

July 16, 2013

Ray Banyas, Victory Engines

In 2008 I asked Ray to build me an inexpensive Ford Stroker Motor for my '85 Mercury Capri. We agreed on an 8.2 deck stock block build utilizing an inexpensive Probe rotating assembly consisting of 349 cubic inches. I left the camshaft specifications and valvetrain components up to Ray and he came through with 555 HP @ 6750 RPM. If that isn't impressive enough the first pass out the car went 10.76 @ 125 mph, 4 years, 5 bracket wins, and 300 passes later it still ran 10.65 @ 126 mph.....with no freshening or rebuilds. (motor actually ran a best of 10.58 @ 126).

Naturally when I decided to step things up a little I went back to Ray at Victory for our next build. This time we agreed a Dart SHP block would be needed to hit the power levels we were looking for. We stayed with an 8.2 Deck block but this time we went with 376 cubic inches. This combo was good for 670 HP @ 7600 RPM. The first track test of the year resulted in a 10.08 @ 132 MPH with a 1.39 short time off the footbrake. Recently I attended the NMRA/NMCA Superbowl at Route 66 raceway in Joliet, Illinois where the car was dead consistent with a 10.10@ 134, 10.11 @ 133, 10.13 @ 132 at 2915 lbs. race weight.

Thanks to Ray and Victory Engines for a strong reliable bullet!!!

Curt Jamison

1985 Mercury Capri