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No, this is not the world's first 34. solar-powered street machine. Nor is it the reflector for the Mt. Palomar telescope or the Jolly Green Giant's cookie sheet. Actually, it's a demonstration of the first installment in our new series, "How to Build a Street Machine." Specifically, this month we tell you how to make an engine compartment look like a million at a cost of about \$20. Conceived in the fertile mind of Tech Editor Baechtel over a lunch of combination burritos, the series promises to have at least the impact of the Declaration of Independence, the Bill of Rights and the Playmate playoff.



Many years ago, Bob Dylan told us 40. that we didn't need a weatherman to know which way the wind was blowing. There are times, though, when you need to know how hard the wind is blowing, and that's when you need a turbo boost gauge. Feature Editor Jeff Smith was responsible for the unique installation shown here. After 50 passes at the dragstrip sorting out priority valves, nitrous injection and driving technique with our turbocharged test Vette, Jeff finally discovered the true worth of this piece of test equipment: "Honest, officer, I never saw the red light!"

44. The same technical editor known to

dream up series while consuming burritos (see above) has other unusual culinary tastes. "You are what you eat," the nutritionists say, which must mean that John Baechtel is a CAR CRAFT license plate. Actually, John



maintains that eating one red plate special a day provides the strength of mind necessary to complete six stories on the night before copy deadline, including this month's Firebird flight plan.

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