonomously, broadcasting signals to trigger artillery fuses prematurely.

Shortstop apparatus will come in three vari-

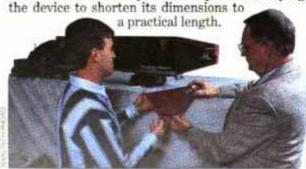
Shortstop broadcasts signals to trigger incoming rounds at a safe distance. eties: a 25-pound portable system, a vehicle-mounted model and a standalone package.

Tails For Trucks

LUBBOCK, TX—Long-distance trucks and buses may one day sail along the highway, thanks to a fairing invented by Herb Carper, a mechanical-engineering professor at Texas Technological College.

Called an aerodynamic inflatable boattail, the device unfurls like a giant windsock when the vehicle gains speed. The tail streamlines the airflow around the vehicle, eliminating the low-pressure zone that acts like an anchor to slow it down.

In wind-tunnel tests, the boattail reduced drag on a tractor-trailer by 13%. Carper is modifying



Inflatable truck boattall reduces aerodynamic drag.

TV To Put On A Clinic

AUGUSTA, GA—Being "on call" will soon have a whole new meaning for doctors in Georgia. An unprecedented telemedicine network will link 59 hospitals and correctional facilities.

In the works at the Medical College of

Georgia are two key technologies.
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put a live doctor on a patient's TV
or computer screen. Not only will
patient and physician be able
to converse, but the pa-



tient will have digital examination devices—such as a stethoscope—to plug into the TV or computer.

Meanwhile, a sensor glove will allow a patient to supply the doctor with tactile information—by palpating a cyst, for ex-

Sensor gloves are part of effort to update the old "radio doctor" concept.

ample. Right now, the doctor sees the data in the form of a topographical map. Ultimately, the physician will wear a glove fitted with actuators that replicate the patient's motions and sensations.

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Now is the perfect time to think about what the military has to offer.

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Today's military is one of the most sophisticated and technologically advanced organizations in the world.

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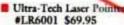
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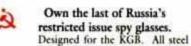
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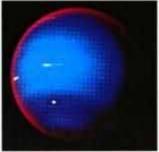
BALTIMORE, MD While astronomers are sky-high over the new and improved Hubble Space Telescope. they're now eyeing even better upgrades. After all, many of the Hubble instruments were designed some 25 years ago, and the telescope's original components will have spent more than a decade in space by the year 2000

To keep Hubble sharp, NASA has just okayed the construction of

HACE—Hubble Advanced Camera for Exploration—for installation after the turn of the century. Like other replacement instruments, HACE will have optics to compensate for the Hubble mirror's spherical aberration.

Up to 10 times more sensitive than the current Wide-Field Planetary Camera-2, HACE will permit exploration of the faintest objects at the edge of the universe. It will accomplish this with extremely long exposures of a small part of the sky. Its detectors-electronic "film"will be able to digitally block out bright objects to reveal their dim companions, such as planets.





Compared with current Hubble capability (left), HACE photos will approach resolution of Voyager's closeup shots (right).

SENSORY ELECTRODE SHOULDER MOUNT **STIMULATOR** ONTROLLER

Controlled by left shoulder, electrodes stimulate righthand grips.

Restoring The Grip

ST. LOUIS, MO-For the his chest. An additional, senfirst time in 10 years, a paralyzed man can eat, watch TV and even write a letter with minimal assistance. The 47year-old was one of 20 patients fitted with a "bionic hand" developed at Stanford University and implanted at the Palo Alto Veterans Hospital in California.

An auto accident left the man immobile from the chest down but still able to flex his shoulders and elbows. Now, platinum electrodes cling to seven arm and hand muscles, and wires snake through his arm to a stimulator buried in sory electrode delivers a faint buzz to his right shoulder as a system check.

JUNE 1995

Fastened to the skin above this box is an insulated wire coil through which the stimulator is both charged and triggered.

On the other side of his chest is a control system based on motion sensors. By shrugging his left shoulder, the patient indicates which grip he wants his right hand to assume. He can select a pinch grip for pencils or forks and a palmer grip for drinking glasses.

Robot Miners **Hit Pay Dirt**

COPPER CLIFF, ONTARIO-The most dangerous job in America? It might be underground mining. But in five years, Automated Mining Systems (AMS) Inc., of Toronto, hopes to

have the technology to run a mine from the surface.

Right now, at an Inco nickel mine near Sudbury, Ontario, one man maneuvers two vehicles with an AMS radio-control system. The machines are front-end loaders called scoop trams. They shuttle rock from the working face to a shaft that leads to a crusher.

Each tram runs autonomously for threefourths of the time, with

the operator taking control only when it loads and dumps. ultimately run four vehicles at

once via remote control. Pierced coaxial cables riddle the mine, carrying signals from



Inco believes that a A semiautonomous robotic scoop tram ferries 12-ton single worker could loads of rock between the mine face and a crusher.

the surface and broadcasting them to the trams. In autonomous mode, though, the vehicles simply follow strings of lights.



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SPORTS SCIENCE

Super Sports

BY JOE SKORUPA, Outdoors/Boating Editor



 The Super Show makes a mighty effort to live up to its name. Held in Atlanta each year, this mother of all trade shows has super attendance, super size, super new products (sporting goods)-and super security at the gate. Super may not be a strong enough word to describe the measures employed to keep unwanted individuals (the general public) out. To Super Show management, gawking at stars like Nancy Kerrigan and Michael Jordan makes sense only if the gawkers are large-volume purchasers of sporting goods.

As a result, obtaining media credentials on opening day is a pain in the butt. It requires preregistering weeks before the show, then waiting in line at the show for more than an hour while your paperwork is processed. Ironically, the lines for exhibitors and regular attendees (sporting goods retailers) are twice as long.

Experienced attendees (myself included) arrive the day before the show opens to avoid the lines. Sometimes it gets ugly in the press room. Over the years, I've seen video cameramen and TV reporters on the verge of rioting as they stand impa-

tiently in line. For one thing, they're not used to receiving less than preferential treatment, and secondly, their producers won't understand why they missed the big interview with Troy Aikman or

Bonnie Blair or Nolan Ryan.

Last year, to smooth out any rough edges, the show attempted to move security into the realm of high technology. In addition to issuing entry badges, it also issued photo IDs and swipe cards with magnetic strips that digitized the card holder's name, address and phone number. The idea was for exhibitors to use the swipe cards to create databanks of contacts for future use.

Unfortunately, few bought into this scenario. In fact, no one I came across took the least

photo ID or swipe card, even though both were hanging around my neck

on chains. Old-fashioned entry badges (also on chains) and business cards were the primary currency of the show. Despite the failure of the new high-tech systems, the attempt succeeded in producing a new fashion statement-the multilayered neck-chain look.

Once inside the main gates, I had to crack another layer of security. Each of the main exhibitors-Nike, Adidas, Reebok, L.A. Gear and Startererected multistory booths with guarded entrances and sealed perimeters. vour name wasn't on a list or you didn't know a corporate functionary, you stood little chance of getting into

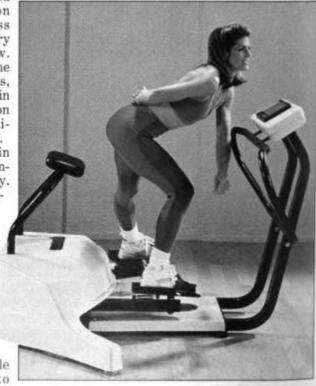
one of these fortresses.

Being a veteran show attendee and a pushy staffer on a large-circulation magazine, I was able to crack the security of most of the top exhibitors. Inside, I discovered a number of interesting new products:

 Resistance machines that simulate popular sports have been a developing trend for years, but at this show it entered a new phase. Take the Reebok Sky Walker (shown at left), for example. This hydraulic-resistance machine simulates walking. Well, not walking, exactly. More like walking on the moon or vertical swimming.

Instead of striding on a surface (such as the ground or a treadmill belt), the Sky Walker positions your feet on suspended footpads connected to mechanical arms. As you move your legs, the mechanical arms swing and offer positive and negative resistance. To work the upper body, the unit has handgrips attached to belts. Resistance for all motions is hydraulically actuated and adjustable.

Although aerobic (cardiovascular) exercise on the Sky Walker looks and feels something like walking, it's really more like a repetitive scissors kick that's similar to swimming. The bene-



Nautilus Skate Machine is a no-impact aerobic simulator.

fit of the motion is that it completely eliminates pounding on vulnerable areas such as knees, ankles, hips and lower back. The commercial model that debuted at the Super Show retails for about \$3500. Two home units to be introduced this month will cost from \$1000 to \$1500. Contact Reebok Sky Walker, 2707 Satsuma, Dallas, TX 75229; (800) 405-9255.

 Fitness walking shoes have always puzzled me. How much technology do you really need for walking? Well, the new Reebok Leader DMX model answers the question by taking walking-shoe technology to the max the DynaMax.

The Leader DMX is the first of

Reebok's walking shoes to feature a system that not only places air chambers in the heel and forefoot of the sole, but also connects them with an airflow channel. This system, called Dyna-Max, enables the chambers to actively adjust cushioning pressure throughout the stride, so Leader DMX shoes reduce pounding during exercise. Price is \$69.99. Contact Reebok International Ltd., 100 Technology Center Dr., Stoughton, MA 02072; (617) 341-5000.

 The Nautilus Skate Machine (shown on opposite page) is another aerobic-resistance fitness unit that simulates a popular sport. In this case, inline skat-

ing. Like the Sky Walker, the Skate Machine offers a no-impact cardiovascular workout.

For those unfamiliar with impact terminology as it applies to exercise, high impact and low impact refer to the amount of shock measured in body weight that an exercise places on the ankles, knees, hips and lower back. Running, for example, is a high-impact exercise that applies substantially more than one body weight to the vulnerable joints. Fitness walking, on the other hand, is a low-impact exercise that applies only a fraction more body weight to the joints during a workout. A shorthand way to re-

member the difference between high and low impact is that if both feet come off the ground at the same time, it's usually a high-impact exercise. If only one foot comes off the ground at a time, it's usually low impact.

The Skate Machine and Sky Walker are no-impact exercisers because both feet stay planted. No more than one body weight is applied to the joints while exercising.

The Skate Machine, with its emphasis on lateral (side-to-side) movement, enables exercisers to work out inner and outer thighs, legs and buttocks. The unit includes interactive computer graphics that permit users to take advantage of 12 routes at nine fitness

Inline skaters know their sport is too potentially dangerous to use flimsy skates. Fortunately, the new Mojo bootless skates are surprisingly well made. In fact, when worn with dark boots or high-top sneakers, they look exactly like conventional inline skates. But quality doesn't come cheap, and, even without the boots, these skates aren't inexpensive. The high-performance Street Lord lists for about \$250 and the recreational Hijacker goes for about \$200. The skates come in two sizes (small and large) and feature ankle padding and either three or four adjustment belts (depending on the model). Contact MOJO USA, 8335 Nieman Rd., Len-

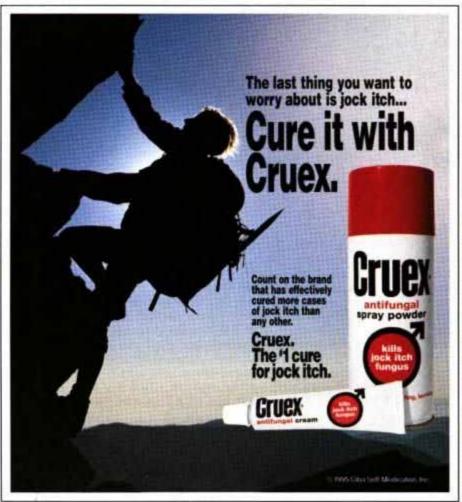
exa, KS 66214; (913) 438-6656.

· Impact reduction, another major trend at the show, was on the mind of Roland Sommer, a German aeronautical engineer who came up with the ProKennex Kinetic tennis racket. It seems Sommer has a friend with a bad case of tennis elbow who was forced to give up the sport. Sommer thought he could help his buddy return to the court by designing a racket that actively absorbed the energy of the ball striking the racket, thus reducing shock to the elbow.

To do this, he hollowed out 100 chambers in the head of the racket and filled them with microbearings. The result is a racket that not

only sounds like a salt shaker when rattled, but also has a bigger sweet spot, reduced vibration in the hand and increased stability for off-center shots. The price is about \$250. Contact ProKennex, 9606 Kearny Villa Rd., San Diego, CA 92126; (619) 271-8390.

So why do Super Show exhibitors have such tight security? One manufacturer told me that the sporting-goods industry is a copycat business. Knockoffs appear within weeks of the intro of a hot new product. This explains Nike's fortresslike booth. I wonder if we'll soon see dozens of copycat swipe cards replacing business cards? In a word, nah



levels. The computer also monitors calorie-burn per hour, total calories burned, miles skated, speed, time elapsed and strides per minute. Considered a commercial unit, the Skate Machine costs \$3200. Contact Nautilus International Inc., 9800 W. Kincey Ave., Suite 105, Huntersville, NC 28078; (704) 875-1798.

• For skating without a machine, new Mojo Street Lord and Hijacker skates offer something unique to inlining—bootless skates. Just put on comfortable shoes, step into the monocoque polypropylene shells, tighten the belts, snap the quick-release buckles and skate away.

ELECTRONICS

Cutting-Edge Computers

BY FRANK VIZARD, Electronics Editor

 If you had to think of a sporting metaphor for the computer industry, pole-vaulting might be it. A month doesn't go by, it seems, without someone raising the bar to a higher level.

Unless you're in the thick of the business, it's hard to keep abreast of new developments. Yet, given the ever-increasing importance of computers, this is one piece of hardware worth keeping even a distant eye on. Here are some notes and observations on the field:

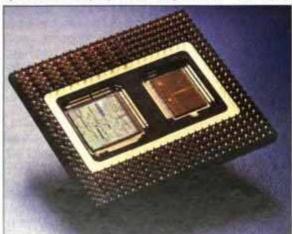
• Bet on black. A cosmetic change for sure, but new black computers, like those from Acer, signal that the PC is moving into the living room right next to all of the other electronic entertainment gear. Chalk this one up to the fans of TV shows like "The X-Files,"

who chat online during commercials.

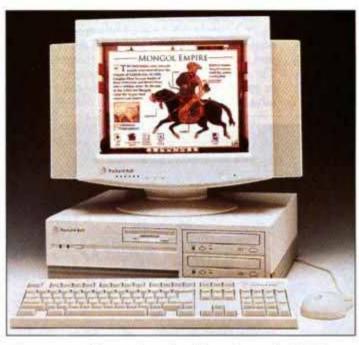
 Double-barreled multimedia. If you use one CD-ROM drive a lot, you'll probably use two. That's the thinking behind Packard Bell's twin CD-ROM-drive computers. Having two drives makes it easier to switch applications, easily beating loading and unloading from a single bay. This idea has even shown up in laptops, specifically Panasonic's CF-41 model (\$4900), which also sports an MPEG-1 full-motion video pack.

speed drives are the rage among multimedia mavens. As opposed to their double-speed predecessors, quadspeed drives play video clips more

Speaking of CD-ROMs, new quad-



Intel's new P6 chip is super fast.



smoothly, synchronize video and sound more precisely, install disks faster and are more responsive—something game players will appreciate.

 More memory. Lots of software firms claim their products run fine on computers with 4MB of RAM (random-access memory), but don't you believe it. A minimum standard these days is 8MB, and if you want to stay ahead of the curve, opt for a 16MB Pentium machine like AT&T's Globalyst 630 minitower (\$2499 list).

· Bigger hard drives. Forget megabytes. Give me a gigabyte. Hard drives are where all the data gets stored, but as big as they are, space can run out. A 1GB hard drive, such

as the one in Compaq's new Presario CDC 992 (\$3000). is like having a whale inside your computer, able to consume all those digital bits like so much plankton.

All these bits of data, incidentally, are harder to get rid of than it might appear. Clicking on the delete bar of a Windows Program Manager eliminates only the application icon, not the program itself. Due to the linkage system employed by DOS on PCs, newly installed programs spread into a variety of directories

and subdirectories. Load enough software and your computer will slow to a crawl. Ditching unwanted data can be timeconsuming-and a misstep can cause the system to crash. If you want to rid yourself of the "fatware" that came with the computer, invest in a software program like Un-installer (\$49). It guides you through the cleansing process, suggesting which far-flung files can be deleted without disabling the machine.

· Cross-platform. To Apple devotees, the Macintosh 6100/66 might seem like a cross-dresser. But for those who regularly move between Apple and

IBM-compatible computers, this machine is suitably attired. Buried inside the \$2759 Mac is an Intel 486 microprocessor, DOS 6.22 and Windows 3.1. To switch between the two platforms, you hit a 2-key sequence. This is a great machine if you like the ease of a Mac but have noticed that much of the cool software is released on DOS long before it's available for Macs.

• Intel inside-not? The floatingpoint math problem with Intel's Pentium chip has been fixed and the story has passed into computer folklore. But Intel's stranglehold on microprocessors is weakening. All the microprocessors inside Compaq's 486 Presarios are made by rival AMD. Compaq is using a 586 designation for its new Pentium-equipped computers, a semantic move that opens the door for other suppliers to provide performance wrinkles not offered by Intel.

Intel, of course, is hardly asleep at the keyboard. The company recently introduced a very fast 120-MHz microprocessor-its internal clock clicks 120 million times per secondthat's 25% smaller than its predecessors. And later this year, Intel will launch the P6, a microprocessor twice as complex as the Pentium chip. Sporting 5.5 million transistors, the P6 is expected to reach speeds of 200 MHz. Look for the P6 to reach mainstream computing in mid-1996.

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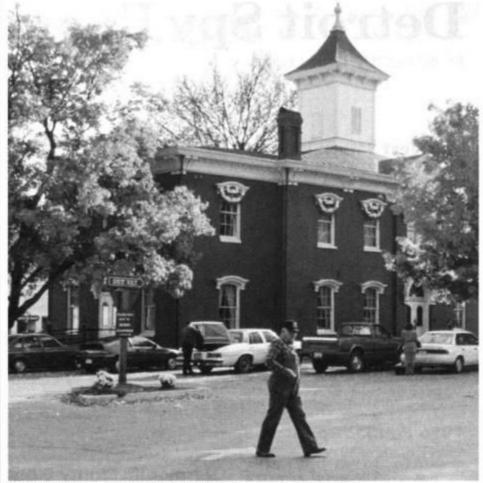
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AUTOMOBILES

Detroit Spy Report

BY JIM DUNNE, Detroit Editor

The Next Saturn Wagon

 It seems like only yesterday that GM launched its "new kind of car company." But the truth is. Saturn has been around for five years and, while the cars have been continually refined and improved, they still look like they always did. With Saturn's plastic body panel on steel-frame construction, it's interesting to note that GM hasn't yet made any real alterations to the line's styling. But that changes with the '96 sedans and station wagons, which will undergo their first major redesign. A look at this '96 wagon prototype shows more rounded lines, especially in the roof.

1996 Pontiac Bonneville

Saturn isn't the only GM car with a new look for next year. In fact, all the big front-drive GM sedans are getting refreshed. A close look at the Pontiac Bonneville reveals a narrowing of the air intake in the center of the grille and larger, repositioned running lamps.

These details aren't unique to the Bonneville-all Pontiacs make them part of their brand identity, which boasts the most aggressive styling among GM's large cars.

Tiny V6

Chrysler plans to build its smallest-ever V6 for its 1998 lineup of small cars and trucks. With a 2.7-liter (165gine rates almost as small as

some of Chrysler's 4-cylinder motors. While details about the engine are scarce, Chrysler insiders indicate that it will have a horsepower rating close to 200. Both single- and double-overheadcamshaft versions are in the works.



smooth cladding strip on the lower doors adds a new dimension to the plain steel sur-

face. Improvements are more than skin deep, too, as there's a refined 3.8-liter V6 that delivers more horsepower and has OBD II self-diagnosis



Oldsmobile Eighty Eight

Like the Bonneville, this 1996 Oldsmobile Eighty Eight sedan prototype is very close to showroom ready. This car reveals a cleaner look overall.



Chrysler Coup

That's clear from recent decisions

coming out of Dearborn. Now, the

company is considering building a smaller version of Windstar in

order to compete with Chrysler's

short-wheelbase vans-a switch from

Ford's earlier decision to build Wind-

star only in the larger long-wheelbase

version. Note also that Ford back-

tracked on its plan to quit making

Aerostar vans.

Chrysler is preparing the Jeep Wrangler for a complete makeover within 12 months. That's just in time to meet the growing demand for an inexpensive 4-wheeldrive sport/utility vehicle. Priced below the Cherokee in Chrysler's lineup, the 1997 Wrangler will offer a new suspension, an enclosed steel body and sedanlike doors and interior.

From Rear To Front

General Motors is getting closer to building front-drive automobiles exclusively. It will drop full-size reardrive sedans and wagons from the model lineup at the end of 1996: the Fleetwood Brougham, Roadmaster and Caprice will be gone. Only Corvette, Firebird, Camaro and the imported-from-Europe Cadillac Catera will remain for the foreseeable future. GM started manufacturing front-drive cars in the United States in 1965, when it introduced the Toronado. Now, 30 years later, the company is nearing a complete turnaround.



Among the styling changes on the '96 Bonneville is a sleeker snout. capabilities.

AUTOMOBILES

Europe Spy Report

BY MIKE ALLEN, Associate Automotive Editor

the already stratospherically priced Rolls-Royce Corniche. Big Cat On The Prowl Ford's purchase of this on-the-ropes British carmaker has perfirst. Look for a 4.0-liter V8 (related to the 4.6 modular Porsche Panorama

 Porsche has traditionally offered a Targa-top version of the 911, and for the past few years, a true convertible. Based on the 911 convertible chassis rather than the coupe, this unique vehicle uses a sliding sunroof-type arrangement that's engineered and built for Porsche by aftermarket sunroof manufacturer Webasto. Rather than a simple Targa-style removable roof panel, the entire panel, probably made of glass, runs back along the rear window. There's also a motorized cloth sunscreen to keep the back of occupants' necks from baking at high

noon. Constructed of aluminum, the roof panel might also be completely removable. We've captured one here, held together by most of a roll of duct tape, while testing in Europe. The inset is an artist's impression of

the production car, sans tape.

Riches To Ragtops As if Mercedes' S-Class cars weren't already among the most expensive in

Panorama has a huge roll-back sunroof.

the world, here's the new S600 coupe in convertible format. With M-B supplying the chopped-down coupe body, and coachbuilder Karmann the convertible top and mechanism, spe-

also be a coupe variant. Stump-Jumping In Style

Serious off-road geeks probably won't be mopping their chins over the new Mercedes AAV (All-Area Vehicle, get it?). It has no separate frame, but uses automobile-style unit-body construction. With only modest

mitted Jaguar to bring out new models by drawing from the corporate parts bin. This replacement for the XJS is slated to be one of the

in the Crown Vic and upcoming Mustang)

to be assembled in

England. The convertibles will have a

one-button electrical

convertible top. Like

the XJS, there will

ground clearance, and with more attention being paid to interior appointments, the AAV is aimed deadon at the country-club set, who insist on driving something more expensive than a \$30,000 American truck. That's Range Rover

territory, folks. The AAV is based on C-Class mechanical parts, and our disguised test vehicle is wearing a false grille that looks very similar to the C-Class cars. Production of all AAVs is scheduled for the German carmaker's new plant in Alabama. FM



Limited-edition \$600 ragtop will be assembled by AMG. cialty builder AMG is handling the

final assembly. Look for a limited pro-

duction run of 500 cars, and a window

sticker quite a bit higher than that on



It's not a panel truck—just a disguised Jaguar sport coupe.

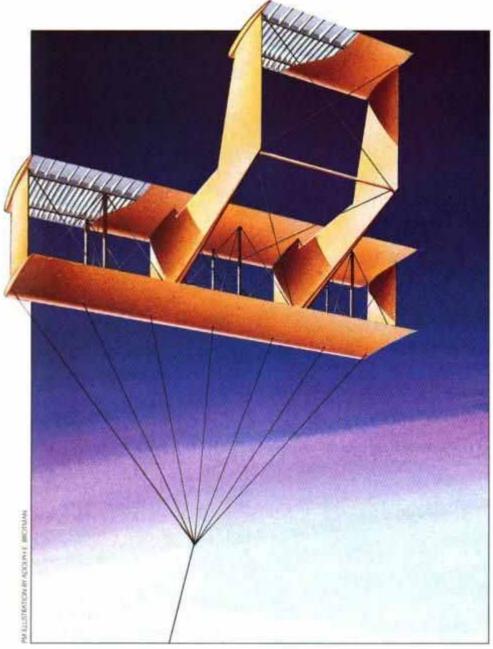


Mercedes-Benz to enter the truck market with AAV sport/utility.

SCIENCE

World's Highest-Flying Kite

BY GREGORY T. POPE, Science/Technology Editor



 On a crisp autumn day, the wind sweeps out of British Columbia and collides with the Canadian Rockies.
 There, in western Alberta, the air rushes skyward in a phenomenon known as a mountain wave.

Sailplane aficionados have long gathered at a town called Pincher Creek, about 150 miles south of Calgary, to take advantage of this updraft and soar to record altitudes. It's also the perfect spot to fly a kite, and this fall a trio of Canadians plans to do just that. In fact, they aim to loft one thousands of feet higher than any kite has ever ventured before.

Kite builder Richard Synergy, meteorologist David Hudak and electronics engineer Mubarak Baksh hope to break records that were set when men and women flew kites for a living. Until the early 1920s, weather bureaus relied on kites to hoist wind gauges, thermometers and other instruments. German weathermen sent a string of eight kites to an unchallenged 31,955 ft. in 1919. The single-kite mark stands at 12,471 ft., established at Milton, Massachusetts, in 1898.

Back then, nothing flew higher. But these meteorological kites soon ceded air superiority to balloons, airplanes and, ultimately, satellites. For their day, though, the kites represented leading-edge technology. Woodframers known as Hargrave box kites, they sported cloth skins of silk soaked with varnish-a material very similar to ripstop nylon. Some stretched as long as 9 ft. Lofted in groups, they could exert 900 pounds of tension on a tether as they climbed. Such force, applied as the kite line is wound in, could crush a reel like a beer can. To withstand this pull, rugged steampowered winches-machines used on trans-Atlantic cable-laying shipspayed out and hauled in the lines.

Today, Synergy and company can exploit a century's worth of aeronautic engineering to top the weather kites' records. They want to raise a single kite to 15,000 ft. and put a gaggle of kites at 35,000 ft. The kites themselves, now being built in Toronto, will be enormous. The biggest-32 ft. across-rivals a single-engine aircraft. "As you go up in the air, the ability to create lift diminishes considerably," notes Synergy. "If your kite doesn't have a couple hundred square feet of wing area, it just won't generate enough lift to get to record heights."

Although this sky monster will possess enough strength to resist 100mph winds, the kite itself will weigh less than 60 pounds. It's built much like a biplane of the Wright brothers' era, but updated with space-age materials. Each of the kite's wings encloses a skeleton of spars and ribs. These structural members are cut from Styrofoam and coated with a thin veneer of fiberglass. In addition, carbon-fiber compression struts and crossbracing lines reinforce the wings. Carbon arrow shafts, anchored in balsa-plywood sockets, join the upper and lower wing. Guy wires crisscross between the anchor points.

Behind the wings rides a tail, its twin booms constructed of a carbonfiber lattice and sheathed in nylon. Acting like the elevator of an airplane, the tail can tilt to change the front wings' angle of attack. This ensures that the vertical lift from the wings never overcomes the strength of the kite line. An on-board strain gauge will keep track of the line tension. Although mountain waves are said to flow as smoothly as wind-tunnel air, the kite flyers want to be ready for unexpected gusts that could jerk the kite skyward.

Meanwhile, the inboard vertical panels—to which the articulating tail booms attach—will house the kite's electronics suite. Hudak, who works for the Canadian weather bureau, is filling the panels with instrumentation to measure air pressure, temperature, wind speed and other variables. These sensors will glean new information on mountain waves, thus providing a better scientific picture of the phenomena.

In addition, a Global Positioning System (GPS) receiver will verify the altitude reached. Miniature television cameras will gaze at the ground and monitor the kite, checking for hazards such as icing on the wings. A pair of transmitters, their broadcasts choreographed by an on-board computer, will beam all this information to the mission-control ground team.

On land, four or five ham-radio operators will track the kite by way of its radio transmissions. They'll aim parabolic antennas at the sky from different locations and triangulate to get a continuous, if rough, fix on the kite. The more accurate GPS receiver, by contrast, provides information only every 5 minutes. True, the radiosignal technique can be off by as much

as 1000 ft. in altitude. "But that's plenty good enough to track that sucker if it breaks a string and you have to report it to air-traffic control," says Synergy.

Getting all this equipment into the sky will pose as much of a challenge as building the kite itself. The team plans to load an electrohydraulic winch—as big as a VW Beetle—on the back of a flatbed truck. First, launch personnel will pull out 2000 ft. of line and attach the kite. They'll run with the kite, while the computercontrolled winch reels the line back in, until the kite is airborne. The winch will then reverse to begin paying the line back out. After that, because a mountain wave can incorporate downdrafts as well as updrafts, the truck must be maneuvered to keep the kite in a rising airflow.

As the winch releases the line at 7 or 8 ft. per second, the kite will ascend for 5 or 6 hours in its attempt to reach a record altitude. Synergy hopes to have spotting aircraft available to view the kite at its zenith. "Getting it down again may be another thing entirely," he warns. "The wave may not disappear at night—it may blow continuously for four or five days. We may not be able to bring in the line faster than 1 or 2 ft. per second. Although we expect to handle 1004

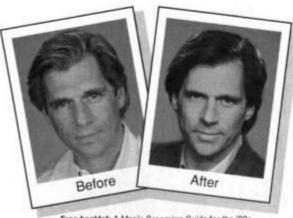
mph winds, you don't fool around and force the issue."

At the mercy of capricious winds, Synergy's team is preparing options. A rotating ground crew will stand by for a month, ready to loft a kite if conditions favor flight. Ideally, they'll assemble 15 kites of three different sizes and between 10 and 15 reels of kite line in various weights. When the wind is blowing lightly, a thick line of lightweight Spectra fiber will suffice. But in stronger winds, thin but heavy piano wire will tether the kite. Surprisingly, the limiting factor in gaining altitude isn't the weight of the kite line, which can add up to 800 pounds at 35,000-ft. heights. Instead, it's the aerodynamic drag that the string's thickness can cause.

Synergy, a longtime kite enthusiast, has high hopes for this endeavor. He believes the effort will inspire university engineering departments to take their own shots at his record, thereby reviving the development of kites as meteorological tools (see "Science On A Kite String," page 114, May '92). His timing is good: The popularity of kite flying has soared in the '90s, with competitions drawing thousands annually. If Synergy and his colleagues can rewrite the record books, the sky's the limit for the sport and science of kite flying.

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DOCIA VIRUS

As easy to catch as the common cold, an electronic disease can be fatal to a computer. Here's how to keep your PC healthy.

BY STEPHEN A. BOOTH, Contributing Editor, PM Photo by Brian Kosoff

 Pogue, Monkey, Form and Kaos 4. Michelangelo, Anthrax and Doom. The names can sound amusing, or downright menacing. They are some of the thousands of computer viruses, and the infections they spread may be merely annoying or maliciously destructive. Either way, every personal computer is vulnerable. And until a vaccine is developed, the only way to ward off a bug is by rigorous computer hygiene.

