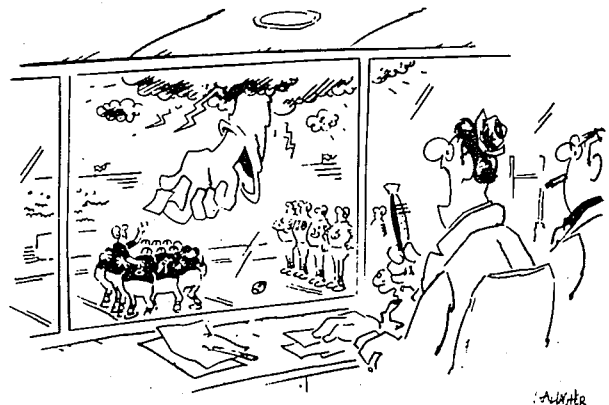
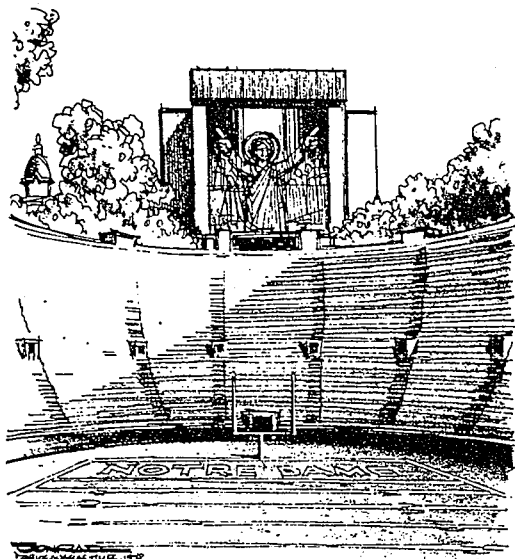


SCHOLASTIC
1985
FOOTBALL REVIEW



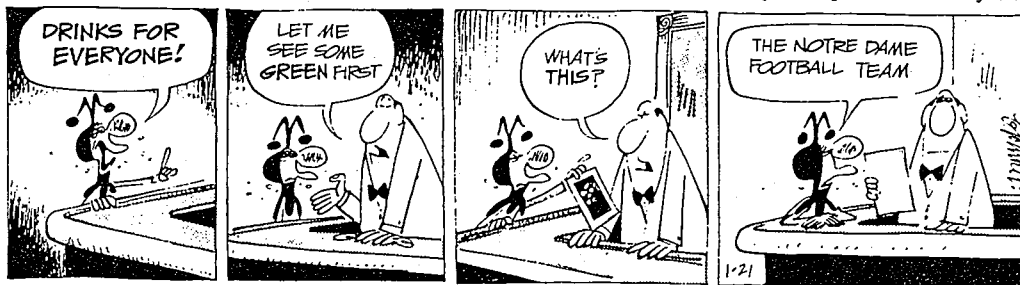
"HERE'S A PLAY COMING IN FOR NOTRE DAME!"

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THE WIZARD OF ID

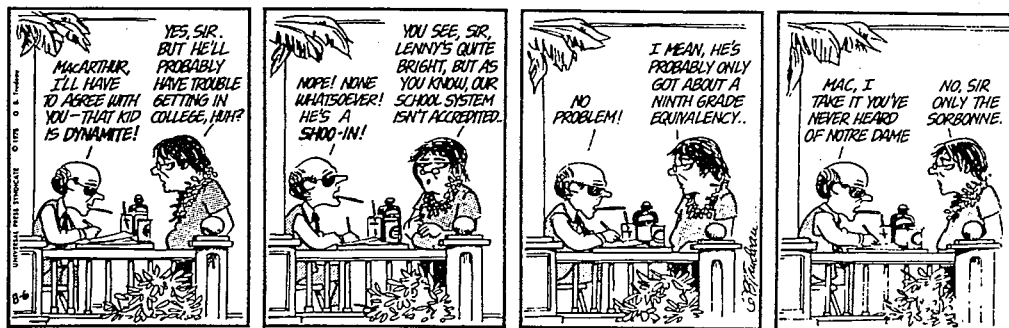
by Brant parker and Johnny hart.



The Wizard of Id by permission of Johnny Hart and Field Enterprises, Inc.

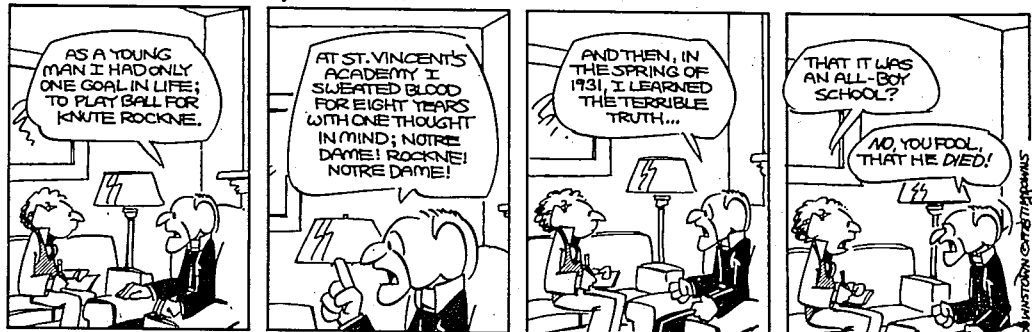
DOONESBURY

by Garry Trudeau



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downtown by Tim Downs



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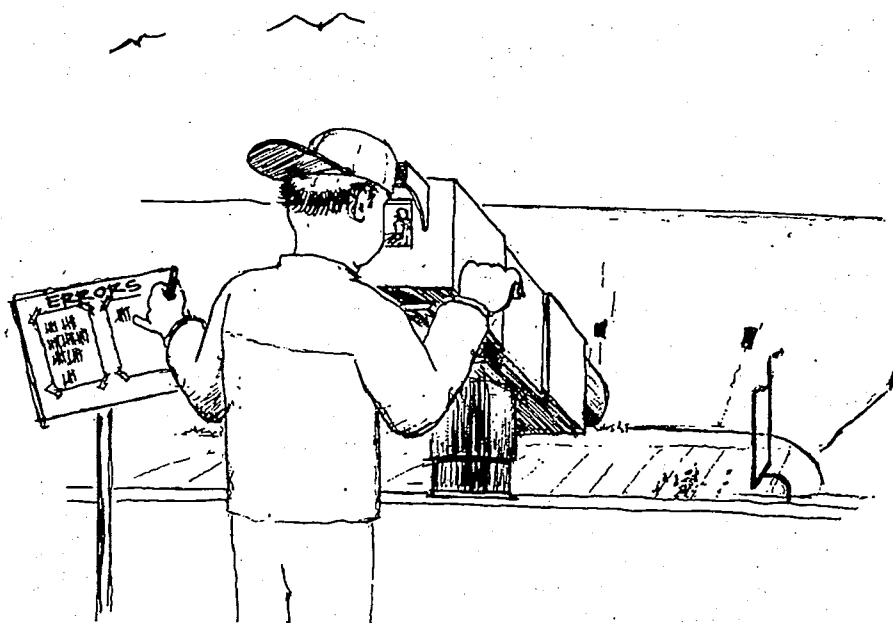
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Ed note: Special thanks go to the South Bend Tribune Sports Dept, especially Bill Bilinski, for providing us with some of the photos. And without whose help this review of the 85 Irish football season wouldn't be as complete.

The Eye in the Sky

Don't Lie



by Greg Dingens

"Dingens!"

I cringed in the darkness.

"Would you like to tell me what you are doing on this play?"

A few scattered laughs rose above the clicking and whirring of the film projector as the source of the voice repeatedly advanced and reversed the frames thrown against the screen in front of us.

"I thought..."

"Hell, you thought nothing: that's the problem." More laughs filtered through the projector's low rhythmic noise. The voice would suddenly and somewhat mysteriously emanate from an undefined point behind the bright light of the projector's lens, reminding us of the unseen presence lurking behind us. I shifted down in my seat, thankful for the protective cover of gloom, as I watched myself fire off the ball into the wrong gap. Onscreen, I realized I had gone the wrong

way, stopped, and had been buried by a pulling guard in my moment of uncertainty. The clicking and whirring continued.

It was this sequence which was running back and forth for the amusement of all: CLICK. There I was, getting knocked flat on my face. CLICK. There I was, miraculously flying from flat on my face - with a 270 lb. blob of plastic, flesh and mesh on my back - up to my feet, my momentum seemingly sending the guard scurrying backwards in a perverted moonwalk. CLICK. Here he comes again, about to crush me. CLICK. CLICK. CLICK. CLICK. Coaches could really have a sick sense of humor.

Finally, the film continued. As it turned out, the nose tackle and linebacker did a great job stuffing up the middle, making the running back bounce outside, where he tripped over me and my huge, sweaty, human backpack. I remember that play distinctly, hearing my name over the loudspeaker credited with the tackle as I pulled my facemask from the sod where it was imbedded. People were cheering because we had stopped them on third down. My lips had curled into an ironic smile when I realized the fans probably thought I was some kind of hero, when really we stopped them because two of my teammates had gone

"Dingens!" I cringed in the darkness...

beyond their call of duty and covered for me. Funny how that works. No one knows the truth until film sessions. As they say: "The eye in the sky don't lie..."

"Kiernan!" The shadowy voice brought my thoughts back to the auditorium. "If you were grading this film, would you call this a RAB?"

In the dim, flickering light I glanced to my right, where "Kitty Kat," as we call him, was about to go through the same thing I just had. He was being accused of running-around-the-block, one of the many no-no's which merited the punishment of "down-ups," unpopular exercises doled out at Monday's practice. Kitty squirmed in his seat and looked toward me. I shot him an empathetic smile. He rolled his eyes and returned his gaze to the screen. In the weight room before the film session we had talked about the plays we were dreading to see on this Sunday evening. These were but two of several. CLICK.

"Kiernan, what should be your technique here?" CLICK.

"I'm playing a 'zero technique,' coach." CLICK.

"You mean you are playing zero technique." More laughter from the peanut gallery. I even threw in a chuckle - after all, it's not me. "Write that down. That'll

earn you ten down-ups come tomorrow."

"But coach, I knew it was going to be a down block" Kitty said, with a smile in his voice that said he didn't believe a word that just left his mouth.

"Oh, but then why didn't you make the play, if you are so all-knowing?" The voice enjoyed these playful interchanges. "If you would have made the play, then everything would have been great because you would have looked good, and therefore I would have looked good. They would have said, 'Boy, is that defensive line ever well coached.' And I probably would have even gotten a raise. But you didn't do any of the above, so tomorrow you shall do down-ups."

Kitty gave a little grimace as the film continued to roll, bathing the entire auditorium in pulsating light. As I looked around, the faces of all my peers were briefly and repeatedly illuminated, revealing the slight apprehension etched in their faces as they awaited their turn in the spotlight. The unblinking eye of the camera harshly exposes your every muscle twitch, back and forth, back and forth, magnifying the slightest misstep made in the heat of battle to a glaring, enormous error, mercilessly repeated in the cold light of the projector. The flickering darkness punctuated by the

rhythmic whirring of the projector and fleshed out by the tense anticipation of all created an eerie, melodramatic atmosphere which hung heavily around each person in the cool auditorium. All eyes were transfixed on the screen.

Well, most eyes. Glancing to my left, I saw my brother, Matt, as relaxed as can be: hands clasped on his stomach, legs draped over the seat in front of him, mouth slightly agape, eyes firmly shut. I smiled to myself and decided to let him be; he had a rough night.

"All right, next drive" called out the voice through the darkness. "We are in a 50 tiger cover red. Or at least we should be."

I reached down between my legs and retrieved a can of Diet Coke from the floor, raised it to my lips quickly, and set it down slowly, careful not to make a metallic ping when it hit the cold tile. Having food or drink in meetings is another punishable offense, but in the darkened auditorium, with all eyes (except two) fixed on the screen, it's not hard to bend the rules a little bit...

"Damn it, Dorsey, what do you do on a tiger stunt?" demanded the voice, bristling with annoyance.

"But coach, I could read pass by their stances" Dorsey pro-

"Football takes a cornucopia of personalities and melts them down into a single-minded machine."

tested feebly. Seeing Eric Dorsey do anything feebly must be akin to watching a hippopotamus dance the Nutcracker Suite.

"That's right, and so you have CONTAIN on a pass play, right Eric?" The voice was baiting the poor little guy.

"Well...yes...but I saw a lane and..."

"Eric, please don't invent any more of your own defenses."

Jeff "Miami Vice" Kunz leaned up from his seat behind me and whispered in my ear, "I bet he says 'I've taught you everything I know and you still don't know anything.'"

"Eric, I've taught you everything I know, and you still don't know anything" boomed the voice from the back, laughing appreciatively at his own joke.

I looked back at Jeff and shared a laugh. One thing about playing the same position on a football team, you spend half your waking hours together during the season and get to know each other inside and out, like it or not. And you really get a melting pot; there is quite an assortment of regions, races and reasons represented on the team, not to mention the defensive line. Football is a powerful equalizer: you can gather "spoiled suburban kids" from Palm Beach and

Bloomfield Hills, "city toughs" from Chicago and Cleveland, "oil brats" from Texas, "free spirits" from California, and, of course,

Kitty Kats from Kentucky. You can have kids wander in from all corners of the country, shed their faded Levis, Brooks Brothers slacks, and camouflage pants; kick off their Gucci loafers, cowboy boots and black Converse hi-tops; hang up their Oxford cloth button-downs, Polo shirts and Adidas tee shirts; have them don their shoulder pads, helmets and cleats and emerge as one thing - a team. Football takes a cornucopia of personalities and melts them down to a single minded machine...

"Who's the right tackle in there?" demanded the voice over the noise of the projector.

"Kleine" drawled six foot nine Wally Kleine, faintly.

"Who?"

"Me, coach" Wally said, not much louder.

"Is that you, nine six?"

"Yes, sir"

"Which foot are you stepping with first on this play?"

There was a pause as the pictures in front of us ran back and forth. We all watched Wally do a little dance on the screen as the projector showed Wally step for-

ward from his stance with his right foot then CLICK step backward into his stance then CLICK forward again. It was obvious he was stepping with his right foot, which happens to be the wrong foot if you are a right tackle (got that?). The voice just wanted to hear Wally admit it.

"I don't know, it's kind of hard to tell from this angle." Nice try, Wally.

"Don't give me that garbage, Kleine. We've got to use technique to defeat the man across from us. You stepped with the wrong foot because you were in a lousy stance to begin with."

Apparently this time it didn't matter that Wally still made the play. The voice reserved the tacit right to be fickle. Coaches are paid to be perfectionists. No matter how well you play, they are rarely satisfied because they can always find just as many mistakes committed as good plays made. They realize that the little things really do count, that they add up to be significant. Discipline is the name of the game in a team sport. In the words of Napoleon, "Without discipline, there can be no victory." I think the whole team began to feel the weight of these words these last few years...

"Dingens!"

I cringed in the darkness... •

The Players Behind the Players

by Bob Musselman

Fourth down and two. Notre Dame, down by three, must decide between attempting a 25-yard field goal, which would force a tie, or going for the first down and a possible game-winning touchdown. There is less than a minute left in the crucial game. What will the Fighting Irish do?

The network camera zooms in on Notre Dame head football coach Gerry Faust, pacing pensively on the sideline. He has decided to bring on the kicking team, which significantly reduces the chances for an Irish win. The network announcer wonders, rhetorically, if the coach has made the right decision.

No matter how tight the shot, another person almost always appears on television with Faust. It's not quarterback Steve Beuerlein, star tailback Allen Pinkett or one of Faust's responsibility-laden assistant coaches. Following Faust, making sure his head phone cord stays as free and mobile as the coach himself, is Mark Gess. Gess serves as head football manager. He is one of a group of dedicated students who help make Notre Dame football the institution that it is.

Managers, contrary to popular conception, are part of the

team. Moreover, they win and lose with the Fighting Irish.

"The Student Manager's Organization," says informational literature given to prospective freshmen managers at recruiting nights, "consists of a close knit work force structured by class." Freshmen work during football practices, learning the basic chores which managers must perform every day. Sophomores work football practices, the night before home games (called "game prep"), and during home games. They also help during the basketball season.

By the end of the year, twenty-five or thirty sophomore managers usually remain. After the annual spring scrimmage, the "Blue and Gold Game," the top fifteen are chosen by the senior managers. Those fifteen spend their entire junior year managing football, and at the end of the season are ranked from top to bottom by themselves and the senior football managers. The top three manage football their senior year, while the remaining twelve are distributed to the other sports which require managers: men's and women's basketball, and men's baseball, soccer, lacrosse, swimming, tennis, track, wrestling, hockey and fencing.

As yearly assignments and responsibilities vary, so does compensation. Freshmen receive a "Notre Dame Managers" Wind-

breaker. Sophomores get free books and basketball tickets. Juniors, since they report before school starts with the team, receive a \$700 tuition credit. They continue to get free books and basketball tickets, and travel to one or two road games. Juniors also receive a manager's "uniform" a jacket, shoes, sweats, shorts and shirts to be worn during games.

Senior managers are rewarded with everything they've received before, plus a much-coveted monogram jacket (just like varsity athletes wear). All three travel with the team to every road game. Most substantially, each receives tuition credit based upon his ranking. The organization pays 100 percent of the head football manager's tuition and 75 percent of the two associate football managers' tuition. The two basketball managers, the hockey manager and the women's basketball manager also receive 75 percent, and the seven other senior managers are reimbursed for 65 percent of their tuition costs.

