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A Tradition Continues

Scholastic is proud to continue the tradition of publishing our annual Football Review. In many ways, the 2004 season was controversial. From the disappointing 6-6 record to blow-out losses and the firing of Head Coach Tyrone Willingham, Irish fans followed the team through a tumultuous turn of events.

Some students, alumni and commentators condemned Willingham's dismissal, saying that the termination of Willingham's contract before he had completed five years at the university, as previous coaches have done, ruined Notre Dame's reputation as an institution of integrity. The Rev. Edward "Monsk" Malloy, C.S.C., the outgoing university president, publicly said he was "embarrassed" at the decision. Others agreed with incoming university president, the Rev. John Jenkins, C.S.C., when he said, in a statement to the Faculty Board on Athletics, "Although the program was strong in terms of its integrity and graduation rate, our success on the football field has not been up to our expectations." Jenkins also said that Willingham never was assured of a five-year coaching term and that the contract detailed the consequences if either party pulled out before the contract expired.

But rather than focusing on the coaching controversy of the past season, we decided to look toward the future. Scholastic's Sports Editor Christopher Meskill outlines new Head Coach Charlie Weis' path to Notre Dame on Page 6, along with profiles of his staff beginning on Page 40. News Editor Emily Paladino visits the Guglielmino Family Athletics Center, a $21.25 million investment that will benefit both current and future Notre Dame student-athletes, starting on Page 10. Finally, Editor in Chief Mike Borgia examines the challenge of balancing football success with high academic standards for the university's student-athletes beginning on Page 42.

We hope that you will join us in welcoming Coach Weis and his family to the Notre Dame community as we strive for excellence in all endeavors at our university.

Our Apologies

In the Dec. 2, 2004, issue of Scholastic, a humor column by Mike Healy, entitled "My Enemy List: Things and people I hate," contained the following line: "Asian People – Just Kiddin". Since the publication of this issue, the executive staff of Scholastic has received numerous complaints via e-mail, as well as handwritten letters expressing the offensive implications of the aforementioned statement. While we understand that the writer intended the comment only to be humorous, we would like to offer our sincerest apologies to those readers who were offended and found the comment to be in poor taste. We regret the publication of the statement, which was a mistake resulting from a breakdown in our editing process. We are confident that the comment would have been removed had it received the proper consideration we strive to apply to our entire magazine. We as editors in chief take full responsibility for the error. Please see the letter from Shan-Jan Sarah Liu, president of the Asian-American Association at Notre Dame, on the following page.
To the Editorial Board of Scholastic magazine:

After reading Mike Healy's article in the latest issue of Scholastic, titled "My Enemy List: Things and People I Hate," I was shocked to find out that I was one of many things or people that Mike Healy hates. While this article appeared in a humor column and was intended to be a "joke," it only showed that Healy had failed to take into account the long history of discrimination against Asians and Asian-Americans. The comment "I hate Asians" was arbitrary and was not provided with any explanation. I, as an Asian, do not find it humorous. Instead, this seemingly harmless comment feeds into Asian-Americans' insidious past and hurts those who are still facing discrimination and coping with inequality today.

Forty years after the Civil Rights Movement and two decades after Vincent Chin's death, Asians and Asian-Americans are still struggling to be seen and heard in a nation that has extensively oppressed a certain group of people simply based on the color of their skin. While Healy was trying to show his wry sense of humor, why did Healy not say he hates "blacks"? Is it because he truly hates Asians more than he does blacks, or is it because he knows he cannot escape from "black power"? Many people still view race issues largely in terms of black and white; therefore, it is acceptable to make ethnic jokes about Asians because "racism does not apply to them." However, people should have already learned lessons from the blood and sweat that minority heroes shed to fight for equality. Whether it was Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. — who took on the more serene approach — or Malcolm X — whose action was more radical and militant — their struggles to attain equality witnessed the difficulty of achieving justice. After all these years of battling, one small joke can easily ruin all the efforts that these figures in history — as well as everyday heroes like the minority students at the University of Notre Dame — have made.

When Asians are being "hated" in Healy's article, it is no longer just a race issue. It is an issue that concerns all minority students — students who have a different skin color, religion, sexual orientation or economic background. Humorous comments about minority students who constantly endure bigotry are inappropriate and should be paid special attention. I urge that a more serious and respectful approach be taken when it comes to making jokes; not only does it hurt minority students' feelings, but it also hurts their endeavor to build a world without prejudice and discrimination.

I appreciate Scholastic's apology, which is significant to the Asian community at Notre Dame. Nevertheless, injustice does not end as we speak. It is the Asian-American Association's mission, as a representative of the voices unheard, to cultivate Asian awareness on campus. I hope that Notre Dame students will learn from the history of discrimination and strive not only to embrace but also to celebrate various ethnic cultures as a true Notre Dame family.

In Solidarity,
Shan-Jan Sarah Liu ('06)
President, Asian-American Association

Spend An Evening with Leonard Bernstein
compelling theatre on a concert hall stage
SCORE

Wednesday, February 9, 2005

A celebration of musical ecstasy and genius alive in the gloriously passionate relationship between Leonard Bernstein (as portrayed by Tom Nelis) and the music he encountered, played, conducted, wrote and loved.
Tickets: $35, $28 fac/staff, $26 seniors, $15 students
Call 631-2800 for tickets
Judgment Calls
Opinions and observations

IGLOOS ON CAMPUS
It's pretty sweet that students have built the snow structures on North and South Quads, but we're not sure if we like the idea of living in a place where you can chill in igloos.

CHARLIE WEIS
Our new football coach is headed for the Super Bowl.

SNOWED-IN CARS
Shoveling snow is bad enough, but digging through four feet of the icy, white stuff after the plow goes by is just too much.

SPONGE BOB ACCUSED OF PROMOTING HOMOSEXUALITY
Who are these people? Where did they come from? And why is this a top news story?

R.I.P. BOAT CLUB
While we'll miss $1 pitchers, it'll be nice to go to a bar with indoor plumbing.

LISTENING

“I'm going to Facebook my future husband.”
— Female student in SDH

Student: “In exit polls during the election, people said their top two concerns were terrorism and gay marriage.”
Professor: “Yeah, especially gay terrorists getting married.”

“I'll be pulling for Notre Dame. I took one look at Brady and ... I mean come on.”
— Female hotel concierge in Phoenix before the bowl game

“Flush twice. It's a long way to North Dining Hall.”
— Etched into a men's restroom stall in O'Shaughnessy

“It's a fancy wine and cheese party, so I'm bringing Mad Dog and Kraft Singles.”
— Male student in SDH

“Whoever gets this wild heart is going to have to deal with the fact that I get really gassy once in a while.”
— Female student
Textbook Frenzy
How far will students go to find cheap textbooks?

ALISAFINELLI

Buying books from China may not seem like the most convenient alternative to the Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore, but for senior Alfredo Arvide, the savings are worth the inconvenience. Arvide always has opted to save money by buying used books online rather than paying higher prices at the bookstore. Recently, he has been able to save even more by purchasing “international editions” from countries such as China, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Pakistan.

International editions of textbooks are printed in English and have the same content as copies available in the United States but are sold at lower prices in other countries. While they cannot be found in the U.S., they can be ordered online from such Web sites as www.campusbooks.com, where individuals from both inside and outside the U.S. list used books they are willing to sell at a discounted price. Arvide says some of his international editions have covers printed in another language, but none have differed in content from editions sold in the U.S.

The main inconvenience of purchasing international editions online is a lengthy shipping time. Because the books must go through customs before entering the country, long waits should be expected, warns Arvide. He says he once waited a month for a textbook to arrive from China. He recommends ordering textbooks well before classes begin.

For students who are unwilling to plan in advance, buying used textbooks online is still an option. Books shipped from within the country may take only five to 14 days according to online services like Half.com and Amazon.com. Some Web sites list multiple sellers for one textbook, as well as the city from which the book will be shipped. This way, the buyer can choose the seller located nearest to the shipping address to reduce the shipping time. However, before placing the order, students should make sure the used textbooks are the editions needed for their classes, not earlier, outdated versions.

Notre Dame students can avoid shipping costs altogether by buying and selling used textbooks on www.NDbay.com. NDbay, created in December of 2003 by current Notre Dame seniors Chris Kelly (Scholastic’s general manager) and Aaron Wenger, is an online bulletin board for students to buy and sell used textbooks. The site is open only to Notre Dame students, who can register online for free membership by providing their mailing and e-mail addresses. When a student buys a book listed on NDbay, the site notifies the seller, who then arranges to meet the buyer in person to make the actual transaction. As a result, the buyer can receive his or her book without the added wait or cost of shipping. Sellers benefit as well. They can charge more than the amount the bookstore will pay to “buy back” the textbook, while still offering a low price to the buyer.

While the online textbook market appears to be growing, the bookstore still may be one of the most convenient options for Notre Dame students. Students either can pick their books off the shelves at the bookstore, or they can order them through www.follett.com. Students then can pick up the books that already have been collected for them at the bookstore.

The bookstore management did not respond to Scholastic’s requests for comment.
As the old adage goes, "The two toughest jobs in the country are president of the United States and head football coach at the University of Notre Dame, and not necessarily in that order." Former Head Coach Tyrone Willingham learned it; Florida’s Urban Meyer was unwilling to test it, and Notre Dame Athletic Director Kevin White might disagree with it. However, following Willingham’s firing on Nov. 30, 2004, White once again was searching for a man willing to accept the scrutiny of the Notre Dame alumni, students and fans, as well as the abuse of an already restless media. On Dec. 12, 2004, White found his man in New England Patriots’ Offensive Coordinator Charlie Weis.

While Weis was not White’s first choice, he seems to fit the university. Before coaching his first game in blue and gold, Weis already has something in common with Irish legends Knute Rockne and Frank Leahy—a Notre Dame diploma. Yet, his Class of 1978 ring is not the only finger accessory that justifies Weis’ hiring, as he has three Super Bowl rings highlighting his 26-year coaching career.

Weis, however, did not begin his career as an offensive genius. Admittedly a mediocre athlete growing up, Weis still felt a connection with sports. So after graduating from Notre Dame, Weis decided to try his hand at coaching. Weis started as an assistant coach at Boonton High School in New Jersey before leaving to assist at nearby Morristown High School after only one year. “Here I was, this know-it-all 22-year-old kid with all of the answers,” Weis said. “I had all the answers; I knew it all. I was one of those guys who could watch the game and tell you all of the dumb things those coaches were doing. I was humbled working with [Morristown Head Coach John Cherone] because I learned how little football I really knew at that time.”

After six years of coaching high school football, Weis was recruited to coach at the University of South Carolina under Head Coach Joe Morrison, where Weis said he “was humbled all over again.” While with the Gamecocks, Weis worked with the defensive backs, linebackers and the defensive ends. Weis also studied at the University of South Carolina’s graduate school while on staff, earning his master’s degree in education in 1989.

Following the completion of his degree from South Carolina, Weis decided to leave the Gamecocks and return to high school football as the head coach at Franklin Township High School in New Jersey. However, Weis would only have one year of head-coaching experience before receiving a very influential phone call.

“I got a phone call one day in January and my secretary says, ‘Hey, there is a guy by the name of Bill Parcells on the phone’,” Weis said. “I said, ‘Coach, if you’re telling me I have any opportunity to come work for the Giants, just tell me where and when you want me there. I’ll be there.’”

Weis accepted Parcells’ offer to serve as the defensive assistant and assistant special-teams coach for the Giants. In his first professional season, Weis helped the Giants climb to a 13-3 record, which earned them a playoff berth. The Giants buckled down when the postseason arrived, steamrolling their way to a Super Bowl title.

After the 1990 season, the Giants underwent a head coaching change, as Parcells was forced to retire from his position due to health problems. The head-coaching change meant change for Weis as well, who now found himself on the other side of the ball as the running backs coach. However, Weis was humbled for a third time, as his first season as an offensive coach resulted in an 8-8 record.

Following a lackluster 1992 season, Weis left the Giants organization for their northern rival, the New England Patriots, where Parcells had resumed his career after a three-year hiatus.

Teaming back up with Parcells, Weis continued his coaching education with the Patriots, serving in a number of positions during his four-year stint. Weis coached the tight ends during his first two seasons, one of which included a respectable run in 1994 that resulted in a loss in the AFC wild-card game. In 1995, Weis returned to his running backs role, but he enjoyed limited success and soon changed to wide receivers coach. Following the 1995 season, Weis found himself in another familiar position, as the Patriots worked their way to an 11-5 record and a playoff berth. Despite a very impressive playoff run, the Patriots lost in the Super Bowl to Brett Favre and the Green Bay Packers.

After the Super Bowl loss, Weis followed Parcells to the New York Jets. Although he only spent three seasons with the Jets before returning to New England, Weis gained a lot from his time in New York, as he acquired his first experience as an offensive coordinator. The Jets did not have any losing seasons with Weis calling the plays, even though they only had accrued a combined four wins in the two seasons preceding Weis’ arrival. The
Weis-era Jets finished the 1998 season at 12-4, with their last loss coming in the AFC title game. In 2000, Weis decided to leave the familiar coaching patterns of Parcells, and he returned to the Patriots under Bill Belichick, the Patriots' new head coach.

