

scholastic 1973 IRISH FOOTBALL REVIEW

February 1, 1974



**Remarks of Congressman John
Brademas, Monday, January 21,
1974**

In the House of Representatives

**Notre Dame: The Nation's Number
One**

MR. SPEAKER, we have had a lot of bad news during the year just ended, but in South Bend, Indiana, in the District I have the honor to represent, we have had, as 1973 closed and as 1974 began, some good news.

For, Mr. Speaker, life is, in at least one important respect, back to normal. The University of Notre Dame football team, after its magnificent 24-23 victory over the University of Alabama in the Sugar Bowl in New Orleans on New Year's Eve, is the National Champion again.

Mr. Speaker, I take this time first to extend my condolences to my colleague and friend, the gentleman from Alabama, Congressman Walter Flowers, who represents the Tuscaloosa district here in the House.

I want further to extend my warmest congratulations to America's greatest football coach, Ara Parseghian, to his coaching staff and to the entire Notre Dame football team.

Mr. Speaker, as we today begin the second session of the 93rd Congress, we all recognize that the nation has troubles, two in particular, energy and Richard Nixon.

But, Mr. Speaker, not everything is wrong with America today. God's in his Heaven, something's right with the world.

Notre Dame is Number One again.

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du lac

sporting news:

beginning notes

One of the books that happened to find its way to my desk amidst the sports releases was *Team: A High School Odyssey* by Richard Woodley. The story centers around a high school football team, beginning with pre-season practices following through to the last game of the year. Though the book itself contains nothing much to write about, there is one passage that appeared to be particularly insightful. As the coach is filling out college scouting reports, the author asks him whom he will suggest to Notre Dame. The coach replies rather in disgust that it really doesn't matter.

"It's interesting, but it's not important," he explains. "Nobody from here is going to play football for Notre Dame. I don't even know if I'd want them to. Big-time football involves some attitudes I don't like."

Aside from the disappointment in not being able to provide a player good enough for Notre Dame, the coach exhibits a feeling which every now and then nags the thoughtful student of du Lac who observes all that goes on about him on a Football Saturday. As Casey Pocius put it in a previous issue of the *Scholastic*, one gets the impression that "the Notre Dame campus is a group of buildings located just northwest of the stadium."

The reaction, then, is to separate oneself from the pandemonium and rabble-rousing of the Notre Dame football experience and disclaim any connection with that part of the crowd. However, Notre Dame football is not all pandemonium and rabble-rousing; beneath it all lies a firm foundation of school pride and excellence in team endeavor. Aside from the unfortunate instances where alumni and students alike fail to realize the context of the situation, the Notre Dame student should be able to feel proud of the accomplishments of the team.

This year we are number one in the nation, and I tend towards a mixed reaction. I realize that football will take on life-and-death proportions for some now that we have a prize to defend. I also understand that everything surrounding the game will assume symbolic meaning and inflated value. That is unfortunate.

Then again, I was present at the Notre Dame-Alabama game and would have screamed just as loud as everyone else if my voice had not given out long before the game.

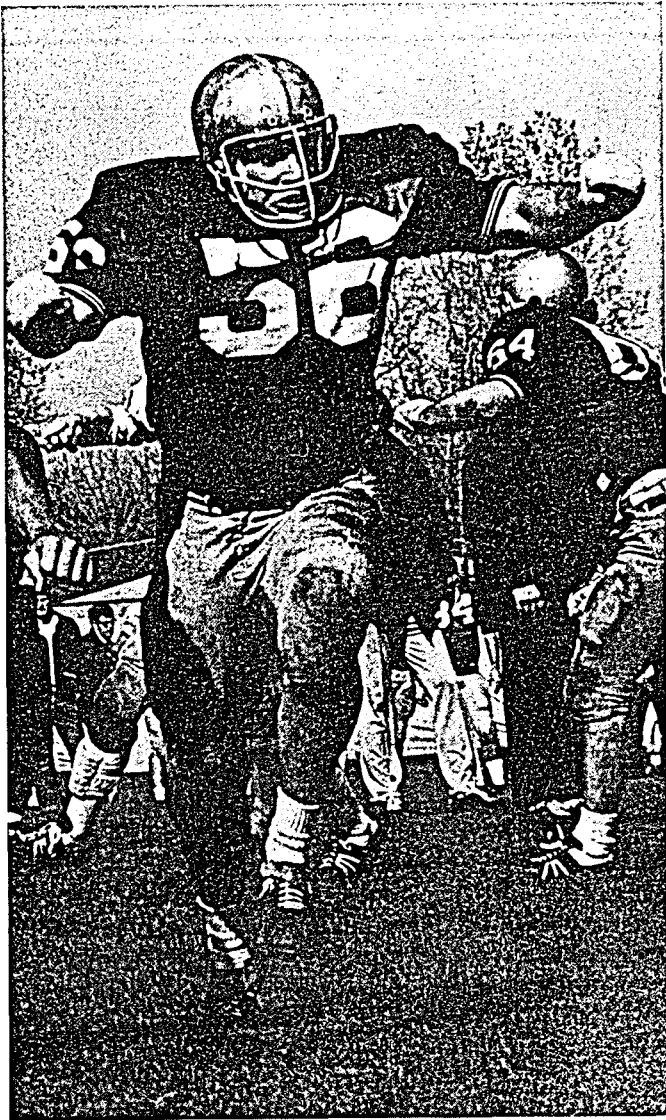
Besides the pride, there are the people. After a year of working with the sports staffs, the players and the other writers, I've come to know them as individuals and consequently find myself rooting for them rather than for a name. This concept of proximity unfortunately is not possible for everyone, and the players remain statistics. In that sense, I feel guilty about providing their accomplishments rather than their characters in this review; let me add, however, that they are proud of the goals, their record and the people who helped them achieve these aspirations.

Through the articles written by Frank Pomarico and Dave Casper, together with Coach Ara Parseghian, I would hope that those outside of the Notre Dame community, and indeed, those within the community who still remain aloof, can glimpse some idea of the moral fiber behind the pads and uniforms, behind the clipboards and whistles.

Students often complain that in conversation the immediate and automatic retort to the name Notre Dame is 'football.' Admittedly, football has done much good for this campus in many ways we can never fully realize or appreciate, but a member of the Notre Dame community can legitimately become disturbed with its incompleteness and distortion. One of the goals of this issue is to let the student be proud of his school, his 1973 Fighting Irish football team, and their accomplishments.

I would like to thank Mr. Roger Valdiserri, Mr. Robert Best and their staff from Sports Information, without whose assistance this issue could not have been completed. I would also like to thank Mr. Vic Dorr of the "Observer" and Ms. Mary Jo Davis, in addition to the *Scholastic* and Ave Maria Staffs for their patience.

—tom gora



At the beginning of the season, Frank was chosen as the offensive captain for the 1973 Fighting Irish. He was selected by the NCAA and the Defense Department to tour military bases in Europe during the summer with nine other college players. His chances for capturing All-America honors were hampered when an injury forced him to watch most of the season from the sidelines. He came back willing and able for the Army game, and from there went on to make first team on the Gridiron All-America Team and second team on the UPI All-America Team.

The Sugar Bowl classic against Alabama was truly a great climax to a history-making season. It proved that all the hard work from the end of August until December 31 has really paid off. Our offense gelled through the season and produced an explosive machine, and it was complemented by an equally intimidating defense. To me, it has been a very rewarding experience to be part of one of the best teams in Notre Dame history. The Golden Dome of Notre Dame. Those words mean a great deal to me, and in the following article, I'd like to explain why.

Count Your Blessings

—Frank Pomarico

Four years ago, when I first enrolled at Notre Dame, I was a rather innocent high school boy. While here, however, I've learned a tremendous amount about myself athletically and socially, and have developed my whole outlook on life. By putting all of these things together I feel like I've really grown into a well-rounded person.

Athletically, I feel that I've gotten as much out of Notre Dame as was possible for me. The people I've met through football have had a major impact on my athletic career and my life. Those people, mainly the coaches and other players on our team, have reached deep into my athletic ability and have brought out the best in me.

Socially, I think this is what Notre Dame is all about; to be able to coexist with other people and discover what those people from all parts of the country are like. To be exposed to the different habits and ideas of other people, I feel, is one of the greatest ways to become educated.

The final and, I feel, the most important impression Notre Dame has had on me is that it has developed my overall outlook on life. To begin with, I feel now that as long as one has his health, his friends and loved ones, well, he has all the bases of all that's really important. The reason I say this is because money, fame, or material success doesn't seem worth very much if one doesn't also have health and a few close friends and companions.

So be thankful for your health and close friends because they are very important; they can, at least, always help you out or help you battle back against the tough, cold world.

In looking back, I'd have to say that my four years here at Notre Dame were tough years, and that they were hard to cope with, but they also held some of the greatest moments of my life. There were, at the same time, many good times, and I would surely relive them if that were possible. But it's not, unfortunately.

So, in closing, what I would like to say to everybody involved in the Notre Dame family is to enjoy your life and count your blessings. For life is short with many disappointments which we must overcome. At this time, I would like to wish the Irish football team of 1974 good luck in their quest for another National Championship.

There was never any question whether Notre Dame could beat Northwestern in their September 22 meeting, despite Northwestern's previous win over Michigan State, 14-10. Actually, the Wildcats handed Notre Dame a big favor, unveiling their game strategies a week before the Irish opener. There were still questions to be answered, though. Besides the obvious one of just how badly the Irish would win, there also was some uncertainty surrounding the young and inexperienced front four. Freshman Ross Browner joined sophomores Jim Stock and Steve Niehaus, and junior Mike Fanning to produce a front line averaging 19¼ years.

In addition, the offense had not been able to overcome the last two impressive defensive units they faced in the 1972 season. Nor did Tom Clements have a firm grip on the starting quarterback position.

Fortunately, Coach Parseghian was able to turn all the unusual characteristics of this disparate team to his advantage as the Irish easily romped over the Wildcats by the lopsided score of 44-0. After a rather uncertain first series of downs, Ross Browner dispelled all doubts about his abilities by scoring the first two points of the game and the season, blocking a punt attempt by the Wildcats' Skarin, which rolled in and out the end zone. Thus, the Irish defense proved to all that not only were they prepared to accomplish their job, but they were eager also to take over some of the offensive worries.

Ron Goodman raced eighteen yards on the ensuing kickoff return to provide the Irish with excellent field position for the next drive. From the ND 44-yard line, Clements needed but seven plays, highlighted by a fifteen-yard pass to Dave Casper and a sixteen-yard dash by Penick, to up the score nine-zip. All of this scoring came in less than three minutes, setting the tone for the consistent barrage which followed.

On the other hand, the Irish defensive front line repeatedly shifted to a five-man front wall, folding the Wildcat line in half like cardboard. The Northwestern backfield took turns bouncing around inside this trap, or ultimately came running through the only exit to the waiting linebackers. Greg Collins seemed to draw the honors more often than not; he tackled game honors with two solos and sixteen assists. Johnny Pont, the new Wildcat coach, said before the game that he

avored a sprint-out, option-style quarterbacking. The Irish front four established themselves as a fearsome reckoning force in college football at Johnny's expense, and confirmed the report that they also prefer this style of game.

With 1:49 left in the first quarter, Clements added to the Irish margin by completing a nine-yard pass to Demmerle, making the score 16-0. At the onset of the second quarter, Clements added two more tallies in rapid succession. Though the first of these drives was sustained by an offside penalty, the offense quickly generated its own momentum as Goodman took a Clements' handoff nine yards for the score. Three minutes later, Clements dived over from the one to make it 30-0, Irish.

Not to be outdone, the defense combined on the next series of downs to completely demolish the Northwestern offense and inadvertently injure their punter, Skarin. After Boothe failed to gain on a first and ten from their 32, Anderson was forced to unload a premature pass, rushed by what seemed to be the entire defense. Potempa and Collins finally got through to Anderson on third down and forced a thirteen-yard loss, part of the reason why the Wildcats finished the half with a net rushing yardage mark of negative eight. The punt attempt on the next play was foiled by Sherm Smith, who was subsequently called for roughing the kicker, though he had been pushed from the side by the Northwestern fullback.

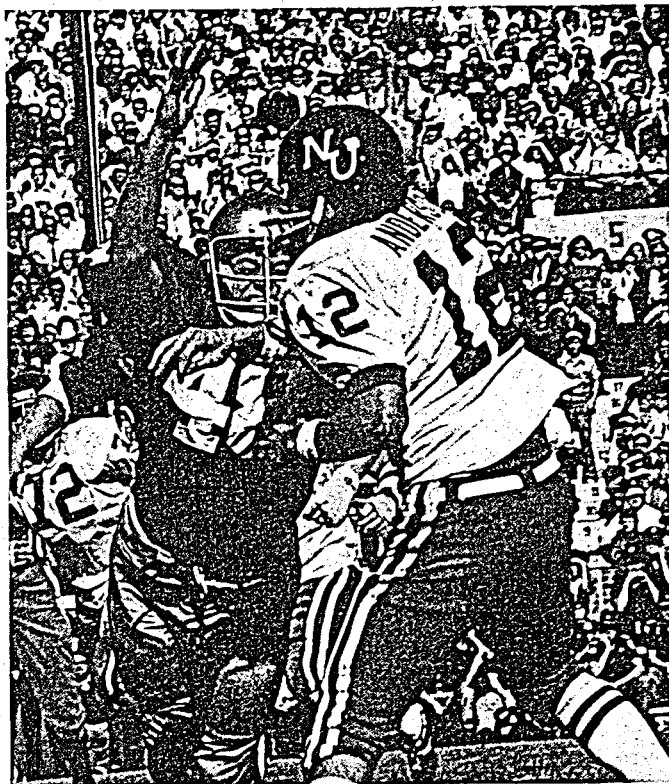
From the Irish 21, Clements took 2:20 and nine plays to lead Notre Dame to the last tally of the first half. Three passes to Bullock, Goodman and Casper for a combined 72 yards ignited the drive and helped give Clements a .750 completion average (9 of 12) for 152 aerial yards. The Irish finished the half with a net 279 yards in offense compared to the Northwestern total of only nine.

Cliff Brown took over in the second half, quickly racing 32 yards for another Irish touchdown, but the play was called back due to a clipping penalty. The Wildcat defense held on the next play and, as the ball changed hands, seemingly so did some of the momentum. The Anderson-Craig team, which had led the Big Ten in aerial completions in the previous season, clicked for 27 clutch yards to keep the Wildcat drive alive

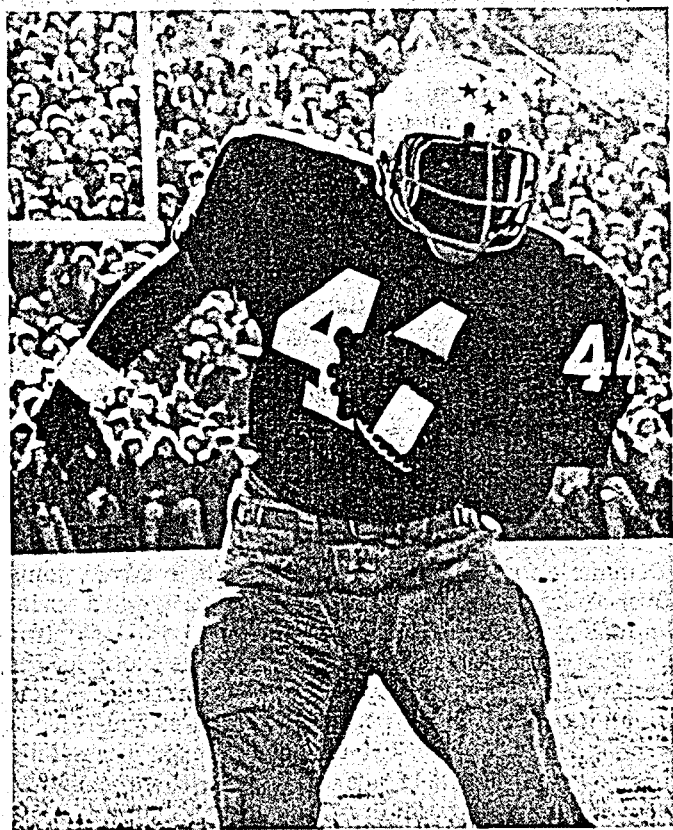
down to the Irish nine. Anderson's last pass intended for Craig found its way instead into the arms of waiting safety Mike Townsend, giving the Irish safety his first interception of the season and a career total of twelve.

Fumbles marred the next series of exchanges, and ended Wildcat hopes of ever seeing the Notre Dame end zone. From the ND 18, Ross Browner chased the new NW quarterback, Girkins, all the way to the 31, where he forced a fumble recovered by Jim Stock. Brown found the handle on the ball, passing to Kornman for 36 yards, where Diminick took over on a 21-yard run for the sixth touchdown of the day, pushing the score to the final mark, 44-0.

The Irish finished the game with 473 yards in total offense against the Wildcats' 146 yards. The Irish ground attack amassed 273 yards, while the aerial barrage netted 200, a fairly respectable split. The Irish quarterbacking pair completed twelve of seventeen for an impressive .630 average, with no interceptions. Since the sole Northwestern touchdown in the first period of their 1971 clash, the Irish defense has succeeded in blanking the Wildcat offense for eleven straight quarters.



NW's Anderson (12) gets the pass away just as Jim Stock (48) lowers the boom.

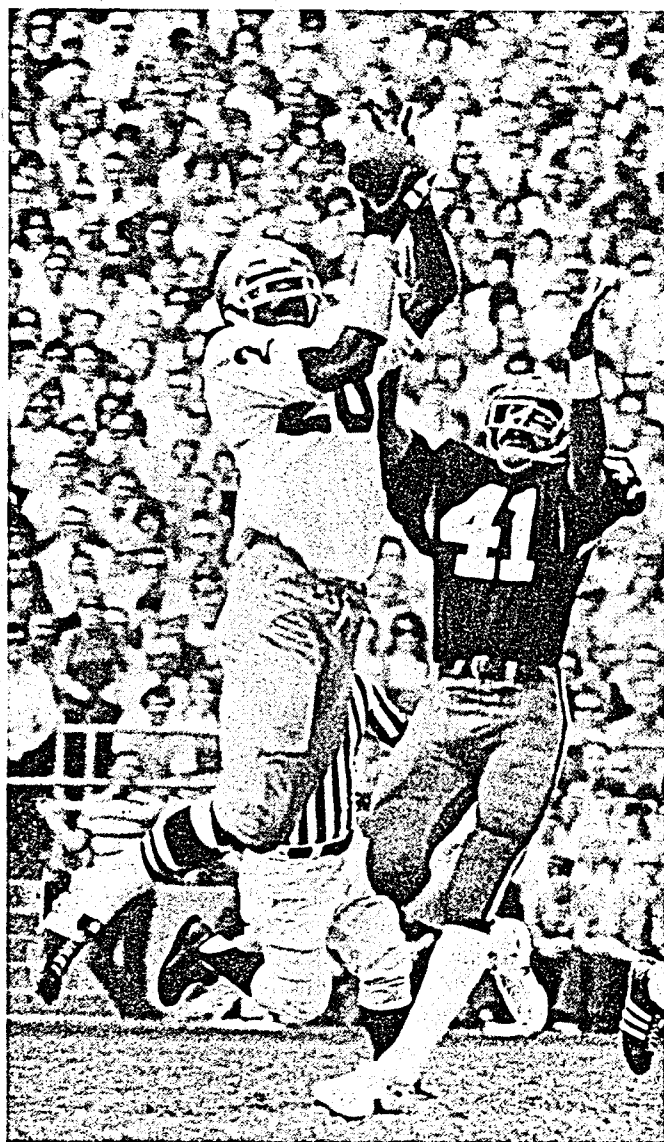


The victory pushed to eight the number of straight Irish defeats over Northwestern, and drew to ten the number of straight season openers the Irish have taken. Coach Parseghian commented after the first victory of Notre Dame's 85th season, "I was surprised at the size of the score. I thought we would win, but I was concerned about our inexperienced defense; and I didn't feel that we would win by this margin."

Johnny Pont commented on the felicitous solution to one of Ara's preseason problems: "Their entire offensive unit has the speed and balance that win ball games. I was especially impressed with Tom Clements' ball handling . . . Their quarterbacks did a beautiful job on their play action passes."

The other concern surrounding the inexperience of some of the team also found a happy solution. Browner made an impressive debut as defensive end with five tackles, one for a loss of 24 yards, in addition to the blocked punt which went for a safety. In all, nine freshmen played against Northwestern with defensive end Willie Fry and halfback Al Hunter joining defensive halfback Luther Bradley in the second half.

The victory moved the Irish up one notch, from eighth to seventh place, in the Associated Press Poll of the following week.



Luther Bradley (20) steals from Bob Herrick (41).

Perhaps Alex Agase hoped to find better odds against the mighty Irish when he moved from Northwestern to Purdue, but Ara had different ideas. The unfortunate Agase was winless in seven outings against the Irish at Northwestern, and he really didn't seem too interested in changing that pattern. In a game marred by fumbles and interceptions, the Irish managed to cross the goal line considerably more than the Boilermakers en route to capturing their second victory of the season, 20-7.

Actually, Ara and Alex have worked closely for many years, beginning with their years together as coach and assistant at Northwestern. Ara's big favors started in 1964 when he left the head coach position open to come to du Lac. Since then, he's been teaching Alex all kinds of new moves, only now it's during the game instead of before, and from the other side of the field.

Art Best started things off by thumbing a wave to the national television audience. Just to show that he merited such spoofs, he proceeded to run 64 yards on the first play of the game, setting up the first blood of the game, a fifteen-yard field goal by Bob Thomas. What followed was a rather haphazard exchange of series that saw Purdue handle the ball twice as much as the Irish on their way to an 80-yard, seven-play touchdown.

Characterizing the up-and-down nature of the Irish play were two brilliant passes by Clements to Demmerle and Goodman, for 13 and 20 yards respectively, and the ensuing losses of 11 and 9 yards on a fumble and sack. The Boilermaker score came when Olympic runner Larry Burton burned defensive halfback Tim Rudnick for a 53-yard touchdown reception.

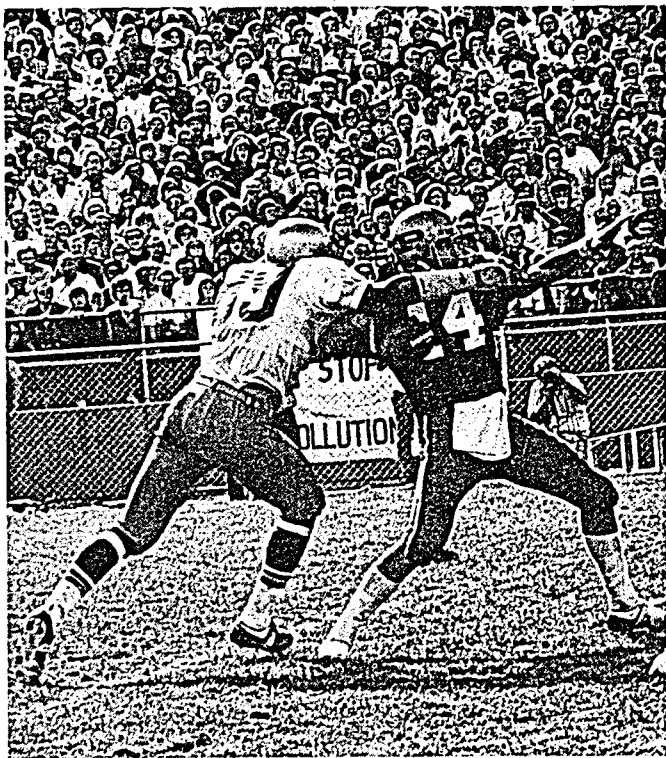
The next three series saw the ball change hands due to costly turnovers, a fumble and an interception, before the Irish finally settled down to business. From the ND 10, Penick slashed over left end for eight yards, Best crossed right for 10, and Penick repeated for three. Clements went to the air and found Bullock for 14 yards, followed by an eight-yard dash by Penick and two quick sprints of seven and nine, the last for the score, by Best.

On this drive, the Irish went 53 yards in eight consistent plays, averaging better than 6.5 yards per play. With 6:48 left in the first half, the Irish succeeded in capturing the lead for good at 10-7.

The second half began with a pair of fumbles shifting the ball from one team to the other and back again. Finally, the Irish put together a scoring drive, sustained by two runs for 26 yards by Clements, and a pass to Demmerle for 13. Bullock got two calls in a row, going over from the one after breaking for a 12-yard sprint to make the score 17-7.

Notre Dame was able to score once more as the reserve backs contributed nicely to the drive. Kornman, Diminick and Hunter helped starters Best and Bullock ground out 52 yards before Bob Thomas successfully booted a 42-yard field goal. Thus the score remained at Notre Dame 20, Purdue 7.

The passing of Bo Bobrowski continued to plague



Bo Bobrowski (14) loses his composure and the ball to Ross Browner (89).

the Irish secondary as Purdue attempted to close the margin to salvage a respectable loss. He completed passes of 19, 9, 7, and 6 yards in the final desperation seconds before his final pass was intercepted by Rudnick. He threw a total of 26 times during the contest, connecting on eleven for 153 yards with two interceptions. On the other hand, Notre Dame stayed predominantly on the ground during the second half and came away with only 91 game yards in the air. The Irish thoroughly outrushed their opponents, though, 290 yards to 33, as Best ran away with game honors of 125 yards in sixteen attempts. The starting Irish backfield combined for 258 yards rushing.

The fumbles and interceptions, two lost and two stolen respectively for the Irish, proved to be costly indications of offensive nervousness and slippery fingers. Bullock's fumble came on the Purdue goal line after an 18-yard run that seemed to set up the Irish's second tally. The other fumble came after a Clements' run of 15 yards to the Purdue 35.

After the half, the Irish contented themselves with little aerial exposure and more time-consuming ground work. The Irish controlled the ball for more than 18 minutes, and ran 10 more plays than the Boilermakers.

After the game Parseghian commented: "It was a game we had to play; we were playing away from home, we had to run the football, and we had to come from behind. Those are young kids we've got here, and this is a young ball club . . . And we got hooked

up in a real donnybrook today."

Agase still hasn't learned realistic analysis from his former mentor, though, and his reflections on the game carried a slightly different tone: "Our defense was superb Saturday against Notre Dame and our offense was better but still not consistent. We were winners Saturday even though the scoreboard didn't show it. From here on we've got a chance to be winners on the field and on the scoreboard and that's our goal.

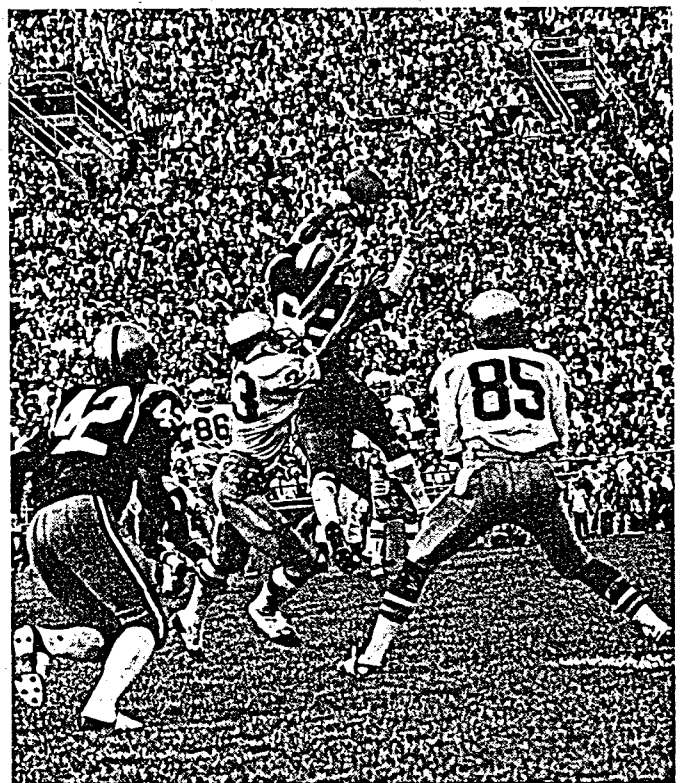
"We know we can play with anybody now and that's the lesson we learned from that loss to Notre Dame."

Some people just never learn.

It seemed as if the football writers tended towards Agase's remarks, or perhaps were more impressed by the victories of Ohio State, Alabama, Michigan and Penn State. Notre Dame slipped a notch in the AP Poll to 8th place, while the UPI Poll had the Irish ninth.

