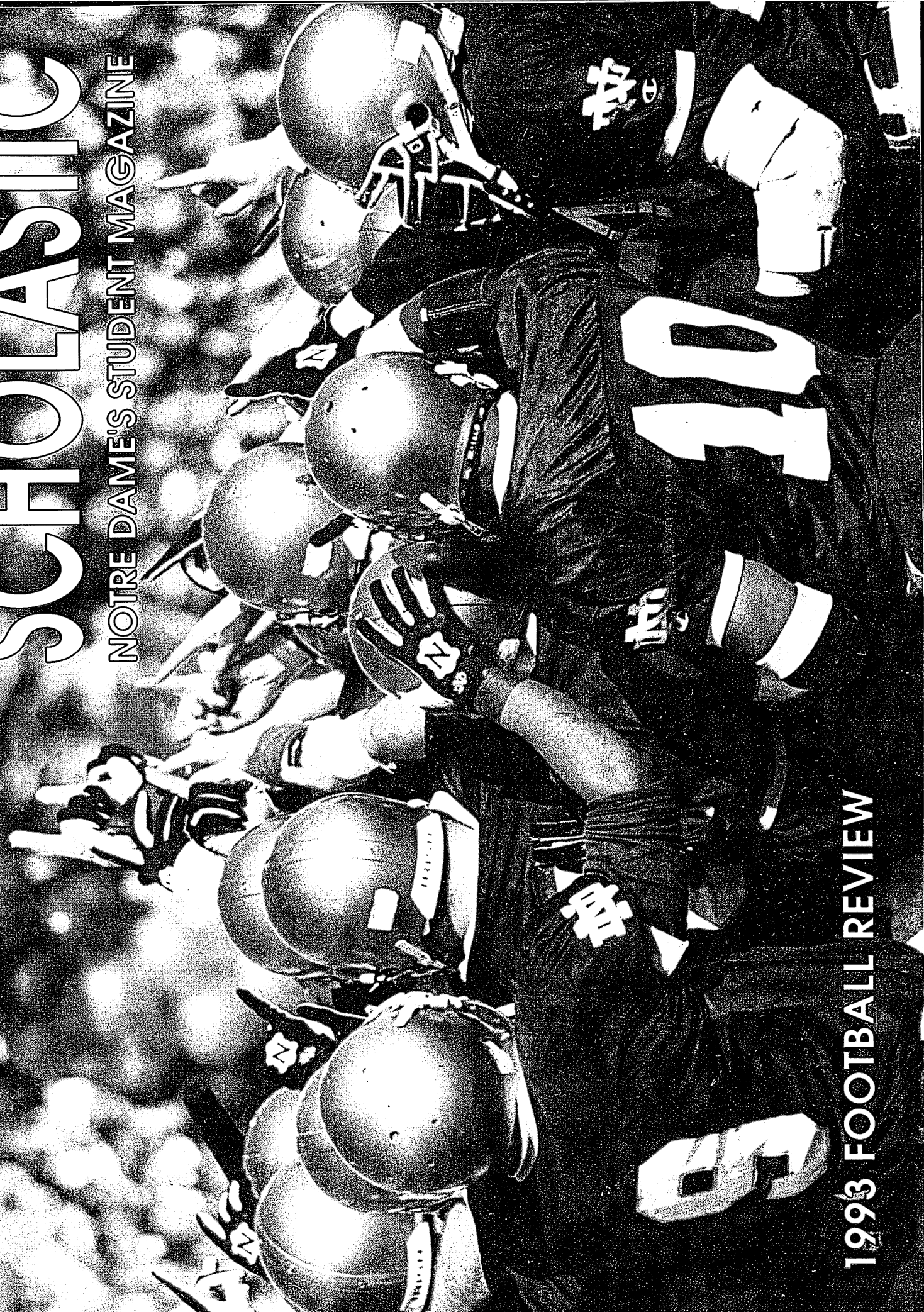


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1993 FOOTBALL REVIEW

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CONTENTS

SCHOLASTIC

NOTRE DAME'S STUDENT MAGAZINE

5

NORTHWESTERN

By Adam Ward

8

MICHIGAN

By Rich Christenson

12

MICHIGAN STATE

By Jason Conte

15

PURDUE

By Warren Junium

18

STANFORD

By Jeremy Dixon

22

PITTSBURGH

By Jake Schaller

25

BYU

By Brian Hiro

29

USC

By Bob Belden

33

NAVY

By Warren Junium

41

FLORIDA STATE

By Amanda Clinton

45

BOSTON COLLEGE

By Warren Junium

48

COTTON BOWL

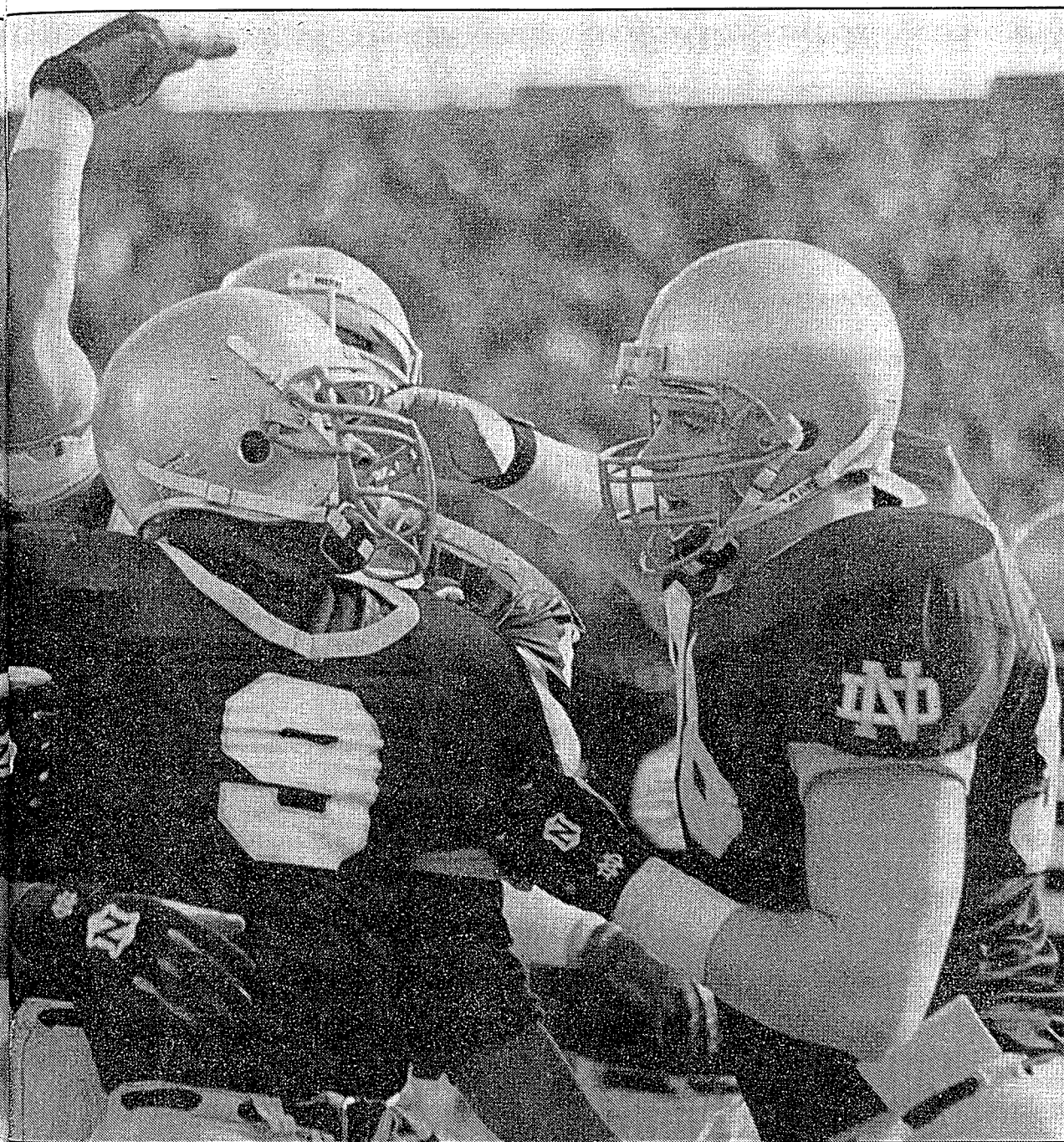
By Amanda Clinton

36

**INDIVIDUAL
HONORS**



Cover photo by Ken Osgood



Teammates celebrate with senior free safety Jeff Burris. Burris was named Notre Dame's most valuable player for the 1993 season.

Ken Osgood

38
SCHOLASTIC
ALL-OPPONENT
TEAM

40
FINAL REGULAR
SEASON STATISTICS

52
FINAL WORD
By Kristen Lefere

FROM THE SPORTS EDITOR

Saturday, November 13, will be remembered by Irish fans as the highlight of the 1993 season when Notre Dame upset number one ranked Florida State in a nail-biting game that came down to the final three seconds.

With a number one ranking and the national championship almost secure, Notre Dame entered its last home game of the season against Boston College. After coming back from what at one point had been a 21-point deficit, Notre Dame led the game by one point with five seconds left on the clock. But the Eagles brought out senior kicker David Gordon, and to the horror of Notre Dame and its fans, he scored a 41 yard field goal, crushing the hopes of a Notre Dame national championship.

The Irish played Texas A&M in Dallas on New Year's Day for the second year in a row. It was not until the last two minutes of the game when a field goal by Kevin Pendergast gave Notre Dame the winning margin of victory.

Despite a New Year's Day bowl picture that seemed to guarantee Notre Dame the national title, the media and coaches voted for Florida State to be number one. While many may remember the 1993 season as the year Notre Dame was cheated out of the national championship, it is easy to forget that in September this same team was expected to lose to many of its opponents.

In the first game of the season against Northwestern, the mediocre performance of the Irish seemed to confirm the thought that this season would be one of the worst in recent years. But in the Michigan game, the Irish surprised their critics by beating the then second-ranked Wolverines. On September 25, the Irish looked unimpressive once again, scraping past Purdue, 17 - 0. But by the next weekend Notre Dame was back to dominating play, avenging its loss the year before to Stanford. And then on October 30, two weeks before Florida State arrived in South Bend, Notre Dame almost lost to Navy. The 1993 football season was a rollercoaster ride for players, coaches and fans.

Because of its hard work and effort, the 1993 Notre Dame football team almost won the national championship. While the polls may not have declared the Irish the best team in the nation, like the picture on the cover of this issue demonstrates, the 1993 team and its fans know who deserves to be number one. Unlike past years, this team did not have any one star that outshone the rest of the squad. The 1993 squad truly was a team rather than a group of big-name stars.

The *Scholastic* staff hopes the Football Review helps you remember the highlights and the heartaches of the bittersweet 1993 season, both today as you read the magazine, and in the years to come as you look back on your career at Notre Dame.

This issue would not have been possible without the hard work of editors, photographers and writers. Notre Dame Sports Information should also be thanked for the help its staff gave to this issue, as well as for implementing a closed locker room policy after football games so that all reporters, male and female, have equal access to players.

As always, please write to *Scholastic* with any comments. Enjoy!

—Amanda Clinton

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SCHOLASTIC

NOTRE DAME'S STUDENT MAGAZINE

Vol. 134, No. 10
1993 Football Review

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Vive Quasi Cras Moriturus*

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Polishing Away the Tarnish

*Despite allegations and uncertainties,
Notre Dame pulled past Northwestern, 27-12*

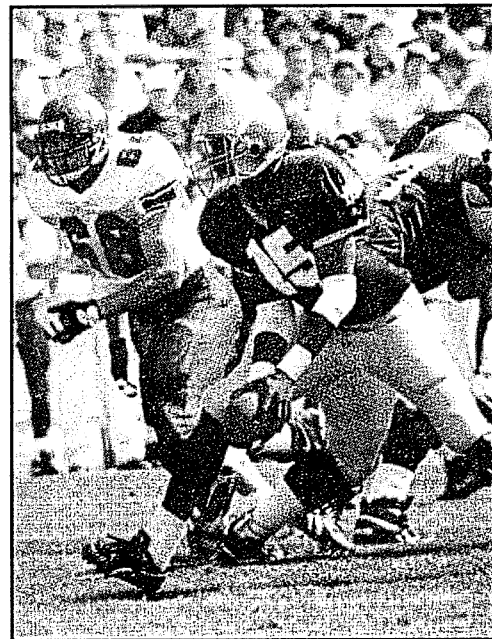
by Adam Ward

September 4, Notre Dame —

It has become almost routine. At the beginning of every football season, Lou Holtz and the Fighting Irish football team have to deal with something other than the first game of the season. Off-the-field controversy always seems to creep into the picture of Notre Dame's season opener. Both fans and critics wonder how the adversity will affect the performance of the Irish. By now, though, all should know that Coach Holtz and the Irish thrive in the face of adversity.

In 1990, just before the season started, a former Notre Dame player sold an uncomplicated story about steroid use at Notre Dame to *Sports Illustrated*. In it he also slandered Holtz and his coaching staff. With the apparent distractions surrounding the squad, it still managed to muscle out a win against a tough Michigan team in the season opener.

The next year an NCAA investigation of the University of Minnesota uncovered more controversy concerning Holtz. He was accused of recruiting violations during his time at Minnesota. While this probably put more pressure on Holtz than it did the team, he still easily guided the Irish to a victory over Indiana on opening day in Notre Dame



Matt Cashore

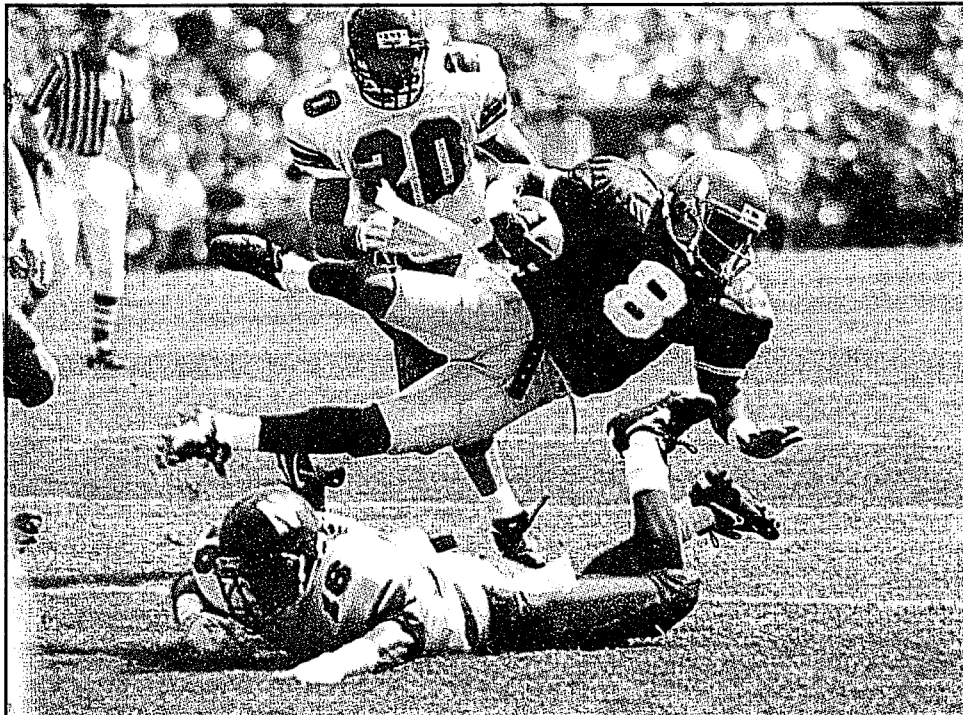
Senior quarterback Kevin McDougal needed to show his critics that he could replace former quarterback Rick Mirer.

Stadium.

Then in 1992, the NCAA suspended senior captain Demetrius DuBose for the first two games of the season. DuBose admitted accepting money and gifts from a long-time friend who was also the president of the Western Washington Notre Dame Club. Even without their star linebacker, the Irish thrashed Northwestern 42-7 in their first game of the season.

This year was no different. Just before the scheduled start of the season, a controversial book hit the newsstands. *Under the Tarnished Dome* had few positive remarks about Notre Dame or its football program. While many felt that the book would fluster an already questionable Irish squad, Notre Dame once again proved its critics wrong by beating an improved Northwestern team 27-12.

The book was not the only distraction plaguing the Irish. There were also questions about the team's ability to score points offensively. The Irish lost its entire starting backfield either to graduation or the NFL. With the likes of Reggie Brooks, Jerome Bettis and Rick Mirer gone, questions surfaced as to who would fill their shoes. While most were confident that the running back and fullback positions could be filled, many were unsure about the quarterback spot. The heavily recruited freshman quarterback Ron



Matt Cashore

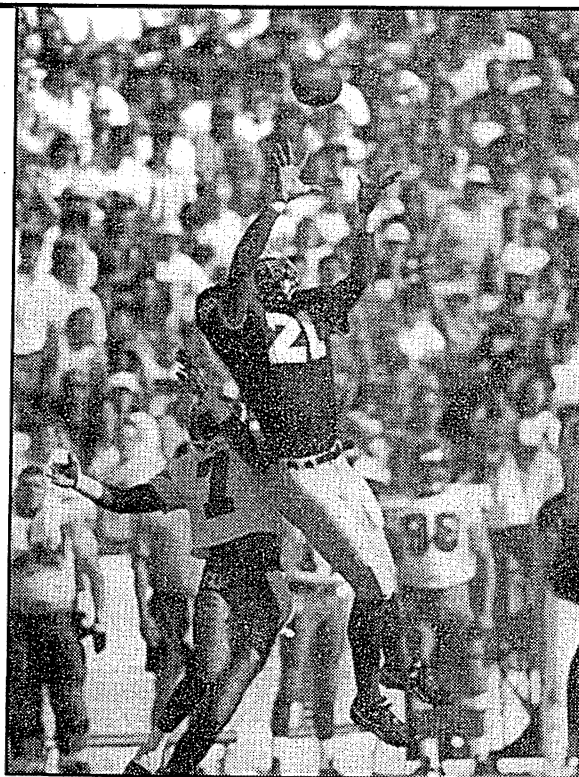
Senior split end Clint Johnson leaps over Northwestern's freshman Chris Hamdorf to complete an 11 yard run at the end of the first half.

Powlus was expected to get the starting call until he fractured his collarbone a week before the season. That left junior Paul Failla and senior Kevin McDougal to fight for the quarterback position. When game time arrived, McDougal got the starting nod, but Failla was expected to receive some playing time as well.

With all of the uncertainty surrounding the team's ability, offensive inexperience and focus, Irish fans were hoping that the game against the Wildcats would answer not only their questions but also their prayers. Notre Dame supporters did not have to wait long.

After receiving and downing the opening kickoff, Northwestern took control of the first series of the game at the 20-yard line. When senior Wildcat quarterback Len Williams' pass ricocheted off of the tight end's hands and into the arms of senior linebacker Pete Bercich, the doubts of Irish fans vanished. Bercich caught the ball at the 20 and rumbled into the end zone for an early 7-0 Irish lead. The interception was Bercich's first career touchdown.

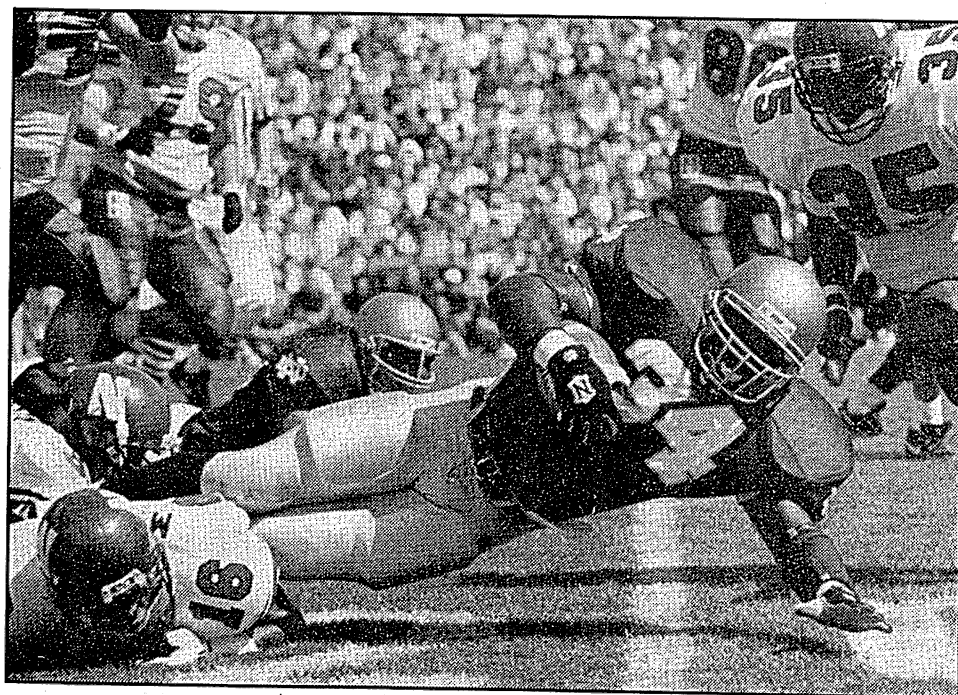
"It was unbelievable. It was a dream come true," said Bercich. "The ball hit the tight end's hands, and I looked up and there's the ball. The next thing I know I'm like Curly from *The Three Stooges*, running into the



Cornerback Bobby Taylor intercepts Len Williams pass to Mike Senters late in the fourth quarter. The interception was negated by a pass interference penalty.

end zone."

The Notre Dame defense again gave the Irish fans something to cheer about when, on



Junior fullback Ray Zellars lunges for a first down after a 9 yard sweep right. Zellars and the Notre Dame offense rushed for 162 yards against Northwestern.

only the second play from scrimmage, senior defensive tackle Oliver Gibson sacked Williams for a four yard loss. The Wildcats kept their composure and managed to squeeze out four first downs before having to punt.

Now it was the offense's turn to quiet the critics. The Irish took over on their own four yard line, confident that they could march 96 yards for the score. The Wildcats, however, had other plans. The offense was forced to punt after just eight plays and three first downs for 41 yards. The doubts about the team's inexperience and inability to score began to resurface.

After both teams failed to score on their next possessions, the first quarter ended with the Irish ahead of the Wildcats by seven.

The second quarter continued in a similar way with each team exchanging unthreatening possessions. With each series, however, Notre Dame seemed to confirm every Irish fan's anxiety while the Wildcats gained confidence and momentum. Northwestern used its confidence to score a touchdown with only 27 seconds remaining in the half, after a quick but impressive 80 yard scoring drive. The drive lasted only one minute and 18 seconds and ended on an eight yard pass from Williams to junior running back Dennis Lundy. Senior kicker Brian Leahy missed the point after leaving the Irish up by one at the half.

"We really put our heart into it. We had an awesome first half," said Northwestern outside linebacker Steve Shine.

Awesome could be an understatement. Not only did the Wildcat defense prevent the Notre Dame offense from scoring, but it also prevented the Irish offense from crossing midfield. Northwestern dominated in almost every statistical category at half time including first downs, passing yardage, total yardage and time of possession. The only category in which the Wildcats seemed to trail was the most important one — the score.

The Wildcats soon took over in that category as well. At the start of the second half, after returning the kickoff to the Notre Dame

GAME SUMMARY

Scoring Summary

	1	2	3	4	Final
Notre Dame	7	0	10	10	27
Northwestern	0	6	6	0	12

1st Quarter ND: Bercich 21 int. return (Pendergast PAT) at 14:52
 2nd Quarter NU: Lundy 8 pass from Williams (PAT failed) at 0:30
 3rd Quarter NU: Lundy 11 run (2 pt. conv. failed) at 13:35
 ND: Zellars 6 run (Pendergast PAT) at 11:03
 ND: Pendergast 29 FG at 3:36
 4th Quarter ND: Pendergast 27 FG at 12:49
 ND: Burris 2 run (Pendergast PAT) at 10:30

Team Statistics

	ND	NU
First Downs	17	21
Rushing	10	7
Passing	5	11
Penalty	2	3
Rushing	162	81
Passing	146	238
Total Net Yards	308	319
Average Gain Per Play	5.7	4.6
Fumbles-Lost	1-1	2-1
Penalties-Yards	7-61	10-86
Punts-Averages	4-40.7	5-35.8
Kickoff Returns	17	76
3rd Down Conversions	3-9	8-15

Individual Statistics

Rushing: ND - Becton 16-72, Zellars 14-67-1, Kinder 4-26, Davis 1-8, Edwards 1-4, Farmer 1-4, Burris 1-2-1, Lytle 1-(-2), Failla 2-(-3), McDougal 5-(-16) NU - Lundy 12-48-1, Williams 15-9, Wright 4-15, Robinson 3-9
 Passing: ND - McDougal 8-6-135-0-0, Failla 3-3-11-0-0 NU - Williams 35-23-238-1-1
 Receiving: ND - Zellars 3-2, Miller 2-57, Johnson 2-34, Mayes 1-42, Dawson 1-11 NU - Lundy 7-60, Gissendaner 6-56, Gamble 3-33, Senters 2-15, Morris 2-13, Beazley 1-38, Wright 1-15, Robinson 1-8

28 yard line, the Irish began their first series of the second half. On the first play, McDougal fumbled the snap from center, and Northwestern's Shine recovered the ball at the line of scrimmage.

With the ball on Notre Dame's 28, Northwestern was poised to take its first lead of the game. In just four plays the Wildcats did just that, capped by an 11 yard run by Lundy. Northwestern then attempted to make up for the missed extra point on the previous touchdown by going for a two-point conversion. The attempt failed but Northwestern still had the lead, 12-7.

But the Irish did not flinch. On the next series, McDougal proved why he deserved the starting role by leading the Irish offense on their first offensive scoring drive of the year. After marching 63 yards up the field, with a combination of timely passing and smash-mouth running, junior fullback Ray Zellars scored his first career touchdown on a powerful five yard run. The Irish then opted for a two-point conversion to put them up by a field goal. But after an illegal procedure penalty, they had to settle for a point after, by fifth-year senior kicker Kevin Pendergast giving the lead to the Irish, 14-

12.

After stopping the Wildcats on their offensive series, the Irish managed to score again on their next possession with a 29 yard Pendergast field goal, increasing the Irish lead to 17-12 at the end of the third quarter.

The scoring continued for the Irish into the fourth quarter with Pendergast kicking another field goal and senior free safety Jeff Burris scoring on a two yard scamper into the end zone.

The scoring for the Wildcats, however, ceased at the 13:35 mark of the third quarter after the Notre Dame defense tightened up for the remainder of the game.

When the final gun sounded, the Irish were on top 27-12, but many of the questions that Notre Dame fans were hoping to have answered still remained.

Did the book contribute to the less than impressive performance of the team? Kevin McDougal did not think so.

"The book had nothing to do with anything. We just started out slow. The total team had to get it together, and after our first score in the second half, I could feel the confidence build," he said.

Although the controversy over the book did not seem to be a factor, the suspect offense was of great concern. The Irish failed six times on third and short and never seemed to achieve any type of offensive rhythm.

"If you look at our team based on today, you might think that we might not win again," said Holtz. "But if you look at other things, you might see opportunities for improvement. I must look at the film before I contemplate other things — like suicide."

The battle between Failla and McDougal for the quarterback position was not resolved either.

"It's still up in the air. Both McDougal and Failla did a nice job," said Holtz.

Many of the questions plaguing the Irish remained unanswered and improvement seemed to be necessary in order to challenge the more competitive teams on the schedule.

