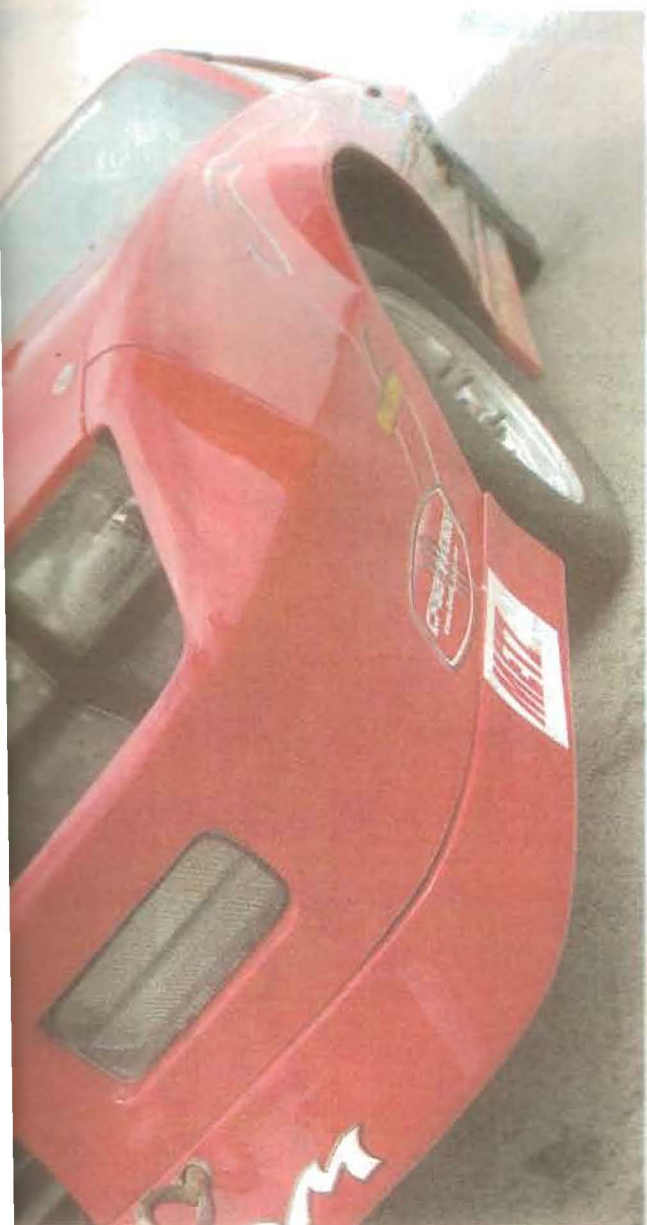




ere's been so much I've learned throughout the years, and I could not have done it without our crewchief, Paul Waszak."



the DRIVER

- ▶ Owner: Norbert Mika
- ▶ Driver: Mitch Mika
- ▶ Hometown: Arlington Heights, IL
- ▶ Occupation: Student Pilot / Building Manager
- ▶ Class: GM Performance Parts NPS
- ▶ Crew: Paul Waszak (Crew Chief), Matt Mika (brother/computer wiz), Norbert Mika (Dad)
- ▶ Sponsor: ERA Realife Realty Inc. (Chicago) Family Business
- ▶ Special Thanks: Mom and Dad, Paul Waszak (long time family friend and crew chief), Metz Performance, StickerDude Designs, Mom (Laura) and Dad

GM Performance Parts Nostalgia Pro Street driver Mitch Mika knows all about it, since he's also finishing up his commercial pilot's rating. The Arlington Heights, Ill. native isn't a wild-eyed daredevil by any means, but he is one of those guys who thinks he can drive anything and wants to

prove it. From go-karts to racecars to jets, Mika always been happiest with a wheel in his hand and a goal to achieve.

"My whole goal in life seems to be 'How many licenses can I get?'" he laughed. "Really, it's all about grasping something that's uncontrollable and trying to control it. Some people are pencil-pushers or keyboard-punchers, but I want to be able to work with something with a throttle and something to steer. I want to have the responsibility for something that has a lot of power and gets people places. I want to do something for society and America, and flying planes does that."

He's still acquiring flight time in commercial pilot but at age 23, Mika has already racked up plenty of track time in fast racecars. Now in his third year of NPS competition, Mika started out bracket racing as an older-than-he-looked youngster, then moved into Factory Street with a '68 Chevelle. When the motor blew up in that car, Mika and his family-run team picked up an '85 Camaro and moved into Limited Street. But the motor in that car turned out to be a bit more than the chassis could handle, so the team acquired another '85 Camaro, this one certified for 8.50's. They installed their 550-inch motor and

