

# THEY WANTED TO WIN

## 1988 NOTRE DAME FOOTBALL NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP REVIEW



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*Reverend Edward F. Sorin, C.S.C., back row center, who founded Notre Dame in 1842, poses with Holy Cross priests and brothers in this 1872 photo from the Holy Cross Indiana Province Archives.*

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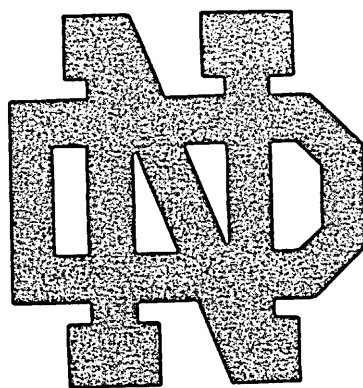




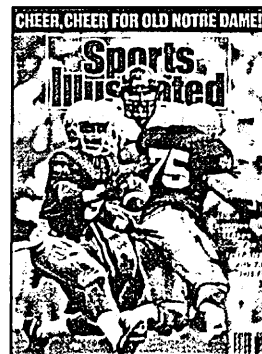


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1988 NOTRE DAME FOOTBALL  
NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP REVIEW





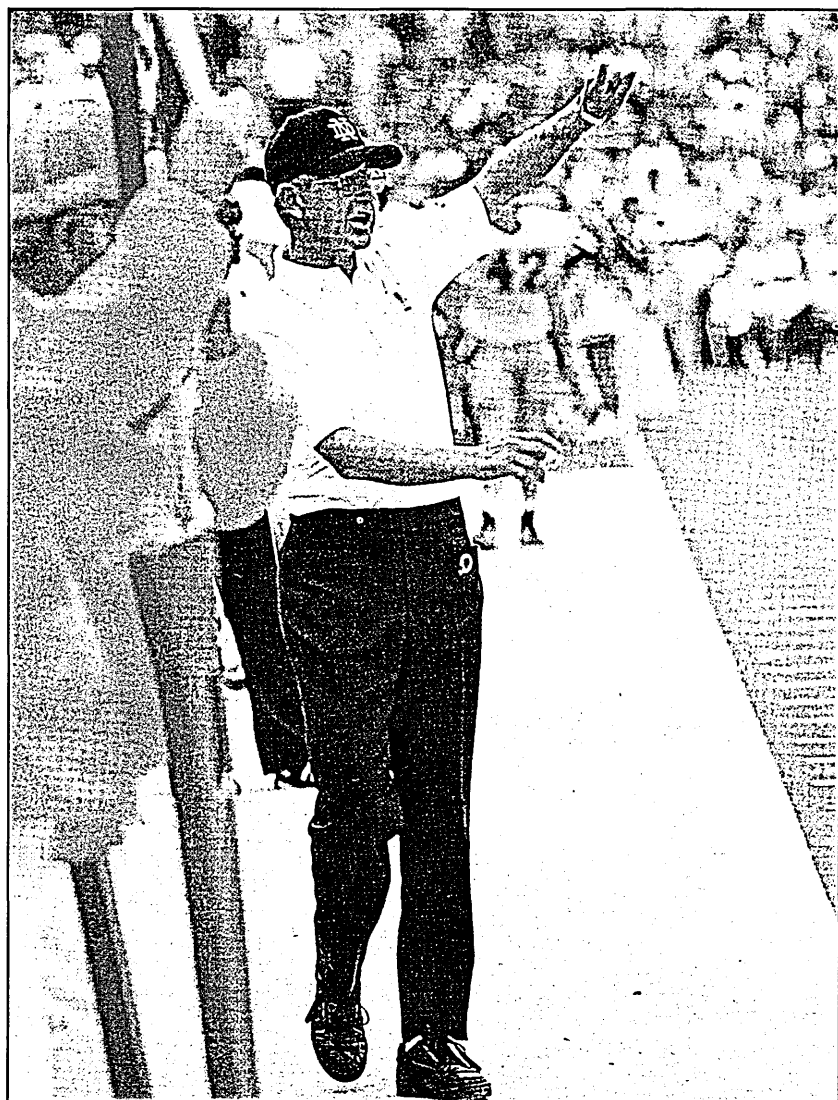


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# Foreword



*"I always have said Notre Dame would win one (national championship) again — I just didn't know when it would be or who would be coaching."*

— Lou Holtz

I have to be honest. I never thought it would happen.

Yes, I grew up where the Notre Dame name was big when Frank Leahy's teams were going unbeaten for four years straight in the 1940s.

Yes, I did grow up singing the Notre Dame Victory March as we marched in and out of St. Aloysius grade school.

Yes, I did think so highly of this University that I put that clause in the contract at Minnesota, so that if the Notre Dame job ever opened up, I would be able to consider it as long as we had been invited to a bowl game at Minnesota.

But, when Gerry Faust resigned in 1985 and I ended up at Notre Dame, ev-

eryone told me why we couldn't win.

The academic standards, the tough schedule, the no redshirting policy, the lack of an athletic dormitory — all those were reasons people gave me why Notre Dame would never be great again.

I thought we proved we could be competitive again, even in '86 when we lost five games by 14 points.

I thought we proved we could be a factor nationally in '87 when we won eight of our first nine games and earned an invitation to a major bowl game.

But win a national championship? I always have said Notre Dame would win one again — I just didn't know when it would be or who would be coaching. I honestly never considered that we had a chance in 1988. There were a million reasons why we didn't have a chance.

I don't know how many times people told me we could never win with Tony Rice as our quarterback. People thought he was one-dimensional and that we couldn't throw well enough to beat the great teams. At times, I even agreed with them. But maybe none of us realized just how great a competitor Tony Rice really is, which he proved in 1988.

Our offensive line had been decimated. There was nothing left, especially after Jeff Pearson elected to leave school during the summer. Our line had been such a strong point in '87, that it was hard to imagine how we could replace all those people.

I felt our running backs would be pretty good. But who knew if our line would be good enough to open any holes for them?

Our receivers? What a huge question mark that was. Tim Brown was gone and so was Reggie Ward. I thought Bobby Carpenter and Pierre Martin would be pretty good based on spring practice then they both became ineligible. Ricky Watters and Pat Eliers had never played flanker before and Steve Alaniz, who had hardly played at all, was the only split end left on the roster. So, even if Tony Rice was improved, it didn't look like he had much to throw to.

Our kicking game didn't look much better. Tim Brown had done everything for us in terms of returns. I thought Reg-

gie Ho and Billy Hackett would be adequate for field goals and PATs but we didn't have any idea who the punter would be when we started in August.

You looked at all this on paper and you wondered how we ever would score.

I did think we had a chance on defense because we had more people back over there and I thought we looked pretty good in the spring.

But, there still were questions. Chris Zorich never played at all as a freshman and George Williams didn't play much. Jeff Alm had never been a full-time player before. Once we found out John Foley wouldn't be able to play all year, I really didn't know what to expect from the defensive line.

I thought our linebackers would be fine, inside and outside. Between Wes Pritchett, Michael Stonebreaker and Ned Bolcar inside along with Frank Stams, Flash Gordon and Andre Jones outside, we weren't in bad shape there.

D'Juan Francisco had really come along at cornerback in the spring, and I thought Patrick Terrell would make a good contribution.

But, when you looked at it on paper, an awfully large number of things had to fall in place for us to think we could be any good. There were things about this group that no one recognized.

No one knew how hard this team worked in the off-season to get better fundamentally. The fans don't see the time they spend in the weightroom or working out during the winter program or even during the summer. I felt good about our attitude this spring.

I just didn't know if we could score because we couldn't all spring. I felt our defense had a chance to be good, but I wasn't sure if we were capable of having a good record if we had to count on winning 10-7 every Saturday.

No one recognized how badly this group wanted to win. No one recognized the determination left behind when we lost three games at the end of '87.

I never once mentioned it, but I got the feeling that there was still something left undone for the seniors who had come here and gone 5-6 their first two years. They had been there for the 58-7 game against Miami and I think they wanted to find a way to prove Notre Dame football was more than that.

Our players' attitude all the way through was one of, "Tell us what we have to do to win." I can't overempha-

size that. They understood their roles, they understood the kind of commitment it would take and they didn't care who told them we weren't good enough.

When we met in August for the first time, I was extremely realistic, as I always try to be with the players. I don't ever try to con them, I'm as honest as I can possibly be.

I told them about all those question marks, about all the reasons people had for us not being a real good item. And most of those were legitimate reasons.

But, on the other hand, I didn't see any reason why we couldn't go into every single football game thinking we should win.

We took it week by week, we didn't take anything for granted and we had an amazing number of our questions answered with exclamation points.

You look back on the season, and there may still be some other teams who think they were better than we were. But, we proved it every week on the field. We didn't say we were the best team in the country. We just said we had to be better than the team on the other sideline every Saturday. We beat three excellent football teams in Miami, USC, and West Virginia that would have been 12-0 if it hadn't been for Notre Dame, and we beat some other pretty good teams in Michigan, Michigan State and Pittsburgh.

We were a great football team because nobody proved we weren't. We had 12 challenges put in front of us and we met every one of them.

I don't know if we can be as good in 1989 as some people have suggested. I don't know what the chemistry will be like. I don't know how hard our players will be willing to work.

I didn't come to Notre Dame to win national championships. I didn't come here thinking I had something to prove.

I'm just happy for the seniors who finished their careers on the field in Tempe on January 2. They came to Notre Dame ready to shoot for the stars, thinking they could be great. They probably had some doubts along the way and maybe they didn't win quite as many games as they thought they would.

But, in 1988, they proved to people that Notre Dame could be great again on the football field. I think there were an awful lot of people who just didn't believe that could happen.

I'm glad it did.

— Lou Holtz

# Introduction

Those misty, water-color memories that Barbra Streisand sang about a few years back — those are the moments that will remain crystalized in our minds.

Punch the button that says, "Notre Dame Football, 1988," and let those memories unravel.

Remember the sight of the Cotton Bowl scoreboard that read, "Texas A&M 35, Notre Dame 10." Remember the feeling that this wasn't what big-time bowl games were supposed to be like.

Remember the headlines trumpeting another top-ranked recruiting season in

February for Notre Dame. Back then, names like Derek Brown, Rod Smith, Arnold Ale and Gene McGuire qualified only as high school all-stars. Eleven months later they would qualify for national championship rings.

Remember the coaching changes that came quick on the heels of the

recruiting triumphs. Add John Palermo, Joe Moore and Chuck Heater to the staff roster — and chalk up a new position coach for every single Irish defender.

Remember the rock 'em sock 'em spring scrimmages that raised so many questions. Can the defense really be this good? Can the offense really be struggling this much? Will the Irish ever score? Will anybody ever score against that defense?

Remember the off-the-field stories that characterized summer in South Bend. First, Pierre Martin and Bobby Carpenter, the Irish hopes at split end, left school, facing ineligibility. Next, starting guard Jeff Pearson, the only returning offensive line regular, left school and eventually transferred to Michigan State. Next came the unfair and unfounded rumors surrounding Tony Rice's academic stand-

ing. Finally came the news of John Foley's loss due to a bicep nerve injury dating all the way back to the Cotton Bowl. Every episode seemed to add to the list of questions surrounding the '88 team.

Remember the afternoon of August 29 when, as Lou Holtz put it, "We threw away the whistle." The Irish blocked and tackled like never before and when Holtz and his charges walked off the practice field that day there was no question of commitment.

Remember Andy Heck putting to rest any doubts of the strength of the revamped offensive line after he spoke at the preseason luncheon sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce.

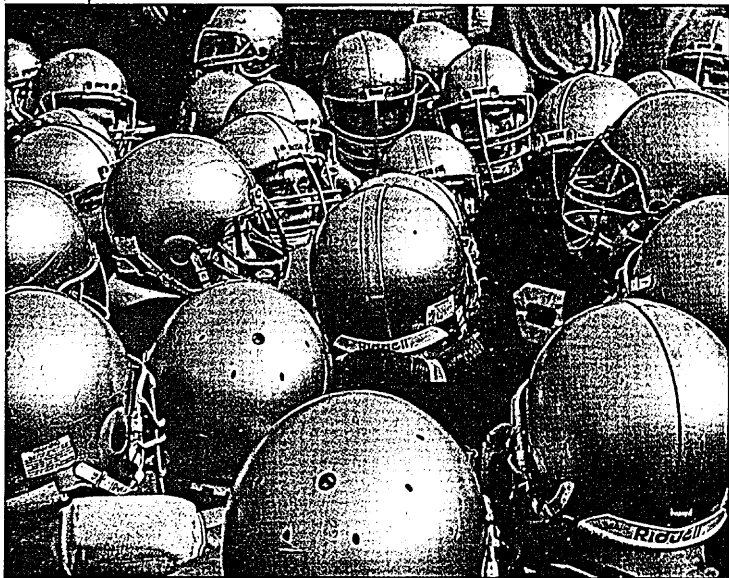
Heck related, "Coach (Joe) Moore told us the other day about how the winners in life have the best of everything. They make the most money, they have the best jobs, they go out with the best-looking girls. Frankly, I'm tired of all this talk about our offensive line being a weakness. I just want you to know that all of us who play on the offensive line have great-looking girlfriends." Case closed.

Remember the anxiety involved in trying to figure out if all these new names and faces meant good things for Irish football.

Who is this Chris Zorich and can he really be as good as Lou Holtz says? What about George Williams and Jeff Alm and are they really good enough to be starters? Can Michael Stonebreaker come back from a year off and regain his touch? Can Frank Stams and Wes Pritchett take a few minutes off from enjoying life to play with the intensity mirrored every day in practice?

Can Tony Rice throw the ball any better than he did last year? Can Ricky Waters fill the bill at flanker better than Mark Green? Can the Irish ever catch the football with all these new people at the receiver spots? Can the Irish ever run the football with all these new people on the offensive line?

Remember how the Michigan game answered those questions. Yes, Zorich seems to be worth waiting for. Yes, Williams and Alm just might get the job done. Yes, Stonebreaker looks like he was never gone. Yes, Stams and Pritchett have every intention of being the emo-





tional leaders of this team. Yes, Rice does throw the ball better, it's just that he's working with a brand new cast.

He's not Tim Brown, but, yes, Watters does indeed know how to return punts for touchdowns. Yes, the Irish will catch the football, even if it takes a few weeks for rookies like Derek Brown and Raghib Ismail to get their feet on the ground. Yes, the Irish will indeed run the ball and maybe it doesn't make any difference who's up front blocking.

Remember the warm feeling of watching a little-known walk-on named Reggie Ho suddenly thrust into the hero's role in what is supposed to be a big man's game. Remember the thought that maybe there aren't enough Reggie Ho stories to go around in this game of college football.

Remember the heart-in-the-throat feeling as Mike Gillette's last-ditch field goal try sails toward the uprights and looks for a moment like it might be good. Remember the elation when it was not.

Remember hearing all those great facts about Michigan State's defense. Remember Notre Dame running right through it for 245 yards. Remember the Irish defense doing an impression in East Lansing of what the Spartans' defense was supposed to be like.

Remember seeing two fullbacks get hurt and having a tailback (Tony Brooks) who's supposed to be hurt look even better.

Remember seeing the scoreboard register 42-0 by halftime against Purdue even though there actually were three possessions where the Irish didn't score. Remember Notre Dame scoring three different times on one-play drives.

Remember the thought of sweeping three Big Ten rivals for the second straight year.

Remember those people who said Rice couldn't throw? Well, remember those same people reading his name in the Notre Dame record book for completing 10 straight passes.

Remember the Irish rolling to a 21-0 advantage in the evening coolness in front of the ESPN cameras against Stanford before the defense even worked up a sweat.

Remember how a few breaks now and then never hurt — as the Irish found out against Pittsburgh. Darnell Dickeson appetizingly fumbled the ball into the end zone and the Panthers earned an assist on Notre Dame's last touchdown drive by keeping it alive with 12 men on the field



on a punt.

Remember the thought of just how big the Notre Dame vs. Miami confrontation would be now that the Irish and 'Canes were both coming in unbeaten.

Remember watching one of the greatest exhibitions of competitive football ever to be seen in Notre Dame Stadium. Remember a back-and-forth swing of emotion and momentum so good you almost hated to see it end.

Remember wondering just how many more passes Steve Walsh would complete before Frank Stams or Pat Terrell or someone else would make him pay.

Remember just how perfect an October Saturday can be in South Bend when your football team knocks off the number one team in the country and ends a regular season winning streak that stretches over four seasons.

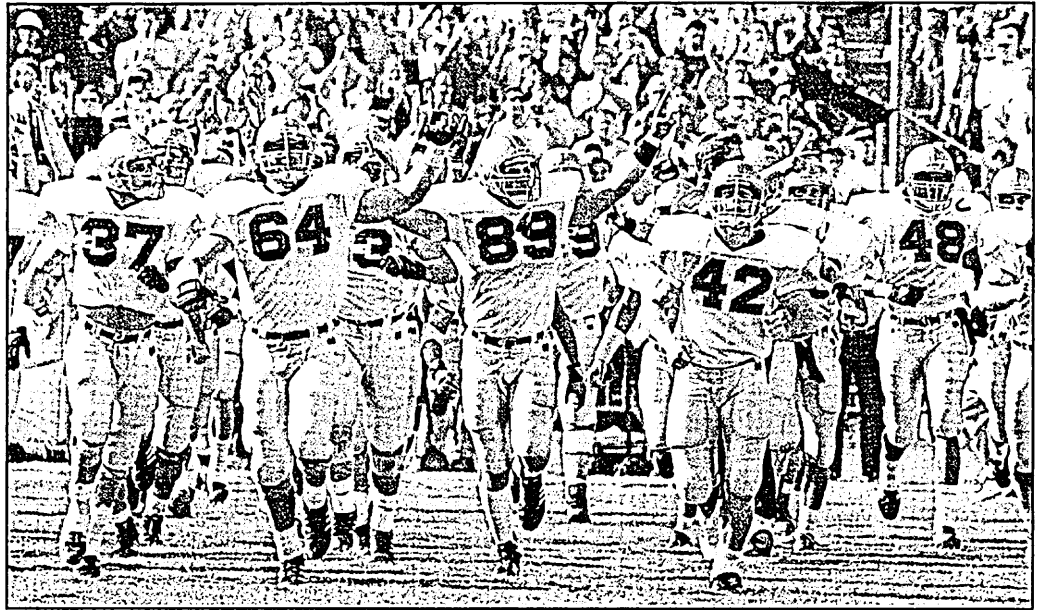
Remember wondering if it really gets any better than this. And remember Lou Holtz having to remind everyone that being 6-0 does nothing but guarantee a winning season.

Remember being scared to death of an Air Force wishbone that was rolling up 432 rushing yards a week. Then, remember the Irish rolling up 267 rushing yards themselves.

Remember the irony of watching Notre Dame play its least-inspiring football game of the season against Navy — only to step off the plane from Baltimore to learn that UCLA had been beaten and the Irish were going to be number one.

Remember the disappointment of

*President Ronald Reagan congratulated Lou Holtz and the Fighting Irish on their championship.*



learning from Lou Holtz that being number one doesn't guarantee anything — that you still have to go 10 yards for a first down, you still only get six points for a touchdown and you don't get the ball back if the other team recovers your fumble.

Remember the feeling of walking into your own stadium as the nation's top-ranked team and leaving that way after scoring 54 points and giving up just 11.

Remember the satisfaction of beating a Penn State team that had been a thorn in the side of so many recent season records. Remember the satisfaction of those Fiesta Bowl representatives in their lemon-yellow coats finally making official what had been rumored for weeks.

Remember the possibility that if Miami-Notre Dame at midseason is big, maybe Notre Dame-USC with the top ranking at stake is even bigger.

Remember the sight of Tony Rice sprinting 65 yards in front of his own bench with the entire Trojan defense in pursuit.

Remember the sight of Stan Smagala single-handedly snatching the momentum away from USC with his interception and return for a touchdown.

Remember the Irish defense throwing up a brick wall around the goal line late in the third period and making the Trojans settle for a field goal that did nothing but set Notre Dame up for its clinching touchdown drive.

Remember the thought that it's possible to beat the powerful and favored Trojans on their own field, even without

your leading rusher and receiver.

Remember the constant reminders from Lou Holtz that you're not playing for the national championship — you're just playing to prove you're better than West Virginia on one given day.

Remember the domination by the defense in the early going, as Major Harris and his mates need a penalty flag to get a first down. Remember that by that time the Irish already led 16-0.

Remember how silent the critics of Tony Rice's passing became after he lured West Virginia into playing the option, only to throw for a career-high 213 yards.

Remember thinking that a quarterback's statistics don't count. As Steve Walsh, Rodney Peete and Major Harris can attest, it's only 12-0 that matters.

Remember the feeling that in Sun Devil Stadium on January 2, 1989, Notre Dame without doubt guaranteed itself the national championship.

Remember the feeling of self-satisfaction in the Fiesta Bowl locker room. Maybe there wasn't quite as much celebrating as some observers might have expected. After all, there had never been any thought that the result might be different that it was.

Remember waking up the next morning and reading the newspapers and realizing the dream that 120-some football players had dared to dream really had come true.

And remember that the dream never dies. It simply fades a bit over the years, into misty, water-color memories.

— John Heisler

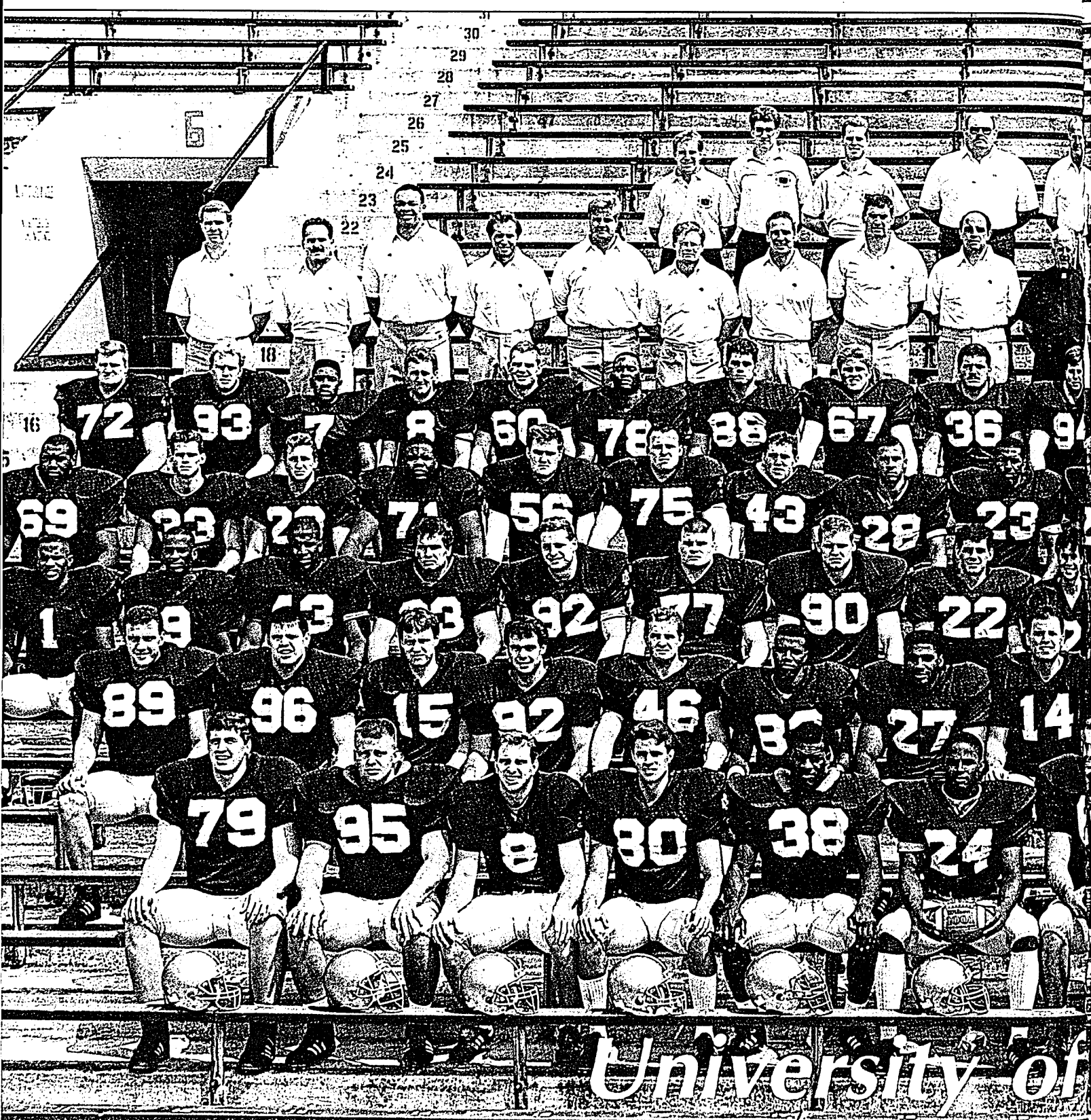
*Notre Dame took the field 12 times last season and came away with 12 victories.*

# 1988 National Championship Roster

Player	Pos.	Yr.	Hometown	Player	Pos.	Yr.	Hometown
Steve Alaniz	SE	Sr.	Edinburg, Texas	Frank Jacobs	TE	So.	Highland Heights, Ky.
Arnold Ale	DE	Fr.	Carson, Calif.	David Jandric	CB	Jr.	Omaha, Neb.
Brad Alge	SE	Sr.	Norwalk, Ohio	Joe Jarosz	FB	Sr.	Arlington Heights, Ill.
Joe Allen	OT	So.	Chicago, Ill.	Anthony Johnson	FB	Jr.	South Bend, Ind.
Jeff Alm	DT	Jr.	Orland Park, Ill.	Andre Jones	DE	So.	Hyattsville, Md.
Shawn Anderson	OG	Jr.	Omaha, Neb.	Mirko Jurkovic	DT	Fr.	Calumet City, Ill.
Jeff Baker	SE	Fr.	Coraopolis, Pa.	Chuck Killian	OT	Sr.	Philadelphia, Pa.
Norm Balentine	OT	So.	Florissant, Mo.	Jim Kinshef	C	So.	Braintree, Mass.
Braxston Banks	FB	Jr.	Hayward, Calif.	Lindsay Knapp	OT	Fr.	Deerfield, Ill.
Steve Belles	QB	Sr.	Phoenix, Ariz.	Scott Kowalkowski	DE	So.	Farmington Hills, Mich.
Jerry Bodine	CB	So.	Hazen, N.D.	Antwon Lark	CB	So.	Santa Ana, Calif.
Ned Bolcar	LB	Sr.	Phillipsburg, N.J.	Marty Lippincott	OT	Sr.	Philadelphia, Pa.
Walter Boyd	TB	Fr.	Hillsborough, N.C.	Todd Lyght	CB	So.	Flint, Mich.
Mike Brennan	OG	Sr.	Severna Park, Md.	Bernard Mannelly	DT	Fr.	Marietta, Ga.
Tony Brooks	TB	So.	Tulsa, Okla.	George Marshall	OG	So.	Somerset, N.J.
Dean Brown	OT	Jr.	Canton, Ohio	Dan McDevitt	CB	Sr.	Chicago, Ill.
Derek Brown	TE	Fr.	Merritt Island, Fla.	Devon McDonald	DE	Fr.	Paterson, N.J.
Scott Bufton	LB	Sr.	Catasauqua, Pa.	Gene McGuire	C	Fr.	Panama City, Fla.
Mike Callan	DT	So.	Ardmore, Pa.	Ted McNamara	FB	Jr.	Dallas, Texas
Sean Connor	P	Sr.	Zeigler, Ill.	Kevin McShane	DE	Jr.	Joilet, Ill.
Michael Crounse	DT	Jr.	Endicott, N.Y.	Mike Miadich	QB	Fr.	Lake Oswego, Ore.
Rodney Culver	FB	Fr.	Detroit, Mich.	Ryan Mihalko	FB	So.	Pelham, N.H.
Bob Dahl	DT	So.	Chagrin Falls, Ohio	Trevor Moriarty	QB	Fr.	Paso Robles, Calif.
Greg Davis	SS	So.	Hollywood, Fla.	David Munger	P	Sr.	Perrysburg, Ohio
Shawn Davis	SE	Fr.	Tulsa, Okla.	Mark Nigro	DT	Sr.	Lombard, Ill.
Marc deManigold	DT	Fr.	Grosse Point Woods, Mich.	George Poorman	FS	Fr.	Palatine, Ill.
Mike Denisoff	SE	Jr.	Schenectady, N.Y.	Dave Prinzivalli	C	Jr.	Kaneohe, Hawaii
James Dillard	FL	So.	Columbus, Ohio	Wes Pritchett	LB	Sr.	Atlanta, Ga.
Doug DiOrio	FS	Jr.	Worthington, Ohio	Rick Purcell	CB	Jr.	Cincinnati, Ohio
Marc Dobbins	SS	Jr.	Chicago, Ill.	Rusty Ranallo	K	Fr.	Steubenville, Ohio
Ray Dumas	SE	Sr.	St. Louis, Mo.	Tony Rice	QB	Jr.	Woodruff, S.C.
Rich Earley	SS	Jr.	Lisle, Ill.	Troy Rogely	LB	Fr.	Badin, Pa.
Pat Eilers	FL	Sr.	St. Paul, Minn.	Aaron Robb	FL	Sr.	Coeur d'Alene, Idaho
Patrick Fallon	SE	Jr.	Pittsfield, Mass.	Steve Roddy	DT	Sr.	Harleysville, Pa.
Joe Farrell	LB	Jr.	Oak Lawn, Ill.	Tim Ryan	OG	So.	Kansas City, Mo.
Ted FitzGerald	DT	Jr.	Wayne, N.J.	Winston Sandri	OG	So.	Raleigh, N.C.
Bryan Flannery	DT	Jr.	Lakewood, Ohio	Bob Satterfield	CB	Sr.	Encino, Calif.
John Foley	DT	Jr.	Chicago, Ill.	Martin Scruggs	FS	Fr.	Abilene, Texas
Steve Fortunato	SE	Fr.	Ramsey, N.J.	Rusty Setzer	TB	Fr.	Gary, Ind.
D'Juan Francisco	CB	Sr.	Cincinnati, Ohio	Jim Sexton	P	So.	South Bend, Ind.
Mike Gatti	FB	Sr.	Woodcliff Lake, N.J.	Brian Shannon	OG	So.	New Wilmington, Pa.
Flash Gordon	DE	Sr.	Hillside, N.J.	Chris Shey	LB	Jr.	Algona, Iowa
Tom Gorman	OG	Sr.	Evergreen Park, Ill.	Stan Smagala	CB	Jr.	Burbank, Ill.
Kent Graham	QB	So.	Wheaton, Ill.	Mike Smalls	LB	Fr.	Rialto, Calif.
Pete Graham	QB	Sr.	Rumson, N.J.	Rod Smith	FL	Fr.	St. Paul, Minn.
Mark Green	TB	Sr.	Riverside, Calif.	Tony Smith	SE	Fr.	Gary, Ind.
Donn Grimm	LB	So.	Scottsdale, Pa.	Corny Southall	FS	Sr.	Rochester, N.Y.
Tim Grunhard	OG	Jr.	Chicago, Ill.	Kenny Spears	TB	Fr.	Atlanta, Ga.
Billy Hackett	K	So.	Sarasota, Fla.	Frank Stams	DE	Sr.	Akron, Ohio
Justin Hall	OT	Fr.	Dallas, Texas	Michael Stonebreaker	LB	Jr.	River Ridge, La.
Pete Hartweger	P	Sr.	St. Louis, Mo.	George Streeter	SS	Sr.	Chicago, Ill.
Ted Healy	OG	Jr.	South Weymouth, Mass.	Pat Terrell	FS	Jr.	St. Petersburg, Fla.
Andy Heck	OT	Sr.	Annandale, Va.	Ricky Watters	FL	So.	Harrisburg, Pa.
Mike Heldt	C	So.	Tampa, Fla.	Rod West	TE	Jr.	New Orleans, La.
Karl Hickey	C	Fr.	Walker, Minn.	George Williams	DT	So.	Willingboro, N.J.
Reggie Ho	K	Sr.	Kaneohe, Hawaii	Darryl Wodecki	OT	So.	Chagrin Falls, Ohio
Chet Hollister	SE	Fr.	Eufala, Ala.	Kurt Zackrisson	DE	Sr.	Elmhurst, Ill.
Raghib Ismail	RB	Fr.	Wilkes-Barre, Pa.	Chris Zorich	DT	So.	Chicago, Ill.

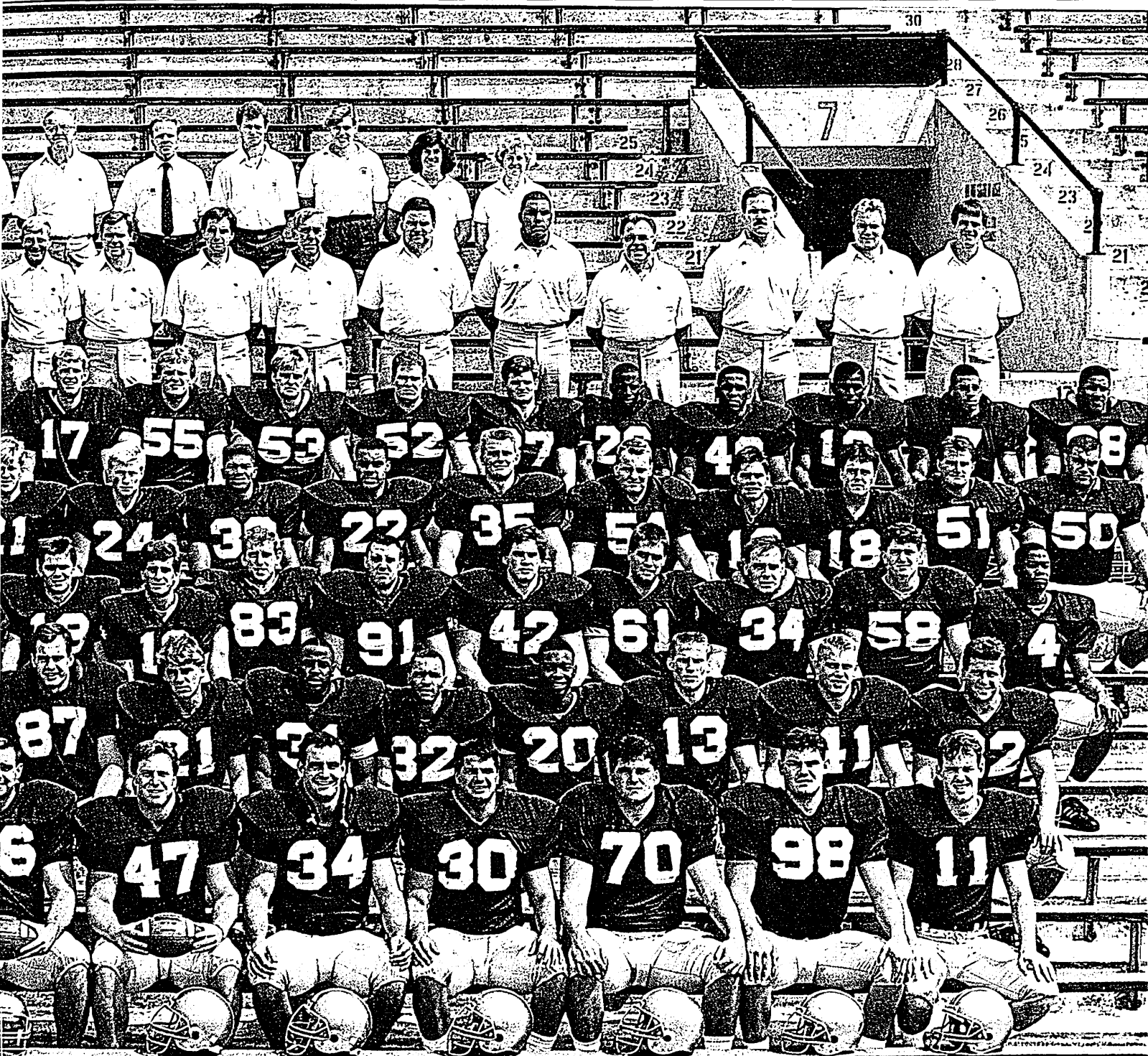


# 1988 National Champions



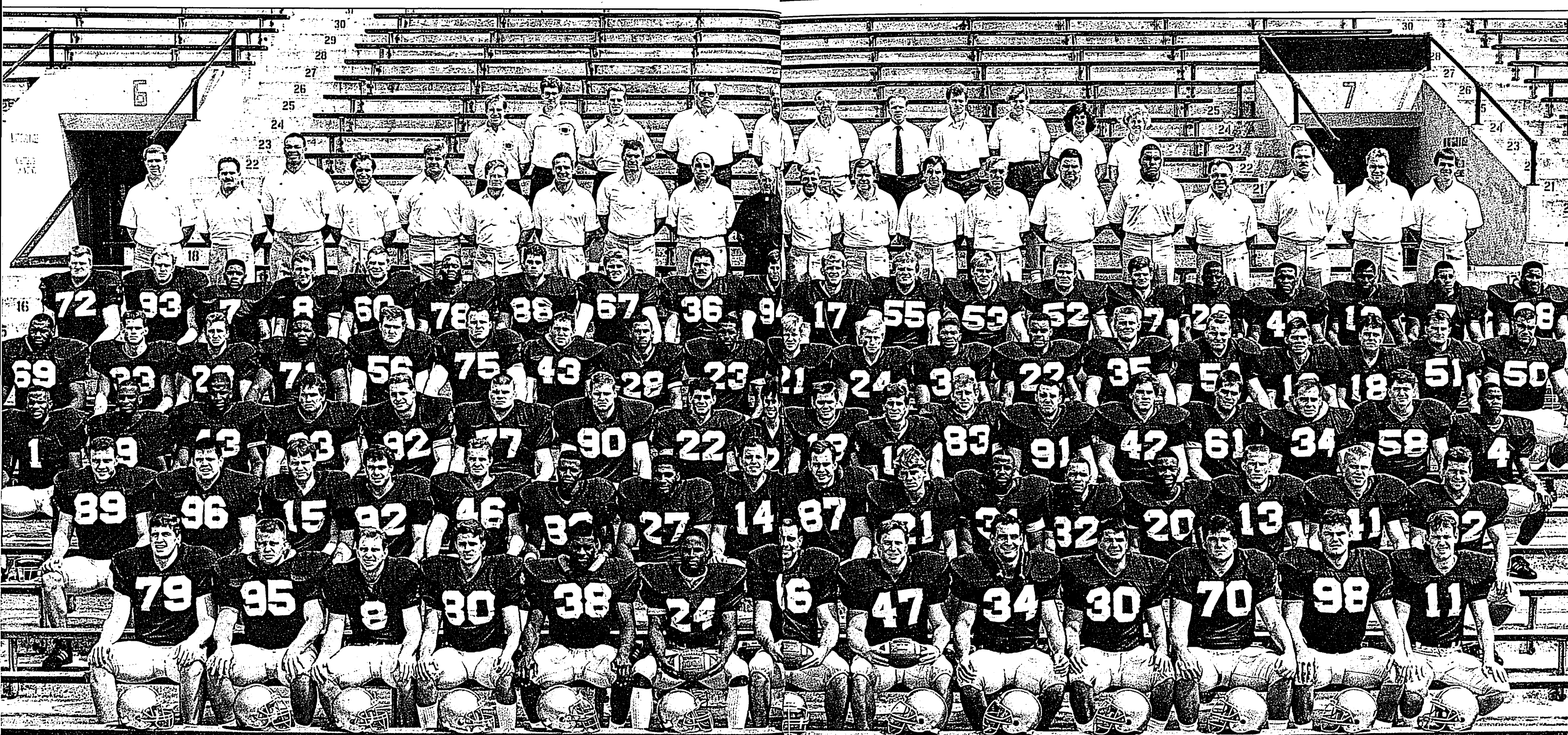
University of

1988 NATIONAL CHAMPIONS



Notre Dame





*University of Notre Dame*

CHAMPIONSHIP FOOTBALL



# Noting the Irish

**The Streak:** Notre Dame's current 12-game winning streak is the ninth-longest in Irish history. Notre Dame's longest all-time winning streak of 21 games was compiled during the '46-'48 seasons. Notre Dame's all-time unbeaten streak is 39 games that included 37 victories and two ties from '46-'50.

**The Ranked Wins:** Notre Dame defeated four ranked teams in '88, downing #9 Michigan, #1 Miami, #2 USC and #3 West Virginia (all AP rankings the week of the game). This marked the first time since 1980 that Notre Dame beat four ranked teams in a season.

**After a Turnover:** Notre Dame's defense was particularly tough following a turnover by the offense this year. The Irish turned the ball over 23 times in '88 and allowed only four touchdowns and three field goals following those turnovers. On the other hand, Notre Dame's offense managed to capitalize with scores 13 of the 35 times an opponent committed a turnover. The Irish scored 10 touchdowns and three field goals after gaining the ball by a turnover.

**Answering the Challenge:** Irish coach Lou Holtz continually stressed the importance of his team answering the challenge with points any time the opponent scored. Notre Dame was especially good at that in 1988, doing it on 16 occasions out of 30 opponent scores.

**Punching It In:** Notre Dame was especially impressive once the Irish got inside the enemy 20-yard line in 1988. Lou Holtz's squad scored 41 of 48 times inside the 20, finishing with 31 TDs, 10 field goals, three missed field goals, one interception and two lost fumbles. One time the Irish lost the ball on downs.

**Shutting Them Down:** Before the start of

the season Irish coach Lou Holtz continually pointed out that Notre Dame's defense would be the key to a successful season. The national rankings illustrate how strong the Irish defense was:

Category	Rank	Allowed
Scoring Defense	3rd	12.3
Rushing Defense	10th	112.4
Passing Defense	34th	280.3
Total Defense	13th	392.7

**The Big Plays:** Notre Dame wasn't especially known as a big play team in '88, yet its return teams and defense accounted for seven TDs. They were:

1. Ricky Watters' 81-yard punt return for a TD vs. Michigan
2. Michael Stonebreaker's 39-yard interception return for a TD vs. Michigan State
3. Ricky Watters' 66-yard punt return for a TD vs. Purdue
4. Pat Terrell's 60-yard interception return for a TD vs. Miami
5. Raghieb Ismail's 87-yard kickoff return for a TD vs. Rice
6. Raghieb Ismail's 83-yard kickoff return for a TD vs. Rice
7. Stan Smagala's 64-yard interception return for a TD vs. USC

**Monogram Winners:** Fifty-five players on Notre Dame's unbeaten and top-ranked 1988 football squad were awarded monograms at the 69th annual Notre Dame Football Banquet:

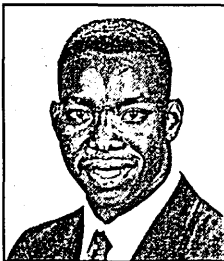
**Seniors (17):** Steve Alaniz, Steve Belles, Ned Bolcar, Mike Brennan, Pat Eilers, D'Juan Francisco, Flash Gordon, Tom Gorman, Pete Graham, Mark Green, Andy Heck, Reggie Ho, Wes Pritchett, Aaron Robb, Corny Southall, Frank Stams, George Streeter.

**Juniors (11):** Jeff Alm, Braxton Banks, Dean Brown, Bryan Flannery, Tim Grunhard, Anthony Johnson, Tony Rice, Stan Smagala, Michael Stonebreaker, Pat Terrell, Rod West.

**Sophomores (19):** Joe Allen, Tony Brooks, Bob Dahl, Greg Davis, Kent Graham, Donn Grimm, Billy Hackett, Mike Heldt, Frank Jacobs, Andre Jones, Scott Kowalkowski, Todd Lyght, Ryan Mihalko, Tim Ryan, Winston Sandri, Jim Sexton, Ricky Watters, George Williams, Chris Zorich.

**Freshmen (8):** Arnold Ale, Derek Brown, Rodney Culver, Justin Hall, Raghieb Ismail, Mirko Jurkovic, Gene McGuire, Rod Smith.

Nine other players received service monograms for their four-year contributions — Brad Alge, Scott Bufton, Mike Gatti, Joe Jarosz, Chuck Killian, Mark Nigro, Steve Roddy, Bob Satterfield, Kurt Zackrison.



**Bob Satterfield**  
Sept. 14, 1966-Jan. 19, 1989  
6-0, 181, Senior  
Defensive Back  
Encino, Calif.

# 1988 Honors and Awards

## Brad Alge, Sr., Split End

- Hesburgh-Joyce Hall of Fame Scholarship Award (postgraduate study grant for walk-on who has contributed significantly to the football program; maintains 3.31 in management)

## Ned Bolcar, Sr., Linebacker

- *Football News* all-America (honorable mention)
- General Foods Spirit of Notre Dame Award

## Derek Brown, Fr., Tight End

- *The Sporting News* all-America (honorable mention)

## Pat Eilers, Sr., Flanker

- Toyota Leadership Award on CBS national telecast vs. Penn State

## Tom Gorman, Sr., Offensive Guard

- Toyota Leadership Award on CBS national telecast vs. Michigan
- Notre Dame Club of St. Joseph Valley Student-Athlete Award (3.13 grade-point average in government)

## Mark Green, Sr., Tailback

- Associated Press, United Press Inter-

national and *The Sporting News* all-America (honorable mention)

- ABC-Chevrolet Notre Dame MVP vs. Michigan State (125 rushing yards on 21 carries)

- Japan Bowl participant

## Tim Grunhard, Jr., Offensive Guard

- *The Sporting News* all-America (honorable mention)

## Andy Heck, Sr., Offensive Tackle

- Associated Press, United Press International, *The Sporting News*, Newspaper Enterprise Association and *Football News* all-America (first team)

- Nick Pietrosante Award (by vote of teammates, to player who best exemplifies the courage, teamwork, loyalty, dedication and pride of the late Irish all-America fullback)

- Japan Bowl participant

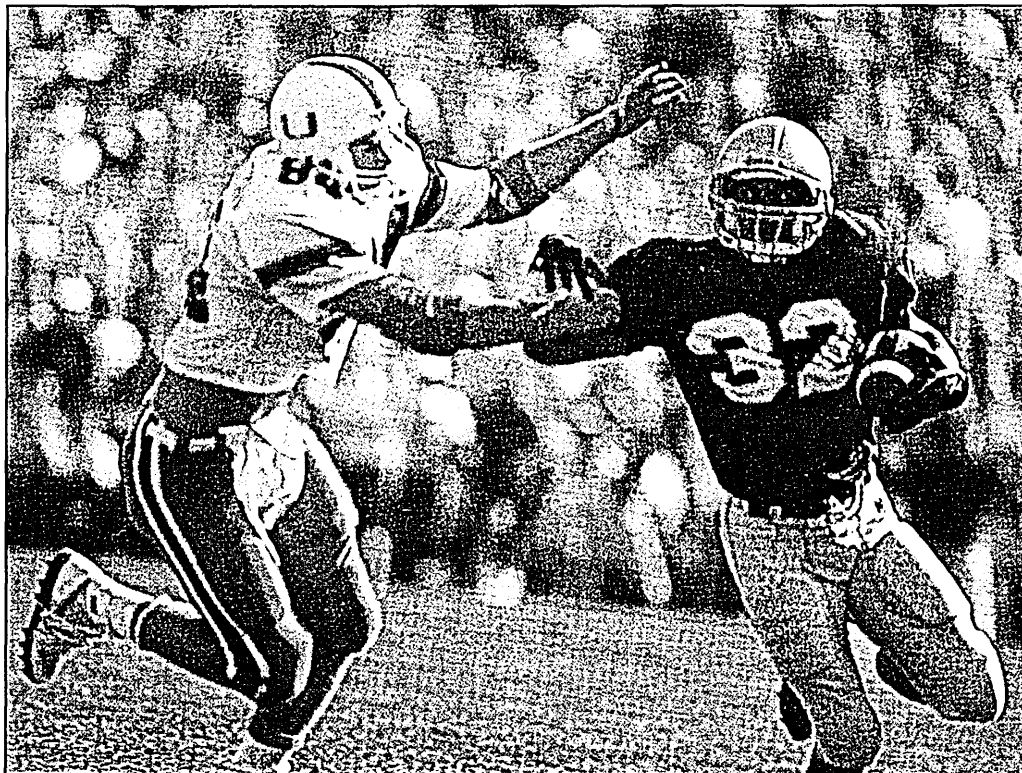
- *College & Pro Football Newsweekly* all-America (second team)

## Mike Heldt, So., Center

- *Football News* Sophomore all-America (first team)

## Reggie Ho, Sr., Kicker

- *Sports Illustrated* Special Teams play-



Senior D'Juan Francisco was one of three Notre Dame defenders to intercept Miami's Steve Walsh.

## 1988 Honors and Awards continued

er of the week vs. Michigan (four field goals, including game-winner at 1:13)

- CBS-Chevrolet Notre Dame MVP vs. Michigan

- Hesburgh-Joyce Hall of Fame Scholarship Award (postgraduate study grant for walk-on who has contributed significantly to the football program; maintains 3.77 in pre-med)

- Toyota Leadership Award on CBS national telecast vs. Miami

- CoSIDA Academic all-America (second team)

- NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship winner

### Lou Holtz, Head Coach

- United Press International coach of the year

- Football News coach of the year

- CBS Sports coach of the year

- Football Writers Association of America coach of the year

### Raghib Ismail, Fr., Split End

- The Sporting News all-America (honorable mention)

- Associated Press Midwest Offensive Player of the week vs. Rice (kickoff returns for 83 and 87 yards for TDs)

- Sports Illustrated Special Teams player of the week vs. Rice

### Todd Lyght, So., Cornerback

- Associated Press all-America (honorable mention)

### Wes Pritchett, Sr., Linebacker

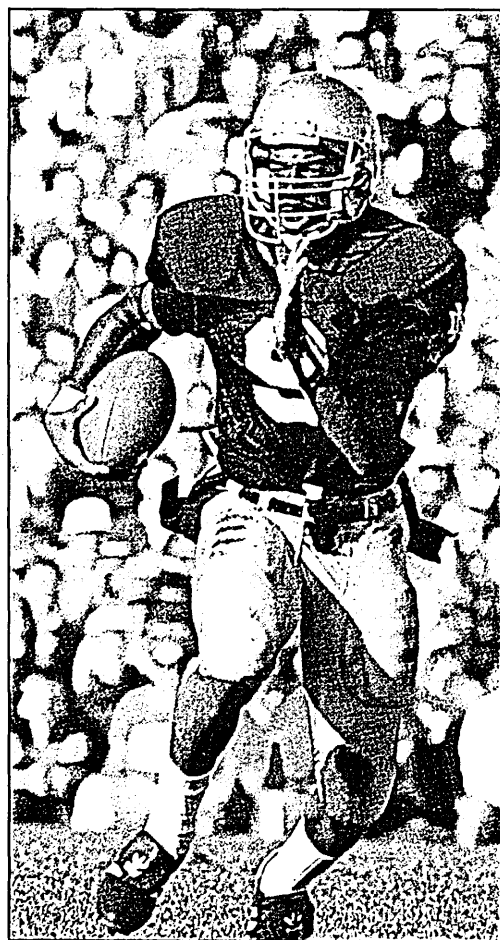
- The Sporting News all-America (second team)

- Associated Press and United Press International all-America (honorable mention)

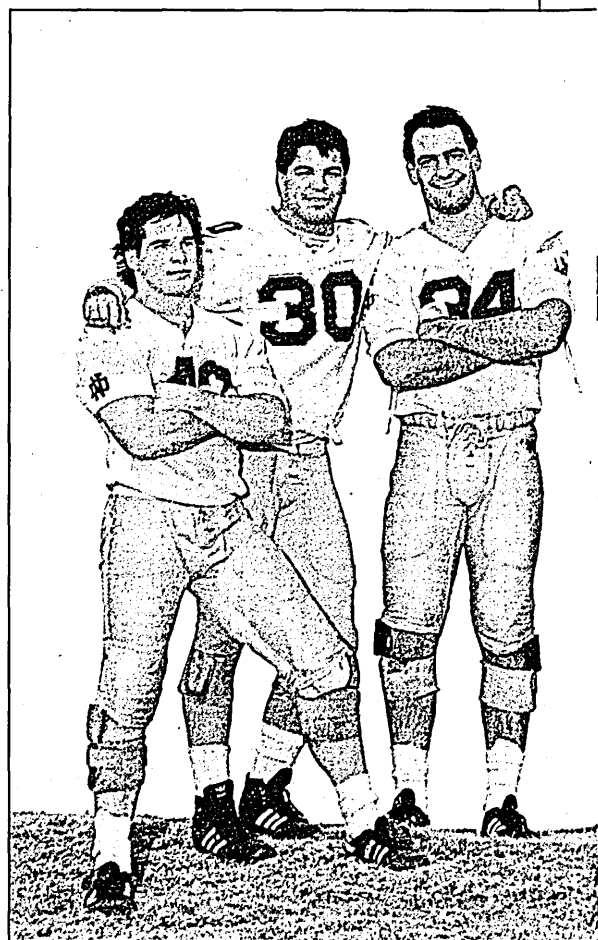
- Hula Bowl and East-West Shrine game participant

### Tony Rice, Jr., Quarterback

- Notre Dame Monogram Club MVP



Tony Rice turned in an MVP performance on the field at the Fiesta Bowl, while off the field, Michael Stonebreaker (#42), Frank Stams (#30) and Wes Pritchett (#34) enjoyed the Arizona sunshine.



(by vote of teammates)

- Associated Press, *The Sporting News* and *Football News* all-America (second team)

- CBS-Chevrolet Notre Dame MVP vs. Penn State

- ABC-Chevrolet Notre Dame MVP vs. USC

- Fiesta Bowl Offensive MVP

- NBC Fiesta Bowl MVP

## Tim Ryan, So., Offensive Guard

- Associated Press all-America (honorable mention)

## Stan Smagala, Jr., Cornerback

- Associated Press all-America (honorable mention)

## Frank Stams, Sr., Defensive End

- Associated Press, United Press International and *Football News* all-America (first team)

- *The Sporting News* and Newspaper Enterprise Association all-America (second team)

- Notre Dame lineman of the year, Moose Krause chapter of National Football Foundation Hall of Fame

- CBS-Chevrolet Notre Dame MVP vs. Miami (two forced fumbles, one recovery)

- Associated Press Midwest Defensive player of the week vs. Miami

- Hula Bowl participant

- Fiesta Bowl Defensive MVP

- *College & Pro Football Newsweekly* all-America (third team)

## Michael Stonebreaker, Jr., Linebacker

- Butkus Award Finalist (finished third behind Alabama's Derrick Thomas and Nebraska's Broderick Thomas)

- Associated Press, Football Writers Association of America, Newspaper Enterprise Association, Walter Camp Foundation, *Football News* all-America (first team)

- United Press International and *The Sporting News* all-America (second team)

- Associated Press Midwest Defensive player of the week vs. Michigan (17 tackles, two interceptions)

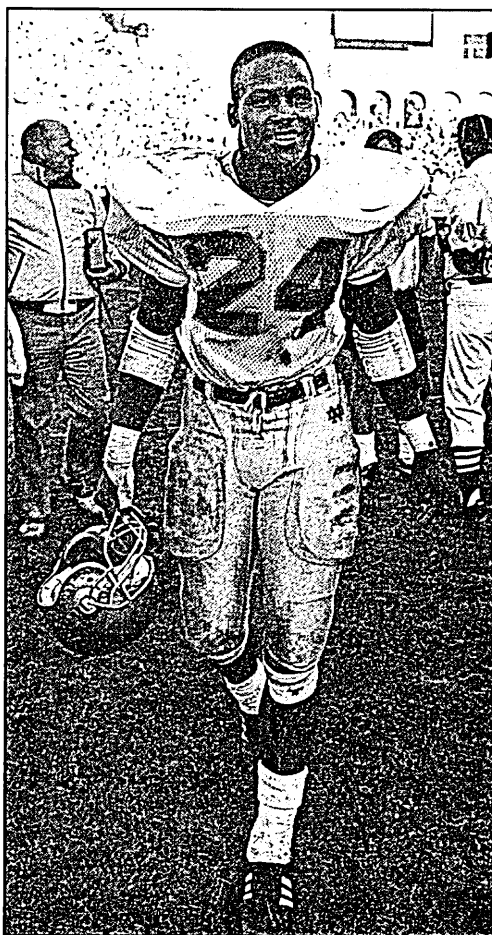
- *The Sporting News* Defensive player of the week vs. Michigan (16 tackles)

- *College & Pro Football Newsweekly* all-America (third team)

## George Streeter, Sr., Strong Safety

- *The Sporting News* and *Football News* all-America (honorable mention)

- Hula Bowl participant



## Pat Terrell, Jr., Free Safety

- Associated Press all-America (honorable mention)

## Ricky Watters, So., Flanker

- *Football News* all-America (honorable mention)

- *College & Pro Football Newsweekly* all-America as kick returner (second team)

- *Football News* Sophomore all-America (second team)

## George Williams, So., Defensive Tackle

- *The Sporting News* all-America (honorable mention)

- *Football News* Sophomore all-America (third team)

## Chris Zorich, So., Nose Tackle

- Newspaper Enterprise Association all-America (first team)

- *Football News* all-America (third team)

- Associated Press and *The Sporting News* all-America (honorable mention)

- *Football News* Sophomore all-America (first team)

Senior Mark Green was an honorable mention all-America pick at tailback.

# 1988 Statistics

TEAM STATISTICS			N.D.	OPP	Total Return Yards	689	214
Total Offense	4268	3083			Kickoff Return Yards	702	1127
Total Plays	763	723			# of Returns	29	64
Yards Per Play	5.59	4.26			Yards Per Return	24.2	17.6
Yards Per Game	388.0	280.3			Total First Downs	221	181
Yards Rushing	2838	1236			By Rushing	149	72
Attempts	593	403			By Passing	60	93
Yards Gained	3071	1490			By Penalty	12	16
Yards Lost	233	254			Penalties (#-Yards)	65-621	67-538
Yards Per Rush	4.79	3.07			Fumbles (#-Lost)	18-13	23-16
Yards Per Game	258.0	112.4			Total Turnovers	22	34
Passing Yards	1430	1847			Sacks By	22-140	7-36
Attempts	170	320			3rd Down Conversions	71-146	51-159
Completions	90	166			Percentage	.486	.321
Interceptions	9	18			4th Down Conversions	6-11	11-20
Completion Pct.	.529	.519			Percentage	.545	.550
Yards Per Attempt	8.41	5.77			Time of Possession	348:00	312:00
Yards Per Completion	15.9	11.1			Per Game	31:38	28:22
Yards Per Game	130.0	167.9			Team Scoring	359	135
Efficiency Rating	123.6	100.3			Points Per Game	32.6	12.3
Punting Yards	1544	2441			Touchdowns	47	14
# of Punts	40	63			By Rushing	30	6
Yards Per Punt	38.6	38.7			By Passing	10	8
Had Blocked	0	1			By Return	7	0
Net Punting	34.6	33.3			Field Goals	12-16	12-14
Punt Return Yards	345	159			PAT-Kick	37-43	13-13
# of Returns	27	21			PAT-Run	2-4	0-0
Yards Per Return	12.8	7.6			PAT-Pass	0-0	0-1
Interception Return Yards	344	55			Defense Extra Points	0-0	1-2
# of Interceptions	18	9			Scoring By Quarters		
Yards Per Return	19.1	6.1			Notre Dame	100	128
Miscellaneous Return Yards	0	0			Opponents	67	64
						27	27

SCORING	TD	(R-P-Ret)	PAT (Ret)	FGA	Pts.
Ho	0	(0-0-0)	32-36	9-12	59
Rice	9	(9-0-0)	1-1	0-0	56
Green	7	(7-0-0)	0-0	0-0	42
Johnson	5	(5-0-0)	1-1	0-0	32
Watters	4	(0-2-2)	0-0	0-0	24
Brooks	4	(2-2-0)	0-1	0-0	24
Ismail	4	(0-2-2)	0-0	0-0	24
D. Brown	3	(0-3-0)	0-0	0-0	18
Culver	3	(3-0-0)	0-0	0-0	18
Hackett	0	(0-0-0)	5-7	3-4	14
Banks	2	(1-1-0)	0-0	0-0	12
Eilers	1	(1-0-0)	0-0	0-0	6
Jaros	1	(1-0-0)	0-0	0-0	6
Mihalko	1	(1-0-0)	0-0	0-0	6
Terrell	1	(0-0-1)	0-0	0-0	6
Stonebreaker	1	(0-0-1)	0-0	0-0	6
Smagala	1	(0-0-1)	0-0	0-0	6
Team	0	(0-0-0)	0-1	0-0	0
NOTRE DAME	47	(3-10-7)	39-47(0)	12-16	359
Opponents	14	(6-8-0)	13-14(1)	12-14	135

Notes — Tony Rice has one 2-point conversion by run (Stanford).  
 — Opponents are 0-1 on 2-point conversion by pass (Miami).  
 — Team credited with unsuccessful extra point attempt due to bad snap (Air Force).  
 — Tony Brooks is 0-1 on 2-point conversion by run (Navy).

Notes — Anthony Johnson has one 2-point conversion by run (Rice).  
 — Opponents have returned one blocked extra point attempt for two points (Rice).

RUSHING	TC	Total	Avg	TD	Long
Rice	121	700	5.8	9	65
Brooks	117	667	5.7	2	52
Green	135	646	4.8	7	40
Johnson	69	282	4.1	5	22
Culver	30	195	6.5	3	36
Banks	31	129	4.2	1	28
Watters	30	71	2.4	0	14
Belles	17	70	4.2	0	18
Setzer	11	24	2.2	0	12
Eilers	5	20	4.0	1	7
K. Graham	8	18	2.2	0	5
Mihalko	5	12	2.4	1	4
P. Graham	5	9	1.8	0	9
Satterfield	2	9	4.5	0	6
Jaros	3	4	1.3	1	6
Gatti	1	4	4.0	0	4
Southall	1	3	3.0	0	3
Ebert	1	-4	-4.0	0	-4
Team	1	-21	-21.0	0	-21
NOTRE DAME	593	2838	4.8	30	65
Opponents	403	1236	3.1	6	31



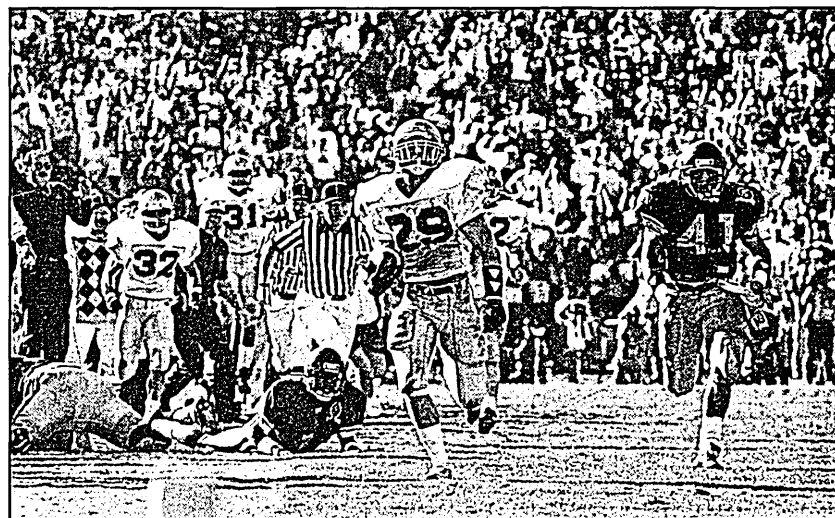
PASSING						INTERCEPTIONS					
	Comp-Att	Pct.	Yards	TD	Int.		No	Yards	Avg	TD	Long
Rice	70-138	.507	1176	8	7	Streeter	3	39	13.0	0	23
K. Graham	16-25	.640	144	0	2	Alm	3	8	2.7	0	5
Belles	2-4	.500	84	2	0	Terrell	2	84	42.0	1	60
P. Graham	2-3	.667	26	0	0	Stonebreaker	2	71	35.5	1	39
NOTRE DAME	90-170	.529	1430	10	9	Francisco	2	17	8.5	0	9
Opponents	166-320	.519	1847	8	18	Smagala	1	64	64.0	1	64
						Davis	1	31	31.0	0	31
						Ale	1	17	17.0	0	17

RECEIVING					
	Rec	Yards	Avg	TD	Long
Watters	15	286	19.1	2	50
Green	14	155	11.1	0	38
Ismail	12	331	27.6	2	67
Brown	12	150	12.5	3	41
Johnson	7	128	18.3	0	28
Brooks	7	121	17.3	2	42
Eilers	6	66	11.0	0	15
Banks	5	56	11.2	1	30
Alaniz	4	74	18.5	0	26
Mihalko	2	8	4.0	0	6
Robb	1	15	15.0	0	15
Jacobs	1	14	14.0	0	14
Culver	1	10	10.0	0	10
Jaros	1	10	10.0	0	10
R. Smith	1	4	4.0	0	4
K. Graham	1	2	2.0	0	2
NOTRE DAME	90	1430	15.9	10	67
Opponents	166	1847	11.1	8	42

PUNT RETURNS					
	No	Yards	Avg	TD	Long
Watters	19	253	13.3	2	81
Ismail	5	72	14.4	0	38
Eilers	3	20	6.7	0	15
NOTRE DAME	27	345	12.8	2	81
Opponents	21	159	7.6	0	40

KICKOFF RETURNS					
	No	Yards	Avg	TD	Long
Ismail	12	433	36.1	2	87
Banks	4	65	16.2	0	22
Francisco	3	58	19.3	0	28
Grimm	3	34	11.3	0	15
Watters	2	42	21.0	0	24
Johnson	2	27	13.5	0	16
Green	1	25	25.0	0	25
R. Smith	1	14	14.0	0	14
Belles	1	4	4.0	0	4
NOTRE DAME	29	702	24.2	2	87
Opponents	64	1127	17.6	0	59

PUNTING					
	No	Yds	Avg	Long	Blk
Jim Sexton	34	1322	38.9	53	0
P. Hartweger	4	159	39.8	49	0
Sean Conner	2	63	31.5	34	0
NOTRE DAME	40	1544	38.6	53	0
Opponents	63	2441	38.7	68	1



FIELD GOALS					
	1-29	30-39	40-49	50+	Total
Reggie Ho	5-6	4-5	0-1	0-0	9-12
Bill Hackett	1-1	0-0	2-3	0-0	3-4
NOTRE DAME	6-7	4-5	2-4	0-0	12-16
Opponents	4-5	3-3	4-5	1-1	12-14

## TACKLE LEADERS

Player	Tackles		Total	Loss	QB Sacks	Fumbles		Blk. Kick	Pass	
	Unast	Asst				Csd	Rec		Bkup	Int
Prichett	54	58	112	4-4	2-19	0	2	0	2	0
Stonebreaker	71	33	104	3-4	2-3	1	1	0	5	2
Zorich	42	28	70	4-8	3.5-17	0	3	0	3	0
Bolcar	30	27	57	5-12	1-2	0	0	0	1	1
Stams	32	19	51	2-5	7-54	3	2	0	8	0
Alm	28	22	50	8-25	0	2	1	0	3	3
Streeter	29	20	49	2-7	0	1	0	0	7	3
Williams	28	16	44	3-17	4.5-36	1	1	0	2	0
Smagala	26	13	39	2-4	0	1	1	0	4	1
Terrell	25	13	38	0	0	0	2	0	2	2
Lyght	26	10	36	3-8	0	0	0	0	9	0
Francisco	25	10	35	1-1	0	1	0	0	1	1
Gordon	17	8	25	0	0	1	0	0	1	1
Ale	7	16	23	0	0	0	1	0	1	1
Jones	9	9	18	2-3	0	1	0	0	1	0
Southall	11	3	14	0	0	0	0	0	4	0
Flannery	8	4	12	1-3	0	0	0	0	1	0
Grimm	6	4	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Stan Smagala was one of three Irish players to intercept a pass and return it for a touch-down.

# Game 1

# 19-17

## What they said...

Big plays and bad ones from both sides opened the door.

Diminutive Reggie Ho knocked it and Michigan down.

Ho's 26-yard field goal, his fourth of the night, with 1:13 to play was the difference in Notre Dame's 19-17 victory. The late-night thriller in Notre Dame Stadium had a scary finish for the partisan crowd of more than 59,000.

Michigan used all of the final 73 seconds to give its placekicker Mike Gillette a chance. The St. Joseph (Mich.) High product, who had connected on a 49-yarder with 5:39 left to

give Michigan the temporary lead, just missed to the right as the gun went off.

*Sept. 11, 1988 South Bend Tribune*

The two winningest football programs in NCAA history played the type of game such billing would indicate.

That is, both had the lead a few times, and both had chances to win.

But it was Notre Dame that finished ahead of Michigan, 19-17, in a thriller at Notre Dame Stadium Saturday night.

Reggie Ho, a 5-5 135-pound senior kicker from Hawaii kicking in his first game, booted a dramatic 26-yard field goal with 1:18 remaining to give the Irish the win.

Mike Gillette, perhaps Michigan's finest kicker ever, missed just right on a 48-yard attempt with three seconds remaining that would have given the Wolverines the win.

Ho had four field goals in the game, and after Gillette's miss, the Notre Dame student section chanted, "Reggie, Reggie, Reggie."

*Sept. 11, 1988 Grand Rapids Press*

Notre Dame's most dangerous weapon came in the form of a 5-5, 135-pound walk-on who said he tried out for the football team because he "didn't want to be a geek."

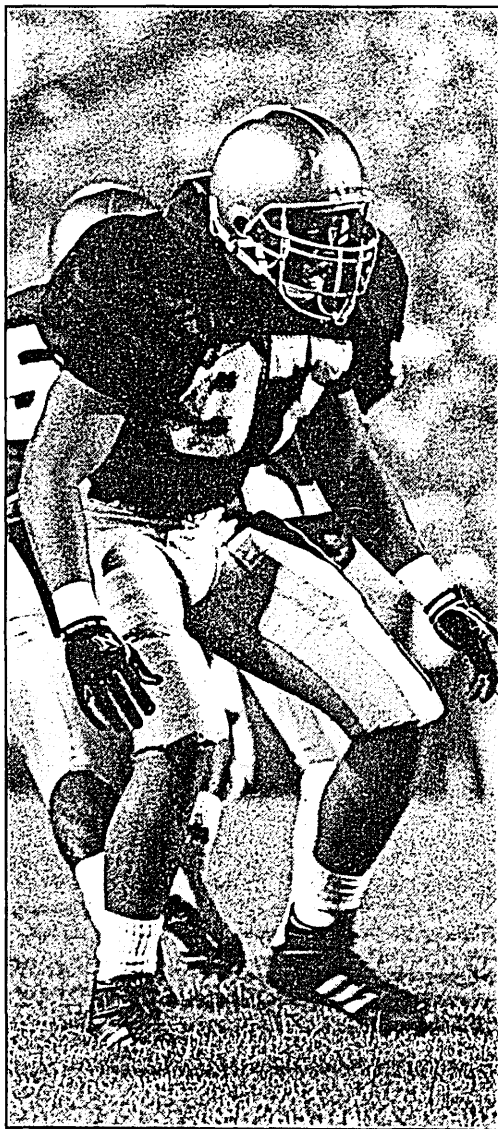
Irish placekicker Reggie Ho nailed an Irish record four field goals, including a game-winning 26-yarder with a minute and 13 seconds remaining, to lift Notre Dame to a 19-17 victory in an opening-night thriller at Notre Dame Stadium.

Mike Gillette, Michigan's all-time leading field goal kicker who booted a 49-yarder to give the Wolverines a 17-16 lead with 5:39 left, missed a 48-yard attempt on the last play of the game. The ball fell wide to the right, giving Notre Dame its second opening-game victory over Michigan in as many years.

But Ho, who split the uprights from 31, 38 and 26 yards before the winning kick, was unfazed by the pressure of the game's final moments.

"Sure I was a little nervous," the Hawaii native said. "But I have the best holder in the world in Pete Graham, the best snapper in the world in Tim Grunhard and 280-pound guys on the line. Nobody was going to hit me, so I wasn't too nervous."

*Jan. 19, 1989 The Observer*



An Arnold Ale fumble recovery near the end of the first quarter set up a Reggie Ho field goal.

**The Matchup:** #13 Notre Dame (0-0, 8-4 in '87) vs. #9 Michigan (0-0, 8-4 in '87), September 10 in Notre Dame Stadium.

**The Holtz Pre-game Quote:** "I know there will be one great team in Notre Dame Stadium on September 10. It's our obligation to make sure Michigan's not the only one."

**The Angle:** This marks the sixth anniversary of Notre Dame's first-ever night game in Notre Dame Stadium, a game the Irish won over Michigan, 23-17, on Sept. 18, 1982.

**The Beginning:** This marks the first of seven home games in '88 and is the first time Notre Dame has had seven home games in a single year.

**The Question:** Would the Notre Dame defense be substantially improved after yielding 80 combined points in three consecutive losses that ended the '87 campaign?

**The Answer:** *The Sporting News* had rated Michigan's offensive line as the best in the country, but Notre Dame's defense permitted only 213 total yards, 139 rushing yards, no drive longer than 48 yards and gains of one yard or less on 17 different rushing plays. In fact, both Michigan TDs came after Irish special team miscues — a 59-yard Wolverine kickoff return and a fumbled punt that left Michigan at the Notre Dame 15.

**The Irony:** Notre Dame won the game despite not scoring a touchdown from scrimmage.

**The Youth:** Notre Dame got off to a winning start despite a young lineup that featured 10 first-time starters.

**The Hero:** Diminutive walk-on kicker Reggie Ho enjoyed a sensational debut by kicking a school-record-tying four field goals, including the game-winner with 1:13 left on the clock. He was named the *Sports Illustrated* special teams player of the week.

**The Unsung Hero:** Junior Michael Stonebreaker made 16 tackles in his first appearance after sitting out the entire '87 campaign due to academic ineligibility. He was named *The Sporting News*' defensive player of the week.

**The Newcomer:** Maybe the best of the new faces on the scene was sophomore nose tackle Chris Zorich, who after

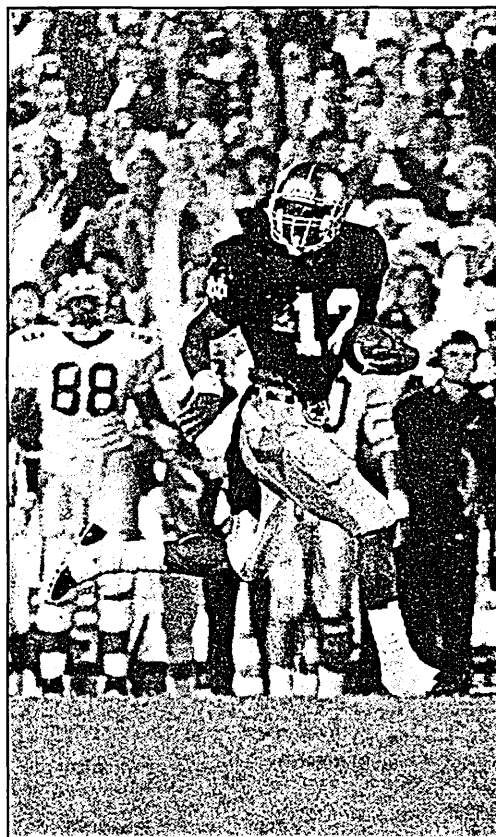
not playing a single down as a freshman, made 10 tackles and had a sack and a half against Michigan.

**The Comparison:** Lou Holtz had tried to avoid comparisons of first-year flanker Ricky Watters with graduated Heisman Trophy winner Tim Brown. But Watters didn't make it easy for his coach by returning Michigan's first punt 81 yards for a score.