"I'm going to have to watch the film and ask, 'Can we correct things that we did wrong?' If we can, I will feel much better. If we can't, I will be one sick puppy," Holtz said. "It was not a very impressive performance but we learned a lot." □

DISPELLING

by Rich Christenson

September 11, Ann Arbor, MI—

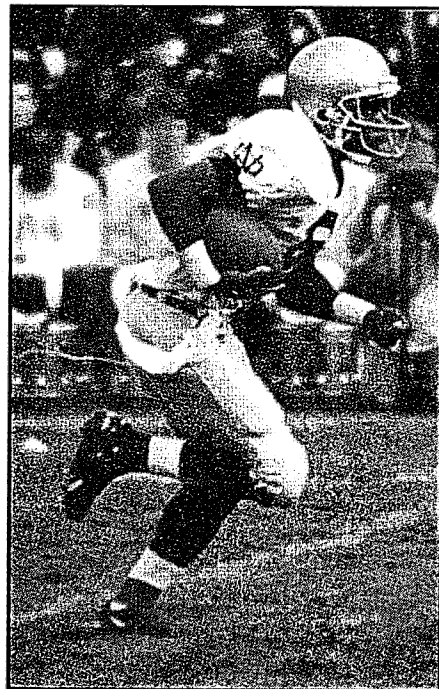
They'll never be able to do it." Statements like these echoed in the ears of the Notre Dame football players weeks before the clash with the University of Michigan. Radio, TV broadcasts, newspaper and magazine articles, predicted "Without Rick Mirer, Jerome Bettis and Reggie Brooks, the Irish will never be able to pull off an upset," and "With the highly touted freshman quarterback

recruit Ron Powlus injured and controversy surrounding the recent release of *Under The Tarnished Dome*, Notre Dame will be lucky not to get trounced."

Sports Illustrated wrote, "Even the strongest Irish team couldn't expect to defeat all of this year's foes. And this is far from the strongest Irish team."

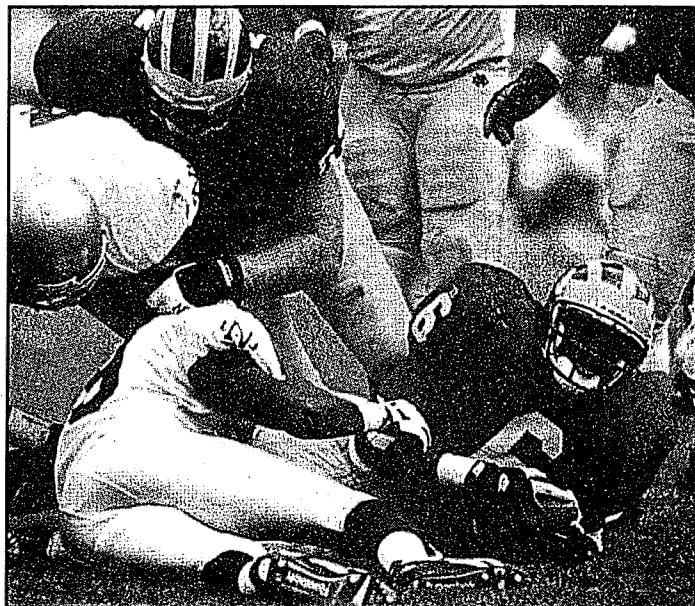
The Notre Dame football team heard all the skepticism. It heard but did not listen. Instead the Irish decided to do something about it: prove their critics wrong.

Michigan came into the match up as the favorites, with a regular season unbeaten streak



Matt Cashore

Junior flanker Mike Miller looks upfield as he returns one of Michigan's four punts of the game.



Matt Cashore

Irish defenders bring down Michigan's explosive tailback, junior Tyrone Wheatley. Wheatley tallied 146 of the Wolverines' 169 rushing yards on the day.

of 20 games and the home field advantage. After last year's fifth straight Big Ten championship, the Wolverines set their sights higher this year, aiming for the national title. Though Notre Dame may have been underestimated because of a shaky performance against Northwestern, Coach Lou Holtz and the rest of the Fighting Irish were not ready to surrender.

"After one bad day they wrote us off. We had something to prove," said senior offensive tackle Aaron Taylor.

So the Irish began the day ready to convert the doubters. After junior flanker Mike Miller returned the opening kickoff 17 yards, Notre Dame started its march down the field. Oblivious to the record crowd of 106,851 fans, the Irish set about proving their merit.

Six plays and 83 yards later, senior quarterback Kevin McDougal scrambled into the end zone for an Irish touchdown.

"I did not expect to go that far," stated a humble McDougal. "The receivers did a great job blocking."

But could Notre Dame hold back the Michigan offense anchored

Kevin McDougal rushed the Irish past the Wolverines for a 27-23 victory in front of a record crowd at Michigan Stadium

ALL DOUBTS

by Tyrone Wheatley? When 6'4", 299 pound Aaron Taylor describes another player (Wheatley) as "big, strong and really fast," one tends to believe him. And on the opening drive, Wheatley carried the ball on six of Michigan's first 13 plays. The Wolverines moved 66 yards to get within field goal range, where Michigan booted itself on the scoreboard with three points.

Just as the shell-shocked Michigan crowd began to re-enter the game, the Irish silenced them once again. McDougal again took charge, hitting senior split end Clint Johnson for a 43 yard gain. Three plays later, McDougal found Michigan's "sixth great lake" — senior flanker Lake Dawson — for a spectacular 32 yard grab. The Irish drive culminated in a 24 yard field goal by fifth-year senior kicker Kevin Pendergast to give Notre Dame a 10-3 lead.

In the second quarter Miller stepped forward with something of his own to prove. With 12 minutes left in the first half, he received a Michigan punt on the Irish 29 yard line from senior kicker Chris Stapleton. Miller then ran 56 yards straight upfield for another Irish touchdown. Pendergast made the extra point, giving Notre Dame a 17 to 3 lead. Since Ricky Watters' 81 yard punt return in Notre Dame's 1988 victory over Michigan, no one had returned a punt for



Brent Tadsen

Notre Dame senior tailback Lee Becton dives for the extra yard as two defenders bring him down. Becton rushed for 66 yards on 17 carries against the Wolverines.

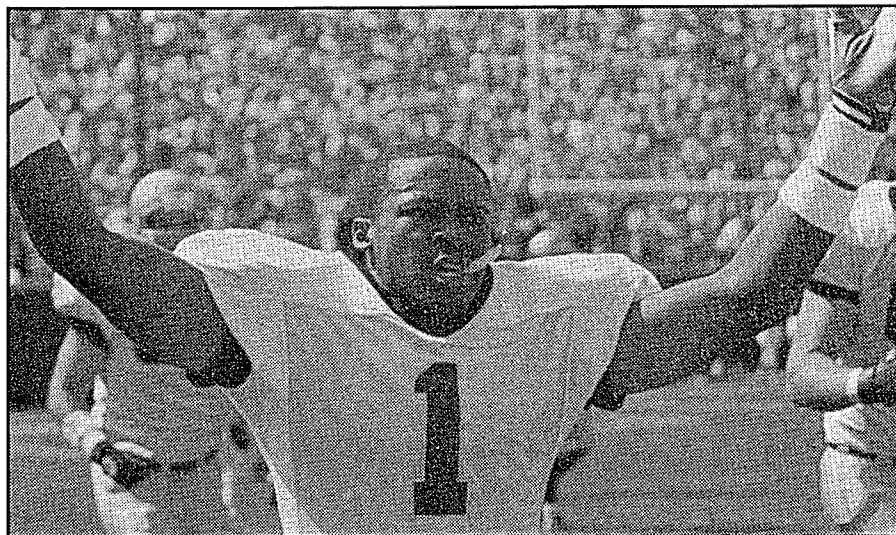
and finding no receivers open, proceeded to scramble to the left for 11 yards and a Notre Dame touchdown. Traveling 65 yards in seven plays, the Irish went into half time with a 24-10 lead over the third-ranked Wolverines.

After a half time locker room speech by Irish defensive line coach Mike Trgovac — said to be similar to but perhaps bested by Knute Rockne's "Gipper" speech — the Irish returned to the gridiron to prove to the media, Michigan and the entire nation that the Notre Dame football team could and would win.

Michigan's Wheatley started the second half with an impressive 49 yard kickoff return. However two plays later, Collins threw a pass intended for sophomore wide receiver Mercury Hayes that instead was intercepted by senior free safety Jeff Burris.

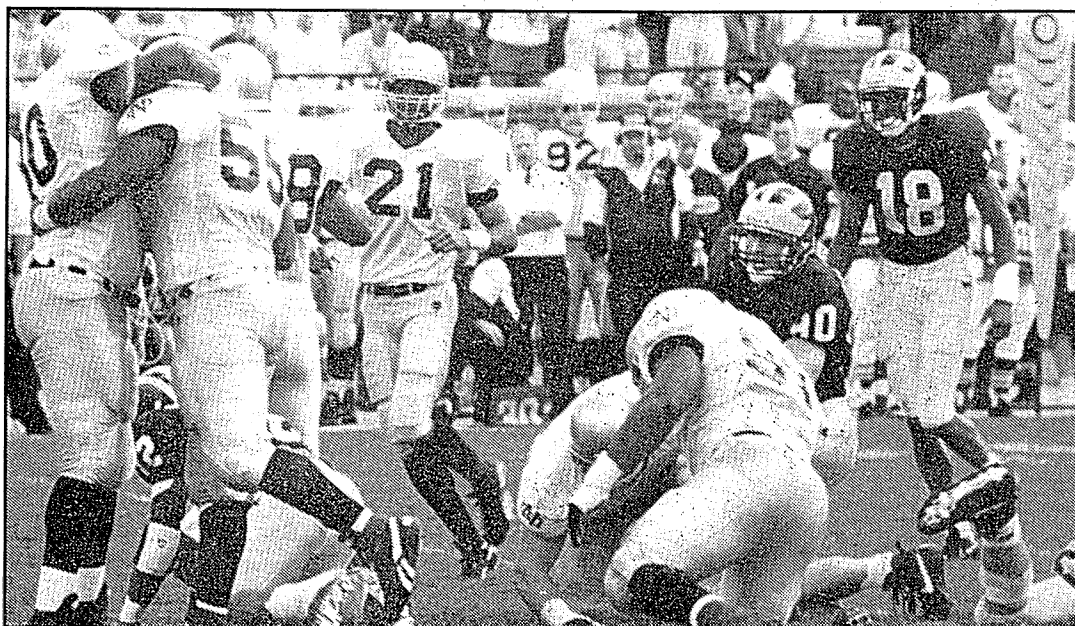
The well-balanced Irish offense began to crush the Wolverines' spirit. Chewing up over six minutes of the third quarter, McDougal completed two passes for 42 yards. Lou Holtz concentrated on the running game, using a plethora of running giants, including junior tailback Lee Becton, junior fullback Ray Zellars, freshman tailback Randy Kinder, and Burris. The Irish drove their way down the field, gaining 63 yards in 13 plays to set up Pendergast for a 19 yard field goal. Notre Dame secured a 27-10 lead over a team expected to dominate the game.

"In the middle of the third quarter, things started going the wrong way," said Collins.



Brent Tadsen

Sophomore split end Derrick Mayes celebrates the Irish victory over the Wolverines. Mayes had two receptions for 34 yards. The offense racked up 192 rushing yards and 206 passing yards.



Brent Tadsen

The Irish defense limited the explosive Wolverine running game to two touchdowns, both by Tyrone Wheatley.

In the third quarter, Collins was intercepted three times, twice by Burris and once by sophomore cornerback Bobby Taylor. Taylor intercepted the ball and returned it to the Michigan nine yard line with three and a half minutes left in the third quarter. Notre Dame

Michigan's offense on its first three drives of the quarter. And Notre Dame's offense ran conservative plays meant to run the clock out but not to put points on the score board.

Michigan however, did not give up. Late in the game Collins led

then found itself in a fourth and one situation on the Michigan goal line. The Irish went for it, but Burris was stopped short.

"If we make it, we score. If not, they're on the one yard line and have to go 99 yards. I like these odds. However, they did end up going 99 yards and made it look like a bad decision," said Holtz.

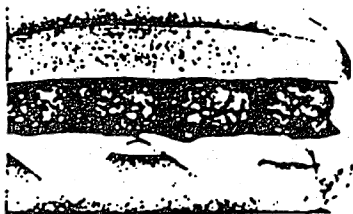
In a definite shift of momentum, the Wolverines marched 99 yards down the field for an eventual touchdown early in the fourth quarter, bringing Michigan within ten points of the Irish with a score of 27-17.

Once again the Irish had something to prove that it would take more than one solid effort to win a game. In the fourth quarter, the Irish defense stopped



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a 14 play, 80 yard drive, dwindling the Irish lead to four points with a score of 27-23.

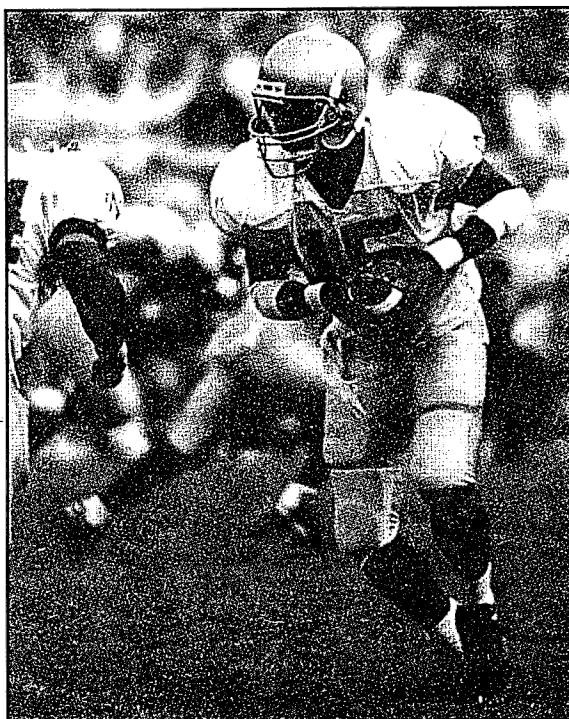
"When most teams would have folded, they continued to play tough," Holtz said.

An unsuccessful onside kick with 32 seconds left in the final quarter allowed the Irish simply to down the ball and end the game. The final score, 27-23, does not reflect the Irish domination in Ann Arbor.

"Notre Dame is a great school. They were an excellent team on defense and up front," said Michigan Head Coach Gary Moeller.

McDougal finished the game with 12 completions on 21 attempts for 208 yards, while rushing for another 66 yards. He earned the respect of many people with this victory.

"Every time [Notre Dame] comes in



Matt Cashore

Senior quarterback Kevin McDougal looks upfield for an open man. McDougal led the Irish offense with two rushing touchdowns.

here they move the ball. It doesn't matter who they have in the backfield," said Collins.

The Irish win dashed Michigan's hopes in its quest for a National Championship.

"It is a terrible disappointment. This felt like the year. Hopes for the National Championship are gone. Now our goal is the Big Ten Championship," lamented Collins.

"You can't worry about what's been said," said McDougal in reflection.

And how true this is. It doesn't matter what people may write in books or comment on TV. What matters is that Notre Dame continues to play its game.

And that's exactly what the Irish did. □

GAME SUMMARY

Scoring Summary

	1	2	3	4	Final
Notre Dame	10	14	3	0	27
Michigan	3	7	0	13	23
1st Quarter	ND: McDougal 43 run (Pendergast PAT) at 11:55 UM: Elezovic 32 field goal at 6:03 ND: Pendergast 24 field goal at 2:36				
2nd Quarter	ND: Miller 56 punt return (Pendergast PAT) at 10:17 UM: Wheatley 1 run (Elezovic PAT) at 1:13 ND: McDougal 11 run (Pendergast PAT) at 0:06				
3rd Quarter	ND: Pendergast 19 field goal at 6:52				
4th Quarter	UM: Wheatley 4 run (Elezovic PAT) at 14:57 UM: Hayes 13 pass from Collins (2pt. conv. failed) at 0:34				

Team Statistics

	ND	UM
First Downs.....	19	19
Rushing.....	8	8
Passing.....	10	11
Rushing.....	163	151
Passing.....	208	251
Total Net Yards.....	371	402
Average Gain Per Play.....	5.5	5.7
Fumbles-Lost.....	0-0	0-0
Penalties-Yards.....	5-40	4-34
Punts-Averages.....	5-41.2	4-45
Kickoff Returns.....	16	29.4
3rd Down Conversions.....	7-16	5-14

Individual Statistics

Rushing: ND - Becton 17-77, Burris 3-4, McDougal 9-66-2, Kinder 3-1, Edwards 1-0, Zellars 12-18, Dawson 1-8 UM - Wheatley 25-146-2, Collins 4-(-14), Powers 2-6, Davis 3-13
Passing: ND - McDougal 21-12-208-0-0 UM - Collins 37-22-252-1-3
Receiving: ND - Mayes 2-34, Becton 2-14, Miller 1-23, C. Johnson 2-56, Zellars 2-17, Dawson 3-64 UM - W. Smith 4-34, Wheatley 3-39, Hayes 9-96, Toomer 5-58, Burkholder 1-5, Malveaux 1-9, Cooper 2-10

A Ground-Breaking Day

The Irish rushing attack proved itself en route to a 36-14 win against the Spartans

by Jason Conte

September 18, Notre Dame —

Tony Brooks. Anthony Johnson. Rodney Culver. Ricky Watters. Jerome Bettis. Reggie Brooks.

For the past six years, under the direction of Lou Holtz, Notre Dame has been known for its great rushing attack, averaging no less

than 250 yards per game and never ranking below 14th in the country.

But coming into this season there were numerous questions about the Irish ground game. For the first time in several years Holtz did not have a proven running back to replace his departing stars. Instead he had to work with unproven backups from last year and a highly touted freshman class.

In the first two games of the season, Lee Becton was the only back who distinguished himself, and the running game remained questionable. But for the third game of the year, Michigan State was a guest at the coming out party for the new breed of Irish running backs.

But at first it looked like the offense would have to play catch-up. On their first drive of the game the Spartans marched down the field and scored. Starting from their own 26, Michigan State put together what would turn out to be its best drive of the day, but to Irish fans it was a wake-up call to a new and improved Spar-

tan team. In a series of Craig Thomas runs and short Jim Miller passes, the Spartans went 74 yards on 14 plays in six and a half minutes, putting the first seven points on the scoreboard.

"This game scares me because Michigan State moved the ball on us so well last year and we're not consistent enough on offense right now to get into a high-scoring game with them," said Holtz before the game. "They had almost 500 yards against us last year, and it seemed like 700. We ended up having to fight for our lives before it was over. Michigan State has had a couple of losing seasons, but I think George [Perles] has them back. I think this is one of his better teams."

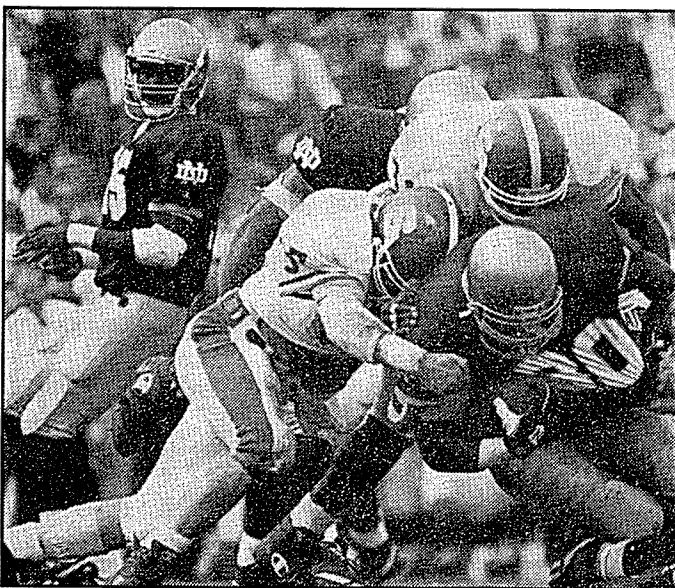
It looked like Holtz's fears were well-founded. But the Irish countered the attack in the beginning of the second quarter. Kevin McDougal led his unit across the goal line for a Notre Dame touchdown, scored by Farmer on a one yard run. But the Irish still trailed the Spartans 7-6 after Kevin Pendergast missed the point after attempt.

After this scoring drive the Irish took command of the game. On the next Notre Dame possession, Pendergast redeemed himself by scoring a 26 yard field goal, bringing the Irish to a 9-7 lead. And on the next drive, the Notre Dame defense kept Michigan State from reaching a first down. The Spartans punted the ball back to a hun-



Ken Osgood

Freshman tailback Robert Farmer finds a hole in the Spartan defense. He scored one touchdown in the game.



Ken Osgood

Kevin McDougal watches as fullback Marc Edwards is taken down by the Spartan defense.

gry Irish offense that converted the opportunity into a score.

"It was a clutch performance by the offense," said Holtz. "We were much better offensively this week, and I thought Kevin McDougal performed well."

With 10 seconds left in the first half, on the Spartan four yard line, McDougal

saw an open Ray Zellars, tossing him the ball over the middle for an Irish touchdown. With the extra point Notre Dame led the game, 16-7.

The offensive line aided the rushing attack. "The line did a tremendous job blocking today," said Kinder. "Some of the blocks

they made were unbelievable, and the holes they opened up were huge."

Aaron Taylor agreed with Kinder's assessment. "Our offensive line worked well,

and our cohesiveness is finally starting to get there. We are really starting to gel as a unit."

And with four seconds left on the clock, the Michigan State offense took the field. Miller attempted to

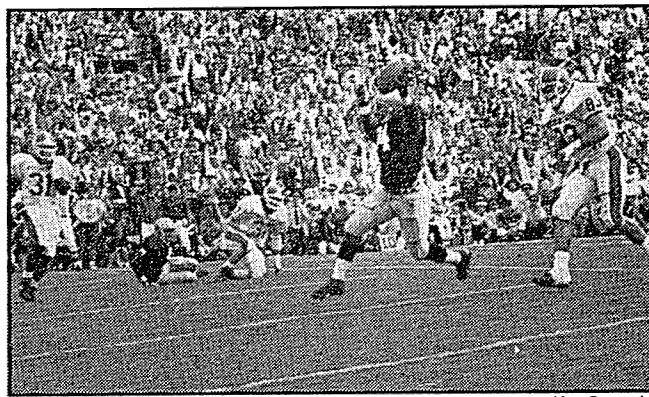
throw a deep pass to a group of three Michigan State receivers, but John Covington read the play and intercepted the ball to end the first half.

While the offense was racking up high numbers, the defense also performed well.

The Irish forced two turnovers, had one sack and made four tackles for losses against the Spartans. Notre Dame forced Michigan State to punt six times and limited the Spartan rushing attack to only 58

"We don't have to be the best team in the country, we just have to be the best team in the stadium..."

— Aaron Taylor



Ken Osgood

Junior fullback Ray Zellars raises his arms in celebration as he scores one of Notre Dame's four touchdowns in the game.

yards the entire game and negative 10 yards in the second half.

"I thought after the first drive and before the last drive, we played good on defense," said Holtz. "We couldn't have communicated better."

On the first Irish possession of the third quarter, Pendergast was able to hit a 23 yard field goal to increase the Irish lead to 19-7. On the next drive the Irish defense stopped the Spartan offense from gaining a first down.

Once again the Irish were unable to drag the ball over the goal line, and Notre Dame settled for a 31 yard field goal by Pendergast.

But with a little over two minutes left in the third quarter Notre Dame scored its first touchdown since the first half when McDougal handed the ball to freshman Marc Edwards on the one yard line, dodging the left tackle for a touchdown and bringing the score to 29-7.

Again in the fourth quarter the Irish offense came together for another touchdown. On the Spartan 12 yard line McDougal, under heavy pressure, rolled left and let a pass fly to Becton who was wide open and scored an Irish touchdown. With the extra point the Irish lead increased to 36-7.

"We just have a way to get it down there [to the end zone]," said Holtz. "Usually we just wallow and slop around and somehow get it down there."

With less than five minutes left in the fourth quarter, the Irish gained possession and for the first time since the first quarter,

A New Star For The Irish

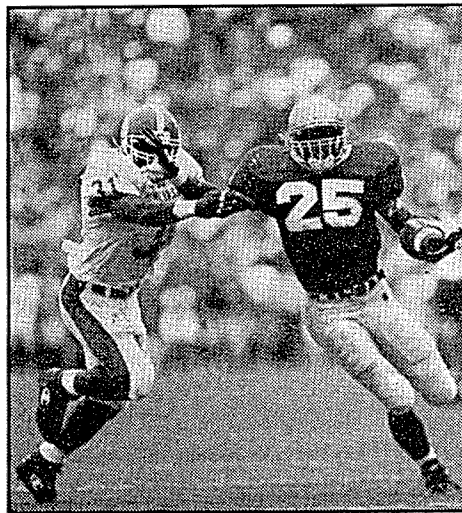
Of all the stars on the Notre Dame side of the ball during the Michigan State game, freshman tailback Randy Kinder's star shone the brightest. He rushed 12 times for 94 yards, averaging 7.8 yards per carry. His performance earned him the NBC/Chevrolet Notre Dame MVP for the game.

"It was a very special game for me," said Kinder. "I really didn't get much sleep last night. But the more times I ran the ball, the more comfortable I felt. I'm not where I should be, but I'm working hard and trying to go in the right direction."

After Kinder's performance not only were the fans impressed, but he also turned a few of his teammates' heads as well.

"Randy is a great kid and a great runner," said senior quarterback Kevin McDougal. "In the future he will be one of the great running backs in the nation."

Last year Kinder was heavily recruited by both Michigan State and Notre Dame.



Ken Osgood

Because he is an East Lansing native, many expected he would play for the Spartans.

"It was a big thrill. We showed the world that we can run the ball effectively."

— by Jason Conte

Notre Dame was unable to convert the drive into any points. And also for the first time since the first quarter the Irish defense let the Spartan offense into the end zone. While the Irish defense had a slow start, it eventually shut down the Spartan offensive attack.

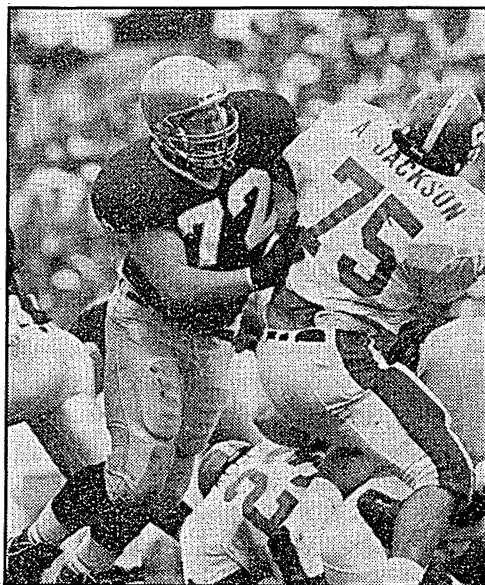
"It just took us a drive or two to realize what they were doing," said Pete Bercich. "But after that we were able to adjust."

It was not until their final drive that the Spartans were able to muster up enough strength to crack the Irish defense and add onto their seven points. With 18 seconds left on the clock, Miller stayed in the pocket and threw to Coleman in the end zone, hitting him for a touchdown, bringing the final score to 36-14.

The Notre Dame rushing attack proved itself by breaking free for 269 yards, led by freshman Randy Kinder who tallied 12 carries for 94 yards.

"I had a lot of fun out there today," said Kinder. "I just wanted to contribute and show that I can get in there and be productive."

Kinder was not the only back to come through for the Irish. Lee Becton



Junior outside guard Ryan Leahy tries to make holes for Notre Dame's rushing game. The Irish rushed for 269 yards on the day.

rushed 10 times for 76 yards, including an impressive 40 yard run. And freshmen Marc Edwards and Robert Farmer both scored their first touchdowns in their collegiate

careers.

"Our backs gave us a big boost. We knew about Becton and Zellars, but it was nice to see Kinder and some others jump in there," said Holtz. "We wanted to establish our rushing game today. We wanted to establish a Notre Dame style offense."

While the Irish running backs were in the spotlight, Kevin McDougal and the receivers quietly put together a very good game of their own. McDougal completed 17 of 23 passes for 185 yards on the day. While completing 74 percent of his passes, he also tallied his first two touchdowns of the season.

