

THE OBSERVER

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Oklahoma Offense: Too Soon-er For The Notre Dame Defense?

By Terry O'Neil

It takes you back to the Georgia Tech locker room Nov. 18, after the Irish had trounced the Yellowjackets 36-3 on Grant Field, Atlanta.

Tech coach Bud Carson is moaning softly. "Sure, their linemen are the biggest in the country. I know they're tough and agile. But it's the linebackers and the secondary that make Notre Dame's defense go."

Coach John Ray - - he of the gravelly voiced exhortations, he of the unique psyching tactics, the nation's finest and most widely sought assistant coach, Notre Dame's Secretary of Defense - - agrees with Carson. He calls those seven deep spots in his 4-4-3 defense, "the skilled positions."

Today, guys named Kelly, Neidert, Kondrila, Lavin, Gasser, Quinn and Jackson will be Notre Dame's and secondary. Their skill is unknown. Their

experience is virtually zero. Ray claims their pride and courage is well into the billions.

In four years here, Ray's defenses have yielded 7.8 points per game, an average padded by "garbage points" scored long after a game's outcome had been decided. Those units averaged more than four returning lettermen per year at the seven "skilled positions."

The 1968 linebackers and defensive backs can produce only one letterman, safety Tom Quinn. Quinn and inside linebacker John Lavin are the only two who have seen any varsity experience at all - - a total of 181 minutes, 29 seconds.

Four of the "skilled performers" are sophomores - - linebackers Mike Kondrila, Tim Kelly and Bob Neidert and

halfback Ernie Jackson. Junior halfback John Gasser will see his first action today after spending 1967 on the prep squad.

Ray severely understates the deep seven's plight: "They are under a great deal of pressure."

Even without injuries, the Irish defense would be taxed to stop the Sooners. But junior co-captain suffered a badly sprained ankle Sept. 6 and sophomore Jim Wright tore knee ligaments last Monday. They are replaced in the starting lineup by Neidert and Kondrila.

The front four boasts precisely half a ton of lettermen. Mike McCoy (6-5, 270) and Bob Jockish (6-3, 245) are the tackles; Chuck Lauk (6-1, 230) and Bob Kuedhenbert (6-2, 245) are the ends.

"We're very pleased with the progress of the front four," says Ray. "But even of they put a great deal of pressure on the quarterback, a mistake in the secondary might beat us. We

know these men have plenty of courage and pride, but without actual game experience they're very handicapped."

Ray has nominated Kuechenberg to call defensive signals this week. "Without Olson in there, he's our leader," Ray says.

The Sooners, meanwhile, are experienced and virtually injury-free. Only offensive tackle Jack Porter, left defensive end Larry MacDuff, noseguard Ken Davis and left linebacker Steve Casteel are non-monogram winners among the Oklahoma starters. Oklahoma's 22 first stringers have won a total of 25 letters. Sooner offensive end Steve Zabel may be going at slightly less than top speed today. He broke a bone in his foot during a wave drill on Oklahoma's first day of practice. Zabel, who also punts for the Sooners, "will play some," according to coach Chuck Fairbanks.

The Starters

SE Jim Seymour (85)
 LT Jim Reilly (61)
 LG Tom McKinley (79)
 C Tim Monty (55)
 RG Larry DiNardo (56)
 RT George Kunz (78)
 TE Jim Winegardner (96)
 QB Terry Hanratty (5)
 HB Bob Gladioux (20)
 HB Frank Criniti (21)
 FB Jeff Zimmerman (47)

LE Chick Lauck (93)
 LT Bob Jockish (70)
 RT Mike McCoy (77)
 RE Bob Kuechenberg (75)
 LB Tim Kelly (42)
 LB John Lavin (41)
 LB Mike Kondrila (34)
 LB Bob Neidert (88)
 HB Ernie Jackson (25)
 HB John Gasser (46)
 S Tom Quinn (19)

WT Jack Porter (74)
 WG Ed Lancaster (62)
 C Ken Mendenall (50)
 SG Bill Elfstrom (60)
 ST Byron Bigby (73)
 SE Joe Killingsworth
 QB Bobby Warmack (11)
 HB Eddie Hinton
 FB Mike Harper (40)
 TB Steve Owens (36)

LT Dick Paaso (79)
 MG Ken Davis (64)
 RT John Titsworth (78)
 RE Jim Files (84)
 LLB Steve Casteel (44)
 RLB Don Pfrimmer (43)
 MLB Gary Harper (45)
 LH Bruce Stensrud
 RH Joe Pearce (41)
 S Steve Barrett (35)

Hanratty Assaults The Record Book

(Editor's Note Irish quarterback Terry Hanratty has an opportunity this season to break six all-time Notre Dame records. In this weekly feature, The Observer keeps you abreast of his assault on the record book.)

Touchdowns Passing
 Angelo Bertelli (1941-43) 28
 Bob Williams 26
 George Izo (1957-59) 18
 Ralph Gugliemi 18
 Johnny Lujack (1943-47) 18
 John Huarte 17
 Terry Hanratty 17

Passes Completed
 Ralph Gugliemi 209
 Bob Williams 190
 Terry Hanratty 188



Eddie Hinton leads a potent Oklahoma offense. . .



against a fierce defense, typified by Mike McCoy.

Today's Lineups - - - Pages 4 and 5

Campus News Round-Up

Laetare Award

In Paris today American Ambassador to France, R. Sargent Shriver will be presented the Notre Dame Laetare Medal, given annually to an American Catholic layman who has distinguished himself in both his private and professional life.

The Rev. Theodore M. Hesburgh, C.S.C., Notre Dame's president, will confer the honor on the 52-year-old diplomat during a reception at the Maison de L'Amérique Latine starting at 6 p.m.

