



Ford, the pickup designed for the needs of the 80's, is first again. First with 21 estimated MPG in a six-cylinder pickup with payloads as big as 2,530 lbs. And first with new advances like V-8 Automatic Overdrive.

Choose from tough, efficient regular Fords. Roomy SuperCabs. Rugged Six-Wheelers. The only standardsize 4x4's with independent front suspension. America's best-selling pickups are first where it counts.



First truck V-8 Automatic Overdrive option

Only from Ford! New automatic transmission shifts into overdrive at about 45 mph . . . automatically. Available with 5.0L V-8.



F-100/150 with 4.9L (300 CID) Six

First Ford 21 MPG Six* Only the tough '81 Ford has an

estimated MPG this high with payloads as big as 2,530 lbs.

SEST. 1102 HWY. MILES!

LWB Styleside with optional tank

First in driving range* Only Ford has this estimated range. Standard and optional 19-gal. tanks, total 38 gals.

*With 4-speed overdrive option. Compare these estimates with others. Your mileage may differ depending on speed, distance and weather. Actual highway mileage, range and California ratings less. Ford's mileage ratings together with the largest fuel tank of any pickup give the longest range.



FIRST IN TOTAL TRUCK SALES **SINCE 1970**

Based on R.L. Polk & Co. registrations.



First design for the 80's Totally redesigned last year, Ford pickups are roomy and inviting inside ... trim and aerodynamic outside for extra efficiency.



NOW WITH STOP WATCH

WATEH

Try only 10 DAK high energy 90 minute cassettes risk free for just \$2.19 each and get a beautiful \$69 value LCD digital watch for only \$5!

YOU CAN'T LOSE!!! IF YOU'RE NOT 100% SATISFIED, KEEP AN ML90 FREE AS A GIFT FOR TRYING OUR CASSETTES!!!

Are the very high frequencies disappearing from your cassettes as you play them? Friction within your cassettes may be erasing your crystal clear highs even as you read this ad.

DAK developed a jam proof cassette for professional high speed duplicators and in the process discovered why recordings that sound great when you make them, may sound less than great in just a few months.

Here's a chance to try DAK ML90s risk free and pick up a great LCD watch complete with stop watch for only \$5!

YOUR TIME IS PRECIOUS Imagine yourself just finishing recording the second side of a 90 minute cassette and horrors, the cassette jams. Tape is wound around the capstan, your recorder may be damaged and you've just wasted 90 minutes of your time and perhaps lost a great recording off FM.

MOLYSULFIDE

DAK manufactures enough tape for over one million cassettes per month, mostly for professional duplicators and loaders. We developed polyester slip sheets which are inside the cassette with raised spring loaded ridges to guide each layer of tape as it winds so it won't jam.

We coat the liners with a unique formulation of graphite and a new chemical called molysulfide. It reduces friction several times better than graphite and allows the tape to move more freely within the the cassette.

HIGH FREQUENCY PROTECTION

Tape is basically plastic, and as it moves within the cassette friction causes the build up of static electricity, much as scuffing your shoes on a carpet in dry weather.

Static electricity within the cassette is drastically reduced by the low friction of the molysulfide so that it won't erase crystal clear highs. A very important consideration for often played tapes.

MAXELL 'TAPE' IS BETTER

Yes, honestly, if you own a \$1000 cassette deck like a Nakamichi, the frequency responses of Maxell UDXL or TDK SA are superior and you just might be able to hear a difference.

DAK ML has a frequency response that is flat from 40hz to 14,500hz ±3db. Virtually all cassette recorders priced under \$600 are flat ±3db only from 40hz to about 12,500hz, so we

have over 2000hz to spare, and you'll probably never notice the difference, and we feel that we have equaled or exceeded the mechanical reliability of virtually all cassettes.

NOT MAGICAL OR CHEAP

DAK manufactures the tape we sell. Our tape really doesn't cost less to make. You only avoid paying the wholesaler and retailer costs and profits. When a cassette leaves other factories, it must be marked up each step of the way; even duty on some of the fine imported cassettes must be added, so with DAK tape you really only save the middlemen profits.

While Maxell UDXL 90s may sell for \$3.50 to \$4.50 each at retail, DAK ML90s sell factory direct to you for only \$2.19 each complete with deluxe all clear hard plastic boxes and index insert cards.



A \$5 LCD WATCH++STOP WATCH?

This beautifully styled slim silvertone watch is loaded with features. LCD means that the time in hours and minutes always shows without having to push buttons.

Push the button once, and you'll see the date in months and days, and push the button again and see seconds. Push the second button and the entire time section lights up for convenient night viewing.

Stop watch feature. This fine watch has a third button which starts and stops an accurate stop watch. The stop watch displays up to 15 minutes and then continues running displaying up to 15 minutes at a time. It's great for timing cassettes.

Quartz crystal accuracy means constant time within 1 minute per month. Crystals use little electricity, so the

battery should last up to a year, and is easily changed.

Stainless steel band for long life and comfort. No imitation, a first rate locking adjustable band.

It's guaranteed. This fine watch comes with a manufacturer's limited warranty, good for one full year.

DAK TAKES A RISK

Obviously giving away quality watches is not going to make DAK rich. We are betting that once you get our new 40 page catalog with over 6000 words about how to make better recordings, you will want to buy our cassettes again, and we are putting our money where our mouth is!

Customers like you are very valuable in the form of future business. We anticipate receiving over 6000 orders and over 4500 repeat customers from this advertisement to add to our list of over 80,000.

TRY DAK ML90 CASSETTES RISK FREE

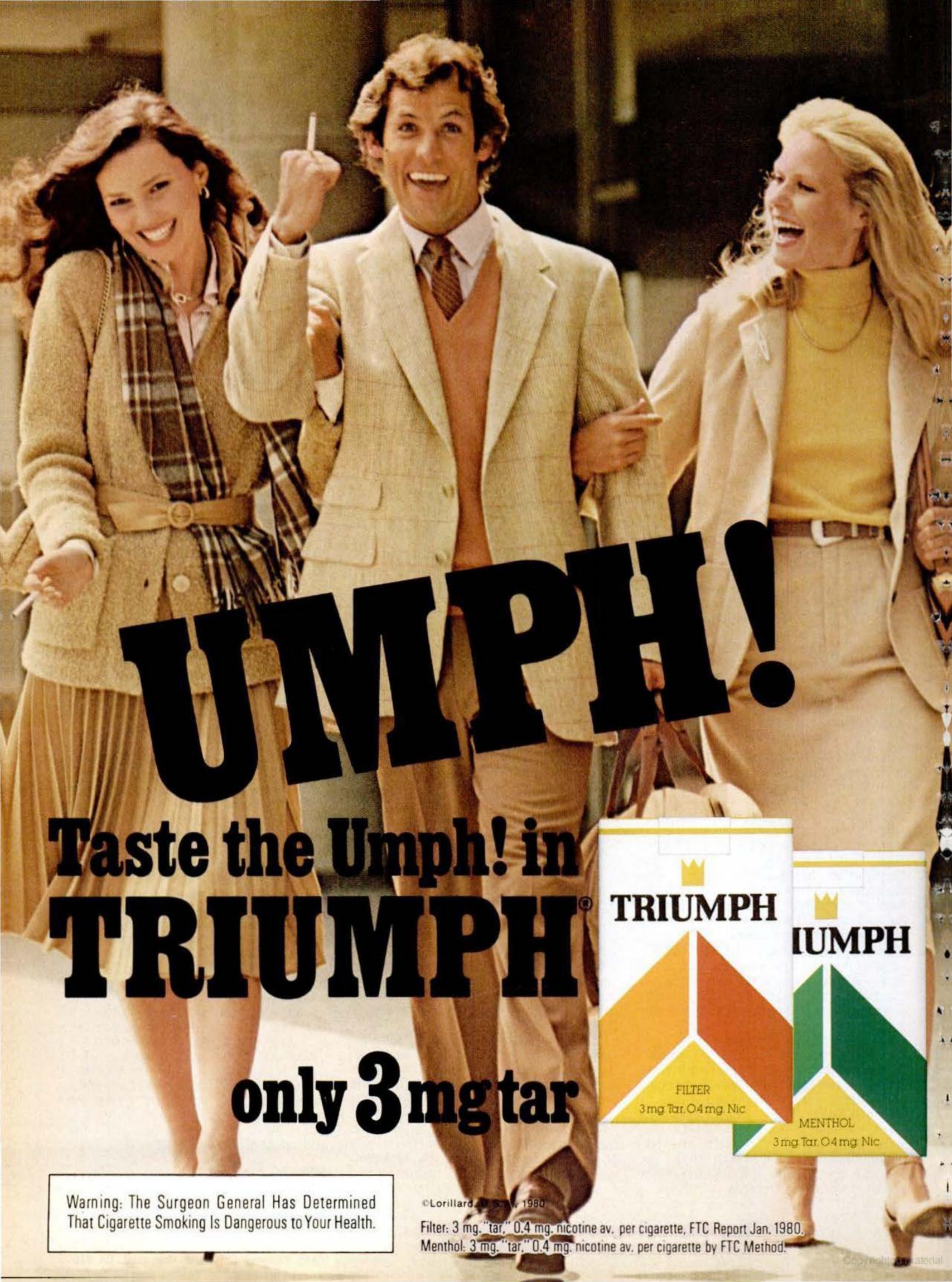
Try these high energy cassettes on your own recorder without obligation for 30 days. If you aren't 100% satisfied for any reason, return only 9 of them and the watch for a refund. The cassette you test recorded is yours as a gift.

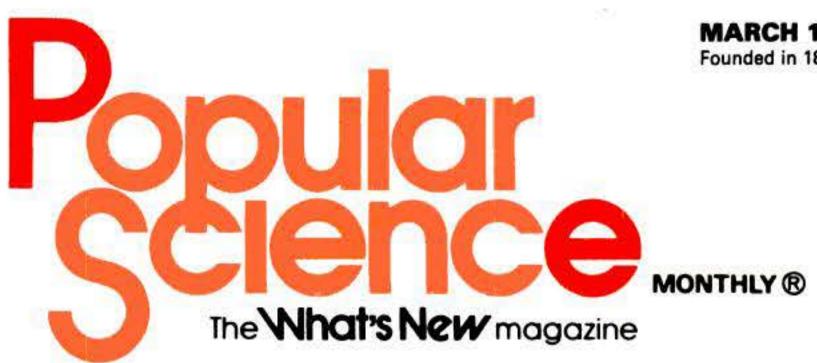
To order your 10 DAK ML 90 minute high energy cassettes at \$2.19 each and get the LCD digital watch for only \$5 with your credit card, simply call the toll free number below, or send your check for only \$21.90 plus \$5 for the watch and \$3 for postage and handling for each group to DAK. (CA residents add 6% sales tax).

DAK unconditionally guarantees all DAK cassettes for one year against any defects in material or workmanship.

Why not order an extra group of 10 DAK ML90 cassettes for yourself or a friend? We will add one free ML90 cassette to each additional group you buy and of course you can still get an LCD watch for only \$5 with each additional group you order.







HIGHLIGHTS	Tilt-engine	V/STOL flies	like a	jet,	hovers	like	a	copt	er
	(270)			3.75				0.5%	

Vertical operation from small ships-range 1,000 miles-loft 50,000 feet. PAGE 72

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Saturn's secrets: the week that stunned the scientists

Voyager left a host of theories in shambles, revealed amazing new facts. PAGE 84

High-tech hi-fi brings new realism to performances

Digital circuits, sonic holography . . . sound seems to surround the room. PAGE 81

'81 lawn mowers: PS tries 17 rider, walk-behind models

Cutting time and a mower matched to your lawn turn out to be decisive. PAGE 118

Prize-winning FRP designs from 10 PS readers

All of these innovative and good-looking projects are within your skills. PAGE 110

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PS READERS TALK BACK

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Oily slips

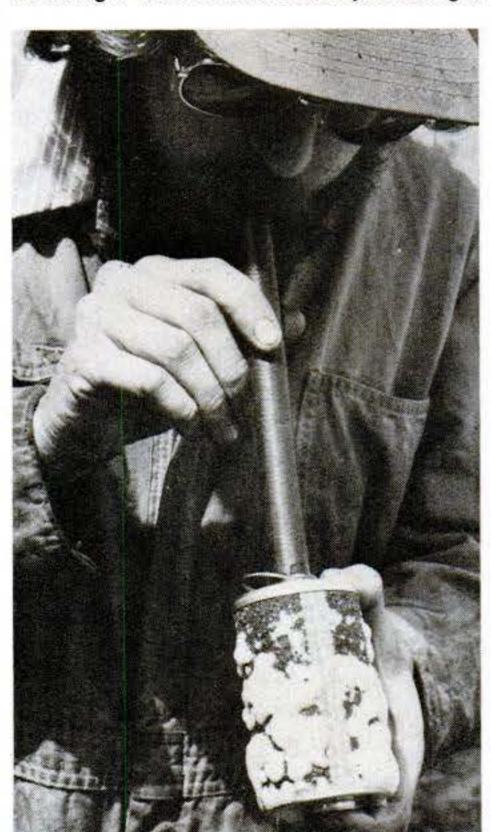
In your article "Keep Your Diesel Healthy" [PS, Dec. '80], Richard Day states that GM never recommends SE-CD oils. How come my owner's manual is so specific that the oils recommended have both SE and CD designations?

Jack A. Conners, Bakersfield, Calif.

Contrary to what your article says, Mercedes says that fuel filters should be cleaned and replaced.

Bob Childs, luka, Miss.

Author Day replies: "In the editing process, someone whose face is now red put in that wrong advice about GM diesels and their oil and took out the photo (below) that shows the Bosch method for cleaning a diesel's fuel filter by blowing it



out. It shows a PCV hose being used, as could be done for a road fix. If the filter foams like this, it can be replaced, provided it's not past the factory-recommended mileage. The trick works on any but a spin-on filter. However, GM, for some reason, advises against cleaning filters. As for lube oil, always use what's called for by the diesel's manufacturer."

Those black pipes

As unlikely as it may seem to reader Jim DeKorne ["PS Readers Talk Back," Jan.], the color of a heat-radiating surface does affect the rate of radiation. Since well before the turn of the century, physicists have known that the properties of matter that account for the rate of absorption of radiation by a surface are also responsible for its rate of radiation. Because black surfaces are both the best absorbers and the best radiators, scientists have long referred to an ideal absorber-radiator as a "black body." It is no accident that automobile radiators, transistor heat sinks, and heating stoves and stove pipes are most often colored black: Black results in the highest rate of heat radiation.

Gary G. Rannefeld, Dixon, Calif.

Wordless woman

For several years I've noticed that it's always the man who solves the problem in your "Wordless Workshop" feature. I was happy to note that in your November '80 issue, the woman came up with the solution. It's about time.

Betsy Weiss, Albuquerque, N.M.

Home-built boat

Your PS Mini-Cat [PS, Feb. '80] looked so good I just had to build it. Though I'd never built anything more complicated than a pencil holder in shop class, I had no trouble following the excellent step-by-step instructions. I did make a few minor Continued

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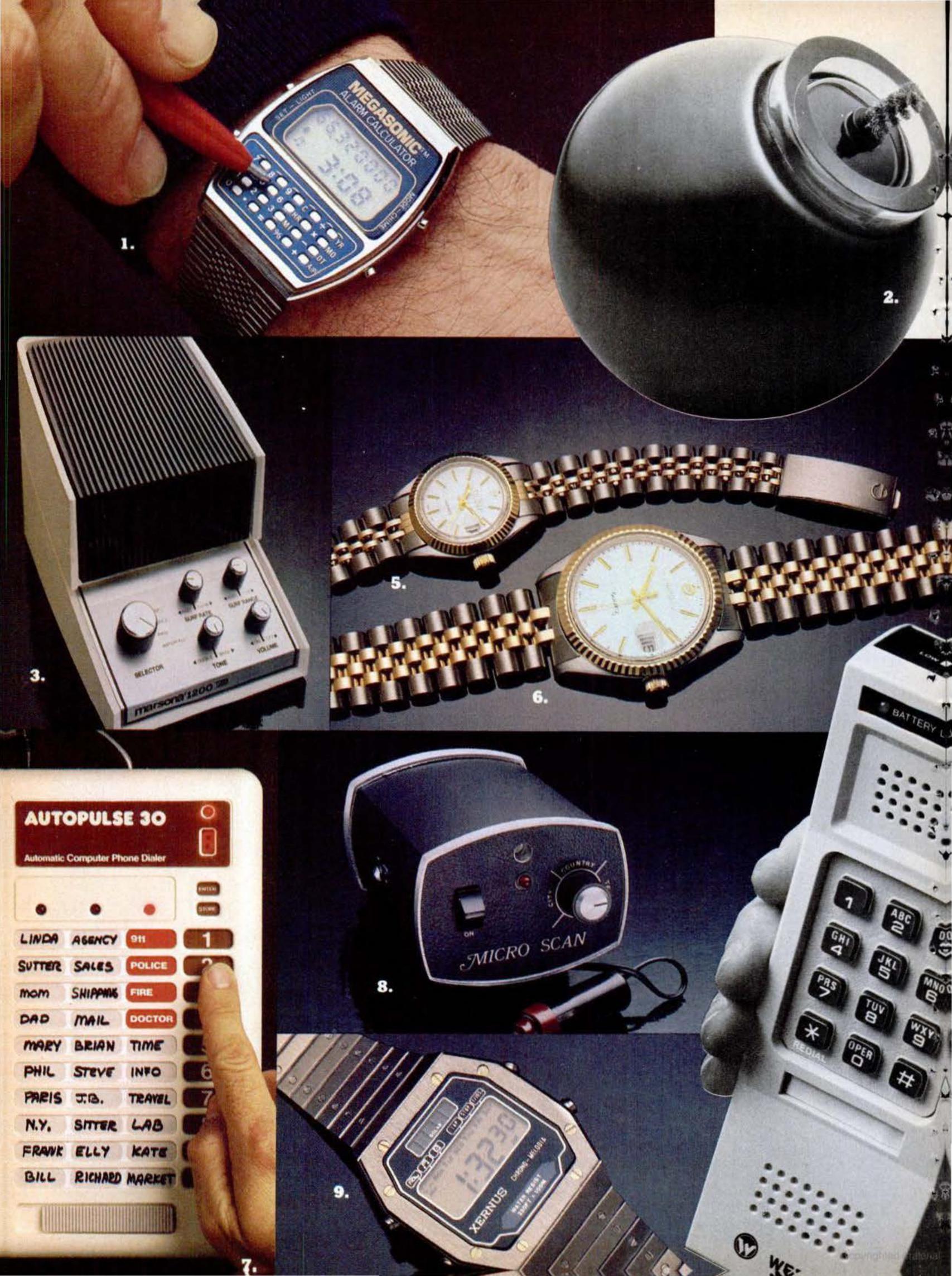
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World's smartest calculator alarm watch.

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Megasonic combines more features that a timepiece has ever offered regardless of price.

The sensor-touch keyboard speeds calculations and prevents errors. Everytime you touch one of its recessed keys (with any pen or pencil), a short beep tone confirms the entry—on all functions, even discounts, mark-ups and percentages.

You also get 100 second stopwatch, 12/24 hour time format, musical appointment alarm, hourly chime, quartz-accurate timekeeping, nightlight and day/date calendar. Stainless steel band, mineral glass crystal for durability. 18 month battery, full year warranty. All for just \$89. Megasonic Calculator Alarm #325 \$89 (2.50).

The air ionizer with the scientific edge.

Now you can watch cigarette smoke, pollen, dust and other airborn particles disappear from your environment—for less than three cents a week.

IonosphereTM, developed by the largest maker of hospital ionizer systems, is the only unit that uses passive multi-stage circuitry for totally silent operation. It's encased in sturdy, high gloss ceramic, and hermetically sealed in epoxy resin for long life. Protective plexiglass ring completely surrounds its washable, stainless steel bristle-brush emitter. One 4" unit will purify up to 250 sq. ft., or an average 12'x 20' room. Comes with instructions, year warranty. Clean your air with the professionally proven ionizer. UL approved. White Ionizer #946 \$89 (3.50). Black Ionizer #945 \$89 (3.50).

3. It makes the sounds that soothe.

The Marsona 1200 Sound Conditioner generates the primal sounds of nature—surf, rain, and rhythmic waterfalls.

Using an advanced electronic synthesizer—
not a recording—it produces "white noise", long recognized by scientists for its ability to mask out sounds that interfere with sleep, relaxation or work.

Unlike older

electro-mechanical conditioners, Marsona has no moving parts to wear out, uses less electricity than a night light. Lets you control volume and rhythm for all four sounds (high and low surf, rainfall and waterfall). Get the deep sleep and relaxation you need—get Marsona 1200. One year warranty, 7" x 8" x 5". Sound Conditioner #255 \$129 (3.50).

4. Save \$50 on the cordless phone that's clear as a bell.

This is the only cordless phone we've found that works as reliably as a conventional wired phone. So there's no reason

to be tied down anymore.

It roams 500 feet away from your home or office (a range of more than 10 acres). Rechargeable, lightweight 11 oz. handset clips to belt or slips in a pocket. Lets you dial out or receive calls walking from room to room, out in the yard—even at the neighbors. Completely static-free, with astounding fidelity. Features one-touch

redialing, high/low volume control, low battery warning light and intercom. Simple plug-in installation. FCC approved, meets UL standards. Converts rotary to touch dial; for all single line home or office systems.

Why pay monthly rental fees, when you can own the world's most impressive extension phone—at \$50 less than the store price. Webcor Cordless Phone #555 \$199 (3.50).

5&6. Amazing, what Realtime gives you for \$2,000 less than a Rolex.

Its quartz movement delivers ±5 second-a-month accuracy—exceeding Swiss Chronometer standards. Its electronic circuitry never needs cleaning or repair. And its stylized bezel, supple link bracelet and magnifying date window bring to mind the peerless quality that makes Rolex watches so renowned—and so expensive.

Yet the extraordinary timekeeper pictured here isn't a \$2100 Rolex. It's a \$149 Realtime.

The deep gold luster on the bezel and bracelet comes from using generous 5 micron gold plating. Entirely Swiss-made of solid stainless steel. Tritium coated hands for low light viewing. Water tested to 165 ft.

Also available in woman's model (5) a stunning reproduction of the \$1600 Woman's Rolex.

Both models include one year warranty, 18-month battery and gift box. Man's Realtime #247 \$149 (2.50). Woman's Realtime #311 \$149 (2.50).

7. Computerized phone dialing magic.

Auto Pulse, the first home-or-office automatic dialer to break the \$100 price barrier.

This \$79 genius lets you program up to 30 phone numbers (with up to 16 digits per memory)—and dial them at the touch of a single button. Can be re-programmed in seconds. LED readout displays numbers as they're programmed, and doubles as an electronic phone directory. Multi-line model makes office calls instant and cost efficient. Single-line home model gives you one-button access to everyday and emergency numbers. Easy plug-in

installation, never a rental fee—you own it.

Put dialing magic in the home or office at an exceptional price. Order several. Single-line Auto Pulse #234 \$79 (2.50). Multi-line Auto Pulse #235 \$79 (2.50).

8. Police radar meets its match.

In tests against the country's leading car radar detectors, the GUL Micro Scan demonstrated a detection distance significantly greater on both X and K bands.

Its large elliptical horn antenna receives signals from front, back and sides. Even detects the new short pulse KR-11 radar. Case is diecast aluminum, not plastic, so input terminals are protected from stray signals—and false alarms. And in the presence of radar, you get a double warning from both a tone and light. 4" x 3" x 4½" (easily concealed under a tissue box). Plugs into cigarette lighter; Velcro mounting for quick dashboard installation or removal. 120-day warranty.

In our opinion, the finest electronic

counter-intelligence you can buy. GUL Car Radar Detector #131 \$95 (2.50).

9. The quartz racing watch.

This handsome new Xernus combines an alarm with a ruggedly dependable 12 hour chronograph stopwatch.

With tightly sealed mineral glass crystal, solid stainless steel case and band, double insulated buttons, it even survives the 10 atmosphere torture test: guaranteed to pass water immersion

to 100 meters (300 ft.) under water. The solar panel keeps battery charged up to 5 years. Quartz accuracy, day/date calendar, night light, and penetrating musical alarm.

Xernus Quartz Racer #378 \$69 (2.50).



While you sleep, your Webcor remote phone has its batteries recharged by the matching beige base unit, included.

30-DAY HOME TRIAL.

Credit card holders may use our toll-free numbers below. Or send check, including delivery charge (shown in parentheses at end of product descriptions). Add 6% sales tax in CA.

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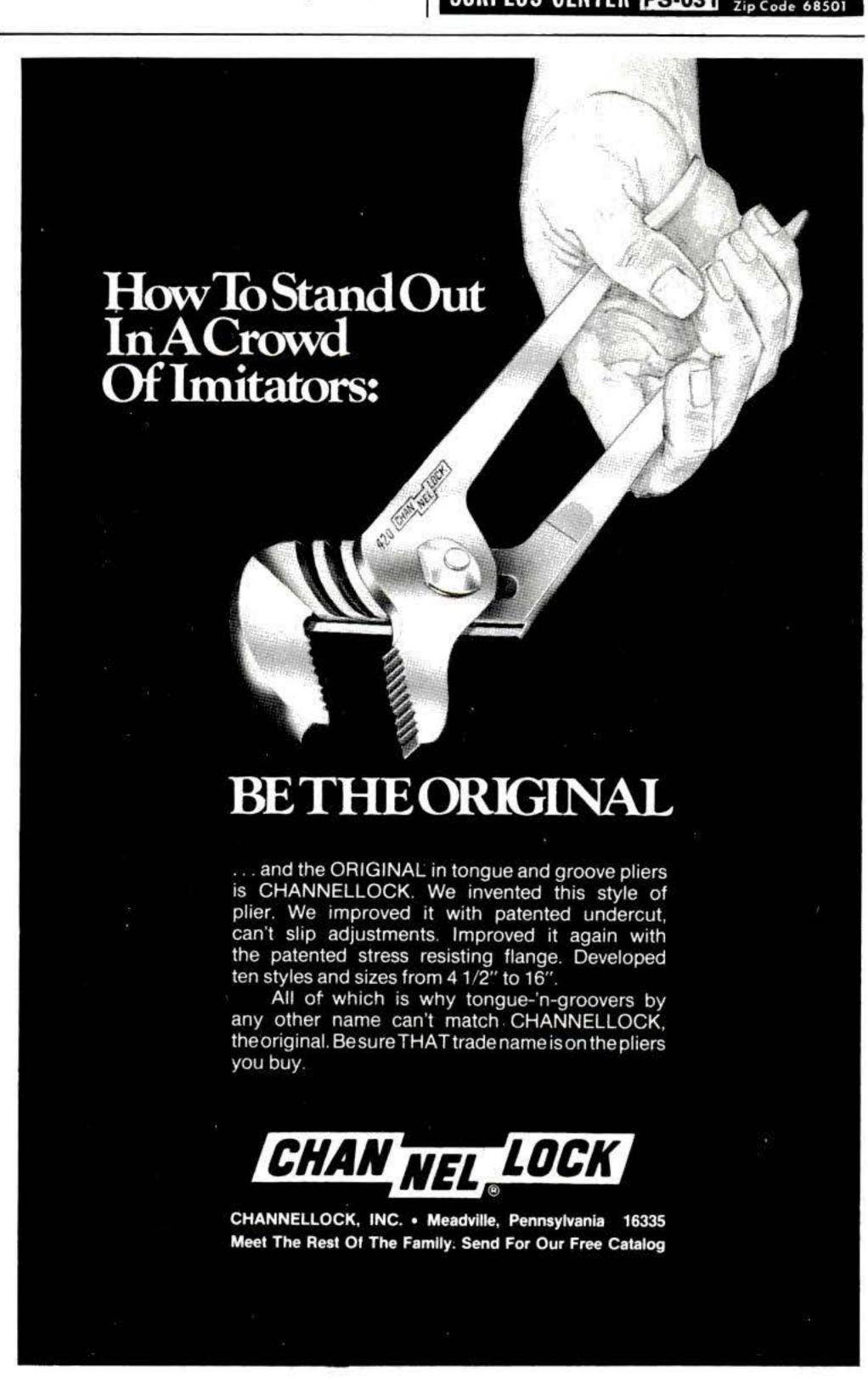
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PS readers talk back

[Continued]

changes in the plans. For example, I sewed batten pockets with Velcro end closures on the sail for easy replacement if a batten broke. Lucky I did, too: Sailing off Cape Cod in a 35-knot wind, I broke five battens—but the rest of the boat held together fine.

Mark C. Matson, St. Albans, W. Va.

Susanne and Peter Stevenson's next boat is featured in this issue.

It isn't waste

C. P. Gilmore seems to feel there would be an enormous potential benefit in converting to ethanol the cellulose in wood, corn stalks, wheat and rice straw, and forest litter ["PS/What's News," Dec. '80]. Please spare me from this "breakthrough." Most of the agricultural "waste" mentioned serves a much more important purpose: It supplies humus to the soil. Humus provides minerals and increases the soil's ability to retain water. If natural minerals are not returned to the soil, greater use of chemical fertilizers-products of the petro industry-would be required. As for forest "litter," have you ever heard of the connection between forests and watersheds? Gary C. Squires, Schuylerville, N.Y.

Kerosene costs

I am enjoying my second season of low-cost heating with a Kero-Sun heater ["Portable Radiant Heaters," PS, Jan.]. Initial cost of the unit (\$259) was fully returned during the first season, with a reduction from about \$175 a month to \$45-\$50 a month. Savings like that more than make up for the inconvenience of the slight kerosene odor (only present at start-up and shutdown) and the periodic cleaning and resetting of the wick.

Raymond J. Pellerin, Methuen, Mass.

Your author stated that kerosene is selling for 89¢ a gallon in his area [the southeast]. In Olympia, Wash., those dealers that carry kerosene sell it for about \$4 a gallon! Am I being ripped off by Olympia dealers, or is the author behind the times?

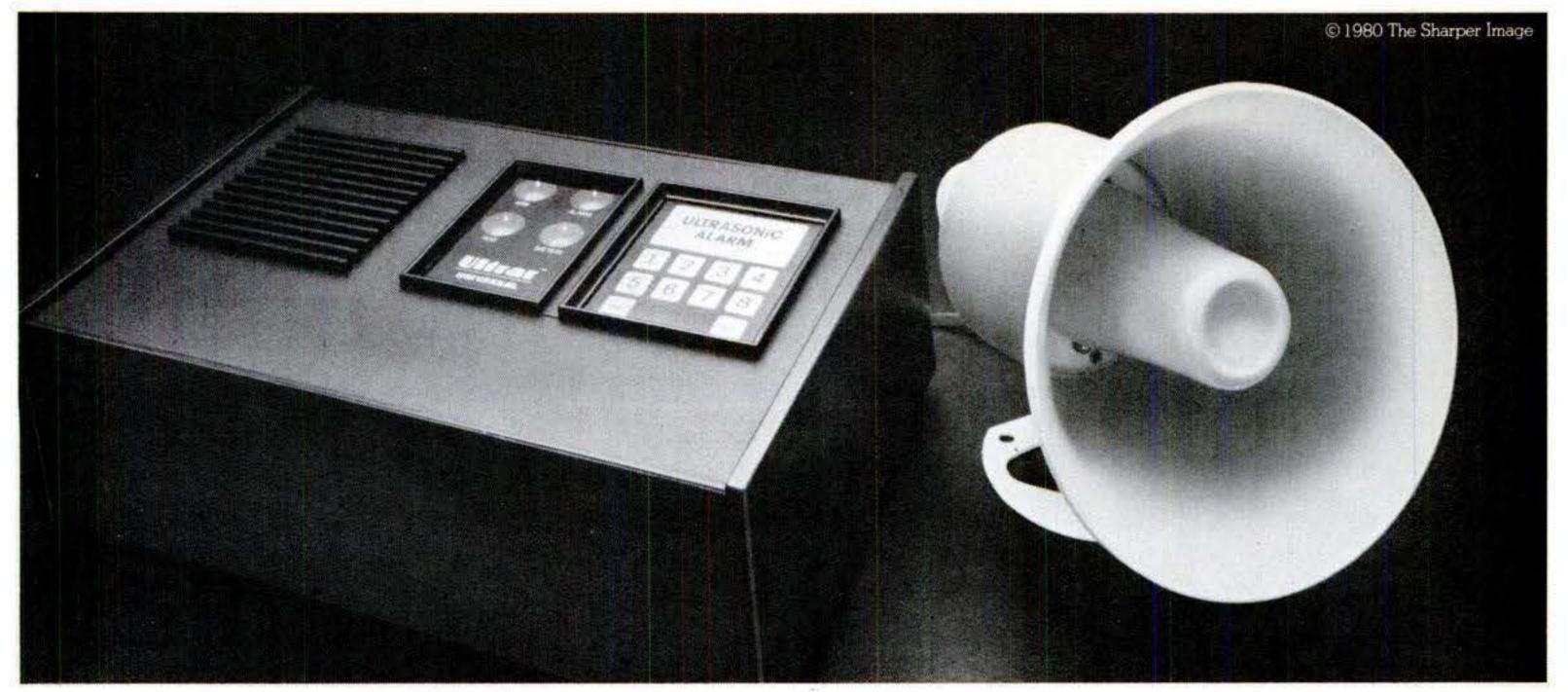
Gary Downs, Olympia, Wash.

According to Platt's Oilgram Price Service, the wholesale cost of kerosene is presently about 91¢. However, such a tiny percentage of it is sold to consumers as heating fuel that prices could vary considerably around the country. Check the availability and price of kerosene in your area before buying a kerosene heater.

Corrections: A typographical error in "Water-Powered Drill" [PS, Jan.] produced a monumental fire hose; the hose's diameter is 1½ in., of course, not 12 in.

The chart matching plastic plumbing with suitable cements in "Solvent Welding" [PS, Jan.] contained an error. CPVC cement works with all listed materials.

There are 70 atoms of U-235 in every 10,000 atoms of natural uranium, not in every 1,000 as was printed in "Do We Need the Breeder?" [PS, Nov. '80].



BUILD YOURSELF A FORTRESS. FOR THE PRICE OF A PEASHOOTER.

Today you can spend hundreds—even thousands of dollars—on a burglar alarm system. Or try to get by for a lot less, and wind up with one that doesn't do the job.

Well, now from Universal Security Instruments, Inc. comes UltrarTM, an economical alarm system that gives you many of the sophisticated features you normally find only with high cost protection. And it's available to you by mail from The Sharper Image.

Security. Only 5 minutes away.

Packed with professional features, this compact $10" \times 7" \times 3"$ system requires no expensive installation, wiring, or monthly rental charges. That's because it's fully portable. And all yours.

Ultrar uses a technology that even the smartest burglar can't fault-invisible ultrasonic (sound) waves that blanket a room as large as 600 sq. ft. with protection; and

without falsing. Remarkably, just a finger moving two inches will set it off; needless to say, the movement of an opening window or door will immediately activate the alarm (Ultrar is so sensitive, you'll need to remove pets from the room).

And you can set up the entire system in less than 5 minutes. Just by

plugging it into a wall outlet and making a few simple adjustments.

If power should ever fail, or the unit be unplugged, Ultrar's built-in battery back-up is ready to take over (six C-cell batteries will provide months of service, if needed).

There's no guessing that it's working.

Ultrar is unique in being the only economical burglar alarm system that gives you a precise picture of the extent of its protection.

In its special Test Mode, you can actually walk through a room, open doors, try windows, etc., and watch your unit being triggered by these routine movements. During these tests, you get a clicking tone (with indicator light) that's less than one twentieth the volume of the regular alarm siren that's ready to greet any unwelcome guest.

This exclusive test feature insures proper placement of the unit, and the ideal adjustment of its sensitivity control.

Now for the real thing.

Ultrar is armed with the press of a single button.

This same button activates a 60 second

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If an intrusion does occur, Ultrar is programmed to do one of two things: (1) Surprise

the intruder (and alert the neighbors) with a siren that can't be stopped—

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The unit is also designed to wait 30 seconds after entry, giving you ample disarming time. And lets you know instantly, with the aid of a memory-assisted alarm light, whether or not the alarm was triggered while you were out.

The deciding factor.

The Sharper Image has been waiting two years to offer a reasonably priced protection system. And when we heard Ultrar's built-in 90+ decibel siren, we knew we had found what we were looking for.

We were further convinced by its external indoor/outdoor weatherproof speaker (50' cord and jack included), which enables you to extend this already piercing alert signal to the entire neighborhood—or make your inside warning sound twice as penetrating (system is available without additional speaker for \$20 less).

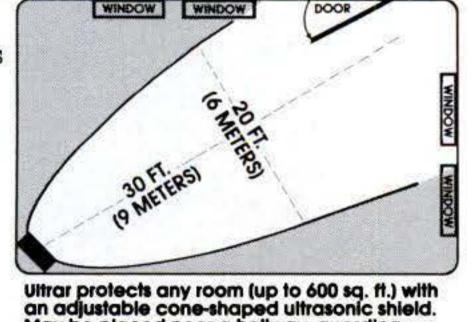
And we'll give you two full weeks to make up your mind. If for any reason you don't share our enthusiasm over Ultrar, please return it for a prompt, courteous refund. Includes 90 day warranty, warning decals, and full instructions.

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SCIENCE NEWSFRONT

By ARTHUR FISHER

Most powerful INTELSAT

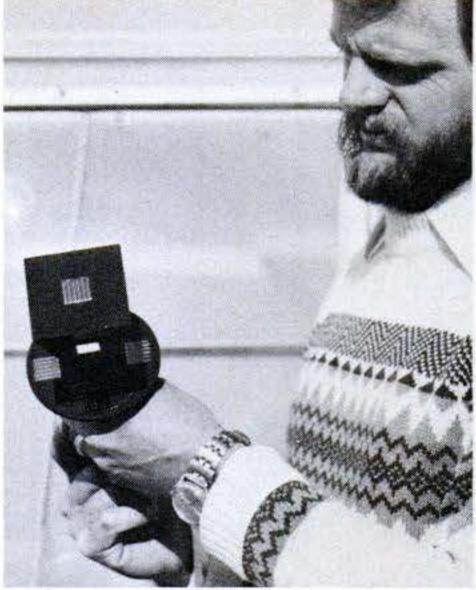
A new communications satellite, with greater capacity than any previous civilian comsat, has been launched into geosynchronous orbit. INTELSAT V, pictured below, is the first of what will be a network of nine such spacecraft. Boosted into orbit atop an Atlas-Centaur rocket from Kennedy Space Center in Florida, it will be locked in position 22,300 miles above the Atlantic Ocean. The nine INTELSAT V satellites will eventually cover three oceans, the Atlantic, Pacific, and Indian. Built by Ford Aerospace and Communications Corp., the new satellite has twice the capacity of the INTELSAT IV-A now in orbit. It will provide 12,000 simultaneous telephone voice channels and two color-TV channels.

INTELSAT stands for the International Telecommunications Satellite Organization, a 105-member global system that now serves more than a billion people and carries two-thirds of all international transoceanic communications traffic—TV, telephone, teletypewriter messages, and high-speed data transmissions.

One important change in INTELSAT V is that it is a nonspinning, three-axis-stabilized design. Spin-stabilized satellites, because they are constantly rotating, present only about a third of the surface of their solar panels to the sun at one time. But a nonspinning satellite can orient its solar panels to the sun all the time, thus easing the design of the power supply. The solar "wings" of INTELSAT V stretch 50 feet from the tip and carry 17,576 cells.

Earthquake watch

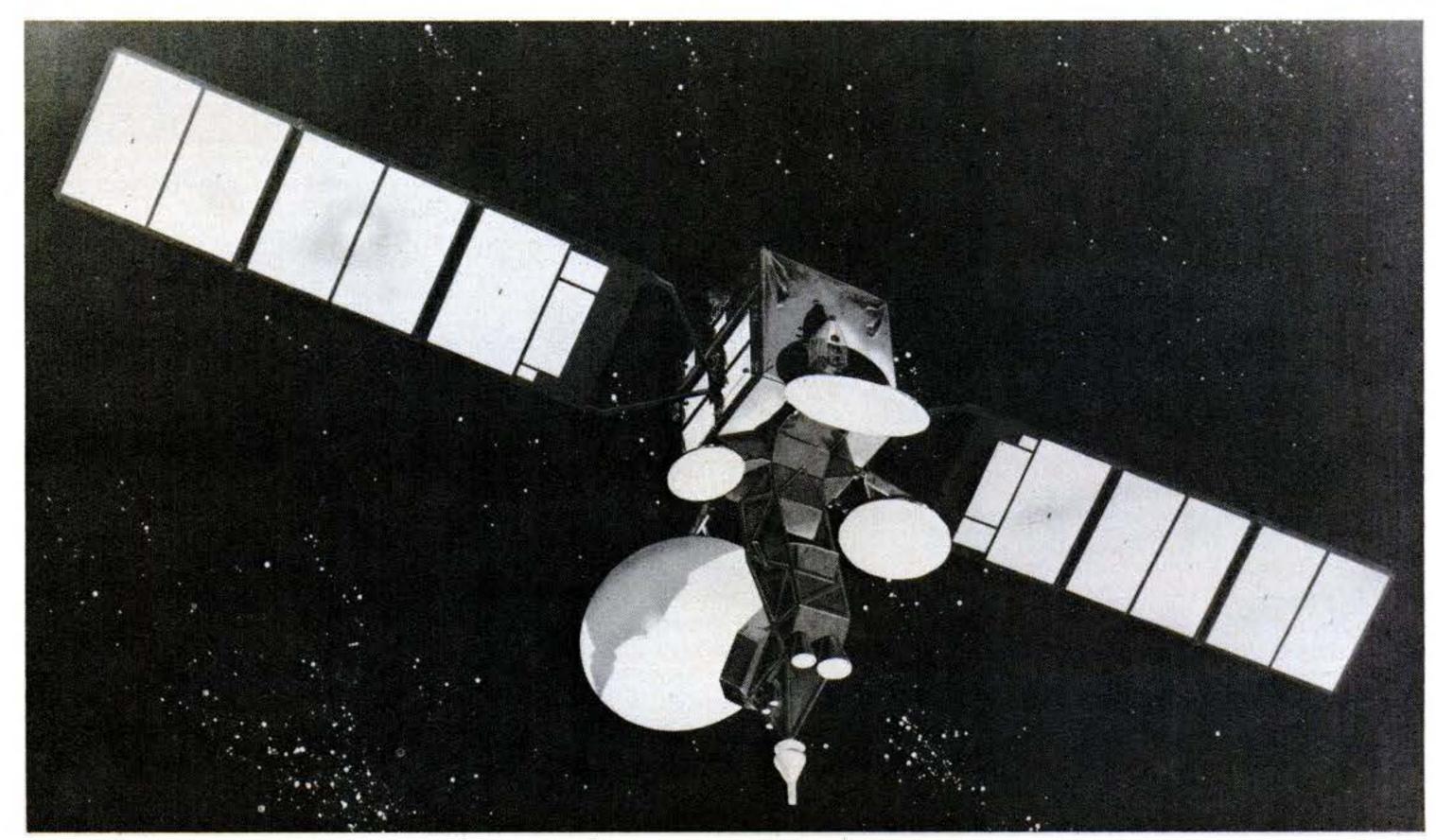
For years, earth scientists have been monitoring the seepage of radon gas from the surface, among a host of other clues, in an attempt to predict earthquakes. (Radon is released by the radioactive decay of uranium in crustal rocks.) Now a General Electric physicist has proposed a new theory of how minute changes in the flow of radon through cracks and fissures in the crust could signal an impending major quake as far away as 2,400 miles. Dr. Robert L. Fleischer uses a mathematical model of the Earth considered as a body of elastic material containing a "stress center," the release of which could trigger an earthquake. His calculations show that although a fairly mild tremor of five on the Richter scale should not influence radon flow more than 60 miles away, a devastating quake, such as the one that rocked



Alaska in 1979 and registered 7.7, could accelerate the flow of radon out to 2,400 miles. He suggests that an extensive network of radon-monitoring stations might be useful in pinpointing the site, magnitude, and possibly even the time of an impending quake.

Clever sun tracker

Inventor Burrell E. Hammons of Sandia National Laboratories (photo above) displays his elegantly simple sun-tracking device, recently patented by DOE, for solar collectors. Eight small solar cells are mounted on the vertical sides and horizontal base of a small square pedestal. When the device faces the sun, its shape partially shades four of the cells, and the voltages they generate are balanced. But if the orientation is not exact, unequal voltages from the cells signal drive Continued



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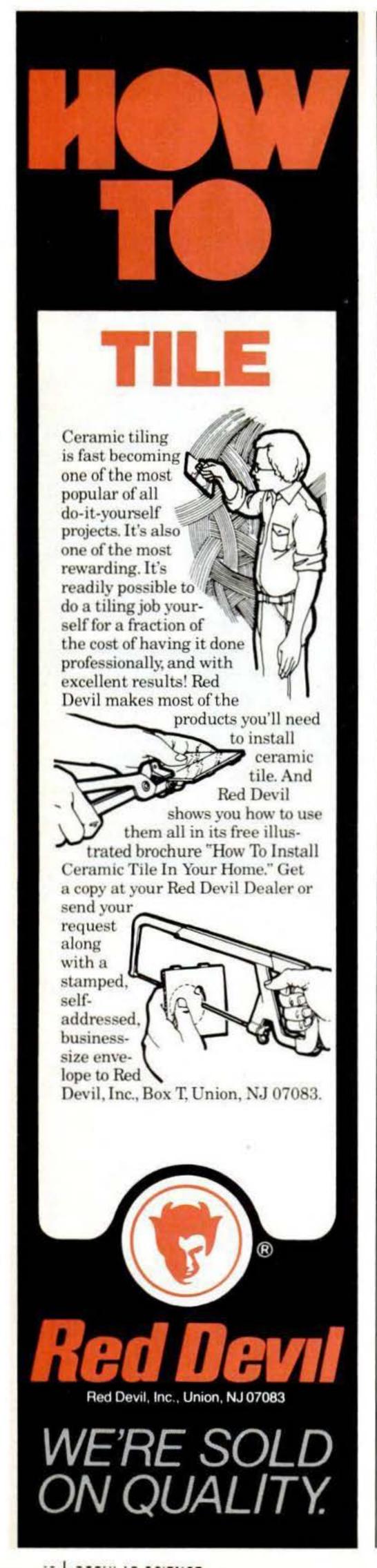
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Science newsfront

[Continued]



motors to shift the solar collector until the voltages are equalized. (The photo shows the device from the top, with three of the four cells on the base visible and partially shaded by the pedestal.) A ninth cell (on top in the photo) deactivates the tracking mechanism when heavy clouds pass over. The unique device can track the sun with an accuracy of better than a tenth of a degree on a clear day, and can find the sun even when the collector is facing away from it. It was first used on a Sandiadesigned one-kilowatt array.

Sounding the heart

The technique called echocardiography has a long and successful history. With it, a cardiologist can use sound waves, in a system much like sonar, to create pictures of the heart in action. The procedure is painless, and requires no surgery and no overnight hospital stay. The latest advance in this field is shown being demonstrated in the photo above. Called the Ultra Imager, it was introduced at last November's convention of the American Heart Association and is a product of Electronics for Medicine/Honeywell.

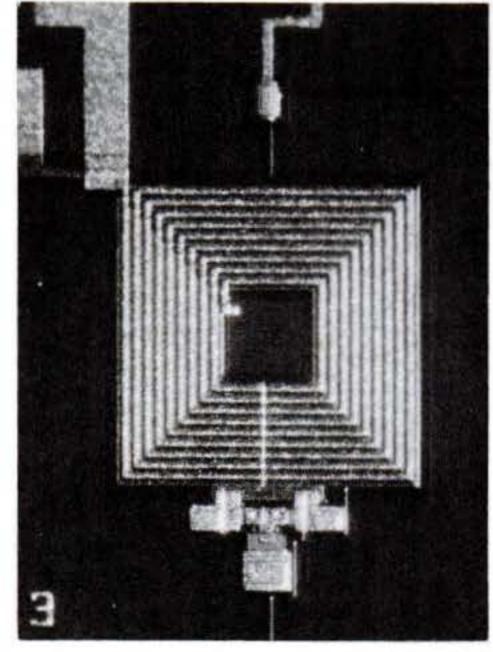
"sound pictures" of the heart a new capability based on an advanced technology—spectral analysis fast-Fourier transform Doppler. This technique records information about the velocity of blood (gained from the Doppler effect) inside the heart's chambers and blood vessels, and rapidly processes it so that the cardiologist can immediately gauge the heart's pumping efficiency, the arterial flow, and the volume of blood pumped in a single heart-beat.

Can't-win-'em-all department

One proposed solution to the nuclearwaste disposal problem—burial in lead containers—could pose a risk greater than that from the radioactive wastes themselves, according to three scientists from Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. Their report cites the fact that lead is carcinogenic and mutagenic, and represents "an eternal hazard" because it does not decay. One lead canister designed by the Swedes would be more hazardous than the waste it contains in just 500 years, according to the LLL team.

Ultimate sensor?

The basic laws of physics impose absolute limits on what scientists can do, no matter how ingenious they are. The device shown below, developed by physicists at IBM's Thomas J. Watson Research Center, comes very close to those limits. Called a SQUID, for Superconducting Quantum Interference Device, it could allow measurements of changes in magnetic fields as minute as a millionth of a millionth of Earth's feeble field, when the changes occurred at frequencies above 10 kilohertz. That's 100 times better than existing instruments.



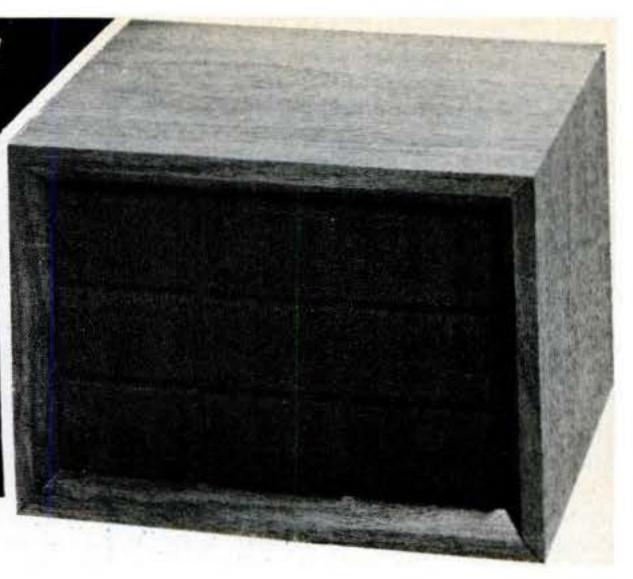
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Guardex 8000 Alarm System works on the principle of audio discrimination. This, put simply, is the process of electronically separating normal everyday sounds, such as voices, telephones, etc. from break-in type noises such as breaking glass, prying metal, or forcing a door open. The Guardex 8000 protects one story homes and offices up to 2000 square feet and open commercial buildings up to 10,000 square feet. The Guardex 9300 with wireless remote sensor capability is available for multi-story homes and offices or single story with more than 2000 square feet. Call the factory for more detailed information.

TURNS ON LIGHTS AUTOMATICALLY

When the first break-in type sound is detected, the system will instantly turn on lights, radio, or other electronic equipment that you have plugged into the back of the alarm. These lights or other equipment will remain on for a period of five minutes, then automatically turn off.

POWERFUL ELECTRONIC SIREN

The Guardex 8000 alarm is equipped with a loud built-in siren. If during the five minute period the lights or other electronic equipment has been activated, a second break-in sound is detected, (it can be only a second or two after the first break-in sound) the built-in siren will start blasting for 90 seconds. At the end of approximately 90 seconds the siren will shut off and the alarm listens again. If another break-in sound is heard, the siren will come on for another 90 seconds. If no other break-in sound is detected, the siren will stay off and at the end of the five minute period the lights will shut off and the alarm instantly resets.

The rear control panel contains two standard AC plug receptacles for a table lamp, spot lights, radio, etc.; terminals for connecting optional outside siren and back-up battery (not included); entry delay time

4

included); entry delay time control and sensitivity control.



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The Guardex 8000 Alarm System is walnut grained and dis-

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BATTERY BACK-UP

Burglars rarely cut power. However, to give you total protection from a burglar and possible power failure, our alarm has provisions for a battery back-up. (Batteries not included). 12 volt lantern batteries are available at most hardware stores.

THE BURGLARY PROBLEM

The F.B.I. statistics show that at the present rate, one out of every four Americans are going to be burglarized. That is not a very pleasant fact, but it is true. You have a greater chance of being burglarized than being a victim of a fire or automobile accident. The time is now to help protect yourself and your valuables with a Guardex 8000 alarm system.

OUTSIDE SIREN

The Guardex 8000 alarm is equipped with a loud, built-in siren, but if you desire an additional siren to mount outside or in an area away from the main alarm, they are available with 50 feet of wire for \$24.95. (Connecting terminals are provided on the back of the alarm).

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ALTERNATE-ENERGY ANSWERS

By JAN F. KREIDER

Jan F. Kreider is a consulting engineer specializing in the design and economic analysis of solar-energy and energy-conservation systems. He is the author of several books on solar technology, and a lecturer at the Univ. of Colorado.

Calculating air infiltration

I am attempting to calculate the heat load on my residence before installing a solar system. Heat losses through walls and windows are easy to figure, but what about infiltration?

Pat Ross, Beaverton, Ore.

There is a way to gauge infiltration in a residence. It involves measuring the amount of water evaporated from a pan (preferably slightly heated by setting it on the back of your wood stove, for example) for a period of weeks, along with twice-daily measurements of indoor and out-door relative humidity with a psychrometer. The relative humidity figures are converted to "humidity ratios" using a psychrometric chart. The air-infiltration rate is found using this simple equation:

lbs. of air infiltration per day =
(lbs. of water evaporated per day)/
(inside humidity ratio - outside
humidity ratio)

For example, if the inside conditions are 70 degrees F and 40 percent humidity and average outdoor data for the day are zero degrees F and 20 percent, the psych chart gives humidity ratios of 0.0077 and 0.00018 lb. water/lb. air. If 20 lbs. of water were evaporated per day, the formula shows that 2,660 lbs. of air were exchanged with the outdoors. This is the same as 1,478 cu. ft./hour—relatively low for a residence. Taking measurements twice a day about 12 hours apart will yield a fair average for each day. These measurements must be made every day for several weeks to get a reliable estimate.

Heat-Mirror glazing

The other day I heard a news report on TV announcing a breakthrough in insulating glass for windows. According to the description, an ultrathin transparent film is laminated between two pieces of glass. Could you report on this product?

Judge Robert Campbell, Duluth, Minn.

The product is called Heat-Mirror and is

produced by Southwall Corp. For further information write to Alex Tennant at the company (3961 E. Bayshore Rd., Palo Alto, Calif. 94303). Briefly, Heat-Mirror in its most efficient form is a double-glazed window with a thin Mylar film between, but not in contact with, two panes of glass. The film is treated with several invisible layers of metal to form a surface that will reflect thermal radiation, thereby trapping heat within a building more effectively than ordinary glass. The Uvalue of this product is about 0.2 compared to 0.55 to 0.60 for double glazing; therefore, heat losses are reduced by a factor of approximately three. The Heat-Mirror is completely invisible and permits solar heat to enter a window almost as effectively as if it were not present.

More on wood collectors

Your warning about wood collectors [PS, Nov. '80] came too late for me. I have all of my south roof covered with Kalwall Sunlite, nailed directly to the rafters. I have already bought copper absorbers (water type), which I had planned to hang between the rafters. Can this plan be salvaged?

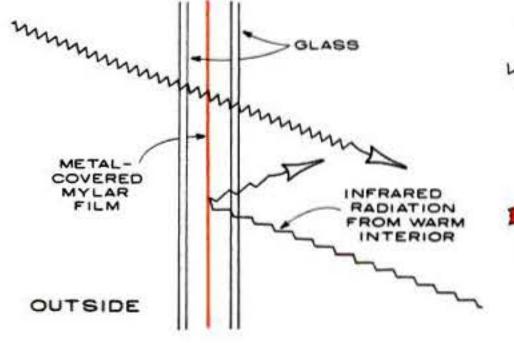
Philip Cullum, Lexington, Ky.

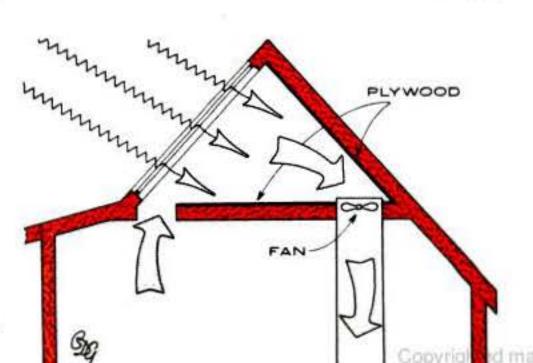
We are building a small solar house. Would you please send your comments on our large circulating-air-type collector in the attic? The plywood floor painted black would be our "wood collector." We're hoping our plans are safe.

Joyce McQueen, Falls City, Neb.

The problems with wood seem to occur when the collector is permitted to "stagnate," that is, to operate with (in the first case above) no flow of water through the copper absorber plate for an extended period. The problem is further aggravated if the back of the absorber is relatively well insulated. If your system controls can be designed to avoid extended no-flow operation in bright sun, the fire hazard can be avoided.

In air-type collectors with the flow of air Continued





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Deluxe Portable (P34A)

(Doubles as a bar fridge)

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Alternate-energy answers

[Continued]

between glass and absorber, temperatures can usually be kept under control. Mrs. McQueen's attic design (preceding page, lower right), with its large air plenum, would appear to be safe if it has controlled fan circulation in winter and venting (or reflecting shades) in summer.

Two other problems with wood are worth mentioning. As wood is exposed to elevated temperatures it loses strength. This should be considered in rafter design. Also, wood can "outgas," that is, the volatile organic compounds can evaporate from the wood at higher temperatures. If the collector housing is not well ventilated, these compounds will condense on the inner surface of the collector glazing and reduce the transmission of sunlight.

Homemade parabolic collector

I plan to make a parabolic solar reflector (trough type) for heating water, and would like to know if Mylar mirror sheet would be a practical material for this.

Verne Pederson, Portland, Ore.

Aluminized Mylar, manufactured by several U.S. companies (Du Pont is one), is an excellent material for the reflector of a parabolic solar collector. A very accurate and smooth surface is required for the curved base, however, since Mylar is very thin and has no structural strength of its own. Depending on solar intensity, Mylar may last for several years if ultraviolet inhibitors are included in the compound.

Information numbers

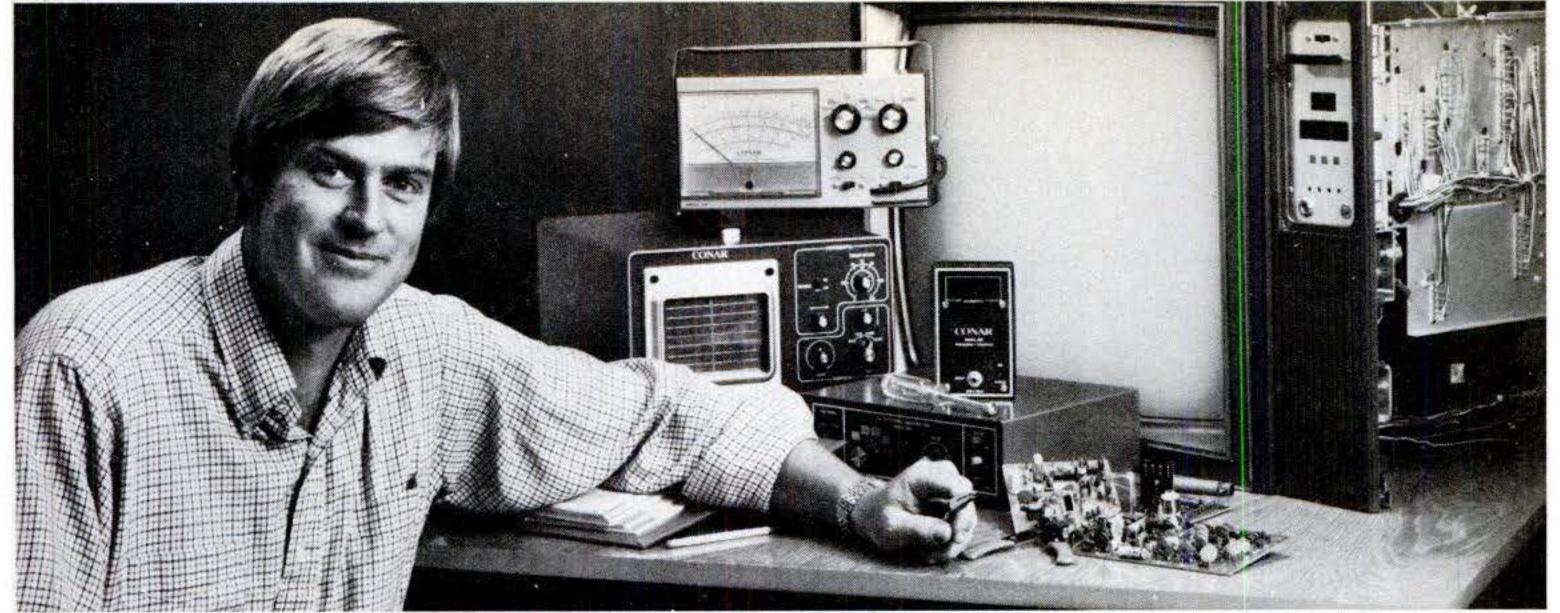
For inquiries about residential and smallscale commercial solar heating and cooling, call the National Solar Heating and Cooling Information Center toll free at (800) 523-2929. In Pennsylvania dial (800) 462-4983, and in Alaska and Hawaii dial (800) 523-4700.

For inquiries about photovoltaics, wind, solar thermal power, ocean energy, biomass, agricultural and industrial process heat, educational institutions, manufacturers, and government agencies, call the National Solar Energy Inquiry and Referral Service at (800) 525-5000. In Colorado dial (800) 332-8339.

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Fuel economy comparisons exclude trucks with same powertrains offered by GMC Truck Division.

Chevy pickups are equipped with GM-built engines produced by various divisions. See your dealer for details.

See a limited production Chevy V8 Special Economy Truck today.



BUILT TOUGH. BUILT FOR ECONOMY.

Mercedes gas turbine

Is 16.5 mpg in a 3,500-lb, car good enough?

Using new materials and techniques, Mercedes hopes to save the big car

By JAN P. NORBYE

Big, heavy cars are disappearing, for obvious reasons. The more weight an engine has to push around, the more work it has to do and the more fuel it uses. Small, lightweight cars get better mileage.

Mercedes would like to continue making big cars. Engineers there think that maybe they can—by using a gas-turbine engine to get acceptable mileage. They calculate that the prototype car in which it will go, and on which they are already working, will weigh 3,530 pounds when finished. By comparison, a 1981 Toyota Starlet weighs 1,730 pounds.

Recently I was admitted inside the Mercedes-Benz experimental design offices and research laboratories to look at work in process. I was accompanied by Dr. Michael Wessels, one of the engineers who works full time on the gas-turbine project.

Dr. Wessels spread a blueprint on a big table and explained the advan-

tages of the gas-turbine engine:

- Multi-fuel capability.
- Low emission levels—due to continuous combustion with a high proportion of excess air.
- Simplified maintenance—no tuneups or oil changes are needed.
- Minimal internal friction—low wear rates result in long engine-life expectancy.
- No vibration—because there is no reciprocating motion as there is in a conventional piston engine.
- Low noise level—which makes silencing easy.

Mercedes is looking at the year 2000 as a possible production date. However, before turbine-powered Mercedes start rolling off the production lines, many problems must be overcome.

A turbine's aerodynamic efficiency is dependent on the peripheral speed of the turbine rotors. To maintain the necessary peripheral speed, a small automotive-type turbine has to spin faster. This can cause mechanical failure. Components, therefore, must be made more durable, able to withstand higher temperatures and increased rpm.

Clearances are a problem. When

scaling down a turbine to automotive size, tolerances—which are already minimal—can't be scaled down proportionately. So the smaller unit tends to operate with disproportionately large clearances and loses aerodynamic efficiency.

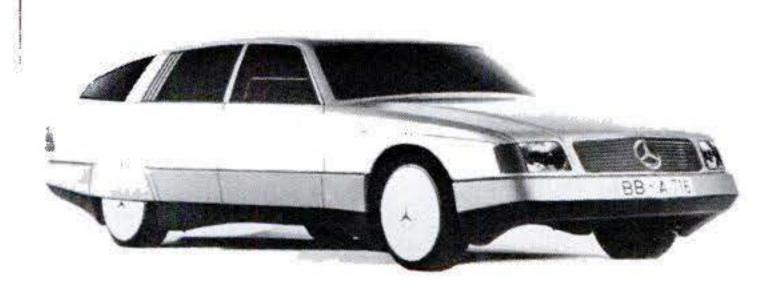
But the biggest problem of all is temperature, says Dr. Hans Joachim Forster, director of research for Mercedes-Benz. "At 2,400 deg. F the gas turbine reaches the same overall efficiency as a good diesel engine under full load, and exceeds the part-load efficiency of a modern Otto-cycle piston engine," he says.

