

Notre Dame's Student Magazine

January 28, 1988

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Notre Dame's Student Magazine

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Thanks to seven Michigan turnovers, Notre Dame managed to do what no team had done before . . . beat Bo Schembechler in a season opener at Ann Arbor.

#### **BY BOB GORDON**

ANN ARBOR, Mich. --Michigan Wolverine football generally offers few suprises. They play ball-control offense, tediously munching up minutes and yards on their trail to the endzone. On defense they stop the run, and create third-and-long situations for the opponent. This generates punts and sometimes even turnovers. They repeat these tactics to the brink of boredom.

Even the Michigan fight song is repetitive. Wolverine fans repeat the word "hail" more often than Father Hesburgh might while uttering a decade of rosaries. But the most frightening aspect of "Michigan Repeats" would have to be head coach Bo Schembechler's uncanny knack for winning his home opener. With a perfect 12-0 mark in home openers, in fact, one could almost say Schembechler wins his home opener almost as frequently as he loses the Rose Bowl.

Not surprisingly then, the 1987 Michigan-Notre Dame opener was supposed to be a clear-cut victory for Michigan. The Wolverines were favored by four points, coming off a Rose Notre Dame was Bowl year. attempting to rebound from a 5-6 season and the loss of 11 starters to graduation. Quite simply, the game was not going be a mystery.

There were no suprises then in Ann Arbor on September 12 when the two schools mixed it up, except that it was Notre Dame who dominated. Behind a solid defensive effort and an opportunistic offense, the Irish cruised to a 26-7 victory. The win marked the first time Michigan had lost a home opener under Schembechler, and the first time a Notre Dame football team had been above .500 since midway through the 1985 season.

"It was a very gratifying win," said Irish head coach Lou Holtz. "I'm not suprised with how well we played because I really felt that defensively we were going to play awfully, awfully well. It was just a complete win for us."

Notre "No-Name" Dame's defense stuffed Michigan's offense. Restraining elusive Michigan tailback Jamie Morris and harassing both of Schembechler's inexperienced quarterbacks, the Irish defense created more turnovers (seven) than any Ann Arbor bakery. Those "Irish Delights" were sweet for Notre Dame but they didn't sit too comfortably in Schembechler's Holtz was all smiles before, during and after the "gratifying" win over Michigan.

#### stomach.

"Turnovers," muttered the famous Wolverine mentor, who seemed to opt for sour grapes as a post game snack. "We just had too many turnovers. We kept taking ourselves out of the game and really made it easy for Notre Dame. They are probably not as good as they looked. I'm not taking anything away from them. Not at all. But if you give us seven turnovers, we'll beat a lot of teams."

Notre Dame posted a 10-0 lead in the first quarter by capitalizing on Wolverine generosity. With Michigan threatening to break a scoreless tie on first down at the Irish 24-yard line, Wolverine quarterback Demetrius Brown was rocked by blitzing Irish cornerback Stan Smagala. As Brown found himself heading to the turf he blindly hurled the ball downfield, where Notre Dame linebacker Cedric Figaro intercepted and rambled 11 yards to his own 29-yard line.

From there Notre Dame quarterback Terry Andrysiak guided his troops on a 44-yard, 11-play march. Although the drive stalled at the Michigan 27-yard line, and the Irish had to settle for a 44-yard Ted Gradel field goal, the Irish offensive line realized it could blow holes in the highly-touted Wolverine defensive front.

The Irish soon learned they could pass effectively as well, after Michigan's Morris fumbled the ball on the first play after the kickoff and the Irish recovered. Andrysiak went to the air and promptly found Notre Dame's Heisman Trophy candidate, Tim Brown, for a 24-yard gain that moved the sticks to the Wolverine

10-vard line. After one rush for no gain. Andrysiak dropped back again to throw. This time, though, he spent a full eight seconds of time waiting in the pocket for a receiver to get open. Suddenly, the senior quarterback fired into the endzone to Brown, who was sandwiched in between two Wolverine defenders. But Brown soared three feet in the air, caught the ball amongst the crowd and landed both feet in the end zone for a remarkable display of athletic ability and Notre Dame's first touchdown of 1987.

"After I saw that second defender behind me, I couldn't believe Terry threw it," said Brown, whose touchdown reception also closed out the scoring for the half.

Andrysiak, however, found it to be his day all along. The Allen Park, Michigan native, who spurned an offer to play for his



January 28, 1988

#### Michigan

state university so that he could play at Notre Dame, had a storybook type of game. He completed 11-of-15 passes for 137 yards on the day, including the Brown touchdown throw, and one meaningless interception on a pass just before halftime.

"I think Terry played very well," said Holtz, whose Irish team had to replace graduated quarter-' back Steve Beuerlein in 1987. "I didn't have any qualms about Terry up until 13 days ago, when I didn't think we were on the same page or even the same book."

By halftime of the game with the Wolverines, though, Notre Dame led 10-0 and it was clear the entire Irish squad was reading from the same playbook. Early in the third period they proved it beyond any doubt, when the defense once again came up with the big play and the offense capitalized for the score.

With Michigan moving the ball effectively, mostly on dives by the quick Morris, it appeared the Wolverines had figured out the

6

defense of Notre Dame. Then on a third-and-seven from the Notre Dame 40-yard line, Michigan's Brown threw to flanker John

"When they scored to make it 17-7, I felt it was critical. I called the offense together and said, "We've got to answer the challenge." And the offense did the job." -- Lou Holtz

Kolesar. Apparently Brown never saw Irish safety Corny Southall, however, because the junior defender stepped in front of the intended receiver and intercepted the ball, giving the Irish a firstand-10 at their own 45-yard line.

Andrysiak then linked up with freshman tight end Frank Jacobs for a 23-yard completion and with Brown, on a third-and-eight, for a 24-yard completion to move the ball to the Wolverine 14-yard line.



With 2:30 left in the third quarter, fullback Braxston Banks carried it in two yards for the touchdown. Notre Dame was shocking Michigan 17-0.

But Michigan countered behind the persistent Morris and Brown's quick thinking to make one last run. First Morris broke open for a 16-vard scamper to midfield, then the fleet-footed Brown broke a quarterback draw for 39 vards to the Irish 12-vard line. With 100.000-plus Wolverine faithful suddenly reawakened. Brown rolled out and lofted a beautiful strike to receiver Greg McMurtry for the touchdown. For the first time in a long while, the Michigan band broke into "Hail To The Victors", and the Irish lead fell to 17-7.

"When they scored to make it 17-7, I felt it was critical," said Holtz. "I called the offense together and said, 'We've got to answer the challenge.' And the offense did the job."

The Irish did indeed respond. starting a scoring drive from their own 28-yard line. Andrysiak found tailback Mark Green in the flat for 14 yards to move the ball to midfield, then handed off to fullback Anthony Johnson three straight times for another first down. Testing Michigan's front four. Notre Dame then ran six more times up the gut of the Wolverine defense. Although the drive stalled, the Irish got three points off a 38-yard field goal by Gradel to pad their lead to 20-7. And perhaps more importantly, they took seven minutes off the scoreboard clock.

Facing a 13-point deficit with only nine minutes left put Schem-

Although Brown never found the open field, he did snare an acrobatic touchdown catch to put the Irish ahead, 10-0. bechler in a difficult situation. Michigan, never a good secondhalf comeback team, now had to let its two run-oriented quarterdefenders George Streeter and Brandy Wells combined for a nearly flawless performance. They contained Michigan's passing



The Irish offensive line blew through the heralded Wolverine defense, allowing Notre Dame to roll up 336 yards of total offense.

attack, and the opportunistic bunch generated the big turnovers that Notre Dame always seemed to lack in 1986.

About the only thing that went wrong for the Irish, in fact, occured late in the game, after Irish freshman tailback Ricky Watters took an Andrysiak pitch, ran 16 yards, and vaulted over Wolverine safety Doug Mallory for the touchdown. Leading 26-7, Andrysiak tried to pass for the two-point conversion. The pass missed, though, and the Irish had to settle for only six points.

The day still ended on a positive note, however, when quicker than Bo Schembechler can say "I miss Jim Harbaugh", Irish linebacker Wes Pritchett intercepted a Taylor pass to seal the victory. Harbaugh, the ex-Wolverine star quarterback, graduated with two victories over Notre Dame.

But on this day Harbaugh was not around to save Michigan, and as the clock wound down the thousands of Irish fans who gutted out the road trip to Ann Arbor stormed the field and then the streets of the town. All along they chanted, "We're Number One." On such a productive and promising Saturday afternoon, who could argue with them?

backs go to the air. Although Schembechler had replaced Brown with junior option specialist Michael Taylor in the third quarter, he wanted Brown's strong arm back in the game and so Brown reentered the contest. Moments later, though, Brown left the field almost as quickly as he had entered it after Southall again intercepted a pass for McMurtry.

The young, unproven secondary of Notre Dame all day showed signs of being a force. Led by Southall and Smagala, fellow

The Se	coring
Notre Dame 10 0 7 9 - 26	3rd Quarter
Michigan 0 0 7 0 - 7 1st Quarter	ND - Braxston Banks 1 run at 2:24 (Gradel kick) M - Greg McMurtry 12 pass from Demetrius Brown at 0:03 (Mike
ND - Ted Gradel 44 FG at 2:39 ND - Tim Brown 11 pass from Terry	Gilette kick)
Andrysiak at 1:26 (Gradel kick)	4th Quarter ND - Gradel 38 FG at 8:59
2nd Quarter None	ND - Ricky Watters 16 run at 6:14 (Andrysiak pass fails)



#### BY KATHLEEN MCKERNAN

NOTRE DAME

NOTRE DAME, In -- After Notre Dame's 31-8 victory over Michigan State in the season opener of its 100th year of football, Irish head coach and erstwhile quipster Lou Holtz was simple in his praise: "This football anonymous defense, to a solid performance for senior quarterback Terry Andrysiak, the Irish showed the capacity to win with special teams, fine defense and whatever else it might take. And they did it against a fine Michigan State team which featured a Heisman candito a pair of Brown punt returns that went for touchdowns within 2:01 of each other. The first return marked the first time in 14 years that the Irish had run a punt return all the way, and it was the first time since 1926 that a Notre Dame player had returned two



"Spartan safety Todd Krumm (35) motioned for "me to 'come on, come on, come on . . .' So I came to him."

--Tim Brown, after the first of his two punt returns for touchdowns.

team has an awful lot of things going for it."

From Heisman Trophy candidate Tim Brown's 275 all-purpose yards, including two, yes two, punt returns for touchdowns, to eight sacks for a formerly date of its own in back Lorenzo White and a physical defense that would carry the Spartans to the 1987 Big Ten title and a Rose Bowl win.

At the end of the first quarter the Irish held a 19-0 lead, thanks punts for touchdowns. The first return was almost planned, Brown explained. "We knew (MSU punter Greg) Montgomery had a 53-yard average. We figured he'd overkick the coverage, and that's exactly what he did." Brown broke two



tackles and got blocking help. Then Spartan safety Todd Krumm motioned, Brown said, for "me to 'come on, come on, come on.' So I came to him."

But for the second return, Brown "was supposed to call for a fair catch," he admitted. "I think I would have been chewed out if I hadn't returned it." But the Spartans were having their own problems.

"If I had to do it over, maybe I wouldn't have emphasized our punt coverage so much," Spartan coach George Perles said. "Our senior guys were flying down there; they were trying so hard, some just ran by him. (For the second touchdown) they were all in one line with no second wave. And Brown is a great, great football player."

Brown found himself alone with that single line of Spartan defense, since Notre Dame was going for the punt block, and just ran right by them. The only thing between Brown and a 66-yard touchdown run was punter Greg Montgomery. And Brown said he was thinking, "I'm not going to let myself be tackled by a punter." "What a move Timmy put on that punter," Holtz gushed. "I don't know where a dance is being held tonight. That's the only place you might see another move like that."

The Irish opened the game, meanwhile, with a couple of points courtesy of lady luck. MSU kick returner Blake Ezor snagged the opening kickoff close to the 2 Heisman hopeful White (34) had no place to go with the Irish defense surrounding him all evening.

yard line, and dropped back into what he thought was a touchback, but which the officials correctly ruled a safety. So Notre Dame started off with a 2-0 lead before a second had ticked off the clock.

Perles took the freshman aside and said, "Blake, you made a mistake, but don't feel that you just got us off to a bad start or got us according behind." to the diplomatic MSU chief. Things were soon to get worse for the Spartans. After a Ted Gradel field goal made the score 5-0. Brown took over in helping the Irish run away with the game. But for all his heroics, the senior from Dallas transferred the credit for the vic-

The Irish offensive line of (left to right) Byron Spruell, Jeff Pearson, Chuck Lanza, Tom Freeman and Tom Rehder, carried the Irish once again.



#### Michigan State University

tory: "The defense played better than I did," he said.

The Irish defense held White to only 51 yards on 19 carries, and contained nimble Spartan quarterback Bobby McAllister from breaking any long runs. White may "break parietals" as a sign on Keenan Hall proclaimed the weekend of the game, but he had a hard time breaking free from Notre Dame's tough defense. McAllister, was sacked eight meanwhile. times. "They blitzed more than we've seen in any game," Perles said. "The sacks really are a motivating factor for the other team -- and it doesn't do a whole lot for your team. They really take away a lot." One of tackle Jeff Kunz's two sacks in the second quarter in the endzone accounted for Notre Dame's second safety of the afternoon.

In addition to the sacks, Notre Dame forced four turnovers with interceptions by junior linebacker Ned Bolcar and freshman safety Todd Lyght. Bolcar and junior tackle Tom Gorman also recovered fumbles. And the Spartans only score, a 57-yard McAllister pass to wideout Andre Rison and a subsequent two-point conversion throw, came with only 1:06 left in the game and against the Irish second teamers.

Perles also added praise for Irish quarterback Terry Andrysiak. The Allen Park, Mich. native threw for 109 yards and scampered for 22. "The way he played tonight was the way I figured he would play when I tried to recruit him," Perles said. "I'm glad we didn't have to face him the last two years."

While Perles thought about the past, too many others were talking about the future. Before the Musco temporary lights surrounding the stadium had been turned off, Heisman odds and bowl bid possibilities already had become a prime topic of conversation. But Brown claimed: "I don't think about [the Heisman]. And Holtz was even more adamant: "We

19

Michigan State 0 0 0 8 - 8

ND - Blake Ezor steps back into

endzone and downs ball for

ND - Ted Gradel 27 FG at 4:08

ND - Brown punt return for 66

71 at 2:14 (Gradel kick)

at 0:13 (Gradel kick)

ND - Tim Brown punt return for

safety on opening kickoff

5 7

0 - 31

Notre Dame

1st Quarter

at 15:00

have a great group of guys," he said. "We've played two football games, and some great things have happened to us. But great teams are classified on Jan. 2."

#### The Scoring

2nd Quarter

ND - Jeff Kunz tackles Bobby McAllister for safety at 3:37 ND - Gradel 37 FG at 0:08

3rd Quarter

ND - Anthony Johnson 3 run at 10:40 (Gradel kick)

4th Quarter

MSU - Andre Rison 57 pass from McAllister at 1:06 (Bernard Wilson pass from McAllister)



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# CONtenders or PREtenders?