Under Belichick, Weis developed his famous offensive scheme. Since 2000, Belichick has brought the Patriots to unprecedented heights, and Weis has turned quarterback Tom Brady into a franchise MVP. Following an 11-5 season in 2001, the Patriots fought their way through the playoffs to Belichick's first Super Bowl title. Their next Super Bowl win would come only two seasons later in 2003, and Weis was awarded his third championship ring. The Patriots' playoff streak is still going, as New England has advanced to the Super Bowl yet again.

Despite the media's reaction to the Willingham firing, many prominent figures in football have given Weis a vote of confidence.

"He's been a teacher and coach of high school kids, and he's got so much experience coaching NFL players like myself," Patriots wide receiver David Givens (ND '02) said. "There's no doubt in my mind he would be an outstanding recruiter because he relates so well to young people."

Weis' resume must have impressed Notre Dame. Weis has specialized in all aspects of football, has big game experience, and has molded one of the best quarterbacks to play the game. Meanwhile, Weis already has brought in a star-studded coaching staff to assist him.

Weis has dedicated himself to Notre Dame. "This is an end-all for our family," he said. "We come to Notre Dame; it's with the intent of retiring here. That's why we're coming here. We don't come here to bounce somewhere else. If that's what I was going to be doing, I would not be taking this job, and I would be waiting till the season ended in the NFL and try to get one of those jobs. I'm here because I want to be here. I'm proud to be here. I'm thankful to be here."

MEGHANGOWAN

Iris Outlaw — director of Multicultural Student Programs and Services — describes the termination of former Head Coach Tyrone Willingham as personally hurtful, a sentiment she believes many members of the African-American community at Notre Dame share.

"Ty was the most visible African-American on campus," she says. "His sudden dismissal was the straw that broke the camel's back. It rang true to the community of things students were feeling in the classroom and residence halls for a long time." Many student-athletes viewed Ty as a father figure. "He was willing to walk among students and was interested in finding out what motivated them to be successful ... sort of like a parent ... he was a role model of humility," Outlaw says.

Students organized a protest the evening Willingham's dismissal was announced. The following week, a high-ranking member of the administration distributed 1,500 shirts with the statement "It's bigger than football. It's about losing Integrity" to students and members of the community. Chandra Johnson, assistant to the president, shaved her head in protest of the decision. She declined to comment, saying that she needed time to reflect before expressing her opinions to the media.

In addition, students have organized a group called Be About Change to address the perceived racial inequalities within the Notre Dame community. According to junior co-founder Marques Bolden, the group's goal is not to bring Willingham back. "It is to bring awareness to the issue of the 'identity crisis' the university is presently enduring," he says. "If we claim to be a university of integrity and Catholic morals, then issues like the firing of Coach Ty, the lack of concern for diversity, and the seemingly overbearing focus on football prestige over academic excellence should not be occurring." Sophomore co-coordinator Frank Duerson agrees. "As a committee, we feel that there have been far too many injustices that have gone ignored at Notre Dame. Tyrone Willingham's firing acted as a mere catalyst to establish the fact that there are wrongs that need to be changed at this campus."

Outlaw also believes that equality issues at the university can improve. "Coach has moved on," she says. "Our reaction can serve another purpose: It can encourage Notre Dame to open its arms and truly embrace diversity throughout the institution."

A Program’s Integrity

Megan Monahan
DomeLights

Compiled by Mike Healy

One Last Look Back...

Source: ND Football Archives

Well, it's official: The Ty Willingham era is over in South Bend. Coach Willingham presided over a very volatile three years of football here at Notre Dame. Just for a little bit of perspective, we here at Scholastic would like to point out that when Mr. Willingham took over our Fightin' Irish, teen music was all the rage, George W. Bush was president, and the students currently comprising Notre Dame's junior class were still teenagers. That being said, here is a quick look back at the ups and downs of Willingham's time as head coach:

Q&A

With the Notre Dame Football Senior

Carlyle Holiday

Carlyle Holiday recently has finished a five-year career with the Irish that, although rocky at times, also was respected. Over the course of the past five years, Holiday has played quarterback, receiver and — most recently — punt returner. While currently training in New Jersey for the NFL draft, Holiday took time to answer some questions for Scholastic.

What position did you most enjoy playing, and why?

Definitely quarterback. I loved having the ball in my hand and being involved in every play. It's the position that everyone wants to be as a kid. It was just amazing to me.

What would you say was your best moment at Notre Dame?

Well, there are two. One: graduating. The other is scoring my first touchdown. It was my freshman year, and I had a 63-yard touchdown run. It was one of the best feelings I've ever had.

What is your favorite spot on campus?

When I lived in Carroll Hall, there's a basketball court that I would go play on when I got bored — right by the lake. Either that, or the library. (Laughs.) Just joking.

What was the toughest situation you faced as a player, and how did you handle it?

After the Michigan State game in 2003, I knew it was the last time I would play as quarterback. That Monday, lots of things were said about it in The Observer, and lots of my friends called me, upset and crying. I honestly didn't leave my room for two days, but then I just realized that things like this happen.

How did you deal with all the scrutiny that you received as a football player over the years?

Well, it's not for everybody. I realized that it would happen, and I tried to learn from it. By dealing with it in a positive way, I got more respect from the media. I was able to turn it all into a positive situation.

What are your plans for next year?

I want to continue playing football somewhere, somehow. Football right now is the main goal. I guess I'll get a job if I have to. (Laughs.)

— Katie Solan

Do you have a favorite movie?

I have three — "Gladiator," "Braveheart," and "The Big Lebowski." "The Big Lebowski" is hilarious. The idea of being a sloth — "the dude" — is wonderful.

Do you have a nickname on the field? C-lyle. Mostly because the guys just can't pronounce my name.

What, in your opinion, is the best video game?

"Grand Theft Auto: San Andreas." It's the greatest game ever.

How much time a day do you average playing PS2?

Sometimes six hours. I'm not gonna lie; when "GTA: San Andreas" first came out, I spent about 10 hours playing.

What was your most embarrassing collegiate moment?

It was the game against Washington State, two years ago. I don't know what happened, but I started to daydream during the middle of the play. The whole stadium was yelling at me. I think I may have been knocked out or something. Ten seconds ran off the clock; everyone was pretty mad.

What are you plans for next year?

I want to continue playing football somewhere, somehow. Football right now is the main goal. I guess I'll get a job if I have to. (Laughs.)

— Katie Solan

583 Coach Willingham's career-winning percentage at Notre Dame (21-15 over three years)

10th Where that winning percentage ranks among Notre Dame's 14 head coaches since 1918; he is tied with Bob Davie

7 Wins over ranked opponents for the Irish under Willingham

8 Losses by 21 points or greater suffered by the Irish under Willingham

8 Players sent to the NFL during the Willingham era
Irish in the NFL

Scholastic highlights a few Notre Dame stars who have continued to shine in the NFL

CHRISTOPHER MESKILL


Despite a lackluster career at Notre Dame, wide receiver David Givens has turned into a star in the pros. Drafted in the seventh round in 2002, Givens quickly became a major impact-player. He played in 13 games in 2003 and helped the Patriots win Super Bowl XXXVIII. This year, Givens has served as once-rival quarterback Tom Brady's (Michigan '99) favorite receiver, leading the team with 847 yards on the season. Givens and the Patriots advanced to the Super Bowl again this season with a win over the Pittsburgh Steelers and will be seeking their third championship in four years.

Tim Brown (1984-1987), WR Tampa Bay Buccaneers

Tim Brown, Notre Dame's 1987 Heisman Trophy winner, is considered one of the best wide receivers ever to play football. The eight-time NFL Pro-Bowler has the second most receiving yards (14,734) in history and also is second in seasons with at least 1,000 yards (9). Brown, currently in his first season with the Buccaneers, played the other 17 years of his career with the Oakland Raiders.

Julius Jones (1999-2001, 2003), RB Dallas Cowboys

Running back Julius Jones, the Irish's most recent NFL standout, earned the starting running back position for the Dallas Cowboys in his rookie season, outplaying previous Heisman-winner Eddie George. After Jones' heroics for Notre Dame last year, the Cowboys drafted him in the second round. Dallas Head Coach Bill Parcells picked Jones to be the cornerstone of a new generation of Cowboys, and so far he has looked like a genius for the move. Jones has seven touchdowns in seven starts, including 819 rushing yards on 197 attempts, as well as another 107 yards on 17 receptions.

Jerome Bettis (1990-1992), RB Pittsburgh Steelers

Drafted into the NFL in 1993, Bettis has played for the Los Angeles Rams and is now the starting running back for the Pittsburgh Steelers, a position he has held for most of his career. At 5 feet 11 inches and 255 pounds, the "Bus" has become the prototype for a power tailback and has pushed his way to eight 1,000-plus-yard seasons in his 12-year career. Despite splitting time this season, Bettis has scored a career-high 13 touchdowns and helped the Steelers to a 16-2 record and an AFC Championship appearance. In addition to his contributions on the field, Bettis has dedicated himself to charity work. Since its inception in 1996, Bettis' The Bus Stops Here Foundation has been raising money to help improve the quality of life for underprivileged children in America's inner cities.
The Great Guglielmino

The new “Gug” offers Notre Dame athletes the best of the best

EMIL PALADINO

Last fall, the university proved it was serious about the performing arts by opening the Marie P. DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts. This coming fall, the university will demonstrate its commitment to furthering an art of a different kind — the art of sport.

With the opening of the $21.25 million Don F. and Flora Guglielmino Family Athletics Center, Notre Dame’s 800 varsity athletes will have the opportunity to take advantage of an athletic facility that is just as innovative as the highly-acclaimed PAC.

The building, though still unfinished, has already been nicknamed the “Gug” (pronounced “goog”) and adjoins the west side of the Loftus Center. It will become the football team’s new headquarters, and the 95,840-square-foot facility will be open to all of Notre Dame’s student-athletes. Boasting a football locker room, training facilities, meeting rooms, coaches’ offices, a place to review game tapes, and a 50-seat auditorium, the new building will double the space the university currently devotes to athletics.

Steering Associate Athletic Director John Heisler says the main advantage of the space is that it combines most of the university’s athletic resources under one roof. “This is the first time we’ve been able to incorporate all of these things into the same space,” he says. These improvements mean that players no longer will need to visit several buildings to meet their athletic needs. For instance, football players currently train at Loftus, have team meetings in the Notre Dame Stadium locker room, and meet with coaches at the Joyce Center. With the completion of the Gug, all of these resources will be located conveniently in the same state-of-the-art facility.

“This center will have an enormous impact on the experiences of all our student-athletes, and in particular on the Irish football team,” Athletic Director Kevin White said in a press release after the Board of Trustees approved the construction of the building in late 2003. “The consolidation of facilities will make our student-athletes’ daily routines much more efficient and, consequently, provide them with a better chance to realize their full potential,” he said in the release.

The new building will bring the university’s athletic facilities up to par with those of other major universities. “It was important when we were looking at what we wanted to put into the facility that we looked at what other schools have, especially schools that we regularly compete with,” Heisler says.

In the early stages of the planning process, university representatives visited the athletic facilities of such other large colleges as the University of North Carolina and Pennsylvania State University to get a sense of what resources they wanted to include in the Gug. Heisler says that the university is pleased with how well the completed project will compare to the facilities at other schools. “It will be as state-of-the-art as you can get in terms of facilities,” he says.

Two things, however, that many other schools include in their athletic centers notably will be omitted from the Gug. According to Vice President for Business Operations Jim Lyphout, the university’s new facility will not include a dining hall or an academic center. The reason for this, Heisler says, is that there are already campus facilities to serve student-athletes in both of these areas. The Coleman-Morse Center houses academic services for athletes, and — in keeping with the university’s philosophy that student-athletes should have the same residential experience as other Notre Dame students — the university believes it is important for athletes to eat in the same dining halls as the general Notre Dame student population.

Coaches will begin moving into the Gug this summer, although athletes already have been able to take advantage of the new weight room, which opened in November. All of the building’s resources will be available to student-athletes beginning in August 2005.

The Guglielmino family, long-time friends of the university, donated the money for the building with the express request that it be used as an athletic center.

Although the late Don Guglielmino attended the university for only one year,
he had a great love for Notre Dame and its athletic programs. He left the university in 1940 after the death of his father and continued his collegiate education at Stanford. Guglielmino later served in the army during World War II. After the war, Guglielmino became a successful businessman. He donated money to the Notre Dame Club of Los Angeles scholarship fund and the Institute for Church Life and was awarded an honorary degree from the university in 1996. After his death in 2001, his wife Flora and their three children made the decision to contribute money for an athletic facility in his name.

The Gug is not the last improvement the athletic department has planned. Major renovations to the J.A.C.C. are already in the works, although administrators are still in the early planning stages for those improvements. "We have basic concepts, but no blueprints, no plans and no fundraising for the Joyce Center renovations," Lyphout says.

