

SPORTS CAR

JUNE 1972

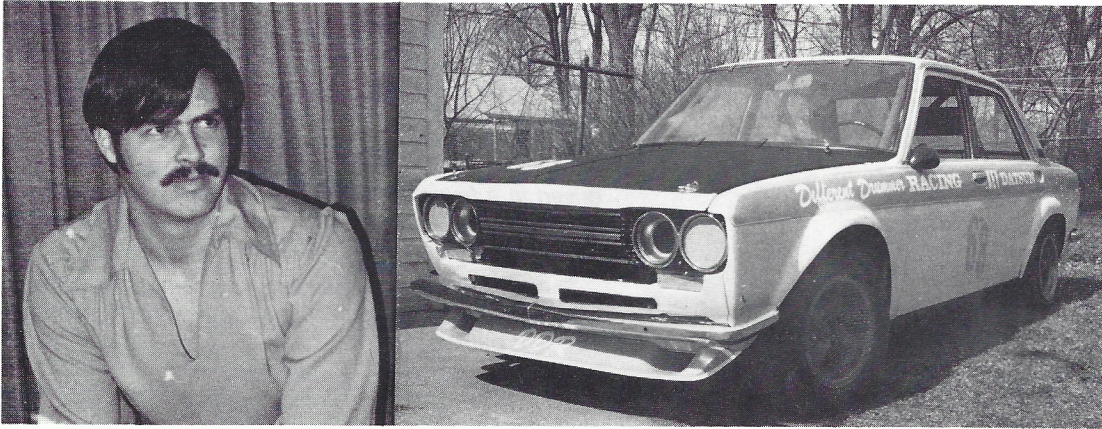


the many faces of tom nehl

FLAGMAN: LIME ROCK TRANS-AM
MEMOIRS OF A JUAN MANUEL MITTY
DIFFERENT DRUMMER RACING



Different Drummer Racing's Different Campaign Plans For 1972



Different Drummer Racing of Royal Oak, Michigan has announced its 1972 plans for driver Gary Witzenburg to race the firm's Datsun 510 in the SCCA Two-Five Challenge Series as well as campaigning the car in selected endurance races, Nationals, gymkhanas, street races and Boy Scout jamborees. Last year, in his first full season of racing, Witzenburg, a GM engineer as well as President and principal stockholder of the vast Different Drummer conglomerate, managed to amass what he regards as an incredible eight or nine Regional points.

The car, a 1969 four-door sedan, was rescued last winter from a budget lot and painstakingly prepared for Drivers School by Witzenburg over five full evenings and a weekend at an investment of more than \$200. At his first Drivers School Witzenburg boasted a precedent-setting second place finish in a tough and experienced two-car B-Sedan field, but midway through the 1971 season saw him on Victory Lane at the Mid-Ohio CanAm, where having won the B-Sedan Regional event, he pushed his way

close enough to the winners' circle to snap a picture of Jackie Stewart with his Instamatic. Signing his first autograph for a confused young race fan, Witzenburg said for the record that, "The Datsun support money we earned here today will allow us to continue our effort in the direction of the MIS Trans-Am and to invest in some much-needed racing accessories such as new spark plugs, a spare fan belt and another tankful of 190." Two weeks later he qualified respectably at MIS and kicked off his first National race in the middle of a belligerent B-Sedan field of fourteen cars. Mid-race saw him seventh in class and not to be challenged again. He later attributed his remarkable performance to last-minute tuning which gave him a full 4500 rpm to work with. By the end of the season Witzenburg had the 510 running well with aid from "Gentleman Jim" Latimer of Warren, Michigan who helped with financial problems and also piloted the car on several outings, once setting a new distance record for off-course excursions into the woods from Turn One at Nelson Ledges.

In current negotiations for a second driver for the Different Drummer effort, Stirling Moss and Juan Manuel Fangio have reportedly been sought but best bet is auto engineer Marv Thomson of Hazlett, Michigan, D-Sports Racing National Champion

in 1970. Chief Mechanic's slot goes to Greg "Hairbrain" Hart, former Datsun mechanic who messed with the car during last year's campaign, with the number two slot probably filled by "Crazy Jamie" Lymon.

Formidable!

Different Drummer's 1972 plans include six Two Five Challenge Trans-Am Sedan races plus as many SCCA Nationals as time and the limited budget allow. The present schedule also has slated several endurance races, among them the Uncola 500 at Donnybrooke, the B.F. Goodrich Radial Tire Endurance Race at MIS and the Watkins Glen 6-Hour which is planned to be run on radial tires. Witzenburg gratefully acknowledges the product support he has secured for this season in addition to partial sponsorship by Key Datsun, whose banner, along with those of any other sympathy offers that come along, he hopes to fly successfully throughout 1972. ©