



Blogs we like

Everything from NASCAR to brides seems to be covered by too-related blogs these days. So, from time to time, we'll hunt down informative and entertaining blogs like and list the links here and startribune.com/cars. To get started, check out edmunds.com/sideline/do/forumslanding and bridcars.com/blogs.



Driving internationally

Vacationing internationally this summer? Wondering about an International Driver's Permit? Visit the American Automobile Association's International Driving Permit web page. The permit, used in conjunction with your U.S. driver's license, is valid in 150 countries. See aaa.com/vacation/idpf.html.

Freelander returning

Land Rover will once again offer the Freelander model, industry sources report. The 2008 model year Freelander will be based on Ford's new global C1 platform. Automobile magazine states that the 2008 Freelander will be stiffer, safer and more powerful than previous models, with an available in-line six-cylinder engine supplied by Volvo. "Spy photos also show tougher styling cues that should alter the truck's cute image," the magazine reports. Sources say that in 2008 a 'baby Freelander' will arrive with available front-wheel drive — previously a Land Rover no-no — and the goal of reducing Land Rover's average fleet fuel consumption."

Cool Fury

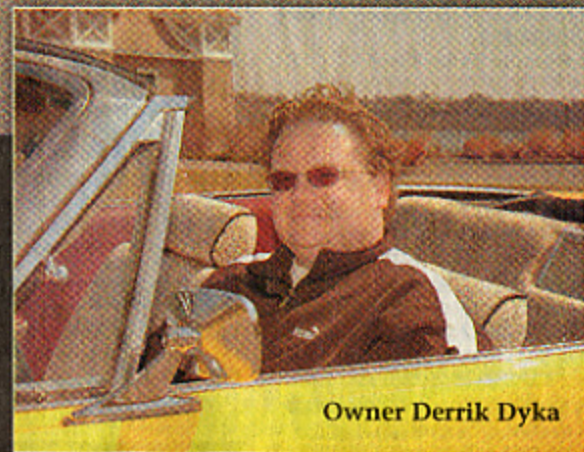
has even cooler history



There are worse times to be had than cruising the lakes in Derrik Dyka's 1969 Plymouth Fury convertible — a lot worse. The car's prior owner was Charlie Sheen, a fact with lots of cool, and a few annoying attributes. *On the cool side, this was Charlie Sheen's convertible!* On the downside, dealing with a seller 2,000 miles away, who is not the car's owner — it was sold by an agent — hasn't been as smooth as Dyka had hoped.

Still, the upsides win. The car looks

good, rumbles great and has a sound system on par with what major bands bring to stadium concerts. Amplifiers nearly fill the trunk — and you could sneak half your senior class into the drive-in in a Fury's trunk. The only thing that isn't stereo equipment is a small space reserved for a nitrous oxide bottle. With the stereo up you could probably do a shot of nitrous (which boosts horsepower) and not hear it, though you might notice the front of the car coming up half a foot.



Owner Derrik Dyka