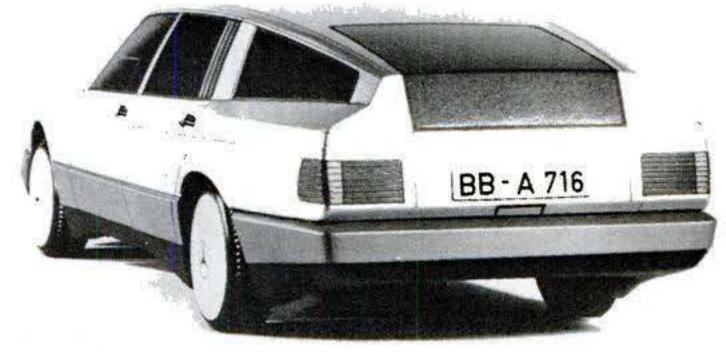
Only ceramics can withstand these temperatures. Most promising are silicon nitride and silicon carbide.

"Both turbine wheels are made of silicon nitride," says Dr. Wessels. The secondary turbine is equipped with a variable-vane nozzle, which must also be made from ceramics. "We know the efficiency of our individual components, and we're on target," he says. "We have found good enough resistance in our ceramic parts to feel optimistic about reaching our goals."

The Mercedes turbine basically resembles the GM, VW, Nissan, and

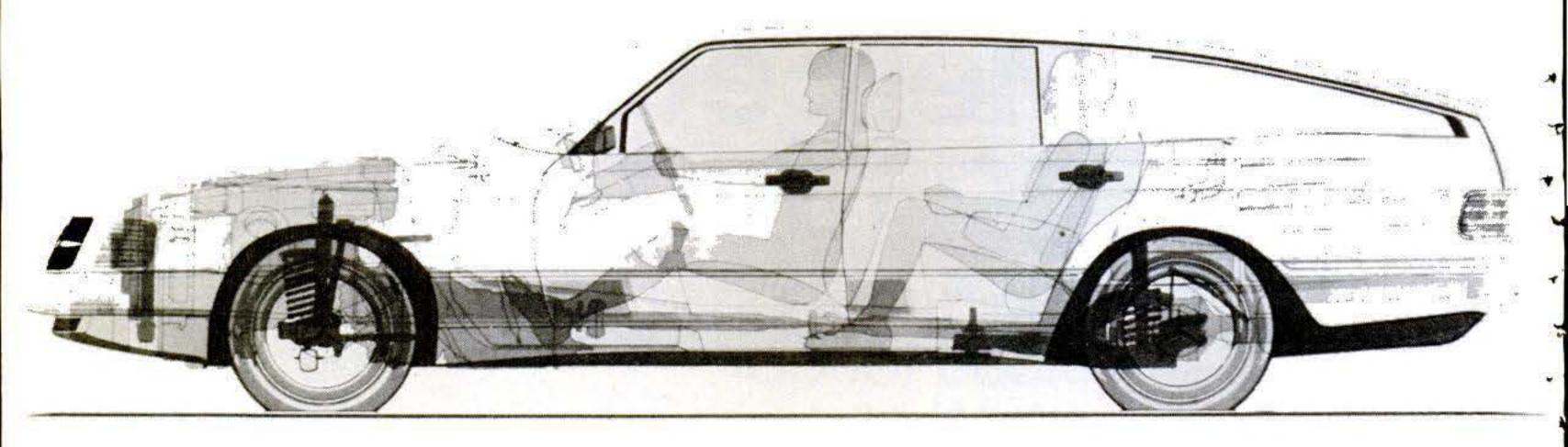
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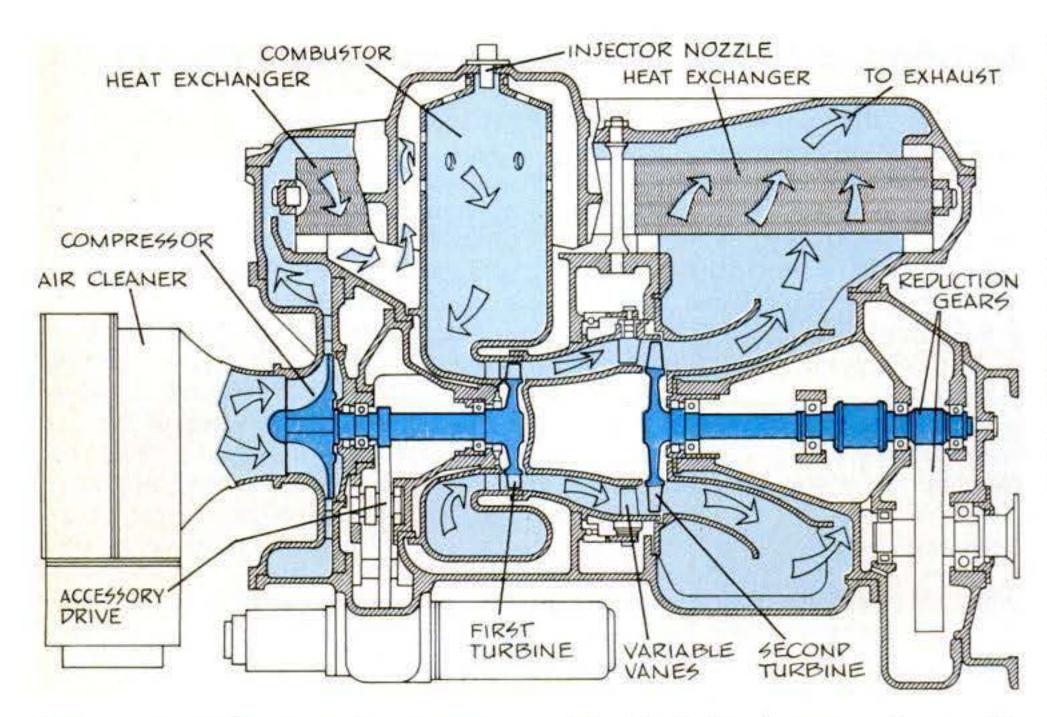




Turbine-powered car may look like this. Chassis and interior are based on current S-class Mercedes. Engineers are working on

improving vehicle aerodynamics as well as reducing weight. Other Mercedes models will benefit from these developments.





Location of engine, seats, and trunk (which provides ample storage space) is shown above. The transmission is automatic, with a hydraulic torque converter. Mercedes turbine engine works like this: The compressor impeller draws air in, forcing it through a rotating heat exchanger (heated by the hot exhaust gases). The hot compressed air is forced into the combustor, where fuel is continuously injected. The mixture is ignited and passes through the compressor turbine and the power turbine, causing both to turn. Power is transmitted from the power shaft to the rear wheels through reduction gearing.

Toyota gas turbines. It is an opencycle, twin-shaft, regenerative type with a centrifugal compressor and two axial-flow turbines. Although it can run on various fuels, it is currently running on diesel fuel. It uses a cantype combustor and a single horizontal, revolving ceramic-disc heat exchanger (using exhaust heat to preheat the charge air after compression). The accessory drive is taken from the gasifier section, and the fuel system is electronically controlled.

At the end of the present initial development phase, the engine will run with a pressure ratio of about four to one and with turbine inlet temperatures of 2,280 deg. F. This is calculated to produce 128 in at 60,000-65,000 rpm of the primary turbine, with a peak torque of 244 lbs. ft.

The complete engine should weigh no more than 530 pounds, with an installation package about 26 inches wide, 22 inches high, and 30 inches long (minus air filter, but including the reduction gear and its housing).

DODLII AD COITHOT

The final development phase will not start until the results of current testing have been evaluated and specifications agreed on for a second-generation design. This will involve decisions about the use of compressorinlet guide vanes, water injection, and manufacturing considerations.

With the second-generation engine, Mercedes-Benz engineers will aim for a turbine inlet temperature of 2,460 deg. F, which would give 150-hp output and boost the maximum torque to 404 lbs. ft.

Fuel economy for the second-generation turbine for the European urban driving cycle is calculated to be 16.5 mpg. At steady speeds, the car would give 43.5 mpg at 53 mph, 42.7 mpg at 56 mph, 35 mpg at 74.5 mph, and 31.3 mpg at 80 mph. Whether this will be acceptable for a luxury car in the year 2000, though, is uncertain.

By springtime in 1982, a complete test car will be delivered to the BMFT (Bundes-Ministerium für Forschung und Technologie, or Federal Ministry of Research and Technology), which is sponsoring the project as part of its car-of-the-future program.

Mercedes-Benz intends to pursue gas-turbine development at its own expense after the BMFT contract runs out. Even when a prototype that meets all objectives is ready, one final hurdle will remain: production.

Manufacturing problems for the automotive gas turbine remain unsolved. Neither the methodology nor the tooling equipment for mass-producing small turbine engines exists, even on paper. And as English gasturbine expert Noel Penny has pointed out: "No mass production of gas turbines is possible until the cost comes down significantly. That can't happen unless turbines are used in cars made in very large numbers."

But right now, for Dr. Bernd Strackerjan, the project leader for the Mercedes-of-the-future, and Eberhard Tiefenbacher, chief engineer for the turbine-engine project, the gas turbine is a leading contender.

A comparison of projections from manufacturers' treadwear ratings under the new government Uniform Tire Quality Grading System indicates that on a government-specified course:

Uniroyal Steeler projected to last up to 24,000 miles longer than its major competition.

The U.S. Department of Transportation recently gave the public a standard yardstick to compare tires by.

Now, each tire company is required by law to grade its tires in three areas. Traction. Temperature resistance. And treadwear.

And then to emboss the resulting grades on the side of the tires.

When compared, most of the similarly priced steel-belted radials in the chart fared equally well in the traction test. Same for temperature resistance.

But one tire pulls ahead of the pack when it comes to the important grade that indicates the relative wear rate of your tire.

That tire: the Uniroyal Steeler.

In fact, when you translate its 220 rating into projected miles on the government-specified course, you see it was no photo finish.

On that course, the mileage projection for the Uniroyal Steeler is 66,000 miles.

That's 15,000 miles longer than the Goodyear, Goodrich, General and most Firestone ratings in the chart would project.

And 24,000 miles longer than Michelin's

rating would project.

These mileage projections (including those in the chart) should be used for comparison only. You will probably not achieve these results. Actual treadlife will vary substantially due to your driving habits, condition of vehicle and, in many sections of the country, road conditions and climate.

Nevertheless, what do these ratings

say about the Steeler?

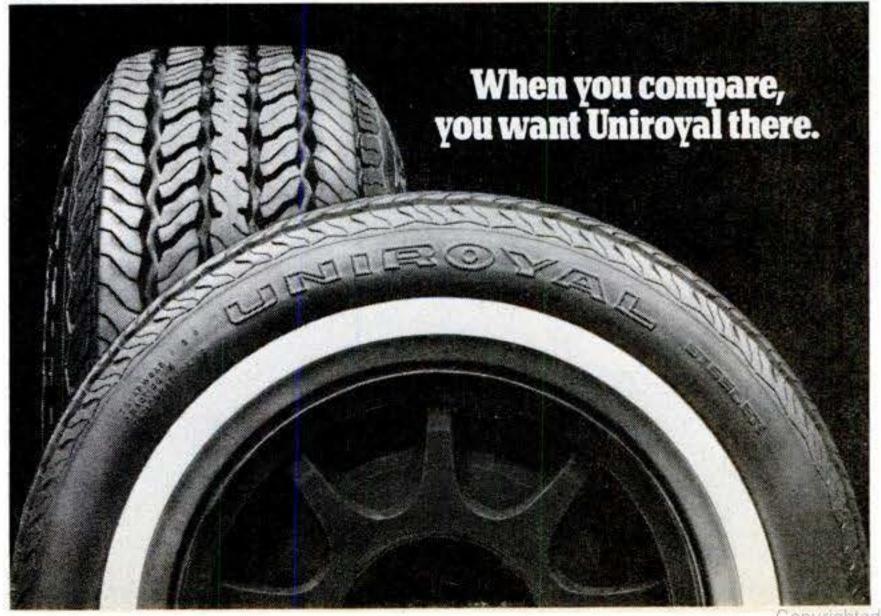
They say when you compare the ratings, the Steeler should outlast its major competition under comparable conditions of consumer use.

Clip and take this to your Uniroyal dealer:

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* Most 15" Firestone 721 tires rated 200 which projects to 60,000 miles. Source: U.S. D.O.T. 12/19/80.

For a free booklet on grade-labeling, please send your name and address to: Uniroyal, Inc., Tire Advertising Department, Middlebury, Connecticut 06749. © 1981 Uniroyal, Inc.







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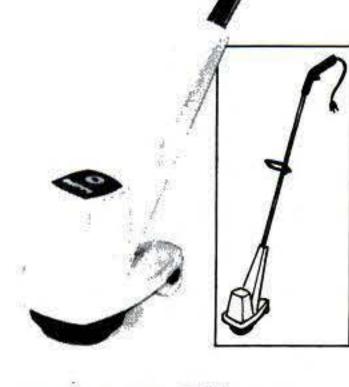
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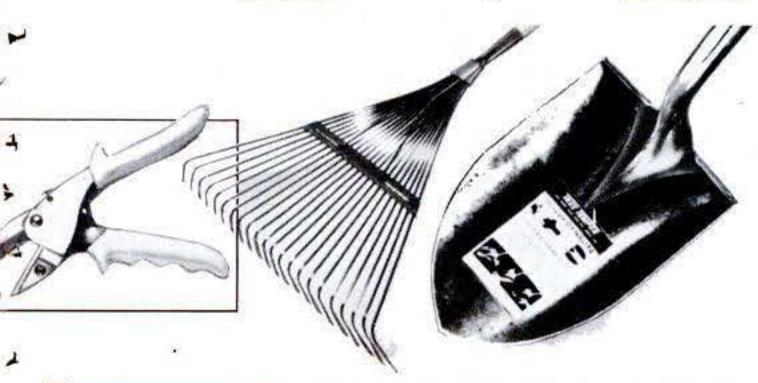
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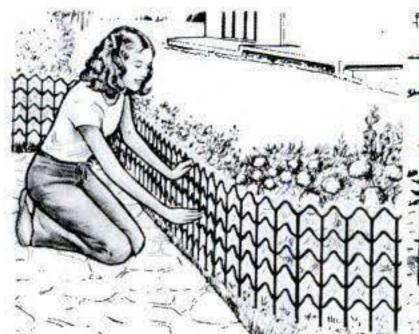
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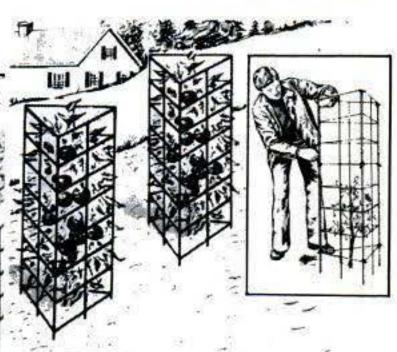
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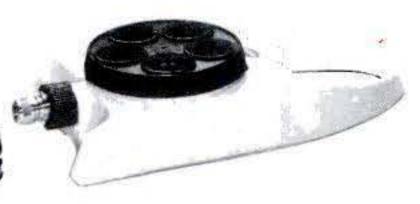
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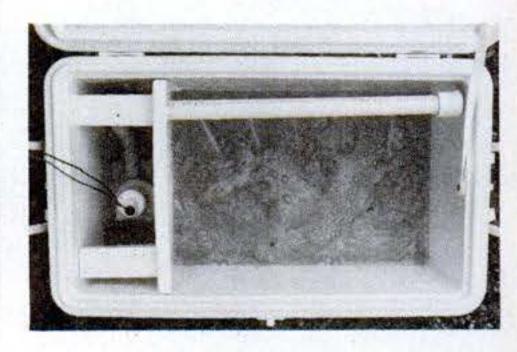
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Bait keeper





Six- to 12-volt pump mounts on perforated plastic partition that separates it from bait. Five water jets aerate water.

Get yourself some fresh, lively bait and you're on the surest course to successful fishing. But once you have that bait, how do you keep it in good shape for a full day's fishing?

One solution is Bayou Ed's Bait Rig, a device that turns an ice chest into an aerated live well. Heart of the rig is a small bilge pump that runs off any sixor 12-volt automotive-type battery. The pump is mounted on a perforated plastic partition that separates the cooler into two compartments.

One compartment, larger, holds your bait; the other compartment houses the pump. This keeps the pump from sucking up bait. It also lets you put some seaweed in with the bait without danger of jamming the pump.

To use, fill the cooler with about 30 quarts of water, slide the bait rig in place, and add your bait. Then connect the two alligator clips on the pump wires to your boat or portable battery. The pump immediately starts feeding five jets of aerated water into the bait compartment.

Bayou Ed's Bait Rig is made by Attwood Corp., Box A, Lowell, Mich. 49331, and sells for about \$40 at sporting-goods stores, marine dealers, and chain stores.—A. J. Hand

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New British Invention...

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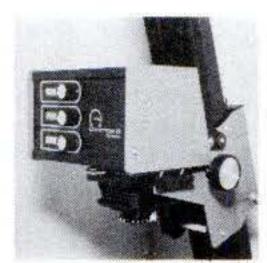
Environmentally Safe — No Fluorocarbons

Re-fill the Rechargeable Aerosol Can and use it over and over ... it actually makes a great deal of sense. When you go to the store and purchase spray paint or any other liquid aerosol spray, you usually pay more for the aerosol canister (plus the cost of filling and pressurizing it) than for the contents. Push-button convenience has been most expensive... but now you have an ingenious and easy alternative.

Fast and simple to operate ... Fill the can 2/3 full with the liquid to be used, thinning according to instructions. Screw on the Aerosol Valve Top and pressurize to 50 psi with any bicycle pump, air hose or other air source (a unique pressure relief valve insures against overcharging). When the large (1 pint) can is empty, simply refill and pressurize. You're back to the job in minutes. When finished, clean the can thoroughly and you're ready for your next project!

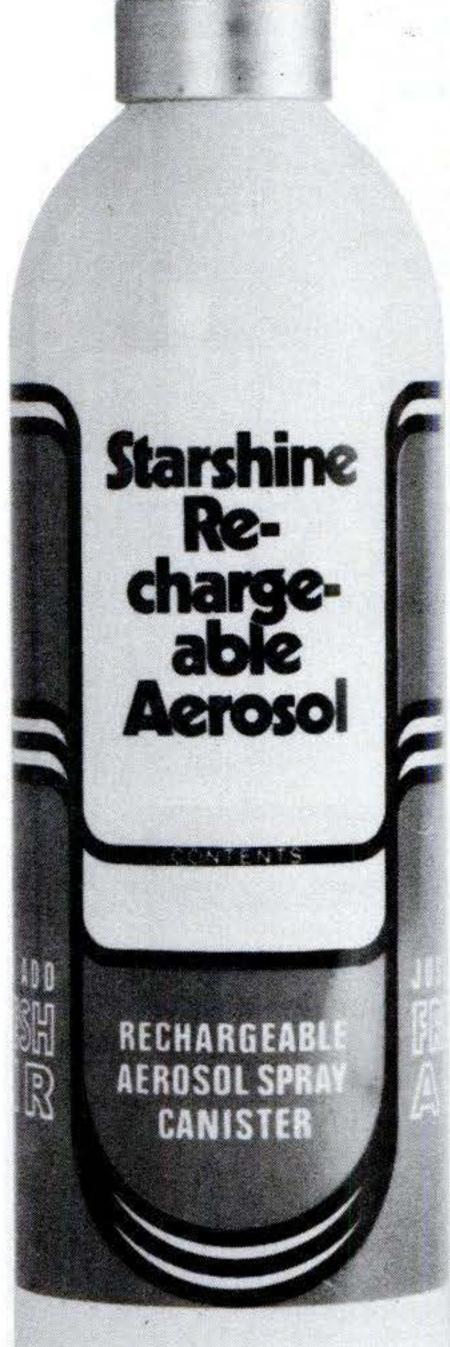


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Large size can: 2½"Wx8"H

For example, a few suggested uses:

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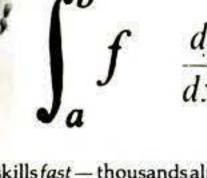
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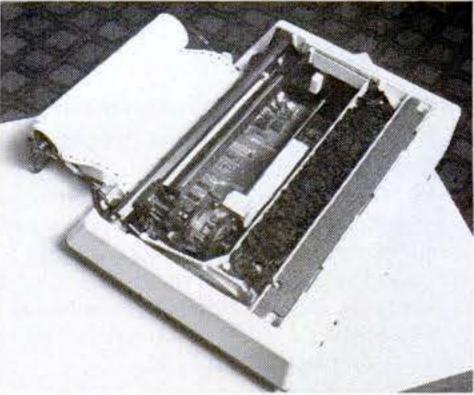
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 big features in a small package





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By using control codes (provided by your software), you can instruct the 737 to use one of three type sizes: 10cpi (characters per inch), 16.5-cpi, and a clever proportional print in which character size and spacing are proportional for each letter (an i takes up less room across the paper than an o, for example). Type can be elongated or enlarged for headlines. And underlining is automatic: One command turns it on; another turns it off.

Other special codes control the mechanical movement of the printer. The print head can be instantly spaced to the right (for justification spacing) or to the left (for backspacing). And the paper can be moved up or down in normal or half-line feeds. With this feature, the machine can print formula notations (CO2) as well as numerical powers (5^{12}) .

The unit measures just 14.5 by 11 by five inches and weighs 12 pounds. Price: \$995. From Centronics, Hudson, N.H. 03051.-W.J. Hawkins

510,000 CASH

One week from now you can have \$10,000 deposited in your checking account.

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The best part is you won't have to do any Selling of any kind, Buying of any products, or investing any of your own money to receive it.

Not a Mail Order or Real Estate Scheme!

No, it is Not a mail-order scheme. No, it has nothing to do with buying or selling of Real Estate. It is not gambling (remember I said No Investment of your own money). No, it is Not going to make you a millionaire overnight. But it can put \$10,000 cash in your checking account next week (for you to use for ANY purpose you desire).

As incredible as this may sound, there is a way to have \$10,000 CASH next week without working twenty-four hours a day for the next seven days. But because of this bold statement, I would like you the reader to be the judge.

I promise you won't be disappointed.

I know you are skeptical and you have a right to be. I know you have been promised instant Money in the past and when you ordered the plan, it didn't work.

Let me start by telling a little about myself and how I discovered how you can put \$10,000

cash in your hands in one week.

My name is Bob Shindler and I have lived in Herndon, Virginia for the past four years. I own a \$100,000 home, three cars and have an income of over \$100,000 a year. (My CPA has a financial statement to prove it.) My children go to school locally and I have a professional business license issued to me by the Supervisor of the County of Fairfax, Virginia. (You can check it!)

I am telling you this so you will know that I am going to be right here in Herndon, Virginia tomorrow, next week and next year to back up

these statements.

14

*

>

4

If you are still with me this far, and I hope you are, I would like to share with you how I discovered this plan for putting \$10,000 cash in your checking account in one week.

Now I know you expect me to tell you about a "secret formula" I found in the attic of some old mansion or I spoke to and studied the richest and most powerful men in the country.

I didn't do any of these things.

I wouldn't insult your intelligence.

Only a Select Group of People Know About It! What I learned, by accident, was quite the opposite from any formulas or methods you may have heard or read about. It's Brand New and only a select group of people in this country know about it.

It was 9:00 AM Monday morning about two hours before I was to open my small business. I was desperate! I was just informed I was broke, because the bank reneged on my loan at the last minute and if I didn't raise five thousand dollars in Twenty-Four hours, I would be out on the street and my investment in the business would be down the drain. I couldn't believe it! All the years I had saved to have this small business and now, to have it taken away before I even opened the doors.

Believe me when I tell you it's a terrible feeling being broke. If you have ever been in this situation, you know exactly what I mean.

THEN IT HAPPENED! Like a miracle from heaven a man appeared at the front door, knocking as hard as he could, trying to get in. He looked like a salesman and at that very moment a salesman was about the last person in the world I wanted to talk to. But, I let him in anyway. I had to talk to someone about my delimma. Besides, he seemed to have more interest in my business than my banker or anyone else did. He told me as soon as he entered he was not a salesman. He informed me he represented a company that was interested in helping entrepreneurs get their new ventures off the ground. He said he had noticed that I was opening a new business and if I needed any assistance or extra cash, his company was willing to write me a check for up to \$10,000 and deposit it in my checking account tomorrow.

I TOLD HIM TO GET OUT! I didn't know who put him up to this joke, but to me it wasn't very funny. I told him that I was in serious financial trouble and I had no time for him or his practical joke.

He assured me he wasn't joking and his company was indeed willing to write me a check for \$10,000. And if I was willing to listen, he would show me how I WOULDN'T have to pay back the \$10,000 out of any of the profits I made with it or out of any personal income I may earn with it in the future.

I still didn't believe him! I asked him to leave the premises immediately. He said he would leave, but he would like to leave his card so I could check out his company and his offer. I told him I would be more than happy to check out his company.

What did I have to lose?

He left me his card, phone number and detailed information on how his company program

worked.

While investigating the company, I found several people in the Washington, D.C. area who were, until recently, working at meaningless jobs just trying to make ends meet. They all told me the company I was inquiring about was a very reputable corporation and that it had helped them start very profitable businesses, by using the corporation's financial assistance program. They also informed me that with this program they did not have to take any of the profits that their businesses earned to pay back the money nor did they have to invest any capital of their own to get started. It was theirs to keep and use in any way they deemed fit.

The Concept This Company Is Using Is New, Different and Unique!

I found that these cases were not isolated by any means. From one end of the country to the other I talked to men and women from all walks of life (all using the same program). They all started without any capital (except for the financial assistance from the corporation) and all became successful businessmen in a matter of a few years.

The man and the company with the \$10,000 check is "For Real" and so is the check.

The concept his company is using is New, Different and Unique. Who ever heard of a company giving you a check for \$10,000 and asking you NOT to pay it back out of any profits or money you may earn with it.

No gimmicks! No luck! No investment of your money! No hassle from bill collectors! (It is NOT a loan.) Just \$10,000 cash to do with as you wish, on whatever you wish.

What's The Catch? There Isn't Any. Stop! Don't Rip Up this MAGAZINE. What I

am telling you is the truth!

I know by now you are probably wondering what the catch is. LISTEN TO ME CAREFULLY. There isn't ANY, I checked, And I checked again. Everything I have told you is legal and aboveboard. This unique program is offered to anyone who is over twenty-one, in every state in the United States. There is NO special training or schools you must attend. There is NO age limit! It doesn't require "talent". It has nothing to do with any Federal Government or State Government loan program. Nor do you have to live in any particular part of the country or have experience to receive it.

What do I have to do to get the \$10,000? On page 52 of my report I will show you. Believe me there is no hard work involved. In fact, being employed is Not one of their requirements to receive it.

I know this is contrary to anything you have heard or read about in the past. But I will tell you this: anyone who does what the report tells him to do can make a substantial income every year by starting with this program and it would be foolish not to take advantage of it. Things are tough for people living on salaries. Tomorrow they'll be even tougher.

So there is no misunderstandings I would like to go over this important part again. This program is NOT a Loan! There is NO gambling involved! It is NOT a pyramid game! There is NO buying or selling of any real estate OR products! No investment of your money! It has absolutely NOTHING to do with mail-order! And there is no risk, because I won't cash your \$10 check or money-order for 30 days AFTER I've sent you my report.

I Guarantee it!

Warning: This Opportunity May Not Last Long! I am not going to try and kid you and tell you this program will always be available. It won't be! Like everything else in life, circumstances change, people change and companies are bought-out by large corporations. This kind of company with a program that benefits them as much as it benefits you won't be around long before the word gets out and a big conglomerate buys it.

My advice to you is to order the report. You've got NOTHING TO LOSE and EVERYTHING TO GAIN. There is ABSOLUTELY

NO RISK!

My report is 174 pages long and will take you about two hours to read. It will show you more than how to get the \$10,000. It will show you how to make a substantial income with it.

The program is available to EVERYONE no matter what financial situation you may be in.

I have already received many letters from housewives, businessmen, factory-workers and people from all walks of life who have thanked me and profited from the information in my report.

The only difference between them and you is their use of this program shown in "The Get Rich Report" and a solid lifetime income. In just one week from now you can know and have what

they have.

The report is written in plain English to make it easy to read and easy to follow. You will find after reading it that you don't need any formal education with this program. Nor do you need any special experience. Both men and women, all ages, are acting on this information. And believe me when I say it does not require you to leave your present job, business or location.

What If I Don't Like It? That's OK. Whatever your reasons. If you feel the Get Rich Report is not worth at least \$10,000, send the report back. I will send you a complete refund in the next day's mail. No Hassle! No Questions asked! I guarantee it!

For those who are still skeptical! I will go one step further: POSTDATE YOUR CHECK FOR 30 DAYS FROM NOW. (That will give you plenty of time to receive the report and find out what I've been telling you is true.) I won't cash your check or money-order for 30 days after I've sent you my report. Use the program and information for that period, and if you are not satisfied, just send the report back and I'll return your check UNCASHED.

This report is NOT available in libraries or book stores.

Bob Shindler 1981

Bob Shindler	
Kingston Chase	Estates
Dept. AB-1, P.O.	
Herndon, Virgin	

OK Bob. I still have serious doubts that your plan will work for me, but what do I have to lose. Send me a copy of The Get Rich Report, only with the understanding that you will not deposit my check or money order for 30 days after the report is mailed to me. If I am not satisfied for any reason, I simply return the report and you will return my check Uncashed. On that basis here is my ten dollars.

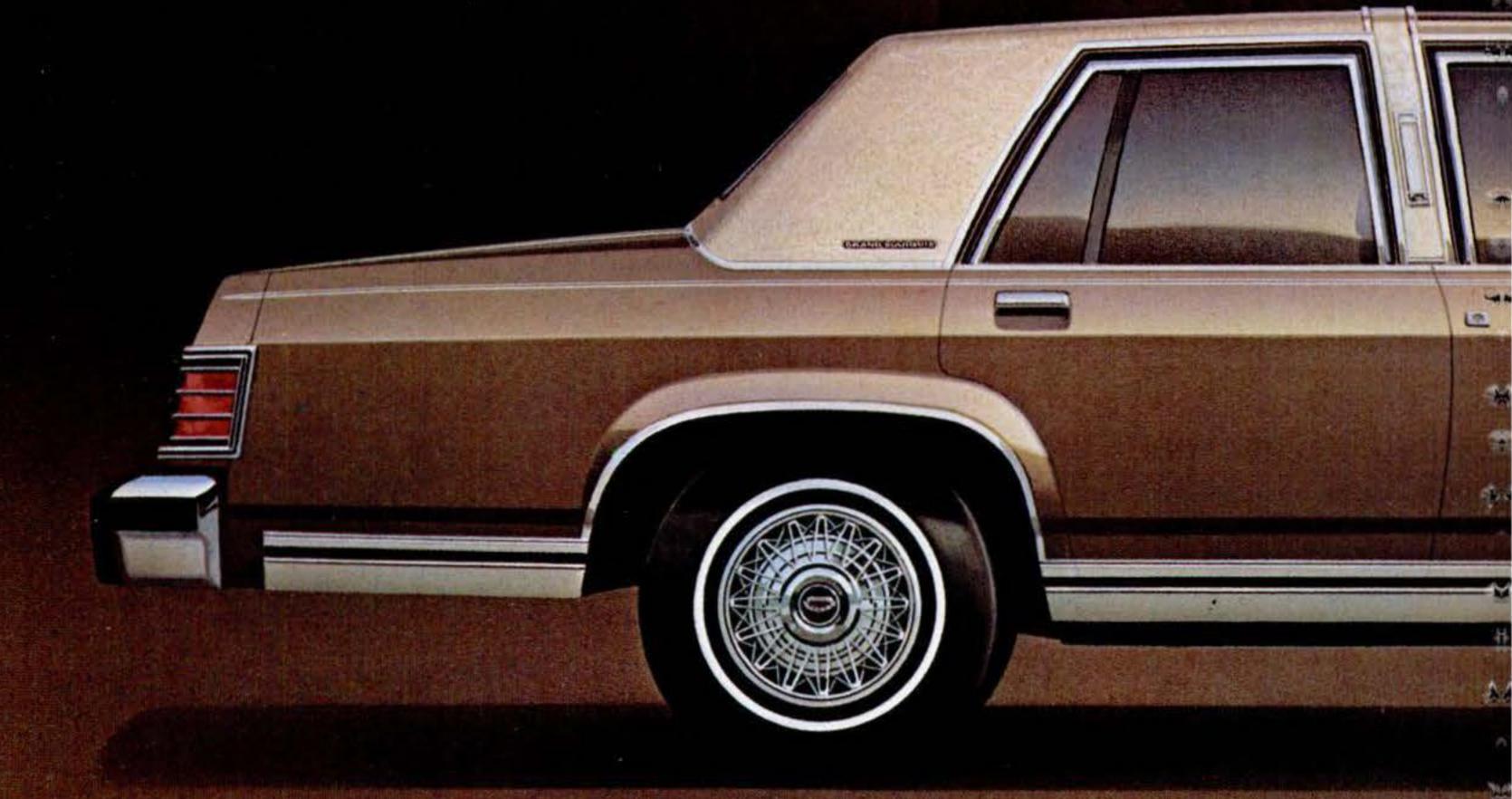
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Fly reel with brake-shoe drag





Marryat fly reel has a unique drag: Teflon "brake shoes" at the tips of a bronze caliper (arrow) rub against an aluminum drum, which dissipates built-up heat. The caliper is mounted on an eccentric to provide a wide range of drag adjustments.

It takes only one fish to make you appreciate that a reel does more than hold your line. In my case, it was a Mexican bonefish that sent me in search of something more than basic line storage. I finally settled on a new reel called the Gehrke Marryat.

Its one-piece frame is machined from solid marine-aluminum stock, then carefully polished and anodized. The two-piece spool and seat are made the same way. The absence of brittle castings makes the reel strong, yet very light. The model I've been using—meant for eight and nine weight lines—weighs just four ounces.

Interchangeable spools snap on and off in a second. And since the frame is single-sided, there's no cage to pinch your line (that's what cost me that bonefish). And best of all, the reel has a silky smooth drag.

I recently put the reel through a week of sand, salt spray, and hard-driving bluefish on the beaches of Chappaquiddick, and the drag performed flawlessly.

The Marryat is made in five sizes and sells for \$100; extra spools are \$50. The reel is sold at tackle stores or from George Gehrke's Fly and Gun Bench, Drawer 1204, Salidas, Colo. 81201.—A. J. Hand



You can't train somebody to be a hero. And the Army Guard people on this page would be the last to label themselves that.

But it was Army Guard people like these who flew into the teeth of a devastating blizzard last winter to save a farm family trapped by a big, unexpected snow. And it's Army Guard people like these, working in their own communities, who help their neighbors and friends in all kinds of emergencies. Because from blizzards to floods to tornadoes, Army Guard people perform at their flat-out best.

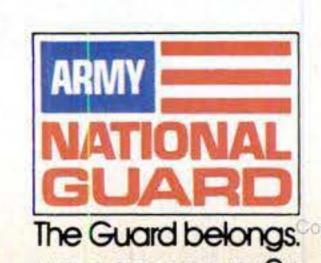
.

And you could, too. You've already got the training. You know the ropes. You're ready. And in the Army Guard, you'll keep your vital skills sharp. Emergency-ready. Combat-ready. You'll train in your own community with friends and neighbors. You'll hold on to important benefits, too. Along with your pay and stripes.

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National Guard representative on
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U.S. compacts Is Chrysler's K-car the new champ?

By JIM DUNNE and ED JACOBS PHOTOS BY JOHN KEATING

In 1979 General Motors' X-bodies-Citation, Omega, Phoenix, and Skylark—set the U.S. compact-car market on its ear, sweeping away benchmarks set only months earlier by

Ford's then-new Fairmont/Zephyr series. Now, however, those high standards are being challenged by Chrysler's all-new K-cars, Reliant and Aries, whose success or failure is likely to affect the firm's fate.

If the K-cars are to be the winners that Chrysler needs, they must stand

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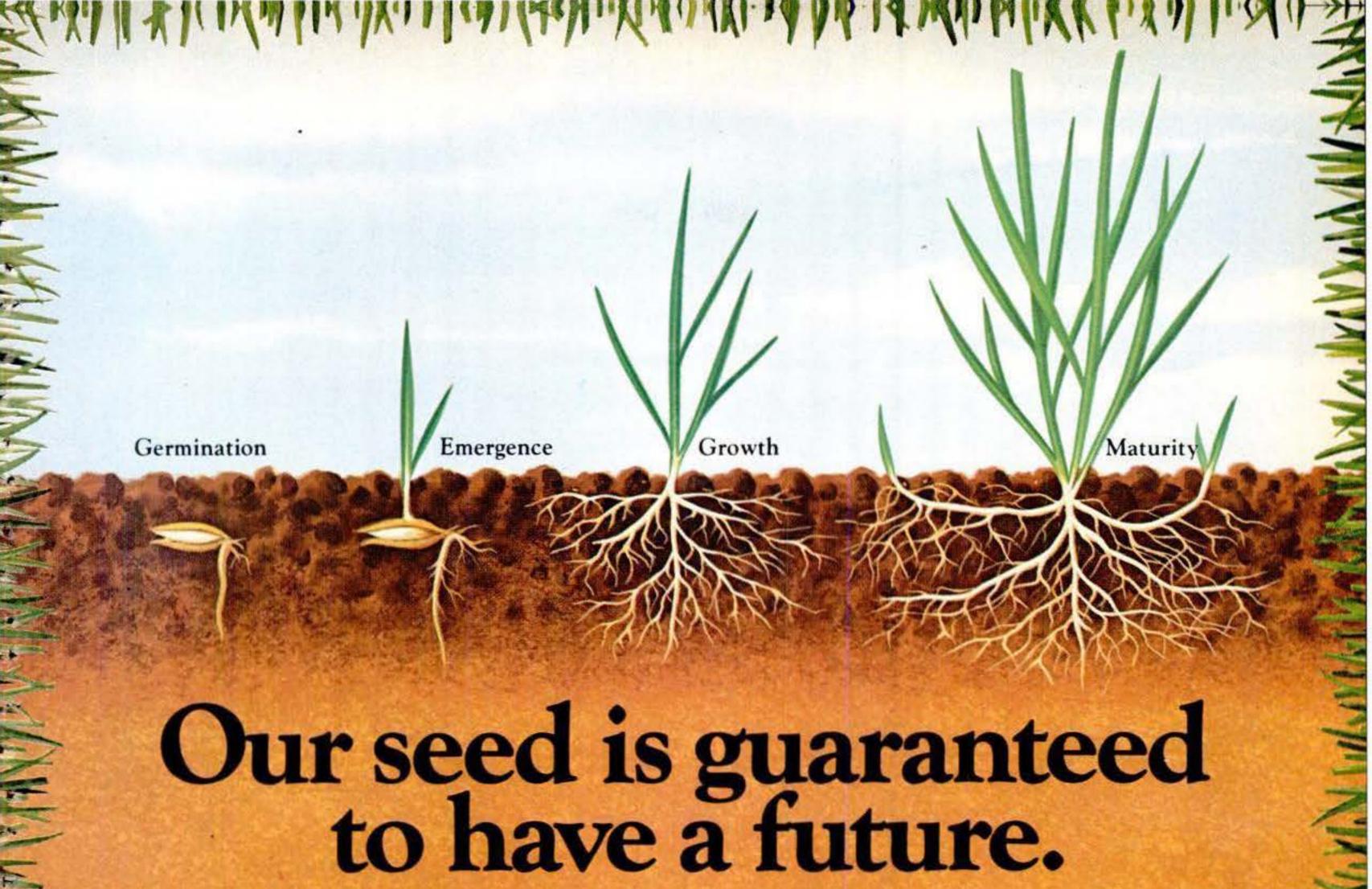
PS ratings test report in a nutshell

The ratings are based on test results and measurements. Results should be read with the understanding that they reflect tests only on our sample cars. An excellent rating is 5 points; very good, 4; good, 3; fair, 2; poor, 1; very poor, 0.

	Dodge Aries K	Chevrolet	Mercury	AMC
Acceleration	2	4	3	5
Braking	2	3	3	2
Handling	4	3	3	3
Maneuverability	5	5	5	5
Quietness	0	1	0	0
Roominess	4	4	4	4
Vision	3	5	4	1
Entry/exit ease	3	3	3	1
EPA economy	4	4	3	3
Ride comfort*	3	3	3	3
*Authors' opinion	1			

Four prime competitors in compact class (clockwise from left): AMC Concord, Chevrolet Citation, Mercury Zephyr, Dodge Aries K.





minate and survive. That's why, at Scotts, we sort the seed that goes into our mixes.

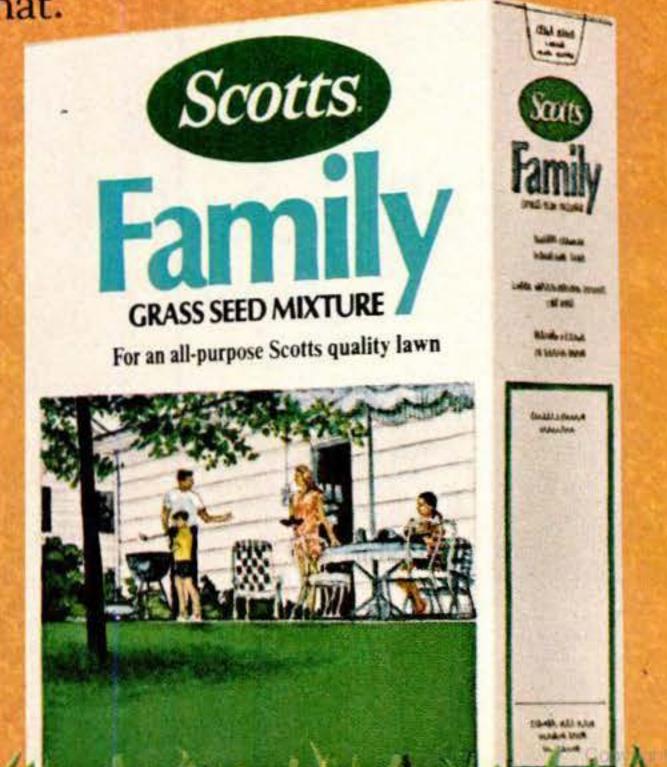
We get rid of most of the weak immature seeds that have little chance of making it and keep the plump mature seeds that are full of vigor. In fact, we're so particular, last year we rejected over five million pounds of seed that didn't measure up to all our standards.

The plump healthy seeds in our Family* mixture have food reserves to help them sprout and grow faster. They also grow roots that can dig down faster for food and water, so more seedlings survive.

Family seed will give you a green, fine-textured lawn that's a joy to behold. And it comes with this simple guarantee, "If for any reason you are

It takes a pretty robust seed to ger- not satisfied with results after using this product, you are entitled to get your money back. Simply send us evidence of purchase and we will mail you a refund check promptly."

When you have seed like this, you can afford to have a guarantee like that.



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AMC Concord edged out Mercury Zephyr for the best cold-brake stopping distance, but turned in the longest stop with hot brakes.

PS car test & driving report

up to the competition from General Motors, Ford, and American Motors. So we pitted a Dodge Aries K against some of its domestic rivals: Chevrolet Citation, Mercury Zephyr, and AMC Concord. (But general comments about Aries K, Citation, and Zephyr also apply to their twin models: Plymouth Reliant K, Pontiac Phoenix hatchback, and Ford Fairmont, respectively.) We found that the K-car stands up well and is, in fact, one of today's best designs.

Each of the cars was equipped with the drive train most likely to be purchased for family use. That meant automatic transmissions in all four, but six-cylinder engines for Zephyr and Concord, whose fours tend to be overworked in their heavier chassis. The sixes, however, cut fuel economy, on which we place heavy emphasis for obvious reasons.

In economy, Aries, with the standard 2.2-liter engine, proved superior to the others in our tests. Our 29.3 mpg at a steady 55 mph is significantly lower than the EPA's 35-mpg highway rating, but our tests demonstrate that Aries' fuel-economy advantage is a real one—and worth noting.

Here's a detailed look at the cars:

Dodge Aries K

>

Dodge Aries K is the only completely new car in the group, so we looked closely for any faults that might have shown up in chassis, power train, or body parts. We were impressed by the high quality of our test car, especially in the fitting of body panels and trim pieces. The interior is tidy and finished like that of a bigger car. In fact, it's easy to think you're in a full-size car when you're behind the wheel, except for the extra-short hood line, which greatly improves the driver's forward vision.

The new 2.2-liter four-cylinder engine—Chrysler's first new engine in 20 years—performed flawlessly, as did the automatic transmission. The engine appears to be just the right size in the 2,500-pound Aries chassis, combining better fuel economy than GM's X-cars with acceptable acceleration for today's traffic. (See our 3,000-mile test of Plymouth Reliant, elsewhere in this issue, for more on K-car fuel economy.)

In our tests of high-speed handling and low-speed maneuverability, the K-car again came out better than its competitors. At high speed, the car is stable both in a straight line and in turning maneuvers. In fact, the sense of control you get is pleasantly deceiving. The car has such good manners that severe handling tests don't seem as extreme. At no time during our high-speed testing did we note unusual or surprising handling reactions.

The K-car is more predictable and well mannered than the X-car, which we have considered to be the most agile and predictable of the compacts. And Aries is also better-driving in low-speed maneuvers, the type you might make in parking lots.

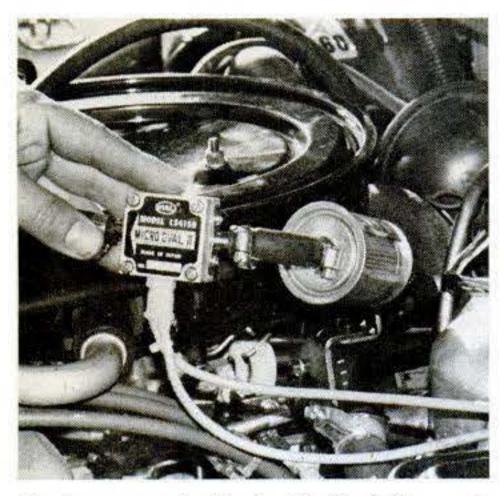
We are also impressed by the excellent layout of the passenger compartment-with one small reservation. While the seats are very comfortable, with thick padding and good support, the front seat is designed for three passengers, which results in a bit less comfort when two are carried. We'd prefer that the front seat have shaping to hold you in place, which would rule out comfortable seating for the middle passenger. In short, we believe that the K-car should have a rated seating capacity of five—as do GM's Xcars. (Note that the difference in front-seat hip room between the Citation and Aries is not that much—only one inch.)

Aries' instrument panel has the look of one in a full-size American car. Important gauges and controls are set in a band midway between the top and bottom, where they are easy to read and reach.

The absence of a transmission tunnel on the floor leaves plenty of room for both front- and rear-seat passengers to stretch out in and makes the

Continued

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Fuel economy is checked by installing precision flow meters in each car's inlet and return fuel lines, then measuring steadystate consumption over measured miles.



Mercury Zephyr easily scored top rating in low-speed maneuverability test (slalom)—as did all four cars—and was second fastest in high-speed handling test.

PS car test & driving report

interior appear even larger than it is. Our impressions of what is big and what is small in today's models are changing, and it's easy to foresee the time when the Aries will be the big car of the Chrysler lineup, mainly because of its spacious interior and carrying capacity.

Two other features are worth noting: The engine compartment is laid out for easy service and is much better in this respect than Citation. The trunk is also well laid out, with balanced proportions. It's large enough, at 15.1 cu. ft., to swallow most normal loads.

Chevrolet Citation

It's amazing to find that GM is still the only builder of four-door hatchback compacts in America. The versatility of the hatchback is well known and should be exploited, but, so far, Chrysler, Ford, and AMC have no comparable models. The arrangement gives Citation the carrying capacity of a small station wagon yet allows the comfort of a four-door sedan.

A large security panel forms a shelf behind the rear seat and hides valuables in the trunk. It also effectively shuts out noise from the rear suspension.

Interior room is about the same as in Aries, and rear-seat head room is adequate despite the curvature of the fastback roof. The absence of a transmission hump and drive-shaft tunnel on the floor adds to the room inside and proves once again (in contrast to Fairmont and Concord) that the front-drive layout is the best solution to the

small-car roominess problem. In another couple of years, only a handful of cars built in North America will have rear-wheel drive.

Citation's 2.5-liter four-cylinder engine is a GM workhorse. That means service and repair parts are easy to find. Like Aries' 2.2, the 2.5 is a slow-running engine that is relatively quiet. It loafs along at highway speeds, in contrast to many noisy, high-revving imports. But despite having been redesigned to fit into GM's X-body series, it's still not easy to work on.

Chevrolet has carefully engineered out front-drive handling characteristics that you might notice in everyday driving. Steering is neutral, without the excessive and undesirable oversteer and understeer we noted in Ford Escort [PS, Jan.]. Instead, Citation obediently follows the driver's steering commands and is generally pleasant to drive.

Mercury Zephyr

Three years ago, Zephyr and its twin, Fairmont, were Ford's new compact cars. In a year or two, their dimensions will be those of the company's full-size cars. That's how quickly changes are being made between old and new in auto designs today. Unfortunately, Zephyr, like Fairmont, is already beginning to show its age. Ordinarily, a newly designed chassis might be expected to continue in production-unchanged under the skinfor a decade or more. But this is the car's last year in production, with a smaller, front-drive compact planned for 1982. Still, the 1981 version has a

lot to offer, and some improvements as well.

There is a more solid feel for the driver, due to extensive stiffening of the instrument panel. Instead of one support, there are now three, and a longer horizontal backup bar has been added. The shake and vibration that previously came through on rough roads or at high speeds is gone. The panel is steady, and that lends a solid feeling to the whole car.

Zephyr appears to have the most spacious interior of the American compacts. There is generous head room in the front and rear, and good leg room for four passengers. The only real complaint centers on the size of the transmission hump on the front floor. It is unusually large, even by rear-drive standards, and contrasts sharply with the fairly flat floors of Citation and Aries.

While instruments and controls are carefully mounted for convenience, we still object to the horn-button location on the end of the turn-signal stalk. You must make two motions to sound the horn, instead of the instinctive one you make to hit a horn button in the center of the steering wheel. It could be a problem in an emergency.

The 200-cu.-in., six-cylinder engine is our recommended power plant in Zephyr for all but heavy-duty service. It's husky enough to keep up with city traffic and about as smooth as a V8.

AMC Concord

There is no question that the DL version of the aging Concord is the

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EPA fuel mileage (mpg)

	Dodge Aries K	Chevrolet Citation	Mercury	AMC
Highway	35	32	28	26
City	24	22	20	19
Calif. city	23	22	20	19

PS fuel-mileage tests

(steady-state mpg)

35 mph	34.7	32.6	23.9	27.8
55 mph	29.3	27.5	19.5	23.9

most luxurious of the U.S. compacts. The large, well-padded individual front seats not only look expensive but feel quite comfortable and offer support comparable to anything in Concord's class.

Concord's interior is finished to a level of luxury equal in appearance to some of the most expensive U.S. cars. The instrument panel is a good example. It's at least a grade above the competition in appearance, with woodgrain trim and bright metal outlining. An extra shelf below the panel is handy for storing small items that need not be hidden from view in the moderate-size glove box.

Like Zephyr, Concord is a reardrive car in a field that is quickly converting to front-wheel drive. A major problem from a comfort standpoint is the large transmission hump and



Chevrolet Citation's four-door-hatchback layout is the most versatile of the group,

drive-shaft tunnel on the floor. They cut front-seat foot room significantly and make it impossible to stretch out in either front or rear seats.

Room in the back is cozy at best, and we believe that most adults would find the space too confining for any but the shortest trips. Concord also has the narrowest entry space to the rear seat-less than five inches when the front seat is in the full rearward position.

The 258-cu.-in. six-cylinder engine is the biggest AMC builds for its passenger cars. It's been completely redesigned for 1981, and nearly 100 lbs. were shed to help boost fuel economy of the cars in which the engine will be installed. We highly recommend this well-proven power plant over the standard 2.5-liter four-cylinder engine for this car. We feel the six is

but the car is not available as a station wagon. Each of the other three is.

smoother-running, quieter, and has the muscle needed to run powerdraining accessories without a noticeable loss of performance. Concord is slightly quicker in acceleration than the other cars tested, and fuel economy, understandably, is not on a par with any of the four-cylinder types we tested.

Our picks:

The K-car is a refined version of the GM X-body, and that makes it a top value in my book.—J. D.

Chrysler has beaten General Motors at its own game. As good as the Xbodies were in turning around the compact-car class, the K-cars are just a little bit better, although they would benefit from the refinement that usually comes with time.—E. J.

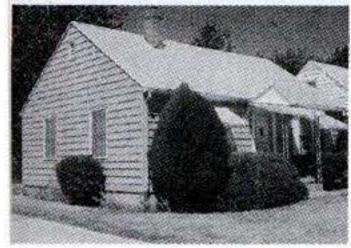
For specs and test results, turn page

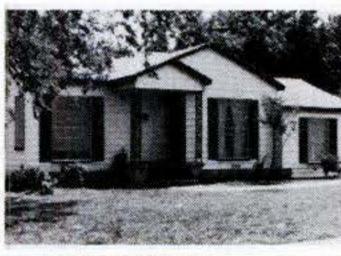


NBC television camera crew tapes this car test for inclusion in a segment of NBC Magazine with David Brinkley. Here they tape a 60-mph panic stop performed with Chevrolet Citation.



PS editors check ease of performing routine maintenance on each car. The ratings reflect how easy it is for the average person to do the work. All cars are compared without regard to size.





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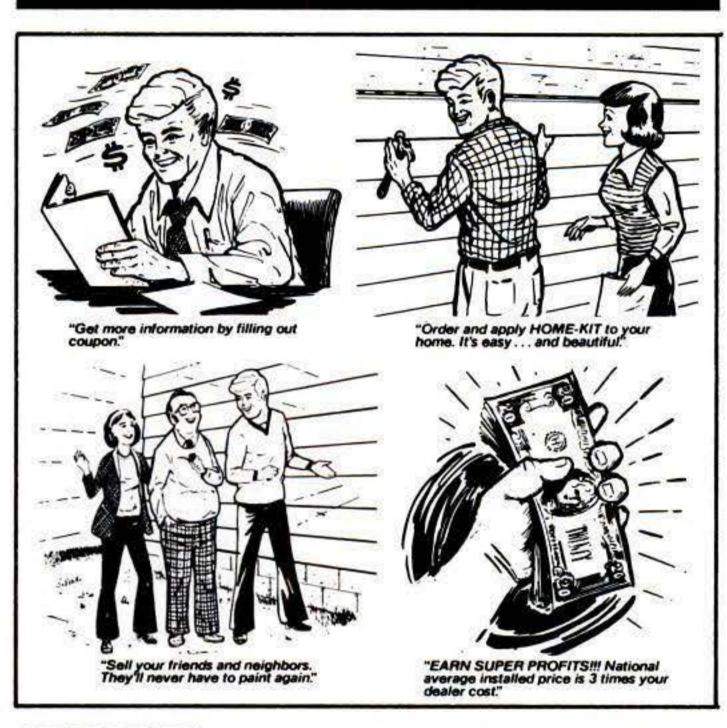
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A HOME-KIT is a complete kit of either aluminum, steel, or vinyl siding for covering a frame home. The dealer's first kit consists of all the siding, accessories, and tools for covering a certain size home. HOME-KITS come in 14 different sizes. Complete installation instructions are included.

IS IT HARD TO APPLY ALUMINUM, STEEL, OR VINYL SIDING?

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Our wholesale dealer prices are about 1/3 the national applied price. If you would like to become one of our part-time dealers (or a full-time dealer) just fill out the coupon and mail it to us or call us toll-free at 1-800-643-9904. We will send you a dealer application.

We will not bother you with a personal visit. No salesman will call on you.

WHAT DO I HAVE TO DO TO BE-COME A DEALER?

We require all our dealers to apply one HOME-KIT to their own home to qualify. for a dealership.

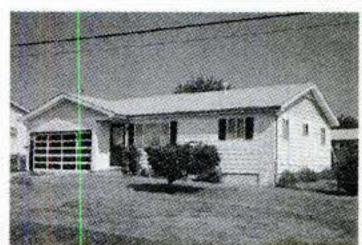
You can work as a part-time or full-time siding dealer. Most of our dealers are part-time workers . . . they use the HOME-KIT as a method of supplementing their regular income.

CAN I BUY MY FIRST HOME-KIT ON TIME PAYMENTS?

Yes indeed...in fact most of our dealers buy their first HOME-KIT on either an FHA Home Improvement Loan Plan or with our special \$7.00 per week plan with no interest and no carrying charges. HOW MUCH WILL I SAVE BY BUYING HOME-KITS?

Our HOME-KITS are priced to our dealers at about \$2,000.00 less than the national average applied price. You will be amazed at how inexpensively







you will be able to buy a complete siding kit, including all accessories and all tools.

HOW DO I GET A DEALERSHIP?

If you own a home which is suitable for the application of siding, your first step is to mail in the coupon or call us toll-free at 1-800-643-9904. If we have an opening in your county for a part-time or a ful-time dealer, we will let you know. There is no charge for a dealer-ship except in the purchase of your first HOME-KIT.

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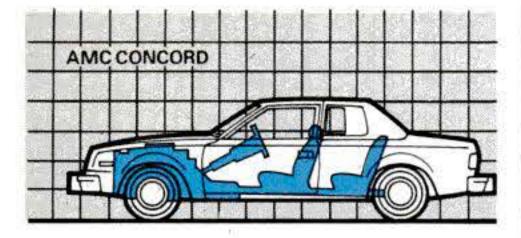
300 Phillips Rd. North Little Rock, AR 72117

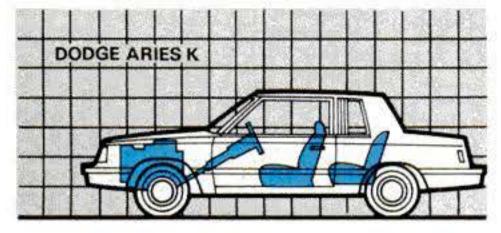
PS31

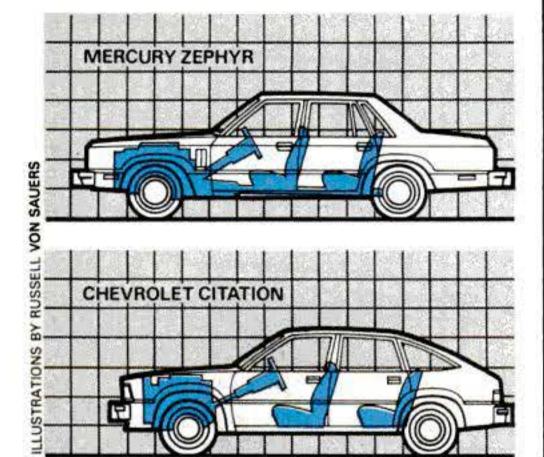
Sounds interesting, please send more information!

Name	200
Address	
59	
City	

PS car test & driving report







Identifying the most modern designs is easy from these scale drawings: Aries K and Citation both have front-wheel drive and are markedly shorter than their two competitors, Zephyr and Concord.

PS serviceability ratings

How easy is it to service these cars? To give you an approximation of how difficult it is for a typical person to perform various service operations, we examine each test vehicle. The numbers mean: 1, very difficult; 2, difficult; 3, average degree of difficulty; 4, easy; 5, very easy.

	Dodge Aries K	Chevrolet	Mercury	AMC
Checking fluid levels	521	25	1/722	2
Battery	5 4 5 3 5	5 5 4 5	5 4 5 4 5	5 4 5 2 5
Master cylinder	4	5	4	4
Windshield washer	5	5	5	5
Engine oil	3	4	4	2
Coolant	5	5	5	5
Checking the engine				
Spark plugs	5	4	4	2
Distributor	5 5	1	4	3
Carb adjustment		*	*	*
Oil filter	4	1	4	3
Oil fill	4	4	4	2 3 * 3 2
Replacing hoses				
Upper radiator hose	5	5	5	5
Lower radiator hose	4	5 3 1	5 3 1	3
Heater hoses	5 4 2	1	1	5 3 3
Changing bulbs				
Headlights	3	3	3	3
Taillights	4	3	5	2
Front running lights	3	3	2	3
Front parking lights	3	3	2	1
Front directionals	3	3	2	1
Rear directionals	4	3	5	2
Rear running lights	3 4 3 3 4 3	3333333	3 5 2 2 2 5 5	3 2 3 1 1 2 2
Checking fuses	4	3	. 2	4
Spare-tire accessibility	3	3 4 2	4	3
Changing belts	3	2	2	2
*Sealed	•	•		55

Dodge Aries K, Chevrolet Citation, Mercury Zephyr, and AMC Concord—dimensions, specs, and test results

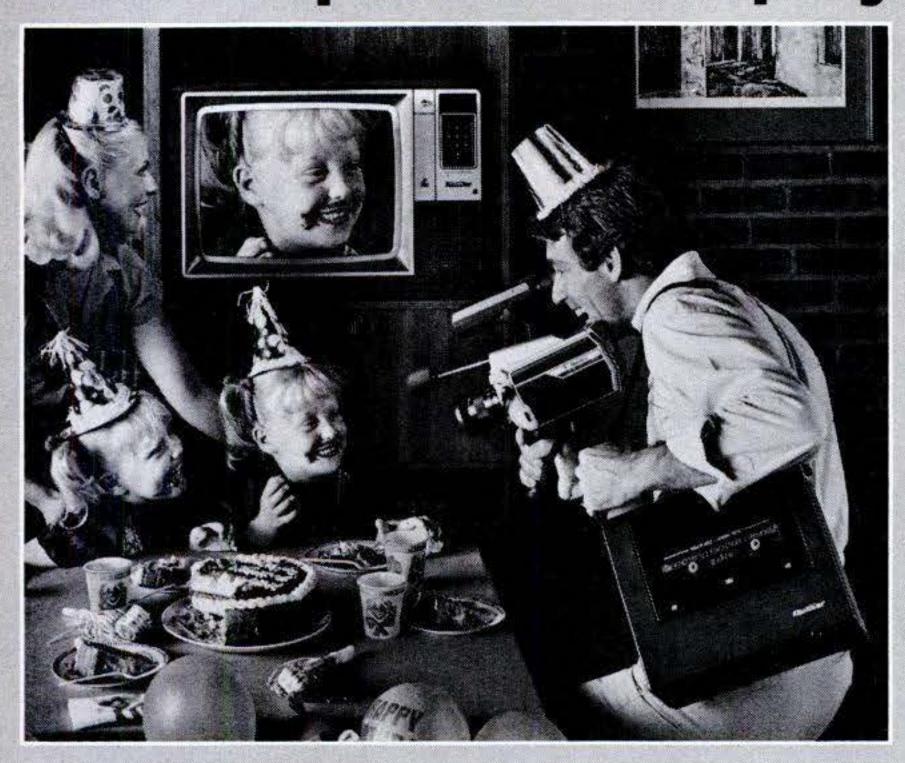
DIMENSIONS (inches) Wheelbase	Dodge	Chevrolet	Mercury	AMC
	Aries K	Citation	Zephyr	Concord
	99.6	104.9	105.5	108.0
	176.0	176.7	195.5	185.0
	52.4	53.1	53.6	50.8
	68.6	68.3	71.0	67.8
	57.6/57.0	58.7/57.0	56.6/57.0	57.5/57.1
	4.5	5.3	6.2	6.9
	38.2	38.1	38.4	38.1
	56.1	55.1	56.2	54.3
	42.2	42.2	41.8	40.8
	37.0	37.5	37.5	37.5
	54.6	54.1	53.7	52.5
	35.2	34.5	35.4	35.7
	0.3	0.9	1.6	2.7
	31.1	30.9	33.0	31.6
SPECIFICATIONS Engine type	In-line 4 135/2.2 8.5:1 2-bbl. 84 @ 4,800 111 @ 2,800 Three-speed automatic 2.78:1 Goodyear Arriva radial P165/65R14 Rack and pinion, power 18.0:1	In-line 4 151/2.5 8.2:1 2-bbl. 84 @ 4,000 125 @ 2,400 Three-speed automatic 2.84:1 General Steel III radial P185/80R13 Rack and pinion, power 17.5:1	In-line 6 200/3.3 8.6:1 1-bbl. 88 @ 3,800 154 @ 1,400 Three-speed automatic 2.73:1 Firestone Steel-belted radial P175/75R14 Rack and pinion, power Variable 20.0- 16.1:1	In-line 6 258/4.3 8.0:1 2-bbl. 120 @ 3,600 210 @ 1,800 Three-speed automatic 2.53:1 Goodyear Viva radial P195/75R14 Recirculating ball, power 17.0:1
Turns, lock to lock Turn diameter (ft.) Front suspension	3.2 34.3 Independent, Mac- Pherson struts Independent, trailing arms, flex beam, coil	arms, flex beam, coil	3.1 39.0 Independent, hybrid MacPherson struts Solid axle, four con- trol links, coil	3.0 34.9 Independent, struts on lower control arms, coil springs Solid axle, Hotch- kiss, semi-elliptical
Front stabilizer-bar diameter (in.)	1.0	0.86	n.a.	0.81
	1.0	0.79	none	none
	1,400	2,000	2,000	2,000
	150	200	200	200
(max. lbs.)	Disc/drum, power 205.2 13.0 15.1 26.5 2,448 64/36 \$6,315 \$9,715 A04 package \$775, automatic transmission \$360, rear defroster \$107, cruise control \$132, AM/FM stereo \$100	Disc/drum, power 261.6 14.0 41.2* 20.5 2,625 63/37 \$6,282 \$8,747 A/C \$557, power locks \$122, power windows \$187, deluxe exterior \$142, automatic transmission \$332, power steering \$162, AM/FM stereo \$100	Disc/drum, power 275.5 16.0 16.8 30.0 2,726 54/46 \$6,222 \$7,244 A/C \$585, automatic transmission \$349, AM/FM stereo \$88	Disc/drum, power 310.6 22.0 11.0 27.6 2,881 56/44 \$5,820 \$7,894
TEST RESULTS Acceleration (sec.) 0-60 mph	18.1	15.9	16.8	14.7
	22.9	18.3	21.4	16.7
Stopping distance (ft.) Pedal pressure (lbs.) Brake test (hot) 60–0 mph Stopping distance (ft.)	189	187	174	173
	92	160	120	96
	175	163	168	186
Pedal pressure (lbs.) Interior noise @ 60 mph (dBA) Handling test (mph) Maneuverability test (mph) TEST CONDITIONS: Ambient te	80 71 63.5 27.6+	88 71 60.2 27.6+	71 60.3 27.6+	74 59.9 27.6+

Performance comparison with selected 1981 and earlier models

*With rear seat folded

	Mpg (city driving)	Accelera- tion 0-60 mph (sec.)	Brakes 60-0 mph (hot) (ft.)	Handling (mph)	Maneuver- ability (mph)	Noise @ 60 mph (dBA)
1980 Chevrolet Citation V6	20	11.8	141	62.4	29.6	69
1980 Oldsmobile Omega in-line 4	22	15.0	163	64.7	29.6	69
1979 Ford Fairmont in-line 6	18	15.9	149	62.4	26.8	68
1979 AMC Concord in-line 6	17	13.4	152	56.3	28.1	67
1981 Ford Escort in-line 4	28	18.5	187	64.0	27.6+	73
1981 Plymouth Horizon in-line 4	25	12.7	203	61.0	27.6+	72

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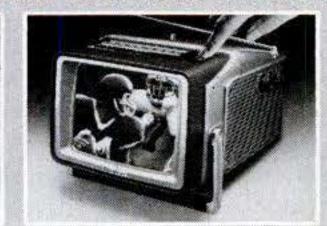
Component style, component features, integrated into one high-performance stereo system.



