

# Practice Dangerous As 33 Prep For Indy 500

By DALE BURGESS  
Associated Press Sports Writer

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. (AP) — Larry Dickson almost ruined his chances in Friday's 500-mile auto race Wednesday when his car lost a wheel during the final practice session.

Thirty of the 33 drivers shook down their cars Wednesday dur-

ing the two-hour practice session.

Dickson, of Marietta, Ohio, courted near disaster on the south turn when his left rear wheel came off in a low speed practice lap. The 1968 U. S. Auto Club sprint car champion without serious damage to the car or himself.

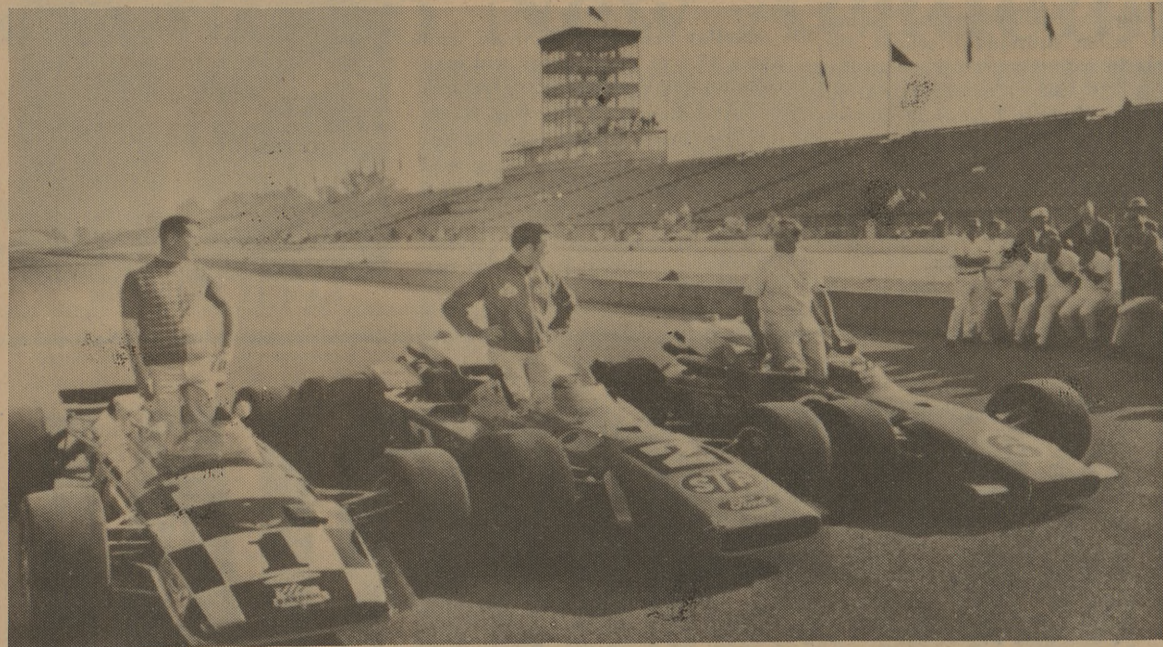
"I'm sure glad it didn't happen on the next lap, when I planned to turn one on," Dickson said.

Three cars still in rebuilding stages since qualifications didn't take advantage of the test period. They were rookie Bruce Walkup's Gerhardt-Offenhauser, Johnny Rutherford's Eagle-Offenhauser and Bobby Johns' Mongoose-Offenhauser.

Chief steward Harlan Fengler ordered two drivers to restore their cars to the configuration they had in qualifications — a basic USAC rule.

One of the major rules problems this year will be one which forbids a driver from taking fuel from a teammate's reserve tank in the pits. The 250-gallon limit, plus a car's starting load of about 75 gallons, may be crucial this year.

Some of the powerful new turbocharged Ford engines reportedly were getting less than two miles per gallon on methanol, the standard racing fuel. However, they can increase mileage by blending with gasoline, which gets better mileage but runs hotter and threatens engine damage.



**ON THE LINE**  
These cars and drivers will make up the front row of the field at the Indianapolis 500 mile race Friday. From left, Bobby Unser, Albuquerque, New Mexico, who qualified at 169.683 mph; Mario Andretti, Nazareth, Pa., 169.851; and the pole sitter, A. J. Foyt, Houston, 170.568. (AP Wirephoto)

## Nino, Tiger Appear Before Grand Jury

NEW YORK (AP) — Nino Benvenuti and Dick Tiger were questioned Wednesday by District Attorney Frank Hogan's office in what appears to be a long and deep investigation into underworld influences in boxing.

Both appeared before a New York County grand jury later in the day.

Hogan has said nothing officially. His office has declined to say what it's all about. But sources say Hogan's staff has been investigating for two months a resurgence of Mafia influence in main event fighters.

Both fighters were subpoenaed along with boxer Frankie De Paula and his manager, Gary Garafola, both of Jersey City, N. J. De Paula and Garafola were told to come back and testify before the grand jury on June 12 which indicates that a lot of persons, including Mafia figures will be called to testify over a long period of time.

DePaula and Garafola are out on \$25,000 bail each after being arrested by the FBI on charges of stealing \$80,000 worth of copper in interstate shipment. The fighter and manager have been suspended by the New York Athletic Commission, pending disposition of the case.

Tiger, a 12-5 underdog, soundly whipped Benvenuti in a non-title 10-rounder at Madison Square Garden Monday night. The Italian came out of the fight with a broken bone in his right hand and will be out of action for at least four months.

