TEST DRIVE *By Winfred Cross*

1993 Crown Victoria

Never say you will not like something until you try it or you'll make a liar out of yourself each and every time.

That's what happened with me and Ford's Crown Victoria. Surely me with lead foot could not enjoy such a big, slow behemoth. And the styling is certainly something the Geritol set could only appreciate.

Well, a week in Ford's police special found me eating my words in large quantities.

Once I got to look at the car without police insignias and stripes, I found it to be fairly appealing. A small, chrome grill was added this year to break away from the Taurus' styling. The exterior is sleek, but still a touch odd. It's likable the more you look at it.

The interior is a lot less unsettling. You can question the choice of shiny plastic but nothing else is out of place. It's not flashy or spectacular, but it is handsome and ergonomically correct. I'm real crazy about the fake wood either, but at least it's not shiny. Also, there wasn't a squeak or a rattle to be heard.

The leather split-bench seats were very comfortable although they did not have a great deal of lower back support. They had power adjustments that allowed you to select the correct seating position.

On the road, the car is just about faultless for a large car. It doesn't drive much like a large American sedan – no wallowing or unnecessary floating. Credit this to the optional handling package which is much the same set-up in the police package. In fact, the car handles more like a mid-size car. That is until you try to park the thing.

The nicest part of the car was the engine. Ford's modular 4.6 liter single overhead cam engine is very smooth while moving the car forward fairly briskly. Punch the accelerator and you've got enough power to pass anything. And you will.

There are no glaring errors that come to mind when I think of the Crown Victoria. Except maybe the price. The base price of the car was a very reasonable $21,705. That buys you a lot of steel, which housed a lot of standard equipment, including power windows, auto headlamps, tilt steering wheel, speed sensitive power steering, air conditioning and dual remote power windows.

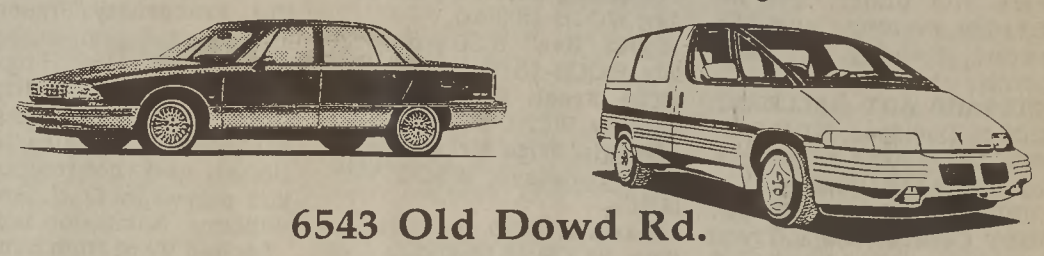
But the price soared once options were added. A preferred equipment package that included a bunch of luxury items cost $4,575. The handling package cost $484. The dual air bag safety option cost an additional $488. Leather seats cost $555. The JBL audio system and trunk mounted CD changer combined for $1,349. Subtract a built in $1,543 discount and add $575 for destination and the as-tested price came to $28,188.

That sounds a bit high, but consider the high build quality, hushed ride and wonderful engine and you've got a car that can rival Lincoln's Town Car easily. And that's high praise indeed.

♫"DJ"♫
MUSIC FOR ALL OCCASIONS
Call: 399-4974
After 6:00pm

HOLLIDAY AUTO RENTALS, INC
PAYLESS CAR RENTAL
Charlotte, thank you for letting us be a part of you.
The Staff of Payless Car Rental invites you to call us for your next car rental.

"CREDIT CARD NOT REQUIRED"



6543 Old Dowd Rd.
(704)359-4640 1-800-873-5080

CITY LYTES
CHARLOTTE'S ELITE NITE CLUB
TICKLES NITE TIME COMEDY
Upstairs - Every Friday Night
"FRIDAY, July 2,
Wil-E-DJ Robo Cop,
6 Time Apollo Winner
Opened For Jamie Foxx & D.L. Hughley
Doors Open 9pm - Showtime 10pm
For More Information or Reservations 375-8828
2401 Wilkinson Blvd. Formerly St. Marks

WHY RENT?
OWN YOUR HOME FOR $350 DOWN
UNDER A SPECIAL CITY PROGRAM, WE HAVE 40 HOMES TO SELL TO FAMILIES WHO EARN UNDER $30,000 PER YEAR.
IF YOU HAVE TWO OR MORE YEARS OF CONTINUOUS WORK HISTORY AND AT LEAST SIX MONTHS OF GOOD CREDIT, GIVE US A CALL.
CONTACT:
HOMEOWNERSHIP PROGRAM;
DAVANT REALTY: 376-3591

Pinto Beans 3/$1
15 Oz. Luck's
Regularly 40¢ Each

Ground Beef $1.19 Lb.
Fresh Daily 3 Lb. Pack Or More
Save 50¢ per lb.

Food Lion Cola 99¢
6 Pack 12 Oz. Cans

Watermelons $1.99 Ea.
Red Ripe

Kellogg's $1.49 15 Oz.
Cinnamon Mini Buns Cereal
Regularly $3.10

Armour Hot Dogs 69¢ 12 Oz.
All Meat

Eastern Packaged Peaches 39¢ Lb.

Tyson/Holly Farms - Grade A Whole Fryers..... .59 Lb.
100% Pure Ground Beef Patties..... 1.59 Lb.
USDA Choice Beef Bottom Round Roast..... 1.99 Lb.

Imported Packham Pears 69¢ Lb.

Kingsford Charcoal $5.99
20 Lb. Regularly $6.29

Deli Delights
Mustard Potato Salad, Macaroni Salad Or Dixie Cole Slaw 79¢ Lb.
8 Piece Chicken Box $4.99
Fresh Baked Sandwich Buns & Hot Dog Buns 8 Ct. 99¢
Lean Boiled Ham $2.59 Lb.

4 Pack - Scott White Bath Tissue..... 1.99 Reg. $2.19
32 Oz. - Hellmann's Mayonnaise.... 1.99 Reg. $2.29
6 Oz. - Reg. & Flavored Wise Potato Chips..... 89¢ Reg. $1.39
8 Ct. - Food Lion - Hamburger & Hot Dog Buns..... 2/99¢ Reg. 2/$1.19

Case With Coupon $4.98
6 Pack - 12 Oz. Cans $1.66

Get one 6-Pack FREE with purchase of 3 6-packs of 12 oz. cans!
0 49000 00019 1
Retail Value $ _____
Valid only at Food Lion. Offer valid until July 6, 1993.
Offer good only on soft drink products from Coca-Cola Bottling Co. Consolidated.
©1993 The Coca-Cola Company, "Coca-Cola," "diet Coke," the Dynamic Ribbon device, "Sprite," "Lynnett" and "Mello Yello" are trademarks of The Coca-Cola Company.

FOOD LION
Prices in this ad good June 30 thru July 6, 1993. We reserve the right to limit quantities.
We Sell Postage Stamps.