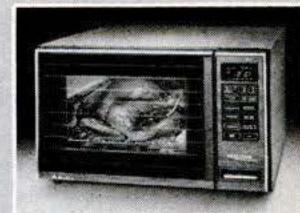
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Chrysler gets high marks on follow-up test of its production-line K-car

By ED JACOBS

Along with our coverage of the 1981model introductions in last October's issue, we reported on the first openroad testing Chrysler permitted on its all-new K-cars. That test was an early-summer sweep through the Midwest in one of the firm's \$250,000 hand-built prototypes. Time constraints resulting from the scarcity of prototypes limited us to only 2,000 miles. So to complete our normal minimum of 5,000 miles-and to see how different from the exceptionally impressive prototype a productionline car would be-we ordered another Reliant, a two-door. We again specified the all-new 2.2-liter four, but this time with the more economical fourspeed manual transmission.

What we got was another fine domestic compact. It delivered excellent economy, was roomy and comfortable, and rode and handled well. Even though we encountered a couple of minor glitches, which we left uncorrected due to time considerations, the car was still the near-equal of the

economy than the automatic-equipped prototype we tested last summer.

exceptional prototype. (The glitches included a broken self-adjuster in the clutch linkage and a front suspension that was slightly out of alignment.)

The economy advantage of the manual transmission proved to be considerably greater than we had expected. Where the prototype averaged 24.9 mpg for its 2,000 miles, the production car delivered 29.0 for 3,000 miles. On the highway, economy ranged from 31 to 33 mpg; in mixed driving, 26 to 29.

Along with its high economy, the engine produces reasonably good power. Response is good in first and second gears, but flattens out considerably in third and fourth due to gear ratios selected for maximum economy. You can accelerate uphill and pass other cars in fourth gear, but response is predictably sedate. A precise-shifting five-speed would be beneficial (and is in the works).

What could stand some attention, though, is the vague and clunky shift mechanism. Its long throws put the shift lever much too far from you, especially in third. In addition, the reverse detent is too weak, and you can sometimes get reverse instead of first. Early in our test, the car developed a transmission leak that spilled a considerable amount of fluid. A dealer in New York City told us there was no

leak, but a rural dealer quickly found and fixed a poorly sealed sump.

When it came to handling, our Reliant was good, although perhaps a bit bouncier than the prototype. It also seemed more susceptible to steering changes generated by pavement irregularities than either the prototype or the Aries in this month's test.

The Reliant's ride was smooth, pleasant, and comfortable, very much like that of a full-size car. But its short wheelbase did manifest itself in more abrupt pitching on bumps, although the magnitude wasn't objectionable. Even with four people and luggage aboard, ride quality was impressive.

Just like the prototype, our Reliant had little sensitivity to crosswinds or the bow waves of tractor-trailers. And the harder-riding P-metric tires did cause some slight additional harshness, but hardly enough to notice.

As small as Reliant is outside, it's really larger inside than you'd expect. Several people commented on how big-car-like its interior space is. The car is rated for six passengers, but that's a squeeze (see this month's Car Test for more comments). Four passengers, however, ride comfortably.

The driving position is very good, but the steering wheel sticks out a bit too far. You have to push the seat back more than you might want to get a comfortable, legs-out, arms-out position. The field of view to the sides and forward is excellent, but there are some restrictions toward the rear.

Wind noise may have been just a touch higher in this Reliant, but the car was still very quiet. Engine noise was discernible, but its low pitch made it almost no factor at all.

The instrument panel is well laid out and legible, with high-contrast markings. Unfortunately, at night it is very difficult to read the instruments because there isn't sufficient illumination. The rheostat limits intensity so much that it's impossible to read the odometer unless you have exceptional night vision.

Due to the slight position differences with bucket seats, the rightturn signal and engine-overheat warning lights are obscured by the rim of the steering wheel.

As is very common these days, the Reliant has a tiny glove box. In fact, I couldn't even fit a standard secretarial steno book into it. And one last complaint: The car needs positive stops to hold the doors open while you're getting out or unloading parcels.

The Reliant seems to be just about ideal for today's small families or anyone moving into a smaller car. Even with the little flaws noted above, Chrysler gets very high marks.

EARLY TIMES. THE WAY IT WAS, IS THE WAY IT IS.



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RECREATION ROUNDUP

By HERBERT SHULDINER

RV sales boost expected in '81

That's the optimistic picture I got at two industry shows in Los Angeles and Louisville, Ky., late last year. Despite the fact that 50 percent of all RV makers and 45 percent of all RV dealers have gone out of business in the last 18 to 24 months, the remaining companies-and, more importantly, the suppliers of motor-home chassis and engines-voice this optimism.

One of the more hopeful persons I interviewed was J. C. Perkins, Chevrolet trucksales manager. Perkins told me that there were only 5,000 Chevrolet motor-home chassis sold last year (compared to 51,000 in 1979). "But the outlook is for solid gains in 1981," Perkins says. He forecasts 11,000-12,000 full-size motor-homechassis sales and 6,000-7,000 minimotor-home-chassis sales (cutaway vans) this year.

New chassis and engines

While making that forecast, Perkins revealed that Chevrolet will introduce a new, jumbo motor-home chassis with a 209-inch wheelbase. It can accommodate motor-home bodies up to 32 feet long. The new chassis will be powered by an 8.2-liter Detroit diesel, rated at 165 hp. Perkins says that 1,500 of the new chassis will be built this year.

Later in the year, the 6.2-liter Chevrolet diesel described in January's "Recreation Roundup" will be made available for smaller motor-home chassis, Perkins confirmed. You can look for Winnebago to be one of the earliest users of the 6.2-liter model. Some RV makers expect that small motor homes equipped with this engine will get 20-25 mpg. However, it would take the kind of lightweight construction and aerodynamic styling of the new Winnebago Warrior (see "81 Camping Vehicles," this issue) to achieve the engine's greatest fuel efficiency.

I would also expect the 6.2-liter diesel to enhance the fuel economy of mini motor homes—and eventually of Trans Van-type vehicles. The latter are really a wider and longer version of van conversions.

Perkins also looks for a sales revival of vans and van conversions. He says Chevrolet expects to sell 12,000-13,000 vans in 1981. That's well below the level that prevailed before the Iranian crisis, but a boost over 1980.

Some reasons Perkins cites for his optimistic forecasts include the fact that there are relatively few carryover 1980 chassis and that potential RV customers have "pretty well accepted, or adjusted to, the higher cost of fuel." Perkins, however, sees high interest rates as one of the major obstacles to an RV comeback.

Ford's new motor-home chassis

Ford stopped making motor-home chassis in 1974 when RV sales slumped following the first Arab oil boycott. But it's now developing a new series of chassis "on a crash basis," according to Robert C. Honke, Ford's RV sales manager. He says, "We hope to have them ready this spring." The new chassis will come in three wheelbase sizes: 158 inches for motor homes in the 21-23-foot class, 176 inches for 23-25-foot motor homes, and 206 inches for motor homes up to 32 feet long.

Ford's chassis will offer an option of a 460-cu.-in. V8 gasoline engine or the same 8.2-liter Detroit diesel used in the Chevrolet chassis.

International's new diesel

Another diesel power plant for motor homes was recently announced by International Harvester. International says it will be made available to RV manufacturers in time for 1983 model introductions. Although well suited for motor homes and vans, the 6.9-liter diesel is intended primarily for medium-duty trucks.

This fact seems to augur well for motor-home manufacturers. Truck makers are under increasing pressure to produce more-fuel-efficient vehicles as skyrocketing fuel prices cut into the profits of trucking companies. International predicts that 71 percent of medium-duty trucks will have diesels by 1985, 90 percent by 1990. The same chassis are usually modified to accommodate motor homes.

Can RV makers wait?

The only problem is that RV manufacturers need immediate help, and the economical chassis and engines aren't available in large enough quantities yet. This is bound to limit any sales comeback in 1981.

What's more, many RV manufacturers are convinced the public won't be satisfied with 20-25-mpg motor homes. Several manufacturers have as their goal a new class of motor homes that will get up to 30 mpg. How can they achieve this without Detroit's immediate help?

"We're talking to a number of European chassis manufacturers," says Frank Rotta, a Winnebago spokesman. Winnebago has pursued its sources for over a year now,

Continued

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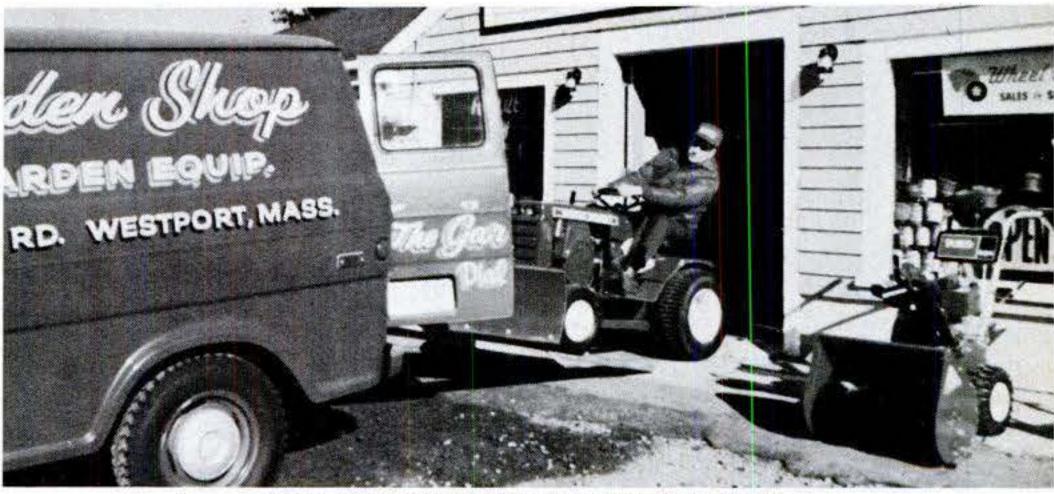
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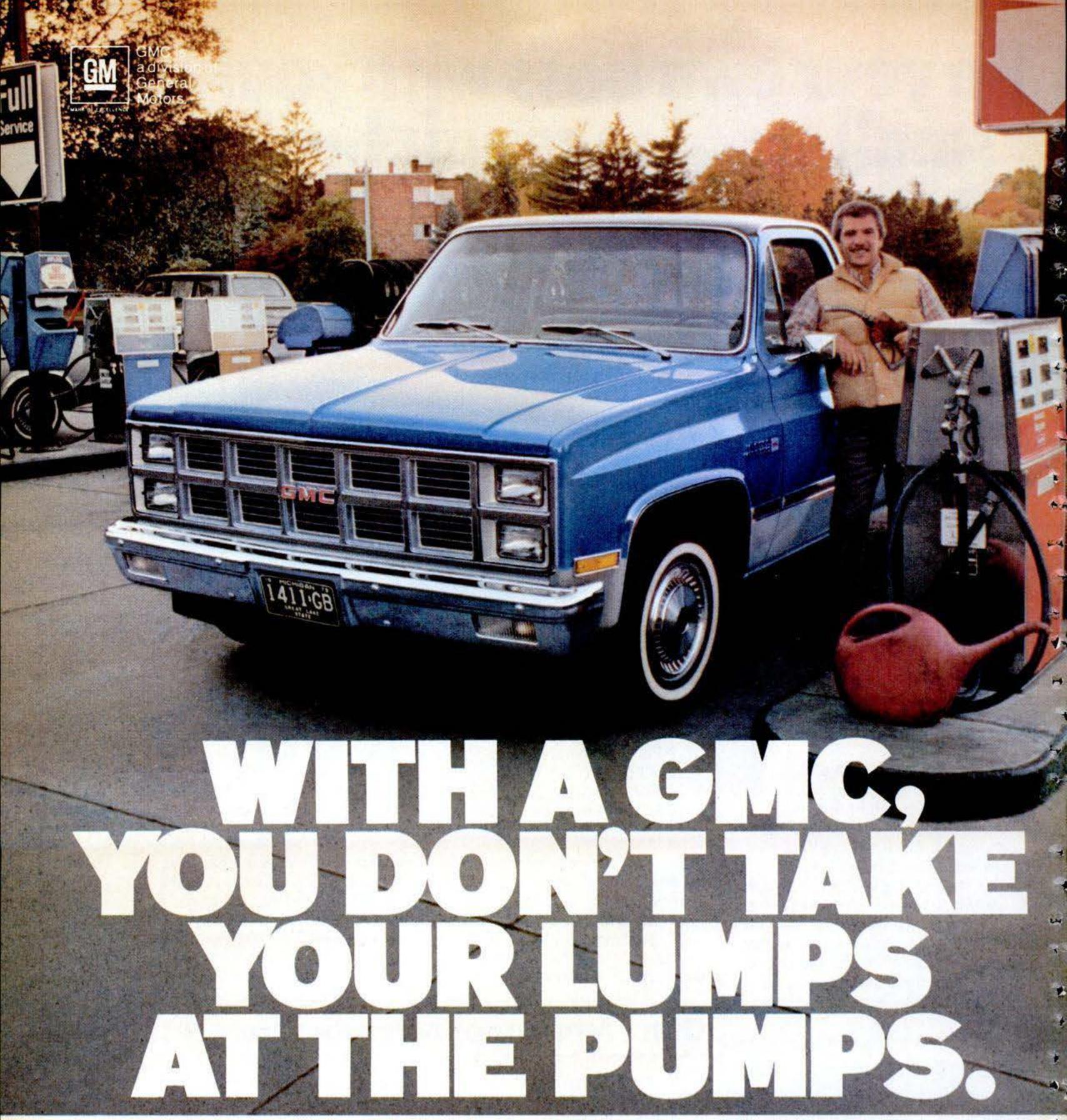
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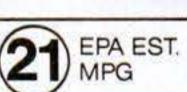


NEW SUPER SAVER GMC PICKUP. Like all the new GMC pickups, its styling is more aerodynamically efficient than last year's. In addition, our new Super Saver is powered by a thrifty 4.1 liter six and equipped with a manual 4-speed overdrive transmission, low numerical axle ratio and specially selected tires. All of which result in the gratifying EPA-estimated mileage shown

here. It is, we submit, a clear indication that you can drive a ½-ton GMC pickup that's built to do a full-size job without taking your lumps at the pumps.



30 EST.



REMEMBER: Compare the "estimated mpg" to the "estimated mpg" of other vehicles. You may get different mileage depending on how fast you drive, weather conditions and trip length. Actual highway mileage will probably be less than the estimated highway fuel economy. Super Saver Pickup not available in California.

GMC pickups are equipped with GM-built engines produced by various divisions. See your dealer for details.

Recreation roundup

[Continued]

however, and doesn't appear close to finding a satisfactory platform to import.

Share a motor home

A growing phenomenon is time-sharing ownership of resort facilities. It's already a well-established practice in Europe, but its introduction has been slow in the U.S. Now an even more novel idea is the time-shared motor home. Share a Motor Home (3326 E. Atlantic Blvd., Pompano Beach, Fla.) is a new company offering partial ownership and use of the big RV's.

At present, the motor homes are based only in Florida, California, and New York. Later, Nevada and Texas will be added to the list. Three classes of motor homes are available: moderate, superior, and deluxe. One-week-per-year ownership for 10 years (expected life of a motor home) costs \$2,500 for the moderate vehicle, \$3,500 for the superior, and \$4,500 for the deluxe RV. Payment is over a five-year period in equal amounts, plus interest. Of course, you can purchase any number of weeks you choose.

Late-winter snowmobiling

This is the time of year when winter begins to slip away and snow is just a memory in most areas. But in a large number of places, the snowmobile season is still going strong and offers enthusiasts some of the best conditions for enjoying the sport. Obviously, the best of these places are high in the Rockies or fairly far north—but they're generally not hard to reach because road conditions are less hazardous this time of year.

In the January '80 "Recreation Roundup" I wrote about one of the snowmobiling Mecca's—Old Forge, N.Y., whose trails are often open until April. Other areas include Jackson, Wyo., and West Yellowstone, Mont. These two places offer some of the most gorgeous mountain snowmobile trails in North America. Colorado has a host of good snowmobiling spots still open at this time of year. The Irwin Lodge at Crested Butte is only accessible by snowmobile, but the Black Mountain Ranch near Vail and several resorts near Grand Lake can be reached by car.

Penticton and Vernon in southern British Columbia are readily accessible in a day's drive for residents of Washington and Oregon. The Upper Peninsula of Michigan is another area that retains its snow until late spring. One of the best spots there is the Keweenaw Peninsula—a little finger that sticks out into Lake Superior. It gets an average of 250 inches of snow per winter.

For easterners, the Rangeley Lakes area in mid-Maine is generally a good bet. And the Eagle River, Wis., area frequently has snowmobiling into April.

Rental snowmobiles are often available in these areas. And many motels and resorts can offer guides to accompany you. It's a good idea to check with the local Chamber of Commerce to make sure adequate snow conditions exist.

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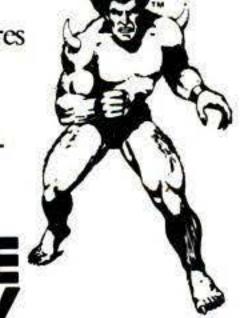
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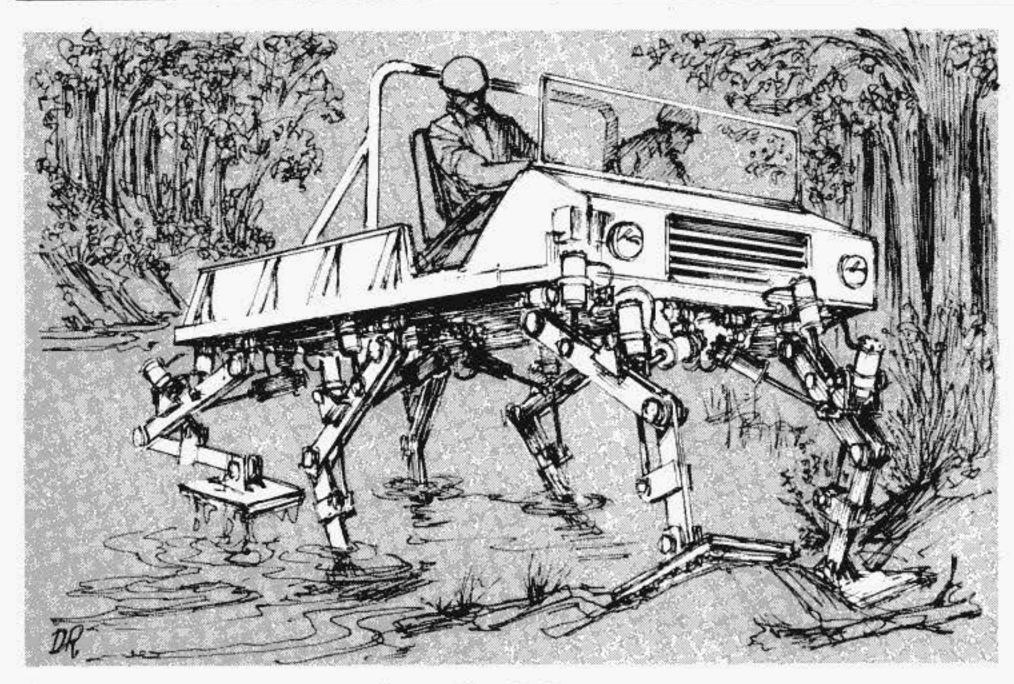
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NEW IDEAS FROM THE INVENTORS

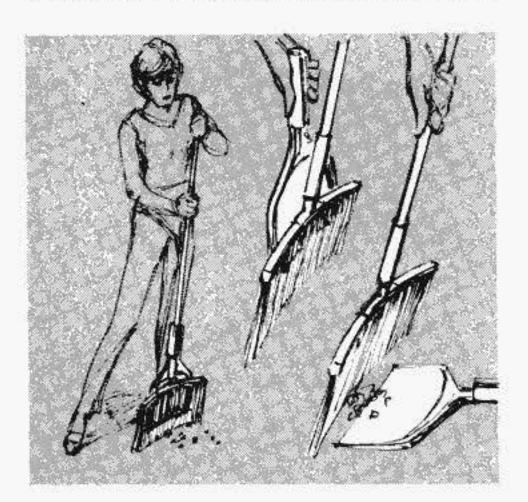
ILLUSTRATIONS BY DANA RASMUSSEN



Computer levels all-terrain walker's legs

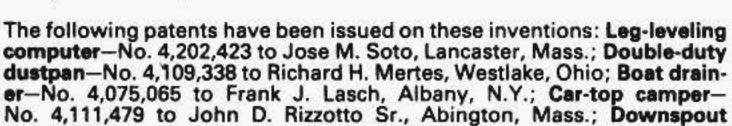
Designed to move rapidly over water or Level-sensors would detect downward the roughest of land surfaces, the articulated legs and feet of this ATV would adjust their own height to suit ground irregularities as they were guided forward, backward, or around banking turns.

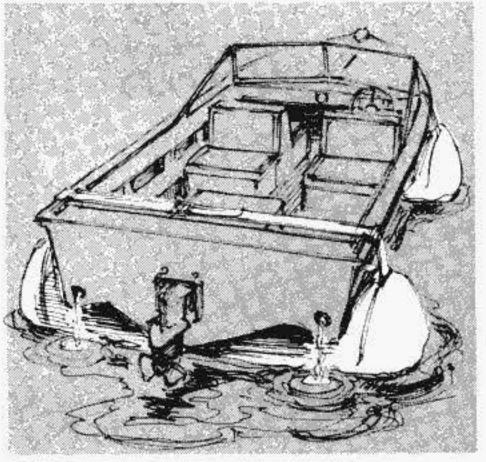
extension of each of the six legs and signal an on-board computer. The level signals would be integrated with an operator-set program, which would tell the legs how to move to maintain direction.



Broom carries its dustpan

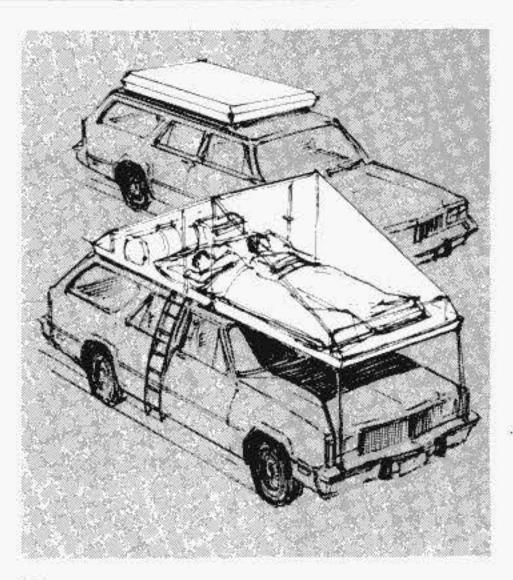
This flexible dustpan, attached to a collarlike handle, would slide down behind the bristles of a broom to stiffen them for many different kinds of indoor or outdoor cleanup. The curve of the dustpan would form the bristles to a convex, dirt-scooping shape. But removed and pressed flat against the ground, the always-handy dustpan would pick up sweepings.





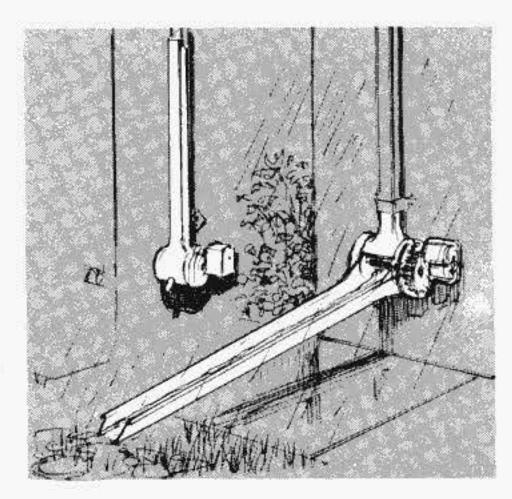
Moored boat drains itself

After you'd strapped the inner-tube-like floats around the bow and stern of a double-bottomed, transom-drained boat, you'd inflate them to raise the boat above normal floating position. The bilge vent would be left open so rain and spray could drain away automatically. Leaving your motor attached would normally ensure the proper drainage angle.



Bumper supports camper

This sleeper tent would fold back over the roof of a car to travel with you without overloading the vehicle or blocking your view. At the campsite you'd extend the hinged platform forward and prop it by hooking trusses to brackets you'd previously attached to your front bumper. The lightweight cover and side-access ladder would also unfold from the compact gearhauler and sleeping platform.



Downspout arm prevents floods

Does heavy rain sometimes cause damaging seepage through your home's basement or foundation? With this hinged trough connected-through an adapterto the regular downspout, you could let it down manually (or by an inside switch) to carry excess runoff safely away from the house. Raised in good weather, it would lie clear of a path, drive, or flower bed.

extension-No. 4,135,540 to Karl H. Felsen, Winnepeg, Canada. Copies of patents may be ordered, by number, from the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231, at 50 cents each. To write to an inventor, if address above is insufficient, address him by name and patent number in care of the Commissioner.

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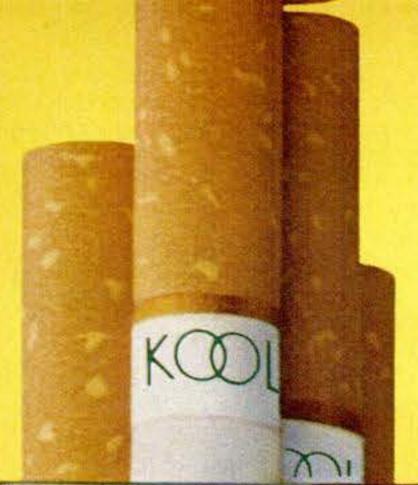
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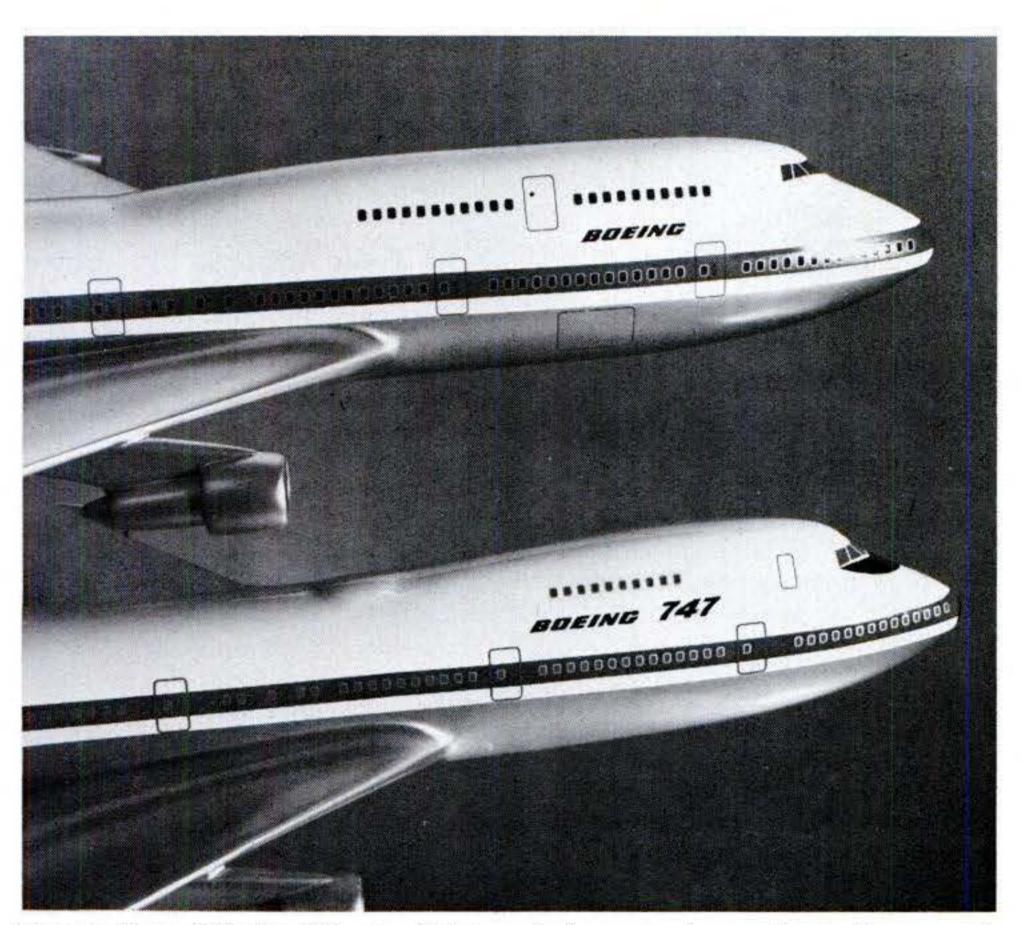
KOOL MILDS gives you a refreshing sensation that goes beyond the taste of ordinary low 'tars'. There's only one word for the KOOL experience: Bravo!



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Warning: The Surgeon General Has Determined That Cigarette Smoking Is Dangerous to Your Health.

Bulging 747 has more room at the top



Two versions of Boeing 747-new Swissair upper-deck model (top) and original

One of the 747's shown seats 44 more passengers than the other. Where? Look at the upper deck—the famous hump just behind the cockpit. It's been stretched—by a full 23 feet.

This hump, long a 747 trademark, originally housed a lounge, accommodating just eight first-class passengers who wandered between decks via an elegant spiral stairway.

Rising costs made such lavishness impractical, and through the years Boeing has expanded the upper deck's seating. Today, some 747's carry 32 passengers upstairs.

The new stretched upper deck can seat as many as 69 economy-class passengers. It has new windows and exit doors, and, sadly, a prosaic set of straight stairs has replaced the circular staircase.

The design change should help airlines lower costs. Though it boosts passenger capacity by 10 percent, the stretching increases empty weight by only two percent and doesn't require design-are shown above. Seven previous revisions did not change exterior.

changes either in engines or allowable gross weight. Even better, the enlarged hump means a five percent drop in fuel consumption per available-seat mile.

The first airline to reap these fuel savings will be Swissair, which has ordered four models for delivery in March, 1983. The Swissair version will have 392 passenger seats, including 56 seats on the upper deck in a five-abreast layout. The four planes will cost Swissair about \$350 million. And the airline has options for four more stretched 747's, to be delivered between 1986 and 1988.

Other airlines are also studying the new design. It has special promise for airlines that use the Combi version of the 747. This plane carries palletized cargo in the rear as well as passengers. The stretched upper deck means that 12-pallet Combi planes can carry 282 passengers instead of 238, an improvement of about 18 percent. -Ben Kocivar

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NOW AT LAST YOU CAN USE THE REMARKABLE BIONAIRE IN YOUR HOME AND IN YOUR CAR. YOU NEED BUY ONLY THE ONE UNIT AND PLUG INTO EITHER CAR OR HOUSE CURRENT.

Wherever top calibre ionizers have been tried, they have changed things for the better. People have reported greater energy, better health and increased productivity. An ionizer replaces the negative ions killed by metals, man-made materials, air conditioning and central heating. It restores the natural balance of the air, making it fresh and easy to breathe. At the same time, an ionizer radically reduces airborne dust, pollution, bacteria and pollen. And almost completely eliminates odors like tobacco smoke. Naturally.

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People write to



Have a question about motor oil? Lubricants? Engines? Ask the Pennzoil experts...

Deceptive Darkness. I have used Pennzoil 10W-40 in my '73 since I purchased it new. I recently bought a case of 10W-40 and upon pouring the oil into my car's crankcase, I noticed that it was much darker in color than the Pennzoil I had used all these years. The only difference in can labelling was that the newer can says "For API Service SF and SE," whereas the older cans carried the initials SE-CC. What gives?

J.M.D., Walnut Creek, CA

The darker color of the 10W-40 oil which you just purchased is due to an additive change in the oil, to upgrade it to "SF". Service Classification SF was just recently adopted by the American Petroleum Institute (API). This is an upgrade from the old "SE" rating, and this SF oil is superior to oils meeting only the SE standards. The additive systems required to meet SF in Pennzoil's formulations are now darker in color which is evident in the finished oil. The SF oil should be used where SE oils were recommended in the past.



Too Hot It's Not. What is the ideal operating temperature for engine oil? I recently installed an oil temperature gauge in my 305 CID V-8 pickup, and find that the temperature of the oil stabilizes between 210°-215°F. When pulling a 3,400-pound travel trailer, the oil temperature rises to between 225°-230°F. Is this range acceptable? Would you suggest that an oil cooler be installed?

D.J.W., Morris Plains, NJ

Engine oil operating temperatures are a function of many factors including load, thermostat setting, oil viscosity and others. Your own experience shows the effect of load. Your temperature range (210°-215°F. to 225°-230°F.) represents a normal, satisfactory oil temperature range. If you plan to pull your trailer regularly in a very hot environ-

ment, an oil cooler might be advisable. Otherwise, it certainly doesn't appear necessary.



To Idle Or Not To Idle. I'm aware that it's not wise to let a gasoline engine warm up at idle or idle for a long time since the oil gets contaminated more quickly that way. However, is it all right for my VW diesel to be warmed up a bit at idle before driving off? I want to warm up the engine at idle so it's warm when I drive out of my garage, without harming the engine, of course. I know that large diesel trucks and buses are left to idle for long periods of time.

J.M.R., Missoula, Montana

Keep in mind that large diesel trucks that are left to idle for long periods of time carry as much as 16 gallons of oil in the crankcase to handle the fuel dilution that results from idling. These engines are left idling because they are often difficult to start in winter weather. Our advice to you for your VW is to start your engine and drive off at moderate speeds. Starting the engine and allowing it to idle so that the heater is producing warm air when you drive out of your garage could result in fuel dilution which could seriously shorten the life of your engine.

We've Got The Grease. The owner's manual for my new 4 wheel drive pickup calls for several different grades of chassis grease. For example, it recommends one grease for drag link and steering shaft and another for propeller shaft. Does Pennzoil make a multipurpose product which would be suitable for all these applications?

H.R.R., Wallingford, CT

Pennzoil makes a multi-purpose lubricant called TTM 302 Lubricant, which will provide you with the essential requirements of the products you need. The TTM 302 has a special base oil constituant which allows it to pump easily at low temperatures and still protect at high temperatures. The grease also contains moly sulfide which provides good frictional properties and extreme pressure protection.

Air Filter Answers. I've noticed in many cars that when the top cover of the carburetor air filter is removed, not only is the air filter dirty with oil, but there are liquid oil deposits in the bottom of the air filter. What causes this condition? Could it be a bad PCV valve?

G.P., Rosedale, N.Y.

Most air filters are impregnated with a petroleum base material, usually a very light oil. When any portion of the crankcase ventilation system is plugged, excess gas fumes may accumulate. This may cause some of the oil to be washed out of the air filter. This buildup can also occur as a result of short trip driving which does not allow the engine to get hot and drive off the exhaust gases. To check the PCV valve, remove it from the manifold. The valve should rattle and not stick. The hoses attached to the PCV valve should also be checked to make sure they are not plugged.

WE'RE OPEN TO QUESTIONS about motor oils, lubricants, engines. But, you can tell us a few things, too. Maybe you have discovered something interesting about motor oils or lubricants. Or you have a special reason for being a Pennzoil fan. We would like to hear from you. Write to: Pennzoil Company, Research Department, P. O. Box 808, Oil City, Pennsylvania 16301. Note: sorry no pictures or material can be returned. Letters chosen for publication are subject to revision necessary for publication requirements.

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pacesetter. Chrysler will make the coupe a high-line model, selling for about \$10,000.

DETROIT REPORT

By JIM DUNNE





Lean Lincoln: first photos

Last month in this space you read about Lincoln's plans to market a small Continental. Here are the pictures. Its side and rear styling borrows heavily from the Cadillac Seville, but from the front-with its centered rectangular grille flanked by dual rectangular headlights-the car is easily identifiable as a Lincoln. It's built on Ford's Fairmont chassis. Powered by a fuel-injection, 255-cu.-in. V8, it's expected to yield the best fuel economy ever in a Lincoln-about 20 mpg in city driving and close to 30 on the highway. The body style you see here, a four-door sedan, will be the only one offered. The new Continental will be available this fall, joining the Town Car and Mark VI as Lincoln's entries in the luxury-car market.

Not late this time

Ford and GM are actively developing mini-compacts that will compete with the smallest imports—Starlet, Colt, and Civic. GM's so-called world car, code-lettered S, is slated for public introduction in the U.S. in 1983, after a year of production in Spain. The mini will have a 92-in. wheel-

base, smaller than Chevette's. Ford's mini is called the Optim—for optimum—and will be built in two- and four-seat versions. It may get a plastic body as part of an overall emphasis on weight cutting. Its three- or four-cylinder engine will displace only about one liter. The addition of these two models to the American car lineup will put the U.S. makers only slightly behind the importers, who are already moving rapidly in the mini-car direction ["Economy Cars," PS, Feb.].

K-coupe coming

Government officials concerned with Chrysler's future have already seen a new specialty coupe the company will introduce for 1982. It's built on the K-car chassis and uses its drive line, which makes the design a natural. Investment in tooling will be minimal, and it fills a market niche not covered by Chrysler now. The Mustang look-alike (except for the front end, which has an Imperial-like grille) will carry Chrysler and Dodge nameplates. Primarily competing against Thunderbird and Monte Carlo, the car, with its front drive and small size, will be unique in the personal-sporty-car market, a fuel-economy

Lead time lengthened

Why did GM push the introduction date for its electric car back a year, to 1985 ["PS/What's News," Jan.]? Not because of design or technical problems, say company officials, but simply to allow more lead time for the difficult project, which involves several GM divisions. Key to the mini-compact commuter car is its highdensity zinc-nickel oxide battery; GM expects it to deliver a 50-mph top speed and 100-mile range between charges. When the design is fully developed, GM will build a manufacturing plant from scratch to produce the new battery, which will also have a longer life than the conventional lead-acid types that have powered electric cars in the past. The delayed introduction gives GM more time to perfect the battery and other new systems before tooling up.

Goodbye, distributors

Spark distributors will be dropped from next year's Chrysler 2.2-liter four-cylinder engine. Instead, spark timing will be picked up directly from the crankshaft, with an on-board computer feeding spark to the plugs as needed. Insiders look for the distributor to disappear from other computer-equipped cars soon, which spells the end for an engine system that has been in universal use longer than the self-starter.

Engine displacements

• GM expects the V8 to all but disappear from its lineup in five years, and its gasoline V6 will see limited use, too. Here's how GM sees engine allocation for 1985: gasoline fours and threes, 60 percent; diesel fours and V6's, 20 percent; gasoline V6's, 18 percent; gasoline V8's, one to two percent.

Here's a puzzle: Buick is building a new assembly line for its V6, yet it's also planning to phase out this best seller. The new line will meet the added demand for the V6, which currently outsells all other GM engines; down the road, the same line will produce three-cylinder engines. "The V6 is an interim engine," says Buick General Manager Don McPherson, "and it should be gone in a few years as we move to smaller sizes." How small? "Figure half of the current V6 sizes," says McPherson, "about two, 1.9, and 1.6 liters." The threes are actually half a V6; most of the V6 machinery can be used.

Buick also reports that the threes under development are smoother running than four-cylinder engines, because they have more balanced firing positions. In some engines, Buick will go a step further to ensure smoothness by installing a high-speed balancing shaft—similar to the Silent Shaft design of the Mitsubishi engines (Dodge Colt and Challenger, Plymouth Champ and Sapporo). It will probably be used on threes installed in higher-priced automobiles.

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LOOK AND LISTEN

By JOHN FREE

Video-disc race

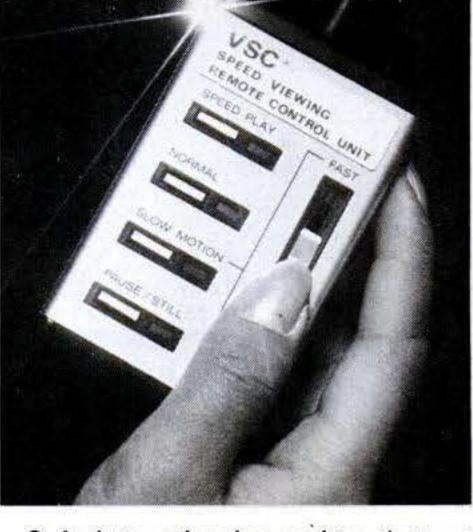
Toshiba has joined Zenith, JCPenney, Sears, Sanyo, and Radio Shack to market RCA's capacitance electronic-disc (CED) system. CBS will make discs for the video players. RCA plans to offer its under-\$500 disc machine this spring. Radio Shack may sell a Hitachi-made player with more features than RCA's. An under-\$100 adapter will enable Radio Shack CED owners to play stereo disc releases. RCA has indicated its initial entry will be a monaural-only model, with a step-up stereo CED player to follow.

Later in the year, the video high-density (VHD) disc system is slated for sale by three jointly owned companies just formed by General Electric, Matsushita, JVC, and Thorn EMI. VHD players also use capacitance-type discs [PS, July '80] but are not compatible with CED. VHD firms, apparently making last-minute decisions about what player features to include, stress that the grooveless VHD-disc system can have stop-action, randomaccess, and slow-motion capabilities that CED doesn't have. To fill the VHD program library, movie companies and others are being offered bargain pressing rates (\$5.50 for a two-hour disc).

Not to be outdone in the three-way discsystem battle, Japanese, Dutch, and U.S. supporters of optical (laser) video discs have formed a promotional outfit called the Laservision Assn. Optical-disc players are now being sold in major cities by both Pioneer and Magnavox. Newest optical converts are Advent and Fisher, which plan to market the noncontact disc machines along with giant-screen projection TV's. A Laservision Assn. member, 3M, is making video discs.

Quick looks

- Owners of the Texas Instruments TI-99/4 can now make their home computers better conversationalists. TI has formed a special data-bank information service [PS, Nov. '80] with Source Telecomputing called Texnet. Via phone lines, Texnet enables users to hear messages typed on the computer keyboard or transmitted over the network as spoken words. New information data bases will also take advantage of the 99/4's color graphics and music capabilities.
- CBS has enlisted its Los Angeles station, KNXT, and public station KCET to test the Antiope teletext system ["Data-Display TV," PS, Jan.]. This system broadcasts encoded news, classifieds, and traffic and other information over unused TV scan lines. Some 100 sets equipped with French-built decoders will be used. CBS hopes Antiope will become the U.S. standard and is investigating what programming the public wants.
- Among the new "magazines" marketed on videotape is Instant Replay (1980 McFarlane Rd., Coconut Grove, Fla. 33133). A few cassette back issues I sampled included fascinating segments on video art and music, home earth stations, video/audio hardware shows, and more. A sampler tape highlighting Instant Replay's growing catalog is \$14.95.



- An international committee that met in Switzerland is studying proposals for 3D home television. The goal is compatible receivers that could be viewed by a group. Several companies are now refining 3D-TV systems, and a technique requiring polarized glasses for viewers has been tested in Australia.
- A new large-scale-integration (LSI) microcircuit developed by Variable Speech Control Co. helps correct the "Donald Duck" distortion of sound from pitch changes during speed viewing with VCR's. The firm expects that speed listening, which permits comprehension at 250 to 300 words per minute, or twice the average speaking rate, will now be cost-effective for more decks with remote controls (photo). JVC's model 6700 was the first VCR to include a VSC speed-listening feature.
- Hitachi has demonstrated a flatscreen TV the size of a hand-held calculator. The monochrome prototype has a 1.9by-1.5-inch screen with 160 horizontal and
 140 vertical liquid-crystal elements. In
 bright light the LCD screen has enough
 resolution to reveal a ball struck in a baseball game. Toshiba and Matsushita have
 also shown flat-screen portables with
 similar small screens but higher resolution. Hitachi plans to market its set within
 a few years.



Cartridges vs. super discs

If the super-fidelity discs (see "High-Tech Hi-Fi," this issue) you've tried don't sound so super, your cartridge and tone arm may be out of alignment. A precise geometrical relationship between your tone arm and cartridge is needed so the stylus travels a radial path matching that of the



cutting stylus as closely as possible. Even small misalignments can produce severe tracking error and audible distortion.

A gadget I set up recently, the \$20 DBP-10 phono alignment protractor (above right) from DB Systems (Box 347, Jaffrey, N.H. 03452), simplifies cartridge-tone-arm alignment. Two plastic cards are placed on your turntable spindle, and the stylus is alternately positioned at two points on the bottom card. The top transparent card is moved until lines on it are parallel to the cartridge. Tracking error can be read on a scale to within 0.25 degree. Instructions tell you how to adjust the cartridge and arm to zero the error at the two reference points.

The \$35 Geometric Soundtractor (far left) from Dennesen Electronics (Box 51, Beverly, Mass. 01915) has a pointer that's set up over the tone-arm pivot point to achieve cartridge alignment. The Soundtractor also has a small ruled guidepost, plus a bubble level, to optimize the vertical tracking angle (VTA) for discs. Tone-arm height is set for the "cleanest, most balanced, and most focused sound." Height reference numbers can be established and set for each disc, if desired. Nonperfectionists can set VTA once, for an average album.

w

The first personal computer for under \$200.

The Sinclair ZX80. A complete computer only \$199.95 plus \$5.00 shipping.

Now, for just \$199.95, you can get a complete, powerful, full-function computer, matching or surpassing other personal computers costing several times more.

It's the Sinclair ZX80. The computer that "Personal Computer World" gave 5 stars for 'excellent value.'

The ZX80 cuts away computer jargon and mystique. It takes you straight into BASIC, the most common, easy-to-use computer language.

You simply take it out of the box, connect it to your TV, and turn it on. And if you want, you can use an ordinary cassette recorder to store programs. With the manual in your hand, you'll be running programs in an hour. Within a week, you'll be writing complex programs with confidence.

All for under \$200.

Sophisticated design makes the ZX80 easy to learn, easy to use.

We've packed the conventional computer onto fewer, more powerful LSI chipsincluding the Z80A microprocessor, the faster version of the famous Z80. This makes the ZX80 the world's first truly portable computer (61/2" x 81/2" x 11/2" and a mere 12 oz.). The ZX80 also features a touch sensitive, wipe-clean keyboard and a 32-character by 24-line display.

Yet, with all this power, the ZX80 is easy to use, even for beginners.



Your course in computing.

-

-4

The ZX80 comes complete with its own 128-page guide to computing. The manual is perfect for both novice and expert. For every chapter of theory, there's a chapter of practice. So you learn by doing—not just by reading. It makes learning easy, exciting and enjoyable.

You'll also receive a catalog packed with items that can make your ZX80 even more useful. Including 27 program cassettes, from games and home budgeting for just \$6.95, to Sinclair's unique Computer Learning Lab (a workbook, six cassettes with 100 lessons, and two cassettes for storing programs).

ZX80's advanced design features.

Sinclair's 4K integer BASIC has performance features you'd expect only on much larger and more expensive computers.

■ Unique 'one touch' entry. Key words (RUN, PRINT, LIST, etc.) have their own single-key entry to reduce typing and save memory space.



Powerful text editing facilities.

Also programmable in machine code.

 Excellent string handling capability—up to 26 string variables of any length.

Graphics, with 22 standard symbols.

 Built-in random number generator for games and simulations.

Sinclair's BASIC places no arbitrary restrictions on you-with many other flexible features, such as variable names of any length.

And the computer that can do so much for you now will do even more in the future. Options will include expansion of 1K user memory to 16K, a plug-in 8K floatingpoint BASIC chip, applications software, and other peripherals.

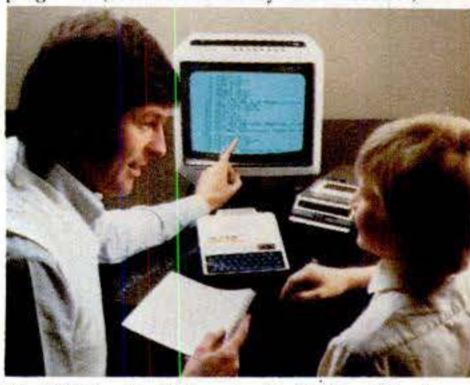
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Who moves more people than VW for less money? It's Ram Tough Dodge's new Mini Ram Wagon.

Compare Dodge Mini Ram 250 to VW Vanagon - passenger seating, mileage, fuel capacity and range, horsepower and rear loading area. Mini Ram gives you more.

Then compare factoryinstalled options like power steering, and your choice of 6 sound systems: all available in Mini Ram. Not in Vanagon.

Now compare price. Mini Ram costs \$2,553 less than Vanagon. For panel-side van buyers, there's a Dodge Van with the same performance, efficiency and interior dimensions as

Here's how Mini Ram beats Vanagon

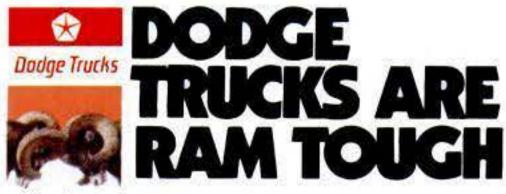
	Dodge Mini Ram Wagon 250	VW Vanagon
Sticker Price (MSRP at base)	\$8,137.00*	\$10,690.00
EPA EST. MPG	18 MPG**	17 MPG**
Horsepower	95	67
Passenger Seating	8	7
Overall Length	178.9"	179.9"
Wheelbase	109.6"	95.8"
Fuel Capacity	36 gal.	15.9 gal.
EPA Est. Range	648 miles**	270 miles**
Side Door Width	49"	42"
Removable Rear Seat	Yes	No
Factory-Installed Air Conditioning	Option	Not Available
Power Steering	Option	Not Available
Color-Keyed Carpeting	Standard	\$410 with int. pkg.

Mini Ram Wagon at a price VW hasn't seen in years - just \$6,418.*

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^{*}Sticker price comparison, excluding title, taxes and destination charges, unadjusted for different levels of standard equipment. Two-tone paint and whitewall tires \$340 extra.

^{**}Use these numbers for comparison. Your mileage and range may differ depending on speed, distance and weather. Calif. est. lower.

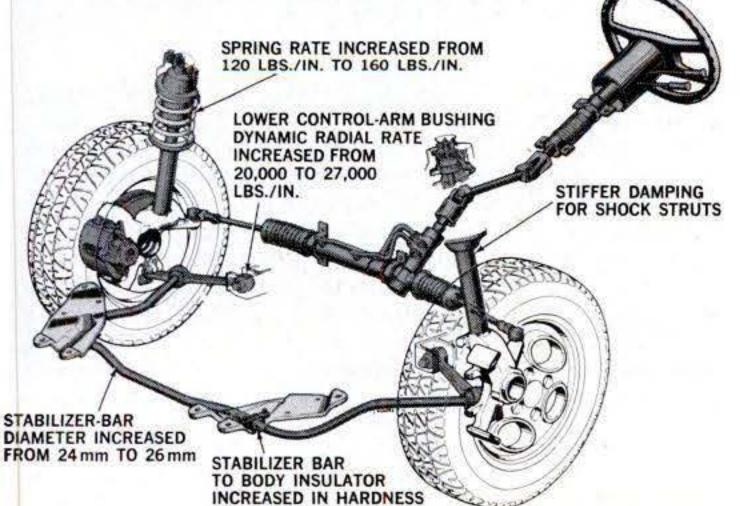
44-mpg two-seaters

Ford EXP/Mercury LN7





Mercury LN7 is a flashy version of the subcompact Lynx introduced last fall. The stylish, sporty coupe features a hatchback that hinges at the roof line. Stiffer suspension gives it sports-car handling; spring and shock rates have been changed to provide a firmer ride and better cornering performance. The suspension changes are shown in drawings below.



By HERBERT SHULDINER

PHOENIX, ARIZ.

Can a tiny car with an engine designed for fuel economy instead of performance offer the flair and excitement of a sports car? That's the question I set out to answer in an all-day test of the Ford EXP and Mercury LN7.

The cars are sporty versions of the Escort/Lynx, built on the same chassis and using the same power-train components. The big difference is that these new personal "sportcoupes," as Ford calls them, are unashamedly designed for two people (although there is an optional rear bench seat for kids and packages) and feature a sleek, sporty aerodynamic design.

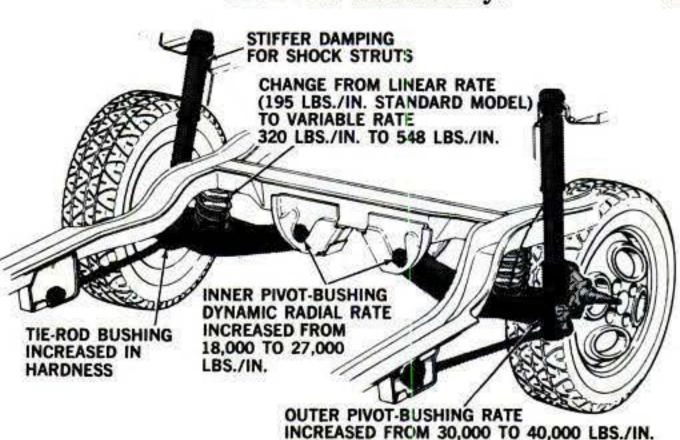
I tested preproduction versions of both cars on smooth, flat interstates and curving mountain roads near here—and finally on the track of Phoenix International Raceway.

The two cars do not act like the conventional Escort/Lynx. Handling is precise, predictable, and has a definite sports-car feel. They behaved perfectly in hard cornering and braking.

In addition, I found no hint of the handling problems the PS auto-test team described in its test of the base Escort [PS, Jan.]. The EXP/LN7 suspension is not sensitive to changes in power. When I deliberately took my foot off the accelerator in high-speed turns, there were no noticeable changes in steering when the wheel was not turned.

The EXP/LN7 standard suspension produces a flat, firm ride. There's almost no lean, even on hard turns. The optional TRX suspension, featuring Michelin TRX tires, improves the EXP/LN7's already good handling characteristics.

While handling is sporty, there's no sports-car performance in acceleration-even with a four-speed manual transmission. The 1.6-liter Escort/ Lynx engine is inadequate for that. And when I drove a model with automatic transmission, performance was even less satisfactory.



CALCU-LETTER

By DARRELL HUFF News of pocket calculators—and how to have fun with them

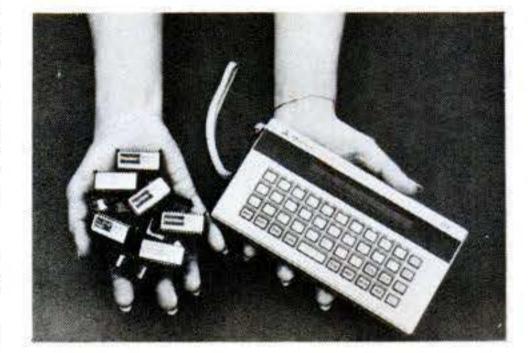
Male-chauvinist calc?

The pocket calculator has produced some odd hybrid offspring lately, including several species that do stopwatch and timekeeping duty. But the ones that are most interesting to me-as a traveler and language buff-are the translators [PS, Feb. '80]. The photo at right shows recent additions to the lineup of capsules for the Quasar Information Processor ["What's New in Electronics," April '80] that let it translate between any two of 14 languages and play word games in any of them.

The clever little machine has a weakness; though: sex. Or gender, to be more precise.

Like many of us when we were tackling

French, Spanish, or German in high school or for travel, it is totally baffled when assigning articles to nouns. It fails not only with the tough ones (why should a French house be feminine?) but with the obvious ones, as well. Asked to translate



"the woman" into Spanish, German, and French, it gives you el mujer, das Dame, and I'femme. It's dead wrong on the first two, which of course should be la mujer and die Dame, and invents an ingenious straddle between le and la on the third.

One interesting and provocative thing about a device like this is the preview it gives of the problems to be faced by designers of more advanced translating calculators and computers. And although feminists may be offended by its predilection for the masculine, you can't help admiring its versatility.

It produces and translates phrases and learning lists as well as words and sentences you write yourself. A touch of its key marked EXT turns it into a four-function calculator (though a slow one lacking memory and constants). It has built-in metric conversions. And, for entertainment, it will play blackjack and other Las Vegas games with you.

Another processor, M100 from Craig, differs slightly in appearance but uses the same modules and does the same chores.

Although listing at a stiff \$200, these processors can often be found at greatly discounted prices. For more information: Craig Corp., Box 5664, Compton, Calif. 90220; Quasar Co., Franklin Park, III. 60131.

CALCU-PUZZLES

Trapdoor angle

The law of cosines is one of the most useful of all tools in solving both mathematical puzzlers and real-life mechanical problems, as the first of January's problems demonstrated. This law tells you that the square of one side of any triangle is equal to the sum of the squares of the other two sides minus twice the product of those two sides and the cosine of the angle between them.

The task that confronted Bob Quinlivan of St. Louis, Mo., was to figure out what angle a skylight or trapdoor 18 inches long moved through when opened eight inches. A sketch quickly shows that the door in its open and closed positions and the eight-in. opening distance form the sides of a non-right triangle. The wanted angle lies between the two 18-in. sides.

Apply the handy law and you find that the cosine of the angle equals 584 divided by 648, or 0.9012345679 (an interesting series of digits, don't you think?). A scientific calculator or trig table will tell you that the arc cosine of this decimal is 25.67917681 degrees. This is expressed more conveniently as 25 degrees, 40 minutes, and 45 seconds.

Packages and pi

Also in the January column, a reader noted that the postal service limits packages to a combined length and girth of 100 inches. He asked you to find the volume and length of the largest allowed package. He also asked for the dimensions of the largest rectangular package-and for the length of the longest stick that would fit into each.

Since a circle offers the most area for a given perimeter, it appears the shape of the largest package will be a cylinder. If the length is called L, the girth (circumference of the base) has to be 100 minus L. The area of the base would be the square of 100 minus L, divided by four times pi-and the volume of the cylinder is that value times L.

Without going beyond this simple algebra and geometry, you can now reach a solution easily by taking advantage of the enormous computing power of your calculator. Testing a few likely guesses will quickly demonstrate that the maximum volume is 11,789.255 cu. in., produced when the length is 331/3 in. Speeding up searches like this is something a programmable is good for.

To meet the stipulation that the package be rectangular, as most packing boxes are, you could begin by observing that a square is the most efficient rectangle in its use of perimeter (which is why a square house beats an oblong one during the heating season). Volume then becomes one side of the base (100 minus L, divided by four) squared, times length. Again, the best length turns out to be one-third the sum of length and girth, though volume is now reduced to 9,259.259259 cu. in.

Now, about those sticks. The diagonal

of the cylindrical package is the hypotenuse of a triangle of which the sides are the length of the cylinder, 331/3 in., and the diameter of its base, 66% in. over pi. Using Pythagoras, you can figure the length of the stick: 39.5149 inches, just over a meter.

You had to use Pythagoras twice to figure the diagonal of the rectangular package: 40.8248 inches. Although the rectangular package is smaller in volume, it will accommodate a longer stick.

In doing and checking these problems a number of times, I found need for a quick way to enter 331/3 and 662/3 precisely. Using the reciprocal key, I found I could enter the first in four strokes (.03, 1/x) and the second in five (.015, 1/x).

One in a million?

Gene Ziegler, who lives in Wilmington, Del., read something recently in a newspaper that aroused his skepticism. His state and three neighbors, Pennsylvania, Maryland, and New Jersey, have daily lotteries in which one number from 000 to 999 is drawn. When the same number came up on the same day in two of the states, a newspaper called it a "one-in-a-million chance." But was the coincidence really as rare and remarkable as all that? How often, according to your calculator, could this be expected to happen? The answer-which I'll admit I found a bit surprising-will be in the May issue.

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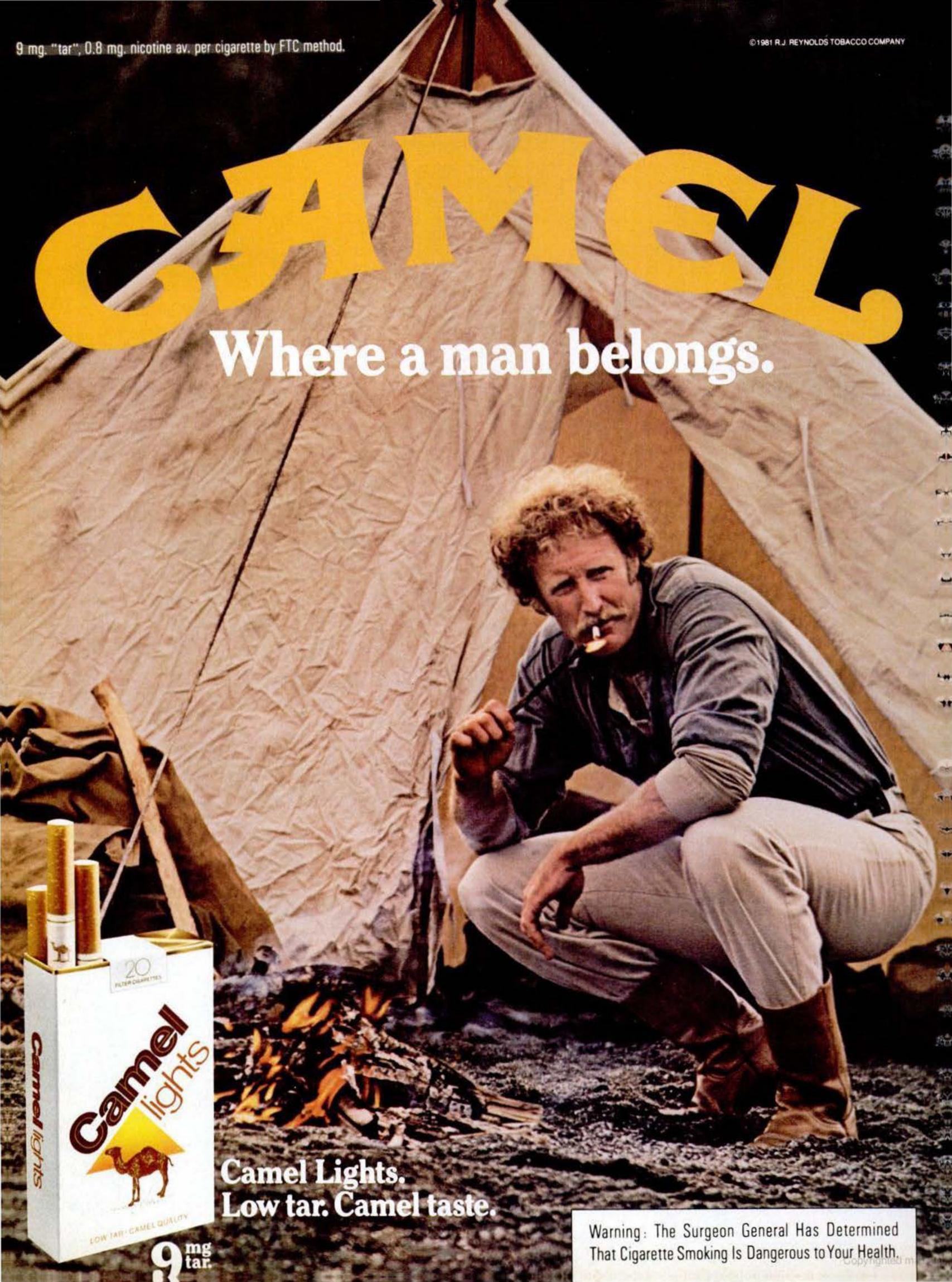
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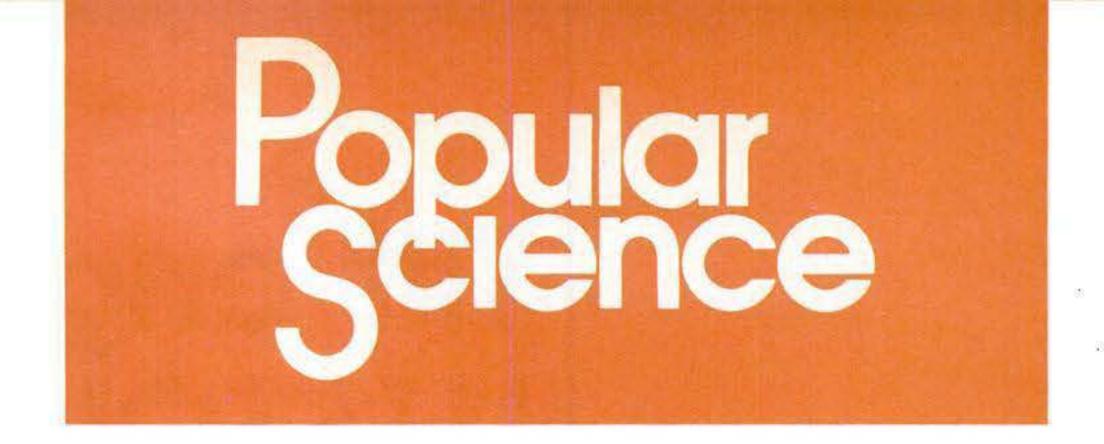
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PS What's News

Airplanes are fast and can get you across the country in a few hours, but they need a lot of real estate for landing and taking off. Helicopters solve that problem but are relatively slow and expensive-not at all suited for long-distance travel. Obviously, a craft that combined the vertical-takeoffand-landing capability of a helicopter with the range and speed of an airplane would be an extremely useful machine. That's why engineers have been working to design such a hybrid for decades.

