

# Former "500" King Has 10 Tips For Vacationers

"It's a wonderful country, we live in, and it is just as darn shame that so many of its citizens are going to needlessly cut their stay short during the summer vacation period."

Thus spoke Rodger Ward, former Indianapolis "500" champion and internationally famous automobile race driver.

Ward, who retired from racing following the 1966 "500" after a colorful career of more than 20 years, was referring to the hundreds of lives that will be lost due to auto accidents during the coming summer months.

"Everybody wants to live," the former race driver said, "but to see some of them on the highway a person really has to wonder just how much some of them want to live."

Ward was discussing the coming vacation season with executives of Montgomery Ward in connection with a national safe driving club he heads up for the company.

According to Ward, it is the little things that often cause the worst accidents. Trying to light a cigarette while driving, or eat an ice cream bar with one hand and drive with the other.

"There are a lot of things people can do to make their driving trip safer," Ward stated, "and probably the most important is what they do before they start out."

He went on to point out that no one should ever start out on an automobile trip without first having a complete safety check made on the car. Things like windshield wipers and washers, brakes, tires, air in the spare tire, flashlight in the glove compartment and side and rear view mirrors should be checked. Countless accidents can be avoided just by these little things.

"Of course, two of the big things for every driver to remember are to concentrate on his job of driving, to be courteous to other drivers," he said.

Ward believes that too many fine citizens turn into monsters when they get behind the wheel of a car. They have to be the first one off at a stop light.

## 3 Area GIs To Receive FP Awards

Two men from the Farmington area and one from Westland were among 53 enlisted members of the Michigan Army and Air National Guard who were to receive the Detroit Free Press Military Achievement Award during a special Armed Forces Week ceremony today, May 17.

The presentations were to be made to the Guardsmen at a noon luncheon at Detroit's Veterans Memorial Building.

Included were Airman First Class Michael T. Powers, 32777 Grand River, Farmington; Sgt. First Class Gordon E. Chamberlain, 23356 Larkshire Dr., Farmington Township; and Cpl. John M. Hrabak, 29281 Brody, Westland.

Major General Clarence C. Schnipke, Adjutant General of Michigan, said that each Guardsman was chosen for the award on a basis of attendance at scheduled training assemblies, qualification as a "sharpshooter" or better with assigned arms, and such other criteria as judgement, reliability and leadership ability.

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1. Be sure your car is in good mechanical condition before your start, with special care that you have to
2. Plan your trip in advance and allow plenty of time, because you know these will be heavy traffic. Allow time for rest and relaxation stops.
3. If the trip is a long one, try to have two or even three drivers to split each other.
4. Give the car in front of you plenty of room. Don't be a tailgater.
5. Drive your car 50 yards ahead of you. That is to say, keep your eye on what is going on far enough ahead of before your start, with special care that you have to
6. Use your seat belts. They have long ago proved their worth.
7. Keep within the speed limits set by local authorities. They set those limits for a reason. On wet pavement slow down below the posted limit.
8. Get in the right hand lane and stay there except to pass. Keep in mind it is stupid and careless to see a car of coffee, or a glass of milk in one maneuver. Driving is not a game to be played like hide-and-seek.
9. If you feel yourself getting tired, pull off the road and rest. If possible, stop for a cup of coffee, or a glass of milk.
10. Be considerate of your fellow driver. He values his life just as you do yours.

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