



MAMA SEZ!

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July, 2007



This is the newsletter of the **Maryland Automotive Modelers Association**

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2007 Meeting Schedule

Meetings are scheduled for the third Saturday of the month (*unless noted otherwise*). Do **NOT** assume meeting dates—confirm them with a club officer!

- ☞ January 20th
- ☞ February 17th
- ☞ March 17th
- ☞ April 21st
- ☞ May 19th
- ☞ June 16th
- ☞ July 21st
- ☞ August 18th
- ☞ September 15th
- ☞ October 20th
- ☞ November 17th
- ☞ December 15th



Inclement weather phone number: (301) 474-5255.

Too Many Shows

About 30 members were present at the June meeting, which nearly tripled attendance over May, our NNL show month. A good turnout of models, too, especially considering **Pat Crittenden Tom Daniels collection** on display.

A major milestone will be marked the end of July with one of MAMA's Long-Distance members, **Rik Hoving**, celebrating his **40th B'Day** (see page 7 Rik!)

This issue is jam-packed with everything from **Knight Rider** to **Import Car Crushing** (no, it's not a new Olympic sport!).

The raffle raised **\$36.00**, while the door box contributed another **\$75.00**. Thanks to the raffle donors listed below: **Brad, Ron Hamilton,**

Michael Stevens Sr. & Jr., Rich Wilson, and Replicas & Miniatures Co. of MD (a.k.a. Norman Veber, natch!). Thanks for everyone's continuing generosity! 🍷



Can't Stop 'em? Crush 'em!

Charles Hoang winced when the whoosh went out of the tires. Daniel Maldonado took digital pictures as glass exploded, raining down to the ground.

The two teens didn't know each other but they shared a common grief standing near each other under the sweltering sun Wednesday. They both watched helplessly as the

cars they had so meticulously souped up and tricked out were crushed and turned into metal pancakes as part of a crackdown on **illegal street racing in Southern California**.

"That's my heart, my dream," said a visibly upset Hoang, 18, of Chino, who was surrounded by friends as his '98 Acura Integra was

put into a compactor. "That's my girlfriend, the love of my life. The cops can crush my car, but they can't crush my memories."

Six vehicles were destroyed at an auto graveyard as local law enforcement ramped up enforcement against illegal street racing, which is responsible for or sus-

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The REAL Star of “Knight Rider”

Okay gang, after the item in the T ‘n T section about the sale of *KITT*, the star of “*Knight Rider*,” thought you might like a little more info on the him, courtesy of [Wikipedia.org](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/KITT) (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/KITT>).

In the TV show’s fictional history, KITT was said to have been designed by the late *Wilton Knight*, a brilliant but eccentric billionaire and founder of the *Foundation for Law and Government*, (commonly shortened to “FLAG”), and its parent the *Knight Foundation*.

KITT’s main cybernetic processor was first installed in a main-frame computer used by the U.S. government in Washington D.C. However, Wilton saw better use for ‘him’ in the Foundation’s crime-fighting crusade and eventually the system was installed in the vehicle. KITT was in fact the second vehicle built by Knight Industries with artificial intelligence. His predecessor was *KARR*, the *Knight Automated Roving Robot*. KARR was programmed for self-preservation, but this proved to be dangerous to the Foundation’s interests. KARR was later deactivated and placed in storage while KITT was given to his new operator, Michael Knight (*the new identity of Michael Long*).

Unlike KARR, KITT is programmed primarily to protect Michael at all cost as well as all human life (*referring to Isaac Asimov’s Three Laws of Robotics*). This is made clear in the pilot episode where Michael asks Devon

Miles if KITT will protect anyone driving it. Devon’s answer is that KITT’s primary function is the preservation of human life, and Michael’s in particular.

KITT is loaded with special features such as the commonly-used *Turbo Boost*, which allows quick bursts of speed or jumping over obstacles. KITT could also *drive himself*, but perhaps his most distinct and recognizable aspect was his *front mounted scan bar* which, among other things, allowed KITT to ‘see.’ KITT’s body panels were coated with an advanced ‘molecular bonded shell’ armor coating which would resist conventional weapon fire as well as most artillery and explosive blasts although a strong direct hit by those attacks could cause severe damage.

KITT underwent major mods during a refit in 1985 which included the addition of ‘*Super Pursuit Mode*’ and a *convertible top*.

KITT had many features, most of which had an activation button associated with them that were on panels mounted on either side of the steering wheel or on a console mounted on the ceiling of the interior. Many of these button functions seem to change around, appearing and disappearing, or rearranging from episode to episode. Some were used once and never seen again.

Some of KITT’s features include the following:

- **Computer AI:** KITT was essentially an advanced super-computer on wheels. The ‘brain’ of KITT was the Knight



2000 microprocessor which is the center of a ‘self-aware’ cybernetic logic module that allowed KITT to think, learn, communicate and interact with humans. Although KITT wasn’t programmed to have feelings, he always had an ego that was easy to bruise and displayed a very sensitive personality. The system was programmed to drive the car better than a human operator could. He also has an in-dash entertainment system that can play music and video, and run various computer programs including arcade games which Michael sometimes indulged in whenever KITT was driving. The belief that KITT was truly sentient was never discussed in the show, however KITT was fully aware of himself and programmed to obey all orders given to him by his human creators, so long as they didn’t violate his prime directive of protecting human life (*especially Michael’s*) to the best of his abilities. KITT has, however been referred to as being ‘alive’ in at least one episode. According to Episode 55, ‘Dead of Knight,’ KITT’s reaction time is one nanosecond,

(Continued on page 3)

REAL (contd)

(Continued from page 2)

and his 'memory' capacity is 1,000 megabits. For the latter, it is uncertain whether or not active RAM or hard drive space was being discussed. According to Episode 65, 'Ten Wheel Trouble,' KITT's future capacity is unlimited. Currently capable of **50,000,000 k** with the ability to grow by 1,000,000 k daily. It's uncertain what unit these numbers are in, and whether or not this is RAM or hard drive space.