They've produced a marvelous variety of flying machines, most of which have been featured in the pages of POPULAR SCI-ENCE over the years. But all have suffered from one or more problems. Now there's a new candidate that combines some old approaches in new ways. The team at Grumman responsible for designing it hopes that this time it will all be right.

One surprising thing about the new tiltengine V/STOL on this month's cover is that while it may not appear so at first glance, it is a direct descendant of a strange-looking plane called the Nutcracker. You may remember that curious craft, which appeared on our September 1976 cover. In that version, the fuselage was hinged just behind the wings, and the entire rear half of the plane—with engines attached-tilted to direct thrust downward and allow hovering.

Eventually, various problems forced abandonment of that approach, but the work led to the current concept. The story of how the new design developed and why the engineers think they may be on the verge of solving an old problem this time begins on page 72. The cover painting is by Dean Ellis, who, by the way, also did the Nutcracker cover back in 1976.

Future engines

You've seen a lot of potentially important new engines discussed in these pages, among them stratified-charge, gas-turbine, and Stirling-cycle engines. They all appear to offer certain advantages in fuel economy, efficiency, and ability to use a wide range of fuels. Thus they have all been considered as candidates to replace the more conventional spark-ignited internal-combustion and diesel engines that power today's cars.

It isn't going to happen, at least not in the next decade. That's the opinion of John B. Heywood, professor of mechanical engineering at MIT and director of the MIT Sloan Automotive Laboratory, and his colleague, John Wilkes. The two authorities, writing in the MIT publication, Technology Review, say that despite all the excitement stirred up by the novel engines, the fact is that no alternative engine ready for production is clearly better than conventional engines in efficiency, operating convenience, and cost. And doing the research and development needed to bring any one of them to that state would take at least five and probably ten years. The device closest to production is the stratified-charge engine, they say. But it seems unlikely that the development will be done in this decade.

The only real possibility for mass marketing of a new kind of propulsion system anytime soon, they say, lies in the electric vehicle. A specialized car, useful only for short-range urban use, can be brought to the stage of development necessary for large-scale production within the next few years. In fact, that work is now under way. Also, there would be enough demand for such a vehicle to make the project economically viable.

Satellite-to-you TV

The Communications Satellite Corporation has filed an application with the FCC to establish a direct satellite-to-home television service. Susan Renner-Smith, in her article in March 1978, pointed out that the technology to make such a system possible is already available. With the signal generated by a high-powered satellite, customers would pick up the programs with a two- or three-foot dish antenna and a decoder. Equipment would cost \$300-\$400.

Comsat says that the new service would offer three channels of programming, one of them on the air 24 hours a day. They would include:

- A general entertainment channel that would provide motion pictures, pop concerts, stage productions, etc.
- A cultural channel that would offer news, performing arts, discussion, film classics, and children's programs.
- A third channel for sports, adult education, and experimental theatre.

The service would cost about \$25 a month, or \$14 if the customer buys his own antenna and decoder. Comsat says it would concentrate on sparsely settled areas where cable and other usual forms of television are not available. Despite this announced policy, the establishment of the service will be fought by commercial broadcasters who view it as competition. They may try to get Congress to outlaw direct satellite-to-home TV. And Comsat officials predict that even with FCC approval they couldn't launch the program for three, possibly four years.

Brief looks

- Want to invest in wind power? Southern California Edison has invited investors to join in developing wind parks to generate electricity. SCE says that if anybody is interested in financing wind parks, it will contract to buy the electricity generated. SCE has one such wind park of its own now under construction in San Gorgonio Pass near Palm Springs, Calif., and says it hopes to have 120 megawatts of "firm generating capacity" installed in time to meet requirements for the 1990's.
- General Dynamics Convair Division has developed a space truss designed to function as a basic element in very large space structures, such as orbiting power stations. The 26-ft.-long demonstration beam would go into space folded into a neat package about the size of an average enclosed car-top carrier. Once in orbit, it would fold out to become an extremely light (3.25 pounds per running foot) but rigid beam. Jim Schefter's article on space construction [PS, March '79] showed how such beams would be used to build giant permanent space stations.
- Want to get into a growing field? Consider solar energy. The Batelle Institute of Columbus, Ohio, has just released the results of a study of the employment prospects for the field. In 1978, the survey found, about 22,500 people were involved in research, development, manufacturing, and installation of solar-energy devices. That number has now jumped to 45,000, and should reach 67,500 by 1983.

Editor-in-Chief

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Tilt-engine V/STOL

cruises at jet speeds, hovers like a copter

Sophisticated new engines give this "Son of Nutcracker" amazing maneuverability

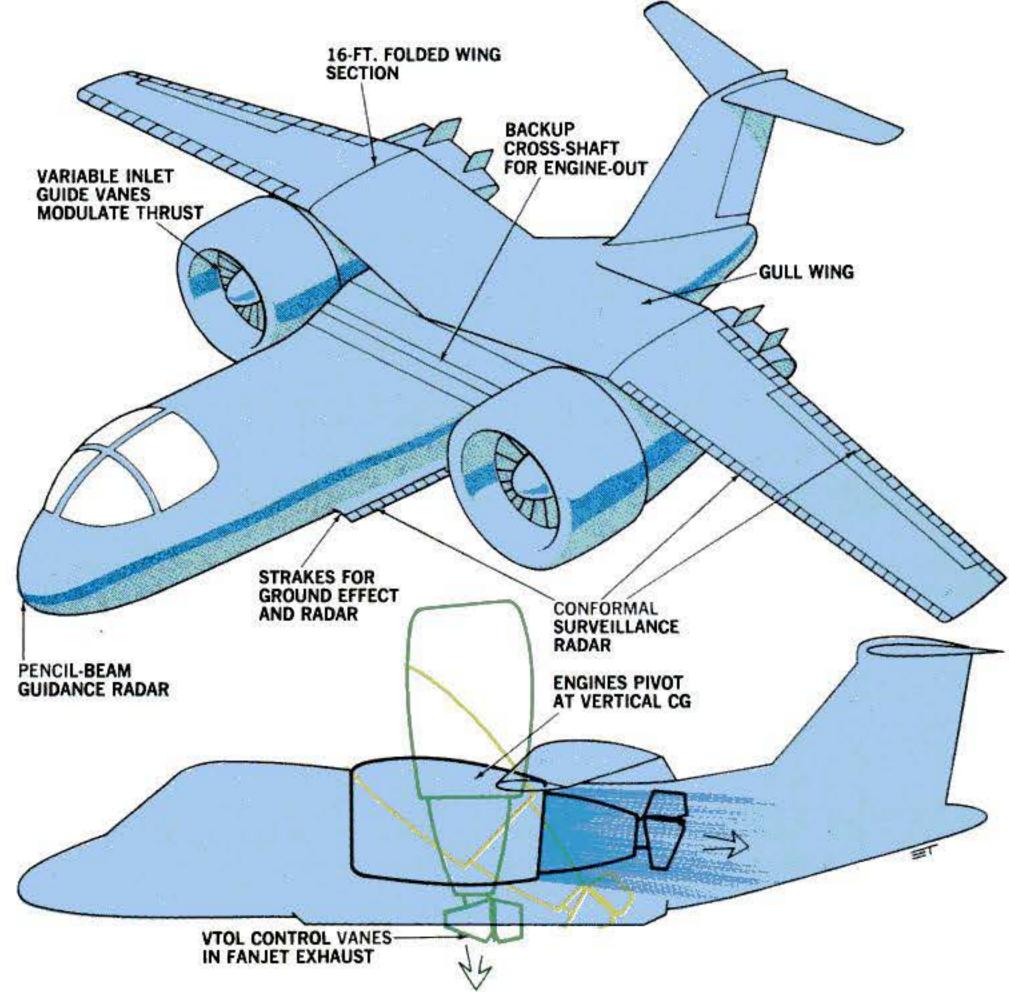
By BEN KOCIVAR

"This is the concept that could revolutionize our Navy." That's what experts are saying about Grumman's Design 698, the craft pictured on these pages and on the cover. To learn why, I visited Bob Kress, Grumman's director of advanced concepts.

At first glance, the shiny-white, seven-foot-long, radio-controlled model didn't look very different from a conventional Navy reconnaissance plane. True, the fanjet (also called turbofan) engines tucked under the gull wing did seem outlandishly large for the size of the plane. But what makes it revolutionary?

The answer, Kress told me, is that these engines can tilt from horizontal to vertical, for both fast forward flight and vertical takeoff and landing. Moreover, Design 698 tackles the problems that have plagued V/STOL planes of the past, including other tiltengine designs. The result, according to Kress: It promises to combine capabilities that no other Navy or Air Force plane has. For example, it will be able to:

- Take off and land vertically from a heaving destroyer or cargo ship.
- Take off in less than 200 feet with overloads such as critical cargo and long-range missiles.
- Fly more than 1,000 miles and reach altitudes of 50,000 feet.
- Take over the functions of a halfdozen other specialized planes, includ-



Control vanes mounted behind each nacelle react to high-pressure air flowing behind each fanjet engine and pivot with the engine for vertical or forward flight.

ing "over the horizon" surveillance with a novel airborne radar (called "conformal" because it conforms to the shape of the plane) and other sensors that track enemy planes, missiles, ships, submarines, and even moving ground targets.

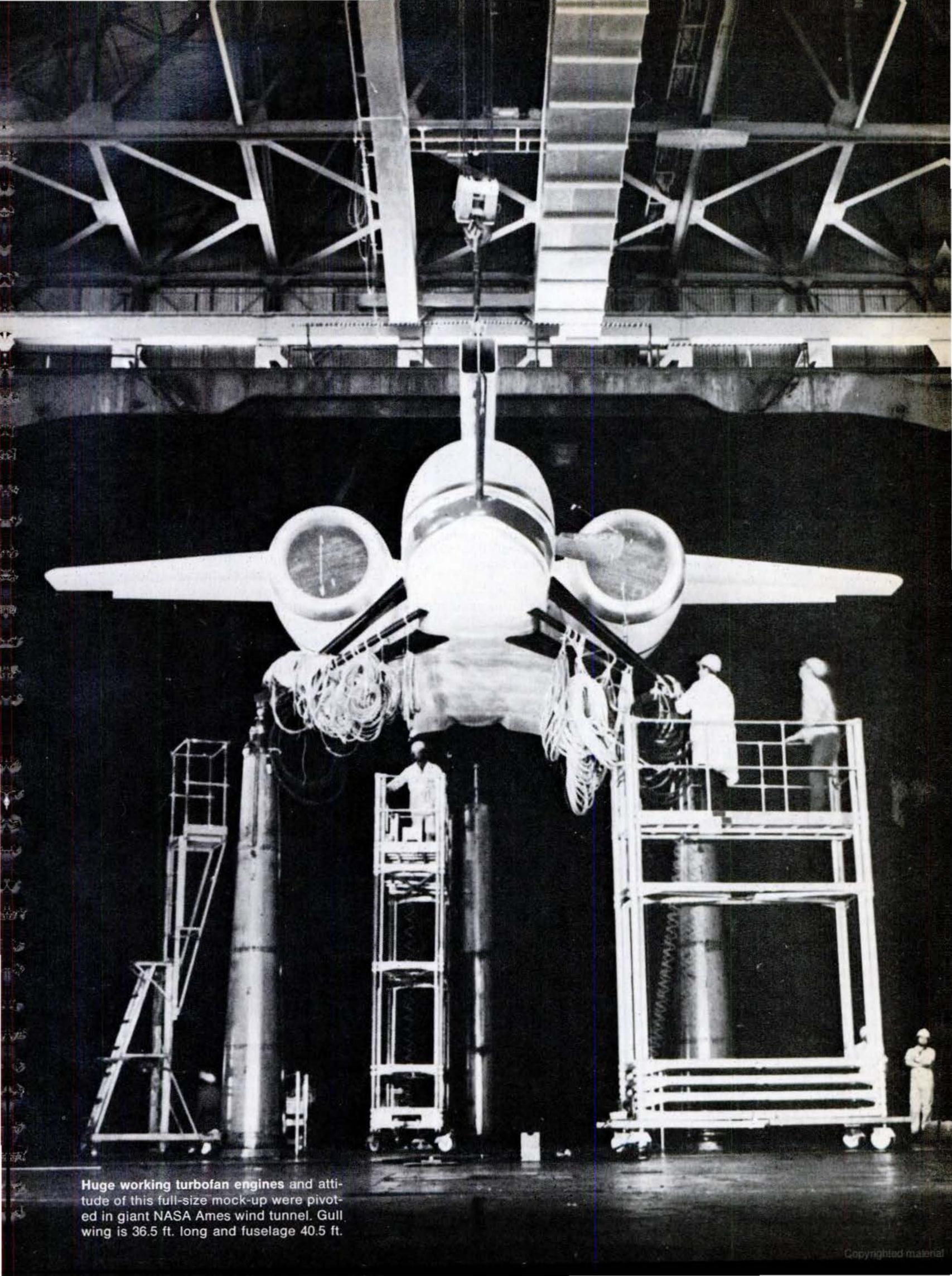
The history of past efforts in V/STOL aircraft, and an account of

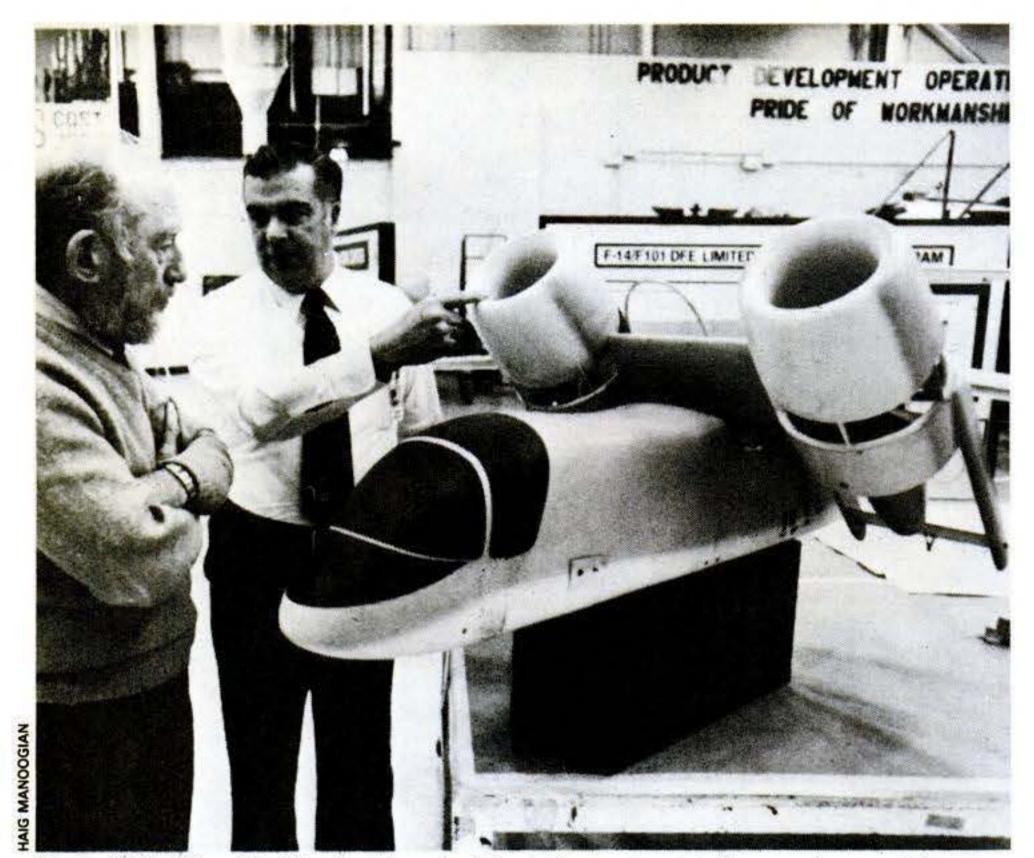
Vanes provide yaw and pitch control. Roll control comes from varying angle of inlet guide vanes ahead of fan blades, controlling thrust differential for each engine.

how engineers are attempting to overcome their handicaps in Design 698, is typical of the trial-and-error evolution of modern aviation.

All the V/STOL planes until now suffered from problems of power, precise control in the hovering engine, and/or high fuel consumption. For

Continued





How rigid "dumbbell" structure holds engines for pivoting is explained by designer Kress to author Kocivar. Model-

plane two-stroke engines with props inside ducts perform like turbofans in this radio-controlled model.

example, the British Harrier V/STOL fighter uses much of its fuel while hovering for only 10 minutes.

In the 1950's, I saw three tail-sitter research designs made by Lockheed, Convair, and Ryan being tested at Edwards Flight Test Center in California. The fuselages of the planes were in vertical position for vertical takeoff and landing, with the pilots on their backs in the cockpit. Visibility and orientation for the pilots as well as control in gusty conditions were problems in the delicate operation of backing down to the ground.

Research planes made in Germany included a transport design with eight jet engines, the DO-31. Four engines, positioned at the wingtips for lift, blasted such high-pressure streams of hot air downward that they dug holes in the ground. Other designs pursued in England, France, and Italy, as well as the U.S., tried separate engines for lift and forward thrust, vectored thrust, fans mounted in the wings for vertical lift using the same engines used for forward flight, tilting ducted fans, and tilting rotors, as in the Bell/ NASA Army XV-15 [PS, Feb. '78], two models of which are now flying.

Fountain effect

One basic obstacle is the mission assigned to the lift engines. They must not only be powerful enough to lift the craft and payload vertically, but must have enough excess power

for control. This is made more difficult by the "fountain effect" close to the ground. Hot engine exhaust hits the surface, flows up and then down again in a fountain of air. This entraps air next to it, causing a larger downward flow at the same time the heated air reingested by the jet engine causes a drop in thrust—just at the instant when most thrust is needed.

These problems have been attacked in the Grumman design by using newtechnology turbofans, which have important advantages.

- They develop more power and use less fuel.
- Their exhaust is much cooler than that of a straight jet because the air blown back by the fan not only provides most of the thrust, it also flows back outside the jet engine and mixes with hot engine-core air. The result is a relatively cool exhaust.
- New automatic controls operated by microcomputers provide the fine sensitivity for precise control needed while the plane is landing aboard a heaving ship.

Bob Kress calls Design 698 "Son of Nutcracker." It is, he says, a much improved version of an earlier concept he had proposed, one that had a folding fuselage. It was this device, rather than tilting engines, that changed the orientation of the engines for the transition from forward to vertical flight [PS, Sept. '76]. Nutcracker is on hold because it required a complex, auto-

matic, crane-like probe to hook its nose and bring it aboard ship for a landing. The new concept needs no such hardware.

"The concept is simple enough," says Kress, "but making it work has brought some surprises." One, early in the design stages, came after Kress had built his first model of the new plane on his kitchen table out of balsa wood and Styrofoam. Following the example of many advanced designs for the 1990's, Kress incorporated a canard—a small forward wing—to ensure aerodynamic balance. Most similar designs have center of gravity forward of the main wing and need the canard for lift up front.

But as research and testing progressed, Kress found that the canard wasn't needed. The round nacelles of the engines in front of the wing actually provided enough lift in forward flight, so out went the canard.

Design 698, the Navy plane of the future envisaged by Kress and other experts, has a conventional elevator and rudder, besides the gull wing and the pivoting turbofan engines. Behind each engine, directly in the exhaust path, is a set of movable guide vanes. These vanes enable the pilot to control the plane when it is hovering and there is not enough airflow over the regular aerodynamic tail surfaces.

In flight

With engines set straight up, the pilot would take off from a small helicopter-sized platform aboard a high-speed destroyer-like ship. At 50 feet off the deck, he slides forward a bit and builds speed. The automatically programmed engines tilt forward and nose the plane up, with lift developed from the gull wing. Within 20 seconds, the craft becomes wingborne, and the speed reaches about 500 mph within two minutes.

Returning from his mission, the pilot can land on a runway as in a conventional plane. He can also set down on a small ship equipped with a pad, even if it is heaving and bucking in waves up to 15 feet high.

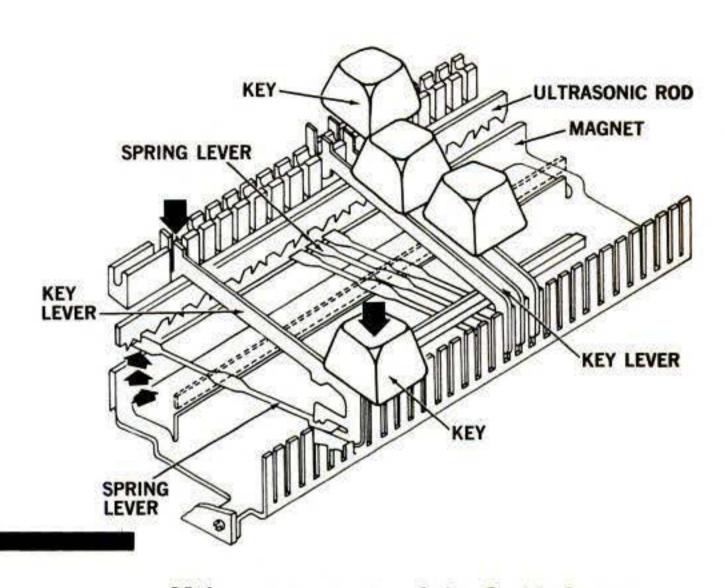
For such a tricky landing the pilot reduces power almost to idle, and at 600 feet slows the plane to about 120 mph. Now the nose is tilted up, and the wing's angle of attack is about 12 degrees—enough to provide the required lift. The pilot presses a button on the throttle that starts the engines tilting up automatically and increases power. Even with the increase in power, the plane slows; within 20 seconds the engines are tilted full up. Now the pilot controls his flight path and descent rate with engine power. At

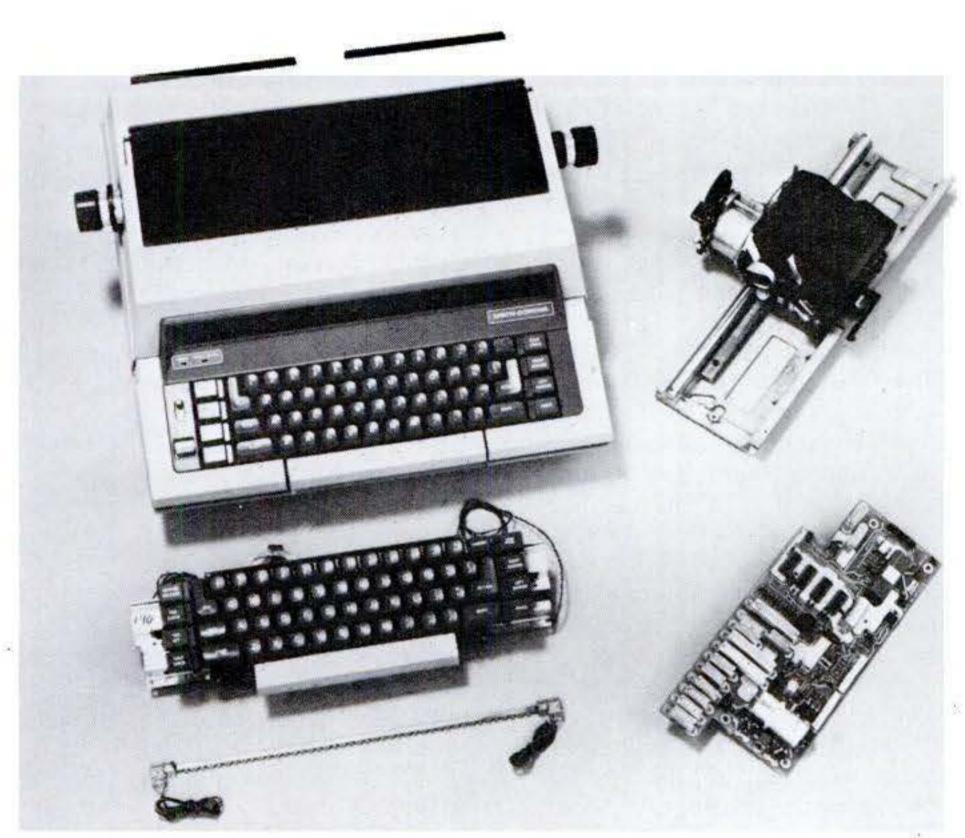
[Continued on page 138]

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Electronic typewriter

has ultrasonic keyboard





Sound waves help identify the keys—and minimize the number of parts used

By JOHN FREE

Something was missing. I'd just flipped up the cover of a new Smith-Corona Typetronic typewriter. Inside was a puzzling amount of empty space. But eliminating the pulleys, gears, levers, and wires that jam standard electromechanical typewriters was precisely what SCM Corp. planned when it substituted a unique ultrasonic rod and microelectronic "brain" in its office typing machine.

Modern technology not only eliminates up to half the failure-prone mechanical parts of standard machines but makes it possible to price Typetronic under \$900. SCM's new machine prints with a so-called daisywheel mechanism, widely used with computer hardware. (It cannot, however, store sentences in memory, display text before it's printed, or expand its functions through software [programs], features included in costlier electronic office cousins.)

The ultrasonic rod is a steel bar with teeth corresponding to positions on the keyboard. This simple but ingenious device helps Typetronic transfer keystrokes to the print wheel. When you push a key, a simple mechanical sequence results in one tooth on the bar being struck (diagram). Ultrasonic waves then travel toward both ends of the rod, where crystal transducers are located. These crystals help convert the sound waves into signals that

Major components of the Smith-Corona Typetronic (clockwise from upper right in photo): print-wheel and cassette-ribbon mechanism, electronic-circuit board, ultrasonic rod, keyboard. Depressing a key (above) moves a key lever that, in turn, strikes the spring lever. This lever hits the ultrasonic rod and is pulled back to the magnet. Sound waves from the rod enable a microcircuit to determine what key has been struck.

can be recognized by the typewriter's "brain." This custom microcircuit is a very-large-scale integrated (VLSI) chip with the equivalent of 30,000 transistors.

By calculating the difference between pulse-arrival times at the crystals, the microcircuit determines what letter to print. Keystroke identification is also aided by tooth shapes, which vary the type of ultrasonic signal received.

The microcircuit then signals the print wheel on its movable carriage. SCM has introduced low-cost wheels made with glass-reinforced nylon that install in seconds to change type styles. Each wheel has narrow spokes, like petals on a flower, with characters on the ends. As the print wheel spins the right letter into place, a plunger whacks the "petal" against ribbon and paper.

New features on Typetronic help reduce typing errors. A memory-correction system lets you erase the last 10 letters typed using one key. I ran my finger across the keyboard to check its speed-cushion feature. After a split-second pause, the machine typed each randomly pressed letter. This memory capability compensates for typing bursts (up to 800 words per minute).

By eliminating from one-third to one-half the parts of conventional office electrics, SCM expects big gains in reliability. But when servicing is needed, a diagnostic tester has been designed to spot malfunctions.

How Tennessee homeowners get a SOICAL CASSIST

With utility financing, a sun-powered water heater pays for itself—instantly

By TRAVIS PRICE

Travis Price, an architect and planner for Price & Partners, Tacoma Park, Md., was a principal in Sun Harvester Corp., which provided technical assitance for the TVA solar program.

Anyone considering going solar runs smack into an economic fact of life: The initial equipment and installation costs are considerable, and it may take many years of reduced fuel bills before the system pays for itself. The federal tax-credit program is a help, but for a residential solar hot-water system, for example, the homeowner still has to put up about \$1,000—an investment he may not recover for 10 or more years.

Not in Tennessee, though. The Tennessee Valley Authority, the government-owned utility in the Southeast, is offering customers long-term, low-interest loans for solar water heaters. The homeowner pays nothing up front, but pays back the loan in regular monthly electric bills that are equal to or less than what he'd been paying before. Going solar becomes an instant break-even proposition.

Solar showcase

So far, 950 Memphis residents are participating in the TVA program, which has now been extended to Nashville and will ultimately include 100,000 households in seven states throughout the Tennessee River Valley.

"TVA is going for the sun," says S. David Freeman, chairman of the utility. "People in the valley will be able to regain control of their energy destiny in a way that will be inflationproof."

How can TVA afford to be so altruistic? It can't—and it isn't. The utility profits by reducing peak loads and saving the cost of future power-plant and distribution-line construction. By passing these savings along to the customers in the form of low-cost financing, TVA hopes to offer a solar show-case for the nation. Additional benefits of the program are reliable solar components on a regular maintenance schedule, lower kilowatt-hour charges to all customers, and a shot in the arm for the local economy.

The solar hot-water system differs from one a homeowner might ordinarily install: It has two storage tanks and a timer that prohibits backup electrical heating during peak hours, usually eight a.m. to six p.m. Since peak demand is always the most costly for a utility to satisfy, the program will benefit TVA by shaving its peaks. The backup tank is sized so it can charge during off-peak hours and still hold enough hot water for a family.

Here's how the program works for the homeowner: After he applies and is accepted (if his site receives sufficient sunlight), a TVA-certified crew installs the system—two or three collectors, two storage tanks, timer, pumps, piping, controls, and insulation. The components and installation come to \$2,000-\$2,500, but he pays nothing.

On subsequent utility bills the homeowner begins to repay the capital cost and 3.37 percent interest, plus a \$1-a-month maintenance charge. Over a 20-year loan period the customer will pay about \$17 a month, including an average of \$4 for electri-

cal backup. This is roughly equal to what he'd been paying previously for 100 percent electrical heating.

Also, the customer may claim the federal tax credit right away and show a profit in his first year of solar. And the likely eight percent annual increase in utility rates will have less impact. In 10 years he will still be paying only about \$20 a month for hot water while his nonsolar neighbor will be paying close to \$40. After 20 years he will fully own his solar system and will pay only for the electricity he uses as backup.

Long showers

"We have more hot water than we ever had before," says Katherine Taylor, a Memphis resident who has been living with her solar system for about a year. The system is designed for a 70 percent solar contribution, but this figure depends a lot on family attitudes. Some people think that solar heating means they can shower twice as long. They are disappointed to find their electric bills are still high. In other homes the solar system spurs family members to conserve wherever possible; then the solar contribution approaches 100 percent.

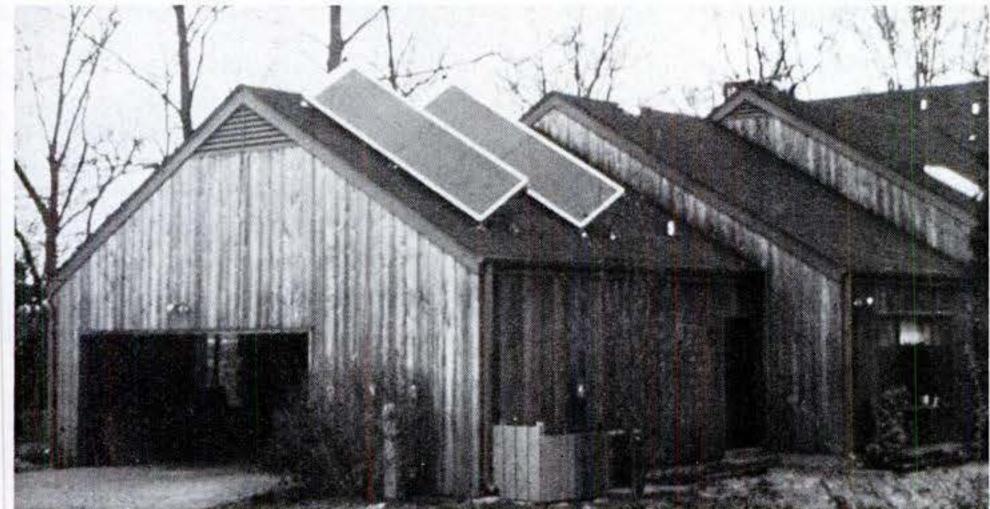
TVA considers the solar program as additional installed capacity. The 100,000 residential solar hot-water systems will eliminate the need to build one nuclear reactor. The difference is that the solar program is decentralized and uses free renewable energy, while large power plants are centralized and use depletable resources with questionable future availability.

By applying the same economic standards to small solar installations as traditionally have been applied to large power plants, the utility not *

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Going for the sun: Memphis homes get free hot water without initial investment.

only promotes solar energy, but lowers the cost of electricity to all customers (right now about three cents per kilowatt-hour, one of the lowest rates in the country).

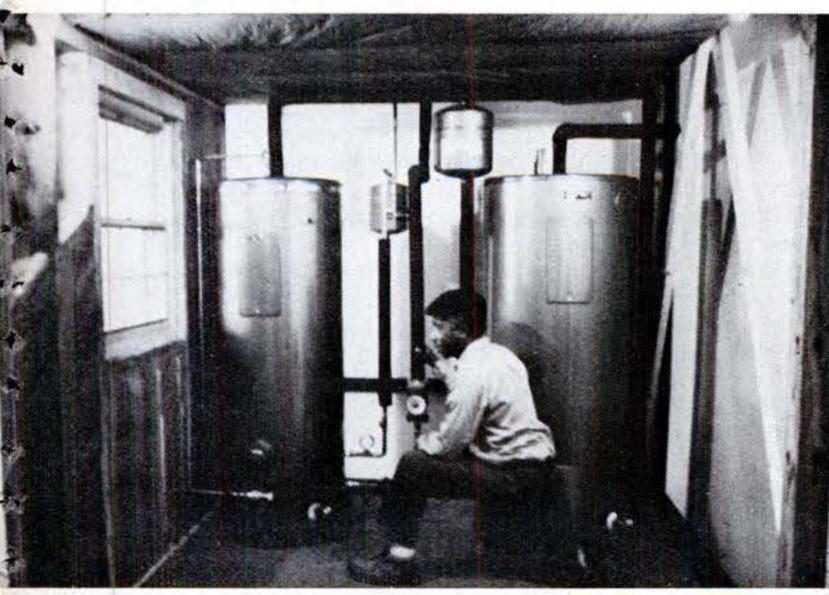
In addition, the program gives a boost to the local economy by buying solar components from small, area companies and by training and employing local people to install the systems. If power plants were constructed instead, those dollars would go to huge industrial suppliers and outside contractors. Even management of the project is assigned to a local firm, New Memphis Development Corp.

By the same economic criteria, TVA will help homeowners with any energy-saving installation. TVA has financed heat pumps, home insulation, even new construction of passive solar homes. Any installation that helps the utility cut its load, especially its peak load, is eligible for TVA loans.

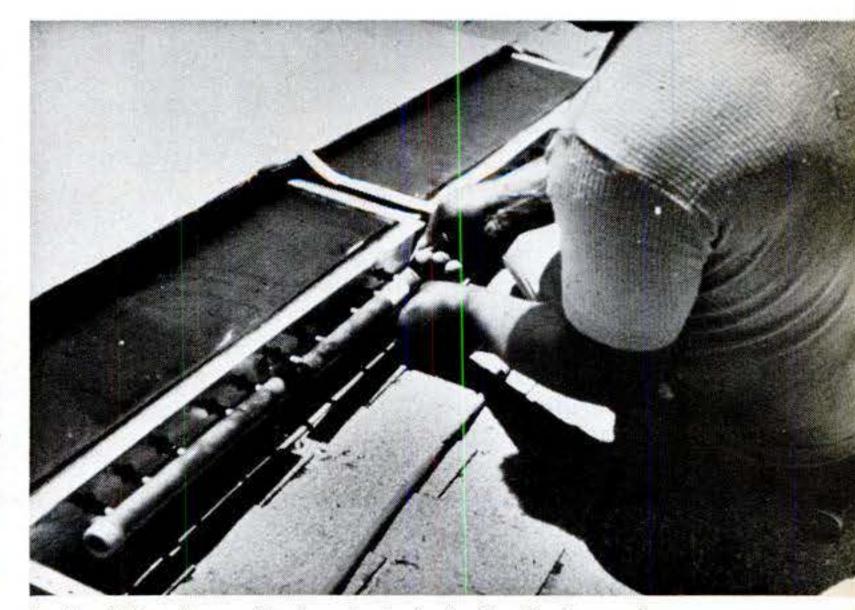
Starting a trend?

Could other electric utilities around the country establish similar programs? They could, but right now there is no incentive for them to do so. As a government agency, TVA is not in business like most electric companies, which must show a profit. Legislation is in the works in Congress and in many states, however, that would allow utilities to build a profit margin into loan programs like TVA's.

Utilities can get in the solar business now without waiting for largescale projects, such as solar towers and photovoltaic power plants, to become economically feasible. By financing residential installations, they can become the bank account for each individual's solar purchase.



TVA's secret: two storage tanks. To shave grid peaks, timer prevents daytime electrical charging of backup tank. Second tank



holds 120 gallons of hot water to last a family through one sunless day. Certified crews install and service the solar heaters.



By BEN KOCIVAR PHOTOGRAPHS BY C. CUNNINGHAM

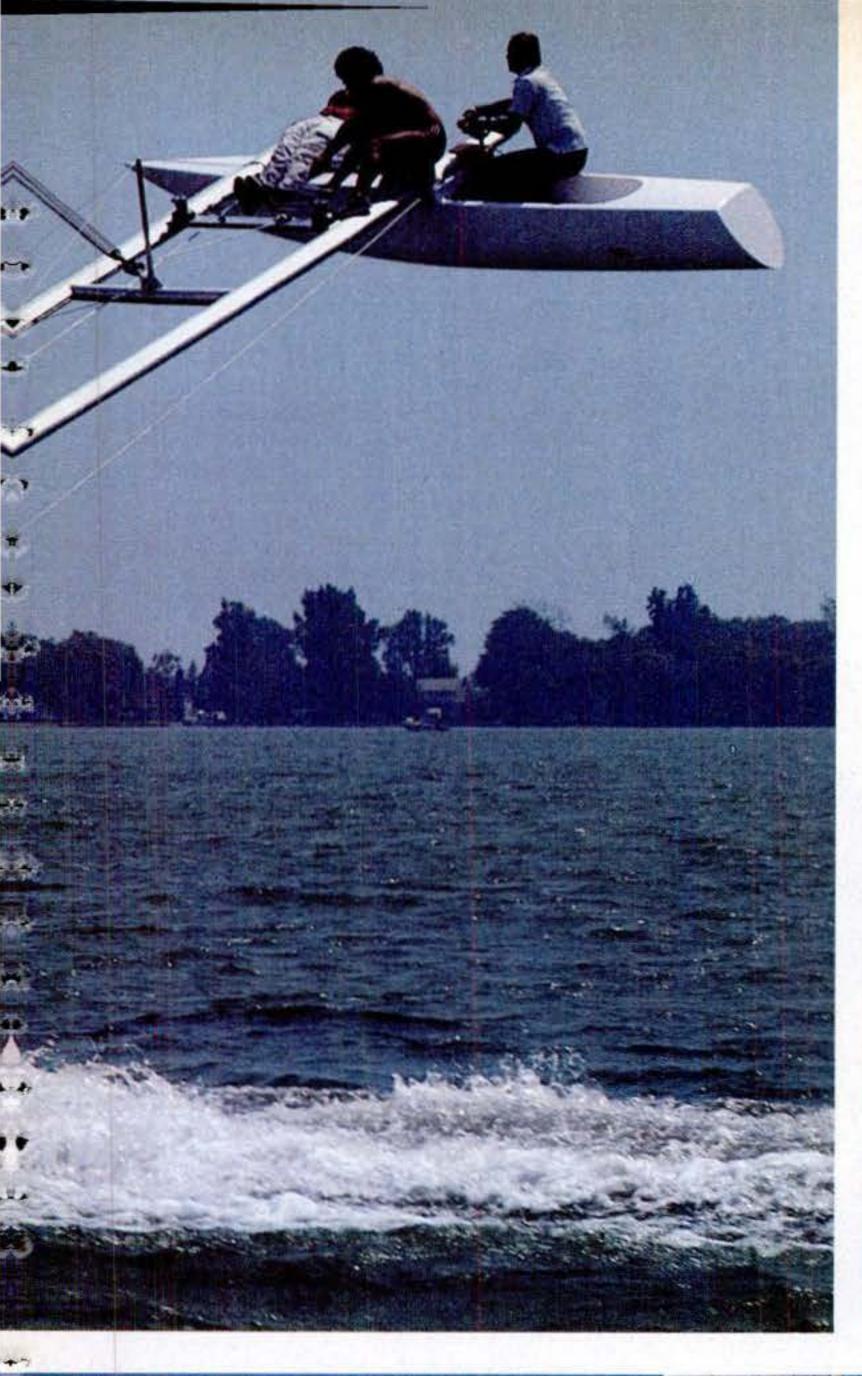
The meter nudged past the 20-knot mark as we skimmed across the sparkling Atlantic. I felt a rare, soaring sensation. I'd experienced it beforeon a high-performance sailplane just before takeoff. But this time I was riding high on one hull of a big trimaran skippered by ocean racer Phil Weld.

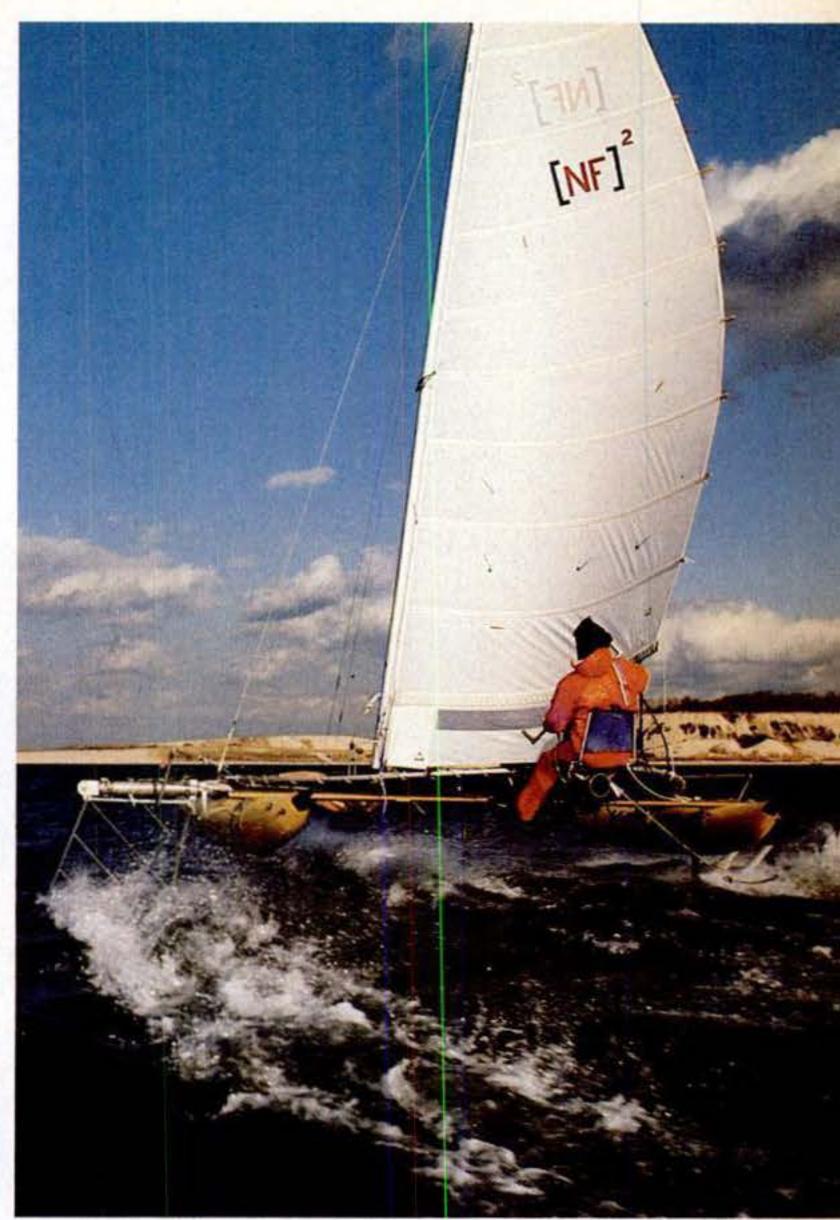
Such heady speeds are taken for granted by Weld and other racers. The quest for speed under sail has inspired innovative boat designs. The latest record-shattering racers, all multihulls, owe most of their sleek lines to aerodynamics research, and their lightweight construction to the use of modern materials technology.

The records set are impressive. The world sailing speed record, set in 1977, is 33.8 knots on a 500-meter course. The record holder is an unusual English sprinting catamaran with a pair of sails mounted on each hull. This speedy cat actually sprinted to

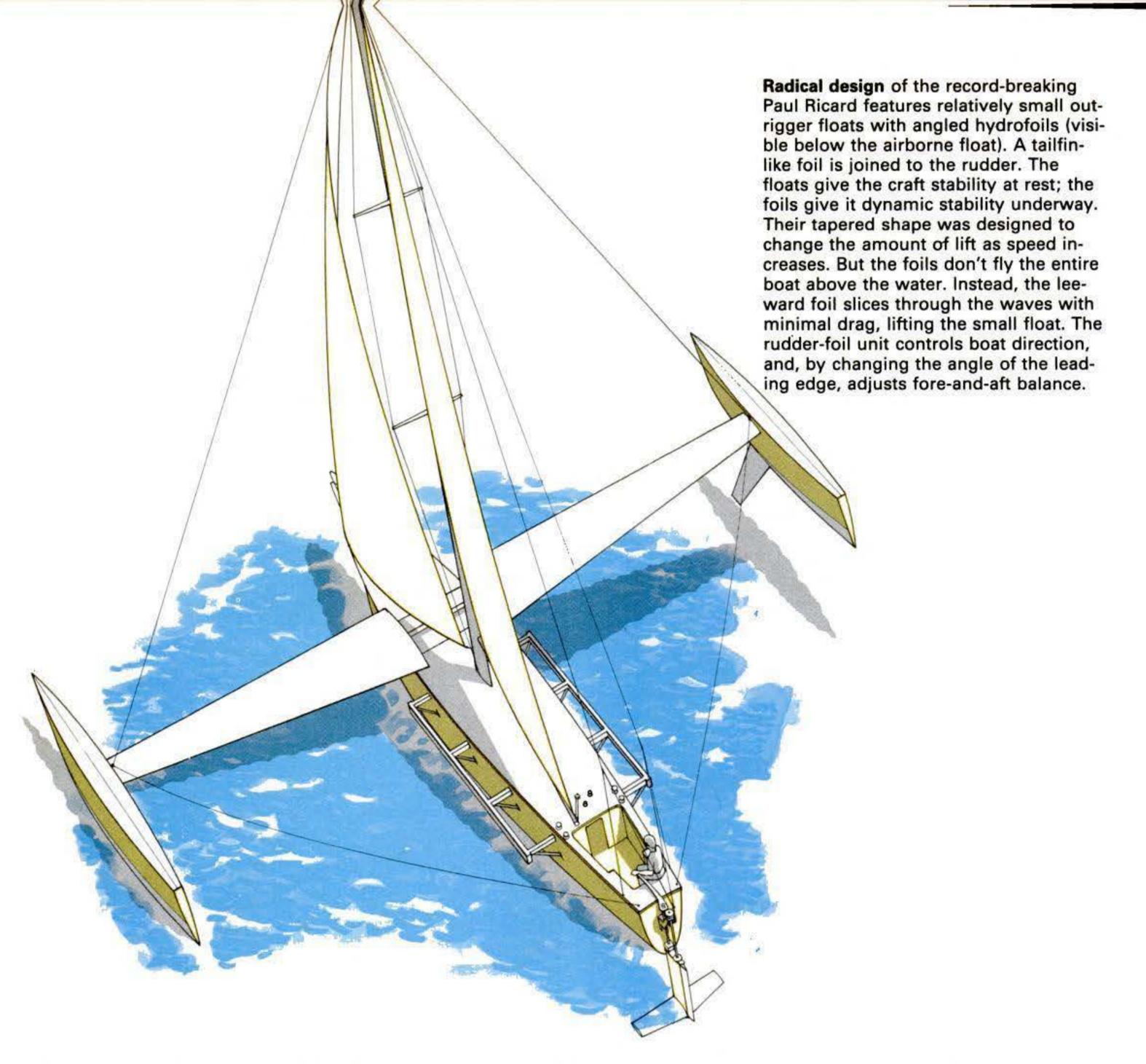
With record-breaking Moxie (lower right), Phil Weld triumphantly finishes his solo transatlantic voyage. Open webbing between main hull and outer floats was needed to reduce the area subject to ocean winds gusting under the lightweight craft-and maybe flipping it. At 10,000 lbs., the 51-ft. Moxie is about 56,000 lbs. lighter than a typical 65-ft. America's Cup racer. This light weight is vital for speed. Two other advanced, lightweight racers, Slingshot (above) and NF2 (above right), may also set startling new speed records, according to their designers. NF2 (short for "neither fish nor fowl") was designed by student engineers led by Professor Sam Bradfield of N.Y. State's Stony Brook University. The craft's 14-ft. rubber hulls come from a production boat—a Semperit inflatable catamaran. But hydrofoils added to the hulls make the craft fly as no production boat can. The foils slice through waves, creating lift so the boat actually rises out of water. NF2 has set a C-class record of 24.5 knots-its ultimate speed in a 20-knot wind may be 30 knots. Ultimate speed for the Slingshot could be as high as 45 knots in a 25-knot wind, says designer George Thomas. Slingshot weighs only 1,500 lbs. The crew must hang on as ballast to keep the flying outrigger from flipping the boat. The 40-ft. outriggers are linked to the 60-ft. main hull by 40-ft.-long aluminum sliding crossbars. For each run, the crossbars are slid out to windward so the leeward outrigger tucks up against the hull, keeping it from dragging through the water. Moxie and Slingshot are made of the same wood-epoxy material, the West System, developed by Gougeon Bros. of Bay City, Mich.

Continued









over 45 knots during one brief puff.

But speed records are not limited to dashes across calm waters. Last year trimarans set new standards for transatlantic crossings. Four of the first five finishers in the OSTAR (Observer Single-handed Transatlantic Race) were trimarans. This Britishsponsored race pits solo sailors against the almost 3,400 miles of ocean between Plymouth, England, and Newport, R.I. The 1980 winner, America's Phil Weld, set a new speed record. The 65-year-old racer crossed in his 51-ft. trimaran, Moxie, in 17 days, 23 hours, 12 minutes.

Shortly after this race, Frenchman Eric Tabarly set a new record going the opposite way. The Paul Ricard, a 54-ft. trimaran, crossed the Atlantic west to east in 12 days, four hours, one minute, breaking a 72-year-old record.

Why the spurt of record breaking? Dick Newick, the naval architect who's designed many super-fast multihulls, including Weld's Moxie and Roy Nugent's proa, Godiva [PS, July '80], cites several reasons.

Multihulls like Moxie, says Newick, have long, slender hulls that go easily through a chop without tossing the rig about too much. This helps keep the sails at the most efficient angle to the wind. The skinny hulls don't have to push aside as much water as typical displacement keel boats. As a result, a lightweight multihull's speed is not determined by the traditional displacement formula (speed in knots equals 1.35 times the square root of the waterline length in feet). Because of this difference, the 54-ft. Paul Ricard was able to beat the time of the 186-ft. Atlantic, the 1908 record-setter, exceeding its average speed by a full knot.

Ultralight construction methods also boost speed, says Newick. Moxie, for example, has a core of thin plywood that's sheathed with polypropyl-

ene cloth, then coated with epoxy resin. The epoxy protects the wood from humidity that could increase weight.

The Paul Ricard is also lightweight. "It's made of welded aluminum using the same technology the French use to build the Concorde," says Newick.

Compared to monohulls, multihulls make better use of the wind. Their wide bases tend to heel over less at the start of a run, so more of the wind's force is converted to forward drive.

Hydrofoils, such as those on the Paul Ricard, also boost speed. These airfoil-shaped fins provide underwater lift just as a plane's wing does in the air. "Actually," notes Newick, "hydrofoils have been around for a while—in the form of rudders and centerboards. But using them to make sailboats 'fly' is new."

Such advances not only bring new excitement to sport sailing; they prove that today's technology can make more efficient use of the wind.

High-tech hi-fi

brings new realism to performances

Digital and other circuits bring heart-stopping crescendos, velvety silence

By JOHN FREE

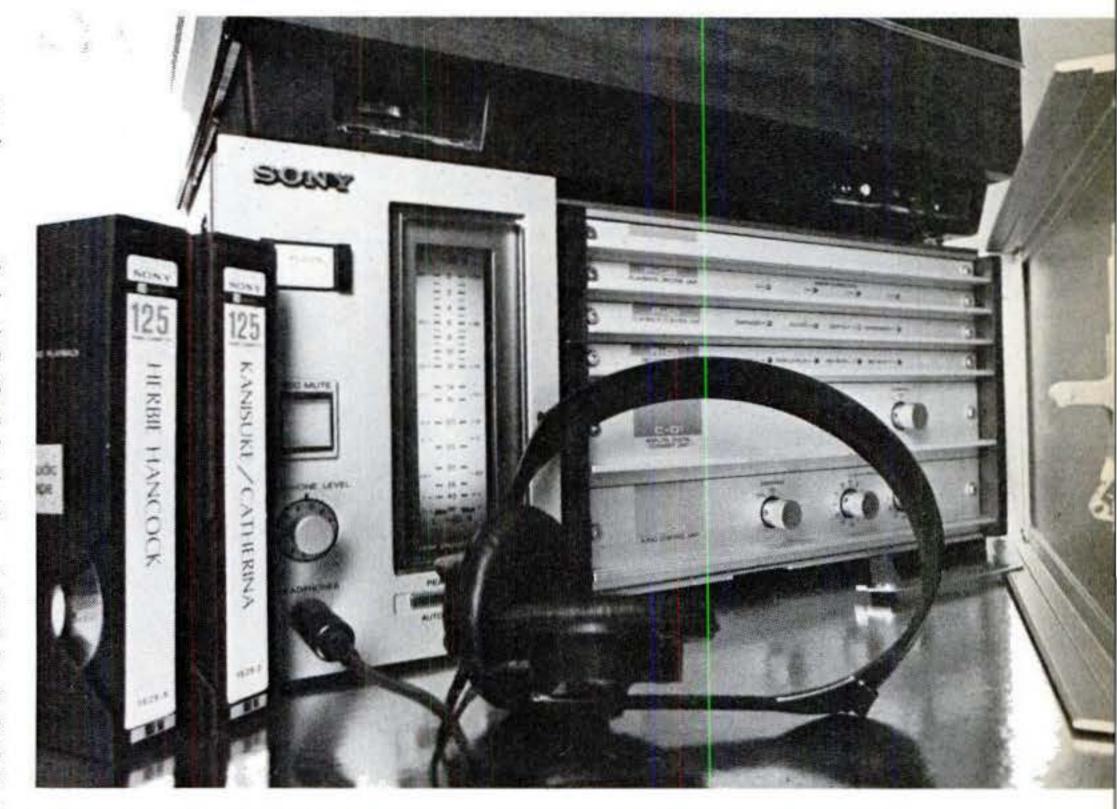
I pushed the START button on JVC's QL-Y5F turntable. The pickup arm—curiously bulky for an ultramodern disc player—began seeking out the record's lead-in grooves. Before it arrived, I pushed a switch labeled EXTERNAL PROCESSOR on a Carver preamp that bristled with push buttons. That put a small dbx decoder box into the playback circuit.

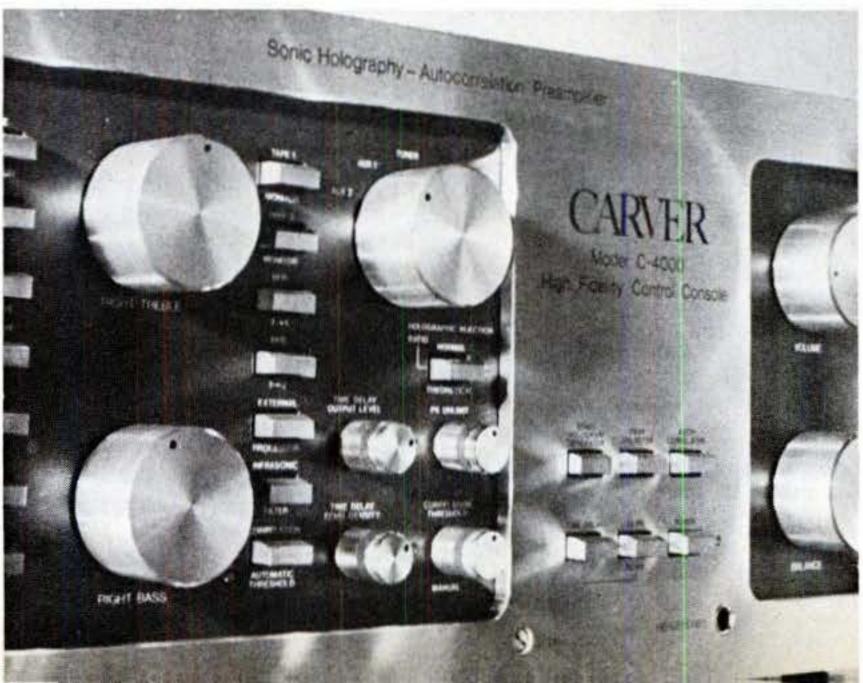
As the stylus settled on the super-disc (a Varese Sarabande digital dbx record), I cranked up the volume and listened intently. Nothing. Only black, velvety silence came from the lead-in grooves—not the usual ticks and background noise. Suddenly, a heart-stopping musical crescendo erupted from the loudspeakers. I listened to the wide contrast between soft and loud passages (dynamic range) and the extraordinary high fidelity. Then I pushed the sonic holography button on the preamp.

An abrupt change was astonishing. The stereo field between the speakers gained far more depth; sound even seemed to be wrapped around the sides of the room. The clarity of the music improved dramatically, too, as though a curtain had been raised and I was at a live concert.

Continued

Music recorded on video cassettes (top) as coded digital signals offer ultimate in audio fidelity with Sony PCM-10 decoder. New hi-fi circuits, such as "3D-sound" generator in Carver preamp (right), aid in simulating the concert hall at home.







That super-disc and the hardware used to play it typify some significant new advances in the hi-fi industry:

- Special encoding of music before it's put on discs or tape can greatly enhance fidelity.
- Psychoacoustics—studies in how we hear sounds—have resulted in circuits that add new realism to highfidelity sound.
- Microcomputers, other digital technology, and new circuits not only miniaturize and add operational flexibility to hi-fi components, but boost the accuracy of hi-fi reproduction.

Digital discs

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Hardware firms and producers of conventional (analog) discs and tapes are acutely aware that some of the newest technology will become obsolete with the introduction of the digital audio disc (DAD). With total digital sound reproduction [PS, March '78], audio signals are converted into computer-like electronic codes and stored in that form on special discs and tapes. The first DAD's may appear on the market next year.

At the moment, this pure-digital technology is available to consumers only as a plug-in accessory for video-cassette recorders at a cost of several thousand dollars. These so-called PCM (pulse code modulation) encoders/decoders put audio signals in a format suitable for video cassettes. Professional PCM recorders are now used by most recording studios to make superior master tapes. These tapes are then used to make some new-breed super-discs, and account for the "digital" label on record jackets.

DAD's such as the laser-scanned Compact Disc [PS, Oct. '79] that Philips plans to market deliver superbhifi, although the best super-disc setup today comes very close in performance. DAD's have the special advantage of eliminating hassles with warped discs and scratched or dust-filled grooves. As you'll see, some of today's high-technology hi-fi can have a significant role in the pure-digital era developing in the 1980's.

Recently, the world's largest electronics firm, Matsushita in Japan, announced it would begin making tape recorders with a dbx compander circuit in them. This circuit, which electronically compresses audio sig-

nals before recording and expands them during playback, can also be used to play back the growing library of dbx-encoded discs [PS, Dec. '79]. Dbx-encoded discs overcome two significant problems with conventional records: limited dynamic range and surface noise. Compressing the signal before disc pressings permits some 90dB difference between the loudest and softest music passages. (Most conventional discs are limited to under 60 dB of range.) The dbx circuit restores the loud passages to their original levels during playback. At the same time, as very soft sounds are electronically restored to their proper levels, surface noise is cut to inaudible levels.

Not long after Matsushita revealed its licensing arrangement with dbx, Inc., CBS Records announced that it, too, will soon begin releasing records encoded with a similar noise-reduction process developed by the CBS Technology Center. CBS indicated that low-cost adapters for decoding its records will be sold or built into phono systems. But CBS stresses that its compander technology will enable encoded discs to be played back without a decoder. They'll sound like conventional records, says CBS. Without a decoder, dbx discs have a distinctly muffled sound during playback.

Binaural speakers

Bob Carver, the president of Carver Corp., has observed a host of new products imitating the audio technology he's pioneered during the past 10 years. Not all the imitations of his latest sonic-holography circuit have been successful, although he's taking legal action against one firm.

How does this 3D-like sound circuit work? During a demonstration in the PS test lab, Carver outlined the problems with conventional stereo. "Suppose I make a recording of someone whispering in my left ear," he said. With stereo playback, that sound would appear to come from the left speaker, he explained, not at the left ear, because it would arrive first at the left ear and microseconds later at the right ear. Your "ear brain" correctly identifies the sound source, using time and phase differences between the sounds at both ears.

Here's what the holography circuit does to overcome this perception problem: "Very cleverly," Carver said, "the right speaker launches a sound wave timed and phased so that when it arrives in the space near your right ear an interference pattern is developed." This destructive interference eliminates the sound for your right ear, but reinforces the sound when it reaches your left ear. The result would

be an eerie whisper next to your ear. The hologram circuit usually functions in less extreme cases, extracting information from conventional discs that is blurred or inaudible in conventional stereo playback.

Carver also explained how his remarkably light M400 magnetic-field amplifier works. This compact cube weighs just under nine pounds, but it can deliver 200 watts to each stereo channel. The M400 uses a triac (like solid-state light dimmers) with a transformer so that its power supply only delivers the power required by the incoming audio.

One key element is the special transformer Carver designed. "It looks like a 25-watt transformer," Carver said, tapping a yellow, lemonsize device in his amplifier. "But that little thing is good for over one kilowatt." Computer-like logic circuits analyze the audio and signal the power supply through a beam of light in a solid-state device. Part of the output stage of the M400 is a conventional 15-watt amplifier; as demand for power is sensed, two additional output stages for each channel, plus progressively higher voltages, are switched in to meet the demand.

Computerized hi-fi

Microcomputers are used in turntables to store sequences of record selections and play them in any order; they're in audio cassette decks [PS, Nov. '79] to automatically set bias and other parameters. Also, a new computerized equalizer [PS, Nov. '80] can automatically adjust hi-fi frequency response for the listening room.

Now the tiny computer chips have a new function in turntables from Sony and JVC. The pickup arm in their new models is electronically controlled through a microcomputer. Tracking and anti-skating forces are maintained with linear motors-pairs of coils—that move the pickup arm with magnetic fields and free it from mechanical contact. Sensor coils help guide the arm across the disc by detecting its position and feeding signals to the computer. This technique, by monitoring the arm at split-second intervals, can also instantly compensate for jarring vibrations or undesirable arm resonances.

Microcomputers and a long list of other high-technology components—new plastics, solid-state devices, magnetic liquids [PS, June '79], carbon-fiber epoxies—will have a critical role in the coming era of digital audio. The extraordinary dynamic range and frequency response present in new recordings demand the very best that hifi components can deliver.

High-technology audio components include (clockwise from top right): Sony TA-F55 integrated amp, ST-J55 AM/FM tuner, PS-X75 turntable; Carver C4000 preamp; dbx model-21 decoder; Carver M400 magnetic-field amplifier. Dbx-encoded discs in foreground were made from digital master tapes.

Saturn's secrets

The week that stunned the scientists

You can throw away your astronomy books; everything they say about Saturn is wrong

By BRYAN SOLTNER

The surprises came early. Almost a month before Voyager 1 swept out of the depths of space and cruised into the near-realm of Saturn, the photos were already sending tremors of excitement through the mission's science teams.