Shriver was named recipient of the gold medal last March, when he was cited for his service as director of the Peace Corps and the U.S. Office of Economic Opportunity.

Among those invited to the Paris ceremony are: officials of the French government, ecclesiastical dignitaries, members of the diplomatic corps, educational leaders, former Laetare Medalists and Notre Dame alumni in France.

The medal has been awarded by the University since 1883. Recently honored notables include: the late President John F. Kennedy, poet Phyllis McGinley, and psychiatrist Francis Braceland.

Campus Speakers

The Student Union Academic Commission brings two

outspoken personalities to campus next week; one a representative of the European left; the other of the American Right.

On Thursday at 8 p.m., Ernest Mandell, an expert on communism and editor-in-chief of La Gauche, a Belgium Left-Socialist weekly, will speak in the Memorial Library Auditorium. On Sunday at 4 p.m., Sen. Strom Thurmond of South Carolina, whose dealings in Miami during the Republican Convention aroused claims of a Southern sell-out, will appear in Washington Hall.

Both talks are free and open to the public.

At SMC

Saint Mary's College recently formulated a community government was unveiled this week. According to its makers, this arrangement is designed to bring together all the elements that make up the college; students, faculty, and administration, and give them a voice in normally administrative decisions. The new government is structured with the power filtering down from the president of the college at the top to the hall legislatures at the

bottom. In between there is a plethora of committees.

Father Broestl New Asst. V.P.

The Rev. Laurence G. Broestl, C.S.C., has been appointed assistant vice president for student affairs, Rev. Charles McCarragher, C.S.C., vice president for student affairs, announced. Father Broestl, 59, a member of the Notre Dame modern languages department since 1948, succeeds Rev. Daniel O'Neill, C.S.C., who will be assistant University chaplain.

A 1933 graduate of Notre Dame, Father Broestl holds an M.A. degree from Catholic University of America and has also taught at St. Edward's University and Portland University. His specialty is German and his responsibilities will include overseas programs and advising foreign students.

Theatrical Plans

The ND-SMC theatre has announced its plans for the coming school year. The main productions will be Rhinoceros,

Candida, Antigone, and the musical Camelot.

Stipend Change

In addition there will be a number of Studio productions, a laboratory series, including experimental plays, and later in the year a small touring group. A Black Arts Festival and an 1840's week will also be staged in connection with other departments.

According to Personnel Director Joseph O'Brien, sons of faculty members attending Notre Dame will receive tuition remission this year even if they do not accept employment. Their stipend will be reduced by the amount that the work would have been worth, but they will receive the balance.

The OBSERVER

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One of the best ways to keep in touch with home is to let the OBSERVER write home for you. Starting Sept. 23 the Observer will be writing home every day. Keep your parents informed as to what students are doing and thinking at Notre Dame.

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Gluteus Maximus Aids Sooner Kicker

NORMAN, Okla., — Every good placekicker needs to be fat in the gluteus maximus. Gluteus maximus?

"Rear end," Derr clarifies with a straight face. "That's where most of your power comes from."

The Sooner sophomore's power is coming from somewhere because he's already kicked two 65-yard practice field goals with Oklahoma's rampant wind. In a scrimmage last week, his 46-yarder argued with a stiff breeze and won

easily.

This kind of thing is soft music to coach Chuck Fairbanks' nerves. He knows that when the Sooners need a field goal or an extra point he can slap Bruce on the rear--er--gluteus maximus--tell him to get out there and kick one through, and feel it will get done.

Derr believes he would not remain here long if quarterback Bob Warmack wasn't around to hold the ball for him. "That's the most important thing," Bruce explains. "The holder has to get the ball on the tee. If not, I can't kick it. Bobby does a great job."

Bruce thought he would do a great job on the opening kickoff in the varsity-alumni game last spring.

"It was my first kickoff in public here," he grins. "I put the ball on the tee, stepped to the side and threw my leg in the air to loosen up. When I did I fell flat on my rear. Right there in front of everybody."

"My ego was damaged. I wasn't thinking about my kicking ability."

Flat on your what?

"On--flat on my gluteus maximus," he corrected with a grin.



One of the big battles of today's game should occur between Notre Dame's Jim Seymour (left) and Oklahoma's Steve Zabel (right).

Pfrimmer in Pfront

NORMAN, Okla., — Don Pfrimmer won't have to worry about his name being misspelled in the official football program when Oklahoma opens today in Notre Dame Stadium.

The typesetter of that Irish publication happens to be a member of the Pfrimmer family. He is Lloyd Rupel, grandfather of Pfrimmer's wife, Suzie, and owner of a typesetting firm in South Bend.

"Mr. Rupel has been kidding is about this game for a long time," discloses the lightish Sooner linebacker whose name is frequently goofed in print. "He writes and tells us to watch out for those big boys up there."

Don has never met his wife's grandfather.

"We'll meet this fall," grins Don. "On his home ground."

The Notre Dame game worries

Pfrimmer a heck of a lot more than the Notre Dame program.

Don remembers when the Irish let the air out of Oklahoma 38-0 in 1966. He watched it from the stands, waiting out a year before becoming eligible after transferring from Trinity (of Texas) University.

"Kinda frightening," Pfrimmer describes it. "I didn't know they made college players that big. They looked like a machine, too. Good precision. I was impressed."