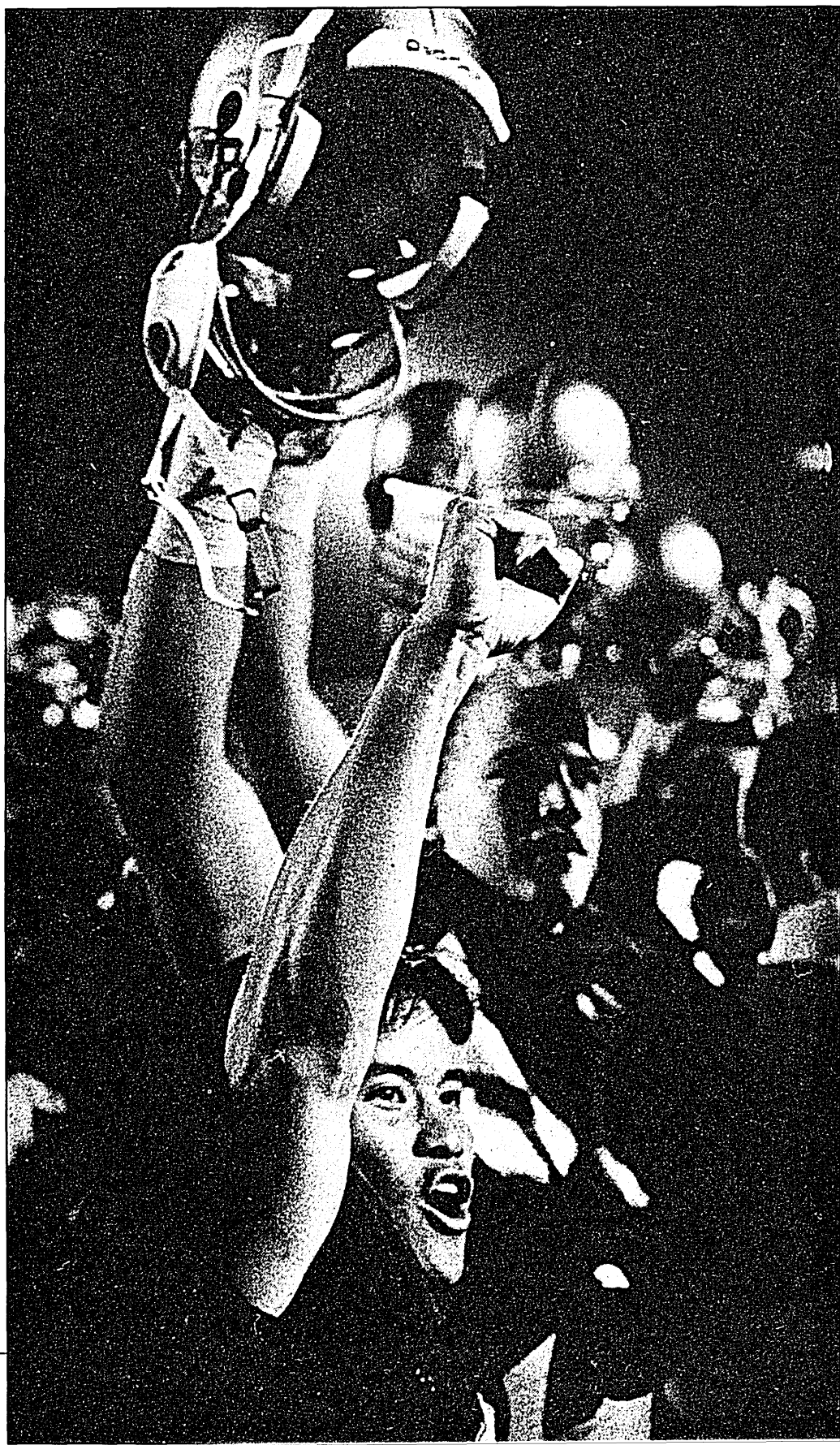
**The Key Moves:** Notre Dame twice answered the challenge with scoring drives in the fourth period after Michigan had taken leads of 14-13 and 17-16.

**The Gamewinner:** Notre Dame's triumph wasn't secure until Mike Gillette missed a 48-yard field goal as time expired.

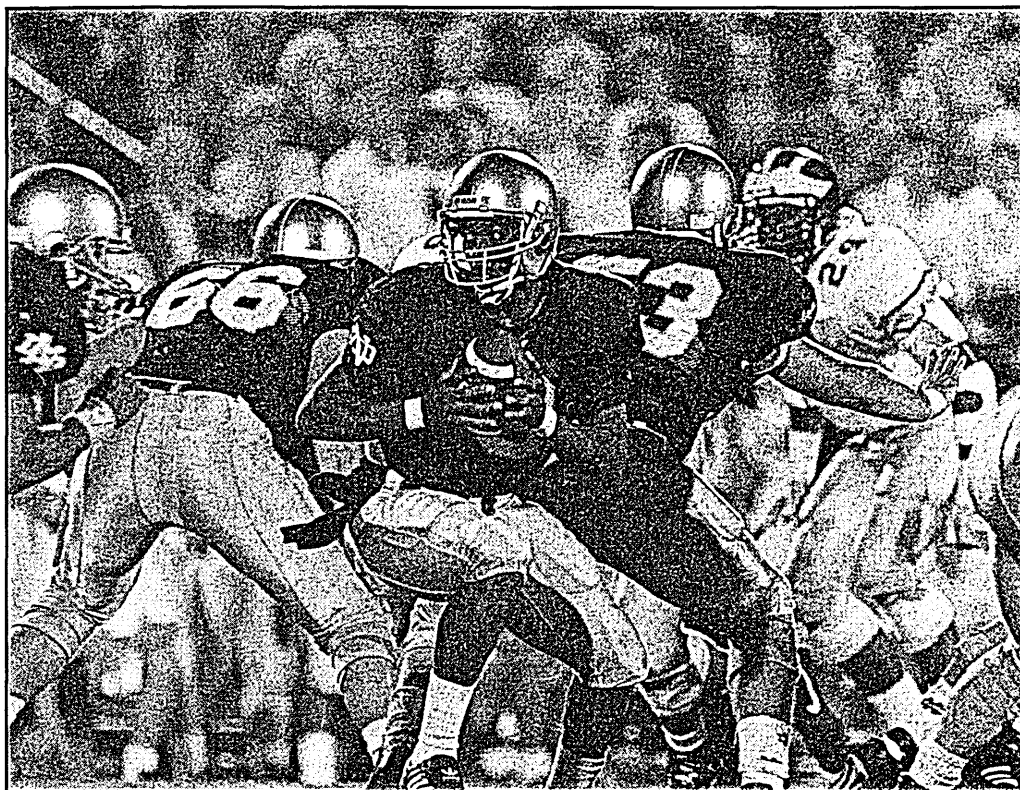
**The Holtz Post-game Quote:** "When our placekicker, Ted Gradel, graduated last year, he told me not to overlook Reggie Ho. He said you may have other people with more potential, but nobody works harder than Reggie Ho. He's out there kicking every day, even in the snow."



Ricky Watters returned a Michigan punt 81 yards to give Notre Dame an early 7-0 lead.



*Reggie Ho earned the right to celebrate after connecting on four field goals.*



Despite an off-day in the air, quarterback Tony Rice spearheaded the Irish rushing attack that gained 226 yards.

## Notre Dame 19, Michigan 17

September 10, 1988

### Notre Dame Stadium

#### Scoring Summary

Notre Dame	10	3	0	6	-	19
Michigan	0	7	7	3	-	17

#### First Quarter

ND-Ricky Watters 81 punt return (Reggie Ho kick) at 10:11; Score: ND 7-0.  
ND-Reggie Ho 31 FG at 0:35; Drive: 46 yards in eight plays in 3:24 following Ricky Watters punt return for 16 yards; Big Play: Tony Brooks 19 run; Score: ND 10-0.

#### Second Quarter

ND-Reggie Ho 38 FG at 14:47; Drive: 0 yards in five plays in 0:42 following fumble recovery by Arnold Ale; Score: ND 13-0.

UM-Leroy Hoard 1 run (Gillette kick) at 8:29; Drive: 38 yards in 12 plays in 6:18 following Boles kickoff return for 59; Big Play: Taylor shovel pass to Hoard for 10; Score: ND 13-7.

#### Third Quarter

UM-Michael Taylor 1 run (Gillette kick) at 4:44; Drive: 14 yards in six plays in 3:53 following fair catch by Calloway; Big Play: Gillette's 32-yard punt bounces and hits Watters and Michigan recovers fumble at the Notre Dame 14; Score: UM 14-13.

#### Fourth Quarter

ND-Reggie Ho 26 FG at 14:17; Drive: 68

yards in 12 plays in 5:27 following Anthony Johnson kickoff return of 16; Big Play: Tony Rice pass to Steve Alaniz for 23; Score: ND 16-14.  
UM-Mike Gillette 49 FG at 5:39; 48 yards in 16 plays in 8:38 following Boles kickoff return of 15; Big Play: Taylor pass to Calloway for 17; Score: UM 17-16.  
ND-Reggie Ho 26 FG at 1:13; 71 yards in 10 plays in 4:26 following Raghbi Ismail kickoff return of 16; Big Play: Tony Rice 21 run; Score: ND 19-17.

#### Individual Rushing

ND: Mark Green 18-68 (16 long), Tony Rice 7-52 (21 long), Anthony Johnson 7-49 (22 long), Tony Brooks 7-48 (19 long), Braxton Banks 3-10 (6 long), Ricky Watters 1-(-1); UM: Boles 25-83 (18 long), Taylor 10-20-1 TD (12 long), Hoard 11-19-1 TD (8 long), Bunch 4-12, (6 long), T. Williams 2-5 (3 long).

#### Individual Passing

ND: Tony Rice 12-3-1-40 (23 long), UM: Michael Taylor 11-8-0-74 (19 long).

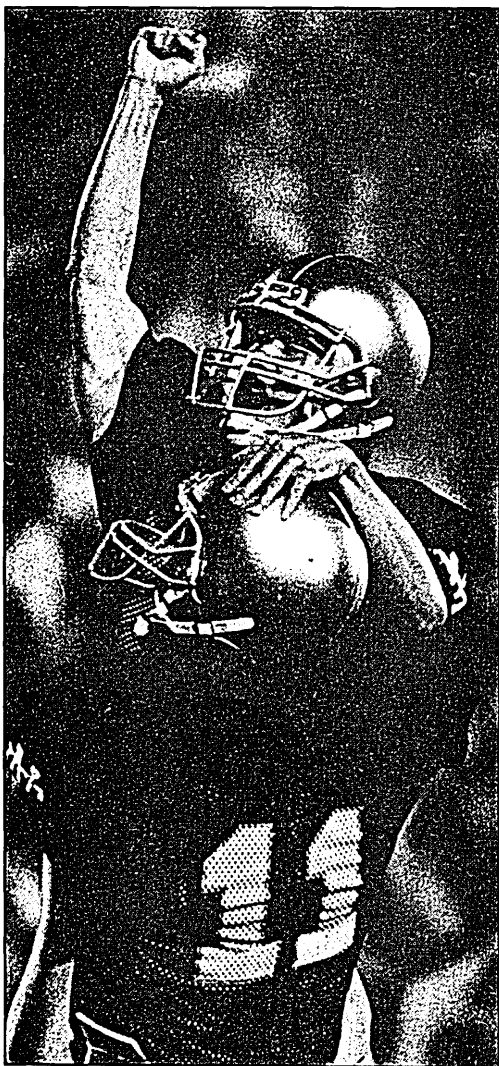
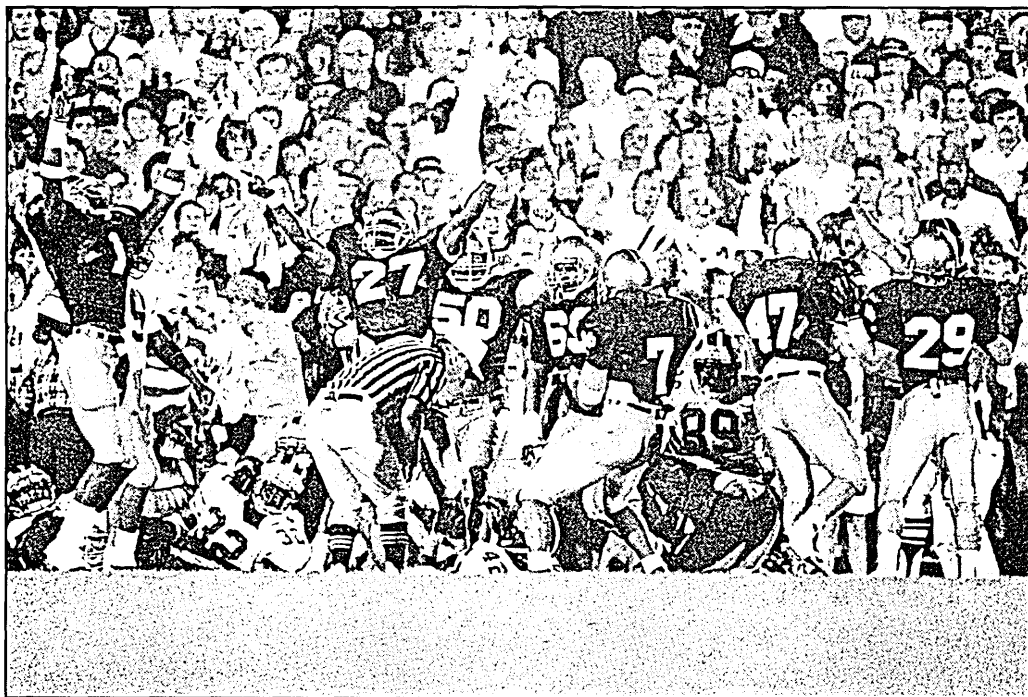
#### Individual Receiving

ND: Steve Alaniz 1-23, Tony Brooks 1-18, Mark Green 1-(-1); UM: Calloway 2-28 (17 long), McMurty 2-27 (19 long), Hoard 2-11 (10 long), Kolesar 1-5, Boles 1-3.

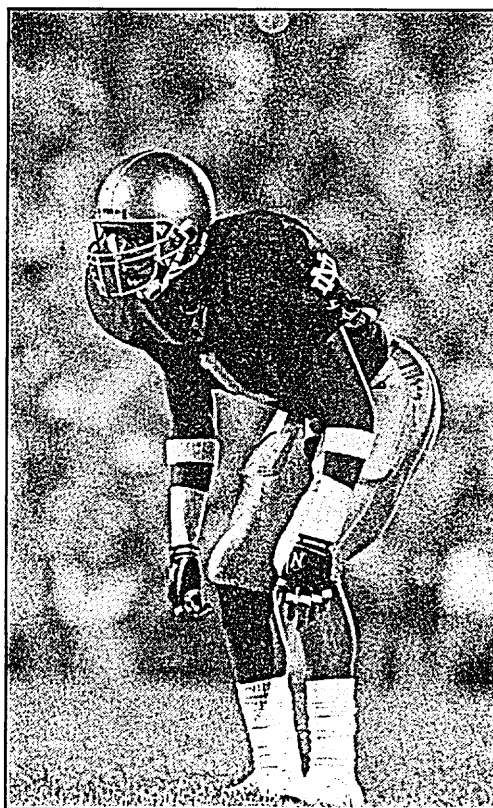
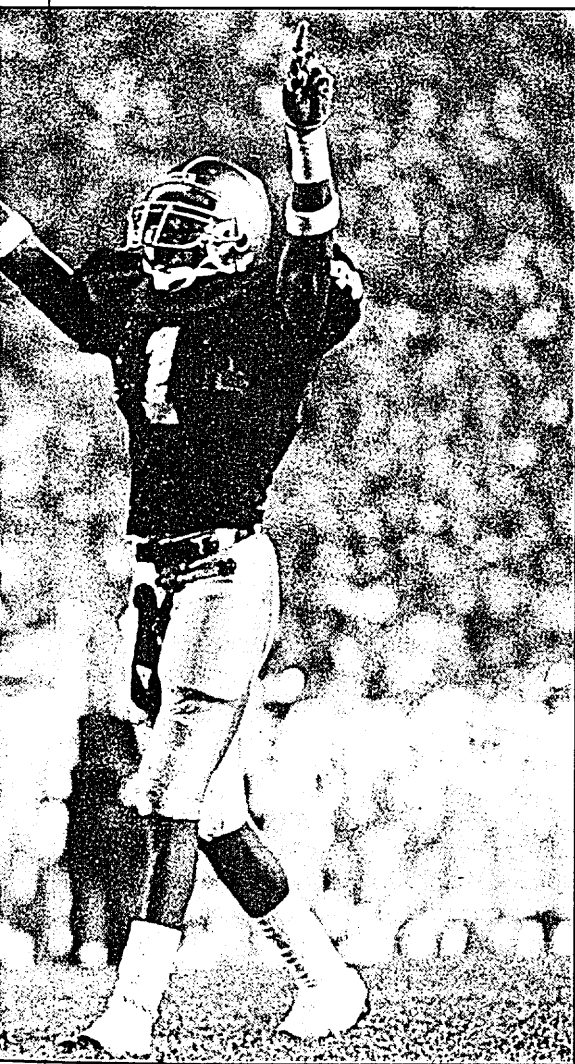
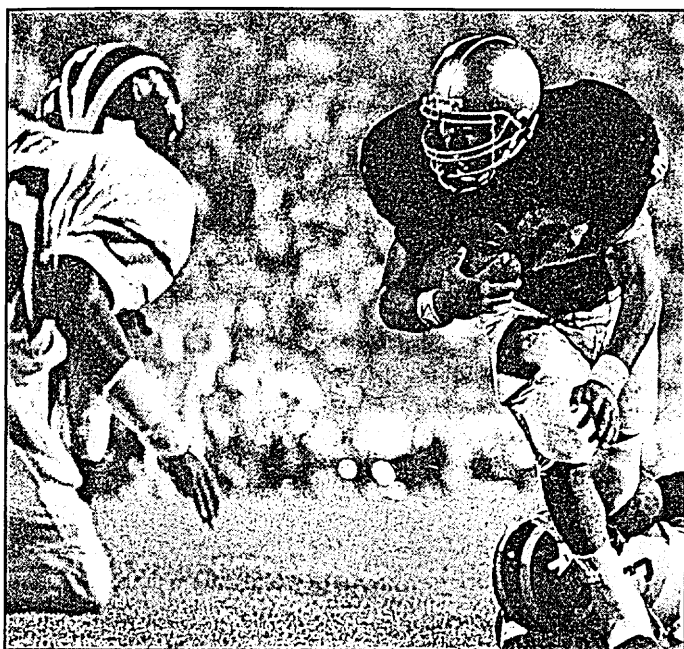
#### Team Statistics

	ND	UM
First Downs.....	15	13
Rushing .....	12	7
Passing .....	2	5
Penalty .....	1	1
Rushing Attempts .....	43	52
Yards Rushing .....	234	151
Yards Lost Rushing .....	8	12
Net Yards Rushing .....	226	139
Net Yards Passing .....	40	74
Passes Attempted .....	12	11
Passes Completed .....	3	8
Had Intercepted .....	1	0
Total Offense Plays .....	55	63
Total Net Yards .....	266	213
Average Gain Per Play .....	4.8	3.4
Fumbles: No.-Lost .....	2-1	1-1
Penalties: No.-Yards .....	3-24	3-30
Interceptions: No.-Yards .....	0-0	1-0
No. of Punts-Yards .....	3-129	6-277
Average Per Punt .....	43.0	46.1
Punt Returns: No.-Yards .....	4-105	1-0
Kickoff Returns: No.-Yards .....	4-79	5-126
Third Down Conversions .....	4-11	6-15





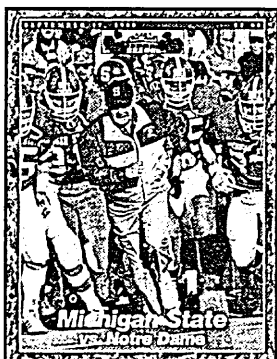
*The Irish defense (top) held off a Michigan rally in the last minute to help Reggie Ho's (left) 26-yard field with 1:13 left stand as the game winner.*



*Todd Lyght (bottom) and Anthony Johnson (top) helped the Irish gain their second in a row over Michigan.*

# Game 2

20-3



## What they said...

What was a first-half standoff became a second-half stampede.

Getting no points for being pretty, Notre Dame marched on a team it wasn't supposed to and wound up with a 20-3 victory over Michigan State Saturday afternoon.

All but giving up on a passing game that has hit rock bottom, the Fighting Irish banged some, optioned some and got the job done.

If it wasn't for the running game, it wouldn't have happened for the 2-0 and eighth-ranked Irish. And against MSU that's doing it the hard way.

of their game.

It was another exceptional day for linebacker Michael Stonebreaker. Stepping in front of a Bobby McAllister pass at the MSU 39, the Irish junior hauled it to the end zone to all but end it with 5:18 to play. Reggie Ho's kick, his eighth point of the afternoon, made it 20-3.

The Irish defense set the tone in the Spartans' first drive of the second half when tackle George Williams sacked McAllister for a 10-yard loss to the 6. A penalty on the punt return prevented the Irish from starting in MSU territory.

But on first down, fullback Tony Brooks took a pitch and broke it for 37 yards. There were five more plays in the drive, all on the ground. Senior tailback Mark Green added 20 of his 125 yards (21 carries) on the drive and Rice went the final eight on the option.

Sept. 18, 1988 South Bend Tribune

If at first you don't succeed — try, try, then run the option.

That's the way Notre Dame ran its record to 2-0 with a convincing 20-3 win over Michigan State.

After managing to secure a 6-3 lead at half-time on two Reggie Ho field goals, the Irish used a punishing second-half running attack and a tenacious defense to hold on to the ball, the lead and their early season momentum.

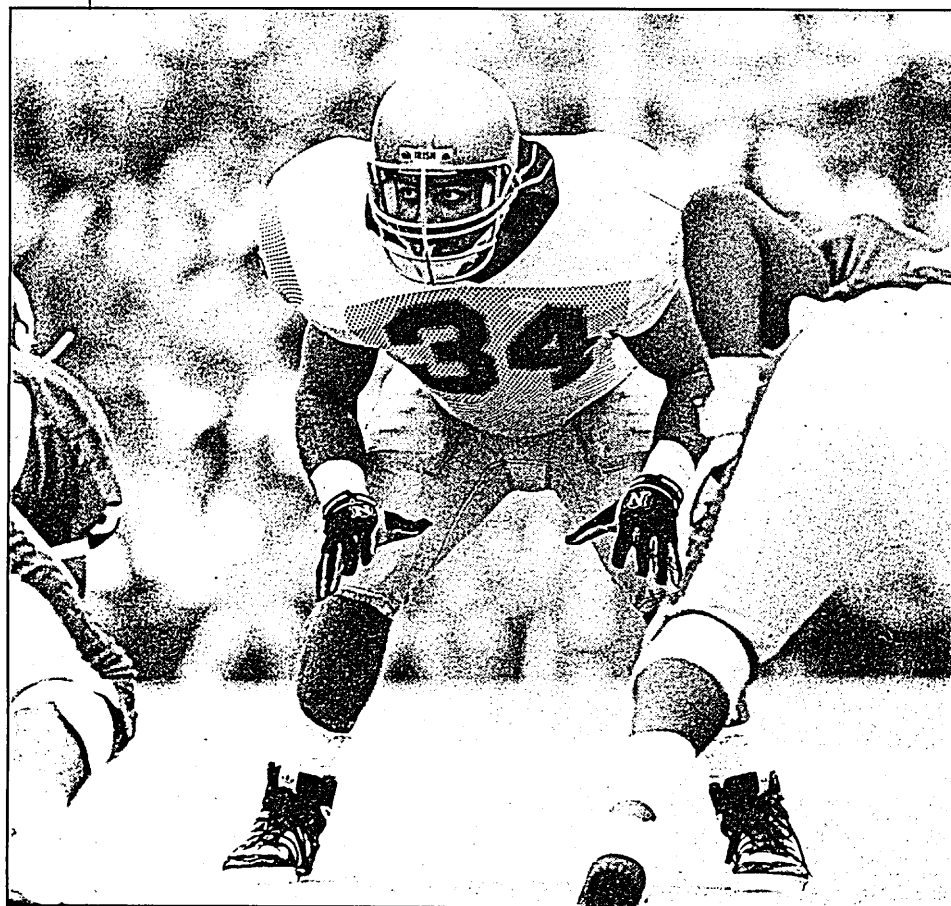
With Tony Brooks (11 carries, 66 yards) filling the fullback slot and Mark Green (21 carries, 125 yards) taking the pitch outside, Irish quarterback Tony Rice directed the option to march Notre Dame down the field against the Spartans, who led the nation in rush defense last season.

"I felt Tony (Rice) handled the option real well," said Notre Dame head coach Lou Holtz. "We hadn't been able to make the power game go, so we had to go to the option more than we wanted to in the second half. We think we're gonna break some things on people."

Any concerns that this inexperienced offensive line couldn't hold its own were washed away by Notre Dame's 245 yards rushing, 195 in the second half.

"It's been a long time since someone has gained that many yards on us," said Michigan State head coach George Perles. "They got a lead where they could play ball control. It was great execution."

Jan. 19, 1989 The Observer



Wes Pritchett kept a close eye on the Michigan State offense, helping to limit the Spartans to 89 rushing yards.

Michigan State led the nation against the rush last year and didn't lose much. With its passing game all but scrapped, Notre Dame didn't have a choice but to try.

For the second straight week, the Irish defense was outstanding, keeping it close until the offense could put it away. The Spartans had only 89 yards rushing, which is the name

**The Matchup:** #8 Notre Dame (1-0) vs. Michigan State (0-1), September 17 in Spartan Stadium, East Lansing, Mich.

**The Holtz Pre-game Quote:** "I felt coming into this season that playing on the road at Michigan State would be as tough as any game on our schedule. I think it's safe to say that Rutgers' win Saturday doesn't make our task any easier."

**The Angle:** Lou Holtz had never before won a game as a visiting coach in Spartan Stadium losing once each while coaching at North Carolina State, Minnesota and Notre Dame.

**The Question:** Would the Irish be able to run the ball against a Michigan State defense that ranked first nationally against the rush in '87, allowing just 61.5 yards per game?

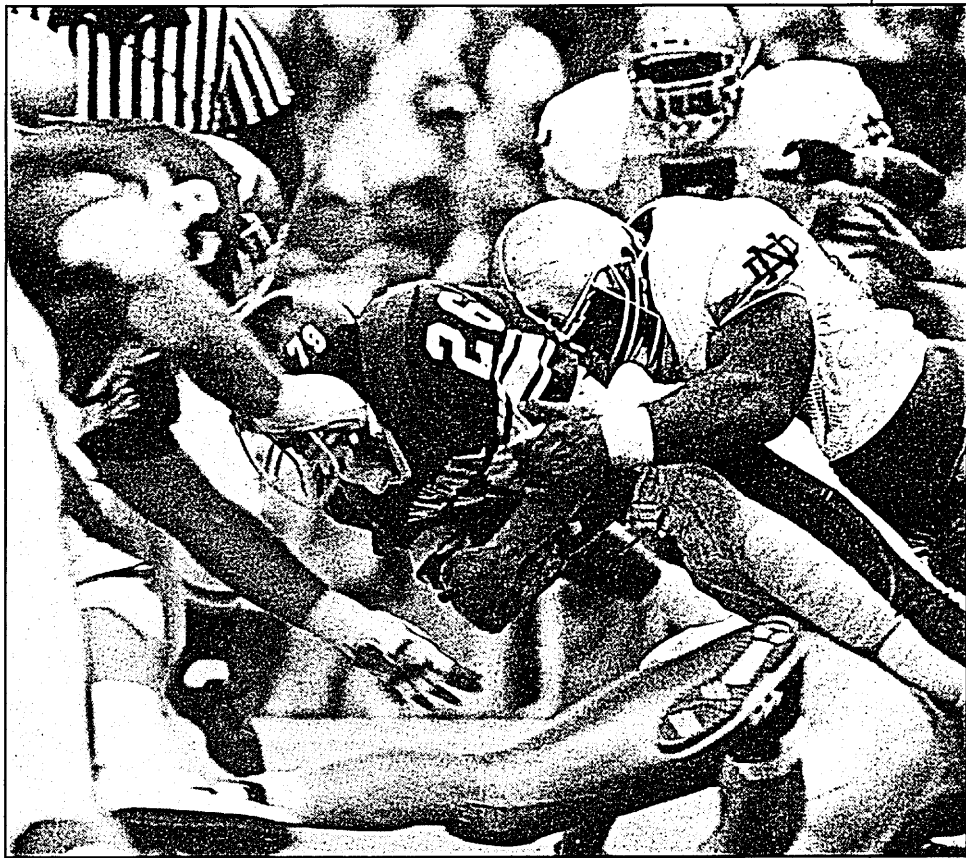
**The Answer:** Despite managing only two pass completions all day, Notre Dame ran for 245 yards, including a season-high 125 by senior tailback Mark Green. The Irish had 195 rushing yards in the second half, thanks to impressive use of the option.

**The Irony, Part I:** Notre Dame's rushing success came despite losing junior fullbacks Anthony Johnson and Braxton Banks to injuries within minutes of each other in the first period. That forced sophomore Tony Brooks to switch over to fullback for the second half, despite a stress fracture in his foot.

**The Irony, Part II:** Notre Dame won its second straight game despite the lack of a legitimate passing attack. Tony Rice completed only three-of-12 throws vs. Michigan and only two-of-nine vs. Michigan for a total of 90 yards, with one interception in each game. On the plus side, Rice did rush for 105 combined yards in those two outings.

**The Hero:** Junior linebacker Michael Stonebreaker played even better than he did the week before — this time making 17 tackles and intercepting two passes, including the game-clincher for a touchdown in the final period. He was named Associated Press' Midwest defensive player of the week.

**The Unsung Hero, Part I:** Notre Dame's defense, which held the Spartans to only 89 yards rushing and limited Blake Ezor (who came in leading the nation in rushing after gaining 196 yards



the previous week vs. Rutgers) to 66 yards on 22 carries. Michigan State's only points came after Rice threw an interception to set the Spartans up on the Notre Dame 43.

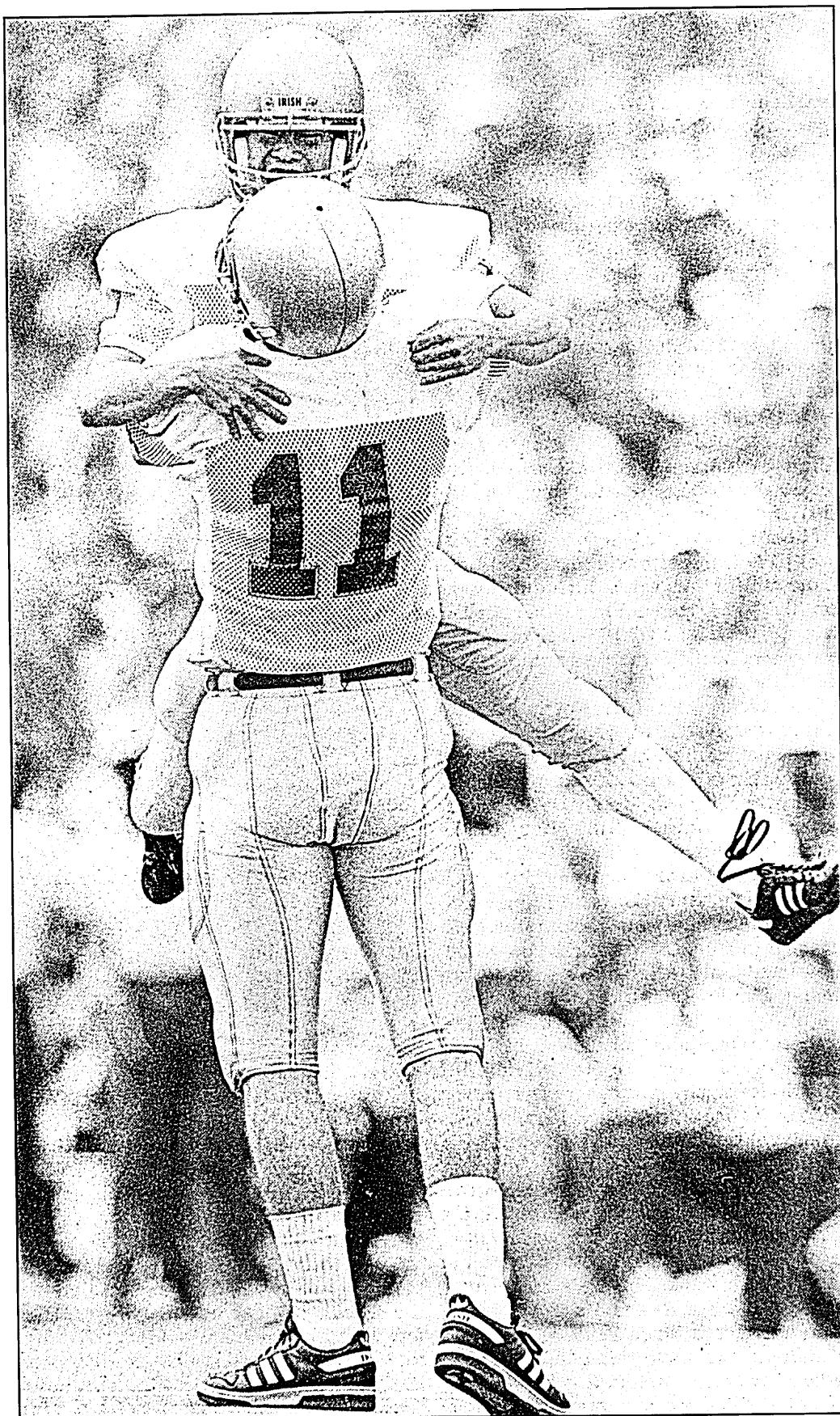
**The Unsung Hero, Part II:** Rookie Raghil Ismail didn't catch a pass, but his blocked punt set up the second Reggie Ho field goal.

**The Key Move:** Clinging to a precarious 6-3 halftime lead, Notre Dame got a 37-yard gain from Tony Brooks on its first offensive play of the second half and drove 71 yards in six plays for its only offensive touchdown. Meanwhile, Michigan State never really threatened in the second half — its only meaningful excursion past midfield snuffed out by a Wes Pritchett sack.

**The Holtz Post-game Quote:** "The kicking game and defense kept us in until the second half. At halftime we made a few adjustments, but all we were trying to do was hang on. Our team never flinched or lost its poise. That's a credit to them."

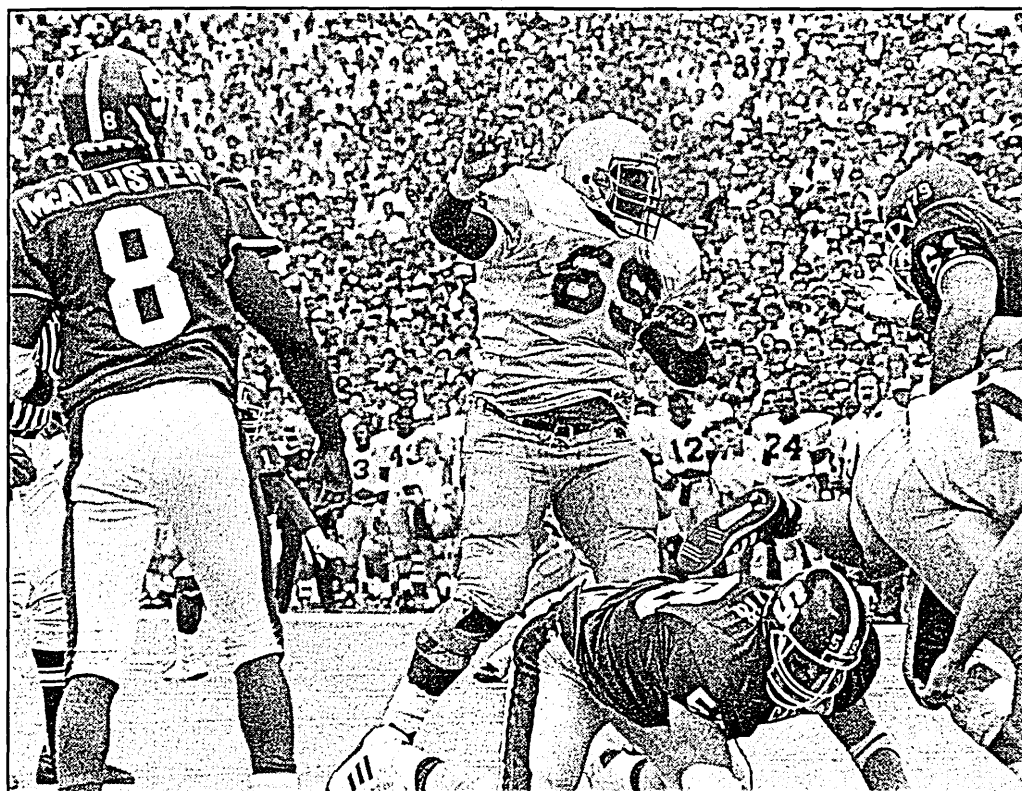
*Chris Zorich makes another crunching hit at the line of scrimmage.*





*A pair of Reggie Ho field goals helped Notre Dame take a 6-3 lead into the locker-room at halftime.*





Sophomore George Williams was an integral part of the Irish defensive line's resurgence.

## Notre Dame 20, Michigan State 3

### Spartan Stadium

September 17, 1988

#### Scoring Summary

Notre Dame	0	6	7	7	-	20
Michigan State	3	0	0	0	-	3

#### First Quarter

MS-Langeloh 39 FG at 7:31; Drive: 21 yards in 9 plays in 4:26 following interception by Larson; Big Play: McAllister run for 13; Score: MS 3-0.

#### Second Quarter

ND-Reggie Ho 31 FG at 10:07; Drive: 66 yards in 9 plays in 4:53 following missed field goal by Langeloh; Big Play: Tony Rice pass to Mark Green for 38; Score: 3-3.

ND-Reggie Ho 22 FG at 4:11; Drive: 2 yards in 4 plays in 1:24 following punt block by Raghib Ismail; Score: ND 6-3.

#### Third Quarter

ND-Tony Rice 8 run (Reggie Ho kick) at 10:24; Drive: 71 yards in 6 plays in 2:13 following Ricky Watters punt return of 6; Big Play: Tony Brooks run for 37; Score: ND 13-3.

#### Fourth Quarter

ND-Mike Stonebreaker 39 interception return (Reggie Ho kick) at 5:18; Score: ND 20-3.

#### Individual Rushing

ND: Mark Green 21-125 (23 long), Tony Brooks 11-66 (37 long), Tony Rice 9-53-1 TD (25 long), Ricky Watters 6-7 (7 long), Pat Eilers 1-6, Ryan Mihalko 2-5 (3 long), Braxton Banks 1-3, Anthony Johnson 2-1 (3 long); MS: Ezor 22-63 (11 long); Hawkins 1-12, Moore 2-8, (5 long), Montgomery 1-4, Pryor 1-2, McAllister 8-0 (13 long).

#### Individual Passing

ND: Tony Rice 9-2-1-50 (38 long), Kent Graham 2-0-1-0; MS: McAllister 25-13-2-134 (37 long), Enos 5-5-0-73 (32 long), Ezor 1-0-0-0.

#### Individual Receiving

ND: Mark Green 1-38, Ricky Watters 1-12; MS: Rison 5-92 (37 long), Ezor 3-21 (11 long), Young 2-43 (32 long), Gicewicz 2-18 (12 long), Montgomery 2-12 (8 long), Bouyer 2-10 (5 long), Smolinski 1-17, Moore 1-(-6).

#### Team Statistics

	ND	MS
First Downs .....	16	17
Rushing .....	13	7
Passing .....	2	10
Penalty .....	1	0
Rushing Attempts .....	54	35
Yards Rushing .....	290	124
Yards Lost Rushing .....	45	35
Net Yards Rushing .....	245	89
Net Yards Passing .....	50	207
Passes Attempted .....	11	31
Passes Completed .....	2	18
Had Intercepted .....	2	2
Total Offensive Plays .....	65	66
Total Net Yards .....	295	296
Average Gain Per Play ...	4.5	4.5
Fumbles: No.-Lost .....	2-1	0-0
Penalties: No.-Yards .....	6-55	10-74
Interceptions: No.-Yards ...	2-71	2-7
No. of Punts-Yards .....	4-174	8-343
Average Per Punt .....	43.5	42.9
Punt Returns: No.-Yards ...	5-38	3-7
Kickoff Returns: No.-Yards ..	1-43	4-58
Third Down Conversions ..	4-13	5-15

# Game 3

# 52-7



## What they said...

For everyone wondering what could happen if Notre Dame's passing attack clicked just a little, the evidence was there to see Saturday afternoon.

Purdue took it on the chin and just about everywhere else.

Before the first half was over, Notre Dame had 42 points and Purdue was done. Because of head coach Lou Holtz's gracious approach, it didn't get ridiculous as the Fighting Irish walked away from Notre Dame Stadium 52-7 winners.

It could have been even worse. Notre Dame had a touchdown run by Mark Green called back because of a penalty on its first possession and Reggie Ho missed the subsequent 47-yard field goal attempt.

The rest was bad news for Purdue. The Boilers couldn't budge against the Irish defense in the first half (only 42 yards on the ground and 72 in the air with three interceptions) and starting quarterback Shawn McCarthy was pulled for freshman Brian Fox with four minutes left in the half.

Sept. 25, 1988 *South Bend Tribune*

After beating Michigan and Michigan State, Notre Dame was having trouble taking Purdue seriously.

"We didn't have a particularly good practice on Wednesday," said guard Tim Grunhard. "Coach (Lou) Holtz looked at the film, and he wasn't happy. He really got on our backs.

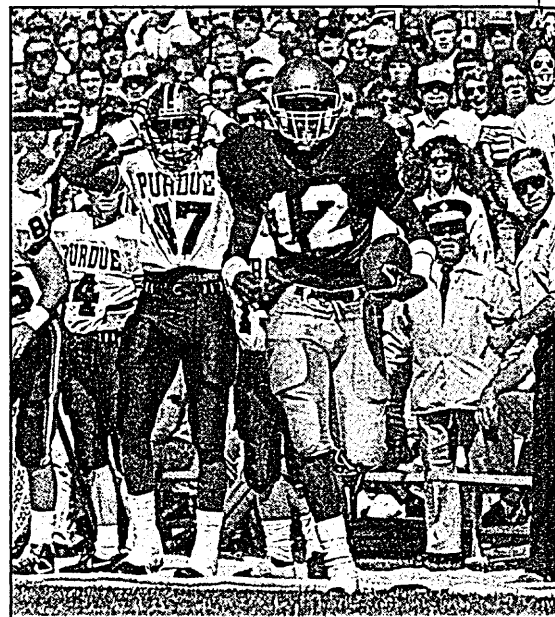
"He said, 'The offense has got to get it together. We can't have the defense carry us.' " Thanks, coach.

On Saturday, the offense got it together and quarterback Tony Rice got it together. And Notre Dame (3-0) took apart the Boilermakers (1-2) 52-7 in front of 59,075 at Notre Dame Stadium.

The victory was Notre Dame's seventh straight against a member of the Big Ten. The Fighting Irish showed they could blow out a team they were supposed to blow out, and figure to move up a notch or two from eighth place in the AP poll.

We have to keep this win in perspective," Holtz said, trying to be kind. "Although we played well, Purdue was beat and banged up coming into the game."

Sept. 25, 1988 *Chicago Tribune*



It was just Notre Dame's day.

The Irish jumped all over a hobbled Purdue squad 52-7 at Notre Dame Stadium Sept. 24, which completed a season-opening three-game sweep of Big Ten schools and raised the question of just how good was the Notre Dame football team.

The Notre Dame totals told the story: 31 rushing attempts for 236 yards, five completions for 119 yards, 15 first downs and three interceptions by the defense. Leading rusher Tony Brooks had 11 carries for 110 yards, and Tony Rice completed four of six passes and threw for two touchdowns against the top pass defense in the country coming into the game.

And that was just the first half.

"Notre Dame could have picked the score after that start," said Purdue head coach Fred Akers. "Once they got rolling and things started going their way, they became awfully good."

Besides the point deficit, Akers had to cope with the loss of several interior linemen. With everything going right for the Irish and wrong for the Boilermakers, the outcome was not in doubt for long.

"We're a good football team that has improved fundamentally over a year ago," he said. "But we still have a long way to go. Where are we right now? We're 3-0, which is exactly where we were a year ago."

Jan. 19, 1989 *The Observer*

All Purdue could do was watch as Ricky Watters scored on a 66-yard punt return.

**The Matchup:** #8 Notre Dame (2-0) vs. Purdue (1-1), September 24 in Notre Dame Stadium.

**The Holtz Pre-game Quote:** "We're not very pretty. We don't do anything fancy. But our running game isn't bad, our defense is pretty good and our kicking game has been decent. But we can't even begin to think about a complete football team until we prove we can throw the football."

**The Angle:** Notre Dame was looking for its seventh straight victory over a Big Ten foe — and was attempting to sweep Michigan, Michigan State and Purdue for the second straight season.

**The Question:** Could the Irish continue to win with a passing game that ranked last among all Division I teams with only five completions in 21 attempts in the first two wins combined?

**The Answer:** Attributing part of his improvement to throwing darts on a dartboard in his dormitory room, Tony Rice completed four-of-six passes for 85 yards, including TD passes to freshmen Derek Brown and Raghib Ismail.

**The Irony, Part I:** Lou Holtz would have loved to have Tony Rice throw more to give him additional game experience, but Notre Dame's commanding 42-0 halftime lead made that impossible. The halftime margin was the most lopsided in Notre Dame's favor in 20 years. As a result, the Irish threw only four times the entire second half.

**The Irony, Part II:** Purdue came in with the nation's top-rated defensive backfield. But it was Notre Dame that intercepted five passes, two by senior safety George Streeter.

**The Hero:** Sophomore Tony Brooks got his only start of the season — at fullback this time with Braxton Banks and Anthony Johnson out — and responded with 110 yards on 11 carries to go with a 34-yard reception.

**The Unsung Heroes, Part I:** The Irish offensive line, with five new starters, led the way for 321 rushing yards — not to mention 147 passing yards against a secondary rated number one in the country (59.0 yards permitted per game).

**The Unsung Heroes, Part II:** There were a million of them as the Irish got 83



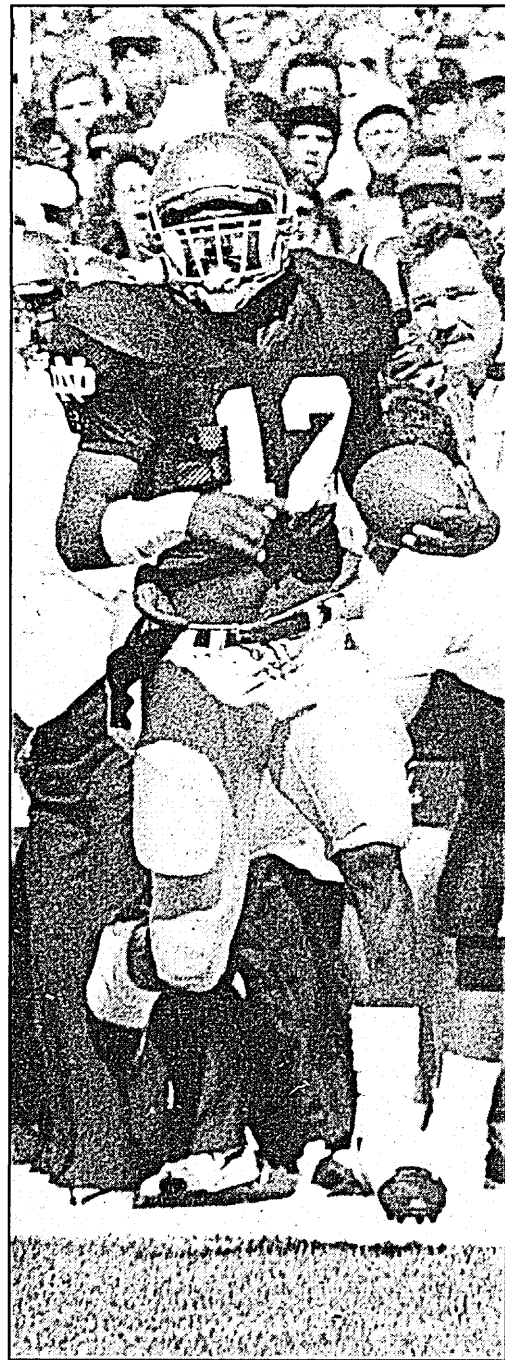
players into the game. There were 12 different rushers, five quarterbacks and seven touchdown-scorers. Notre Dame had 355 total yards by halftime and amazingly had three first-half possessions where it didn't put points on the board.

**The Unsung Heroes, Part III:** How tough was the Irish defense? Even leading 52-0 midway through the fourth period, Notre Dame gave up only one yard on four plays after the Boilers had first and goal on the four. Purdue's only score came after a 40-yard punt return.

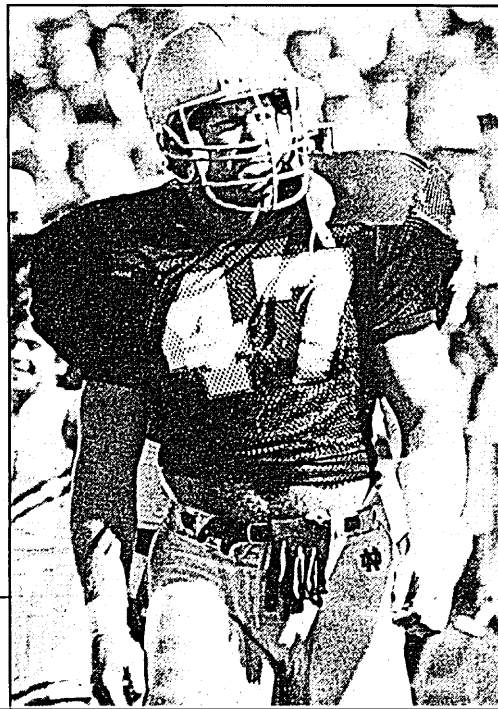
**The Key Move:** It was tough to tab a turning point. Purdue threw an interception on its third play from scrimmage and it was all downhill from there for the Boilermakers. Notre Dame had a Mark Green touchdown run called back by a penalty on its second offensive play and ended up missing a field goal — but that's as much of a moral victory as Purdue would earn all day.

**The Holtz Post-game Quote:** "We have to keep this game in perspective. We played well, but Purdue was beat up coming into the game. I did think Tony Rice threw the ball today more like he does in practice. Don't get me wrong, though, he's not ready to play on Sunday."

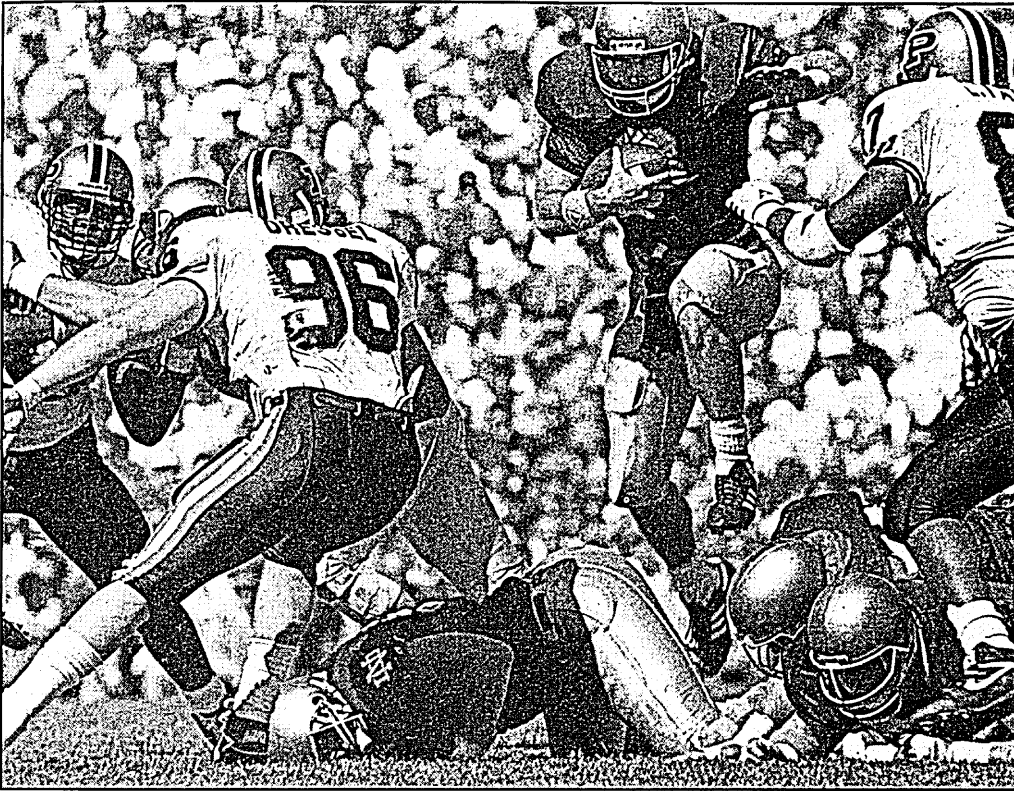
*Tony Rice hooked up with Derek Brown on an eight-yard pass for Notre Dame's second touchdown.*



Notre Dame got outstanding performances from linebackers Wes Pritchett (#34) and Ned Bolcar (#47) and flanker Ricky Waters (#12).







Steve Belles had an outstanding day, rushing for 22 yards and tossing a 34-yard touchdown pass to Tony Brooks.

## Notre Dame 52, Purdue 7

September 24, 1988

### Notre Dame Stadium

#### Scoring Summary

Notre Dame	14	28	3	7	-	52
Purdue	0	0	0	7	-	7

#### First Quarter

ND-Tony Rice 38 run (Reggie Ho kick) at 6:58; Drive: 76 yards in 9 plays in 3:58 following (-1) punt return of Ricky Watters; Score: ND 7-0.

ND-Derek Brown 8 pass from Tony Rice (Reggie Ho kick) at 0:52; Drive 72 yards in 9 plays in 3:40 following Ricky Watters punt return for 5; Big Play: Tony Brooks 31 run; Score: ND 14-0.

#### Second Quarter

ND-Raghib Ismail 54 pass from Tony Rice (Reggie Ho kick) at 14:36; Drive: 54 yards in one play in :08 following Ricky Watters punt return of 12; Score: ND 21-0.

ND-Mark Green 7 run (Reggie Ho kick) at 6:44; Drive: 80 yards in 7 plays in 2:08 following Purdue punt; Big Play: Tony Brooks 30 run; Score: ND 28-0.

ND-Ricky Watters 66 punt return (Reggie Ho kick) at 6:01; Score: ND 35-0.

ND-Tony Brooks 34 pass from Steve Belles (Reggie Ho kick) at 1:11; Drive: 36 yards in 3 plays in 1:21 following interception return by Pat Terrell for 24; Score: ND 42-0.

#### Third Quarter

ND-Billy Hackett 44 FG at 0:20; Drive: 30 yards in 10 plays in 5:08 following Raghib Ismail punt return for 7; Score: ND 45-0.

#### Fourth Quarter

ND-Rodney Culver 36 run (Billy Hackett kick) at 13:22; Drive: 36 yards in 1 play in :09 following punt return of 38 by Raghib Ismail; Score: ND 52-0.

PU-Calvin Williams 10 pass from Brian Fox (Larry Sullivan kick) at 3:20; Drive: 15 yards in 2 plays in 0:43 following punt return of 40 by Williams; Score: ND 52-7.

#### Individual Rushing

ND: Tony Brooks 11-110 (31 long), Tony Rice 5-67-1 TD (38 long), Rodney Culver 10-61-1 TD (36 long), Mark Green 8-28-1 TD (7 long), Steve Belles 4-22 (10 long), Ricky Watters 4-15 (13 long), Rusty Setzer 6-12 (3 long), Bob Satterfield 2-9 (6 long), Kent Graham 2-3 (3 long), Pete Graham 2-0, Joe Jarosz 2-(-2), Rick Ebert 1-(-4); PU: Schramayer 6-43 (12 long), Fox 6-24 (12 long), Scales 7-14 (4 long), Nelson 5-14 (6 long), Myles 5-5 (3 long).

#### Individual Passing

ND: Tony Rice 6-4-0-85-2 TD (54 long), Steve Belles 3-1-0-34-1 TD (34 long), Pete Graham 2-1-0-16 (16 long), Kent Graham 3-2-1-12 (10 long); PU: McCarthy 19-9-2-51 (14 long), Fox 23-10-3-116-1 TD (21 long).

#### Individual Receiving

ND: Raghib Ismail 3-80-1 TD (54 long), Pat Eilers 2-23 (13 long), Tony Brooks 1-34-1 TD, Derek Brown 1-8-1 TD, Ryan Mihalco 1-2; PU: C. Williams 5-72-1 TD (21 long), Scales 4-18 (8 long), McManus 3-23 (18 long), O'Connor 3-18 (9 long), Moore 2-26 (14 long), Graham, 1-7, Nelson 1-2.

#### Team Statistics

	ND	PU
First Down .....	20	15
Rushing .....	13	6
Passing .....	6	9
Penalty .....	1	0
Rushing Attempts .....	57	29
Yards Rushing .....	328	100
Yards Lost Rushing .....	7	0
Net Yards Rushing .....	321	100
Net Yards Passing .....	147	167
Passes Attempted .....	14	42
Passes Completed .....	8	19
Had Intercepted .....	1	5
Total Offensive Plays .....	71	71
Total Net Yards .....	468	267
Average Gain Per Play ...	6.6	3.8
Fumbles: No.-Lost .....	1-1	0-0
Penalties: No.-Yards .....	4-30	8-49
Interceptions: No.-Yards ...	5-77	1-19
No. of Punts-Yards .....	4-151	9-372
Average Per Punt .....	37.7	41.3
Punt Returns: No.-Yards ...	8-135	3-60
Kickoff Returns: No.-Yards .	2-45	9-140
Third Down Conversions ..	9-17	2-14

# Game 4

42-14



## What they said...

A year ago, in the fourth week of the season, Notre Dame quarterback Tony Rice came off the bench against Pittsburgh and displayed promising talent.

Saturday night, one year later, he was a bundle of talent as the Fighting Irish whipped Stanford, 42-14, at Notre Dame Stadium.

Rice celebrated a year of playing quarterback by running some, passing some, directing the option some and scoring two touchdowns for the fifth-ranked and 4-0 Irish.

Sure he got some help from his offensive and defensive friends in Blue and Gold, but Rice had the most impressive numbers. For instance:

\*He passed 14 times and completed 11 for 129 yards and one touchdown.

\*He rushed for a single-game career-high 107 yards on 14 carries and two touchdowns.

Oct. 2, 1988 *Grand Rapids Press*

Tony Rice threw the football against Stanford as if he was throwing darts.

And he ran like somebody was throwing darts at him.

Everyone knew the Irish quarterback could run like he did in Notre Dame's 42-14 triumph over the Cardinal at Notre Dame Stadium. Rice gained 107 yards on 14 carries and scored two touchdowns to prove it.

But the doubters of Rice's passing ability got a glimpse of what the junior can do through the air as Rice completed 11-of-14 passes for 129 yards and one touchdown without throwing an interception. He tied a Notre Dame single-season record (held by many players) by completing 10 consecutive passes, including four in the previous week's 52-7 Irish triumph over Purdue and six more to start the Stanford contest.

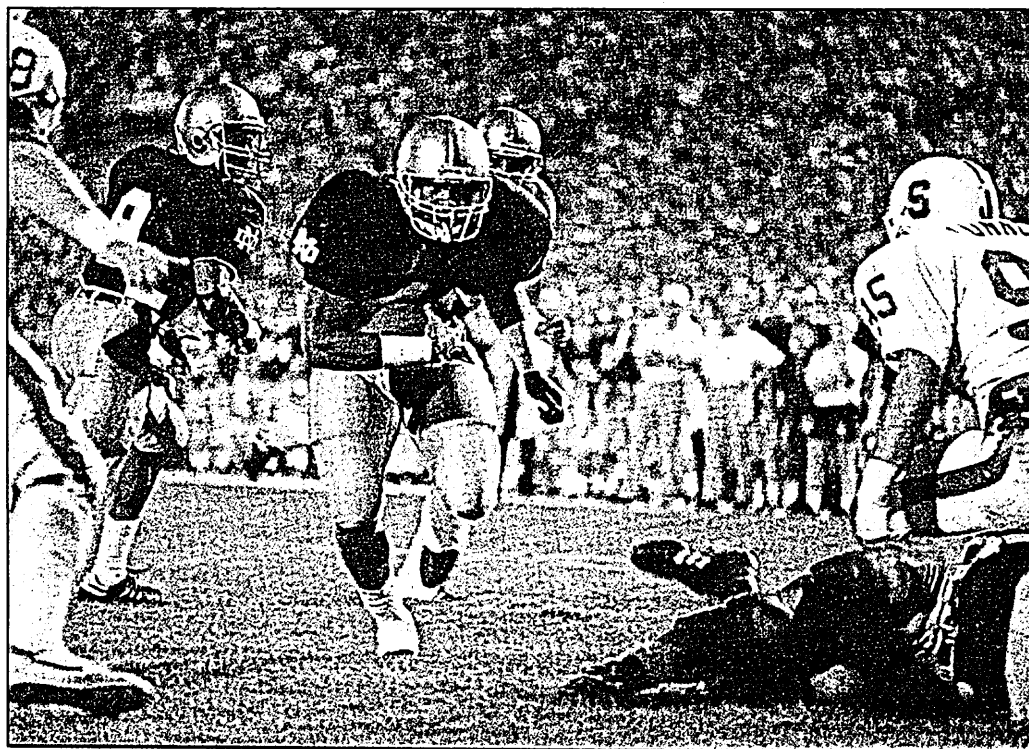
Rice attributed much of his success against the Cardinal to an interest in throwing darts inspired by Notre Dame head coach Lou Holtz.

"Me and coach Holtz were talking, and he suggested I get some darts and just throw in my room," Rice said. "It seemed like it just carried on. Every night I threw darts and in practice I could see I was improving a bit.

"I'm going to keep throwing them. I think darts really helped me tonight."

Jan. 19, 1989 *The Observer*

Tony Brooks rushed for one of Notre Dame's three second quarter touchdowns.



**The Matchup:** #5 Notre Dame (3-0) vs. Stanford (1-2), October 1 in Notre Dame Stadium.

**The Holtz Pre-game Quote:** "How good is this football team? I can't answer that right now. I know this much — we're a much better fundamental football team than we were a year ago. But we're 3-0 just like we were last year at this time. I'm really not interested in evaluating a football team in September and October as much as I am in December or hopefully January."

**The Angle:** Notre Dame was looking to go 4-0 for the first time since '82 while meeting Stanford for the first time since 1964, when John Huarte set an Irish single-game record with 21 completions for 300 yards.

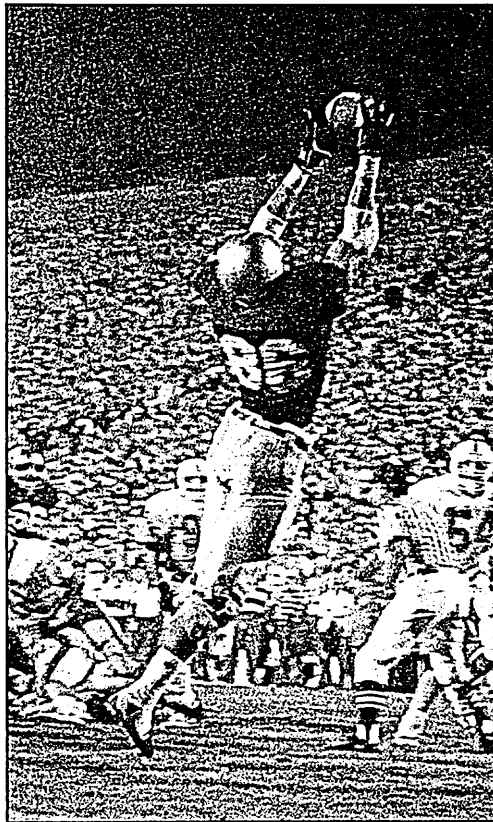
**The Question:** How would Notre Dame's defense deal with Stanford's ball-control, run-and-shoot passing attack?

**The Answer:** The Irish put all kinds of pressure on the Stanford quarterbacks and didn't allow the Cardinal to advance past their own 37 until after Notre Dame had built a 21-0 lead. Two of Stanford's first four possessions resulted in turnovers, one an interception by Flash Gordon, the other a fumble recovery by Ned Bolcar at the Cardinal one.

**The Irony:** Irish quarterback Tony Rice had endured all kinds of criticism of his passing in recent weeks. Yet, by half-time, he had tied a Notre Dame record with 10 straight pass completions, his last four vs. Purdue and his first six vs. Stanford. Further irony — what would have been Rice's record-setting 11th straight hookup was a 65-yard bomb to Raghieb Ismail who ended up barely out of bounds.

**The Hero:** Tony Rice ran for a career-high 107 yards and two TDs and showed he could be a high-percentage passer with a career-high 11 completions in 14 attempts for 129 yards and another score. For the second straight week, Rice opened the Notre Dame scoring with an option run of 30 yards or more.

**The Unsung Heroes, Part I:** Notre Dame's offensive balance again was the most impressive. The Irish had seven different receivers catch passes, used 11 different ballcarriers, had a different player



gain 100 yards on the ground for the third straight week and had no turnovers for the only time in the '88 season.

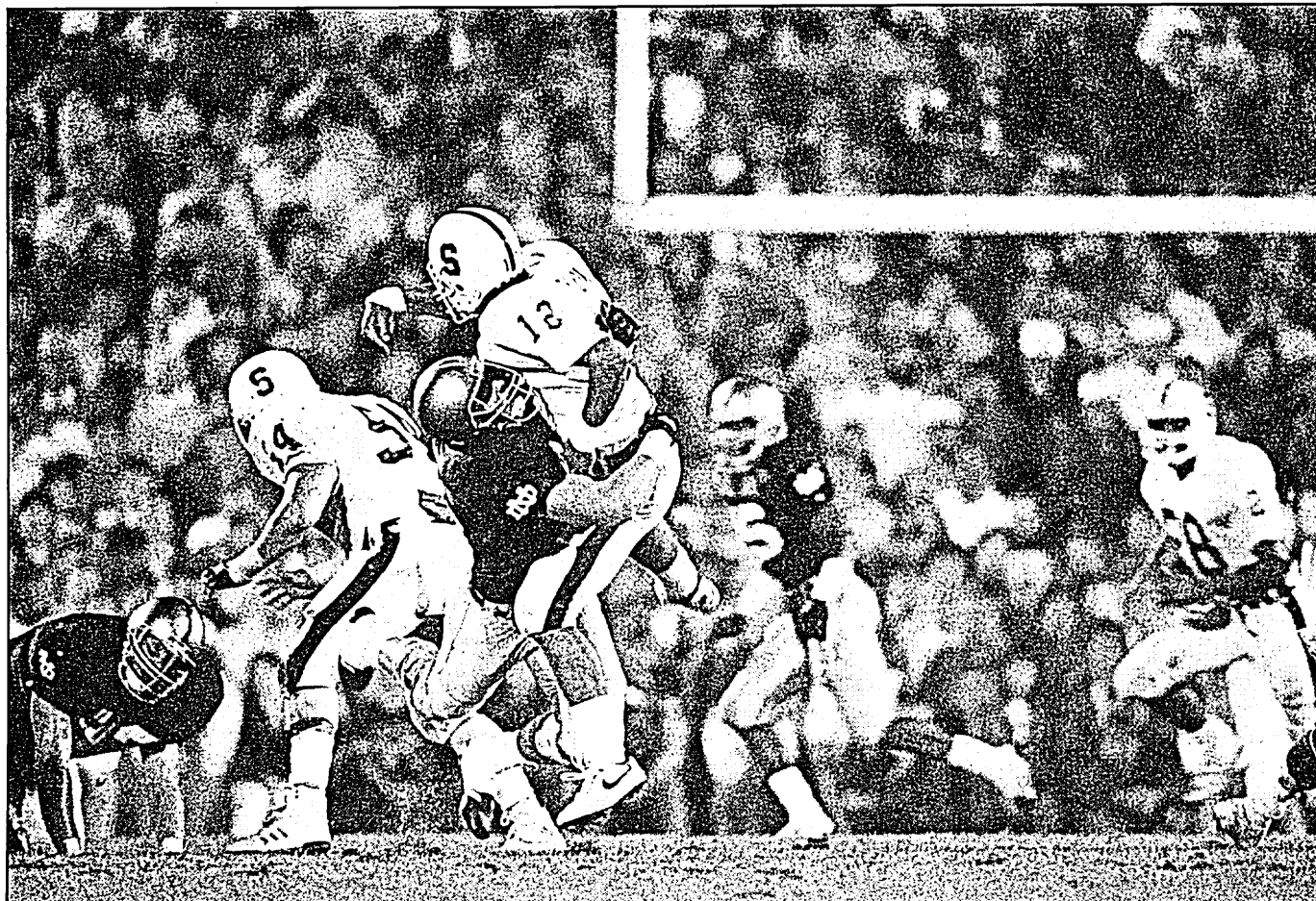
**The Unsung Heroes, Part II:** For the second straight week, Notre Dame's defense forced its opponent to change quarterbacks. The Irish permitted only five net second-half rushing yards.

**The Switch:** Notre Dame's triumph broke a string that had seen the Irish lose the fourth game of the campaign in three straight seasons.

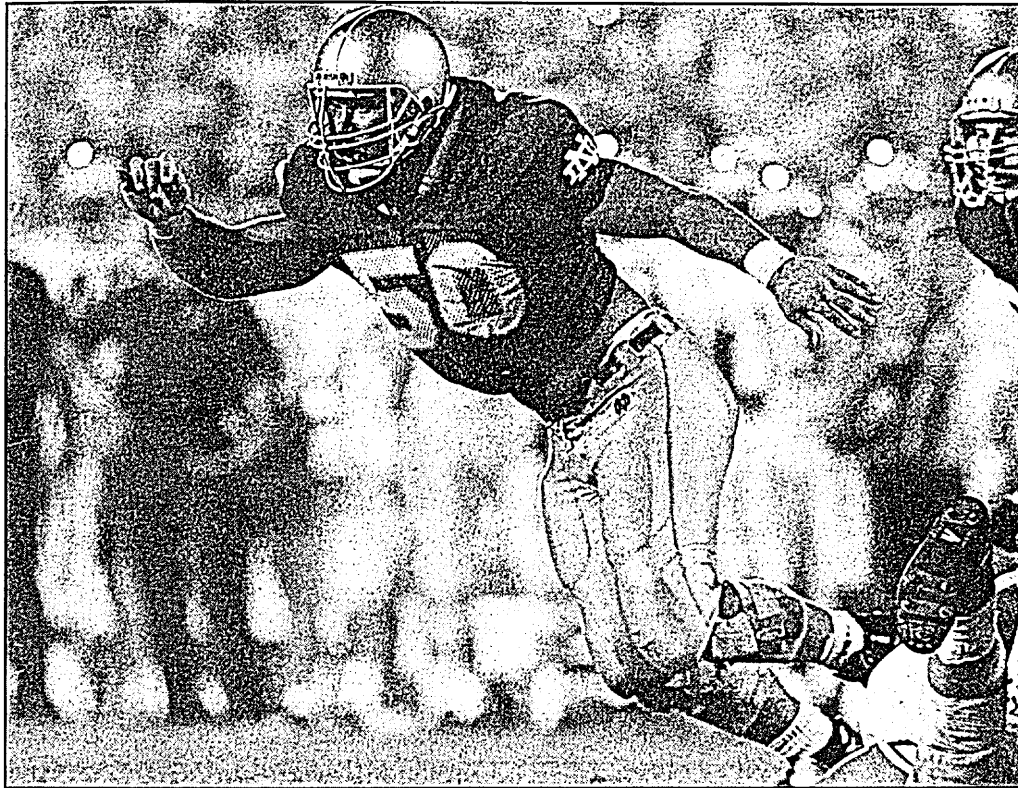
**The Key Move:** Notre Dame's defense dictated the pace early, especially on a key sequence late in the first period and early in the second. Leading 6-0, the Irish had driven to a first and goal at the Stanford six. Notre Dame missed on three straight tries from the one, and the momentum might have swung in favor of the visitors. But Cardinal quarterback Brian Johnson fumbled on the first play from the one. Mark Green scored on the next play and the Irish had a 14-0 edge they never lost.

**The Holtz Post-game Quote:** "I have a lot of concerns. I don't know how good we are on offense. A lot of things trouble me. As I look down the road at our schedule, I see nothing but semis coming at us."

*Derek Brown pulled down a touchdown pass from Tony Rice to give Notre Dame a 36-7 lead.*



*The Irish defense kept the pressure on Stanford's quarterbacks throughout the game.*



Chris Zorich helped the Irish defense hold Stanford to 59 rushing yards.

## Notre Dame 42, Stanford 14

October 1, 1988

### Notre Dame Stadium

#### Scoring Summary

Notre Dame	6	22	7	7	-	42
Stanford	0	7	7	0	-	14

#### First Quarter

ND-Tony Rice 30 run (kick failed) at 10:38; Drive: 62 yards in 7 plays in 2:58 following Pat Eilers fair catch; Score: ND 6-0.

#### Second Quarter

ND-Mark Green 1 run (Tony Rice run) at 14:40; Drive: 1 yard in 1 play in :01 following Ned Bolcar fumble recovery at the Stanford 1; Score ND 14-0.

ND-Tony Banks 5 run (Reggie Ho kick) at 10:45; Drive: 46 yards in 5 plays in 2:15 following no punt return; Big Play: 13-yard pass from Tony Rice to Pat Eilers; Score ND 21-0.

SU- Brian Johnson 1 run (John Hopkins kick) at 4:35; Drive: 68 yards in 4 plays in 6:10 following kickoff return of 8; Big Play: Volpe 2 run on 4th and 1 on the 28; Score: ND 21-7.

ND-Anthony Johnson 1 run (Reggie Ho kick) at 1:36; Drive: 80 yards in 8 plays in 2:59 following Raghib Ismail kickoff return for 35; Big Play: Mark Green 26 run; Score: ND 28-7.

#### Third Quarter

ND-Derek Brown 3 pass from Tony Rice (Reggie Ho kick) at 10:31; Drive: 73

yards in 10 plays in 4:13 following Raghib Ismail kickoff return for 25; Big Play: Tony Rice 18 run; Score: ND 36-7.

SU- Henry Green 27 pass from Jason Palumbis (John Hopkins kick) at 5:20; Drive: 73 yards in 13 plays in 5:11 following Miccichi kickoff return for 2; Score: ND 36-14.

#### Fourth Quarter

ND-Tony Rice 6 run (Reggie Ho kick) at 14:24; Drive: 80 yards in 13 plays in 5:56 following no kickoff return; Big Play: Tony Rice 21 run; Score: ND 42-14.

#### Individual Rushing

ND: Tony Rice 14-107-2 TD (30 long), Mark Green 10-63-2 TD (26 long), Tony Brooks 12-59-1 TD (9 long), Anthony Johnson 14-58-1 TD (9 long), Rodney Culver 2-13 (8 long), Rusty Setzer 2-11 (2 long), Kent Graham 2-9 (5 long), Pete Graham 1-9, Ricky Watters 2-7 (7 long), Pat Eilers 1-0, Steve Belles 1-0; SU: Volpe 17-67 (11 long), Young 2- (-1) (7 long), Johnson 4- (-7) (11 long).

#### Individual Passing

ND: Tony Rice 14-11-0-129-1 TD (26 long), Kent Graham 1-1-6-0; SU: Palumbis 23-16-0-158-1 TD (27 long), Johnson 18-7-1-57 (10 long).

#### Individual Receiving

ND: Ricky Watters 4-51 (21 long), Pat

Eilers 2-26 (13 long), Derek Brown 2-10-1 TD (7 long), Steve Alaniz 1-26, Anthony Johnson 1-9, Mark Green 1-7, Tony Brooks 1-6; SU: Young 7-59 (14 long), Pinckney 4-40 (13 long), Price 5-36 (14 long), Green 2-36-1 TD (27 long), Walsh 2-16 (9 long), Batson 2-21 (14 long), Volpe 1-7.

#### Team Statistics

	ND	S
First Down	27	16
Rushing	16	5
Passing	10	9
Penalty	1	2
Rushing Attempts	61	23
Yards Rushing	341	77
Yards Lost Rushing	9	18
Net Yards Rushing	332	59
Net Yards Passing	135	215
Passes Attempted	15	41
Passes Completed	12	23
Had Intercepted	0	1
Total Offense Plays	76	64
Total Net Yards	467	274
Average Gain Per Play	6.1	4.3
Fumbles: No.-Lost	0-0	2-1
Penalties: No.-Yards	4-45	6-80
Interceptions: No.-Yards	1-7	0-0
No. of Punts-Yards	1-41	4-97
Average Per Punt	41.0	24.5
Punt Returns: No.-Yards	0-0	1-6
Kickoff Returns: No.-Yards	2-60	7-86
Third Down Conversions	9-13	6-15



# Game 5

# 30-20



## What they said...

Notre Dame's football team finally extracted a painful thorn from its side.

It took major surgery.

With a battle on its hands from the start of a sunny afternoon deep into a drizzly evening, the No. 5 Fighting Irish finally turned back Pittsburgh, 30-20, in Pitt Stadium.

The victory assured that two undefeated teams — the 5-0 Irish and No. 1 ranked Miami — would meet in Notre Dame Stadium next Saturday afternoon.

