

## *A Pleasant Surprise*

By Bob Schmeichel

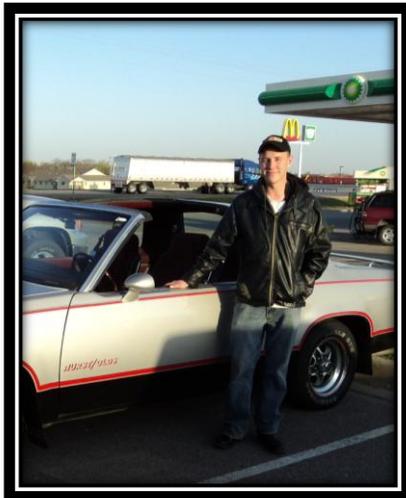
In general, most young people today are so engrossed with texting on their phones that nothing else matters. If they have any interest in cars, all they want to do is turn the key on and go with the radio blasting. Not so is the case with our youngest Great Plains Street Rodder member, 18-year-old Tyler Swanger. I am proud to say Tyler, who can talk to anyone at great length about anything including cars, is a good friend to all. Still in high school and going to college at the same time, his short-term goal is to get a business degree with hopes of someday having a business of his own.

If you want to know anything about this 1984 Hurst/Olds that he is driving, just ask Tyler. This young man is a wealth of knowledge about Oldsmobile and its involvement with Hurst to create stand-out

performance cars that have been recognized since the late '60s. Tyler has bought much old memorabilia and anything related to this last Hurst-production-year car he is driving, not only to keep it fun, but to inform the public with at car shows so history is not forgotten.

Besides being production number 1,183 of 3,500 built and only half of total production still survive today, Tyler is excited about what the Hurst/Olds has that sets it apart from other muscle cars of the same 1980s era. With the factory wheels, the hood scoop, the front and rear spoilers, the T-tops, the special stripes and graphics, and the real high performance 307 cubic inch Oldsmobile engine, the thing that he gets the most enjoyment out of is seeing the reaction of people when they look inside the car and notice the floor shifter. It is a one-off creation from Hurst with three levers involved called "Lightning Rods" for manual shifting of the automatic transmission. There is a definite

learning curve to understanding how that works!! Today with the car still looking good in its original factory form and having only 87,000 miles on it, Tyler is really enjoying the feeling he gets from the car and what it represents. He said originally it went from just being a car to his biggest hobby as he dug in and found out more information, which he continues with today. And as I said earlier, talk to Tyler, you will be pleasantly surprised and have a smile on your face.



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