Actually, the young Notre Dame squad managed to top the Boilermakers by the largest margin since 1955 when Terry Brennan's team punched out a 22-0 win at Ross-Ade Stadium. Agase did single out two of the Irish starters for praise, both Luther Bradley, who broke up two passes and intercepted a third, and Ross Browner, who pulled down five tackles, impressed the Boilermaker coach. "Browner and Bradley are two of the quickest players I've seen Notre Dame have in a long time."

Keep looking, Alex; they're only freshmen.



Linebacker Mike Gefert (65) battles Art Best (23) for the reception.

The Stadium

All of this for 15 hours a year?

To put on a football game in Notre Dame stadium, it takes a lot more than just two teams and 59,000 fans. It also takes a bucket of grease, 10 gallons of paint, 900 gallons of coffee, 1900 cases of Coke, 20,000 pounds of ice, 22,000 hot dogs, 25,000 souvenirs and hundreds of man-hours by the stadium crew, ushers, concession stand workers, souvenir vendors, and other Notre Dame personnel.

Long before you even take your seat in the stadium, many people have been at work preparing for your short three-hour stay. At 6:45 in the morning, head usher Andy McKim, a compact but rugged Scotchman with a brogue as thick as honey, opens the stadium and begins the day. Soon after, the first assignments of gatemen and ushers arrive. Some arrive every hour until noon when the last of the regular ushers are due. The gates open to the public then, about an hour and a half before kickoff. Andy first started as an usher in 1952 and became head usher (or Director of Stadium Personnel) three years ago. All his helpers are volunteers. Some are paid a pittance for coming early, but generally they all get to see the game in return for their services. Andy feels that the ushers get a lot of abuse because few people realize they are volunteers. When he was an usher he sometimes "felt like punching some people in the nose . . . I tell my men to be courteous and firm, they never know who they may be hassling with." When a disorderly patron "is reprimanded for his behavior he then abuses the usher for it."

The ushers' biggest problems are the students and the drunks. "They'll do anything," the Scotchman laughed. The drunks bother Andy the most. "I think everyone can have a good time without going that far."

Every section has a Junior and Senior Captain who wear white hats. Every four sections have a supervisor who wears a gold hat. The head gatemen wear white hats. All ushers are given a brochure explaining 30 different special instructions and regulations. To make

sure they know these rules, the brochure must be presented at every game as an identification card for admittance.

Andy McKim spends his spare time in the few months before the season recruiting new volunteers to fill vacancies. He still has a few ushers who have been at the stadium almost the full 43 years.

The next crew to arrive in the morning is the field crew. These people work full time for the Athletic Department as maintenance personnel. During football season they take care of the stadium as well as all athletic fields of the University. On football Saturdays, however, they are all at the stadium.

At 8 in the morning the plastic field cover has to be removed. In theory the tarp goes down only if there is a threat of rain; but, because we are in rain-soaked South Bend, it goes down before nearly every game. It takes at least twenty men to put the tarp down the day before the game and to roll it back up the day of the game.

If it does rain and it's cold and wet Saturday morning, there is a lot of grumbling when the tarp has to be taken up; even more so when it snows. At one time the tarps were made of canvas, much heavier than the plastic now used. When it got wet there must have been a lot of cursing and swearing before the last tarp was rolled off the field.

When the tarp is removed, the field is just about ready to go, having been lined before the tarp went down. It takes four men two days of work to line the field. Frank Hagye, who has been with the stadium crew since 1966, runs the machine that paints the yard lines. Rudy Salinas and Owen Reynolds paint the yard-line numbers with big cardboard stencils and a pump spray painter that looks like a fire extinguisher. Hal Benninghoff, the maintenance supervisor, takes responsibility for painting the leprechauns. He uses a specially mixed water-base paint and a huge plywood stencil to create the "Fighting Irishman." Crew foreman Glenn Moore usually has Reynolds or Tim Vann grease the goalpost legs. "That's to make sure no one can climb up on them," Moore explains. Somebody forgot to tell the students that after the Southern Cal game.

As soon as the field is ready and the benches are in order along the sidelines, all the gate barriers and railings have to be installed. The bathrooms have to be checked. Every one of the bathrooms is swept, mopped and sanitized thoroughly before Saturday, but they are inspected again to make sure everything is just right. The concrete gate pads are swept again and the concourse inspected to make sure all the debris left by the fans from the last game has been raked up. The press box is put in order so the press can cover the games with a minimum of discomfort and inconvenience.

The biggest problem this year has been the field grass. A fungus was killing the grass, making the field brown and spotty. "I spray for 7 different fungi," Benninghoff said, "this one was one of the ones I didn't spray for." The fungus was detected early before the season but the prescribed treatment failed to retard the effects. The field will be completely reseeded for next season. "Hopefully, we'll have a whole new field of grass," Benninghoff said, his face showing the disap-

pointment he felt because of the bad grass. The worst effect was that two home games were televised nationally and each time the announcers commented about the poor condition of the field.

The next operation to get started on a football Saturday is the concession stands. Dean Winter, 30-year-old head of the Notre Dame Vending Service, is in charge of concessions for the football games. "It takes 24 hours prior to the game for me to get everything ready to go so that Saturday morning all the concession stand operators can walk in here and pick up their supplies." Dapper Dean, as one young female worker called him, enjoys working the football games. "I really enjoy watching all the crazy people at the game."

"We do most of our business in 45 minutes; before the game, at halftime, and after the game." Winter explains, "We have sold as much as 66,000 cans of pop at one game when it was hot. On drizzly, cold and wet days we can sell as many as 15,000 cups of coffee or about 900 gallons." The coffee is brewed 100 gallons at a time in huge stainless steel containers. Joe Siuda has been doing this for 23 years. "I've never missed a game," he announces with a smile.

There are 28 stands, 21 in the stadium and 7 outside. The stands are supervised by members of the Notre Dame administration. For example, Assistant Arts & Letters Dean Robert Waddick is a supervisor. Winter explained that the stands work on a 15% franchise. The University Food Service supplies the food and the stands sell it. "We don't have much turnover in the stand owners," Winter noted, "because most of them are family-operated. Some families have been here 20 to 30 years. One man, Carl Cavanaugh, had been here since 1930, but he had to retire last year."

One family owner is Carl Knisley. His stand is situated right inside Gate 10. He first operated a stand in 1945. His wife and son both operate their own stands now. "I like it," he explains. "It isn't as if I needed the money."

Carl takes especially good care of his stand. "I make sure my counters are dry and clean. If it can't be cleaned I won't work."

Carl usually sells about 1300 to 1400 hot dogs a game. He cooks them 80 at a time in a special steam process. "If you boil them, they're no good. There's a grate above the water to hold the hot dogs. We don't let them touch the water." In hot weather he can sell 75 to 80 cases of soda pop and in cold weather up to 60 gallons of coffee.

Many of Carl's customers know him by name. He is located in a season ticket area. "In all my years, I've only had trouble with 3 people." His son Tom, whose stand is only 25 yards away from Carl's, told about "one customer (who) always pours me a drink. He's covered with souvenirs from every opponent ND plays. He's known me since I was a kid and worked in my father's stand. He gives me a \$5 tip every game; probably a Notre Dame alumnus."

Tom has his own son "Boots," who is only 5 years old, working in the stand. "He begs to come out. He's a character. He can't count change, but he'll take the money."

Several high school students help Carl with his stand. Carl comes in a little after 8 a.m. and sets up for the game. The kids come around 9:30 to start cooking the hot dogs. One of his workers, Rene, a St. Joseph High School student, likes working the games because she meets a lot of people. She admitted that she gets a "little flustered" when lots of people are at the window asking for food or drinks.

The other place you spend your money is for souvenirs. William G. Neubold of Chicago has been selling souvenirs at Notre Dame since before the stadium was built. "I opened the stadium 43 years ago and I'm still here." He's a gruff old man of 82 years but he is still going strong. "If I didn't work I'd die," he says. He and his wife celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary this year.

"We're the top-selling concessionaires in the nation," he explained. "We're the only ones left who still sell a pennant for a dollar." His company, WGN Flag Co., is "The largest U.S. flag maker. Our flags are on the moon."

He spends the whole year getting ready for the football games. He goes to Tokyo to buy dolls and Hong Kong to buy inflatable football player balloons. They have 25,000 items to sell at the game. "You don't know what the public is going to buy," he says. "If I knew how to get ready, I'd be a wizard." At the Air Force game he expected to sell hats; instead it warmed up and he could have sold paper sun visors but he didn't have any.

His souvenir operation is like the concession stands, a family affair. His son and daughter help with distributing the merchandise to the vendors and collecting the money afterward. Except for two workers, Mr. and Mrs. Justin, they handle everything in their office near Gate 9. Nothing gets away from them. Even their granddaughter, Sue, helps by assembling some of the souvenirs during the summer.

The hard part comes next — cleanup. Sunday morning at 8 a.m., 25 men and 25 brooms attack the carpet of paper, cans, bottles and food left behind by the 59,000 fans. For 4 hours the clanging and banging of cans and bottles and the swishing and scratching of brooms and rakes and an occasional cry of joy, when a sweeper unearths an unopened can of pop or beer (or if he's lucky, a full bottle of booze), dominate the sounds of the stadium.

They sweep down the rows and into the aisles then the debris is pushed to the bottom in piles. Along come the flyers to pick up the piles behind them. The concourse is raked and the bathrooms and the press box get a good sweeping. The flyers, trash wagons pulled by a tractor, are pulled outside to be emptied. By noon, nearly 50 cubic yards of trash have been gathered from the stadium.

Now the stadium is clean and if you didn't know already, you would never guess a football game ever took place. It takes all this to put on a football game at Notre Dame. Two teams and 59,000 fans are only a small part of the action.

—paul colgan

Michigan State

"The best people don't always win football games," commented Michigan State head coach Denny Stolz before the 39th resumption of the classic Michigan State-Notre Dame gridiron battle. "The best-prepared people win football games."

Thus Stolz expressed his idea of a game many were calling a mismatch; even the Spartans' sports information director Fred Stabley admitted, "State's record is an unimpressive 1-2, versus the Irish's 2-0, and the general feeling is that MSU is overmatched."

The new Spartan head coach had other ideas, though, like repeating the upset of 1968, in which an underdog State team nipped the Irish led by Terry Hanratty by a 21-17 count. Though Stolz was new, he wasn't green. He knew that the opponents of Notre Dame could rise to unexpected heights in attempting to defeat one of the most prestigious football prizes in the country. He also knew, though, that the Irish defense had limited its first two opponents of the year to a mere 96 total yards by ground, which was State's choice method of attack.

Nonetheless, Stolz's main concern was coming to Notre Dame prepared. Much to the chagrin and apprehension of Notre Dame fans, he proved just how prepared his team was as the Spartans capitalized on several key Irish turnovers to scare Notre Dame to a close 14-10 victory. After the game, coach Parseghian pointed out that thanks to our fine defense, Michigan

State's offense has not been able to cross the goal line once in the past four years. Unfortunately, their defense did an impressive double showing by preventing Irish points and adding some of their own.

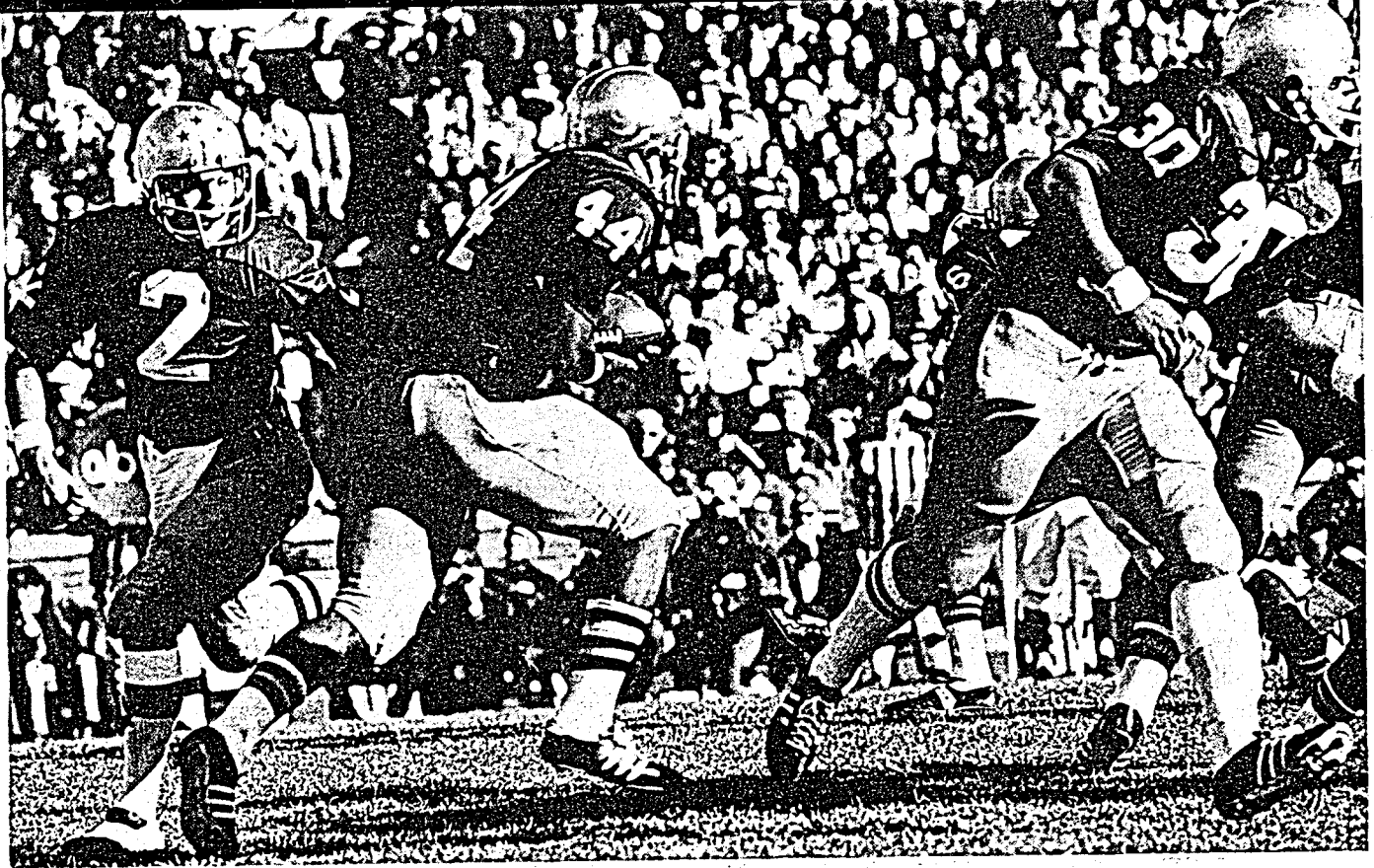
The first quarter proved to be indecisive as the Irish were unable to sustain a drive once inside the Spartan 40. This forced Bob Thomas to attempt field goals of 49 and 52 yards, both of which fell short. Though State was unable to gain even one first down in this initial quarter, they did have plenty of golden opportunities, as one Clements interception and one Bullock fumble, the latter coming at the ND 20, could have given the Spartans the needed momentum.

The Irish finally awoke after a missed Spartan field goal attempt at the beginning of the second quarter, and drove 80 yards in 13 consistent plays, using up 5:44 of the clock. The drive saw Penick break around left for 16 yards and Clements fake and run for another 19. Clements directed the scoring march entirely on the ground, all four of the ND backs carrying the ball, with Bullock going over from the one with nine minutes left in the quarter.

After the Spartans were unable to move the ball past their own 40-yard line, Clements went to the air for two important ground gainers and the final Irish tally of the game. First, he hit Casper on a screen, good for 30 yards before Taubert and Sympson caught him. Two plays later, Clements found his split-end Pete Demmerle

*Best, Pennick
and Bullock,
at rest . . .*





... in action with Clements' hand-off.

open at the ten: Demmerle evaded one would-be tackler and went in all alone for the score at 4:09. This explosive drive covered 63 yards in four plays, and it looked like the Irish might be coming to life at last.

With less than a minute to play in the first half, though, Clements was decked solidly and replaced by Cliff Brown. The shake-up later got the blame for a crucial and damaging interception early in the second half. However, the first half ended with a missed 55-yard field goal attempt by Bob Thomas. The Irish had thoroughly outplayed the Spartans, outgaining them 266 yards to 49. With the score at 14-0 and with the momentum clearly on the side of the blue and gold, there seemed to be no way the hapless Spartans could capitalize on how prepared they really were.

But then, after State had surrendered the ball on their first series of downs in the third quarter, Bob Zanot fumbled the punt return and Moore recovered, placing State on the 18-yard line of the Irish. The ND defense battled heroically, dropping Baggett and the Spartans for a loss. But the field position was perfect, and at 8:59, the Spartans' Dirk Kryt split the posts to diminish the Irish lead to 14-3. Both teams settled down to back-and-forth football until five series later, when a Clements aerial was intercepted by the Spartan line-backer Ray Nester, who ran it back thirty yards for the touchdown. With 13:56 to play in the game, the score stood at 14-10, and the Irish were faced with an eager Spartan team which, at the moment, had all the momentum.

When State regained control of the ball four plays later, Baggett lost no time in heading for the Irish goal line. He contributed a run of 20 for a first down on the Michigan State 36, then threw the bomb to Fortney for 40 yards before Rudnick dropped him at the ND 24.

The situation looked grave until Mike Townsend collected his second interception of the season on the ND 16, picked up three crucial blocks and 47 yards to the MSU 37.

Two first downs later on the MSU 13, Clements and Bullock crossed signals on a handoff which bounced for a fumble into the hands of Michigan State's Mike Duda, thus denying the Irish security points in the first opportunity. Seven plays later, when Notre Dame was forced to punt from the MSU 47, the State safety Simpson fumbled the ball, quickly recovered by ND's Steve Sylvester on the Michigan State 13-yard line. For the second time, the Irish were unable to capitalize, and the ball went over to State on downs on the MSU 15-yard line.

The last play of the game, a Baggett desperation pass, found its way to safety Tim Rudnick who returned it again to that infamous MSU 13 as time ran out, leaving the score 14-10.

"Our offense, particularly in the second half, did not execute up to our normal standards," explained Ara after the game. "Our offensive mistakes not only kept us from scoring but gave them all of their 10 points as well.

"We won," he added, "and that's the important thing. We lose sight of the fact that we did win. It's real tragedy that people come into the locker room with their heads down as if we had lost the ball game. We're going to make mistakes, but we're also going to improve and you have to keep things in mind."

The pollsters seemed to have all things in mind when they listed Notre Dame precariously holding onto ninth place, just one vote in each poll above tenth-place Louisiana State.

Bob Thomas' two-point after conversions of the day gave him sole possession of sixth place in NCAA competition records for consecutive PAT's, raising his total to 53 straight.

Rice coach Al Conover's pregame preparations seemed to center around everything except football prior to the October 13 Irish-Owl meeting. Conover invited every Catholic priest in the diocese to back up the team on the field. He sent 17 "cocaptains," all the Catholics on the team, for the opening toss of the coin, and started a freshman quarterback (his only Catholic quarterback). He also spent a great deal of time terrorizing his Owls into believing that the Irish were all superhumans, hoping to prod a David-and-Goliath performance from his lagging squad.

The Rice Owls might have come into the game looking for a mythical rise to triumph, but they weren't thinking about the basics of football until the Irish showed them the fundamentals of scoring. Taxed but unruffled by Conover's antics, the Irish managed to recover from the sloppy ball of the previous week to stage a 28-0 thrashing of the hapless Owls.

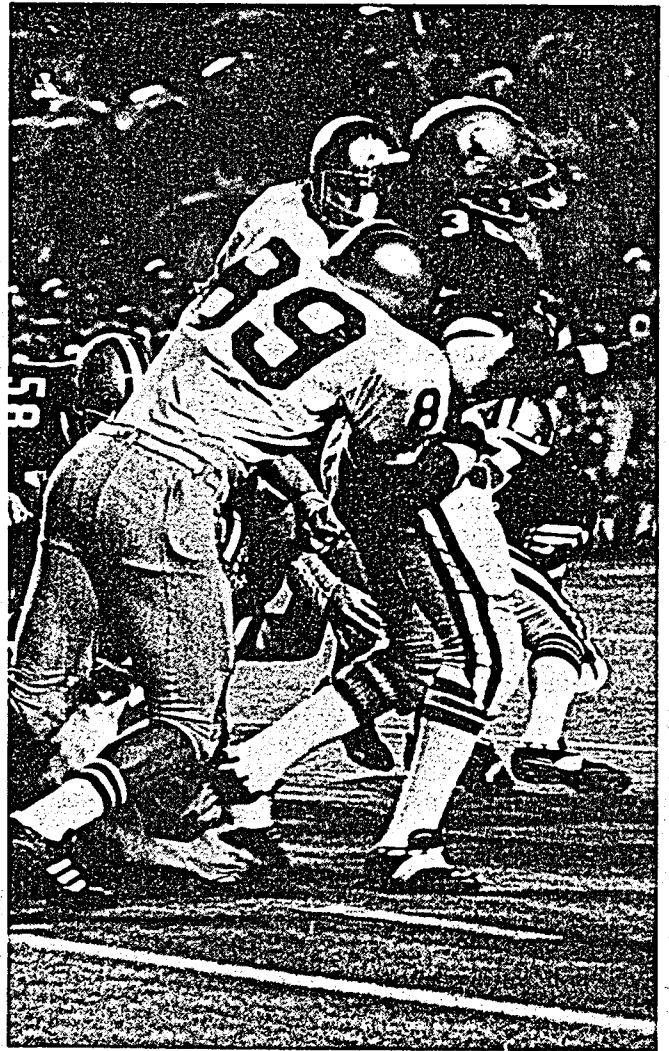
At first, it looked as if the Irish offense had not learned its lesson from the Michigan State game. Twice in a row the Irish fumbled the ball in Rice territory stopping otherwise impressive drives. While the Fighting Irish were trying to align their attack, the Owls were pulling double reverses and the like with similar unsuccessful results. Finally, after a Bullock midfield fumble, the Owls' quarterback Kramer returned the favor, bobbling the ball away to ND's defensive end Jim Stock on a keeper. This seemed to be the needed impetus for the Irish offense, which drove 51 yards in nine plays, Bullock going over from the one for the score with 2:02 remaining in the first quarter.

After a Clements pass intended for Demmerle was broken up by the Owls' Henley, Clements stuck to the ground for the duration of this scoring drive, collecting 25 yards on two runs himself, and calling on fullback Wayne Bullock five times for 16 important yards.

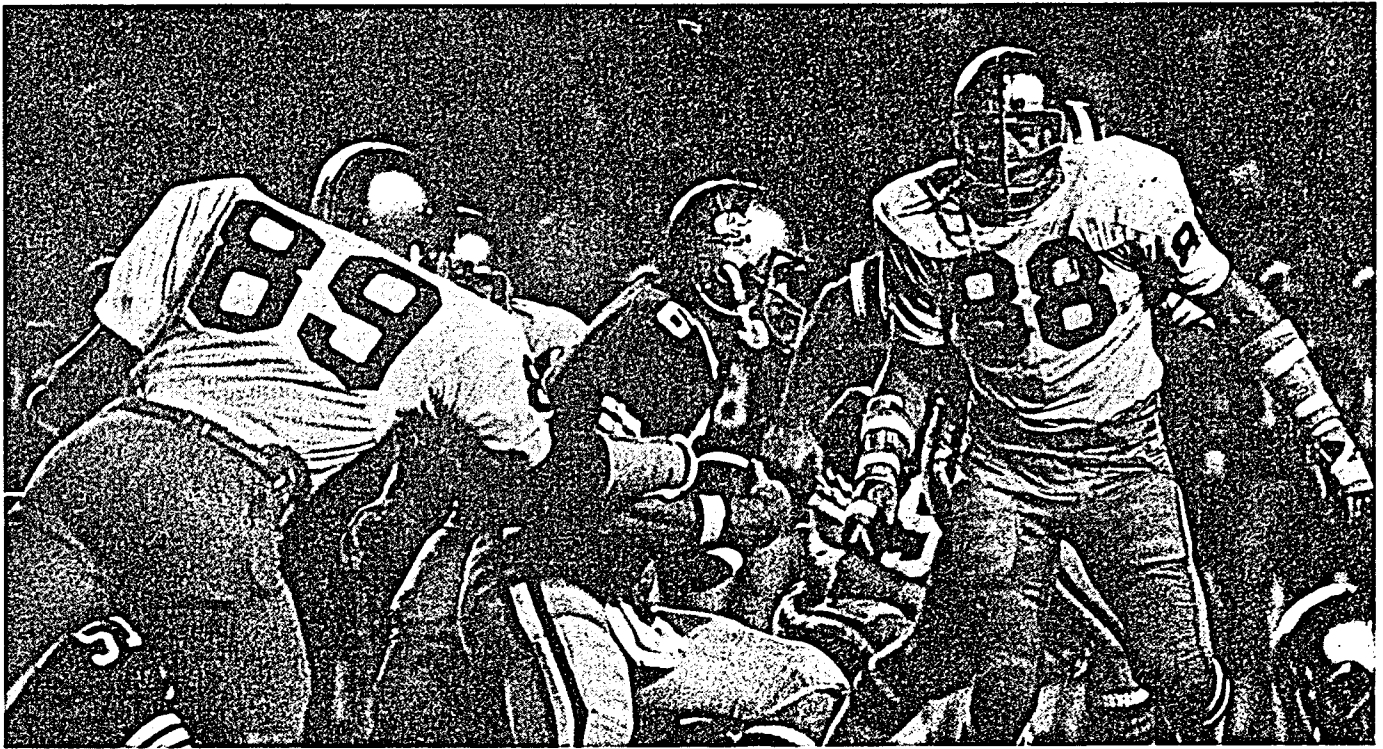
The second quarter began with the first of a series of calls that would continue to thwart Irish drives in the next two quarters. On Bob Zanot's 10-yard punt return,

Notre Dame was assessed 15 yards for clipping, putting them back on their own 35-yard line instead of at mid-field. Then, a Penick first-down run was erased by a holding penalty, sending the Irish back to their 22. A fine Clements bootleg of 15 yards was not enough to make up the deficit, though, and Brian Doherty was forced to punt for the first time in the game.

After the ND defense shut off the Owls, the Irish drive was again hindered by penalties, this time 20 yards' worth. Rice received a 15-yard conduct penalty to offset losses, though, and with 6:32 remaining in the half, Clements found tight end Dave Casper all alone at the goal line for a 21-yard touchdown pass.



Ross Browner (89) corrals fullback Roland Boyce (36).



Ross Browner (89) and Mike Fanning (88) close in on Army QB Kramer (6).

Cliff Brown took control for the next set of downs and met the same kind of treatment. On an incomplete pass attempt to Townsend, Notre Dame was penalized 18 yards, a disadvantage they could not overcome. As the ball changed hands, Rice's Kramer took to the air and scared the Irish fans with completions of 13 and 33 yards, both to his end Collins. However, ND's Reggie Barnett put a quick end to that threat when on the ND 9, he stole a Kramer pass intended for Collins, setting up a drive which ended just before the end of the half with a missed 30-yard field goal attempt by Bob Thomas.

During the first half, the Irish offense managed to grind out 271 yards in 44 plays but their substantial gains were offset by more than 70 yards in penalties. The wet and humid conditions made for poor ball handling as each team lost fumbles, and the Irish stole one interception.

The second half began in fine form with the Fighting Irish marching 81 yards, beginning with a sharp 39-yard kick-off return by Gary Diminick. Art Best added a scamper of 31 yards, breaking two tackles and setting up a Bullock blast from the one over left end for the score. After only two and one-half minutes of play in the second half, the score became 21-0, Notre Dame.

The Notre Dame defense shined in the second half, limiting the Owls to only three first downs, limiting six Owl drives to four plays each. The front four forced losses of 13 yards on two consecutive series, and stopped

the Owls for no gain on two more. The defense allowed the Owls only 44 yards through the air for the entire second half, and destroyed the Rice running game for a negative 14 yards, leaving the Owls with a net 30 yards in total offense for the second half. Irish linebackers Greg Collins and Gary Potempa combined for fourteen tackles, and the front four got to the quarterback four times, thrice in the second half for negative 40 yards.

The final Irish tally of the game came with Cliff Brown at the helm, running and passing in four of seven plays for 59 yards, including a 38-yard keeper for the score with 1:23 remaining in the game. Junior Al Samuels also excelled, carrying the ball for 15 yards and snaring one Cliff Brown pass for 10 yards.

