

IT WAS still raining when they | You see what they're doing. Kicking came onto the field for the second half. After the heat of the dressing room the air was cold and biting. Jerry Ellis grunted, and drew his blanket tighter. He splashed toward the Tech bench, staring up into the stands. The spectators, huddled under umbrellas and newspapers, looked as if they'd melted in the drizzle and had run together.

"They must be nuts," said Farraday's voice beside him.

Jerry turned. "They?"

"Sure." Farraday grinned; he nodded at the stands. "They paid I'm third string. You're going to freeze out there without that blan-

Jerry frowned. He said: "You're sure I'm going out there?"

"You always have," said Farraday.

Jerry winced. He always had. Since he'd been a sophomore he'd kicked every extra point that Tech had made. Automatic Jerry Ellis, the newspapers called him-Tech's place-kick specialist. There'd been columns telling how he hadn't missed in twenty-two games, how he'd run up a string of forty-eight successive points after touchdowns. Most of the sportswriters mentioned the part he'd played in Tech's unbeaten, untied season, and that this was his last college game.

There was straw strewn under the bench and Jerry kicked it into a pile for his feet. He sat down and one of the assistant managers tucked a blanket around his legs.

Jerry wished that he'd missed in the previous game. He was due to miss. He was overdue. He'd expected it a week ago, and the Saturday before. Tech had had a nice comfortable lead in both those games. They didn't need his points. Today, they were trailing the Aggies 6 to 0, and it was raining, and it was his last game in a Tech uniform.

There was a hoarse murmur from the crowd in the opposite stands, and he saw the Aggies sprinting out on the field. They'd changed to dry uniforms and it took Jerry a moment to spot the two new men in the Aggie backfield. Tall men, and fast.

Farraday sat next to him. He said: "We're wearing them down. See those subs in there?"

"Subs!" Jerry said. "They're three deep in backs. They're playing safe, that's all."

"Sure." Farraday nodded. "Trying to protect their lousy six points. Just like Big Dan said."

Jerry 'remembered the coach's words in the dressing room. Big Dan Winowski didn't go in for peptalks. But there hadn't been a sound except his calm voice, and a dripping shower.

"All right," the coach had said.

early. Keeping us away. They've Get it back. Get the six points and I'll send Jerry out there. That's all we need." And he had turned to Jerry and smiled.

Jerry bit his lip. Even Dan didn't realize that you couldn't kick them all. Sooner or later he was bound to miss. And this was the last game. "Here we go," muttered Farra-

The Aggies kicked off. Taggert, the Tech quarterback, took it on his money to sit in the rain. Am I glad five, and brought it back twelve yards. The Aggie tackler barely Dan leaped into the air. On the Tech

toward the sideline. Taggert dove. gathered it in. He slid all the way to the Tech bench, and got up.

Farraday swore in sympathy. He said: "Murder! That ball's slippery!" "Tough to handle," agreed Jerry.

"You needn't worry," said Farraday, chuckling. "They even hold it for you. All you got to do is kick it." Jerry glared. Everybody figured it was easy because he only played

got a touchdown and we haven't. a few minutes each game. He never even got in a practice scrimmage; too light, might get hurt. All he had to do was kick it, and he hadn't slept in a week thinking about it.

Tech started to drive. Taggert sent his plays into the line. He was snarling the signals, snapping his backs at the Aggie defense like a whip. Through tackle, guard, the other tackle. Then, back along the line. Five yards, three, four. A first down. Another.

Tech kept marching. "Yow!" shouted Farraday. Big



Jerry froze, grew rigid; gave a gasping sob. "Kick! Kick!" Taggert screamed.

brushed him, but it was enough to | bench only Jerry was silent, his send him sliding in the mud.

Tech tried three plays and then

The game settled into a punter's battle. Taggert had the wind at his back and counted on picking up distance on each exchange. But the Aggie kicker was good, too.

Jerry couldn't keep from watching the clock on the scoreboard. The big second hand jerked around, stopped, moved again. Jerry found himself nodding as the hand jerked. He was cold inside; a chill that had nothing to do with the wind and rain. Every minute passing made the odds against him greater.

The quarter ended; the teams changed goals. Now, he'd have the wind fighting him when he tried to kick. His luck was out all right.

"Hey!" cried Farraday, startled "Hey!"

Jerry snapped awake. A fumble. There was a wild, awkward scram-"I know it's wet, and bad footing, ble for the ball. An Aggie, stumbling and we can't pass much with that in the mud, dropped on it. The ball ball. But they've shot their bolt. popped from beneath him, bounded

eyes shifting from the clock to the field. He sat on his hands to hide their trembling.

Tech stuck to power plays. They bulled through for three yards, two The Aggie backs were playing close, backing up the line. The next play bounced off the Aggie wall. No gain.

Taggert suddenly faded back. passed. It was out in the flat and risky. The Tech half juggled the ball, but he held it. He went all the way to the seven yard line before the Aggies caught him.

Taggert opened up. He called a spinner, a reverse, a delayed buck. Bolivia's 3,000,000 population is The referee's arms went up. Touch-

Farraday pulled the blanket off

Jerry. He said: "Get going." Jerry saw Big Dan beckon. There's the ball game, he said. smiling. "Make it legal, Jerry."

