



Vaunted V6

How's this for different — a 3.8 liter V6 Mustang that runs 12.90s at 105? All 5.0 pilots in the audience can shelf your egos now, because Tom Morano's V6 Mustang shows what being different is all about.

Morano, a resident of Scarborough, Ontario, believes the 302s and 350s of the world are clones. So, he set out to tap the hidden potential of Ford's quiet 3.8 liter V6. And tap it he has. Tom said the 3.8 is lighter than a four cylinder, yet has performance characteristics similar to the 351 Cleveland, including big main bearings and big connecting rods.

To maximize his 3.8, Tom, who runs

afordable Performance (90 Melford Dr. #21, 22, Scarborough, Ontario. M1B2A1; (416) 412-2815) ported the stock 3.8 heads so they now flow 240 cfm on the intake side and 180 on the exhaust. Tom installed a six-cylinder version of the X303 cam, which he had custom ground. He also fabricated 2-inch-primary headers and modified the stock two-barrel to accept a 650 Holley.

This engine sits in Tom's '81 Mustang, which is all stock save for an 8.8-inch rear axle fitted with 4.56 gears. With this combo, Tom hooks up with 26 x 8 M&H slicks and shifts at 7200 rpm. This Mustang's no clone. — *Steve Turner*