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# HOME & AWAY

MAY/JUNE 2002

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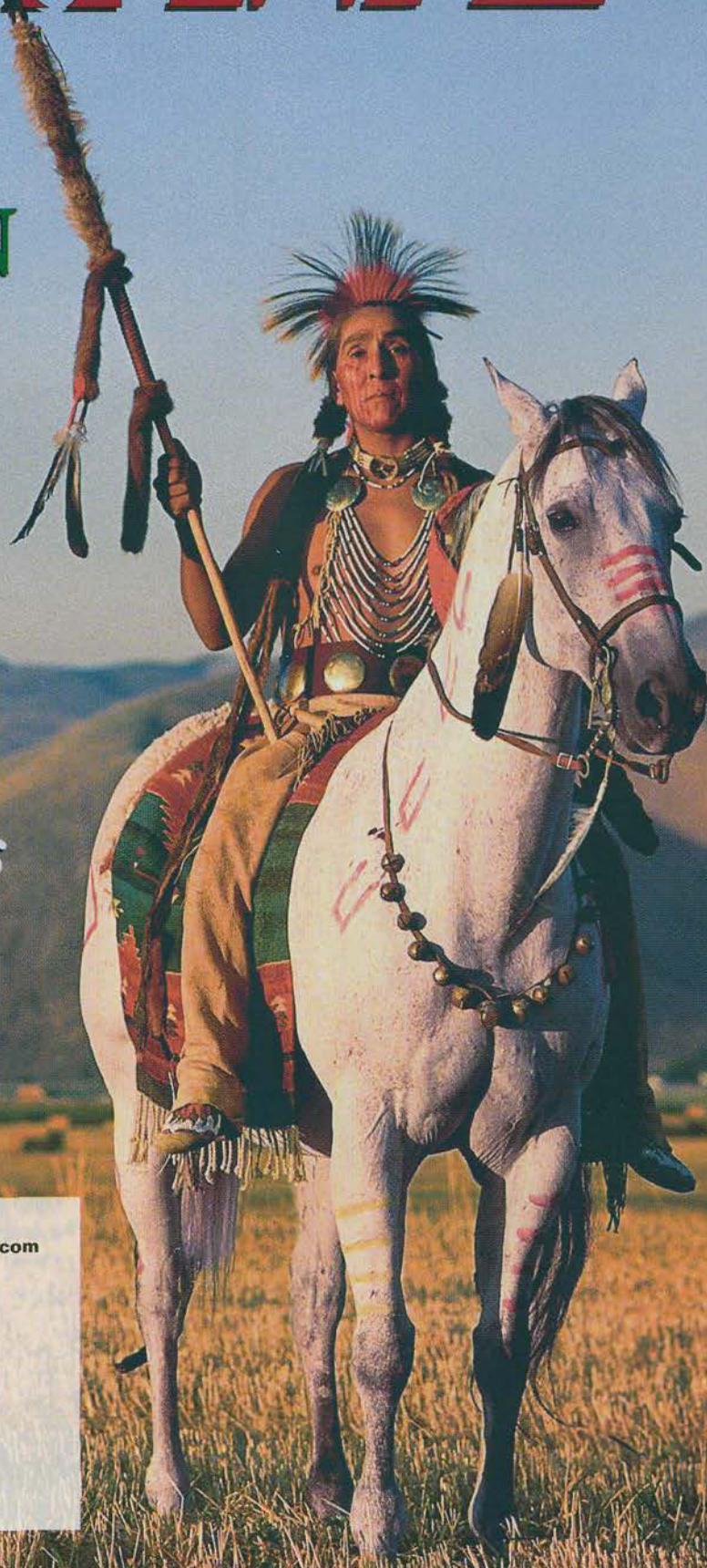
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# Cars, Cacti and A Cornucopia of Collections

## CAR CRAZY

THERE ARE ABOUT 3.4 million miles of paved roadway in the United States. And there are about 213.5 million vehicles traversing those U.S. roads. To put that into perspective, the combined number of vehicles in China and India—the world's most populous countries, each with a population of more than a billion—is 21 million.

To say that Americans have a love affair with the motor vehicle is a massive understatement. It has affected our culture, shaped our civic planning and captured our imagination. It follows then that there should be a museum that is dedicated to cataloging and recounting the effects of the auto, and The Museum of Automobile History in Syracuse, N.Y., ably fills that role.

The museum grew out of the personal collection of founder Walter Miller, who for decades roamed the world looking for memorabilia that connected people to cars. What Miller's quest rendered fills a 12,000-square-foot facility with the planet's largest collection of automobile-related items.

There are no motor vehicles on display; this museum illuminates the status of the car by displaying pieces that reflect the world around the actual vehicle, from rare advertising pieces to Detroit styling models to Hollywood movie posters.



Two hundred years of automobile history are captured at the museum, starting with newspaper accounts of early automaking attempts in the 1770s and culminating with designers' drawings of 1990s vehicles.

The museum opens for the season April 1. Its hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Wednesday through Sunday. Admission is \$4.75 for adults, \$3.75 for seniors (65 and older) and \$2.75 for children (16 and younger). It is not wheelchair accessible; sometimes special assistance is provided. For additional information, contact (315) 478-2277 or [www.themuseumofautomobilehistory.com](http://www.themuseumofautomobilehistory.com).