- **Alpha Circuit:** KITT's 'Alpha Circuit' is mentioned quite a bit throughout the series, however its function was never clearly explained. It is most likely part of KITT's main control system which allows the CPU to drive the car. All that is really known is that the system is vulnerable to damage, which hinders KITT's performance in several ways. When KARR was encountered a second time, the time he spent submerged in water damaged his Alpha Circuit, which required KARR to have an operator to control his Turbo Boost function. KARR crashed into the Knight Transport vehicle, in an attempt to find new 'Alpha Capacitors' to fix the problem. His driver stole KITT's experimental defensive laser system in addition to having forced Bonnie to install the new Alpha Capacitors. This is demonstrated during KITT's and KARR's first nose to nose encounter during the episode, when KARR backed off be-

cause his system was not yet up to full strength. Had the parts not been replaced, KARR would have had no reason to wait in expectation of his system gaining full strength.

- **Molecular Bonded Shell:** KITT is armored with 'Tri-Helical Plasteel 1000 MBS' (*Molecular Bonded Shell*) plating which protects him from almost all forms of conventional firearms and explosive devices. He could only be harmed by heavy artillery and rockets, and even then, the blast usually left most of his shell intact and only damaged internal components. The shell protected every part of the car including the tires. KITT could even act as a shield for explosives by driving over bombs and suppressing the blast. The shell also protected him from fire and electricity; however, it was vulnerable to some potent acids and at least one formula was made to completely neutralize the shell. It is also shown that long exposure to seawater can weaken the shell as in the case of KARR. The shell is actually a combination of three secret substances referred to together as the 'Knight Compound,' developed by Wilton Knight who entrusted parts of the formula to three separate people. These individuals only know two pieces of the formula, ensuring that any two of them could make more of the Knight Compound in an emergency situation and that no one person would be able to make it. The shell provided a frame tolerance of 223,000 lb (*111.5 tons*) and a

front and rear axle suspension load of 57,000 lb (*28.5 tons*).

- **Pyroclastic Lamination:** KITT is protected by a thermal-resistant coating that can withstand sustained temperatures of up to 800 degrees.
- **Power System:** KITT is powered by the Knight Industries turbojet with modified afterburners and a computer controlled 8-speed turbodrive transmission. Specs—**0 to 60 mph in 2 seconds, standing to quarter mile 4.286 seconds**. Electro-magnetic hyper-vacuum disc brakes: **14 foot braking distance (70–0 mph)**.
- **Turbo Boost:** Used in most episodes, a series of rear mounted undercarriage rocket motors allows KITT to accelerate to incredible speeds in excess of 200 mph. When activated in combination with the **Trajectory Guidance System** and a pair of rocket motors mounted just behind the front tires that lifted the front of the car, **KITT could jump 40 feet into the air and pass over obstacles in the road**. The system also allowed KITT added power whenever he had to maneuver heavy objects such as pushing a heavy boulder off a cliff, or pulling a large vehicle out of danger. The boosters could fire forward or backward.
- **Voice Synthesizer:** KITT's Voice Synthesizer allowed his logic module to speak and communicate. With it, KITT could also simulate other sounds, such as a police raid to fool criminals or a wild animal's growl, useful for scaring away a too-friendly

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REAL (contd)

(Continued from page 3)

animals intending to pee on his tires. KITT's primary spoken language was English, however by accessing his language module, he could speak fluently in Spanish and French. The module can be adjusted giving KITT different accents such as in 'Out of the Woods,' where KITT uses a 'New York City' accent and called Michael, "Micky." During the first season, KITT's 'mouth' ('Voice Modulator') in the interior of the vehicle was a flashing red square. This was changed to three sectioned vertical bars, as this design proved popular with fans as part of KARR.

- **Anamorphic Equalizer:** KITT's most apparent feature was his front scan bar called the Anamorphic Equalizer. The device is a fiber-optic array electronic eyes. The scanner could see in all visual wavelengths as well as X-Ray and infrared. When KITT's surveillance mode was active, the bar would light up and make an ominous swooping sound as it panned left and right. Occasionally, the bar could pulse in different patterns and sweep rapidly or very slowly. The scan bar is also KITT's most vulnerable area. In an attempt to stop KARR, Bonnie rigged a laser that could penetrate KARR's sensor and disable his electronics.
- **Etymotic Equalizer:** This system allowed KITT to hear sound. An array of audio sen-

sors were threaded throughout his interior and exterior.

- **Olfactory Sensor:** KITT could 'smell' via an atmospheric sampling device mounted in his front bumper.
- **Microscanners:** Microscanners are tiny audio and visual sensors embedded into the grooves of KITT's body. They allow for visual tracking and display of anything around the car.



- **Cruise Modes:** These are KITT's three drive modes:
 - a) Normal Cruise**—On 'Normal,' Michael had control of the car. In an emergency, KITT could still take over and activate Auto Cruise mode. In order to prevent this, one has to use the Manual Override. In the show's fourth season, the word 'Cruise' was dropped and indicated simply by the word 'Normal.'
 - b) Auto Cruise**—In 'Auto,' KITT could drive himself utilizing an advanced Auto Collision Avoidance system.
 - c) Pursuit**—'Pursuit' is used during high-speed driving and is a combination of manual and computer assisted operation. KITT could respond to road conditions faster than Michael's reflexes could; however, Michael was technically in control

of the vehicle and KITT helped guide certain maneuvers.

- **Computer Override:** KITT has a hidden switch and setting dial under the dash that either completely shuts down his AI module or deactivates certain systems should the need arise.
- **Manual Override:** KITT has a function which can be activated in order to completely lock the AI from all the vehicle controls. Unlike the Computer Override, Manual Override simply keeps KITT from activating Auto Cruise or preventing anyone inside the car from doing something that would probably hurt them. KITT's AI is still able to protest such actions vocally.
- **Police Lights/Siren:** KITT's headlights can flash red and blue as police lights, and he has a siren.
- **Silent Mode:** KITT could run silently. The feature dampened his engine noise and allow him to sneak around.
- **Grappling Hook and Winch:** KITT has a hidden winch and grappling hook system, one mounted under his front bumper, and another in a compartment behind his tail light plate. Most often the hook is connected by a strong cable, but a metal arm has also been seen.
- **Parachute:** KITT is equipped with a parachute.
- **Oil Jets/Smoke Screen:** KITT could spray an oil slick and a plume of smoke from under the rear bumper.
- **Flame Thrower:** KITT has flame throwers mounted under his bumpers.