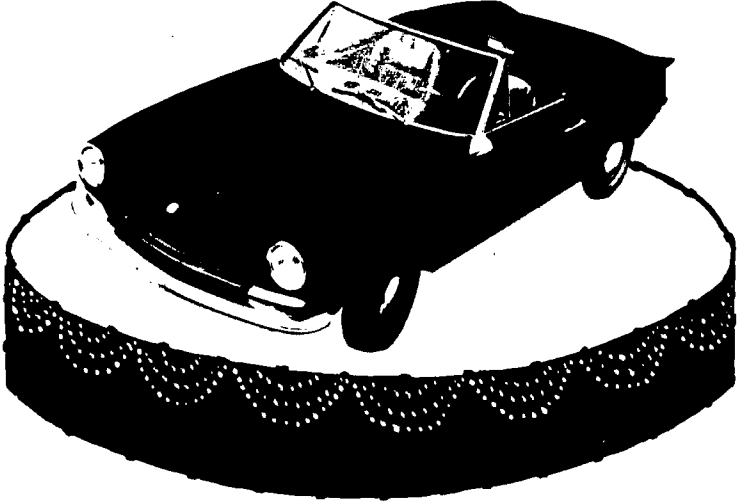
"I've been reading where their defense is supposed to be weaker this year but I don't believe it. I expect a lot from 'em."

"We'll really have to play as a unit to stay in the game," Pfrimmer believes. "We haven't got a lot of exceptional players. It'll take a good team attitude."

