

ARIZONA DRIVER

THE ENTHUSIAST'S GUIDE TO LIFE BEHIND THE WHEEL

VOLUME 2 NUMBER 2

MARCH/APRIL 2003

\$5



H2: Tame is a relative term

SMA of SCOTTSDALE WINS SEMA GM "Best SUV" Award

plus... • Phoenix, LA and Detroit Auto Show Highlights

• HKS Tuner Comparo: Focus/WRX/Eclipse/Tiburon • Auction followup

• "Arizona Rider" Motorcycle Overview 2003 • and more!

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THE ENTHUSIAST'S GUIDE TO LIFE BEHIND THE WHEEL

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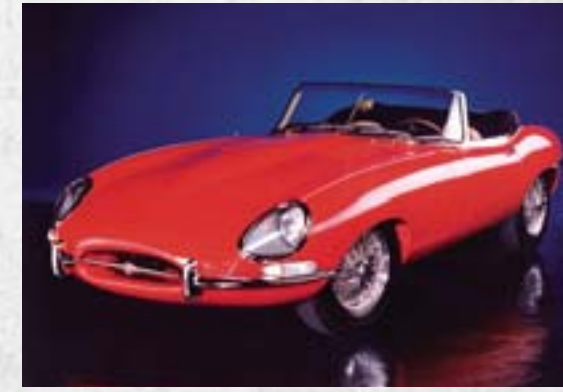
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COVER PHOTO: SMA, Inc. Stinger/Mac Accessories
RIGHT: Photos courtesy of DaimlerChrysler, General Motors, Dan J. Gardner, Barrett-Jackson, and Aprilia.



Publishing a motor magazine can keep a person very busy, which means we've had a lot of fun and done a lot of work putting this issue together for you. Media credentials to the Phoenix and Los Angeles Auto Shows afforded an opportunity not only to see the latest vehicles first, but also to have them presented by some of the loftiest personalities in the business.

It's no longer unusual to see a concept vehicle head to production. Chrysler cut normal development cycles to a fraction of their former selves in the last decade, bringing show cars like the PT Cruiser and Prowler to market in record time. Now everybody's in on the act, as evidenced by the Ford GT40 Living Legends concept, coming to life over the next few months as the potent Ford GT supercar. (We were fortunate enough to talk to Ford Design VP J Mays, author of the GT, at the LA Show, gaining a few more insights into his massively creative mind.)

Other vehicle introductions are headed for production straightaway, while a few await public and professional feedback to help the manufacturers decide.

Of this much we can be certain: when the newest, latest, greatest do indeed hit the pavement, we'll see them first in Arizona. Hardly a breakthrough vehicle happens that doesn't somehow appear on our streets even before its release date, through the miracles of hot weather testing, grey market exuberance or just good connections. Get an idea of what's coming our way, in our show review pages.

We ended up passing on the Geneva show this week, despite receiving prestigious credentials, but we're signed up for New York in April and will surely have some more insider scoops for you soon.

ARIZONA RIDER: This issue introduces something else new for you: *Arizona Rider Magazine*, as a section within this book. Anyone who enjoys wheels on pavement is likely open to giving it a go on two wheels. Writer/rider Jill Amadio offers an overview of what's in the marketplace this season and what the trends are in style, size and performance. The section finishes up with the outrageous Dodge Tomahawk concept ... not quite a bike, but sure to get your attention if you have a pulse.

HUMMER H2: Who hasn't noticed the proliferation of Hummer H2 vehicles in this area! We include an overview of the vehicle, and we visit SMA: Stinger/Mac Accessories, a local firm making waves worldwide with their aftermarket accessories for the H1 and H2.

IMPORT TUNERS: From the SEMA show in Las Vegas, we followed up on an invitation to test four hot import tuners from HKS in California. Our correspondent Dan J. Gardner investigates all four and offers his opinions. This features gives inspiration to anyone who wants to light up the track at Firebird Raceway's SCO Nights (www.dragracing.com/sco).

UPCOMING: With some SUVs headed down in size, even while the H2 lights up the sales charts, we will shortly drive the new Lexus GX470, smaller than the LX470 but beefier than the RX300, plus the new Kia Sorento, an inspired take on smaller car-chassis SUVs from the booming Korean peninsula.

A couple of weeks ago, we hit the road with our test engineer Gary Goldzweig, in not one but two Aston Martin DB7 models ... the DB7 convertible and also one of the rarest and most exciting vehicles we could wish to get our hands on: the DB7 GT, one of only two in the world. (Don't despair; they're making more, so empty the piggy bank and visit the dealer soon.)

Spring training is here, so our mission wouldn't be complete without a visit to Tucson Electric Park, where we gained a few insights into what the Diamondbacks drive. Don't surprised to learn that the D'backs' garages harbor quite a few more copies of the Hummer H2 ... and more.

Welcome to our third edition, which means we have now completed one half year of existence. As you know, time flies when you're having this much fun. Glad you can join us!



Joe Sage
Publisher/
Executive Editor

ARIZONA DRIVER

MAGAZINE

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ARIZONA DRIVER MAGAZINE

PUBLISHED BIMONTHLY BY ADZONE ARIZONA LLC
 PO Box 13387 - Scottsdale AZ 85267
www.azdrivermag.com
 Arizona Driver Magazine and
 Arizona Rider Magazine are registered
 tradenames of AdZone Arizona LLC.



AUTO SHOW BUZZ...

We were fortunate enough to attend both the Phoenix and Los Angeles International Auto Shows, for an up-front, close and personal look at what's coming your way. Detroit's North American International Auto Show ran at about the same time, and we bring you some of the latest from there, as well. Power was a consistent theme, as the number of vehicles presenting 400 to 500 hp—and more—was unprecedented.

← FORD & MERCURY PONY UP

FORD MUSTANG. Ford introduces the next generation Mustang in 2004 as a 2005 model. The platform evolves from the Lincoln LS, Jaguar S-Type and Thunderbird. Standard power will likely be a 215-hp V-6 and a 4.6-liter (280-hp) V8, with an SVT near 400 hp.

MERCURY MESSENGER. In the company of the new Mustang, above, we think this should instead be a new Cougar. If Ford wants to totally dominate the pony car segment in the wake of Camaro's and Firebird's retirement, it looks like they're on track.



CHRYSLER OPENS THE THROTTLE →

DODGE TOMAHAWK. This show-stopper pumps out 500hp. See page 27.

DODGE KAHUNA. Picking up a contemporary woody treatment reminiscent of the recent PT California Cruiser's brushed aluminum side trim, the Kahuna has an aggressive stance that shows a serious desire to head to the fun, and now.



← AUDI UPS POWER WITH RS & S

AUDI RS6. While Audi's evolution to quattro and S quattro has been awesome enough, the RS quattro series heads right toward the top of the charts. At 450 hp and 415 lb.ft. of torque, the middle-platform RS6 offers speed, stability, handling, safety and comfort unsurpassed. Wow. RS8, anyone?

AUDI S4. The S4, a rocket built on Audi's smallest US-imported platform (although there are the A2 and A3 in Europe), packs a big punch. Restyled for 2004 and available now, the S4 now delivers 340 hp and 302 lb.ft. of torque in Audi's perfected refined-but-kick-butt manner.

KEEP RIGHT >>



← POTENT HEMI CONCEPT

DODGE MAGNUM. The lights dimmed for a private screening of Hollywood-style promotions, culminating with a thrilling Dodge Magnum featurette, at which point none other than Chrysler Group President and CEO Dieter Zetsche burst forth below the screen in a floodlit Dodge Magnum. The Magnum, to arrive in 2004 as a 2005 model, is powered by a supercharged 5.7-liter Hemi V8 with power reaching almost 450 hp.



← CHEVY TOP-DOWN PICKUP

CHEVROLET SSR. This previous auto show concept vehicle enters production this year and was unveiled at the Phoenix Auto Show in January (and photographed nearby). Part early-'50s pickup and part sports roadster, the SSR is based on the mid-size TrailBlazer chassis, with rear-wheel drive.

← NEW FORD F-150 & SVT LIGHTNING

FORD F-150 PICKUP. Under strict embargo until Monday of the LA Auto Show, the F-150 has been the subject of much website speculation, for months. This all-new generation arrives just seven years after the previous F-150 redesign, with features galore (see page 9). What's more, the SVT Lightning (below, left) is ready, too.



← IF CADILLAC MADE A CORVETTE

CADILLAC XLR ROADSTER. This 2004 production two-seat, retractable hardtop convertible roadster has evolved from the previous Evo1 concept car. The XLR includes heads-up instrumentation, Magnetic Ride Control, heated and cooled seats, keyless access with push-button start, and DVD entertainment. Power comes from the next-generation 4.6L Northstar V8 and is delivered to the rear wheels.

→ ZAGATO GOES TOPLESS

ASTON MARTIN DB AR1. Revealed at the LA Auto Show, Aston's DB American Roadster 1 is slated for US customers only. With body by Italy's famed Zagato coachworks, chassis based on the current DB7 Vantage Volante, and the engine enhanced to 435 hp, this is a full-time convertible, meant specifically for climates as favorable as Arizona's. Features and amenities include an AP twin plate racing clutch, 19" multispoke wheels, and racing-grooved 355mm (f)/330mm (r) Brembo brakes. A production go-ahead required positive customer response, and they got it! Expect 99 units in the US at about \$230,000.



→ PORSCHE BUILDS AN SUV

PORSCHE CAYENNE. Some people were startled when Porsche took on the SUV category, but the company has deemed its anticipated profitability as essential to survival as an independent maker in an era of conglomeration. What's more, they seem to have solidified a new category, the performance SUV, with the new Infiniti FX45 (see page 29) and the BMW X5.

→ ROTARY RETURNS, X-MEN CLIMB ABOARD

MAZDA RX-8. With two small rear-hinged backseat doors, the new rotary-powered RX-8 aspires to sports car stature, but is thought halfway to the sedan category by some. Picking up where the legendary RX-7 left off, sort of, the RX-8 packs enough performance to more than please most of the audience nonetheless. This model, displayed at the LA Auto Show, will be featured in the upcoming X-Men movie sequel.



→ GTO: NEW FROM AUSTRALIA

PONTIAC GTO. When Bob Lutz joined GM last year, he embarked on a tour of its world facilities. In Australia, he was enamored by the Holden Monaro, a high-powered rear-drive coupe exclusive to the land down under. With a corporate edict, some US-spec engineering, new styling that evokes the Pontiac of today (if not of the GTO era), the US now has a reborn muscle car era. Appropriately, Bob Lutz himself presented the first iteration to journalists at the LA Show.





The Car Corner

RADIO SHOW
with Bill Zervakos



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AUTO INDUSTRY UPDATE



■ The Scion xA and xB (respectively, below) move Toyota into its youthful vision for the near future.

TOYOTA DEBUTS NEW SCION AND ITS TECHNO SHOWROOMS

Toyota's new youth-oriented Scion brand debuted at the Los Angeles Auto Show. The xA, a muscular five-door subcompact, and the boxy xB not only offer unique styling; they offer an entire new level of personalization. They are shipped without an audio unit or wheel covers so consumers can personalize their vehicles. There are about 40 different accessories, ranging from fog lamps, rear spoilers and interior floor mats to two-tone leather steering wheels, strut tie bar braces and auxiliary interior lighting kits. The vehicles can be loaded with air conditioning, power windows and locks, sport seats and Pioneer AM/FM/CD stereo systems, all designed with young buyers in mind. Once ordered, the new cars will be available in a mere five to seven days.