"Which one are you?" Irish head coach Lou Holtz asked his team at half time. The Irish responded with an awesome second half display that dashed a valiant upset bid by Purdue.

#### **BY BOB GORDON**

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. --Purdue and Notre Dame, each celebrating its hundredth year of football, met for the 57th time in history on a sunny September day at Ross-Ade Stadium. Notre Dame had spent its past century becoming perhaps the most prestigious team in the college game. Purdue passed the time mainly



being a stingy foe to bigger powers, especially to the Irish, against whom it compiled more wins (21) than any other school except USC and earned for itself the label, "Spoilermakers".

But with Notre Dame (2-0 and ranked No.8 in the AP poll) charging into the game off of victories over stiffer Big Ten rivals Michigan and Michigan State, and Purdue (0-1-1) staggering in after a tie with Louisville on the Boilers' home turf, not many fans were talking about any possible upsets this time. First-year Purdue head coach Fred Akers, in fact, went so far as to predict "one of the largest spreads in the history of football," a week before the game.

Akers was close -- bettors placed the Irish as 23-point favorites, but that gaudy spread didn't stop Purdue from scaring the wits out of Notre Dame with a 17-point second-quarter explosion that knotted the score at 17-17 at the half. Ironically, however, the Boilermakers could not sustain their upset dream, and allowed the Irish to dominate the second half and gain a 44-20 victory that even covered the spread by one point.

"I told the team at halftime that there were two kinds of teams at this point of the season," Holtz said, "CON-tenders and PREtenders. Which one are you going to be?"

After a sluggish first-half, the "No-Names" got together and put the clamp on Purdue's upset bid.

#### Purdue

Holtz' team answered that question with their impressive second half, but one can forgive the second-year mentor for his doubts. After staking its way to a quick 10-0 lead, the Irish seemed to fall asleep while Boilermakers quarterback Doug Downing (11of-27, 106 yards) passed his squad

back into contention.

Downing acquired his hot hand just in time. Notre Dame scored on its first possession when placekicker Ted Gradel booted a 25-yard field goal after quarterback Terry Andrysiak had connected on a 51-yard pass to fullback Anthony Johnson. Then, while Holtz was still marveling at that drive ("We felt Purdue would double-team Tim Brown, and that we could get the fullback open"), the Irish struck again. This time they went 81 yards, all on the ground, for a Johnson touchdown run that put the Irish up 10-0 and seemed to put Purdue in big trouble.

But Downing strung together five straight pass completions in five attempts and directed a 12play, 80-yard touchdown drive early in the second period to put his team back in the game. And after Boilermakers linebacker Jerrol Williams intercepted Andrysiak at the Irish 37-yard line seconds later, rambling down to the 22yard line, Notre Dame suddenly found itself in a tight contest.

Whereas moments before, Notre Dame had been bulldozing its way through a Purdue defense that appeared to be on skates, Downing now found himself gliding past the usually stingy Irish "No-Name" defense with balance and ease. The big senior, who had spent two years at Purdue on the bench behind star quarterback Jim Everett and then one behind freshman phenom Jeff George, hit



flanker Calvin Williams for the scoring pass. Notre Dame now trailed for the first time in its entire season, 14-10, which brought most of the 68,526 sundrenched fans to their feet.

Enthusiasm turned to absolute mayhem a few minutes later when Purdue's Williams picked up his second turnover, landing on a Mark Green fumble at the Purdue 28-yard line. The Irish had driven 74 yards before the turnover, thanks to the surprise entrance of Notre Dame sophomore quarterback Tony Rice, who exercised a precise option that cut through the Boilermaker defense. "I told Tony that he would take over on the fourth series," said Holtz. "He did a fine job, but the fumble cost us."

The Boilermakers promptly ran through the Irish to midfield. Purdue tailback Darren Myles scampered around left end on one carry, nearly scoring if not for a touchdown-saving tackle by Irish Notre Dame's "Mr. Touchdown," fullback Anthony Johnson, found his way to the endzone three times against the Boilermakers.

cornerback Stan Smagala. Even with the save, however, Myles gained 32 yards and placed Purdue at the Irish eight-yard line.

Still, Smagala's tackle may indeed have saved four points as Purdue failed to push it in against the Notre Dame brawn. On fourth down at the two, Akers settled for a 19-yard Jonathan Briggs' field goal which padded the Boiler lead, 17-10. Oddly enough against such a weak opponent, the Irish "No-Names" had become "No-Shows", allowing more points in the second quarter than they had all season.

Not all of the "No-Names" had a long day, though. Smagala continued his spectacular play, cutting in front of a Purdue receiver and intercepting a Downing pass moments later. "Super Stan"'s interception prevented another Purdue score and set up a late Irish touchdown that forged the halftime deadlock. Notre Dame's Johnson hauled in a 39yard pass from Andrysiak on the drive, and then capped it off with his second touchdown of the day, a six-yard fight to the goal to make it 17-17 at the half.

Although Holtz' pep talk at the half apparently did the job, it took a few minutes of play for it to fully sink in to his players. Purdue inside linebacker Fred Strickland recovered an Andrysiak fumble at midfield, paving the way for a 50-yard field goal by Briggs that lifted the Boilermakers to a 20-17 lead early in the second half.

Down by three points to Purdue in the third quarter might have given Holtz an upset stomach, but after a personal foul penalty stuck Notre Dame with a first-and-twenty at its own 9-yard line, the perfectionist Irish mentor must have felt the rumblings of an ulcer. "We had our backs against the wall," Holtz confessed. "There was no place to hide."

A screen pass to Irish tailback Mark Green picked up 21 yards, though, and Notre Dame ran 11 straight times behind its veteran offensive line to go 70 more. The line, consisting of tackles Tom Rehder and Byron Spruell, guards Tom Freeman and Jeff Pearson, and center Chuck Lanza, blew the Boilermakers off the ball, and sprung a hole for Johnson to collect his third touchdown of the game. For the day, the Irish gained 268 net yards rushing to the Boilermakers' 87.

"I thought the (91-yard drive) was critical," said Holtz of the score which put Notre Dame ahead for good at 24-20. "You never know how a team will react. I'm really proud of our men. They handled the pressure well. We grew as a team today."

The Irish "No-Name" defense, meanwhile, found itself

"We had our backs against the wall... I'm really proud of our They handled men. the pressure well. We grew as а team today." -- Lou Holtz

and began dominating in the bone-crushing manner it had shown in the team's earlier two games. Over Purdue's final five possessions, the Irish yielded only 10 net yards. Notre Dame inside linebacker Ned Bolcar led the assault with 11 tackles.

Then, as if to prove that everything was indeed back to normal for the Irish, Brown finally broke free after a day of doubleteaming by the Boilermaker defense. "I was being doublecovered all day, but I told Coach Holtz I could beat them deep. We had to wait, though, and use what they were giving us with that coverage." Brown's patience paid off, though, when he hooked up with an Andrysiak spiral for a 49-yard touchdown grab that put the Irish up 31-20.

Gradel added two fourthperiod field goals, from 28 and 44 yards out, for Notre Dame to make the lead 37-20. Then, with Boilermakers substitute quarterback Shawn McCarthy attempting to ignite a late comeback, Irish safety Corny Southall rounded out the scoring by intercepting a pass and returning it 57 yards for the final touchdown.

In the winner's locker room after the game, Lou Holtz made the rounds, shook hands, and congratulated his team of contenders. At one locker he stopped for a moment and interrupted a mob of reporters hanging on Tim Brown's every word to say, "Timmy, I'm proud of you."

Lou Holtz, Tim Brown and pride, a trinity ascending Notre Dame back to college football's promised land in 1987.

The Scoring	
Notre Dame 10 7 14 13 - 44 Purdue 0 17 3 0 - 20	PU - Briggs kick 18 FG at 4:41 ND - Johnson 1 run at 0:36 (Gradel kick)
lst Quarter ND - Ted Gradel 25 FG at 12:00 ND - Anthony Johnson 6 run at 4:30 (Ted Gradel kick)	3rd Quarter PU - Briggs 50 FG at 9:41 ND - Johnson 8 run at 4:45 (Gradel kick) ND - Tim Brown 49 pass from Terry Andrysiak at 0:23 (Gradel kick)
2nd Quarter	4th Quarter
<ul> <li>PU - Brad Schumacher 4 pass from</li> <li>Doug Downing at 14:55</li> <li>(Jonathan Briggs kick)</li> <li>PU - Calvin Williams 20 pass from</li> <li>Downing at 13:15 (Briggs kick)</li> </ul>	ND - Gradel 28 FG at 13:05 ND - Gradel 44 FG at 3:20 ND - Corny Southall interception return for 57 at 1:59 (Gradel kick)



# Breakdown at Pittsburgh

Things couldn't have fared much worse for Notre Dame when it lost two star players to injury and a football game to Pitt, 30-22.

#### **BY MIKE FARNAN**

**PITTSBURGH** -- When the 4th-ranked Notre Dame football team unpacked its belongings in the visitors' locker room at Pitt stadium on October 10, the players probably had a strange feeling that they had forgotten something. A quick equipment check most likely would have given them the false impression that everything was in order. A role call would also have seemed to reveal that they were in fact the same team that had beaten Michigan, Michigan State, and Purdue the three previous weeks.

By halftime of its game with the unranked and 3-2 Panthers, however, Notre Dame probably realized that somehow it had for-

#### Pittsburgh

Holtz looked worried when Andrysiak's injury turned out to be a broken collarbone.

gotten its winning ways and had packed in its place only some lousy South Bend weather. Pitt managed to build a 27-0 lead in a rainsoaked first half, and then held on to upset the previously undefeated Irish, 30-22.

Although the Irish lost a big game and two of its star players in the fiasco at Pittsburgh -- quarterback Terry Andrysiak and junior safety Corny Southall went down with serious injuries -- Notre Dame still managed to find some consolation. Sophomore quarterback Tony Rice, a speedy option specialist from the hills of Woodruff, S.C., led the Irish to 22 second-half points in relief of Andrysiak, and established himself as the man who could perhaps lead Notre Dame to its first New Year's Day bowl appearance in seven years.

Rice executed the Irish offense with surprising poise in the second half, despite entering the game under difficult conditions. Facing a 27-0 deficit and replacing the veteran Andrysiak, who had suffered a broken collarbone on the last play of the first half, didn't seem to scare Rice at all. At least not after he got a few plays in. "At first, I was a bit nervous," Rice admitted. "But once I got going, it felt great."

Indeed, Rice got over his jitters and racked up some pretty fair numbers for only one half of foot-

Despite one costly fumble, Brown had another super day, dancing through the Pitt defense for 217 all-purpose yards.

ball. Irish head coach Lou Holtz termed Rice's 19 carries for 68 yards, and his 5-of-12 passing for 125 yards, "admirable", pointing out the fact that Rice missed all of his freshman campaign as a Proposition 48 casualty. "I thought Tony competed well," Holtz said, emphasizing the one bright spot in otherwise disastrous day. an "Especially considering how difficult it was to come in down 27-0. He's an excellent athlete, but he just doesn't have the experience that Terry did. We'll just have to work with him as much as we can to get him ready."

The Irish defense, meanwhile, made a comeback of its own, holding the previously unstoppable Pitt attack to a lone field goal in the second half. That feat was rather remarkable in itself considering that the Irish unit had been on the field for over 22 of the 30 minutes of the first half. In addition, the "No Names" had lost one of their more notable players in Southall, a victim of a severe ligament tear in his leg.

But a solid final 30 minutes of football could not push the Irish

past a Pitt team that played as though it had something to prove. Led by powerful running back Craig "Ironhead" Heyward and a much-maligned senior quarterback named Sal Genilla, Pitt established several lengthy drives early and converted Irish turnovers into points. The result was a first half in which Notre Dame's offensive players spent more time dodging raindrops on the sidelines than dodging tacklers on the field.

"I'll remember (this win) when they are putting me in the casket," Genilla joked after he had silenced his critics with an 8-of-13 passing performance for 109 yards. Right up until game time, many Pitt fans had called for second-year Pitt head coach Mike Gottfried to go with one of his two freshman signal-callers against the Irish. after Genilla's erratic passing had helped Temple and Boston College upset the Panthers. Gottfried. however, stuck with his senior and Genilla responded well, throwing for his club's first touchdown and running a two-yard bootleg for another.

Heyward, meanwhile, put on a



#### Pittsburgh

show of his own, banging out 132 yards on a whopping 42 carries. The stocky Heisman Trophy candidate, who stands 6-0, 260pounds, had been averaging 129 yards per game going into the contest, and no team had been able to hold him to less than 100 yards. His effort, which vaulted him into fourth-place on the all-time Pitt rushing list (2,075 yards total), overshadowed even Genilla's and enabled the Panthers to pull off their big upset.

Observers might have guessed the Irish were not exactly in the best frame of mind as early as the coin flip. After winning the toss and electing to defer, Irish cocaptains Chuck Lanza and Byron Spruell had a difficult time deciding which goal to defend. Upon setting up on the wrong side of the field, each team had to turn around and exchange sides across the midfield stripe. Eventually, the Panthers remedied the confusion and then proceeded to show the Irish four times in the half that they indeed were supposed to be defending the north goal.

The first of these scores took place midway through the first quarter when Genilla hit flanker Billy Osborn for a 31-yard touchdown strike. Earlier on the drive, which covered 77 yards in seven plays, Genilla had set up behind protection and passed to Heyward for 23 yards. Although kicker Jeff Van Horne missed the conversion attempt and the score stood at only 6-0, it appeared Genilla had the "No-Names" number.

Genilla left no doubt moments later after Pitt defensive back Gary Richard intercepted an Andrysiak pass and carried it to the Notre Dame 38-yard line. Genilla drove the Panthers to the goal line, where Heyward plunged in for the score. Then, after Genilla hit a wide-open Reggie Williams for the two-point conversion, Pitt led 14-0 and could sense a victory. "Everything was working," Genilla said. "That first touchdown really did it. It gave me a lot of confidence."

Things could have turned in Notre Dame's favor a few moments later, however, had not the Irish committed their second crucial turnover of the day. Notre Dame's Heisman Trophy candidate Tim Brown hauled in an Andrysiak pass at midfield and headed down the sidelines for what should have been a nice run to the Pitt 26-yard line. Unfortunately for Brown, however, he coughed up the wet football along the way and Pitt's Quintin Jones fell on it. Genilla engineered a 74-yard drive in 16 plays, including a 20-yard scramble for firstdown and a two-yard bootleg for the score, to put the Panthers on top, 21-0.

Pitt's final touchdown of the half occurred with seven minutes remaining, after Irish punter Vince Phelan's kick carried only 34 yards in the driving rain. Pitt return specialist Teryl Austin returned the kick for 11 yards. and once again the Panthers had the ball deep in Irish territory. In what was becoming an all-too familiar sight to the Irish defense, Heyward barrelled in from the one-yard line for the touchdown. Despite Van Horne's second conversion miss of the game, Notre Dame found itself down 27-0 at the half and without its starting quarterback.

