

# FOOTBALL GAME WILL BE CLOSE

## Minnesota Coaches Think Victory Over Wisconsin Team Is by No Means Certain.

### Gophers Begin Hard Practice To-day—Gridiron on Northrop Field in Bad Shape.

The game with Wisconsin is now the objective point of the Minnesota football team. The team returned from Champaign yesterday with all the men in good condition, and after an hour or two in light work in the varsity armory last evening. The real hard work begins to-day.

Some fears are entertained that bad weather may interfere with the work of the team during the next week. At present the gridiron on Northrop field is as hard as a rock, and while outdoor practice will not be interrupted, there is danger that some of the men may be injured by falls upon the hard ground. The risk must be taken, however, as much hard work is still necessary to prepare for the hard battle with the badgers Thanksgiving Day. The team expects to leave for Wisconsin on Tuesday, and it is probable that the squad will be taken to Baraboo, about forty miles from Madison, and remain there until the morning before the game. Two years ago the team was quartered at Sun Prairie, but the accommodations there were inadequate, and it was impossible to secure proper food for the men. At Baraboo the accommodations, it is thought, will be satisfactory, and the team will go on the gridiron Thanksgiving Day in much better shape for a hard battle than were the gophers of 1901 on Nov. 16, of that year.

There is an impression among the followers of the game in Minneapolis to regard the Thanksgiving day game as a cinch for Minnesota. This opinion is by no means shared by the gopher coaches and players, and is not justified by the records of the two teams this season. In spite of the two defeats sustained by Wisconsin, the badgers gave both Chicago and Michigan hard battles, and established a record for strong, fast play and unflinching gameness. In the last twelve years Wisconsin has lost but three games upon her own grounds; one to Minnesota in 1892; one to Chicago in 1899, and one to Chicago in 1901. If the badgers could hold Michigan to one touchdown (made possible only by a fumble) and two field goals at Ann Arbor, they will certainly give Minnesota a tough argument when they have the advantage of playing on their own grounds at Camp Randall. It is generally felt by those in close touch with the game that Minnesota will be lucky to win by more than one touchdown, and there is grave danger that the badgers may walk off with the long end of the score.

Minnesota has one advantage in Wisconsin's hard schedule. The Northwestern game Saturday, only five days before the badgers meet the gophers, with the Michigan game upon the trip to Evanston, will make the task of the badger trainers to bring their men on the field against Minnesota in good condition. Northwestern is likely to lose, but if the purple players are in good shape they will fight hard, and Wisconsin will feel the effects of the gruelling Minnesota cannot count, however, upon Wisconsin losing heart under her two defeats. The badgers are far from discouraged. They fully expect to have at least an even chance to win from the gophers, and they are likely to be in a more healthful frame of mind Thanksgiving Day than Dr. Williams' men. So far as can be judged, Wisconsin feels much as she did two years ago. The players respect the strength of Minnesota, but they are confident enough of their own prowess so that they will play to win, and not to hold down the score. On the other hand, Minnesota teams in the past have been prone to overconfidence, and have often allowed their opponents to win by a failure to play their best at the start.

Outside critics do not believe that Minnesota has any cinch. Yost and the Michigan players say that Wisconsin will beat the gophers. Milwaukee critics say their men should win if they enter the grounds in as good condition as when they faced Michigan. Chicago writers express the belief that there is a strong probability of the badgers winning, thus giving the winner of the Michigan-Chicago contest a clear title to the championship. In short, all the signs now point to a hard-fought contest, with the chances of victory nearly or quite even.

Dr. Williams to-day denied the interview ascribed to him by a Chicago newspaper man, in which he was quoted as saying that Minnesota expected to double Michigan's score against the badgers. Dr. Williams said that the team would do its best, but he declined to express any opinion whatever in regard to the outcome of the game. The Wisconsin coaches and men laugh at the statement that the gophers will double Michigan's score against the badgers.

"The Minnesota people seem to be carried away with delight at the splendid showing their team has made so far this season," said Coach Curtis. "Minnesota will not double the Michigan score against Wisconsin. On the contrary, we hope and expect to defeat Minnesota. The score will probably be small, but it will be in our favor."

Assistant Coach McCarthy and Captain Abbott talk the same way. While Wisconsin is somewhat handicapped in having such a hard game as that with Northwestern only four days before the big Minnesota contest, it is generally felt at Madison that, barring accident, the badgers will have a good fighting chance against the gophers.

