

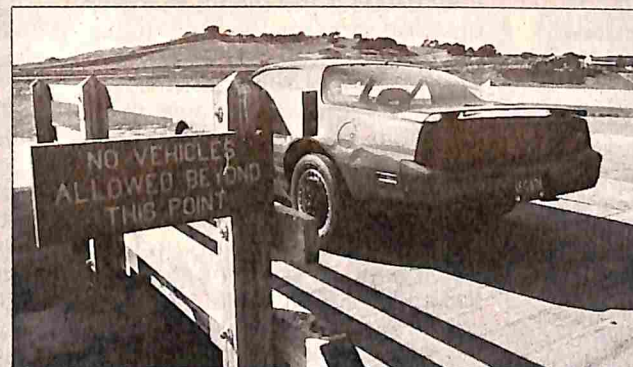


Go for the best from the North. A Canadian so good, it takes the efforts of four great distilleries from Manitoba to Quebec to make the superb taste of one great whisky. Lord Calvert: The Lord of the Canadians.

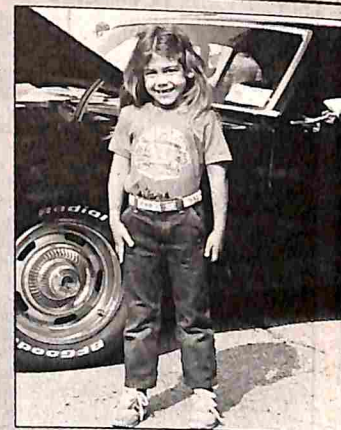
inside

Car Craft February 1982 Volume 30 Number 2

64. Well, we warned him. "Jeff," we said, "you're driving too fast, and when you mix driving with that Iowa corn..." Obviously he failed to heed our warnings. But we listened to his about Saginaw steering boxes, and here's the story.



84. See that sign about no vehicles? See that massive dent in the rear quarter panel of this brand new 'Bird? Our publisher did that. Shame, shame, Harry! But the legendary F.P. Voegelin hung in there for a complete report on this dynamic new automobile.



56. Does this look like your average Street Nats participant? Really, this tiny person arrived at Pomona driving a blown Hemi-powered Aston Martin. And if you believe that, we've got these lots for sale in the Mojave. Actually, what we do have is comprehensive coverage of the Street Nats WEST.

features

21 The 1982 Street Machine Nationals
Your first (and possibly last) chance to enter

24 Ford's Performance Heritage
FoMoCo's racing involvement, from Thunderbolts to IMSA Mustangs

30 Big-Block Chevy Tips
New tricks for canted valve Rat motors

42 It's the Nitro!
Mike Miller's Oly-sponsored Funny Car

47 How to Build a Street Machine
Cutting your hood for blower/carburetor clearance

56 Western Union
The Street Machine Nationals WEST

64 As the Worm Gear Turns
Rebuilding a Saginaw steering box

68 Radical Chic
The maximum lawless Pro Street Vega

74 CAR CRAFT Action Showcase
Funny Car conflagrations at the World Finals

75 Conservation Chronicles
Overdrives for better mileage

82 Overnight Sensation
Our cover Camaro shows its stripes

84 The 1982 Firebird
Raider of the lost art

94 Modified's Last Stand
The ignominious finale of an eliminator

departments

- 4 Point of View
- 6 Backfire
- 10 Straight Scoop
- 12 Tech Talk
- 17 Hi-Risers
- 96 Two Wheeling
- 106 New Products
- 110 Performance Directory
- 113 Calendar
- 114 Etc.

staff

HARRY HIBLER Publisher
JON ASHER Editor
PAT RYALL Managing Editor
J.R. MARTINEZ Art Director
JOHN BAECHEL, S.A.E. Senior Editor
JEFF SMITH Technical Editor
RICK VOEGELIN Contributing Editor

NORMAN MAYERSOHN Associate Editor
KAREN STABINS Associate Art Director
DAVID ELLIS Feature Writer
LONIE MYSIOR Administrative Assistant
DEBBIE FEDER Editorial Assistant
LINDA MCGUIRE Ad Services Coordinator

DICK DAY Senior V.P., Hot Rod Publications Division

RAT FACTS!

BIG-BLOCK CHEVY TIPS

\$1.50 FEBRUARY 1982 In Canada \$1.75

CAR CRAFT

CAR CRAFT

THE COMPLETE PERFORMANCE MAGAZINE

**FORD'S
PERFORMANCE
HERITAGE**

**ALL-NEW
TRANS AM**



**ULTIMATE 152 MPH
STREET VEGA**

STREET MACHINE NATIONALS WEST



Win a DE LOREAN
Grand Prize in Petersen's 1982 Automotive
SWEEPSTAKES

For complete details and Official Entry Form, see inside this issue or send a self-addressed, stamped envelope for each entry you wish to Petersen Automotive Sweepstakes, Car Craft Magazine, 6725 Sunset Blvd., Hollywood, CA 90028. This request must be received by 10/15/82. No purchase necessary to enter sweepstakes.