When customers enter Toyota Scion showrooms, they'll find a new high-tech shopping experience. The actual showrooms will have no salesmen (unless the customer asks for one), a giant plasma-screen TV, hip music, internet access and aftermarket parts access. To demonstrate the Scion in various colors, there will be magnetic paint swatches that can be applied to the showroom vehicles to see color options. The first industrial-looking Scion showrooms will open at participating Toyota dealerships



in California during June, followed by the balance of the US in 2004.

ROLLS-ROYCE CONVERTIBLE LIMO

With limousine competition heating up, BMW-owned Rolls-Royce reportedly has a new limo convertible in the works. The car has two completely separate compartments, each with its own windshield. A fully automatic Kevlar-reinforced bulletproof convertible top can cover both or just the rear compartment. Other details include power-operated running boards, variable-tint windows and electric foot- and armrests. Anticipated engines vary from the most logical V12 to a V16 or up to possibly even a V24.



■ The repackaging of Ford's top-selling F-150 is complete inside and out, with a new Triton V8 that offers more power, more fuel efficiency and more.

FORD REINVENTS THE F-150

Ford made a major leap forward with the debut of the 2004 F-150 pickup at this year's auto shows. The stylish trucks are new from the ground up, starting with a fully boxed frame that is about nine times stiffer torsionally than its predecessor. The truck is conceived to offer something for everyone, with three cabs, three boxes and five distinctive series offerings. All the trucks, including the regular cab, will have four doors. Small extra doors on the regular cab open rearward to offer easier access to the space behind the seat. Both the regular and SuperCabs are six inches longer than the previous models. Interiors have a striking new design with four vertical trim strips on the dash. The seats are a new rugged, comfortable design.

The five models have distinctive interior and exterior designs to easily distinguish one from another. Models range from the basic XL work truck through STX, XLT and FX4, to the top-of-the-line Lariat. Some models even come with a console mounted shifter and an adaptable overhead console.

The F-150 has a new engine, too: an entirely new 5.4-liter Triton V8 will power it. The new three-valve cylinder-head



architecture is designed to enhance both power and efficiency. The new engine produces 300 horsepower—15 percent more than the previous design—along with from five to seven percent better torque. The engine features variable-cam timing (VCT) and a host of other features to provide increased power along with improved refinement and fuel efficiency. The VCT system is the industry's first mass application of dual-equal variable-cam timing, to synchronize the intake and exhaust valve timing.

BMW 3 SERIES PERFORMANCE PACKAGE

BMW will offer a performance package for 3.0-liter cars starting this spring. The package modifies nearly all aspects of the car. The 3.0-liter in-line six gets new camshafts and Digital Motor Electronics to increase horsepower from 225 to 235. For the first time, the 330i will have a standard six-speed manual transmission. It also includes a

short-throw shifter, shorter final drive ratio, new sport suspension and 18-inch wheels. Enhancements are expected to improve 0 to 60 mph acceleration times by about one-half second to 6.0 seconds. The package also includes an aerodynamics package, black headlight trim, high gloss shadowline trim and a new aggressive-looking and sounding exhaust system. There are also cosmetic interior enhancements.

■ The 3-series lineup expands another notch.



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SE3 adds twin removable sunroof panels and a detachable back to give it an open-air feeling.

Mechanicals include permanent all-wheel drive, four-wheel electronic traction control, Hill Descent Control and four-channel anti-lock brakes. To make it even more rugged, Land Rover has added a black composite A-frame brush bar and a silver underbody brush plate. Standard equipment includes 17-inch alloy wheels, air conditioning, power windows, cruise control, plus for northern travelers a heated front windshield, side view mirrors and rear window. The SE3 is powered by the same DOHC 174-hp V-6 with CommandShift™ five-speed automatic transmission used by the five-door model. MSRP is reported as \$26,995.

MITSU EVO HITS THE STATES

The now legendary Subaru WRX gets competition in the US this year with the debut of the Mitsubishi Lancer Evolution, first introduced at the Los Angeles auto show in January.

Although the US version falls about five horsepower short of the Japanese version, the 275-hp four-cylinder Evo will still outpower the WRX for now. Japanese versions will also get a six-speed manual, while the US cars get a choice of five-speed manual or five-speed automatic with shift buttons on the steering wheel. Japan's Active Yaw Control and Active Center Differential may be available on US models later.

Brakes are powerful Brembo units and the tires are big: 235/45ZR17. The car also gets a huge carbon fiber wing, heavily bolstered seats and massive air intakes on the front end and hood. The price is expected to be in the \$27,000 to \$29,000 range.

BRIDGESTONE/FIRESTONE PRAXIS™ AFTERMARKET SUSPENSION SYSTEM

Bridgestone/Firestone has introduced a new aftermarket suspension system called Praxis™ Advanced Suspensions, the first aftermarket application utilizing a dual rate air spring technology along with their new Intelliride™ control system, which allows the driver to control performance at the push of a button, changing among three distinctive modes: touring, sport or track.

Touring replicates the normal factory setting. *Sport* changes the suspension to accommodate a bit more aggressive use, lowering the ride height by 25 millimeters. *Track* mode radically transforms the vehicle by lowering it a full fifty millimeters and increasing damping to give a much more precise control of body motions and a spring rate nearly double the touring mode. The track mode is best suited for autocross and track events and is not recommended for highway usage. The system will debut next year on the Subaru WRX.



JAGUAR WAGON IN THE WORKS

Jaguar will soon be offering its first wagon. Based on the X-Type platform, also shared by the Ford Mondeo in Europe, the small wagon will have the same all-wheel-drive drivetrain and V-6 engine choices as the sedan. The wagon will have more of a sporty look than that of a cargo carrier. Cargo capacity should be akin to the BMW 3 series and Mercedes-Benz C-Class wagons. The

wagon design is like the sedan as far back as the rear door, with only the cargo area changing. The back cargo door will have a separate hinged window inside the hatch. This 2004 model should reach dealerships by the end of 2003. ■

Auto Update includes a summary of auto news from industry sources, trade journals and consumer magazines compiled for *Arizona Driver* by BILL & BARBARA SCHAFFER of *Auto Digest*.

>> cont'd

AUDI TT TO GET BIGGER, GO FASTER

Audi's dramatic TT roadster and coupe will see a new, larger iteration with longer wheelbase based on the A6 in 2006. The extra space will allow room for a rear seat in the roadster and more rear seat room for the coupe, plus more cargo area for both. The extra length will also improve directional stability. Engine choices will start with a 2.0-liter turbocharged four and then jump to a choice of three V6 engines rated at 240-, 280- and 350-horsepower in

the 6-sized TT, TT-S and TT-RS versions respectively. The body is aluminum and steering will be a new electromechanical system. Styling will be evolutionary with crisper lines and styling hints from the sedans. The Coupe debuts third quarter 2005 and the Roadster in spring 2006.

LAND ROVER ADDS 3-DOOR FREELANDER

Land Rover calls their sporty new three-door SUV the SE3. It shares all the mechanicals and 101-inch wheelbase with the five-door model (see Larry Edsall's trail test in the Nov/Dec'02 *Arizona Driver*). The



■ Imagine this beauty cranked up to A6 size for a new kind of TT.



■ As forecast in these pages, the Freelander now also comes as a 3-door SE3.

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H2: Tame is a relative term

Hummer claims the new H2 can safely charge into six inches of water at 40 mph or travel through streams more than 20 inches deep at a leisurely 5 mph pace.



By Barbara and Bill Schaffer

The new H2 has sometimes been referred to as the "Baby Hummer", but that's a relative term, because there's nothing small about it. The original H1 is 184.5 inches long, 86.5 inches wide and weighs 7,154 pounds. The new slightly smaller H2 is 189.9 inches long, 81.2 inches wide and weighs 6,400 pounds.

The Hummer is one of the most distinguishable vehicles on the road today. The body mimics the original H1, which in turn was derived from the military's HMMWV (High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle). The H2 exudes toughness, stability and safety and it certainly proved those traits when we first drove it at the GM proving grounds in Detroit on a very tough off-road course that included climbing 16-inch high steps.

The interior is far quieter than the H1 plus offers more usable room and comfort. We especially like the oversized shifter that resembles an airplane throttle and the large distinctive white-faced gauges with black letters that turn teal for nighttime illumination.

The H2 is built on the same welded ladder-type frame with much the same drive train as the Chevrolet Tahoe/Suburban. The suspension is independent in the front with a solid rear axle. It uses a full-time four-wheel drive system with an electronically controlled two-speed transfer case. This system allows five mode selections, including rear axle differential lock, to provide optimum performance under all types of driving conditions.

Creature comforts

The Hummer has come a long way since its conception during the '80s and rise to fame during the Gulf War. It is now filled with many luxury conveniences and comfort features, and many are standard equipment—like remote keyless entry, HomeLink® system, eight-way power front seats, two-position driver seat memory, power windows and door locks, leather-wrapped tilt steering wheel, and rear seat audio controls. The H2 is also Arizona-ready, with dual-zone air conditioning and solar ray tinted windows. Add AM/FM stereo with CD and cassette player, Bose premium nine-speaker system, heated outside power folding mirrors, six power outlets and more, for a \$48,065 sales price plus a \$735 destination charge.

Our test H2 also came equipped with a luxury package that includes brushed aluminum and chrome accents, leather seating surfaces including heated front seatbacks and heated cushions, in-dash six-disc CD changer, tubular assist steps (\$2,575), sunroof (\$995) and a third row seat (\$500). Still, the test H2 totals out to less than half the price of its big brother.

Feel the power

The same General Motors 6.0-liter Vortec 6000 that powers some of the full-size GM SUVs powers the H2. At 325-hp and 385-ft.lb of torque, it's quite responsive for its size on the highways and a



regular powerhouse off road. The only available transmission is a heavy duty four-speed automatic.

If the size and strength of the H2 is not enough of a safety feature, it also comes equipped with dual front airbags, OnStar communication system, theft deterrent system, and battery rundown protection.

Acceleration from 0 to 60 mph is not numerically impressive at 10 seconds, but quite good considering it weighs well over three tons. From where we pulled onto the highway and accelerate to about one-eighth mile, we were able to hit 69mph. The Hummer's wide stance gives it great stability and it corners flat, but the size alone kept our comfort level to 47 mph around our 90-degree, 25-mph test corner.

The Hummer is not subject to EPA fuel economy ratings because its gross vehicle

weight of 8600 pounds is just over the 8500-pound cutoff level. Our fuel consumption during the week of our test averaged 12.0 mpg.

A Hummer for everyone

The original Hummer H1 is not for everyone, as it is big, noisy and just plain uncomfortable. It is, however, probably the best off-road vehicle ever made, as long as you don't have to go through narrow passages between trees and rocks.

