



DODGE DAKOTA 4X2 SPORT



JEEP WRANGLER

'97 VEHICLES



PLYMOUTH PROWLER

ant loss operational capability, Trans Sport also gets a sporty "Montana" package to tackle rugged country roads.

GMC

There are minimal changes for GMC's "bread and butter" vehicles, JIMMY SUV and SONOMA pick-up. Jimmy gets a "Gold Edition" trim option package; there's a sun-roof and a liftglass addition to the liftgate on four-door models. A 4.3L V-6 remains as its motivational source with a 5-speed manual or 4-speed automatic transmissions. It is also available as two-door and in either 2 or 4-wheel drive configurations.....SONOMA, an AAW Top Urban Pick in the compact pick-up category in 1996, gets a sport suspension for extended cab models, and performance enhancements to the base 2.2L 4-cylinder. That ingenious third door, which put Sonoma over the top in the Urban Pick competition, remains an option on extended cab models.

CADILLAC

CATERA, Cadillac's all-new European Opel-based entry level luxury car, seems destined to strike a responsive chord among female buyers and performance oriented "Generation X" professional

males. There's a lot to like about Catera: the handling is outstanding; off-line and mid-range acceleration is brisk, thanks to a 200hp 3.0L V-6. Occupant safety is enhanced through the use of lateral airbags; one of GM's first applications. Catera is aimed squarely at BMW 3-Series, Acura TL, Mercedes C-Class and Lexus ES300.....SEVILLE STS, Cadillac's 300hp luxury hot rod, jumps light years ahead of its competition with leading edge technologies like OnStar, a GPS-based emergency system; ICCS (Integrated Chassis Control System) a stability enhancement system that has the ability to actually "read" the "texture" of the road and adjust shock firmness and ABS accordingly.....ELDORADO TOURING COUPE benefits from the same advanced technologies as STS.....DEVILLE CONCOURS, in addition to ICCS and the 300hp NorthStar system, the CONCOURS loses its rear wheel skirts but receives side airbags.

OLDSMOBILE

Buyers will soon be able to reacquire themselves with a name long identified with Olds: CUTLASS. Like its sister car, the Chevy Malibu, it is intended as a serious import fighter against the likes of Ac-

cord, Camry and Altima. Mechanicals are the same as its sibling, and what we said about Malibu goes ditto for Cutlass.....SILHOUETTE joins the fray along with Pontiac Trans Sport and Chevy Venture in the attempt to knock Chrysler off its perch as king of the mini-vans.

These are good efforts, and if cup holders, about 17 of them per van, were the key to success, this GM trio would win hands down. Power comes from a 3.4L 180hp V-6.

SATURN

New for '97 is the completely reworked SATURN coupe, which now uses the longer wheelbase of the sedan and wagon. The result is much more interior space, which permitted designers to reskin the exterior with more curvaceous and pleasing lines. Power comes from a base 100hp 1.9L four, while a 124hp version is optional.

CHRYSLER CORPORATION

CHRYSLER-PLYMOUTH

One of the world's best run car companies has struck gold with the SEBRING coupe and convertible. This is one great looking car, especially in a ragtop. There are no significant changes for '97, except for the AutoStick driver shiftable automatic transmission and 17" wheels with all-season high-performance tires. We strongly recommend the 2.5L V-6 option in the LX coupe and JX convertible over the base 2.0L and 2.4L 4-cylinders.....Chrysler's luxury car bargain, the LHS, gets six-passenger leather seating.....The latest product to be released from Chrysler's "dream factory," PLYMOUTH PROWLER, goes on sale in the spring.

DODGE DIVISION

The DAKOTA gets a complete makeover. Larger sibling RAM upset its competition in 1994 with a new look borrowed from big over-the-road haulers. Now, little brother Dakota gets that same look, which



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