64th Detroit Auto Show opens Jan. 12

A sneak preview of the exhibits at the auto show shows:

American Motors 1980 display will feature the four-wheel-drive Eagle passenger car & AMC's five-year no-rust-through warranty. One exhibit area encompasses AMC and Jeep products, the other Renault and its front-wheel-drive LeCar. Films will be shown on a large screen promoting the entire Concord-Spirit-Pacer lineup and AMC's 12-month/12,000-mile new car warranty.

Buick Division's major thrust for this show is an educational show on the front-wheel-drive concept, showing the advandates of Skylark, the division's X-body car that debuted in mid-1979. Also featured are the Electra Park Avenue sedan and the quality acoustics of a six-speaker Concert system option, a Regal coupe with leather interior and an Electra with a standard 4.1-liter V6.

Cadillac Division will feature its Seville Elegante with its newly styled "bustle-back" trunk that is reminiscent of the '30s, and also the Eldorado special-edition Biarritz with stainless steel roof cap. A wall display features the advantages of the new digital electronic fuel injection (DEFI) system in place of last year's non-digital system. A new line of high-quality radios will be featured.

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Special events at auto show Kids' Nights: Jan. 14-15 6-10 p.m. Senior Citizens' Party: Jan. 16, 1-4 p.m. Celebrity Night: Jan. 16, 7-10 p.m. Auction Nights: Jan. 17-18, 8 p.m.

Chevrolet Division will show 25 vehicles, including the El Camino, Suburban and Sport Van, and 11 trucks, including a fleetside pickup with diesel engine. On the major turntable will be a Caprice and a Monte Carlo. The design concept car is a three-wheeler, Astro III, that looks like a jet airplane with stubby wings. In one display, the cab come off a Luv chassis, exposing a two-wheel drive display on one side, a four-wheel drive on the other. Also of interest will be the six- and eight-cylinder engine cutaway displays.

Chrysler-Plymouth Division will feature the new Chrysler Cordoba, resized from the Newport to the Le Baron chassis, with turntables giving the star treatment to Cordoba Corinthian Edition. Also highlighted will be the Le Baron Fifth Avenue Edition and New Yorker Fifth Avenue. A Colt and Champ exhibit will detail a cutaway of the MCA/Jet engine with color-coded components.

Datsun will show about a dozen cars, with a special light-duty truck display replacing one model. On a turntable, a narrator will describe the newest 200-SX, an all-new car for Datsun in 1980. The basic identification signs of last year will be back.

Dodge Division will offer a special show version of the Dodge Mirada, the mid-size personal luxury car, as well as the Dodge St. Regis, the full-size family sedan. Dodge truck features designer versions of trucks for_work or fun, and large murals depict light-duty truck styling design studies. The light-duty D150 showroom pickup truck that won the Baja 1,000 race will also be there — complete with original dust and dents.

Fiat is back again as an exhibitor at the auto show, in order to introduce its world-

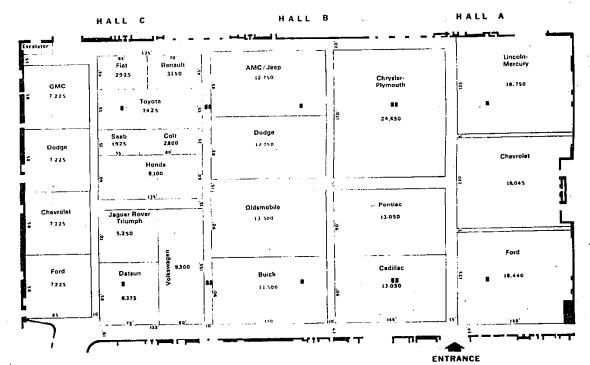
wide car for the '80s, the Strada, along with Fiat family members Lancia Zagato, X1/9 and Spider 2000 convertible.

Ford Division features its new resized Thunderbird and its LTD in a new display. Ford's keyless entry system and a series of pushbuttons outside the driver's door will be explained, along with the new select-shift four-speed automatic overdrive (SSOD) transmission, optional on the Thunderbird but standard on Lincoln and Mark VI. An educational display at Ford Truck explains the workings of a truck twin-lbeam suspension.

GMC Trucks will show off a light-duty lineup including a Cavalero, a Rally Van, a four-wheel-drive Jimmy, a Suburban and a couple of pickups, one with a snowplow application and a six-cylinder model. GMC may feature a diesel in the medium-duty category, and the heavy-duty truck, the General, is the feature performer. Exhibits will be built around an 8.2-liter medium-duty engine and a light-duty diesel engine.

Honda's turntable display will feature the new Civic GL model with the 49 EPA highway rating. Its new set is Detroitbuilt, featuring earth tones, browns and

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