

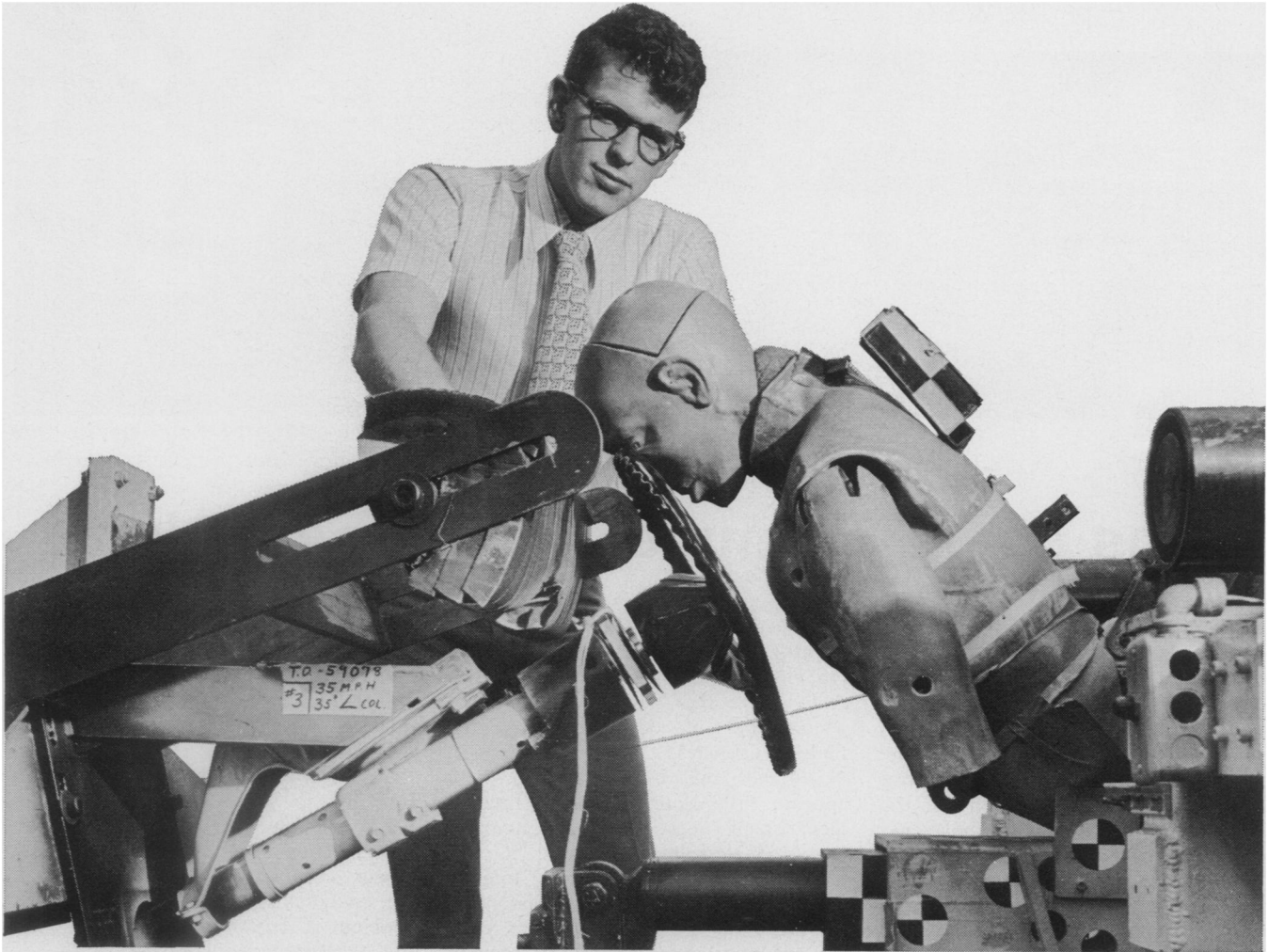
science news

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CLEANING UP OIL SPILLS

Some modest advances, but regulation called inadequate



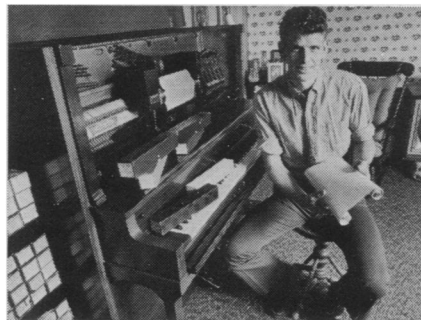
His work helped save 3,000 lives and 23 player pianos.

Loren Kramer took up reconditioning player pianos on a whim. Which may seem uncharacteristic for a serious design engineer who helped develop GM's Energy-Absorbing steering column. According to the U.S. Department of Transportation, it saved 3,000 lives in its first three years of usage.

A graduate of Iowa State University with a BS in electrical engineering, Loren's official title is Design Engineer on Steering Linkages. Shortly after starting at Saginaw Steering Gear Division in Saginaw, Michigan, he became part of a special group assigned to develop the E-A steering column.

Today Loren is involved in testing these columns, either in the labs at Saginaw or at the GM proving grounds.

At home, you'll probably find Loren in his workshop busy pursuing his favorite hobby. Several years ago, while looking for a



piano for his wife, Loren found an old broken-down player piano. He brought it home and while cleaning out the dirt, discovered that he could operate the mechanism with a vacuum sweeper. With the help of his wife, he completely restored it. Since that time he's reconditioned 22 others and sold many of them.

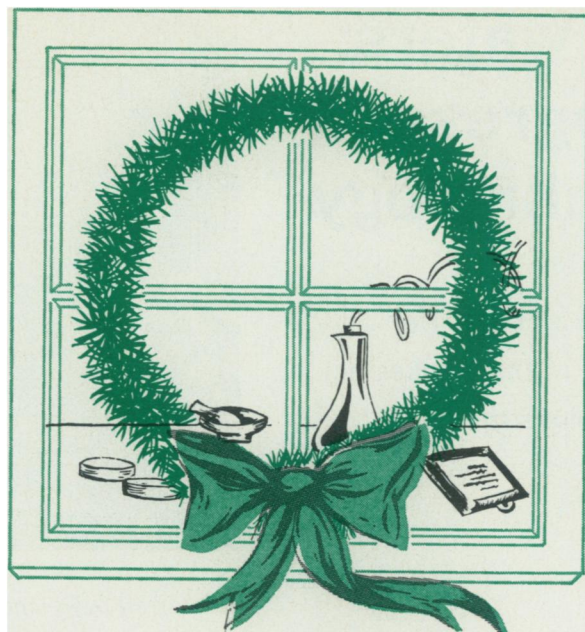
Loren Kramer has a natural interest in learning how things work and getting them to work better. He's another of the many interesting people who make GM a more interesting place to work.



General Motors

Interesting people doing interesting things.

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