Contestant: **S-4**

After spending 30 years as a sportswriter, dutifully and expertly covering the adrenaline-inducing environment that is INDYCAR racing, Curt Cavin was ready for a change. Now, only 15 days into his new gig as INDYCAR’s vice president of communication, Cavin must adjust to life on the other side of the press conference podium.

“It’s been quite the adjustment,” Cavin said, “I’ve had to buy a lot more clothes.”

But, after devoting more than half of his life to reporting, Cavin’s greatest challenge has hardy been having to pick up a few new suits. Rather, he’s been tasked with something far scarier: entrusting others to do his old job.

“I’m going to miss it the first time there’s a game or a story that I want to tell, and I have to rely on somebody else now to tell that story,” Cavin said. “I still have to learn how to do that.”

One of Cavins best memories from his career following INDYCAR racing was being able to witness the 100th running of the Indianapolis 500. According to Cavin, the day spent highlighting not just the spectacular event but also the drivers, the progress of racing and the racing community as a whole was one of the best days of his life.

This year, however, his day is going to look very different,

“I used to have to make sure that none of the other drivers were doing anything that I needed to know about,” Cavin said. “I was always digging for stories, now I’m managing the stories.”

However, though he now views racing through a different lens, Cavin’s love and respect for INDYCAR is as strong as ever.

“It’s about the families,” Cavin said. “It’s all about the generations. [The story about the Indy 500’s 100th year] wove through people’s lives. It’s toed generations of people together.”

Now, as he adjusts to his new position, Cavin will look fondly upon the memories from his past, which he cites as being important stepping stones to getting him where he is today.

“You can’t rush the process,” Cavins aid. “You have to take the steps. But you can get here. You can.”