"That first half was a real nightmare, but I still felt we had a chance to win," said Holtz, who began at that point preparing Rice for his second-half assault. With the Irish game plan effectively scrapped, and a quarterback who Holtz had stated could throw the ball 80 yards but not necessarily to the right team, the second-year Notre Dame mentor certainly had his work cut out for him.

Rice, however, surprised Holtz and most everyone by linking up with Brown on a 25-yard pass play on the first series of the second half. Although Notre Dame punted on the drive, Rice returned on the second drive to direct an 80-yard march for a touchdown

Facing a 27-0 defeat, ND's Tom Gorman (87) tried to get something going on this John Rasp punt. Like the Irish effort, however, it was too little, too late.



#### Pittsburgh



that made the score 27-7 in favor of Pitt. On the scoring drive, Rice repeatedly scrambled out of the pocket for big gains, connected on one lengthy pass to wide out Pat Terrell, and scored the touchdown himself when he carried it in from 16 yards out.

Not enough time remained, though, for Rice and the Irish to catch the Panthers. Two fourthperiod scores, a one-yard plunge by Braxston Banks and a 17-yard dash by tailback Mark Green, enabled Notre Dame to make it closer, but that was all.

After the game, with spirits buoyed by a strong second-half showing and by the emergence of Rice as a capable competitor, Brown remained sullen. Although he personally had given another fine performance (217 total yards, including 156 receiving), the senior superstar couldn't stop thinking of what might have been.

"Tony Rice did a great job," he said softly. "But this loss really hurts. We should have beaten them. We just played lousy, and we beat ourselves." Ironhead Heyward vaulted his 6-0, 260-pound frame through the Irish defense for two touchdowns.

The Scoring		
Notre Dame 0 0 7 15 - 22 Pittsburgh 14 13 0 3 - 30	(illegal procedure penalty - VanHorne kick ruled no good)	
lst Quarter P - Bill Osborn 31 pass from	3rd Quarter	
Sal Genilla at 6:02 (Jeff VanHorne kick no good) P - Craig Heyward 1 run at	ND - Tony Rice 16 run at 4:33 (Ted Gradel kick)	
2:04 (Genilla pass to Reggie Williams)	4th Quarter	
2nd Quarter	ND - Braxston Banks 1 run at 14:21 (Gradel kick)	
P - Genilla 2 run at 8:47 (VanHorne kick) P - Heyward 1 run at 3:49	P - VanHorne 20 FG at 5:34 ND - Mark Green 17 run at 1:29 (Tim Brown run)	



With substitute quarterback Tony Rice at the controls for the first time, the Irish soared to an easy 35-14 victory over Air Force.

#### BY LAWRENCE PRAVECEK

**COLORADO SPRINGS, Co.** -- Flying high in the rarified air of Falcon Stadium, Air Force was ready. The Falcons were on a five-game winning streak. The Irish had lost their last game to Pittsburgh, and with it their No.4 ranking. The Academy held nothing back for this non-conference foe.

Everyone's preparations were done, and it was game time. The grass was long enough to graze cattle, or to slow down an opponent's not-so-secret weapon. The F-16, KC-135, and B-52 flyovers had the crowd roaring. Four of the five sky divers landed on the falcon at the 50 yard line. To top it all off, the Falcons wanted revenge for the 31-3 drubbing the Irish handed them in South Bend last season, ending their four-year winning streak over Notre Dame.

Notre Dame head coach Lou Holtz' first trip to Colorado Springs would not be casy. Although he later said, "I really like to make the trip out here. It's really beautiful country," he had



to be concerned bringing his 3-1 team into any game with a second-string quarterback making his first college start. With regular starter Terry Andrysiak out for the season, the Irish would have to

Falcon noseguard John Steed (81) had to stay on his toes to keep track of the many weapons in the Irish backfield. go with option specialist Tony Rice against a defense which allowed a mere 133 yards per game on the ground.

Couple the problem of an inexperienced quarterback with Notre Dame's historic lack of success defending the wishbone, and you may have had the makings of a classic battle. But the classic lasted only until 1:47 had elapsed on the scoreboard clock. By that point, the Irish defense had already stopped Air Force on a fourthand-one at the Notre Dame 39yard line. Notre Dame took possession and did not relinquish the ball until 13 plays and 61 yards later, scoring on a one-yard Rice run.

"I feel that we have to get out

Rice shook off Steed (81) and an early case of the jitters to lead his team to a win in his first start of the season.



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on top early and first," Holtz had told his squad before the game. And the Irish obeyed again and again. After gaining the ball back at their own 43-yard line, Rice went to work again, directing an eight-rush, one-pass drive that covered 57 yards and another touchdown. Rice also scored this touchdown, rolling over from the four-yard line to make the score 14-0 in favor of the Irish.

Air Force refused to buckle completely, though, and began moving the ball effectively behind sophomore quarterback Dee Dowis. Dowis, one of the leading rushers in the NCAA, moved his squad into Irish territory on two drives, one of which ended in a punt and another which ended in a missed field goal. Undaunted, the

... unless one wants to count the 78-yard touchdown catch Brown made in the fourth period that was negated by an Irish holding call. Cadet defense stopped both Rice and substitute quarterback Kent Graham on consecutive drives to Although Brown later took an Air Force punt 14 yards for a touchdown, he managed only this 10-yard reception against the Falcons...

get the ball back into the capable hands of Dowis for one more try before the half.

This time, Dowis got it right. Starting from their own 25-yard line, the Falcons began a 75-yard march through the high grass of Falcon Stadium. While Holtz intimated that the Academy may have used a landscaper to help slow down the Irish, stating, "If my front lawn looked like that, my wife would kill me", the tall growth couldn't stop Dowis and his option attack on this drive. A 62-yard sprint by the quick Falcon quarterback brought the ball down to the Notre Dame nine-yard line. and tailback Albert Booker carried it in moments later for the score.

No doubt satisfied with a 14-7 deficit at the half, Air Force head



#### Air Force

coach Fisher DeBerry took his squad into the locker room for a pep talk. If his team could hold Notre Dame on its first possession and then score, he told his players, the Falcons had a good chance to win the game.

Unfortunately, Holtz had probably said something similar to the Irish during their intermission, because Notre Dame came out of the tunnel to drive 80 yards on nine rushes for the touchdown. Fullback Anthony Johnson picked up the score with a one-yard plunge to make it 21-7.

The Irish then added to their margin on their next possession, picking up 57 yards on nine more rushes. This time fullback Braxston Banks took the plunge for the one-yard score, and suddenly the Irish led 28-7.

Everything seemed to be clicking for the Irish offense. Then, on the team's third possession of the quarter, Rice dropped back and attempted a pass. Nineteen straight rushes, and on the 20th play, a pass. And an interception. For the day, Rice passed successfully one time in five attempts for 10 yards. But the Irish offensive line once again paved the way for a fine day by the Notre Dame backfield, as the Irish outrushed the Falcons, 354 yards to 269 yards.

The "No-Name" defense of Notre Dame, meanwhile, had its finest day since the Sept. 21 Michigan State contest, repeatedly shutting off Dowis' options in the second half. Late in the third period, the Irish defense stopped Air Force again on a fourth-down play, this time sealing the Notre Dame victory. "I feel our defensive down linemen did an excellent job today," Holtz said. "They did exactly what we asked them to do, and they should be very proud because they beat a pretty good football team."

Leading 28-7 in the fourth quarter, Holtz decided it was time to turn loose his triple-threat Heisman candidate, and go deep. On a

"Our defensive down linemen did an excellent diđ today. Thev job exactly what asked we and they them to do. proud shouuld be very because they beat a pretty good football team." --Lou Holtz

third-down play from the Notre Dame 12-yard line, Rice let fly a bomb which flanker Tim Brown corralled and sprinted 78 yards with for the touchdown. A holding penalty, however, brought the play back and gave the Falcons a needed boost.

Dowis then capitalized on the emotional swing, directing a 78yard, 14-play drive that closed the gap on the scoreboard to 28-14. Unfortunately for the spirited Air Force players, though, Brown was not finished.

After punting the ball back to the Falcons, the Irish defense shut down Dowis and forced DeBerry. to send in his punting team with less than four minutes left and his team on its own 20-yard line. Brown, who had fair-caught two earlier Falcon punts and had watched three others sail out of bounds, dropped back to watch another at his own 25-yard line. This time, though, DeBerry had his punter kick the ball to Brown, who promptly shook off several tacklers and rambled 74 yards for the day's final score.

Despite losing convincingly to the Irish, 35-14, DeBerry said he was pleased with his team's effort against what he considered a championship-calibre football team. "I was tremendously proud of my team because they fought until the very end and they never gave up," he said.

While the Falcons never gave up, Notre Dame showed something as well. They had the power to stop a talented team, a future Freedom Bowl team and the Commander-in-Chief's Trophy winner (given to the winner of the round-robin competition between the three service academies), and to stop them convincingly. Every time the Falcons began to fly, the Irish were there to bring them back to earth. And that meant Notre Dame clearly was onto something special in 1987.

Notre Dame 14 0 14 7 - 35	3rd Quarter
Air Force 0 7 0 7 - 14	ND - Anthony Johnson 1 run
	at 10:48 (Gradel kick)
1st Quarter	ND - Braxston Banks 1 run
ND - Tony Rice 1 run at 6:43	at 5:04 (Gradel kick)
(Ted Gradel kick)	
ND - Tony Rice 4 run at 1:09	
(Gradel kick)	4th Quarter
2nd Ouester	AF - Dee Dowis 1 run at 8:33
2nd Quarter	(Yarbrough kick)
AF - Albert Booker 4 run at	ND - Tim Brown punt return f
2:58 (Steve Yarbrough kick)	57 at 3:48 (Gradel kick)



Notre Dame ran off with its fifth consecutive win over arch-rival Southern Cal, thanks to a big play defense that left the men of Troy sacked and burned.

#### BY TERRY LYNCH

NOTRE DAME, Ind. -- The USC-Notre Dame game has never been a contest in need of hype. There's always the rivalry, the streaks or the revenge factor. A lot of times a bowl bid is at stake for the Irish, and coaches' jobs hang in the balance of who wins and who loses. And if the Trojans aren't on probation, the game's always on national television. For atmosphere, every couple of years there's at least one Heisman candidate playing on the field. Sometimes, there's even a controversial call or two that tips the game to one team's favor.

This year's contest, a thrilling

26-15 Irish win, did nothing to tarnish the reputation. And like any Notre Dame-USC contest, there were plenty of stories to tell. Monster drives by the Irish offensive line, CBS commentator Brent Musberger's deification of gifted Irish flanker and Heisman hopeful Tim Brown, and the replays Musberger's network showed of Brown's blocking ability on nearly every running play come immediately to mind.

In addition, the Notre Dame defense provided a great story by dominating the USC offense the entire game after allowing it an easy touchdown on its first possession. Or if one wants to find a hero, he or she needs to look no further than Irish linebacker Ned Bolcar, who picked up 13 tackles, one fumble and one interception. On offense, of course, there was Notre Dame quarterback Tony Rice, whose second start as the Irish field general impressed the nation and cost him 14 stitches thanks to USC linebacker Marcus Cotton.

But the stories one could tell could not by any stretch of the imagination capture the flavor of this particular battle. On such a cold, rainy day like the one which greeted the two teams when they took the field, a Notre Dame fan knows that God's in heaven and all's well with the world. But things did not look that way early

Allan Lim

USC

Notre Dame celebrated when Rice (9) outran USC's Mark Carrier (7) for a 26-yard touchdown that put the Irish ahead, 10-7.

for the Irish, when Southern Cal took the opening kickoff and went to work.

On the game's very first play, USC quarterback Rodney Peete went to the air and hit tight end Paul Green over the middle for a 27-yard strike that put the Trojans in Irish territory. Then on the second play, Peete hit tailback Steven Webster for a gain that pushed the ball to the Irish 25yard line. Two plays later, Peete found flanker John Jackson in the right corner of the endzone, and USC led by an easy 7-0 mark.

Maybe it was too easy. The six-play, 70-yard drive took only 2:25, and was the first time all season that Notre Dame's opposition had been able to score on its first possession. It appeared that the Irish secondary had a long day ahead of it, and Irish fans undoubtably began hearkening back to their team's debacle at Pitt, which saw the Irish get burned in the rain.

"I told the team that I thought it was critical that we set the momentum right off the bat," said Irish head coach Lou Holtz. "That shows you how much I know."

Holtz' worries proved unfounded, of course, but nevertheless things didn't get better for Notre Dame right away. After being unable to gain yardage against the Trojan defense on the ground, Rice dropped back on one play and lofted a deep pass Unforintended for Brown. tunately for Rice, however, Brown was running a short pattern. Trojan cornerback Chris Hale, the only player on the field near enough to catch the ball, promptly Yet when USC got the ball back, the passing game broke down for the remainder of the half, leaving Peete and his teammates mildly perplexed. "We came out smoking on the first drive," said Peete, a swift-footed junior with a strong throwing arm. "We had the big pass plays and we were doing pretty good. But then we lost our intensity. It's hard to rceled off two successive and lengthy drives to paydirt. Keeping the ball almost completely on the ground (the Irish rushed for 351 yards on the day), Rice led the offense 88 yards for one score, taking it in himself on a dazzling 26-yard scamper. Then, again using the run, Rice added to the Irish margin by leading his unit 90 yards on the second drive. Brown carried it in five yards for the score this time, and Notre Dame



explain."

After USC punted a nice high kick, the kind that Brown has to fair catch, Notre Dame took over and began executing for the first time in the ballgame. Six straight rushing calls moved the ball to the four-yard line, and Trojan although a penalty and an overthrown pass stalled the Irish, kicker Ted Gradel converted a 26-yard field goal for three points to trim the USC lead to 7-3.

The Irish then broke Southern Cal's spirits completely when they Irish back Mark Green had another big day, picking up 73 yards and a touchdown in 13 carries.

suddenly led, 17-7.

The Brown touchdown run gave Holtz an easy feeling, USC head coach Larry Smith a headache, and Musberger more fuel to throw on the Heisman fire. Brown, though, was not finished. He had run for one touchdown already, he had forced the Trojans to kick away from him on punts, thereby giving the Irish better

#### USC

field position, and now he was ready to catch a key pass. "I've never seen anybody like Tim Brown," Holtz said. "Just the mere presence of him on the football field is enough. He gets triple-teamed sometimes and still gets it."

Sure enough, Brown got it. On the very next possession, he hauled in a Kent Graham pass for 16 yards, added another catch, then caught what should have been Notre Dame's third touchdown of the half. A holding penalty nullified the scoring strike, though, and Holtz settled for a Gradel field goal to make it 20-7 in favor of the Irish. Still, Brown had put on a show worthy of any Heisman candidate.

"The key to this game was that we couldn't stop them and get the ball back," Smith snapped when asked if poor field position caused by a fear of Tim Brown had hurt USC in the first half. "I'm no dummy. I don't have a kicker who can kick the ball 40-45 yards. And I'm not going to be kicking line drives to Tim Brown." In other words, the poor field position did indeed hurt Southern Cal.

But Southern Cal had shown a dangerous propensity for scoring points in bunches in its first five games of the 1987 season, and the game seemed far from over when the two teams took the field for the second half. Perhaps the Trojans would, in fact, have been able to turn the game around had they taken advantage of Irish tailback Mark Green's fumble at the Notre Dame 31-yard line on the first play from scrimmage.

