

A team effort...

Wood River: million injury-free hours

Everyone started again at zero late last January, and one hundred days later the safety-conscious efforts of all Wood River Refinery and Research Lab employees pulled them through the million manhour mark without a disabling injury.

This was the 39th time the million mark has been achieved by Wood River employees since such records have been maintained.

Refinery manager Art Williams said of the achievement, "All Wood River employees are to be congratulated. A team

achievement of this kind reflects the obvious concern for safety on the part of all employees.

"With the accomplishment of one million manhours worked without a disabling accident comes the challenge of maintaining our work practices to accomplish the next million in the same manner."

To celebrate the achievement, Wood River Refinery and Research Lab active employees were sent a folder from which they could select their own safety award. These awards range from

Timex watches to kitchen utensils to portable radios and other items.

Employees were asked to place their order directly with the award supplier before July 1, 1975, on a form and in an

envelope supplied with the award folder.

Unfortunately, the injury-free period was broken just about the time the award folders were being mailed to

employees. A pipefitter suffered a hairline fracture to his left big toe when a piece of pipe fell on it. He was wearing safety shoes, but the pipe struck him just behind the steel plate.



Review

Wood River, Illinois



VOL. 38, NO. 5

WOOD RIVER REFINERY

MAY, 1975

Shell scholarships won by two Research sons

Four-year college scholarships, with annual stipends ranging from \$750 to \$2,000, were won recently by two sons of Research Lab employees.

The two earning Shell scholarships are Don R. Baker, son of John Baker, senior staff research engineer; and Jeff N. Dodd, son of Ralph Dodd, research technician.

The scholarship competition, which is open to children of Shell employees, pensioners, or deceased employees/pensioners, is sponsored by the Shell Companies Foundation Incorporated. Fifty such scholarships are awarded

annually.

Active students

Don and Jeff are the fifteenth and sixteenth Wood River winners since the competition started in 1969. In Don's case, he is maintaining a family tradition of sorts. His older sister, Nancy, graduates this spring from New York University with a liberal arts degree. She too was a Shell scholarship winner.

Both Don and Jeff are graduating seniors: Don from Roxana High School and Jeff from Civic Memorial High School, Bethalto. Don will study geophysics at the University of Chicago and Jeff, computer science at Michigan State where he has

accepted an invitation to enroll in MSU's honors college program.

While at Roxana High, Don Baker was active in the Calculus Club, Quill and Scroll, Scholar Quiz, and Junior Achievement. He was also a member of the band and was yearbook photographer.

Jeff Dodd's activities at Civic Memorial included the concert and marching bands, class representative, and manager of the basketball team. He is an Illinois Scholar and a member of the National Honor Society.

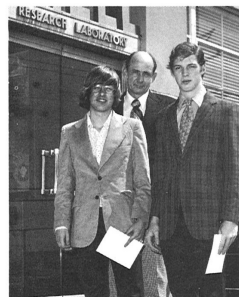
Independent judges

Scholarship winners were selected from approximately

725 nation-wide candidates by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) of Evanston, Illinois. Shell sponsors the scholarships but does not have a hand in winner selection.

The NMSC determines winners on the basis of their performance on standardized tests given during their junior year in high school as well as on leadership and citizenship.

If you have a child who will be a high school junior next fall, watch the *Shell Review* and the bulletin boards for entry information. A college scholarship can be a valuable thing to have in the family... ask the Baker's or the Dodd's.



SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS Don Baker (left) and Jeff Dodd (right) receive their certificates of achievement from research director, Jack Armstrong.

Hydraulic helper for those hard-to-get-out bundles

Push-pull, push-pull. Wood River Refinery recently acquired a specialized piece of equipment. It is a "hydraulic bundle extractor."

Wib True, craft supervisor in Engineering Field, said, "As the name implies, it's designed to remove or replace bundles. It is especially useful in removing bundles -- or 'tubulars' if you prefer -- at high elevations, or those that

are stuck in their shells. It can exert tremendous pressures."

Specialized equipment

Shutdown coordinator, Red Donaldson, is the resident expert on this 28-foot 7-ton specialist. He has been conducting familiarization sessions with craftsmen, supervisors, inspectors, and other interested parties since it was purchased.

Says Red, "Like Wib said, this piece of equipment is especially useful in high or hard-to-get-to-locations. These locations have become more numerous on the newer units, such as Distilling-2, Alky, Sats Gas, and the like."

