1940

WILBUR SHAW BECAME THE first driver to win two consecutive 500s. It was his third win in a four-year span, and the year in the middle he came in second.

Though Shaw's accomplishment was impressive, the race itself was unspectacular. Because of a drizzling rain the final 125 miles were run under yellow so Shaw cruised to an unchallenged victory.

This turned out to be his final 500 victory, but he would have another important role to play in the Speedway's history a few years later.

Although race day was free of death, earlier in the month driver George Bailey was fatally burned. Bailey had driven in five previous 500s but never finished in the top 10.

TOP LEFT: Wilbur Shaw waves after winning the 1940 Indianapolis 500, his second victory in a row and third in four years. *Star/News Archives*

TOP RIGHT: Drivers, mechanics and car owners get final instructions from Louis Schwitzer, chairman of the technical committee of the AAA, the day before the 1940 race. *Star/News Archives*

RIGHT: The start of the 1940 Indianapolis 500 with the Studebacker Champion pace car pulling to the side. Front-row starters (from the left) Mauri Rose, Wilbur Shaw and pole winner Rex Mays lead the pack. *Star/News Archives*

FORECAST FOR TODAY: Partly Cloudy. Yesterday's High, 67; Low, 55.

VOL. 57. NO. 361.

THE INDIANAPOLIS STAR

FRIDAY MORNING, MAY 31, 1940.

FIRST IN INDIANA In Morning and Sunday Circulation Telephone RIley 5551.

THREE CENTS.

The Day In Indiana

By MAURICE EARLY

Beat McNutt to It.
Lewis Really Runs.
Big Claims Made.
Leaders Bewildered.
Needs Fast Selling.

DEMOCRATS intensely interested primarily in the McNutt-President organization turned their attention to nominating a candidate for Governor immediately after the German invasion of the low countries. They did not call for McNutt to withdraw from the race.

THEY FOREGAW that the movement to have the President take a third-term nomination would keep the party because of the war emergency. Three weeks ago the-to-be-quoted statements of this kind were made at the McNutt headquarters.

AN UNUSUAL development of the new phase of the state Democratic campaign has some of the veterans bewildered. At first they viewed the proposal that David Wade, Marion county prosecutor, should seek the nomination for Governor, was merely an organization play to new up the big block of delegates in the capital and thereby cripple the chances of Lieutenant Governor Henry Schricker or R. Earl Peters, announced candidates, obtain the nomination on the first ballot." Or the state convention goes 27.

NOW THEY KNOW the Lewis candidacy is real and a genuine effort will be made to sell him to the party in the state. His formal announcement is scheduled to come soon, Among his active backers are Frank E. McKinney, former county treasurer and treasurer of the McNutt-for-President organization, Judge Henry O. Gesler, Superior Court, room 4, and Fred C. Sentelhe, county treasurer of former years.

HITLER CALLS GOEBBELS TO BATTLE FRONT

Arrival of Carnage-Dazed Allies at British Port Signals End of Flanders Fight.

A Southeast Port in England, May 31.—(AP)—British troops retreating in Flanders "have in almost every case succeeded in blowing up gasoline dumps and leaving nothing useful to the enemy," a returned officer of the B.E.F. declared today.

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.

Adolf Hitler urgently summoned his propaganda chief to a conference today at his western front headquarters to prepare what German informed quarters said would be a "sensational announcement" dealing with Italy's entry into the war.

Nazi chieftains, visibly elated, expected it would bring Italian participation much closer, to see the Iron, just at a time when the German war machine was mopping up remnants of the big allied army stranded in the Flanders pocket.

The vanguard of that weary, war-battered French and British force, showing the signs of the ordeal, arrived at a Southeast Port in England today.

Finally getting the helmet chin strap unfastened, he handed it to one of his pit mechanics with the smiling admonition:

"Take care of my helmet! That's too lucky to lose!"

The first question he was asked was about the reported retirement.

"Why should I quit now?" he asked. "I would like to win three in a row and make it four."

About that time, reporters and a score of others who had crowded into the tiny cage practically overran his car and pushed almost into the driver's seat.

In typical Shaw style, he pleaded for "air and a bottle of milk." He got both in a hurry. When someone handed him a pitcher of ice water, he refused it with the warning that "it makes me sick."

Shaw paid tribute to the other drivers, saying that "it was the grandest and most courteous bunch of drivers" he ever competed against.

SHAW WINS THIRD 500-MILE VICTORY
ITALY READY TO ENTER, NAZIS SAY

P-Shaw! What's a Little Make-Up? Wilbur Won Didn't He?

Winning the 500-mile race was worth a lot to Wilbur Shaw, the 4-man-from, boy yesterday, but a kiss from his wife, Mrs. Cathleen Shaw (left) and a bottle of milk were just as welcome as the checkered flag. Shaw is shown after he had wheeled his winning Boyle-Valve Special deep victory lane to be crowned champion for the third time.

DRIVES LAST 125 IN RAIN FOR SECOND CONSECUTIVE TITLE; MAYS 2D, ROSE 3D

Local Pilot Only One to Travel Full Distance—Foreigners Fail to Make Serious Bid—Rigsatti Crashes Into Wall But Suffers Only Minor Injuries—Frenchmen Eight Laps Back at Finish—Average of 114.277 M.P.H. Short of Record.

ONLY NEW MARK IS AT 350 POST

HOW FIRST TEN FINISHED LONG GRIND

Car No.—Driver, Name	Time	M.P.H.
1—Shaw, Boyle (Maserati)	4:32:41.16	114.277
23—Mays, Raven Seal Fuel		Flagged
7—Rose, Elgin Piston Pin		Flagged
3—Horn, Boyle		Flagged
8—Thorne, Thorne-Donnelly		Flagged
32—Swanson, Sampson "16"		Flagged
8—Wearne, Boyle		Flagged
31—Hansen, Harry Hartz		Flagged
16—Brinks, Elgin Piston Pin		Flagged
41—McQuinn, Hollywood Pay-Day		Flagged

By W. BLAINE PATTON,
Sports Editor The Star.

ONCE AGAIN Shelbyville's contribution to the Hoosier automotive world—Wilbur Shaw—is the champion of the autocrats on four wheels. For a second straight year the Indianapolis-adopted pilot roared to victory for his third triumph over the rough riding total

McNUTT RETIRES; BACKS ROOSEVELT

Thoughts of New War Overshadow Local Memorial Day

Appreciate who national observance Memorial Auditorium in the afternoon.

SHAW WILL TRY FOURTH VICTORY

Winner Spikes Reports of Retirement, Looks To 1941.