Heisler says that the most extensive changes to the J.A.C.C. will be to the seating and may include taking out the bleachers. The J.A.C.C. renovations, however, must fall into place in accordance with the university's overall facilities plans, and the timetable will ultimately depend on the university's long-term growth plans, as well as funding. At this point, it is too soon to tell when such improvements could be completed, but Heisler expects that the J.A.C.C. renovations will be the next big thing on the athletic department's to-do list. "It's going to be the next top priority," he says.
The Music Aquatic

"The Life Aquatic" soundtrack is an eclectic success

DAN McSWAIN

As is commonly conjectured, it may be best for listeners looking to familiarize themselves with the catalog of David Bowie that they avoid listening to the work of Bowie alone. Instead, they should listen to the plethora of musicians he has influenced; his vision, if not his sense of style or song structure, appears in the music of artists from many genres. Stylization remains Bowie's forte, and — with this in mind — Wes Anderson picks Bowie's works as the foundation of the soundtrack to his film, "The Life Aquatic with Steve Zissou." Anderson enlists Team Jorge, an actor and Bossa Nova musician, to reread Bowie's songs into Portuguese. The reworked songs effectively present Bowie's original music in a nuanced fashion, which introduces the final product in a way that allows the audience to understand the uniqueness of both Jorge and Bowie.

Anderson's soundtrack for "The Life Aquatic" also incorporates artists that largely have been overlooked. Mark Mothersbaugh — cofounder of the American new-wave band Devo — contributes score compilations, as well as his band's song "Gut Feeling," to the soundtrack. Additions from Scott Walker and The Zombies serve as the musical accompaniment to Anderson's film's scenes of alienation. Anderson's score includes the work of Sven Libaek, the originator of the Australian Nature Film Score and an oceanographer with nearly 800 accolades and merit badges to his credit. This is a testament to Anderson's talent for creating a framework of stylization for his film and soundtrack.

In a dastardly move, Anderson deleted the song "Staraflur" by Iceland's Sigur Ros from the CD of the soundtrack — an omission which will be noticed by those who have seen the movie. However, while the song fits the scene of the film during which it is heard, it does not fit the theme of the soundtrack.

"Adjectives now, for the future!" airs Tuesdays from 8 p.m. - 10 p.m. with d'lon., kim-jong-ilmatic and Dj 4tran.

Bookmakers:
Bad for Burgers, Better for Beer

JESSICA WHITE

With the closure of the student-favorite Boat Club, students have been forced to break out of their comfort zone of sticky dance floors and well-worn "Flip Cup" tables and venture into new bar scenes. Though Boat may be irreplaceable for many, one previously overlooked bar and grill in South Bend — Bookmakers — could soon become a new favorite watering hole for many Notre Dame students. Besides, what could be better than $1 burgers, $1 fries and $1 drafts on a Sunday afternoon?

Although the nocturnal atmosphere of Bookmakers is perfect for any sports fan, its strategically-placed televisions that constantly play highlights from ESPN and its daily specials cannot conceal some of the sub-par aspects of Bookmakers.

On a typical Friday evening, a group of Domers decided to see if Bookmakers' cuisine is as good as it has been rumored to be. The group entered a large, wood-paneled room: to the right is a small side bar and stage area; in the middle is the main bar area; and to the left are various levels of tables and chairs. Though the back of the menu boasts an extensive collection of sports memorabilia for sale, only a few framed photos line the upper walls of the dining area.

The server was competent, yet unenthusiastic. The nachos ordered as an appetizer were far from spectacular consisting of lukewarm cheese, ground beef and bland, salsa-covered, stale tortilla chips. We also sampled the chicken wing and "bitty burger" appetizer platter. The wings were covered in a sweet and tangy barbeque sauce, and the burgers contained both chicken strips and beef. Overall, however, the plate was received poorly.
Discover the next John Mayer

See Matt Wertz's live concert at Legends on Jan. 29. This 26-year-old singer-songwriter from Kansas City, Mo., has been compared to artists like John Mayer, Gavin DeGraw and Jack Johnson. Listeners love Wertz for his breathy vocals and romantic lyrics. Admission is free, and the show starts at 10 p.m.

Explore your cultural side by attending the French play, “Les Fourberies de Scapin”

This hilarious Moliere play, directed by Professor Paul McDowell, will be performed in French by Francophiles from around campus. The play will be held at the Regis Philbin Studio Theatre beginning Jan. 27. Tickets are available at the PAC box office. Student tickets are $5 ($7 for ND faculty and $8 for the general public).

Build-a-Bear for your Valentine this year

If you're wondering how to make someone's Valentine's Day a special one, search no further than Build-a-Bear. Build-a-Bear allows you to create and personalize your own teddy bear or stuffed animal to give to a loved one. The best part: the special “Valentine Bear” is only $14, and the other stuffed animals range from $10 to $25. The closest Build-a-Bear store is in Merriville, Ind. (about an hour away), or you can go online to www.buildabear.com to create and ship your bear in time for Valentine's Day.

Groove to the sounds of The Beatles

Do you sing along to such Beatles hits as “Hey Jude” and “All You Need is Love”? If you do, perhaps you should attend “Beatlemania Revisited,” a concert that will be put on by the Mahoney Brothers at the Morris Performing Arts Center on Jan. 29. The Mahoney Brothers also have been on Broadway in “Beatlemania.” For more information and ticket prices, go to www.morriscenter.org.

Get your ski on

The only available ski slope south of northern Michigan is about 45 minutes north of South Bend. Swiss Valley Ski Area is really more of a basin than a mountain, but it does offer the opportunity for downhill skiing, especially for beginners and intermediates. More advanced skiers will find the slopes lacking in vertical height and difficulty, but the area does offer a small terrain park for stunts. Lift rates range from $20 to $28 daily; ski rentals also are available for $15 to $18. College students receive discounts every weekday evening from 6 p.m. – 10 p.m. and all day Friday. See www.skiswissvalley.com for directions and more details.

Downhill not your thing? You can rent cross-country skis and boots at the back of the Rock and ski on the Notre Dame Golf Course. Rentals are available only on Fridays from 2 p.m. – 5 p.m., and on Saturdays and Sundays from 1 p.m. – 4 p.m. It is $5 per day or $10 for two days — and you can take the ski home overnight. The pro shop is open only when adequate snowfall is on the ground. For more information call (574) 631-6809.

— Compiled by the Entertainment staff

For the main course, the members of our group selected chicken fingers, the half-pound Angus burger and the basil chicken wrap. The first two entrees were served with fries and were average in both quality and taste. The basil chicken wrap was dry, and the mayo-based sauce was not pleasant. Still, the group left satisfactorily stuffed for a paltry price.

Certainly, a redeeming quality of Bookmakers would have to be its spacious interior, which is able to accommodate large crowds on game days and weekend nights. Its daily food and drink specials include the aforementioned Sunday deal, 49-cent wings and 69-cent mini burgers on Wednesday nights and a $10 cover on Thursday nights for penny pitchers of beer. There is also a live DJ every Thursday, Friday and Saturday night.

Location: 2046 South Bend Ave.
Phone: (574) 272-1766
Prices for appetizers & entrees: $4 – $12
Open Weekdays: 3 p.m. – 3 a.m.
Open Saturday: 11 a.m. – 3 a.m.
Open Sunday: 2 p.m. – 11 p.m.
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Football Review
2004

From BYU to the Bowl Game
Reviews, Statistics and Photos
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SUBWAY

sbarro

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Saturday
9:30 am - 2:00 am
Sunday
9:30 am - 4:00 am

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Saturday - Sunday
9:30 am - 2:00 am

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Delivery
6:00 pm - 1:00 am daily
call 631.2924
Monday - Wednesday
11:00 am - 2:00 am
Thursday - Friday
11:00 am - 4:00 am
Saturday
6:00 pm - 4:00 am
Sunday
6:00 pm - 2:00 am

Subway
For party subs, call 631.6902
Monday - Friday
9:30 am - 1:00 am
Saturday - Sunday
11:00 am - 1:00 am

Visa MasterCard Domer Dollars Flex
A n ominous gray sky hung over Provo, Utah on Sept. 4, as announcers articulated gloomy forecasts for both the Irish and the weather. Notre Dame managed to reschedule the originally late-season game against the Cougars to give the Irish a chance to prepare for the following weekend’s Michigan game. However, the Irish failed to get past the Cougars’ defense, and BYU managed to sneak out a 20-17 victory.

The Cougar defense stifled the Irish running game, holding them to only 11 rushing yards on 21 carries. BYU established its dominance against the run in the first quarter, causing the Irish to abandon the rushing game. In a post-game press conference, BYU Head Coach Gary Crowton said, “Defensively we were tough, against the run especially. That’s what their goal has been, and we knew that going in.”

The Irish defense also left itself open to a few big BYU offensive plays. BYU quarterback John Beck completed a 50-yard pass to wide receiver Todd Watkins in the Cougars’ first drive, setting up a short touchdown run for tailback Naufahu Tahi that gave the Cougars a 7-0 lead. During the third quarter, BYU quarterback Matt Berry—who replaced John Beck—connected with wide receiver Austin Collie for a 42-yard touchdown pass, putting the Cougars up, 20-3.

Notre Dame made a valiant effort to climb back late in the game. With four minutes remaining in the third quarter, sophomore quarterback Brady Quinn completed a 54-yard touchdown pass to junior wide receiver Rhema McKnight to pull within 10 points of the Cougars. Then, midway through the fourth quarter, senior cornerback Preston Jackson intercepted a pass from Berry and returned it 38 yards for another touchdown. With less than two minutes remaining in the game, the Irish had pinned the Cougars down at their own 25-yard line. However, Berry threw a 37-yard pass to Watkins on third and eight, allowing BYU to run out the clock.

The key to BYU’s victory might have been its kicker, Matt Payne. Payne punted the ball an average of 46.8 yards and put the Irish inside the 20-yard line six times. “Our kicking game did such a good job of pinning them back, in the second quarter and late in the game especially,” Crowton said. “[Payne] really gave us a chance to win.”

Notre Dame’s loss brought BYU to within one win of Notre Dame in the all-time standings of this collegiate football rivalry. Unfortunately for Notre Dame, even though the gloomy sky cleared up, the Irish and their fans would have to rely on the next game to brighten their spirits.

### Play By Numbers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Play</th>
<th>IRISH</th>
<th>COUGARS</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Passing Yards</strong></td>
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<td>26:19</td>
<td>33:12</td>
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Day of Redemption

In an effort to provide the Irish with a “warm up” game, the Irish scheduled Brigham Young so that they could be fully prepared to take on Michigan. Unfortunately for Notre Dame, that “warm up” game turned into the team’s first loss of the season, with the Wolverines gunning for the Irish with fangs bared.

However, the BYU game issued the Irish a wake-up call. One week after suffering the terrible loss in Provo the Irish came home and gave Notre Dame fans across the country a sense of regained faith in the blue and gold as they defeated the No.7 Michigan Wolverines, 28-20.

The Irish team that stepped onto the field the day of the Michigan game was different from that of the BYU game in Provo. Notre Dame only was able to muster 11 yards on the ground against the Cougars over the course of a 60-minute game. Against the Wolverines a young, new star came out of Head Coach Tyrone Willingham’s backfield. True freshman running back Darius Walker came through for the Irish. With senior running back Ryan Grant limited by injury, Willingham entrusted the ball to Walker. Stunning the Wolverines and fans across the country, Walker took advantage of his opportunity, turning it into 115 yards.

Willingham was impressed by Walker’s play, saying, “We want-
dium loomed ahead, and the students backed the Irish 100 percent.
As the clock ticked down to 0:00, around 8,000 students leapt
over the wall onto the field to celebrate with their team. For the
second time in three years, the Irish had knocked off the Wolverines
at home.

### Play By Numbers

<table>
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<th>IRISH</th>
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<td>3</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>20</td>
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1st Quarter
- UM: Fg Rivers 38, 0:29; 3-0 MICH
- UM: Fg Rivers 33, 0:16; 6-0 MICH

2nd Quarter
- UM: Fg Rivers 22, 0:00; 6-0 MICH

3rd Quarter
- ND: Shelton 46 pass from Quinn (Fitzgerald kick), 11:02; 9-0 MICH
- UM: Fg Rivers 47, 3:57; 12-0 MICH

4th Quarter
- ND: Walker 6 run (Fitzgerald kick), 13:48; 16-12 ND
- ND: Walker 5 run (Fitzgerald kick), 11:29; 21-12 ND
- ND: Powers-Neal 2 pass from Quinn (Fitzgerald kick), 5:49; 28-12 ND
- UM: Brown 25 from Henne (Henning from Henne), 2:27; 28-20 ND

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**BOMBS AWAY** Senior wide receiver Matt Shelton brings down a 46-yard touchdown pass from sophomore quarterback Brady Quinn despite Wolverine coverage.

**FULL FOCUS** Junior wide receiver Khema Mc Knight catches a pass along the sideline. The catch was one of Mc Knight's three receptions on the day for a total of 142 yards.
coming off of an emotional win over the No. 7 Michigan Wolverines, Notre Dame had a chance the following week to upset another Michigan rival: the Michigan State Spartans.