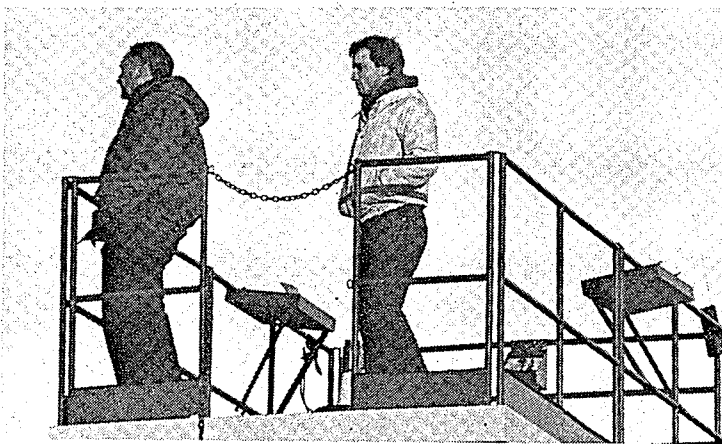
On a dreary November day, the three senior football managers work quietly in the Managers' Office, a closet-like room adjacent to the indoor track. Gess looks over the day's practice schedule. The equipment manager, Bob Landry, takes requests from sophomores work-

ing in the locker room who need everything from pads to screw-in cleats to placate players who have arrived early. Mark Murphy, personnel manager, prepares a roster of players who will dress for the upcoming game.

"We always have to be here, but the physical doing of things is left to the juniors," says Landry. Indeed, most work the three senior managers do is administrative and organizational. Working through the university equipment manager, Landry makes sure the team and the managers are never far from a vital item. Murphy not only keeps track of player personnel, but also schedules freshman, sophomore and junior managers for work times. Gess is ultimately responsible for everything, but unlike his two associates, he has a specific job on practice and game days. Gess is coach Faust's personal assistant, from working by his side at the top of a 40-foot tower during practice to carrying his head phone cord during games.

As Landry said, the real work occurs farther down the totem pole. Juniors are charged with a tremendous amount of responsibility. Each has a specific duty during each practice, responsibilities which rotate so that everyone can do every job. On this day, Jay Sellick and Mike Kennaugh are preparing the locker room. They came in at 1 p.m. and began sorting laundry done after the previous day's practice. As players begin to trickle in for the 4:25 p.m. session, Sellick, Kennaugh and their freshman and sophomore assistants begin distributing equipment and catering to the players' requests. During practice they guard the practice field's lone gate so that only those who are supposed to attend are admitted. Afterward, they clean the locker room and ready the bundles of laundry for the nighttime cleaners.

Bob Musselman



Juniors run the show on the practice field. Each has a specific position: some are assigned to individual coaches, while others have more general duties. Sophomores and freshmen perform minor tasks, such as running errands.

"Where the hell are all the managers?" a player yells as he runs from the field. During practice, managers must be around when needed, but mostly they blend into the training and discipline that characterize a full scale football practice.

Junior Dave Robbins has learned when to be conspicuous and when to take charge. Before practice, he helps move the massive amount of equipment from the Athletic and Convocation Center to the practice field. He rubs down new footballs. But when practice begins he assumes the role of a ball spotter and chaser. During one particular drill, he and three other managers form a chain which keeps activities moving. The quarterback throws a pass, which is caught along the sideline. The receiver tosses the ball to one of the managers stationed along each sideline, who relays the ball to Robbins. Robbins throws the ball to a manager standing just outside the area where the drill is taking place. He makes sure that another manager, who spots the ball for each play, has enough footballs to keep the drill moving. Mechanically,

this procedure and others like it take place for almost two hours. The managers, when things go right, become part of the machine.

Before every game, a ritual takes place at Notre Dame Stadium. It's called "game prep." Landry indirectly supervises the activities, and two juniors actually make sure things are done correctly. But the brunt of the preparation falls upon sophomores, all of whom are required to attend each game prep. For home games, that means being at the stadium from early evening Friday until early morning Saturday. In the historic Notre Dame Stadium locker room and the dark, dank halls of the half-century-old football facility, sophomore managers discover if they have the drive to succeed their supervisors.

In the area where concessionaires peddle their goods on game day, sophomores Mike Gannon and Mike Fleming prepare helmets for their weekly painting. First, they cover each helmet's face mask with cellophane, and tape areas which are not to be painted. Another sophomore gives each helmet five coats of a specially mixed lacquer-paint. Fleming and Gannon remove the cellophane and tape, touch up rough spots and return the helmets to the manager responsible for setting up each locker.

Jay Sullivan, who is in charge of this week's game prep since he is also in charge of the locker room for the next day's game, explains that mixing the paint is tricky since the mixture is dependent upon the amount of moisture in the air. If the helmet painting goes slowly, it could be a long night for all, since everyone must stick around until the locker room is ready.

"When we're finished, after a good night, the helmets look fantastic," says Gannon with obvious pride. "We can say those are our helmets out there shining."

Inside the locker room, sophomore Steve Hartle helps put up "psyche signs," inspirational phrases written on the locker room's walls with athletic tape. "Pride" is written on a blue and gold pillar, and "Look at 110%" adorns a mirror.

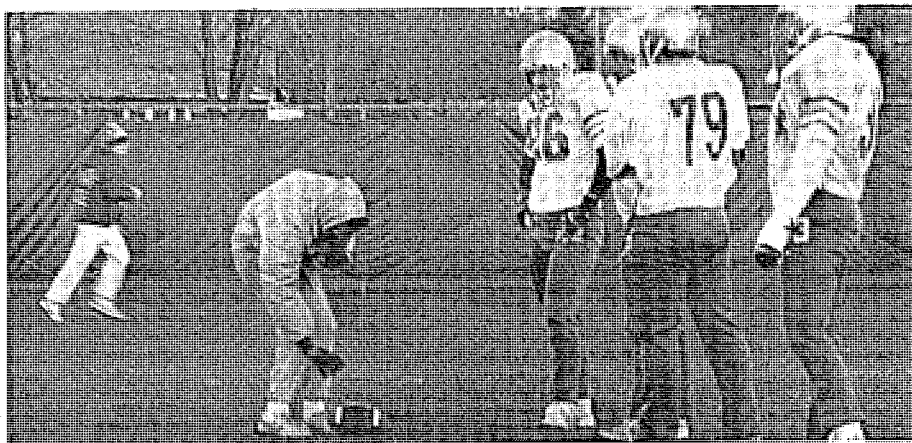
Other managers are assigned several players whose lockers they must set up. Each player prepares a bag of equipment at the ACC locker room, which the managers bring to the stadium. The manager must make sure that his player has all his equipment and that it's in good shape.

Sophomore Mark Thebault has just finished preparing defensive lineman Eric Dorsey's locker and is currently preparing the equipment belonging to lineman Steve Bynum. After "stuffing" Bynum's game pants (putting the pads in), he works on Bynum's big shoes. He tightens all of the cleats and removes dirt accumulated during practice. He shines the shoes' white leather so it looks almost new.

"It's just stuff that has to be done," Thebault says with a shrug as he tightens a cleat. "Actually, it's pretty fun. It's one of the best jobs."

On a good night, which this is, preparations are finished by 2

Bob Musselman



a.m. By nine o'clock, however, everyone is back in the locker room preparing for the real thing.

On game day, all juniors have specific duties and are assigned sophomores to help carry them out. The players arrive around 10 a.m., after which the managers crowd in a back room which exits into the stadium. There, most sit, talk about football and eat sandwiches prepared for after the game. Sullivan, however runs around making sure every player has all his equipment. When he finds a dissatisfied customer, he calls the ACC and has the necessary item brought over.

Robbins will set up the field today, but since it's raining he waits until the grounds crew removes the protective tarp. At 11:30, an hour before kick off, he leads his crew onto the field. They position the yard markers, and transport game balls, towels and others equipment to the Notre Dame sideline. By noon, they've finished, and have time to view the opposing team's cheerleaders as they enter the stadium.

In the locker room, just before the game, Coach Faust delivers his pre-game pep talk. The locker managers crowd at the door of their small back room and listen to the coach's words of encouragement. As the players leave, the managers reclean the

locker room and set up coolers full of diet soda for halftime refreshment. They work quickly, since after they're finished the managers are allowed to stand along the sidelines. The view's not great, but it's fun to be on the field.

Just before halftime, the locker room managers return to their post, awaiting players who will need towels and equipment repairs. Halftime means more waiting, talking about football and eating sandwiches. As the players return to the field, the locker room is put in post-game condition. Each locker gets a sandwich, and to the diet soda is added non-diet varieties. The psyche signs are removed.

Finally, after the game ends and players change into street clothes and begin the victory celebration, the locker room managers attempt their final cleanup of the day. After an hour or so, Sullivan leaves, bestowing upon the sophomores the final responsibility for locking and cleaning up. By 6 p.m., the locker room is empty, and the managers are free to enjoy their own day off--Sunday.

"You get to know the team by being with them every day, traveling with them--you're a part of the team," Gess says. "You want to win because you're part of the team. Every loss is your loss, every win is your win." ●

IRISH

Get Bowled Over

MICHIGAN CONTROLS THE TRENCHES AS ND LOSES ANOTHER OPENER

Banks stacks up Michigan offense

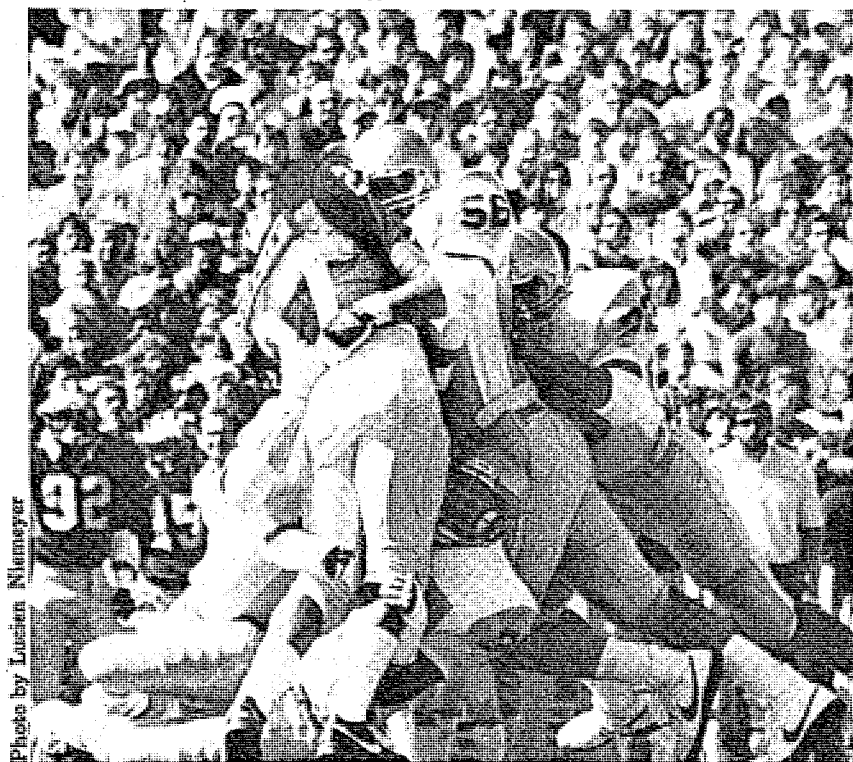


Photo by Lucien Nimmeyer

by Eric Scheuermann

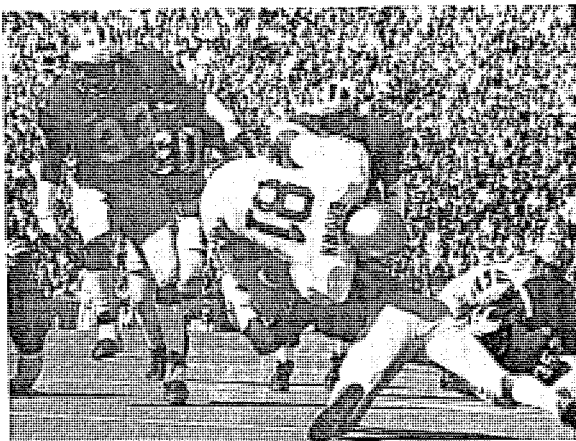
Ann Arbor - The sun seemed to be shining on just about everyone except Head Coach Gerry Faust and his Notre Dame football team, as the Irish opened their season with a disappointing 20-12 loss to the Michigan Wolverines. On a beautiful day in

Ann Arbor, the Wolverines - who were not regarded very highly going into the game - surprised the Irish by outplaying them in nearly every phase of the game. The Irish entered the game ranked No. 13 by the AP poll and No. 11 by the UPI, while Michigan was not ranked by either. But this game certainly showed how little those early-season listings mean.

"All this victory proves is that we're decent, that we're not the dog people think we are," said Michigan Head Coach Bo Schembechler, who still has never lost a home opener in his 16 seasons as head coach of the Wolverines. "But right now I'm not sure how good we really are."

The Irish would probably conclude the Wolverines were very good. Notre Dame started the game out on the right foot by winning the coin toss, and deferred their choice to the second half. The Wolverines could go nowhere on their first possession and punted.

The Irish could do nothing until they received the ball back at midfield for their second series. On the strength of the running game, Notre Dame soon had a first-and-10 at the Michigan 14-yard line. But two runs by senior tailback Allen Pinkett could only pick up five yards, and a crucial illegal procedure penalty pushed the Irish back to the 14-yard line on third down. The Irish ran Pinkett again, and he was tackled for a two-yard loss by defensive tackle Mike Hammerstein, who played an outstanding game. The Irish had to settle for a 34-yard field goal by junior John Carney with 3:05 remaining in the first quarter, something that seemed to set the stage for the rest of the



Tim Brown upended

afternoon.

"If I had the chance to do it over when we were inside the 20," said Faust, "I'd call different plays."

"People think they can run the ball on us, and I don't know why," said Schembechler, whose Wolverines held the Irish ballcarriers to 97 net yards on 2.4 yards per carry for the afternoon. "I was surprised they ran so much."

Although Michigan was not able to score on its next possession, their offensive line began to show signs of the dominance that would become evident as the game progressed. The Wolverines advanced from their own 20-yard line to the Notre Dame 30-yard line, largely on the strength of 41 yards rushing. And although Michigan freshman kicker Mike Gillete was short on the 47-yard field goal, it was very apparent the Wolverines were ready for anything the Irish threw at them.

A balanced running and passing attack brought the Irish down to the Michigan 14-yard line after the missed field goal. But once again Pinkett could get nowhere on three carries, and Carney booted his second three-pointer to put the Irish up by six.

"It's very frustrating to get down there close to a touchdown and not get in," said Notre Dame quarterback Steve Beuerlein. "A

lot of the guys didn't understand the running calls. But the coaches have been around a lot longer than we have, and they have a philosophy they want to stick with. We had no trouble getting down the field and then we thought we could hit the run. Obviously the coaches thought we could pound it in on the ground."

The running game was the main ingredient in a Michigan drive that went 55 yards in ten plays to the Notre Dame four-yard line late in the second quarter. The Irish forced Wolverine quarterback Jim Harbaugh to throw incomplete into the end-zone, and Gillete kicked a 21-yarder to cut the deficit to three.

The Irish came right back at the end of the half, going 50 yards in 51 seconds, and Carney came on to kick his third field goal, a 47-yarder, with 13 seconds left in the half.

As the Irish left the field with the 9-3 lead in hand, it seemed that a victory was well within reach. The offense had moved the ball well, although it hadn't been able to reach the end-zone, and the defense had held Harbaugh and the Wolverines to a mere field goal. "We felt we had them at halftime," said Beuerlein, who finished with 11 completions in 23 attempts for 160 yards and one interception. "We were just

confident we were going to go back out there and win."

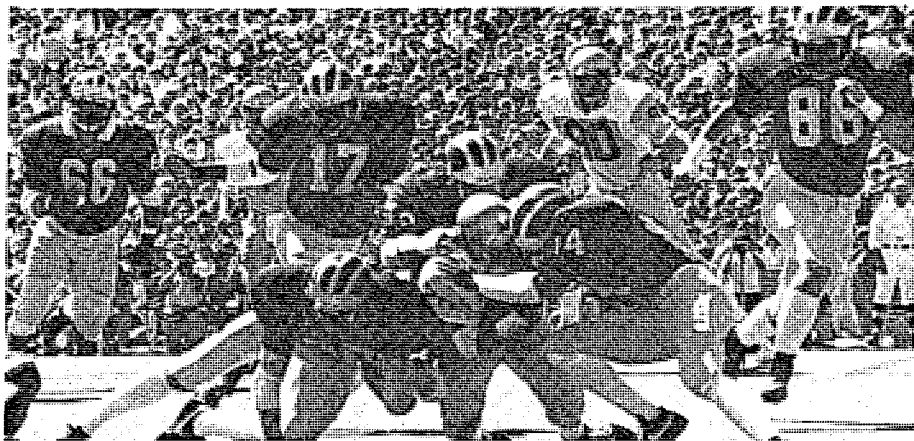
But Schembechler had other things in mind.

"At halftime I knew we could run on their defense, and I knew we could throw on first down," he said. "And they hadn't crossed our goal line, so we were confident that we could win. The only time I got mad at the kids was when they allowed that field goal at the end of the first half." At the half, Michigan had already gained 142 yards on the ground, while Harbaugh had only thrown for 16. This domination by the Michigan line would soon catch up with the Irish.

The Irish lead would not last long, as the second half began in the worst way possible for Notre Dame and junior running back Alonzo Jefferson. Jefferson fumbled the kickoff at the 5-yard line, and Michigan's Dieter Heren recovered at the 14-yard line. Jefferson suffered a season-ending knee injury on the play.

"The fumble was definitely the big play we needed," said Wolverine running back Jamie Morris, who would finish the day with 119 yards on only 23 carries. "There's no doubt that that was the turning point in the game."