Notre Dame's first triumph over Pittsburgh (2-3) after three straight losses, may have been expensive. By the time it was over, the Irish had weathered the talent of crafty Pitt quarterback Darnell Dickerson and survived the loss of two offensive guards, Tim Grunhard (ankle) and Tim Ryan (shoulder).

But sophomore Joe Allen and Winston Sandri fit right in when the Irish ran off 14 plays and more than 5:47 off the fourth quarter-clock to punch across their final TD.

Oct. 9, 1988 *South Bend Tribune*

Notre Dame's Fighting Irish played keep away and got away from Pitt Stadium with a 30-20 win over the Pitt Panthers Saturday night.

Time of possession became the second-most important statistic in the game — second only to the score.

The Fighting Irish offense controlled the ball 39 minutes and 49 seconds of the game, while Pitt played offense for just 20 minutes and 11 seconds.

That difference, coupled with some critical Panthers' mistakes, allowed the fifth-ranked and undefeated Irish to win their fifth game of the season.

Oct. 9, 1988 *Grand Rapids Press*

For the Pitt Panthers, it was a case of three too many Notre Dame runners, two too many punts and one too many men on the field.

For Notre Dame, it was one less monkey on its back.

The Irish beat the Panthers, 30-20, in the second-half drizzle at Pitt Stadium, taking advantage of three crucial Pitt miscues to break the Panthers' three-game winning streak over the Irish.

"It's like anything else," said Irish coach Lou Holtz. "If you give someone a chance,

and they're good, then they'll take advantage of it."

From the Pitt perspective, it was a game they should have won. From the Irish point of view, they were happy to get out of Pittsburgh with a win.

Tony Brooks, Mark Green and Tony Rice combined for 257 yards as Notre Dame's strong running game totalled 310 yards and four touchdowns.

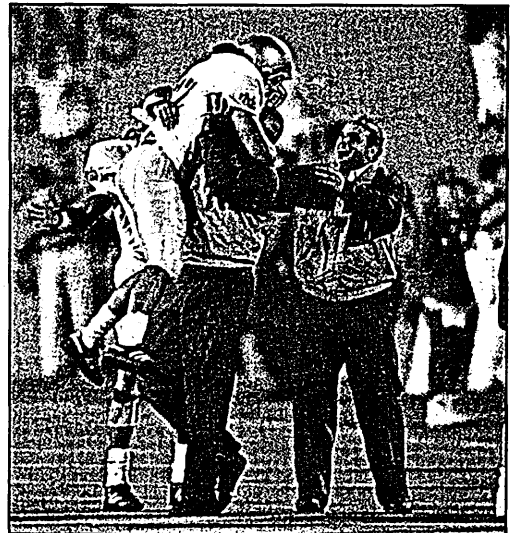
The turning point came in the fourth quarter. With 11:45 to play, the Panthers' Scott Kaplan hit a 34-yard field goal to cut the Irish lead to 23-20. Pitt held the Irish to minus-three yards on three plays, and Jim Sexton was in to punt the football to the Panthers on fourth down and 13.

With the snap, 11 Pitt players went for the block and one was back to return. That's 12 players, and that's too many. And because all 12 players participated in the play, it was a 15-yard personal foul penalty, not the usual 12-men on the field penalty.

"It was really a key error on our part," Pitt coach Mike Gottfried said. "It kept the drive alive for them, and they went and scored. It was a mistake that never should have happened."

"I couldn't believe it," Pitt punt returner Alonzo Hampton said, "especially since I'm the one who's supposed to count the players. I didn't get it done, and it turned the game around. We always seem to make one little mistake, and the other team always seems to capitalize."

Jan. 19, 1989 *The Observer*



Arnold Ale celebrates after his interception stalled Pittsburgh's final drive.

**The Matchup:** #5 Notre Dame (4-0) vs. Pittsburgh (2-2), October 8 in Pitt Stadium, Pittsburgh, Pa.

**The Holtz Pre-game Quote:** "I'll guarantee you one thing, the Pittsburgh team we see Saturday will be the one that beat Ohio State 42-10, not the one that lost to Boston College or West Virginia. There's something about Notre Dame coming to town that brings out the best in everybody we play."

**The Angle, Part I:** The last time Notre Dame had beaten Pitt was in 1982, when the Irish came into Pitt Stadium and knocked off the unbeaten and top-ranked Panthers, 31-16; as Notre Dame ran off 40 more offensive plays than the Dan Marino-led Panthers.

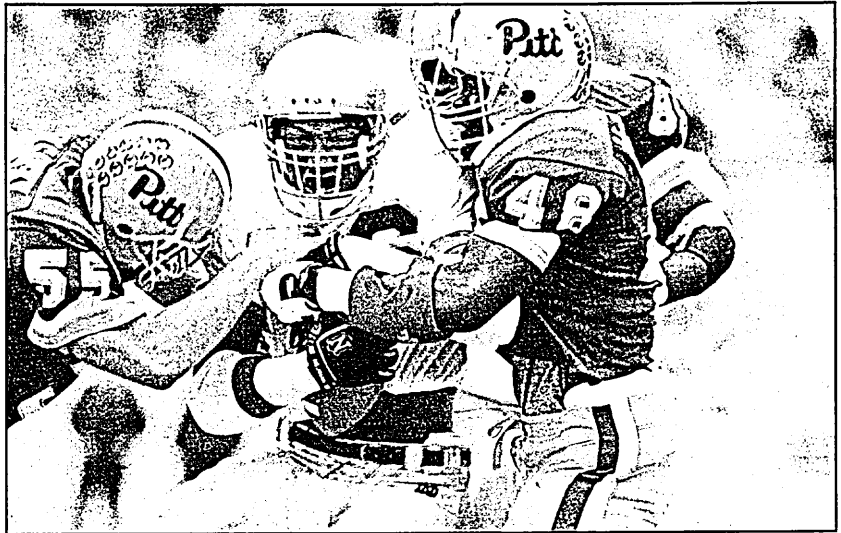
**The Angle, Part II:** It was a return to the scene of Tony Rice's big-time debut the year before. Rice played the entire second half after Terry Andrysiak broke his collarbone and brought the Irish back from a 27-0 deficit to a 30-22 loss. That came in the rain despite the fact Rice lined up behind the guard on his first play.

**The Question:** Could the Irish keep their minds on Pittsburgh, a team they had played poorly against each of the last two years, despite the fact Notre Dame fans already wanted to talk about the following week's game against Miami?

**The Answer:** The Irish gave up two long passes for scores early and played probably their poorest defensive half of the season. But they came from behind early and twice broke ties to take control down the stretch. The game-clinching, 14-play drive saw every yard produced on the ground.

**The Irony, Part I:** Pittsburgh had more than its share of chances to put points on the board. On the first possession of the game, Curvin Richards ran to the Irish two before Todd Lyght forced a fumble that Chris Zorich recovered. Then, in the final minute of the first half with Notre Dame leading by three, Darnell Dickerson had a clear route to the end zone but fumbled and Stan Smagala recovered after a wild, end-zone scramble.

**The Irony, Part II:** With the Irish leading, 23-20, midway through the final



period, Pittsburgh forced Jim Sexton to punt from his own 32, but the Panthers had 12 men on the field. Notre Dame retained possession and promptly drove for the clinching score on a march that lasted nearly seven minutes.

**The Heroes:** Tailbacks Tony Brooks and Mark Green combined for 188 yards rushing against a physical Pitt defensive front.

**The Unsung Hero:** Fullback Braxton Banks wasn't expected to be a major contributor while continuing his recovery from the knee ligament injury he suffered against Michigan State. In fact, Banks saved the day for the Irish with Anthony Johnson's tender ankle still bothering him. Banks came off the bench to catch a key 30-yard pass on a sideline route from Tony Rice and then went the final yard for the score that broke a 17-17 tie and gave the Irish the lead for good.

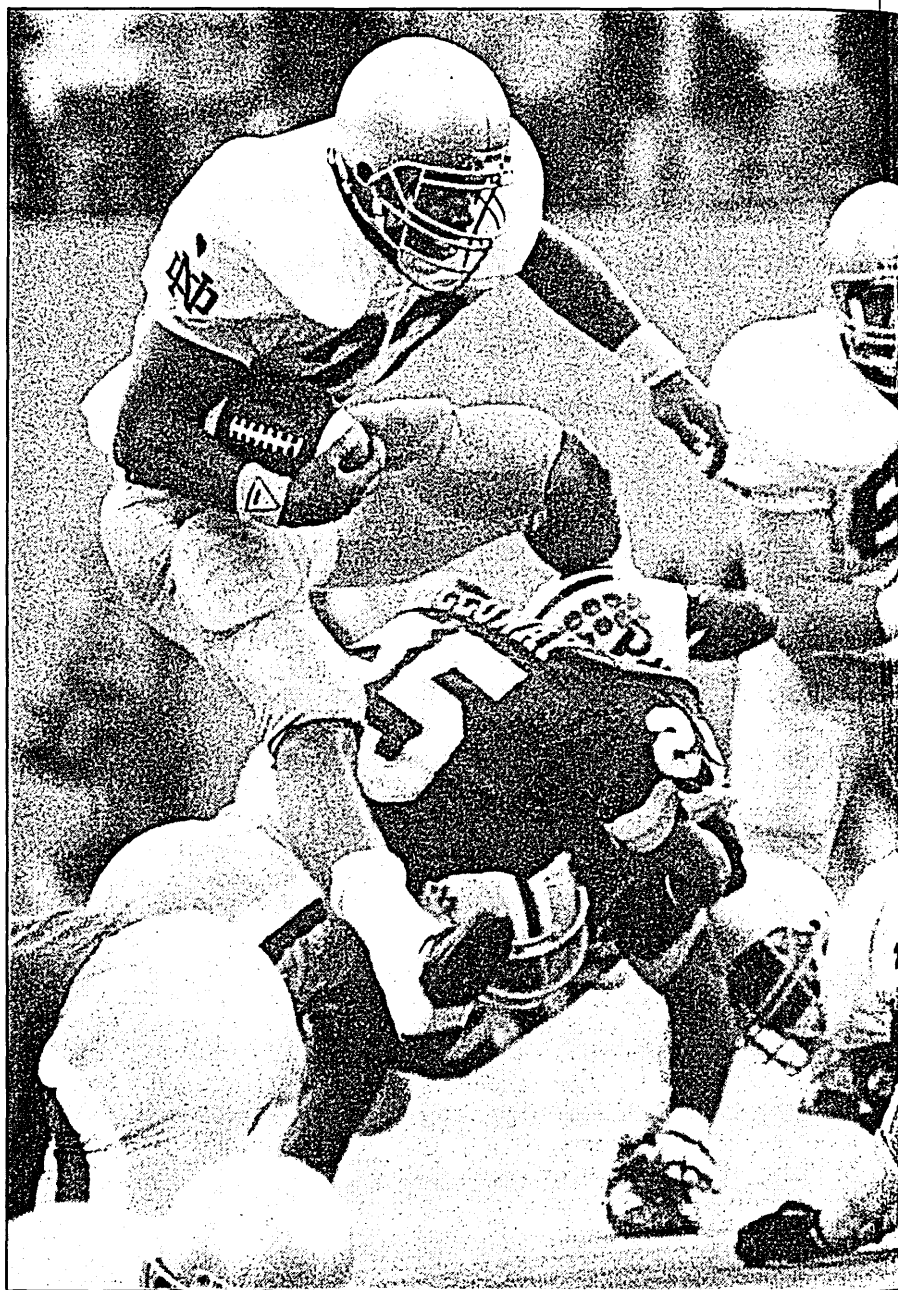
**The Negative:** The Irish won despite losing both starting offensive guards to injury — Tim Ryan (shoulder) and Tim Grunhard (ankle). Both remained question marks for the Miami game.

**The Key Move:** Notre Dame shored up its pass defense in the second half, limiting Darnell Dickerson to only three completions for 29 yards after intermission.

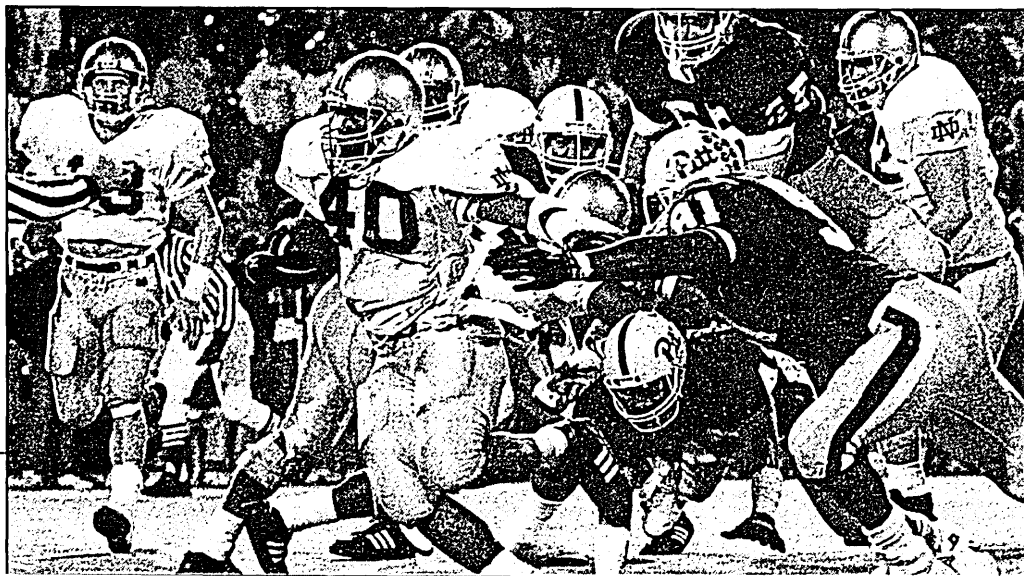
**The Holtz Post-game Quote:** "It's like anything else. Give somebody a chance, and a good team will take advantage of it. Pitt did that today a couple of times and we took advantage of it. The last two years we've lost close games to Pittsburgh. Today, it was our team that made the plays down the stretch to win. I'm proud of them for that."

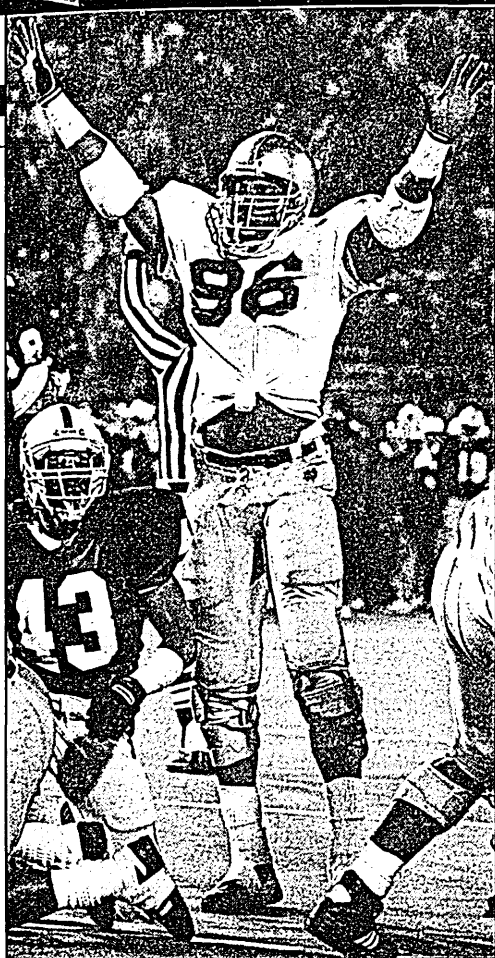
*Derek Brown and the Irish held on for a hard-fought 30-20 win.*

## Notre Dame vs. Pittsburgh



*Anthony Johnson (#22) and Tony Brooks (#40) keyed the Irish rushing attack.*





Derek Brown (#86) and Andy Heck (#66) helped the Notre Dame offense compile 406 total yards.

## Notre Dame 30, Pittsburgh 20

### Pitt Stadium

October 8, 1988

#### Scoring Summary

Notre Dame	14	3	6	7	-	30
Pittsburgh	7	7	3	3	-	20

#### First Quarter

- P- R. Williams 42 pass from Dickerson (Kaplan kick) at 8:34; Drive: 53 yards in 4 plays in 1:21 following Hampton interception; Score: P 7-0.
- ND- Tony Rice 2 run (Reggie Ho kick) at 7:01; Drive: 60 yards in 4 plays in 1:33 following D'Juan Francisco 28 kickoff return; Big Play: Tony Brooks 52 run to the Pitt 2 yard line; Score: 7-7.
- ND- Anthony Johnson 1 run (Reggie Ho kick) at 0:40; Drive: 86 yards in 14 in 4:38; Big Play: Tony Rice runs for 15 and 11; Score: ND 14-7.

#### Second Quarter

- P- H. Tuten 33 pass from Dickerson (Kaplan kick) at 6:07; Drive: 53 yards in 7 plays in 3:16 following Jim Sexton 37 punt (no return); Big Play: Tuten scores on 4th down and 4 from the 33; Score: 14-14.
- ND- Reggie Ho 37 FG at 3:06; Drive: 30 yards in 7 plays in 2:57 following Raghieb Ismail kickoff return for 40; Score: ND 17-14.

#### Third Quarter

- P- Kaplan 44 FG at 7:04; Drive: 41 yards in 8 plays in 2:48 following Ricky

Watters fumble (recovered by C. Smith); Big Play: Dickerson 16 run; Score: 17-17.

- ND- Braxton Banks 1 run (kick failed) at 0:34; Drive: 80 yards in 14 plays in 6:30 following no return of kickoff; Big Play: Braxton Banks 30 pass from Tony Rice; Score: ND 23-17.

#### Fourth Quarter

- P- Kaplan 34 FG at 11:19; Drive: 55 yards in 11 plays in 4:15 following Tanczos kickoff return of 9; Big Play: ND personal foul penalty for 15 yards; Score: ND 23-20.
- ND- Mark Green 8 run (Reggie Ho kick) at 4:32; Drive: 64 yards in 14 plays in 6:47 following Don Grimm kickoff return of 7; Score: ND 30-20.

#### Individual Rushing

ND: Tony Brooks 17-105 (52 long), Mark Green 19-83-1 TD (15 long), Tony Rice 11-69-1 TD (15 long), Anthony Johnson 13-26-1 TD (7 long), Braxton Banks 7-14-1 TD (4 long), Pat Eilers 2-12 (7 long); Ricky Watters 3-1 (14 long); P: Richards 17-78 (14 long); Dickerson 11-76 (31 long), Grossman 3-9, (4 long); Redmon 2-4 (3 long), Tuten 1-4.

#### Individual Passing

ND: Tony Rice 14-8-2-97 (30 long), Kent Graham 0-0-0-0; P: Dickerson 25-12-1-209-2 TD (42 long).

#### Individual Receiving

ND: Braxton Banks 2-36 (30 long), Tony Brooks 1-20, Anthony Johnson 1-13, Raghieb Ismail 1-11, Derek Brown 1-11, Pat Eilers 1-6, Ricky Watters 1-6; P: Pat Tuten 4-76-1 TD (33 long), R. Williams 3-58-1 TD (42 long), Crossman 2-32 (22 long), Kirk 2-21 (12 long), Osborn 1-22.

#### Team Statistics

	ND	P
First Down	27	23
Rushing	17	8
Passing	7	10
Penalty	3	5
Rushing Attempts	72	34
Yards Rushing	343	180
Yards Lost Rushing	33	9
Net Yards Rushing	310	171
Net Yards Passing	96	209
Passes Attempted	14	25
Passes Completed	8	12
Had Intercepted	2	1
Total Offensive Plays	86	59
Total Net Yards	406	380
Average Gain Per Play	4.7	6.4
Fumbles: No.-Lost	1-1	4-2
Penalties: No.-Yards	8-83	6-50
Interceptions: No.-Yards	1-17	2-0
No. of Punts-Yards	1-37	3-144
Average Per Punt	37.0	48.0
Punt Returns: No.-Yards	0-0	0-0
Kickoff Returns: No.-Yards	4-89	6-112
Third Down Conversions	8-14	2-9

# Game 6

# 31-30



## What they said...

The edge of the seats in Notre Dame Stadium may be worn thin, but the Stadium's magic is alive and well.

And so is Notre Dame's football program.

When Pat Terrell batted away Steve Walsh's two-point conversion pass with 45 seconds to play, the Irish locked up a stunning 31-30 upset of No. 1-ranked Miami.

Erased was Miami's mystique and all the embarrassment it's handed the Irish in recent years.

"This was a big win by the Notre Dame spirit," said head coach Lou Holtz, whose club is 6-0 and may be destined for a No. 1 ranking next week. "It was a win by the spirit of a group of guys who just refused to fold, and believed. I congratulate our players for a

great football game."

Oct. 16, 1988 *South Bend Tribune*

The Fighting Irish of Notre Dame got the best of the last minute in a game that appeared to have 100 minutes of action packed into 60, and with it they got the best of the No. 1 ranked Miami Hurricanes.

Irish free safety Pat Terrell knocked down a two-point conversion pass with 45 seconds remaining, and three seconds later fullback Anthony Johnson fell on a Miami on-side kick attempt to help preserve Notre Dame's 31-30 upset of the Hurricanes Saturday in Notre Dame Stadium.

These two final big plays were just the last of many in a game that ended Miami's impressive regular-season winning streak at 36 games.

"I would like to give Notre Dame credit," said Miami coach Jimmy Johnson. "They did what they had to do to win the game. As many mistakes as we made, and we made a ton, in my mind we should have won."

Oct. 16, 1988 *Grand Rapids Press*

All the hype came down to three hours of football, and three hours of football came down to one play with 45 seconds left on the clock.

And when Steve Walsh's pass came down in the end zone, down with it fell Miami's 36-game regular-season winning streak, No. 1 ranking and recent dominance of Notre Dame football.

The Notre Dame student body came down as well, rushing onto the field to celebrate the 31-30 victory that gave birth to hopes of the next Irish national championship, and pushed Lou Holtz' squad to No. 2 in the nation.

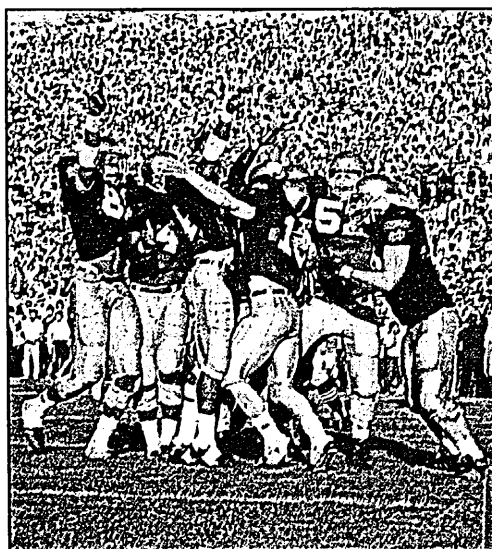
"This was a win by the Notre Dame spirit," said Holtz after the Oct. 15 contest that boosted the Irish to 6-0 and ended the frustration of humbling Notre Dame losses to the Hurricanes in 1985 (58-7) and 1987 (24-0).

"It was a win by the spirit of a group of guys who refused to fold," Holtz continued. "The spirit of Notre Dame was something we talked about all week and I congratulate our players...It was a great game by two great teams who just competed as hard as anything I've ever seen."

Jan. 19, 1989 *The Observer*



The Notre Dame spirit was evident both in the stands and on the field.





**The Matchup:** #4 Notre Dame (5-0) vs. #1 Miami (4-0), October 15 in Notre Dame Stadium.

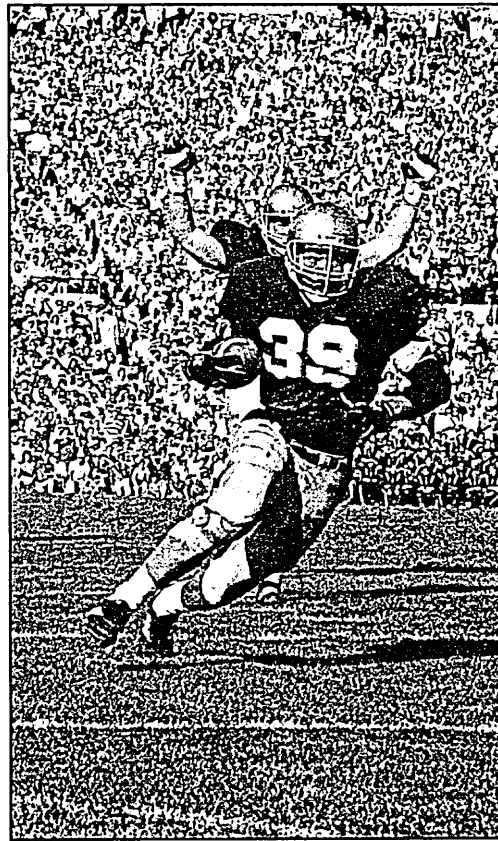
**The Holtz Pre-game Quote:** "My son, Skip, is a graduate assistant coach at Florida State. After Miami beat Florida State in their first game, he told me, 'Dad, Miami is unbelievable.' I have every reason to believe what he said, because we always taught our children not to lie."

**The Angle, Part I:** Notre Dame had plenty to play for. The Irish had lost their last four games to Miami by a cumulative 133-20 count — including a 58-7 disaster in '85. Notre Dame had been shut out only twice in its last 119 games — both times by Miami, in '83 (20-0) and '87 (24-0).

**The Angle, Part II:** Notre Dame, a team that historically has been at its best against top-ranked, unbeaten teams with impressive streaks, was facing a Miami team that had won 36 straight regular-season games.

**The Angle, Part III:** Notre Dame was meeting a number-one team for the 20th time in history, the sixth time in Notre Dame Stadium history, but only the first time at home since 1968. It marked the first time the Irish had started a season 5-0 or better and played another unbeaten opponent in Notre Dame Stadium since a 14-13 win over Iowa-Pre Flight in 1943.

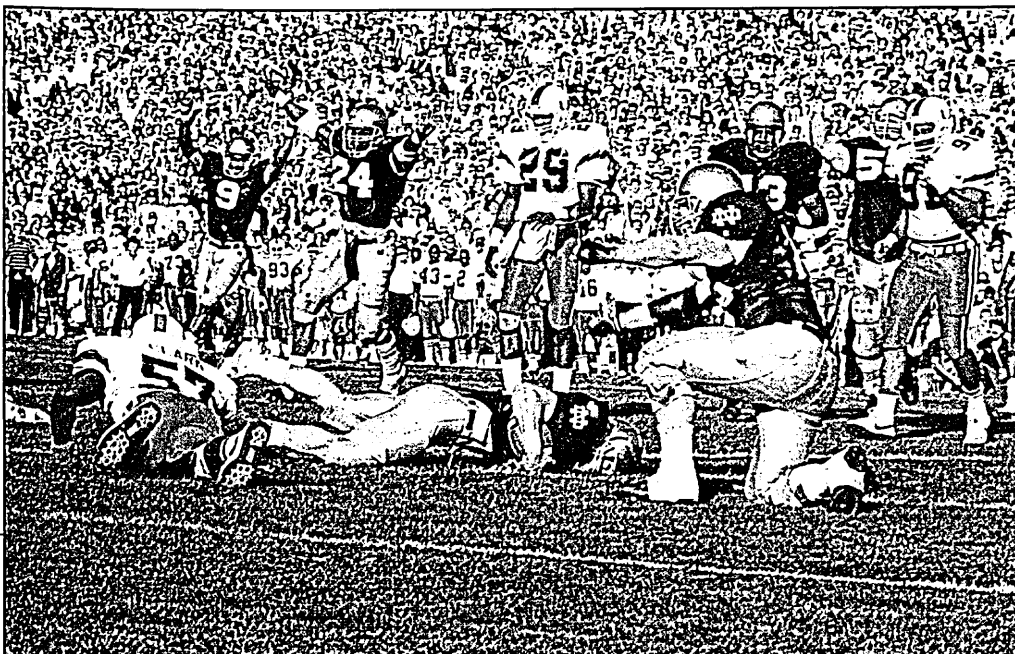
**The Irony:** Miami ended up losing in part to a missed two-point conversion attempt, exactly the same way the Hurri-



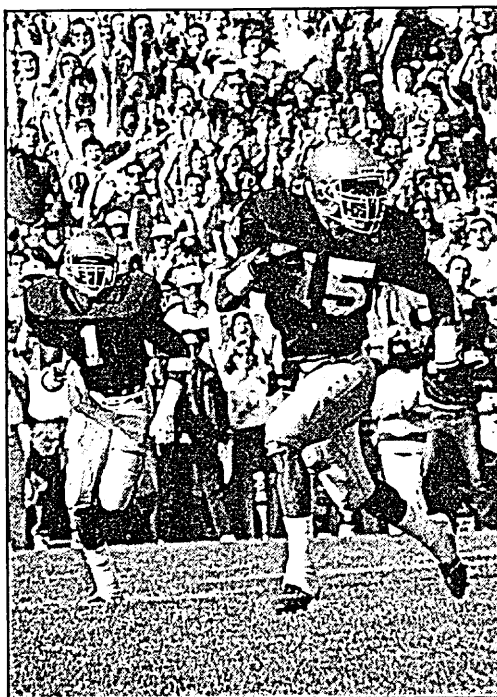
canes had beaten Florida State in '87 (the Seminoles missed it) and had beaten Nebraska for the national title in '85 (the Huskers missed it).

**The Question:** Had the Irish improved enough from a year ago — considering a 24-0 Hurricane win in Notre Dame's '87 regular-season finale — to play with the nation's top-rated team?

**The Answer:** Not only did Notre Dame play with Miami, but the Irish also administered the sole defeat suffered by the 'Canes in the last two years.



Notre Dame got touchdowns from Pat Eilers (two-yard run) and Braxton Banks (nine-yard pass).



**The Hero:** All of Lou Holtz's fingers and toes weren't enough to count all of them.

- Frank Stams, the veteran defensive end who forced two Steve Walsh fumbles, recovered another, tipped a Walsh pass that Pat Terrell ran back for a score and generally made life difficult for Miami's standout quarterback. He was named Associated Press' Midwest defensive player of the week. He played a key role in limiting Miami to 57 net rushing yards and only two rushing first downs.

- Terrell, who not only ran back that interception 60 yards for six points, but also knocked down the potential game-winning two-point conversion throw by Walsh in the final minute. Walsh's 424 passing yards marked the most ever given up by a Notre Dame defense.

- Tony Rice, who threw for a career-high 195 yards, ran 21 times and scored the first Irish touchdown.

- Others like Pat Eilers, who scored his first career TD on only his fifth career carry; Derek Brown, who made two critical catches deep in Irish territory; Raghieb Ismail, whose 57-yard catch set up the second Irish TD; Ricky Watters, whose only catch of the day, a 44-yarder, set up Eilers' score; Wes Pritchett, who had 15 tackles despite playing with a broken hand.

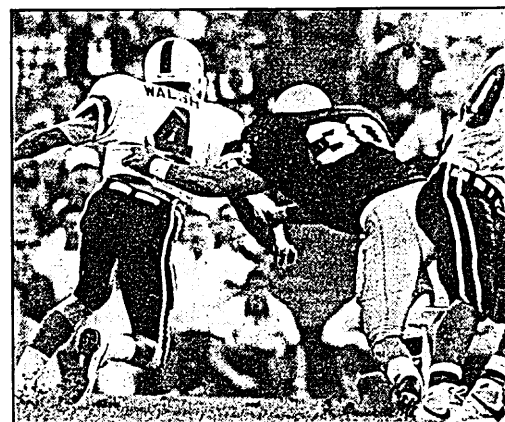
**The Unsung Hero:** The Notre Dame spirit, which Lou Holtz said accounted for the key victory.

**The Key Move:** Miami faked a punt on fourth down midway through the third period with the score tied, but Steve Belles smelled it out and made the tackle on fourth-and-three. Tony Rice threw long to Ricky Watters on the next play, Eilers scored from two yards out, and the Irish never trailed again.

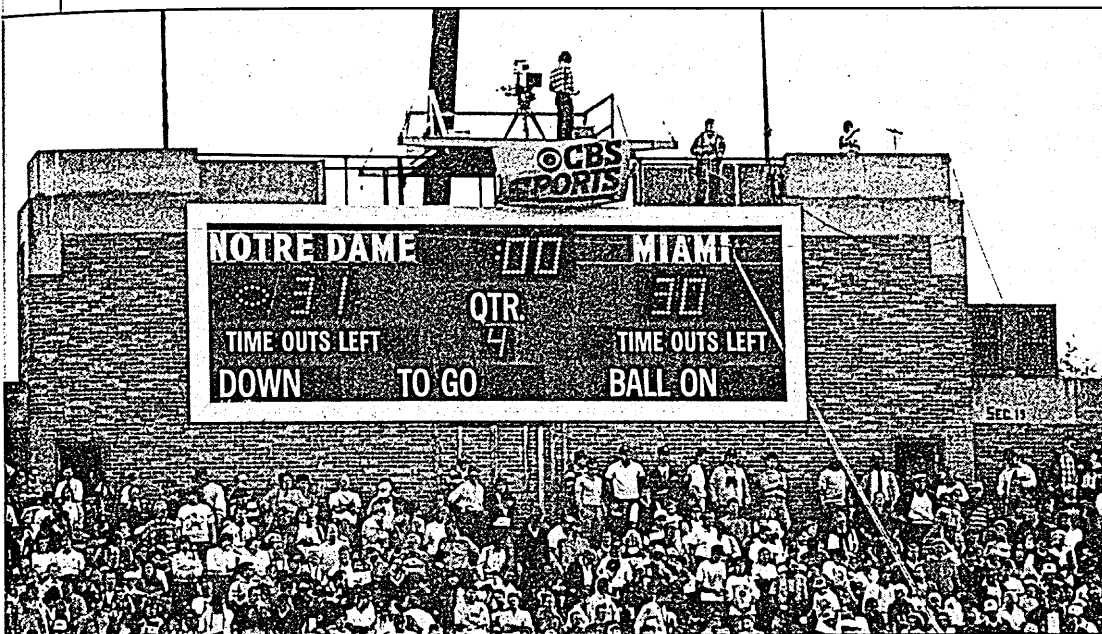
**The Controversy:** With the Irish leading, 31-24, with seven minutes left, Steve Walsh threw to Cleveland Gary. Gary took the ball to the one before being hit by George Streeter, fumbling and watching Michael Stonebreaker recover the loose ball. The officials gave Notre Dame the football; Miami coach Jimmy Johnson said Gary scored before the fumble. Either way, the 'Canes hurt themselves with seven turnovers and Irish coach Lou Holtz pointed to several other controversial calls on potential turnovers, all of which went Miami's way.

**The Lineup:** One-time walk-on Mike Brennan, formerly a tight end and offensive tackle, moved to guard this week and ended up starting his first game with Tim Grunhard and Tim Ryan hobbled by injuries. Others making their first starts vs. the 'Canes were sophomore guard Joe Allen, freshman split end Raghieb Ismail and freshman defensive end Arnold Ale, whose interception the previous week vs. Pitt sealed that victory.

**The Holtz Post-game Quote:** "This was a great football game. It was two great teams that competed as hard as anything I've seen. Usually when you have a game with this much hype, it disappoints you, but not today. This was a win by a bunch of guys who refused to fold."



*Two of Notre Dame's big play men were Pat Terrell (#15) and Frank Stams (#30). Terrell picked off a Steve Walsh pass and returned it 60 yards for a touchdown. Stams forced two Walsh fumbles and recovered another.*



It's Official!!

# Notre Dame 31, Miami 30

October 15, 1988

## Notre Dame Stadium

### Scoring Summary

Notre Dame	7	14	10	0	-	31
Miami	0	21	0	9	-	30

### First Quarter

ND-Tony Rice 7 run (Reggie Ho kick) at 3:36; Drive: 75 yards in 12 plays in 5:58 following punt of 25 yards (no return); Big Play: Raghib Ismail 22 pass from Tony Rice; Score: ND 7-0.

### Second Quarter

UM-Andre Brown 8 pass from Steve Walsh (Carlos Huerta kick) at 12:40; Drive: 68 yards in 8 plays in 3:53 following fumble recovery by Clark; Big Play: Brown 20 pass from Walsh; Score 7-7.

ND-Braxton Banks 9 pass from Tony Rice (Reggie Ho kick) at 7:34; Drive: 80 yards in 11 plays in 5:06 following no return of kickoff; Big Play: Raghib Ismail 57 pass from Tony Rice on third and 12; Score: ND 14-7.

ND-Pat Terrell 60 interception return (Reggie Ho kick) at 5:42; Drive: 60 yards in 1 play in 0:09; Score: ND 21-7.

UM-Leonard Conley 23 pass from Steve Walsh (Carlos Huerta kick) at 2:16; Drive: 61 yards in 8 plays in 3:17 following Hill kickoff return of 21; Score ND 21-14.

UM-Cleveland Gary 15 pass from Steve Walsh (Carlos Huerta kick) at 0:21; Drive: 54 yards in 7 plays in 0:48 following fair catch of a Jim Sexton 25-yard punt; Score: 21-21.

### Third Quarter

ND-Pat Eilers 2 run (Reggie Ho kick) at 8:09; Drive: 46 yards in 2 plays in 0:13 following unsuccessful fake punt by Miami on fourth and three (minus one yard gain); Big Play: Ricky Watters 44 pass from Tony Rice to the Miami 2; Score: ND 28-21.

ND-Reggie Ho 27 FG at 0:37; Drive: 65 yards in 9 plays in 4:29 following Jeff Alm interception; Big Play: Tony Rice 26 run; Score: ND 31-21.

### Fourth Quarter

UM-Carlos Huerta 23 FG at 13:07; Drive: 68 yards in 9 plays in 2:30 following Hill kickoff return of 8; Score: ND 31-24.

UM-Brown 11 pass from Steve Walsh (Conley pass from Walsh fails) at 0:45; Drive: 14 yards in 4 plays in 1:25 following fumble by Tony Rice at the Notre Dame 14; Big Play: Two point conversion intended for Conley is broken up by Pat Terrell in the end zone with 0:45 remaining; Score: ND 31-30.

### Individual Rushing

ND: Tony Brooks 13-56 (22 long), Tony Rice 21-20-1 TD (12 long), Braxton Banks 7-21 (13 long), Mark Green 4-6 (6 long), Ricky Watters 1-5, Anthony Johnson 2-3 (2 long), Pat Eilers 1-2-1 TD; UM: Gary 12-28 (9 long), Conley 10-27 (7 long), Crowell 3-7 (3 long), Britton 1-(-1), Walsh 2-(-4) (-1 long).

### Individual Passing

ND: Tony Rice 16-8-1-195-1 TD (57

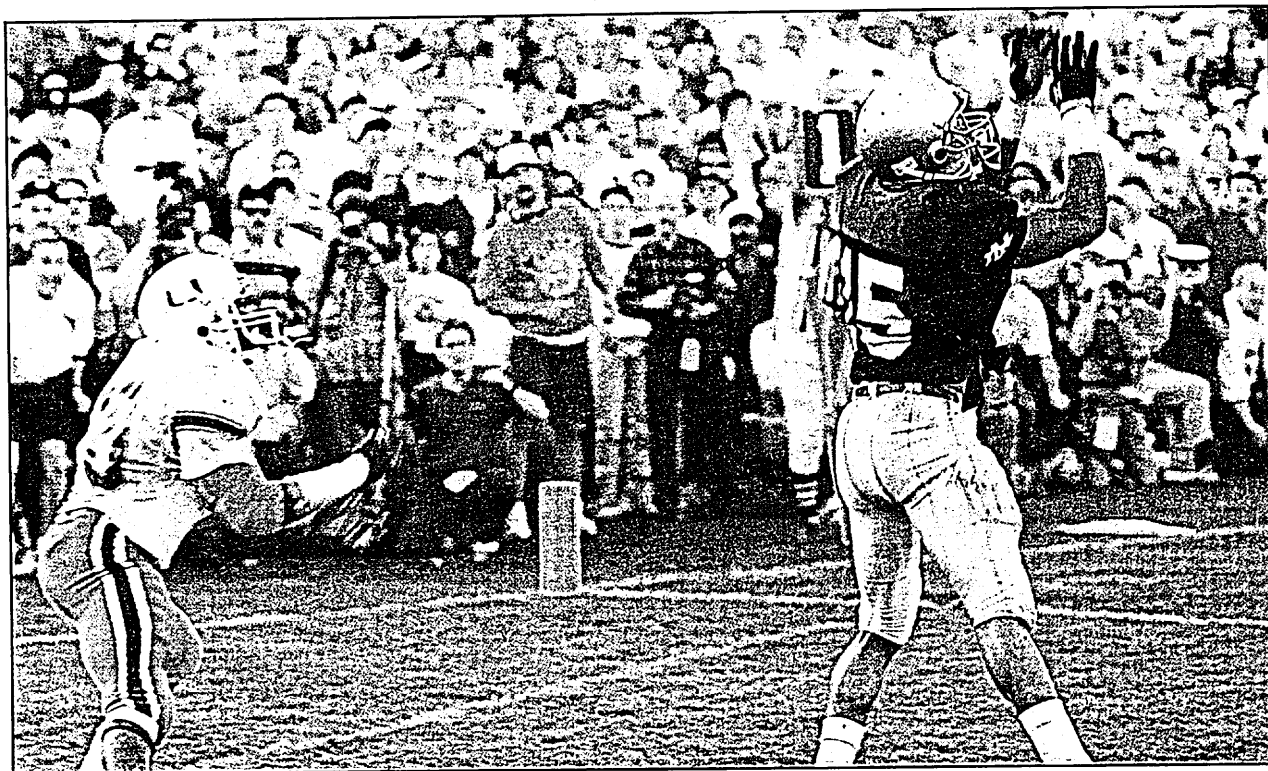
long), Kent Graham 2-2-0-23 (21 long); UM: Walsh 50-31-3-424-4 TD (23 long).

### Individual Receiving

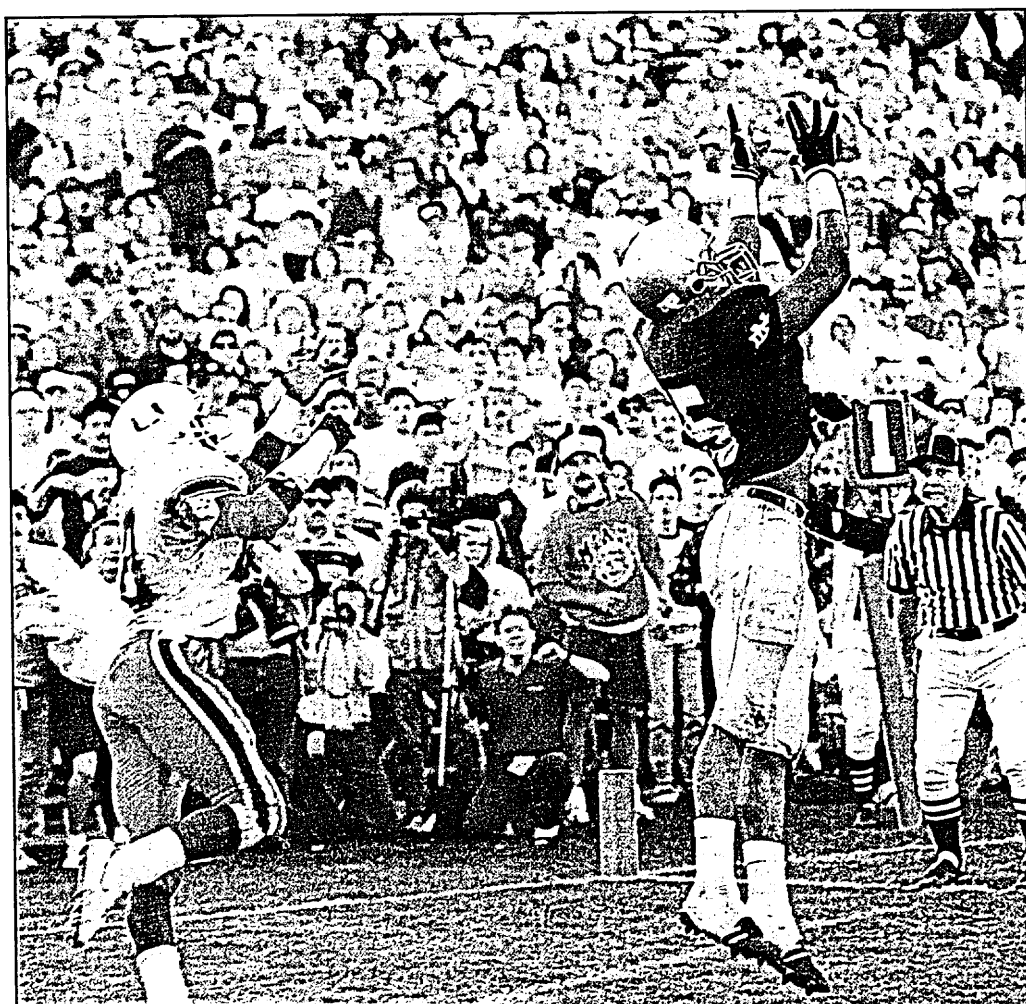
ND: Raghib Ismail 4-96 (57 long), Derek Brown 2-46 (26 long), Ricky Watters 1-44, Mark Green 1-21, Braxton Banks 1-9-1 TD, Kent Graham 1-2; UM: Gary 11-130-1 TD (21 long), Brown 8-125-2 TD (22 long) Chudzinski 6-85 (18 long), Conley 3-41-1 TD (23 long), Dawkins 2-35 (18 long), Hill 1-8.

### Team Statistics

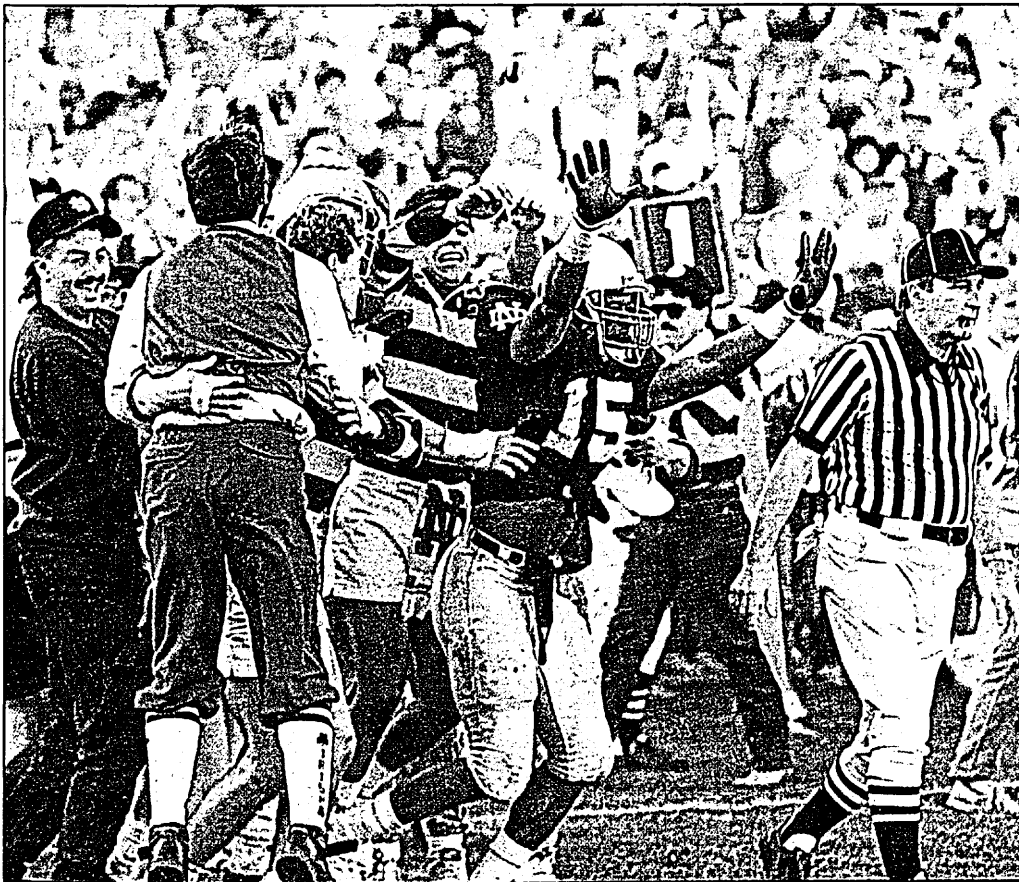
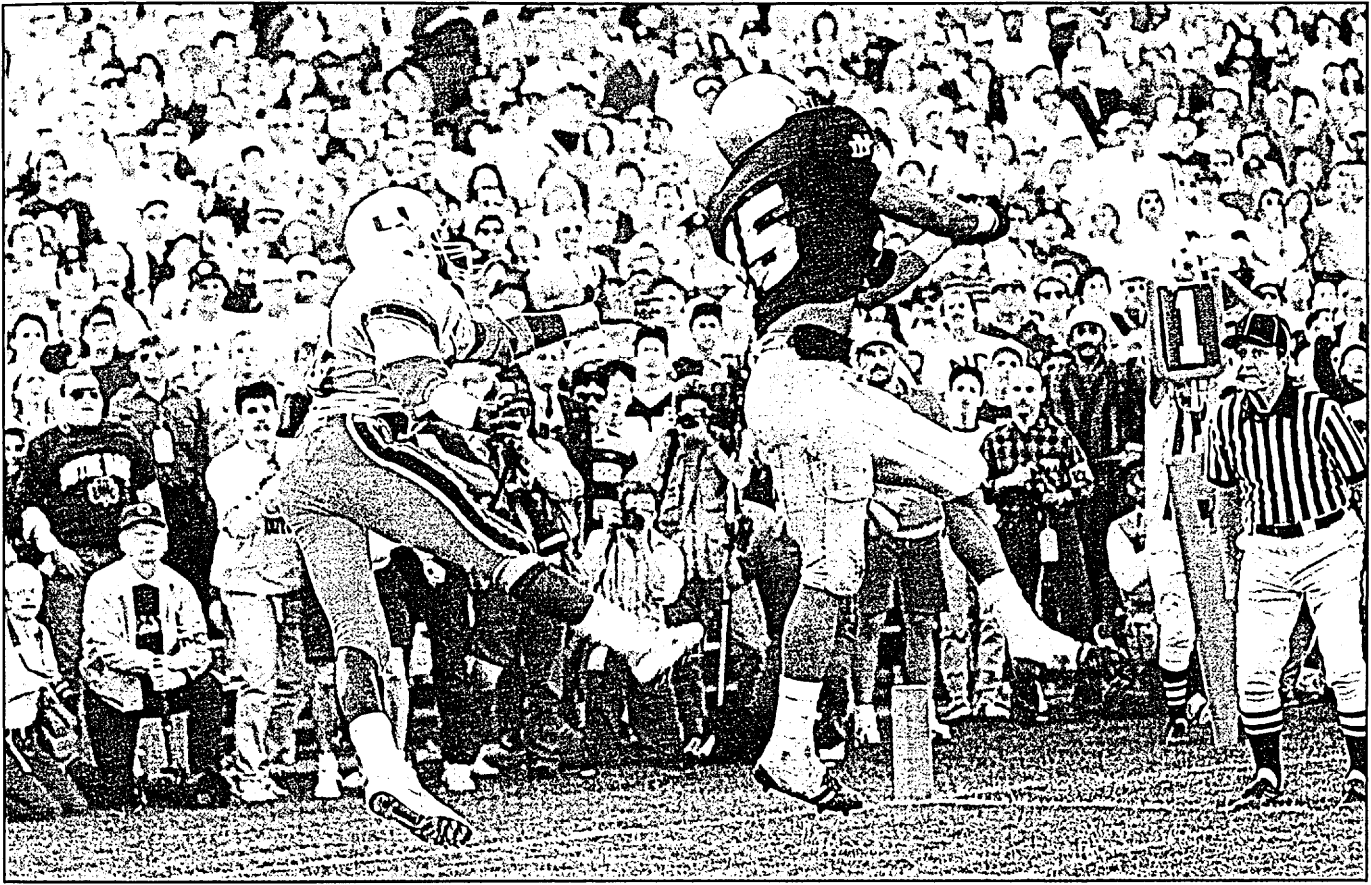
	ND	UM
First Downs .....	16	26
Rushing .....	8	2
Passing .....	7	23
Penalty .....	1	1
Rushing Attempts .....	49	28
Yards Rushing .....	162	73
Yards Lost Rushing .....	49	16
Net Yards Rushing .....	113	57
Net Yards Passing .....	218	424
Passes Attempted .....	18	50
Passes Completed .....	10	31
Had Intercepted .....	1	3
Total Offensive Plays .....	67	78
Total Net Yards .....	331	481
Average Gain Per Play .....	4.9	6.2
Fumbles: No.-Lost .....	3-2	4-4
Penalties: No.-Yards .....	5-39	6-34
Interceptions: No.-Yards .....	3-72	1-0
No. of Punts-Yards .....	4-151	1-25
Average Per Punt .....	37.7	25.0
Punt Returns: No.-Yards .....	0-0	2-21
Kickoff Returns: No.-Yards .....	2-41	6-74
Third Down Conversions .....	8-16	7-14



*Pat Terrell bats down the Hurricanes' pass attempt on the potential game-winning, two-point conversion to keep the Irish unbeaten.*









# Game 7

# 41-13



## What they said...

There never was a question that all the size and strength was in Notre Dame's corner.

But the package wasn't complete until the emotion kicked in.

That happened at halftime, Saturday. The rest of the afternoon in damp Notre Dame Stadium then belonged to the Irish in a 41-13 victory over Air Force.

With the Irish battling to a 20-13 halftime lead, the coaching staff had a few adjustments to make and the seniors a few words to say.

And the second half was a different story.

Allowing the nation's No. 1 rushing offense a mere 39-yards in the second half, No. 2 Notre Dame bagged its seventh straight victory and saddled the Falcons with their lowest point production since their last game of 1986 against BYU.

*Oct. 23, 1988 South Bend Tribune*

Notre Dame middle linebacker Wes Pritchett took a few minutes at halftime to scream and the rest of the Fighting Irish defenders wisely listened.

Pritchett and his listeners then limited the Air Force Falcons' highly-regarded wishbone offense to 29 yards rushing in the second half, and that more than anything assured the Irish of a convincing 41-13 win in Notre Dame Stadium Saturday.

"We fought for our lives in the first half, but I thought in the second half that we dominated the game," said Notre Dame Coach Lou Holtz, who saw his No. 2-ranked team outscore Air Force, 21-0, over the final two quarters and win for the seventh time in seven starts this year.

"I don't think it was a case of us wearing them down at all, because they are in marvelous condition," Holtz continued. "We were just bigger and stronger than them, and we were just too strong for them in the second half."

*Oct. 23, 1988 Grand Rapids Press*

The post-Miami letdown that everyone feared seemed eerily close to reality when Air Force was thinking upset and trailing Notre Dame by just a touchdown at halftime.

Unfortunately for the Falcons, the Irish weren't thinking upset at all. Notre Dame outscored Air Force 21-0 in the second half to win 41-13 and improve its record to 7-0.

"I thought that in the second half we dominated the game," said Notre Dame coach Lou Holtz. "We fought for our lives in the first half. At halftime, this was a real football game."

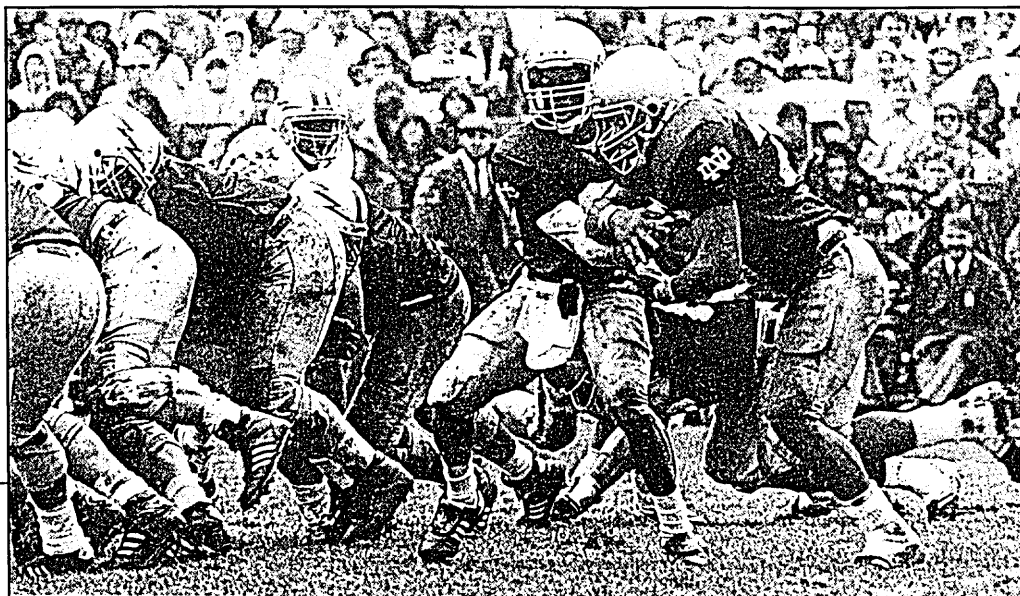
Air Force (5-3) cut Notre Dame's halftime lead to 20-13 with a three-yard run by Andy Smith with 1:57 left in the second quarter.

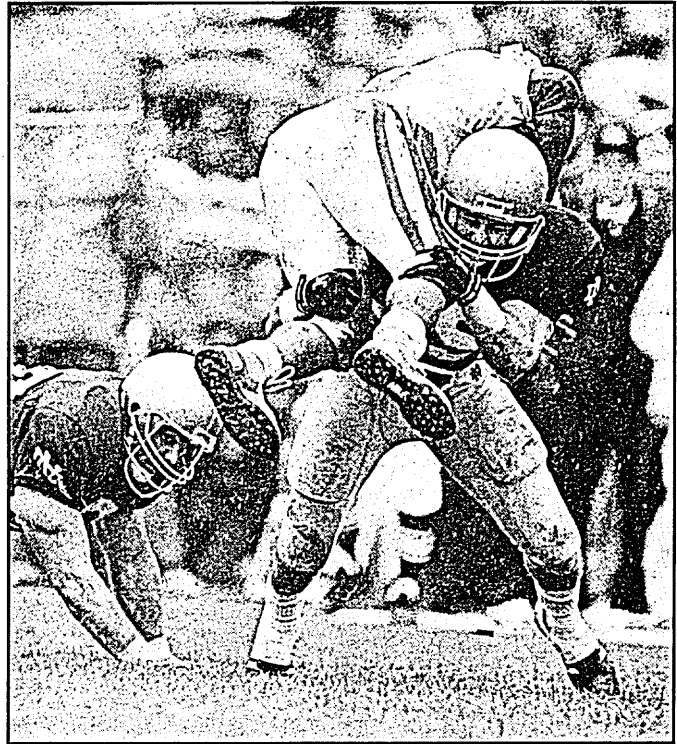
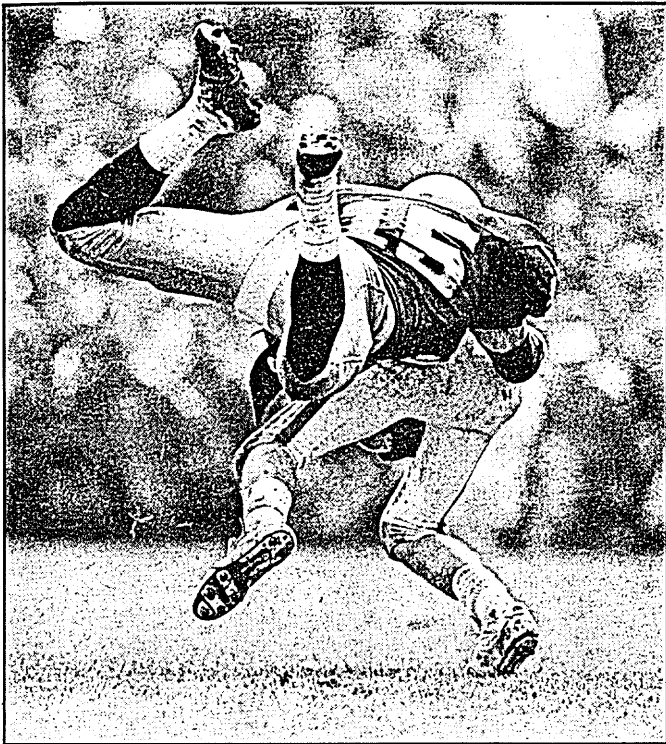
"We had to go back out there in the second half and make something happen," said Air Force coach Fisher DeBerry. "If we could have stopped them and gotten the football, it would have given our team the confidence and momentum it needed."

Instead, Notre Dame methodically drove to the Air Force 42-yard line, where Tony Brooks took a screen pass and raced down the left sideline for a touchdown. Reggie Ho's ensuing extra point gave Notre Dame a 27-13 lead.

*Jan. 19, 1989 The Observer*

*Anthony Johnson rushed for 45 yards on nine carries, including a 12-yard touchdown run in the second quarter.*





**The Matchup:** #2 Notre Dame (6-0) vs. Air Force (5-2), October 22 in Notre Dame Stadium.

**The Holtz Pre-game Quote:** "Are we in contention for the national championship? I don't believe we have a chance to win a national championship with six victories. All we've done so far is guarantee ourselves a winning season."

**The Angle:** Notre Dame's defense had to shift gears dramatically in a week's time — going from the Miami passing attack to the Air Force wishbone that averaged 432.0 rushing yards per game to lead the nation.

**The Question:** Could the Irish come down off their cloud in time to rejoin reality and handle Air Force?

**The Answer:** An intangible that probably helped was that the Notre Dame students were on fall break, so there weren't many people around to pat the players on the back and tell them how great they were. The Irish got serious in the second half and rolled from a 20-13 halftime lead to an easy 41-13 triumph.

**The Irony:** Air Force came in with the impressive ground-gaining stats and rankings, but it was Notre Dame that dominated the rushing column. The Irish rolled up 267 rushing yards while the Falcons managed only 170, including just 44 from dangerous quarterback Dee Dowis. No Falcon player gained

more than 46 net yards rushing.

**The Hero, Part I:** Notre Dame's defense held Air Force to only 48 net yards in the second half after a lackluster first half.

**The Hero, Part II:** Flanker Ricky Waters looked as comfortable at that position as he did all year, catching four passes, including TD grabs of 50 and 28 yards.

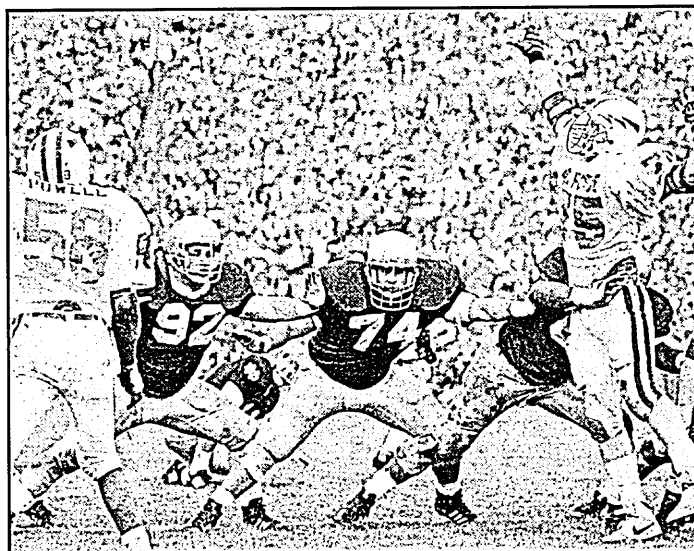
**The Speeches:** Several Irish seniors made impassioned comments in the locker room at halftime, and Notre Dame — without doubt — played with more emotion after the break.

**The Record:** With Joe Theismann watching from the press box, Irish quarterback Tony Rice became the most productive single-season rushing quarterback in a Notre Dame uniform — breaking Theismann's 1970 record of 384.

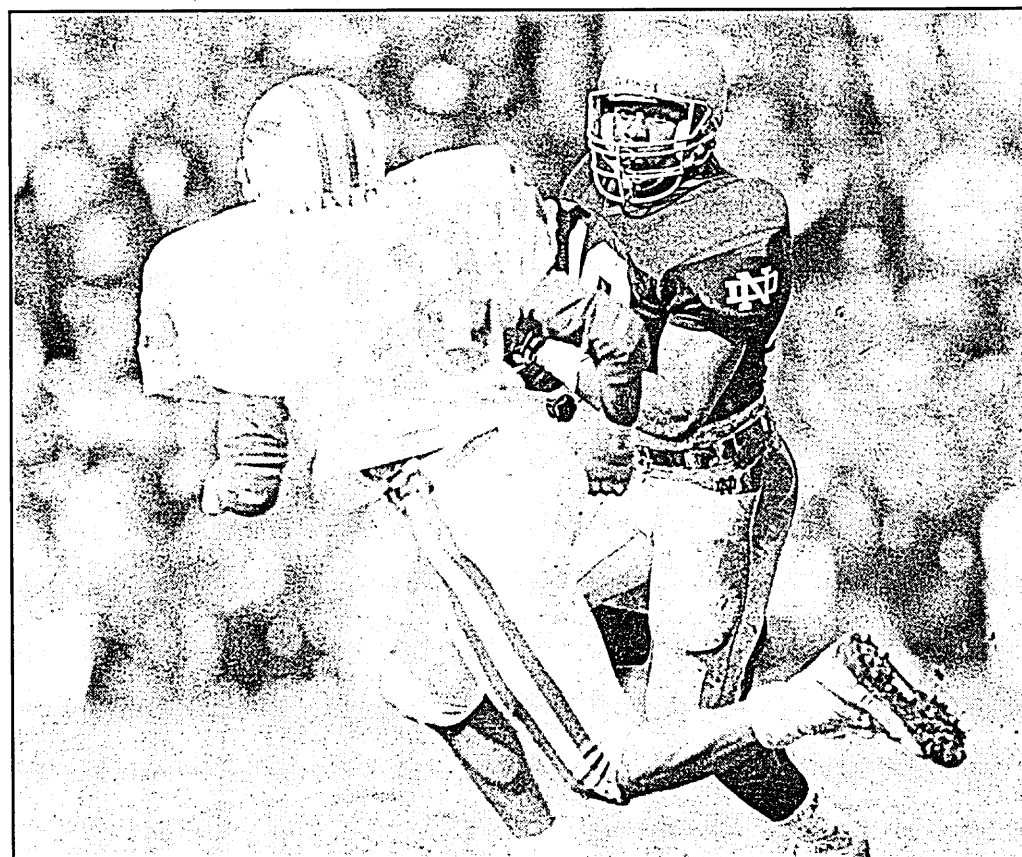
**The Key Move:** Notre Dame took control with a momentum-grabbing 81-yard drive to start the second half that produced a 27-13 advantage following a 42-yard scoring pass from Tony Rice to Tony Brooks.

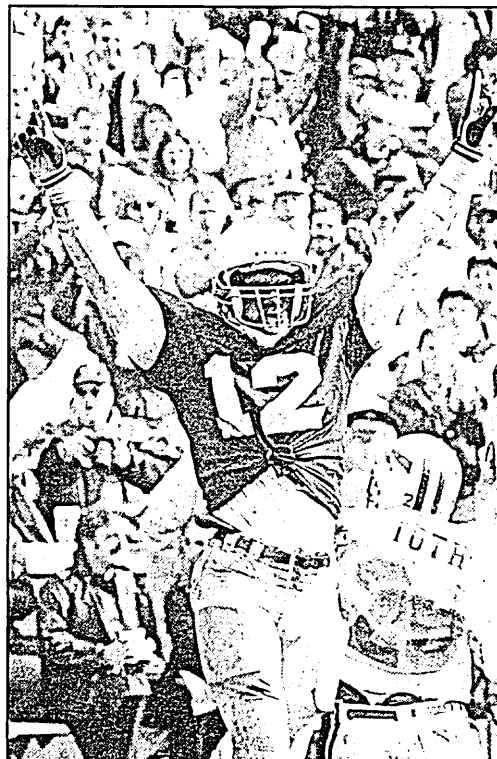
**The Holtz Post-game Quote:** "We won the football game and that's what we wanted. I thought we dominated the second half. We fought for our lives in the first half. At halftime, this was a real football game. But I was impressed by our team the second half."

*Notre Dame's defense, featuring Pat Terrell (#15) and Stan Smagala (#29), put the hurt on Air Force's potent rushing attack.*



Brian Flannery (#92) and Mirko Jurkovich (#74) gave Reggie Ho plenty of time to get off this field goal, while Ricky Watters (#12) and Tony Brooks (bottom) headed the Irish ground game.





Ricky Watters celebrates one of his two touchdown receptions.

## Notre Dame 41, Air Force 13

October 22, 1988

### Notre Dame Stadium

#### Scoring Summary

Notre Dame	7	13	14	7	-	41
Air Force	3	10	0	0	-	13

#### First Quarter

AF- Steve Yarbrough 22 FG at 6:29; Drive: 42 yards in 8 plays in 3:40 following Roberson punt return of 8; Big Play: Dowis 22 run; Score: AF 3-0.

ND-Mark Green 7 run (Reggie Ho kick) at 0:35; Drive: 71 yards in 11 plays in 5:54 following D'Juan Francisco kickoff return of 13; Score: ND 7-3.

#### Second Quarter

AF- Steve Yarbrough 37 FG at 11:59; Drive: 41 yards in 10 plays in 3:36 following Krauss kickoff return of 23; Big Play: Cochran 15 run on reverse; Score: ND 7-6.

ND-Tony Rice 4 run (Reggie Ho kick) at 5:55; Drive: 73 yards in 11 plays in 6:04 following Ricky Watters kickoff return of 24; Big Play: Ricky Watters 22 pass from Tony Rice; Score: ND 14-6.

ND-Anthony Johnson 12 run (run failed) at 2:41; Drive: 46 yards in 4 plays following Ricky Watters punt return of 36; Big Play: Tony Brooks 27 run; Score: ND 20-6.

AF- Andy Smith 3 run (Steve Yarbrough kick) at 0:44; Drive: 26 yards in 5 plays following Roberson kickoff return of

60; Score: ND 20-13.

#### Third Quarter

ND-Tony Brooks 42 run (Reggie Ho kick) at 10:28; Drive: 81 yards in 9 plays in 4:32 following Anthony Johnson kickoff return of 11; Score: ND 27-13.

ND-Ricky Watters 50 pass from Steve Belles (Reggie Ho kick) at 1:40; Drive: 67 yards in 4 plays in 1:45 following failed fourth down conversion by Air Force (gained 1 yard on 4th and 2); Score: ND 34-13.

#### Fourth Quarter

ND-Ricky Watters 28 pass from Tony Rice (Reggie Ho kick) at 7:02; Drive: 43 yards in 9 plays in 5:21 following punt return of 0 yards; Big Play: Rodney Culver 4 run on 4th and 1; Score: ND 41-13.

#### Individual Rushing

ND: Tony Brooks 12-85 (27 long) Mark Green 11-58-1 TD (10 long), Anthony Johnson 9-45-1 TD (12 long), Tony Rice 11-36-1 TD (11 long), Steve Belles 3-23 (18 long), Ricky Watters 3-10 (12 long), Rodney Culver 2-9 (5 long), Pete Graham 1-1; AF: Smith 13-46-1 TD (9 long), Dowis 9-44 (22 long), Booker 5-21 (10 long 97), McDowell 6-20 (15 long), Cochran 1-15, Roberson 8-14 (9 long), Johnson 3-10 (5 long).

#### Individual Passing

ND: Tony Rice 13-7-0-123-2 TD (42 long), Steve Belles 1-1-0-50-1 TD, Kent

Graham 1-1-0-4; AF: Dowis 9-5-0-46 (15 long), McDowell 2-0-0-0.

#### Individual Receiving

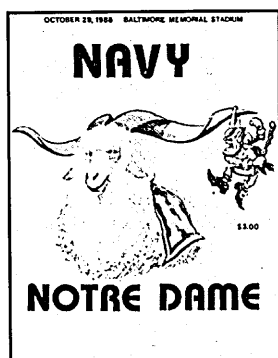
ND: Ricky Watters 4-108-2 TD (50 long), Mark Green 2-13 (7 long), Tony Brooks 1-42-1 TD, Derek Brown 1-10, Rod Smith 1-4; AF: Senn 2-27 (15 long), Cochran 1-8, Roberson 1-6, Booker 1-5.

#### Team Statistics

	ND	AF
First Downs.....	23	13
Rushing .....	18	10
Passing .....	5	3
Penalty .....	0	0
Rushing Attempts .....	52	45
Yards Rushing .....	283	195
Yards Lost Rushing .....	16	25
Net Yards Rushing .....	267	170
Net Yards Passing .....	177	46
Passes Attempted .....	15	11
Passes Completed .....	9	5
Had Intercepted .....	0	0
Total Offensive Plays.....	67	56
Total Net Yards .....	444	216
Average Gain Per Play ...	6.6	3.9
Fumbles: No.-Lost .....	1-1	1-1
Penalties: No.-Yards .....	6-50	7-35
Interceptions: No.-Yards ...	0-0	0-0
No. of Punt-Yards .....	3-120	5-188
Average Per Punt .....	40.0	37.6
Punt Returns: No.-Yards ...	3-43	1-6
Kickoff Returns: No.-Yards ..	4-59	6-170
Third Down Conversions ..	5-10	3-12

# Game 8

22-7



## What they said...

Notre Dame's Fighting Irish couldn't cover the point spread of 34, and certainly didn't look like the No. 2 team in the country.

But they did win, 22-7, over Navy's Midshipmen before 54,929 Saturday at Baltimore's Memorial Stadium.

"We dropped some passes, we had a lot of penalties, and really we did a lot of things to make it a long afternoon," disappointed Notre Dame coach Lou Holtz said.

Despite struggling on offense, dropping five passes, suffering 90 yards in penalties, fumbling the ball away twice and having problems with the special teams for the second consecutive week, the Irish found themselves 8-0 with Rice, one of the nation's worst teams, next on the schedule.

Navy, 3-5 after a 25th consecutive loss in this long series, didn't go down Saturday without a fight. The Irish led 16-0 at halftime, but scored just once on the Middies in the second half and then held on for the victory.

"The people who say we were 34-point underdogs don't understand the heart and pride of the Navy football team," said second-year Navy Coach Elliot Uzelac, a former Western Michigan head coach and Michigan assistant who has a 43-53 career coaching record.

"They never give up, you have to give them that," said Irish quarterback Tony Rice, who led Notre Dame rushers with 88 yards and

was 9-of-19 passing for 95 yards and one touchdown, despite five drops by his receivers.

"We just didn't click, sometimes it seemed like we were in slow motion or just not making the right decisions, but they played hard too," Rice added. "Give them some credit."

Oct. 30, 1988 *Grand Rapids Press*

Notre Dame defeated Navy, 22-7, in Baltimore on Oct. 29 to earn college football's number one ranking for the first time this season.

But what was reason for celebration in most Irish camps was reason for consternation on the face of Head Coach Lou Holtz after the game.

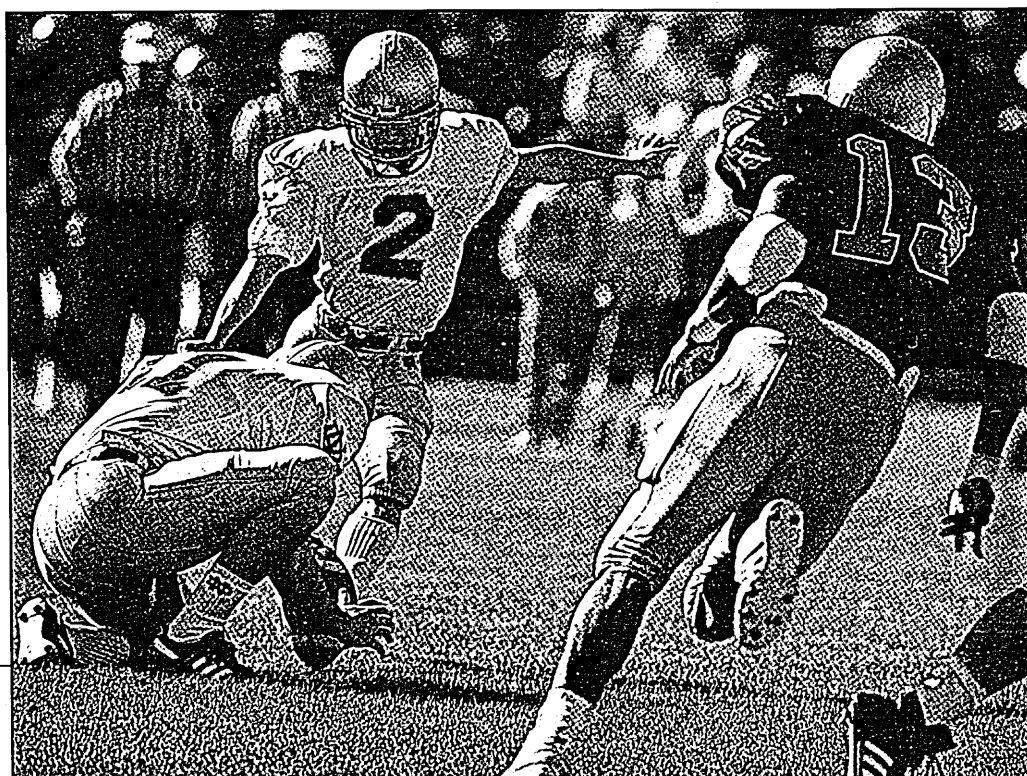
"The first thing I want to do is to compliment the Naval Academy," said Holtz. "I think they played above their ability and they really took it to us. At the same time, I am very disappointed with the way we played, especially on offense."