The outcome of the fight apparently is not being questioned. Sources say the fighters and others subpoenaed were served with papers that left Hogan's office late Monday afternoon, hours before the fight.

## West Point Trip Planned For Ags

The San Antonio A&M Formers Students are chartering a round-trip flight to New York for the football game between A&M and the United States Military Academy.

The flight, said Dick Withers, will leave for the game at 4 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 3, from San Antonio and return about 10 p.m. that night.

The cost of \$106 per person includes the plane trip, bus transportation from New York to West Point and tickets for the game, he said.

Withers noted that several tours are scheduled for sightseeing at the Academy. For information on reservations, he added, students should contact him at either 845-3012 or 846-0361. Deadline for reservations is June 1.

## Knicks' Forward Will Play Again

NEW YORK (AP) — Dave Stallworth, a 6-foot-7 forward whose basketball career was believed ended by a heart attack two years ago, will resume playing with the New York Knickerbockers next season.

Doctors told the National Basketball Association club that the former Wichita star had fully recovered and could resume normal activity. He is scheduled to report to the team's training camp in September.

## Williams Wants Starters To Last

WASHINGTON (AP) — The score is 15-0 in the early innings but still no one is throwing in the Washington Senators' bullpen.

Sounds incredible, but, says rookie manager Ted Williams it might have happened the way the Senators' fortunes were going during the past week.

"I was tempted to start somebody and get a complete game," Williams was saying after his Senators defeated Minnesota 5-1 Tuesday night. "And I didn't care if the score was 22-7."

Barry Moore went nine innings to win the game for Washington, only the third time this season that the starting Senators' pitcher was around for the finish.

"I've thought about it during the past week," Williams said. "Why not let the pitcher go and see what happens. Our relief pitchers needed a rest."

"And what's wrong with the idea of deciding beforehand that the starter is going to stay in no matter what. Either that or decide that the game will be divided between two guys."

The Senators have won only five of their last 20 and during that period have had two six-game losing streaks, one of which ended Tuesday night.

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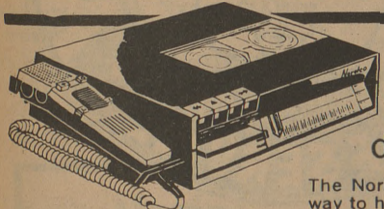
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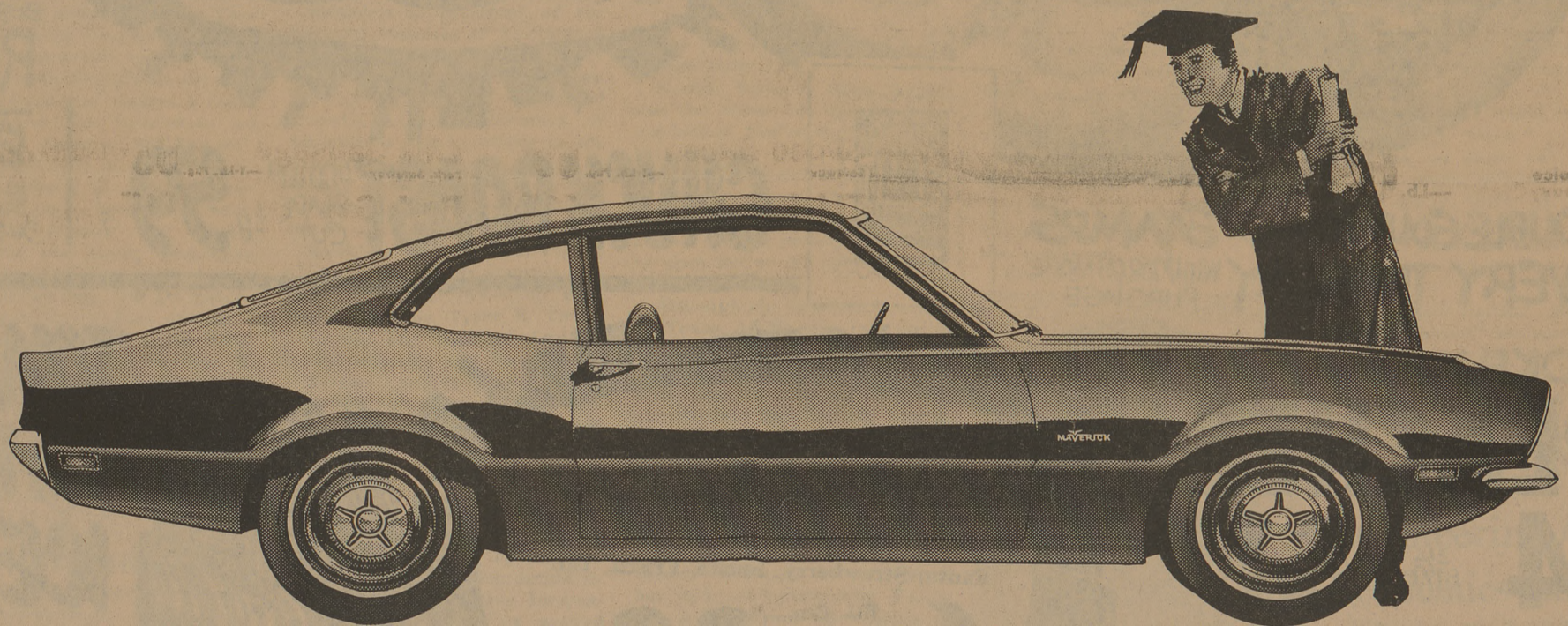
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