(Continued on page 5)

REAL (contd)

(Continued from page 4)

☞ **Tear Gas Launcher:** KITT can dispense a cloud of tear gas along with his smoke screen.

- **Ultramagnesium Charges:** KITT can launch magnesium flares, which can also be used to divert heat-seeking missiles fired at him.

- **High Traction Drop Downs:** When activated, the HTDD system hydraulically raises KITT's chassis for better traction when driving off-road.

- **Traction Spikes:** When activated KITT's tires would have spikes coming out in order for KITT to drive up steep off-road hills.

- **Telephone Comlink:** Michael could contact home base and communicate with Devon and others using KITT's video display.

- **Microwave Jammer:** KITT has an electronic jamming system that played havoc on electrical systems. The three main components are the *Electromagnetic Field Generator*, *Electronic Field Disrupter* and *Microwave Ignition Sensor*. The system could take control of electronic machines, allowing things like cheating at slot machines, breaking electronic locks, fouling security cameras, and withdrawing money from ATMs. The most common usage was to knock out the electronics systems of a fleeing vehicle where he could disable the engine and activate the brakes. In some episodes, KITT is even capable of using it to magnetize

and manipulate non-electronic objects such as a mechanical combination lock and create 'poltergeist' activity, moving random objects to frighten people.

- **Surveillance Mode:** Surveillance Mode did several things:
 - a) KITT could detect people and vehicles and track their movements and discern proximity
 - b) KITT could gather structural schematics of buildings, vehicles, or other devices and help Michael avoid potential danger when he was snooping.
 - c) KITT could also monitor radio transmissions and telephone communications within a location and trace those calls.
 - d) KITT could tap into computer systems to monitor, or upload and download information as long as he could break the access codes.
- **Infrared Tracking Scope:** KITT could monitor the position of specific vehicles in the area within 10 miles. For instance, if Michael wanted to know the location of every police vehicle within 5 miles, KITT could display a schematic on his monitors of all police vehicles relative to his position.
- **Laser Powerpack:** KITT can fire a high powered ultra-frequency modulated laser capable of burning through steel plating. Like most of KITT's components, the schematics for the laser device are classified.
- **Bomb Sniffer:** KITT is equipped with a bomb sniffer module that can detect explosives within a few yards of the vehicle.

- **Medical scanner:** KITT has a medical scanner that includes an electrocardiograph (ECG). The medical scanner can monitor the vital signs of individuals and display them on his monitors. It could indicate such conditions as if they were injured, poisoned, undergoing stress or other emotional behavior. KITT could even monitor Michael's physical activity through sensors inside the driver seat.
- **Deflatable Tires:** KITT could deflate and reinflate his tires.
- **Fuel Processor:** KITT was powered by a turbine engine primarily fueled by hydrogen gas. However, his complex fuel processor allows him to run on any combustible liquid, even regular gasoline. KITT's actual fuel requirements and efficiency ratings were classified, however in one episode, KITT mentioned his fuel economy was at least 100 miles per gallon. However, when operating on fuels other than liquid hydrogen, KITT's fuel efficiency and power output may be lowered.
- **Self-Tinting Windows:** KITT's windows could darken to opacity for various situations.
- **Voice Stress Analyzer:** KITT can process spoken voices and determine if someone was lying.
- **Auto Doors, Sunroof, & Trunklid:** KITT could automatically open and close his doors and T-tops. He could also lock his doors to prevent unauthorized entry into his driver compartment. He could also open his hood automatically.

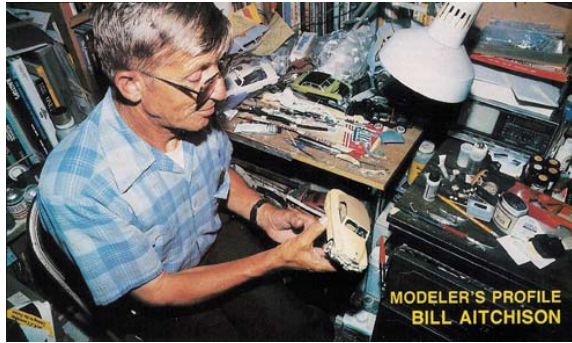
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This 'n That

Condolences. It is my sad duty to report on the passing of resin caster **Ron Cash**. Sadly, that's not all. We also lost resin reviewer (*and all-around nice guy!*) **Bill Aitchison**. *We'll miss you guys...No More Accords?!*

Yup, it's true. Honda will stop selling the **Accord Hybrid**. The cars aren't selling nearly as well as the Prius over at Toyota. Honda has sold only 25,000 since going on sale in '04, and just 6,100 last year. By comparison, the Prius has sold 728,000 since December, 197. Honda feels that consumers desire hybrids in smaller packages to realize better mileage improvements. The gas-engine Accord will still be sold...

Historic Ford Truck Plant Closes. The last F-150 rolled down the line at the Norfolk assembly plant on June 28th. During World War II, its production was turned over to the government. Otherwise, it has produced an assortment of Ford vehicles including everything from Models As, Galaxies & LTDs, to light-duty trucks (*since 1974*)...**Jiffy Lube Busted?!** According to a recent newspaper article, most automakers agree that *changing your car's oil every 3,000 miles is a thing of the past*. It is not uncommon for oil change intervals to be pushed up to between **5,000 and 7,500 miles** between changes. This is due to advancements in new engine designs and higher oil quality standards. Ford estimates that drivers would save **\$600 over a five-year period** by going from



