

# Wisconsin Grid Outlook Dark, But Is No Breather

Everyone is asking the same \$64 question: Can Penn State defeat Wisconsin? The answer will have to wait until Saturday afternoon when both schools launch their openers. The pros and cons for each college, however, are very interesting.

Both Coach Rip Engle of Penn State and Ivy Williamson of the Badgers have had their share of troubles. For the most part, Wisconsin possesses the darker outlook—but not enough to consider the game a breather.

## Rocky Favored 4-1 to Retain Heavy Crown

NEW YORK, Sept. 22 (AP)—Heavyweight champion Rocky Marciano and challenger Roland LaStarza breezed through final training sessions today with the Brockton blockbuster a solid 4 to 1 favorite to retain his title Thursday night at the Polo Grounds.

Despite the recent upsets of Ezzard Charles and Kid Gavilan's close call with Carmen Basilio, few of the experts gave the 26-year-old New Yorker much chance to escape the numbing punches of the swarthy champion.

### Some See Close Fight

According to odds quoted by one source, it was 12 to 5 that LaStarza would not go the 15 rounds and even money he wouldn't survive eight. They made it 8 to 1 that Marciano would not be knocked out.

International Boxing Club offices buzzed with action and the halls were jammed with newsmen, fight managers and handlers. Few of the managers thought LaStarza would win although some of them predicted a tougher fight than generally expected.

### No Home Broadcasts

Jim Norris, IBC president, reported an advance sale of \$225,000. He said the sales should reach \$300,000 before the office is moved to the ball park Thursday. The IBC still talks of a \$400,000 gate and about 35,000 people. The weather forecast is fair and warm.

The 15-round match will not be carried on radio or home television. Audiences in 45 theaters in 35 cities from coast to coast will see the scrap on theater-TV with prices running about \$3.60 per head. Ring time is 9:30 p.m. EST, a half hour later than usual.

### Share Receipts

Norris said the theater-TV carried a guarantee of \$100,000 with a privilege of \$1.00 per admission if more than 100,000 turn out. The closest theater was a drive-in at Commack on Long Island.

Both fighters will share in the theater-TV receipts and the gate, with Marciano getting 42½ per cent and LaStarza 17½.

Jimmy Deangelo, LaStarza's manager, has recovered sufficiently from a heart ailment to work the corner with the Florio brothers, Dan and Nick, who train the fighter. Deangelo, however, may confine his work to the pre-fight instructions and then watch from ringside.

LaStarza expects to weigh in at 188 pounds. The champion boxed two rounds with Willie Wilson of Providence today and at the finish weighed 187½ pounds.

Ernest B. McCoy, Penn State athletic director, is a former University of Michigan coach and administrator.

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### Haluska Sets Records

Williamson has lost his sensational quarterback, Jim Haluska. It is definite that Haluska will not participate. In fact, he will not enroll in school this fall since his broken leg has not healed properly.

The sophomore ace pitched the Badgers to seven records; namely, most pass attempts in a single season (199), most pass completions in a single season (112), most yardage gained on passing in a single season (112 completions for 1410 yards), most TD passes in a single season (12), most yardage on passes in a single game (237), most overall yardage gained—rushing, passing, and receiving—(1332), and most TD passes in a single game (3).

### 18 Lettermen Gone

To develop a quarterback of such caliber overnight is only a dream. There is one disappointing factor, however. It would have been well-worth seeing State's Tony Rados and Haluska in operation. Last season Rados out-pitched Purdue's outstanding QB, Dale Samuels.

Graduation of 18 lettermen does not alone setback Williamson's 1953 plans. A knee injury may deprive Wisconsin of two ends, Don Voss (Football Writers Association All-American selection) and Co-captain Jerry Wurhmann.

### One Platoon Helpful

Adding to Williamson's coaching woes is Harland Carl, who with Haluska, would have formed an all-veteran backfield. However, Carl, whose career has been hampered with "hard luck" injuries, twisted his knee the first day of spring practice, returned a few weeks later only to re-injure the knee.

As far as the discarded two-platoon system is concerned, Penn State and Wisconsin have the NCAA to thank for its abolition. The Badger mentor would have had to replace six out of seven starters in the offensive line, none whatever in the backfield (until the recent injuries).

Defensively, he would have had to fill gaps at two tackles, center, guard, right side linebacker, two defensive halfbacks, and a safetyman. Sufferin' and succotash!

