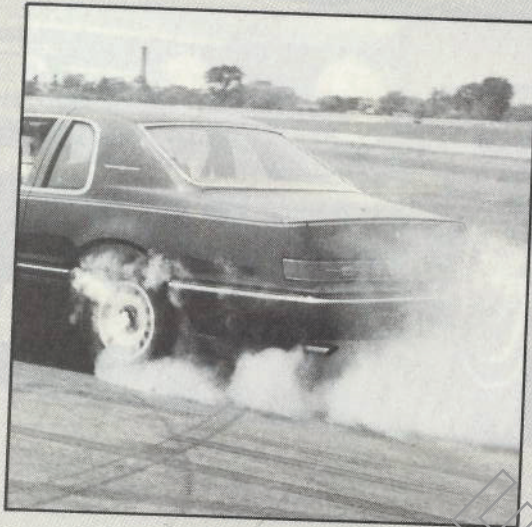


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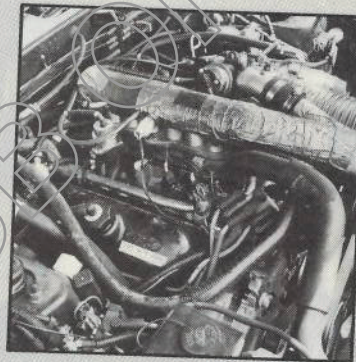
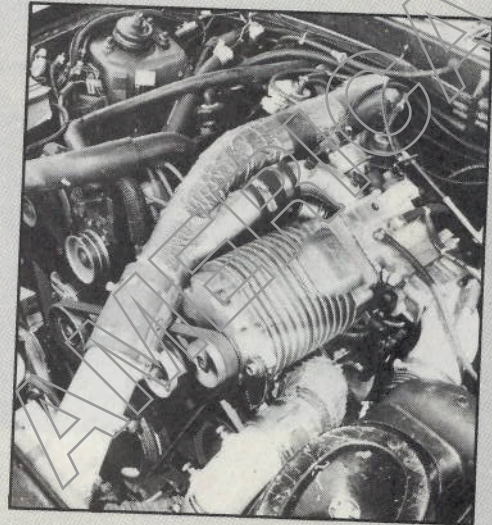
BLOWN BIRDS

As is generally agreed, the new Thunderbirds are great cars. They handle well, look nice and are a blast to drive. If anything, the T-Bird could use a bit more boost of power from a standing start. Well, sports fans, Ford has been working on that problem for some time now and have come up with the 3.8-liter fuel-injected V-6 topped off with an Eaton supercharger to solve the problem. You heard us correctly, we said supercharged. Not that Ford is giving up on turbochargers, but the fact of the matter is supercharging gets you instant throttle response with boost, and when combined with electronic fuel injection, the mileage is rated at 21-22 combined city and highway driving (fitted with the automatic transmission with overdrive).

You can tell that the engine and supercharger work well together as evi-



denced by the gobs of tire smoke. The overall performance of the blown 'Bird was outstanding as zero-to-sixty times fell into the mid seven-seconds range with three folks on board. As far as we were concerned, if Ford were to add the Turbo T-Bird's suspension package along with a five-speed transmission, it could quickly become recognized as one of the



nastiest street cars ever produced. In the meantime, the Ford engineers spoke with are presently considering adding dual exhaust along with an updated tire to the existing package for production.

If the people at Ford have their way, the slogan might change from "Have you driven a Ford lately?" to "Have you been blown off by a Ford lately?"

SALEEN AUTOSPORT

Our phones have been ringing off the hook. You wanna know why? Well, it seems that at least half the population of Mustang enthusiasts are raving about the Saleen Mustang. This includes some 20 or more Ford dealers nationwide. Since most of you are inquiring as to the whereabouts of Saleen Autosport, we're now happy to provide you with that information. They are located at 922 Buena Vista, Santa Rosa, CA 95404; (707) 578-7933. Production has now begun on the '85 versions and if the success in '84 is any indication, the '85 run will no doubt set some company records.