"We made a lot of progress from last week and that's what our goal is. We don't have to be the best team in the country, we just have to be the best team in the stadium and get better each week. If we do that, we'll be all right," said Aaron Taylor. "We are playing more confident as a unit. We have more confidence in ourselves and each other. People were writing us off a little earlier in the season, but now we are starting to prove that we are a good team." □

GAME SUMMARY

Scoring Summary

	1	2	3	4	Final
Notre Dame	0	16	13	7	36
Michigan State	7	0	0	7	14

1st Quarter	MSU: Thomas 1 run (Stoyanovich PAT) at 6:44
2nd Quarter	ND: Farmer 1 run (PAT failed) at 13:54 ND: Pendergast 26 FG at 3:05 ND: Zellars 4 pass from McDougal at :10
3rd Quarter	ND: Pendergast 23 FG at 9:28 ND: Pendergast 31 FG at 6:10 ND: Edwards 1 run (Pendergast PAT) at 2:26
4th Quarter	ND: Becton 12 pass from McDougal (Pendergast PAT) at 6:56 MSU: Coleman 5 pass from Miller (Stoyanovich PAT) at :14

Team Statistics

	ND	MSU
First Downs	26	16
Rushing	12	6
Passing	12	9
Penalty	2	1
Rushing	269	58
Passing	202	193
Total Net Yards	471	251
Average Gain Per Play	6.5	4.3
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	1-1
Penalties-Yards	8-72	8-83
Punts-Averages	2-39.5	6-35.5
Kickoff Returns	6	139
3rd Down Conversions	6-11	6-13

Individual Statistics

Rushing: ND - Kinder 12-94, Becton 10-72, Clark 7-37, Zellars 6-29, Farmer 6-16-1, McDougal 3-10, Edwards 2-7-1, Lytle 2-4, Burris 1-2, Failla 1-(-2) MSU - Thomas 15-56-1, Goulbourne 6-13, Holman 1-0, Miller 2-(-5), Coleman 1-(-6)

Passing: ND - McDougal 23-17-185-2-0, Failla 2-2-17-0-0 MSU - Miller 34-23-193-1-1

Receiving: ND - Miller 5-65, Chryplewicz 3-34, Becton 3-31-1, Mayes 2-24, Stafford 1-12, McBride 1-9, Wallace 1-8, Clark 1-8, Dawson 1-7, Zellars 1-4-1 MSU - Coleman 7-57-1, Abrams 4-26, Outlaw 3-33, Thomas 3-20, Carter 2-23, Organ 2-16, Holman 1-9, Goulbourne 1-9

Blame it on the Rain

On a cold and rainy day, Notre Dame struggled to shut out a persistent Purdue team, 17-0

by Warren Junium

September 25, Purdue, IN —

Who would have thought that Purdue would give the 1993 Notre Dame squad a tough time? But on a rainy, miserable day in West Lafayette, the Purdue Boilermakers came close to upsetting the number four Fighting Irish.

Purdue coach Jim Colletto came into the 64th meeting of these two teams looking to play the role of "Spoilermaker" by letting history repeat itself. Purdue and Notre Dame have met 15 times previously when the Fighting Irish were ranked in the top five nationally. The Boilermakers have won seven of those games, most recently in 1979. Purdue was looking to make it eight.

In the first half, the Boiler defense shut down a strong Irish offense — something that no one expected. The Notre Dame offense was limited to just 136 yards for the entire first half. Senior quarterback Kevin McDougal led an ineffective passing game in the first two quarters. He was three for nine with two interceptions, and his longest completion was only 15 yards on a second and 10 play to sophomore split end Derrick Mayes.

"Coming out in the first half our offense was out of sync," said Coach Holtz. "We didn't prepare well, but this is the real Irish offense."

The Irish passing game may have been contained by the Boilers, but the Irish running game made some headway against the surprisingly strong Purdue defense. Freshman tailback Randy Kinder led the Notre Dame rushers in the first half with 51 total yards. During the second possession, he threaded himself through the steadfast Purdue offensive line for a 22 yard gain, and junior fullback Ray



Mike Bennett

Senior Willie Clark evades a Purdue defender. Clark carried the ball five times for the Irish against Purdue.

Zellers also added to the Irish cause with 31 total rushing yards in the first half.

"In the first quarter we could not get the ball over the 50 yard line. Their defense played a great game today," said Purdue fullback Mike Alstott.

But in the second quarter junior quarterback Matt Pike got his offense rolling. Pike relied on Alstott for the big play. He connected with Alstott on four accounts that totaled 55 yards. Halfway through the second quarter, on a third and seven play, Pike

hit Alstott with a pass that moved the Boilers to Notre Dame territory for only the second time in the game. Pike continued this drive all the way to the Irish 25 yard line, where the Boilers teed up for a 43 yard field goal. Junior kicker Vito Speciale lined up the field goal, but senior tackle Aaron Taylor blocked Speciale's kick, which was recovered by Purdue junior holder Brian Goehl.

The Irish took over and the offense again faltered. This allowed Purdue to have another chance to score before half time, but the Notre Dame defense stood strong.

The Irish came out in the second half looking to vindicate themselves. At first they could not get their offense started. The first Notre Dame drive of the half ended on the Purdue 38 yard line when McDougal went wide right and fumbled the ball as he was tackled. But the Purdue offense was also having a bad day and the Boilers did not capitalize on Notre Dame's mistakes.

After McDougal's showing in the first half and then his fumble in the third quarter, Coach Holtz went to junior back-up quarterback Paul Failla. During his first drive Failla was also ineffective. But then the Notre Dame defense stepped in again.

With 5:50 remaining in the third quarter, Purdue took over the ball on its own 15 yard line. The Boiler offense had a string of successful plays in the drive but with 4:27 left in the quarter, the possession came to an abrupt end. Pike stepped back to pass but was smothered by the Irish defense and fumbled the ball. Notre Dame senior defensive end Brain Hamilton recovered the ball and took off for the end zone. No one could touch him, and Hamilton scored. With time running down in the third quarter the Irish were up 7-0.

Even with an impressive score by the defense, the Irish offense



Mike Bennett

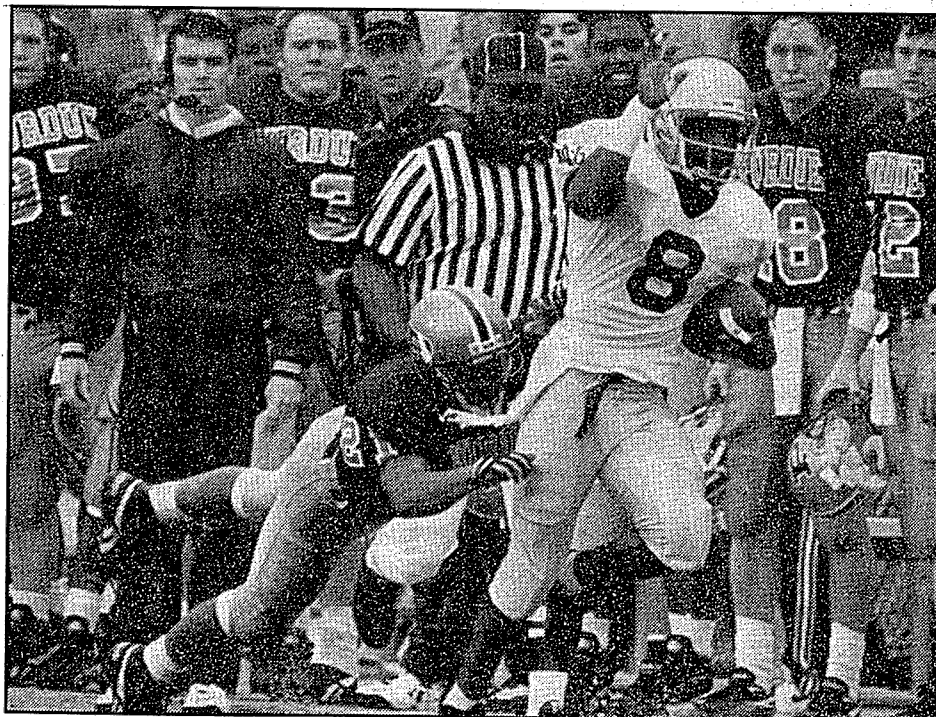
Senior fullback Dean Lytle dashes to the outside. Lytle carried the ball for 17 yards on the day.

failed to jump start. Purdue continued to give the ball back to the Irish, but Notre Dame's offense could not get the ball in the end zone.

It seemed that the Irish defense would put the only points on the board. But late in the fourth quarter the Notre Dame offense finally got started. With 7:51 remaining, the Irish took over the ball after a Purdue punt. McDougal was back in at quarterback and relied on freshman tailback Robert Farmer and Zellars to breathe new life into the Irish attack. In this drive Farmer carried the ball four times for a total of 15 yards. And Zellars carried the ball twice for a total of 15 yards with his final carry putting the Irish within field goal range. On a fourth down with four yards to go, senior kicker Kevin Pendergast teed up for a 34 yard field goal and put the Irish up 10-0.

The Irish defense again showed its strength on the kickoff. Pendergast's kick sailed 60 yards to Purdue freshman linebacker Joe Hagins, who returned the ball 33 yards before Notre Dame junior linebacker Jeremy Sample forced a fumble on the Purdue 38 yard line.

The Irish ground attack took over and ran through the tired and wet Purdue defense. Zellars broke through the line for 29 yards on three carries during the final drive. The Irish notched their last touchdown of the long afternoon on a one yard rush by freshman fullback Marc



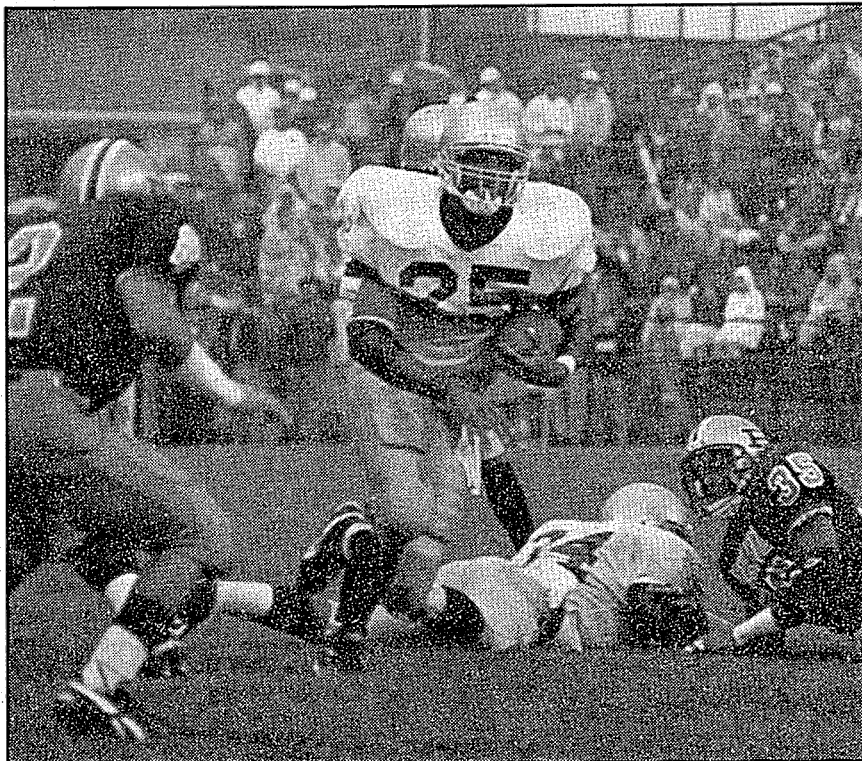
Mike Bennett

Senior split end Clint Johnson returns the only Purdue kickoff for the day. He returned the ball 53 yards on the kick.

Edwards, making the final score 17-0.

The weather played a large part in the outcome of the game. It rained throughout the entire contest, falling hardest during the first half. This could explain the lack of accurate passing. McDougal was only three for nine, and Pike was nine for 14. In the second half, as the rain began to lighten up, Purdue returned to the pass, but Notre Dame stayed with the rush.

"I want to give Purdue all the credit in the world. They played hard and physical. They won the



Mike Bennett

Freshman tailback Randy Kinder sees a hole and breaks loose. Kinder rushed for 75 yards on the day.

battle up front. It was a tough battle," said Coach Holtz.

Even though Purdue lost the game on the scoreboard, the Boilers felt good about their performance.

"This game makes our team gain confidence after playing against All-Americans," said Alstott.

"I told those guys that if they walk out of here with their heads down, I was going to kick them in the fanny," said Coach Colletto. "Today they played a great game." □

GAME SUMMARY

Scoring Summary

	1	2	3	4	Final
Notre Dame	0	0	7	10	17
Purdue	0	0	0	0	0

3rd Quarter ND: Hamilton 28 fumble ret. (Pendergast PAT) at 4:27
4th Quarter ND: Pendergast 34 FG at 3:49
ND: Edwards 1 run (Pendergast PAT) at 0:19

Team Statistics

	ND	Purdue
First Downs	13	14
Rushing	11	3
Passing	2	11
Penalty	0	0
Rushing	217	107
Passing	34	173
Total Net Yards	230	224
Avg Gain	3.8	3.4
Fumbles-Lost	3-2	5-5
Penalties-Yards	1-4	4-44
Punts-Average	38.0	36.1
Kickoff Returns	1-53	4-98
3rd Down Conversions	3-12	5-16

Individual Statistics

Rushing: ND - Zellars 11-84, Kinder 18-75, Lytle 2-17, Farmer 6-14, Failla 2-11, Clark, 5-8, Edwards 1-1, McDougal 4-6, J. Burris 1-1 PU - Rogers 14-74, Alstott 9-15, Connors 4-8, Pike 10-10
Passing: ND - McDougal 3-9-2-34-0, Failla 0-1-0-0-0 PU - Pike 18-28-0-173-0
Receiving: ND - Mayes 3-34 PU - J. Hill 5-32, Alstott 5-64, Rogers 2-14, Ross 2-26, Thornton 2-12, Simmons 1-11, Green 1-14

Revenge Never Tasted So Sweet

Notre Dame avenged last year's loss to Stanford with a 48-20 victory

by Jeremy Dixon

October 2, Notre Dame —

Irish fans knew the victory was secure when they saw Lou Holtz drinking his strawberry milkshake on the sidelines. Holtz, who forgot his necessary shake before the game, had a student manager bring one to him during the fourth quarter of the Stanford match up that the Irish dominated, 48-20. Last year's loss to the Cardinal was wiped out of the team's memory by the "big play" attack.

The onslaught began on Notre Dame's first possession. Starting on their own eight yard line, the Irish marched down the field in 10 plays. A 46 yard play action pass from senior quarterback Kevin McDougal to junior flanker Mike Miller gave the Irish a first down at the Cardinal 20 yard line. Four plays later, senior cornerback Willie Clark rolled untouched around the right end into the end zone to give Notre Dame a lead it would not relinquish.

Stanford came right back on the next possession though. Coupling senior running back Ellery Roberts' 24 yards rushing with three completions to junior split end Justin Armour for 49 yards and three first downs, the Cardinal was first and 10 on the Irish 12 yard line before the Notre Dame defense stepped up. On second down and three, Irish senior defensive lineman Oliver Gibson stopped Roberts for a loss and a third

down pass attempt fell incomplete. The defense forced a 23 yard field goal, cutting the Irish lead to 7-3.

On their next possession, the Irish were led by freshman tailback Randy Kinder, who ended the day with 105 yards rushing to become the first Notre Dame freshman to surpass 100 yards rushing since 1982. He had a 21 yard run down the left side to move the ball into Stanford territory. A pass interference penalty moved the ball further downfield to the Cardinal 15 yard line where, after a two yard loss, Coach Holtz decided to try the option for the first time. It developed just as planned, with McDougal waltzing 17 yards into the end zone for another Irish score.

Holtz declared earlier in the week that he was abandoning the option because of McDougal's inability to run it. "We decided Kevin would definitely have to learn it; we made some progress," said Holtz.

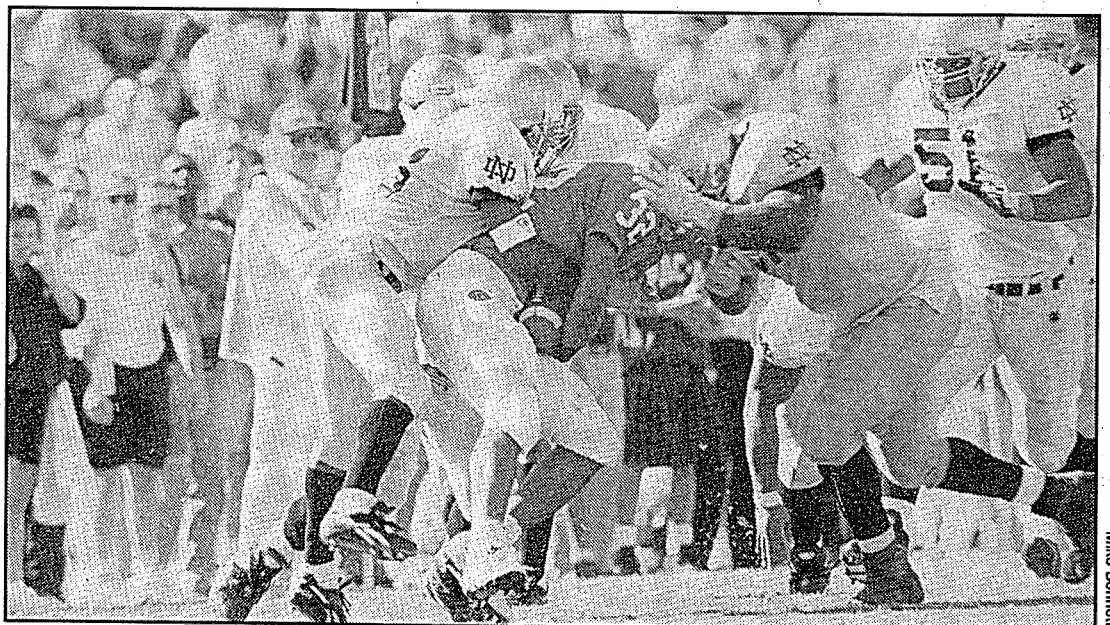
"I knew we were going to run it," said

McDougal. "It's in [Holtz's] offense. I felt if they were going to let me run it, I might as well run it."

The Irish only ran the option four times, but it was three times too many for Bill Walsh and Stanford. Of the four options the Irish ran, McDougal scored two touchdowns and pitched to junior tailback Lee Becton for another.

"We made some good defensive plays, some fabulous plays, but we still can't fathom the option," Walsh said.

Keeping up the Irish tradition of strong special teams and galactic nicknames, senior split end Clint "Cosmic" Johnson scored one touchdown and set up another. With 47 seconds left in the first half and the Irish lead cut to 14-6 by a Stanford field goal, Johnson took the kickoff from the goal line down the left sideline to the Stanford 21 yard line. McDougal worked the late half magic again with a nine yard end zone pass to a diving sophomore split end Derrick Mayes



The Notre Dame defense smothers a Stanford ball carrier. The defense forced the Cardinal to lose 43 yards rushing.

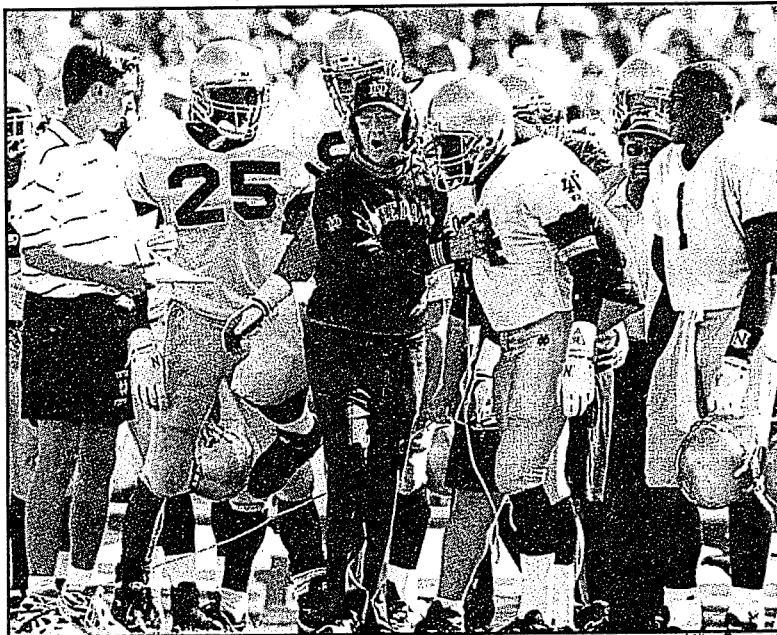
Mike Bennett

— the first touchdown for the Irish receivers all season — to give Notre Dame a 20-6 lead going into halftime.

The Irish took the opening kickoff of the second half and again marched down the field. A third down conversion from McDougal to senior flanker Lake Dawson moved the ball into Stanford territory, setting up McDougal's second option touchdown.

Once again, Stanford came back. Senior quarterback Steve Stenstrom picked apart the secondary, leading the Cardinal deep into Notre Dame territory where Roberts again took charge. On second down from the eight yard line, Roberts took a pitch that almost scored him a touchdown, but just missed. However, on the next play he found the end zone to cut the lead to 27-13.

On the kickoff, "Cosmic" got another chance — perhaps making the biggest and the most memorable play during a day of the big plays. Taking the ball from five yards inside the goal line, "Cosmic" Johnson sprinted up the left sideline once more. This time, however, the only people to catch him were his teammates as they mobbed him in



Ray Zellars receives last minute instructions from Coach Holtz. Zellars rushed for 41 yards on the day.

the end zone.

"We put [the kickoff return] in two or three weeks ago," said Johnson. "The only thing new about it is we return it up the

sidelines. It used to be up the middle."

"I didn't want to put it in, but players convinced me," Holtz said.

The run-back took the wind out of Stanford's sails. The Cardinal had put together an impressive drive only to watch Notre Dame's lead balloon to 34-13.

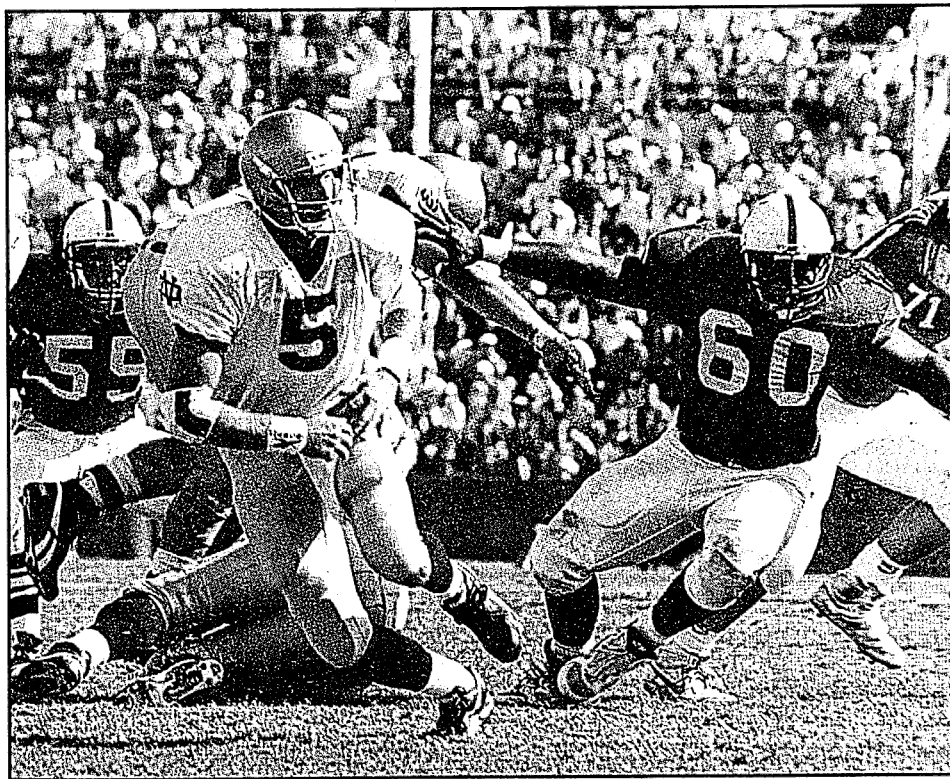
"We were thinking, if we can hold them, it's our game. But then came the kickoff return for the touchdown, and now we were forced to make big plays," Roberts said.

Stanford came right back at the Irish on the next possession to score on a 30 yard pass from Stenstrom to freshman wide receiver Brian Manning.

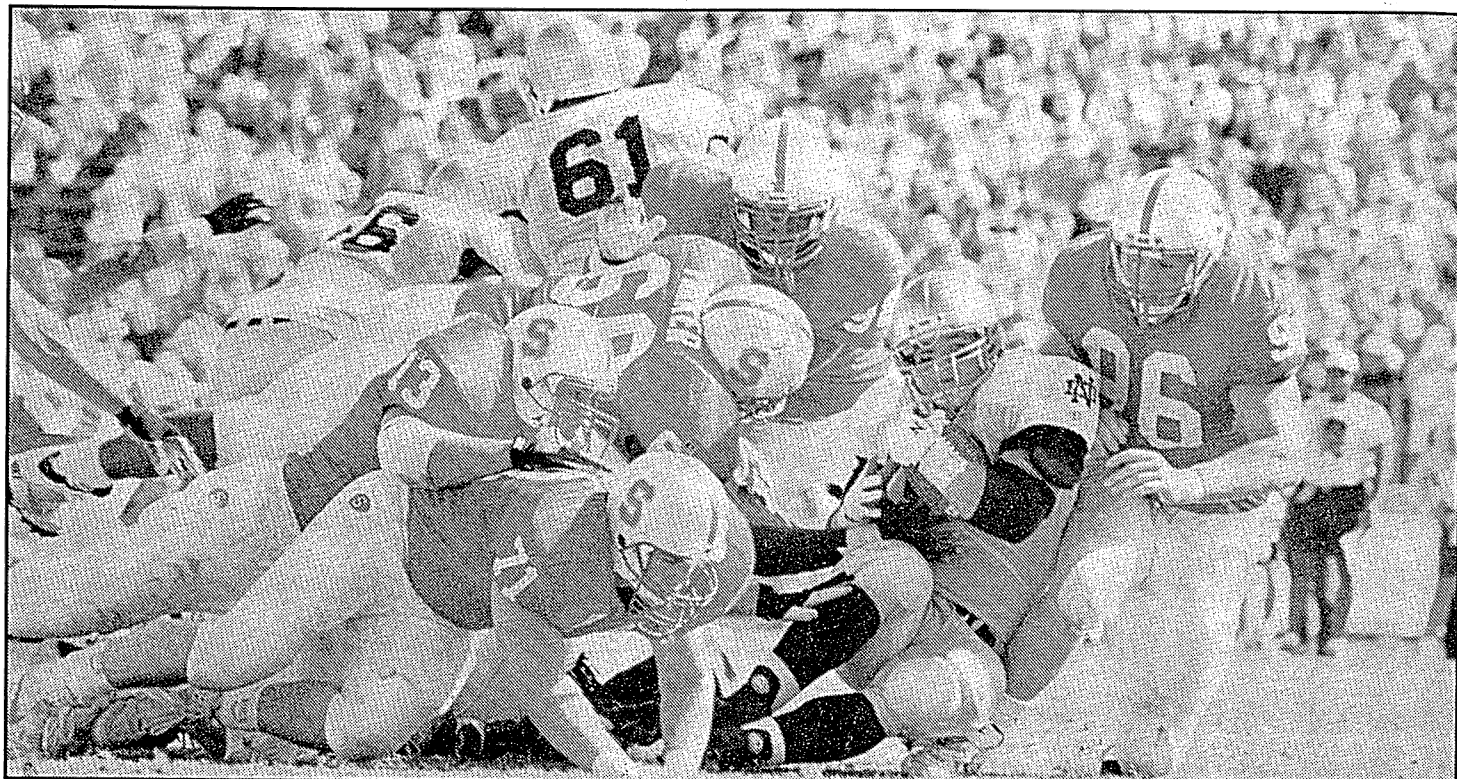
But Notre Dame again answered in the Big play with a 27 yard run for freshman tail back Randy Kinder that was followed two plays later by a crucial third down conversion, a 32 yard reception by Dawson at the Stanford 10 yard line. This set up the Irish option once again. McDougal ran it to perfection, pitching to Becton just as he was hit by two Cardinal defenders. Becton cruised into the end zone to put the Irish up 41-20.

"I think the defense is getting better, but I still don't think we can stop the option. McDougal is a good option quarterback," said Stanford linebacker Coy Gibbs.

On the next Irish possession, the big



Junior back-up quarterback Paul Failla watches the run develop. He threw an 80 yard touchdown pass in the match up with Stanford.