Jerry swallowed. He opened his mouth, and then shut it tight. He nodded and trotted out onto the field. His legs moved him stiffly to- try? ward the referee. He heard his voice, thin and strained. "Ellis for San Francisco? Melkovich. At full." He walked woodenly into position and stared use in building the ark? up at the cross-bar. It was a dim line in the gloom.

a towel. He wiped his hands and top of the Eiffel Tower? knelt at Jerry's feet, Taggert grinned and said: "In the bag, kid. I'll put my hand under it. The mud's like grease."

Jerry stood rigid. His forehead was clammy.

"Steady in there," called Taggert. 'Keep them off him, Steady." His head turned as he glanced along the line. "Ready, kid?" Taggert's voice sharpened. "Signals!" he raised his hands.

Something clicked in Jerry's head. This is it, he thought.

"Seven, nine, eleven-At worst it was a tie. But a tie spoiled the season's record. He couldn't make it.

"Three, five---" He'd done it too many times. A miss was overdue. He was going to miss.

"Two!" The ball moved, grew large. It came back straight. Taggert caught it, placed it in position. Jerry took

a step. He froze.

"Kick!" Taggert screamed, wildeyed. Jerry gave a gasping sob. He

stooped, snatched the ball from Taggert's fingers, and ran. He nearly hit the Aggie end,

charging in. The end tried to stop himself, slipped, went down. His mouth was still open in amazement as Jerry dodged past. He raced for the corner of the end

zone. He could hear Taggert pounding along behind him, shouting in a high, excited voice, but nobody came near him. As he crossed the line, Jerry looked back. The Aggies were standing motionless, bewildered.

Jerry touched the ball down. He started to laugh. He looked up at the scoreboard and saw the 7 move into place.

Homes on Wheels

A total of 300,000 automobile trailers are now in use, either rolling over the nation's highways or parked in trailer camps, says the Automobile Manufacturers association. Many trailers are painted on the outside with aluminum paint to reflect heat in hot, sunny climates, and on the inside in attractive color schemes to make them homelike.

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A quiz with answers offering information on various subjects

1. The quotation "For the apparel oft proclaims the man" comes from?

2. Approximately how many of America. pure Indian?

3. How much leaf surface has a tree? 4. The mythological dog who

guards the gates of Hades is The hull and germ are removed and only the hard part of the corr 5. What is the only state split

completely into two parts? 6. When was the first life insurance policy issued in this coun-

7. Hawaii is how far southwest of

8. What kind of wood did Noah 9. What part of the corn is used

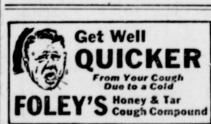
in making cornflakes? Taggert was drying the ball with 10. How far can one see from the

The Answers

1. Hamlet-Act 1, scene 3. 2. 1,500,000.

3. A large oak may have as much as 87,000 square feet of leaf surface. That is, if all the leaves from the tree were spread flat on the ground and touching, they'd completely cover two acres.

4. Cerberus.



5. Michigan.

6. On December 15, 1792, by the Insurance Company of North

7. About 2,000 miles.

8. The Bible says gopherwood. In this country gopherwood is called stinking cedar.

9. The outer part of the kernel. and only the hard part of the corn is used to make the corn flakes. 10. Eighty-five miles.

Ostriches Kick Forward

An ostrich can kick hard enough to break a man's leg-or even kill him if the blow should catch him right. Since ostriches can only kick forward, not backward, ostrich keepers always come up on the birds from behind.



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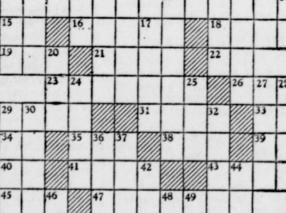


Horizontal

- 1 High card 4 Exists 6 Ordinary
- 11 River in Pennsylvania 13 Despicable
- 15 Upon 16 Sparkle 18 To cloy
- 19 Greek letter 21 Heraldic bearing
- 22 Part of "to be" 23 Ferocious spotted cat
- 26 Posed 29 Soothing ointment 31 Drink made
- from manna 33 Six 34 Land measure 35 Doctrine
- 38 To stain 39 Man's nickname 40 Note of scale 41 Leaping
- amphibian 43 Ethereal 45 To recede 47 Howling 50 Conjunction
- 52 Slender 53 Witnessed 56 Exclamation used to frighten fowls 58 Quaking
- 60 Prefix: two 61 Annual church celebration 63 Escaped 65 Stop on a
- theatrical 66 French article 67 Poem
- Vertical 1 Genus of succulent plants
- 2 Penny 3 What? 4 Eskimo house 5 Keen 6 Escorted
- 7 Therefore 8 —Major, the Great Bear

Solution in Next Issue

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



9 Second U.S. President 10 Illumined 12 Whether

14 French for "from" 17 To close noisily 20 Completely

24 To give forth 25 Author of "Life With Father" 27 To state

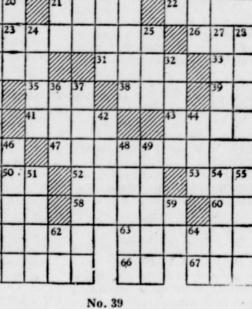
positively 28 Neat 29 Large bundle 30 Desert dweller 32 College

administrative official 36 French coin 37 Wild duck 44 Pronoun 46 To raise

48 Fold of the front of a coat 49 Archaic: to anoint
51 List 54 On on'e sleeping-

55 Broad 56 Compass point 57 Owns 59 Greek letter

62 Printer's measure 64 To perform couch Answer to Puzzle Number 38 PEPINCUR



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