

## NORTHERN RAIDER

## A TAKE NO PRISONERS 5.0L FROM CANADA

n early 1987, a Canadian school teacher named Bob Found wanted to add some excitement to his life, so he traded in his trusty (and boring) Ford Escort station wagon for a brand new Mustang. The teacher's new pet wasn't an ordinary Mustang, instead he opted for a Canyon Red, five-speed GT convertible. Quite a departure from an Escort wagon!

For the first year or so, Bob was content to leave his drop-top stock. Things started getting out of hand when Found noticed what looked like rust on the surface of the engine block and heads. That winter (1989-90), he pulled the engine, painted it Ford blue, and detailed the engine compartment. We all know how quickly a project can snowball, and Bob decided to add a few chrome accessories before reinstalling the engine. It didn't take long before Found was planning a Mustang modification budget, and those few chrome parts for the engine have evolved into a full-on show-and-go (nice weather) daily driver.

The horsepower on Bob's highly chromed 5.0L is now boosted by a polished 8-psi Vortech A-trim supercharger. At the same time, Bob converted his convertible from speed density to Mass Air, using a Ford Motorsport M-9000-A51 conversion kit. To maximize the effects of the blower, Found added an

MSD 6AL-BTM control box with boost/timing retard, Taylor spiral-wound ignition wires, underdrive pulleys,

an SVO 65mm throttle body, JBA ceramic-coated 1 <sup>5</sup>/s-inch shorty headers, and a Walker Dynomax catback 2 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>-inch exhaust system.

With his convertible's engine running and looking good, Bob figured it was time to

bring the rest of the car up to the same standards. After lowering the GT 1 1/2inches, Found installed Prime threespoke 16x7 aluminum wheels and Ventus 225/50R16 tires. The factory GT body kit was supplemented by a Cervini "Stormin' Norman" fiberglass hood, and "Testarossa" ground effects components, plus a Saleen rear wing, installed by Wrinkles Auto Body, in High River. Bob designed a multi-color paint scheme, and Wrinkles squirted on the clear-coated Medium Red, yellow and orange, and Mercedes silver. Turning to the inside, Found installed three Alpine amplifiers, fifteen speakers, and a crossover unit to pump up

TOGRAPHY BY THE OWNER

the volume from the OEM stereo unit. He also fitted AutoMeter boost and fuel pressure gauges in twin pods on the left windshield pillar, and mounted an Autometer tachometer, water temperature, and oil pressure gauges on the cowline.

Most recently, Bob added a Centerforce Dual Friction clutch assembly, and upgraded his GT's 8.8 rear end with a new set of 3.55:1 gears. With a pair of new Goodyear slicks mounted out back, Bob's Northern Raider is capable of low 13's. Not bad for a show quality daily driver that was originally intended to just be the replacement for an old Escort station wagon.