Beuerlein echoed these words: "The fumbled kickoff was a big, big factor as far as momentum was concerned," he said.



"It was one time God was looking down on someone besides Notre Dame." - Bo Schembechler

Pinkett found tough going inside the twenty.

And Schembechler believed it was divine intervention. "It was one time when God looked down on someone other than Notre Dame," the Wolverine mentor commented.

Harbaugh, who hurt the Irish all day with his scrambling (60 yards gained on the ground), sliced into the endzone three plays later on a third-and-six play from the Irish 10-yard line, and after the extra point the Wolverines had taken their first lead of the ballgame and were on their way.

"That quarterback draw was called by the coaches up in the booth," said Schembechler. "We knew that the defense was in man-to-man coverage, which means that every man is covered except the quarterback. So we ran the quarterback draw."

"Harbaugh hurt us on a couple of scrambles," said Faust. "We were caught in the man-to-man on that first touchdown, and they called the right play."

The Irish received a break when Dan Sorensen's punt was fumbled by the Wolverines' Erik Campbell and recovered by Irish sophomore Matt Dingens on the Michigan 29-yard line. An Irish first down gave them first-and-10 at the Wolverine 15-yard line. But, yet again, the Irish gave the ball to Pinkett three straight times, and he could not get the

first down. Notre Dame settled for a school record-tying fourth field goal from Carney (a 25-yarder) and a 12-10 lead.

"Some of the play calls were hard to understand," said Beuerlein. "But we should have been able to get in the endzone and win with what we did today.

We've got to come off the ball better." "We just didn't execute inside the 20-yard line today," Faust said.

Michigan came right back on its next possession, winning the battle in the trenches. A Wolverine drive that covered 80 yards and used up 7:02 on the clock led to a one-yard touchdown run by Gerald White that put Michigan in the lead to stay, 17-12.

A crucial penalty helped the Wolverines continue their drive when it appeared they would have to settle for an attempt at a field goal. On a third-and-seven play from the Irish 26-yard line, Harbaugh threw to a wide-open Eric Kattus at the 15-yard line, but he dropped the ball, seemingly giving the Irish a break. But a roughing-the-passer call on defensive tackle Wally Kleine gave the Wolverines a first down at the 13-yard line, and three plays later White gave Michigan the game-winning touchdown.

Replays seemed to show that Kleine was in the air as Harbaugh

released the ball, and could not have avoided a collision with the Michigan quarterback. "That call really surprised me," said Kleine. "If it was a penalty, then it was a stupid mistake."

The Michigan offensive line continued to push around the Irish. "I thought Michigan controlled the line of scrimmage on both ends of the ball," said Faust. "We aren't going to win many football games when they do that. The game was won on the lines and in our failure to execute there. They had a better rush and opened up better holes," he continued. "If we can't open holes our game won't go. When you make five or six yards on first down you're going to win the football game. I'm tired if this happening. We've got to get off the ball better."

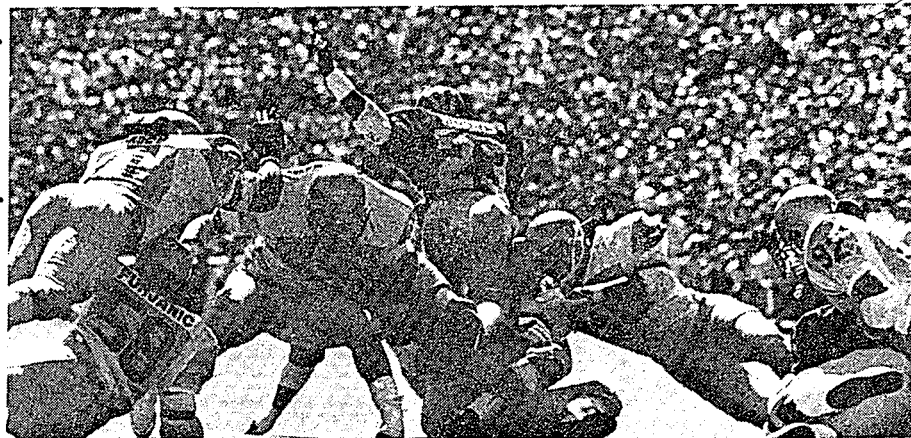
Senior offensive guard Tim Scannell thought he and his teammates might not have been quite ready for the excellence shown by the Wolverine defensive line. "I think they were a lot quicker than we anticipated," said Scannell. "They just outran us and moved to where they wanted." It was the Wolverines offense that continually gained at least five or six yards per carry in the second half, while the defense held the Irish scoreless after Carney's field goal.

"We didn't do anything dif-

"...I'm tired of saying 'Wait until next week'..." - Steve Beuerlein

The day ended on a high note for Jamie Morris and the rest of the Wolverines.

Photo by Lucien Niemeyer



ferent defensively in the second half," said Schembechler. "Notre Dame didn't really surprise us with what they did offensively. We knew that they had run the single-setback formation before. They ran a lot of things that they had used before. We gave them problems with offensive alignments, so our guys were tough to handle. We don't really have great size on the line, but we do have good quickness. I didn't think we'd be able to run as well as we did."

Beuerlein was disappointed with the Irish offensive effort as a whole. "They made a few adjustments at halftime," the Irish quarterback said. "They took away a few things that had worked for us in the first half. We should have reacted to that, and we really didn't." Pinkett felt the Irish had hurt themselves again with penalties and other mistakes at important spots in the contest. "There were some crucial mistakes made at critical points in the game," he said. "We can't keep on letting that happen."

Schembechler felt the ability of the Wolverines to control the ball led to the strong defensive effort, and eventually to victory. "Our confidence was definitely up in the second half," said Schembechler. "A year ago we couldn't pick up the first downs to help out our defense. But today we had two good drives

and we were able to keep our defense off the field. I thought the defense played well, and I hope the offense continues to be productive."

The Wolverines picked up their final three points on a 23-yard field goal by Gillete, after a 74-yard drive that was helped along by a controversial 15-yard pass interference call on Irish defensive back Marv Spence.

The Wolverines gave the Irish a chance to come back when, with 3:43 left to go in the game, Morris fumbled the ball away at the Notre Dame 27-yard line and Troy Wilson recovered for the visitors. But after a drive of 51 yards, Irish hopes were dashed when Beuerlein's fourth-down pass was intercepted by Doug Mallory at the Michigan 11-yard line with only 1:02 remaining.

Harbaugh needed only to kneel down behind center three times before the gun sounded, sending the Irish back home losers in their opener for the second year in a row.

"Unfortunately, we made two mistakes (Campbell's fumble on the punt and Morris' fumble) in the second half, and so we never got control of the game," said Schembechler. "But I was pleased that our team showed resolve. We had the two horrendous turnovers that we could

have let break our back, but we didn't - we persevered. I hope it's a sign of things to come for our team. We hung in there, played hard, and won the game."

Meanwhile, on the opposite end, the Irish could only hope to turn their season around after the disappointing loss. "Nobody played well," said Faust. "I'm not taking anything away from Michigan, but we've got to come back next week a much improved team."

The Irish players also hoped the team could find strength to improve on its performance and come back with a better effort in the next contest. "We just have to do a character reevaluation, come out and play harder and cut down on mistakes," offered Pinkett, who finished with 89 yards on 22 carries. "We've got to be a lot tougher mentally."

"We could have gone in with a little better attitude," said Irish outside linebacker Mike Larkin. "All our backs are against the wall now. If anyone has to show what they're made of, we do now. I thought we were very apathetic."

"Now we've just got to get together and come back ready to play," said Beuerlein. "But I'm tired of saying 'Wait until next week.' We've got to go out there and show people what we can do." •

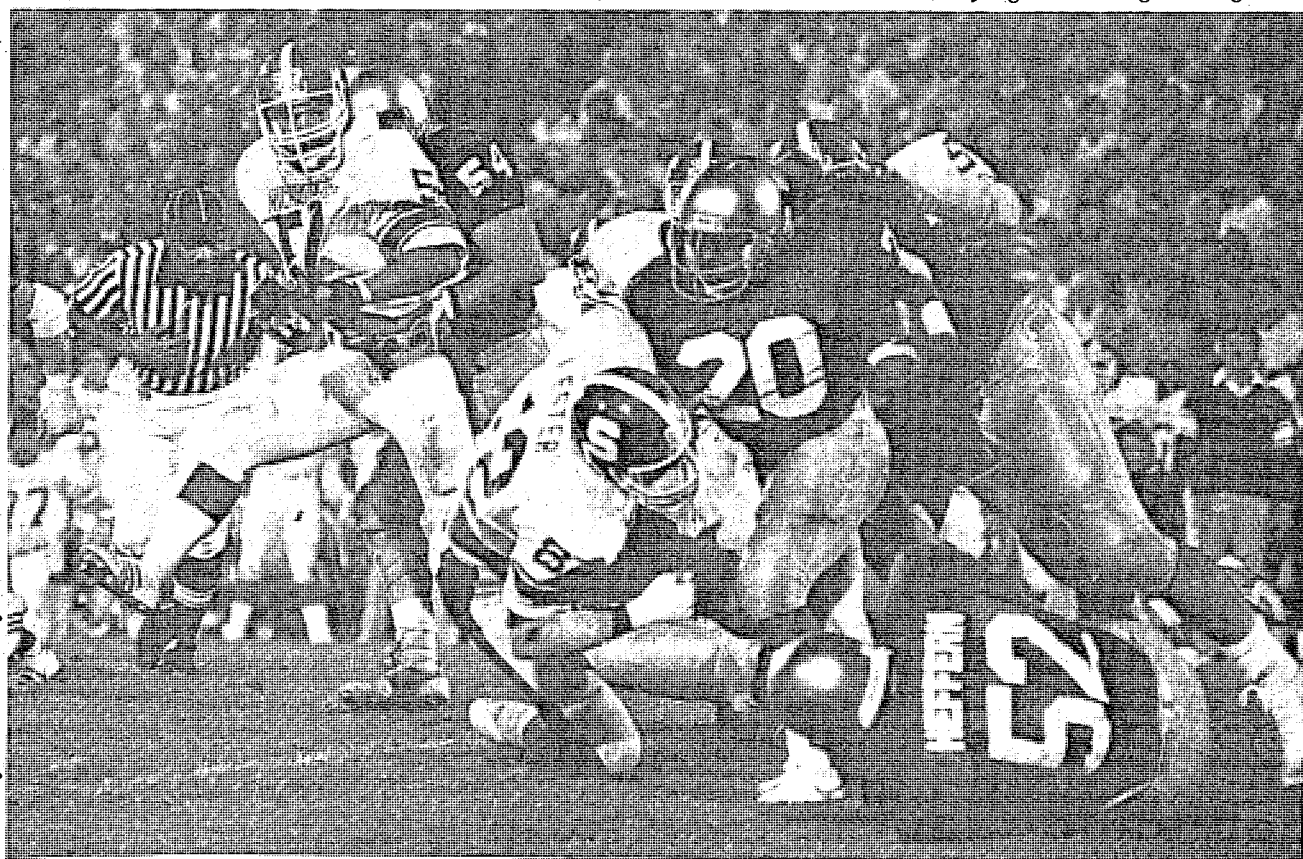
Photo by Lucien Niemeyer



Lorenzo White rolled for 123 yards.

Pinkett was no slouch either, keying the Irish ground game.

Photo by Lucien Niemeyer



HOME COOKING

DOES THE TRICK

IRISH STIFLE SPARTANS AT NOTRE DAME STADIUM

by Chuck Freeby

Notre Dame Stadium.

Those three words are magic in college football. They speak of autumn Saturdays, with leaves and visiting teams falling frequently. They speak of a brickyard of tradition, where Lujack and Lattner, Hart and Hornung, ran over and by opponents. It's a place where Leahy and Parseghian have methodically patrolled the sidelines along with the ghost of Rockne.

Before you get all sentimental, though, you should remember Notre Dame Stadium is also a place where the Irish have lost eight of their last 12 games, including a dismal 2-3 record in 1985. Instead of leaves and visiting teams falling, it always seemed that rain and Irish ball carriers came down every Saturday.

"We know as seniors we haven't guarded (the stadium reputation) as well as we should

have," commented Allen Pinkett before the season. "We want to leave something for the other guys. For me, it's a private issue playing in Notre Dame Stadium. We know how a lot of teams have played here in the past."

On this Saturday night, the Irish showed some resemblance to the great teams of old, posting a solid 27-10 victory over Michigan State. Notre Dame used the big play on offense and a solid defense to even its 1985 record at 1-1. What really made the difference in this game, however, was neither offense nor defense, but two intangibles. Notre Dame showed two factors it hasn't had an abundance of in recent years -- emotion and creativity.

"Notre Dame was an inspired football team," noted Spartan safety Todd Krumm. "They came out of the tunnel and wanted it. You can always expect that from Notre Dame." Obviously, Krumm had not seen the Michigan game the week before when the Irish came out with all the emotion of a wet sock. Pat Ballage was there, however, and he knew there was a different feeling about this Notre Dame team.

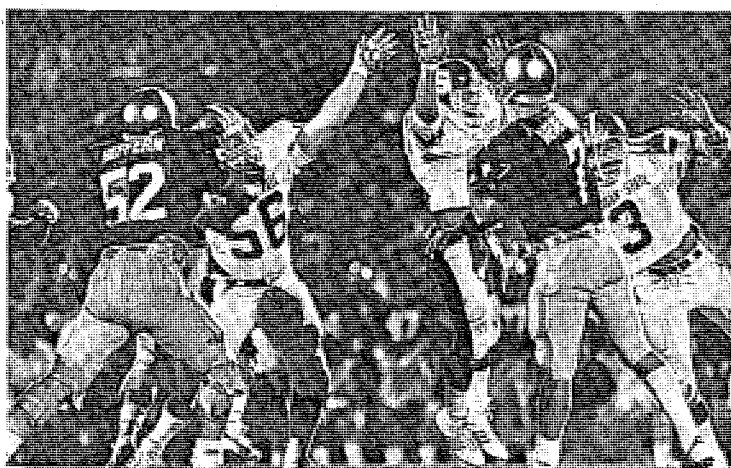
"We played this game differently than Michigan," commented the senior Irish safety. "I think what made us win this game was that our hearts were fully in

it. Everyone was psyched going into the game and we went out and did the job."

It didn't look that way immediately, though, as the Spartans marched downfield on their opening drive, behind the play of freshman quarterback Bobby McAllister and senior tailback Lorenzo White. White capped the drive with a four-yard run and Michigan State took an early 7-0 lead. While Gerry Faust was concerned at that point, he didn't hit the panic button. "We kept to our game plan -- it was just a matter of settling down after the first touchdown."

The Irish defense may have settled down, but the Irish offense kicked into gear. Pinkett rambled for 35 yards to the MSU 34. Then Steve Beuerlein set the Irish passing game in motion, connecting with Tim Brown for a first down at the Spartan 19. A week earlier the Irish had not passed once inside the twenty yard line. This was another game, however, and Beuerlein found a lonely Tony Eason in the end zone to tie the game at 7-7.

From that point, the Irish defense went to work making White earn every one of his 123 yards, and making life miserable for McAllister. Mike Haywood, a senior member of the secondary who sat the bench for much of the Michigan game with an



Beuerlein connected on the long bomb to Brown.

Photo by Steven Navratil, SB Trib.

The Irish threw deep. (Gasp) And it worked. (Scream)

injury, returned to the lineup as a nickel back. He was worth a lot more than that to the Irish defense, though, as his blitzes befuddled, beleaguered and buried McAllister.

"He (McAllister) hurt us a couple of times on the outside in the first drive. We tried to negate him by going to what we call our sub-defense and using Haywood as an extra backer to use his speed." It certainly worked, as the Spartan signal-caller fired 11 consecutive incompletions on his way to four-for-17 throwing night.

Meanwhile, the Irish offense had resumed its sputtering ways, finding the same old ways to kill drives in the first half. First, Beuerlein overthrew a wide-open Frank Stams on a daring fourth-and-one play at the MSU 27. Then, late in the first half with first-and-goal at the Spartan 8, Beuerlein rolled left and hit Paul Bobbitt somewhere between the "3" and the "9" on his uniform at the two-yard line. The only problem was Beuerlein was wearing blue and Bobbitt was clad in white, thus killing the Irish drive.

Tied 7-7 at halftime, the Irish offense had not been able to capitalize on some golden opportunities. Tim Brown took care of that problem on the opening kickoff of the second half. Brown took the kickoff at his own seven and

started up the middle of the field. Suddenly, he cut left and from that point the only reason the Spartan defenders had to give chase was to make it look good, as Brown ran for 93 yards and the touchdown to give Notre Dame the lead. "There was just a big hole," noted Brown. "I didn't have to do anything but run. The blocking did a great job because nobody touched me."

While the return certainly took some wind out of the Spartan sails, Michigan State was not ready to pull into the docks yet. The Spartans received a big break, when Shane Bullough recovered a Pinkett fumble at the Irish 35. The Irish defense would not relent, however, and Chris Caudell was forced to kick a 21-yard field goal to cut the margin to 14-10.

Now the Irish offense was ready to show some creativity. Oh sure, Faust had thrown six times on first down in the first half. Yes, he had even installed the entire second unit in the second quarter. But, now, he was ready to try something completely different.

Are you sitting down?

The Irish threw deep. (Gasp) And it worked. (Scream)

"We felt we could go deep against them," commented Brown.

"Their corner speed was not the best and we thought we could take advantage of that." The sophomore receiver proved that theory correct, hauling in a Beuerlein bomb, before going out of bounds at the two. From there, everybody knew Pinkett would run next, but nobody could stop him as he knocked over two defenders to reach paydirt and put the Irish on top, 21-10.