5,000 to 7,500 miles between changes. Whaddaya say to that, Jiffy Lube?...**Macho Alpha.** For '08, Hummer is goin' macho, with the addition of a V8 to the engine bay of the H3 Alpha. The V8-powered model aims to capture the hearts of serious off-roaders along with outdoor types who found the standard five-cylinder engine inadequate for some tasks, such as towing a large boat up a mountain road. GM figures that the engine's 320 pounds-feet of torque "will keep true off-roaders out of trouble in sand, mud" and other adventures. The V8 boosts maximum towing to 6,000 pounds, a 33 percent improvement. Many automakers offer a rear camera to aid backing up, usually tied in to a screen shared with a nav system. The H3 does not offer a nav system, so Hummer takes a different approach. The screen is with the inside rearview mirror. When the H3's gear selector is in reverse, the camera switches on, and a small screen pops out of the right side of the rearview mirror. It's an **\$850 op-**



tion. The Alpha is expected to account for 30 percent of H3 sales. The base '08 H3 stickers for \$30,695 including shipping; the H3 Alpha is **\$39,260**, including a four-speed automatic transmission. The H3 Alpha is more fuel-efficient and nimble than the larger H2, and the

H3 Alpha is about \$15,000 less—Whatta smoking' deal!...**Ford #1!** Ford earned the **top spot** in **five** of 19 segments in the latest J.D. Power & Associates annual initial quality survey. Award winners include the **Ford Mustang, Lincoln Mark LT, Lincoln MKZ, Mercury Milan, and Miata MX-5** (*Ford owns 33.4 percent of Mazda*)...**Minivans With Satellite TV?** Yup, **Daimler-Chrysler** (*before being sold*), announced recently that its '08 Dodge and Chrysler minivans would be so equipped, with Sirius Satellite radio's help. It'll cost about **\$470**, and will come with their Rear Seat Entertainment system and Sirius Satellite Radio. The cost includes the first year of service, after which the TV channels will cost **seven bucks a month**, with an **additional \$12.95** for the satellite radio. No free lunches...**We're on the web (again).** For those of you unaware, the Scale Auto website (<http://www.scaleautomag.com/sca/default.aspx?c=hp&id=1>) includes some photos of our '07 NNL from **Donn Yost** (R-M '41 Willys), **Dave Hebler** (Saleen), **Bill Stillwagon** ('49 Ford), **Alex Forrester** (Beatnik Bandit II), **Ron Roberts** ('60s-style '40 Ford gas-ser based on late-60s AMT/ERTL box art), **Jeff Young** ('63 Chevy II), **George Schmezer** (HRM

T 'n T (contd)

(Continued from page 6)

Cheetah), and **Ismael Gonzales** (R-M 612 Ferrari). **Congrats, guys**...New Stuff! Word reaches me that the gang at Revell have announced more stuff including but not limited to the following: **Two new choppers**, '37 **Ford Sedan**, '57 **Chevy**, '76 **Chevy Pickup**, '79 **Firebird** (all Basic Builders), **New Camaro Hot Wheels Snap**, '70 **Baldwin Chevrolet**, **Ferrari 599**, "**Fed Ex**" #11 **Denny Hamlin**, '32 **Ford Sedan 2 'n 1**, '68 **Dodge Charger 2 'n 1**, '70 **Ford Mustang Mach 1 (?!) 2 'n 1**, and a **Hummer H2 2 'n 1** (all special editions)... **Volvo Wants Cars?** If hindsight is 20/20, then leaders at **AB Volvo** apparently have perfect vision. Nearly 10 years after the sale of Volvo Cars to Ford, the commercial ve-

hicle juggernaut is reportedly looking to **buy it back**. According to the business daily *Dagens Industri*, undisclosed sources claim the Swedish company is investigating buying a minority share of its former automotive division. Also potentially involved is **French automaker Renault SA**. After selling its commercial vehicles and Mack Trucks divisions, it currently owns a 20 percent stake in AB Volvo. After the sale of the automotive unit, AB Volvo concentrated on strengthening its position in heavy-duty trucks. With the acquisition of Mack and Renault Trucks in '00, along with the purchase of Nissan Diesel in '07, the Gothenburg-based company is the second-largest truck maker worldwide. Reps from AB Volvo have not publicly voiced any interest in returning to the automotive market in recent years and

continue to downplay such a possibility. Likewise, a Volvo Cars spokeswoman refused to comment. ...**Jaguar For Sale?** Not the car, the **COMPANY**. Details are slowly leaking that Ford has been trying to sell Jaguar and Land Rover since January '07. **Fiat** looked at both and rejected the idea; **Renault-Nissan** took a pass, and even **Hyundai** considered snapping up Jaguar. **BMW** also reportedly considered buying Volvo, the Swedish piece of PAG. Ford says there are no discussions regarding a Volvo sale but all options remain open. (Thanks to the *Washington Times*, *autoweek.com*, and other Internet sources for this insanity! Ya just can't make some of this up!! Thanks also to those of you in the 'Peanut Gallery' who have attempted to help me entertain y'all by sending stuff along—I 'preciate it!) 🍷



To another long-distance **MAMA member**, **Rik Hoving**, on the momentous occasion of his **40th Birthday**—Blow out the candles, Rik! And here's hoping you and your lovely wife Esther de Charon don't live it up so much that you can't live it down!!

And while the rest of you are at it, why not check out Rik's website (<http://www.rikhovingkustoms.com/RHK1/Logo.html>), and maybe even drop him a personal B'day greeting? 🍷



Crush (contd)

(Continued from page 1)

pected in **13 deaths** in Southern California since March.

The thrill-seeking, adrenaline-pumping activity is rampant in Riverside and San Bernardino counties east of Los Angeles where rows of tract homes line wide streets ideal for racing. Nearly 1,000 people have been arrested for investigation of street racing activities over the past two years in San Bernardino County alone. That includes spectators as well as drivers.

Police need a court order to destroy the cars. They must prove that the serial or identification numbers on a vehicle or its parts are removed, altered or destroyed.

Although police said they have managed to reduce illegal racing and related fatal collisions, they are well aware the underground hobby still thrives.

"We are making a dent," said Ontario police Cpl. Jeff Higbee. "But it's summertime and...we expect to see more activity."

Hoang said he was caught late last year racing his prized car on which he spent at least \$10,000 to get into shape. The 350-hp engine topped out at 160 mph, he said, swearing it could beat a Vette or even a Ferrari.

