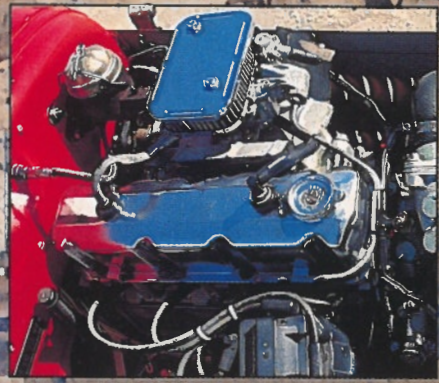
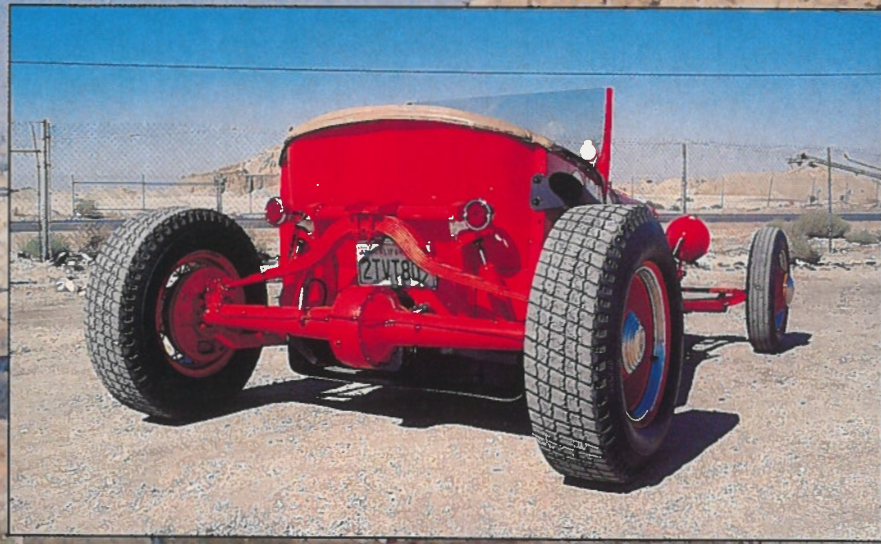


BACK TRACKING



In the 30's and 40's modified roadsters, like Howard Holman's track-T, were common on dirt tracks all over the western US. Bo Bertilsson reports.

Six months ago Howard Holman, from Riverside, USA, discovered this roughly assembled track-T at a swap meet in Pomona. Recognizing its potential he snapped it up.

Very little is known about the car's past except that it was run on the tracks in Arizona until the mid 60's. All the modifications of the time were based on Ford parts and this track-T was no exception. However, the Model A frame has been replaced by a rectangular tube frame and a new engine-trans.

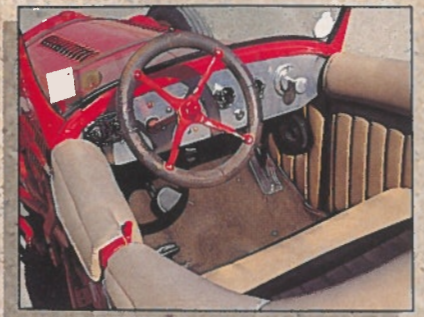
The original engine, probably a tuned four cylinder Model A or B motor, has also been replaced. Today a Pontiac '78 '79, 'Iron Duke' four-cylinder putting out 90hp sits under the bonnet. This is soon to be replaced by a more powerful engine.

The body is the front half of a steel '27 touring, which was cut 7ins in the middle and powered over the frame. The front end is early Ford with 16in wire wheels. Instead of the regular front leafspring, the front end has been moved out front and two half-elliptics hold it in place, together with a set of split wishbones.

The '40 Ford rear end is also mounted with a set of split wishbones and a Model A rear leafspring. Rear wheels are 2ins wider than stock and have Carlisle dirt track rubber.

Howard dismantled the car and carefully restored each part before reassembly. Inside the upholstery was intact, the only thing which required replacing was the dash.

Howard plans to research the car's history but for now he is content to spin his wheels in the dust, living the car's history. **CC**



Here's a classic rod, done up properly. Model A transverse leaf rear suspension takes the CC beauty prize for its class. A handbrake knob on the dash is for handbrake.