From final statistics, there was no doubt that Notre Dame had thoroughly dominated Rice, both on the scoreboard and on the field. The Irish ran and threw for 536 yards, with Clements netting 99 yards on the ground and 92 yards in the air, and Brown adding 55 and 38 yards, respectively. The Irish were hurt by eight penalties for 103 yards. The Owls, on the other hand, were limited to only 142 net yards offensively, with only 63 gained on the ground.

Placekicker Bob Thomas moved into second place on the NCAA consecutive PAT record book with his four successful conversions at Houston, and Brian Doherty took over first place in Notre Dame total punting yardage records with 4,715, surpassing Bob Williams' 1950 record of 4,606 yards.

Four Years Later

--Dave Casper

Though he was asked to switch to tight end in the spring, team captain Dave Casper did well enough at his new position to earn the Hering Award as the Outstanding Offensive Lineman. There, his duties were primarily blocking, but he also turned in a fine job as a receiver, including his three catches for 75 yards in the Sugar Bowl.

Last year, Dave was named to the Academic All-America team. This year, he made first team on the UPI, Football Writers, Kodak and Walter Camp All-America Teams in addition to second team in the Associated Press All-America Team.

After three and a half years at Notre Dame, I would like to express to you just a few of my own thoughts about Notre Dame as a student and as a member of the football team during this time. When you first arrive, graduation seems so very distant but it comes so quickly.

My class of freshmen came to Notre Dame on September 5, 1970, just in time to get a glimpse at a Notre Dame scrimmage. We intently watched Walt Patulski, Mike Kadish and what seemed to be an endless supply of monsters go through what we knew was waiting for us. The team seemed so very big and the coaches seemed so very mean. If it was not for the fact that our mothers and fathers had come with us, half of the class may have gone home that first day. I remember asking myself why I didn't just go to some reputable school as a student; forget football—it seemed so impossible that I would ever play and it seemed inevitable that I would suffer such bodily harm that my mother wouldn't recognize me when I finally came home. All but the bravest, and the injured, lived from day to day wondering when we would first “prep” for the varsity. So many stories floated around the crowded freshman lockers about the “cheap shots” reserved for this new crop. All of the frustration of the previous freshmen years would be doled out to us unmercifully.

When that day finally came and passed, we lay in our beds wondering what was in store for us tomorrow. We found out after a couple of weeks that good football technique was to duck as often as possible and never try to block the varsity ball players too hard. Each of us prayed that the men we were over had a good game the week before and heaven forbid that we should have to play over a second team man who had been first team the previous week.

Life at Notre Dame has changed since those old days. Graduation which was once so very far away has become so imminent. Notre Dame has changed also. In my first three years I experienced a very close-knit community. People were allowed not only to learn in the classrooms but also to learn from the experiences of interacting with their friends. Of course those were the days of the “section parties,” where hallmates could come together in a semiprivate atmosphere and loosen up from the previous week's pressures. The section took the place of what other universities call fraternities. There was a bond within the section and at the center of that bond there were the old section parties.

Progress has hit Notre Dame and the outdated “section party” is being pushed aside in lieu of more meaningful types of participation. Parties must now be expertly planned and the rector (or I suppose some worthy surrogate) must be the guest of honor. Parties that are self-contained (I think that means within one room) are alright as long as you accurately predict attendance and noise levels and do not venture into the hall with a loaded glass of alcohol.

Discipline at Notre Dame has also improved, or at least the effects of discipline—suspensions, probations etc. (mostly suspensions if you ask me). It is my own unscientific observation that the average student is afraid to do something wrong for fear that even what seemed to be the least act of disobedience may be blown up to a suspendable offense. Perhaps this seems to be an exaggeration; but to many students, the idea is indeed real.

The net effect of the progress at Notre Dame has been to increase the profit margins of such places as the Club “C” and the Library (not the memorial one). Even the best of students may awake in the morning with a slightly stiff neck from gazing over his shoulder, and the more nervous student must be careful not to get whiplash.

At this time I would like to sincerely thank Mr. Ara Parseghian for providing me with a close-knit group to replace the one I seem to have lost. And indeed that is the center of the success of the 1973 Fighting Irish football team.

It was last spring when the change began; the players were closer to each other and there was a hint that the coaches might become closer to the players. Of course there were the usual disagreements over hair length and such; but this has been around as long as Willie Townsend. Perhaps it was because we knew we must make amends for the Orange Bowl; I don't really know why but throughout the spring this new phenomenon could be felt.

We arrived on campus the 26th and 27th of August. Double practices were in front of us—not a pleasant thought. Doubles is more than two two-hour practices. It is also two one and a half-hour meetings; three meals with almost real food; and the 95 degree + temperatures. Up at 6:30 AM and to bed at 10:30 PM. The one thing that keeps you going is the honest belief that at some distant date doubles will end. They did, and finally so did those terrible scrimmages which were much worse to participate in than to watch. Maturity had dispersed the fear that we felt when watching our scrimmages as freshmen. And there were no more freshmen to watch us because they were playing alongside of us. I for one am glad that I didn't have to scrimmage when I was a frosh.

In just less than one month the prefall period was over and Northwestern was here. I hoped and prayed for a good game and with good reason; this was my last chance. At pregame meal, Ara notified us of Texas' upset loss at the hands of Miami. Coach is always warning us about these things and perhaps this warning helped. We won 44-0. The next two games were lackluster victories, but victories they were. Our young offensive line was not to come around until the fourth game where we ran over Rice for 576 total yards. After a poor first quarter against Army (we were losing 3-0) we played a decent game and won 63-3. After the game there were no triumphant cheers; only "beat S.C."

That we did. Our young offensive line was now a veteran one. Our defense was as good as ever. The season was played out in good Notre Dame fashion. All that was ahead was the Sugar Bowl. That game was witnessed by all and needs no summaries. What was not witnessed were those lonely days practicing in the Convo and the nights spent in the Morris Inn. There was little to break the monotony except to go to the Library for a quick one. (Corby's was closed.) The work paid off. Some of us knew that it would all along; others were fighting off thoughts of 40-6. But we all knew that we must give it our best shot—we only had one.

What makes a season like this? Unity? This is a part. Also having two outstanding freshmen is another part. Three men who played a great role were Mark Brenneman, Steve Neece and Steve Sylvester. Mark came back after a year and a half from a broken back to lead the offensive line. Steve Neece fought through a knee operation, a dislocated ankle, a dismal year on the prep team; and even a "bullet hole" (gouged in his head by his helmet) to play great ball. Steve Sylvester fought a different problem. He had his position all sewed up but refused to believe it and worked as hard as any of the others who were fighting to keep theirs. Dedication like this is indispensable. Michael "Duke" Fanning stuck with it after a half year on the prep team to solidify a defensive line that was nonexistent the previous year. Greg Collins came off of a broken

wrist, Gary Potempa stepped in after playing behind Jim O'Malley for two years, George Hayduk, in a situation where most players would have quit, replaced Steve Niehaus with no loss to the defense.

There's much more—the great play and hustle of Frank Pomarico who came off of torn ligaments in his ankle in an unbelievable seven weeks. Gerard DiNardo played great. Peter Demmerle's great year, not only as a receiver but as a blocker, proved to all that the previous year's fear about his speed was indeed wrong. Perhaps his dedication, great hands, and moves and his tenacity were overlooked. I'm certain that our second-



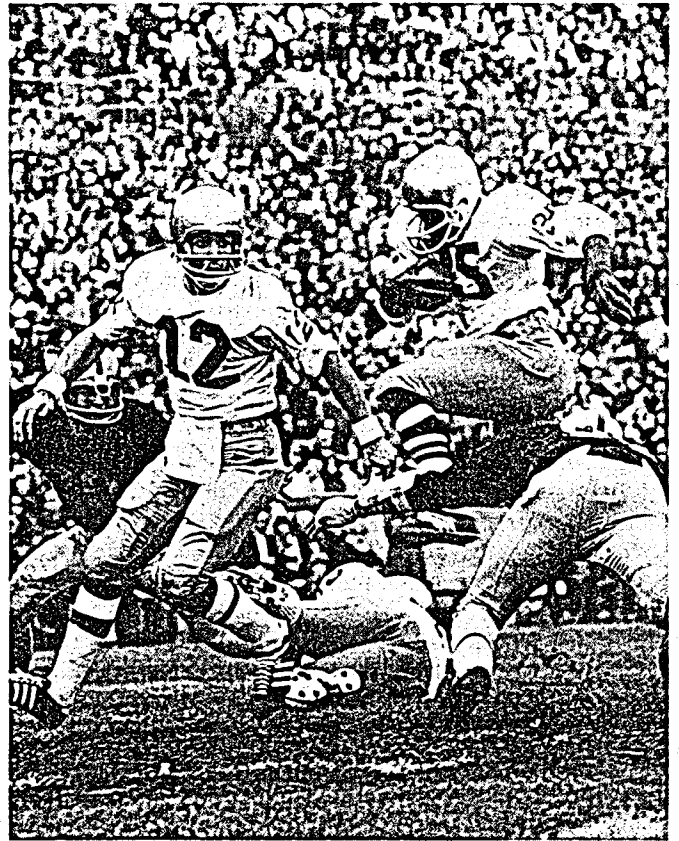
ary was the best it has ever been; and that the offensive backfield were perhaps the best group since the Four Horsemen. They not only ran but they blocked well. I will just mention Tom Clements because words do not express his talents and leadership. And of course the coaches enter the picture. Here again I cannot accurately express the significance of a coach who instills emotions into his players along with the fundamentals.

After all is said, it is impossible to pick out one man or one thing that makes a great team, nor can you remember every one of them. I guess all that may be said is after my four years of football—We're No. 1.

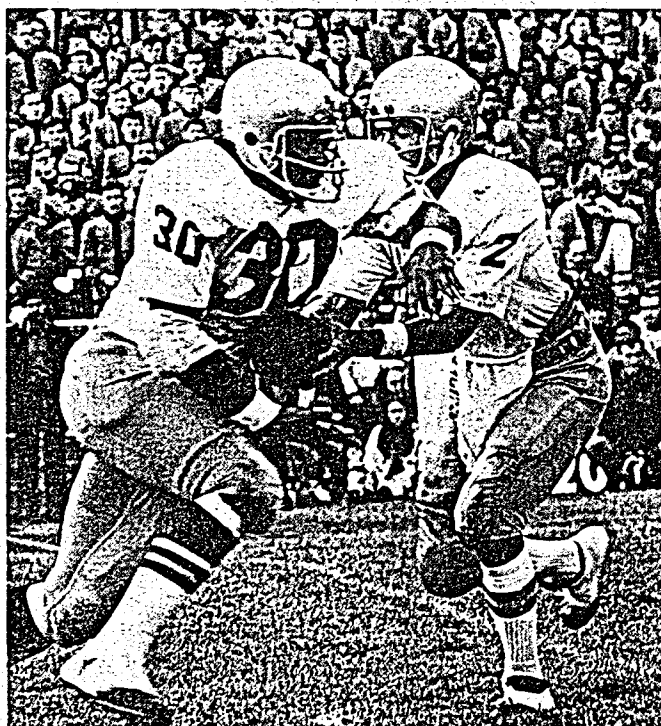
The first time Notre Dame ever played Army back in 1913, Gus Dorais and Knute Rockne shocked the cadets and the rest of the football world with the forward pass, rocking the Cadets for a 35-13 victory. This year things were a bit different as the Irish ran circles around the Cadets for six of their eight touchdowns, en route to a 62-3 whitewashing. It was the first time that Notre Dame played in Michie Stadium, and they seemed to acclimate themselves very well to the new terrain, sprinting for 485 rushing yards compared to an Army total of 10.

Memories of the great and unbeatable Army teams of the War Years survived only during the first quarter as the Cadets capitalized on a quick Clements interception, catching the napping Irish for three. The preceding series had been tentative at best, with Notre Dame looking uncertain and new against an eager and determined Army squad.

With a minute and twenty seconds left in the quarter, though, the Irish came out and began the first of their eight unanswered scoring drives. Since it wasn't until 13:02 of the second quarter that Eric Penick tallied for the Irish, Army dominated the first quarter, at least in the books. But runs of 21 yards by Penick, 11 yards by Best and 19 yards by Clements set the tempo for the rest of the game.



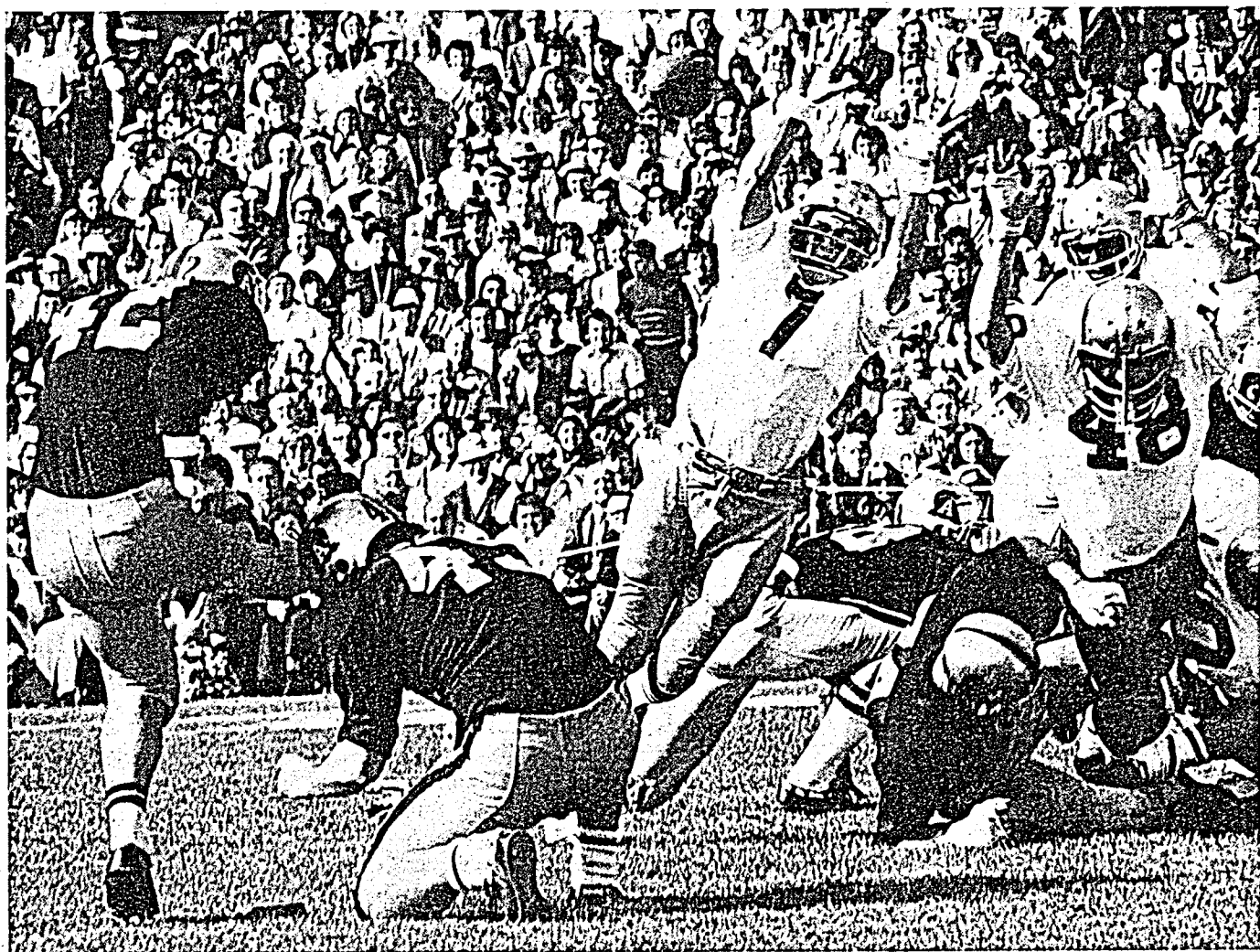
QB Frank Allocco (12) leads the way for leaping back Al Hunter (25).



Four Cadet plays later, Clements proved himself a proud descendent of the Dorais-Rockne tradition by nestling the ball in the arms of Dave Casper for a 34-yard touchdown toss. Less than five minutes later, Art Best capped a 59-yard march by racing around right end for 5 yards and the third ND tally of the day. Not to be out-performed by their counterparts, the Irish defense put on a little display of its own, dumping the Army quarterback Fink for 16 yards on the next series.

Cliff Brown took control for the next march, proving that he too can throw the ball, once for 18 yards to Dave Casper, once for 15 to Willie Townsend, and again to Casper for three and the score with eleven seconds remaining in the half. Incredibly, the Irish had one more opportunity to score in the half when Ross Browner recovered the fumbled kick-off return by Army's Ramsberger. However, Bob Thomas' 35-yard attempt went wide, and the Irish retired to the locker room holding a 28-3 advantage.

The Irish stayed on the ground for the entire second half, but this didn't inhibit their scoring; five more touchdowns, including a nifty 73-yard punt return by freshman Tim Simon. One of the quickest drives began the third quarter, when a nine-yard run by Wayne Bullock, a 30-yard scamper by Clements, a 10-yard dash by Best and the six-yard capper by Penick took only 58 seconds.



Tim Rudnick (7) strains to block a Barklay field goal attempt.

Not to be outdone, the reserves came in and showed they were up to the challenge. After Bob Zanot grabbed a Witheril pass intended for Ward, Cliff Brown pitched to Samuels for 14 and repeated to Hunter for 22 yards and the sixth Irish tally of the day. Unfortunately, Bob Thomas missed the PAT, ending his consecutive streak at 62 conversions, good enough for second place on the all-time NCAA conversion records.

After third-string quarterback Frank Allocco had directed the Irish through a 42-yard, six-play drive to make the score 48-3, the Cadets mounted their first real threat of the day. The Army quarterback Fink connected with his tight end Ward for 24 yards, simultaneously with a Notre Dame face mask penalty, which gave the Cadets first and 10 on the Notre Dame 35-yard line. The Irish defense, minus the injured Steve Niehaus, still showed tremendous power, pushing Army back 10 yards before the fourth-and-20 punt.

Simon's return capped the scoring and the game, as the Irish found themselves on top of the widest margin for a Notre Dame victory over Army. The score equalled the largest bulge recorded in Army's favor, a 59-0 thrashing of the Irish back in 1944. If these records weren't enough, this 41st resumption of the classic

Notre Dame-Army gridiron struggle managed to attract a new record attendance of 42,503 at Michie Stadium.

Barclay's field goal, which followed Bob Johnson's interception of a pass by Tom Clements and which represented the only Army scoring of the afternoon, marked the first time this season the Irish had been scored on in the first quarter.

"After Army scored their field goal in the first quarter, our ensuing drive was probably our best drive of the ball game," commented a happy Ara. "It was unfortunate for Army the way we scored. They kept giving us excellent field position and we capitalized on their turnovers. Army was trying to get back in the game in the second half and as a result, they had to gamble. That can backfire. By the end of the game we weren't running anything except straight ahead plays."

"Notre Dame is Notre Dame," is all the disappointed Coach Tom Cahill of Army could say after the game. At this point, the Irish knew what that meant, Army knew it, and the rest of the football world was soon to find out.

"I just remember breaking free," said Eric Penick above the tumult and shouting that was the Notre Dame locker room, "I can't remember anything else." Penick's memory lapse is understandable, as he was busy out-racing several Trojan defenders to an eighty-five-yard touchdown that sent the Irish winging to a 23-14 victory over arch-rival Southern Cal. In doing so, the junior halfback from Cleveland gave a capacity crowd of over 59,000, plus an almost nationwide television audience, something to remember: Notre Dame's first victory over the Trojans since 1966.

The Irish had been pointing for this encounter since last fall's 45-23 debacle in California, when USC tailback Anthony Davis slashed and slithered his way through the Notre Dame defense for a record six touchdowns. That game and the subsequent Orange Bowl rout had stung the Irish pride; to redeem themselves they just had to win this game.

Actually, it was more a crusade than anything else. Blue-and-gold-clad knights in search of a holy grail that would find its rightful conclusion in the USC end zone. Not once, but again and again until the invaders from the west were vanquished. From head coach Ara Parseghian down to the lowliest equipment boy, the entire Notre Dame team had dedicated itself to a single goal: beat USC!

That week there was talk of the "best ever" practice session; spontaneous pep rallies broke out all over campus; signs and banners were hung from every available dorm window, all with their single-minded message. The psyche job had begun.

Unbeaten Southern Cal came into the game with a tie by Oklahoma the only blemish on their record; the Irish were likewise unbeaten through their first five contests. Clearly, this game would have national repercussions. Perhaps a possible national championship even hung in the balance.

And that balance was soon tipped in favor of Notre Dame. Just ask Lynn Swann. On the first Trojan play of the game, after ND had punted, freshman cornerback Luther Bradley banked Swann so hard that he dislodged the flanker's helmet as the intended pass fell harmlessly away.

The Trojans couldn't move the ball on this possession and had to punt. Tim Rudnick got a hand on Jim Lucas' kick and it went out of bounds on the USC twenty-eight. The Irish, however, couldn't capitalize on this break completely and, after getting one first down, had to settle for a Bob Thomas field goal from the thirty-two and a 3-0 lead with 7:08 remaining in the first period.

That the Irish wanted no part of Anthony Davis' kick return prowess became apparent as Thomas kicked a short, spinning ball that was fielded by up-man Manfred Moore, who returned it ten yards to the thirty-five. Davis then swept left tackle for eight yards and the

Trojans got another fifteen when Rudnick was penalized for a late hit. From the ND forty-two, Davis got four more on a run and then quarterback Pat Haden flipped a twenty-six-yard pass to Swann down the middle. Working from the Irish twelve now, Davis sped outside for ten yards to the two and, on third down, cruised around his right end for the score. Chris Limahelu added the extra point and it was USC 7 ND 3 with 2:22 left.

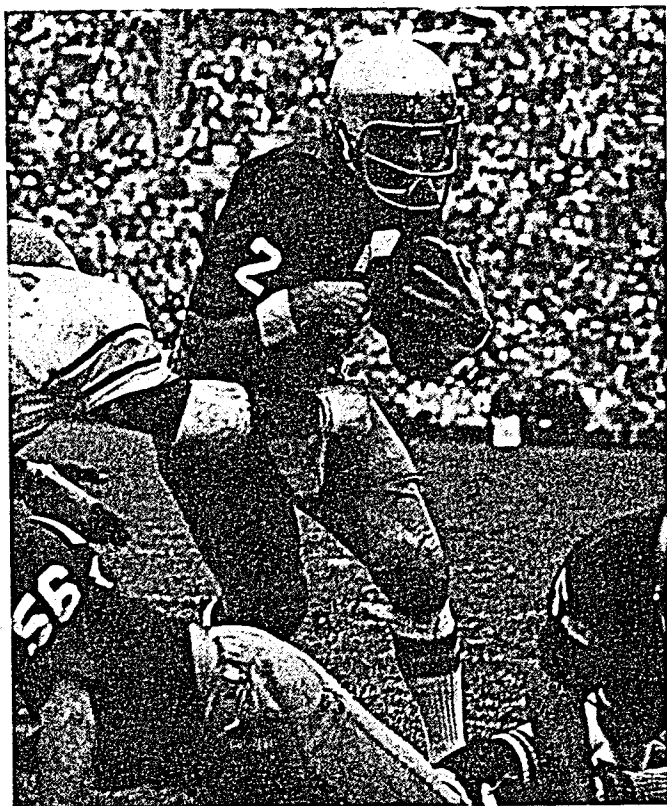
That score was Davis' seventh touchdown against Notre Dame in less than five quarters; ominous reminders of a year ago came to mind. But this was Notre Dame stadium, not the Coliseum, and the Irish defense, a year older, was able to hold the Trojan star in check for most of the game.

A short second-period punt went out of bounds on the ND forty-four and the Irish offense began moving from there. Clements tossed a fourteen yarder to split end Pete Demmerle for one first down and got another at the Trojan thirty-two on a fourth-down plunge by Art Best. They drove all the way down to the fourteen but the Southern Cal defense stiffened and Thomas came in to kick his second field goal, this one from the thirty-three, to make it 7-6 Trojans with 5:26 left till halftime.

That could have been the halftime score but Lucas came up with another short punt and Notre Dame took over at the forty-seven. With just under four minutes left to play, they began driving for the touchdown that would put them ahead for good. Russ Kornman, filling in for the injured fullback Wayne Bullock, got a first down on three successive carries. Clements hit Demmerle with a thirteen-yard pass to the SC twenty-three, and then, on second down, Demmerle stepped in front of two Trojan defenders for one of his patented diving catches at the thirteen. This brought the stadium to its feet and a television audience to the edge of their seats.

You could have cut the tension with a knife as Clements ran a keeper up the middle for five yards down to the eight. After Penick lost a yard, Best charged over tackle to the two where, with fifty-nine seconds remaining, Notre Dame called its third, and last, time-out. Sensing an imminent score, the Irish fans were going wild as all eyes were glued to the north end zone. Bullock almost gave them what they wanted but was stacked up short at the one-foot line. Then, with thirty seconds remaining, Clements unleashed all that pent-up energy by leaping over left guard on a delay for the score. Thomas' kick made it 13-7, the ND band struck up the "Fight Song" and the stands became a jubilant, dancing throng.

The Irish got the ball back again quickly when Bradley intercepted a Haden pass intended for Swann; but they couldn't capitalize on it, as a final Clements' pass went awry with time running out.



Clements breaks through the hole behind blocks from Frank Pomarico (56) and Steve Neece (64).

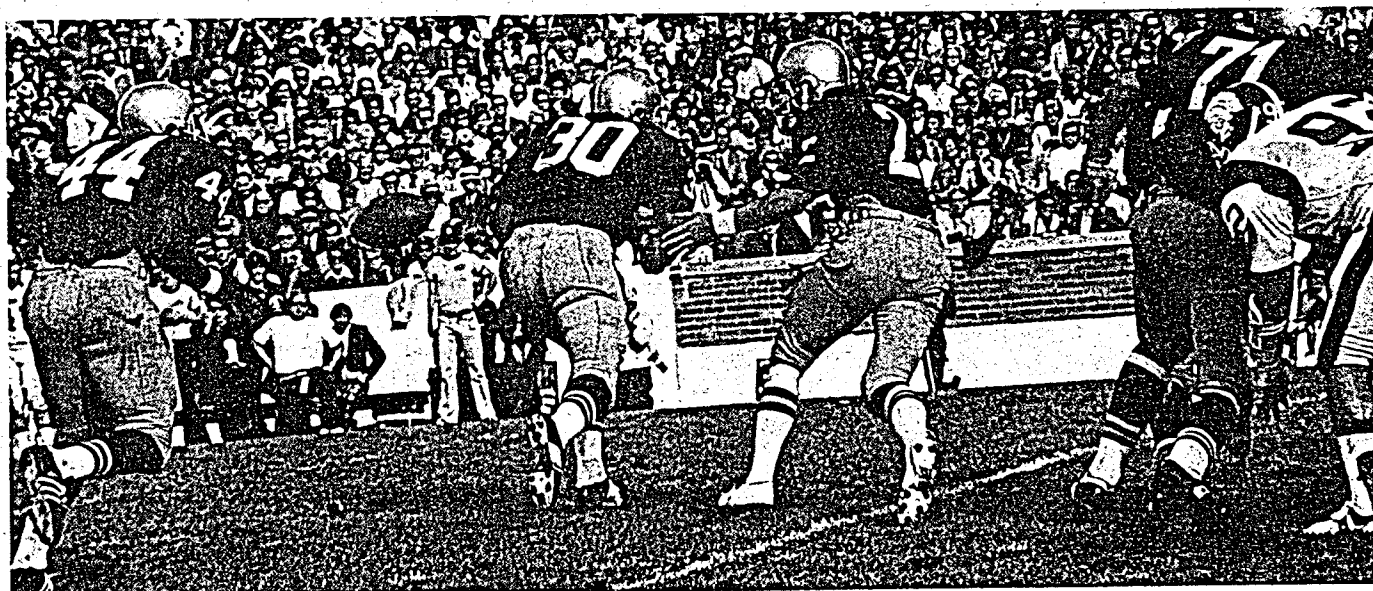
The Trojans had come into the ball game looking for the "big play." It was those two spectacular kickoff returns by Davis that broke ND's back last year and SC was angling for a repeat performance this time around. They got it at the start of the second half, but not in the manner they had hoped for. Following a Trojan punt, Notre Dame took over at their own fifteen-yard line. After pausing for the usual television time-out, the Irish lined up in their power rush offense: both ends in tight and a full house backfield. Penick took Clements' pitch sweeping to his left, cut back following blocks by DiNardo and Pomarico, broke Richard Wood's lunging tackle try at the twenty-three and then it was katie-bar-the-door as the fleet halfback outraced three Trojan



defenders to pay dirt and glory. Pandemonium broke out as Thomas' point was good and the Irish led decisively by 20-7 with 11:12 left in the third period. Penick's long scamper was the fourth longest run from scrimmage in ND history, tying him with four others for that honor.