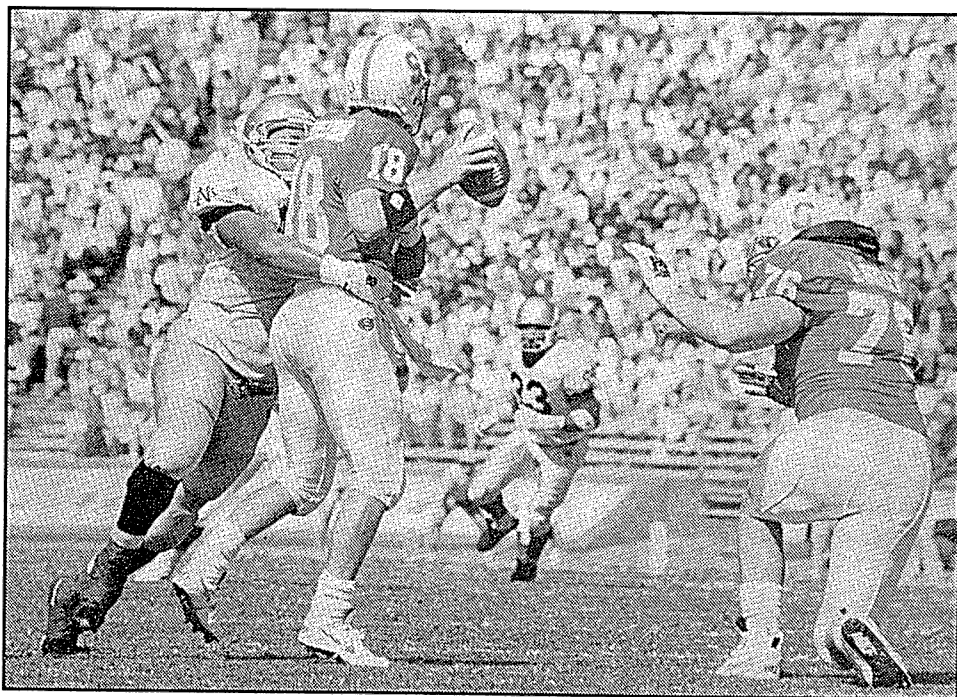
Mike Bennett

Stanford defenders swarm around a Notre Dame ball carrier. The Cardinal defense was ineffective against the Irish passing and rushing game.

play showed up again. Junior back up quarterback Paul Failla, on the only Irish pass of the fourth quarter, connected with Mayes for an 80 yard touchdown pass to give the Irish a final margin of victory of 48-20.

Late in the fourth quarter, with Stanford driving deep in Notre Dame territory, junior defensive back Shawn Wooden made a spectacular interception in the end zone. Wooden jumped up to tip the ball, then kept batting it up in the air until he caught it while lying on his back. It was an amazing catch that landed Wooden on the highlight films.

The Irish took part in the day of big plays. It only allowed two touchdowns by Stanford's Roberts and Manning. Two sacks, one by sophomore outside linebacker Renaldo Wynn, and the other by freshman defensive back Kinnon Tatum and senior defensive end Brian Hamilton, ended potential touchdown drives by Stanford and forced the Cardinal to settle for field goals. Sophomore cornerback Bobby Taylor had a good game covering Cardinal standout



Mike Bennett

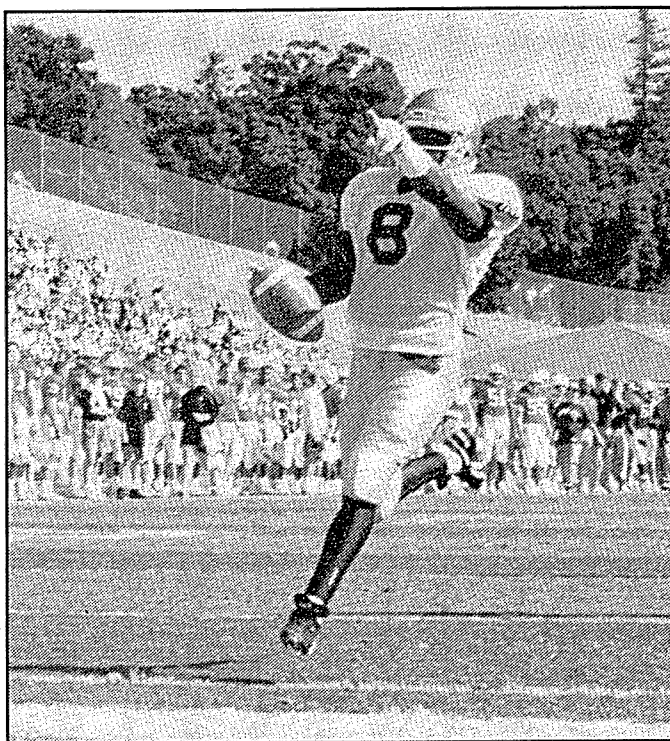
Notre Dame's defense wraps up Stanford quarterback Steve Stenstrom once again. Notre Dame sacked the Cardinal quarterback three times for a total loss of 27 yards.

junior tight end Justin Armour. Senior free safety Jeff Burris had some crushing hits, and junior linebacker Jeremy Sample led the team with 10 tackles.

"I thought this was a heck of a football game," said Holtz. "In the second half each team answered the challenge. I thought our offense played very, very well."

"We played an outstanding Notre Dame team," said Walsh. "Their big plays destroyed us. I think they'll win all their remaining games." Buoyed by the confidence received by destroying Stanford, the team headed home to take on Pitt, coming one week closer to that November match up with Florida State.

"We made a lot of big plays," said Holtz. And on that beautiful California day, the big plays were all the Irish needed. □



Clint Johnson celebrates after scoring on a 100 yard kickoff return.

Mike Bennett

GAME SUMMARY

Scoring Summary

	1	2	3	4	Final
Notre Dame	7	13	21	7	48
Stanford	3	3	14	0	20

1st Quarter	ND: Clark 9 run (Pendergast kick) at 6:58 SU: Abrams 23 field goal at 0:31
2nd Quarter	ND: McDougal 17 run (Pendergast kick) at 12:24 SU: Abrams 34 field goal at 0:47 ND: Mayes 9 pass from Mirer (Pendergast kick) at 0:24
3rd Quarter	ND: McDougal 19 run (Pendergast kick) at 9:13 SU: Roberts 1 run (Abrams kick) at 6:30 ND: Johnson 100 kickoff return (Pendergast kick) at 6:15 SU: Manning 30 pass from Stenstrom (Pendergast kick) at 4:20 ND: Becton 8 run (Pendergast kick) at 1:41
4th Quarter	ND: Mayes 80 pass from Failla (Pendergast kick) at 13:04

Team Statistics

	ND	SU
First Downs	21	24
Rushing	15	8
Passing	5	16
Penalty	1	0
Rushing	264	74
Passing	211	321
Total Net Yards	475	395
Average Gain Per Play	7.4	5.3
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	1-0
Penalties-Yards	5-29	6-69
Punts-Averages	3-39.7	6-43.5
Kickoff Returns	179	173
3rd Down Conversions	8-12	9-16

Individual Statistics

Rushing: ND - Kinder 16-105, McDougal 4-48, Zellars 9-41, Clark 11-37, Becton 6-28, Edwards 2-10, Lytle 3-10, Farmer 2-2, Failla 1-0 SU - Roberts 14-58, Mitchell 6-31, Manning 1-18, Allen 1-6, Frost 1-2, Stenstrom 5-2
Passing: ND - McDougal 7-9-131-1, Failla 1-1-80-1 SU - Stenstrom 34-46-321-1, Armour 1-0-0-0
Receiving: ND - Mayes 3-101, Dawson 3-62, Miller 1-46, Zellars 1-2 SU - Armour 7-91, Allen 6-33, Manning 4-77, Cline 4-560, Roberts 4-21, Shaw 3-22, Harris 2-26, Comella 2-6, Kirwan 1-14, Mitchell 1-(19)

Pummeling

Notre Dame handed Pittsburgh a stinging defeat as the Irish marched to a 44-0 victory



Ken Osgood

by Jake Schaller

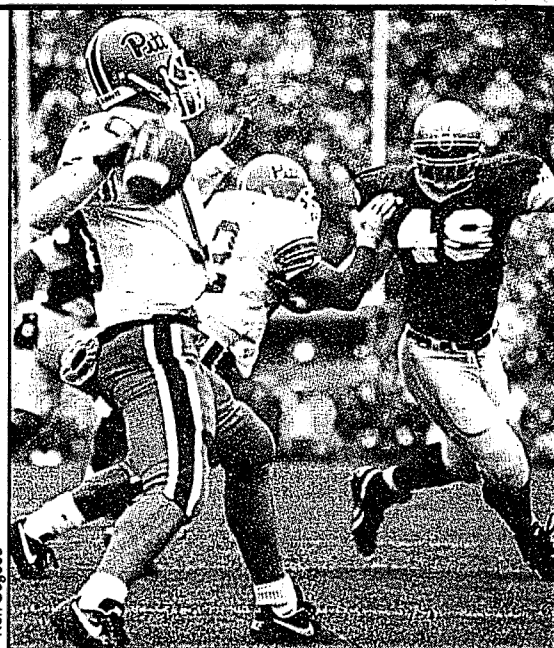
October 9, Notre Dame —

A collective sigh of relief could be heard from the Notre Dame faithful as the Irish rolled through the fourth quarter of their game with the University of Pittsburgh Panthers. Notre Dame's performance in the first half hardly befitted a team ranked number four in the nation. When they came out in the second half, however, the Irish looked unbeatable, and the second half surge was enough to give Lou Holtz his fourth largest victory with the Irish.

At the start of the game the Irish appeared to be on their way to a performance that would turn the contest into an embarrassment for Pitt by halftime. The defense sent the hapless Pitt offense three and out, and after a punt, the Notre Dame offense took

over possession at their own 26 yard line. After starting out with a 22 yard pass from senior quarterback Kevin McDougal to senior flanker Lake Dawson, the Irish faced a fourth and one. Coach Lou Holtz appeared confident by going for the first down on this play, and again on a fourth and three that Notre Dame faced four plays later. Junior running back Lee Becton negotiated the first fourth down conversion with a seven yard run. Then junior fullback Ray Zellars caught a quick dump pass from McDougal, which he turned into a 14 yard gain. Becton ended the 74 yard drive with an eight yard scamper into the end zone.

The Pitt offense was able to gain ground plays the next time that it had the ball. Sophomore quarterback John Ryan threw to senior wide receiver Junior Green for a pick-up of 16 yards, and junior running back Curtis Martin ran 12 yards for two first downs. But then the Panthers were penalized 15 yards on two delay of game penalties and an illegal procedure call.



Ken Osgood

(Above) Panther quarterback Pete Gonzalez rushes to launch a pass as defensive end Renaldo Wynn closes in. (Left) Junior tailback Lee Becton breaks a Panther tackle on his way to the end zone.

the Panthers

Following another punt from Pitt, McDougal and the Irish offense began to sputter. After driving from their own 19 yard line to the Pitt 35, McDougal overthrew Becton down the middle and was intercepted by sophomore defensive back David Sumner.

Ryan did not return at quarterback; freshman Pete Gonzalez replaced him at the helm. "We had decided to play Gonzalez this week, to see what he could do," said Pitt's Head Coach Johnny Majors. It was not an auspicious start. On his fourth play and first collegiate throw, Gonzalez tossed an interception. It was an ill-advised throw in the left flat toward junior wide receiver Bill Davis who had his back turned. Senior cornerback Greg Lane picked the pass off and returned it to the Pittsburgh 19 yard line.

Notre Dame took advantage of its field position. On the first play McDougal handed off to Zellars, who ran up the middle, broke through a tackle and strutted into the end zone.

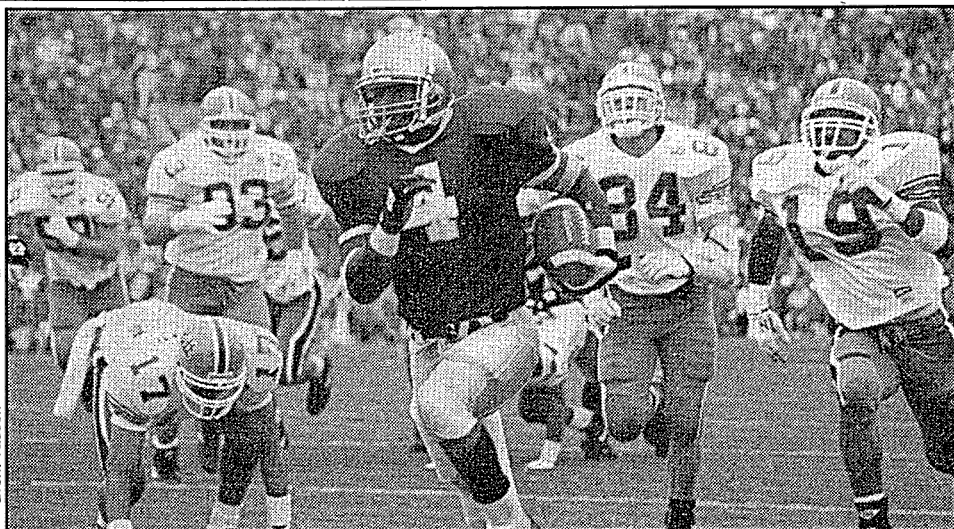
The defense again stepped up, giving the Panthers' offense, with Ryan again at quarterback, only three plays before sending them off the field. The Irish then drove 59 yards to the Pitt 28, exclusively on the ground, with freshman tailback Randy Kinder doing most of the damage. But on a first down, McDougal fumbled the snap, and Pitt recovered.

The Panthers drove to the Notre Dame 40 yard line where they faced a fourth and one. Majors reinserted Gonzalez, who ran a quarterback keeper to the right side, where he was stopped by sophomore defensive end Thomas Knight for no gain.

Despite Knight's fourth down stop, the Irish were unable to capitalize, and McDougal was intercepted again, this time by senior defensive back Maurice Williams. Pitt ran two plays for a yard, and the half ended with Notre Dame up by the not-so-commanding score of 13-0.

In the second half, junior quarterback Paul Failla was brought in to lead the Irish. He moved Notre Dame from their own 11 to the Pitt 28, but on fourth down and four Becton was hemmed in for a two yard loss on an option pitch left.

The defense then held the Panthers and forced them to punt. This became the norm as the defense instituted the "Steel



Brent Tadsen

Junior tailback Lee Becton leaves the Panther defense in the dust as he rushes down the field. Becton had his first 100 yard game against Pitt, racking up 146 yards in 16 carries.

Curtain," holding the Pitt offense to no first downs and 11 total yards in the second half. The defense allowed the Panthers across the 50 yard line only once in the entire game and allowed Pitt only 122 total yards, notching their second shut-out of the year.

With Failla in at quarterback, the Irish drove to first and goal from the Pitt nine, fueled by a 34 yard run by Becton. But the Panthers' defense held, and the Irish had to settle for a field goal. Fifth-year senior kicker Kevin Pendergast booted the 27 yarder and made the score 16-0.

McDougal returned when the Irish took the field again, and he took advantage of his second chance. Becton ran for 35 yards on this drive, including a terrific 26 yard scamper, and Zellars ran for 20, including an 11 yard romp for his second touchdown.

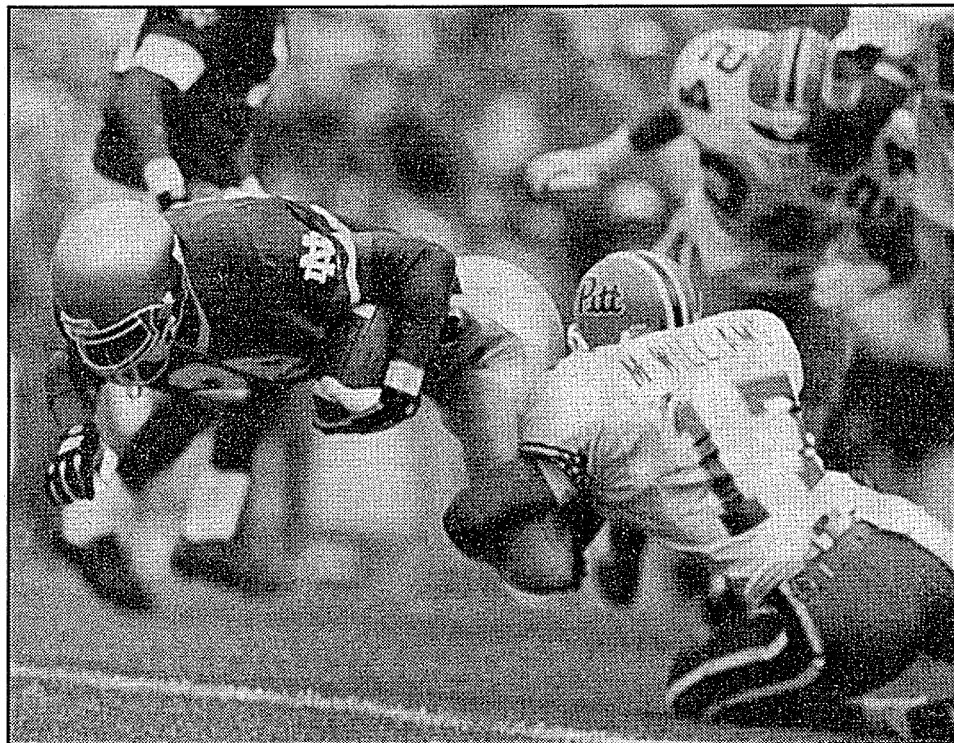
"We didn't do anything on offense that gave us a prayer or as much of a chance," said Majors.

Notre Dame's ensuing drive was 86 yards, taking just two plays. Sophomore split end Derrick Mayes made up for two earlier drops with a catch where he outmaneuvered Pitt's Williams for the ball on his way to a 55 yard gain. On the next play, Kinder received a pitch right and sped 31 yards into the end zone for the first touchdown of his collegiate career. The run was successful with the help of a crushing block thrown by freshman fullback Marc Edwards that allowed Kinder to turn the corner.

On the kick-off, Edwards made another big play, nailing Pitt's kick returner freshman defensive back Denorse Mosely after a 16 yard return.

With Paul Failla back under center, the Irish marched down the field, covering 52 yards in 11 plays, in a drive that featured

Panther defensive back Maurice Williams tries desperately to hold on to freshman tailback Randy Kinder. Kinder had a 31 yard run into the end zone for his first touchdown with the Fighting Irish.



Brent Tadsen

freshman tailback Robert Farmer, senior fullback Dean Lytle, freshman tailback Randy Kinder and Edwards all carrying the ball, with Farmer scoring on a three yard run.

"Kinder, Farmer and Edwards will continue to play a big role on our team. Lee Becton is fully recovered and playing very, very well and I also think we should get the ball to Zellars more," said Coach Holtz.

As a running back corps, we are taking pride in everything we do," said Zellars. "We labeled ourselves 'As Hard As They Come' at the beginning of the season because there was a lot of doubt about our backs because of the big names that have been there in the past."

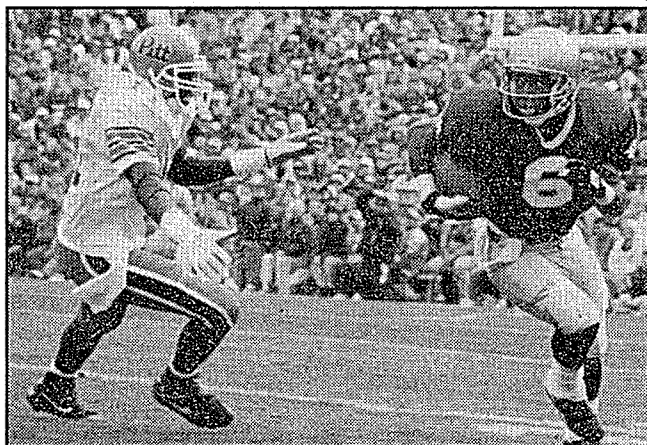
According to Becton, the number of backs also helps them to stay fresh during the game.

"Getting a breather gives you a chance to get your legs back. It really helps. A lot of people get a lot of playing time. And I think that it has made our running game stronger," Becton said.

Whatever the reason, the running backs more than pulled their weight with 371 yards rushing in the game.

After Farmer's touchdown, the Irish were

up 37-0 and Pitt seemed utterly demoralized. This showed on the Panthers' next two plays. On the kickoff, senior wide receiver Rod Harpst began a return, but after only nine yards, sophomore defensive back An-



Junior flanker Mike Miller deftly maneuvers around Panther defensive back Denorse Mosley, returning one of the many Pitt punts of the day.

Brent Tadsen

thony Dorsett ran into him, and both players tripped and fell to the ground. And the first play from scrimmage, Gonzalez ran into his fullback.

Not including, that is, the punt after the previous series. Cochran kicked a 35-yarder

to the Notre Dame 40 yard line where the ball was handled by senior Jeff Burris, a safety, goal line running back and now punt returner. After catching the ball, Burris side-stepped two tacklers before streaking up the middle of the field, breaking Cochran's shoulder tackle at the Pitt 30 and continuing into the end zone for a crowd-electrifying 60 yard return.

It was just a matter of running through the holes that the other guys created. They did a great job blocking and it was just a matter of taking what they gave me and everything just happened," said Burris.

"We were glad to win today, and have a winning season. In the first half we turned the ball over three times — that was disappointing. The second half we dominated the game," said Holtz.

The Irish moved to 6-0 on the season and were elevated to number three in the polls while Pitt slipped to 1-4. Majors was impressed with the Irish team that delivered the fourth notch in the loss column.

"Notre Dame is an extremely talented football team, a solid team all around," said Majors. □

GAME SUMMARY

Scoring Summary

	1	2	3	4	Final
Notre Dame	7	6	10	21	44
Pittsburgh	0	0	0	0	0

1st Quarter ND: Becton 8 run (Pendergast PAT) at 8:36
 2nd Quarter ND: Zellars 19 run (2 pt. conv. failed) at 12:03
 3rd Quarter ND: Pendergast 27 FG
 ND: Zellars 11 run (Pendergast PAT) at :42
 4th Quarter ND: Kinder 31 run (Pendergast PAT) at 13:00
 ND: Farmer 3 run (Marsh PAT) at 6:29
 ND: Burris 60 punt return at 4:44

Team Statistics

	ND	UP
First Downs	21	5
Rushing	24	4
Passing	7	1
Penalty	0	0
Rushing	371	84
Passing	168	38
Total Net Yards	539	122
Average Gain Per Play	7.2	2.7
Fumbles-Lost	1-1	1-0
Penalties-Yards	3-20	7-41
Punts-Averages	0-0	8-43.6
Kickoff Returns	0	140
3rd Down Conversions	6-11	3-12

Individual Statistics

Rushing: ND - Becton 16-142-1, Kinder 9-74-1, Zellars 12-67-2, Farmer 6-27-1, McDougal 4-20, Failla 3-15, Edwards 3-12, Klusas 2-8, Lytle 3-6 UP - Martin 19-72, West 2-11, Green 1-3, Colicchio 2-3, Gonzales 4-(-2), Ryan 2-(-3)
 Passing: ND - McDougal 12-7-132-0-2, Failla 5-4-36-0-0 UP - 12-8-38-0-1, Gonzales 3-0-0-0-1
 Receiving: ND - Zellars 3-23, Mayes 2-74, Dawson 2-27, Jarrell 1-16, Stafford 1-13, Becton 1-8, McBride 1-6 UP - Martin 7-22, Green 1-16

Silencing the...

Despite a boisterous home crowd, Notre Dame's domination in the first half carried it to a 42-20 victory over BYU

by Brian Hiro

October 16, Provo, UT —

The Notre Dame-Brigham Young University clash in Cougar Stadium can be summed up by BYU Head Coach LaVell Edwards.

"It's the most talked about game we've had in Provo since I've been here," said Edwards. "We've had a hard time getting the fans to focus on our other games. And I don't think we've ever had ticket requests like this."

Relating one particularly interesting request, Edwards said, "I got a letter from some people who said they had Catholic friends. They said if they were able to get tickets, their friends would join the [Mormon] Church."

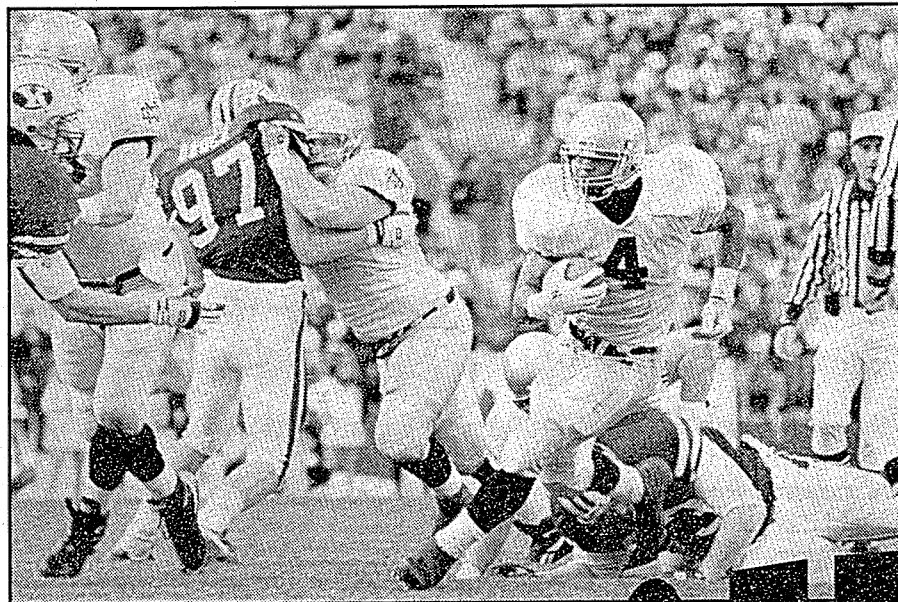
As if this excitement throughout Cougar Country wasn't enough for Lou Holtz to worry about, UCLA embarrassed BYU, 68-14, in Pasadena the previous week. Rather than devalue the match-up between Notre Dame and BYU, this loss only added to Holtz's concern.

"You don't want to play

someone that has a tradition of winning, like BYU does after they've lost," remarked Holtz. "I can't think of a worse scenario for us. We are going to get an angry Cougar."

Holtz wasn't just blowing smoke either. Last year, BYU travelled to South Bend where they were beaten 42-16 by the Irish. But the next week the Cougars returned to the friendly confines of home and dominated nationally ranked Penn State.

So entering the game with a record crowd



Mike Bennett

Junior tailback Lee Becton breaks through the BYU defensive line. He rushed 122 yards on the day.

Cougar ROAR

of 66,247 and televised by ESPN, a primary question was how the unbeaten and third-ranked Irish would combat BYU's boisterous fans. The answer came early as a nearly flawless first half performance gave the visitors a 31-0 lead enroute to a 45-20 win over BYU.

Domination began with Notre Dame's first possession. After forcing a punt, the Irish took over in Cougar territory. Junior tailback Lee Becton ran for 11 yards on the first play of the drive. Then junior fullback Ray Zellars rumbled for 29 yards over two potential tacklers on the way to the end zone and a 7-0 lead.

The touchdown set the stage for a first half

where the experienced Irish offensive line continuously pushed back the Cougars, resulting in 175 rushing yards and a whopping 7.3 yards per carry for Notre Dame.

Meanwhile, the BYU offense couldn't even make a dent in the Irish defense, which had added an improved pass rush to its strength against the run. Two of its first three possessions ended in Notre Dame sacks, including one by senior defensive end Brian Hamilton that later sent Cougar sophomore quarterback John Walsh to the sidelines with a knee injury.

"One of our goals at the beginning of the season was to have a good pass rush," Hamilton said. "We were a good pass rushing team in the spring but it fell off for some reason in the fall. It finally came together tonight and it felt good."

Fifth-year senior kicker Kevin Pendergast wrapped up Notre Dame's second drive with a career-long 44 yard field goal. Zellars and Becton contributed runs of 18 and 13 yards, respectively, and senior quarterback Kevin McDougal hit sophomore split end Derrick Mayes on a 12 yard pass completion to put the Irish in Pendergast's range.