The Trojans will never know for sure. Because two plays after Green's fumble, Peete rolled right and threw a pass into the hands of Notre Dame's Bolcar for the key play of the contest. Bolcar's interception killed the USC scoring



Souther Cal's Carrier tripped up Green on this play, but Green eventually got the touchdown that made it 26-7.



chance, and made a prophet of his wise-cracking head coach.

"I was walking into the office building in the JACC yesterday, and Ned was there too," said Holtz. "Somebody in the hall asked me, 'Are we going to win tomorrow, coach?' and I said that it all depended on how well Ned Bolcar played. I was just joking with him, but I guess I got his attention."

Bolcar, although he accepted his coach's challenge, never really had to be told just what the game meant. "It was a pretty intense weck of practice," he said. "With the fall break, we had more time with football, which gets on your nerves after a while. We got tired of hitting ourselves and anxious to start hitting USC." To the credit of the rest of the defense as well, the entire unit played aggressively, holding top Trojan back Webster to 70 yards on 20 carries, or almost 50 yards less than his average.

The Irish backfield, meanwhile, had another fine day. Tailbacks Green and Ricky Watters, as well



as fullback Braxston Banks and quarterback Rice, each gained over 50 yards rushing. Green, in fact, scored the final Irish touchdown of the day when he capped off a drive in which he had one run of 14 yards with another long run. This one went for 11 yards and the touchdown.

"My biggest concern (playing

Notre Dame) was that the inside people weren't tackling the dives (on the option)," said Smith. "Against an option team, you've got to stop the dive, the quarterback and the pitch. There were some plays when we didn't stop any one of the three."

Rice, meanwhile, ran the option with poise and confidence



USC receiver Ken Henry can't hold on as ND's Stan Smagala applies the stick.

for most of the day. Besides the early interception and the pitch that Green fumbled, the worst experience of the day for the sophomore had to be the lick USC's ferocious Cotton delivered when Rice dropped back to pass late in the game. Doctors sent Rice to the locker room after that, where he received 14 stitches.

"I'm happy with Tony's play, but I'm not happy with the 14 stitches in his chin," Holtz said. "But he's such a good-looking guy, it won't faze him. But it seems that the only way I lose a quarterback is when we're throwing the ball."

USC finished the game's scoring with an 89-yard blitz downfield against an Irish defense loaded with substitutes. With less than a minute left, Trojan back Scott Lockwood ran the ball in from the five-yard line, and Peete hit Tanner for the two-point conversion.

With the win, the Irish managed a number of things against USC. Their 360 yards rushing were the most against USC since Texas A&M rolled up 486 yards against the Trojans in the 1977 Bluebonnet Bowl. Also, it was the fifth straight win against USC, the most since Notre Dame won five straight from 1957-61.

"It's always good to win," concluded Holtz. "And it's particularly gratifying against Southern Cal."

The Scoring		
Notre Dame 3 17 6 0 - 26	(Gradel kick)	
USC 7 0 0 8 - 15	ND - Tim Brown 5 run at 3:28 (Gradel kick)	
	ND - Ted Gradel 32 FG at 0:02	
1st Quarter	3rd Quarter	
SC - John Jackson 9 pass from Rodney Peete at 12:35	ND - Mark Green 11 run at 6:04 (Braxton Banks run failed)	
(Quin Rodriguez kick) ND - Ted Gradel 26 FG at 6:09	4th Quarter	
2nd Quarter	SC - Scott Lockwood run for 5 at 0:50 (Peete pass to Randy	
ND - Tony Rice 26 run at 12:05	Tanner)	



In the season's biggest mismatch, Notre Dame torpedoed Navy, 56-13, to keep alive a 24- year winning streak over the Middies.

#### **BY PETE SKIKO**

NOTRE DAME, Ind. -- Domination would be a pretty good word to describe the Notre Dame football team's 56-13 win over Navy. Sheer domination.

Because on this chilly Halloween day, Notre Dame scared the life out of the Middies and maybe even scared itself a little with an awesome display of power football. The win propelled the 6-1 and No.9-ranked Irish into its first winning season since 1984, and gave them some much-needed momentum heading into a grueling November schedule which featured Boston College, Alabama, Penn State and Miami.

Some of the accomplishments the Irish posted against a winless Navy team on this day were, to say the least, impressive.

\*The Irish racked up 630 net yards of offense, including 224 through the air against a passing defense that came into the game ranked second in the nation. In addition, the offense averaged a whopping 8 yards per offensive play.

\*Irish fullback Anthony Johnson scored four rushing touchdowns -- all in the first half.

\*Irish Heisman Trophy candidate Tim Brown compiled 173 yards of net offense. In his college career against Navy, Brown averaged 25.5 yards (459 yards on 18 carries) every time he touched the football.

\*The Irish managed to score 35 points in the first half while facing only one third-down situation.



Allan Lim

Allan Lim

\*The Irish also scored touchdowns on their first five possessions of the game.

\*And, despite the lopsided score, the Irish did all this while holding the ball for less total time than the Midshipmen.

That's domination. It was evident on Notre Dame's first possession of the game when the Irish went 77 yards in 15 plays without throwing a pass to score the game's first touchdown. That score marked the sixth time in Notre Dame's past three games that the Irish were able to score a touchdown without benefit of a completed pass.

"It's always nice to win the ballgame," said Irish head coach Lou Holtz after the thrashing. "We were well prepared and, with a few exceptions like too many penalties and some missed assignments, the team played very well overall."

Although the game already had the look of a rout, with the Irish leading 28-6 late in the first half, one particular score by Notre best exemplified the Dame mastery the home team possessed over their opponents. With 12 seconds left in the half, the ball on Notre Dame's own 29-yard line and Navy expecting a pass, Holtz called a draw to tailback Mark Green which gained 20 up the middle. After a timeout and with only four seconds left, quarterback Kent Graham then took the next snap from midfield, faded back, and lofted a high, arching spiral in the direction of the streaking Brown. Brown, who had earlier ripped the fingernail completely off his ring finger while executing a block, snatched the ball away

ND's Mark Sppence (25) leapt high and pitched off Alton Grizzard's second quarter pass to set up one of many Irish scores on the day. from two defenders at the fiveyard line and lunged into the endzone to give the Irish an insurmountable 35-6 lead at the half.

"Absolutely everybody knew



Linebacker Ned Bolcar (47) forced Grizzard to surrender the ball on numerous occassions.

the ball was going to go to him," said Holtz regarding Brown's incredible catch. "I can't tell you how he caught it. The (Navy) defenders were playing back to defend against that pass. All I can say is that he's Timmy Brown."

Brown, meanwhile, was typically nonchalant about the play after the game. "It's a pretty simple play," he said. "It's called a ZCM, and all you do is go down the field and cut behind the guys in the secondary. I just went up, got it, and dove in."

But perhaps the most exciting play of the day, and the best indication of Brown's talent and instinct, came after the Irish forced a Navy punt late in the third quarter with the game well in hand. Brown fielded the punt at his own 16-yard line, circled back the three-yard inside line. appeared to be entirely hemmed in by eight Midshipmen, somehow escaped, and darted up the right sideline before slipping and falling all alone at the Navy 34-yard-line. The play was called back by a clipping penalty back at the Irish 10-yard line, but that was the play that had Irish fans and a television audience shaking their heads and thinking Heisman.

Notre Dame 14 21 14 7 - 56	N - Fundoukos 31 FG at 1:57 ND - Tim Brown 51 pass from
Navy 0 6 0 7 - 13	Kent Graham at 0:00 (Gradel kick)
1st Quarter	
ND - Anthony Johnson 6 run	3rd Quarter
at 5:42 (Ted Gradel kick)	ND - Johnson 2 run at 13:50
ND - Johnson 9 run at 1:11	(Gradel kick)
(Gradel kick)	ND - Ricky Watters 6 run at 6:59 (Reggie Ho kick)
2nd Quarter	
ND - Mark Green 21 run at 14:19 14:19 (Gradel kick)	4th Quarter
N - Theodore Fundoukos 48 FG at 9:40	ND - Tony Brooks 4 run at 10:20 (David Neidell kick)
ND - Johnson 1 run at 8:21 (Gradel kick)	N - Deric Sims 4 run at 0:37 (Fundoukos kick)

#### Navy

"He's simply the most exciting player I've ever seen," said Holtz. "You saw what he did out there. I know I saw it and it was still hard to believe. He's just incredible."

But, as easy as it would be to think so, it wasn't just The Tim Brown Show. The Irish defense completely shut off the Middies' attack, limiting them to a pair of first-half field goals while Notre Dame lit up its side of the scoreboard, putting the game out of reach early. Linebackers Darrell "Flash" Gordon and Cedric Figaro were, as usual, among the more imposing members of the "No-Name" defense.

"We just went out and executed the game plan today, and you've got to give the coaches the credit for that," said Gordon. "We were a little off-balance in the first half, and we felt they got too much rushing yardage. But (Irish defensive coordinator Foge Fazio) made some great adjustments at halftime and we didn't have any more problems."

Similarly effective was the Irish running game, which followed its veteran offensive line for another big day. Notre Dame picked up a season-high 406 yards on the ground, largely because of the mammoth holes fifth-year senior center Chuck Lanza and his teammates in the trenches were able to open. "Navy's defensive line was quite similar to Air Force's line," said Lanza, a co-captain along with linemate Byron Spruell. "They lacked size but tried to out-quick us. It took some time adjusting to that again, but I would have to say that we wore them down pretty quickly."

The running backs themselves also excelled. Holtz got a good look at two freshman backs who figure to be the future of the Notre Dame backfield -- Ricky Watters and Tony Brooks. Each



had a superb day (a combined 129 yards), as did junior sprinter Green, who finished with over 100 yards, and of course the reliable Johnson, who bagged four touchdowns. Lincoln Coleman, another freshman tailback and a neighbor of Brown's family in Dallas, also saw time and impressed Holtz with some strong fourth-quarter run-



#### ning.

All in all, the Navy game could be shown as a Notre Dame highlight film. By giving a clinic on executing the run, and by presenting the nation with another glimpse of Tim Brown at his best, the Irish served notice that they could be vying for the national title in 1987. Freshman tailback Ricky Watters' 6-yard run through the Middie defense marked the seventh Irish touchdown of the day.



#### BY MARTY STRASEN

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NOTRE DAME, In. -- The Notre Dame football team, 6-1 and ranked No. 9 in the country mainly because of its outstanding rushing attack, went to the air more often than usual in the first half of its game with Boston College at Notre Dame Stadium. And it worked pretty well, mainly because Irish star flanker Tim Brown was brilliant. But. somehow, Boston College still managed to grab a 17-6 lead heading into the lockerroom at halftime. Quite clearly, it was time for some inspiration -- and time to run the ball.

Running the football might seem like an unusual move for a team trailing by 11 points with only one half to play, but then again, this Notre Dame team was an unusual team.

And that's exactly what head coach Lou Holtz' fired-up Irish did in the second half, blowing Boston College off the line and running the ball expertly en route to a 32-25 come-from-behind victory over the Golden Eagles in a game many had dubbed, "The Vatican Bowl".

"I thought it gave us the best chance to win," Holtz said of his





Notre Dame shot down the Eagles air attack and rushed from behind to win a 32-25 thriller.

#### **Boston College**

by One-yard touchdown runs Braxston Banks (top) and Johnson (below) Anthony accounted for two of Notre Dame's four second half touchdowns.

which team's ground game, accounted for 253 of Notre Dame's "We second-half yards. 284 wanted to control the football and control the game. And we did."

But it took some inspiration from some of the Notre Dame seniors to pull off the feat and send a large Boston College contingent back to New England with a loss. Irish players Tom Rehder, Alonzo Jefferson and co-captain Chuck Lanza, each of whom was playing in his final year of eligibility, were among those who took Kohs over the halftime conversation with a few minutes to go before the teams took the field for the final two quarters.

"Coach (Holtz) told us not to come out until we were ready," said junior tailback Mark Green,



Greg Kohs



room."

have been even printable. "I can't

say (what the seniors said)," he

added. "There are ladies in the

College know it's for real when

"We told them, 'Let's let Boston

who explained that the subsequent BC running back Jim Bell gained speeches by the seniors were not 83 yards, but took a shot from carved from the "Win one for the ND's Stan Smagala on this play. Gipper" mold. In fact, added Green, the speeches might not

Notre Dame drive to open the second half. And although Irish quarterback Tony Rice, who shared the day's signal-calling duties with freshman Kent Graham, failed to convert the twopoint conversion, the Irish found themselves within five points of their opponent at 17-12.

But Eagle receiver Darren Flutie, whose brother Doug won the 1984 Heisman Trophy as a quarterback at Boston College, soon showed why he too is highlyregarded by many pro scouts. Flutie, who caught six passes for 119 yards in all of the contest, hauled in a 31-yarder from quarterback Mike Power for a third-quarter touchdown. Power ran for the

January 28, 1988



#### **Boston College**



conversion, and the Notre Dame momentum had been momentarily thwarted with the score 25-12 in favor of the Eagles.

The next few plays from scrimmage, however, might haunt the Eagles until the next time they get a shot at their Catholic rivals. That's when the Irish won the momentum back and eventually turned a sure loss into a gratifying triumph, a 7-1 record, and a certain bid to a major bowl game.

Standing on his own 33-yard line, Notre Dame's Rice dropped back, pump-faked once, and then overthrew Brown on a crossing pattern. The pass was tipped by BC cornerback Gerrick McPhearson, picked off by safety Ed Duran and returned eight yards to the Eagle 48-yard line. But Boston College, with a 13-point lead and the chance to run some time off the clock and perhaps put the game out of reach, made the day's crucial error on the very next play.

Running back Jim Bell, finding a hole in the line, bolted through for seven yards, where he was promptly laced by Irish strong safety George Streeter. The ball came loose and Notre Dame linebacker Wes Pritchett fell on it at the Irish 45-yard line.

"That was big," noted Holtz of the fumble, which Notre Dame capitalized on when fullback Anthony Johnson crossed the goal line from one yard out to make the score 25-18. "It was big because it came after the interception, and it was big because we took it in for a touchdown."

The Irish defense, which had been susceptible to the mediumrange pass in the first half, tightened up for the remainder of the game. Inside linebacker Ned Bolcar recorded nine tackles on the day and outside linebacker Darrell "Flash" Gordon broke up When ND's Streeter laced Bell and forced the fumble, the Irish responded by cutting the Eagle lead to 25-18.

two Power passes. The Irish also found a much-needed pass rush in the second half, as Gordon, outside linebacker Cedric Figaro and the defensive line found their way into the offensive backfield to pressure Power.

"In the second half, we blitzed and rushed a lot of people," Holtz said. "I thought our defense did some good things in the first half,



except they were terrible on third down. We had greater intensity in the second half."

The Irish scored the tying touchdown when fullback Braxston Banks ran behind the right side of the line from one yard away with 12:40 to go in the game. Green then finished off a 52-yard Irish drive and a dream-like individual performance when he went in from the two-yard line with 5:25 to play. That put Notre Dame ahead for good, 32-25.