The first pictures—from about 40 million kilometers away—revealed a glistening system of rings girdling Saturn's tilted equator, with tiny moons sparkling in the rings like diamond chips set into silver, and others seen against the planet's face resembling pearls on orange velvet.

But there were some disturbing anomalies: moons where none should be, gaps in the rings that weren't gaps at all, rings within rings, and—most peculiar—fingers of darkness moving across an inner ring.

And there were more revelations to come. Each day, image resolution improved until it doubled in a day, in a half-day, in hours, then minutes.

"I'm stunned by the spectacular display of pictures we've received," said Dr. Bradford Smith, the University of Arizona astronomer who heads the Voyager imaging team. "We've had extraordinary pictures in such quantities that it has been impossible to concentrate on one for more than a few seconds before being distracted by the next."

And the television pictures composed only a small part of the landslide of data. The spacecraft's incessant radio chatter also included information revealed by instruments viewing the ringed planet across the electromagnetic spectrum: in the radio, infrared, and ultraviolet regions. Other instruments measured magnetic fields, cosmic rays, gas densities.

Voyager's trail through the rings had been blazed an Earth-year earlier by Pioneer 11 [PS, Jan. '80], but the results from that encounter were limited by the craft's lesser capabilities. The twin Voyagers 1 and 2 were expected to harvest the real surprises, as they had when flying by Jupiter [PS, July '79]. And the science teams that regathered now at the mission center at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, Calif., would not be disappointed.

Through the exciting month of discovery they were sometimes baffled, often incredulous, but always awestruck at what they found. In the days of closest encounter with Saturn, photos and data flowed so rapidly into JPL and the three deep-space tracking stations around the world that scientists barely had time to jump from

Lat's as if someone put a thread around a basketball and expected it to stay there forever

discovery to discovery, casting off old theories and weaving new ones as they reveled in new knowledge.

First to go were a host of theories about Saturn's rings. "We felt very comfortable with the rings until we got close," Smith said. Ring specialists were sure they were relatively smooth and uncomplicated bands comprising dirty ice particles of perhaps 30 centimeters in diameter. At closest approach, the cameras would not be expected to resolve individual particles or features.

Fingerprints

Then, on a Monday morning in mid-October, Dr. Richard Terrell noticed some dark lines resembling spread fingers in photos of the B ring, the broad middle ring. A subsequent photo sequence showed that these fingers moved with the ring instead of breaking up, as would be expected since inner particles should orbit faster than outer ones. "Nobody expected to see anything rotating in the rings," Terrell said later, "certainly not at 1,000-kilometer resolution. We were amazed."

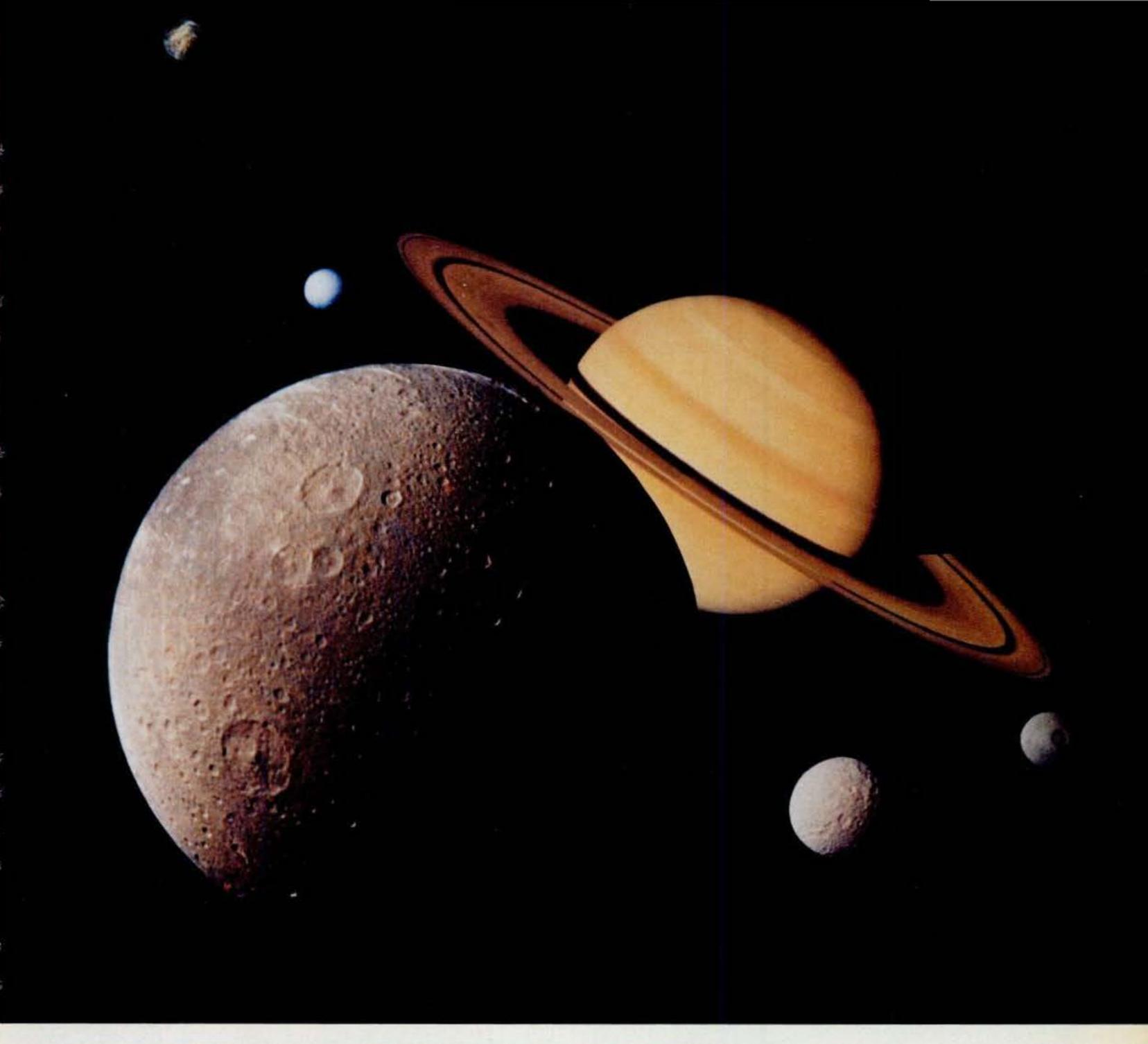
It would be weeks before a clear theory emerged to explain the B-ring structures. Looking ahead toward Saturn, the fingers appeared dark; looking back after passing the planet, they appeared bright and shiny. That difference provided a clue.

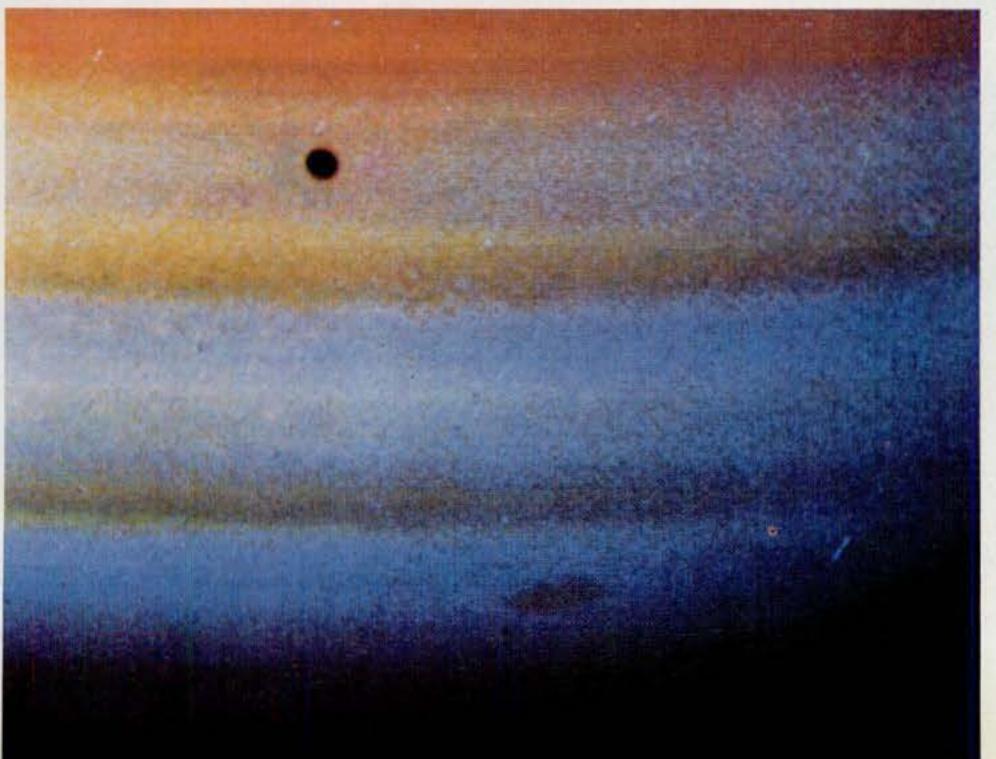
Smith explained: Sunlight is generally reflected off large objects, but it is scattered forward off tiny particles. Therefore, tiny particles would look dark to Voyager on approach but bright when it looked back.

If these particles were fine dust, the analysts theorized, they could be held together by static electricity, which would have no effect on larger bodies. Charged by Saturn's magnetic field, the dust would rise in a clump above the ring and orbit the planet. Says Terrell, "We're probably seeing a segregation of the ring's small particles

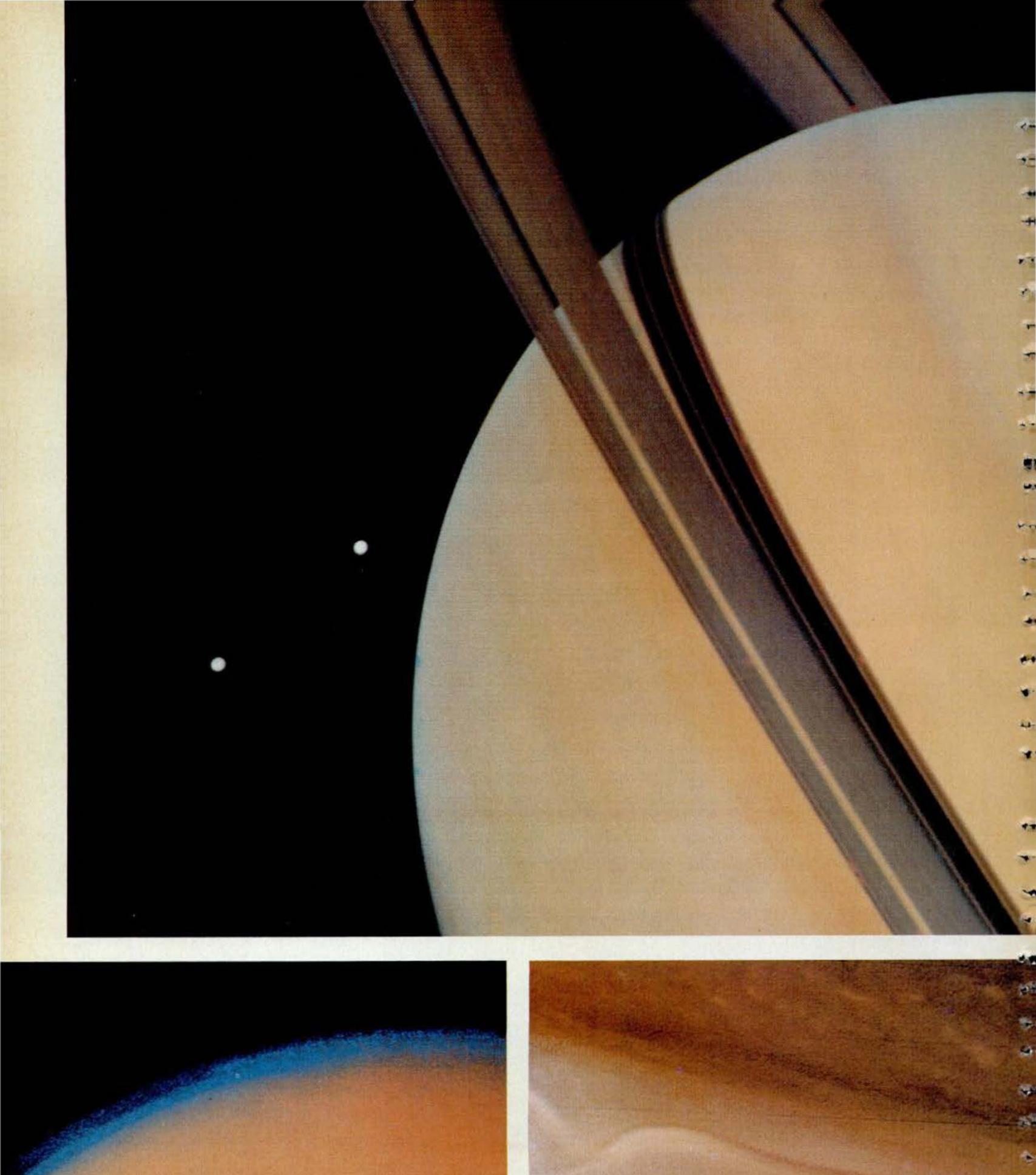
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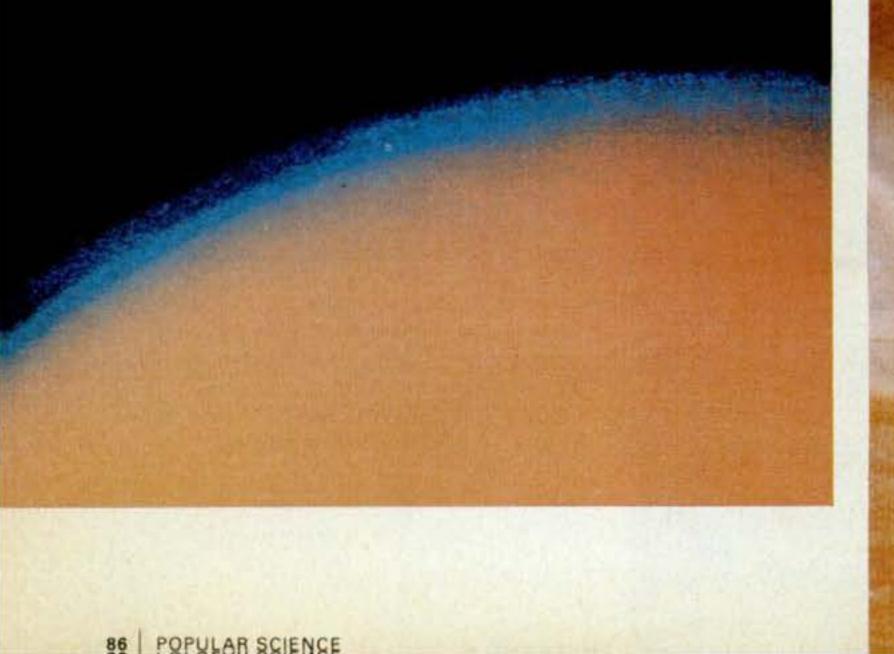
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Saturn's neighborhood was full of surprises. The montage of moons and the planet (above) was assembled from individual images taken by Voyager 1 as it sailed through the alien system. Dione (foreground) looks much like Earth's moon, with craters up to 100 km in diameter, many with central peaks. Bright rays are icy moon-stuff ejected from impact craters. Other moons-Tethys and Mimas to the right, Enceladus and Rhea rising to the left-display various degrees of cratering and wispy features. Saturn's three major rings are visible here, along with the surprisingly populated Cassini Division. Left: Dione's shadow is cast against muted bands and zones of Saturn's southern hemisphere. The color-enhanced photo shows a 12,000-km-long red spot, evidence of a furious wind storm.







responding to electrostatic charging."

But the fingers in the ring were only one shocker about ring structure. Where previous observations had shown five or maybe six rings, suddenly there were rings within rings and within supposed gaps. There were wide rings, tenuous rings, braided rings, off-center rings, rings of every shape and description. Against all expectation, by the time Voyager left the Saturnian neighborhood, astronomers had counted more than 1,000 ringlets, including eight major ones.

As the ring count mounted, a cherished theory that explained how the rings were confined had to be unceremoniously discarded. This held that the gaps between the rings are caused by gravitational interactions—or resonances-with Saturn's moons. Any ring particle that orbited in exactly half the time that a moon does would be pulled out of that orbit and into a higher one. Therefore, the theory went, the Cassini Division, a 3,500kilometer gap between the A and B rings, would be swept clear of material by the moon Mimas, which has an orbital period twice what Cassini Division particles would have.

The trouble is, the Cassini Division did not turn out to be empty, after all. Besides, there are far too many gaps to be explained by resonances with the known moons. There has to be another force that determines where a ring can exist and where one can't.

Ring makers

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One early guess was that small moons embedded in the rings could be responsible for the proliferate gaps. Dr. Edward Stone of Caltech, head scientist on the mission, told team members to watch for icy chunks in the bright A, B, and C rings large enough to sweep out spaces. "There could be many, many embedded satellites," said Andrew Collins of the imaging team. "Something as small as one kilometer could sweep out a gap."

But even at closest approach to Saturn—on November 12, when Voyager skimmed by at 124,000 kilometers the photo resolution was not high enough to detect embedded chunks.

Even as the theorists pondered that

Gas-bag Saturn and its marvelous rings dwarf Tethys and Dione in top left photo, taken from 13 million km. Much closer in (left), ribbon patterns and mottled convective zones in the clouds become evident. Titan's thick nitrogen atmosphere (far left) merges with a darker mantle over the north pole.

problem, Terrell made two more discoveries: A pair of tiny moons, labeled S-13 and S-14, straddled the skimpy F ring, itself first discovered by Pioneer 11. It was clear evidence that satellites could be the "shepherding" forces that hold planetary rings together.

The F ring itself is so wispy—no more than 100 kilometers wide—that its existence is incredible. It's as if someone placed a thread in a half-meter circle around a basketball and expected it to stay there forever.

The shepherding satellites apparently provide the gravitational forces

Titan may be a place where we can study prelife chemistry. It could be Earth in a deep freeze

needed to keep the ring cohesive. The outer moon keeps particles from falling toward Saturn while the inner moon keeps them from floating away.

"The result is a pinching action," said Dr. Ellis Miner, assistant project scientist. "It seems to be very effective in keeping the F ring quite narrow."

Another moon, labeled S-15, was later found coasting along the outer edge of the A ring. It was one more piece of evidence that shepherding satellites help define ring limits.

The moons may also be partly responsible for another bizarre feature of the F ring: It isn't one band of material, but several strips of matter woven together in apparent defiance of the laws of orbiting bodies. "We have three strands interwoven, or braided, in some fashion that we don't understand," Smith reported.

Scientists speculate that the strands are the visible effect of electrostatic eddies, perhaps caused by a combination of the shepherding satellites and Saturn's own magnetic field. "It seems," said Collins, "that we'll have to augment the laws of Kepler with the laws governing electrostatic influences."

Revised photo plans for Voyager 2, due to reach Saturn in August, already include intense study of this braided ring.

Two more small moons, S-10 and S-11, cleared up a mystery. They had been sighted from Earth, but their existence hadn't been confirmed. Voyager's photographs of these elusive satellites show that they behave in a manner never before seen.

The tooth-shaped moons appear to be on a collision course. "They are coorbital," Smith reported. "They are now about 105 degrees apart—and closing."

Close encounter

Calculations predict they won't collide, however. Instead, they'll perform an intricate orbital maneuver. As the gap closes in January 1982, one moon will be in a slightly higher, and slower, orbit. The faster moon will catch up, but then the combined gravitational forces will cause them to swap positions. The higher moon will be pulled down, and thus speed up; the lower moon will climb slightly in orbit, and thus slow down. During the crossover, the two moons will pass within a few kilometers of each other. Every seven years, they will repeat this close encounter.

The "dodge-'em" moons also led to discovery of a new ring, probably to be called the H ring. Its shadow was seen moving across one moon, and the ring itself was found glowing faintly with forward-scattered light in post-encounter photos. Another new ring, tentatively labeled the G ring, was also found in these photos, circling Saturn inside the other known rings.

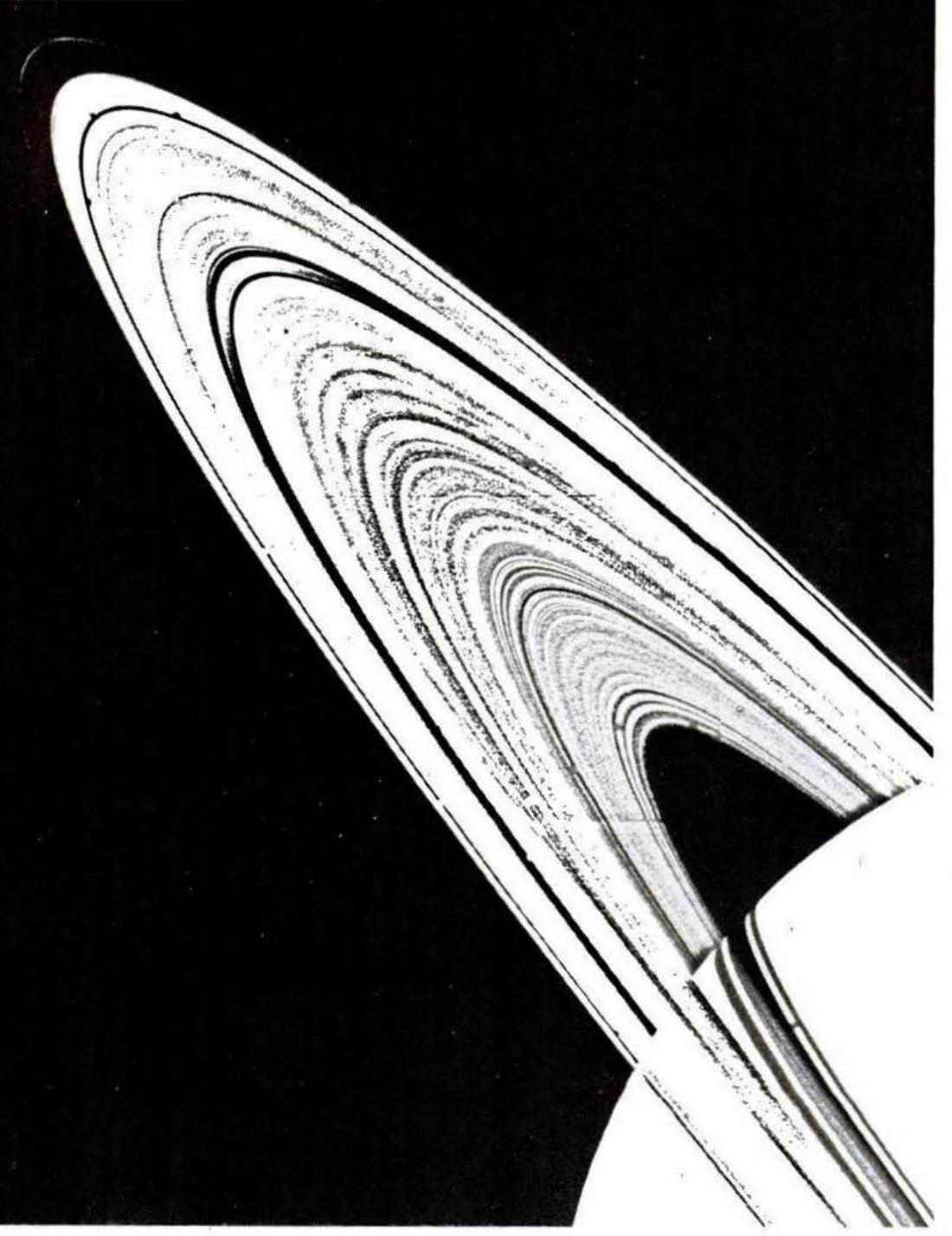
Moons S-10 and S-11 may once have been a single body that broke up eons ago. How does a moon break up? It could be pulled apart by gravitational forces (some have suggested that the rings originated this way), or it could be split in two by bombardment from a mighty meteorite. Indeed, Saturn's innermost major moon, Mimas, bears a magnificent crater from such a blow. Scientists speculate that a blow any more powerful might have split Mimas into pieces.

Most of the other moons are heavily cratered, too. Rhea is crater-saturated—any new impacts would obliterate as many craters as it would create. Tethys has a deep trench 750 kilometers long. Dione looks much like Earth's moon. Yet strangely, Enceladus—viewed from a distance—seems to be virtually smooth.

"The icy satellites of Saturn are growing from mere names out of mythology to become real places," said Laurence Soderblom of the U.S. Geological Survey. "And we're seeing things we never anticipated."

One problem is that all the moons seem to have undergone some degree of resurfacing. This indicates that the

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frigid moons were heated somehow, yet they are all too small to generate internal heat. Enceladus's smoothness might be explained by gravitational tides generated by Dione, which orbits in twice the time Enceladus does. Resurfacing on the other moons may indicate the presence of large amounts of radioactive elements.

A second problem is that the near moons violate the planetary tradition of decreasing density. With planets circling the sun and moons circling planets, near objects are most dense.

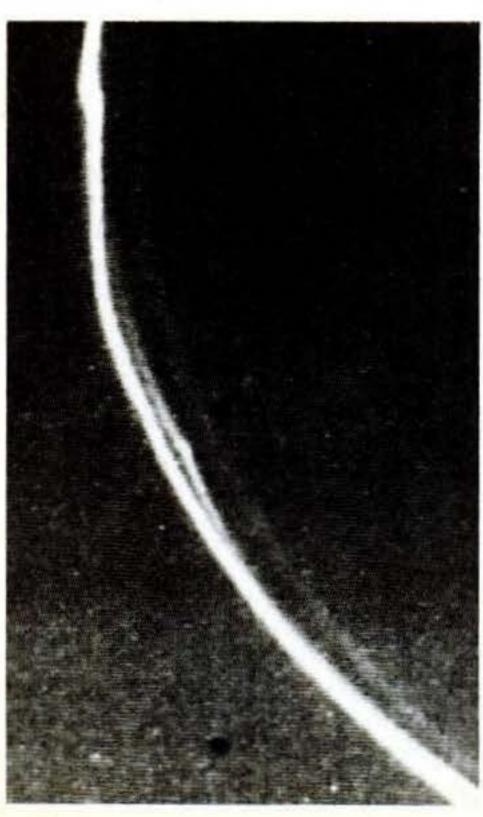
"They should become less dense as you move outward," said Soderblom, "but Saturn's satellites don't follow."

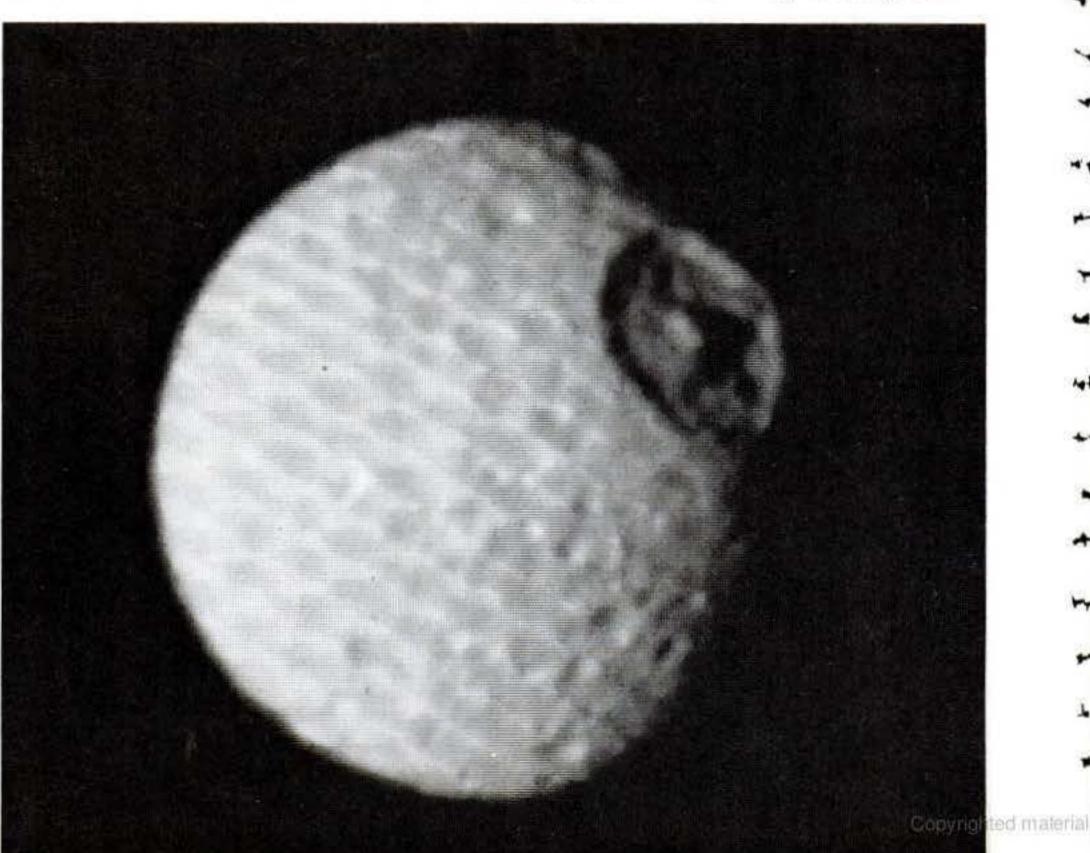
Voyager found the density of Mimas to be 1.2, a probable mixture of much water ice and some rock. Two moons outward, Tethys did decrease to 1.0 (almost pure water or snowy ice), but then came Dione at 1.4. That indicates more rock than either of its partners. Analysis of density data on Rhea and Enceladus is not yet definitive.

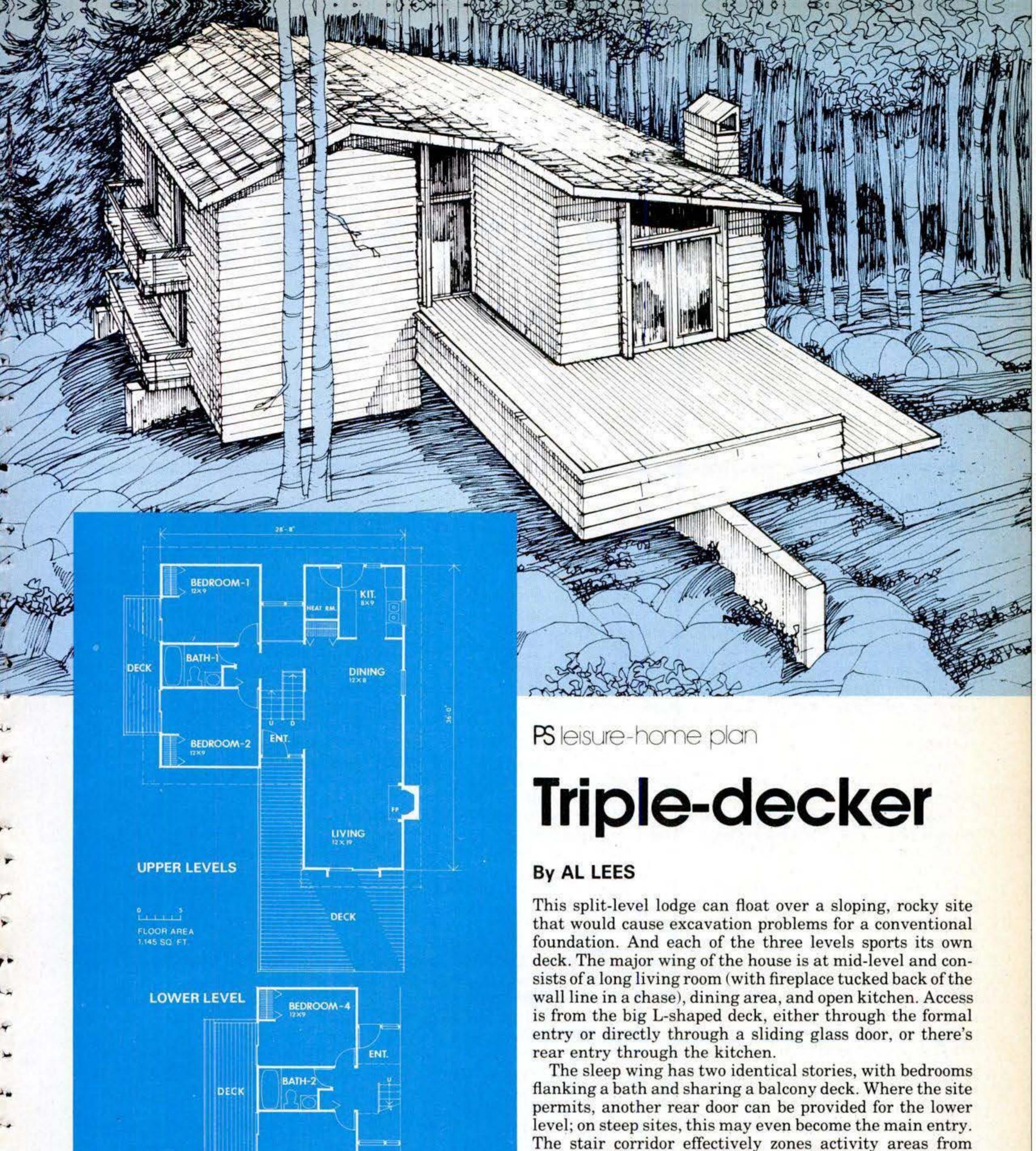
Saturn's moons are thought to have originated from the accretion of plan-

[Continued on page 140]

Too many rings: Cherished theories had to be discarded when this and similar photos revealed more than 1,000 ringlets, where only five or six featureless bands were expected. But close-up photos failed to detect any moonlets in the rings that might explain the drove of divisions. The Fring, just a thread in the upper left of the photo at left, resolved into three braided strands (below left), seeming to defy the laws of orbiting bodies. Mimas's monster crater (below), more than a quarter as wide as the satellite itself, has walls nine km high and a towering central peak.







Here's how to order your V-PAC plans

Construction plans for the Triple Decker (VPS # 49) are \$50 a set, \$65 for three sets, \$75 for five sets. Add postage/handling charge of \$2.50 in continental U.S., \$3.50 elsewhere. Catalog of V-PAC plans is \$4. Send check to Vacation Plans Service, Box 622, Princeton, N.J. 08540 (U.S. funds only). To charge orders to Mas-

BEDROOM-3

terCard or Visa call (609) 924-9655. V-PAC Council is a group of building-materials manufacturers, including American General (stairs), Andersen (windows), Olympic (stains), Du Pont (finishes), Frigidaire (appliances), GAF (roofing), Georgia-Pacific (paneling), Heatilator (fireplaces), Johns-Manville (insulation), Myers (pumps), Pass & Seymour (electrical), Simpson (lumber), Singer (heating), and Universal-Rundle (baths).

sleeping spaces. An offset ridge creates a cathedral ceiling

over the main wing. Architect R. M. Engelbrecht designed

the house for PS and the V-PAC Council.

PS

Giant-screen TV

Low-cost adapters convert small-screen sets

Improved lenses and screens let you join the video revolution for \$500

By JOHN FREE

Own a small-screen color TV? An adapter and screen for under \$500 will enlarge its 12- to 15-inch (diagonal) pictures into enormous four-foot images. Improvements in lenses and curved, light-intensifying screens provide much brighter pictures with adapters than hardware I tested a few years ago [PS, Nov. '77].

Projection TV has finally been accepted by major TV makers. They're all marketing models (or plan to) that have three projection tubes to deliver extra-bright pictures [PS cover, May '79]. With competition and mass production, prices for these sets should fall; now, three-tube models cost \$2,500 and up. In addition, a few small firms market \$1,000-to-\$3,000 prepackaged projection TV's built around small-screen receivers.

So a little do-it-yourself effort can bring big dollar savings. I tried three adapter systems recently. Two require simple wiring changes in a home set so the projected picture won't be upside down. Rewiring may cost about \$25; only an experienced technician should do it.

Two-piece systems (photo) require a fair amount of floor space, but can be taken apart in seconds. Sets can then be used for direct viewing, though a rewiring switch may be needed.

The three systems tested provided good to excellent pictures and confirmed the importance of enlarging only clear, ghost-free pictures from small-screen sets.

All three adapters use plastic Fresnel lenses. These are big and optically "fast" (f/1.2 or f/1.3). As a result, many small-screen sets can deliver images bright enough to be viewed with room lights on. But the multiple concentric grooves in Fresnel lenses also give the projected image a fuzzy quality—as though it's being beamed through a lens coated with grease.

The cure for this, however, is simple: A cardboard ring provided with each system can reduce the aperture of the front lens in the two-lens projection cones. A test pattern I tried showed only a small gain in detail (horizontal resolution). But the overall improvement in screen sharpness was startling. The slight reduction in brightness is well worth the small sacrifice.

Top performer was the system from F & F Sales called UltraVision. It uses a pair of f/1.2 lenses in a hood that, for mounting, requires two small holes drilled in your set. A 12-inch Sony borrowed from F & F contributed significantly to the excellent pictures. That's because this small set has a very flat tube surface, which ensures a sharp focus over the entire projection screen. A special UltraVision feature, four spring-loaded fine-adjustment screws in the hood, greatly aids this critical focusing. F & F dealers can modify receivers for UltraVision.

F & F's five-foot screen was the best constructed, too, with a rigid plastic backing. Bright pictures could be viewed some 50 degrees off the center axis, which is a big improvement in coverage area for these adapter-type systems.

Schudel's Telekaster is the only model among the three that doesn't require rewiring your set. Instead, your receiver is tipped upside down and strapped to an L-shaped stand. A housing with a front-surface mirror and pair of f/1.3 lenses is then placed over the TV screen. A 13-inch RCA set I used provided good images, although its CRT curvature made picture edges less distinct on Schudel's four-foot screen. But the screen has an unusual curvature that concentrates light toward its center. It was annoying to watch because small head movements caused abrupt localized changes in brightness.

VSR Sales' single-piece Creatavision is shipped in pieces and can be assembled in a few hours. For viewing, a hinged lid with a mirror mounted on it is flipped down. A 12-to 14-inch set, providing its base is less than eight inches from its screen center, can be used. The receiver is placed on a small stand with screwtype legs (for height adjustment) in the cabinet. Focusing takes longer, and you probably won't want to periodically remove your small-screen set.

Creatavision images with the RCA set were good but more trapezoid shaped (optically distorted) than those with two-piece hardware. More of the image must be bled off the screen to minimize this so-called keystone effect.

Finally, if you can afford an extra \$100, a five-foot screen seems to provide more satisfying images than a four-foot screen.

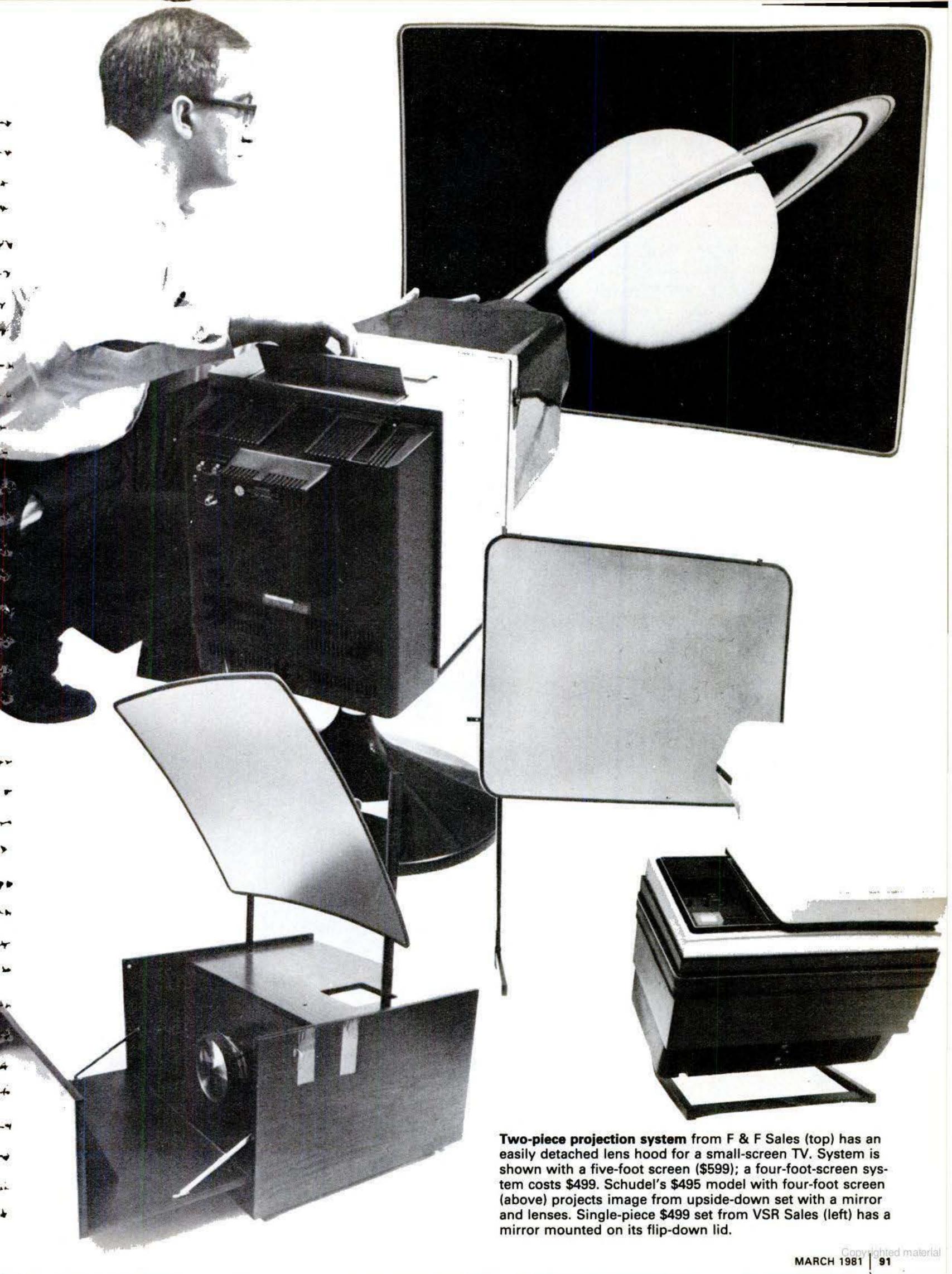
FOR MORE INFORMATION

Addresses: Sources for UltraVision are available from F & F Sales Co., Box 1047, Havertown PA 19083; Schudel Inc., 6973 Consolidated Way, San Diego CA 92121; VSR Sales, 433 Airport Blvd., Burlingame CA 94010 (also markets a two-piece system).

Other firms marketing components and plans are: Biener Systems, 47-20 37th St., Long Island City NY 11101 (maker of UltraVision); Edmund Scientific, 101 E. Gloucester Pike, Barrington NJ 08007; Projectapix, Ltd., 300-314 W. 53 St., New York NY 10019; Tele-kit, 15 Green Hill Lane, Spring Valley NY 10977.

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7



MhatisNew

A PICTURE ROUNDUP OF NEW PRODUCTS AND DEVELOPMENTS

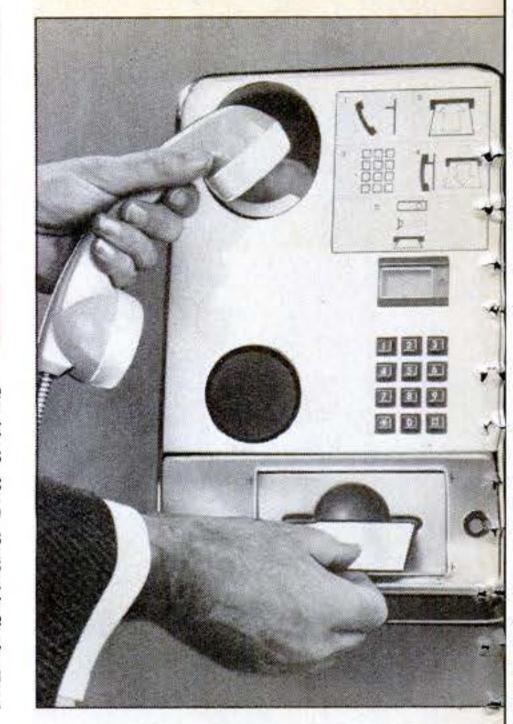


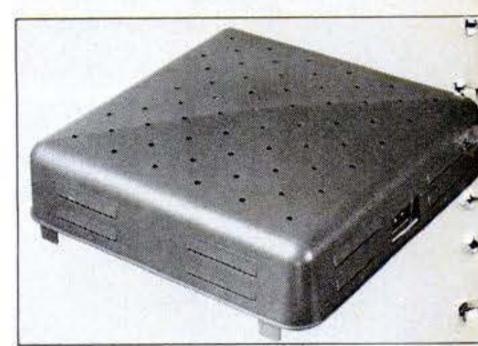
Laser phone

Short of change? Just insert the Phonocard, and lasers read the coded holographic pattern to see how much credit is left. This amount is displayed, then changes as the lasers melt off credit strips on the card during the call. The computerized system is made by Sodeco-Saia of Geneva, Switzerland.

Mildew fighter

Damp air flows into Jack's
Air-Dryr 1000, and warm, dry
air flows out. Convection
causes the airflow, so the
unit uses little power. Its 165watt heating unit is encased
in a 14-sq.-in. plastic box.
Price: \$35. From Stowline Enterprises, 811 S. 1st St., Kent,
Wash. 98031.





Escape mask

Fire! But choking smoke won't disable the hotel guest who grabs the Parat mask from its wall mount. The heat-reflecting hood has a wide-angle faceplate and a chemical filter that gives 15 minutes of safe breathing. National Draeger, 401 Parkway View Dr., Pittsburgh, Pa.

Future cycle

Tomorrow's commuter car will be a motorcycle, says designer Ferdinand Porsche. His version, based on a Yamaha SR500, has fully enclosed wheels and engine to keep the rider clean. There's also automatic transmission and a single brake pedal to make the bike easier to drive.

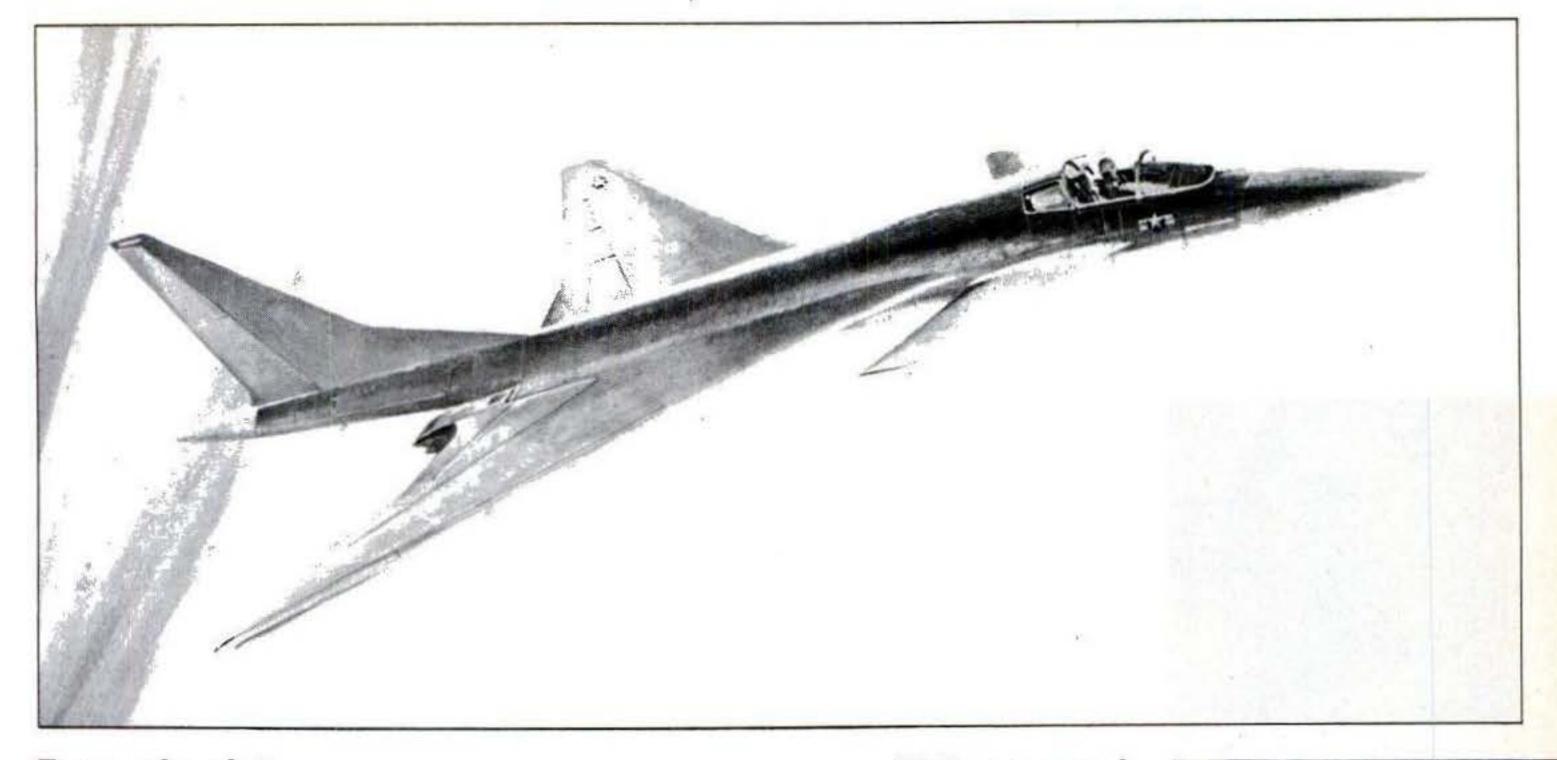




Speed machine

Landbound but jet powered, the 7,500-lb. Thrust 2 is built to exceed 650 mph. Its Rolls-Royce Avon jet—once the power plant for the Lightning fighter—accelerates the car to 100 mph in 3.5 seconds. The British sponsors say the 25-ft. racer will break the official land speed record.

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Four-wing jet

Civilian aircraft of the next century may borrow features from this advanced-technology fighter. Instead of a conventional horizontal tail elevator, it has two stubby canard wings just aft of the cockpit. The main wings have a variable camber: Their shape can be changed depending on the mission. A 6.7 percent scale model, designed by Grumman, is now being tested in the Air Force's supersonic wind tunnel. The full-size version should be able to circle 360 degrees at supersonic speeds.

GASOLINE

Unique watch

Mounted on a matchstick-size bar of 18-karat gold, the moving parts of this \$5,000 Golden Bridge watch mesh with clockwork precision. Corum used miniaturization technology to fit a Swiss clock's straight-line movement into the tiny watch's sapphire crystal case.



Why build a solar array in a Chicago filling station? So the sun can run the pumps, of course. In full sun, the 600-sq.-ft. array produces five kW of power for pumping gas—and charging backup batteries. Amoco is using the Solarex array for research and public education.

Semi sleeper

When this truck cab flips its lid, it deflects the wind. When fully raised, the hinged, hydraulically operated panel also makes room for an upper bunk with built-in curtain. The advanced cab was built by Motor Panels, Holbrook Lane, Coventry CV6 4 AW, England.



Versatile vehicle

Folding down the extra, rearfacing seats in the Matra Rancho creates a huge, 77cu.-ft. cargo space. The frontwheel-drive car has a 1.4-liter, 80-hp engine and 8.5-in. ground clearance for limited off-road use. Peugeot's Talbot (formerly Chrysler's Simca) makes it.

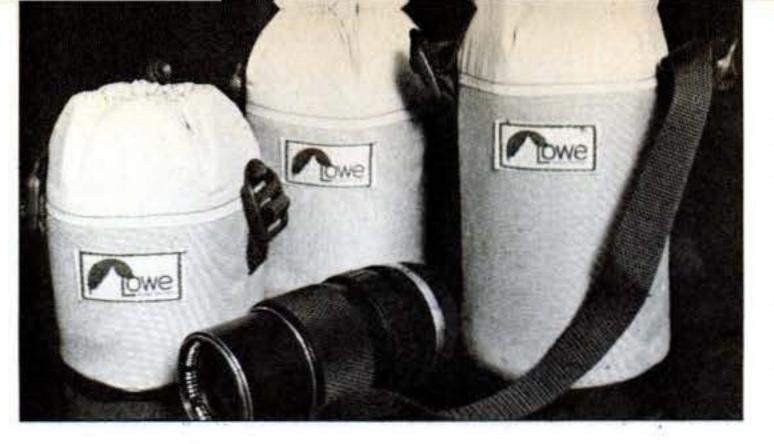




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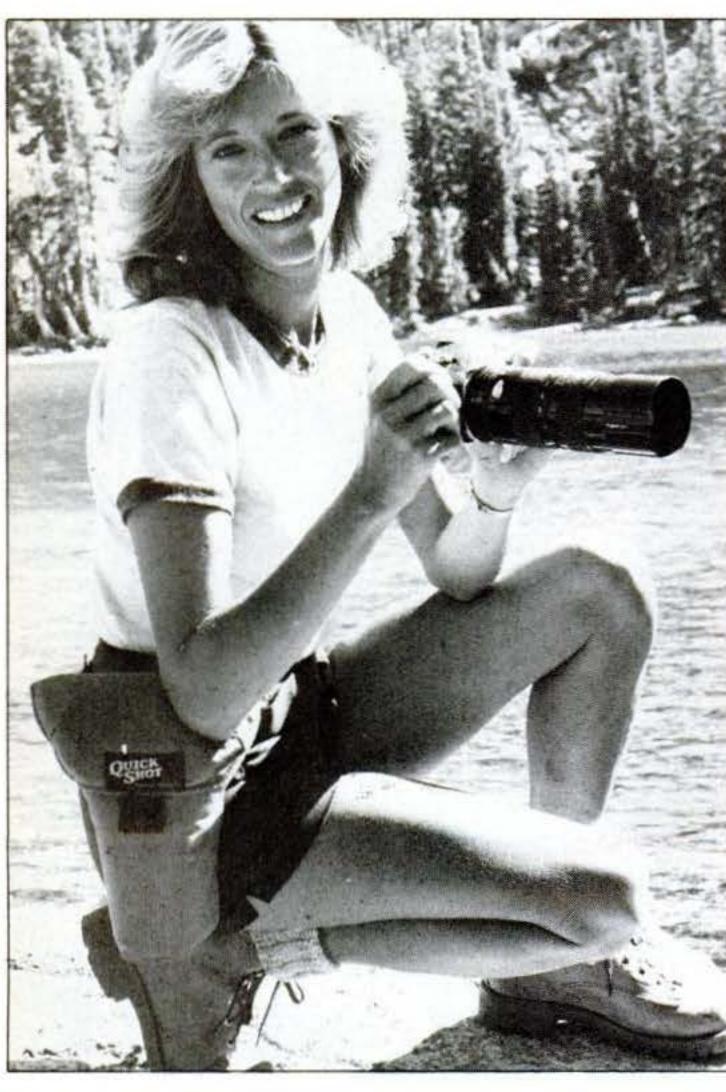
IN **PHOTOGRAPHY**

BY E. H. ORTNER



Shock absorbers

Bumps and shocks are absorbed by the Lowepro lens cases' 3/4-inch foam walls; dust and moisture are sealed out by a drawstring. The cases hook to your belt or hang from a shoulder strap. Prices: \$14.50-\$29. Lowe Alpine Systems, 802 S. Public Rd., Lafayette, Colo. 80026.



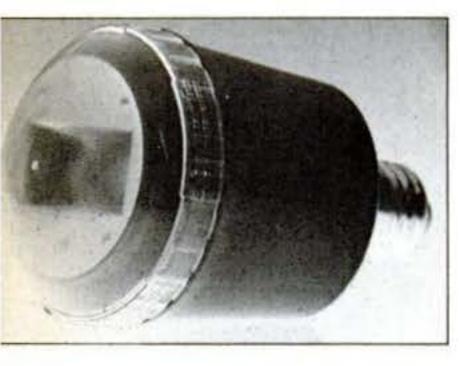


Padded pack

You're always ready for a quick shot with the Quick Shot Zoom Pack, designed for SLR's with 80-210 lenses attached. A belt holds the padded nylon pack to your waist or chest. Price: \$29.95. Maker: Richmond-Merritt, 1611 S. Pacific Coast Hwy., Redondo Beach, Calif. 90277.

Over/under strap

Do you carry two cameras at once? Or a camera and binoculars? The Comfortstrap II holds them securely, one under the other. The adjustable cowhide strap sells for \$18.95. Maker: Hervic Corp., 6910 Hayvenhurst, Van Nuys, Calif. 91406.

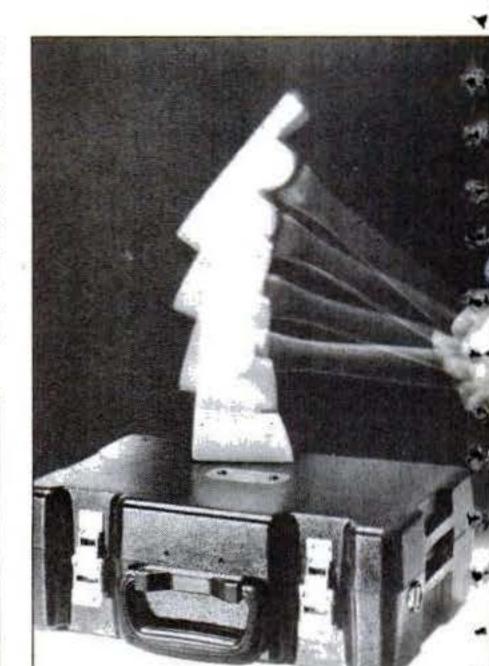


Slave flash

Screw it into a standard AC lamp socket-no batteries needed-and the Slavemate slave flash is ready to go, firing when your master flash goes off. It's the size of a 100-watt bulb, weighs seven oz., costs \$26.95 from Spiratone, 135-06 Northern Blvd., Flushing, N.Y. 11354.

Tough case

Molded Lexan makes it tough, padlockable latches make it secure, and a modular design makes it expandable-which is how the TSE case gets its name. Three sizes are \$75, \$80, \$85. A 31/2in. expansion module is \$45. TSE, Inc., 340 Crooked Lane, King of Prussia, Pa. 19406.



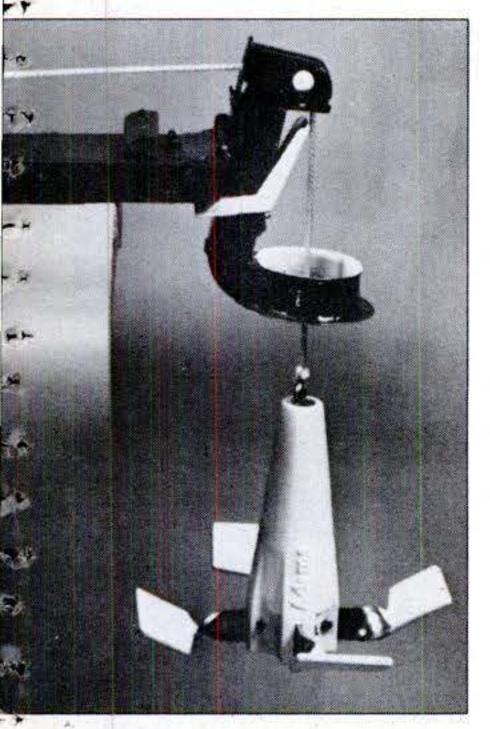


Smallest automatic-exposure 35-mm camera with built-in motor wind, the Agfa Optima 935 is a pocketable 4.4 by 2.5 by 1.3 inches in size. A motor drives its f/2.8 39-mm lens into position when you press a button to uncover it. Shutter speeds: 1/30 to 1/1000 sec. Price: not yet set.



IN BOATING

BY SUSAN RENNER-SMITH



Agile anchor

Snagging's no problem with the Adams anchor. A sharp tug on the line, and an interior mechanism pushes the flukes down to free them. A retractor then pulls the anchor back into the bow mount. Adams Anchor Systems, 8555 Zionsville Rd., Indianapolis, Ind. 46268. \$105.



Little tug

Nostalgia-inducing yet practical, the 26-ft. Red Apple gets about 13 mpg with its 36-hp Volvo engine. The tug's semidisplacement hull makes it stable even in rough waters, says Nordic Tugs (Box 314, Woodinville, Wash. 98072). The tug sleeps four. Price: \$28,000 to \$40,000.

Fastest cat

Rocketing along at up to 22 mph, the Super Cat's slim, elliptically shaped 20-ft. hulls plow through the water with minimum drag. The 400-lb. craft has been officially rated the fastest of 54 production multihulls. \$9,280. Super Cat, Box 10184, Riviera Beach, Fla. 33404.



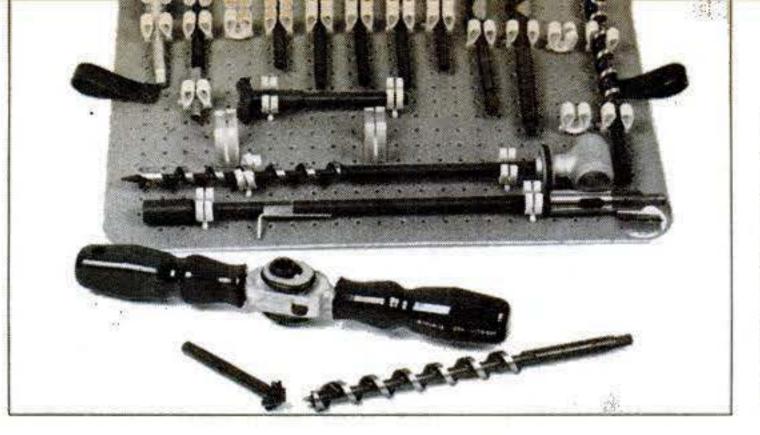


Little wheels

Aboard small boats, steering wheels are more than a convenience. They can improve safety, since a pilot amidships may help a small boat sit better in the water. Two new units from Teleflex Marine (155 S. Limerick Rd., Limerick, Pa. 19468) are designed especially for small boats. The steering system for inflatable boats with rigid floorboards (far left) stands 22 in. tall. Releasing four clamps removes the portable unit. Price: \$200. The weldedaluminum steering console (left) will fit most small open boats. The console kit comes with an XL 50-mph speedometer, and other gauges are available. Price: \$225.

IN TOOLS

BY PAUL BOLON



Just light hand pressure on Backus Ave., Danbury, Conn. 06810). Quick-adjusting jaws materials. Price: \$31.50.

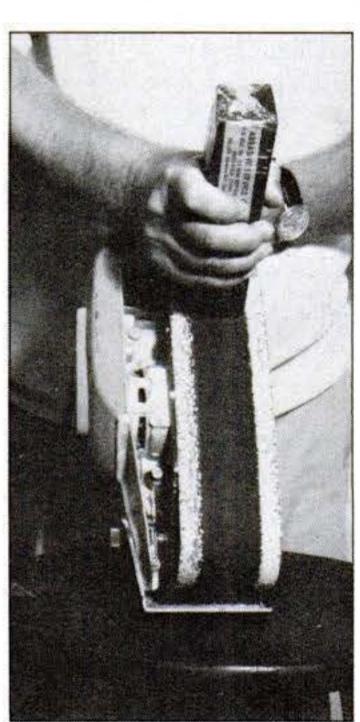


Boring system

You can drill holes with the Compact System's doublehandle ratchet and bits (or use a regular brace or electric drill). Bits include screwpoint augers, expansion bits, and countersinks. The German-made tools are sold by Automatic Lubrication, 2736 Tanager Dr., Wilmington, Del.

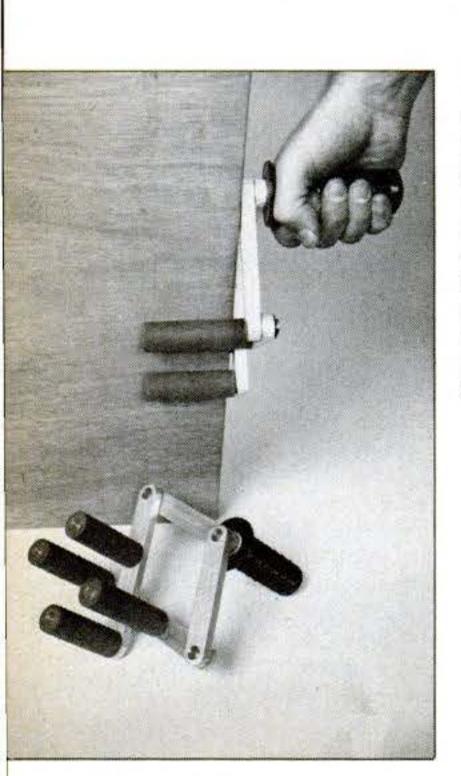
Table vise

Jet Clamp's sliding jaws positions most objects for convenient table-top working, says Dollar Trading (20-28 also can be reversed to stretch and hold flexible



beit cleaner

Clean dust and gum from sanding belts with Nu-Life belt cleaner and they'll last up to four times longer, says Abrasive Service Co. (Box 126, Unionville, Conn. 06085). Three 11/4-by-11/4-by-fiveinch sticks cost \$14.



Square fence for table saws

The T-Square saw fence will convert your table saw into a

precision cutting tool, claims Biesemeyer Tools (216 Alma

to speed setups. The maker says that T-Square's rails and

hours. A unit with 50-inch-long rails costs about \$240.

guide can be fitted on any shop-size table saw in about two

handle snaps the fence securely parallel with the blade.

