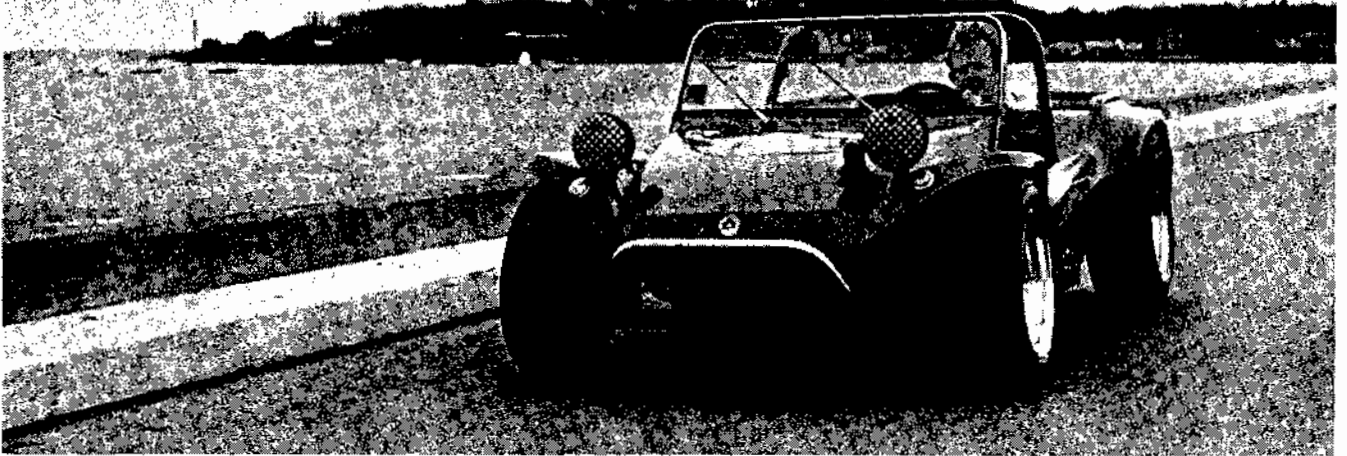


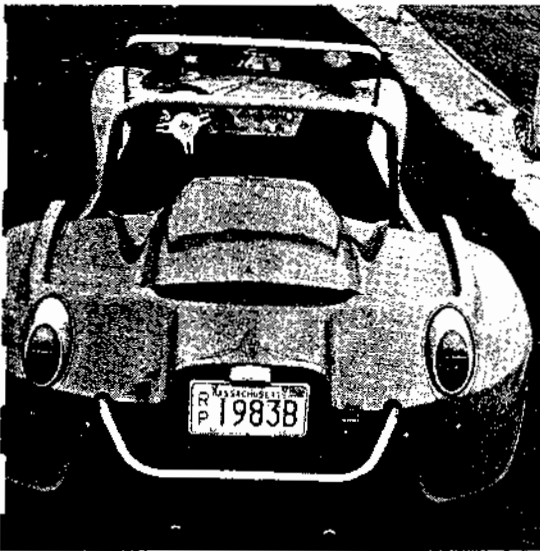


BUGGIN' OUT

By Jerry Mallicoat



If you want a fun car that can hold its own against 'Vettes and Cobras then look to the East. D.A.C.'s Desertor G.S. is so hot it'll probably be banned in Boston



Clean lines of the Desertor GS are shown in this rear shot, which is the view most often seen by its competition on race day.

Those of you who have followed our Buggin' Out column for the past several months have probably become aware of the fact that our road tests, or off the road tests, whichever applies, have dealt primarily with products from the California area. There are a few reasons for this, the most prominent one being geographic location — this is where we're at! Secondly, California is the recognized birthplace of the fun car industry, and the variety of machines produced here are almost endless in design and construction. Don't get me wrong, not all good things have had their origin in the "Sunny Southland." While the fun car bonanza may have started out this way, it has spread from border to border and coast to coast in the past year. Therefore, it was only a matter of time before we ventured from our own horizons to see what was being offered in other sections of the country.

Winging our way East we landed in Boston, Massachusetts, and after a short trip up the coast found ourselves in the township of Marblehead, home of the Dearborn Automobile Company. D.A.C. is a subsidiary of Autodynamics, Inc., who are no strangers to the race car business. This shop has turned out some

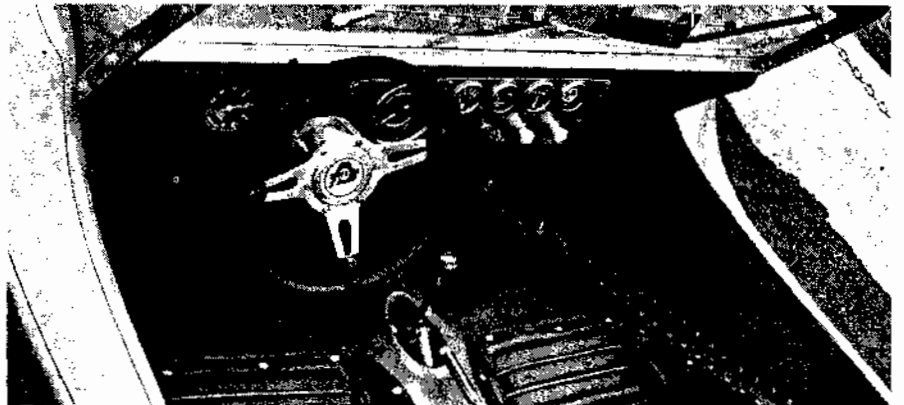
of the finest Formula Vee and Formula Ford machines ever to run in this type of competition. Recognizing the need for a quality East Coast fun car, Alex Dearborn, one of the partners of Autodynamics, set up the D.A.C. facility to produce fun machines in the Autodynamics tradition.

D.A.C. produces fun cars in two models. The first model is called the Desertor, a conventional type buggy mounting a fiberglass body on a shortened VW chassis. Ideal for on or off-road use, the Desertor is capable of negotiating the roughest of terrain, as its 8" of ground clearance offers the maximum in mobility. The Desertor kit, listing for \$635 F.O.B., includes a three piece color impregnated body, extruded anodized aluminum windshield frame, headlights, chrome air cleaner for the VW engine, front and rear body support brackets, battery bracket, welting, and necessary nuts, bolts, and washers. Complete instructions for chassis shortening are also included.

The number two model is the one that really caught our eye, as it is unlike any other fun car we have encountered. Called the Desertor G.S., for Giant Slalom, the car meets all the requirements for Group 7-A Sports competition. It's also



Rear deck section features functional air scoop to feed mid-engine powerplant. Removable panel provides engine access.



Competition look is enhanced by full range of instruments.