Both Notre Dame and Michigan State needed a win in this game; a win would validate the Irish's victory over Michigan, proving it was not a fluke, while the Spartans needed to build momentum before their first Big Ten conference game. Traditionally, the Spartans have proven to be tough competition for the Irish. And despite a mediocre Spartan record of 1-1 and a recent loss to Rutgers, Michigan State would give the Irish all they could handle.

Michigan State came out strong, forcing the Irish deep into their own territory in the first quarter. Unfortunately for the Irish, Michigan State's linebacker Marshall Campbell was able to get a hand on Notre Dame senior kicker D.J. Fitzpatrick's punt, and Spartan wide receiver Jeramy Scott recovered it in the end zone for a touchdown.

However, Notre Dame responded quickly with sophomore defensive back Tom Zbikowski's interception of Spartan quarterback Stephen Reaves' pass, which brought the Irish to the Spartan 13-yard line. Senior running back Ryan Grant powered the ball forward the majority of those 13 yards, before sophomore quarterback Brady Quinn carried it in for a touchdown. Zbikowski added even more to Irish momentum, as he forced a fumble on an option play and returned the ball 75 yards to give Notre Dame a 7-point lead. Zbikowski's efforts were commendable, and following the game he was named the National Defensive Player of the Week.

In the second and third quarters, the Irish built on their lead, with touchdowns from Grant and senior wide receiver Matt Shelton putting Notre Dame 21 points ahead of the Spartans. But the momentum transferred to the Spartans late in the third quarter when Michigan State's running back DeAndra Cobb returned a kickoff 89 yards for a touchdown. From there, Michigan State managed to shut down the Irish offense and hit a 46-yard field goal early in the fourth quarter. However, Fitzpatrick closed the door in the fourth quarter by tacking on a field goal for the Irish. With nine seconds remaining, Spartan halfback Drew Stanton scored a touchdown, but it was too late; the Irish went on to win, 31-24.

The Irish victory gave Notre Dame fans hope; Notre Dame had conquered the state of Michigan, despite losing to both programs the year before.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>#1 Play By Numbers</th>
<th>IRISH</th>
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<td>TOTAL DOWNS</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>TIME OF POSSESSION</td>
<td>34:10</td>
<td>25:59</td>
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The Irish turned in their most dominating performance of the season when the Washington Huskies came to Notre Dame Stadium on Sept. 25.

The Irish came in with a great deal of confidence following wins over Michigan and Michigan State, and they were able to maintain momentum by systematically dismantling the Washington secondary. Sophomore quarterback Brady Quinn tied the school record for touchdown passes in a game with four in the first half.

Quinn connected with senior wide receiver Matt Shelton in the end zone twice and junior tight end Anthony Fasano once in the first quarter. In the second quarter, Quinn found Fasano again for another touchdown. The last player to throw four touchdown passes in a game was senior quarterback-turned-receiver Carlyle Holiday against Rutgers in 2002.

Quinn’s success in the first half can be credited in part to his offensive line. “Since last year Brady has improved drastically,” Notre Dame junior offensive guard Bob Morton said. “As an offensive line we’ve tried to give him some more time to showcase his talent, and he’s taken advantage of his opportunities.”

The Irish mounted a 31-3 lead the first half, and then cruised through the second half for the victory. The Irish scored a season-high 38 points in the game, a point total they reached again in the loss to Pittsburgh. Freshman running back Darius Walker started the game for the first time in his Notre Dame career and significantly added to the Irish offense. He carried the ball 23 times for 81 yards, and his play was punctuated by an electrifying 17-yard touchdown run in the fourth quarter.

The Irish defense complemented its offensive performance. Senior cornerback Dwight Ellick intercepted a pass, and the Irish defense combined to recover four Husky fumbles. Washington’s second-quarter field goal was the only score the defense allowed, the fewest points allowed all season.

The Huskies, who finished the season at 1-10 — the worst record in school history — had a difficult time answering the Irish on either side of the ball. Next year’s game at Washington is circled already on the national college football calendar. The Irish, under the direction of new Head Coach Charlie Weis, will take on their former coach Tyrone Willingham and his Washington Huskies on Sept. 24 in Seattle.

WASHINGrN 03
NOTRE DAME 38

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Washington</th>
<th>1st</th>
<th>2nd</th>
<th>3rd</th>
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<td>0</td>
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**1st Quarter**
- **ND** Shelton 24 pass from Quinn (Fitzpatrick kick), 8:59; 7-0 ND
- **ND** Shelton 27 pass from Quinn (Fitzpatrick kick), 0:20; 14-0 ND
- **ND** Fasano 18 pass from Quinn (Fitzpatrick kick), 0:00; 21-0 ND

**2nd Quarter**
- **UW** FG Braunstein 26, 11:53; 21-3 ND
- **ND** Fasano 15 pass from Quinn (Fitzpatrick kick), 9:16; 28-3 ND
- **ND** FG Fitzpatrick 45, 0:34; 31-3 ND

**3rd Quarter** - None

**4th Quarter**
- **ND** Walker 17 run (Fitzpatrick kick), 12:19; 38-3 ND

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### Play By Numbers

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<th>#</th>
<th>Play By Numbers</th>
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<td>TIME OF POSSESSION</td>
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As a head coach, Tyrone Willingham was witness against Washington, his new team, before this game.
Train Wreck

The Purdue Boilermakers walked into Notre Dame Stadium on Oct. 2 and did something they hadn’t done in 30 years—left South Bend with a victory. For their 41-16 triumph, the Boilermakers had a trio to thank: senior quarterback Kyle Orton (21 of 31, 385 yards, 4 TDs), all-time Big Ten leading wide receiver Taylor Stubblefield (7 catches for 181 yards), and a disproportionate amount of sloppy play on the part of the Irish, including a missed field goal and a crucial goal-line fumble by freshman running back Darius Walker.

Notre Dame’s miscues were a godsend for the Boilermakers, as Notre Dame actually managed to outgain Purdue offensively by a margin of 536 yards to 512, a fact much belied by the 25-point difference in the contest’s final score.

Scoring started early in the first quarter when, on the game’s initial drive, Orton directed Purdue on a 10-play, 63-yard drive that culminated in a 31-yard field goal by Ben Jones, giving the Boilermakers a 3-0 lead. But Notre Dame answered right back with a scoring effort of their own on a 69-yard march that ended when Irish senior kicker DJ. Fitzpatrick booted a 26-yard field goal, Purdue’s kicker Jerome Brooks took the ensuing kickoff and no return but3-0 to Purdue.

It seemed as if the Irish would answer with a score of their own until freshman phenom Brady Quinn drove the Irish to the Purdue 27-yard line, where Fitzpatrick missed a field goal. The ball was turned over when Irish senior kicker DJ. Fitzpatrick booted a 26-yard field goal, Purdue’s kicker Jerome Brooks took the ensuing kickoff and no return but Purdue recovered it, the Irish took over on downs. Notre Dame then assembled a drive but was stopped with 9:45 on the clock and an eight-point deficit in the first quarter.

Unfortunately for Notre Dame, that was the closest the game would be all afternoon. Following the Fitzpatrick field goal, Purdue’s kicker Jerome Brooks took the ensuing kickoff 100 yards for a Purdue touchdown, putting the Boilermakers in the lead by a score of 10-3. Following the special teams breakdown, Brady Quinn drove the Irish to the Purdue 27-yard line, where Fitzpatrick missed a field goal. The ball was turned over to Orton and the Purdue offense, who wasted little time in putting three more points on the board to give Purdue a 13-3 lead midway through the second quarter. It seemed as if the Irish would answer with a score of their own until freshman phenom Walker coughed up the ball at the Purdue 1-yard line. The Boilermakers recovered the fumble, ending the Notre Dame scoring threat. Taking over at his own 3, Orton then led Purdue on a 97-yard march to take a 20-3 halftime lead.

The teams exchanged scores to open the second half, the most notable among them being a 97-yard touchdown pass from Orton to Stubblefield, the longest pass ever by an opponent in Notre Dame history. Purdue dominated the Irish the remainder of the game and emerged with a 41-16 victory, pitting them as a dark horse contender for the national championship. Despite the outcome of the game, Quinn posted a career day, going 26 of 46 for 432 yards and one touchdown. The 432 yards passing by Quinn are the second highest in going 26 of 46 for 432 yards and one touchdown. The 432 yards passing by Quinn are the second highest in game, third among them being a 97-yard touchdown pass from Orton to Stubblefield, the longest pass ever by an opponent in Notre Dame history.

As a result, the Purdue Boilermakers emerged from South Bend with a victory that had been on their minds for 30 years. The 41-16 win capped a remarkable season for the Boilermakers, who had been written off as a dark horse candidate at the beginning of the year but had now emerged as one of the most potent teams in the country. With a victory over the Fighting Irish, the Boilermakers had proved their worth and had silenced the naysayers once and for all.

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Late Arrival
by Bryan Lowery

On a Saturday afternoon in early October, the Notre Dame football team found itself on guard as the unfamiliar yet imminent possibility of losing to Stanford hung in the balance.

A field-goal frenzy in South Bend left Notre Dame trailing Stanford in the third quarter by the largest margin against this team since Tyrone Willingham became the head coach of the Irish. The Irish previously had silenced Stanford with 24 and 50 point victories in 2002 and 2003.

Great defensive efforts forced Stanford to kick field goals inside the Notre Dame 10-yard line in the first half. Meanwhile, Notre Dame was kept out of the red zone consistently by the Cardinal defense. Early in the third quarter, another Stanford field goal put Stanford in the lead 9-3 and hushed Notre Dame Stadium as Willingham’s undefeated record against his former team was in jeopardy.

That all changed when a muffed punt set up senior running back Ryan Grant for the go-ahead touchdown. Stanford’s punter Jay Ottovegio dropped the ball, and although his own teammate recovered it, the Irish took over on downs. Notre Dame then assembled a touchdown drive topped with a Grant 2-yard run into the end zone, making the score 16-15 in favor of the Irish.

“Yes, it was a barnburner,” Willingham said. “We weren’t trying to burn down the barn. It was hard for me because I didn’t think we were playing the way I know we can.”

The combination of Grant and freshman running back Darius Walker proved to be the deciding factor of the game because the pair controlled the time of possession. The Irish had the ball more than twice as long as the Cardinal in the fourth quarter, giving Stanford very little time to recover on the scoreboard. Grant, who sat out the previous two games due to a hamstring injury, was back in full effect, rushing for two touchdowns and 67 yards. Walker also added a fine performance, rushing 20 times for 82 yards.

“The running game is critical to our success,” Willingham said. “Having a run game allows us to be a better football team, and that is the bottom line.”

The second-half offense also featured sophomore quarterback Brady Quinn completing 60 percent of his passes for 114 yards and no interceptions. Quinn set up two touchdowns with passes of 43 yards to junior wide receiver Maurice Stovall and 34 yards to junior wide receiver Rhema McKnight. Quinn himself scored on a 2-yard quarterback sneak touchdown.

Despite Notre Dame’s second-half success, the fact that there were only seconds left on the clock and an eight-point deficit in the score, Stanford still had slight hope for a victory. That hope was dashed when Cardinal quarterback Trent Edwards’ pass was knocked down in the end zone, and Notre Dame beat Stanford, 23-15. Willingham remained unbeaten by his former team and the Irish improved to 4-2 on the season.

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The Irish were kept out of the red zone consistently by the Cardinal defense.
A strong 27-9 win at Giants Stadium on Oct. 16 helped Notre Dame extend its winning streak against Navy to 41 games, an NCAA record for consecutive victories over the same team. The Irish spread their offense out on the ground and through the air, played steady defense, and capitalized on their opportunities. Senior running back Ryan Grant rushed for 114 yards and two touchdowns, and sophomore quarterback Brady Quinn passed for 130 yards with no interceptions.

The Irish left little doubt early in the game, taking a 14-0 lead after the first quarter. On the first drive of the game, Quinn and Grant combined to drive down the field before senior running back Marcus Wilson ran 33 yards for a touchdown.

Navy failed to convert on fourth down on the next drive, and the Irish regained possession of the ball on their own 32-yard line. Once again, Quinn and Grant set the pace for the offense, earning short yardage for first downs. At midfield, Quinn completed a 30-yard pass to senior wide receiver Matt Shelton, and Grant rushed for 19 yards to the Navy 1-yard line, where Grant punched it in for seven more points. Notre Dame’s defense held strong through the first half, keeping the Midshipmen scoreless.

This explosive offense was the strategy for Notre Dame Head Coach Tyrone Willingham heading into the game. “It’s critically important when you play a team as skilled as they are to limit their options and to try and get ahead of them,” Willingham said in a post-game press conference.

The Irish had the game well in hand at the beginning of the third quarter. Although Navy opened the second half with a seven-minute drive with five first downs, it only resulted in a field goal. The Irish responded with a 73-yard drive on the ground, sparked by Wilson and Grant. Grant capped the drive with his second 1-yard touchdown run of the game to put the Irish up, 24-3. Notre Dame tacked on a field goal in the fourth quarter before the Midshipmen scored a touchdown with two minutes remaining. However, Navy quarterback Aaron Polanco failed to connect on the two-point conversion, resulting in a final score of 27-9.