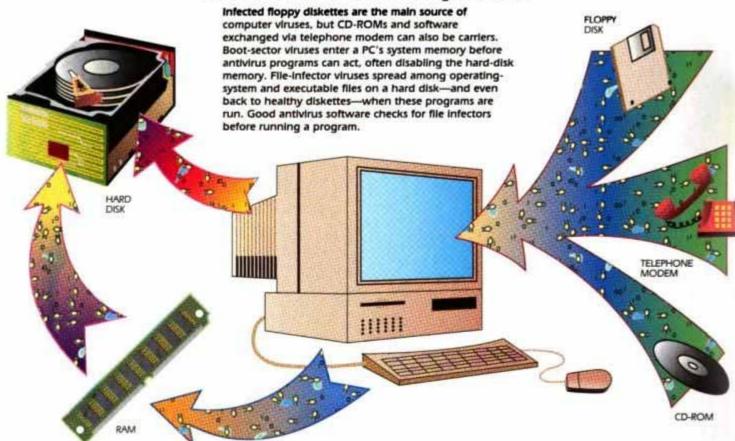
These electronic germs don't discriminate between corporate computer networks and stand-alone machines in the den back home. They can spread inside any computer in the time it takes to boot a diskette.

And there are plenty to go around.

Computer viruses have existed for a decade, but they only achieved widespread notoriety when the great Michelangelo scare of March 6, 1992, threatened an amnesia epidemic among hard-disk memories around the world. According to the National Computer Security Association (NCSA) in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, nearly 6000 known viruses exist worldwide, and as many as 200 new ones pop up each month.

Meanwhile, virus attacks grow as the computer pop-

How A PC Virus Spreads



ulation does, and infections can travel anywhere that a phone line goes. Michelangelo bopped only several hundred machines in South America during its debut. Yet even though it's easily detectable, the virus, triggered once per year on Michelangelo's birthday, continues to claim new victims.

It's hard to tally the financial toll of virus damage—let alone the costs in time and anxiety. One estimate for 1994 from antivirus software maker Symantec put the expense of restoring data at \$3 billion for corporate America. That's probably just the tip of the iceberg.

Computer viruses are strictly software-borne. There's nothing inherently viral in the microprocessors, storage devices or other hardware of a PC. Nor is there any hazard from the process of telecommunications using a modem to exchange data with other computers. In every case, it's the content exchanged—by phone or diskette—that might harbor a virus. No kind of computer is immune. Strains are more numerous and infections are more prevalent among IBMcompatible PCs, by virtue of their numbers, but Apple's Macintosh has its own barrel of germs.

Unlike biological viruses, the computer variety is always man-made, basically a software program written to perform aberrant deeds. Who writes them? Often it's a prankster. Sometimes it's an individual with a point to prove or an axe to grind.

Once a virus is launched, it's usually spread innocently and inadvertently—but always by direct contact. Computer viruses aren't airborne—they have to be loaded into the PC, either from software on a floppy diskette, from a program downloaded via telephone modem or one distributed on a network of linked PCs.

After it takes up residence in the computer, the virus can spread to other pieces of software and, potentially, other PCs. For example, a parent brings work home to complete, and, from a diskette infected at the office, inadvertently spreads the crud to the family PC.

Alternately, and more likely, one of the kids borrows a floppy from a pal—a copy of the hot new game that's been making the rounds at school like midterm flu. Somewhere along the way it picked up the Wild Man of Borneo virus, which got into another family's PC when mom or sis downloaded a free coconut bread recipe from the Internet. Wild Man finds a comfortable tree directory in the same family PC on which the parent completes the office work.

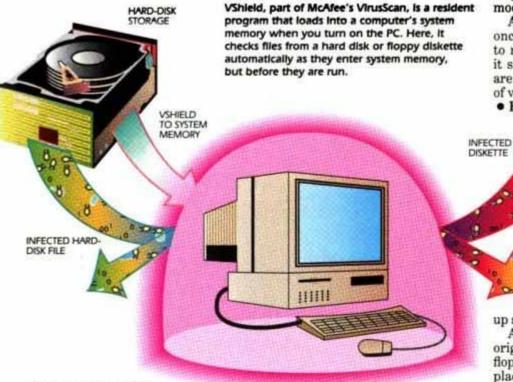
At the stroke of noon the next day, the parent's office workstation belches "Yum-yum! Eat 'em up!" as Wild Man gobbles up a month's worth of corporate bookkeeping. Everyone scrambles to alert clients or colleagues who might have been sent infected files or electronic mail, but in the panic, one employee forgets he used the company PC to modem the Rotisserie Baseball stats to the other guys in his league. Some, no doubt, are eagerly digesting the dope over lunch at their desks, as Wild Man chows down on their companies' data. Others might have copied the stats to a floppy, to check them out on their home PCs that night.

Such is the nature of virus transmission. But this scenario might have been averted or at least controlled at any point—home or office—had the proper safeguards been in place. This entails not just installing antivirus software, but using it religiously, and establishing routines for checking out all new programs.

There's plenty of software available to detect computer viruses, possibly disinfect or repair a contaminated file, and even set up barriers against incoming infections. The software is either free or inexpensive, and considering what's at risk, it's relatively fast and easy to use.

Experts define a virus as a computer program that attaches itself to other programs, along with instructions to reproduce. By replicating itself, the virus multiplies, spreading to new programs and other computers.

VShield Protection



This power to clone itself makes a virus different from a computer worm—a rogue program that infiltrates a PC but lacks any instructions to reproduce. Ditto for a Trojan Horse, an innocent-looking software program that conceals a troublesome one, perhaps a virus.

Programs that can be downloaded for free directly from the Internet might be Trojan Horses. Unlike commercial online services (such as CompuServe, Prodigy, America Online) that scan uploads for viruses before downloading to subscribers, there's no policing on the Internet. So beware of geeks bearing gifts—either via modem or in person.

A worm or a horse does its damage once, but it is the ability of a virus to reproduce and spread that makes it such a fearsome adversary. There are different kinds and combinations of viruses. They include:

Boot-sector viruses. These are

the toughest to detect and to protect against, since they infiltrate a computer system immediately upon its being boot-

ed, or started, with an infected diskette. Because of the way IBM-compatible PCs operate, antivirus software doesn't come on duty until after the boot-up procedure. By this time, a boot-sector virus is already in the door and setting up shop in the computer's memory.

A boot-sector virus removes the original boot-sector information of a floppy diskette or a hard disk and replaces it with a different, perverted code. This way, upon subsequent boot-ups, the virus enters the computer's memory first. Once in memory, the virus can spread to other disks.

This accounts for the virulence of the Michelangelo virus—a boot-sector infection that impairs your ability to access information from the com-

Case Study: Crisis In The PM Zone

 We admit it. Here at PM, we'd lulled ourselves into thinking computer viruses were something that happened to other people. We learned the hard way what a mistake that was.

The story unfolds like something out of the movie "Outbreak." My brother Mike and I were putting in long hours working on the POPULAR MECHANICS World Wide Web site, The PM Zone. And as often seems to happen when deadlines loom, one of the Macintoshes we were using started acting flaky.

The initial problem was innocuous enough. A piece of Web-browsing software we'd downloaded from the Internet exhibited a very subtle flaw in the way it formatted text. We shrugged it off.

But later the same day, our word processor keeled over. When we tried to start it up, a box popped onto the screen, displaying an ominously worded message: "An error of type 3 has occurred." No amount of mouse-clicking could get the word processor to launch. As it happened, the program was a new release, reputed to be buggy, so we immediately dialed the maker's tech-support line.

Unless you like what the music-onhold jockeys are playing, that's always an appravating experience. The company's representative at first suspected a font problem, so we deleted all the word-processor fonts. That got our program back on its feet, but only haltingly, and the fix lasted only a few hours. Next, we tried replacing the system file and the Macintosh Finder—the basic software resources the computer needs to run any application program.

We spent days barking up one wrong tree after another. Driven by frustration, we completely wiped the hard drive clean a number of times, then laboriously reinstalled all the software. Eventually, the tech representative gently suggested that we might have a virus. We were skeptical. We'd heard that one before, and we didn't see how anything could survive having the hard drive reformatted.

We found out we were wrong when I installed the Web-browser software on another computer on PM's editorial network. This one was equipped with more up-to-date antivirus software, and a virus warning immediately popped up on the screen.

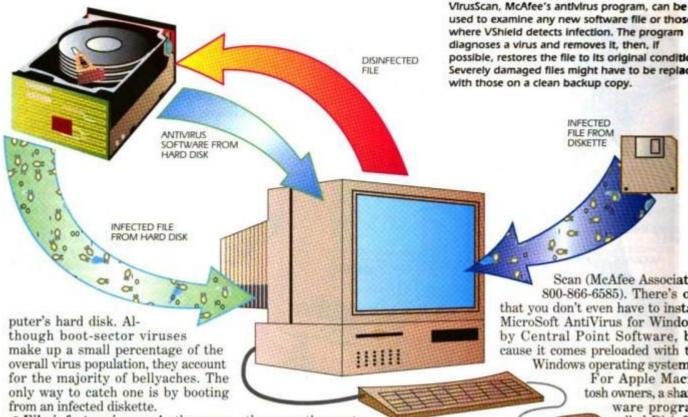
With that, the previous week's bafflement snapped into focus. We realized there was now something nasty on at least two of the magazine's computers. Both were connected to a network of more than 25 machines that we rely on to get our work done, and we had no idea how far it had spread. It was a weekend, and none of our electronic production people were on hand, so I rushed out and bought the first piece of antivirus software I could lay my hands on.

We scanned all the network drives with it, and those on the two machines we'd installed the Web browser on. We discovered that no less than four applications on our Mac were affected by something called MBDF A/B, a relatively mild but fast-spreading strain that has been roaming the world's computers since 1993. It had attached itself to our computer's basic-operating-system software, and from there jumped onto applications as we ran them. It had survived the drive reformatting because the applications were on an external drive. Once infected, the system software was reinfected every time they ran.

In the end, the whole episode was probably for the best. We lost the use of one computer for a week, but it could have been a lot worse. And now you can bet that every new piece of computer software is scanned first, and our antivirus database is updated regularly to ward off new bugs.

—Abe Dane

Detection And Removal Of A File-Infector Virus



 File-infector viruses. As the name implies, these germs work on your computer's files-usually executable files (those with suffixes such as .COM, .EXE, .SYS and .BIN). Typically, these viruses hide the program's original loading instructions and add their own code, so that the virus loads first. Once an infected file is executed, the virus spreads to other executable files.

A file infector that caused red faces last summer was Kaos4. This cutie gave a bad dose to those cruising an X-rated bulletin board on the Internet-at least those who downloaded some of the erotic shareware and failed to run a virus scan before scoping the goodies. Kaos4 wasn't very destructive-it was more of an embarrassing nuisance that added a 697-byte suffix with the author's pen name to the files it infected. But it got around like a hot phone number.

Like most file infectors, the addition of the viral code increased the size of the files-a telltale sign that antivirus programs look for. But viruses are now getting trickier, using encryption and other means to cover their tracks or hide their presence.

 Polymorphic viruses. Encrypted viruses can hide, but polymorphic viruses can run. Their encryption changes with each infection, requiring more sophisticated antivirus scanning techniques. They're also called mutation-engine viruses.

Stealth viruses. Experts say that

these are the most pernicious viruses around. Besides their other tricks, stealth viruses make their work invisible by hiding in the computer's memory. From there, they can deceive users and antivirus software by recognizing and intercepting checkup messages, then returning an all's-well sign. Pogue, a file infector that ironically means "kiss" in Gaelic, is such a pain. Effective antivirus programs will detect their activity in system memory.

Some viruses are maliciously destructive, designed to wipe out files, corrupt them beyond use or make them inaccessible. Others might not be intentionally damaging, simply playful. Form, for example, is a bootsector virus that on the 18th of each month causes a PC's speakers to make a clicking sound with each keystroke.

Still, annoyance aside, even silly viruses can become problematic. The additional code of a file infector (such as the 697-byte string that Kaos4 added to files) could, over time, deplete available memory or become a cumbersome parasite that, like barnacles on a boat's hull, causes a computer to work less efficiently.

Your best chance of avoiding a virus or minimizing an infection is to install an antivirus program. Some popular titles for IBM-type PCs include Norton AntiVirus (Symantec Corp., 800-441-7234), IBM's own IBM AntiVirus (800-551-3579) and Virus-

used to examine any new software file or those where VShield detects infection. The program diagnoses a virus and removes it, then, if possible, restores the file to its original condition. Severely damaged files might have to be replaced with those on a clean backup copy.

> Scan (McAfee Associates. 800-866-6585). There's one that you don't even have to install: MicroSoft AntiVirus for Windows by Central Point Software, because it comes preloaded with the Windows operating system.

> > For Apple Macintosh owners, a shareware program called Disinfectant 3.5 can be downloaded for

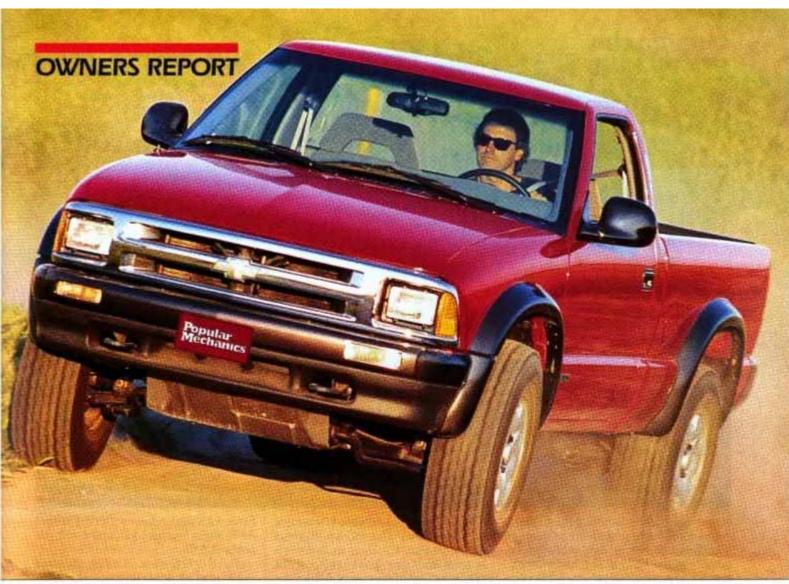
free from commercial online services or obtained by mail from its developer (send a self-addressed stamped envelope and a blank 800KB or 1440KB diskette to: John Norstad, Academic Computing and Network Services. Northwestern University, 2129 N. Campus Dr., Evanston, IL 60208).

McAfee's VirusScan 2.1 provides a good example of how an antivirus program works. It's actually a 2-part process that begins by establishing a sterile environment.

First, the VirusScan detection portion of the program checks all parts of the computer, including multimedia CD-ROMs, to see if any virus is present. If so, the program removes the infection, and either restores the contaminated files or instructs you how to restore or replace them. Next, when a virus-free condition is ascertained, McAfee's software installs a monitoring program called VShield, a buffer zone that resides in the computer's memory and immediately alerts you to any subsequent infection. If you see a red flag, you can run the software through VirusScan.

The key to making VirusScan or any such program effective is to use it regularly-and to keep it current. The latter part is easy. At least once a month, McAfee releases updated de-

(Please turn to page 128)



CHEVROLET S-10 PICKUP

A second "car" that really hauls.

BY MICHAEL LAMM, Contributing Editor; PM Photos by Scott Dahlquist

Pickups have come a long way since the Reo Speedwagon, and millions of urban Americans who 10 years ago wouldn't have dreamed of owning a truck now do—with pride. Anesthesiologists and archeologists, hunters and housewives bought pickups for all sorts of reasons. Utility did enter the equation, but if pickups weren't fun to drive, most of these workhorses would still be down on the farm.

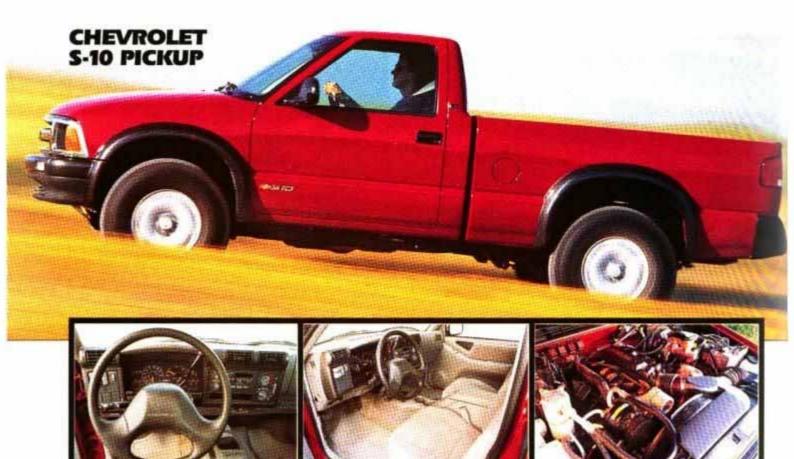
The Chevy S-10, originally a 1982 model, didn't change much until 1994. That year, Chevrolet restyled the compact S-10 bumper to bumper, stretching overall length 10 in., widening the vehicle 3 in. and adding nearly 2 in. to the height. The regular and extended cabs got bigger, seats and instrument panel grew more comfortable and harmonious, designers pushed the windshield forward and raked it more, and a lot of work went into sealing, insulating and tightening. What the Bowtie Boys and everyone else in the industry recognized was

that buyers craved as much comfort and performance in a pickup as in a car, and truck utility and toughness. So those were some of the attributes the 1994 S-10 took on.

(Though we only surveyed Chevy owners, the GMC Sonoma shares the S-10's DNA and all of its attributes.)

Our Owners Report covers the 1994 S-10, but it could just as easily apply to the 1995 model. Important changes for '95 include a driver's-side airbag—something our '94 owners asked for—and a drop in price. The base 1994 S-10 carried a \$10,125 sticker, while its '95 counterpart lists for \$9655, even with the airbag, side-impact door beams and high-mounted stoplight. However, not many people we talked to bought stripped S-10s. They paid an average of \$14,211.

The most popular engine in our survey was the 165hp iteration of GM's 4.3-liter Vortec V6. There's also an "Enhanced" version of this same engine that delivers 195 horses. The high-output V6 attracted 22.5% of our



respondents. The base 2.2-liter Four, rated at 118 hp, ended up powering 30.6% of our S-10s. And while most owners of the Four said it had enough muscle to meet their needs, 7.3% told

* Percentages might not equal 100% due to rounding up or insufficient data.

Redesigned dashboard is easily legible.

us they wished they'd opted for one of the V6s instead. The 165-hp V6 costs \$850 more than the Four in 2wd models and includes 4-wheel antilock brakes instead of rear-only ABS. (The

Comfort is good really for only two.

Four with 2wd comes with rear-wheel ABS, while V6s and 4wds all now have 4-wheel ABS.)

Most owners chose the standard V6.

The S-10 offers a daunting menu of equipment choices. Basics include the

SUMMARY OF CHEVROLET S-10 PICKUP OWNERS REPORTS*

Total miles driven	1,515,520	Avg. mpg, city/hwy:		Poor	1.8	What type of trouble?	
Average miles driven	6827	2.2-liter Four	22.4/26.9	Overall performance:	CONTRACTOR VALUE	Misc. electrical	13,4%
Purchase price:		165-hp 4.3-liter V6	18.7/22.7	Excellent	51.6%	Automatic transmission	13.4
Average	\$14,211	195-hp 4.3-liter V6	18.7/22.9	Good	44.4	Alternator	16.4
	810-\$21,154	5-speed manual	21.3/25.5	Average	3.1	Brakes	10.4
Series and drivetrain choices:		4-speed automatic	18.8/23.0	Poor	0.9	Manual shifter	9.0
S-10 LS 2x4	55,7%	Specific likes:		Control layout:		Vacuum hoses	6.0
Base S-10 2x2	28.3	Styling	58,7%	Excellent	53.5%	Windshield wipers	6.0
S-10 LS 2x2	13.9	Rade quality	29.6	Good	44.2	Repair it yourself?	
Base S-10 2x4	20	Comfort	28.0	Average	2.2	No	98,59
Engine choices:		Handling	24.9	Poor	0.0	Yes	1.5
4.3-liter 165-hp V6	46.8%	Powerful engine	24.9	Instrumentation:		Dealer repairs satisfactory?	
2.2-liter 118-hp Four	30.6	Economy	20.1	Excellent	54.9%	Yes	66.1%
4.3-liter 195-hp V6	22.5	Roominess	14.3	Good	42.9	No	33.9
Transmission choices:	10.00	Specific dislikes:	77333	Average	1.8	Dealer service opinion:	8300
4-speed automatic	62.8%	No complaints	16.2%	Poor	0.4	Excellent	47.49
5-speed manual	37.2	Not enough power	12.2	Driver sightlines:	1000	Good	40.7
Cab type:	70 6 140	Mpg lower than expected	10.1	Excellent	60.9%	Average	9.1
Regular	55.4%	Brakes grab, spongy pedal	8.1	Good	36.0	Poor	9.9
Extended	44.6	Paint chips easily	6.1	Average	2.7	Dealer sales policy:	TO SE
Bed type:	4	Road and wind noise	4.7	Poor	0.4	Excellent	43.9%
Standard 6.05 ft.	91.79	Seating comfort	4.7	Overall convenience:	100.00	Good	39.5
Longbed 7.38 ft.	8.3	Suggested changes:	36.47	Excellent	57.2%	Average	13.6
Why did you choose the S		No changes	15.6%	Good	40.5	Poor	3.1
Styling	50.5%	Make airbags available	8.3	Average	2.3	Number of vehicles owned:	58.4
Price value	21.6	More powerful engine	7.3	Poor	0.0	This vehicle only	22.6%
Previous ownership	18.6	More comfortable seats	6.4	Workmanship opinion:	0.00	Two vehicles	47.3
	9.3		6.4	Excellent	61.0%	Three vehicles	15.0
Power/performance	8.3	Greater interior space		Good	33.6	Four or more	15.1
Economy of operation	8.3	Fix wet brake performance	4.6	Average	4.9	Principal driver:	10.1
For hauling		Offer more options	4.0		0.4	Male	87.6%
Roominess	8.3	Engine power:	400 400	Poor	0.4		
Options/Accessories:	CALLER	Excellent	48.4%	Comfort opinion, front seats:	nener.	Female	11.0
Air conditioning	84.1%	Good	30.6	Excellent	64.0%	Equal	1.4
YC5 Appearance package	65.6	Average	9.8	Good	32.0	Age distribution of owners:	0000000
Premium sound system	62.7	Poor	2.2	Average	3.1	Under 29	22.0%
Altoy wheels	57.7	Handling:	SHOP	Poor	0.9	30-49	38.1
Sliding rear window	221.8	Excellent	50.4%	Comfort opinion, rear seats:		50-plus	39.9
Locking differential	22.1	Good	43.6	Excellent	22.3%		
Cold-climate puckage	20.0	Average	3.6	Good	33.9	Based on your experiences	, would
Electronic-shift transfer of		Poor	0.4	Average	25.0	you buy a Chevrolet S-10 pi	ickup il
SS performancertrum paci	inge 16.4	Braking:		Poor	18.8	you had it to do over again?	The state of
Transcring comprisent	12.9	Excellent	50.4%	Any mechanical trouble?		Yes	71.0%
ZM2 on off-road package	9.3	Good	39.3	No	71.0%	Maybe	23.7
ZM6 off-road package	4.6	Average	8.5	Yes	29.0	No	5.4

two cab types, extended and regular boxes, two engines in three power ratings, 5-speed manual or 4-speed automatic transmissions, 2- and 4-wheel drive with manual or electronic shift, plus nine different suspension packages. And that's not all—you still have to decide about the LS appearance and trim group: the 195-horse 2wd SS performance/trim package, the ZR2 on/off-road package or the cold-climate package plus trailering equipment, premium sound system, air conditioning, bucket or bench seats, sliding rear window and on and on.

The main reason most owners put themselves behind the wheel of an S-10 was its very bold, sporty new look. More than half listed styling as the reason they bought this pickup.

What they liked, after styling, was the S-10's ride and seating comfort. "There's a lot of room to get comfortable," commented a Massachusetts financial planner. A West Virginia contractor noted, "Interior size is great. I'm 6-4 and weigh 300 pounds and I'm comfortable driving this S-10."

A few owners pointed out, though, that the fold-up side seat in the extended cab was strictly for one kid on

a short hop.

The truck's comfort goes beyond interior room. "It's quieter than most cars I've driven," wrote a Texas engineer. That's because there's more than the usual amount of weather-stripping on the double-walled doors. There's also semiflush glass and wind-tunnel-silenced outside mirrors, as well as lots of sound deadener throughout the cab and under the hood.

Workmanship was rated excellent by 61%, and only 29% of our respondents reported any type of mechanical problem. Brakes, however, tended to grab after the pickup had been outside overnight in cold, wet weather. A few drivers also reported sponginess in the brake pedal. Dealers were

judged good but not great.

One thing that surprised us was the "Yes, I'd buy it again" statistic. Even acknowledging that most S-10 owners felt deeply about their trucks, we didn't expect 71% to tell us they'd go for an S-10 the next time around. The S-10 is, after all, a 2+1 seater at best, and lots of owners have growing families. So where did they plan to put future offspring? And then we looked at the responses to how many cars and trucks they owned in total. All but 22.6% already listed two or more vehicles in the family. So the S-10 became a "second car" of sorts. In some cases, a third or fourth car. And that's why these guys (87.6% male ownership) could be so cavalier. It seems like the passion that put them in trucks will keep them in trucks.



tractor noted, "Interior size is great. Many of our respondents bought this truck based on the appeal of its sporty, brutish I'm 6-4 and weigh 300 pounds and I'm looks. The rest of the package—not to mention its low price—kept them happy.

EDITORS REPORT

Everyman's Practical Sportabout

• While nobody was really looking, something very interesting happened in the fun-to-drive auto market. The compact pickup truck has become the inexpensive sportster of the '90s. A passenger compartment that's equipped (typically) with a couple of bucket seats, a potent engine, maybe a 5-speed and rear-wheel drive that lets you break out the rear end, all in a package that's priced under most passenger cars, is just hard to resist.

In reality, though, the pickup has actually transcended all sporty cars to date. The pickup offers something no sports car ever could. Just add up the practicality of the whole thing—not only is a compact pickup less expensive than just about any sporty car, but it's also less expensive to insure and maintain than a sporty car. And there's all of that utility available—compliments of the cargo bed sitting above the rear wheels.

Then, in the case of the Chevy S-10 and its kissing cousin, the GMC Sonoma, you add the undeniable sex appeal of sporty sheetmetal and the allure of a modern interior. That interior, of course, can be adorned with such amenities as a/c, a respectable sound system and power windows. Hey, this is a very hard-to-pass-up have-fun driving package.

Naturally, to have even more fun, Chevy (and GMC) offers more for some more green—additional power with a stronger V6, off-road capability and on-road seriousness with various suspension and tire packages. And regardless of which option boxes you check off when ordering one of these—extended cab or regular, hot motor or cool, AM/FM with or without cassette—you automatically get the cargo box in back. No matter what your pals at the club may say, no matter how crazy your mom or your wife may think you are, this thing is practical. There are just a myriad number of uses for that cargo box. Or leave it empty all the time and just enjoy the drivetrain and the cab.

If you don't want to leave the cargo bed barren—like when someone calls your "practical" bluff—Chevy has added a clever touch. Notches in the sidewalls accommodate 2 × 6s upon which you can lay a sheet of plywood to create a second floor in

the cargo bed.

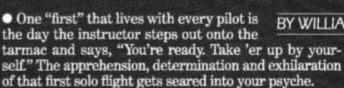
The compact pickup is definitely the sportster of our time, and Chevrolet (and GMC) has absolutely figured out the formula. The S-10 is fun, responsive and sporty. Oh sure, it's still a truck, so the steering is slower than you might like, and the ride—especially when the cargo bed is empty and the road is rough—can be harsh. But the fun of driving, and even riding in, this well-designed, well-executed small truck more than compensates for those complaints. And don't forget—there's all that potential utility sitting there behind you.

-Don Chaikin

COVER STORY

WATER S

A new generation of homebuilt seabirds will free you from runways without drowning you in bills.



For me, an event nearly as memorable occurred the first time I alighted, quite intentionally, on a river and shut off the engine. I went from land to air to water in the course of one 15-minute flight. And there I was, surrounded by water, watching the world glide by in silence. The scene and sensations were a jumble of juxtaposition—and utterly delightful.

Suddenly, the boundaries of flying seemed to vanish. While runways are rare, water is everywhere. But even more satisfying was the outrageousness of putting an airplane on water without dire consequences.

Machines designed to function in multiple environments are invariably more complex and costly than their single-world counterparts. The lumbering sea-

BY WILLIAM GARVEY

Planes of yesteryear, such as the Grumman Albatross and Boeing 234 flying

boats, are good examples. But for today's aquarian airmen, there's a new generation of light amphibious kitplanes. This group ranges from aluminum-and-fabric rigs to a high-performance 4-place machine.

And in case you've got the urge to wander the ocean skies but lack the patience to build your own waterbird, we've included a slick factory-made amphib as well. No matter which you pick, you'll never think of "going to the beach" in quite the same way again.

Buccaneers

Open-cockpit tube-and-fabric ultralights, the Buccaneer SX and Buccaneer II kits arrive with the hard work—welding, stitching and such—already done.

Water-friendly planes that come in a kit include (top to bottom) an all-composite biplane, a sleek wooden 2-seater and a steel-tube-on-fiberglass amphibian.



Osprey 2

OSPREY 2



WATER WINGS

Assembly takes a mere 170 to 200 hours. To date, Keuthan Aviation has delivered some 500 Buccaneers.

The single-place SX comes with a Rotax 503 standard, which lifts the 800-pound bird skyward after a mere 175-ft, run. Cruise is 65 mph. The beefier side-by-side II uses a 582 to loft its maximum 1150 pounds off the water after a measly 275-ft. run. Cruise is 76 mph. The standard SX kit lists for \$15,990, and the II comes in at \$19,990.

For more information, contact Keuthan Aviation Inc., 910 Airport Rd., Merritt Island, FL 32952, or call (407) 459-3200.

SeaRey

First flown in 1992, the SeaRey takes 350 to 400 hours to build, using basic hand tools and a pop rivet gun. Once assembled, the SeaRey can be trailered because its wings detach.

Sliding canopies and a 44-in,-wide cabin mark this 1200-pound aircraft. A Rotax 582 gets the bird off land or water in 300 ft. Cruise is 85 mph.

The SeaRey costs \$22,900. Some 60 kits have been delivered to date, and two-thirds of those are already flying.

For details, contact Progressive Aerodyne Inc., 520 Clifton St., Orlando, FL 32808, or call (407) 292-3700.

Osprey 2

One of the most handsome amphibs, the rakish Osprey 2 is distinctive in its construction as well. Composites be damned-this is a wood airplane (with fiberglass and metal parts where necessary, of course).

Pushed by a 150-hp Lycoming 4banger, the 2-place 1560-pound Osprey comes off the water in 530 ft. It's off concrete in 400 ft. Cruise at 70% power is 126 mph.

Unveiled in the 1970s as a plansonly design, the Osprey 2 has proven immensely popular, with 1500 sets of plans sold and 500 airplanes flying. Working strictly from plans (\$195 per set), you'll finish in 2000 to 3000 hours.



Ready-made parts shorten that timetable by 500 hours. All totaled, you'll probably invest \$15,000 to \$18,000 before you can get the Osprey airborne.

For information, contact Osprey Aircraft, 3741 El Ricon Way, Sacramento, CA 95864, or call (916) 483-3004.

Catalina

The Catalina boasts a true 3-place cabin, flaperons and folding wings. The sleek amphib features a steel-tube fuselage on a one-piece fiberglass hull.

Powered by a Rotax 582, the 1200pound Catalina can leave the waves in 756 ft. and cruise at 75 mph. With optional wing tanks installed, the bird can migrate for 10 hours aloft.

Some 160 Avid Aircraft amphibian kits have been delivered, and some 70 are airborne. Average build time is 700 to 800 hours. The Catalina is priced at \$21,995, including engine.

For further details, contact Avid

The all-fiberglass Seawind (above) seats four, and the ultralight Buccaneer II (below left) comes to life in less than 200 hours. Below right, Lake's amphibian arrives fully built, and the homebuilt SeaRey has wings that detach in about 40 minutes.