Green finished the day with a career-high 152 yards on 23 carries and two touchdowns. That marked the second time in as many weeks that the junior broke the 100-yard barrier, as he gained

#### **Boston College**



"That Brown kid's as good as they say he is. He frightens you every time he touches the ball." -- BC head coach Jack Bicknell

102 on nine carries against Navy the week before.

Brown, meanwhile, recorded the most productive day of his career in the all-purpose yardage department, picking up 294 on 16 touches of the ball. The very first Irish play from scrimmage set the tone. Freshman quarterback Kent Graham started his first game in a Notre Dame uniform, and connected with the senior flanker on a 57-yard completion down the left sideline. Notre Dame, though, could only manage a field goal on the drive - one of two 21-yarders by Ted Gradel in the contest.

Brown's performance prompted praise from Boston College head coach Jack Bicknell. "That Brown kid's as good as they say he is," Bicknell noted. "He frightens you every time he touches the ball." But in the end, it was a potent running attack and the inspiration of a few seniors that put Notre Dame over the top in this one.

"What it came down to in the second half was more emotion," Gordon explained. "We were really pumped up, more psyched. We started to get after it because we realized that everything was on the line - the game, and the bowl bid."

Boston College 7 10 8 0 - 25	3rd Quarter
Notre Dame 6 0 12 14 - 32	ND - Mark Green 33 run at 11:46 (Tony Rice run fails)
1st Quarter	BC - Darren Flutie 31 pass from
ND - Ted Gradel 21 FG at 10:35	Power at 10:02 (Power run)
BC - Kyle Hudgins 3 pass from	ND - Anthony Johnson 1 run at
Mike Power at 5:22 (Brian Lowe kick)	5:39 (Gradel kick fails)
ND - Gradel 21 FG at 0:55	4th Quarter
2nd Quarter	ND - Braxston Banks 1 run at
BC - Lowe 31 FG at 4:12	12:40 (Gradel kick)
BC - Jim Bell 11 run at 1:24	ND - Mark Green 2 run at 5:25
(Lowe kick)	(Gradel kick)



#### BY BRIAN O'GARA

NOTRE DAME, Ind. -- In Lou Holtz' inaugural season as Notre Dame's head football coach, only one team beat the Irish by more than five points. That team was Alabama, which embarrassed Notre Dame, 28-10, in Birmingham. This year, the inspired Irish made the Tide turn, as in turn over and play dead.

Seventh-ranked Notre Dame used another punishing running attack and a tenacious second-half defense to crush Alabama, 37-6, in

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"I told (Bama coach) Bill Curry after the game, 'Bill, you just picked the wrong time to play us here in South Bend.'... Our seniors just wanted to walk out that tunnel for the last time as winners." --Lou Holtz

its final home game of the season. The win improved the Irish record to 8-1, its best since the 1980 campaign, and kept alive hopes for a national championship in 1987.

"I told (first-year Tide head coach) Bill Curry after the game," said Irish head coach Lou Holtz, "Bill, you just picked the wrong time to play us here in South



Bend.' It was an emotional game. Our seniors really wanted to walk out of that tunnel for the last time as winners, and they did." Notre Dame inside linebacker Ned Bolcar, though only a junior, agreed with Holtz' assessment. "Coach Holtz told us before the game, 'We own this building.' And there was no way we were going to let them come in here and beat us."

In addition to improving the Irish record, the win also marked Notre Dame's fifth consecutive victory and its fifth home win in as many games. Those feats also had not been accomplished since Dan Devine's 1981 Sugar Bowl Mike Griffin (right) and the Irish defense ran 'Bama rookie quarterback Jeff Dunn out of town figuratively and into a stadium wall literally.

team. For the eleventh-ranked Crimson Tide, meanwhile, the defeat was their worst since a 40-0 whitewash at the hands of Auburn in 1957.

"We were beaten by a vastly superior football team today," conceded Curry. "(The Irish) are by far the best team we've played. Had we responded at our very best, I doubt seriously that we'd have beaten this Notre Dame team today. We just got whipped."

The Irish entered the contest


obviously seeking to keep their national championship hopes alive. And though there would be no national championship for the Crimson Tide in 1987, Alabama came to Notre Dame sporting a 7-2 record and fresh off a 22-10 upset of LSU in Baton Rouge. Both teams started rookie quarterbacks, Tony Rice for the Irish and Jeff Dunn for the Tide, replacing injured signal-callers. Ironically, both of the school's regular starting quarterbacks, Terry Andrysiak of Notre Dame and Alabama counterpart David Smith, broke their collarbones during losses in the fourth game of the season.

But the similarities ended there. For with sophomore option specialist Tony Rice directing the Irish offense, Notre Dame rolled past the Tide for 465 yards of total offense, and 368 on the ground. In fact, the only bright spot for the Crimson Tide came in the stellar performance of running back and Heisman longshot Bobby Humphrey, who matched Notre Dame's Tim Brown in the day's most interesting sideshow.

The two gifted athletes staged an all-purpose yardage war in the game, running, catching and returning kicks for a combined 439 yards or two-thirds the day's total offense for both teams. Brown had his fourth 200-plus all-purpose yards performance of the season, picking up 225 while becoming the all-time Irish leader in career reception yards with 2,371, surpassing Tom Gatewood (2,283 yards from 1969-71). Humphrey, meanwhile, was the only offense the Tide could generate. He gained 214 all-purpose yards for the day, including a thrilling 65-yard kickoff return which he nearly broke for a touchdown a la Brown.

On Alabama's first possession, the Crimson Tide marched quickly down the field to the Notre Dame 18-yard line before the Irish defense tightened. Facing thirdWith the versatile Rice at the controls, the Notre Dame offense rolled to 368 yards on the ground and to 465 yards total.

and-long, Dunn flipped a pass over the blitzing Notre Dame defense in the direction of tight end Howard Cross. Only a quickreacting Bolcar saved a sure 'Bama touchdown, as the inside linebacker dropped back from the blitz and barely reached up to slap away the football and force a 33yard Tide field goal. That defensive stand by the Irish built momentum that would increase a few minutes later when senior kicker Ted Gradel's 49-yard field goal, the longest of his career, just barely cleared the crossbar to tie the score at 3-3.

From then on, it wasn't even close. Early in the second quarter Notre Dame drove methodically down the field and took a 10-3 lcad on a 12-yard keeper by Rice, who showed some hardnosed football by plowing over Crimson Tide cornerback Gene Jelks at the goal line. Rice, fullback Anthony Johnson and tailback Mark Green each contributed over 20 yards rushing on the scoring drive.

The Irish were both victims and beneficiaries of penalties on their third scoring drive. Notre Dame was called for delay of game on the 'Bama four-yard line on third down, but moments later a Tide offsides penalty on the line up for a Gradel field goal moved the Irish to fourth-and-two at the threeyard line.

"All those penalties (eight for the Tide, seven for the Irish), probably balanced out in yards," said Curry, who was entirely correct since each team gained 70 yards on opponent's infractions. "But Notre Dame was able to overcome their penalties and capitalize on ours. If Notre Dame had a first-and-20, they'd get the first

## Alabama

down. We'd have a first-and-20 and not do anything."

With everything going their way, the Irish called a timeout to assess the situation, eventually deciding to go for the touchdown. Holtz' clever shotput-type pass over the line of scrimmage worked beautifully as Rice hit junior tight end Andy Heck in the endzone for Rice's first career touchdown pass at Notre Dame.

"We thought about going for three," said Holtz. "We've had a lot of problems with checkoffs on the line. That South Carolina

"When you beat a team like Alabama 37-6, you know you've done a real good job." ––Brandy Wells

accent (Rice hails from Woodruff, S.C.) can be a real problem. The guys don't always understand what he is saying. But when they jumped offsides we still felt that if we didn't make it, Alabama would be backed up in their own territory. And then we might good field position."

Another Gradel field goal gave the Irish a 20-3 edge before the Tide got on the scoreboard for the second and last time of the ballgame. Humphrey broke his 65-yard kickoff return and Curry used some trickery of his own with a fake field goal to drive to the Notre Dame 11-yard line.

They would get no further. Irish linebacker Darrell "Flash" Gordon ran Dunn out of bounds, through the Irish band, and into the stadium's retaining wall. Dunn, a red-shirt freshman, came out of the scary incident OK, but he was replaced by junior Vince Sutton. Sutton, however, fared no better as Irish freshman safety Todd Lyght broke up two passes and 'Bama was forced to settle for a field goal. Lyght's play on the drive reflected well the solid effort he showed throughout the game at free safety. For the day he broke up several more Tide passing attempts, made key hits, and even caused a late Alabama fumble.

Because of the performance of Lyght, as well as the rest of Notre Dame's "No-Names" defense, the Crimson Tide offense was never able to get on track. Alabama managed only six points on the day, despite averaging a healthy 26.4 points per game before the contest. In the end, that Tide offense became the only Irish opponent not to score a touchdown against the "No-Names" this season.

"Our defense was critical in the second half," said Holtz, "because our offense couldn't get it going until we hit Tim Brown at the end of the third quarter. This was truly a team victory."

Both teams could generate little production from their offenses in the third period. Finally, on third-and-11 from the 'Bama 40vard-line, on Notre Dame's third possession of the half, Rice unloaded a 54-yard bomb down the middle into single-coverage on Brown. Brown leapt high in the air and fell to the ground clutching the ball for a good catch, even though replays showed the ball hit the ground. Still, it was Notre Dame's day and the Irish added three points on a Gradel 22-vard field goal after failing to get the ball into the endzone.

Alabama would get a shot to rally back after Brown coughed up the football at the Notre Dame 39-yard-line on a punt return. Two plays later, however, Gordon flashed in from his outside linebacker slot to sack Sutton for a ten-yard loss. Out of field goal range and out of luck, the Tide was forced to punt the ball away again.



'Bama's Humphrey (26) was the story for Alabama, collecting 214 all-purpose yards and dazzling the crowd with a 65-yard return

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"I believed that I could outrun most of their offensive linemen and running backs," said Gordon. "And I knew I had to put a lot of pressure on their quarterbacks. We all knew that we had to improve getting off the ball, we practiced it all week and it showed today."

Backed up to their own twoyard line, the Irish worked their way out to the 26-yard line as the third quarter ended. Then, under Musco lights, the Irish the delivered the knockout blow. Green, who finished with 149 yards rushing on the day, dashed 74 yards down the left sideline to dash any Alabama comeback hopes. Even the side referee must have been hypnotized by Green's dazzling scamper, as once again, replays showed the Irish got a break when Green's foot stepped out of bounds on the 15-yard line. The touchdown run stood, at any rate, making it the longest run by a Notre Dame back since Allan Pinkett's 76-yard touchdown sprint against No. 1 Pittsburgh in 1982.

That distinction for Green lasted only about five minutes, though, until freshman tailback Ricky Watters slipped through the left side of the line, cut back right and won a 75-yard footrace to the end zone. Mercifully, the Irish closed out the scoring at that point as Holtz cleared his bench.

Green's touchdown run, interestingly enough, ignited another orange-throwing jubilee by the Notre Dame student body. Brown matched Heisman rival Humphrey by leaping over Tide defender John Magnum for a few of his 225 all-purpose yards.

The crowd had tossed the citrus projectiles earlier in the game as a not-so-subtle hint to Orange Bowl representatives that Notre Dame wanted to be in Miami on New Year's Day for a national championship matchup. The last display drew a 15-yard penalty for unsportsmanlike conduct.

"The penalties early in the game hurt us," said Holtz. "But I'll tell you, I've never before seen a penalty called on a student body."

After the blowout, Irish seniors playing in their last home game at Notre Dame Stadium agreed that they had just played the best game of the 1987 season in the home finale.

Tim Brown: "It's a special feeling to dominate in your last home game. I'm sure we'll appreciate it even more when we're gone."

Flash Gordon: "Everybody carried out their responsibilities. When we work together we're unstoppable."

Brandy Wells: "When you beat a team like Alabama 37-6, you know you've done a real good job."

Byron Spruell: "We had the right scheme and the right intensity. It's the greatest way to go out."

The Scc	oring
Alabama 3 3 0 0 - 6	at 5:41 (Grad
Notre Dame 3 17 3 14 - 37	ND - Gradel 2 A - Doyle 28
1st Quarter	3rd Quarter
A - Phillip Doyle 34 FG at 12:03	ND - Gradel 2
ND - Ted Gradel 49 FG at 8:55	4th Quarter
2nd Quarter	ND - Mark G
ND - Tony Rice 12 run at 12:04	(Gradel kicl
(Gradel kick)	ND - Ricky W
ND - Andy Heck 3 pass from Rice	(Gradel kicl

at 5:41 (Gradel kick) ND - Gradel 21 FG at 2:26 A - Doyle 28 FG at 0:14

3rd Quarter ND - Gradel 22 FG at 3:46

- ND Mark Green 74 run at 12:11 (Gradel kick)
- ND Ricky Watters 75 run at 4:01 (Gradel kick)



Even a Cotton Bowl invitation couldn't lessen the pain for Notre Dame after it lost a heartbreaker to Penn State, 21-20, On a botched two-point conversion attempt.

#### **BY TERRY LYNCH**

UNIVERSITY PARK, Pa. --In the end, Lou Holtz sat slumped in the postgame press room, thawing out after watching his team lose a football game and a shot at the national title, 21-20, to Penn State when a two-point conversion failed with 31 seconds left. After the post-mortem on a patented Notre Dame heartbreaker, two Southern gentlemen accompanied University Vice President Father William Beauchamp into the room. One of them began to speak.

"Fellas, I'm Jim Braukhorst, the guy who's paid to run the Cotton Bowl. We've got our president, Dan Petty, here, and... I'll let Dan tell you what we did to Coach Holtz' football team just minutes ago in the dressing room. Dan Petty, our president."

"Thank you, Jim," said Petty. "The Cotton Bowl Athletic Association authorized me today by a unanimous vote of our team selection committee to invite the University of Notre Dame to the Cotton Bowl for the 52nd Annual Cotton Bowl Classic on January 1, 1988. Coach Holtz and the university officials and the team generously accepted and we're looking forward to an exciting game on January 1."

Braukhorst then chimed in. "We appreciate it very much. We think it's been one of the best coaching jobs in the country this year and we're getting an outstanding team. We're proud to have them, and I hope all you fellas can come down and join us in Dallas. We will have a great game. Coach, we're very pleased you're gonna join us."

Holtz, still half-slumped in his chair and in no mood to deal with a promotional announcement, obliged anyway, and turned his head to the two men standing on his left.

"We're disappointed over the outcome of the game," Holtz began mechanically. "We've got another one ahead of us, but I'll assure you that due to the fact that (the bowl)'s in the Southwest Conference, I have the utmost respect for the coaching. I know the enthusiasm they have down there, and we look forward to playing your conference champion."

After some thank-you's flew around the room, the postgame wrap-up resumed as automatically

With strong winds forcing both teams to stay on the ground, the offensive lines had to put in an extra effort.

Allan Lim

## Penn State

as if Notre Dame's first invitation to a January 1 bowl game in seven years had never even happened. But Holtz, anyway, was bent on savoring the moment. Or at least not discrediting it. A question about Irish player Brandy Wells' fumble on a punt return in the first quarter started to raise Holtz' ire ("I didn't think it was a factor until we fumbled the sucker," he shot back), and then another reporter started talking.