As a contrast, the H2 was quiet, comfortable and a real pleasure to drive. It is massive, but feels somehow agile and easy to operate. After a week behind the wheel we were almost sorry to see the Hummer leave; it was fun and not hard to drive like the H1. Even though we didn't climb more than a couple of little hills, we could feel the off-road power. ■

Hummer H2

Equipment

Standard: Remote keyless entry; OnStar communications system; Homelink; 8-Way power front seats with memory on driver seat; Dual-zone climate control; Heated folding mirrors; Underbody protection; 17-Inch cast aluminum wheels, underbody protection with large thick skid plates, under shield for fuel tank, chassis-bolted steel rocker panel protectors and large mud flares for the wheels.

Base Price \$48,065

Options: 1SC Lux appearance package (brushed aluminum crossbar rack, chrome exterior highlights, leather seating - heated in front, floor mats) \$2,575; Power sliding sunroof \$995; Third row seat \$500.

Total Options\$4,070

Freight\$735

Price as Tested\$52,870

Dimensions

Weight.....6,400 lb.

Wheelbase122.8 in.

Length 189.8 in.

Width (excluding mirrors).....81.2 in.

Height82.1 in.

Fuel Capacity33 gal.

Mechanical

Engine.....Vortec 6000 V8

Horsepower.....325 hp @ 5200 rpm

Torque385 lb-ft @ 3600 rpm

Transmission.....4-speed auto OD

Drive.....Four wheel,

Eaton ELocker rear differential locker

Rear end.....Standard 4.1 axle ratio,

deep first-gear ratio and transfer case

low-range gear reduction, providing a

33:1 crawl ratio for very slow, controlled,

high-torque rock and obstacle climbing

capability

Brakes4-wheel disc,

4-wheel/4-channel ABS, dual calipers

TiresLT315/70R17 all terrain

Performance

0 to 60 mph10.0 sec

Grade capability60°

Side slope capability40°

Appr./depart. angles.....40.4/39.6°

Clearance: diff. to ground9.9 in.

Measured fuel economy.....12 mpg

Competitors

Mercedes-Benz G500, Lexus LX 470,

L and Rover Range Rover, Lincoln

Navigator, Toyota Land Cruiser.

The SMA H2: "Best SUV"

SCOTTSDALE SHOP Wins SEMA GM Design Award



Signal Mirror Kit
Created specifically for the H2, these utilize high intensity LEDs to indicate a lane change or turn.



H2 Brush Guard
Traditionally for ATVs, more recently these appear on high-end trucks and SUVs.



HitchCAM
Winner of "Best New Product" at SEMA, this Sony video camera provides a clear view directly behind your H2.

As the SEMA (Specialty Equipment Market Association) show in Las Vegas came to a close in November, SMA, Inc., (Stinger/Mac Accessories), headquartered in the Scottsdale Airpark, proudly took home the General Motors design award for "Best SUV Vehicle," for its iteration of the new Hummer H2.

The award-winning Hummer H2 from SMA has now launched a major national tour to General Motors dealerships, however you might just as likely see it on a lunch run in north Scottsdale.

SMA received their stock 2003 Hummer

H2 in August of 2002 and quickly began its transformation into this award-winning vehicle. The Hummer H2 was outfitted with an SMA Heavy Duty Brushguard, SMA Swing-away spare tire carrier, SMA interior and exterior billet aluminum kit, SMA Exhaust, SMA supercharger, SMA custom brake rotors and brake pads, and a variety of other products from suppliers including Arizona Auto Works, Nitto Tires, Orlando Auto Body, VIP Interiors, Concept 1, Eclipse, Kicker, Vizualogic, PIAA lights, Magna Charger, Boyd Coddington, Warn Winches, Skyjacker, Boomerang, Hitch-

Cam, Raytheon. The crew worked hard, and SMA has expressed its gratitude for countless hours of dedication to this vehicle from all their friends and family.

SMA produces performance parts and accessories for the Hummer H2 as well as the venerable H1. With their newfound fame, they are rigorously expanding their manufacturing facility to meet a booming demand for their product line, which also includes a range of custom wheels and wheel/tire packages for the H2. SMA products are exclusively available at your favorite Valley GM dealer. ■



SMA, Inc. Stinger/Mac Accessories

TREAD LIGHTLY: LAND ROVER PROGRAMS

British Off-Road Green



■ The rare Amur Leopard cub, named "Traction," at the Canadian International Auto Show in Toronto. Traction has been named as the newest member of Land Rover's 4x4 family.

"We thought that 'Traction' was a perfect name for this sure-footed native of the Russian tundra," said Jacques Parent, Vice President of Marketing for Aston Martin Jaguar and Land Rover. "Not only does it reflect the same agile characteristics as our 4X4 vehicles, but it also speaks to the objective of our campaign, which we hope will help provide increased traction for the survival of this species."

Land Rover will commit a total of \$30,000 plus the use of a Land Rover Discovery over three years to its sponsorship of the Endangered Species Fund of Canada (ESFC) and its recovery programs dedicated to saving the Amur Leopard from the brink of extinction.

Recovery programs in Canada and around the world have succeeded in saving species from extinction. However, with another species becoming extinct every 17 minutes, there are already those that have disappeared and can never be recovered again.

"With as few as 40 leopards estimated to survive in the wild, Land Rover enthusiasts have been supporting the ESFC in its effort to save the Amur Leopard since 1998," says Peter Klose, Executive Director for the ESFC. "One of the Amur Leopards' biggest threats is that few people in the world know they exist. Land Rover's involvement has been paramount in helping us raise awareness of this critically endangered species and attract the financial support these animals need!"

With the support of Land Rover, the ESFC sponsors a closely monitored captive breeding program for the Amur Leopard at Jungle Cat World Wildlife Park, perhaps the only insurance for their overall survival. Financial aid is also directed towards other programs, such as an anti-poaching team and camera-trap census project to protect those few still living in their native environment. ■

LAND ROVER LAUNCHES NEW 'FRAGILE EARTH' POLICY

GAYDON, WARWICKSHIRE – Land Rover has published a new Fragile Earth policy, aimed at all drivers who venture off-road.

The policy outlines the company's commitment to the environment and details key Land Rover environmental practices and technologies. Fragile Earth also includes the company's Off-Road Code, commensurate with the company's "Drive Responsibly Off-Road" ethos, which encourages careful driving and the preservation of the environment for future generations. Guidelines include:

- Animals come first! All animals can be startled by a 4x4 vehicle, so be prepared either to proceed very slowly or to switch off your engine
- "As slow as possible, as fast as necessary" – this will get you through most off-road driving obstacles and minimize environmental impact
- Make sure your vehicle is fully prepared for the journey; take the appropriate tools and supplies. Ensure that your vehicle does not have any leaks, for example fuel or oil
- Be mindful of your actions, even when

you're not driving; use eco-friendly cleaning material; wash vehicles away from water courses and not in them; take all litter back home with you

The policy also announces Land Rover's collaboration with four carefully selected global environmental sponsorship partners, whose activities reflect perfectly the values of Fragile Earth. The partners are the Born Free Foundation, the Royal Geographic Society, Biosphere Expeditions and China Exploration and Research Society. More details about Land Rover's relationship with these organizations will be announced at a later date.

LAND ROVER CANADA PLEDGES TO SAVE ENDANGERED SPECIES FROM EXTINCTION

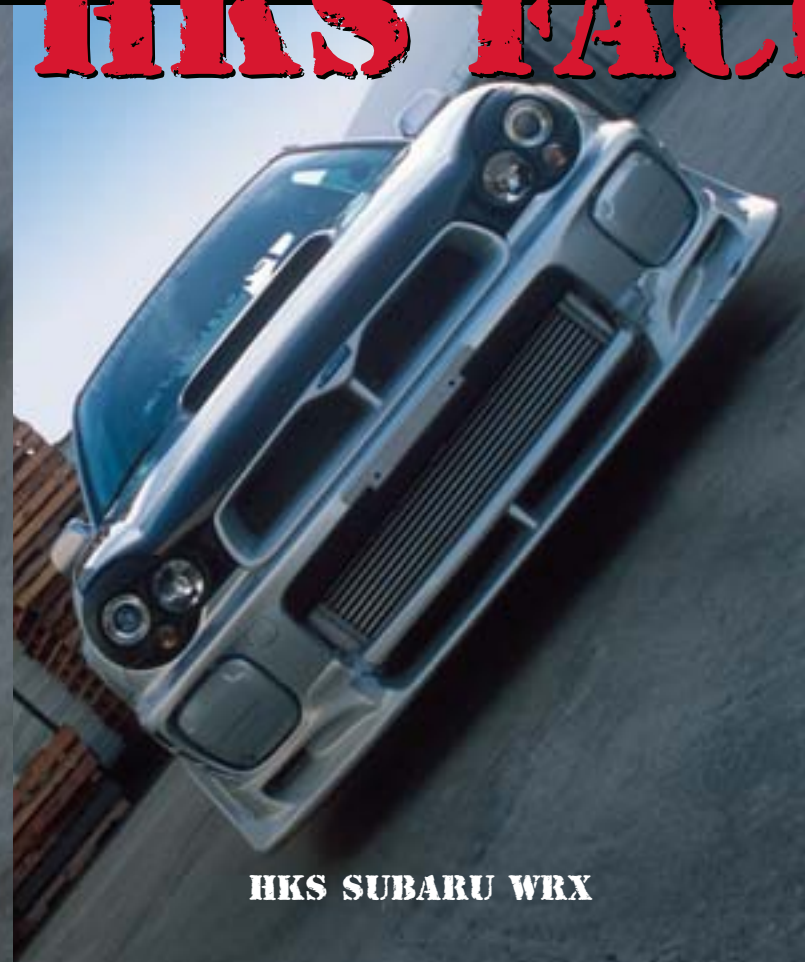
TORONTO, ONTARIO – Land Rover Canada welcomed a new addition to its family today as part of its sponsorship commitment to the Endangered Species Fund of Canada. In support of a campaign to help save the Amur Leopard from extinction, Land Rover had the privilege of naming a one-year old Amur Leopard cub.