Aircraft Inc., P.O. Box 728, Caldwell, ID 83606, or call (208) 454-2600.

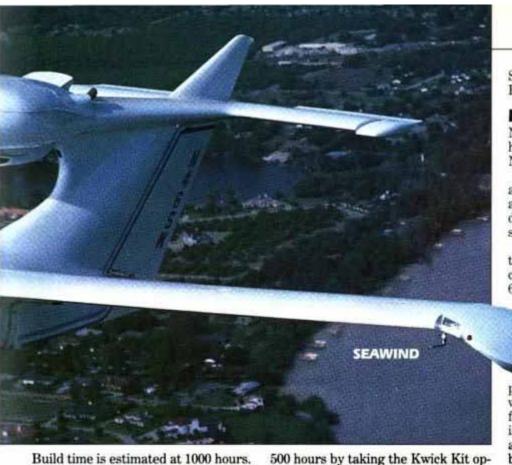
Glass Goose

Among all kitplanes, this amphibious biplane is one of the most intriguing. The double wing gives the Glass Goose 151 sq. ft. of wing area within a relatively short 27-ft. wingspan.

Despite the extra wing drag, the Goose runs fast-135 mph cruiseand far-1100 miles with standard 70gallon tanks. Powered by a 160-hp Lycoming, the 1750-pound bipe will depart whitecaps after an 800-ft. run.

At press time, kit shipments had just begun, and assembly of the first two aircraft was proceeding rapidly.





Build time is estimated at 1000 hours.

The Glass Goose kit-less engine, instruments and radios-is \$18,000. Figure on investing \$32,000 to \$35,000.

For more information, contact Quikkit Inc., 9002 Summer Glen, Dallas, TX 75243, or call (214) 349-0462.

Seawind

If you want a kit amphibian that goes fast and far-and carries four-look no further. This is the one and only.

An all-fiberglass design, driven by a 300-hp Lycoming, the Seawind boasts a 191-mph cruise (at 75% power), 980-mile range and 1100pounds useful load. This 3400-pound beast takes off after an 820-ft. run on the ground or 1100 ft, on water. Once airborne, it claws skyward at better than 1250 feet per minute.

Having delivered 75 kits, S.N.A. estimates build time at 2000 hours for first-timers. You can shave off 400 to

For more about Seawind, contact S.N.A., Inc., P.O. Box 607, Kimberton, PA 19442, or call (610) 983-3377.

Lake Renegades

No interest in investing countless hours sawing, sanding and painting? No problem. Your seaplane is waiting.

Lake Aircraft has been making amphibs for more than 40 years and has delivered 1300 worldwide. Today, Lakes are the only FAA-certified single-engine amphibians being built.

Aluminum skinned, the Lakes feature a midwing pusher engine and tricycle gear. The Renegade 250 is a 6-place machine with a 250-hp Lycom-

ing, while the Turbo Renegade, powered by a turbocharged 270-hp Lycoming, carries four. At its fully loaded weight of 3140

pounds, the standard Renegade has a water takeoff of 1250 ft. Cruise at 6000 ft. is 150 mph (75% power), and range is 912 miles. Turbocharging pays off at altitude-the Turbo Renegade 270 boasts a 177-mph cruise at 20,000 ft.

Base price for the 250 is \$386,800, and for the Turbo, it's \$425,200.

For more particulars, contact Lake Aircraft Inc., 50 Airport Rd., Laconia Municipal Airport, Gilford, NH 03246, or call (603) 524-5868.





tion, but that ups the ante by \$9800.

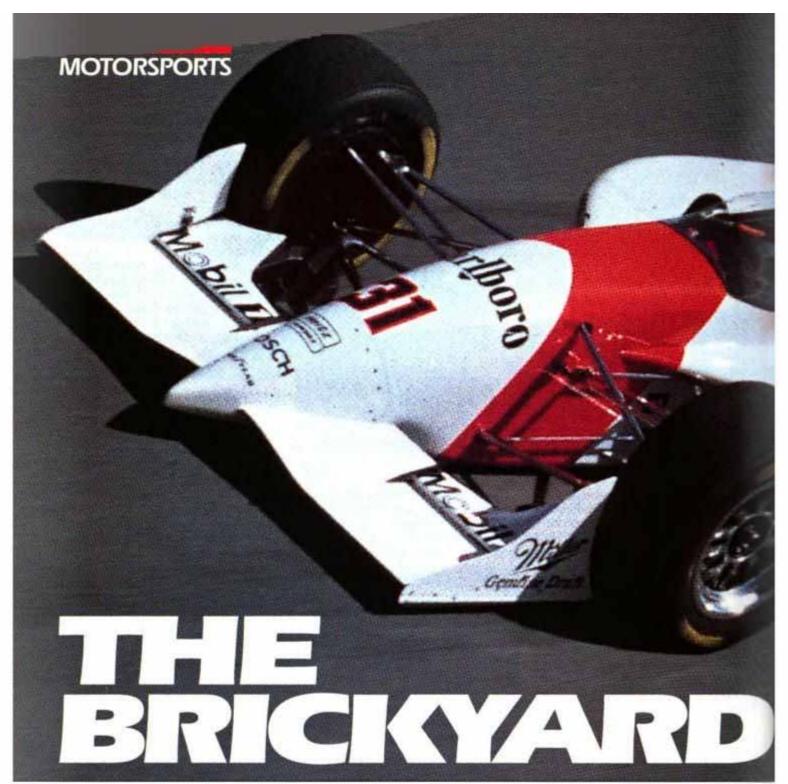
A standard kit-less engine, prop,

electrical wiring and upholstery-is

\$43,980. For a completed plane, outfit-

ted for instrument flight, the invest-

ment will run upward of \$100,000.



• It's the biggest single-day sporting event on Earth and the oldest race on the U.S. calendar. It's 33 cars wheel to wheel at 245 mph for 200 who hav laps. The Indy 500 is also the best-paying and most expensive race there is. The total purse in 1994 was nearly \$1.4 million.

However, given the price of competing, the prize money must be bodacious. Consider that a 1995 Lola or Reynard Indycar goes for about \$500,000, and each team has to have one or two spare cars per driver. Then the Ford-Cosworth, Honda and Mercedes-Ilmor racing engines are leased, not sold, to the teams, with the deal usually including a half dozen or so complete engines plus a specified number of engine rebuilds during the season for about \$1.5 million per lease program. Throw in the sophisticated telemetry systems for an additional \$50,000 per car.

It's expensive, all right, but alluring.

The players

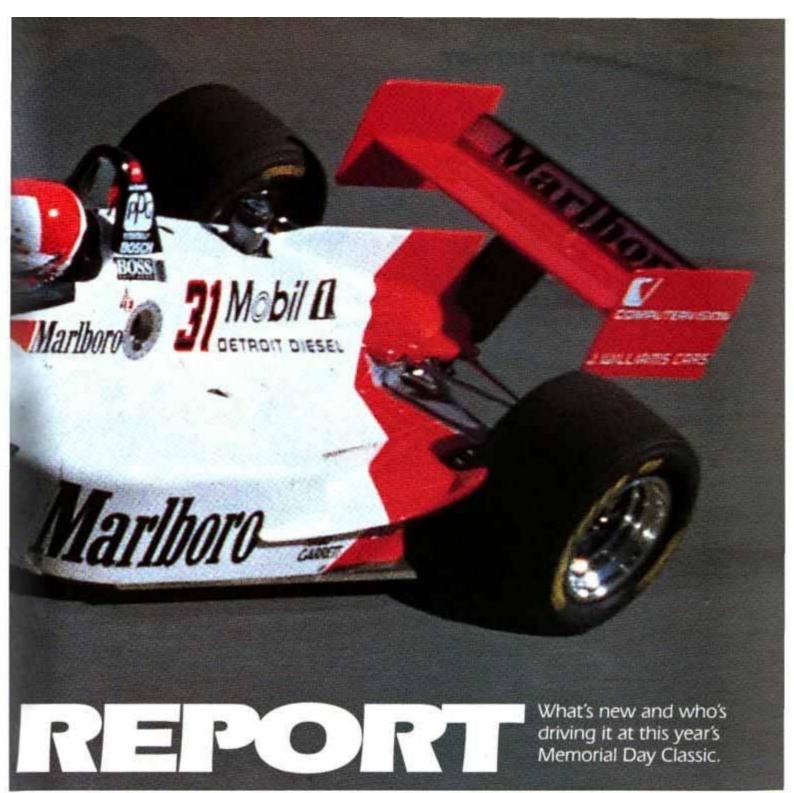
who have retired; Nigel Mansell, who has returned to Formula One; John Andretti, who's driving in NASCAR; and Jeff Andretti, who's recuperating from injuries.

Present on the program will be five former winners: defending champ Al Unser Jr. (1994, 1992), Emerson Fittipaldi (1993, 1989), Danny Sullivan (1985), Arie Luyendyk (1990) and Bobby Rahal (1986).

Here, in alphabetical order, are the teams:

 Arciero Racing has Hiro Matsushita—with his Panasonic sponsorship—in a new Lola/Ford.

- Tony Bettenhausen has a car for Swedish speedster Stefan Johansson, and maybe one for himself. The cars are last year's Penske cars, with new Mercedes engines.
- The CompTech team has Honda power for Parker Johnstone's Reynard.
- Forsythe Racing, formerly half of Forsythe-Green,



will be putting the veteran Teo Fabi in a Reynard/Ford-Cosworth combination.

 A.J. Foyt will be backing veteran driver Eddie Cheever's Lola/Ford.

 Rick Galles will run a Lola/Mercedes-Ilmor this year. The driver is Adrian Fernandez and sponsors are the Mexican beer Tecate and Quaker State.

 Chip Ganassi will have Ford-Cosworthpowered Reynards for Bryan Herta and Jimmy Vasser.

 Barry Green has a Reynard with a Ford-Cosworth for Jacques Villeneuve.

The team to beat at indy is the juggernaut Mariboro Team Penske. First, there's Al Unser Jr., shown at the top of the page winning last year's race. Second, there's teammate Emerson Fittipaldi, shown at right at Phoenix in this year's improved car.



 Jim Hall, under the Pennzoil banner, will field former Reynard test driver Gil de Ferran in a Mercedes-Ilmor-powered Reynard.

• The Indy Regency entry of Sal Incandela has a Lola/Mercedes-Ilmor.
As of this writing, there's no driver.

• John Menard will self-sponsor his team again this year, along with Glidden Paints and Quaker State, for car driver Scott Brayton. The stock-block Buick V6 engine, now campaigned as a Menard, will be in a new Lola chassis designed specifically for it. This is the last year at Indy for the stockblock V6.

 Paul Newman and Lola importer Carl Haas have former series champ Michael Andretti and Paul Tracy on the Kmart/Havoline team.

 PacWest, owned by Bruce Mc-Caw, has three entries. One is for Danny Sullivan and another for Brazilian Mauricio Gugelmin. The third is for Dominic Dobson, a partner in and vice president of the team. All are Reynard/Fords.

 Jack and Allan Pagan will back Dennis Vitolo in a Reynard/Mercedes.

U.E. "Pat" Patrick makes his return to Indy after a couple of seasons with a Lola T95 chassis, Firestone tires and Ford-Cosworth power for driver Scott Pruett.

 Payton/Coyne Racing has former NFL-star Walter Payton in partnership with veteran car owner Dale Coyne fielding Ford-Cosworthpowered Lolas for Belgian Eric Bachelart and Italian Alessandro Zampedri under Agfa Film and Mi-Jack sponsorship.

 The awesome 1995 Marlboro-Penske/Mercedes team, with seven wins in the past 10 Indy 500s and 10 wins in 25 years, will have defending champion Al Unser Jr. and former Formula One champ and 2-time Indy 500 winner, Brazilian Emerson Fittipaldi. Both will drive Penske PC-24 cars powered by the new Mercedes-Ilmor IC-108 racing engines.

 Project Indy, a team co-owned by driver Christian Danner and German racing veteran Andreas Leberle, will field a Reynard with Cosworth power.
 The driver is still unnamed.

 The newly reconstituted Bobby Rahal/Carl Hogan team will have Bobby Rahal in the Miller Genuine Draft Lola with Mercedes-Ilmor power, joined this year by Brazilian Raul Boesel, who brings his Duracell sponsorship.

 Dick Simon fields three Lola/Ford-Cosworth combinations for drivers Dean Hall (Subway) and Chilean Eliseo Salazar (Cristal Bottling), and in partnership with restaurateur Jonathan Byrd for Davy Jones.

 Tasman Motorsports, under Steve Horne, will run a new Honda-powered Reynard on Firestones, with Brazilian Andre Ribeiro driving.

 Derrick Walker will field two cars—one with Robby Gordon driving for Valvoline and one for Christian Fittipaldi, Emerson's nephew, driving

A Corvette Sets The Pace Again

 Chevrolet General Manager Jim Perkins will drive the Indy Pace Car. That's because this year's Pace Car will once again be a Corvette,

the third time in the past 17 years. The 1995 version will carry custom paint—a dark purple metallic accent panel over an arctic-white bottom half—and a white convertible top. It will be powered by a stock 300-horse-power LT1 V8, and an automatic transmission.

The tires and wheels have been upgraded to the P275/40ZR-17 Goodyear GSC and 5-spoke alloy wheels from the now-departed ZR1.

In addition to the tire and wheel changes and the paint scheme, the fleet of three Pace Cars will include a rollbar behind the cockpit, a set of



power LT1 V8, and An LT1 Corvette with ZR1 wheels and tires, trick paint and lights paces the race.

360' strobe lamps, two sets of competition-style 5-point safety harnesses, a complete set of radios, microphones and headphones, and an on-board fire-extinguisher system. While you probably won't be able to drive any of the three original Pace Cars, Chevrolet will be offering 500 road-going Indy Pace Car replicas.

The replicas will all be automatic LT1 convertibles with purple metallic over white paint, air conditioning, Delco Bose sound system with cassette and CD player, 3.07:1 rear axle, 9½-in. ZR1 front and rear wheels with ZR1 275/4078.

with ZR1 275/40ZR-

17 tires and ZR1 brake rotors, black leather sport-bucket power seats embroidered with the 79th Indianapolis 500 logo, plus special Indy Pace Car exterior graphics.

—J.M.

the Marlboro Brazil entry in his first Indy 500. Both will be in a Ford-Cosworth-powered Reynard chassis.

1995 engines: more rpm

The Indy 500 rules, set by the United States Auto Club (USAC), will be identical in bank angle, compression ratio or bore and stroke combination.

With displacement, boost, methanol fuel and steel-spring valvetrains dictated by the rules, about the only way to make more power is to spin the engine faster, which all three engine builders will do in 1995. These engines develop about 800 hp at 13,500 rpm.

agement. The 80° XB engine is, in effect, designed to operate as two 4cylinder engines connected by a flat 180° crankshaft.

The Mercedes-Ilmor IC-108 engine has new cylinder heads, a new and larger plenum, a new ignition system and a new engine-management system for this year. Like the Cosworth



ulations. This will be the last year for the 2.65-liter (161-cu.-in.) engine size. Next year, the Speedway management will launch its own series, the Indy Racing League, with a 2.2-liter dohc 4-valve V8 engine formula, and USAC and IndyCar are expected to use the same size engines in order to keep costs down.

The rule book still allows the use of the 209-cu.-in, engines at 55 in. of boost, so John Menard, who built such engines for last year's race based on the original Buick V6 design, will be back with them.

The Ford-Cosworth XB engine, the Mercedes-Ilmor IC-108 and the Honda Indy V8 engine are similar in concept: dohc 32-valve V8 engines with single turbochargers. The 48 in. of boost is limited by pop-off valves supplied by USAC.

There are differences in the engines' cylinder heads, intake plenums, electronic ignitions, engine-management systems and physical size. While USAC sets the limits on total displacement, designers can use any cylinder-

Last year, Indy newcomer Honda raced its HRX engine with Bobby Rahal, using aluminum heads and accessories bolted to a steel block-about a 50-pound weight penalty versus the competition. That engine will be replaced for Indy by the HRH engine, a completely new design with allaluminum construction, much higher rpm capability and a larger intake plenum. While the cylinder-bank angle is classified, we'd bet on an 80" layout and a flat, 180° crankshaft like the Cosworth and Ilmor engines.

The Ford-Cosworth XB Series II engine, to be put on the track first by Newman/Haas and Ganassi Racing, features new cylinder heads and valvetrain, a new plenum design and new electronic ignition and engine mandurability improvements over last year's winning car, and a totally redesigned dohc 32-valve Mercedes-Ilmor engine.

XB, the Mercedes-Ilmor engine is essentially designed to operate as two 4-cylinders.

Chassis evolution

A typical Indycar weighs a minimum of 1550 pounds empty, about 2000 pounds with driver, 40 gallons of methanol fuel and lubricants. Wheelbases average 115 in., with an overall length of about 190 in. and a width of about 80 in. Front tread width is about 68 in., with the rear tires tucked in slightly, at about 64 in. Ground clearance under the flat-bottomed Indycar is about 1 in., and overall height is about 36 in. at the roll hoop.

There are only three chassis builders. Penske doesn't sell current chassis to customers, but does sell its year-old cars. The other two are British-based builders, Lola and Reynard, and they are in the business of selling customer chassis.

To keep cost and complexity down,

What Happens When An Indycar Crashes When a driver hits the wall at 200 mph, the body decelerates by nearly 50 mph in milliseconds. As the car spins along the wall, the forces are absorbed by the car and the driver's body.

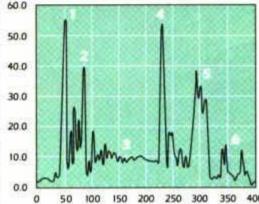
 What do we know about the tremendous forces at work when a 2000-pound car going 200 mph is stopped instantaneously by an unforgiving concrete wall?

Thanks to the IndyCar organization, the GM Motorsports Technology Group (MTG), GM Research and the GM Biomedical Science group, we know much more about crash forces and crash dynamics than ever before.

The MTG staff, working with GM safety experts, developed the Instrumented Sensor Technology (IST) black box. This can measure acceleration/deceleration up to a maximum of 200 g's, in longitudinal, lateral and vertical axes, sampling the forces up to 2000 times per second.

A 7-g threshold is built into the box so that normal race conditions don't trigger the recorder. Duration settings are set to preclude the recording of spikes caused by engine vibrations at 13,000 rpm. Each box has about 500K of memory, which continuously overwrites itself if no incident takes place.

The recorder data is combined with physical measurements of the crash site and videotape to provide scientists with a millisecond-by-millisecond record of the crash. GM MTG crews put fresh batteries into the black boxes and supervise the installation of the black boxes into each car, on Thursday or Friday before



The forces of the crash shown above are plotted by the IST. Peaks correlate with numbers above.

each race, and collect the boxes from each crew after every race—crash or no crash.

In one recent IndyCar crash monitored by MTG, the car spun at 190 mph, and after the spin went into the wall head-on, resulting in a 38-mph velocity change in about 70 milliseconds and a 60-g impact. Instruments recorded that the car hit the wall at 179 mph and was sliding along the wall at 63 mph. The composite nose cone of the race car absorbed 120,000 pounds of force (60 g's × the 2000-pound weight of the car) in 50 milliseconds, with no damage whatsoever to the chassis, tires or front suspension. The driver got out and walked away.

Dr. Terry Trammell, the IndyCar

medical director and a surgeon at Methodist Hospital of Indianapolis, has said that, mile for mile, you're 30 times more likely to crash at Indy than on a highway, but that you're only 1.2 times more likely to be injured in that crash, even at very high speeds.

But crashes do happen, and a human body so tightly restrained in the cockpit distorts under the very high negative-g loadings. GM crash-sled studies using the GM Hybrid III anthropomorphic dummy, helmeted and strapped into a simulated Indycar cockpit, displayed significant data.

A 40-g deceleration from 45 mph showed the dummy elongating the neck, torso and arms into contact with the cockpit interior or windscreen. The heavy-duty full-face helmet worn by a racing driver makes the driver's head heavier and adds to the neck distortion. In a very close simulation to a racing crash, the instruments showed an average head acceleration of 77 g's, lumbar compression of almost 2200 pounds of force and an average neck tension of more than 1200 pounds of force.

Armed with this new information, safety experts are working with Indy-Car designers to eliminate sharp composite edges in cockpits and to add padding—wherever possible—to reduce life-threatening head and neck injuries and disabling injuries to the lower extremities. —J.M.





GM did crash testing, using a helmeted dummy in a mock race-car cockpit, to determine driver stress loads in a race crash.



the manufacturers use a single allcarbon-fiber chassis design and alter its characteristics for street, road, oval and speedway courses by changing front and rear wings for more or less downforce, and by changing front- and rear-suspension arms to provide long wheelbases for highspeed tracks like Indy and Michigan, and shorter wheelbases for the rest of the series.

Penske's all-conquering PC23 design from last year has been mildly updated for 1995. Designer Nigel Bennett changed the engine bay in order to accommodate the new engine. There's a longer nose section and a relocated driver's seat, farther back than before, which alters weight distribution and helps the car change direction more easily. The transverse transaxle and the engine's bellhousing have been lightened and made more compact. The Penske PC24's cockpit sides have been raised slightly for driver protection, and Kevlar material has been added to the sides of the car.

The 1995 Reynard has been changed significantly from last year to make it less pitch-sensitive and easier to drive. The side pods are taller, the air intakes and ducting for engine cooling are changed and the air handling in the under tray is all new. The Reynard uses a normal 5-speed longitudinal transaxle behind the engine, while the Penske and Lola use new transverse transaxles, though the 1995 Reynard reflects a 35-pound weight reduction in the transaxle. Fordpowered Reynards use a smaller engine cover than the MercedesIlmor and Honda-powered Reynards.

The Lola chassis, which teams found difficult to balance last year, has been tamed for 1995. The Lola design team has raised the side pods, and the cooling duct intakes are reshaped to provide the same cross section in a narrower shape—all in search of better aerodynamics.

The tire war

This year's Indianapolis 500 marks the return of Firestone after 21 years. To prepare, the company

Contenders include: Michael Andretti's Kmart/Texaco Ford-Lola (top), Bobby Rahal's Miller Genuine Draft Mercedes-Lola (right) and Robby Gordon's Valvoline/Cummins Fordpowered Reynard (bottom).

spent 1994 testing with Patrick Racing team driver Scott Pruett. Pruett logged some 9000 test miles on 13 different tracks to develop a set of Firestone Firehawk racing tire compounds for Indy, as well as for the other IndyCar venues.

Tire suppliers committing to the Indy 500 must be able to supply complete sets of tires to half the number of cars that show up for qualifying (nearly 50 last year), making the Firestone investment of time, money and personnel far greater than just supplying the Patrick and Tasman teams it has already signed. Goodyear and Firestone should have three compounds available.

Telemetry: more is better

Pi Research, of Cambridge, England, supplies telemetry and data-acquisition hardware and software to vir-

tually all of the Indy 500 race teams. Pi supplies "black box" data loggers, programmable liquidcrystal-display dashboards and software that allows the teams to gather, display and ana-

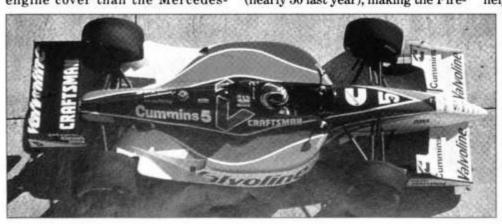
lyze telemetry data and make changes to the cars' suspension, shock absorbers, aerodynamics, engine and tires.

Pi also supplies sensors for engines, tires, suspension positions and strain gauges mounted on the suspension tubes to sense load, as well as steering angle, throttle angle and brake line-pressure sensors. Infrared tire-surface temperature sensors and wheelmounted tire-pressure sensors are used in testing and qualifying, but not during the race itself.

Pi will add a laser-based rideheight telemetry system to continu-

ously monitor front and rear ride heights, which will lead to valuable information on load, pitch and roll in the suspension.

This year, the analysis software will allow multiple y-axis parameters to be plotted against a single x-axis parameter such as time, speed, distance, temperature or pressure. Another new wrinkle from Pi is a separate fuel-management software program that will enable teams to continuously alter pit-stop strategy based on their fuel consumption.



TECHNOLOGY

PAPER RESORI

HYSTER 50

How does recycling turn yesterday's magazines into tomorrow's notepads? We follow the paper trail.

BY NANCY RISSER, PM Photes by Robert Brown



• What happens to this copy of POPU-LAR MECHANICS once you've finished reading it? If you don't add it to your permanent library, do you toss it in the trash or bundle it for recycling?

If you recycle, you may have been told to keep magazines and catalogs out of the newspaper stack. Until recently, the glossy paper in magazines and catalogs tripped up recycling mills. The clay-based coatings that create the sheen were difficult to remove, and inks tended to cling to the clay. The traditional method of de-inking—washing with large amounts of water—proved ineffective with coated paper.

But all that's changing, and the paper world is better for it. "Glossy magazine paper has bright, strong fiber that's valuable for recycling efforts, whether you're making recycled newsprint, copier paper or paper towels," says Sandra Foley, manager of International Paper's Lock Haven, Pennsylvania, mill. There, fiber from old magazines and newspapers is salvaged and turned into 100% recycled copier and commercial printing paper.

The key to obtaining that fiber? New flotation de-inking systems that American paper mills are adopting and refining—technology that European and Japanese mills have exploited for nearly 30 years. At Lock Haven, for example, International Paper is using a process licensed from a German firm. With the de-inking barrier removed, old magazines can now complete the long journey from curbside disposal to reincarnation. This process of renewal is detailed to few outside of the highly competitive paper industry.

Road to recovery

The paper trail begins when collection trucks deliver magazines and catalogs to a materials-processing facility. Besides de-inking, magazine paper must undergo a series of steps to remove other contaminants—everything from wax to staples to lost TV remote controls. At the processing plant, the magazines ride a forklift to a conveyor belt that carries them across an elevated sorting



Conveyor carries magazines to pulper.

area. There, on both sides of the line, workers pluck off obvious contaminants, such as plastic grocery bags.

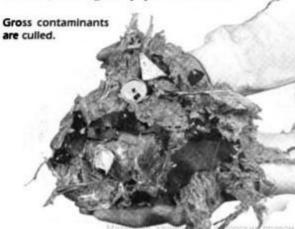
The conveyor moves the magazines to a baler, a large compactor whose one or two rams create a tight bundle before binding it with wire. Alternatively, some plants channel the loose magazines into sturdy boxes called gaylords.

Bales or gaylords travel by truck or railcar to the de-inking facility. The transport of old magazines has surprised facilities accustomed to working with old newspapers. Because coated magazine paper is slippery, it tends to slither free of the baling wire. At one new de-inking plant, workers opened railcar doors and found magazines flying all over the place. The bales had disintegrated during the trip. With experience, processors have learned to avoid slippage by tearing or shredding the magazines to form rough edges, or by using gaylords.

Pulp friction

When the magazines first arrive at the de-inking plant, they move through a wire cutter, where a blade slips under the baling wire, cuts it and releases loose magazines onto a conveyor. Just before the magazines move up the conveyor and toward the pulper, workers seize any remaining visible contaminants that may have gotten past earlier checkpoints.

The pulper acts like a giant kitchen blender, stirring the paper with water



PAPER REBORN



In flotation de-inking vat, vacuum tubes remove bubbles coated with ink and clay.

until a thin porridge-like pulp is formed. Caustic chemicals also may be mixed in, causing the paper fibers to swell. As the fibers expand, ink bursts free, ready for later removal.

Although blender-like blades at the base of the pulper mix the pulp efficiently, they do have drawbacks. The mechanical assault may break up contaminants and ink particles into smaller pieces, making them more difficult to cull. What's more, the shearing action tends to shred paper fibers, which resemble threads with clinging hairs. The hairs help the fibers lock together to form paper. And longer fibers lend paper strength, to keep it from tearing as it dries or races through a printing press. To preserve fiber intact, some plants are turning to pulpers that abrade paper with rotating drums.

Many facilities employ double conveyors to carry the recyclable material to the pulper, thereby widening the choices available for managing and mixing the recovered paper. Along with magazines, for example, old newspapers can be sent to the pulper in controlled proportions. Or the conveyors may go to separate pulpers that operate in parallel.

White sheets

From the pulper, the liquid—pulp is roughly 95% water—will run through a series of purifying steps. The order and number of these steps depend on how clean the pulp must become for the final product. The inside of a cereal box, for example, needn't be pristine white. Newsprint, by contrast, requires clean pulp. Most mills consider the sequence of these cleansing processes a proprietary secret.

Ink removal, of course, was the step on which glossy-paper recyclers stumbled—until the recent introduc-

ink stains pulp before flotation process.

tion of flotation de-inking. Simply put, the process floats the ink away on bubbles. Inside a flotation de-inking vat, nozzles inject air into the pulp, touching off bubbles that rise to the top. As they ascend, the bubbles pick up ink from the fibers, forming a grey foam on the surface.

"The flotation process is very similar to the bubbles that are formed when you wash dishes, do laundry or give your child a bubble bath," notes Foley. Like soap, the clay that coats glossy paper strengthens the bubbles so that they can surface without bursting and dropping ink particles back onto the fibers. In some vats, the ink-laden bubbles float away from the pulp. In others, industrial-scale vacuum arms sweep up the foam.

Mills may repeat the flotation process several times, brightening the pulp as ink is removed. The foam itself is sometimes reprocessed to salvage as much of the fiber as possible.

Sticky problem

While flotation takes care of the ink and clay, different processes remove other contaminants, such as glues, nonpaper inserts and staple wire. Plastics, adhesives and hot melts are particularly characteristic of magazines and catalogs. Collectively known as "stickies," they're difficult to capture and remove—and can wreak havoc on machines, especially printing presses.

To purge the pulp of these and other contaminants, plants use centrifugal cleaners to separate fiber from materials that are either lighter or heavier. Forward cleaners reject things like staples, dirt and sand, which outweigh fiber. Reverse cleaners spin out lighter substances, such as plastics and wax. A through-flow cleaner combines both processes.

In addition, mills pass pulp through pressure screens—surfaces punctured with either holes or slots. The size and shape of these perforations and the spaces between them are chosen based on the length of the fibers and the amount of water in the pulp. Plants do their best to avoid



Clean pulp is ready for paper machine.



Screens capture small-scale contaminants.



matting the screens with fiber and blocking the flow.

Round holes tend to capture flat, flaky materials and thin debris such as wires and hair. Slots, on the other hand, are more effective in eliminating chunkier waste, like plastic fragments and stray ink balls.

Final paper

After the magazine pulp has been thoroughly cleaned, it's piped to the final step—the paper machine. Alter-natively, if this machine stands in another facility, the pulp is dried into rough mats that are stacked and bound for shipment. Once the pulp arrives at the remote location, water is added to bring it to the right consistency.