The Spartans valiantly tried to come back. Safety Phil Parker picked off another Beuerlein aerial, returning it to the ND 31. Three plays later, though, Brandy Wells blocked a Caudell field goal attempt, and the Irish set up shop at the Spartan 45.

The nails were slowly pounded into the coffin from that point. Pinkett and running mate Frank Stams grinded their way to the goal line, with Stams taking the honors on a five-yard juggernaut up the middle to make the final tally.

So, outlined against a Musco-lit sky, the Irish had rode again. It was no longer Lattner and Lujack scampering to paydirt, but Brown and Pinkett. The names did not matter, though. Only the magic.

For one, brief shining moment, the magic had returned to Notre Dame Stadium. Unfortunately, it would not be found elsewhere. ●

Boilers Thrash Irish

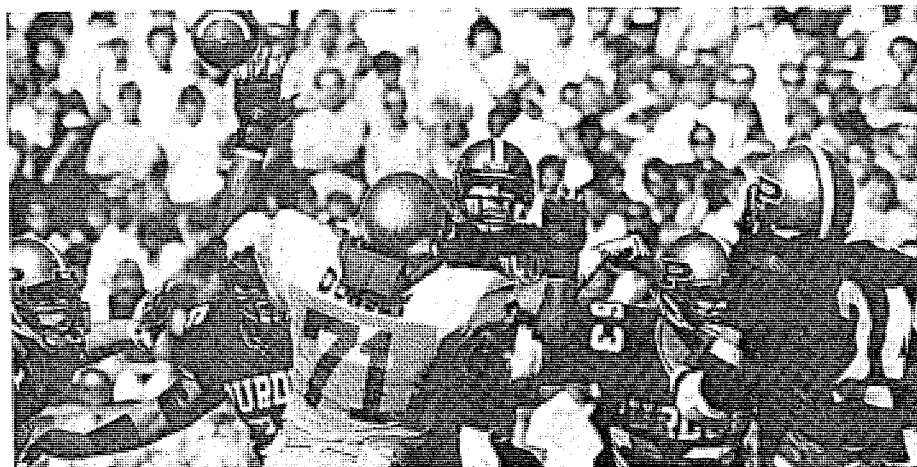


Photo by Steven Navratil, SB Trib

Everett turned this day into an Irish wake.

by Larry Burke

The most striking similarity between this year's Notre Dame-Purdue matchup and last year's was the outcome--the Boilermakers came out on top for the second year in a row.

But this time there were no surprises, no last-minute starter at quarterback, and most of all, no excuses. There was just Jim Everett's arm combined with a Purdue defense that was made to look a lot better than it really was.

What it all added up to was a 35-17 loss for Notre Dame and the first real indication that the Irish were in a lot of trouble.

No, this wasn't 1984 and it wasn't the Hoosier Dome, although there were some similar-

ities, most of which centered around the quality, or lack thereof, of Notre Dame's play. There also were some differences - this time the Irish knew what was coming and they knew who Jim Everett was, but the results indicated that there was little they could do about stopping him, or about moving the ball with any consistency, for that matter.

"I've got to give Everett a lot of credit," said Irish coach Gerry Faust. "We tried everything against him--blitzing, adjusting our defensive fronts, but he just picked us apart. There's no doubt he's an excellent quarterback, one of the better quarterbacks we've faced in all my years at Notre Dame.

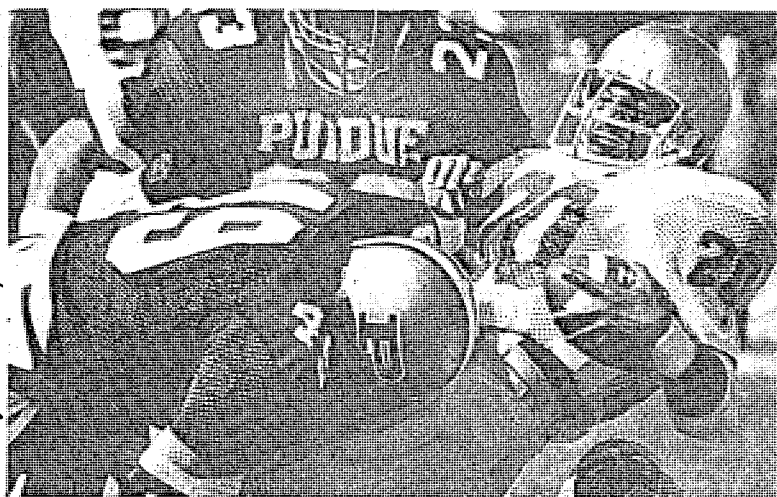
"The shotgun formation gives him a lot of time to get well-set back there in the pocket. Their offensive line did a good job of

picking up our blitzes and stunts, so they kept Everett in good shape. Even when we flushed him out of the pocket, he was able to run for yardage."

Everett deserved a lot of credit for dissecting the Notre Dame defense for 27 completions in 49 attempts that added up to 368 yards and three touchdowns. But the fact was that things could, and perhaps, should have been a lot worse. Several times Everett overthrew wide open receivers, and in the first quarter a wide-open Mark Jackson dropped a sure touchdown pass on a third and one play when the Notre Dame defense was fooled by a play-action fake.

It was Notre Dame's offense, however, that was the biggest problem-- in terms of on-the-field performance as well as play selection. The Boilermakers were keying on Allen Pinkett, and they shut him down to the tune of 45 yards on 21 carries--his lowest rushing total since the 1982 season finale when he was held to 43 yards. As is so often the case with the Notre Dame offense, as Pinkett goes, so go the Irish.

Notre Dame's problems on the ground (56 net rushing yards in 41 attempts) were matched by its problems in the air. Quarterback Steve Beuerlein was off the mark all day, finishing with just seven completions in 25 attempts



The Irish offense was shut down.

for 88 yards. Twice Beuerlein was replaced by sophomore backup Terry Andrysiak, but it was painfully obvious that the offense needed a lot more spark than either was able to provide.

"I just wasn't doing the job," Beuerlein said of his fourth-quarter benching. "It was the worst game I've ever played in my life--one game I'm really ashamed of. I was missing open receivers, and once I missed the first few I started pressing a little. That's something a third-year quarterback can't afford to do."

Purdue free safety Ron Woodson, who picked off an Andrysiak pass late in the game and took it back for a touchdown to put the final nail in Notre Dame's coffin, was outspoken in his opinion of Beuerlein.

"As I came onto the field (before the game), I saw that Beuerlein didn't have any zip on his passes," said Woodson. "I suppose that was because of his shoulder injury."

"I think as soon as he (Beuerlein) gets the ball and looks at his intended receiver, he never takes his eye off him."

But Beuerlein's problems were not the sole reason for Notre Dame's offensive woes. As was the case two weeks before when the Irish lost to Michigan, Notre Dame's play selection was

questionable. On their first 13 first down plays the Irish called 11 running plays, with Pinkett getting the call on seven of the first nine.

"Steve wasn't throwing the ball as accurately as he has been," noted Faust. "And we felt we could run on them on first down."

That belief proved false, and Notre Dame backed itself into a corner by not passing until it had to. The Irish trailed 21-3 heading into the fourth quarter before they scored their first touchdown on a three-yard run by Pinkett. Beuerlein hit Pat Cusack with a pass for a two-point conversion that made the score 21-11, with close to nine minutes left.

When Purdue gave them the ball right back after three plays and a ten yard punt, the Irish had a chance to make things interesting. They had a first down at their own 49 yard line, and the clock showed 6:42 remaining.

"I felt we were still in the ball game at that point," said Faust. "We were within striking distance with more than six minutes left, but we didn't move the ball--their defense held."

That was something that Purdue's defense had been doing all day long. Two incompletions and a sack later, the Irish were forced to punt. It marked the

sixth consecutive possession where Notre Dame had failed to pick up a first down.

In contrast, the Boilermakers had little problem moving the ball. They outgained the Irish in total yardage 482 to 217, and scored on four drives of 78 yards or more.

Late in the second quarter, one of those drives was kept alive by a critical penalty for "illegal participation." What that meant was too many men on the field, and the results were disastrous for Notre Dame. Instead of facing a fourth and eight on the Irish 41, Purdue wound up with a first down at the 26. Four plays later Everett hit Ray Wallace for a 15-yard touchdown pass and a 14-0 lead.

"That was a case of disorganization," said Irish cornerback Mike Haywood. "It's one of those things where a guy (the sixth defensive back) is coming out on the field not calling out the new coverage. It's a situation where there's a lack of communication, and when people aren't concentrating there's going to be mental mistakes that will cost us."

As it turned out, the Purdue game was a harbinger of bad things to come for Notre Dame. It was the first time that mistakes and a lack of execution really came back to haunt the Irish. It wouldn't be the last. ●

Rocky Mountain LOW

"Notre Dame is a great football team. They just seem to be a little bit snake-bitten."
-- Fischer DeBerry

FALCONS

BEAT

IRISH

AGAIN

by Pete Pranica

While it was not reflected in the official weather report for October 5, 1985, a large somber cloud was seen hanging above the Notre Dame sideline as the Irish lost their third game in four tries, this one a 21-15 gut-wrencher to Air Force.

"You can't lose one any tougher than that," muttered Irish coach Gerry Faust, who had just lost his fourth straight to the Falcons. What the fifth year mentor was referring to was the pivotal play of the game. That Terry Maki's block of a John Carney field goal and A.J. Scott's resultant 77-yard return for a touchdown was the pivotal play cannot be denied. Unfortunately, the game did not have to hinge on that one play as the Falcons did everything but hand the Irish the game on a platter.

"Breakdowns are becoming too much of a habit for us. When we had the chances to score, we didn't do it," explained junior quarterback Steve Beuerlein. "We had a couple of opportunities inside the 10-yard line and we didn't put the ball in the end-zone." Credit Beuerlein with understatement; what else could you say?

Breakdown number one occurred early on as Falcon quarterback Bart Weiss mishandled the exchange on the first snap from scrimmage and linebacker Robert Banks pounced on the loose ball at the Falcon 17. Notre Dame's first play, an off-tackle run by Allen Pinkett, gained 11, but then the drive soured because of mistakes. Tight end Joel Williams jumped offside on the next play. After rolling right for three yards, Beuerlein tossed an incomplection and then on third down, stumbled coming from under center, forcing the Irish to settle for three after having a first and goal on the Falcon seven. John Carney chipped an 18-yard field goal through the uprights and the Irish led 3-0 with 2:15 elapsed.

The Irish got another Air Force gift when Weiss fumbled on the third play on the ensuing drive and the Irish were back in business on their own 38. However, after a Beuerlein completion good for 14 yards, the Irish

offense stalled again and Dan Sorensen came on to punt. "Our defense will bend, but they don't give up much yardage," commented Fischer DeBerry, second year Falcon coach.

Both teams continued their exhibition of stalwart defense until Weiss decided to air it out a little. Passes for thirteen and fourteen yards kept the Irish defense honest which opened the door for the Falcon's powerful ground game. After bending a little themselves, the Irish defense stiffened sufficiently to deny the Falcons on a fourth and six on the Irish 35 as Weiss' aerial for Ken Carpenter was batted away by cornerback Troy Wilson and safety Steve Lawrence.

After taking over on downs, the Irish offense began to move on the arm of Beuerlein, who completed 20 of 36 attempts on a perfect day for passing. But once at the Falcon 28, three rushes netted a loss of two yards and the Irish were forced to settle for three once more after driving 66 yards in twelve plays. Carney's 33 yard field goal was good, but the offense was not satisfied. All the Falcons needed was one good touchdown drive and the hard-won Irish lead would be gone. "Air Force is the kind of team that waits for an opportunity and then takes advantage of it," observed Beuerlein, obviously

"Breakdowns are becoming too much of a habit for us. When we had the chance to score, we didn't do it." --Steve Beuerlein

unhappy with the inability of the offense to hit paydirt.

Air Force took the ensuing kickoff and drove 80 yards in just six plays. The capper came on a first and five from the Irish 24. Notre Dame had been flagged twice in succession (facemask and offside) which aided the Falcon march. Weiss took the snap and faked a handoff, continuing to roll left. He finally spotted Kelly Pittman standing unguarded in the right corner of the end zone. Weiss turned and fired all the way across the field. The Falcon running back bobbled and nearly dropped the ball in his amazement while Wilson and linebacker Ron Weissenhofer stared in bewilderment. Tom Ruby's extra point kick gave the Falcons their first lead of the day with 11:47 to play in the second quarter.

On the following drive, Notre Dame went to the air five times, completing three. The sixth time, however, safety Dwan Wilson picked off the pass at his own four and scooted out to the 22. Again the Irish were guilty of an infraction on the play and the personal foul penalty moved the ball up to the Air Force 37. Keeping the ball on the ground with the exception of two passes, Weiss moved his troops down to the Irish nine. Again the Irish defense rose to the occasion and Ruby extended the Air Force lead to 10-6 with a 20-yard field

goal with the clock showing 4:47 to play in the second quarter.

Mainly on the strength of Allen Pinkett's running, the Irish moved 58 yards in ten plays, but had to settle for a third Carney field goal, this one from 40 yards out and the Falcon lead was sliced to one with just over two minutes remaining in the half. Not to be outdone, Weiss led an Air Force drive which stalled at the Irish 27. This time, though, Ruby misfired and gave the Irish a chance to grab the lead before heading to the locker room.

Operating with no time-outs, Beuerlein completed three consecutive passes. With the ball on the Air Force 41 and the clock running under fifteen seconds, the Irish coaches decided against running one more play to throw the ball out of bounds and stop the clock. As a result, Carney was rushed into attempting a 59-yard field goal which hooked left.

Faust explained the curious decision this way: "If we had completed a pass and didn't get it out of bounds, we would not have had time to get the field goal team on the field." In the locker room afterwards, Carney admitted feeling rushed while Beuerlein wasn't quite sure why he wasn't allowed to throw the ball out of bounds to stop the clock and give Carney ample time to line up. The gaffe cost the Irish a legitimate shot at

the lead before the half. While questionable coaching hurt the Irish cause, on-field miscues hurt it just as much, if not more so.

After receiving the second half kickoff, the Irish were flagged twice for holding, once on the kick return and again to nullify an 18-yard completion into Falcon territory. Sorensen was called upon to punt for the third time and again the Falcons played the part of the gracious host by fumbling the ball away on their first offensive play of the second half. This time the Irish put the ball in the end zone, although it took 13 plays to drive 42 yards. Pinkett did the honors from the two and the Irish took a 15-10 lead. On the two-point conversion attempt, Beuerlein hit tight end Williams right in the hands, but the junior let the ball dribble to the ground without a Falcon defender in sight.

Never one to leave a good turn unrecognized, the Irish promptly fumbled away an Air Force punt. On this drive, though, the Falcons were in the self-destruct mode as they were found guilty of a pair of crucial infractions inside the Irish 10-yard line. On first and goal from the eight, the Falcons merited an illegal procedure call and on the next play, Irish linebacker Robert Banks had Weiss running for his life back at the 29 when he somehow

**"You can't ask kids to play
any better than ours did
today." -- Gerry Faust**

unloaded a touchdown strike to Pittman. Fortunately for the Irish, an Air Force lineman was spotted illegally downfield and the six points were taken off the board. Following an incompletion, the Falcons settled for Ruby's second field goal, this one from 35 yards out, and the Irish lead was trimmed to 15-13 late in the third quarter.

Defenses dominated through the rest of the third stanza and early into the fourth. Following a Mark Simon punt which gave the Irish the ball on their own 41, they called on Pinkett. The senior from Sterling, Virginia, who would finish the day with 142 yards on 31 carries, toted the ball nine times on the ten-play drive. But, as in the past, the Irish could not punch it in from point-blank range.

On first and goal from the three, Pinkett tripped over fullback Pernell Taylor for no gain. On the next play, the pitch went to Pinkett, but Dick Clark tracked him down and dropped him for a six yard loss. On third and goal, Beuerlein found no one open and was pressured into intentionally grounding the ball. Again, the Irish were looking to settle for three and extend their lead.

Carney set the tee on the 27-yard line. The snap and hold were perfect, but the blocking was not. Instead of driving

straight ahead, the tight end scaled towards the center of the line which allowed linebacker Terry Maki a clean path to the ball. The Falcon's claws batted the ball high into the air and sideways. A.J. Scott measured the fluttering football like an outfielder and raced 77 yards in front of a disbelieving Notre Dame bench. Weiss added the two-point conversion and the Falcons led 21-15 with a shade over five minutes to go.

Air Force was forced to kick off from its 25 thanks to the lengthy celebration following the touchdown. Hiawatha Francisco bobbled the line-drive kick, but Tom Monahan fell on it at the Irish 23. On the first play, the entire line missed the snap count. That transgression marked the tenth time the Irish had been penalized for a total of 75 yards. Still, they entertained hopes of sending the record crowd of 52,153 home unhappy as Beuerlein hit Ward for 16 yards on a down and out and Pinkett tore off a 20 yard chunk for the Falcon 45. Facing third and five, the Irish staff called for a swing pass to Frank Stams, the fullback, but Maki again made the play to stuff Stams for no gain. Unsure of the playcall on fourth and five, Beuerlein signaled for time. All those plans went out the window when Joel Williams lined up off-side. Fourth and five became

fourth and ten and the Irish punted the ball away with 2:45 showing on the Falcon Stadium clock. From that point the boys in blue ran the ball and the clock to ice their fourth consecutive win over the Irish, becoming the only service academy team to turn the trick.

"Notre Dame is a great football team," praised DeBerry. "They just seem to be a little snake-bitten." After the battle, Faust could only echo the words Irish fans had heard so often: "We had too many bad breaks."

