

Eddie Ash

## NEWS of the DAY IN THE SPORT WORLD

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## Harder Fought Race Is Eddie 'Rick's' Opinion

Former Speed Pilot and Air Ace Believes Cars Are So Evenly Matched That Pace Is Sure to Be Closely and Sensationally Contested Throughout.

BY E. V. RICKENBACKER.

Official Starter 1922 500-Mile Race.

The large entry list for the 500-mile race at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, Tuesday, May 30, makes evident that with the renewal in the racing rivalry of yester-year this season's race will be one of the most bitterly contested affairs in the history of the classic. The cars, it appears, are more evenly matched than ever before. This is caused in a measure by the fact that practically no piston race has considered seriously the construction of motors of 183 cubic inches piston displacement size until it was required by the Indianapolis officials two years ago.

Therefore the designers all started at scratch, and with this the third race the motors have been in vogue all the "bugs" have been worked out of them, and some astonishing results may be expected.

For instance, the 500-mile race last year was only a few hundredths of a mile per hour behind the record average Ralph De Palma established in 1915. With the bulk of the cars in the race, it is doubtful that if Milton had known he was so near to establishing a new record he could have sprinted enough in the closing lap to beat the record.

Close finishes—mean radiator to radiator—seldom seen in long races. This is especially true of the first race of the year. But this year it will be not at all surprising to find two or even three or four cars coming down the straightaway at the end of the 200 laps—close enough to cause unusual commotion in the stands.

The difference between the average time of the cars will be slight. But there will, of course, be a great margin of difference in the various drivers. There is a possibility that the best of thirty-two pilots representing the best of America and Europe there are certain to be a chosen few who have that something which causes them to stand out.

## Read What Eddie Says

In the Times today, this article, is an article by Eddie V. Rickenbacker, former speed pilot, aerial ace and official starter of the 1922 500-mile race dealing with the coming race.

It is a pleasure to call the racing game an authority on motor sports. In other words Eddie knows his stuff. He predicts a great battle at the Indianapolis on May 30, and his article by "Rick" dealing with the "new century" will appear in the Times to-morrow.

But the point I want to make is that the race will be faster than ever before; there will be more speed driving than ever before. The cars will be only a short space between the cars running in first, second, third and fourth places.

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As chairman of the contest board, Kennerdell will see the rise and fall of many speedways and watch the cars develop from slightly more than eight miles an hour to the present speeds of 115 and more. This development has necessitated many changes in the rules from time to time, and his knowledge of all the rules of racing and his knowledge of all the rules of the greatest race of the year in the speed world.

Chief Durant, from California's sportsman, arrived in Indianapolis Sunday. He will be in Durant Special, which was to be unbundled at the track today. Rooves Dutton, well known in Indianapolis, having a former member of the Stutz team, is with Durant.

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