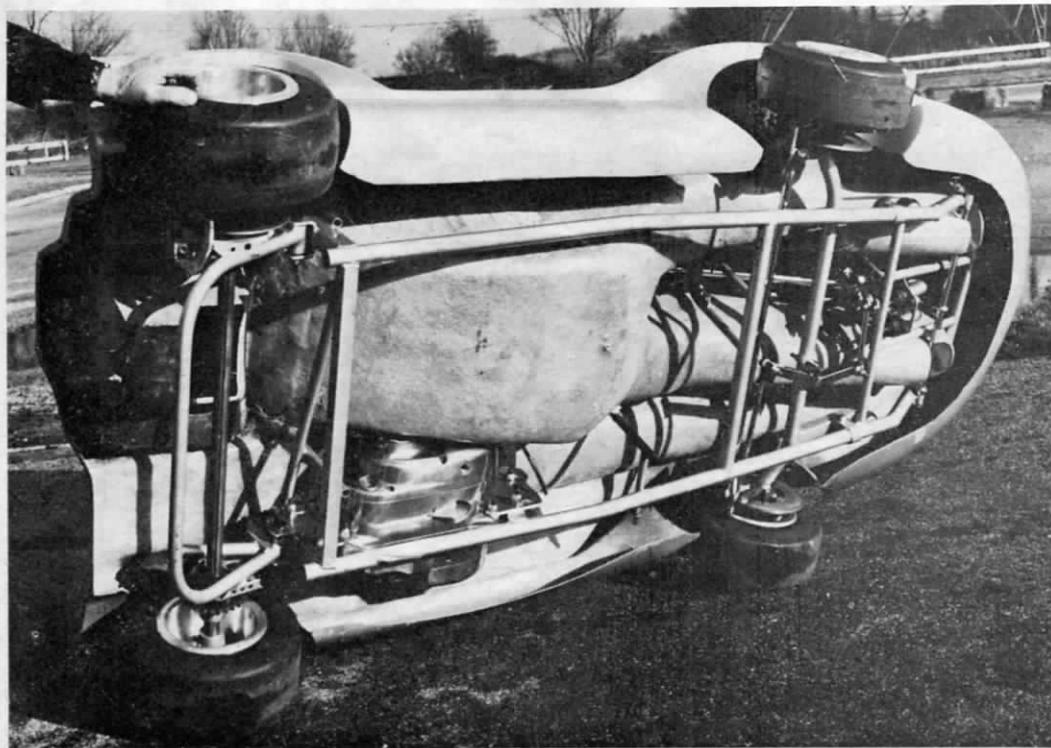
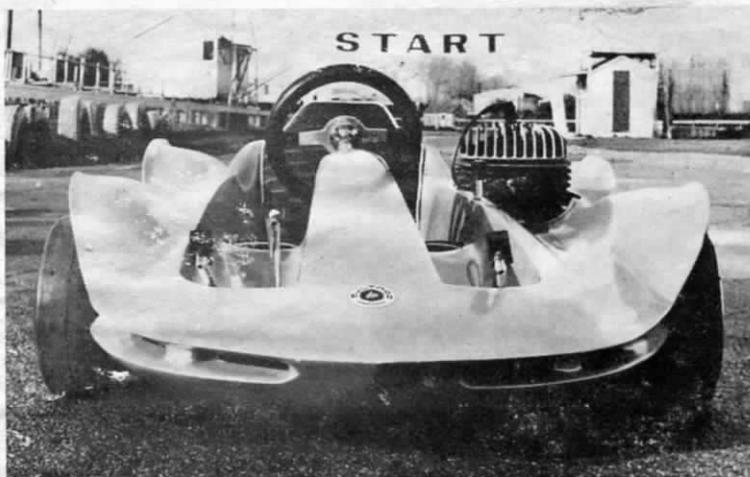


# ZIP'S NEW BEAUTIFUL "LE MANS"

Readers who were involved with kart racing in the mid sixties will remember the Starfire — a sexy looking kart with attractive glass fibre body serving also as a chassis. It was designed by Peter Booth, the Australian karting dentist with an artistic flair for design. For many months



now both Zip and Peter Booth have been collaborating on a new project to produce a kart with integrated bodywork that would handle as well as modern competitive machines and provide both good looks and aerodynamics.

As can be seen from the illustrations, the new 'Le Mans' is a truly beautiful machine. Its G.R.P. body has four rubbers moulded in to align with mounting points on the chassis. The front and rear wheels have a rubber suspension which can be adjusted to provide up to 1½ in of maximum travel. The steering column is almost horizontal and is coupled to the front wheels by means of a track rod and drag link linkage. The pedals are adjustable for length and the driver finishes up in a horizontal position with his legs well forward of the front wheels.

The seat is incorporated in the body moulding as is the large fuel tank which also serves as a head rest. The top half of the engine is well exposed to cooling air by means of a channel type depression in the top surface whilst the crankcase receives cooling air via a duct on the front of the kart. The chassis has similar dimensions to the Espada but a careful watch on the weight of components makes the complete 'Le Mans' only three or four lbs heavier than the Espada.

The exhaust system runs underneath the body and the brakes fitted will be Zip hydraulic discs. So far production has been delayed due to the current national situation but it is thought that the price will be around £400 less motor.

This kart is one of the few to be designed with bodywork in mind right from its inception as its rivals have usually been normal karts with bodywork attached as an after-thought. Unfortunately the development time has been so prolonged that in the meantime fashion has tended to move away from the use of coachwork on karts at all. Still, there may be a resurgence of interest this season and if any kart's going to do it, it must be this beautiful Zip!