Holtz was not just trying to fire his team up to play hard for the remainder of the season. The Irish truly could not put the feisty Midshipmen away until late in the fourth quarter.

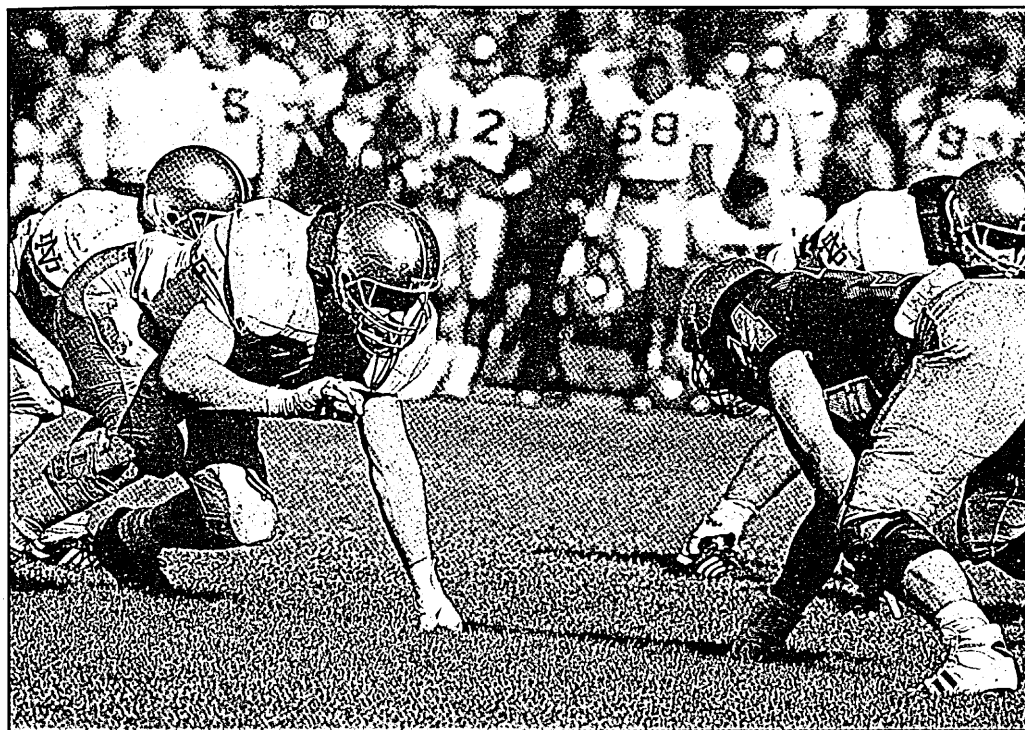
Not that they didn't have their chances. But nearly every time the Irish threatened to take control, they self-destructed in some area.

Jan. 19, 1989 *The Observer*

Reggie Ho connected on a 29-yard field goal as the first half ended to give Notre Dame a 16-0 lead.







**The Matchup:** #2 Notre Dame (7-0) vs. Navy (3-4), October 29 in Memorial Stadium, Baltimore, Md.

**The Holtz Pre-game Quote:** "I don't expect our team to be flat this week or any week. We scrimmaged hard for two hours every other day last spring and the intensity was tremendous. There weren't many people in the stands, but they really went after it. I told them, 'Man, if you're going to do it like that in the spring, you've got to do it when the television lights are on and the fans are in the stands.' That's why I'm never concerned about us not playing hard."

**The Angle:** Notre Dame was trying to move to 8-0 for the first time since 1973 when the Irish went 11-0 and won the national championship.

**The Question:** Could the Irish prevail despite a drawn-out travel day in which Notre Dame's flight to Baltimore was postponed twice and didn't permit the team to arrive at its hotel until after 11:00 p.m.?

**The Answer:** Notre Dame was sporadic offensively, but the defense held tight when it counted in allowing just 192 total yards and the Irish escaped with the win.

**The Irony:** Though it probably was Notre Dame's least impressive outing of the season, it was good enough to move the Irish to the top of the polls after UCLA's 34-30 loss to Washington State.

**The Hero:** Once again, make it the Irish defense which permitted only one pass completion, didn't give up a first down to the Middies until the second period and held Navy to two first downs and 46 total yards in the opening half.

**The Frustrations:** Notre Dame never got its offense in gear, thanks to two lost fumbles, 90 yards in penalties, a missed PAT, a 10-yard punt that set up Navy's only TD and several dropped passes.

**The Key Move:** Navy almost fought its way back into the contest in the second half. With the score 22-7, Navy ran on fourth down and two from the Irish 32 with seven minutes left. After a lengthy measurement, the ball went back to Notre Dame on downs and the Irish held on for the victory.

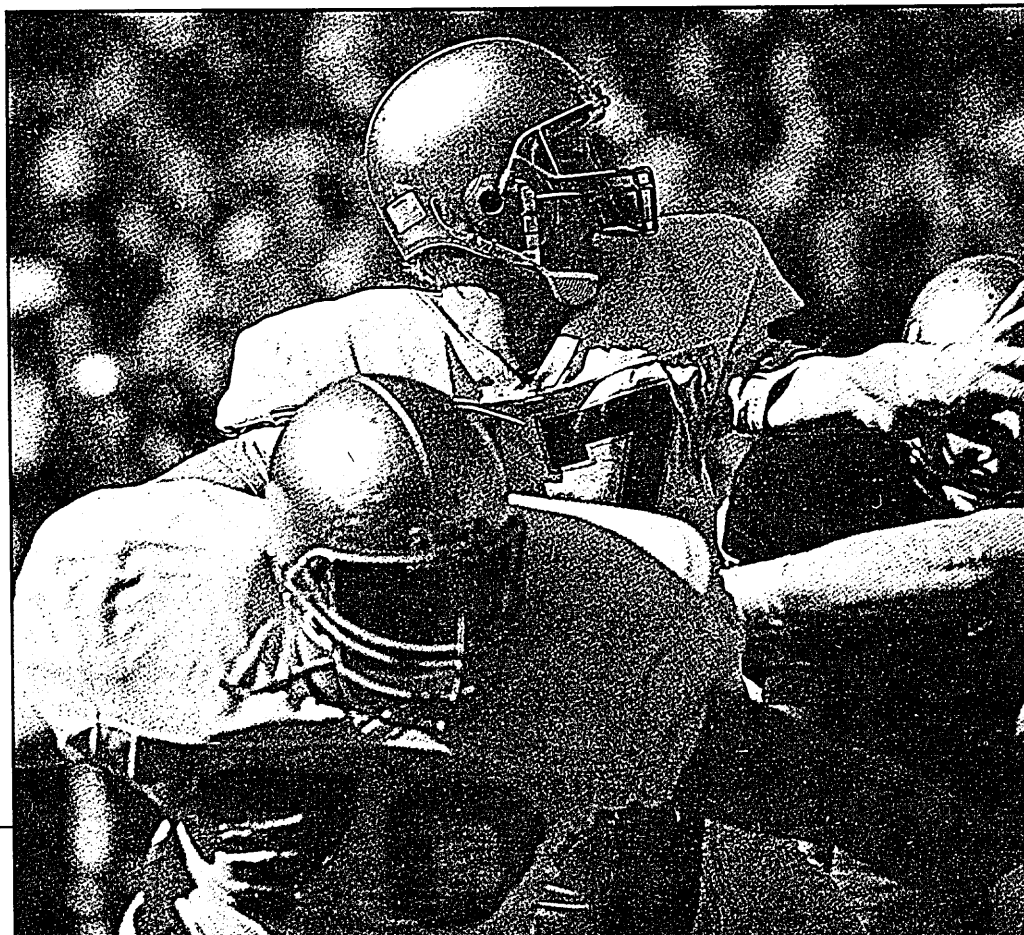
**The Holtz Post-game Quote:** "We're not a very good football team right now. Offensively, they whipped us up front. We were not mentally alert and that's no one's responsibility but mine."

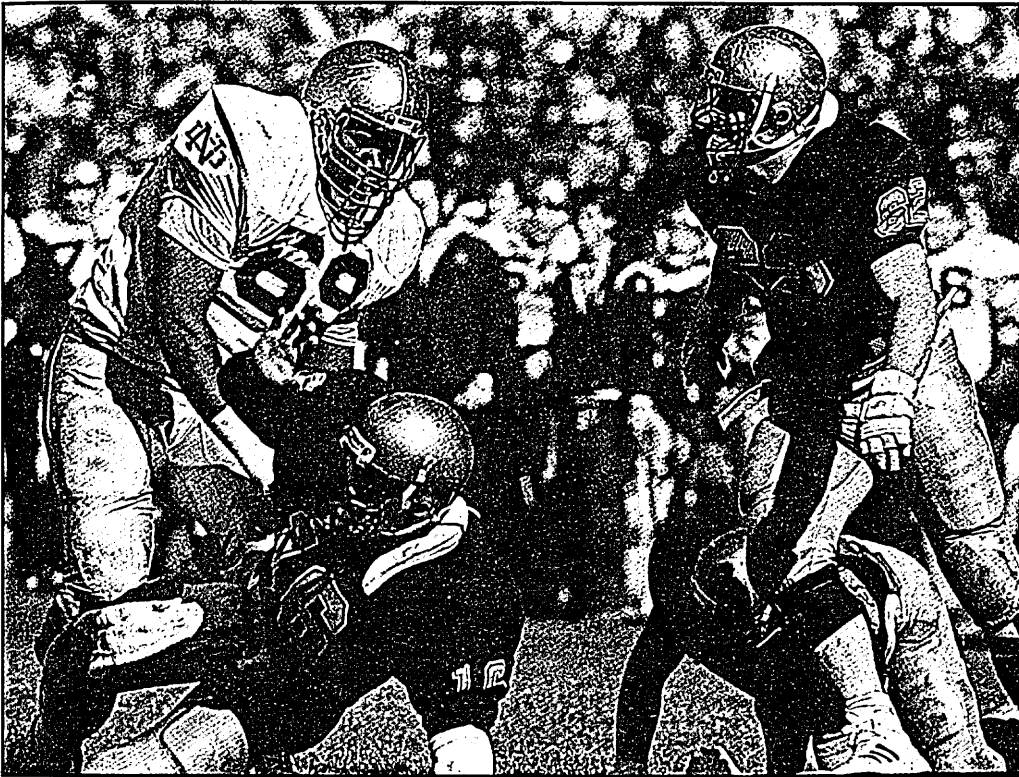
*The Irish defensive front limited Navy to 192 yards of total offense and only 10 first downs.*

## Notre Dame vs. Navy



*This was about all the standing around the Notre Dame defense did, while on the offensive side Irish quarterback Kent Graham completed four of his six pass attempts.*





George Williams kept pressure on the Navy quarterbacks, allowing them to complete only one pass.

## Notre Dame 22, Navy 7

### Memorial Stadium

October 29, 1988

#### Scoring Summary

Notre Dame	7	9	6	0	-	22
Navy	0	0	7	0	-	7

#### First Quarter

ND-Derek Brown 10 pass from Tony Rice (Reggie Ho kick) at 11:10; Drive: 27 yards in 6 plays in 3:05 following fumble by McIntosh; Score: ND 7-0.

#### Second Quarter

ND-Rodney Culver 22 run (kick failed); Drive: 68 yards in 7 plays in 6:14 following Ricky Watters punt return of 7; Big Play: Mark Green 8 run; Score: ND 13-0.

ND-Reggie Ho 29 FG at 0:00; Drive: 50 yards in 10 plays in 3:06; Big Play: Anthony Johnson 19 pass from Tony Rice; Score: ND 16-0.

#### Third Quarter

ND-Ryan Mihalko 1 run (run failed) at 11:56; Drive: 67 yards in 8 plays in 3:04 following D'Juan Francisco kick-off return of 17; Big Play: Tony Rice 18 run; Score: ND 22-0.

N-Grizzard 22 run (Fundoukos kick) at 3:30; Drive: 33 yards in 5 plays in 1:37 following Jim Sexton 10-yard punt; Score: ND 22-7.

#### Individual Rushing

ND: Tony Rice 12-88 (18 long), Mark Green 8-45 (14 long), Anthony Johnson 7-31 (13 long), Ricky Watters 3-5 (3 long), Tony Brooks 9-32 (15 long), Rodney Culver 6-57-1 TD (22 long), Steve Belles 3-8 (5 long), Ryan Mihalko 1-1-1 TD; Navy: Grizzard 14-73-1 TD (22 long), Sims 15-48 (9 long), Bradley 14-36 (6 long), Archer 3-26 (8 long), Johnson 2-10 (5 long), McIntosh 3-6 (5 long), Parifoy 1-(-6).

#### Individual Passing

ND: Tony Rice 19-9-0-95-1 TD (23 long), Kent Graham 6-4-0-34 (20 long); Navy: Grizzard 5-1-0-9.

#### Individual Receiving

ND: Mark Green 4-24 (15 long), Anthony Johnson 2-32 (19 long), Steve Alaniz 2-25 (20 long), Derek Brown 2-16 1 TD (10 long), Raghib Ismail 1-23, Ryan Mihalko 1-6, Tony Brooks 1-3; Navy: Jordan 1-9.

#### Team Statistics

	ND	N
First Downs.....	21	10
Rushing .....	13	9
Passing .....	6	0
Penalty .....	2	1
Rushing Attempts .....	49	52
Yards Rushing .....	284	203
Yards Lost Rushing .....	17	20
Net Yards Rushing .....	267	183
Net Yards Passing .....	129	9
Passes Attempted .....	25	5
Passes Completed .....	13	1
Had Intercepted .....	0	31
Total Offensive Plays.....	74	57
Total Net Yards .....	396	192
Average Gain Per Play .....	5.4	3.4
Fumbles: No.-Lost .....	3-2	3-1
Penalties: No.-Yards .....	7-90	4-45
Interceptions: No.-Yards .....	0-0	0-0
No. of Punts-Yards .....	6-199	7-243
Average Per Punt .....	33.2	34.7
Punt Returns: No.-Yards .....	2-12	3-19
Kickoff Returns: No.-Yards .....	2-21	4-80
Third Down Conversions .....	7-14	1-7

# Game 9

# 54-11



## What they said...

Notre Dame's freshman split end Raghib Ismail is called "the Rocket," partly because of his 4.28 speed in the 40-yard dash and partly because his first name is difficult to pronounce.

In Notre Dame's 54-11 cooking of Rice, Ismail showed off his speed with two touchdown kickoff returns and showed the Owls that no matter how hard it is to say his name (it's pronounced Ra-GIB), it's even tougher to catch him from behind.

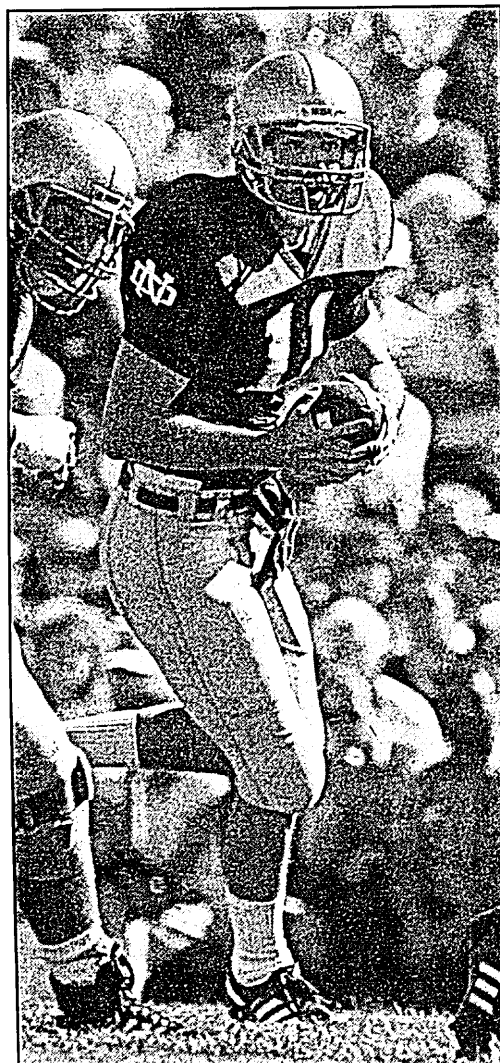
"I have to give credit where credit is due, and none of it goes to me," said Ismail, whose brother Qadry plays for Syracuse. "The whole key to the returns was getting through the first line of blocking, and nobody got a

clean shot at me. That is good blocking. I returned kickoffs in high school, but I get all my confidence from the blocking the kick return team gives me."

The first return, which went 83 yards and was keyed by a Steve Belles block, followed a Rice 70-yard opening drive that ended with a Clint Parsons' 23-yard field goal. The 3-0 Rice lead lasted all of 13 seconds.

"He (Ismail) hit it good," said Rice coach Jerry Berndt, who would see his team finish the season 0-11. "We made two crucial mistakes. We had a couple of guys out of lanes. But as soon as he hit it, I knew he had a touchdown."

Nov. 6, 1988 *The Observer*



Pete Graham was one of four Notre Dame quarterbacks to see action in the 54-11 win over Rice.

Notre Dame made short work of its concerns.

One week after playing well below their par at Navy, the Irish were on their game and all over Rice, 54-11.

On a dismal day, a damp crowd of 59,075 watched the 9-0 Irish make their shiny new No. 1 ranking look like a perfect fit.

"It was the type a week that scared me to death," remarked head coach Lou Holtz in the post-game conference. "I think the players could sense that. Watching them (0-8 Rice) on film, I am in shock. If you told me that would be the score, I would have never believed that. I think we were a little too strong for them overall and we were ready to play, I'll say that."

In the last five games, particularly on the road, the Southwest Conference member had been competitive and given a good account of itself. Saturday, they were way out of their league.

But the Owls did lead, 3-0, after their first possession. That lasted about 13 seconds. Freshman Raghib Ismail (they call him "Rocket") caught the ensuing kickoff at the 13 and, breaking up the right side, shed a couple of arm tackles before picking up a touchdown-clearing block from Steve Belles. Bill Hackett's PAT made it 7-3 and the Irish were off to the races.

Nov. 6, 1988 *South Bend Tribune*



**The Matchup:** #1 Notre Dame (8-0) vs. Rice (0-7), November 5 in Notre Dame Stadium.

**The Holtz Pre-game Quote, Part I:** "I'm not really concerned about where we're ranked. If you win enough games, the polls and the bowls take care of themselves. People ask me about being ranked here or there and all I want to know is, are they going to vote again? If they're going to vote again, I'm not really worried about the rankings this time. If this is the last poll, then I'm interested."

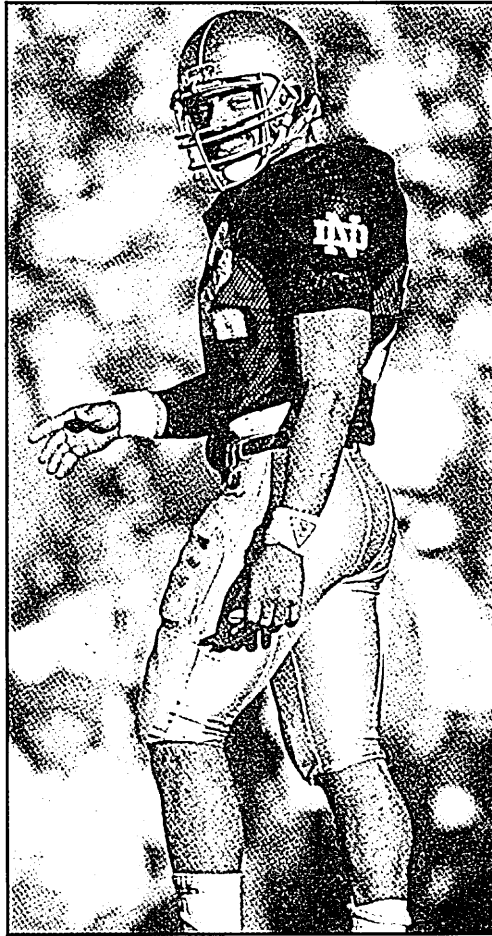
**The Holtz Pre-game Quote, Part II:** "Rice scares me to death."

**The Angle:** Notre Dame brought the number-one ranking into its own stadium for the first time since 1970 and ranked atop the polls for the first time since 1981.

**The Irony:** Notre Dame's first opponent as the top-ranked team is a team with the nation's longest losing streak.

**The Question:** How would the Irish respond to the pressure of being number one?

**The Answer:** Notre Dame responded by scoring on five of its six first-half possessions for a 31-6 lead at the break. The



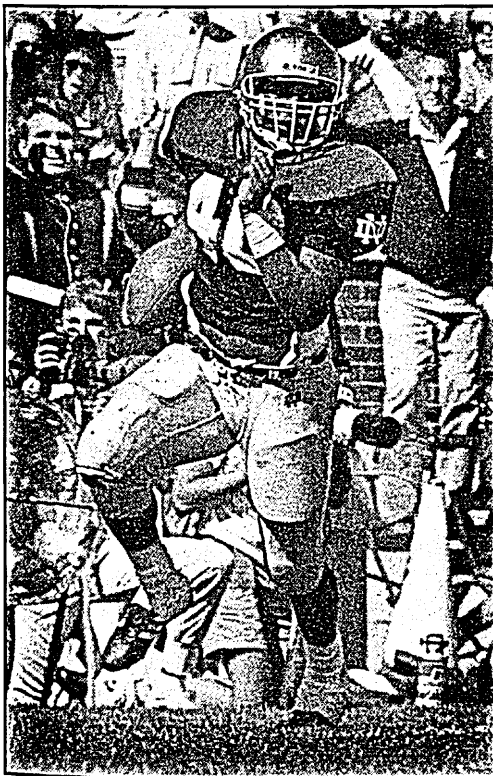
one time the Irish didn't score came when they lost a fumble at the Rice 20. Two plays later, Jeff Alm intercepted a Rice pass and Notre Dame needed just three plays to travel 18 yards to the goal line.

**The Hero:** Raghib Ismail tied an NCAA record by returning two kickoffs for touchdowns — once after the Owls had moved 70 yards downfield for a field goal on the opening possession and once early in the final period after another Rice field goal.

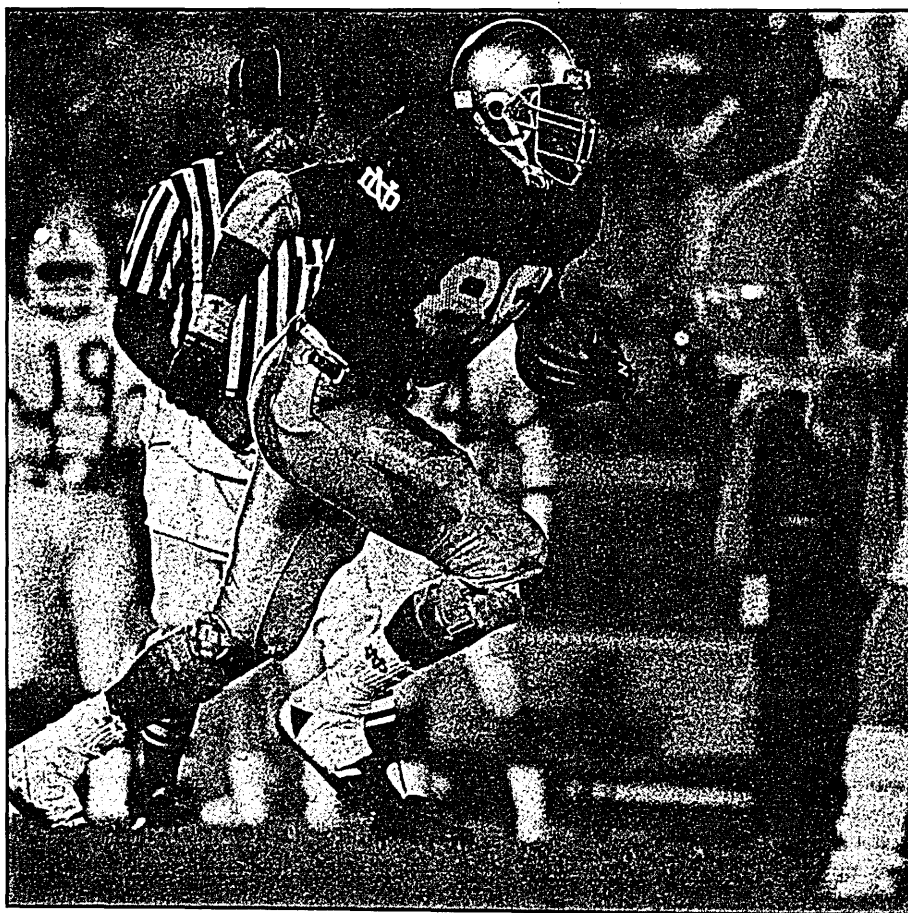
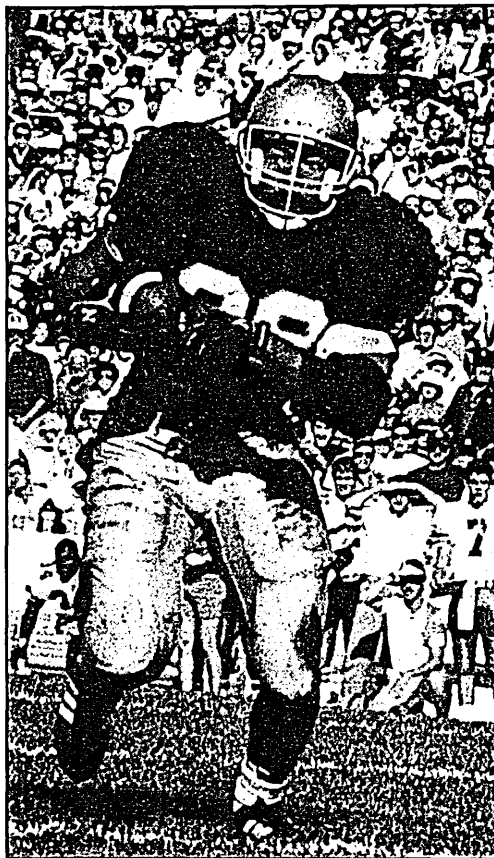
**The Unsung Hero:** Going up against all-star center Courtney Hall, Irish nose tackle Chris Zorich managed nine tackles, one sack and two tackles for lost yardage. He played a key role in holding Rice to minus-three rushing yards in the second half.

**The Holtz Post-game Quote:** "I am in shock. If you had told me this was going to be the score, I wouldn't have believed you. But we were ready to play and we were just a little too strong for them overall. I'd like to keep going after a game like this, but we've got an open date and we have to take it."

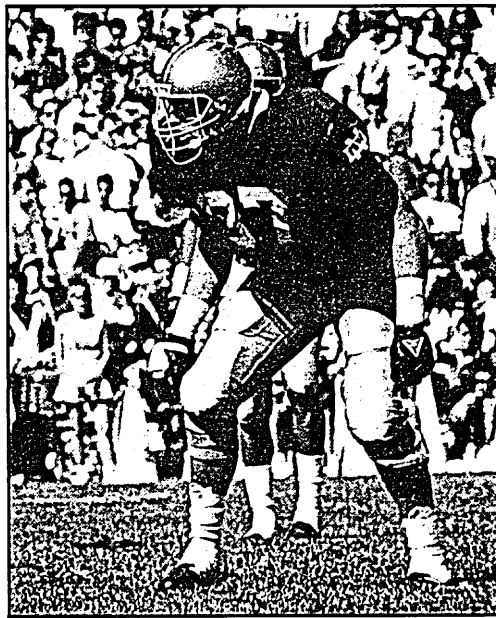
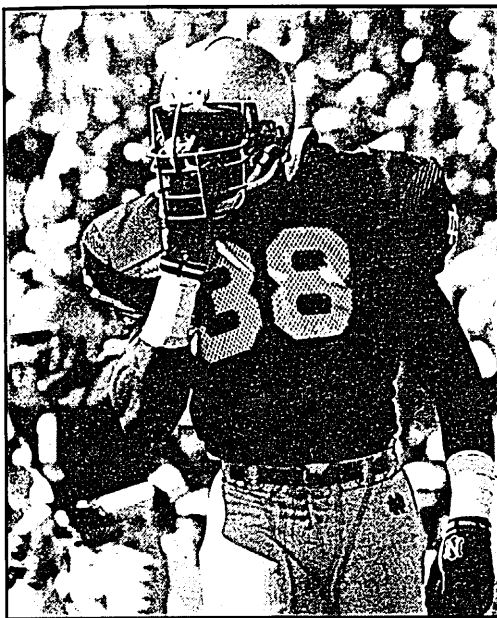
**Anthony Johnson (#22) and Tony Brooks (#40) combined for 94 rushing yards and two touchdowns.**







*Braxton Banks (#39) and Derek Brown (#86) were main targets for the Notre Dame quarterbacks.*



Flash Gordon (#38) and Scott Kowalkowski (#37) played a part in limiting Rice to 32 rushing yards.

## Notre Dame 54, Rice 11

November 5, 1988

### Notre Dame Stadium

#### Scoring Summary

Notre Dame	14	17	7	16	-	54
Rice	3	3	0	5	-	11

#### First Quarter

R- Clint Parsons 23 FG at 9:58; Drive: 70 yards in 10 plays in 5:02 following Henley kickoff return of 23; Big Play: Williams 22 pass from Roper on third and 5; Score: R 3-0.

ND-Raghib Ismail 87 kickoff return at 9:45; Drive: 87 yards in one play in 0:13; Score: ND 7-3.

ND-Anthony Johnson 2 run (Billy Hackett kick) at 4:59; Drive: 63 yards in 5 plays in 1:37 following Parsons punt of 26; Big Play: Mark Green 40 run to the eight-yard line; Score: ND 14-3.

#### Second Quarter

ND-Anthony Johnson 3 run (kick failed) at 13:17; Drive: 75 yards in 8 plays in 2:56 following Parsons punt of 38; Big Play: Derek Brown 41 pass from Tony Rice; Score: ND 20-3.

ND-Tony Brooks 1 run (Anthony Johnson run) at 6:28; Drive: 18 yards in 3 plays in 1:05 following Jeff Alm interception return of 5; Big Play: Tony Brooks 14 run to the 1-yard line; Score: ND 28-3.

R- Clint Parsons 41 FG at 2:00; Drive: 44 yards in 11 plays in 4:28 following Williams kickoff return of 17; Big Play: Cyphers 19 run; Score: ND 28-6.

ND-Billy Hackett 42 FG at 0:19; Drive: 45 yards in 10 plays in 1:41 following Braxton Banks kickoff return of 13; Big Play: Mark Green 22 pass from Kent Graham; Score: ND 31-6.

#### Third Quarter

ND-Rodney Culver 19 run (Billy Hackett

kick) at 9:15; Drive: 70 yards in 6 plays in 2:18 following Wes Pritchett fumble recovery; Big Play: Tony Brooks 20 run; Score: ND 38-6.

#### Fourth Quarter

R- Clint Parsons 45 FG at 14:55; Drive: 20 yards in 7 plays in 2:57 following Henley punt return of 3; Big Play: ND personal foul of 15 yards moving ball from own 32 to 17; Score: ND 38-9.

ND-Raghib Ismail 83 kickoff return (Billy Hackett kick) at 14:42; Drive: 83 yards in 1 play in 0:13; Score: ND 45-9.

ND-Billy Hackett 28 FG at 5:24; Drive: 66 yards in 16 plays in 7:23 following Raghib Ismail punt return of 9; Big Play: Aaron Robb 15 pass from Kent Graham; Score: ND 48-9.

ND-Joe Jarosz 6 run (kick blocked and return for score at 0:46); Drive: 60 yards in 8 plays in 3:44 following fumble recovery by Steve Roddy; Big Play: Personal foul on Rice on missed field goal attempt by Reggie Ho on fourth and 6 from the 21; Score: ND 54-9.

R- Bill Stone scores on extra point attempt blocked by Nigel Corrington at 0:46; Score: ND 54-11.

#### Individual Rushing

ND: Mark Green 5-66 (40 long), Tony Brooks 9-52-1 TD (20 long), Anthony Johnson 9-42-2 TD (20 long), Tony Rice 3-38 (16 long), Rodney Culver 3-25-1 TD (19 long), Ricky Watters 6-19 (7 long), Steve Belles 4-19 (7 long), Braxton Banks 3-13 (8 long), Joe Jarosz 1-6-1 TD, Kent Graham 4-6 (3 long), Mike Gatti 1-4, Ryan Mihalko 1-4, Rusty Setzer 2-1 (2 long), Pete Graham 1-(-1); Rice: Cyphers 13-35 (13 long),

Henley 1-8, Williams 6-3 (5 long), Schrader 1-0, Roper 13-(-14), (14 long).

#### Individual Passing

ND: Tony Rice 8-3-0-80 (41 long), Kent Graham 10-6-0-65 (22 long); Rice: Roper 35-21-1-197 (23 long), Schrader 1-0-1-0.

#### Individual Receiving

ND: Braxton Banks 2-11 (6 long), Mark Green 2-28 (22 long), Derek Brown 1-41, Anthony Johnson 1-28, Pat Eilers 1-15, Raghib Ismail 1-11, Aaron Robb 1-11; Rice: Henley 7-47 (12 long), Cyphers 4-36 (19 long), Boudousqule 3-51 (23 long), Williams 2-28 (22 long), Turner 2-16 (9 long), Cravin 2-12 (8 long), Winn 1-7.

#### Team Statistics

	ND	R
First Downs.....	24	16
Rushing .....	16	4
Passing .....	7	10
Penalty .....	1	2
Rushing Attempts .....	52	34
Yards Rushing .....	299	91
Yards Lost Rushing .....	5	59
Net Yards Rushing .....	294	32
Net Yards Passing .....	145	197
Passes Attempted .....	18	36
Passes Completed .....	9	21
Had Intercepted .....	0	2
Total Offensive Plays.....	70	70
Total Net Yards .....	439	229
Average Gain Per Play .....	6.3	3.3
Fumbles: No.-Lost .....	2-2	2-2
Penalties: No.-Yards.....	6-59	6-58
Interceptions: No.-Yards...	2-13	0-0
No. of Punts-Yards.....	2-64	6-204
Average Per Punt .....	32.0	34.0
Punt Returns: No.-Yards...	2-7	1-3
Kickoff Returns: No.-Yards.	4-200	8-130
Third Down Conversions..	6-11	6-17

# Game 10

21-3



## What they said...

By killing off one more long-standing debt Saturday afternoon, Notre Dame kept all the intrigue alive.

Nemesis Penn State fell in its path, 21-3, while No. 2 Southern California waits six days ahead.

The showdown of the season, the big one, No. 1 vs. No. 2, is all set and ready to go after the Irish shaved the Nittany Lions for the first time since 1984. Meanwhile, USC polished off UCLA, 31-22.

"Ever since I've been here I've dreamed about this," Notre Dame tackle Andy Heck said after Notre Dame's 10th straight victory and 12th straight in Notre Dame Stadium. "We're No. 1 and 10-0 going into the last game against our greatest rival — I couldn't ask for more. Maybe it will be the game of the century."

Nov. 20, 1988 *South Bend Tribune*

Revenge might be sweet, but nobody said it had to be fair.

Against Penn State it wasn't, as Notre Dame took out the frustration of three straight losses to strong Penn State teams on a rare weak one. The Irish totaled 502 yards and powered to a 21-3 victory in their last home game of the year.

The win was the first over Penn State for Notre Dame's seniors and sent Nittany Lions coach Joe Paterno home with his first losing season (5-6) in 23 years at the helm.

"I just feel great for the seniors and the things we've done," said Irish senior tailback Mark Green, who scored on a 22-yard run in the second quarter. "It's great to go out with a bang and finally beat Penn State. We've never beaten them before."

The Irish not only beat the Nittany Lions — they nearly blanked them. Penn State scored its only points on Eric Etze's 52-yard field goal on the last play of the first half. The attempt was made possible only after Notre Dame was hit with a 15-yard facemask penalty on the previous seven-yard run by Penn State's Leroy Thompson.

In fact, Penn State moved the ball more on Notre Dame penalties (eight for 94 yards) than on pass completions (5-of-24 for 74). The Irish defense broke up 10 Lion passing attempts and Jeff Alm and Steve Roddy each



snared an interception.

Penn State did not complete a single pass in the second or third quarters.

"We just didn't have enough offensively," said Paterno, whose team managed 105 yards on 31 rushing attempts. "Notre Dame played hard, they played alert, and played very aggressively."

Jan. 19, 1989 *The Observer*

*Tony Rice had 84 of the Irish 301 rushing yards, including a two-yard touchdown plunge in the first period.*

**The Matchup:** #1 Notre Dame (9-0) vs. Penn State (5-5), November 19 in Notre Dame Stadium.

**The Holtz Pre-game Quote:** "This is new for me because I've never been number one before. You're not talking to Knute Rockne or Ara (Parseghian) or Jimmy Johnson. They've been there. I'm the guy who's usually looking at it from the tilted side of the field. I would like to get to the point that everybody says, ho-hum, we're number one and it's no big deal. I'd like to be number one and have nobody here even know it."

**The Angle, Part I:** Penn State had to defeat the Irish to avoid its first losing season in 50 years.

**The Angle, Part II:** Notre Dame was attempting to end its home season unbeaten for the second straight year and move its homefield winning streak to 12, the longest since a 28-gamer that covered the 1942-50 seasons.

**The Question:** Can the Irish prevail against a Penn State team that has beaten them six times in seven attempts since the series was renewed in 1981?

**The Answer:** The score doesn't show it, but Notre Dame dominates with 502 total yards — while limiting the Nittany Lions to 105 rushing yards and only five pass completions in 24 attempts. Penn State keeps it respectable because of a missed field goal and three Irish turnovers deep in Nittany Lion territory.

**The Irony:** A couple of Pennsylvanians — Raghib Ismail from Wilkes-Barre and Ricky Watters from Harrisburg — each put nails in the Penn State coffin. Ismail catches a 67-yard bomb from Tony Rice for the final Irish points. Watters enjoys one of his better receiving days with four grabs for 71 yards.

**The Hero:** Tony Rice throws for 191 yards and runs for 84 more — running for one score and throwing for another.

**The Unsung Hero:** Defensive tackle Jeff Alm moved into the team lead for interceptions with his third of the year. He also forced a fumble, broke up another pass and had two tackles for lost yardage.

**The Key Move:** Notre Dame's defense kept the Nittany Lions on their own side of midfield for the entire second half,

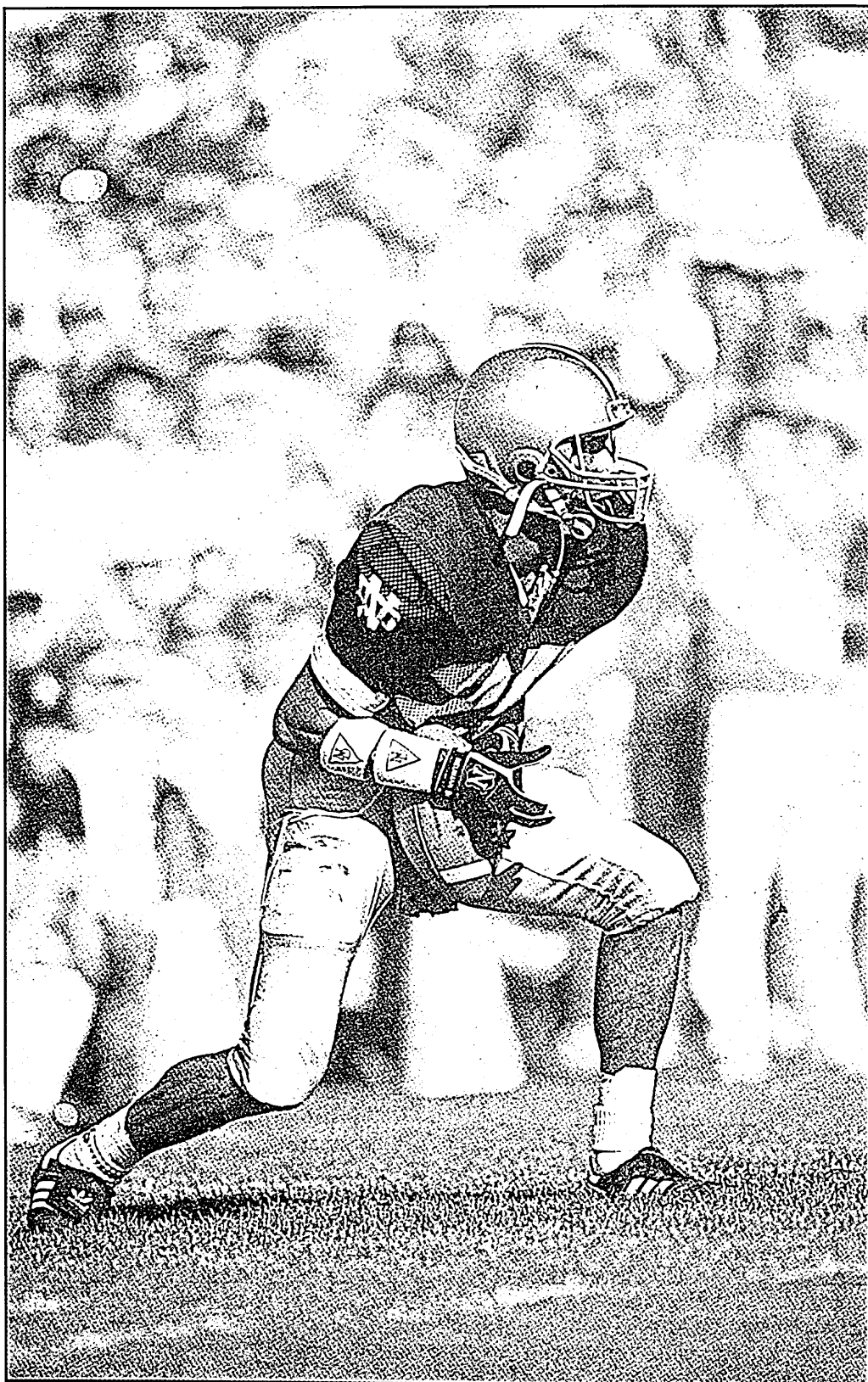


other than one possession when Penn State got as far as the Irish 38 before misfiring on a pass out of punt formation on fourth-and-12.

**The Spoils:** Notre Dame's victory earned the Irish an invitation to the Fiesta Bowl to face unbeaten West Virginia.

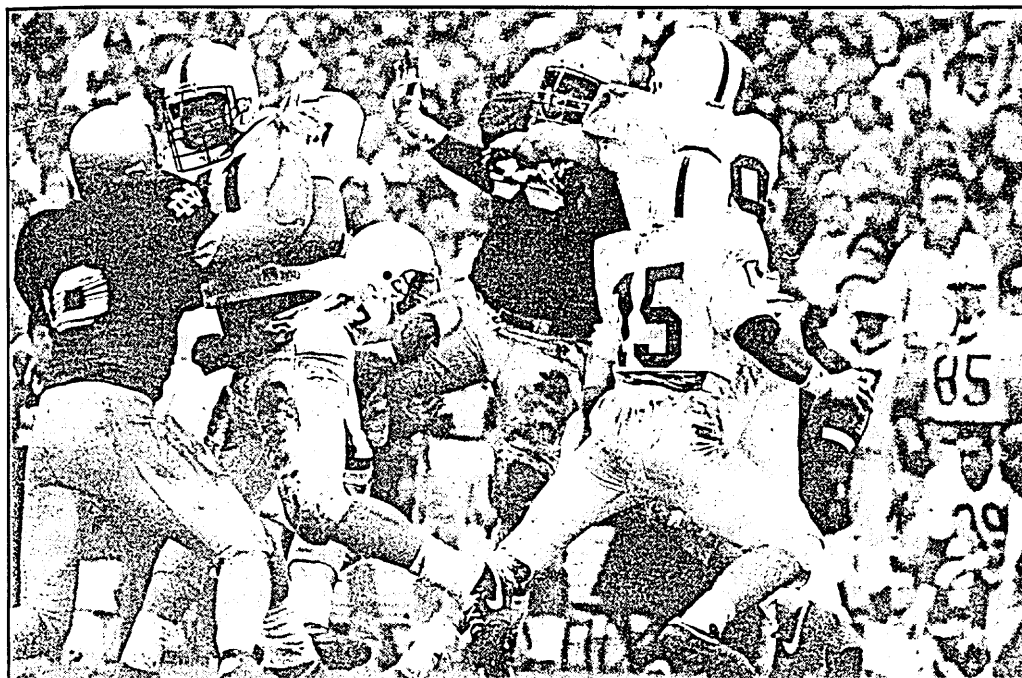
**The Holtz Post-game Quote:** "I'm happy for the football team. Other than penalties, turnovers and the kicking game, they played outstanding. I'm happy for the seniors. They're going out of here not having lost at home in two years."

*Ricky Watters hauled in four passes, including a 27-yard reception that set up Notre Dame's second touchdown.*



*Raghib Ismail pulled in two passes, one that covered 67 yards for an Irish touchdown.*





George Williams and the Irish defense kept Penn State's Lance Lonergran on the run.

## Notre Dame 21, Penn State 3

November 19, 1988

### Notre Dame Stadium

#### Scoring Summary

Notre Dame	7	7	7	0	-	21
Penn State	0	3	0	0	-	3

#### First Quarter

ND-Tony Rice 2 run (Reggie Ho kick) at 5:12; Drive: 87 yards in 12 plays in 5:43 following fair catch by Ricky Watters; Big Play: Tony Rice 31 run; Score: ND 7-0.

#### Second Quarter

ND-Mark Green 22 run (Reggie Ho kick) at 9:35; Drive: 60 yards in 5 plays in 1:40 following Ricky Watters punt return of 1; Big Play: Ricky Watters 27 pass from Tony Rice; Score: ND 14-0.

PS- Eric Etze 52 FG at 0:00; Drive: 33 yards in 5 plays in 0:22 following interception return of 22 by Rainge; Big Play: 15 yard face mask penalty on Notre Dame; Score ND 14-3.

#### Third Quarter

ND-Raghib Ismail 67 pass from Tony Rice (Reggie Ho kick) at 8:47; Drive: 67 yards in 1 play and 0:10; Score: ND 21-3.

#### Individual Rushing

ND: Tony Rice 15-84-1 TD (27 long), Mark Green 15-64-1 TD (22 long), Braxton Banks 7-63 (28 long), Tony Brooks 16-54 (12 long), Rodney Culver 7-30 (11 long), Ricky Watters 1-7, Ryan Mihalko 1-2, Rusty Setzer 1-0, Steve Belles 1-(-3); PS: Thompson 13-47 (14 long), Gash 3-28 (23 long), Brown 11-23 (11 long), Lonergran 3-18 (14 long), Sacca 1-(-11).

#### Individual Passing

ND: Tony Rice 18-10-2-191-1 TD (67 long), Pete Graham 1-1-0-10; PS: Lonergran 16-3-1-39 (20 long), Sacca 6-2-0-35 (18 long), Florkiewicz 1-1-0-10, Smith 1-0-0-0.

#### Individual Receiving

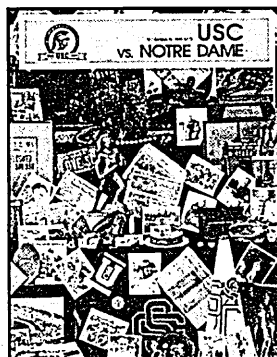
ND: Ricky Watters 4-71 (27 long), Raghib Ismail 2-78-1 TD (67 long), Mark Green 1-20, Frank Jacobs 1-14, Rodney Culver 1-10, Joe Jarosz 1-10, Tony Brooks 1-(-2); PS: Daniels 3-46 (17 long), Timpson 1-20, Jakob 1-8.

#### Team Statistics

	ND	PS
First Down .....	24	11
Rushing .....	17	6
Passing .....	6	3
Penalty .....	1	2
Rushing Attempts .....	63	31
Yards Rushing .....	313	128
Yards Lost Rushing .....	12	23
Net Yards Rushing .....	301	105
Net Yards Passing .....	201	74
Passes Attempted .....	19	24
Passes Completed .....	11	5
Had Intercepted .....	2	2
Total Offensive Plays .....	82	55
Total Net Yards .....	502	179
Average Gain Per Play .....	6.1	3.3
Fumbles: No.-Lost .....	1-1	2-1
Penalties: No.-Yards .....	8-94	5-33
Interceptions: No.-Yards .....	2-0	2-29
No. of Punts-Yards .....	4-154	8-324
Average Per Punt .....	38.5	40.5
Punt Returns: No.-Yards .....	3-(-5)	2-12
Kickoff Returns: No.-Yards .....	1-12	4-57
Third Down Conversions .....	6-14	3-14

# Game 11

27-10



## What they said...

The Fighting Irish of Notre Dame are not necessarily dominant or stylish at all times, but they manage to win all the time.

Showing a blitz-filled defense for the first time this year, and shaking opportunity's hand when it knocked with fumbles and interceptions, the No. 1 Fighting Irish finished the regular season a perfect 11-0 with a 27-10 win over No. 2 USC Saturday before 93,829 fans in the Los Angeles Coliseum.

"We blitzed more than we have in the past, and we were opportunistic and scored when Southern Cal made turnovers," offered Irish Coach Lou Holtz, whose team can probably lock up the national championship with a win over West Virginia in the Fiesta Bowl.

"It wasn't all that pretty. In fact, I tell the team that the only thing they were prettier than is me, and that's not saying much. We just did what we had to do to win."

Nov. 27, 1988 *Grand Rapids Press*

Since when does Oklahoma take a back seat to Notre Dame on the option play?

Since Saturday, of course. USC stopped the Sooners, famed runners of the wishbone, early this season. USC didn't stop Notre Dame.

The Fighting Irish used their option to rush for 162 yards in their 27-10 victory over USC at the Coliseum. The Trojans hadn't allowed that many rushing yards since the Arizona game seven weeks ago, or that many points since the Washington game five weeks ago.

"With Oklahoma, Washington, Arizona, I came up to make someone outside take me,"

USC cornerback Ernest Spears said. "But (the Irish) had everyone covered. It was about as good as Arizona's. Those two stick out in my mind."

Nov. 27, 1988 *Orange County Register*

The team that was "a year away" put itself 60 minutes away from the 1988 national championship against USC.

Notre Dame cashed in on numerous Southern Cal mistakes and toppled the Trojans 27-10 in the Los Angeles Coliseum to finish the regular season.

The way the Irish defense pressured Southern Cal quarterback Rodney Peete had to make the Heisman Trophy candidate long for the days of measles and laryngitis, which slowed, but did not stop Peete over the two weeks prior to the Notre Dame game.

Jan. 19, 1989 *The Observer*

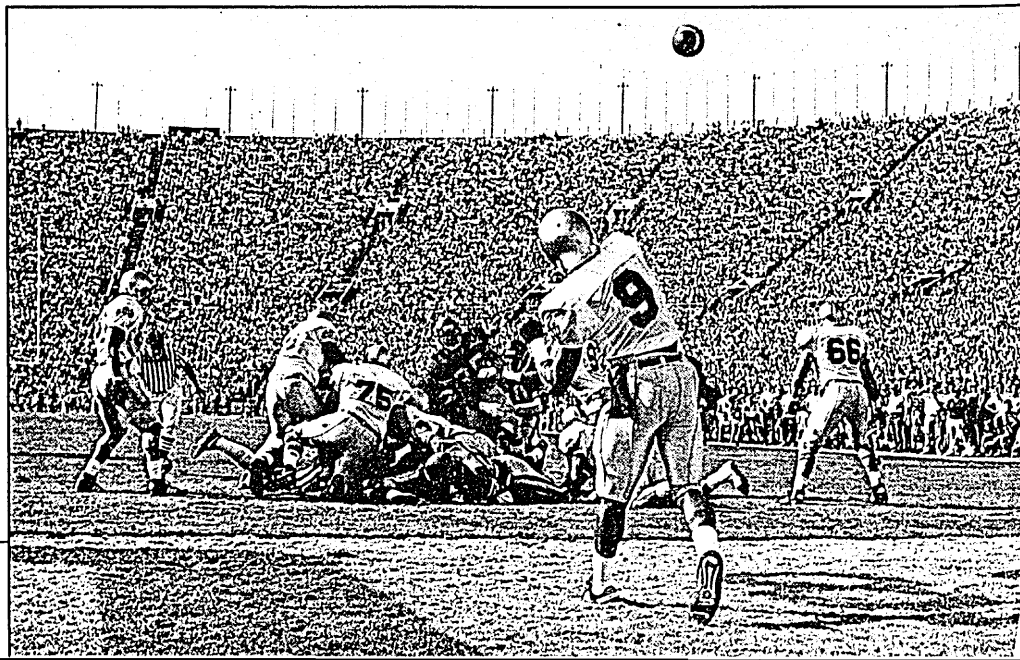
In the most important game of the season and, for that matter, one of the most significant in any season, USC made just enough errors to help Notre Dame retain its No. 1 college football ranking.

Clearly, though, Notre Dame was the better team Saturday at the Coliseum, winning 27-10 before a crowd of 93,829.

The Irish beat the Trojans on big plays, a 65-yard touchdown run by quarterback Tony Rice in the first quarter and a 64-yard interception return for a touchdown by cornerback Stan Smagala in the second quarter.

Nov. 27, 1988 *Los Angeles Times*

From deep in his own territory, Tony Rice hooked with Raghib Ismail for a 55-yard pass play on the first Irish play from scrimmage.



**The Matchup:** #1 Notre Dame (10-0) vs. #2 USC (10-0), November 25 in Los Angeles Coliseum, Los Angeles, Calif.

**The Holtz Pre-game Quote:** "This isn't the end of the journey. We haven't accomplished anything yet. All we've done is put ourselves in position to do something big. We're 10-0, but this isn't where we want to end."

**The Angle, Part I:** Despite the huge accomplishments of both programs, this marks the first time Notre Dame and USC have faced each other with perfect records. The only times both teams were unbeaten were 1947 (Notre Dame #1 at 8-0, USC 7-0-1) and 1973 (Notre Dame 5-0, USC 5-0-1).

**The Angle, Part II:** This marks the 24th time in the history of the Associated Press poll that the two top-ranked teams have met. Notre Dame was involved in six of the previous 23, going 2-0-1 as #1 and 0-2-1 as #2. Notre Dame had not won a #1 vs. #2 battle since doing it twice in 1943.

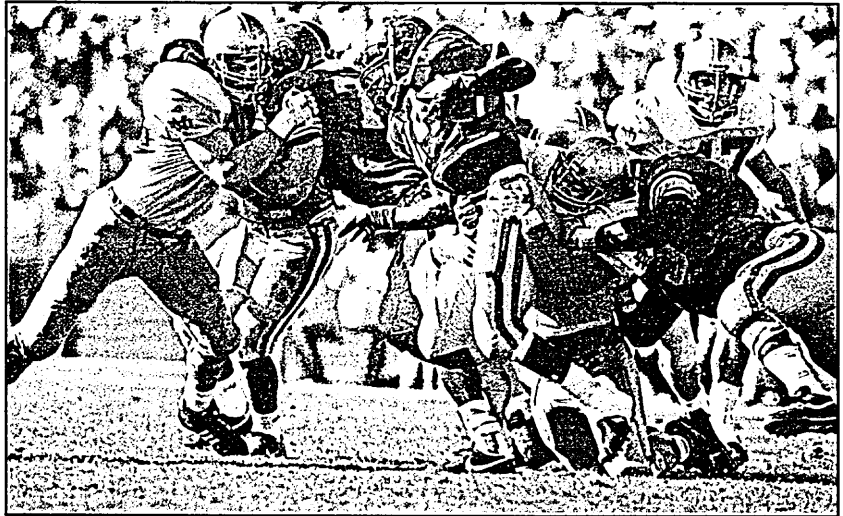
**The Question:** Could the Irish deal with the Trojans' 14-game winning streak (longest in the country), an offense averaging 472.1 yards per game led by Heisman Trophy candidate Rodney Peete and a defense leading the nation by allowing only 68.1 rushing yards per game?

**The Answer:** Notre Dame prevailed by gambling with one-on-one coverage of the Trojan receivers so it could put extra pressure on Rodney Peete. The Irish sacked him three times, forced four first-half turnovers and held USC to 10 points.

**The Irony, Part I:** Notre Dame triumphed despite only eight first downs, despite being outgained by more than 100 yards and despite going the entire second period and the first 14 minutes of the third without a first down.

**The Irony, Part II:** Notre Dame triumphed despite suspending its leading rusher (Tony Brooks) and leading receiver (Ricky Watters) before the game.

**The Hero:** They were the Irish big-play people — Tony Rice for his 65-yard option run, Stan Smagala for his 64-yard interception return, native Californian Mark Green for his two touchdowns and



defensive end Frank Stams for his nine tackles, two-and-a-half sacks and fumble recovery.

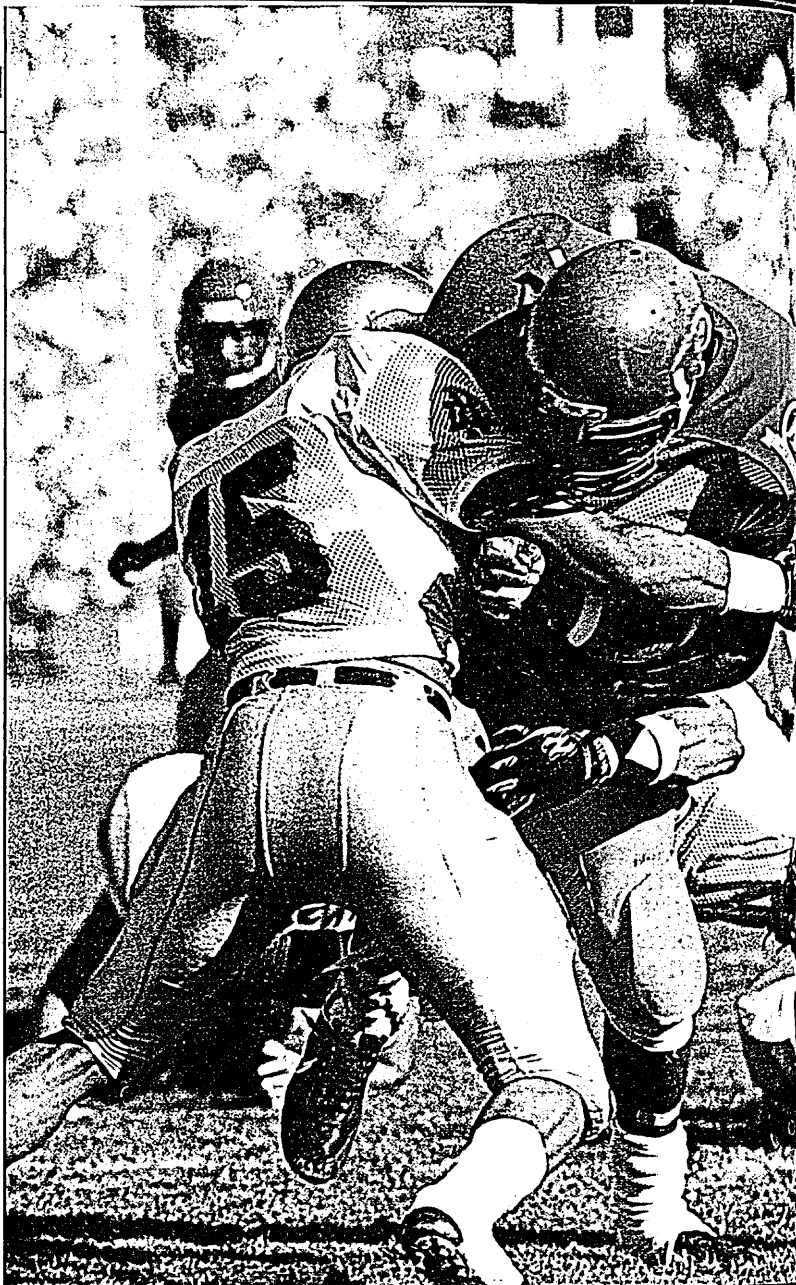
**The Unsung Hero:** Fullback Anthony Johnson made two critical plays on Notre Dame's final scoring drive. On third-and-three from midfield, he bulled off tackle for 10 yards. Then, on third-and-six from the USC 36, he took a screen pass through the right side for 23 yards.

**The Sting:** Notre Dame set the tone for the contest when Tony Rice threw a 55-yard bomb to Raghieb Ismail on the first Irish play from scrimmage after a USC punt had backed the visitors to their two.

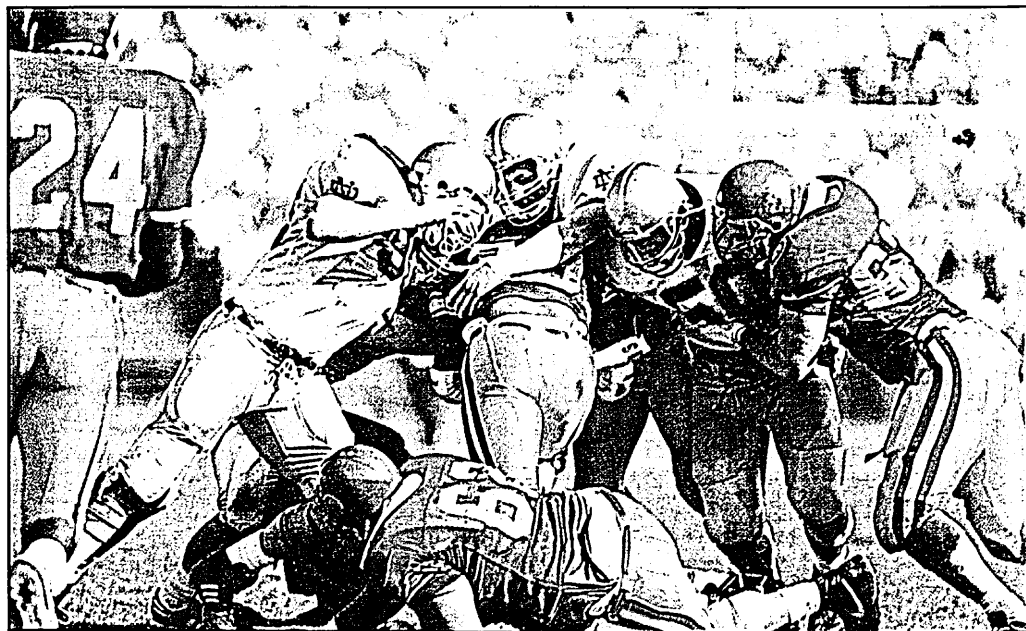
**The Key Move:** USC had a big chance to get back into the game late in the third period, starting with a first and goal from the Irish four with Notre Dame leading 20-7. The Irish defense made two critical stops of Aaron Emanuel, and then a procedure penalty vs. the Trojans forced them to settle for a field goal. Notre Dame then launched its 70-yard drive for the clinching score.

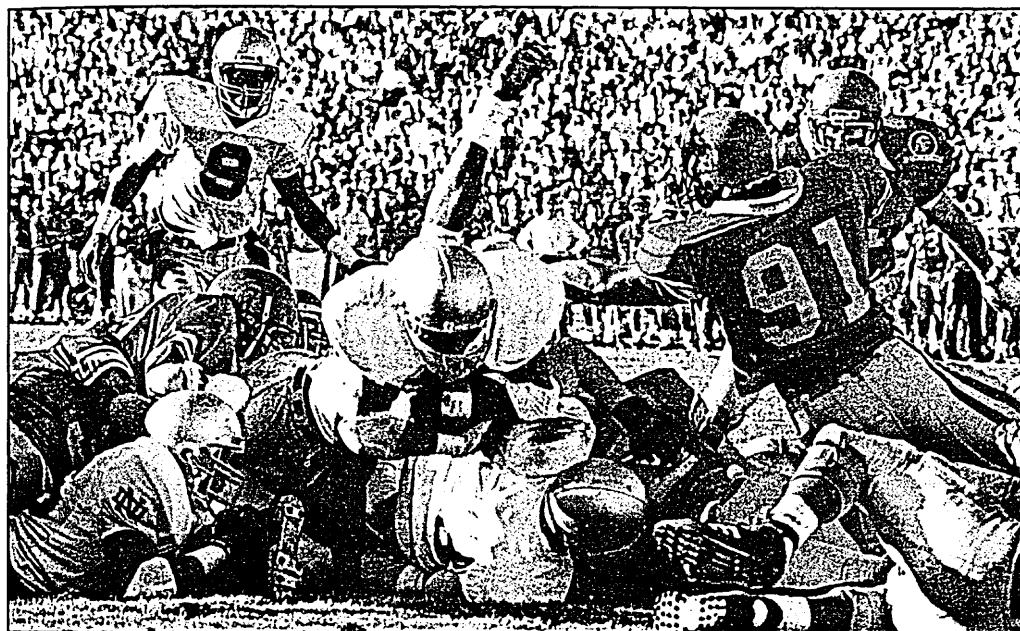
**The Holtz Post-game Quote:** "I think this team is underrated, even though we're number one. I've read articles people have sent me saying we were lucky against this team or that team. Our football team is prettier than I am, but that's about it. They don't play pretty all the time, but they sure play together as a team. I said to my wife on Tuesday that God works in strange ways. He's managed to expire my enthusiasm and energy at the same time as our season. I'm completely beat right now. I have absolutely no emotion. But I'm thrilled for our players."

*Chris Zorich found his way into the USC backfield on many occasions.*



*Rodney Peete and the USC offense became very familiar with the Notre Dame defensive unit.*





Mark Green's one-yard TD dive in the fourth quarter gave the Irish the final margin of victory, 27-10.

Notre Dame 27, USC 10

November 26, 1988

## L.A. Memorial Coliseum

## Scoring Summary

Notre Dame	14	6	0	7	-	27
USC	0	7	3	0	-	10

return of 18; Big Play: Anthony Johnson 23 pass from Tony Rice; Score: ND 27-10.

## Individual Rushing

ND: Tony Rice 13-86-1 TD (65 long), Anthony Johnson 6-27 (10 long), Mark Green 17-40-2 TD (11 long), Braxston Banks 3-5 (5 long), Steve Belles 1-1, Corny Southall 1-3; USC: Emanuel 18-95 (21 long), Holt 11-56 (13 long), Lockwood 3-11-1 TD (10 long), Brown 1-2, Ervins 1-(-2), Peete 6-(-31) (2 long).

## Individual Passing

ND: Tony Rice: 9-5-0-91 (55 long); USC: Peete 44-23-2-225 (26 long).

## Individual Receiving

ND: Derek Brown 2-8 (5 long), Raghib Ismail 1-55, Anthony Johnson 1-23, Mark Green 1-5; USC: Affholter 5-62 (26 long), Jackson 4-48 (16 long), Wellman 4-46 (19 long), Green 3-28 (14 long), Emanuel 2-(-3) (9 long), Holt 1-23, Galbraith 1-11, Lockwood 1-5, J. Brown 1-3, Ervins 1-2.

## Team Statistics

	ND	USC
First Downs .....	8	21
Rushing .....	6	8
Passing .....	2	11
Penalty .....	0	2
Rushing Attempts .....	41	40
Yards Rushing .....	194	168
Yards Lost Rushing .....	32	37
Net Yards Rushing .....	162	131
Net Yards Passing .....	91	225
Passes Attempted .....	9	44
Passes Completed .....	5	23
Had Intercepted .....	0	2
Total Offensive Plays .....	50	84
Total Net Yards .....	253	356
Average Gain Per Play .....	5.1	4.2
Fumbles: No.-Lost .....	2-1	4-2
Penalties: No.-Yards .....	8-52	6-50
Interceptions: No.-Yards .....	2-87	0-0
No. of Punts-Yards .....	8-324	6-224
Average Per Punt .....	40.5	37.3
Punt Returns: No.-Yards .....	0-0	4-25
Kickoff Returns: No.-Yards .....	3-53	5-94
Third Down Conversions .....	5-13	8-19

## First Quarter

ND- Tony Rice 65 run (Reggie Ho kick) at 4:52; Drive: 72 yards in 3 plays in 1:15 following Pat Eilers fair catch on punt; Score: ND 7-0.

ND- Mark Green 2 run (Reggie Ho kick) at 1:49; Drive: 19 yards in 5 plays in 2:12 following fumble recovery by Frank Stams; Score: ND 14-0.

## Second Quarter

USC-Lockwood 1 run (Rodriguez kick) at 2:24; Drive: 66 yards in 11 plays in 4:05 following no return of punt; Big Play: Affholter 26 pass from Peete on third and 11; Score: ND 14-7.

ND- Stan Smagala 64 interception return (kick failed) at 0:41; Score: ND 20-7.

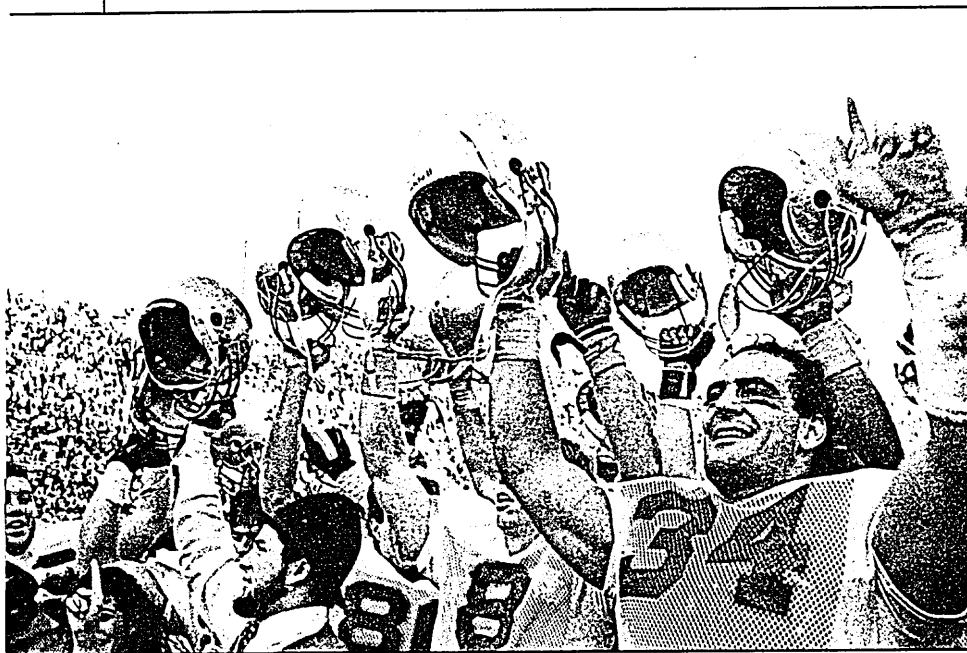
## Third Quarter

USC-Rodriguez 26 FG at 1:38; Drive: 47 yards in 11 plays in 5:26 following Lockwood punt return of 2; Big Play: Emanuel 21 run to the four-yard line; Score: ND 20-10.

## Fourth Quarter

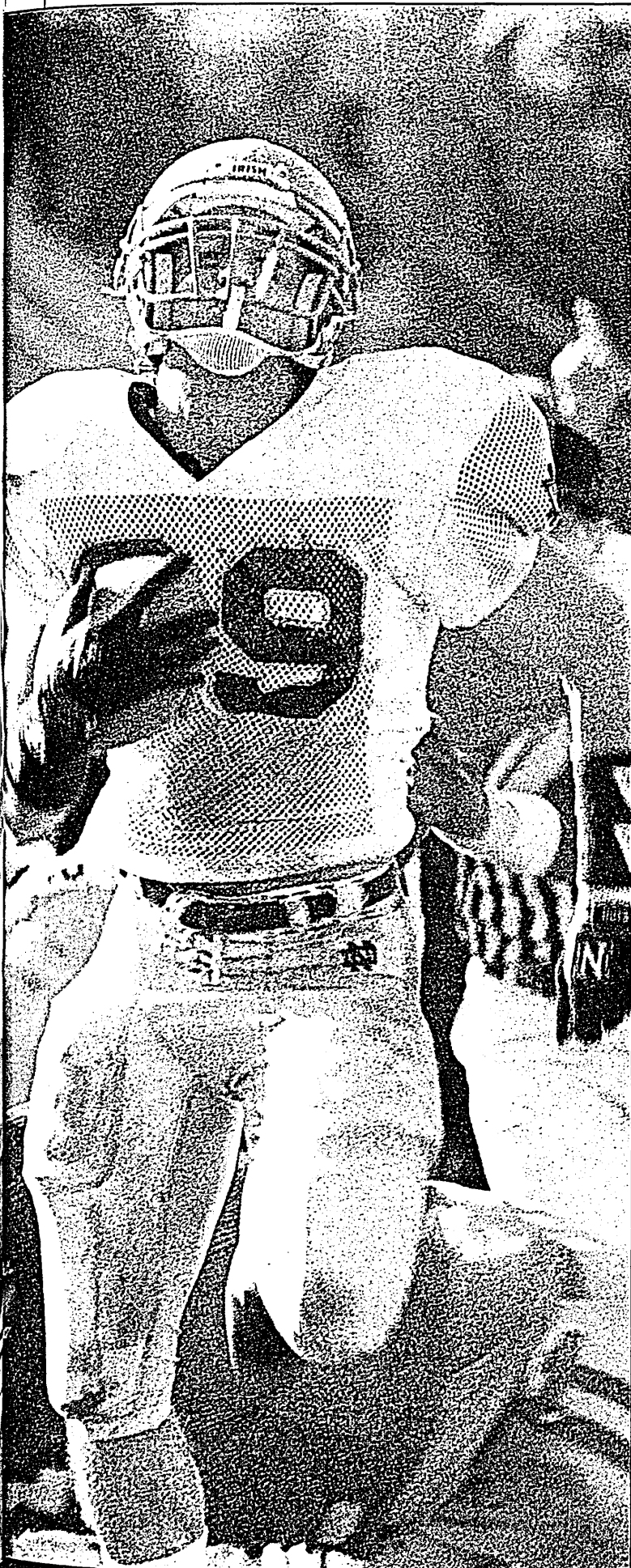
ND- Mark Green 1 run (Reggie Ho kick) at 11:55; Drive: 70 yards in 10 plays in 4:43 following Raghib Ismail kickoff





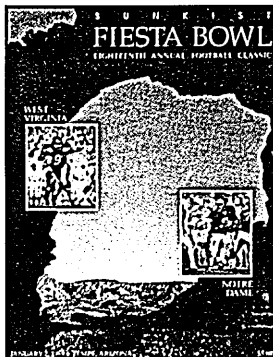
*The raised gold helmets signify another Notre Dame victory, which was spurred by (#9) Tony Rice's 65-yard touchdown run and (#29) Stan Smagala's 64-yard interception return for a touchdown.*





# Game 12

# 34-21



## What they said...

Enough of the blarney.

Monday's Fiesta Bowl provided, with striking clarity, two indisputable facts that canceled out much of the fiction surrounding this matchup.

First, Notre Dame is the No. 1 team in the land. Case closed.

Secondly, Mountaineers coach Don Nehlen was right — Lou Holtz is the biggest con artist in America.

The Irish, the worst team to ever be top-ranked if you believed the gospel according to Holtz, blew away their coach's smoke screen as well as the third-ranked Not-Ready-For-Prime-Time-Players, er, Mountaineers in Sun Devil Stadium.

*Jan. 3, 1989 Mesa Tribune/Tempe Daily News Tribune/Chandler Arizonan Tribune*

Controversy aside. Really, way aside. Outta here. No votes, no polls, no strong schedules and weak opponents. As darkness fell on the Arizona desert last night, the only question left about rank was where this Notre Dame team falls into line with the 10 national champions that preceded it through South Bend.

The Irish (12-0) splashed the final stokes on both a title and a resurrection by beating West Virginia, 34-21, in the Fiesta Bowl. Notre Dame was both artistic and brutal, as it was through a perfect regular season, sprouting big plays from a mechanical offense and a rancorous defense that often didn't stop at the whistle but always stopped West Virginia.