"Unlike older units like the Cat Crackers, the new ones have been built without as much superstructure. Extracting tubulars from high

levels in these units has needed the coordination of up to three cranes and a tractor.

"The new piece allows this to be done with one crane. The most important thing here is safety, especially if it's a somewhat confined area. We anticipate continuing the old method which I think is a little faster when it comes to extraction at ground level, but certainly at higher elevations the 'extractor' is the safer way."

How it works

How does it work? The extractor is raised to elevation by a crane where it is attached to the heat exchanger's shell. By manipulating various valves, the craftsman lines up and balances the extractor,

ready for the pull.

Then, either by using the main hydraulic cylinder, and/or a pneumatic chain-drive, the bundle is pulled out and rested on the extractor's cradle. The whole thing -- bundle and extractor -- is then lowered to the ground where the bundle can be removed to the shop for repair.

Donaldson said, "The extractor can exert tremendous force (up to 65 tons of thrust) to remove reluctant bundles. This isn't unusual because they often get gummed up during operation and don't always like to slide out easily."

"The extractor itself can carry a load of up to 30 tons which is larger than most all the bundles we have."

Extractor named Chester

Certainly a piece of equipment as unique as the "hydraulic bundle extractor" must have a sentimental nickname! It does: "Chester."

How it got the nickname of Chester came out in the interview with Red Donaldson for the story about the extractor on this page.

Why "Chester?" Red laughed, "It's named after Chester Hendrick who just retired this last March 1st. When Chet retired he ended an era as far as the boilermakers are concerned."

"He was the last boilermaker who had been one of the old time riggers. There

are still fellas in other crafts and jobs at the refinery who were part of the old rigging gang, but Chester was the last of the boilermakers."

"I guess you could say the extractor provides a kind of specialized type of rigging itself, so in tribute to Chester Hendrick and all the other riggers, we gave this new machine a name -- Chester."

"There are some who kidded Chester by saying he was being replaced by a machine. But that's not the case... now every time that new gadget grunts and groans, pushes and pulls, we can think of that old rigger, Chester Hendrick, and smile."



HERE'S HOW IT WORKS. Red Donaldson (second from left) demonstrates the potential capabilities of the new hydraulic bundle extractor.

Wet your line . . . the records are waiting

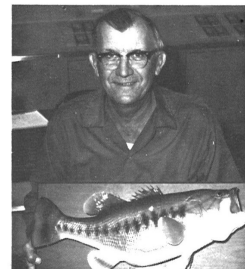
There are more than a few devoted -- and skillful -- fishermen among Wood River's employees. One of the most popular, long-standing SRA activities is the annual fishing contest.

The season is currently in high gear and will run through October 15. This year's judges are Andy Corsere, tinner; Bob Hardy, special tester; and Jack Ridinger, dispatching foreman.

Ever wonder what the records are for the three types of fish that the SRA contest judges? To the right are the current SRA, state, and world records -- so now you know what you're angling for.

Records

	SRA	Illinois	Missouri	World
Bass	8 lb 6oz (Dave Patton, eng fmn - ret)	12 lb 8 oz	13 lb 14 oz	22 lb 4 oz
Bluegill	1 lb 5 oz (Ed Allen, trucks - ret)	2 lb 10 oz	3 lb 0 oz	4 lb 12 oz
Crappie	2 lb 9 oz (Ron McGill, counterman)	4 lb 7 oz	4 lb 8 oz	5 lb 3 oz



BASS EXPERT Walter Wojtkiewicz (ret. Utilities opr.) mounted this 7 lb. 15 oz. bass he caught.

Senator Long short on FOGCO

Remember FOGCO, the Federal Oil and Gas Corporation? Some politicians apparently feel a government bureaucracy can be a more efficient energy provider than private industry. U.S. Senator Russell B. Long, chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, doesn't agree. The following (sometimes razor-sharp) comments are from a recent statement by the Senator.

I see that round two of the struggle over FOGCO has begun with the introduction of the Consumer Energy Act of 1975. We began 1974 with similar legislation that generated absolutely no enthusiasm or support from any quarters except those who think that government bureaucracy can do a better job providing this country's energy than the energy industry itself.

Over the last 40 years, the American free enterprise system has provided six per cent of the world's population with one-third of the world's energy at lower costs than prevail in any other nation. As a reward for this kind of service the FOGCO bill would unceremoniously push our energy companies into a secondary position and give them nothing but the scraps and leftovers while the most choice federal lands both onshore and offshore would be gobbled up by FOGCO.