The result of the Chicago-West

Point game Saturday indicates that Stagg's team, which admittedly includes as good individual material as any eleven in the west, has at last begun to reach the form which was predicted at the beginning of the season. Although beaten by Chicago, clearly outplayed the soldiers in straight football, a point in which the maroons have been weakest this season. The strong handling of punts, ability to make field goals, and even in defense at critical times, Chicago has been strong all around. Her men have the weight, speed, and experience to make a strong offensive team, and they should improve steadily until they meet Michigan. The indifferent football played early in the season obviates any danger of going stale, and Stagg can now drive his men hard until Thanksgiving Day. The Michigan-Chicago game will undoubtedly be one of the hardest of the season, and will have a most important bearing upon the championship.

Manager Bernard stopped in Madison yesterday, on his way home from Champaign, to make arrangements for seats for the Minnesota rooters at Camp Randall Thanksgiving Day. Bernard will arrive in Minneapolis tomorrow, but 1,600 choice seats have already arrived, and will be put on the train for Madison on Tuesday. Seats are upon both sides of the field, and in the center of the gridiron, comprising one of the choicest locations on the stadium. Final arrangements have been made for the excursion trains which will carry the main guard of the Minnesota rooters to Madison. Railroads expect that they will have a large number of excursionists returning the train will leave Madison at 9 p. m. Wednesday, Nov. 25, and St. Paul at 9:25, reaching Madison at 7 a. m. Returning the train will leave Madison at 9 p. m. Thursday, arriving in the twin cities early Friday morning. The rate is \$6 for the round trip. The rate for sleepers will be \$4 for the round trip, and the sections will be so arranged that those who take sleepers will be far enough away from the more exuberant rooters to enjoy a good night's rest.

The Milwaukee Sentinel sizes up the football situation as follows: "The chances of the badgers in the gopher contest will depend on the way in which the team passes thru the Northwestern contest. In as good condition as they were when they faced Michigan all believe that the badgers will defeat the gophers. Members of the Michigan team and Coach Yost himself expect that they thought Wisconsin could turn the trick. To say they hope so is needless, for the game means almost as much to Michigan as it does to Wisconsin, for if the Minnesota team is defeated and Michigan defeats Chicago, the Wolverines will have a fairly clear claim to the western championship, provided of course that Wisconsin defeats Northwestern also.

"That Michigan will defeat Chicago Thanksgiving Day seems an almost foregone conclusion. All who saw the game at Ann Arbor Saturday think that the maroon championship aspirations can be easily disposed of. Jimmy Sheldon, the old Chicago captain who was on the same train as the Wisconsin party returning from the game, and in speaking of the prospect for Chicago, said that he did not see how it would be possible to defeat Michigan."

## COACH STAGG IS HOPEFUL

### Will Bend All His Energies to Preparing Team to Defeat Michigan.

Special to the Journal.

Chicago, Nov. 17.—Feeling themselves victims of the gruel of gruel iron warfare and not the conquered inferior of the eastern West Pointers, Coach Stagg's invading army of westerners is to Chicago, and to Wisconsin, a "fine" answer to Keene Fitzpatrick, when asked about the condition of the team. "Usually after a big game," added Michigan's great trainer, "I will find one or more who complain of sore spots and want to be rubbed down and given a massage. But not a single member of the team has said anything and I think they could go into another game to-morrow and show the same fast football. But of course you cannot ask too much, and they will be given a rest from scrimmages until the latter part of the week."

Fitzpatrick's vainglorious trainer has been shown by the fact that he not only conditioned the team for the Minnesota game on Oct. 31, but he kept them on edge for Wisconsin, and the same eleven men who started Saturday when the whistle blew finished the game without a call of time and came out without a bruise. It is now a problem to keep them on edge for twelve more days.

Next Saturday Michigan meets Oberlin, but as Ohio State has an argument with the Congregationalists Saturday and as Michigan easily defeated the Columbus men there are no fears entertained as to the outcome of the game. However, Oberlin fought hard last year and not only lamed up Henton but put Paul Jones out of the running for the Minnesota game.

It is likely that Michigan will use many substitutes next Saturday, and little attention will be paid to the size of the score. It is also probable that Hammond will be given an opportunity to further perfect his goal kicking from the field, and this spectacular play may be called every time Michigan gets to the thirty or thirty-five yard line.

