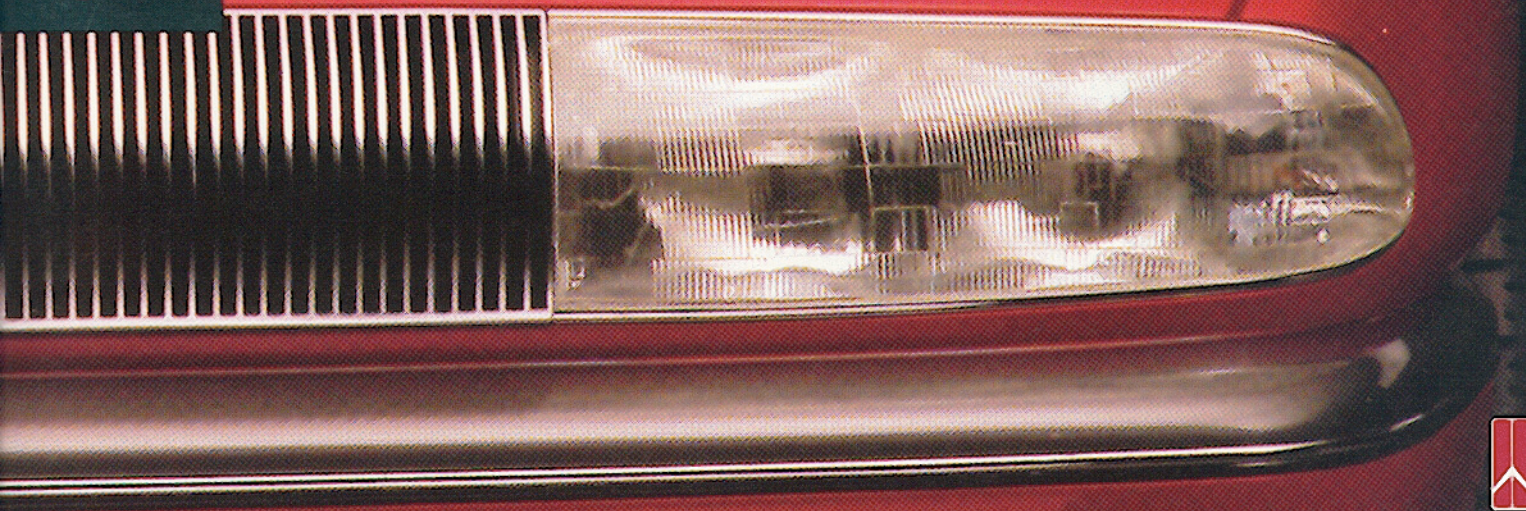


Oldsmomentum

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Achieva Concept Car

Lean, Mean, Clean— and All Muscle



classic



“Like the muscle cars, the Quad 4 appeals to a youthful, sports/performance-oriented market. And performance levels compare quite favorably with those of the '60s and '70s.”

Dave Headley, manager, basic engine development

The great thing about those Oldsmobile muscle cars of the '60s and early '70s was that you didn't have to do anything to them. They came from the plant power-packed. You could drive one from the showroom to the dragstrip and leave the competition wondering what juggernaut had just left them in its dust.

Well, Oldsmobile is repeating history—this time on the road-racing track—with a nifty little engine called the Quad 4. Dave Headley, manager, basic engine development, helped develop the Quad 4 and broke a 12-year hiatus from racing for a chance to get behind the wheel. “As an engineer, I felt it had the potential to be a winner,” he said.

He was right. Headley raced a 1988 Quad 4 Calais to a record-breaking win in the Showroom Stock B (SSB) National Championships at last October's Sports Car Club of America (SCCA) National Runoffs in Atlanta, Ga. “Showroom stock,” Headley explained, “is not modified in any way. It represents what the purchasing customer would be buying and driving.”

At an average speed of 82 mph, pushing past 120 mph at times, Headley's Quad 4 Calais not only won the SCCA SSB national title, it also established a number of firsts. It beat out 31 domestic and foreign cars to complete the 45-mile course in 33 minutes, establishing a new track record. It marked the first time Oldsmobile has won the national SSB class title, and it was a first for Headley—his first SCCA national championship.

“The Quad 4 is at the very top of what's available to the public for performance,” Headley



said, “which is typical of what the muscle cars were in the '60s and '70s.” With one very important difference: unlike those old gas-guzzling V8s, the Quad 4 is a clean, mean machine.

“The Quad 4 is designed specifically for high-efficiency, high power,” Headley explained. “It shows the kinds of things technology has been able to do with a performance-oriented vehicle, while still meeting the demands of society for cleaner and more efficient cars.” ■

▲ The overhead cam and a 4-valves-per-cylinder combustion chamber make the Quad 4 one of the most reliable high-performance engines on the road today.

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