School Rd., Suite 3, Mesa, Ariz. 85202). A single cam-action

(Alignment is a weak point of many table saws.) In addition, a

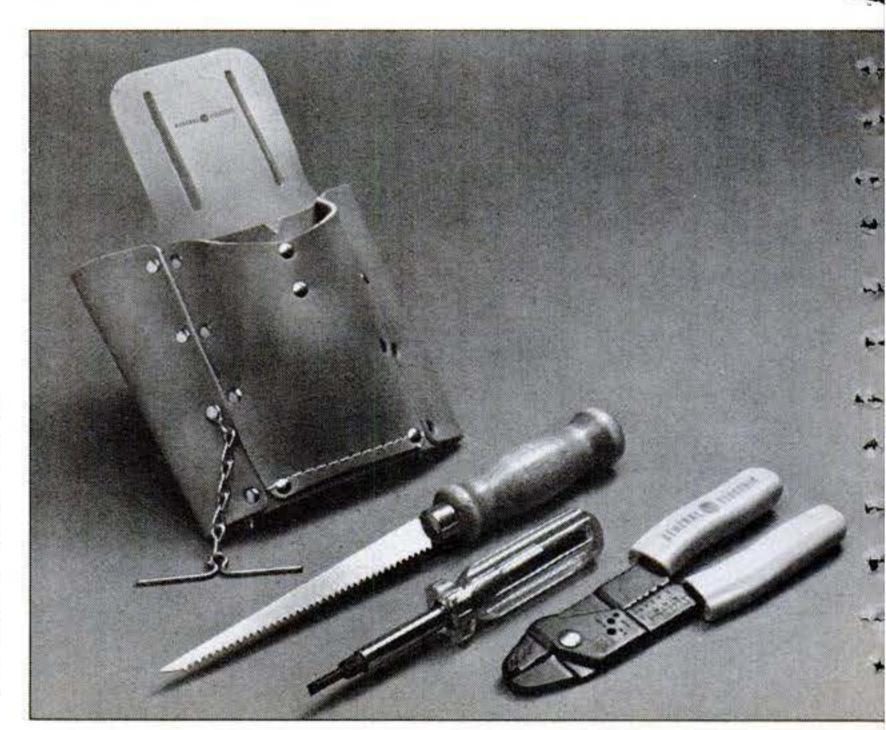
tape measure on the guide (see inset) gives accurate readings

Helping handle

It's no hat rack; it's Handy-Port, a Swiss-made tool for carrying plywood, gypsum board, or other sheet materials. Rubber-covered fingers accept panels up to two inches thick, says Colonial Saw (100 Pembroke, Kingston, Mass. 02364). It has a 220-lb. capacity. Price: \$75 a pair.

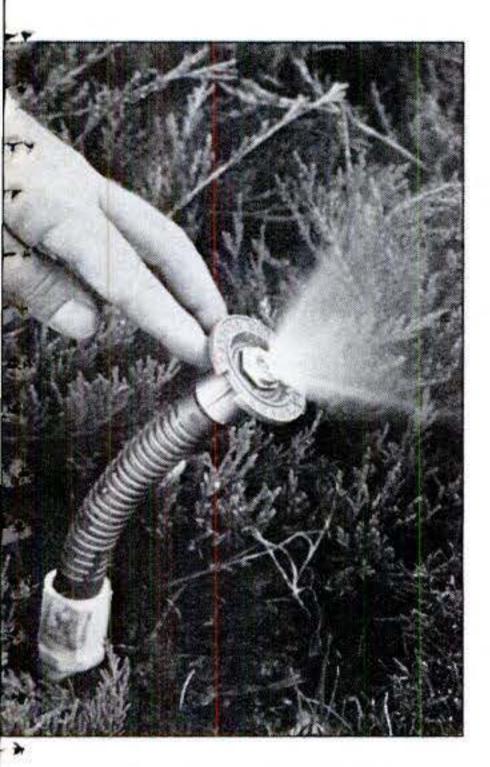
Wiring kit

You can tackle most home wiring jobs with these four tools from GE: wallboard saw, crimping pliers, tool pouch, and screwdriver with interchangeable bits. The crimping tool cuts bolts as well as cutting and stripping wire. Price for the four: about \$28.



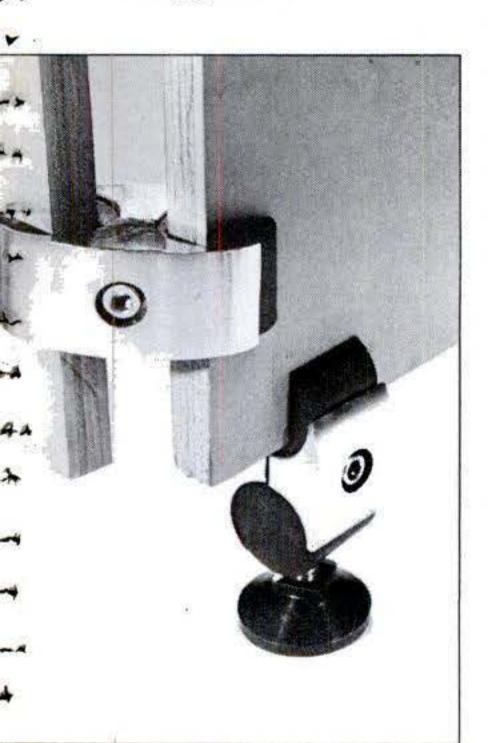
IN HOME **IMPROVEMENT**

BY PAUL BOLON

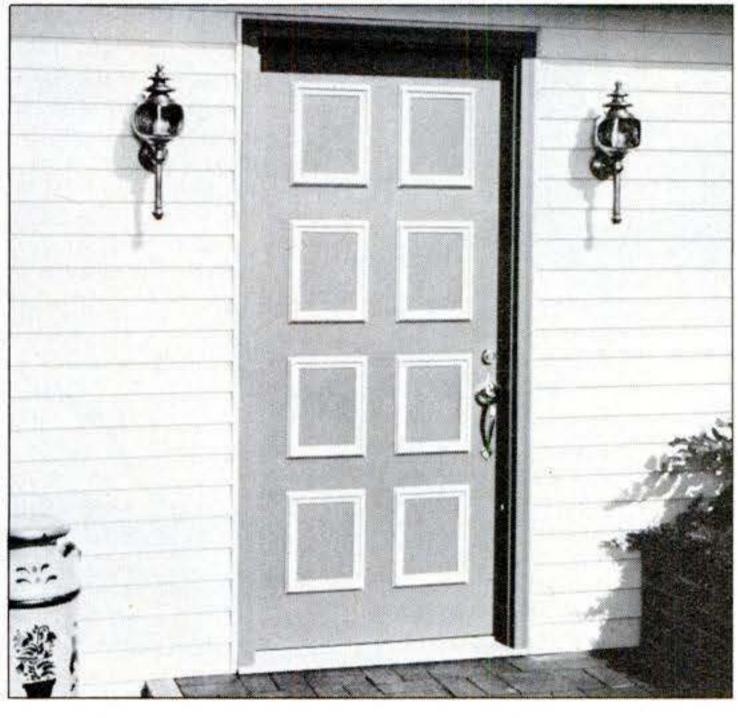


Springy sprinklers

Flexible nipples absorb kicks and stomps to protect the sprinkler heads and main lines of lawn-watering systems. The plastic units won't freeze or become brittle, says Multi-Flex Corp. (7561 S. Wynford Dr., Salt Lake City, Utah 84121). They fit all common pipe sizes.







Vinyl planks

Peel, position, and pressthat's all you do to install Armstrong's wood-grain-pattern vinyl flooring. Bottoms of the self-adhering strips are preglued and covered with a paper backing. Two-plank and four-square-parquet designs are available in two colors. Price: \$3 a sq. ft.

New door

Not just a door, it's the Entergy Entry System, an integrated design of door, frame, threshold, and weatherstripping. The urethane-filled door unit is made for maximum security and energy savings, according to the maker, Ceco Corp. (1400 Kensington, Oak Brook, III.).

Clever connectors

Create instant room dividers, picture frames, or do other decorative tricks? Rubber inserts fit into Klem Connectors' polished chrome jaws and hold round tubing or wood, acrylic, or glass from 1/16 to 3/4 inches thick. Maker: Youngstown Design Center, 435 Main, Youngstown, N.Y.

Fast bagger

RMX's through-the-deck discharge blows trimmings right into a standard trash can mounted on the back for easy disposal. The vacuum system can pick up leaves and pine needles, too, says Jacobsen. Eight-hp model with 301/2-in. cutting swath lists for \$1,025.



IN **ELECTRONICS**

BY WILLIAM J. HAWKINS





Alphanumeric

Like many scanners, Bearcat 350 uses a digital display to show the frequency of the station you hear. But unlike others, it also tells what you've tuned to. Words such as POLICE, FIRE, WEATHER can be programmed in to show at each of its 50 channels. Made by Electra, it's \$600.

Color portable

Who says you can't take it with you? You can if it's the Sampo 9505 portable—AM/ FM radio, cassette recorder/ player with mike mixer, and five-inch-diagonal color-TV receiver are built in. The \$470 set runs on 10 D cells, AC current, or your car battery.



Touch entry

Just touch it-within one microsecond the 3,600 sensors in the 4-by-4-inch Touch Graphics surface determine the location and motion of your finger. The digital X-Y address can be used for electronic drawing or data entry. TASA, 2346 Walsh Ave., Santa Clara, Calif. \$980.

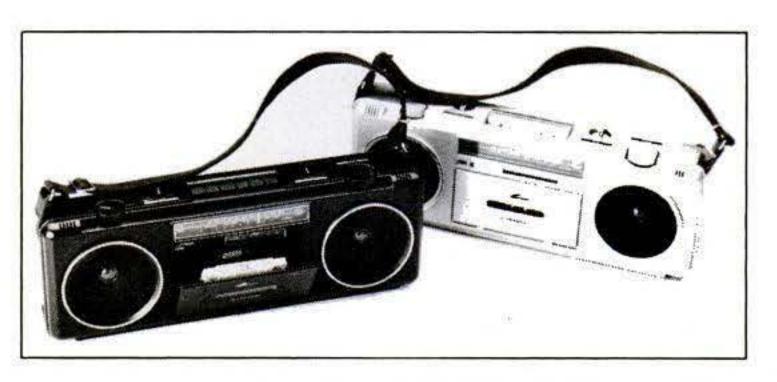


Light load

Along with the "big sound" from the new portable radios has come a problem-big weight. If your arms get tired before your ears do, try one of these Pioneer SK units. AM/FM stereo and cassette recorder are inside the 5.3pound units. Price: \$199.95.

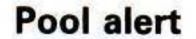
Sound maker

Rich Little can imitate any person's voice. But with the \$25 Sound Gizmo, you can match the sound of almost any thing. Two buttons and three dials let you control sound to produce anything from gun shots to jet noise. Fundimensions, 26750 23 Mile Rd., Mt. Clemens, Mich.



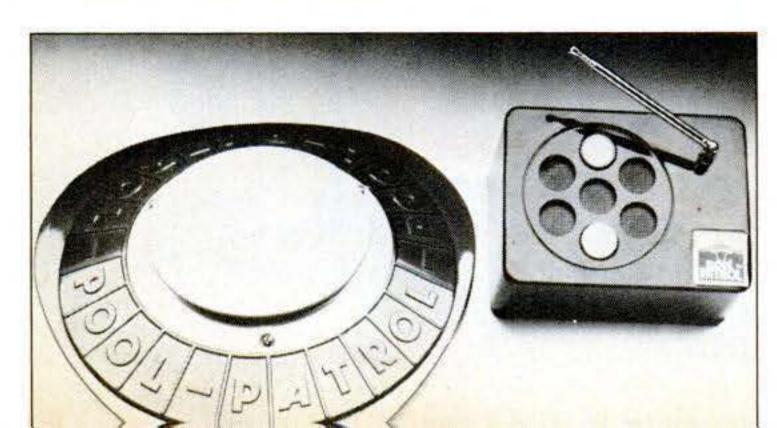
Hi-fi TV

Slip a thin copper sensor under your TV and turn on the Telefidelity adapter. The TV's audio will now come from an eight-inch woofer and threeinch tweeter inside the converter's cabinet as hi-fi-quality sound. It's \$129.95. Petrous Electronics, 415 W. Walnut St., Compton, Calif.



While maybe "the last one in is a rotten egg," the first one in your pool should be Pool Patrol. The wireless transmitter signals a receiver in your house if someone enters the water-on purpose or accidentally. It's \$275. ESC, 55 Ward Ave., Mt. Kisco, N.Y. 10549.





FOR YOUR CAR

BY ED JACOBS



Crawler conversion

You get the go-anywhere capabilities of a tracked vehicle with the Globe Power Trax GPT-1 conversion kit. It fits Jeep, Bronco, Scout, Land Rover, and most other sports/utility vehicles. Globe Machine Mfg. Co., 701 E. "D" St., Tacoma, Wash. 98421. Price: \$7,600.



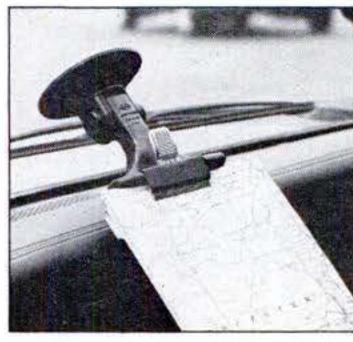


Sound safe

Audio Safe is a two-piece theft deterrent for dashmounted sound systems. The base section replaces the stereo's trim plate, and the cover locks in place over the entire unit. It's \$39.95. Burbank Enterprises, Inc., 950-D N. Rengstorff Ave., Mt. View, Calif. 94043.

Filter wrench

By adjusting L'Wrench's urethane-coated nylon gripping strap, you can remove or install spin-on-type filter cartridges of all sizes. It costs \$3.59 at auto-parts stores or from Gripit Corp., Box 130, Intercourse, Pa. 17534.



Just pop the suction cup of this molded-plastic clipboard onto your windshield or any smooth surface to hold maps or directions where they're visible. Atrali Accessories Ltd., Anglian Rd., Redhouse Industrial Estate, Aldridge, W. Midlands WS9 8EP, England.

Map holder

X-car levelers

Monroe's Load-Leveler LL-419 shock absorbers-the first of their kind for GM's Xcar series-are said to counter rear-end sag, bottoming-out, and instability when the car is fully loaded. (They're not designed to increase maximum load, however.) Price: \$51.95 each.

Pickup sleeper

Cubby Cab fits any full-size pickup, seats two adults, converts to a bed, and has a removable padded floor. It's lockable, has its own lighting, and is carpeted on all interior surfaces. Price: \$1,098. Universal Systems, Box 3467, Logan, Utah 84321.







New materials, streamlined looks, and fewer conveniences give RV's more mpg

By HERBERT SHULDINER

LOUISVILLE, KY.

"It sure doesn't look like a Winnebago," an RV dealer said to me as we stood examining the new Warrior motor home during the annual Recreational Vehicle Industry Show at the Exposition Center here last December. And it's easy to see why when you look at the low, sleek motor home shown above and compare it to older Winnebago motor homes.

The Warrior is perhaps the most dramatic example of the new generation of lighter, streamlined, more fuel-efficient RV's introduced at the show. However, while more fuel efficient than older models, the higher-mpg camping vehicles merely belong to an intermediate generation—soon to be replaced by an even more economical class of motor home and trailer.

"Eventually, as new chassis become available," says Winnebago Chairman John K. Hanson, "future motor homes will deliver even greater fuel economy."

Meanwhile, Winnebago has introduced Warrior and its twin, Itasca Spectrum, both about twice as fuel efficient as most of today's motor homes.

How was it done? Principally by severe weight reduction: foam-core doors, smaller holding tanks, lighter appliances and furniture, and a new, lightweight, Chevrolet motor-home chassis. The result: a 4,600-lb. weight reduc-



Compact, utilitarian interior (above) of Winnebago's 22-ft.-long Warrior motor home is a hint of things to come in RV design. The design of the sportier, lighter Warrior (top) sacrifices interior space for better fuel economy. Prices start at under \$18,000.

tion over conventional motor homes of similar length, Winnebago claims. Yet inside, Warrior provides ample head room, storage space, and lots of other conveniences.

Just as Detroit is pinning its hopes on smaller, more fuel-efficient cars for a sales revival, RV makers are desperately hoping to entice customers back into their show-rooms with this type of high-mpg camping vehicle.

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Compact, 17-ft. Quantum 5 fifth-wheel trailer from Contempo (left) is designed for towing by small pickups. It sleeps four and has full galley and bath. Price is \$9,200. Tiny, 12-ft. Contempo Condo travel trailer (below) can be towed by compacts; it's only 1,375 pounds. Condo sleeps two kids and two grown-ups, has a galley and dinette. An optional chemical toilet is available. Its all-fiberglass body is easy to care for both inside and out. Condo costs \$4,900.









Trio of lightweight RV's: Diamond G.T. XL (left), Coleman Niagara II camping trailer (above left), and Prowler LT travel trailer (above). The 20-ft. Prowler from Fleetwood Enterprises has many weight-saving and aerodynamic features that improve fuel efficiency, including lighter-than-glass acrylic windows, horizontally mounted aluminum LP tanks, and an ultralight chassis. Base price: \$6,295 f.o.b. Modular Niagara II lets you equip camper with as many convenience features as you want. Price range: \$2,395–\$2,595. Lightweight Diamond 23-ft. mini motor home features honeycomb construction and slippery styling that help deliver about 15 mpg, the company claims. Price is about \$21,800.

Weekender sloop

Build it for under \$800

Smart sailing craft has a cozy little sleeping cabin for two

By SUSANNE and PETER STEVENSON

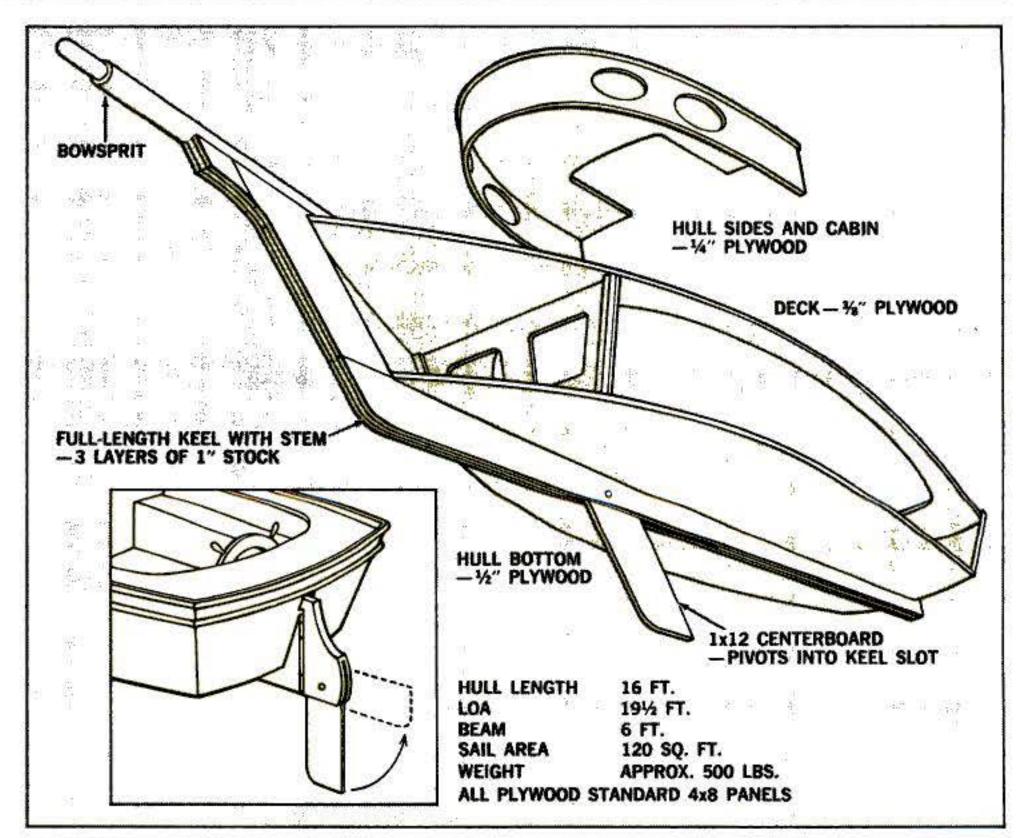
PHOTOS BY THE AUTHORS
DRAWING BY ADOLPH BROTMAN

To create a traditional craft at untraditional cost—that was the challenge we faced when designing this cuddycabin camper. The result is an easyto-build, lightweight version of the classic fishing sloop that first sailed out of Friendship, Maine, a century ago.

Our Little Friendship is as handsome and nice-handling as its namesake. This swift-sailing little sloop paces conventional craft. Yet even beginners can manage its 120 sq. ft. of sail, thanks to self-tending lines on jib and mainsail. And its roomy cuddy lets two people camp overnight on the water—or even on the road. The craft is light enough to be trailered behind today's smaller cars

today's smaller cars.

You can build the weekender sloop with common tools, using standard lumberyard stocks. The mainsail boom and gaff, for example, are bannister railings. The mast and removable bowsprit are stock full-round moldings. The mast hoops that fasten to the sails are slices of PVC pipe. Mast stays and shrouds are tensioned, not with costly turnbuckles but with traditional deadeyes-hand-shaped wood blocks. Even the salty-looking wheel is handcrafted from lumberyard spindles, plywood, and 2×4's. The whole boat, including paint, sails-even carpeting-should cost you well under \$800.



Don't be fooled by the snug size and easy construction-this is a versatile boat for active people, as the photos on the facing page demonstrate. Clockwise from top: For beaching, its keelmounted centerboard kicks up and out of the way. When under sail, the clubfoot jib makes tacking a simple matter of spinning the wheel, and the gaffrigged main keeps heeling to a minimum. Yet the sloop can also be rowed more easily than a dinghy, thanks to its full-length keel. The craft needs no auxiliary motor, even when maneuvering in crowded anchorages. The carpeted cuddy has plenty of sprawling room, because of the sloop's flat bottom. The cabin has sleeping room for two. There's extra stowage and room for a portable head extending back under the cockpit seats. The cockpit also has storage space under aft sections of the

seats and in the lazaret. The craft is not

only seaworthy and comfortable, it's simple to build. The sails, for example, need no sewing. They're cut from the heavy-duty, woven polyethylene that's sold for tarpaulins. These sun-resistant plastic sails proved rugged aboard the Mini-Cat [PS, Feb. '80]. The hull's flat bottom makes it easy to assemble (above). In cross section, the hull is a tapered plywood box that's self-aligning as you build. The laminated keel has a slot for the pivoting centerboard. When underway, both the keel and kick-up rudder can be locked in position from the cockpit. The steering system is also simple-it's a cable control that links the wheel directly to a hidden tiller. For detailed plans, including step-by-step drawings and a materials list, send a \$10 check to Stevenson Projects, Dept. W-10, Box 584, Del Mar, Calif. 92104. Make checks or money orders payable to Stevenson Projects.



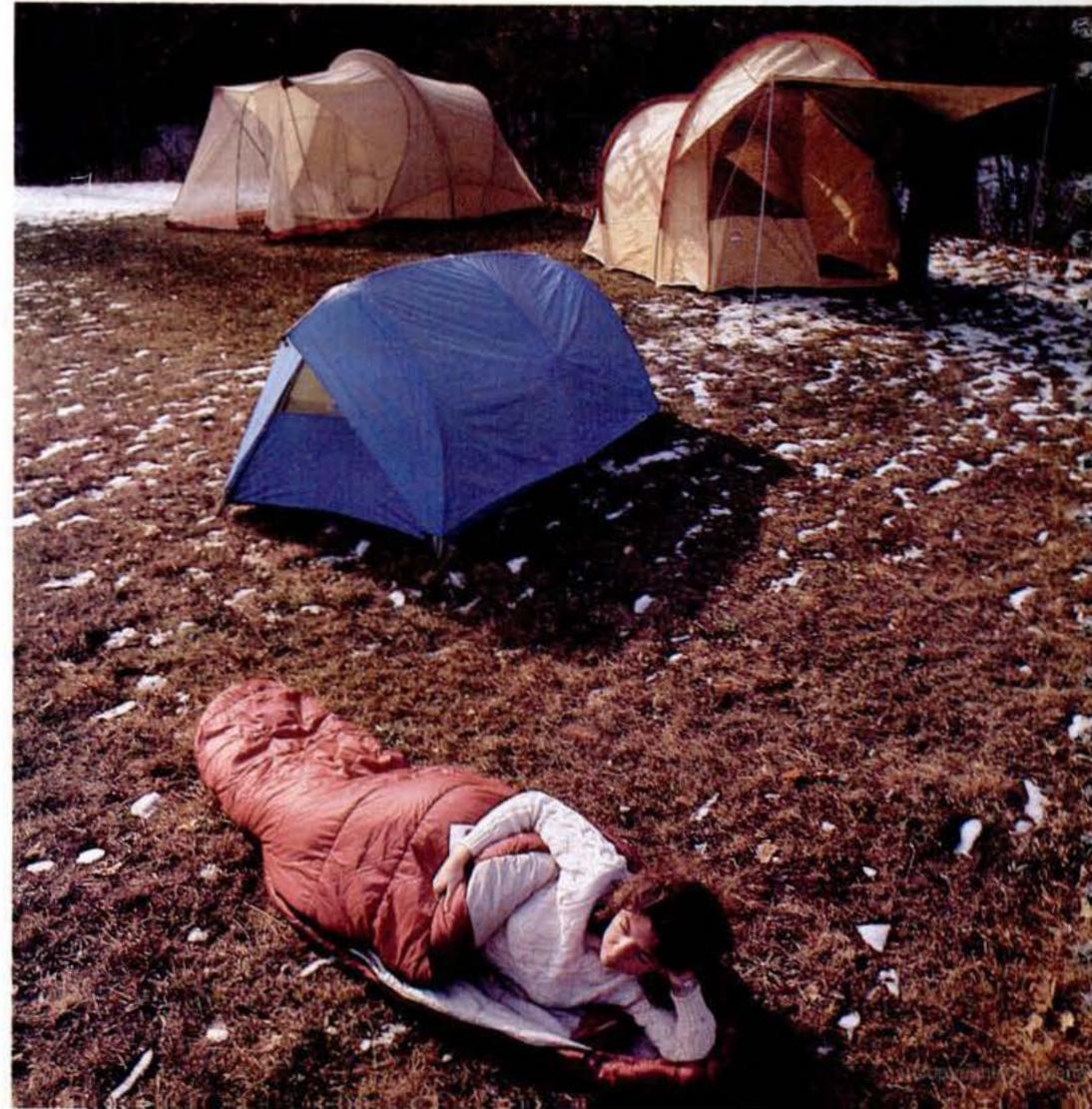








Hikers at rest: He's wearing a Klimate rain parka from Back to Basics and Danner hiking boots with the original waterproof and breathable material, Gore-Tex. The Gore-Tex is laminated to the gold-color fabric on the ankle, sides, and tongue of the boot. She has on a pair of San Marco polyurethane-shell boots from Vasque. Inside the boot's plastic shell is a lining of leather and insulating foam. These boots are too stiff for normal hiking; they're better suited for more rugged climbing. Her parka from Camp 7 has a Gore-Tex outer lining and is filled with Thinsulate insulation. Thinsulate is also available in sleeping bags from Great Iron Works and in kits for parkas from Frostline. Three of this year's new tents are pitched in the photo at right. Two of them are saddleshape, family-size models by designer Bill Moss. The tent at rear left is from Moss Tent Works. It has a breathable inner nylon shell covered by a waterproof fly stretched over the poles. The other saddle-shape tent is Coleman's Genesis, which has a new fabric, Evolution 3. The maker says this stretchable fabric breathes better than nylon, yet is still water-resistant in heavy rain. The blue tent in the foreground is Camp 7's Royal Arch. It will shelter two or three people and weighs a transportable 51/2 lbs. The tent is semi-free-standing with poles designed to absorb strong gusts. Early Winters' Silver Lining bag (foreground) has a reflective lining inside to save the body's radiant heat.



Improved parkas, boots, tents, and more-to take the chill out of winter

By PAUL BOLON

A synthetic fiber twice as warm as goose down? A tent fabric in a boot? Plastic underwear? Our survey of new camping gear has turned up all thisand more. New materials-and new applications for older ones—seem to be appearing with greater frequency each year. And makers are using them in imaginative ways and in unique combinations to solve special problems.

The new materials are plastics: woven polypropylene; Teflon; films with reflecting, metalized surfaces; and microfibers. Gear makers claim that although not always problemfree, the new materials are generally outperforming the older standbys.

Better than down

Thinsulate [PS, Jan. '79] is an aptly named insulating fill developed by 3M, which is just now appearing in camping gear. 3M says that the new product has about twice the thermal resistance of other fills-down, pile,

wool, or fiber. Thinsulate has a much finer fiber than others and can also be packed together more densely. Researchers believe that the insulating value of the new fill is due not only to the quantity of dead air space it creates, but that friction between air and fiber surfaces plays a major role in reducing losses by convection. Since Thinsulate's fibers have more surface area per unit volume than other fills, more air is slowed or held to the fibers. A Thinsulate jacket would produce the same warmth with much less bulk than older garments.

Outer skins

Gore-Tex was the first material that was both waterproof and breathable ["Camping Gear," PS, March '78]. Now there's another product, Klimate, that does the same job, apparently in about the same way-with pores too small for droplets of water to pass through but big enough for water vapor. Klimate is appearing in parkas and tents this year. Gore-Tex has two new applications-in boots and mittens.

The Great Iron Works offers a pair of working mittens with a Gore-Tex shell to cover them. Both Donner Mountain and Danner Shoe make Continued



Survival kit from Eddie Bauer is the first the author has seen with a stove in such a small unit. Kit also includes a plastic tube tent, solid-fuel squares, three packs of broth, a foot-long wire saw, water-purification tablets, a water bag, bandages and surgical tubing, a cooking pan, a knife, six aspirin, duct tape, waterproof matches, a mosquito net, and other survival hardware—all squeezed into its 3%-in.-high, 41/4-in.-diameter cylinder. The hiker is toting Early Winters' Trick Pack, a full-size day pack that can be turned inside out and folded into a hand-sized pouch. The pouch can then be slipped onto a belt for out-of-the-way carrying on the way home.







boots with large panels of Gore-Tex laminations in place of leather, mostly in the side and ankle areas. The substitution of these cloth areas makes the boots much lighter. As a bonus, these boots seem to have no painful breaking-in period.

Metalized films are also appearing in new applications this year. The metal-coated films first showed up years ago in survival blankets; recently they've been laminated onto tent fabrics. Now the films—which keep you warmer by reflecting your body's radiant heat back to you—are being used in sleeping bags and parkas.

Early Winters' Ultimo parka combines all the new materials: It has a Gore-Tex shell, Thinsulate fill, and a radiant reflecting-film barrier. You can expect to see lots of combinations of Gore-Tex or Klimate, Thinsulate, and reflecting films in the future.

Inner skins

Plastic underwear does not evoke images of cozy warmth, but long johns, socks, and fishnet underwear made of an extremely fine polypropylene yarn are now accepted by those who are active in very cold conditions. The plastic underwear doesn't sop up heavy sweat, as do woolen or cotton underwear, which may then stay wet and turn cold. The synthetic fabric wicks water away from the skin so it can evaporate. Lifa, a Norwegian company, made the first polypropylene underwear, but other companies are now also weaving the fabric.

MANUFACTURERS AND SUPPLIERS

Camp 7, 802 So. Sherman, Longmont CO 80501; Class-5, 1480 66th, Emeryville CA 94608; The Coleman Co., 250 No. St. Francis, Wichita KS 67201; Danner Shoe, Box 22204, Portland OR 97222; Donner Mountain, 2110 5th St., Berkeley CA 94710; Early Winters, 110 Prefontaine Place So., Seattle WA 98104; Eddie Bauer, Fifth & Union, Box 3700, Seattle WA 98130; Frostline Kits, Frostline Circle, Dept 1090, Denver CO 80241; Gott Corp., Box 652, Winfield KS 67156; Great Pacific Iron Works, Box 150, Ventura CA 93002; Lifa—NorthSport USA, Ways Lane, Manchester Center VT 05255; Moss Tent Works, Mt. Battie St., Camden ME 04843; Vasque Mountain Boots, Red Wing MN 55066.

Palm-sized stove from Early Winters (left) may be the smallest one yet-handy for a trailside cup of tea. The stand folds up and fits into a pocket-sized pouch along with the alcohol burner and flame snuffer. Gott is offering a new line of polyurethane-insulated coolers (top photo) that don't need loose ice to keep your goods chilled. Instead, the coolers maintain low temperatures via a Refreeze bottle that fits into the top. You simply fill the plastic bottle with water or a beverage, freeze it, and slip it into the top. She's wearing a windbreaker with a reflecting inner liner from Early Winters. His parka from Class-5 has a Klimate shell and a wool fill.

Windows tight? Now maybe it's time for energy-saving

insulating shades

R-values? Edge seals? Here's how to evaluate the claims before you buy

By A. J. HAND

Today, window shades are expected to do a lot more than darken the bedroom when you want to sleep late. Properly installed, even an ordinary shade from the dime store can block a lot of heat loss [PS, Jan. '80]. A specially designed thermal shade can truly insulate your windows.

Just a few years ago, there were no such things as thermal shades. Today, there are a dozen or so, with more scheduled to appear on the market. Popular Science covered many of the shades as they were introduced, but several have since been modified; and a new do-it-yourself kit allows you to design your own insulating shade.

Thermal shades are not for everyone. To help you decide if they're for you, we offer a number of points to look for, as well as the comprehensive table on the next page.

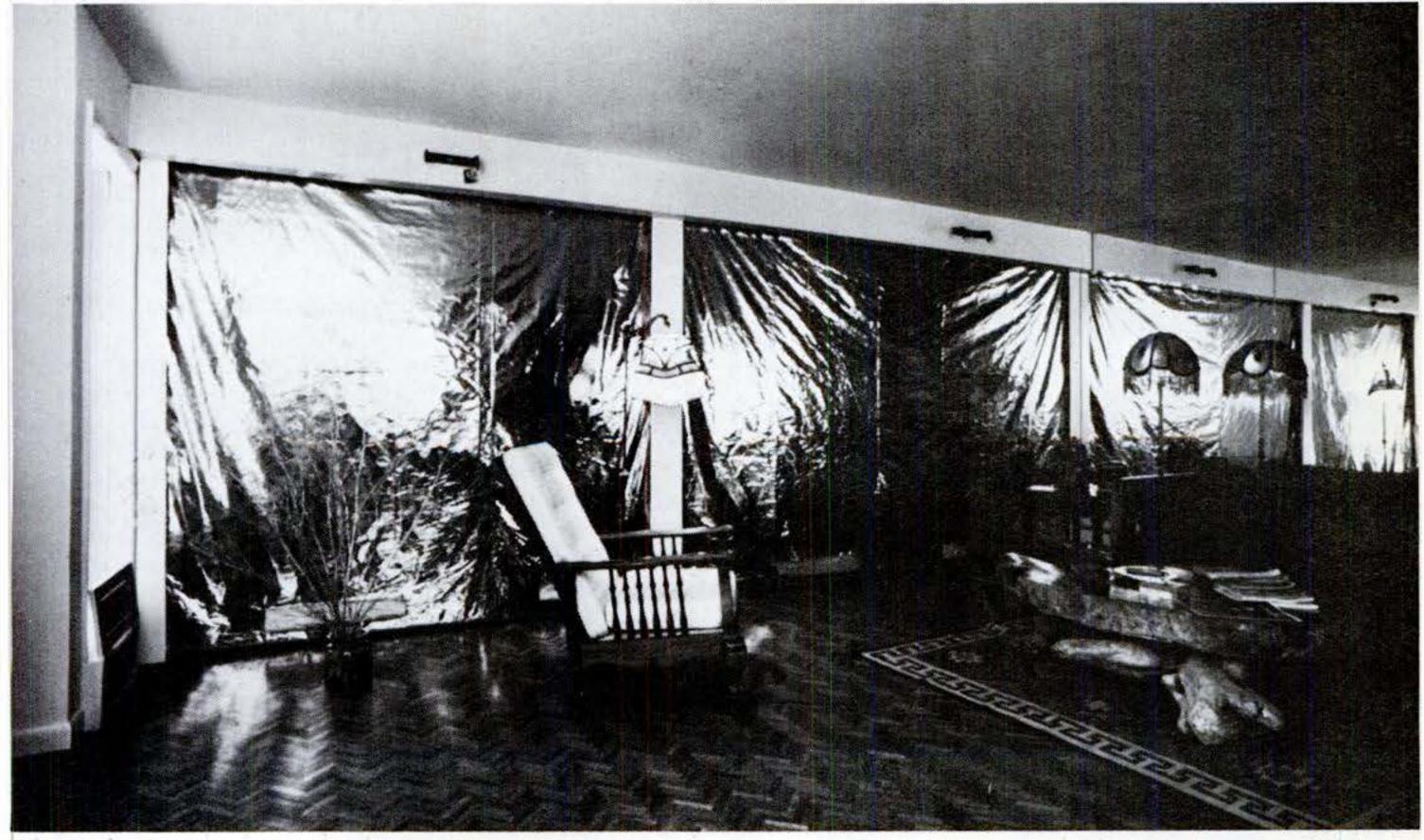
Thermal shades come in a variety of

versions, but all work on the principle that air is a good insulator. A tightfitting shade creates an insulating air pocket that prevents warm room air from being drawn to and chilled by a cold window surface.

Most thermal shades also use some kind of heat-reflective material—usually metallized plastic film, the stuff used to reject summer heat.

Makers of translucent shades such as the N-R-G shade and the Insealshaid system ["Window Insulators," PS, June '78] say metallized shades

Continued



Glittering gold Curtin Wall has multiple layers that inflate when shade is pulled

down. Don't want the gold lamé look? Manufacturer will attach buyer-supplied

fabric to front of shade with Velcro so fabric can be removed for cleaning.

bounce infrared rays back into the room. (Other shade makers cover the metallized plastic with a decorative fabric or finish.) This infrared reflecting property may conserve some extra heat-though not much unless there's a radiant heater in the room. Here's one advantage of these translucent shades, however: On cloudy winter days you can pull the shades for insulation, yet still see out.

On the theory that more is better, most of the shades have multiple airtrapping layers. Shades such as Curtin Wall [PS, Oct. '79] and Independence I-formerly the IS High "R" shade [PS, Jan. '79]—have four layers of metallized plastic that offer multiple air pockets.

An alternative approach to window insulation is to cover the window as you would a bed—with a thick, padded blanket such as Window Quilt [PS, Oct. '791.

Finally, some shades do double duty as solar collectors. Both Thermo-Shade [PS, June '78] and Curtin Wall have automatic controls that raise the shade when the sun is shining and lower it at sunset or when clouds cut off the heat. Insealshaid features a thermally controlled vent system that alternately closes and opens to trap, then release, warmed air to the room.

You can check the table for more details on the individual shades. But if you are dismayed at the prices, note the Sol-R-Shade listing. This do-ityourself system should be a money saver when it becomes available. Components include a variety of shade materials such as reflective films, thin foams, and laminations combining fabric and film. The ironon edge seals have self-adhesive window tracks. Clip-on bottom battens have foam strips to seal the shade against the sill. Spacers between battens hold the shade plies apart to create insulating air spaces. And the shade roller is a simple cord-operated system. All the hardware for the Sol-R-Shade is presently being imported from Japan, but there are plans to produce it in the U.S.

7

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Who should install thermal shades? If you have not yet insulated your roof and walls, caulked and weatherstripped throughout your house, and installed storm windows, you're not ready for thermal shades. It makes little sense to spend \$4 to \$10 a square foot for thermal shades when R-19 insulation in your attic costs just 25¢ a foot and can save far more energy.

If you are ready for shades, here are purchasing guidelines.

First check R-value, the rate at which the shade blocks heat loss. Surprisingly, you're not looking for the highest possible rating. The R-value of a shade is based on the amount of heat loss it prevents. Obviously the shade does nothing to stop heat loss when it's raised during the day. So if you use a shade normally, it's impossible for any shade to cut daily heat loss through a window by more than about 58 percent.

Thus, the law of diminishing returns sets in quite quickly with window insulators. Shades with a rated R-value of 11 or 12 provide only marginally better insulation than do those with an R-value of five.

The moral? Don't spend extra money just to go beyond R-5. Exception: If you're shopping for a shade that you plan to leave closed constantly during the heating season, an R-value over five can make sense. On the other hand, if you plan to block the window off all winter, you don't need the convenience of a shade. A pop-in shutter [PS, "What's New in Home Improvement," Nov. '79] can do the job as well for far less money.

Air seals are another key checkpoint. Blocking the flow of air around the edges of a shade is a vital but tricky job. Without good seals, a shade can't prevent heat loss. Escaping warm air may also cause condensation that can damage window and sill.

Buyer's guide to insulating shades

Shade and manufacturer	R-value (winter)	Heat reduction (summer) (%)	Construction	Seals?	Cost (\$/sq. ft.)	Comments
Curtin Wall Thermal Technology Box 130 Snowmass CO 81645	9-12 plus R-value of glazing	90	Four layers of alu- minized film that inflate and sepa- rate when shade is drawn	Make your own	\$4,00 and up	Motorized with ther- mal switch; looks like gold ripstop nylon but can be covered with decorative fabric if de- sired
Independence I Independent Systems Box 329 Durham CT 06442	10.7 with double glazing	90	Four layers alumi- nized Mylar; plas- tic or wood side and head frames	All four sides	\$4.75	New pull-cord mecha- nism is big improve- ment over old roller; motorized version in the works
Insealshaid Arc-Tic-Seal Systems Box 428 Butler WI 53007	5.38; see comments	80	Uses three sepa- rate shades: One absorbs heat, one reflects heat, the third has UV filter	All four sides	About \$9	Three separate shades allow the shade to function as solar collector, as a nighttime insulator in winter, and as a summer heat rejector; 5.38 R-value is nighttime mode
N-R-G Shade Sun Control Products 431 4th Ave. S.E. Rochester MN 55901	Approx. 3 with single glazing	85	One sheet of alu- minized Mylar on standard wooden shade roller	Three sides	About \$2.70	Uses flexible vinyl track for side seals, heavy foam-bottomed batten for bottom seal
Sol-R-Shade Thermotech Corp. 808 Garfield Ave. Glenwood Springs CO 81601	n.a.	n.a.	Build it yourself, choosing from a variety of insulat- ing and reflective materials; seals, roller, tracks avail- able	All four sides	n.a.	Not yet available; per- formance depends upon materials you choose to use for shade; so does price
Sun Quilt Sun Quilt Corp. Box 374 Newport NH 03773	Approx. 6 with single glazing	n.a.	Thick batting with aluminized fabric outer face, decora- tive inner face; folds like a Roman shade	All four sides	\$5-\$9	Folds up into eight-in. pleats when opened; motorized and de- signed primarily for large areas
Star Shade Star Technology 417 Main St. Carbondale CO 81623	n.a.	n.a.	Multilayer shade on aluminum roller; number and type of layers not yet fixed	Top and bottom	n.a.	Still in development, may be available in March; fabric layers can be changed for various seasons; mo- torized
Thermo-Shade Solar Energy Co. 212 Welsh Pool Rd. Lionville PA 19353	5 with sin- gle glazing	n.a.	Tambour with hol- low PVC slats, riding along edges in vinyl tracks	All four sides	\$6	Automatic operation available, but shade is also easily pulled by hand; very sturdy shade; available pre- assembled for green- houses
Window Quilt Appropriate Technology Corp. Box 975 Brattleboro VT 05301	4.25 with single glazing	n.a.	Outer fabric with two layers of fiber- fill and metallized vapor barrier in center, quilted via ultrasonic bonding	All four sides	\$4.25	Attractive shade with good sealing system; also available in panel form at \$3.25; variety of face fabrics available

Note: R-values given vary with airtightness of your windows, local wind conditions, quality of installation, and other variables. Use these values as a rough comparative guide.

But it's also possible to go overboard on expensive seals, just as it is with R-value. The seal's job should be to keep room air away from the window, not to prevent infiltration of outside air into your home. That's a job for caulking and weatherstripping. In practice, seals should be able to keep nighttime condensation down to a level that will quickly evaporate next morning when the shade is opened.

Good seals are especially important on shades that will be left closed during the day as well as at night, because any condensation that does form won't be able to escape.

How can you check for good seals? If you have an actual shade to examine, press against its face with both forearms. One with good seals will resist.

Unlike the insulation in your walls and attic, an insulating shade must be able to stand up to a certain amount of abuse. Before you buy, examine a shade for possible weak spots. Operate it and check the mechanism. Does it work smoothly, or does it require force that might damage the shade in time? Does the shade rub excessively against its seals? Is it made of durable materials? A rigid vinyl shade might be a better choice than one made of a delicate fabric if you have a home full of active children.

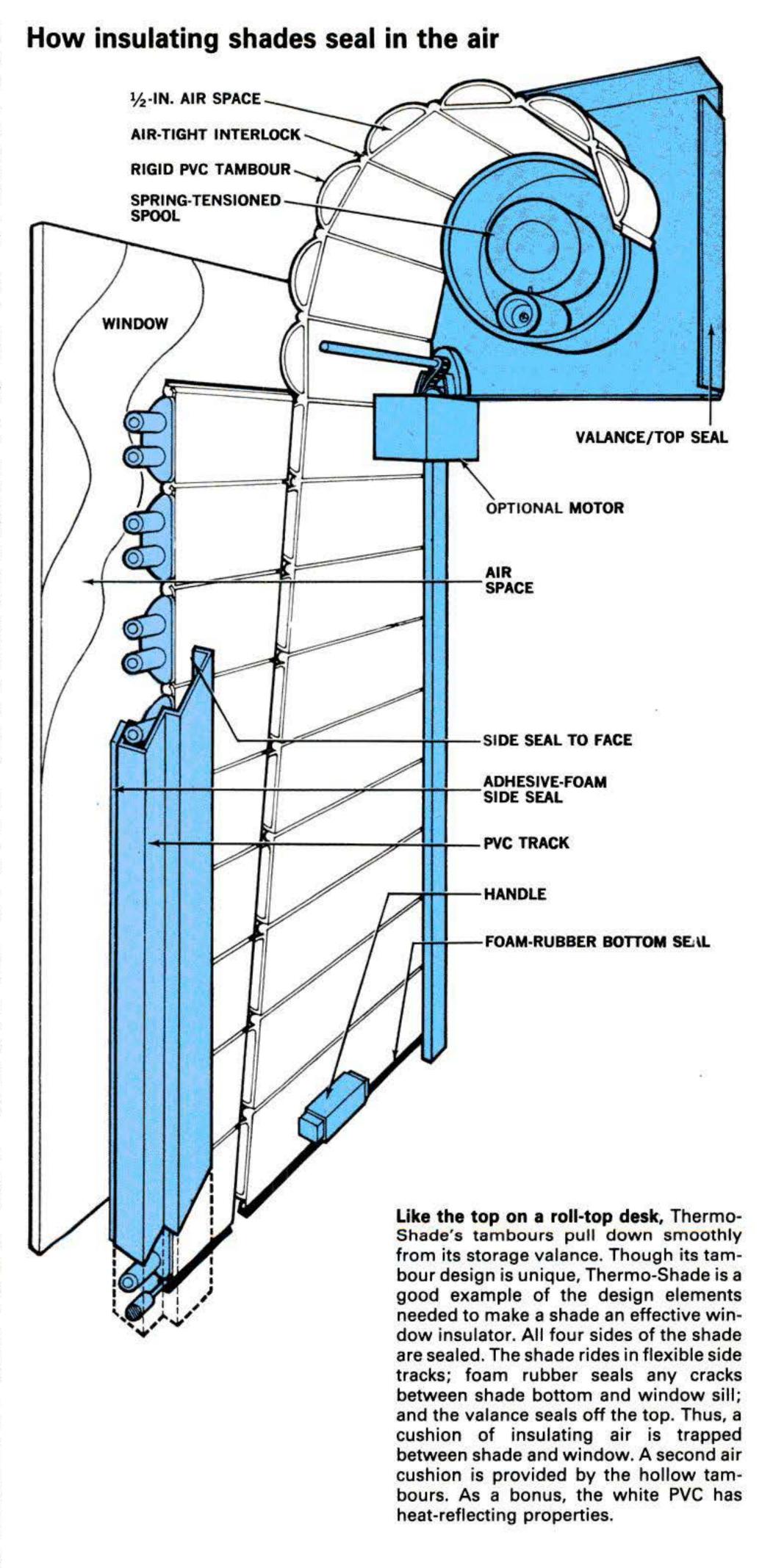
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Be sure the shade is easy for you to operate. If a shade is clumsy to work, you may fall into the habit of "forgetting" to use it. A shade that isn't drawn at night is a waste of money. Before you buy a shade, try opening and closing it a few times.

Be aware of potential operating problems that might not show up till you get the shade home. For example, a heavy shade on a conventional, spring-loaded roller might work fine on a small store display, but might be difficult to raise and lower if you installed it on a door or an extra-large window at home.

Also, make sure you can live with the appearance of a shade before you buy it. A shade that's too ugly to pull down has an R-value of zero.

What about price? If a thermal shade were nothing more than a piece of insulation, your main goal would be to get the best performance at the lowest cost. But since a shade is also a decorative part of your home, only you can decide what is a reasonable price to pay. If shade prices seem high, consider this: Many people spend as much as \$5 a square foot for shades or drapes that are purely decorative and offer virtually no thermal benefits at all. If you deduct the money you would normally spend for decorative shades from the price of a thermal shade, it will seem a much better bargain.



PRIZE-WINNING FRP DESIGNS

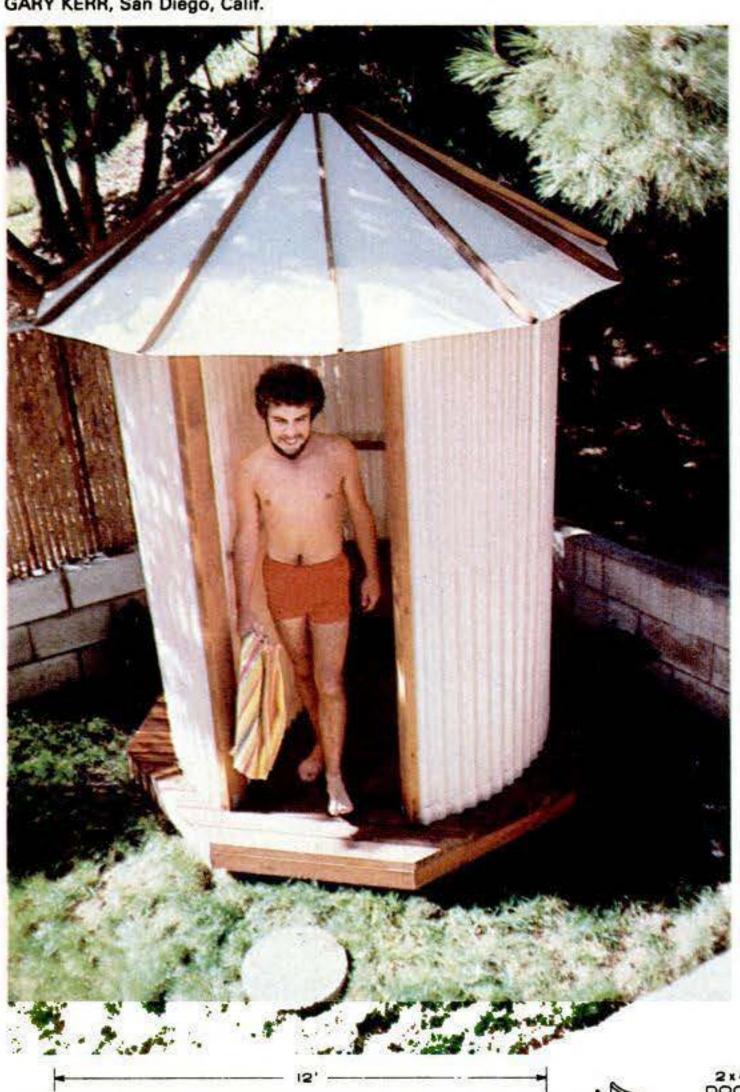
from 10 PS readers

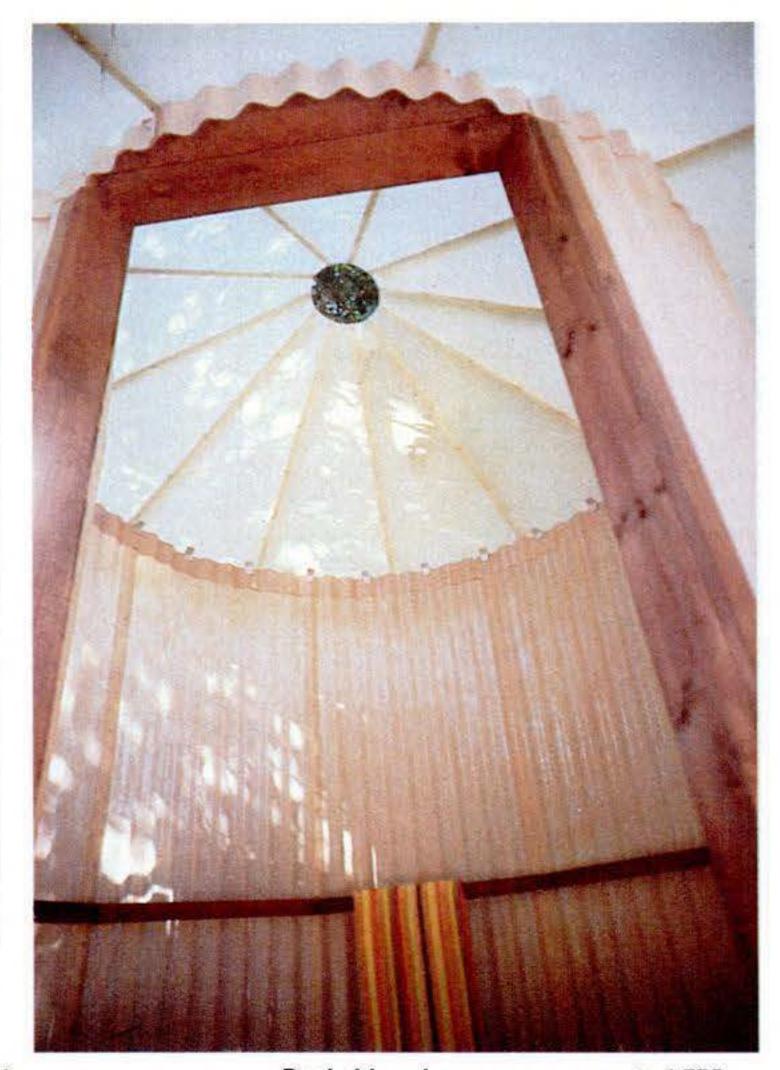
Once again we went in search of innovative, good-looking projects where FRP (fiberglass-reinforced plastic) was the dominant construction material. This lightweight panel is clean and easy to cut, drill, and install over minimal framing (our Grand Prize project below eliminates most framing); and FRP now comes in a variety of types, styles, and colors, from flat translucent sheets to square-ribbed panels with awning-like stripes. It isn't just the "green banana" any more, though FRP manufacturers still make those vivid corrugated patio-cover sheets that once identified the product.

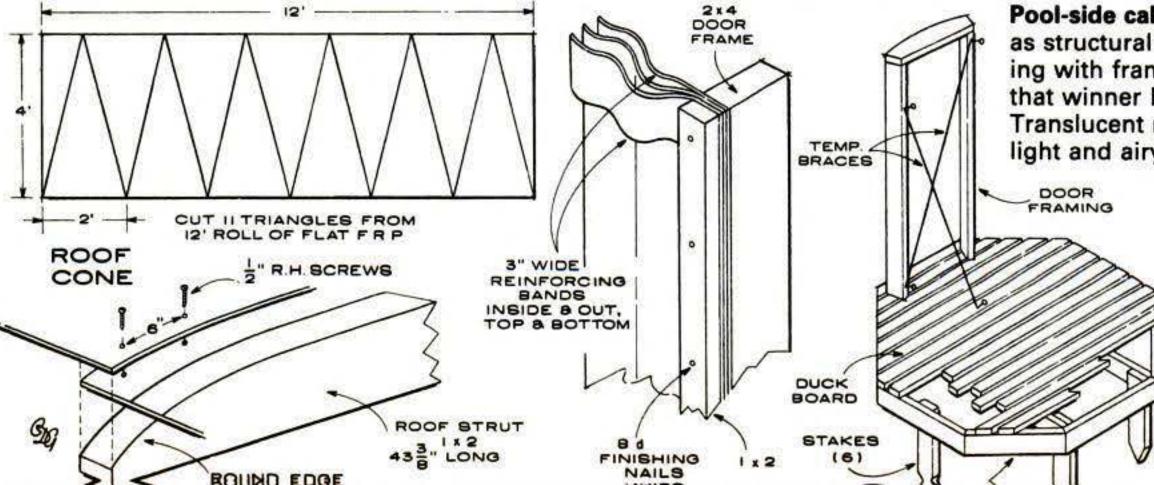
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\$2,000 GRAND PRIZE

GARY KERR, San Diego, Calif.

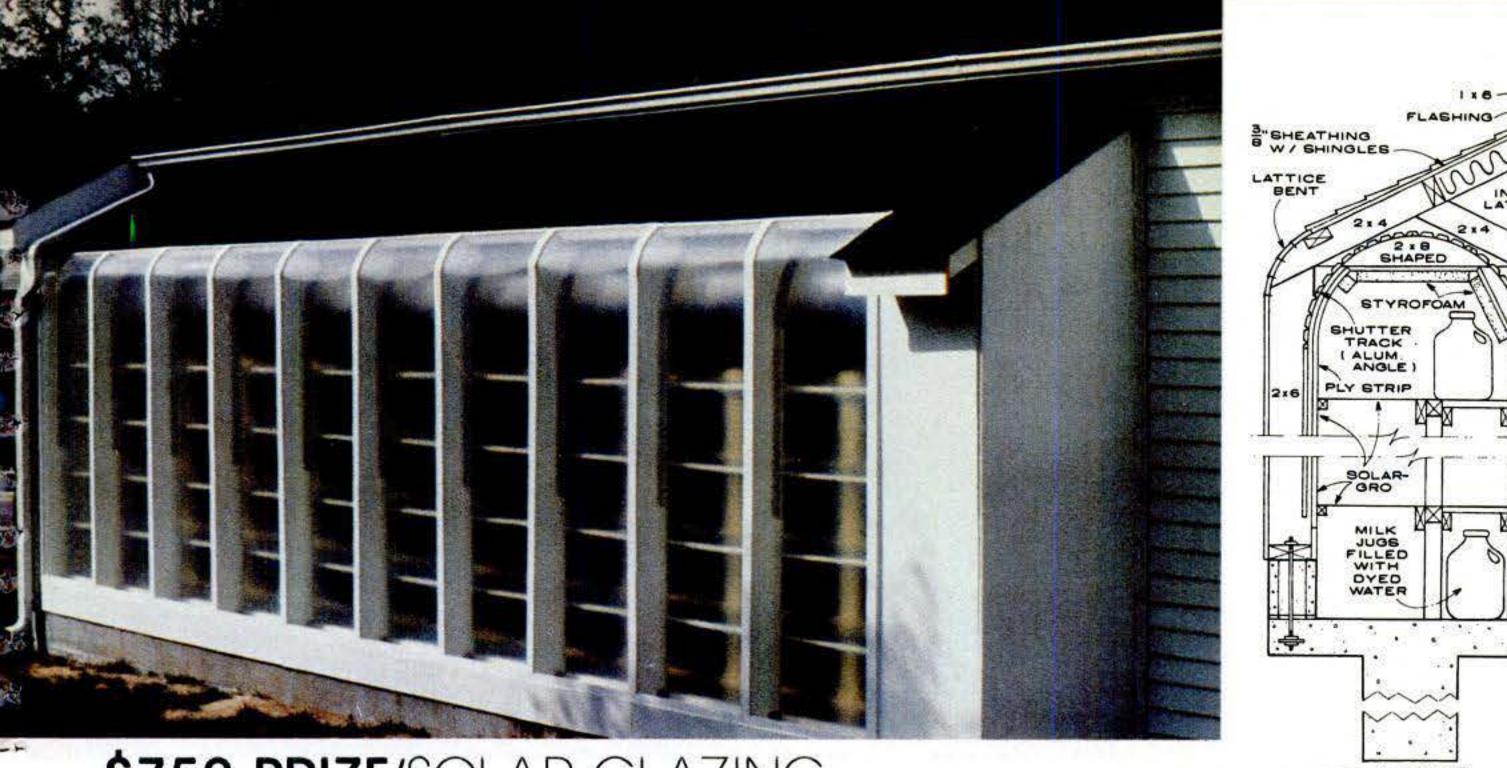






Pool-side cabana uses corrugated FRP as structural material for walls, dispensing with framing, except for doorway that winner Kerr steps through at left. Translucent roof cone keeps interior light and airy; note flared eaves.

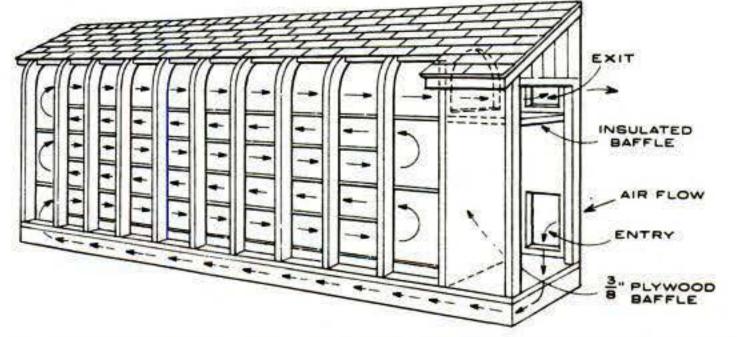
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\$750 PRIZE/SOLAR GLAZING

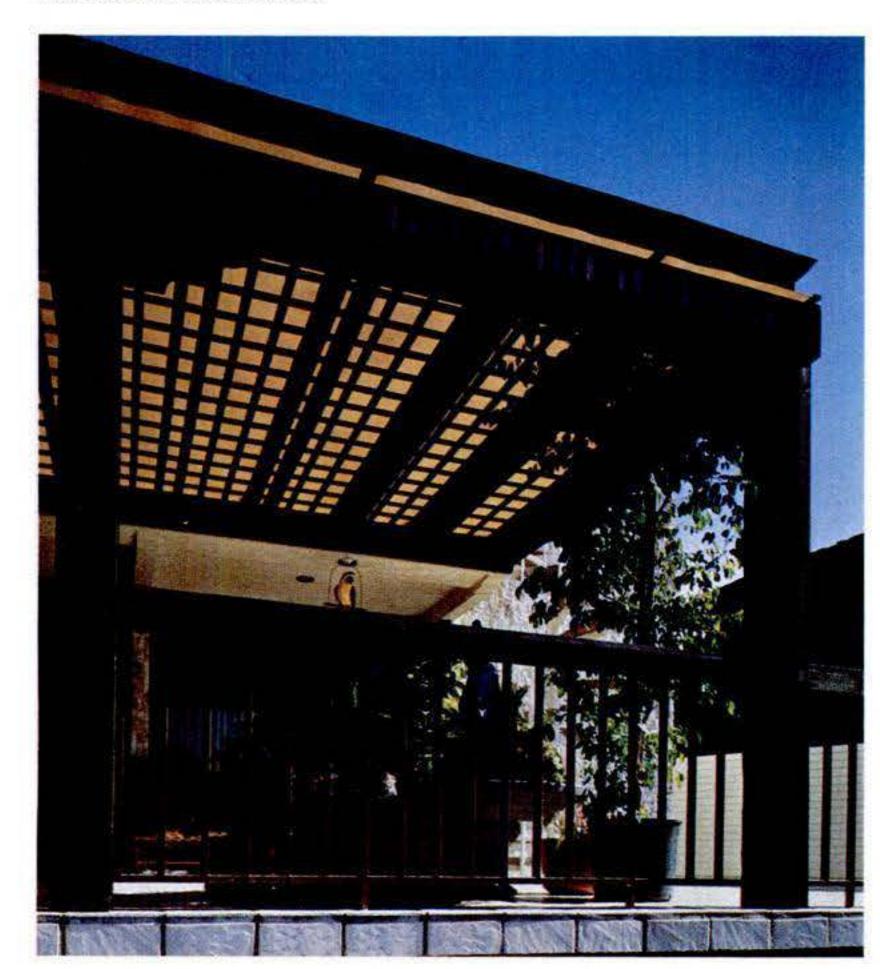
GARLAND MILLER, Oxon Hill, Md.