I imagine that even a mediocre businessman could go out and run a government-funded corporation, operated with taxpayers' dollars, and loaded to the hilt with every competitive advantage that the mind of man could possibly conceive and turn a small profit. . . .

Well I might be willing to vote to give them \$100 million for openers to go out and buy a medium-sized company if they feel like they have just got to have one. But I would insist that they go out and compete just like everyone else, without having all sorts of built-in advantages that no one else has. The yardstick against which that operation is measured should be calibrated the same way as the yardstick that private industry uses.

... in my dealings on trade legislation I have been able to analyze many things that the Russians desperately want from us. Foremost among them is the technology and expertise of our private oil industry. They created a FOGCO of their own in 1917, and 60 years later they are still trying to figure out how to put pipe in the ground.

They desperately need the expertise and know-how of the very same American energy companies which FOGCO would try to put out of business in this country. The Russians aren't looking to this country for assistance from a FOGCO. They are coming to us for relief and salvation from their own FOGCO. It makes something less than common sense to me under these circumstances that we should be talking about Russianizing our energy industry.

Easter egg hunters identified

Ever try to catch the name of a little kid in search of Easter goodies? Of course it's impossible, so those pictured in last month's story on the annual SRA Easter Egg Hunt went nameless ... until now.

Thanks to proud parents and grandparents who helped in the identification, the *Review* is pretty much able to give names to those nameless ... and offer them for your re-viewing.



"LET'S START." Tiffany Albert, daughter of Floyd Albert, research technician; and Mike Pullen, son of Gene Pullen, senior lab technician.



"WHEW." Lisa Spano, daughter of electrician apprentice Lou Spano.



"PICKIN' UP." Natalie Leach, granddaughter of Pete Tucker, janitor at washhouse-6, main gate.



"IN THE BAG." Still unidentified ...



"RUNNIN'." Patricia Nash, daughter of Darrell Nash, compounder helper.



"AGELESS." Missing the age group by about 65 years is Elmer Ralston, father of Bob Ralston, electrician. He was baby-sitting for Bob's daughter Micky.

RETIREMENTS



Joe Hmurovich
Painter
38 years



Fred Alberter
Gas
33 years



Hiram Harris
Electrician
31 years



Hubert Pulliam
Utilities
30 years

Energy Forum

If one of your friends or neighbors asked you the following questions, how would you answer? Our answers are on page three.

1. Isn't Shell Oil Company really just a foreign-based corporation run by a bunch of Dutchmen?
2. There's a lot of talk about "energy self-sufficiency" for the United States and "Project Independence." What's Shell's position on the subject?

Shell jobber...

Ory Brothers and their floating general store

A local service station - like the Shell dealer in your neighborhood - is a good station if it's pumping 50,000 gallons of gasoline a month. Generally speaking, when a station sells 85,000 gallons a month ... about a million gallons a year ... it enters into the exceptional or exclusive league.

Refinery neighbor and Shell jobber Ory Brothers Marine Service, Inc., at the foot of Hawthorne Street in Hartford, on the river, specializes in diesel fuel rather than gasoline. Their average in diesel fuel sales runs in the neighborhood of 3 million gallons ... each month! Some service station, huh?

Midstreamer

Ory Brothers Marine serves a unique clientele: the barge lines that push the huge barges up and down the Mississippi River. And they perform their services in a unique way - in mid-river while the "tows" are in full flight. ("Tow" is the name given to the tow-boats and their cargo of barges.)

Because of the manner in which Ory and their counterparts along the inland river system perform their services, they are termed "midstreamers". Ory Brothers is the largest Shell supplier in this area. The other midstreamer handling Shell products on this part of the river is Economy Boat Store of Wood River.

They both receive their petroleum products directly from the refinery's Hartford Docks or by truck from the refinery.

Ory doesn't handle just diesel fuel, though. According to company president, Rene Ory, they dispense more than 200,000 gallons of lube oils per year and also are in the grocery and supply business.

Big sale

Asked what might be a conceivable sale to a big tow, Rene responded, "Well, all tow boats aren't this big and wouldn't require this much; but if one of the bigger ones came through, we could expect their needs to be:

- ... 50,000 gallons of diesel fuel
- ... 1,000 gallons of lube oil.
- ... 200 pounds of assorted meats from bacon to T-bones.
- ... mixed fresh vegetables, cereals, spaghetti, etc.
- ... 50 gallons of milk.
- ... 2 cases of coffee.
- ... case lots of towels, soap, etc.

