
News Articles

'Skid Monster' teaches safe driving

By Dan Campana

Daily Chronicle

June 13, 2000

DeKALB - What has two yellow wheels and whips you around like a carnival ride?

A new safe driving tool coming to Northern Illinois University, that's what.

The Skid Monster and its inventor, Fred Mottola, came to DeKalb on Monday for a demonstration of the latest tool in driving safety.

At first look, the yellow wheels look like training wheels, but they help provide a visual example of how even the slightest increase in speed can lead to a "monster" of a problem.

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Skid Monster could keep more teens safe on road

By Suzanne Barrett

The Herald

Sunday, April 4, 1999

When it comes to teaching young people how to drive safely, parents and instructors have to get creative. A few leaders in the state-including the Edmonds and Marysville School Districts-are learning how to successfully teach traffic safety education with limited money.

A new major component of learning how to drive better revolves around a tool called the Skid Monster.

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Driver Ed Buys Monster to Put Fear - And Experience - Into Students

By Katherine Kapos
The Salt Lake Tribune

Friday, November 20, 1998

Taylorville - The new driver education teacher in the Granite School District is a monster.

Actually, students have nothing to fear. But they should be prepared for crashed cones, 360-degree turns and wobbly knees.

That is because the Skid Monster simulates some nasty road and weather conditions, giving students a change to practice control.

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Training safe drivers
By CWU News Services

ELLENSBURG - National statistics indicate teenage drivers are responsible for about five times as many fatal crashes per licenseholder as drivers 35 to 64 years old.

While it's assumed a majority of the mishaps involve alcohol, experts say carelessness and poor decision making are likely the cause of most of these incidents.

Central Washington University is spearheading the effort to help Washington's student drivers learn critical car-control and decision-making skills needed to become safe drivers.

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RAIN Day to Focus On Automotive Safety
By Stephanie Reitz

The Hartford Courant

June 2, 1999

Who among us hasn't experienced that sickening feeling as our rear tires lose their grip on the roadway, sending our vehicles fishtailing on wet pavement?

On Sunday, you can experience that feeling in safety, and gain a few pointers about how to handle the real thing.

The "Skid Monster," a creation of Frederik R. Mottola, professor emeritus at Southern Connecticut State University, will be one of many features and events at this weekend's second annual RAIN Day.

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