HKS FACEOFF

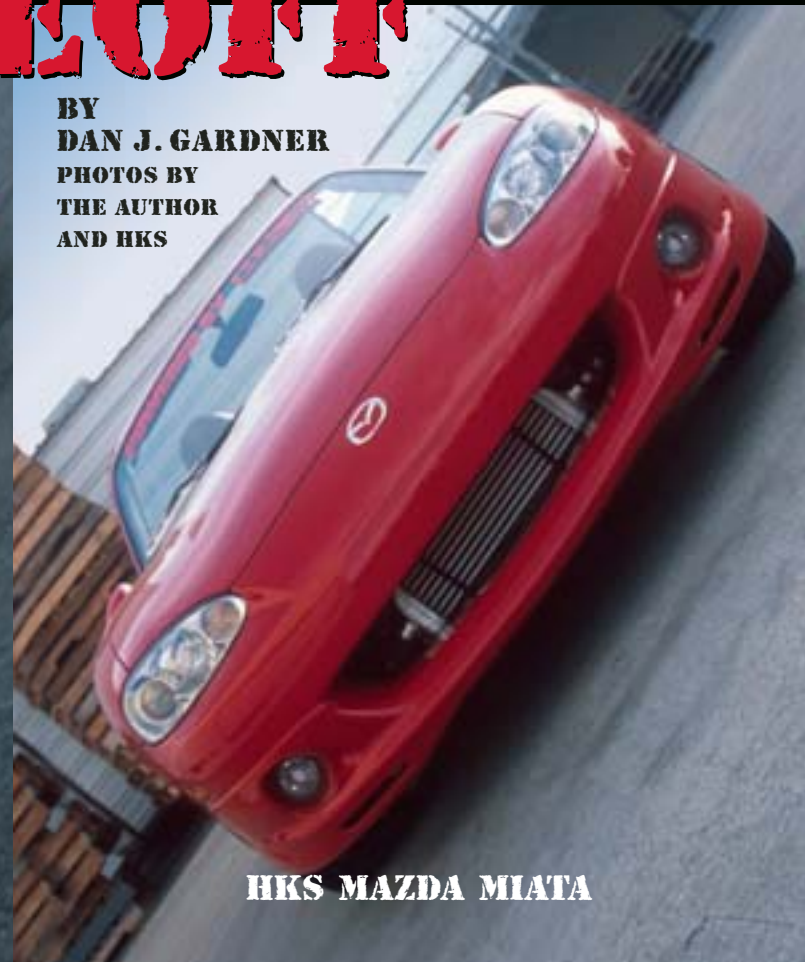
BY
DAN J. GARDNER
PHOTOS BY
THE AUTHOR
AND HKS



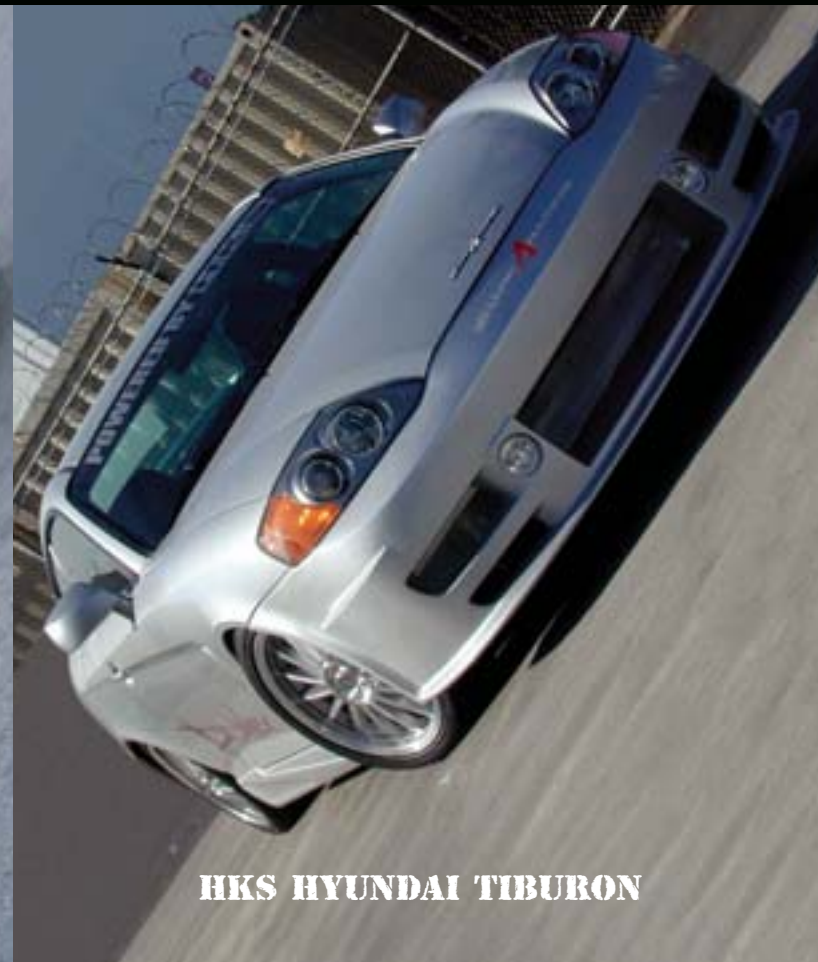
HKS FORD FOCUS



HKS SUBARU WRX



HKS MAZDA MIATA



HKS HYUNDAI TIBURON

Power. It's what politicians and rabid auto enthusiasts crave. Both types of power can help you get places faster. Whether you're headed to become the senate majority leader or the fastest guy from Tempe to LA, you're going to need some serious helpings of the stuff. HKS has been serving up power to speed freaks since 1973. Actually, it wasn't until a year later that the company had produced the very first aftermarket turbocharger for a passenger car. Since then, HKS has pioneered many other aftermarket goodies, including the first commercially available electronic turbo timer and boost controller.

Tuner shops often showcase their product line through project cars, and HKS is no stranger when it comes to morphing relatively mundane daily drivers into fierce, fire-breathing juggernauts. We got a chance to taste the extra-spicy versions of Subaru's WRX, Mazda's Miata, Hyundai's Tiburon, and Ford's Focus. All are

respectable performers out-of-the-box, but our testers were cooked closer to performance-perfection by the chefs at HKS. Read on to find out each of the recipes and how they turned out.

SUBARU WRX

> **The Flash:** Like it or hate it, a stock WRX is hard to miss, with its bulbous, bug-eyed front end and massive stock fog lamps. HKS employed the help of C-West and Sunny Styling to help augment the car, turning its "playful" face into a menacing shogun stance. A front lip spoiler, front grille, side skirts, rear valence, huge rear spoiler, and headlight garnish all pump up this WRX. A carbon fiber hood complete with ample hood scoop looks purposeful and shaves a few pounds of curb weight as well.

> **The Dash:** Compared with the already fleet stock car, this thing is wicked fast. Further, although we haven't driven the STi version

yet, we feel safe in saying that this HKS-enhanced car will prove to be even faster than the STi. WRXs have strange power curves—nothing much happens until about 4000 rpm. But when boost builds, hold on, there's Ferrari-like power here.

The clutch is tricky, with very little progression and an engagement point all the way at the top of the travel. The gear shift is finicky and first is very hard to engage, though we suspect some serious hard miles have been logged on this box. Handling is very neutral and the seats not only hold you securely in place, but are also comfortable to boot, even with the deep bolstering all around.

> **Numerically Speaking:** 308.2 horsepower and 290.8 lb-ft of torque measured at all four wheels, versus wimpy stock numbers of 182.8 and 191.2 respectively. Estimated crank horsepower is up a whopping 158 hp or 70 percent, bringing the total to 385.

> **HKS Sample Parts Bin:** GT2835 ball-bearing turbo upgrade

kit, stainless steel turbo manifold upgrade, front mount intercooler kit, Super Sequential Blowoff Valve (SSQV), F-CON V pro engine management, Carbon-Ti Hi-Power exhaust, racing downpipe, Super Mega Flow intake, EVC boost controller, turbo timer Type-1, Hipermax Damper II coilover kit.

> **Other Sample Parts Bin:** Volk Racing bronze SE-37 wheels (18x7.5), BF Goodrich G Force T/A tires (225/40ZR18), Brembo 4-POT 13-inch brake upgrade.

MAZDA MIATA

> **The Flash:** Okay, the Miata is a great handling car, but facts are facts: it looks a little, well... wussy. Mazda offers some dress up parts you can order as options or as accessories from your local dealer. HKS started there, adding a front lip spoiler and side skirts. Then, Racing Beat added their Type II rear wing and dual loop bar

>>



>> cont'd

along with the Streamline rear deck. Inside, Razo supplied a shift knob and full pedal set. It's not a radical appearance package overall, but it does make the car look a bit racier, especially with those stand-out metal loops behind the seats.

> **The Dash:** The Miata definitely feels tighter than the WRX, but that may be because the WRX lived the unenviable life of a press car before HKS got their hands on it. Overall grunt isn't nearly as pulse-quickening as the WRX, but the power is more useable across a wider rpm range. Turbo power comes on more rapidly and its application is smoother.

The car feels a bit nervous heading in a straight line, but that feeling gets exacerbated as you take even mildly fast turns. It slides away quickly, though it's not difficult to catch. The stock brakes could use an upgrade to help balance the additional power. Overall, the motor work is first rate and seems very reliable even for daily driving duty. The suspension could use a bit of tuning to keep the car more evenly planted.

> **Numerically Speaking:** Measured rear wheel ratings jump from 110.2 to 197.3

horsepower and 102.8 to 201.4 lb-ft of torque. Crank horsepower is estimated at 235, a 93 horsepower or 65 percent gain.

> **HKS Sample Parts Bin:** GT2530 ball-bearing turbocharger, turbo exhaust manifold, SSQV, front mount intercooler, F-CON V Pro engine management, EVC boost controller, Super Dragger exhaust, Super Mega Flow intake kit, turbo timer Type-1, 46mm boost meter, Hipermax Damper II coilover kit.

> **Other Sample Parts Bin:** Advan RG Wheels (17x7), Yokohama Parada tires (215/40ZR17).

HYUNDAI TIBURON

> **The Flash:** The Tiburon is a damn good-looking car. There are true Ferrari cues here, but if you're the type of guy who needs to advertise to the world that there's a li'l somethin' underneath, ATH/Shark Racing has some exterior goodies that should do the trick. A front bumper, aggressive side skirts, rear valance, and large angular wing all tell people you're up to something. Be warned, you're advertising to the po po too.

> **The Dash:** This car seems to be the

smoothest of the bunch... the car that you could let your significant other drive and not worry too much. It has forced air induction, of course, but the ramming comes by way of a supercharger instead of a turbo. Having a six-cylinder along with a supercharger makes for a much different driving experience from the others. Less "run, run as fast as you can" and more "smooth operator," this Tiburon seamlessly puts power to the ground.

The weakness lies in the suspension. More than any of the others, this Tiburon fails to control its chassis or diminish body roll. The lowering springs raise the red flag here and seem like easy culprits, as this car is not equipped with a coilover upgrade like the others. The steering is somewhat loose and not terribly responsive, but that's a Hyundai issue. If you like your power upgrades more modest and want to avoid turbo lag, this is a solid setup.

> **Numerically Speaking:** 207.8 horsepower and 184.1 lb-ft of torque can be had at the front wheels versus a stock 152.5/166.1 respectively. All in all, HKS estimates 245 ponies at the crank, a garnishing of 64 horsepower equating to an

additional 35 percent.

> **HKS Sample Parts Bin:** Hi-Power exhaust, Super Mega Flow intake, F-CON S engine management.

> **Other Sample Parts Bin:** Alpine Development supercharger kit, Sprint lowering springs, RH Evolution S15 wheels (18x7.5), Yokohama Parada Spec 2 tires (225/40ZR18).

FORD FOCUS ZX-3

> **The Flash:** European and edgy, the Focus has caught on quickly, much to the chagrin of the maker of a car called the Civic. With Focus sales so strong, there are plenty of appearance parts to choose from. This Focus, in fact, with just a few basic pieces looks altogether different from a stock ZX-3. The "Pumpkin Orange" paint sure doesn't hurt, either. European RS provided the front bumper, which changes the entire look of the car on its own. Wings West added low side skirts, a rear valance and a unique three-piece rear wing.

> **The Dash:** At the time of our test, the Focus was back on the rack, being tweaked for even more performance, so we looked but didn't touch (though *Gone in 60 Seconds* did enter our minds). Bottom line: no track test on this one.