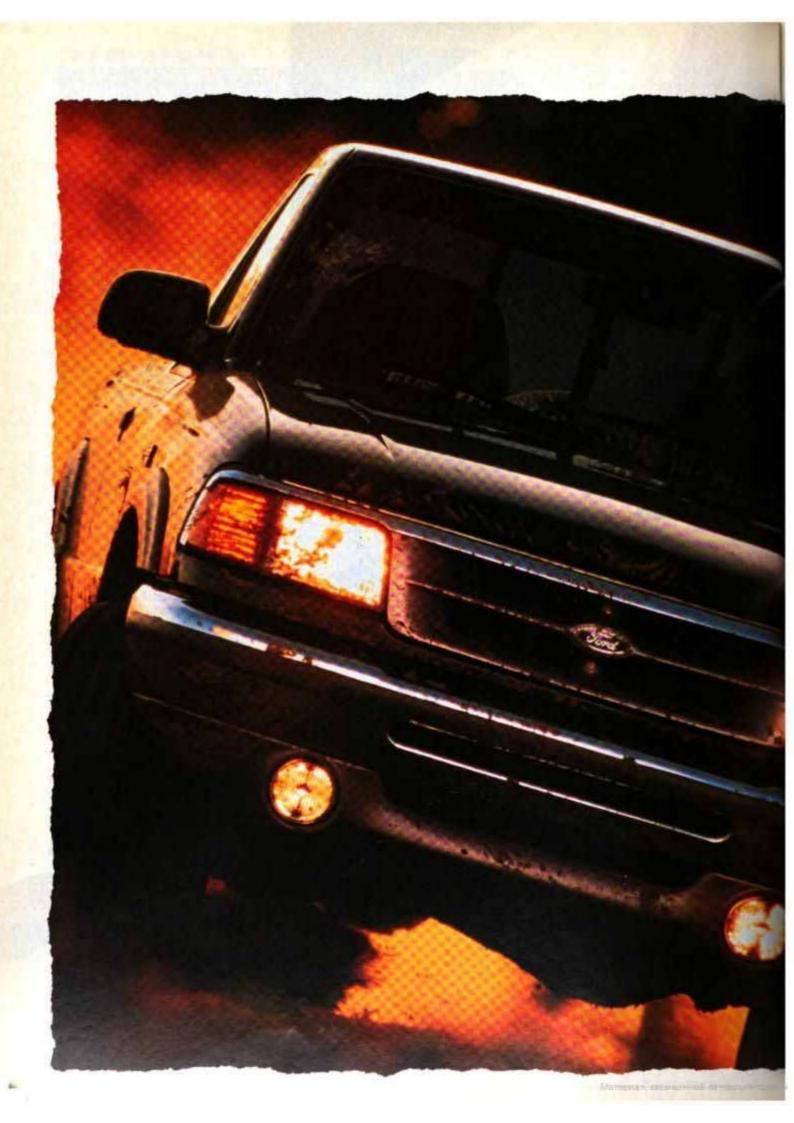
Carried on a mesh screen, the pulp then races through the paper machine at speeds up to 50 mph. Through a series of drainage stages, pressure rolls and dryer rolls, the pulp is turned into paper, emerging at the end of the machine to be wound onto huge rolls. Later, it is cut to size.

Today, mills throughout North America use flotation de-inking on old magazines and catalogs to make new paper products: newsprint, copy paper and paper towels. These include Manistique Paper in Michigan, which collects from six Midwestern states, and Jefferson Smurfit in Oregon, which draws from West Coast sources. Newer on the scene, Tennessee-based Bowater and Texas-based Champion International mills are recovering Southern magazines. Canadian companies, with de-inking plants scattered along the border, use magazines collected mainly in the United States.

As these and other mills compete for old magazines, communities benefit because trash-disposal problems dwindle. More than 15 states have passed legislation requiring newspaper publishers to use recycled fiber. The amount of recycled content in newsprint is expected to reach an average of 40% by the end of this decade. Thanks to flotation de-inking, tomorrow's news will feature yesterday's magazines.

Finished product is cut to size.









THE JUKEBOX

From the jitterbug to rock-and-roll, the jukebox launched thousands of tunes and romances. Without it, Saturday night wouldn't have been the same.

BY RICK BOTTS; PM Photo by Spencer Jones

 Technicolor lights catch your eye. Gleaming bubbles draw you close. Title strips of popular songs beckon your fingers. Irresistibly, you reach into your pocket, pull out a coin, drop it into the slot and select a number. The machine whirs to life. A chrome arm swings a record to the turntable, which begins to spin and rises to meet the tonearm. Suddenly, a speaker crackles

with a familiar sound—Bing Crosby, Glenn Miller, Frank Sinatra, Hank Williams, Patsy Cline, Elvis, Technically speaking, it's the sound of a coin-operated electric phonograph of the 1930s, '40s and '50s, But to those who came of age during those years, it's much more than that. It's the sound of good times, row and Saturday night. It's the sound of the iv'



THE JUKEBOX

The beginning of the jukebox dates to 1877 and a converted barn in Menlo Park, New Jersey, where a former telegraph clerk named Thomas Edison

was attempting to invent a new type of telegraph. In the process, Edison stumbled upon a technique for recording sound, but the sound was so weak that it required a listening tube to be heard. Still, the machine caused a national sensation.

In 1889, Louis Glass (an investor in the new machines, now called phonographs) fitted one with a coin slot and four listening tubes. He installed it in

But the technology that made radio feasible also made it possible to pack a new generation of jukeboxes with vacuum tubes that amplified sound through ground-shaking 15-in. speakers. In 1927, AMI, of Grand Rapids, Michigan, came out with the first amplified jukebox. By 1935, AMI was joined by Rock-Ola and Seeburg, both of Chicago, and Wurlitzer, of North Tonawanda, New York.

Jukeboxes at the start of this era were made to resemble the floor-model radios of the day, but manufacturers soon realized that a key to success was eye appeal. And no one capitalized on this concept more than Wurlitzer, which till then had been known

for its player pianos and pipe organs. Wurlitzer became the "King of the Jukeboxes" in the late 1930s and '40s, thanks to a series of beautifully styled cabinets that featured spellbinding use of lighting and animation. The company revealed the inner workings of the record selector by installing a glass window, and people were fascinated by the robot-like action. They were equally mesmerized by shimmering rainbow-colored revolving lights and the most distinctive feature of all-bubble tubes.

With these familiar features (rotating lights, bubble tube and distinctive round top) in place, the

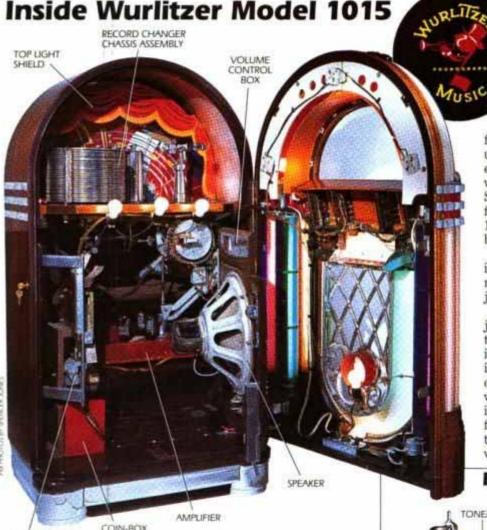
landmark 1946 Wurlitzer Model 1015 became the biggest-selling jukebox of all time with a production run of 56,246 units.

The next milestone arrived in 1948 with the Seeburg Model M100A, a 100-selection juke-

box. (Other models at the time offered only 20 to 40 selections per unit.) This gave Seeburg a decisive edge in the late 1940s, and it rode the wave of success throughout the '50s. Seeburg was also responsible for the first hi-fi jukebox (Model HF100G) in 1953 and the first 200-selection jukebox (Model V200) in 1955.

Although no longer the force it was in the '40s, Wurlitzer continued to innovate, introducing the first stereo iukebox (Model 2200) in 1958.

Overall, the '50s was a decade of major change for jukeboxes, not only in the area of mechanical workings, but in exterior styling, too. Instead of being built to resemble floor-model radios, the new generation looked as if it were designed at General Motors. Typical features included chrome grilles, fins and glass windows large enough to double as windshields-all of which were perfectly in tune with the times.



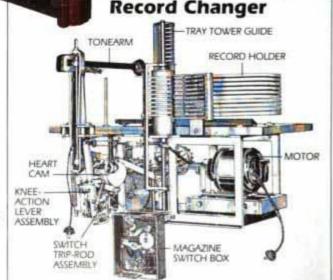
the Palais Royale Saloon in San Francisco, and it was an immediate success. By 1897, cities across the country had phonograph parlors where you could sit, pick up earphones, drop in a nickel and hear music.

ASSEMBLY

MOTO-DRIVE

After the turn of the century, a new generation of coin-operated phonographs, such as Gabel's Automatic Entertainer, was born. After several years, however, the public lost interest in these machines and turned to player pianos and the latest sensation-radio.

Lighting and coinoperation assemblies fill the Interior space of the artistic Jukeboxes that came of age in the 1940s. The record changer was inside, too, but it was made visible through a glass window. The '34 Wurlitzer Model P10 Simplex, which is Illustrated at right, predated the huge multirecord trays.





The vintage Seeburg Model 147 from 1947.

By the mid-1950s, jukeboxes had reached their peak of popularity. At that time there were more than 500,000 units on location in America in other words, about one jukebox for every 330 people.

During the mid-1960s, jukeboxes started a long, slow decline. The development of the transistor radio, the blossoming of Top-40 radio and increasing popularity of TV all contributed to a shift toward other forms of entertainment.

The downward spiral continued throughout the 1970s and '80s, but in 1986, Seeburg breathed new life into the jukebox industry by introducing the first CD model. This innovation not only halted the decline, but it sparked a period of modest growth. Today, there are actually more jukeboxes on location than there were 10 years ago.

However, the largest segment of jukebox activity isn't in building new machines, but in collecting and restoring classic models of the late 1930s through the early '60s. The most sought-after jukeboxes are the artistic masterpieces of the '40s and '50s, which, in showroom condition, command from \$5000 to \$10,000. Later models from the '70s and '80s, however, can still be bought for \$300 to \$700.

SOURCE LIST

Back Pages Antiques, 125 Greene St., New York, NY 10012; (212) 460-5998.
Jukebox Collector Magazine, 2545 SE 60th Ct. No. 201, Des Moines, IA 50317; (515) 265-8324.



From 1948, the translucent AMI Model B.

Naturally, collectible Wurlitzers, Rock-Olas, Seeburgs and AMIs play vintage records—old 78s and 45s. And while these can be purchased from collectors or ordered new from companies that supply the jukebox market, many people long for a combination of classic styling and modern high-quality sound. In response, several manufacturers (including Wurlitzer) now make reproductions of classic models that are equipped to play CDs. Many resemble the famed Wurlitzer Model 1015 (or other models of the era) and retail for about \$6000.

So where did the name jukebox



The LaserStar Diamante, above, is a new CD model. The Rock-Ola Gazelle, right, is new, too, but looks like a '41 Wurlitzer.

come from? With the popularization of radio in the 1920s, coin-operated phonographs temporarily fell out of favor. But they never

lost their appeal to fans of music that wasn't played in mainstream dance halls, movies and on the radio. One of the strongest markets at this time was among African Americans, who supported coin-operated phonographs by playing them in Southern roadside bars or cafes called juke joints. In essence, the term juke came out of the same body of slang that gave birth to the name jazz. The slang term originally referred to dancing, having a good time, and probably, sex.

The jukebox eventually moved back into mainstream popularity, but it also continued to play hard-to-find music: country music, during the years when Hank Williams was given scant airplay, and rock-and-roll when Elvis was considered subversive.

Is it the artistry of the cabinet, the lights, bubbles, clever animation or the songs that maintain the keen interest in jukeboxes long after the arrival of more sophisticated forms of entertainment? Perhaps it's none of these things. It may be

something as simple as

fond memories of good





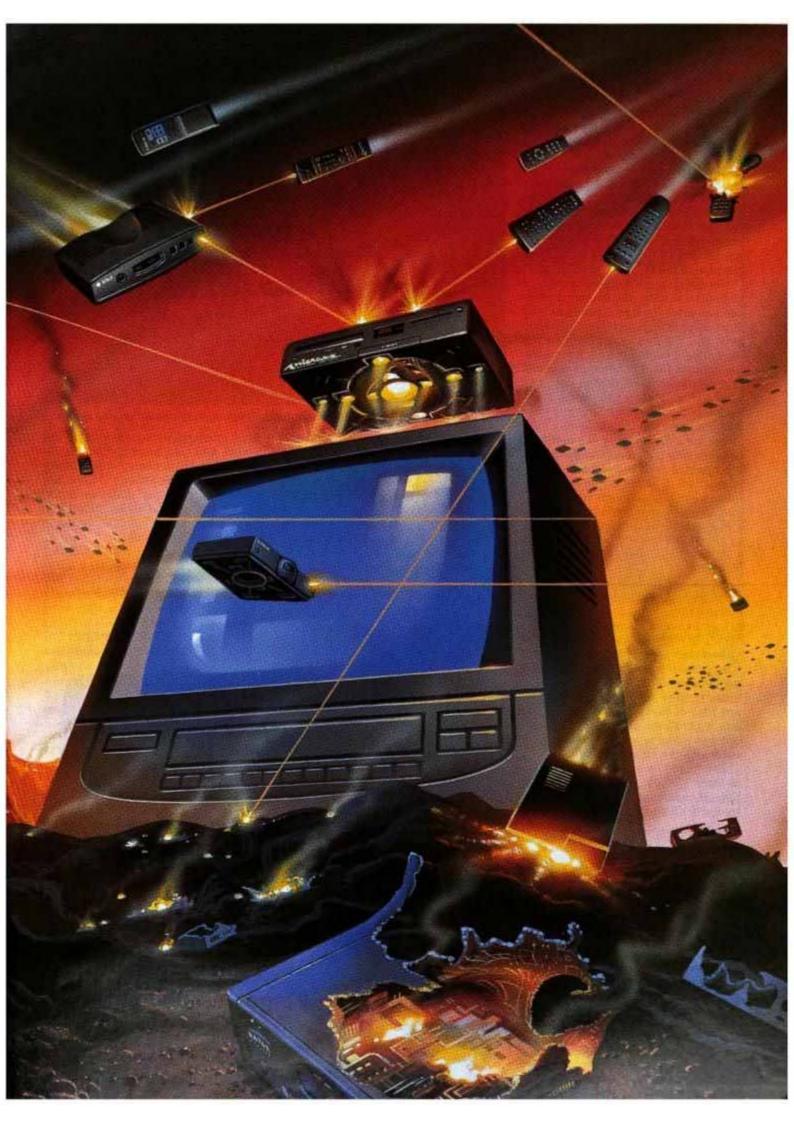
The top of your TV is becoming a war zone. At stake is control of the interactive gateway.

BY GEORGE MANNES; PM Illustration by Alan Gutterrez

 Professional magician Dana Law does a neat trick on his computer. He subscribes to the Prodigy online service but, unlike virtually every other subscriber in America, he doesn't need a phone line to sign on. More impressively, he can download information at speeds that leave today's 14.4-kilobits-per-second modems in the dust. It makes a big difference, Law says, when he uses his computer to download large files containing graphics, sound or video: "I've seen it smoke," he says. The secret to this magic? Instead of accessing

Prodigy through his phone line, Law connects to the service via his television. More precisely, Law's computer is hooked into the same wire that brings him his MTV, CNN and Comedy Central. He's one of about 150 customers of Cox Cable Communications in the San Diego area enjoying this experimental high-speed Prodigy connection without tying up a phone line (or disrupting the television picture, either).

One of the first cable customers to sign up for this type of service, Law definitely won't be the last. As the



BATTLE OF THE BOXES

cable industry looks for new ways to increase its revenues, many system operators are planning to offer an alternative to phone lines for accessing the Internet and online services such as Prodigy. If a cable operator is upgrading its complete system, enabling online access requires a "relatively modest investment," says Joe Waz, vice president of external affairs for Comcast Corp., another cable company experimenting with online access. "We can be first to the market with a bigger pipe to the PC, so why not do it?

Connecting a TV cable wire to a computer is only one among numerous scenarios for how Americans may start interacting with their television sets and television service. In the works are systems for offering movieson-demand and other commercial transactions through high-capacity interactive networks. Another alternative is a videoconferencing system that connects the television to a telephone wire. Yet another is a new type of telephone that merges an answering machine with a television screen. Almost all of these applications require a box that connects to your television, like a current-day cable box. Until one of these ideas triumphs or several of them do-get ready for a battle of the boxes atop your tele-

Across the country, cable operators and local telephone companies envision systems that will cross the 2-way communication of telephone networks with the one-way delivery of video over today's cable networks. Using these intelligent systems, subscribers will be able to start watching a movie they select from a menu at any time of day. While sitting on their couch, they'll be able to shop and access news and sports-information services with the push of a button.

But what type of box will sit on top of their TV sets is still unclear. The biggest splash so far has been made by the Full Service Network (FSN)



Intel's new modern connects your computer to a high-capacity coaxial cable TV system.

built by Time Warner in Orlando, Florida. Though it doesn't yet serve a large population, FSN is the first publicly demonstrated system in the United States that offers computerbased video-on-demand. Whenever they choose, subscribers can watch their choice of movies stored on a central computer, and they even have the ability to pause and scan forward or backward at any time. AT&T and Silicon Graphics, two pivotal contributors

to the system, have teamed up to offer the same

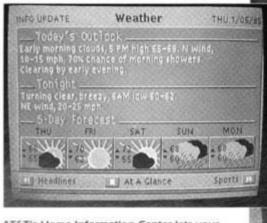
type of sophisti-

cated interactivity to other cable operators and telephone companies. So far, their joint venture, called Interactive Digital Solutions (IDS), has announced one other customer in the United States: Cablevision Systems Corp., a large cable operator based in Long Island, New York.

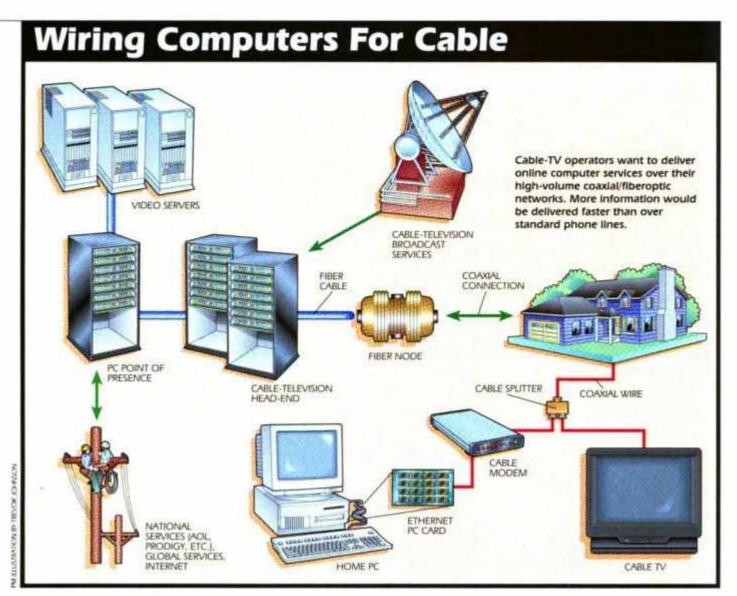
But the AT&T-Silicon Graphics team has its competitors. One alternative is ICTV, a Los Gatos, California, company working closely

with-and partly owned by-IBM. ICTV is the system integrator for an interactive television





AT&T's Home Information Center lets your TV receive text messages and a variety of sports, weather and news services as well.



system being built by Cox Cable-the nation's fourth-largest operator of cable television systems-in Omaha, Nebraska. ICTV is designing a system it says will be more practical and less expensive than Time Warner's Orlando operation—where, it's believed, the first-generation set-top boxes are costing several thousand dollars apiece to build. In Orlando, digitally encoded movies are retrieved from a computer and travel in digital form all the way to a subscriber's house, where they are then converted into conventional analog signals for viewing on the living-room television. In Omaha, though, movies will be converted from digital to analog at a central signal distribution center before they travel on the network to viewers.

This system design, according to ICTV and IBM, makes for a less expensive network because in-home settop boxes can be simpler, and expensive equipment can be shared between homes. So far, says a Cox spokesman, the system has sent video streams to fewer than five employee homes, and the company refuses to say when it will start large-scale testing.

Another alliance plugging itself as a simpler alternative to the Time Warner model is a joint venture of computer manufacturer Sun Microsystems and Thomson Consumer Electronics, maker of RCA and GE home-electronics equipment. Since



Open TV features on-screen prompts.

last fall, the companies have been promoting a standard they call Open TV—an interactive system they say could work over any telephone, cable or satellite network. At the Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas in January, the partners demonstrated their streamlined vision of how consumers might watch or rewind a movie they had ordered and how they could request further information about products in the commercials they saw on television. "It's practical and affordable now," says Elliot Broadwin, vice president of marketing and sales for the Thomson-Sun alliance. For full interactivity, he says, "You don't have to wait five years."

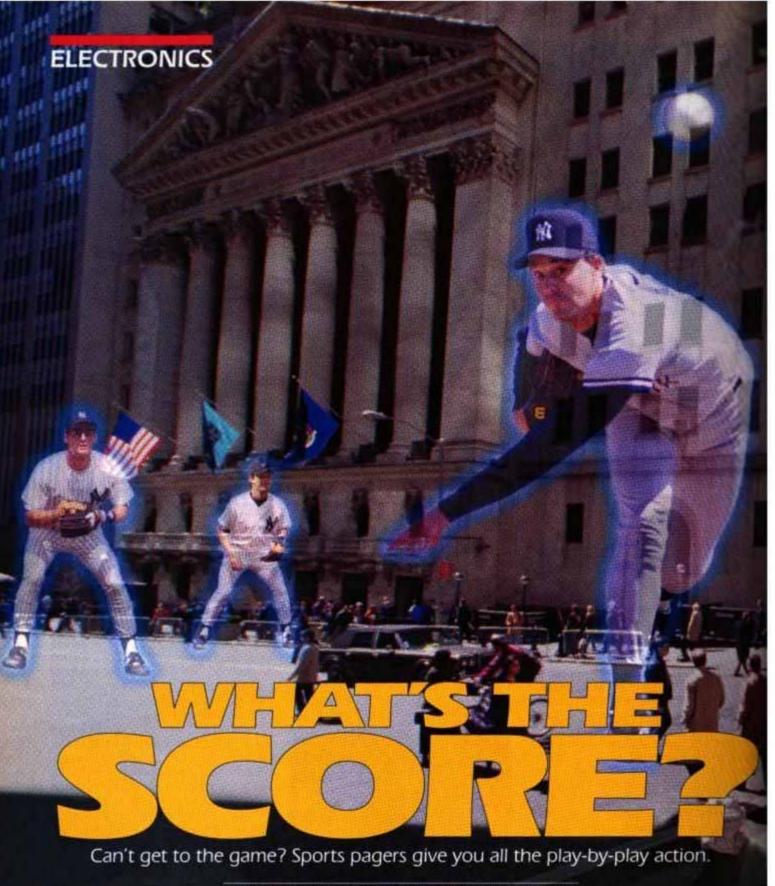
But AT&T and Silicon Graphics don't subscribe to the idea that the interactivity they're selling is overpriced or slow to arrive. For example, IDS is working with cable products manufacturer Scientific-Atlanta to develop a less-expensive subscriber box for the Orlando system that they expect to be ready next year.

While these companies battle over the connections between televisions and high-capacity interactive networks, a different division of AT&T is introducing a product that connects people's TVs to their telephone lines.

The AT&T Home Information Center takes textual information received by telephone and displays it on a television screen. Priced at \$329 and scheduled to go on sale by midyear, the HomeCenter starts out as a digital telephone-answering machine. But it's also a data receiver. Users who

(Please turn to page 136)

Материон, защищенный авторожим пр

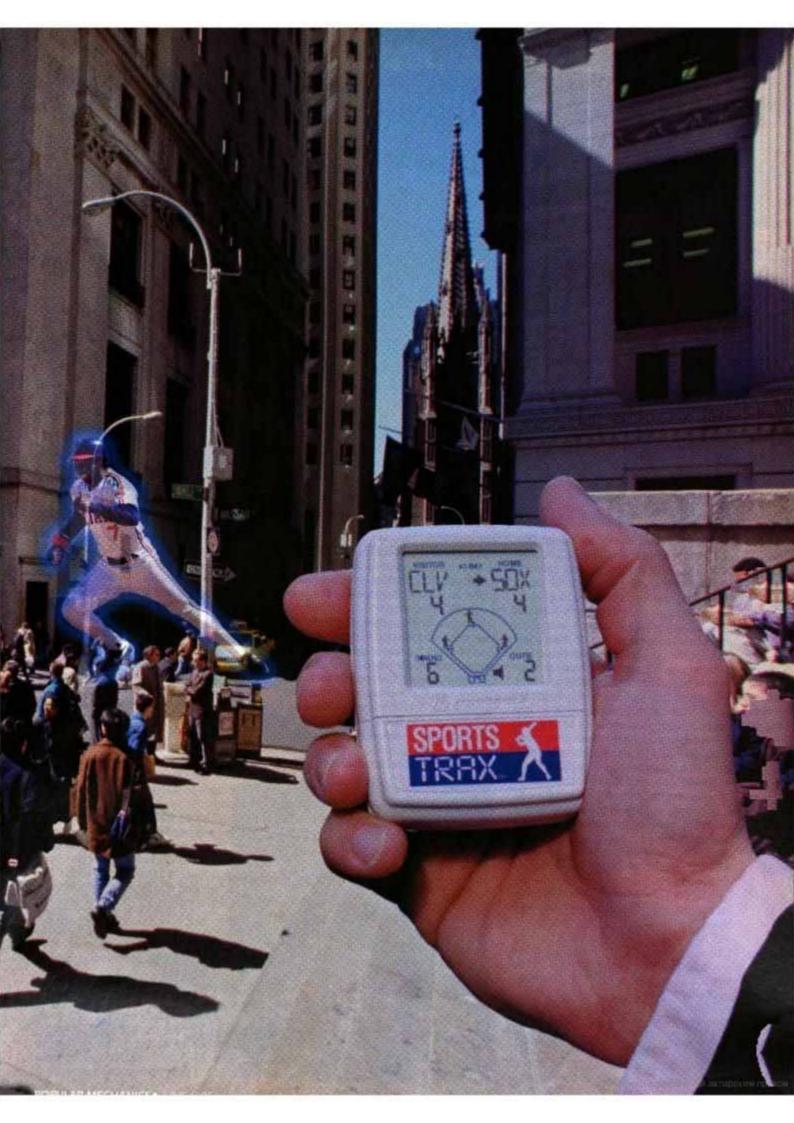


BY REBECCA DAY, PM Photo by Michel Tcherevkoff

• You're in Los Angeles on business, but your hometown baseball team, the Chicago White Sox, is playing in Toronto. There's little chance you'll flip on the television or radio and pick up anyone but the Dodgers or the Angels. So you settle for infrequent news updates and wait for tomorrow's newspaper box score. Or maybe you're just one of the millions of Americans who now lives far from his birthplace but still has a fondness for the old local team. But how do you keep

up with your favorite team if you're beyond the range of even the team's radio announcers?

There are a couple of ways, thanks to the pack of satellites that orbit the Earth some 22,000 miles above the equator. With satellite TV you can pick up games from all over—if you're willing to pay the premium and sit glued to your couch. Online services also provide sports summaries, but they tie you to a modem and require dialing in, signing on and searching





for information. You may be on the go, but if you're a true sports fan, you want to follow the game, the spread and the field or track conditions from the beach, the park or your desk. It's the information age, and you want it all now—wherever you are.

Motorola is banking on the idea that sports fans want round-the-clock updates on any and every game, who scored and how, injury reports and probable lineups. Employing the same satellite and paging technology used to beep you on a pocket pager, the company is now offering several ways to satisfy sports cravings in more than 230 metropolitan areas.

Motorola's EMBARC division is using what it calls the Wireless Broadcast Network (WBN) to deliver sports information either to a cassette-size pocket receiver or to a receiver that attaches to a DOS-based computer's RS-232 serial port. The pager service, called Sports-To-Go, features an abbreviated version of what's available on the more comprehensive Non-Stop Sports Service for PCs.

The sports data is generated by the same wire services that also supply game information to the broadcast industry. On-site reporters call in the action to integrators at Scorequest Inc., who type in the data, write the software code for the PCbased service and then send it by satellite to Motorola's EMBARC switching station. Here, the latest sports news is formatted for wireless transmission. Two separate feeds are sent from the EMBARC station back to the satellite and then beamed to the pager distribution system for delivery to either the handheld pagers or the PC receivers.

The pager-like receiver offers a 4line × 20-character display, whose directional buttons enable you to navigate through the 6400 characters of information. According to Garry Glover, marketing manager for Motorola's EMBARC division, it takes 5 to 7 minutes to scroll through all the data, which is updated round the clock every 5 minutes.

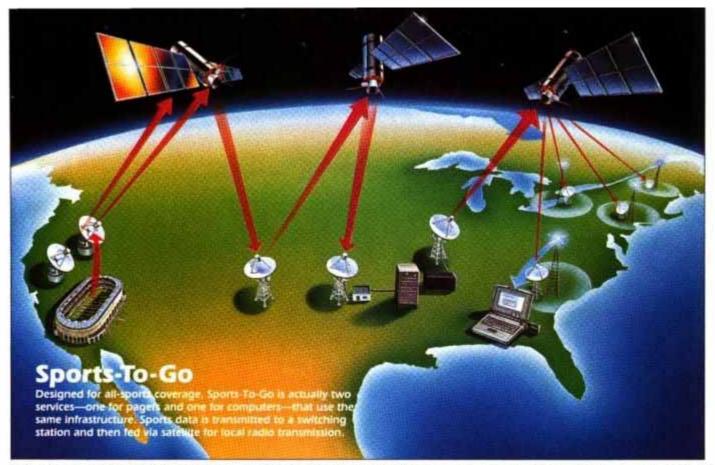
Two services are available: the basic service called Contender and the enhanced service called MVP. Basic service includes sports headlines and news for major league baseball, NBA basketball, NFL football and NHL hockey. The Top-25 college football and basketball teams are also covered, and golf updates will be added later this year as well.

Pricing for the hardware and service is similar to standard cellular and pager service. However, the sports service is only available directly from Motorola and not through an agent, such as Cellular One. You pay \$99 for the pager, \$25 for activation and \$10 shipping and handling. If you purchase a one-year contract in advance, you pay the monthly equivalent of \$11.99 for Contender and \$39.99 for MVP. Paying by the month costs \$14.99 and \$44.99, respectively.

The DOS computer version of the service uses GameView software to present information in a fullscreen easy-to-read format. By navigating through the text using PAGE UP and PAGE DOWN keys, you can quickly glance at scoreboards or upcoming schedules. Called Non-Stop Sports for PCs, the service expands what's offered with Sports-To-Go by adding pregame analysis and postgame wrapup. The three versions available—Player, Star and Legend are basic, expanded and full-blown feature packages. Pricing ranges from \$35.97 for the basic servicewith hardware, activation, three months' service, software, cable and shipping-to \$164.97 for the Legend package.

A different kind of sports pager is available from Motorola's Pan American Paging Subscriber division. Called SportsTrax, the 2½ × 3 × 1-in. pager follows a baseball game batter by batter and displays game information on a small LCD. The screen shows a baseball diamond with runners, if any, on base. Teams, scores, inning and number of outs are also given, and an arrow points to the team at bat.

SportsTrax has an audible alert that keeps you in touch as the game progresses. A half-astral tone progression signals the start of the game, for example, and a chirp indicates when a side is retired. A pleasing tone announces that your team has scored,



and a boo-hoo inverted-fourth tone indicates that the other team has scored. A home run sets off a siren, and a rally (your team has runners in scoring position and is less than six runs ahead) is pointed out by an electronic "Charge!" The information is updated after each batter.

Data comes from the press box via two wire services and is sent by a phone link to the newsroom. It is then relayed by satellite or phone line to Motorola's Computer Control Center in Boynton Beach, Florida, where information is extracted for individual games, formatted for the SportsTrax device and beamed by satellite to the

national paging network. The elapsed time from action to delivery of the data is about 2 minutes.

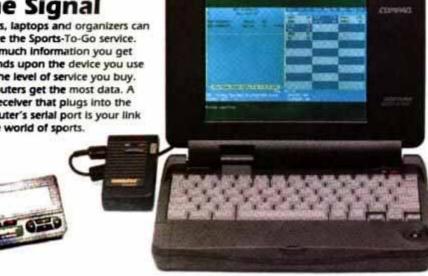
Motorola is marketing the device as a way to follow your favorite team, but you can follow every team if you want to-provided you live within the national paging network, which covers approximately 85% of the country. Once one game ends, you can reprogram the device to follow another in about 30 seconds.