"They absolutely stuffed us," West Virginia's center Kevin Koken said. "We believed all year that we were the best offensive line

in the country, and they shut us down. Notre Dame's a great team: they showed us that today."

Notre Dame coach Lou Holtz, who in three years has restored Notre Dame to its glory but has resisted praising this team for four months, said, "When you're 12-0, it's (not important) whether this is a great football team. It is because nobody proved it wasn't." *Jan. 3, 1989 Newsday*

West Virginia coach Don Nehlen looked at the Notre Dame game films in preparation for the Fiesta Bowl and didn't discover until it was too late, what movie buffs have known for a long time: in Hollywood, you can make time stand still.

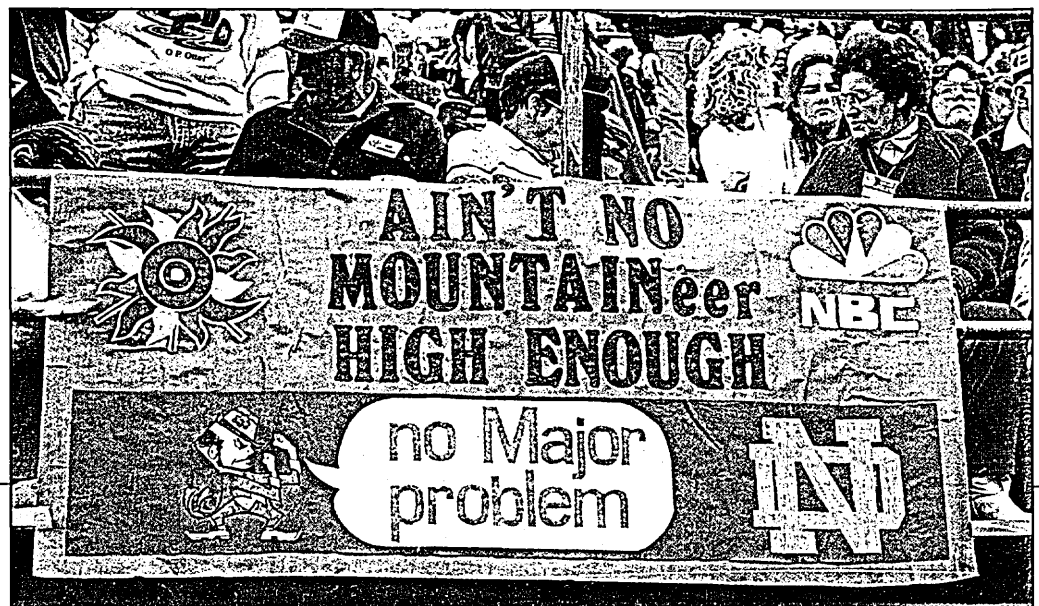
Nehlen clearly understood how the undefeated Irish had physically whipped their first 11 opponents coming into the national championship game. But what the Mountaineer coach still can't believe is how much faster they are in real life.

Talk all you want about Knute Rockne and George Gipp and the Notre Dame mystique. Despite what Lou Holtz would have anyone believe, Notre Dame won its first National Championship since 1977 because it has the fastest team in college football.

"Notre Dame's films weren't shot real fast, but when you play them, they run like deer," Nehlen said. "Maybe it's because they played a lot on the grass, but when you're studying the films, you think they can't run like they do. But they can run like the devil."

*Jan. 4, 1989 New York Post*

There was no Mountaineer high enough on this day.



**The Matchup:** #1 Notre Dame (11-0) vs. #3 West Virginia (11-0), January 2 in the Fiesta Bowl in Sun Devil Stadium, Tempe, Ariz.

**The Holtz Pre-game Quote:** "This game is what college football is all about. It should be a fun week for everyone involved. All we've tried to do is be the best team in the stadium on each Saturday. That's all we have to do this time. There's no burden of playing for the national championship. All we have to do is be better than West Virginia."

**The Angle, Part I:** Notre Dame is in a position to win its first national title in 11 years after becoming the first Irish team ever to win 11 regular-season games.

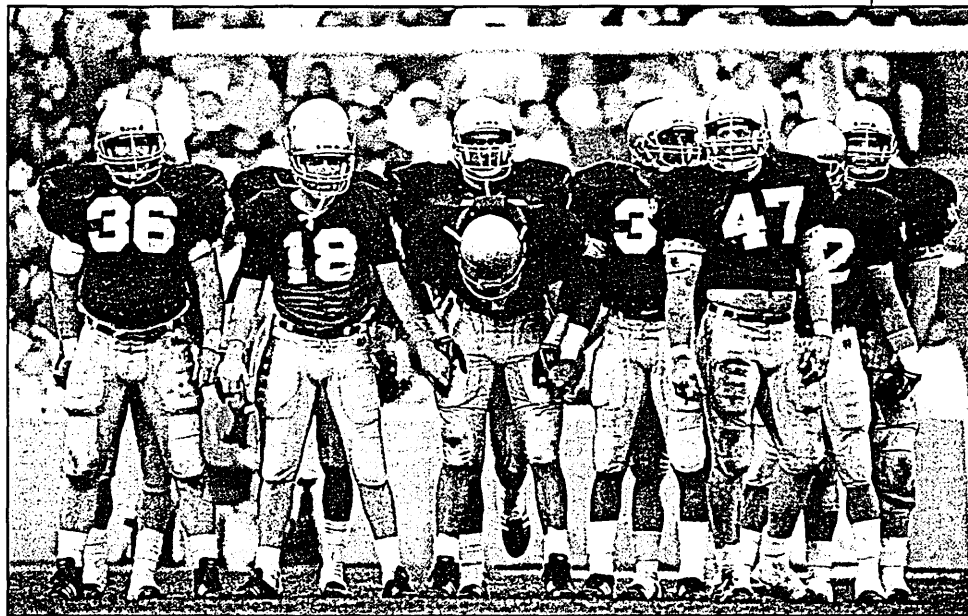
**The Angle, Part II:** This marks the 13th time in history that two undefeated, untied teams have met in a bowl game. It has happened each of the last two years, including the Fiesta Bowl in '86 between Miami and Penn State. Notre Dame's only previous involvement in a game of teams with perfect records came in its '73 Sugar Bowl win over Alabama.

**The Question:** Can the youthful Irish deal with a team loaded with 24 fifth-year seniors, a team that has never trailed the entire season, a team that dominated the two common opponents (Pitt and Penn State) far more impressively than Notre Dame, a team that Joe Paterno said was the most impressive offensive unit he'd ever seen?

**The Answer:** Notre Dame did it with a physical defensive effort that kept West Virginia out of the first down column until after the Irish established a 16-0 lead. They did it with a dominating ground game that forced the Mountaineers defense to commit to the run threat — enabling Tony Rice to take full advantage of the man-to-man pass coverage for a career-high 213 passing yards.

**The Irony:** West Virginia never had an opposing quarterback finish a game against them in '88. Yet, it was Mountaineer quarterback Major Harris who suffered a shoulder bruise early in the contest and eventually gave way to backup Greg James for the final West Virginia scoring drive.

**The Hero, Part I:** Tony Rice played



spectacularly, completing seven-of-11 passes for an average of better than 30 yards-per-completion. He also led all rushers with 75 yards. Rice seldom was the heralded signal-caller in duels with better-known quarterbacks like Steve Walsh, Rodney Peete and Major Harris — all finalists in the Heisman Trophy voting — yet Rice won all three battles.

**The Hero, Part II:** Frank Stams once again displayed his ability to be at his best in the big games, as he had a pair of sacks that helped him earn the defensive MVP award.

**The Unsung Hero:** Inside linebacker Ned Bolcar stepped in and played most of the way after Michael Stonebreaker suffered an Achilles tendon injury early in the first period.

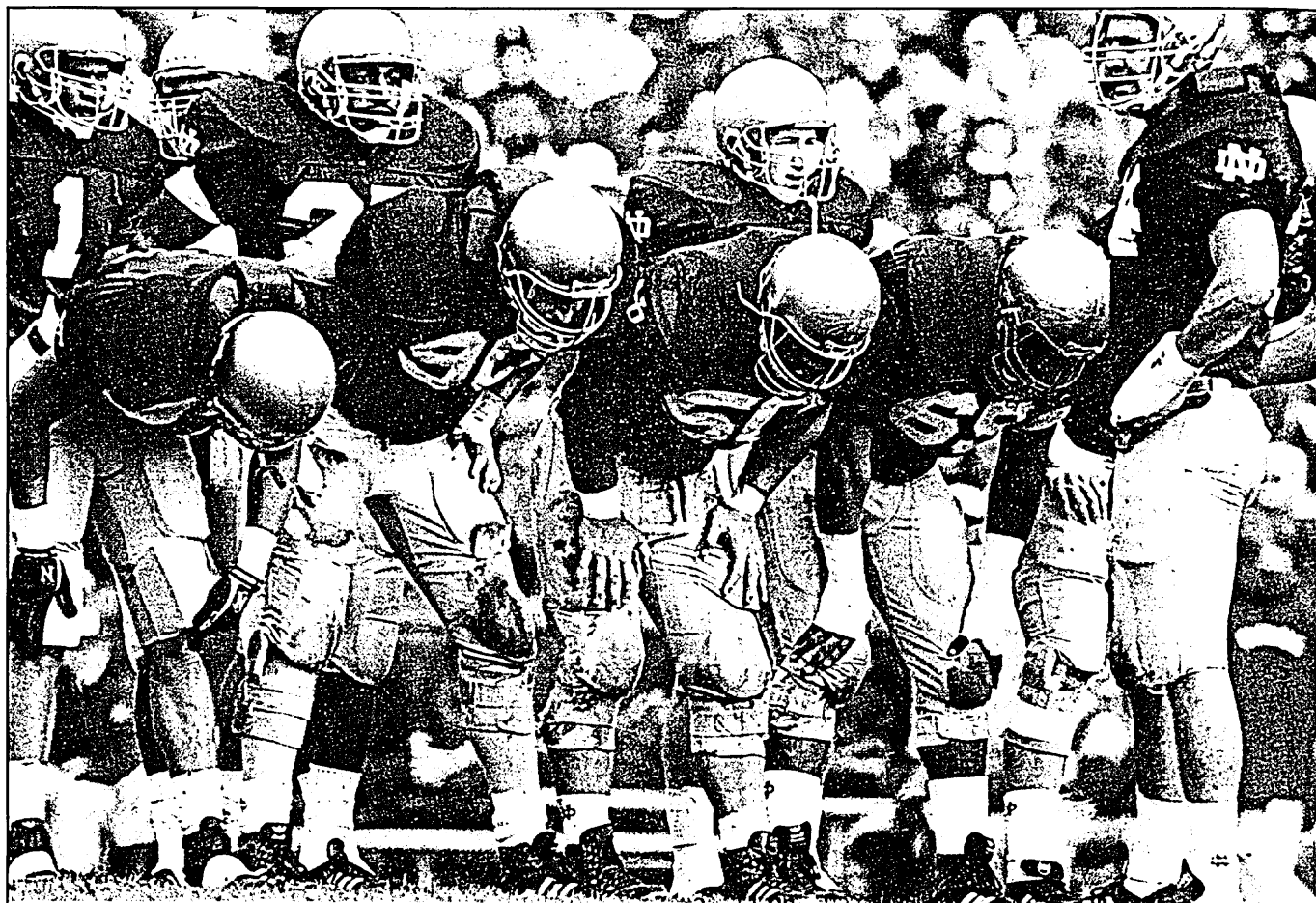
**The Key Move:** West Virginia had a chance to get back in the game late in the third period with the score 26-13 after a Tony Rice interception set up the Mountaineers at the Irish 26. But Flash Gordon stopped Major Harris for a loss of two, Stan Smagala made a superb deflection in the end zone and Frank Stams and Arnold Ale combined on a sack of Harris that took West Virginia completely out of field goal range.

**The Holtz Post-game Quote, Part I:** "This team will go down as a great football team because nobody proved otherwise."

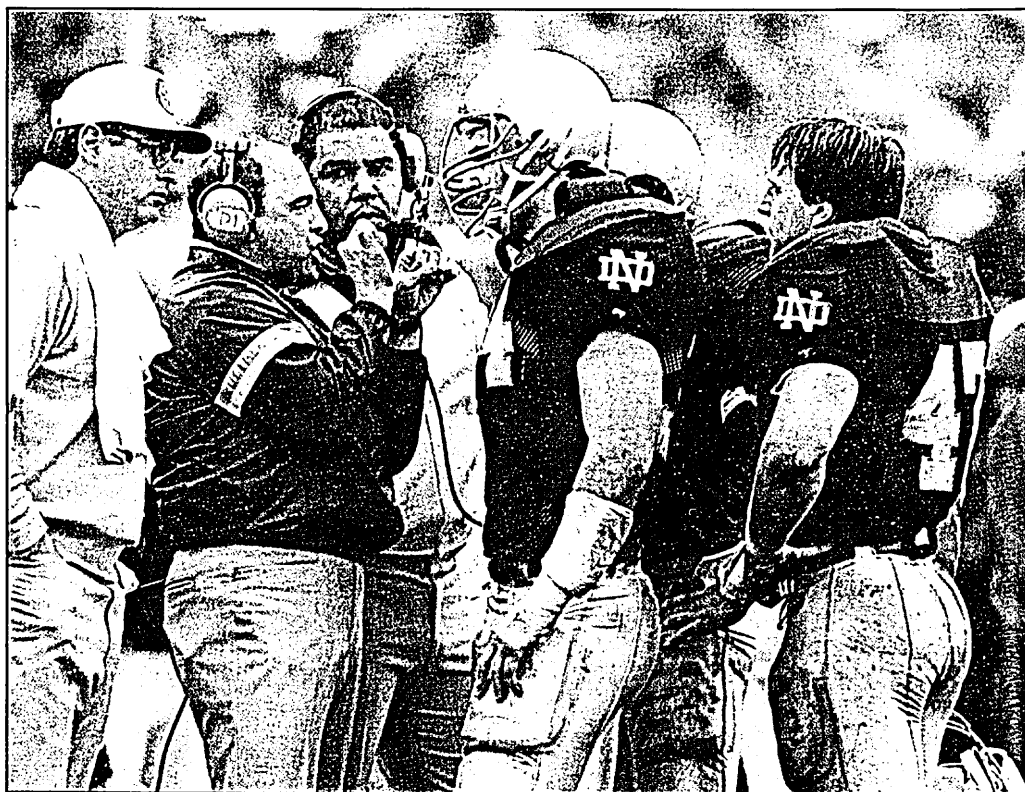
**The Holtz Post-game Quote, Part II:** "I did say that Tony Rice's passing had improved this week in practice."

*Ready for battle.*

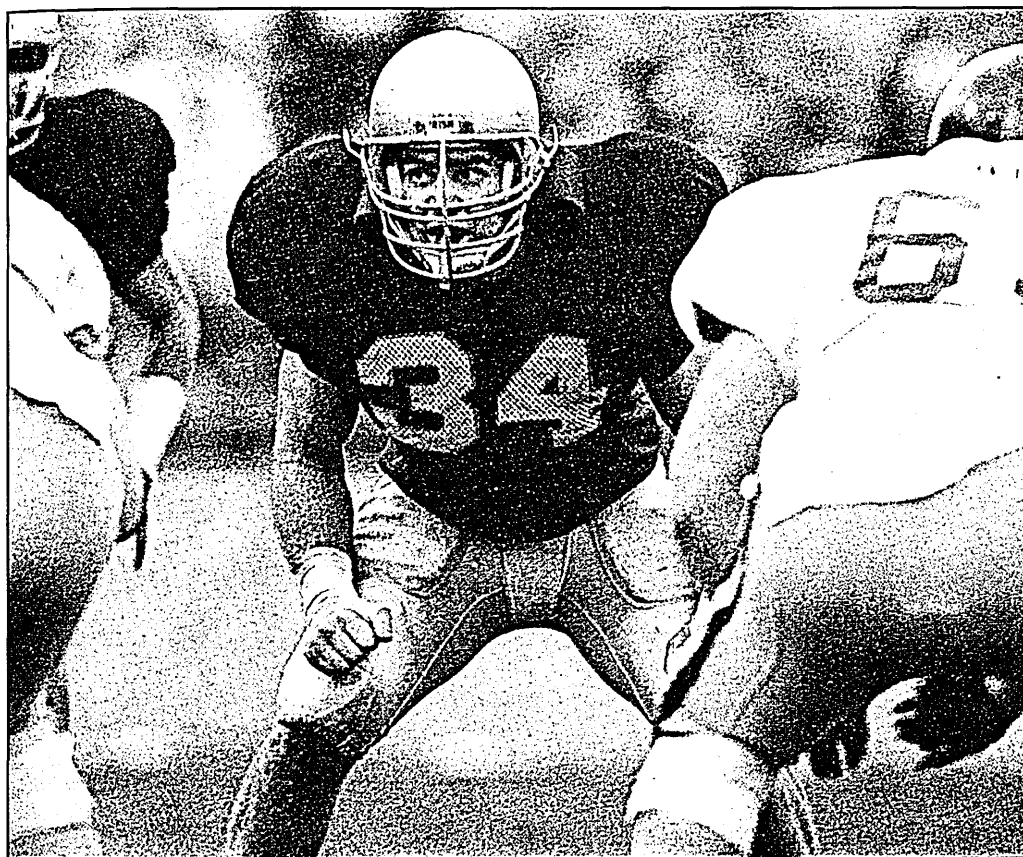




*Defensive coordinator Barry Alvarez gave the proper instructions to the Irish, as the defense held a potent West Virginia rushing attack to 108 yards.*



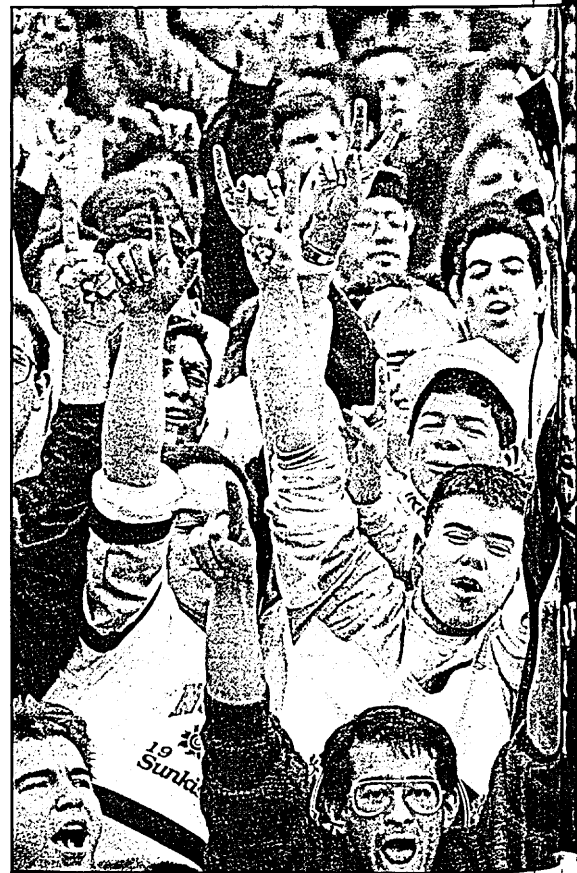


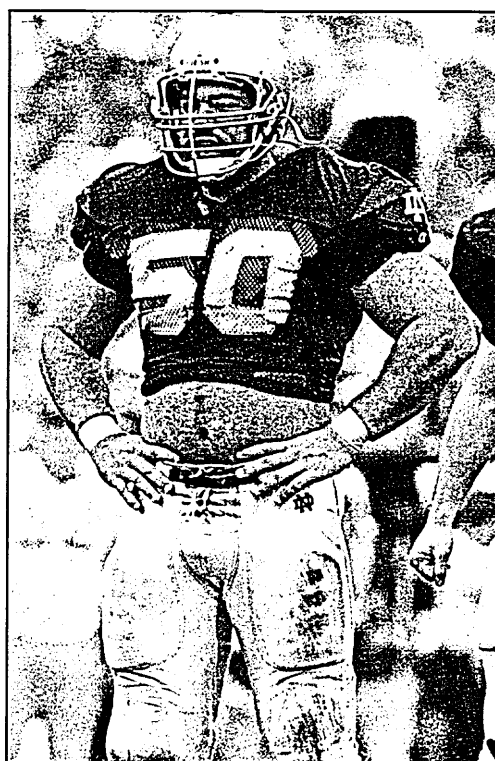
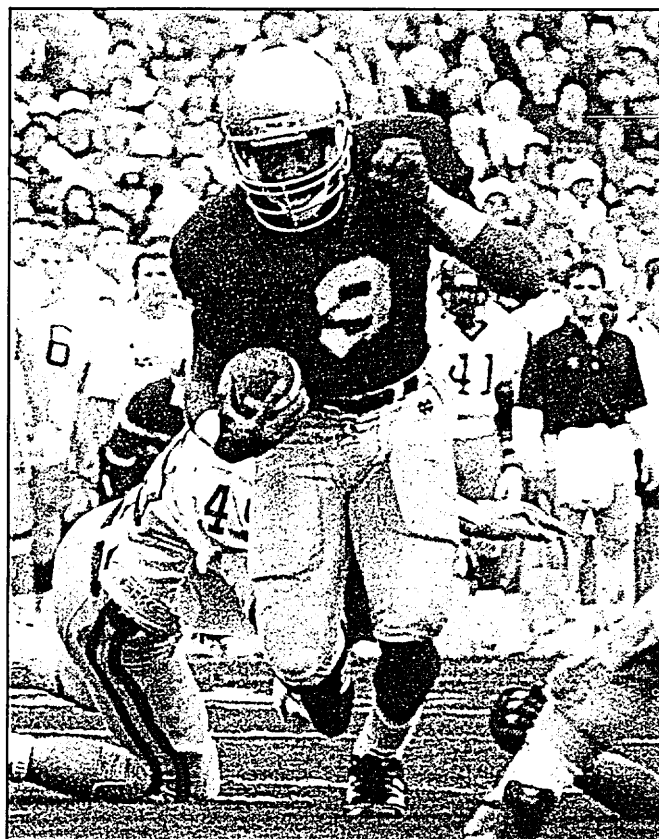
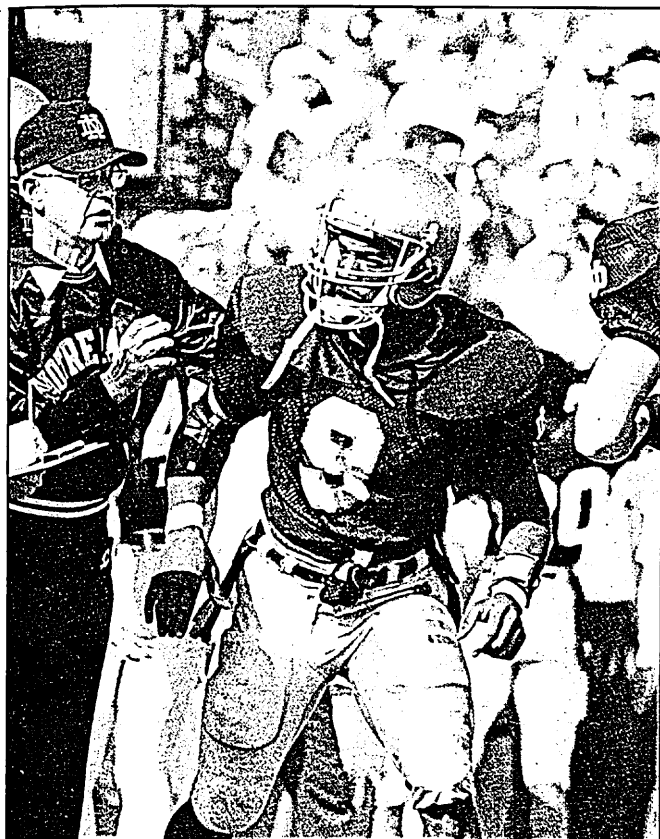


*Wes Pritchett presented a major problem for the Mountaineer quarterbacks.*



*Notre Dame headed out of the lockerroom with a 23-6 lead and the defense kept the pressure on West Virginia quarterback Major Harris, much to the delight of the Irish fans that flocked to Tempe.*



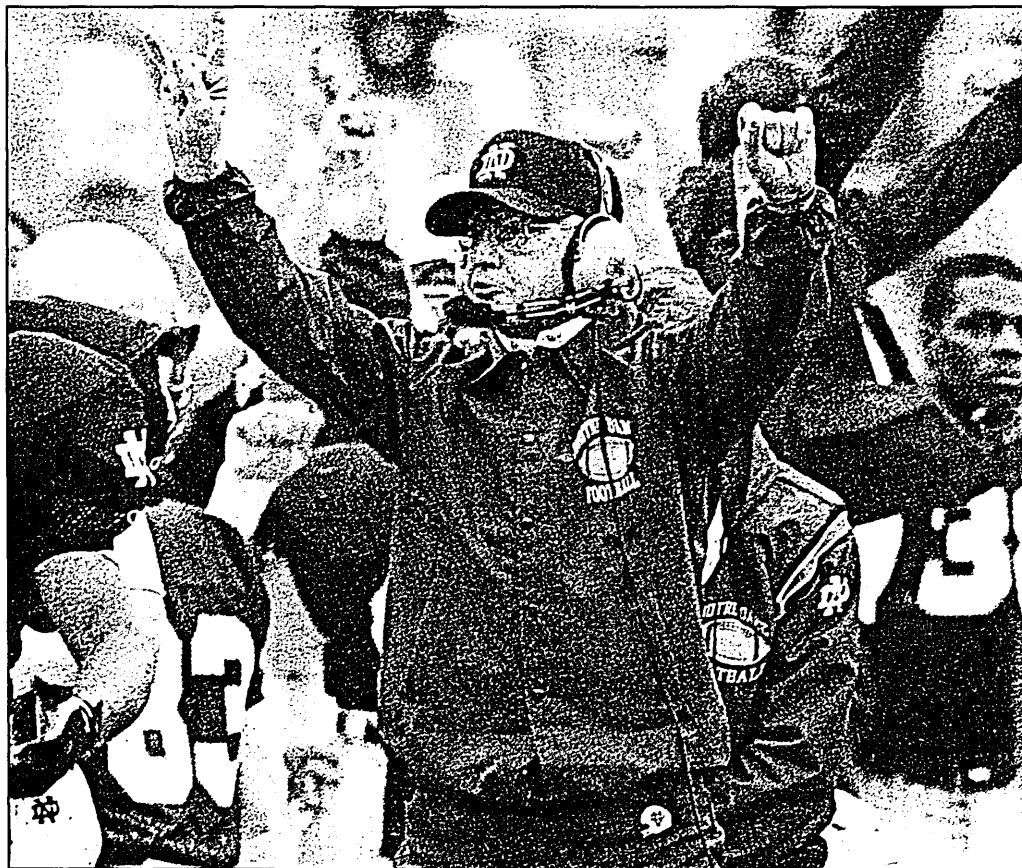


*It was a big day for Lou Holtz, Tony Rice (#9), and Irish defender Chris Zorich (#50).*

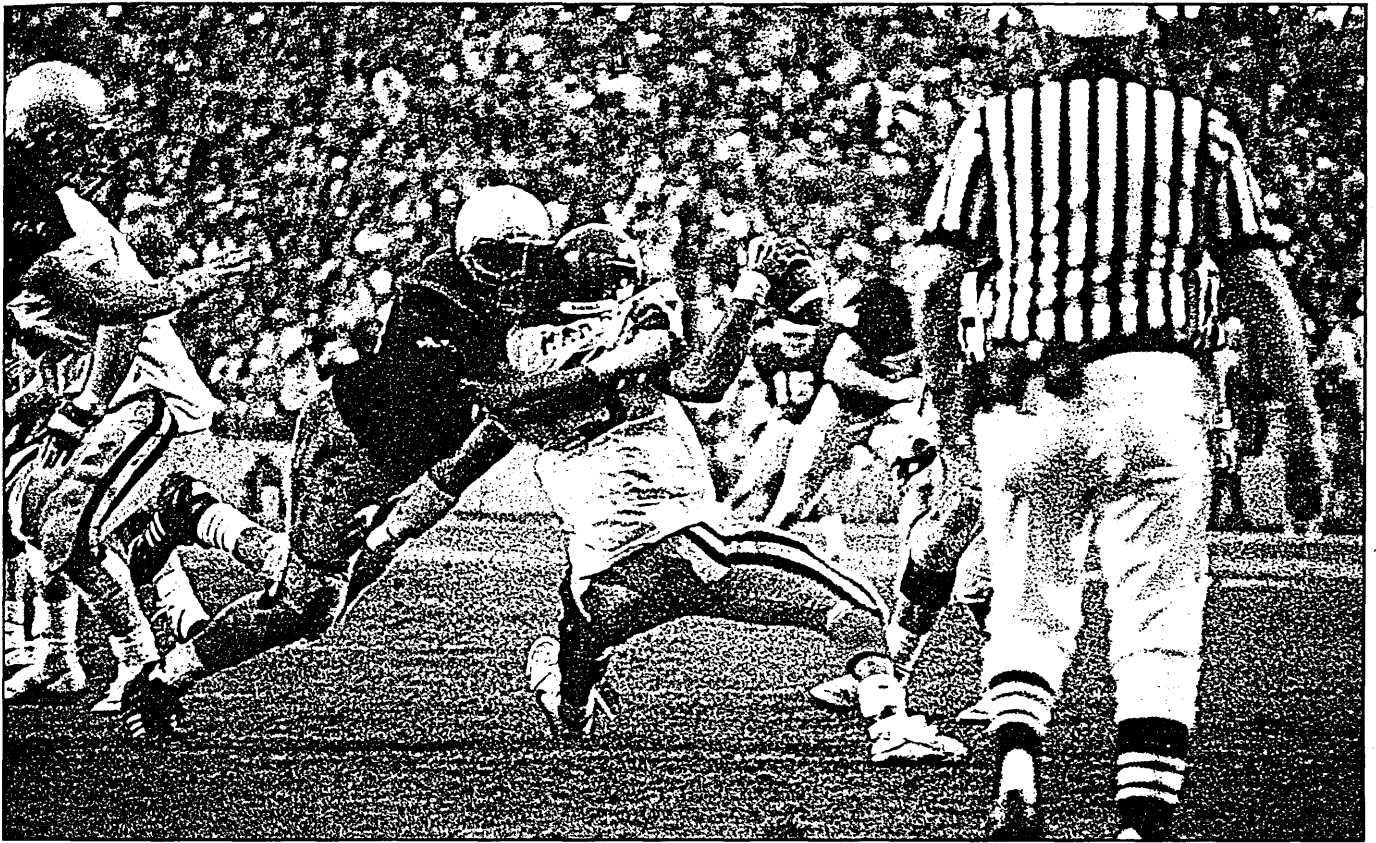
# Notre Dame vs. West Virginia



Rodney Culver's 5-yard touchdown run was a pleasant sight for Irish captains Mark Green (#24) and Andy Heck (#66), as well as Lou Holtz.

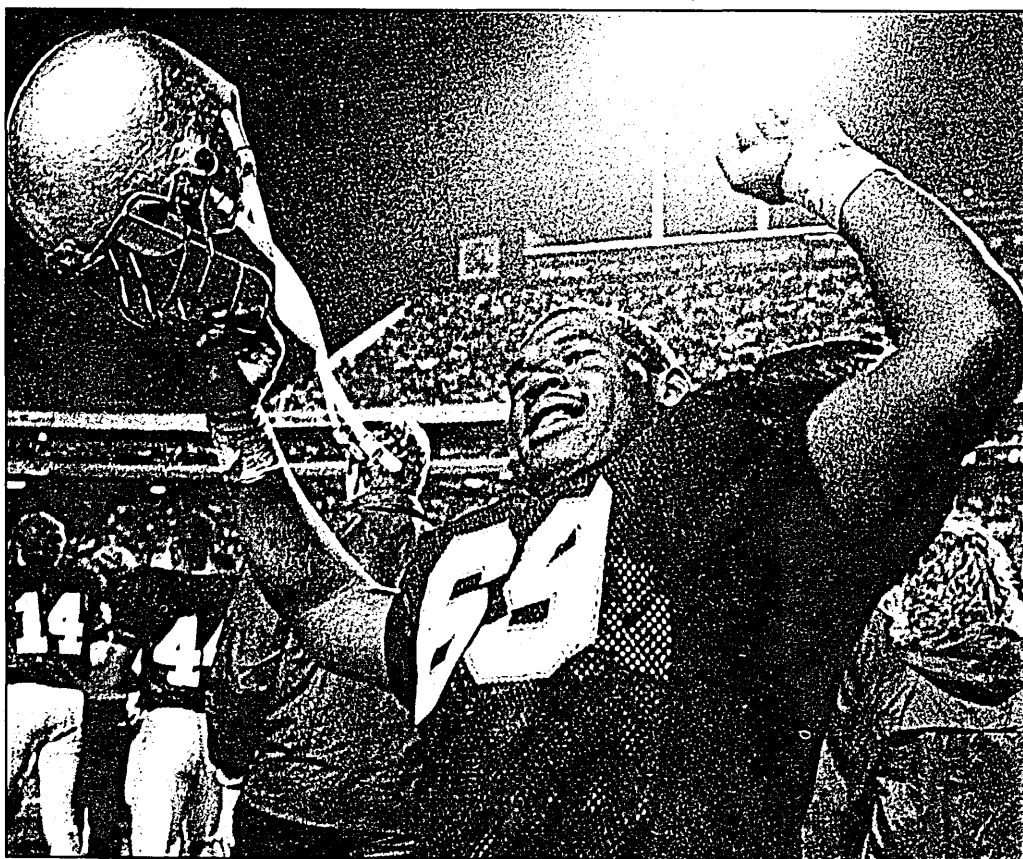
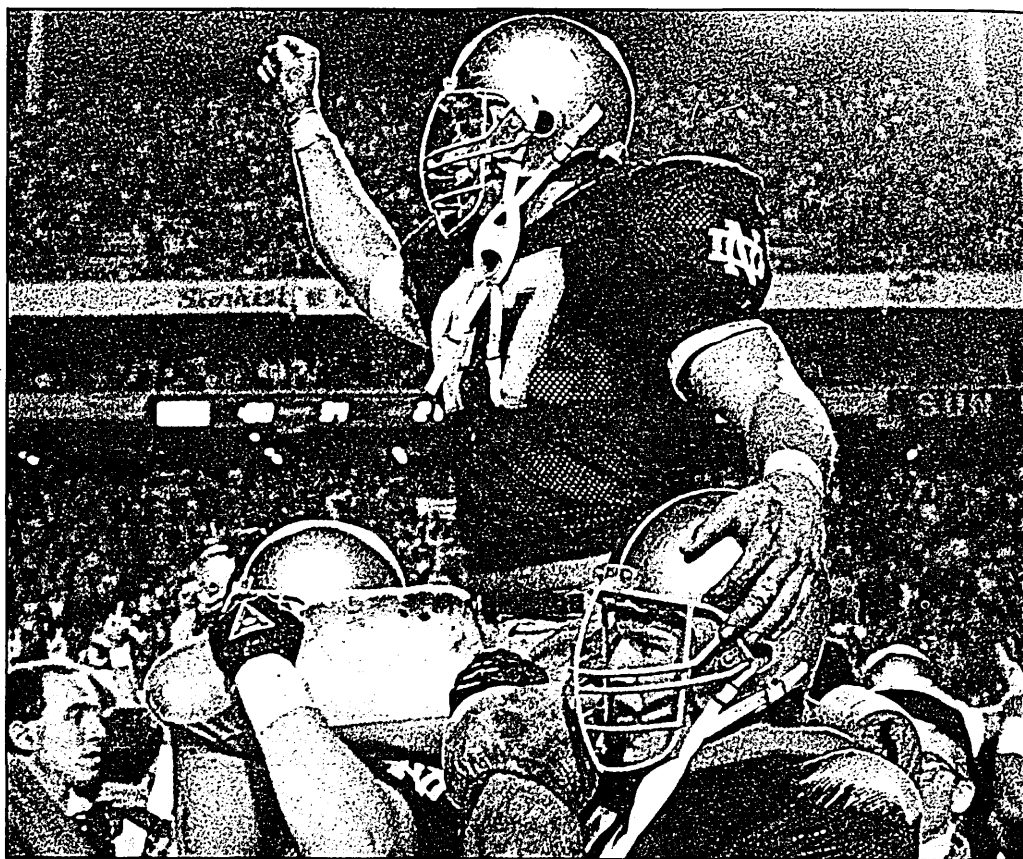




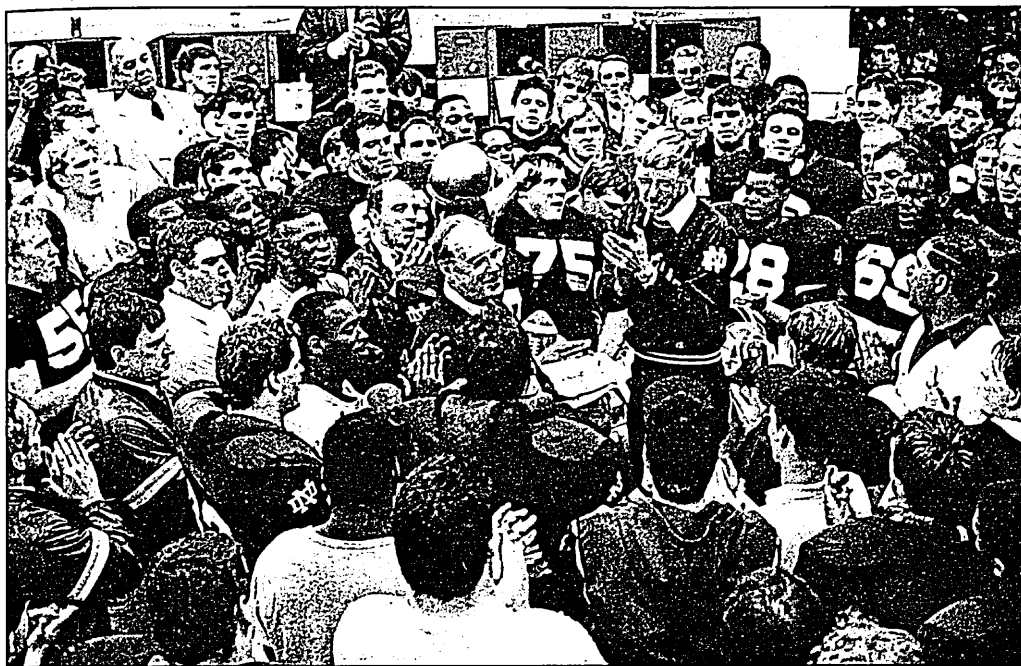


*George Williams sacks Major Harris, and then savors the moment.*





*Ned Bolcar (#47) and George Williams (#69) react after clinching the national championship.*



Lou Holtz and the national champions in the lockerroom after the Fiesta Bowl.

## Notre Dame 34, West Virginia 21

### Sun Devil Stadium

January 2, 1989

#### Scoring Summary

Notre Dame	9	14	3	8	-	34
West Virginia	0	6	7	8	-	21

#### First Quarter

ND- Billy Hackett 45 FG at 10:25; Drive: 37 yards in 7 plays following Ricky Watters punt return of 19; Big Play: Tony Rice 31 run on third and 7; Score: ND 3-0.

ND- Anthony Johnson 1 run (Pete Graham run failed) at 4:34; Drive: 61 yards in 10 plays following Ricky Watters punt return of 11; Big Play: Derek Brown 23 pass from Tony Rice to the West Virginia 27; Score: ND 9-0.

#### Second Quarter

ND- Rodney Culver 5 run (Reggie Ho kick) at 9:41; Drive: 84 yards in 11 plays following no return of punt; Big Play: Derek Brown 47 pass from Tony Rice to the West Virginia 5 on third and 11; Score: ND 16-0.

WV- Charlie Baumann 29 FG at 6:18; Drive: 52 yards in 11 plays following Napoleon kickoff return of 22; Big Play: Taylor 11 pass from Harris on third and 7; Score: ND 16-3.

ND- Raghib Ismail 29 pass from Tony Rice (Reggie Ho kick) at 1:48; Drive: 63 yards in eight plays following Ismail kickoff return of 25; Big Play: Anthony Johnson 19 pass from Tony Rice to the West Virginia 28; Score: ND 23-3.

WV- Charlie Baumann 31 FG at :00; Drive: 69 yards in nine plays following Napoleon kickoff return of 18; Big Play: Rembert 36 pass from Harris with :10 to go in half; Score: ND 23-6.

#### Third Quarter

ND- Reggie Ho 32 FG at 5:34; Drive: 50 yards in seven plays following Terrell interception (no return); Big Play: Mark Green 35 pass from Tony Rice to the West Virginia 27; Score: ND 26-6.

WV- Grantis Bell 17 pass from Major Harris (Charlie Baumann kick) at 3:32; Drive: 74 yards in seven plays following a Williams kickoff return of 24; Big Play: Harris 8 run to the Notre Dame 17 on third and 4; Score: 26-13.

#### Fourth Quarter

ND- Frank Jacobs 3 pass from Tony Rice (Rice run good) at 13:05; Drive: 80 yards in seven plays following no return of kickoff; Big Play: Ricky Watters 57 pass from Tony Rice to the West Virginia 5; Score: 34-13.

WV- Reggie Rembert 3 run (Reggie Rembert pass from Greg Jones); Drive: 59 yards in 11 plays following no return of punt; Big Play: Brown 18 run to the Notre Dame 37; Score: 34-21.

#### Individual Rushing

ND: Tony Rice 13-75 (31 long), Mark Green 13-61 (14 long), Tony Brooks 11-35 (10 long), Anthony Johnson 5-20-1 TD (9 long), Rodney Culver 4-20-1 TD (9 long), Braxton Banks 5-12 (4 long), Steve Belles 3-10 (5 long), Ricky Watters 3-5 (5 long), Pat Eilers 1-2, Ryan Mihalko 1-2; WV: Brown 11-49 (17 long), Tyler 2-21 (18 long), Taylor 6-12 (3 long), Harris 13-31 (13 long), Napoleon 3-7 (9 long), Johnson 1-5, Rembert 1-3.

#### Individual Passing

ND: Tony Rice 11-7-1-213-2 TD (57 long); WV: Harris 26-13-1-166-1 TD (36 long).

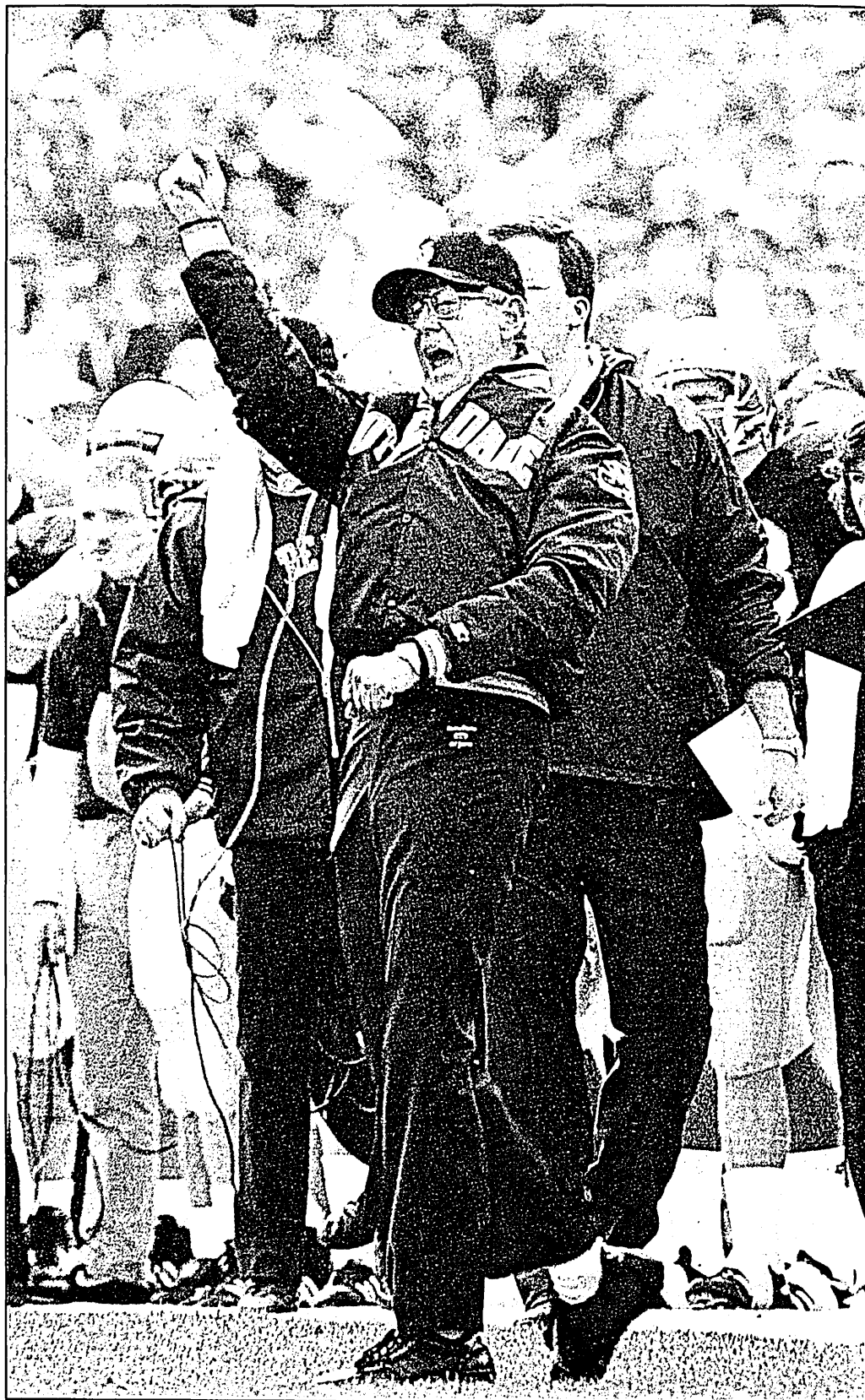
#### Individual Receiving

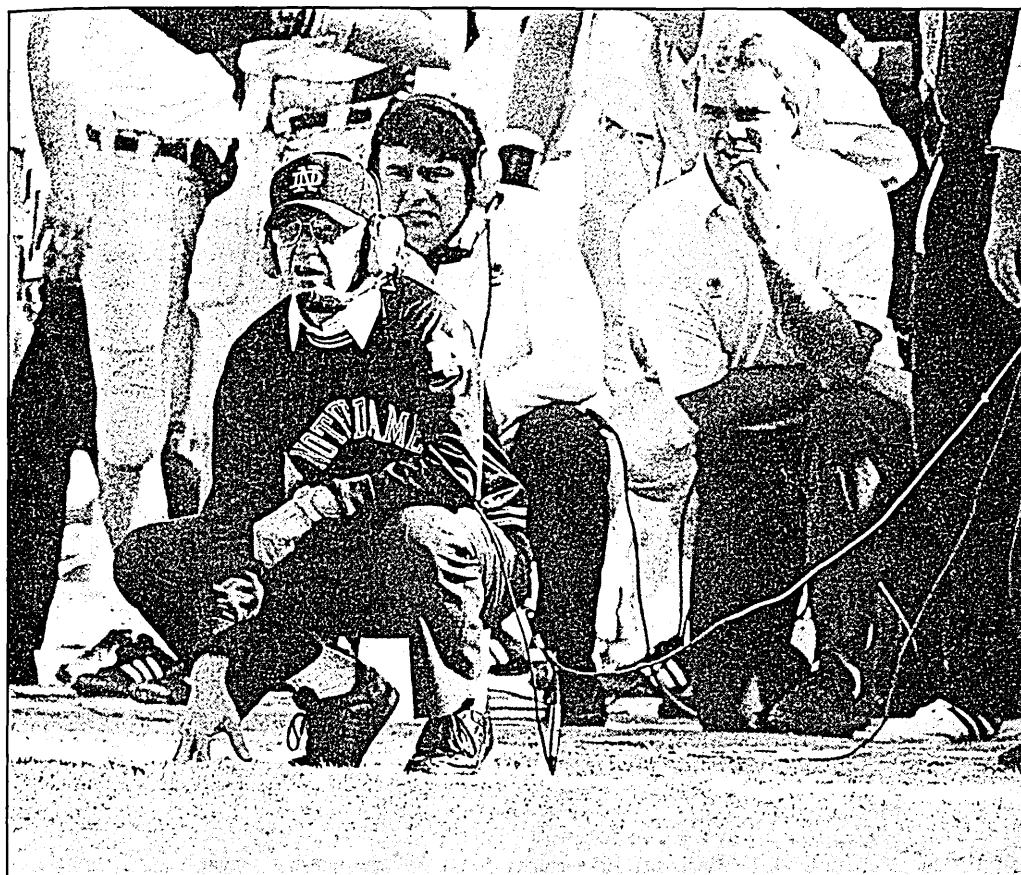
ND: Derek Brown 2-70 (47 long), Ricky Watters 1-57, Mark Green 1-35, Raghib Ismail 1-29-1 TD, Anthony Johnson 1-19, Frank Jacobs 1-3-1 TD; WV: Bell 4-44-1 TD (17 long), Rembert 2-40 (36 long), Taylor 3-34 (16 long), Winn 3-31 (15 long), Brown 1-17, Tyler 1-8.

#### Team Statistics

	ND	WV
First Downs	19	19
Rushing	13	4
Passing	6	10
Penalty	0	5
Rushing Attempts	59	37
Yards Rushing	245	141
Yards Lost Rushing	3	33
Net Yards Rushing	242	108
Net Yards Passing	213	174
Passes Attempted	11	30
Passes Completed	7	14
Had Intercepted	1	1
Total Offense Plays	70	67
Total Net Yards	455	282
Average Gain Per Play	6.5	4.2
Fumbles: No.-Lost	2-0	0-0
Penalties: No.-Yards	11-102	3-38
Interceptions: No.-Yards	1-0	1-14
No. of Punts-Yards	4-147	7-316
Average Per Punt	36.8	45.1
Punt Returns: No.-Yards	3-28	2-35
Kickoff Returns: No.-Yards	2-36	6-107
Third Down Conversions	8-15	4-14

# Head Coach Lou Holtz





## What they said about Holtz...

The flaxen blonde bangs harmlessly fall short of the wire-rimmed glasses and the wrinkled face. When he smiles, an elfish smile, you'd almost be tempted to call him cute.

His figure is unimposing. As he carries his brittle frame about you wouldn't be surprised to see him crumble on the spot.

A football coach? This guy? This little Dutch Boy of a man? The concept of him motivating 270-pound behemoths, much less commanding their respect seems far-fetched, a joke.

Maybe, just maybe, you could see him as a trainer, taping ankles and inspecting twisted knees. Or maybe an equipment manager. "What's that, your helmet cracked?," he would say, staring up at a giant obligingly.

"No problem, I'll go fetch another."

But a head coach? Of the most tradition-laden team in the entire sports universe? You must be joking.

"I'm not very impressive," says Lou Holtz, who jokes often, but is most serious about his job as football coach of the Notre Dame

Fighting Irish.

Dec. 4, 1988 *Spartanburg Herald*

Holtz describes himself as a very complex person, and one few people know well.

He is private and deeply devoted to his family, friends and religion. He and his wife, Beth, have been married 27 years and have four children. His oldest son, Skip, is a graduate assistant (football) coach at Florida State.

Holtz has been hailed as a great leader, a powerful motivator and a convincing recruiter.

His sense of humor and his Holtzisms — "First we will be best, then we will be first" — are nationally recognized and make him a hot ticket on the dinner circuit.

He is a football workaholic, so impatient that he sometimes runs to practice.

He is a perfectionist, which sometimes leads to exhaustion.

He survives on little or no sleep and supplements a steady diet of sandwiches with Zagnut candy bars.

He said he didn't sleep for three days before last month's victory over Southern Califor-

*Lou Holtz enjoyed his finest season as a head coach in 1988, as the Irish captured the national title.*

nia. Losing games keeps him awake nights, too.

"I hate to lose," he said. "I can't sleep. I can't eat. When I talk about it I can't sleep. I'm talking about (not sleeping) for three or four days."

*Dec. 23, 1988 Indianapolis News*

It should happen late this afternoon, as the sun drops over the mountain hollow that swallows Sun Devil Stadium. The final seconds of the Fiesta Bowl will melt into zeroes, with Notre Dame having scored roughly 10 more points than West Virginia, and Louis Leo Holtz will be canonized on the premises as one of the legendary coaches of our time.

A coach? A saint-like figure? It is not a fashionable projection in the country as we know it. We may be more demanding of our coaches than we are of our elected officials.

These men are scrutinized in such microscopic detail, it's basically impossible for them to succeed in our eyes. Can he discipline? Is he a motivator? Will the guys play for him? Can he hold his liquor? Does he know not to mix plaids and stripes? Can he tell a story, crack a joke? Can he golf? And, above all, can he meet the expectations of winning???

Floating on a cloud above the frazzled fray, Lou Holtz has answered all but one of the questions — he can't golf — with a polite nod of his Little Dutch Boy face. Most remarkably, he has done so in the hottest seat in American athletics, in the cauldron of college football's most sacred icon: Notre Dame. Three years ago last month, Holtz inherited the ashes left by the incapable Gerry Faust. "We were a lot of underachieving lunkheads who had no regard for discipline," said defensive end Frank Stams, a Faust recruit. "We needed direction."

In a fascinating turnaround that has inspired considerable national attention, Holtz quickly has awakened the echoes, restored pride to Touchdown Jesus, returned the glow to the Golden Dome and made it great fun again to "Cheer, cheer for old Notre Dame." A young team figured to be a year away from title contention, but Holtz challenged his players with an intense, Marine-like grab-the-facemask practice style, then peppered them with motivational gimmicks ranging from meditation sessions to singalongs.

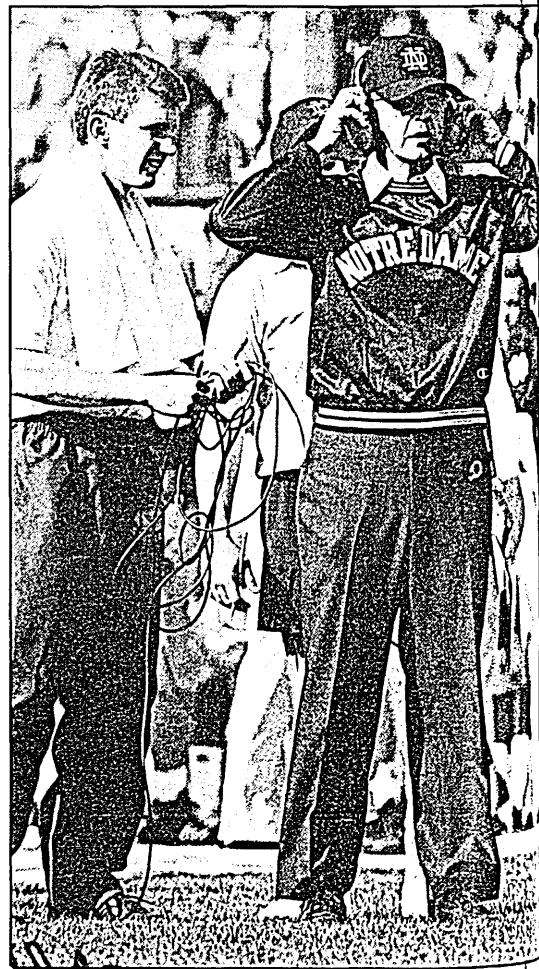
Today, they are a victory from the school's

first national title since 1977, its first 12-0 record ... and the completion of the most impressive football coaching performances since the Lombardi days.

*Jan. 2, 1989 Rocky Mountain News*

Holtz doesn't look like a legendary figure. He is a skinny, unimposing man with steel-rimmed glasses and blond hair combed down over his forehead. He pokes fun at himself at every opportunity. "Look at me," he is famous for saying. "I'm 5-10, I weigh 150 pounds, I talk with a lisp, I look like I have scurvy, I'm not very smart, I was a terrible football player, and I graduated 234th in a high school class of 278."

Make no mistake, though, Lou Holtz is a legend at Notre Dame. In just three years, he has brought the Irish to the brink of their first national championship since 1977. He has drawn striking comparisons to Notre Dame



*Holtz was named coach of the year by United Press International, the Football Writers Association and Football News.*



immortals Knute Rockne, Frank Leahy and Ara Parseghian.

"You can feel what he's done just by being on campus on game day," Parseghian said. "He's brought back the electricity. I tailgated before the Miami game and you couldn't believe how it felt. It's the way everybody thinks it should be around here. But I've told him he's created a monster. Now, even one loss will be a letdown."

Jan. 2, 1989 *Philadelphia Daily News*

Lou Holtz is going to jump out of an airplane. He's going to take one step forward and then drop several thousand feet down.

At age 51, the Notre Dame football coach plans to go skydiving.

"I just think it would be a great thrill," Holtz said. "The amazing thing is, I can't get anyone to do it with me."

Make no mistake, Holtz is serious. He planned the expedition more than 20 years ago, shortly after he got fired as an assistant coach at South Carolina.

It was one of the low points in Holtz's life. He had little in the bank and his wife, Beth, was eight months pregnant with the couple's third child. So, as he came to one of life's crossroads, he sat down at the table and wrote down a list of goals.

The 28-year-old unemployed coach came up with 107 wishes, from personal to professional to just plain fun. He says he's accomplished 84 of them, including sitting next to Johnny Carson, seeing the Pope, and eating at the White House. He has learned magic tricks, recorded a hole-in-one, and landed on an aircraft carrier.

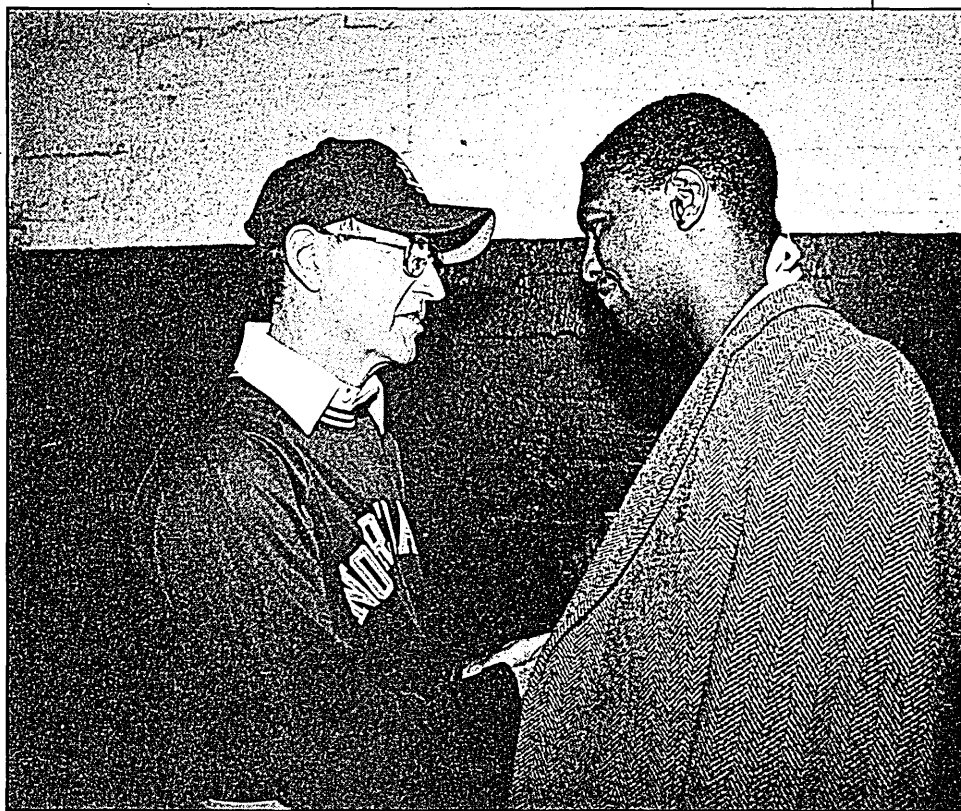
Now he wants to go skydiving.

"I've always said this would be one of the last goals," Holtz said. "I hope it's not the last one."

That Holtz even wants to try such a stunt reveals much about the man. It all has to do with his philosophy of life and how he got to where he is today.

"Here's my theory," Holtz explained. "How many times do you watch an airplane land on an aircraft carrier on television? Or watch the President at the White House? Or see the Pope in the Vatican? You watch those things, but why not go do it? Experience those things. Don't be a spectator in life, be a participant."

"You see people dropping out of planes all



the time. If you did it once, every time you saw a skydiver, it would bring back the thrill and excitement of that experience. That's why I put all those things down. To be a participant in life."

Holtz then paused and laughed. "Who knows? I might jump Jan. 3. Without a chute."

Dec. 25, 1988 *Chicago Tribune*

The blue leather chair sits behind a polished desk littered with trinkets of a family man and football coach.

The chair is what bothers Lou Holtz, the football coach. The school is what delights Lou Holtz, the father of four.

On this snowy afternoon in the Midwest, he's being the football coach first.

Ara Parseghian — he's the legend that walks around South Bend — describes the Notre Dame coaching job as a place to finish your career, not start it.

Holtz, an 18-year veteran of this profession, readily agrees with the Parseghian perspective. And explains.

He talks about how none of his bosses told him he has to win. He sings the praises of education foremost, and touchdowns as an afterthought.

Then, he'll tell you he's uncomfortable, that the pressure to win eats at him.

*Holtz visits with USC quarterback Rodney Peete following the Irish 27-10 win over the Trojans.*

Holtz pats the armrest of the blue leather chair to identify the source of his discomfort.

"You sit in this chair, you feel the pressure," he says. "You sit in this chair and you are the Notre Dame football coach. You feel responsible. You are responsible. You want to put Notre Dame football where it belongs."

His latest resurrection job — constructed in the shadow of the school's famed "Touch-down Jesus" mosaic — has taken three years.

Sound quick? Time to pause for a pat on the back?

Holtz laughs and hauls out a piece of fan mail. Scrawled on a yellow legal sheet is the question: "What took you so long?"

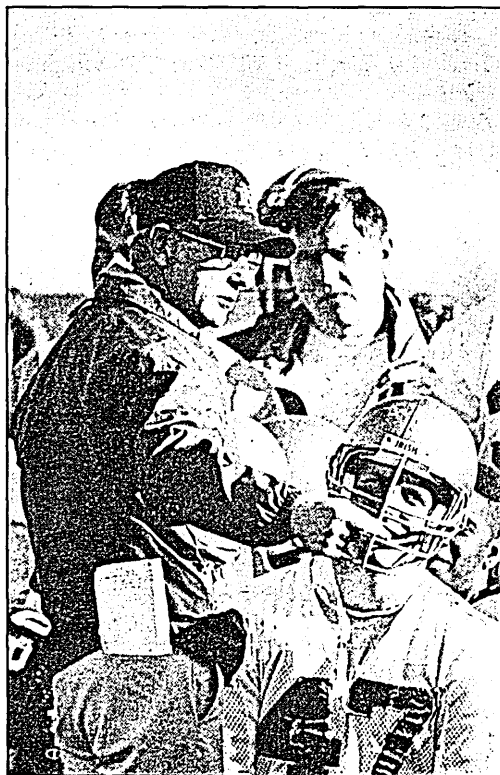
Holtz the kidder will say: "I think every Notre Dame student feels that his tuition guarantees that once in his four years that we'll play for a national championship."

Perspective is the charm of this place to Holtz. It is a university with a football team, not the other way around.

But he plays this game to win.

"I'm a perfectionist," he says. "I want to see things done right. I'm a perfectionist at everything I do in life. Yes, even mowing the lawn."

That isn't always the easiest path to walk.



*When Notre Dame hired Lou Holtz, I knew they'd have a dynamite team. You just didn't know if it would take one, two or three years.*

— West Virginia coach Don Nehlen

"You have to come to terms with things not always being done the way you want," he says. "That's not saying you have to accept it; just come to terms with it."

Dec. 30, 1988 *USA Today*

Holtz was characterized in a *Wall Street Journal* article Dec. 27 as a brilliant offensive strategist and a consummate motivator.

"He'll beat you a different way every week," Arkansas athletic director Frank Broyles told the *Wall Street Journal*.

"He talks to God," Notre Dame junior quarterback Tony Rice said.

On headphones, Rice was asked. Rice giggled.

"When Notre Dame hired Lou Holtz, I knew they'd have a dynamite team. You just didn't know if it would take one, two or three years," West Virginia coach Don Nehlen said.

"When I was first being recruited, I was looking at those flashy teams with the half-shirts. Hot weather. Girls," said Watters, from Hattisburg, Pa.

"I was feeling like Oklahoma. They had always been my team. Miami had been my team."

But he chose Notre Dame.

"The key factor in my coming here was Coach Lou Holtz. Knowing his record, and the way he presented himself," Watters said.

"He can mold me. He knows when to get you relaxed. When to get you intense."

Jan. 1, 1989 *Arizona Daily Star*

Guess who?

"I think it will be very, very difficult for this team to rebound.

"I will be shocked if we have a good year next year."

Said with a rising voice for emphasis, a hint of a lisp and the sincerity of a sermon.

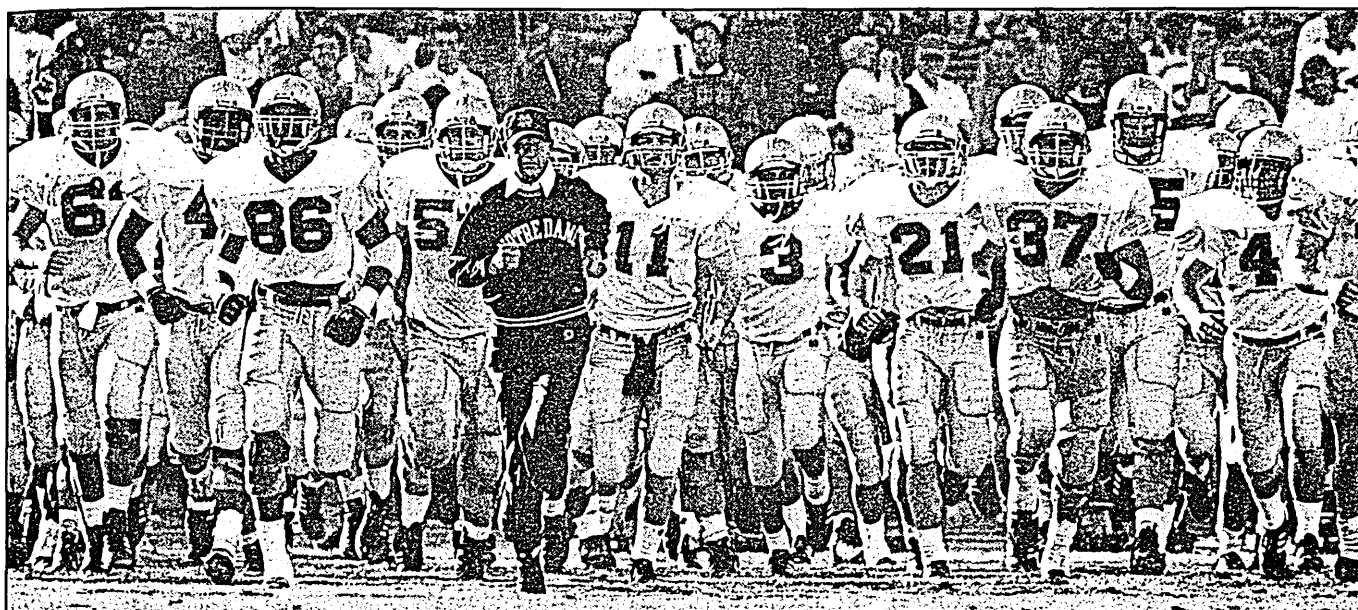
So who do you guess?

How'd you know it was good ol' Boohoo Lou?

Just minutes before his Notre Dame football team was officially named the 1988 national champion, Lou Holtz was already fretting about next season.

He did stop short of wondering whether his '89 team with only 16 starters returning from this undefeated team, will win a single game.

And no, he didn't even hint that he was concerned about just being able to get a first down, like Frank Leahy once did.



But he did let it be known that next season is going to take some big-doings to make it successful in any shape, way or form.

Then Holtz smiled, almost sheepishly.

He must have realized how far-fetched those statements sounded to a roomful of sports writers who had witnessed his team's demolition of No. 3 West Virginia in the Fiesta Bowl only a day earlier.

Even the P.T. Barnum of college football realized he couldn't pull off this crying-towel tale.

"I know you're probably thinking, 'There he goes again,' " said Holtz. "And I probably wouldn't believe it if I were you, either.

"But dog-gone it, I feel that way. I'm scared to death."

Jan. 4, 1989 South Bend Tribune

## Lou Holtz's Collegiate Coaching Record

School	Year	W	L	T	Pct.	Bowl	Opponent	Result	Final AP Rank
William & Mary	1969	3	7	0	.300				
William & Mary	1970	5	7	0	.417	Tangerine	Toledo	L12-40	
William & Mary	1971	5	6	0	.455				
North Carolina State	1972	8	3	1	.708	Peach	West Virginia	W49-13	#17
North Carolina State	1973	9	3	0	.750	Liberty	Kansas	W31-18	#16
North Carolina State	1974	9	2	1	.792	Bluebonnet	Houston	T31-31	#11
North Carolina State	1975	7	4	1	.625	Peach	West Virginia	L10-13	
Arkansas	1977	11	1	0	.917	Orange	Oklahoma	W31-6	#3
Arkansas	1978	9	2	1	.767	Fiesta	UCLA	T10-10	#11
Arkansas	1979	10	2	0	.833	Sugar	Alabama	L 9-24	#8
Arkansas	1980	7	5	0	.583	Hall of Fame	Tulane	W34-15	
Arkansas	1981	8	4	0	.667	Gator	North Carolina	L27-31	
Arkansas	1982	9	2	1	.792	Bluebonnet	Florida	W28-24	#9
Arkansas	1983	6	5	0	.545				
Minnesota	1984	4	7	0	.364				
Minnesota	1985	6	5	0	.545	Independence	Clemson		
Notre Dame	1986	5	6	0	.455				
Notre Dame	1987	8	4	0	.667	Cotton	Texas A&M	L10-35	#17
Notre Dame	1988	12	0	0	1.000	Fiesta	West Virginia	W34-21	#1
Career Total		141	75	5	.649				6-4-2

\*did not coach Minnesota in bowl game since he had accepted Notre Dame job.

Lou Holtz and the 1988 national champions.

# Assistant Coaches

It was four o'clock on the afternoon of Wednesday, February 9, 1988.

The molding and shaping of Notre Dame's 1988 football season was continuing.

Addressing his team in the Joyce Athletic and Convocation Center auditorium, Fighting Irish head coach Lou Holtz filled in his players on the top-ranked recruiting class being pencilled in on national letter of intent day by the Notre Dame staff.

Since NCAA regulations forbid head coaches from going on the road on signing day, Holtz had to view the proceedings from the home front, while his assistants criss-crossed the nation. As the Irish players soon found out, three of those assistants would not return.

Later that afternoon, Foge Fazio announced his departure as Notre Dame's defensive coordinator and inside linebacker coach to become special teams coach of the Atlanta Falcons of the National Football League. He became the third Irish assistant in two years to move into the NFL, joining Mike Stock (to the Cincinnati Bengals) and Kurt Schottenheimer (to the Cleveland Browns).

Longtime Irish defensive line coach Joe Yonto received an invitation to join Notre Dame's athletic administration — and opted to take it after 24 seasons on the Irish staffs of Ara Parseghian, Dan Devine, Gerry Faust and Holtz. Secondary coach Terry Forbes decided to leave coaching to begin his own prep recruiting service for the state of Ohio.

Three losses might have been a deterrent to a program just coming off a major bowl appearance and shooting for even loftier goals in the future. But Holtz had no intention of permitting staff changes to pose a roadblock to Irish progress.

"I promised you we would not miss a beat if we ever had any changes in our staff," he said. "Believe me, we will hire the very best coaches in America and we will hire them quickly."

So began the conception of Notre Dame's '88 football coaching staff.

Holtz wasted little time elevating second-year assistant Barry Alvarez to the key post of defensive coordinator. With Alvarez's shift from coaching the outside

linebackers to handling the inside linebackers, every Notre Dame defensive player now was guaranteed to be working with a brand new position coach.

"You're just whistling in the dark if you think you can be an excellent football team if you're not great on defense," he said so many times.

He also wasted little time naming the new additions to the staff.

First, he added 36-year-old John Palermo, a former Florida State tight end and defensive tackle who had coached the previous four years at Minnesota. He would fill Yonto's role with the defensive line.

Next, he added 35-year-old Chuck Heater, a former Michigan running back who had coached the three previous seasons at Ohio State. He would fill Forbes' spot in the secondary.

Finally, he added 56-year-old Joe Moore, a former Penn State halfback who had coached the two previous seasons at Temple after handling Pittsburgh's heralded offensive line for six of his nine years there. Moore would assist with the offensive tackles and tight ends, permitting Tony Yelovich to concentrate on the guards and centers.

That also allowed George Stewart to give up his tight end duties and switch over to defense to coach the ends on Alvarez's invitation.

One constant was Vinny Cerrato, who was starting his third year as Notre Dame's recruiting coordinator. He had served in a similar capacity under Holtz at Minnesota and played a big part in the Irish recruiting success.

There were two things that stood out immediately about this revamped unit.

One, it was an amazingly young group. Two of the nine full-time assistants were under 30, six were under 40 and the average age was 38.

Two, it was a group with more than its share of Minnesota connections. Five of the nine had been with Holtz in Minneapolis at some point — plus two others had other Big Ten connections (Alvarez at Iowa and Heater at both Wisconsin and Ohio State).

Holtz commonly opens his introduction of his assistants by saying, "the Bible says, 'Peter died leaning on his staff.'"

The same will be said of me someday."

Yet, the combination of the new assistant coaches and a youthful football team made for a magic combination for Notre Dame in 1988. With more than their share of rookies — not just on the roster but also on the coaching staff — the Irish saw things fall into place amazingly well.

Let's analyze the development of the position areas, as handled by the various coaches:

**OFFENSIVE BACKS** — Jim Strong came in with a glossy group after *The Sporting News* rated the '88 Irish backfield the most talented in the nation prior to the season. That came despite the loss of all five offensive linemen from the previous season, an item which could have proven to be a major hurdle, but was not.

Holtz's approach of organizing a running game by committee paid impressive dividends as tailbacks Mark Green and Tony Brooks combined for more than 1,300 rushing yards, 21 receptions and 11 overall touchdowns. The fullback position, despite a rash of injuries, earned considerable mileage out of not only juniors Anthony Johnson and Braxton Banks, but also rookie Rodney Culver and second-year man Ryan Mihalko.

Strong's platoon philosophy always kept fresh runners on hand as the Irish averaged an impressive 258 rushing yards per game.

Just as impressive in terms of improvement was junior quarterback Tony Rice. Already proven as a runner, scrambler and option expert, Rice's mission in '88 would be to become a complete quarterback by improving his passing skills. After a slow start against Michigan and Michigan State, the rest of the Irish opponents — in particular, Miami and West Virginia — found out just how improved he would be.

More than anything, Tony Rice had earned his reputation as a winner in leading his team to 12 straight victories. And despite playing second fiddle in advance billing to Heisman Trophy candidates like Steve Walsh of Miami, Rodney Peete of USC and Major Harris of West Virginia, Rice didn't have to take a back seat to anyone by the time the last down had been played. He'll be the one meriting Heisman Trophy consideration in 1989.

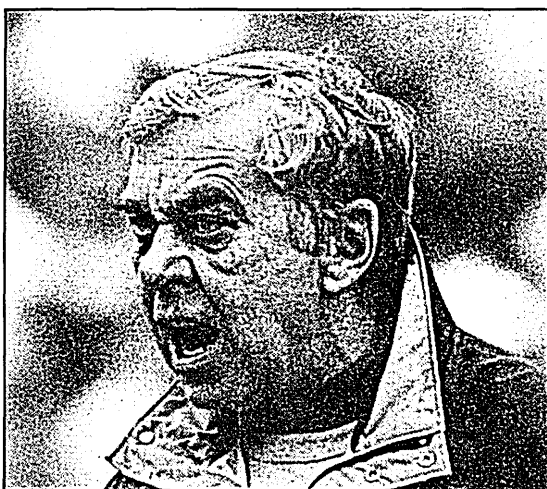
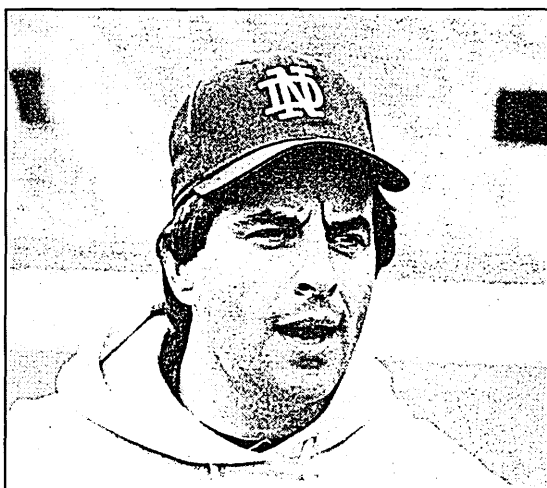
**RECEIVERS** — Notre Dame's passing game underwent a complete metamor-

phosis in '88 thanks to the graduation of Heisman Trophy-winning flanker Tim Brown. In addition, all three players who started at split end in '87 were gone — with Reggie Ward graduating, Pat Terrell moving to safety and Ray Dumas out with knee problems. Worse still, the two sophomores expected to move in at split end — Bobby Carpenter and Pierre Martin — became academically ineligible over the summer. That left receivers' coach Pete Cordelli with more than your average challenge.