> **Numerically Speaking:** Looking for "rock your world" horsepower and torque gains? There are gobs of it here. Check these stats: stock: 111.2 horsepower/ 120.7 lb-ft of torque; modified: 260.0 horsepower/ 254.5 lb-ft of torque. With an estimated 305 crank horsepower on tap, this Focus gains a

whopping 135 percent more of the stuff that smoky launches are made of.

> **HKS Sample Parts Bin:** Custom GT2530 ball-bearing turbocharger kit, SSQV, A/F knock amp meter, EVC boost controller, Hi-Power exhaust, Twin Power-DLI ignition amplifier, turbo timer Type-1, CAMP engine monitoring computer, 46mm boost meter, and 60mm oil pressure, fuel pressure, and water temperature meter.

> **Other Sample Parts Bin:** Toyo Proxes T1-S tires (225/35ZR18), RH Evolution D6000 wheels (18x7.5), Energy Suspension lower transmission mount, H&R coilover suspension.

The crew at HKS never leave well enough alone. As we write this, they're tinkering with the cars, testing new products, upgrading various bits and pieces, and generally making the cars put out more than before. Speed is indeed a thrill fueled by a little thing called power... HKS power.

HKS USA can be reached at:
310-491-3300 • www.hksusa.com

DAN J. GARDNER was born in Hollywood, grew up in Chicago, and following a zig here and a zag there returned to California to pursue automotive-related endeavors. Gardner enjoyed a stint at *Car and Driver*, assisting with track testing, copy editing, and reader relations. He now contributes his words and photography to *Sport Compact Car*, *Auto and Parts News*, *Sports Car International*, *Bimmer*, *Benzo*, *Velocity* and, of course, *Arizona Driver*. In addition, Dan does public relations consulting at the OEM and aftermarket level.

NASCAR TICKETS



With Phoenix International Raceway petitioning for a second NASCAR Winston Cup race beginning in 2004, fans may want to start making plans now. PIR announced that tickets for that new event will be awarded to current season ticket holders, as well as anyone who has purchased a two-day ticket package for the 2003 NASCAR Winston Cup Series Checker Auto Parts 500 Weekend at PIR. Tickets for the 2003 event went on sale in late February; packages can be purchased online, or by calling the PIR ticket office. Thursday and Friday single-event tickets are also for sale.

As for the 2003 NASCAR event, Saturday and Sunday reserved grandstand seating will be sold as a two-race package, ranging from \$100-230 for adults, and \$85 -185 for juniors/children. Fans purchasing a two-race package can purchase a Friday NASCAR Gatorade Qualifying Day/Chevy Silverado 150 Craftsman Truck ticket for only \$20.

Hospitality packages also are available for the weekend. The Weekend Fan Club Suite, Saturday Busch Party Pack, the Sunday Victory Circle and Mirage Club provide fans with tickets, food/beverages service and other special items.

General Admission seating is available on the 76/Circle K Hillside Friday (\$20*), Saturday (\$25*), and Sunday (\$30,*) (*kids 12 and under free each day).

While there are three options for purchasing tickets, it is recommended that fans purchase tickets for all events at PIR through real-time ticketing at the official PIR website. Through 3D seating maps, race fans can check out the view from their seat before purchasing, all with a few clicks of the mouse, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Phoenix International Raceway
www.phoenixraceway.com
602-252-2227

SCQ NIGHTS **SPORT COMPACT DRAG RACING!** Presented by: **DRAGRACING.com**

EVERY THURSDAY AT FIREBIRD RACEWAY

Special Events: March 13 & April 10

Featuring:

- BEAT THE HEAT - Race against a modified police car
- SCORS Racing Series:
 - \$250 Cash for the fastest car
 - \$100 Cash for Bracket Race winner
- Door Prize Raffles
- Car club discounts

CLICK AND DRAG

for more information visit:
www.dragracing.com/sco

EVENTS CALENDAR

Arizona Raceways

FIREBIRD RACEWAY

20000 Maricopa Road
Chandler AZ 85226 • 520-796-0531
www.firebirdraceway.com

MARCH 1-2
NHRA Division 7 Opener
MARCH 6, 13, 20, 27 • APRIL 3, 10, 24
Sport Compact Only Night

MARCH 7, 14, 21, 28 • APRIL 4, 11, 18
Friday Night Drags

MARCH 20-23
IDRC Firebird Nationals

MARCH 28-30
Phoenix Bike Fest

APRIL 25-27
Super Chevy Show

MANZANITA SPEEDWAY

3417 West Broadway Road
Phoenix AZ 85041 • 602-276-7575
www.manzanaspeedway.com

MARCH 1
AZ Sprints & IMCA Dirt Modifieds

MARCH 8, 14
Super Stocks, Factory Stocks, Claimers & Bombers

MARCH 15
AZ Sprints, Mini Sprints & Dwarf Cars

MARCH 21-22
Gary Sokola Classic
SCRA California Non-Winged Sprints on the 1/2 mile

PHOENIX INT'L. RACEWAY

PIR Ticket Office: 602-252-2227
phoenixinternationalraceway.com

MARCH 22
Indy Racing Infiniti Pro Series
USAC National Midget Series

MARCH 23
Purex Dial Indy 200
USAC Weld Racing Silver Crown Series

MAY 2
Grand-Am Cup

MAY 3
Rolex Series Phoenix 200

TUCSON RACEWAY PARK

12500 S. Houghton Road
Tucson AZ 85747 • 520-762-9200
www.tucsonracewaypark.com

MARCH 16, 22
NASCAR Practice - Grandstand admission free

MARCH 16
USAC Open Wheel Practice - "Test in the West"

MARCH 29
Budweiser Presents Opening Night - NASCAR Super Late Models, Late Models, Grand American Modifieds, Might Compacts & Factory Stocks

APRIL 5
First Time Ever - Super Modifieds

APRIL 26
NASCAR Late Models, GA Modifieds and more

Arizona Events—Auto

PHOENIX - VALLEY OF THE SUN

MARCH 1-2
BMW CCA Club Racing plus ASRA Weekend
Phoenix International Raceway

MARCH 30
Porsche Club of America
Sunday Drive: Goldwater Lake

MARCH 30
Desert Corvette Association - NCCC Type II & III Rallies - Verde Valley Vettes in Cottonwood

APRIL 12-13
Porsche Club of America - Southern Arizona Tour

APRIL 12
Desert Corvette Association - Commemorative Air Force NCCC Car Show, Falcon Field

EVERY SATURDAY NIGHT
The Pavilions Saturday Night Car Show
The world's largest weekly custom, antique and classic car show, at the rock'n'roll McDonald's, Pima and Indian Bend, just off the 101. Every Saturday night, 5-9pm, weather permitting.

FIRST FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH
Sun Country Corvette Club
www.suncountrycorvette.com

FIRST TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH
Desert Corvette Association
At Brown & Brown Chevrolet: www.vette.org

Arizona Events—General

PHOENIX - VALLEY OF THE SUN

MARCH 6
ASU West Native American Music & Marketplace
Vendors, crafts, entertainment, women's forum. 602-615-0446 or 602-543-8130.

MARCH 9
68th Annual Dons of Arizona Lost Dutchman Gold Mine Superstition Mountain Trek
"Search" for mine, BBQ, legendrama, fireworks, pan for gold, crafts, Indian and Mexican dances, food. Picacho Peak State park, 602-258-6016.

MARCH 22
Annual Welcome Back Buzzards - Superior
Join in the celebration as the flocks roost in their eucalyptus grove. 7am - 3pm, Boyce Thompson Arboretum. 520-689-2811.

TUCSON - YUMA - SOUTHERN AZ

MARCH 15
Annual O'odham Day Celebration - Ajo
Educational demonstrations on basket weaving, pottery, storytelling, native plant use, dancing, music, food. 10am - 3pm, Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument, 520-387-7661.

APRIL 4
Movable Musical Feast - Tucson
Fine cuisine and a special program by the Tucson Symphony Orchestra. 520-882-8585.

APRIL 17
Amazing Arizona: "Coronado National Forest"
1.7 million acres in six counties and New Mexico, hosted by Park Ranger Joan Vasey. 520-417-6980.

California Events

AUTO EVENTS - CALIFORNIA

THROUGH APRIL 13
Kustoms With a "K"
Petersen Automotive Museum, 323-930-CARS.

THROUGH MAY 26
Wild Wheels: Art for the Road
Petersen Automotive Museum, 323-930-CARS.

GENERAL INTEREST - CA

THROUGH MAY 18
Mervyn's Theater for Families - Art, music and drama, California Center for the Arts, Escondido. www.signonsandiego.com

THROUGH MARCH 31
Hornblower Whale-Watcher Cruises - Three-and-a-half-hour excursions, from downtown San Diego's gaslamp district. www.signonsandiego.com

Nevada Events

AUTO EVENTS - NEVADA

THROUGH MARCH 28 2003
GTO: Leader of the Pack - National Automobile Museum, Harrah's. 775-333-9300

New Mexico Events

GENERAL INTEREST - NM

ONGOING
Photography Exhibit - Albuquerque Museum
Chicano Visions / Chicano Now Exhibition
Ceramica y Cultura: Spanish & Mexican Mayolica
Taos Society of Portrait Artists Exhibition
Valles Caldera Adventures
www.newmexico.org/calendar

Utah Events

GENERAL INTEREST - UT

MARCH 29
Duck Creek Snow Cross - Snowmobiling skills on a circular track with skilled jumps. 435-682-2526.

Mexico Events

GENERAL INTEREST - MEXICO

MARCH 11-19
Spring Break
Thousands of fun-loving college and high school students fill the Rocky Point area!

MARCH 15
Destination Dunes - A fun hiking tour from 9am - 2pm, in the spectacular Gran Desierto sea of dunes. \$40 includes lunch and expert guides. www.cedointercultural.org

APRIL 15
Tucson Racing's Rocky Point Triathlon
5th running. 1500 meter swim race, 40k bike race, and 10k run. Festive Fiesta buffet poolside at Playa Las Glorias. www.puerto-penasco.com/April.htm

APRIL 23
Las Conchas Annual Golf Tournament
Fun atmosphere with tourists and foreign property owners from Peñasco's developments. www.puerto-penasco.com/April

COLLECTING/INVESTING : TOP CHOICES

Barrett-Jackson's "Six of the Best" Blue Chip Collectible Cars

Each January, the Scottsdale-based Barrett-Jackson Classic Car Auction has over 800 classic and collector cars cross its auction podium. With a marketplace now seeing increased interest by enthusiasts and investors looking to purchase collector cars, Barrett-Jackson releases its "Six Of The Best" selection of blue chip collector cars. Each will be enjoyable to drive and should also see an appreciation in value.

"Look for the best condition car you can find," says Craig Jackson, president of Barrett-Jackson. "Restoring a car correctly, even if only partially, is a daunting task and usually a more expensive undertaking than planned."

1962-1968 Jaguar E-Type Convertible

This quintessential British sports car is as desirable today as it was revolutionary when introduced in 1961. Its clean lines and high tech specs were a sensation for the day, and the 150 mph rocket became an instant "must have" for the Hollywood set. Not much has changed; today, they are still one of the most recognizable collector cars and have been referred to as "the world's sexiest roadster."

A good restored convertible can be found in the \$30,000 to \$50,000 range. Stunning examples command over \$100,000.