SportsTrax's suggested retail price of \$199 includes three seasons of programming. After the 3-year period, you can either trade in the unit for a more advanced model, throw it away, recycle it or add it to your shelf of baseball memorabilia. Motorola decided to give term limits to the pagers as an alternative to monthly or seasonal charges or activation fees. Additionally, technological improvements will make current models obsolete in a few years. Next-generation products will offer more memory, more processing power and more features.

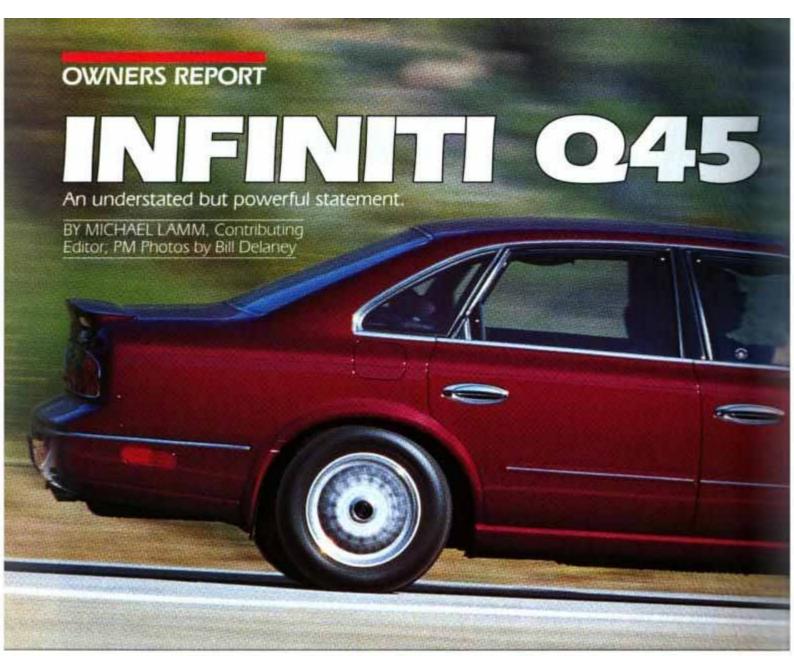
Given Motorola's abilities, it would behoove the company to double up both paging and sports services in these new pocket sports receivers. Motorola executives say that the technology is there to do both. For now, the EMBARC division doesn't want to compete with its reseller base by offering paging service. There's an application for a dualpurpose device that would be sold through pager dealers. A pager that can double as a sports information receiver? What a hit!



Pagers, laptops and organizers can receive the Sports-To-Go service. How much information you get depends upon the device you use and the level of service you buy. Computers get the most data. A tiny receiver that plugs into the computer's serial port is your link to the world of sports.







 When Nissan launched its Infiniti division, it dropped its big gun, the Q45 sedan, right into the heart of the fray. In its baptism by fire, the Q45 instantly squared off against such luxury stalwarts as the Cadillac STS, the BMW 5-series and the Mercedes-Benz 300-Class (now called E-Class) models and the Jaguar XJ6. And let's not forget that the new Q was also im-

mediately compared to its equally new competitor, the Lexus LS 400.

However, based on the comments of our respondents, the upstart from Infiniti has all the mettle it needs to do just fine, thank you very much.

Potency

The typical owner in our owners survey (a male over the age of 50) paid \$46,819 for his Infiniti Q45. And the

feature that this established, mature citizen liked best about his Q45 was its smooth but bodacious power.

Engine strength was voted the Q45's most-valued feature by 52.6% of our respondents. "Performance is excellent," enthused a Maryland entrepreneur, "and the overall automobile makes a quiet statement of taste and achievement." Performance generated an additional 19% of the best-liked ballots.

We at Popular Mechanics magazine interpret

"power" as acceleration plus top speed, and we define "performance" as the use of power in everyday driving. Bearing that in mind, the Infiniti's No. 1 selling point —power from its 278-hp dohc V8—also caused what drivers liked least, namely the Q45's skittish behavior on wet, snowy and icy roads. Almost 18% made mention of that problem. Even with the \$1600 optional

traction-control system, which 72.3% of our respondents had, there seemed to be too much power for secure handling on clippory systems.

dling on slippery surfaces.

But despite the Q's tendency to slip-slide through Snow Belt winters, most survey respondents thoroughly enjoyed all that acceleration. The automobile's power was judged to be excellent by 90.6% of our owners a record in recent memory.

Agility

0.451

In 1991, the Infiniti Q45 became the first car in this country to offer an active suspension system. Though this feature is being phased out, you may still find a so-called Q45a at your dealership. The active suspension amounts to a \$6600 package on the base car. The Q45a, ordered by 35% of our respondents, also comes with a CD changer, rear antisway bar, traction control, all-



Instruments have been revised.



Interior comfort ranks high on the list.



Owners love the potent 4-cam V8.

season tires on special wheels and heated front seats.

In very basic terms, the Q45a's active suspension senses a bump electronically with little accelerometers at each of the car's four corners. A computer processes this information and then opens or closes valves in hydraulic suspension actuators at those same four corners. The active suspension's sensors,

computer and valve system are able to sense and counteract body roll, yaw and pitch during cornering, braking and hard acceleration.

Infiniti now offers another interesting optional model-the Q45t or Touring package, which includes a 4-wheel steering system. Only 12.1% of

our surveyees had ordered the \$3100 Touring alternatives, and there were no comments either way

SUMMARY OF IN	FINITI 045	OWNERS	REPORTS*
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Total miles driven Average miles driven	873,686 7221	Interior space Suggested changes:	5.6	Good	30.7	Brakes	8.6
Purchase price:	1221	Brighter instrument		Average	7.1	Repair it yourself?	100000
Average	\$46,819	lighting	10.00	Poor	3.1	No	94.3%
Range \$38,500			10.0%	Driver sightlines:	0.00	Yes	5.7
Why did you choose the	-904,000	Greater range in power seat	8.9	Excellent	69.8%	Dealer repairs satisfactory?	
Infiniti Q45?		Larger cup holders	8.9	Good	24.6	Yes	79.3%
Previous ownership	31.7%	Better handling for winter More interior room	7.8	Average	4.8	No	20.0
Styling	28.5		7.8	Poor	0.8	Dealer service opinion:	
Performance	19.5	More trunk space	6.7	Overall convenience:		Excellent	77.1%
Price/value		Engine power:		Excellent	64.8%	Good	15.2
	14.6	Excellent	90.6%	Good	31.1	Average	7.6
Quality Options/Accessories:	14.6	Good	8.7	Average	3.3	Poor	0.0
	70 no	Average	0.8	Poor	0.8	Dealer sales policy:	
Traction control	72.3%	Poor	0.0	Workmanship opinion:		Excellent	72.2%
Cellular telephone	53.3	Handling:		Excellent	82.7%	Good	23.0
Active suspension (Q45a)	35.0	Excellent	81.1%	Good	15.7	Average	1.6
Four-wheel steering (Q45t)	12.1	Good	15.0	Average	1.6	Poor	3.2
Avg. mpg:	PERO	Average	3.1	Poor	0.0	Number of vehicles owned:	
In town	20.9	Poor	0.8	Comfort opinion, front seats		This vehicle only	13.3%
On the highway	17.0	Braking:		Excellent	79.7%	Two vehicles	42.2
Specific likes:		Excellent	82.7%	Good	14.8	Three vehicles	23.4
Power	52.6%	Good	13.4	Average	5.5	Four or more	21.1
Handling	42.2	Average	2.4	Poor	0.0	Principal driver:	21.1
Styling	38.8	Poor	1.6	Comfort opinion, rear seats:	10.00	Male	70.2%
Comfort	32.8	Overall performance:	100000	Excellent	62.1%	Female	25.8
Ride quality	26.7	Excellent	86.4%	Good	29.0	Equal	4.0
Quietness	19.0	Good	12.8	Average	8.1	Age distribution of owners:	4.0
Overall performance	19.0	Average	0.8	Poor	0.8	Under 29	0.00
Specific dislikes:	0.000	Poor	0.0	Mechanical trouble?	0.0	30-49	0.8%
Handling on ice/snow	17.8%	Control layout:	0.0	No	72.9%		41.6
No complaints	13.1	Excellent	64.3%	Yes	27.1	50-plus	57.6
Trunk too small	7.5	Good	28.6		201	Based on your experiences,	
Fuel mileage less		Average	5.6	What type of trouble? Power windows	90.00	would you buy an Infiniti Q4	15
than expected	6.5	Poor	1.6	Misc, electrical	20.0%	if you had it to do over again	
Power seat height range	5.6	Instrumentation:	1.0		17.1	Yes	64.8%
Instrument lighting	5.6	Excellent	59.1%	Air conditioner Battery	8.6	Maybe No	26.6

^{*} Percentages might not equal 100% due to rounding up or insufficient data.



Q45's styling is conservative, and strongly reminiscent of a number of other cars, from Oldsmobile to BMW. Redesign brought the chrome grille in place of a large hood badge.

EDITORS REPORT

The Other Japanese Luxury Car

• The Infiniti Q45's greatest handicap is that it was born at the same time as the Lexus LS 400. While Toyota launched its Lexus division with deliberate efficiency, Nissan seemed to flounder. The Q45 was preceded by an esoteric advertising campaign showing rocks and flowers, whereas the LS 400 hit the public's consciousness with impressive hardware. The result has been that, through no fault of the car, the Q45 has been lost in the LS 400's shadow. And that's really a shame.

As the overwhelming bulk of our survey respondents have discovered, the Infiniti Q45 is one nifty ride.

Engineered in the traditional frontengine/rear-drive configuration of European sport/luxury sedans, the Q45 is a no-nonsense road car. The V8 is strong and sweet, with nearly 300 ft.lb. of torque available to the driver's right foot. The tautly tuned suspension pays homage to the serious chassis tuners in Munich who have elevated the BMW's suspension to an art form. The Q45's drivetrain and chassis complement each other superbly-this car simply begs to be driven. The harder you drive it, the more it rewards you and then begs for more. Unless, of course, it's wet and sloppy outside. Then, the big Infiniti-in no uncertain terms-lets you know to back off. (A problem, interestingly, that used to plague the highly regarded sedans from BMW.)

But more than the serious drivetrain and chassis, the Q45 offers an elegant and luxurious interior. The recent redesign even added a touch of wood to the otherwise Teutonic passenger compartment. The seats are firm, the driver's environment efficiently and thoughtfully designed and executed. For the remainder of the car's occupants, there are all the necessary requisites—concert-hall stereo, leather upholstery, deepfreeze air conditioning—all wrapped in a solidly quiet body.

It's true that the rear seat is a bit crowded and the trunk fills pretty quickly once you start loading luggage, but these are minor warts on an otherwise impressive complexion—one that comes complete with 4-wheel disc ABS, a sunroof, a Bose stereo, memory 10-way power leather seats and a remote keyless-entry system. And you can throw in the optional active suspension, 4-wheel steering and traction control, just for kicks.

And, as our respondents noted, the dealership experience is as good as it should be. So what's wrong here?

Not much, really, except for the inevitable comparisons to the Lexus LS 400. And those comparisons are not really of equals. The Q45 was born of a different mindset than was the LS 400. And the big Infiniti accomplishes its designers' goals with the same success that the LS 400 accomplishes different ones.

Now that Nissan has settled down into quietly marketing the Q45 to an obviously receptive public, it's finally emerging from the Lexus's admittedly long shadow.

-Don Chaikin

about the effect of 4ws on handling. Handling, however, did rank as the Q45's second-best-liked attribute, with ride quality coming in fifth, behind styling and comfort. A Vermont store manager observed, "Great road feel and response, You're really in total control." Again, 81.1% of the owners gave the Q45 a handling rating of excellent.

Just over a fourth of these Q45 owners told us they'd experienced some sort of mechanical problem, but they quickly added that their Infiniti dealers took marvelous care of them.

The Q45's main mechanical problem? The power windows. These were so tightly fitted that they moved very slowly, sometimes making squealing noises going up and down. A number of drivers commented on the Q45's extreme silence at speed, thanks partly to good body insulation and sealing. This quiet prompted a North Carolina homemaker to observe, "We don't hear air rushing past the windows and doors-an annoyance that was so common in our former cars." Overall workmanship-including paint quality, the smoothness of the exterior and interior bodies, and mechanical reliability-was judged excellent by 82.7% of our respondents.

When we asked for suggestions on how to improve the Q45, we really didn't get many. However, 10% of our surveyees said they'd appreciate brighter instrument-panel lighting. At night, the analog gauges are too dimly lit for older drivers to see comfortably—a problem that was addressed with the car's recent facelift. A few also mentioned that last year's additional seat padding cuts into headroom. On previous models, flatter seats gave greater vertical clearance—often a critical factor for taller drivers.

We also noticed a little grousing about the Q45's styling. "Design needs to be more distinctive for luxury identity, like the Mercedes or Rolls-Royce," commented a Florida doctor. And the Q45's trunk was judged by some to be a little too small. At 14.8 cu. ft., its cargo capacity is just over 1 cu. ft. smaller than the comparably sized Chevy Lumina's.

But the majority response, by far, was one of satisfaction and driving pleasure. "Powerful, fun, handles great but also rides smoothly. I don't know how they do it," exuded a South Carolina structural designer. Added a North Carolina retiree, "I've owned six BMWs and three Mercedes, but the Q45 is the best car I've ever had." And a Florida attorney may have summed up the majority opinion by saying, "You can pay more for a BMW 740i or a Mercedes S-Class, but I can't conceive of a better car. This one's just super-super!"

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Clinical studies show that using UltraSonex can reduce bacterial plaque by 97%, bleeding gums by 60% and gingivitis by 28% - in just 4 weeks - and UltraSonex can reverse the progression of gingivitis, which can lead to periodontal disease.

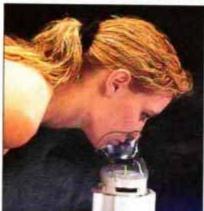
Accepted by the ADA and recommended by dentists, the UltraSonex is not an electric tooth-

brush. It has no moving parts, does not vibrate and is absolutely silent. It works by emitting 1.6 million cycles per second of incredibly effective ultrasonic waves that penetrate the gum tissue to



disrupt bacterial growth, which helps reduce gingivitis. No other product available for home use does this. The UltraSonex can also reverse the progression of gingivitis and gum disease. It is extremely gentle, yet you'll quickly notice dramatic results. Just brush normally. Shuts off automatically after 3 minutes. Recharges in its own base. Try UltraSonex. Then check with your dentist. You'll both be amazed at the results. \$99.95 (\$10.95) #3100. UltraSonex and 6 Replacement Heads (Year's Supply) \$129.95 (\$12.95) #3325.

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comfortable, natural breathing. The patented grille design lets you control the flow of steam precisely, making it safe for both adults and children. Compact and lightweight, it's easy to use at home, the office or when traveling. Fill it with only 1.5 oz. of tap water and get up to 30 minutes of steam therapy. Add your favorite over-the-counter medications if you like. Automatic dual-voltage capability for use in the U.S.A. or abroad. Comes with soft travel case. \$49.95 (\$7.95) #4040.

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or sides of the machine, re-contaminating it with dirt and dust, but Slant/Fin's unique patented air passageway design allows vertical discharge of the filtered air. The HEPA-CLEAR can significantly reduce respiratory ailments and is the only true HEPA that is compact (12" diameter x 14" high) and lightweight enough to be placed virtually anywhere – on the floor, on a table, even a file cabinet. And, it can be tucked away in a corner and still do its job. The Filter Replacement Indicator System lets you know when it's time to service the fil-

ter. Healthful negative ions (like those that super charge the air after a rain storm) enrich the air, making it fresh, pure, invigorating and odor-free. HEPA-CLEAR is less than half the price of larger more cumbersome models. In fact, in its price range, only Slant/Fin offers this complete HEPA flitration system. We're so sure you won't want to breathe without it that we offer a 100% money-back guarantee. Manufacturer's 2-year limited warranty. \$129.95 (\$12.95) #4280.



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You'll be amazed with the performance of the Oreck Power Broom, It picks up anything and everything in its path. Dust, crumbs, broken glass, — you name it. In fact, it's got more power than any other electric broom you can buy. The Power Broom features a two-speed motor for customized cleaning control, a large capacity dust cup with a washable, re-usable filter and an extra-long 25-foot cord. With a self-adjusting floor tool that quickly and easily glides from floors to carpets, it goes places most regular vacuums can't, like under beds,

up and down stairs and up-against walls. It makes quick pick-ups a breeze. Hangs flat and out-of-the-way in a minimal amount of space. The Power Broom is so well-built, it's backed by a Mfr.'s 2-yr. Itd warranty. \$69.95 (\$9.95) #3900.

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HOME IMPROVEMENT

Storage Shed

When there's no more room in the garage, build this simple backyard structure.

TEXT AND PHOTOS BY MERLE HENKENIUS

• Consider the items we now store in garden sheds. In addition to the requisite lawnmower, the selection may include a snowblower, leafblower, tiller, wheelbarrow and, of course, the usual miscellany of lawn-and-garden hand tools. The total value can easily run to several thousand dollars. With this in mind, the quality of the shed itself becomes a priority.

You do have a few options to choose from, of course. Metal shed kits have long been offered at the retail level, and site-built wood sheds are available at lumberyards and from week-

end entrepreneurs.

We opted for a third alternative—constructing a shed from scratch, using conventional house-building materials and methods. With this plan, it's possible to accommodate the shed's size to your collection of tools and machinery, and even tailor the trim and siding to match your home.

Our shed is based on a 7×9 -ft. floor frame with lapped siding.

Frankly, the do-it-yourself option will cost more than purchasing a shed—for the materials alone. But in the end, you'll have an attractive, secure building that will outlast just about everything you put in it.

Because garden sheds are considered temporary structures, they're usually not constrained by building codes. Lacking code directives, we chose a treated lumber framework for our base, set over shallow trenches filled with gravel. The gravel provides drainage away from the wood and better accommodates the pitch and heave of the seasons.

We also built our own roof trusses. Trusses are easy to build, even if you've never used a framing square or haven't mastered roof geometry. And the small ones seen here are a breeze to install, even when working alone.

Setting The Base



1 Place pressure-treated floor frame on gravel-filled 4-in.-deep trenches. Then, level the frame in both directions.

Build the shed base frame using three pressure-treated $4 \times 4s$ and two pressure-treated $2 \times 4s$. For a 7×9 -ft. shed like ours, cut the $4 \times 4s$ to 9 ft. less 3 in. for the $2 \times 4s$ at each end. Cut the $2 \times 4s$ to 7 ft. long. Nail the boards to the ends of two $4 \times 4s$ using 16d galvanized common nails to make



2 Nail ¾-in. tongue-and-groove plywood to the floor frame. After this is completed, coat with an enamel porch paint.

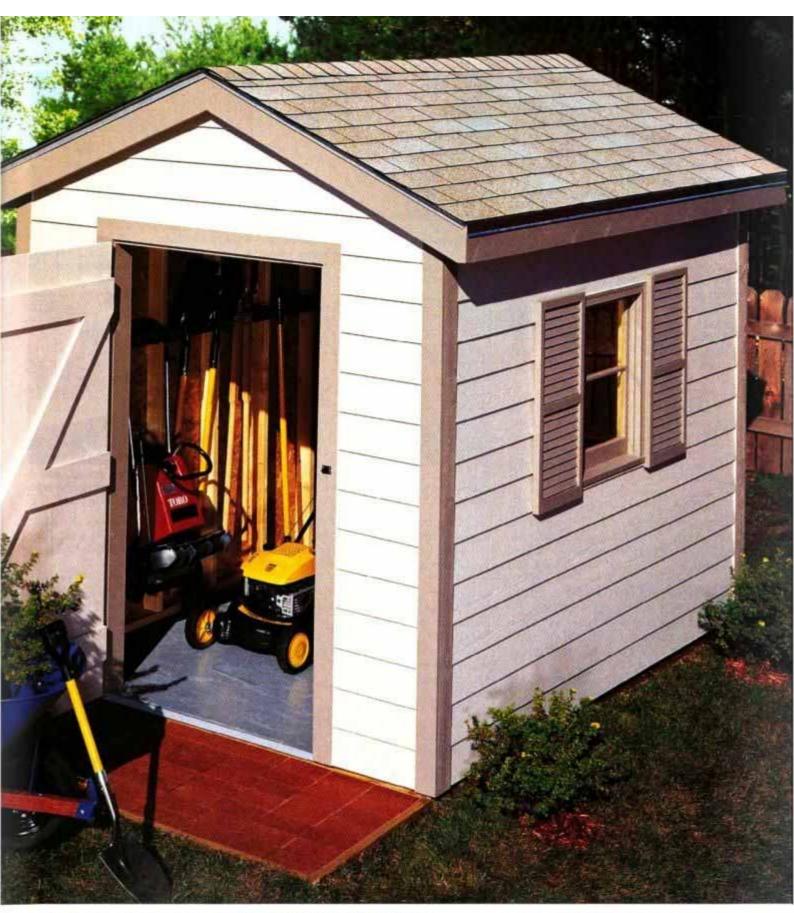
a rectangular frame. To provide extra floor support, nail the third 4×4 to the $2 \times 4s$ along the frame centerline, as shown in the drawing on page 93.

With the base frame assembled, level the ground at the shed site and dig a continuous 4-in.-deep trench to match the base frame perimeter and an addi-



tional trench that's aligned with the center 4×4 support. Fill the trenches with gravel, set the frame in place and level it in both directions (Photo 1).

To make the floor, nail pieces of ¾-in. tongue-and-groove plywood onto the frame. Begin by trimming the groove from the starting sheet



and nail that piece in place with 8d screw-shank galvanized nails. Using the two factory edges of the plywood, check that the framework beneath it is square, and adjust if necessary. Then, set the second piece in place, engage the tongue in the groove and nail it down (Photo 2).

Wall Construction

Cut the four 2×4 long-wall plates to the length of the floor. Then, mark the stud positions on the plates. Position the first stud $15\frac{1}{4}$ in. from the leading end of each plate, and each subsequent stud at 16-in. centers.

To frame a utility-sash window,

measure the width of the window, position a full-length stud on each side of the opening and cut a sill plate—to span between them—for the window to rest on. Leave the area above the window open. Cut the wall studs to 78½ in. and build the corners by nailing three studs side by side. Lay each

stud in position and nail to the plates with 16d nails (Photo 3).

Build the back wall in a similar fashion, but omit the triple studs. Place the second stud 12½ in. from the leading end of the top and bottom plates. Then, place the remaining studs on 16-in. centers.

The door opening on the front wall should be at least 36 in. wide—wider if you have a riding mower. For a 36-in.-wide opening, laminate the door header by sandwiching 39-in. 2 × 4s around a piece of ½-in. plywood. To support the header, cut two jack studs 3½ in. less than the normal stud length and nail these to full-length studs. Then frame the front wall with a centered opening, as shown. Finally, slide the header between the jack studs and the top plate and nail it from the top and sides.

Nail ½-in. plywood or waferboard sheathing over the studs, using 8d galvanized nails. On the end walls, extend the sheathing 3½ in. beyond the framing on both sides. This overhang will eventually cover the ends of the long walls.

At the window wall, cut out the sheathing over the opening and set the window in place. Nail through the trim with 10d galvanized casing nails (Photo 4). Tip up a long wall and align it with the floor. Secure it with 16d



3 Nail each stud through the plates with two 16d nails per stud. Place triple studs at the ends of both long walls.



5 Set the first wall up and nall it through the soleplate. Then, level and brace the wall with a 2×4 nalled to the floor.

nails. Then, plumb the wall and nail a diagonal brace to the floor (Photo 5). With the side walls up, raise the end walls between them. Nail them to the



4 After sheathing, cut window opening and use 10d galvanized casing nails to secure the window to the wall.



6 After the end walls are set up, add a second top wall plate. Overlap the wall plates at the corners and nail in place.

floor and to the side walls. Finally, nail second top plates to the existing plates, overlapping the side walls at the corners (Photo 6).

Building The Roof

First, build a jig for assembling the trusses. Cut a sheet of plywood and a 2×4 to match the width of the shed and nail the 2×4 to the plywood flush with an edge.

Measure 24 in. from each end and mark the 2×4 . To establish a 5-in. pitch, lay a framing square on the plywood and against the edge of the 2×4 at the 24-in. mark. Then, mark the plywood 10 in. above the 2×4 . Next, lay a straight 2×4 against the corner of the jig 2×4 and angle it to intersect the 10-in. mark. Butt a second 2×4 edge to edge against the angled 2×4



7 Build a roof truss jig on a plywood platform. Then, nall and glue ½-in.-plywood gussets to the truss components.

and nail the second piece to the plywood. Repeat from the opposite end of the jig and mark the vertical centerline on the plywood and $2 \times 4s$.

Cut all the pieces for the first truss to fit the space on the jig. Use the first set as a pattern for the rest. Lay the members in place, and nail the joints together with gussets that are made of ½-in. plywood (Photo 7). Use 7d nails and construction adhesive on the gussets. Place gussets on both sides of each truss, except the two end trusses.

Mark the wall top plates every 24 in. Lay the trusses upside down on the walls, and then tip up the end trusses

wais, and then up the end trusses

8 Lay the trusses between the walls and then tip up the end trusses. Center and toenall them to the wall top plates.

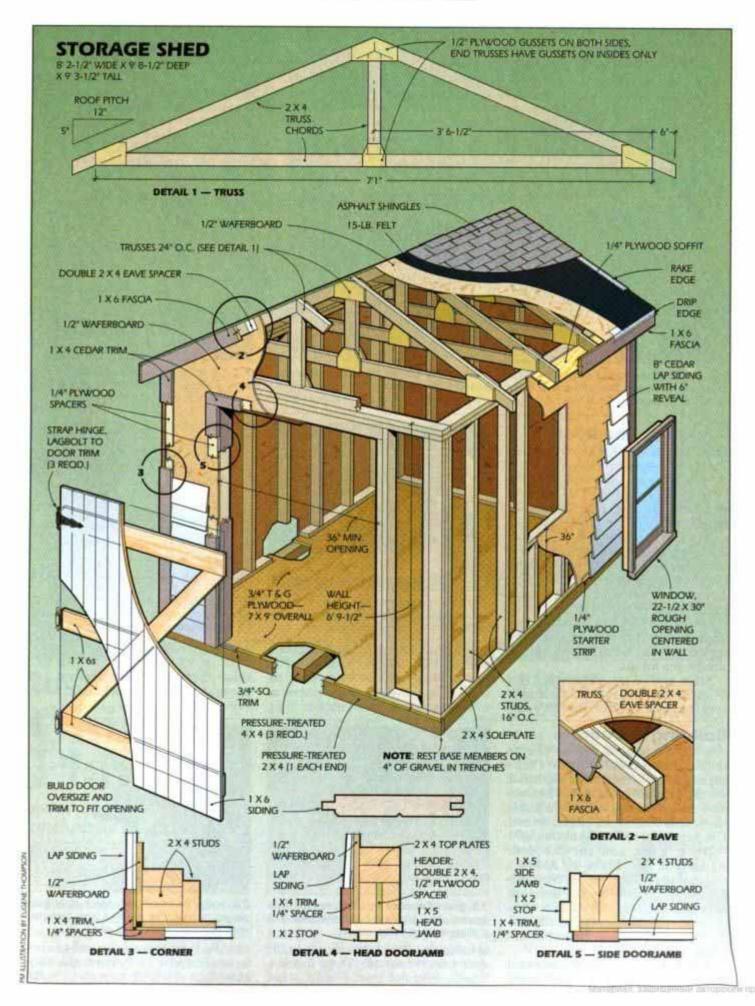
and align them with the top plates. Toenail these trusses in place (Photo 8).

Run a string between the rafter ends of the two end trusses, and align the remaining trusses with this string. When all are toenailed to the walls, plumb the first truss and position the rest of the trusses to match.

To create an overhang on the ends, nail doubled 2×4 rafters to each end truss rafter (Photo 9). Then, rip $\frac{1}{4}$ -in. plywood to fit underneath the rafter ends to create a closed soffit. Finally, sheath the end walls as well as the roof and add the 1×6 fascia, as shown in the drawing.



9 Create a 3-in. roof overhang at the gable ends by adding double 2 × 4 rafters to the truss rafters already in place.



Siding And Trimwork

Install ¼-in.-plywood trim spacers around the door opening and at the corners of the shed so that the ¾-in. trim will cover the ends of the lap siding. Then, install the 1 × 5 doorjamb (Photo 10). Add the door face trim over the plywood, and follow with the 1 × 4 corner trim. Use 8d casing or galvanized screw-shank nails.

Nail 1/4- or 1/2-in. plywood spacer



10 Use 1 × 5 pine for the doorjamb. Align with ¹/₄-in. plywood face-trim shims. Place shims under the corner trim as well.

strips to the bottom of the sheathing and install the first siding row around the shed. Leave a ½6-in. gap from where the siding abuts any trim and start the first row about ¼ in. below the sheathing. Measure up from the starter row and mark the trim every 6 in. (Photo 11). Install the siding against these marks with 8d galvanized siding nails.

On the long walls, bring the siding



11 To keep the siding lapped uniformly, measure up from starter row and mark the spacing on the trim in 6-in. increments.

up against the eave soffit. You'll need to finish the gable ends by trimming the final rows with angle cuts to match the roof pitch. Use a framing square or the roof truss jig to lay out the angle for the gable cuts. When you've completed the siding, caulk all joints between trim and siding and between soffit and siding (Photo 12). When the caulk skins over, prime and paint the shed.



12 Caulk all siding-to-trim joints and soffit joints. Always apply sparingly and avoid smoothing it with a finger.

Shingling The Roof

Cover the sheathing with roofing felt. Then, nail galvanized rake edge along the gable ends and drip edge along the eave edges of the roof. This will prevent rainwater from seeping between the shingles and the roof sheathing.

Install a starter row by trimming the tabs from a few shingles and nail what remains over the drip edge, with the grit facing up and the factory edge down. Allow the shingle edge to extend over the drip edge by about ¼ in. (Photo 13). Offset the starter row from the first full row of shingles by trimming 3 in. from the first starter shingle you install.

After you've put the starter row down, lay the first row of full shingles over it and nail in place. On every sub-



13 After nailing the drip edges in place, trim the tabs from the shingles and then install a starter row along the eaves.

sequent row, cut 6 in. from the first shingle. Align shingles so that the bottom of the latest row lies across the top of the tab slots of the previous row. Nail each shingle with four 1/4-in.



14 Cut the shingles into three tab-size pieces and use the tabs to cap the peak. Be sure to space each piece 5 in. apart.

galvanized roofing nails.

To cap the ridge, cut shingles into three pieces along the tabs. Then, nail the tabs along the peak at 5-in. intervals (Photo 14).



Assemble tongue-in-groove pine to create a rectangular panel that's slightly larger in height and width than the trimmed door opening. Then, secure two horizontal 1×6 battens across the boards with 1¾-in. coated screws. Use four screws at each junction.

Next, mark and cut the door squarely to size. Finish by adding a diagonal brace between the cross battens to further stiffen the door and help prevent sagging. Add an additional short crossmember at the center of the hinge side to support a third hinge (Photo 15).