Faust went on to tell reporters that "You can't ask players to play any better than our kids did today." The statistics and facts begged to differ. A total of 13 penalties were whistled against the Irish for 97 yards, many of those coming in crucial situations. Failure to execute in scoring territory was never more painfully evident. "It went well until we got down to the goal line where we had a couple mix-ups," explained a gracious Pinkett. "The game came down to three plays."

Those three plays went against the Irish and three losses went up on the board after a month of football. The only bright spot was a week off before a long homestand and the Army team waiting in the wings looked to be no pushover. Call it time for a gutcheck. ●

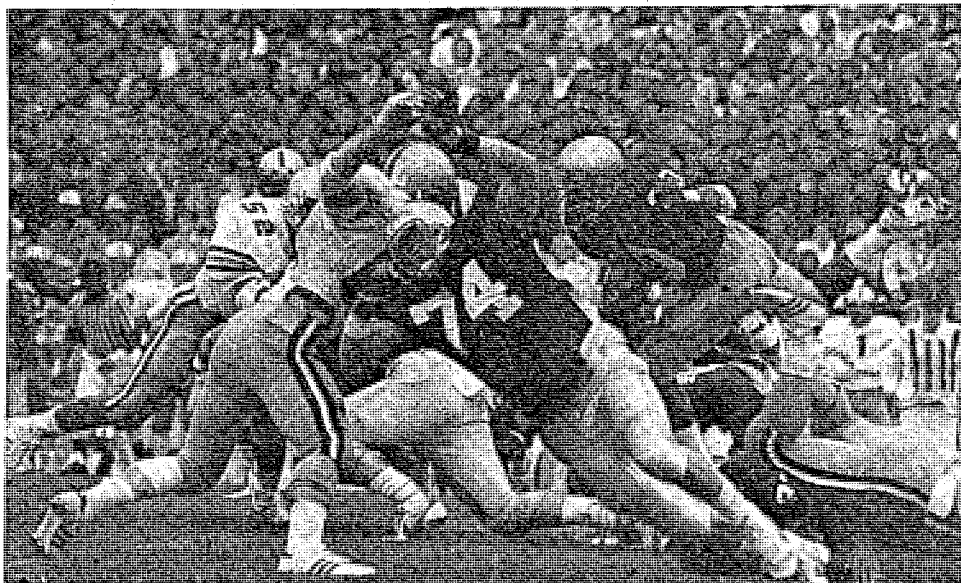


Photo by Lucien Niemeyer

Underwood clears the way.



The scoreboard says it all.

Photo by Lucien Niemeyer

Photo by Lucien Niemeyer



The Irish cracked the wishbone.

Irish Bomb Cadets

BALANCED OFFENSE AND DEFENSE SPELL ND VICTORY

by Phil Wolf

The 1-3 Irish football team definitely had something to prove on October 19 when it took the field in Notre Dame Stadium to challenge Army's undefeated team. After losing 21-15 to Air Force's powerful wishbone offense a week earlier, the Irish found themselves looking at another wishbone team in Army, 5-0 and ranked 19th. To salvage what was left of the season, the recovery had to begin on that Saturday afternoon.

When Saturday evening came, it was the Army players who had to recover from a 24-10 defeat. They had come up against an Irish squad that was tired of losing.

"We've been subjected to a lot of adversity this last week,"

Allen Pinkett explained after the game. "We saw this game coming up as a chance to fight back against that adversity. We have a lot of pride. With an undefeated team coming into our stadium, it was our job to defend our stadium, because we feel it's a very special place."

The Irish defended their pride and their stadium by playing almost errorless football for the first time in the 1985 season, while they also capitalized on Army's mistakes.

The first mistake for the Cadets may have been the most costly. On the second play of the game, quarterback Tory Crawford pitched the ball over the head of halfback William Lampley, and Notre Dame's Steve Lawrence recovered it on the 16-yard line. Then the Irish offense, which had had trouble executing well inside the thirty in four previous games, came up with a touchdown. Pernell Taylor's one-yard run and John Carney's point after gave the Irish more than just seven points. Notre Dame had momentum, which the Cadets never quite overcame for the rest of the afternoon.

"They certainly had momentum after we fumbled early," Army coach Jim Young said. "That play took a lot out of us and fired them up."

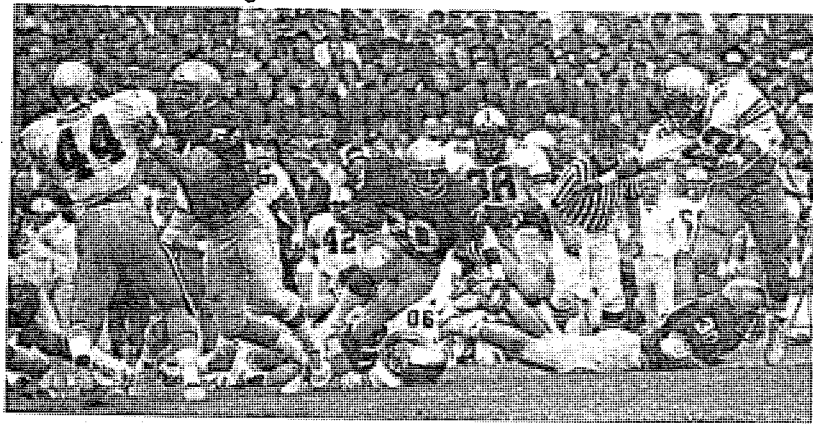
Pinkett agreed. "It gave us lots of confidence," he said. "Our offense has lots of talent, and when you don't get touchdowns it is extremely frustrating. Once we got the touchdown, it broke the frustration. We weren't so worried, and we just went out and played."

After Army's next drive ended in a punt, the Irish marched 86 yards down the field for another score. The offense stalled briefly inside the twenty, but Steve Beuerlein finally found flanker Tim Brown in the end-zone for a 19-yard strike. Beuerlein ended the day with 12 completions in 20 attempts for 186 yards.

The Irish defense continued to hold Army's wishbone in check, and it wasn't until halfway through the second period that the Cadets got on the scoreboard. The Notre Dame defense held Army to just 207 rushing yards, well below the Cadet's 393.6 average. Army tallied only 393 total yards (they were averaging 456.4) and scored only 10 points (they were averaging 42.6 every game).

That is not to say that the Cadets were no threat to the Irish. On its first possession of the second quarter, Army marched from its own 11-yard line to first and goal on the eight. The defense held for three plays. On

Pinkett breaks through.



the fourth, Lampley took the pitch from Crawford and threw to Rob Dickerson in the endzone. Dickerson was called out-of-bounds, and television replays were not clear as to whether he was in or not.

On the Cadet's next possession, however, there was no question that Lampley scored when he took a pitch from Crawford as Cedric Figaro pulled the quarterback down.

There was no more scoring in the first half, but the crowd roared as Pinkett set the Notre Dame all-time rushing record with a 17-yard gain. Pinkett ran 133 yards total in the game to bring his four-year total to 3,556 yards. He passed Vagas Ferguson's 3,472 for the record.

"The full effect hasn't hit me yet," Pinkett admitted after the game. "I think about records after the season. The thing I'm thinking about now is just winning. Going for records and the Heisman may be in the back of my mind, but every time I step on the field, all I want is for Notre Dame to win."

Notre Dame's chances of winning were threatened slightly on Army's first possession of the second half. Crawford pitched to Lampley, who ran into the endzone from the four. But Crawford was ruled down on the play, as

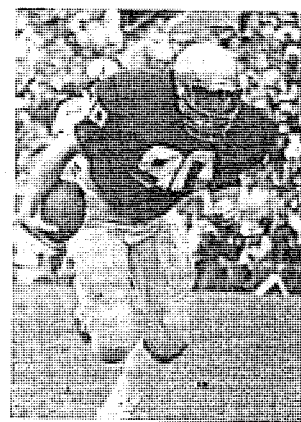
Eric Dorsey dragged him to the ground. After the one-yard loss, Craig Stopa kicked a 22-yard field goal to bring the Cadets within four at 14-10. Again it was time for the Irish offense to prove that it could produce points when the pressure was on.

An 82-yard drive, occupying 6:15 of the third period, was the Irish offense's answer to the challenge. Pinkett finally tallied the six points after Beuerlein maneuvered the team down the field. That drive reestablished Notre Dame's momentum and closed the lid on Army's hopes for victory.

"The offense moved the ball very well," Irish head coach Gerry Faust said after the game, beaming with pride. "Any time you can take the ball 87 yards twice in a game, that's a good offense. The drive early in the third quarter was very important."

Not to be outdone by the offensive unit, the defense stalled the Cadets on their next possession. After a 49-yard kickoff return by Lampley, Army was unable to gain a single yard in four downs. The Cadets never got more than two yards into Notre Dame territory for the rest of the afternoon.

The Irish offense continued to execute well, and Carney's



Rehder helped key the short passing game.

field goal with 6:23 left put the game safely out of the Cadet's reach. On the last possession of the game, time expired while Notre Dame held the ball on the Army four-yard line, saving a touchdown that would have made the final margin even greater than the 24-10 defeat the Cadets actually suffered.

Pinkett attributed the execution of the Irish offense to hours of hard practice the week before. "In practice this week, we scrimmaged against the first-team defense from the 15-yard line on in," Pinkett explained. "We executed well against our defense, and we felt if we could do that, we could do well against anybody in the country."

Faust suggested that there might be another reason for the turnaround in his team. He said the memory of the Air Force defeat may have been motivating the players.

"They were emotional against Air Force," Faust said. "In the locker room after the game, the players were devastated. That was good for them, because they had their hearts in it. When your heart is in the game it hurts more."

"It's a good sign if a loss bothers you that much."

But the Irish were sure happy about a win. ●

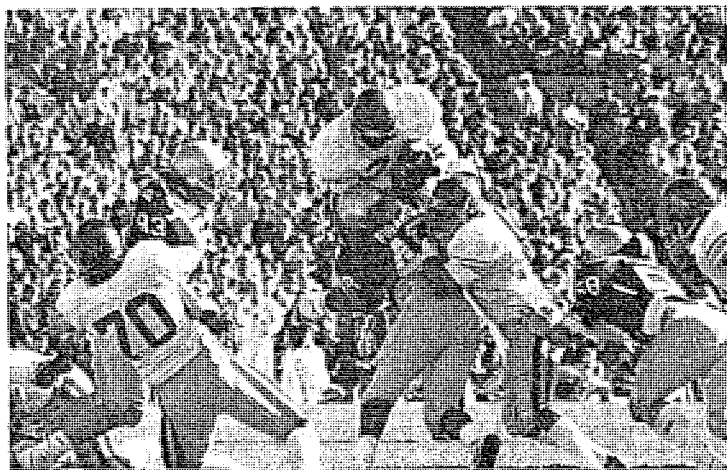


Photo by Lucien Niemeyer

The Trojan running game was hammered...

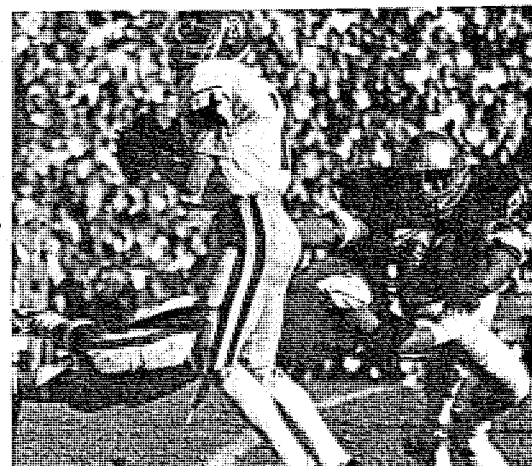


Photo by Lucien Niemeyer

...and Salisbury was harried.

Irish Send Trojans Out On Their Shields

ND rolls over SC 37-3

by Chuck Ehrman

USC won the toss, but that was about all.

On the opening kickoff, freshman George Streeter inflicted a major league blow on

Southern Cal's return man, Randy Tanner, forcing a fumble that Troy Wilson recovered on the USC two yard line. Just five seconds later, Allen Pinkett whistled past the goal line on the first play from scrimmage. A John Carney point after made it 7-0 in favor of the Irish. The tone had been set.

On an unusually sunny South Bend Saturday afternoon, the

Irish become a deadly demolition crew for an abusive sixty minutes of football. At the sound of the final gun the USC team must have felt like it had been hit by some sort of natural disaster. It was a day oh-so-golden for the Irish as they pounded their number one rival in the 57th renewal of college football's greatest game.

The final score stood at 37-3.

The outcome sent shock waves of happy passion through Notre Dame's fanatic following of fans, disappointed by a season already sputtering along. Stumbling into the game with a 2-3 record, bad times had already caused depression among the Irish contingent. Head Coach Gerry Faust had been facing the slings and arrows of a hostile press and public. At the postgame press conference Faust said, "I don't read the papers anymore. That's how I keep my sanity." The year had already taken its toll. The USC walloping must have offered a man worn ragged a temporary respite from the demons screaming in his head.

Pinkett said the game was a question of who outmuscled who. It was tough head-to-head football between two legendary giants of the college sport. Reflected USC tailback Fred Crutcher, "We just lined up and they outplayed us. It was power football against power football and Notre Dame

"I felt we were whipped in every phase of the game. There are no excuses for us losing like we did today. We were ready mentally and physically, but

Notre Dame came out and pounded us. They took us right out of our own game. It was naturally a great disappointment for us." - Ted Tollner

simply won." Defensive back Pat Ballage noted that the Irish offense and defense played together well, like a well-oiled machine.

After stopping the Trojans on their initial drive, the Irish did not dilly-dally and promptly marched downfield for their second score, a six-yard Steve Beuerlein roll-out to the end zone. Carney's extra point was on the money and it was 14-0.

But this was not enough. Notre Dame would bulldoze its way to three more scores by half-time. Carney kicked two field goals, from 26 and 33 yards out, and in between all the kicking, fullback Frank Stams was plowing across the goal line from five yards out on a first and goal play. Carney booted the extra point.

It was 27-0 at the half.

Green, green and more green. To start half number two the Irish returned decked out in green jerseys, a move that stirred up a bit of controversy and ruffled a few feathers, later being blown way out of proportion by the scavenging media. Some said it was adding insult to injury.

Faust hoped to use the jerseys as an emotional ploy for the team. USC Head Coach Ted Tollner really didn't care, saying, "The green uniforms had no effect on our team at all. We were

responsible for our own embarrassment." After all, like Faust himself said, "It's the people under the jerseys that matters though. You still got to play the game."

And play the Irish did, very well for the next thirty minutes. USC would score first, though, on a 40 yard field goal. But sorry, no more after that. The rest of the day belonged to Notre Dame, hands down.

In the waning minutes of the third quarter, Carney connected on a 43 yard field goal, his third of the day. And in the final quarter, the second team offense, behind sophomore quarterback Terry Andrysiak, would score the final touchdown on an eight yard roll-out pass to Joel Williams, found standing around all alone in the ten most important yards on the entire field. Carney put the icing on the cake with the point after. That made it 37-3.

For the battered and bewildered Tollner, it was just one of those days, the type of day that, halfway through it, you realize you should never have gotten out of bed in the first place.

At the postgame press conference the Trojan coach could only shake his head and sigh. "I felt we were whipped in every phase of the game," he said. "There are no excuses for us los-

ing like we did today. We were ready mentally and physically, but Notre Dame came out and pounded us. The opening kickoff fumble set up the stage for the whole game. Notre Dame deserves all the credit. They took us right out of our own game. It was naturally a great disappointment for us."

It was a much happier story for Faust and the Irish, though. The win pushed the teams record to an even 3-3. There were no tears shed for lost pride in the winner's locker room. None at all.

The victory helped to deflect any new criticism waiting to be hatched at a moment's notice by the press. Pinkett chided reporters saying: "People say our offense is predictable. Well, you're darn right it's predictable. We go out and shove the ball down a team's throat." No one was arguing, not this week.

Next year the Irish meet USC in the Coliseum. One burger-eating, beer-drinking Southern Cal fan was all too aware of this fact at a postgame tailgater. "Just wait till next year out in California--things will be different," he said.

But that doesn't matter to Irish fans, for all the bragging rights are sole property of Notre Dame. South Bend is a happy football land. For now. ●

RESERVE MISSLE THROWER SINKS NAVY

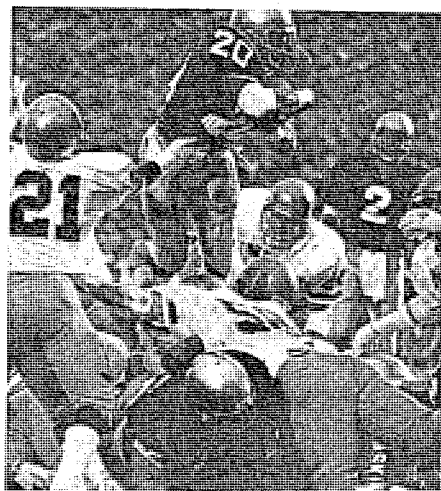


Photo by Lucien Niemeyer

Allen over top Stams up middle

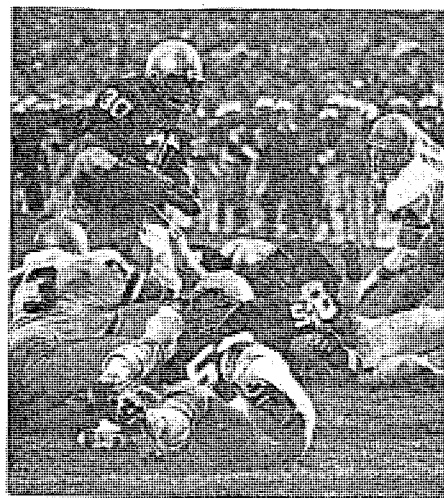


Photo by Lucien Niemeyer

by Ian Larkin

Under threatening skies the Navy Midshipmen came to Notre Dame Stadium to combat the Fighting Irish. The game was billed as a battle of the backs

between Notre Dame's Allen Pinkett and Navy's Napoleon McCallum. Both were potential Heisman Trophy candidates at the start of the year, but with Navy's 3-4 record and the Irish's 3-3, neither had much of a chance, despite the success each of them had been having.