"So what you said right now is that the Cotton Bowl's not a lot of consolation...," one reporter asked game, but the only thing on my mind is to get over this and..." Holtz paused, then shifted gears rapidly. "Will we be able to bounce back against Miami? I don't know. We're banged up, we're bruised. All chances of the dreams and the goals we had ... I don't know what's going to happen to our football team."

It was not your typical announcement for a January 1 bowl game. But then again, it wasn't a typical day. Winds gusted into Beaver Stadium on an 18degree day, causing the wind-chill



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The Irish had reason to celebrate when they marched 62 yards in 4:02 to get within one point at 21-20. But the party was over Rice's conversion run fell short.

boldly. Holtz looked up from the table, and for the first time on that frigid afternoon blood rushed to his face.

"I think we're proud and honored to be in the Cotton Bowl," he retorted angrily. "I want to tell you something, man. I played in the Southwest Conference. That's a privilege to go to the Cotton Bowl. I haven't thought about it until after the football factor to hover below zero all game. Passing clouds brought periodical snow showers. It was so cold that even the hardy Penn State student sections, whose occupants were undoubtably influenced by the fact that the game was nationally televised, were half-deserted by game's end.

But Penn State had all it needed with Blair Thomas on the field. The junior tailback ran for 214 yards on 35 carries and gave the Irish defense fits. Combined with fullback John Greene (13 rushes for 53 yards), the Penn State starting backfield accounted for 267 yards of their team's 312 total yards of offense.

"I think our offensive line did a great job," said Penn State head coach Joe Paterno. "Of course "Will we be able too back against bounce Miami? 1ŝ don't know. We're banged up, we're bruised. All chances of the dreams and goals we had . I don't know what's going to happen to our football team." --Lou Holtz

Blair Thomas was... well, he was just Blair Thomas." Holtz attributed Thomas' incredible day to another factor. "I said before that Blair Thomas is the best back we've played against all year, but I did not expect them to block us as well as they did up front."

While Blair Thomas was being Blair Thomas, Heisman Trophy hopeful Tim Brown was definitely not himself. Brown, who had established a Notre Dame career record in receiving yards the previous week against Alabama, had only four catches for 80 yards and only nine yards on four rushing attempts. Those two totals, combined with the 23 return yards on the day, put him well below the average of 182 all-purpose yards per game that he had coming into the game.

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"They were tough," said Brown, who had played some of the best games of his career against Penn State. "Everybody always gets up for us, though. They were up and we were expecting them to be with their

## Penn State

seniors playing their last home game." But it wasn't as much a matter of Brown being hounded by Penn State defenders ("They just played basic coverage, even one-on-one.") as it was the freezing winds that prevented the passing game from getting in gear.

"The wind played a big factor since we couldn't throw the ball as often as we wanted to," Brown said. "They weren't going to kick to me anyway, regardless of the wind."

After Notre Dame took the kickoff and opening went nowhere, Vince Phelan's punt into the wind set up Penn State on its own 35. On the Lions' first play from scrimmage, quarterback Matt Knizner threw the ball deep into Irish territory for wide receiver Jim Coates sprinting down the sideline. But Irish cornerback Mary Spence, who had Coates one-on-one, made an acrobatic interception that gave Notre Dame the ball on its 21-yard line.

But the Notre Dame offense could not run into the wind against a tough Penn State defense, and punted again. On Penn State's next series, Brandy Wells sacked Knizner on a safety blitz for an 11-yard loss on second down. Paterno then called for a quick kick on third down, and punter Chris Clauss' punt bounced in front of Wells, who was deep to return. Wells smothered the ball, but it popped out from under his chest and was recovered by Penn State's Brian Chizmar on the Notre Dame 19-yard line.

The Lions made short work of the Irish. Blair Thomas went over the left side on the first play to put the ball on the 10 yard-line, and one play later fullback John Greene cut over the left side and into the endzone for the game's first touchdown.

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The Irish, however, stormed

right back. On first down from the Notre Dame 38-yard line, quarterback Tony Rice lofted the ball to Brown on a screen, and Brown rambled for 29 yards down to the Penn State 33-yard line. One play later, Rice took the ball over the left side of the Irish offensive line and sprinted 32 yards to tie the game.

Two critical penalties aided the next Penn State scoring drive. With 1:54 left in the first quarter. the Lions got the ball at midfield when Coates signalled for a fair catch. But freshman Donn Grimm tackled Coates, and the roughing penalty took the ball to the Notre Dame 33-yard line. Seven plays later, on third-and-goal from the five-yard line, the Irish were called for pass interference when Knizner's pass fell incomplete in the end zone. Three plays later, Thomas went over the right side to put Penn State ahead, 14-7.

punt by Penn State, Notre Dame got the ball at the Lions 28-yard line with just over one minute remaining. A crucial third-andeight pass from Rice to Brown moved the Irish to the three-yard line, and Penn State quickly sent in its goal-line defense.

After Braxston Banks was stopped for no gain on first down. Holtz made the day's boldest coaching move, taking Rice out and replacing him with freshman quarterback Kent Graham on second down. Graham dropped back to pass, and with plenty of time left, unloaded into the endzone and into the arms of Penn State's Chizmar. Notre Dame went into the lockerroom emptyhanded.

"You can't do that against good football teams," said Holtz. "You can't have a chance to get on the board and not get on the board. But it was one of those games



Shortly after, however, the Irish moved back into scoring position and nearly tied the game before the half. Thanks to a shank Rice aired it out five times for 92 yards, but the Irish ground game accounted for the bulk of the offense.



where you can go back and look at a million different things."

In the third quarter, the Lions were driving on their first possession when Thomas fumbled on the Irish 23-yard line. Freshman linebacker Andre Jones recovered for Notre Dame, and the offense suddenly found itself back in gear. With Rice back at the controls, the offense reeled off an 8-play, 77yard scoring play into the teeth of the wind. Rice scored again, this time from 11 yards out, and Gradel's conversion tied the game at 14.

Once again, the Lions came back at the start of the fourth quarter, answering the Irish scoring drive with a 76-yard, 15-play monster drive that took 7:17 and also went into the wind. John Greene scored the go-ahead touchdown for Penn State on a 3-yard run.

"I really felt we had an edge when we drove 77 yards in the third quarter against the wind to tie it," said Holtz. "Then they started the fourth quarter on their 24 yard line. I felt we had an edge at that time, but Penn State drove 78 yards, used up 7:17 on the clock and we never got a chance tc utilize the wind."

After the kickoff, the teams exchanged possessions before the Irish set up on their own 38-yard line with 4:33 remaining in the game. A 16-yard pass to Brown from Rice took the Irish into Penn State territory, and another 12vard pass to Anthony Johnson moved the Irish to the 30-yard line. Two more runs by Green and Johnson put the ball on the 17vard line. The Irish moved to the 8-yard line, where they ran into a wall and, ultimately, a fourthand-one. Johnson smashed up the middle for four yards, and it was first-and-goal for the Irish.

Flash Gordon (38) and the rest of the Irish never could stop Penn State'ss Thomas (32).

Rice rolled right on the first down, and finding no one open, ran the ball just short of the goal line. Johnson scored on the next play, and Holtz took a timeout to mull over Notre Dame's options. It was either kick for show or play for dough. The national championship was too big to ignore.

"We never thought of going for a tie at all," said Holtz. "We wanted to win all the way."

When the Irish lined up for a two-point conversion, Paterno took a time-out of his own. "We had a lot of trouble with checkoffs, particularly down in that end (of the field)," said Holtz. "Tony (Rice's) voice doesn't carry very well, and we practiced the twopoint conversion, an 'either/or -before' (play), but when we went for it and called it initially, Tony just didn't feel real comfortable with it, so we called something else."

Rice took the snap from center Chuck Lanza and rolled right. But, Lion outside linebacker Keith Karpinsky was there to force Rice inside, and left tackle Pete Curkendall threw Rice down at the five-yard line.

Good-bye, national championship. Hello, Dallas.

The Sco	ound
Notre Dame 7 0 7 6 - 20	(Eric Etze kick)
Penn State 7 7 0 7 - 21	3rd Quarter
	ND - Tony Rice 11 run at 6:44
lst Quarter	(Gradel kick)
PS - John Greene 10 run at 6:11	4th Quester
(Ray Tarasi kick)	4th Quarter
ND - Tony Rice 32 run at 7:09	PS - Greene 3 run at 7:26
(Ted Gradel kick)	(Etze kick)
2nd Quarter	ND - Anthony Johnson 1 run
PS - Blair Thomas 1 run at 1:54	at 0:31 (Rice run fails)



MIAMI



## As "bad" as the Hurricanes may be, they sure looked good dismantling the Irish in Notre Dame's regular-season finale.

### **BY MARTY BURNS**

NOTRE DAME

MIAMI -- "In your face, punk." That's what the Miami Hurricanes told Notre Dame, its gentlemanly Heisman Trophy candidate, and the rest of the college football world, November 28, when they pillaged the Irish, 24-0, in broad daylight and in front of 76,640 patrons at the Orange Bowl. The Hurricanes, ranked No. 2 in the land, wagged fingers, shouted insults, and generally made life unbearable for an 8-2 Notre Dame team that was simply a much weaker football team.

Whether it was planting a helmet in a chest, a finger in a face, or Irish star Tim Brown in the turf, the bad boys from the land of Miami Vice proved once again that "bad" could be good on a football field. And when it was over, there was no more talk of revenge for Notre Dame's humiliation at Miami in 1985 or of the lost Orange Bowl bid in 1987, just a great deal about the fine play of the Hurricanes that day.

"After watching Miami today I can say that they are an outstanding football team that plays very, very well," admitted Irish head coach Lou Holtz, after watching the Hurricane defense hold his team to its lowest yardage total (169) all season. "I think on any given day they are probably the best team in the country. They were just very impressive."

For Miami, the win was indeed impressive. It was the Hurricanes' tenth without a loss on the 1987 season, and their 31st consecutive in regular season play. In its performance against the Irish, moreover, Miami showed clearly that no one else but the Hurricanes belonged on the Orange Bowl field New Year's Day against top-rated Oklahoma.

Nevertheless, the ease with which the Hurricanes carved up the Irish defense, stymied the potent Irish rushing game, and so deftly put the clamps on Brown had to surprise most vicwers. After all, Notre Dame supposedly had the edge in incentive. First of all, Miami head coach Jimmy Johnson had tried to strike an early deal with the Orange Bowl selection committee for an unconditional bid to the New Year's Day battle, leaving what was then an 8-1 Irish team without a crack at the No. 1 Sooners. And if that wasn't enough to get a team's Irish up, there was always the revenge motive for the 58-7 humiliation Johnson's 'Canes pasted on Notre

"I don't think they play with any class. They taunt you, talk about your momma, and all that. What do they say? Well, it's not printable." –-Tim Brown

Dame in Irish head coach Gerry Faust's last game back in 1985.

But if what goes around does come back around, Notre Dame will have to wait. For on this day, the Hurricanes just had too many weapons. Behind fullback Melvin Bratton's two touchdown runs and quarterback Steve Walsh's skillful passing, the Miami offense had its way the entire afternoon. In fact, if not for four Hurricane turnovers, two of which occured in the shadow of the Notre Dame goalposts, the score might have been much worse.

"When I look at this game I see three phases: offense, defense and the kicking game," gushed Johnson. "And we won all phases." It should be noted as well that Johnson instructed backup quarterback Craig Erickson not to

January 28, 1988

throw the ball late in the game after he had moved the 'Canes close to another score. "Don't want any trouble," Johnson remarked.

Perhaps Johnson had mellowed. But there was no chance that his players, especially his defense, were going to let go of the Irish once they had them between their jaws. Instead, they just bit down all the harder and shook. Take, for example, the number they pulled on the flashy Brown. Brown let two deep throws from quarterback Tony Rice slip through his hands, and was gangtackled repeatedly when returning kicks, much to the delight of super 'Cane safety Bennie Blades and teammates Bubba McDowell and Darrell Fullington.

"Brown's a good player...," said Blades, adjusting the chip on his shoulder that's a trademark of the Miami uniform, "but we really didn't have to do anything special to stop him."

"We've been sluggish lately, giving up a lot of points," explained Miami all-America tackle Daniel Stubbs, referring to the 'Cane's lackluster showings against Toledo and Virginia Tech. "But today, everyone wanted to make the tackle. And if Tim Brown had the ball, everyone wanted to get him."

Brown, meanwhile, had few comments in return for his opponents. "I don't get frustrated by what they say," said the triple-threat whose numbers showed only 95 all-purpose yards and one fumble on a late kickoff

The Hurricane offense swept past linebacker Darrell Gordon (38) and the rest of the Irish defense all afternoon, registering 417 total yards



## Miami

return. "They played a great game. I just don't think they play with any class. They taunt you, talk about your momma, and all that. What do they say? Well, it's not printable."

Not of all of it, by any stretch of the imagination, was Brown's fault. The Irish offense, led by the inexperienced Rice. seemed paralyzed in the face of the Hurricane's veteran 4-3 defense. Notre Dame's talented backfield of tailbacks Mark Green and Ricky Watters, along with fullbacks Anthony Johnson and Braxston Banks, found some success early, but none after the first half. Miami linebacker George Mira Jr. took care early on to see no Irish player got through, garnering 17 tackles and pressuring Rice from across the line.

On the two occasions the Irish did get the ball close enough to see

the Miami endzone, the 'Canes defense frightened Rice into turnovers. The swift Irish sophomore, never comfortable in obvious passing situations, forced one attempt over the middle on a second-andtwelve at the Miami 31-yard line, allowing Blades to intercept. Then, in the third quarter, Rice pitched on the option to Banks when he should have pitched to trailing Tony Brooks. The ball back carommed off Banks' back and Mira recovered at his own 31-yard line to preserve the shutout, Notre Dame's first since a 20-0 loss to Miami in 1983.

"What we couldn't do is get any continuity where we could stay with them," Holtz said. "They changed their defenses, they blended things around and that presented some problems. They're awfully strong up inside as well. And their secondary does a fine



"Don't want any trouble," Johnson joked when asked why he instructed 'Cane backup quarterback Craig Erickson to call solely running plays late in the fourth quarter.

iob."

Walsh, meanwhile, was quietly terrific. A third-year sophomore who spent the past two years as an apprentice to Bernie Kosar and Vinny Testaverde, Walsh wasn't even recruited by Holtz despite the fact that he prepped at a Minneapolis high school while Holtz minded the store at Minnesota. But he gained Holtz' attention this time with a 13-of-22 passing performance for 196 yards despite disguised blitzes and, one time, even a gimmick defense of six linebackers and five defensive backs.

"Walsh really found his receivers when he needed to today," marveled Irish linebacker

Bratton fumbled twice in Notre Dame territory, otherwise the score could have been much worse. Wes Pritchett. "We blitzed him some to create some pressure... but as a result he hit his receivers underneath. That was a real problem." early, fumbling the ball away at the Notre Dame 11-yard line. But two more touchdown scores, one each by Bratton and freshman back Leonard Conley, put the Irish fingers pointed skyward.

