

Bling on wheels

Grad pursues career in the fast lane by Carol Santos



Land, sea and air: Revai's business caters to all forms of transportation

REPORT CARD

STUDENT Andrew Revai

GRADUATED Vaughan Secondary School, 1994

BEST SUBJECT Industrial Arts

WORST SUBJECT Science

CURRENT JOB Owner, Exoticare



VAUGHAN SECONDARY SCHOOL grad Andrew Revai has spent his life living in the fast lane.

After working on cars as a side hobby, Revai recently transformed his past time into a full-time career which attracts all the high rollers and their fancy wheels.

Revai formed Exoticare two years ago to cater to the growing niche market of exotic car collectors. He now transforms clients' cars into dream racers by adding customized details, from doors and cushions, to DVD players and video game systems placed just about anywhere on your car and then he'll co-ordinate your boat and helicopter to match.

Exoticare takes care of its car and transportation needs, from the design and logistics to the actual production, by contracting out work and parts as well as doing in-house work.

Revai remembers a client who requested a Ferrari boat to match his car.

"We made it black with Ferrari yellow accents, a stereo, custom stitching... every last detail to the prancing horse," he says.

His success may be due to the time he spent at Vaughan Secondary School, a suburban school with a reputation for its parking lot, which often has some of the finest cars available.

It was there that the car fanatic learned to network.

"In high school, we're too young

to realize it," Revai says, "but it opens your communication skills."

However, academics weren't really Revai's top priority.

To fulfill his love of cars the teen would wash "mom and pop" cars to help fill up his pockets with spending money.

He then started a valet service for special events and moved onto detailing. He continued with this part-time job while at Humber College studying media information.

After graduating college with honours, Revai got a job as a graphic designer with an ad agency. Two years later, he was a web designer and eventually landed the title of webmaster for Famous Players Online. All the while he was still working on cars and building up his client base.

When Famous Players was bought out by Cineplex two years ago, Revai took it as an omen.

"It was a kick-in-the-pants to move on, so I took a risk and opened the company," he says.

The next step for this innovative entrepreneur is connecting with the media to have his clients' vehicles displayed, especially the rare vehicles he's the first to work on.

Revai has already had a client's helicopter featured on *Canada's Next Top Model*.

It's just all in a day's work for a guy who still owns all his toy Matchbox cars.