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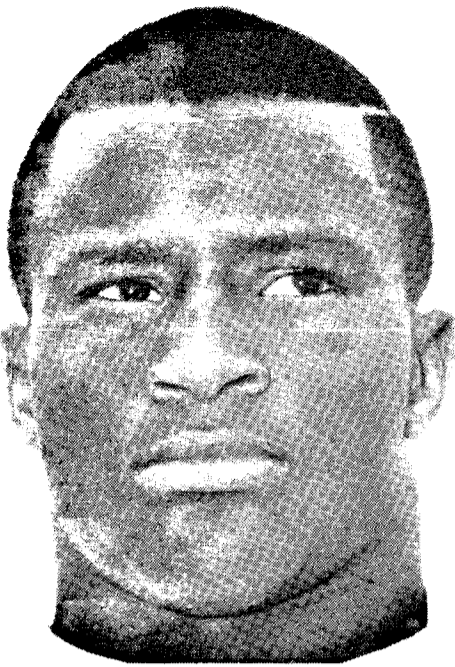
No.	Name	Pos.	Age	Ht.	Wt.	Class	Hometown
2	Belden, Bob	QB	21	6-2	205	Sr.	Canton, Ohio
3	O'Brien, Coley	DB-QB	21	5-11	180	Sr.	Washington, D.C.
4	Gardner, John	QB	19	6-2	195	So.	Colorado Springs, Col.
5	Hanratty, Terry	QB	21	6-1	215	Sr.	Butler, Pa.
7	Theismann, Joe	QB	19	6-0	170	So.	South River, N.J.
8	Sigrist, Tim	HB	19	6-0	184	So.	Altoona, Pa.
!)	Devine, Ed	HB	19	6-2	205	Jr.	Waldick, N.J.
11	Reid, Don	DHB	20	6-1	185	Jr.	Flint, Mich.
12	Reynolds, Tom	LB	20	6-0	185	Jr.	Ogden Dunes, Ind.
14	Wack, Steve	DHB	19	6-1	190	So.	Portland, Ore.
15	Standring, Jay	DHB	20	5-10	190	Jr.	Chicago, Ill.
16	Sheahan, Jim	DHB	19	5-11	188	So.	Bellevue, Wash.
17	Landolfi, Chuck	HB-FB	21	5-11	205	Sr.	ELLWOOD City, Pa.
18	Slettvet, Tom	HB	20	6-0	202	Jr.	Sumner, Wash.
19	Quinn, Tom	DHB	21	6-1	200	Sr.	Clinton, Iowa
20	Gladieux, Bob	HB	21	5-11	185	Sr.	Louisville, Ky.
21	Criniti, Frank	HB	21	5-8	180	Sr.	Charleston, W.Va.
22	Allen, Denny	HB	19	5-11	190	So.	Ashtabuls, Ohio
23	Ness, Rick	LB	20	6-0	215	Jr.	Great Falls, Mont.
24	Schumacher, Larry	LB	20	6-0	205	Jr.	East Orange, N.J.
25	Jackson, Ernie	DHB	19	6-0	182	So.	Bartlesville, Okla.
26	Wittliff, Phil	DHB	20	6-2	205	Jr.	Port Huron, Mich.
27	Zloch, Chuck	DHB	19	5-11	180	So.	Fort Lauderdale, Fla.
28	Nightingale, Chuck	HB	19	5-10	165	So.	Valparaiso, Ind.
30	Merletti, Jim	LB	20	6-0	205	Jr.	Akron, Ohio
31	Johnson, Ron	LB	19	5-10	208	So.	Seattle, Wash.
32	Ziegler, Ed	HB	20	6-1	213	Jr.	Newport, Ky.
33	Barz, Bill	FB	19	6-2	220	So.	Country Club Hills, Ill.
34	Kondrla, Mike	LB	19	6-0	216	So.	Oaklyn, N.J.
35	Vuillemin, Ed	DE	20	6-2	205	Sr.	Akron, Ohio
36	Olson, Bob	LB	20	6-0	230	Jr.	Superior, Wisconsin
37	Blainey, Jim	DT	20	6-1	255	So.	Markham, Ont., Canada
38	Dushney, Ron	FB	21	5-10	195	Sr.	Peckville, Pa.
39	Lambert, Steve	FB	20	6-1	210	Jr.	Kankakee, Ill.
40	Wright, Jim	LB	19	6-1	220	So.	Sparta, N.J.
41	Lavin, John	LB	21	6-4	225	Sr.	Spokane, Wash.
42	Kelly, Tim	LB	6-1	212	So.	Springfield, Ohio	
43	McHale, John	LB	19	5-11	205	So.	Chamblee, Ga.
44	Malone, Mike	DE	21	6-1	226	Sr.	Elmira, N.Y.
45	Falsetta, Tony	SE	19	6-3	270	So.	Mount Pleasant, Mich.
46	Gasser, John	DHB	20	6-2	178	Jr.	Logan, Ohio
47	Zimmerman, Jeff	FB	20	6-1	205	Jr.	Orwigsburg, Pa.
48	Kiliany, Dennis	LB	21	6-1	218	Sr.	Youngstown, Ohio
49	Donohue, Pete	LB	20	6-0	202	Jr.	Cincinnati, Ohio
51	Holtzapfel, Mike	C	21	6-1	215	Sr.	Ironton, Ohio
52	Hempel, Scott	OG	19	6-0	235	So.	Copley, Ohio
53	Fischer, Ray	OG-T	21	6-1	220	Sr.	Cleveland, Ohio
54	Vuillemin, Larry	C	19	6-3	240	Jr.	Akron, Ohio
55	Monty, Tim	C	21	6-0	220	Sr.	St. Albans, Vt.
57	Freebery, Joe	LB	21	6-0	207	Sr.	Wilmington, Dela.
58	Buches, Steve	C	19	6-3	235	So.	Clairton, Pa.
59	Nash, Tom	OG	20	6-1	225	Jr.	Flushing, N.Y.
60	Cotter, Bob	OG	19	6-2	215	So.	Chicago, Ill.
61	Reilly, Jim	OG	20	6-2	230	Jr.	Yonkers, N.Y.
62	Kos, Gary	DT	19	6-2	234	So.	Minneapolis, Minn.
63	Ruzicka, Jim	OG	20	6-1	235	Jr.	Portland, Ore.
64	Brennan, Terry	OT	20	6-4	230	Jr.	Chicago, Ill.
65	Racanelli, Vito	OG	20	6-1	210	Jr.	Chicago, Ill.
66	Capers, Tony	DE-T	19	6-2	248	So.	Warren, Ohio
67	Wisne, Gerry	DT	21	6-4	230	Sr.	Detroit, Mich.
68	Harkins, Randy	OG	20	6-3	235	Jr.	Athens, Ohio
69	Tuck, Ed	OG-T	21	6-3	235	Sr.	Harrison, N.J.
70	Jockish, Bog	DT	20	6-3	260	Jr.	Peoria, Ill.
71	Kelly, George	DT	20	6-3	220	Jr.	Butler, Pa.
72	Norri, Eric	DT	21	6-2	245	Sr.	Virginia, Minn.
73	Martin, Mike	OT	19	6-4	260	So.	Roseburg, Ore.
74	Mudron, Pat	DT	19	6-0	240	So.	Joliet, Ill.
75	Kuechenberg, Bob	DE	21	6-2	245	Sr.	Hobart, Ind.
76	Kennedy, Chuck	Ot	20	6-3	240	Jr.	Claymont, Del.
77	McCoy, Mike	DT	20	6-5	270	Jr.	Erie, Pa.
78	Kunz, George	OT	21	6-5	240	Sr.	Arcadia, Calif.
79	McKinley, Tom	OG	21	6-1	235	Sr.	Kalamazoo, Mich.
80	Poskon, Dewey	TE	20	6-4	220	Jr.	Elizabeth, Pa.
81	deArrieta, Jim	DHB	20	6-1	190	Jr.	Winnemucca, Nev.
82	Gasseling, Tom	DE	19	6-2	235	So.	Wapato, Wash.
83	Fulong, Nick	SE	20	6-1	200	Jr.	Pelham, N.Y.
84	Zilly, John	OT	19	6-5	240	So.	Narragansett, R.I.
85	Seymour, Jim	SE	21	6-4	205	Sr.	Berkley, Mich.
86	Heneghan, Curt	DHB	21	6-3	190	Sr.	Redmond, Wash.
87	Lawson, Tom	TE	20	6-5	230	Jr.	New City, N.Y.
88	Neidert, Bob	LB-DE	19	6-0	210	So.	Akron, Ohio
89	Eaton, Tom	SE	19	6-3	220	So.	Lancaster, Ohio
90	Stark, Craig	SE	19	6-5	210	So.	South Bend, Ind.
91	Ziznewski, Jay	ST	20	6-7	250	Jr.	Perth Amboy, N.J.
92	Snow, Paul	SE	21	6-1	180	Sr.	Long Beach, Calif.
93	Lauck, Chick	DE	21	6-1	225	Sr.	Indianapolis, Ind.
95	Hartzel, Nick	DE	19	6-4	200	So.	White Bear Lake, Minn.
96	Winegardner, Jim	TE	21	6-4	225	Sr.	Lima, Ohio