The Midshipman had the big running back, but that's about all. The Irish were coming off two convincing wins over USC and Army. This game marked the 59th consecutive meeting between the two schools with the Irish holding a 48-9-1 edge and a streak of 21 straight wins. This day was to be no different for the Midshipmen as the Irish romped to a 41-17 win.

Rain threatened on the a cold, overcast day. Captains Pinkett, Mike Larkin, and Tim Scannell won the toss, but elected to defer until the second half. On the first play from scrimmage McCallum took a handoff from Navy quarterback Bill Byrne and fumbled on a jarring hit from defensive tackle Eric Dorsey. Byrne recovered, but it was an ominous sign of the punishment that Dorsey and the rest of the defense would be levelling against McCallum. Navy was forced to punt and it looked like Notre Dame would be coming on strong, but the offense was stopped on a fumble by Pinkett on the Navy

25-yardline. Navy then took the ball 75 yards for a touchdown on a one-yard plunge by McCallum.

Notre Dame's next possession was lost when quarterback Steve Beuerlein threw into triple coverage to Tim Brown and was intercepted by Navy's defensive back Marc Firlic. On the Irish's next possession they failed again and were forced to punt.

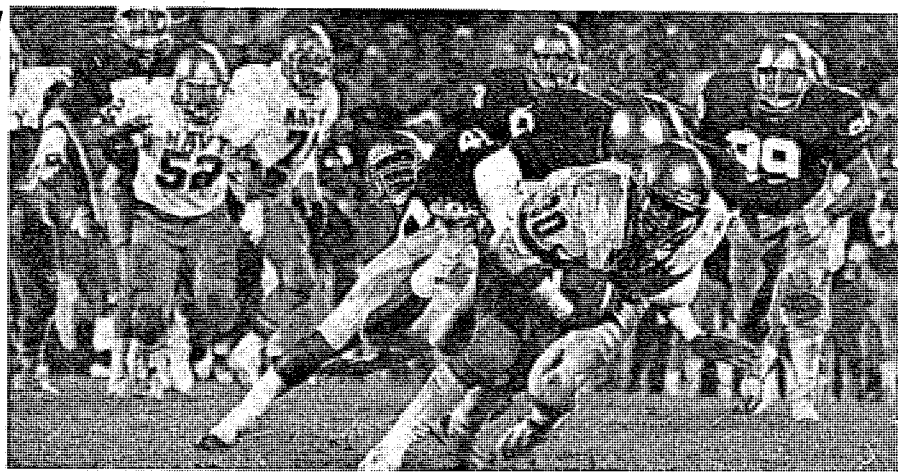
With 1:23 left in the first quarter Irish Head Coach Gerry Faust took Beuerlein out and put in sophomore Terry Andrysiak to try to spark the offense. It began to work as the crowd started chanting — "Terry, Terry." Andrysiak and Pinkett set up a drive to the Navy 19-yard line and, on 2nd-and-5, Pinkett broke for a 15-yard run, after slashing to the left and breaking two tackles. One play later Pinkett took a pitch and scampered into the end-zone untouched. The offense finally awoke from its first quarter slumber with Andrysiak at the helm.

The offensive success had certainly fired up the "D" as they forced Navy into a 4th-and-4 situation on the Irish 42. Instead of punting Navy decided to try a pass play to McCallum that was deflected by cornerback Marv Spence. With good field position Andrysiak and Pinkett combined on another scoring drive of 56 yards with Pinkett taking it in

*McCallum was battered
into three fumbles.*

Navy by this time seemed totally demoralized and the great McCallum wasn't looking like the threat he was supposed to be.

Photo by Lucien Niemeyer



from the one. Kicker John Carney uncharacteristically missed the extra point and the score stood at 13-7.

Spence and inside linebacker Mike Kovalski contained Navy on their next drive, but the Midshipmen managed a 42-yard field goal by Todd Solomon. The Irish rambled to the Navy 47 and on 1st-and-10 Pinkett broke away for a 43-yard run with the aid of an excellent downfield block by freshman flanker Mark Green. After Pinkett took it down to the one, fullback Frank Stams plowed in for the score.

An interception by Spence allowed the Irish offensive to penetrate deep into Navy territory once again. With a 1st and goal situation Faust called a running play - Pinkett up the middle - with no timeouts left, that ended in no gain. Time then expired as Andrysiak tried to stop the clock with a throw out of bounds. The first half score was 20-10.

The battle of the backs certainly shaped up in the play of the first half as McCallum had 72 yards on 15 attempts and Pinkett 104 yards on 17 tries. That 104 yards marked the fourth year in a row Pinkett had gained over 100 against the Midshipman.

The second half started off in the same fashion as the first with Pinkett and McCallum both fum-

bling for turnovers. Notre Dame finally got going, after starting from the Navy 46, and scored on two plays in 24 seconds. The touchdown came on a sweet run by Pinkett that took him 29 yards through six Navy defenders and into the endzone uncontested.

Navy finally put together a drive, only to have Byrne's pass intercepted by free safety Steve Lawrence at the goal line. The Irish offense was finally forced to punt for the first time since Andrysiak was put in. Again the Midshipmen took the ball long, almost 70 yards, but again came up empty on a fumble by McCallum. The third quarter ended with Notre Dame leading 27-10 and in complete control.

The fourth quarter was not any better for Navy as the Irish, again behind Andrysiak and Pinkett, went 76 yards for seven more points. Andrysiak hit Brown on a 40 yard pass play and, after breaking two tackles, he sauntered in unscathed. After the defense stymied the Navy attackers, Faust felt confident enough in his 24 point lead to re-insert Beuerlein in the quarterback slot. Allen Pinkett also made way for junior tailback Hiawatha Francisco.

Navy by this time seemed totally demoralized and the great McCallum wasn't looking like the threat he was supposed to be. On

their next try he again fumbled, this time into the arms of Steve Lawrence. From there the offense took it into the endzone for their last score on a 15 yard run by Francisco making it 41 to 10. At the end of the game the Irish reserves saw some playing time and Navy scored one more touchdown to make the final score 41-17.

The keys to the Irish victory were Terry Andrysiak (11 of 17 for 165 yards), Allen Pinkett (161 yards on 27 carries), and the entire defense. The defense contained the explosive McCallum and forced 6 fumbles from a team that had only lost two all year. McCallum had 124 yards, but also three fumbles which directly resulted in Notre Dame touchdowns. Eric Dorsey was credited with two and helped on the third.

After the game Dorsey said of McCallum's fumbles, "he said that it was mainly his fault that he fumbled them, but I don't think too many running backs could have held onto the ball the way we hit him." The other Irish defender to have a superb game was Marv Spence who was all over the field and made two key plays with a deflection and fumble recovery. Navy was never able to sustain a drive or stop the Irish offense while losing their 22nd-straight game of the Notre Dame-Navy series. ●

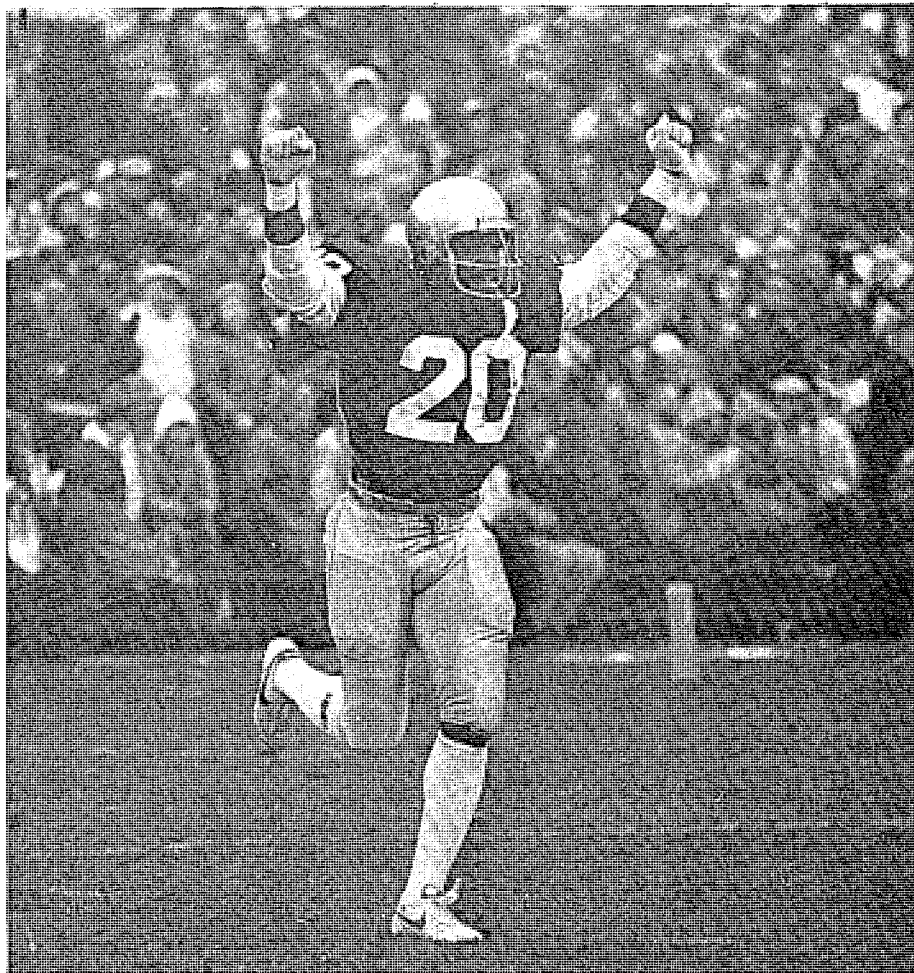


Photo by Lucien Niemeyer

The Irish had plenty to celebrate.

Rebel Yell Silenced

ND

EASILY

MASTERS

MISSISSIPPI

by Jim Basile

All week before the contest with Mississippi, Notre Dame fans speculated about the quarterback situation for their team. Coach Faust declined to announce who would be his starter: Steve Beuerlein, top signal caller in 27 of 29 previous games or sophomore phenom Terry Andrysiak, who had devastated Navy the week before. Though Andrysiak started, the QB competition was inconclusive as the Irish defense played the decisive role in a 37-14 Notre Dame win.

In the end, Mississippi's quarterbacking situation was more of a factor in the outcome of the game. Rebel quarterback Kent Austin was unable to play due to a knee injury, leaving Ole Miss under the direction of two inexperienced freshmen. The Rebel offense was stopped all day by a relentless Irish defense that held them scoreless for three quarters.

The Irish won the toss but elected to kick off to start the game. Frosh quarterback Mark Young could not move the Rebels who were forced to punt. It was a familiar scene on this day. Of eleven first-half Mississippi possessions, eight ended in punts and three in turnovers.

Mike Smith's punt was fielded by Troy Wilson at the ND

Photo by Paul Rakestraw, SB Trib.



*Beuerlein hurled
for one touchdown.*

41 and returned all the way to the Rebel 24. Andrysiak led the Irish offense onto the field but could gain only one yard in three downs. John Carney converted the 41-yard field goal attempt.

After the ensuing kickoff and a personal foul penalty on Notre Dame, Ole Miss wound up with the ball at their own 47. The Rebel's offensive impotence continued as the drive ended in a loss of twelve yards and a punt. Notre Dame's offense, however, proved equally inept as the two teams exchanged four straight punts.

Early in the second quarter Young threw an interception straight at Steve Lawrence on the ND 25 and Lawrence returned all the way to the Mississippi 48. With Beuerlein replacing Andrysiak, the Blue and Gold began to march. On first down Stams carried for one. Pinkett followed for fifteen. Stams, Pinkett and Monahan toted the ball on the next five downs as the Irish used their superior size, running the ball straight at the Rebels. On fourth and two at the ten Faust elected to go for it and Beuerlein passed to Stams for seven. Stams carried again for two and Pinkett somersaulted over the middle for the one yard touchdown. Carney's extra point gave Notre Dame a ten-point lead and it was clear

that the Irish running attack was wearing down the Rebel defense.

Mississippi's offense was having its own problems. Robert Banks ended their next drive with a sack of Young. The shell-shocked freshman would end the half with minus five yards passing and the Rebels would only rush for sixty yards. After the punt ND put together its best drive of the day, a twelve-play, 73-yard march. While Pinkett and Stams rested, Hiawatha Francisco carried for five and Beuerlein hit Ward for fourteen and Brown for sixteen. The drive ended in a fourteen yard touchdown pass to a wide open Timmy Brown. After Carney's placement the Irish had a virtually insurmountable 17-0 lead. Rebel coach Bill Brewer sent Chris Osgood in at quarterback but the half ended with Mississippi bogged down on its own side of the field.

The second half continued where the first left off. An Ole Miss drive stalled and Smith punted. On first down, however, Pinkett fumbled on his own 27 and Jonathan Shelley recovered. The Rebel offense even refused this gift as two plays later Joe Mickles fumbled into the arms of Steve Lawrence who returned the ball 79 yards to the UM 5. On third down Pinkett punched the ball in from the two and Carney converted.

After Mississippi gave the ball up on downs at their 43 Andrysiak guided the Irish for another score. The running of Francisco and Monahan combined with a twenty-yard catch by Alvin Miller brought the Irish to the 22. On first down Andrysiak threw to Tom Rehder at the sixteen. Rehder rambled down the sideline and did his imitation of a bulldozer, running through a UM defender for the touchdown. Carney was perfect again and ND owned a 31-0 lead. It was all over except for the cheering of the enthusiastic Rebel fans. Mississippi scored two fourth-quarter touchdowns against the Irish reserves and Corny Southall notched another one for Notre Dame late in the game.

The voracious Irish defense had been the major element in the ND victory. Eric Dorsey led the defense with six solo tackles and a sack. Brewer called him the "one of the best damn guys we've seen." Lawrence's two turnovers also sparked the defense. Beuerlein and Andrysiak played to a draw, each passing for sixty yards and a touchdown.

After four straight home wins the Irish were in position to re-enter the bowl picture. Their next opponent, however, the number-one ranked Nittany Lions of Penn State, would prove much stiffer opposition. •

ND Fed to the Lions

PENN STATE RETURNS LAST YEAR'S FAVOR

by Gene Boes

Coming into their contest against the Penn State Nittany Lions, the Irish were looking to accomplish several things: 1) They wanted to maintain the momentum they had built with four straight victories at home against Army, Navy, Southern Cal, and Mississippi; 2) they could win a road game for the first time since their 19-7 win over USC in November '84; 3) they could up their record against #1 teams to 2 - 0 under Gerry Faust; 4) they could gain a measure of respectability; and 5) they could impress one of the eight bowl representatives in attendance enough to be considered for a major bowl bid.

Despite the horrendous weather--heavy rain, 38-degree temperature, and 15-20 mph winds--the Irish came out strong. The Nittany Lions won the coin toss but decided to postpone their option until the second half. The Irish received, and after a 16-yard return by Tim Brown began the first drive of the game from their own 17. Despite the pouring rain and slippery field, starting quarterback Steve Beuerlein took to the air with great success, completing 7 of 10 attempts. All the

receivers contributed as fullback Frank Stams, tailback Allen Pinkett, tight end Tom Rehder, split end Reggie Ward, and flanker Tim Brown each had receptions.

Even though the running game netted just three yards, the strength of the passing game brought the Irish deep into Penn State territory. The Irish came up short on third down and six from the 25-yard line and, like so often in the past, had to settle for the field goal attempt rather than the touchdown. Kicker John Carney lined up for the 37-yarder, the snap from center was perfect, but the ball slipped through the hands of holder Hal Von Wyl. Von Wyl picked up the ball and rolled right, getting a pass off to Rehder that would have been enough for a first down, but the ball fell incomplete.

Penn State took over at their own 21 and marched down the field, effectively mixing up the running of tailback D.J. Dozier and the passing of quarterback John Shaffer. On first and ten from the Irish 21-yard line Shaffer hooked up with Dozier in the right flat and Dozier scampered down the right sideline for the TD. Massimo Manca added the extra point and the Nittany Lions owned a 7 - 0 lead.

Alvin Miller returned Manca's kickoff to the Irish 29, but the Irish could only advance

the ball out to the 40 before having to punt. The fouled-up field goal attempt seemed to take the wind out of Notre Dame's sails, and they never were able to recover. On 4th and 11, Dan Sorensen's punt covered only 25 yards before sailing out of bounds at the Penn State 36. The first quarter ended with Penn State at midfield.

The Irish defense held, and Troy Wilson made a fair catch of State's punt at the Irish 12. The best the offense could do was 8 yards, but Sorensen got off a good, 38-yard punt. Unfortunately Penn State came up with a 15-yard return. The Irish defense held on the drive, but Manca still managed a 43-yard field goal, the first of five on the day.

The one part of the Irish game that was going well was the return department, as Brown took the kickoff back 31 yards to the Irish 29. The Irish offense seemed to be on the roll again as they marched across midfield in just three plays. The drive halted abruptly as Beuerlein was intercepted on 3rd and 1. State linebacker Rogers Alexander returned the Irish miscue down to the 34-yard line, and five plays later Manca hit his second field goal from 27 yards out.