Attach gate hinges to the door over the battens. Position the door in the



15 Build the door by using tongue-andgroove pine. Attach the crossmembers and a diagonal brace with screws.

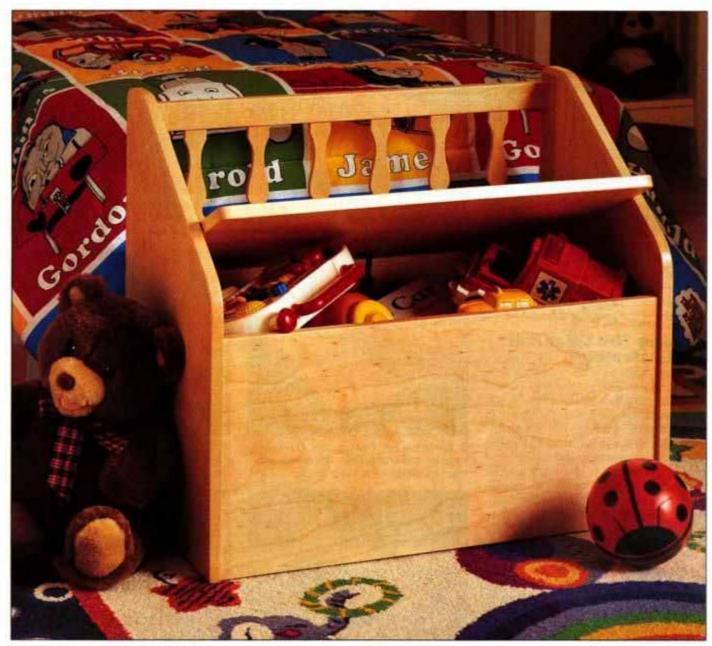
opening and lagbolt the hinges to the door trim (Photo 16). Then, install a handle, bolt and hasp. Finally, when



16 Hang the door with three steel gate hinges. Secure it to the trim with lagboits, then add the handle, bolt and hasp.

the door swings easily and closes squarely, nail a 1×2 stop to the hasp side of the doorjamb.

HOME&SHOP OURNA



SHOP PROJECT

Child's Play A toy chest for boys

and girls.

BY ROSARIO CAPOTOSTO. Contributing Editor

 One of the great joys in life is watching a child play, especially with some of his or her favorite toys. And, one of the most persistent parentchild confrontations centers around what to do with all these toys when

playtime is over. Here's a solutionor at least part of one.

This little chest, which can hold a bunch of easily accessible toys, turns into a convenient bench when the top is closed. And the lid is controlled by a spring-tensioned support that prevents accidental slamming on little fingers.

Making The Panels

Begin construction using a smooth cutting blade. A simple way to handle the large crosscuts is to tack a strip of wood to each panel's back. The strip is sized to slide easily in the miter gauge slot (Photo 1). To make the strip slide smoothly, rub some wax on its edges.

Next, rip and crosscut maple edge banding and glue it to the panels (Photo 2). We used 3-way clamps, but you can try bar clamps or even masking tape. Note that the top edge bands

ead photo: J.R. Rost

Step-by-step photos: Rosano Capotosto Technical art: Eugene Thompson Photo stylist: Gabe Herrick

of the end panels are slightly long, so they'll be sawn at an angle when the ends are cut to shape. Also, use three 19-gauge brads partially driven into each edge band to keep it from sliding. Band all the panels in this fash-ion—except the lid, which gets its edge bands after the

chest is assembled. After the glue dries, scrape off glue beads and

plane edge bands flush to the panel surfaces.

Next, set the table saw miter gauge to 35° and



make the angled cuts on the end panels (Photo 3). Glue and clamp the edge bands onto the sawn surface.

We cut the panel dadoes and grooves with a router and a 1/2-in.-dia. straight bit. A rectangular frame is used to guide the router to make these cuts (Photo 4). Be sure that the side rails are parallel and are spaced to fit the diameter of your router base, plus the difference between the diameter of the router bit and the width of the required dado or groove. You must precisely measure the thickness of the plywood before setting the distance between the rails. (Hardwood plywood is always slightly thinner than its stated dimension.) Tack nail a movable stop across the rails to control the length of the cut, and cut each groove or dado in two passes. Then, using a chisel, cut the ends of the grooves square.

Making The Splat Rail And Assembly

Cut the splats to shape, then smooth their edges. The pieces will be too small to clamp to a bench. Instead, use a 1/16-in.-radius corner-rounding bit in the router table for the job (Photo 5).

With the dado head in the table saw, cut the groove in the top rail and the edge band on the back panel. Then cut the filler blocks to length, leaving the four end blocks ½ in. longer than the others. Remember to round off the rail edges before assembling the workpieces.

Use glue sparingly as you fit the splats and filler blocks in the top rail (Photo 6). When they're all in place, briefly insert the subassembly into the groove in the back panel—without glue. After the glue in the top rail has set, repeat the procedure, applying glue and spacing each block to secure the splats in the back panel. During both subassembly stages, temporarily test fit the back to the side panels to ensure later realignment.

When the back assembly is dry, complete the project in the following sequence: Insert the back panel into the groove (Photo 7). Join the bottom and front to this subassembly, then add the second end and lay the chest on its back. Next, glue and clamp the entire assembly together (Photo 8) and check it for square.

Cut the lid panel to size, glue and clamp the side bands to it and then add the front and back bands. Install the hinge and lid support, attach the standoffs and relieve any sharp corners with fine sandpaper. Finally, apply several coats of polyurethane to finish off the project.



1 Tack nail a strip to the back of each panel. The strip should ride in the miter gauge groove as the panel is being cut.



3 Using the miter gauge, cut the sioping edge on the end panels. Afterward, apply edge banding to the sawn surface.



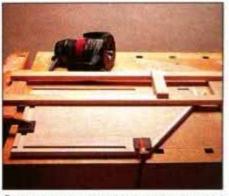
5 Since the splats are so small, it's best to round over their edges on a router table. A ball-bearing bit usually works best.



7 Begin the assembly by inserting the back into an end panel. Next, add the bottom and front, then the other end.



2 Glue and clamp each of the edge bands to the panels. Note that the top edge band of the end panel is just slightly long.



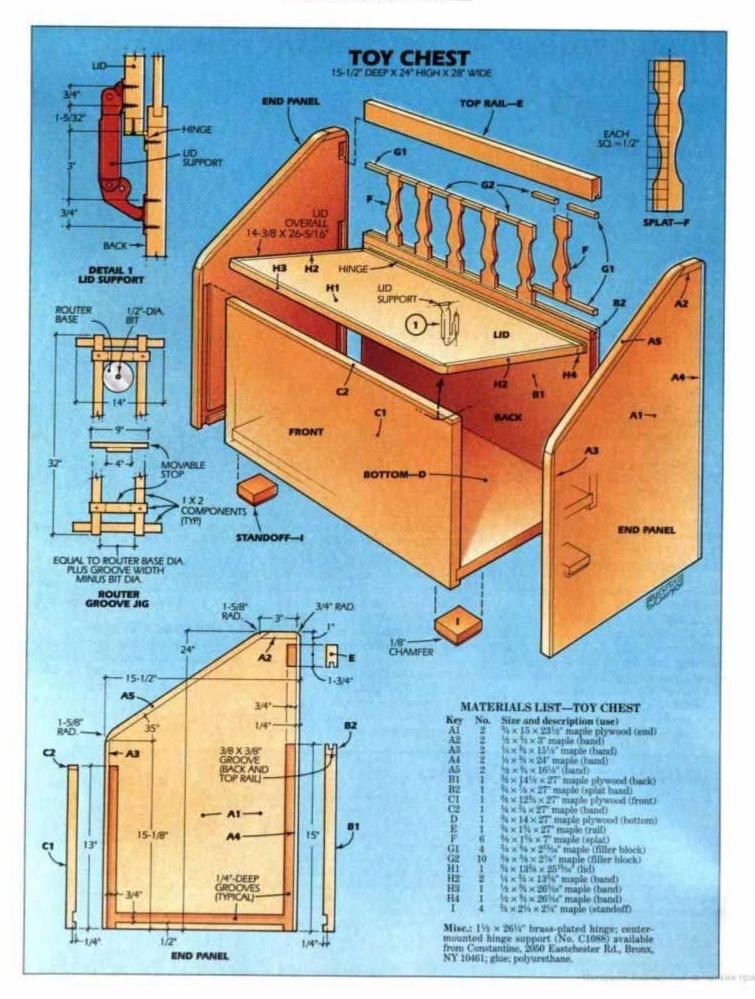
4 Cut grooves and dadoes in the end panels with a router. Then tack nall a block across the rails to stop the cut.



6 Insert the splats and spacer blocks in the top rall. After the glue has dried, repeat the procedure on the back panel.



8 Clamp the chest using five bar or pipe clamps. Be sure to check the assembly for square before allowing the glue to set.



Homeowners Clinic

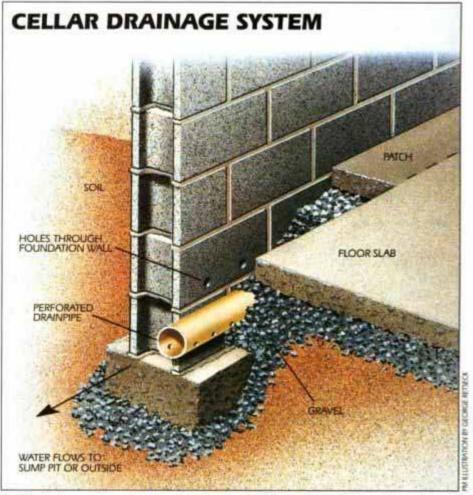
BY NORMAN BECKER, P.E. Contributing Editor

Cellar Leakage

I have leakage in my cellar where the concrete-block walls meet the cellar floor. Occasionally, water will seep through the cellar floor near the block walls. I've received several quotes on waterproofing, and they all use clay or bentonite injected into the ground around the exterior of the house. Some of these companies will guarantee the work they do. Is this a good procedure to follow? I hope to avoid excavating outside the foundation. Thank you for any information you can give me. GEORGE SCHIECK WYOMISSING, PA

I wouldn't recommend soil injection with a "waterproofing" material as a means of coating the foundation walls to control a water-seepage condition. To the best of my knowledge, it rarely works over the long term. Unless the foundation is exposed, you wouldn't know if there's anything in the ground preventing full coverage of the wall. For instance, there may be wood debris that was buried by the builder that's now covering a portion of the wall. This debris would keep the waterproofing material from reaching the exterior foundation surface. Over the years, the wood will rot, exposing a part of the foundation wall through which water can flow. Also, if water is seeping into the house through the floor, waterproofing the walls will not correct the condition.

Since you don't want to resolve this problem by excavating on the outside, adjacent to the foundation,



A cellar drainage system often consists of perforated pipe and gravel. Water drains through the foundation wall into the pipe and is then directed to a sump pit or an outside drain.

you can do it from within your cellar—provided the floor slab isn't integral with the foundation footings. It'll involve cutting 1-ft.-deep openings within the floor slab adjacent to the problem walls, puncturing holes in the bottom blocks, installing 4-in.-dia. perforated drainpipes and gravel and then pouring concrete to match the existing floor.

The drainpipe can discharge into the sump pit and be pumped out or, if the topography around the house is sloped, the drainpipe can be pitched and run under the foundation to a low point on the exterior, which provides a free-flowing outlet.

Crawispace Water

The crawlspace under my 6-year-old home is covered with pea gravel that has a plastic vapor barrier on top of it. Throughout most of the year, the pea gravel is damp. At other times, small areas of gravel are covered by at least an inch of

Working With Corian

 DuPont's Corian is a rocklike material made with acrylic polymer and minerals.
 It's sold in sheets and can substitute for ivory, granite or other substances in craft and furniture projects.

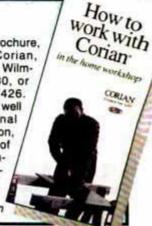
If you're interested in working with this versatile material, DuPont offers a free brochure that has concise and specific information on how to cut, shape, sand, drill and fasten Corian. And we do mean specific information. Approximately 1¼ pages of the 12-page guide are devoted to using adhesive. Also, you learn that although you don't need diamond-tipped tools to

cut this stuff, it's tough enough to require carbide blades and power tools with sufficient amperage. For example, the company recommends using circular saws of 10-amp or more power.

Corian is available in ¼- and ½-in. thicknesses and in a variety of sizes. Since the material is available in a wide range of sizes, colors and patterns, it's difficult to give an accurate cost per square foot. For instance, one retailer said that the material costs from \$12 to \$24 per sq. ft., depending on thickness and pattern, plus \$5 shipping.

To get your brochure, write DuPont Corian, P.O. Box 80702, Wilmington, DE 19880, or call (800) 426-7426. You can order, as well as get additional product informátion, by calling either of two toll-free numbers: (800) 724-4008 or (800) 321-6840.

-Roy Berendsohn



A SHORT STANDARD CAROLONIA

water on top of the vapor barrier.

A certified home inspector has assured me that this is not unusual for a crawlspace and that I need do nothing about it because there are no water marks on the foundation walls and the floor framing shows no signs of decay. However, several waterproofing firms insist that I need to dry up my crawlspace by installing a perimeter drain and a sump-pump system: The cost ranges from \$2500 to \$8000. What would you advise? CHARLES MASSEY INDIANAPOLIS, IN

A crawlspace should be kept relatively dry. Why? Because continuously wet conditions are conducive to decay fungi, which will cause rot. The dampness also promotes mold and mildew and is very inviting to carpenter ants and termites.

Certainly, installing a sump pump with perimeter drains will control the water condition. However, make sure that the plastic vapor barrier is properly installed before going through the expense of having a drainage system put in. The plastic ought to completely cover the gravel, even along the perimeter of the foundation. Its edges need to be sealed to the foundation and its joints should be taped. If all this is done, the vapor barrier should prevent excessive moisture in the crawlspace.

In those areas where water accumulates on top of the vapor barrier, check to see if the water is seeping through open or loose vapor-barrier joints or through the foundation wall. If water is coming through the walls, check the grade of the ground adjacent to the house, which should slope away from all sides of the foundation. Also monitor the effectiveness of gutters and downspouts. Furthermore, if the ponded water is the result of condensation dripping from the overhead cold-water pipes,

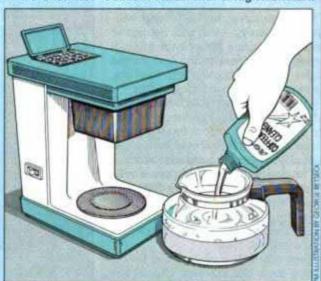
Cleaning Your Coffeemaker

 Many an automatic-drip coffeemaker has been discarded when its water flow slowed to a trickle because of calcium and



mineral deposits in its plumbing. Running vinegar through the machine may help, but vinegar stinks, works slowly and isn't effective on many combinations of lime and minerals. You might want to consider regular use of a coffeemaker cleaner to remove scale. We tried Whink coffeemaker cleaner and found it effective. It contains two scale-fighters; sulfamic acid and hydroxyacetic acid. Chemist Moe Taravati, Whink's director of technical services, says the combination acts synergistically, though scientists aren't sure why the two acids are more effective together than separately. Furthermore, sulfamic acid has a higher ionization constant than the acetic acid found in vinegar. Taravati explains that the higher the constant, the more complete the formation of ions in the chemical reaction. Acids with a high constant

attack scale more vigorously than those with a lower constant, even if the lower-constant acid is more concentrated (more acidic). He adds that sulfamic acid doesn't produce harmful fumes and is safe to use in appliances. A 10-ounce bottle costs about \$3 at grocery stores and at appliancerepair shops. Contact Whink, P.O. Box 230, Eldora, IA 50627, or call (800) 247-5102. R.B.



you can control this problem with a dehumidifier.

If you can't maintain a tight seal in all the vapor-barrier joints and control water seepage through the foundation, you will need to install perimeter drains and a sump pump.

Tube Skylight

A while ago, I read about a new type of skylight that resembles a pipe vent on the roof. The fixture looks a lot like recessed ceiling lights, and I recall that it acts like a periscope. Even though small, it gives more light than the conventional skylight, according to product claims. Might you tell me where I can get this item?

JANICE CAFFARY LAKELAND, FL

The item you're referring to is called the Sola Tube. It has a curved roofmounted reflector, a 10-in.-dia. mirrored transfer tube and a prismatic light diffuser at the bottom of the tube to spread the light evenly. Sola Tubes are available in lengths up to 10 ft. and cost about \$315 installed. To find a dealer in your area, contact Sola Tube Co., 5825 Avenida Encinas, Suite 101, Carlsbad, CA 92008; (800) 773-7652.

DO YOU HAVE A HOME-MAINTENANCE

OR REPAIR PROBLEM?

Just ask Norman about it. Send your question to Homeowners Clinic, Popular Mechanics, 224 W. 57th St., New York, NY 10019. While letters cannot be answered individually, problems of general interest will be discussed in the column.

BUZZWORD o o o Smart Hole

• Smart Hole is an example of a humorous term replacing a less colorful one. In this case, ventilation designers and architects sometimes say smart hole instead of fresh-air inlet or makeup-air inlet. A smart hole is a vent that allows a controlled amount of fresh air to enter a tightly sealed energy-efficient building. Why not just open a window? That's not precise enough. Structures that are very energy efficient exhaust stale indoor air at a controlled rate and balance this with fresh outdoor air. Exhausting indoor air creates a negative pressure in a building, and a smart hole opens when it senses a pressure differential between the inside and outside. Some smart holes open in response to indoor humidity. The smart hole itself is boxor pipe-shaped, requires no electrical power to operate and has tew moving parts.

—R.B.

HOME IMPROVEMENT

Glass Replacement

Step-by-step tips for painless window repair.

BY ROSARIO CAPOTOSTO, Contributing Editor PM Illustrations by George Retseck

If you've never had a broken window, don't worry—you will. Sooner or later, this minor household mishap strikes every homeowner. And, unless you've replaced broken glass before, the chore might seen intimidating.

Like many other jobs, though, repairing broken glass is simply a matter of following a few basic procedures. And, you'll find everything you need at your corner hardware store.

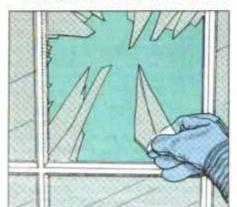
The following techniques cover most of the window types found in homes: single-glazed wood sash, insulated double-glazed wood sash and steel-casement and sliding aluminum sash windows.

Very often, the glass must be replaced from the exterior side of the window. If your job is within easy reach, you can replace the glass with the window in place. However, for hard-to-reach windows, it's safer to remove the entire sash.

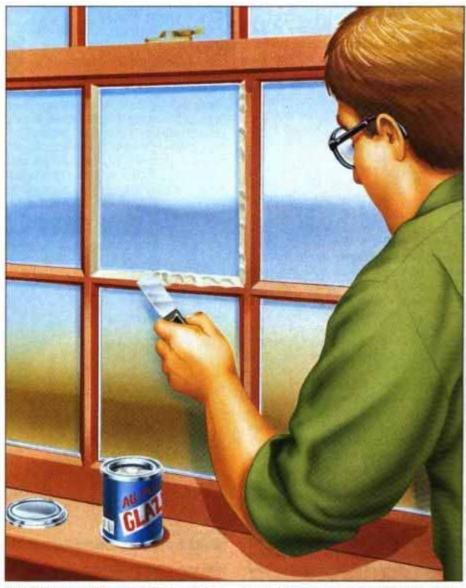
Single-Glazed Wood Sash

For this, the standard window in most homes, the glass must be replaced on the exterior side.

If the pane is merely cracked, start



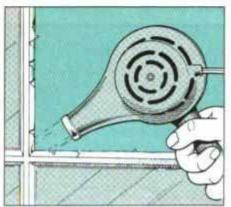
 First, remove all broken glass from the sash. Note: Wear heavy-duty work gloves and safety goggles for protection.



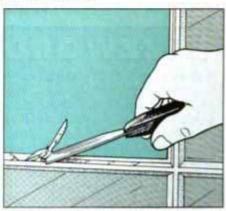
the job by removing the putty or glazing compound. But if the pane is broken, be sure to wear goggles and heavy-duty gloves and remove the shards carefully (Fig. 1). If standard putty was used, it'll probably be rock hard. Soften the putty with a heat gun set at a low temperature. Keep the

gun moving to avoid scorching the wood or cracking any of the adjacent panes (Fig. 2).

Then, remove the softened putty with a putty knife (Fig. 3). When the wood frame is relatively clean, use needle-nose pliers to pull out the old glazier's points.



2 If the old putty is hard and thus difficult to remove, you can soften it by gentle heating with a hair dryer or heat gun.



3 Use a putty knife to clean out the old putty or glazing compound. Be careful to avoid cutting into the wood frame.

After the putty, points and remaining chips of glass have been removed, scrape the sash down to bare wood with a chisel held perpendicularly to the wood surface (Fig. 4).

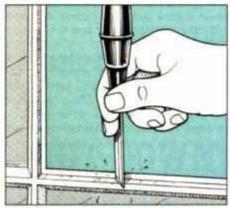
Next, seal the bare wood with linseed oil, thinned exterior house paint or primer (Fig. 5). Allow this coat to dry completely. Then, to determine the exact size of the replacement pane, measure the opening and subtract ½ in. from each dimension.

While hardware stores will usually cut glass to size, you can also do the job yourself. First, place the glass on a firm surface padded with cardboard or newspaper. Use a felt-tipped pen to make the cutting-line marks on the glass. Then, lubricate the cutting wheel of the glasscutter with kerosene or a light spray lubricant. Align a straightedge with the cutting line. Hold the cutter between your index and middle fingers, backed by your thumb. Place the cutter wheel about 1/8 in. from the far edge of the glass and draw the cutter toward you in a single, firm stroke (Fig. 6). Place a

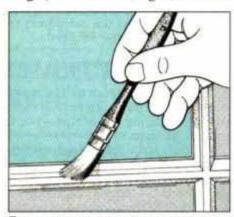
dowel under the score line and press down on the glass in order to make a clean break (Fig. 7).

Once the glass has been cut, apply a thin bead of glazing compound along the inside face of the sash rabbet to provide a cushion and seal for the glass (Fig. 8). Smooth the compound with a putty knife and press the glass firmly into the opening (Fig. 9).

Next, install glazier's points against the glass. Use two of them per side for a small window and every 6 in. for a large pane. Press the points into



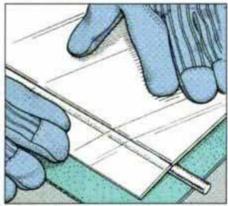
4 After the glazier's points have been removed, scrape the sash down to bare wood by using a vertically held chisel.



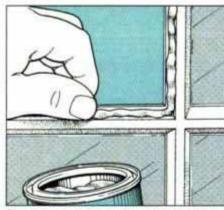
5 Coat the bare wood with linseed oil, thinned exterior house paint or primer to seal it. Then, let the sealer coat dry.



Use a straightedge and glasscutter to cut the glass. Lubricate the cutter wheel and score the glass with only one pass.



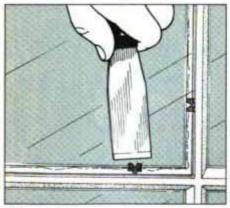
7 Place the score line over a dowel and apply pressure on both sides of the glass. This will snap the two pieces apart.



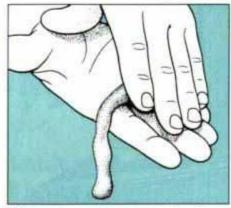
S Lay a small bead of glazing compound around the inside face of the sash rabbet to both cushion and seal the glass.



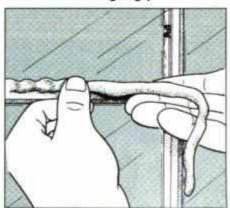
9 Place the new pane of glass in position and then press it evenly all around in order to achieve a tight, gap-free seal.



10 Using the tip of a putty knife, position the glazier's points against the glass and then press them into the wood.



11 Giazing compound is much easier to work with than putty. Shape it into a rope by rolling it between your paims.



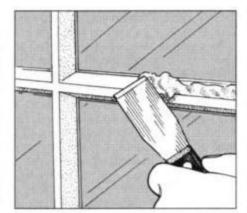
12 Apply the rolled-out glazing compound over the glazier's points and press it firmly against both the glass and sash.

HOME&SHOP OURNA

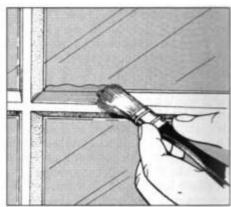
the wood with a putty knife (Fig. 10).

Roll some of the compound between your palms to form a rope shape approximately 3/8 in. in diameter (Fig. 11). Lay the compound along the edges of the pane and press it firmly in place with your thumb (Fig. Smooth the compound with a putty knife. Hold the knife at an angle and draw it along the compound to form a neat, triangular bead (Fig. 13).

Let the compound cure for about one week before painting it. Allow the paint to overlap the glass pane by about 1/8 in.—this will provide a good seal between the compound and the glass (Fig. 14).



13 Hold the putty knife at an angle as you draw it across the compound to create a neat, triangular 45° bevel.



14 Let the compound cure for about one week before painting. Extend the paint onto the glass to further seal the joint.

Double-Glazed Wood Sash

A double-glazed pane is typically a factory-sealed unit that consists of two panes separated by a metal spacer. If the pane is installed with compound, replace it by using the techniques described for single-glazed windows. However, the replacement double-glazed pane must be obtained from the window manufacturer.

If your window panes aren't bedded with compound, chances are they're held in place with wood strips that are nailed or stapled to the inside of the sash.

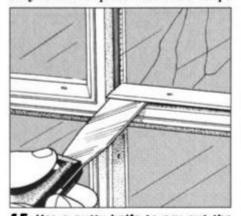
Begin by prying away the wood strips with a putty knife (Fig. 15). Avoid damaging the strips-you'll want to use them again.

After the strips have been removed, use a utility knife to cut between the glass and the silicone caulk that seals the glass on the outside of the window. Have a helper stand inside to catch the glass as it falls from the sash (Fig. 16). Then, with a utility knife or chisel, scrape away the old silicone (Fig. 17).

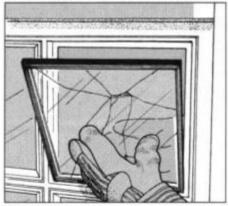
To install a new pane, first place a 4-in, bead of nonlatex, nonacrylic silicone sealant around the face of the sash rabbet (Fig. 18). Push the glass in place with equal pressure all around so that the silicone squeezes out around the edges (Fig. 19).

Install and nail the wood retaining strips, making sure not to nail too close to the glass. Use a piece of cardboard to protect the glass (Fig. 20). Next, trim any excess silicone with a utility knife, leaving a 1/8-in. bead

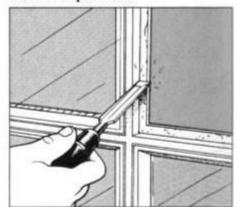
around the perimeter.



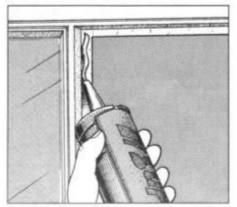
15 Use a putty knife to pry out the wood strips that hold the double pane. Be careful not to damage the wood.



16 After cutting the seal between pane and wood, press glass away from the frame. Helper inside catches the pane.



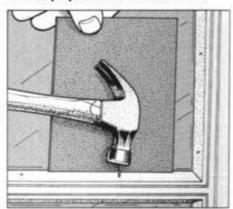
17 With a chisel, scrape any remaining sealant from the frame. Hold the tool so that It's perpendicular to the surface.



18 Begin installing the new doubleglazed pane by applying a fresh bead of silicone sealant around the wood frame.



19 Press the new pane into the sash. Apply even pressure to seat it firmly and allow excess silicone to squeeze out.



20 To renall the wood strips, place cardboard against the glass for protection and then slide the hammer along.

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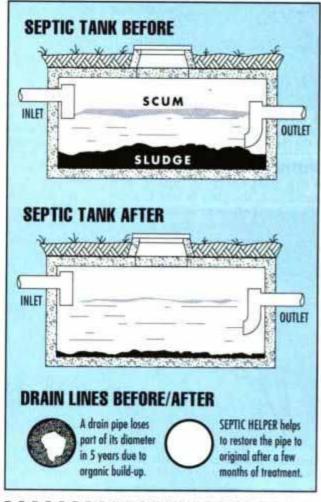
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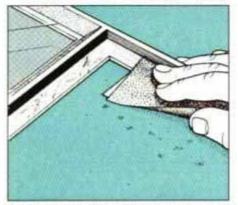


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Steel-Casement Window

If you're replacing glass of a vintage metal sash in which the pane is set in compound or putty, the procedure is the same as the one described for the single-glazed wood sash. However, instead of glazier's points, you'll find spring clips holding the pane in place.

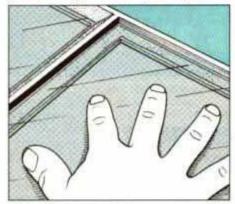
First, remove all broken glass, chip



21 After removing broken glass, putty and clips, use sandpaper to remove rust on the metal frame. Prime bare spots.

out the putty or compound, and then carefully pull out the spring clips with a screwdriver or pliers. Use sandpaper to clean away any rust or loose paint on the frame (Fig. 21).

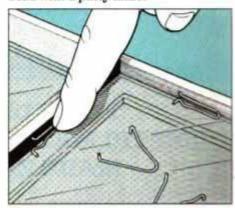
Cover bare spots with metal primer, followed by a coat of paint. When the paint is dry, lay a cushion bed of compound along the frame, then position



22 Lay a thin bead of compound around the frame and insert the glass. Press the glass firmly into the compound.

the new pane in place. Press the pane gently and uniformly until the compound squeezes out evenly to the edge of the frame (Fig. 22).

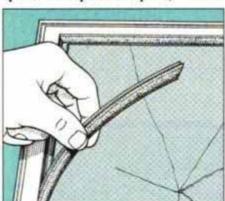
Insert spring clips into the holes in the sash to secure the glass (Fig. 23). Then, pack compound evenly around the frame and bevel it to a triangular bead with a putty knife.



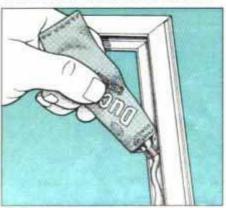
23 Insert the spring clips into holes in the sash. Then, apply and trim the compound as described for wood sashes.

Sliding Aluminum Sash

In the most common type of aluminum sash, the glass is held in place with a bead of cement and a vinyl spline. To replace the pane, first lift



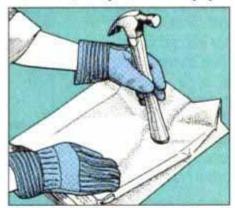
24 Pull the vinyl sealing spline from aluminum sash. Insert a knife at one corner in order to pry up end of spline.



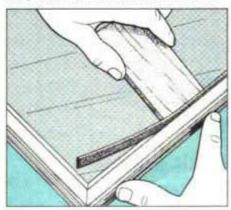
27 Apply a thin bead of cement around the ledge of the window frame. Then, lay the glass in place and press to seat.

the sash out of the window frame, then pry out the spline using a knife to get a start at the corner (Fig. 24).

If the pane remains cemented to the frame, wrap some newspaper

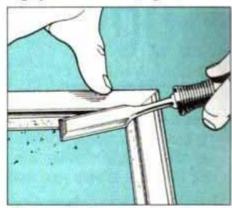


25 If the glass isn't free, wrap the sash with newspaper and gently tap around the perimeter to break the cement seal.



28 Replace the vinyl spline by pressing with a small block of wood. Be sure to miter ends of new spline to fit corners.

around the sash and gently tap to break the glass free (Fig. 25). Use a sharp chisel and an abrasive pad to remove all traces of cement and thoroughly clean the sash (Fig. 26).



26 Use a chisel to scrape off any traces of the old cement. Then, finish cleaning the surface with an abrasive pad.

Buy or cut a piece of glass that's the same thickness as the original. Cut the glass about 1/16 in. less than the opening. If you need to replace brittle or damaged spline, bring a sample of it to the hardware store so that you can match the size and cross section of the new spline with the original that you removed.

Apply a thin bead of Duco household cement to the frame, then lay in the glass (Fig. 27). To replace the four spline pieces, start at one corner and press the spline in with your thumb. Then, use a $\frac{1}{4} \times 2 \times 8$ -in. strip of plywood to work the spline under the lip of the frame (Fig. 28).

NEW PRODUCTS

Fresh Paint

The latest paint and painting products.