There is always the brighter side of a story, too. This goes to the Badgers' plunging fullback who is regarded by many sportswriters as all-America material; namely, Alan "Native Dancer" Ameche.

### Campanella Sets Putout Record

BROOKLYN, Sept. 22 (AP)—Credited with 12 putouts in today's game with Pittsburgh, Brooklyn's Roy Campanella established a new major league record for putouts by a catcher.

The rotund Dodger receiver eclipsed the old mark of 785, set in 1905 by Ossie Schreckengost of the Athletics, by five.

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Tony Rados  
Lion Passing Threat

## Frosh Eleven Open Practice

Yesterday's cool and clear air was a far cry from Monday's inclement weather as Coach Earl Bruce and his aides sent the Penn State freshman football squad through its second day of practice. Twenty-five gridders answered the starting bell Monday, with more expected out before the end of the week.

The Lion yearlings have been concerned mainly with timing and conditioning in both days of practice. Yesterday the linemen engaged in dummy scrimmage for the most part, with the backfield men running through a few basic plays.

By the time the short but tough schedule opens Oct. 24 against Pitt, the Lions should present a well balanced team, particularly strong from tackle to tackle. Included in the line candidates are John Arnst, East Stroudsburg, and Dan Radakovich, Duquesne, both of whom attained honorable mention for the all-state while in high school. Dick De Luca, guard candidate, was mentioned for the WPIAL team while at Monaca. Jack Calderone from Chester, also a fine shotputter, was a top-notch tackle in suburban Philadelphia ranks.

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## Turf Is Responsible For Injuries—Musser

A little more attention to the selection and care of the turf on play fields was represented today "as one of the most sensible ways of reducing injuries."

Howard B. Musser, director of the turf experiment program at Penn State, defended this view by explaining that "the more insulation there is between a youngster and the hard ground, the less likely he is to get hurt in a fall."

In applying the same rules to athletic fields, Musser contends it is the type of cover rather than the cover itself that counts. Some groundskeepers, he pointed out, plant a football field with clover and shallow rooted grasses like the bents.

"It looks lovely and green from the stands," he agrees. "But clovers are slippery and crush easily when wet. The bents don't have enough anchorage to provide stable footing, and they give at unexpected times and in unexpected directions."

"General experience indicates that leg, knee, and ankle injuries are usually higher on this type of cover. While it's nice to have a good-looking field, it's a lot more important to have a safe one."

What, then, does he recommend for football fields, baseball diamonds and playgrounds?

After proper soil and seed bed preparation, Musser thinks a combination of Kentucky bluegrass and two types of fescues, the creeping red and the Kentucky 31, make the most satisfactory surface for Pennsylvania play fields.

"Even the best turf, however, needs proper maintenance to keep it safe," Musser stresses. "Two oft-made mistakes in caretaking occur with fertilization and cutting practices."

In the case of gridirons, too much high powered fertilizer may be used, or used at the wrong time. The commonly employed soluble fertilizers should be applied in relatively small quantities at frequent intervals throughout the spring growing season.

"Stop fertilizing," Musser adds, "when hot weather comes—though it may be practical to apply a small quantity a couple of weeks before fall play resumes."

"As for cutting, don't let an area grow into a hayfield during the summer, and then attempt to cut it down to playing height in a short period. Keep the grass at a reasonable height, say 2-2½ inches, at all times."

Maintenance practices for playgrounds and baseball diamonds will vary from those used for football fields, Musser says. Grass on the former can be higher, while on the latter, it can be shorter.

"Don't forget," Musser cautions, "that there is a limit to what any type of turf will stand. Sometimes, even with the best of maintenance, turf renovation is necessary. That means either reseeding—if play can be kept off the affected area for a time—or resodding."

Almost always, though, something can be done to help unsatisfactory turf—and at reasonable cost. Musser and his staff are always happy to answer inquiries regarding specialized problems.

"Out-of-staters sometimes ask me," he says, "how come Pennsylvania produces so many excellent football players. I have a stock answer. They had to be good to survive some of the fields they learned to play on."

### Rushing Leader

E. E. "Shorty" Miller, Harrisburg, Pa., schoolmaster, picked up 250 yards via rushing against Carnegie Tech in 1912 for a Penn State record.

### Touchdown-Happy

"Lighthorse Harry" Wilson still holds the Penn State record for most touchdowns in one season—13 in the 1923 campaign.



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