"We also provide rope, cables, and tools as well as personal grooming items for the crew. We even take their dirty laundry, have it cleaned, and return it to them on the next trip through."

Floating office

The Ory Brothers' paneled offices, warehouse, and grocery store are all floating ... on a boat at their headquarters on the river.

Adjacent are their own barges or "flats" - that serve as storage tanks and pumps of diesel fuel and lubricants to the tows.

When an order comes in ("we need this and such and will be in your area in two hours") the Ory people load up the supplies, cable a fuel flat to one of their own tugs, and head out into the river to meet their customer. Most of their work is done between Lock 26 at Alton and Number 27 at Granite City. They are open 24 hours a day.

According to Flint Ory, vice-president of operations, the 1973 floods put a big crimp in their business. He said, "It wasn't that we couldn't have provided the service. Our floating offices remained open throughout. We came and went by motorboat.

"It's just that for a while, there were no tows on the river as it had been closed to all traffic. No tows - no customers."

Shell pensioner

Vern Barth, vice-president of sales is a former Shell employee. Vern retired from Shell in 1974 after 28 years of service and shortly thereafter joined Ory.

He said, "Many of my Shell years in Marketing were in connection with the inland water systems and people like the Ory Brothers. I learned to love the river.

"It was only natural for me to 'keep my feet wet' so to



MIDSTREAM HOOKUP. With the tow churning down the Mississippi, the Ory tug ties on in preparation for midstream refueling and supply exchange.

speak after retirement, and I'm proud to be associated with such fine people and their organization. Besides, since most of Ory's business deals with Shell products, they must be pretty smart fellas, right?"

Ory Brothers Marine Service - a local business and neighbor of the refinery, getting many of their supplies directly from the refinery and selling them to rather unique customers.

'Runaway Barge'

Shell jobbers 'star' on TV show

It's possible that the first time you ever heard of Ory Brothers Marine Service was in the story on this page.

But did you catch their television show? Well, it really wasn't "their" show, but Ory Brothers played a big part in an hour-long adventure story called "Runaway Barge" aired earlier this year on network TV.

Many of the scenes included, or were shot from Ory tugs; and even a portion of their Hartford facilities served as a backdrop.

If you've ever seen a movie in the making, you know that what comes out on the screen is only a small part of what's really going on. Want to know a

little behind-the-scenes dope on the making of the "Runaway Barge"?

The inside story

The movie folks ... stars, director, camera crews, sound and light men, extras, etc., were in the Alton area for about two weeks early last December. Scenes were shot day and night on or near the river from roughly Hartford to Grafton.

One scene early in the show featured an Ory tug ... with Flint Ory at the helm ... and also their Hartford facilities.

Flint said, "The story idea was to drop off two of the 'barge hands' so they could go into town for a few hours. You'd think that would be

simple enough, but we must have run through it twenty times!

"The biggest problem was engine noise. It was hard to come in smooth and quiet against that river's current. Finally got it completed, though. I never realized how hard those movie people work to make a scene just perfect."

Trick shots

Rene Ory added, "One of the scenes where the star is peering through what looked like heavy underbrush on a secluded section of the river was really done through some scraggly bushes right next to our docks.

"You couldn't tell the difference, though, when it came on television. Makes you wonder about some of these 'wilderness' scenes you see sometimes, doesn't it?"

According to Rene there were a couple other scenes in "Runaway Barge" that really weren't all they were cracked up to be.

He said, "I have to laugh when I even think about the title, the 'Runaway Barge'. It wouldn't run away! The river was so still, the barge that was supposed to be floating out of control down the channel had to be pushed by one of our tugs

(Continued on page four)



ROLL 'EM. Instructions are flashed from shore as the Ory tug goes through its paces for the camera crew. (Photo courtesy of Ron Hempel, Alton Telegraph)

Energy Forum

Here are answers to the Energy Forum questions on page two.

1. Shell Oil Company is a U.S. company. It is chartered in the State of Delaware and operates almost exclusively in the United States. There are over 32,000 employees in Shell. We don't have any figures as to how many of these 32,000 are Dutch, but suspect there are few.

Just over 69 percent of Shell's common stock outstanding is owned by a Dutch holding company which in turn has stock outstanding in a 60/40 ratio to Royal Dutch Petroleum Company of The Netherlands and Shell Transport and Trading Company of Britain.