Come in peace, the Miami Hurricanes told the Irish and all who witnessed their 24-0 thrashing, and you'll leave in pieces.



The real highlight of the day for Notre Dame, in fact, came as a result of Walsh's only mistake. On the Hurricanes' first drive of the game, Walsh misread a blitz and threw a pass for wideout Michael Irvin that was picked off by Notre Dame's George Streeter. Walsh made a mental note, though, and wasn't fooled again. He drove his team 80 yards on the next drive (no score because of a Bratton fumble at the goal line), 65 yards for a Bratton touchdown on the third, and then 58 more for a Greg Cox field goal and a 10-0 lead before the halftime break provided Notre Dame with a breather.

In the second half, Walsh once again let the Irish off the hook

January 28, 1988

on their heels and opened up the Hurricane defense to begin the celebrating. For the rest of the day, Notre Dame had to just swallow defeat and follow it with some humble pie while the 'Canes strutted around in front of them, index Three of Notre Dame's "No-Names," safety George Streeter (27), linebackers Ned Bolcar (47) and Wes Pritchett (34), look on as one of their teammates hauls down the slippery Bratton.

The Sco	ring
Notre Dame 0 0 0 0 - 0	M - Cox 30 FG at 3:09
Miami 0 10 7 7 - 24	3rd Quarter
1st Quarter none	M - Bratton 1 run at 3:18 (Cox kick)
2nd Quarter	4th Quarter
M - Melvin Bratton 2 run at 11:39 (Greg Cox kick)	M - Leonard Conley 6 run at 5:04 (Cox kick)

## 1987 Heisman Winner

## Tim Brown's Touchdown Plays 1987

11-yard reception vs. Michigan
66-yard punt return vs. Michigan State
71-yard punt return vs. Michigan State
49-yard reception vs. Purdue
74-yard punt return vs. Air Force
5-yard run vs. USC
51-yard reception vs. Navy

### Career Records at Notre Dame

- \* Most Pass Reception Yards: 2,493 (340 in '84, 397 in '85, 910 in '86, and 846 in '87)
- \* Most Kickoff Return Yards: 1,613 (121 in '84, 338 in '85, 698 in '86, and 456 in '87)
- \* Most Kickoff Returns: 69 (7 in '84, 14 in '85, 25 in '86, 23 in '87)
- \* Most Kickoff Returns for Touchdowns: 3 (1 in '85, 2 in '86)
- \* Most Punt Returns for Touchdowns: 3 (all in '87)
- \* Most Combined Kick Return Yards (Punt and Kickoff Returns): 2,089 (121 in '84, 338 in '85, 773 in '86, 857 in '87)
- \* Most Combined Kick Returns: 105 (7 in '84, 14 in '85, 27 in '86, 57 in '87)
- \* Most Combined Kick Returns for Touchdowns: 6 (1 in '85, 2 in '86, 3 in '87)

## UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

## HEISMAN TROPHY WINNERS

- \* Angelo Bertelli, 1943
- \* John Lujack, 1947
- \* Leon Hart, 1949
- \* John Lattner, 1953
- \* Paul Hornung, 1956
- \* John Huarte, 1964
- \* Tim Brown, 1987



## 1987 HEISMAN MEMORIAL TROPHY BALLOTING

Name	School	Total	Votes		Total
		1st	2nd	3rd	Points
1. Tim Brown	Univ. of Notre Dame	324	173	124	1,442
2. Don McPherson	Syracuse University	167	135	60	831
3. Gordon Lockbaum	Holy Cross College	108	103	127	657
4. Lorenzo White	Michigan State Univ.	89	121	123	632
5. Craig Heyward	Univ. of Pittsburgh	17	44	31	170

Scholastic

\* Brown's 137 career receptions rank him third on Notre Dame's all-time list behind only Tom Gatewood's 157 from 1969-71 and Jim Seymour's 138 from 1963-65.

-•

\* Brown's 13.2 career average for punt returns (36 for 476) ranks second on Notre Dame's all-time list behind only Nick Rassas' 15.7 (39 for 612) from 1963-65.

\* Brown's success running kicks prompted most opponents to kick the ball away from him -- so much so that only 14 of the last 38 punts by Irish opponents travelled 40 yards or more. The Irish opponents' net punting average (punting yards minus punt return yards) stood at 31.6 per kick. Over the last six games (with most foes squibbing the ball or kicking short), Notre Dame received 25 kickoffs and only four times started inside its own 29-yard line. Average field position on those 25 kickoffs for the Irish was the Notre Dame 35.

\* Brown's two punt returns for touchdowns vs. Michigan State ticd an NCAA single-game record held by many players (most recently Garcia Lane of Ohio State who returned punts 63 and 71 yards vs. Purdue on October 8, 1983). Both Lane's and Brown's returns came on consecutive punts.

\* Brown ranks sixth nationally in all-purpose yardage at 167.9 per game after ranking third in that category as a junior (176.1).

\* Brown established personal highs for all-purpose yards and attempts with 16 for 294 vs. Boston College -- including a 57-yard reception on Notre Dame's first play from scrimmage.

\* Brown comes from Woodrow Wilson High School in Dallas -the same high school that produced 1938 Heisman Trophy winner Davey O'Brien who played quarterback for TCU. \* Brown became only the second player in Notre Dame history to record more than 5,000 allpurpose yards in his career. Brown finished with 5,024 (2,943 receiving, 442 rushing, 1,613 kickoff returns, 476 punt returns) to finish behind only Allen Pinkett's 5,259 total (4,131 rushing, 774 receiving, 354 kickoff returns) from 1982-85.

\* Brown put together his impressive credentials despite the fact that Notre Dame completed only two touchdown passes over the last seven games combined (one to Brown vs. Navy from Kent Graham and one to tight end Andy Heck vs. Alabama from Tony Rice).



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FREE DELIVERY!!!	ASTERN SUJ	BS	27	1-0 <b>SUB</b>
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THE MATEO TURKEY TURKEY BREAST HAM REAL ROAST BEEF GENOA SALAMI CHEESE REAL ITALIAN Capicola, prociutte, genoa salami COMBINATION ham, turkey, roast beef HOMEMADE MEATDALL PIZZA SUB peperoni,smlami, provolone,onion, mushroom,red sauce and spics(HEATED) DIET SUB low calorie mayonaise, tuna or	<pre>\$2.49 \$2.89 \$2.72 \$2.89 \$2.72 \$2.89 \$2.89 \$2.89 \$2.89 \$2.89 \$2.89</pre>	3.82 3.82 4.23 3.90 3.90 4.23 3.90 4.23 4.23 4.23 3.90 3.70 4.23	4.99 4.99 4.99 4.99 4.99 4.99 4.99 4.99	NAL SOLUTION
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DALLAS, Tex. -- All week long the Texas A&M football team felt like an orphan in a grade school play. While crowds gathered and flashbulbs popped in front of the Notre Dame football team and hometown Heisman-winner Tim Brown as they invaded Dallas for the 52nd annual Cotton Bowl Classic, the Aggies looked on from afar. Texas A&M, sporting a 9-2 record and a third straight Southwestern Conference title, had not the reputation nor the national exposure which their opponent from the Golden Dome boasted.

The Aggies, in fact, looked like an easy target for a Notre Dame squad ranked No. 12 in the nation, peaked emotionally by its first New Year's Day bowl appearance since 1981, and angry after two bitter defeats to close the season. Most experts figured the 8-3 Irish would not only win, but would ride rodeo-style over the champion of the probationravaged SWC.

Instead, 73,006 fans and a national television audience witnessed a solid 35-10 thrashing by Texas A&M which left Notre Dame humiliated and the experts at a loss for words. "Our players got tired of reading in the papers all week about Notre Dame and how great they are," Aggie head coach Jackie Sherrill stated after the game. "It's not like our players aren't also good students or good citizens or don't go to class. And they can play, too.

Scholastic

New Year's day at the Cotton Bowl turned into doomsday at Dallas for Notre Dame after Texas A & M stripped the Irish mystique with a 35-10 thrashing

Hung

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Dry

TEXAS A&M

BY MARTY BURNS

Cotton Bowl

Brown, who began his career with a fumble at Purdue, ended it with the controversial towel scuffle.

2

Our guys just did a great job of controlling their emotions and reacting to the mismatch in the media."

But while Texas A&M's refusal to throw in the towel made the difference in the ball game, an Aggie player's refusal to give back a towel created the most memorable scene of the contest. Late in the affair, and with the Irish trailing 28-10. Notre Dame's Brown set off a bench-clearing skirmish after he chased down a member of the Aggies' famed all-walk-on "Twelfth Man" kickoff return team and tackled him from behind as the player was trotting off the field. "I wanted to get my towel back," Brown explained after the melee, in reference to a monogrammed towel the Aggie player had swiped off Brown's uniform.

With his heist of Brown's ornament, the thief, Warren Barhorst, joined the legendary Tommy Lewis of Alabama as perpetrators of famous Cotton Bowl capers. Lewis gained fame in the 1954 classic when he scooted off the bench to tackle Rice's Dicky Maegle as Maegle sprinted down the 'Bama sideline. Lewis' tackle cost his team seven points after the referees awarded Maegle a touchdown. Brown's tackle, however, cost the Irish only 15 yards in the form of a penalty.

"The way I went about it probably wasn't the right way," Brown added. "But I think they had something planned. After I Elassic

was tackled one guy held me down and the other took the towel and ran off. The towel was a gift from a friend. I didn't mean to tackle him, but I don't think he had any right to take it."

The incident, sadly enough, overshadowed a fine performance by Brown, who dazzled the hometown crowd early with six first-half catches for 105 yards. One of those catches, moreover, went for the game's first touchdown as Brown took a pass in from the A&M 17-yard line to set up a quick 7-0 Notre Dame lead. Yet the frustration which would later take startling shape in the towel incident at the end, began for Brown and the

day's critical error when he unwisely threw a pass into the endzone on a broken play with his team leading 10-3 and threatening again at the A&M 18-yard line. Aggie cornerback Alex Morris stepped in front of Irish tight end Andy Heck and held on to the ball while falling out of bounds for the interception. "Bad leadership on my part," admitted Andrysiak, who nonetheless played pretty well (15-of-25 for 203 yards), considering he had not seen action since suffering a broken collarbone in the team's October 10 game against Pittsburgh.

That interception might not have proved so crucial, however, had not Sherrill made a bold stra-



Irish soon after.

Joe Vitacco

First, Notre Dame quarterback Terry Andrysiak made the Andrysiak returned after missing the team's final seven games, but he couldn't push the Irish past the Aggie defense.

## Cotton Bowl



The "No-Name" defense had its moments, like when it shut down A&M at the goal line, Joe VI but they were few and far between.

tegy move on the next play. Noting starting quarterback Bucky Richardson's woeful passing on the team's first three possessions, the veteran mentor inserted a big freshman signalcaller named Lance Pavlas to take over the A&M offense. Pavlas had not taken a snap in the team's last three games. Yet he connected immediately for 11 yards on the first play, and for 33 yards to flanker Gary Oliver on the third play, to set up the Aggies tying score.

"We needed a spark," Sherrill said matter-of-factly about the surprise move, which exposed the weak pass defense of the Irish that Holtz and defensive coordinator Foge Fazio had hidden rather effectively most of the season. For the day, Pavlas completed five of seven passes for 77 yards, while Richardson later returned to amass a gamehigh 96 yards rushing, including his team's final two touchdowns and the game's Offensive MVP award.

The entrance of the passing Pavlas, furthermore, set up nicely Sherrill's next trick -- a halfback option toss from Darren Lewis to a wide, wide-open Tony Thompson for a 24-yard touchdown pass that tied the score at 10 apiece. Then as if the quick turn of events there was not enough to make Irish eyes swell with tears, further calamities surfaced on the team's first play after the kickoff. Andrysiak flipped a screen pass out in the left flat to fullback Braxston Banks, who juggled the ball and dropped it for an incomplete pass. Or, at least, everyone thought it was an incomplete pass.

Officials conferred, though, and decided the ball had been

caught by Banks, and then fumbled. Texas A&M, which had recovered the loose ball, then took it in 21 yards for another touchdown. "I saw the ball hit the ground and thought it was incomplete," Holtz mused. "But I always worry when I see those suckers get together and start discussing a call like that." The famed Aggie "Swinging Gate" play added insult to injury, when on the conversion attempt after the score, Aggie center Scott Lark pitched the ball sideways to teammate Wally Hartley for a three-yard plunge into the end zone for the two-point conversion.

"I don't know what happened," Holtz said. "It looked like we were about to be up 17-3, but boom, boom, boom, we make three mistakes in a row. And in a two-minute span, (Texas A&M) goes ahead 18-10."

Despite the bad bounces for Notre Dame, though, Texas A&M showed itself to be the better team with a thorough second-half showing. Paced by a relentless Adam Bob inside and Aaron Wallace outside (each with 11 tackles), the Aggie linebackers completely shut down the vaunted running game of the Irish inside and put tremendous pressure on Andrysiak after he was forced by the score to pass. "All day it seemed like we'd have a hole there for a second, but then (Texas A&M) would close it," Andrysiak noted. "We just couldn't get it done." Notre Dame finished the day with only 277 total yards of offense to the Aggies' 410, and could muster only 74 yards on the ground.

-

Even Irish sophomore quarterback Tony Rice failed to gain vards when he entered the contest with just over eight minutes to go in the game. Rice, who led Notre Dame to a 5-2 mark after Andrysiak went down with his injury, tried to ignite a comeback but instead committed his team's fourth and final turnover of the day. Aggie cornerback Kip Corrington's interception of a Rice pass at the Notre Dame 30-yard line enabled Texas A&M to salt the game away five plays later and forge the 35-10 final.

As Notre Dame thrashed about on offense, meanwhile, the Aggies sailed along easily behind an overachieving offensive line that was really the star of the day's show. "They manhandled us," Holtz stated flatly. "They whipped us up front, dominated the line of scrimmage, and that was the difference. "Tremendous" echoed Sherrill, when asked for his description of his line's play. "And don't forget", he pointed out, "we only had six (healthy players) that could play. But they just wanted this one badly."

After the game, the Notre Dame locker room showed a team weary and disillusioned by three straight losses. Still, a current of hope managed to penetrate the effort to bolster the sagging defense, slumped on his stool, his hair matted, and his weary legs stretched out before him. "I did my best," he said. "I'm never going to ever be embarrassed again in my life like that. I'm upset. I'm mad. But like I said, next year we'll be back."



setting. Irish defensive lineman John Foley, switched by Holtz and Fazio late in the season from his normal linebacker slot in an Led by its swarming linebackers, the Aggie defense smothered the Irish ground game.