Walsh saw his last action of the day on BYU's next possession. On third down and two, Irish senior defensive tackle Jim Flanigan crashed through the line and recorded the first of his two sacks for the day. On that play, Walsh aggravated his earlier injury, forcing junior backup Tom Young into the game — a quarterback with

more than one historical tie to the university. Not only is his brother the former Cougar great and current 49er's star Steve Young, but his great-great-great grandfather was Brigham Young, the founder of the school.

The Irish defense, however, was unimpressed with Young's lineage, as evidenced

by their merciless treatment of him. He faced the onslaught of a heavy Irish pass rush and — although he did move the team better than Walsh — he wasn't able to engineer a touchdown drive until 16 seconds before the half.

While the Cougar offense stalled, Notre Dame's attack continued to rack up yards and points. Starting from the BYU 47 yard line, the Irish marched down the field on the strength of Becton's running. He had two gains of 14 yards before capping the drive off with a seven yard touchdown scramble around the left side that upped the

big play that broke both the game wide open. Two straight incompletions put the Irish in a third and 10 situation from their own 34 yard line. But McDougal bailed them out by eluding the Cougar rush and lofting a pass to junior flanker Mike Miller, who zigzagged across the field into the end zone for a 66 yard touchdown, giving the Irish a comfortable 24-0 cushion.

"Their linebackers would drop back and sit at about 12 yards," said McDougal. "Every now and then, you have to go deep. Oh yeah, I love to throw the ball deep."

Senior free safety Jeff Burris ended another BYU threat with an interception. The

turnover set the Irish up for their final touchdown of the half. Freshman tailback Randy Kinder and freshman fullback Marc Edwards were the stars of this drive, with Edwards eventually punching it in from five yards out, padding the lead at 31-0.

By the time the Cougars notched their first touchdown, a two yard pass from Young to senior wide receiver Eric Drage, Notre Dame was well on its way to a 7-0 record and a jump to number two in the polls. (Earlier in the day, second-ranked Alabama tied Tennessee.)

Even Holtz was impressed with the Irish performance.

"I just want to say we played very well in the first 30 minutes of the football game to take an early lead. And we took control of the football game," said Holtz.



Mike Bennett

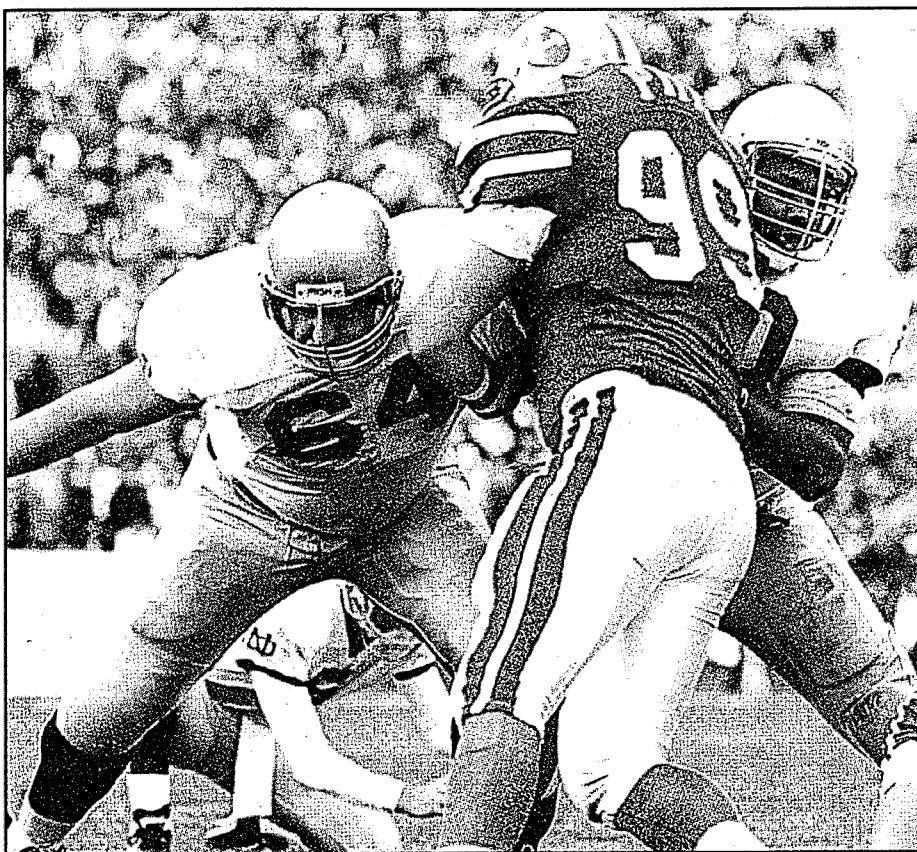
"Our players expected a difficult game and we came out here very, very sharp. I can assure you, there is nothing easy about playing BYU. Nobody looks forward to playing BYU, nobody." —Lou Holtz

advantage to 17-0. By the day's end Becton had rushed for 122 yards on 18 carries, marking the second consecutive game in which he topped 100 yards.

Just when it looked like Notre Dame was facing its first punt of the evening early in the second quarter, McDougal came up with a

Notre Dame's second half of play was different from its first. For the final two quarters, the Irish were plagued by numerous penalties and missed assignments on blitzes that gave BYU hope until the final seconds.

"It was very important that we were successful in the first half because of the way we



Mike Bennett

Steve Misetic and Brian Hamilton, 541 pounds of Irish power, dominate the line of scrimmage. Hamilton had one sack and an impressive nine tackles on the day.

played in the second half," said senior offensive tackle Aaron Taylor. "We were really focused in the first half and I don't know if we lost our focus or what, but we were unable to move the ball in the second half."

In all, the Irish were penalized 12 times for 103 yards, including nine for 83 in the second half. These numbers were overshadowed by BYU's 14 penalties, which prevented the chance of a Cougar comeback.

In the third quarter both teams failed to capitalize on scoring chances, BYU on a fumble in Irish territory that was recovered by Irish senior defensive tackle Bryant Young and Notre Dame on a missed 38 yard field goal by Pendergast. But the Irish finally added another touchdown to the scoreboard on a one yard plunge by Edwards, his second touchdown of the game, made with just 2:36 left in the quarter, increasing the Irish lead 38-7. The drive was highlighted by a 25 yard connection between McDougal and senior flanker Lake Dawson on fourth down with eight yards to go on the BYU 33 yard line.

The Cougars scored twice in the final

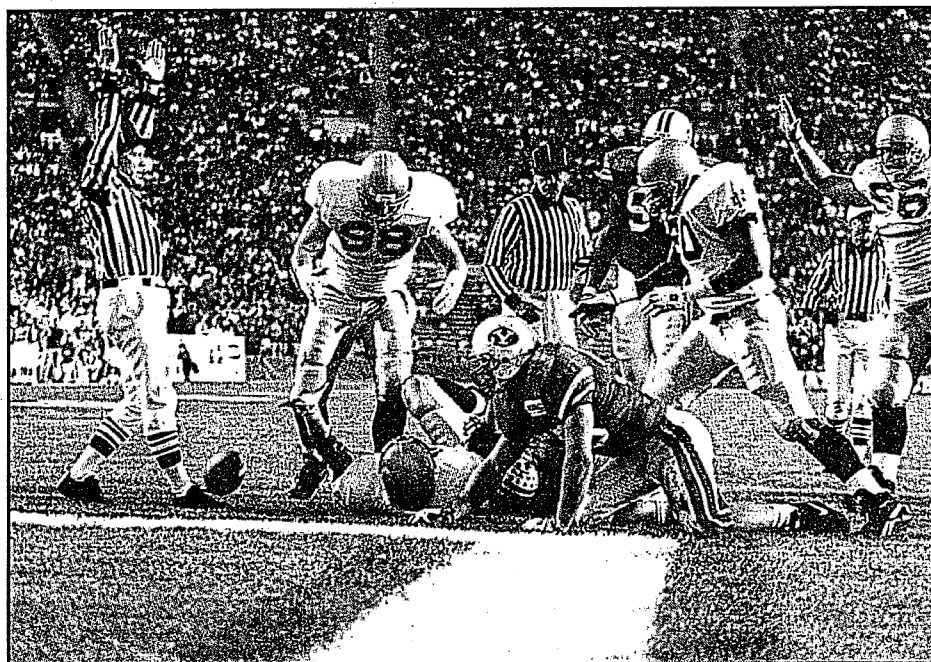
quarter to make the final score appear respectable. The first was a quarterback keeper by Young from the Notre Dame three yard line that capped a 76 yard drive, making the score 38-14. Then, after a 35 yard touchdown pass from junior backup quarterback Paul Failla to Miller that ended the Irish scoring at 45-14, Young was replaced by junior Steve Clements, BYU's third-string quarterback. He tossed a scoring pass with about a minute to go in the game, making the final score 45-20.

Holtz saluted the Cougar faithful.

"I mean this: This is the loudest, most loyal crowd I have witnessed in my entire coaching profession — the loudest and the most loyal. There were times when we tried to check off, but we just couldn't hear."

But according to Holtz the victory was not quite as convincing as it looked. "There wasn't anything easy about this contest. I've been in the coaching business for a long time and I have tremendous respect for BYU and the program they have," said Holtz. "Our players expected a difficult game, and we came out here very, very sharp. I can assure you, there is nothing easy about playing BYU. Nobody looks forward to playing BYU, nobody."

□



Mike Bennett

Marc Edwards rushes for his second touchdown of the game. BYU could not stop Notre Dame's running attack that tallied 307 yards.

GAME SUMMARY

Scoring Summary

	1	2	3	4	Final
Notre Dame	17	14	7	7	45
BYU	0	7	0	13	20

1st Quarter ND: Zellars 29 run (Pendergast PAT) at 12:09
 ND: Pendergast 44 FG at 6:18
 ND: Becton 7 run (Pendergast PAT) at 2:43
 2nd Quarter ND: Miller 66 pass from McDougal (Pendergast PAT) at 11:26
 ND: Edwards 5 run (Pendergast PAT) at 2:04
 BYU: Drage 2 pass from Young (Herrick kick) at 0:16
 3rd Quarter ND: Edwards 1 run (Pendergast PAT) at 2:36
 4th Quarter BYU: Young 3 run (Herrick PAT)
 ND: Miller 35 pass from Failla (Pendergast PAT) at 2:23
 BYU: Anderson 4 pass from Clements (kick failed) at 1:01

Team Statistics

	ND	BYU
First Downs	24	14
Rushing	16	6
Passing	8	7
Penalty	0	1
Rushing	307	95
Passing	228	140
Total Net Yards	535	235
Average Gain Per Play	7.8	3.6
Fumbles-Lost	1-0	2-1
Penalties-Yards	12-103	14-87
Punts-Averages	4-42	7-46
Kickoff Returns	60	173
3rd Down Conversions	5-12	5-16

Individual Statistics

Rushing: ND - McDougal 5-(-6), Becton 18-122-1, Zellars 8-72-1, Kinder 6-33, Edwards 6-37-2, Burris 1-7, Farmer 4-25, Lytle 2-10, Mayes 1-7
 BYU - Walsh 2-(-13), Hall 10-29, Willis 11-29, Young 5-16-1, Heimuli 2-6, Nowatzki 1-9, Anderson 1-19
Passing: ND - McDougal 16-10-177-1-0, Failla 2-2-51-1-0
 BYU - Walsh 5-3-13-0-0, Young 23-12-77-1-1, Clements 6-5-50-1-0
Receiving: ND - Miller 3-117, Mayes 3-42, Dawson 4-57, Johnson 1-9, McBride 1-3
 BYU - Anderson 2-12, Hall 2-13, Drage 7-55, Willis 2-13, Nowatzki 3-14, Lewis 2-18, Doman 1-11, Christensen 1-4

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Broken Promises

Robinson Can't Deliver

The return of John Robinson brought false hopes to the Trojans, who lost their eleventh straight to the Irish, 31-13

by Bob Belden

October 23, Notre Dame —

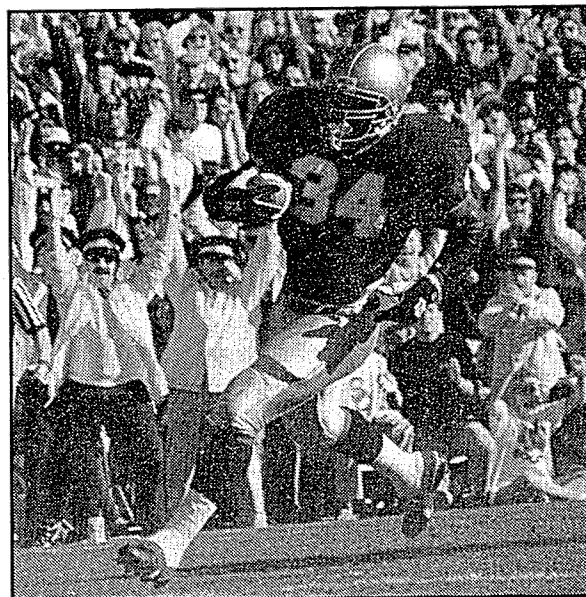
Every year when Notre Dame plays USC, you notice some children holding up signs that read, "Haven't lost to USC in my lifetime." Funny thing is, those cute little children are almost teenagers now, and their hand-made signs gained yet another year of usefulness after Notre Dame's 31-13 victory over USC.

"This is a very, very big win," said Notre Dame Head Coach Lou Holtz. "We are coming off of our midterm exam period

and we'll make good use of the break from school next week to get better. We are pretty banged up."

The Irish fans who flocked to South Bend as early as Friday morning barely had time to settle into their seats before they were given an opportunity to dance an Irish jig. Lee Becton sprinted seventy yards on the second play of the game. The fans did not have to wait long for another march when Bryant Young snagged USC quarterback Rob Johnson for a 10 yard loss on third and six.

The ensuing drive epitomized the relentless ball control attack Notre Dame showcased on its way to establishing itself



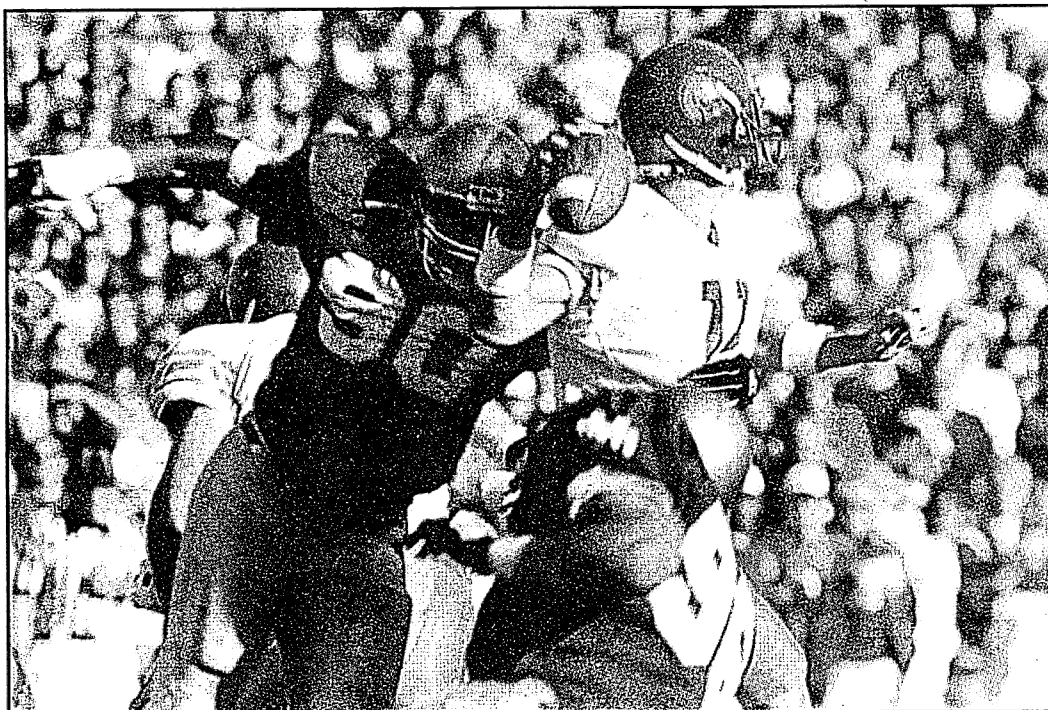
Junior fullback Ray Zellars skirts the Trojan defense, running the ball into the end zone for six more points in Notre Dame's eleventh consecutive defeat of USC.

for the Trojans

as a national powerhouse. Beginning on their own 33 yard line, the Irish chewed up 7:49 of the first quarter en route to their second touchdown in two possessions. Paul Failla, starting his first game at quarterback, stopped Irish hearts for a moment with his bounce pass to Lee Becton on the USC ten yard line that Becton scooped up and carried for eight more yards.

"Maybe I should talk to John MacLeod about joining the basketball team," Failla joked afterwards.

To finish the drive, freshman fullback Marc Edwards blasted in from two yards out for his fifth touchdown of the season and the Irish led 14-0 after fifth-year senior kicker



Ken Osgood

Senior defensive end Brian Hamilton gets one hand around his victim, USC quarterback Rob Johnson, as he prepares to shut down another Trojan offensive drive with a quarterback sack.

Kevin Pendergast's point after.

USC settled down and went to work on its next possession, moving the ball through the air and on the ground deep into

**"No matter what the records are, this is always a good game every year."
—Kevin McDougal**

Irish territory. A key holding penalty left the Trojans with third and goal at the Irish 23, and junior linebacker Justin Goheen nailed senior tight end Bradford Banta at the Irish five to force the field goal unit onto the field. As USC fans were breathing sighs of relief in hopes of some points on the board, the soaring twosome of Burris and Taylor had other ideas in mind. Leaping in an aerial

blockade, the duo seemed to simultaneously tip the football that fell to the ground.

Notre Dame continued to feed the ball to Lee Becton who turned in the biggest rushing game of his career tallying 177 yards. With Failla deftly executing the option and Becton bouncing off SC defenders, the Irish moved into Trojan territory in four plays. A key completion to junior flanker Mike Miller on third and ten kept the drive alive when Miller side-stepped three defenders to stretch for the first down marker. Burris jogged into the end zone at the 7:22 mark.

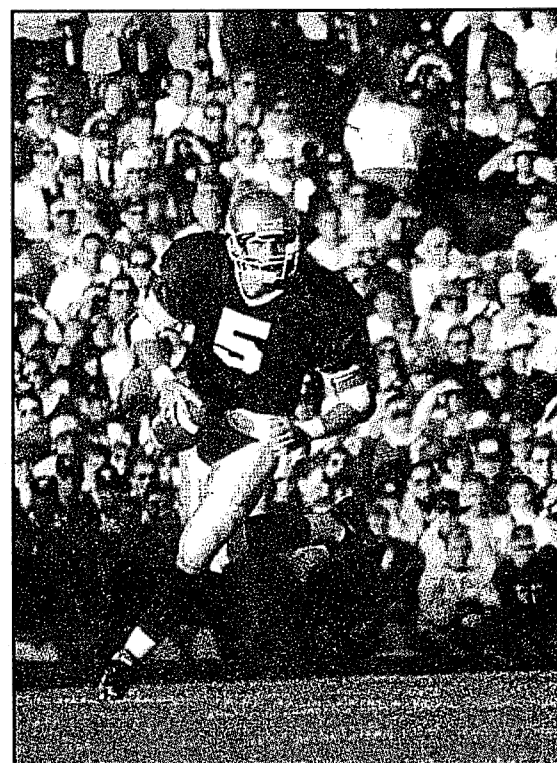
USC wasn't quite ready to give up yet, however, and took advantage of the Irish "bend but don't break" pass defense strategy. Junior quarterback Rob Johnson continued his pinpoint passing attack all the way down to the Irish 13 yard line. Following a string of 13 completions in 15 attempts, Johnson connected with

Deon Strother, who scampered into the endzone with Flanigan and Hamilton trailed him.

Senior split end Clint Johnson took the kickoff and sprinted to the 40 yard line, dodging defenders back to the 30 yard line and finally scampering to the forty again. The Irish found themselves quickly within striking distance after Mike Miller stretched his 5'9" frame to its limit, pulling down Failla's pass for a 23 yard pickup. After a failed end zone toss to senior flanker Lake Dawson, the coaching staff made the perfect call, at the perfect time, yielding, of course, the perfect result. The blitzing Trojan linebackers sprinted past a wide open junior tailback Ray Zellars, who received Failla's dump pass and proceeded to leap and run over

two USC defensive backs before reaching the goal line.

Early in the second half, it looked as though this would not just be another



Ken Osgood

Junior quarterback Paul Failla breaks away from the Trojan defense as he runs the ball for a first down. Failla led the Irish offense in the absence of an injured Kevin McDougal.

defeat of USC, but rather a thorough beating. Zellars showed off his arm for the first time in his career with a 35 yard over-the-shoulder pass to fellow back Lee Becton that placed the Irish at the USC five yard line. The Irish failed to convert the play into points, however, when USC hit freshman tailback Marc Edwards four straight times and took over possession.

With the imposing task of moving the ball

gest game of his career to date and would probably be the most important of his career. Converting a 41 yard gain over the middle of field, Morton put USC in position to add some respectability to the game.

"It's very frustrating, but there were a lot of positive things," said Morton. "Hopefully next year we can get them. I'm glad I had the opportunity to play them."

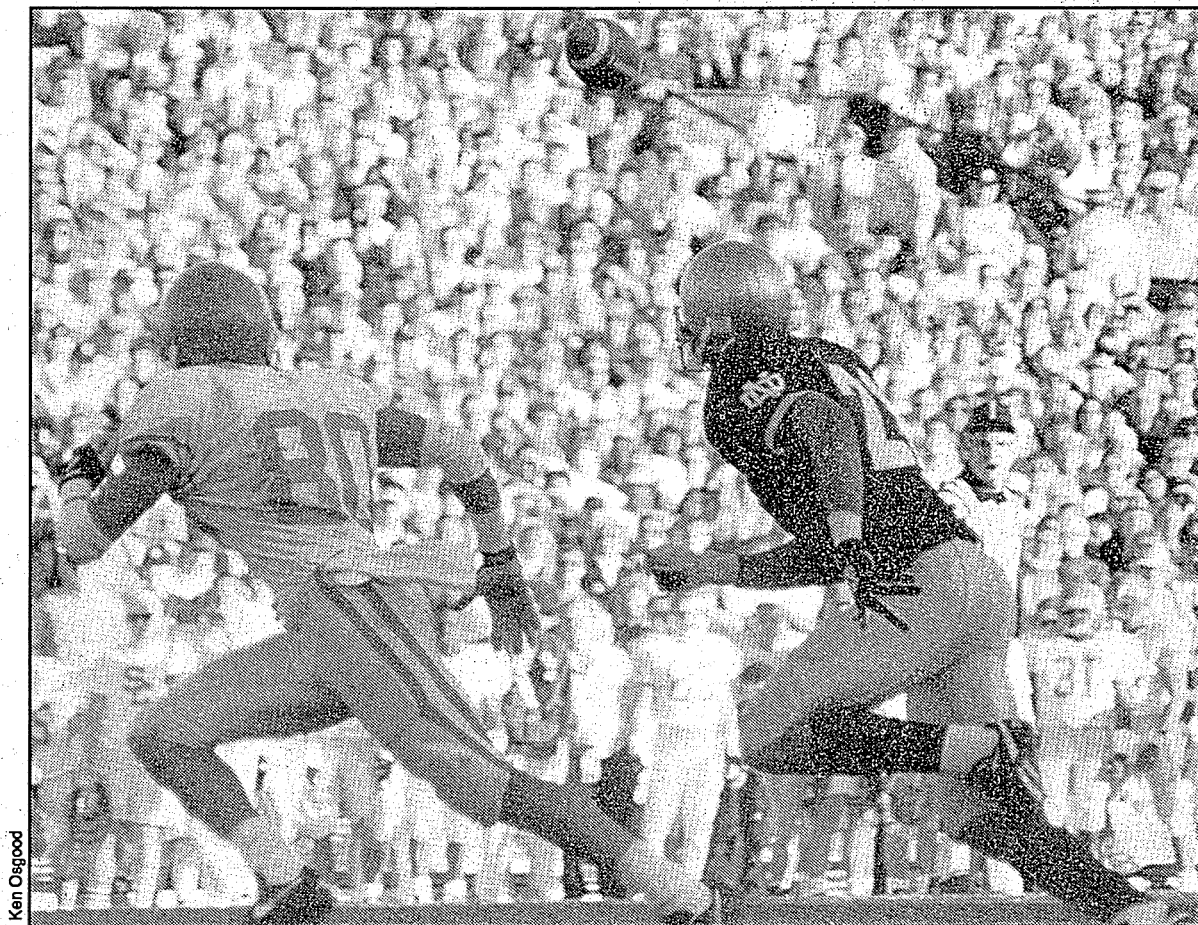
Another player who had strong feelings

senior year was to have the opportunity to go out to South Bend and "beat the hell out of the Irish."

"I'm disappointed, but I have a lot of buddies here and I hope they will get them next year," said McGinest. "I don't think it will last much longer."

USC managed to get into double digits when sophomore tight end Johnny McWilliams scored on an 8 yard toss from

From the hands of a waiting Johnnie Morton, sophomore free safety Bobby Taylor snatches away a Rob Johnson pass. Taylor's interception came after Morton placed USC deep in Irish territory with a 41 yard gain. Taylor ran the interception back 47 yards to begin another Irish scoring drive.



Ken Osgood

99 yards and the Irish student body creating a deafening din, USC went three and out under the heavy pass rush of sophomore defensive end Thomas Knight, who exhibited a talent for timely sacks.

The remainder of the game proved less eventful from the Irish offensive standpoint.

Johnnie Morton seemed determined to remind the country at this point that he is one of the premiere receivers in Division I college football, regardless of the outcome of the game. Morton said before the game that the contest would certainly be the big-

about the game was senior defensive end Willie McGinest, who claimed the only reason he had stayed at Southern Cal for his

Johnson. An onside kick gave USC the ball, but Rob Johnson was pressured by a surging defense.

The final score was 31-13, and this Notre Dame team was more powerful at every position on the field. Coach John Robinson acknowledged this after the game.

"I was very impressed with their efficiency and power," said Robinson. "There is no question that we are not as strong as they are. We just weren't a match for them."

Coach Holtz's impression of his team was not quite as positive however.

"We are not a good team. We have to get better." □

**We won today's
game in the trenches.
To win you have to
win up front.
—Bryant Young**

GAME SUMMARY

Scoring Summary

	1	2	3	4	Final
Notre Dame	14	14	3	0	31
Southern Cal	0	7	0	6	13

1st Quarter ND: Becton 70 run (Pendergast PAT) at 14:05
 ND: Edwards 2 run (Pendergast PAT) at 3:02
 2nd Quarter ND Burris 4 run (Pendergast PAT) at 7:22
 USC: Strother 13 pass from Johnson (Salmon PAT) at 2:19
 ND: Zellars 29 pass from Failla
 3rd Quarter ND: Pendergast 43 FG at 1:36
 4th Quarter USC: McWilliams 8 pass from Johnson (2-pt. failed) at 6:04

Team Statistics

	ND	USC
First Downs	16	21
Rushing	11	6
Passing	5	13
Penalty	0	2
Rushing	305	69
Passing	113	269
Total Net Yards	418	338
Average Gain Per Play	6.3	4.6
Fumbles-Lost	1-0	0-0
Penalties-Yards	6-61	3-41
Punts-Averages	2-25.0	4-22.2
Kickoff Returns	2-49	5-91
3rd Down Conversions	10-17	4-15

Individual Statistics

Rushing: ND - Becton 20-177-1, Burris 4-53-1, Zellars 8-32, Failla 6-25, Edwards 9-16-1, Farmer 2-3, Lytle 1-3, Kinder 5-0, Dawson 1-(-4) USC - Walters 14-58, 3-18, 1-6, 2-3, 7-(-16)
Passing: ND - Failla 9-6-78-1-0, Zellars 1-1-35-0-0 USC - Johnson 46-29-269-2-1
Receiving: ND - Miller 3-43, Zellars 2-24-1, Becton 1-35, Dawson 1-11 USC - Strother 9-71-1, Morton 6-109, Cashman 4-27, McWilliams 3-25-1, Banta 2-18, Allred 2-11, Grace 2-7, Brown 1-1

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Wet and Wild In Philly



Mike Bennett

Freshman Robert Farmer faces
Middle defensive back Chris Hart...