But the Trojans struck back quickly, displaying the talent and poise that had kept them unbeaten through twenty-three games. Haden hit Swann for thirteen yards right off and when Reggie Barnett was detected roughing J. K. McKay the former was ejected and the ball moved an extra fifteen yards forward. Swann, who snagged three passes during the seventy-yard comeback drive, got the touchdown on a near-perfect twenty-

Clements pitches to Penick behind a blocking Bullock.



seven-yard pass from Haden over the leaping Tom Lopienski, who had come in for the departed Barnett. Limahelu made it 20-14 and suddenly it was anybody's ball game again.

Still, the Irish would not be denied. The defense held again and Dave Boulware punted out at the Irish forty-one. Notre Dame got one first down on an offside penalty and another lucky break when Russ Kornman grabbed Clements' fumbled snap on fourth down and rushed six yards for new life at the SC thirty-two. The Irish got one more first down but could go no further than the fifteen. Thomas came in and booted his third three-pointer of the afternoon to give ND a healthy 23-14 edge with twenty-two seconds left in the period. It had been a most rewarding day for the soccer-style kicker, who never lost his confidence though he had missed eight straight attempts coming into the game.

Though that field goal marked the end of the scoring, it was certainly no climax to the action. The defense held, the offense held onto the ball and though it began drizzling steadily, the fourth period was a bright one for Notre Dame fans.

His primary receivers smothered by an aggressive Irish secondary, Haden drove the Trojans down to the ND twenty on passes to tight end Jim O'Bradovich. Davis, however, continued his frustrations by fumbling the ball away at the sixteen. Tom Parise, the third Irish fullback of the day, got a first down up the middle to the twenty-eight and Clements ran for another one before things bogged down and Brian Doherty boomed a high kick to Swann deep in his own territory. Surrounded by blue-and-gold, the shifty flanker was able to return it only six yards to his own twenty-six. Working from there, the Trojans drove past midfield into Irish territory but when Haden fired a twenty-three-yard pass to J. K. McKay the little split end was hit hard by Townsend and Bradley, the ball was jarred loose and pounced on by Greg Collins at the ND forty. The Irish offense moved for one first down but then Clements committed the first ND turnover of the game by fumbling at the forty-seven. Southern Cal's Monte Doris recovered and the Trojans began moving with just under three minutes left to play.

To his credit, Haden came out firing but Bradley intercepted his pass intended for Swann at the ND twenty-nine and with 2:36 left to play it was all over but the cheering, which had never really stopped since Penick's touchdown anyway. This last crucial turnover was again caused by the aggressive Irish "d." Since Townsend's bump-and-run tactics had shut off the sideline route, Swann was forced to improvise and slant towards the middle instead, hoping that his quarterback would "read" the new maneuver. Haden, however, was throwing in the face of a strong rush and was unable to pick up his flanker's move until it was too late.

With the clock running in their favor, the Irish drove down to the Trojan twenty and as time ran out, thousands of ecstatic students poured onto the field, hoisting the jubilant team and its coaches on their shoulders for a free ride to the lockers. The whole scene was reminiscent of Shea Stadium during the World Series or, closer to home, Notre Dame's stunning, Austin Carr-led upset of UCLA a few years ago.



Afterwards, in the visitors' locker room, Trojan coach John McKay was humming the "Fight Song." "There is," he told his surprised listeners, "nothing else to hum. They won the game. That's it. They were well prepared." So well prepared, in fact, that the Irish offense maintained an almost 2 to 1 advantage in time of possession, 39:36 minutes to 20:24 for the Trojans. Southern Cal was able to gain just 243 yards against the charged-up Notre Dame defense, with only 66 of these coming from their vaunted game. The Irish, by comparison, rolled up 316 yards on the ground and added another 85 on 7 Clements' passes. Only three times in the final twenty-five minutes were the Trojans able to penetrate Notre Dame territory, each time being forced into costly turnovers by the alert, aggressive Irish defenders.

"I am tremendously proud of this football team of ours," commented coach Ara Parseghian afterwards. "Southern Cal played great football during their streak and did so today . . . because their twenty-three-game streak began here at Notre Dame, I think it's appropriate that it ended here as well. Our kids put forth a tremendous effort and they deserved to win."

The victory moved the Irish up to fifth place in both polls, with a healthy distance between them and sixth-ranked Penn State. However, there was an equally impressive gap between Notre Dame and fourth-ranked Michigan. Along about this time, there was at least one believer outside of the Notre Dame community as the Irish garnered one first-place vote in the UPI rating.

I get a Kick out of Life

Notre Dame kicker Bob Thomas had been experiencing a frustrating season until the Irish beat Southern Cal when his three field goals proved the difference in the 23-14 game.

And some of Thomas' biggest frustrations were with his coach, Ara Parseghian.

"It all started the week of the Northwestern game," Thomas remembers. "I made up a cheer (a Notre Dame football custom) and I was supposed to pat Coach Parseghian on the back at the end. Instead I got carried away and slapped him on the face.

"That's the first time since sophomore year I've checked the bulletin board to see if I was dressing for the game," he laughs.

Thomas hasn't tried to make any alibis for his kicking this season either. After connecting on two field goal attempts at Purdue he missed eight more before his three-for-three day against the Trojans.

"I had some tough tries during that streak. Against Michigan State I tried kicks of 42, 49 and 55 yards into the wind. And I just plain missed some chip shots. But calling it a slump doesn't justify it."

"I said a prayer at the beginning of the season and told God that I didn't want any recognition all season if I could just have it for the Southern Cal game," Thomas relates. "After breaking my PAT streak at Army and missing two field goals, one of which I thought was good, I walked back to my sixth-floor room. I opened the curtains and looked toward heaven and said, 'I know I told you I didn't want any big games until USC, but this is getting ridiculous.'"

Thomas was granted his request but not before he took some more ribbing from his coach.

"One day at practice Coach drop-kicked a field goal 32-yards," says Thomas. "He turned to me and asked if I had seen that. I nodded and he quickly reminded me that I had missed a few from just that far.

"But then he told me not to worry about it because I was going to beat USC with my field goals. Can you imagine how great that made me feel?"

Thomas' performance against the Trojans marked the fourth time in his Notre Dame career that he connected on three field goals. That ties him with Gus Dorais for the single-game record. It also earned him the offensive player of the game award from Chevrolet and the Notre Dame Quarterback Club.

But his most important, and certainly most remembered, field goal of the season was the 19-yard completion against Alabama in the closing minutes of the Sugar Bowl. Thomas had already tried a 48-yard boot that fell short just as the first half ended. This left the score 14-10, Notre Dame, but the extra points might have meant a bit more breathing room.

With 9:33 left in the final quarter, Bryant showed a little of his razzle-dazzle, sending in Todd to replace

Rutledge at quarterback. Todd handed off to Mike Stock, who turned and whipped a pass right back to the reserve who raced all alone for the tally.

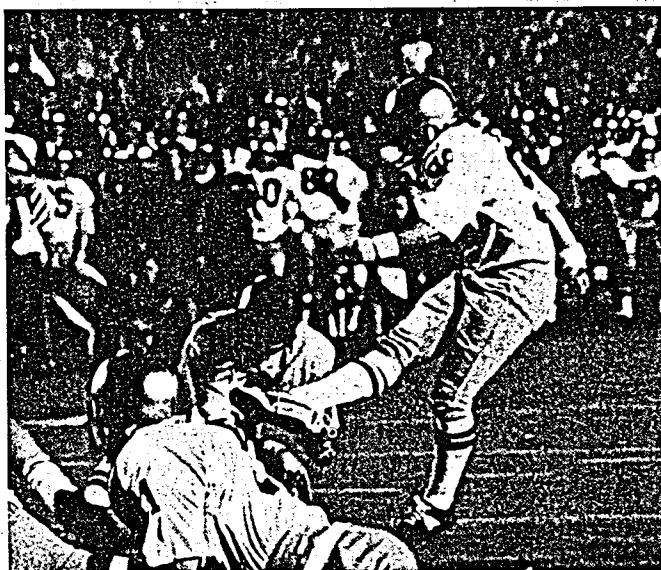
With the score 23-21, Davis missed the PAT, leaving the Irish with a possible field goal victory. Twelve plays later, Thomas had his golden opportunity — of the game, of the season, and, certainly, of his career. From 19 yards out, the senior split the uprights with a chip shot to send the Irish ahead for good, 24-23.

"I thought about it during the whole drive," Thomas later explained. "I wouldn't have minded if we scored a touchdown, but I wasn't on the sidelines saying 'please score and take a burden off my head.'"

"Normally I don't chip the ball, but I decided to this time, and I decided not to follow through as much to make sure I got it over their rush. I knew it would probably go a little to the right or left, but at 19 yards I knew it couldn't drift far enough to miss. I knew I could put points on the board."

Thomas finished the season with a bevy of records to his credit. He has the best career percentage for extra points, .970 (98 out of 101) and the best percentage for one season, 1.000 (34 out of 34, 1972); the most field goals in a game, 3 (four times), most in a season, 9 (1973), most in a career, 21 of 38; most kicking points in a game, 13 (vs. Northwestern, 1972), most in a season, 70 (1973, to lead the team) and is second in career, 161 (Scott Hempel, 164); most field goal attempts in a season, 18 (1973) and most in a career, 38; he connected on 62 straight extra points, missing this year in the Army game, for a mark that was second best in NCAA history.

Bob Thomas' 19-yard field goal that won the Sugar Bowl and the National Championship.



There was at least one apprehensive Irish fan thinking about the outcome of the 47th consecutive Notre Dame-Navy meeting, the longest continuous intersectional rivalry in college football. That individual was Ara Parseghian, the man who was in the position to know best.

"The entire campus, student body and team were caught up in the week-long buildup for the game with Southern Cal and the emotion surrounding this game was feverish," reported Ara. "Consequently, it is natural to expect some letdown, but we can't afford that luxury at this point in the season. We'll probably work twice as hard as we did last week so we can concentrate on what our scouts say is a dangerous Navy offense."

Navy, under the direction of former Middle great George Welsh, surprised Air Force previous to the ND meeting 42-6 and put up a stubborn fight against Michigan before bowing 14-0. "In Cleveland Cooper, quarterback Al Glenly and receivers Larry Van Loan, Bert Calland and Bill Smyth, Navy has as fine a set of offensive tools as we have seen in any Navy team since I've been at Notre Dame," Ara warned. "This is the type of team that could shock us early in the game if we aren't mentally alert."

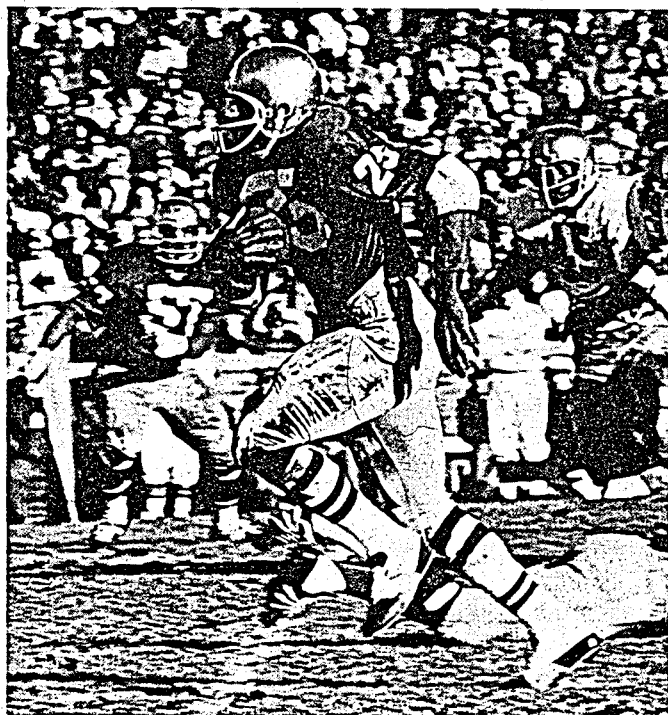
Mentally alert meant continuing the devastating offensive show of force which was amassing over 450 yards per game, and which had scored 113 points in the last three contests. Navy knew exactly whom they had to face, though, as they had voted Clements, Penick and Pomarico to their All-Opponent team in 1972.

The Irish didn't disappoint the Middies, nor the 48th consecutive full house that seemed to lift up the thunder just a little bit better. After a slow, two-touchdown first half, the Fighting Irish exploded into a driving offensive machine which blasted away four second-half touchdowns and one safety, sealing a resounding victory, 44-7.

The Irish couldn't find scoring momentum until late in the first quarter, as solid play on the part of the Middies left the Irish no easy advantages. Finally, Bob Zanot began things right by returning a Stufflebeem punt 25 yards to the ND 39. Clements took over and directed a very solid ground attack until he was faced with a third and six from the Navy 31. Clements couldn't find Demmerle for the crowd and his pass went wide, falling incomplete around the ten. With fourth and six, the word was go; faking a pass, Clements zipped inside to the Navy 20 for eleven yards and a first down.

With the pressure of fourth down passed, Penick took a pitchout from Clements and dashed the remaining twenty yards for the touchdown and the first points of the game. This first drive represented a 61-yard march of nine plays, ending with just 1:25 remaining in the first quarter.

The next time the Irish had the ball, they repeated



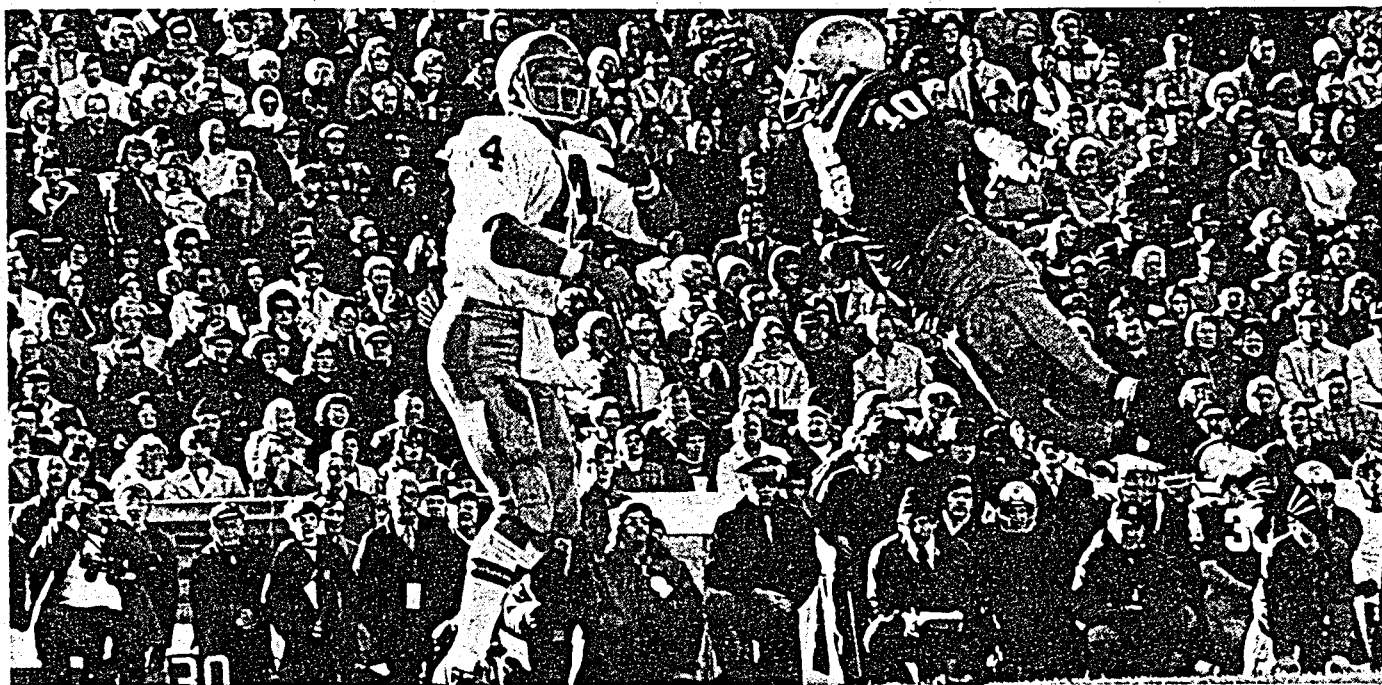
Al Hunter (25) takes off against Navy.

their consistent, ground-consuming drive. A Clements aerial good for 30 yards to Demmerle helped to offset an offensive holding penalty which had the Irish on their own 12 with a first and 20. The backfield continued the regular gains until Clements bootlegged a nifty gain of 22. Al Hunter came in to circle right for another 14, and the Irish found themselves knocking at the touchdown gates from the three. It took three plays to cover those last three yards, though, as Best lost one, regained by Diminick, before Hunter again got the nod and this time, the tally, to make it 14-0, Notre Dame. The Irish ground out 78 yards in 12 plays, running almost ten minutes on the clock.

Navy found some initiative after an aborted Irish drive, and by virtue of a few key Glenly passes, one for 20, put together a promising drive. The ND defense had other ideas, though, and after shutting off the Navy passing attack, they forced Navy to punt from the ND 43. Thus the half ended, Notre Dame in command, 14-0.

The second half began with a bit more excitement as the Irish managed to double the score within five minutes. First, Greg Collins flew out of the blue to gild a Glenly pass on the Navy 32, returning it 13 yards for an Irish first down on the 19. Demmerle made a brilliant diving catch of a Clements toss on the one ("How he held onto that ball when he hit the ground I'll never know," said Parseghian, "It was a fantastic catch."); and Clements dove over for the score.

Reggie Barnett recovered a Potempa-inspired



QB Al Glenny (14) looks wary as Gary Potempa sails in for the tackle.

fumble on the first play of the following Navy series, giving the Irish another first and ten, this time from the Navy 30. After Best pounded out eleven yards straight ahead, Hunter sprinted thirteen yards for the score, but the play was called back to the Navy 23 for offensive clipping. Clements single-handedly regained a good deal of the setback as he kept for 16 yards to the Navy seven. The tally took but one more play as the Navy defense went one way and Al Samuel went the other for seven and paydirt. And there were still more than eleven minutes left on the clock.

Southern Cal seemed like any other memory as the Irish began to play aggressively again. Drew Mahalic cut off another Glenny aerial drive by stealing a short shot on the Irish 34, thus halting Navy's deepest penetration of the afternoon. The second string seemed to be celebrating a little early, though, as they gave away the first of six fumbles in twenty minutes. A significant number of fumbles came on wide pitches and though Clements had been quite successful in completing some hair-raising laterals in the first forty minutes, the reserves couldn't seem to find the handle.

The offensive goofs kept defensive hands full, but the dynamite defense showed it knew just what to do. After Samuels fumbled on the ND 37, the defense limited Jackson to four by foot, forced a wide, out of bounds reception, and another wide Glenny incompleteness. Faced with fourth and six from the ND 33, Navy must have had visions of duplicating the Irish's

similar situation. Mahalic and Browner brutally crushed these dreams and Glenny for a 12-yard loss as he attempted to pass.

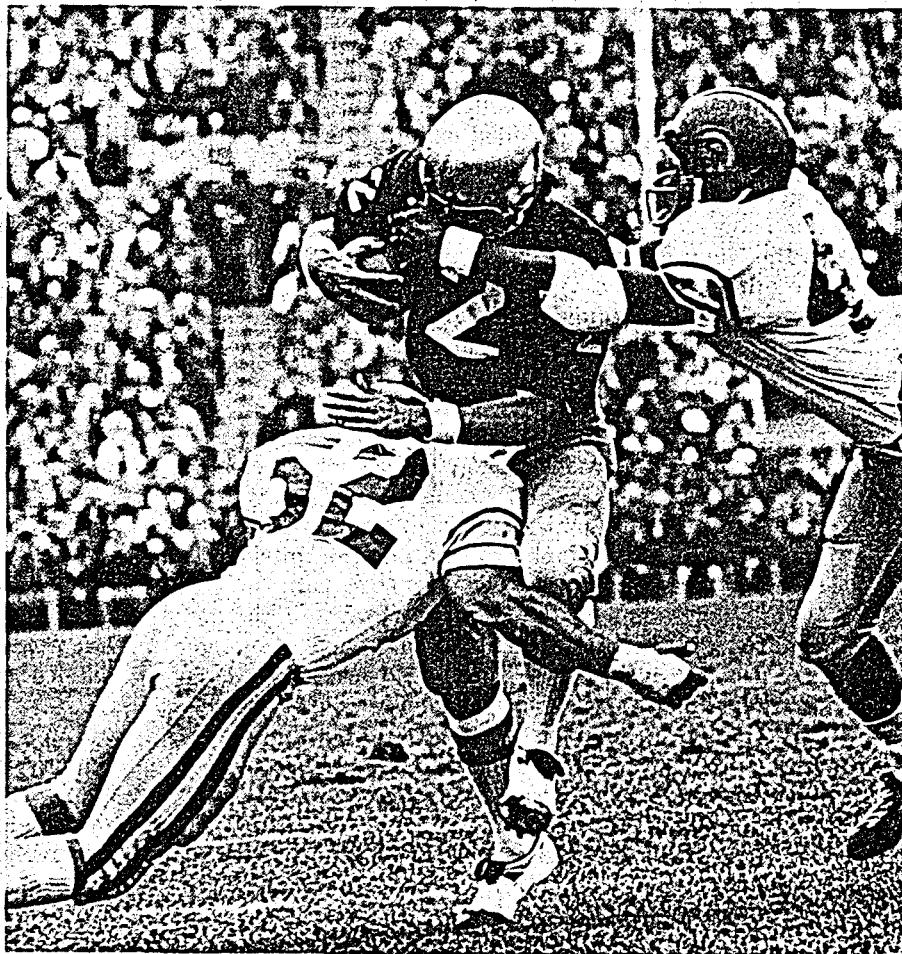
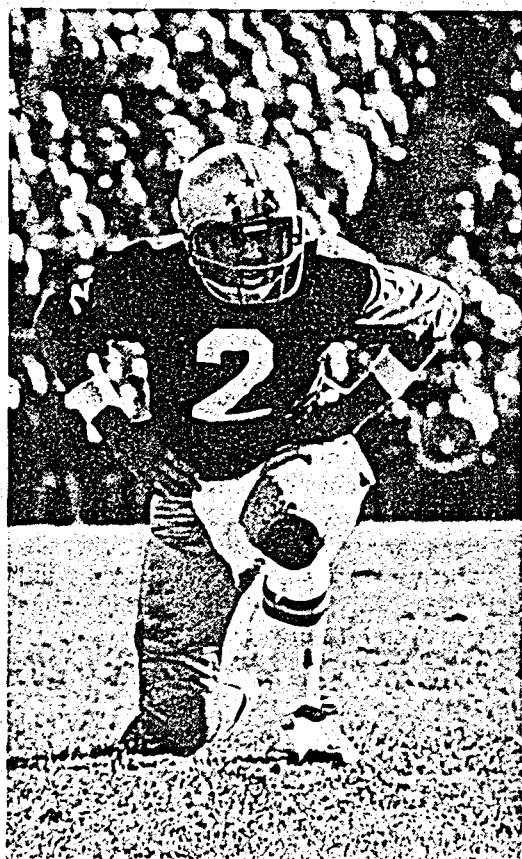
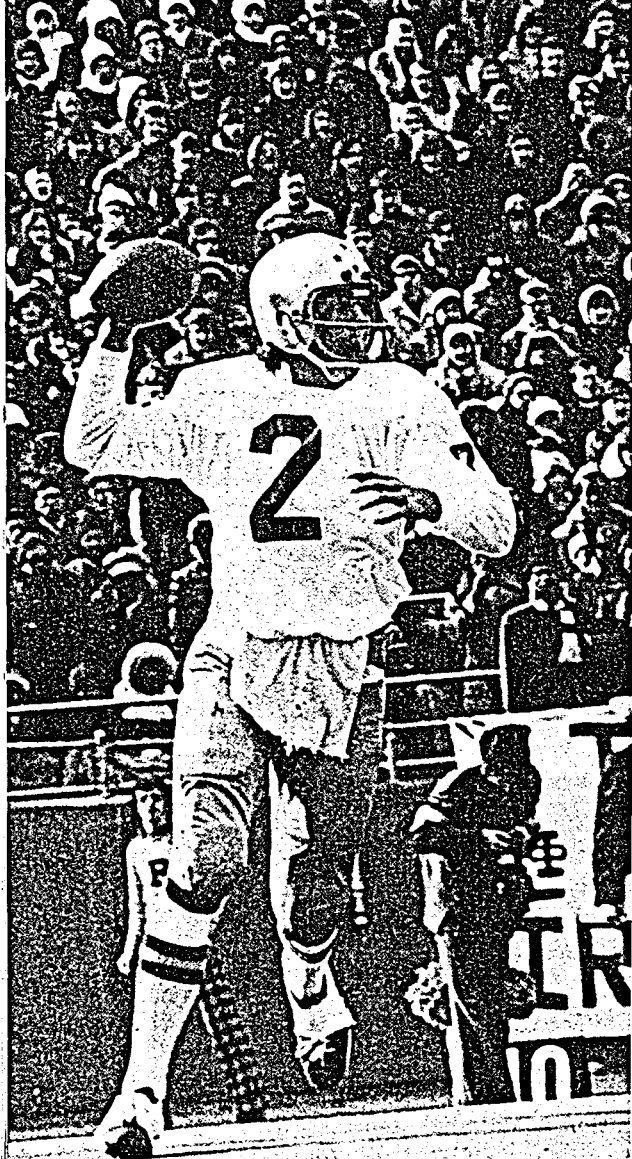
But another Irish fumble kept the defense on the field, this time calling on Jim Stock for the honors and a Glenny sack worth nine.

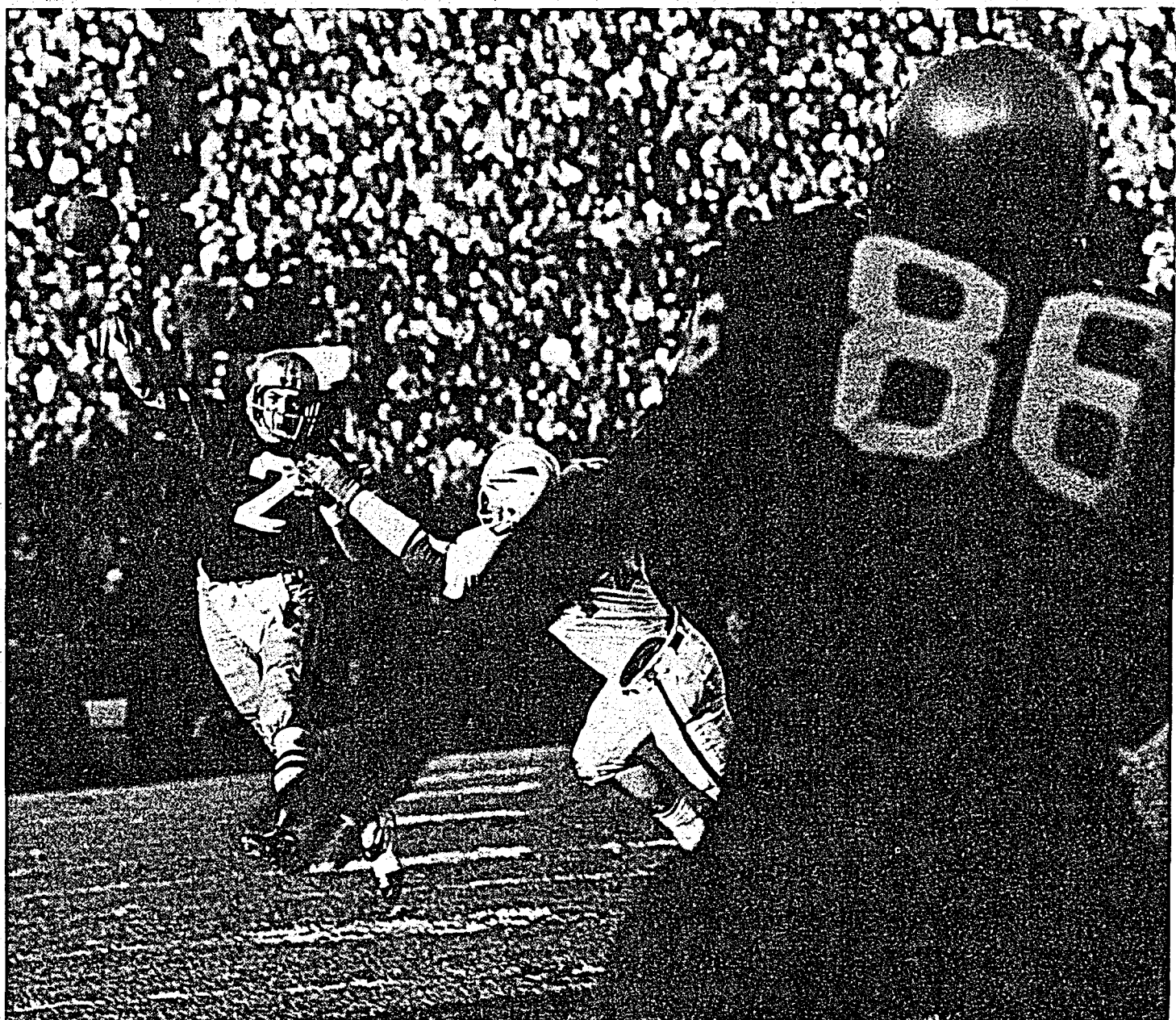
The final two touchdowns came in the fourth quarter as Cliff Brown passed to Willie Townsend for nine yards and the first tally, and Frank Allocco handed off to Tom Parise for the second. Finally, defensive end Jim Stock reminded Glenny that he was still on the other side of the ball by sacking the Navy quarterback for twelve yards and a touchback.