But the Irish became more than just a good team when it came to the passing game — as West Virginia could attest after Notre Dame averaged better than 30 yards per reception against the Mountaineers in the Fiesta Bowl.

Ironically, Cordelli managed to build the Irish receiving corps primarily out of three players who were playing new positions.

Senior flanker Pat Eilers had been a safety in '87, yet he proved to be a dogged blocker and a dependable possession receiver. Sophomore Ricky Watters didn't make the change from tailback to flanker until the final week of spring practice, but his explosiveness gave the Irish a dangerous weapon. Freshman Raghib Ismail at split end had been a running back in high school. His 4.28 speed made him little more than a treat early in the year, but once he gained some poise and Rice got on track,



Top — Jim Strong  
Middle — Pete Cordelli  
Bottom — Joe Moore





Top — Tony Yelovich  
Middle — John  
Palermo  
Bottom — George  
Stewart

the Rice-to-Ismail combination became a scary one for Notre Dame opponents.

**TACKLES AND TIGHT ENDS** — Joe Moore's assignment as tackles coach was hardly an easy one: Take two people who had never played tackle before and turn them into something. He took senior captain Andy Heck, a tight end the previous three years, and turned him into a near unanimous all-America. He took junior Dean Brown, who had been a reserve guard, and turned him into a tackle good enough to start all 12 games.

Only a season-ending broken leg kept freshman Justin Hall from becoming one of the most productive rookie offensive tackles the Irish have seen in recent years.

At tight end, Moore had to replace Heck. But he could do it with two individuals — sophomore Frank Jacobs and freshman Derek Brown — who had been tabbed the best high school tight ends in the country in their respective classes. Jacobs began the season as the starter, though a troublesome arch injury limited him to only a single regular

season catch before his scoring grab in the Fiesta Bowl. But Brown turned out to be as good as advertised. Each of his first two receptions went for scores and he finished the season with a pair of outstanding catches versus West Virginia.

**GUARDS AND CENTERS** — Notre

Dame's graduation-ravaged offensive line for '88 provided Tony Yelovich with more than his share of question marks. But he put together the middle of the Irish line with nothing but underclassmen.

With all-America Chuck Lanza gone from the center spot, the Irish spent much of the spring testing candidates to replace him. The winner turned out to be sophomore Mike Heldt, who ended up strong and consistent enough to start all 12 games.

At guard, Yelovich at least had the benefit of junior Tim Grunhard, a part-time starter at the position in '87. But he also had to fill the other guard spot with newcomers — sophomore Tim Ryan, who had been a linebacker as a rookie and a center in the spring, and classmate Winston Sandri, who never played a down as a rookie.

Things got even more complicated for the Irish with injuries to both Grunhard and Ryan in the Pittsburgh game. Depth paid off for Yelovich and the Irish as sophomore Joe Allen was pressed into the starting lineup once and former walk-on Mike Brennan ended up in starting at guard three times, including vs. top-ranked Miami and vs. West Virginia in the Fiesta Bowl.

**DEFENSIVE LINE** — There were plenty of new faces here. Not just new coach John Palermo, but also sophomores Chris Zorich and George Williams and junior Jeff Alm, all first-year starters.

Palermo's task was affected by three circumstances that made putting together a lineup even tougher.

One, Zorich injured a knee the first day of spring practice and missed the rest of spring drills after not playing a down as a rookie.

Two, senior Tom Gorman, the only returning regular among the defensive tackles, tore a chest muscle the first day in pads in August and ended up shifting to offense once he regained his health.

Three, the Irish never did get a look at junior John Foley, who had been expected to get a good look at tackle except for a bicep injury left over from the Cotton Bowl that sidelined him for the entire '88 season.

Still, Zorich and Williams added emotion, enthusiasm and quickness to the Irish lineup and Alm played with far more consistency than he had in the past — even leading the team in interceptions with three.

Among the backups, the Irish enjoyed yet another success story in Mirko Jurkovic. A freshman who was expected to play on the offensive line eventually, Jurkovic was pressed into service on defense with Gorman hurt and Foley out. He ended up earning a monogram as Williams' backup on the left side.

**DEFENSIVE ENDS** — Penn State coach Joe Paterno knew at least one of the reasons for Notre Dame's success in '88:

"A year ago Frank Stams was just another football player. Now he's playing with character and that's one of the reasons Notre Dame is where they are today."

Under the tutelage of George Stewart, Stams developed into a dominant pass-rusher and big-game player at the rush end slot. He also developed into a first-team all-America after earning special plaudits for his play against Miami, USC and West Virginia. He, more than anyone, earned credit for the improvement in Notre Dame's pass rush.

At the drop end position, Stewart got excellent mileage out of a trio of individuals — fifth-year senior Flash Gordon, sophomore Andre Jones and freshman Arnold Ale. The incumbent Gordon had his ups and downs but rebounded to earn back his starting role for the Fiesta Bowl. Jones added a good dose of athletic ability with his quickness and Ale played well enough to earn his first starting call against top-ranked Miami.

**LINEBACKERS** — Barry Alvarez's biggest decision was which two of his three top-quality linebackers to put on the field. The answer turned out to be fifth-year senior Michael Stonebreaker, but that didn't mean veteran Ned Bolcar was far behind.

Stonebreaker won a job the previous spring with Bolcar down with an ankle sprain from a basketball game — and he parlayed that opening into a stellar junior season that earned him a third-place finish in the Butkus Award voting for the nation's top linebacker.

Pritchett, who led the '88 Irish in tackles, might have been one of the most unheralded stars anywhere in the country. He, and Stams so often set the tone for the entire Irish defense with their intense, physical play.

Bolcar, though he never started a game, still finished fourth overall in tackles while spelling both Pritchett and Stonebreaker.

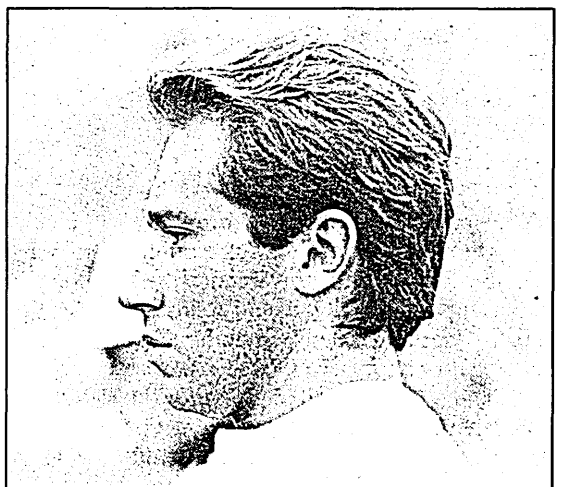
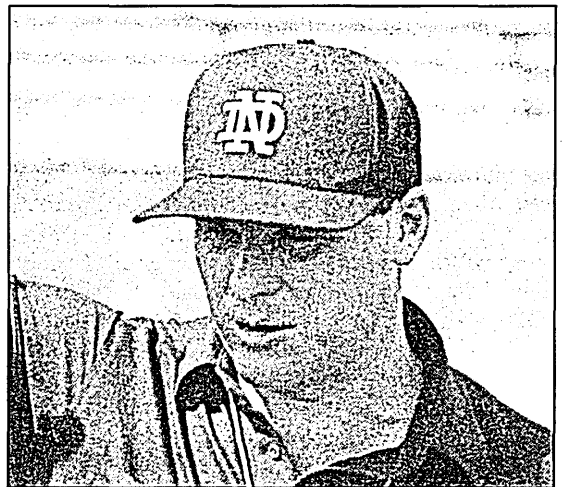
**SECONDARY** — Chuck Heater and the Irish opened the campaign with a solid starting lineup of Stan Smagala and Todd Lyght at the corners and George Streeter and Corny Southall at the safeties. But they received outstanding season-long efforts from D'Juan Francisco and Pat Terrell as well.

Combined, they played as big a role as anyone in the overall defensive improvement, especially against teams that threw the ball.

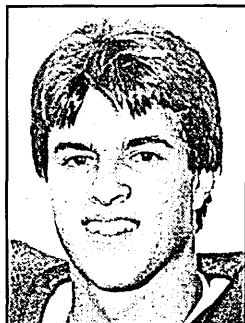
Lyght earned such rave reviews that few teams threw in his direction on the wide side of the field. Smagala's surprising speed and quickness manifested themselves in the interception return against USC that turned around the momentum late in the first half. Francisco, a converted tailback, proved far more consistent than he had been in the past, highlighted by an interception versus Miami's Steve Walsh.

Streeter, who excelled as a senior, joined Pritchett as another of the unsung heroes of the '88 national championship effort. His sidekick, Corny Southall, gave way at free safety at midseason to Terrell. Yet, Southall's vocal leadership made him invaluable to the Irish and Terrell's insertion paid quick dividends when he ran an interception back for six points then knocked down the late two-point conversion try against Miami.

And that was how it all fell together for Notre Dame in 1988.



Top — Barry Alvarez  
Middle — Chuck Heater  
Bottom — Vinny Cerrato



**80** **Steve Alaniz**  
6-2 196  
Edinburg, Texas (Edinburg)



**Split End**

### What they said about Alaniz...

As a part of the team, Alaniz saw relatively little playing time until this, his senior year. He kept up his positive attitude and willingness to contribute to the team, accepted his assignments and improved. Alaniz realized that no one player has a lock on any position.

"If they ask you to block, you have to go out there and do it," Alaniz says. "If they ask you to go out there and catch a pass, then you go out there and catch a pass. If you don't, somebody just as talented will take your place."

Alaniz's improvements and contributions have not gone unnoticed by coaches and teammates.

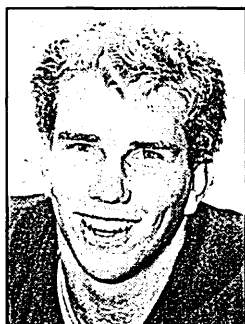
Alaniz attributes his success to his competitive nature. He likes challenges and faces them. He has never-ending confidence in himself and his abilities. He quickly accepts changes, especially concerning his role on the team.

"I've been working hard for a few years, and this year I've gotten a chance to play more," Alaniz says. "This year I've had to accept my role more as a

teacher."

Alaniz's coming of age on the field is occurring simultaneously with Notre Dame's rejuvenated success. He has seen action in every game this season, which has seen the Irish climb to the top of the national poll. He earned his first start ever in the season opener against Michigan, a game in which he caught his first collegiate pass.

*Nov. 19, 1988 ND-Penn State Game Program*



**8** **Steve Belles**  
6-4 211  
Phoenix, Ariz. (St. Mary's)



**Quarterback**

### What they said about Belles...

The youngest child in the family, Belles took his share of lumps from his older brothers. But they were also there with support, especially his brother Mark. A coach at Glendale Community College in Arizona, Mark taught Steve the X's and O's of football.

"I keep my brother in mind when I play," Belles says. "Mark taught me all I know about football. He was my second dad, when my dad wasn't there or didn't understand. Mark would be there. When I was a kid and had a bad day or I was down about a loss I went to Mark and he would pick me up."

Step-by-step, Belles worked his way through the ranks. He started out as a linebacker when he played his first organized ball at the age of eight, but

quickly became a quarterback. He followed the accomplishments of his boyhood hero, Baltimore Colt quarterback Bert Jones. He copied not only his style, but also his success. Confidence and hard work followed him to St. Mary's High School, where Belles was a three-year starter and guided the team to the state championship in his senior year.

Belles' appearances at quarterback have been limited. He's been called on to play tailback and he makes numerous appearances on the special teams. His willingness to switch positions and his work ethic has earned him the reputation among his teammates as being the Irish's toughest player.

"I believe that you should never give up on what you believe in," Belles says.

"Always hang in there. When things look tough, be ready for the opportunity, otherwise the opportunity will pass you by. I feel like I have never done well enough. If I put myself in the right situation, I know that if I am ever called upon, I will not let my teammates down. I hope one day to be able to go in sometime when we're down and help the team win a game."

Holtz isn't kidding about Belles being tough. In one of the team's pre-season scrimmages he was disappointed with the performance of his tailbacks and shouted out "Get Steve Belles in here. He'll get the job done."

*Oct. 1, 1988 ND-Stanford Game Program*



47

Ned Bolcar

6-2

232

Linebacker

Phillipsburg, N.J. (Phillipsburg)



### What they said about Bolcar...

When Ned Bolcar comes through the tunnel for a Notre Dame football game, he carries a lot more with him than his 6-2, 232-pound frame.

The senior tri-captain carries memories of the endless phone calls that flood his room. And that's all he needs to pump him up for 60 minutes of football on Saturday afternoon.

"I get friends and subway alumni from home calling me up the night before a game," says Bolcar, "and they're ready to cry on the phone and tell me how bad they want Notre Dame to win. They are so fired up. It's important to them in their life, so then you realize how important it should be to you and your life. We're out here playing for Notre Dame, practicing for Notre Dame and living for Notre Dame. You'd think when it came time to play the game we would care enough to get emotional enough and all excited to go out there and hit somebody."

Hitting somebody is Bolcar's vocation at the linebacker spot, and with his nose for the football, he has become as difficult as a hurricane for opponents to stop. Irish defensive coordinator Barry Alvarez concurs.

"Ned Bolcar is extremely physical and he is always around the football. All you need to say about him is that he makes plays on Saturday," says Alvarez.

Oct. 7, 1988 - *The Observer*

Coach Lou Holtz put Bolcar on the kickoff coverage team, which seemed to be a problem area, and asked him to set the tempo in the huddle. He has and Holtz is happy with the results.

"Coach Holtz put some of the older guys on it (kickoff coverage team), and I looked at it as just another opportunity to get on the field," said Bolcar.

"I think I'm capable of getting the team fired up. I hope my presence had a

little to do with it, but I think it's all 11 players."

Football is a job, says Bolcar, but he does enjoy playing an important role in "the return of the Notre Dame mystique to the Irish campus. It's exciting. Hopefully it will work out the best for Ned Bolcar and everybody involved."

Nov. 16, 1988 - *Indianapolis News*

If you're looking for a way not to like Ned Bolcar, hang it up. You've got a better chance of feeling compassion for Robin Givens, or beating up on her ex-husband, or for that matter, getting a one-word answer out of Notre Dame's senior linebacker and tri-captain, ol'

number 47 himself.

Ned Bolcar likes to talk which would be a problem if he were anything but an eminently likable individual. The thing is, Ned is one of those people who makes others feel comfortable and listening to him talk about life as a college football player at Notre Dame is quite an enjoyable experience. This becomes clear when he talks about his week leading up to a game.

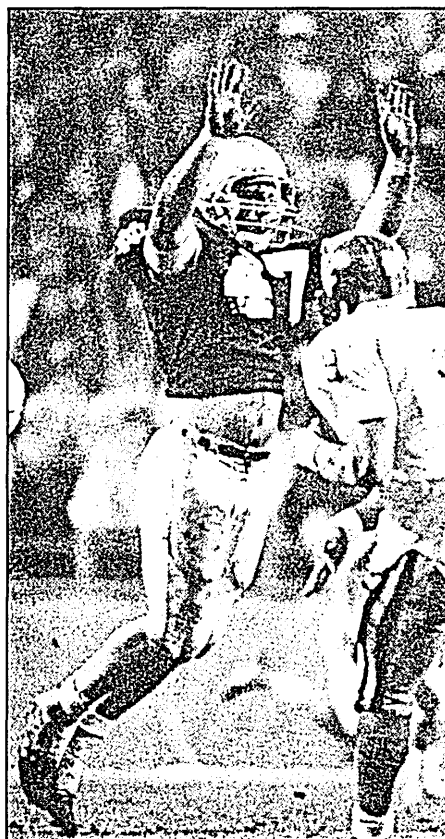
The major part of Bolcar's weekly routine is football. He says it makes up about 60 percent of his life, and that includes not only the time that goes into it, but also the emotional investment that comes with making a commitment.

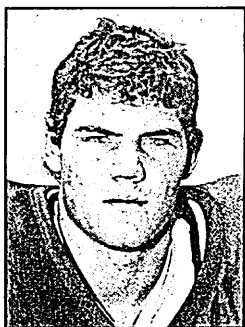
"In college football there is a lot involved," Bolcar said. "You've got guys who want to win and play well, but sometimes they do poorly and things bother them. You try not to let it happen and try to say to yourself it's only a small part of your life. But at school, football is 60 percent of your life. It's always been that way for me. You always feel like you have to do a little bit more, and you start to lose your perspective."

If football's going badly, it's hard to go home and do your work. Football is a lot of mental work. It's hard to go out there everyday with the right temperament if you don't have your life squared away. I find the best way to do that is to stay organized. If you've got your life organized, your schoolwork organized, your personal life is okay, it makes it easier to work on football. And if your football is squared away, it makes the other things easier. It all goes hand in hand."

Maintaining that sort of perspective is a large part of why Bolcar's teammates elected him as one of their tri-captains for this season.

Nov. 19, 1988 - *ND-Penn State Game Program*





# 64 Mike Brennan

6-5 246  
Severna Park, Md. (Mt. St. Joseph's)



Off. Tackle

## What they said about Brennan...

The road to success for a walk-on on the Notre Dame football team is strenuous, at times unbearable. But senior tackle-tight end Mike Brennan achieved success the old-fashioned way — he earned it.

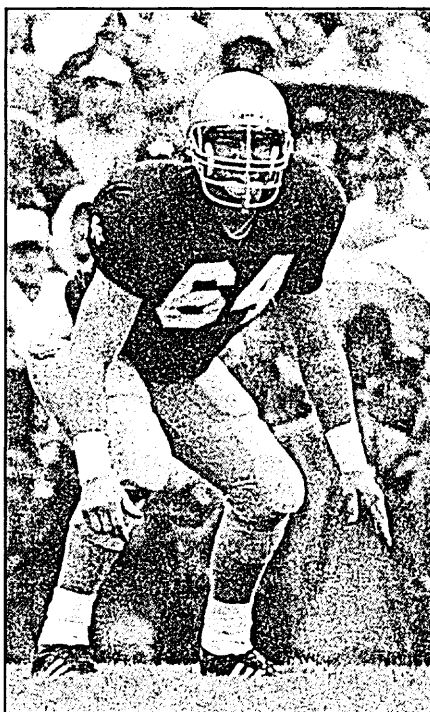
"Football has made me the person that I wasn't," Brennan says. "I just wanted to know in my heart that I started at the very bottom with something and nobody handed me a single thing. I wanted to start from scratch and earn something that most people would die for; a chance to play football at Notre Dame."

As a senior at Mt. St. Joseph's High School in Severna Park, Md., Brennan was a 6-5, 180-pound all-America stand-out in lacrosse. Major universities with unparalleled lacrosse programs tried to attract the precious athlete. Still, he decided to walk onto the Notre Dame football team. Now, three years and 80 pounds later, Brennan has finally secured a scholarship and is second on the depth chart at quick tackle.

When Brennan reminisces about his first tough years on the squad, he mentions his friendship with a senior full-back named Tom Monohan. He admired Monohan because he also started as a walk-on and eventually attained a scholarship.

"Tom showed me what it was all about," Brennan says. "He was very instrumental in helping me stick to my goals because he knew what it was like to be a walk-on."

Brennan presently backs up Andy Heck at the quick tackle position, but he gets most of his playing time when the special teams take the field. He's more concerned with his contribution to the team than his spot on the depth chart.



"Anything is possible this season, but I'm not so much concerned about moving up the chart as long as I'm in a position where I'll be helping the team. And if that included playing time or moving up the charts, so be it."

*Oct. 1, 1988 ND-Stanford Game Program*

Those who remember Mike Brennan from his days as an all-America lacrosse player at Mount St. Joseph High School might not recognize him now. He has put on nearly 80 pounds of muscle. He hasn't played lacrosse, at least with serious intent, for almost two years.

One more thing: He is playing football at Notre Dame.

"I think it's proof of what I set out to accomplish," Brennan said. "It'll show that it wasn't some shot in the dark."

There were a lot of people back in Baltimore who thought Brennan was missing a few bullets when he announced his intention to pass up free rides to play lacrosse at places such as Johns Hopkins and North Carolina to pay his own way at Notre Dame.

Since making his first collegiate start as a tackle in Notre Dame's 31-30 upset of then-No. 1 Miami, Brennan moved to guard because of injuries on the offensive line.

"Most people do think it's a stigma," Brennan said of his former walk-on status. "But I thought it was great. That distinguished me from the rest of the guys. I think they respect me for that. There are some people on campus who still think I'm a walk-on, and I don't tell them I'm not. I like what it represents."

*Oct. 27, 1988 Baltimore Sun*

If a depth chart is like a ladder, and if football teams are like buildings...

Then Notre Dame tackle Mike Brennan may have climbed to the top of the Empire State Building.

And no doubt about it, he started on the ground floor.

The senior, one-time walk-on began his Notre Dame career as a lacrosse recruit. An all-American at his high school in Severna Park, Maryland, Brennan came to Notre Dame — but played spring football instead of lacrosse.

From that beginning (Brennan weighed 180 pounds as a high school senior), Brennan has climbed... and eaten... and now is a starting offensive tackle on the number one ranked team in the nation.

*Nov. 3, 1988 The Observer*





13

## Pat Eilers

5-11

197



Flanker

St. Paul, Minn. (St. Thomas Academy)

### What they said about Eilers...

It didn't take Notre Dame flanker Pat Eilers long to find out how it felt to take a big-time hit in college football.

As a junior last year in the Irish secondary, he had grown accustomed to making hits instead of taking them. But when the Irish put on pads for the first time, safety George Streeter put a hit on Eilers that took Eilers the rest of the day to recover from.

"George put a hit on me like I've never seen before," Eilers said. "I was knocked out for about five minutes."

Ironically, if Eilers hadn't answered Coach Holtz's call for flankers last spring, Eilers might be backing up Streeter a strong safety or even playing with him in the secondary.

Instead, he is sharing time with Ricky Watters and Aaron Robb at flanker.

"On defense you've got to be ready to react," said Eilers. "On offense you take the initial action. For me, taking the initial action is where I am best suited. I'm really happy with my choice."

Oct. 5, 1988 *Indianapolis News*

Oh, so Pat Eilers might not appear in the University of Notre Dame football highlight film.

Guys like Ricky Watters, Raghib (Rocket) Ismail, Derek Brown and Frank Jacobs are going to get more exposure and more acclaim for their presence on the Irish receiving corps.

No bother. "Whatever it takes," is Eilers' attitude. Others might get more attention, but it doesn't bother him.

"Everybody on the team has activated a large-team, small-me attitude," Eilers said. "I'm more concerned with the team than myself."

He is one of those guys who plays a supporting role, the one who makes the big block or catches the short pass to set up the big play.

Oct. 5, 1988 *Fort Wayne Journal-*

### Gazette

Most players bank on attending one university, graduating with one degree, and holding one position on the football team. Then again, most players are not like senior flanker Pat Eilers to whom change is all part of the game.

After two years on the Irish defense, the 5-11, 197-pound flanker has secured a place on the Notre Dame offense. For Eilers, the switch was a positive change in direction.

Eilers' personality is definitely accustomed to change. The St. Paul, Minn., native began his collegiate football career at Yale. After a year, Eilers wanted something more, something he felt Notre Dame had to offer.

For two years he gave it his best shot. In his sophomore year, he finished

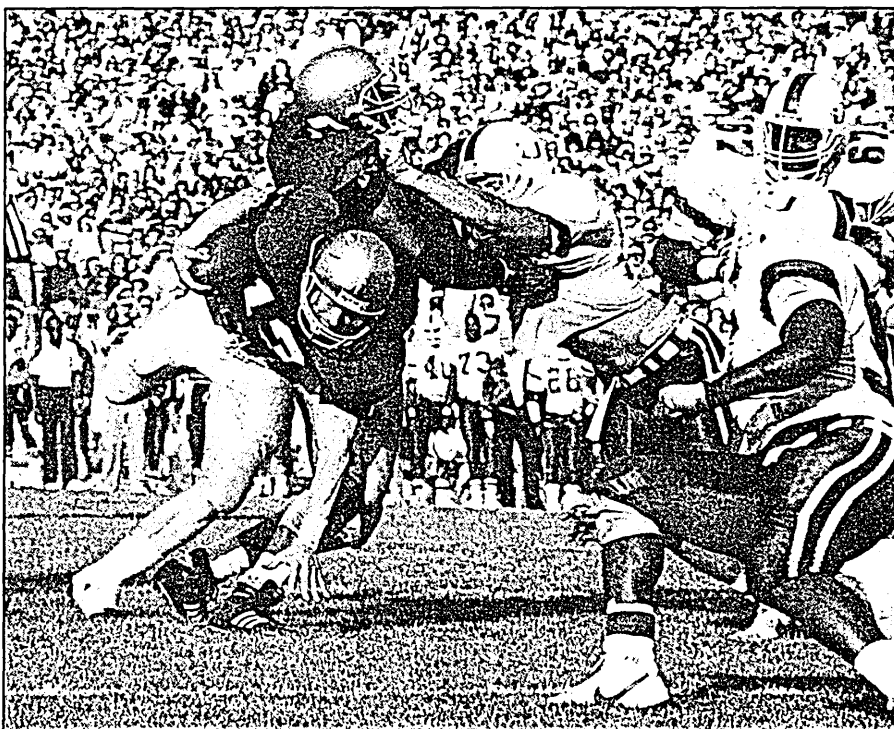
spring drills sharing first-string status with George Streeter at strong safety. He played in all 12 games his junior year, and made more special teams appearances than any other Irish player.

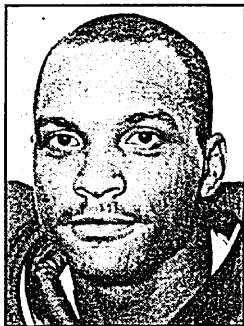
Then with Heisman Trophy winner Tim Brown leaving the ranks, Eilers was called upon to fill a gap in the receiving corps.

Perhaps players like Watters and Ismail earn more credits in the highlight films, but Eilers does not dwell on recognition.

"As far as being a match for a naturally talented athlete, I am not one of those types," Eilers said. "Others may have been given more talent, but I think I have more drive."

Nov. 5, 1988 *ND-Rice Game Program*





# 32 D'Juan Francisco

5-11 187  
Cincinnati, Ohio (Moeller)



Cornerback

## What they said about Francisco...

The sight of D'Juan Francisco coming out of a pack of football players and leaving everyone behind isn't unusual in the eyes of Cincinnati football fans.

Seeing Francisco leave players in his wake was a weekly occurrence during his four-year career at Moeller, where he set records for career rushing yards (4,032), career points scored (378), single-season touchdowns (27 as a junior), single-season rushing yardage (1,658 as a junior), single-game TDs (five) and career 100-yard games (22). A state-class sprinter (10.5 seconds in 100-meter dash) in track to boot, and there were few football players in Ohio capable of staying with him in high school.

There also are very few players that can keep up with Francisco in college. But at Notre Dame, where Francisco is a senior, he's the one playing catch-up.

Francisco, now 5-foot-11 and 188 pounds, has made the transition to cor-

nerback and, if there were any doubts about his dedication, they ended in Notre Dame's 19-17 victory over Michigan. While mighty-mite kicker Reggie Ho (5-5, 135) went down in the Notre Dame record book for his four field goals, it was Francisco's touchdown-saving tackle of Michigan's Tony Boles on a kickoff to start the second quarter that made the difference.

"The important thing is that you want to play. You can't be selfish, and if the team needs some help on defense, that's where you have to go. I have no regrets." *Sept. 17, 1988 Cincinnati Post*

Who's the fastest player on the Notre Dame football team? Is it freshman Raghib "Rocket" Ismail? Maybe sophomore Ricky Watters? Or how about freshman running back Rusty Setzer or sophomore tailback Tony Brooks?

A couple of weeks ago, Lou Holtz told

a group of reporters at a press conference that Ismail thinks he's fast, and Watters thinks he's fast, and Brooks thinks he's fast, but D'Juan Francisco knows he's fast.

D'Juan Francisco, or D.J. as he is familiarly known, is Notre Dame's senior cornerback who submits, "I don't know who the fastest person on the team is, but I know the defensive backs are faster than any other position on the team."

The fact that Francisco ran a team-best 4.33 40-yard dash in spring drills last year certainly gives credence to his claim, as does the fact that the next three fastest times and four of the next five belong to members of the defensive backfield.

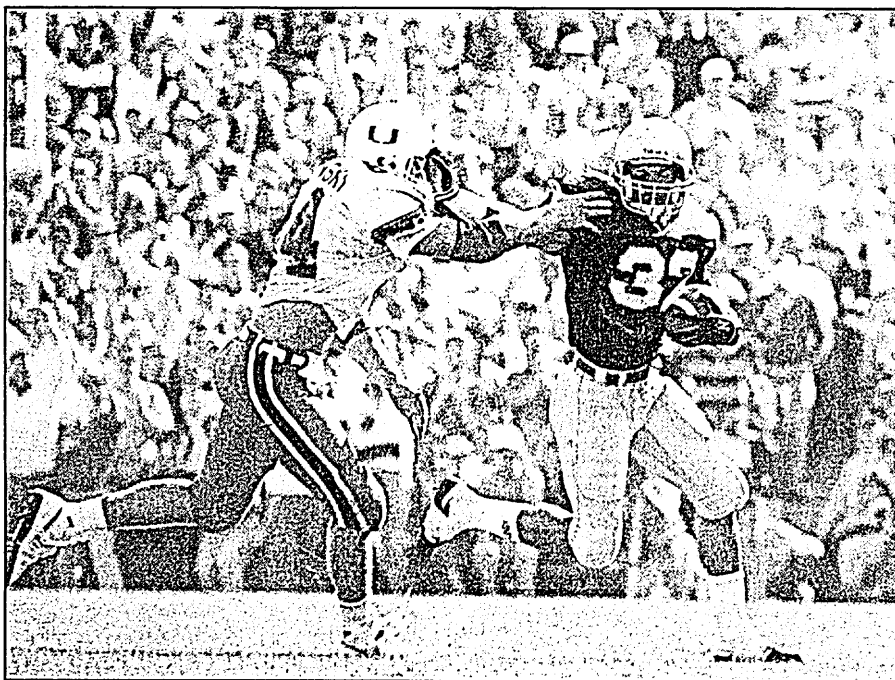
But leave it to a truly team-oriented player like Francisco to find a solution to the question of who the fastest player is.

"We've got some fast freshmen," he says. "But what I would like to do is get a few of my friends and put together a 4 x 100 relay team and race the freshmen. Get me, Stan Smagala (4.35 in the 40), Todd Lyght (4.41) and Mark Green (4.42) or someone like that and challenge a team of freshmen. They are supposed to have the fastest incoming class, so I'm not going to just make it me, but I'd like to make it a team thing."

Francisco did not see action in any of the games in 1985, his freshman year, and he saw limited time at tailback as a sophomore. In 1987, he became a cornerback and was back to ground zero, but this year he is beginning to feel at home with his new position and has made some sparkling plays.

Of particular note was the interception he made against Miami, when Notre Dame staked its claim as a bonafide national championship contender by defeating the Hurricanes, 31-30.

*Nov. 5, 1988 ND-Rice Game Program*





# 38 Flash Gordon

6-3 214  
Hillside, N.J. (Hillside)



Def. End

## What they said about Gordon...

You didn't hear or see him coming, but suddenly he is there. Startled, you imagine this is what it's like to be a quarterback just before being sacked in the pocket. You catch his eye and he walks over.

At 6-3 and 215 pounds, his muscular body takes up most of the booth he is sitting in. He can bench press twice his weight, and you have no problem believing it.

Gordon's build is due in part to his extra year in the Irish weight room. But playing football at Notre Dame wasn't the only reason he decided to return for a fifth year of college.

"It's prestigious to be at Notre Dame grad school," he says. "When I was in high school and looking at colleges I was very concerned about academics as well as football and I felt that Notre Dame was really the only place where I would be challenged in both areas. Here I could get the best education and play for America's team. It was certainly hard to turn down.

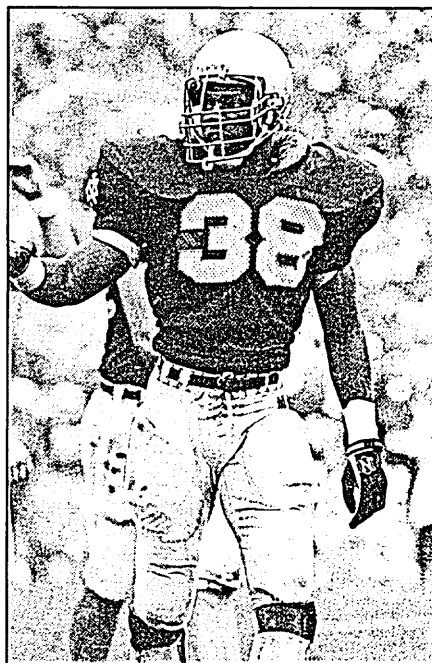
"My own family has had a tremendous influence on me. My brother, Victor, was a professional boxer, and he made me believe that I could succeed as an athlete too. I watched his work habits and his dedication. He loves boxing and I love football and we both work hard at being the best we can be.

"I can remember when I was young, he was always in the limelight. Then, suddenly, when a few colleges started recruiting me, we were sharing it. I knew that if I worked as hard as he did, I could be under that spotlight with him.

"I try to play up to expectations every time, and so does everyone else," Gordon said. "If you can do that, even when things aren't going well for the

entire team, you might end up with bigger numbers sometimes.

"I always look to be a little better each time. You always have to be dedicated. You have to want it. We want to prove that we will not let any team destroy our hopes. Everyone should have that dream of a national championship



and we will try to work toward it every week by playing consistently."

Gordon's secret to playing consistently comes from pregame preparation.

"I try hard not to get too psyched up before a game," Gordon says. "I don't want that rush to go away before I get out on the field. I want to be at an emotional high when I'm out there, thinking about making the big play every time the ball is snapped."

Sept. 24, 1988 ND-Purdue Game Program

He played football and basketball and threw the javelin and discus at Hillside High. He also studied. By the time he graduated, he was sixth in his senior class and ranked in the top 100 football seniors in the nation by one scouting publication. The big-timers were on his door. Notre Dame was the easy winner.

"I'd just always heard about it," Flash Gordon said. "I knew it was a place where you could play football and get an education. That was what was most important to me. Nobody's going to play football forever, no matter how good he is. My parents were pushing for Notre Dame, too, but they left the decision up to me. I was with them. I wanted Notre Dame."

The four years — five, actually — have gone by in — OK — a flash. They haven't been easy because the kid played on some of those Gerry Faust teams that lost and lost while everyone shook their heads, but football never was everything, anyway. The education arrived as promised. Only seven Notre Dame players since 1965 have failed to graduate, a 98.7 rate. The kid was part of that long line of Italians and Irish and Spanish and Poles and blacks and whites who used the game more than the game ever used them.

Jan. 1, 1989 Boston Globe

Gordon, a fifth-year senior from Hillside, N.J., is one of a handful of Irish seniors who have gone from digesting table scraps to riding the gravy train. But unlike those who were secure in their positions all season, Gordon has risen from mid-season bench-sitter to likely Fiesta Bowl starter.

Dec. 29, 1988 Chicago Tribune



61

**Tom Gorman**

6-6

255

Off. Tackle

Evergreen Park, Ill. (Brother Rice)



### What they said about Gorman...

When Tom Gorman goes back to his room in Pangborn Hall every night after football practice, he knows that the phone is going to ring. No matter how the day went in the trenches, the offensive tackle can count on some words of encouragement from a man who understands the demands of a college football player — his father.

"I have the type of father who calls me every night to see how I'm doing," the Evergreen Park, Ill., native says. "He played football for a year when he was in college, but he realized that his education would get him further than football."

Gorman, a player who has achieved plenty of success on the football field and in the classroom, boasts a 3.13 overall grade point average and knows that he is a fortunate son. Like his father, Gorman has learned to keep things in perspective.

"I always learned to take football and school and put them in the right perspective," Gorman says.

Gorman developed his football skills at Brother Rice High School in Chicago where he was named to the Chicago Catholic all-America squad. As a member of the powerful Chicago Catholic league, Gorman learned the true spirit

of sportsmanship.

The Chicago Catholic league may have been tough to compete in, but the adjustment to Notre Dame seemed an enormous task at first.

"I didn't know what to expect the first day I got here," Gorman recalls. "I saw Eric Dorsey and I thought, 'Oh my God what did I get myself into?' When he and Wally Kleine showed up, they just seemed colossal to me. After a while I realized that I could play here. I knew that it would take time, but I knew that I could do it."

Oct. 22, 1988 ND-Air Force Game Program



11

**Pete Graham**

6-3

207

Quarterback

Rusmon, N.J. (Rumson-Fair Haven)



### What they said about Graham...

There's an old adage that says "if you don't have anything nice to say, don't say anything at all."

Senior reserve quarterback Pete Graham is living proof that some people still adhere to that philosophy. Maybe it's because Graham is such a nice person who always has something pleasant to say about others.

"I was always a pretty good kid," Graham says. "I never gave my parents too much trouble. At least, that's what they tell me."

Graham's parents aren't the only ones with praise for him.

"Pete has one of the greatest attitudes

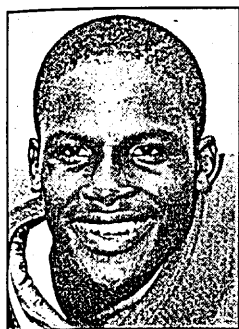
I've ever seen," says teammate Kent Graham (no relation). "Everyone loves the guy. He never has a negative word to say about anyone or anything, and that type of person adds so much to a team. He's a true team player."

For the past four years, Graham has played a key role on the Irish prep team at quarterback. But, he hasn't seen a lot of game playing time. In fact, Graham has only been in 18 games during his college career and most of those appearances have been with the kicking units as a holder. Graham feels he's contributing in more important ways than simply wearing the uniform.

"I'm helping the prep team prepare themselves for a lot of tough teams just by playing my best in practice," he says.

Graham is often the player behind the scenes who helps his teammates reach their full potential. As a holder, Graham could hardly be compared to Lucy of the Peanuts comic strip who always pulls the football away from Charlie Brown just before he kicks it. It was Graham's steady hand which enabled Reggie Ho to kick four field goals against Michigan in the opening game of the season.

Sept. 24, 1988 ND-Purdue Game Program



# 24 Mark Green

6-0 184  
Tailback  
Riverside, Calif. (Riverside Poly)



## What they said about Green...

Mark Green spent the summer working in a law firm.

His career goal is to get into broadcast journalism.

Versatility is a way of life for Green.

The 6-0, 184-pound Notre Dame senior, who will serve as a tri-captain this year, didn't know if he would be outside or inside this year. He only knew it didn't matter.

"A lot of people raised that question about how I felt," he said of his spring practice move from tailback to flanker. "You know, it really doesn't matter to me. I'll play flanker. I'll play tailback. I'll play anywhere."

And he will play well. He had a marvelous season as a tailback a year ago, rushing for a team-high 861 yards and an impressive 5.9 yards a carry.

He just never has been known as a "fixture" anywhere because when there's a desperate need elsewhere, the staff looks to Green.

"His personality is always the same," said Holtz. "He's usually got a smile on his face and he's kind of bubbly."

*Aug. 17, 1988 South Bend Tribune*

Call him Mr. Versatile. And it's not just because Mark Green has switched positions three times during his Notre Dame career. As Green says, "That was not as big a deal as people think."

Call him Mr. Versatile because versatility is his way of life both on-and-off the field. Some examples:

While in high school, Green was captain of the football and track squads, a standout basketball player, class president and the commissioner of publicity at Riverside (Calif.) Poly High School.

"I was the person in charge of publicizing major events on campus," he says. "I spoke on the intercom system, read the daily announcements to everyone in the school and led the Pledge of Al-

legiance every day."

His experience in publicizing major events on the high school campus, combined with his current major (American Studies with an emphasis on communication), have him thinking about a broadcasting career. Green plans to do an internship this spring with WNDU-TV in South Bend.

"Being a football player at Notre Dame has helped me prepare for this indirectly because I have been interviewed quite a bit," Green says. "They say the more time you spend in front of the camera the better you get. When we played in Miami last year I got to discuss my ambition with (CBS announcer) Pat Haden when we rode back to the hotel together after practice. He said to definitely pursue it to see if it's what I want to do. He told me I'd be pretty good at it. Coming from the top, that's a pretty nice compliment."

*Oct. 15, 1988 ND-Miami Game Program*

Green, a 6-0, 184-pound senior, is one of Notre Dame's tri-captains and a former consensus all-America out of Riverside Polytechnical High School in Riverside, Calif. He is a big part of the reason for Notre Dame's national championship hopes, too.

"Mark Green is a fine tailback, but he also does one thing I like: He's consistent," Notre Dame Coach Lou Holtz said. "He's extremely consistent in how he does things."

He is the ninth-leading rusher in 101 years of Irish football with 1,937 yards on 366 attempts. He is a co-owner of a school record with eight consecutive carries against Boston College last season.

This season, he started every game, and rushed for 646 yards on 135 carries with five touchdowns. Last season, he started every game, rushed for 861 yards

on 146 carries with six touchdowns, caught more passes than any Irish player except Heisman Trophy winner Tim Brown and played more offensive minutes than anyone.

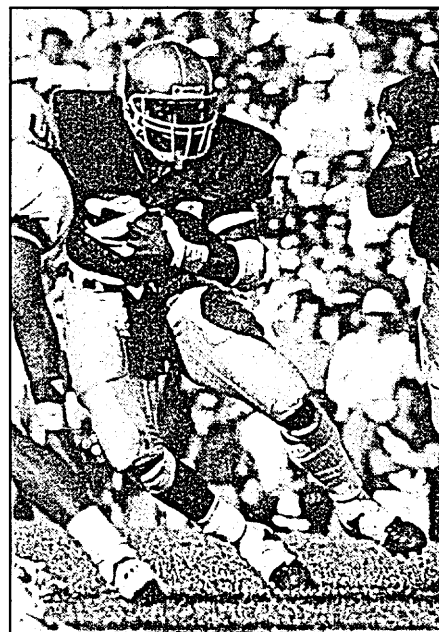
*Nov. 22, 1988 Fort Wayne Journal-Gazette*

Mark Green had his college career mapped out from the start.

Privately, of course. It's not exactly the kind of thing you blurt out to all your friends. Green was a man with a plan, though. From the day he left Riverside Poly High School and signed with Notre Dame, he envisioned it clearly:

He joins the Fighting Irish, starts at tailback for at least three years, and then, in his senior year, leads Notre Dame to an unbeaten national championship, dumping USC back home in the Coliseum — in front of his family and friends.

*Nov. 27, 1988 San Bernardino Sun*







# 34 Wes Pritchett

6-6 251  
Atlanta, Ga. (Westminster)



Linebacker

## What they said about Pritchett...

"Wes Pritchett and I were together somewhere last season, and he got up and recited some Shakespeare," says head coach Lou Holtz. "I couldn't believe it. That just didn't seem like the Wes Pritchett that I knew."

But that shouldn't come as any surprise. Folks at Notre Dame ought to know by now to expect the unexpected from the outgoing Pritchett.

"He's crazy," says fellow linebacker Ned Bolcar. "You never know what Wes is going to do next."

Any examples?

"None that you can print," he jokingly says.

You see, there are many sides to Wes Pritchett. One moment he is an aggressive, hard-hitting competitor on the field or as Holtz says, "Wes likes the game and it shows. He has a natural en-

thusiasm for the game and it bubbles out and rubs off on other people."

Then the next moment he does something like the time last year when he recited 25 lines of Shakespeare's "Henry IV" off the cuff at a Quarterback Club Luncheon.

Then just when you think he's an intense and serious person all the time off the field, stop right there. There's another side to Pritchett.

"I just like to have fun whatever I'm doing," he says with a big grin. "I like to get away from football sometimes and just relax. I may not be the most serious person in the world but I am when I have to be."

*Sept. 10, 1988 ND-Michigan Game Program*

Rhythm. Tempo. Tone.

When Wes Pritchett talks about defense at the University of Notre Dame, it sounds a little more like he's helping conduct an orchestra than helping coordinate a football team.

"It all has to do with tempo, sometimes," he said. "I think we've been able to establish a certain tempo on defense."

"So far this year, the defense has really proven we're a fine defensive unit."

Pritchett, a 6-6, 251-pounder from Atlanta, does more than his share in helping conduct the defense. Besides calling signals and being part of the talented inside-linebacking trio that includes senior Ned Bolcar and junior Michael Stonebreaker, Pritchett follows up on his call with aggressive, not-so-reckless play.

*Sept. 29, 1988 Fort Wayne Journal-Gazette*

The word is out on Wes Pritchett, or at least part of it.

Just the other day, in the course of

conversation with three different people, the Notre Dame linebacker was asked to detail his latest prank.

Pritchett takes his fun seriously. His football, too.

And that's the word people on the inside, like defensive coordinator Barry Alvarez, are spreading.

Alvarez admits "no one has more fun than Wes." And no one has played better.

"I try to stay away from blowing anybody's horn, but I really think Wes has been overlooked," remarked Alvarez before Thursday's practice.

Pritchett might be overlooked nationally, but he's certainly looked up to by his peers.

Alvarez noticed it back in spring practice when Pritchett and Frank Stams, a pair of fifth-year seniors, started providing some leadership through their work ethic and comic relief.

"If we really need a good practice on a given day, I'll go to Wes and Frank," related Alvarez. "When the kids see how serious they are, it rubs off. They listen to them."

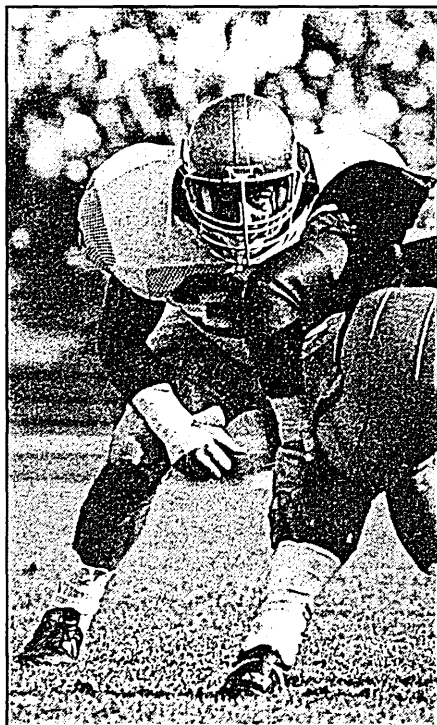
*Nov. 16, 1988 South Bend Tribune*

Pritchett, a 6-6, 251-pound senior, calls the defensive signals and is crazed on the field. Against Miami, he suffered a broken hand during the first quarter. He went to the sideline, got it taped and played the rest of the game. The bones crunched every time he closed the hand. He finished with nine tackles, two for losses.

Stams said he thinks Pritchett also is stealing the other teams' playbooks.

"Why else would he have so many tackles?" said Stams, referring to Pritchett's team-leading 112 tackles. "I want to know why he is not sharing that information with anyone else."

*Dec. 31, 1988 Baltimore Sun*





21

Aaron Robb

6-1

192

Flanker

Coeur d'Alene, Idaho (Gonzaga Prep)



### What they said about Robb...

Some things in life don't always turn out like you expect them to. Irish flanker Aaron Robb can tell you that.

"I was a running back in high school, but originally I thought I wanted to play basketball in college," the senior from Coeur d'Alene, Idaho says. "At the beginning of the recruiting process, though, I started telling football coaches that and they were really turned off by it. I realized that I had better commit myself to one or the other, and I knew that my best bet was to commit to football."

"I played cornerback my freshman year and I thought that my future was on defense," Robb says. "But coach

Holtz moved me to flanker in the fall of his first year and I played behind Tim Brown the last two seasons."

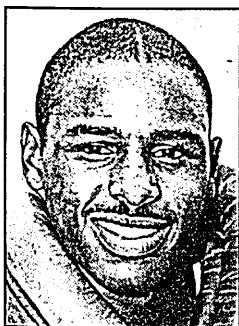
Even though he checked into 18 games during his sophomore and junior seasons, he found himself blocking defenders more often than he was catching passes.

Robb put his time in at flanker and on special teams, even returning a kick once his sophomore year. He kept learning and improving his game, knowing that the time would come when he could prove himself on the field. At the beginning of the 1988 season, with Tim Brown moving on to the Los Angeles Raiders, it looked like

Robb would at last have his chance to emerge from behind the all-America's shadow. But things don't always turn out the way you expect them to.

"Going into this season I thought that I had a legitimate shot at splitting time at flanker. Both Ricky (Watters) and I were working with the first team. But then I pulled a muscle in my thigh when we started practice this fall and I was out for over a month. Not only that, but I fell down the depth chart and I'm trying now to work my way back up."

*Oct. 15, 1988 ND-Miami Game Program*



31

Corny Southall

6-2

194

Free Safety

Rochester, N.Y. (Rush-Henrietta Sperry)



### What they said about Southall...

"As I cross the goal line, it's the biggest thrill in the world for a defensive player to score a touchdown. As I turn around, I run back to celebrate with my teammates because Corny Southall knows that he could not have done this if everyone else didn't do their jobs."

The scenario is not an unfamiliar one to the Rochester, N.Y., native because that's exactly how he did it when he picked one off against Purdue last year and took it 57 yards for a score. But the most important thing about it is the teamwork behind it.

"Sometimes I find myself late at night with the television on but the sound down," he says, "listening to some comforting music. I think about how lucky I am. I'm at the University of Notre Dame. I'm the free safety for the University of Notre Dame. I'll have a degree next May. I have great parents that I love. I'm just a very lucky person, and I wish I could share that with every person that's ever influenced me."

One gets the impression that Southall was well-prepared for life's tosses and turns before he came to Notre Dame,

but he has certainly gained from his four years here, as has the University. Looking to the future, he says, "I'd like to give pro ball a shot, and then we'll just go from there. With a Notre Dame degree, I shouldn't have too much trouble finding a job somewhere."

For now, though, Corny Southall will be poised in the defensive backfield at the free safety position, with his eyes focused sharply on the quarterback and the task at hand.

*Sept. 24, 1988 ND-Purdue Game Program*



# 30 Frank Stams

6-4 237

Akron, Ohio (St. Vincent-St. Mary)



Def. End

## What they said about Stams...

If you had one day left on this planet, you probably wouldn't spend it the same way Frank Stams would.

"That's easy. I'd spend it at a Lou Holtz Sunday practice," says Stams with a straight face. "Those things feel like they last three weeks."

That's just the kind of response you'd expect from Stams.

The fifth-year defensive end for the Irish lives for each hour of the day, especially after 11 a.m. because he likes to sleep in, but he appreciates the time he has left at Notre Dame.

"The time I have spent here has been too short," says the Akron, Ohio, native. "I feel old, ancient. All the changes that have been made since I have been here — presidents, coaches, buildings — I feel like a fixture around here. I can look back on the past five years and it seems like yesterday. I just wanted to get through my freshman and sophomore years. Now, I spend every hour of the day the best I can. I like playing and one day I know I'll look back and the season will have gone so quickly."

*Oct. 1, 1988 ND-Stanford Game Program*

Frank Stams answered the phone in Notre Dame's sports information office a few days before the Fighting Irish met Stanford last month. The caller asked what time the game was.

Stams, in his most apologetic tone, told the ticketholder the game had been cancelled by agreement of the two schools. He expressed his sincerest regrets on behalf of the university.

The caller protested, but Stams toyed with him for several minutes, finally breaking down and admitting the lie.

"Who is this?" the caller demanded.

"Michael Stonebreaker," Stams replied, passing the gag off on the shy,

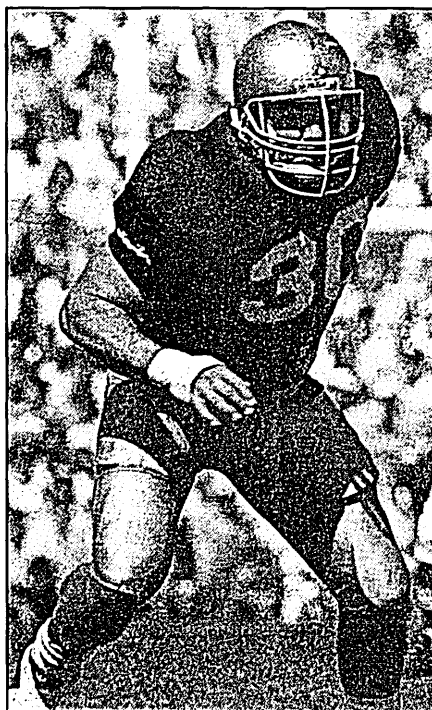
soft-spoken Irish linebacker.

For defensive end Frank Stams, life is one big practical joke waiting to happen. For opposing offenses, Stams is a sack, fumble or interception waiting to happen.

*Oct. 19, 1988 Chicago Tribune*

On the eve of the momentous October showdown with No. 1 Miami, the mood around Notre Dame was light as a funeral. There was blood in every eye. Serious people prepared to play some serious football.

Coach Lou Holtz fretted and brainstormed. Hitman George Streeter planned shots violent enough to be heard 'round the world. Freshman defensive end Arnold Ale stilled butterflies stirred by the prospect of his first start. Guard Tim Grunhard nursed an ankle injury and vowed he would play.



Tony Rice worked hard to improve the Irish passing game. Reggie Ho wondered if he might get the call for a dramatic, winning field goal and kicked a few dozen more balls in anticipation.

Frank Stams? The senior defensive end left a ticket for Elvis at the will-call window.

*Oct. 16, 1988 Indianapolis Star*

Notre Dame linebacker Frank Stams received an Associated Press Midwest Player of the Week award for his efforts in the 31-30 victory over Miami.

His teammate, Wes Pritchett, received a broken hand.

Yet it was Stams who sounded envious.

"Wes told me Sunday that he could hear the bones crunch everytime he moved his hand," said Stams, a fifth-year senior from Akron, Ohio. "I told him, 'Wes, that really had to fire you up.'"

"I wish he would have told me about it (during Saturday's game). That would have pumped me up, too. I could have turned all that pain into energy. That would have been awesome."

*Oct. 19, 1988 South Bend Tribune*

When Vice President George Bush interrupted Notre Dame football practice Tuesday afternoon for a little last-minute campaigning with the No. 1 team in the nation, Fighting Irish defensive end Frank Stams was all ears.

The fifth-year senior listened ever so politely to what Bush had to say. Then, after Bush won the team's straw poll, Stams did what any self-respecting Greek — his family's original name was Stamotopolis — would do.

He interrupted practice on Wednesday afternoon to give equal time to "my brother" Mike Dukakis.

*Nov. 4, 1988 Houston Post*



# 27 George Streeter

6-2

212

Chicago, Ill. (Julian)



Strong Safety

## What they said about Streeter...

Who are Oatmeal Man and the Nabisco Kid and what do they have to do with the Notre Dame secondary?

The connection is Irish senior strong safety George Streeter.

The creative side of Streeter does not come across on the football field, but off it, Streeter is very soft-spoken and creative for a 6-2, 200-pound football player.

"One of the problems with being an athlete is that, to be a good athlete, you can't be diversified," Streeter says. "You can't be well-rounded. You have to specialize all the time. Those of us who do have other talents get stereotyped as only being able to play football."

OK, but who is the Nabisco Kid? "One story I wrote, a children's story, was about Oatmeal Man and the Nabisco Kid. The whole story was cookies — everybody in it was a cookie," Streeter explains. "People liked that story."

Streeter has played in every Irish football game since he came to Notre Dame in 1985. Like all Notre Dame students, Streeter has his own formula for getting things done.

"From being a freshman to a senior, the only thing you change is emphasis. You have to know what day you have to go out there and be real physical on the practice field, so you know to go right to bed that night...you know when you have to stay up late to study...you learn the cycle of the tests you'll have. By that time you have the discipline to stay in when you need to."

Sept. 29, 1988 *The Observer*

Midway through his sophomore year, Streeter earned a starting job at strong safety, a position he has held ever since. He has also earned a reputation as being one of the hardest hitters on the team. Flanker Pat Eilers can attest to that. He was on the receiving end of a

bone-crunching blow by Streeter one day during pre-season practice this year.

"George Streeter just knocked me up and down," Eilers says. "I can't even remember it so I don't know if it hurt. It took me more than a half day to get all my senses back."

Streeter has dished out that type of punishment on Saturdays, too. He is tops among the defensive secondary in tackles.

Nov. 19, 1988 *ND-Penn State Game Program*

"I sit here exhausted, totally, right down to the bone, but I feel exhilarated at the same time. Why? Because in my final collegiate game of the 1988 season, I performed the absolute best that I

have ever played in my life.

"What is more gratifying than that is that my contribution was also necessary for the success of our team and the outstanding play of the secondary. I am most pleased with myself because I have improved from game to game.

"I am thankful that I have an opportunity to participate and add — *can you imagine that* — add to the already rich tradition of Notre Dame and be remembered as an outstanding player on a great team, during a great season. I could not have written a script any better than a season I have been a part of.

"It is always important to take time to smell the roses. I have put off that time at many junctures during the season, at many plateaus on our long mountain climb. I feel it is all too appropriate, at 11-0, to look back. Look back at the fun, back at the good times, and back to the hard times (there have been no bad times — just difficult ones)."

Nov. 30, 1988 *The Observer*

Back in late October, Notre Dame went nose-to-nose with a moment of truth.

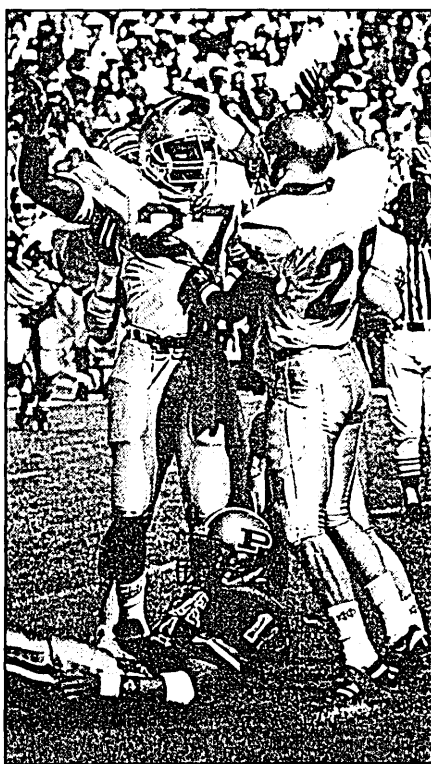
Head coach Lou Holtz wasn't the only one a little worried about his club following the lackluster 22-7 victory over Navy.

Shortly after, the players met on their own to discuss the future.

"We asked ourselves 'are we going to fold like last year (three losses of the final three games),' " Streeter recalled. "Things get pretty tough around here in November academically and you can lose your concentration.

"But we made a promise to each other there would not be a dropoff. For myself, I stood up and promised to play the best defense of my career." The rest, they say, is history.

Dec. 23, 1988 *South Bend Tribune*





**90 Jeff Alm**  
 6-7 248  
 Orland Park, Ill. (Sandburg)



**Def. Tackle**

**What they said about Alm...**

Combine the size and strength of a weightlifter with the height and agility of a basketball player, and you've got some idea of the threat Jeff Alm poses to opposing quarterbacks.

The 6-7, 248-pound junior defensive tackle has been a disruptive force in opposing backfields this season, stuffing ballcarriers, leaping to bat down passes, and occasionally coming down with the ball as well.

"I may not be the most effective pass rusher," said Alm, "but I can get my hands up. A lot of the time, because of the way our defensive backs are covering their receivers, their (opposing quarterbacks) only option is to do a kind of dump pass where the tight end will come around and the ball is just lofted over the line.

"If there's nobody up there (on the line), the quarterback's just gonna throw it. Right when he throws it, you have a chance to jump up, and that's how I've made both of my interceptions."

Two of Alm's interceptions directly contributed to Irish scores this season. He picked off a late third quarter pass against Miami to set up Reggie Ho's 27-yard field goal and give Notre Dame a 31-21 lead over the Hurricanes. He also pulled down a pass against Rice to set up a Tony Brooks touchdown run.

"I'll tell you what he does probably better than any player that I've ever coached," said Irish defensive tackles coach John Palermo. "He chases the football better than anyone I've been around. For the most part, he's at the right place at the right time."

Alm is an integral part of a defensive line which features three first-year starters. He complements George Williams and Chris Zorich in fending off opposing blockers and applying pressure on quarterbacks.

"I think we've been slowly proving we can do it. I think people know we're some kind of force to be reckoned with, and they're gonna have to do something

to stop us."

Considered one of the top 16 players in the nation according to United Press International's 1985 prep talent survey, Alm was highly recruited coming out of high school. Strangely enough, a lack of pocket change afforded him an opportunity to visit Notre Dame.

"They screwed up on my recruiting visit," said Alm. "When I was supposed to come here my senior year for the recruiting weekend, they read me my arrival time in South Bend as my departure time in Chicago. So when I got to the airport, my plane had just landed in South Bend.

"Had I had enough money to take a cab, I probably would never have come (to Notre Dame), because I would have gone back home. But since I didn't, I waited at the airport and I went on standby and I came down here. I committed on that visit, which was kind of strange." *Nov. 15, 1988 The Observer*



**39 Braxton Banks**  
 6-3 211  
 Hayward, Calif. (Moreau)



**Fullback**

**What they said about Banks...**

"I knew we were in trouble up at Michigan State when I look around and standing next to me are Braxton Banks on one side and Anthony Johnson on the other. We've got the ball and I'm trying to figure out who's playing fullback for us. That's what happens when

your two fullbacks both get hurt in the first two series.

"But Braxton made an amazing comeback and ended up making a couple of great plays in a critical drive at Pittsburgh when he hadn't even been expected to dress for the game. Then he

scored a touchdown against Miami the next week. When Braxton Banks is healthy, he and Anthony give us an awfully solid situation at fullback, and that's not even mentioning Rodney Culver."

*Lou Holtz*





# 71 Dean Brown

6-3 283  
Canton, Ohio (McKinley)



Off. Tackle

## What they said about Brown...

The Dean Brown who will start at strongside offensive tackle for top-ranked and unbeaten Notre Dame in the Fiesta Bowl against unbeaten West Virginia is virtually the same Dean Brown who dominated opposing linemen six years ago at Hartford Junior School.

Oh, he's bigger — having grown to 6-3 and 280 pounds from his 195-pound playing weight at Hartford — and faster — he clocked a 4.8-second 40-yard dash earlier this year — and more learned in technique. But Brown's approach to the game in particular and life in general hasn't changed one bit.

Dean Brown only desires to face the toughest challenge available and to do the best he possibly can.

"My mom always taught me that if anything is worth something you've got to work for it," said Brown.

"If you want to be the best you have to go with the best and accept the challenge rather than looking for and taking

shortcuts.

"I've always believed that, and that was the main reason I wanted to play for McKinley and the main reason I chose Notre Dame when it came time to pick a college.

"When I first heard of Notre Dame my sophomore year in high school, I thought it was somewhere in California. But once I found out about where it was and what Notre Dame was all about, I picked it and never changed my mind.

"I'll never regret it because I wanted the challenges Notre Dame offered, because within those opportunities laid the opportunity to be the best I could possibly be.

"It took me a while to get the level of learning done that the professors wanted. I had to retrain myself to school and it took me some time to get adjusted to it.

"It also took me a while to get adjusted to playing football at this level.

"It was a real shock to me when I got

to Notre Dame. I had come from a great program at McKinley, which plays great competition, and I thought I'd walk into Notre Dame and start my first game.

"Oh, I knew the competition at Notre Dame would be very, very high, but I quickly realized it was a matter of taking it up another level.

"The athletic ability of everybody you're competing against is incredible. I found out quickly that the key to success on the collegiate level is mental toughness.

"You've got to be tough because the pressure always is there, in the classroom and on the field, and you have your up days and your down days.

"On my down days, I try to think of what's really important and keep things in their proper perspective, and I always seem able to come back."

Jan. 1, 1989 *The Akron Beacon Journal*



# 92 Bryan Flannery

6-3 249  
Lakewood, Ohio (St. Edward)



Def. Tackle

## What they said about Flannery...

"He may not have played as many minutes as some of the other linemen and he may not be real flashy, but Bryan Flannery was as valuable as anyone we had at defensive tackle. His dependabil-

ity, his techniques, his ability to play any position — those are things that a coach loves. Bryan ended up starting out at USC because of Chris Zorich's sore knee, but he really was our top backup at

all three tackle positions because of his versatility. You look at him play and he's not a guy who'll dominate a game, but he gets the job done."

*Lou Holtz*



# 75 Tim Grunhard

6-3 279  
Chicago, Ill. (St. Laurence)



**Guard**

## What they said about Grunhard...

When Lou Holtz was running down the offensive line probabilities the other day, he stopped when he got to Tim Grunhard.

"An overachiever," Holtz said of his prize junior guard.

Grunhard worked himself hard this summer and, lately, into a froth over the collective underestimating of the offensive line.

"I'm sick of people saying everything about how we're not up to par with last year's line," remarked Grunhard. "I'm sick of hearing how we can't be good because we're young."

That hits home for Grunhard. After all, the Chicago product fit in pretty well as a young player — as a long snapper his freshman year and at guard and on special teams as a sophomore.

On paper, though, Notre Dame's line has a lot of work ahead. The graduation of four fifth-year seniors left some big holes. Jeff Pearson's departure left another and all Notre Dame can do is wait and see what happens.

Grunhard has done about all he can. He worked so hard while staying behind this summer with 59 other players, that he ran himself into a case of shin splints

and that threatened his availability for the first few practices.

*Aug. 15, 1988 South Bend Tribune*

Notre Dame coach Lou Holtz gets a kick out of his right guard, Tim Grunhard.

"He's always wallowing around," Holtz said. "He's always got bumps and bruises, but you can't get him in the training room. He's a kickback to the old days. He'd love it if you didn't have a facemask."

*Sept. 8 Chicago Sun-Times*



# 22 Anthony Johnson

6-0 225  
South Bend, Ind. (John Adams)



**Fullback**

## What they said about Johnson...

Anthony Johnson has spent more than his share of Saturdays at Notre Dame Stadium.

The South Bend native spent his weekends starring for the Adams High School football team and working as a messenger to the ushers at Irish home games. But Johnson never thought he someday would be coming to the Stadium as one of Notre Dame's top running backs.

"I didn't think I'd play for a major college team," said the junior fullback. "I was surprised when I was contacted by teams. I was surprised that I could play for them."

Once he signed with Notre Dame, not many people, including Johnson himself, figured he would see much playing time early. But Johnson played the most minutes of any freshman during the 1986 season and has grown to an integral part of the Irish offensive backfield.

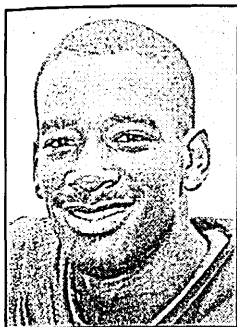
"It surprised me greatly," Johnson said of his freshman season, in which he was the second-leading Irish rusher with 349 yards on 80 carries. "I expected to contribute on the kicking game or perhaps just in practice."

The 6-0, 225-pounder led the team with 11 touchdowns last season. During a junior season that has been beset by

injury problems, Johnson demonstrated his return to form with another one of his trademark touchdowns. He broke an Air Force tackle at the last possible moment and burst to the end zone for a 12-yard score.

"You look at the Air Force game and there were two linebackers trying to tackle him, and the next thing you see, he pops out and scores," said Irish backfield coach Jim Strong. "When Anthony Johnson's healthy, he's as good an inside runner as there probably is in college football. It's hard for one man to tackle him."

*Oct. 28, 1988 The Observer*



9

## Tony Rice

6-1

198

Quarterback

Woodruff, S.C. (Woodruff)



### What they said about Rice...

Every college quarterback has a style.

But not all of them get the job done with it.

The true quarterback mold and Notre Dame's Tony Rice just don't fit.

Quarterbacks are supposed to be smooth operators. Coaches want them cool, a little cocky, and to play the part.

Rice can look more like a runaway colt.

The only thing classic about the Irish junior seems to be the results. He can go 100 miles-an-hour all day, get dirty, and get excited. He can make a major college stadium seem like his personal sandlot.

Somewhere inside Tony Rice burns a Jim McMahon attitude. He came to Notre Dame from small-school country in South Carolina with winner stamped on his forehead and question marks everywhere else.

Sept. 4, 1988 *South Bend Tribune*

Notre Dame football fans expect a lot of improvement this season from quarterback Tony Rice. What they forget is how far he already has come.

Rice took over at halftime of the Pittsburgh game last season when starter Terry Andrysiak limped into the locker room with a broken collarbone.

"I came out of the huddle for the first time in the second half and lined up under guard instead of center," said Rice. "I guess I was kind of nervous at first."

Coach Lou Holtz doesn't ask his quarterbacks to win games. He demands they not lose them.

Sept. 9, 1988 *Indianapolis Star*

His passes aren't Hall of Fame spirals, like Joe Montana's or Joe Theismann's. He won't win a Heisman Trophy, like Paul Hornung or John Huarte. The name "Tony Rice" will never roll

off Notre Dame lips with the magic of "Johnny Lujack."

But look at his W's.

With this uncommon, uncelebrated Irish quarterback at the throttle, America's No. 1 college team puffed its record to 9-0, taking a 54-11 Saturday stroll against a wonderful Texas university with a woeful 0-8 football team that also happens to play under the name of Rice (no kin).

Nov. 6, 1988 *St. Petersburg Times*

The national spotlight will be on Heisman Trophy candidate Rodney Peete Saturday when he leads Southern Cal against Notre Dame in the Los Angeles Coliseum.

Peete's counterpart for the Irish, quarterback Tony Rice, won't be trying to steal it.

After a slow start, Rice is quietly developing into the kind of quarterback Notre Dame coach Lou Holtz hopes he can be.

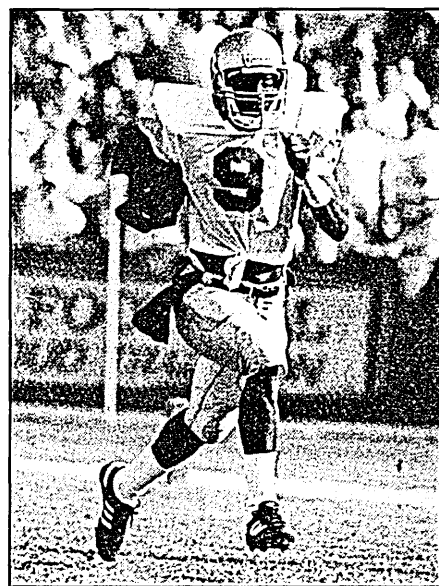
No one questioned Rice's ability to run the option attack, but his passing talents were questionable. Of course, Rice has heard the critics and that made him only more determined to silence them.

"A lot of people say I can't pass and that I shouldn't be quarterback at Notre Dame," said Rice, who threw for almost 4,000 yards in high school. "But that doesn't bother me. They can say it."

"A lot of people think passing is the big thing. They want to see a lot of spectacular passing plays. Well, I enjoy running the ball and passing, too. That's just my style."

Nov. 25, 1988 *Indianapolis News*

Tony Rice has spent three years at the University of Notre Dame hearing again and again what he can't do. On the football field or in the classroom, the



quarterback from Woodruff, S.C., constantly has had to prove himself.

"When I think of how much time I spent writing letters, explaining why he was quarterback," coach Lou Holtz said this week.

Perhaps it is time to recognize that the Irish are 14-2 with Rice as a starter; that as Holtz described him this week, "Tony Rice just has a way to get things done."

Nov. 27, 1988 *Dallas Morning News*

It won't bother Tony Rice if he is never heralded as a great quarterback.

It will never bug him if people say he's not effective as a passer.

Among Rice's greatest strengths is a confidence that overwhelms all labels.

His love and feel for the game translates into pure fun at competing, at leading and sharing it all with 10 other guys.

He doesn't set the tempo as much as the mood.

Jan. 1, 1989 *South Bend Tribune*



# 29 Stan Smagala

5-11 186  
Burbank, Ill. (St. Laurence)



**Cornerback**

## What they said about Smagala...

Picture the scenario: an unprecedented battle of the unbeaten between the Irish and the Trojans with the Irish ahead 14-7 in Los Angeles, with Southern Cal driving for a tying touchdown in the second quarter behind Heisman hopeful Rodney Peete.

Uh-oh, we're in trouble.

But wait, Trojan flanker John Jackson, while running a route, slips on a timing pattern and Peete throws the ball right into the hands of Stan Smagala, the Irish short-side cornerback, who

promptly returns the ball for 64 yards and six points.

Smagala's interception return was a major turning point in the game. With USC having just cut the lead in half and driving to score again, the turnover took the wind out of the Trojans' sails and put the Irish ahead, 20-7.

The interception marked the biggest play to date in Smagala's career at Notre Dame, a career which has wasted no time getting started. Smagala was thrust into the cornerback position, never hav-

ing played it in his life.

A tailback in high school, Smagala gained 1,300 yards on 170 carries at St. Laurence High School in Burbank, earning all-area and all-city honors.

"(The transition from tailback to cornerback) was really difficult," said Smagala. "I had trouble my freshman year, pulling a lot of hamstrings. It was different to tackle someone instead of getting tackled."

Nov. 30, 1988 *The Observer*



# 42 Michael Stonebreaker

6-1 228  
River Ridge, La. (John Curtis)



**Linebacker**

## What they said about Stonebreaker...

It's not all the tackles that tickled Notre Dame defensive coordinator Barry Alvarez.

Inside linebacker Michael Stonebreaker had quite a day against Michigan in the 19-17 victory, even when a ballcarrier wasn't around.

"Some things you just don't teach," remarked Alvarez.

Like the block Stonebreaker threw during Ricky Watters' 81-yard punt return for a touchdown, when he peeled back out of his "wall" responsibilities to free Watters.

"On another play," said Alvarez, "we were really in the wrong defense for their (Michigan's) alignment. Mike

saw it and forced the play back inside. He didn't make the tackle, but it was a big play."

Stonebreaker's biggest strength is his feel for the field, the natural instincts. He can read between the lines and respond in time.

Sept. 15, 1988 *South Bend Tribune*

Save a spot on your all-America ballot: It looks like an automatic. Linebacker: Mike Stonebreaker, junior, Notre Dame.

Stonebreaker, a wiry, 6-1 player from River Ridge, La., who doesn't look anywhere near his 230 pounds, is building a nice dossier.

In the Notre Dame opener against Michigan (nationally televised), he pounded his way into 16 tackles.

But that might not be enough to do the job, so he expanded his defensive role in the 20-3 victory over Michigan State (oh, yes, the TV lights were shining again).

Stonebreaker made seven unassisted tackles, plus three assists for 10 total tackles, plus intercepted two passes.

In the fourth quarter, Stonebreaker became a backbreaker for MSU, stealing Bobby McAllister's pass and racing 39 yards for a clinching touchdown.

Sept. 18, 1988 *Detroit Free Press*



# 15 Pat Terrell

6-0

195

Free Safety

St. Petersburg, Fla. (Lakewood)



## What they said about Terrell...

Position switches are as common as victories at Notre Dame these days.

Ricky Watters moves from tailback to flanker. Andy Heck from tight end to offensive tackle. Tom Gorman from defensive tackle to offensive tackle. Mark Green from flanker to tailback to flanker to tailback. The list goes on.

Pat Terrell, one of those players who has been moved to a new spot, says all of the position changing is one of the reasons the Irish are 7-0 and ranked second in the nation.

"I really credit the coaching staff for that," said Terrell while preparing for Saturday's road game with Navy. "They do a good job in finding the right position for the athlete."

Terrell came to Notre Dame as a wide receiver from Lakewood High School in St. Petersburg, Fla., but was moved to cornerback as a freshman. A year later, he was moved back to split end and played in all 12 games. He started five games before spraining an ankle against

Navy.