The remaining 31 percent of Shell Oil's common stocks are widely held by nearly 32,000 stockholders. Approximately 3 million shares are held by the Shell Stock Fund (Provident Fund), an employee benefit plan in which employees of the company participate.

Shell's day-to-day operations are executed and directed by its own officers who are subject to the control of the Board of Directors of which there are currently 13 members. A majority of the Board (7) are from outside the Company and have no business affiliation with any other company in the Royal Dutch/Shell Group.

2. Shell's position on Project Independence has been submitted to the Federal Energy Administration, and a pamphlet outlining it is available on request from Head Office Public Affairs. Fundamental points are:

"Shell supports the objective of Project Independence, which we understand to be reducing U.S. dependence on imported energy supplies through development of domestic energy resources.

"Shell urges that the role of government in Project Independence should be to provide reasonable policy guidelines for accomplishment of domestic resource development, including the provision of institutional mechanisms for providing information to the public and government on resource availability and cost.

"Shell believes that the development of U.S. energy resources can and should be achieved by private industry, operating in the free market with price as the incentive for supply and the restraint on demand; if at the same time the public needs assurance that energy industry profits will be used to increase production, then we believe legislation requiring reinvestment of a proportion of profits in energy production should be passed."

Television or radio...

How to track storms at home

You don't need to be reminded that it's tornado season...or that this section of the country is considered tornado territory.

What might be helpful, however, is a home honing device for detecting the presence of tornadoes in your area. There are two of these tornado tracers that you probably have in your home already: a TV set and a transistor radio. Here's how to use them:

Television

Warm up your set and dial it to Channel 13. Reduce the brightness of the picture until it's almost black. Then turn the channel selector to Channel 2 and make no further adjustments.

Because the type of signals generated by lightning and tornadoes override the

brightness control of Channel 2's frequency, you can in effect "watch" their presence. Lightning appears as bright flashes on the darkened screen.

The sustained power of a tornado within 15 or 20 miles of your set will cause a steady glow. If the screen becomes bright and remains so continuously or the darkened picture becomes visible, a twister is near and it's time to take shelter!

There's one drawback, though, to "watching" an electrical storm (or anything else) on your TV if lightning is particularly close... antennae have been known to serve as lightning rods, drawing the charge down out of the sky, through the line and into the set - kaboom! Use your judgment in these

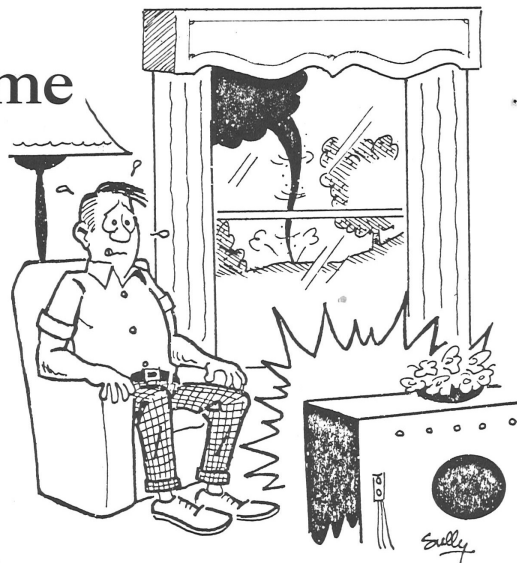
circumstances.

Transistor radio

If the power is off, or you've elected to disconnect your TV set during stormy weather, you can still monitor a violent storm if you have a transistor radio.

Turn the radio to the low end of the dial, about 550 kilocycles. You don't have to be tuned to any station. The radio will pick up the same signals as the television. Lightning causes intermittent static while a tornado causes continuous static.

Violent storms, especially tornadoes, pack tremendous power. They are nothing to be glib about. It could save your life to be alert to their presence, and then act accordingly to take cover.



SRA has big plans for you in June

Golf Day - June 21. The annual SRA Golf Day will be held Saturday, June 21, at Cloverleaf Golf Course.

There will be coffee and donuts at the course and chicken dinner and refreshments at the Wood River Moose Lodge following the round. The entire cost, including greens fees, is \$6 per person, payable at the first tee.

Tee times may be reserved starting June 9 by calling

either Charlie Gibson in Light Oil Processing or Charley Rose at Engineering Field. Tee time reservations will not be accepted prior to June 9. Get your foursome together and join in!

Family Picnic - June 28. The Chain of Rocks Park or Riverview Drive in St. Louis (just south of I-270) will again be the site of the SRA Family Picnic. Saturday, June 28, is the date. Activities will run

from noon until 6 p.m.