To beat Navy in the previous two years, the Irish have had to recover from early Navy leads, but this year, the Irish led the Midshipmen the whole game. This victory over Navy marked one of the last predictable games of the season.
Boston College

Boston College has a habit of snapping Notre Dame winning streaks. In 1993, Boston College stunned a No. 1 Notre Dame team coming off the heels of a momentous victory over Florida State. In 2002, the Eagles knocked off another undefeated Irish squad that had just beaten the Seminoles.

In 2004, the stakes weren't as high, as Notre Dame was only 5-2. But the Irish did have a two-game winning streak, and they had entered the top 25 for the first time all season.

The result was still the same. It was Boston College's fourth straight win against Notre Dame.

The game was a tale of two halves for the Irish, who dominated the first 30 minutes of the game. The Irish entered halftime with a 20-7 lead, thanks to rushing touchdowns from freshman running back Darius Walker and sophomore quarterback Brady Quinn, as well as a 33-yard touchdown pass from Quinn to senior wide receiver Matt Shelton. Quinn finished the game 20-23 with 231 yards and two interceptions.

But it was Boston College's quarterback Paul Peterson who stole the show in the second half by leading a resurgence of the Eagle offense. Peterson finished the game 27-41 with 383 yards and 2 interceptions. Two hundred ninety-seven of his yards came in the second half.

Peterson started the scoring in the third quarter by connecting with wide receiver Joel Hazard on a 21-yard touchdown pass. But after each team hit a field goal, the Eagles were still down six with 2:51 remaining in the fourth.

Then Peterson took over on Boston College's final drive, which started at their own 22-yard line. After advancing to their own 45-yard line, the Eagles faced a fourth and 13. Peterson rolled right and found wide receiver Larry Lester near the sideline for a 17-yard completion and a first down.

Two plays later, Peterson threw a 30-yard pass that hit tight end Tony Gonzalez in the end zone for the game-winning touchdown with 54 seconds left in the game. The Irish tried to mount a comeback drive, but senior kicker D.J. Fitzpatrick's 55-yard attempt fluttered short and right as time expired.

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Following the game, Notre Dame Head Coach Tyrone Willingham, whose team fell to 0-3 against Boston College, said the loss hurt. "We let it slip out of our hands. This was an important game for the season, for the program," he said.
Rocky Topped

by Mike Selin

On Nov. 6, Notre Dame travelled to Neyland Stadium with the hopes of toppling the No. 9 Tennessee Volunteers. Notre Dame was heavily outmatched by the Volunteers, who were favorites to win the Southeastern Conference East Division. Little did the Irish know that on that late-fall day, they would upset a top-10 team for the second time this season.

The first half of the game was close, but the Volunteers managed to maintain a slight lead. Notre Dame and Tennessee traded first-half touchdowns, while Tennessee kicker James Wilhoit tacked on a 30-yard field goal to give his Volunteers a three-point lead.

The tide of the game turned, however, on the last play of the first half. Instead of letting the clock run out, Tennessee Head Coach Philip Fulmer decided to attempt one last play, with quarterback Erik Ainge dropping back to pass for the end zone. Unfortunately for the Volunteers, Notre Dame senior linebacker Brandon Hoyte sacked Ainge in a play that resulted in a fumble and a separated right shoulder for the true freshman quarterback. That injury would sideline Ainge for the remainder of the game.

Fulmer addressed his team's play-calling after the game, saying, "We ran the draw on the first play. We had to be safe and get it out of our end zone a little. Ordinarily, we'd run it again. We decided to take a shot at it. It went through me, and I thought we could get the match-up we wanted. I take the accountability."

Tennessee's defense attempted to make up for the loss of Ainge in the third quarter by coming out strong, and they successfully stopped Notre Dame's first offensive drive of the second half. However, later in the third quarter, Notre Dame senior linebacker Mike Goolsby intercepted a pass from Tennessee's backup quarterback, Rick Clausen, and returned it for a touchdown. This score gave the Irish a 14-10 lead going into the fourth quarter.

The action in the fourth quarter was minimal with the only scoring coming from field goals posted by each team. The Irish ended victorious with a final score of 17-13. This win gave Notre Dame its second victory over a top-10 team in what had been a very unpredictable season.

"Every win against a top team is big," Notre Dame Head Coach Tyrone Willingham said. "I wouldn't know where to rank this one, but it's right there with Michigan and Florida State."
Senior defensive end Justin Tuck set Notre Dame's all-time career sack record at 23.5 with this hit on Tennessee's quarterback. That injury would sideline Ainge for the remainder of the game.

The first half of the game was close, but the Volunteers managed to maintain a slight lead. Notre Dame and Tennessee traded first-half touchdowns, while Tennessee kicker James Wilhoit tacked on a 30-yard field goal to give his Volunteers a three-point lead. Notre Dame senior linebacker Mike Goolsby intercepted a pass from Tennessee's backup quarterback, Rick Clausen, and returned it for a touchdown. This score gave the Irish a lead going into the fourth quarter.

The action in the fourth quarter was minimal with the only scoring coming from field goals posted by each team. The Irish used throughout the season as a symbol of unity.

IN THE HUDDLE (above) Sophomore quarterback Brady Quinn (10) leads the offense in front of 107,266 fans at Tennessee's Neyland Stadium.

CHAIN REACTION (Right) Senior linebacker Derek Curry celebrates the Irish victory with the chain the defense used throughout the season as a symbol of unity.

HEAD TO HEAD (Below) The Irish defensive lines up against Tennessee. The defense limited the Volunteers to 58 rushing yards and recorded five sacks.
six seconds on the clock in the fourth quarter; Pittsburgh and Notre Dame are tied at 38 points a piece. The Panthers have the ball on the Irish 14-yard line.

Pittsburgh kicker Josh Cummings sets up for the game-winning field goal, and Notre Dame tries to break his concentration by calling timeouts just before his first two attempts. But the third time, with Notre Dame out of timeouts, the Irish can only watch as a close game and their top 25 ranking slipped away. This time Cummings splits the uprights for a 41-38 Pittsburgh victory.

The game was a high-powered offensive battle, with both Notre Dame and Pittsburgh proving themselves capable of getting it done on the ground and in the air. The Irish managed to rack up 179 rushing yards on the combined effort of freshman running back Darius Walker — who scored two of the Irish touchdowns — and senior running back Ryan Grant, as well as 259 yards in the air earned by sophomore quarterback Brady Quinn. Quinn found senior wide receiver Matt Shelton three times in the game for 128 yards and a touchdown. Pittsburgh squeezed out 98 yards on the ground, but quarterback Tyler Palko stole the show, passing for 334 yards and five touchdowns — the most ever thrown against Notre Dame.

Head Coach Tyrone Willingham attributed Pittsburgh’s success to Palko’s game. “We didn’t contain him, and when we had opportunities to get him — to his credit — there were times where we had him in our grasp and he got out.”

With the game tied at 28, the Panthers began the fourth quarter with the ball on Notre Dame’s 42-yard line. The Panthers managed to move into the red zone, but the Irish held them to a field goal.

After Notre Dame and Pittsburgh exchanged failed drives, Quinn completed a 36-yard pass to Shelton to take a four-point lead. Pittsburgh responded with a five-minute drive that featured a pair of controversial pass-interference calls against the Irish. In the end, Palko racked up his fifth touchdown of the game with a short pass to tight end Erik Gill. Quinn and Grant fought back by moving the ball back down the field to the Pittsburgh 27. Unfortunately, the drive stalled and the Irish were forced to settle for a field goal to tie the game at 38.

Palko then methodically led the Panthers back down field with a number of short passes. Gill turned one of these short passes into a 36-yard gain, putting the Panthers in field goal range. Running back Marcus Furman ran 13 yards to put Pittsburgh on the Irish 14-yard line. Cummings then nailed the 32-yard field goal attempt, and the game ended with Pittsburgh taking its first win from Notre Dame Stadium since 1986.
WHAT DARRELL REVIS TOOK PLUS

WHAT PR{5SURP. Pittsburgh quarterback Tyler Palko escapes pressure and aims downfield. Palko passed for five touchdowns and the most ever thrown against Notre Dame. There were times in the game for 128 yards and a touchdown. Pittsburgh running back Darius Walker racked up 179 rushing yards on the combined effort of freshman running back Darius Walker and sophomore quarterback Brady Quinn. Quinn found senior wide receiver Matt Shelton three times in the game for 128 yards and a touchdown. Pittsburgh head coach Tyrone Willingham attributed Pittsburgh's success to Palko's game.

The game was a high-powered offensive battle, with both teams scoring touchdowns. Palko then methodically led the Panthers back down field with a number of short passes. Gill turned one of these short passes into a 14-yard gain, putting the Panthers in field goal range. Running back Marcus Furman ran 13 yards to put Pittsburgh on the end.

Pittsburgh strolled away with the ball on the Irish 14-yard line. Cummings then nailed the 32-yard field goal attempt, and the game ended with Pittsburgh taking its first victory.

The momentum in the game shifted on almost every drive. There was a series of controversial pass-interference calls against the Irish. In the third quarter, with Notre Dame out of timeouts, Quinn completed a 36-yard pass to Shelton to take a four-point lead. Pittsburgh responded with a five-minute drive that featured a pair of controversial pass-interference calls against the Irish. In the fourth quarter; Pittsburgh's consecutive drives added 67 yards. After Notre Dame and Pittsburgh exchanged failed drives, Palko then methodically led the Panthers back down field with a number of short passes. Gill turned one of these short passes into a 31-yard gain, putting the Panthers in field goal range.

Pittsburgh kicker Josh Cummings sets up for the game-winning field goal, and Notre Dame tries to break his hold. The leprechaun, junior Eddie Lerum, celebrates as the Irish take the lead. The momentum in the game shifted on almost every drive.

FULL EXTENSION Junior wide receiver Maurice Stovall (21) reaches over Pitt cornerback Darrelle Revis for a second-quarter touchdown.

WHAT A RUSH! The leprechaun, junior Eddie Lerum, celebrates as the Irish take the lead. The momentum in the game shifted on almost every drive.

The Panthers squeezed out 98 yards on the ground, but quarterback Tyler Palko passed for 259 yards in the air earned by sophomore quarterback Brady Quinn. Quinn found senior wide receiver Matt Shelton three times where we had him overarm. When we had him short pass to tight end Erik Gill. Quinn and Grant fought back by moving the ball back down the field to the Pittsburgh 27. Jack Walsh, who scored two of the Irish touchdowns, bobbled the hold, and Notre Dame was forced to settle for a field goal.

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31 is the Ugliest Number
by Christopher Kelly

It should have been college football at its finest, with two legendary programs squaring off in a historic stadium with USC's star quarterback Matt Leinart trying to secure his place as the next gridiron legend. The general consensus was that a Trojans win in a nationally-televised game, combined with a few touchdown passes by Leinart, would all but hand the Heisman trophy to the red-shirt junior from Santa Ana, Calif. Leinart became the second USC quarterback in two years to make his case for the Heisman trophy with a 31-point victory over the Irish.

On a rainy Los Angeles night, Leinart burned Notre Dame for 400 yards and five touchdowns before picking up the hardware against the Irish in 2002 before winning the Heisman.

The ball game started quite well for the Irish. Despite being pinned inside their own 10 to start their first drive, Notre Dame used a balanced attack of seven passes and six runs to push the Trojans down their home turf. The drive culminated in a 1-yard touchdown pass from sophomore quarterback Brady Quinn to senior tight end Billy Palmer, his first career touchdown. After holding the Trojans to a field goal with some surprisingly strong play from the Irish secondary, Notre Dame had a chance to pull to a double-digit lead, but failed to convert third and four from the Trojan 11-yard line. Senior kicker D.J. Fitzpatrick's field goal that occurred on the next play would be the last points the Irish put up for the rest of the night, and the USC onslaught began.

Despite nearly being intercepted on a few occasions early in the game, Leinart went on a roll in the last three quarters, rendering the shaky Irish defensive backfield helpless as the Trojans notched 38 unanswered points. A good chunk of Leinart's yards short passes used to burn Irish defenders on long running gains. For example, the credit for the third quarter 69-yard touchdown pass should go to the legs of Trojan tailback Reggie Bush, or perhaps, to the Irish defense that put a linebacker on the speedy sophomore star. "I heard 49 [Irish senior linebacker Derek Curry] say, 'I got 5 [Bush], I got 5,'" Leinart said. "It was like taking candy from a baby."

Despite playing a clean game, the Irish all but collapsed on the field after the first quarter. The Trojans almost seemed determined to beat the Irish by exactly 31 points for the third year in a row, running a fake punt play in the fourth quarter despite being up by 24.

"[The Trojans] are number one for a reason," Notre Dame Head Coach Tyrone Willingham said in his post-game press conference. "They made the big plays tonight. To me, that was the difference."
"We did not find a way to make big plays and they did. It was our inability in all areas to make big plays and sustain drives."