Sophomore Terry Andrysiak took over the controls

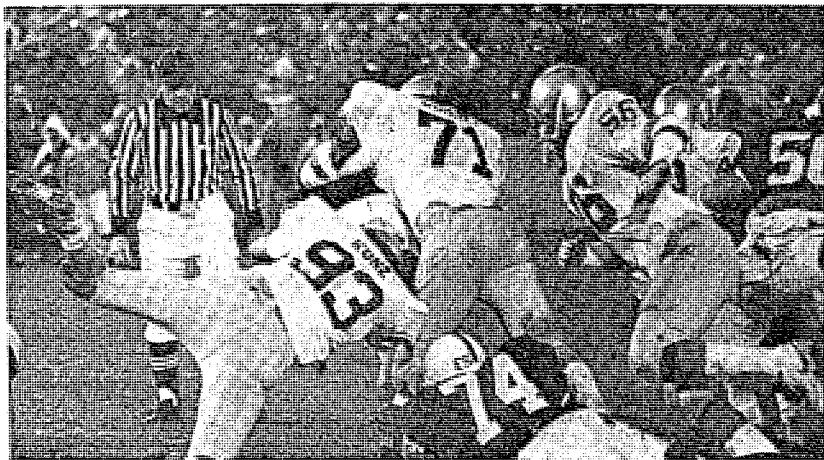


Photo by Lucien Niemeyer

*The Irish "D"
wallowed in the mud.*

**The "Irish/Penn
State game was no
longer a competitive
contest."--ABC Sports**

for the Irish, and on his first play Pinkett took the pitch right for 15 yards. But the next four plays saw Andrysiak recover his own fumble for a 1-yard loss, Stams stopped for no gain, a 5-yard delay of game penalty, and an incomplete pass from Andrysiak to Stams. Sorensen's 41-yard punt was Notre Dame's last play from scrimmage in the first half.

Penn State drove for their second touchdown, then Tim Brown, after returning the ensuing kickoff out to the 31-yard line, fumbled the ball. The Irish defense drove the Lions back to the 33, but with three seconds left, Manca nailed a 50-yarder and the Irish headed into the lockerroom down 23 - 0.

In order to get back in the game the Irish would have to play errorless football in the second half. Penn State had dominated nearly every statistic in the first half, out-gaining the Irish 100 yards to 34 yards on the ground and 126 to 87 in the air, had 40 offensive plays compared to 29 for the Irish, and never turned the ball over--the Irish had twice. Notre Dame was close in possession time, 14:06 to 15:54, and led in return yardage 111 yards to none. The only reason the Irish had the lead in this category was that they had yet to kick off to Penn State. When Penn State opted to kick off in the second

half, it looked as though the Irish kick off team would never take the field.

Notre Dame came out of the locker room facing a challenge they had only met successfully once on 13 previous occasions under Faust--win a game after trailing at halftime. And it was clear after their first possession that the number would reach 14.

After moving the ball out to the 46-yard line Beuerlein dropped back to pass, threw deep, and was intercepted by Ray Isom who returned the ball all the way back to the Notre Dame 32. The Lions took just eight plays to score, with Shaffer going over from the one on a QB sneak.

The next miscue came three plays after the kick off as Beuerlein was intercepted again, this time by State's Mike Zordich. The Lions put together their seventh scoring drive in eight possessions on Manca's fourth field goal, this one from 26 yards away.

The Irish started their eighth possession from their own 22 after Miller's 19-yard kickoff return. They didn't fumble this time, nor were they intercepted. Instead, they found a new way to turn the ball over--via a blocked punt--and Penn State took over on the Irish 21. The Irish immediately spotted the Nittany Lions 10 more yards on a personal foul penalty. The Irish defense pro-

ceeded to back Penn State up on back to back sacks by tackles Eric Dorsey and Jeff Kunz, but Manca still managed his fifth field goal, a 35-yarder. Fortunately for the Irish this closed out the scoring for Penn State.

The fourth quarter saw little change in the complexion of the game. The only noticeable changes were the clean jerseys of the Penn State replacements, as Joe Paterno called off the dogs and cleared his bench. The Irish did manage to score on a short run by Hiawatha Francisco late in the game, but missed the PAT. The final score stood at 36 - 6.

All in all, the Irish had lost in typical fashion--they had an over-abundance of turnovers and mistakes, the offense failed to move the ball consistently, and they had gotten in the hole early. On top of an embarrassing loss the Irish had set possibly the most humiliating precedent in the history of national T.V. football coverage. Late in the third quarter ABC actually decided to drop the game to switch their coverage to another as the "Irish/Penn State game was no longer a competitive contest."

The Irish headed home licking their wounds, out of contention for a major bowl bid, and faced with the task of preparing for their next game against a tough LSU team. ●

Tigers Sneak by Irish

VICTORY ELUDES FAUST IN HIS LAST HOME GAME AS IRISH HEAD COACH.

by Marty Burns

The LSU Tigers had just figured out another way to beat his hapless Irish, but Gerry Faust walked off the turf of Notre Dame Stadium the same man he was when he had first walked on five years before.

Well, almost the same man.

His hair grayer, the lines on his face more pronounced, and his walk reduced to an awkward waddle by a series of knee operations, the 50-year-old coach going on 65 could only remember those days of his spry youth five years before when he became head coach of Notre Dame.

Ironically, it had all begun for Faust in the same place against this same team. In a scene more befitting an episode of "Fantasy Island," Faust led his team, and his dream, to a 27-9 thrashing of the Tigers before a loving audience and an impressed media that boosted Notre Dame to No. 1 in the national rankings two days later.

Since that time, of course, had come the disappointment of five mediocre seasons along with the wrath of fans and alumni which formed a continuous black cloud that hung over him. That game in 1981 was only a distant memory on Nov. 23, 1985 when Faust sat down before a group of reporters and talked about his

future and his team's 10-7 loss that day on a soggy field.

"You can't fault our kids because they played hard," he whispered. "They did an excellent job and when it came down to the wire we were on the short end.

"I never even thought about this being my last time walking off the field here at Notre Dame. And that's the honest to God truth."

Jeffrey Wickersham was throwing passes for his high school team in Merritt Island, Florida on that day in 1981 when Faust had his greatest moment. But the 6-2, 195-pound LSU quarterback saw that game on television. He, like just about everyone else who has followed the saga of Gerry Faust over this last half of a decade, smiled for the coach in his good times and bled for him in his bad times.

"When I went across the field to congratulate Coach Arnsperger," said Faust, "Wickersham came over to me and said, 'You're a great coach. It was great to play against your team.' He's a fine young man, isn't he?"

It was nice of Wickersham to throw that compliment Faust's way. After all, the tall righthander had thrown everything else perfectly on the day, completing 31-of-42 passes for 294 yards. Those

31 completions were the most ever against a Notre Dame defense, and they made the difference in the game as the Irish were able to effectively shut down the heralded running game of the Tigers.

Even with Wickersham's awesome aerial display, however, LSU was unable to get the ball into the endzone until only three minutes remained in the game. Unfortunately the touchdown score forged the 10-7 final, giving LSU the lead and the game after ND had led for so long on an early touchdown of its own.

The LSU touchdown drive, which culminated in a two-yard Garry James run, was vintage Wickersham. Setting up safely in the pocket as he had for the entire game, Wickersham passed his team from its own 48-yard line to the ND 4-yard line with three straight pass completions.

"We felt we were moving the ball well the whole game, we just weren't scoring points," said Wickersham. "We knew we had to turn it around and, in the end, we were able to do it.

One player on the LSU sidelines who was particularly grateful for Wickersham's heroics was placekicker Ron Lewis. Lewis shanked two first-half field goal attempts, one from 49 yards out and another from 26 yards out to keep the Irish in command at 7-0.

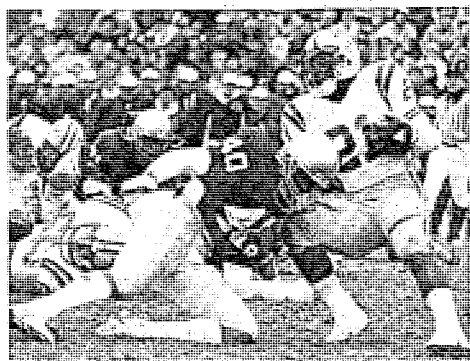


Photo by Lucien Niemeyer

Notre Dame contained the Tiger offense...



Photo by Lucien Niemeyer

...but in the end it was another frustration.

It was no surprise then when Arnsparger called out punter Matt DeFrank to attempt a 27-yard field goal with only seconds left in the first half after Wickersham's four passes had moved the Tigers into scoring position. DeFrank, who later would miss a 29-yard field goal of his own, floated the ball -- just barely -- over the cross bar to set the halftime margin at 7-3 in favor of the Irish.

"We probably set two records on Notre Dame today," said Arnsparger. "Jeff completed more passes and we probably missed more field goals. There were not many plays out there that were not big plays. We both had good and bad moments."

The bad moments for Notre Dame, to which Arnsparger must have been alluding, were all John Carney's. The usually automatic Irish placekicker had to suffer not only the frustration of missing one attempt but also of kicking into an oncoming locomotive by the name of Henry Thomas.

The 6-2, 255-pound Tiger noseguard managed to get his paw on both a 50-yard attempt in the first half and on a crucial 23-yard chip-shot in the third quarter to keep the game within the long reach of his talented quarterback's arm. The latter block was the big one, coming

after an incredible 18-play Irish drive to start the second half.

"If they would have made it (on that 18-play drive), it would have changed the outcome of the game," growled Thomas. "They're easily the biggest team we've played this year, but I guess I was just able to get through the line, and I timed it well when the kick came."

Still, despite these seemingly unlucky breaks which would have many men look up to the heavens for an explanation, Faust kept the faith. And in the final minute of the game he got a break from the spirits of Rockne, Leahy, Parseghian, et al that still rule the field under the Golden Dome. 59,075 fans in attendance thought they were seeing one last gift to Gerry Faust.

After Irish quarterback Steve Beuerlein (11 completions, 25 attempts, 106 yards) had thrown an interception at the LSU 31-yard line with 1:50 remaining in the game, most in the house were heading for the exits. But in a page out of the glory years of Irish history, ND's tenacious nosetackle Eric Dorsey (9 tackles) wrapped up LSU's Dalton Hiliard and stripped a fumble only 34 yards away from victory.

This was the Notre Dame magic at work again after a long layoff, right? This is what had

eluded Faust ever since that first win against LSU in 1981, right?

Wrong. On the very next play, Beuerlein's pass downfield for super wideout Tim Brown (who had scored the only ND touchdown of the game on a dazzling 18-yard scamper) ricocheted off Brown's shoulder and into the arms of a Louisiana State defender.

"It seemed like it could have been one of the famous Notre Dame comeback stories," mused Dorsey.

"I've had a lot of breaks in my life," smiled Faust, even at the bitter end. "I've got my health, I've got a great family, I represent a great university, and I've been able to work with great kids."

Perhaps Notre Dame's incomparable tailback Allen Pinkett, whose 103 yards on 30 carries in another disappointing loss drew the usual array of post-game accolades from both locker rooms, summed it up best:

"It seems weird that I'm not going to play another game here at Notre Dame. I truly like Coach Faust. I'm going to miss him when I leave."

Allen Pinkett and Gerry Faust. Two good souls that victory eluded. Notre Dame will miss them both. ●

Hurricanes Blow Away Irish

JOHNSON

CLOSES

THE

GATES

OF

MERCY

by Pete Pranica

It was very hard to decide which was most galling about the Miami Hurricanes' 58-7 massacre of the Irish just two days after Thanksgiving and three days after a coaching change:

Was it that Hurricane coach Jimmy Johnson ran up the score late in the game?

Was it that the majority of the Irish players gave at best an indifferent effort, playing without emotion or intensity?

Was it that the Irish finished 5-6 for the second time in five years?

Or was it that coach Gerry Faust had to coach his final game under the foregoing circumstances?

Whatever the choice, the scene on the Orange Bowl turf was ugly, a shameful blot on the historic Notre Dame football ledger. A team noted for pride and motivation showed none in the face of Faust's impending departure. The scene on the field was bad enough; a look at the scoreboard was positively sickening. Gerry Faust was going to leave Notre Dame having lost more games than any other Irish coach and the last one would be the worst. It was a poor time for goodbyes.

The first goodbye came at Tuesday's regular press conference when Faust stunned his audience by telling them that he had talked to University president Fr. Theodore Hesburgh, as well as Fr. Edmund P. Joyce and Gene Corrigan, and had informed them of his decision to resign as coach following the Miami game. His five year contract would be over anyway, and to save further controversy, Faust simply let it all end on the second floor conference room of the Athletic and Convocation Center.

While the coaching controversy was on its way to being settled with the selection of Minnesota coach Lou Holtz less than 24 hours later, the Irish were down in the Sunshine State facing a Miami Hurricane team that did not like Notre Dame and wanted to prove on national television that they were deserving of a higher ranking than their fourth place position. By putting 58 points on the board, the 10-1 Hurricanes not only embarrassed their hated rivals, but also put themselves into the Sugar Bowl against Tennessee with an outside shot at the national championship.

Miami started off slowly as quarterback Vinny Testaverde connected on his first four passes to set up Greg Cox' 39 yard field goal slightly over six minutes into the contest. The Irish offense failed to negotiate the requisite ten yards in their three initial plays and punted to the Hurricanes. A 35 yard strike to running back Alonzo Highsmith set up a six yard burst by Warren Williams to stake the 'Canes to a 10-0 lead.

Forced to start from their own 20, the Irish dug themselves a hole by getting flagged for an illegal block on the next play. Two plays netted eight yards and on third and nine, Kevin Fagan sacked quarterback Steve Beuerlein as 49,236 fans basked in the glory of another devastating Hurricane onslaught.

"I'd rather have a better memory, especially for the seniors. Things just didn't end up the way we'd like." -- Gerry Faust

Cox closed the scoring in the first stanza with his second three-pointer, this one from 47 yards out, to make it 13-0. After achieving their initial first down in the waning moments of the period, the Irish broached Hurricane turf early in the second, thanks to a 21 yard connection between Beuerlein and flanker Tony Eason. On the very next play Beuerlein flipped the ball into the left flat and into the waiting arms of free safety Bennie Blades who sprinted 61 yards into the Miami sunset for a 20-0 advantage.

That twenty point margin was familiar to some of the Irish who had endured a 20-0 drubbing on national television two years earlier. That was the game which saw Blair Kiel benched and Steve Beuerlein inserted as the Irish quarterback. And as happened two years earlier, the starter, in this case Beuerlein, was shown the bench as sophomore Terry Andrysiak entered the game. Joined by the entire second team offensive unit, Andrysiak moved the Irish troops down the field, mixing the running of Tom Monahan and Hiawatha Francisco with a 23 yard connection to Alvin Miller. While the second-teamers moved the ball into position, the certified star of the Irish squad, Allen Pinkett, bashed into

the end zone from three yards out to avert the shutout and keep Irish hopes alive.

The Hurricanes were relentless however, as Heisman candidate Testaverde completed five of six tosses in moving the 'Canes 68 yards. The final completion was a seven yard TD strike to Mel Bratton to reassert a twenty point edge. Andrysiak came back out ready to slice into the lead again and moved the Irish down the field to a first down on the Miami 20, thanks in large part to a defensive holding penalty which gave the Irish a gift first down when Andrysiak misfired on third and ten.

Pinkett, who would end his career this day as Notre Dame's all-time leading rusher, gained four of his 77 yards on first down, but consecutive sacks by Dan Stubbs and John McVeigh forced John Carney to try a 43 yard field goal which sailed left of the mark with 40 seconds remaining in the half. The 27-7 Hurricane lead at the intermission left even the most resolute Irish backer hard-pressed to find either a bright spot in the first half or hope for the second.

Testaverde, who had clicked on 13 of his 20 passes in the initial thirty minutes observed, "We studied a lot of film. I took the snaps and they reacted just like the films showed. We took what

they gave us and things just seemed to click." On the other side of the field, cornerback Mike Haywood tipped off the true mental state of the Blue and Gold. "Everybody tried to cover up, but underneath we still had the pressure and the tension. There was so much no one had a good week of practice. We were never really emotionally into it."

And it showed -- all game long.

Beuerlein returned to the huddle to begin the second half after Andrysiak suffered a separated left shoulder on the last sack of the first half. The junior completed three passes, one a 34 yard bomb to Reggie Ward, but could not wring any points from the effort, despite having a first down on the Hurricane 18. A five yard penalty gave the Irish a first and fifteen which three consecutive tailback runs, two by Pinkett and one by Francisco, could not cover. Beuerlein's fourth down peg for tight end Tom Rehder fell harmlessly to the turf and Miami had the ball once again.

Highsmith, who finished the day with 31 yards on eight carries, handled the ball on the first and eighth plays of the ensuing drive. The other eight were Testaverde passes. Having misfired on the last two however, Testaverde gave way to Cox who booted a 48 yard field goal to put

"It was extremely difficult to stomach the post-Thanksgiving morsel the Hurricanes had prepared for the Irish."

the Hurricanes up 30-7 with 5:36 to play in the third.

The Irish failed again to attain a first down on three plays and gave the ball back to Testaverde and the Hurricanes. The curly-haired heir to the Miami quarterback legacy, who would throw for 356 yards against a porous Irish secondary, exhibited the lightning-quick nature of the Miami offense as just six plays, 75 yards and two and a half minutes later the Hurricanes were out in front 37-7 on the strength of a 15 yard TD to Mike Irvin.

Andrysiak returned and the Irish next managed only a four play effort that ended with Dan Sorenson's fourth punt of the afternoon to close the third quarter. Testaverde, still in there pitching despite the lopsided score, engineered an 80 yard drive featuring completions good for 45, 11, and 21 yards. Anxious to grab a piece of the action for himself, the 6-5 quarterback scampered over from one yard out two minutes into the final period to make it 44-7. Irish defensive tackle Eric Dorsey drew a 15 yard personal foul penalty for hitting Testaverde high and late as the Irish frustration mounted while the score did likewise.