OKLAHOMA

No.	Name	Pos.	Age	Ht.	Wt.	Class	Hometown
11	Warmack, Bob	QB	21	6-0	174	Sr.	Ada, Okla.
14	Burgar, Jim	QB	22	5-11	180	Sr.	Lindsay, Okla.
16	Ripley, Mickey	QB	20	6-0	178	Jr.	Parry, Okla.
17	Stensrud, Bruce,	DHB	20	5-10	174	Jr.	Dallas, Tex.
18	Linn, Jimmy	M	22	6-0	187	Sr.	Tulsa, Okla.
20	Derr, Bruce	K	20	6-0	180	So.	Harvey, Ill.
22	Johnson, Marcellous	TB	20	5-11	190	So.	Chickasha, Okla.
25	DeBose, SanToi	WB	21	6-1	190	Jr.	Oklahoma City, Okla.
27	Quick, Jim	TB	19	5-9	185	So.	Ardmore, Okla.
28	Nelson, Wayne	RE	22	6-1	192.1	Sr.	Claremore, Okla.
29	Thompson, Bobby,	HB	21	5-11	181	Jr.	Providence, R.I.
32	Hetherington, Ricky	DHB	22	5-11	180	Sr.	Dumas, Texas
33	Hinton, Eddie	WB	21	6-1	200	Jr.	Lawton, Okla.
35	Barrett, Steve	S	21	6-0	180	Sr.	Artesia, N.M.
36	Owens, Steve	TB	20			Jr.	Miami, Okla.
37	Jamar, Gary	WB	20	6-1	184	So.	Ada, Okla.
38	Phillips, Forb	S	19	6-1	190	So.	Tulsa, Okla.
40	Harper, Mike	FB	20	5-11	192	Jr.	Jenks, Okla.
41	Pearce, Joe, DHB	DHB	21	5-9	165	Jr.	Olney, Tes. Texas
42	Baldrige, Rick	FB	20	6-0	200	Jr.	Lawton, Okla.
43	Pfimmer, Don	LB	21	6-0	185	Sr.	Sules, Texas
44	Casteel, Steve	LB	20	6-3	202	So.	Garland, Texas.
45	Harper, Gary	M	21	6-2	190	Sr.	Jenks, Okla.
46	Chrisman, Gary	M	19	6-0	192	So.	Carrl Carrollton, Texas,
48	Noles, Danny	LB	21	6-0	194	Jr.	Lindsay, Okla.
50	Mendenhall, Ken	C	20	6-2,	204	Jr.	Jobes Hole, Okla.
51	McGehee, Ed	C	21	6-0	196	Jr.	Jenks, Okla.
56	Hebert, Mike	C	21	6-2	200	Jr.	Beaumont, Texas
60	Elfstrom, Bill	SG	19	6-0	202	So.	Galveston, Texas
61	Tarlton, Steve	SG	19	6-1	194	So.	Ft. Worth, Texas
62	Lancaster, Ed.	WG	22	6-0	198	Jr.	Shawnee, Okla.
64	Davis, Ken	G	19	6-2	220	So.	Plano, Texas
66	Gamble, Mike	NG	19	6-0	196	So.	Spiro, Okla.
67	Harris, Mike	WT	20	6-4	210	So.	Sulphur, La.
68	Kusiak, Joe	WG	20	5-10	200	So.	E. Chicago, Ind.
70	Peters, Jim	T	20	6-0	214	So.	Wynnewood, Okla.
72	Stephens, Rick	ST	20	6-2	204	Jr.	Andover, Kan.
73	Bigby, Byron	WT	22	6-2	211	Sr.	Columbiz, S.C.
74	Porter, Jack	ST	20	6-3	206	Jr.	Rush Springs, Okal Okla.
75	VanKrevelen, Scott	RT	19	6-0	204	So.	Enid, Okla.
76	Watson, Joh,	LT	19	6-5	208	So.	Tulsa, Okla.
78	Titsworth, John	RT	21	6-3	212	Sr.	Heaverer, Okla.
79	Paaso, Dick,	NG	26	6-1	210	Sr.	Newton, Mass.
80	Denton, Bo	WE	22	6-3	202	Sr.	Lake Villat Lake Village, Ark.
81	Dicus, Roger	WE	19	6-5	204	So.	Bixby, Okla.
82	Zabel, Steve	LB	20	6-4	212	Jr.	Thornton, Colo.
83	Killingsworth, Joe	SE	20	6-3	190	Jr.	Oklahoma, City, Oklahoma
84	Files, Jim	RE	20	6-4	212	Jr.	Ft. Smith, Ark.
86	Meacham, Randy	LT	21	6-3	218	Sr.	Clinton, Okla.
87	Helm, Louis	SE	20	6-0	162	So.	Sweeny, Texas
88	Hodge, Preshie	SE	19	6-3	185	So.	Carrollton, Texas
92	MacDuff, Larry	LE	20	6-0	192	Jr.	Fullerton, Cal
99	Smithey, Charles	LE	20	6-0	188	So.	Bonham, Okla.

Ernie Jackson Reneged

By Terry Shields



Ernie Jackson

Saturday afternoon will mark the culmination of a big decision Ernie Jackson made a few years ago. It seems that Jackson was very undecided as whether to attend Notre Dame or Oklahoma University. Well, Jackson is now a starting defensive back for the Fighting Irish, but his decision was not an easy one. He had visited both schools and they both impressed him very much. In fact, he signed a letter of intent with Oklahoma but decided on Notre Dame.

There were many things Ernie considered before finalizing his decisions. A very important factor was the location of the schools. Since he is from Bartlesville, Okla., the Sooners were given an edge here. Then too, being from Oklahoma he played against many of their recruits in high school. (Two of the more notable school boy rivals are Steve Owens, starting tailback, whom Jackson rates as the most competitive athlete he has ever met, and halfback

Eddie Hinton, who wished Ernie luck in their last encounter during the summer.) But Jackson was not narrow minded in his decision. He also considered the spirit, the educational opportunity and religion. This is what sold him on Notre Dame. So today, Jackson must prove to himself and to Oklahoma that he made the right decision on one more aspect, that is, the Irish have a better football team.

Of the game itself, Jackson expects a close contest, pitting two potent offenses against young but eager defenses. He also expects some "friendly" bumps from his home states and, no doubt, he'll give some in return. Mentally, he feels that, although only a sophomore, he has an advantage since Oklahoma has no scouting report on him. However he does expect to make mistakes as all sophomores do. Physically, his shoulder bruise has mended and he'll be there at the starting bell. The decision Ernie Jackson made could possibly ruin the Sooners chances for revenge from a game played that same year, 1966.

Fight Irish Style With More Irish

NORMAN, Okla., It's been said that the best way to fight an Irishman is with another Irishman.

