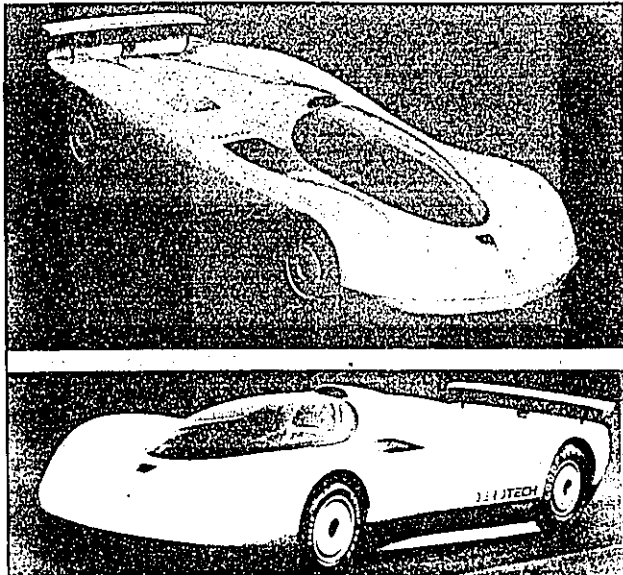


# Test-star Aerotech makes debut



Form follows function with Oldsmobile's sleek Aerotech, which will serve as a high-speed test bed for a special turbocharged version of the 2.3 liter engine.

**T**HE AEROTECH, Oldsmobile's sleek, new high-performance test car, will make its public debut in Michigan at the Detroit Auto Show, Jan. 10-18.

The car, powered by a specially prepared turbocharged version of the Quad 4 engine, is being used for high-speed, closed-course testing.

This testing is being carried out over a carefully set schedule to determine the car's maximum capabilities. At its first trial in mid-November, the Aerotech was piloted to a speed of 218 mph by A.J. Foyt at the GM Desert Proving Ground at Mesa, Ariz. Further testing will continue.

"THIS HAS BEEN an exciting project for Oldsmobile working with various GM staffs and divisions and outside suppliers," Theodore N. Louckes, Oldsmobile's chief engineer, points out.

"The car is a superb test vehicle with many new technical innovations, and the engine holds great promise for providing valuable information through high-speed performance tests. We're going to learn a lot from this effort," Louckes adds.

The Aerotech body was designed by GM Design Staff and is one of the sleekest vehicles yet developed for a GM car division. Low to the ground with a canopy-covered cockpit, the Aerotech has an approximate curb

weight of 1,600 pounds and wheelbase of 111.3 inches.

The car's length is 192 inches and width is 86 inches. Its height is 40.1 inches and ground clearance ranges from .5 inch to 1 inch. Drag has been significantly reduced and downforce substantially increased when compared with current day high-speed cars.

**THE DESIGN OF** Aerotech includes the capability of adjusting underbody sections to control the distribution of downforce front to rear. The shape of the body also allows for self-aligning torque when the vehicle is in yaw.

Power for the Aerotech comes from a specially-prepared version of the new 2.3-liter Quad 4 engine, a four-cylinder, dual overhead cam, 16-valve, high output powerplant. The regular version Quad 4 is due to make its debut in GM passenger cars in the 1988 model year.

## Credits

This special section on the Detroit Auto Show, which appears in all 12 editions of the Observer and Eccentric Newspapers, was coordinated by Marie McGee, special sections editor. Advertising coordinators were Missy Handler and Chris Bitzer.

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