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John Hancock Center
875 N. Michigan Avenue
Suite 3131
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333 West Fort Street Built
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(212) 935-9150
PETERSEN ACTION GROUP (PAG)
Alan Waxenberg
V.P. and National Advertising Director
Paul Maguire
Eastern Advertising Director
437 Madison Avenue
New York, New York 10022
(212) 935-9150
Chuck Campbell
Western Advertising Director
7833 Sunset Blvd.
Los Angeles, California 90046
(213) 874-3000

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30. When you go to Bakersfield, the joke goes, you set your watch back 20 years. Chortle, chortle. Well, we dispatched Jon Asher to California's Central Valley to check up on the region's best-known product: not grapes, but Top Fuel racers James Warren and Roger Coburn. What he found there are people who can make rain where there is none, make friends with their fiercest competitors, and make a Top Fuel dragster run 5-second e.t.s. with ease. Maybe we had it backwards: Bakersfield must be 20 years ahead of everywhere else

41. Traditionally a man's best friend is his dog. But the long-haired German Shepherd named Gus pictured here is in for some stiff competition from the new love in freelance contributor Norman Mayersohn's life: a 1967 Rally Sport Camaro. Since Norman must survive on the pattry paychecks the sport Camaro. Since Norman must survive on the paltry paychecks the magazines dole out, he struck upon a not-so-novel way of constructing a "new" old car by buying a \$200 body and transplanting the drivetrain from his dead station wagon. Meanwhile,



3,000 miles away, Al Kirschenbaum simultaneously devised a similar plan, focusing on a '70 Cuda as the object of his automotive affections. Kirschenbaum, however, does not have a dog



**54.** When we approached author Lawrence Talbot about a story on getting the best sound in car stereo, he replied, "Stick it in your ear." What follows, then, is his advice on the care and feeding of aural frequencies for your automobile.

### fortures

- 12 ALL-STAR REPORT
- WARREN & COBURN: DISTANT THUNDER
- 34 SUPER MODIFIED UPDATE
- 38 ON THE ROAD WITH THE PDA The fuelers are coming, the fuelers are coming
- 40 CUDA STREET MACHINE
- 41 CAMARO STREET MACHINE
- 42 PERFORMANCE POWERGLIDES
- 48 ROAD RUNNER BRACKET RACER
- 52 RACING ACTION
- THE BEST SOUND IN CAR STEREO
- STEREO GUIDE What you hear is what you get

#### VAN AND TRUCK SECTION

- 66 VAN SCENE
- VAN SUSPENSIONS
- 74 ETCHED GLASS
- 76 FENDER FLARES
- 78 DASH PANELS
- **80 PAINT TRICKS** you thought those were accidents
- 82 VAN GRAPHICS One step beyond airbrushe
- PINTO WAGON PROJECT ourself sedan delivery
- STEPSIDE TRIO Variations on the Flareside them
- 96 CC VETT: CONVERTIBLE TOP

## departments

- 4 POINT OF VIEW
- STRAIGHT SCOOP
- 10 HI RISERS
- 15 RAPPING OFF 22 TECH TALK
- 123 NEW PRODUCTS
- 124 ETC.

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