If that's so, Oklahoma is in for a long afternoon today against Notre Dame.

John Titsworth, bony Sooner right tackle, is the only Irishman in Oklahoma's defensive line.

The other Sooner tackle, 202-pound Dick Paaso, is Finnish-Polish-French-Italian, nose-guard Kenny Davis, 217, is Negro and neither of the ends,

Jim Files, 208, or Larry McDuff, 185, know what they are.

So it's up to Titsworth, a South Baptist instead of a Catholic, 208 pounds instead of 250, to uphold the Oklahoma shamrock against his paddy-whacking brethren Saturday at South Bend.

Titsworth doesn't even have an Irish swagger.

"Every time I see Titsworth walk down the street I get scared. He can't even walk right," a Sooner defensive coach

declared after watching the 6-foot 3-incher duck waddle down the sidewalk.

But John has his strengths. A Saturday player who spends 100 percent of himself, he ranked second among Sooner linemen in tackles last year and led in that department as a sophomore.

Titsworth well remembers that long Saturday afternoon two years ago when the Fighting Irish kicked the Sooners around Owen field like a soccer ball. The final outcome was Notre Dame 38, Oklahoma naught.

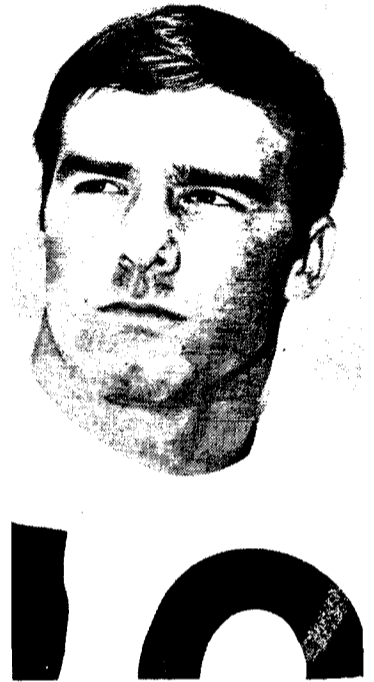
"I was pretty ashamed that

day," he said with a LeFlore country drawl instead of an Irish brogue. "I thought we could play better than we did. They really embarrassed us."

"It's real hard to keep them from blocking you out of the play—they're so big and strong and we're so little," he explained. "And they've always got real good, hard-running backs."

Was he anxious to get another crack at the Fighting Irish?

"You bet" was as close as he could get to "Yer bet'chur blamin' blarney stone."



Tom Quinn (top) and John Lavin are the only two Notre Dame deep defenders with any playing experience at all. Quinn will be at safety and Lavin at linebacker.



The Irish Eye

By Terry O'Neil, sports editor

Football Guide

Its about this time of year that coaches begin feeling useless. What's the sense in playing 10 games when the nation's sportswriters already have the season figured out?

College football goes to the post today, so let's round up some of the more important pre-season prophecies, then sit back for three months and watch an exercise in futility.

Sports Illustrated—Everybody wants to be last in this one because of the notorious SI jinx, better known as journalism's bubonic plague. It's Purdue, USC, Texas and Notre Dame, in that order. Irish defender Tony Capers rates mention as one of the country's top sophomores.

Playboy—Purdue (9-1), Oregon State (9-1), Florida (9-1), Texas A & M (8-2), Notre Dame (8-2). Terry Hanratty and George Kunz are All-America, Jim Seymour, Mike McCoy and Bob Olson honorable mention.

Look—Purdue, USC, Texas, ND. That's the identical order Sports Illustrated had. SI's plague could be contagious.

Kick-off—No nation-wide selection here, but Purdue is rated tops in the midwest while the Irish are "girded for an undistinguished season." Hanratty is All-America.

Dell—Purdue, USC, Oklahoma, ND. Hanratty collects another All-America rating. Kunz, Seymour and Olson are All-Midwest.

The Football News—Texas edges the Irish for No. 1 by 94-93 among a poll of the entire staff. Ace reporter Harry DeVold makes some sense in a separate article. He says flatly, "Notre Dame leads the list." Hanratty, Seymour, Kunz, Olson, McCoy, Bob Gladioux, Jeff Zimmerman and Bob Kuechenberg are among a huge group of All-America possibilities.

Street and Smith—Du Lac rules the nation, followed by USC, Purdue and Florida. All-America candidates: Hanratty, Seymour, Kunz and Olson.

Joe O'Day of the New York Daily News—ND, Purdue, USC, Tennessee.

College and Pro Football—Texas, Oklahoma, Purdue, Penn State, ND. Hanratty, Seymour and Olson are All-America.

ABC Radio-TV Sports—The Irish trail Southern Cal by one vote. Texas is third.

Michigan Football—The name of this one might be Ripley's Believe It or Not. A 19-year-old Michigan State sophomore, Tim Staudt, compiled the biggest football preview in recent years (160 pages) and picked the Irish 10-0. He sees the Spartans 6-4.

Oklahoma's Quick

NORMAN, Okla., — "Ever since I can remember Oklahoma was quick. And that's the kind of football I like to play."

Kenny Davis rearranged his 6-2, 2-inch, 218-pound frame in the big white recliner and draped a bed spread across his body. He was resting for the second of the Sooners' twice-a-day workouts.

He shifted his aching weight tenderly. "That's the type of ball we played at Plano. Small, quick players with a lot of movement."

A lot is being asked of the 19-year-old Plano, Texas, sophomore. In hurry-up fashion Sooner coaches are grooming him to fill up the spot All-American Granville Liggins made famous—nose guard.