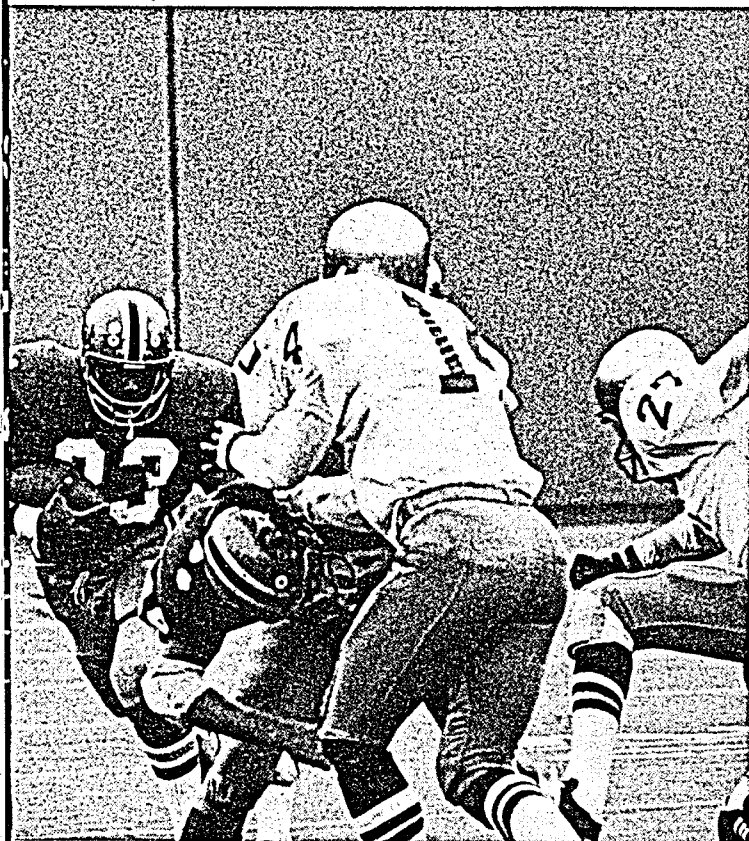
Unfortunately, on the following free kick, Freshman Tim Simon fumbled the ball, allowing Navy to recover on the ND 25, their deepest penetration of the afternoon. Glenny whipped a pinpoint pass to receiver Larry Van Loan in the next play for a touchdown and the only Navy points of the day.

Glenny's penchant for the pass became evident in the final statistics, as the Middies outflowed the Irish 119 yards to 93. The Irish more than made up the difference on the ground, however, where they rolled for 447 yards compared to 77 for Navy. The Irish accomplished this impressive total with all of twelve runners, who rather evenly shared the burden. Both Clements and Best carried for 66 yards, while Samuel and Penick were not far behind with 52 and 46, respectively.

CLEMENTS







Barnett (14) and Townsend (27) head for Dorset.

While the Irish were busy sinking the Middies, a small, steely team featuring a lightning-quick freshman were also rolling to the tune of 576 yards and nipping a good Syracuse team. The Pitt Panthers ran for 455 yards warming up for their clash with Notre Dame on their home turf.

Though the Irish and Ara held a nine-game streak over Pittsburgh, this 40th resumption of the long rivalry proved to be no boring repetition. The Irish defense, the best in the nation limiting its opponents to only 5.9 points and 164 yards per game, had successfully contained the Middies' star running back, Cleveland Cooper, with only 30 yards. But this freshman Tony Dorsett, who had deserved UPI, AP and Sports Illustrated back of the week honors after only three weeks of college play, was something to worry about. He had already accumulated 1,139 yards in eight games for an average of 142 yards per game, just short of the game average of Irish opponents.

"Dorsett certainly has to rank as one of the best backs in the country," agreed Coach Parseghian. "His statistics speak for themselves and he can turn the corners faster than anyone we've seen this year. Once he gets into open field he's gone. Pitt has several other people in the backfield that can cause the defense some awfully big problems. Daniels is dangerous and has quick feet. He's a fine runner for a quarterback and their fullback Dave Janasek keeps the defense from keying on either Dorsett or Daniels. In the last four games Pitt has averaged 28 points per game and that indicated that they have had no problem moving the ball. Believe me, this is a dangerous football team."

Coach Johnny Majors was also new to Pittsburgh, and he was determined to steer his team to a winning season. "Our players are not going to learn how to lose," he said. "We certainly didn't come here to lose."

No one comes up against Notre Dame with the intention of losing, Mr. Majors. It just happens.

And it happened again, though Mr. Dorsett put a little scare into the contest along with his record running performance. The Irish were able to get past Pitt, 31-10, though Tony Dorsett took over the distinction of having run the furthest against the Irish — 209 yards in 29 carries. Each of his carries seemed to end in some unfortunate turnover, which allowed the Irish to cross less ground in their goal line treks, leaving the Panthers with the better statistics.

After the Irish had elected to kick off, the Pitt quarterback Daniels got things off to a quick start with a 39-yard pass to Toerper and a pitch to Dorsett, who sprinted 13 yards. Just as quickly as it began, it ended, as the troubled Daniels fumbled on the next play into the hands of Gary Potempa. From their own 17, the Irish were still amazed at the offensive show they had just seen. The Blue and Gold got nowhere and punted the ball back to the charged Panthers.

Janasek ran for seven and Murphy followed for eight, but on the next play, Daniels fumbled again, and Dorsett, who recovered, was dropped for a 17-yard loss. Daniels fumbled once more, but this time Jim Stock was there to recover the ball for the Irish on the Pitt 24-yard line.

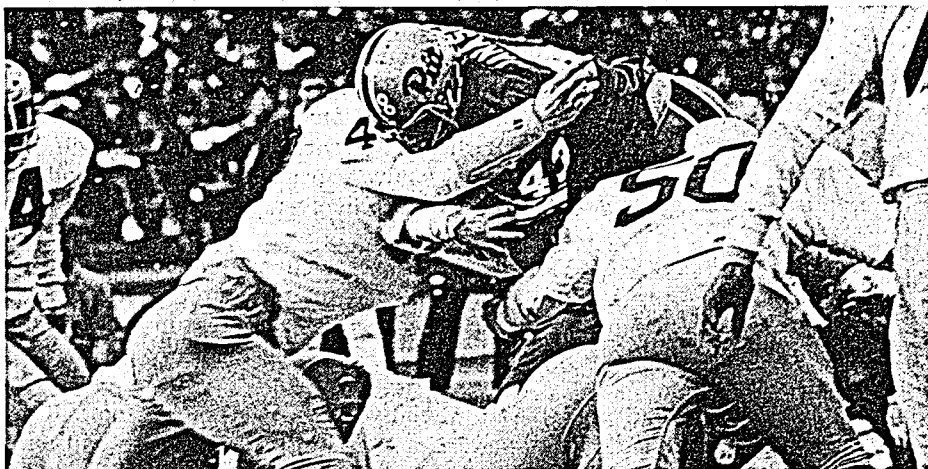
From there, Bullock ran three times, picking up the score on an eleven-yard charge, starting the scoring at 7:0. Tom Clements had a severely pulled groin muscle which forced him to rely on his running backs more than usual, but they proved to be equal to the challenge as the Irish put together a sustained drive of 77 yards. Best, Bullock and Penick took turns running consistent, hard-hitting plays with Thomas kicking a field goal with 46 seconds left in the half.

But there was still time for Daniels to regain his composure and find his end Clark for 40 yards to the ND 24, setting up a field goal which put Pitt on the scoreboard, 10-3, Notre Dame.

In the first half, Dorsett and Bullock gained the same yardage, 78 yards, though Pitt outdistanced the Irish in net yardage by a total of 191 to 147. An obvious absence from the statistics was the usually fine performance of the injured Irish quarterback Tom Clements. Daniels' four completions for 91 yards helped to give Pitt the statistical edge, as the Irish could only complete one pass for five-yards.

The second half began as a battle of turnovers; Pitt fumbling twice and losing once on a Townsend interception, halting impressive Panther drives. On the fourth set of downs, Dorsett managed to break for 65 yards, finally hauled down by Townsend. The Irish were penalized seven yards on the following play for piling on. Who? Tony Dorsett, of course.

From the Notre Dame seven Pitt found itself in an excellent scoring position, but quarterback Daniels could not call the right plays. Instead of directing the play to either of his backs, he first tried two keepers which netted him two yards, then threw incomplete twice more, losing the ball on downs.



Dave Janasek (43) finds the going tough against an even tougher Drew Mahalic (45) and Greg Collins (50).

The Irish defense regained their inspiration also, allowing Dorsett only three yards on the following play, before snoving Daniels for eleven yards as he attempted to pass. The next Daniels attempt was incomplete, and the Panthers were forced to punt from their own 22.

Two series later, Greg Collins grabbed his second interception of the season and returned it 12 yards to the ND 42. Bullock went to work again, carrying four times for 32 yards, capped by a nine-yard touchdown pass from Clements to Bullock. Thomas' PAT was good, making the score, 31-10.

Bullock finished the game with 167 yards in 27 carries for three touchdowns. "When the chips were down late in the game, we needed at least one score and we were able to drive down and get two," commented the satisfied Ara. "On that first one we got a good kickoff return from Diminick and then Bullock carried it in from there."

But the real show was Tony Dorsett. "He's some back," admitted Bullock. Indeed he was as he defied the Irish defense, the number-one defense going into the game, for a record 209 yards in 29 carries.

"Tony Dorsett's performance today was a tremendous accomplishment," admitted the Irish coach. "He's a super football player, a real great back, and left me very impressed."

"It was not our best football game, and not our most artistic defensive performance," added the Notre Dame mentor, "obviously, but I don't want to take anything from Pitt. I was impressed with them. They executed well and were well prepared. Johnny Majors had done an outstanding job."

Parseghian gave special credit to Mike Townsend for the Irish victory. "Mike was spectacular on defense again; he made four crucial tackles that saved possible scores, particularly the one on Tony Dorsett's long run. Mike simply caught up with him and saved a touchdown. Mike also broke up two passes in the end zone which were clearly touchdowns and then finally intercepted one to kill another Pitt drive."

Townsend now had intercepted three times this season and 14 times during his Notre Dame career, just one short of the career record held by Tom MacDonald (1961-63) of 15.



Coach Ara Parseghian

Ara has been a head coach since 1951. He was the head man at his alma mater, Miami University of Ohio, from 1951 through 1955, and then became head coach at Northwestern from 1956 to 1963 (his record against the Irish was four wins to no losses). Mr. Parseghian came to Notre Dame in December, 1963, to become the school's 22nd head football coach. His record of 85-14-4 places him third in the victory column behind the legendary Knute Rockne and Frank Leahy. Ara's 100th career win, a 51-0 victory over Southern Cal in 1966, clinched the National Title for the Irish. His spectacular repeat this season certainly did no harm to the Irish drive for this year's National Title.

Mr. Parseghian was born in Akron, Ohio, on May 21, 1923. After graduating from high school there, he enlisted in the Navy and while in the service played football under Paul Brown at Great Lakes. Following his discharge, he entered Miami University where he competed in football, baseball and basketball. He won All-Ohio halfback honors and received All-America mention in 1947 when Miami played in the Sun Bowl.

Following his graduation, Mr. Parseghian played with the Cleveland Browns until an injury brought a quick end to his professional playing career. He then moved into the coaching ranks when he returned to Miami as an assistant to Woody Hayes in 1950, and moved up to the head coaching position when Hayes went to Ohio State the following year.

In the ten seasons since arriving on the Notre Dame scene, Parseghian has brought the tag of excellence back to the Irish with his squads finishing in the top 10 in both wire service polls eight times and winning the 1966 and 1973 national championships. The 1970 Irish finished 10-1 and No. 2 in the final Associated Press poll.

SCHOLASTIC: Is there a philosophy behind your choice of football coaching as a career? Why did you choose coaching as a profession?

PARSEGHIAN: Of course, the most important thing in life is that you choose a profession that you enjoy. You decide on a profession for the kind of work, but at the same time, it shouldn't be all work, but rather, enjoyment. Coaching for me is not really a work as a labor, but a physical and mental enjoyment. If there is one philosophy applicable to everybody, I would say that you should select your profession as one that you could become really involved in, that you could enjoy doing. The problem with many people today is that they are dissatisfied with their work, or they jump around from job to job.

SCHOLASTIC: Why did you choose to remain in football?

PARSEGHIAN: I enjoy working both physically and mentally with people, and in football, this is the challenge. Football really involves a multitude of things; not only do you have the physical and mental strategy, but you also have the emotional and spiritual aspects of the game. And then there's the competition itself, to show you how well you've learned your lesson. Football seems to me to be a total involvement.

SCHOLASTIC: You've received many offers to coach pro ball, yet you've turned them all down. Do you see the professional leagues as being a step up to the "big leagues"?

PARSEGHIAN: Actually, I consider college football as the "big leagues." Not that I'm criticizing pro ball, but I really enjoy the university environment. There is some pressure, but as a coach here, I am not a business representative; football does not exist solely as entertainment or as a moneymaker.

But what is more important to me is the role of educator that a coach plays. We're dealing with boys between the ages of 18 and 22. They have a lot to learn, despite what they might think, and I know that we can be a real influence on them. Football is much like the classroom situation where you have your training in knowledge, mental and physical execution, and finally, competition. Football can prepare these boys for many of life's lessons.

As far as the pro offers go, they get turned down every year, and every year they come in again. But the best testimony that I'm not going to leave is that I've been here for ten years and I'm still here, still head coach. But, I don't say "ever" or "never." Still it's ten years that I've been here, and that's quite a while.

SCHOLASTIC: How did you view our victory over Southern Cal?

PARSEGHIAN: I've been coaching for 24 years now, a lot of exciting things have happened, and I would have to say that beating Southern Cal is one of the most important. It's a combination of reasons; we have had such poor luck with them in recent years, especially the occasions when they spoiled the national championship for us, as in '71.

SCHOLASTIC: It seems as if the teams we play against experience a sudden boost in their ability. Is it a real threat that they pose, or is it merely the psychological threat of upsetting Notre Dame?

PARSEGHIAN: There's no question that the intensity of the competition we play against makes it that much more difficult to beat them. They are always looking for the upset. We are the only college football team to be nationally video replayed, with national radio coverage, plus three of our contests are featured events on national television. The opposing coach figures that if he can beat Notre Dame, he can prove exactly how good a coach he is, because it will all be replayed on Sunday.

SCHOLASTIC: At the end of the season last year, and somewhat at the beginning of the season this year, it seemed as if the team would build up a sizeable lead in the first and second quarters, and proceed to watch it being pared away slowly and at times, dangerously, during the second half.

PARSEGHIAN: Well, sure. If we're prepared for a game and go out there and score 28 or 35 points in the first half, you know that the intensity of the second half is going to drop off a bit. It shouldn't, and that's the coach's job to see that that doesn't happen. It can get dangerous if the other team really becomes emotionally involved in catching up. Momentum and having things turn around suddenly are so important in college ball where so many of the teams are so good. This year, when we played Michigan State, we almost lost by our own errors. At the half, the figures were 270 yards to some ridiculous figure, but then we turned around and threw an interception for a touchdown, and fumbled for an eventual field goal. All of a sudden the score was 14-10, and we had to play a very conservative, calculating game where we couldn't do anything. No, in every game we see a very serious and potentially dangerous competitor.

SCHOLASTIC: You have spoken often of execution as being of primary importance in college football. How did execution figure into the first-place clinching victory over Alabama?

PARSEGHIAN: Execution of the plays is very important; however, the plays that you run are often-times dictated by the defense the opponent is using. For example, if they happen to be giving us an off-tackle play, then we'll take advantage of that. In other words, if the defense is positioned in such a way that it looks that the off-tackle is there, then we're going to run that off-tackle play until they bring people in there to help, and then we'll run the sequence from that.

It so happened in this game that we made them respect our interior game using Bullock in the first drive which closed them down to the inside. Now this opened up two things for us: it made it difficult for them to contain our quarterback because we got the motion halfback coming around and logging in on the end; and it also opened up some seams in the defensive secondary, where Clements hit very nicely with Demmerle on the first touchdown drive, using two or three passes consecutively; very similar type passes where we had a man coming around logging in on their contained man and they had difficulty containing Tom who got outside as a runner. They came up to stop him as a run, and he would throw a pass. So it was dictated a great deal by what the opponent wanted to use defensively.

Now, you have to be able to execute the plays that are called once you feel strategically you have an advantage. Also, they were giving us what we call an "over-revolve." We would start in a direction, they would over-revolve their defense to try to stop our present positive sweep, and this opened up the passing game misdirection plays. For example, when we recovered that fumble that led to the touchdown that put



us ahead 21-17 down on the 12-yard line, the first play that we ran was a misdirection play. The ball was on the left hash-mark, but it was a first down for us, so they figured that we were going to try to run something positive to the wide side of the field.

Well, we started an action to the wide side of the field, to which they reacted; but we were actually running a misdirection on the short side of the field. They overreacted; we walled off the pursuit and Penick ran into the end zone behind a beautiful block by Dave Casper who pulled through the hole and walled it off. The execution was superb; but also the strategy that was used on that particular play was in reaction to what they had been doing and to the fact that they had been full-flooding to the action.

SCHOLASTIC: What went into the amazing feat of holding the Alabama offense to zero net yards in the first quarter?

PARSEGHIAN: That was a great job by our defensive unit. The success of the wishbone is built on trying to recognize what you're doing defensively. They picked up pretty well in the second quarter, and attacked us very well. Their execution was great in the second period and again in the beginning of the third period. But we continued to change our defenses during the game; that caused confusion. We finally went back in the middle of the third period to what we call our "mirror-defense," that we had success with in the Texas game. That confused them again and caused some bad plays for them; they weren't able to handle it, and we took the ball away from them on downs on a number of occasions.

The end result was the fact that we contained them very well in the first and fourth periods.

SCHOLASTIC: Could you compare your victories over Southern Cal and Alabama?

PARSEGHIAN: I think they were very similar in nature. The Southern Cal game was a game that had great excitement in it because of our past failures with Southern Cal. And this game in New Orleans had

great significance because Alabama and Bear Bryant had proclaimed that this was the best football team he'd ever had, that they were the number one team in the country. They were undefeated. There'd been a constant challenge between the caliber of ball that's played in the North as opposed to the South. And the fact that we won it and won the National Championship has to place it among any games that we've ever been involved in, because there was more at stake in this game than there was in the Southern Cal game.

SCHOLASTIC: Could you explain your recent proposals at the American Football Coaches Association Meeting in San Francisco?

PARSEGHIAN: Well, I happen to be a trustee, and I have been championing the one cause—blocking on kick situations; kick-offs, punt returns—in these areas where I feel that the greater number of serious injuries occur. As a matter of fact we have followed that rule ourselves in spring drills and prefall practice. When we kick off and when we have punt returns, we will not permit blocking below the waist because those open field blocks are the ones where the knees become vulnerable to the blindside block, particularly when you don't see it coming.

The rule was finally passed. First of all, the American Football Coaches Association has a rules committee to make recommendations. We (the coaches) make the recommendations and the rules body votes on it; they voted that they would make the recommendation to the Rules Committee which is made up of athletic directors, football coaches, NCAA members.

That particular rule was approved. You'll see just as many exciting plays as you always have, but no blocking below the waist will be permitted on kick-offs; it'll be shoulder blocks from the hip on up. You can still deliver quite a blow in the same area, you can knock people down the same way, but the players won't be quite as leery about someone coming from the blind side when you don't see him and taking you when that foot is planted in the ground. Personally, I was glad to see that rule changed.

SCHOLASTIC: What about the rule change concerning bowl bids?

PARSEGHIAN: It was a complete surprise. Apparently they felt that they have not been able to police the present rule, the one which prohibits any bowl invitations until something like the second Saturday in November. The bowl committees in competition for teams try to make their arrangements prior to that date. Rather than do anything, the rules committee said, "Why don't we just wipe that rule out and then come back and discuss it next year."

Now, I had hoped that they would move the date back to the final game of the collegiate football season. But now there is no rule. By the same token, that doesn't put any pressure on us from the standpoint of accepting a bowl bid because we don't have to worry

about somebody else jumping if this is the date you have to accept it on. This way we can try to put together the top football teams at the end of the year to come closer to what would be a national championship game. Even this year, it was sort of a high risk situation.

SCHOLASTIC: Last year about this time, Notre Dame was ranked number 12 and number 14 in the national polls. How does it feel to have rebounded from the depths to capture the national title in an undefeated season?

PARSEGHIAN: It was very exciting. We're so pleased with the entire football season. We started young, no one expected too much of us. The previous year, as I had pointed out on a number of occasions, was a rebuilding year defensively. We had graduated nine regulars from that team and in the 1972 season, we incurred a number of injuries to the defensive players which necessitated a great number of changes. In the process of rebuilding the defensive unit, we were not up to the standards that we were accustomed to. In 1973, we were very fortunate in hitting two or three key players, freshmen, that filled in the spots that we needed the most. With great leadership from our captains and great team morale, and from the adversity of our disappointing losses at the conclusion of the 1972 season came the building of a great football team. I think the most pleasant thing about the season is that this football team continued to improve as the season progressed. They got better both offensively and defensively. They met every challenge that was hurled at them and certainly the Sugar Bowl. So I'm really pleased and proud of the accomplishments of the 1973 team.

SCHOLASTIC: How do you view your job for the coming year?

PARSEGHIAN: Well, there's that old adage that it's much easier to win a championship than to retain it. It's certainly understandable. The very nature of man is such that he has a tendency to become complacent. We're well aware of two things: one, that it will be difficult; but two, we would like very much to bring to the University of Notre Dame its second consecutive national championship. This is a big challenge to us, and I think we have the nucleus of a good football team returning. Our job as coaches and as well as our players is to recognize that we cannot win one football game in 1974 on what we did in 1973; that's history and in 1974 we will have to rewrite history. If we look back over our shoulders at the great press clippings and the great successes that occurred, then we can be in serious trouble. I'm aware of it, I'm a seasoned, experienced football coach, so I know the pitfalls. My job is to convey those pitfalls to our squad and to start to rebuild for the 1974 season and spring practice when we start again in April.

May 1

Have Your Attention, Please

Thursday night before the Notre Dame-Southern Cal game, Keenan Hall was hosting a pep rally on the steps of the old biology building. Tom Clements had already spoken, along with Greg Collins. The cheerleaders had led the crowd through the Fight Song for their 10th or 11th time. Now emcee Tom Parise was about to introduce the next speaker:

"We have a special guest, someone you have all heard before, but have probably never seen."

Parise stepped aside and a tall Irishman took his place at the microphone. Some people in the crowd suspected who he was, others were confused. He spoke:

"May I have your attention, please."

Now the crowd knew. They cheered wildly.

"This is Officer Tim McCarthy of the Indiana State Police. . ."

Many people or things are proclaimed traditions at Notre Dame, but every fan in the stadium during a home game waits for that one time out in the third quarter when Tim McCarthy will caution the fans that "only one road hog is needed to cause hamburger all over the highway," or whatever, and thereby warn everyone to drive home safely. 1973 was McCarthy's 13th season as the safety jester of the Indiana State Police.

Where does McCarthy get his jokes? At first he inherited them. Officer Len Baldy of the Chicago Police Department used the same kind of gimmick when he flew the traffic copter and broadcasted rush hour reports for WGN radio. Baldy gave McCarthy some of his jokes when the state trooper took over the job of announcements at the Notre Dame games. Shortly after that, Officer Baldy died in a helicopter crash.

"I first started the Notre Dame assignment with two games left to the season. Those first two tries, I did just a straight safety announcement. They were disasters," McCarthy said.

"Who would want to listen to a cop telling them to drive safely? Besides," he kids, "most of them are drunk anyway. So with the start of the next season, I began to use some of the jokes Len gave me and they went over really well."

Since then, McCarthy has written some of the jokes himself, while others have been sent in by the fans.

"And some of those, I wouldn't dare use," he comments.

Officer McCarthy's celebrity days didn't start in the Notre Dame stadium. Back in 1957, he began carrying a tape recorder in his patrol car. He would record the conversations he had with apprehended speeders and drunk drivers. These tapes were then aired over WGN radio on a program called "Signal 10."

"When we started Signal 10, I thought it would run about six months or so. But I guess they finally stopped broadcasting reruns in 1971," McCarthy remembers.

"The idea of the program was just to show how ridiculous the reasons for traffic violations really were. No one ever knew that they were being taped and we always kept anonymity intact. I suppose in this day, we could get into legal problems with our hidden tape recorders," McCarthy says.

His conversations with traffic violators won for WGN the Alfred P. Sloan Award for public safety broadcasting.

While McCarthy is in the pressbox during the game, 30 of his state police colleagues, along with close to 70 other city and county police are stationed on the streets and roads around campus, ushering the thousands of cars and buses in and out of the game. According to McCarthy, they carry the real burden of traffic safety.

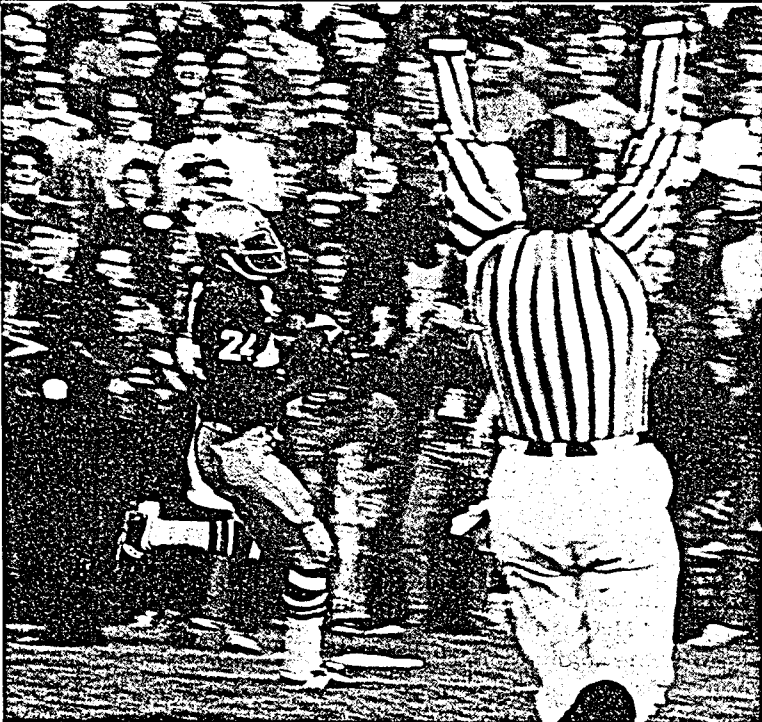
"Notre Dame is really in an ideal location for an athletic event with the toll road so near by," McCarthy says. "Before we had the toll road, some people would have to wait until 6 or 7 p.m. before they could leave for home."

The Notre Dame home games are a real job for the state police. They regard the football games as the biggest events of the year for Indiana.

