

De Palma Breaks Records Winning Elgin Road Race

Italian Averages $79\frac{1}{2}$ Miles Per
Hour for Event—Takes
\$9000 Prize Money.

ELGIN, Ill., Aug. 28.—Breaking all records for the course, Ralph De Palma won the annual Elgin road race today covering the 251 miles, 2820 feet in 3:09:04, or at an average speed of $79\frac{1}{2}$ miles per hour.

Tommy Milton finished a close second, his time being 3:11:47. Third place was won by James Murphy in 3:12:47. Ralph Mulford was fourth in 3:12:59; Edward O'Donnell, fifth in 3:16:50, and Percy Ford, of Chicago, sixth, in 3:24:14. Tom Alley and Gaston Chevrolet finished seventh and eighth respectively, but were outside the prize money.

From the first lap to the last De Palma maintained his lead over the field, setting the pace all the way, although he was closely pressed at times by Mulford, Murphy and Milton. Only a few seconds separated the leaders at any time during the race, leaving the outcome in doubt until De Palma had crossed the tape for the last time winning possession of the Cobe trophy, \$6000 for first prize money and \$3000 more for leading at the end of each lap.

Only Two Stop at Pits.

During the entire contest only two cars stopped at the pits, one being Gaston Chevrolet, who was forced to halt in the second lap to remove an obstruction from his gasoline pipe, and who thus lost four laps which he never recovered; the other being Joe Thomas, driver of car No. 15, who stopped to allow Tom Alley to replace him at the wheel. Thomas was injured during a practice spin last week and found himself too weak to finish the contest, although he piloted his car for six laps.

De Palma covered the first 150 miles at an average speed of $81\frac{1}{4}$ miles an hour. The nineteenth lap he covered in 6 minutes 11 seconds, breaking the course record made by Spencer Wishart five years ago in the race in which he was killed, of 6 minutes and 18 seconds. Both De Palma and Milton made the twentieth lap in 6 minutes and 13 seconds. De Palma's average of $79\frac{1}{2}$ miles an hour for the entire distance also established a new record, the best previous mark of 77.25 miles an hour having been made by Gil Anderson in 1915. Milton, who won last year, only averaged 73.9 in securing first place then.

Milton Leads All Drivers.

The speed shown is declared by race officials to be especially remarkable in view of the fact that Wishart's record was made with a motor having 450 cubic inches displacement and Anderson's 300 cubic inches, while all of the cars in today's contest were limited to motors of 183 cubic inches under the new rules.

By capturing second place today, Milton won 250 points in the A. A. A. championship drivers' contests and thus went into first place ahead of Chevrolet and Murphy. The present standing is Milton, 1220 points; Chevrolet, 1050, and Murphy, 965.