- TYRONE WILLINGHAM
Haunted by History

by Christopher Neskill

Painful reminders of a past Fiesta Bowl surfaced in the minds of many Irish fans as they watched Notre Dame once again fall to Oregon State in a bowl game. It hasn’t been easy for the Irish to win a bowl game in the past decade; their last bowl victory came against Texas A&M in the 1994 Cotton Bowl. Yet again, Notre Dame’s bowl opponent struck in the first half and never looked back.

However, less than a month before the bowl game, the Notre Dame football team was bombarded with a media frenzy when former Head Coach Tyrone Willingham was fired. A number of the players met with the remaining coaching staff to discuss whether or not they would attend the Insight Bowl in Phoenix, Ariz. After a few days, the Irish decided they would play in the bowl game under the guidance of Kent Baer, Irish defensive coordinator and interim head coach.

The Irish looked confused and under-prepared when they arrived at Bank One Ballpark on Dec. 28. Irish fans were disappointed with the offensive play-calling; the secondary had trouble reading the receivers’ routes; and the Irish appeared physically and emotionally drained.

Oregon State quarterback Derek Anderson took advantage of Notre Dame’s apparently befuddled secondary, finding no difficulty in hitting his teammates with plenty of touchdown passes. Anderson connected with wide receiver George Gillett and tight ends Joe Newton and Dan Haines for touchdowns in the first half. These 21 unanswered points gave the Beavers a comfortable lead. However, the Irish managed to score before halftime, as sophomore quarterback Brady Quinn hit junior tight end Anthony Fasano for a 13-yard touchdown reception.

The offense seemed better prepared when they took the field in the second half. Notre Dame senior tight end Jerome Collins blocked a punt to give the Irish the ball in Oregon State territory, and Quinn opened the offensive drive with a 29-yard pass to sophomore wide receiver Jeff Samardzija. Quinn continued to complete his next two pass attempts to put the Irish on the 5-yard line, where freshman running back Darius Walker drove into the end zone to pull within 10.

The Irish pinned the Beavers at their own 10-yard line near the end of the third quarter. Nonetheless, Anderson completed six passes on the drive, including another touchdown pass to Newton. After failed drives for both teams, Quinn went on a hot streak, hitting Samardzija and junior wide receiver Rhema McKnight to move the ball to the Beavers’ 18-yard line. From there, Quinn completed one more pass to McKnight for a touchdown that pulled the Irish within 10 points of the Beavers once again. The Irish attempted an onside kick, but Oregon State recovered it on Notre Dame’s 28-yard line, then quickly distanced themselves with another touchdown.

Notre Dame finished the 2004-2005 season with a 6-6 record and without a bowl trophy. The Irish vowed to win one for their former coach Tyrone Willingham, but they suffered from many of the same problems that plagued the team under his coaching.

This is the seventh consecutive bowl game that the Irish have lost, dating back to 1994.

DAMMED Freshman running back Darius Walker (3) struggled to find rushing room all day against the Beavers.
DAMM~D Freshman running back Darius Walker (3) struggled to find rushing room all day against the Beavers.

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### Play By Numbers

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<tr>
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### Dropping The Ball

The Irish had trouble controlling the ball all game.

### Audible!

Sophomore quarterback Brady Quinn threw two touchdowns, but the Irish could not match the Beavers' pass attack.

### Leading The Way

Jeff Samardzija (above) led the team in receptions with five catches.

### Best Of Times, Worst Of Times

The Irish celebrate a Walker touchdown (far left) but interim head coach Kent Baer watched Notre Dame lose its seventh consecutive bowl game.

### Notre Dame vs Oregon State

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<td>2nd Quarter</td>
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<td>Newton 11 pass from Anderson (Serna kick), 5:44; 14-0 OSU</td>
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<td>3rd Quarter</td>
<td>OSU 21, Notre Dame 10</td>
<td>Haines 11 pass from Anderson (Serna kick), 7:49; 21-0 OSU</td>
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Notre Dame: 1st 2nd 3rd 4th Final 0 7 7 14 0 7 7 14 21

Oregon State: 1st 2nd 3rd 4th Final 14 7 7 3 31 21 38 38

1st Quarter

- **OSU** Gillett 17 pass from Anderson (Serna kick), 9:26; 7-0 OSU
- **OSU** Newton 11 pass from Anderson (Serna kick), 5:44; 14-0 OSU

2nd Quarter

- **OSU** Haines 11 pass from Anderson (Serna kick), 7:49; 21-0 OSU
- **ND** Fasano 13 pass from Quinn (Fitzpatrick kick), 0:56; 21-7 OSU

3rd Quarter

- **OSU** FG Serna 38, 9:16; 24-7 OSU
- **ND** Walker 5 run (Fitzpatrick kick), 2:40; 24-14 OSU

4th Quarter

- **OSU** Newton 1 pass from Anderson (Serna Kick), 12:17; 31-14 OSU
- **ND** McKnight 16 pass from Quinn (Fitzpatrick kick), 4:52; 31-21 OSU
- **OSU** Wright 2 run (Serna kick), 3:19; 38-21 OSU
### Season Statistics

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<td><strong>TOTAL OFFENSE</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Plays</td>
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<tr>
<td>822</td>
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<tr>
<td>Average Per Play</td>
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<tr>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>5.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Average Per Game</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>345.3</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>KICK RETURNS-YARDS</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41-766</td>
<td>47-936</td>
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<tr>
<td>PUNT RETURNS-YARDS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33-358</td>
<td>29-239</td>
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<tr>
<td>INT RETURNS-YARDS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9-201</td>
<td>10-105</td>
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<td><strong>RUSHING</strong></td>
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<td>42-342</td>
<td>47-384</td>
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<tr>
<td>PUNT RETURN AVERAGE</td>
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<tr>
<td>18.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>INT RETURN AVERAGE</td>
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<td>10.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>FUMBLES-LOST</td>
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<tr>
<td>15-6</td>
<td>27-12</td>
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<tr>
<td>PENALTIES-YARDS</td>
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<td>67-548</td>
<td>62-495</td>
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<td>Average Per Game</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>45.7</td>
<td>41.2</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>PUNTS-YARDS</strong></td>
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<td>81-3285</td>
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<td>Average Per Punt</td>
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<tr>
<td>40.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net Punt Average</td>
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<td>37.6</td>
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<td><strong>TIME OF POSSESSION/GAME</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>30:50:00</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>3RD-DOWN CONVERSIONS</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>68/183</td>
<td>67/181</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd-Down Pct</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>37%</td>
<td>37%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>4TH-DOWN CONVERSIONS</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/15</td>
<td>6/15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th-Down Pct</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>53%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SACKS BY-YARDS</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>30-197</td>
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<td><strong>MISC. YARDS</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>79</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOUCHDOWNS SCORED</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FIELD GOALS-ATTEMPTS</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-15</td>
<td>22-27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PAT-ATTEMPTS</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>34-35</td>
<td>29-29</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ATTENDANCE</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>484,770</td>
<td>340,090</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Games/Avg Per Game</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>68/70/95</td>
<td>4/85,022</td>
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### PASSING

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<tr>
<th>Effic</th>
<th>Cmp</th>
<th>Int</th>
<th>Pct</th>
<th>Yds</th>
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<th>Lng</th>
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<td>353</td>
<td>191</td>
<td>10</td>
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<td>Dillingham, Pat</td>
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<td>6</td>
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<td>362</td>
<td>195</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>53.9</td>
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<td>426</td>
<td>248</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>58.2</td>
<td>3375</td>
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### RECEIVING

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<th>No.</th>
<th>Yds</th>
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<th>TD</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Opponents</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>73.5</td>
<td>47</td>
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### FIELD GOALS

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<tr>
<th>FGM</th>
<th>FG%</th>
<th>Pct</th>
<th>Lg</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fitzpatrick, D.J.</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>73.5</td>
<td>47</td>
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### SCORE BY QRS

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<th>3rd</th>
<th>4th</th>
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<tr>
<td>80</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>289</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opponents</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>75</td>
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### INTERCEPTIONS

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<tr>
<th>No.</th>
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<th>Long</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Opponents</td>
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<td>105</td>
<td>10.5</td>
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### PUNTING

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<th>No.</th>
<th>Yds</th>
<th>Avg</th>
<th>Long</th>
<th>In-20</th>
<th>Blk</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fitzpatrick, D.J.</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>3175</td>
<td>41.8</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>29</td>
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<tr>
<td>TRAM</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Price, Geoffrey</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>44.5</td>
<td>51</td>
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<td>Total</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>3285</td>
<td>40.6</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>31</td>
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<tr>
<td>Opponents</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>2591</td>
<td>41.1</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>15</td>
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</table>

### PUNT RETURNS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Yds</th>
<th>Avg</th>
<th>Long</th>
<th>TD</th>
<th>Long</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Opponents</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>1358</td>
<td>10.8</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>68</td>
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### KICK RETURNS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Yds</th>
<th>Avg</th>
<th>TD</th>
<th>Long</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Opponents</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>335</td>
<td>18.6</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hinkins, Justin</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>174</td>
<td>19.3</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campbell, Carlos</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>173</td>
<td>21.6</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stovall, Maurice</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>14.5</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shelton, Matt</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holiday, Carlyle</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Borsett, Nick</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>41</td>
<td>766</td>
<td>18.7</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opponents</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>936</td>
<td>19.9</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
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</table>
Scholastic’s sports staff has selected the all-opponent team based on the best single-game performances of the individuals who played or coached versus the Irish in the 2004 season.

**Head Coach**

Joe Tiller (PUR)

In his eight seasons as Purdue’s head coach, Tiller was always incapable of winning a big game on the road. Under Tiller, the Boilermakers have lost six straight at Ohio State, three at Penn State and have never beaten Michigan in the Big House. Also, Purdue had not won at Notre Dame in over 30 years, including three losses under Tiller. However, Tiller finally got his offense and defense to click at Notre Dame Stadium. Quarterback Kyle Orton went 21-31 for 385 yards and 4 touchdowns, and the Purdue defense limited the Irish to only 16 points. In the end, Tiller had coached his team to a 4-0 start, with a 41-16 victory to snap Purdue’s losing streak.

**Offensive Coordinator**

Norm Chow (USC)

For the third consecutive season, Chow’s pass-heavy offense crushed the Irish by 31 points. Following Chow’s playbook, Heisman-winning quarterback Matt Leinart recorded career-high numbers.

**Defensive Coordinator**

Bronco Mendenhall (BYU)

Despite being the heavy underdog, Mendenhall taught his team how to shut down Notre Dame’s running game. Within the first 10 minutes of play, BYU had rendered the Irish rushing attack ineffective, forcing a one-dimensional offensive performance from the Irish. BYU emerged victorious and, after the season, Mendenhall was promoted to head coach.

### Offense

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Player</th>
<th>Stats</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>QB</td>
<td>Matt Leinart (USC)</td>
<td>24-34, 400 yards, 5 TDs, 0 INT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RB</td>
<td>Cedric Houston (TENN)</td>
<td>18 carries, 161 all-purpose yards, 1 TD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FB</td>
<td>Kyle Eckel (NAVY)</td>
<td>22 carries, 102 yards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WR</td>
<td>Tyler Eble (PUR)</td>
<td>7 receptions, 181 yards, 2 TDs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WR</td>
<td>Braylon Edwards (UM)</td>
<td>12 receptions, 129 yards, long of 45 yards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TE</td>
<td>Joe Newton (OSU)</td>
<td>7 receptions, 85 yards, 2 TDs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OL</td>
<td>Rimahard</td>
<td>Established socket for Tyler Palmer (5 TDs)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Defense

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Player</th>
<th>Stats</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DE</td>
<td>Brady Hopping (BYU)</td>
<td>12 tackles, 1.5 TFL, 1 sack, 1 FF, 1 FR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DT</td>
<td>Ray Edwards (PUR)</td>
<td>5 tackles, 2.5 TFL, 3.5 sacks, 1 FF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LB</td>
<td>james Magnon (TENN)</td>
<td>6 tackles, 4 TFL, 1 sack</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LB</td>
<td>Manue Hanoi (UM)</td>
<td>7 tackles, 1.5 TFL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LB</td>
<td>Trent Brown (STAN)</td>
<td>13 tackles, 1 TFL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LB</td>
<td>George Hall (PUR)</td>
<td>13 tackles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LB</td>
<td>Joe Brown (OSU)</td>
<td>10 tackles, 1 TFL, 1 sack</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DB</td>
<td>Josh Lay (BYU)</td>
<td>2 INTs for 35 yards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DB</td>
<td>lanam Williams (BC)</td>
<td>5 tackles, 1 INT for 24 yards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DB</td>
<td>Aric Williams (OSU)</td>
<td>2 tackles, 2 DBU, 1 INT for 37 yards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DB</td>
<td>Jason Harmon (MSU)</td>
<td>11 tackles, 1 FR</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Special Teams

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Player</th>
<th>Stats</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Punter</td>
<td>Matt Payne (BYU)</td>
<td>44 punts, 321 yards, 46.8 avg, long of 63 yards, 6 punts falling inside the 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kicker</td>
<td>Garrett Rivas (UM)</td>
<td>4 of 4 FGs: 33, 23, 22, 47 yards, respectively</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Returns</td>
<td>Jerome Brooks (PUR)</td>
<td>2 kick returns, 118 yards, 100-yard TD on KR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Returns</td>
<td>DeAndre Cobb (MSU)</td>
<td>5 kick returns, 152 yards 89-yard TD on KR</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Lifetime service opportunities with multinational organization for graduating seniors.

www.nd.edu/vocation
The Men Behind the Man
Weis' assistants bring experience, success to Notre Dame

By now, the campus is familiar with the name Charlie Weis. It has appeared in the media, and I've heard rumors that alumni even are erecting a monument dedicated to him on top of DeBartolo. But now you're probably hearing such names as Michael Haywood, Rick Minter, David Cutcliffe and John Latina tossed around. If you're wondering who these guys are, your favorite sports writer is here to answer your questions.