. . . Back at the Keenan pep rally, celebrity McCarthy is entertaining the fans with stories of past Southern Cal games, and predicting the results of the coming contest.

He concludes with comments on the passing of another ND football tradition:

"I'd like to say that I regret the disappearance of the Knaked Klunker. He will be missed at Notre Dame, especially by us in the pressbox. We had such a great view!"



Al Samuel for the touchdown.

The Irish were definitely thinking turkey and not falcon on Thanksgiving Day, as Notre Dame met Air Force Academy looking to extend their four-game winning streak. The Falcons were hopefully, mostly because of their dangerously accurate quarterback Rich Haynie, but, nonetheless, because of backs Chris Milodragovich, Mike Mark and Bill Berry. Air Force knew exactly who they were challenging, as Air Force scout Terry Isaacson warned:

"Notre Dame is better than they were a year ago. Their backs are big and powerful and they like to establish the running game. Tom Clements may be the best quarterback we'll face this year and complements the running game with his passing. He is a do-everything kind of quarterback. Defensively, they are among the best in the country. Mike Townsend at safety and Greg Collins at middle linebacker have both been outstanding. They are very sound in all departments and have no significant weaknesses. They are the best team we'll face this year."

For the most part, the Irish were dreaming ahead. They had captured all three of the previous Notre Dame-Air Force contests by handy scores, and they weren't looking for a struggle from the Thanksgiving dinner bird. The silver platter came with the bird, too, as the Falcons handed the Irish four tallies in the first quarter, coasting to an impressive 48-15 victory.

It was a fitting victory dedication to Frank Leahy, the great former coach who had died during the summer. Frank Leahy Jr. presided over the pregame flag-raising ceremonies and Coach Leahy's family, including his widow, Florence, attended the game and the ceremony, as Fr. Hesburgh delivered a short memorial speech.

The Irish proved to be worthy followers of the Leahy creed, as they quickly and fatally converted four Falcon turnovers into Irish scores. The Falcons won the toss, but that was as far as they got; on the third play from scrimmage Haynie passed to his far end Farr for 24 yards, but Townsend jarred Farr and the ball, recovering the fumble at the ND 46.

Clements mixed his attack on the next series, throwing a 10-yarder to Penick to loosen the Falcon defense. Bullock and Best went at it again, this time on the ground, slugging out 24 yards in 4 carries. Clements capped this initial scoring drive with a 14-yard toss to Casper, who stepped over for the tally.

Two plays later, Jim Stock caught Haynie napping with the ball as he chased the Air Force quarterback 10 yards before forcing the fumble. Stock recovered the bobble, giving the Irish a first and ten from the Air Force 11. Best was held for no gain on the first essay, but the Falcons were called for a face-mask violation. From the six, Penick sprinted around left end for the second Irish touchdown in less than 5 minutes.

The Falcons held onto the ball a little bit longer this time, punting after they had failed to move from their own 17-yard line. From the 46 of Air Force, Clements came back to do what he knows best. Casper grabbed a Clements toss for 13 before the potent backfield carved out the remaining 33 yards in seven plays, upping the score to 21-0 with 4:21 to play.

Greg Collins (50), Drew Mahalic (45), Sherm Smith (55), Gary Potempa (40), and Luther Bradley (90).



Four minutes was enough to score again, or so thought Ross Browner, who hit the Falcon back Mark for another Air Force fumble. After Demmerle stepped out of the end zone attempting to snare a Clements pass, the spunky junior came right back with an identical pass for 23 yards to the Falcon six. Clements and Penick then hit the line for two and the remaining four as the Irish raced to a 28-0 lead before the end of the first quarter.

"Giving Notre Dame a four-touchdown lead was too much of a handicap," Coach Martin of the Falcons later stressed. "They're too powerful to give them that much. Concerning those costly fumbles, maybe we were a little uptight, perhaps a little too tense."

The Falcons regained their composure, though, as Haynie led them in an 87-yard scoring drive, highlighted by a fine 43-yard run by Berry. Stock and Bradley finally hauled him down, but the Falcons had enough momentum to cross the goal line after 1:28, making the score 28-6. Lawson's kick went wide, but Haynie's passes of 18 and 21 yards proved that the Irish had their hands full.

Best caused a little excitement of his own and set up a field goal by breaking over right end for 69 yards. A fifteen-yard penalty for spiking the ball moved the Irish back to first and twenty-five, a disadvantage too great to overcome. With a fourth and seventeen, Doherty kicked a 36-yard field goal to make the score 31-6.

The first-half statistics showed the Irish in command with 213 yards on the ground, 304 yards total offense compared to the Falcons' 62 yards on the ground, 184 total offense yards.

The Falcons took to the air after the intermission completing twice for 23 yards and setting up a 51-yard field goal by Lawson, the longest completion of his career. Play was inconclusive for the rest of the quarter until Lawson attempted another field goal, this one a 62-yard attempt. The Irish began the drive from their own 20, moving consistently to the Air Force 25 at the end of the quarter. Before the period ended Hunter broke over right end for 17 and Bullock drove for 14, setting up a first and ten at the Falcon 25.

The fourth period began with a Diminick bull of 3 to the 22, and a Brown completion to Demmerle for the remainder and the score at 14:21. Thomas kicked the extra point to make the score 41-9, Notre Dame. The offense returned to the field by virtue of a Collins fumble recovery to score from the Air Force 22, this time with Frank Allocco at the helm. Samuels cut for 7, while Goodman and Parise combined for five. Goodman took a handoff from the ten for five more, and Samuels capped the drive with a left end scamper. With 9:12 left in the game, Notre Dame had built up their lead to 48-9.

The game held one more turnover, but this time it was the Falcons who capitalized. Deep within Air Force territory, the Falcon safety Collins picked off a Brown

aerial on the 14-yard line. Worden came in to call the Falcon signals, putting together impressive runs of 18, 14, 9 and 7 yards spaced around a 13-yard pass for the score. The impressive 86-yard drive in 8 plays was too little too late, though, as the Falcons were soon grounded for good, 48-15.

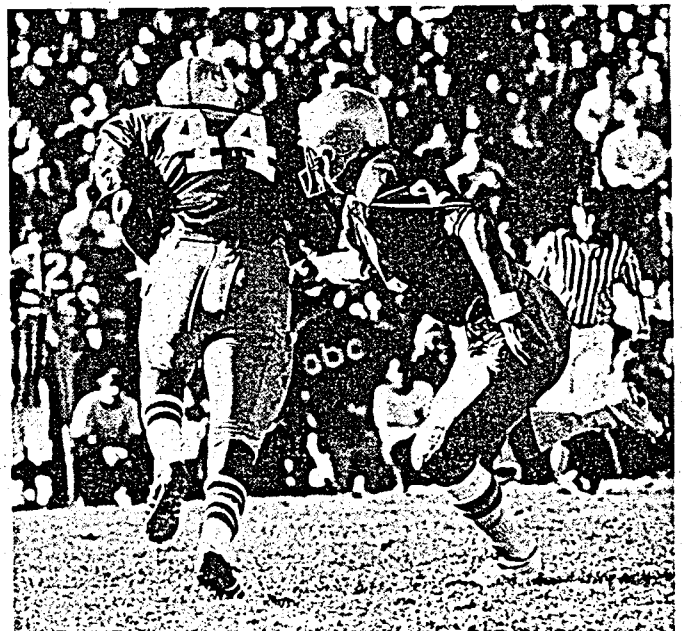
Though the Irish thoroughly outran the Falcons 414 yards to 114, Air Force found the airways a bit more to their liking, with 202 yards passing compared to the Irish total of 113. The totals of 527 and 316 still put the Irish far ahead, as the final score indicated. The first noncapacity crowd since 1965 watched as 14 Irish backs ran with the ball in 70 attempts, averaging slightly under six yards per carry.

"With a 28-0 lead, we might have had a tendency to lose our concentration," said Ara concerning the tremendous first quarter compared to the rest of the game. "That's very human."

"The wind was a great factor. With the exception of the final touchdown against our reserves, all the scores came at the north end of the field with the wind behind the scoring team."

"Again I was very pleased with our defense. Both Ross Browner and Jim Stock forced early fumbles to set up touchdowns for us. Browner and Luther Bradley have been exceptional freshmen and have played better than I had ever anticipated at the beginning of the year. These two boys appear to have been made for their respective positions."

"This team has as fine a team leadership and team unity as I have coached. They have a willingness to sacrifice to achieve a team goal. Dave Casper, Mike Townsend and Frank Pomarico have given this team outstanding leadership and a blend of experience to go with our youth."



Frank Leahy of Notre Dame, whose record of four national championships in seven seasons has never been matched in collegiate football, would be impatient with this lad today.

The Coach would be shaking his head, admonishing before lightning bolted from the heavens: "David Condon! Oh, David Condon, how can you ever face your good Catholic parents again? That fine father and mother who sacrificed to send you to Our Lady's school. Oh, lad, Oooooooo, lad, have you no regard for your obligations to Notre Dame? You'll burn in hell for this, lad."

Yes, that's exactly how The Coach would be clucking this melancholy morning that finds me shockingly unprepared for a sad assignment.

To The Coach unpreparedness was the eighth capital sin. Once, humbly oversimplifying an explanation for his great success, Coach Leahy said: "In my opinion, no football teams were ever better prepared physically or mentally than our squads at Notre Dame."

For Frank Leahy, there was no excuse for not being prepared. The Coach's life was spent in preparation.

First there was preparation to gain success and to enjoy it with dignity. Then, preparation to endure with the same dignity the tortures of lingering illnesses. Always, and ultimately, there was preparation for death.

Frank Leahy expected no less from other Notre Dame men. But this hour finds me unprepared to wrest the emotions and assemble the words adequate to tell the influence exerted on so many lives by this brave man being buried today.

Coach, your death was not unexpected. But none of us really, deeply, was prepared for the shock. Not the Heisman winners, not the All-Americans, not even the scrubs on your poorest (4-4-1) team.

Yes, Coach, today I'm unprepared, not quite up to a chore none of the other lads envy.

So what do you want me to do, put the typewriter under my arm and lug it around for a week? Or do you want us to forget the afternoon that John Lattner fumbled five times against, if memory serves, the Michigan State aggregation?

That day you kept mumbling: "Jonathan Lattner, Ooooooh, Jonathan Lattner. How could you do that to Our Lady?"

Then you gave John Lattner the football (you always were speaking of the football, like "how far can you pass the football," and "how far did we advance the football," and "how far does Purdue punt the football"), yes, you gave John Lattner the football and made John carry it with him for a week. John carried the football to breakfast, to bed. He had to—it was taped to him. And he won the Heisman trophy.

You exacted some memorable penalties whenever your lads violated your code, Coach. At this moment I can recall only once when you admitted your wrath might have been too hasty.

It was in the scoreless tie with Army in 1946, as they tell it, and Bob Livingstone missed a tackle permitting Doc Blanchard or Glenn Davis to ramble for a good gain.

In Memoriam

On the bench, John Lujack was emotionally keyed up and shouted: "Oh, Bob Livingstone, you son of a bit . . ."

You turned, Coach, and said piercingly: "Another sacrilegious outburst like that, Jonathan Lujack, and you will be disassociated with our fine Catholic University."

The very next play, Livingstone missed another tackle, and you said to the bench: "Lads, Jonathan Lujack was right about Robert Livingstone."

The Georgia Tech game of '53, Coach. The lads were crying as you were carried from the dressing room at halftime on a stretcher after an apparent heart attack. Father Joyce remembered to administer the last sacraments, and Joe McArdle remembered to take charge of the team.

Joe even remembered to improvise a defense for Tech's "belly series." But Joe forgot your rule against photographers in the dressing room, and let them take pictures of Lattner.

That evening, when no one knew if you'd live or die, McArdle fearfully went to St. Joseph's Hospital. You were a mighty sick man, but you snapped: "What the hell happened with that belly series, Joe? . . . What about that officiating? . . . Why the hell did you let 'em in the dressing room to take Lattner's picture?"

Just the other night, Coach, we were with Chuck Tanner in the White Sox dressing room, and talked about the Frank Leahy Awards dinner. Tanner said:

"I'm bronzing the telegram from Leahy; the one telling me I was a winner. And the greatest thrill of my life came when you Notre Dame people were talking to Leahy on the telephone, and he asked to talk to me.

"Imagine Leahy asking to talk to me?"

Then, Tanner said, "I've heard that Leahy always set goals. I guess I was sort of that way. Twenty years ago I was offered four times my minor league baseball salary to become a public relations official with Coke. But I told them no, I had one goal in life—to make baseball's major leagues. I guess Leahy would have done it that way, too."

I suppose, Coach, I should have told Tanner about one of our recent visits, when I said you had achieved all your goals in life. You smiled: "Not quite yet, David, I have the final goal . . . to be happy with my God."

Well, Coach, Thursday you made it.—David R. Condon '45. Reprinted courtesy of the Chicago Tribune.



Go quietly: When Elmer Layden came back to Notre Dame in 1934 as head coach, a news release said: "Now the most silent of the Horsemen is back at Notre Dame, having been recalled . . . to carry on a position vacated by his beloved teacher, Knute Rockne."

Late in his semi-autobiographical book "It Was a Different Game," Layden wrote, "All of us have pet phrases that we have fallen into saying. One of mine has been 'Go quietly.'"

Elmer brought it up late in his book because he wanted to describe how he left football after just about 30 years of his life as a player—high school, college and a few games as a pro—as a coach and as commissioner of the NFL. You never heard Elmer rap the game, nor its people.

If he thought it unfair that he was more or less forced out of the NFL in the prime of life, he didn't say it. He left quietly. Nor in the remaining years of his life, he didn't knock other coaches, other teams or the people he worked with. He was not silent, of course, because he would express an opinion.

Sometimes, it was a self-deprecating type of thing. He'd tell you—jokingly—how good the Horsemen really were, but in the next breath, he'd insist that today's players were infinitely better. "But we would still play today," he'd say with a wink or a grin.

If there was one trait that Layden had in abundance, it was integrity and a devotion to truth, a couple of qualities that seem to be lacking in many places today. Like other Notre Dame coaches, before and since, Elmer was aware that officials in other areas—particularly on the West Coast—do not always seem to interpret the rules in a constant fashion.

And ironically, this "quiet" man had the courage of his convictions on a December day in the Los Angeles Coliseum. Late in the game with Notre Dame leading, 10-6, Southern California mounted a yard-consuming rally on a slick passing attack.

Downfield the Trojans marched, but only seconds were left. But with time for a couple of plays left, a long pass fell incomplete, only to have an official (from the West Coast) signal interference on Bernie Crimmins, a sophomore fullback who was defending.

Layden was outraged at what he thought was a bad call and when the game ended—and the Irish won—seconds later, he charged across the field, challenged the official and anyone who would listen. He told the late Howard Jones (who like Layden was coaching in his last game though neither knew it) how bad it was, he pursued his claim against Willis Hunter, the Trojan athletic director, and even protested to Rufus Von Kleinsmidt, the dignified chancellor of USC.

"When I had let off enough steam," Elmer recalled much later, "I went into the dressing rooms and told Crimmins 'that was an awful call, Bernie, but those things happen.'"

"But Crimmins looked me in the eye and said, 'Coach, I pushed him!'"

"Oh, my Lord, I thought to myself. What will happen? Maybe they'll even call off the series because of the way I acted."

"So I rushed up the tunnel toward the street (Exposition Blvd.) and as I got to the street, the chancellor's car was pulling away. I ran and grabbed it, opened the back door and in the midst of traffic, apologized to Von Kleinsmidt, telling him how wrong I had been. And then I sought out Hunter, and Jones, and then the official."

"By the time I had made that trip, the players were ready to go to the hotel. And all I can think of, even today, is 'that dang Crimmins.'" Few have made such an impression on life as Elmer Layden, who left us with his own legacy: "Go quietly." Bless you, old Notre Dame friend!—*Joseph A. Doyle '49. Reprinted courtesy of The South Bend Tribune.*



At this point, the only thing separating the Irish from their first undefeated, untied regular season in 24 years was Miami; and some of the players were concerned. Junior quarterback Tom Clements mused: "We still have another game to play before the Sugar Bowl, and that's the game I'm thinking about right now. We'll have some added difficulties playing at night and on poly-turf; so I'm concerned with Miami."

Ara had a special interest in this game, as a victory would give him his first unblemished season at ND. He was on the verge of realizing this goal in 1964 when the 9-0 Irish squared off against Southern Cal. Just as was to happen again in 1970 against the same team, the Trojans prevailed. This year the Trojans were just a memory, and a happy one. There remained nothing but Miami.

Yet, Miami posed no small problem to the Irish. The Hurricane defense had held the University of Florida without a first down for over 42 minutes the week before, and the passing duo of Carney and Sweeting, which had almost beat the Irish in '72, was back again.

The Orange Bowl itself held no sweet memories for the Irish as exactly eleven months before, they had received a thrashing there at the hands of Nebraska.

"It's funny," said Parseghian, "how fate has a way of working things out. We were embarrassed in our last two games last year, by Southern Cal out there, and by Nebraska in the Orange Bowl. This year we've erased one of those memories already. We did it when we beat Southern Cal here, in our own stadium. Now we have a chance to erase the other. And we have a chance to do it in the Orange Bowl."

"Miami is an excellent team," continued Parseghian. "Just look at their record. They beat Texas, they very nearly beat Oklahoma, and in that game against Alabama (a 43-13 Tide victory) they were close until a couple of long punt returns and a fumble on their 10 put the game away."

"They're dangerous," Ara concluded, "and we're well aware that we're going to have our hands full."

Ara might have been worried before the start of the game; but once the Irish got rolling, there was no doubt that they had learned well their mentor's admonishments. The Irish captured their third shutout of the season, racking up 574 yards in total offense en route to a 44-0 rout of the Hurricanes.

Notre Dame scored on their first possession, driving 82 yards in 11 plays, highlighted by a Best run of 40 yards. Clements stuck entirely to the ground in this

drive, though he only ran once himself, gaining eight on the keeper.

After Miami missed a 27-yard field goal attempt, their closest scoring opportunity of the evening, the Irish began a drive which ended in the second quarter with another tally. This march also was limited to the ground, as Best scampered for 15, followed by moderate but consistent drives from the entire backfield. With 1:55 elapsed in the second quarter, the score stood 13-0 as Thomas missed the PAT, wide to the left.

On the next play, Carney passed to his end August, who fumbled to Lopienski at the Miami 49. Clements took advantage of the run-conscious Miami defense to drill passes of 35 and 21 yards to Casper and Demmerle, the latter stepping over for the score at 11:15. Clements ran for the conversion, balancing the score at 21-0.

The Irish completed the first half scoring with another drive, this one full of long gainers. Best cut right for ten, followed by Bullock for fourteen. Bullock reversed direction and ran left for fourteen more to the Miami 42, where Penick broke loose for 20. The drive broke down at this point, but Thomas' field goal attempt from the 47 was good, making the score 24-0.

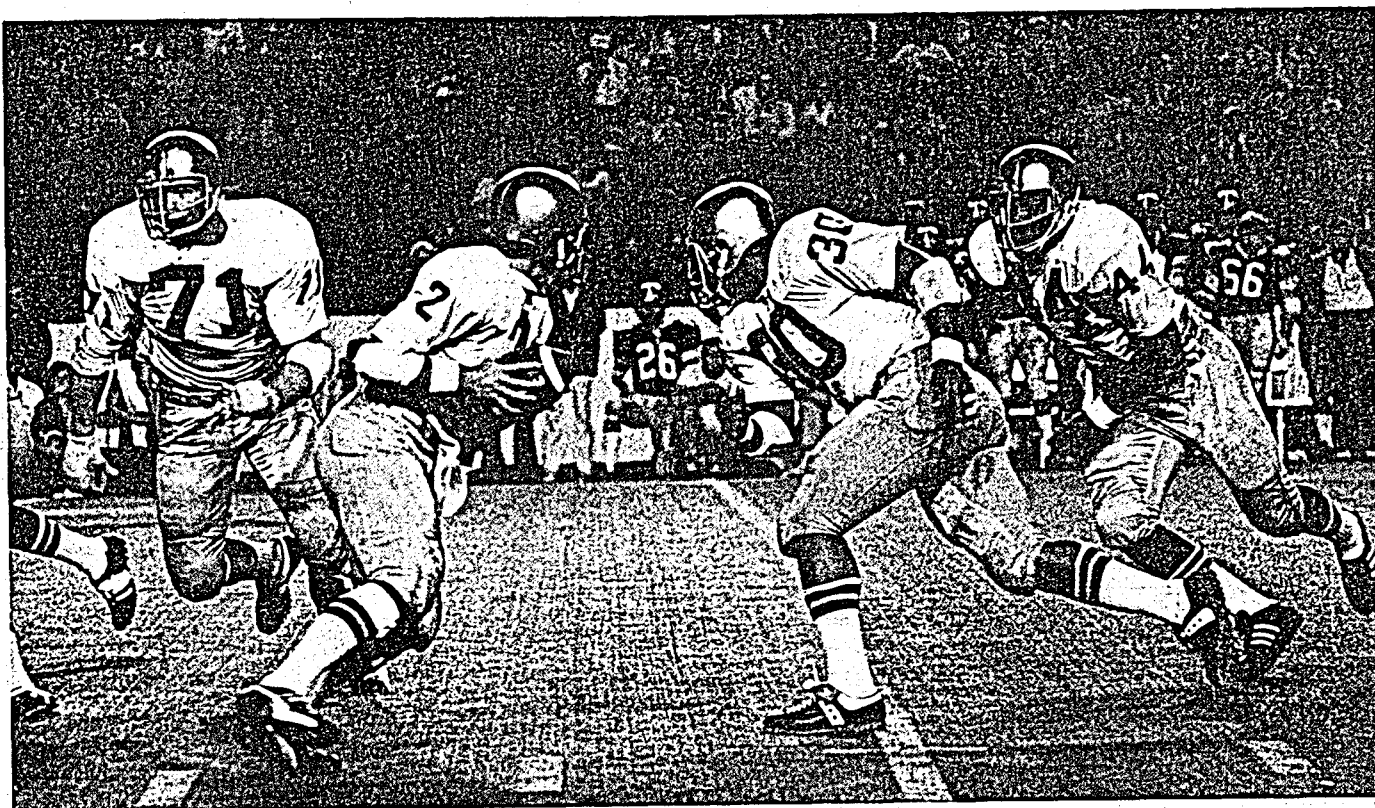
The defense had its moments, too, throwing Carney for sixteen yards before the end of the first half. Half-time statistics showed the Irish with a healthy lead of 291 yards, compared with Miami's mark of 83. Both Bullock and Best had totals of over 70 yards each, leading an impressive list of running statistics.

The Irish continued to dominate on the ground as the second half began. Though no gain was very substantial in itself, the Irish moved 80 yards in 13 plays, capped by a 15-yard Clements to Demmerle pass for the tally.

With a fourth-and-one situation, Miami gambled and attempted a run. However, the Irish defense wasn't cooperative and pushed Miami back two yards to their own 46. From there it took Clements eight plays to direct the Irish scoring charge. Again Clements went to the air; 15 yards to Best and 7 to Demmerle for the touchdown. With 4:59 left in the third quarter the score grew to 38-0.

The final Irish scoring of the evening came on a Cliff Brown drive that spanned the two final quarters. A Parise run of 15 and a Brown to Townsend pass for 28 highlighted the five-play drive, finishing the score at 44-0.

The third string laid claim to one more touchdown, but they couldn't seem to get the referees to agree.



After a Collins interception at the 50 and a Parise run of 29, Goodman plunged towards the goal line, only to be stopped inches short of the white. Parise spanned the distance but the play was called back because of mutually nullifying fouls. Again Parise went over, but this time the Irish were guilty of illegal procedure. Then Townsend seemed to have the Brown pass in the end zone, but he dropped the ball and with it, Irish chances for another score.

Ten runners shared the 477 rushing yards and, though the Hurricanes outdistanced the Irish in the air (130-126), the total offensive figures (574-168) left little doubt as to who controlled the game.

"The team recognized the importance of this game all along," said Ara. "We had no trouble getting them up. We respected Miami and were aware of the elusive goal of 10-0."

Coach Elliott of the Hurricanes gave Notre Dame

the credit it deserved, but no more. "They beat us to death quite badly, and are one of the great teams in the country. But I would not like to rate the teams we have played this year. Alabama and Notre Dame will have to decide for themselves."

By virtue of victory over Miami and the fortunate 10-10 Michigan-Ohio State tie, the Irish found themselves in third place with two first-place votes in the AP poll. The *Football News* named Ara Coach of the Year and Mike Townsend, Dave Casper and Greg Collins received individual honors from the press associations. Though the honors were beginning to flow in, the team didn't relax; for the most important game of the entire season was still ahead of them.

"How does it feel?" asked Brian Doherty after the Miami victory. "It feels like the end of four long waiting years. It feels like the top of the world. And only one thing could possibly beat this — 11-0."

