

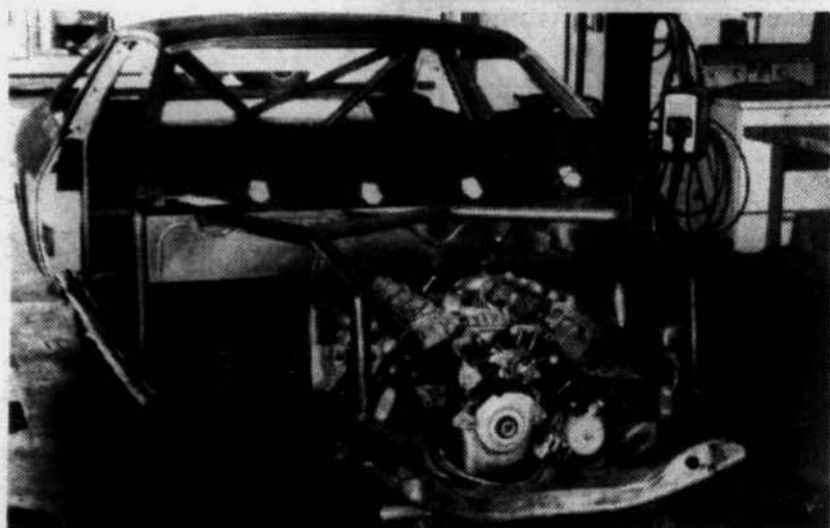
Building a Car



Left— Maurice Petty checks out an engine. Stock cars are built from scratch. Each engine part is carefully weighed and balanced. Engines are torn apart after every race. Whether they win or lose, the Pettys want to know why.



Welders at Petty Enterprises make a strong metal frame called a "roll cage." This protects the driver and makes the cars at least 10 times safer than "on the road" cars.



Photos by Hugh Carrigg

An engine is added to the car's shell. Stock cars are based on models 3 years old or later. A regular car can cost about \$7,000. Stock cars cost about \$40,000. When this car is ready for the race, it must pass an inspection and weigh in at a certain weight. The cars have stripped-down interiors. There is only the seat for the driver.

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How Races are Run



Photo by Hugh Carrigg

See Richard Petty get into his car. Stock cars don't have doors. Drivers crawl in through windows.

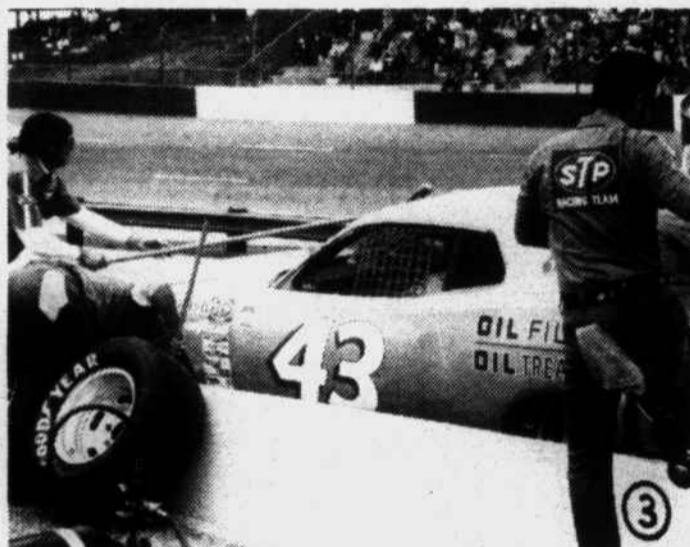


Photo by Hugh Carrigg

Quick! the drivers stop during a race to get gas and new tires. They stop at a place, just off the track, called a pit. Each driver has a racing team. These men try to make the tire changes and fill the gas tank fast. They want to get the driver back on the track in just seconds. Short pit stops help win races.

Flags are used to signal drivers



GREEN
Start



YELLOW
Slow, hold position



BLACK
Pull into pit



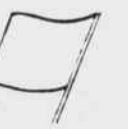
RED
Stop



BLUE-YELLOW
Move over



YELLOW-RED
Oil on track



WHITE
Entering last lap



CHECKERED
Finish

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For Parents 'n Teachers

Ask the children to read The Mini Page and fill in the blanks.

Page 1:

1. Stock cars can go _____ miles per hour.
2. Richard Petty is from _____.
3. His father's name is _____.

Page 2:

4. Some people listen to the races on _____.

Page 3:

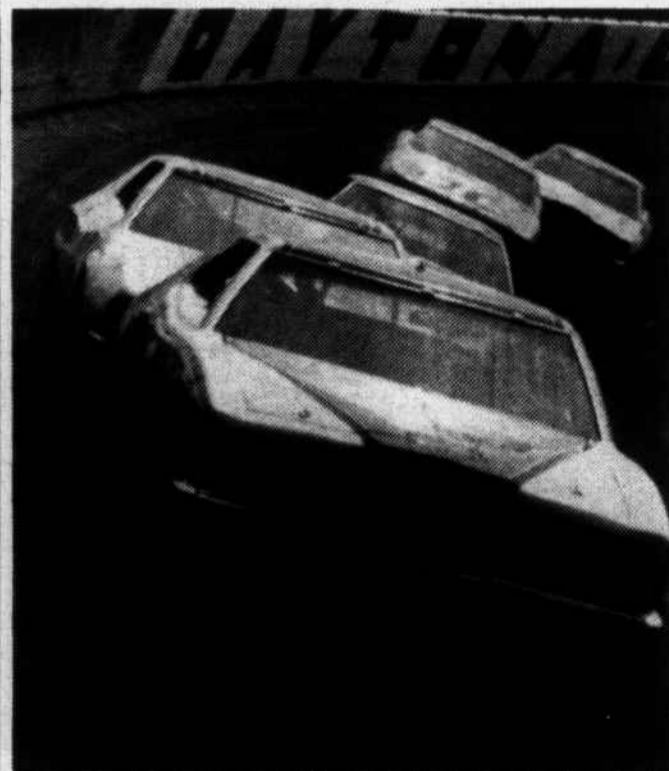
5. _____ Yarborough is a "hot dog" from South Carolina.

Page 4:

6. Stock cars can cost as much as _____.
7. The red flag means _____.

Check their answers to see if they are right!

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Photos by Hugh Carrigg

Zoom! The cars race around the track. The track slants up towards the outside. Drivers have CB radios to talk to their racing crews.