

Stretch Mileage by Noted Race Driver

By JERRY GRANT
Champion Spark Plug Co.
Highway Safety Team

Maybe you believe that a professional race driver giving tips on saving gasoline is like a vegetarian offering advice on how to barbeque a steak. I don't know about the vegetarian and the steak. I do know that saving fuel is becoming a vital consideration to those of us who race at the Indianapolis '500' and other tracks around the country.

Since the United States Auto Club, sanctioning body of Indianapolis-type racing, recently reduced the fuel allotment per race car, the driver must be more fuel-conscious than ever. Getting that little extra mileage from a tank of racing fuel can mean the difference between winning a race or being an also-ran.

Since it is my business to know all I can about all kinds of driving, I can pass these fuel saving tips on to you with confidence.

1. Any car I drive, be it at Indy or my own private car, is in best possible shape. I don't waste a drop of fuel because my engine isn't tuned, my tires aren't properly inflated, my brakes are faulty or any other part of my car isn't functioning the way it should.

The average motorist can't say the same. If he has neglected maintenance he is wasting costly and scarce fuel.

2. Driving fast is the name of my game and I have the skill to do it safely. But I don't drive any faster than absolutely necessary to win. And that's part of the secret of driving with gas economy in mind.

Reducing your highway speed from 70 miles per hour to 50 can save you more than 20 per cent in fuel. With gasoline prices the way they are, you're saving almost four gallons or

\$2 or more per tankful by cutting speed.

3. If you've ever ridden with a professional race driver, you know that he is an extremely smooth driver, both on and off the track.

He doesn't indulge in gas-wasting jack-rabbit starts. He keeps a steady foot on the gas pedal, doesn't pass erratically or lane hop.

All these maneuvers consume fuel unnecessarily.

4. The successful race driver always anticipates traffic patterns. If you do the same on the road, you'll save gas. Try to "play" traffic lights and don't tailgate to avoid sudden stops and starts.

5. None of you is apt to experience the pit stop where your tank is filled

and tires changed in 20 seconds. But avoid, if you can, long periods of idling, either at a service station or any other place.

If you have to wait in your car for more than a few moments, turn off the engine. This holds true at a railroad crossing while waiting for a train or at a market waiting for someone to come out of the store.

As a race driver who needs every competitive advantage I can get to win and as a motorist who loves driving, I am truly concerned with the fuel situation. You can bet I'll be watching my gas gauge more carefully this year and I urge you to do the same.

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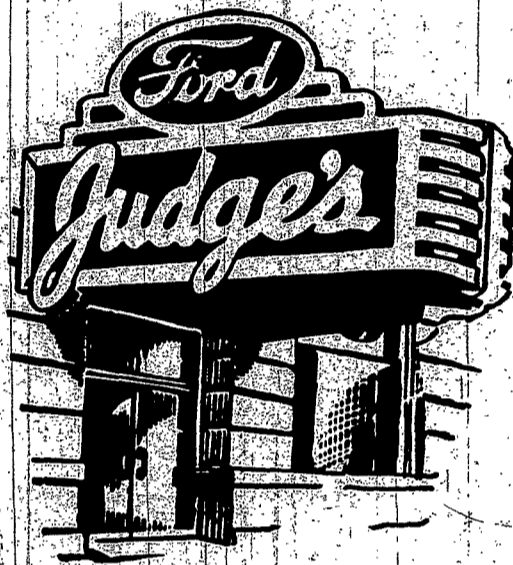
It's a 95 mile drive from Benton Harbor, Mich. to Chicago, Ill. Yet in that short distance a motorist will pass through jurisdictions with three different types of vehicle inspection laws.

In Michigan, the only inspection law is a random spot test of a few safety-related items. Indiana has compulsory vehicle inspection on an annual basis. Chicago has no safety inspection law but has compulsory emissions tests.

According to car experts, inspection laws now in effect have value beyond contributing to vehicle safety. Inspections also make motorists more conscious of the over-all condition of their cars, including engine components affecting lower emissions and better fuel economy.

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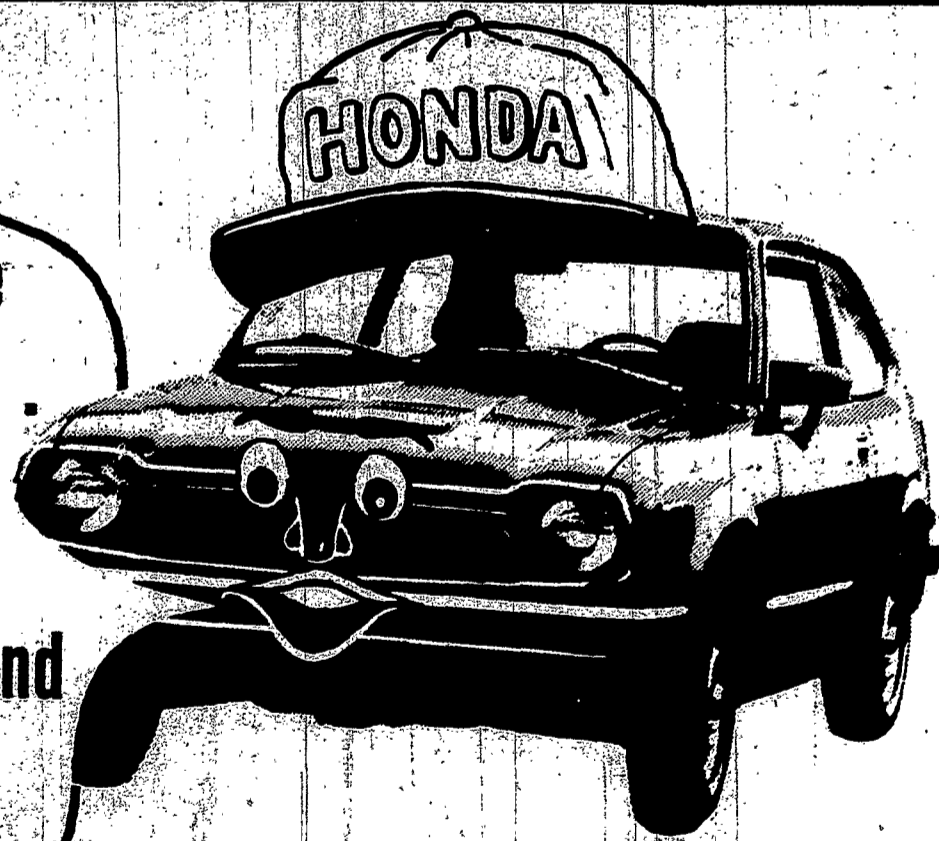
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