

LAZER LITE  
RACING  
SYSTEMS

# SHADOW

*Track Report*



**M**ANY RACERS OF full-size cars buy them from notable builders like Lola, Hutcherson-Pagan and Gambler, and they add the body, engine and wheels to make a complete setup. The 1/10-scale on-road racer can now do the same thing, thanks to Lazer Lite Racing Systems®. Its Lightspeed Shadow 2+2 comes nearly ready for some serious racing on pavement or carpet, and it has all the essentials of a really hot car.

The Shadow 2+2 is straightforward and state-of-the-art. It has a G-10 fiberglass chassis that's milled out in the same way as those of most contemporary top-of-the-line competitive on-road cars. A machined-aluminum rear-end assembly is mounted to a flex-plate off the main chassis, and it features a simple, but effective, shock setup made of steel and rubber tubing. The pre-assembled graphite axle has an adjustable ball-type differential and precision ball bearings. The hubs will accept MRP® or BoLINK® lightweight wheels and tires, and this gives the racer a good range of racing combinations. Three sets of

by ERIC GOLDSCHRAFE

## A pre-assembled one-tenth-scale on-road chassis.

axle-locating blocks allow you to set the ride height of the chassis for given tire diameters, and they're easily changed by removing the axle.

The front end comes completely assembled and has coil spring-mounted steering arms and full-tombuckle-adjustable alignment. A separate threaded rod connects the tops of the front-end uprights and alters the camber settings effectively by slightly tweaking the chassis. To increase the front track width by about an inch, an extra set of mounting holes is provided, but the one-piece tombuckle

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### LAZER LITE RACING SYSTEMS, INC.



#### SHADOW

Type ..... On-road  
Scale ..... 1/50

#### DIMENSIONS:

Overall Length ..... 14 1/4 inches w/o bumper  
Width ..... Adjustable  
Height ..... Adjustable  
Wheelbase ..... 10 1/4 inches  
Front Track ..... 7 1/2 inches  
Rear Track ..... 7 inches

#### WEIGHT:

Gross (w/rec. bat.) ..... 2 lbs., 12 ozs.

BODY ..... Not included

#### CHASSIS:

Type ..... Plate  
Material ..... Fiberglass

#### DRIVE TRAIN:

Type ..... Spur gear  
Differential(s) ..... Ball

#### SUSPENSION:

Front: Type ..... King-pin  
Dampening ..... None  
Rear: Type ..... T-plate  
Dampening ..... Bushing

WHEELS ..... Not included

TIRES ..... Not included

#### ELECTRICAL:

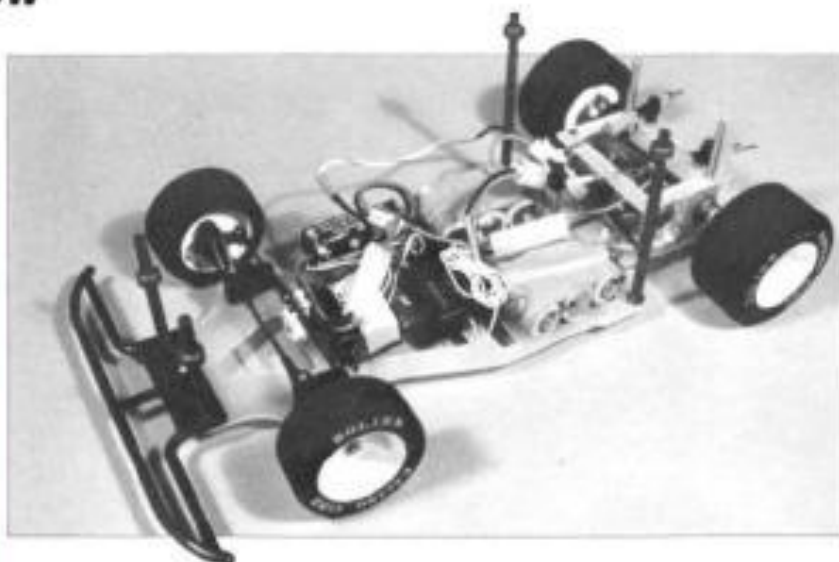
Motor ..... Not included  
Battery Required ..... 6- to 8-cell  
Speed Controller ..... Not included

#### OPTIONS AS TESTED:

Magnum Jr. radio; Robert HQ505 Electronic speed control; Revtech ZWD-Oval motor; BoLINK wheel; McAllister Pontiac NASCAR body.