Despite the sore shoulder, Andrysiak moved the Irish to midfield, but Francisco found

nowhere to go on fourth and one. With 9:40 to play, Jeff Torretta came on in relief of Testaverde. While many expected Torretta to do little more than hand off to his running backs, Hurricane coach Jimmy Johnson had other ideas. "You stay in the offense you run. We're a passing team. Everybody knows that. We school our quarterbacks to take advantage of what defenses the opponents run, not to be governed by the scoreboard."

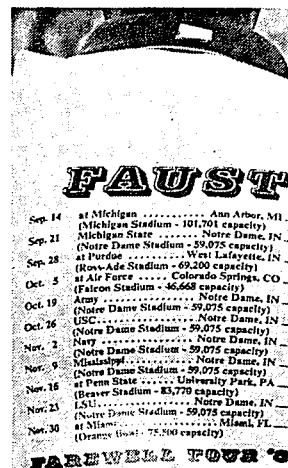
Full of his coach's blessing, Torretta used play action passes to guide the Hurricane reserves into the end zone for a sixth Miami touchdown. The final blow was a 17 yard pass to Andre Brown, giving the 'Canes a 51-7 edge with 6:11 to play. Faust reinserted Beuerlein for the next series which consisted of three plays and a punt -- and even that led to more Miami points.

"We didn't even have a punt block in our game plan. We had return-right and return-left on and had two men rushing the punter," claimed Johnson, who came under some heat for the final margin of victory. On the punt, defensive back Bubba McDowell blocked Dan Sorenson's punt and defensive tackle Bill Hawkins scooped up the loose package for the 'Canes' final tally. Insult was added to injury when pressbox observers

pointed out that Miami only had ten men on the field at the time.

With just over four minutes to play, the Irish offense, out-gained 534 to 339 on the afternoon, managed only three plays and a punt for the fifth time. Mercifully, the Hurricanes ran five straight running plays, including a reverse, to end the carnage at 58-7. While Johnson was trying to defend his playcalling, Faust was reciting one last time what had become a familiar litany to reporters. "We played quite well most of the season; today Miami played well and we had a couple of games like that this year. We just seemed to have trouble with the pure passer this year. Miami was good in all phases of the game," intoned Faust. He stopped to praise Testaverde and refused to talk about the lopsided score. Looking over the assembled media, he said, "I'd rather have a better memory, especially for the seniors. Things just didn't end up the way we'd like."

The dream of coaching at Notre Dame had long become something less than pleasant and despite his protests that he'd "do it all again" even with the mediocre record, one had to feel that it was extremely difficult to stomach the post-Thanksgiving morsel the Hurricanes had prepared for the Irish. The Faust Era was over, and there was nothing worth celebrating. •

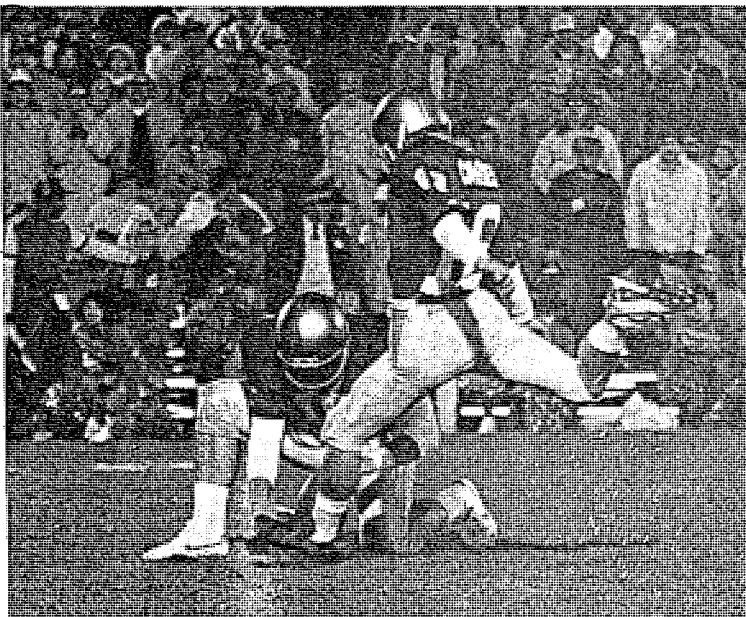


The Walk-on:

An Uphill Battle

Carney is one walk-on who made it.

Photo by Lucien Niemeyer



by Gene Boes

This article is dedicated to the 35 walk-on members of the 1985 Notre Dame football team for their courage, determination and selfless attitude.

When a walk-on player arrives for his first football practice, he has dreams to chase and goals to achieve, just as the scholarship player does. Each has to earn his stripes and must work hard to climb the ladder of success. But the yardstick by which a walk-on player measures success has a much dif-

ferent scale than that of a scholarship player. The scholarship yardstick may have notches for EARN A MONOGRAM, EARN A STARTING POSITION, BECOME CAPTAIN, or ACHIEVE ALL-AMERICAN STATUS. the walk-on yardstick usually includes notches like DRESS FOR A GAME, MAKE THE TRAVELING TEAM,

"...the scene on the Orange Bowl Turf was ugly, a shameful blot on the historic Notre Dame football ledger. A team noted for pride and motivation showed none in the face of Faust's impending departure."

PLAY IN A GAME, PLAY ON A REGULAR BASIS, and EARN A SCHOLARSHIP.

Although the walk-on may not feel the same pressures to perform, or have the high expectations of a blue-chip recruit, there are still many difficult adjustments to be made. First, the walk-on player must get over the feeling of awe for the scholarship players and realize that even though he may not have the same physical talents, he has enough heart and determination to compete on their level. Next he has to deal with the attitudes of the coaches. Coaches tend to concentrate on the scholarship players because they are players that they have studied and recruited. If a walk-on player is to be noticed, he must perform to perfection at practice, day in and day out. Coaches often shrug off a mistake by a scholarship athlete, but should a walk-on make a mistake, a coach is usually quick to point it out.

Perhaps the most important fact a walk-on willingly accepts is that he will always be a role player. Mike James, a graduating senior who spent his entire four years as a walk-on describes himself and his counterparts as "players who commit themselves totally to the team. To win as a team is the ultimate goal, and personal success

always takes a back seat to team success." It is necessary for a walk-on to accept this selfless attitude and understand that any chances for personal recognition are very slim.

Basically, the role of a walk-on player is that of prep team member. The prep team is made up mostly of walk-ons with a few scholarship players, usually freshmen. Its job is to simulate as accurately as possible the offense and defense of the next opponent. This means spending time outside of regular practice hours studying films of the opponents. Also, the walk-on must be mentally prepared for each practice and play at a high level of intensity. The starting units performance on game day depends a great deal on how well the prep team did its job during the week. Walk-ons must treat each practice as if it were a game, because in all probability practice is the only "playing time" a walk-on will ever get.

There are some exceptions. Three players on this years squad (John Carney, Pat Cusack and Tom Monahan) started out as walk-ons and have not only played a great deal, they have earned scholarships as well. The talent of these three individuals is quite evident in their performance. According to Carney, "being in the right

place at the right time," was just as key as all the hard work and dedication.

Walk-ons are over-achievers. They need to play to the limit of their physical abilities to even take part in practice. What they lack in size, strength, or skill, they more than make up for in heart, determination, and confidence in their own ability to compete. Without the fierce mental attitude, the dedication, the total commitment to team success, it would be impossible for walk-ons to endure their routine. There is the daily beating sustained from performing on the prep team against the starting squad, the frustration of not being noticed by the coaches, the disappointment of not getting to dress for the game, the fact that freshman recruits step ahead of them in the fall, no matter how hard they've worked to move up in the depth charts during spring drills ...the list goes on and on.

Despite the adversity, the personal disappointments and the sacrifices, each walk-on receives the ultimate satisfaction come game day, when they all come charging out of the tunnel in Notre Dame Stadium, wearing the blue and gold. They are, in the truest sense, members of the greatest football tradition in America. ●

LOU HOLTZ is no laughing matter.

by Pete Pranica

If what you did yesterday seems big, then you haven't done anything today.
--Lou Holtz

Yesterday was the Minnesota Golden Gophers, a team in disarray, without so much as a facility for the entire team to meet at once. Joe Salem left Holtz a crew which had lost ten of its last eleven games, outscored on the average by a 50-16 margin. But one man's garbage is another's treasure and after leading the Gophers to four wins in 1984, Holtz did what any good magician will do -- an encore. Full of a Golden pride which had been missing from the Gopher program for years, the Maroon and Gold sped out of the gate on the strength of a dandy quarterback named Ricky "Sweetfeet" Foggie. The Gophers stumbled briefly by dropping a heartbreaking 13-7 decision to eventual national champion Oklahoma. While the Big 10 proved to be a monstrous conference in '85, the Gophers managed to hold their own, pounding lumps on the likes of Purdue while giving Ohio State

the biggest scare this side of Orson Welles and "War of the Worlds." Brent Musburger of CBS nearly canonized Holtz on national television that day while hand-held cameras caught his every grimace. The Gophers finished the season at 6-5, good enough for an invitation to the gulf town of Shreveport, Louisiana, for the Independence Bowl against Clemson.

Holtz, however, was not there to coach his latest salvage operation. Instead, he was trying to figure out how to re-tool the Fighting Irish, an outfit coming off a losing season and its worst loss since the days when FDR was a head coach. Like the magician he is, both on and off the field, Holtz vanished from Minnesota through an escape clause in his contract which allowed him to take only one other job on God's green earth -- at God's Golden Dome as coach of God's College Football Team.

Yesterday was the Minnesota Gophers; today is the Fighting Irish, a band of hardly disciplined and hardly motivated prima donnas who seemed to arbitrarily decide when and if they felt like playing winning football mixed with a precious few who really cared about the team concept. There will be no such rift this season. Already Holtz has met with his players on a personal

basis and given them a shirt which has the word "TEAM" across the top and the word "me" across the bottom. Certainly, no shirts have ever won a football game, but Holtz is deadly serious about winning again. Being taken seriously has been Holtz' major problem.

In their first meeting, the players slouched in their seats, half-expecting a stand-up routine. They didn't get one. Sure, he may be funny, but when he's on that field or getting ready to take the field, no one will mistake him for Johnny Carson.

"I wouldn't say I'm mean, but I would say I'm very demanding, very intense," said Holtz just before the Christmas holidays. That, by the way, is not the person captured in print. Read articles about Holtz and there often will be a sidebar filled with "Holtzisms" because the guy is so dolgurned funny. Note however, the very fine line between being a humorist and being a comedian. Holtz is a good measure of the former and almost none of the latter.

A humorist makes light of a situation with a purpose in mind while a comedian is looking for laughs and little else. Humor, and not comedy, can be a way to defuse the banality of the typical questions a football coach gets asked in the course of a season.

Photo courtesy of SB Tribune



New Irish coach Lou Holtz



Photo courtesy of SB Tribune

Corrigan and Holtz meet the press.

Sample question: "Say, Coach Holtz, Jockstrap Tech has the best defense in the country, do you think you can move the ball on them?"

Sample Lou Holtz answer: "I'm convinced we're going to move the ball. I just hope to God it's forward."

See how that works? Instead of grating on forever about drive blocking and crossbucks and influence plays, he simply says, "Yeah, we're gonna move the ball." What is he supposed to say? "No, they're just too good for us"?

His quip that Notre Dame fans seemed to be unarmed made great copy at his initial press conference, but the comment was not made for the express purpose of being funny. How else do you answer questions about the pressures of coaching at Notre Dame when you've never felt it? The humorous answer to a nebulous question is a Holtz trademark. Holtz deals in honesty and a homespun philosophy which just so happens to work good things, not miracles. What Holtz did at Minnesota was not so much perform a miracle as get the same people who were 1-10 the previous year to believe that they could win. When asked how his dad does it, son Skip says, "Motivation."

Ah, yes, motivation. That was supposed to be Gerry Faust's hallmark until it became painfully obvious that you cannot treat college men like high school boys and expect their confidence and respect. Talk to successful coaches in any sport and their players and they'll tell you that the key to good coaching is knowing how to get the best out of your players. Some need to be pushed and berated, some need to be handled with velvet gloves, some need the rah-rah while others need the soft sell brand of motivation. That's the kind of knowledge that comes with 15 years as a collegiate head coach.

In Holtz' introductory press conference, athletic director Gene Corrigan stated that previous college coaching experience was a definite qualification for the Notre Dame job, a sort of back-handed acknowledgement that the hiring of Gerry Faust may have been a mistake, no matter how fine a man he was and is. Before settling on Holtz, Corrigan enlisted the aid of Ara Parseghian, a man who knows something about coaching at Notre Dame.

Parseghian told Corrigan, "People forget that I was a head coach for 14 years before I came to Notre Dame, and I needed every one of those when I got here." From the experience stand-

There is a very fine line between being a humorist and comedian...Holtz is a good measure of the former and almost none of the latter.

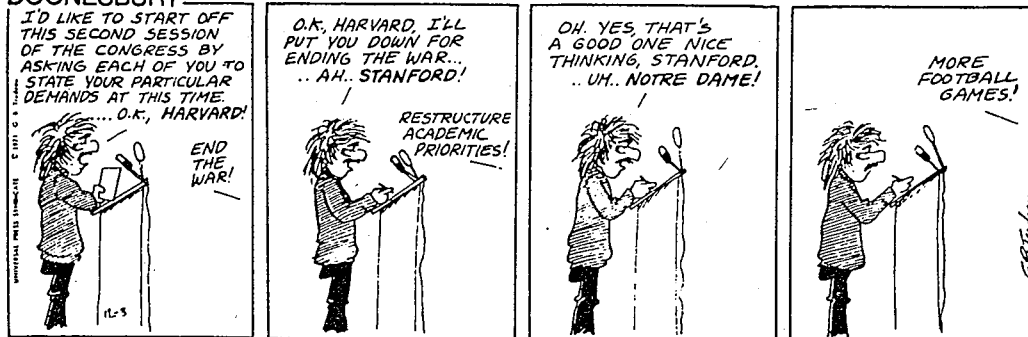
point, Holtz is eminently qualified.

In college football circles, Holtz has been around the block, up the next street and across to the corner drugstore. He's been a grad assistant, a fulltime assistant and a head coach. He's coached at smaller schools (William and Mary) and larger schools (Arkansas). He's weathered his share of controversy ranging from the suspension of three black athletes following their discovery in a partly-clad coed's room on the eve of an Orange Bowl clash with Oklahoma (the Razorbacks buried the Sooners 31-6) to his eventual dismissal from Arkansas for no apparent reason. And he wears it well despite what he calls "a physique which appears I've been afflicted with beri-beri and scurvy most of my life."

See, there he goes again.

But seriously folks, Lou Holtz is a winner. Why? He gives his teams a purpose and makes sure they carry out their assignments. There's a right way and a wrong way to do things in the Lou Holtz cosmos and if you won't do 'em the right way you might as well clean out your locker or dust off a spot on the bench. "I refuse to compromise what I believe in," states Holtz matter-of-factly. There you have it. The buck stops here. The winning starts here. ●

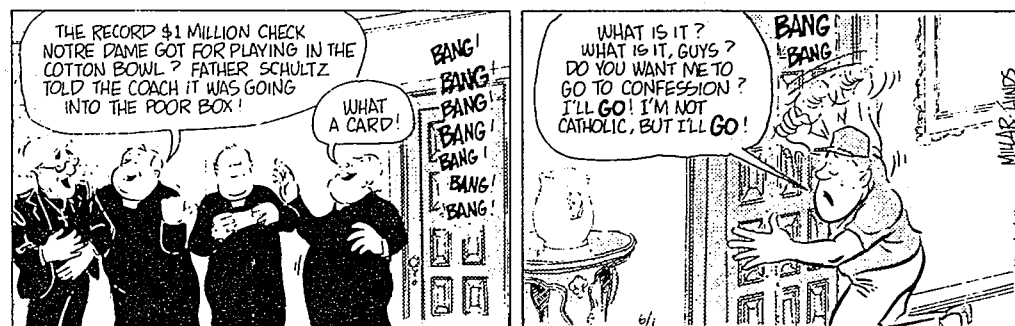
DOONESBURY



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TANK MCNAMARA

by Jeff Millar & Bill Hinds



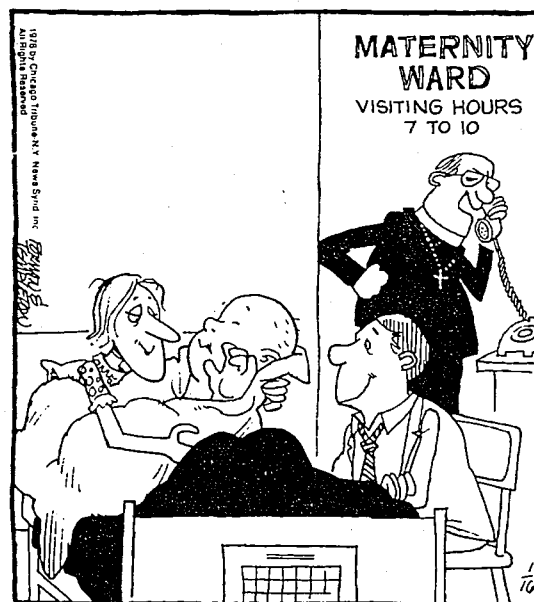
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OUR PARISH



"This is the one thing in the Church that's the same as it was when I was a boy!"

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"HELLO, NOTRE DAME ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT?"

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