When police popped open the hood, Hoang said, they found a stolen transmission. Hoang flashed a receipt for the transmission he bought from his father who runs an auto shop and doubted the item was hot.

"Everything on that car was practically brand new," Hoang

said as he watched his car get moved to auto death row. "They should take out the stuff that matters, auction it off, and give the money to charity."

Because racers put heavy stress on their vehicles, they often blow up parts. Higbee said the need for the expensive parts has created a "theft mill" where additional cars-usually Hondas or Acuras-are stolen and stripped of the necessary replacements.

Most of the cars police examine are illegally modified. Sergio Zavala, 18, was pulled over in his 1993 yellow Honda Civic for a broken tail light in December. He had purchased a B-20 Vtech engine with a double-overhead cam a couple months before, and after a police investigation, was told it was stolen.

Zavala, who admits he's been involved in street racing, estimates he and his mother spent about \$10,000 on his car.

After watching his Civic demolished, Zavala is left without a car as he plans to attend a fire academy in the fall. "It's heart-breaking to see this," said Zavala, who graduated from high school last week. "This is where all my time and money went."

Maldonado also said he put plenty of time and effort working on his 1992 black Honda Civic. He was stopped in November by police in what Higbee described as an area where racers gather.

The 18-year-old mechanic said a vehicle identification sticker apparently fell off and without it, police suspected some of the parts were stolen. Maldonado stood several feet away from his car as it was pounded into a heap of metal.



Maldonado said he has taken the advice of police-by racing legally on one of several race courses around Southern California. For the money spent in fines and other penalties-on average about \$5,000 for illegally modified cars-Higbee said street racers could compete about 250 times a year at a legitimate track.

"If you have to race, take it to a track," Higbee said. "But as long as they keep racing illegally, we keep crushing their cars."

All three men who saw their vehicles destroyed accused the police of auto profiling. They said they target only Hondas and Acuras, hoping to find something. Maldonado said he's driven an '89 Supra but never been stopped.

They also believe illegal street racing will continue to prosper across the region.

"It will never go away," Maldonado said. "If it's in your heart, you will continue to do it until you can't anymore." 🚗

Trackin' The Toyotas



Race No.	#22 Dave Blaney		#44 Dale Jarrett		#55 Mike Waltrip		#36 Jeremy Mayfield		#00 David Reutimann		#83 Brian Vickers		#84 A.J. Almendinger	
	St.	Fin.	St.	Fin.	St.	Fin.	St.	Fin.	St.	Fin.	St.	Fin.	St.	Fin.
1	37	34	43	22	15	30	DNQ	DNQ	40	40	DNQ	DNQ	DNQ	DNQ
2	14	39	43	32	DNQ	DNQ	DNQ	DNQ	33	33	15	10	DNQ	DNQ
3	11	42	43	33	DNQ	DNQ	DNQ	DNQ	DNQ	DNQ	DNQ	DNQ	DNQ	DNQ
4	35	27	43	36	DNQ	DNQ	DNQ	DNQ	24	40	31	42	DNQ	DNQ
5	7	23	30	42	DNQ	DNQ	23	34	DNQ	DNQ	25	15	43	40
6	22	37	38	28	DNQ	DNQ	13	40	43	33	DNQ	DNQ	40	38
7	DNQ	DNQ	37	30	DNQ	DNQ	DNQ	DNQ	DNQ	DNQ	36	14	DNQ	DNQ
8	39	11	29	43	DNQ	DNQ	DNQ	DNQ	32	25	DNQ	DNQ	DNQ	DNQ
9	DNQ	DNQ	40	43	DNQ	DNQ	23	18	32	14	DNQ	DNQ	DNQ	DNQ
10	11	10	DNQ	DNQ	DNQ	DNQ	DNQ	DNQ	29	14	DNQ	DNQ	32	13
11	27	32	DNQ	DNQ	DNQ	DNQ	DNQ	DNQ	14	33	15	43	20	36
12	8	18	23	40	DNQ	DNQ	24	25	DNQ	DNQ	26	5	29	31
13	DNQ	DNQ	22	43	23	28	20	38	DNQ	DNQ	24	19	43	33
14	14	43	DNQ	DNQ	DNQ	DNQ	DNQ	DNQ	23	38	9	35	28	39
15	17	18	DNQ	DNQ	18	10	DNQ	DNQ	40	15	16	41	43	31
16	19	41	16	26	DNQ	DNQ	DNQ	DNQ	DNQ	DNQ	DNQ	DNQ	DNQ	DNQ
17	1	29	DNQ	DNQ	DNQ	DNQ	29	40	17	38	DNQ	DNQ	DNQ	DNQ
18	40	23	37	27	DNQ	DNQ	DNQ	DNQ	42	26	36	30	DNQ	DNQ

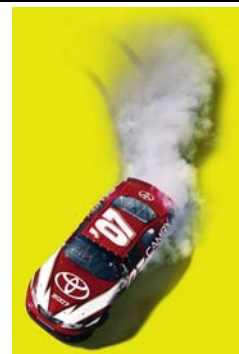
Mike Waltrip's season just took a big turn in the right direction with a top 10 at Michigan! And David Reutimann right behind in 15th, to boot.

With Joe Gibbs Racing losing Junior to Hendrick, a possible move by Gibbs Racing, whose contract with Chevy is up in '08, to Toyota is not being discussed.

Several Toyota teams hired road race vets for Sonoma (#16), with **P.J. Jones** (*Burger King*) (start/finish) 43rd/12th; **Butch Leitzinger** (*Caterpillar*), 30th/28th; **Terry Labonte** (*NAPA*), 25th/35th; and Marc Goosens (*Commonwealth/Riley D'Hondt Motorsports*) (boy, whatta mouthful!), 21st/36th.

Gordon and Johnson were **docked 100 points each**, their crew chiefs fined **\$100,000** and **suspended for six races** at Sonoma for unapproved mods to the fenders on their Chevy COTs. NASCAR refused to let 'em on the track the entire day, and neither was allowed to qualify.

