

1905 IU-Purdue game played in Indianapolis

"Purdue will mass on the west side of the Washington Park grid-iron, at Indianapolis, on Saturday, October 28, when the big game of the year is played there with the Indiana eleven . . . The Indiana bleachers are to be built for this game, and the seating capacity will be about 1,100."

Bloomington Courier,
Oct. 20, 1905

It was a simpler time, when football players' positions had recognizable names like "left half back and "full back." The games were played on neutral ground in Indianapolis in a place not entirely designed for a game that generated a lot of interest at both stops along the Monon Railroad.

Apparently the determination of where fans would sit in the Washington Park facility was dependent upon the toss of a coin. The Oct. 20 edition of the *Courier* indicated in a headline that "Purdue Won the Toss and



Looking back

By Rose
McIlveen

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Will Get Best Seats at the Big Game." Commented the newspaper, "Business Manager Van Winkle, of Purdue, won, and the big bleacher and the west side of the grandstand will go to the old gold and black rooters. The Indiana bleachers are to be built for this game, and the seating capacity will be about 1,100. The seats will be just as comfortable, and Indiana is well satisfied."

The *Courier* confidently predicted as many as 10,000 persons (including standees) might witness the game. Admission was 75 cents and \$1.

IU was having a good season
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