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## INDEPENDENT FOOTBALL

The Logans claim a game from the Riverdells for nonappearance.

The Western Avenue Gophers defeated the Grants by a score of 10 to 0. The feature of the game was the line blocking of Joe Townsend and Axel Pearson.

The second Adams team played a tie game with the Bryant, and would like to play any 120 or 125-pound team in the city, the Riverdells or the Grants preferred, for Sunday, phone 1227-22. S. Bob Winton.

The Minnie defeated the Second Central by a score of 6 to 0. The Central team was made up of five first team men and the rest boys and second men. The Minnie were outwitted from five to ten pounds to a man, but put up a plucky fight. McCarthy, Smith, Ryke, Haller, Brackett and Martin of the first Central, played.

The Minnie are now ready to meet any team (with clubs) they will play the third St. Thomas team for the championship of the city, 20th and Thirteenth avenue S.

The American Eagles claim a game from the 7th Taps on account of nonappearance. For games with an American Eagles, address Joe Watkins, 1105 Fifth street S.

The Blaine A. A. challenges any team in the state averaging 150 pounds. Address S. Heck, 610 Fifth street N.

The Tigers claim games with any 100-pound team in the twin cities, the Franklins, Logans or Second Badgers preferred, for Saturday morning or afternoon. Address E. S. Moe, 11 W. Langford Park place, St. Anthony Park.

The Second Badgers would like to play any ninety-five-pound team in the city. Address Willie Bohm, 1113 Lyndale avenue S.

The Orioles desire a game for Sunday with any fast 130-pound team, Crystals preferred. Also a game on Thanksgiving day with any team averaging 150 pounds. Address F. A. H., 3733 Nicollet avenue.

## EYES UPON GOPHERS

### Wisconsin Men Think They Have a Good Chance to Defeat Minnesota Team.

### Rumor in Madison Says That Coach Curtis Will Retire After This Season.

Madison, Wis., Nov. 17.—The great objective point now remaining in the Wisconsin schedule is the Thanksgiving Day game with Minnesota. The Wisconsin team and coaches expect to save the disastrous season in some measure at least by wrapping the gophers on the annual turkey holiday here.

The Northwestern game next Saturday will be a hard practice game, so far as the training is concerned, in view of the greater importance of the Minnesota contest next week. It is noted here that more depends on the outcome of the final contest than there was at stake in the Chicago and Michigan games, and that, unless a victory can be pulled out of the last brush of the season, not only the reputation of young Coach Curtis will be a bursted bubble, but the prestige of Wisconsin in western intercollegiate athletics, sadly shaken during the last year of the service of Coach Phil King, will be completely shattered and fall.

There is a rumor abroad in Madison that already Coach Curtis has determined to end his career as coach after the Thanksgiving Day game and devote himself exclusively and in earnest to his professional studies at Rush Medical college in Chicago. The well known diffidence of the young coach lends color to these rumors, although no authentic statement is forthcoming from official quarters. On the other hand, it is equally established that perhaps no coach ever received so hearty and uniform approval in time of two defeats as championship games as does Coach Curtis now. He is loved and admired personally by every member of the team, and explicit confidence is placed in his judgment and ability. He probably feels the sting of defeats more than any other person in the state. It is expected that Wisconsin will defeat Northwestern with comparative ease and save enough energy to be in shape to put up the greatest possible game against Minnesota.

Practice was resumed yesterday on the Wisconsin gridiron, and the full squad was not out and the game light. A disagreeable snow and sleet storm made satisfactory practice impossible.

Captain Abbott is perhaps the most battered man of the Wisconsin team. He is nursing several bad bruises. Most of the men are laid up, but they will recover for their work.

The testimony of the Michigan team, according to reports which have returned from Ann Arbor, is that "Wisconsin will put it all over the gophers." This is a prediction not warranted by comparative scores of the two teams. The men at Ann Arbor showed that the Wolverines had by no means forgotten forgiven Minnesota for the alleged orifice treatment they received in Minneapolis two weeks ago. It is said that the Michigan people made a special effort to entertain the badgers well, so as to "show up" Minnesota.

## MICHIGAN IN GOOD SHAPE

### No Wolverine Players Were Injured In Saturday's Game.

Ann Arbor, Mich., Nov. 17.—Michigan came out of the contest with Wisconsin in remarkably good shape, and, barring accident, will be ready for Thanksgiving. Yost will send a perfect team on Marshall field on the Monday day for the final game of the season.