Wow—**Toyota's first pole position** at Loudon (#17), courtesy of Dave Blaney! **Even a blind squirrel gets a nut every now and then!** 🐿



Model Buffet

In last month's column, we looked at offerings from **Dan Janssen's Scale Coachworks** (www.scalecoachworks.com). Well, here's a small update for you Blue Oval fans.

Opting to spend more time on product and less on website updates, Dan tells me that he also offers a '72 **Torino kit**. It is a redo of the Johan '72 promo, and is complete with the exception of the wheels and tires (*builder supplied*), for the low price of **\$45.00**.

For details, e-mail Dan at scalecoachworks@wi.rr.com.

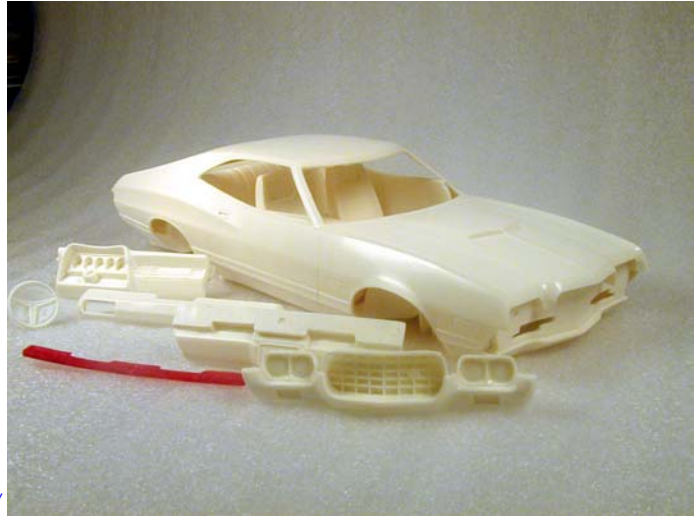
Another update, this time from **Keith Marks** (<http://public.fotki.com/mofobow/>), concerns all you Pontiac faithful.

Word reaches me that Keith has just recently added a full complement of '69 **Judge decals** to his already impressive decal line-up. These complement very nicely his '70/'71 Judge stripes. All three color sets are represented—**Yellow/Red/Blue**, **White/Yellow/Olive**, and **White/Black Red**. This would allow builders to build a Judge in any

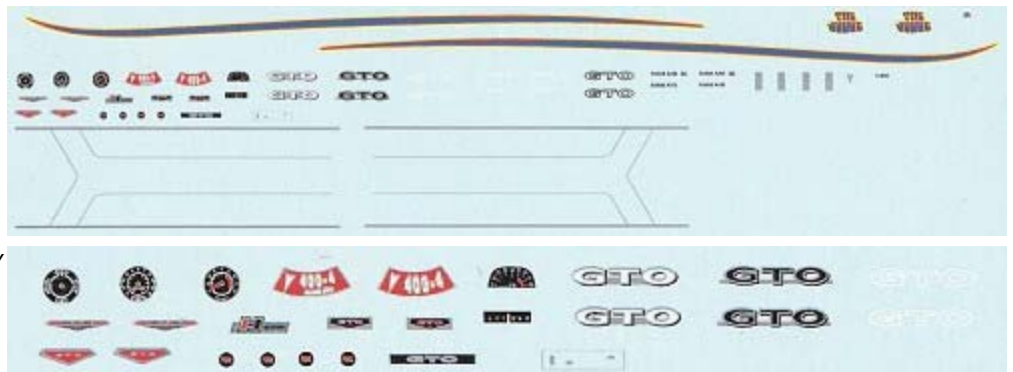
color in the GTO lineup for '69. And, trust me, you could get a Judge in many other colors besides the signature Carousel Red (seen on the first 2000 examples). You can see the color photos below on our club website, or go to <http://ultimateto.com/>, and look in the '69 folder.

Oh, Keith's e-mail address is mofobow@hotmail.com if you need pricing, shipping and handling details, or have questions. **Thanks guys—we 'preciate it!**

As usual, a special thanks goes out not only to Matt Guilfoyle for



his constant hard work at bringing this column to the membership, but also to anyone who has submitted anything. If you see something you like, contact the company. If you find something that everyone might want to know about, send it along to us for inclusion in the column! 🌞



Cameo White Judge



Antique Gold Judge

Condolences

Don Gay Sr., a pioneer funny car racer known for his and brother **Roy's** line of **Infinity Pontiac race cars**, died June 30 at his home in League City, Texas, after a long illness. He was 60.

Gay began his driving career in his teens with a Pontiac stocker and later switched to altered-wheelbase machines that ultimately became today's funny cars, and brother Roy later took over the helm.

In his later years, he was active in the family automotive business, known as Gay Pontiac, Buick and GMC, as well as



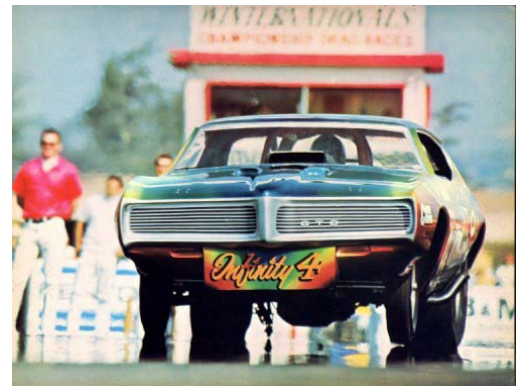
Houston Raceway Park, where he was previous co-owner. Two of his sons, Don Jr. and Shane, followed their father to the cockpit on the dragstrip. Don Jr. had a successful career in Top Alcohol funny car but retired from the cockpit after an accident in a nitro funny car. Shane also had a winning career in the Super classes and Top Alcohol Dragster.

Don Gay Sr. is survived by his mother, Marie Gay; four sons, Don Gay Jr. and wife Kim; Shane and wife Kate; Darren; and Glenn; two grandchildren, Eli and Caleb; former wives, Dawna



Gay and Peggy Gay. He was preceded in death by his brother Roy.