In case any or all of these names are foreign to you, they all belong to coaches on what analysts are calling Notre Dame's new star-studded staff. Weis' sole head-coaching experience has been at the high-school level, but he has assembled an extremely skilled staff to assist him, most of whom have been head coaches at some point in their careers. So let's shine some light on these intercollegiate men of mystery.

Michael Haywood (ND '86)
Offensive Coordinator and Running Backs Coach

As a running backs coach and recruiting specialist at the University of Texas for the past two years, Haywood brought in and conditioned a number of terrific athletes. Haywood's most notable apprentice is Cedric Benson, the winner of the 2004 Doak Walker Award — given to the nation's best collegiate running back during the season. Prior to working at Texas, Haywood was the running backs coach at LSU for eight years, during which time the Tigers travelled to six bowl games. In addition to his coaching prowess, Haywood is familiar with Notre Dame's traditions because he played for the Irish during the Faust era.

Rick Minter
Defensive Coordinator and Linebackers Coach

One of the more experienced coaches on Weis' staff, Minter has been both a defensive coordinator and a head coach during his college football coaching career. Minter spent 10 years as the head coach at the University of Cincinnati as the winningest coach in university history, and his 1997 Bearcats were the first Cincinnati team to appear in a bowl game since 1951. In addition, Minter was the defensive coordinator for Head Coach Lou Holtz at both Notre Dame and the University of South Carolina. Weis was able to convince Minter to return to Notre Dame after Holtz retired in November rather than stay at South Carolina and work under Steve Spurrier, the Gamecocks' new head coach.

David Cutcliffe
Assistant Offensive Head Coach and Quarterbacks Coach

Cutcliffe is one of the best offensive minds in college football. He has spent the last six seasons as the head coach of the University of Mississippi, leading the Rebels to a 44-29 record. In his first five seasons with Ole Miss, Cutcliffe brought the Rebels to four bowl games, attained a No. 13 ranking, and even won the Southeastern Conference Coach of the Year award. Prior to coaching Ole Miss, Cutcliffe spent 17 years as the offensive coordinator at the University of Tennessee. Cutcliffe molded both Eli (Ole Miss '04) and Peyton Manning (University of Tennessee '98) into offensive juggernauts and was an obvious choice for quarterbacks coach.

Bill Lewis
Assistant Defensive Head Coach and Defensive Backs Coach

Possibly the most experienced coach on Weis' staff, Lewis has been coaching for over 40 years. He has worked at both the collegiate and professional levels and also has experience as a head coach. Lewis has spent the last nine years working as a defensive backs coach for the Miami Dolphins. Prior to working in the NFL, Lewis was head coach for Wyoming, East Carolina and Georgia Tech. However, Lewis is returning to the coaching position where his career began, as he was a defensive backs coach at Pittsburgh, Wake Forest, Georgia Tech and Arkansas.

Rob Ianello
Receivers Coach and Recruiting Coordinator

Ianello is returning to a familiar coaching position with his role as receivers coach and recruiting coordinator on Weis' staff. Although he coached tight ends at the University of Wisconsin for the past two years, Ianello has spent most of his coaching career...
as the receivers coach and recruiting coordinator at the University of Arizona.

**John Latina**
**Offensive Line Coach**
Weis found an offensive line coach who knows his stuff in Latina, who has spent 22 of his total 26 years of coaching as the offensive line coach at a plethora of universities. Latina will be teaming up again with Cutcliffe, after serving six years as his offensive coordinator and offensive line coach at Mississippi. Prior to Ole Miss, Latina was the offensive line coach at Clemson, Kansas State and Temple.

**Jerome "Jappy" Oliver**
**Defensive Line Coach**
Oliver is well-suited for his position as Weis’ defensive line coach, as he can draw on his experience as defensive line coach under Minter at the University of South Carolina. Oliver’s defense was rated in the top 20 in the NCAA last year, and he also has held the position of defensive line coach at Air Force, Vanderbilt and Navy.

**Bernie Parmalee**
**Tight Ends and Special Teams Coach**
Parmalee is one of the least experienced coaches on Weis’ staff. However, Parmalee has spent a great deal of his life in the football world, including nine years playing in the NFL. For seven of those seasons Parmalee was with the Miami Dolphins, and the other two seasons he spent with the New York Jets under Head Coach Bill Parcells and, interestingly, offensive coordinator Charlie Weis. After retiring as an NFL player, Parmalee was a special teams and tight ends coach for the Miami Dolphins.

**Brian Polian**
**Assistant Defensive Backs and Special Teams Coach**
Despite what his position implies, Polian’s involvement in Weis’ new staff will be primarily for recruiting. Polian was the recruiting coordinator at the University of Central Florida last year. Aside from this experience, Polian has served as the running backs coach at the State University of New York at Buffalo.

On a final note, I hope that you have enjoyed this year’s edition of the Scholastic “Football Review.” This issue would not have come to fruition without the tireless efforts of a number of editors, writers and staff members. But from all of us at Scholastic, it has been a pleasure to bring you this issue, and we are looking forward to next year’s football season.

---

**Ice Hockey (5-16-5):**
Notre Dame will try to snap a six-game losing streak Friday (Jan. 28) when they travel to Ohio to face the Falcons of Bowling Green (11-17-9). The Irish fell to the No. 5 Wisconsin Badgers last Sat. Jan. 22, at the Allstate Arena in Rosemont, Ill. The Irish were out-shot 36-14 by the Badgers, who scored two early goals. Senior goaltender Morgan Cey then made 27 consecutive saves to hold the Badgers to their two goals. The Irish were able to kill all 13 Wisconsin power-plays, giving Notre Dame the second best power-play defense in the nation. Despite their efforts, the Irish were unable to mount an effective offense, allowing Wisconsin to win 2-0.

**Men’s Basketball (12-4):**
The Irish fell to the Hoyas of Georgetown (12-5) last Sun., Jan. 23, at the MCI Center in Washington, D.C. The Hoyas led for almost the entire second half until sophomore guard Colin Falls hit a three-pointer with five seconds left to give the Irish a 54-53 advantage. However, Georgetown’s Roy Hibbert then found his way inside the key to dunk the ball as time ran out to give the Hoyas the win, 55-54. Falls and junior guard Chris Quinn still averaged 50 percent three-point shooting for the Irish in the losing effort. The Irish return to the J.A.C.C. this Sun., Jan. 30, to face their Big East rival, Connecticut.

---

**FOOTBALL REVIEW**

Our Calls
Men's Basketball

**OPPONENT:** CONNECTICUT

**WHERE:** JOYCE CENTER

**WHEN:** SUN., JAN. 30, 3:45 P.M. EST

Notre Dame will have one of its toughest games of the season this Sunday against Connecticut. The last time that the Huskies came to the J.A.C.C., they were ranked No. 5 in the country, but they fell to the Irish, 80-74. Senior point guard Chris Thomas led that game with a career-high 31 points. Despite their recent losses, the Irish will come out strong and will hold on behind the three-point shooting of junior guard Chris Quinn and sophomore guard Colin Falls. Watch as the Irish upset Connecticut, 75-71.

**CHRISTOPHER MESKILL**
**SPORTS EDITOR**

Notre Dame’s excellent three-point shooting will keep the game close through halftime, but trouble passing and scoring in the paint will prove detrimental for the Irish against a good Husky squad. Connecticut takes this one in the second half, 76-68.

**BRYAN LOWERY**
**ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR**

**KEY TO THE GAME:**
**Paint Presence**
In order for the Irish to beat Connecticut, junior forward Torin Francis and senior forward Dennis Latimore need to work the inside game. While Francis and Latimore — 6 feet 11 inches and 6 feet 9 inches, respectively — had difficulty establishing themselves in the paint against Georgetown, they must use their size to pull down rebounds and get second-shot opportunities to give the Irish a chance in this one.
From recruiting to graduation, the Notre Dame football program tries to balance academic and football success

MAIKE BORGIA

Student-athlete.

It is a term often said with a sneer in the world of college football. The notion of players receiving grade boosts, snubbing their school work, studying dubious majors or dropping out altogether is as old as the game of football itself. Recent allegations against football powerhouses LSU and Ohio State of player grade inflation only have strengthened those perceptions. Many fans and analysts wonder if the first half of the title “student-athlete” is something of a misnomer for many college football players.

Notre Dame, however, believes its academic standards exist well above the general fray of the college football world. Although this belief has been scrutinized by many within and outside the university — partially as a reaction to the recent firing of former Head Coach Tyrone Willingham — impressive graduation rates and relatively rigorous admission standards for its players currently place the school's football program among the most academically demanding in the country, if not at the top. From the recruiting process to graduation, Notre Dame strives to ensure that its football players meet the same basic academic requirements as the general student body and leave with a degree.

Getting In

Dan Saracino, assistant provost of admissions, readily will admit that the university does not expect most football players to compete for admission with the majority of Notre Dame applicants. However, recruits must demonstrate an ability to complete successfully the coursework expected of all Notre Dame
students. “When looking at a player, we want to know if he’s going to be okay here academically and pass comfortably,” Saracino says. “What would be the sense in recruiting a player who can’t make it here? There’s no place to hide students here. We don’t have majors where that can happen.”

To try to ensure that a player can handle a typical course load, the university requires players to complete the same minimum high school curriculum required of every student considered for admission to Notre Dame (see “ND vs. NCAA,” this page). Although simply meeting these minimum requirements does not guarantee that a player will be admitted, Saracino says high school students who do not complete the required curriculum most likely would not be prepared for courses at the university. “Our requirements aren’t designed to keep student-athletes out, but rather to ensure they have the wherewithal to make it through,” he says.

The university’s minimum high school curriculum standard is stricter than the minimum required for NCAA eligibility, setting Notre Dame apart from most other Division I-A football programs. Saracino says that the majority of Division I-A programs will admit a player simply if he clears the NCAA standards.

Notre Dame also considers grade-point average, standardized test scores and other factors when deciding if a player should be admitted. In addition, the university aims to recruit several players each year who likely would be admitted from the general applicant pool, and it is usually successful in doing so, Saracino says.

As opposed to Notre Dame, the vast majority of schools that field a Division I-A football team do not involve seriously the admissions department in the recruiting process, Saracino says. During recruiting visits to Notre Dame, players meet with admissions counselors and advisors from their intended colleges to discuss their academic aspirations. “Our advisors aren’t doing any recruiting work, they’re just asking about the players’ academic interests,” Saracino says. “We want to treat the young men as students ... we want players who are serious about going to class, who want to get an education.”

Although Saracino says there are cases when the admissions department informs the football coaches that it will not admit a desired recruit, he disagrees with claims that Notre Dame’s admission standards hinder on-field football success. “It’s insulting to football players in general to say that we can’t find 20 great players who can perform academically here,” he says. “Maybe not every player in the country can, but we aren’t looking for 100, or even 50, players. We’re just looking for 20 a year who are capable of doing the work.”

He also notes that some opposing players who recently have had success against Notre Dame on the football field were recruited heavily by the Irish and admitted to the university. USC running back and Heisman trophy finalist Reggie Bush, as well as Florida State running back Lorenzo Booker are two such examples. “The last few years we weren’t beaten by players we couldn’t get [academically],” Saracino says.

According to Saracino, Notre Dame’s academic standards are a selling point rather than a hindrance for some recruits. “Many recruits are proud that ND recruited them as true student-athletes,” Saracino says. “They are attracted to the degree and the education they can get here. Their parents are happy to talk to someone in admissions.”

Irish safety recruit Ray Herring recently described his introduction to Notre Dame academics during his recruiting visit in a journal he wrote for Florida Today. “It was cool, because you can tell that everybody loves the football program at Notre Dame, but nobody is going to give you anything just because you are on the football team,” Herring wrote. “You’re expected to earn your degree just like every student there. That is important, because I won’t be able to play football forever.”

Ultimately, Saracino says that the admissions department and the coaching staff work well together to find recruits who aptly fit into Notre Dame’s academic and social life. “Not everyone is going to want to go to a school with tough academic standards. Not everyone is going to want to

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<th>Notre Dame minimum high school requirements for eligibility</th>
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<td>3</td>
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*Under NCAA requirements, foreign language is not required but may count toward academic electives.