On the turf of the Vet, the Irish were almost upset by the Middies until the freshmen took over the offense for an Irish victory, 58-27

by Warren Junium

October 30, Philadelphia, PA—

The scene was Veterans Stadium in Philadelphia, Pa, the city of brotherly love. The Naval Academy Midshipmen could not have cared less about being hospitable to the visiting Fighting Irish. They had only one thing on their mind — an upset.

"I said back in May that Navy would be the most improved football team in the country this year, and they certainly are," said Lou Holtz, Notre Dame head coach.

From the opening drive, it was obvious that the Irish would have trouble with Navy as it marched down the field seemingly oblivious to the Irish defense. Navy junior quarterback Jim Kubiak was three for four in completions during the opening drive, and with his accurate passing, he set up freshman kicker Ryan Bucchianeri's first collegiate field goal, putting the Middies up 3-0 only two minutes into the game.

The Irish answered the Middies chip shot with fifth-year senior kicker Kevin Pendergast's 32 yard field goal. But Navy came back on their next drive to score again.

Kubiak, in his second drive, was able to read the Notre Dame defense and found holes where he could place his passes. He topped off this 50 yard drive with a 31 yard break away pass to junior wide receiver Damon Dixon in the end zone, putting the Middies up 10-3 with a little over three minutes to play in the first quarter.

The score tradeoff continued, but it appeared that Notre Dame was playing catch-up. Senior quarterback Kevin McDougal orchestrated a scoring drive late in the first quarter. In this drive, McDougal relied on junior tailback Lee Becton

and senior flanker Lake Dawson. Becton rumbled for over 40 yards in four plays, and McDougal hit Dawson with a pass left for an Irish gain of 19. Dawson's grab set up



Mike Bennett

... and splashes by him for the fifth Irish touchdown of the day.

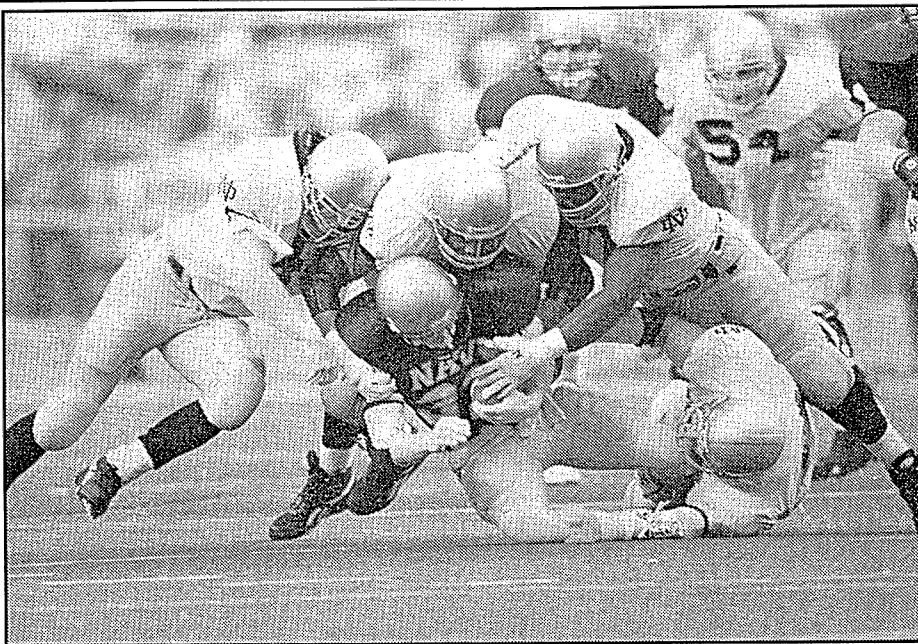
freshman fullback Marc Edwards' rush for a touchdown early in the second quarter, tying the score.

The Midshipmen scored two more touchdowns in the half. One with 9:36 remaining in the first period on a one yard run by senior fullback Brad Stramanak. Kubiak tossed a rocket pass to Stramanak that he caught in mid-air between two Irish defenders, before sprinting across the goal line.

The touchdown by Stramanak marked the most points given up by the Irish at that point in the year. It also gave Navy a 24-17 lead over

Notre Dame going into half time. This was the first time that the Irish were trailing their opponent at the half in two years.

"I knew that it felt strange when I went into



Mike Bennett

The Notre Dame defense stepped up and held the Midies to 93 total yards in the second half.

the locker room at half time. You are telling me that this is the first time in two years. I can't believe it. Now I know why I felt strange," said Holtz. "I let the seniors speak

to them at the half. There was no ranting or raving. The seniors just told them what we had to do to win this game."

The Irish came out in the second half a different team, a team ready to take control.

Notre Dame took the opening kickoff from Navy, marking one of the last times that the Middies would have the ball in the game.

The Irish, on their first drive of the half, aired out the passing game and took advantage of the weak Navy secondary. McDougal had two passing sequences to Dawson. In

the first, McDougal connected with Dawson for a 19 yard gain and on the second, after scrambling from the grasps of the Midie defenders, McDougal aired out a 44 yard pass for the touchdown. Dawson's first touchdown of his senior year brought the Irish even with the Middies, 24-24.

Navy was stopped by the Irish on its next drive, giving the once sputtering offense a chance to take over and dominate the game. On the second play of the drive, freshman tailback Randy Kinder produced one of the most spectacular runs of his young collegiate career. With second and seven, McDougal handed off to Kinder. Kinder broke through the Navy line and rushed for a 70 yard Irish touchdown, putting Notre Dame ahead for the first time in the game, 31-24.

After being forced to punt its next drive, the Irish set up for another freshman to take them to the end zone. After a long drive led by Edwards, the Irish were again within striking distance. This time McDougal handed off to freshman tailback Robert Farmer. Farmer barreled through the Navy line for another Irish touchdown, giving Notre Dame a 38-24 edge.

The Middies did score once more on a field goal by Bucchianeri, bringing them within 11, for a score of 38-27.

Notre Dame continued to dominate the

Freshmen Shine for Irish

On an otherwise gloomy day for the Irish, the highly touted freshmen class showed its abilities against the Navy Midshipmen at Veterans Stadium. With impressive performances by fullback Marc Edwards and tailbacks Robert Farmer and Randy Kinder, the Irish offense was carried through the game, especially in the second half.

Edwards lived up to his billing as Mr. Football of Ohio with his offensive performance against the Midies. Edwards scored three of the Irish's seven touchdowns, with his most impressive coming off a

10 yard run through the Navy line in the second quarter. By the end of the day Edwards had impressive numbers. He gained 97 yards on 14 carries, with his

longest rush of 27 yards setting the Irish up for a touchdown late in the third quarter.

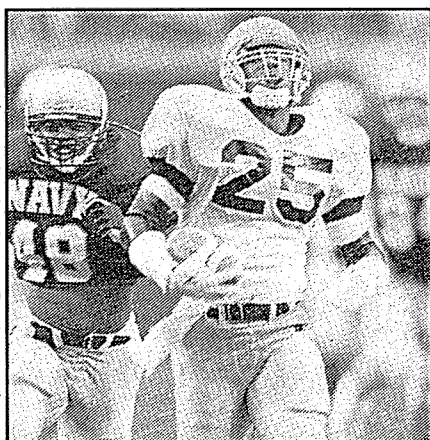
Notre Dame was also helped by Farmer and Kinder. They both had touchdowns,

contributing to the freshman touchdown total of five for the day. Kinder was second for the Irish in rushing with 108 yards on 10 carries. He dazzled the spectators with a 70 yard touchdown run early in the second half that put the Irish up for the first time. Farmer was also an impressive rusher for the Irish. He contributed one touchdown and 77 yards to the Irish cause.

"Kinder, Farmer and

Edwards, the three freshman, were very impressive today; they played great," said Holtz.

— by Warren Junium



Mike Bennett

Freshman Randy Kinder put the Irish ahead 31-24 with a spectacular 70 yard run.

exhausted Navy defense by posting two more touchdowns in the fourth quarter. After a 23 yard run by Farmer in the middle of the fourth quarter, the Irish were set to strike at the end zone one more time. With 6:51 remaining in the game, Edwards plowed through the weary offensive line of the Middies for Notre Dame's sixth touchdown on the day and Edwards' third for the Irish.

Next Notre Dame's defense decided to get into the scoring action. On first and 10 for the Middies, Kubiak set up to pass and let the ball

fly but Irish sophomore cornerback Bobby Taylor made an interception. Taylor slipped through his pursuers and ran across the goal line, scoring a 31 yard touchdown. With Taylor's score, the Irish increased their lead to 58-27.

Navy tried to retaliate, but the stingy Irish defense of the second half shut down the

Middies once again, sealing the Irish victory.

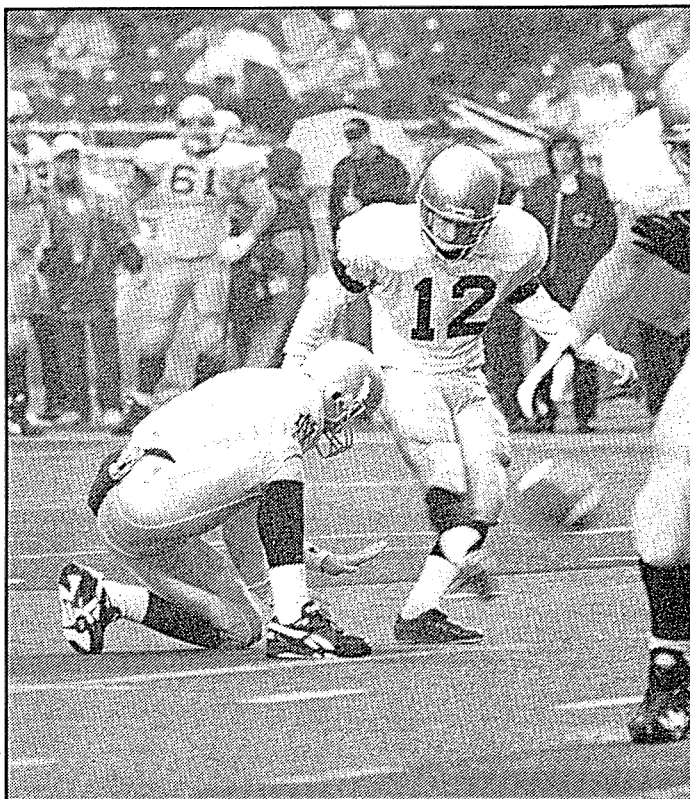
Notre Dame played more physically in the second half. They went away from their finesse

plays like the option. We couldn't stop them," said George Chaump, Navy head coach. "They showed their physical superiority in the second half. We tried stunts, everything to

slow them down. We just couldn't."

With the victory over Navy the Irish continued their undefeated season and looked forward to the impending battle with first ranked Florida State. □

"We tried stunts, everything to slow them down. We just couldn't."
— George Chaump, Navy head coach



Mike Bennett

Kicker Kevin Pendergast had a busy day, scoring a field goal and seven extra points.

GAME SUMMARY

Scoring Summary

	1	2	3	4	Final
Notre Dame	3	14	21	20	58
Naval Academy	10	14	3	0	27

1st Quarter	NA: Bucchianeri 38 FG at 12:38 ND: Pendergast 32 FG at 5:16 NA: Dixon 31 pass from Kubiak (Bucchianeri PAT) at 3:08
2nd Quarter	ND: Edwards 3 run (Pendergast PAT) at 14:57 NA: Stramanak 1 run (Bucchianeri PAT) at 9:36 ND: Edwards 10 run (Pendergast PAT) at 3:59 NA: Screen 53 pass from Kubiak (Bucchianeri PAT) at 1:07
3rd Quarter	ND: Dawson 44 pass from McDougal (Pendergast PAT) at 13:41 ND: Kinder 70 run (Pendergast PAT) at 11:20 ND: Farmer 9 run (Pendergast PAT) at 4:51 NA: Bucchianeri 34 FG at :48
4th Quarter	ND: Burris 3 run (Pendergast PAT) at 13:27 ND: Edwards 1 run at 6:51 (PAT failed)

Team Statistics

	ND	NA
First Downs	30	15
Rushing	24	2
Passing	6	10
Penalty	0	3
Rushing	426	64
Passing	178	257
Total Net Yards	604	321
Average Gain Per Play	7.7	6
Fumbles-Lost	1-0	0-0
Penalties-Yards	9-78	0-0
Punts-Averages	2-27.75	4-33
Kickoff Returns	64	166
3rd Down Conversions	5-9	4-15

Individual Statistics

Rushing: ND - Becton 21-124, Edwards 14-97-3, Kinder 10-108-1, Farmer 6-77-1, McDougal 6-(-10), Lytle 2-17, Thorne 1-3, Burris 1-3-1, Rolle 1-9, Failla 1-(-2) NA - VanMatre 8-42, Kubiak 2-17, Williams 1-4, Smith 2-4, Stramanak 1-1, James 4-(-4)
Passing: ND - McDougal 15-9-17-0-1, Failla 1-1-8-0-0 NA - Kubiak 29-21-251-2-1, Solliday 6-3-6-0-0
Receiving: ND - Mayes 1-14, Miller 2-31, Dawson 4-99-1, Becton 1-14, McBride 1-12, Farmer 1-8 NA - Dixon 6-80, Screen 3-76, Jefferson 2-46, Scornavacchi 3-29, VanMatre 4-19, Stramanak 1-12, James 2-(-1), Smith 2-(-1), Kubiak 1-(-3)

HONORS AND AWARDS

Individual Honors and Award Winners



Lee Becton, tailback

- One of eight semifinalists for Doak Walker Award presented to the top running back in the country by the GTE-SMU Athletic Forum
- United Press International and *Football News* All-America (honorable mention)
- 1994 Mobil Cotton Bowl Outstanding Offensive

Player (26 carries for 138 yards)

- NBC/Chevrolet Notre Dame MVP vs. Texas A&M in 1994 Mobil Cotton Bowl
- ESPN Notre Dame MVP vs. BYU (18 carries for 122 yards, 1 TD)
- *The Sporting News* Player of the Week on offense vs. Florida State (26 carries for 122 yards, 1 TD)



Bert Berry, linebacker

- *Football News* Freshman All-America (third team)



Jeff Burris, free safety

- Associated Press, United Press International, Walter Camp Foundation, Newspaper Enterprise Association and *Football News* All-America (first team)

• *The Sporting News* and *College & Pro Football Newsweekly* All-America (second team)

- ABC Sports Defensive Player of the Year
- Semifinalist (one of 15) for *Football News* Defensive Player of the Year award
- Notre Dame National Monogram Club team MVP (by vote of players)
- ABC/Chevrolet Notre Dame MVP vs. Purdue (forced a fumble on QB sack that turned into first Irish TD, made 8 tackles overall)
- NBC/Chevrolet Notre Dame MVP vs. Florida State (2 rushing TDs, 5 tackles, 2 PBU)
- Invited to Senior Bowl all-star game



Lake Dawson, flanker

- *Football News* All-America (honorable mention)
- Invited to Senior Bowl all-star game



Jim Flanigan, defensive tackle

- Invited to East-West Shrine all-star game



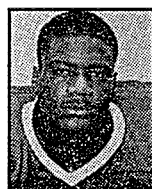
Justin Goheen, linebacker

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



Clint Johnson, split end

- ABC/Chevrolet Notre Dame MVP vs. Stanford (2 kickoff returns for 179 yards, 1 TD on 100 yard return)



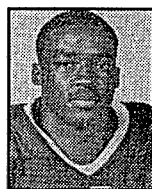
Randy Kinder, tailback

- *Football News* Freshman All-America (third team)
- NBC/Chevrolet Notre Dame MVP vs. Michigan State (12 carries for 94 yards)



Greg Lane, cornerback

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



Derrick Mayes, split end

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



Kevin McDougal, quarterback

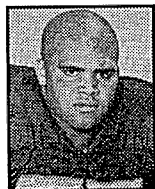
- *Football News* All-America (honorable mention)
- ABC/Chevrolet Notre Dame MVP vs. Michigan (12 of 21 passing for 208 yards, 9 carries for 66 yards, 2 TDs)
- NBC/Chevrolet Notre Dame MVP vs. Boston College (18 of 28 passing for 261 yards, 2 TDs)

**Todd Norman, offensive tackle**

- *Football News* All-America (honorable mention)
- Invited to East-West Shrine all-star game

**Tim Ruddy, center**

- *College & Pro Football Newsweekly* All-America (first team)
- Associated Press, United Press International and *Football News* All-America (second team)
- ESPN Toyota Leadership Award vs. BYU (3.86 grade point average in mechanical engineering)
- ABC/Chevrolet Notre Dame MVP vs. Navy (helped Irish rush for season high 426 yards and score 41 points in second half alone)
- GTE National Academic All-America and Team Member of the Year by CoSIDA
- GTE District V Academic All-America by CoSIDA
- Hitachi/College Football Association Scholar-Athlete
- Notre Dame Club of St. Joseph Valley Student-Athlete Award
- State Farm/Mutual Broadcasting Student-Athlete of the Year
- Delta Airlines/Mobil Cotton Bowl Scholar-Athlete for 1994
- NCAA Post-Graduate Scholarship winner for 1993
- National Football Foundation Post-Graduate Scholarship winner for 1993
- Invited to play in Hula Bowl all-star game (could not participate due to injury)

**Aaron Taylor, offensive tackle**

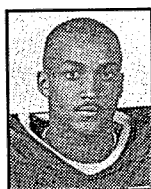
- Lombardi Award winner as college football lineman of the year by Rotary Club of Houston
- One of three finalists for Outland Trophy given to college football lineman of the year by Football Writers Association of America
- One of five finalists for *Football News* Offensive

Player of the Year award

- Associated Press, United Press International, Football Writers Association of America, American Football Coaches Association (Kodak), Walter Camp Foundation, *Football News* and Newspaper Enterprise Association All-America (first team)
- *Football News* All-Bowl team
- Nick Pietrosante Award (by vote of players to individual who best exemplifies characteristics of the late Irish All-America fullback)
- Notre Dame Lineman of the Year by Moose Krause Chapter of National Football Foundation and Hall of Fame
- College Interior Lineman of the Year by Touchdown Club of Columbus, Ohio
- College Football Lineman of the Year by Touchdown Club of

Washington, D.C.

- NBC/Chevrolet Notre Dame MVP vs. Pittsburgh (led Irish to season high 371 rushing yards)
- Invited to Hula Bowl all-star game (could not participate due to injury)

**Bobby Taylor, cornerback**

- One of three finalists for Jim Thorpe Award given to top defensive back in nation by Jim Thorpe Athletic Club of Oklahoma City
- Football Writers Association of America and Newspaper Enterprise Association All-America (first team)
- *Football News* and *College & Pro Football Newsweekly* All-America (second team)
- Associated Press All-America (third team)
- United Press International All-America (honorable mention)
- *Football News* Sophomore All-America (first team)
- *Football News* All-Bowl team
- NBC/Chevrolet Notre Dame MVP vs. Northwestern (6 tackles, 1 PBU, 1 interception brought back by penalty)

**Bryant Young, defensive tackle**

- American Football Coaches Association All-America (first team)
- Associated Press, United Press International, *College & Pro Football Newsweekly* and *Football News* All-America (second team)
- Invited to Senior Bowl all-star game

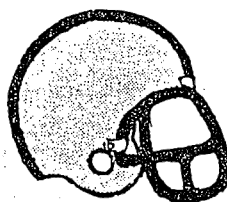
**Mark Zataveski, outside guard**

- GTE District V Academic All-America by CoSIDA

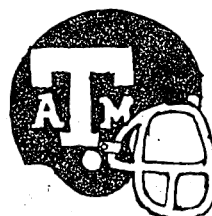
**Ray Zellars, fullback**

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

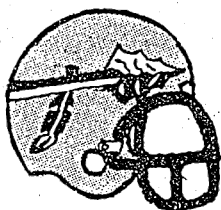
SCHOLASTIC ALL-OPPONENT TEAM



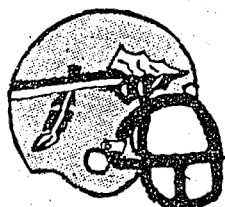
Eric Shorter
Defensive Back
Boston College



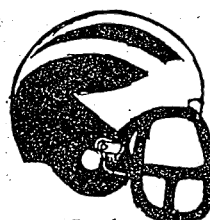
Antonio Shorter
Linebacker
Texas A & M



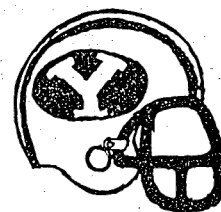
Corey Sawyer
Cornerback
Florida State



Derrick Alexander
Defensive End
Florida State

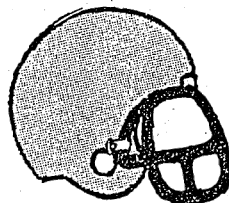


Sylvester Stanley
Defensive Tackle
Michigan

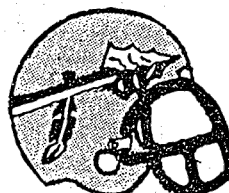


Lenny Gomes
Nose Tackle
Brigham Young

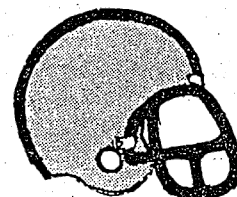
Max Lane
Offensive Tackle
Naval Academy



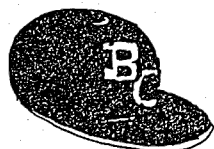
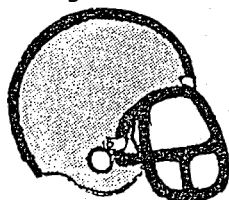
Patrick McNeil
Offensive Guard
Florida State



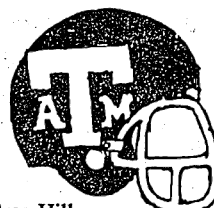
Tom Nalen
Center
Boston College



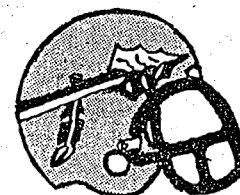
Pete Mitchell
Tight End
Boston College



Tom Coughlin
Coach
Boston College



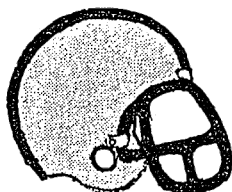
Greg Hill
Running Back
Texas A & M



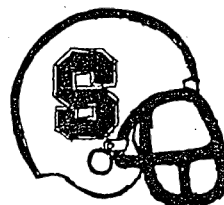
Charlie Ward
Quarterback
Florida State



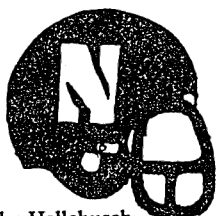
Derrick Parker
Defensive Back
Pittsburgh



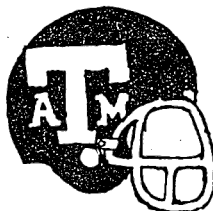
Mike Mamula
Linebacker
Boston College



Vaughn Bryant
Cornerback
Stanford

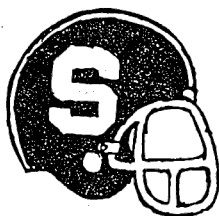


John Hellebusch
Defensive Tackle
Northwestern

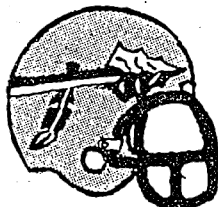


Sam Adams
Defensive End
Texas A & M

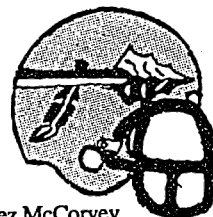
Robert Denton
Offensive Guard
Michigan State



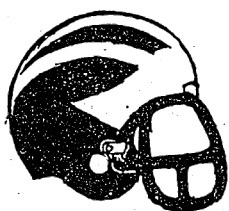
Marvin Ferrell
Offensive Tackle
Florida State



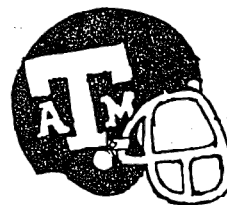
Johnnie Morton
Wide Receiver
Southern Cal



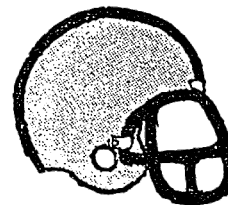
Kez McCorvey
Wide Receiver
Florida State



Tyrone Wheatley
Running Back
Michigan



Leeland McElroy
Kick Returner
Texas A & M



David Gordon
Kicker
Boston College

STATISTICS

1993 Final Regular Season Statistics

RESULTS AND ATTENDANCE

Sept. 4	N'WESTERN	W	27-12	59,075
Sept. 11	at Michigan	W	27-23	106,851
Sept. 18	MICH STATE	W	36-14	59,075
Sept. 25	at Purdue	W	17-0	67,861
Oct. 2	at Stanford	W	48-20	80,300
Oct. 9	PITTSBURGH	W	44-0	59,075
Oct. 16	at BYU	W	45-20	66,247
Oct. 23	USC	W	31-13	59,075
Oct. 30	vs. Navy	W	58-27	61,813
Nov. 13	FLOR STATE	W	31-23	59,075
Nov. 20	BOST COLL	L	39-41	59,075

TEAM STATISTICS

	ND	OPP
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS.....	239	203
Rushing	154	65
Passing	77	123
By Penalty	8	15
3rd Down Conversion.....	60-134	65-184
TOTAL NET YARDS	4725	3487
Average Per Game	429.5	317.0
Total Plays	746	753
Average Per Play	6.3	4.6
NET YARDS RUSHING	2868	985
Average Per Game	168.8	227.5
Total Rushes	561	331
Average Per Play	5.1	3.0
Touchdowns	36	9
NET YARDS PASSING	1857	2502
Average Per Game	168.8	227.5
Average Per Gain	15.7	9.5
Percent Completion	63.8	62.3
Interceptions	5	12
Touchdowns	10	18
PENALTIES-YARDS	64-539	71-599
FUMBLES-BALLS LOST	10-5	16-10
TIME OF POSSESSION	341:19	318:41

SCORE BY PERIOD	1	2	3	4	TOT
NOTRE DAME	72	119	101	111	403
OPPONENTS	40	58	37	59	194

KICKOFF RET	No.	Yds	Avg	TD	LP
Johnson, C.	10	409	40.9	1	100
Miller, M.	4	65	16.3	0	20
Zellars, R.	3	36	12.0	0	19
Edwards, M.	2	22	11.0	0	11
Burris, J.	3	28	9.3	0	17
Davis, T.	1	6	6.0	0	6
ND TOTAL	23	566	24.6	1	100
OPP TOTAL	64	1351	21.1	0	63

SCORING

	Rush	Pass	Ret	PAT	FG	Pts
Pendergast, K.	—	—	—	45	14	87
Edwards, M.	8	—	—	—	—	48
Zellar, R.	5	3	—	—	—	48
Becton, L.	6	1	—	—	—	42
Burris, J.	6	—	1	—	—	42
McDougal, K.	4	—	—	2	—	26
Farmer, R.	3	—	—	—	—	18
Miller, M.	—	2	1	—	—	18
Kinder, R.	2	—	—	—	—	12
Mays, D.	—	2	—	—	—	12
Dawson, L.	—	2	—	—	—	12
Johnson, C.	—	—	1	—	—	6
Bercich, P.	—	—	1	—	—	6
Hamilton, B.	—	—	1	—	—	6
Taylor, B.	—	—	1	—	—	6
Clark, W.	1	—	—	—	—	6
Jarrell, A.	1	—	—	—	—	6
Marsh, D.	—	—	—	1	—	1
Schroffner, S.	—	—	—	1	—	1
ND TOTAL	36	10	2	47	14	403
OPP TOTAL	9	17	0	20	8	194

PASSING

	Cmp	Att	Yds	TD	Int	S	Effic
McDougal, K.	98	159	1541	7	5	9	151.3
Failla, P.	19	25	281	3	0	2	210.0
Zellars, R.	1	1	35	0	0	0	394.0
ND TOTAL	118	185	1857	10	5	11	160.5
OPP TOTAL	263	422	2502	17	12	23	119.8