Sad to see another racer go. Credit to www.nhra.com for the sad news. 🚗



Brand-New Hunk of Junk?!

Didja hear about the '57 Plymouth buried 50 years ago in a time capsule to *commemorate Oklahoma's centennial*? Well, upon opening it recently, the car was found to be a **ruined hulk, containing rotting upholstery, collapsed suspension, rotting tires, and an engine that appeared to be a solid chunk of rust**. The capsule apparently leaked, containing about four feet of water. All they can do now is to study the gas buried with it (*just in case we didn't have*

gas for cars in '07-that almost came true, didn't it?!). This could help to determine the age of gas spills. 🚗



REAL (contd)

(Continued from page 5)

- **Rotating License Plate:** KITT can rotate his KNIGHT license plate to reveal a fictitious one reading 'KNI 667.' Michael used this to evade police when an APB was placed on him.
- **Seat Ejection System:** KITT had two front ejection seats, mostly used when Michael needed a boost to fire escapes or building roof tops.
- **Passive Laser Restraint System:** Added to KITT in later seasons, the restraint system helped protect Michael and any passengers from the shock of sudden impacts and hard stopping, especially after Super-Pursuit Mode. It is speculated that this is a primitive form of an inertial dampening device.
- **Video Display Monitors:** KITT had two CRT video display monitors on his dash for various readouts. They were controlled by two systems, the *Graphic Translator* (which sketches likenesses from verbal input) and the *Anamorphic Equalizer* (which gathered visual information from KITT's front scan bar) and microscanners. KITT only had one when his dash was redesigned for the show's third season.
- **Computer Print Out:** KITT could print hard copies of data on a dashboard-mounted printer.
- **Ultraphonic Chemical Analyzer:** KITT has a retractable tray with an electron scanner that could analyze the chemical properties of various materials.

It could even scan fingerprints and read ballistic information off bullets and compare these with a police database. Aside from the scanning tray, the system could also analyze chemical information gathered from KITT's exterior sensors.

- **Fire Extinguisher:** KITT could put out small fires from a CO2 sprayer in his bumpers.
- **Interior Oxygenator:** KITT could release oxygen into his driver compartment and provide air to passengers if he was ever submerged in water or buried in earth. This is also used to overcome the effects of certain drugs.
- **Two-Wheel Ski Drive:** The Ski Mode setting allowed KITT to 'ski' (driving on two wheels).
- **Third Stage Aquatic Synthesizer:** With this system, KITT can hydroplane, effectively 'driving' on water, using his wheels and turbo system for propulsion.
- **Sub Zero:** KITT could release cryogenic gases and 'flash freeze' the driver compartment. This was used once when a baby tiger managed to get inside to gnaw on his steering wheel and KITT wanted him out.
- **Sleep Gas:** KITT could spray a gas into the driver compartment that could render an unwanted occupant unconscious.
- **Vacuum:** KITT could expend all breathable air from the driver compartment, however, only KARR ever used it to harm someone. KITT used this to rid the compartment of smoke after bombs were detonated in his trunk.

- **Super-Pursuit Mode:** KITT's Super-Pursuit mode was added at the start of the fourth season. It was the result of a redesign of the car to integrate new concepts consisting of improved rocket boosters, retractable spoilers for aerodynamic stability, and movable air inlets for increased cooling. Super-Pursuit Mode provided a **40% boost in speed beyond the car's original top speed of 300 MPH.**
- **Emergency Braking System:** The EBS slowed KITT down from Super-Pursuit speeds. It consisted of a forward breaking booster and air panels that popped out to create air friction.
- **Convertible Roof:** Added fourth season, by pressing the 'C' button on KITT's dash, Michael could bring the top down and KITT became a convertible. KITT's total production cost was estimated at **\$11,400,000** (this was KITT's total construction cost as he was first built in 1982. The cost of subsequent equipment improvements and the installation of additional features since his activation have not been factored).
- **Comlink:** KITT was in constant contact with Michael via a two-way Casio communication wristwatch Michael wore. The watch also had a micro camera and scanner that KITT could access to gather information.
- **Homing Device:** In dire emergency, Michael can activate a secret homing beacon hidden inside a gold pendant he wears around his neck. The beacon sends a priority signal that can

(Continued on page 13)



- *July 20th to 22nd—Carlisle Summer Bike Fest* at the fairgrounds.
- *Aug. 3rd to 5th—Carlisle All-Truck Nationals* at the fairgrounds.
- *Aug. 10th to 12th—Pontiac Tri-Power Nationals*, in Norwalk, OH.
- *Aug. 11th—Mid-Atlantic American/Import Hot Rod, Street, Import, Motorcycle, Truck fest*, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Sheehy Nissan/Mitsubishi of Waldorf (*rain date 8/12*). Top 60 American & Import open category competition. Info: www.fireupthundrout.com.
- *Aug. 17th to 19th—Vintage Japanese Motorcycle Meet & Show* at 5252 Hillclimb Rd.,

Spring Grove, PA, hosted by the White Rose Motorcycle Club. Info: www.biker.net, (717) 229-2621.

- *Aug. 24th to 26th—Corvettes at Carlisle* at the fairgrounds.
- *Sept. 15th—Inaugural MarauderCon*, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Ruhl Armory (?!) in Towson, MD. Special award for the *Best Marauder subject*, *Best Speed Record Breaker*,

and *Best Automotive Subject*, among others. Info: www.ipmsdc.org/maraudercon.

- *Oct. 3rd to 7th—Fall Carlisle* at the fairgrounds.
- *Oct. 5th & 6th—Fall Carlisle Collector Car Auction* at the fairgrounds.