**One year must be satisfied by a course in English, mathematics or natural/physical science.

Sources: NCAA.org and Notre Dame Office of Undergraduate Admissions
come to South Bend or attend a Catholic school, either," he says. "We look for someone who wants to be at a great institution with a great tradition. There's no tension between admissions and football ... and we're very confident that the new coaches will find men who are good matches."

**Staying In**

Academic success in high school does not always equate to success in college. "Sometimes players can have trouble adjusting to college life or might get distracted from work by living in the dorm," says Christy Yarnell, academic counselor with the university's Office of Academic Services for Student Athletes. Yarnell and Peter D'Alonzo, another academic counselor with the university's Office of Academic Services for Student Athletes, work specifically with football players and come to know them and their academic performances first-hand through a thorough system of advising and tutoring. This system aims to ensure that players meet their coursework requirements and ultimately graduate with a degree.

The transition from high school-level coursework and college-level work is not always easy, and the university recognizes this. In an effort to ease each player's transition, the university has created an intensive academic environment, says D'Alonzo. As part of this special academic environment, each first-semester freshman player is required to attend study hall for 90 minutes each Sunday through Thursday evening in DeBartolo Hall. There, the players work one-on-one with student mentors who have taken similar courses. These 20 to 25 tutors are selected from a pool of approximately 200 students who serve as tutors to athletes. This ultimately means the players work with some of the best students on campus, D'Alonzo says. "Notre Dame students really are our best resource in helping these players," he adds. After each session the mentors write reports about what each player studied that evening and in which areas they struggled. These reports are then submitted to the players' First Year of Studies advisors.

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**Start to Finish**

2004 NCAA Graduation Rates Report

Student-athlete graduation rates based on students who enrolled between 1994 and 1997 and graduated from that school within six years.

Source: und.com
In addition to mentor reports, Yarnell requests that the players' professors submit weekly progress reports. If a player is struggling in a specific course, his mentor is informed and told to work on that course during the evening tutoring sessions. D'Alonzo then meets with the coaching staff each week to discuss the players' academic performance while Yarnell distributes the reports to each player's corresponding position-coach.

During the interview with Scholastic, D'Alonzo received a call from Head Coach Charlie Weis in New England to discuss one player's academic difficulties. "There literally are no cracks to fall through," D'Alonzo says. "We have a united front between us [the two counselors], the mentors, the professors, First Year of Studies and the coaches." The counselors also keep copies of each player's course syllabi and due dates for major assignments. "Sometimes I feel a little bit like a mother," Yarnell says.

The counselors, however, do not want the players to become dependent on their services. If a player achieves a grade-point average of 2.70 to 3.40, he is required to log eight hours of study per week at the Office of Academic Services for Student Athletes but does not have to attend the nightly mentoring sessions. The required eight hours must be divided among a minimum of two days. Those players who earn below a 2.70 must continue the nightly mentoring sessions. Players who earn a cumulative grade-point average above 3.40 have no study requirements but may use any support services available to student-athletes. After two semesters, players must earn a minimum cumulative grade-point average of 2.40 to avoid attending the study-hall program. "We want to help them make the transition from high school to college successfully and then wean them off," Yarnell says.

To be eligible to play football at Notre Dame, the players must meet the minimum grade-point average requirement applicable to all students for academic good standing: During freshman year, a student must obtain a 1.70 for the first semester and a 1.85 for the second. Students must obtain a 2.00 for all subsequent semesters.

A unique aspect of Notre Dame's academic services for football players is that the counselors in the Office of Academic Services for Student Athletes do not help the players choose their courses. This duty is left to the academic advisors from the players' colleges and majors — the same advisors that assist the general student population in selecting its courses. "At most schools, athletic advisors put the players in all the easiest courses," Saracino says. "But here we expect them to pursue the same academic programs as the rest of the students." D'Alonzo agrees: "In most places, counselors like us work for the coach," he says. "We work for the provost, so we're not under the pressure of athletics." D'Alonzo says that Notre Dame's academic services for football players are perhaps the most rigorous in the country. The services for student-athletes at Penn State and Stanford are the only comparable programs D'Alonzo has encountered.

The success of the Office of Academic Services for Student Athletes is manifest in Notre Dame's graduation rates (see "Earning a Degree," Pages 44-45). Of the athletes who were enrolled between 1994 and 1997, Notre Dame graduated 87 percent within six years, ranking Notre Dame second nationally behind Duke and tying the university with Northwestern and Stanford. Additionally, 99 percent of all student-athletes who used all four years of eligibility graduated from Notre Dame, compared to an NCAA average of 84 percent.

"Notre Dame does a great job of keeping student-athletes here," D'Alonzo says. "Here, you get a great degree and a chance to play in the NFL. It's probably the best combination of both."
Matt Shelton: Obscurity to Celebrity

DAVEPOELL

These days senior wide receiver Matt Shelton walks with a limp. Despite its relatively benign nature, Knott residents initially are taken aback at the sight of one of Notre Dame's finest wide receivers treading gingerly through Knott Hall. Shelton wants to make sure he disguises the injury to the best of his abilities and will ask if it is noticeable. (It barely is.) On this typical South Bend afternoon in January — where the snow piles high, reinforcing the harsh reality of a bitter winter — it is difficult to imagine number 82 running an intricately designed route on the green grasses of Notre Dame Stadium. It is even more difficult to imagine the now-injured Shelton demonstrating the agility to leap over a stretched-out cornerback, bringing down one of sophomore quarterback Brady Quinn's spiraled bombs in the end zone. But there are eight months left before the Irish opener; don't think that Shelton won't be ready to play in 2005. Being injured is a condition Shelton knows plenty — and perhaps a little too much — about.

The path that Shelton took from the realm of obscurity to becoming a major threat downfield is one rooted in rehabilitation, obstacles and patient, steady athletic development. Shelton was not always the standout he is today. In fact, he was never a primary receiver in high school. Instead, this recruit from Collierville High School in Collierville, Tenn., played almost every position on the field. As a result, because Notre Dame recruited him to play as a wide receiver, Shelton was forced to learn the technical aspects of a position with which he was only generally familiar. To make matters worse, Shelton had even less time to get the specifics of wide receiver down before arriving in South Bend when he suffered an ACL tear during his senior year of high school. This major setback did not get Shelton down; in fact, it got him on track — literally. To stay fit during his first year in college while redshirted, Shelton competed for the Notre Dame track and field team during the indoor season.

During his sophomore and junior seasons, Shelton saw limited action and played primarily on special teams and as a reserve wide receiver. As a kick returner in 2003 — his junior season — Shelton returned 11 kicks for a total of 174 yards. His first touchdown reception came that same season against Stanford, when Quinn connected with him on a 65-yard play. Shelton came away from the 2003 season with high hopes for the upcoming year, both for himself and for the Irish
football team. While Shelton saw his fortunes rise in the 2004 season — his senior year — the Irish football team was not as lucky.

The Irish had a roller-coaster year and were unable to convince the nation that they were worthy of being recognized as a top team. Despite defeating the Michigan Wolverines and the Tennessee Volunteers — both of which were top-25 teams — Notre Dame lost to teams they were expected to defeat handily. Add this mediocrity on the field to the national fiasco of firing and hiring coaches, and you have a team searching desperately for answers.

While Notre Dame had difficulty finding any answers whatsoever, for Shelton the answer seemed clear as daylight. After he learned that his ACL tear from high school would not hinder his performance, he finally was able to apply the skills he had learned while at Notre Dame and transformed himself into a big-time wide receiver. His 515 receiving yards during the 2004 season were the second-most receiving yards recorded — second only to junior wide receiver Rhema McKnight — and also made Shelton fourth-best for all-purpose yards on the season. He led all receivers with six touchdown receptions and an average of 25.8 yards per reception. And none of this was lost on Quinn. “He’s got a great knack for getting open, and his speed helps him with that. At the same time, he’s a smart player, and he definitely sees where there’s open space and gets to it,” Quinn remarked.

The recent success enjoyed by Shelton comes as a welcome achievement for a player who speaks of his alma mater with such great pride and reverence. Shelton’s love of Notre Dame dates back to his youth, as he grew up following the trends of Notre Dame football. However, it was not until his senior year of high school that he discovered Notre Dame’s location to be in the tundra-esque span of South Bend, Ind. Luckily for Shelton — and the football squad — Notre Dame’s location “in the North” was only a minor flaw. Shelton still has no reservations about choosing Notre Dame over a more temperate school from his native South. “This was the place for me. I had that feeling from the get-go. About halfway through my senior season I knew this was where I wanted to go,” he affectionately recalls.

Since his arrival, Shelton has remained committed wholeheartedly to Notre Dame, and he even embraces the constant surveillance of the national sports media. He takes great pride in attending a school whose students are expected to be the best in many capacities. During his senior year of high school, Shelton came to terms with the fact that playing for Notre Dame puts Irish players on a pedestal above all other competitors. “My parents and the recruiters told me that if you get caught doing something you shouldn’t be doing at a school, you’ll get in trouble. But if you do that same thing at Notre Dame, the whole nation is going to know about it. They love you, they hate you, and that’s just the way it’s going to be,” he says. In one masterful euphemism, Shelton captures the essence of playing under the watchful eye of Touchdown Jesus: “At Notre Dame, you’re going to be noticed a little bit more.”

This past December, the verity of this statement became very clear. With Willingham’s firing occurring during the third year of his contract, Irish players were forced to cope with the full-fledged media onslaught. Rather than dwelling on the trauma of losing a coach, Shelton and his fellow players tried to identify the tragic flaw of their 2004 season. Shelton has one word to describe the Irish’s problem: consistency. However, Shelton remains steadfast in his belief that incoming Head Coach Charlie Weis will remedy the problem. “Coach Weis seems like a top-notch guy. He knows what he has to do, and he knows how to do it,” Shelton says.

With a fifth year ahead of him, an explosive mixture of anxiety and anticipation can be sensed simmering within Shelton. Perhaps this stems from his regret at being unable to burst into the spotlight earlier. “I personally felt that before last year I could have helped the team out more than I did. I just never got the opportunity. But I finally did, and I took advantage of it,” he says. His fellow teammates echo Shelton’s sentiments. As a big brother to Shelton during his freshman year, fifth-year senior linebacker Mike Goolsby knows of Shelton’s gradual ascent, and he couldn’t be happier about Shelton’s success. Commenting the week before the Washington game this year, Goolsby said: “You have to love a kid like Shelton, just catching deep balls like that, going up and making that catch against Michigan. He deserves it.”
Whom do you admire most?
Father Ted Hesburgh, John F. Kennedy, Martin Luther King, Jr.

I strive to be ... 
Empathetic and less judgmental.

What work of art has influenced your outlook on life most profoundly? 
A portrait of one of my family's Irish homesteads (in Dungloe, Donegal).

I would like Notre Dame to be more ... 
Diversified.

What has been your favorite place to live? 
Granger, Ind.

Of what contribution to the Notre Dame community are you most proud? 
The commitment to service via our student-athletes.

What would make your job easier? 
Deregulation by way of the NCAA.

What is your greatest regret? 
Not spending more time with my family during the formative years.

What is your favorite Notre Dame memory? 
The Sept. 11, 2001, memorial Mass on South Quad.

How would someone else describe you? 
Direct but adaptive.

What or who is the greatest love of your life? 
My spouse and family.

What do you like most about working in athletics? 
Two things: being part of the aspirations of student-athletes; and the "game-day" experience.

If you could be anywhere right now, where would you be? 
Notre Dame.

If you could have any other job, what would it be? 
I prefer my current one, but I also love teaching (perhaps, member of the faculty).

What would you like your legacy to be? 
A person of integrity.
The Scholastic Interview with Kevin White

Whom do you admire most?
Father Ted Hesburgh, John F. Kennedy, Martin Luther King, Jr.

I strive to be...
Empathetic and less judgmental.

What work of art has influenced your outlook on life most profoundly?
A portrait of one of my family's Irish homesteads (in 1860, 1861).

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FOOTBALL REVIEW

Kevin White is the director of athletics at Notre Dame. Before coming to Notre Dame in 2000, he was the athletic director at Arizona State University, Tulane University, the University of Maine and Loras College in Dubuque, Iowa. He was also the first Notre Dame athletic director to report directly to the university president; previous athletic directors reported to the executive vice president of the university, but this practice was halted after numerous NCAA rules violations were uncovered.

What is your favorite Notre Dame memory?
The Sept. 11, 2001, memorial Mass on South Quad.

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Direct but adaptive.

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race & religion symposium
january 29th
7pm-9pm in laFortune ballroom
reception to follow
slam poets Kevin Coval,
Bryonn Bain, and
Jason Carney

Symposium features lectures
Talk by B. D. Bell and an open mic
"be the change you want to see in the world"
-Gandhi

upcoming
sub events

AcoustiCafe
thursday
january 27th
10pm
in laFortune basement

sub movie
the incredibles
january 27th-29th
10pm thursday
8pm and 10:30pm friday
4:30pm and 7pm saturday
deBartolo 101
$3.00

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