Oct. 24, 1988 *Indianapolis News*

If it seems like every University of Notre Dame football player has made a position switch, then Pat Terrell is just a little above average.

Terrell, you see, has done it not once, not twice, but three times for the Fighting Irish.

First offense, then defense, then offense, then defense. But this position swapping might not be over since Terrell, a free safety, is just a junior.

Still, he doesn't mind — well, maybe a little — changing his habits and his habitat for the sake of Notre Dame.

"We felt in the case of Patrick, he possessed some particular skills (like 4.34-second speed in the 40-yard dash) not common for guys his size (6-0, 195-pounds)." Heater said.

But he will be fondly remembered by Irish faithful for deflecting Steve Walsh's two-point conversion pass to

Leonard Conley to help seal Notre Dame's win over then top-ranked Miami. He also had a 60-yard interception return for a touchdown in that game.

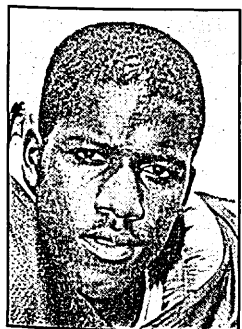
Deflecting passes instead of receiving them.

It's not what Terrell expected entering Notre Dame after earning two letters as a wide receiver, free safety and quarterback at Lakewood High School in St. Petersburg. He moved to cornerback his freshman season, playing 11 games and recording seven tackles.

As a sophomore, Terrell was moved to wide receiver, entering the starting lineup when Ray Dumas suffered a knee injury. He finished with five starts, and had two receptions for 63 yards.

In the spring, Terrell started out as a wide receiver, but Holtz and Heater came calling.

Now, he said he feels secure in his defensive surroundings.

Oct. 27, 1988 *Fort Wayne Journal-Gazette*

# 43 Rod West

6-3

234

Tight End

New Orleans, La. (Brother Martin)



## What they said about West...

"When we started the '88 season, Rod West was a question mark because we had moved him from outside linebacker to tight end and yet he had been hurt during spring ball. So we really

didn't know what he could do. But he came in and worked with Frank Jacobs and Derek Brown and became an integral part of our offense. We depend tremendously on our extra tight ends in

blocking situations and that generally was his role for us."

Lou Holtz





**72 Joe Allen**  
6-4 268  
Chicago, Ill. (St. Rita)



Off. Tackle

### What they said about Allen...

"Mark this down — Joe Allen is going to be one fine football player before he's through here. He played guard, he played tackle, he did whatever

was needed. In fact, with both Tim Grunhard and Tim Ryan hurt coming into the Miami game, he ended up being one of our starters at guard that

day — and you don't start a football game against a team like Miami without having something going for you."

*Lou Holtz*



**40 Tony Brooks**  
6-2 218  
Tulsa, Okla. (Washington)



Tailback

### What they said about Brooks...

He entered the season with the injury, and initially, Coach Lou Holtz didn't expect Brooks to play. When the doctors said Brooks couldn't damage the foot by playing, he decided to wait until the off-season for possible surgery.

So instead of a surgeon's blade, he feels the pain of a cut on the field.

"I feel a lot of times when I want to do something I'm hindered," Brooks said. "When I make a fast cut, my acceleration is hindered a lot."

Holtz says Brooks may not end his career at tailback.

"He told (defensive coordinator) Barry Alvarez he wants to play linebacker

as a senior and win the Butkus Award," Holtz said. "Barry asked him why and he said 'by then my brother will be here and he needs to be a running back.' "

*Oct. 26, 1988 Ft. Wayne News-Sentinel*



**93 Bob Dahl**  
6-5 248  
Chagrin Falls, Ohio (Chagrin Falls)



Def. Tackle

### What they said about Dahl...

"Bob is a young man who really helped us answer the challenge at defensive tackle last season. He had never played as a freshman and was hurt throughout the spring, so we really

didn't see much of him. But Tom Gorman got hurt in August and John Foley couldn't play and all the sudden we had to press some people into service and Bob Dahl was one of those people. He

came in, made some big plays and did some things we really didn't know he could do in game situations. That, to me, was impressive."

*Lou Holtz*



**26** **Greg Davis**  
6-1 198  
Tulsa, Okla. (McLain)



**Strong Safety**

### What they said about Davis...

"When we talk about people accepting their roles, we're talking about people like Greg Davis. Not everybody is going to drive the bus — somebody has

to change the oil, change the tires and everything else. Greg Davis was a guy who played with our special teams and even though he hadn't played as a fresh-

man, he ended up becoming a valuable backup in the secondary."

*Lou Holtz*



**17** **Kent Graham**  
6-5 228  
Wheaton, Ill. (North)



**Quarterback**

### What the said about Graham...

Kent Graham, the second-string sophomore quarterback from Wheaton, is quietly hanging in there, working hard — and waiting.

"If Tony (Rice) gets hurt, I'll be ready to go in. That's my role. I've got to accept it," said Graham, who knows that

even one year as the Notre Dame quarterback can translate into a shot in the NFL.

"That's my dream, to play here and to play in the pros. It's always in my mind. I think I have the talent and the capability to do it. I've just got to wait,"

said Graham.

Irish assistant coach Pete Cordelli said he has improved at not forcing his throws. "He's studying the game. He's doing a great job of taking what the defense gives," Cordelli said.

*Oct. 27, 1988 Chicago Sun-Times*



**36** **Donn Grimm**  
6-2 224  
Scottdale, Pa. (Southmoreland)



**Linebacker**

### What they said about Grimm...

"You go back over the years and look at who has played a key role on the special teams — and then you see where those people end up when they're through. Not everyone is going to walk

in and be a starter right away, but those who aren't are going to have plenty of opportunities with the special teams. Donn Grimm made more special teams appearances than anybody else on de-

fense last year — and he's going to be an excellent linebacker before he's through."

*Lou Holtz*



**18 Billy Hackett**  
6-1 184  
Sarasota, Fla. (Riverview)



**Kicker**

**What they said about Hackett...**

He is a sophomore now, and when Notre Dame went to Sun Devil Stadium Monday to meet West Virginia for the college football championship, he rode the bus with the knowledge that he would start the game.

"I was really nervous on the bus, but

when we got dressed and got out there, giving each other high-fives, it went away," Billy Hackett said.

He kicked off, and sure enough, Notre Dame held for three downs and received the ball. With three minutes played in the game Billy Hackett ran

onto the field and kicked a 45-yard field goal, the longest of his life. Notre Dame scored first and went along to its merry 34-21 Fiesta Bowl win and the national title.

Jan. 4, 1989 *The Boston Globe*



**55 Mike Heldt**  
6-4 258  
Tampa, Fla. (Leto)



**Center**

**What they said about Heldt...**

Quick, name the starting center on the No. 1 ranked college football team in the nation?

Give up?

Mike Heldt. Write it down. Number

55. He's been the regular starter all season long and will be a fixture there until graduation day.

"Somebody has to do it," said the seemingly always happy sophomore.

"They told me one day, 'you're a center now'. So that's where I am. I like it, it's a challenge."

Nov. 17, 1988 *The Observer*



**88 Frank Jacobs**  
6-5 234  
Highland Heights, Ky. (Newport Catholic)



**Tight End**

**What they said about Jacobs...**

Notre Dame is 8-0 and No. 1 again for the first time since the first week of the 1981 season, so why is Irish coach Lou Holtz worried?

In two words, Frank Jacobs.

Jacobs, the 6-5, 235-pound sophomore tight end from Newport Central Catholic, started the first four games but has missed the last four games after suffering an ankle sprain against Stan-

ford.

"We need to get Frank back," said Holtz. "We really need to get Frank back to full speed."

Nov. 1, 1988 *Kentucky Post*



7

**Andre Jones**

6-4

215

Hyattsville, Md. (DeMatha)



Def. End

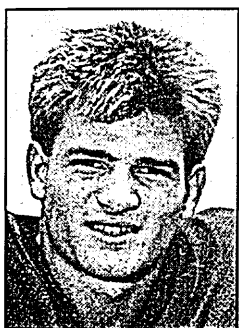
### What they said about Jones...

"You talk about people with all the potential in the world and that's Andre Jones. He's big, he's exceptionally quick and he's physical. He started out

working mainly with the special teams, but by last year he really became an impact player at defensive end. He's a solid hitter who gives you the agility to

be a cover guy in passing situations and that's so important at this level."

*Lou Holtz*



37

**Scott Kowalkowski**

6-2

226

Farmington Hills, Mich. (St. Mary's)



Def. End

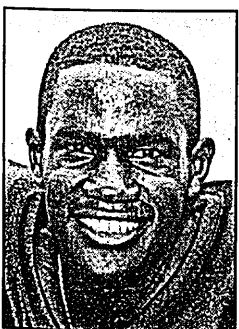
### What they said about Kowalkowski...

"When you look at players who were just kind of waiting in the wings last year, you look at Scott Kowalkowski. He was playing behind Frank Stams, who just had a super season, and I think

Scott knows exactly what it takes to excel at that position now. He and Donn Grimm were two of our special teams standouts — and I think they've prepared themselves well to move up the

ladder and play more of a full-time role in the future."

*Lou Holtz*



1

**Todd Lyght**

6-1

181

Flint, Mich. (Luke M. Powers)



Cornerback

### What they said about Lyght...

When he needed to make the biggest decision of his life, Todd Lyght knew whom to ask for advice.

Most high school football players make their own decisions about which college to attend. But Lyght isn't just another football player.

Lyght was recruited by such collegiate powerhouses as Michigan,

UCLA, USC and Notre Dame. That decision (three of those four schools are competing for a national title this year) became too much for Lyght to make on his own, so he turned to his family for help.

"I'm very close to my family," said Lyght. "Everyone thought the best decision would be to come to Notre

Dame. If I listen to them, I can't go wrong."

And Lyght, the starting field cornerback for the Irish defense, has done little wrong on the field this season. Lyght teams with short cornerback Stan Sma-gala to stop both the rushing and passing attacks of opposing offenses.

*Oct. 28, 1988 The Observer*



**35 Ryan Mihalko**  
6-2 234  
Pelham, N.H. (Pinkerton Academy)



Fullback

### What they said about Mihalko...

"Ryan Mihalko is an interesting case because last spring we tried him at all kinds of different positions. We played him on defense and we tried him on offense. He's a tremendous competitor. But he really wanted to stay at fullback

and we were fortunate that is what happened after Anthony Johnson and Braxton Banks both got hurt early. Ryan ended up getting plenty of chances to help us in some critical situations and I think he really proved some things to

some people that maybe didn't think he would ever play in the backfield for us. That's to his credit."

*Lou Holtz*



**52 Tim Ryan**  
6-4 245  
Kansas City, Mo. (Rockhurst)



Off. Guard

### What they said about Ryan...

Crisis came early in Tim Ryan's basketball career.

As an eighth-grader, Ryan went with his cousin, Danny Ferry, to Morgan Wooten's basketball camp in Washington, D.C.

"Danny was a 6-8 guard then," said Ryan. "I was thinking about playing basketball in high school, but I got schooled at that camp. I got crushed."

Ryan went home to Kansas City and concentrated on football. He now is a

sophomore starting at offensive guard for Notre Dame. Ferry is a senior all-America basketball player at Duke.

*Dec. 30, 1988 The Indianapolis Star*



**53 Winston Sandri**  
6-2 253  
Raleigh, N.C. (Millbrook)



Off. Guard

### What they said about Sandri...

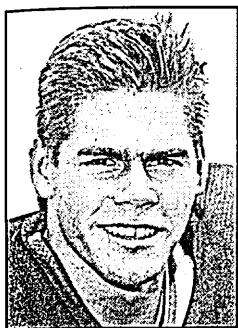
"You look at our offensive line last year, and we really had some impressive contributions — and Winston Sandri was a great example. Here's another sophomore who never played a down as

a freshman and yet he progressed enough to be a starter in our first football game against Michigan. That's rather impressive. He also ended up starting the Penn State game and really

ended up being a key figure for us at guard."

*Lou Holtz*





16

Jim Sexton

6-0

188



Punter

South Bend, Ind. (St. Joseph's)

### What they said about Sexton...

For Irish punter Jim Sexton, it was just a dream.

"It was a dream to play for Notre Dame," Sexton recalls. "But it seemed so out of reach."

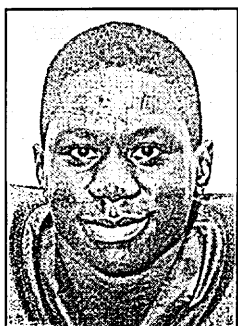
He tried out for split end at Notre

Dame's spring practice session. One play in particular forced Sexton to reassess his position choice.

"I was running a fly route for Tony Rice," Sexton remembers. "I took off down the sidelines and then turned

around for the ball, but it was already sailing over my head. I didn't realize how far he could throw. That was the end of my career as a split end."

Sept. 29, 1988 *The Observer*



12

Ricky Watters

6-2

201



Flanker

Harrisburg, Pa. (Bishop McDevitt)

### What they said about Watters...

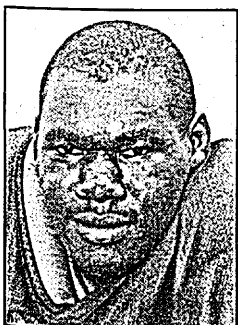
The sophomore flanker fattened his portfolio by catching four passes for 108 yards and two touchdowns during a 41-13 victory over Air Force. He also returned punts 36 and 19 yards (the latter came back on a clipping penalty).

Watters' big day came as no surprise to Air Force head coach Fisher DeBerry. The coach had spent too many fitful nights watching Watters whip his Falcons from pillow to post.

"I told our football team Monday I

had great news for them. They got all pumped up and I told them Tim Brown was gone. Then I told them the bad news, that Ricky Watters is just as good."

Oct. 28, 1988 *Indianapolis Star*



69

George Williams

6-3

282



Def. Tackle

Willingboro, N.J. (Kennedy)

### What they said about Williams...

To add a slight twist to former President Theodore Roosevelt's famous line, Notre Dame's George Williams speaks softly but delivers some big hits.

The sophomore defensive tackle from

Willingboro, N.J. has earned a reputation this season for punishing opposing ballcarriers and quarterbacks while maintaining a pleasant demeanor.

"He's got good quickness, pretty

good football sense, and he's really made some progress this season," defensive tackles coach Palermo said of Williams.

Sept. 29, 1988 *The Observer*



**50** **Chris Zorich**  
6-1 260  
Chicago, Ill. (Vocational)



Def. Tackle

### What they said about Zorich...

In 1987, Chris Zorich was an invisible freshman to the fans in Notre Dame Stadium and the reporters in the press box. He wasn't invisible to Lou Holtz.

"Out of the blue, you would hear Holtz say, 'I can't wait to see Chris

Zorich play football,' " said Herb Gould of the *Chicago Sun-Times*. "That was a sure sign Holtz knew Zorich was going to be an outstanding player."

Zorich is a sophomore in his first season as a starter, but Notre Dame defen-

sive coordinator Barry Alvarez already has said: "Chris Zorich's level of play will be the standard by which all nose tackles will be judged."

Dec. 31, 1988 *Minneapolis Star Tribune*



**97** **Arnold Ale**  
6-4 200  
Carson, Calif. (Carson)



Def. End

### What they said about Ale...

Arnold Ale is quickly proving that he has what it takes to excel in competitive college football.

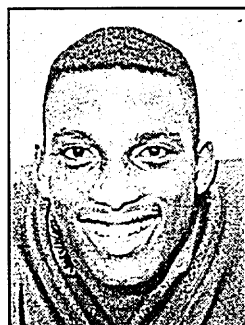
"He is progressing well," said George Stewart. "For a freshman to come into a

situation like Notre Dame, a big-time college, and to have done as well as he has done is really an accomplishment."

"Starting against Miami was an unbelievable experience," said Ale. "I was

shocked at the time I found out I was starting. I had a hard time sleeping the night before, actually the whole week before."

Oct. 26, 1988 *The Observer*



**86** **Derek Brown**  
6-7 235  
Merritt Island, Fla. (Merritt Island)



Tight End

### What they said about Brown...

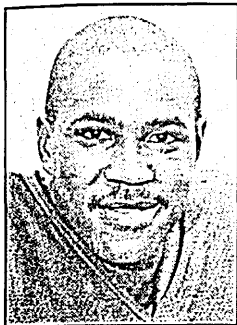
Derek Brown, the Notre Dame freshman tight end whose first two receptions were for touchdowns, had already seen the world by the time he was eight. And now, the sky's the limit.

Coach Lou Holtz said, "He has the potential to be as fine a tight end as I've ever been around.

"He's one of those rare individuals who came here with a great reputation

that I think was under-estimated. He's better than we thought."

Oct. 5, 1988 *Chicago Sun-Times*



5

## Rodney Culver

6-0

212

Detroit, Mich. (DePorres)



Fullback

### What they said about Culver...

Rodney Culver believes the little things often count the most.

Whether he is gearing up for the football season or planning his future, the freshman running back from Detroit, Mich., likes to be prepared, which

means mastering the fundamentals.

"Everybody at this level has talent," observed Culver. "When I was recruited (by Notre Dame), they told me that I had a good chance to play, but I had to work hard and learn the fundamentals.

When you execute the little things right, things begin to come together."

"I think Rodney Culver found a home at running back," said Irish assistant coach Jim Strong.

Nov. 2, 1988 *The Observer*



73

## Justin Hall

6-5

290

Dallas, Texas (Plano)



Off. Tackle

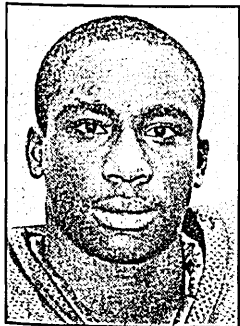
### What they said about Hall...

"We really did not have many really serious injuries during the season, but Justin Hall was one of them. It's ironic, too, because you aren't going to see

many freshmen make an impact on the offensive line as quickly as he did. He became a backup at tackle and he really would have pushed for a starting role if

he'd stayed healthy. Notre Dame fans are going to hear a lot about Justin Hall in the next few years."

*Lou Holtz*



25

## Raghib Ismail

5-10

175

Wilkes-Barre, Pa. (Meyers)



Split End

### What they said about Ismail...

His full name is Raghib Ramanda Ismail — pronounced Rah-GIB IS-Mile.

But you can call him Rocket.

Ismail is Notre Dame's latest freshman sensation. A split end with wicked speed—4.24 in the 40-yard dash—Ismail has already become one of Coach Lou Holtz's biggest offensive weapons.

"He's as dangerous without the ball as he is with it," said Notre Dame flanker Ricky Watters.

"I really didn't expect to make this much of an impact so early," said Ismail.

He was recruited as a running back, then the Irish came up short at the

wide-out position and were deep in the backfield. Holtz decided to move Ismail to receiver. Ismail responded with no complaints.

"He's really a wonderful young man," Holtz said. "He does not act like a freshman at all on the field."

Sept. 30, 1988 *Indianapolis News*



# 74 Mirko Jurkovic

6-5

270

Def. Tackle

Calumet City, Ill. (Thorton Fractional N.)



## What they said about Jurkovic...

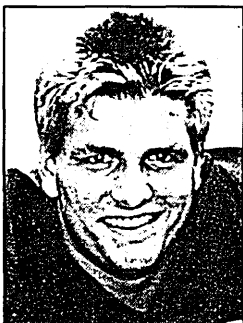
"I talked to Mirko after the first few weeks in practice in August and told him not to worry about what was going to happen to him his freshman season. We told him we probably were going to have him work on defense, but that

we'd probably end up with him on the offensive line in the future.

"Well, when Tom Gorman gets hurt and we already knew John Foley wasn't going to be able to play, Mirko is suddenly our number two left tackle. And

nobody was in a position to beat him out. You talk about people taking advantage of an opportunity — that was Mirko last year."

*Lou Holtz*



# 76 Gene McGuire

6-5

265

Center

Panama City, Fla. (Mosley)



## What they said about McGuire...

McGuire demonstrated this fall just why so many schools were after his services. The 6-5, 265-pounder has taken advantage of a young offensive line to work his way to second on the depth

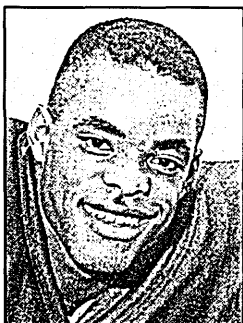
chart as a center.

"I really didn't know what to expect. I came into freshman camp, and that went pretty well," said McGuire.

"Then, I saw the upperclassmen come

in and it was like 'Geez, they're big boys.' Then we saw them run and lift weights and saw how fast and strong they were."

*Nov. 17, 1988 The Observer*



# 28 Rod Smith

6-1

183

Flanker

St. Paul, Minn. (Roseville Area)



## What they said about Smith...

Smith has seen limited action throughout the season, but his number didn't get called by Holtz until the Air Force game Oct. 22. It's the fourth quarter, and Notre Dame is wrapping up a 41-13 victory.

"Graham calls the signals and the

play starts. I take two steps up and two back, and the ball is in the air as I turn. It was low, so I had to scoop it up and I was careful not to touch my knee to the ground.

"I got tackled, and my teammates came over to help me up. And I went

back to the huddle, and everyone says congratulations on my first reception. I didn't keep the ball, but I will for my first touchdown."

*Nov. 13, 1988 Minneapolis Star Tribune*

# The Championships

**T**he national championship team in college football generally is considered to be the top-rated squad in the final rankings issued each year by the Associated Press (poll of sportswriters and broadcasters) and United Press International (poll of coaches).

Since the AP began certifying the winner of its national crown in 1936, Notre Dame has won more national championships than any other team in the country. When Lou Holtz's team captured the AP title in 1988, it became the eighth Irish squad to earn the prestigious honor. Oklahoma and Alabama are tied for second on the list with five championships each.

The Irish parade of AP championships began with Frank Leahy's 1943 team. Leahy led Notre Dame to three more titles in the decade (1946, 1947 and 1949). It would be another 17 years before the Irish would return to the top spot. They did it behind third-year head coach Ara Parseghian in 1966. Parseghian also brought home the crown in 1973. Dan Devine gave Notre Dame its second title in the '70s when his 1977 charges posted an 11-1 record, including the memorable 38-10 Cotton Bowl win over Texas.

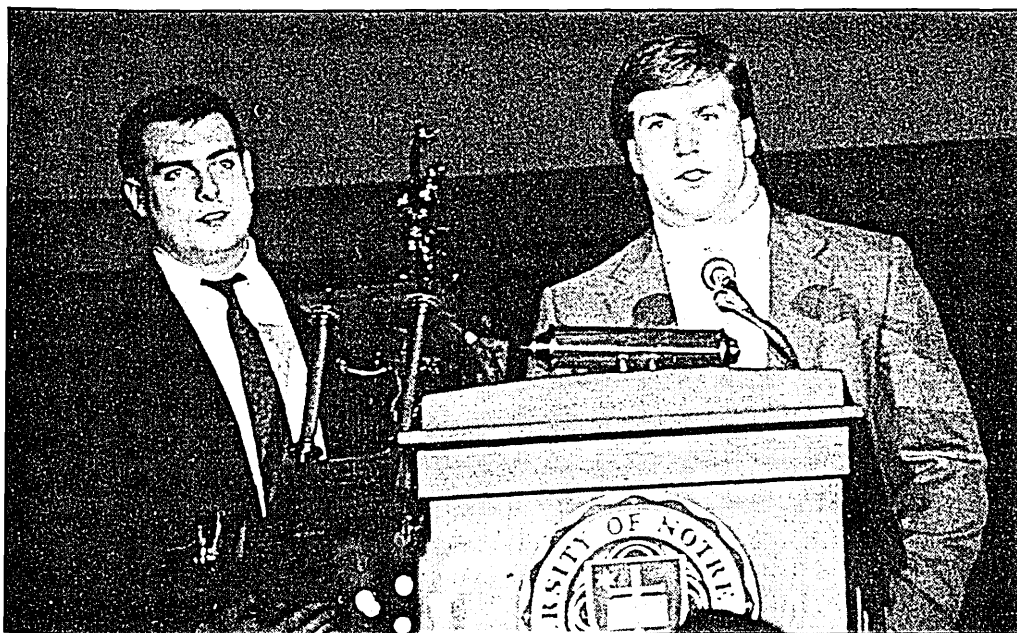
Notre Dame also lays claim to three national championships before the Associ-

ated Press began its college football rankings. The Irish teams of 1924, 1929 and 1930 received the Rissman Trophy, which went to the nation's best team during that time. The Rissman Trophy was a forerunner of the Knute Rockne Trophy that AP awarded to the top team during the first few years of its national poll.

The UPI coaches' poll has voted a national champion since 1950. Notre Dame has won four titles (1966-73-77-88) during that period. Only USC with five has won more and Alabama and Oklahoma are tied with Notre Dame at four. The UPI poll was taken following the end of the regular season each year until the 1974 season when the coaches started waiting until the bowl games were concluded to issue their final rankings.

The NCAA also recognizes national championships awarded by the Football Writers Association of America and by the National Football Foundation and Hall of Fame.

The FWAA has presented the Grantland Rice Award since 1954, with Notre Dame earning the trophy in 1966, '73, '77 and '88. The National Football Foundation and Hall of Fame has presented the MacArthur Bowl to its national champion since 1959. Notre Dame has won it on five occasions — 1964, '66 (tie with Michigan State), '73, '77 and '88.



*Andy Heck and Ned Bolcar accept the 1988 Associated Press national championship trophy.*



# 1924 10-0-0

The 1924 Notre Dame football team will always be known best for *New York Herald Tribune* sportswriter Grantland Rice's account of the Notre Dame vs. Army game played October 18 at the Polo Grounds in New York:

"Outlined against a blue-gray October sky, the Four Horsemen rode again.

"In dramatic lore they are known as famine, pestilence, destruction and death. These are only aliases. Their real names are Stuhldreher, Miller, Crowley, and Layden. They formed the crest of the South Bend cyclone before which another fighting Army team was swept over the precipice at the Polo Grounds this afternoon as 55,000 spectators peered down on the bewildering panorama spread out upon the green plain below."

Quarterback Harry Stuhldreher, fullback Elmer Layden, and halfbacks Jim Crowley and Don Miller were the cornerstone of a team considered one of the best in college football history.

The Fighting Irish won the Army game 13-7, as the Four Horsemen played magnificently. Miller rushed for 148 yards, Crowley for 102 and Layden for 60, while Stuhldreher orchestrated the offense masterfully from the quarterback position. It was the third victory of the season for the Irish, it came against a foe considered the toughest on the schedule, and it spurred the Irish on to a perfect 10-0 season and the school's first recognized national championship.

Rice's account led to near-mythic status for the Irish backfield, but the Seven Mules, who did the blocking, and the Shock Troops, who were perhaps the best second string in the game, played indispensable roles, too. Each week in 1924, seventh-year Notre Dame coach Knute Rockne started his second stringers, his Shock Troops.

When Rockne felt his Shock Troops had done their job, he brought in the Four Horsemen and the Seven Mules, a group so good "that the Holy Ghost couldn't have broken into that lineup," said Harry O'Boyle, a kicker and reserve halfback on the Shock Troops. Center Andy Walsh was the heart of the Seven Mules, a group that also included ends Ed Huhsinger and Chuck Collins, tackles Rip Miller and Joe Bach, and guards Noble Kizer and John Wiebel. Walsh characterized the grit and determination of the line when he secured the

## THE SEASON

Coach: Knute Rockne

Captain: Adam Walsh

Oct. 4	W	Lombard	40-0	H	8,000
Oct. 11	W	Wabash	34-0	H	10,000
Oct. 18	W	Army	13-7	N1	55,000
Oct. 25	W	Princeton	12-0	A	40,000
Nov. 1	W	*Georgia Tech	34-3	H	22,000
Nov. 8	W	Wisconsin	38-3	A	28,425
Nov. 15	W	Nebraska	34-6	H	22,000
Nov. 22	W	Northwestern	13-6	N2	45,000
Nov. 29	W	Carnegie Tech	40-19	A	35,000
				258-44	265,425

## ROSE BOWL

Jan. 1	W	Stanford	27-10	N3	53,000
N1—at Polo Grounds; N2—at Soldier Field; N3—at Pasadena, Calif.					
*Notre Dame's 200th Victory					

win over Army with a late interception—which he made with two broken hands.

The combination of the Shock Troops, the Seven Mules, and the Four Horsemen worked 10 times in 10 tries in 1924 against a national schedule that took the Irish to New York, Princeton, N.J., Madison, Wis., Soldier Field in Chicago, and Pittsburgh during the regular season while giving the team only four home games. In addition, at the end of the season, Rockne was able to convince the University administration to permit the football team to travel to California to play Stanford in the Rose Bowl, where the Irish clinched the Helms Athletic Foundation's national championship with a 27-10 victory over the Indians.

In the Rose Bowl — Notre Dame's only bowl appearance until the team began making regular bowl trips with the 1970 Cotton Bowl — the Irish were faced with stopping an undefeated, once-tied Stanford team that included legendary coach Pop Warner and fullback Ernie Nevers. Rockne was concerned his players might not be ready physically for the heat of the West Coast, so he arranged for a slow, cross-country train trip that included stops in Louisiana, Texas and Arizona so players would have time to adjust to warmer, more demanding weather.

It worked, as Elmer Layden scored Notre Dame's first touchdown on a three-yard run and returned interceptions of Nevers' passes 78 and 70 yards for two more touchdowns. The Irish took advantage of eight Stanford turnovers and made a critical goal-line stand in the fourth quarter to come up with the 17-point win.

"That would always be my favorite team," Rockne once said. "I think I sensed that the backfield was a product of destiny. At times they caused me a certain amount of pain and exasperation, but mainly they brought me great joy."

—Willie Shearer

## THE POLLS

The Associated Press and United Press International did not crown a national champion until 1936 and 1950, respectively. Notre Dame was selected by the Helms Foundation as the nation's best team in 1924.



### 1924 National Championship Team

*Front Row: Stuhldreher, Cerney, D. Miller, Weibel, Crowley, Walsh (capt.), E. Miller, Hunsinger, Layden, Bach; Middle Row: Rockne, Crowe, Kizer, McMullen, Boland, McManmon, Collins, Wallace, Glueckert, Connell, Livergood, Luther; Back Row: Sutcliffe, Scharer, Eaton, O'Boyle, Nanousek, Edwards, Maxwell, Harmon, Hearndon, Harrington, Lieb.*

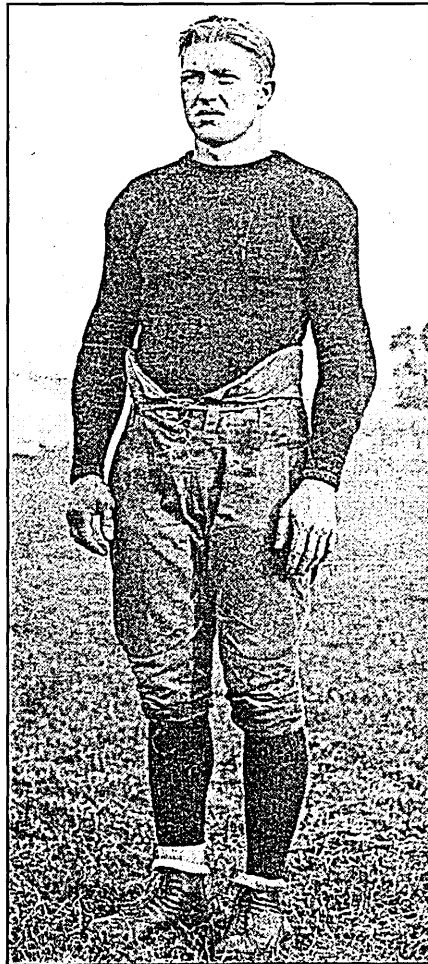
### THE LINEUP

#### Offense

LE—\*Chuck Collins, 6-0, 177; \*Clem Crowe, 5-9, 169; Joe Rigali, 5-9, 147  
 LT—\*Joe Bach, 5-11, 186; \*Joe Boland, 6-0, 215; \*John McMullen, 6-0, 204  
 LG—\*John Weibel, 5-9, 165; \*Charles Glueckert, 5-11, 185; Vince Harrington, 5-8, 175  
 C—\*Adam Walsh, 6-0, 187 (Captain); \*Joe Harmon, 5-9, 165; \*Joe Maxwell, 6-1, 180  
 RG—\*Noble Kizer, 5-8, 165; \*Dick Nanousek, 5-10, 177  
 RT—\*Edgar (Rip) Miller, 5-11, 180; \*John Wallace, 6-0, 178; \*John McManmon, 6-2, 202  
 RE—\*Ed Hunsinger, 5-11, 172; \*Wilbur Eaton, 5-8, 165  
 QB—\*Harry Stuhldreher, 5-7, 151; \*Eddie Scharer, 5-8, 145; \*Gene (Red) Edwards, 6-1, 160; \*Frank Reese, 5-10, 152  
 LH—\*Jim Crowley, 5-11, 162; \*Max Houser, 6-1, 170; \*Harry O'Boyle, 5-9, 160  
 RH—\*Don Miller, 5-11, 160; \*Ward (Doc) Connell, 5-10, 168; \*Tom O'Boyle, 5-9, 160  
 FB—\*Elmer Layden, 6-0, 162; \*Bill Cerney, 5-9, 165; \*Bernie Livergood, 5-10, 175; \*Tom Hearnden, 5-9, 156; \*John Roach, 6-0, 139

#### Reserves

E—Larry Keefe, Clarence Reilly; G—Joe Dienhart, Herb Eggert; C—Russ Arndt; HB—Bernie Coughlin, Oswald Geniesse, Gerry Miller, Joe Preli



Adam Walsh was Notre Dame's team captain in 1924.



Four Horsemen member Harry Stuhldreher quarterbacked the national champions.

# 1929 9-0-0

If the Great Depression wasn't reason enough for Notre Dame football partisans to be a little down, then the fact the Irish were without a home for the 1929 season was surely enough to bring some anxiety into the minds of both the team and its followers. Plans were underway at Notre Dame for a new stadium to be built, and 1929 was the transition year in which the Irish had no home.

That didn't keep Notre Dame from winning, however, something the team had accomplished only five times in nine tries in 1928. Knute Rockne had promised to return Notre Dame football in 1929 to what had become its customary level of excellence, homefield advantage or not. He would not be stopped from fulfilling that promise.

The closest the Irish came to having a home game in 1929 were three games contested at Soldier Field in Chicago. The Irish defeated Wisconsin there, 19-0, October 19, Drake, 19-7, November 9, and USC in the most important game of the year, 13-12, before 112,912 fans on November 16.

The lack of home turf was not the only major difficulty of the 1929 season for Notre Dame. The team's legendary coach was in battle with phlebitis, which doctors said stood a 50-50 chance of taking Rockne's life if he tried to coach that season. But coach the team he did, through one dramatic victory after another, either by telephone from a hospital bed or from a wheelchair on the sidelines.

Rockne's leg problems began during the following week and the announcement was made that he would not accompany the team on its trip to Baltimore to face Navy. Line coach Tom Lieb took over for Rockne that day, as the Irish won 14-7. But back in South Bend, doctor's orders couldn't keep Rock away from practice at Cartier Field, where he set up his command post in his car and used a loudspeaker to direct activities.

By the time the USC contest rolled around, the Irish were 6-0 and recognized as one of the top teams in the nation. Running back Joe Savoldi had earned acclaim in the Wisconsin game with dazzling touchdown runs of 71 and 40 yards, and he provided the only score of the game in Notre Dame's 7-0 win at Carnegie Tech October 26.

When the Irish faced USC at Soldier Field November 16, Rockne's status was as bad as ever, but the team

## THE SEASON

Coach: Knute Rockne  
Captain: John Law

Oct. 5	W	Indiana	14-0	A	16,111
Oct. 12	W	Navy	14-7	N1	64,681
Oct. 19	W	Wisconsin	19-0	N2	90,000
Oct. 26	W	Carnegie Tech	7-0	A	66,000
Nov. 2	W	Georgia Tech	26-6	A	22,000
Nov. 9	W	Drake	19-7	N2	50,000
Nov. 16	W	USC	13-12	N2*	112,912
Nov. 23	W	Northwestern	26-6	A	50,000
Nov. 30	W	Army	7-0	YS	79,408
					145-38
					551,112

No home games; Notre Dame Stadium was under construction

\*Paid attendance: 99,351

N1—at Baltimore; N2—at Soldier Field

needed him. The Notre Dame-USC tradition was already a great one, and the first half foretold the kind of game everyone expected, with the teams battling to a 6-6 tie. In the lockerroom, the Fighting Irish were in desperate need of one of Rock's famous speeches, but he was nowhere to be found. So former Irish running back Paul Castner stepped up to do what he could, and in the middle of his oration, who should two Irish managers wheel into the room but Rockne himself.

He was in great pain and had undergone quite a strain — not only from making the trip to Chicago but also from watching his team struggle in the first half. He gave an impassioned speech with what strength he had, during which a blood clot in one leg broke loose, passed through his heart and settled safely in the other leg. His speech worked, as the Irish escaped Chicago with a 13-12 win and an unblemished 7-0 record.

The Irish still had traditional foes Northwestern and Army left. Northwestern fell relatively easy, as the Irish posted a 26-6 win on the Wildcats' home field. But the November 30 matchup with Army at Yankee Stadium proved to be a real battle.

The game was played on turf that was frozen solid, and neither team was able to accomplish anything. It was eight degrees at gametime and a biting wind cut across the field as the players dashed out for the opening kickoff.

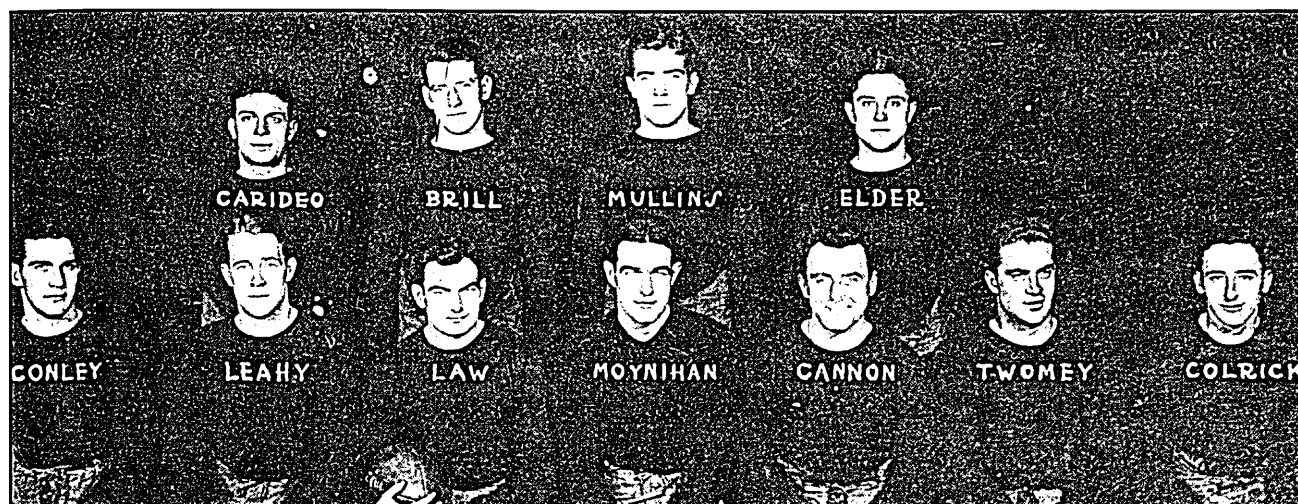
The first quarter was scoreless, but in the second period Army drove deep into Irish territory. When Red Cagle lofted a pass for his end, Carl Carlmark, it looked like a certain score for the Cadets. But Notre Dame's Jack Elder came out of nowhere to snatch the ball away. He took it 93 yards for the game's only touchdown. The extra point was added to make it 7-0 Irish, and that's the way it stayed.

Notre Dame was 9-0 and the season was over. The team had survived without a home, Rockne had survived his illness and Notre Dame had its second national championship.

— Willie Shearer

## THE POLLS

The Associated Press and United Press International did not crown a national champion until 1936 and 1950, respectively. Notre Dame was selected by the Helms Foundation as the nation's best team in 1929.



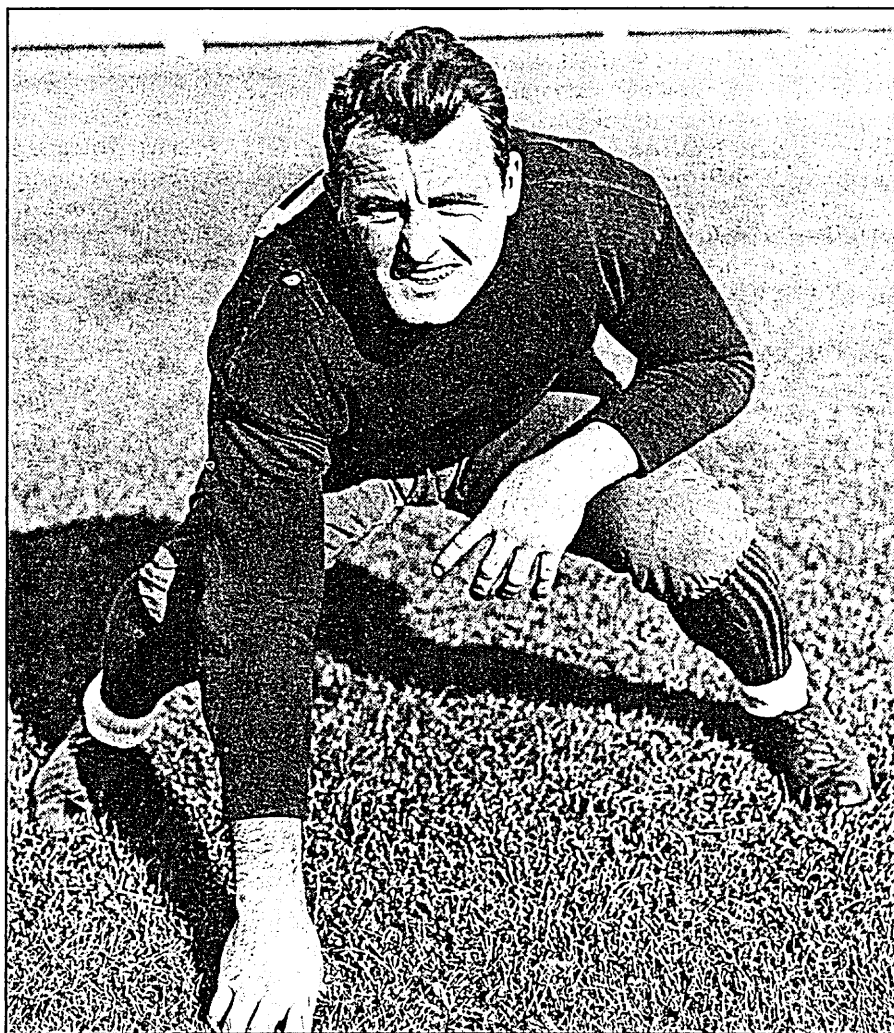
### 1929 National Championship Team

*Front Row: Conley, Leahy, Law, Moynihan, Cannon, Twomey, Colrick. Back Row: Carideo, Brill, Mullins, Elder.*

### THE LINEUP

#### Offense

LE—\*John Colrick, 6-2, 190; \*Eddie Collins, 6-0, 169; \*Johnny (One Play) O'Brien, 6-2, 180  
 LT—\*Ted Twomey, 6-1, 205; \*Al Culver, 6-2, 212; \*Regis McNamara, 6-1, 190  
 LG—\*Jack Cannon, 5-11, 193; \*Tom Kassis, 5-11, 185; \*Joe Locke, 5-10, 165; Bill Cassidy, 5-9, 172  
 C—\*Tim Moynihan, 6-1, 195; \*Joe Nash, 5-11, 177; \*Tommy Yarr, 5-11, 190  
 RG—\*John Law, 5-9, 163 (Captain); \*Bert Metzger, 5-9, 145; Gus Bondi, 5-8, 175  
 RT—\*Dick Donoghue, 6-2, 217; \*Art McManmon, 6-2, 210; \*Frank Leahy, 5-11, 183; Charles Schwartz, 6-2, 200  
 RE—\*Tom Conley, 5-11, 170; \*Manny Vezie, 6-2, 165; \*George Vlk, 6-0, 170; Tom Murphy, 6-1, 185; Roy Bailie, 5-11, 163  
 QB—\*Frank Carideo, 5-7, 172; Al (Bud) Gebert, 5-8, 170; \*Tommy Kenneally, 5-8, 137; Norb Christman, 5-7, 152  
 LH—\*Jack Elder, 5-8, 165; \*Marchy Schwartz, 5-11, 163; Bernie Leahy, 5-10, 175  
 RH—\*Marty Brill, 5-11, 181; \*Paul (Bucky) O'Connor, 5-9, 175; Clarence Kaplan, 5-10, 158; Carl Cronin, 5-7, 150  
 FB—\*Larry (Moon) Mullins, 6-0, 175; \*Joe Savoldi, 5-11, 192; \*George (Dinny) Shay, 5-10, 175; \*Al Howard, 5-10, 160



*Jack Cannon was a starting guard on Knute Rockne's second national championship team.*

# 1930 10-0-0

**B**rand new stadium, same old result — another national championship for the Notre Dame football team.

The 1930 football season marked the opening of Notre Dame Stadium, just another in the long line of Knute Rockne masterpieces, only this was a football stadium instead of a team. With typical Rockne meticulousness, he had supervised every minute detail of the construction of the stadium.

In addition, Rockne had for the first time a full-time equipment manager, a trainer, a doctor who traveled with the team, a business manager, several secretaries, and a staff to handle the complex sale and distribution of tickets. On top of all that, Rockne was healthy again. The doctors at the Mayo Clinic had given him a thorough going-over from head to foot during the off-season and had given him a clean bill of health.

All the Rock had to do was coach, and what a job he did.

On October 4, 1920, the Fighting Irish opened their season in the imposing new stadium — an impressive amphitheatre of dull red brick trimmed with limestone. Rockne had the original sod from Cartier Field transplanted just for good measure.

The Irish christened the good earth with a 20-14 win over Southern Methodist. The stadium was officially dedicated the following week, as Notre Dame trounced Navy, 26-2. In the third week of the season, Notre Dame played its third straight home game, defeating Carnegie Tech, 21-6, to cap off a successful first home-stand.

Preseason prognosticators across the country considered the 1930 Notre Dame team to be Rockne's strongest yet. Rockne has said as much himself prior to the start of the season, and he had good reason for such high expectations. Frank Carideo, Marchy Schwartz, Marty Brill and Jumpin' Joe Savoldi made up a latter day version of the Four Horsemen in the backfield, and all of them earned all-America status on one team or another that season. The Fighting Irish were not only stocked with an explosive collection of running backs, but the team also sported a tremendous crew of linemen. Center Tommy Yarr, guards Nordy Hoffmann and Bert Metzger, tackles Joe Kurth and Al Culver, and end Tom Conley all made all-America teams either that season or the following one.

The Irish left home three times in the fourth through

## THE SEASON

Coach: Knute Rockne

Captain: Tom Conley

Oct. 4	W	SMU	20-14	H	14,751
Oct. 11	W	Navy**	26-2	H	40,593
Oct. 18	W	Carnegie Tech	21-6	H	30,009
Oct. 25	W	Pittsburgh	35-19	A	66,586
Nov. 1	W	Indiana	27-0	H	1,113
Nov. 8	W	Pennsylvania	60-20	A	75,657
Nov. 15	W	Drake	28-7	H	10,106
Nov. 22	W	Northwestern	14-0	A	44,648
Nov. 29	W	Army	7-6	N	110,000
Dec. 6	W	USC	27-0	A	73,967
				265-74	477,430

eight weeks of the season but continued to roll. Notre Dame traveled to Pitt and beat the Panthers, 35-19. A 27-0 romp over Indiana followed, before the Irish visited a 60-20 walloping on the Quakers of Pennsylvania. Marty Brill, who had transferred to Notre Dame from Pennsylvania, played the greatest game of his career that day, breaking loose for three touchdowns on runs of 45, 52 and 65 yards.

The Notre Dame winning streak stood at 15 games over two seasons, and it quickly grew to 17 as the Irish sprinted past Drake and Northwestern. All that remained between Notre Dame and another national title were games against Army and USC.

On a November 29 afternoon that saw rain and sleet turn Soldier Field into a swamp, the Cadets and the Irish squared off, and it appeared that neither team was going to budge. Near the end of the game, however, Schwartz broke loose for a 54-yard scoring run. The all-important extra point gave the Irish a 7-0 lead. Army scored quickly thereafter, though, on a blocked punt, and it appeared that things would be knotted up. But Notre Dame blocked the extra point, and that's the way it ended.

To finish off the season, Rockne used all his psychological expertise in a ploy that helped the Irish get ready for USC. Injuries during the season left the team with only one healthy fullback, Dan Hanley. So Rock decided to turn Bucky O'Connor, a second-team halfback, into a first-string fullback. However, in practice, Rock had O'Connor and Hanley trade jerseys, and not a single soul suspected anything unusual.

When the game got underway, Notre Dame had one of the speediest fullbacks the Trojan defense had ever seen. O'Connor scored two touchdowns, including one on an 80-yard dash, and the Irish dominated the favored home team to the tune of 27-0.

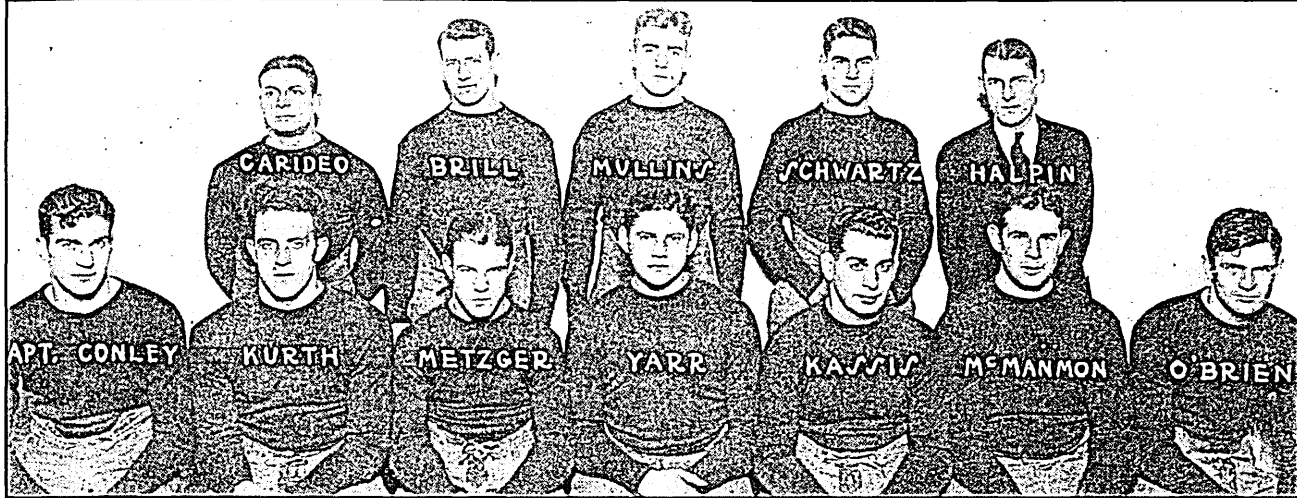
It was a fitting script to what turned out to be Rockne's final game as the Notre Dame head football coach. The team won its second consecutive national championship, and the following winter Rockne died in a plane crash in Kansas.

—Willie Shearer

## THE POLLS

The Associated Press and United Press International did not crown a national champion until 1936 and 1950, respectively. Notre Dame was selected by the Helms Foundation as the nation's best team in 1930.





## 1930 National Championship Team

*Front Row: Conley, Kurth, Metzger, Yarr, Kassis, McManmon, O'Brien. Back Row: Carideo, Brill, Mullins, Schwartz, Halpin.*

## THE LINEUP

### Offense

LE—\*Ed Kosky, 6-0, 182; \*Paul Host, 5-11, 173; \*Johnny (One Play) O'Brien, 6-2, 185

LT—\*Al Culver, 6-2, 212, \*Frank (Nurdy) Hoffmann, 6-2, 208; Regis McNamara, 6-1, 192

LG—\*Tom Kassis, 5-11, 185; \*Jim Harris, 5-9, 185; \*Norm Greeney, 5-11, 185

C—\*Tommy Yarr, 5-11, 195; \*Frank Butler, 6-2, 202; \*John Rogers, 5-8, 175

RG—\*Bert Metzger, 5-9, 149; \*Bill Pierce, 5-8, 180; \*Bob Terlaak, 5-11, 180

RT—\*Joe Kurth, 6-2, 197; \*Art McManmon, 6-2, 210; \*Dick Donoughue, 6-2, 220; \*\*Frank Leahy, 5-11, 183

RE—\*Tom Conley, 5-11, 175 (Captain); \*George Vlk, 6-0, 175; \*Dick Mahoney, 5-10, 175

QB—Frank Carideo, 5-7, 175; \*Chuck Jaskwich, 5-11, 165; \*Carl Cronin, 5-7, 150

LH—\*Marchy Schwartz, 5-11, 165; \*Mike Koken, 5-9, 162; \*Nick Lukats, 6-0, 178; \*Bernie Leahy, 5-10, 175

RH—\*Marty Brill, 5-11, 190; \*Paul (Bucky) O'Connor, 5-9, 175; \*Clarence Kaplan, 5-10, 158

FB—\*Larry (Moon) Mullins, 6-0, 175; \*Joe Savoldi, 5-11, 200; \*Al Howard, 5-10, 170; \*Dan Hanley, 6-2, 190

\*\*Starting RT, injured in preseason and sidelined for the year.

### Reserves

E—Ray Bailie; T—James Carmody; G—Frank Kersjes, Bob Massey, Bill Van Rooy; C—Vince Cavanaugh, Ed Agnew; QB—Norb Christman, John Nichols, Emmett Murphy; HB—Joe Sheeketski; FB—Fred Staab



*End Tom Conley (standing) and Knute Rockne (sitting) helped Notre Dame to its only national title in the '30s.*

# 1943 9-1-0

**A**t the beginning of the 1943 season many experts called Notre Dame's schedule its most difficult in school history. The Irish faced seven teams that season that were ranked among the nation's top 13 teams in the final Associated Press Poll.

Frank Leahy's squad only had two returning starters from the '42 squad that finished 7-2-2. To make matters worse, seven of the 10 games in '43 were on the road.

The Irish were still in the early stages of adjusting to the T-formation, which Leahy installed the season before, moving away from the traditional Notre Dame "Box Formation." The new offense enabled the '43 team to score 340 points, 156 more than the season before. The T-formation also led to the emergence of Angelo Bertelli, who moved from tailback to quarterback to lead the Irish offense.

Bertelli led the Irish to a 6-0 start as the team outscored its opponents 261-31. Included in that stretch were key victories over second-ranked Michigan and third-ranked Navy.

A record crowd of 85,688 witnessed the 35-12 Irish win in Ann Arbor. Bertelli was brilliant, completing five of eight passes for two touchdowns while all-America running back Creighton Miller averaged 16 yards per play against Michigan.

Led by Bertelli and all-America tackle Jim White, both of whom finished in the top 10 in the Heisman balloting that year, the Irish rolled on to a 50-0 victory over Wisconsin and a 47-0 bashing of Illinois following the win over Michigan, to extend their record to 5-0.

Those wins were followed by a colossal matchup between top-ranked Notre Dame and third-ranked Navy in Cleveland. The Irish cruised to a 33-6 win but lost their quarterback. The Marine Corps called Bertelli into

## THE SEASON

Coach: Frank Leahy  
Captain: Pat Filley

Sept. 25	W	Pittsburgh	41-1	A	43,437
Oct. 2	W	Georgia Tech	55-13	H	26,497
Oct. 9	W	Michigan	35-12	A	86,408
Oct. 16	W	Wisconsin	50-0	A	16,235
Oct. 23	W	Illinois	47-0	H	24,676
Oct. 30	W	Navy	33-6	N	77,900
Nov. 6	W	Army	26-0	YS	75,121
Nov. 13	W	Northwestern	25-6	A	49,124
Nov. 20	W	Iowa Pre-Flight	14-13	H	39,446
Nov. 27	L	Great Lakes	14-19	A	23,000
				340-69	461,844

N—at Cleveland

service with four games left in the season.

Leahy called on a sophomore to be Bertelli's replacement in the following week's game against Army, the third-ranked team in the country that week.

All Bertelli's replacement did was throw for two touchdowns, run for another and intercept a pass to lead the Irish to a 26-0 win. A new star was born - the incomparable John Lujack.

With Lujack calling the signals, the Irish defeated two more top 10 teams in the following two weeks, Northwestern and Iowa Pre-Flight.

All that stood between Leahy's first undefeated and untied season was Great Lakes, a team that the Irish had tied in their two previous meetings during the 1918 and 1942 seasons.

Notre Dame scored first but trailed 12-7 late in the fourth quarter. Miller capped off an 80-yard drive with a touchdown to put the Irish ahead 14-12 with 1:05 to play.

With 33 seconds remaining, Great Lakes quarterback Steve Lach connected on a 46-yard pass to Paul Anderson, who fielded the ball at the six-yard line and then went into the end zone for the game-winning score, ruining Notre Dame's perfect season.

After the game, Leahy told his team, "You're still champions to me, boys. You fought your hearts out every inch of the way in the greatest drive I've ever seen. Nobody is to blame for that last Great Lakes touchdown. It was just a fine play, splendidly executed."

Despite the season-ending loss, Notre Dame picked up several awards that would soon become commonplace for the school. The Irish were crowned national champions by the Associated Press for the first time ever and Bertelli became the first Notre Dame player to win the Heisman Trophy.

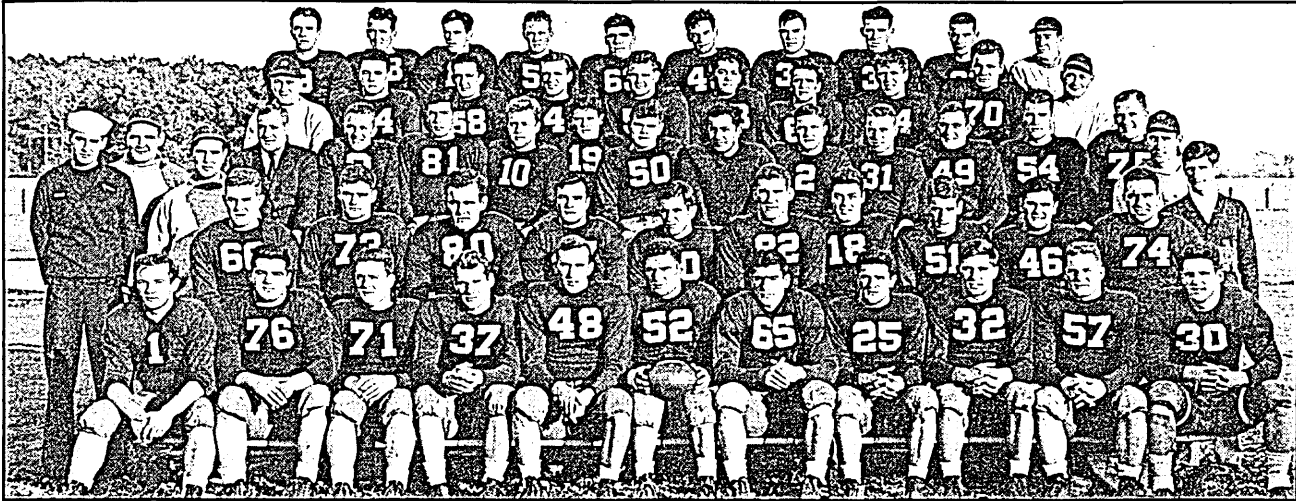
Bertelli easily outdistanced Bob O'Dell of Pennsylvania and Otto Graham of Northwestern for the Heisman.

— Jeff Spelman

## THE POLL

AP

1. Notre Dame
2. Iowa Pre-Flight
3. Michigan
4. Navy
5. Purdue
6. Great Lakes
7. Duke
8. Del Monte P-F
9. Northwestern
10. March Field
11. Army
12. Washington
13. Georgia Tech
14. Texas
15. Tulsa
16. Dartmouth
17. Bainbridge
18. Colorado College
19. Pacific
20. Pennsylvania



### 1943 National Championship Team

*Front Row:* Earley, Czarobski, White, Miller, Bertelli, Filley, Mello, Nemeth, Lujack, Perko, Limont. *Second Row:* Boss, Ziemba, McKeever, Kuffel, Curley, Adams, Berezney, Rykovich, Yonakor, Flanagan, Hanlon, Palladino, Signaigo, Krause, Amato. *Third Row:* Young, Skat, Yacobi, McGuire, Atkin, Gainey, Paulian, Terlep, Davis, Meter, Sullivan, Urban. *Fourth Row:* Kline, Cannon, Rellas, Dancewicz, Cibula, Lopez, Angone, Coleman, Tharp, Devore. *Back Row:* Waldron, Quail, Skinner, Miezowski, Ruggerio, Szymanski, Snyder, Lyden, Statuto, Leahy.

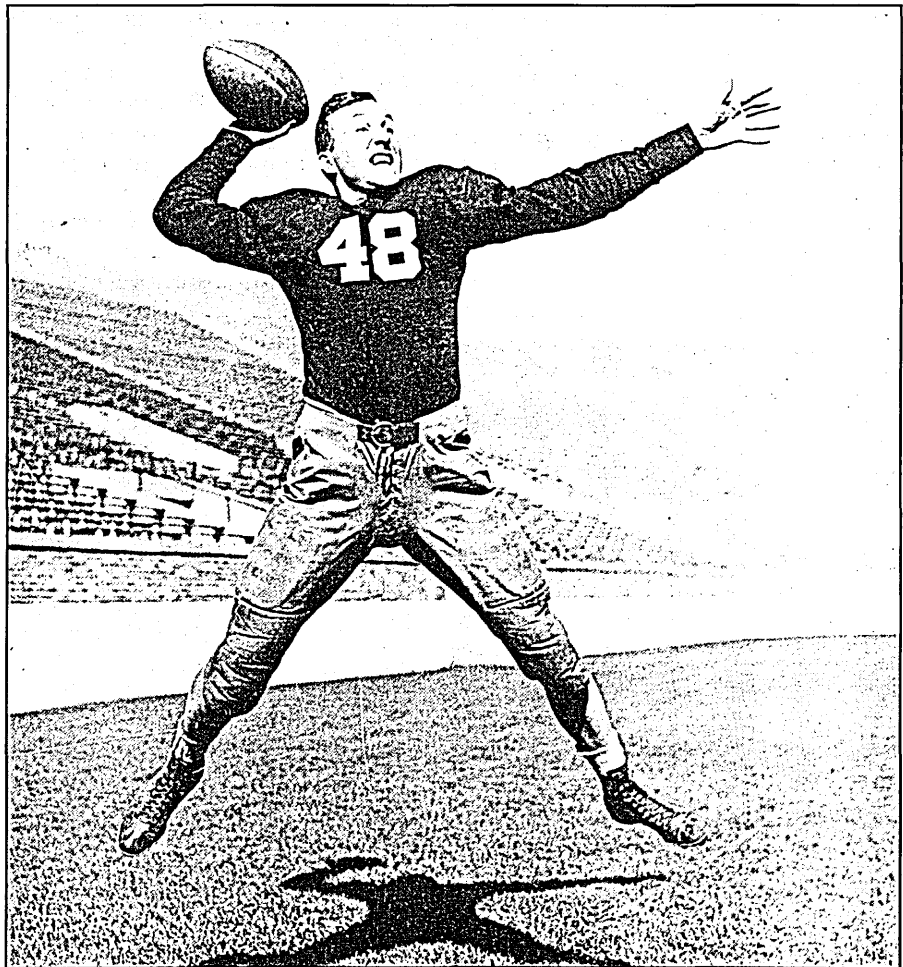
### THE LINEUP

#### Offense

LE—\*Paul Limont, 6-2, 185; \*Ray Kuffel, 6-3, 210; \*Jim Flanagan, 6-1, 175  
 LT—\*Jim White, 6-2, 208; \*George Sullivan, 6-3, 205; Jim Tharp, 6-4, 230; George Cibula, 5-11, 197  
 LG—\*Pat Filley, 5-8, 175 (Captain); \*Bernie (Bud) Meter, 5-10, 185; \*Gasper Urban, 6-0, 190  
 C—\*Herb Coleman, 6-1, 198; \*Frank Szymanski, 6-0, 197; Art Statuto, 6-2, 190; Mike Lyden, 6-2, 188  
 RG—\*Joe Perko, 5-11, 200; \*Joe Signaigo, 6-0, 200; \*Jim Snyder, 5-5, 188  
 RT—\*Zygmunt (Ziggy) Czarobski, 6-0, 212; \*John (Tree) Adams, 6-7, 212; Pete Berezney, 6-2, 215  
 RE—\*John Yonakor, 6-4, 215; \*Jack Zilly, 6-2, 188, Ed Trumper, 6-2, 208  
 QB—\*Angelo Bertelli, 6-1, 173; \*Johnny Lujack, 6-0, 180; \*Frank Dancewicz, 5-10, 173; George Terlep, 5-8, 165  
 LH—\*Creighton Miller, 6-0, 185; \*Fred Earley, 5-7, 165; \*Ray Davis, 5-10, 170  
 RH—\*Julie Rykovich, 6-1, 190; \*Bob Kelly, 5-10, 180; \*Bob Paladino, 5-10, 175; Steve Nemeth, 5-11, 165  
 FB—\*Jim Mello, 5-11, 185; \*Vic Kulbitski, 5-11, 203; \*Bob Hanlon, 6-1, 185

#### Reserves

E—Gerald Ford, Chris Rellas, Mike Todorovich; T—Bob Curley, Mike Gancy, Ed Mieszkowski, Frank Ruggerio; G—Charles Renaud; QB—Al Skat, Ronayne Waldron; HB—Elmer Angsman, Ed Krupa, Achille (Chick) Maggioli



Angelo Bertelli was Notre Dame's first Heisman Trophy winner.

# 1946 8-0-1

**W**orld War II had finally ended and the United States was ready to think about something more pleasant than international conflict for a change — like Notre Dame football. The year was 1946, the coach was hard-driving Frank Leahy and it was the beginning of a dynasty for Notre Dame football.

In 1943, Leahy had guided the Fighting Irish to their first wire-service national championship, and fourth overall, behind Heisman Trophy winner Angelo Bertelli and future Heisman winner John Lujack. World War II took many football players away from college, including Bertelli in the middle of his Heisman campaign in '43, but many returned to the gridiron after the war ended, including Lujack, who would go on to win the Heisman in 1947.

For the players who returned to Notre Dame in '46, losing a college football game was not to be one of their post-war experiences. From 1946 to 1949, Notre Dame went 36-0-2 and won three national championships in one of the most successful four-year periods in college football history.

The 1946 season started it all. Halfback Terry Brennan and linemen Bill Walsh, Bill Fischer, and John Mas-trangelo were among the group of returnees from the previous season. There were several new faces who came to Notre Dame after Navy hitches had interrupted their respective careers at Holy Cross and Texas A&M. There were also players for whom the war had postponed college football, like end Jim Martin and running back Emil (Red) Sitko, and there were freshmen like Leon Hart. Returning to Notre Dame along with Lujack were veterans such as tackle Zygmunt (Ziggy) Czarowski, end Jack Zilly, and fullback Jim Mel-lo. Even Leahy was coming back to Notre Dame after a

## THE SEASON

Coach: Frank Leahy  
Game Captains

Sept. 28	W	Illinois	26-6	A	75,119
Oct. 5	W	Pittsburgh	33-0	H	50,350
Oct. 12	W	Purdue	49-6	H	55,452
Oct. 26	W	Iowa	41-6	A	52,311
Nov. 2	W	Navy	28-0	N	63,909
Nov. 9	T	Army	0-0	YS	74,121
Nov. 16	W	Northwestern	27-0	H	56,000
Nov. 23	W	Tulane	41-0	A	65,841
Nov. 30	W	USC	26-6	H	55,298
					<hr/>
					271-24 548,401

couple years in the service.

Leahy was a perfectionist and strict disciplinarian, and enduring his practices wasn't much more fun than being a soldier. But it sure produced results. The Irish usually had two separate platoons ready for each game, and often the first string didn't play much more than half the game. On the football field, the Irish had strength in numbers, and Leahy fought a war of attrition.

The season began with the Irish routing their first five opponents — Illinois, which went on to win the Western (now Big Ten) conference championship, Pittsburgh, Purdue, Iowa, and Navy before facing top-ranked Army. Coached by the great Earl (Red) Blaik and featuring Doc Blanchard and Glenn Davis in the backfield, Army had won two straight national championships and 25 straight games, including two defeats of Notre Dame in the previous two seasons by a combined score of 107-0.

The showdown was set for November 9 in Yankee Stadium, where 74,121 fans turned out to see a 0-0 tie. Notre Dame advanced to the Army four-yard line in the second quarter for the game's deepest scoring threat, but the Cadets held on downs. Blanchard broke into the clear once and appeared to be headed for a score, but an open-field tackle by Lujack saved the Irish from defeat.

Army retained its top ranking in the Associated Press poll after the game. But the Irish walloped their final three opponents by a combined score of 94-6 and were named national champions in the final poll of the season. When the smoke cleared, the Irish found themselves the nation's statistical leaders in total offense (441.3 yards per game), rushing offense (340.1 yards per game), total defense (141.7 yards per game) and scoring defense (2.7 points per game) and had allowed only Illinois, Purdue, Iowa, and USC to score points against them. For the season, Notre Dame outscored its opponents 271 to 24 in nine games.

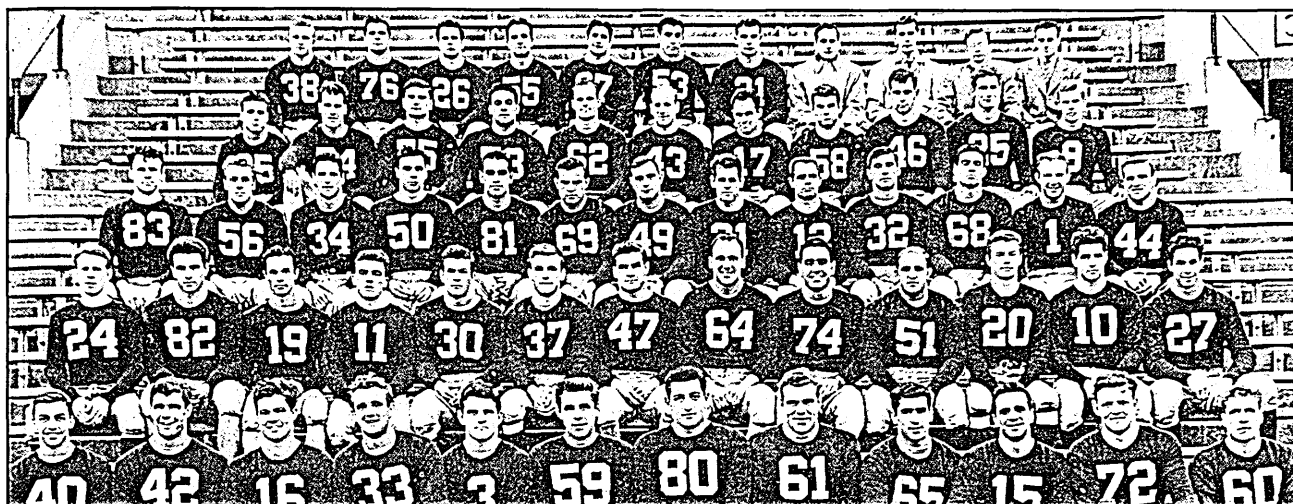
It was only the beginning.

—Willie Shearer

## THE POLL

AP

1. Notre Dame
2. Army
3. Georgia
4. UCLA
5. Illinois
6. Michigan
7. Tennessee
8. LSU
9. North Carolina
10. Rice
11. Georgia Tech
12. Yale
13. Pennsylvania
14. Oklahoma
15. Texas
16. Arkansas
17. Tulsa
18. North Carolina St.
19. Delaware
20. Indiana



### 1946 National Championship Team

**Front Row:** Livingstone, Rovai, Skoglund, Kosikowski, Brown, Zmijewski, Cifelli, Russell, Mello, Agnone, Fischer, Strohmeyer. **Second Row:** Coutre, Hart, McGee, J. Brennan, Gompers, T. Brennan, McBride, Urban, Signaigo, Scott, Smith, Heywood, Espenan. **Third Row:** Wightkin, Zilly, Limont, Walsh, Connor, Clatt, Meter, McGurk, Ashbaugh, Lujack, Fallon, Earley, LeCluyse. **Fourth Row:** Zalejski, Sullivan, Mastrangelo, Brutz, Simmons, Potter, Tobin, Wendell, Walsh, O'Connor, Ratterman. **Back Row:** Martin, Czarowski, McGehee, Swistowicz, Panelli, Cowhig, Statuto, Boss, Flaherty, Earls, Kelly.

## THE LINEUP

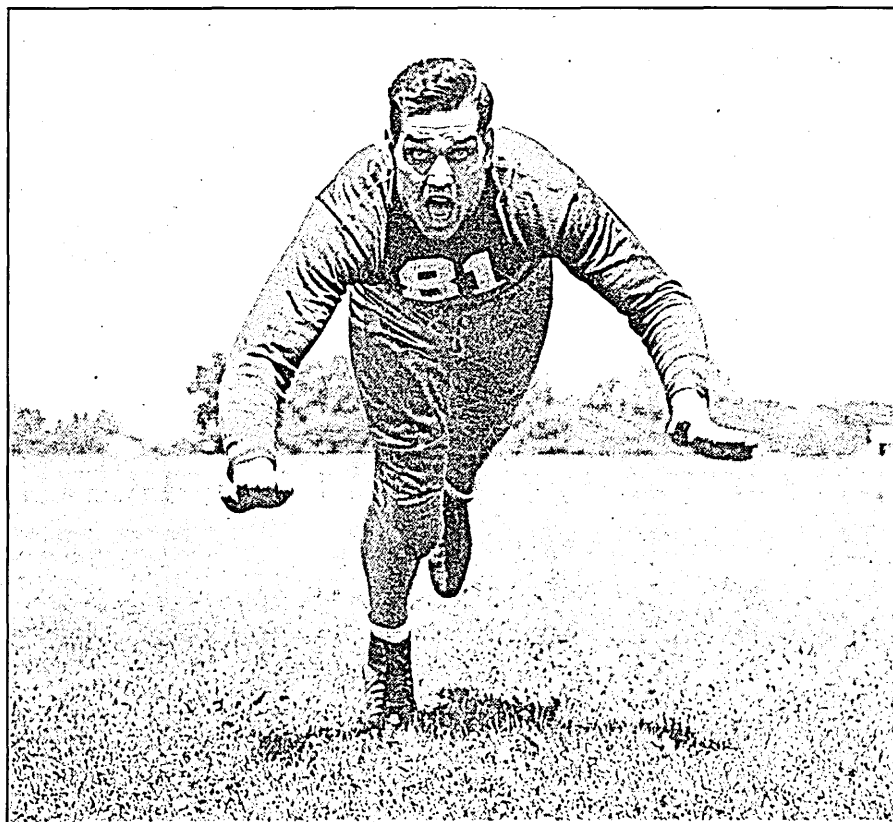
### Offense

LE—\*Jim Martin, 6-2, 205; \*Bob Skoglund, 6-1, 198; Bill (Zeke) O'Connor, 6-4, 215; Ray Espenan, 6-2, 190  
 LT—\*George Connor, 6-3, 225, \*Gasper Urban, 6-0, 210; \*Bill Russell, 6-4, 220; Gus Cefelli, 6-4, 225  
 LG—\*Bill Fischer, 6-2, 230; \*Joe Signaigo, 6-0, 200; Tom Potter, 5-10, 195; George Tobin, 5-10, 195  
 C—\*George Strohmeyer, 5-9, 195 (Offense); \*Bill Walsh, 6-3, 210 (Defense); \*Marty Wendell, 5-11, 200  
 RG—\*John Mastrangelo, 6-1, 210; \*Fred Rovai, 6-0, 200; \*Bob McBride, 6-0, 205; \*Bernie (Bud) Meter, 5-11, 190  
 RT—\*Zygmunt (Ziggy) Czarowski, 6-0, 213; \*George Sullivan, 6-3, 210; \*Jack Fallon, 6-0, 210; \*Ralph McGehee, 6-1, 210  
 RE—\*Jack Zilly, 6-2, 200; \*Leon Hart, 6-4, 225; \*Frank Kosikowski, 6-0, 205; \*Paul Limont, 6-2, 200  
 QB—\*Johnny Lujack, 6-0, 180; \*George Ratterman, 6-0, 165; \*Frank Tripucka, 6-1, 180  
 LH—\*Terry Brennan, 6-0, 175; \*Gerry Cowhig, 6-3, 211; \*Bob Livingstone, 6-0, 175; \*Coy McGee, 5-9, 160; \*Ernie Zalejski, 5-11, 180  
 RH—\*Emil Sitko, 5-8, 180; \*Mike Swistowicz, 5-11, 190; \*Bill Gompers, 6-1, 175; \*Floyd Simmons, 6-0, 195  
 FB—\*Jim Mello, 5-11, 185; \*Corwin (Cornie) Clatt, 6-0, 200; \*John Panelli, 5-11, 190  
 SPECIALISTS: K—\*Fred Earley, 5-7, 165; DB—\*Russell (Pete) Ashbaugh, 5-9, 175

### Reserves

E—Bob Walsh, Bill Wightkin; T—Al Zmijewski; G—Marty Brutz, Bill (Bucky) O'Connor, Vince Scott; C—Austin McNichols, Art Statuto, Willard Vangen; QB—Roger Brown,

Bill Heywood; HB—Jim Brennan, Larry Coutre, John Creevey, Emil Slovak, Lancaster (Lank) Smith; FB—John Agnone, Len LeCluyse, Jim McCurk



George Connor was part of a solid Irish front line.



