Motorcyclists combine fun with gas stinginess

By SHERRY KAHAN

"It's the freedom of riding outside the vehicle," says Len Gaylor in an ef-

Traffic accident study shows increase in Oakland county

The intersection at Southfield and 10 Mile is still number one in Oakland County in the number of traffic accidents recorded. That dubious distinction was noted in 1978 statistics released last week by the Traffic Improvement Association of Oakland County.

The hexavorime Southfield inters.

of Oaknad County.

Takkasan County.

Takkasan Sushfield intersection has headed TIAs intersection has headed TIAs intersection has headed TIAs intersection frequency rankings for the last four years. Although it remained at the head of the list, the number of accidents at that location dropped to 87 from the 108 that occurred in 1977, according to TIA.

In a separate 1978 ranking of roadway sections in the county, M-S9 between Cresent Lake and Takenan.

In a separate 1978 ranking of road-way sections in the county, M-59 be-tween Cresent Lake and Telegraph re-corded the highest number of accidents with 272. Authorities point to heavy raffile volume as the factor most re-sponsible for the high accident experi-ences at these locations. OAKLAND County recorded a total of 41,390 traffic accidents in 1978, a seven percent increase over 1977. "All of our roadways are having a difficult time keeping up with the growth of the county," said Paul Riley, district traffic engineer with the Michi-gan Department of State Highways and Transportation. "A lot of our roads are carrying far more volume than they were originally designed for." The Southfield-10 Mile intersection isn't the only one singled out in the 1978 accident frequency rankings. South-

isn't the only one singled out in the 1978 accident frequency rankings. South-field and 12 Mile, with 82 accidents, ranked third. Greenfield and 10 Mile, with 73 accidents, ranked in seventh place.

The TIA also figured the total acci-

dent county

dent costs for those intersections.
Southfield-10 Mile accidents amounted
to \$150,880 in damages. Southfield-12
Mile, piled up \$151,860 in costs.
Greenfield-10 Mile accidents were calcultured to \$150,860 in costs.
Greenfield-10 Mile accidents were calcultured to \$250,850 in costs.
A SEPARATE study of accidents
along road segments in Gakland County
along resulted in a list of 10 dangerous
road areas. The three-mile stretch on
12 Mile between Indister and Lalback
and Southfield's only contribution to
that That segment of road comtable 11 That segment of road comtable 12 That segment of

determine the timing was installed late in 1977 at the Southiled-10 Mile inter-section. That signal-has been credited with the 21 percent decrease in the number of accidents at the corner.

Jerry Holmes, director of the Oak-land County Road Commission's traffic department, said the signal — first of its kind in the country — not only reduced the number of accidents, but cut the number of personal injury accidents in half.

The signal virtually eliminated mid-elo-the-intersection accidents and reduced left-turn mishaps by 84 percent, Holmberg said. "Southfield-10 Mile is historically one of the highest accident intersections in the county, carrying 90,000 vehicles a day? he said. "One in five is turning."

Four other high-accident intersections are scheduled this year for the new traffic signals, Rolimberg said. These loctude Southfield-12 Mile, orcenifield-10 Mile and Southfield-13 Mile.

when in a car. You can tell if the wom-an in the car ahead is wearing per-fume. You know it when you pass a

Gaylor is one of thousands of motor-cyclists who are straddling their bikes after a long, cold winter. While sales are not up in all area cycle shops, busi-ness is better for him this spring than last. He attributes it to the cost of gas and the fact that "more and more peo-le are deciding it's fun to ride." Gary Hooper, owner of Competition Motors Unlimited in Canton Township, finds his sales are up seven percent over this time last year. Like all those interviewed about a sales surge, he also regards the cost of fuel as the reason.

Livonia. "More people seem to be dig-ging out their cycles from the garage after not using them for a while, and wanting us.to get them ready," report-ed owner Randie Rickert.

HE OFFERS THE wind-in-the-face mystique as one of the reasons he cycles. But with state laws that require both a helmet and a shield or safety glasses, it would seem the wind would pass him by. pass him by.

"Believe me, you really feel it," he maintained. He also believes there is something nice about showing off a good machine.

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Crest Motorcycle Sales and Salvage in gas pumped into a motorcycle could

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS CITY OF FARMINGTON

A Special Meeting of the Farmington City Council was held Thursday, May 17, 1979 in the Council Chambers, 23600 Liberty Street, Farmington, Michigan. Notice of the meeting was posted in compliance with Act 267-1976.

The meeting was posted in compiance with Act 287-1378.

The meeting was called to order at 320 PA. My Mayor Richard L. Tupper.

BOLL CALL

PRESENT: Councilman Buckler, Hartsock,
PRESENT: Councilman Buckler, Hartsock,
PRESENT: Councilman Bennett

CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT: City Mg. Deadman, City Clork Viane.

A Public Hearing was hold regarding the proposed budget for the 1978-79 fiscal year.

The following resolutions were adopted.

Appropriating \$3.297,130 for the operation of the General Fund, Debt Service and

Water & Sewer Funds for FY 1379-30.

Approving the adoption of the 1979-80 budget and setting the tax rate at \$11.9685 mills.

The meeting was adjourned at 745 P.M.

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take it 35-50 miles, depending on the size of the bike and how it is driven. The range of prices is brad. Coripe-tition Motors sells its Jawas and C25 for from 4475 to about \$2,000. The big numbers at Jake's Harley-Davidson Sales in Garden City go for from \$3,575 to \$4,195 if new. If second hand they cost from \$1,500 to \$4,000.

As in most sports, hobbles, or modes of transport, whichever way you think of motorcycling, a special lingo surrounds it. Riders can be just slowly crusting along Hines Drive. But if they crusted the second process to really get it on and let the gravel fly, it's called throwing up a rosertall. If your bag is starting from a dead stop to a fast clip by rewring he motor and dumping the clutch, your bag is called the hole shot.

BUT IN THE excitement of blowing

BUT IN THE excitement of blowing

along with the wind, don't neglect safety precautions. Gaylor warms drivers of
the slippery qualities of wet leaves,
gravel and anti-freeze which sometimes leaks from cars near stop lights.
An American Automobile Association
namphet urges new drivers not to go
too fast into a turn. It can result in
their going off the road or into another
lane of traffic.
According to Sgt. Frank Brandemith
of the Livonia police there are more
fatalities in motorcycles accidents than
in car accidents because of the lack of
protection for the driver.

protection for the driver.

"You have to be totally aware," cautions Rickert. "If you look away for a second, you've had it."

He thinks 80 percent of motorcycle

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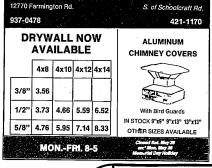
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