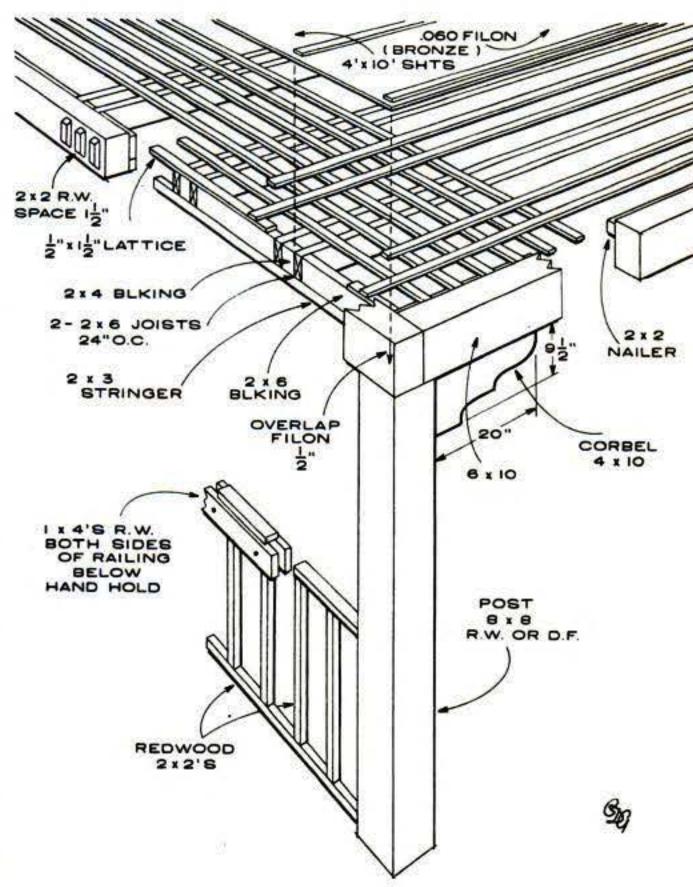
Collector wall runs air past racks of water-filled plastic jugs and back into garage behind, keeping workshop at comfortable temperature without backup heater. Each stud space has separate tambour-type Styrofoam shutter operable from inside; these move on aluminum track to retain heat by masking FRP when sun's not shining on it.



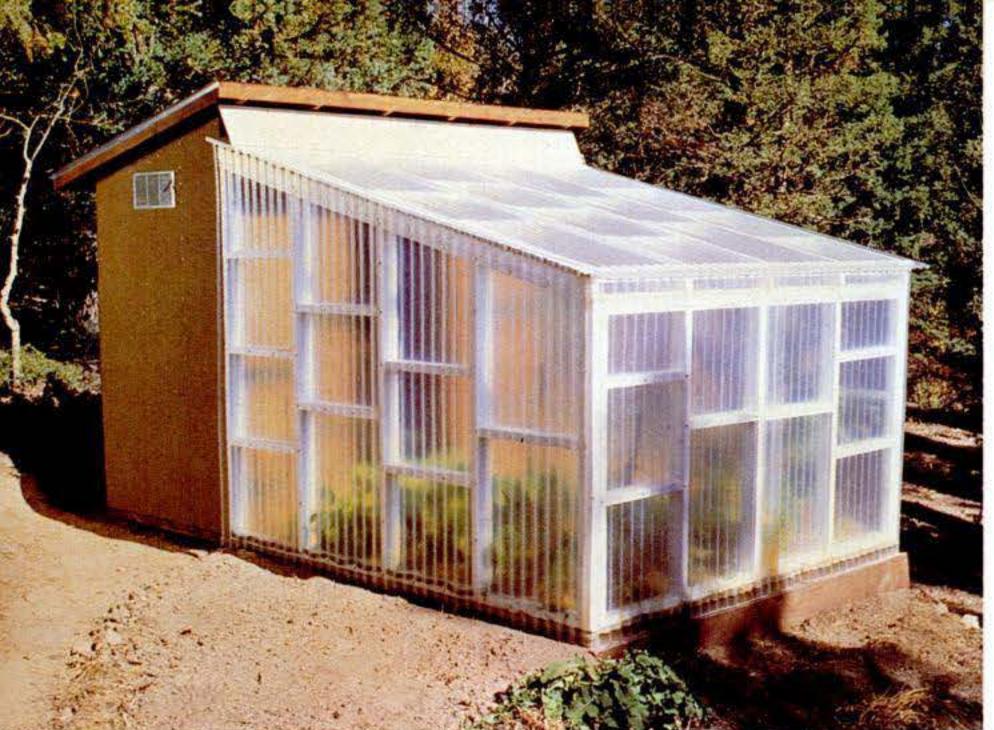
\$750 PRIZE/COVERS

RICHARD SPENCER, Irvine, Calif.



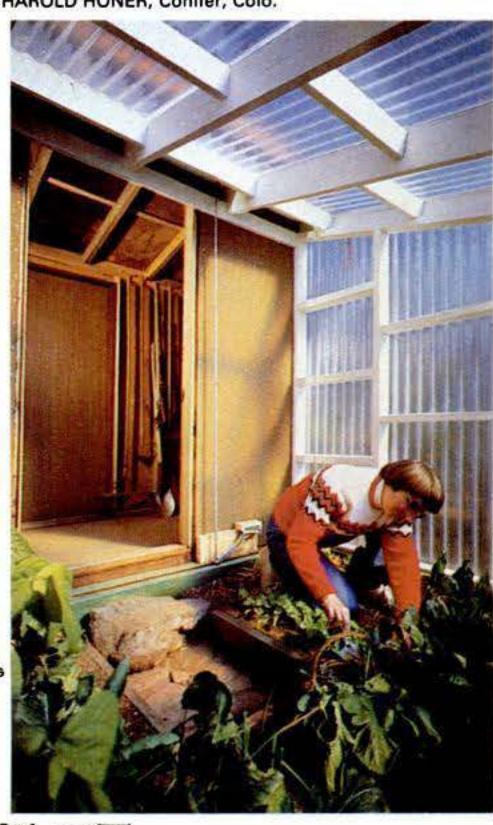


Outdoor room is created with handsome lattice-work ceiling supported by massive posts, beams and paired joists, and railing of 2×2's—all redwood here. Bronze Filon sheets overhead give sunny glow to space, even on overcast days, and keep the parrot dry.



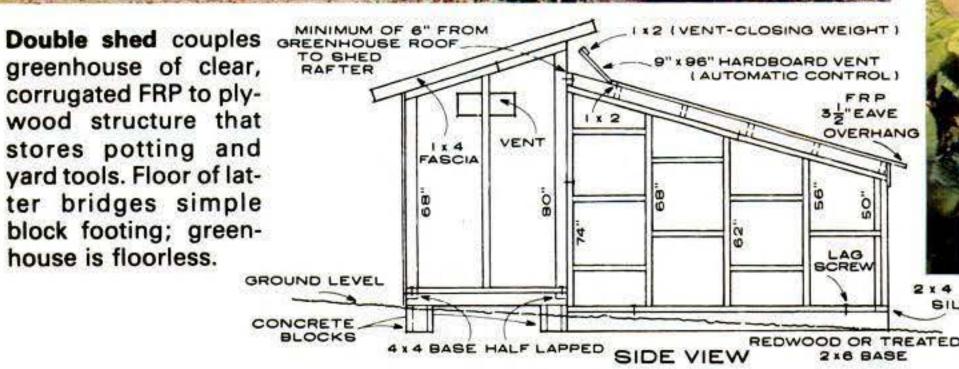
\$750 PRIZE/GREENHOUSES

HAROLD HONER, Conifer, Colo.



2" STYROFOAM

greenhouse of clear, corrugated FRP to plywood structure that stores potting and yard tools. Floor of latter bridges simple block footing; greenhouse is floorless.

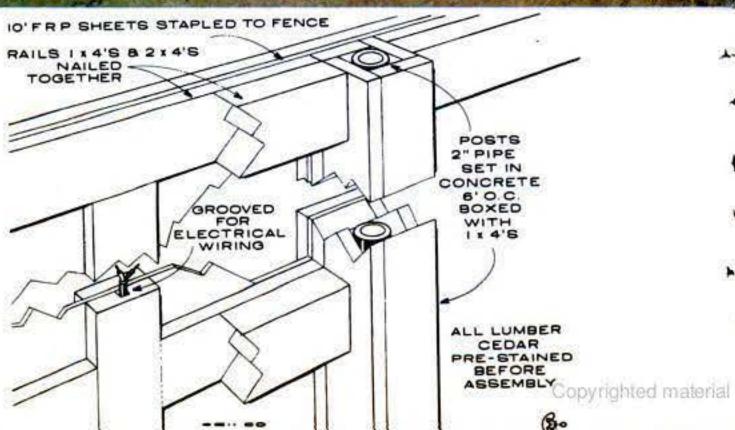


Privacy enclosure creates ideal space beside house for outdoor parties. Wiring for lanterns is concealed within frame that's applied to both faces of FRP. Concrete slab has grass carpeting.

\$750 PRIZE/FENCES & SCREENS

ANDY BERGLUND, Seattle, Wash.

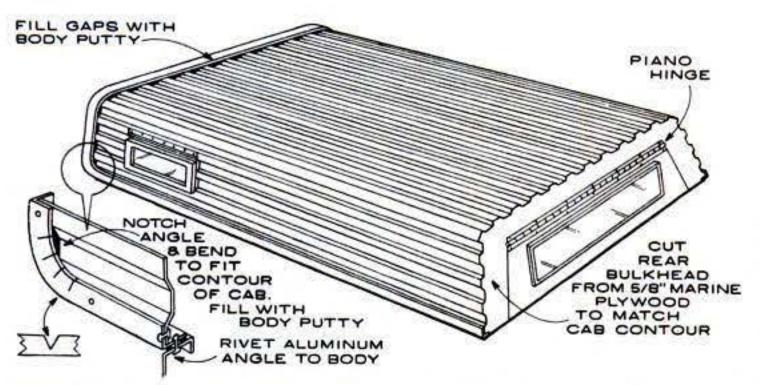




HONORABLE MENTIONS

MISCELLANEOUS STRUCTURES

VIRGIL RAYMOND, Eagan, Minn.

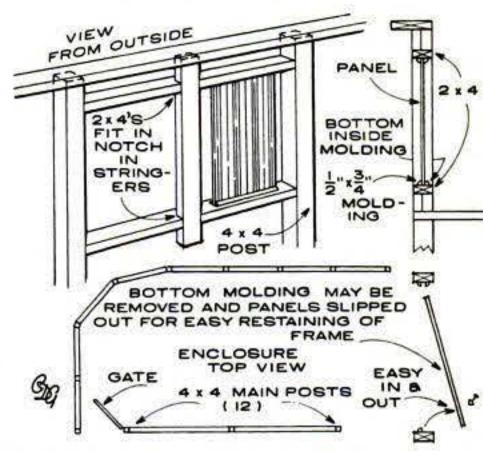


Truck-bed canopy, made from four Type 150 CoolRib panels, needs no inner frame, can be tailored to any compact pickup as a cargo cover or sleep shelter. Angle frame is easy to shape.



FENCES & SCRFFNS

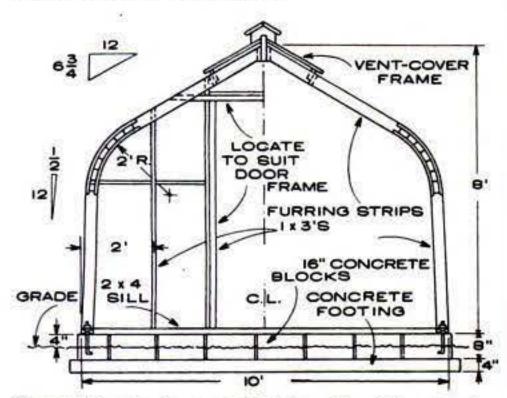
RICHARD L. CATT, Mogadore, Ohio



Pool enclosure satisfied designer's local safety code, gave privacy deck for sunbathing. Wood frame is easily restained.

GREENHOUSES

W. E. BUNTING, California, Md.



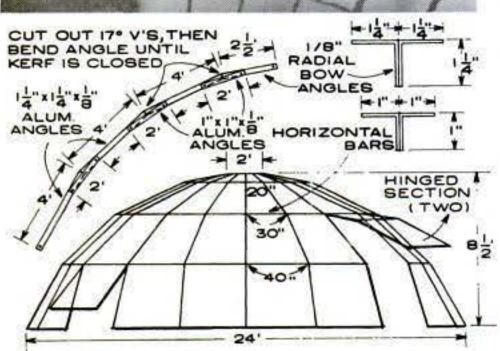
Greenhouse is erected in 4'-wide modules, so can be any length. Unit shown is three modules (12') long, took two FRP rolls.



COVERS

ROBERT J. KERINS, Niagara Falls, N.Y.







Pool dome, supported by shrewd assembly of aluminum angles, has two hinged

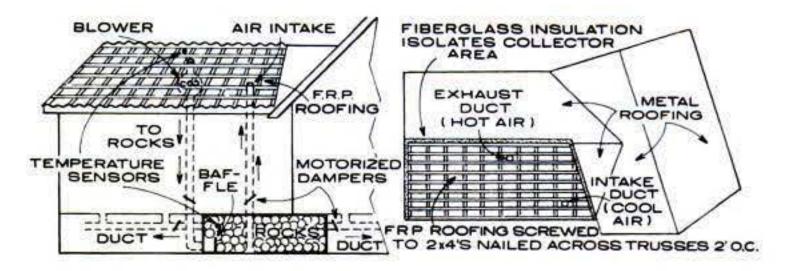
sections for access and ventilation. Solar gain extends swim season.

SOLAR GLAZING

TOM SALISBURY, Telluride, Colo.



Roof collector is south face of one wing of this mountain home, covered with corrugated FRP. Hot air in space beneath is pumped into rock storage bin and distributed to living areas.





We announced our contest in last May's issue, with a Sept. 30 deadline. I flew out to the Los Angeles head-quarters of the major manufacturer of FRP—Filon—to judge the many entries. Filon had put up \$5,000 for the cash awards; five Honorable Mention winners received a large selection of how-to books from Popular Science Book Division.

On these pages are the 10 winners chosen with the help of Filon executives. There was a \$750 winner in each of five categories, and from these

top five projects we chose one for an extra-cash Grand Prize.

Our thumbnail sketches are only meant to suggest the construction, so you can judge whether the project is one you'd like to undertake. If you choose to go ahead, you can order construction plans directly from Filon Marketing Services, 12333 S. Van Ness Ave., Hawthorne, Calif. 90250. Send 50¢ for each plan you want, specifying by the name of the entrant (for example: Honer Greenhouse). All 10 of the winning projects this year are

within the skills of the average Popu-LAR Science reader, and all are practical, attractive uses of a material more homeowners should get to know.

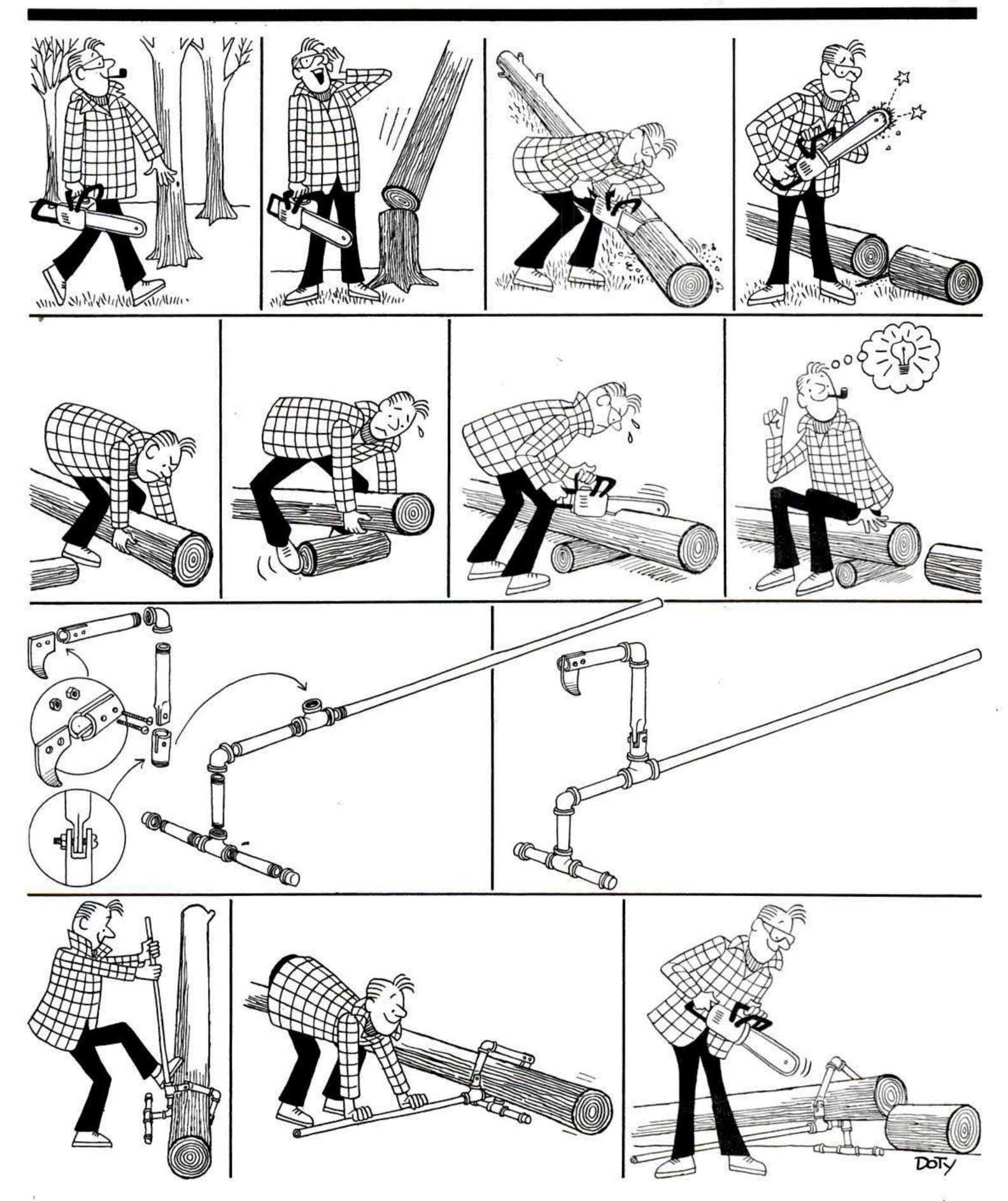
To all who entered our FRP contests these past two years—our thanks. To the 20 winners, our congratulations.—Al Lees

Photo Credits: In all but one case, we asked a studio in each winner's home town to photograph the prize project. Listed in the order the projects are shown: Kerr—Pete Stevenson; Spencer—Boulger & Kanuit; Honer—Writers Photographers & Artists (Denver); Berglund—Johansen Studios; Raymond—Heritage Photos; Catt—Carpenter's Studio; Bunting—Cosmopolitan Photo; Kerins—Longin Photo; Salisbury—Bill Elizey.

WORDLESS WORKSHOP

By ROY DOTY

Thanks and a check to J. Howard Dunn of Oakmont, Pa. for this idea. Send yours (with Social Security No.) to Wordless, POPULAR SCIENCE, 380 Madison Ave., New York, N.Y. 10017. Only purchased ideas can be acknowledged.





OUTDOOR POWER EQUIPMENT

Garden tractor delivers big-machine performance



I engaged the front-wheel drive with the flick of a lever, the power takeoff with another, and eased a third lever forward to drop the big 48-inch tiller on its three-point hitch at the edge of my garden. When I let out the clutch, the little two-cylinder diesel grunted and then settled into a smooth, even pull.

The tiller chewed its way down to

its maximum eight-inch depth without a murmur. Fifteen minutes later, the packed and semifrozen soil of my 30-by-100-foot garden had been tilled to a soft, fine-grained, smooth-surfaced seedbed.

This was my first chance to test the new John Deere 650 diesel. The performance of this machine departs from the usual feel of the consumertype garden tractor-and for good reason. The machine is designed as a traditional John Deere farm tractorwater-cooled, cast-iron, 52.1-c.i.d. Yanmar diesel with a cast-ironhoused, sliding-gear, eight-speed transmission. The transmission is bolted to the cast-iron differential housing, forming the frame of the tractor. A short steel subframe at the front supports radiator, weights (for balance), and implement mounts.

Fuel and oil filters are accessible without lifting the hood, and all controls are easy to reach. The instrument and lighting package includes such niceties as a speedometer, hoursin-use meter, automotive-type indicator lights for engine functions and charging, rear work light, safety flashers, and dual-beam headlights.

The 650 holds its line easily, with or without the optional front-wheel drive engaged. Even with one set of wheels riding on firm, rough ground and the other set in deep-tilled soil, the machine went where I pointed it without requiring the use of the individually operated rear-wheel brakes or the foot-operated differential lock.

With the tiller raised, the 650 proved to be stable and positively nimble on the lawn. The turning radius is well within the 6.2 feet John Deere claims. Steering is so light and responsive that I can see no need for the optional power steering unless you're using a front-end loader or fork-lift attachment.

The John Deere 650 combines ruggedness, handling, and a polished appearance into one of the most impressive machines I've ever tested. The exact price hasn't been announced, but according to a Deere representative, it will be about \$5,000.— Mark Lindsley



Weed trimmer uses flexible disc

String trimmers have come a long way since their 1972 conception as a rotating can spinning a length of monofilament fishing line. In fact, John Deere's new model 90G doesn't even need string. Instead, it can use an 8.5-inch, blade-like polypropylene disc. The disc is flexible, just 1/8 inch thick, and has eight large molded teeth for cutting.

This heavy-duty trimmer is powered by a 30-cc, 7,500-rpm two-cycle engine, similar to those used on chain saws. A 15.2-oz. tank holds the gas-oil mix. A straight shaft drives a gearreduction unit at the cutting end.

The 90G is easy to use. Although it weighs 15 pounds, the weight is supported by a shoulder harness with a positive quick-release clip. The mounting-ring collar that attaches the harness to the drive-shaft housing is adjustable. This allows you to balance the trimmer so that the disc floats naturally just above ground level. The control of the machine, through its large, adjustable hand grips, is nearly effortless.

I found that it cuts tall grass and thick weeds quite effectively and even zinged through a row of tough, dried cornstalks without a whimper. But when it came up against one of my pine one-by-one-inch row-marker stakes, the effect was surprising. Nothing happened!

Instead of cutting off the soft pine



No-strain chain saw

"So it cuts oak just fine," said my neighbor, "but mine does, too. If you really want to test that saw, try it on this."

"This" was a 10-inch log of wet, stringy red elm that had bogged down my neighbor's chain saw. One minute later the Echo CS-302S had zipped through the log without any apparent strain.

Externally, the 302S isn't noticeably different from the CS-302, Echo's original machine. Performance is another story. The 302 carried a maximum 14-inch blade bar, while the 302S I tested handles a 16-inch bar with no difficulty at all. And it's been successfully used to cut green oak logs using bars in excess of 20 inches.

The controls on the CS-302S, though not new, do bear

mentioning. Choke, on/off switch, start lock, and throttle are all grouped around the handle, making them convenient to operate. Chain oiling is automatic, but the amount of oil can be varied by turning an adjustment knob on the top of the machine.

Weight and handling characteristics remain close to those of the original machine. The saw weighs 12 pounds with chain oil and fuel aboard. That's more than the ninepound original I'm used to, but, because it's well balanced, you don't notice it.

The specification sheets on the CS-302S aren't available at this writing. But, presumably, it will have the same safety options available for the CS-302: chain brake, chain catcher, and front hand guard.

The CS-302S is an efficient small chain saw. Like its predecessor, it is well designed and built with quality castings. It will be a welcome addition to a wood lot.— $M.\ L.$

stake or damaging the blade, the only visible effect was a slight nick on the very corner of the stake. This, combined with a blade guard at the rear of the disc, seems to indicate it's a relatively safe tool if you're using it in the proper way.

A variety of attachment cutters are available, including a string-trimmer head for shorter grass, an eight-inch brush blade for heavy weeds and undergrowth, and a 10-inch circular saw blade that will handle brush and seedling trees up to two inches in diameter.

While the \$325 price tag may make the 90G impractical for small lots, I see it as a great trimmer for use on larger wooded or country lots, farms, and in many commercial applications.

—M. L.





Fuel economy, cutting time, handling, features match them to your lawn

By MARK LINDSLEY

"Which one is best?" asked my neighbor who'd been watching me shoot the pictures of the mowers you see here.

I'd been checking the time and fuel it takes for different types of mowers to cut representative-size plots. The results won't surprise you: Larger, more powerful mowers cut faster, but they're also more expensive and use more fuel. In the process of using three kinds of machines, I'd also reached a lot of conclusions about other aspects of their performance and use, concerning such elements as:

- Handling, feel, and steering.
- Features and durability.
- Speed controls and shifting.
- Reverse shift convenience.
- Comfort.
- Service availability.

So, which one is best? Obviously there is no right answer for everyone. It depends on the priorities you give to your time, the cost of buying and using a larger mower, and the machine's suitability to your lawn. Our tests should help you make the best decision.

The tests

In this energy-conscious time, the question naturally arises: Can you make worthwhile savings in fuel and money by choosing the right mower? We decided to find out. The basic plan was straightforward. We got 17 different mowers, representative of all types now on the market, and used a sampling to cut a standard-size plot. We kept careful records of both time and fuel consumed.

Fuel was measured by volume in standard laboratory graduates. Flat, unobstructed test areas were carefully measured out and marked. (Naturally, you can expect slightly different results on a hilly, tree-filled plot of land, but the comparisons should be the same.)

I tested four classes of mowers:

Walk-behinds: mowers in the 19-22-inch cutting-width range, both hand-push and self-propelled.

Riders and lawn tractors: those designed primarily for grass cutting and, perhaps, light tractor chores.

Garden tractors: heavy-duty tractors that cut grass but also can be used with ground-engaging accessories such as tillers.

Specials: mowers that do not fit into any of the other categories because of unique features or purposes.

All machines were fitted with dealer-recommended decks except the John Deere. (I'll explain why later.) Some were set up and prepped by the dealer; some, such as Snapper, were borrowed demonstration models; others came in factory crates. I ran the tests in as-received condition without any effort at fine-tuning or adjustment. I found that it made surprisingly little difference in performance whether the mowers were factory tuned or out of the crate.

The mowing-time and fuel-consumption graphs, which follow on later pages, are the results of careful testing. They're arranged on the basis of average class results to guide you in selecting a mower. To use the graphs, look down the column that represents your lawn size in feet. Compare time and fuel economy of all three types against each other—and against the price you'll pay to upgrade.

The graphs show no surprises. While the fuel consumption goes up on larger machines, the difference in total amount consumed between them and all others is small. Fuel consumption, therefore, should not be an important part of your selection. Your time, however, should be a consideration. You'll see a substantial saving when graduating from walk-behinds at approximately 15,000 square feet.

Hands on

After the tests, the impressions that stuck most in my mind were my personal reactions—handling, shifting, and other aspects of lawn-mower use. For example, I learned quite a few things about small hand-push and self-propelled walk-behinds that are important to know when you buy.

Take the small, basic Sears handpush rotary mower, for example. Low and light, it easily sneaks into tight areas, under shrubs, and down culverts I'd been ignoring with my rider mower. The machine is so handy that I used it first to clean up the tight spots so I could run the rider full-out. I found it's more efficient than running the big mower first and doing the trimming later.

As a basic model, the Sears rotary does lack some things I value: a hand throttle, for one, and an easy way to adjust cutting height, for another.



You can adjust it, but you'd need a wrench to do it.

Upgrading to more expensive mowers makes the choice more difficult. Personal tastes enter the picture. For example, my reaction to bagging attachments is that all rear baggers work well. But you may prefer one method over another when emptying the bag. Solution: Try it in the store before you buy.

My strongest feelings relate to the drive controls on self-propelled models. I particularly like the Toro drive handle, which extends across the full handle width. It makes one-handed swings in either direction easy. I also like its three-speed selection.

Lawn-Boy is equally good, with a full-width control and a speed control that progressively increases as the grip is moved forward. This allows going from full speed (with an optional lock-in) to a creep and back again almost instantaneously. Snapper's single-lever grip on one side is less convenient and was tiring to hang onto, but I like its six-speed transmission.

The huge, 10-hp Sears with 42-inch cut is really a specialty mower for large areas. It handles well with its castering front wheels but definitely needs a power reverse. It was the only walk-behind tested with a blade brake, a feature we'll see more of in the future.

All the self-propelled walk-behinds were rear-wheel drive. This is desirable if you use a bagger because the weight of the grass moves the center of gravity back over the drive wheels. That gives better traction on an upward slope. But if you don't bother with bagging and have no major slopes, you might want to consider front-wheel drive. These mowers turn quickly and are highly maneuverable. You simply press down on the handle to lift the drive wheels, and the mower swings freely on its back wheels.

I also had strong personal reactions to the riders. These were tested on a 2,500-square-foot area. All are in the

Continued

Have it your way: For small lawns, there are walk-behind machines such as the Toro 20-inch electric mower/trimmer (far left). A cut above is Gilson's 11-hp lawn tractor with 38-inch rear-discharge deck. It would be used for larger areas.



A gallery of walk-behinds is shown (left to right): 42-inch Sears stops its blades in three seconds when drive is disengaged. It has five forward speeds. Toro's model 20790 has electric start for push-button

convenience; handles are adjustable to your height. Two-cycle Lawn-Boy can be rigged for side discharge, side or rear bagging, mulching, and leaf shredding. The 20-inch Sears hand-push mows under shrubs and in other tight spots. At under \$100, it's good for small plots or great as a backup for a tractor. One of Snapper's options is a thatcher: It attaches to the front axle and requires no blade change.

30- to 42-inch-width range and powered by eight- to 11-hp engines. The Ariens RM-830 and Simplicity 3110 Cavalier are rear-engine open-front types (skiff and front reach). The Toro 11-32 and Gilson 52060 and 53038 are front-engine tractor styles. The Gilson 53038 is a lawn and garden tractor and can use ground-engaging tools.

For close cutting and ground handling, the skiff type seems better to me than the tractor type. This is probably a matter of weight distribution; an open-front-type engine is over the rear wheels. The same advantage is apparent in the big but nimble 18-hp Gravely.

Naturally, good steering is important for a rider that must be worked around trees and plantings. The easiest-handling riders, in my opinion, are the Simplicity Cavalier and Wheel Horse electric. (The electric's battery weight is over the rear wheels.) The Ariens' wheels turn so sharply that they may plow sideways at times. Toro is the best-handling of the tractor types and has a solid, comfortable feel.

Flexible speed control is equally as important as steering. Ariens' friction drive permits on-the-go shifting, since there are no gears to clash. Clutch engagement, however, tends to be harsh enough to snap the front wheels

off the ground when starting from standstill. Simplicity, with gear drive, requires depressing the clutch to the midpoint before shifting. Its in-line shifting eliminates searching for a shift gate. Toro's dry-plate clutch (superior to a belt-tightener clutch but more expensive) permits slick on-thego shifting.

Riders may have either a single, large-diameter cutting blade or twin, smaller-diameter blades. My experience in heavy cutting is that the twin blades are better able to handle the load. (They don't slow down the engine.)

Lawn and garden tractors

You won't save time or fuel by stepping up from a rider to a lawn tractor of equivalent horsepower. The numbers for the 2,500-square-foot plot were scattered on both sides of the mean 4.3 minutes and 8.1 ounces of fuel used. This projects to 32.2 minutes and 64.9 ounces of gas for 20,000 square feet. But a lawn tractor is more than a mower: Plow blades, carts, and bagging attachments are available as optional accessories for most, and some even have snow throwers available. If you're in a heavy snow area, however, you'll probably find these lightweight machines inadequate for efficient snow removal.

Tackling deep drifts, landscaping,

or tilling requires the low gearing and heavy frame of a garden tractor. And because of their big cutting decks,

they also excel at lawn mowing. Although most useful on large, open areas, many people (myself included) who own medium-size yards, big driveways, and gardens use garden tractors as multipurpose machines. Consequently, I tested my samples with 38- to 54-inch decks and 14- to 18-hp engines on the 2,500-squarefoot area. They breezed through the plot in an average of 2.7 minutes using 10.7 ounces of gas-half the mowing time needed by a rider. But time is literally money: A garden tractor can cost three or more times more than a rider mower. If you're just mowing the grass, the projected figures at 20,000 square feet (21.7 minutes and 85.2 ounces of fuel) might steer you toward a big lawn tractor rather than the more expensive garden type.

I found maneuverability of the garden tractors to be directly related to weight distribution. All the test machines cornered well, but only Gravely could be classified as truly light or nimble. With its rear-mounted 18-hp engine, the weight on the steering gear is just enough for good traction.

Cutting-deck width is another aspect of maneuverability. The 48-inch deck on the Simplicity 7117 is a fine

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Quiet Wheel Horse electric (foreground) uses chain and sprocket for final drive. Three batteries supply cutting and drive power. Center row (left to right): Eight-hp Ariens is lightest of riders tested and has

six forward speeds and reverse; Simplicity 10-hp Cavalier has short wheelbase and two-blade deck for nimble, smooth cutting; Toro 11-32 uses automotive-type shifting. Back row: John Deere 314 (left)

has 4.5-gallon fuel tank that's well protected but convenient to fill; rear fender on the 18-hp Snapper (right) houses controls for P.T.O. (power takeoff), implement lift, and a two-speed axle.

example of deck-to-machine matching. The deck's cutting line lies outside the wheelbase, allowing you to cut close to obstacles and keep trimming to a minimum. The John Deere 314 was equipped with an undersize deck at my request. With the cutting line inside the wheel tread, I had to learn the proper steering arc to let me cut close to small obstructions, such as trees, without hooking a rear wheel. It was impossible to cut close to walls or fences.

Why did I ask for a smaller cutting deck? So I could park both the tractor and my car inside my garage. The narrow deck added about 10 minutes' mowing time to that needed for my one-acre lot—a fair trade for storing an expensive machine inside.

You'll find some attractive features on these big machines: hydraulic or electric equipment lifts (standard on many); optional attachments suitable for anything from truck farming to warehouse work; and a range of transmissions from gear drive to hydrostatic. (Some, such as the Gravely, combine performance characteristics of both.)

Special mowers

I didn't test mowing time or fuel economy for machines in the special class. Instead, I looked at the features

[Continued on page 136]

PS buyer's guide to 1981 lawn mowers

Manufacturer	Model	Type*	Price (S)	Cut (in.)	Horsepower	Transmission/drive	Comments
Lawn-Boy	8237	W.B.	369.95	21	n.a.	Infinite thru single range	Two-cycle engine; multiple attachment and bagging optional
Sears	536.902034	W.B.	94	20	3	Hand push	Great for clean-up and trim
	10/42	W.B.	849.99	42	10	5 speeds	Three-blade deck; blade brake
Snapper	21-350P	W.B.	373.95	21	3.5	6 speeds	Options include thatcher
Toro	Electric mower/trimmer	W.B.	220	20	n.a.	Hand push	Two string-trimmer heads cut up to obstacles
	20790	W.B.	479.95	21	n.a.	Infinite speeds within 3 ranges	Electric start; ball-bearing metal wheels
Ariens	RM-830	R.M.	1,089.95	30	8	6 speeds and reverse	Shift on the run; electric start optional
Simplicity	3110	R.M.	1,450	36	10	5 speeds and reverse	Two-blade deck; electric start
Wheel Horse	E-81	R.M.	1,230	32	n.a.	5 speeds and reverse	Two-blade, two-motor deck; electric motor drive, battery powered
Gilson	52060	L.T.	n.a.	38	11	3 speeds and reverse	Two-blade rear-discharge deck
Toro	11-32	L.T.	1,949.95	32	11	5 speeds and reverse	Automotive clutch permits shift on run; one-blade deck
Bolens Iseki	G154	G.T.	4,841	48	15	6 forward, 2 reverse speeds	Diesel; four-wheel drive, three- speed P.T.O.
Gilson	53038	G.T.	2,014.95	42	11	4 speeds and reverse	Three-blade side-discharge deck
Gravely	8183T	G.T.	4,771 f.o.b.	50	18	8 forward, 2 reverse speeds	Rear engine and low center of gravity make for maneuverability; forward-reverse control stick is handy
John Deere	314	G.T.	3,794	38	14	Hydrostatic	A 48-in. deck is recommended.
- 12 ja 2	314	G.T.	3,848	48	14	Hydrostatic	
Simplicity	7117	G.T.	4,495	48	17	Hydrostatic	Smooth cut; positive handling
Snapper	1885	G.T.	5,500	54	18	4-range hydrostatic	Implement Lifts, two-speed axle, rear P.T.O.

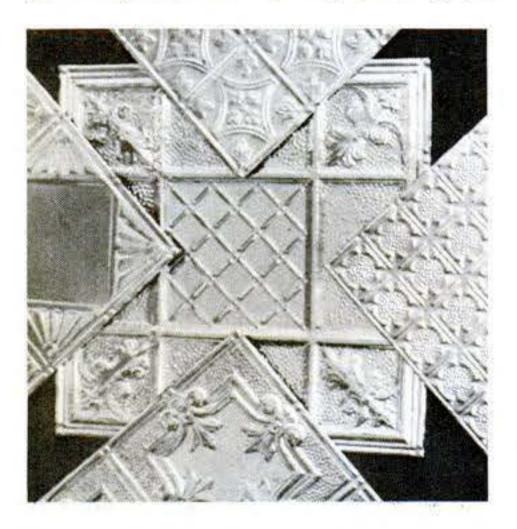
*W.B. = walk-behind, R.M. = rider mower, L.T. = lawn tractor, G.T. = lawn and garden tractor

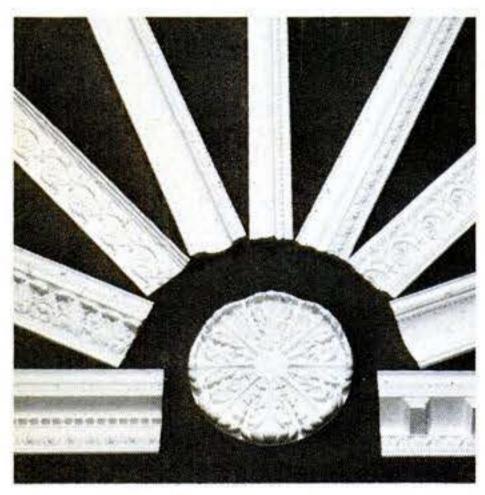
SHOP TALK

By PAUL BOLON

Tradition!

If you don't fancy dropped ceilings or modernistic, bare cornices; if you find the ubiquitous quarter-round lacking in expression as a molding; if, in short, you are a traditionalist—at least in home decor you may assume that reproducing the







charming, old-world decoration of yesteryear isn't possible today. Not so.

Showy pressed-tin ceilings, ornate plaster moldings, and dignified fireplace mantelpieces (see photos) are not only still available, but they are now fabricated so that they can be easily installed by today's homeowners.

Decorative Designs makes plaster cornices, panel moldings, and centerpieces in styles ranging from the filigreed and curlicued rococo and baroque to Gothic. The antique-style plaster pieces are reinforced with up-to-date glass-fiber webbing, and they also have an embeddedwood nailing hem, which makes them relatively simple to install.

Traditional installation required dampening each unit before raising it into wet plaster beds on the wall or ceiling, then a thorough shoring up until the plaster cured. With the new reinforced moldings you just drill small holes through the nailing strips, raise and nail into studs and ceiling joists, and spackle the nail holes. You can also use an adhesive with the installation. Miter cuts for inside corners can be made with a radial-arm saw or with a simple coping saw and a template for tracing a line. The company (Box 1692, 316 N. Main, Elkhart, Ind. 46515) offers a free catalog and how-to information.

The Chelsea Decorative Metal Co. (6115 Cheena, Houston, Tex. 77096) makes 18 designs of pressed-tin ceilings, stamped, the company says, from original dies dating back to the 19th century. Metal ceilings were originally introduced in the 1860's as a fast, cheap alternative to ornamental plasterwork. But by the turn of the century, tin ceilings actually had become fashionable. It just shows you how one generation's inexpensive imitation can become another's fashion—and, to a still later era, an honored tradition.

The tin sheets are made only in two-byeight-foot sections and can be nailed
directly to a ceiling or to furring strips. The
sheets have a silvery finish that can be
painted or left as is. Designs range from
repeating squares and leafy motifs to
snappy Art Deco, an American style of the
1920's-30's. Tin cornices are also available for finishing. The maker offers a free
catalog of patterns.

Mantelpieces in hardwood veneers are made by Rustic Crafts (65 W. Sheffield Ave., Englewood, N.J. 07631) in classic, Early American, and traditional styles. Each style is made in nine different sizes, which the company says will accommodate most of the zero-clearance fireplaces now being sold, as well as older, built-in fireplaces. The mantelpieces can be

mounted to any non-combustible surface—brick, stone, slate, or tile, or their fireproof veneer imitations. After the three support pieces are nailed around the fireplace, the rest of the pieces assemble with an interlocking joint system that requires only a mallet tap to each added piece. Mantelpieces can be purchased with a dark pine or antique white finish, or unfinished. Rustic Crafts will send a free brochure and furnish the address of its nearest distributor.

Briefly noted

 The Next Whole Earth Catalog (Random House, New York) is again edited by Stewart Brand. It has the same format as the Last Catalog (1971) and the Epilog (1975), but The Next supercedes them, repeating only about 10 percent of the items in the original version, the editor reports. Although most of the items are different, the subjects are familiar. Most topics have been brought up to date; coverage of some, such as domes, has shrunk considerably, and other subjects, such as computers, expanded. As a reference tool the catalog still presents a sweeping smorgasbord of subject matter: cybernetics, knots, eco-ethics, firewood, hot tubs, guns, and biogas, for example. The topics have been organized into general sections and the karmic vibrations from contributors and editors considerably toned down from the original. It's still big (11 by 14 inches), voluminous (608 pages), and reasonably priced (\$12.50). Besides that, it's the only tome I know that includes its own cost and profit statement, calculates the number of trees required to print the first 100,000 copies (6,160 or 14 acres' worth, if you're interested), and it's fun.

Builder's Guide: Passive Solar Homes by architect Rick Cowlishaw compares the cost of a new, standard developer-built home in Colorado with the same design having several different energysaving features. The argument made by builders against energy-saving additions is that they increase the already high initial cost of housing. True, buying less is cheaper, but, as Cowlishaw documents with life-cycle costing, an energy-efficient design reduces the "rent" we pay for higher winter fuel bills so dramatically that owning such a house is cheaper-and the home's future value is enhanced. The pay-back period-when fuel savings overtake any higher mortgage costs-is about four years for a moderate investment. Of course, many passive-solar concepts (often ignored by developers) such as siting, orienting the house to the sun, and reducing the amount of north-facing glazing don't cost an extra penny in construction costs.

Builder's Guide is really directed to builders and contractors, but anyone building a house will be interested in this kind of cost analysis, although the actual dollar figures apply only to homes with the same weather and similar building costs as in Colorado. The 80-page ringbound book is available for \$15 from Cowlishaw, Box 7604, Colorado Springs, Colo. 80933.

Warning: The Surgeon General Has Determined That Cigarette Smoking Is Dangerous to Your Health.

8 mg. tar, 0.7 mg. nicotine av. per cigarette by FTC Method.

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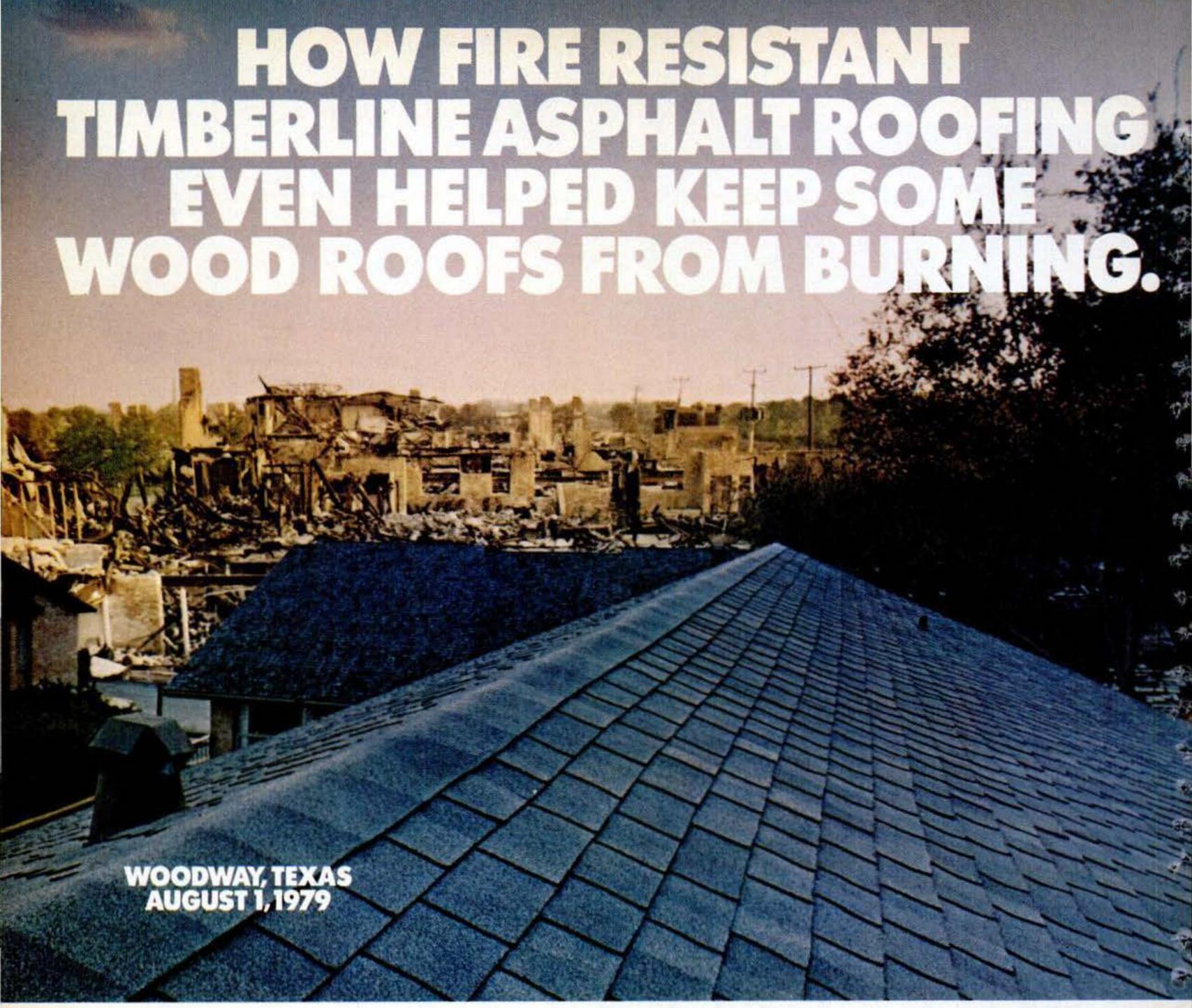
Golden Lights. You really know you're smoking.

Give up double digit tar. But don't give up the pleasure.

Kings and 100s. Regular and menthol.







n the Houston community of Woodway, a fire broke out that leveled a number of wood-shingled homes leaving hundreds homeless.

But more homes would have gone up in smoke if not for Timberline® asphalt shingles.

Burning embers set wood roof after roof ablaze. But these embers did not ignite fire resistant Timberline shingles with their granular ceramic baked surface. Since Timberline was able to fend for itself, firemen could spend valuable time saving other wood-shingled homes from sure destruction.

Of course, fire isn't the only thing Timberline shingles stand up to. Its self-sealing agent works with the sun to make sure your investment won't blow away.

Needless to say, Timberline shingles bear an uncanny resemblance to wood. Their unusual, thickness and deep irregular shadow pattern make it hard to tell the two apart.

So buy Timberline shingles, either to put on your new home or the one you have now.

Because the only place in a home wood shingles belong, is in the fireplace.

TIMBERLINE ASPHALT ROOFING On top of the industry.

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Building Materials, 140 West 51st Street, New York, New York 10020, or call toll free 800-223-0344. In New York State call 800-522-5250. Limited warranties from 5-25 years against manufacturing defects and wind damage. Length of warranty depends on choice of shingles. © 1981 GAF Corporation.

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What to do when your Car won't start

Getting a dead car back into action is usually easy —if you can trouble-shoot

By RAY HILL

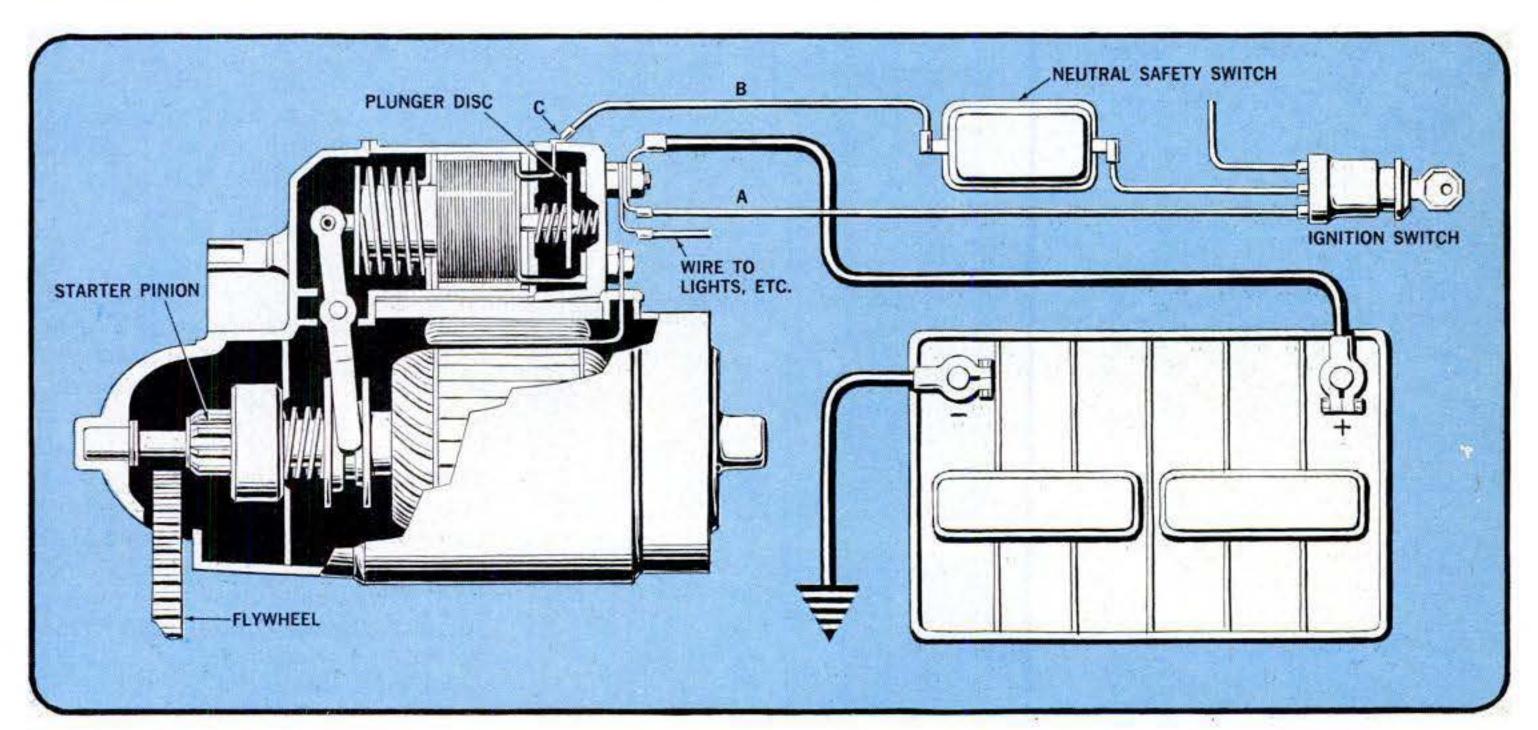
You walk to your car, get in, and turn the ignition switch. The engine doesn't crank. You try it again-and again-and again.

If this happened to you—and it's bound to—what would you do? The right answer can save you the cost and inconvenience of paying for a tow truck, a mechanic's service call—or both.

Basically there are four no-start conditions: no cranking and no noise, no cranking accompanied by a clicking sound, slow cranking, and normal cranking. Let's trouble-shoot each problem.

No cranking, no noise

If you turn the key to the start position and absolutely nothing happens the engine doesn't crank and there is Continued



Typical GM cranking circuit: Battery current is always available at the battery-cable connection at the starter solenoid. Lights and other electrical items can receive power from this terminal, regardless of whether the ignition switch is on. When the ignition switch is turned to the crank position, current flows from small wire A at the solenoid-battery terminal through the ignition switch and along wire B to the small-wire solenoid terminal C. From here current flows through electrical windings creating a magnetic field that pulls the solenoid plunger against the solenoid switch contacts. When the

plunger disc touches these two contacts, battery current flows to the starter-motor field windings, causing the starter motor to turn. At the same time, the shift lever, which is attached to the solenoid plunger, causes the starter pinion to move in and engage the flywheel. When this happens, the engine cranks.

Other car makers may use slightly different systems. For example, Ford's starter solenoid is mounted separately from the starter, on the fender well. Its job is to send battery current to the starter motor, a positive-engagement type. A movable pole shoe is attached to the starter's pinion gear. When the key is turned to crank, current flows through the starter's field windings and the pole shoe is magnetically drawn to one of the field windings, thus engaging the starter pinion with the flywheel. A shop manual for your make and model car will give you the specs for your car's system and tell you where the parts are.

Chrysler cars use a solenoid to engage the starter pinion gear with the flywheel. But unlike GM, a starter relay is used to actuate the solenoid. When the ignition switch is turned to crank, the starter relay closes, sending current to the solenoid.

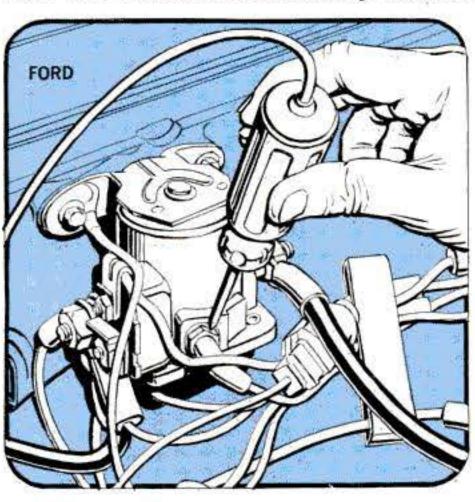


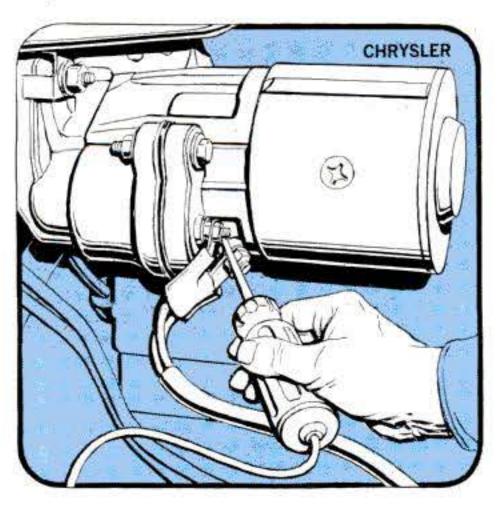
Car won't start

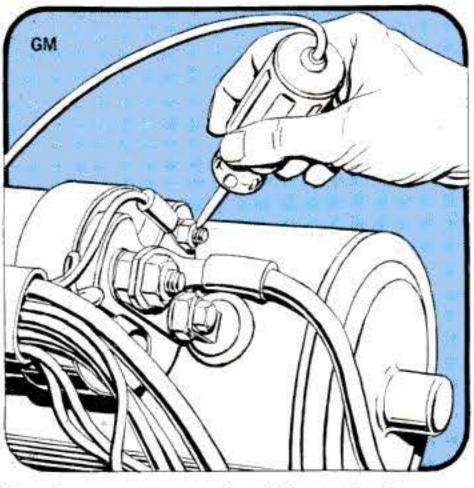
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no noise—first try this. With an automatic transmission, be sure the gearshift selector is in park. With a standard shift, be sure the clutch pedal is pressed all the way to the floor. Otherwise, the neutral safety switch (also referred to as the neutral start switch) will keep the engine from cranking.

If the transmission is in park, move the shift lever through the gears and put it in park again. If the transmission is a standard shift and you have







Testing a starter-solenoid small-wire connection to see if current is reaching the solenoid: With ignition switch turned to crank position, test lamp should light.

the clutch pedal pressed against the floor, release it and press it down a couple of times. The neutral safety switch is a mechanical switch and sometimes, if it's slightly out of adjustment or beginning to fail, it doesn't make good electrical contact. Jiggling the shift lever or clutch pedal sometimes restores electrical contact.

If this solves the problem, adjust or replace the neutral safety switch as soon as possible, following shop-manual instructions. If the engine still doesn't crank, turn the lights on.

If the headlights don't light, the most likely problem is a bad battery or a loose or corroded battery-cable connection. Connect a test lamp across the battery posts. If the lamp lights, you know battery current is available. Remove the battery cables from the battery and clean both the battery terminals and the cable connections. Then reconnect the cables, making sure each one is tight at its other end, too. Remove any corrosion.

If the lights dim when the ignition switch is turned to crank, the most likely cause is a bad battery or starter. Check the battery as detailed later in this article. Check the starter according to shop-manual instructions. Here's what will probably happen, though: The lights will shine but won't dim when you turn the ignition switch to the start position. If that's the case, and you hear no noise, there is an open in the starter circuit.

Likely suspects are a loose or broken wire, a bad starter-motor solenoid, a bad neutral safety switch, a neutral safety switch that needs adjusting, or a bad ignition switch. Check to see if any wires are loose, broken, or disconnected at the starter relay (if your car has one) and at the starter solenoid. Some cars (Chrysler Corp.) have both a starter relay and starter solenoid. Others (GM) have only a starter solenoid.

All wires secure? The next step is to find out if current is reaching the starter solenoid. On Fords the solenoid will be on the fender well, usually close to the battery. On most other cars the solenoid will be attached to the starter.

Locate the large cable that connects the battery to the solenoid. Near its connection at the solenoid will be a connection for a much smaller wire. This is the wire from the ignition switch that actuates the solenoid when the switch is in the crank position. Hold the tip of a test lamp

Continued

14



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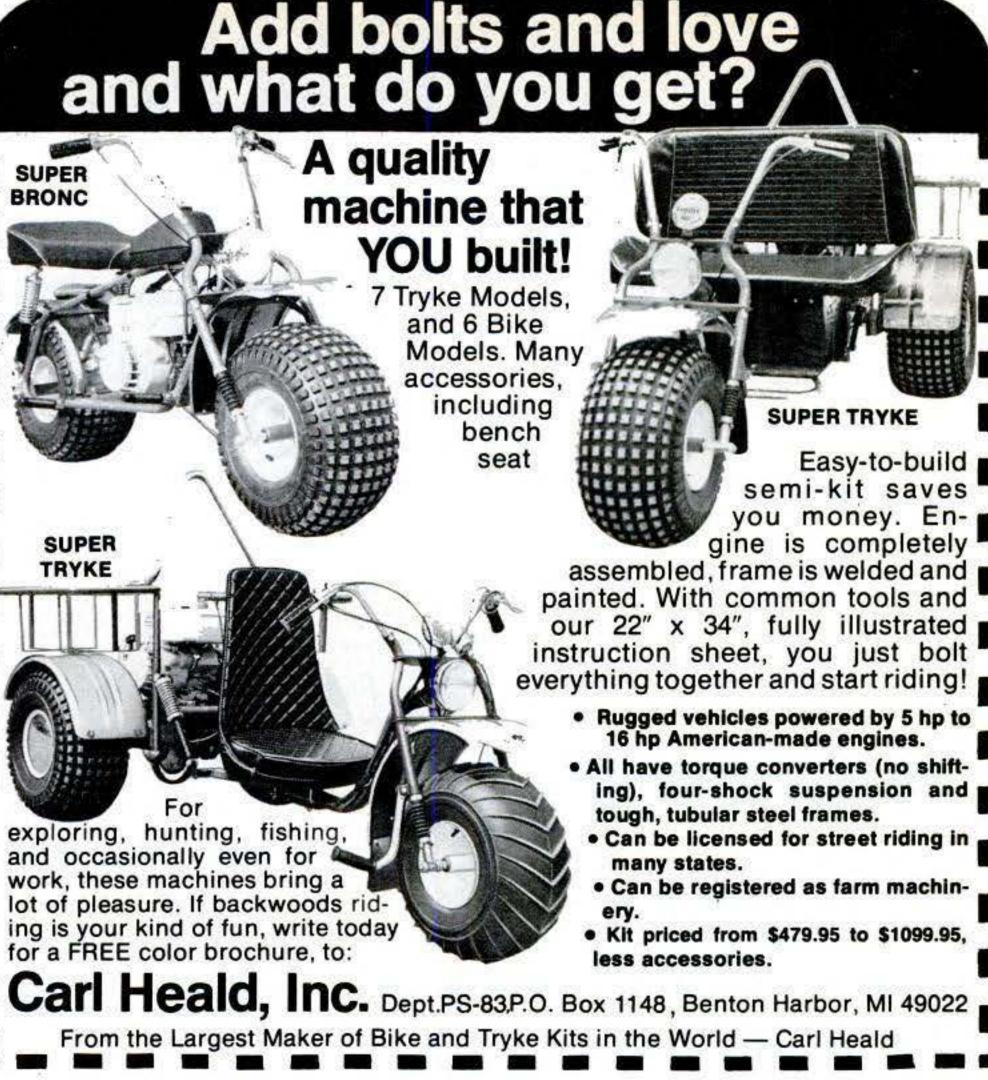
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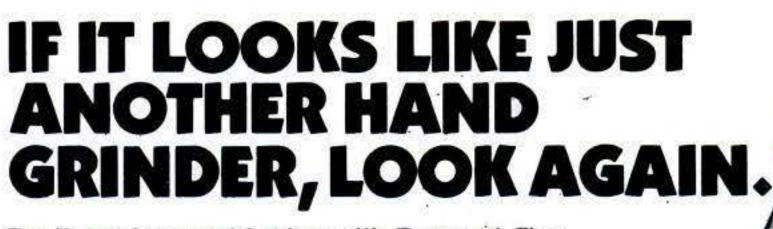
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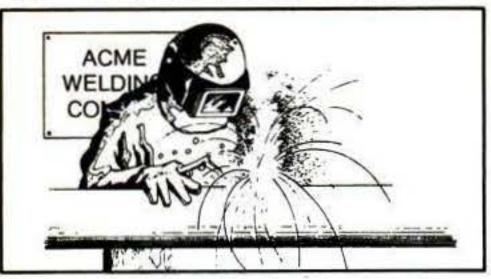
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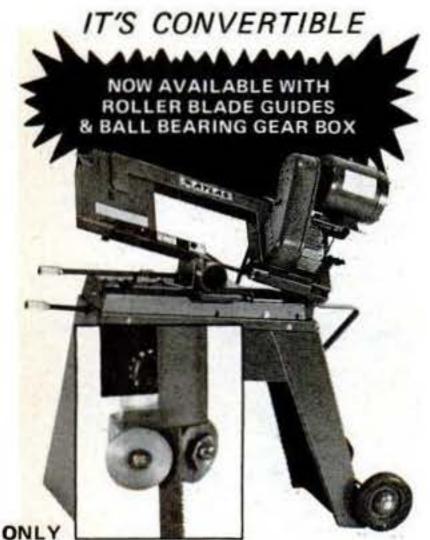


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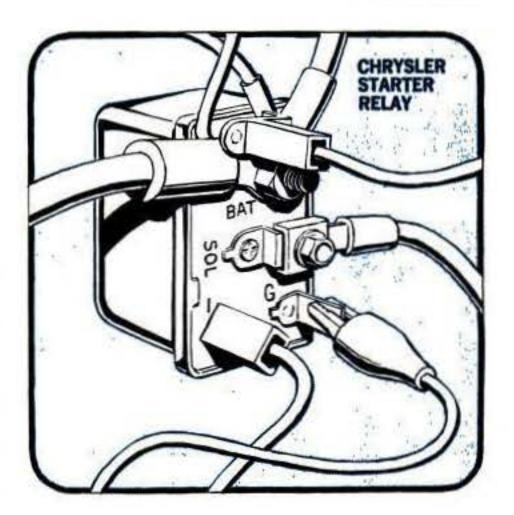


Car won't start

[Continued]

against the small-wire connection at the solenoid and ground the test-lamp lead. Have a friend turn the ignition switch to crank. The lamp should light.

If it lights (with a GM- or Chryslermade car), you know the problem is in the solenoid or starter. At this point the solenoid and starter must be Continued





Bypassing the neutral safety switch: With Chrysler cars, remove the G wire from the starter relay and use a jumper wire to connect the G terminal from the relay to a good ground. Turn the ignition switch to crank. If the engine cranks, the transmission linkage needs adjustment (to properly actuate the neutral safety switch), or the neutral safety switch needs replacement. With GM cars, remove the two-wire quick disconnect from the safety switch (safetyswitch wires are usually purple) and bridge the gap with a paper clip. With other cars, the principle is the same. Locate the wires running to and from the neutral safety switch, disconnect them, then connect them together with a jumper wire or paper clip. If you use a paper clip, be sure you make good electrical connection. And don't hold the paper clip when the switch is turned to crank. If the switch connections are underneath, don't remain under the car while the key is turned to crank (should the car roll, you could be run over).

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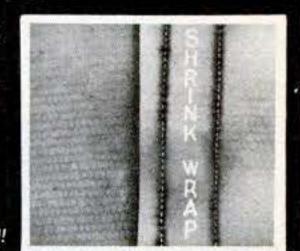
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7.5

removed, and replaced or repaired. With Ford cars, if the test lamp lights and there is no noise, the solenoid is bad and must be replaced.

If the test lamp doesn't light, bypass the neutral safety switch with a jumper wire to see if it's bad (see drawing on preceding page). When you do this, be sure the parking brake is engaged and the transmission is in park. With a standard shift, be sure the transmission is in neutral.

