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CA Report



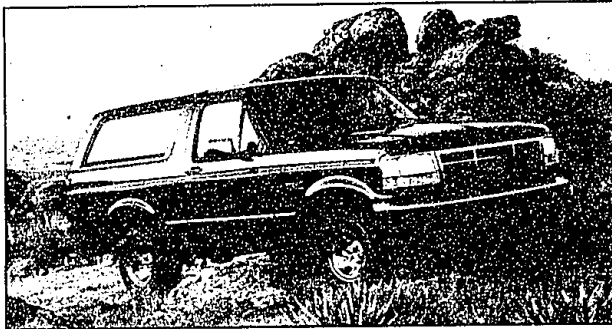
FORD TRUCKS '95 Bronco Turns 30 This Year

Ford trucks have always been on hand for all the dirty jobs, the rough jobs, even the job of taking you to the opera in the evening. For 1995, there's no exception. Ford provides a truck for any situation possible — from people hauler to trailer hauler to haulin' butt just for fun.

Still leading the pack in full-size cargo and passenger vans, the Ford Econoline and Club Wagon now have driver's-side air bags as standard equipment and stainless steel exhaust systems. Ford will no longer offer the RV-stripped chassis version of the van.

The best news for Econoline and Club Wagon is the addition of a new 7.3-liter direct injection power stroke turbo diesel engine. It replaces the naturally aspirated engine.

This engine is also available on the F-Series pick-up



Road Test
By Anne Fracassa

trucks for 1995. Other changes on the F-Series include an Eddie Bauer version added to the F-150 regular cab and supercab style-side models, rear jump seats have been dropped as standard on the supercab and the F-Super duty commercial stripped chassis has been discontinued.

Now entering its 30th anniversary celebrating

American roads, the Ford Bronco remains the leading nameplate among all sport utilities. For 1995, an XLT sport model has been added, along with cab steps available with the Eddie Bauer version and all paint colors now have 100 percent clearcoat.

The Aerostar, Ford's only rear-wheel-drive minivan, has a number of significant changes this year, including side door intrusion beams added. The Aerostar wagon is available in only one trim model, XLT, and the van is only available as a two-wheel-drive regular length cargo van.

The Windstar, first introduced in March 1994 as a 1995 model, is Ford's first-

over front-wheel-drive minivan. Windstar has just a few changes, including a 3.0-liter engine that is now standard on the GL and the speed control/tilt steering wheel, which is standard on the LX.

Options added include a trailer towing package, there's now a seat/bed option, interior convenience group (includes a ton of storage bins), fog lamps, load leveling suspension and leather seating surfaces available on the LX version.

Still the best-selling line of compact pickup trucks in the U.S., the Ford Ranger has a host of changes for 1995. Anti-lock brakes, brake/shift interlock with automatic transaxle and a better engine cooling system is now stan-

dard. On the outside, there's a smart new grille in front.

On the inside, Ranger has a new instrument panel, the driver's-side airbag is now standard and there are new seat trims and styles. There's also a new 12-volt power point added to the instrument panel this year to accommodate cellular phones, radar detectors and the like.

Added to Explorer's 1995 lineup is a new two-door model, Expedition, now that Mazda's two-door rebadged Explorer, the Navejo, is dead.

Ford hopes the Expedition, aimed at singles and adventurous outdoor types, will provide a sportier two-door look.

Outfitted with standard dual airbags, adjustable three-point front seat belts, 4-wheel anti-lock disc brakes, a new double wishbone front suspension to replace the old Twin I-Beams, rack-and-pinion steering for car-like handling, a superb new on-demand four-wheel-drive system called Central Trac, a new grille and rear taillamp assembly, it's clear Ford is ready to meet the demands of the 1990s buyers.

With the obvious aerodynamic grille change, Ford should boost appeal to younger buyers who like the Grand Cherokee but have found the old Explorer to be too stodgy and family-like.

The new suspension and rack-and-pinion steering provide a car-like handling experience. Larger knobs on the new dash are easier to use than the old Explorer's knobs. The horn is located in the steering hub, where it should be.

If you'd like to see a particular model tested or if you have a car question, send Anne Fracassa a message at AVAN-T11054, Avant's America Online mailbox. Or comment through the Internet at AVAN-T11054@aol.com.

Is Your Car Ready for a Vacation?

The joys of spring! Doing those home and garden chores you've put off until the weather broke. Suddenly it's summer and you realize your faithful car has been deprived of attention, still running on dirty oil and aging spark plugs. It's filthy inside and out, including the cooling system.

Two reasons for maintenance neglect are the popularity of self-service gas pumps (which leaves underhood checks to the driver) and lack of understanding of what checks and services need to be done periodically.

Systems and components usually requiring seasonal attention include:

Cooling system

- Flush, drain and replace freeze.
- Test, inspect and replace needed parts.

Engine

- Diagnostic and tune-up services as needed.
- Oil and filter change (check all fluids).

Tires/wheels/brakes

- Rotate and inspect tires.
- Balance and check alignment.
- Inspect braking system.

Vision

- Replace/aim headlights
- Replace worn windshield wiper blades.

Appearance

- Clean and polish/wax exterior.
- Clean interior, repair/replace damaged or worn fabrics.

For more information, write: Car Care Council Dept. UH One Grande Lake Drive Port Clinton, OH 43452

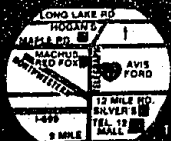
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