

SOUTH PEEL'S PEOPLE

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By **RON DENNIS**
Staff Reporter

MISSISSAUGA — When it comes to sports cars, Bill Brack of Sports Cars Unlimited in Clarkson is the man to see.

As vice president of the company and himself an experienced competition driver, the 30 year old bachelor knows the ins and outs of just about any sports car in the world.

But if you ask him how the best North American sports car will perform, he won't be able to tell you.

"There simply is no such thing as a production sports car in North America," he explained. "The closest thing to a sports car here is the Corvette and that is a long way from what I would call a real machine."

Brack is understandably partial to England's Lotus since his company is the Canadian Distributor, but without any bias, he claims this machine has the best handling package in the world.

"The Lotus is nimble, light and agile," he said, "whereas the Corvette is very cumbersome."

MINI RACERS

But even with access to one of the most sophisticated sports cars in the world, Brack would sooner race in a Mini

Cooper — a compact car in the true sense of the word.

The diminutive "Mini", he feels, is probably the most satisfying to race because of its front wheel drive cornering ability.

"You know you don't have the horsepower of the bigger cars in the race so it's more satisfying to win against them," he pointed out.

Sometimes known as the "King of Minis," Brack's office displays trophies from races all over the continent.

But the actual driving in the race is only half the battle for first place.

"Sure the driver has to be good," he agreed, "but so does the car and those who prepare it."

"Some drivers are very hard on their cars during a race, so when you win, it's a real tribute to the endurance of the machine."

It is almost a maxim that racing "gets in your blood" and Brack lends weight to this argument.

"Even if I decided to give up the actual driving end of the business, I think I would always manage to keep my hand in somewhere," he said. "Look at Stirling Moss. After his last accident he tried to quit racing but just announc-

ed he will return to the circuit."

HIS WHOLE LIFE

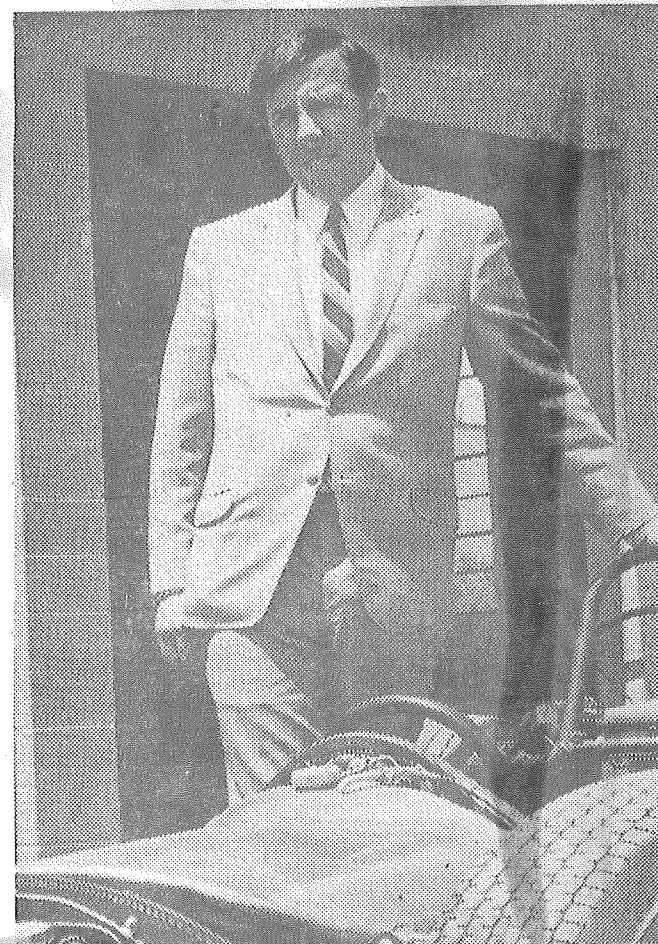
Sports cars are his whole life at the moment for the mere reason that there are not enough hours in the day to get involved in anything else — not that he'd want to.

Between racing and managing the business — which is the largest sports car dealership in Canada — there is hardly time to eat.

Once the Lotus becomes a common sight in Canada, Brack hopes to sell about 500 per year. He is presently selling over 200 per year — a figure that would have been larger this year if the Seaway strike had not occurred.

Currently, one of the sleekest cars on the lot is the Lotus Europa. For slightly less than \$5,000, a sports car buff can purchase a machine whose four cylinder Renault "R-16" engine will propel him at speeds of up to 115 miles per hour in a body that seems low enough to pass under a tall beagle.

Designed in a wind tunnel, the Europa can theoretically travel at speeds of up to 200 miles per hour. The racing version with the Lotus twin cam 1600 cc engine, has been clocked at speeds of 160 miles per hour.



BILL BRACK