Special passes may be purchased for \$1.50 per person which entitle the bearer to unlimited free rides and swimming. Without the pass you still get reduced rates. There will also be free bingo under the pavilion.

Pack a picnic lunch or purchase food at the park. There will be 15-cent beer, and nickel soda and ice cream. It's the biggest family event of the year. Be there!

Review readers give their opinions in poll

Readers' responses to the questionnaire about the *Shell Review* were tabulated and published in the December '74 issue. At that time it was promised that selected comments and suggestions made by readers would be discussed in future issues.

This is the second installment. Here's what some readers are saying and our responses.

1. I almost didn't fill out this form as I didn't see any results from the last one a couple years ago.

To be quite honest, I find it difficult to see how you can say that. I didn't think the changes were all that subtle.

For instance, the *Shell Review* you're now reading is a direct result of that last readership survey. Because of that survey, the *Review* was expanded, the print quality upgraded, and the format, I think, made more appropriate. Because of all this, there are more stories and pictures about more Wood River people than were possible with the publication immediately prior to the survey.

Responding to overall readers' interests, new columns, such as "Sports and Shorts" and "Energy Forum," have been initiated, and an attempt has been made to put greater emphasis on local items of interest to all employees.

Why, even this column discussing readers' suggestions proves that we do, indeed, "hear you."

Obviously, every suggestion by every reader cannot be accommodated. (For one reason, all readers don't agree on what they want to see, like, dislike, etc.) But you can rest assured that those items, such as pictures of deceased employees/pensioners, that appeal to a substantial portion of the readers will be given careful consideration. -- Editor

2. What about doing stories showing the work that's done in the departments and the crafts?

Several readers made this suggestion and it's a good one. Many employees work at Wood River for years, and although they know the other departments and crafts are here doing their jobs, they have little specific knowledge about just what those duties include.

Don't expect a series of articles on a month-in-month-out basis, however. Articles will be featured when they are most appropriate. In this regard, and with timeliness in mind, if you know of activities of particular interest in your area, contact me or have your craft supervisor or departmental management do so. -- Editor

From page three...

Runaway Barge

to keep it from standing still."

No close shave

He continued, "The other thing was when the 'runaway' got near the Alton dam. They used telephoto lenses at certain angles to give the illusion of it almost hitting the dam.

"In reality there was no danger. Even the tug that saved it never got closer than 200 feet to the dam. It looked close on the screen, though.

"By the way, the saving tug - the 'Alton' - is owned by one of our customers, Norman Brothers."

All in all the Ory Brothers, their families and employees had a great time being involved in the making of a big-time TV show (and in some cases being on-screen). Rene said, "The movie people were all fine folks, friendly and

hard working. We were glad to be a part of it.

It's really safer

"Only one thing about the show bothered me. They gave the impression that barges are allowed to get in poor condition, and what's more

CLASSIFIED ADS

Found

Set of keys. Found in early May in the picnic area of Kendall Hill. Identify and claim at Employee Relations.

Wanted

Bowlers for the SRA leagues next season. Any SRA member interested in entering a team in either the Monday or Wednesday leagues (6:30 pm start) please contact John Thomas in the Tech Department or Charlie Gibson in LOP.

Forsale

Lake site lot. Valle Lake, Missouri. Al Lovato. 618-254-2172.

allowed to carry cargos like chlorine in that condition.

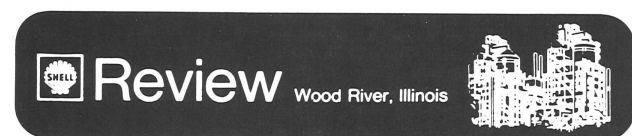
"Actually the Coast Guard sees to it that river equipment stays in top condition or is pulled out of the water. But the TV people wouldn't have had much of a story under those circumstances, would they?"

Automotive. 1973 Capri. V-6. All extras except air. Oversized steel belted radials. Four, 15x7 1/2 ET unilug mag wheels. Bill White 618-656-2843.

Tires. Two that fit 14 inch rim. Also two snow tires. All for \$25. P.E. Morrissey. 618-465-9101.

Livingroom furniture. Early American. Couch with matching chair and footstool. Two end tables. Solid maple set. Doug Carlson. 618-259-5925.

Game-time. Slot car set. Ping-pong table. Henry Kuhlman. 618-888-2427.



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Bill Gibson, editor

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