"Fine," answered Keene Fitzpatrick, when asked about the condition of the team. "Usually after a big game," added Michigan's great trainer, "I will find one or more who complain of sore spots and want to be rubbed down and given a massage. But not a single member of the team has said anything and I think they could go into another game to-morrow and show the same fast football. But of course you cannot ask too much, and they will be given a rest from scrimmages until the latter part of the week."

## PURPLE MEN MUCH BRUISED

### Chicago, Nov. 17.—After what every member of the team says was the hardest game the purple has played this season, the Northwestern university football men remained in their rooms all day Sunday in an effort to recover from the bruises they sustained in the contest Saturday.

Every man who went into the game was injured in some way. Some of them will be kept out of practice for several days, and may not be able to go into the Wisconsin game next Saturday.

Captain Fleeger is, perhaps, in the worst condition. He was struck in the head near the beginning of the second half, and took the time limit. He went into the game again, and a short time before the end received a second blow, which compelled him to retire. He is confined to his room and will not be able to practice for a few days.

Colton is also badly bruised and has a strained tendon in his ankle, which may keep him off the field for a week. Should he not be able to go into the Wisconsin game his loss will be keenly felt. Blair is another whose condition is causing Northwestern rooters some uneasiness. He was taken out of Saturday's game on account of his poor defensive work. It is feared by his friends that he will have to quit the team if something is not done to relieve him of some of his work. His college duties are heavy, and he gives two hours daily to outside work. This, with his football practice, has proved too strenuous for him, and he has lost ten pounds in weight since the Chicago game. His loss would be a hard blow to Northwestern.

## VALLEY CITY'S GOOD RECORD

### North Dakota Normal Team Claims Championship of State.

Special to the Journal.

Valley City, N. D., Nov. 17.—The football season at the State Normal school in this place has just closed with a reception to the football squad and its coach by the young ladies of the senior class. The season, though begun late, was therefore somewhat short, has been the most successful in the history of the institution. Frank Haggerty of Colby college, Maine, was coach for the second year and out of a limited number of young men trained a very successful team. Seven games were played. The local team won from the Wembley, a somewhat association, Red River Valley university, State Normal school at Aberdeen, and the State university; tied with the Fargo high school and Moorhead normal, and was defeated by Fargo college. Inasmuch as all these teams have been defeated by the State university by big scores, the Valley City team thinks it has as much of a claim to the state championship as any team in the state, having defeated the State university 17 to 11. The State university otherwise would have a clear claim to the title, the Agricultural college not having played a game with any team in the state.

## IOWANS ARE DESPONDENT

### Hawkeyes Practically Concede Defeat at Hands of Illinois.

New York Sun Special Service.

Iowa City, Iowa, Nov. 17.—Plunged into the slough of despond by the Iowa-Missouri game of Saturday, the long-time loyal followers of the hawk-eyes' fortunes are now awaiting with fear and trembling the contest with the Illinois team on Nov. 21.

The Illinois lost very little caste in Iowa City because of their game in Urbana. Indeed, the Minnesota score against Iowa—75 to 0, as compared with the 32 to 0 of the gophers against Wisconsin—accentuates the latter eleven, and makes Iowa rooters fear the Illinois the more.

It was confidently expected here that Iowa would score from thirty to forty points against the tigers' none



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Shakopee Defeats Monarchs. Shakopee, Minn., Nov. 17.—On a soft, slippery field that interfered with the work of the players the Shakopee football team defeated the Monarchs from Minneapolis by the score of 15 to 0. Shakopee scored its first touchdown in the opening half and piled up two more in the second part. The feature of the game was Captain Flynn's sprint of forty yards for the third touchdown. Shakopee's goal was never in danger, and the Monarchs were repeatedly held for downs.

Purple Men Much Bruised. Chicago, Nov. 17.—After what every member of the team says was the hardest game the purple has played this season, the Northwestern university football men remained in their rooms all day Sunday in an effort to recover from the bruises they sustained in the contest Saturday. Every man who went into the game was injured in some way. Some of them will be kept out of practice for several days, and may not be able to go into the Wisconsin game next Saturday.

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Eastern Football News Will Be Found on Page Fourteen.

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