

# Prophets—here's your pigskin preview

## Notre Dame, Stanford, Illinois, Texas top field

With football in the air, Illinois Tech is ready to start out its fourth year of Pigskin Prophets.

Scheduled to start in two weeks, the annual contest is expected to be bigger and better than ever. But before plunging right into the art of picking the winners, here's the preview of things to come on the gridiron this fall.

### East

The Black Knights of Army will undoubtedly come up with another top team, but Red Blaik, head coach, can hardly expect it to match his championship aggregation of 1949, which piled up nine wins in a row without a loss all season.

With the exception of the loss of All-American Arnold Gallifa, Blaik's backfield will look the same as last year. With Stephenson at fullback and Fischl and Cain at the halves the cadets will be an experienced and hard running aggregation.

### Southwest

If Texas will watch out for snakes, then the rest had better watch out for Texas. That's the word from Blair Cherry, Texas coach, as the "snake-bit" Longhorns launch a bid to shake the jinx that cost them four losses by a total of 10 points in the 1949 campaign. Cherry still has most of his talent that performed so well in the battles against Rice and Oklahoma. All that he needs is a replacement at quarterback to fill the shoes of Paul Campbell. He hopes to find one among Ben Tompkins, Dan Page, or T. Jones. If he does—look out Southwest, the Longhorns are rising!



Blaik's woes are mainly concerned with his line. Faced with the problem of replacing five of his starting seven linemen, Red also is pressed with the question of adequate reserves.

Navy, boasting another one of its tough schedules, will be a "scrappy outfit with lots of spirit," according to Eddie Erdlatz, new Middle coach. With the loss of 12 lettermen and teams like Southern California, Notre Dame, Tulane and Army on his list of opponents, Erdlatz may have to depend on the spirit a lot more than he has planned.

Brightest light around Annapolis is Bob Zastrow, last year's sophomore quarterback, who should be a star this season.

### South-Southeast

The Southeastern's crystal ball is not too clear. The coaches' consensus points the finger at Tennessee, but Kentucky, Louisiana State and Alabama are bunched for a photo finish ahead of Tulane, Georgia Tech, Mississippi and Georgia.

The windup shouldn't be that close but all teams named will have a heavy hand in developments. Not to be overlooked are Vanderbilt, Mississippi State, and Auburn.

In the far-flung Southern Conference, Maryland is the favorite, closely followed by Duke and North Carolina.

Coach Bob Neyland's Tennessee Volunteers are the team to watch in the South this fall. Always operating on the theory that good, sound fundamentals are better than fancy football, the Vols should be a sharp outfit all through the year. Led by Hank Lauricella, the backfield consists of Hal Payne, Gordon Polofsky and Andy Kozar—a tough combination to beat on any gridiron.

### West

Here come the Indians! With blood-curdling screams and war bonnets gleaming, the Stanford Indians are bearing down on the Pacific Coast Conference football wagon train. A study of the men indicates that the Palo Alto tribesmen can break through the circle, do a cruel scalping chore, and escape with a trophy of battle known as the Rose Bowl.

It's been a long wait for Stanford. Not since 1940 have the Indians won the title. Not since January 1, 1941, when they clubbed Nebraska 21-13, have they had a whiff of the Pasadena Bowl.

Gradually Stanford has regained stature until this season, having been muscled by three undefeated frosh elevens, the braves of Marchie Schwartz appear to be ripe for the title they once held.

### Midwest

It's still the Big Nine insofar as football is concerned, with Michigan State unable to participate in the grid campaign until 1953. The nine entries seem to fall into three groups. Illinois, Michigan and Ohio State are bunched at the top of the heap as the strongest contenders. Next come Minnesota, Wisconsin and Indiana with long shot possibilities; bringing up the rear are Purdue, Northwestern and Iowa.

Notre Dame, of course, still will be favored to top the area. The Irish, unbeaten through their last 38 contests, also will be fighting it out once again for the national championship, which they won last fall for the fourth time in seven years. The pressure of the unbeaten skein is getting terrific for Leahy's boys. But don't wager the family jewels that it will be interrupted this year.

## Henriksen calls rifle meet; looking for new talent

A call for new blood has been issued by Henry Henriksen, captain of the rifle team.

Henriksen is anxious to see anyone, especially freshmen and sophomores, that is interested in developing his sharpshooting skills. The rifle team will hold a meeting Wednesday, September 27, at 5 p.m. on the rifle range in the basement of Alumni Hall.

Pending the interest shown, a training program designed to build up an almost entirely new squad will be inaugurated. The necessity for this was discovered when it was learned that seven

of the eight team members will graduate by June, 1951.

The rifle team, commencing its fourth season, plans to enter the Intercollegiate championships next spring. Due to their success of last season, in which they defeated a number of large schools, Henriksen is looking forward to an excellent year.

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