

THURSDAY,
January 13, 2011

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LIGHTS AND WIPERS

Make sure you can see and
be seen while driving

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A BOOM TO VOLT

Oil-soaked booms finding new life
as auto parts in Chevrolet Volt

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THE INDEPENDENT & FREE PRESS

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The all-new 2011 Dodge Charger (R/T model shown) sticks the winning formula of a Hemi V8 up front and drive to the rear that offers unbridled performance with an eye on reasonable gasoline consumption.

Dodge Charger keeps muscle car spirit alive

By **JIM ROBINSON**

*Metroland Media
CarGuide Magazine*

SAN FRANCISCO, Ca.: The reason why rear drive feels so good is because it is good.

In Formula One, IndyCar, NASCAR et al and the drive is at the rear. And when it comes to prestige cars, just about all the makes like Mercedes-Benz, BMW and Lexus are rear drivers.

And when you add a big-bore V8 at the front, you have a winning combination.

Look at North America. When people

talk about the Domestic Three's great cars, it's GTOs, Cudas, Boss 302s, Eldorados not the Cavalier, Neon or Tempo.

Dodge got it right the first time with a pantheon of Hemi V8 powered muscle and pony cars that began with the Charger in 1966. When you pulled up beside a Charger, you knew better than to try and out drag it.

Sadly, Dodge lost its way in the K-Car era with a subcompact called the Charger that was in production from 1983-1987 before mercifully slinking into obscurity. Even with the turbocharged hand of Carroll Shelby, it could never be a true Charger.

See CHARGER'S, pg. 3

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