#### COMMENTS:

High-quality craftsmanship. The Shadow can be made to compete with some of the more expensive on-road racers. When widening the front suspension by moving suspension blocks to the outer mounting holes, it will be necessary to make a longer camber adjustment rod, because the original piece isn't long enough. Screws holding front suspension to chassis plate strip very easily.



rod didn't reach between the connectors in this extended position. On our example, the cross-recessed screws used to hold the front-end assembly to the chassis were made of a lightweight metal. The screwdriver rounded out their slots too easily, necessitating their replacement with more adequate hardware. Ball bearings and snap rings mount the front wheels to the spindles.

R/C components may be easily secured to the chassis with servo tape in the usual locations, and the battery pack should be of the individual-cell style, split in half on both sides of the flex-plate. Tape or tie-wraps could be used to secure the Ni-Cds in place. As lightness equals high performance, a battery eliminator setup and an electronic speed control will save a few ounces and keep this light car on a par with the competition.

Four body-mounting posts and a pair of aluminum wing mounts

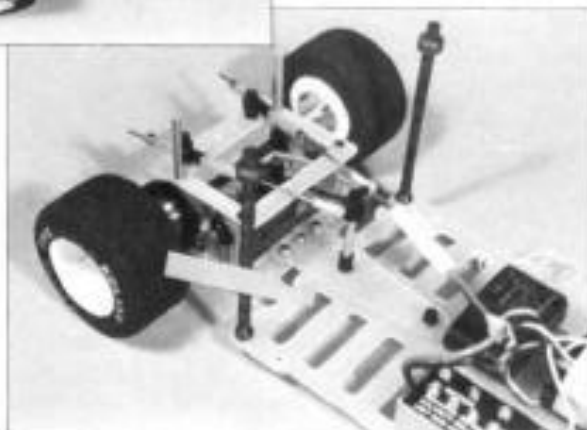
are provided, thus allowing the use of a wide range of body styles. The car in this review was fitted with McAllister Racing's\* excellent version of the '88 Pontiac Grand Prix. This body was painted and lettered in the highly visible green-and-yellow

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*Above: The Shadow features the same basic suspension geometry as most other expensive on-road cars.*

*Right: The rear-end view shows the simple, yet effective, silicone-tube dampening.*



## LAZER LITE SHADOW

scheme of the Country Time Lemonade-sponsored stocker driven by NASCAR's Michael Waltrip. MonoKote® trim-sheet material and an assortment of small decals were used for the details on the completed car.

With a hot stock motor and a 6-cell Ni-Cd pack, this car will certainly be adequate for serious racing, and it would make a great first car for someone new to pavement competition. Some experimentation with tire compounds will get the car basically dialed-in, and fine-tuning with the front-end alignment and differential adjustments will get you race-ready.



*This is how the Lazer Lite Shadow comes out of the box. It includes a ball differential, ball bearings, fiberglass chassis and more.*

Entering a corner at high speed will result in some understeer, but a little throttle will set the car into a nicely controlled slide through the corner. A little tire compound will help, too, but you have to experiment to find your own setup for a particular track.

The Shadow 2+2 is fun to drive. It has good high-speed stability, shows no tendency to wander or bump-steer, and it really stays stuck to the ground. It would have been interesting to see just how well this car could perform against some of the more elaborate competition; perhaps this could be arranged in a future shootout?

*\*Here are the addresses of the companies mentioned in this article:*

*Lazer Lite Racing Systems, 2090 SW 71 Ter., Unit H8, Davie, FL 33317.*

*MRP, 18676 142 Ave. NE, Woodinville, WA 98072.*

*BoLINK R/C Cars, Inc., 420 Hosea Rd., Lawrenceville, GA 30245.*

*McAllister Racing, 4545 Industrial St., Unit 5H, Simi Valley, CA 93063.*

*MonoKote, distributed by Top Flite Models, 2635 S. Wabash Ave., Chicago, 60616.* ■