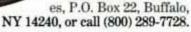
BY ROY BERENDSOHN, Assistant Home Improvement Editor

Nice And Clean

Accolade interior flat enamel is an acrylic wall paint so tough and nonporous that you can completely clean any household

stain from it, claims

manufacturer Pratt & Lambert. The product is suitable for painting walls, trim and doors. It provides the substance and smoothness of an enamel but without the sheen. How is this possible? Because Accolade is formulated with a high percentage of both pigment and 100% acrylic binder. It's available in 1000 colors. A gallon costs about \$32 at paint and hardware stores. For more information, write Customer Service, Pratt & Lambert Architectural Finish-





Good Match

Geocel's Stain Match sealant is available in 24 shades to match Olympic's most popular stain colors. Not only does it stick to wood, aluminum, vinyl and masonry, but paint and stain will also adhere to it, the company says. When you're done caulking, it comes off your hands and tools with water. A 10-ounce tube costs about \$3 at hardware stores and home centers. Write Geocel Corp., P.O. Box 398, Elkhart, IN 46515.





Better All The Time

Polyurethane is valued because it resists wear and water, and Minwax goes one step further by introducing one that you can wipe on with a soft cloth, thus eliminating brush marks and sags. The finish dries in 3 hours and can be applied in a single, thin coat or multiple coats to provide greater depth and protection. It's available as a gloss or satin finish in pints or quarts (about \$8 and \$11, respectively) at hardware stores and home centers. Write Minwax, 50 Chestnut Ridge Rd., Suite 201, Montvale, NJ 07645.



Scraping By

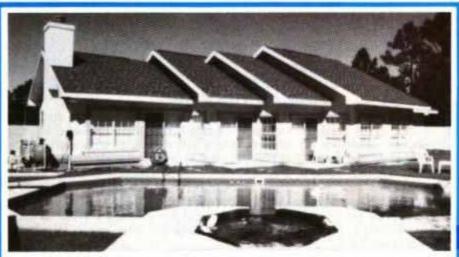
Anybody who has ever painted a house with divided-lite windows can appreciate this heavy-duty glass scraper. The sample we tested is comfortably shaped, and it has a precise smooth-sliding thumb-latch. Another feature that makes it easy to use is its offset blade, which tilts down 5°. Tipping the blade at an angle helps it lift paint better, the manufacturer says. The Delta heavy-duty glass scraper costs about \$2.50 at most hardware and paint stores and at home centers. Write Hyde Tools, 54 Eastford Rd., Southbridge, MA 01550.

II HOME&SHOP III JOURNAL



Best Of Both

For years, water-borne polyurethane paints were specialty industrial products. Now, Red Devil says homeowners can have both the gloss and wear-resistance of oil-based paints in a water-based coating when they buy Duratex enamel, a water-borne polyurethane. This interior/exterior product offers high cleanability and weather resistance because it contains 20% more binder than comparable products on the market, says the company. It's available in a wide range of colors in half-pint and quart sizes. Scarlet, white and black can be purchased in gallon sizes. A half pint costs about \$4.50, a quart costs about \$11 and a gallon, \$35. It's sold at home centers and hardware stores. Write Thompson & Formby, 825 Crossover Rd., Bldg. C, Suite 240, Memphis, TN 38117, or call (800) 367-6297.



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that make painted sur-faces look like marble, wood burl or other exotic materials. Zinsser introduces a glazing liquid that, it says, should help even novices achieve impressive results. The coating comes in a latex or alkyd variety. It's either mixed with latex or

alkyd paint or applied by itself with a brush, sponge or rag. The material is heavy bodied and can be used on vertical surfaces because it won't run. And it sets slowly, which provides enough time to work the finish, the manufacturer says. A quart of Blend & Glaze costs about \$7. Blend & Glaze Extender, its companion product, increases the versatility and working time even further. A 22-ounce bottle costs \$5. Both are sold at paint and hardware stores as well as home centers. Write William Zinsser, 173 Belmont Dr., Somerset, NJ 08875.





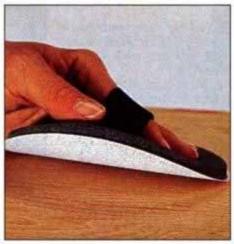


HOME&SHOP

An Abrasive Nature

Paint- and varnish-covered surfaces are notoriously difficult to sand because these finishes clog the sandpaper. To solve this problem, Norton offers a product consisting of aluminum oxide abrasive material bonded to a commercial-weight paper. The abrasive is specially coated to help it resist clogging,





Norton says, adding that the paper will last twice as long as conventional sandpaper in this application. A pack of five 9 × 11-in. sheets costs about \$4. To sand curved surfaces, consider Norton's handsanding tool. It consists of a flexible 5-in.dia. pad on which you mount an adhesivebacked sandpaper disc. The pad and one disc cost about \$7. Both the sandpaper and disc are sold separately at home centers and hardware stores. Write to the Norton Co., 1 New Bond St., P.O. Box 15008, Worcester, MA 01615.

Hit The Deck

Okay, you've just washed and scrubbed your deck, now what? Thompson's says your next step should be to seal it with a deck finish. Its Wood Protector Deck Finish has a

rotector ECK FINE mildewcide, ultraviolet

absorption agents and fade-resistant pigments. Apply it with a brush or roller and then clean up the tools with soap and water. The company says that by the time you've got your tools washed and put away, the finish should be dry (about 2 hours). One gallon will cover about 250 sq. ft. of smooth deck lumber or about 100 ft. of rough-sawn lumber. It can also be used on new pressure-treated lumber, redwood and cedar. One coat should provide sufficient protection, the company says, though you can use two if you think it's necessary. A gallon costs about \$17 and is sold at home centers and hardware stores. Write Thompson & Formby Inc., 825 Crossover Ln., Bldg. C, No. 240, Memphis, TN 38117, or call (800) 367-6297.



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For more information, call anytime. 1-800-Y-STANLEY



Carpet Insurance

Carpet and paint spatters don't mix well. You can cover your carpet with this 21-in.-wide plastic runner. It comes in a 50-ft. roll and adheres with a self-stick backing. According to 3M, it won't leave adhesive residue on the carpet. It costs \$15 at home centers.

The company expands its paint-stripper line with an extra-strength product that doesn't contain methylene chloride, yet removes tough coatings like polyurethane. The Premium Paint Stripper has low amounts of methylene chloride and is fast acting. A gallon of Extra-Strength Paint and Varnish Remover costs \$16 and the Premium Paint Stripper is \$22 at home centers. For more information, write 3M DIY, 515-3N-02, St. Paul, MN 55144, or call (800) 854-4266.



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Ruger Precision rifles are available in the following calibers: 22LR, 22 Magnum, 22 Hornet, 223, 22 PPC, 22-250, 220 Swift, 6mm Rem., 6mm PPC, 243 Win., 25-06, 308.

Suggested retail prices from \$499 to \$665. *Scope not included. Instruction manuals for all Ruger firearms are available free upon request. Please specify model.

Sturm, Ruger, & Company, Inc. 53 Lacry Place Southwest, Companious, 06490





Mighty Interesting

This is one of the most interesting paint products we've seen recently. It's a multicolored paint system that's designed to be as easy to apply as any paint. It's available in 18 multicolored blends. You take one of these blends and mix it with a clearcoat. The blended paint is suspended and dispersed in the clearcoat. Apply the coating with special rollers. The clearcoat costs about \$24 a gallon, the multicolored blends cost about \$20 each and the rollers, from \$1 to \$3. The blends and clearcoat are water based, low odor and durable enough to withstand repeated cleanings, the manufacturer says. Called the Spectura line, it's sold at paint stores. Write SPI, 400 Charter Way, North Billerica, MA 01862, or call (800) 729-7656.



HOME&SHOP JOURNA

Make Hanging Wallpaper Easy

Custom Building Product's idea is to take the mess out of hanging prepasted wall coverings. To accomplish this, it introduced the Wallpaper Pal, a \$25 device sold at home centers. Step one: Insert the roll of wallpaper in the device. Step two: Feed the covering through the dispenser. As the paper is pulled through, a cartridge in the dispenser spreads an activator adhesive in a side-to-side motion, eliminating dry spots or adhesive globs. Step three: Cut the covering to length, and apply it. Each Wallpaper Pal can apply adhesive to four to five bolts of wall covering. A smaller version, the Border Buddy (\$15), is also available for hanging wallpaper border. Replacement cartridges cost \$5. For more information, write Custom Building Products, 13001 Seal Beach Blvd., Seal Beach, CA 90740.



Multiple Use

This unusual tool snaps to the rim of a paint can and serves as a wipe-off edge as well as a brush rest. But its versatility doesn't stop there. Take it off the can and use it to scrape excess paint from a roller or to press masking tape against wood trim. Called the Brush Buddy, it costs about \$2.50 through home-product catalogs or from Sugrue Products, 4401 Ravenswood, Third





Black Out

Before you get out the squeegee and coal tar to seal your driveway, consider this product—an acrylic latex asphalt sealer that cleans up with soap and water and is thin enough to be applied with a garden sprayer, says its manufacturer. The company claims that 1 gallon will cover 300 sq. ft. of asphalt in good condition and somewhat less if the pavement is in poor shape. A 1-gallon container costs about \$14 and a 21/2-gallon container, \$29. It's sold at hardware stores and home centers. Write Bossworks, 4510 W. 77th St., Suite 329, Minneapolis, MN 55435, or call (800) 933-8043.

Is Your Water Safe?

FACT: 43% of all public water systems violate federal health standards. (Natural Resources Defense Council)

FACT: 560,000 American children suffer learning disabilities due to lead in drinking water. (U.S. E.P.A.)

FACT: 680,000 adult males have high blood pressure due to excessive levels of lead in drinking water. (U.S. E.P.A.)

FACT: Drinking chlorinated water may as much as double the risk of certain cancers. (National Cancer Institute)

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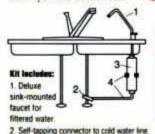


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JOURNAL







A Rapid Clip

The next time you have to repair a big hole in a drywall surface, consider these clips. Here's how they work: Cut the hole into a square and place one clip on each side. Drive a drywall screw into each clip and cut a piece of drywall to fit the cavity. Screw the drywall to the clips, then snap off the piece of the clips that projects on the outside. Apply tape and taping compound. A package of six clips costs \$3 at home centers and other building-supply houses. For more information, write USG Corp., P.O. Box 6721, Chicago, IL 60680.





Drop Zone

Has this ever happened to you? The dropcloth moves away from the wall or trim and, oops, there goes your nice clean paint job. Daubert's solution is a 5-mil-thick poly dropeloth with a pretaped edge that comes wrapped around a cardboard core. Simply unwrap it and press it in place. The company says it's sticky enough to hold securely but, if necessary, can be peeled back and reapplied to position it just right. It comes in four sizes. A medium-size 24-in.-wide × 100-ft.-long dropeloth costs \$6.25 at paint stores, home centers and hardware stores. Write Daubert Coated Products, 1 Westbrook Corporate Center, Westchester, IL 60154.

Wipe Out

This waterless handcleaning towel is said to wipe oil and latex paint from your hands without leaving a residue. After you're done with the wiper, use it to wipe paint off tool handles. It consists of a perforated plastic-fiber sheet with abrasive fibers bonded to it.



It's impregnated with liquid hand cleaner that contains an antibacterial agent. The towels also remove asphalt, grease, ink, wax and grass stains, according to the manufacturer. A bucket of 30 towels costs \$13 at automotive supply stores. To locate a distributor in your area, write Dymon, 3401 Kansas Ave., Kansas City, KS 06106.

JOURNAL

A Place For Everything

Keeping tools accessible as you work on a ladder can be a problem, especially when you try to do repair and paint work at the same time. The Tool/Paint Docker gives you plenty of space to put your tools so you won't get worn out going up and down the ladder. The 12½-in.-wide × 16-in.-long tray is molded of rigid plastic and will hold up to 24 pounds of gear and paint. It is easily installed on the side of a folding step or extension ladder, using the bolt-on wingnut bracket that's included. It costs about \$11 at hardware stores and home centers. Write Better Tools Inc., 206 River Ridge Circle, Burnsville, MN 55337. or call (800) 798-6657.





Construction Ahead

If this summer finds you with a big construction or remodeling job, maybe you should consider contractor-size tools. Powered by four C batteries, the Wagner PowRCaulk 720 can apply caulk or construction adhesive at a rate of 25 ft. per minute at high speed and 12 fpm at low speed. The gun has an automatic reverse feature to prevent excess flow when you stop caulking. The gun will pump 30 101/2-ounce tubes of caulk before it needs new batteries, the company says. It costs about \$50. If you've got a paint job on the same scale, you might consider Wagner's 34-hp airless sprayer, which can apply 1/2 gallon of paint per minute. The \$700 tool comes with 25 ft. of 4-in.-dia. hose. Both are sold at home centers. Contact Wagner Spray Tech Corp., P.O. Box 9362, Minneapolis, MN 55440, or call (800) 328-8251. PM

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CAR CLINIC

BY MIKE ALLEN. Associate Automotive Editor

Double Reverse

How do I find a brake line that will fit on a dune buggy I bought? I need one that has a different fitting on one end than the other, and the guys at the auto parts store all look at me like I'm from Neptune. They've never seen one. They tried to sell me an adapter, but it means using two separate brake lines connected by the adapter.

> JOHN THOMAS TOLTEC, AZ

Your dune buggy probably uses an American-style reverse flare on the master cylinder end to match an aftermarket master cylinder. The other end is undoubtedly at metric bubble flare to match the stock VW brakes.

The first step is to rent or buy a flaring tool. Also get a metric brake line more than twice the length you'll need-you'll cut it in half and have a spare. I recommend practicing a couple of times on short pieces of scrap before trying this on the real thing. You'll also need to salvage the old American line's steel fitting, or you could buy a short American line and use one of the new fittings.

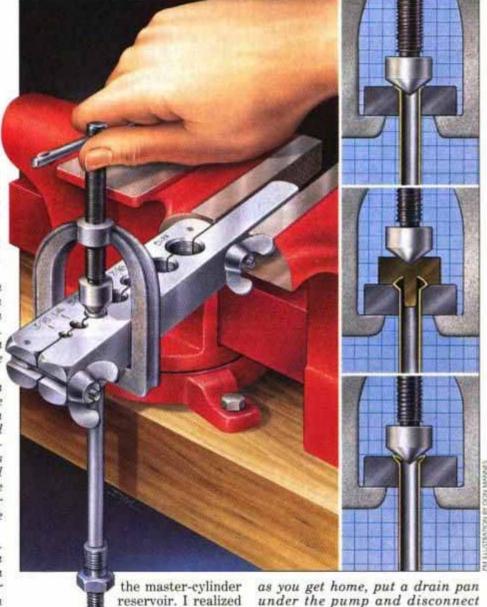
Cut the new metric line to length. A tubing cutter is preferred, but a hacksaw will work if you leave a clean cut. First, slide the fitting over the line (making sure you slide it on the right way). Now, clamp the line into the flaring tool. Carefully flare

the end of the line.

Loosen the line in the tool and push it up. Using the extra reverseflare die, invert the flare on the end of the line so the metal flares back in. Now, remove the extra die and flare again, doubling the thickness of the metal at the end of the line.

Feeling Flush

I just bought a used motorhome. As I was tuning it up last weekend, I inadvertently added about 2 ounces of brake fluid to what I thought was



a few days later that it was really the power-steering fluid pump reservoir. What should I do now? R. GERARDI OCEANSIDE, CA

Power-steering fluid is mineralbased. Brake fluid is a mixture of several alcohols, mostly glycols. They most assuredly are not compatible. The alcohols will degrade the rubber seals and hoses-in a hurry.

Go to the discount store's auto parts department and buy a gallon of the correct power-steering fluid for your motorhome-today. As soon

under the pump and disconnect the return hose—it's the one with a hose clamp (the high-pressure side uses a hydraulic fitting). When the fluid stops draining, start the engine and let it run for a few seconds in order to pump the rest of the fluid

from the steering box.

Next, reconnect the hose and fill the reservoir with power-steering fluid. Jack up the front until the wheels clear the ground. Start the engine, and turn the steering wheel back and forth from lock to lock 20 times to clear the air out of the system. Repeat this drain, fill and turn procedure three times.

Whining Over Nothing

Several years ago, I replaced the auto transmission in my Grand Am after finding evidence of water in the transmission fluid. The water came from a failed transmission cooler in the radiator, so after replacing the tranny I hooked up an aftermarket cooler, bypassing the stock cooler in the radiator altogether.

Now, after taking the car into my mechanic because of a whine in the transmission, I find evidence of water in the ATF again. He changed the fluid in the tranny, but the remaining fluid in the torque converter is still contaminated. What should I do?

G.N. NEW YORK, NY

The first transmission problem wasn't caused by water in the ATF—it was caused by coolant in the ATF that was leaking into the transmission cooler lines where they flow through the car's radiator.

When you bypassed the stock cooler, you also bypassed an important part of its purpose: to warm up the transmission in cold weather. The warm coolant flowing around the A Sticky Situation

 There are few things more annoying than bolting something together late at night and having that last fastener go soft as you take up the final bit of torque. There you are with stripped threads, and no room to tap the hole for the next larger bolt.



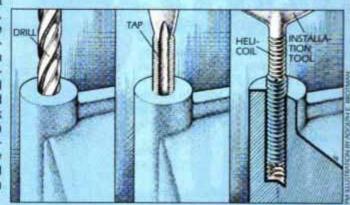
Don't panic. Next time you're in the auto parts store, pick up a Heli-Coil kit

for the more common sizes of fasteners on your car.

Start by running the correct size drill bit down the stripped hole—carefully. I usually use a manual tap handle rather than a power drill—you're not really removing more than the tops of the stripped threads. Now run the special Heli-Coil tap into the hole. This tap is exactly the right size for the stainless-steel coil. Don't substitute. Blow out the chips.

Now thread a Heli-Coil over the installation tool. The coil has a tab at

its bottom that the tool picks up. This draws the coil into the tapped threads from the bottom. It expands as the tool is removed, and you can break off the tab with a small screwdriver. The new threads should be stronger than the originals.





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cooler in the radiator will quickly raise the ATF temperature to its normal range.

The water you're seeing in the tranny now is condensation, which normally will boil out of the transmission every time it's warmed up and driven around for a half-hour or so. Replace your radiator—or repair the trans cooler in it—and your condensation problems will go away.

Others who suspect problems with water or coolant in their transmission should send some of the ATF to an engine-analysis lab, which typically costs \$15 to \$20. Leaking coolant will be spotted easily by the oil analysis.

Gone Fishin'

I tow a small boat that has an electric trolling motor. Can I recharge the battery with a cigarette-lighter plug connected to my car's dashboard-lighter socket? Will this damage the electrical system or the battery?

TOM SCOTT VALLEY STREAM, NY

Yes, you can charge the battery that way. But I don't recommend it. If the battery is really dead, you stand

the chance of blowing the (probably 10-amp) fuse that protects the cigarette lighter. You may need to put some resistance into the wire to the battery to limit current. Unless you live a long way from the fishing hole, you won't get much charging done.

Better: Go to the marina or auto parts store and get a dual battery adapter-the kind for RVs. This is to let you run down the light/accessory battery all night and not drain the starting battery. Then, when the car is started in the morning, the alternator will charge the accessory battery as fast as it can. Install one of these near your battery and run a pair of 10-gauge wires back to the trailer. One goes between the RV charging adapter's auxiliary battery terminal and the boat's POS terminal. The other goes to the boat battery's NEG terminal and a good ground on the vehicle's frame. If you want to use some sort of connector, be sure it's rated for 30 amps or so.

DO YOU HAVE A CAR PROBLEM?

Just ask Mike about it. Mail your question to Car Clinic, Popular Mechanics, 224 W. 57th St., New York, NY 10019. While letters, faxes or phone calls cannot be answered individually, problems of general interest will be discussed in the column.

SERVICE TIPS

- If you have a 1993 Dodge Intrepid (or Chrysler Concorde/Eagle Vision) built before 8/20/92 with an a/c unit that works well for a few days, then suddenly stops blowing cold air, the problem is likely a clogged expansion valve. Your dealer has the updated parts.
- Assembly plant tire damage has been a problem on certain 1991-93 GM models. If you see a bulge on an outboard sidewall and/or notice a slow air leak, it's possible the tire has a torn inner bead. This condition—and missing chunks of tread —should be covered under GM's New Vehicle Warranty. If a tire is bad but doesn't have either of these visual cues, the tire company warranty should apply.
- Ford has designed a rubber bumper (PN F3SZ-18198-A) to be installed on the threaded end of each control-arm tension strut of 1993 Thunderbird/Cougars and 1993-94 Lincoln Mark VIIIs that make a grunt noise after the steering wheel is released from either full-lock position.



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SATURDAY MECHANIC

RESETTING YOUR EMISSIONS **MAINTENANCE REMINDER**

BY KEN JURAN

 Your late-model minivan has been a trusted member of the family for the past two years and 36,000 miles. It has helped you move your sister across town, kept your kid's Little League van pool rolling and faithfully transported the dog to the vet. But it sure caused havoc last weekend. Leaving at 5 am with your buddies and a week's worth of fishing gear, it sputtered, spewed black smoke from the exhaust and

wouldn't even idle. Walleye washout!

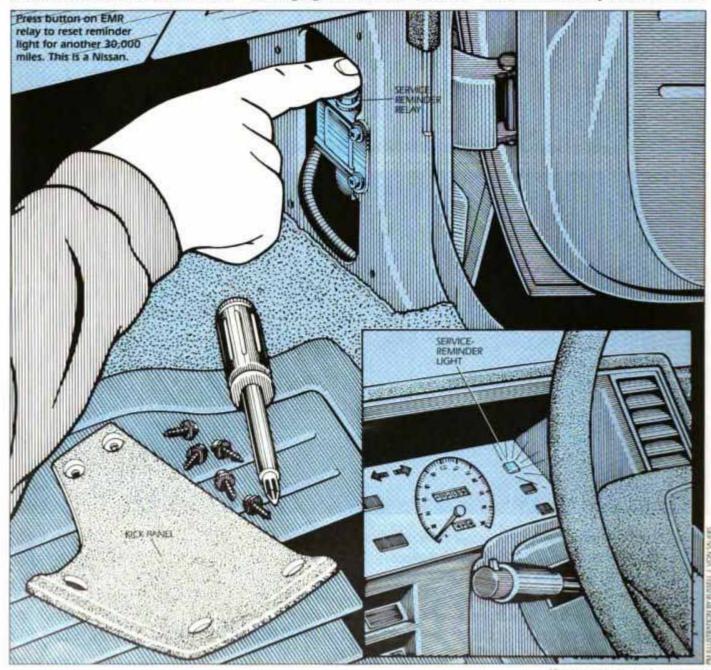
It's bad enough your pals won't talk to you, but now the truck's got to go in for service. And the only way to get to work is by bus because your wife needs the Bimmer to make all of her sales calls. Peachy.

Your dash is talking to you

Hold on. Have you been ignoring that warning light on the dash because

your "car guy" brother-in-law said it's not important? Well, maybe it is. You see, that warning light is designed to come on at about 30,000-mile intervals, depending on the vehicle. (Check your owner's manual for the specifics.) It's called an emissions maintenance reminder, or EMR, and it definitely shouldn't be ignored.

When the EMR indicator glows, it doesn't necessarily mean there's a



Natural Prostate Relief

It's a natural fact. If you are a male over 40 and don't already suffer from a prostate gland disorder, the odds are 2 to 1 that you will before you are 59. By the age of 65, most American men have enlarged prostates.

As the years pass, mild discomforts can become disabling. Today, prostate surgery is the second most commonly performed surgery in men over age 65! Surgical complications can include total loss of bladder control and sexual dysfunction.

Prescription drugs may halt the swelling, but rarely ends the suffering. Like many prescription drugs, they have side-effects, like weak erections and low sex drive.

Many doctors feel that prostate disorders can be treated or prevented by giving the prostate gland the nutrition it lacks.

Recent scientific research has shown how to remedy the underlying problems associated with prostate disorders--safely and effectively. These results have been published in the British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology, the American Journal of Gerontology and papers from the National Cancer Institute. They reveal that several vitamins, minerals and natural herbs can dramatically shrink the prostate and improve urinary performance in older men.



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Dr. Michael Rosenbaum, M.D. says "Prostsafe supplies essential vitamins, minerals and herbs needed to nourish and maintain a healthy prostate."

For as little as a dollar a day, that seems like inexpensive insurance against deadly prostate disorders. If for some reason you are not satisfied, just return the unused portion within 30 days for a full refund.

The reasons why men over 40 use **Prostsafe** are clear. If you are looking for relief, order **Prostsafe** today.

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"Prostsafe has stopped the burning after urination."

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> -- Mr. S.J. Hymel Houma, LA

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-- Mr. B. Doser Holland, MI

"This is a little personal but, how can I say, I am more virile."

-- Mr. G. Howard Clevland, OH

"...and in the sex department, my wife thanks you."

-- Mr. G. Sawin Lynwwood, WA

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problem. But each time the light comes on, the emissions system should be inspected. The idea is to work on the engine before the engine works you over. After giving your okay, the light has to be reset so the system starts counting down for the next EMR cycle.

There's a different reset procedure for just about every EMR system.

RESET SWITCH

MAINTENANCE REMINDER CIRCUIT BOARD INSTRUMENT

On Chrysler minivans, you must remove the fuel gauge or tachometer to get to the emissions-maintenance-reminder reset switch.

Some indicators, such as those on 1989 and newer Chrysler light trucks, can be reset only by tapping a scan tool into the on-board computer controls. If you don't have a scanner, it's off to the repair shop or the dealer for assistance. Some setups are reset by replacing a module. After a certain number of miles, the module is simply

left disconnected. There's no resetting provision at all on some vehicles. Just disconnect a plug or connector to shut off the light.

Still other EMR lights, such as the SENSOR warning on most Nissans, require nothing more than a screwdriver and about 5 minutes of your time to either push a button on a relay or pull apart a connector-that is, after you've given the emissions controls a once-over.

Only under the following three conditions should you consider resetting the EMR light without inspecting the emissions system: 1. You've had no driveability trouble and no CHECK ENGINE light, 2. You've noticed no appreciable change in fuel economy, and 3. Your vehicle always passes the state emissions test with flying colors.

Checking emissions system

The key element in your emissions system is the oxygen sensor that's mounted in the exhaust manifold. It senses if the engine is running too rich or too lean. When the O2 sensor gets lazy and stops reporting accurate information to the electronic engine controls, driveability trouble can begin-and fishing trips can be ruined. So check out the O2 operation first.

Next on the list is the exhaust gas recirculation (EGR) valve, if your engine has one. Apply a vacuum to the valve's nipple and make sure the valve seat opens and closes smoothly. On late-model computer-controlled EGR systems, there may be no way to check the solenoid/valve mechanism without special tools. If you haven't heard any engine ping or knock lately, idle quality is okay, and if the CHECK

ENGINE light hasn't come on, the EGR system is probably fine.

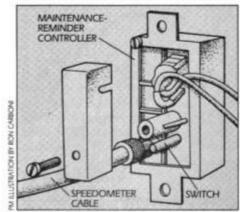
Other operations you can check include the smog pump (or pulse-air system) on engines that use them. Examine the pump belt for cracks, wear and proper tension. Follow the tubes from the pump to the diverter valve and down to the exhaust manifold and catalytic converter. Make sure the rubber hoses are intact and the metal pipes and check valves aren't rusted out. You might even be able to reach under the vehicle and rap the catalytic converter with a mallet or hammer. A rattling noise means the cat has broken down internally-and its better days are behind it.

If you can see the fuel-system charcoal-vapor canister (sometimes it's
buried in a front fender), inspect the
integrity of its rubber lines and fittings. And while you're at it, look at
the air filter, air-box breather element and the engine's vacuum lines.
Make sure the positive crankcase ventilation valve still rattles when you
shake it. Check the spark plugs and
wires and the distributor cap and rotor (if applicable) for wear. Ultimately, all powertrain components make
up the emissions system, so check
whatever you can get to.

Finding the reset location

Although it varies, reset-switch locations can generally be broken down into three areas: the speedometer cable/firewall area, the kick panel/under-dash area and the instrument panel area. The positions often change from model year to model year across the same vehicle make, so always approach your search with an open mind. And check your owner's manual.

The speedo cable resets are usually the easiest because the cable sticks out like a sore thumb, and there's usually plenty of room to work. Vehicles in this category include: some Audis and Volkswagens, 1980 Cadillacs, some 1980 Chrysler and 1980-81



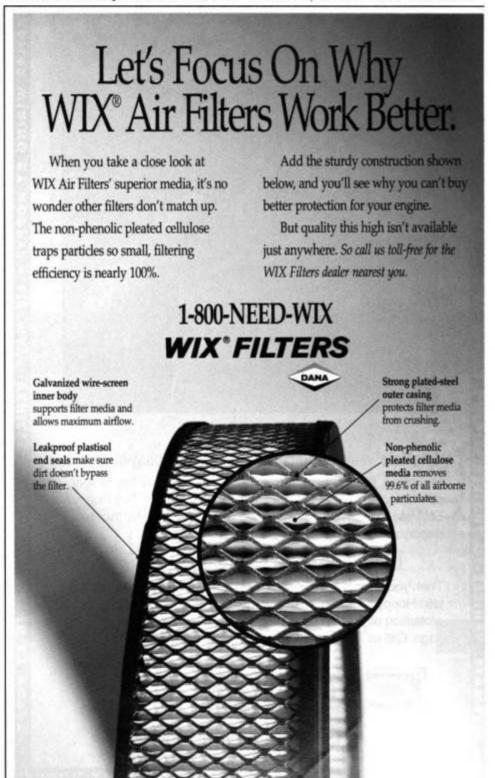
You'll find Volvo's mileage counter under dash. Press reset switch to turn off light.

AMC cars, 1980-85 280-Class Mercedes-Benz cars, Peugeots, Porsche 924s, Renaults, Toyota Land Cruisers, Triumph/MG cars and Volvos.

Audis and VWs are a breeze. You'll find the mileage counter in the cowl tray at the base of the windshield (the speedo cable leads right to it). There's a hole on the back of the counter. Stick a pen or pencil in the hole and press in the reset button. You'll feel the button lock in place. That's it. On Volvos, the mileage counter is also in line with the speedo cable. Once

you've found the counter, press its reset button with your finger. Same thing with Mercedes, except you pull the plug and leave it disconnected.

Caddies are done from the inside. Drop the lower steering-column cover. Feel for the sensor reset cable to the left of the speedo cluster. Yank on the cable until you see the flag reset itself on the left side of the odometer. On AMCs, Chryslers and Renaults, locate the reset switch between the upper and lower speedo cables at the firewall. Slide the rubber boot out of

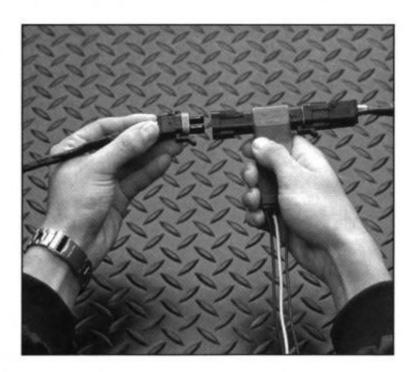


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the way and turn the reset screw onequarter turn clockwise until you feel the detent.

Peugeot is a little weird. First, unbolt the mileage counter from inside the left front wheel well, pull the assembly down and turn the reset button counterclockwise until you reach a stop. You'll find the mileage counter on the left engine mount or strut tower of the Porsche 924. On Toyota's Land Cruiser, the reset switch is located in the engine bay near the firewall-just slide it to the opposite position. Triumph/MGs require two pins that fit into the reset holes on the mileage counter in line with the speedo cable on the left inner fender. Turn the switch to the opposite position.

Hunting for switches

VEHICLE-TO-TRAILER

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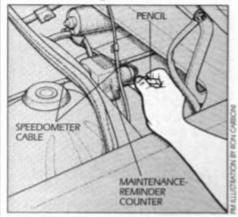
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LITEMATE VEHICLE-TO-TRAILER WIRING BY HOPPY

Vehicles that fall into the second category number too many to call out separately, but they all have some sort of EMR module, relay, connector or pair of connectors. Examples include the 1984-86 Chevy Sprint, Ford trucks since 1985, Jaguars, Jeeps and Saabs, to name just a few.