INT RETURNS

	No.	YDS	TD	LP
Taylor, B.	4	100	1	47
Burris, J.	3	61	0	43
Covington, J.	2	7	0	7
Lane, G.	1	29	0	29
Bercich, P.	1	21	1	21
Wooden, S.	1	0	0	0
ND TOTAL	12	218	2	47
OPP TOTAL	5	11	0	10

PUNT RET

	No.	Yds	Avg	TD	LP
Burris, J.	1	60	60.0	1	60
Lane, G.	1	17	17.0	0	17
Miller, M.	26	213	8.2	1	56
Taylor, B.	1	3	3.0	0	3
ND TOTAL	29	293	10.1	2	60
OPP TOTAL	9	86	9.8	0	20

PUNTING

	No.	Yds	Avg	Blkd	LP
Leonard, R.	18	718	39.9	0	55
Ford, B.	7	262	37.4	0	44
Jarrell, A.	12	398	33.2	0	58
ND TOTAL	37	1378	37.2	0	58
OPP TOTAL	59	2269	38.5	0	55

RUSHING

	Att	Yds	Gam	Car	TD	LP
Becton, L.	164	1044	104.4	6.4	6	70
Randy, K.	89	537	48.8	6.0	2	70
Zellars, R.	99	494	49.4	5.0	5	29
Edwards, M.	40	186	16.9	4.7	8	27
Farmer, R.	31	168	18.7	5.4	3	23
Burris, J.	16	92	8.4	5.8	6	44
McDougal, K.	55	85	8.5	1.5	4	43
Clark, W.	23	74	12.3	3.2	1	9
Lytle, D.	16	63	5.7	3.9	0	16
Failla, P.	18	55	5.5	3.1	0	10
Jarrell, A.	1	32	5.3	32.0	1	32
Rolle, R.	1	9	4.5	9.0	0	9
Davis, T.	1	8	0.8	8.0	0	8
Klusas, T.	2	8	4.0	4.0	0	8
Mayes, D.	1	7	0.7	7.0	0	7
Dawson, L.	2	4	0.4	2.0	0	8
Thorne, M.	1	3	1.0	3.0	0	3
Mosley, E.	1	-1	-1.0	-1.0	0	-1
ND TOTAL	561	2868	260.7	5.1	36	70
OPP TOTAL	331	985	89.5	3.0	9	45

RECEIVING

	No.	Gam	Yds	Avg	TD	LP
Dawson, L.	25	2.3	395	15.9	2	44
Mayes, D.	24	2.2	512	21.3	2	80
Miller, M.	19	1.7	412	21.7	2	66
Zellars, R.	14	1.3	109	7.8	3	39
Becton, L.	12	1.2	153	12.7	1	35
Johnson, C.	10	0.9	131	13.1	0	43
McBride, O.	5	0.5	36	7.2	0	43
Chryplewicz, P.	3	0.3	34	11.3	0	18
Jarrell, A.	1	0.1	16	16.0	0	16
Farmer, R.	1	0.1	8	8.0	0	8
Clark, W.	1	0.1	8	8.0	0	8
Wallace, L.	1	0.2	8	8.0	0	8
ND TOTAL	118	10.7	1857	15.7	10	80
OPP TOTAL	263	23.9	2502	9.5	17	53

Tackles (Solos-Assists): Goheen (61-31), Bercich (39-32), Young (44-23), Lane (47-11), Covington (43-15), Burris (36-17), B. Taylor (45-6), Flanigan (33-18), Magee (33-9), Hamilton (23-19), Gibson (24-10), Knight (13-13), Berry (19-6), Sample (17-2), Wynn (15-4), Tatum (11-7), Wooden (11-5), Nau (6-5), Dansby (6-3), Graham (4-4), Wagasy (4-3), Edwards (2-5), Cobbins (2-4), Clark (3-2), Saddler (3-1), Lytle (2-2), Holder (1-3), Peterson (3-0), Grasmanis (2-0), Pendergast (1-0), McBride (1-0), Halter (1-0), Taliaferro (1-0), Maider (0-1)

Sacks: Young (6.5-49), Hamilton (4-25), Flanigan (4-25), Wynn (3-14), Burris (2-19), Knight (2-9), Tatum (1-12), Bercich (1-6), B. Taylor (1-6), Goheen (0.5-6), Gibson (0.5-6), Nau (0.5-1)

TRADITION TRIUMPHS

NOTRE DAME REMAINED UNDEFEATED AS MYSTIQUE CONQUERED THE FLORIDA STATE SEMINOLES, 31-24

by Amanda Clinton

November 13, Notre Dame —

Mystique. To some Notre Dame fans the word connotes images of the Gipper, the Four Horsemen, Knute Rockne and Touchdown Jesus. To others it means the intangible feeling that comes when running onto the field at the historical stadium.

And to still others mystique is the force that hovers around the Irish football team when it somehow overcomes powerful foes.

However, most people agree it is something special at Notre Dame and is an intangible aspect of Notre Dame football that has helped many Irish teams to victory.

Mystique doesn't mean much in Tallahassee, Florida. Glitz and slick style are much more important than inconsequential stories of dead football heroes from a place called South Bend. The week preceding the game Seminole Head Coach Bobby Bowden told the media that he overheard some of his players calling Knute Rockne, Rock Knuteny.

While Florida State did not spend any time studying Notre Dame football history prior to the game, the Irish gave the Seminoles a lesson and became part of that history on November 13.

"We're not going to be intimidated,"

Notre Dame Head Coach Lou Holtz declared at the pep rally the night before the game.

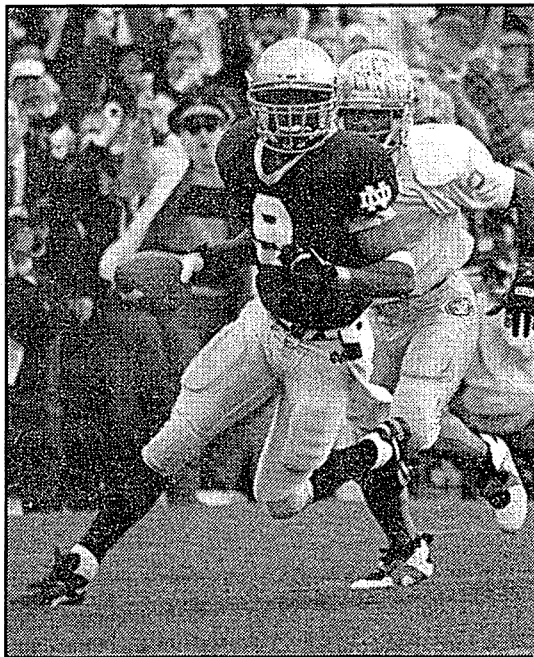
But that task was not easy considering the Seminole statistics coming into the game. They ranked fifth in rushing defense with 97.2 yards per game and sixth in total defense with 264 yards per game. In 20 regular season match ups since the beginning of 1992, the Seminoles allowed just five rush-

yards of total offense in its last 12 regular season match ups.

"Florida State is the best college football team I've ever seen, and I've been in the game a long time. They're an awesome team. They're capable of beating anybody in the country by 40 points," Holtz said before the game, and at first it looked like Holtz was right.

Despite a powerful opening drive, the Notre Dame offense was stopped short of the end zone. The crucial play came on a third down with five yards to go at the Seminole 36 yard line. Senior quarterback Kevin McDougal tossed the ball left to junior full back Ray Zellars, who was wide open but couldn't make the catch. After juggling the ball, it fell to the ground, forcing the Irish to punt.

The Florida State offense took charge and quickly moved the ball down the field in little more than five minutes. Notre Dame received a wake-up call when the Seminoles attempted a flea-flicker on a first down on their own 46 yard line. Senior quarterback Charlie Ward lateraled the ball to senior tailback Sean Jackson, who passed to a wide open sophomore wide receiver Tamarick Vanover, but Jackson overthrew Vanover, resulting in an incomplete pass. Five plays later, Florida State had moved the ball 42 yards down the field. On a first down at the Irish 12 yard line, Ward beat a Notre Dame blitz and threw to senior wide receiver Kevin Knox, who grabbed the ball at the five, spun toward the side line, beat



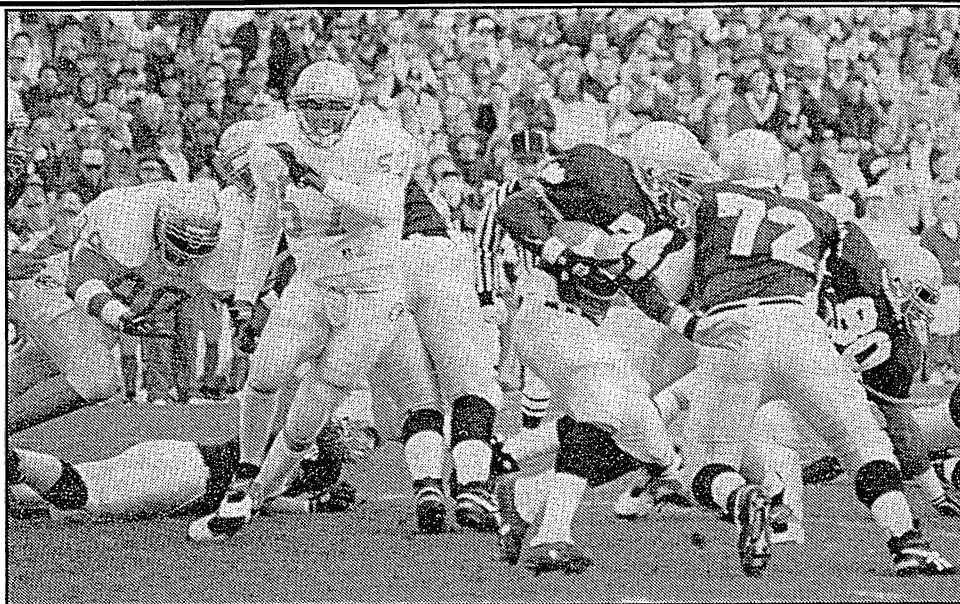
Jeff Burris did a little bit of everything for the Irish. In addition to pressuring Seminole quarterback Charlie Ward, Burris rushed for 19 yards.

ing touchdowns and only two had been given up prior to this game. Offensively, Florida State averaged 48 points and 572

down, bringing the score to 31 - 24.

The Seminoles then attempted an on-side kick that was recovered by junior cornerback Shawn Wooden. But the Irish were stopped after four plays when they were unable to get a first down. Jarrell lined up for a punt at the Seminole 42, but the kick was partially blocked and downed at the Florida State 37.

With just 51 seconds remaining, on the third play of the drive, Ward rocketed a pass to McCorvey for an 18 yard gain before sophomore cornerback Bobby Taylor took him down. On the next play Ward again nailed McCorvey for 18 yards, bringing the Seminoles to the Irish 14. Ward's next pass didn't even make it past the line of scrimmage because Knight batted the ball down. With three seconds left on the clock, the Seminoles had one last chance to get the ball into the end zone. Ward was flushed out of the pocket and he threw the ball into the end zone where Wooden batted it down. As the ball plummeted to the grounds so did the Seminoles' hopes of staying number one. Notre Dame was victor with a final score of 31 - 24.



Junior right guard Ryan Leahy clears a path for junior fullback Ray Zellars.

Florida State learned its lesson. "They didn't know what Notre Dame was about, and after being here I hope they do," said Jeff Burris. "To me the mystique of Notre Dame is faith in belief," said Holtz. "The biggest

problem with this team, I thought, was getting them to believe."

But the Irish did believe on November 13, and the mystique of Notre Dame, with its tradition of upsetting higher ranked teams, proved unstoppable for the Seminoles. □

GAME SUMMARY

Scoring Summary

	1	2	3	4	Final
Notre Dame	7	14	3	7	31
Florida State	7	0	7	10	24

1st Quarter FSU: Knox 12 pass from Ward (Bentley PAT) at 7:09
ND: Jarrell 32 run (Pendegast PAT) at 4:30
2nd Quarter ND: Becton 26 run (Pendegast PAT) at 10:42
ND: Burris 6 run (Pendegast PAT) at 7:48
3rd Quarter ND: Pendegast 47 FG at 9:41
FSU: Dunn 6 pass from Ward at 4:45
4th Quarter FSU: Bentley 24 FG at 10:40
ND: Burris 11 run (Pendegast PAT) at 6:53
FSU: McCorvey 20 pass from Ward (Bentley PAT) at 2:26

Team Statistics

	ND	FSU
First Downs	20	26
Rushing	12	6
Passing	7	17
Penalty	1	3
Rushing	239	96
Passing	108	307
Total Net Yards	347	403
Average Gain Per Play	52	5.0
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	1-1
Penalties-Yards	4-38	7-70
Punts-Averages	7-34.0	6-36.8
Kickoff Returns	33	64
3rd Down Conversions	4-13	5-14

Individual Statistics

Rushing: ND - Becton 26-122-1, Zellars 11-44, Jarrell 1-32-1, Burris 3-19-2, McDougal 6-12, Failla 1-10, Kinder 1-0 FSU - Ward 11-38, Floyd 5-31, Jackson 7-18, Dunn 7-18, McCorvey 1-9
Passing: ND - McDougal 18-9-108-0-0 FSU - Ward 50-31-297-3-0, Jackson 2-1-10-0-0, McCorvey 1-0-0-0
Receiving: ND - Becton 2-39, Miller 2-30, Johnson 2-22, Dawson 2-20, Zellars 1-(-3) FSU - McCorvey 11-138-1, Jackson 5-26, Frier 4-46, Vanover 4-30, Dunn 3-18-1, Know 2-30-1, Floyd 2-9, Ward 1-10

FALL OF THE MIGHTY

Boston College won 41-39 with a last-second field goal, ending Notre Dame's dream of an undefeated season

by Warren Junium

November 20, Notre Dame —

Notre Dame Stadium stood empty. The events of this hallowed ground are over, but the memories will remain with every person who witnessed this incredible football game. This day the Notre Dame dream season was shattered by an upstart football team from Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts, that came to South Bend for revenge. The Boston College Eagles got their wish and left the stadium on a wave of jubilation after trouncing a previously unbeaten Fighting Irish team.

"This is a big game. We knew they were number one. We tried to forget last year, but it's hard to do. Last year, we didn't come to play. This year, we thought we could win," said Boston College junior linebacker Stephen Boyd. The Irish were in trouble from the start of the game.

The Eagles received from fifth-year senior kicker Kevin Pendergast and fumbled twice on the return, but Notre Dame could not capitalize on the turnover. Boston College moved the ball well against the Irish defense in its first drive. Notre Dame stopped the Eagles on a fourth and six play when sophomore cornerback Bobby Taylor tackled freshman back Mark Hartsell to prevent him from gaining the first down. The Irish took over the ball on their own 46.

Freshman tailback Randy Kinder led the

first Irish drive with three carries and set up the Irish for a field goal attempt, but disaster struck. On the field goal attempt, the Eagles broke through the line, blocked the kick and Stephen Boyd returned the ball to the Irish 15 before he was surrounded by Notre Dame

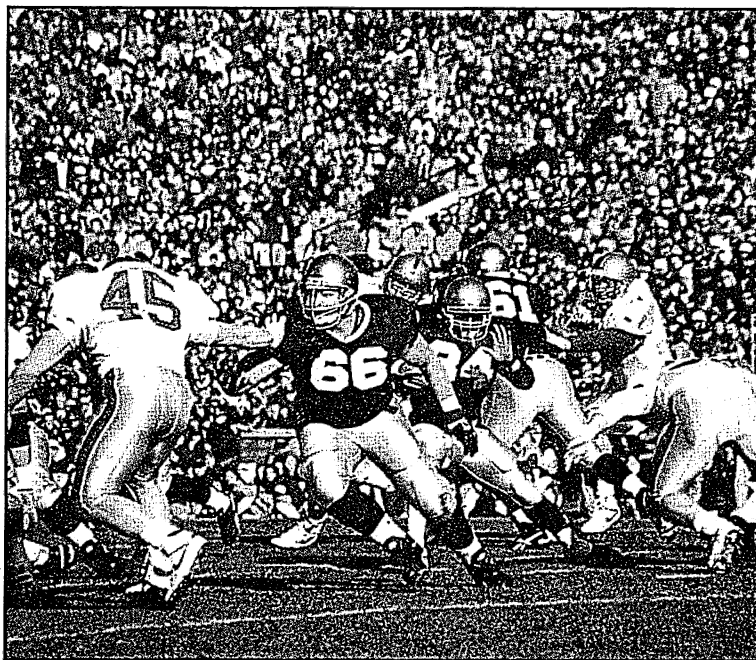
Lake Dawson. The Irish offense folded when McDougal fumbled as he was sacked and Boston College took over the ball on its own 30 yard line.

Senior quarterback Glenn Foley showed the Irish fans that the Boston College pass-

ing game would not be stopped by the highly touted Notre Dame defense. He was five-for-eight in passing completions and threw two bombs that broke the Irish pass defense. The first was from the Irish 49 yard line, when Foley connected with junior split end Clarence Cannon, and on a dump to senior flanker Keith Miller in the middle, which set up the Eagles first touchdown. With 3:37 remaining in the first quarter, Foley drilled the ball over the middle to senior flanker Ivan Boyd in the end zone for a touchdown and 10-0 Eagles lead.

The Irish were not going to let the Eagles run away with game. McDougal and his offense started out with the ball early in the second quarter

and went with the air attack. On his first toss, McDougal hit senior split end Clint Johnson with a streaking pass for a gain of 15 yards. McDougal also hit sophomore split end Derrick Mayes with a big gainer. The big play of this drive, though, was a double fake by McDougal. He aired the ball out for a 29 yard pass to junior fullback Ray Zellars that put him in the end zone for Notre Dame's first score of the afternoon, bringing the Irish to within three of the Eagles.



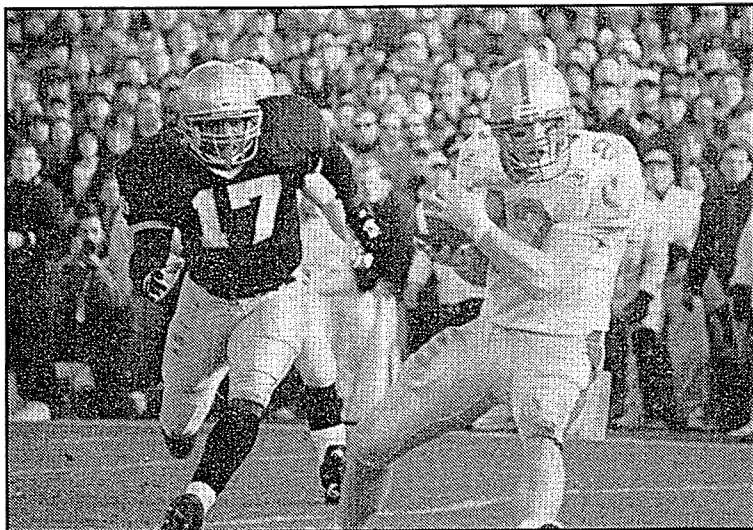
Brent Tadsen

Senior outside tackle Todd Norman holds off a Boston College defender to clear the path of junior fullback Ray Zellars, who had 80 yards against the Eagles.

defenders.

Boston College took over the ball at the Irish 15. It appeared the Eagles would waltz into the end zone, but the Irish defense stood strong and forced Boston College to settle for the field goal by the unexpected hero of the game, senior kicker David Gordon. This put the Eagles up, 3-0.

Irish possessions opened up with a 20 yard pass by senior quarterback Kevin McDougal to Notre Dame senior flanker



Brent Tadsen

Sophomore free safety Brian Magee closes in on junior tight end Pete Mitchell. Mitchell received 13 passes totaling 132 yards against the Irish.

Boston College's next possession illustrated the control and caliber of the offense. "They had great execution. They have a great offense, and Glenn Foley is one of the best quarterbacks in the nation," said Notre Dame senior safety Jeff Burris. Foley proved that he can pass with the best and also intimidate one of the best defenses in the country. On a tailback to quarterback pitch, Foley was surrounded by Irish tacklers, but, with some intimidation on his part, he was able to stop them short and air out a 16 yardpass to junior tight end Pete

Mitchell. Foley then showed his passing prowess with a 36 yard pass to Ivan Boyd deep in the end zone for the Eagles touchdown and a 17-7 lead.

Notre Dame continued the scoring trade-off on its next drive. The drive was marred by ineffective passing, but a bright spot came when junior tailback Lee Becton carried the ball. He had two crucial carries but the team received a 15 yard penalty. A pitch from McDougal ended with a gain of 12 yards. Even with the stuttering offense, the Irish did put the ball in the end zone, bringing them back within three of Boston College.

The Eagles continued to soar as they ended the half with a one man rushing show. Darnell Campbell, Boston College's senior fullback, led this drive

with six carries that added to his fourth consecutive 100 yard rushing day. Boston College went into the locker room at the half up by 13 on Foley's loop pass to Mitchell for the touchdown.

Notre Dame was not able to gain control as the Irish offense, in for three downs and out, gave

the ball back to the Eagles once again. This time, though, Boston College didn't have far to score another touchdown. The Boston College offense ran through the faltering Irish defense to score for a 31-14 advantage.

On the kickoff Boston College surprised the Irish with an onside kick that slipped into the Eagles talons on the Irish 48. The Irish stopped Boston College short of the end

zone, and Gordon missed the field goal, wide left.

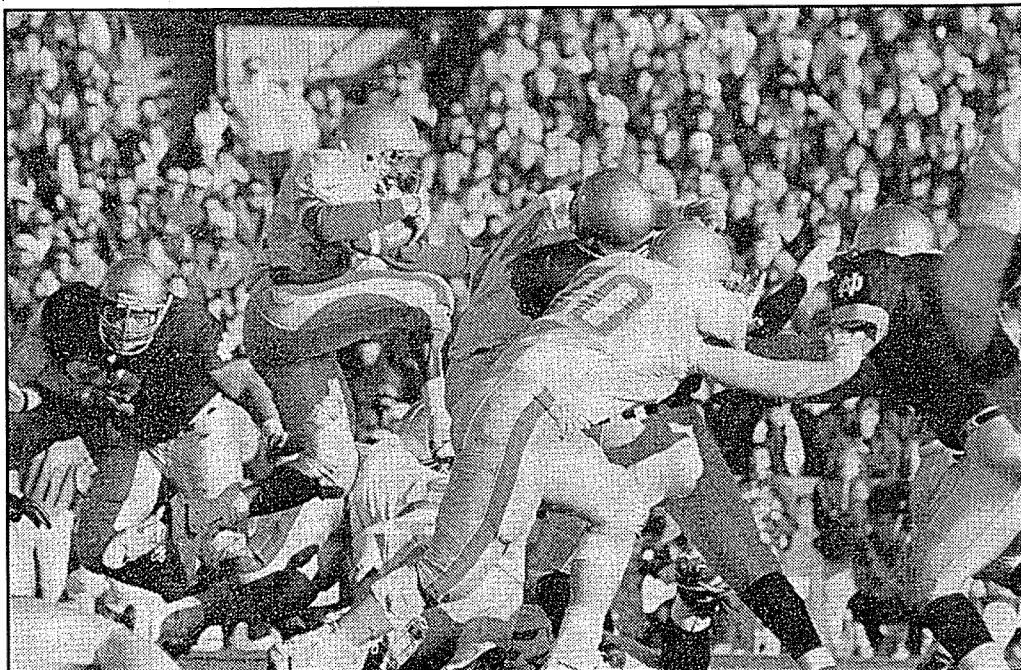
The Irish took over the ball on their own 23. McDougal relied on Mayes to keep this drive going. Mayes had three receptions over 16 yards in this drive, but the Irish could not cash in on Mayes' receptions, so they had to settle on a field goal that brought them within two touchdowns of the Eagles.

To open the fourth quarter, Boston College further hurt Notre Dame by scoring another touchdown. On a play-action fake, Foley threw to a wide open Mitchell in the right corner of the end zone for the touchdown, giving the Eagles a 38-17 lead. Could the Irish come back from this deficit?

With 10:59 remaining in the game, Notre Dame took over the ball on its own 43, and McDougal immediately went to the air attack. He connected with Mayes for a 22 yard gain, and this set up a run by Becton. On a slant right, Becton broke free from two Boston College tacklers and ran 29 yards for the Irish touchdown. Notre Dame Head Coach Lou Holtz gave the nod for the two-point conversion attempt. Becton took the ball in for two, bringing the Irish to within 13.

On Boston College's next possession, Foley fumbled the snap from the center deep

The Irish defense had a difficult time stopping the powerful Eagles' offense, which accumulated 477 total yards.



Brent Tadsen

in Eagle territory, and senior tackle Jim Flanagan recovered the ball, giving the Irish the chance to score again. They did so with a mix of rushing and passing. This time, Zellars graced the end zone for the Irish, bring them within six with 3:55 remaining.

Intense defense shut down the previously unstoppable Boston College offense, and this forced them to punt with 2:51 remaining in the game.

Notre Dame opened what appeared to be the final drive of the game with one of the most spectacular receptions of the year. On a play-action fake, McDougal threw deep down the middle for Mayes, who was blanketed by Boston College defenders, but he made the catch landing flat on his back at the Eagles 20 yard line.

With 2:27 remaining in the game Notre Dame had four opportunities to reach the end zone, but the first three fell short of their goal. On fourth and four after a play-action fake, McDougal passed to the very back of the end zone. Dawson reached out and grabbed the ball, taking the Irish to their first

"It was a great college football game, with lots of excitement. ... I'm very happy, but humble."

— Tom Coughlin

lead of the game, 39-38.

"We didn't quit, and that's why I'm glad to be on a team like this. Once we scored, I thought we had it, but I did realize that there was a minute left, and Foley had been doing a great job," said McDougal.

But the game was not over. With 1:01 remaining on the clock after the kickoff, the Eagles took over on their own 25. Foley ran

the offense that worked well for him throughout the day: the pass. On the second play of the drive, Foley let a rocket go, right at Notre Dame senior defenders Pete Bercich and Jeff Burris, but it squeaked through their fingertips and fell to the turf. Foley returned the pass, setting up a final field goal for the Eagles.

"I knew that I could make the kick, and I did — all that mattered was that it went through [the uprights]," said Gordon. The Irish football season ended, 41-39.

"It was a great college football game, with lots of excitement. All we ask for is effort and we got it. I'm very happy, but humble," said Boston College Head Coach Tom Coughlin after the game.

"I am very proud of our team. This was one of the great comebacks that I have been associated with. Our players hung in there," said coach Holtz. "To be down so far and then come back and then for them [Boston College] to come down and kick a field goal, it's heart-breaking." □

GAME SUMMARY

Scoring Summary

	1	2	3	4	Final
Notre Dame	0	14	3	22	39
Boston College	10	14	7	10	41

1st Quarter	BC: Gordon 28 FG at 8:02 BC: Boyd 4 pass from Foley (Gordon PAT) at 3:37
2nd Quarter	ND: Zellars 39 pass from McDougal (Pendergast PAT) at 11:58 BC: Boyd 36 pass from Foley (Gordon PAT) at 10:26 ND: Burris 1 run (Pendergast PAT) at 5:52 BC: Mitchell 3 pass from Foley (Gordon PAT) at 0:21
3rd Quarter	BC: Campbell 21 run (Gordon PAT) at 11:24 ND: Pendergast 29 FG at 3:20
4th Quarter	BC: Mitchell 1 pass from Foley (Gordon PAT) at 11:13 ND: Becton 29 run (2 pt. conversion McDougal) at 10:12 ND: Zellars 4 run (Pendergast PAT) at 4:02 ND: Dawson 4 pass from McDougal (Pendergast PAT) at 1:09 BC: Gordon 41 FG at 0:00

Team Statistics

	ND	BC
First Downs	22	28
Rushing	11	9
Passing	10	17
Penalty	1	2
Rushing	166	162
Passing	261	315
Total Net Yards	69	87
Average Gain Per Play	6.2	5.5
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	3-1
Penalties-Yards	4-33	5-44
Punts-Averages	2-30.5	2-45.5
Kickoff Returns	57	84
3rd Down Conversions	3-12	10-18

Individual Statistics

Rushing: ND - Becton 14-122-1, Zellars 8-41-1, Kinder 5-32, Failla 1-3, Edwards 1-2, Burris 1-1-1, Mosley 1-(-1), McDougal 9-(-34) BC - Campbell 24-115-1, Green 7-17, Ransome 1-14, Shirley 2-10, Hartsell 1-3, Foley 3-2, Comer 1-1
Passing: ND - McDougal 28-18-261-2-1, Failla 1-0-0-0-0 BC - Foley 48-30-315-4-0
Receiving: ND - Mayes 7-147, Dawson 4-37-1, Johnson 3-20, Becton 2-12, Zellars 1-39-1, McBride 1-6 BC - Mitchell 13-132-2, Cannon 5-51, Boyd 3-49-2, Campbell 3-28, Miller 2-22, Comer 2-13, Gibbons 1-14, Green 1-6

A Bittersweet New Year

A last-minute 24 -21 victory over Texas A&M was not enough to clinch the national title

By Amanda Clinton

January 1, 1994, Dallas, TX —

It was supposed to be easy. Notre Dame was scheduled to play in the 1994 Cotton Bowl against Texas A&M, the team the Irish dominated in a 28-3 victory in 1993. But this year was different.