Even Liggins wasn't asked to start as a sophomore, let alone debut against Notre Dame. "It's a tough challenge starting off against the best," Davis grinned through his closely-cropped mustache. "But I don't care who it's against. I'm just anxious to get out there and see how I'm going to do."

"As far as being compared to

Liggins, I try not to think about it. Liggins was great. I'll just do the best I can and try to help us win."

Davis has been helping teams win for the last few years.

He played on the 1965 Plano team that finished 14-1 and won the Texas AA championship and on the 1966 Plano outfit that went 10-2 and reached the state quarterfinals.

At Coffeyville, Kansas Junior College last year, the versatile Davis started five games as middle linebacker, two at nose-guard and even played at defensive end and offensive guard as Coffeyville finished 6-3-1.

Against Hutchinson, Kansas Juco last year, the versatile Davis intercepted a pass and streaked 40 yards for the winning score in the fourth quarter.

Did he ever dream of starting as a sophomore?

"Huh-uh," Davis shook his head. "I didn't think I would be coming up this swift."

But speed or swift or the same by any other name, is the game at Oklahoma. That's why Kenny Davis is there.

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Eddie Hinton Runs Alone No Longer

Eddie Hinton, Oklahoma's elusive wingback, got his speed running at night in Mississippi.

"Sometime the sound of your own feet makes you go faster," says the 200-pound Lawton, Oklahoma, senior.

"It started when I was a tenth-grader at Lawton and I was visiting my Mississippi cousin, Harry Charles Owens, at Meridian. He had played college ball down there and he was fast. I asked him what I could do to pick up speed.

"He said the best way was to run through Meridian at night. So I tried it. I'd been walking clear across town to a little colored cafe called the Smokehouse where a lot of kids sat around eating hamburgers, playing the juke box and having fun.

"After a while I started home, walking alone through Victor Village, a white area. You hear noises...frog hollering if it's damp, a cricket chirping, the swish of a weed blown by the wind. Pretty soon, I began trotting." Hinton paused for a moment of reflection.

"Then the wind blew a piece of paper against a fence and I switched from the concrete sidewalk to the tar-covered road and lengthened out. The sound of your own shoes hitting the pavement stimulates you. I cut loose.

"Nearly every night, I'd cover the two miles to my cousin's house alternately walking, trotting and sprinting. I never got tired. And that's how I learned to run."

It paid off handsomely. At Lawton High, he won the State Class AA low hurdles in track and was an All-America halfback in football.

Eddie didn't miss a stride when he came to OU. After two sensational seasons for the Sooners, he is regarded as the best athlete on the team and a possible No. 1 pro draft pick.

As a sophomore Hinton led the antion in punt runbacks with an average of 29.1 yards. For the past two years he has the highest rushing average on the team, six yards his sophomore year and 6.2 as a

junior. He is also the Sooners' leading receiver and needs only 17 catches to break Bill Jennings' 28-year-old career school record and only 148 yards receiving to best Ben Hart's all-time Sooner mark.

Eddie's biggest play came last year in a nationally televised game against Nebraska. With Oklahoma behind, 14-13, he swept around left end in the fourth quarter and scrambled 23 yards for the game-winning touchdown.

He didn't need to be motivated by the whistling of a cricket or the rustle of a weed, either. He had all the speed he needed and he could turn it on at will.

Eddie's grateful to that Mississippi interlude for another reason.

For years, his mother had been saving money to send him to college. When his blazing speed earned him a football scholarship and he could finance his own education, she gave him the college money to buy a car.

Now Eddie Hinton doesn't have to run alone down dark streets.



Fairbanks Lauds ND Lavishly

Oklahoma coach Jim Fairbanks has had plenty of things to say about Notre Dame this past week--all of them nice.

"I think they may have better personnel than any other college team in the country. I think they probably have more quality players," Fairbanks said of the Irish.

"There's one thing in our favor," he continued. "They can't play all their boys at once--only 11 at a time."

What worries him most about Notre Dame? "Trying to stop their running game," Fairbanks replies. "I know their passing game, with Hanratty and Seymour, is strong and has had more publicity, but their running power was chiefly responsible for their winning their last six games. We're concerned about it and we're working hard against it.

"Our problem is to stop them well enough that we can execute our own offensive game plan instead of having to play catch-up.



Kicking could be a trouble spot for Notre Dame this season. Joe Azzaro, ace placement booter of the past two seasons (above), is graduated along with Rocky Bleier (below), the best of 1967's three punters. This season, Jim deArrietta will take over for Bleier. Kickoff and extra point chores will be shared by a pair of sophomores, Scott Hempel and Tony Capers.

Casteel Remembers Vividly

NORMAN, Okla., — Steve Casteel, Oklahoma's sophomore linebacker, remembers the moment vividly.

After intercepting a pass for Garland, Texas high school, he was speeding down the sidelines enroute to a touchdown. But as he sped past the opponents' bench, an assistant coach reached out and slapped the ball from Steve's grasp.

"It kinda stunned me," recalls Casteel. "Everybody in the stands thought I'd fumbled. Even my mother.

"Luckily, a referee saw it happen and gave us the touchdown anyway. It was a 73-yard play." Anything else happen that night?

"Yep, I intercepted another one and ran it back 77 yards."

The Sooner coaching staff, figuring Steve might continue doing this sort of thing, had him stationed on the first team. They have been thanked. Casteel has

been jarring the daylights out of his teammates in scrimmages, playing like anything but the sophomore he is.

Back in grade school, Steve thought he would someday be jarring people for Texas Christian University. "I used to love TCU," he explains, "but after my senior year in high school, Coach Switzer (Barry, Sooner offense coach) sold me on Oklahoma.

"I think the world of Coach Switzer. He's one of the main reasons I'm here."