On the Sprint, you'll find a cancellation switch on the right side of the fuse panel. Press the switch to the OFF position. Ford hides EMR modules behind the passenger kick panel on its trucks. Stick a small rod in the hole marked RESET. While holding the button down with the rod, turn the key to RUN and continue to depress the button for 5 seconds. On Jaguar XJ6 and XJS cars dating back to 1983, the mileage counter is behind the trim in the trunk. Press the white button with the key on to reset the light.

Jeep's EMR light comes on at 82,500 miles. Once you find the EMR timer, either on the brake pedal bracket or under the dash on the passenger side, install a new one or just leave the system defunct. There's no reset button. On some models, Saab mounts a mileage counter under the



Stick a pen or pencil in the back of the mileage counter in the cowl tray on Audis and Volkswagens to reset EMR system.

dash to the left of the steering column, next to the flasher relay. Push the reset button on the counter.

Pulling the instrument panel

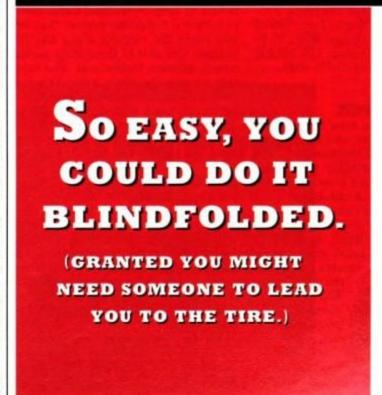
This third category can get complicated because you usually have to dismantle part of the dash to remove the instrument cluster or a gauge to get in behind the cluster, as on Chrysler's minivans. According to a diagnostic hotline we're friendly with, these vans are the cause of the most EMR reset calls. The circuit-board-mounted switch is tricky to find if you don't know what to look for. It's mounted behind the fuel gauge on the standard cluster or behind the tachometer on the optional cluster. Sometimes you'll find a 9-volt battery in there, too. It must be replaced with an alkaline battery. Some Chrysler captive import light trucks have a reset switch on the back of the cluster near the speedo junction or on the lower righthand corner of the cluster, behind the face panel.

On 1980 GM vehicles, pull the instrument cluster lens and use a small tool to push on the stem of the orange plastic flag that pops up near the odometer. An alignment mark should appear in the left center of the odometer window when the flag is properly reset. Late-model GMs use no specific EMR indicator. The CHECK ENGINE light illuminates if there's a problem.

Audi's 1984-88 4000s and nonturbo 5000s have a cancel switch labeled OXS on the back of the instrument cluster that must be removed from the pod to gain access. Late-model turbos hide a mileage counter with a reset button under the rear seat. Some BMWs use a resettable mileage counter, but 1980-83 528e and 633 CSi cars and other late models require that the oxygen sensor light be removed from the instrument cluster. Daihatsu turns on the light at 80,000 and simply wants the bulb removed from the cluster. On 1989-93 Geo Trackers, locate the 3-wire cancellation switch in the main wiring harness behind the instrument cluster or in the steering-column lower-access panel.

You'll find the reset on the back of the speedo on Isuzu Troopers. Pull the tape from Hole B and swap the screw from Hole A to Hole B. Tape over Hole A. Mazda MPVs are similar. Swap the screw from Hole NO to Hole NC. Late-model Mercedes-Benz cars use no EMR indicator. However, 1980-85s, other than the 280, require bulb removal. On VW Rabbits and Pickups, remove the instrument panel cover trim plate to get to the mileage counter release arms at the top left of





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If clothes make the man, then wheels make a car. Dressy and functional, American Racing Equipment's AR-24 one-piece 9-spoke alloy wheel fits most domestic and import front-wheel-drive cars. Available in 15 × 5½-in. and 14 × 6-in. sizes, the sporty wheel comes clear-coated to prolong

its finish. Available at most major auto parts outlets, the wheel costs \$85 and up. Contact: American Racing Equipment Inc., 19067 S. Reyes Ave., Rancho Dominguez, CA 90221; (310) 635-7806.



Security System

When the first steering-wheel cane lock appeared, it triggered a sort of security-lock war—with all kinds of variations. The latest player is Security-Pal's model 100. Aside from immobilizing your wheel, the welded steel unit incorporates a built-in alarm, which plugs into your cigarette-lighter socket. The siren, using an internal battery, shrieks a 100-decibel warning and flashes a bright light if the plug is removed from the socket or when any of the vehicle's lights come on. A motion sensor also triggers the alarm. Security-Pal costs about \$99.95 and is available at major auto parts stores. Contact Wolo Manufacturing Corp., 1 Saxwood St., Deer Park, NY 11729; (800) 991-9656.

Wire Router

If randomly run wires and cables make your engine compartment look like a school science project, here's a new holder to keep them neat. Cable Catch is a Velcro fastening system that lets you route the circuits along any flat surface. One side of the system permanently adheres to the wall. The other side secures the wires, using Velcro to reduce possible crimping damage that can result when nylon ties are used. A quick pull releases the wires. Cable

at aer to at A ee ck of five (depending on size), is available

Catch, which costs \$14 to \$16 for a pack of five (depending on size), is available from The Rip-Tie Co., P.O. Box 77394, San Francisco, CA 94107; (800) 348-7600.

Electronic Mirror

Forget that "Mirror, mirror on the wall..." stuff. Prince's oversize electronic rearview mirror for your vehicle tells you much more. It shows those flashing lights coming up on your rear bumper, and a built-in digital compass displays your heading, compensating for magnetic irregularities. Want to know the outside temperature? Just check the mirror. There are also maplights for driver and passenger. And the lights automatically shut down if left on for 15 minutes after the ignition is turned off. The mirror sells for \$199 from Mitco Corp., 54847 CR 17, Elkhart, IN 46515; (800) 433-6486.



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By Dane Spotts



Absolutely mind blowing!!! I popped a French Learning CD into the Learning Machine . Immediately I was sucked into a deep, dreamlike trance. Weird colors and patterns

were created on the insides of my closed eyelids. While in this super-relaxed but hyper-aware state, the special Learning CD began unfolding its magic programming.

A Vacation in 22 Minutes

It was as if a movie were playing inside my head. I could see myself in France having lunch at the Eiffel Tower. The music, the sounds, even the fragrance of summer in Paris. A beautiful woman spoke to me. Bonjour, mon ami," she said. In an almost unconscious way I began following the dialogue. The mental imagery was so intense I not only understood what was going on, it was like I was there.

Learning at Light Speed

The Learning Machine is more than virtual reality. More than just a cool way to relax after a hard day at work According to one college professor, "It may be the most powerful learning tool since the invention of the book.

Here's why. When you do a Learning Machine session your mind is cut off from outside distractions. Your attention becomes focused inward as the powerful sensory stimulation (light-sound matrix) bombards your imagination. Ideas and mental images float in and out of your consciousness. It feels like the best dream you've ever had. Then while in this highly euphoric mental space, the Learning CD opens your learning centers to peak receptivity and pours in new knowledge and skills. It's the ultimate mind trip. But it's not just for fun.

Let's say you want to learn a foreign language, improve your reading and comprehension, or increase your math skills. Or just give your kids a powerful edge in school, learning many times faster than their peers. It's simple.

You select a specially programmed Learning CD in the area you want to study. Plug it into any ordinary CD player. Then attach your Learning Machine digital headset into the headphone jack Push play and a few moments later your mind is launched into a pre-programmed learning session. In a fun, almost effortless way, the Learning CD unfolds its program and literally forces you to learn. It's the most amazing thing you've ever experienced.

Speak French, Spanish, German & Italian

Learning foreign languages, or anything for that matter, at rocket speed can be very empowering. And I'm going to include a ton of valuable Learning CD software with your Learning Machine so you can get immediate results from this new technology.

You'll receive 4 introductory language courses - French, Spanish, German, and Italian. Plus a Super Vocabulary course, a Super Memory course, and a Super Speed Reading course. And for your kids, a SuperPhonics" reading program. Over \$200 worth of Learning CDs make this the deal of the century. But I also



want to show off its other incredible mind expanding powers.

10 Fantastic Mind Journeys

So I'll include the 3-D Mind Sync" Library, with 10 mind launching programs on 3 CDs. Turn your Learning Machine into a meditation, self-hypnosis, and virtual fantasy computer. You'll get the following titles: Creativity Booster, Quick Energy, Stress Zapper, Mental Tune-Up, Virtual Visualization, Imagination Stimulator, Learning Accelerator, Super Intuition, Lucid Dreaming, and Super Zen

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Plus in addition to the Language Learning Library, the SuperPhonics, Super Speed Reading, Super Memory, and Super Vocabulary programs, the 3-D Mind Sync Library, and the InnerMind Programming Library (a \$600 combined value), I'm including coupons worth a thousand dollars. These coupons are for hundreds of future Learning CD applications, including software that links your mind directly to a multi-media computer. It's something you absolutely must experience.

Try the Learning Machine for 30 days risk free. Take your mind on an incredible journey. If for any reason you're not totally blown away by the experience, send your kit back to me for a full refund.

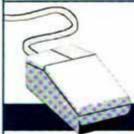
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Hot Product: Parsons Drug Encyclopedia

The Encyclopedia of Drugs is an easy-to-use database of the latest information on more than 6,000 prescription and non-prescription drugs. In addition to a general description of each drug, this \$39 list price software for DOS, Windows or Macintosh provides details on side effects, drug interactions, precautions, storage, notes and more for each drug. Search by brand, generic name. Prints info for ready reference. For info or to order, call Parsons Technology at 1-800-223-6925.

Hot Tip: Tracing Scans in CAD

When using computer aided drawing software like IBM's CAD/3X, you can save drawing time by taking any existing paper drawings that you need to reproduce on your computer to a computer service bureau to be scanned at 1200 dpi (dots per inch). The computer service will give you back a high-resolution TIFF file on disk(s) which you can load into your CAD program as an image you will then trace over, creating your new drawing. CAD/3X's Selective Dynamic Highlighting feature then gives you "smart" menu selections depending on your task — a real time saver.

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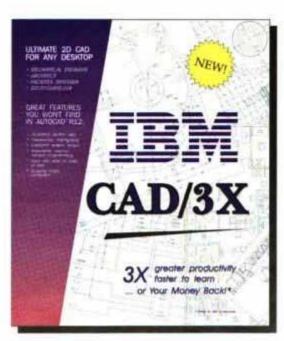
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Encyclopedia of Drugs for Macintosh requires 4MB RAM (2MR fixe), system 7.0 ortales and 9MB hard drive space. Copyright © 1995 Parsons Technology, Inc.

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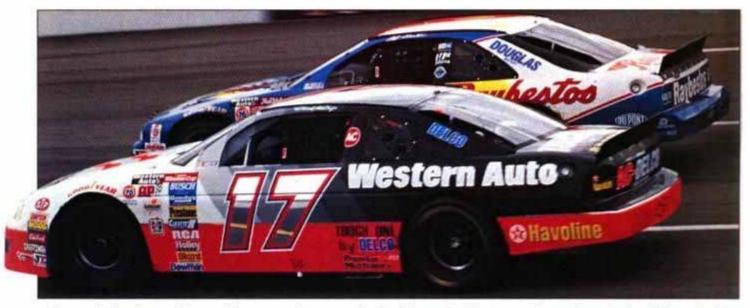


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SORTING IT OUT

PM/Western Auto's Monte Carlo has early season teething problems.

BY AL PEARCE; PM Photos by Don Hunter



 One of the best things about NASCAR racing is that the schedulemaker seldom leaves much time for teams to fret over a bad weekend.

After the Daytona 500, for example, Darrell Waltrip and his Western Auto/POPULAR MECHANICS team had

only four days to return to their shop near Charlotte, North Carolina, unload two cars, load two others, then head for another 500-mile race, this one near Rockingham, North Carolina.

The season-opening Daytona 500 had been one of those "good news, bad news" races. Waltrip and his No. 17 Chevrolet Monte Carlo qualified well, finished second in their 125-mile heat race and were competitive in the main event until the transmission broke

during a routine, late-race pitstop. The team's 32nd-place finish didn't even begin to reflect how strong the entire effort had been.

The Goodwrench 500

The 500-miler at Rockingham would provide a different kind of challenge altogether. While most teams consider the Daytona 500 something of a sprint race, the Goodwrench 500 at the North Carolina Motor Speedway generally turns into a 5-hour-long endurance test.

Waltrip has long been a master of long, grueling races that require both finesse and brawn. He went into



Waltrip pitting on the way to a 7th-place finish at Richmond.

Round 2 of the 31-round Winston Cup season with two career poles and four victories at Rockingham. In addition, he counted 14 other top-5 finishes at the 1.017-mile banked oval racetrack in North Carolina's famous Sandhills region.

It was a rare off-weekend from the start. Waltrip could coax his Chevy to only 37th on the 42-car grid, behind no fewer than 10 other Monte Carlos. He realized early on that he'd brought the wrong car, one that wasn't as well balanced or well suited to survive 492 punishing laps.

On a day when fellow Chevy driver Jeff Gordon dominated and got his

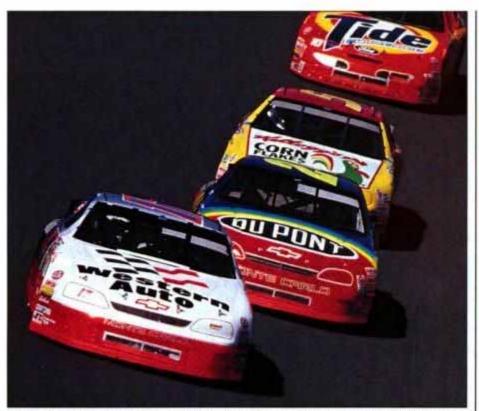
third career victory, Waltrip's 629th career start ended with a broken engine and a 38th-place finish after just 219 laps. Gordon, the pole-sitter, was in front for 329 laps and led a 1-2-3 Monte Carlo sweep.

The Pontiac 400

The following weekend at Richmond, Virginia, things ran a whole lot better for Waltrip. The effort at Richmond showed the full potential of the Western Auto/PM team. Round 3 was the first "short-

track" race of 1995, and the \(^3\)/-mile Richmond International Raceway would prove good to Waltrip.

His best qualifying lap for the Pontiac 400 was nothing spectacular—only 17th on the 38-car grid—but it was solid considering the chilly and damp track conditions. "It took the tires so long to heat up, I just wanted to get back around without wrecking,"



Waltrip leads Jeff Gordon, Terry Labonte and Ricky Rudd down from the banking at the Atlanta Motor Speedway before breaking a valve in lap 187 of the Purolator 500.

Waltrip said. "I thought I was going to wreck two or three times during my qualifying lap."

Race day was warmer and less damp, and Waltrip quickly improved his position throughout the afternoon. He finished a lead-lap seventh-one of five Monte Carlo drivers to score in the top seven. Even though Ford star Rusty Wallace led 348 of the 400 laps, his car faded toward the end and he finished third behind Chevy drivers Terry Labonte and Dale Earnhardt.

The Purolator 500

The Atlanta Motor Speedway, located near Hampton, Georgia, hosted Round 4 of the series. By now, Ford owners, drivers and crewmen were carping that the Monte Carlo had an unfair advantage because of its superior aerodynamics. They claimed that Ford teams needed a rules concession to close the gap. As things turned out, the Puro-

lator 500 added fuel to those fires. Waltrip opened up a solid fourth, his best qualifying effort since winning

the pole position at Martinsville, Virginia, during the spring of 1992. Chevrolet started the weekend off right by taking the top-5 spots on a track where Fords had won seven of the last 10 races and six of the last 10 poles.

Except for one lap, Chevy drivers Gordon, Earnhardt, Bobby and Terry Labonte, Ken Schrader and Waltrip combined to lead all 328 laps. Unfortunately, Waltrip wasn't running at the finish for the third time this year. He led two laps (122-123) during an exchange of pitstops before his engine failed again, this time at lap 187.

"Something fairly serious—it was a valve—broke in the engine," he said. "It was similar to the problem we had at Rockingham a couple of weeks ago. It's really disappointing because we had a 5th- or 6th-place car."

But things promise to only get better later on in the spring. Among Waltrip's 84 career victories (the most among active drivers) are 38 at the tour's next four racing stops: Darlington, South Carolina; Bristol, Tennessee; North Wilkesboro, North Carolina; and Martinsville, Virginia.

Ever the optimists, Waltrip and his crew expect good things before

Memorial Day weekend. "Except for Rockingham, we've run good at every race this year," he said. "Some nagging little problems have kept us from finishing races, but we'll get them straightened out.

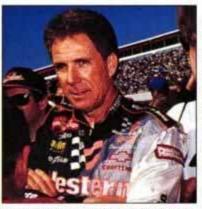
This is a winning team, and we intend to win races this year."



GLENNA GOODACRE LOOKS AT THE WORLD.

Glenna Goodacre is one of this country's most renowned sculptors. In 1991, she was chosen to create the Vietnam Women's Memorial in Washington, D. C. And when it was completed, she began work on another masterpiece: the new home she was building in Santa Te. Slenna Goodacre could have had any brand of windows she wanted. She chose Marvin. To learn more about the windows that satisfied the critical eye of an artist, call 1-800-346-5128 (1-800-263-6161 in Canada) or mail





An optimistic Darrell Waltrip is looking toward a brighter future.

A true statement by Paul B. of San Pedro, California



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DOOM VIRUS (Continued from page 54)

tection files for new viruses. These can be downloaded by modem or obtained by mail, and they're free for two years after you've purchased VirusScan (\$129).

The first part is easy too—but you have to do it. VirusScan can be programmed to run in a variety of ways, including automatically every time you turn on the computer. This might not seem necessary if you seldom load new software—you might run a scan only then. Automatic scanning is a fast and painless ounce of prevention

that can spare potential anxiety. When PM ran VirusScan on a PC with some 1200 files, the scan took just over 3 minutes.

One infection no antivirus program can prevent is the boot-virus kind, contracted when booting up an IBM-compatible PC with an infected diskette. In truth, people seldom boot from a floppy these days—startup usually comes directly from the hard-disk drive, assuming the operating system is installed there.

If you must boot from a floppy, it should be only with an original version of the operating system (or

a virus-free copy) from a diskette that has been write-protected. There's a little tab on each diskette that prevents any further recording-that is, it protects it from any software codes that might be subsequently written. If the tab is locked, there's no way an infected computer can spread a virus to the diskette. (Besides having a clean diskette of your system, it's a good idea to make backup copies of your most important files regularly. Sometimes, virus-infected files can be damaged beyond repair, and the only way to restore them is from a healthy copy.)

Some people do boot from floppies. The only way to block a boot-sector virus infection is through hardware that alters the PC's boot-up process in such a way as to permit virus-checking at this early stage.

One such product is McAfee's ROMShield, a read-only-memory chip that can be installed on the Ethernet cards used for networked corporate computers. This technology will eventually come to stand-alone PCs. In fact, Compaq Computer recently introduced its SafeStart Virus Detection. It, too, uses a dedicated microprocessor as front-line defense during the boot-up process. At this writing, SafeStart is available only in Compaq's Deskpro XL computers, sold mostly to corporate users. It's a good bet, though, that the knowhow will migrate to Compaq's Presario line of PCs-and that other computer makers will offer similar products.

Until there's a silver bullet—hardware as well as software—computer users should practice prophylaxis in all software exchanges.

Scan any new program before executing it, no matter how innocent the source seems. Avoid pirated software on pragmatic, if not ethical, grounds. Besides being a popular Trojan Horse, pirated programs sometimes attract their own viruses. Recently, a file-infector virus called Doom II Death delivered fatal blows to computers running illegal copies of the popular game "Doom II." As for shareware, whether via telecommunications or floppy disks, ascertain if the bulletin board or the physical disk has been duly certified by the Association of Shareware Professionals.

By keeping records of programs borrowed or loaned, you can trace a virus you contracted or might have spread. If you do get a dose, report it—either to your antivirus vendor or to the National Computer Security Association (717-258-1816). As with other illnesses, early detection and treatment can prevent the damage from spreading.

TECHNOLOGY UPDATE

500 miles from nowhere, it'll give you a cold drink or a warm burger...

NASA space flights inspired this portable fridge that outperforms conventional fridges, replaces the ice chest and alternates as a food warmer.

By Charles Anton

ecognize the ice cooler in this picture? Surprisingly enough, there isn't one. What you see instead is a Koolatron, an invention that replaces the traditional ice cooler, and its many limitations, with a technology even more sophisticated than your home fridge. And far better suited to travel.

What's more, the innocent looking box before you is not only a refrigerator, it's also a food warmer.

NASA inspired portable refrigerator.

Because of space travel's tough demands, scientists had to find something more dependable and less bulky than traditional refrigeration coils and compressors. Their research led them to discover a miraculous solid state component called the thermo-electric module.

Aside from a small fan, this electronic fridge has no moving parts to wear out or break down. It's not affected by tilting, jarring or vibration (situations that cause home fridges to fail). The governing module, no bigger than a matchbook, actually delivers the cooling power of a 10 pound block of ice.

From satellites to station wagons.

Thermo-electric temperature control has now been proven with more than 25 years of use in some of the most rigorous space and laboratory applications. And Koolatron is the first manufacturer to make this technology available to families, fishermen, boaters, campers and hunters—in fact anyone on the move.

Home refrigeration has come a long way since the days of the ice box and the block of ice. But when we travel, we go back to the sloppy ice cooler with its soggy and sometimes spoiled food. No more! Now for the price of a good cooler and one or two seasons of buying ice, (or about five family restaurant meals), all the advantages of home cooling are available for

The refrigerator from outer space.

The secret of the Koolatron Cooler/Warmer

is a miniature thermo-electric module that

effectively replaces bulky piping coils, loud

motors and compressors used in conven-

tional refrigeration units. In the cool

mode, the Koolatron reduces the outside

temperature by 40 degrees F. At the

switch of a plug, it becomes a food warmer,

going up to 125 degrees.

you electronically and conveniently.

Think about your last trip. You just got

away nicely on your long-awaited vacation. You're cruising comfortably in your car along a busy interstate with only a few rest stops or restaurants. You guessed it... the kids want to stop for a snack. But your Koolatron is stocked with fruit, sandwiches, cold drinks, fried chicken... fresh and cold. Everybody helps themselves and you have saved valuable vacation time and another expensive restaurant bill.

> Hot or cold. With the switch of a plug, the Koolatron becomes a food warmer for a casserole, burger or baby's bottle. It can go up to 125 degrees.

And because there are no temperamental compressors or gasses, the Koolatron works perfectly under all circumstances, even

upside down. Empty, the large model weighs only 12 pounds and the smaller one weighs just seven. Full, the large model holds up to 40 12-oz. cans and the smaller one holds six.

Just load it up and plug it in. On motor trips, plug your Koolatron into your cigarette lighter; it will use less power than a tail light. If you decide to carry it to a picnic place or a fishing hole, the Koolatron will hold its cooling capacity for 24 hours. If you leave it plugged into your battery with the engine off, it consumes only three amps of power.



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Koolatron refrigerator at the introductory price of \$99. Call today to take advantage of this special promotional pricing. Most orders are processed within 72 hours.

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The versatile Koolatron is available in two sizes. The P24A holds 30 quarts and the smaller P9 holds seven quarts. An optional AC adaptor lets you use them in your rec room, patio or motel room. They plug into any regular outlet.

a full one year manufacturer's limited warranty. If you are not satisfied for any reason, just return the product for a complete refund.

Koolatron (P24A) holds 30 quarts\$99	\$12 S&H
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SUN POWER!

A new solar-powered camera lets you forget about the batteries.

BY GEORGE SCHAUB

You're 4-wheeling it on a long backroad journey when the red-rock formations in the distance inspire you to take a photo. You grab your camera from the back seat, aim, press the shutter release and...nothing happens. Another lost shot due to battery failure—and that's the last thing you thought to pack. Being 10 miles from the nearest country store means losing a whole day's worth of pictures. And upon arriving there, the owner can only scratch his 2-day-old beard when you ask him for a 6-volt lithium.

Today's cameras are totally battery dependent—no power means no pictures. While rechargeables can be powered via the cigarette lighter, a special adapter in your car or in the hotel room at night, there are no recharging units for the specialized batteries found in many cameras. (Those that use AAs are okay.)

Now, Canon has come up with an alternative energy source for a camera—solar power. Its Sure Shot del Sol (list price: \$285) has tandem, amorphous silicon cells arrayed on the

front of a unique camera body. When they're exposed to sunlight, these cells convert photons to electrons, sending power to a nonremovable lithium ion battery, which in turn powers the camera's autofocus, autoexposure, shutter, flash, film advance and rewind, Canon has made significant advances in micromotors that offer low-power efficiencies and has applied them to this camera's automated functions.

Right out of the box, the Sure Shot del Sol has

sufficient stored power to run through four rolls of 24-exposure film, with half of those pictures being exposed with flash. When fully charged, the del Sol can handle six to eight rolls of 24-exposure film. A battery-check button cues you in on battery level during charge or use.

CLOSED

MAF Canon del Sial **OPEN** Canon Sure Shot del Sol Features A LENS B FLASH C VIEWFINDER D SOLAR PANEL E SHUTTER BUTTON SELF-TIMER BUTTON G BATTERY-POWER DISPLAY H BATTERY-CHECK BUTTON I RED-EYE REDUCTION LAMP

Solar energy can charge batteries that run everything from refrigerators in RVs to submersible pumps in the middle of the desert. The panels are the key to efficient power gathering, as the angle at which the rays enter affects the amount of energy collected. New technology has made the gathering more efficient through the construction of angled, or supergathering, arrays.

It is photon energy, not heat, that creates the action. But the heat that sometimes accompanies solar charging, particularly in summer

(Please turn to page 132)

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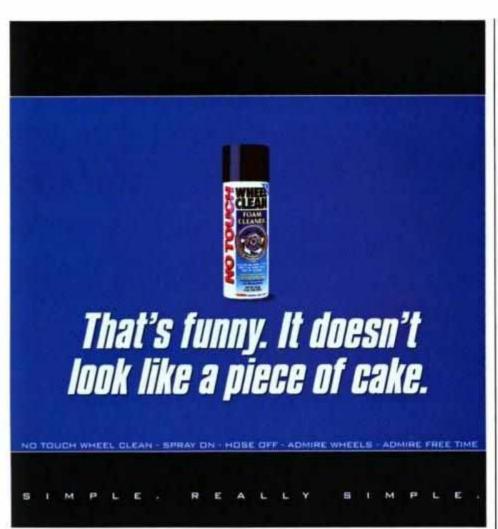
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months, can damage film and, with the del Sol, may harm the secondary battery. Usually, we're told to keep our cameras out of the sun.

The del Sol keeps the damaging effects of heat to a minimum through an ingenious self-regulating pop-up front panel, which automatically elevates to provide shade when charging in direct sunlight. This happens at temperatures of 80 or above. Yes, you can charge the camera on the dashboard of your car. But even though the inner workings will be protected by the heatshield, the film inside the camera may still bake due to the high ambient temperatures, especially in a closed car during the summer months. And baked film can cause color shifts and odd image effects.

Will the camera charge properly under anything but bright cloudless skies? The lux, a unit of illumination, tells the tale. Direct sunlight yields about 100,000 lux. In shade, it drops to about 30,000. Indoors, near a window, you pick up about 8000 lux on a clear day, and about 4000 on a cloudy day. Indoors, under ambient light conditions, you drop to 1000 lux.

In direct sunlight, the del Sol gets a full charge in about 6½ hours. In shade, it takes about 16 hours. Indoors, near a window on a cloudless day, it can take 67 hours, and if you leave the camera in a room away from a window, it can be as long as 2000 hours. The camera comes with a lux indicator, which may prompt you to move the camera to a more conducive spot for charging. It is also equipped with a battery-power indicator to allow you to judge how many rolls you can expose (with 50% flash shots) at the camera's state of charge.

Since lithium batteries for today's cameras can cost as much as \$15 a pop, the renewable energy provided by the del Sol's solar-power system sure makes economical sense.

And, while solar power is what makes this camera unique, it also has a very usable lens and shutter. The 32mm (moderately wide angle) lens lets you shoot as close as 11/2 ft. It has four flash-operating modes, ranging from auto-flash to red-eye reduction to what's called a slow-synchro mode, where the subject and background light level both get considered in the exposure so that you can get natural nighttime shots. It has a slow-shutterspeed warning, which tells you when to steady the camera to avoid shakylooking pictures, and all the autoeverything features one expects.

The camera is small enough for casual carrying, and attractive with its pearl-white paint job. But the grid of solar cells covering the front is what will cause the most conversation.

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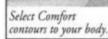
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BATTLE OF THE BOXES

(Continued from page 81)

pay a monthly fee-expected to be less than \$10-will receive a bundle of data services, probably including weather and local traffic reports, news summaries, sports and stock-portfolio updates and a television guide. AT&T will be marketing the HomeCenter in conjunction with banks offering homebanking services through the device. The first institution that AT&T said it would be working with is the New England-based Shawmut Bank.

The HomeCenter could revolution-

ize the way people listen to phone messages. If someone subscribes to Caller ID, he could use the HomeCenter to list messages by phone number or by the name of the caller, if that information were listed in the Home-Center directory. Armed with this data, the user could listen to his messages in order of importance, not in the order in which they were left.

Another product due out this year literally turns a television into a tele-phone. The LT-70P, marketed by Casio-PhoneMate, is a video phone, complete with miniature camera, that sits on top of a TV set. Unlike other videoconferencing systems, it transmits pictures over conventional phone lines. But unlike AT&T and MCI telephones that do the same thing, the LT-70P displays pictures on a conventional television set instead of a 4-in. LCD monitor. One shortcoming of the LT-70P is that it sends only still pictures, updating its portrait of a caller about once every 31/2 seconds.

"If you're really looking at someone for body language, you're not going to be able to do that," admits Jim Oblak, vice president of marketing at Casio-PhoneMate. But the LT-70P transmits audio simultaneously with video, and it has a higher-resolution mode (512 × 224 pixels) for sending more critical images. The device also has an input for transmitting an image from a source other than the camera, such as a VCR. The LT-70P is due in June at \$1280 per unit.

Meanwhile, manufacturers are developing cable modems and other hardware necessary to put sub-scribers like Dana Law online through their cable wire. The modern that Law is using comes from Zenith. Other companies developing modems include Intel and LANCity.

But getting a cable modem up to speed involves more than putting it into a subscriber's home. Though Law's modem is rated at 500 kilobits per second-more than 30 times as fast as a 14.4-kbps telephone modem-Law says that it's running a lot slower than that, closer to only two or three times faster than a 14.4 modem.

Putting modems onto a cable system requires fine-tuning the cable network, says Steve Gautereaux, vice president of technical development for Cox Cable Communications. For example, a problem with outside cable wiring-or even faulty wiring in a neighbor's home—can enable noise to leak into the system and lower the speed of a cable modem.

Aside from ironing out technical problems, another factor that may slow the spread of cable modems is their current cost. List prices now start at about \$500, and Gautereaux says, "They need to get to around \$100 to make it a business.

But for Law-who doesn't have to pay extra to Prodigy or Cox for this high-speed access-the appeal of the new, speedy modem is obvious, especially when he uses Prodigy to surf the graphics-intensive portion of the Internet known as the World Wide Web. A slow modem makes downloading files time-consuming. Law, of course, is already somewhat jaded. "It's a graphics nightmare," he says of the Web. "I don't even bother using the World Wide Web at 14.4."

Speed rules.

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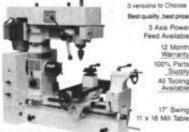
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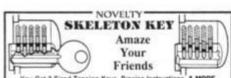
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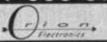
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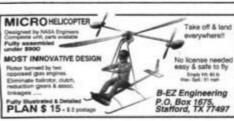
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