



The 1/2-scale semi reminds a lot of people of a Peterbuilt or Kenworth cab-over.

EQUIPPED WITH HYDRAULIC DUMP TRAILER

Half-Scale Semi-Truck

David Kelm, Earlville, Ill., spent 3 1/2 years building this 1/2-scale semi-truck that he often enters in shows and parades.

"The engine has a split manifold with dual straight exhaust stacks so it sounds a lot like a big semi-truck. It's pretty loud so it draws your attention right away," says Kelm, who farms and also drives truck part time.

The 1/2-scale semi-truck is 4 1/2 ft. wide, 5 ft. 10 in. high at the top of the cab, and 23 ft. long. It's powered by a 4-cyl. Isuzu diesel out of an old Chevette car. The automatic transmission and rear end were also taken from the Chevette. The hydraulic power steering is out of an International 303 combine. Kelm used 4-in. channel iron to build the tractor frame and 3 by 4-in. rectangular steel tubing for the trailer. The cab was fashioned out of sheet metal and has a custom-made chrome-plated front bumper and an aluminum grille. The driver and a passenger sit on a pair of vinyl seats designed for a fishing boat. The trailer is all metal with a hand-crank tarp roll on top and a hydraulic lift hoist underneath.

"I didn't draw up any plans for it or pat-

tern it after any particular model. However, a lot of people say it looks like a Peterbuilt or a Kenworth cab-over," says Kelm. "It weighs exactly 5,000 lbs. and has headlights, clearance lights, turn signals, an electric air horn, AM-FM and CB radios with a fake CB antenna, brakes, and mud flaps. I don't have a speedometer on it and I don't drive it on the highway so I don't know how fast it can go. I'm 6 ft. 1 in. tall so the cab is a little small for me. I riveted part of an old Chevrolet pickup hood to the top of the cab to make a sun visor. The cab tilts forward just like on big semi-tractors. I built it with a fifth wheel and can put legs down on the trailer to unhook."

Kelm used drive axles from a pair of Chevettas to make the tandem axles on the semi-tractor. He cut 7 in. off both ends of the axles to shorten them up. He fitted the cars' front hubs, spindles, and 13-in. wheels to the trailer axles.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, David Kelm, Rt. 3, Box 37, Earlville, Ill. 60518 (ph 815 246-9832).

CAN BE OPERATED WITH LIMITED USE OF HANDS OR LEGS

Bean Buggy Modified For Disabled Farmer

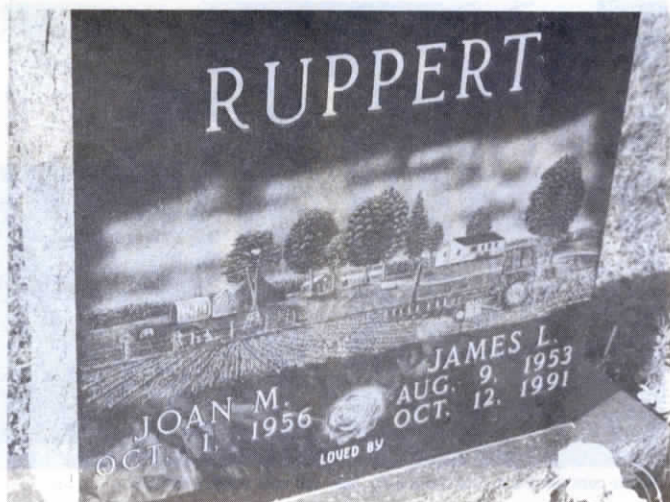
A commercial bean buggy modified so that it can be controlled by a disabled operator lets Bob Yeagle, Farmer City, Ill., spot weeds in soybean fields, road ditches, etc.

Yeagle, quadriplegic as a result of a horse riding accident, teamed up with his friend and neighbor Kyle Kopp to modify a Mae Wes "Lil Wesley" bean buggy. Kopp removed the front part of the frame and replaced it with a powered seat lift and a push-pull steering column. The seat lift allows Yeagle to transfer from a wheelchair into the buggy seat, then automatically raise the seat to operator height. A motorized screw-type cylinder, or actuator, is used to move the seat up or down and is activated by a switch on the armrest. The seat can travel 20 in. up or down.

Since Yeagle couldn't squeeze and grip

a conventional spray wand, Kopp designed one especially for him. He cut a notch in an old deep well socket to fit the wand and secured it with a hose clamp. The socket snaps onto a wobble-type socket extension that Kopp bolted onto the steering column. The socket extension allows the nozzle to be rotated to any angle. When he's ready to spray, Yeagle uses the palm of his left hand to aim the nozzle and his right palm to push the lever-type trigger.

"It lets Bob steer, aim the nozzle, and spray all at the same time using only his arms and the palms of his hands," says Kopp. "He uses a seat belt across his upper chest to belt himself in. The buggy is equipped with two tanks and two sets of hoses and nozzles so he can switch herbicides without having to clean out the tank



An Illinois couple had a drawing of their farmstead etched onto their tombstone.

MEMORIES CAST IN STONE

Put Your Farm On Your Tombstone

By C.F. Marley

You can't take it with you - unless you get together with the folks at Adams Memorials in Charleston, Ill.

They can put an artful rendition of your farmstead, favorite tractor, or other treasured object on your tombstone. Adams Memorials says designer headstones are the hottest thing around.

"We've done anything you can imagine - Deere tractors, old Ford cars, lawnmowers, even Harley Davison motorcycles. But portraits are the most popular,"

says Brian Beasley, purchasing agent for Adams.

Adams' master craftsman is Gary Pierson, who etches images into granite with a diamond-tipped engraver. His etchings, which generally range from \$100 to \$500, grace stones ranging from \$80 to \$20,000.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Adams Memorial, R.R. 2, Box 314, Charleston, Ill. 61920 (ph 217 345-9587).

or mix chemicals. One set of nozzles snaps onto a socket extension that's bolted onto the frame behind the seat. To switch herbicides, he simply swaps hoses and nozzles.

"The buggy is powered by an electric start 9 hp engine and has a hydrostatic transmission. Bob bumps the transmission lever to go forward or reverse. The throttle is activated by a button mounted next to the armrest.

"The socket extension serves as a directional aid, letting Bob aim and fire the nozzle without having to hold it and squeeze the trigger. He steers with his left arm on top of the push-pull steering bar so he can keep both hands free for aiming and firing the nozzle."

Kopp says he plans to put a 15-ft. spray boom on back so Bob can spray yards, as

well as a 30-ft. rope wick applicator for soybeans.

Kopp and Yeagle got help from AgrAbility Unlimited, an organization that helps farmers and ranchers find ways to continue farming despite injuries or chronic illnesses that limit mobility. As a 19-state national effort, AgrAbility is supported by the USDA Extension Service, the National Easter Seal Society, and the Breaking New Ground Resource Center at Purdue University.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Kyle Kopp, Rt. 2, Box 109, Farmer City, Ill. 61842 (ph 309 928-2352) or the Illinois Easter Seal Society, 2715 South Fourth St., Springfield, Ill. 62705 (ph 217 525-0398) or the Breaking New Ground Resource Center (ph 800 825-4264).



This "Lil Wesley" bean buggy was modified so that Yeagle could still farm.