If you bypass the neutral safety switch and the engine cranks, the switch is either out of adjustment or bad. Check your shop manual for adjustment procedures. If the switch can't be adjusted, or if it doesn't work after it's adjusted, replace it.

If the car still doesn't crank after bypassing the neutral safety switch, use a test lamp to determine whether current is actually reaching the neutral safety switch. To do this with Ford or GM cars, remove the two-wire quick-disconnect connector, which may be located at the switch or somewhere along the two wires leading to the switch.

With the test lamp grounded to the vehicle and a friend holding the ignition switch in the crank position, (The relay terminals are marked with

wire terminals of the quick-disconnect. The lamp should light when it's touched to one of the terminals (the other terminal goes to a small-wire connection at the solenoid).

If the lamp doesn't light, the problem is probably either a bad ignition switch or a bad wire to the switch. To track down the problem, consult the shop-manual wiring diagram for your car and, using a test lamp, work back to the ignition switch to find the break in the circuit.

If the test lamp lights at one of the quick-disconnect terminals (you have already bypassed the neutral safety switch) and the car still won't crank, the problem is in the wire running from the neutral safety switch to the small-wire terminal of the solenoid (broken, corroded, disconnected, etc.).

With Chrysler cars, which use a starter relay in addition to the starter solenoid, if the car doesn't crank after bypassing the starter relay, find out if current is reaching the relay. With the G terminal of the relay grounded with a jumper wire, touch the tip of your test lamp (test lamp is grounded, of course) to the I terminal of the relay. touch the test-lamp tip inside both letters.) If the test lamp lights when the ignition switch is turned to crank yet the starter doesn't crank, the relay is bad. Replace it.

If the test lamp doesn't light, there's a problem with the ignition switch or the wire running from the relay to the ignition switch. Trouble-shoot the ignition system using the wiring diagram in your shop manual. Usually, though, if you have a no-start condition with no noise when the key is turned to the crank position, the neutral safety switch is the cause of the problem.

A few cars with column-shift automatic transmission (some Fords, for example) do not have a neutral safety switch. The ignition-switch mechanism in the steering column is designed so the ignition switch can be turned to the start position only when the gear-selector lever is in the neutral or park position. (In this case, you would obviously eliminate the neutral-safety-switch checks.)

No cranking, clicking noise

Here, when the key is turned to crank, you hear a single clicking noise or a series of clicking noises. If it's a series, the cause is almost always a weak battery or bad connections.

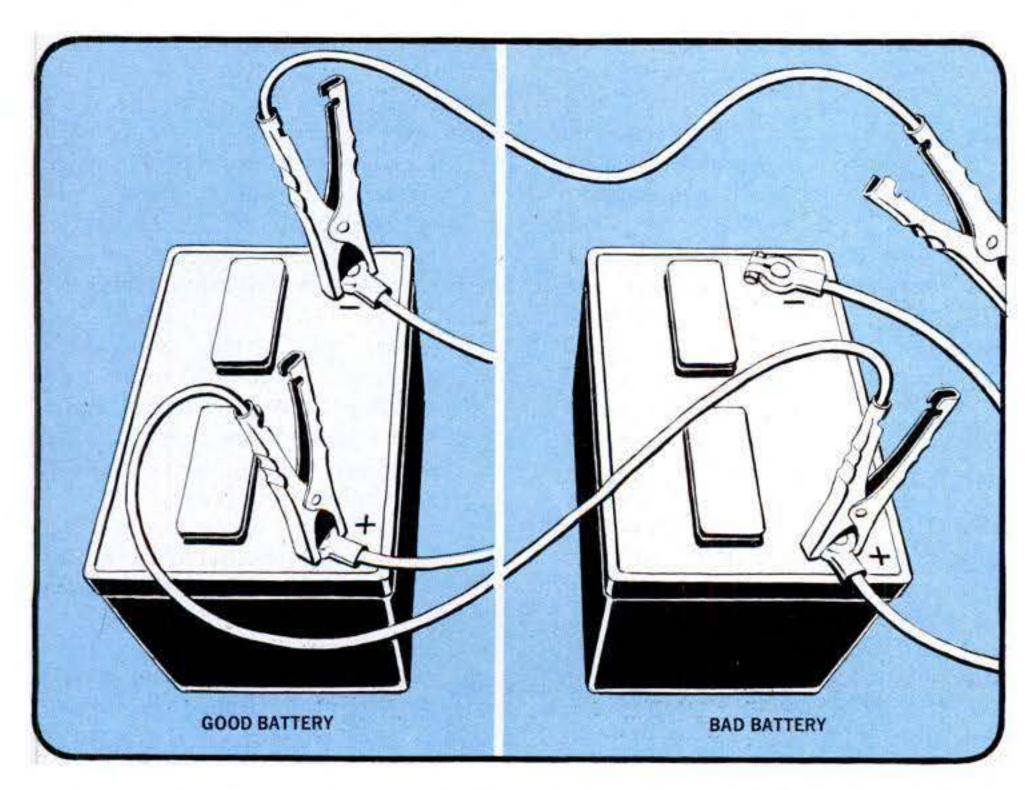
Remove the battery cables at the battery and clean them. Use a battery post-and-cable cleaning brush and clean until the connections are bright and shiny. Then reconnect the cables. Check the battery cables, too, at the other end (starter solenoid, engine block, etc.). A cable that's loose or corroded at the other end can create the same problems as one that's loose or corroded at the battery.

If the clicking continues after servicing the cables, try to boost-start the car. If the car starts, the battery is weak. Have it checked at a garage—or check it yourself as follows:

If it's a conventional battery, first check it with a hydrometer. Each cell should read 1.260 or better. If not, but all cells read low and even, use a charger to charge the battery (or have it charged) until each cell reads 1.260 or better.

If the engine cranks slowly after the battery is charged or if the battery won't charge enough, replace it. Buy a replacement of the size and type recommended for your vehicle by your owner's or shop manual. With a maintenance-free battery, follow the maker's recommendation about booststarting, charging, and replacement.

If the clicking continues after the Continued



To boost-start a car, attach a jumper cable to the positive post of the good battery, then attach the other end of the cable to the positive post of the bad battery. Attach one end of the other jumper cable to the negative post of the good battery and the other end to a good ground near the weak battery. Start the engine of the car with the good battery. Now try to start the other car. When you disconnect the jumper cables, reverse the hookup sequence. Watch out for moving pulleys, belts, and fan blades as you disconnect the cables. (There's no need to lose any fingers.)

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battery is charged, the solenoid is bad. Replace it.

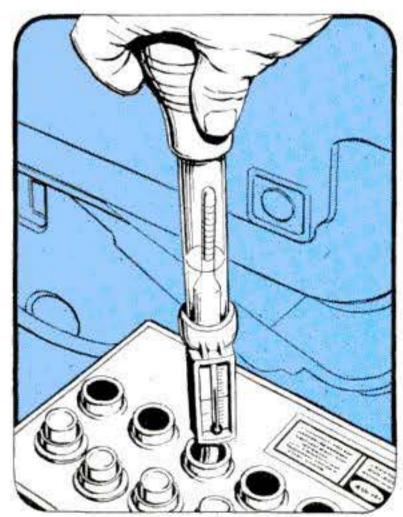
If, when you turn the key to crank, a single click occurs and the engine doesn't crank, check the battery cables and clean them. If the cables are clean and tight and the battery is fully charged, the problem is probably a bad starter or solenoid.

To determine which one is bad, bypass the starter solenoid. If the starter works, the solenoid is bad. If it doesn't, the starter is bad. To bypass the solenoid, connect a booster cable from the battery's positive terminal to the starter-motor terminal. Depending on the car, if the starter is good it will either spin or crank the engine. With Ford starters, the engine will crank. Most other starters will spin, but will not crank the engine. With Chrysler cars you can't bypass the solenoid in this way. If you've narrowed the problem down to the starter or solenoid, remove both and repair or replace according to shop-manual instructions.

Engine cranks slowly

If the engine turns over slowly but won't start, the problem usually is caused either by a bad battery or starter. First check battery-cable connections and the battery. If everything's okay there and the engine still turns over slowly, a bad starter is probably the culprit.

Check the mounting bolts that hold the starter in position. Occasionally they will loosen, allowing the starter to tilt at an angle that causes it to crank the engine slowly. (Part of the reason for this is that when the starter loosens, it no longer has a good ground.) If this is the case, tighten the



When using a battery hydrometer, draw up only enough fluid to lift the float. Too much fluid will cause the top of the float to hit the float stop, giving a wrong reading.

bolts and try to start the car again. If the car cranks slowly and the starter is mounted securely, remove the starter and repair or replace it. (Sometimes a tight engine will cause slow cranking. This could be the result of coolant leaking into the combustion chamber, rust in the cylinders, tight bearings, tight rings, etc. Usually, in a car that's driven every day, this isn't the cause of slow cranking. But it's worth bearing in mind if everything else checks out.)

Normal cranking

If the car cranks at normal speed but still doesn't start, check the fuel gauge. If there's gas in the tank, the next thing you want to know is whether it's reaching the engine. Remove the air cleaner and move the accelerator linkage (or have a friend press the gas pedal). Do it several times. You should get a good squirt into the carburetor throat each time with a single-barrel carb. With a two-barrel carb you should get a good squirt in each throat. If you do, fuel isn't the problem. If no gas squirts out, check the gas filter between the carburetor and fuel pump.

Remove the filter, attach a clean piece of hose to it, and blow through the hose. Put your finger over the filter; you should feel air flowing freely out. If the filter is clogged, replace it.

If the fuel filter is good, check fuelpump pressure and volume. First, for safety, remove the coil high-tension lead from the distributor cap and ground it with jumper wire. With GM HEI ignitions that have the ignition coil in the top of the distributor cap, simply disconnect the BAT wire at the distributor. This disables the ignition so the car won't accidentally start while you're making the following checks.

Put a pressure gauge on the output end of the fuel pump or on the end of the gas line where it attaches to the carb. Crank the engine for 15 seconds. The pressure gauge should read at least three pounds. A pressure gauge is not expensive. You can get a combination vacuum/pressure gauge in many auto-parts stores.

To check volume, direct the fuel from the pump into a container and crank the engine for 15 seconds. You should get a half-pint of fuel in that time. (For safety reasons, it's best to attach a long, flexible fuel line to either the fuel-pump outlet or to the outlet of the fuel line that attaches to the carburetor—so you can conduct the gasoline into a container outside the engine compartment. Have an approved fire extinguisher handy.)

If pressure and/or volume are low, check the vacuum on the tank side of the fuel pump. Remove the fuel line from the tank where it attaches to the fuel pump and attach a vacuum gauge to the pump. Crank the engine for about 15 seconds. You should get a vacuum reading of 10 inches. If the reading is below 10 inches and pressure and volume are low, the pump is probably bad. Replace it.

If the replacement pump doesn't cure the problem, a worn or loose fuel-pump drive eccentric (on the camshaft) is the cause of the problem. But this isn't common. If fuel squirts into the carb throat when the accelerator linkage is moved several times, you know that lack of fuel isn't the cause of the no-start condition. Check for spark.

Reinsert the coil high-tension lead into the distributor or reconnect the BAT wire. Remove a spark-plug wire from the spark plug. Rotate the boot back and forth until it breaks free, then pull up on the boot to remove it from the spark plug. Don't pull up on the wire itself—you risk breaking it.

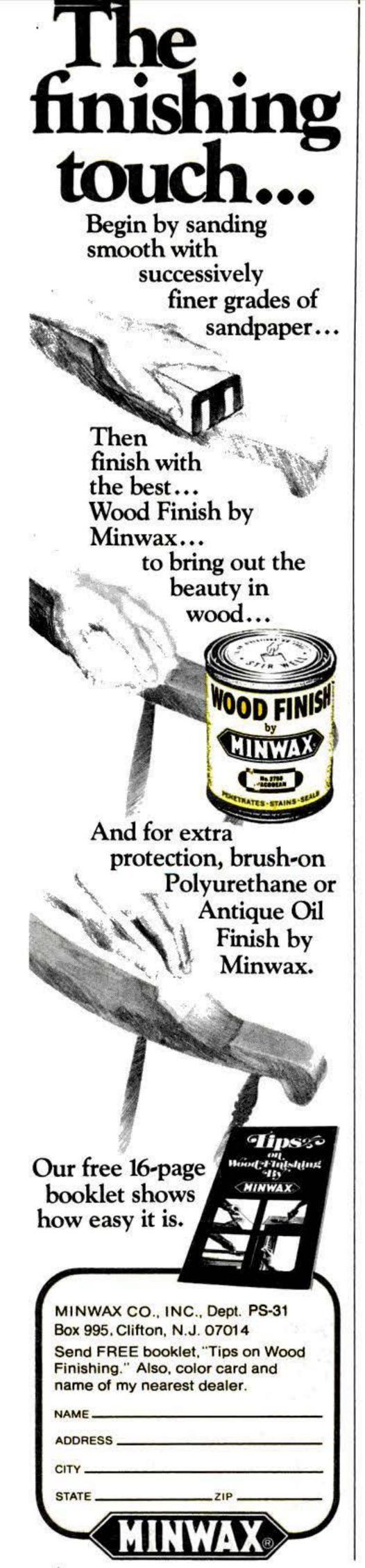
On some cars, one or more of the spark-plug-wire boots may be difficult or impossible to reach with your hand. In this case, to remove the hard-to-reach wire (or wires), you'll need a pair of pliers especially designed to remove spark-plug boots. These pliers are also handy for removing spark-plug wires on a hot engine—so you don't burn your fingers on nearby metal parts.

However, even on the most cluttered engines, you should be able to remove some of the wires by hand when the engine is cold. As long as you can get one wire off, you can tell if spark is reaching the plugs.

Insert a Phillips screwdriver (with an insulated handle) inside the metal terminal that's inside the boot. Hold the shank of the screwdriver about one-quarter inch from a good ground and have a friend crank the engine. If there is a spark, remove the spark plugs to see if they are wet. If they're wet, the most likely causes are improper starting procedure, faulty plugs, or a carb problem. Follow the starting procedure recommended in your owner's manual. With later-model cars the drill usually goes like this: Press the accelerator pedal to the floor

Continued

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Car won't start

[Continued]

once, remove your foot from the pedal, and crank.

If you have observed the proper starting procedure, the plugs may be wet because they're improperly gapped or are simply too old. A new set of correctly gapped plugs should be installed at the car maker's recommended intervals. If the plugs are gapped properly and are otherwise okay, you may have a carb problem. The most common one is a sticking choke. To check, remove the top of the air cleaner, move the accelerator linkage about half open, and hold it there. The choke plate should be shut now. To open the choke, press the lower edge of the choke plate. (One edge of the plate will be a little lower than the choke pivot, even when the choke is fully closed.) The choke plate should open to vertical position.

There will be some resistance (from the choke's bimetal spring) as you open the plate, but it should open smoothly with no binding. Release the choke plate. It should snap shut quickly and smoothly. If the choke is stuck, the cause of the sticking (such as bent or dirty linkage) must be eliminated and the choke adjusted to shop-manual specs.

If the choke doesn't seem to bind, put the air cleaner back on (in case of backfire; you don't want to start a fire). Install a new set of correctly gapped spark plugs, or dry the old plugs and reinstall them if they're properly gapped and aren't past retirement age.

Push the accelerator pedal to the floor (this trips the choke unloader, which will partly open the choke). Hold it against the floor; don't pump it. Crank the engine for 15 seconds. If the car doesn't start, wait 15 seconds (while still holding the gas pedal to the floor), then try again for 15 seconds. If after three or four tries (waiting 15 seconds between tries) the car doesn't start, look at the carb. If there is gas around the base of the carb, it is flooding. In this case the carb must be repaired.

If the carb isn't wet, pull the spark plugs and look at them. The intake manifold may have been so badly flooded with gas that the plugs have been fouled again. If so, let the plugs remain out overnight if possible to let the gas evaporate from the manifold. Leave the throttle and choke plate open (with the top off the air cleaner) to aid the evaporation process.

If there is no spark, remove the coil's high-tension lead from the dis-

tributor cap and hold the end of the lead a quarter-inch from a good ground. Be sure you're holding the insulated part of the wire, not the metal terminal at the end of the wire.

Have a friend crank the engine. If a spark jumps the gap, you have a bad rotor or distributor cap, which must be replaced. A visual inspection will indicate which is bad. Look for cracks and burn marks.

If no spark jumps the gap, you have a problem in the ignition circuit, such as a bad resistor, bad pickup coil, bad module, etc. At this point consult your shop manual for the specifics on trouble-shooting your individual ignition system.

With the GM HEI cars that have the ignition coil on top of the distributor cap, there is no high-tension coil wire. Check the cap and rotor for burns. If none are present, consult the shop manual on how to trouble-shoot the HEI.

If everything checks out okay to this point, you should take a compression check; compare it with the maker's specs. Low compression on all cylinders could indicate a bad timing chain or gears, bad rings, or other sealing problems. Usually, though, in a car that's been starting every day, low compression isn't the cause of the problem. The most common causes are a weak battery, faulty ignition, or fuel problem. And if you've followed this checklist so far, you've probably already got your car started.

Preventive maintenance

Of course, it's better if your car never refuses to start. Trouble-shooting on a cold, windy day isn't a lot of fun. With a little care you can greatly decrease the chances of a no-start occurring. Here's how:

- Check the battery regularly.
- Add fluid to the battery (with conventional ones) as needed.
- Keep cable connections clean and tightly fastened.
- See that the engine receives a tuneup at the intervals specified in your owner or shop manual. A tuneup will include fresh, properly gapped spark plugs, choke adjustment, and carburetor service—all common areas where no-start problems often develop.

A tuneup will also include a complete check of emission-related components, such as the PCV valve, EGR valve, and so on. In order for an engine to deliver optimum performance, these items must work well, too.

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Pinging

*

I have a 1977 Chevy Caprice 305 that has gone 63,000 miles. I use Amoco premium and Mobil premium fuel, but the car pings when going up the slightest grade. One mechanic claimed it's caused by a malfunction in the pollution-control system. Another said the only thing to do is retard the timing, but that would hurt performance. What do you think?

Tom R. Viviano, Tampa, Fla.

Find a good Chevrolet garage and have the EGR and vacuum timing operation checked. EGR slows the fuel-burning rate and slows down pinging. But too much EGR makes the engine run lean, and that increases pinging. Timing is intentionally very advanced at part throttle during lightload conditions. Timing has to be retarded considerably during acceleration. And you want a matching fuel enrichment at low vacuum, too. Unless everything jiggles together, pinging can be terrible.

Refrigerant in the engine

I recently helped a friend refill the air conditioner in his Audi Fox. While putting in the first can of refrigerant, the high-pressure hose ruptured. The rupture was next to the fuel-injection intake, so the can's entire contents was burned in the engine. The exhaust smelled terrible and burned my eyes and nose. A yellow foam came out the tailpipe and bleached my driveway. We're concerned about damage to the engine and exhaust system. What can you tell us?

Chuck Lacy, Tulsa, Okla.

Going through the engine, the refrigerant got too hot. The chemical reaction left a rubberlike residue, which is corrosive. Let's hope there's not much of it left in there.

Gasohol harmful?

I have a 1976 Volvo 264 GL with fuel injection and 27,500 miles on the odometer. I've been told by a Volvo mechanic that using gasohol will ruin the injector and damage the fuel pump. Is this true?

Alan T. Hammer, Lakehurst, N.J.

Wouldn't be surprised if it did.

Worried about electric fan

A year ago I purchased a 1980 Chevrolet Citation, which I like very much except for one thing. Since it is a front-wheel-drive car, the radiator fan is electric. According to the factory-installed temperature

gauge, the fan doesn't kick in until between 235 and 240 degrees. I feel this temperature is too high.

When I asked a mechanic at the Chevrolet garage, he told me that's how the cars were designed.

Robert V. McMaster, Napa, Calif.

They were designed to come on hot. We did a little checking, and I believe the 235 degrees F is a real 215–220 degrees. I think that's good—it shouldn't hurt the engine, and it will be good for mileage.

Can't make up his mind

Most of our driving is around town, but once a year we load up the car, pile in two adults and three kids, and drive more than 1,000 miles during our vacation. Our route goes over the Appalachian Mountains to Florida or the East Coast.

We like the looks of some of the new compacts, but for this kind of driving would we be better off with a four-cylinder or six-cylinder engine? We would like to keep our next car a long time.

Tom Molnar, Highland, Ind.

I don't think it's a question of a four or a six. I don't believe a six-cylinder is any more reliable than a four—or even a three-cylinder, for that matter.

After you choose a car that has the room and equipment you want, drive it in a demonstration ride. Consider its ability to operate all the gadgets and to perform at what you consider a reasonable level.

Remember, small engines really lose a lot with automatic transmissions and A/C in hot weather. Hills and mountains can sometimes seem steeper then.

Nobody builds the perfect car yet, but the biggest change in history is going on right now. It will take four or five years for the smoke to clear. So plan on owning this car for a shorter term.

Battery discharges

Our car is a '72 Cadillac. Recently it began to have starting trouble. The battery seemed to run down overnight or even after a short trip. The starter was rebuilt. A new battery was installed. Everything seemed fine until the car was not driven for a couple of days. Then the new battery ran down. It seems as though something is draining the battery. Once started, the car runs beautifully. How can I find the cause of this power drain?

R. Thomas, Sharon, Pa.

Remove the battery ground cable at the frame-engine connection. Put an amme-

ter in between with all systems off. It should read zero. If it doesn't, head up the hot side looking for a short, or for a gadget left on.

A quick, easy check: Take one cable off when you know it's going to sit a couple of days, then put it back when you're ready to start it again. If it starts okay, you know you have to look for a current draw.

He's missing something

In 1975 I bought a new Olds 88 with a 350 engine. After about 35,000 miles, the alternator light started to glow faintly. As time went on it got brighter and brighter, until in about a month it was glowing very brightly.

I had the alternator repaired, which cured the problem for about a month. Then the same thing happened. I had it repaired again, and in about a month the same thing again occurred. This time I replaced the alternator, which cured it once again for about a month.

In August 1977, I traded it for a 1977 Olds 98 with a 350 engine. I had no problems with this car until recently. Then the alternator light began to glow very faintly, and soon it was glowing very brightly. I checked out the alternator and it was okay, but I replaced the voltage regulator anyway. This again seemed to cure the problem, but in a week's time the alternator light was glowing faintly once again. What am I missing?

W. T. Frey, Houston, Tex.

You're basing your repair needs on the wrong thing. Check voltage- and amperage-output specs. Probably most of the work you had done could have been settled with a simple voltage/amperage regulator adjustment and a slight increase in idle speed.

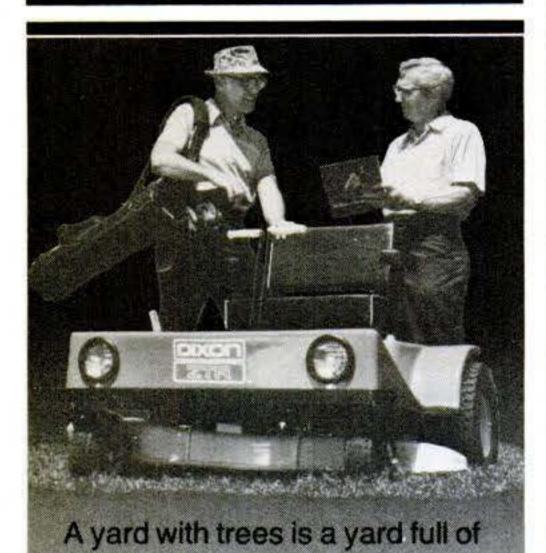
Wants a smaller engine

My 1973 Dodge Dart Swinger has gone over 122,600 miles on the original factory motor. It's limping along, burning oil, and is leaking from somewhere. It has a 318-cu.-in. engine, but for better gas economy, I would like to replace the engine with a smaller rebuilt one. Would this be practical? The Swinger has air conditioning, and I was told by the salesman when I bought it that a larger engine is required for air conditioning.

Marc Marquette, Sherman Oaks, Calif. You can go a lot smaller and still have A/C, but performance will drop. I expect you'll get some stalling when idling during hot weather—not that it's impossible to make it stall-proof during idle. But it's harder to keep small engines from stalling at idle as you turn on the gadgets.

Each month in POPULAR SCIENCE Smokey Yunick answers questions on cars—family cars, high-performance jobs, hot rods, and racing cars—selected from those sent in by readers. Got a problem? Send it to: "Say Smokey—", Popular Science, 380 Madison Ave., New York, N.Y. 10017. Questions cannot be answered by mail.

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'81 lawn mowers

[Continued from page 121]

that make them special. Toro's 20inch electric mower/trimmer uses monofilament lines instead of blades to mow and trim grass right up to an obstacle.

Its twin trimmer heads and a remote line release make this 30-lb. mower attractive for small areas or for cleaning up around hard-to-maneuver locations where a big machine may not be able to reach. All you add is a long extension cord.

I drew stares while testing the Wheel Horse E-81. This battery-powered electric rider with its 32-inch twin-motor deck performs as well as any gas-powered rider. But it moves so quietly I could hear the slight whine of the gear train over the whirr of the mower deck. Its three big deep-discharge batteries were sufficient to cut my acre in one mowing and can be recharged overnight. Overall, the E-

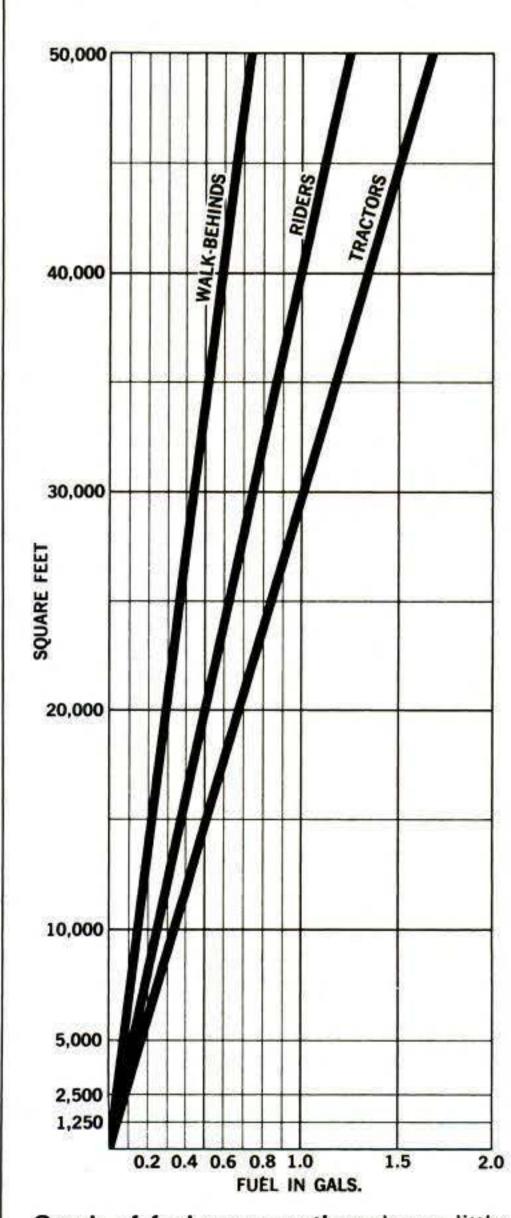
81 is an impressive machine-strong and silent, as you might expect.

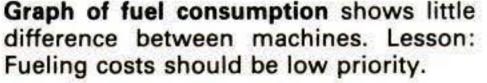
Your choice

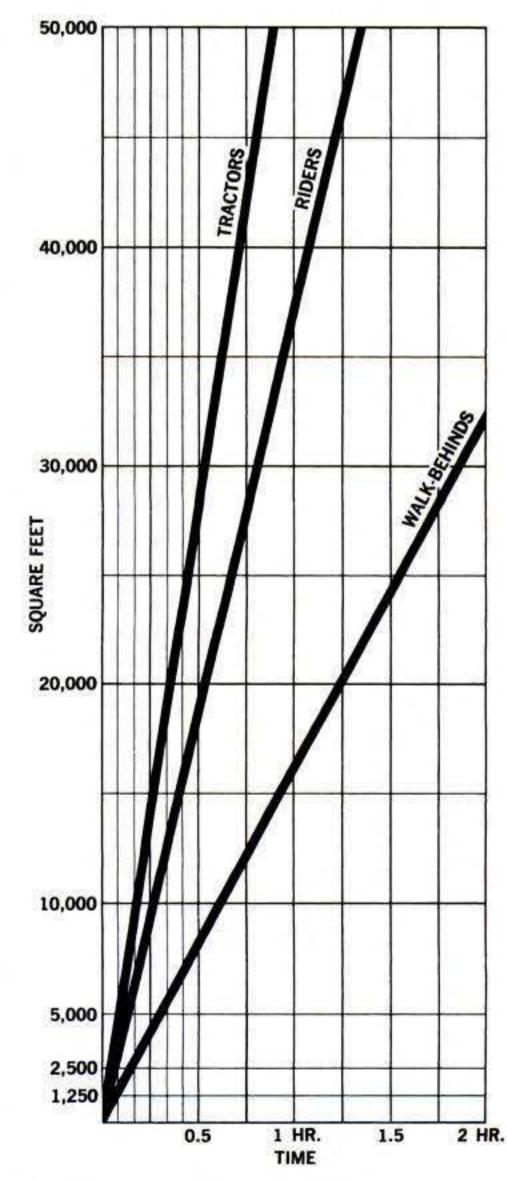
Unless you're very frugal, fuel costs are a secondary consideration. A garden tractor mowing a 20,000-square-foot plot 15 times (an average summer's work here) would use 10 gallons of gas; a rider, 7.6 gallons; a walkbehind, 4.5 gallons. The fuel saved between tractor and walk-behind only amounts to 5.5 gallons.

Time saving is another matter. Mowing the same plot with a tractor instead of a walk-behind can save you almost an hour per mowing, or about 13 hours for the summer. Rider savings aren't far behind: 10.4 hours.

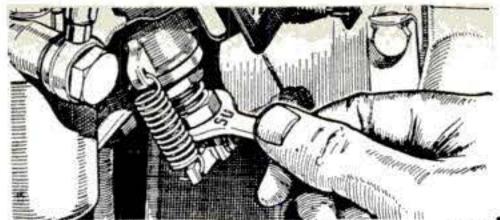
But don't forget the other points: matching the mower to your lawn and personal preferences; features; durability; and service availability.







Importance of time saving is up to you. But graph shows penalty for walk-behinds on lawns larger than 15,000 sq. ft.



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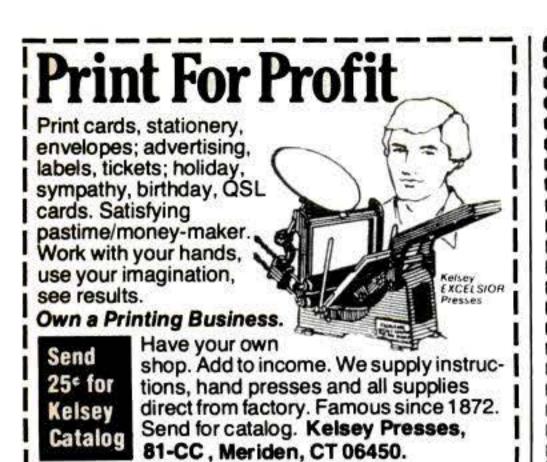
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1206 JAGUAR 55-69 sedan mdls 2.4, 3.4, 3.8, 240, 340	ľ	8206	INTERNATIONAL SCOUT 67-73 800, A, B, II mdls	\$9.95
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DES - HOME REPAIR - TECHNICAL BOOKS		9485	MERCEDES-BENZ 250,280 68-72 all models plus 230	\$12.95
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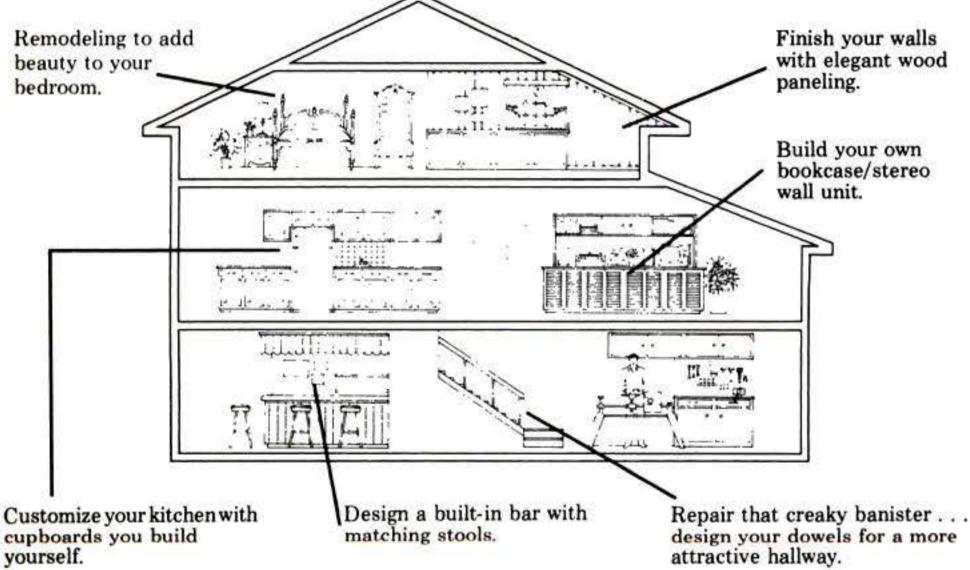
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Tilt-engine V/STOL

[Continued from page 74]

about 100 feet, he is hovering completely on downward engine thrust. With the guide vanes in the exhaust (see drawing) he can move the plane laterally as fast as 30 mph. All during the approach, inertial sensors direct the controls; even violent wind gusts are automatically compensated for.

The last few feet onto a heaving deck demand fine adjustments beyond mere throttle changes. For such fine tuning, the inlet guide vanes can change the airflow and vary engine thrust in split seconds in response to the inertial sensors.

Enlightened approach

Design 698 is, of course, more than just a concept. Besides small-scale radio-controlled and high-speed windtunnel models, a full-scale mock-up equipped with a pair of TF-34-GE-100 turbofan engines has been tested in the giant 40-by-80-foot wind tunnel at NASA Ames Research Center in California (see photo). This \$6 million test model (costs shared equally by Grumman, NASA, and the Navy) is approximately twice as heavy as a 10ton production model would be. A flying demonstrator would cost about \$100 million. Radar-equipped production models might cost \$10 million.

"If we had an enlightened and vigorous approach with enough money," Bob Kress told me, "we could have a demonstrator flying in about three years." How fast and how far development-funding will progress in the next few years is closely tied to future concepts of our Navy.

One possible riposte to the ongoing Soviet naval buildup would be to develop a new missile ship, based on existing destroyer designs, capable of carrying as many as 10 of the new Grumman V/STOL planes. Such ships might cost about \$500 million compared to \$2.5 billion for a new carrier—plus aircraft and supporting units.

But prospects for civil versions are also promising, both for offshore oil rigs and for business use. A nine-passenger business jet model, says Kress, could cost about \$9 million. It could take off from lower Manhattan and fly nonstop to Chicago in less than two hours, thus cutting downtown-todowntown time for conventional commercial jets in half. Such time saving without requiring construction of new, multimillion-dollar airport runways would obviously be a boon to air travel in the future. Similar benefits would no doubt favor the use of such craft to distant offshore oil rigs.

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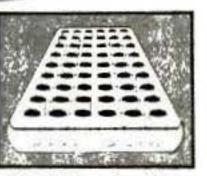
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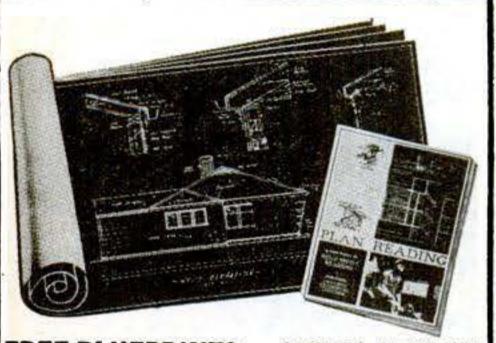
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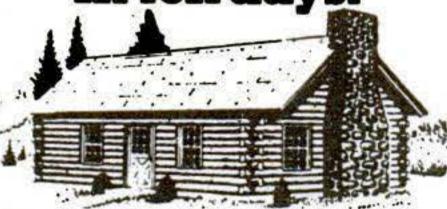
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Saturn's secrets

[Continued from page 88]

etesimals-icy blocks of primordial matter-just as the planets were formed. If that is the case, the Saturnian system may become the textbook example of solar-system creation. "We may be seeing down to the accretion process itself," Soderblom said.

The large moon Titan is a story in itself. Known to be the only moon in the solar system with a substantial atmosphere, Titan is enveloped in a red haze that prevented Voyager's cameras from getting a view of its surface. Radio-wave soundings of the atmosphere indicated that the pressure on Titan's surface is several times greater than on Earth.

Ultraviolet measurements revealed that the atmosphere is not predominantly methane, as had been thought, but mainly nitrogen, as is Earth's. It also contains significant concentrations of hydrocarbons, including acetylene, ethane, and hydrogen cyanide. The latter molecule is believed to be a necessary precursor to formation of life. However, frigid temperatures on the surface-down to minus 180 degrees C-quash any hope that living forms may exist there.

"Titan may be a place where we can study pre-biotic chemistry," Stone said. "It's possible that it represents Earth as it was billions of years ago. It could be Earth in deep freeze."

Equatorial winds

Almost lost in the excitement over rings and moons was Saturn itself. Analysis of its muted bands and zones puzzled meteorologists, who are now rechecking their Jupiter data. On that planet, jet-stream winds crisscrossed the globe, flowing east, then west along the edges of the color bands.

On Saturn, one continuous jet stream, with winds up to 1,500 km/hr, streaks westward centered on the equator, contained inside the cloud bands. Such a wind is alien to any recognized weather pattern.

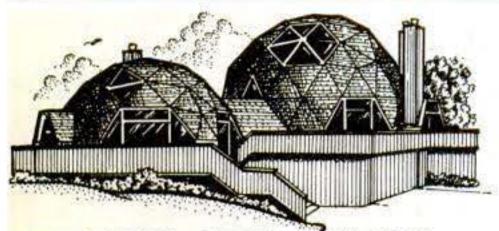
With Voyager 1 now heading toward the edge of the solar system, unsolved old mysteries and inexplicable new ones may clear up when Voyager 2 flies by Saturn. Meanwhile, project scientists will study their data-and will continue to marvel.

"I can't recall being in such a state of euphoria over any previous encounter," says Brad Smith, who has been on the science teams of many planetary missions. "We've learned more about the Saturn system in the past week than in the entire span of recorded history."



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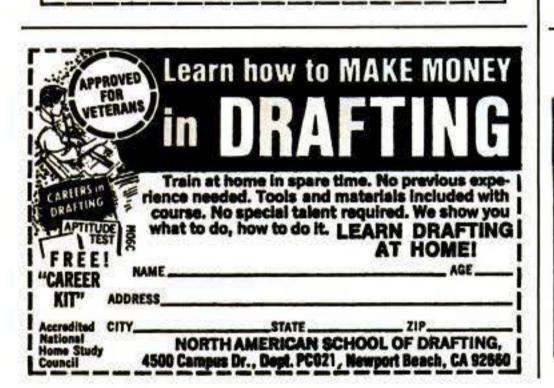
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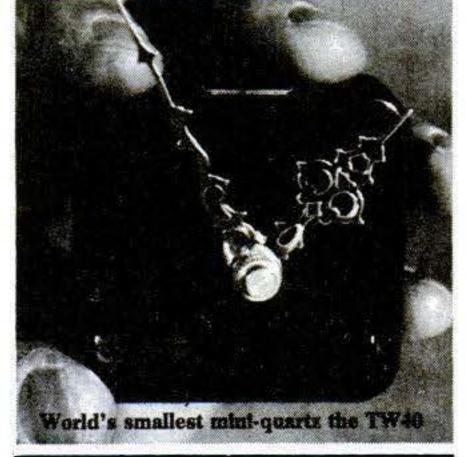


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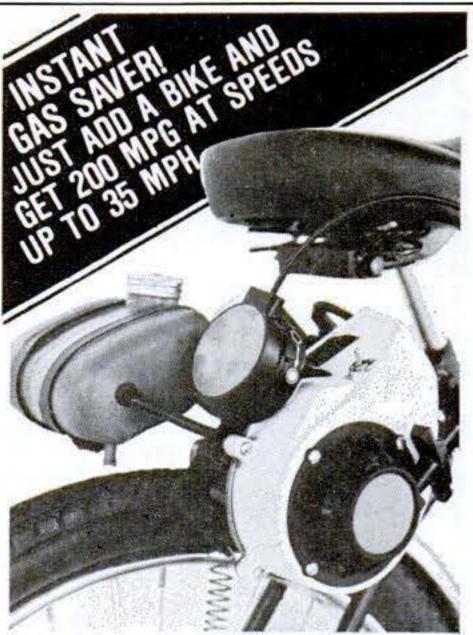
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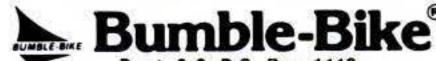
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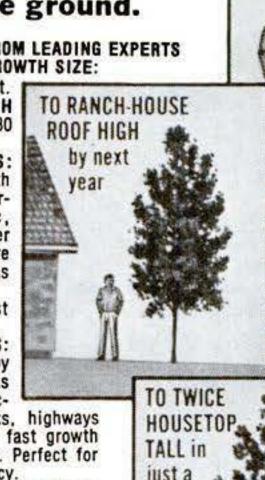
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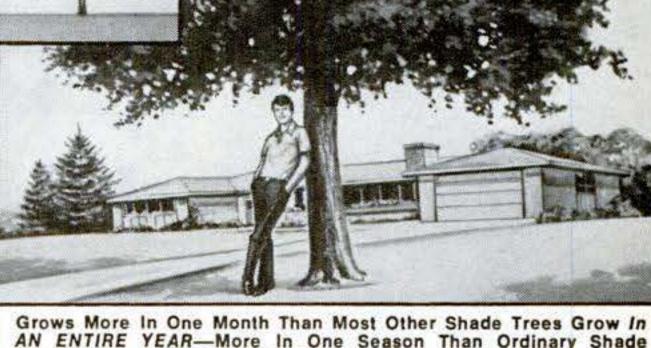
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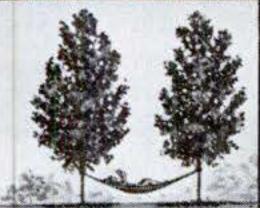
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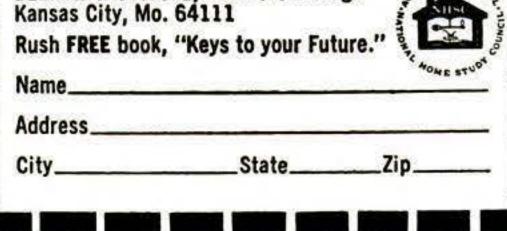
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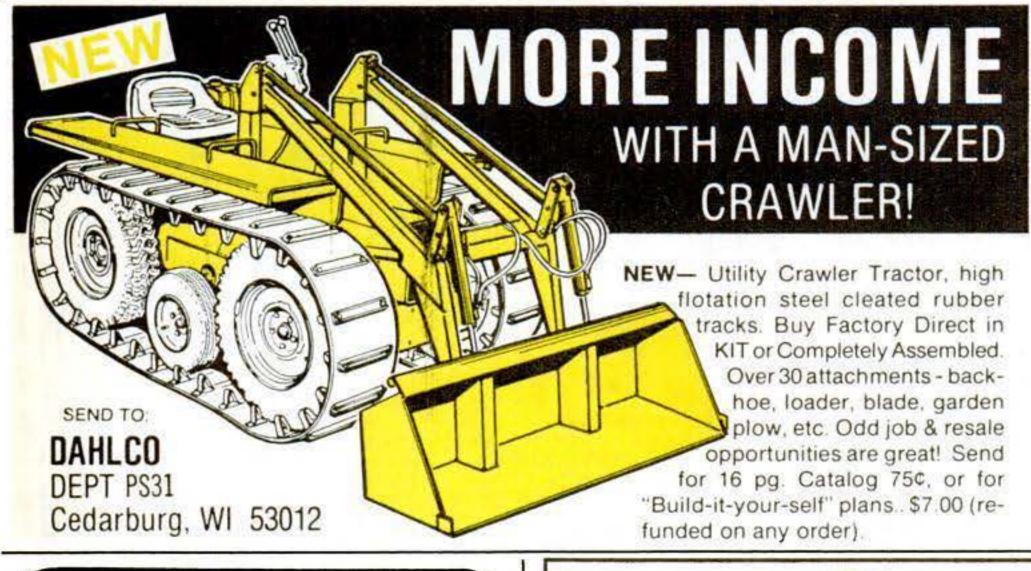


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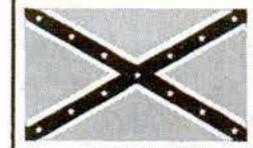


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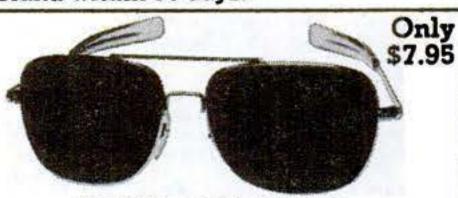
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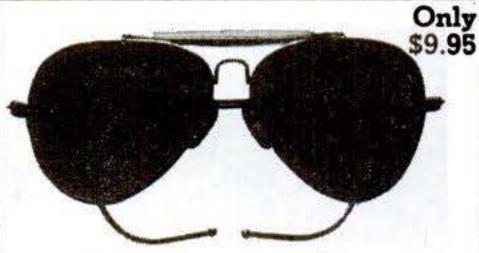
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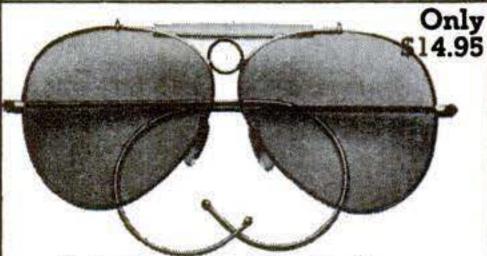


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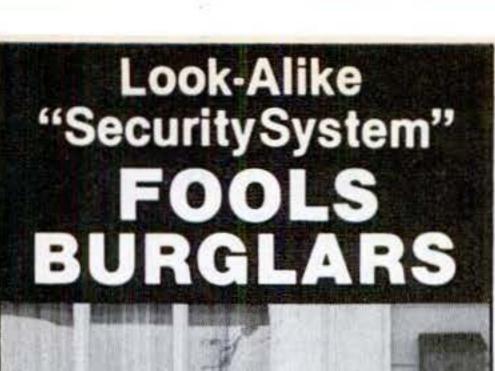
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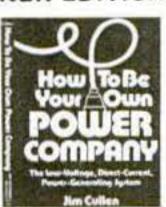
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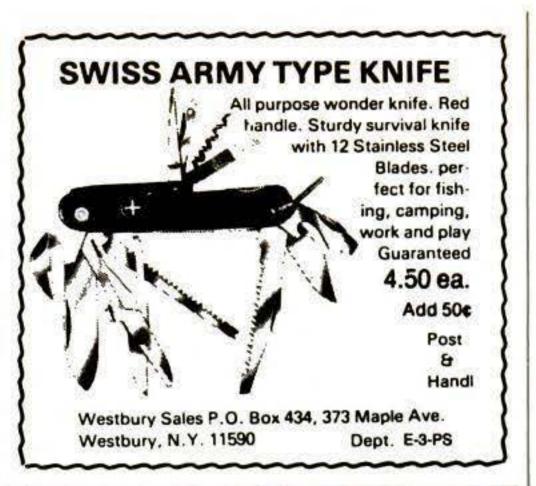
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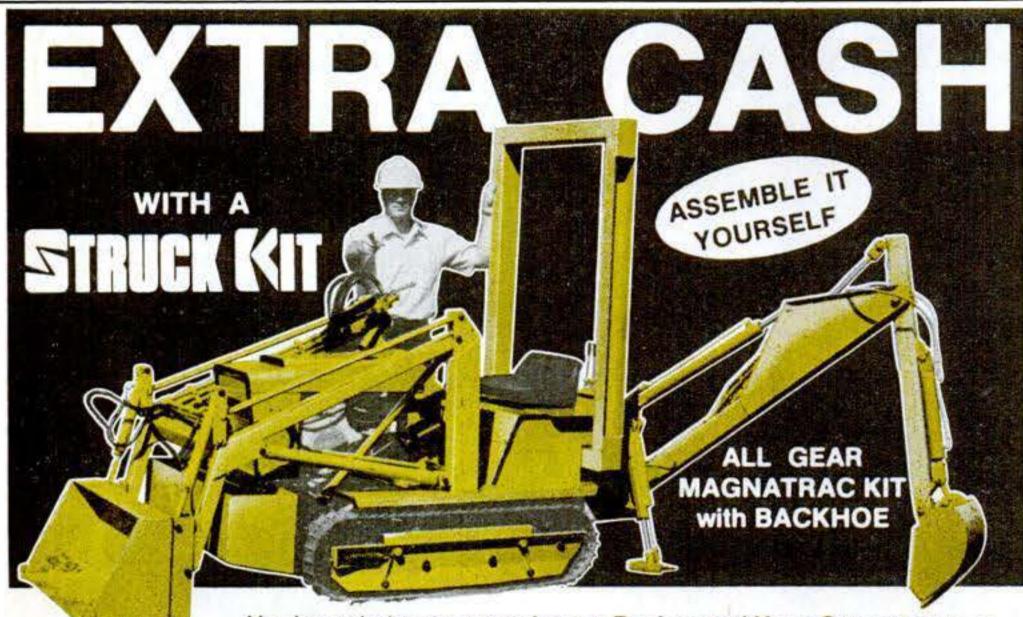
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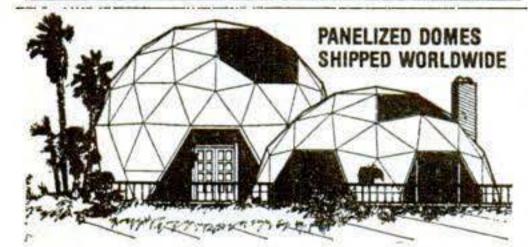
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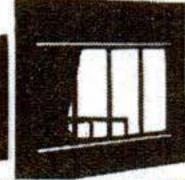
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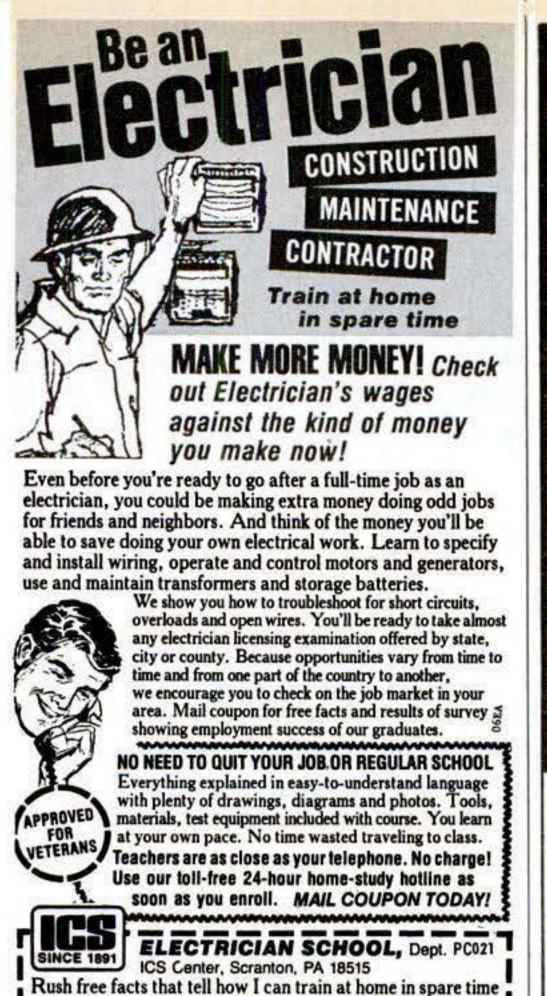
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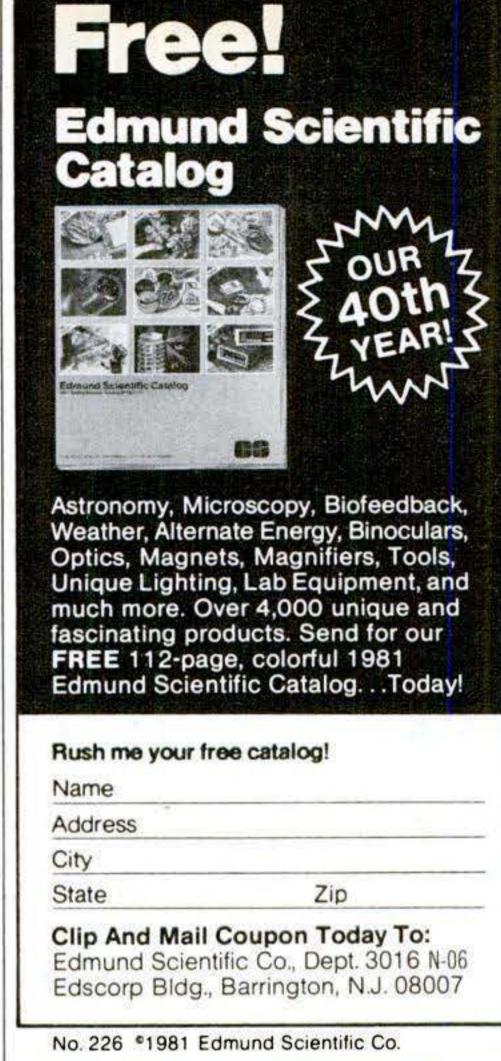
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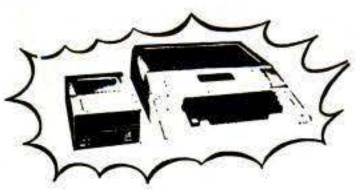
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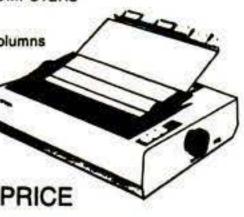
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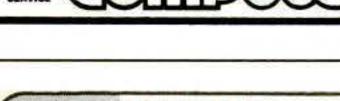


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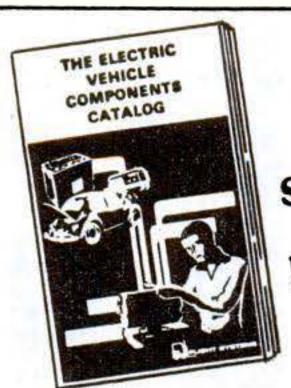
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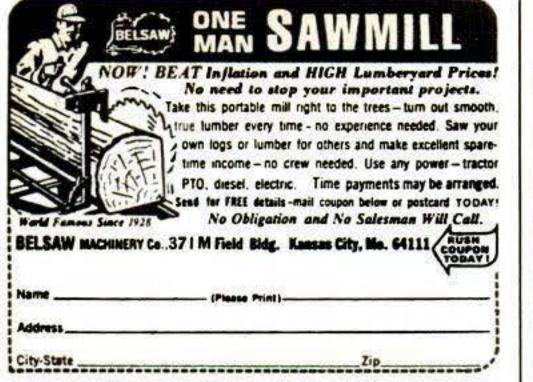
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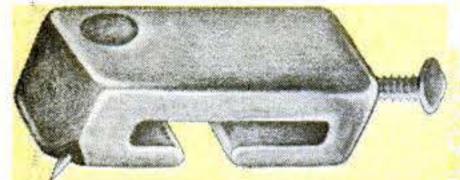
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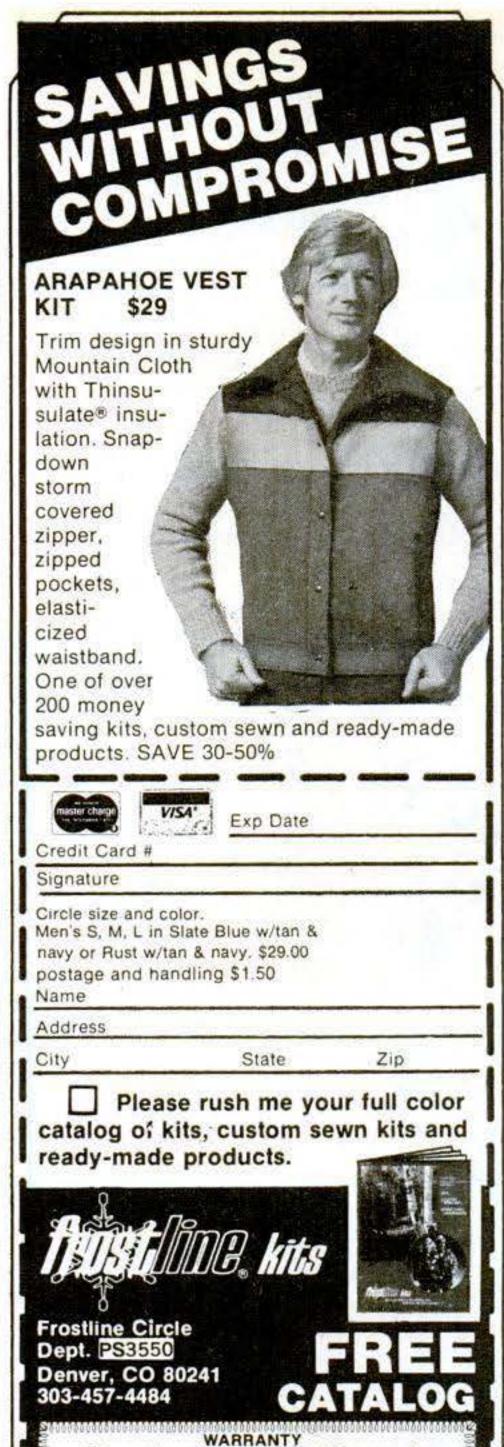




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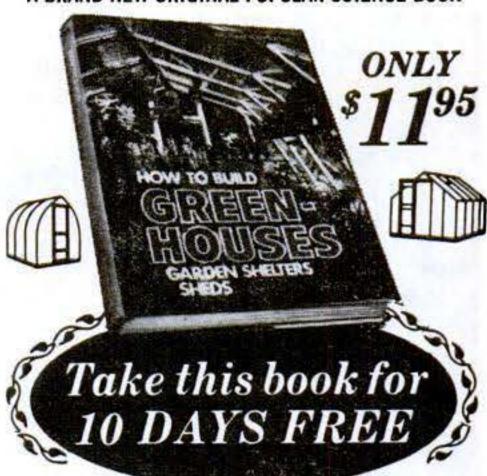
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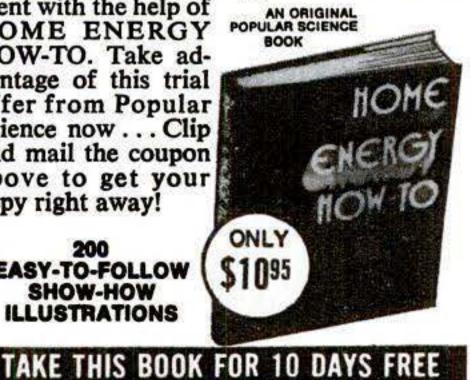
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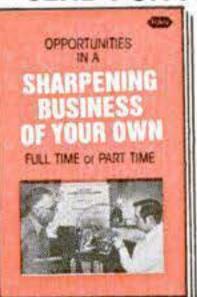
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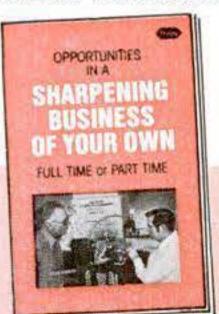
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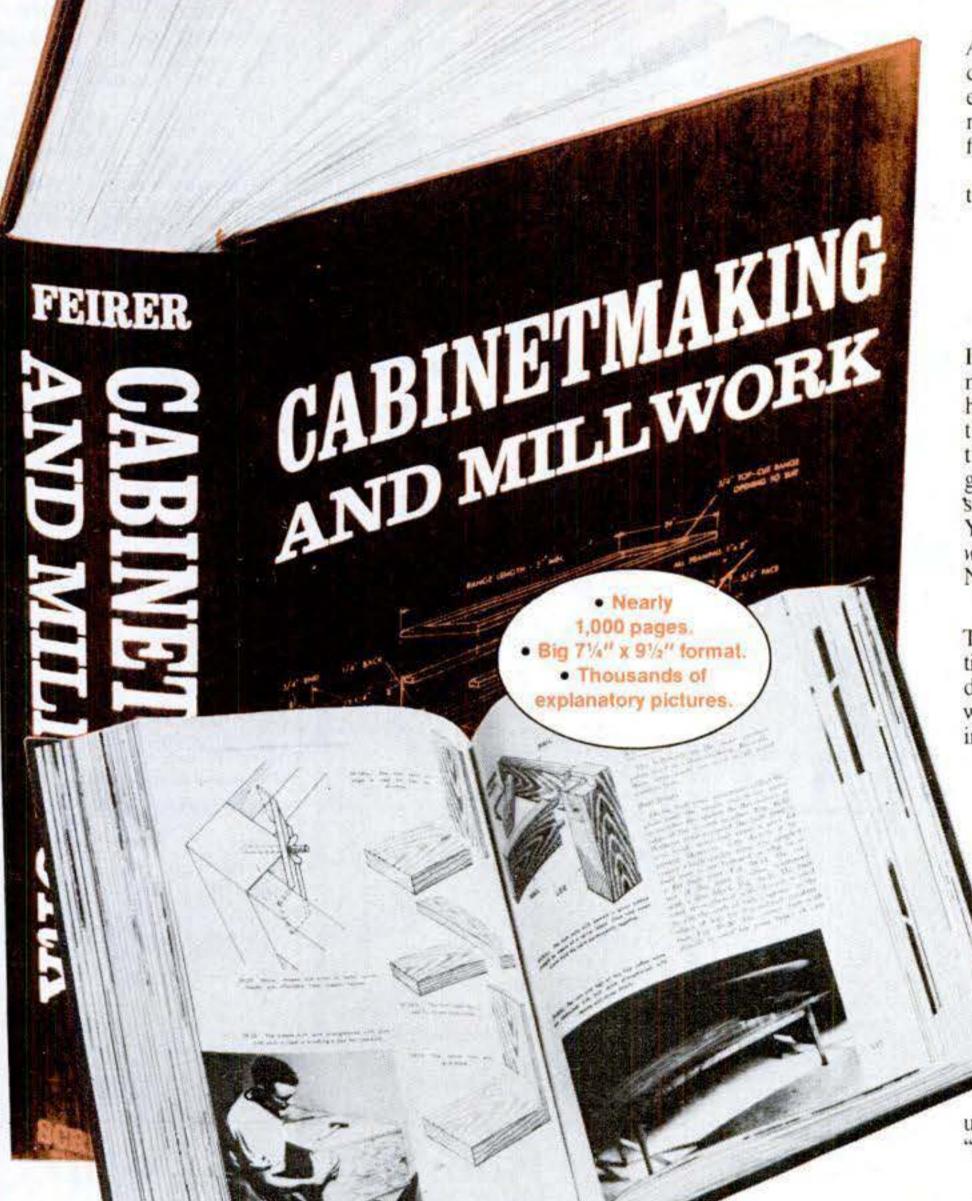
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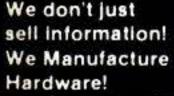
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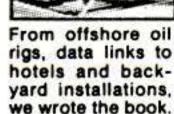
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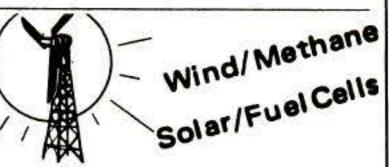




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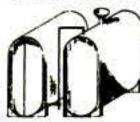
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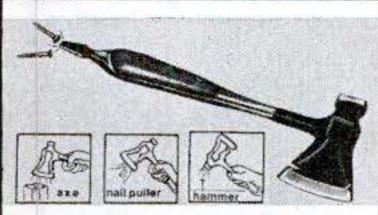
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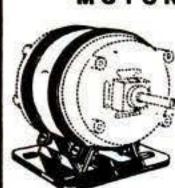
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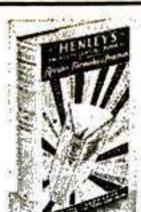
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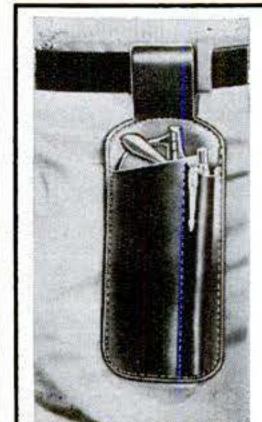
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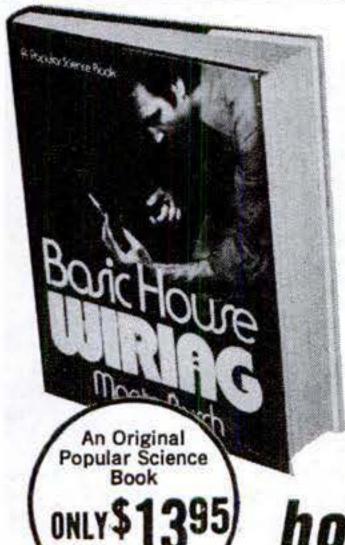
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