1964-66 Ford Mustang Convertible

One of America's most popular cars, this is a superb "first classic" and weekend toy. A number of engine choices and option packages were offered throughout the production years, the most desirable being the Hi-Po convertible, with pony interior and GT package. With nearly every part still available through a number of suppliers this car is a great way to get started.

Good examples are easy to obtain with values ranging from \$25,000 to \$45,000.

1970-1974 Plymouth 'Cuda Coupe

During the height of the muscle car era, the Mopar image was as much from Chrysler's marketing people as it was their engineers. The Plymouth 'Cuda was street legal, but also had specifications to compete in the top race series, which it did with much success. With very rare Hemi-engine 'Cuda convertibles fast approaching the seven figure mark, the 'Cuda coupe represents a great opportunity.

The market range on these cars is \$45,000 to \$65,000 and climbing, so don't wait too long.

1957 DeSoto Adventurer Convertible

The 1957 DeSoto was characterized by up-swept tail fins and a massive bumper and grille. The Adventurer series was the high-performance line and the first base model US car to provide one horsepower per cubic inch. Convenience options available seemed endless, so the ones today with the most factory options command the highest prices. Much overlooked and ready for recognition.

Market value is \$35,000 to \$55,000.

1955-1957 MB 300SL Gullwing Coupe

A timeless automotive design conceived specifically for the American marketplace, the 300SL Gullwing was an automotive sensation when it was introduced in New York in 1954. To this day, it remains highly revered by car collectors. This car is capable of being driven leisurely, as well as at speed (even vintage raced) with great enjoyment. Its classy looks defy its performance. Buy one and you will probably own and enjoy it for a long time. The average ownership of Gullwings is longer than any other collector car. Examples with Rudge wheels and fitted luggage are considered the ultimate combination by Mercedes-Benz aficionados.

Market value is \$200,000 to \$350,000.

1962-1965 AC Cobra 289

The legendary AC Cobra is one of the world's ultimate no compromise sports cars. The result of Carroll Shelby's desire to combine British chassis expertise with the power of an American V-8 engine. Forty years since its debut, this much imitated car is revered the world over. It's everything you ever wanted a sports car to be, and more. The 289s are sought after at the moment more than the raucous 427. All Cobras are well documented so check the history.

A good example, and they nearly all are, will set you back \$150,000 to \$175,000.

The Valley hosts five major collector car auctions each January, with two by local firms Barrett-Jackson and Russo and Steele.

BARRETT-JACKSON: For more information about the Annual Barrett-Jackson Auction in Scottsdale each January and Palm Beach, Florida, during April, visit www.barrett-jackson.com

RUSSO AND STEELE: For information on the Russo and Steele Auctions in Scottsdale each January and Monterey, California, during August, visit www.russoandsteele.com, ■



Let us know about your event. Send info 2-3-4 months out. Arizona Driver Magazine, PO Box 13387, Scottsdale AZ 85267.

Information is derived from a variety of sources and may not be final or accurate; check all info. Listings do not necessarily represent any specific affiliation with nor endorsement by Arizona Driver magazine.

ARIZONA RIDER

THE ENTHUSIAST'S GUIDE TO LIFE ON TWO WHEELS

Naked is good. Stripped is most desirable. Especially if you are a motorcycle. This year sees the renaissance of what the Japanese popularized years ago—bare parts.

The Asian motorcycle manufacturers were famous for using full-coverage bodywork, and when they removed it one year, they called their machines “naked,” although Harley-Davidson also claims it originated the idea. This year, naked bikes have better suspensions, more powerful engines, and improved ergonomics. Most makers are offering at least one bare-bones model. Since bodywork is expensive, eliminating much of it should bring prices down, but don't bet on it.

“The 2003 naked are tremendously hot,” says Larry Huffman, motorcycle guru, host of the TV show *Motorcycle World* and commentator for ABC, CBS, NBC, and ESPN. “It's definitely a trend that has returned, and the great thing is, several are great for cruising, which is the fastest-growing segment of the market right now.”

But there's lots of other news this year too, including Harley-Davidson's 100th anniversary, the Honda Rancher which is the only machine with a GPS, superbikes for the street from England, the BMW R1200CL luxury cruiser, Kawasaki's cutting edge Ninja, and Yamaha's Road Star Warrior with its huge, huge engine.

With the motorcycle industry growing by leaps and bounds, with 1.5 million expected to be sold this year (8 percent to women), it is no surprise that manufacturers



Max Minimalists

2003 MODEL OVERVIEW : STANDOUT ROLLOUTS

BY JILL AMADIO



Kawasaki Z1000



Kawasaki Vulcan 1600 Classic



Kawasaki Ninja ZX-6R

are expanding their categories to include cruisers, sport bikes, superbikes, tourers, and street machines. The flagship models take the cake, though, and here's a look at these motorcycles that you'll find locally, some of them arriving fresh from the factories just now, in March.



Honda Valkyrie Rune



Honda 919

Aprilia

One of the newer motorcycle companies to reach these shores is Aprilia, and, like Ducati, the company is both Italian and for upscale buyers.

Winners of 21 world championships, Aprilia motorcycles are often seen being raced by weekend warriors at Firebird Raceway, and during track days. Aprilia's flagship is the brand new RSV1000 Mille R, priced at \$17,299. Considered a superbike, the R is an elite product that has been adapted for the street, with Italian style and sex appeal.

“We make performance easy, through technology, for the weekend biker,” said Robert Pandya, a spokesman for Aprilia. “Superbikes are great because they are very responsive to rider input. Our models, like Ducatis, are equipped with the V-twin, although we use a different angle, 60 degrees instead of 90 degrees, which means that with the motor fitted into a tighter package, the wheelbase is shorter, with better control of traction with a longer swing arm in the rear.”

The forks are Swedish Ohlins, famed in racing circles. While Aprilia's most popular model is the R, their newest product is the Tuono. Naked as they come, this sportbike with V-twin engine is priced at \$11,999. Sister to the R, the Tuono is more of a street-going version, a more comfortable superbike. Instead of a rakish, aggressive handbar position, it has a much more upright position, higher handlebars and a taller windscreen. The suspension is high-end, but not as racing oriented as the Ohlins.



Aprilia RSV Tuono



Aprilia RSV Mille R (above and to right)

Kawasaki

So what is Kawasaki doing to drag sales away from Harley and its cohorts? Debuting more models. Three of the newest and most interesting Kawasaki bikes are the Ninja ZX-6R, a mid-weight sport bike, and two street bikes: the super-naked Z1000, and the Vulcan 1600 Classic. The company's most expensive bike is the \$12,999 Vulcan 1500 Nomad Fi cruiser. Although it is not changed for 2003, the Nomad is popular for its low, comfortable seat height and a liquid-cooled SOHC 90 cu.in. V-Twin that provides a massive 84.6 ft.lbs. of torque. The newest and biggest-engined bike in this line is the Vulcan 1600 Classic, priced at \$10,499. A long, lean muscle machine, it's loaded for bear with a 1552cc V-twin SOHC engine, tuned for max low-end torque that you can only guess at, and distinctive dual slash-cut mufflers that improve power. The new \$7,999 Ninja ZX-6R is not your daddy's sportbike. It shares the same radical design and several of the power enhancements of the race-ready ZX-6RR, but street riders get an added bonus: an extra 37cu.in. Okay, time to get naked again. Kawasaki's baring-all Z1000 has

nothing to hide with its aggressive styling and backs it up with a sleek, hi-performance, compact 953cc 4-cylinder engine, liquid cooling, six-speed transmission, and stacked twin mufflers.

Honda

Honda has four new machines, including two new dirt bikes, in its lineup of a total sixty offerings. The two most significant are cruisers, the high-dollar, radically-styled Valkyrie Rune that is a 2004 model but available now, and the VTX1300S. A Limited Edition, the muscular, nimble Rune is a unique, maximum cruiser based on a GT racing machine targeted at the upscale owner who wants his steed to be truly distinctive. “Just a few months ago the Rune was a concept bike,” said Jon Seidel, a spokesman for Honda. “But it received such tremendous response we brought it into production as soon as we could. We're not building a lot of them, in order to preserve their exclusivity. Pricewise, they're up there with Ducati.” Power? 1832cc liquid-cooled horizontally-opposed six cylinder engine. Five speed transmission.

KEEP RIGHT >>



Harley-Davidson VRSCA V-Rod



Harley-Davidson Ultra Classic Electra Glide



Buell Lightning XB9S



Yamaha Royal Star Midnight Venture



Yamaha FJR 1300



Yamaha Road Star Warrior customized

The ignition is computer-controlled digital with three-dimensional mapping. Honda's new VTX1300C joins the company's stables of VTXs, and if you want naked, Honda's 919cc fits the bill. Specially tuned for low- and mid-range power, the engine is installed in a huge square tube backbone steel frame, with a single abbreviated box-section downtube. Want noise? Tune in to the 919's four-into-two-into one-into-two exhaust system with center-up mufflers.

Harley-Davidson

Over at Harley, it's one hundred percent all the way, to celebrate the maker's 100th birthday. "Every single 2003 model will carry the anniversary logo, a special ID on the crankcase, and we're offering a special paint, too, an almost transparent silver over black, that's fantastic looking," said Harley's Paul James. The four-billion dollar company brought out its brand new flagship VRSCA V-Rod last year, joining the growing new category called performance customs, an emerging class that's very stylish, cool, and strictly custom-looking. The \$17,995 radical V-Rod's blistering performance and hot rod style is equipped with a 1130cc, liquid-cooled, 4-valve head engine that throbs out 115 horsepower, and is fully exposed, à la naked. The VRSCA is built on the architecture of a racing engine that Harley designed and built in conjunction with Porsche's engineering services.

"Some of the old-line Harley purists may not like it," said Huffman, "but Harley is after a new market, young guys who want a touring/cruiser bike." Touring is a big part

of Harley, and one of its best-selling models is the Ultra Classic Electra Glide that allows riders to take along everything including a small kitchen sink. A \$19,760 bike that lists for \$21,000 fully loaded, it has a CB radio, intercom, electronic cruise control, in-dash CD player, weather band, and a huge luggage-carrying capability. Still, Harley's most popular motorcycle is the \$16,195 Fat Boy, with the fat front end that gave it its name. The burly FL fork, massive headlight, fat rubber shoes, giant fenders and a big, juicy Twin Cam 88B power plant combine for a touring bike with the custom look of a softail.

Buell

Buell, a Harley subsidiary, has probably the most naked bike on the block: the Lightning XB9S. With the shortest wheel-base of any production motorcycle, a 21-degree fork rig for extreme aggression, an easy-handling engine, responsive steering, quick turning and lots of torque, the XB9S is all ready for backroad riding. Its nakedness allows for a more upright, comfortable riding position for all day in the saddle. For \$9,950 you won't get a fuel tank, but then, you don't need one. Buell fills its big aluminum spar frame with fuel, which means it carries it lower and offers a lower center of gravity. The space that would be the tank is a large airbox, so that the engine can really breathe. The XB9S also uses a swing arm as the oil reservoir and actually pulls the heat out of the oil, and the natural movement of the swing arm agitates the oil and keeps air bubbles from forming.

