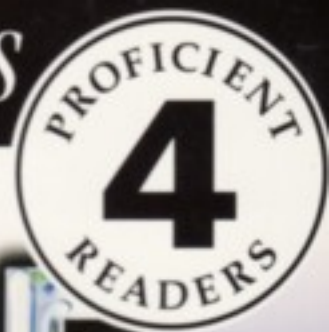




DORLING KINDERSLEY *READERS*



EXTREME MACHINES



CHRISTOPHER MAYNARD

On land
Endeavor holds the world's land speed record for the fastest truck. In 1993 it zipped along at a staggering 226 mph.

An extreme machine

Most of the cars, boats, and planes we travel in these days are reliable and safe. Most of them are perhaps a little ordinary too, because we see them

every day. But there are lots of odd-looking machines that only exist to do something

fantastic. They go ridiculously fast or fly incredibly high.

On the sea
Offshore powerboats race along more than three times faster than a car is allowed to travel on the highway.





Quick change
A Le Mans car can be jacked up in seconds, raising the car six inches. Each wheel is held on with just one nut. Tires are changed in the time it takes to tie a shoelace.

Who's that?
Racing machines always have numbers so they can be easily identified.

The best place to watch Le Mans is from the grandstands close to the pits – the areas where the cars are serviced. Cars regularly limp into the pits, thirsty for fuel and urgently needing a new set of tires.

Mechanics swarm around a car like bees the moment it rolls to a stop. Each mechanic has a small task that has been repeatedly rehearsed. Within seconds the car is refueled, fitted with fresh tires, and speeding away.

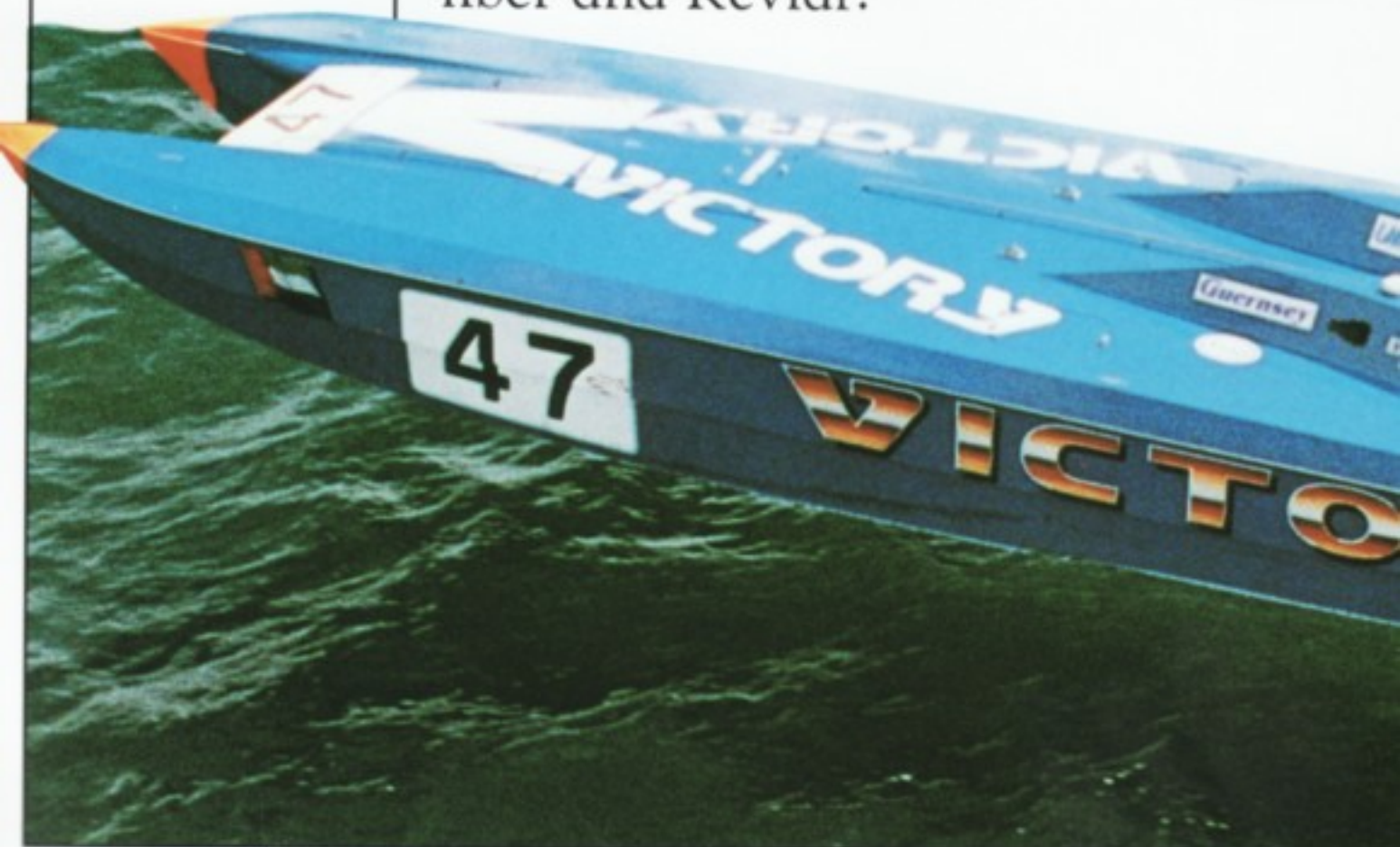


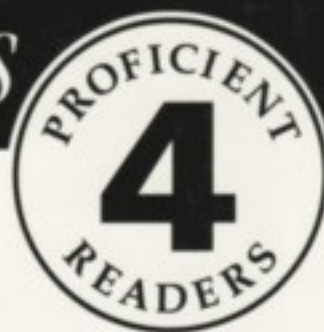
What's that?
This odd-looking racing machine is a swamp buggy. It is raced through muddy swamps in Florida. Swamp buggies were originally built as hunting machines.

Offshore powerboats

Each year from June to November, powerboat crews from all over Europe and the Middle East gather for a season of races. In open seas they battle to win the World Championships of offshore powerboat racing.

Offshore powerboats are huge. They weigh the same as five family cars and stretch a good 43 feet. Their massive twin hulls, called catamarans, are made out of two space-age materials – carbon fiber and Kevlar.





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conquer land, sea, and air.

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incredible machines in the world.



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