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JOHN MILLER
Chief Engine Man, Olsonite Eagle Team

When he's not chasing around the country doctoring engines for the Olsonite Eagle racing team, John Miller is in charge of engine research and development for Dan Gurney's All-American Racers, Inc., Santa Ana, Calif.

Considered one of the most brilliant engine men in all of auto racing, John has been the man behind the motor in more record setting qualifying runs - first with Dan Gurney and then with Bobby Unser - than any of his peers on the USAC championship circuit.

His engines not only hold the world speed record (212.776 mph set by Bobby Unser this year) but track records at all but one oval where USAC championship races have been run in the past two years. Including previous records established by Dan Gurney before he retired from driving, his engines have provided the power for 10 track marks which still stand.

And despite some hard luck on the championship circuit in the past two years, John has the best percentage for finishing races of any engine man after five seasons with the Olsonite Eagle team. In fact, up until the middle of the 1971 season, a John Miller prepared Olsonite Eagle had never failed to finish a race because of trouble directly attributed to the engine.

A native of Hawaii, John began racing motorcycles at the age of 16. By the

time he was 20, he had won the territorial championship in Hawaii for dirt motorcycle racing.

In 1955, he moved to California and quickly became one of the premier riders on the American Motorcycle Association circuit.

In 1958, he returned to Hawaii and opened his own high performance shop, preparing engines for sports car races.

Back in California by 1960, he attended a jet engine school during the day and worked for Lockheed Aircraft at night, training which soon led him to an engine development shop that prepared both motorcycles and sports cars for racing. In his first year there, the cycles he prepared won more than 40 races.

Gurney, whose hobby outside of auto racing was motorcycles, met John on the motorcycle circuit in 1965 and talked him into joining All-American Racers.

Since then, he has compiled an enviable record for developing and preparing engines for the world's fastest race cars.

Miller, who has two young sons, John and Jess, lives in California, just a good bike ride from Gurney's engine shop in Santa Ana.

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