Yamaha

If you have \$16,399 to spend on one of Yamaha's premier machines, check out the Royal Star Venture and the Midnight Venture. The former is retro-style, and the latter is its twin brother except for a chromed-out front end, a black engine with polished fins, a studded seat, and backrest. These 8-ft.-long tourers are Yamaha's largest and most luxurious, with cruise control, CB radio and 2-way intercom. The engine is a 1300cc V-4 drawing 98 hp. Built for long-range comfort, they both have plush seats, floating floorboards, air-assist suspension, and a spacious trunk.

For those who need power and performance as well as pampering, check out the FJR 1300. Designed for sport freaks who also endure all-day touring, its comfort level is high, and the 1298cc, 16-valve, DOHC-in-line 4-cylinder engine pumps out 145 hp.

Yamaha says its Road Star Warrior has the world's biggest pushrod air-cooled V-twin that'll blow your socks off, and the widest tires in the industry. It won the 2002 *Motorcyclist* magazine's Cruiser of the Year.

BMW

If your BMW 7-series sedan is lonely in the garage, you can match it up to a BMW bike, with one of the most expensive motorcycles on the market: the flagship \$22,500 K 1200 LT Exodus. A sophisticated, luxurious tourer, with all the bells

KEEP RIGHT >>

aprilia

racing

**When you walk the walk,
you don't need to talk the talk.**

"On strictly a got-to-have-it basis, however, the Aprilia RSV Mille R makes me the most anxious. If I have to narrow it down to a single Twin, she's the one."

--Cycle World

"We love the Tuono for its sheer indifference in the face of incredible tire-smoking, wheel-lifting performance."

--Motorcyclist

"In the Caponord, Aprilia has created perhaps the first worthy competitor to BMW's GS and its lock on the adventure-touring title."

--Cycle World

"A scooter for interstate cruising, the Aprilia Atlantic 500 features the performance and safety of a touring bike with the comfort and styling of an Italian scooter."

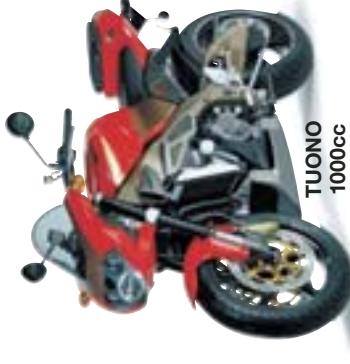
--Popular Mechanics



RSV Mille R 1000cc



RSV Mille 1000cc



TUONO 1000cc



FALCO R 1000cc



RS50 50cc



FUTURA 1000cc



CAPONORD 1000cc



ATLANTIC 500cc



SCARABEO 150cc



SCARABEO 50 DITECH 50cc



SR 50 DITECH 50cc

aprilia

www.apriliausa.com

Cycle-Moto

330 E. Southern Avenue #37

Mesa, AZ

480.898.0559

www.azsbk.com



BMW R 1200 CL



BMW R 1150 R



BMW K 1200 GT



Ducati 999



Victory Vegas



Victory Touring Cruiser



Triumph Daytona 955i



Triumph Trophy 1200

and whistles, it came out last fall as a 2003 model. With plenty of power from its liquid-cooled horizontal in-line 4-cylinder that brings you 100 ponies and 85 lb.ft. of torque, comfortable seats, protection from the elements, and ergonomic design, the Exodus is built in Berlin, as with all BMW bikes. It provides riders with expensive features including an electrically adjustable windshield, cruise control, heated handgrips, AM/FM/CD stereo with controls for rider as well as the passenger, CB radio, adjustable seat, windshield, hand brake and clutch levers, and a power socket.

Other top motorcycles from BMW are the \$15,990 R 1200 CL luxury cruiser (custom version is \$16,490) and the \$17,990 K 1200 GT, a new grand touring version slightly sportier than the RT flagship model.

So, does a conservative company like BMW ever get naked? You bet. Its R 1150R, a 2004 model, arrives in the buff at dealers this March. Priced between \$11,000 and

\$12,000, has no fairings, and very few features but plenty of power and—the new bikes celebrate BMW's 80th birthday.

Ducati

Ducati, the Ferrari of motorcycles, has its new 999 with Testastrada improved head design, at \$17,695. The company calls this the motorcycle of the future. Ducati has dominated the world of superbike racing for more than a decade, and their 2003 model upholds that tradition with a trellis frame, a liquid-cooled, L-twin engine with 124 horsepower, combined with new aerodynamics, improved rider ergonomics, and improved design over its predecessor, the 998. Instruments include a rev counter, speedometer, lap counter, high beam indicator, turn signals, oil pressure warning light, low fuel light, water temperature and an immobilizer security system. Improved rider ergonomics include adjustable foot pegs and seat position on the Monoposto (single seat) version.

Victory

Want curvy and naked?

The brand new, split tail Polaris Victory Vegas, ready this spring, is a sensuous V-twin custom cruiser with a 1507 cc engine all ready to roll. Polaris brought out its first motorcycle just five years ago after building snowmobiles, ATVs and other vehicles for fifty years.

Flagship of the fleet is the more dressed Victory Touring Cruiser, powered with the Freedom 1507 engine, and tuned for long-distance days along with hardbags that hug the rear.

Triumph

If you want to fantasize you're Steve McQueen in *The Great Escape* or Matthew McConaughey in *How To Lose A Guy In 10 Days*, try a Triumph.

These British bikes have been around since 1902, and for 2003, their flagship Daytona 955i and Trophy 1200 are both priced at \$11,699.

The Daytona 955i superbike/sports-bike delivers no less than 147 horsepower from its three-cylinder layout, and welcomes a fuel-injected addition to the family for the US, the impressive 112-horsepower 600 model that's priced at \$8,699.

The perennially popular Trophy, a no-nonsense, big-bore tourer with a six-speed gearbox, cranks out 108 horsepower from its 1180cc engine. ■

International award-winning journalist **JILL AMADIO** has covered the automotive and motorsports scene for 20 years. The author of six books, her latest is a biography, "Günther Rall: Luftwaffe Ace and NATO General." She writes a monthly column for *Entrepreneur* magazine, and also writes for *AMI Auto World* and *www.thecarconnection.com*. She has written for *Road & Track* and *Conde Nast Publications*, and her syndicated car column has appeared in the *Washington Times*, *Houston Chronicle* and 124 other newspapers. She was the first female syndicated automotive columnist for Gannett Newspapers. For five years Jill Amadio worked with the Skoal Bandit Indy Car, NASCAR, Can Am and drag racing programs as a publicist.

**We
kid
you
not!**

- ▼ V-10
- ▼ 8.3-liter (505 cu.in.)
- ▼ 20-valve
- ▼ 500 hp
- ▼ 0-60 in 2.5 sec.

At the North American International Auto Show, the two most common responses were "Wow!" and "why?"

Is it a motorcycle? a car? something else? The Dodge Tomahawk concept vehicle's credibility as a two-wheeler is limited by two things: it has four wheels (though just barely); and it's the brainchild of DaimlerChrysler, known for cars, trucks, vans, SUVs—and innovative concepts in all these categories—but not for motorcycles. So what's the Tomahawk like to ride? Who knows? At 500 hp and 1500 pounds, death-defying, certainly; exhilarating, no doubt.

The Tomahawk roared into view at the North American International Auto Show in Detroit this January. The 500-horsepower Viper V-10 powering dual rear wheels gives a potential top speed of nearly 400 miles per hour for anyone who wants to test it.

"This is a bold faced slap against mediocrity," said Trevor Creed, Senior Vice President-Design, Chrysler Group. "Tomahawk

is what creative minds can do when given the opportunity to run free. It is a pure mechanical sculpture and a celebration of the artistry and emotion of design."

SPECIFICATIONS

DIMENSIONS:

Overall Length	102 inches
Overall Width	27.7 inches
Overall Height	36.9 inches
Wheelbase	76 inches
Seat Height	29 inches
Curb Weight	1500 lbs.
Ground Clearance	3 inches
Fuel Tank Capacity	3.25 gallons

ENGINE: 8.3-liter, OHV, 20-valve, 10-cyl. 90-degree V-type, liquid-cooled

Displacement: 505 cubic inches (8277 cc)

Valve System: Two pushrod-actuated overhead valves per cylinder

Compression Ratio: 9.6:1

Power (SAE net): 500 bhp @ 5600 rpm
Torque (SAE net): 525 lb.-ft. @ 4200 rpm

TRANSMISSION: Manual, foot-shift, aluminum-cased two-speed, sequential racing-style w/ dog ring, straight-cut gears

FINAL DRIVE: Dual 110-link chains

STEERING: Dual hub center type.

BRAKES:

Front: 20-inch perimeter-mounted drilled machined stainless steel rotors. Two four-piston fixed aluminum calipers per wheel. Hand-activated.

Rear: 20-inch perimeter-mounted drilled cast-iron rotors, one per wheel. One four-piston fixed aluminum caliper per wheel. Foot-activated.

PERFORMANCE

0-60 mph: 2.5 seconds (est.)

Top Speed: 300+ mph (est.) ■

THE INSIDE TRACK: BRIEFS & RUMORS

■ **Dodge** will be offering the new 5.7-liter high performance Hemi engine in light-duty pickups starting in January, or about a year earlier than planned. The introduction was moved up from 2004 because of heavy demand. The engine is also going



Chrysler

to be used in the new Jeep Grand Cherokee, some new rear engine Dodge cars (perhaps like the Avenger concept shown here?) and the Durango SUV.

■ **Pontiac** will be getting back into the performance business when the company replaces the current Bonneville GXP in 2004 with a 4.4-liter V-8 powered version producing nearly 300 hp.

■ **Ford's Special Vehicle Team (SVT)** has plans for a new hotter Focus than the current 170-hp model. This more modified version will use a turbocharged Mazda four-cylinder with up to 225-hp, to compete with the new 215-hp Dodge Neon SRT-4 and the Subaru WRX. The use of the Mazda engine is an indication that the next generation Focus will likely get the Mazda 2.3-liter engine as will the next generation Volvo S40. (Ford owns both Mazda and Volvo.)



Ford Motor Company

■ **Cadillac** is contemplating the production of a \$100,000 ultraluxury series of cars to compete with top-of-the line BMW and Mercedes-Benz cars, based to some degree on their ultraluxury concept shown at the Detroit auto show in January. Power would likely come from the 7.5-liter V-12 engine capable of 500 horsepower that GM has been developing. Cadillac general manager, Mark LaNeve said that, if produced, the volume would be from 200 to no more than 1,500 or 2,000 vehicles annually.

■ It appears the next **MINI Cooper** model will be a Cabrio, which should hit the European market as early as this summer. The convertible top retracts and sits on top of the back, similar to the both the new and old Volkswagen convertibles. Power choices should remain as naturally aspired or supercharged four-cylinder engines. Look for the Cabrio in the US for 2004.

■ New **plastic** materials are allowing vehicle designers to make seats one third thinner than existing seats. The new seats help create more interior space and cut weight while still maintaining support and comfort. Look for the new seats as early as 2004 on top-of-the-line versions of some high-volume models.

■ **Toyota** and **Nissan** are working together to develop and build hybrid-powered vehicles. A 10-year agreement between the Japanese auto giants calls for Toyota to supply state-of-the-art hybrid systems to Nissan. The companies will exchange information and discuss joint development of components related to the systems. The first product to come from the agreement will be

a 2006 Nissan vehicle, which will use a Toyota transaxle and inverter combined with a Nissan engine.