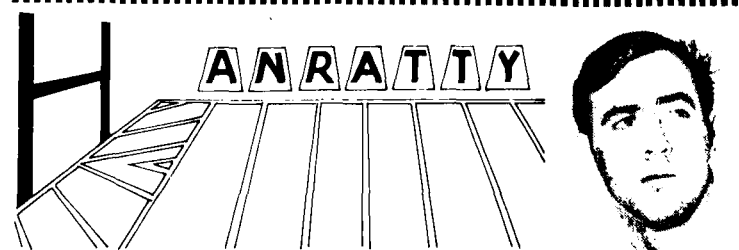
Casteel, whose 6-3, 205-pound frame lifts eyebrows,

will play alongside Don Pfrimmer, OU's other linebacker.

"Don and I have this thing going," Steve explains. "When one of us intercepts a pass the other owes him a coke. I owe Pfrimmer two cokes."

Casteel believes the hardest part about linebacking is knowing what to do when the other team comes out in a strange formation. "I'm not grasping that too well," he grins.

He was talking about formations, not intercepted passes. Those will be tightly gripped from now on.



By Terry Hanratty, Irish quarterback

Individual Team

The year 1967-69 has many different meanings for the seniors of Notre Dame. Plans for the future vary from student to student--Rick Rembusch may be making plans to be President of the United States. Bob Whitmore is thinking of ways to stop Lew Alcindor and beat UCLA. For the seniors of the Notre Dame football team, the goal is to win the National Championship, making it two out of th The Irish have had two weeks of preparation for the 1968 football season. Now the time is here. Today we will play Oklahoma for our first test of the new season.

Scouting reports for Oklahoma say the Sooners will be the fastest team we will play all year. They are coming off the '67 season with a 9-1 record plus a very impressive victory over Tennessee in the Orange Bowl.

If revenge is any way to get your players up for a game, Coach Fairbanks will have no problem getting his boys sky high. In 1966, Nick Eddy & Company beat the undefeated Sooners (4-0 before the game) 38-0. Almost the same Oklahoma team will invade the Irish stadium today looking for revenge.

Injuries play a major role in college football. Notre Dame's offensive platoon is intact, but the defensive unit is without the services of linebackers Bob Olson and Jim Wright. Co-captain Olson should be ready for Purdue next week, but Wright will be lost to the Irish for the first half of the season.

The Irish will field five players on defense that have not performed in varsity competition. Replacing the S.O.S. trio of '67 will be Ernie Jackson, John Gasser and Tom Quinn. The latter is the only returning letterman.

Other rookies in Coach Ray's defensive platoon are three of the four linebackers--Tim Kelly, Mike Kondrla and Bob Neidert. John Lavin is the veteran fourth linebacker.

Larry Di Nardo is the only other sophomore starting today. He is opposite Tom McKinley at guard.

The coaches and the upperclassmen have confidence in our newcomers and we're sure they will give Bob Warmack and the Sooners a hot stay in South Bend.

Statistical Comparison

Here is a statistical comparison of Irish and Sooner starters

QUARTERBACKS-1967

	Att.	Comp.	Pct.	Yds.
Terry Hanratty	206	110	.534	1439
Bobby Warmack	151	80	.530	1136

QUARTERBACKS-Career

Terry Hanratty	353	188	.533	2686
Bobby Warmack	254	137	.539	1979

RUNNING BACKS-1967

	Carries	Yards	Avg.
Jeff Zimmerman	133	591	4.4
Bob Gladieux	84	384	5.3
Terry Hanratty	75	183	2.4
Frank Criniti	24	90	3.8
Steve Owens	190	808	4.2
Eddie Hinton	40	250	6.2
Bobby Warmack	98	209	2.1
Mike Harper	16	85	5.3

PASS RECEIVERS-1967

	Catches	Yards	TDs
Jim Seymour	85	862	12
Bob Gladieux	35	505	4
Jim Winegardner	9	27	0
Eddie Hinton	54	768	5
Steve Zabel	22	333	3
Joe Killingsworth	18	250	1

Team Statistics -- 1967

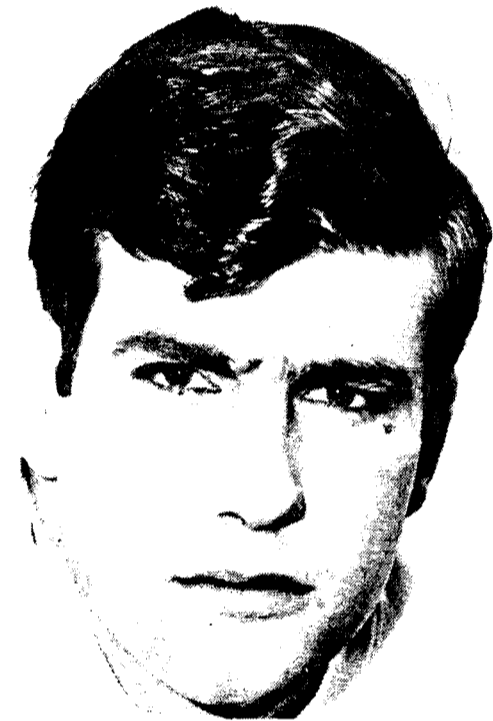
	Irish	Sooners
Net rushing	2170	2225
Net passing	1741	1300
Total offense	3911	3525
First downs	223	205
Avg. gain per rush	4.1	4.0
Fumbles, total	29	19
Fumbles, ball lost	15	8
Penalties, number	32	50
Penalties, yards lost	299	450
Net rushing yielded	1043	1341
Net passing yielded	1158	1341
Total offense yielded	2201	2682
First downs yielded	126	146



Jeff Zimmerman



Mike Harper



Jim Winegardner



Steve Owens



Bob Gladieux



Bobby Warmack