

Stricter Law Enforcement Is Needed To Curb Fatality Rise

Stricter law enforcement is essential if the rise in traffic fatalities—14 per cent so far this year—is to be halted, a study of highway fatalities over three recent weekends by Automobile Club of Michigan indicates.

"We need more well-marked patrol cars, particularly on two-lane country roads at night, coupled with extra alertness by motorists who have not dulled their reactions by too much sun, exercise, or liquor," says Fred N. Rehm, Auto Club general manager.

"The study re-affirms our faith in the 'Bring 'Em Back Alive!' positive traffic safety program which urges motorists to enjoy Michigan in their autos on family trips, but to be extra-alert particularly within 25 miles of home at night, to moderate in alcohol intake before getting to destination, and to obey all traffic laws," Rehm added.

"We compared a weekend when more law enforcement officials were on roads around the clock than at any time this year and liquor was not available with two succeeding weekends, when road patrols were at normal level and liquor was available," Rehm explained. Weekends began at 5 p.m. Friday and ended at midnight Sunday.

DURING the first weekend of April only seven fatalities were recorded to six accidents. More than half of Michigan's motorists were not permitted to drive at night, but they could during the day. They could not purchase liquor and were under maximum police supervision due to curfew regulations following the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King. The other half were not affected by these restrictions.

No fatalities occurred in the curfew zone in southeastern Michigan. Nearest fatal was in Lenawee County, 70 miles from Detroit. Next nearest was in Clinton County, about 100 miles

away. The others occurred in western Michigan in Kent, St. Joseph, Cass and Berrien Counties.

Of the nine drivers involved in the six accidents, all were within 25 miles of home, four were either drinking or suspected of it and six were at night.

"Absence of alcohol and night-time driving plus maximum patrols was the reason for no fatalities in the Detroit metro area," Rehm said. "We think this shows that the curfew denied a small minority of drivers who are involved in a large percentage of accidents access to liquor."

On the following Easter weekend, April 12 to 14, the curfew was lifted, with 24 fatalities. First weekend of May there were 33 fatalities in 20 accidents, one of the worst 54-hour periods ever recorded in the state.

ON EASTER weekend, nine of 20 fatal accidents occurred within 70 miles of Detroit, four in its suburbs. On the third weekend studied, seven of the 20 fatalities happened within 70 miles of Detroit, two in suburbs.

Of the 40 fatal accidents which

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Giants	W 1
Red Sox	W 1
Tigers	W 1
White Sox	W 1
Yankees	W 1
Orioles	W 1
Indians	W 1
Red Sox	W 1
Tigers	W 1

Wednesday's Results
Dodgers 2, Cubs 0; Braves 10, Giants 2; Red Sox 5, Pirates 1.

Monday's Results
Braves 7, Dodgers 2; Cubs 1, Pirates 0; Red Sox 5, Giants 0; American

White Sox
Yankees
Orioles
Indians
Red Sox
Tigers

Wednesday's Results (June 18)
White Sox 10, Tigers 0; Yankees 5, Red Sox 4; Indians 1, Orioles 1.

Saturday's Results
White Sox 6, Yankees 2; Orioles 1, Red Sox 0; Tigers 2, Indians 0.

Saturday the National League all stars edged their American League counterparts, 1-0.

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