Notre Dame Football Statistics/Ten Games

SCORING BY QUARTERS

Notre Dame	78	120	79	81	— 358
Opponents	10	16	13	27	— 66

TEAM STATISTICS

	ND	Opp.
Total Offense	4614	2012
Total Plays	815	615
Yards Per Play	5.7	3.3
Yards Per Game	461	201
Net Yards Rushing	3502	824
Attempts	673	390
Yards Per Rush	5.2	2.1
Yards Per Game	350	82.4
Net Yards Passing	1112	1188
Attempts	142	225
Completions	75	88
Completion Percent.528	.391
Had Intercepted	7	20
Touchdown Passes	11	4
Yards Per Comp.	14.8	13.5
Yards Per Attempt	7.8	5.3
Yards Per Game	111	119
Interceptions Made	20	7
Yards Returned	178	55
Punt Return Yards	269	60
Number of Returns	29	10
Average Return	9.4	6.0
Kickoff Return Yds.	454	851
Number of Returns	19	46
Average Return	23.9	18.5
Total Return Yds.	901	966
Average Punt	42.4	38.1
No. Punts	41	78
Yards Punting	1738	2972
Had Blocked	0	1
Penalties Against	54	28
Yards Penalized	567	259
Fumbles (lost)	38 (23)	34 (19)
Total First Downs	244	119
by rushing	181	54
by passing	57	51
by penalty	6	14

INDIVIDUAL TOTAL OFFENSE LEADERS

	G	Plays	Yards	Avg.
Clements	10	149	1242	8.3
Bullock	10	162	752	4.6
Best	10	118	700	5.9

RESULTS . . . Won 10, Lost 0, Tied 0

ND	Opp	Attendance
44 Northwestern	0	59,075 (c)
20 Purdue	7	69,391 (c)
14 Michigan State	10	59,075 (c)
28 Rice	0	50,000
62 Army	3	42,503 (c)
23 Southern Cal	14	59,075 (c)
44 Navy	7	59,075 (c)
31 Pittsburgh	10	56,593 (c)
48 Air Force	15	57,236
44 Miami	0	42,968
Dec. 31 Alabama (Sugar Bowl)		

TEAM SCORING

	ND	Opp
Total Points	358	66
Average	35.8	6.6
Touchdowns	47	8
by rushing	35	3
by passing	11	4
by return	1	1
by recovery	0	0
Field Goals (Made-Att.) ..	9-18	4-9
Safeties	2	0
PAT — Kick	43	6
PAT — Run	1	0
PAT — Pass	0	0

INDIVIDUAL SCORING

	G	TD	Kick	R-PA	FG	TP
Thomas	10		43-45		9-18	70
Bullock	10	11				66
Penick	10	7				42
Demmerle	10	5				30
Clements	10	4		1		26
Casper	10	4				24
Best	10	3				18
Hunter	10	3				18
Samuel	8	2				12
Brown	7	2				12
Diminick	10	1				6
Allocco	5	1				6
Goodman	9	1				6
W. Townsend	7	1				6
Parise	5	1				6
Simon	7	1				6
Stock	10		Safety-1			2
Browner	10		Safety-1			2
Notre Dame	10	47	43-46	2 1	9-18	358
Opponents	10	8	6-8	0 0	4-9	66

PASSING

	G	No.	Comp.	Pct.	Int.	Yds.	TD
Clements	10	113	60	.531	6	882	8
Brown	7	28	14	.500	1	228	3
Allocco	5	1	1	1.000	0	2	0
Notre Dame	10	142	75	.528	7	1112	11
Opponents	10	225	88	.391	20	1188	4

RUSHING

	G	TC	Yds.	Avg.	TD	Long
Bullock	10	162	752	4.6	10	32
Best	10	118	700	5.9	3	69
Penick	10	102	586	5.7	7	85
Clements	10	89	360	4.0	4	30
Samuel	8	33	221	6.7	2	42
Parise	5	31	164	5.3	1	29
Hunter	10	32	150	4.7	3	22
Brown	8	22	134	6.1	2	38
Diminick	9	19	121	6.4	1	44
Kornman	5	21	94	4.5	0	19
Allocco	5	16	86	5.4	1	17
Goodman	9	21	86	4.1	1	10
Simon	7	2	24	12.0	0	33
Gambone	1	1	8	8.0	0	8
Kriott	1	1	7	7.0	0	7
Weiler	1	1	4	4.0	0	4
W. Townsend	1	1	4	4.0	0	4
Hill	1	1	1	1.0	0	1
Notre Dame	10	673	3502	5.2	35	85
Opponents	10	390	824	2.1	3	65

PASS RECEIVING

	G	PC	Yds.	Avg.	TD	Long
Demmerle	10	26	404	15.5	5	30
Casper	10	19	317	16.7	4	35
Goodman	9	4	84	21.0	0	28
Bullock	10	8	83	10.4	1	25
W. Townsend	7	4	68	17.0	1	28
Best	10	4	48	12.0	0	17
Kornman	5	1	35	35.0	0	35
Diminick	9	2	21	10.5	0	14
Penick	10	2	16	8.0	0	10
Weber	9	1	11	11.0	0	11
Samuel	8	1	11	11.0	0	11
Hunter	10	2	12	6.0	0	7
Weiler	1	1	2	2.0	0	2
Notre Dame	10	75	1112	14.8	11	35
Opponents	10	88	1188	13.8	4	53

RETURNS

	Interceptions	Punts	Kickoffs
Zanot	2-20	20-149	
Goodman			5-113
Fine			1-7
M. Townsend	3-47		
Rudnick	3-49	5-34	
Bradley	6-37		
Diminick			8-181
Simon		4-86	
Barnett	1-0		
Bullock			2-39
Hunter			3-114
Collins	3-25		
Parker	1-0		
Mahalic	1-0		
Notre Dame	20-178	29-269	19-454
Opponents	7-55	11-60	46-851

DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

	TM	TL-Yds.	PBU	FR	BK
Collins	133	11-58	1	2	0
Potempa	75	7-41	0	1	0
Browner	68	15-104	1	2	1
Fanning	61	12-76	0	1	0
Mahalic	59	1-1	2	1	0
S. Smith	44	4-14	1	1	0
Rudnick	43	1-17	10	0	0
Stock	41	11-66	0	4	0
Niehaus	35	3-12	0	0	0
Barnett	29	1-2	6	2	0
Bradley	27	1-2	11	1	0
M. Townsend	23	0-0	6	3	0
Nosbusch	21	4-34	0	0	0
Hayduk	14	2-2	0	0	0
Fry	12	2-16	1	0	0
Parker	10	0-0	0	0	0
Lopienski	9	0-0	1	2	0
Achterhoff	8	3-24	0	0	0
Creevey	7	2-17	0	0	0
Novakov	7	1-1	0	1	0
Naughton	5	1-2	0	0	0
Sullivan	3	0-0	0	0	0
Parise	2	0-0	0	0	0
Zanot	6	0-0	0	1	0
Goodman	2	0-0	0	0	0
Thomas	1	0-0	0	0	0
Best	1	0-0	0	1	0
Webb	6	1-1	1	0	0
Sarb	3	0-0	0	0	0
G. Smith	1	0-0	0	0	0
Casper	1	0-0	0	0	0
Brown	1	0-0	0	0	0
Scales	1	0-0	0	0	0
Sylvester	0	0-0	0	1	0
Team	1	0-0	0	0	0
Notre Dame	769	83-468	43	24	1
Opponents	963	37-170	25	22	0

TEAM DEFENSIVE STATISTICS

	HIGH	LOW
Plays	74, Pittsburgh	50, Michigan State
First Downs	19, Pittsburgh-Air Force	6, Michigan State
Yards Rushing	266, Pittsburgh	9, Army
Yards Passing	202, Air Force	57, Michigan State
Total Yards	383, Pittsburgh	81, Army
Passes Attempted	37, Air Force	16, Pittsburgh
Passes Completed	15, Air Force	4, Michigan State
Passes Broken Up	9, Rice	2, Michigan State
Passes Intercepted	3, Army-Pittsburgh	1, N'west'n-AF
Fumbles Recovered	4, Air Force-Pittsburgh	1, Michigan State
Tackles for Loss (No.)	12, Army	4, Southern Cal
Tackles for Loss (Yds.)	66, Army	14, Michigan State

TEAM OFFENSIVE STATISTICS

	HIGH	LOW
Total First Downs	32, Air Force	17, Mich. St.-Pitt.
by rushing	25, Air Force	11, Michigan State
by passing	10, Rice	2, Pittsburgh
Plays	92, Rice	65, Pittsburgh
Rushing Plays	74, Army	57, Northwestern
Yards Rushing	485, Army	164, Michigan State
Most TD Rushing	6, Army	4, Michigan State
Passes Attempted	21, Air Force	4, Pittsburgh
Passes Completed	12, Northwestern	3, Pittsburgh
Yards Passing	200, Northwestern	28, Pittsburgh
Most TD Passes	2, Michigan-Mi.	0, So. Cal-Purdue
Passes Intercepted	2, Army-Mich. St.-Purdue	0, 6 Teams
Total Yards	593, Army	287, Pittsburgh
Fumbles	7, Navy-Miami	2, N'western-So. Cal
Fumbles Lost	6, Navy	1, 5 Teams
Penalties	8, Miami	15, Purdue

RUSHING

Player	Longest Run	Most Carries	Best Day
Best	69, Air Force	16, Purdue-Navy	125, Purdue-Air Force
Bullock	32, Pittsburgh	27, Pittsburgh	167, Pittsburgh
Diminick	44, Northwestern	4, Northwestern-Southern Cal	78, Northwestern
Penick	85, Southern Cal	14, Purdue	118, Southern Cal
Clements	30, Army	17, Rice	99, Rice

PASSING

	Att.	Comp.	Int.	Yds.	TD
Clements	18, Air Force	9, N'west'n	2, Purdue-N'west'n	200, N'west'n	2, Army-Miami

RECEIVING

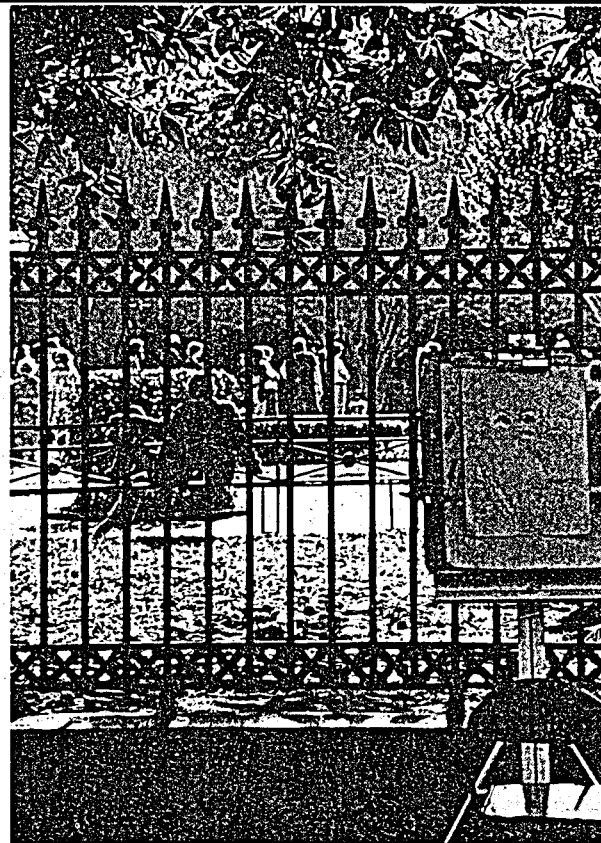
	PC	Yds.	Play	TD
Demmerle	4, Rice-So. Cal	65, Air Force	30, Mich. St.-Navy	2, Miami
Casper	4, Army	70, Army	35, Miami	2, Army

Longest Kickoff Return	74, Hunter (Navy)
Longest Interception	47, M. Townsend (Mich. St.)
Most Punts	7, Doherty (Pittsburgh)
Best Punt Avg.	46.0, Doherty (Mich. St.)
FG Attempts	3, Thomas (Purdue, Mich. St., So. Cal)
FG Made	3, Thomas (So. Cal)
Most Tackles	21, Collins (Navy)
Longest Punt Return	73, Simon (Army-TD*)

INDIVIDUAL PUNTING

	G	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Long
B. Doherty	10	39	1664	42.7	66
Brantley	1	2	74	37.0	38
Notre Dame	10	41	1738	42.4	66
Opponents	10	78	2972	38.1	64

New Years in New Orleans



New Orleans has to be one of the most enjoyable party spots of the world. The \$2 plus prices per drink notwithstanding, the festivity and music of Bourbon Street and the French Quarter provide the perfect atmosphere for a party every night. Add to this the suspense and pride involved in the national collegiate football championship, and you have one helluva weekend.

About 150 students joined the same number of alumni to take advantage of the Student Union/Alumni Association Sugar Bowl trip. It seemed, at the time, an excellent method for alleviating all the hassles of travel, hotel reservations and scheduling that so often spoil a trip. With visions of New Orleans already spinning in our minds, we waited patiently about an hour and a half for the train, Amtrak's Panama Limited, to begin boarding. No one thought much of the delay; after all, there were about 700 cans of beer waiting for us.

What began as an inconvenience developed into a real hardship. "Thank God we don't play football like Amtrak runs trains" one very warm coed exclaimed. The heating that hadn't worked all night suddenly came on, full force, as we were entering Louisiana and 80-degree temperatures. Oddly enough, no one seemed to know how to turn it off.

Later that evening, much later, we finally arrived at the Branniff Place Hotel. As the extra eight hours on the train had certainly added to the gritty condition of the whole group, the immediate drain on the hotel's hot water supply must have been impressive. Much refreshed and renewed, we all hit the Quarter.

Unfortunately, we found that the Quarter had to be shared with the boisterous, crimsoned rooters from Alabama. Molly's and Pat O'Brien's became the headquarters for Irish supporters, but the 'Bama crowd swelled to equal numbers just across the street. The Fight Song and Irish victory cheers prevailed for a

while, but soon the odds became unbearable, and the Irish fans settled down to some serious imbibing.

I asked one of the many policemen in the area if he anticipated any trouble. His reply was nonchalant and low-key. Mardi Gras, he said, was much more difficult to control. Just then a barrage of quart cups complete with beer came sailing over our heads into the middle of the Tide fans. It was only Friday night and I for one was a bit wary.

Antoine's for dinner, Brennan's for breakfast and the Cafe du Monde for baignets were the places to go; but since everybody did, there were usually lines stretching for blocks. The more popular establishments refused to accept reservations, insuring a large capacity crowd every night, but also many irritated visitors. Waits of two hours and more were common.

We succeeded in finding a little cafe next to the old Commerce building, just outside the Quarter, that not only served excellent food but also had an incredibly charming atmosphere. My loquacious friend prodded the proprietors into declaring their allegiance to the Crimson Tide, and then proceeded to convince them that the Irish couldn't lose. Though they didn't believe us, I'm sure they found our persistence amusing, and perhaps even recalled it as the Fighting Irish exhibited the same determination on the field the following evening.

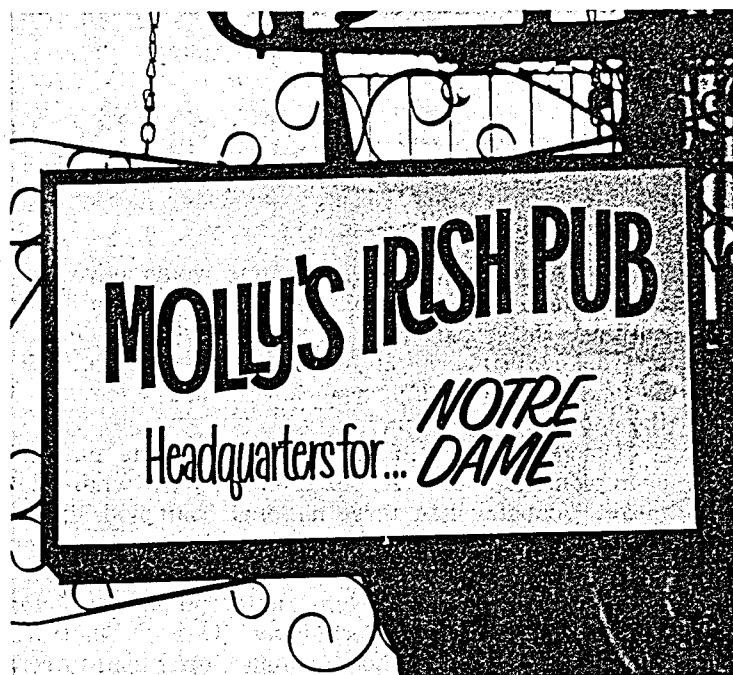
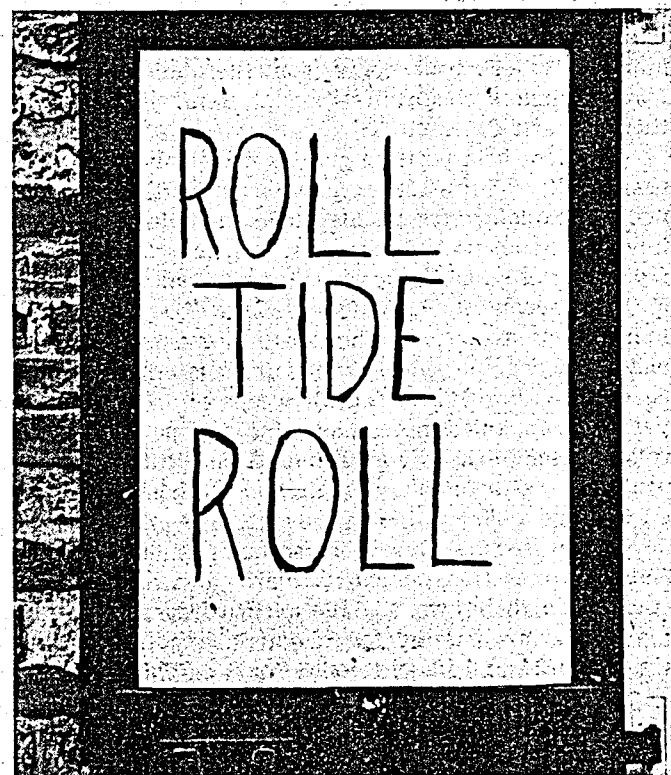
During the day, when most everyone else was sleeping, we took advantage of the inexpensive public transportation (15¢) to discover what else New Orleans had to offer besides brew and ball. The sandy soil necessities aboveground burial, and the cemeteries proved to be an interesting parallel to the history of early America, so much of which took place in the deep South. The City Park, complete with athletic facilities and Art Museum, also filled an afternoon, as did the old French market and docks.

One afternoon, as we were waiting for our lunch in a Quarter restaurant, we happened to meet two resident businessmen who had also ventured into the Quarter for lunch. We had brought along our own bottle of wine, not wanting to pay the exorbitant prices for the restaurant's beverages. While we waited for the meal, I attempted to open the wine; without a corkscrew, of course. The only way to accomplish this feat is to force the cork down into the bottle. However, I did that so quickly that the wine exploded into my face, soaking my shirt and splattering close to one of the men sitting next to me. Though he hadn't been touched, I felt I owed him an apology; after which we asked them why they chanced the Quarter for lunch on such a hectic day. The fellow whom I had missed with the wine replied, "to watch all the goofy people." "Well, we certainly didn't disappoint you," I had to admit.

Later on that evening, the Notre Dame Marching Band led the thousands of cheering Irish fans through the French Quarter back to the Marriott Hotel for the rally and party. Even Howard Cosell made an appearance on the balcony of the Royal Sonesta Hotel as the parade passed beneath, and though he showed no signs of partisanship, his wife was wearing a Notre Dame hat. Of course the crowd loved it.

The day of the game began with rather uncertain weather. The temperatures had been in the seventies for most of our stay, but it seemed to be getting a little colder. The sun tried desperately to appear, but the fast-moving clouds covered it most of the day.

Cafe du Monde had given way to the less crowded Patisserie Francaise next to the Cathedral, and as I enjoyed delicious croissants, I wondered what the Muses had in store for the Irish. By then, the Tide had been rolling in full strength, though the outnumbered Irish never gave up the shouting battle. Now and then, both sides would be equally admonished by a stray Oklahoma contingent, though they usually held their peace. One Crimson rooter replied to their taunts, "Oklahoma isn't number one; they're the best number two team money can buy!"



Speaking of taunts, New Orleans was the first place where I found "roo-ull" to have two syllables.

The same traffic-blocking techniques went into effect later that evening as students and alumni boarded chartered busses to the game. The trip, which must normally take about twenty minutes, took more than twice as long, and though we boarded the busses at 5:30, I barely got to my seat before the game began. Tickets which had been selling for as much as \$100 in Tuscaloosa the week before the game were now to be had for a buck, and the sight of all those scalpers getting burned real bad seemed fitting recompense for their pernicious intent.

My seat happened to be in the middle of a group of dedicated Southern sportswriters. I had absolutely no voice by game time, but by the second half, I was jumping up and waving my arms every time we happened to click on an impressive play. They just looked at me kinda funny until after the game when they started to look at me kinda strange.

By that time it was drizzling and the temperature had dropped 25 degrees, so though it was Bourbon Street to celebrate, it was Irish Coffee instead of Hurricanes. But it really didn't matter.

Our departure was set for four the next afternoon, so of course we didn't pull out of the station until well after seven. The heating refused to work at all, so that ice started forming on the inside of one student car. Spirits were lagging just a bit until the alumni saved the day with their famous care-package run. Crackers, cheese, salami, peanut butter, but more importantly, Chivas Regal, Canadian Club and Gordon's began filing down the aisles, as a hearty cheer went up for the alumni.

Much later, nine and a quarter hours to be exact, we pulled into Union Station, only the first leg of the journey for some. But here we parted, each in a different direction, cold and tired. But beneath the chills, we were all happy, for each of us carried a bit of the National Championship right there in our back pockets.

—tom gora

Sugar Bowl, Alabama

The Alabama-Notre Dame game would have been one of the biggest games of the season if it had been for nothing. But considering it matched two undefeated, top-ranked teams vying for the Sugar Bowl and the national championship, you have what some called the game of the century.

The winner of this game would be the national champion, and each school knew exactly what that meant. Alabama had three national championships to its credit, the last coming in '65, while the Irish had earned five, their last coming in '66.

Though the teams were quite similar in some aspects, their offensive techniques differed. Alabama, running out of the Wishbone offense, often had to rely on its bench to wear down opponents; consequently, they won many games in the late stages. Notre Dame, on the other hand, used its powerful first team to destroy its opponents very quickly in the contest. Against their one common opponent (Miami), both teams played predictably. The Tide seemed uncertain until a number of turnovers helped them increase the score while the Irish dominated the game from the very beginning.

Alabama had gone to more bowls than any other college in the country, but they went into the Sugar Bowl with a four-game Bowl losing streak, and Coach Bear Bryant was anticipating a change. Notre Dame had also lost its last bowl game to national champs Nebraska in the Orange Bowl. Overall, Notre Dame had a 2-2 Bowl record compared to the Alabama mark of 12-11-3. Under Coach Bryant, Alabama had attended 15 straight post-season bowls, making them the "bowl-iest" college team in the country.

The Sugar Bowl clash of the two teams was their first meeting, though they do have regular season games scheduled for 1976 at South Bend and some time in the 80's for the return engagement. The Irish, in fact, have faced Southeastern Conference competition just twice before, that being against Louisiana State. Notre Dame won the first encounter in South Bend, 3-0, and the Tigers got even the following year in Baton Rouge, 28-8.

Statistically speaking, both Alabama and Notre Dame ranked high in regular season performance. The Irish ranked fifth in total offense, but the Tide ranked second with slightly over 18 yards more per game. The same held true for rushing offense, where Alabama racked up 16 yards per game more than the Irish. In scoring, Alabama ranked third with 41.3 points per game, while the Irish claimed eighth spot with 35.8 points per game. The Irish shone in defensive statistics, where they allowed only 201.2 yards per game, good enough for second place; while Alabama maintained eleventh place with 244.8 yards per game. In rushing defense, the Irish placed third with 82.4 yards per game, while the Tide didn't place at all. The Irish

remained consistently high in scoring defense with a third-place mark of 6.6 points per game, while the Tide allowed a fifth-place total of 8.1 points per game. Finally, 'Bama was averaging a sixth-place 42.8 yards per punt, while ND's Bob Thomas ranked eighth with 42.4 yards per punt.

Most prognosticators, professional and otherwise, believed that the Alabama offense would be too much for the Notre Dame defense. Critics pointed to a weak secondary and claimed Bear would riddle the field with long-gain passes. Again, most of the Irish defensive work had come against straight-ahead, methodical offenses, they claimed, while Alabama used an explosive, lightning-quick wishbone offense to offset their opponents.

To a certain extent, they were right, but only as correct as any seer can be; for the Notre Dame defense learned with each play, gradually holding the Alabama offense to limited yardage.

The first-quarter statistics made believers out of all the skeptics. The Irish defense could do no wrong as they shut out the mighty wishbone—zero yardage with zero first downs. From the 20, Clements handed off twice to Bullock, who broke for 7 and 15 yards. Penick crossed over left tackle for 6, followed by Bullock again for 10. Here, the Irish drive began to falter, as Best and Bullock could only make three yards, and Clements could only add two, forcing Doherty to punt to the Alabama 16.

The defense forced a loss of two and a quick return of the punt to the ND 40. Two series later, the Irish finally mounted a drive, beginning at the ND 36. Clements' first pass to Demmerle netted 19 yards, followed by another for 26 and a third for 14 yards. Clements to Demmerle had just moved 59 yards in less than one minute. Bullock broke over from the one, putting the Irish on the scoreboard first, though a missed PAT kept the score at 6-0.

Excellent field position greatly helped the Irish; but the inability of the Tide to move was a little more difficult to explain. Ara credited it to the defense, though it appeared as if Alabama was scouting the Irish defense up close, looking for cracks and weaknesses.

They seemed to have found some. They were able immediately to put together an impressive drive that ended on the ten with a very fortunate fumble, recovered by Jim Stock. Initial sweeps of 16, 15 and 10 yards accompanied more conservative gains as the Tide rolled closer to the ND goal line. A bad Rutledge pitch went down as a fumble, though, and the Irish took over on their own 36.

On the second play from scrimmage, a Clements-Bullock connection missed its mark, and Alabama recovered on their own 48. It took Rutledge only seven plays to score, passing for 15 yards, handing off four times for 24 and keeping once for 12. The PAT was



good, making the score 7-6.

But what should have been a change in momentum was rendered meaningless on the next play as Al Hunter returned the kickoff 93 yards for the second Notre Dame touchdown of the evening. The run set a new record for kickoff returns, originally held by Monk Simons, who was serving as a Sugar Bowl official. Clements passed to Demmerle for the two-point conversion, and the Irish had the lead at 14-7.

Alabama mounted one more serious attack before the half, settling for a field goal when the Irish defense stopped them at the ND 22.

The Irish found themselves within field goal range also, as Diminick's return of 25 yards gave the Irish good field position. Clements bootlegged twice for 27 yards, but Thomas missed the 48-yard attempt, falling short as the half ended.

The Crimson Tide rebounded extremely well from their weak first quarter by compiling a strong 154 total offensive yards, overwhelming the Irish figure of 67. (Kickoff returns are not figured into the offensive statistics.)

The third quarter began with Notre Dame kicking to Alabama, who proceeded to move the entire length of the field in 11 plays. During that drive, Tim Rudnick was assessed 15 yards for a personal foul involving the 'Bama receiver Jackson. As Rudnick was visibly upset, Rutledge and Bryant attempted to capitalize on the situation by sending Wheeler out long on the next play. Rudnick maintained his composure, though, and broke up the pass at the last moment.

Rudnick's fine play couldn't stop the Tide, as they continued in the air twice more for 21 and 13 yards. Jackson completed the drive with a five-yard bolt for the score, putting Alabama ahead, 17-14.

Back-to-back field goal attempts by Davis and Thomas were both no good; but, on the next series, the Tide's Shelby fumbled to Drew Mahalic on the Alabama 21, and Mahalic returned it to the 12. Clements handed

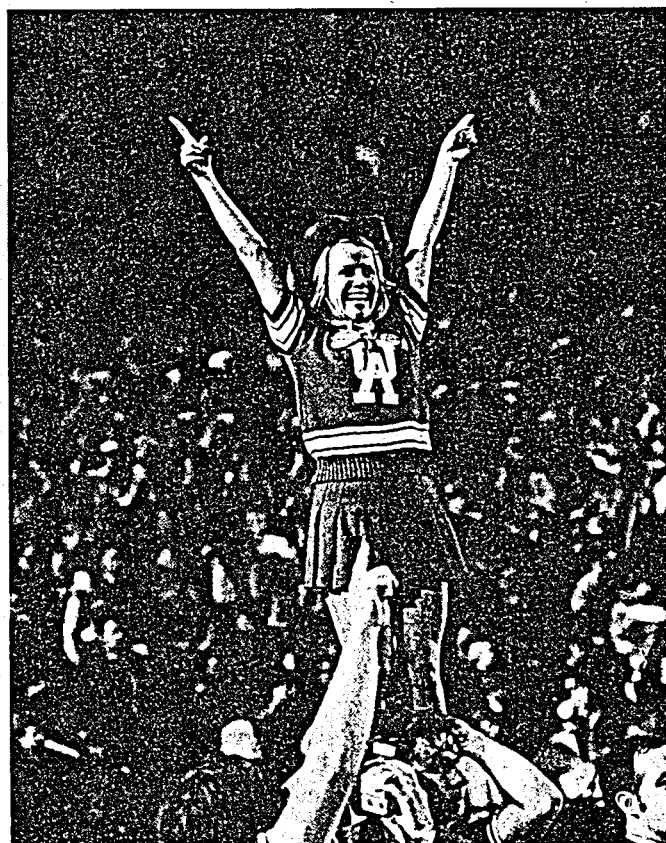
to Penick, who ran a beautiful counter, with the springing block coming from Dave Casper. With Thomas' PAT, the score turned to the Irish favor, 21-17.

The Irish were able to sustain another drive going into the fourth quarter, but a fumble on the Alabama 25 turned the ball over just as the Irish seemed to be knocking on touchdown gates. Reggie Barnett came right back and intercepted a Rutledge pass from the hands of Sharpless. Unfortunately, two plays later, Bullock fumbled to Alabama's McMakin, setting up the final Tide score of the evening.

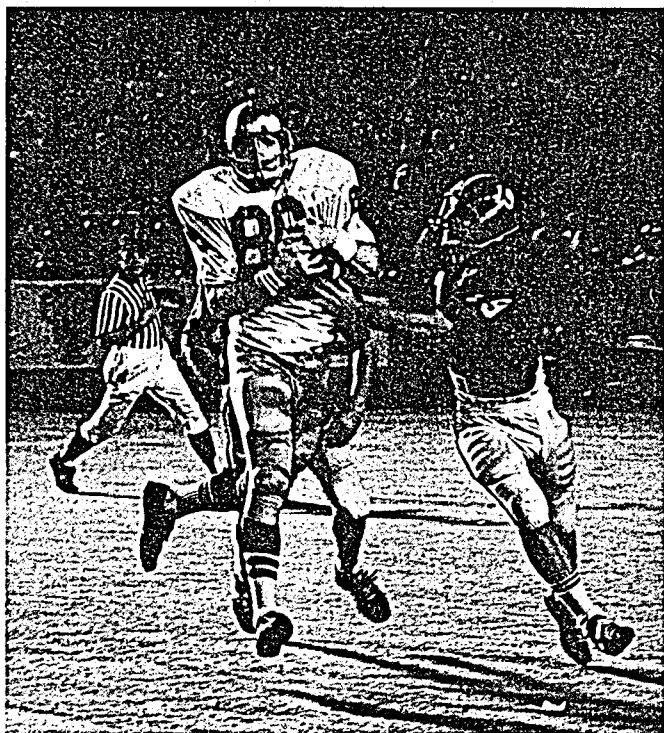
From the ND 39, Rutledge handed off to Spivey, who charged up the middle for two. Billingsley raced around left end for nine on the next play, and with a first down, Rutledge ran the option keeper, gaining only one. A short pass netted only two, and, at this point, Bryant yanked Rutledge for his second-string quarterback Todd.

