

"Skid School" students are taught wheel control on this private highway made treacherous by soaking with soluble oil and flooded with water to simulate treacherous summer driving conditions. Water on an oil slicked road can be even more dangerous than glare ice, says Henk de Vries who heads the school in BP's complex, Óakville, Canada, near

Canadian 'Skid School' **Helps Save Lives**

Henk de Vries' business is on the skids and he couldn't be hap pier. Nor could the growing number of Canadians who patronize Henk's and thus stand a better chance of staying alive.

De Vries conducts the BP Skid Control School in Oakville, Ontario near Toronto. A native of Holland, he puts students through the skids on a private 300-foot-long highway which simulates treacherous driving conditions.

The course is sealed with a plastic top coat, soaked with a sohble oil and flooded with water, simulating treacherous summer driving conditions

Water on an oil-slicked road can be even more dangerous than

Why? De Vries points out that the average motorist driving on ice is alert to the danger and proceeds more carefully. The driver does not expect to skid in summer and when he does he may not know what to do.

DE VRIES takes his students, who've paid \$10 for the 1½ day course, on the special roadway and puts the car into a violent 360 degree spin. This action familiarizes the student with the terrifying feeling of panic a bad skid produces.

He then demonstrates the ways to get out of the most common types of skids--the front wheel skid, the rear wheel skid and the four wheel skid.

Says DeVries, "The basic rule in any skid is to get the wheels rolling normally again. Stay off the brakes! This locks the wheels and makes normal steering impossible."

The teacher says, "Once into a skid, there is no time to think. You have to make corrections by reflex action.

DE VRIES told of a world champion race driver who took the course in its original Dutch location, Zandvoort. His first three attempts to handle the skids were unsuccessful.

The course also includes lessons on various other emergency situations.

During a rear tire blowout, handle the situation as you would a

In a front tire blowout, no skidding is likely but the driver should grip the wheel firmly to keep control and avoid using the

If your car should leave the pavement and hit a soft shoulder. keep your foot off the brake. Also avoid steering sharply back onto the roadway.

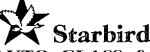
IN ADDITION to thousands of drivers who have taken the Skid School course, professional drivers and police from Montreal. Toronto and other Canadian communities have become graduates, since the school opened in 1967

When de Vries first operated his school in Holland, Dutch insurance firms reduced rates 10% to graduates.

While no such action has as yet been taken by Canadian insurers, successful students at the Oakville facility feel they have a more valuable type insurance.

They may never have to use it but when they do, they'll be ready

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