The Sc	-oung
Notre Dame 7 3 0 0 - 10	from Darren Lewis
Texas A&M 3 15 7 10 - 35	at 1:42 (Slater kick)
	TAM - Larry Horton 2 run at
	0:26 (Wally Hartley run)
1st Quarter	and Owenter
ND - Tim Brown 1 pass from	3rd Quarter
Andrysiak at 11:25 (Ted Gradel kick)	TAM - Bucky Richardson 1 run at 3:45 (Slater kick)
TAM - Scott Slater 26 FG at 0:00	4th Quarter
2nd Quarter	TAM - Slater 25 FG at 8:32
ND - Gradel 36 FG at 10:52	TAM - Richardson 8 run at 5:10
TAM - Tony Thompson 24 pass	(Slater kick)



G Mark Stepnoski junior, Pitt



PK Greg Cox senior, Miami



senior, Texas



**John Elliott** senior, Michigan

WR Michael Irvin

G Jerry Fontenot senior, USC

junior. Miami



TE Paul Green junior, Texas A&M



T Dave Cadigan junior, USC





WR Darren Flutie senior, Boston College







# 1987 Football Honors

## TIM BROWN, flanker



Heisman Trophy Winner Walter Camp Trophy Winner The Sporting News Player of the Year Football News Player of the Year Associated Press, United Press International, Kodak (American Football Coaches Football News), Football Writers Association of America, The Sporting News, Football News, Walter Camp Foundation All-America (all first team) Notre Dame Monogram Club MVP (by vote of teammates) Associated Press Midwest Offensive Player of the Week vs. Michigan State Sports Illustrated Special Teams Player of the Week vs. Michigan State Hula Bowl and Japan Bowl participant

## CHUCK LANZA, center



Football News All-America (first team) Associated Press All-America (second team) United Press International All-America (second team) Notre Dame Lineman of the Year, Moose Kraus Chapter of National Football Foundation Hall of Fame Hula Bowl and Japan Bowl participant

## NED BOLCAR, inside linebacker



CBS/Chevrolet Defensive Player of the Year Associated Press All-America (second team) Football News All-America (third team) CBS/Chevrolet MVP vs. Penn State Sports Illustrated Defensive Player of the Week vs. USC Captain-Elect for 1988

## CEDRIC FIGARO, outside linebacker



Football News All-America (third team) United Press International All-America (honorable mention) Associated Press Midwest Defensive Player of the Week vs. Boston College

## BYRON SPRUELL, offensive tackle

**BRANDY WELLS, cornerback/safety** 

TERRY ANDRYSIAK, quarterback

Hula Bowl participant



Japan Bowl participant

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## MARK GREEN, tailback



Football News All-America (honorable mention) CBS/Chevrolet MVP vs. Alabama Captain-Elect for 1988

## ANDY HECK, tight end



Football News All-America (honorable mention) Captain-Elect for 1988

## **VINCE PHELAN, punter**



GTE/CoSIDA Academic All-America (first team)

CBS/Chevrolet MVP vs. Miami

## TOM REHDER, offensive tackle



Football News All-America (honorable mention) East-West Shrine Game participant

TOM FREEMAN, offensive guard

Football News All-America (honorable mention)

## **TED GRADEL**, kicker

## DARRELL "FLASH" GORDON, linebacker



Japan Bowl participant



GTE/CoSIDA Academic All-America (first team)

Notre Dame Club of St. Joseph Valley Scholar-Athlete Award





## PRESIDENT AND SENATORIAL Elections

For those interested in declaring their candidacy for the offices of Senate, President and Vice President, take note of the following dates:

THURS., JAN. 28 Informational Meeting for **Prospective Candidates** 6 p.m. Notre Dame Room. 2nd floor LaFortune TUES., FEB. 2 MANDATORY Meeting for Declared Candidates 6 p.m. Notre Dame Room, 2nd Floor LaFortune FRI., FEB. 5 Petitions Required for Candidacy Due by Noon in the Student Government Offices, 2nd Floor LaFortune **CAMPAIGNING BEGINS TUES.**, FEB. 9 AND ENDS MON., FEB. 15 AT MIDNIGHT

### **ELECTION DAY IS TUES., FEB. 16**

If necessary, runoff campaigning will take place on Wed., Feb. 17 with a runoff election to be held on Thurs., Feb. 18.

## OFF-CAMPUS COMMISSIONER Elections

For those interested in declaring their candidacy for the offices of of the classes of '89, '90, and '91, these dates are of great importance:

THURS., FEB. 18

TUES., FEB. 23

FRI., FEB. 26

Informational Meeting for Prospective Candidates 6 p.m. Notre Dame Room, 2nd floor LaFortune

MANDATORY Meeting for Declared Candidates 6 p.m. Notre Dame Room, 2nd Floor LaFortune

Petitions Required for Candidacy Due by Noon in the Student Government Offices, 2nd Floor LaFortune

## CAMPAIGNING BEGINS TUES., MARCH 1 AND ENDS MON., MARCH 7 AT MIDNIGHT

## ELECTION DAY IS TUES., MARCH 8

If necessary, runoff campaigning will take place on Wed., March 9, with a runoff election to be held on Thurs., March 10.

## **1987 Regular Season Final Statistics**

45

#### RESULTS AND ATTENDANCE

RESULTS AND ATTENI	DANCE
S 12 at Michigan S 19 MICHIGAN ST. S 26 at Purdue	W 26-7 105,098(c) W 31-8 59,075(c) W 44-20 68,526(c)
0 10 at Pittsburgh 0 17 at Air Force	L 22-30 56,400(c) W 35-14 51,112(c)
0 24 USC	W 26-15 59,075(c)
0 31 NAVY N 7 BOSTON COL.	W 56-13 59,075(c) W 32-25 59,075(c)
N 14 ALABAMA	W 32-25 59,075(c) W 37-6 59,075(c)
N 21 at Penn State	L 20-21 84,000(c)
N 28 at Miami (Fla.)	L 0-24 76,640(c) Avg. 67,105
	Avg. 07,105
TEAM STATISTICS TOTAL FIRST DOWNS Rushing Passing Penalty 3rd Down: Made/Att. 4th Down: Made/Att. TOTAL NET YARDS Avg. Per Game. NET YARDS RUSHING Avg. Per Game. Total Rushes. NET YARDS PASSING Avg. Per Game. Avg. Per Game. Avg. Per Game. Avg. Per Game. Avg. Per Game. Avg. Per Game. Avg. Per Game. NET YARDS PASSING Avg. Per Game. NET YARDS PASSING Avg. Per Game. NET YARDS PASSING Avg. Per Game. Stumpts/Completions. Had Intercepted PUNTS/AVERAGE. NET PUNTING AVG. PENALTIES/YARDS FUMBLES/BALL LOST TOUCHDOWNS Rushing Passing Returns.	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$
TIME OF POSSESSION .	2 3 4 TOT. AVG.
Notre Danie	67 91 85 329 29.9 73 32 40 183 16.6
SCORING       TDR       TDP       T         Gradel       0       0         Johnson       11       0         Brown       1       3         Rice       7       0         Green       6       0         Banks       4       0         Watters       3       0         Brooks       1       0         Heck       0       1         Southall       0       0         Ho       0       0         Team       -       -	DRt         PAT         FG         S         TP           0         33/33         14/18         0         75           0         0/0         0/0         0         66           3         1/1*         0/0         0         44           0         0/0         0/0         0         42           0         0/0         0/0         0         36           0         0/0         0/0         0         36           0         0/0         0/0         0         18           0         0/0         0/0         0         6           0         0/0         0/0         0         6           0         0/0         0/0         0         6           0         0/0         0/0         0         6           0         1/1         0/0         0         1           0         1/1         0/0         0         1             2         4
Notre Dame 33 4 Opponents. 14 8	4 36/36* 14/18 2 329 0 20/24# 9-14 0 183
*Includes 1 2-point conver	sion

RUSHING Green Vatters Johnson Rice Brooks Banks T. Brown Taylor Belles Belles Jafferson Jafferson Jafferson Jafferson Coleman Coleman Satterfield K. Graham P. Graham Notre Dame Opponents	NO 146 69 78 89 54 54 34 16 11 27 11 8 6 1 1 2 9 3 618 456	YDS 861 373 366 337 262 212 144 46 49 40 39 37 20 11 1 1 8 -11 -21 2773 1696	AVG 5.9 5.4 4.7 3.8 4.9 3.9 4.2 2.9 4.5 1.5 3.6 4.6 3.3 11.0 4.0 -1.2 -7.0 4.5 3.7	LG 74 75 31 32 27 18 31 13 12 12 12 12 12 13 11 11 6 6 -2 75 62	TD 6 3 11 7 1 4 1 4 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 3 3 14
PASSING Rice K.Graham Belles T. Brown P. Graham Andrysiak	Att ( 82 24 1 1 0 58	35 16 1 0 0	Yds Pet 563 42.7 248 66.7 27 100.0 0 0.0 0 0.0 480 51.7	TD 1 0 0 0 2	Int 4 0 0 0 3
Notre Dame Opponents.	166 263		418 49.4 518 47.1	4 8	11 13
RECEIVING T. Brown Green Watters Heck Johnson Brooks Banks Terrell Ward Jacobs Dumas	NO 39 13 6 5 4 3 3 2 2 2 2 2 2 1	YDS 846 98 70 59 110 38 15 63 50 23 21 25	AVG 21.7 7.5 11.7 11.8 27.5 12.7 5.0 31.5 25.0 11.5 10.5 25.0	LG 57 21 28 26 51 27 11 38 34 23 12 25	TD 3 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
Notre Dame Opponents	82 124	1418 1618	17.3 13.0	57 57	4
PUNT RETUR T. Brown Watters Lyght Wells Notre Dame Opponents	RNS NO 34 2 1 1 38 31	YDS 401 23 15 0 439 205	AVG 11.8 11.5 15.0 0.0 11.6 6.6	LG 74 22 15 0 74 13	TD 3 0 0 0 0 3 0
KICKOFF RE T. Brown Streeter Johnson Banks Francisco Smagala Green Brooks Notre Dame	NO 23 4 2 2 2 2 1 1 37	YDS 456 32 52 30 24 17 -2 641	AVG 19.8 8.0 26.0 16.0 15.0 12.0 17.0 -2.0	LG 36 17 32 17 16 18 17 -2 36	TD 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
Opponents	57	990	17.4	65	0

	EPTIONS	NO	YDS	AVG	LG	TD
Southall .	• • • • • • • • •	3	80	26.7	57	1
Bolcar	• • • • • • • • • • •	3 2	18 25	6.0 12.5	18 17	0
Figaro		ĩ	11	11.0	11	ŏ
Pritchett.		1	11	11.0	11	0
	· · · · · · · · · ·	1	10 4	10.0 4.0	10 4	0 0
Lyght		i	ō	0.0	Ō	ŏ
-	me	13	159	12.2	57	1
Opponent	s	11	53	4.8	21	0
PUNTIN	G No. Y	ads A	wg T	B IN-	20 LG	BLK
Phelan		)44 40		6	8 68	
Hackett .			0.5	Ĩ.	1 35	
Notre Da		105 40		7	9 68	
Opponent	s 60 23	337 3	8.9	1	8 56	5 1
FIELD GO	DALS 1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	тот
Gradel		8-8	3-5	3-5	0-0	14-18
Notre Da		8-8	3-5	3-5	0-0	14-18
Opponent	s1-1	2-3	4-5	1-3	1-2	9-14
		ven				
1 WO-PU	DINT CON RUI	vers N(Md		PA	SS(Mo	1/At)
Notre Da		1-5				
Opponent		1-1			3-	
TIM BRO	OWN'S AL Att. Yds.	L-PU Per	IRPOS Play	SE YAI TD H	RDAGI PER GA	E Me
Brown	130 1843	101	14.2	7		67.5
DIOWII	130 1643		14.2	1	J	07.5
TACKLE	S (Total-S	റിറം-ർ	(criete)	· Bold	ar (10	6-62-
44), Prite	hett (70-32	-38).	Figarc	53-2	8-25)	Gor-
don (53-2	25-28). Wel	lls (50	)-31-19	). Gr	ffin (4	3-20-
23), Gor	man (36-2	3-13	), Sma	igala	(35-23	-12),
Lygin (29	9-21-8), Spe s (22-18-4)	ence (	29-13- ers (7	1_10_1	unz (2.	3-13- uball
(20-12-8)	, Flannery	(18-7)	-11). F	itzger:	ald (16-	.8-8)
Stams (14	-6-8), Fole	y (13-	-8-5), I	Morris	on (11-	5-6).
Grimm (9	9-7-2), Gru (6-3-3), A	nhard	(8-5-3	3), Ha	rris (7-	3-4),
Coleman	(6-3-3), A	lm (5	-2-3),	Franci	sco (4-	3-1),
West (4-1	-3), Brooks (3-1-2), T.	(3-2- Brow	1), Ko = (2, 2)	walkov	VSKI (3-	(1-2),
	(J-1-2), 1. r (2-1-1), 7	Ferrell	(2-0-	-0), JC 2) Ba	nks (1.	(2-1-
Rice (1-1	-0), Bryne	(1-0-1	l), Rai	isch (1	-0-1).	Ryan
(1-0-1), S	atterfield (	1-0-1)	•		,,	<b>,</b>
FUMBLE	ES RECOV	'ERE	D: Ku	nz (3),	Bolca	r (2),
Smagala	(2), Grimm	1 (2).	Pritch	iett (2	). Willi	ams.

Smagala (2), Grimm (2), Pritchett (2), Williams, Gorman, Griffin, Gordon, Jones

Sinagala (2), Grinim (2), Pritchett (2), Williams, Gorman, Griffin, Gordon, Jones
FUMBLES CAUSED: Figaro 3, Southall, Gordon, Wells, Streeter, Kvochak, Lyght
PASSES BROKEN UP: Streeter 6, Spence 5, Wells 4, Smagala 3, Gordon 3, Bolcar 3, Figaro 2, Lyght 2, Francisco, Pritchett, Fitzgerald, Eilers, Griffin, Streeter. West
SACKS: Figaro (3-28), Gordon (3.5-31), Kunz (3-15), Pritchett (1.5-7), Bolcar (1-14), Wells (1-11), Harris (1-10), Flannery (1-9), Stams (1-9), West (1-9), Kowalkowski (1-9), Eilers (1-8), Fitzgerald (1-7), Rausch (1-6), Gorman (1-5), Griffin (1-2) Notre Dame – 23-175 yds.
Opponents – 22-146 yds.
TACKLES FOR LOSS: Figaro (5-15), Griffin (4-11), Bolcar (4-8), Pritchett (3-4), Gorman (2-5), Stams (2-3), Kunz (2-3), FitzGerald (2-2), Streeter (1-4), Wells (1-4), Eilers (1-3), Flannery (1-2), Harris (1-2), Gordon (1-1) Notre Dame – 30-67 Opponents – 46-105

Opponents - 46-105

## 87 RESULTS

## 8 Wins, 4 Losses

Sept. 12	at Michigan	W 26- 7
Sept. 19	MICHIGAN STATE	W 31- 8
Sept. 26	at Purdue	W 44-20
Oct. 10	at Pittsburgh	L 22–30
Oct. 17	at Air Force	W 35-14
Oct. 24	USC	W 26-15
Oct. 31	NAVY	W 56-13
Nov. 7	BOSTON COLLEGE	W 32-25
Nov. 14	ALABAMA	W 37- 6
Nov. 21	at Penn State	L 20-21
Nov. 28	at Miami	L 0-24
Jan. 1	Texas A&M	L 10-35
	at 1988 Cotton Bowl	