Th, th, that's all for now folks! Send stuff if you know of an upcoming event, and we'll get them listed! 🍷

Poncho Reference Request

As I requested at a previous MAMA meeting, I am attempting to compile a *Scale Pontiac Racing Gallery* of pictures of all facets of Pontiac racing. I'd really appreciate the use of any pictures

and/or website links that could 'bulk up' my library for future modeling projects, whatever the venue (*i.e., NASCAR, NHRA, D1 Drifting, you name it!*). E-mail me at gtoguy@verizon.net. *Tanks!* 🍷

Oh, and by the way, the club's *'Raffle Kitty'* is still somewhat depleted, so, please keep those donations comin'. *Thanks, y'all!*

REAL (contd)

(Continued from page 12)

- remotely activate KITT and override his programming so that he rushes to Michael's aid.
- **F.L.A.G. Mobile Unit** (*The Semi*): KITT has access to a mobile 'garage,' sometimes referred outside the show as 'The Rook,' which was a semi-trailer truck owned by the Foundation. The mobile unit usually roamed somewhere near Michael's location. The trailer has an extendable ramp that dropped down and allows KITT to drive inside even when the truck is in motion. The trailer was loaded with spare parts and equipment

for KITT. It also had a computer lab where techies Bonnie or April would conduct repairs and maintenance. At the front of the trailer is a small office area. During early episodes, the trailer was plain white. In later episodes, of the first season and beyond, it was painted black with a gold stripe and a gold Knight chess piece emblem. The laboratory area was redesigned in the second season with more a pseudo lounge appearance. The truck cab was always black, though gold pinstriping was added when the trailer's exterior was changed to black and gold, and three different trucks served as the tractor itself. The first had no sleeper

compartment, and the latter two did, as well as other visual differences. Other than coloring, a common factor between all three versions of the semi was that it had a single-stack exhaust, with the stack on the right side. All were GMC General tractor trailers. The first was a '80 General with no sleeper. The second and third were both '84 Generals with a sleeper, although the shape of the sleeper differed between the two, with the third being more aerodynamic.

Now you have answers to questions you didn't even know who to ask about TVland's 'smartest' car (*and I managed to fill up a few newsletter pages!*) 🍷

This is the newsletter of the
Maryland Automotive Modelers
Association

Chapter Contact:

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Phone: 301-249-3830
Email: gtoguy@verizon.net

MAMA's BoyZ do it in scale!



RPMZ Dodge Challenger Concept
RPMZ Mustang
Vexplorer
Hot Wheels '04 Corvette Coupe
Hot Wheels '70 Chevelle SS454
'Circuit' Pontiac GTO (1/32 Snap)
'Circuit' '78 Corvette (1/32 Snap)
'Circuit' '70 Mustang Mach 1 (1/32nd Snap)
'Circuit' '69 Camaro Z28 (1/32nd Snap)
'30 Ford Woody Street Rod
'55 Chevy Bel Air Hardtop
'37 Ford Coupe Street Rod
Cadillac Escalade™ EXT
'49 Mercury Custom Coupe 2' n 1
Plymouth AAR Cuda
Dodge Ram VTS Pickup

Classified

WANTED: 5-spoke & Minilite-style wheels, in both 1/32nd and 1/24th and/or 1/25th scales. Also want Revell 1/32nd scale '70 Trans Am kits, '84-'87 MPC Fieros, and '70-'81 Firebird Formulas and T/As, and Polar Lights funny cars. Contact Tim Sickle at gtoguy@verizon.net, or see me at a meeting.

FOR SALE/TRADE:

Thinning/narrowing focus, not quitting. Contact Tim Sickle at gtoguy@verizon.net, or see me at a meeting.

WANTED: I'm gonna do the equivalent of throwing chum into shark-infested waters, if you'll pardon the analogy. I am in search of mint, unbuilt GTOs,

specifically '68 MPC hardtops and convertibles, and '71 hardtops. I have an extensive collection to trade from, including but not limited to some mint, unbuilt kits such as an **MPC '71 Demon**, and **'77 Volare**. If you can help, contact Tim Sickle at gtoguy@verizon.net, or see me at a meeting.

Got an ad? E-mail me, and we'll see if we can fit it in! 📧

P.S.

Ran a bit short of room on the **California Car Crushing Car spectacle**, but wanted to let you all know that the info came from the LA Times (<http://www.latimes.com/>). 📧

We're on the web!
<http://www.mamasboyz.org/>

Websites

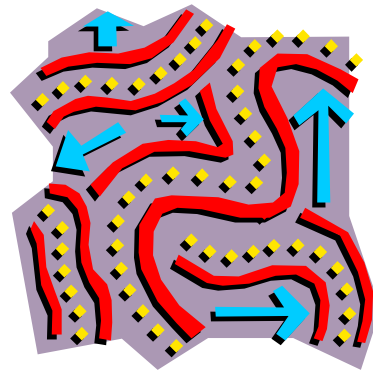
Carlisle Events: <http://www.carlisleevents.com>
East Coast Indoor Nationals
(Timonium, MD): [www/eastcoastindoornats.com](http://www.eastcoastindoornats.com)
Maple Grove Raceway: <http://www.maplegroveraceway.com/>
Maryland Chevelle club: <http://www.chevelles.netmcc/mcc.htm>
Maryland Intl Raceway: <http://www.mirdrag.com/>
Norwalk (Ohio) Raceway Park:
<http://www.norwalkraceway.com/>
Old Toyland Shows: <http://www.oldtoylandshows.com/>
York US30 Muscucar Madness:
www.yorkus30.com 📧



Directions

From the Baltimore Beltway (RT 695): Take Exit 7, Route 295 (Baltimore-Washington Parkway) south towards Washington approx. 18 miles to Route 193 (Greenbelt Road), and exit. When on the off-ramp, stay to the right and merge right onto Southway (see below).

From the Washington Beltway (RT 495/95): Take Exit 22 north, towards Baltimore. Stay in the right lane and take the first exit onto Route 193 (Greenbelt Road). When on the off-ramp, bear to the right and take Greenbelt road west, towards College Park. Stay in the right lane and immediately after passing over the Parkway, make a right (at the light) onto Southway (read on!)



Once on Southway: Go straight to the second (2nd) STOP sign. Make a left onto Crescent road. Go to the STOP sign and make a right into the parking lot behind the Greenbelt Library. Once in parking lot, look to the right. The large, white building is the Greenbelt Community Center. Enter building using the doors near fenced tot lot. The multi-purpose room is on the second floor. There is an elevator to the left of the entrance. 📧