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PREDICTING A VICTORY

**BUT COACH STAGG BELIEVES PER-
 DUE SCORE WILL BE LOW.**

MICHIGAN AND CASE SATURDAY

Yost Is Finding Considerable Trouble
 With Wolverine Line—Gardiner
 Fails to Show Up at the
 Illinois Camp.

Director Stagg predicts a victory for his Maroon footballists in the opening game of the season with Coach Fred Speik's Purdue eleven at Marshall field next Saturday. He believes, however, the score will be a tiny one. He expects to win on simple elementary plays—at least that is what he stated yesterday.

Two touchdowns would be a most pleasing margin of victory for the Maroon coach, but he is not sure his men can run over the Bollermaker athletes so easily. It is probable that half the Maroons' points will be scored by Captain Steffen, either on a long run or by means of a drop kick, and the team is being coached with this in view.

"Purdue will give us trouble," said Stagg. "But I believe we ought to win. We have a slight advantage in the fact that Speik is handicapped by not knowing his squad as he might if he had been at Purdue a longer time. In changing conditions as he must be doing, it requires more time for the development of an eleven."

Strong Opposition Expected.

"Still, Ferguson was there all spring and got a line on the men at that time, and he, of course, has given all his information to Speik. I don't know how many old men are back at Purdue, but I understand the material has been unusually good, and we can expect to go up against a better team than Purdue has turned out in many seasons. I would not venture a prediction on the score, but I would be well satisfied if we got as many as two touchdowns. We will use so few plays, and those we do use will be so simple that we will not have much of a variety in our offense. I don't know how well our line is going to hold, and I am doubtful of its endurance."

Stagg's remarks about the simplicity of his plays came as a source of surprise to many at the Midway, as he has been drilling his team in brand new plays which never have been seen in the west before. These plays have to do with the forward pass, and those who have seen them declare they will prove strong ground gainers.

Michigan.

ANN ARBOR, Mich., Sept. 27.—The Michigan football squad will begin hard work tomorrow in preparation for the Case game next Saturday. The buckeyes for several years have opened the schedule for the Wolverines, and at times have proved hard propositions. Most of the week will be given over to formation practice, and it is announced the forward pass will be prominent in Michigan's plays. Yost is finding his most serious trouble with the line. The loss of Harry Hammond, Reinschild, and "Ooty" Graham, is keenly felt, and, more than that, some of the most likely candidates for line positions will be kept out of the initial games on account of deficiencies in studies.

Illinois.

URBANA, Ill., Sept. 27.—Lyon Gardiner, Illinois' best half-back and punter, captain last season, on whom the alumni coaches depended greatly, has failed to arrive as hoped and his protracted absence is causing a lot of worry. Gardiner's recent illness, which put him about twenty pounds under weight, is believed to be the cause of his delay, and it is feared even if he returns this week that he will be unable to play in the Chicago game.

Gardiner's loss would be serious, and would reduce the number of veterans from nine men counted on by the Illini until Green and Litt tell by the wayside in their studies.

"I have not given Gardiner up," said Captain Van Hook, "and if his health is all right he will be able to take his place in the line-up in short order."

Van Hook's optimism regarding the crick half-back is hardly shared by the uneasy rooters, however. The first week of practice, which ended, yesterday was characterized by the players as being the hardest of their careers. Many plays have been learned and with a change in the weather promised it is probable that there will be a scrimmage for the first time tomorrow or Tuesday. Trainer Rudderham is expected to arrive tomorrow.

One of the beefiest lines in orange and blue annals will be pitted against the maroon forwards October 17, with Captain Van Hook, 225; Italsback, 190; Wham, 185; Twist, 240; Kimball, 200; Ekblaw, 185, and other husky candidates to choose from.

Director Huff expects to go to Chicago this week to confer with the railroad regarding a .2 excursion to Marshall field. If this is granted 2,000 rooters will follow the Illini.

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