

Notre Dame, Pitt and Purdue Top United Press National Grid Ranking

Notre Dame System Traces Back to Stagg, Rockne Says

Defeat by Yale in 1914 Led to Important Change in Irish Style: Bouquets for Phelan.

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What is the origin of the system of football as we now use it at Notre Dame and as quite a few of the Notre Dame alumni use it in various parts of the country? The system has, of course, been influenced from many sources, particularly as regards blocking, tackling and the execution of the other fundamentals. But the flavor, the peculiar twist which differentiates it from other methods comes from A. A. Stagg, Yale alumnus, who is still coaching at the University of Chicago.

We are on our way back from the Yale debacle of 1914, Yale having beaten Notre Dame 28 to 0, when Coach Harper called me into his Pullman drawing room. I was his assistant that fall. He announced that we had to break into something new, something different in the way of offense, or the year would be a failure. He began drawing marks on a piece of paper, describing a back field shift similar to what Chicago had used in the old days when he was sub-quarter back for Stagg.

Harper's variation was that he made the shift cover twice as much territory. I added the idea of shifting the ends in and out with a stationary line. Harper wanted the line shift also, but after a day or two of experimenting, the line from tackle to tackle was left stationary. Beginning of System

This simple shift, was the beginning of what is now known as the Notre Dame offense. Harper also had some original ideas on the forward pass which were to prove far-reaching.

It has, of course, evolved a long way since that time and many Notre Dame men out coaching have added embellishments of their own. Most of the sound fundamentals which Harper found at Notre Dame when he arrived probably were inherited from the days when Barry of Brown was coaching.

Variety and Spice

But systems of football, like nationalities, are all somewhat of a mixture, though one of the most interesting things about the game today is the fact that there are many different adverse conceptions of offense, many of them successful. It is this which adds the variety and spice to our fine autumn sport.

Jimmy Phelan of Purdue is, of course, the man of the hour in the Big Ten, and he should be. He deserves every bit of credit, along with his assistants, for the fine achievement which the gallant Boilermakers aggregation turned in this fall. Their victories were so clean cut, decisive and merited that no one questions but what they are the best team in the Conference.

However, to my mind the outstanding coach in the Big Ten this fall was Professor Stagg at Chicago.

Starting out with practically no prospects, with no material of experience, he defeated among other teams, Indiana, the University of Washington, and Princeton. Scouts tell me that his attack was very clever and as well conceived as any in the game. Stagg is, I believe, almost 68 years of age. Any one who knows the grand old gentleman is more than delighted as his successful 1929 season.

Old Zach May Be Robin Pilot

ZACH WHEAT, who used to be an idol of the baseball fans at Brooklyn, may be the new manager of the Robins. When the club directors held their meeting this month, Steve McKeever will insist that Wilbert Robinson has been a failure in the pilot's seat and that Zach should be substituted. On the other hand, another important director is understood to be lined up with Robinson. Old Zack gave seventeen years of faithful service as a player to the Robins, and also served as manager for a short time. He once was one of the game's greatest.

EDDIE MACK INJURED

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 2.—Eddie Mack, Denver collegian, will not be able to fight again for several weeks because of a collarbone injury which he received while winning a bout from Tod Morgan last Tuesday, it was announced here today.

Down the Alleys

WITH LEFTY LEE

Rolling on the late shift Saturday the 28th, the Indianapolis Wabash team took over first place in the team event of the city tourney with a total of 193-23. Enclosed is a table rolled real ten pins with top honors going to Earl McCarty, his score being 226. The S. & W. team, with 190, was second in the same squad showing a score of 225. Dan Abbott and John Blue gave over 60 mark with totals of 618 and 615. The leaders:

Watkins (Paducah) 2.978
S. & W. Fenders 2.925
Falls City Lager 2.886
Striebeck 2.847
Gausbeck Trunks 2.819

Last year's champion Marrott team failed to reach the play-offs. The top two of this year's team were in there fighting from the start, but splits and "taps" ruined their chances.

Dan Hackerd, who has been getting his share of the wood with some of the best combats in the city for years, failed to get a strike for twenty-nine frames, and then struck out in the tenth.

The Coca-Cola team of the Recreation League came strong at the finish, but a poor first game held their down to 2.76.

The veteran Bebbinger of the Williamson Candy team found the drives from 204, start and finish, in 20 games of 204, 223 and 205, a total of 630.

Brown of the Auto Equipment club also hit the ball consistently, scoring a total of 688 with games of 209, 211 and 235.

Neil King led the Hoosier Club to a prize-winning count with a total of 625.

Jerry O'Grady fell far below his usual form. The rest of the Striebeck team were fighting, however, and reached fourth place with a total of 2,823.

The veteran Clarence Meyers rolled 646 for the Ballard team. His team failed to help him, however, and failed to reach a strike winning count.

Secretary Hostetter is expecting Mills of Noblesville to help his Blues reach a prize count on the 9 p.m. squad tonight. The City journey schedule for tonight at the Elk's Club alleys:

Monday—Lee O'Connor vs. Charles

Wednesday—Louis Spivey vs. Lewis Vogler.

Thursday—Walter Ramsey vs. Harry Baldwin.

Friday—Neal Jones vs. Joe Murphy.

Saturday Grid Scores

STATE COLLEGES

Notre Dame: 7. Army: 0.

OTHER COLLEGES

Baylor: 12. Rice: 0.

Boston College: 12. Holy Cross: 0.

De Paul: 19. Cornell: 0.

Illinois: 1. George: 12.

Illinois: 0. 0. C. U. 0.

Illinois: 0. 0. Kriegel: 0.

Indiana: 0. 0. Baker: 0.

Delaware: 0. 0. L. Ostheme: 0.

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