Todd handed off to Stock, who seemed to be headed into a swarm of white jerseys. But just before he went under, he drilled a pass to Todd, who was all alone on the other side of the field. Todd paced the 25 yards for the touchdown, making the score 23-21 Alabama. The PAT was no good, and the score held.

From the 19, Clements began the drive that had to bring the Irish close enough at least to kick a field goal. Hunter slanted off right tackle for 15; Penick gained four around left end. On a keeper, Clements found eight yards and a first down. Bullock failed to gain on the next play, but Clements kept for nine to the Alabama 45. With third and one, Clements calmly



Unfortunately, we couldn't get her number.



Dave Casper (86) hauls in a Clements pass as safety Rich Davis (19) tries to take it away.

stepped back and passed to Casper for a come-back-and-catch-it reception for 30 yards to the Alabama 15. Hunter gained three, followed by eight more by Clements. From the four, Penick gained one, Best gained one, and a Clements pass fell incomplete. Thus, Bob Thomas entered at 4:26 and kicked a 19-yard field goal, putting the Irish ahead for good at 24-23.

However, the Irish had to fight to defend their lead, when the Tide pinned them against their own goal line with more than two minutes left in the game. From the one, Clements handed off to Bullock, who gained three; the same play gained only one, leaving the Irish with a third-and-six situation. On the next play, Notre Dame was penalized two yards (half the distance) for illegal procedure. Then came the amazing pass from Clements to tight end Robin Weber, good for 35 yards and a first down. Weber had only caught one other pass during the season, and this play was intended to clear out the zone so that the Alabama secondary would concentrate on Weber. But instead, they let him through, a mistake which in Bryant's words cost them the game.

The Irish bested the Tide in all categories: 252 to 190 in rushing yardage, 169 to 127 in passing yardage, and 421 to 317 in total yardage.

Tom Clements was named Most Valuable Player in the 40th Annual Sugar Bowl Football Classic and was awarded the Miller-Digby Memorial Trophy. He finished the day with 74 yards in 15 carries on the ground and 7 of 12 passes for 169 yards without an interception.

Coach Bryant praised the Notre Dame team: "I think we lost to a great football team. I don't really feel

like we lost, just that time ran out on us. Notre Dame came up with a lot of big plays, which means they did a better job of coaching. At the half, I thought we'd win running away, especially with the wind in the fourth quarter.

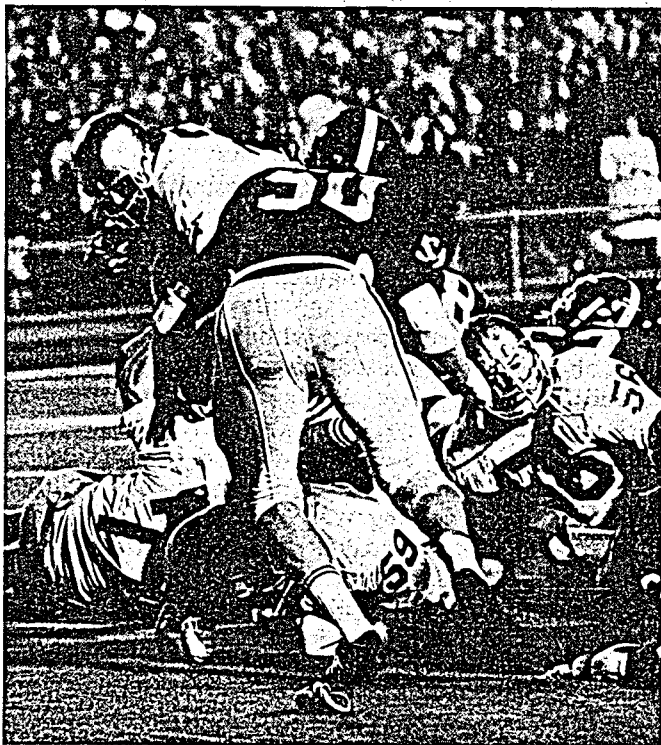
"Ara and his staff did a fine job of preparing for us. I think Tom Clements and their tight end (Dave Casper) beat us. They didn't do anything new defensively. They showed us that big tight end and took the ball away from us while we stood around, but Clements won the game.

"The long pass right at the end beat us. If we get the ball back we're going to win the game. At least on a field goal. When we had them backed up to the one-yard line, if I'd been a betting man I'd have bet you anything we were going to win."

On the pass that insured the Irish victory, Ara also had a few comments: "The pass from Clements to Weber with seconds to go was the key to the win. It was a win or punt situation. If we hadn't made the first down Alabama would surely have been in field goal position with us punting from our end zone. That was the same pattern we scored the extra two points on earlier in the game.

"I definitely feel we're the national champion. We beat the leading scoring team in the nation and the team that was leading in offensive yardage. They are an excellently disciplined team. We beat a great football team and they lost to a great football team."

The Associated Press agreed with Ara's opinion and awarded Notre Dame the number-one spot in the nation. "What has been demanded of us, we have satisfied," claimed Ara as he learned of the decision. "This



Alabama's Wayne Hall (50) braces as Clements turns the corner.

doesn't imply that the other teams are not good teams, but I think a premium is placed on going totally unscathed."

Notre Dame received over one hundred more votes than second-place Ohio State, and 33 of the possible 60 first-place votes. Ohio State received eleven and Oklahoma, 16.

Notre Dame	6	8	7	3-24
Alabama	0	10	7	6-23

Scoring:

ND: Bullock, 1 yard run (Kick no good).

ALA: Billingsley, 6 yard run (Davis kick).

ND: Hunter, 93 yard kickoff return (Clements-Demmerle).

ALA: Davis, 39 yard field goal.

ALA: Jackson, 5 yard run (Davis kick).

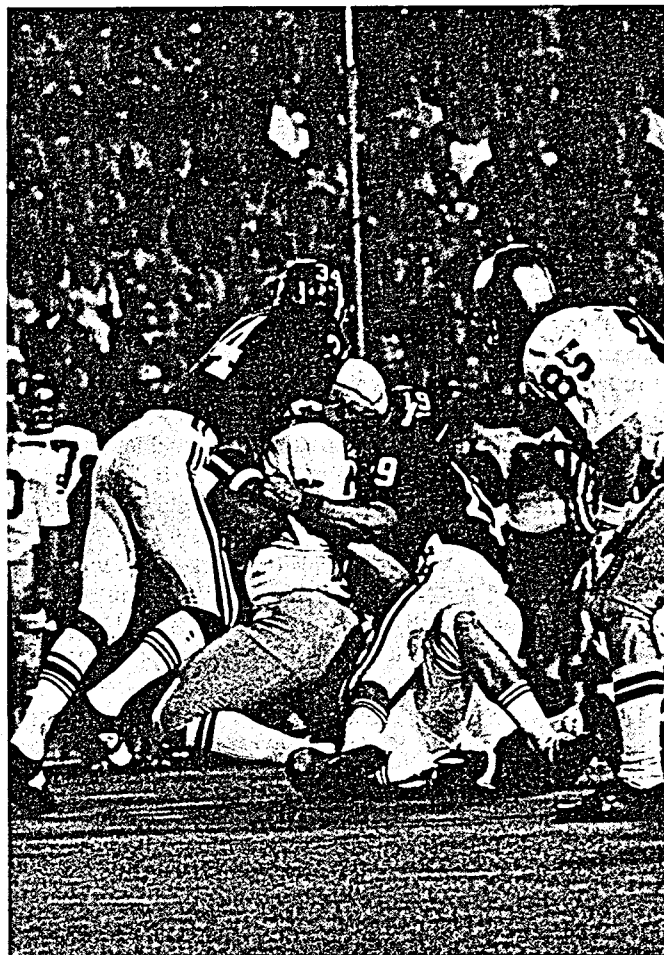
ND: Penick, 12 yard run (Thomas kick).

ALA: 25 yard pass to Todd (Kick no good).

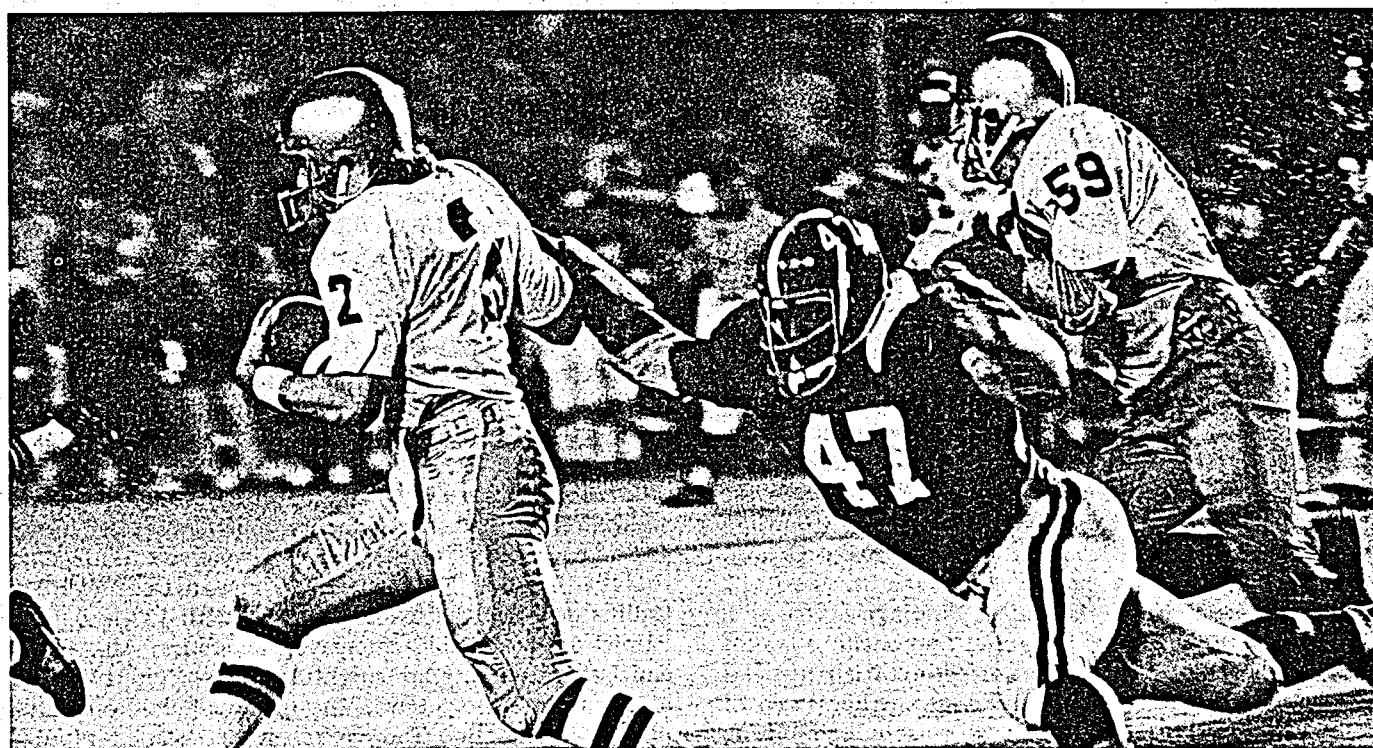
ND: Thomas, 19 yard field goal.

Team Statistics	ND	ALA
Total First Downs	20	23
Yards Gained Rushing	252	190
Yards Gained Passing	169	127
Total Offensive Yardage	421	317
Passing (Att'd—Com'd)	12-7	15-10
Interceptions by	1	0
Fumbles lost	3	2
Punting (No.—Ave.)	5-35.8	6-46.3
Total yards Penalized	45	32

Attendance: 85,161, a new Sugar Bowl record.



Art Best holds on to the ball as Mike Washington (34) and Rick Davis (19) hold on to him.



Clements spins from Alabama's Woodrow Lowe (47) and heads for daylight.

For the Record

Not only is Notre Dame the all-time winningest football team (.789) but the all-time streak breaker in collegiate football. Notre Dame teams have ended unbeaten or winning streaks five times. The Irish stopped Oklahoma's 48-game unbeaten streak and 47-game winning streak with a 7-0 victory in 1957 in Norman, Oklahoma. Ara Parseghian's gridders put an end to Texas' 30-game winning streak in the 1970 Cotton Bowl. Georgia Tech's 31-game unbeaten streak came to a halt at Notre Dame Stadium in 1953 as the Irish won 27-14. Army's streak of 25 straight victories was terminated by Notre Dame in 1946 in the famous 0-0 tie. This season the Irish ended the nation's longest current unbeaten streak of 23 in their 23-14 conquest of the Trojans.

Dave Casper was elected to the UPI, Football Writers, Walter Camp and Kodak All-American First Teams, and to the AP Second Team. Frank Pomarico was elected to the Gridiron First Team and the UPI Second Team. Mike Townsend was placed on the AP, UPI, Football News, Football Writers, Sporting News, Walter Camp and Time First Teams.

Notre Dame will enter its 86th season of collegiate football next fall with an overall record of 553 wins, 148 losses, and 38 ties. This .789 winning percentage is tops on the all-time collegiate list. The Irish have won nine national championships (1924, '29, '30, '43, '46, '47, '49, '66, and '73), the best among colleges, and have been undefeated and untied in 11 seasons.

According to the statistics compiled by the National Collegiate Sports Service in 1973, Notre Dame ranked: 5th (461.4 yds. game) in total offense; 5th (350.2 yds. game) in rushing offense; 8th (35.8 pts. game) in scoring offense; 2nd (201.2 yds. game) in total defense; 3rd (82.4 yds. game) in rushing defense; 3rd (6.6 pts. game) in scoring defense; and 8th (42.4 yds. punt) in punting.

Notre Dame's appearance in the Sugar Bowl marked the fifth time the Irish have participated in post-season activity that now includes all four major bowls. Notre Dame beat Stanford in the 1925 Rose Bowl, 27-10, its first bowl appearance. Then 45 years elapsed before the Irish played in another classic. ND did so in 1970, losing to national champions Texas in the Cotton Bowl, 21-17. The same teams met at the same site the following year when the Irish ended Texas' 30-game streak, 24-11. Notre Dame did not play in a bowl in 1972, and last season lost to Nebraska in the Orange Bowl, 40-6.

Ara Parseghian is the third winningest coach in Notre Dame history, but he is fast approaching two of the most successful coaches to direct an Irish team — Knute Rockne and Frank Leahy. Ara now has a record of 85-15-4 since coming to ND 10 seasons ago. He is just two wins shy of Leahy, who finished his career at 87-11-9.

The Irish broke several team records in 1973, most significant was the all-time rushing mark which had stood for 52 years. The '73 team rushed for 3,502 yards, bettering the mark of the '21 team (3,430) in one less game (10-1-0 in 1921). In doing so the '73 Irish demonstrated excellent rushing balance among the starters. Fullback Wayne Bullock led with 752 yards (162 atts.), halfback Art Best had 700 yards (118 atts.), halfback Eric Penick gained 586 yards (102 atts.) and quarterback Tom Clements totaled 360 (89 atts.). The 1921 team, essentially a running unit, too (1,082 yards passing compared to 1,112 in 1973) was balanced but not as well. Halfback John Mohardt led with 781 yards (136 atts.), fullback Chet Wynne had 599 yards (96 atts.), halfback Paul Castner gained 449 yards (64 atts.) but quarterback Frank Thomas ran for only 71 yards (17 atts.).

Other team records broken include: most rushes, 673 (663 in 1949); most rushes per game, 67.3 (66.3 in 1949); most rushing yards per game, 350.2 (340.1 in 1946); highest punting average, 42.4 (40.1 in 1965) and most first downs rushing, 181 (171 in 1968).

Bob Thomas now holds the majority of kicking records for the Irish. He has the best career percentage for extra points, .970 (98 for 101) and the best percentage for one season, 1.000 (34 for 34, 1972); the most field goals in a game, 3 (four times), most in a season, 9 (1973), most in a career, 21 of 38; most kicking points in a game, 13 (vs. Northwestern, 1972), most in a season, 70 (1973, to lead the team) and is second in career, 161 (Scott Hempel, 164); most field-goal attempts in a season, 18 (1973) and most in a career, 38; he connected on 62 straight extra points, missing this year in the Army game, for a mark that was second best in NCAA history.

Brian Doherty kicked all but two times for the Irish this season for a 42.7-yard average, best ever for a ND punter and sixth in the nation this year. Doherty is also the career leader in punts attempted for Notre Dame with 140. He is second to Bill Shakespeare (40.7, 1933-35) in career average with 39.8 (140 for 5,573 yards).

Senior halfback Gary Diminick became Notre Dame's all-time leading kickoff returner. Diminick has returned 30 for 711 yards. The yardage ranks him second to Paul Castner (767, 1920-22).

Quarterback Tom Clements and linebacker Greg Collins were voted offensive and defensive captains for the 1974 Irish at Notre Dame's banquet, December 11. Collins, who led the team in tackles with 133, was also named most valuable defensive player and All-American Dave Casper, who caught 19 passes for 317 yards at his tight-end spot was the most valuable offensive player. Kicker Bob Thomas received the John W. McMullan Award as the player whose best exemplifies the spirit of the scholar-athlete.

Prognosis '74

The cold shadows of a January afternoon crept from the rear of the Athletic and Convocation Center, across the empty parking lot, and through the mesh strands of the hurricane fence.

They bounded the cinder track, and came to a gradual, indistinct halt in the green and straw-colored grass covering Cartier Field's football practice layout. The shadows, the damp, muddy track, and the soggy, chilled grass made the five practice fields look more like a barren tundra than the complex which trained 1973's National Champions in intercollegiate football.

Nor did the field, stripped bare in January of the artifacts of autumn, give any hint of what had unfolded there during the months of August through December.

There was no indication that here, on September first, was where guard Frank Pomarico suffered the ligament tear which sidelined him for half of the season. No memorials were posted on the field where, on Thursday before the USC game, Greg Hill practiced as a member of the preparation team, clad in a cardinal-and gold uniform with the number "28" emblazoned on his helmet and jersey.

Nor was there any attention drawn to the spot on the astor-turf field where, during Pittsburgh week, Frank Allocco and Tom Clements went through an intricate passing drill — minus a football. "Psyche-cybernetics," they chuckled. "Besides, it's too cold to use a real ball."

The tangible reminders of The Championship Season weren't to be found on Cartier Field, where 1973's best college football team was spawned, or in Notre Dame Stadium, where it performed on Saturday afternoons. Those tangible reminders, ever since their appearance on campus, have been locked in the trophy cases which dot the second floor of the ACC. Outside, on Cartier Field and within the stadium itself, there was no indication of what had unfolded during the fall of 1973. Nor was there any hint of what would unfold during the spring and fall of 1974.

And that's just the way Ara Parseghian, the veteran coach who masterminded ND's drive to the National Title, wanted it.

The Irish coach, a man for whom the future always holds an immediate challenge, has allowed himself but three mementos of the biggest triumph of his coaching career. The Sugar Bowl game balls and a framed National Championship banner adorn the inner office of Parseghian's three-room complex on the ground floor of the ACC.

But in the outer office, the one occupied by Barb Nicholas, his secretary, hangs a constant reminder that the successes of last season are successes which must remain on shelves and in frames. On the wall of the outer office hangs a map of the United States, divided into geographical regions for recruiting and scouting

purposes. Parseghian passes that map every time he enters or leaves his office, and its significance, even one month after the New Year's Eve triumph over Alabama, overrides the significance of the game balls, or the National Championship banner.

"We made history last season," said Ara, with scarcely a glance at his shelf of painted and dated footballs. "What we did last season has been documented and written about, and has brought great accolades to our team. But it is history now, and each year we face a new individual challenge.

"By next fall, we'll have new teams to face and new games to be played. There's an old adage in the coaching profession that says it's easier to win a championship than it is to retain it, and for our team to duplicate the performances and successes of next season will be a difficult challenge.

"The ability to win two straight National Championships would be a great accomplishment — a challenge within itself. We're dealing with intelligent athletes here who'll be able to recognize that fact, but recognizing it and doing something about it is the key. I've told our squad a hundred times already that next year's games won't be won on last year's performances."

Next year's team won't begin to take firm shape until the closing days of Spring Practice '74, but "next year's games," as Ara called them, are already waiting. There will be eleven in 1974 — beginning with a September 21 road opener against Northwestern and ending with the promise of a November 30 showdown against Southern California.

In between are nine other encounters, including home games against Purdue, Rice, Army, Miami, Pitt, and Air Force, and road tests against Michigan State, Navy and Georgia Tech. But that schedule has been set for the past several years. The team with which Parseghian must combat the schedule won't be completely settled until the onset of Northwestern game week.

For last year's roster has been depleted by graduation losses, and while the departures aren't many, they are in critical areas: the offensive line, the defensive backfield, the linebacking corps and the kicking game. Even the glowing statistics which dotted post-Sugar Bowl reports: "strong at the skilled positions, 17 of 22 starters returning" demand replacement of five graduating seniors, and those replacements may not be found until next September, when an incoming crop of Gridiron recruits has a shot at the open positions.

And there are other personnel problems which concern the ND coach. "The first thing we have to be concerned with," admitted Ara, "is rebuilding our football team, replacing losses like Frank Pomarico (an offensive guard and Notre Dame's offensive captain), Dave Casper (tight end and team captain), and Mike Townsend (safety and defensive captain). Then we also have

to replace Tim Rudnick (right cornerback), Gary Potempa (linebacker), and George Hayduk (defensive tackle). And we're going to have to totally rebuild our kicking game, because we'll be losing both (punter) Brian Doherty and (place-kicker) Bob Thomas. We'll have to find someone who can kick off for us.

"Those are our main concerns, but we have others, too. There are physical concerns. For instance, will we be able to count on the services of players like Steve Niehaus — players who were injured last season and didn't see a whole lot of action.

"And we're also concerned with possible academic losses. But our biggest problem — other than that of guarding against complacency — is going to be filling the holes left by graduation."

Though the problem of complacency is the one which most worries Parseghian, the team which must defend ND's second National Title in the last eight years falls victim to early overconfidence. Because Ara's 1974 team — a team whose roster will be heavily peopled with senior names — was born out of the adversity of the 1972 Orange Bowl, and so treated the 1973 season as something of a vendetta.

Next year, 1974, will not demand such a drive for vindication, for the Irish were absolved of the Orange Bowl debacle after their epic Sugar Bowl victory over Alabama. But what 1974 will demand is a drive to stay on top — a drive to keep Notre Dame's football fortunes where the memories of 1972 have placed them. And as the Irish prepare for their 86th season of intercollegiate football, the memories of 1972 will still be there; and Ara Parseghian will be using those memories to ward off any complacency generated by the triumphs of 1973.

"As we move into next season," observed Ara, "there won't be the disappointment, the humiliation that our closing performances in 1972 brought us. This year, after such successes, our team will be proud — and rightfully so. But each year there is a challenge for us, and each year that challenge is the same: since we aren't a member of any conference, our first goal is always to go unbeaten, secure a bid to a major bowl game, and win the National Championship. That challenge faces us every year; what changes is our attitude as we face that challenge. Last year the attitude was predictable. They had to wait one year after those last games with Southern Cal and Nebraska, and they felt they had something to prove, something to show.

"This year's attitude will be quite different."

That it will, for Parseghian's Irish no longer have to prove anything to anyone. Instead of working to redeem themselves, next year's Irish will have to defend their crown against a cluster of talented title pretenders — the likes of Oklahoma, Ohio State and Southern Cal. And the twin realities of Notre Dame and being on top will, realizes Ara, make the ultimate goal of an 11-0 season, a bowl victory, and another National Title just that much more difficult to achieve.

"The fact that we're on top now," he said, "will give each of our opponents more intensity when they play us. They'll be trying to dethrone the defending champions, not just trying to beat Notre Dame."

Those realities are unlike any faced by recent Irish

teams, but Parseghian's 1974 squad will possess both the skills and the maturity to face them without flinching. The loss of Pomarico and Casper on the offensive line will hurt — the loss of two All-Americans always does — but tackles Steve Neece and Steve Sylvester return, as do guard Gerry DiNardo, center Mark Brennehan, and wide receiver Pete Demmerle.

The offensive backfield will return intact, minus the services of one regular: halfback Gary Diminick. Fullback Wayne Bullock, the team's leading rusher in 1973, and halfbacks Eric Penick, Art Best, Al Samuel, and Al Hunter all return for their senior (Penick and Samuel), junior (Best), and sophomore (Hunter) years.

The defensive line, like its offensive counterpart, will build around a solid core. Tackle George Hayduk — a steady performer for two seasons — graduates, but tackles like Mike Fanning, Kevin Nosbusch, and Steve Niehaus return, as do ends Jim Stock, Ross Browner, and Willie Fry.

Senior linebackers Drew Mahalic and Sherm Smith will provide a similar nucleus for linebacker coach George Kelly, and deep backs Reggie Barnett and Luther Bradley will do the same for Paul Shoults' secondary — a unit which must replace two-year starters Mike Townsend and Tim Rudnick.

But if the Irish are to successfully weather the challenges of the '74 season, they'll have to depend on the services of two other returning veterans: quarterback Tom Clements and linebacker Greg Collins. Clements and Collins have been elected as co-captains for the upcoming season, and Parseghian is anticipating the same sort of leadership from them as he enjoyed from Pomarico, Casper, and Townsend.

"Our monogram winners made two great choices when they voted for next year's co-captains," said Ara. "Picking Tom to captain our offense — considering he's our quarterback and considering he gets plenty of recognition already — is another testimony of the respect our players have for him. And Greg, really, is in a very similar situation. Clements and Collins were excellent choices as co-captains."

Collins, Clements, and Parseghian helped the Irish lock up their National Championship just over one month ago, and already preparations are under way for a title defense in 1974. Parseghian has his 11-game schedule. He has his co-captains. He has 17 starters returning from last season. But he does not have five replacements for his departed seniors, and he won't decide on those replacements until well into fall practice. "It's still too early to tell," cautioned Ara, "and frankly I'm hesitant to say who's going to be playing in the open spots. But we'll find the best football players to fit those positions, you can be sure of that."

If the Irish coaches can uncover the players they're after, and if those players can avoid the complacency which may be lurking within the '74 schedule, then Irish fans may be sure of something else, too. They may be sure that Ara's eleventh Notre Dame football team will be in a strong position to pull off what Parseghian himself called a "great accomplishment; a challenge within itself" — a second consecutive National Championship.

—vic dorr

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SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 10

Stephen Spender
John Hollander.....Lib. Aud., 3:00 p.m.
Reading from Their Poetry

Stephen Spender
John Hollander.....Lib. Aud., 8:00 p.m.
In Memory of W. H. Auden

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11

Robert Creeley.....Lib. Aud., 8:00 p.m.
Reading from His Poetry

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12

Samuel Hazo.....C.C.E. Aud., 3:30 p.m.
Reading from His Poetry

Michael McClure.....Lib. Aud., 8:00 p.m.
Reading from His Poetry

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13

Bruce Jay Friedman.....Lib. Lounge, 1:00 p.m.
Workshop on the Problems of the Multimedia

Bruce Jay Friedman.....Lib. Aud., 8:00 p.m.
Reading from His Fiction

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14

Jason Miller.....Lib. Aud., 8:00 p.m.
Pulitzer prize-winning playwright and
Fr. Karass of THE EXORCIST entertains

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15

Joyce Carol Oates.....Lib. Aud., 8:00 p.m.
Speaking on Humanistic Psychology and
Literature

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16

Isaac Bashevis Singer.....Lib. Aud., 8:00 p.m.
Nobel Prize Contender speaks on
The Supernatural and Literature

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THE 1973 FIGHTING IRISH OF NOTRE DAME

IRISH SURPRISE ALL IN SEASON OPENER
AGAINST NORTHWESTERN; 44-0.

UNCERTAIN IRISH STILL TOO MUCH FOR
PURDUE; 20-7.

BRILLIANT DEFENSE PRESERVES VICTORY OVER
MSU; 14-10.

TRICKY RICE FAILS TO GAIN AS IRISH BOIL, 28-0.

BLUE AND GOLD MAINTAIN UNDEFEATED SEASON,
CLOBBER ARMY; 62-3.

IRISH SEND 'EM OUT ON THEIR SHIELDS, ND 23; USC 14.

PITT RACKS UP THE YARDAGE, BUT NOT ENOUGH;
ND 31; PITT 10.

FALCONS GET AIRED, 48-15.

IRISH CAP REGULAR SEASON WITH RESOUNDING VICTORY
OVER MIAMI; 44-0.

NOTRE DAME ROLLS OVER 'BAMA TO NUMBER ONE
NATIONAL RATING; 24-23.