■ **Mitsubishi Motors** and Japan's Keio University have developed an experimental control system that uses an overhead camera to track the driver's hand position, shape and movement. By waving a hand with a specific number of fingers extended toward the instrument panel the driver can adjust the radio, shift gears or change the temperature.

■ Electronics manufacturer **KVH** has introduced a new ultra-low-profile satellite TV antenna that will allow cars, SUVs, campers and boats to receive more than 300 DirectTV channels while the vehicle is in motion. The antenna is about 4.5 inches deep, and feeds a receiver mount-



KVH Electronics

ed under a seat or in the trunk, and a remote control to feed the signal to back seat entertainment systems.

■ **Mitsubishi** is planning to inject some performance into its hot looking Lancer OZ package. Starting in 2004, the upscale OZ gets a 2.4-liter four-cylinder engine rated somewhere in the 160- to 170-hp range, placing it nicely between the



Mitsubishi

standard 120-hp model and the upcoming Evo VIII, which is expected to have 270- to, 280-hp. The new OZ will also get tighter suspension, bigger tires and sport seats.

■ Auto component and parts maker **Johnson Controls Inc.** has developed a rail system to be mounted on the inside of vehicle roofs. The overhead rail system can be customized with removable modules for DVD players, first aid kits and 13 other plug-in accessories. The system is expected to appear first in an undesignated 2004 model SUV.

■ Ford's **Th!nk** might be canceled even before it is offered for sale. The Th!nk City



Ford Motor Company

is a plastic-bodied electric car easily compared to a golf-cart. Ford bought the car from Norwegian Pivco company in 1999 for \$23 million, but it's likely the entire Th!nk brand will now be for sale.

■ Inside sources have said that the next **Acura RL** sport luxury, due to arrive as a 2004 model, will be a high-performance hybrid. The configuration is said to have a 200-hp 3.0-liter V-6 driving the front wheels and a powerful 160-hp electric motor driving the rear wheels. It uses regenerative braking to recharge the electric motor battery and is expected to get about 42 mpg.

■ Honda's small **Civic** has grown larger and more expensive, pushing it out of reach for some first-time buyers, so the company is planning to bring a smaller, cheaper car to the US, the next generation of its popular Fit/Jazz that has even outsold the top Japanese car, the Toyota Corolla. The Fit is about two feet shorter than the Civic. The Japanese version has an 82-hp 1.3-liter engine, but the US version is likely to be more powerful. Look for the new small car early in 2004.

■ A ship carrying nearly **3,000 vehicles** bound for the U.S. from Europe ran into another ship in the foggy English Channel and sank. The crew was saved, but all the vehicles, which included BMWs, Saabs and Volvos including the award-winning new XC90 SUV, were all lost.



Honda America

■ **Ford** is building a new mid-size sport wagon, starting in 2005. It will share components with the company's Volvo XC90. The Ford wagon, slated to be called the Freestyle, will be available in both front- and all-wheel drive configurations with a standard V-6 engine and a continuously variable transmission.

■ **Pontiac** has plans to put more power in their cars, catching up with their longstanding slogan, "We build excitement." The Vibe, Grand Prix, Sunfire, Grand Am and Bonneville will all get a high performance GXP model, including bigger engines, tuned exhaust, sport suspensions, 18-inch wheels and high-performance brakes. What will thankfully be missing is most of the plastic cladding that has dressed many Pontiacs for years.

■ **Infiniti** is on a major roll pumping out one exciting car after the other. The roll continued at the Los Angeles Auto Show



Infiniti

with the introduction of the Infiniti Triant concept, which is essentially a muscular 2+2 version of the new FX45 crossover (shown here), complete with gullwing style doors. The Triant mimics the sportiness, all-wheel drive and luxury appointments of the FX45 with more of a coupe styling.

■ In December, the City of Los Angeles took delivery of the nation's first certified fuel cell car, the **Honda FCX**. The City is leasing the hydrogen-powered car for two years to test viability and dependability and to make a gesture of support for the new technology.

■ **Subaru** will offer a second, less expensive version of the new Baja truck. The upcoming Baja Sport will delete the leather upholstery and some of the other luxury features that are standard on the current Baja. The Sport will sell for \$22,520 including shipping charges, about \$2,000 less than the original.

■ The next generation **Lexus RX 330** will be larger, stronger and more powerful. Currently called the Lexus RX 300, the new name reflects a larger 3.3-liter engine. New optional features include swiveling headlights, power liftgate, four-wheel air suspension, adaptive cruise control, rain sensing wipers and backup camera. It's due out later this year as a 2004 model.

■ The next-generation **Dodge Neon**, now delayed until the 2006 model, is expected to share a platform with the next Mitsubishi Lancer. Styling may be making a major shift, looking more like the hatchback/wagon configuration of the Pontiac Vibe and Toyota Matrix.

■ Both the **Toyota Matrix** and its sister **Pontiac Vibe** are scheduled to get supercharged versions of their 1.8-liter four-cylinder engines later this year. The standard 130-hp engine will be boosted to the 175-180-hp range, closely matching the horsepower of the current optional high-revving, high performance four-cylinder engine, but significantly boosting torque. ■

A summary of auto news from industry sources, trade journals and consumer magazines compiled for *Arizona Driver* by **BILL & BARBARA SCHAFFER** of *Auto Digest*.

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Arizona

ATTRACTIONS & EVENTS

Chiricahua State Park

HCR 2, Box 6500 • Willcox AZ 85643
520-824-3560

Grand Canyon National Park

PO Box 129 • Grand Canyon AZ 86023
923-638-7888 Visitor Info Recorded Message

Lake Havasu State Park

699 London Bridge Dr. • Lake Havasu AZ 86403
928-855-2784

Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument

10 Organ Pipe Drive • Ajo AZ 85321-9626
520-387-6849 Visitor Information

Petrified Forest National Park

PO Box 2217
Petrified Forest National Park AZ 86028
928-524-66228 Visitor Information

Saguaro National Park

3693 South Old Spanish Trail
520-733-5153 Visitor Info Rincon Mtn District

Sport Compact Drag Racing

Every thursday at Firebird Raceway
www.dragracing.com/phx

Wupatki National Monument

Flagstaff Area National Monuments
6400 N. Hwy 89 • Flagstaff AZ 86004
928-679-2365 Visitor Information
928-526-1157 Visitor Information, HQ

Nevada

ATTRACTIONS & EVENTS

Las Vegas Tourism Bureau

6120 W. Tropicana Ave. • Las Vegas NV
www.lasvegastourism.com

MOTOR MUSEUMS

Imperial Palace Auto Collections

Fifth floor parking facility of Imperial Palace.
702-794-3174
www.imperialpalace.com/auto.html

National Automobile Museum

The Harrah Collection
10 Lake Street South • Reno NV 89501
775-333-9300 • www.automuseum.org

Colorado

ATTRACTIONS & EVENTS

Colorado Activity Centers, Inc.

737 N. Tenmile Drive - Suite 35
PO Box 129 • Frisco CO 80443
800-777-8642 • 970-668-5259
www.coloradoinfo.com

MOTOR MUSEUMS

Shelby American Collection

5020 Chaparral Court
PO Box 19228 • Boulder CO 80308-2228
www.shelbyamericancollection.org
303-516-9565

New Mexico

ATTRACTIONS & EVENTS

New Mexico Department of Tourism

800-733-6396 x 0643 • www.newmexico.org

Santa Fe Chamber of Commerce

PO Box 1928 • Santa Fe NM 87504
8380 Cerrillos Rd. Suite 302 • Santa Fe NM 87507
505-983-7317 • www.santafechamber.com

RESORTS / LODGING

Inn on La Loma Plaza

315 Ranchitos Road • Box 4159 • Taos NM 87571
800-530-3040 • www.VacationTaos.com

Inn on the Alameda

303 East Alameda • Santa Fe NM 87501
505-984-21221 • www.innonthealameda.com

Utah

ATTRACTIONS & EVENTS

San Juan County Tourism

117 S. Main Street • Monticello UT 84535
800-574-4386 • www.southeastutah.org

Southern Utah Scenic Tours

PO Box 1113 • Cedar City UT 84720
888-404-8687 • www.utahscenictours.com

RESORTS / LODGING

Desert Rose Inn & Cabins

701 W. Highway 191 • Bluff UT 84512
888-475-7673 • www.DesertRoseInn.com

California

ATTRACTIONS & EVENTS

Palm Desert Visitor Information Center

72-990 Highway 111 • Palm Desert CA 92260
800-873-2428 • www.palm-desert.org

MOTOR MUSEUMS

Petersen Automotive Museum

6060 Wilshire Blvd. (at Fairfax) • LA CA 90036
323-930-CARS • www.petersen.org

Of national interest

MOTOR MUSEUMS

Henry Ford Museum & Greenfield Village

20900 Oakwood Blvd. • Dearborn MI 48124
www.hfmgv.com • 313-271-1620

Imperial Palace Auto Collections - (see Nev.)

Motorcycle Hall of Fame Museum

Pickerington OH 43147
www.motorcyclemuseum.org • 614-856-2222

National Automobile Museum - (see Nev.)

National Corvette Museum

350 Corvette Drive • Bowling Green KY 42101
www.corvettemuseum.com • 800-53VETTE

Petersen Automotive Museum - (see Calif.)

Shelby American Collection- (see Colo.)

Mexico

RESORTS / LODGING

Puerto Peñasco Mexico Online

Beachfront home rentals in Rocky Point.
623-935-0507 • www.puerto-penasco.com

ATTRACTIONS & EVENTS

Baja California State Tourism Office

Blvd. Diaz Ordaz s/n
Edificio Plaza Patria Nivel 3
CP 22400 Tijuana BC
(66) 81-9492

Chihuahua State Tourism Office

Calle Libertad No. 1300
Edificio Agustin Melgar, 1er Piso
CP 31000 Chihuahua, Chihuahua
(14) 29-3421

Sinaloa State Tourism Office

Av. Camarón Sabalo esq. Tiburon
Edificio Banrural 4 Piso
CP 82100 Mazatlán, Sinaloa
(69) 16-5160

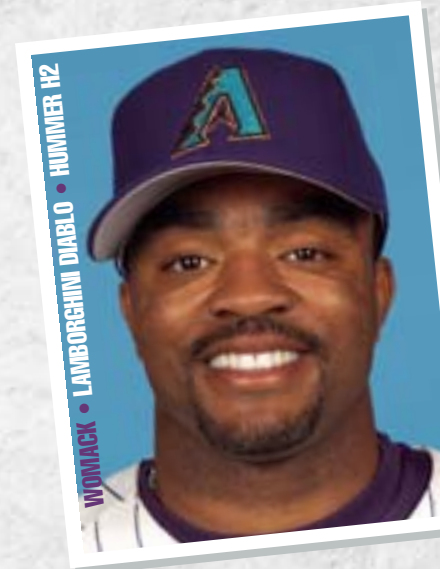
Sonora State Tourism Office

Centro de Gobierno
Edificio Estatal Norte 3er Nivel
Comonfort y Paseo Río
CP 83280 Hermosillo, Sonora
(62) 17-0076

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