# 1947 9-0-0

In any discussion of college football's greatest teams, one team that always comes to mind is the 1947 Notre Dame squad. The Irish never trailed in any game that year and compiled a 9-0 record, their first unblemished record in 17 years.

Notre Dame held its opponents to under six points a game while averaging over 32 points. Only one team — Northwestern — scored more than one touchdown against the Irish that year. But maybe the most impressive note about the squad is that it sent 42 players to professional football.

The mainstays on that team included consensus all-Americans George Connor, Bill Fischer and John Lujack, who won the Heisman Trophy that year. The team also included future Heisman winner Leon Hart and the man who later succeeded Leahy as head coach of the Irish, Terry Brennan.

The Irish began the season with six turnovers against Pittsburgh, but Lujack scored three times to lead Notre Dame to an easy 40-6 win. Leahy's squad stumbled a little bit in the next game, too, but came out ahead of Purdue, 22-7.

Notre Dame then exploded for three consecutive shutouts over Nebraska (31-0), Iowa (21-0) and Navy (27-0). The win over the Cornhuskers avenged a 17-0 loss that Knute Rockne's 1925 squad suffered to Nebraska, the last time the two schools had met.

Following three impressive shutouts, the Irish faced Army, a team that had become such a fierce rival in previous years that the series was discontinued for 10 years after the 1947 game. The two teams battled to a 0-0 tie in 1946 in one of the most famous games in Notre Dame history.

Notre Dame entered the game as the top-ranked team in the country while Army was rated eighth. The

## THE SEASON

Coach: Frank Leahy

Captain: George Connor

Oct. 4	W	Pittsburgh	40-6	A	64,333
Oct. 11	W	Purdue	22-7	A	42,000
Oct. 18	W	Nebraska	31-0	H	56,000
Oct. 25	W	Iowa	21-0	H	56,000
Nov. 1	W	Navy	27-0	N	84,070
Nov. 8	W	Army	27-7	H	59,171
Nov. 15	W	Northwestern	26-19	A	48,000
Nov. 22	W	Tulane	59-6	H	57,000
Dec. 6	W	USC	38-7	A	104,953
					<hr/>
					291-52
					571,527

N—at Cleveland

Irish struck first when Brennan broke loose for a 97-yard kickoff return. Notre Dame built a 20-0 lead before Army finally scored. The Irish won 27-7 before a record crowd of 59,171 at Notre Dame Stadium.

The next week was the only close game of the year. Northwestern became the only team in 1947 to come within two touchdowns of the Irish as Notre Dame won 26-19.

The Irish ended the season with a 59-6 thrashing of Tulane and an impressive 38-7 win over third-ranked Southern California. When the final national polls came out, Notre Dame was No. 1 for the second straight year.

Just how good was this '47 team? Well, consider that several of the first string players that year (such as Brennan) didn't even try out for professional football but opted to coach instead.

The great '47 squad also included six players who were elected into the National Football Foundation Hall of Fame — Lujack, Connor, Hart, Fischer, Sitko and Ziggy Czarowski. And to top that off, their coach, Frank Leahy, wound up the second winningest coach in college history just behind his mentor, Knute Rockne.

The *Boston Herald* called the '47 Irish team, "the greatest Notre Dame squad of all time. Its third string could whip most varsities."

The immortal sportswriter Grantland Rice added after the final game of the season, "There no longer is any doubt as to the best team in college football, it happens to be Notre Dame. College football never before has known a team so big, so fast and so experienced."

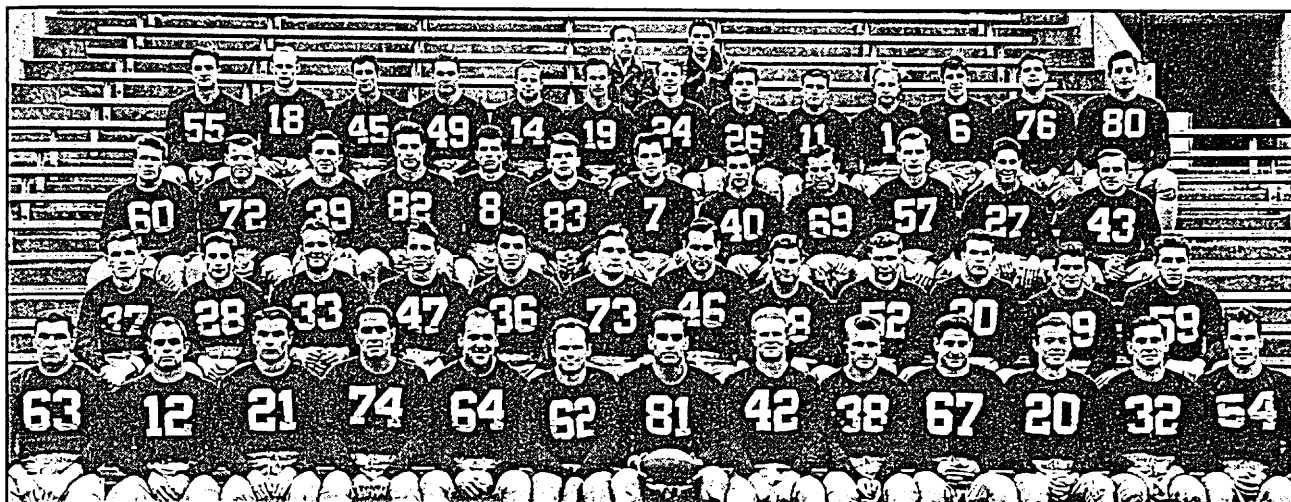
His words may still hold true today.

—Willie Shearer

## THE POLL

AP

1. Notre Dame
2. Michigan
3. SMU
4. Penn St.
5. Texas
6. Alabama
7. Pennsylvania
8. USC
9. North Carolina
10. Georgia Tech
11. Army
12. Kansas
13. Mississippi
14. William & Mary
15. California
16. Oklahoma
17. N. Carolina St.
18. Rice
19. Duke
20. Columbia



### 1947 National Championship Team

**Front Row:** Budynkiewicz, Ashbaugh, Statuto, Signaigo, Urban, Simmons, Connor, Waybright, Martin, Panelli, Smith, Lujack, Sullivan. **Second Row:** T. Brennan, Spaniel, Kosikowski, Helwig, Frampton, Gaul, Walsh, Wendell, Grothaus, Gompers, Dailer, Zmijewski. **Third Row:** Strohmeyer, Fischer, Oracko, Hart, Tripucka, Wightkin, Begley, Livingstone, Clatt, Lally, Espenan, LeCluyse. **Fourth Row:** Swistowicz, Johnson, Michaels, Hudak, Stiko, McGee, Coutre, McGehee, J. Brennan, Earley, Skall, Czarobski, Cifelli. **Back Row:** Castello, Ryan.

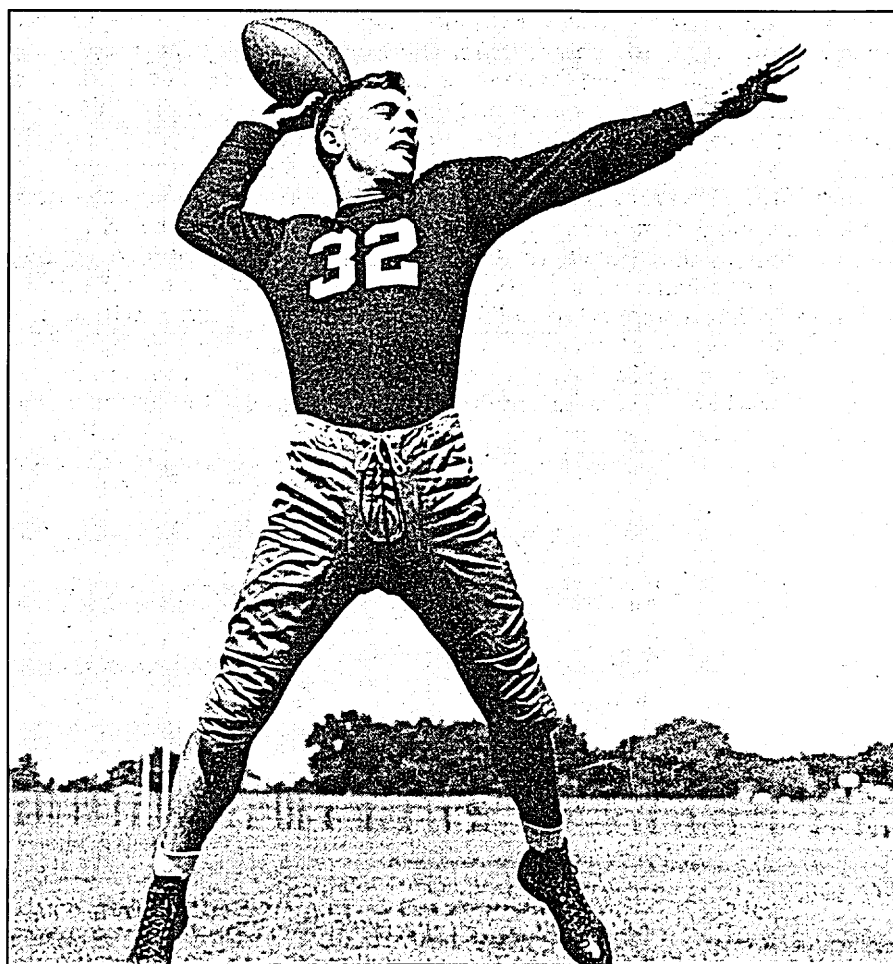
### THE LINEUP

#### Offense

LE—\*Jim Martin, 6-2, 205; \*Doug Waybright, 6-0, 180; \*Ray Espenan, 6-2, 189; \*Bill Leonard, 6-2, 190  
 LT—\*George Connor, 6-3, 220 (Captain); \*Gasper Urban, 6-2, 200; \*Ralph McGehee, 6-1, 211; \*Gus Cifelli, 6-4, 225  
 LG—\*Bill Fischer, 6-2, 230; \*Bob Lally, 6-0, 185; \*John Frampton, 5-11, 180; \*Steve Oracko, 6-0, 190  
 C—\*Bill Walsh, 6-3, 205; \*George Strohmeyer, 5-9, 195; \*Walt Grothaus, 6-2, 197  
 RG—\*Marty Wendell, 5-11, 198; \*Joe Signaigo, 6-0, 205; \*Bill (Bucky) O'Connor, 5-11, 196; Frank Gaul, 5-10, 200  
 RT—Zygmunt (Ziggy) Czarobski, 6-0, 213; \*George Sullivan, 6-3, 206; \*Ted Budynkiewicz, 6-0, 205  
 RE—\*Leon Hart, 6-4, 216; \*Bill Wightkin, 6-2, 200; Frank Kosikowski, 6-0, 202  
 QB—\*Johnny Lujack, 6-0, 180; \*Frank Tripucka, 6-1, 175; Roger Brown, 5-11, 180  
 LH—\*Terry Brennan, 6-0, 173; \*Bob Livingstone, 6-0, 168; \*Larry Coutre, 5-9, 170; \*Coy McGee, 5-9, 155; \*Bill Gay, 5-11, 170  
 RH—\*Emil Sitko, 5-8, 175; \*Mike Swistowicz, 5-11, 185; \*Bill Gompers, 6-1, 175; Frank Spaniel, 5-10, 180; Jim Brennan, 5-8, 160  
 FB—\*John Panelli, 5-11, 190; \*Floyd Simmons, 6-0, 195; \*Corwin (Cornie) Clatt, 6-0, 200; Len LeCluyse, 5-11, 188  
 SPECIALISTS: K—\*Fred Earley, 5-7, 170; DB—\*Russell (Pete) Ashbaugh, 5-9, 175; \*Lancaster (Lank) Smith, 5-11, 160

#### Reserves

E—Frank (Rodney) Johnson, Bill Michaels; T—Emil Ciechanowicz, Ed Hudak, Al Zmijewski, G—Jim Dailer; C—Don Carter, Jack Jeffers, Art Statuto; QB—Gerry Begley, Russell Skall



Quarterback John Lujack helped the Irish to the national title and won the 1947 Heisman Trophy.

# 1949 10-0-0

**N**ovember 15, 1945 ranks as one of the most important dates in Notre Dame football history. Check the record books, though, and you won't find one of the greatest games in Irish history played on that day.

November 15, 1945, was a Thursday, not a Saturday, and that was the day Lieutenant Frank Leahy was discharged from the Navy. He returned to the Notre Dame campus, signed a 10-year contract, and began what was to be one of the most successful four-year runs in college football history.

The 1946 and 1947 seasons brought national championships to Notre Dame. The 9-0-1 1948 team was runner-up to Michigan. But a national championship in 1949 would allow Notre Dame to close out the decade in magnificent style.

And that is exactly what happened. Notre Dame went 10-0 which made for a four-year mark of 36-0-2. End Leon Hart won the Heisman Trophy and Leahy had his fourth championship and the school's seventh.

Before the season, however, nobody expected a championship team to emerge from the South Bend campus. The Irish needed somebody to emerge as a leader and attention was focused on Leon Hart, already recognized as the finest end in the college game, along with Emil Sitko, Larry Coutre and co-captain Jim Martin. But most observers agreed that the Fighting Irish would need more than that.

Soon enough, they got it. In the sixth game of the season, against Michigan State on November 5, quarterback Bob Williams stepped to the fore. He led the top-ranked Irish to a 34-21 victory over the 10th-ranked Spartans in a game at East Lansing that the press thought would knock Notre Dame from its lofty perch atop collegiate football.

## THE POLL

AP

1. Notre Dame
2. Oklahoma
3. California
4. Army
5. Rice
6. Ohio State
7. Michigan
8. Minnesota
9. LSU
10. Pacific
11. Kentucky
12. Cornell
13. Villanova
14. Maryland
15. Santa Clara
16. North Carolina
17. Tennessee
18. Princeton
19. Michigan State
20. Missouri

Baylor

## THE SEASON

Coach: Frank Leahy

Co-Captains: Leon Hart and Jim Martin

Sept. 24	W	Indiana	49-6	H	53,844
Oct. 1	W	Washington	27-7	A	41,500
Oct. 8	W	Purdue	35-12	A	52,000
Oct. 15	W	Tulane	46-7	H	58,196
Oct. 29	W	Navy	40-0	N	62,000
Nov. 5	W	Michigan State	34-21	A	51,277
Nov. 12	W	North Carolina	42-6	YS	67,000
Nov. 19	W	Iowa	28-7	H	56,790
Nov. 26	W	USC	32-0	H	57,214
Dec. 3	W	SMU	27-20	A	75,457
				360-86	575,278

N—at Baltimore

Williams continued to shine in subsequent games. He was at his daring best the following week in a game versus North Carolina played at Yankee Stadium. Leahy had given Williams instructions that he was never to pass the football on the fourth down situation on their own 19-yard line with the score tied 6-6 in the second quarter. He couldn't help himself. Knowing that if he failed he'd have to head for the nearest exit to avoid Leahy, the self-assured Williams completed an 18-yard pass to Larry Coutre for an Irish first down. Notre Dame went on to a 42-6 win, and Williams soon became recognized as the nation's best quarterback.

The Irish eased through their final two home games, rolling over Iowa, 28-7, and 17th-ranked Southern Cal, 32-0. All that remained was what was sure to be an easy win over Southern Methodist in Dallas. SMU would be without its top player, 1948 Heisman winner Doak Walker, and the nation had virtually conceded the national championship to Notre Dame.

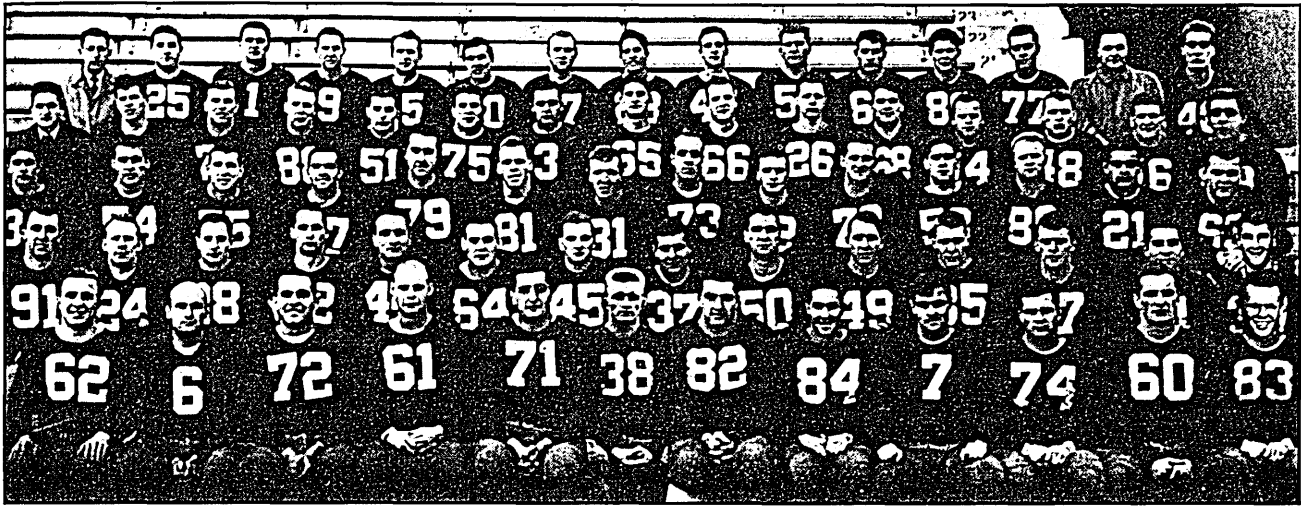
Notre Dame jumped to an early lead before Mustang running back Kyle Rote came to life in the steady afternoon drizzle. Running at will, he scored two quick touchdowns and thanks to a missed extra point by SMU, the score was tied at 20 with seven minutes to go.

Notre Dame's back was to the wall for the first time all season, and the offense rose to the occasion. In blitzkrieg fashion, the Irish simply pushed SMU straight back into its own endzone with 10 determined rushes that covered 54 yards and put Notre Dame up by a touchdown, 27-20.

The drive was so quick, however, that SMU still had time to score. But in the shadow of the Notre Dame goal post, when Rote tried to pass for the tying touchdown, Notre Dame's Jerry Groom made a game-saving interception.

It was the final play of the game and of a decade that saw Frank Leahy lead the Fighting Irish to three national championships in four years.

— Willie Shearer



### 1949 National Championship Team

**Front Row:** Oracko, Dickson, Hudak, Johnson, Cifelli, Martin, Hart, Espena, Begley, McGehee, Lally, Wightkin. **Second Row:** Kramer, Coutre, Spaniel, Gay, Swistowicz, Burns, Huml, Barrett, Groom, Helwig, Mutscheller, Ostrowski, Caprara, Landry. **Third Row:** Kiouis, Bartlett, Hamby, Johnston, Huber, Flynn, O'Neil, Nusskern, Zalejskim, Mahoney, Knapik, Waybright, Connor, Wallner. **Fourth Row:** Funari, Smith, Zancha, Dolmetsch, Boji, Toneff, Whiteside, Modak, Perry, Bush, Higgins, Sitko, Cotter, Dailer, Zmijewski. **Back Row:** Lueck, O'Hara, Mazur, Williams, Smith, Kapish, Hovey, Petitbon, Gander, Grothaus, Zambroski, Koch, Daut, Finnegan, McKillip.

### LINEUP

#### Offense

LE—\*Bill Wightkin, 6-2, 198; \*Jim Mutscheller, 6-1, 194; \*Doug Waybright, 6-1, 186  
LT—\*Jim Martin, 6-2, 204 (Co-Captain); \*Al Zmijewski, 6-1, 200; John Zancha, 5-10, 195  
LG—\*Frank (Rodney) Johnson, 6-0, 190; \*Paul Burns, 6-2, 210; Art Perry, 5-11, 198  
C—\*Walt Grothaus, 6-2, 192; \*Jim Hamby, 6-1, 195  
RG—\*Bob Lally, 6-0, 185; \*Fred Wallner, 6-2, 203; Bill Higgins, 5-11, 180; Frank Johnston, 5-8, 184  
RT—\*Ralph McGehee, 6-1, 202; \*Gus Cifelli, 6-4, 222  
RE—\*Leon Hart, 6-4, 245 (Co-Captain); \*Ray Espenan, 6-2, 188; \*Chet Ostrowski, 6-1, 196  
QB—\*Bob Williams, 6-1, 180; \*John Mazur, 6-1, 188; Bill Whiteside, 5-10, 172  
LH—\*Frank Spaniel, 5-10, 184; \*Ernie Zalejski, 5-11, 185; \*Bill Gay, 5-11, 170; Leo McKillip, 5-10, 175  
RH—\*Larry Coutre, 5-9, 170; \*Billy Barrett, 5-8, 180; \*Dick Cotter, 6-1, 178  
FB—\*Emil Sitko, 5-8, 180; \*Jack Landry, 6-1, 180; \*Del Gander, 6-1, 190

#### Defense

LE—\*Jim Martin, 6-2, 204; \*Bill Wightkin, 6-2, 198; \*Jim Mutscheller, 6-1, 194; \*Bill Flynn, 6-2, 197  
LT—\*Ralph McGehee, 6-1, 202; \*Ed Hudak, 6-2, 200  
MG—\*Paul Burns, 6-2, 210; \*Bryon Boji, 5-11, 186  
RT—\*Bob Toneff, 6-1, 232; \*Al Zmijewski, 6-1, 200

RE—\*Leon Hart, 6-4, 245; \*Ray Espenan, 6-2, 188; Chet Ostrowski, 6-1, 196  
LLB—\*John Helwig, 6-2, 190; \*Steve Oracko, 6-0, 185  
MLB—\*Jerry Groom, 6-3, 210; \*Jim Bartlett, 6-3, 195  
RLB—\*Fred Wallner, 6-2, 203; \*Bob Lally, 6-0, 185  
LH—\*Bill Gay, 5-11, 170  
RH—\*Mike Swistowicz, 5-11, 195

S—\*John Petibon, 5-11, 185; \*Gerry Begley, 6-1, 175

#### Reserves

E—John Connor, Ray Jonardi, Bob Kapish, Dave Koch; T—John Daut, Jim Mahoney, John Nusskern; G—Fred Banicki, Marty Kiouis, Dan Modak, Tony Zambroski; C—Chuck Feigel; QB—Tom Carter, George Dickson; HB—\*Jack Bush, Gene Smith; FB—Joe Caprara



Co-captains Leon Hart (left) and Jim Martin prepare for the first hurdle of the 1949 season, Indiana.

# 1966 9-0-1

Coach Ara Parseghian, in his third season at Notre Dame, made a difficult decision at the start of the '66 season, picking sophomore Terry Hanratty as his starting quarterback over classmate Coley O'Brien, yet the decision proved without a doubt to be the correct one. Hanratty and split end Jim Seymour, also a sophomore, turned out to be one of the best passing combinations Notre Dame fans had ever seen.

The two had begun working together during the previous winter, developing their timing, moves and patterns so they would know each other's habits inside and out when the 1966 season began. Seymour was a good bet to take over one of the end positions that was being vacated after the '65 season, but Hanratty had no such assurances of whether or not he would be the number-one quarterback.

Fortunately for Hanratty, Parseghian decided to balance an already solid running game, manned by Nick Eddy, Larry Conjar and Rocky Bleier, with the passing talent of Hanratty.

The decision bore fruit in the first game of the season, as Hanratty and Seymour hooked up 13 times for 276 yards, Notre Dame records for receptions and yards, and three touchdowns, which tied a school record. The Irish defeated Rose Bowl-bound Purdue that day, 26-14 in South Bend, and it was off to the races for the Irish.

Notre Dame traveled to Northwestern for the second game of the season and won, 35-7. The Irish defense gave up its last points for the next three games and showed the kind of stiffness that ensured Notre Dame would never be out of any contest. Notre Dame returned home for the next two games and defeated Army and North Carolina by a combined score of 67-0,

## THE POLLS

### AP

1. Notre Dame
2. Michigan State
3. Alabama
4. Georgia
5. UCLA
6. Nebraska
7. Purdue
8. Georgia Tech
9. Miami (Fla.)
10. SMU

Only top 10 ranked

### UPI

1. Notre Dame
2. Michigan State
3. Alabama
4. Georgia
5. UCLA
6. Purdue
7. Nebraska
8. Georgia Tech
9. SMU
10. Miami (Fla.)
11. Florida
12. Mississippi
13. Arkansas
14. Tennessee
15. Wyoming
16. Syracuse
17. Houston
18. USC
19. Oregon State
20. Virginia Tech

## THE SEASON

Coach: Ara Parseghian  
Captain: Jim Lynch

Sept. 24	W	Purdue	26-14	H	59,075
Oct. 1	W	Northwestern	35-7	A	55,356
Oct. 8	W	Army	35-0	H	59,075
Oct. 15	W	North Carolina	32-0	H	59,075
Oct. 22	W	Oklahoma	38-0	A	63,439
Oct. 29	W	Navy	31-7	N	70,101
Nov. 5	W	Pittsburgh	40-0	H	59,075
Nov. 12	W	Duke	64-0	H	59,075
Nov. 19	T	Michigan State	10-10	A	80,011
Nov. 26	W	USC	51-0	A	88,520
					362-38
N—at Philadelphia					652,802

setting the stage for a showdown with Oklahoma.

Notre Dame traveled to Norman for what was supposed to be anybody's ballgame. The game was billed as a matchup between the small, quick, strong Sooners and the big, slow Irish. But Oklahoma was out of its depth that day. Although the Irish lost Seymour to an ankle injury that would cost him two games, the Fighting Irish rolled to a 38-0 victory and their third straight shutout of the young season.

Notre Dame pounded its next three opponents — Navy, Pittsburgh and Duke, giving up only one score, a touchdown to Navy. Meanwhile, the offense was hitting on all cylinders, racking up 31 points versus the Midshipmen, 40 against Pitt and a whopping 64 against the Blue Devils.

The game of the century in 1966 took place on November 19 when number-one ranked Notre Dame traveled to East Lansing, Mich., to play second-ranked Michigan State for all the marbles.

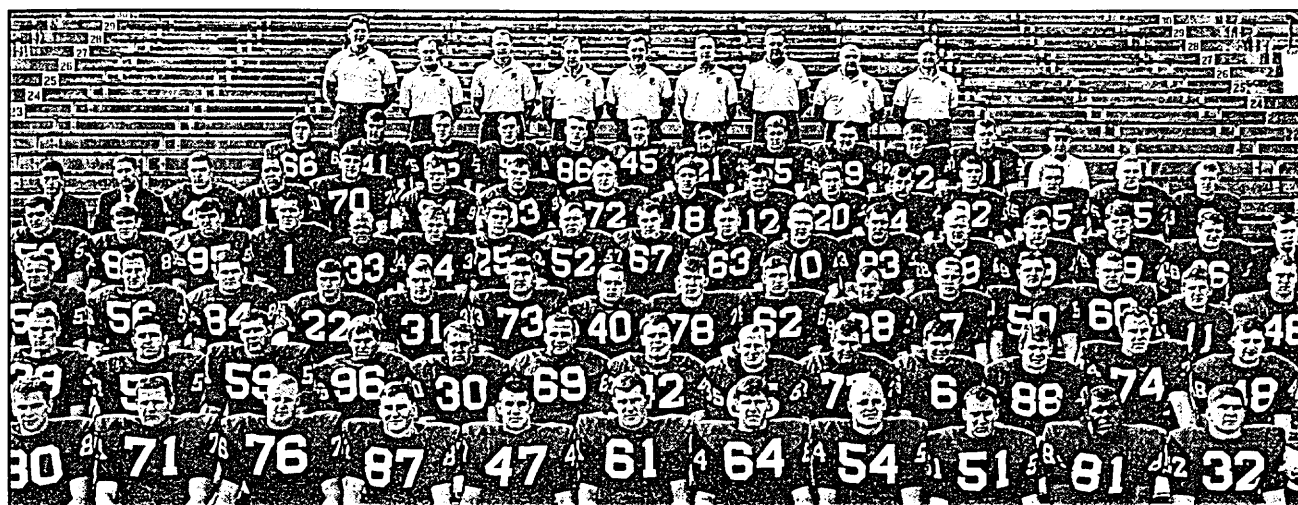
Notre Dame fell behind 10-0 in the second quarter, but O'Brien, who had been diagnosed with diabetes only a few weeks earlier and was still adjusting, brought the Irish back to tie in the second half. The Spartan offense was unable to net a single yard running the ball in the second half, and when Notre Dame intercepted a pass and returned it to the Spartan 18-yard line in the fourth quarter, it looked like Notre Dame's chance to win. But three plays and minus-six yards later left the Irish with a 41-yard field goal attempt, which sailed wide to the right.

Notre Dame had the ball again on its own 30 with 1:24 left in the game. But rather than gamble with passes so deep in their own territory, the Irish attempted to run the ball out of danger. The game ended in a 10-10 tie.

The Irish held on to their top ranking and traveled to Los Angeles to play Rose Bowl-bound USC. The Irish tore the Trojans apart, 51-0, posting the team's sixth shutout in 10 games and ensuring another unanimous number-one selection for the national championship.

—Willie Shearer





### 1966 National Championship Team

**Front Row:** Gmitter, Seiler, Regner, Rhoads, Eddy, Lynch, Duranko, Goeddeke, Horney, Page, Conjar. **Second Row:** Hagerty, Gorman, Swatland, Collins, Kelly, Marsico, Schiralli, Jeziorski, Alexander, O'Malley, Sack, Hardy, Zurowski. **Third Row:** Kelly, Martin, Heaton, Haley, May, Konieczny, O'Leary, Kuzmiez, Quinn, Bleier, Schoen, Pergine, McGill, Ryan, Wengierski. **Fourth Row:** Lium, VanHuffel, Fournier, Rassas, Burgener, Harshman, Smithberger, Grable, Dickman, Freebery, Earley, Zubek, Fox, Quinn, Bars, Bartholomew, Sullivan. **Fifth Row:** Kramer, Moran, Holtzapfel, Landolfi, Schnurr, Skoglund, Lauck, Norri, Slettvet, Reynolds, Gladieux, Franger, Snow, Vuillemin, Kuechenberg, O'Brien. **Sixth Row:** Schrage, Lavin, Seymour, Hanratty, Heneghan, Leahy, Criniti, Monty, McKinley, Kunz, Stenger, Paszkiet. **Back Row:** Coaches Boulac, Sefick, Wampfler, Pagna, Parseghian, Shoults, Ray, Yonta, Moore.

## THE LINEUP

### Offense

LE—\*Jim Seymour, 6-4, 205; \*Brian Stenger, 6-4, 210; Kevin Rassas, 6-1, 190; Curt Heneghan, 6-3, 190  
 LT—\*Paul Seiler, 6-4, 235; Fred Schnurr, 6-3, 245  
 LG—\*Tom Regner, 6-1, 245; \*Tom McKinley, 6-1, 218; Tim Gorman, 5-11, 220; Joe Marsico, 6-0, 220  
 C—\*George Goeddeke, 6-3, 228; \*Tim Monty, 6-0, 198; \*Gerald Kelly, 6-1, 205 (Specialty teams)  
 RG—\*Dick Swatland, 6-2, 225; \*Roger Fox, 5-11, 230; Steve Quinn, 6-1, 215  
 RT—\*Bob Kuechenberg, 6-2, 225; Rudy Konieczny, 6-0, 230; \*\*George Kunz, 6-5, 228  
 RE—\*Don Gmitter, 6-2, 210; Mike Kuzmiez, 6-4, 235; Jim Winegardner, 6-4, 225  
 QB—\*Terry Hanratty, 6-1, 190; \*Coley O'Brien, 5-11, 173  
 LH—\*Nick Eddy, 6-0, 195; \*Bob Gladieux, 5-11, 185  
 RH—\*Bob (Rocky) Bleier, 5-11, 185; Frank Criniti, 5-8, 173; Dave Haley, 5-11, 190  
 FB—\*Larry Conjar, 6-0, 212; \*Paul May, 5-10, 205; Ron Dushney, 5-10, 195  
 \*\*Starting RT, injured in second game and sidelined for the year.

### Defense

LE—\*Tom Rhoads, 6-2, 220; \*Allen Sack, 6-3, 205; Bill Skoglund, 6-1, 210  
 LT—\*Pete Duranko, 6-2, 235; \*Harry Alexander, 6-1, 240  
 RT—\*Kevin Hardy, 6-5, 270; Eric Norris, 6-2, 240  
 RE—\*Alan Page, 6-5, 238; Chick Lauck, 6-1, 220  
 OLB—\*Mike McGill, 6-2, 220; John Lavin, 6-4, 200  
 ILB—\*Jim Lynch, 6-1, 225 (Captain); Ron Jeziorski, 5-10, 210  
 ILB—\*John Pergine, 6-0, 210; \*John Horney, 5-11, 205; Ed Vuillemin, 6-1, 205  
 OLB—\*Dave Martin, 6-0, 210; Al Van Huffel, 6-2, 210  
 LH—\*Tom O'Leary, 5-10, 185; Tom Quinn, 6-1, 192  
 RH—\*Jim Smithberger, 6-1, 190; \*Dan Harshman, 6-0, 190 (also played on offense)  
 S—\*Tom Schoen, 5-11, 178; \*Mike Burgener, 5-10, 182  
 \*Starting OLB, injured in sixth game and sidelined for the year. John Pergine became starter at OLB, and John Horney took Pergine's ILB spot.  
 KICKERS—\*Joe Azzaro, 5-11, 190; Jim Ryan, 5-10, 185

### Reserves

#### Offense

E—Mike Earley, Mike Heaton, Paul Snow; T—Ed Tuck, Gerald Wisne; G—Angelo Schiralli; C—John Lium; QB—Bob Belden, Hugh O'Malley; HB—Jim Kelly, Pete Laman-

tia, Tim Wengierski, Dave Zurowski; FB—Bob Hagerty

#### Defense

E—Bob Zubek; LB—Leo Collins, Mike Holtzapfel



Senior halfback Nick Eddy (left), head coach Ara Parseghian and captain Jim Lynch discuss the ensuing season.

# 1973 11-0-0

**E**very college football season seems to have its own game of the century, but the 1973 matchup between Notre Dame and Alabama was special. It came in the Sugar Bowl, and it was to be a dream game.

Two undefeated, highly-ranked teams with long and storied gridiron traditions were set to battle for the national championship.

The prognosticators' predictions rang true as the Fighting Irish emerged 24-23 victors over the Crimson Tide of Alabama in a thriller that saw the lead change hands six times.

Bob Thomas, who had missed two earlier attempts in the game, kicked a 19-yard field goal with 4:26 remaining to give the Irish and coach Ara Parseghian the one-point triumph over top-rated Alabama. The win clinched Notre Dame's sixth wire-service national championship and ninth overall as the Irish finished the season with a perfect 11-0 record.

The balanced Irish attack was keyed by four backs who gained over 300 yards apiece: fullback Wayne Bullock (752), halfback Art Best (700), halfback Eric Penick (586) and quarterback Tom Clements (360). It was one of the fastest backfields Notre Dame had ever assembled, as Penick had 9.5 speed in the 100-yard dash, while Best checked in at 9.7.

The Irish were ranked in the eighth spot with wins over Rice and Army, setting the stage for what everyone considered to be Notre Dame's first real test of the year, a home battle with sixth-ranked USC.

The Trojans came to town riding a 23-game unbeaten streak, and Notre Dame was full of memories of the previous season's clash, which saw running back Anthony Davis romp for six touchdowns in a 55-24 Trojan win.

## THE POLLS

### AP

1. Notre Dame
2. Ohio State
3. Oklahoma
4. Alabama
5. Penn State
6. Michigan
7. Nebraska
8. USC
9. Arizona State
10. Houston
11. Texas Tech
12. UCLA
13. LSU
14. Texas
15. Miami (Ohio)
16. North Carolina St.
17. Missouri
18. Kansas
19. Tennessee
20. Maryland
- Tulane

### UPI

1. Alabama
2. Oklahoma
3. Ohio State
4. Notre Dame
5. Penn State
6. Michigan
7. USC
8. Texas
9. UCLA
10. Arizona State
11. Nebraska
- Texas Tech
13. Houston
14. LSU
15. Kansas
- Tulane
17. Miami (Ohio)
18. Maryland
19. San Diego State
- Florida

## THE SEASON

Coach: Ara Parseghian

Tri-Captains: Dave Casper, Frank Pomarico and Mike Townsend

Sept. 22	W	Northwestern	44-0	H	59,075
Sept. 29	W	Purdue	20-7	A	69,391
Oct. 6	W	Michigan State	14-10	H	59,075
Oct. 13	W	Rice	28-0	A	50,321
Oct. 20	W	Army	62-3	A	42,503
Oct. 27	W	USC	23-14	H	59,075
Nov. 3	W	Navy	44-7	H	59,075
Nov. 10	W	Pittsburgh	31-10	A	56,593
Nov. 22	W	Air Force	48-15	H	57,236
Dec. 1	W	Miami (Fla.)	44-0	A	42,968
				358-66	555,312

### SUGAR BOWL

Dec. 31	W	Alabama	24-23	N1	85,161
N1—at New Orleans					

Squib kicks were the solution to the problem of Davis returning kicks, and a fired up defense held him to just 55 yards on 19 carries. Quite simply, the day belonged to Notre Dame, as Penick ran for 118 yards, 50 more than the entire USC squad. The Irish pulled off a 23-14 win and jumped to fifth in the polls.

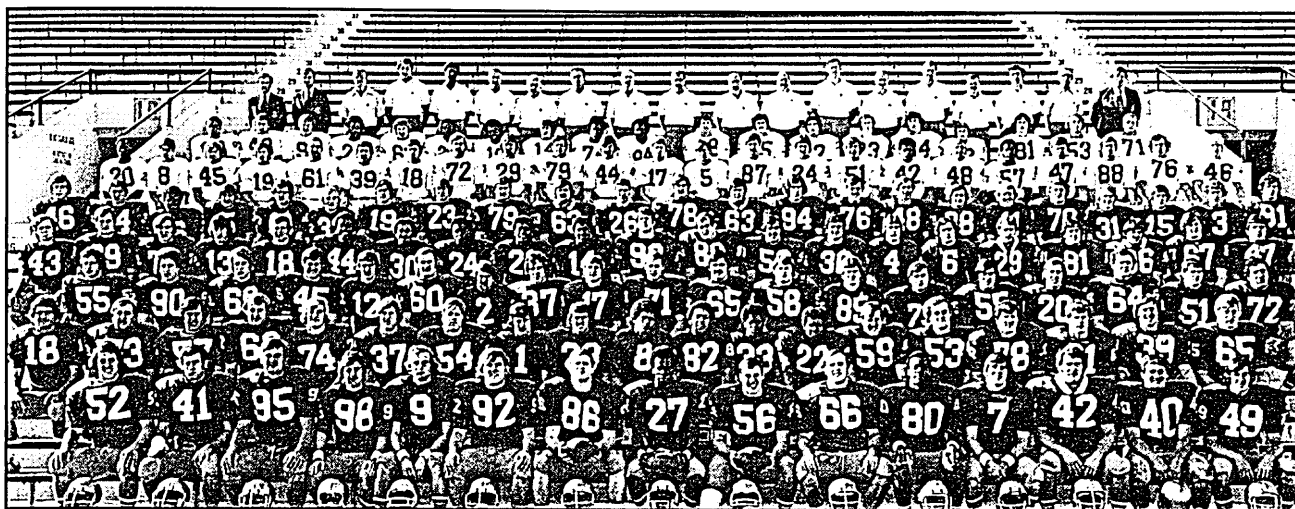
Notre Dame cruised through the remainder of the schedule. Navy was an easy victim, 44-7, and 20th-ranked Pittsburgh played the docile host to the Irish and fell 31-10. The Irish finished off Parseghian's first perfect regular season with a 48-15 win over Air Force and a 44-0 whitewashing of Miami at the Orange Bowl.

The stage was set for the contest between number-one Alabama and third-ranked Notre Dame that seemed to deserve every phrase of its high-powered buildup. The Irish opened the contest with a superb defensive effort that held the Tide without a yard in the first period as Notre Dame took a 6-0 lead. Alabama's thoroughbred backs made it out of the starting gate in the second period, however. They produced three long drives that resulted in a pair of touchdowns, the first of which put the Tide up 7-6.

Early in the fourth quarter, the game took a wild turn with three turnovers in 90 seconds. Alabama took charge and put in its own version of the razzle-dazzle. With the ball on the Notre Dame 25, quarterback Richard Todd handed off to halfback Mike Strock, then raced to the sidelines where he took a return pass from Stock and went in for the score. But Alabama missed the conversion try and the Tide had only a slim two-point lead.

Notre Dame then marched 79 yards in 11 plays. Strong runs by Hunter, Penick and Clements and a 30-yard pass from Clements to Dave Casper carried the drive to the Alabama 15-yard line. The Irish got to the three, but couldn't get any closer before the call went to Thomas. His kick was true, the game belonged to the Irish, and so did the national championship.

—Willie Shearer



### 1973 National Championship Team

**Front Row:** Alvarado, Creevey, Hayduk, Thomas, Doherty, Miskowitz, Casper, Townsend, Pomarico, Morrin, Townsend, Rudnick, Sullivan, Potempa, Naughton. **Second Row:** Gambone, Susko, Wasilevich, Bolger, McBride, Zloch, Lane, Kinealy, Diminick, Brown, Washington, Parker, Hill, Brennehan, Hartman, Lozzi, Webb, Scales, Szatko. **Third Row:** Smith, Quehl, Sweeney, Mahalic, Allocco, Nosbusch, Clements, Miller, Bake, Sylvester, Rohan, Laney, Demmerle, Arment, Bossu, Audino, Neece, O'Donnell, DiNardo. **Fourth Row:** McGuire, Hein, Sawicz, Chauncey, McGreevey, Penick, Bullock, Samuel, Goodman, Barnett, Fine, Fanning, Collins, Parise, Brantley, Horton, Sarb, Wujciak, Galanis, Pohlen, Pszeracki. **Fifth Row:** Brown, Zanot, Payne, Walls, Trosko, Doherty, Best, Achterhoff, Messaros, Lopienski, Rutkowski, Balliet, Andler, Fedorenko, Stock, Novakov, Slager, Niehaus, Maschmeier, Kornman, McDonald, Weber. **Sixth Row:** Bradley, Moriarty, Eastman, Ostrander, Sharkey, Zappala, Rufo, Pattyn, Bonder, Gullickson, Gleckler, Soutner, Bobowski, Kafka, Banks, Humbert, Russell, Likovich, Moore, Lloyd, Buth, Rodenkirk, Malinak. **Seventh Row:** Browner, Harchar, Katenkamp, Knott, Ewald, Hunter, Henry, Unis, Smith, Fry, Sahm, Weiler, Allocco, Leary, Dubenetsky, Simon, Kelleher, Kless, Buck. **Back Row:** Sweeney, Flanagan, O'Neil, Creaney, Blache, Murphy, Yonto, Kelly, Shoults, Parseghian, Pagna, Moore, Boulac, Stock, Murphy, Hickey, DiNardo, Paszkiet, Bockrath.

## THE LINEUP

### Offense

SE—\*Pete Demmerle, 6-1, 196; \*Willie Townsend, 6-3, 196; Tim Simon, 5-10, 165  
LT—\*Steve Neece, 6-3, 245; \*Steve Quehl, 6-4, 238  
LG—\*Frank Pomarico, 6-1, 250 (Tri-Captain); \*Tom Bolger, 6-2, 239; \*Dan Morrin, 6-3, 240  
C—\*Mark Brennehan, 6-4, 240; \*Joe Alvarado, 6-1, 239; Vince Kless, 6-4, 220  
RG—\*Gerry DeNardo, 6-1, 242; \*Elton Moore, 6-2, 220; Al Wujciak, 6-2, 230  
RT—\*Steve Sylvester, 6-4, 248; \*Dennis Lozzi, 6-3, 257; Tom Laney, 6-2, 248  
TE—\*Dave Casper, 6-3, 252 (Tri-Captain); \*Robin Weber, 6-5, 247; Tom Fine, 6-5, 250  
QB—\*Tom Clements, 6-0, 189; \*Cliff Brown, 6-0, 205; \*Frank Allocco, 6-1, 178  
LH—\*Art Best, 6-1, 200; \*Ron Goodman, 5-11, 192; \*Gary Diminick, 5-9, 176  
RH—\*Eric Penick, 6-1, 195; \*Al Hunter, 6-0, 195; \*Al Samuel, 6-1, 178  
FB—\*Wayne Bullock, 6-1, 223; \*Russ Kornman, 6-0, 205; \*Tom Parise, 6-0, 208

### Defense

LE—\*Ross Browner, 6-3, 223; \*Tom Creevey, 6-3, 205  
LT—\*Steve Niehaus, 6-5, 270; \*Kevin Nosbusch, 6-4, 265; Jay Achterhoff, 6-4, 245  
RT—\*Mike Fanning, 6-6, 270; \*George Hayduk, 6-3, 255

RE—\*Jim Stock, 6-3, 225; \*Willie Fry, 6-4, 225  
OLB—\*Greg Collins, 6-3, 228; \*Mike Webb, 6-2, 237  
MLB—\*Gary Potempa, 6-0, 234; \*Tony Novakov, 5-11, 205  
OLB—\*Drew Mahalic, 6-4, 220; \*Sherm Smith, 6-2, 210; \*Tim Sullivan, 6-3, 227  
LCB—\*Reggie Barnett, 5-11, 188; \*Tom Lopienski, 6-1, 182  
RCB—\*Tim Rudnick, 5-10, 187; \*Pat Sarb, 6-0, 184; \*Mike Naughton, 6-3, 195  
SS—\*Luther Bradley, 6-3, 190; Mike Parker, 5-11, 175  
FS—\*Mike Townsend, 6-3, 183 (Tri-Captain); \*Bob Zanot, 6-0, 183  
\*Injured in fourth game and sidelined for the year.  
FG & PAT—\*Bob Thomas, 5-10, 178;  
PUNTERS—\*Brian Doherty, 6-2, 192; Tony Brantley, 6-0, 203

### Reserves

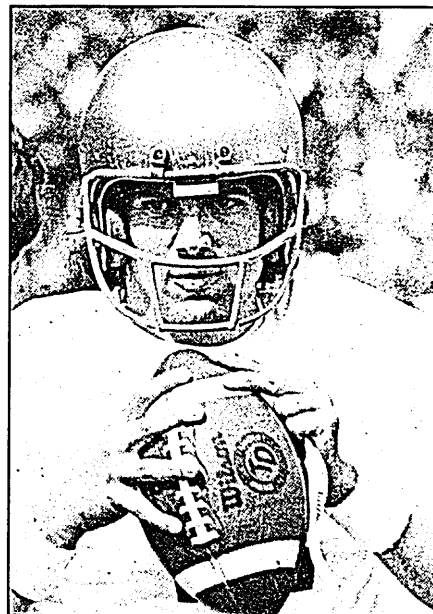
#### Offense

E—Kevin Doherty, Bob Washington; T—Mike McBride, Pat Pohlen, Bob Sweeney, Max Wasilevich; G—Cal Balliet, Paul Sawicz; C—Pete Hartman, Andy Rohan; HB—Dan Knott, Greg Hill, Jim Weiler; FB—John Gambone

#### Defense

E—Jeff Hein; T—Ivan Brown, Lew Misko-

witz, Larry Susko, Greg Szatko; LB—John Harchar, Joe Pszeracki, Marv Russell, Ed Scales, Gene Smith; B—Mike Banks, Kevin Kinealy, Tony Zappala, Jim Zloch



Quarterback Tom Clements threw for 169 yards in the Irish 24-23 Sugar Bowl win over Alabama.

# 1977 11-1-0

**W**ho could forget the cover of *Sports Illustrated* the week after Notre Dame had defeated Texas 38-10 in the 1978 Cotton Bowl? A fierce Terry Eurick was pictured fighting through a hole in the offensive line, the caption reading, "The Irish Wake the Echoes." On the inside, "Shakin' Down the Thunder" was the title of an article about how Notre Dame's victory over the previously-unbeaten Longhorns was enough to vault the Irish from fifth to first in the wire-service polls and give the University its seventh wire service national championship and 10th overall.

The theme for that January 2 in Dallas could have been "and then there were none." For there was not one unbeaten team remaining after the Irish had knocked Texas from its No. 1 ranking.

Third-year Irish coach Dan Devine made sure his charges were ready to take care of America's last undefeated team. An unrelenting defense was the reason why. The defense featured 1976 Outland Trophy winner Ross Browner at one end and Willie Fry at the other, supported by a tough, mobile group of linebackers headed by all-America, Bob Golic. The Irish forced six Texas turnovers in the Cotton Bowl, and an opportunistic offense capitalized on five of them. In addition, Notre Dame's devastating strength in the trenches roped up Texas' Heisman Trophy winner Earl Campbell. He managed a tough 116 yards on 29 carries.

Notre Dame's defensive strength came as no surprise in 1977, and it was the primary reason the Irish were near the top of the polls in the pre-season rankings. But it was an unexpected boost from the offense that gave Notre Dame the national championship in 1977. Quarterback Joe Montana and running back Jerome Heavens both rebounded on offense, teaming with all-America

## THE SEASON

Coach: Dan Devine

Tri-Captains: Ross Browner, Terry Eurick and Willie Fry

Sept. 10	W	Pittsburgh	19-9	A	56,500
Sept. 17	L	Mississippi	13-20	N1	48,200
Sept. 24	W	Purdue	31-24	A	68,966
Oct. 1	W	Michigan State	16-6	H	59,075
Oct. 15	W	Army	24-0	N2	72,594
Oct. 22	W	USC	49-19	H	59,075
Oct. 29	W	Navy	43-10	H	59,075
Nov. 5	W	Georgia Tech	69-14	H	59,075
Nov. 12	W	Clemson	21-17	A	54,189
Nov. 19	W	Air Force	49-0	H	59,075
Dec. 3	W	Miami (Fla.)	48-10	A	35,789
					382-129
					631,613

## COTTON BOWL

Jan. 2	W	Texas	38-10	N3	76,701
N1—Jackson; N2—Giants Stadium, East Rutherford, N.J.; N3—Dallas					

tight end Ken MacAfee, who led the team in receiving for the third straight year.

The offense came on strong in 1977, however, as Montana threw for over 1,600 yards and 11 touchdowns and Heavens led the team with 994 rushing yards. Montana earned a reputation as "The Comeback Kid" with performances like the one he had in the third game of the season when, in his first appearance in over a year, he engineered the Irish to 17 fourth-quarter points in Notre Dame's come-from-behind 31-24 win at Purdue. Later in the season, the Irish had to travel to Death Valley in Clemson, S.C., to play the 15th-ranked Tigers, and Montana scored two fourth-quarter touchdowns to bring the Irish from behind for a 21-17 win.

Heavens was healthy again in 1977 and he joined the explosive Vagas Ferguson behind Montana. Heavens proved himself fully recovered with 136 yards against Michigan State in the fourth game of the season. He followed his outburst against the Spartans with a Notre Dame-record 200 yards rushing versus Army, and two weeks later he went for 100 against Navy.

But the key regular season win came in a mid-season 49-19 thrashing of fifth-ranked USC in Notre Dame Stadium. In that one, the Irish warmed up in their usual blue jerseys, only to emerge in green just prior to kickoff. That triumph helped wipe out the memory of Notre Dame's second-game road loss, a 20-13 defeat at Ole Miss that proved its sole '77 blemish.

The Irish ran out to a 24-10 halftime lead in the Cotton Bowl and then added touchdowns in each of the final quarters for an overwhelming 28-point victory. Few questioned who was number one.

Notre Dame leapfrogged over the four teams ranked ahead of it to grab the nation's top position.

The Irish did, indeed, wake the echoes and shake down the thunder.

—Willie Shearer

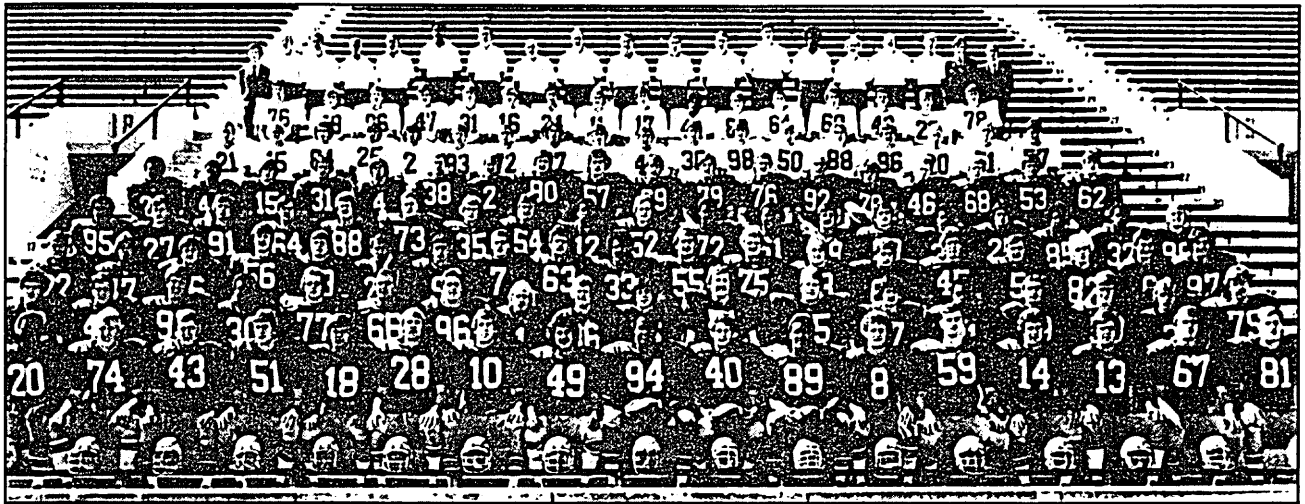
## THE POLLS

### AP

1. Notre Dame
2. Alabama
3. Arkansas
4. Texas
5. Penn State
6. Kentucky
7. Oklahoma
8. Pittsburgh
9. Michigan
10. Washington
11. Ohio State
12. Nebraska
13. USC
14. Florida State
15. Stanford
16. San Diego State
17. North Carolina
18. Arizona State
19. Clemson
20. Brigham Young

### UPI

1. Notre Dame
2. Alabama
3. Arkansas
4. Penn State
5. Texas
6. Oklahoma
7. Pittsburgh
8. Michigan
9. Washington
10. Nebraska
11. Florida State
12. Ohio State
13. USC
14. North Carolina
15. Stanford
16. North Texas State
17. Brigham Young
18. Arizona State
19. San Diego State
20. North Carolina St.



### 1977 National Championship Team

**Front Row:** Bradley, Weston, Becker, Johnson, Burgmeier, Christenson, Harrison, Duncan, Fry, Eurick, Browner, Forystek, Vinson, Orsini, Reeve, Tull, MacAfee. **Second Row:** Manso, Miranda, Grindinger, Heavens, Calhoun, Horansky, Uniake, Bleyer, Driscoll, DeCicco, McDaniels, Hughes, Geers, Knott, Schmitz, Murphy, Montana, Dike. **Third Row:** Reilly, Hankamer, Domin, Huffman, Johnson, Flynn, Morse, Restic, Hautman, Browner, Golic, Case, Heimkreiter, Meyer, Pallas, Dover, Haines, Lisch, Hart. **Fourth Row:** Gray, Seltenright, Bush, Thuney, VanDenburgh, Foley, Muhlenkamp, Whittington, Dickerson, Quinn, Rayam, Leopold, Unis, Hartwig, Waymer, Pacek, Hart, Ferguson, Male. **Fifth Row:** Merriweather, Mitchell, Frailey, Sylvestro, Muno, Ryan, Pagley, Thomas, Scully, Leon, Hufford, Martinovich, Czaja, Zettek, Boggs, Wroblewski, Crippin, McCormick. **Sixth Row:** Komora, Buehner, Bedard, Moynihan, Courey, Amato, Gibbons, Sepata, DeSiato, Acromite, Vehr, Burger, Fairhurst, Haggerty, Amato, Siewe, Gagnon. **Seventh Row:** LaHam, Turgeon, Detmer, Hankerd, Hollohan, Knafelc, Boushka, Doran, Koegel, Stone, Condeni, Pulawski, Kidd, Wozneak, Fasano, Huffman. **Back Row:** Haffey, O'Neill, Connelly, Stephenson, Toman, Peay, Johnson, Yonto, Kuhlmann, Kelly, Devine, Johnston, Boulac, Smith, Slager, Whitmer, Pasziet, Chain, Sobanski.

## THE LINEUP

### Offense

SE—\*Kris Haines, 6-0, 178; \*Ty Dickerson, 6-2, 185; Speedy Hart, 6-1, 193  
 LT—\*Tim Foley, 6-5, 257; \*Rob Martinovich, 6-5, 255  
 LG—\*Ted Horansky, 6-3, 249; \*Dave Vinson, 6-2, 236  
 C—\*Dave Huffman, 6-5, 247; \*Jim Hautman, 6-3, 240; Terry Murphy, 6-1, 217  
 RG—\*Ernie Hughes, 6-3, 253; \*Howard Meyer, 6-3, 223; \*John Leon, 6-2, 235  
 RT—\*Steve McDaniels, 6-6, 276; \*Tim Huffman, 6-5, 260; \*Bob Tull, 6-3, 234  
 TE—\*Ken MacAfee, 6-4, 249; \*Mark Czaja, 6-5, 234; \*Kevin Hart, 6-4, 234  
 QB—\*Joe Montana, 6-2, 191; \*Rusty Lisch, 6-4, 209; \*Tim Koegel, 6-4, 187  
 LH—\*Vagas Ferguson, 6-1, 194; \*Terry Eurick, 5-10, 196 (Tri-Captain); \*Jim Stone, 6-1, 182  
 RH—\*Dave Waymer, 6-3, 184; \*Tom Domin, 6-3, 202; \*Steve Schmitz, 5-11, 193; Dan Knott, 6-1, 210  
 FB—\*Jerome Heavens, 6-0, 209; \*Dave Mitchell, 6-0, 198; \*Steve Orsini, 5-10, 201; \*Pete Pallas, 6-2, 199

### Defense

LE—\*Ross Browner, 6-3, 248 (Tri-Captain); \*Hardy Rayam, 6-5, 245; \*Tom VanDenburgh, 6-4, 220  
 LT—\*Ken Dike, 6-2, 228; \*Jay Case, 6-3, 224

RT—\*Mike Calhoun, 6-5, 250; \*Jeff Weston, 6-4, 250  
 RE—\*Willie Fry, 6-3, 237 (Tri-Captain); \*Scott Zettek, 6-5, 239  
 OLB—\*Steve Heimkreiter, 6-2, 224; \*Mike Whittington, 6-2, 215  
 MG—\*Bob Golic, 6-3, 240; John Hankerd, 6-4, 236  
 OLB—\*Doug Becker, 6-0, 224; \*Leroy Leopold, 6-2, 218; Pete Johnson, 6-4, 249  
 LCB—\*Luther Bradley, 6-2, 202; \*Dick Boushka, 6-4, 188; Jim Morse, 6-0, 183  
 RCB—\*Ted Burgmeier, 5-11, 187; \*Tom Flynn, 6-0, 172; Nick DeCicco, 5-10, 193  
 SS—\*Jim Browner, 6-3, 204; \*Ross Christensen, 6-1, 193; Phil Johnson, 6-0, 190  
 FS—\*Joe Restic, 6-2, 192; \*Randy Harrison, 6-1, 199; Tom Gibbons, 6-1, 183

KICKING SPECIALISTS—\*Dave Reeve, 6-3, 216; Joe Unis, 5-8, 182

### Reserves

### Offense

E—Leo Driscoll, Dennis Grindinger; T—John Scully; G—Tom Wroblewski; C—Mark Quinn; QB—Gary Forystek, Greg Knafelc; HB—Mike Courey, Steve Dover; KS—Kevin Muno.

### Defense

E—Rob Bush, John Thomas; LB—Pat Boggs, Bob Duncan, DB—Frank Bleyer, Rick Buehner, Mike Geers.



Head coach Dan Devine with team captains Willie Fry (left), Terry Eurick and Ross Browner.



# Epilogue

*By Bernie Lincicome  
Chicago Tribune*

While there is no proof that a national championship for Notre Dame makes the world a better place, it does help it make more sense in an age of fewer and fewer sure things.

The Marines. General Motors. The New York Yankees. Mother's milk.

None of these things is any longer entirely reliable.

Golf and tennis, the games of capitalism, have become Third World toys. Basketball gold medals hang around the necks of Soviets and Brazilians.

This is the time of the underdog as bully. Kansas City, Minnesota, the Dodgers in baseball. Villanova and Kansas in college

basketball. Clemson and Brigham Young in college football. Whoever wins the next Super Bowl.

Fables become redundant facts. Jack always cuts down the beanstalk. Little Red Riding Hood always gets rescued. The slipper always fits.

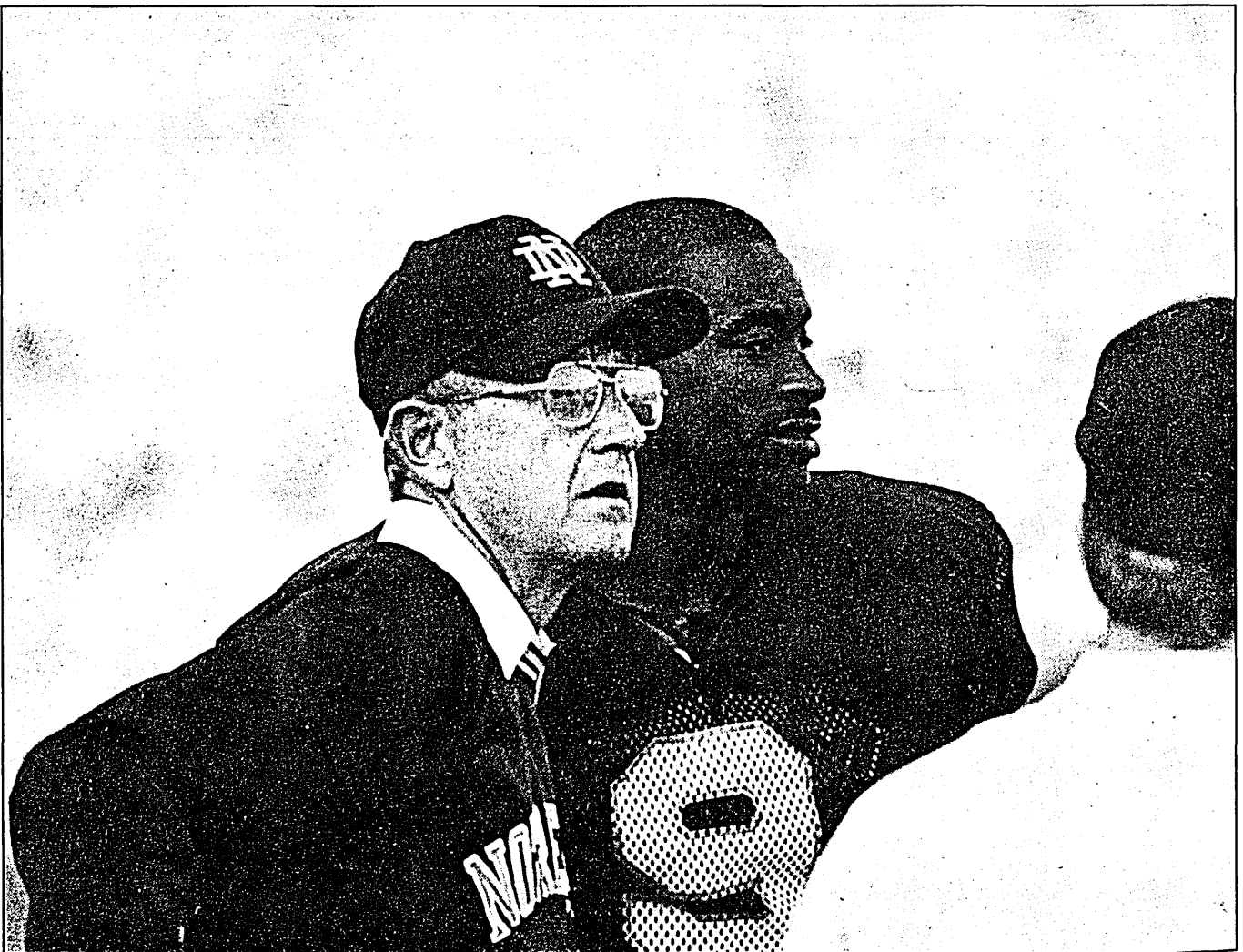
Sugar Ray Leonard waxes Marvelous Marvin Hagler.

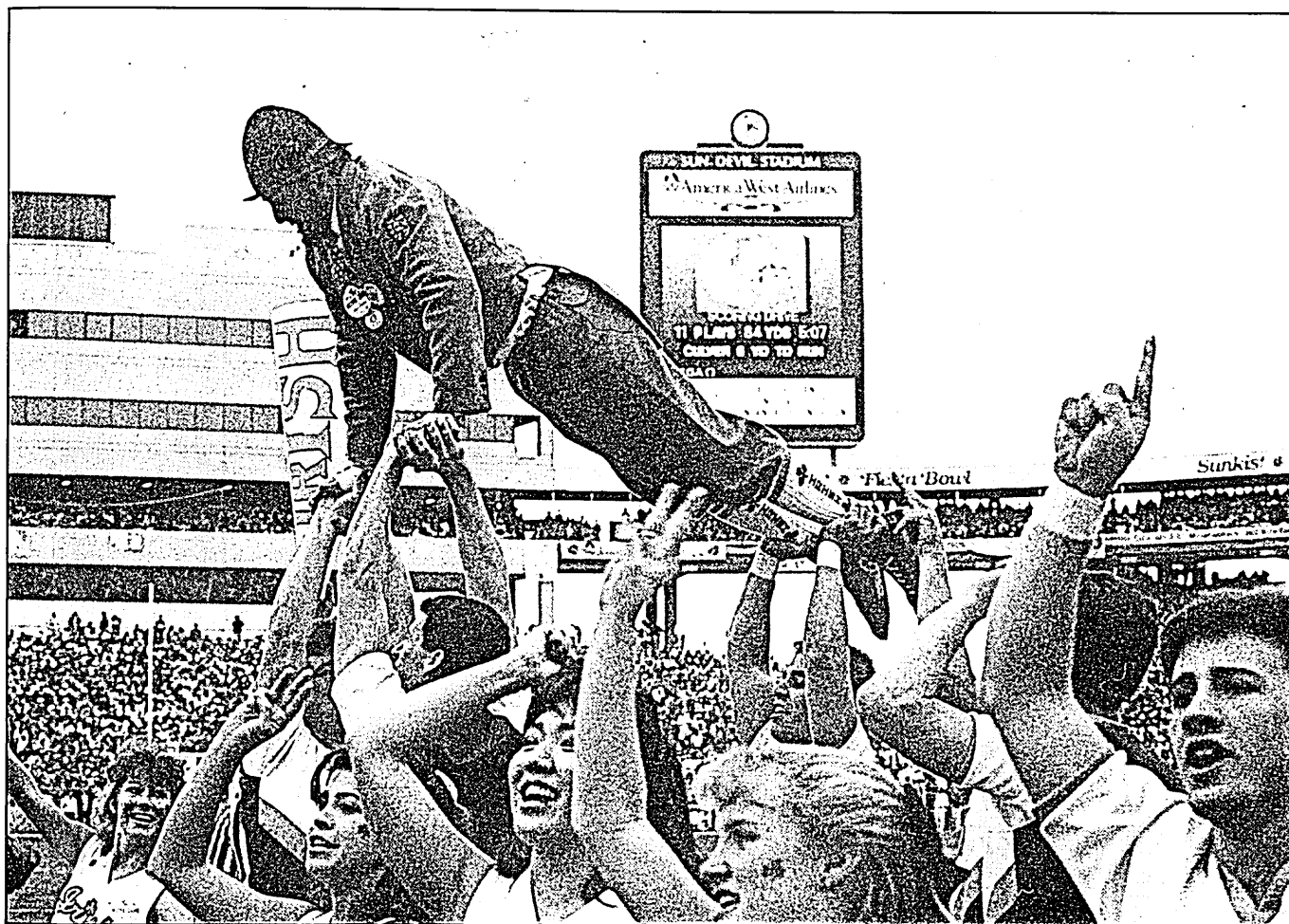
But on a vague winter day in the crude desert, in a bowl game longer on ambition than on tradition or good taste, reason returned with the new year.

Notre Dame made the world safe for brand names.

The Irish ended all arguments, as well as the fantasy of West Virginia, disguised only briefly as Cinderella.

No confirming vote is needed. The best





team of now is the best team of then, a legacy confirmed, a mission satisfied.

"Is this a great team?" asked Notre Dame coach Lou Holtz without prompting. "Yes, because nobody proved it wasn't."

Not Michigan early or Miami in the middle or Southern Cal late.

Certainly not the Mountaineers, rubes in the wrong city, waiting to be sold a bridge. They played as if they had just gotten off the bus or couldn't wait to catch the next one.

"We are a better team than we showed," said (West Virginia) coach Don Nehlen.

Maybe so. It does not matter. They did the sense of order a great service by being there when Notre Dame needed them, conveniently unbeaten and vulnerable.

Their one celebrated weapon, Major Harris, though impaired early, was not the best quarterback on the field, just as Steve Walsh of Miami and Rodney Peete of USC before him were not.

Tony Rice again exceeded the other quarterback and was named star of the game, a task made easier by the energetic Notre Dame defense. Notre Dame quarterbacks are supposed to be better than others, even when under sus-

picion.

"For a guy who wasn't supposed to be able to throw," Nehlen said, "he sure looked like he could throw to me."

Rice completed only seven passes, but they averaged more than 30 yards each and two went for touchdowns.

"Now he probably won't want to run the option anymore," Holtz said.

The great service done by Rice and Notre Dame for West Virginians, who were ready to measure all time before and after this day, is to discourage them from naming future male children Major.

As for the rest of us, we are relieved from having to request a resume with our latest champion, even if Holtz himself needs further convincing.

"I underestimated this team," Holtz admitted. "They've done everything I've asked. They've won every game. They are 12-0."

"If not for us, Miami and West Virginia and USC would be undefeated. This has to go down as an excellent team. What they do best is they find a way to win."

Of course they do.

That is what we expect from Notre Dame.

## Credits

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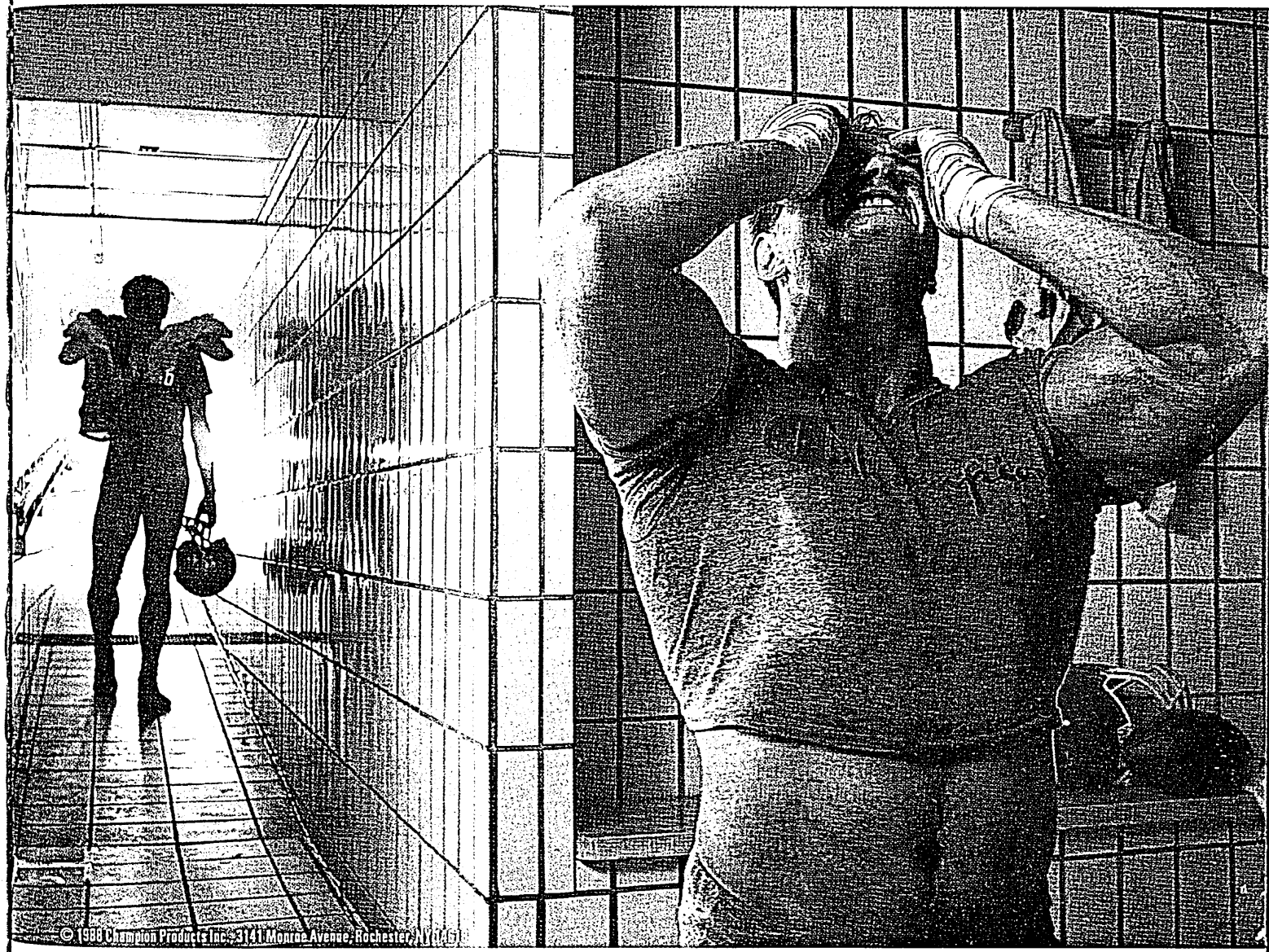
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*We* walked down a tunnel, flipped a  
coin, then all hell broke loose. Whoever said  
it's just a game better take a closer look.



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*If there was one day that really stands out in my mind, where I thought we had a chance to be a good football team, it was August 29. We went out that day and had a very long, rigorous practice. I walked off that field feeling totally convinced that the players' attitude was one of, 'We aren't going to question anything you ask us to do. All we want you to do is show us and tell us how to win. That's all we want to do.' From that point on, I felt if we didn't have a real good season, it was because we didn't lead them in the right direction. Because one thing was obvious — they wanted to win.*

**— Lou Holtz**  
**Notre Dame Head Coach**

## 1988 Notre Dame Football Scoreboard

Sept. 10	MICHIGAN	W 19-17
Sept. 17	at Mich. State	W 20-3
Sept. 24	PURDUE	W 52-7
Oct. 1	STANFORD	W 42-14
Oct. 8	at Pittsburgh	W 30-20
Oct. 15	MIAMI	W 31-30
Oct. 22	AIR FORCE	W 41-13
Oct. 29	at Navy	W 22-7
Nov. 5	RICE	W 54-11
Nov. 19	PENN STATE	W 21-3
Nov. 26	at USC	W 27-10

### 1989 FIESTA BOWL

Jan. 2	West Virginia	W 34-21
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