

TIME OCT 30, 1944

SPORT

The T

The football professors had been dead wrong, and humanly slow to admit it. Four years ago, coaches labeled the T formation a precarious stratagem suitable only for such star performers as Quarterback Sid Luckman of the Chicago Bears and Fullback Norm Standlee of Stanford. Without such power and polish, said the coaches, the T formation wouldn't work.

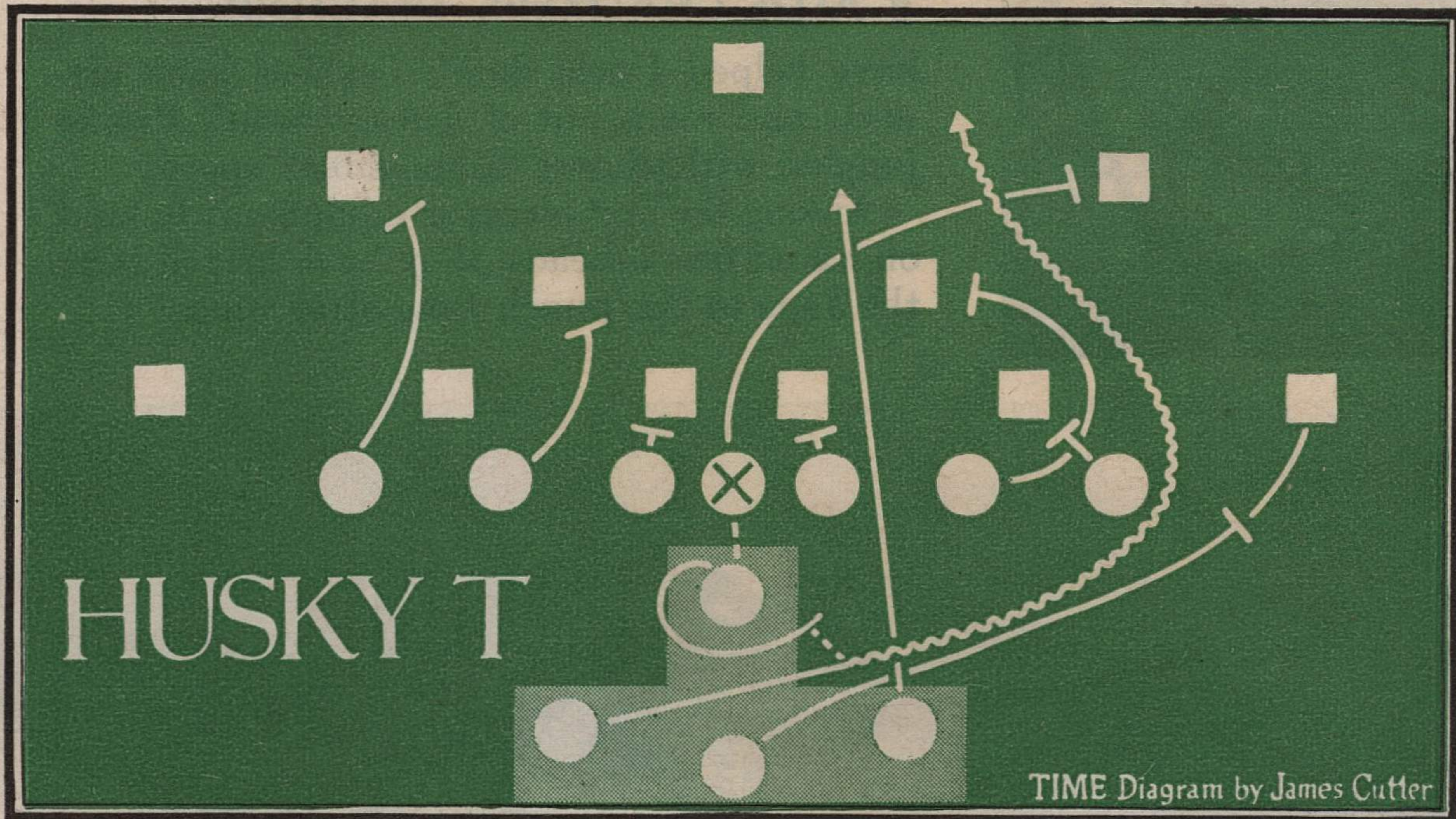
Last week, contrary evidence was apparent on almost every college gridiron: pink-cheeked freshmen scurried and whirled out of the T formation to touchdown after touchdown. More than 50% of college

the Middies' plus 221, but the final score was Tech 17, Navy 15. Bo McMillan's Indiana team is the lone Big Ten eleven shunning the T. Last week the Hoosiers upset Northwestern's T, 14-to-7.

Gambling in the Garden

College basketball in Manhattan's Madison Square Garden has become a big business. Teams travel from all over the country to play there before crowds which last season averaged 15,657 a game. Last week a famed coach, University of Kansas' Dr. Forrest C. ("Phog") Allen, charged that it is also becoming a dirty business.

Predicting an imminent "scandal that



coaches now start their football alphabet with a capital T. The other half burn midnight oil devising ways & means to stop it. Few have succeeded.

Theme with Variations. Converts to the T have concocted all kinds of pet variations and exclusive trademarks. Columbia's Lou Little has a "split T," Michigan's Fritz Crisler an "unbalanced T," Nebraska, Minnesota and Iowa a "part-time T." The Boston (professional) Yanks call theirs the Q.T. Washington's Coach Ralph ("Pest") Welch, who took on a T with man-in-motion last year, this year dropped the man-in-motion, spread his linemen (*see diagram*) for a basic off-tackle slice, scrambled this formation with the old Notre Dame box style of offense (a man on each corner). In the quiet of the locker room, he calls this conglomeration the "bastard T."

But in all variations, the ball-handling quarterback forms the stem of the T, the other three backs the top crossbar. By any name, its razzle-dazzle pattern of spinners, flankers, man-in-motion, dive-tackle plays pack a wallop that makes scores and delights the fans.

At the head of the non-T list are Navy and Georgia Tech, whose conventional single-wing formations clashed last week in a weird, fumbling game at Atlanta. Tech's gained yardage was minus 6 against

would stink to high heaven," he declared: "Vadal Peterson, Utah University coach, knocked down a gambler who came to his room in New York last spring and asked how much it would cost to have Utah lose to Dartmouth in the N.C.A.A. finals. . . . * Professional gamblers already have caused two boys to throw basketball games."

Retorted the Garden's acting president, Ned Irish: "If Allen has any proof of dishonesty in basketball games at the Garden, he'd better come through with it." (Allen promptly wired the name of one player who had "sold out," had been expelled from college for it.) President Irish announced that he would have 36 uniformed policemen, almost as many plainclothesmen and private detectives on duty this season with express orders to prevent all known gamblers from entering the Garden.

At Rhode Island's Pascoag track near Providence last week, 40 racehorse owners and trainers issued an ultimatum to State racing officials: unless an immediate end was put to "race-fixing by a gambling ring," they would stop entering their horses at Pascoag.

* Said Coach Peterson last week, denying that he had struck the gambler: "I shut the door in his face, and that closed the incident."

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