The Irish entered the match up with the loss to Boston College still fresh on their minds while Texas A&M looked forward to avenging last year's embarrassing loss at the hands of Notre Dame. And until the last five minutes of the game, it looked as though the Aggies might have their dream fulfilled.

"We didn't play well in the first half, except for the opening drive," said Lou Holtz, Notre Dame head coach.

Senior flanker Clint Johnson took the opening kickoff but was nailed on the 10 yard line. Slowly the Irish began drilling up field. On a second down at the 16 with 26 yards to go, Notre Dame went with a reverse to junior flanker Mike Miller for a 19 yard gain. Then on a second down and eight on the Aggie 19 yard line, senior quarterback Kevin McDougal ran toward the right sideline, cutting past three defenders and running into the end zone, putting the Irish in the lead with a 7-0 score.

But this touchdown was the last for Notre Dame in the first half.

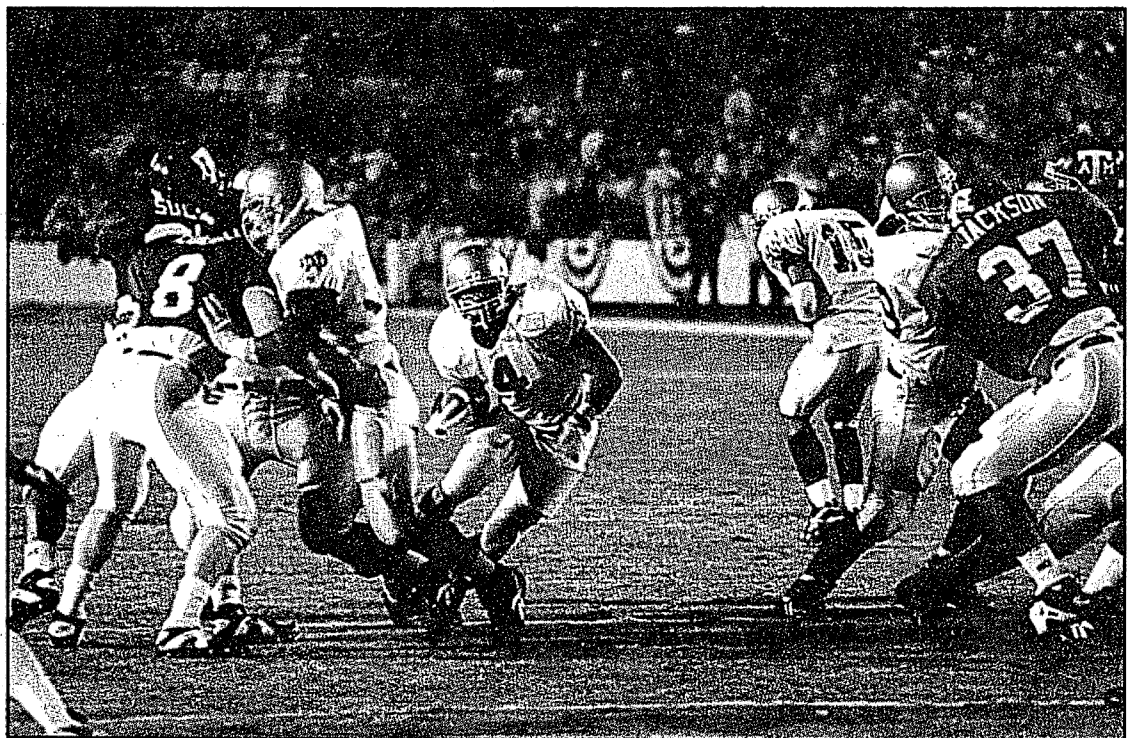
Texas A&M immediately countered with a scoring drive. Despite a near interception by senior strong safety John Covington on a third down with 16 to go on the Aggie 15

marked the first for the Aggies in their last three Cotton Bowl games. Pullig completed 17 of 31 passes for 238 yards in the game, the third highest in Cotton Bowl history.

The Notre Dame offense was unable to get a first down on its next possession, so Texas A&M took over. The Aggies drove all the way down to the Irish 22 where on a fourth and 10 they went for a field goal. But the 39 yard attempt was blocked by sophomore corner back Bobby Taylor, his third of the season, keeping the score tied and ending the first quarter of play.

To start off the second quarter, the offensive drives of both squads were squelched by pumped up defenses. On Notre Dame's second possession of the quarter, on a second and 10, McDougal was sacked for the second time in the game by junior linebacker Antonio Shorter.

"I don't know who the hell Shorter is, but I've never seen someone so fast," said senior outside tackle Aaron Taylor. "He ran past



Brent Tadsen

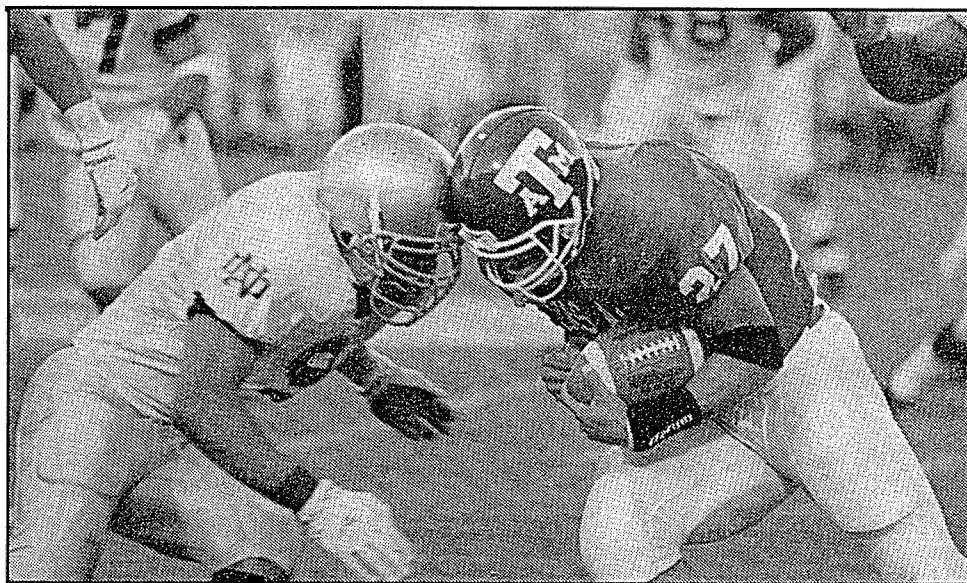
Lee Becton finds an opening in the A&M line, courtesy of Mark Edwards, left, and Lance Johnson, right. Becton rushed for 138 yards.

yard line, Texas A&M rolled to the Irish eight where junior running back Greg Hill grabbed the hand-off from sophomore quarterback Corey Pullig. Hill dodged into the end zone to tie up the score. This touchdown

me like I had metal shoes on."

"I just go out there and just get to the quarterback and do my thing," said Shorter.

The loss of Irish senior center Tim Ruddy due to an abdominal strain was noticed on



**Jeff Burris butts heads with an A&M running back.
Burris had nine tackles.**

Brent Tadsen

the offensive line. By the end of the day McDougal was sacked four times. But Holtz felt the offense did a good job of handling the Ruddy loss.

"Our players competed well without Tim Ruddy," said Holtz. "That's hard to do with the A&M defense."

In the first half Notre Dame's offense had a tough time eluding the Aggie defense and controlling the Texas A&M offense.

The Aggies ate up more than seven minutes of the clock in the second quarter while rallying a huge A&M crowd. On a fourth down with one to go on the 46, the Aggies went for it and came up with a first down on a quarterback sneak, encouraging the boisterous A&M crowd. Then again on a fourth and one at the Irish 15, Pullig threw a pass to a wide open sophomore fullback Detron Smith for an Aggie touchdown, giving Texas A&M the lead, 14-7.

"This is a better A&M team," said Holtz. "They have most of their starters back from last year."

For the remaining few minutes of the first half, Notre Dame was unable to come up with a scoring drive, and the half ended with the Irish trailing the pumped up Aggies.

With a halftime score of 14 - 7 and Notre Dame losing, it was evident that the defense was having trouble. Not only did the Irish lose defensive coordinator Rick Minter prior to the game when he signed on as head coach at Cincinnati, but all week Notre Dame prepared for the Texas A&M offense

to use a rushing attack. Instead the Aggies focused on throwing passes to fullbacks and tight ends, confusing the Irish zone defense.

"We challenged our players a little more at half time," said Holtz.

According to Irish team members, Holtz got the team pumped up by asking for 22 players who wanted to win to sign their names on a chalkboard in the locker room.

The change to the team was immediately evident in the second half when, on the first possession of the third quarter, the Irish scored. Lee Becton tallied four carries on the drive for 32 yards and helped the team to a first and goal position on the Aggie two yard line. By the end of the day he tallied 26 carries

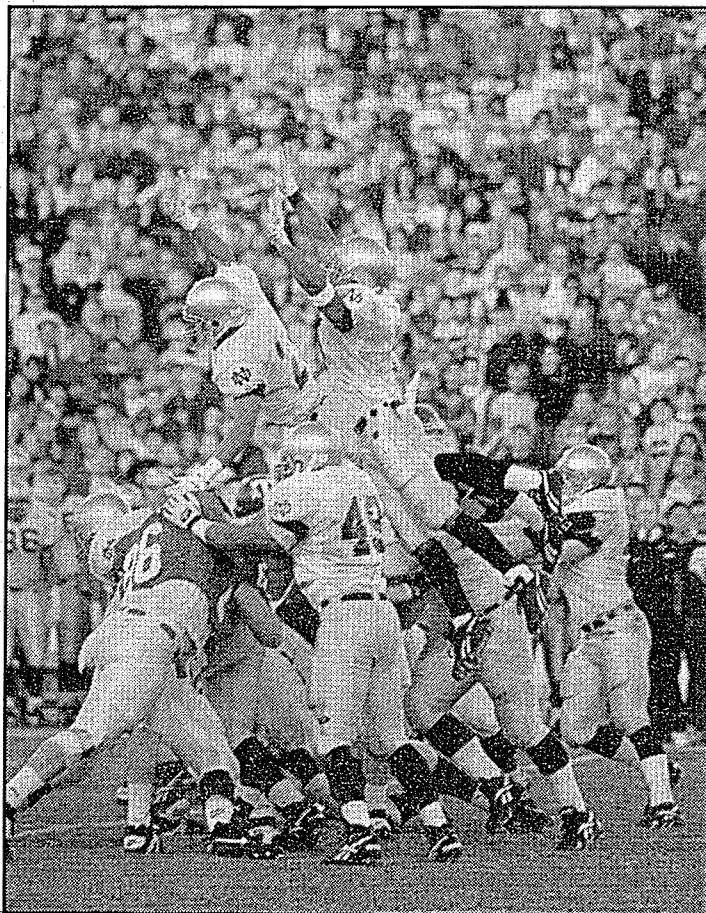
for 138 yards out of the team's total of 206 total rushing yards. At the two yard line junior fullback Ray Zellars took a pitch left from junior quarterback Paul Failla before powering past the Texas A&M defense and high stepping into the end zone, tying up the score at 14-14.

"In the second half we were back to Notre Dame football — three yards and a cloud of dust," said Aaron Taylor.

But the Aggies countered this scoring drive with one of their own. After driving 79 yards down the field to the Irish one yard line, junior running back Rodney Thomas dove over the top into the end zone for an Aggie touchdown, giving Texas A&M the lead, 21-14.

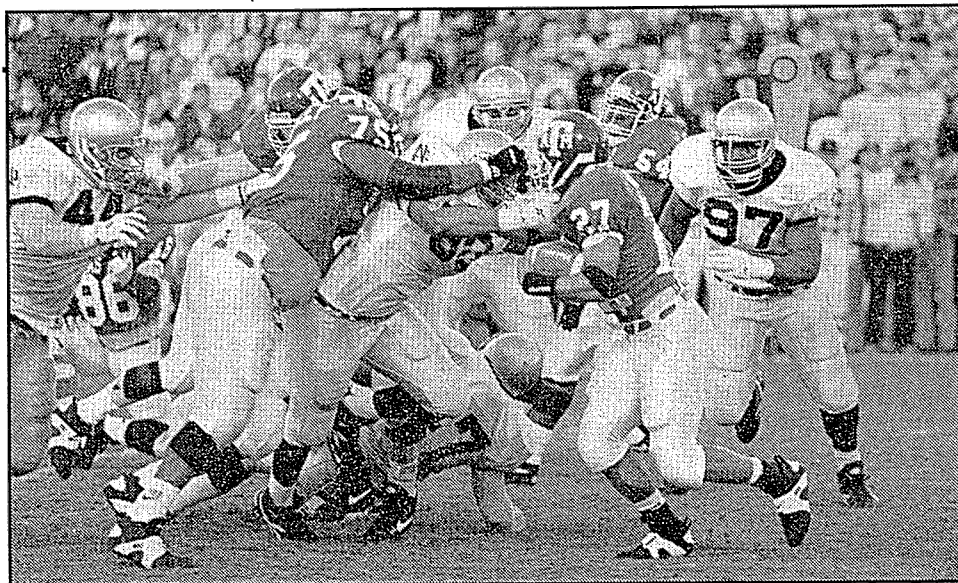
The Irish offense came back again to tie the score. On a first down at the two yard line Failla handed the ball to freshman fullback Marc Edwards who shoved past Aggie defenders and dove into the end zone, making the score 21-21 with more than three minutes left in the third quarter.

"The great games are when the momen-



Bobby Taylor, left, and Jeff Burris, right, leap high in an attempt to block an A&M kick.

Brent Tadsen



Brent Tadsen

Brian Hamilton breaks through the A&M offensive line as Bryant Young and Jim Flanigan pursue Aggie running back Greg Hill.

tum goes back and forth," said Holtz. "It was one of those games."

The score remained the same until the last two minutes of the fourth quarter despite an interception by senior linebacker Pete Bercich at the Aggie 49 yard line with 8:42 minutes left in the final quarter.

"I'm glad I had the opportunity to redeem myself [after dropping the interception that would have clinched a victory in the final seconds against Boston College]," said Bercich.

With about four minutes left in the fourth quarter, the Aggies had to punt the ball from their own eight yard line. The kick went 45 yards, but Miller received it and sped down the left sideline for a crucial 38 yards to the Aggie 22 yard line. But the Irish offense was only able to gain eight yards. On a fourth and two situation at the Aggie eight yard line, fifth-year senior kicker Kevin Pendergast nailed a 31 yard field goal, giving Notre Dame the winning lead, 24-21.

"We beat an awfully good football team," said Holtz. "This was an experienced, veteran, well-coached, defensive team."

With over a minute left in the game, the Aggies still had a chance to come back. But on the first play of the drive Thomas was hit on his right side by senior free safety Jeff Burris, fumbling the ball. Bobby Taylor recovered the ball for the Irish, but Notre Dame was unable to gain a first down.

But the Notre Dame defense was determined to secure the win. On the second play of the drive senior defensive tackle Jim Flanigan sacked Pullig for an 11 yard loss.

Controversy

Holtz and team feel cheated out of national championship

The victory party began when the last second finally ticked off the clock at the Orange Bowl. The Dallas Hyatt Regency erupted into screams and applause as Notre Dame football fans celebrated what they thought was a 1993 National Championship.

"When you talk about national championships, you're not always talking about the best team," said Notre Dame Head Coach Lou Holtz at the Cotton Bowl post-game press conference. "The way it's been done historically, or hysterically, is that you take into consideration if someone is undefeated. If more than one team is undefeated, you look to see who played the toughest schedule. After that the determining factor would be head-to-head competition. ... We went 11-1. We beat the only other team up for the national champion-

And the Aggies were unable to gain a first down after attempting a hook-and-ladder play on a fourth down with 17 to go on their own 41. Pullig passed to senior wide receiver Tony Harrison who then tried to lateral to freshman running back Leeland McElroy, but Harrison had thrown the ball too high. When the pigskin fell to the ground, Texas A&M lost its chance of winning the game, and Notre Dame clinched its victory.

"It feels great to win the Cotton Bowl for the second year in a row," said Burris. "A lot of people doubted our ability to bounce back from the Boston College game. Guess what? We did." □

ship that has a loss (Florida State)."

Notre Dame fans as well as the team and coaches were shocked when the polls were released the next day declaring Florida State the best team in the country.

While many were disappointed the Irish did not win the title, it is easy to forget that at the beginning of the season this team was not expected to be in the running for the championship.

"No one believed what we could do, to achieve what we have achieved," said senior offensive tackle Aaron Taylor.

Despite what the polls said, Holtz has a different opinion of who should be number one.

"I don't think there's any doubt in

my mind," said Holtz at a presentation during halftime of the Missouri basketball game. "We are the best."

— By Amanda Clinton



Brent Tadsen

With a Cotton Bowl win, Lou Holtz said the Irish deserved the national title.

GAME SUMMARY

Scoring Summary

	1	2	3	4	Final
Notre Dame	7	0	14	3	24
Texas A&M	7	7	7	0	21

1st Quarter ND: McDougal 19 Run (Pendergast PAT) at 8:01
A&M: Hill 8 run (Venetoulis PAT) at 3:56
2nd Quarter A&M: Smith 15 pass from Pullig (Venetoulis PAT) at 2:56
3rd Quarter ND: Zellars 2 run (Pendergast PAT) at 10:21
A&M: Thomas 1 run (Venetoulis PAT) at 6:50
ND: Edwards 2 run (Pendergast PAT) at 3:49
4th Quarter ND: Pendergast 31 FG at 2:22

Team Statistics

	ND	A&M
First Downs	19	20
Rushing	13	11
Passing	5	9
Penalty	1	0
Rushing	206	103
Passing	105	238
Total Net Yards	311	341
Average Gain Per Play	4.7	5
Fumbles-Lost	1-0	4-2
Penalties-Yards	5-34	3-15
Punts-Averages	7-38	4-37.3
Kickoff Returns	59	117
3rd Down Conversions	5-13	6-14

Individual Statistics

Rushing: ND - Becton 26-138, Zellars 9-25-1, McDougal 9-13-1, Miller 2-20, Edwards 3-6 A&M - Hill 16-38-1, McElroy 4-45, Thomas 9-33-1, Groce 1-2, Pullig 7-(-15)
Passing: ND - McDougal 15-7-105-0-0 A&M - Pullig 31-17-238-1-1
Receiving: ND - Mayes 2-27, McBride 1-16, Zellars 1-18, Dawson 2-41 A&M - Groce 4-45, Smith 2-24, Harrison 3-52, Mitchell 2-29, Schorp 3-53, Hill 1-7, McElroy 1-7, Thomas 1-21

Scholastic

Applications are now available for all of the following paid positions on the
1994 - 1995 editorial board:

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Applications can be picked up at the Scholastic office, 303 LaFortune, between 2-5 p.m., Monday to Friday. Applications for Editor in Chief are due Friday, February 11. Applications for all other positions are due Thursday, February 24.

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Looking Past the Numbers:

Reflections of a Student Trainer

by Kristen Lefere

Unfortunately, when people look back on this football season, the final decision of the Associated Press and Coaches' Polls might jump to mind first. For those of us who celebrated in the Dallas streets on January 1, the news of Notre Dame's number two ranking brought an abrupt end to the party. We may never accept the reasoning in this nonsense, but before we forget, let's remember exactly what the 1993 Notre Dame football team accomplished.

Between the losses to last year's draft and all the preseason controversy, nobody gave this team much of a chance. However, they knew they were better than everyone said. Working as a student trainer, I watched them push through the most grueling fall camp I saw in three seasons here and still shook my head when they said this was the year. After an unimpressive win over Northwestern, I was not the only student hoping the team would just keep the game close at Michigan. With so much talent gone, more of us than care to admit feared lopsided losses in more places than Ann Arbor.

Still, this team knew they were better than everyone said. On September 11, a stunned crowd watched Kevin McDougal catch fire and Jeff Burris catch almost everything as Notre Dame promptly destroyed Michigan's season and resurrected its own. The controversies now secondary, we all seemed to settle into the business of football, something the team had been doing all along.

What this team accomplished after that important game at Michigan remains impressive. Working through injuries and through long practices, they played clean and they played hard, doing what they needed to do to get the victory on Saturday. Once they rattled off nine straight wins to set up the since forgotten "Game of the Century," they turned most of us, if not the writers, from doubters to believers.

Regardless, on November 13, this team proved they were better than everyone had said. The Seminoles came in cocky and confident and left winless and whimpering. But even more impressive is the fact that our guys had enough self-control to ignore the numerous cheap shots when they reached the endzone (take

a look at a tape) and enough class to refrain from taunting the Seminoles during the game and in post-game press conferences.

Unfortunately, you have to win every game if you are Notre Dame and you want the National Championship. Lou is no god to the rest of the world and the NBC contract has not gained us any friends. In a crazy college football year, we had a more than legitimate claim after the Cotton Bowl victory. I do not understand it any more now than I did January 2, but I hope we can remember more about this season than the two final polls.

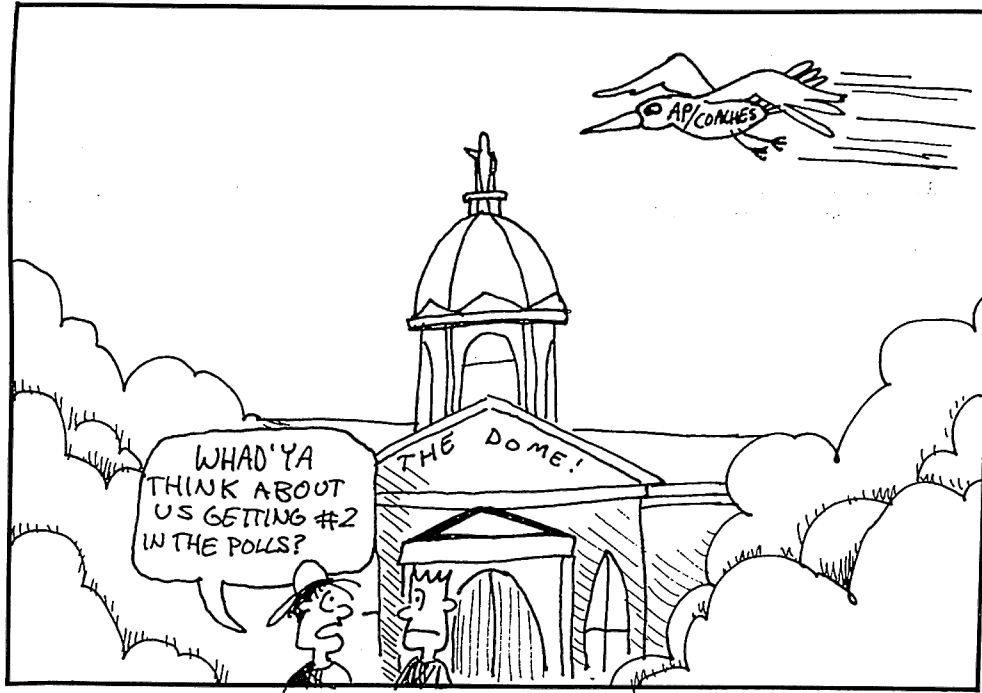
This team gave us some incredible memories. Looking back, we will probably never forget Aaron Taylor and Jeff Burris achieving All-American status, Tim Ruddy blowing people away on the field and in the classroom, or Bryant Young quietly dominating on the defensive line. But I hope we also remember the leadership these four captains and the rest of the 1993 class gave to the team. Every one of the seniors started a game, an amazing statistic that has to be credited to their attitude as much as their ability. They pushed themselves and one another to work harder than any football team I saw as a trainer, and they unselfishly encouraged and taught the younger players fighting for minutes on the field.

But most of all, the seniors led the team with class. You did not see Taylor or Burris begging for second chances or bawling before cameras after the Boston College game or when the final polls were announced. We are not Florida State; we are Notre Dame. The seniors understood that.

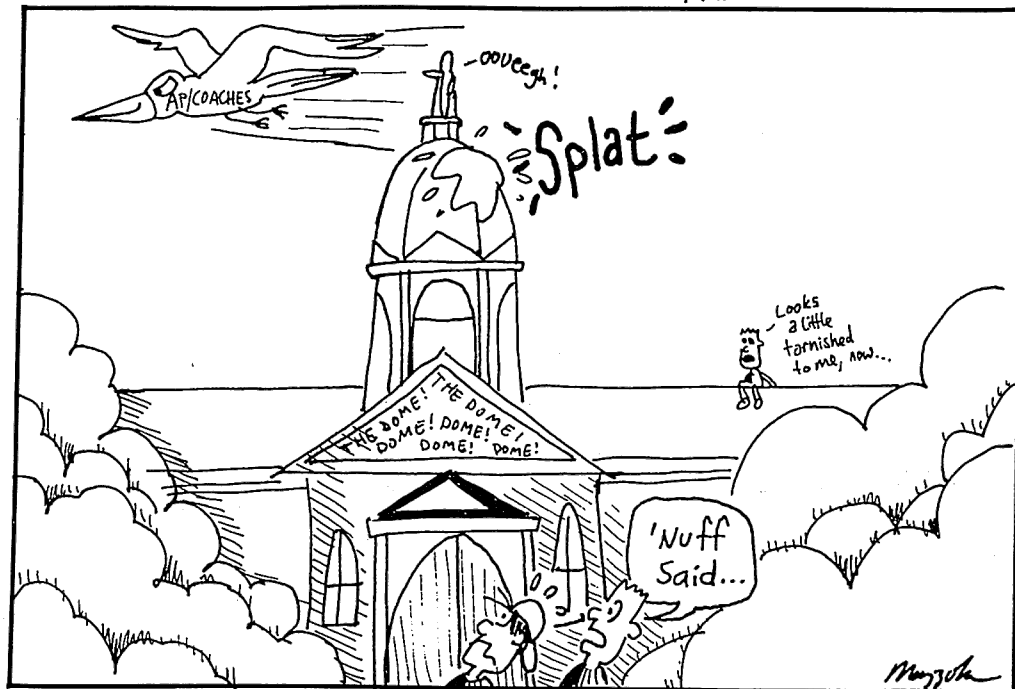
All year long, including January 2, this team was more than anyone said they were. Don't remember them for what they weren't given. Remember them for what they gave everyone—a year to be proud—even though, but maybe especially because, we're not the National Champions. □

Kristen "Peanut" Lefere is an off-campus senior English and philosophy major. She has been a student trainer since her freshman year.

TALES! FROM THE TOP OF THE DOME



MARK MAZZOLA



Spring 1994 Movies

Cushing Auditorium

Montgomery Theatre

Jan 21&22 The Program
28&29 The Good Son
Feb 4&5 Malice
11&12 Cool Runnings
25&26 The Three Musketeers
Mar 18&19 The Fugitive
25&26 Nightmare Before Christmas
Apr 8&9 Rudy
15&16 The Pelican Brief
29&30 Philadelphia

Jan 20 The Maltese Falcon
27 Vertigo
Feb 3 Rebel Without a Cause
10 The Philadelphia Story
17 Singin' in the Rain
24 North By Northwest
Mar 17 West Side Story
24 To Kill a Mockingbird
Apr 7 Knute-Rockne: All-American
14 A Streetcar Named Desire
28 My Fair Lady

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